

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

Mr. James Bryant Ackland

8 Cheyne Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 2DH

Retired Architect

Mrs. Valentine Anne Ackland

8 Cheyne Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 2DH

Housewife

In 1958 we bought a plot and built our house at 8 Cheyne Road where we moved in 1960 with our two young sons.

In 1964 we had a daughter and bought a Cairn terrier. We have had a Cairn ever since. We have always walked round the edge of the field being careful to clear any mess and not go in when football, rugger, cricket and sports were being played.

Our children went to Cedar Park School and played cricket and rounders with friends in the holidays and light evenings regularly, also climbing the large Chestnut which was in the lower right hand corner, using ropes for swings and enjoying picnics. They were also Cubs and Brownies, using the field sometimes.

Now I walk in the field early each morning where I meet many friends dog walking and others running or just walking. Incidentally, my husband picked up the litter each morning for years left by others.

Now our grandchildren play games in the field when visiting us.

We have never been denied access over the fifty-one years that we have used the field.

We used and still use the gap at the top of Cheyne Road for access, which was an old broken stile years ago. We also used to walk across the field to Stoke Bishop and Stoke Lane shops when younger.

I have also attended classes at the House and visit exhibitions regularly.

As elderly people, we value Stoke Lodge field because it is level and easily accessable, unlike Coombe Dingle nearby which has steep steps and path access. It is also a safe open space for walking to enjoy the social contacts, bird life and beautiful trees.

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

Signature..... James B. Ackland ..... V. A. Ackland

3/02/11

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

NAME of Witness		JAMES BRYANT ACKLAND
Print		VALENTINE ANNE ACKLAND
1	Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"?	8 CHEYNE ROAD STOKE BISHOP BRISTOL BS9 2DH
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?	Stoke Lodge
7	Has the land, referred to in question 6, ever been known by any other name? If so what?	Not since 1960
8	For how many years have you known about the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	Since 1935
9	Between which years did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	1960 - 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	<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>			
	Local infants school	✓	Community centre	Community activities
	Local junior school	✓	Sports facility	A central feature
	Local secondary school		Swimming pool	Scout hut
	Residents association		Library	other
	Neighbourhood watch	✓	Alt green space within easy walking	other
	Neighbourhood Partnership		Area police	other
	Local place of worship	✓	Doctors surgery	other
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 in 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?			
				Through gap at top of cheyne Road, originally a stile
				Walk
				Recreatione walking dogs
				Daily
				Picnics and games with grandchildren
				Yes
				Walking and Games
				Cricket, Football, Rugby, Fests Sports Days
				Yes

