



Jonathan Wills

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Expertise

Planning, Property, Environment, Mediation

Overview

Jon was called to the Bar in 2006, and has been practising at Landmark since successfully completing pupillage in Chambers.

He specialises in property and planning law, and is often instructed on cases where there is a crossover between those two areas. In that vein, he has had considerable recent experience of cases concerning assets of community value.

Property

He is regularly instructed to appear in the High Court, with recent experience including cases involving forfeiture, landlord's consent and party walls. He is often instructed to obtain interim remedies in the Chancery Division, including injunctions and freezing injunctions. In the County Court, his recent experience includes a substantial recent forfeiture trial.

He is instructed to advise on the full range of property related matters, including commercial and residential landlord and tenant disputes, lease renewals, dilapidations, easements, restrictive covenants, land registration, land contracts, leasehold enfranchisement, possession actions, nuisance, and boundary disputes.

Jon has substantial experience of appearing before the tribunals, including a five-day land registration trial in which he succeeded in resisting an application to remove his client from the proprietorship register of land, despite it having been determined that such registration had constituted a mistake.

Jon is regularly instructed in appeals relating to Assets of Community Value, both at the local authority review stage, and before the First-tier and Upper Tribunals.

Planning and Environment

Jon has wide experience of planning and environmental work. He regularly appears at planning inquiries, both for developers and for local authorities. He has experience of a broad range of inquiries, from enforcement inquiries to substantial 'recovered' appeals.

Examples include acting for Tewkesbury Borough Council in a two-week long inquiry regarding an application of national importance for a gas pressure reduction installation made by National Grid (represented by David Holgate QC), and for a regulatory body in the Thames Tideway Tunnel DCO examination process.

He has been instructed in a number of judicial reviews and statutory appeals in the High Court and Court of Appeal. One example is the case of *R (Bibb) v Bristol City Council* in which he successfully obtained permission for the judicial review of the grant of planning permission relating to the Tesco store in Bristol that has been at the centre of riots and protests.

He regularly advises on all aspects of planning law and procedure including Environmental Impact Assessment, compulsory purchase, use classes, enforcement action and listed buildings. Additionally he has significant experience of defending planning related prosecutions in the criminal courts.

Jon is a contributor to the recent 2nd Edition of the Oxford University Press text Environmental Law, and has advised on a potential challenge to major development within an SSSI.

Prior to commencing practice, he enjoyed success in the field of mooting, including winning the Lincolns Inn Inter BVC Provider Mooting Competition in 2006, the final of which was judged by Lord Walker of Gestingthorpe, and reaching the final of the Inter-Inn Mooting Competition in 2006.

Qualifications

Academic

Jon graduated with a BA (Hons) in Social and Political Sciences from St John's College, Cambridge in 2001, and was awarded his MA (Cantab) in 2004. In 2005 he achieved a Distinction in the Graduate Diploma in Law at BPP Law School.

Professional

Bar Vocational Course: Very Competent BPP Professional Education Law School (2006)

Scholarships

McMahon Law Scholarship

An incisive and persuasive legal mind

Cases

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| 05 Apr 2017 | R (on the application of Khodari) v Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea Council (Court of Appeal Case No: C1/2015/4101) |
| 09 Feb 2017 | Pearce v Connelly [2017] UKUT 39 (LC) |
| 06 Oct 2016 | No.1 West India Quay (Residential) Ltd v East Tower Apartments Ltd [2016] EWHC 2438 (Ch) |
| 15 Jun 2016 | R (on the application of Hilton) v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government [2016] EWHC 1861 |
| 06 May 2016 | Newham LBC v Miah [2016] EWHC 1043 (Admin) |
| 08 Mar 2016 | Keenan v Woking BC [2016] EWHC 427 (Admin) |
| 23 Feb 2016 | R (on the application of Gerber) v Wiltshire Council [2016] EWCA Civ 84 |
| 05 Feb 2016 | Miaris v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government [2016] EWCA Civ 75 |
| 15 Jan 2016 | Sang Kook Suh v Mace (UK) Ltd [2016] EWCA Civ 4; [2016] 2 P. & C.R. DG3 |
| 31 Oct 2014 | Ioannou v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government [2015] 1 P.& C.R. 10 |
| 26 Feb 2014 | Court of Appeal rules on planning enforcement offences |
| 16 Dec 2013 | Ioannou v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government [2014] J.P.L. 608 |

Publications

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| 13 Jan 2021 | Telecoms: resisting a code agreement, and terms of agreements, following CTIL v UAL - webinar |
| 02 May 2019 | Consideration/compensation and the approach taken by the tribunal |
| 10 May 2018 | No.1 West India Quay v East Tower - Lessons for landlords and tenants |
| 07 May 2014 | Coventry v Lawrence: A general overview and the significance of planning decisions |