



14 April 2016

To Whom it may Concern

**Forthcoming Public Inquiry into the status of Stoke Lodge Parkland
Statement on behalf of 43rd Bristol Scout Group**

I write in my capacity as Chairman of 43rd Bristol Scout Group and represent the views of our Section Leaders and Trustees.

We are a charity volunteer organisation educating children to become good citizens. For over 50 years we have operated from our site off Kewstoke Road, Stoke Bishop BS9. We currently have over 65 local children registered who attend weekly Beaver, Cub or Scout meetings. The children vary in age from 6 to 14. In addition we have a further 25 local adult volunteers, many of whom are parents with children themselves and who attend the local primary and secondary schools nearby.

Stoke Lodge Playing Field is a short and safe 5 minute walk away from our Scout Hut without any need for children to be transported in cars by parents. For many years the different Sections in our Group have visited and used this beautiful and wide, safe open space for various outdoor activities for our children including organised games, wildlife and exploration walks, amongst others.

By way of example, our Cub Section visits Stoke Lodge at least one a month and this tends to increase in the spring and summer months.

The Group have always regarded Stoke Lodge as a free to use community space where we have unlimited access rights.

Should this change in the future and we were not to have such free and unencumbered access we would be deeply upset and be depriving the many hundreds of children that pass through our doors the prospect of access to the only open, grassed area within easy walking reach of our Hut.

Bristol City Council have acknowledged to us that our Scout Group provides an extremely valuable positive contribution to 'out of school' provision for the younger population of the local Stoke Bishop community. This is especially so as the number of primary school spaces at Stoke Bishop and Elmlea Primary Schools have dramatically increased over recent years without any additional provision of community facilities.

43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene Stoke Bishop) Scout Group

President of Cabot District Scouts – George Peszynski MBE JP KSS OCCPR - 132 Eastfield Road, Bristol BS9 4AL T: 0117 962 4109

Chairman – Charles Elderton LLB (Hons) - 79 Parrys Lane, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1AN T: 07768 543 026

Group Scout Leader – Andrew Judd - 19 Cranleigh Gardens, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1HD T: 0117 968 2592

Treasurer – Scott Whitby-Smith - 8 Pitch & Pay Park, Sneyd Park, Bristol BS9 1NJ T: 07790 342 806

Secretary – Hannah Milliner - 14 Wyedale Avenue, Bristol BS9 2QQ T: 07975 686 437



We have a waiting list of over 70 local children and with plans to create a second Beaver Colony and Scout Troop later in 2016 to accommodate the demand. However, to hear that there is a proposition to potentially limit future access to Stoke Lodge for the children in our Group and, no doubt other similar local Groups and organisations, seems both non-sensical and short-sighted.

The loss of such a free and open space would not only be a blow to the activities and experiences we can offer our children but also another nail in the coffin of encouraging our children and further generations to remain active and fit.

On behalf of our Scout Group I request that you duly take on board the true long term cost of limiting free and unfettered access to Stoke Lodge for all.

Yours faithfully

Charles Elderton
Chairman, 43rd Bristol Scout Group
07768 543 026

43rd Bristol (St Mary Magdalene Stoke Bishop) Scout Group

President of Cabot District Scouts – George Peszynski MBE JP KSS OCCPR - 132 Eastfield Road, Bristol BS9 4AL T: 0117 962 4109
Chairman – Charles Elderton LLB (Hons) - 79 Parrys Lane, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1AN T: 07768 543 026
Group Scout Leader – Andrew Judd - 19 Cranleigh Gardens, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS9 1HD T: 0117 968 2592
Treasurer – Scott Whitby-Smith - 8 Pitch & Pay Park, Sneyd Park, Bristol BS9 1NJ T: 07790 342 806
Secretary – Hannah Milliner - 14 Wyedale Avenue, Bristol BS9 2QQ T: 07975 686 437

Save Stoke Lodge Parkland - Application for Town Green Registration – Evidence Questionnaire	
	NAME of Witness Print CHARLES EDGERTON
1	Your address when you used the land being claimed as "Town Green" and edged in red on Map "A"? 79 PARREYS LANE STOKE BISHOP BRISTOL BS9 1AN
2	Your address when you knew the land edged in red on Map "A" was being used by the local inhabitants? If different from 1 above? AS ABOVE
3	Did you sign the map "A" attached to confirm your understanding of the extent of The Land being claimed? As "Town Green" edged in Red? And relates to the evidence YES
4	Confirm your agreement that the Locality or Neighbourhood is the Political Ward of Stoke Bishop plus parts of Westbury on Trym, Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle. Map "B" YES
5	Please confirm that you have marked the location of your house on Map "B" with an X. YES
6	By what name, if any, is The Land edged in red on Map "A" known? STOKE LODGE
7	Has the land, referred to in question 6, ever been known by any other name? If so what? NOT THAT I AM AWARE
8	For how many years have you known about the Land edged in red on Map "A"? 31 YEARS.
9	Between which years did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A"? 1995 TO DATE – PERSONALLY/FAMILY.
10	Do you consider yourself to be a local inhabitant in respect of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? YES
11	During the time you have used the Land edged in red on Map "A", has the general pattern of use remained basically the same? YES

12	What recognisable facilities are available to the local inhabitants of your locality? Please tick all boxes that apply and add any other additional matters not covered			
	Local infants school	✓	Community centre	Community activities
	Local junior school	✓	Sports facility	A central feature
	Local secondary school		Swimming pool	Scout hut
	Residents association		Library	other Village Hall
	Neighbourhood watch	✓	All green space within easy walking	other
	Neighbourhood Partnership	✓	Area police	other
	Local place of worship	✓	Doctors surgery	other
13	To your knowledge are there any public paths crossing the Land edged in red on Map "A"?			
	THERE ARE A FEW PATHS ON THE LAND			
14	How do you gain access to the Land edged in red on Map "A"?			
	THROUGH VARIOUS OPEN ACCESS POINTS AROUND THE LAND			
15	How do you travel to and from the Land edged in red on Map "A"?			
	WALK			
16	Why do you go on to the Land edged in red on Map "A"?			
	WALK DOGS, KICK FOOTBALL AROUND WITH CHILDREN, PLAY GAMES, WATCH FOOTBALL MATCHES, AS A DIRECT WALKWAY			
17	How often do/did you use the Land edged in red on Map "A" (apart from use of any public paths on the Land)			
	MULTIPLE TIMES A WEEK, SOMETIMES DAILY.			
18	What activities do/did you take part in on the Land edged red on Map "A"?			
	SEE ANSWER 16			
19	Does your immediate family use the Land edged in red on Map "A"?			
	YES			
20	If so, for what?			
	SEE ANSWER 16			
21	Do you know of any community activities that take place or have taken place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?			
	YES			
22	If so please list them and state when and for how long they have taken place?			
	43rd Bristol Sport Group - Different Sections use the land for various activities regularly, especially in summer, for many years.			
23	Do/did you participate in any of them?			
	YES, sometimes			

24	Do any organisations use the Land edged in red on Map "A" for sports or pastimes? If so, please specify.	43rd Bristol Scout Group.	
25	Do any seasonal activities take place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"	YES.	
26	Please tick all the activities that you have seen taking place on the Land edged in red on Map "A"		
	Children playing	☒	Fetes
	Rounders	☒	Football
	Drawing and painting	☒	Rugby
	Dog Walking	☒	Cricket
	Team Games (Formal)	☒	Bird watching
	Team Games (informal)	☒	Picnicking
	Picking blackberries	☒	Kite flying
	Community celebrations	☒	People walking
			Bonfire parties
			Bicycle riding
			Carol singing
			other Running/Athletics
			other Wildlife Exploration
			other
			other
			other
27	Do you know the name of the owner of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	ASSUMING BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL	
28	Do you know the name of the occupier of the Land edged in red on Map "A"? And if so please state.	NO	
29	Has the owner or occupier seen you on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	NO - WE HAS EVER SAID ANYTHING TO ME	
30	What did they say? If anything?	N/A	
31	Was permission ever sought by you for activities on the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	NEVER - NOR BY 43rd BRISTOL SCOUT GROUP	
32	If so, from whom and when?	N/A	
33	Did anyone ever give you permission to go onto the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	NO - NOT AWARE ANY PERMISSION WAS REQUESTED	
34	If yes, when and for what reason?	N/A	
35	Have you ever been prevented from using the Land edged in red on Map "A"?	NO, NEVER.	

36	If yes, when and for what reason?	N/A.
37	Has any attempt been made by any means to prevent or discourage the use being made of the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	NO
38	If yes, give examples and dates	N/A.
39	Are you aware of any signs or notices restricting access to the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	NO
40	Do you have any photographs or any other evidence of use of the Land edged in red on Map "A" by local inhabitants?	NO.
41	Are you willing to allow us to copy them for use as part of our application?	—
42	If you have additional information please attach a separate statement? (witness statement etc)	See Attached statement in my capacity as Chairman of 43rd Bristol Scout Group.
43	If you have knowledge of others who may be in a position to complete an evidence form, would you please write their names and addresses upon the reverse of this form.	
44	I have carried on the activities referred to in this questionnaire, on the Land edged in red on Map "A", for XX3 (XX) years without anybody trying to stop me and I believe the activity should be treated by the law as having a lawful origin.	
45	I understand that the evidence form I have completed in relation to this application may become public knowledge and I authorise the applicant to disclose this form to anyone reasonably requiring access to this application.	
46	I also understand that this evidence may be presented at a non-statutory inquiry and I authorise the applicant to use this form for that purpose.	
47	Signed	Charles Edgerston
48	Name	CHARLES EDGERSTON - ALSO CHAIRMAN OF 43rd BRISTOL SCOUT GROUP.
49	Date	14 APRIL 2016.

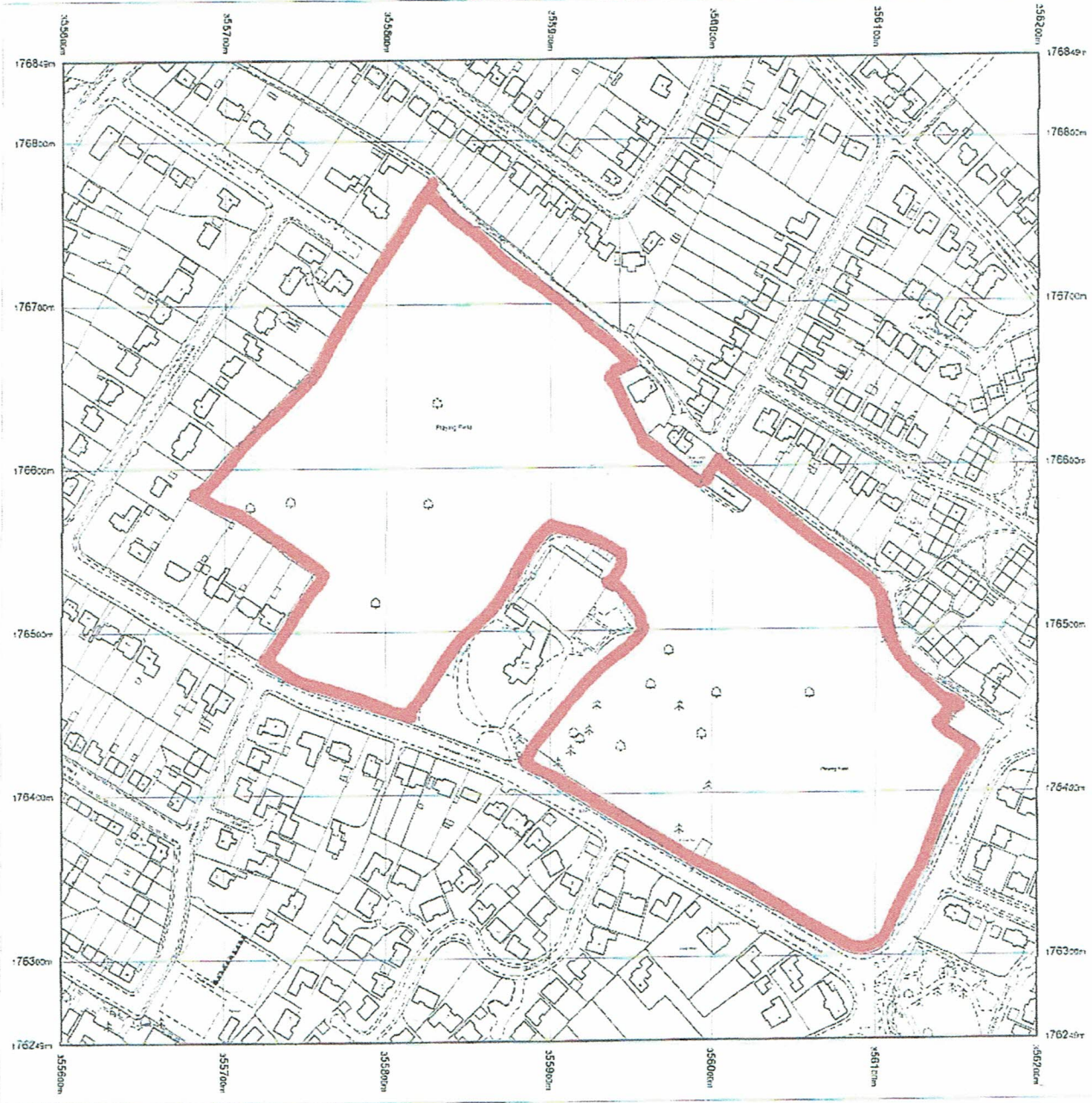
<<25>>



Chas. E. E. E.

OS Sitemap®

MAP 'A'



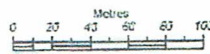
Produced 25.11.2010 from the Ordnance Survey National Geographic Database and incorporating surveyed revision available at this date. © Crown Copyright 2010

Reproduction in whole or part is prohibited without the prior permission of Ordnance Survey

Ordnance Survey, the OS Symbol and OS Sitemap are registered trademarks of Ordnance Survey, the national mapping agency of Great Britain

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

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



NOT TO SCALE WHEN COPIED AT A4.

Supplied by: Latitude - Southampton
Serial number: 05345100
Centre coordinates: 355859.67 176549.37

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

Map "B" of locality surrounding Stoke Lodge Parkland

