

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

WITNESS : STEWART WILLIAM MASON

ADDRESS : 16 GLEN DRIVE, STOKE BISHOP, BRISTOL BS9 1SB

OCCUPATION: PENSIONS MANAGER.

I, and my partner, moved into Stoke Bishop in November 1995 and have always used Stoke Lodge. Either for exercise such as running, picnics or simply walking. However, its real value to me and my partner has become apparent now that we have children. When the children were very young it was a great place for them to learn to walk (and fall) without harming themselves. And later when they were learning to ride their bikes it was a safe environment for them to do that. And even now they are older they still enjoy using the open space for all manner of informal games such as football / rugby / cricket rounds etc.

Having land such as Stoke Lodge nearby also now serves a vital function for me as a parent of a teenage boy. He is, obviously, keen to exercise some independence and having a safe environment such as Stoke Lodge enables me to let him do that as I am more than happy to let him "meet his mates" there. I would be far less happy to do that but for the fact that I know how safe Stoke Lodge is.

When using Stoke Lodge myself I have seen it used for a whole manner of different past-times be it sport, nature rambles, painting etc. Also my children attend / have attended the local school (Stoke Bishop of E School) and they have used it as part of the schools activities. In particular the school has used it for nature walks, orienteering and picnics. And at the end of each year the Year 6 children hold some kind of leavers picnic event where they get together for one final time before they start at all the different schools to which they will be going from Year 7 onwards.

We also enjoy the beauty and natural history of Stoke Lodge and often, when playing some informal game with my children I have stopped because I have spotted something unusual. For example on one occasion I stopped to watch a Red Kite circling over Stoke Lodge. And woodpeckers, finches, hedwings, Fieldfares frequently feed on the trees and shrubs.

Stoke Lodge must be protected for the benefit of both the current and future generations of local inhabitants and, therefore, I strongly support the application

Stuart [Signature]



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

NAME of Witness Print STEWART MASON	
1	Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"? 16 GLEN DAVE STOKE BISHOP BRISTOL BS9 1SB
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? 47 HENLENZE AVENUE HENLEAZE BRISTOL
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" I SO CONFIRM
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 THAT I KNOW OF.
8	For how many years have you known about the Land edged in red on Map "A"? © 27 YEARS
9	Between which years did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"? FROM MOVING TO STOKE BISHOP IN NOVEMBER 1995 (15 YEARS, 3 MONTHS)
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	✓	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	✓	All green space within easy walking	VILLAGE HALL
	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"? SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR:-			
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?			

NO

AT VARIOUS POINTS AS MARKED ON MAP A

WALK/RUN

EXERCISE, RELAXATION, INFORMAL SPORTING ACTIVITIES WITH CHILDREN, SOCIALISING ETC.

VARIOUS DRINKING ON SEASON. BETWEEN 10 TIMES AND 20 TIMES PER WEEK AS AT Q2.16.

YES.

SPORT (INFORMAL AND FORMAL) SOCIALISING WITH FRIENDS, INFORMAL SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL NATURAL WALKS AND ORIENTEERING.

SCHOOL LEAVES LEAVING PICNIC (ANNUAL)

CHURCH YOUTH CLUB EVENTS, GAMES

SCOUTS / BROWNIES

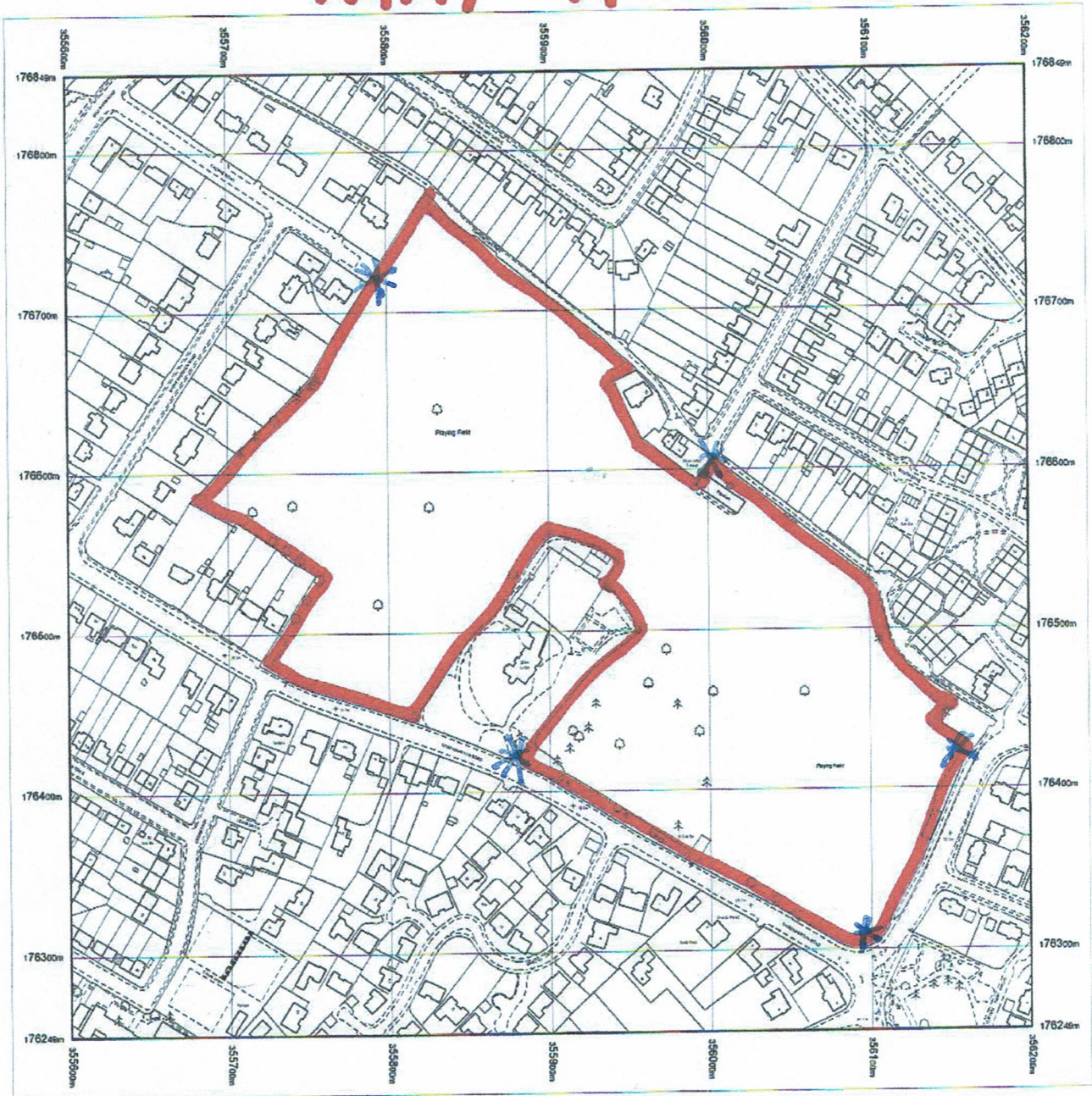
YES

24	Do any organisations use the Land edged in red on Map "A" for sports or pastimes? If so, please specify.	IN ADDITION TO NUMEROUS SPORTS CLUBS SCOUTS / CHURCH / BROWNIOS LOCAL NATURE CLUBS	
25	Do any seasonal activities take place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	PICNICS, STONE BISHOP SCHOOL COUNCIL'S ANNUAL IN NATURE	
26	Please tick all the activities that you have seen taking place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"		
	Children playing	☒	Bonfire parties
	Rounders	☒	Bicycle riding
	Drawing and painting	☒	Carol singing
	Dog Walking	☒	other TAI CHI
	Team Games (Formal)	☒	other NATURE WALKS
	Team Games (informal)	☒	other SCHOOL ORIENTEERING
	Picking blackberries	☒	other YOUTH GROUPS
	Community celebrations	☒	other CHURCH EVENTS
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.	COTHAM SCHOOL HAS USE OF LAND	
29	Has the owner or occupier seen you on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	YES (COMEB DINGLE GROUNDSTAFF)	
30	What did they say? If anything?	NOTHING (EVEN WHEN PASSED RIGHT BY THEM)	
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?	—	
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?	—	
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?	AS A SCHOOL PRODUCE HELPER.
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?	SOME OLD SIGNS BUT SUGGEST SOME USE PERMITTED. IN NAME OF ADOLESC WHICH NO LAND
40	Do you have any photographs or any other evidence of use of the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	EXISTS SO UNCONVIN IF STILL VALID (CONT BEADIX)
41	Are you willing to allow us to copy them for use as part of our application?	SUB ATTACHED YES
42	If you have additional information please attach a separate statement? (witness statement etc)	ATTACHED
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 15 years without anybody trying to stop me and I believe the activity should be treated by the law as having a lawful origin.	15 years without
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	
48	Name	STEWART MASON
49	Date	2/2/11

* ESPECIALLY AS BASTOL CITY COUNCIL HAS MADE ACCESS AVAILABLE VIA CHETNAB ROAD.

MAP 'A'



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



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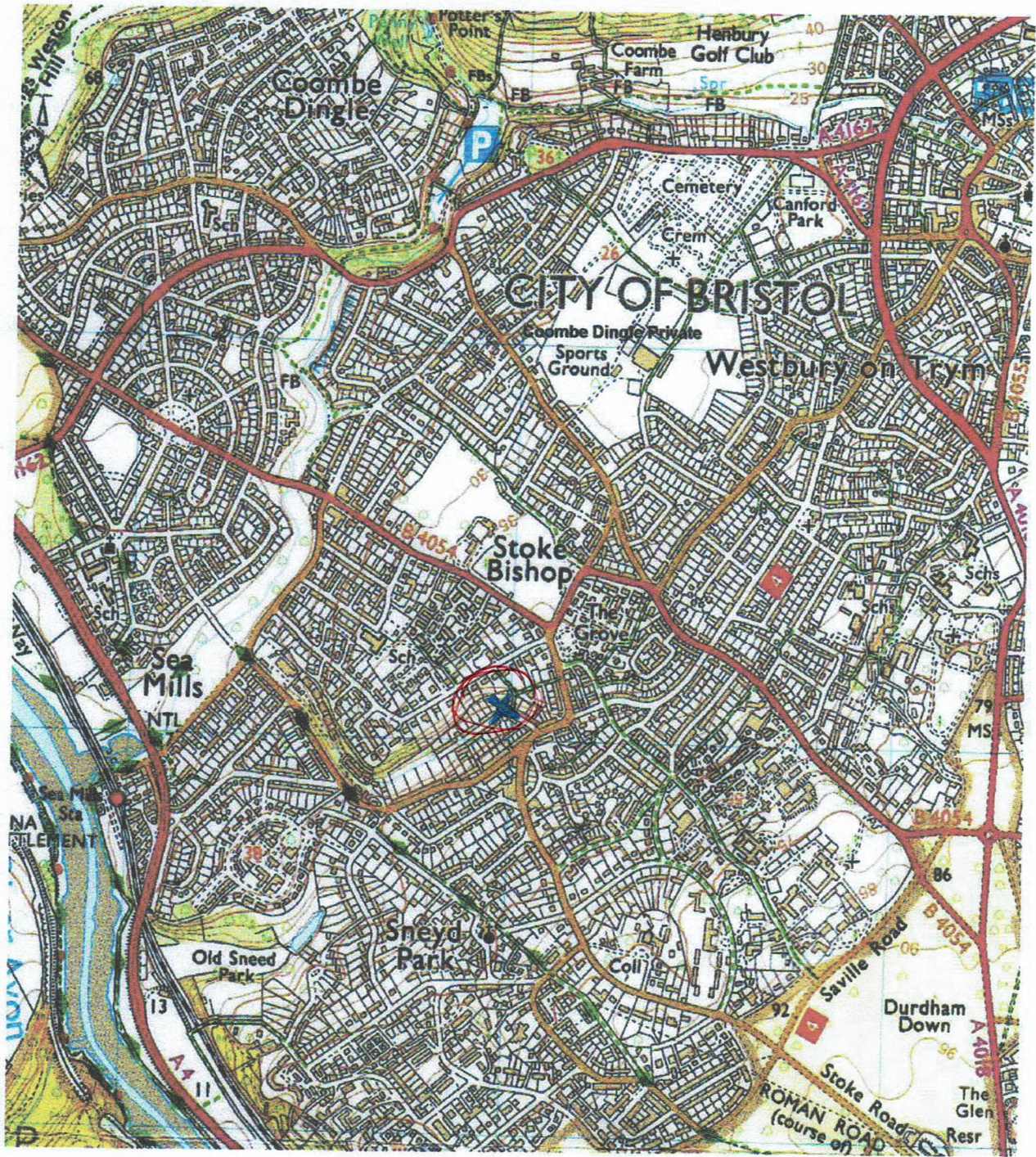
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www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

→ Lambeth 2/2/11

NOT TO SCALE WHEN COPIED AT A4.

** ACCESS POINTS & REGULARLY USED*

Map "B" of locality surrounding Stoke Lodge Parkland



0 100 200 300 400 500



Meters