

**From:** [JOHN PAPE](#)  
**To:** [Nicola de Bruin](#)  
**Subject:** Statement of JOHN MICHAEL PAPE, 5 Kestrel View, Glossop SK13 6QE  
**Date:** 25 June 2024 14:02:45

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Hi Nicola

Please find attached my amended statement given to the public enquiry this morning

Thanks  
John Pape

Statement of JOHN MICHAEL PAPE, 5 Kestrel View, Glossop SK13 6QE  
Given to the Planning Enquiry Dinting Vale 25.6.24

My name is John Pape and I have lived in Simmondley, Glossop for 35 years. I am also a member of High Peak Badger Group which is a voluntary group whose primary role is the protection of badgers. I have been a member of High Peak Badger Group for over 30 years during which time I have gained a wealth of knowledge in relation to badgers and their habitat

In the evidence given to this enquiry last week by the ecologist acting for Wain Homes she stated that “based on survey information badgers are not present on site”. Many of the locals including myself were dismayed by what they heard as some have seen evidence to the contrary. In the interest of fairness and clarity I feel obliged to respond

There have been badger setts in the vicinity of the proposed development site for as long as I have lived in Glossop and they were probably in existence well before then

I have monitored the main sett for many years during which time it has been in constant use and produces cubs each year. On my most recent visit to the sett on 17 June this year the sett was very active. In addition to the main sett there are a number of outlier or satellite setts in the same area which are in sporadic use by the badgers and some of these are currently active

I do not know the extent of the ecological survey that was carried but you don't have to venture far from the proposed development site to find evidence of the presence of badgers

I have no doubt that the badgers will be coming down to forage in the field subject of this planning application and that the paths described by the ecologist in her report as “mammal paths” are indeed used by the badgers. Mr and Mrs Wilson who live in the house immediately adjacent to the field have video footage of them in their garden. They have also been seen on the cricket field at Dinting and in the back gardens of houses on Simmondley Lane. Anyone who knows the geography of the area will know that they would have to cross the field in order to get to those location

Badgers are resilient creatures and I have no doubt they will survive but with the ever increasing building of housing developments on green field sites badgers habitats are continually being squeezed and with the government sanctioned culling of tens of thousands of badgers every year we can ill afford to lose anymore

Whilst it seems to be accepted by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust that this development will not have a direct impact on the badger setts themselves it will undoubtedly have an impact on their foraging grounds

If this development is given approval I dare say it won't be long before we start getting complaints that the badgers are digging up peoples manicured lawns. Well tough, the badgers were here first and you are now living on what was their territory!

John Pape

Sent from my iPad