The Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way for the County of Lancashire

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Lancashire County Council

The Lancashire County Council Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way (Definitive Map Modification) (No.6) Order 2012

Claimed Public Footpath from Conder Green to Nans Buck, Thurnham, Lancaster City

PROOF OF EVIDENCE – PETER QUICK

- I, Peter Quick of the Old Vicarage, Ten Row, Glasson Dock have lived in Glasson for over 30 years. When I first came to the area I used to walk along the old railway line regularly and saw other walkers, mainly dog walkers using the route along the shore, so I started to use this route as it much more pleasant. I still used the old railway track to cycle on and off for 25 years but if I am walking I tend use the route along the shore.
- 2. I on average use this route around 20 times per year, almost every time I use it I see other people on the route. One of my purposes for using this route is to collect drift wood for my fire, I tend to walk along and pick up any excess wood and take it home for the fire, I also use the route for exercise, pleasure and as part of a longer walk to visit the golf course. I quite often do a loop of walking along the shore and then coming back along the old railway line or vice versa. I do walk on my own but I also walk with my wife, we have both been using the route for the past 30 years.
- 3. When I walk the route I usually enter the route at Conder Green (Point A on the Order plan), I then walk down the slope onto the shore at Point B and follow the defined trodden line alongside the sea wall up to Point C, from here I continue to walk parallel with the sea wall to Point D, I do occasionally exit the route here onto the old railway line as there is a gap in the fence. If I am staying on the route I sometimes walk up on top of the sea wall at Point D to Point E but I do also walk below and around the sea wall, if I am on top of the sea wall I walk down at Point F and get back on the shore at Point G or if am I walking on bottom already I just follow it round to Point G. I then walk around the boundary of the Waterloo property to Point H, again I have exited the route at this point also as there is another gap in the fence, I sometimes find it easier to exit here and walk back along the old railway track. If not I then continue in a straight line up to Point I near Nans Buck and then turn back on myself to exit the route at Point J at Nans Buck, I do occasionally walk further

up towards Lancaster, but more than likely I will come off here and walk back along the old railway line, I do occasionally stop and look at the local golfers.

- 4. I was aware that the Pye family owned the land as well as other local businesses in the area, I never asked permission to use this route as I didn't think I needed to, it was well used by the local residents and access was always available. They never challenged my use nor have I heard of anyone else being challenged, they were a well-known family and knew people was using the route. I understand the new owner is Mr Clark from word of mouth of the village, I have still used this route since he took over ownership and I have never been approached or challenged.
- 5. When Mr Clark took over it was soon after that cattle were put on the shore and I think this put people off using the route but the cattle grazing the marsh weren't there for long, after this barbed wire was put up but was soon cut down by local residents. I also remember a lock at Conder Green on the gate that came off but a notice went up stating people not to use the shore. I have never stopped using the route or been prevented access since the new owners took over.
- 6. As this route is along the shore it can be affected by tides, during the very high Spring and Autumn tides the water comes right up to the edge of the sea wall for a short time, around 1 -1.5 hours. Once the tide has gone back out the route is still visible on the ground and is not washed away. When the regular or normal tides occur the route is very unlikely to be affected, and I am still able to walk the route. As I have lived in the village for such a long time I just time my walks around the tide and avoid the very high tides.
- 7. This route has been well used the whole time I have lived in the area and as far I was concerned was always a public right of way as the public have always had access, the path is well trodden and it is clear people have been using it for years and will continue to use it. It is a pleasant route to walk as there are lovely views and is very good exercise when walking the full loop from Conder Green to Nans Buck and back round.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement prepared in 2016 are true.

PETER QUICK

IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO CONTACT MR QUICK IN 2024 TO ASK HIM TO SIGN THE WITNESS STATEMENT