**SEVENOAKS ACTION FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE**

Sevenoaks Magistrates' Court Sevenoaks Action for Peace with Justice The Courthouse 71 Pilgrims Way West Morewood Close Otford London Road Sevenoaks Sevenoaks, TN13 2HU Kent, TN14 5JH

9 May 2016

Dear Sevenoaks Magistrates’ Court,

I would be most grateful if you could advise me with respect to a suitable time and date after the end of this month when I, together with members of the Sevenoaks Action for Peace with Justice, might attend at the court for the purpose of laying a criminal information, further and pursuant to our rights generally and the provision of Criminal Procedure Rule 7.2(1)(/b/) in particular. Other groups have laid similar criminal information documents in Magistrates' Courts in England and Wales as part of a campaign co-ordinated by an organisation called Trident Ploughshares.

Our group has joined this campaign and accordingly we wrote to the Secretary of State for Defence on 1 May 2016 and asked him to sign on behalf of the Government a Declaration that would give an assurance that the UK's nuclear weapons will not be used, or their use threatened, in such a way as to cause wholesale loss of civilian life and long-term and severe damage to the natural environment among other things. If, as experienced by other groups, the Secretary of State for Defence does not sign the Declaration then we will want our criminal prosecution to proceed in court. We will wait until the end of this month for a reply to our letter of 1 May 2016.

There is no relevant legislation prohibiting the laying of our information. However, proceedings may not be commenced in court without the consent of the Attorney General under s53(1)(c) & (3) of the International Criminal Court Act 2001. Trident Ploughshares has prepared a draft letter to the Attorney General and a copy is enclosed with this letter.

Please advise me if the court will write to the Attorney General either using the draft letter provided or its own letter. Other Magistrates' Courts have done so. If you advise that you will not write to the Attorney General then I should be pleased to know the reason why. We will then write to the Attorney General ourselves.

Thanking you in anticipation of your earliest response,

Yours sincerely,

Jim Pragnell for Sevenoaks Action for Peace with Justice