



August 3rd 2015
Steve Evans
Director for Environment and Community Services
Strategic Planning Policy and Specialist Advice Team
South Gloucestershire Council

Dear Steve

Policies, Sites and Places Plan/Green Spaces for Downend and Bromley Heath Parish



I am writing about the Green Spaces Plan that has been out for consultation. I know that Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Council have responded robustly to **the extensive errors that were made in the maps designating proposed Local Green Spaces** but I would also like to follow this up. I was Chair of the Parish Council Open Spaces Committee until May and I know that the responses that were returned to South Glos. Council re the 12 designated Green Spaces were very clear and, apart from 2 designations, involved land that was already South Glos. owned Open Space. What the Parish Council did not anticipate was **that extremely inaccurate maps would be put out for consultation without checking them with the Parish Council first.**

The Parish Council has highlighted this to your officers through the consultation period and corrected maps showing the Parish Council intentions have been submitted to the PSPPlan Team.

Just to give you an example of the errors:

- The heading of the map says 'King George V Park and Badminton Road Playing Field' and the map only shows King George V Park and not Badminton Road Playing Field.
- Similarly 'Bromley Heath Playing Fields' has a map with a large part of the open space area missing as does the map of 'Lincombe Barn Woods' open space.
- 'Scantleberry Close Open Space' map shows a large area on the other side of the River Frome which is not in Downend and Bromley Heath Parish and was therefore certainly not put up for designation by the Parish Council.
- Leap Valley wetland area, a Site of Conservation Interest, has been excluded

These mistakes in the maps put out for consultation are bad enough but other **inaccurate maps are already leading to problems in current Planning applications** when there was absolutely no intention to include the land in Green Space designation.

Firstly the map for Leap Valley Open Space which includes **land owned by the Badminton Road Methodist Church**. I know you have already received a letter from the Minister at the Church,   about this and it has caused them a great deal of anxiety.

There was never any intention by the Parish Council to include the land owned by the Methodist Church as a Local Green Space. The intention was just to include Leap Valley Open Space area. I include a coloured map (below) of that area showing ownership. I live adjacent to the woods and am **Chair of the Friends of Leap Valley** so I am very familiar with ownership issues here. Most people assume that the woods are owned by SGC but they are not and neither is the land on the Methodist Church side. It would be beneficial for the wooded area coloured in yellow to be included in the designated green area and I would be interested to know if the owners, Downend Estates, dating back many years, have been consulted.

The other area that is causing problems is that designated as **Britannia Woods but including land going onto on Cleeve Hill Downend** where the Planning Application for the Care Home has recently gone for Appeal. Again the maps shown by SGC on their PSP Plan Consultation website

BK 00 / 1073 / FP



This copy has been produced specifically for Map Return Scheme purposes. No further copies may be made.

Scale 1:1250

-  Methodist Church land
-  Downend Estate Land
-  South Green Open Space - Leap Valley

are not at all as intended by the Parish Council. They wished only to designate Britannia Woods and the small area of land between the woods and the pond and a map to this effect was sent to the PSP Plan Team. **The map put out for consultation is inaccurate and confusing.** Other 2 areas designated by D and BH PC for Green Space which are not at present SGC owned public Open Space, The Cricket Field in Downend and the Allotments, raise different sorts of issues and certainly did require further consultation/discussion with the owners but **the areas I am referring to above are clerical mapping errors which are having, and will have, very far reaching consequences.**

I would also like to question the chart in the Consultation Document where for some of the Downend and Bromley Heath proposed sites it says '**insufficient justification provided**'. I am surprised that Hill House, Scantleberry, Heathfields, the Allotments and Bury Hill Open Spaces have been viewed as having insufficient justification to be included as Green Spaces. I know the

Parish Council have supplied further information and I hope these sites will be looked on favourably for Green Space designation.

In conclusion I, and I am sure Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Council, would like to know:

- When corrections to the maps will be made
- Will the missing areas be added to the Local Green Space as they have obviously not been consulted on but they are in fact all already public Open Space and have been requested as Local Green Spaces by the Parish Council since the very first submissions were made?
- Will the privately owned areas of land at Badminton Road Methodist Church and adjacent to Cleeve Hill be removed from the final map?
- What effect the inaccurate maps have had on the PSP Plan consultation in this Parish?
- What effect the inaccurate mapping is having at the moment on current Planning Applications such as that for the houses next to the Methodist Church and the Care Home on Cleeve Hill?

I await an early response to the issues I have raised. I have copied the Parish Clerk and the new Chair of Open Spaces, [REDACTED] into this e mail so that they can follow it up and they will also be seeking a speedy reply to the inaccurate mapping issues. I will also be sending a copy of this letter to you in writing.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Downend and Bromley Heath Parish Councillor 2003-2015
and Chair of Friends of Leap Valley

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 June 2015 11:07
To: Planning LDF
Subject: Local Green Space Designation Consultation - Downend & Bromley Heath Parish

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Queries regarding boundaries on the maps

- 1) Green space code LGSD083 (Bromley Heath Paying Fields) - why does this not include the eastern wooded section including the skate park?
- 2) Green space code LGSD693 (The allotments) - why is the southern corner of the allotments not included?
- 3) Green space code LGSD695 (Heathfields Open Space) - is the Heathfields play area further to the south east not included?
- 4) Green space code LGSD696 (The paddock adjacent to Britannia Woods) - This seems to be entirely enclosed by LGSD084 (Britannia Woods) why does it need a separate designation?

Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]