

# Save Stoke Lodge Parkland



## Newsletter November 2017

Dear member

### Town or Village Green - Judicial Review – Update

Following my request last month for additional funds, I am pleased to report that thanks to your generosity, we have received the necessary additional funds to prepare our defence against the amended grounds submitted by Cotham in their attempt to overturn the decision of the Public Rights of Way & Greens Committee to register Stoke Lodge Parkland as a Town or Village Green.

I must repeat my thanks to the members for their support and the speed of their response which has once again demonstrated the commitment of the community to retain open public access “as of right” on Stoke Lodge and has once again left me humbled by your support.

Many of our members have asked why Cotham have been permitted, by the Court, to amend their grounds for the Judicial Review, especially as their request was out of time. The truth is that I don't know and our legal team could not offer any definitive explanation. I suspect that the Court have permitted these new arguments to be heard, without accepting their veracity, to prevent any future argument on the basis that the Cotham were disadvantaged by not hearing them. Our legal team, and BCC's legal team, have consequently prepared very robust arguments rebutting these new arguments in addition to the previous arguments and all are now contained within the “*Amended grounds of resistance on behalf of the first interested party, Mr David Mayer*” and the “*Defendant's [BCC] amended detailed grounds for contesting the application for Judicial Review*”.

The Judicial Review is still scheduled to be heard on the 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November at the Bristol Civil Justice Centre, 2 Redcliff Street, Bristol, BS1 6BG, despite the facility having been closed, and only recently re-opened, following flood damage. The Courts are quite small and the largest has only seating for 12 spectators. We have yet to hear the final arrangements for the hearing from the Court.

Many thanks  
Kind Regards

*David Mayer*

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