

Register of 'Additional Community Statements' regarding access "as of right"						
8.01	Mrs Gay Huggins	52	Stoke Hill	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1ER
8.02	Professor Alan W Preece	12	South Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BW
8.03	Mrs Sheila Preece	12	South Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BW
8.04	Mr Stewart Mason	16	Glen Drive	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1SB
8.05	Mr Thomas Henrt Cockcroft Alpass	5	Cheyne Road	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2DH
8.06	Mr I S Singleton	119	Sylvan Way	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2LX
8.07	Mr Martin Bennett	1	West Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BQ
8.08	Mrs Susan Mayer	68a	Coombe Lane	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9 2AY
8.09	Mrs Hilary Long	37	Westbury Hill	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9 3AG
8.10	Mr Bryan McKenna	47	Druid Hill	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1EH
8.11	Mr D J and Mrs PR Powles	3	West Coombe	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BA
8.12	Mrs Helen Ring	69	Woodland Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BD
8.13	Mr D J & Mrs M M Williams	49	Coombe Lane	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BL
8.14	Mrs Valerie May	7	Haylor Park	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2LR
8.15	Mr Korky R Davey	20	St Hilary Close	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1DA
8.16	Mrs Anni Davey	20	St Hilary Close	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1DA
8.17	Dr R J Andlaw	16	West Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.18	Mrs Christine Horseman	9	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.19	Mr Paul Richardson	33	Woodland Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.20	Mrs Sally A Richardson	33	Woodland Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.21	Mr David and Mrs Jenny Baker	29	Woodland Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BD
8.22	Mrs Sharon Parsons	4	Old Sneed Ave	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1ET
8.23	Mr Richard and Mrs Jennifer Parsons	10	South Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BW
8.24	Mr Mario Zapata	178	Stoke Lane	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9 3RS
8.25	Mrs Judith Young		Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.26	Mrs Elizabeth Dedman	22	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.27	Mrs Ann Nosowska	28	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.28	Mr Richard J Nosowski	28	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.29	Mrs Jill Shepherd	33	Glen Drive	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1SA
8.30	Mr Nick Powlesand	15	Glen Drive	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1SA
8.31	Mr Richard Parsons	4	Old Sneed Road	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1ET
8.32	Mrs Judith Murphy	53	Coombe Bridge Ave	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2LT
8.33	Mr Tony Marwick	27	Druid Stoke Ave	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.34	Mrs Alison Butts	35	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.35	Mrs Rita Thomas	43	Barley Croft	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 3TG
8.36	Dr I M Vickery			Henleaze	Bristol	
8.37	Mr Martin Freye	21	Druid Woods	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1SY
8.38	Mr Malcolm Davies	11	South Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BW
8.39	Mrs Gaynor Page		South Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.40	Mr Peter Hobbs	24	Woodland Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BB
8.41	Mrs Ghyslaine Hobbs	24	Woodland Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BB
8.42	Mrs Julie Wright	24	West Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2BQ
8.43	Mrs Lorna Crook	67	Coombe Lane	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2AZ
8.44	Mrs Celia Worrall	47	Coombe Bridge Ave	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2LT
8.45	Mr Philip Smith				Bristol	BS9
8.46	Mr Clive and Mrs Sue Gio-Batta	42	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.47	Mrs Stephanie French	18	Old Sneed Ave	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1SE
8.48	Mrs Jannet Kerrati	22	Tunstall Close	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1HR
8.49	Mr Peter & Mrs Jenny Weeks	2A	Druid Road	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1LH
8.50	Mr Nick Balderson	10	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.51	Mr Alan & Mrs Belinda Houston	23	Parrys Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.52	Mrs Alison Levinson	4	Cote Park	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9 2AD
8.53	Mr Tom Levinson (13 Jan 2012)	4	Cote Park	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9
8.54	Mr Tom Levinson (05 Nov 2011)	4	Cote Park	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9
8.55	Mrs Nicola Cooper	17A	Druid Stoke Ave	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.56	Mr Robert Walters	5	Glen Drive	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1SA
8.57	Mrs Margaret Walters	5	Glen Drive	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.58	Mrs Nathalie Beaufils	7	Cross Elms	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.59	Mrs Gillian Clark				Bristol	BS9 1HN
8.60	Mr Eric and Mrs Sheila White	18	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.61	Mr Geoffrey and Mrs Pamela Eglington	7	Red House Lane	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9 3RY
8.62	Mr John R Parsons	10	South Dene	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 3BW
8.63	Mrs Carmel Zapata	178	Stoke Lane	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9 3RS
8.64	Mr Colin O'Connor	19	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.65	Mr Jason Parker	18	St Hilary Close	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1DA
8.66	Mr Reg Hunt				Bristol	BS9
8.67	Mr Clive Shepherd	33	Glen Drive	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1SA
8.68	Mr Martin and Mrs Lynda Bryan-Brown	10	Coombe Lane	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9 2AA
8.69	Mrs Barbara Skakle	35	Grove Ave	Coombe Dingle	Bristol	BS9 2RP
8.70	Mr John Stringer		Red House Lane	Westbury on Trym	Bristol	BS9
8.71	Mrs Ruth Wicks	6	St Hilary Close	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1DA
8.72	Mr Korky Davey (2nd letter)	20	S Hilary Close	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1DA
8.73	Mrs Mary Laity				Bristol	BS9
8.74	Mr Peter Thomas	8	Queens Gate	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1TZ
8.75	Mrs Lynn Hurley	21	Southwood Drive	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 2QX
8.76	Mr J and Mrs F Nash and Miss P Pugh	15/16	Sunnyside Cottages	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1BQ
8.77	Mrs Jane Rooth			Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.78	Mr Martin Sisman			Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9 1JT
8.79	Mrs Armelle Young	Flat 2	Woodlands, Church Road	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.80	Mr William Hayes	21	Parrys Grove	Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9
8.81	Mr David Higgins			Stoke Bishop	Bristol	BS9

52 Stoke Hill
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1ER
12th January 2012

Mr D Mayer
Save Stoke Lodge Parkland
68a Coombe Lane
Westbury on Trym
Bristol BS9 2AY

Dear Mr Mayer

I am writing in response to the objections to the proposed Village Green application.

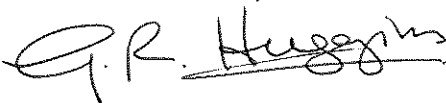
I have been a resident of Stoke Bishop since 1978 and have used the area of Stoke Lodge ever since. When I first used the area with my children there were no signs prohibiting users and I have never been challenged while on site. I have used it for various activities, mainly with my children for walking, games of ball, kite flying, etc. and for exercise with my dog. I have also used it for bird watching, and for pure pleasure of being in the fresh air in a densely populated area. With the loss of the green areas of Clifton High School playing field and the Smelting Works, now covered with large and numerous properties, this has remained a much needed green space for local residents, safe from traffic as it has a walled boundary, but open at various points for access, which has never been denied.

I have been a user of the Adult courses at Stoke Lodge over the years, and also gardened the walled garden at one stage, but this has been left to become overgrown.

As a local resident I do feel that the Stoke Lodge Parkland is available to use "as of right" after all these years. Signs were only erected about 20 years ago, and all who I regularly met on site did not know where they had come from, or who had requested their erection. No one I know has ever been challenged in accordance with the signs, and I question whether they have any right to be there.

This area is used a great deal for sport, which is welcomed, but there is room for everyone and this should be maintained.

Yours sincerely



Mrs G R HUGGINS

12 South Dene
 Stoke Bishop
 Bristol
 BS9 2BW
 14 January 2012

Mr David Mayer,
 Chairman of Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear David

Re: Stoke Lodge Town Green application

In response to the few objection letters that were received I would like to add comments of my own to your response.

I have been a resident of a house on the boundary of Stoke Lodge for almost 40 years and have had free and open access to the Fields on a continuous basis for the whole of that time, using it both as a route to the shops, to the local buses and for recreation with my children and grandchildren. At no time was it ever suggested by any person that this was not an acceptable thing to do as long as I did no damage nor interfered with the shared sports use. At one time there was resident groundsman, and I frequently greeted or spoke to him without any hint that our presence was not acceptable and we frequently chatted about local matters, and it was very clear to him we were local residents enjoying the amenity.

For a long time there were NO notices at any entrance. The two that appeared (I think late '80s) clearly referred to not causing nuisance, not fouling the area with dog mess, nor flying model aircraft – clearly defining the things one should not do whilst on the playing field.

Also I had never seen the notice near the house until it was pointed out during the preliminaries of the Town Green application, but I would have interpreted this as restricting access to the Stoke Lodge House and it's immediate curtilage (except when attending events there, of course). I see it has now been turned to face people coming from the car park and accessing the playing area.

Over all the years I have either used the West Dene/Cheyne Road route or West Dene to the path at the south side of the house – where there is no sign and never has been. In other words it is perfectly possible to traverse the field without passing any notice and I contend there was a long period with no sign at any of the entrances. My neighbour who died very recently had similarly used the field since the '40s and long after the notices were introduced, because clearly there was no intention to stop access, but only to prevent misuse. The last sign put up clearly conflicts with councillors' statements about shared community use and did not appear until the briefing note in 2010 when there was clear intention to deprive the residents of their access and use by fencing the area. The northern access from Cheyne Road is designed to keep out motorized vehicles but to positively allow access by pedestrians, and there is no notice at this major access point.

Re: the Rockleaze Rangers and Coombe Dingle (University) objections; I do not see that their use, including the commercial use by the university in hiring out the areas, in any way conflicts with the way the field has been used over the last 50 years. As residents we have begged for the provision of dog-bins, although considering the amount of use made by dog-owners, the amount of fouling is miniscule. Most of the rubbish that I have picked up over the years has consisted of sweet papers and energy drink cans from the touch lines. The

schools make minimal use of the area, and it rarely amounts to more than one pitch for an hour per week and public use has never conflicted with this.

In summary, I wish to see Town Green status granted to protect the area against the ill-found intentions of the Council to retrieve the area for development, which I would regard as a severe infringement of our right of access to Green Spaces and a potential destruction of an extremely valuable community resource. I have used the area long before any prohibition was indicated and since this has never been enforced, or would be practicable, there is no reason to impose restrictions except to protect future development in the knowledge that residents have used the space as of right for a very long period.

Yours sincerely

Professor Alan W. Preece

12 South Dene
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 2BW
8 January 2012

David Mayer
Chairman, Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear David

In answer to the City Council's letter of objection to the Town Green application I wish to reinforce the fact that I and my family have had unfettered informal use of the whole of the Stoke Lodge fields since we moved here in 1972. I have always believed that we go there as of right, and have never asked permission. In 40 years here we have never been challenged on our right to be there even when there was a resident groundsman to whom we used to chat. By definition therefore, we always walked past the notices at the West Dene and Parry's Lane entrances when they appeared, because we were not causing (quote) "nuisance or disturbance".

I had never even noticed the recently erected sign near the Adult Learning Centre until someone told me about it. I am much disturbed by the wording of "Private grounds" on this one, as this is council property that belongs to all of us, as demonstrated by the continued informal use by hundreds of local residents. As a new notice it goes against all assurances about community use that we have received from the Council.

The three signs have been totally ineffective and have been proved irrelevant, as there has been long-standing informal community use for decades, even going back to the 40s. I therefore completely refute the City Council's contention that despite lack of enforcement of restricted access over so many years the (quote) "user should have known that the owner was contesting the use of the land".

There are many entrances to the fields without signage and all of them are frequently used particularly the one from Cheyne Road where a bollard and stepping stones have been placed, not by a resident as far as I know, to enable access by pedestrians. My grandchildren, and before them my children and their friends, frequently walk, play football, have picnics, look at the trees and the birds, and pick blackberries at Stoke Lodge. We always see there other people from the local area jogging or walking dogs or doing as I have described above. Many young people go there in summer to practise their cricket and golf skills.

It is inconceivable that Stoke Lodge could not be granted a modern Town Green status so that all our residents can continue to use a much valued space that is unique in Stoke Bishop.

Yours sincerely

Sheila Preece

<<71>>

Susan Mayer

From: Stewart Mason [sm007c5508@blueyonder.co.uk]
Sent: 15 January 2012 18:14
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Response on Signs to Stoke Lodge

David, Sue,

My response

" Stewart Mason, 16 Glen Drive, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1SB

I have lived in Stoke Bishop since 1995 and have used Stoke Lodge in all that time. I have done this along with the many other local residents as I believed that I was free to do so, as of right. The basis for my belief is as follows :

- The general belief of local residents has always been the same as mine that use for local residents was very longstanding and, therefore, had been established as of right.
- When using Stoke Lodge I have frequently passed by employees working there, cutting the grass, marking out football pitches etc and never once have I been challenged.
- I have never had to force entry to the site and have merely walked through the many access points.
- I was aware of signs, but my belief is that these are now obsolete. My reasons for thinking this are a) the signs are not placed at all access points b) a previous historic wooden sign was not replaced when it fell off the tree to which it was nailed c) the signs refer to Avon County Council which has not existed for some considerable time (if the signs were meant to be valid then new ones would have been erected in the name of Avon County Council's successor authority).
- The one sign which does refer to Bristol City Council is placed by the car park, close to a lockable gate. It would not seem to have been placed there to address itself to local residents who use Stoke Lodge as of right, but those users who drive to Stoke Lodge to participate in organised sporting events such as football, rugby and cricket matches.

Stewart Mason

Legal Services,
Bristol City Council,
PO Box 2156,
The Council House
Bristol
BS99 7PH

5 Cheyne Road,
Stoke Bishop,
Bristol
BS9 2DH

20th January 2012

For the attention of Mr T C Dunsdon

Dear Sir,

Town Green Application for Stoke Lodge Parkland

In my statement submitted with the Town Green Application I said that as a boy I used to walk and play in the grounds of Stoke Lodge which I approached with friends from Ebenezer Lane through gaps in the shrubs and trees bordering the Lane and through the stile at the top of Cheyne Road. My enjoyment of the grounds with friends started in 1957, although I must have gone there earlier for family walks including to exercise dogs. My first school, which I attended from 1952 was in West Dene, so it is likely that I walked through Stoke Lodge before 1957.

I was never denied access or asked to leave and I never sought permission to go onto the grounds. When cricket or soccer matches were proceeding my family, friends and I kept off the pitches.

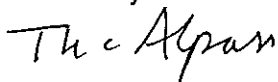
Later I believe signs were put up at other points of access to Stoke Lodge by Avon County Council, after that council was created. The locations were at points of vehicular access. However I do not recall there ever being a sign at the top of Cheyne Road. For many years there was a stile at the top of Cheyne Road giving pedestrian access to Stoke Lodge.

In 1980 my wife and I returned to Bristol with our daughter, living in Henbury until 1999, when we moved to Cheyne Road. Since then my wife and I have frequently walked in and across Stoke Lodge. We have picked blackberries from the surrounding hedges. When my daughter and son visit us, we often walk in Stoke Lodge as a family. My daughter and son-in-law sometimes run in Stoke Lodge.

I am aware of many people who enjoy the calm open space of Stoke Lodge for walking, running, exercising dogs and casual socialising. It's size has always enabled it to accommodate informal leisure activities including the above, flying kites and picnicking as well as sports training and practice, formal sports matches and school sports days.

I have never been asked to leave Stoke Lodge or barred from entering it. I believe that the facts stated in this letter are true.

Yours faithfully



Mr Thomas Henry Cockcroft Alpass
Retired architect

To: Legal Services,
 Bristol City Council,
 PO Box 2156,
 The Council House,
 BRISTOL
 BS59 7PH

119 Sylvan Way
 Sea Mills
 Bristol
 BS9 2LX
 18.1.12

For the attention of Mr. T.C. Densdon

Dear Sirs,

TOWN GREEN APPLICATION FOR STOKES LODGE PARKLAND
 I have already written to support the Town Green application for Stokes Lodge Parkland. I wish to report that I have regularly used the park to exercise dogs and to enjoy the fresh air since we first moved to the area in 1962. I have always accessed the park via Cheyne Rd. or Ebenezer Lane.

Over a period of more than 40 years I was never denied access or asked to leave the park. There were no signs

at the end of Cheyne Rd or off Ebenezer Lane
 denying access to the public or even putting
 any restrictions on access. People using the
 parkland were careful not to allow dogs or
 children to interfere with any organised
 games taking place in the park.

Stoke Lodge is a vital resource
 for local people to enjoy. Wellbeing parkland
 helped me to recover my health after
 involuntary addiction to prescribed medication.
 Local open space has drastically reduced
 in the past 20 years or so, with two
 other open playing fields being built on in
 the Shirehampton Road / Pongys Lane area. It is
 therefore all the more important that Stoke
 Lodge parkland should continue to be
 enjoyed by everyone, not just a privileged
 few. It would be a great loss to the local
 community if local people were to be
 excluded in future.

2<<75>>

I repeat that I believe all
the facts in this letter to be true.

Yours faithfully,

I. J. Singleton

(MR I. J. SINGLETON)

(PRESCRIBED DRUGS COUNSELLOR)

8.06(c)

Susan Mayer

From: Martin Bennett [m.bennett@me.com]
Sent: 23 January 2012 13:08
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Cc: Susan Mayer
Subject: Correction- Informal

>
> RE:
> Stoke Lodge Parkland
> Stoke Bishop
> Bristol
>
> To Whom it may concern,
>
I have been using Stoke Lodge Parkland
unfettered for over 15 years .
> During that length time i have walked , run, kicked a footy, flown a kite ,have rode
my bike around, as well as picked walnuts,plums and blackberries with my family . We
have had family picnics in the summer and make snowmen and snowball fights in the
winter with hundreds of other families with their kids .There are so many different
(parts of the Parkland that offer so many different experience to enjoy as i have just
mentioned.
> At no stage did i consider it anything other than parkland. No one has ever asked us
to move on and nobody in any official capacity approach us and we have entered the
park from many different entrances that are not signed. So have always used the Stoke
Lodge Parkland "as of right" as it is the only piece of community land at our disposal
.
>
> There have also had several informal community cricket matches between neighbouring
streets of West Dene v South Dene in the past with a picnic and we tried to organise
one last year but the weather went against us but they have really have brought
together the community over the years.
>
> This is not a normal flat piece of parkland as well but a beautiful landscape with
magnificent trees and is parkland that all Bristolians should be proud to have and one
that we use on a daily basis whether that be walking to school , playing after school
or playing on the weekend.
>
> As many other local spaces have been sold off for housing or made into sports
complex's that are barely used (e.g. Portway Rugby Centre , Westbury Fields and the
National Smelting ground for housing) , to hear that a attempt to take our local park
(away from the community is beyond belief really especially as we have no alternative
in the ward of Stoke Bishop .
> It is the only park in the ward of Stoke Bishop so don't the Council have a legal
obligation to provide us with a park under the Green Spaces charter .
>
> I would be quiet happy to give my views at any forum at length as i can't stress
enough what a big part of our life Stoke Lodge Parkland is to me and my family.
> My daughter refers to it as the "The park at the end of the street" and we look
forward to many more years of fun at the together at "The Park " at Stoke Lodge.
>
> Yours
>
> Martin Bennett
> 1 West Dene
> Stoke Bishop
> BS9 2BQ

For the attention of,
The Chairman, Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

Re Stoke Lodge Town Green Application

My home is less than 300 yards from Stoke Lodge Parkland, Stoke Bishop and I have been a resident at this address for more than twenty years. During this time, I have witnessed the daily use of the Parkland by locals for informal recreation as well as organised sport.

I have become an informal user of the grounds myself in recent years entering at various points including Cheyne Road that has logs placed across an open gateway to restrict vehicles but with a designated footway to allow unfettered pedestrian access to the grounds. I have also used the small gateway off Shirehampton Road as well as the West Dene entrance through another open gateway adjacent to the changing rooms.

I was not aware of any objection or intended prohibition prior to the April 2010 briefing note that highlighted the need to exclude residents from the grounds for BCC to retain 'future development' potential. Indeed the signage inside the West Dene entranceway was obscured by trees/shrubs until fairly recently making it impossible to identify or read; however, efforts have now been made to clear some the overgrowth at this entrance as well as other areas within the Parkland. The only other sign that I have observed is within the Adult Learning Centre car park (a very recent addition) but originally positioned in such a way as to imply that it referred to the gardens surrounding Stoke Lodge House, not the Parkland; it should be noted that following the TGA highlighting this anomaly, the sign has been repositioned.

However, the signs on the Parkland are not at the boundary which I believe to be a necessary requirement for any enforcement; equally, the wording on the older signs, erected in the 1980's do not prohibit all access and contain woolly unintelligible statements referring to potential trespass and possible prosecution.

After more than sixty years of "unfettered access" (as described in the April 2010 briefing note) to this open parkland, acknowledged as vital green space for local residents on numerous occasions in official BCC papers, Stoke Bishop Residents have rightfully established their claim to this area as a Village Green, albeit in name only until now. There is additional corroborative evidence of this assertion, in a judgement by Lord Kerr, concerning a similar case. Quote ".....if confronted by such use over a period of twenty years, it is ipso facto reasonable to expect an owner to resist or restrict the use of he wishes to avoid the possibility of registration"); together with similar judgements by Lord Brown and others.

In closing, I can confirm that I have:-

- A: Never used physical force to gain access to the Grounds
- B: Never, considered that the signs denied free and open public access
- C: Never sought permission to use/enter the Parkland
- D: Never had my use/presence on the land objected to by anyone.

Yours truly,



S. J. Mayer (Mrs)

37 Westbury Hill
Westbury on Trym
Bristol BS9 3AG
January 27th 2012

To whom it may concern
Dear Sir

I am writing as a previous resident of Stoke Bishop, now living in Westbury-on-Trym the neighbouring ward, and as a recent chairman of the Westbury on Trym Society, to express my support for the current campaign to secure the Stoke Lodge Parkland for public recreation, in perpetuity, by giving it Village Green status in law.

During the time I was living in Stoke Bishop ward, I was never aware that members of the local community were debarred from using the 'parkland', or former garden estate of Stoke Lodge-particularly as the house itself was open to the public as an adult education centre where I went to painting classes. Indeed we regarded it as a whole entity, held by the City Council in the name of its electors.

Since moving to Westbury on Trym 40 years ago in 1971, I and my family have continued to regard the estate as a public asset in common with the Institute, where I have had continued free access and where we attend classes to this day. A separation of the two has never occurred to anyone as far as I am aware; they are simply a local amenity from when Stoke Lodge and its land were bought in the name of its citizens by the local Council, which has continued to administer the institution since then for educational and recreational purposes, for the enjoyment of all who use and benefit from the facilities.

We have not been aware of any local authority interference with community use of the grounds-being as they are of 'educational' status, which definition surely includes informal recreation and sporting uses as well as organized formal visiting by schools. Nor have any 'prosecutions' taken place because of so called 'forced entry', misuse or damage to land or assets. In fact there has been a tacit acceptance throughout those 40 years of regular recreational use of the open land by the general public from both wards, sitting as it does on the border between them, to the extent that everyone locally has come to regard the estate as part of the City's Parks and Open spaces. When has any challenge been issued to this usage or any enforcement declared to groups or individuals of non usage to be brought about by prosecution? Never to my knowledge, as a long term resident of the area!

Entry has not been 'forced' as implied-there are many 'natural' entrances which have come about over the years due to the neglect of the boundary hedges, walls and fences, by the local authority-therefore by implication indicating that public access did not matter and people were not shut out! These are in addition to the main gate which stands open as an invitation to anyone to come in to visit the institute on foot or by car at any time and the land extends beyond the gate in natural progression without fences or wires to prevent entry.

There has therefore been a longstanding assumption over past decades by members of the local community that walking there or taking children to run about in a wide open space, has been in full accordance with local custom and by consent of the City Council, no-one ever having been challenged to leave or desist from their exercise.

8.09(a)

This park land is an important feature of the local landscape, as well as a recreational and informal sports asset for many people this side of Bristol. It contains many valuable and unique trees collected by the former owners of the historic 'Stoke Lodge' which add value for those interested in nature and arboriculture and contribute to its individual character.

It has been enjoyed as a public open space for many years and should be able to retain this status-especially as in Westbury on Trym, where many of the present users reside, nearly all the open sports land has been sold for new housing developments during the last twenty years-with the sole exception of the City's smaller Canford Park which has its own separate, more formal character and other purposes.

Indeed Stoke Lodge Parkland contributes to the area's total open green space in no small measure, presenting the choice of a wider, freer open area for ball games, races and extended walking all of which are more difficult in the restricted spaces of Canford Park layout. It has a different character of its own combined with a magnificent view across the valley and a feeling of being in open country which adds to its alternative experience for users.

I therefore fully support those seeking to instate Stoke Lodge Parkland as a 'Village Green' for continued and permanent enjoyment by communities in this northern part of Bristol.

Yours Sincerely
Hilary Long (Mrs)

8.09 (6)

Bryan McKenna
47 Druid Hill
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1EH

22 January 2012

Bristol City Council
The Council House
College Green
Bristol BS1 5TR

FAO

Re : Town Green Application – Stoke Lodge Parkland/Playing Fields

Dear Sirs

As a member of Save Stoke Lodge Parkland (a key Group in the ongoing local attempts to keep Stoke Lodge as free open space), I am writing, once again, in a further effort to help ensure this parkland remains as a freely used public space.

I have lived some 200 yards from the Parry's lane end of Stoke Lodge for nearly 20 years, and along with my wife and 3 sons (now in their late teens/early 20's) have made considerable use of the open space provided for all sorts of informal recreational and sporting activities.

In our experience, the fields are extensively used by the public, especially in the daytime, and are particularly busy in the non-winter months. Both the top and bottom fields are equally popular.

Although there are a few old (Avon County Council) signs which draw attention to the Local Council ownership of the Parkland, in all our experience of making use of this green space we have never considered we required permission so to do, nor sought it – indeed permission has never been an issue, and no one has ever given us permission or objected to our being there.

There are many openings to the Fields, all around the perimeter, which has made open access the norm, for young and old. Again, knowing many users of the Fields, of all ages, and over a long period of time, none of us have ever felt that our entry to, and use of, this marvellous local open space has been discouraged by any atmosphere of the owner's discouragement, or by other than the easy physical entries already mentioned.

This is a very important open green space for our local community, which is why I, my family, and many, many others support all initiatives which will ensure it remains so.

Your sincerely

Bryan McKenna

8.10.

3, West Coombe

Stoke Bishop

Bristol BS9 2BA

23rd January 2012

To whom it may concern:

Re: Stoke Lodge Parkland

We are firmly of the opinion that the objections to the granting of Town Green status are without foundation.


When we moved to Bristol in 1975 my wife regularly walked across the parkland when our children attended Cedar Park School and we have continued to enjoy access.

There was then, and is now no question of secrecy, and we have always believed that we had a right of use without seeking permission from the landlord.

The attempts by Bristol City Council to deny community access to the parkland have been totally inadequate and without serious commitment. The signs are not located at sufficient access points and the limited fencing of the area has been poorly maintained. There is now, and never has been a need to use force to gain access. The lack of enforcement action, for many years, by Bristol City Council has clearly led the community to believe that access was "as of right".

We therefore consider that we have had, and should continue to have access to the parkland "as of right" and that the Town Green application should be granted.

D.J and P.R Powles

Handwritten signature of P.R. Powles in black ink.

Susan Mayer

From: Helen Ring [helenringring@gmail.com]
Sent: 17 January 2012 09:53
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] My Support of the Town Green Application for Stoke Lodge

Dear Mr Mayer,

I am writing to provide my support for the Town Green application that you are kindly submitting on behalf of the community.

I am a responsible dog owner and visit Stoke Lodge on an almost daily basis, at various times of the day (early mornings Monday to Thursday and various times during the day Friday to Sunday). It is a wonderful place that the whole community amicably shares, from sports events, to kids playing, picnics, dog walkers, runners, etc. etc. etc. I really enjoy bumping into various different people for a chat, in a relaxed and beautiful environment.

I mostly access the park via the lane accessed from Bell Barn Road, as I live just around the corner in Woodland Grove. There are no barriers or signs mentioning restricted access to the park coming from this route and indeed many other routes into the field. On one occasion I did notice the sign by the Stoke Lodge House, but did not think that that could possibly apply to myself or others using the field, as I had already been walking in the field for more than 18 months at that time and could not see what could possibly have changed, plus the useage remained the same with other visitors to the field. In addition, I have not seen or heard of anybody enforcing restricted entrance to the field.

Stoke Lodge is the only open space of it's kind in our neighbourhood and it would be wonderful and very important for this to be secured in the future by being granted "Town Green" Status. I wish you every success and give you my full support with the application.

With kind regards.

Helen Ring
69 Woodland Grove
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 2BD

Tel: 0117 3774111/07980 796230

8.12.

From: Mr. D.J. Williams and Mrs. M.M. Williams,
of 49, Coombe Lane, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 2BL

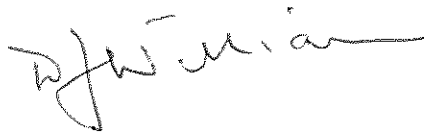
16th Jan 2012

Support for the Application for Village Green Status for Stoke Lodge Parkland

My wife and I and our family of two children have lived at the above address since 1986. During that time we have enjoyed spasmodic use of the Stoke Lodge Parkland for occasional unorganised recreational purposes, such as informal ball games with our children, when they were young, or latterly, just strolling for light exercise.

In all this use, we did not make any requests for permission from anyone to enter the parkland, nor were we ever approached by anyone questioning our right to be there, and there was no gate at the entrance to the parkland from West Dene or from Parry's Lane. My wife and I more recently have used the parkland as a short cut from our house to attend French and Italian language and, latterly, Computing adult education courses, without any hindrance or objection being brought to our notice. We are conscious that in all these activities we considered we were following common practice, as of right, with other members of the local community in the neighbourhood., notwithstanding any notices, including the recently installed ones, stating that permission was required.,

I would point out, also, that our use of the Stoke Lodge parkland was in conscious contrast to our use, some years ago, of the (then), Clifton High School playing fields on Parry's Lane, where my wife and I, with our children, made occasional use of the tennis courts there. This was during a period when our daughter was a pupil at the school and hence we were able to request, and were granted, specific permission for our use of the school's tennis courts, for which purpose a membership card was issued to us which had to be shown, on request, to the groundsman., to prove our right to be there.



<<84>>

Susan Mayer

From: Valerie May [va-pjmay@tiscali.co.uk]
Sent: 07 January 2012 16:13
To: Save Stoke Lodge Parkland
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

I am 73 years of age and have used Stoke Lodge since childhood at different times of the day and have always known this to be a public space for recreation and enjoyment. This area has always been used by the public and there has never been any question of seeking permission from anyone to do so. At no time have I ever been told this was private property even though I have been there many times while grass cutting was in progress or while marking of pitches was taking place.

I have walked freely on Stoke Lodge for over sixty years, and have at no time forced my way in. I normally enter by the Cheyne Road access as I live in Haytor Park.

The first time I ever noticed a City Council sign on Stoke Lodge was in 2011 when, unusually, I happened to enter via Shirehampton Road and the car park to take a short cut over the field to go home, through the Cheyne Road entrance. Frankly, I was amazed to see the sign, which looked fairly new, and I wondered what had prompted the Council to erect such a sign in a public place. I still don't know. Together with many other members of the public I have continued to enjoy walking on Stoke Lodge since seeing the sign and at no time has anyone prevented me from doing so. As far as I am concerned, this area is for the enjoyment of the local people as it has always been in the past and should remain so for future generations.

Valerie May
7 Haytor Park,
BS9 2LR

8.14.

12/01/2012

Susan Mayer

From: anni.davey@oaci.org
Sent: 05 January 2012 00:58
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Cc: David Baker; Susan Mayer; JASON PARKER
Subject: Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear Susan,

Thank you so much for your very clear and correct appraisal of the situation as it affects the legal status of our Town Green Application.

As a retired Chartered Surveyor I can confirm that your appraisal is absolutely correct.

I can confirm that Anni and I moved into our home at No. 18 St. Hilary Close on 9th April 1973 and have brought up our four daughters there. As members of St. Mary Magdalene Church we know a very large number of local people who have been long term residents in Stoke Bishop. All of us have used the Stoke Lodge playing fields as our local park without any opposition from anyone from the Council, and more often than not a friendly wave from the maintenance staff.

Our use of the park has been nec vi, nec clam, nec periculo. These are the correct legal terms for use "as of right" of public land in the management of the Local Authority.

Obviously it is used a lot by properties backing on to the park but I would say that for most of the time we have lived here we have walked round it pretty well every day as we had an energetic Alsatian to exercise responsibly.

I am really very disturbed that the Lease to Cotham school was granted prior to the final resolution of the Town Green application already at time in progress. The desire of local residents to continue to enjoy the park was well known to the Council who are supposed to act in the interests of the wider community, not some small sectional interest. It all looks pretty shifty, to me.

Obviously influential people from the school and the sports interests will properly want to influence Council members to act in their favour. No doubt there have been drinks and parties and that sort of thing. But the Council should not be swayed by these influences against acting in the interest of the wider community. In my view, to do so amounts to a surprising level of misconduct.

How dare the Council pose objections to the desire of the wider community to the continued enjoyment of our beautiful Stoke Lodge park, which is perfectly satisfactory as it stands for football, cricket and so on! There are already three or four fully developed sports facilities in the area, most of which appear to the casual observer to be rarely used.

The Golden Hill site, or the Downs, are actually closer to Cotham School than Stoke Lodge.

Opposition to our continued free access to Stoke Lodge park for the wider community by our own Council presumably means they don't desire to be elected again. I am pretty angry about this and so, no doubt, are a number of other people. The way the Council has acted stinks.

Yours sincerely,
K. R. Davey
20 St. Hilary Close
Stoke Bishop BS9 1DA

Susan Mayer

From: anni.davey@oaci.org
 Sent: 05 January 2012 01:33
 To: Susan Mayer
 Cc: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
 Subject: RE: Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

A letter has already been sent from my husband in response to the objections from the Council, Cotham Academy, Combe Dingle Sports Centre, and the Rangers Football Club, but I would like to add my own comments.

Over the last 38 years I have taken our children to the park for birthday parties in the summer, snowball fights in the winter, sports days for the local primary School, "summer picnic" days with games for St. Mary's church members from time to time. We go there on Fireworks night to see the displays. We have hurried there to watch the descent of hot air balloons. We have exercised there walking the perimeter and (responsibly) walking the dog. We now take our grand-children there to play. It is the only obviously safe open green space in the area and it never occurred to us that it was not already a town green, in effect, so it has come as a complete surprise that we do have to fight to retain our right to use it.

On no occasion have we ever been challenged on our presence on the parkland.

We have been there in the early mornings and sometimes even late at night by street lights. We have been there when the pitches were in action and when the place was deserted. We have never found the entrances closed although once there was a log over the entrance from Cheyne Road. Admittedly the car park at the Adult Education Centre has a gate that is locked when the place is not open, but the entrance by the changing room hut is always open. The shortest route for us has always been to hop over the wall on the corner of Parry's Lane and Shirehampton Road, but there is also a gap there between the old wall and the wire fence which most people use nowadays freely and have done for years.

The appearance of the public notices did little to deter anybody, as they were obviously impossible to enforce, and took no account of the frequent, reasonable, quiet and habitual use of the parkland by us "regulars". We are incensed at the way the Council went ahead with a Lease to Cotham Academy despite the Town Green application already being made, and of which they were fully aware. They are thumbing their nose at the community.

If the Rangers Football Club are objecting on the grounds of losing one pitch to the provision of a play area, the play area could be easily re-sited under the beautiful old trees to the East of the Adult Education Centre, with no loss of playing field area, and the benefit of the shade of the trees in summer. Access to the toilets would in fact be easier from there than from the pitch currently being considered.

Yours sincerely,
 Anni Davey

20 St. Hilary Close
 Stoke Bishop
 BS9 1DA

-----Original Message-----

From: "Susan Mayer" <suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk>
 Sent: Wednesday, January 4, 2012 17:17
 To: anni.davey@oaci.org
 Subject: Let me know if you have trouble with this copy

Save Stoke Lodge Parkland - Village Green or Bust!

Urgent request for help from all members to defeat the objections submitted

We have now received copies of the Four objections submitted to our application,

To whom it may concern

Stoke Lodge Parkland

I have been a resident of West Dene adjoining the parkland since 1969. One of the reasons we chose to buy our property was the existence of the pleasant unspoilt open space there. For many years our two daughters (aged 4 and 5 when we moved there) enjoyed playing in the field with their friends, and my wife and I have enjoyed the freedom to walk and exercise there.

We have always entered the field through a gap in the stone wall at the end of West Dene that has never had a barrier across it or even a gate to discourage entry - indeed the open access suggests freedom to enter. There has always been a notice on a post close to this entrance point, but it only "warns" members of the public not to trespass, in particular not to cause a "nuisance or disturbance" to those using the playing field. There is no reference to prohibiting entrance and we have never received any warning when in the parkland. Some years ago we often chatted to the groundsman, who presumably was employed by the City Council, and there was never any suggestion that we were trespassing. Furthermore, the notice appears out of date because it is by order of the "County of Avon" which, of course, has not existed since it was abolished 1996. In view of all this it is not surprising that members of the public have felt, and still feel, they have a right to use the field, so long as they do not cause disturbance to those using the playing fields.

The parkland provides a much-appreciated amenity in our area, used for a variety of recreational purposes by very many local residents, many for over 20 years - and by us for over 40. We would like to have it protected as such for future generations.

Dr R. J. Andlaw
18 West Dene
Stoke Bishop

Matt Horseman

From: ChristineC2 [christineC2@hotmail.co.uk]
Sent: 16 January 2012 17:23
To: Matt Horseman
Subject: FW: Stoke Lodge Playing Field

Can you print this off for me please

From: ChristineC2 [mailto:christineC2@hotmail.co.uk]
Sent: 16 January 2012 17:14
To: 'stoke.lodge@hotmail.com'
Subject: FW: Stoke Lodge Playing Field

From: ChristineC2 [mailto:christineC2@hotmail.co.uk]
Sent: 16 January 2012 17:11

Subject: Stoke Lodge Playing Field

I moved into the Queens Gate Development last year and until quite recently I was unaware that I was not allowed to walk my dog in the Stoke Lodge Playing Fields as I usually enter the field at the top next to the concrete bunker close to the mini roundabout and had not seen any signs saying otherwise.

On walking around the field I always meet several dogs and their owners (of varying ages from children to the more elderly) and have always found them to be responsible owners clearing up after any fouling etc.

As a female I feel very safe when walking around the field, knowing that it tends only to be used by local residents – unlike nearby Blaise Estate whereby even with a large Labrador I feel intimidated by both the types of dogs and dare I say, people. Indeed, the more elderly members of our community, walking with sticks etc quite obviously also feel very secure in this area.

It is very hard moving into a new area and Stoke Lodge Playing Field has enabled me to meet local residents with a common interest and thereby fit in to the community a lot more easier. Surely this is also an important factor when establishing a community based village green too.

It is remarkably clean bearing in mind the number of people that use it on a daily basis and that there are no nearby rubbish bins thus proving that the majority of users, sports users as well as walkers, do take a pride in the area. It would be a dreadful waste of a resource if it were to be closed off to the general public - once out of community use, how long would it be before it is sold off and another valuable open space lost to a building development?

It is obvious to anyone visiting the site as to how well used it is and how it is not being abused. The signs put up by the Council are blatantly disregarded and outdated and do not explain the numerous number of private gateways from individual properties or indeed the number of unsigned entrances and of course the sheer number of local residents that use the Field.

I would like to offer my support to your campaign to enable the Field to have Village Green Status

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Christine Horseman,
 9, Queens Gate,
 Stoke Bishop,
 Bristol. BS9 1TZ
 Tel 07944314464

<<89>>

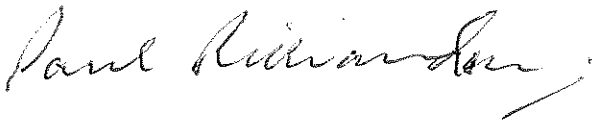
Paul Richardson

From: "Paul Richardson" <paulandsrich@talktalk.net>
To: <stoke.lodge@hotmail.com>
Sent: 06 January 2012 15:53
Subject: Objections to Stoke Lodge Parkland Application
To: Whom it may concern.

I wish to confirm my previous statement which I made in support of the Application for Town Green Status for the Stoke Lodge Parkland:

At no time in the 46 years that I have lived at 33, Woodland Grove have my wife and I, or our children, ever been debarred from entering Stoke Lodge either before or after the appearance of the notices referred to in the Objection by The City Council to The Application. Our use of the land in question has in all cases been completely without secrecy and without formal permission.

Yours faithfully,



Paul E C Richardson

8.19

06/01/2012

<<90>>

Paul Richardson

From: "Paul Richardson" <paulandsrich@talktalk.net>
To: ">" <stoke.lodge@hotmail.com>
Sent: 06 January 2012 16:18
Subject: Objections to Stoke Lodge Parkland Application for Town Green Status.
To: To whom it may concern.

I wish to confirm that:

At no time in the 46 years that I have lived at 33, Woodland Grove have I ever been debarred from entering or using Stoke Lodge either before or after the appearance of the notices referred to in the Objection by The City Council to the Application. My use of the land in question has in all cases been without secrecy and without formal permission, indeed it has always been assumed to have been "as of right".

Yours sincerely,



Sally A Richardson

8.20.

06/01/2012

<<91>>

Jenny & David Baker
29 Woodland Grove
BRISTOL
BS9 2BD
tel: 0117 9683227
e-mail: djmbaker374@btinternet.com

Thursday, 12 January 2012

Dear,

We are writing in support of the proposition that the open space of Stoke Lodge should be designated as Town Green Status in view of the long established use of the open space by so many people over so many years.

We have lived in Woodland Grove since 1974 and like so many residents whose houses are adjacent to Stoke Lodge have garden gates opening on to Stoke Lodge. Access to Stoke Lodge and use of the open spaces has been universally available to the adults and children residing around Stoke Lodge as well as to the hundreds of other people living in the area and beyond, who have during our 37 years' experience and observation used Stoke Lodge without secrecy, without permission and without force.

Many groups and individuals from the local community have enjoyed using Stoke Lodge for a variety of formal and informal constructive and healthy recreational activities. They have all used Stoke Lodge in a responsible way. We have listed some of the current uses to emphasise the widespread use of Stoke Lodge without secrecy, without permission and without force.

"Power Walkers" usually ladies, from keep fit or weight watchers,
Athletes training by running around the perimeter or sprints across the field
Dog walking
Families and individuals strolling across and around the field
Family Picnics
Hot air balloon landings
Informal cricket, rounders, football and rugby games with parents playing with their children
Informal football played by scratch teams or small groups of teenagers
Informal sports as part of Woodland Grove BBQ Day
One to one sports coaching (by which a local boy became Glos CCC 2nd XI wicket keeper)
Outdoor sketching – from Stoke Lodge Adult Learning Art Classes
Picking blackberries, mulberries and walnuts
Scouts, Guides and Brownies having outdoor meetings
Walking to Shirehampton Road shops across the field via Stoke Paddock Road
Walking to Stoke Bishop village shops across the field via Druid Hill
Walking to Stoke Lodge for Adult Learning Classes

We very much hope that the information we have supplied goes to support the proposition that Stoke Lodge has for generations, been used by the community for recreational purposes and that this should continue to be the case.

Yours Faithfully,

Jenny and David Baker

8.21

<<92>>

Susan Mayer

From: Sharon Parsons [separsons@btinternet.com]
Sent: 03 January 2012 11:53
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear Sirs,

Further to my previous Statement and other relevant correspondence, I wish to reiterate my support for the Stoke Lodge Town Green Application.

I have been a resident of Stoke Bishop for over 40 years, currently living a short walk from Stoke Lodge, but grew up in one of the houses overlooking Stoke Lodge, namely 2 Druid Stoke Avenue, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 1DD.

My bedroom overlooked Stoke Lodge and I remember looking out of the window and seeing people at all times of the day and evening using the site, as of right. There was no secrecy - children openly played there, adults walked their dogs, families had picnics, it has always been used in a similar way to the Downs for all those years.

I always believed that Stoke Lodge could be used without permission, and it was a huge surprise when I heard that the Council were seeking to turn the area into a formal sports ground. It had never occurred to me, or any member of my family, that this area in the heart of Stoke Bishop was under threat. Over the past 40+ years I have used Stoke Lodge regularly, without permission of the landowner, and I have never been refused access. I have been at Stoke Lodge when the groundsmen are on site, and my presence has never been challenged.

I have always gained access to Stoke Lodge either by climbing over the wall opposite my former home by the mini roundabout, or walking in through the gate near the Adult Education Centre, depending on who I am with. The signs which are on the site are ignored by the local population who thought them out of date and irrelevant, as they were never enforced.

Stoke Lodge Parkland with its beautiful trees and wide open spaces, a place of recreation for the local community must not be lost for the sake of sports facilities for people who mainly live outside the area.

Yours faithfully

Sharon Parsons

4 Old Sneed Road
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 1ET
0117 962 6204
separsons@btinternet.com

8.22

12/01/2012

10 South Dene,
Westbury on Trym,
Bristol BS9 2BW

13 / 01 / 2012

Dear Sir / Madam,

RE: Stoke Lodge Parkland - application for Town Green Status

My husband and I live in South Dene and our house backs onto Stoke Lodge field. As we have stated in previous letters one of our reasons for buying this house was the view over the field and the possibility it gave of leisurely walks directly from the house. We have used the Parkland regularly ever since we moved here in 1980 and even more so in recent years since we have retired.

We understand that one of the current objections to the granting of Town Green status is the issue of whether local use of the parkland is "by right" or "as of right". We would maintain that the local community use is "as of right" since, although signs do exist, none of us thought that this applied to local residents since, to our knowledge, they have never been enforced and we assumed, therefore, that the signs were meant simply to deter vandals and other trespassers who would not take care of the field as we local residents do. We have all used the field in a totally open manner, arranging picnics and other informal local gatherings without any problem. As a community we do our best to care for the Parkland, picking up rubbish, reporting on the state of the trees etc. Never have we used force to enter the field. My husband and I, for example, always use the entrance at the end of West Dene and no one has ever indicated to us that this was forbidden. We attend a number of adult education classes at Stoke Lodge and always walk there across the field and again no one has ever indicated that this was in any way illegal.

We would urgently request Bristol City Council to consider the interests of the local community in this matter. As local residents we really care about the Parkland, its beautiful trees and above all the opportunities that it offers us to walk in a little haven of calm in the midst of a busy city. We would be devastated if our right to use the Parkland were rejected.

Yours sincerely,

Jennifer and Richard Parsons.

Susan Mayer

From: mario zapata [mario@zapatam.freemove.co.uk]
Sent: 15 January 2012 23:00
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

For nearly 25 years, since, moving to the area, I have used all parts of Stoke Lodge quite openly during all hours and throughout the year.

I have never asked permission from anyone and have never felt the need to. This is because I have always felt that Stoke Lodge is a community area open to all.

At no point has anyone ever challenged me or objected, verbally or in writing, to me using the area.

I have never had to break into the area and access to Stoke Lodge has always been available.

The signs that are up have never had any relevance as I did not feel it referred to informal community use.

They never prevented me from using the Stoke Lodge fields for many purposes including,

- Running and keep fit
- Walks to unwind after work
- Family walks
- Playing ball games with my children
 - Football
 - Rugby
 - Cricket
- Remote control vehicles
- Kite flying
- Frisbees
- Collecting conkers
- As part of school projects
- Wildlife spotting following the TV shows
- Picnics

Regards
Mario Zapata

178 Stoke Lane
Westbury-on-Trym
Bristol
BS9 3RS
Tel - 0117 9682071

8.24

Susan Mayer

From: JUDITH YOUNG [hellbay20@btinternet.com]
Sent: 15 January 2012 18:29
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear Sirs,

I have lived in Stoke Bishop since 1971 and until 1998 on Shirehampton Road, exactly opposite Stoke Lodge Parkland, and now currently in Queens Gate.

I have always believed that it was my right to use this parkland, in the same way that I have used Canford Park or Redland Green, for taking my young children to play thereon, and with access from Shirehampton Road in the 1980's via the gate that was almost always open as it was a large green space to be able to throw and kick balls around without fear of them landing on the busy main road. In more recent years I have taken my granddaughter there to play and have watched local Brownie sports take place over the years both for my daughters and my granddaughter.

I have never asked permission to enter this parkland in the belief that as of right I was able to use this open green space. I have never noticed that there were signs forbidding entry. I have never had to force entry on to the parkland which I have used as I considered its use was as of right over a period of some 41 years.

It would be detrimental to the community both young and old were they not able to use it as of right for the purpose of sports, walking and picnics.

Yours faithfully,

Judith Young

<<96>>

Susan Mayer

From: Elizabeth Dedman [lizededman@yahoo.co.uk]**Sent:** 15 January 2012 13:17**To:** stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** [?? Probable Spam] SSLP

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to support the use of Stoke Lodge as a village green. I consider that the objections to the application for this should be rejected and the application be granted.

I have been walking on these fields on most days for the last 13 years and have never once been stopped by anyone to ask what my business was. I have been under the impression that my use of Stoke Lodge Playing Fields was "as of right". I have been aware of the signs restricting access but I didn't consider that they referred to informal community use as the space is regularly used by the local community. It is obvious to all who live near to the fields that local residents utilize the space for recreation, informal sports, children's play, picnics and dog walking.

This green space without fencing and light pollution is one of the few left and should be treasured. It is a delight and a welcome addition to our community.

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Dedman
22 Queens Gate
Stoke Bishop
Bristol, BS9 1TZ
Tel 07742 542 676

8.26

16/01/2012

28 Queens Gate
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1TZ

13th January 2012

Dear sirs,

Re: Stoke Lodge Parkland

I wish to appeal against the four objections raised to the Town Green proposal.

I have lived in Stoke Bishop for over thirteen years and have always used the Stoke Lodge Parkland as of right.

When attending adult education courses at Stoke Lodge I have used the field without any let or hindrance for fieldwork and recreation.

I walk on, and across, the field in any direction very regularly at all times of day and I have never been challenged by anyone when doing so. There are entrances to the field which remain open at all times and at these there is no indication whatsoever that entry is prohibited.

I have never had occasion to enter the parkland by force or by damaging any gate or other part of the property because there is easy access through at least three points. I note that there are signs at two entrances referring to entry to the parkland but as these are very old (County of Avon date), and as they have never been enforced, I assume that they are irrelevant to my use of the field for informal activities such as walking, relaxation, exercise and educating my grandchildren through nature study.

I have never had any reason to believe, by actions of Bristol City Council, that the signs should deter anyone from informal use of the field. Indeed, there are always others on the field when I am there and so they too have either not seen a sign or they too believe that the community is free to use Stoke Lodge "as of right".

This parkland is an essential amenity for the well being of the local community and as such should be open for all.

Yours faithfully

Ann Nosowska

28 Queens Gate
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1TZ

15th January 2012

Dear Sirs

Stoke Lodge Parkland

I am writing in response to the four objections raised to community use of the Stoke Lodge Parkland.

As a resident of Stoke Bishop since 1998 I have walked on the parkland on an almost daily basis. I am aware of two signs erected by the former Avon Authority denying general access but I would make the following points:

- Firstly Avon has not existed since 1995 and therefore any Avon signage is perceived as irrelevant.
- Secondly, Avon's successor authority, Bristol, has never to my best knowledge sought to deny access to the general public or ever asked anyone to leave the parkland.

My experience for the last thirteen years had been that my access has been "as of right", carried on openly via open access points, without forced entry and without any enforcement of prohibition by the Local Authority.

I enjoy the amenity, see others doing so and, like me, acting in a responsible and respectful manner.

Yours faithfully

Richard J Nosowksi

<<99>>

Susan Mayer

From: Jill Shepherd [jill.shepherd@talktalk.net]
Sent: 14 January 2012 19:14
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Use of Stoke Lodge playing fields. As of Right

In support of Village/Town Green status: As of right

I have used Stoke Lodge as a community asset for many years and have never paid any attention to the signs as they were obviously never enforced. I've never been challenged after many years of openly taking the children for walks or games, or walking the dog. This includes groundsmen, people using Stoke Lodge and others that might be regarded as having an official interest that could and presumably should, if the signs were intended to be taken seriously, have challenged me.

Considering this, I regard my use of this important local resource as being of right.

Yours etc,

Jill Shepherd
33 Glen Drive
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1SA

Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 6795
(20120114)

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

<http://www.eset.com>

8.29

16/01/2012

<<100>>

Susan Mayer

From: Powlesland [powlesland@blueyonder.co.uk]

Sent: 10 January 2012 22:54

To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk

Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge

15 Glen Drive
Bristol
BS9 1SA

10th January 2012

Dear Sirs

I would like to express my support of the application for Town Green Status on Stoke Lodge.

I have been using the grounds regularly, particularly during the summer months when a childrens youth group, based at St Mary Magdalene Church have been using the grounds for games and activities on a weekly basis.

This informal use has been progressing for a number of years without express permission or opposition. It is believed to be an informal community use on an 'as rights basis'.

I would therefore be disappointed if our ability to use the grounds as a community use was restricted.

Plwease let me know if you require further clarification.

Yours faithfully

Nick Powlesland

8.30

12/01/2012

<<101>>

Susan Mayer

From: Richard Parsons [parsonsrichard@btinternet.com]**Sent:** 17 January 2012 09:36**To:** Stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** [?? Probable Spam] Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

To whom it may concern.

I regularly use Stoke Lodge to walk my dog, and always clean up after her.

I live a short walk from the playing fields and have not been aware of the signs at Stoke Lodge on my visits there. I normally climb over the wall by the mini-roundabout, and my presence on the site has never been questioned. I always see other people there, and have always assumed the site was a public area for anyone to use. Any signs that are there are ignored by the public who use the site on a daily basis, and to my knowledge no one has ever sought to enforce them. I have been aware of groundsmen on the site, but they have never queried my presence there.

I strongly support the application for Stoke Lodge "Town Green".

Richard Parsons

4 Old Sneed Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 1ET

8.31

18/01/2012

<<102>>

Susan Mayer

From: Judith Murphy [judithmurphy@btinternet.com]
Sent: 16 January 2012 19:54
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Town Green Application

Dear SSLP,

I have lived near Stoke Lodge for 10 years and regularly use the field to walk and run. I usually enter through Cheyne Road and sometimes near the roundabout on Parrys Lane. I have also walked through the field en route to Spanish classes at the house. Although I have seen the signs I presumed they were old and no longer applied as the field is always busy with people, including dog walkers.

Regards

Judith Murphy

53 Coombe Bridge Avenue
Bristol
BS9 2LT

8.32

18/01/2012

<<103>>

Susan Mayer

From: Tony Marwick [Tony.Marwick@oakwood-mg.com]
Sent: 17 January 2012 08:38
To: suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk
Subject: SSLP

Dear Susan, thank you for your email. Having looked at it and the supporting documentation I can confirm that I use the parkland frequently as of right. I have never considered that the signs referred to informal community use. I certainly have never considered that any signs would refer to me or the local community. I have always taken it for granted that this area is free for me to use.

Tony Marwick
 27 Druid Stoke Avenue

| Managing Director | Oakwood Media Group | +44 1179 836 789 | tony.marwick@oakwood-mg.com

From: Susan Mayer <suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk>
Date: Thu, 12 Jan 2012 16:35:49 +0000
To: "stoke.lodge@hotmail.com" <stoke.lodge@hotmail.com>
Subject: SSLP-Just twenty minutes of your time!!

Dear SSLP Supporter,

As you know, we asked members recently for additional support in contributing to our response to the four official objections to Stoke Lodge 'Town Green', by forwarding to us individual letters or e-mails that would highlight unquestionable local resolve in the matter.

Many thanks to those who have already done so, including a couple currently on vacation in New Zealand but we need more!

Everyone has a part to play in our battle to save this valued open space, so please do not underestimate your contribution, it is vital.

Just twenty minutes of your time to write a few lines confirming if you were aware of the signs and why you did not consider that they applied to you and the rest of the community (individual letters/e-mails from all in the household would be great), please see attachments for clarification.

Numbers really count, look what happened when 250 people wrote to local councillors objecting to the fencing of the Parkland. We need to rekindle that same spirit at this important milestone in the quest for Town Green; because, if you snooze - We lose.

Send to:-

D. N. Mayer

SSLP

Brockfields,

68a, Coombe Lane,

Bristol

BS9 2AY

Or:-

Stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk

8.33

<<104>>

Susan Mayer

From: Alison Butts [alisonbutts@hotmail.com]**Sent:** 10 January 2012 13:52**To:** stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** Town Green support

10th January 2012

To whom it may concern, Bristol City Council

Stoke Lodge Town Green Application

My family and I have walked in Stoke Lodge regularly since 2002. We believe this access to be as of right and we have not used force to enter the land. We have never once been challenged to say we should not walk there and do not believe that the signs apply to informal community use. We often meet neighbours whilst walking and believe open community access has been possible since the late 1940s.

Yours sincerely
Alison Butts

35 Queensgate
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1TZ

8.34

12/01/2012

<<105>>

Susan Mayer

From: R THOMAS [rthomas301@btinternet.com]
Sent: 06 January 2012 16:37
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Playing Field

Further to my previous correspondence I wish to reiterate that I believe that Stoke Lodge should be free for local residents and their visitors to use. I have lived in Stoke Bishop and Westbury on Trym for 45 years and have been used to taking my children there to play football cricket etc and now am using is similarly for my grandchildren and walking my dog. Referring to the dog I am always careful to "poop and scoop" I meet my neighbours there and find this, as someone living alone alone a great pleasure. I live just two or three minutes from Stoke Lodge (walking) and would find it difficult to find anywhere within walking distance to walk my dog.

I have always seen many people of all ages and at all times and there was never any feeling that we had no right there. Indeed the groundsmen were often there drawing the football pitch lines and we were never told we had no right there. I have always believed that Stoke Lodge could be used freely as is the Downs.

I have gained access legitimately through the entrance by Stoke Lodge Community College. I understand that there are signs saying that access is not allowed. I have found one and believe that this was put up after the big meeting at St Mary's Church Stoke Bishop as I had not seen one there before.

Stoke Lodge with its lovely open space in a built up area should be retained as an open space for the residents around and not fenced in spoiling even the view. I imagine too that the cost of work done would come out of our rates and I would object to that strongly.

Mrs Rita Thomas
43, Barley Croft
Westbury-on-Trym
Bristol BS93TG

06.01.2012

8.35

12/01/2012

Susan Mayer

From: I Vickery [i_vickery@sky.com]
Sent: 04 January 2012 18:05
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Fwd: re stoke lodge playing field

----- Forwarded message -----

From: I Vickery <i_vickery@sky.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 4, 2012 at 3:05 PM
Subject: re stoke lodge playing field
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk

To whom it may concern,

On leaving the RAF in 1962 to this date I have made use of Stoke Lodge as a distance training facility to the level of 10 mile per visit / 3 times a week now , with age reduced to once per week.

I have also exercised 4 dogs over these 5 decades at the same lodge and have , as a local resident ,appreciated this site " AS OF RIGHT "

Dr I M Vickery.
Consultant Surgeon [rtrd].

<<107>>

Susan Mayer

From: Martin Freye [martinfrey@gmail.com]
Sent: 06 January 2012 14:40
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear Sir,

STOKE LODGE PARKLAND

I want to have my opinion regarding Stoke Lodge Parkland included in any considerations regarding the recent objections to it being recognised as Village Green status for the following reasons

1. I am an elderly resident of Stoke Bishop and have lived here for 13 years. During that time I have visited Stoke Lodge Parkland as of right on many occasions without hindrance.
2. There have not been any objections by any person or persons to my use of the Parkland as of right.
3. I have always entered the Parkland through one of the several ungated entrances.
4. The only notice that I have seen refers to the marked pitches when in use. I have always taken this to mean that one should respect any persons conducting ball games on the pitches and not to disturb them. I have never considered that my presence would hinder anyone so engaged.
5. I have never actually seen anyone engaged in any practice in 4. above.
6. I have not considered that any notice erected in or on the Parkland to refer to me as I have always treated the Parkland as open ground for public use as of right.
7. No person from any of the objecting organisations has ever approached me regarding my use of the Parkland, nor have I ever seen any such person.
8. No person employed or authorised by Bristol City Council has ever been present at any time while I have been using the Parkland, nor have I been approached at any time by any such person.
9. I have been a regular user of the Parkland for the last 13 years, as of right, and I object most strongly to the suggestions that I have in any way been in contradiction of any bylaw or legal restraint by using the Parkland as of right.
10. I have witnessed numerous local residents using the Parkland for walking, jogging and family excursions during my residency as a Council Tax payer since 1998.

Yours faithfully

Martin Freye
21 Druid Woods,
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 1SY

martinfrey@gmail.com

8.37

<<108>>

Susan Mayer

From: Malcolm Davies [malcolmdavies2@googlemail.com]
Sent: 04 January 2012 16:14
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Parkland – Village Green status application

I have been using Stoke Lodge parklands since approximately 1949/1950 as a place of recreation to walk and play. Together with friends and family I have never felt that it was necessary to gain permission to use the area, in fact, I would maintain that we have used it "as of right".

As far as I can remember, back in the fifties and sixties there were no signs and the fact that there are signs there now is of no consequence to me as an individual and I have continued to use the land for recreational purposes.

In the early days, when living in Cedar Park, we used to enter through the main gate to the house and then turn right into the field. Now that we live in South Dene we enter through the gate at the end of West Dene.

At no time have we ever found it necessary to enter in any other way than by using the aforementioned gates. At no time has forced entry been used to gain access to the parkland.

Malcolm Davies
11 South Dene
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 2BW
Tel: 0117 968 5077
email: malcolmdavies2@gmail.com

8.38

Susan Mayer

From: Gaynor Page [gaynor.page@blueyonder.co.uk]
Sent: 04 January 2012 10:12
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Town Green - Stoke Lodge - Stoke Bishop

In support of Stoke Lodge field receiving Town Green Status

To whom it may concern,

How can entering through an open gateway (which, incidently holds no gate!) be 'forced' entry? When I first moved to South Dene I saw other people walking their dogs on the field even though I had seen the sign that said 'No dogs' and assumed that the sign was no longer relevant. I walked my children to scholl through the field and never once was questioned as to whether or not I had a right to be there. I still use it regularly to walk through to Shirehampton Road as our application is pending and still no-one has questioned me.

The sign which I used to be able to see is now barely visible - so who, new to the area, would ever be aware of the wording unless they took the time to scrutinise it?

One last thing, this is a very communited spirited area and I just wonder why the right should be only given to a few, who we would generally welcome anyway, when so many could benefit!

Regards,

Gaynor Page

8.39

24 Woodland Grove
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 2BB

27.1.12

Application for Town Green status for Stoke Lodge playing field, Reg No 24.

I am writing in support of the proposal for Stoke Lodge to be granted Town Green Status "AS OF RIGHT".

Before we purchased our first house in 1973 we bought a sheet street map that marked all the open spaces in green, and looked for a suitable property within easy reach of as many green spaces as possible. This was because we rate the availability of green spaces within a city very highly. We bought our first house in Sea Mills, and 8 years later moved to the above address.

Since then we have seen the Clifton High School playing fields built upon (now Parry's Grove), the Smelting works playing fields built upon (now Queen's gate), and the University playing fields partially developed into floodlit all weather pitches and a sports hall. There have been numerous proposals over the years to "improve" or build upon Stoke Lodge but so far it has survived unscathed.

When our children lived at home we regularly took them to play informal games on Stoke Lodge, and when they were older they enjoyed the easy access available from Woodland Grove to meet their friends there and engage in impromptu games of football etc. We still enjoy strolling across the field and as I write can appreciate the view of the trees there from my window.

Each year the residents of Woodland Grove hold a community event (garden party or BBQ) which includes sports on Stoke Lodge field. It brings neighbours together in friendly competition and promotes community spirit and good neighbourliness. I chair our Neighbourhood Watch so appreciate the chance to see all members together. I also chair a Bristol charity which provides counselling and mental health support to children and young people so am highly aware of how privileged we are in this area compared with other areas of the city, but am equally aware of how open space is critically important for good mental (and physical) health.

I understand that the application meets the qualifying criteria but that we now have to demonstrate we use Stoke Lodge "as of right" rather than "by right".

As a very law abiding citizen, averse to any risk taking where the law may be concerned, I can assure all parties that our use of the playing field has always been "without secrecy", "without permission", and "without force".

I would therefore wish to urge the decision makers to grant Town Green status to Stoke Lodge.

8.40(a)

()
Yours sincerely,

Peter Hobbs.

24 Woodland Grove
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 2BB

27.1.12

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I would therefore wish to urge the decision makers to grant Town Green status to Stoke Lodge.

Yours sincerely,

Ghyslaine Hobbs.

8.41

<<113>>

Susan Mayer

From: Julie Wright [julie@wd.eclipse.co.uk]
Sent: 04 January 2012 15:22
To: Stoke Lodge
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Town Green support letter

I am writing to confirm that I have used Stoke Lodge playing fields for over 20 years. When I lived at Briercliffe Road in the 1980's I used the entrance at the top of Cheyne Road. This entrance was well established and there were, and still are not, any signs to indicate that I should not use the land. When I moved to West Dene I continued to use the land, using the entrance at the back of my house via Ebenezer Lane. Again the entrance was well established with no signs. I now know there is a sign advising the public not to use the land at the entrance from West Dene by the pavilion. However the sign is not immediately apparent as one enters the land as it is a few metres in and so high that one has to look up to it!! The sign was always covered in green algae. Indeed on reading it, it does say that only if one is causing a "nuisance or disturbance to the annoyance of persons lawfully using the playing field" will one be liable for prosecution. I was never made aware that I was causing a nuisance so I continued to use the land. The entrance was always open, never once was it closed or secured. Many people used that entrance with no one challenging them not to do so.

Julie Wright
24, West Dene
Bristol
BS9 2BQ

8.42

12/01/2012

<<114>>

Susan Mayer

From: Lorna Crook [lorna.crook@virginmedia.com]
Sent: 02 January 2012 19:47
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Cc: Sue Mayer
Subject: Stoke Lodge Parkland.

Lorna Crook
67 Coombe Lane
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 2 AZ

Dear Sirs,

I am writing in connection with Stoke Lodge Parkland and hope that it can be preserved as a Town Green area for use by as many people as possible. I have lived in this area for over 40 years, and walked, played and encouraged my children to play, run, play sports, and collect leaves and enjoy the countryside and the wonderful trees which exist in this green park.

It is the only one of three green areas to be preserved so far. The other two have been developed by builders for houses.

I have walked dogs, and now encourage my grand children to play there. They love it and play hide and seek and run on the running tracks, and play races. All good clean fun. It is used by many sporting clubs and this should be encouraged so that children have somewhere to go and let off steam and learn team values by playing sports.

It is true that there have been signs saying that we should not use the land, but no one has stopped us and there has not been any difficulty whatsoever in walking into the field. I usually meet many friends, all of whom are peace loving and law abiding people. We all dearly want this field to remain open and used for the benefit of the community.

I trust that you will take all this into consideration and allow us to continue using this beautiful parkland and keep it for the benefit of future generations.

Yours faithfully

Lorna Crook

8.43

<<115>>

Susan Mayer

From: Celia [cbridge47@talktalk.net]
Sent: 02 January 2012 23:20
To: stokelodge@hotmail.co.uk; Susan Mayer
Subject: Stoke Lodge Parkland - Town Green application

Dear Bristol City Council

I would like to appeal to you to consider the following statement of facts when considering the future of Stoke Lodge Parkland.

I first moved to Coombe Bridge Avenue, Bristol from Liverpool in March 1975 with my husband and 2 young children. We very quickly settled into the community and really enjoyed the pleasures of the area. The children had a very good, sound education at Cedar Park School and then eventually at Cotham Grammar School which was at that time the local state school for this area. Unfortunately, this is not the case now which adds more sorrow to the situation.

We had constant access to Stoke Lodge via the opening at the top of Cheyne Road and there was never any notices to prevent access either to people or dogs at this time. We often walked to or from school via this lovely parkland. My son and his friends played football and other ball games on a regular basis, and even my daughter and her friends felt it to be a very safe environment for them to play on. For many, many years I also enjoyed walking my dogs or blackberry picking in the autumn. There was never ever any question about access to this beautiful parkland with such lovely, and I am sure, probably protected trees. I also attended several courses at the adult education building.

Please do not withdraw access to this lovely area for the future generations to come. I would very much like to think that this would carry on being a lovely, safe facility for this community. There is definitely a shortage of safe green spaces in this area – so please, please consider this when making your decision.

Yours sincerely

Celia Worrall, Mrs
47 Coombe Bridge Avenue
Bristol, BS9 2LT

8.44

12/01/2012

Susan Mayer

From: Phillip Smith [pasmithgyn@blueyonder.co.uk]
Sent: 10 January 2012 21:45
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Cc: suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk
Subject: Stoke Lodge Playing Field

Dear Sir,

I understand it is necessary to clarify the circumstances affording the long standing community use of Stoke Lodge Playing Fields. I came to Stoke Bishop in 1993, and have valued the easy access to the Stoke Lodge field for 19 years. During this time my children have played their respective sports and games on the field, had picnics, informal gatherings and walked our dogs. We have never felt that there was any restriction to the sensible use of this space, which has been a busy facility for the whole community. The access was always open, without barriers, and entry was achieved without any use of force. We enter from the Parry's Lane end, and are not aware of any signs declaring the field to be private grounds, and not for the informal use of the surrounding community. Stoke Lodge playing Field is always the obvious choice for a game of football, to fly a kite or just to run around and exercise. We have never been challenged when on the field in all of the 19 years we have lived in Stoke Bishop. It is one of the attractions to living in the area.

I do hope we will be able to use SLPF for the future. It is well respected and looked after, and is the focal green space in this part of Bristol.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Phillip Smith

Clive & Sue Gio-Batta

42 Queens Gate, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1TZ

Tel : 0117 9684422 Mobile : 07836 592014

Email : clive@giobatta.com

04 January 2012

Bristol City Council,
The Council House,
College Green,
Bristol

Dear Sirs,

Re : Stoke Lodge Parkland, Town Green Application

As local residents, we write to argue that our use of Stoke Lodge Parkland is 'as of right'. The local community have used this parkland over many, many years without any objection from Authority.

We personally enter the parkland from two available access points and there are no signs visible to us that state use is prohibited.

The sign at the main entrance is only visible if you turn left, if you turn right, again there is no visible sign indicating that informal use is prohibited.

We consider that this parkland is for the use of the community in general and should remain as such. We totally object to the fact that Bristol City Council consider the existence of such signs indicate that use was not 'as of right'.

Yours faithfully,

(sent as an email)

Clive & Sue Gio-Batta

Susan Mayer

From: Stephanie French [stephanie@srfrench.co.uk]
Sent: 03 January 2012 17:32
To: 'Stoke Lodge File'
Subject: Informal Community use of Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear Sirs,

I have used Stoke Lodge Parkland informally over a number of years.

My first use was in the 1980s when I lived in Redland and my son, then a young child, played football there at weekends. There were no bars to access and no notices that I recall. I did no damage to gain entry to the land, using the access at Cheyne Road which has no barrier and no notice denying access. I did not go there secretly and did not try to hide and I was never asked to leave by a Council employee.

More recently - since 2007 - I have used the land again for Tai Chi practice. Again I have done no damage to gain entry. There are no barriers and no notices at the Cheyne Road entrance. I have not been asked to leave by Council employees or by those working for the lessees, who have seen me I am sure as they have mowed grass and painted white lines elsewhere on the Parkland while I have been there.

The notices that I have seen are those at the edge of the property between the Parkland and the House. They are recent notices. I do not think that they were present in 2007 as I am sure I would have noticed them. I have used the land with permission of Stoke Lodge Adult Education Centre teachers during classes, and not during classes as well without being asked not to do so and without needing to force entrance and without doing any damage. As the land had for so long been readily accessible and the notices were recent and I was doing no damage I could not see the relevance of the notices to my occasional and "innocent" use. There is no where else to go in Stoke Bishop to find a bit of green space within walking distance of my house.

Yours sincerely,
Stephanie French
18 Old Sneed Avenue
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 1SE

Susan Mayer

From: kerrati janet [jkerrati@blueyonder.co.uk]
Sent: 06 January 2012 18:49
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Stoke Lodge 'as of right'

For the past thirty years I have had the pleasure of freely using Stoke Lodge Parkland for various activities such as Sports days, dog walks, therapeutic exercise and walking. It is only recently I have heard of signs posted or heard of any objection to us, as a community, accessing it. Over the years this has been used "as of right" as a community focal point for occasions such as picnics, safe and child friendly green space and accepted dog walking. I have never entered Stoke Lodge Parkland by force and never wish to do so. Nobody has ever challenged me and I have yet to see where these sign posts are!? This area is essential part of our community, which caters for many older adults, younger children and people like myself that can only manage short distances from where we live. it should remain open to us to freely use "as of right" as it has for many years.

Mrs. J. Kerrati
22 Tunstall Close
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 1HR

Susan Mayer

From: Peter and Jenny Weeks [peter.weeks@blueyonder.co.uk]
Sent: 16 January 2012 18:53
To: Susan Mayer; stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Re: SSLP-Just twenty minutes of your time!!

Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

We wish to confirm that since moving to the area in 1991, we always see people of all ages walking, often with dogs and children playing on Stoke Lodge fields. The notices that we saw by some entrances to the fields seemed old and I presumed were obsolete. We have never been told that we were not allowed to be there. Normally we saw no notice as coming up Druid Hill, the most direct way on to Stoke Lodge fields is to step over the wall by the mini round-about.

Over the years we have held family rounders matches with other local families and held children's football parties there as well as informal long jump competitions. Noby has evermad us feel unwelcome there. It is a wonderful green space for the community

Jenny + Peter Weeks
2A Druid Road, Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1LH
H: 0117 9686010

----- Original Message -----

From: Susan Mayer
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.com
Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2012 4:41 PM
Subject: SSLP-Just twenty minutes of your time!!

Dear SSLP Supporter,

As you know, we asked members recently for additional support in contributing to our response to the four official objections to Stoke Lodge 'Town Green', by forwarding to us individual letters or e-mails that would highlight unquestionable local resolve in the matter.

Many thanks to those who have already done so, including a couple currently on vacation in New Zealand but we need more!

Everyone has a part to play in our battle to save this valued open space, so please do not underestimate your contribution, it is vital.

Just twenty minutes of your time to write a few lines confirming if you were aware of the signs and why you did not consider that they applied to you and the rest of the community (individual letters/e-mails from all in the household would be great), **please see attachments for clarification.**

Numbers really count, look what happened when 250 people wrote to local councillors objecting to the fencing of the Parkland. We need to rekindle that same spirit at this important milestone in the quest for Town Green; because, if you snooze - We

8.49

Susan Mayer

From: nick balderson [nicholas.balderson@gmail.com]
Sent: 13 January 2012 10:16
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] as of right

10 Queens Gate, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1TZ

To whom it may concern.

I have been using Stoke Lodge playing fields for the last 13 years for recreation and I have been using it 'as of right'. I have never been aware of any signs preventing use of the parkland, I have never sought permission to use the parkland and I have used the parkland at all times of the day during daylight.

Yours faithfully,

Nick Balderson

Susan Mayer

From: Alan Houston [alan.houston@btinternet.com]
Sent: 24 January 2012 15:06
To: suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk
Subject: Stoke Lodge Public Information

Apologies for this late reply - we have had computer problems and are just catching up with backlog.

We would just like to say that when we moved into 23 Parrys Grove in 1996 we were really pleased to be so near to Stoke Lodge, such a lovely open space in a densely populated area. We had a dog and walked with it there a few times before seeing one of the notices prohibiting exercising dogs. At that point we stopped using the field but when we noticed so many local people using it for recreation, including dog walking, we asked around and were told that responsible use of the area was accepted custom and practice in the community and that the notices were not enforced.

Since then we have regularly used the field for short afternoon walks, often with friends when they visit, or as a way to longer walks in the Dingle.

Kind regards

Alan and Belinda Houston

23, Parrys Grove, Stoke Bishop
BS9

8.51

Susan Mayer

(From: Alison Levinson [aml@tgdl.co.uk]
Sent: 13 January 2012 09:34
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [!! SPAM] Informal use of Stoke Lodge Parkland "as of right"

Dear Sir,

I moved into Cote Park, a few hundred yards from Stoke Lodge parkland, in late 1979, with my two dogs. Stoke Lodge was a very attractive place to walk the dogs. It was used by many local people for this purpose as well as many other leisure activities, formal and informal, and has been ever since. I therefore took to walking my dogs there and have been doing so now for over 30 years. In addition, when my son was young, I used to take him there to play football, etc. When he was older, he would go there with his friends to play.

Such informal use by myself and the local community has always been entirely overt.

In 30 years, no-one has ever objected to this informal use by me or anyone else, or, to my knowledge, tried to eject anyone.

(For over 30 years to my knowledge, unrestricted pedestrian access has been available from West Dene, from halfway down Ebenezer Lane and from Cheyne Road.

The elderly No Trespassing signs on display by Parry's Lane entrance and at West Dene have never been seen as relevant by anyone I know and have never been enforced.

Informal community use of Stoke Lodge Parkland has therefore been going on unimpeded for over 30 years to my personal knowledge and I therefore regard it to be "as of right".

Yours faithfully,

A. M. Levinson (Mrs)

4 Cote Park,
Bristol BS9 2AD

()

()

Susan Mayer

From: Tom Levinson [tanda@tgdl.co.uk]
Sent: 13 January 2012 09:32
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [!! SPAM] Informal use of Stoke Lodge Parkland "as of right"

Dear Sir,

I moved into Cote Park, a few hundred yards from Stoke Lodge parkland, in late 1979, with my two dogs.

Stoke Lodge was a very attractive place to walk the dogs. It was used by many local people for this purpose as well as many other leisure activities, formal and informal, and has been ever since. I therefore took to walking my dogs there and have been doing so now for over 30 years. In addition, when my son was young, I used to take him there to play football, etc. When he was older, he would go there with his friends to play.

Such informal use by myself and the local community has always been entirely overt.

In 30 years, no-one has ever objected to this informal use by me or anyone else, or, to my knowledge, tried to eject anyone.

(For over 30 years to my knowledge, unrestricted pedestrian access has been available from West Dene, from halfway down Ebenezer Lane and from Cheyne Road.

The elderly No Trespassing signs on display by Parry's Lane entrance and at West Dene have never been seen as relevant by anyone I know and have never been enforced.

Informal community use of Stoke Lodge Parkland has therefore been going on unimpeded for over 30 years to my personal knowledge and I therefore regard it to be "as of right".

Yours faithfully,

T. G. D. Levinson

4 Cote Park,
Bristol BS9 2AD

Susan Mayer

From: Tom Levinson [tanda@tgdl.co.uk]
Sent: 05 November 2011 18:17
Cc: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [!! SPAM] Ref. APPLICATION FOR TOWN OR VILLAGE GREEN REGISTRATION
no.24, STOKE LODGE PARKLAND, STOKE BISHOP, BRISTOL BS9 1BN

Tom Dunsdon,
City Council of Bristol,
The Council House,
College Green,
Bristol BS1 5TR

Dear Mr. Dunsdon,

We would like to add our support to the above application in respect of Stoke Lodge Parkland.

We, our son and dogs moved to our present address in December 1979 and since that time have been frequent users of Stoke Lodge's playing fields for recreation. It is particularly convenient as it is only a few minutes' walk from our house. We go there typically 3 or 4 times a week, and sometimes twice a day.

Our main use is and always has been dog-walking, but in addition I taught my son to play rugby and soccer there. In addition, when my son was young, it was the one place locally where we felt safe to let him go and play with his friends.

Stoke Lodge is the only open space of its type in the Stoke Bishop and Parry's Lane area and I believe its continuing availability to the local population is crucial to the well-being of the community in terms of general recreational as well as sports, both organised and informal.
It is also, with its wonderful trees, a beautiful space.

We therefore urge you to ensure the approval of this application for Town Green status.

Yours faithfully,

Thomas G. D. and Alison M. LEVINSON

4 Cote Park,
Westbury on Trym
Bristol BS9 2AD

<<126>>

Susan Mayer

From: Nicola Cooper [nicola.cooper9@btinternet.com]
Sent: 17 January 2012 19:44
To: Susan Mayer
Subject: Re: Stoke Lodge Town Green Application

Sue

Sorry this is late but I have been away.

I have used Stoke Lodge for playing cricket and football with my sons and picnicing when they were younger, for picking blackberries and regularly running round the outside about once a week in order to keep fit. It is kinder to my knees and it is about a mile all the way round if you keep to the outside. I have been doing this for 19 years since I moved to Stoke Bishop. I have never once asked for permission or been questioned by anyone about my use of the field despite using it at all times of the day and week over such a long period. Once my sons were old enough they also used it for kicking balls about on their own and no one has said anything.

A number of my friends and neighbours have also used it as of right. As far as I was aware it had been left by the previous owner in her will as green space for the benefit of all the local residents of Stoke Bishop. I gained access by hopping over the low wall near the roundabout on Shirehampton Road or through the gate to Stoke Lodge. I have never used force to enter the space. I have never seen any signs and have no idea where these signs mentioned in your last email might be.

Nicola Cooper
17A Druid Stoke Avenue
Stoke Bishop

----- Original Message -----

From: Susan Mayer
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.com
Sent: Monday, January 02, 2012 3:59 PM
Subject: Stoke Lodge Town Green Application

Dear Save Stoke Lodge Parkland Supporters,
Stoke Lodge Town Green Application

We have until the 31st January 2012 to submit our response detailing why all objections to the 2011 Town Green Application are unfounded whilst pressing for the 'community' claim to 'as of right' be granted; please read enclosed.

Good health and a Happy New Year to Everyone,

Sue Mayer

Secretary SSLP

My long standing New Years Resolution?

'Never give in, never, never, never, in nothing great or small, large or petty - never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense'.

(From a speech by Sir Winston Churchill, during a visit to Harrow School in October 1941)

No virus found in this message.

Checked by AVG - www.avg.com

Version: 2012.0.1901 / Virus Database: 2109/4720 - Release Date: 01/03/12

8.55-

19/01/2012

<<127>>

Susan Mayer

From: Robert Walters [robert.walters@talktalk.net]
Sent: 13 January 2012 11:17
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Cc: John Goulandris
Subject: Town Green Application

Dear Mr Mayer

I am writing yet again to support my freedom to use Stoke Lodge Parkland as I and countless others have been able to use it. And yet again I ask myself why is Bristol City Council, which is meant to represent the citizens of Bristol, acting like a dictator and claiming as private property land which has been a resource for us all.

With regard to any claim that we have used 'force' in entering on that land, this is a laughable legal construct. There are many entrances and at least two of them do not have notices (one at the north end where the cul de sac leads to an entrance with a log in front of it and one at the south end (off the bottom of Parry's Lane) where there is clear gap in the wall designed as an entrance. If one were to enter by either of those one would have to go to odd curious corners of the field to find the existing notices and you would have no valid reason to go to them. In any case they have never in my experience been enforced and I have lived here since 1969. Only last week there were at least half a dozen people responsibly exercising dogs there (in spite of a newer but equally inconspicuous notice expressly forbidding the exercising of dogs) and an employee mowing a pitch did not apparently feel it any part of his duty to warn them that they were trespassing.

To whom is the City Council responsible if not to those who elect them and who have shown repeatedly that this land should be kept free for the public use as it has been since at least 1969. It is publicly owned land and should be publicly available.

I strongly support the Town Green application and reject the idea that we are all using force or trespassing on land which our rates and Council Tax have helped to acquire and maintain. Further it is the same Council Tax which now pays the salaries of the petty tyrants who are trying to take it from us.

Yours sincerely
Robert Walters
5 Glen Drive, BS9 1SA
0117 9682639

8.56

14/01/2012

<<128>>

Susan Mayer

From: Margaret Walters [margaretwalters@talktalk.net]
Sent: 13 January 2012 11:22
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] FW: Stoke Lodge Town Green

From: Margaret Walters [mailto:margaretwalters@talktalk.net]
Sent: 12 January 2012 21:39
To: 'stokelodge@hotmail.com'
Subject: Stoke Lodge Town Green

Margaret Walters,
5, Glen Drive,
Stoke Bishop,
Bristol BS9 1SA.

Dear Sir,
We have lived close to Stoke Lodge with our children and enjoyed the use of the land for over 40 years.

Over this period we have until recently entered this Parkland by various entrances without the remotest idea that we might not be entitled to do so.

Why would we have thought there was any problem in doing this when this was clearly the common practice of so many others ?

It has been used by individuals, groups and families to sit, walk, play and exercise dogs and has been much appreciated.

It appears now that the Council is trying to deny the community these accustomed pleasures and facilities in the most extraordinary way by claiming that we should not have been on the Parkland " as of right " and we were in fact trespassing.

I believe this Council claim is totally fatuous and clearly against the democratic wishes of the local residents. Furthermore they are aiming to curtail the clear health-giving benefits of our continued use of the Parkland.

We had a walk there this week, taking note of the various entrances, a number of which are without notices. Sometime in the past I was surprised to see a notice at an entrance we were using for the first time but it looked very old and clearly had never been enforced.

This week we encountered many other people, some with dogs, who were enjoying the Parkland unchallenged, even though a man was employed mowing the grass.

I believe that land owned by the City Council is public land and should be available to the public. I also find the suggestion that I have been trespassing extremely insulting.

Yours faithfully,

Margaret Walters.

From: Susan Mayer [mailto:suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk]
Sent: 12 January 2012 16:41
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.com

8.57

14/01/2012

<<129>>

Susan Mayer

From: Nathalie Beaufils [natbeaufils@gmail.com]
Sent: 13 January 2012 12:59
To: Susan Mayer
Subject: Re: SSLP-Just twenty minutes of your time!!!

Nathalie Beaufils
Owner and resident at 7 Cross Elms Lane.

I moved to the area in August 2009. One of the attractions of the area was that it was very green, with easy and free access to open green space just nearby.
It has been raised by the SSLP that there are signs near the parkland against public use. I must say I was never aware of them, using mainly several of the entrances where no sign is in evidence.
It also comes as a great surprise to me as the green is always busy with local people walking, walking their dogs, playing with their kids, etc. and I can only think that if people have seen them, locals don't believe it applies to them.
Stoke Lodge Green is an extremely valued and well-used open space by the local community and I believe firmly that it should stay that way.
N. Beaufils

8.58

<<130>>

Susan Mayer

From: Gillian Clark [bristol.clarks@gmail.com]
Sent: 13 January 2012 22:39
To: Stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] As of right at Stoke Lodge grounds

I have been very surprised to read recently that access to the Stoke Lodge grounds has ever been limited in any way. I now understand that there are notices at some entrances saying that it is private land. I have never noticed these because there are so many places of access into the grounds that I (and my family) must have been entering via one of these entrances. Not only have we never read these notices but we have never been told by any staff that we should not be there and it is rare to find the grounds without someone walking around - many with their dogs. It would be a terrible loss to the people of Stoke Bishop if we were banned from one of the few green spaces left in the area.

Gillian Clark
4 BS9 1HN

8.5-9

<<131>>

Susan Mayer

From: eric white [ericwhite1@talktalk.net]
Sent: 13 January 2012 22:26
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Use of Stoke Lodge Parkland

Since taking up residence locally some 14 years ago my wife and I have made regular use of the parkland. We have visited at various times of the day and walked freely around the entire area of parkland.

There has never been any suggestion that permission was required and free access to the area is understood to be available by ourselves and our neighbours (and, I assume, to any other members of the public). Certainly it has not been necessary to use physical force to gain entry and I am not aware of any signs or notices indicating that public use of the parkland was not permitted.

I hope this email helps to establish the way the parkland has been freely available to all and the widespread feeling locally that this facility should be retained as at present.

Yours sincerely

***Eric & Sheila White
18 Queens Gate
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1TZ***

8.60

David Mayer, Chairman,
Save Stoke Lodge Parkland.

7 Red House Lane,
Bristol BS9 3RY

14th January, 2012.

Dear David,

Stoke Lodge Parkland

We understand that objections have been submitted to our application for Village Green status for Stoke Lodge Parkland . We hereby re-iterate our strong support for Village Green status and re-state our reasons for this in the light of the objections raised..

Ever since we moved here in 1968, we and our neighbours have used Stoke Lodge for family strolls, picnics, ball games and informal recreation. In later years, we are also using it as our preferred route to and from Stoke Lodge Adult Learning Centre. It is a great asset as a beautiful area of open parkland, with some fine trees and sweeping areas of grassland . It is used extensively by the surrounding locally community of Stoke Bishop, Coombe Dingle and Westbury on Trym. Green spaces are a precious public asset in a city

8.6/ (a)

and this one in particular would be well served by Village Green status.

We have never found access a problem as there have always been several entrances available. The printed notices posted were in no way a deterrent, as it was common knowledge that this land had been gifted to Bristol in the past for public use and recreation. It seemed to us that these notices were some sort of official, legalistic manifestation in no way appropriate to this public space. Indeed it seemed to us common sense that we, the local residents, were entitled to make sensible use of this space "as of right", and we did so.

Successive governments have issued policy statements emphasizing the view that, in general, local matters are best dealt with mainly by the local population. Stoke Lodge should surely come under this view as an open space which has been used for many years as a truly local "lung", open to multiple social activities, including both organized games and family recreation.

We fervently hope that the Council will agree to Village Green status as a means of continuing and fostering the maximum public use of this beautiful Parkland, rather than restricting it to a few favoured, parochial activities.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Eglinton
Pamela J. Eglinton.

8.61(b)

From:

John R. Parsons
10 South Dene,
Bristol BS9 2BW

14th January 2012.

Re: The Town Green application on Stoke Lodge Parkland.

I wish it to be known that since my wife and I moved to our house which backs on to Stoke Lodge Field 32 years ago, I have seen all sorts of activity taking place on the Stoke Lodge Field (as is also borne out by the survey carried out last year). Virtually every day come rain or shine there are dog-walkers at any time of day, mostly in the early mornings or in the evenings. Walkers taking their exercise are to be seen at virtually any time of day, more often than not in the mid-morning or mid-afternoon and in the spring, autumn and summer times frequently they are the elderly people who mostly inhabit the bungalows adjacent to Cross Elms Lane. Golfers practising their driving and pitching are also a regular feature at these times. Like many others, I have taken my nieces and nephew on to the field to play games, picnic and otherwise enjoy the open space. I have taken part in street activities, celebratory games and parties during our time living here and have never been stopped or spoken to or asked to stop or leave by anybody in authority.

As regards access to the field there has been no attempt to gate the area away from the main roads of Parry's Lane and Shirehampton Road. There is neither a gate at the end of West Dene, nor is there one at the end of Cheyne Road. That part of Ebenezer Lane which abuts the field, from the end of West Dene north-west towards Bell Barn Road, has no fencing or hedge along the boundary and access to the field is possible at virtually any point.

I have never seen, or even heard of, any personnel from Bristol City Council patrolling the field or requiring any people on the field to leave or of any personnel from the University of Bristol during their time "in charge" of bookings. In fact it would appear the use of the field by local people is condoned, as there are a number of properties (eight in all - approximately half of the total number) which have gates which open on to the field thus giving the owners free access to the area concerned. If the Stoke Lodge field had been considered private property these gates would have had to be blocked. They have not been and are not even now.

If council playing fields are not shut off with lockable gates at **all** entrances then they will be considered to be recreation grounds with open access and for the use of the local community. This has been the way in which Stoke Lodge field has been considered by the residents of the area for much more than the 32 years during which we have lived here.

All this, I would claim constitutes the use of the field by local residents to be "use as of right".

J. R Parsons

<<135>>

Susan Mayer

From: carmel zapata [carmel@zapatam.freemove.co.uk]**Sent:** 16 January 2012 03:03**To:** stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** [?? Probable Spam] save stoke lodge parkland

I have walked across Stoke Lodge parkland on my way to work for over 10 years now and have never once been challenged or stopped. I meet several people on my way and have always felt extremely safe. In fact I would never walk on the nearby footpath along Parry's Lane as it is set back from the main road and overgrown by trees making it unsafe to walk even in daylight.

I have noticed the sign near the Parry's Lane entrance, but as the sign was old and produced by County of Avon I assumed the warning was no longer valid or enforceable as County of Avon no longer exists.

Kind regards
Carmel Zapata

178 Stoke Lane
Westbury-on-Trym
Bristol
BS9 3RS
Tel 9682071

8.63

<<136>>

Susan Mayer

From: Colin O'Connor [cmoc@btinternet.com]**Sent:** 16 January 2012 17:01**To:** suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk**Subject:** SSLP

I am writing as a member of the local community to register my deep concerns regarding the future aspirations of Bristol City Council and other parties in relation to Stoke Lodge playing fields.

I have lived in Stoke Bishop since 1998 and during that time I have always considered Stoke Lodge grounds as public land which I have naturally enjoyed for recreational use with my family and friends.

Although I acknowledge the existence of a sign close to the House this sign is not prominently displayed, being located a long way from the entrance gate on Shirehampton Road. Indeed there are several other access points leading to the grounds where there is no signage at all. Moreover, I have never been approached by an official nor have I ever seen or heard of anyone else being approached by an official when using the grounds, whether for recreational purpose or simply walking a dog.

I reiterate my belief that Stoke Lodge playing fields are freely accessible to everyone and that the few signs which are in place were erected many years ago with no intention of enforcing what is stated on them.

I expect to remain in Stoke bishop for some time to come and I sincerely hope that can can look forward to continued and unrestricted use of the playing fields with my grandchildren in the same way as was able to do so with my own children when they were young.

Regards

Colin O'Connor
19 Queens Gate
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 1TZ

8.64

16/01/2012

<<137>>

Susan Mayer

From: JASON PARKER [jason.parkerparker@btinternet.com]**Sent:** 14 January 2012 13:56**To:** stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** [?? Probable Spam] Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

I can confirm that since 1954 I have lived for most of my life in Stoke Bishop and have over the years used Stoke Lodge as a general recreational area as a family or as a group be it for youth group activities , scout/ cub activities , Church activities.

In all my years there , on no occasion have I ever been challenged by any council employee or any other official as to my right to be there .

I feel it is a real shame that Bristol City Council feel it is necessary to change the current arrangement which work perfectly well as I am sure their energies and money should be focused on other tasks that deserve their attention.

Your sincerely

Jason Parker

18, St Hilary Close
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 IDA

8.65

Susan Mayer

From: reg@reghunt.co.uk
Sent: 14 January 2012 12:11
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear Sir, I write to inform you that my understanding re. Stoke Lodge Parkland is that I use it "as of right" I do not remember seeing any trespass notices as I have, for the last forty years accessed from an entrance that does not have one.
Yours sincerely, R.S. Hunt.

<<139>>

Susan Mayer

From: Clive Shepherd [clive.shepherd@talktalk.net]
Sent: 14 January 2012 19:12
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Town/Village Green application: As of Right

11 January 2012

Stoke Lodge Parkland

In support of Village/Town Green status: As of right

I wish to confirm that I and my family have always considered Stoke Lodge playing fields to be open and accessible to all members of the community regardless of signage. When the new sign went up by the Lodge a year or two ago I noticed for the first time (having walked there for many years) that dog-walking was forbidden and another dog walker noticed it too and said that it was irrelevant as they had been using the fields for long before any signs were erected and would continue to do so and that I should too; she said the signage was retrospective and in those circumstances, especially, I agree and therefore do not and have not thought of them as applicable to us or anybody else. Nobody has ever challenged us or, as far as I'm aware, any of the many other local people who enjoy the fields.

We have used the fields, openly, as of right for as long as we've lived in Stoke Bishop.

Yours

Clive Shepherd
33 Glen Drive
Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1SA

Information from ESET NOD32 Antivirus, version of virus signature database 6795
(20120114) _____

The message was checked by ESET NOD32 Antivirus.

<http://www.eset.com>

8.67

16/01/2012

Susan Mayer

From: Lynda Martin B-B [mb_b@talktalk.net]
Sent: 10 January 2012 19:25
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Save Stoke Lodge

My husband and I wanted to say that we have lived here in Coombe Lane for 40 years and have always used Stoke Lodge as a completely open and available piece of public land. It has always been possible to get into it without hindrance and we have never been aware that it was not a public space.

Schools are on holiday for a good part of the year and only use this land on a very limited basis and it seems to us completely unreasonable to refuse access to the community because of that occasional use.

Yours,

Lynda and Martin Bryan-Brown
10 Coombe Lane,
Bristol BS9 2AA

Susan Mayer

From: Barbara Skakle [barbaraskakle@aol.com]
Sent: 08 January 2012 18:24
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Use of Stoke Lodge parkland

To whom it may concern:

I have often walked on Stoke Lodge parkland "as of right" and did not consider that any signs referred to community informal use. I understood that it was quite acceptable to walk across the land on my way to an adult education class and my daughter has in the past often used the parkland to meet up with friends .

It is an important community facility which should be preserved for community use.

Yours faithfully

Barbara Skakle (Mrs)

35 Grove Avenue, Coombe Dingle, Bristol BS9 2RP

<<142>>

Susan Mayer

From: john stringer [pamjohnstringer@talktalk.net]**Sent:** 08 January 2012 10:32**To:** stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge

As a local inhabitant I am writing to confirm my support of "as of right" . The objections raised by the Council regarding the signs are flawed in that currently there are in existence entrances to the playing fields/parklands that have no gates nor accompanying signs. This allows the general public to use the land for a walk without any form of request.

Yours truly,
John Stringer

8.70

12/01/2012

<<143>>

Susan Mayer

From: Ruth Wicks [ruth_wicks@hotmail.com]**Sent:** 09 January 2012 14:25**To:** suemayer@blueyonder.co.uk**Subject:** Stoke Lodge Parkland

We wish to support those people who are questioning the new usage of this land.

We are local residents who have lived in St. Hilary Close for 36 years. We have used this area consistently over those years because of its accessibility. Our children, and now grandchildren, are familiar with this amenity and we in retirement continue to walk there regularly in all seasons.

We have never encountered any problems whilst there. We have lost The Grove and RTZ please leave us this green space, enough is enough.

Ruth and Gerald Wicks,
6 St. Hilary Close,
Bristol BS9 1DA

Please forward this to register our concern.

8.71

Susan Mayer

From: anni.davey@oaci.org
Sent: 05 January 2012 03:29
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Cc: Susan Mayer
Subject: P. S. to Stoke Lodge Park letter

Dear David and Susan,

Sitting here in New Zealand and thinking about the issues regarding our Town Green application, I am sure that lots of local people will point out in their letters that QEH and BGS both acted responsibly and independently in providing their own excellent facilities out at Failand. There is another up there too, whose name I can't remember. There is actually opportunity with the availability of farmland around Bristol to do something similar for Cotham, particularly with the finance available for sport in education from the Government.

There is no need to vandalise our beautiful local park with bulldozers and create an eyesore - the beauty of the original parkland is a major part of defining the delightful character of the area.

The Council simply haven't got a leg to stand on. I hope you get lots of letters but the problem is that most people are out of their depth in matters like this and don't know how to express their feelings in writing.

If Town Green status is not granted, I am pretty sure there are serious grounds for reference to the Ombudsman. It is shocking that the Council should advocate action against the local community in this way.

Sincerely,
Korky Davey
20 St. Hilary Close
BS9 1DA

Susan Mayer

From: Mary Laity [marylaity@btinternet.com]
Sent: 16 January 2012 08:57
To: Undisclosed-Recipient: ;@smtp817.mail.ird.yahoo.com
Subject: Support for Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

I wish to add my vote to support the project to designate the Stoke Lodge parkland area as a Town & Village Green".
This important local asset should remain accessible to all residents for their enjoyment. On a general level, I believe it is important that our city's open spaces be preserved for future generations, as they are irreplaceable.
M. Laity

<<146>>

Susan Mayer

From: Peter Thomas [peterdthomas@blueyonder.co.uk]
Sent: 16 January 2012 08:58
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Community use of Stoke Lodge

Dear Sir,

I have resident in BS9 for fourteen years now and throughout that time have used Stoke Lodge parkland with my family as of right. Informal community use by umpteen people at all hours of the day has been a consistent characteristic of Stoke Lodge.

Yours faithfully,
Peter Thomas

8 Queens Gate,
Stoke Bishop,
Bristol BS9 1TZ

8.74

16/01/2012

<<147>>

Susan Mayer

From: lynn hurley [hurley_house@hotmail.co.uk]**Sent:** 14 January 2012 12:57**To:** stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** amendment to previous mail

Dear Mr Mayer,

As a family we have used the Stoke Lodge open space on many occasions. We have walked our dogs there probably at least once a month, had birthday picnics in the grounds most years and used it for walking and our general enjoyment probably weekly, for the past twenty years and we haven't noticed any signs or we have ignored them.

My name is Mrs L Hurley
21 Southwood Drive
Coombe Dingle
BS9 2QX

With Sincere Regards
Mrs L Hurley

8.75

16/01/2012

Susan Mayer

From: lynn hurley [hurley_house@hotmail.co.uk]
Sent: 14 January 2012 12:54
To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk
Subject: Stoke Lodge

Dear Mr Mayer,

I would just like to say my family and I have used the public open space at Stoke Lodge for over 50 years on a recreational basis. We have walked around the outside of the field for exercise and have never noticed any signs.

Yours Sincerely

Miss P Pugh
Mrs F Nash
Mr J Nash

NB.

8.76(a)

<<149>>

Susan Mayer

From: lynn hurley [hurley_house@hotmail.co.uk]

Sent: 14 January 2012 14:10

To: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk

Subject: amendment

Sorry forgot to enclose address,
15/16, Sunnyside Cottages,
Stoke Bishop
Bristol
BS9 1BQ
Miss Patsy Pugh,
Mrs F Nash
Mr J Nash

8.76 (6)

16/01/2012

<<150>>

Susan Mayer

From: jane rooth [jarooth@yahoo.co.uk]**Sent:** 16 January 2012 16:30**To:** stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk**Subject:** [?? Probable Spam] support for the Save Stoke Lodge Parkland

Dear Mr Mayer,

I would like to express my concern at the proposals made by BCC to prevent public access to the Stoke Lodge park. It has been used for walking and recreation for very many years, and is a valuable local resource. It is important for people's health and well-being to have open green spaces within walking distance of their homes, and this is the only one in the area.

In my opinion it should be given town green status, protecting it from future development. There should be proper play equipment for children, as has been provided in most other parts of the city.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Rooth

8.77

Susan Mayer

From: Martin Sisman [marlyn@msisman.freemove.co.uk]
Sent: 21 October 2011 19:42
To: tom.dunsdon@bristol.gov.uk
Cc: peter.abraham@bristol.gov.uk; stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk; john.goulandris@bristol.gov.uk;
charlotte.leslie.mp@parliament.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Stoke Lodge Playing Fields

F.A.O. Tom Dunsdon, Commons Registration Authority

Dear Sir,

We wish to support the Town & Village Green Application which Stoke Bishop Residents' Association has submitted. It is essential that the long-standing community use of Stoke Lodge Playing Fields and adjacent open land is preserved. Although we are glad to see that Cotham School will be using the ground for its various sports, as we thoroughly support any initiative to bring back sport in schools, that is not incompatible with sharing it with the community for the variety of uses to which it has been put for decades, i.e. general leisure use, public open space, community education, and ball games, to the benefit of the local community.

This land has been under threat of development many times and it is important that it be properly registered as a P.O.S. so that its essential character, with extensive grasslands and mature trees, be recognised and preserved for the benefit of community use, as it has been for decades.

Please record our support in favour of registration as a TGA

Yours faithfully,

Martin and Lyndis Sisman

Stoke Bishop Residents

8.78

<<152>>

Susan Mayer

From: Armelle Young [armelleyoung@yahoo.co.uk]
Sent: 22 October 2011 09:57
To: tom.dunsdon@bristol.gov.uk
Cc: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk; charlotte.leslie.mp@parliament.uk; john.goulandris@bristol.gov.uk; peter.abraham@bristol.gov.uk
Subject: [!! SPAM] Bristol Stoke lodge Parkland TGA - registering my full support for it

Dear Mr Dunsdon,

I am writing to let you know that I emphatically support the Town or Village Green Application (TGA) that was submitted in March regarding the Stoke lodge Parkland. I consider it vital that the essential character and shared used of this area is preserved.

I understand that the TGA has reached the consultation stage, and this email is to voice my full support for it.

Thanks and regards,

Mrs Armelle Young
Flat 2, Woodlands,
Church Road, Stoke Bishop
Bristol BS9 1JT

Home: 0117 9686 243
Work: 01454 889966
Mobile: 07771 902 154

8.79

Susan Mayer

From: William Hayes [wwhayes@btinternet.com]
Sent: 26 October 2011 14:42
To: tom.dunsdon@bristol.gov.uk
Cc: Stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk; Charlotte.leslie.mp@parliament.uk; John.goulandris@bristol.gov.uk; peter.abraham@bristol.gov.uk
Subject: Town or Village Green Registration number 24 Stoke Lodge Parkland Stoke Bishop Bristol BS9 1BN

I am a local resident and I have enjoyed Stoke Lodge through various stages of my life since my parents moved into Coombe Lane in 1953. I believe that due to the many & various activities that people of all ages can be seen to enjoy here "The Field" is a really vital open space for the neighbourhood. I therefore hope that the Town Green application is passed & that Stoke Lodge can continue to be enjoyed by all future generations.
Bill Hayes

8.80

<<154>>

Susan Mayer

From: David Higgins [davidhhiggins@googlemail.com]
Sent: 16 November 2011 20:15
To: tom.dunsdon@bristol.gov.uk
Cc: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk; charlotte.leslie.mp@parliament.uk; john.goulandris@bristol.gov.uk; peter.abraham@bristol.gov.uk; archaeology@bristol.gov.uk
Subject: [?? Probable Spam] Fw: Stoke Lodge Parkland - an Anglo-Saxon legacy.

----- Original Message -----

From: David Higgins
To: tom.dunsdon@bristol.gov.uk
Cc: stoke.lodge@hotmail.co.uk ; charlotte.leslie.mp@parliament.uk, john.goulandris@bristol.gov.uk ; peter.abraham@bristol.gov.uk ; archaeology@bristol.gov.uk
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2011 6:21 PM
Subject: Stoke Lodge Parkland- an Anglo-Saxon legacy.

Dear Mr Dunsdon,

I am writing in support of the current TGA from the Sneyd Park Residents' Association with respect to the proposed lease of the Stoke Lodge Parkland to Cotham Academy. It is essential that the parkland be most carefully treated from the point of view of local history and archaeology, since the Stoke Bishop Charters of AD 969 and 984 clearly indicate that:

(i) the Parkland is the last piece remaining of genuine 'open field' (*filid leah*) attached to the Anglo-Saxon settlement of Stoke Bishop;

(ii) the Anglo-Saxon boundary of *Bisceopes stoc* (which divided the 'stoke' from the parent manor of Westbury-on-Trym) is formed in one of its most prominent stretches by the ancient earth embankment (*har maer*) which runs along what is now Ebenezer Lane, the northern boundary of the Parkland. The embankment has been mostly untouched since the 10th century and probably the 9th (Late Anglo-Saxon period). It is a monument of archaeological significance for Bristol's history in the Anglo-Saxon period, of which very little indeed remains within the city's boundaries.

It is essential that the City Archaeologist is informed of this proposed development and is aware of the potential danger it poses to what is a monument of local, county and therefore national significance.

The Registration Authority and all interested parties are referred to my article 'The Anglo-Saxon Charters of Stoke Bishop: a study of the boundaries of *Bisceopes stoc*', in *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society* 120 (2002), pp. 107-131, with special attention to pp. 119-131.

Yrs faithfully, David H Higgins (Bristol University retd.).

8.8/ (9)

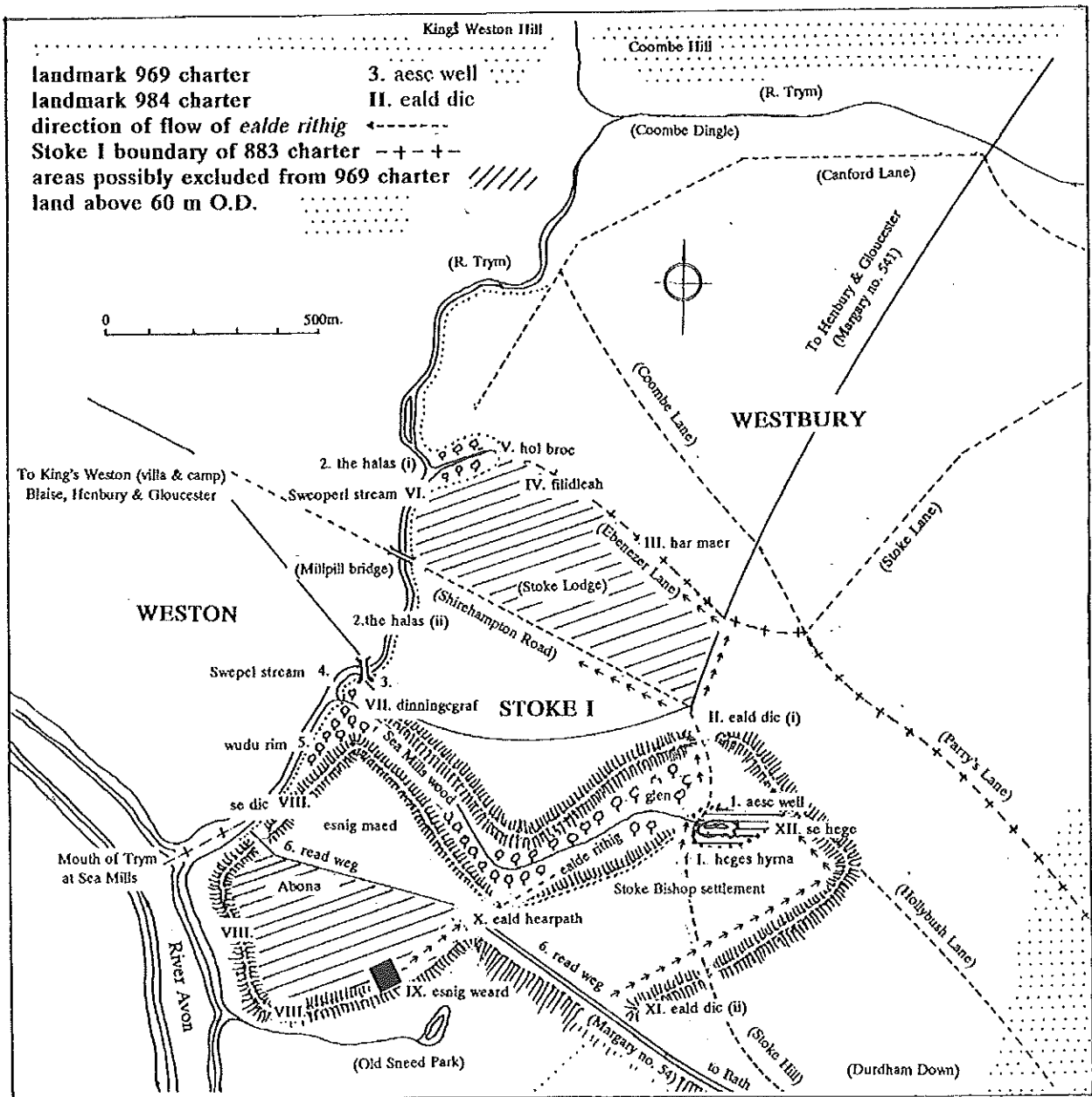


Fig. 5. The Stoke Bishop Charters of 969 and 984: landmarks of Higgins.

opposition to *se dic* (VIII.). The qualifier *eald*, lit. 'old', carries also the familiar, endearing and proprietorial sense of the vernacular. *Eald dic* means therefore 'the old earthwork', in the sense of 'our (old) earthwork' or 'our people's (old) earthwork'. Used without a qualifier, a different sense of the noun *dic* obtains, implying a different earthwork. Thus landmark VIII. *se dic* arguably refers not to the 'familiar' outer earthworks of the Stoke Bishop settlement, but to what we might term the 'other' ramparts. These, from the evidence of the 984 charter's text, stood at some distance from the settlement around the site of *Abona*, and were arguably the outer defences of the Roman town. *Eald*, on the other hand, qualifies both *rithig* and *hearth*, because