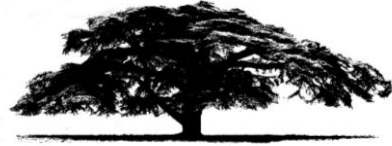


# Save Stoke Lodge Parkland



## Stoke Lodge - the battle continues – and this time we need massive help

As you may be aware, on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 Bristol City Council's Public Rights of Way and Greens Committee (PROWGC) agreed to the Town and Village Green (TVG) application) made by Save Stoke Lodge Parkland (SSLP) to register Stoke Lodge as a town/village green. This was a rational decision, given the shared use of Stoke Lodge, which has given so much pleasure to all over so many years. Since then, however, Cotham School has started the legal process to have the decision overturned in the courts. There is, therefore, now a very real risk that the granting of TVG status will be the subject of a judicial review. **It is, therefore, still possible that SSLP's application for TVG status to "save Stoke Lodge" could be rejected.** SSLP's committee is continuing the fight to ensure that this does not happen.

Bristol City Council has announced that it supports the decision of the PROWGC, but the SSLP Committee feel very strongly that SSLP needs to be involved in any judicial review that is undertaken. In doing this, as an "interested party", we can ensure that the arguments that have proved so persuasive to date are taken forward in any review. This gives us the best chance of ensuring that local people can continue to enjoy Stoke Lodge. Please note, however, that our application for TVG status has always been for the continued shared use of Stoke Lodge, including use by Cotham School.

To date SSLP has avoided engaging any solicitor or barrister to keep costs to a minimum. However, to engage in a judicial review, it will be necessary to be represented by a barrister. Initial discussions with a local legal firm suggest that the cost of such representation would be around a frightening £50,000. (Plus VAT)

And so this request for the "massive help" we now need from you all. Please, therefore, help us to raise sufficient funds to engage a suitably qualified barrister by making a financial contribution of what you feel you are able. We know that the amount needed is scary, but there are many of us out there who have used Stoke Lodge over the years and I don't think many of us want to see it taken away from us.

Contributions can be made in a number of ways, either directly to Sue Mayer at 68a Coombe Lane, Westbury on Trym, Bristol, BS9 2AY (Cheques should be made payable to "Save Stoke Lodge Parkland"), or to any of our local collectors who may contact you directly with their contact details.

Alternatively an electronic transfer may be made to our Bank. Our account details are –

Bank: **Lloyds Bank PLC**, - Sort Code: **30-99-38**, - A/c Number: **35688368**.

The collection of contributions will be overseen by our Treasurer/accountant and money obtained will be held in SSLP's community account with Lloyds.

There are various hurdles which Cotham School will have to get over before any judicial review is held. However, we are already incurring legal costs, but in the event that SSLP does not need to use all the money raised then any money collected remaining will be returned, pro rata, to each individual donor.

To enable us to return your share of any unused money we need you to provide your name and address as part your donation. if you are making your donation directly to our Bank then please include your name as part of the payment reference and e-mail your name and address to: [stokelodgetvg@yahoo.com](mailto:stokelodgetvg@yahoo.com) If you do not want any money to be returned to you please notify us via the same e-mail address.

Please help if you can. We started this process in March 2011 and SSLP's achievements to date have only been possible because of your ongoing support. We just need one final push to secure the protection of Stoke Lodge, but we cannot undertake that task on your behalf without the means to obtain the legal support we now require.

Thank you.

7<sup>th</sup> March 2017