

# JOHN ROYLE

## Independent Mediator

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*"...was very approachable and worked with us to get to a successful outcome on the day. We would certainly use him again"*

### DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- Accredited Mediator CEDR 1996
- Accredited Workplace Mediator ADR Group 2011
- Member of the Association of Northern Mediators

### BACKGROUND

- Solicitor
- Commercial Property Partner in respected West Yorkshire firm 1978 - 2012
- Managing Partner 1994 - 2004
- Certificate in Management Studies 1995 Manchester Metropolitan University

### EXPERIENCE

- Over 15 years' experience of mediating commercial disputes, including general contract disputes, property and construction disputes, professional negligence claims, partnership fall-outs, family disputes and inheritance claims.
- Recent experience of work-place mediation.
- Extensive knowledge of property and property development work.
- Practical experience of managing people and business.
- Development and implementation of IT projects including management information systems and case management support systems.
- As part of a *pro bono* team providing training and advice to Ugandan lawyers and students on professional standards and the management and development of law firms

## **EXAMPLES OF CASES MEDIATED**

### **Partnership / Company**

- Partners' rights following dissolution of a two-partner solicitors practice
- Agreeing retiring partner's rights (both solicitors and accountants practices)
- Break up of a family farming partnership
- Break up of a financial services partnership
- Dissolution of a property investment partnership including working with the partnership accountants to find an agreed tax-efficient way of realising assets in excess of £2m value
- Dispute between directors and shareholders in family-owned private limited company

### **General Contract**

- Supply of a defective (potentially dangerous) coach. A three-party mediation involving the buyer, supplier and finance company
- Disputes involving lease and hire agreements for office equipment
- IT dispute over the supply and maintenance of computer hardware and bespoke software

### **Property**

- Issues between a number of unrepresented neighbours each with rights to use a private road, regarding obligations to contribute to maintenance and repair and obstruction by parking.
- Beneficial interests in jointly owned property including family members in dispute over their relative interests in two family-owned properties. The dispute was resolved in a day's mediation after solicitors had failed to resolve it in negotiations lasting over fifteen years
- Boundary disputes
- Rights of parties to a joint development agreement including the right to any future overage payments

### **Building and Construction**

- Insurance claim following extensive flood damage to commercial property, including compensation for loss of business
- Dispute with a builder over quality of works and unpaid costs incurred in a barn conversion (amount in dispute over £80,000)

### **Professional Negligence**

- Claims against surveyors for negligent survey and valuation
- Claims for against solicitors for negligent advice and missed time limits in matrimonial cases, leases, and contractual disputes

## **Inheritance Claims**

- Claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975

## **Time-Limited mediation (court referred)**

- Student accommodation
- Housing disrepair

**As a Commercial Property lawyer for many years, my emphasis has always been on working with clients and other parties to achieve a result by negotiation and not through confrontation.**

**A very high proportion of mediations reach a successful outcome on the day. Even those which are not fully resolved on the day narrow the issues and lead to a better understanding of the arguments which can reduce the costs of any future litigation.**