



JACKSON

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4th October 2011

To whom it may concern

Re: Stanmer Park

I am aware of the claimed public right of way over an alleged footpath as shown in yellow on the attached plan.

I have lived in Brighton & Hove all my life and have visited Stanmer Park on many occasions over the years.

Around 30 years ago I used to play local amateur football in the park. We would park by the house and get changed in an old building at the rear.

Before my wife and I moved to Shoreham 18 months ago we would walk in this area with our dog most Saturday and Sunday mornings for years.

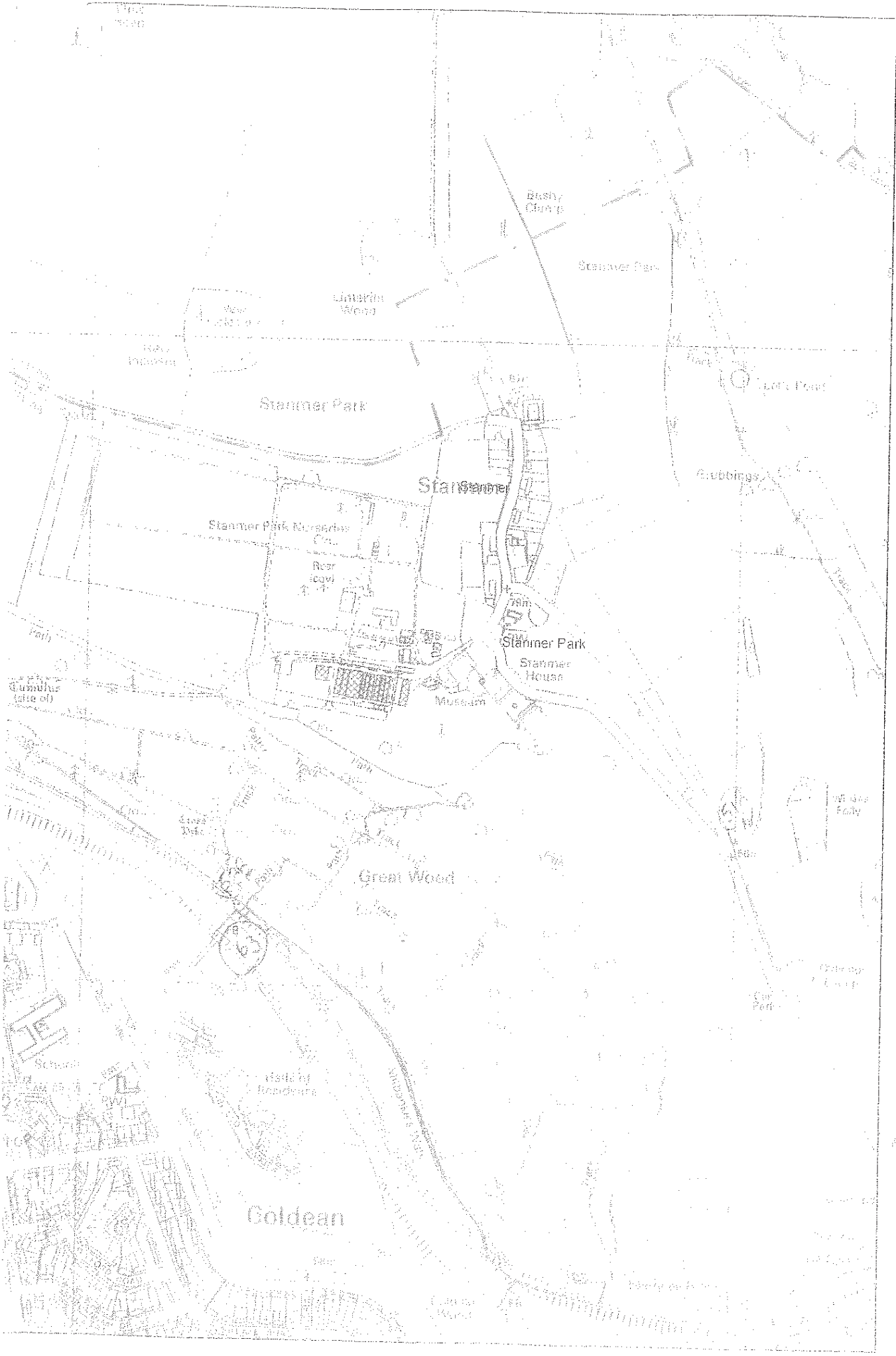
As well as this my company were the mechanical contractors for the refurbishment of Stanmer House when it was carried out around 2005.

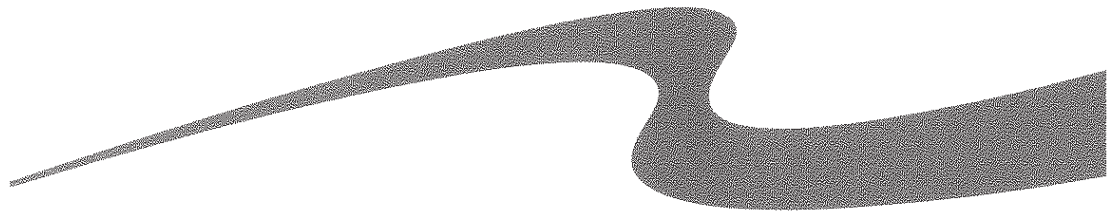
Thinking back to all of the times I visited Stanmer Park I can honestly say I can never remember seeing these gates open for public use. I considered this area to be specifically part of the grounds for Stanmer House and not part of the park itself.

I have walked around the house and in the woods and old garden behind but even if I had seen these gates open I would not have considered it correct to walk across this alleged footpath.

In my opinion this area should be kept specifically as the garden for the House. This would seem to me to be more in keeping with the heritage of the building and surrounding area. In which case again, I would expect there to be no access to the general public.

Alan Jackson





Councillor Mike Mendoza

Councillor for St Mary's Ward

10.10.2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

My name is Michael Mendoza I am currently an Adur District Councillor and formally a Brighton & Hove Councillor.

I lived in the Brighton & Hove area from 1965 to the present day and have many fond memories of walking through Stanmer Park, close to the house with my Family.

I have always been aware of the gates adjoining the gardens being closed and chained until recently.

I have never thought whilst walking in the area that pathways around the house were anything other than private land. I also have never been aware of any public right of way across the gardens official or otherwise.

I am also aware of Mike Holland's work in restoring the house to its former glory and can quite understand the need for privacy in the gardens when necessary. As a long time member of the planning committee on both Brighton & Adur Councils, I would immediately vote in favour of Mr Holland being able to continue with his business commitments within the Stanmer House grounds unhindered.

I would point out that I am not employed by Mr Holland or am I a consultant to him and never have been.

I am prepared to attend a public enquiry if necessary in support of my statement.

MICHAEL D MENDOZA (CLLR)

JAN YOUNG
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To whom it may concern

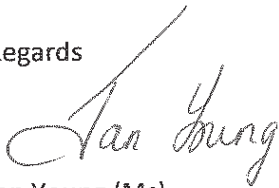
10 October 2011

I have lived in Hove for over 35 years and I have owned a small accountancy practice in Hove for 24 of these years. I have during that time visited Stanmer House and walked around the gardens on many occasions.

In the earlier years I was aware that there was no access to Stanmer Park through the gardens and that there was no public right of way going through the gate. however on my most recent visits I Have seen that the garden gates are now in use.

I have been made aware of the claimed public right of way over an alleged footpath as shown on the plan, but must reiterate that I have only in very recent years seen this gate being used as a communal entrance.

Regards

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jan Young". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Jan Young (Ms)

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3rd October 2011

To whom it may concern. I am not and have not been employed by either Mike Holland or his associated companies. I am however somewhat well versed in both Stanmer House and its surrounding land. I was, during the refurbishment of the house the designer and project manager in charge of the re-construction. Sussex Heritage Trust awarded me for the project and my efforts in helping the project conclude to the land mark it is today.

With regards to the Italian gates that are present on the property, these were always padlocked and never provided access through the gardens in the entire two and a half years of my involvement in the re-construction.

Stanmer House was in serious disrepair when I became involved and hundreds of hours and substantial sums have been expended in order to get the House and its gardens to the standard of which they now are kept. The house which was dangerous and dilapidated is now another landmark to attract tourism and commerce to Brighton. It is open to the public and adds great value and beauty to the country park of Stanmer.

There are several reasons that I consider instating the walk through the centre of Stanmer House's grounds to not be in the best interests of the house and its continued success as a venue.

- 1) There has always and will always be issues with travellers in Stanmer Park and this so far as the measures that have been taken, not caused the house any issue. I feel removing the element of security from the site could leave it vulnerable.
- 2) The house for many years was subject to vandalism. It is only the measures now in place that has allowed the house to at last be as resplendent as it now is. The house requires 24 hour security, CCTV and the existing fencing to keep the integrity of its security.
- 3) The house's upkeep per annum is at substantial cost of over six figures. The costs of this is not met by donation, grants, charitable sources or the National Trust. This upkeep is paid for by the wedding receptions and conferences held at the premises. I have no doubt that

the venue would suffer greatly from people exercising their dogs across the middle of what is the houses gardens. I have never been to any other wedding venue where this is the case.

4) The very issue that people exercising their dogs having to walk a further 100 yards is somewhat ridiculous in its self. Parking is not readily available near the house and the only local pedestrians would come from the village which is more than 10 times that distance in any case.

To conclude I have personally been a visitor for around 10 years to Stanmer Park and regularly to this day excise my dog in the park. At no point in the period have I felt it appropriate or possible to excise my dog in the grounds of grade one listed stately home. I also conclude that the very concept of allowing this kind of traffic in the grounds of a grade one listed building to be a very strange and inappropriate request. This was the house of an eminent aristocratic Georgian family and its integrity must be preserved.

I am more than happy to appear and discuss the matter at any formal or informal tribunal hearing.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Elliott Maurice', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Elliott Maurice