Evidence Questionnaire in Support of the Registration of Land as a
New Town or Village Green

(based on the Evidence Form produced by the Open Spaces Society)

Please note:

- The purpose of this form is to help establish whether or not the land claimed is a town or village green. You are asked to complete the questions as fully and as accurately as possible. Hertfordshire County Council (“HCC”), as the registration authority, will be able to make a more accurate decision the more information is available.

- **The information you give in this form cannot be treated as confidential.** To determine the application it may be necessary for HCC to disclose information received from you to others, which may include other local authorities, the Planning Inspectorate and other Government Departments, public bodies, other organisations and members of the public. If the application proceeds to a public inquiry your evidence will be made available to the inquiry.

- A public inquiry may be held if HCC proceeds with the application but it is contested (e.g. by a landowner). Public inquiries are usually held locally (i.e. in the village hall). If you are unable to attend a public inquiry your evidence may be given in writing, but user evidence is of much greater value if the witness attends in person and is prepared to answer questions on his or her evidence. It is for this reason that you are asked if you are prepared to attend such an inquiry (see Question 24).

- Reference in this form to “the Land” means the land that is subject to the town or village green application.

- As part of the application the applicant has to identify
  a) the Land by means of a map; and
  b) the “locality” or “neighbourhood within a locality” where the local inhabitants who claim to have used the Land live. This is usually done by means of map. A copy of this map should be attached to this form. A locality is a legally recognised administrative area such as a parish or electoral ward. A neighbourhood is a more flexible concept and need not have legally significant boundaries. However there must be a sufficient degree of cohesiveness within the community on which the neighbourhood is based. This is more than just a line drawn on a map.

This form should be completed by **one person only** in black ink if possible.

Please tick the appropriate answer box as shown  

Please return the completed form (signed and dated) to the applicant.

If you do not have the applicant’s contact details, please telephone HCC’s Rights of Way Service on 01992 555279.

December 2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (please print)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postcode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email address</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. **Address when you used the Land**
   (if different from your current address)

2. This form must be accompanied by a copy of a map which shows the Land in question.
   Please tick the box to show that you have signed this map and that it relates to the Land for which you have provided evidence.

3. **By what name is the Land shown on the map known?**

4. **Between which years did you use the Land?**
   From ……………. to ……………. (year)
   Then from ………. …to …………… (if applicable)

5. During the time you have used the Land, has your general pattern of use remained basically the same?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   If not (i.e. you moved house or stopped using the Land for certain purposes for some reason) please provide further details.

6. This form may also be accompanied by a copy of a separate map

*December 2012*
which shows the extent of the locality or neighbourhood within a locality in question. Please mark the location of your house on this map with an ‘X’. If a separate map has not been provided, please mark the map describing the Land (see Question 2) with the location of your house with an “X” Please tick the box to show that you have done this

House marked

7. What recognisable facilities are available to the inhabitants of your locality or neighbourhood within a locality? Please tick all boxes that apply and add any OTHERS not covered.

☐ local school or school catchment area ☐ area police officer
☐ residents' association ☐ doctor’s surgery
☐ community centre ☐ community activities
☐ local church or place of worship ☐ neighbourhood watch
☐ sports facilities ☐ a central feature
☐ local shops ☐ Scout/Guide clubs
☐ other (please state)

8. To your knowledge are there any public rights of way (e.g. public footpaths, bridleways or byways) crossing the Land?

☐ Yes ☐ No

9. Where do you gain access to the Land?

10. On average, how often do you use the Land (apart from the public rights of way)?

☐ daily ☐ monthly

☐ weekly ☐ yearly

11. What activities have you participated in on the Land? (for examples see question 15).
12. Do you know of any community activities that take place or have taken place on the Land?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  
If yes, what activities are these and when do/did they take place?  
How long have they taken place for?

13. Do any organisations use the Land for sports or pastimes?  
☐ Yes  ☐ No  
If yes, which organisations?  
Please give details about where and how often they meet.  
What activities do they carry out on the Land?

14. Please tick all the activities that you have seen taking place on the Land.  
☐ children playing  ☐ football  
☐ rounders  ☐ cricket  
☐ fishing  ☐ bird watching  
☐ drawing and painting  ☐ picnicking  
☐ dog walking  ☐ kite flying  
☐ team games  ☐ people walking  
☐ picking blackberries  ☐ bonfire parties  
☐ community celebrations  ☐ bicycle riding  
☐ fetes  ☐ carol singing  
☐ other (please state)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15. Do you know who the owner or occupier of the Land is?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If yes, please provide their name and, if possible, their address.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Are you or have you ever been the owner's employee?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If yes, please state the years during which you worked for them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Are you or have you ever been the owner's tenant?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If yes, please state the extent of the Land which you rent/rented and the years during which you rented it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Has the owner or occupier seen you on the Land?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If yes, what did they say?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Did you ever seek permission to use the Land, or did anyone ever give you permission?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If yes, please supply details, including when this happened:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Have you ever been prevented from using the Land?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>If yes, please supply details, including when this happened:</td>
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| 21. | Has any attempt ever been made by notice or fencing or by any other means to prevent or discourage the use being made of the Land by the local inhabitants?  
   |   □ Yes  □ No  
   | If yes, what was done and when? (ie. fence or signs erected and where located)  
   | If signs were erected, when did they go up, what did they say and how long did they stay in place for? |
|   |                                                                                       |
| 22. | Please can you supply any photographs (or any other evidence) of use of the Land by local inhabitants?  
   |   □ Yes (photographs attached) □ No photographs |
| 23. | Do you know others who may be in a position to complete an evidence questionnaire?  
   |   □ Yes □ No  
   | If yes, please supply their names and contact details to the person making the application. |
| 24. | If necessary, would you be prepared to give evidence at a public inquiry in respect of the evidence you have given in this form?  
   |   □ Yes □ No  
   | If not, please explain your reasons briefly. |

I hereby confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information I have given is true.

*The information you give in this form cannot be treated as confidential.*

To determine the application it may be necessary for Hertfordshire County Council to disclose information received from you to others, which may include other local authorities, the Planning Inspectorate and other Government Departments, public bodies, other organisations and members of the public. If the application proceeds to a public inquiry your evidence will be made available to the inquiry.

I understand that the evidence form I have completed may become public knowledge. I authorise Hertfordshire County Council to disclose this form to anyone requiring access to the information contained in it in relation to this application. This may include the evidence being presented at a public inquiry.

Signed ..................................................  Date ...............................................

December 2012