

In a statement, South Tyneside Council maintained it has never owned the land in question and that the land was last transferred from 'Key West No. Three' to its current owner in 2018.

A council spokesperson said: "I can confirm that the land at Long Row that is referred to has never been in council ownership and therefore was never sold to anyone by South Tyneside Council.

"Confirmation of ownership can be found via the Land Registry and South Tyneside Council has been helping campaigners with their enquiries to date.

"Whilst we understand the frustrations and inconvenience of not being able to use the walkway,

**this has never been a public right of way.**

15/2/21