

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

Name : Catherine Barnes

Address : 20, West Dene, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 2BQ

Occupation : Retired teacher

Use of Stoke Lodge Parkland : I have lived at the above address since May 1989. When we moved to this house our children were aged 4 yrs and 2 yrs and we therefore used the field for many activities, some very regularly but others were more special, eg our daughter's birthday is in July so most years, until she was a teenager, her party would involve some use of the field for rounders, treasure hunts or sports days. Our son played for Shire Colts so had regular training and matches on the fields, but most weeks would meet a friend or two for informal practise – this lasted until he was 11 yrs. They also both learnt to ride bikes on the field.

Currently, I walk regularly 3 times a week around the field, doing 4 circuits – this is with friends and is for general fitness. We walk across the field to the shops on Shirehampton Road to buy our paper and to the bus stop. We walk across the field to access Stoke Lodge Adult Education Centre, which we have used for various courses over many years. We have had various 'street parties' on the field which have included cricket and rounders matches between South Dene and West Dene. We have enjoyed lead walks to learn about the specimen trees on Stoke Lodge field. We have noticed a steady decline in the general tidiness of the field so have tried to regularly, about fortnightly, pick up litter – this is largely drink cans and plastic bottles but also a large amount of plastic bags left by dog walkers. It is wonderful that such a lot, and such diverse groups, of people use the field but it would be nice if rubbish bins could be placed at the exits. Access to the field is open all day every day so many groups of young people meet under the trees and they too leave litter.

All these activities have been enjoyed by us on Stoke Lodge field – access from our road is through an opening in the wall, and has always been open. We have never been challenged and have never felt we were trespassing.

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

Catherine Barnes

3/02/11

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

NAME of Witness Print	CATCHMENT AREA BARNES
1 Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"?	30, WEST DENE BRUNSWICK BS9 2BQ
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?	As 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?	STOKE LODGE PARKLAND, FIELD
7 Has the land, referred to in question 6, ever been known by any other name? If so what?	NO
8 For how many years have you known about the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	21
9 Between which years did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	FROM 1989 TO DATE
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

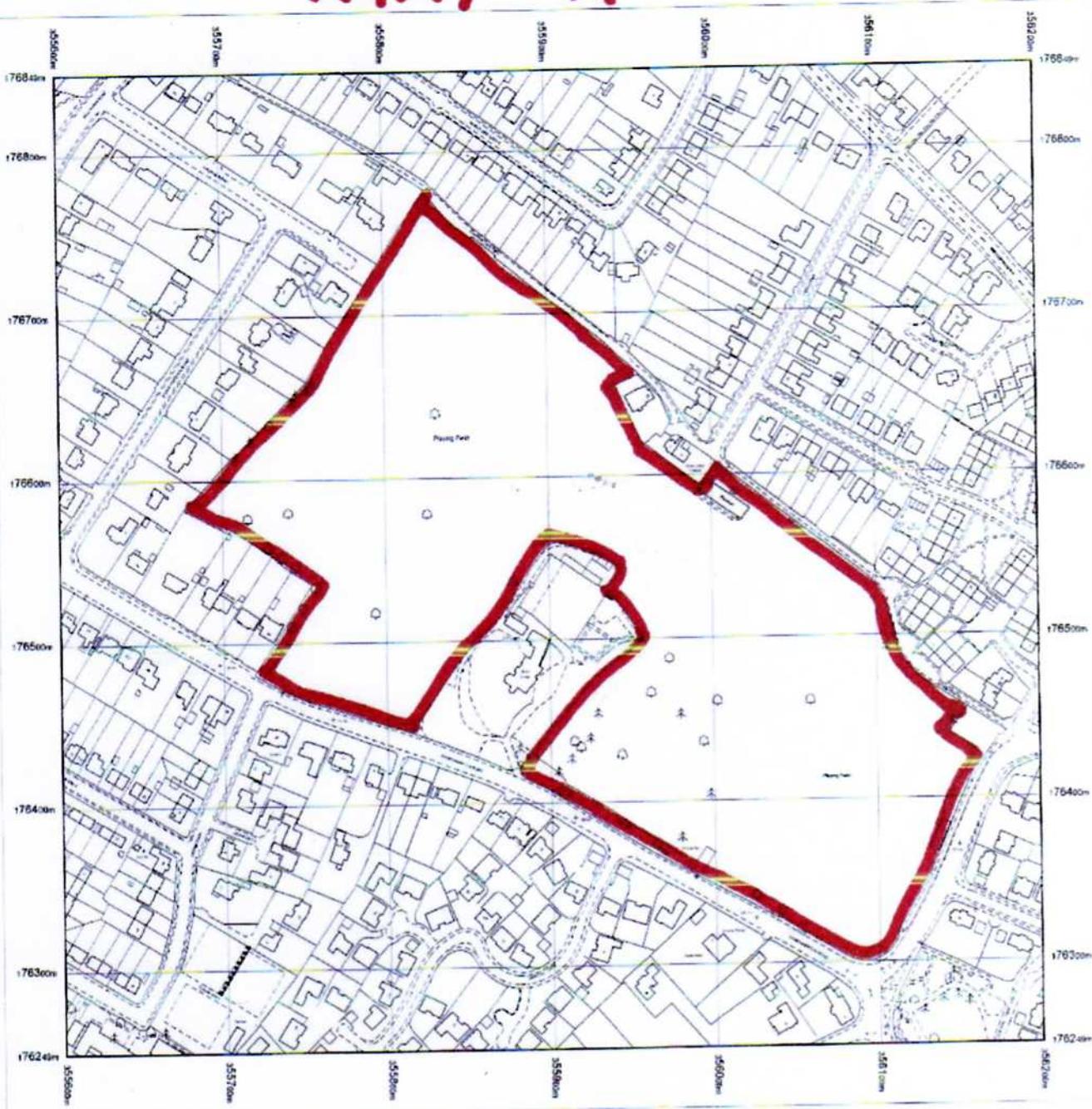
12 What recognisable facilities are available to the local inhabitants of your locality?
Please tick all boxes that apply and add any other additional matters not covered

	Community centre	Community activities ✓
Local infants school	✓	A central feature ✓
Local junior school	✓	Scout hut
Local secondary school	✓	other PRE SCHOOL GROUPS
Residents association	✓	other ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE
Neighbourhood watch	Alt green space within easy walking ✓	other LOCAL SHOPS
Neighbourhood Partnership	✓	other VILLAGE HALL
Local place of worship	✓	
13 To your knowledge are there any public paths crossing the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	No	
14 How do you gain access to the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	OPENING IN WALL AT ENDS OF WEST HENE	
15 How do you travel to and from the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	WALK	
16 Why do you go on to the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	Walking 3 times weekly for exercise Enjoying the environment Access to shops + bus stops	
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)	At least 3 times a week	
18 What activities do/did you take part in on the Land edged red on Map "A"?	Walking,	
19 Does your immediate family use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	YES	
20 If so, for what?	Walking, jogging, astronomy	
21 Do you know of any community activities that take place or have taken place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	Access to shops YES	
22 If so please list them and state when and for how long they have taken place?	Junior football Cottenham School sports Unit + Bassett University Brownies	
23 Do/did you participate in any of them?	No	

FRIENDS OF STONE LANE TREE IDENTIFICATION INFO		
24	Do any organisations use the Land edged in red on Map "A" for sports or pastimes? If so, please specify.	
25	Do any seasonal activities take place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	
26	Please tick all the activities that you have seen taking place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	
	Children playing	Fetes
	Rounders	Football
	Drawing and painting	Rugby
	Dog Walking	Cricket
	Team Games (Formal)	Bird watching
	Team Games (informal)	Picnicking
	Picking blackberries	Kite flying
	Community celebrations	People walking
27	Do you know the name of the owner of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	
28	Do you know the name of the occupier of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	
29	Has the owner or occupier seen you on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	
30	What did they say? If anything?	
31	Was permission ever sought by you for activities on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	
32	If so, from whom and when?	
33	Did anyone ever give you permission to go onto the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	
34	If yes, when and for what reason?	
35	Have you ever been prevented from using the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	

36	If yes, when and for what reason?	N/A
37	Has any attempt been made by any means to prevent or discourage the use being made of the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	No
38	If yes, give examples and dates	
39	Are you aware of any signs or notices restricting access to the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	SIGN DOES NOT RESTRICT ACCESS JUST CERTAIN ACTIVITIES
40	Do you have any photographs or any other evidence of use of the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	No
41	Are you willing to allow us to copy them for use as part of our application?	N/A
42	If you have additional information please attach a separate statement? (witness statement etc)	See attached Statement
43	If you have knowledge of others who may be in a position to complete an evidence form, would you please write their names and addresses upon the reverse of this form.	
44	I have carried on the activities referred to in this questionnaire, on the Land edged in red on Map "A", for [REDACTED] years without anybody trying to stop me and I believe the activity should be treated by the law as having a lawful origin.	
45	I understand that the evidence form I have completed in relation to this application may become public knowledge and I authorise the applicant to disclose this form to anyone reasonably requiring access to this application.	
46	I also understand that this evidence may be presented at a non-statutory inquiry and I authorise the applicant to use this form for that purpose.	
47	Signed	<i>Catherine Barnes</i>
48	Name	CATHERINE BARNES
49	Date	3/02/11

MAP 'A'



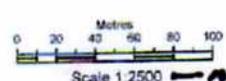
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The representation of features as lines is no evidence of a property boundary.



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Further information can be found on the OS Sitemap Information leaflet or the Ordnance Survey web site: www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

Catherine Abraes

3/2/11

