

IN THE MATTER OF  
AN APPLICATION TO REGISTER LAND AT  
STOKE LODGE PARKLAND AS  
A TOWN OR VILLAGE GREEN  
UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE COMMONS ACT 2006

BETWEEN:

MR D MAYER – APPLICANT

AND

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL & ORS – OBJECTORS

**Statement of: -** FIONA EVANS  
(BLOCK CAPITALS)

My Name is: - FIONA CATRIN EVANS

My Address is: - 34 BELL BARN ROAD, STOKE BISHOP  
BRISTOL BS9 2DE

My occupation is: - POLICE OFFICER

I will say as follows: -

1. Please refer to my Questionnaire attached and dated: -

2. Please refer also to my Statement attached and dated: -

I believe that the facts stated in these statements are true.

Signed ..... *F Evans* .....

Dated ..... *3rd April 2016* .....

**WITNESS STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF TOWN GREEN APPLICATION FOR STOKE LODGE  
PARKLAND**

**Name: Fiona Catrin Evans**

**Current Address: 34 Bell Barn Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 2DE**

**Occupation: Police Officer**

I am providing this statement in support of the town Green Application for stoke lodge Parkland. My family moved from London to Druid Hill in Stoke Bishop, Bristol in 1975. I started school soon after at the age of five at Stoke Bishop Primary School on Cedar Park. My mother, father and younger brother all used Stoke Lodge regularly back then and I continue to do so with my husband and two children.

I have never been denied access to Stoke Lodge by any person.

We spent a great deal of time there as a family and with friends. I remember when I was little that my father used Stoke Lodge as part of his running route and was impressed when he'd announce on return to the house that he had run three times around it, a distance that seemed like a marathon to me. My brother and I joined our (active and fresh air seeking) parents to "take a ball over" after school or on a weekend. Whether this was a cricket ball, football or rugby ball was less important than uniting with each other or playing with other family friends from Coombe Bridge Avenue until the shadows from the trees merged into dusk and it was time to go home.

"Taking a ball over" developed into earnest practice for my brother (Clifton Rugby Club player aged 7 and later Bristol Rugby player) and father (a faithful Welsh rugby fan and rugby coach) to score penalties, drop kick and tackle without running the risk of broken flower stems, cracked plant pots or retrieving the ball from neighbour's gardens.

In the warm weather we would have family picnics together and with other families. When extended family members visited from Wales we'd all wander over after a meal and engage in a semi structured game of cricket or rounders. I remember that Stoke Bishop School had an event there one year, the 100m race run parallel to Shirehampton Road.

As Autumn came, my mother would take us blackberrying along the bottom of the field to make crumbles with custard for tea.

As I entered "juniors" and earned the right to roam after school until tea, I'd knock on neighbours doors for my friends and we would invariably end up passing our time climbing the great pine tree, creating a den in the peripheral "woods" or chatting on the grass. One summer I was asked to dog sit for a neighbour's Fox Terrier and walked him in Stoke Lodge.

I would walk from my house up to the roundabout, cross over then walk right to the end of the wall and jump down from the pavement to the grass by the opening where the wall ended.

I continued through school then University in London and after working, travelling, working and renting across Bristol, I met my husband. Pregnant with our first child and looking for a house to accommodate us, not only did he surprise me but my parents when he chose to live less than a mile from them and my childhood home. True to her promise my mother and father have provided care for my son and daughter when my husband and I have either both been at work, shifts have become overtime or rest days were cancelled.

Since moving to Bell Barn Road I walk up Cheyne Road and go through the entrance there to use Stoke Lodge. My son was born in 2006, my daughter was born in 2007. I first used Stoke Lodge with my children pushing my son in his pram across the field with my husband to visit my parents who still live on Druid Hill. Over the years we have used Stoke Lodge as a family and whilst there I have taken photos dated from 2011 onwards. I have sent them via email to Sue Mayer and agreed that they can be used as evidence of my use of Stoke Lodge in the application.

Stoke Lodge has provided my children with a green space where they can run without stopping, cartwheel until they are dizzy, kick a ball as far as they can and explore the shrubs and trees. I have taken them blackberrying, wandered there for a post lunch walk, encouraged my daughter to overcome her fear of dogs, taken friends and their children to the play park and made snowmen. I have used it to walk in during days when a green space and big skies was medicine to crowded thoughts.

More recently I have developed my children's independence by using Stoke Lodge as a safe route to get to my parents house from mine on their own. My son hankers after time their with his father as history repeats itself - my son plays rugby for Clifton and my husband coaches there - at the moment they are practicing left and right handed passing.

I completed the Bristol 10k last year and will do so again in May this year. I practice interval training on Stoke lodge in an attempt to improve my time, I know that it's about one mile around the circumference and with it's gentle slope and grassy surface it's perfect for training on.

I have attended local events at Stoke Lodge. My son was in the 43rd St Mary's Cubs Beavers and Cubs group. They have held sports and hiking activities there on a Wednesday evening from 6.30pm. The most recent event was 16th March where they held a "healthy hike" and played team games afterwards. My son had his Investment Ceremony for Beavers in the sun in Stoke Lodge when he was 8. My parents and father in law watched my son play in St Brendan's rugby tournament watching my son play on March 13th 2016.

I have been asked to state what I value most about Stoke Lodge. I value it's proximity - within a minute or so's walk I can be there. I can bring the children home to use the bathroom if necessary or pop back if we need water or a forgotten phone. The close proximity means less planning for car journeys or questions over what to pack creating a simplicity of enjoyment that is lacking in most activities. I value it's beauty, shelter and views. No paths cut swathes or boundaries through the grass, no vehicles circle the perimeter. The boundary hedges and trees and distant rooftops provide a sense of enclosure. If worth is judged in terms of other things for which it could be exchanged, then to me Stoke Lodge cannot be replaced.

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

Signature.....*F. Evans*.....

Date.....*3rd April 2016*.....





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

	NAME of Witness Print	<i>Fiona Evans</i>
1	Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"?	51 Druid Hill, Stoke Bishop BS9 1EH and 34 Bell Barn Road, Stoke Bishop BS9 2DE
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?	N/A
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	<del>Have not seen the map</del> 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"	I think so, 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?	<del>Not</del> Only Stoke Lodge Parkland.
8	For how many years have you known about the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	<del>Since it was acquired</del> 41 yrs.
9	Between which years did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	1975 – 2016
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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Swimming pool		Scout hut
	Residents association		Library	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	other Dentist
	Neighbourhood watch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alt green space within easy walking		other vet
	Neighbourhood Partnership		Area police	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	other
	Local place of worship	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doctors surgery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	other
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"?				
	The entrance at the end of Cheyne Road.				
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"?				
	To run, take the children to play with a ball or in the park, access to my parents.				
17	How often do/did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?				
	Once every 2 weeks.				
18	What activities do/did you take part in on the Land edged red on Map "A"?				
	Running, walking, rugby, playing, play park, cwb games.				
19	Does your immediate family use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?				
	Yes.				
20	If so, for what?				
	Playing, exercise. Access to Druid Hill. Blackberry picking.				
21	Do you know of any community activities that take place or have taken place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?				
	Beavers (43rd St Manys) Sports. Rugby tournament (St Brendons) school fete (S13)				
22	If so please list them and state when and for how long they have taken place?				
	School trip (N16A) → summer 2015, March 2016,				
23	Do/did you participate in any of them?				
	Yes, my son.				

24	Do any organisations use the Land edged in red on Map "A" for sports or pastimes? If so, please specify.	43rd Cubs, Stoke Bishop School
25	Do any seasonal activities take place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	Blackberry picking.
26	Please tick all the activities that you have seen taking place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children playing <input type="checkbox"/> Rounders <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing and painting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dog Walking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Team Games (Formal) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Team Games (informal) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Picking blackberries <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community celebrations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fetes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Football <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rugby <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cricket <input type="checkbox"/> Bird watching <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Picnicking <input type="checkbox"/> Kite flying <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> People walking <input type="checkbox"/> Bonfire parties <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle riding <input type="checkbox"/> Carol singing <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/> other <input type="checkbox"/> other
27	Do you know the name of the owner of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	No
28	Do you know the name of the occupier of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	No
29	Has the owner or occupier seen you on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	No
30	What did they say? If anything?	N/A
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

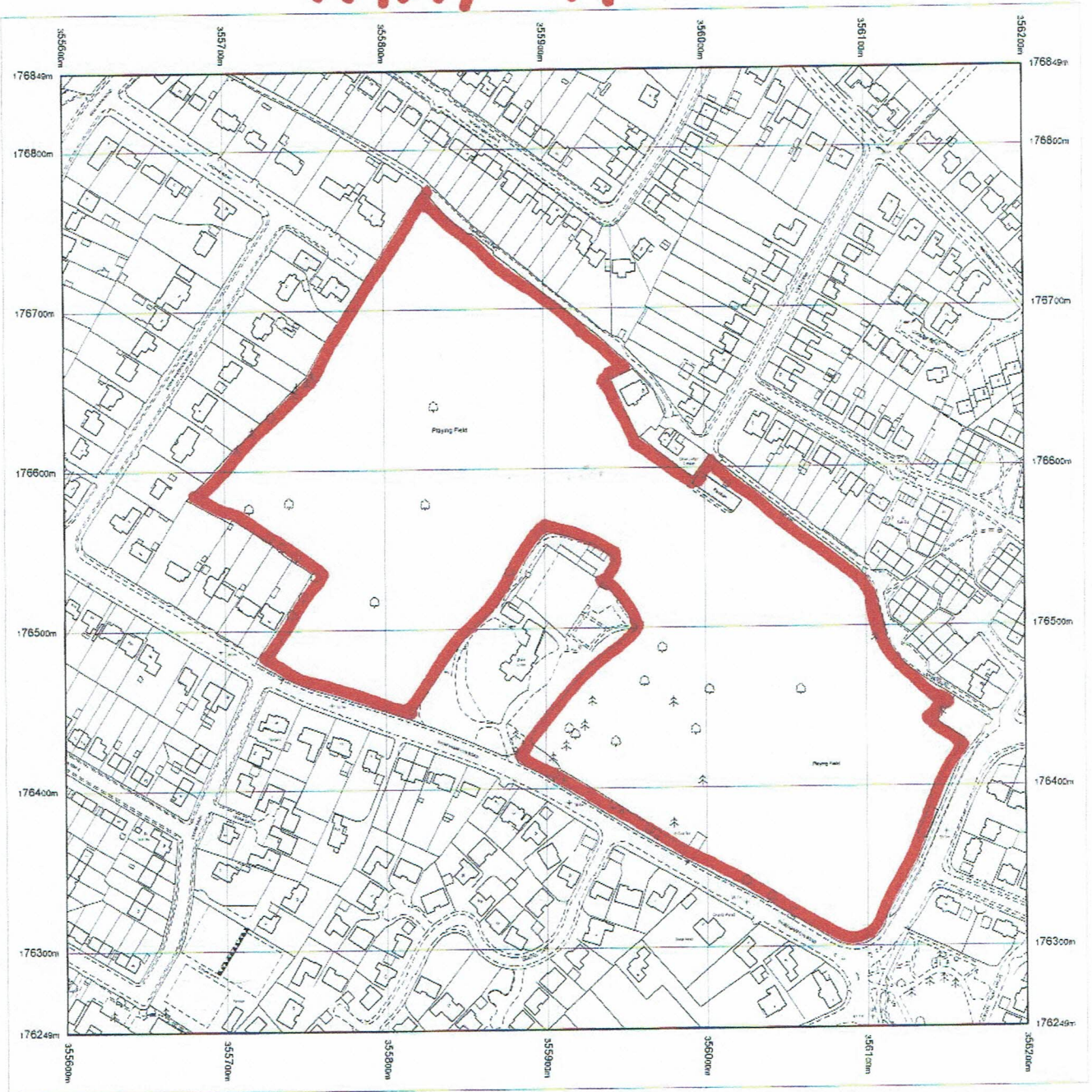
36	If yes, when and for what reason?	N/A.
37	Has any attempt been made by any means to prevent or discourage the use being made of the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	No
38	If yes, give examples and dates	N/A.
39	Are you aware of any signs or notices restricting access to the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	yes.
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)	photos.
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.	(James Pope, 20 Briercliffe)
44	I have carried on the activities referred to in this questionnaire, on the Land edged in red on Map "A", for xx4-xx 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	F. Evans.
48	Name	Fiona EVANS
49	Date	22/3/16.

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OS Sitemap®

MAP 'A'



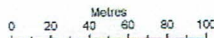
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The representation of a road, track or path is no evidence of a right of way.

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



Scale 1:2500

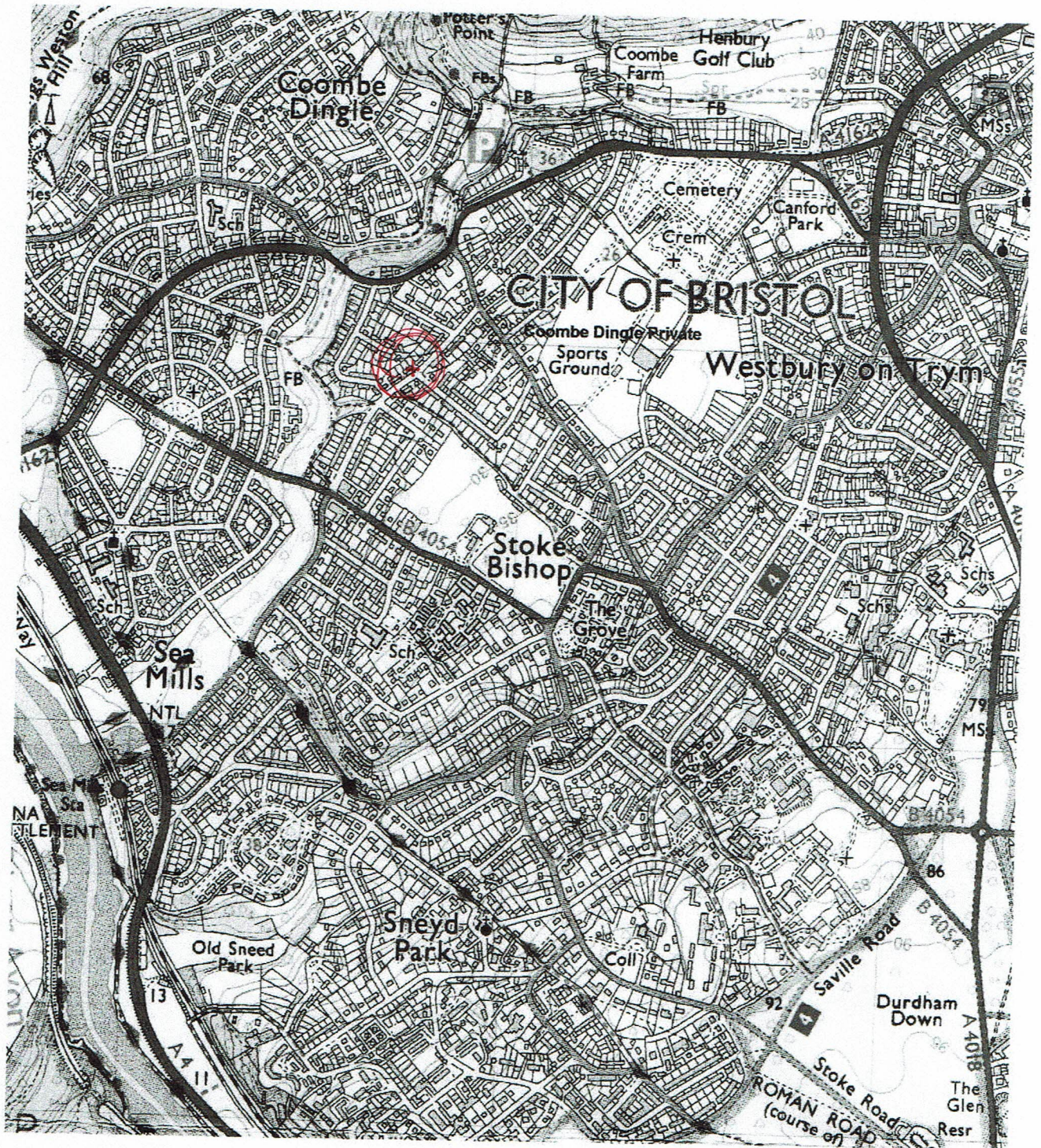
Supplied by: Latitude - Southampton  
Serial number: 06349100  
Centre coordinates: 355899.67 176549.37

Further information can be found on the OS Sitemap Information leaflet or the Ordnance Survey web site:  
[www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk)

NOT TO SCALE WHEN COPIED AT A4.

F. Evans.

Map "B" of locality surrounding Stoke Lodge Parkland



0 100 200 300 400 500

Meters