

APPENDIX C – Bunyans's Walk Interviews

1. Mr William McCartney (one of the two applicants) from 1 Bunyans Walk has always regarded the claimed route to be public, he believes it should a restricted byway as users cycle along the route. Mr McCartney first used the route in 1964 with the only break in use being when he moved to Flitwick from 1990-1999. He uses the route to access the local shops and schools. Mr McCartney was aware of the private sign located on Churchills. He also has provided a copy of his Title Deeds for the council to inspect, and these state that he has permission in his deeds to walk the route. He had never met the landowner or ever been approached or stopped whilst using the route.
2. Mrs Kay Tapping from No.8 Bunyans walk stated that she has lived in Bunyans walk for 13 years and uses the claimed route every day. She only uses the route on foot but did state that children do use the route on their bicycles. She believes that the users of the path are mainly Bunyans Walk residents and their friends. She pointed out that there was a sign at Churchills (close to point C on the plan) which says "*For residents of Bunyans Walk only*", a photo of this sign can be seen at Appendix C. Mrs Tapping stated that she doesn't object to the claimed path being added to the Definitive Map as she doesn't think this would increase its use.
3. Mr Brian Braybrooke from No.9 Bunyan's Walk showed the Council the Title Deeds to his property which indicated that he had a private right of access along the narrowest section of the path from Bunyans Walk to Churchills (Point A-B). Mr Braybrooke has lived in Bunyans Walk since 2000 but has used the claimed route for almost 30 years. Before living in Bunyans Walk he used the route to access his friend's houses in Bunyans Walk but also to access Westoning Road. Mr Braybrooke had assumed the route was public as lots of people use the route from Wingate Road with school children. Mr Braybrooke stated that there are more than 20 non residents using the path on an average day.
4. Mr and Mrs Greene from No.4 Bunyans Walk stated that they have lived in Bunyans Walk since 1971. He knew Nimrod Clarke who lived at No.3 Churchills as he had stopped him when he first used the path telling him it was for Bunyans Walk residents only. Mr Greene explained he was a new resident and was allowed to continue using the path; however he often heard Nimrod shouting at walkers who tried to use the route and did not live in Bunyans Walk. Mr Nimrod Clarke died in the mid 1980's and his two sons, Richard and David remained in the house. According to Mr and Mrs Greene the two sons didn't challenge the use of the path. Mr Greene stated he had never seen any signs along the path and that he considers it to be Public.

5. Mr and Mrs Firth from No.6 Bunyans Walk stated that they have lived at No.6 since 1993 and have used the claimed route on foot only. Their youngest daughter did occasionally cycle along the route, as did other young children. They stated they use the route to access the shops in Lincoln Way, to go to school and to go to the hairdressers. They do not recall seeing any signs along the claimed route. Mr and Mrs Firth showed the Council a plan taken from their Title Deeds which shows the claimed route. They were told when they bought their property that this route was private for the residents of Bunyans Walk; however they stated that everybody uses the path nowadays. Especially residents in Wingate Road as it is easy access to the Lower and Middle Schools. Mr and Mrs Firth knew of Mr Clarke (one of the sons) and he never stopped them or anyone else from using the route.

6. Mr and Mrs Drake live at No.14 Bunyans Walk and have done so for 34 years and have used the claim route every day as a footpath. When their children were small there was a cycle barrier on the path from Foster Road and so they used to use the claimed path instead. Mr and Mrs. Drake state they use the path to go to the shop, station, the church and the pub. Mr and Mrs Drake stated they were aware of the private sign which was put up along Churchills but believe it was put up at least 35 years ago. None of the Clarke family to their knowledge stopped people from using the route. Mr and Mrs Drake believe the route is used by the residents of Bunyans Walk aswell as mums taking their children to school.

7. Other User Evidence forms were received from Mr Readings from No.12 Bunyans Walk who stated he had always believed the route was there for Bunyans Walk residents only due to the sign which is displayed on Churchills. He had used the route for 27 years. Mr Mackenzie-Skea from No.2 Bunyans Walk has used the claimed route for 9 years and believes it to be public, stating that school children use the route regularly. Mrs Kingham from No.11 and Mr Mead from No. 10A Bunyans Walk both state that they believe the claimed route to be a public footpath and that they have never seen any signs on the path. Mrs Meakins from No.3 Bunyans Walk has only lived in the property 18 months but states she uses the claimed route and thought it was a public footpath. Mr and Mrs Flewers from No.7 Bunyans Walk filled in separate forms stating that they believe the claimed route was a public right of way and Mr Flewers stated he knew Mr Clark well and he had accepted that it was a public right of way. He had never seen any signs on the route in the 20 years he had been using it.