

Trans Laird slashes castle's price to escape 'offensive allegations'

By Telegraph Reporter

A TRANS laird has slashed the asking price for her castle in the Scottish Highlands after scrapping plans to transfer it to a community group.

Samantha Kane, 65, put Carbisdale Castle in Sutherland on the market last year for £5million amid claims some locals had been "hostile" to it having a transgender owner.

But it has now been offered up with a guide price of £3.5million after she abandoned proposals to move ownership to the Carbisdale Castle and Forest Preservation Board.

Born in Iraq as a man named Sam Hashimi, she had surgery in 1997 to become Samantha, before a second operation in 2004 when she changed her name to Charles Kane and a third surgery to become Samantha again in 2018.

The wealthy legal expert ploughed millions of pounds into restoring Carbisdale with plans including ecolodges, an exclusive members' club and a recreation of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon on the property's grounds.

A brochure from estate agents Strutt and Parker said: "The current owner has undertaken a vast restoration of key parts of the castle to turn it back into the historic castle that it once was.

"The intention of the project was to combine all of the decorative features and grandeur of the Dowager Duchess of Sutherland's original creation with services, systems, fixtures, fittings and



Samantha Kane is the only person in Britain to change sex three times

layout of the highest contemporary quality together with reorganisation of the existing accommodation to suit 21st century living and the potential development of a spa and swimming pool as complementary features.

"The current position is that significant work has been carried out, and the castle will be offered with the remaining few bedrooms finished, together with the Wellness Suite to be completed by the existing owner, subject to contract with the full purchase price paid."

Ms Kane backtracked on plans to hand over the castle amid a war-of-words with fellow councillors on Ard-

gay and District community council. The council has voted to dissolve itself with the goal of reforming without her.

Ms Kane insisted the matter would now be resolved in court, stating: "The allegations that have been made against me are serious, offensive and utterly false. I had a plan to donate the castle to the community, but that will not happen now."

She added: "I was trying to find some way to coexist and my plan was to remain in an apartment, which would be run by and for the benefit of the community. But it is now clear they will not accept me or respect me."

Trans castle owner fury at council expulsion

By Telegraph Reporter

A TRANSGENDER Scottish castle owner has branded the local community council a "lynch mob" for orchestrating a campaign to remove them from the group.

Samantha Kane, who styles herself as Lady Carbisdale after buying Carbisdale Castle near Ardgay in 2022, had been accused of acting "like a football hooligan" in meetings, stamping their feet and behaving "like a six-year-old".

Around 150 members of the Ardgay and District community council in

Sutherland voted unanimously in favour of dissolving the council on Thursday night, before signing a petition for it to be reformed – without the castle owner.

Kane said: "The meeting was pre-determined with the sole purpose of getting me out, which is discriminatory and undemocratic. I am petitioning the Outer House of the Court of Session to declare both the meeting, which decided to put the motion, and the public meeting last night, unlawful.

"It was predetermined by bias against me based on malice, hatred and dis-

crimination. I have never seen such a lynch mob – all that was missing were the pitchforks."

The dissolution motion had been proposed by vice-chairman Robert Sawyer and seconded by chairman Les Waugh, with all of the councillors present except Kane in favour.

Mr Waugh said the council had received written and verbal complaints about the castle owner's behaviour at meetings. He previously said: "She sometimes behaves like a six-year-old child who has been scolded, shouting at people and stamping her feet."

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