
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 March 2021 13:12
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Common Land
Subject: Application COM/3236108 for deregistration of part of the Sands, Durham City (CL29)

Dear Rob,

Following discussions with my Parish Council, please see below my comments regarding the deregistration of the Sands. Apologies for the late response.

“I have lived very close to the land for 16 years. My family has grown up enjoying access to this land on a weekly basis. It has been such a part of our lives that we have our own name for it and I know we are not alone. This is my 2x weekly route for running, my children’s route to/from school, our family’s route to church, a quiet (and safe for toddlers/buggies) route into town for everyone living on The Sands, a perfect spot for collecting conkers... in summary, this land is a perfect pocket of nature that we have a responsibility to keep for future generations.

I appreciate that we are being offered another piece of land and I have considered this. Unfortunately this is too far away for us and the many people living on The Sands. The land proposed is less accessible and we would have to make a special trip (in a car !) to access it.

I am also incredibly sad to see that the Common Land has already been fenced off (without consent) and note that some trees have already been cut down. In these times of Climate Emergency I struggle to understand why we are even considering ripping up this area for development. There are a hundred reason why we shouldn’t. I urge you to maintain the land in its current form.”

Kind regards,

Miriam Johansen
43 Wearside Drive
Durham DH1 1LE