

**IN THE MATTER OF
AN APPLICATION FOR VILLAGE GREEN STATUS
OF LAND AT MILLFIELD ROAD, MARKET DEEPING**

WITNESS STATEMENT OF SARAH WELLS

1. My name is Sarah Wells, I have been employed by Lincolnshire County Council since February 1999. From 2009- 2014 I worked as a Property officer with the responsibility for County Council owned farms and the financial management of County Council owned land and property. Since August 2014 I have held the role of Business Manager for the Corporate Property Team, my responsibilities include County Council owned farms and the financial management of all County Council owned properties. I make this statement to support the County Council's objection to the application to register County Council owned farmland as a village green. I have prepared this statement from information within my direct knowledge or from documents that have been made available to me. This statement is true and to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. During my employment with the County Council, I am aware that the day to day management of all County Council owned property has been delegated to managing land agents. These were previously Clegg Kennedy Drew up until their merger with Savills, who currently act as our managing land agent, with Jonathan Wood being our main contact.
3. As part of my role I have to identify key strategic sites that can be developed to provide potential revenue to the County Council. Since 2013, the County Council have highlighted the application site as a potential residential development site. I am aware that the County Council have prepared draft technical reports that would enable it to submit an outline planning application to South Kesteven District Council.
4. I am aware that South Kesteven District Council had highlighted the site as a potential site for residential development and included it upon its draft

local plan. Public consultation took place, and the site received a number of objections. Based upon this information South Kesteven District Council has indicated that the site may be removed from the draft local plan.

5. I understand that it was the inclusion of the site on the draft local plan that prompted the application for village green status.
6. I am duly authorised to object to the application on behalf of the County Council as I consider the application site is agricultural farmland with development potential and has been used continuously since its purchase for agricultural purposes.
7. If the land has been used as it has been claimed over the previous twenty years, I would have expected to be informed of this by the managing agents. I can confirm that I have not been informed of any use prior to 2006. In 2006 the County Council were informed that the public were using the land as a dog walking circuit, the County Council through its agents took evasive action and erected signage warning them that the land was private.

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

Signed



Dated

11 January 2018