

Appendix 4

Analysis of Landowners Objections to the Application and supporting statements

John Parfitt	Letter dated 10 th August 2004	Contents that Parish Council were aware that co-owner, Mr Burfitt, had confronted people over the use of the land
Rutter & Rutter Solicitors representing Mr Burfitt	Letter dated 8 th October 2004	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For some of the time land used for grazing and growing crops therefore access difficult. 2. Neighbours have asked for permission to enter the land for specific purposes so cannot claim use 'as of right'. 3. Residents have indicated that they understood Mr Burfitt to be the owner and apologised for entering the land without permission 4. The land has not been substantially used by the villagers, and not for the purposes of a village green. Although Mr Burfitt and his wife cannot see the land from where they live, they do visit it from time to time and rarely see anyone on the land, however, if they do and are able to speak to them, they often inform the person that the land is private. 5. The land is unsuitable for village green activities, such as kite flying and picnics, due to high voltage electric cables and natural overgrowth. 6. In applications for planning permission, Mr Burfitt has always been acknowledged as the owner of the land. In 1998, when Mr Parfitt entered into an option agreement with Mr Burfitt, there was no evidence of the land being used for any public purpose.
John Parfitt	Letter dated 14 th October 2004	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only 17 statements claim use of the land going back as far as 1984. 2. Mr Burfitt has only ever seen one walker on the application land and informed them that the land was private. The land has been allowed to grow wild since 1987. Some witnesses that allege dog walking do not own dogs. 3. Mr & Mrs Parfitt and their supporters have never seen any walkers or dog walkers on the land. 4. Swede crop grown on the land pre-1984 until 1987. 5. There were no blackberry bushes or apple trees on the application land before 1987 and none of the opposing parties have witnessed anyone picking the fruit. 6. The application land is not suitable for sledging – overgrown and swede crop until 1987.

		<p>7. The application land is not suitable for kite flying as there have been overhead high tension power lines since the 1950/60s. The land is overgrown. None of the opposing parties have witnessed anyone kite flying.</p> <p>8. None of the opposing parties have witnessed any children playing on the application land. On one occasion Mrs Burfitt had to ask children not to play on the land. Some of the statements are questionable with regard to the ages of children claimed to have played on the land.</p> <p>9. None of the opposing parties have witnessed anyone watching wildlife on the application land.</p> <p>10. Mr Burfitt has never consented to the application land being used by the residents of Mere.</p> <p>11. Planning permission for the application land was granted in 2004. None of the residents raised village green rights in opposition to the planning application. Only 2 of the objectors to the planning application claimed recreational use of the application land.</p> <p>12. If the application is successful the application land will be rendered useless to Mr Burfitt.</p>
Philip Burfitt	Statement	<p>1. Background</p> <p>2. History of use of Application land – until mid 1960s used for dairy cattle, approx 1975 to 1982 used for growing corn approx 1982 to 1987 used for growing swede 1987 to present allowed land to grow wild</p> <p>3. Comments on Activities alleged in Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in 26 yrs has only ever seen one person walking on land and advised her that land was private - land overgrown and difficult to walk on - very few residents of Old Hollow have dogs - has never seen children playing on the land - no children living in Old Hollow for more than 20 yrs - never seen anyone sledging on land, land not suitable for sledging - never seen anyone flying a kite. Land unsuitable for kite flying – overgrown and high tension overhead power lines - never seen anyone picking fruit or watching wildlife. No fruit trees before 1987 - whenever he has been aware of anyone being on the land he has made it clear that he owns it and they have no right to be there – cites examples
John Parfitt	Statement	<p>1. Planning permission granted to develop application land in July 2004</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Only 2 of the 200 plus objectors to the planning application mentioned any recreational use of the land 3. Since 1997 has visited the application land approx once a month, sometimes more often – has never seen anyone on the land 4. Photographs show the site is overgrown, there are overhead electricity cables, the tracks across the land are made by small animals as they lead through bushes 5. Comments on activities alleged in application :- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the land is very overgrown and difficult to walk on - not suitable for sledging, probably only one occasion when sledging possible - not suitable for kite flying – overhead power lines - never seen anyone picking fruit or watching wildlife - never seen any children playing on land - in August 2004 erected a barbed wire fence along northern boundary of the bridleway - in preparation of Parish Plan Mr Parfitt was advised that no parishioner had suggested that the application land is village green - the revised Local Plan published 2003 shows the application land within the development area
Jane Parfitt of Trinity Cottage, Zeals	Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - has visited the application land with her husband on approximately 12 occasions since September/October 1997, often early evening and has never seen any person on the land
Tom Cosgrove Hydrogeological consultancy	Letter dated 18 th October 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - engaged by Mr Parfitt and visited the site twice to advise on hydrological issues, never saw anyone on the land and comments that the land was overgrown making it difficult for him to access and examine the site
J L Lea of Brimble, Lea & Partners	Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - engaged by Mr Parfitt to supply Architectural & Planning Consultancy services. Visited the application land on various dates, times and durations over the period from June 1999 to present and never saw anyone on the application land.
Jan Merriott BSc., MRICS of Connells	Statement dated 15 th October 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - engaged by Mr Parfitt to advise on the proposed development of the application land. Visited the application land on various dates, times and durations over the period from late 2001 to present and never saw any member of the public on the application land.
Humphrey Mead of Greysones,	Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - engaged by Mr Parfitt to advise on the development of the application land. Visited the application land on various dates, times and

Holton		<p>durations over the period from June 1999 to August 2004 and never saw anyone on the application land.</p>
Alan Webb of 71 Dudsbury Avenue, Ferndown	Statement dated 14 th October 2004	<p>- engaged by Mr Parfitt to design a surface water drainage scheme on the application land. Visited the application land between March and October 2003 and never saw any member of the public on the application land.</p>
B M Weston of Brimble, Lea & Partners	Statement	<p>- engaged by Mr Parfitt to advise on the development of the application land. Visited the application land on various dates, times and durations over the period from June 1999 to the present day and never saw anyone on the application land. The site was overgrown and there were no visible signs of anyone using the site.</p>

Other Documents submitted

1. Copies of objection letters to planning application
2. Photographs