

We bought our property January 2016 and started to renovate. There was no fence at this point between our land and Stourton Court next door, it was all open gardens so we installed a boundary fence which still stands today.

Stourton Court was sold 6 months later to the Griffiths' who have converted the building into flats and brought the gardens back to life on their side of the fence which looks very nice. Our side of the fence is lawned strips with trees running alongside the driveway on both sides, at the bottom on the drive we installed a small fence and planted some more trees. This is our garden and is the land in question. It is the only garden we have and we use it to grow vegetables, to relax and watch the birds feed on our feeders. We relax there because my fiancée has got multiple sclerosis and it's good for her to sit in the sun because she needs vitamin D which improves her symptoms. I am converting a horse lorry so when we are able to retire in 2 – 3 years we can travel around different places. I have been working on my lorry for the last 12 months, a couple of hours per week. Once it's finished we plan to use it every couple of weeks for long weekends prior to retirement. I have made some temporary steps to get up to the lorry as I have a bad back which I am currently being treated for. Once the lorry is finished these steps will be removed. I have removed the building materials which were left over from house renovations.

The fencing in question was installed in 2016, the same time as the boundary fencing because at the bottom of our garden there is a 15 foot drop onto next doors land which was dangerous for children and the dogs, it's been there for 8 years. Next to the fencing with the 15 foot drop, over the fence the Griffiths' have made a yard with hardstanding and a large metal shelter, they have put a shipping container in this yard (I was previously made to remove mine) yet the council have ruled this is ok for them to have that. They moved here 6 months after us, they have re-done all the gardens and got a large outdoor gymnasium and a large log store, this is ok for them but we can't have our only garden? It doesn't make sense how these decisions have been made and feels like no common sense has been used by the council in this process, we are therefore asking if we can keep our garden otherwise we have no garden with our property. We have sent a plan to the council which is dated 1<sup>st</sup> September 1952 showing Stourton Court as one house and land which is all coloured pink, this is all mine and next doors land and it shows it all the same so how can the Griffiths' be allowed to use their garden as garden but not us? We are very confused as to why this is happening to us, it's been extremely stressful which is the worst thing for my fiancée to experience with her condition. This is affecting our mental health and our lives every day.

Thank you for taking time to read our statement.

Sam & Emma