

1. Witness Statement in support of Town Green Application for Stoke Lodge Parkland

2. Michael Shinner

3. 65 Coombe Lane, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 2BG

4. Electrical Engineering Consultant

5. In 1972 my wife and I moved into 1 Cote Park, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 2AE. We regularly walked the family dog on Stoke Lodge both at weekends and during the evening. When our first child was born we developed a habit walking over Stoke Lodge to my parents-in-law in Sneyd Park with our daughter in her pram.

In 1976 we moved to 65 Coombe Lane (see above) and as our family grew in number and age, Stoke Lodge was the natural venue for family walks, kick-about with both footballs and rugby balls, family cricket, attempts at kite flying, test flights of model gliders, early bike riding and other fresh air activities. During the summer months the Shinner family would be found on Stoke Lodge most weekends and often during evenings during the week. Winter visits were less frequent and not always "voluntary" but continued nevertheless.

As the children grew up, they would often meet their friends "up the Lodge" on summer evenings during their early teenage years.

In more recent years I have used Stoke Lodge during a number of attempts to get fit by jogging around the perimeter.

We now walk our dog regularly, often meeting friends and nieces and nephews with their children and dogs.

The attraction of Stoke Lodge is the age and stature of the beautiful trees which mean that one can feel that one is in the country within an increasingly developed urban area and its proximity to our home so that we are able to walk there. It was an opportunity to introduce our children to the changing of the seasons with the wide range of tree types and the flowers and berries of the hedgerows. The loss of other nearby playing fields has made Stoke Lodge even more valuable to the residents of this area

6. I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true

Signed.....

Date..... 24/1/14

Save Stoke Lodge Parkland - Application for Town Green Registration - Evidence Questionnaire

NAME of Witness MICHAEL SHINNER

Print

1	Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"?	1 COTE PARK, STROKE BISHOP BS92AE 65 COOMBE LANE, STROKE BISHOP BS9 2B4
2	Your address when you knew the land edged in red on Map "A" was being used by the local inhabitants? If different from 1 above?	
3	Did you sign the map "A" attached to confirm your understanding of the extent of The Land being claimed? As "Town Green" edged in Red? And relates to the evidence	YES.
4	Confirm your agreement that the Locality or Neighbourhood is the Political Ward of Stoke Bishop plus parts of Westbury on Trym, Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle. Map "B"	YES
5	Please confirm that you have marked the location of your house on Map "B" with an X.	YES.
6	By what name, if any, is The Land edged in red on Map "A" known?	STROKE LODGE
7	Has the land, referred to in question 6, ever been known by any other name? If so what?	DON'T KNOW
8	For how many years have you known about the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	39 YEARS.
9	Between which years did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	1972 - 2011
10	Do you consider yourself to be a local inhabitant in respect of the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	YES
11	During the time you have used the Land edged in red on Map "A", has the general pattern of use remained basically the same?	YES

12		What recognisable facilities are available to the local inhabitants of your locality? Please tick all boxes that apply and add any other additional matters not covered	
Local infants school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community centre	Community activities
Local junior school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sports facility	A central feature
Local secondary school		Swimming pool	Scout hut
Residents association		Library	other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Neighbourhood watch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alt green space within easy walking	other
Neighbourhood Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Area police	other
Local place of worship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doctors surgery	other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13	To your knowledge are there any public paths crossing the Land edged in red on Map "A"?		
14	How do you gain access to the Land edged in red on Map "A"?		
15	How do you travel to and from the Land edged in red on Map "A"?		
16	Why do you go on to the Land edged in red on Map "A"?		
17	How often do/did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A" (apart from use of any public paths on the Land)		
18	What activities do/did you take part in on the Land edged red on Map "A"?		
19	Does your immediate family use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?		
20	If so, for what?		
21	Do you know of any community activities that take place or have taken place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?		
22	If so please list them and state when and for how long they have taken place?		
23	Do/did you participate in any of them?		

NO.

END OF WEST DENE

WALKING.

EXERCISE FOR MYSELF AND MY DOGS.

2 x PER WEEK

WALKING, SOCCING, PLAYING SPORT WITH MY CHILDREN, EXERCISING DOGS

YES.

WALKING, PLAYING SPORT, EXERCISING DOGS

FOOTBALL, CRICKET, ATHLETICS

AS ABOVE I HAVE SEEN THEM SINCE 1972.

NO.

