

**THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT OF
PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY**

**THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FOOTPATH FROM WENNINGTON ROAD TO HOME FARM CLOSE, WRAY WITH
BOTTON
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2021**

**WITNESS STATEMENT OF
MR JOHN CHARLES RYLE**

1. My name is John Charles Ryle and I live at 2 Church House, Main Street, Wray, Lancaster, LA2 8QF. I was born in 1941 and have lived in Wray since 1967.
2. I completed a user evidence statement dated 26th February 2020 detailing my use of a route from Wennington Road to Home Farm Close as shown between points A-B-C on the Order Map appended to this statement. I believe this route to be a public footpath.
3. My Witness Statement gives more detailed evidence of my own personal use and knowledge of the route.
4. When I completed my user evidence statement in 2020, I explained that I had used the route from 1970 to 2020 and that there were no extended periods of time when I did not use the route. I would probably say that on average I used it weekly.
5. I used the route to visit people who lived on Wennington Road and for accessing local footpaths north and east of the village.
6. I often saw other people using the route on foot.
7. The Order route has always followed the same course although formerly it was a farm track open to all. The current owners of 32 Wennington Road wanted to close it to the public even though planning permission for the house build was conditional on it being kept open.
8. To my knowledge, there were never any stiles or gates across the route although the current owner of the house has now installed a gate illegally. I was never stopped or challenged when using the route until the current house

owners stated that it was not a public footpath and this is why I completed my user evidence form.

9. During all the years I used the route I never asked for permission to use it and thought it was a public path.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed:

Date: