

**List of attachments;**

- 01)     Reply to report of Corporate Director. (SSPM Addendum 01)**
- 02)     Site Photos 2019**
- 03)     Statement on historical information on the application area, By P. Clements.  
Farmer and resident since 1935.**
- 04)     Site Photos 2022**

**APPLICATION REF: 366NVG**

**SSPM ADDENDUM 1**

**REPLY TO REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR**

Thank you for the detailed feedback, provided in sections 24-30 of the report regarding the initial application. We now acknowledge that the application was made more on the basis of emotion than facts, but now we are aware of the degree of detail required, we believe we can more comprehensively show that we meet the necessary criteria..

Therefore, the aim of this document is to follow the report's format to address each of the criteria (24-30) in a more informed manner, but also comment on the main themes put forward by objectors to the application.

**24 Significant number of inhabitants**

Approximately 20 people per day use the green space being the subject of the application. Section 27 details the manner of use.

6% of the village population provided written support of the application. This is 4 times greater than the written objections received (each from a NIMBY perspective). Many more than 6% of South Scarle's inhabitants gain recreation from the green space every day of the year. More will do so if this space is allowed to develop into a more nature-friendly, thereby interesting, environment.

**25 Locality Criteria has been met.**

**26 As of right**

According to various longstanding inhabitants of the community, the land ceased to be used for agricultural purposes in 1956 and throughout the last six decades villagers have accessed this green space without resort to force or stealth, or in anyway being secretive about their reasons. Permission has never been sought as it has not been deemed necessary. No prohibitive signs have been noted during this period.

**27 Sports, pastimes and recreational activities**

The green space has evolved into what is a de facto village green in that it has become a hub through which inhabitants walk on a daily basis. The plot may be entered from the village's main street on the south but also via well-used footpaths from the east and north. Consequently, rather than simply having a public footpath running through it, the space acts as a natural village meeting place. Friends regularly bump into each other and find themselves chatting for half-an-hour. Strangers stop to fuss each other's dogs and become friends. Dogs and toddlers charge around the green with each other. Humans often find themselves entangled in long-line leads! Good times are had by all! Of course, similar occurrences can happen on any lane or footpath, but the confluence of

three well frequented walking routes on the edge of a village ensure these recreational boosts to well-being are regular events.

The space, being outdoors and bounded on three sides by fields, two of which have ancient hedgerows, provides other forms of recreational activities. A wide range of birds, animals and insects are watched as are the yearly seasons of wildflowers, shrubs and trees. Blackberries are picked every year by certain baking enthusiasts. For years, the opportunity to engage with nature has been taken up by the local inhabitants. However, because a few years ago, a group of enthusiasts formed a group and began planting in this space was the reason that the Nature Group were given centre-stage in the initial application. It was felt, and still is, that a project of this type should be regarded as a positive step in encouraging more people to take up such beneficial pastimes.

The days of children kicking a ball around with their jumpers as goalposts are long-gone. Skateparks abound. Sport for all ages is now organized and coached. That said, younger children do, and always have played on this green space (including those visiting the 'objectors' properties). Going back 10 years and beyond, there were many more children than in recent times who used the space for informal games such as hide & seek and den building in the so called "rubbish and overgrowth". Fortunately, although South Scarle has gone through a period of having fewer young children, the village has seen a recent influx of young families who will find the green a stimulating place to not only play but experience the benefits of engaging with nature (see section 30).

## **28 On the land**

The majority of land at the centre of this application is currently accessible and is accessed for recreation by local inhabitants on a daily basis. This has been the case throughout the memory of South Scarle's older residents. The degree of accessibility has inevitably changed over the years. As the small number of objectors to the application make clear, the land has not always looked like a traditional village green. But "rough vegetation", "flooded areas", "nettles and brambles" are one man's "blot on the landscape", but are another man's (for instance Chris Packham, David Attenborough) planet saving, wildlife diverse environment.

That the area of the land tended by inhabitants of the village in a way that would make it a more interesting space is a consequence of one individual's insistence on regular mowing down to the roots of anything that grows. This difference of opinions regarding maintenance of this green space is what prompted this application and what will decide the future look and use of the land. It is the opinion of this application that a, albeit, managed natural environment would be more beneficial to the majority of local inhabitants as opposed to those very few individuals with properties bordering this small green space.

## **29. Period of at least 20 years**

As section 26, anecdotal evidence tells of the land in concern being both available and accessible to inhabitants of South Scarle for substantially longer than 20 years. The main farmers in the area confirm continued access to their own fields via this land for at least 80 years. Unsurprisingly, the appearance of the small green space has no doubt continually evolved over the decades. There would have been both 'wilder' and 'managed' periods but villagers have always conducted (in the language of the Commons Act) recreational activities on the green space discussed, for example wild berry picking; firewood gathering and childrens' adventurous play.

More recently, the state and appearance of the space has become neater, in the eyes of the three objectors, or boring in the eyes of young kids and the many environmentally minded locals keen to encourage wildlife. Regardless, this space has continued to provide outdoor recreation activities, be it the hectic play of children and dogs or mental well-being gained from simply standing watching wildlife.

## **30 Continuing at the time of application**

Recreational activities cited above have continued normally since the application was made. Young children and lively dogs have played excitedly. Quieter dogs have sat patiently whilst their humans have chatted, joked and debated in an easy manner only achieved in a peaceful outdoor environment. A large range of bird species have continued to have feed on seeds and fat balls. Walkers have remained cheered by snowdrops and primroses planted in previous years and gone on to admire butterflies attracted by those summer flowers (rough vegetation) that survived the weekly mower.

That the Nature Group ceased it's planting was a pragmatic decision to not waste further money and effort following the removal of their signs, and existing planting being buried under grass-clippings. However, the Group have continued to develop relationships with similar village groups and the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust. The latter are keen for the Group to encourage initiatives such as Wildlife Watch (8-12s) and Young Rangers (13-18s) in the local area.

Not just the Nature Group but a great many inhabitants of South Scarle, share the view of NWT's Chief Executive that "people should have a right to access nature on their doorstep". The land at the centre of this application is on our village's doorstep.

## **In summary**

We believe the village of South Scarle meets the criteria outlined in sections 8-14 of the report and have done so for many more than the last 20 years. Obviously, the manner of recreational usage of the green space has evolved and will continue to do so. The next 20 years will be very different to the previous 20, but outdoor leisure time will become increasingly important.

If our application is not granted, it will leave the green space open for any individual to claim for their own personal agenda, which would NOT be for the well-being and benefit of the many. The phrase in section 3 of the report "community needs are not legally relevant..." surely goes against the concept of a Village Green.

SUMMER 2015, 4 MEMBERS OF NATURE GROUP  
PLANTING INDIGENOUS FAUNA IN WAY OF THicket





2014 SEPTEMBER

Photo 01 General view, East and South aspect. AREA AROUND THICKET HAS BEEN STRIMMED



Photo 02 Strimmed area where foxgloves and other plants were placed



Photo 03 South side, displaced signage

SEE NEXT PAGE





2019 SEPTEMBER



LAURELS PLANTED BY MR SMALLY  
+ GRASS CUTTINGS PLACED OVER SOIL ONE SIGN  
DISCARDED.

Photo 04 3 Laurels to remove and grass cuttings.





RECEIVED 04-07-22  
FROM MR. P. L. CLEMENT  
HISTORIC MEMORIES OF APPLICATION AREA

Memories of South Scarle Occupation Lane (also known to me as Town End) by Philip Clements of Beeches Farm, Main Street, South Scarle, Newark, Notts.

I was born in South Scarle in 1935. The family farming business has been in South Scarle throughout several generations since the early 1900s up to and including the present day.

I own a field situated on the above lane. The farm keeps the access clear for use by tractors, trailers and other farm machinery by mowing the area near the gate whenever necessary.

Throughout the years we have farmed here, we have maintained the surface of the lane as necessary, at our own expense, in order to access our land, to prevent damage and to aid access to other property.

We maintain the hedges at the side of the above lane.

We have active water supply pipes to our land that are under the lane and the meter is situated in the lane.

We have drainage from Beeches Farm fields that runs under the lane and into the drainage dyke at the northern end.


In the past we have always cut a crop of hay from the grassed areas of the lane.

We have used the grassed area for clipping sheep.

The grassed area, along with my field, has been used in the past for various camping excursions by the Scouts.

At other times the blacksmiths shop on the lane stored machinery there and horses were kept on the lane and the grass while waiting to be shod.

The village Post Office used to be on the lane. The postmistress, Mrs Pacey, paid cash for rat tails taken in to the Post Office (to encourage vermin control). Mr Pacey used the area for keeping pigs.



From: [REDACTED]

Subject: Fwd: Access to F3

Date: 4 July 2022 at 11:31

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

David

You will be able to obtain Michael's email from this.

Regards

Pete

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]

Subject: Access to F3

Date: 4 July 2022 at 08:56:24 BST

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Dear all,

We have been made aware that a resident of Sth Scarle may be trying to claim possession of our access to F3 from the Sth Scarle direction and that of Clements adjoining field. Its important that we continue use it on a regular basis whenever we need to.

We acquired the right of way with the tenancy of Corner Farm when it was purchased by the Estate in 1968.

We have made our legal team aware and will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Many thanks,

*Michael*

**Michael Chennells**

Director



[michael@chennellsfarms.co.uk](mailto:michael@chennellsfarms.co.uk)

Eagle Hall Estates Ltd

The Estate Office, Eagle Hall, Swinderby, Lincoln LN6 9HZ

**Estate Office; 01522 868955**

**Farm Office; 01522 778675**

**Mobile; 07889 123067**

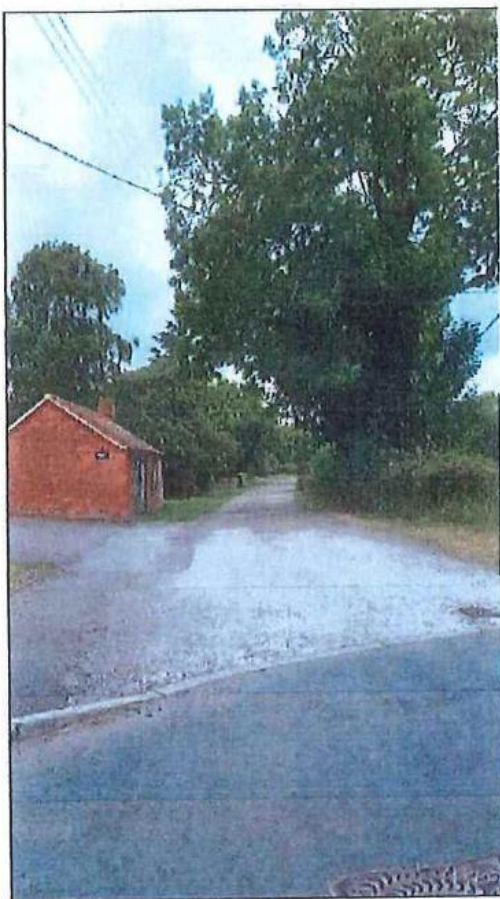
**CYBER CRIME ALERT:**

You will be aware from recent press coverage email scams and cybercrime are becoming more prevalent and despite security measures being in place, emails can be hacked and the contents altered.

**For payments to us:**

Before transferring any money to us electronically, please call the individual who has conduct of the

PHOTOS OF THE APPLICATION LAND JULY 2022



Blacksmiths shop and Lane entrance off  
Main Street.



View on East side of lane opposite Mr. Smalley's  
Property. The wild grassed footpath No 9 used  
to run here before hardcore was laid.







East side of the lane in front of Mr. Smalley's property showing where he has extended his boundary and set curb stones and set a grassed lawn.



Part of the referenced thicket.







Some remnants of the hedgerows. Note the close mown grass.

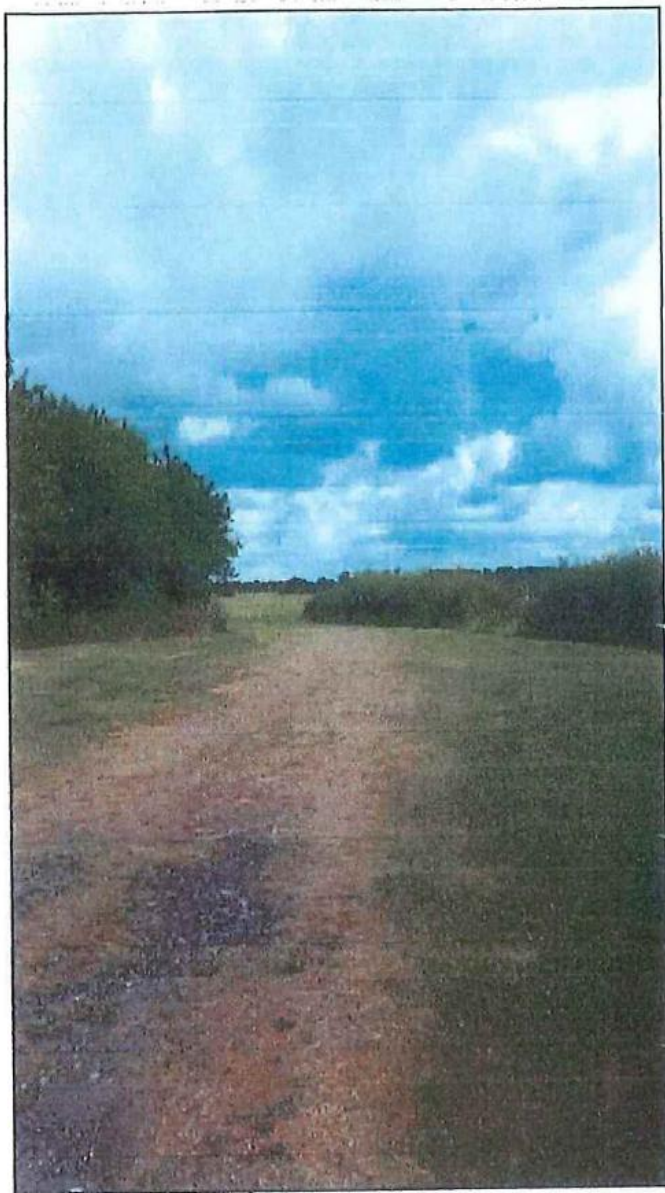


View of thicket. Note close mown grass.









Remnants of wild hedgerow opposite the thicket.



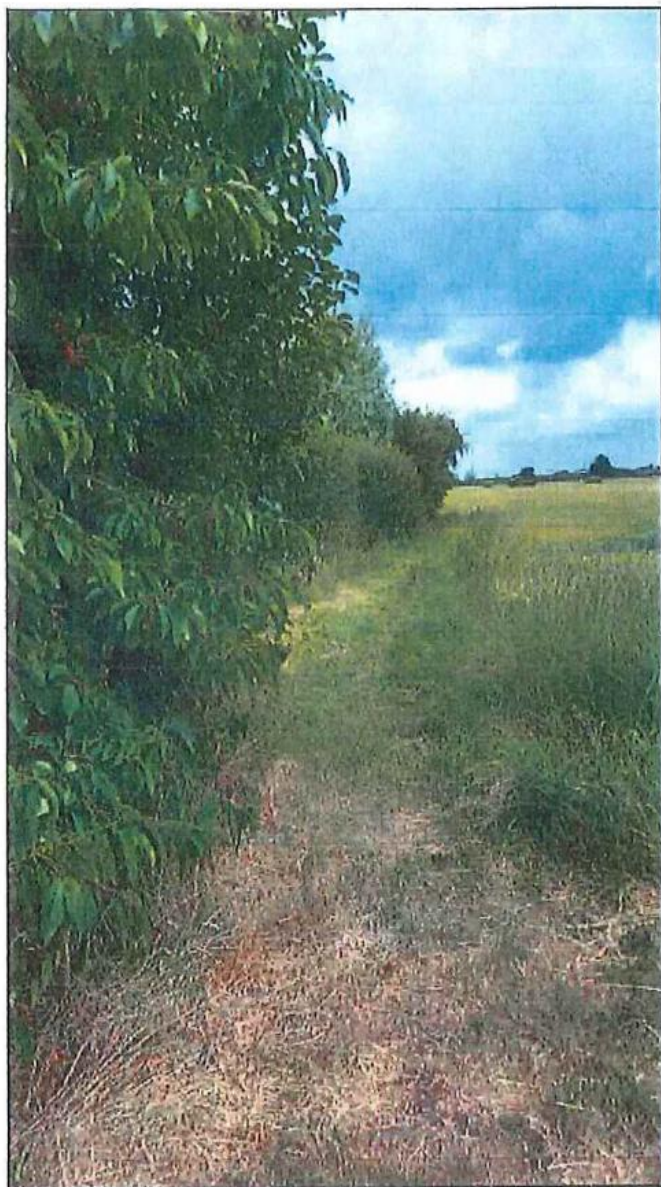


North end of application area , thicket to left and old hedges to right. The grass seen on the right is what should be growing where everywhere is mown. Field at North end can be seen with footpath No 9 running along the left side of it.

This lane is the farm vehicle access to the field seen here to the North and also to the fields to the East of the Lane.

The grass that used to be grown here was cropped as hay by villagers for their animals, Horses / sheep etc.





Footpath No9 on the left of the field. This is what the footpath should look like from Main Street!

