APPENDIX A

Barry R Eldred DL
Strafford House
Gilroyd Lane
Stainborough
Barnsley
S75 3EG
Tel & Fax +44 (0) 1226 286717
Mob 07799 144 099

2.05.2011

Planning and Transportation Dept
BMBC
Barnsley

Re: Land adjoining Strafford House Gilroyd Lane Barnsley

My wife and I have had tenancy and subsequent ownership of the land adjoining Strafford House since we purchased the house in 1976.
The previous owners of the house had used the land as part of their garden for the cultivation of crops and for their children's enjoyment.
As we had two young children and I am a keen vegetable gardener we took the opportunity to continue this arrangement.
Soon after taking the tenancy the fence between the formal garden and the land was removed in order to make the formal garden and the land 'as one'.
The land afforded a safe play area for our children and their friends and for my wife and I an open space for the various church and social groups that we support for their numerous gatherings – bonfire parties, firework parties, children's parties, sports events, Rotary gatherings, and family reunions and picnics.
A section of the garden where we grow our vegetables was fenced with 'rabbit wire' in order to deter rabbits and hares from devouring our crops. Sadly to little avail !
We have always considered this land as our garden and have tended and cared for it as such.
We have planted both fruit and ornamental trees and have kept a large section mown as a sitting and play area. The remainder we have nurtured as a wild flower meadow for our personal enjoyment and the propagation of more wild flowers, both for their beauty and for the moths and butterflies that use it as their habitat.
As a keen beekeeper and a member of the British Beekeeping Association I keep my apiary in the garden.
There can be no doubt that this has been our garden for over 33 years and continues as such to this day.

[redacted]

Barry R Eldred DL