

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

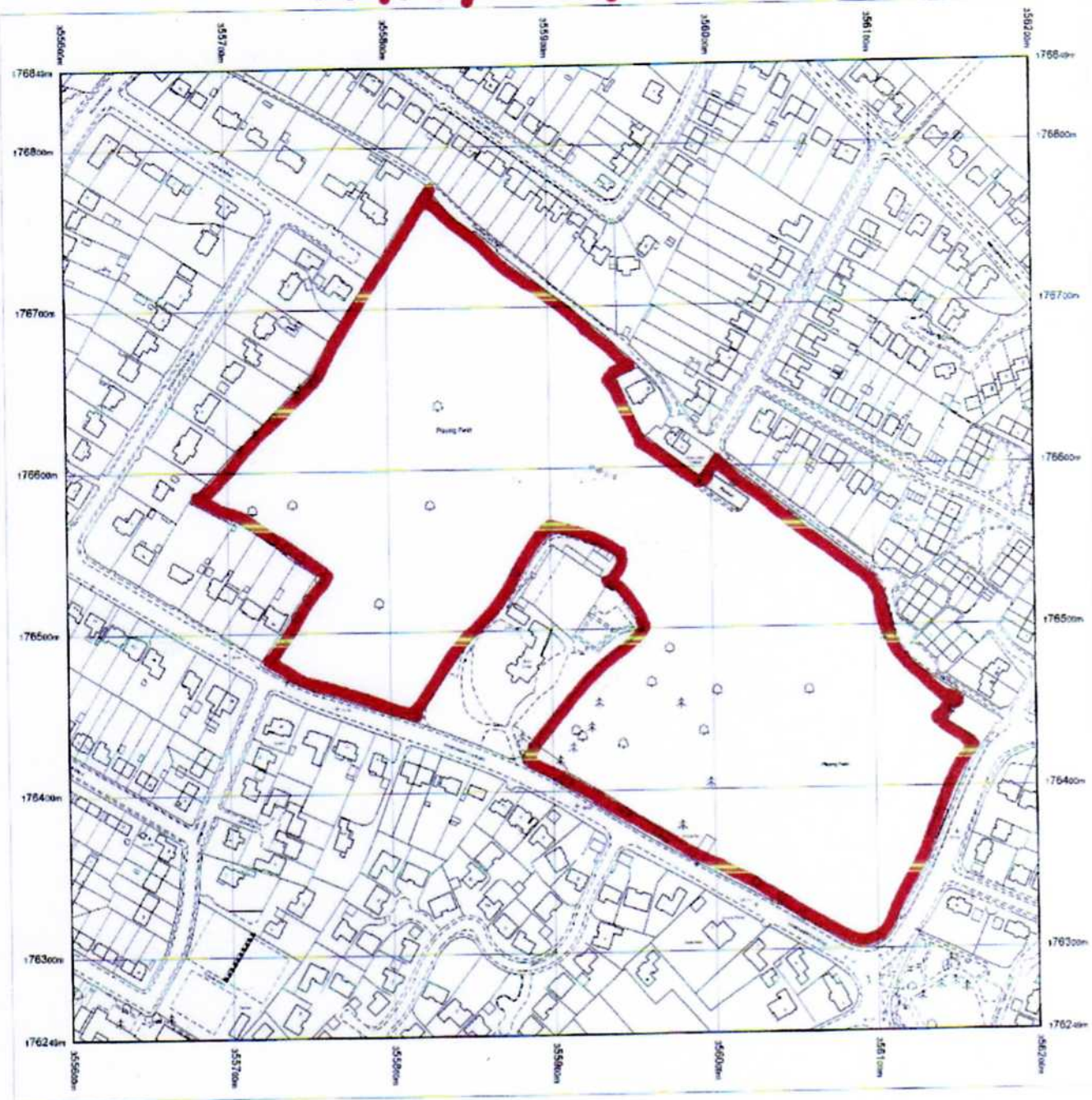
NAME of Witness Print	
CATHERINE BARNES	
1	Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"?
	20, WEST DENE BRISTOL BS9 0BQ
2	Your address when you knew the land edged in red on Map "A" was being used by the local inhabitants? If different from 1 above?
	As 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 PLAYING FIELDS
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	<p>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</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Local infants school</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Community centre</td> <td>Community activities</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local junior school</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Sports facility</td> <td>A central feature</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local secondary school</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Swimming pool</td> <td>Scout hut</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Residents association</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Library</td> <td>other</td> <td>PRE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neighbourhood watch</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Air green space within easy walking</td> <td>other</td> <td>ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neighbourhood Partnership</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Area police</td> <td>other</td> <td>LOCAL SHOPS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local place of worship</td> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Doctors surgery</td> <td>other</td> <td>VILLAGE HALL</td> </tr> </table>	Local infants school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community centre	Community activities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local junior school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sports facility	A central feature		Local secondary school	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Swimming pool	Scout hut	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Residents association	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Library	other	PRE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM	Neighbourhood watch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Air green space within easy walking	other	ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE	Neighbourhood Partnership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Area police	other	LOCAL SHOPS	Local place of worship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doctors surgery	other	VILLAGE HALL			
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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 END OF WEST NENE																																			
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 air/breath 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 in 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 ACCESS TO SHOPS																																			
21	Do you know of any community activities that take place or have taken place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?			YES																																			
22	If so please list them and state when and for how long they have taken place?			Junior Football Cotnam School Sports UWE + BRISTOL UNIVERSITY BROWNIES																																			
23	Do/did you participate in any of them?			NO																																			

24	Do any organisations use the Land edged in red on Map "A" for sports or pastimes? If so, please specify.	ADULT EDUCATION / MAINTAINING BRISTOL'S OLIVE SPORTS SHIRE COLTS BROWNIES COATHAM	
25	Do any seasonal activities take place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	SPORTS ONLY	
26	Please tick all the activities that you have seen taking place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	Children playing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fetes Rounders <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Football Drawing and painting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rugby Dog Walking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cricket Team Games (Formal) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bird watching Team Games (informal) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Picnicking Picking blackberries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kite flying Community celebrations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> People walking	Bonfire parties Bicycle riding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carol singing other HOT AIR BALLOON LANDINGS other ATHLETICS other JOGGING other ARGONIE ACTIVITIES other TV FILMING "WILD IN YOUR GARDEN"
27	Do you know the name of the owner of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL	
28	Do you know the name of the occupier of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	COATHAM SCHOOL / BRISTOL UNIVERSITY	
29	Has the owner or occupier seen you on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	YES - GROUNDSMAN	
30	What did they say? If anything?	Nothing	
31	Was permission ever sought by you for activities on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	No	
32	If so, from whom and when?	N/A	
33	Did anyone ever give you permission to go onto the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	No	
34	If yes, when and for what reason?	N/A	
35	Have you ever been prevented from using the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	No	

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 att'd 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 XXXXX 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	Catherine Barnes
48	Name	CATHERINE BARNES
49	Date	3/02/11

MAP 'A'



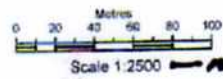
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Catherine Abner

3/2/11

