

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

Graham William Wright 24, West Dene, Bristol BS9 2BQ

Occupation Company Director

My family and I came to live in Briercliffe Road in 1984. My son was then 5 and we regularly used the playing fields at weekends. These fields were where my son first learnt to ride his bike without stabilisers. We have played ball games, flown kites, looked for "creatures" in the hedgerows and collected damsons.

Now I use the playing fields to jog around and I still collect damsons. I have the pleasure of overlooking these fields and I enjoy watching the birds, especially the owls, and the bats. It's also great to see the young people playing their various organised sports as they really seem to enjoy them. It's even more gratifying to see a handful of youngsters just enjoying the fields, making their own games, kicking a ball, or just sitting under the trees chatting.

I have, in the past, played rounders and entered the various running events organized by Woodland Grove residents.

Several years ago a few of us instigated a South Dene versus West Dene annual cricket match, which is greatly enjoyed by many neighbours, a great event to bring the neighbours together, many of whom had not even met each other before.

It would be a great pity if all these events were to cease. Each day I look at these fields and never tire of doing so. The beauty of the trees, especially at sunset is a joy. I do hope the whole community can continue to enjoy these fields for generations to come.

In all the years I have been using the fields I have never sought permission so to do, nor have I ever been asked to leave.

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

Graham Wright



Date:

4/2/2011

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

	NAME of Witness Print	GRAHAM WRIGHT
1	Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"?	24, BRIERCLIFFE RD 24, WEST DENE BRISTOL AND BRISTOL BS9 2DB BS9 2BB
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?	STOKE LODGE PARKLAND
8	For how many years have you known about the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	26 YEARS
9	Between which years did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	1984 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

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	Adult Education
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"?

No

14 How do you gain access to the Land edged in red on Map "A"?

Various/Perimeter access points/multiple

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"?

Jogging, teaching children to ride bikes, kite-flying, fruit picking, rounders, cricket, football

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)

Most Weeks

18 What activities do/did you take part in on the Land edged red on Map "A"?

As No 16

19 Does your immediate family use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?

YES

20 If so, for what?

Walking, picnics, running

21 Do you know of any community activities that take place or have taken place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?

Woodland Grove Parties - Annual since before South Dene v West Dene Cricket Match - Annual -

22 If so please list them and state when and for how long they have taken place?

instigated several years ago

23 Do/did you participate in any of them?

YES

24	Do any organisations use the Land edged in red on Map "A" for sports or pastimes? If so, please specify.	FOOTBALL & CRICKET CLUBS																																	
25	Do any seasonal activities take place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	FOOTBALL CRICKET Snowballing & Sledging																																	
26	Please tick all the activities that you have seen taking place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Children playing</td> <td>☒</td> <td>Fetes</td> <td>Bonfire parties</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rounders</td> <td>☒</td> <td>Football</td> <td>Bicycle riding</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drawing and painting</td> <td>☒</td> <td>Rugby</td> <td>Carol singing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dog Walking</td> <td>☒</td> <td>Cricket</td> <td>other</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Team Games (Formal)</td> <td>☒</td> <td>Bird watching</td> <td>other</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Team Games (informal)</td> <td>☒</td> <td>Picnicking</td> <td>other</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Picking blackberries</td> <td>☒</td> <td>Kite flying</td> <td>other</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community celebrations</td> <td>☒</td> <td>People walking</td> <td>other</td> </tr> </table>		Children playing	☒	Fetes	Bonfire parties	Rounders	☒	Football	Bicycle riding	Drawing and painting	☒	Rugby	Carol singing	Dog Walking	☒	Cricket	other	Team Games (Formal)	☒	Bird watching	other	Team Games (informal)	☒	Picnicking	other	Picking blackberries	☒	Kite flying	other	Community celebrations	☒	People walking	other
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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.	UNSURE ? B.C.C. or University Cotnam																																	
29	Has the owner or occupier seen you on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	No idea																																	
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																																	

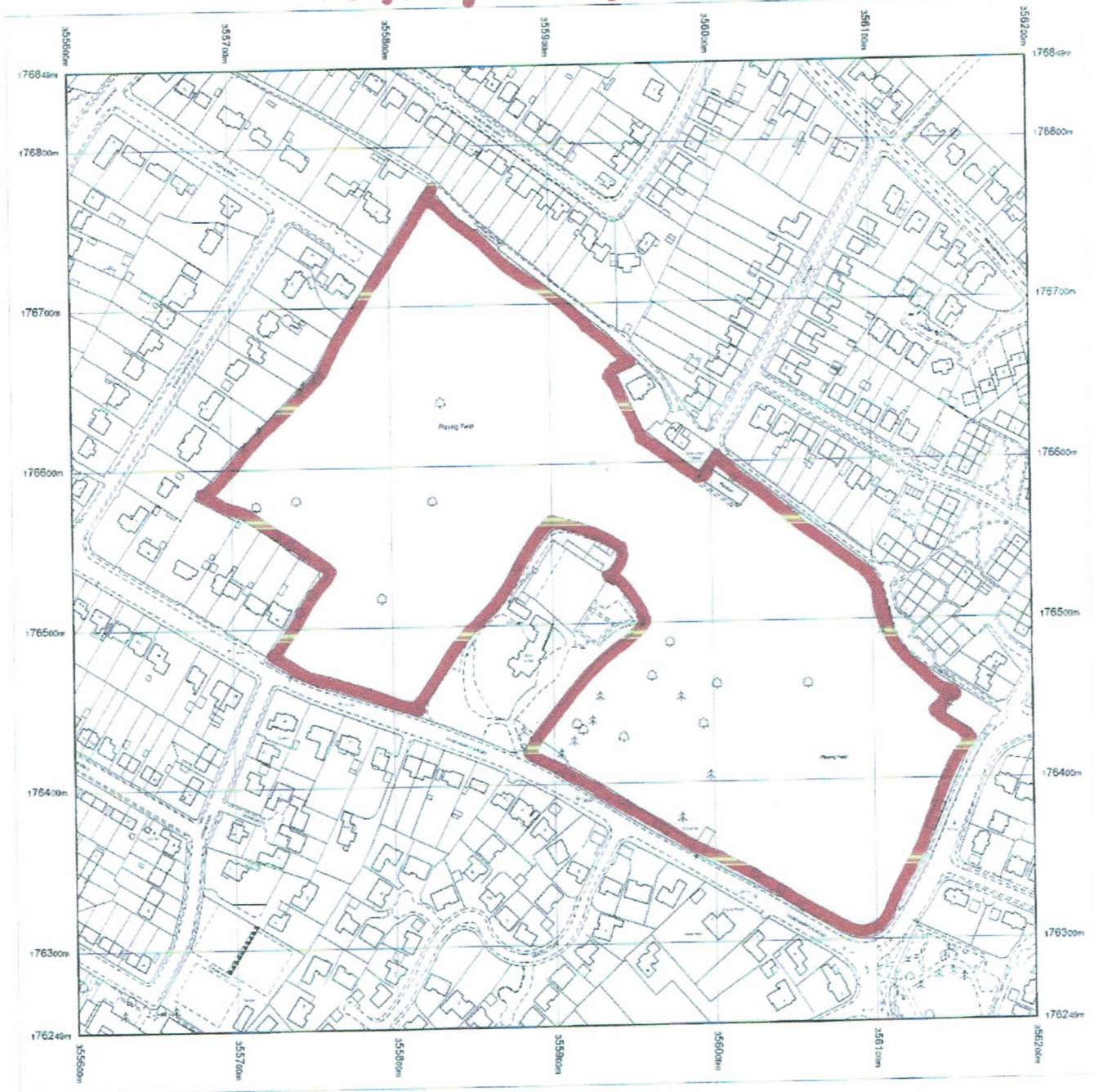
36	If yes, when and for what reason?	N/A
37	Has any attempt been made by any means to prevent or discourage the use being made of the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	No
38	If yes, give examples and dates	N/A
39	Are you aware of any signs or notices restricting access to the Land edged 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)	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 20 26 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	
48	Name	GRAHAM WHIT
49	Date	4/2/2011

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OS Sitemap®

MAP 'A'



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



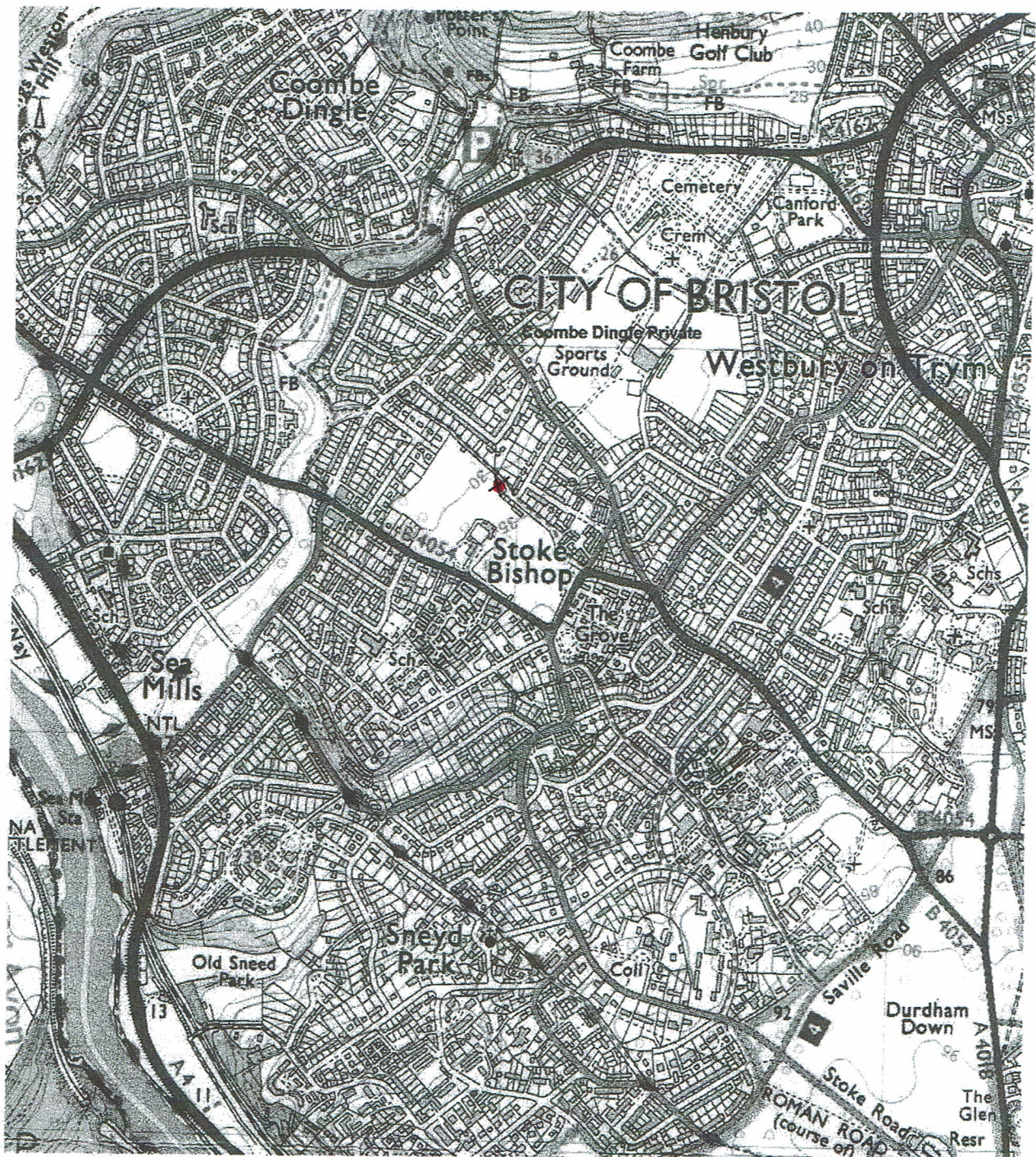
Supplied by: Latitude - Southampton
Serial number: 00349100
Centre coordinates: 355899.67 176549.37

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

NOT TO SCALE WHEN COPIED AT A4.

D. ket.
b. wren
4/2/2011

Map "B" of locality surrounding Stoke Lodge Parkland



0 100 200 300 400 500



Meters

*L.W.A.
L. WRIGHT
4/2/2011*