

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

**THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
ADDITION OF FOOTPATH FROM CHATBURN OLD ROAD, CHATBURN  
DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2022**

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**WITNESS STATEMENT OF  
JOHN RIDGWAY**

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1. My name is John Ridgway and I live at 4 Park Avenue, Chatburn, Clitheroe, Lancashire BB7 4AH. I am 78 years old (2024) and have lived in Chatburn since I was 8 years old.
2. I completed a user evidence form in 2021 confirming my usage on foot of a route that I described as starting on Crow Trees Brow, Chatburn at No. 8A (BB7 4AA) and passing through a staggered wooden gate. I described it as a narrow path which continued for about 60 metres before emerging over a stile into an open field. I now understand that this route is already recorded as a public footpath and is shown on the Order Map referenced as Footpath 3-11-FP 1. From that point I explained that 'the usual continuing route' had been blocked by builders' security fencing as indicated on a plan attached to my user evidence form.
3. When I talked to an Officer from Lancashire County Council I explained that as a child growing up in the 1940s and 1950s there was no such thing as footpaths. Back then we would play on the field and thought it was a magical area. I remembered pigeon sheds being in the old quarry area and we knew not to go to play there on a Saturday when the pigeons were racing. At other times we played on the land, and I remember the village bonfire being on there to.

4. I indicated on my user evidence form that I used the Order route once a year. I was aware of the route and the metal kissing gate at the top of Chatburn Old Road and have used that to get from Chatburn Old Road onto the field. I also knew that there was unofficial access through to the Nature Reserve for a while and I saw other people going up to use the route but after childhood I only recall using the route a few times and that was after all the problems started with the land being developed.

#### STATEMENT OF TRUTH

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

Signed: J. Redgum

Date: 19.8.24