

# Local Green Spaces Assessment

## Appendix 8: Detailed assessments

September 2024

To accompany the Local Plan Update: Proposed Submission Plan (Regulation 19)



**WOKINGHAM**  
**BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## Appendix 8: Detailed Assessments (by town/parish)

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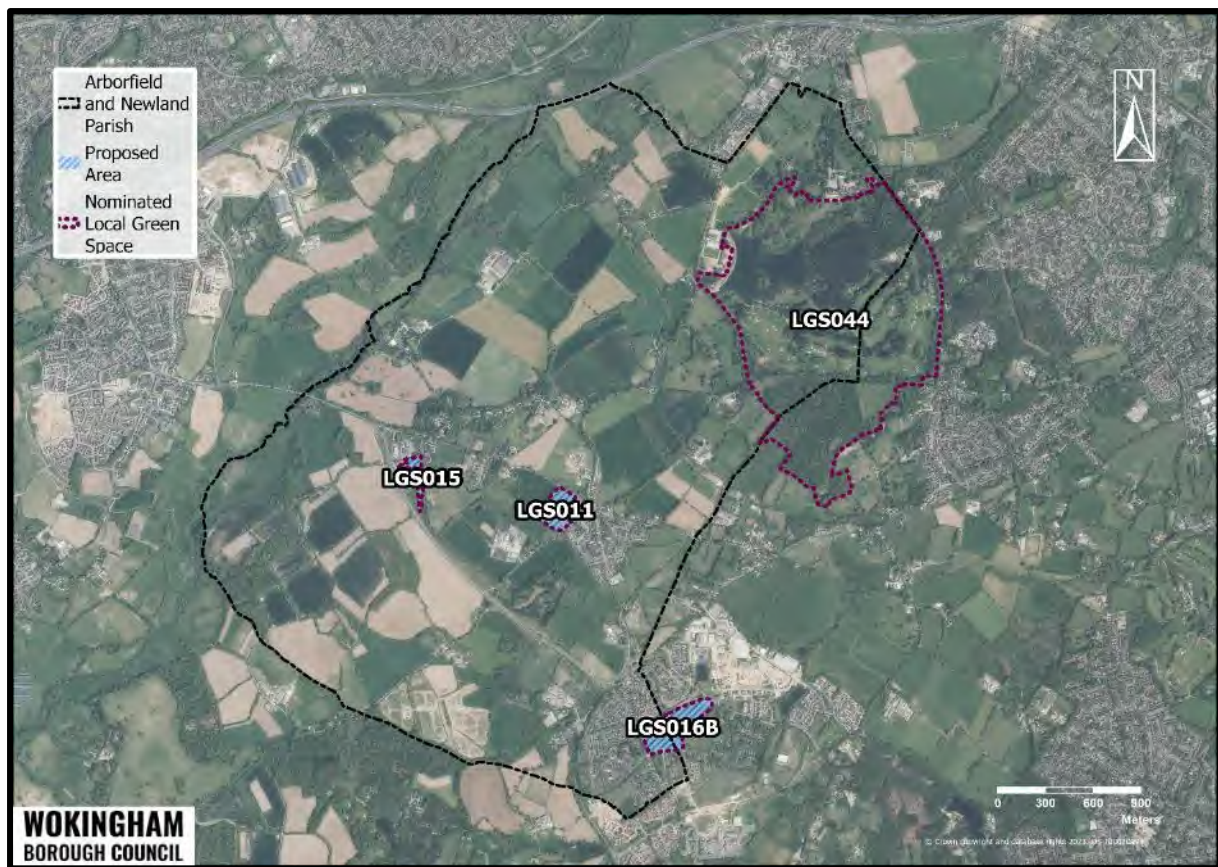
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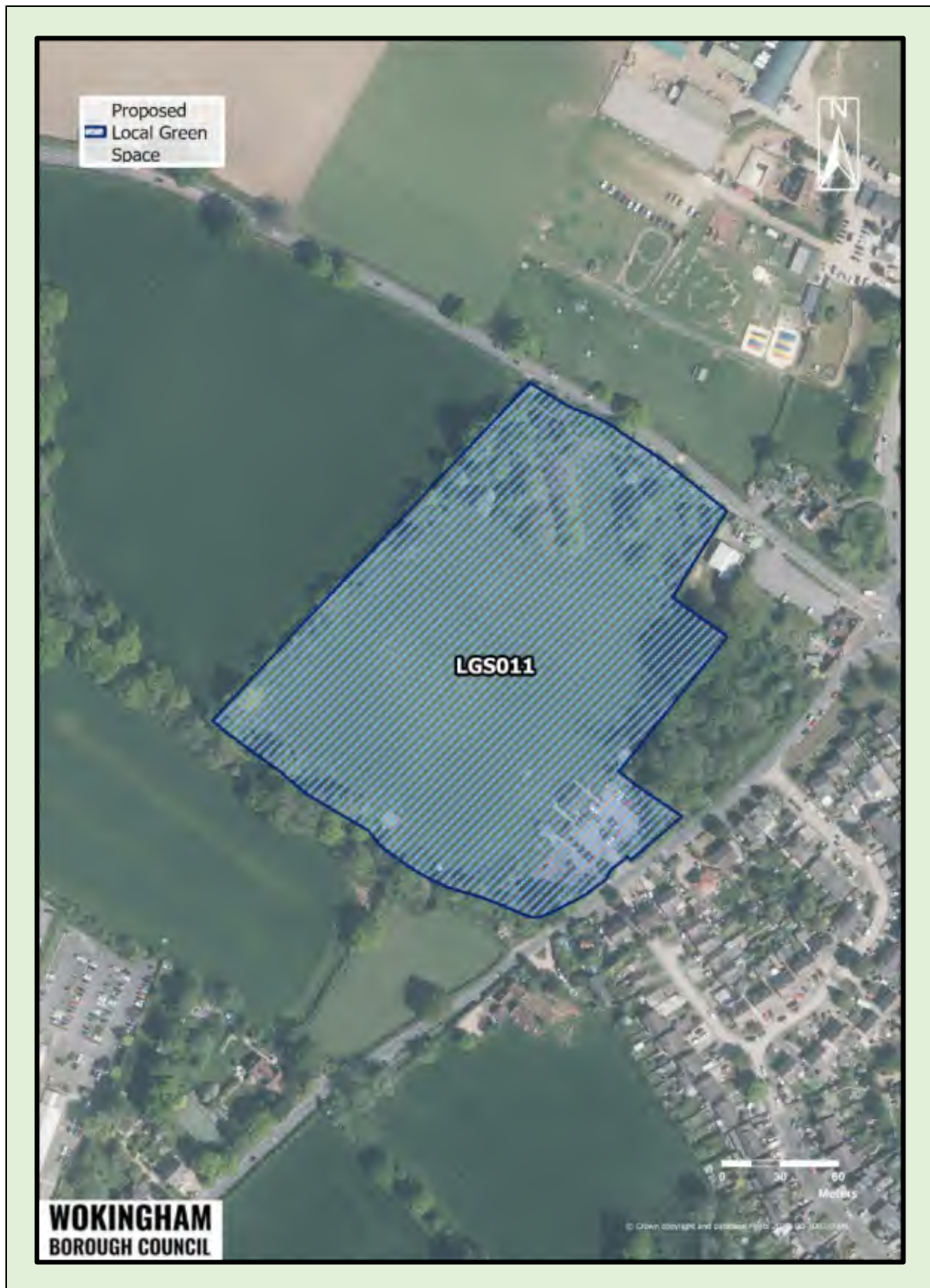
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## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Arborfield and Newland Parish:



Arborfield Park, Swallowfield Road, Arborfield

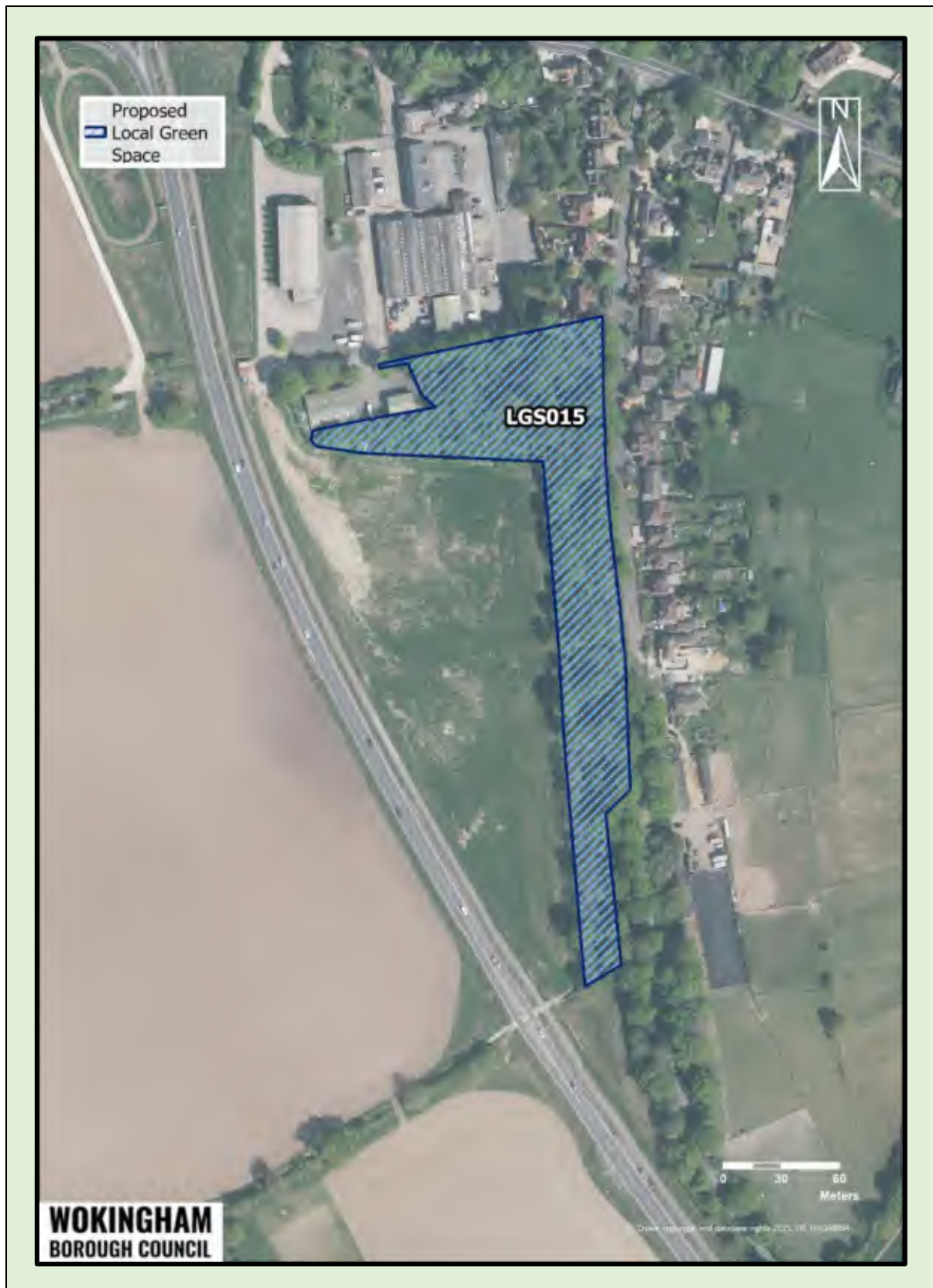


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS011</b>
Site name	Arborfield Park
Site address	Arborfield Park, Swallowfield Road, Arborfield
Site size	4.20ha
Site Description	Arborfield Park comprises an area of amenity greenspace and a play area, situated on the edge of the village of Arborfield Cross. The northern and southern boundaries of the park are defined by the local road network, notably the A327 (Reading Road) and Swallowfield Road. The eastern boundary is defined by existing housing at the crossroad of Sindlesham Road, Swallowfield Road and the A327 (Reading Road).
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relative proximity to the community it serves as Arborfield Park serves the residents of Arborfield. The site is the only recognisable and significant area of recreational space at Arborfield Cross. Access to the site is provided by an existing Public Right of Way at the western boundary along Pudding Lane. The site is also adjacent to the A327 Reading Road which is recognised as a Green Route Enhancement Area.</p> <p>This site is designated as a Public Open Space in Policy IRS3 of the adopted Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is designated as open countryside and is located adjacent/on the edge of the development limits of Arborfield Cross.</p> <p>The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. Arborfield Park is bound by existing housing, A327 (Reading Road) and is delineated by a tertiary river running along the western boundary. Mature hedgerows and trees also define the northern boundary which create a rural character to the area.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Arborfield Park is maintained by Arborfield &amp; Newland Parish Council and is considered to be the only recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space at Arborfield Cross. The site is classified as public open space and amenity green space which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The park provides recreational facilities such as play equipment for young and older children, notably junior and adult football pitches, basketball court and a sports pavilion which are well used by the community, and the park is well used by dog walkers. The pavilion forms part of the recreation ground and provides changing facilities for several local football teams.</p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS011</b>
	<p>According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the football pitches are available for community use and provide a good standard and quality of ancillary facilities.</p> <p>Arborfield Park also forms part of a circular walk from Arborfield Cross.</p> <p>According to the Village Design Statement supporting the Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan, Arborfield Park also contains a mobile library that operates twice a week and is open to the local community.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Yes, in part. The site is located adjacent to Arborfield Cross Conservation Area which contains several historic buildings, notably the grade II listed The Bull Inn. Southwest of the park is an Area of Special Character, which includes further listed buildings, including Applemore and Chamberlain’s Farmhouse.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is classified as improved and cultivated/disturbed arable land by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC), but there are no known or recorded ecological species present on the site.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value. However, other parts of the site are less tranquil due to their relative proximity to existing housing and the local transport routes, such as the A327 (Reading Road) and Swallowfield Road. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the scoring for the park ranges from low to moderate.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Arborfield Park is the only recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space at Arborfield Cross and provides a range of facilities for formal and informal recreation.

**Pound Copse, Greensward Lane, Arborfield**

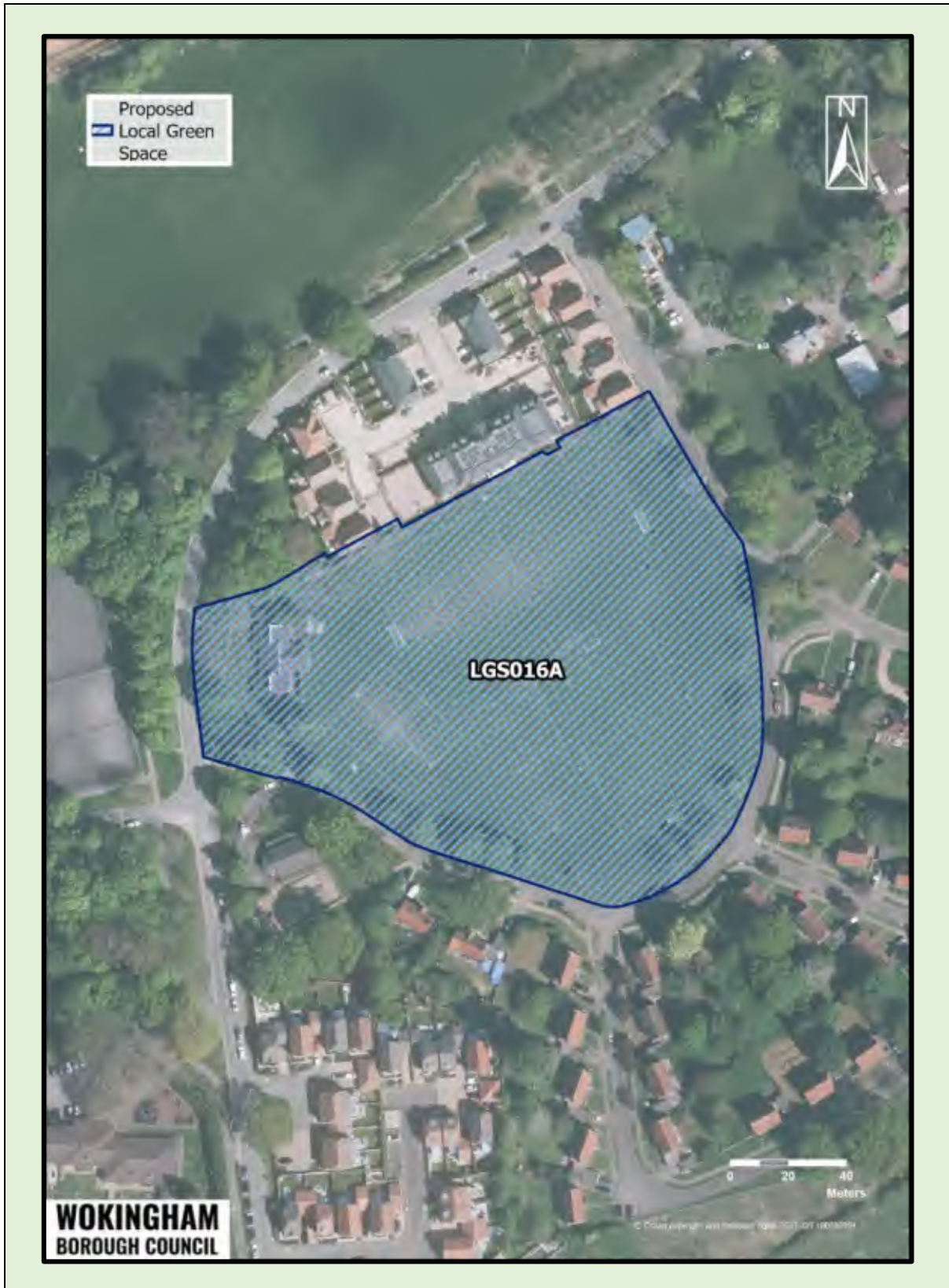


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS015</b>
Site name	Pound Copse, Arborfield
Site address	Greensward Lane, Arborfield
Site size	1.44ha
Site Description	<p>Pound Copse is a small, linear strip of public open space, comprising an area of woodland, which is covered by a woodland Tree Preservation Order. The greenspace is situated on the edge of Arborfield village. The northern boundary of the site is defined by commercial uses and the Reading Road (A327), and the eastern boundary is defined by existing housing along Greensward Lane. The western and southern boundaries are defined by the tree line of Pound Copse. Observer Way (Arborfield Cross Relief Road) runs close to the western boundary of the site.</p> <p>The area of land between Pound Copse and Observer Way was granted outline planning permission for the erection of 11 commercial units for B8 or E(g) use with some supporting and ancillary facilities (ref: 223083).</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relative proximity to the existing residents of Arborfield village. A greenway runs through the centre of the site providing pedestrian links but is also publicly accessible from Greensward Lane to the east and an existing Public Right of Way to the west.</p> <p>According to Arborfield and Newland Parish Council, access is also provided by a public footpath leading across Farley Farms Estate located to the west of the site.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively small in size and is well contained with clearly defined edges. The site is bound by Greensward Lane to the east. The western and southern boundaries are defined by the tree line of Pound Copse. The northern boundary is defined by a number of commercial uses along Reading Road (A327) and Milking Barn Lane.</p> <p>The site is situated in the C1 'Arborfield River Terraces' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) (2020). The LCA recognises Pound Copse as a Local Wildlife Site comprising Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitats, notably lowland mixed deciduous woodland and ancient woodland. The copse also contains small areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland.</p> <p>The site boundary for the recent planning permission for commercial and employment uses includes a small area which overlaps with the proposed Local Green Space. The illustrative masterplan shows that an area of green space will remain between the northern part of the development and Pound Copse to the south; and therefore, the development would be compatible with the Local Green Space designation.</p>

Site reference	LGS015
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Pound Copse is identified as an area of Public Open Space in the Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan. It is considered a recognisable area of public open space at Arborfield village. The site is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>A Public Right of Way (PROW) cuts through the site from Greensward Lane southwards. The site also forms part of a circular walk organised by the Berkshire Weekend Walkers Group. The route takes ramblers through undulating farmland to Great Copse and Pound Copse.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Pound Copse was donated to Arborfield and Newland Parish Council in the 1977 Jubilee by the Samuel family.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Pound Copse comprises a Local Wildlife Site and small tract of woodland, c.2.31 acres in extent which lies to the west side of Greensward Lane. According to Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) (2013), Pound Copse Local Wildlife Site comprises several ecological species including slender St. Johnswort, pignut, purple loosestrife and hemlock water-dropwort.</p> <p>The site contains small areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland with a history of coppice management. The woodland contains a wealth of trees and shrubs, notably Spanish Chestnut, as well as two wild service trees. The whole site is also covered by a woodland Tree Preservation Order.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold significant tranquillity value, predominantly due to the rural character and remoteness from narrow lanes and tracks and very low-density settlement. The site is situated in the C1 ‘Arborfield River Terraces’ Landscape Character Area, to which the Landscape Character Assessment identifies this area as a <i>‘tranquil environment with a network of lanes and track connecting dispersed farmsteads with fields, emphasising the rural character of the landscape’</i>.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Pound Copse is located on the edge of Arborfield village, and includes an area of ancient woodland and a Local Wildlife Site. The site includes footpaths which provide recreational value, and also form part of a wider network. The site is therefore of recreational and ecological value to the local community. The nominated area is</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS015</b>
	still considered to meet the requirements of Local Green Space designation and would be compatible with the recent planning permission.

**Cricket and rugby pitches within Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location, Princess Marina Drive, Arborfield / Barkham**





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS016B</b>
Site name	Cricket and rugby pitches within Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location, Arborfield
Site address	Princess Marina Drive, Arborfield and Newland / Barkham
Site size	2.24ha / 7.34ha
Site Description	<p>The nominated area comprises two parcels of land in the centre of the Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location (SDL).</p> <p>The area to the south (LGS016A) comprises existing outdoor sports facilities, including a cricket pitch, rugby pitch and a pavilion. This area of greenspace is surrounded by housing, local roads and community uses, notably St Eligius Church.</p> <p>The area to the north (LGS016B) comprises two areas of amenity greenspace: Arborfield Garrison Recreation and Sheerlands Road. Arborfield Garrison Recreation includes an area of public open space and footpaths for recreation. The area adjacent to Sheerlands Road is an area of green space that includes public open space and hard-surfaced tennis court. This nominated area is surrounded by housing, local roads and community uses, notably Hazebrouck Day Nursery and Pre-School and Arborfield Green Community Centre.</p> <p>Both parcels LGS016A and LGS016B are currently subject to a reserved matters application (ref: 223764) for the proposed development of a new sports pavilion building, improvements to existing sports pitches, allotment provision, a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and play spaces as part of the infrastructure to support the Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Both areas are in close proximity to the community as they are situated in the heart of the Arborfield Garrison SDL, which serve the residents of the new development and residents of Barkham and Arborfield wards.</p> <p>The area to the south (LGS016A) is publicly accessible from various points, notably Princess Marina Drive to the west and north and Tope Road to the south.</p> <p>The area to the north (LGS016B) is publicly accessible from various points, notably Biggs Lane to the north and east, Princess Marina Drive to the south and Whitehall Drive to the west. A public footpath also runs along the northern boundary of the site connecting to Whitehall Drive and Biggs Lane.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries and is situated within the centre of the Arborfield Garrison SDL. Both areas of greenspace are surrounded by housing, local roads and community uses.</p>

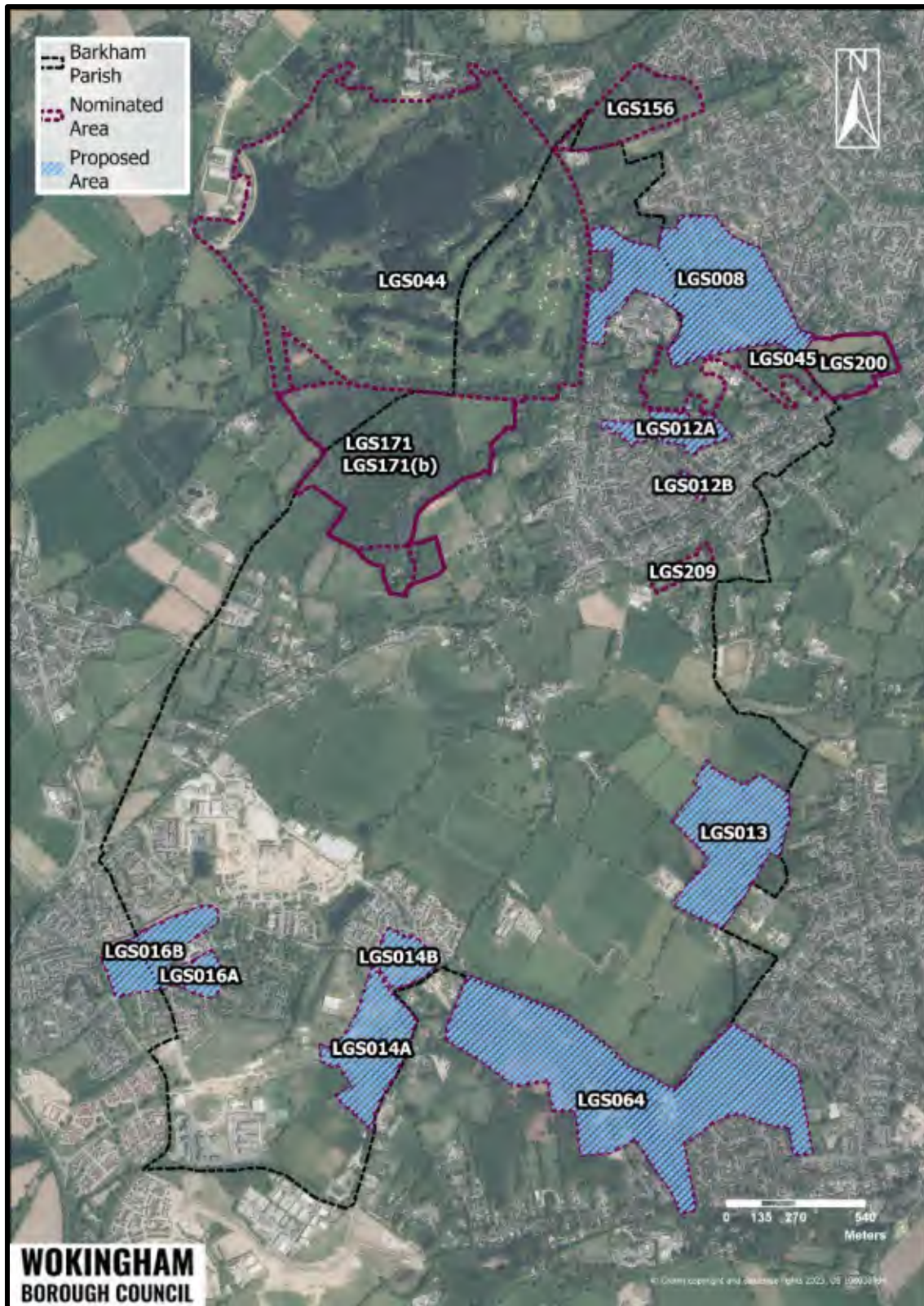


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS016B</b>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The area to the north (LGS016B) comprises two areas of amenity greenspace, Arborfield Garrison Recreation and Sheerlands Road. Arborfield Garrison Recreation includes an area of public open space and footpaths for recreation. Sheerlands Road includes an area of public open space, hard-surfaced tennis court and a club house. Both areas were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The area to the south (LGS016A), known as Arborfield Garrison Sports Field, provides outdoor sports facilities, including a cricket pitch, rugby pitch and pavilion which are used by the residents of the development at Arborfield Garrison SDL, as well as for existing residents of Arborfield and Barkham wards.</p> <p>The site is designated as a Public Open Space in Policy IRS3 of the adopted Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>A reserved matters application is currently under consideration and would provide improved sports and recreational facilities, including a new sports pavilion, sports pitches, allotment provision, MUGA and play space.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site lies adjacent to a Scheduled Monument, just north of the Grade II Listed Building at Moat House. The heritage asset dates back from the medieval period and comprises a moated island and ditch.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Both areas comprise cultivated/disturbed land and amenity grassland, according to Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC), and therefore hold limited ecological value. The western part of the area to the north (LGS016B) lies within a Water Vole Consultation Zone.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Both areas are not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to their proximity to residential, community and commercial uses. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in the surrounding area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. These areas of open green space form an integral part of the Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location and represent

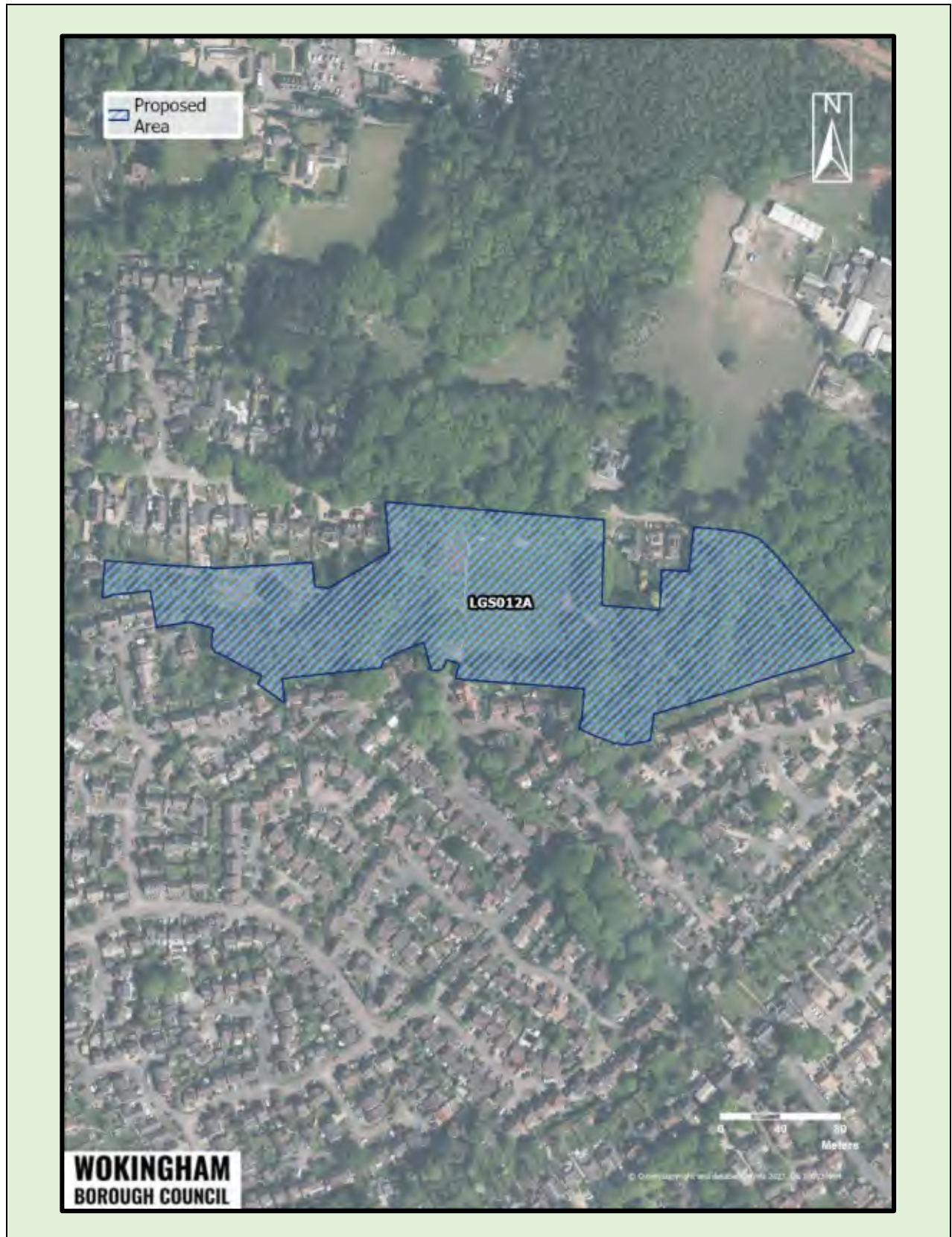
<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS016B</b>
	an important recreational resource for new and existing residents of Arborfield and Barkham. The Reserved Matters application which is under consideration would be compatible with the proposed Local Green Space designation.

## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Barkham Parish:



Elizabeth Park, The Junipers, Barkham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS012A</b>
Site name	Elizabeth Park
Site address	The Junipers, Barkham
Site size	4.0ha
Site Description	<p>Elizabeth Park is a park and garden situated to the north of Barkham village.</p> <p>The site is bound by housing and local roads, notably Sandy Lane to the north and east, The Junipers and Woodlands to the south and by Almond Close to the west.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents of Barkham village.</p> <p>Elizabeth Park can be accessed publicly from multiple points, including via an existing Public Right of Way to the north along Sandy Lane. A pedestrian footpath cuts across the site from Sandy Lane and provides connectivity to adjacent residential areas south of the site.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained, bound by existing housing and local roads within the built-up area of Barkham village. Elizabeth Park forms the transition between Barkham village and the open countryside to the north.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Elizabeth Park is classified as a park and garden and comprises a playing field and play area, which provides facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Area of Play (LAP). Elizabeth Park is a recognisable area of green space that serves the residents in Barkham village. There are other areas of green space in the surrounding area, but Elizabeth Park is the only area in Barkham village that provides play facilities for children. Both the park and garden and play area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The site is also designated as a Public Open Space in Policy IRS3 of the made (adopted) Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan and is recognised as being widely used by dog walkers and children due to the provision of onsite play facilities.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS012A</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited ecological value as this area of green space is classified as mixed woodland, however it does comprise several veteran trees and areas of woodland.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate tranquillity value as it forms the north-eastern sector of Elizabeth Park, which forms the transition between the built-up area and open countryside. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores medium/high.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Elizabeth Park (The Junipers) is a recognisable and significant area of accessible and open recreational space for residents north of Barkham. There are other areas in the surrounding area, such as Fox Hill, however Elizabeth Park is the only recognisable area of green space in Barkham that provides play facilities for children.

The Junipers, Barkham

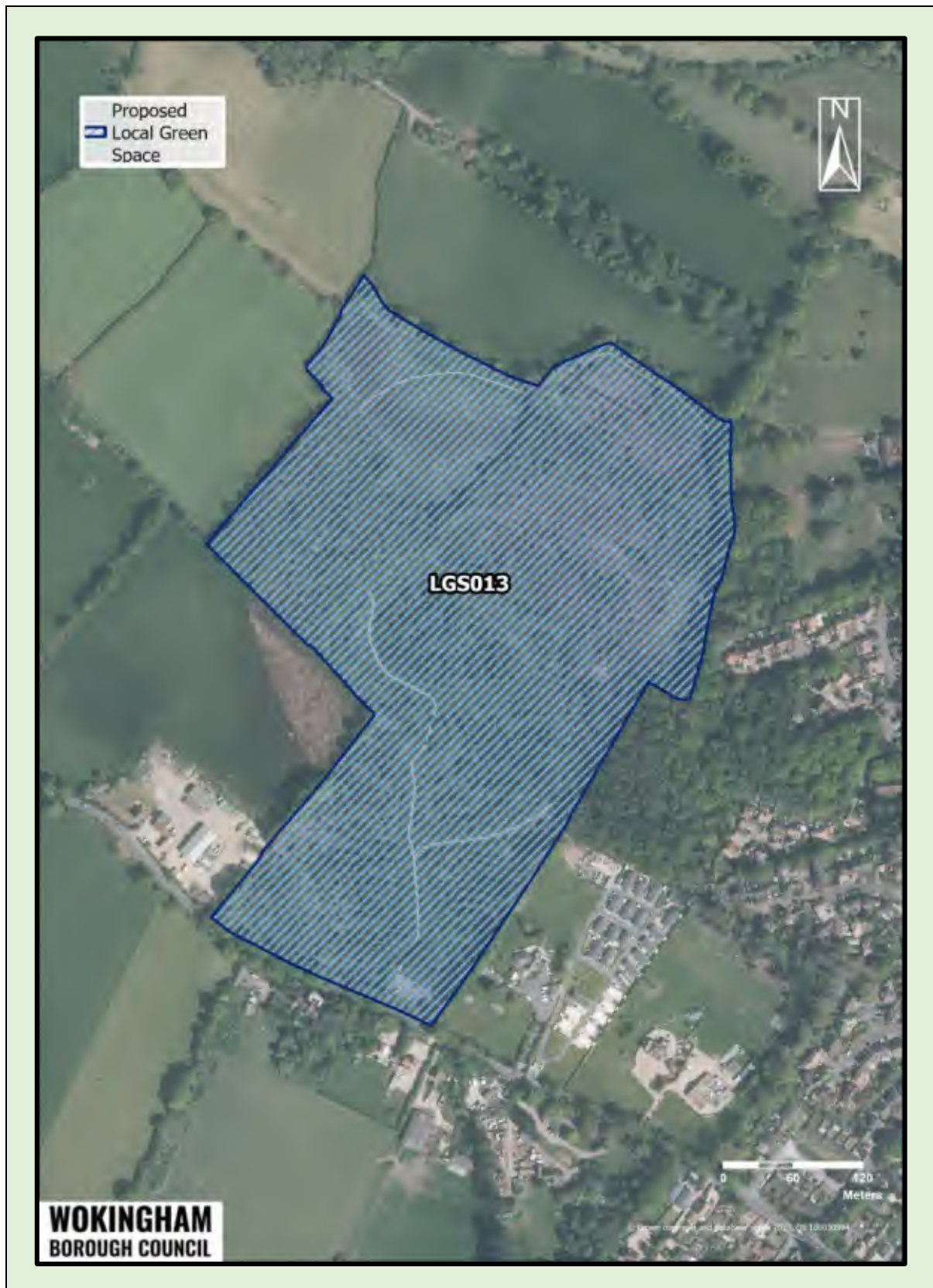


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS012B</b>
Site name	The Junipers
Site address	The Junipers, Barkham
Site size	0.4ha
Site Description	<p>An area of amenity greenspace situated in the centre of Barkham village. The site is partially covered by trees, some of which are mature.</p> <p>The site is predominantly bound by existing housing, notably along The Woodlands and Whitebeam Close.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents of Barkham village.</p> <p>The site can be accessed publicly via a footpath from The Woodlands, which runs along the northern boundary.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained and completely surrounded by housing within the built-up area of Barkham village.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site is known as ‘The Woodlands’ and is classified as amenity greenspace in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The Woodlands was recognised as being of low quality but high value to the local community in the report. The site is also designated as a Public Open Space in Policy IRS3 of the made (adopted) Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan and is recognised as being widely used by dog walkers.</p> <p>The Junipers is considered a recognisable area of open green space for formal/informal recreation that serves the residents in Barkham village.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particularly ecological value as this area of green space is classified as acid grassland, however it does comprise an area of woodland and trees.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value, predominantly as the amenity greenspace at ‘The Woodlands’ is situated in the built-up area of Barkham village and surrounded by</p>



	housing and local roads. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) and the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019) where the site scores relatively low.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The Woodlands is a recognisable and accessible area of open recreational space for residents north of Barkham, which is also recognised in the made Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan.

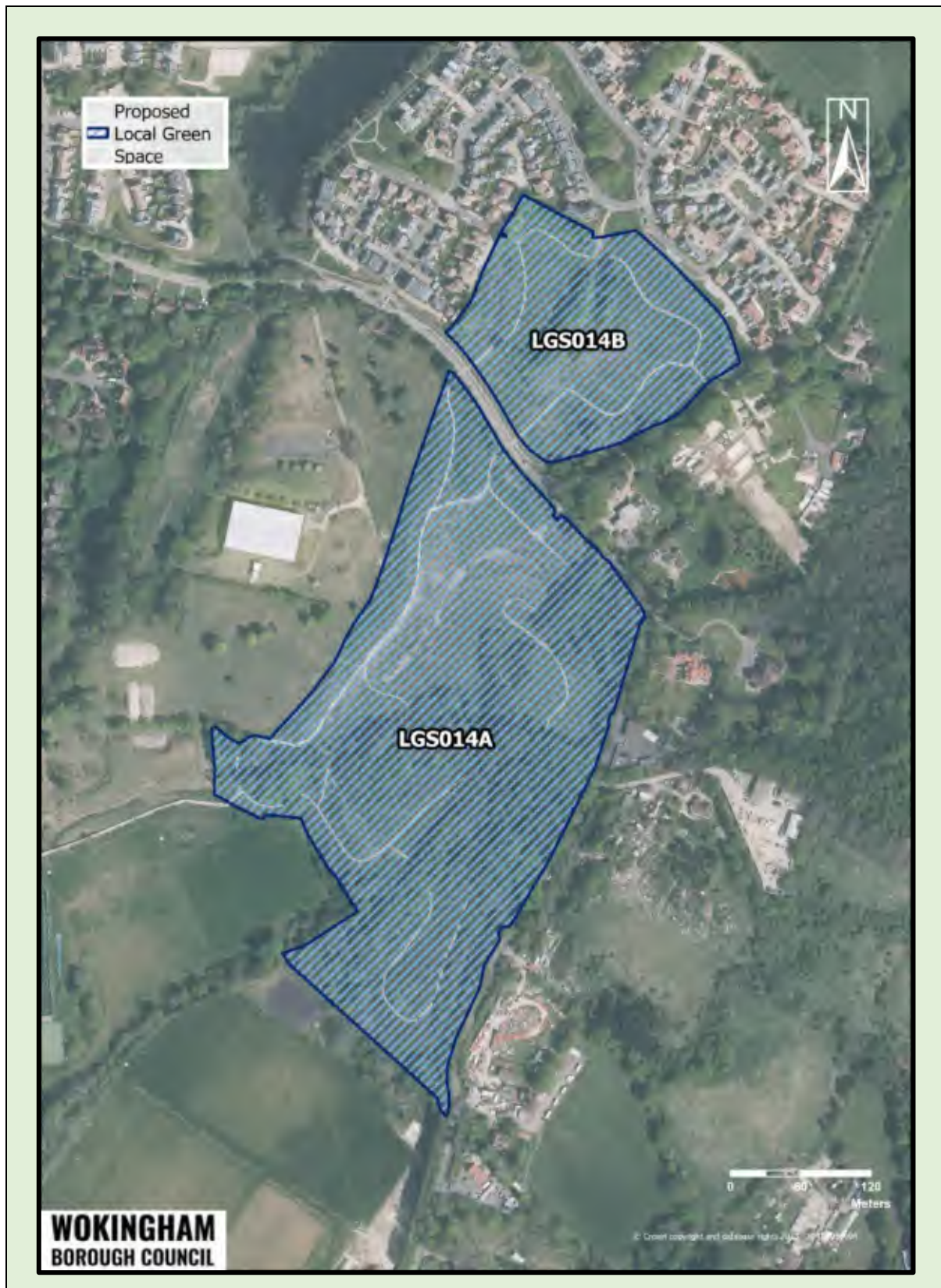
Rook's Nest Wood Country Park, Barkham Ride, Barkham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS013</b>
Site name	Rook's Nest Wood Country Park, Barkham
Site address	Rook's Nest Wood Country Park, Barkham Ride, Barkham
Site size	16.9ha
Site Description	<p>An area of natural and semi-natural greenspace and country park situated north of Barkham Ride. The site was identified as Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) to provide informal recreation for new and existing residents of the Borough.</p> <p>Rook's Nest Wood is situated to the south of Barkham and on the edge of the settlement of Finchampstead North. The southern boundary of the site is defined by Barkham Ride and the eastern boundary is defined by residential and commercial uses. To the north-west of the site lies the Parish Church of St James Barkham.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Rook's Nest Wood Country Park is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents of Barkham and Finchampstead wards. A Public Right of Way runs along the western boundary of the site connecting the green space to Barkham. The site is also publicly accessible via Barkham Ride which is immediately to the south.</p> <p>A greenway route also runs from the Arborfield Green Strategic Development Location (SDL) improving connectivity to important areas of greenspace such as California Country Park.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is entirely local in character, given its nature as a country park and Local Wildlife Site, and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well-self-contained with clearly defined edges. For instance, the site is bounded by hedgerows, local roads and some residential and commercial uses. The western boundary of the site provides open views to the Parish Church of St James Barkham and the wider countryside.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Rook's Nest Wood Country Park is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace and a designated Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), which provides informal recreation for new and existing residents. The site consists of a network of footpaths for activities such as walking and cycling.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site consists of woodland, grassland and fen. The northern part of Rook's Nest Wood is a designated Local Wildlife Site (Brook Farm Meadow), which according to Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) (2005) consists of two tall, rushy grassland fields surrounded by a mixed wet and improved grassland. The fen area contains several plant species including lesser spearwort, ragged</p>

	<p>robin, creeping jenny. The ditch and hedgerow also provide a habitat for wildlife and are lined with trees, including willow, birch, oak and aspen.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Rook's Nest Wood Country Park is considered to hold some degree of tranquillity value. This is predominantly because part of the site is a Local Wildlife Site and western areas are being situated in the open countryside. The eastern part of the site is considered to hold less tranquillity value, due to its edge of settlement location and proximity to neighbouring housing. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the score ranges from low to high tranquillity across parts of the site.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Rook's Nest Wood is an important area of natural / semi-natural green space and SANG that serves the residents of Barkham and Finchampstead North for recreation. The site also holds moderate ecological value due to the woodland, grassland and fen which support a range of habitats and species.</p>

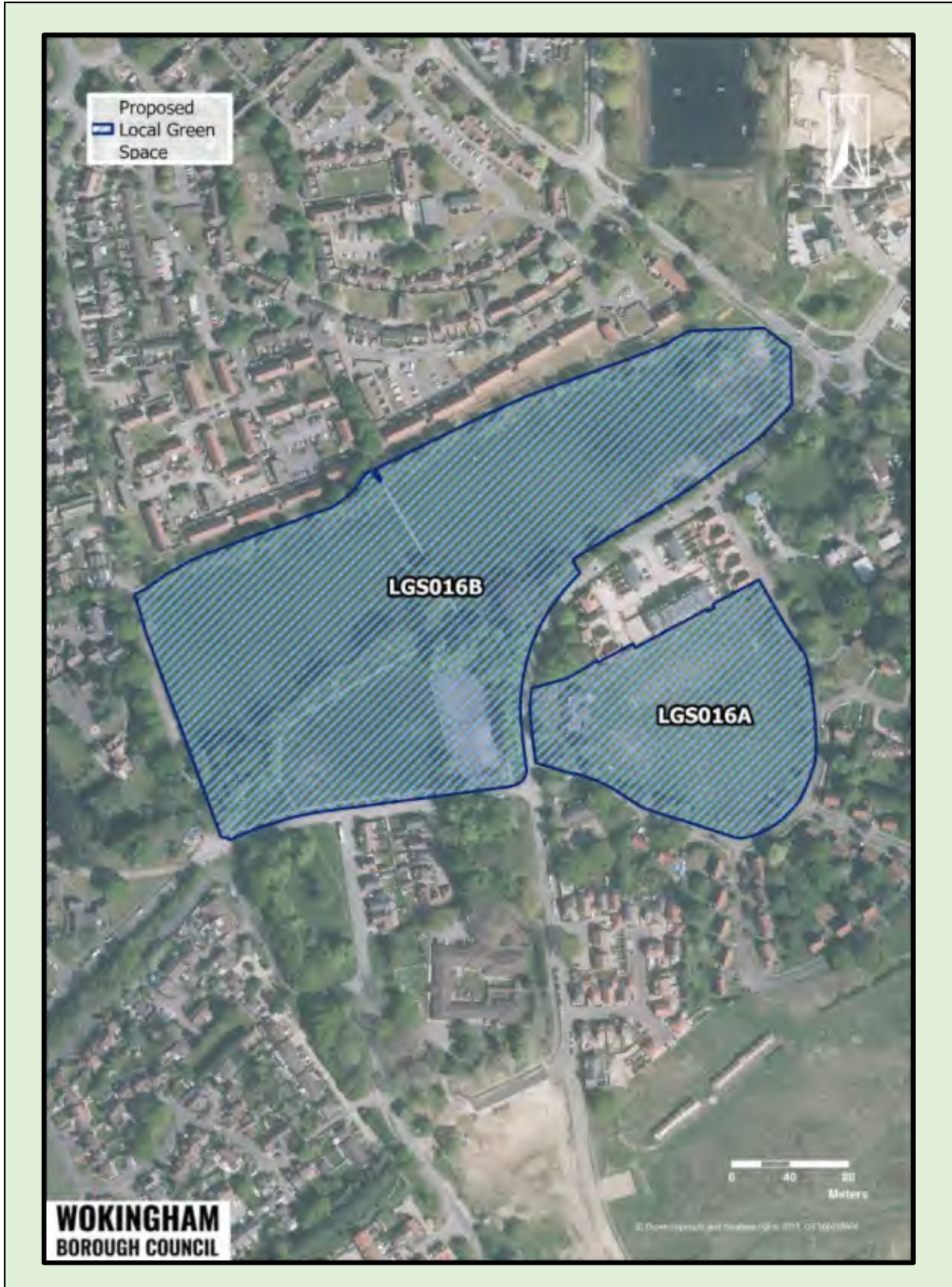
Hazebrouck Meadows, Biggs Lane and Commonfield Lane, Barkham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS014A; LGS014B</b>
Site name	Hazebrouck Meadows
Site address	Biggs Lane and Commonfield Lane, Barkham
Site size	10.5ha; 3.44ha
Site Description	<p>The nominated area comprises two parcels of land situated to the south of Arborfield within the Arborfield Strategic Development Location (SDL). The individual parcels are separated by Biggs Lane.</p> <p>The area north of Biggs Lane (LGS014B) is Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) to provide informal recreation for new and existing residents of the Borough. This area comprises natural and semi-natural greenspace, and the area is defined to the south by Biggs Lane, Commonfield Lane to the east and by existing housing to the north and west.</p> <p>The area south of Biggs Lane (LGS014A) is also SANG and comprises natural and semi-natural greenspace. This area of greenspace is defined by Park Lane / Biggs Lane to the north and residential development at Arborfield SDL to the west. The eastern boundary is defined by housing along Park Lane. The southern boundary of the site is defined by the grounds of Bohunt School and land at Hogwood Park which has planning permission for residential development (ref: 163547; 220822).</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Both sites are in close proximity to the community as they serve the residents of Barkham and Finchampstead South wards, as well as residents at the Arborfield Green development. The sites are publicly accessible along both sides of the road at Biggs Lane. To the north, the sites are on the route of a greenway running along from Commonfield Lane which connects to Barkham.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The sites are entirely local in character given their nature as a meadow and areas of woodland. Hazebrouck Meadows is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined edges. For instance, to the north, the site is bounded by housing. To the south, the site is bound by the former Reading Football Club Training Ground, where housing is under construction (ref: 163547;220822). The western boundary is defined by Park Lane which comprises some commercial uses.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Hazebrouck Meadows is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace and a designated Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), which provides informal recreation for new and existing residents. The site comprises a multi-use path for walking, cycling and horse riding along Biggs Lane, which connects into the wider Greenways network.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS014A; LGS014B</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The southern area (LGS014A) holds some ecological value due to the presence of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitats, notably running water, tall herb, broadleaved woodland and lowland mixed deciduous woodland, according to Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC). An ordinary watercourse also runs along the southern boundary, which may support some ecological species and habitats. The northern area (LGS014B) comprises of cultivated/disturbed land and amenity grassland, according to TVERC, and therefore holds limited ecological value.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Both areas are not considered to hold any particular historical value and have no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Both areas hold some degree of tranquillity value, predominantly due to their nature as a meadow and area of woodland. However, other parts of Hazebrouck Meadows are less tranquil due to their proximity to residential and commercial uses. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the tranquillity of this area ranges from low to medium.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Hazebrouck Meadows (LGS014A and LGS014B) are recognisable and significant areas of open, recreational space that serve the residents of the Arborfield Strategic Development Location.

**Cricket and rugby pitches within Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location, Princess Marina Drive, Arborfield / Barkham**





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS016A/ LGS016B</b>
Site name	Cricket and rugby pitches within Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location, Arborfield
Site address	Princess Marina Drive, Arborfield and Newland / Barkham
Site size	2.24ha / 7.34ha
Site Description	<p>The nominated area comprises two parcels of land in the centre of the Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location (SDL).</p> <p>The area to the south (LGS016A) comprises existing outdoor sports facilities, including a cricket pitch, rugby pitch and a pavilion. This area of greenspace is surrounded by housing, local roads and community uses, notably St Eligius Church.</p> <p>The area to the north (LGS016B) comprises two areas of amenity greenspace: Arborfield Garrison Recreation and Sheerlands Road. Arborfield Garrison Recreation includes an area of public open space and footpaths for recreation. The area adjacent to Sheerlands Road is an area of green space that includes public open space and hard-surfaced tennis court. This nominated area is surrounded by housing, local roads and community uses, notably Hazebrouck Day Nursery and Pre-School and Arborfield Green Community Centre.</p> <p>Both parcels LGS016A and LGS016B are currently subject to a reserved matters application (ref: 223764) for the proposed development of a new sports pavilion building, improvements to existing sports pitches, allotment provision, a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and play spaces as part of the infrastructure to support the Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Both areas are in close proximity to the community as they are situated in the heart of the Arborfield Garrison SDL, which serve the residents of the new development and residents of Barkham and Arborfield wards.</p> <p>The area to the south (LGS016A) is publicly accessible from various points, notably Princess Marina Drive to the west and north and Tope Road to the south.</p> <p>The area to the north (LGS016B) is publicly accessible from various points, notably Biggs Lane to the north and east, Princess Marina Drive to the south and Whitehall Drive to the west. A public footpath also runs along the northern boundary of the site connecting to Whitehall Drive and Biggs Lane.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries and is situated within the centre of the Arborfield Garrison SDL. Both areas of greenspace are surrounded by housing, local roads and community uses.</p>

Site reference	LGS016A/ LGS016B
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The area to the north (LGS016B) comprises two areas of amenity greenspace, Arborfield Garrison Recreation and Sheerlands Road. Arborfield Garrison Recreation includes an area of public open space and footpaths for recreation. Sheerlands Road includes an area of public open space, hard-surfaced tennis court and a club house. Both areas were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The area to the south (LGS016A), known as Arborfield Garrison Sports Field, provides outdoor sports facilities, including a cricket pitch, rugby pitch and pavilion which are used by the residents of the development at Arborfield Garrison SDL, as well as for existing residents of Arborfield and Barkham wards.</p> <p>The site is designated as a Public Open Space in Policy IRS3 of the adopted Arborfield and Barkham Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>A reserved matters application is currently under consideration and would provide improved sports and recreational facilities, including a new sports pavilion, sports pitches, allotment provision, MUGA and play space.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site lies adjacent to a Scheduled Monument, just north of the Grade II Listed Building at Moat House. The heritage asset dates back from the medieval period and comprises a moated island and ditch.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Both areas comprise cultivated/disturbed land and amenity grassland, according to Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC), and therefore hold limited ecological value. The western part of the area to the north (LGS016B) lies within a Water Vole Consultation Zone.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Both areas are not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to their proximity to residential, community and commercial uses. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in the surrounding area.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. These areas of open green space form an integral part of the Arborfield Garrison Strategic Development Location and represent</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS016A/ LGS016B</b>
	an important recreational resource for new and existing residents of Arborfield and Barkham. The Reserved Matters application which is under consideration would be compatible with the proposed Local Green Space designation.

## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Charvil Parish:



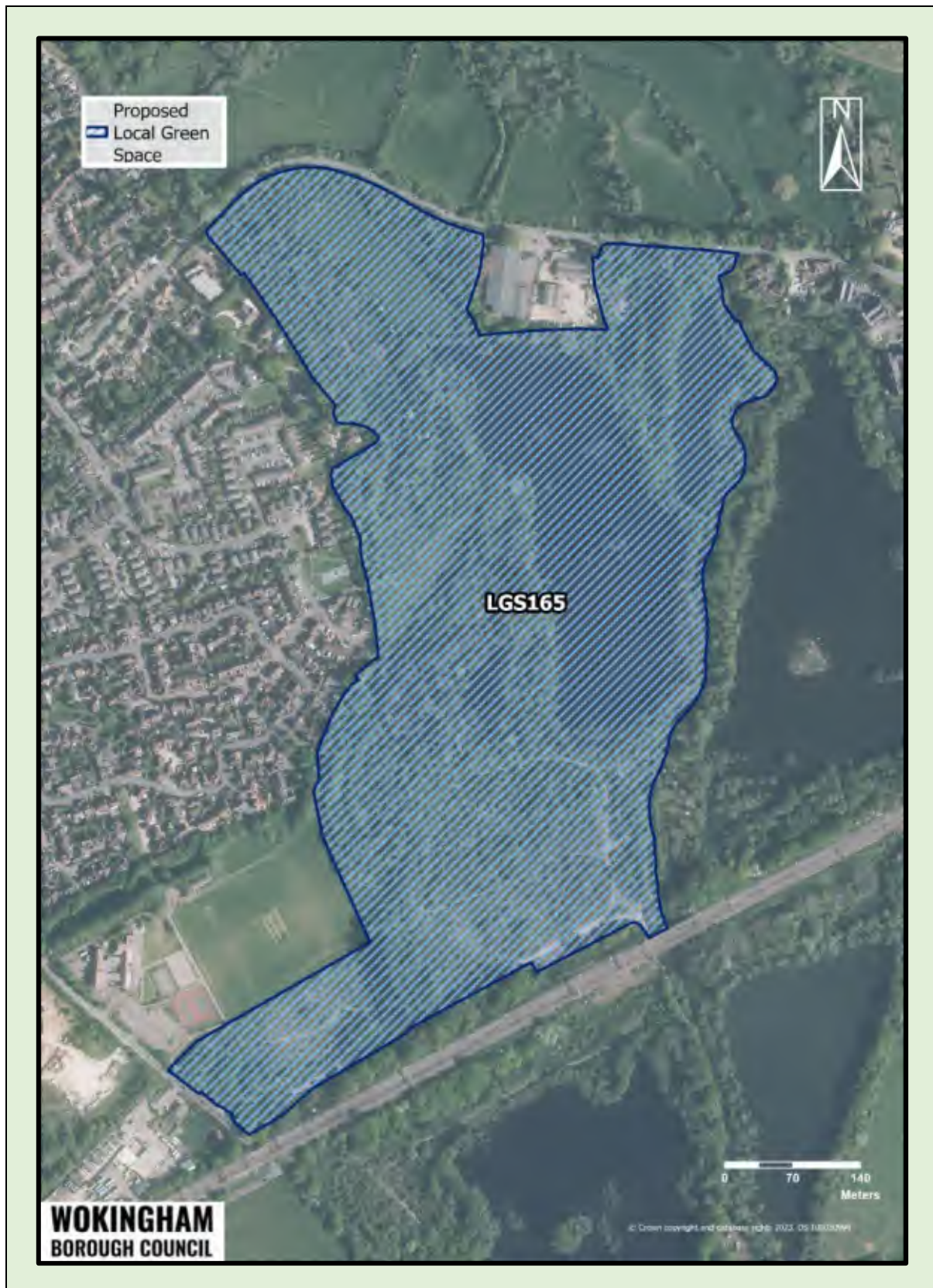
East Park Farm Playing Fields, East Park Farm Drive



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS164</b>
Site name	East Park Farm Playing Fields
Site address	East Park Farm Drive, Charvil
Site size	4.27ha
Site Description	<p>East Park Farm comprises Park Lane community hall and an area of amenity greenspace, park and garden and play area situated in the southern part of Charvil village.</p> <p>The northern area of the site is completely bound by existing housing and pedestrian footpaths, and the southern area of the site adjoins the Charvil Pigott primary school, play area and part of the nominated area for consideration as Local Green Space at Charvil Country Park (LGS165).</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents in the southern part of Charvil ward.</p> <p>East Park Farm playing fields can be accessed publicly from multiple points, notably via residential roads at East Park Farm Drive and to the west by Park Lane. A Public Right of Way runs across the central part of the site and provides connectivity to the adjacent Charvil Country Park.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained with clearly defined edges, bound by existing housing at East Park Farm to the north, Charvil Piggott Primary School to the west and to the south and east by the nominated area of LGS at Charvil Country Park Local Wildlife Site (LGS165).</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>East Park Farm is classified as a park and garden and also comprises a play area (in the form of a Local Area for Play). East Park Farm is a recognisable area of green space that serves the residents in the southern part of Charvil village for recreation. Both the park and garden and play area were recognised as being of high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the Open Spaces Assessment Report, East Park Farm is identified as being in a more dispersed location, which is likely to offer valuable open space provision aside from the surrounding countryside. Further, the play area at East Park Farm scored highly for its quality in the audit assessment. The play area comprises several pieces of equipment, including spring rockers, seesaws and swings and bars.</p> <p>The Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) recognises that the playing pitches at East Park Farm are available for community use and are well used</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS164</b>
	<p>for football and cricket. Most of the pitches and ancillary facilities are recognised as being of standard to good quality.</p> <p>The site also comprises a village/community hall, pavilion (known as Margaret Gimblett Pavilion) and amenity space, which was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The pavilion includes changing rooms and a function room which are well used by residents, sports teams and by other local groups and organisations and has hosted the village fete since 2017.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure, but it is recognised that East Park Farm adjoins known archaeological remains.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>East Park Farm is an area of neutral/semi-improved grassland. The southern part of the site is situated within the Loddon Valley Gravel Pits Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA), which comprises known Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitats, notably coastal and floodplain grazing marsh and rivers and wet woodland. The southern and eastern boundary of East Park Farm adjoins Charvil Country Park Local Wildlife Site.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The southern part of East Park Farm is considered to hold a degree of tranquillity value due to its relationship with the countryside and adjacent Charvil Country Park. However, the tranquillity offered in the northern and western parts of the site are diminished due to the site's proximity to Park Lane and existing residential development at East Park Farm Drive. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007), where the southern and eastern parts of the site score highly.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. East Park Farm is an important and valued recreational resource for local residents in the southern part of Charvil village.

Charvil Country Park, Park Lane





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS165</b>
Site name	Charvil Country Park
Site address	Park Lane, Charvil
Site size	31.2ha
Site Description	<p>Charvil Country Park is an area of former gravel pits and remnant pastureland situated in the flood plain of the lower Loddon Valley between the villages of Twyford and Charvil. The River Loddon also passes through the site.</p> <p>The southern boundary is defined by the main railway line and the northern boundary is defined by existing housing along Old Bath Road. The eastern part of the site is bound by the adjacent Loddon Nature Reserve and the western and south-western part of the site is bound by Charvil village and East Park Farm playing fields, which is also promoted for Local Green Space (ref: LGS164).</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it primarily serves the residents of Twyford and Charvil wards. The site is publicly accessible via several Public Rights of Way, including to the west from Park Lane and to the north from Old Bath Road. The proposed route of the Loddon Long Distance Path (LLDP) runs through the centre of the site and would aim to connect the Thames Path at Wargrave to the Blackwater Valley Path at Swallowfield. In addition, the LLDP would also link many of the borough's greenway routes, for example by improving connectivity from Whistley Bridge, Hurst to the A4 (Bath Road), Twyford.</p> <p>The country park is interconnected by a network of circular footpaths and routes around the lakes, river and meadows and can also be accessed from the local road network, notably Vale View and East Park Farm Drive.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as the site is relatively well self-contained with some clearly defined boundaries. The southern and northern boundaries are clearly defined by the main railway line and Old Bath Road. The eastern boundary is defined by the adjacent Loddon Nature Reserve, with the western boundary defined by the edge of Charvil village and part of the adjacent East Park Farm playing fields.</p> <p>Charvil Country Park lies within the B1 'Loddon River Valley with Open Water' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019). The B1 LCA identifies this area as <i>'a peaceful landscape in the valley of the River Loddon falling between the urban areas of Woodley and the large villages of Winnersh, Twyford and Charvil'</i>. The LCA report acknowledges that former gravel extraction has modified the landscape resulting in a mix of land uses including open water bodies, landfill sites, and restored agricultural fields, nature reserves and country parks.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS165</b>
	According to the report, key characteristics of the B1 LCA include <i>‘popular recreational landscapes, including Dinton Pastures Country Park, Charvil Country Park and Charvil Meadows’</i> .
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Charvil Country Park is classified as a park and garden in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The area of green space was recognised as being of low quality but high value to the local community.</p> <p>Charvil Country Park includes a network of footpaths and circular routes around the lakes, river and meadows for walking. The proposed Loddon Long Distance Path runs through the centre of the site and seeks to improve connectivity along the Thames Path and Blackwater Valley. Further, the Landscape Character Assessment (2019) recognises that areas of green space such as Dinton Pastures Country Park, Charvil Country Park and Charvil Meadows are popular recreational landscapes within the B1 ‘Loddon River Valley with Open Water’ LCA.</p> <p>The site also comprises several Public Rights of Way, including a footpath running through the central and eastern parts of the site which provides connectivity to other areas of green space, notably Charvil Meadows and East Park Farm for wider recreational opportunities.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure. However, the northern boundary of Charvil Country Park is situated adjacent to the Twyford Village Conservation Area.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Charvil Country Park holds significant ecological value as it is set within an area of former gravel pits and remnant pastureland within the floodplain and is classified as a Local Wildlife Site (known as Twyford Gravel Pits). According to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), this former gravel extraction has modified the landscape resulting in a mix of land uses including open water bodies, landfill sites, and restored agricultural fields, nature reserves and country parks, and therefore supports grassland, scrub and woodland habitats, including two nationally rare plant species, the Loddon Lily and Loddon Pondweed.</p> <p>The site is also situated within the Loddon Valley Gravel Pits Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) and comprises several known areas of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitats including wet</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS165</b>
	<p>woodland, eutrophic standing waters, lowland mixed deciduous woodland and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Charvil Country Park is considered to hold a moderate degree of tranquillity value as the former gravel extraction has modified the landscape resulting in a mix of land uses including open water bodies, landfill sites, and restored agricultural fields, nature reserves and country parks. The country park is situated within the B1 'Loddon River Valley with Open Water' LCA, where the Landscape Character Assessment (2019) recognises it as <i>'a peaceful landscape in the valley of the River Loddon falling between the urban areas of Woodley and the large villages of Winnersh, Twyford and Charvil'</i>. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007), where most of the area of green space scores highly.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Charvil Country Park is an important park and garden that serves the residents of Charvil village, and to an extent the residents of Twyford village. The site holds ecological value due to the presence of the Local Wildlife Site which provides habitats for several ecological species, including known priority habitats.

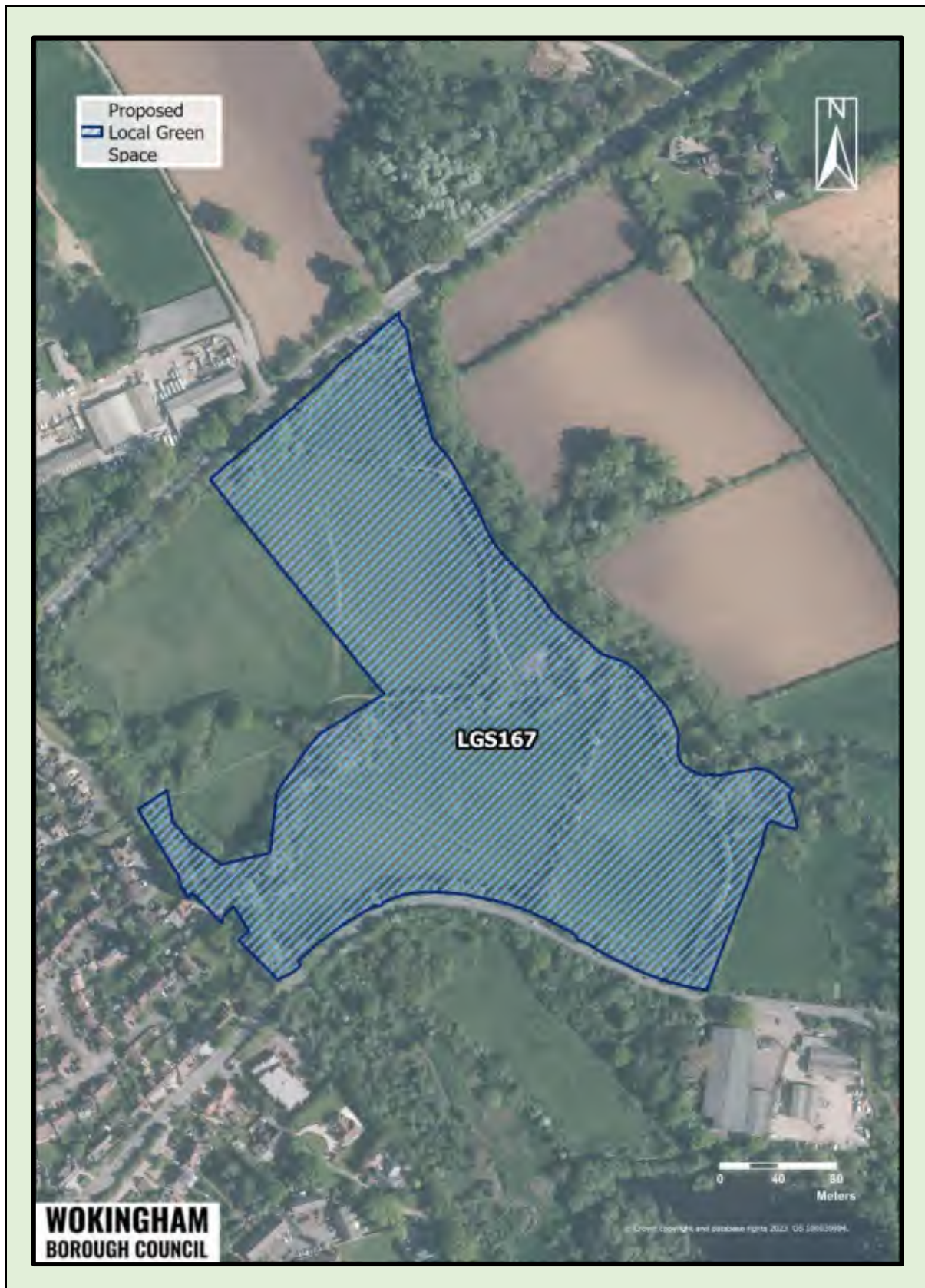
Hawthorns Park, The Hawthorns



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS166</b>
Site name	Hawthorns Park (Park Lane open space)
Site address	The Hawthorns, Charvil
Site size	0.71ha
Site Description	Hawthorns Park is an area of green space and a play area situated in the centre of Charvil village. The nominated area is also adjacent to Charvil Village Hall.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Hawthorns Park is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents in the centre of Charvil village. Hawthorns Park is a recognisable area of recreational space in Charvil. Public access to the site is provided by the local residential roads and a footpath from The Hawthorns.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered an extensive tract of land, as it is self-contained with clearly defined edges. For instance, Hawthorns Park is surrounded by residential development on three sides, notably the rear gardens of properties on Park Lane and Old Bath Road and is bounded to the south by residential development at The Hawthorns.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Hawthorns Park is a recognisable area of open, recreational space that is accessible for residents in Charvil village centre. The nominated area, known as Park Lane open space, is classified as an area of amenity greenspace and play area in the Open Spaces Assessment (2012). Both the amenity greenspace and play facilities were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community.</p> <p>The play area provides facilities such as play equipment for children in the form of a Local Area of Play (LAP) and comprises slides, multi-play units, swings, agility units and a rope climber.</p> <p>The nominated area also comprises a community orchard with six vintage apple trees planted in autumn 2021. The community orchard is now recognised as an important facility for the residents, and there is an aspiration by Charvil Parish Council to plant a further 24 trees on the site. Hawthorns Park is also adjacent to Charvil Village Hall, which offers a recreational facility for the community.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold low ecological value.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS166</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular tranquillity value and scores relatively low against CPRE's Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) predominantly as the site is bounded by existing housing and community uses and is situated within the centre of Charvil village.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Hawthorns Park is a recognisable and valued recreational resource that contributes to the visual amenity of Charvil village.

Charvil Meadows, Old Bath Road



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS167</b>
Site name	Charvil Meadows
Site address	Old Bath Road, Charvil
Site size	8.80ha
Site Description	<p>Charvil Meadows is an area of green space situated between New Bath Road (A4) and Old Bath Road (A3032) and separates the settlements of Charvil and Twyford.</p> <p>Charvil Meadows comprises traditionally managed meadows that border the River Loddon.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Charvil Meadows is in close proximity to the community it serves as the site is accessible to residents of Charvil. The route of the proposed Loddon Long Distance Path, as identified in Policy CC03 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan (2014), runs through the centre of the site in a north-south direction and connects to New Bath Road, a recognised green route.</p> <p>The site can also be accessed publicly by residents of the adjacent housing estates, notably Charvil Meadows Road, Edward Road and Thornbers Way to the west of Charvil Meadows.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. For instance, to the north the site is bound by the A4 (New Bath Road) and to the south by the A3032 (Old Bath Road). The eastern and western boundaries of Charvil Meadows are defined by existing housing and the course of the River Loddon.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Charvil Meadows is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace in the Open Spaces Assessment (2012). The area of green space was recognised as being of low quality but high value to the local community in the report.</p> <p>Charvil Meadows is a significant and recognisable area of open green space in close proximity to the local community which provides a resource for recreational purposes. A footpath provides connectivity between Twyford village and the River Loddon. A network of surfaced and unsurfaced paths provide opportunities for walking through the grassland meadows and alongside the River Loddon.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS167</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Charvil Meadows is an area of grassland made up of a number of connecting meadows bordering the River Loddon. The site is situated within the Loddon Valley Gravel Pits Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) and comprises known Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitats, notably coastal and floodplain grazing marsh and rivers.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Charvil Meadows is considered to hold a degree of tranquillity value due to the nature of the meadows and the site's countryside location adjacent to the River Loddon. However, some of the northern and western parts are somewhat diminished due to the site's proximity to the A4 (New Bath Road) and existing residential development. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007), where the eastern parts of the site score highly.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Charvil Meadows is an important and valued recreational and ecological resource for local residents in Charvil village.

St Patrick's Recreation Ground, Park View Drive North

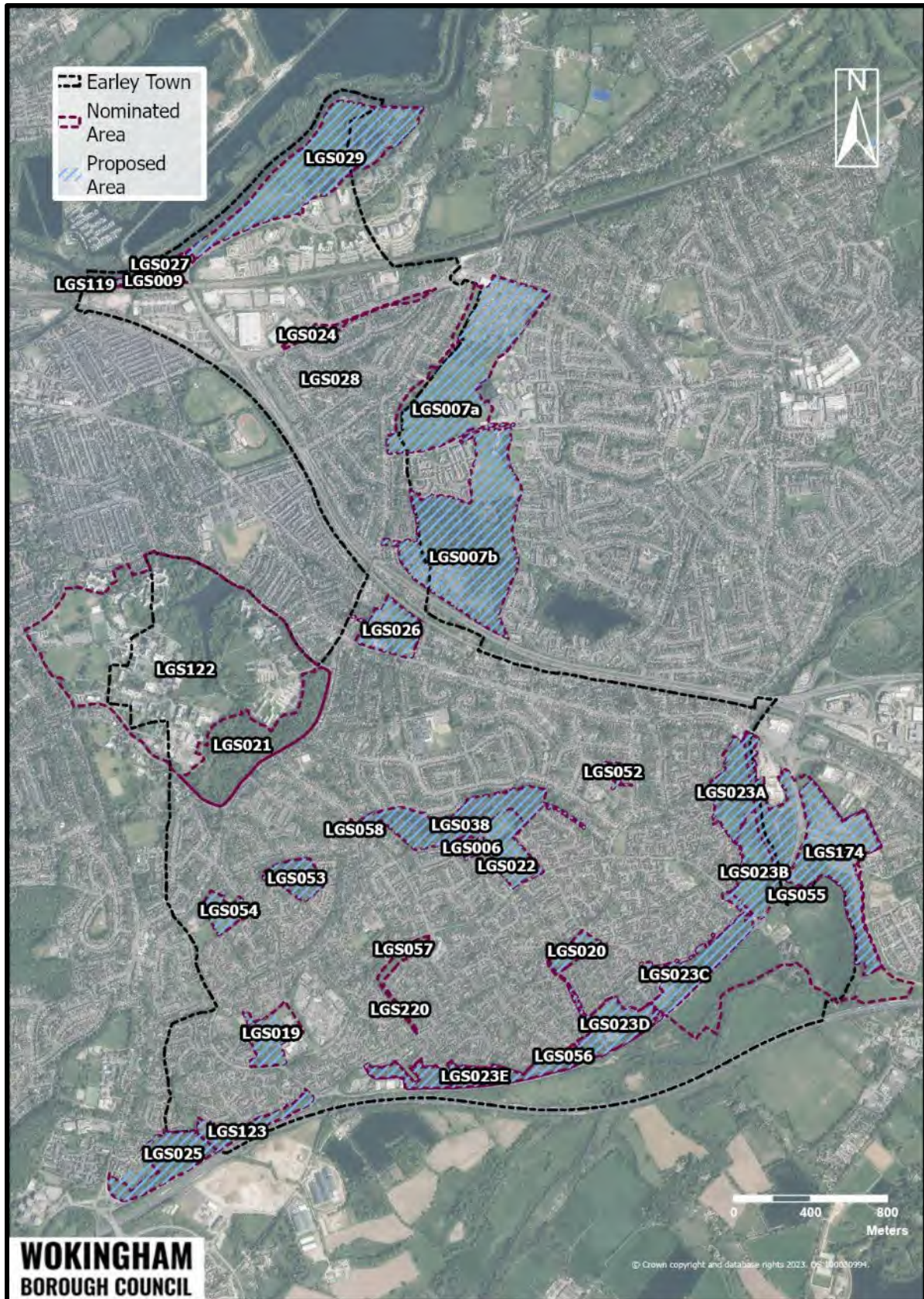


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS168</b>
Site name	St Patrick's Recreation Ground
Site address	Park View Drive North, Charvil
Site size	1.51ha
Site Description	St Patrick's Recreation Ground comprises an area of amenity greenspace and children's play area situated in the north of Charvil village on the edge of the settlement.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. St Patrick's Recreation Ground is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Charvil village. The amenity greenspace can be accessed by the public via Park View Drive North to the east. The recreation ground and play area is the only recognisable area of open recreational space that serves residents in Charvil, north of the A4. Other recreational spaces are provided in the southern part of the village, but access is severed by New Bath Road (A4).
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries of residential development at St Patrick's Avenue and Milestone Avenue, and Park View Drive North to the east. The northern boundary of the site is defined by a small linear hedgerow.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), St Patrick's Recreation Ground provides grass pitches for junior football. The facility is available but is generally less well used by the community.</p> <p>The recreation ground also provides an area of amenity greenspace and play area (in the form of a Local Area of Play), which were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment (2012). St Patrick's Recreation Ground is one of few recognisable areas of open, recreational space that are accessible to residents in the northern part of Charvil village.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure, although several Scheduled Monuments are located to the east of Park View Drive North and to the west of St Patrick's Recreation Ground along Milestone Avenue. The Scheduled Monument adjacent to the site is recognised as a ring ditch cropmark possibly dating to the prehistoric period. The Scheduled Monument further north along Park View Drive North is a cropmark enclosure and pits. The Scheduled Monument to the west of the site is a complex of cropmarks.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS168</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, predominantly in the northern part of the site due its relationship with the open countryside. The southern part of the site holds some tranquillity value, but this is somewhat diminished by the built-up area of Charvil and surrounded by built development and Park View Drive North. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the area to the north scores higher than further south towards the built-up area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The St Patrick's Recreation Ground is a recognisable area of amenity space and play area that serves the residents in the north of Charvil village.

# Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Earley Town:



Chalfont Woods and Chalfont Park, south of Chalfont Way, Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS019</b>
Site name	Chalfont Woods and Chalfont Park
Site address	South of Chalfont Way, Earley
Site size	5.8ha
Site Description	<p>Chalfont Woods and Chalfont Park is a park and garden and urban park situated predominantly in Lower Earley District Centre. The park provides a range of facilities including a pavilion, sports courts, football pitches and play area.</p> <p>The site is bounded by existing residential on the northern and western boundary. Commercial and retail uses are situated along the site's southern boundary. The eastern boundary of the site is defined by Lower Earley District Centre which comprises community, retail and commercial uses.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Hillside ward. An existing Public Right of Way runs parallel to the site along its western boundary.</p> <p>The site is also situated predominantly within Lower Earley District Centre.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Chalfont Park is classified as a park and garden/urban park and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained surrounded by existing housing on its northern and western boundaries, commercial uses along the southern boundary and the District Centre of Lower Earley on the eastern boundary.</p> <p>The area of woodland to the south of Chalfont Park forms part of an allocation for mixed use in Policy SAL08 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan (2014).</p> <p>The site is entirely local in character, as recognised in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020), where this particular Landscape Character Area (J4 'Woodley-Earley Settled and Farmed Clay') is described as a '<i>densely settled area with strong urban and suburban character. There are pockets of open space remaining which include public parks and sports grounds, which are wooded and provide a verdant counterpoint to the built fabric from within and when viewed across the valley</i>'.</p> <p>Chalfont Park is lined on three sides by trees and other soft landscaping, including shrubs and bushes, and according to the Officer's Report to planning application (100192), which was for an extension to the play area: '<i>the landscaping is well established and mature and contributes to the open and green character of the area</i>'.</p>

Site reference	LGS019
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Chalfont Park is classified as a park and garden / urban park, which is recognised as being of lower quality but higher value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The site includes a pavilion, floodlit sports courts, football pitches and play equipment.</p> <p>According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the park comprises two adult football pitches which are available for community use and are well used by residents. The study recognises that the pitches are of poorer quality, however Chalfont Woods and Chalfont Park is one of the most significant and recognisable urban open spaces within Earley that is accessible, or is in close proximity, to the community it serves. Only the Thames Water Reservoir (Hillside) (ref: LGS054) site is comparable in size, but this area of green space does not offer the same type or quality of recreational facilities that are provided by Chalfont Park.</p> <p>During engagement with the landowner, it was recognised that the nominated area includes the bowls club and tennis courts which are in private ownership and would limit its recreational value to the wider community. The inclusion of both facilities would also likely restrict any future operational changes and would therefore not be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The boundary of the proposed area therefore excludes both facilities from the Local Green Space designation, as shown in the map above.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Chalfont Park and Chalfont Woods is not considered to be of any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited ecological value as most of the area is classified as improved grassland, however, there is an area of woodland (known as Chalfont Woods) in the southern part of the nominated area.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Chalfont Park and Chalfont Woods are considered to be of limited tranquillity value, predominantly due to the urban/suburban character of Earley and the site’s proximity to existing residential, commercial and community uses. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low in comparison to other areas of open green space in the locality.</p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS019</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Chalfont Park is one of the most significant urban open spaces in Earley, which is both accessible and in close proximity to the community it serves.

Lower Earley Events Field, Kilnsea Drive, Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS020</b>
Site name	Lower Earley Events Field
Site address	Kilnsea Drive, Earley
Site size	2.6ha
Site Description	The events field, also known as Carnival Field, comprises an area of amenity green space situated in the heart of Lower Earley, along Kilnsea Drive and adjacent to Maiden Place Local Centre. The site was previously recognised as a former 'carnival field' and is a valued open space for recreation.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Lower Earley Events Field is in close proximity to the community as it is an area of green space serving the residents of Hawkedon ward. Pedestrian access to the site is provided by either Gipsy Lane or Kilnsea Drive.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well self-contained within the urban area of Earley. Lower Earley Events Fields has clearly defined edges, screened by a line of trees and hedgerows and bounded by residential properties along Gipsy Lane and Paddock Drive. The northern part of the site is bounded by Kilnsea Drive.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Lower Earley Events Field is classified as amenity greenspace, which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The site also comprises the Carnival Field play area which provides play facilities for toddlers and juniors and was also recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the report.</p> <p>The site has been used to hold events for the local community, including family fun days and the Earley Carnival.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site holds no particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The field is classified as predominantly cultivated/disturbed amenity grassland, and therefore holds limited ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, presumably as the site is bounded by existing residential properties. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low compared to the</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS020</b>
	tranquillity offered by other green spaces in the locality, for instance Laurel Park.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Lower Earley Events Field is an area of green space which offers recreational value for residents in the Hawkedon ward. The site is both accessible and in close proximity to the community it serves, being situated within the urban area of Lower Earley and adjacent to Maiden Place Local Centre.

Laurel Park, Marefield, Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS022; LGS006</b>
Site name	Laurel Park
Site address	Marefield, Earley
Site size	6.7ha / 0.9ha
Site Description	<p>Laurel Park is a park and garden / urban park situated in the heart of Earley, adjacent to Maiden Erlegh Lake Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV). The park provides a range of facilities used by the residents for recreation, including playing pitches, a play area (ref: LGS006) and a recreation ground.</p> <p>The site is bounded by Rushey Way to the south and Maiden Erlegh Lake SULV to the north. To the east and west, the site is bounded by existing housing at Marefield and Mawbray Close.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	The site is adjacent to residential areas in Hawkedon, Hillside and Maiden Erlegh wards. Laurel Park can be accessed from either Rushey Way or Marefield.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. It is relatively self-contained with clearly defined boundaries.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Laurel Park is classified as a park and garden / urban park, which is recognised as being of low quality but high value to local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The park includes a play area which was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community.</p> <p>According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the park has three senior football pitches, three mini football pitches and two junior football pitches and ancillary facilities, including changing rooms, that are all available for community use and well used by the community. Laurel Park is home to Laurel Park Football Club.</p> <p>A series of ‘Wokingham Health Walks’ are available at the park which provide routes for walking/running. Such routes include Maiden Place to the Library at Silverdale Centre, Earley Station to Brookside Surgery and Sindlesham Mill to Maiden Erlegh, which all operate via Laurel Park Recreation Ground.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Laurel Park is situated within the Maiden Erlegh Lake Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) which is in the settlement of Earley. The SULV consists of a lake within a wooded setting and extensive woodland is visually significant locally and provides a wooded backdrop to the surrounding properties and playing fields. The Draft Local Plan Update proposes an amendment to the boundary of the existing SULV to include this site. According to the Council’s</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS022; LGS006</b>
	<p>assessment in the SULV Topic Paper, it is considered that <i>'although these areas of more open in character than the woodlands surrounding the lake, they form an integral part of the wider public open space and represent an important recreation resource for local people'</i>.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Laurel Park is considered to hold limited ecological value, being predominantly classified as disturbed/cultivated amenity grassland. However, the recreation ground does provide a link into Maiden Erlegh Lake which is designated as a Local Wildlife Site and Local Nature Reserve. The informal grassland and scrub support a large variety of bird, mammals and insects (SULV Topic Paper).</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Laurel Park is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to the site's proximity to existing residential and Rushey Way. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) where Laurel Park scores poorly compared to the tranquillity of the adjacent Maiden Erlegh Lake which offers a higher degree of tranquillity.</p> <p><u>Local significance</u></p> <p>In addition to being an important recreational facility for the community, Laurel Park Recreation Ground also hosts a number of local events, including the annual firework display and the 10km run.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Laurel Park is a park and garden / urban park and play area (ref: LGS006) that forms an integral part of the wider public open space and represents an important recreational resource for local people in Earley.

Sol Joel Park, Church Road, Earley





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS026</b>
Site name	Sol Joel Park
Site address	Church Road, Earley
Site size	6.6ha
Site Description	<p>Sol Joel Park is an urban park located along the Wokingham Road on the edge of Earley. The park provides a range of facilities used by the residents for recreation, including playing pitches, basketball court, cricket pitches, skate park, parkour facility, play area and a small garden.</p> <p>The site is bounded by the main railway line to the north and the A329 to the south. To the west, the site is bounded by existing residential and commercial uses along Church Road (B3350) and is adjacent to the administrative boundary of Reading Borough. To the east the site is bounded by existing residential properties along Mays Lane.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it provides a recreational resource which serves the existing residents of Maiden Erlegh ward. The site is the only recognisable and significant area of recreational space in this part of Earley. There are no other immediate areas of open green space in the area. A large area of open space can be found at Whiteknights Campus, to the south-west of Sol Joel Park, but this does not offer the same type and level of recreation provision for the community. Further, other green spaces in the locality, notably towards the north of the site are severed by the A329(M), A3290 and railway line, therefore making access difficult via walking/cycling.</p> <p>Sol Joel Park is publicly accessible from Wokingham Road and is within proximity to Earley railway station. The site is also located on a designated green route enhancement area.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined edges, for instance the site is bounded to the south by the A329 and the north by the railway line and the A3290. To the west, the site is bounded by the B3350 and forms a degree of separation between the administrative boundaries of Reading Borough with Wokingham Borough. To the east, the site is bounded by Mays Lane.</p> <p>The site is considered to be entirely local in character as it is situated in between Whiteknights Park, a Local Historic Park and Garden and the Bulmershe Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) and proposed Local Green Space (ref: LGS007; LGS007B).</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Sol Joel Park is classified as an urban park. A significant proportion of the park is also classified as amenity greenspace. The park</p>

Site reference	LGS026
	<p>includes a variety of recreational facilities and provision for all users, including those with visual, physical and multi-sensory impairments.</p> <p>Sol Joel Park comprises three senior football pitches, four mini soccer pitches, a cricket pitch, hard court basketball court and small garden area. A skate park, parkour facility and a play area provide recreation for teenage/youth provision and younger children. Both the playing fields and playing area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the football pitches and cricket pitches at Sol Joel Park are available for community use. Notably, the facility is home to the Binfield Cricket Club and Reading Asians Cricket Club and multiple footballs clubs, including Brothers United FC. The report recognises that the pitches vary in quality but are well used by the local community and other organisations.</p> <p>Sol Joel Park also provides ancillary services such as a pavilion with changing rooms and bathroom facilities.</p> <p>The park also includes a picnic area and summer wildflower planting and small garden area, which provides some form of recreation for residents and visitors.</p> <p>There are no immediate areas of green space in the surrounding area as they either do not offer the same level or type of provision, or are severed by the main railway line, A3290 or A329(M) making it difficult to access via walking/cycling.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Sol Joel Park was given by way of a charitable endowment to Reading Borough Council by Solomon Joel in 1927. Solomon Joel was recognised as one of the great benefactors of Reading, and gifted the park in perpetuity for it to be used as playing fields or for similar purposes of exercise and recreation.</p> <p>The site is also adjacent to St Peter’s Church and therefore provides some degree of setting to the Grade II Listed Building.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited ecological value, predominantly as the park is classified as cultivated, disturbed land and amenity grassland, according to the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC).</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS026</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to be of any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as the park is situated in the Major Development Location of Earley and is therefore within proximity to potential sources of noise, notably the railway line and Earley St Peter’s Church of England Primary School. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in the surrounding area.</p> <p><u>Local significance:</u></p> <p>In addition to the site’s recreational and historical significance, Sol Joel Park also hosts the annual fireworks display on Bonfire Night.</p> <p>In 2012, Sol Joel Park was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II field status by the Fields in Trust. As part of the Jubilee celebrations for 2012, seven trees were planted in Earley, one of which is situated in Sol Joel Park.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Sol Joel Park is the only recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space in this part of Earley. There are other areas of green space in the surrounding area, but they either do not offer the same level or type of recreational provision, or access to the sites are severed by the main railway line, A3290 or the A329(M).

Land south of the River Thames, Earley / Sonning



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS029</b>
Site name	Land south of the River Thames, Earley / Sonning
Site address	Land south of the River Thames, Earley / Sonning
Site size	27.4ha
Site Description	<p>The site reflects a cluster of different overlapping and adjacent nominations.</p> <p>The site is bounded to the north by the River Thames. To the south, the site is adjacent to the 1840 Great Western Railway embankment, beyond which is the Sutton Business Park, and Thames Valley Park, a major business area.</p> <p>The site is partly safeguarded for strategic transport network improvements in the current Core Strategy (2010) and MDD (2014) local plans. Land is safeguarded in the Local Plan Update to support the delivery of a high-quality express bus service or dedicated public transport route along the A4 and A329(M) / A3290 corridors, to be jointly developed with Reading Borough Council.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site incorporates the route of the Thames Path National Trail, a designated long-distance route that provides informal and formal recreation for visitors, residents and commuters accessing Reading and the surrounding area by walking, cycling and horse-riding. Further, the site provides a recreational space for the existing communities to the east of Reading such as Newtown and Old Earley and Woodley which can access the area by road or via several pedestrian routes under the railway.</p> <p>As well as being on the Thames Path, the site is also located on National Cycle Route 4 which forms a long-distance cycling route from London to Fishguard.</p> <p>Land to the west of the site within Reading Borough is designated as Local Green Space, notably Kings Meadow and the Coal Woodland by Policy ENV7 of the Reading Local Plan (2019).</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. The site is relatively self-contained with clearly defined boundaries.</p> <p>Land situated to the west is designated as Local Green Space by Reading Borough Council in accordance with Policy ENV7 of their Local Plan (2019). The site is identified as the Kings Meadow and the Coal Woodland LGS and was designated due to it being '<i>one of Reading's largest and best public open spaces with a wide variety of facilities</i>'. The site was considered by Reading Borough Council to fulfil every aspect of particular significance as outlined in the NPPF.</p> <p>The land adjacent to the Kings Meadow and Coal Woodland LGS was also considered as a Local Green Space by Reading Borough Council</p>

Site reference	LGS029
	<p>(Coal Woodland &amp; Kennet Mouth) but it was concluded in their final assessment that the horse-shoe bridge and railway bridge were not particularly well-used by the public and were poorly maintained. Additionally, it was considered that site would not expect to endure through the plan-period for Reading Borough Council's Local Plan due to it being safeguarded for transport projects. Therefore, the site was not suitable for designation.</p>
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site incorporates the wider area of greenspace at Thames Valley Park situated along the River Thames and Thames Path National Trail. This area of open space is heavily used by walkers, cyclists, runners and commuters. It also provides an important link for active travel between Reading Borough and Wokingham Borough as well as further afield for long-distance walks to Sonning and the Chilterns.</p> <p>The area of land to the west of Thames Valley Park is classified as natural/semi-natural greenspace and is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment report (2012). The report indicated that the greenspace had the potential to score highly against the Green Flag criteria. The criteria are used to recognise and reward well managed parks and green spaces and sets a benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.</p> <p>The area of greenspace and footpaths situated along the Thames Path National Trail facilitate access to further open spaces, notably Kings Meadow and the Coal Woodland in Reading Borough which is recognised as <i>'one of Reading's largest and best public open spaces with a wide variety of facilities according to Reading Borough Council's Local Green Space and Public Open Space Background Paper (March 2018)<sup>1</sup></i>. Kings Meadow and the Coal Woodland is designated as a Local Green Space in accordance with the Reading Local Plan (2019).</p> <p>During engagement with landowners, it was recognised that the area of green space proposed in the Revised Growth Strategy included the Wokingham Waterside Centre and the University of Reading's Dreadnought boathouse, which comprises built development and adjacent land which benefitted from planning permission for associated development (ref: 121021). Its inclusion of these facilities are not associated with the use of the recreational use of the green space. The boundary of the previously proposed area is therefore amended to exclude this area from the Local Green Space designation, as shown in the map above.</p>

<sup>1</sup> [https://images.reading.gov.uk/2019/12/EV033\\_Local\\_Green\\_Space\\_and\\_Public\\_Open\\_Space\\_Background\\_Paper.pdf](https://images.reading.gov.uk/2019/12/EV033_Local_Green_Space_and_Public_Open_Space_Background_Paper.pdf)

Site reference	LGS029
	<p data-bbox="624 237 820 264"><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="624 309 1445 405">The site is located adjacent to the Isambard Kingdom Brunel bridge and the adjoining Horseshoe Bridge over the River Kennet which are both Grade II Listed.</p> <p data-bbox="624 450 820 477"><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="624 521 1445 730">The north-eastern part of the Thames Valley Park comprises a Local Wildlife Site (Nature Reserve), which forms part of the River Thames floodplain. The Local Wildlife Site consists of a mosaic of habitats including man-made lakes, wildflower seeded grassland, ponds, planted scrub, secondary woodland and small area of wet woodland and swamp habitat.</p> <p data-bbox="624 775 1445 1084">The Local Wildlife Site also contains lakes which include several ecological species, notably common reed, bulrush, common club-rush and areas of arrowhead and bogbean. A strip of grassland surrounds the lakes and contains species such as gypsywort, marsh woundwort, lesser skullcap, wild angelica, meadowsweet and sneezewort. There are also two areas of swamp habitat in the north comprising reed sweet grass and bulrush. A couple of small, shallow ponds are present which are shaded by trees. An area of wet woodland is present with a series of drains towards the east.</p> <p data-bbox="624 1128 1445 1294">The Thames Valley Park (East) Local Wildlife Site also comprises several habitats of principal importance that are protected under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006. Habitats include a small area of wet woodland, fen and eutrophic standing water.</p> <p data-bbox="624 1339 820 1366"><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="624 1411 1445 1834">The northern and western parts of the site have some particular tranquil value as they score medium/high in CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) mapping, predominantly due to the site's proximity to the River Thames and the surrounding landscape. The site is situated within the A1 'River Valley with Open Water' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Landscape Character Assessment (2020). The LCA recognises that this Landscape Character Area contains a reservoir of 'dark skies', providing an element of tranquillity and remoteness in this area. This is despite the site being situated on the edge of Reading and close to Thames Valley Business Park which are affected by light pollution from sources of artificial/external lighting.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS029</b>
	<p><u>Local significance</u></p> <p>There is a plaque on the horseshoe bridge to commemorate Peter Hay, a local artist and founder of the Two Rivers Press<sup>2</sup>. Peter Hay was known for his campaign to save the green space from the Cross-Town Route in the 1980s.</p> <p>The suitability of the area has been actively supported by several organisations, including Earley Town Council, Earley Environmental Group, Save Our Ancient Riverside (SOAR) and the Association of Central Earley Residents (ACER).</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The site is demonstrably special to the local community due to its recreational and ecological value. The site is an important amenity, frequently used by walkers, cyclists and commuters for recreational and leisure activities. Furthermore, the site is in proximity to the important open spaces of Kings Meadow and the Coal Woodland located in Reading Borough which are designated as a Local Green Space in their adopted Local Plan. The northern part of the site includes the Thames Valley Park (East) Local Wildlife Site that comprises a variety of habitats and species of principal importance that contribute towards the character of the River Thames floodplain.</p> <p>The built development and land that benefits from planning permission at the Waterside Centre and Dreadnought boathouse is excluded from the Local Green Space designation as it is not associated with the use of the green space and does not materially contribute to its importance.</p> <p>The proposed Local Green Space designation for land south of River Thames is shown on the map above.</p>

<sup>2</sup> <https://tworiverspress.com/shop/the-art-of-peter-hay/>



Maiden Erlegh Lake and Local Nature Reserve, Maiden Erlegh Park, Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS038</b>
Site name	Maiden Erlegh Lake and Local Nature Reserve
Site address	Maiden Erlegh Park, Earley
Site size	13.1ha
Site Description	<p>The site is situated within the residential settlement of Earley, and comprises an area of public open space, streams, lake and extensive woodland. Laurel Park Recreation Ground is adjacent to the southern boundary.</p> <p>The site is currently designated as a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) in Policy TB22 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan in which the Inspector, in his final report, recognised the extensive woodland and lake as features contributing to its local and visual significance. The designation is also proposed to be retained in the emerging Local Plan Update.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it is situated within the settlement of Earley, serving the existing residents of Hillside and Maiden Erlegh wards.</p> <p>Maiden Erlegh Lake and Woods can be accessed from a Public Right of Way on the western edge of the SULV off Beech Lane. A good network of footpaths across the site connects Maiden Erlegh Lake and Woods to the surrounding residential development and the adjacent Laurel Park Recreation Ground. For instance, access to the site is provided from Gipsy Lane to the east, Lakeside to the north, and Instow Road to the south.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is entirely local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is self-contained, surrounded by housing and bounded by extensive woodland.</p> <p>According to the SULV Topic Paper (2020), Maiden Erlegh Lake and Woods <i>‘provides a wooded backdrop to the surrounding properties and playing fields’</i> and <i>‘when combined with other significant trees within Earley, parts of the residential area acquire a verdant character’</i>. Further, the ancient and semi-natural woodlands, which comprise Oak Wood, Old Pond Copse and Moor Copse <i>‘provide a maturity to the landscape with the trees providing a wooded setting to the surrounding urban area’</i>.</p> <p>The assessment of the Maiden Erlegh Lake SULV also highlights that this is an area of high landscape quality due to its well-preserved naturalistic character provided by the lake and the mature woodlands. According to the assessment, the site also provides a green lung within existing residential development, which is entirely local in character.</p>

Site reference	LGS038
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Maiden Erlegh Lake and Woods is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace, which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the assessment of the Maiden Erlegh Lake SULV (2020), there are surfaced paths and seating around the lake and in some parts of the woodland which provide opportunities for recreation.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Maiden Erlegh Lake SULV consists of a lake within a wooded setting and extensive woodland is visually significant locally, providing a wooded backdrop to the surrounding properties and playing fields. According to the Council’s assessment in the SULV Topic Paper (January 2020) it is considered that <i>‘although these areas of more open in character than the woodlands surrounding the lake, they form an integral part of the wider public open space and represent an important recreation resource for local people’</i>.</p> <p>The site is considered to hold some historical value due to the former Maiden Erlegh Estate. According to British History Online (2019) the estate was associated with well-known and local historic figures, notably Solomon Joel who was recognised as one of the great benefactors of Reading and was once lord of the manor. Maiden Erlegh Lake and surrounding woodland were eventually sold to Earley Town Council and is now recognised as a valued ecological and local landscape resource.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Maiden Erlegh Lake is designated as a Local Nature Reserve, which is of local significance. This is supported by the assessment of the SULV in the Topic Paper (2020) which recognises that the woodlands, lake, lake margins and stream running through the woodland are of local importance.</p> <p>Further, the woodland areas to the south and east of the lake are also designated as a Local Wildlife Site. According to the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) (2016), the Maiden Erlegh Woods Local Wildlife Site consists of ancient and semi-natural woodland, lowland mixed deciduous woodland, wet woodland and a few associated marshy areas, which support a variety of wildlife, notably crayfish, kingfisher, common frog and mute swan.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS038</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>As a whole, the site holds limited tranquillity value, predominantly as Maiden Erlegh Lake and Woods is surrounded by existing residential development and local highways in the urban settlement of Earley. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low. The site is designated as a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) and is considered to hold some tranquillity value, as according to the Council’s assessment <i>‘the large expanse of Maiden Erlegh Lake provides a tranquil setting for the western part of the SULV’</i>.</p> <p>Furthermore, public access to some areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland are often restricted due to their ecological value, and therefore provide a strong sense of isolation and tranquillity within the urban area of Earley.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Maiden Erlegh Lake and Woods is an important and valued ecological and local landscape resource, and the associated woodlands and open spaces are significant features of value within the urban setting of Earley.

Meadow Park, Meadow Road, Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS052</b>
Site name	Meadow Park
Site address	Meadow Road, Earley
Site size	0.8ha
Site Description	Meadow Park is a park situated in Earley, between existing housing at Roman Way and Meadow Road. The park comprises a wildflower meadow, recreational space, garden, play facilities and an urban gym.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Meadow Park is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Maiden Erlegh ward, notably existing housing at Roman Way, Meadow Road and Robindale Avenue. The site can be accessed via pedestrian footpaths off Meadow Road and Roman Way.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is bounded on all sides by existing housing along Meadow Road, Roman Way and Robindale Avenue. The site is also situated in the heart of Earley, a Major Development Location.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Meadow Park is classified as a park and garden / urban park, which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The site comprises a play area and gym equipment, providing facilities for children, teenagers and adults.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Meadow Park became a ‘Fields in Trust’ park as part of the Queen’s Jubilee celebrations.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited ecological value, predominantly as the park is classified as cultivated/disturbed amenity grassland according to Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC). A small area of traditional orchards (BAP Priority Habitat) is located to the north of Meadow Park.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as it is situated in proximity to existing housing and community uses, notably Loddon Primary School. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in the surrounding area, for instance Maiden Erlegh Lake.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS052</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Meadow Park is an important recreational resource for the residents in this part of Earley. There are other areas of green space in the surrounding area, notably Maiden Erlegh Lake, but this does not offer the same level or type of recreational opportunities.

Redhatch Copse, Redhatch Drive, Earley





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS053</b>
Site name	Redhatch Copse
Site address	Redhatch Drive, Earley
Site size	4.2ha
Site Description	Redhatch Copse is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace situated in the heart of Earley, adjacent to residential south of Redhatch Drive. The site comprises an area of woodland that is adjacent to a recent housing development.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Redhatch Copse is in close proximity to the community as it is an area of green space serving the existing residents of Hillside ward. The site is privately owned, although pedestrian access is provided either side of the site connected by a circular path through the copse.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined edges, bounded by existing residential properties on all sides, notably Redhatch Drive, Westcroft Close and Collins Drive.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Redhatch Copse is privately owned and is not classified or recognised as public open space, however national guidance is clear that a site does not need to be publicly accessible, provided it satisfies the criteria for designation set out in national policy. A circular footpath has been laid out and is well used.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is designated as a Local Wildlife Site and contains a small area of varied ancient woodland, classified as lowland mixed deciduous woodland. According to the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC), parts of the site comprise ash with hazel coppice and elder. Bramble and bluebells are also present, along with other tree and plant species, including hairy wood-sedge, yellow pimpernel and wood sorrel. Some wetland species are also found in the wetter parts of the site, including marsh marigold and water mint.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Redhatch Copse is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as the site is bounded on all sides by existing residential properties, notably along Redhatch Drive, Collins Drive and Elm Lane. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS053</b>
	Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site performs relatively low in comparison to the tranquillity of other areas of green space in the locality.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Redhatch Copse is a significant area of natural and semi-natural greenspace which offers some recreational value. The site is both accessible and in close proximity to the community it serves.

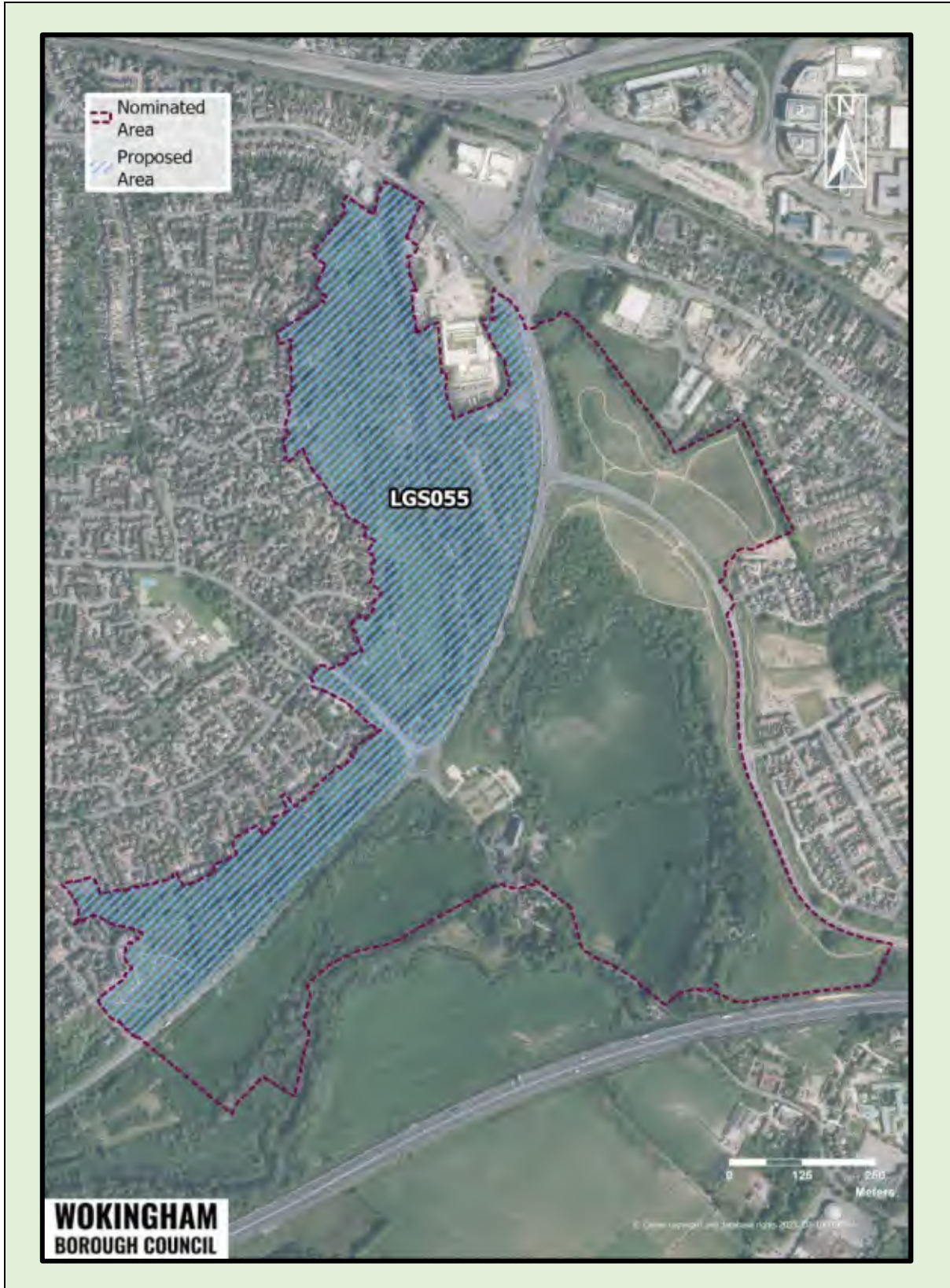
Thames Water Reservoir (Hillside), Elm Lane, Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS054</b>
Site name	Thames Water Reservoir (Hillside)
Site address	Elm Lane, Earley
Site size	3.2ha
Site Description	This site is recognised as a park and garden / urban park, which comprises an underground reservoir supplying water to buildings in Earley, Lower Earley, Woodley and south Reading. The reservoir is predominantly covered by improved grassland and also comprises trees and flowers. Given its use, the land gradually slopes upwards in the central part of the area to conceal the underground reservoir and then merges with the open parkland. This area also provides a degree of recreational value for residents in Earley. The urban park is situated in central Earley along Elm Lane, close to the administrative border of Reading Borough.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Hillside ward. The former reservoir site can be accessed via a pedestrian footpath along Elm Lane to the east and Fair Lawn Green to the west.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined edges. For instance, to the north / north-east the site is defined by Elm Lane, to the west the site is bounded by community uses, notably Whiteknights Primary School. The site is also bounded on three sides by existing housing along Tamarind Way and Elm Road.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The former reservoir (also known as Hillside) is classified as a park and garden / urban park, which is recognised as being of lower quality but higher value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>There are no immediate areas of green space in the north-western part of Hillside ward that are used for recreation purposes.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Hillside is predominantly classified as improved grassland by Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) but is not considered to be of any significant ecological value. However, the area does contain a mature woodland in the north-western and south-western boundaries and a small area has also been planted with saplings.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS054</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as it is situated in proximity to existing residential and community uses, notably Whiteknights Primary School. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in the locality.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The former reservoir is the only recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space in this part of Earley, that serves residents in the western part of Hillside ward.

**Lower Earley Meadows (Riverside Park) and Woodlands (A), Wokingham Road and Danehill, Earley**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS055</b>
Site name	Lower Earley Meadows (Riverside Park) and Woodlands (A)
Site address	Wokingham Road and Danehill, Earley
Site size	91.95 ha
Site Description	<p>Lower Earley Meadows (Riverside Park) and Woodlands comprises of parcels of privately owned land and other areas of greenspace that straddle the parishes of Winnersh and Earley.</p> <p>The northern part of the nominated area forms a linear corridor of planned green space running along the route of Lower Earley Way (B3270 which provides a natural buffer between the residential estate and the main road.</p> <p>The southern part of the nominated area comprises the following areas of greenspace: Hatch Farm country park, Sindlesham Meadows amenity greenspace and Riverside Park. Hatch Farm country park is an allocated public open space in Policy SAL04 of the Council's Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan (2014). Sindlesham Meadows is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace. Riverside Park is classified as a park and garden.</p> <p>The remainder of the nominated area comprises multiple parcels of land which are in private ownership.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes, in part. The northern and western parts of the nominated area is in reasonably close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Hawkedon, Winnersh and Maiden Erlegh wards. An existing Public Right of Way runs along the western boundary of the site connecting Sindlesham village to the top of Reading Road. The Public Right of Way also runs parallel to the course of the River Loddon.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes, in part.</p> <p>The area of greenspace to the north of Lower Earley Way is considered local in character as it forms part of a wider green corridor that provides a natural buffer between the residential estate and the main road. The area of greenspace was planned in as part of the adjacent residential estates and provides a degree of amenity and recreational value. Further, this corridor of greenspace is a recognisable feature of the physical form and layout of the settlement of Earley and acts to separate the built development from the open countryside beyond.</p> <p>The area to the north of Lower Earley Way is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, with clearly defined boundaries, for instance the corridor of green space is bounded by existing housing to the north and Lower Earley Way (B3270) to the south. Further north of Lower Earley Way, the site is bounded by the junction of the A329 and B3270 and commercial uses.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS055</b>
	<p>The area to the south of Lower Earley Way and the Winnersh Relief Road is not local in character and is considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. The area is separated from the community by these roads with the character being more open countryside.</p>
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site comprises several areas of open green space. For instance, the southern part of the site contains Sindlesham Meadows which is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces. The western part of the site is classified as a park and garden / urban park, known by the community as Riverside Park. To the east, this area is predominantly public open space in the form of Hatch Farm Country Park, which serves residents at Hatch Farm.</p> <p>Riverside Park also includes a play area which provides play facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Area of Play (LAP).</p> <p>Due to the site's location along the River Loddon, this route is popular for walking and is used extensively by the community for other formal and informal recreation activities. It also provides an attractive walking and cycling route from Lower Earley to Winnersh Triangle railway station, as well as Winnersh Triangle Business Park to the Showcase Cinema and Dinton Pastures Country Park.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some historical value with the presence of some important historic riverside features outside the proposed Local Green Space, such as traditional brick humpback bridges and water mills, which can be found at Sindlesham Mill and Sindlesham Bridge, both of which are also Grade II Listed. .</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is situated within the Loddon River Valley Biodiversity Opportunity Area, which is dictated by the extent of alluvium and sand and gravels in the valley. There are three Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) within the nominated area: The Loddon Bridge/Lower Earley Community Woodland, The River Loddon and the Alder Carr.</p> <p>The Loddon Bridge/Lower Earley Community Woodland (LWS) comprises grassland, planted in part with trees as a community woodland site. The site is now managed as a public open space between Lower Earley and the River Thames.</p> <p>The River Loddon LWS is a 17km stretch of the River Loddon running from Swallowfield to its confluence with the River Thames near Wargrave. The particular section of the river which falls within this area of greenspace has a diversity of features such as marsh, islands,</p>



Site reference	LGS055
	<p>inlets, riffles, river cliffs and extensive and varied channel vegetation. This includes uncommon Loddon Pondweed, Water Vole and a variety of dragonflies and damselflies that are mostly identified as Section 41 habitats of principal importance.</p> <p>Alder Carr LWS lies adjacent to the River Loddon and is an extensive area of larger alder coppice between the River Loddon and an old channel of the Loddon. This area has a shrub layer with hazel coppice and dog's mercury which is abundant in the ground. Wetland plants such as purple loosestrife and water mint are found along the Loddon.</p> <p>Part of the site also comprises several priority habitats, notably lowland mixed deciduous woodland, wet woodland, broadleaved woodland/semi-natural and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>No. This area of open greenspace forms a natural buffer between the residential estate and Lower Earley Way (B3270) and Winnersh Relief Road, and therefore holds limited tranquillity value. This is supported by the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020), which states that the area has a <i>'largely peaceful area, disturbance comes from major roads which cross the floodplain including the M4 and adjacent developments in Earley and Winnersh'</i>.</p> <p>Notwithstanding, some parts of the site are considered to hold some tranquillity value, due to their proximity to the River Loddon and the natural landscape of the River Loddon area, but this is not sufficient to satisfy the criteria.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes, in part.</p> <p>The part of the nominated area north of Lower Earley Way and the Winnersh Relief Road is considered suitable for designation as Local Green Space, providing a clear amenity and recreational role to the local community.</p> <p>The parts of the nominated area to the south of Lower Earley Way and the Winnersh Relief Road, whilst holding a degree of recreational and ecological value, (notably at Sindlesham Meadows) are separated from the community by the main road and play a role in the separation of settlements, with their character being more open countryside. The area is therefore not local in character and would constitute an extension tract of land.</p> <p>The proposed Local Green Space designation is shown on the map above.</p>

LGS056

**Lower Earley Meadows (Riverside Park) and Woodlands (B), Wokingham Road and Danehill, Earley**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS056</b>
Site name	Lower Earley Meadows (Riverside Park) and Woodlands (B)
Site address	Wokingham Road and Danehill, Earley
Site size	17.1 ha
Site Description	<p>This part of Lower Earley Meadows (Riverside Park) and Woodlands forms a linear corridor of planned open green space situated in the southern part of Earley, that runs along the route of Lower Earley Way (B3270). This corridor holds a degree of amenity value as it provides a natural buffer from adjacent housing and the main road.</p> <p>The nominated area provides important recreational facilities for local residents including at Red House Close, Paddick Drive and Lower Earley Woodland Meadows.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Hawkedon ward. Whilst there is no identified public access in some parts of the nominated area, particularly to the west of Meldreth Way, this area forms part of a wider framework of open space providing an important fringe to the local community.</p> <p>To the east of Meldreth Way, pedestrian access to the site is provided from several points including Lidstone Close, Simmonds Crescent, Barn Croft Drive and Mill Lane.</p> <p>This area of greenspace forms a wider green corridor running along the route of Lower Earley Way, from Loddon Bridge at Wokingham Road to Danehill. Lower Earley Way also provides a pedestrian/cycleway which can be used to access some areas of amenity greenspace.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Whilst the site is not considered truly local in character, the areas of amenity greenspace along Lower Earley Way (B3270) form part of a wider green corridor and form a natural buffer from existing residential and main roads, notably Lower Earley Way and to some extent the M4.</p> <p>The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, with clearly defined edges, for instance the corridor of green space is bounded by existing residential properties to the north and Lower Earley Way to the south.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>For the assessment, the site has been divided into two parts, west of Meldreth Way and east of Meldreth Way:</p>

Site reference	LGS056
	<p data-bbox="603 230 877 264"><i>West of Meldreth Way</i></p> <p data-bbox="603 304 1433 517">The site comprises several areas of open green space and play areas, notably Red House Close which is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace and Swallows Meadow, which is classified as amenity greenspace. Both areas of green space were recognised as being of mostly high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p data-bbox="603 555 1428 730">Red House Close and Chatteris Way (Wimblington Drive) play areas provide facilities for children in the form of Local Areas of Play (LAP). The play areas were recognised as a popular facility for the community as supported in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p data-bbox="603 768 869 801"><i>East of Meldreth Way</i></p> <p data-bbox="603 840 1428 981">The eastern part of the site forms a number of individual open spaces and green spaces, notably Paddick Drive which is classified as amenity greenspace and Lower Earley Woodland and Meadow, which is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace.</p> <p data-bbox="603 1019 1428 1193">Paddick Drive was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). This area of open space also includes a play area which provides facilities for children and teenagers, most notably the Paddick Drive Dirt BMX track.</p> <p data-bbox="603 1232 1407 1339">Lower Earley Woodland and Meadows is not classified in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012) but is recognised as a popular recreational resource for the community.</p> <p data-bbox="603 1377 798 1411"><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="603 1449 1420 1516">The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value, but further north of the site is Rushy Mead a Grade II Listed Building.</p> <p data-bbox="603 1554 805 1588"><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="603 1626 1407 1944">The site is situated within the Loddon Valley South Berkshire Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) and comprises known ecological species and habitats including Lowland meadows. Most of the site comprises a combination of improved grassland, scrub and semi-improved grassland. This corridor of green space comprises areas of woodland and individual Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). An area TPO also surrounds a part of Swallows Meadows amenity green space, which is closest to the junction of Meldreth Way.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS056</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, primarily due to its proximity to Lower Earley Way (B3270), the M4 beyond and existing residential properties. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low for its tranquillity.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. This nominated area of green space was planned in as part of the adjacent residential development and functions as a wider, linear green corridor along the route of Lower Earley Way (B3270). Although small parts of the nominated area do not have public access, the area does form part of a wider framework of open space which provides an important buffer to the local community. This particular corridor of green space also forms wider linkages to other valued areas of green space notably Pearman's Copse Local Nature Reserve, Red House Close public open space and Paddick Drive which are important recreational facilities for the residents of Earley.</p>

Loddon Fields, Lower Earley Way (West), Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS123</b>
Site name	Loddon Fields
Site address	Lower Earley Way (West), Earley
Site size	3.8 ha
Site Description	The nominated area forms part of a linear corridor of planned open green space along Lower Earley Way (West) (B3270). The green space is adjacent to Pearman's Copse (ref: LGS025), a Local Wildlife Site and Local Nature Reserve. This corridor of green space includes Ryhill Way play area and also holds a degree of amenity value by providing a natural buffer from the adjacent housing and the main road.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the residents of Hillside ward, notably for the properties backing onto the green space. Public access is provided by a Public Right of Way running from the eastern boundary and through the centre of the green space.</p> <p>The area of green space can also be accessed to the west from the adjacent Pearman's Copse (ref: LGS025).</p> <p>This area of greenspace also forms a wider green corridor running along the route of Lower Earley Way, starting from Loddon Bridge at Wokingham Road to the Black Boy roundabout at Shinfield. Lower Earley Way also includes a pedestrian/cycleway which can be used by residents to access further areas of amenity greenspace in the surrounding area.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Whilst the site is not considered truly local in character, the areas of amenity greenspace along Lower Earley Way (B3270) form part of a wider green corridor and form a natural buffer from existing residential and main roads, notably Lower Earley Way and to some extent the M4.</p> <p>The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, with clearly defined edges, for instance the corridor of green space is bounded by existing residential properties to the north, Pearman's Copse Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site (ref: LGS025) to the west and Lower Earley Way to the south.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site comprises an area of open green space and Ryhill Way play area. Ryhill Way play area provides facilities for younger children, such as swings, spring rockers, seesaw and multi-play unit, and was recognised as being of mostly high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS123</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site does not contain any particular ecological designations; however it is recognised that its location adjacent to Pearman’s Copse Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site may support wider habitats and wildlife.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, primarily due to its proximity to Lower Earley Way (B3270), the M4 beyond and existing residential properties. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low for its tranquillity.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. This nominated area of green space was planned in as part of the adjacent residential development and functions as a wider, linear green corridor along the route of Lower Earley Way (B3270). The area has public access and comprises a play area and a footpath which offer connectivity to the adjacent Local Wildlife Site and Local Nature Reserve at Pearman’s Copse. The area forms part of a wider framework of open space and provides a natural buffer from the main road and housing.</p>

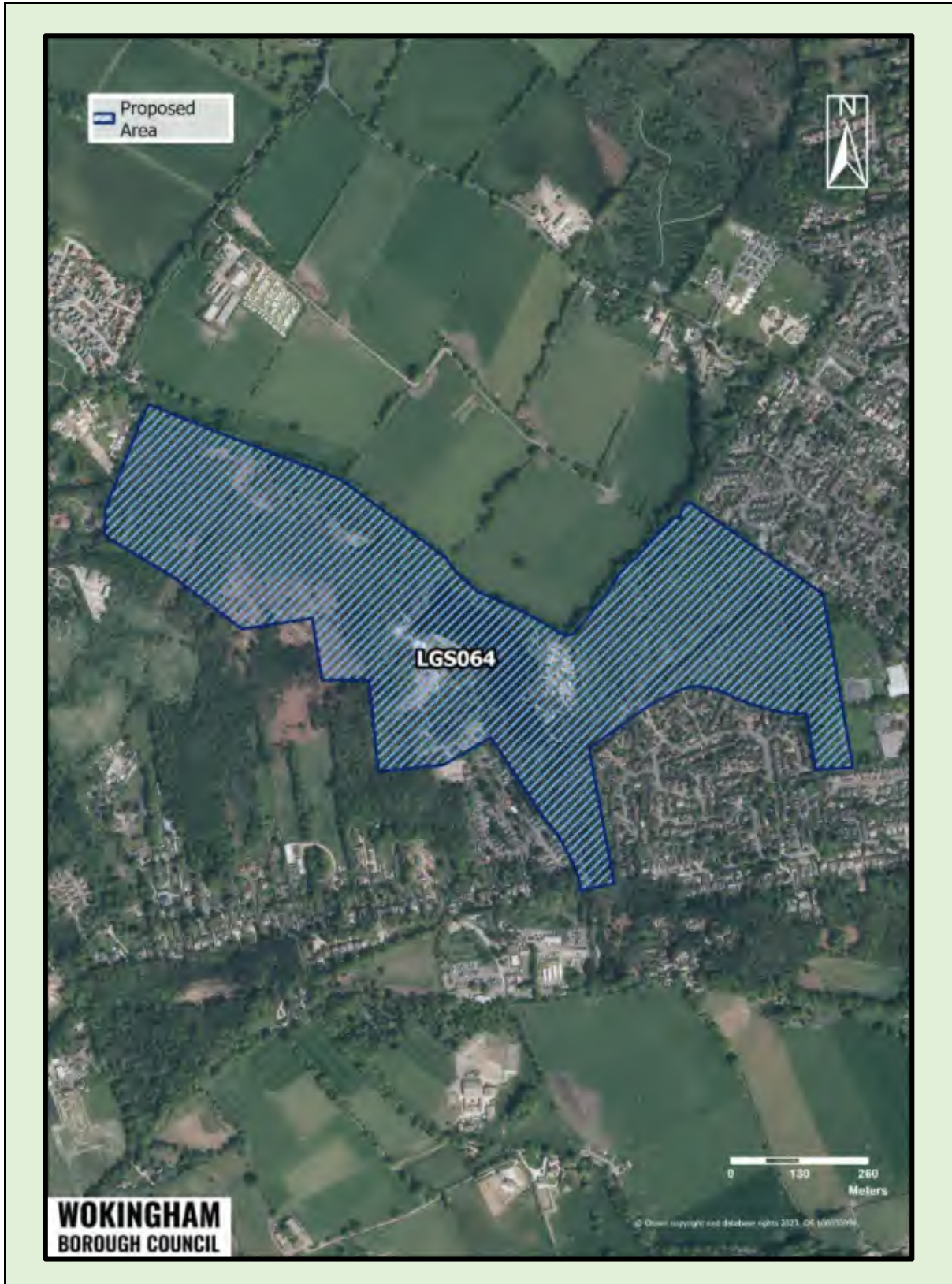


## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

### Finchampstead Parish



California Country Park and Longmoor Bog, Nine Mile Ride, Finchampstead



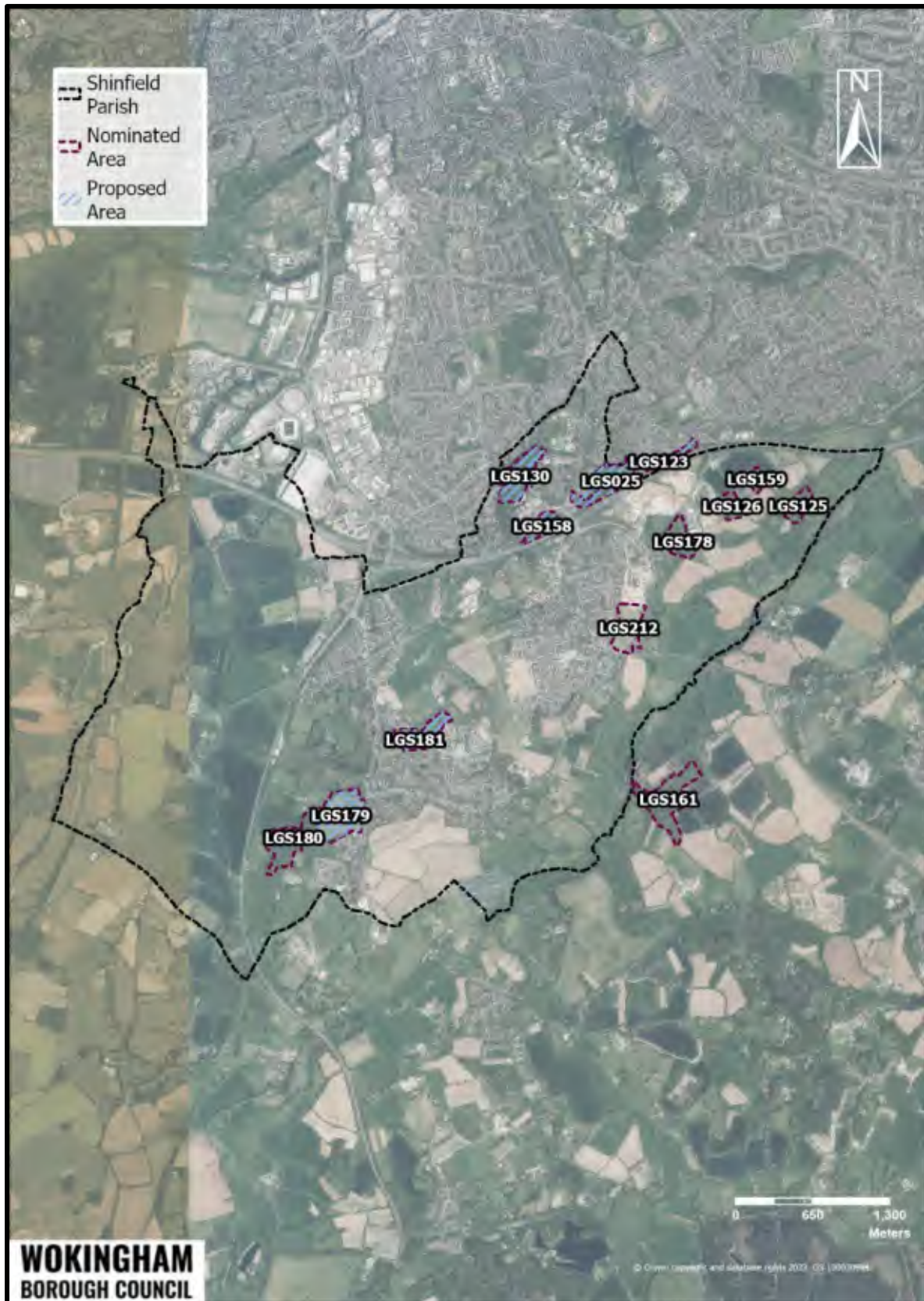
<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS064</b>
Site name	California Country Park and Longmoor Bog
Site address	Nine Mile Ride, Finchampstead
Site size	46.3 ha
Site Description	<p>A former amusement park / holiday camp now comprising of woodland, lakes, wetland areas, Longmoor Bog Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), camping park, visitor centre, play area and café situated in between Arborfield Green Strategic Development Location (SDL) and Finchampstead North.</p> <p>The southern boundary of the site is defined by the B3430 and existing housing along Nine Mile Ride. The northern boundary is less defined as the country park joins the adjacent agricultural fields, partially screened by trees and hedgerows. The eastern part is defined by the community centre, public open space / amenity greenspace at Gorse Ride and housing. The western and north-western part of the site backs on to private residential gardens along Nine Mile Ride and Commonfield Lane.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it primarily serves the residents of Barkham and Finchampstead South wards. However, the park also attracts other residents in the Borough and visitors further afield. The site is publicly accessible via a Public Right of Way and designated Green Route which runs along the northern boundary providing access from Arborfield Green SDL and Finchampstead North.</p> <p>The country park is interconnected by an extensive system of bridleways and footpaths, notably a network of greenway routes that run through the eastern part of California Country Park and provide pedestrian connectivity from Nine Mile Ride to the Public Right of Way which runs along the northern boundary.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as the site is relatively well self-contained and bounded by housing and main roads to the south, community uses to the east and housing to the north and west. Whilst the northern boundary is less defined, it is partially screened by trees and hedgerows which provide a degree of containment to the adjacent agricultural fields.</p> <p>California Country Park lies within the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019). The M1 LCA identifies this area as '<i>an elevated plateau characterised by dense woodland</i>'. According to the report, the woodland is '<i>varied with semi-natural areas and forestry plantation interspersed with heathland</i>'. The report recognises that the '<i>underlying heathland character typifies areas of woodland clearings such as California Country Park</i>' and '<i>the distinctive pattern of interconnected woodland and forestry..... provide scenic quality and visual</i></p>

	<p><i>diversity</i>', which demonstrates that the country park contributes to the local character and distinctiveness of Finchampstead North.</p>
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site comprises two significant areas of green open space, Longmoor Bog which is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace and California Country Park, which was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>California Country Park offers recreational activities such as scenic walks, wildlife watching and fishing. The park also includes a lake, play area and a network of surfaced and informal paths.</p> <p>California Country Park play area provides play facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Area for Play (LAP) and was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>California Country Park holds significant ecological value as it is set within one hundred acres of ancient bogland and lowland heath. The site comprises several ecological features/sites, most notably Longmoor Bog Local Nature Reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Longmoor Bog and Woodland California Country Park Local Wildlife Site (LWS) and Longmoor Lake Local Wildlife Site (LWS).</p> <p>The site also comprises several areas of priority habitat including broadleaved woodland, wet dwarf shrub heath, lowland heathland, eutrophic standing water and acid grassland.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>There are areas of high tranquillity value across parts of California Country Park, predominantly as it is situated in the countryside away from other uses. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007), where the site achieves moderate/high tranquillity in comparison to other areas in the surrounding area. Further, the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019) recognises that some areas of the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' LCA provide a sense of tranquillity, as the woodlands and smaller areas of pasture, mire and heath, created localised areas of remoteness.</p>

Recommended for Local Green Space designation	Yes. California Country Park is an important recreational and ecological facility that serves the residents of Barkham and Finchampstead. The site also holds significant ecological value due to the presence of the Country Park and Longmoor Bog Lake which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site.
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## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Shinfield Parish:



Pearman's Copse, Ryhill Way, Shinfield



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS025</b>
Site name	Pearman's Copse
Site address	Ryhill Way, Shinfield
Site size	9.7ha
Site Description	Pearman's Copse is a Local Wildlife Site, Local Nature Reserve and small area of ancient woodland situated in Lower Earley, which comprises ecological and archaeological features. The copse is surrounded by community woodland and provides links to adjacent areas of green space along Lower Earley Way (West).
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Hillside and Shinfield North wards. Pearman's Copse can be accessed via Shinfield Road which is recognised as a green route, Lower Earley Way and Rushey Way which are existing Public Rights of Way, and to the north via an existing Public Right of Way along Wilsford Close.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined edges. For instance, to the north and west, the site is bounded by existing housing, notably Ryhill Way, Wilsford Close and Worrall Way. To the east, the site is adjacent to an area of green space and play area at Ryhill Way (ref: LGS123). To the south, the site is bounded by Lower Earley Way (West).
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site is designated as a Local Nature Reserve, containing a small area of ancient and semi-natural woodland, and includes large areas of natural and semi-natural green space. A footpath runs through Pearman's Copse providing connectivity to adjacent green spaces, such as Nores Hill Woods and the adjacent area of green space at Ryhill Way (ref: LGS123). Pearman's Copse is one of several green spaces that form a network of walking routes in Lower Earley and Shinfield. Pearman's Copse was identified as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The nominated area at Pearman's Copse is adjacent to an area of open space and play area off Ducketts Mead which is currently outside of the nominated area. There is merit in including this area as it is largely surrounded by Pearman's Cope, and it provides play facilities for children and open space for the residents of Shinfield. Ducketts Mead play area was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Pearman's Copse comprises many classical archaeological features such as boundary banks and ditches which are typical of ancient</p>



Site reference	LGS025
	<p>woodland sites, according to the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre's (TVERC) assessment of the site for Local Wildlife Site designation (April 1993).</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold significant ecological value, as it is designated as a Local Nature Reserve and a Local Wildlife Site. Part of the copse contains an area of ancient and semi-natural woodland which contains several tree species, notably ash, hazel and oak. As a Local Nature Reserve, the site comprises natural and semi-natural greenspaces. Surrounding the copse is a section of community woodland, as well as footpaths forming pedestrian links to adjacent areas of green space along Lower Earley Way (West).</p> <p>Pearman's Copse Local Wildlife Site is a small area of ancient woodland, situated on the edge of housing developments, and which is surrounded by publicly accessible open space. The shrub layer comprises hazel and maple. The site also contains lowland mixed deciduous woodland, a Habitat of Principal Importance.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Pearman's Copse is considered to hold some tranquillity value, but some parts are somewhat diminished due to the proximity to the M4 and Lower Earley Way. This is acknowledged by the Woodland Trust who recognise this area as '<i>a fairly noisy broadleaf woodland at the edge of the M4</i>'. However, some parts of the site do offer a degree of tranquillity value, as supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007), where the eastern part of the site scores highly. Despite its mixed tranquillity, the site does perform an important function by acting as a natural buffer from the M4 and Lower Earley Way to the existing housing surrounding Pearman's Copse Nature Reserve.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Pearman's Copse is a Local Wildlife Site and Local Nature Reserve, which is recognised as an important ecological resource in the south of Earley. The site also forms wider linkages with other areas of greenspace along Lower Earley Way, notably Red House Close and Swallows Meadow for recreation. Further, in addition to its recreational value, the site performs an important function as part of a wider green corridor running along the route of Lower Earley Way (B3270), comprising an extensive linear strip of trees and hedgerows which form a natural buffer from existing housing and the main road.</p> <p>The adjacent area of open space and play area at Duckett's Mead is outside of the nominated Local Green Space, but it would recognise its recreational role to residents of Shinfield and Lower Earley. The boundary of the nominated area is therefore increased to</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS025</b>
	incorporate this area of open space and play area into the Local Green Space designation, as shown in the map above.

Nores Hill Woods, Shinfield



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS130</b>
Site name	Nores Hill Woods
Site address	Nores Road
Site size	8.48ha
Site Description	Nores Hill Woods comprises an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, ancient and semi-natural woodland and a Local Wildlife Site situated in Shinfield village adjacent to commercial / employment uses at Shinfield Park to the south-east, residential development at Nores Hill to the east and to north of the M4 motorway. The landscape is characterised by a prominent, undulating clay ridge between two lowland areas, with Nores Hill Woods including some steeper inclines. Remnant areas of parkland, such as Shinfield Park at Nores Hill are key features of the landscape.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Nores Hill Woods is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents of Shinfield North Ward, notably the community at the adjacent residential development at Shinfield Park. An existing Public Right of Way runs through the site in an east to west direction, which provides connectivity to the residential estate at Shinfield Park as well as the wider Shinfield village. The western connection also provides access for residents on the edge of Reading Borough, notably Whitley Wood. The woodland can also be accessed from Whitley Wood Lane via a kissing gate.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is self-contained by residential development to the east and west, notably Shinfield Park and Nores Hill, community and education uses to the north, notably Crosfields School and sports hall, and commercial uses to the south at Shinfield Park.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Nores Hill Woods comprises most of Shinfield Park Local Wildlife Site and an area of open green space which is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces. The nominated area at Nores Hill was recognised as being of low quality and low value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Notwithstanding, the nominated area forms a corridor of existing green space and woodland for the residential development at Nores Road and provides a natural buffer from the edge of Shinfield and the administrative boundary of Reading Borough. The green space therefore holds a degree of amenity and recreational value.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate historical value as it once formed part of Windsor Great Park and the royal hunting grounds. A hunting lodge was also known to be present and used by King HenryVIII. According to the Spencers Wood Local History Group, during the Second World War, the Headquarters of the Royal Air</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS130</b>
	<p>Force (RAF) Flying Training Command was relocated to Shinfield Park<sup>1</sup>. Shinfield Lodge, a Grade II listed Georgian building is situated in the middle of the residential development at Shinfield Park. A network of pathways leads up to the steep, wooded slope of Nores Hill and run through the woodland. The track links the former RAF accommodation off Whitley Wood Lane to Shinfield Lodge and other facilities. Nores Hill Woods was also part of a former Royal Air Force (RAF) camp, for which the concrete roadway and a lamppost are relics which remain present to this day<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold significant ecological value as it is designated as a Local Wildlife Site and comprises areas of ancient and semi-ancient woodland with a variety of wildflower and tree species.</p> <p>Nores Hill Woods comprises a number of wildflowers including bluebells, primroses, Dog’s Mercury and wood anemones. The site is also home to the rare Wild Service tree, a number of veteran oak trees and several group and single Tree Preservation Orders, which historically formed part of Windsor Great Park and royal hunting grounds.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Nores Hill Woods is considered to hold some tranquillity value, but some parts are somewhat diminished due to the site’s proximity to the M4 and Lower Earley Way and being surrounded by residential, commercial and community uses. However, some parts of the site do offer a degree of tranquillity value, as supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007), where areas of ancient and semi-natural woodland provide natural screening from residential, community and employment uses. The site performs an important function by providing a natural buffer from the edge of Reading Borough and Shinfield village.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Nores Hill Woods is a Local Wildlife Site and area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, which is recognised as an important ecological resource for residents in Shinfield. The site also provides recreational value, due to the Public Right of Way that connects through the site. Further, the site performs an important function as part of a green corridor adjacent to the residential development at Nores Road, comprising areas of ancient and semi-ancient woodland with veteran trees which form a natural buffer from the

<sup>1</sup> Spencers Wood Local History Group (July 2022), The RAF at Shinfield Park, available at: <http://swlhg.co.uk/index.php/the-raf-at-shinfield-park/>

<sup>2</sup> Shinfield Parish Volunteer Group (2024), Shinfield Parish Walks – Walk 6: Pearmans Copse and Nores Hill, available at: <https://shinfieldparish.gov.uk/shinfield-parish-volunteers/footpaths-cycleways-parish-walks/>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS130</b>
	edge of Shinfield and the administrative boundary of Reading Borough.

The Grove, Lower Earley Way

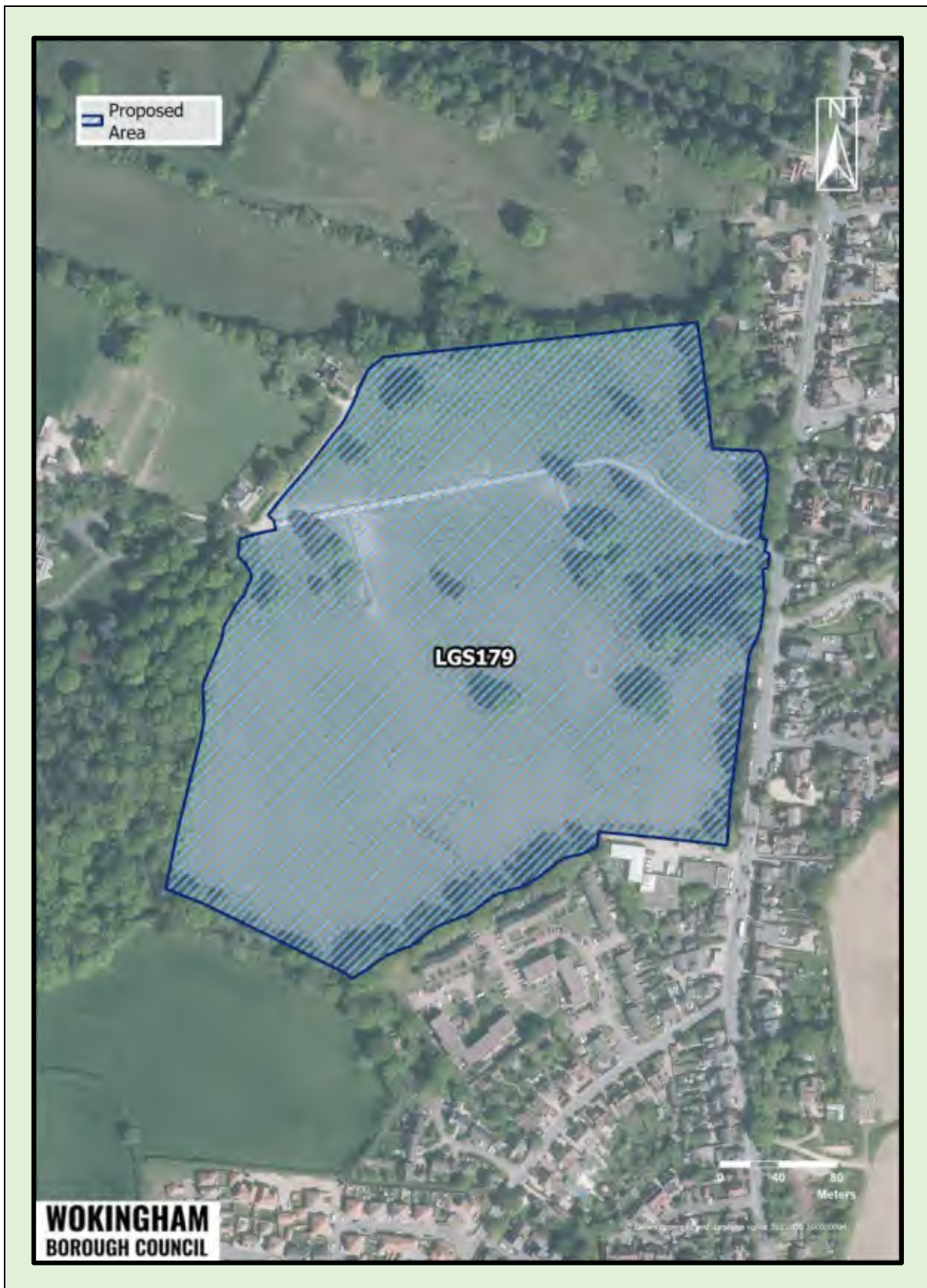


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS158</b>
Site name	The Grove
Site address	Lower Earley Way, Shinfield
Site size	4.02ha
Site Description	The Grove is a small Local Wildlife Site and area of natural and semi-natural greenspace situated to the north of the M4 in Shinfield.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes, in part. The site is in reasonably close proximity to the community as it is on the edge of Shinfield (North of M4). Whilst there is no identified formal access to The Grove, this area forms part of a wider framework of greenspace along Lower Earley Way.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is well self-contained with clearly defined edges. For instance, to the north, south and west, the site is bounded by main roads, notably the Black Boy Roundabout, Lower Earley Way (West) (B3270) and the M4. To the east, the site is bounded by the A327 (Shinfield Road), a recognised green route which provides links to Shinfield village, south of the M4.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Whilst The Grove Local Wildlife Site does not have any recognisable formal access arrangements, the nominated area forms part of a wider framework of greenspace that runs along the B3270 Lower Earley Way (West) and therefore holds a degree of amenity value providing a natural buffer from adjacent housing and the main road.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The Grove is considered to hold significant ecological value as it is designated as a Local Wildlife Site comprising an area of secondary woodland, small mosaic of rank grassland, scrub, broadleaved plantations and two balancing ponds. Across the site, the area forms a mosaic of habitats which support a number of wildlife species, notably orchids, garlic mustard, dog's mercury, chickweed and tree species, including ash, oak, pine, hawthorn, dogwood, whitebeam and wayfaring tree. An area of gravel has been colonised by common figwort, scarlet pimpernel, bristly oxtongue, shepherds purse and field forget-me-not.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value, because it is completely surrounded by the road network. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where</p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS158</b>
	the area mostly scores between moderate to low in terms of tranquillity value.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The Grove is a Local Wildlife Site, which is recognised as an important ecological resource for residents in Shinfield. In addition to its ecological value, the site also forms part of a wider framework of greenspace along Lower Earley Way. This linear corridor of greenspace performs an important function by providing a natural buffer from existing development and the main road and therefore holds a degree of amenity value.

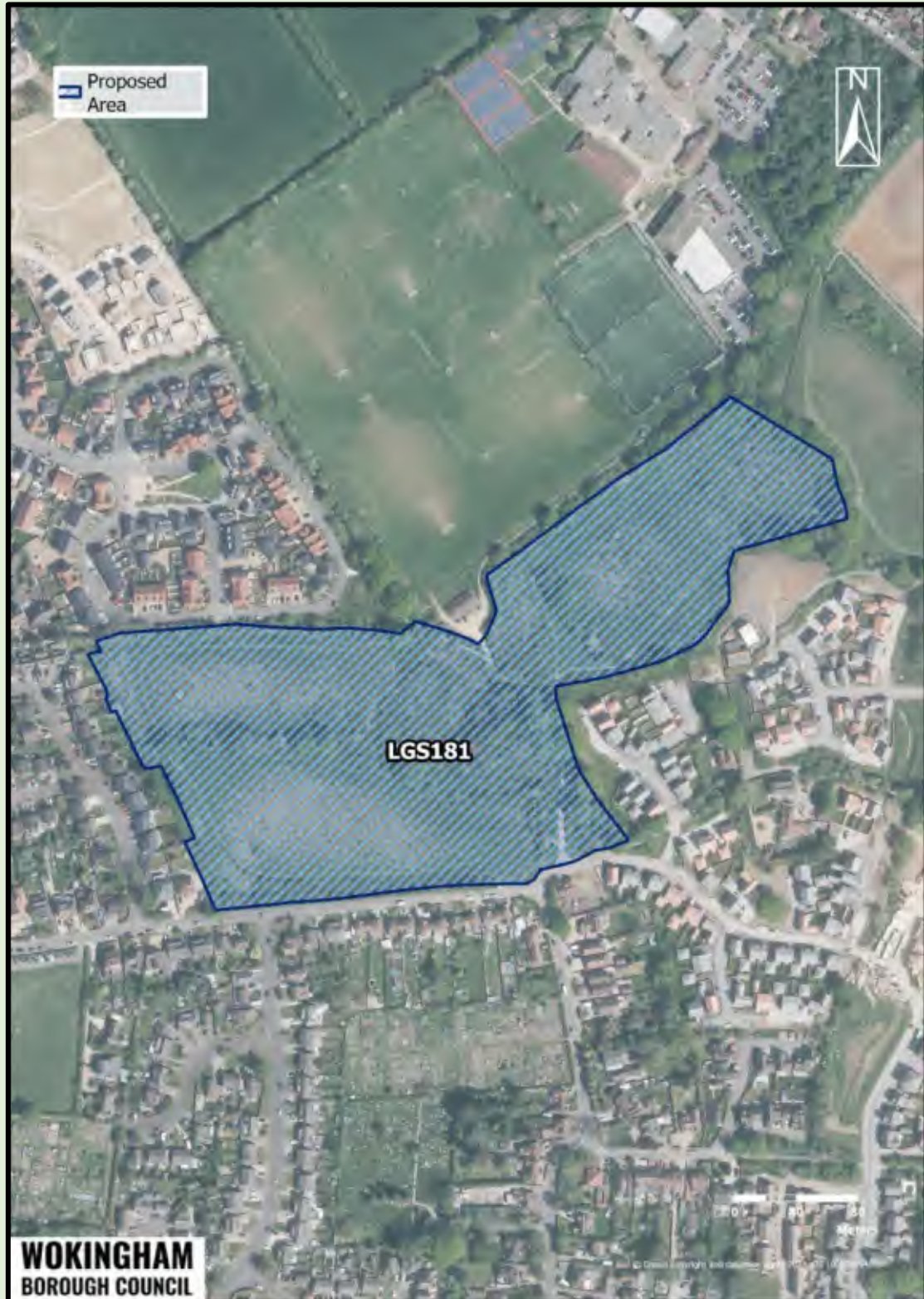
The Common, Basingstoke Road, Shinfield



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS179</b>
Site name	The Common
Site address	Basingstoke Road, Shinfield
Site size	13.0ha
Site Description	<p>An area of privately owned land situated on the western edge of Spencers Wood. Basingstoke Road, a recognised green route defines the eastern boundary of the nominated area.</p> <p>The nominated area is bounded to the north by narrow track, which is immediately adjacent to an area of proposed SANG at Stanbury House. The western boundary of the site is adjacent to a Local Wildlife Site, known as Woods between Whitehouse and Highlands. The southern boundary of the site is bounded by a row of trees, hedgerows and existing housing on the edge of Spencers Wood. The eastern boundary of the site is bounded by Basingstoke Road and forms the edge of the settlement.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Land at 'The Common' is in close proximity to the community as it is on the edge of Spencers Wood village and can be accessed via a Public Right Way running through the centre of the site, which connects to the green route along Basingstoke Road, and through to the adjacent Local Wildlife Site to the east.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as the area is relatively well self-contained and has clear and defined boundaries on the ground. For instance, the eastern boundary of the site is defined by trees and hedgerows and the adjacent Local Wildlife Site. Further, the northern boundary of the site follows a narrow track and an adjacent area of SANG proposed at Stanbury Park.</p> <p>The land is situated within the proposed Spencers Wood Southern Ridge Valued Landscape area, which gains its identity from the distinctive parkland character and elevated position on top of the ridgeline which runs parallel with Basingstoke Road. The council's assessment of the Valued Landscape indicates that historically the land between Highlands and Basingstoke Road formed an area of former common land, known as Spencers Wood Common.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>A Public Right of Way passes through the centre site and provides connectivity to the adjacent Local Wildlife Site, which offers wider recreational opportunities.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate historical value due to the land between Highlands and Basingstoke Road being former common land, known locally as Spencers Wood Common.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS179</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate ecology value as it comprises priority habitats, including lowland wood pasture and parkland and ponds, according to the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC). The land is also adjacent to the Woods between Whitehouse and Highlands Local Wildlife Site and could support wildlife habitats and species.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate tranquillity value due to its relationship with the adjacent Local Wildlife Site and SANG in a countryside location, but the value in the southern and eastern parts of the sites is somewhat diminished by Basingstoke Road and existing housing and community uses on the edge of Spencers Wood village. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (2009), where the northern part of the site scores higher than the southern parts.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The nominated area is situated to the west of Basingstoke Road, Spencers Wood and has a distinctly parkland character and forms part of the settlement pattern of Spencers Wood village. Further, the site supports priority habitats, notably from ponds and the Public Rights of Way running through the centre of the site provides connectivity to the adjacent Local Wildlife Site at Woods between Whitehouse and Highlands for wider recreational opportunities.</p>

Clare's Green Field, Shinfield

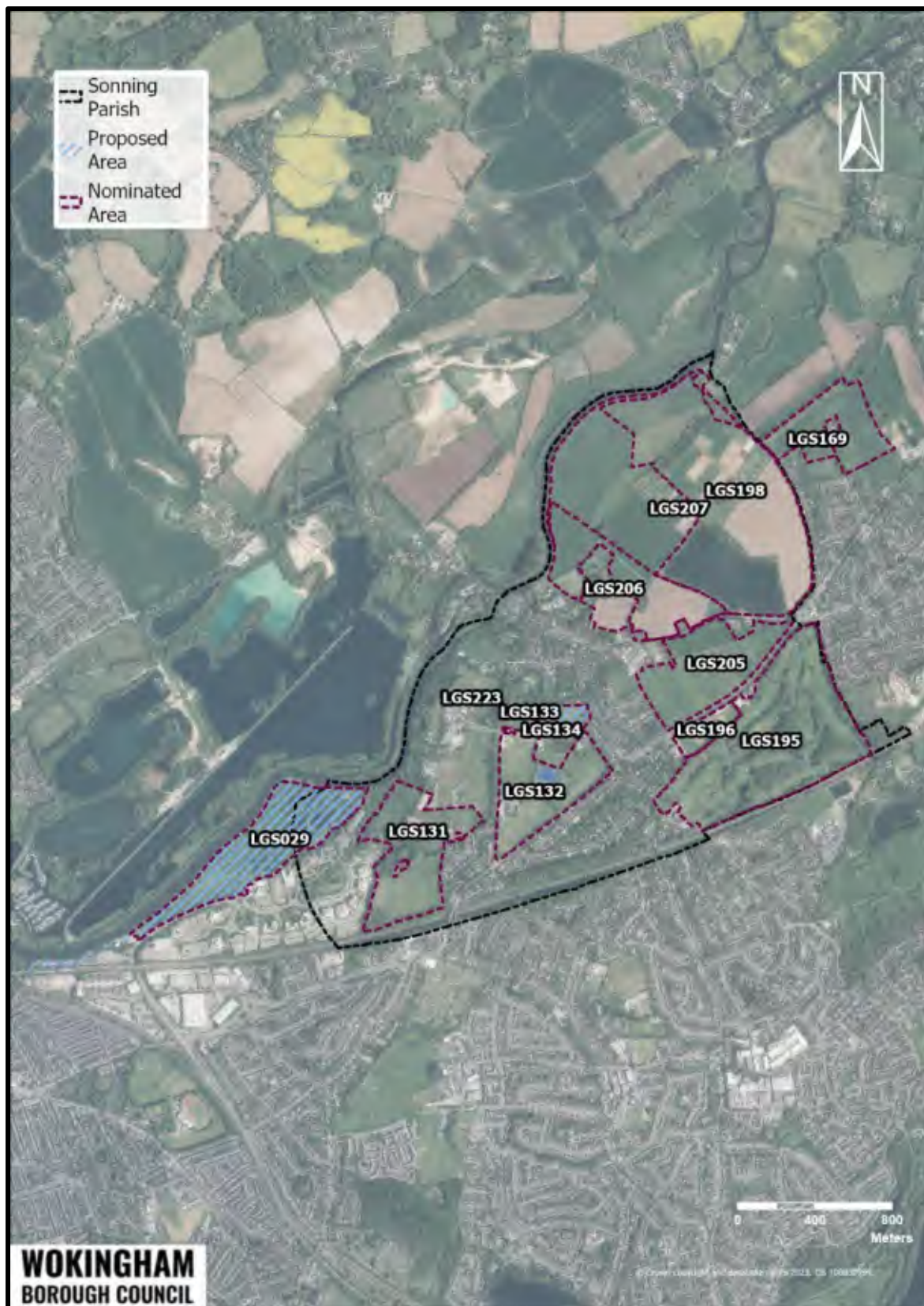


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS181</b>
Site name	Clares Green Field
Site address	Clares Green Road, Shinfield
Site size	6.92ha
Site Description	Clares Green Field is a Local Wildlife Site, Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) and an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace situated in the South of the M4 Strategic Development Location (SDL) and the edge of Spencers Wood village.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Clares Green Field is in close proximity to the community as it is situated within the South of the M4 SDL and on the edge of Spencers Wood village, which serves the residents of the new development and residents of Shinfield South ward. An existing Public Right of Way runs through the centre of the site, connecting the area of greenspace to Three Mile Cross and Spencers Wood villages via a recognised green route along Basingstoke Road. Clares Green Field can also be accessed from Ryeish Lane to the south and Wilder Crescent to the north.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is well self-contained by residential development and community uses to the west and north, notably sports provision for the South of the M4 SDL and existing housing at Wilder Crescent and Askew Drive. The southern boundary of the site is bounded by Clares Green Road and existing housing at Ryeish Lane. To the east, the site is bounded by the adjacent Five Acre Field.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Clares Green Field comprises a Local Wildlife Site and an area of open green space which is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspaces. The nominated area at Clares Green Field was recognised as being of high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The field includes a Public Rights of Way through the centre of the site that provides recreational opportunities.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure, but the southern boundary is adjacent to Nullis Farmhouse, a Grade II Listed Building.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Clares Green Field is considered to hold significant ecological value as it is designated as a Local Wildlife Site and comprises two ponds, trees and hedgerows, unimproved grassland and meadows which</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS181</b>
	<p>support habitats for insects and as a hunting ground for kestrels and barn owls.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, predominantly in the northern part of the site due its relationship with the open countryside. However, some parts of Clares Green Field are somewhat diminished as the site is surrounded by built development and community uses and bounded by a road (Clares Green Road). This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the area mostly scores between high to moderate in terms of tranquillity value.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. This area of natural greenspace forms an integral part of the South of the M4 Strategic Development Location and represent an important recreational and ecological resource for the residents of the SDL and South Shinfield wards. The nominated area provides opportunities for walking, forming a circular walk and linkages to the adjacent May's Farm Meadows and Five Acre Field.</p>

## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Sonning Parish:





Ali's Pond Nature Reserve, Sonning Lane

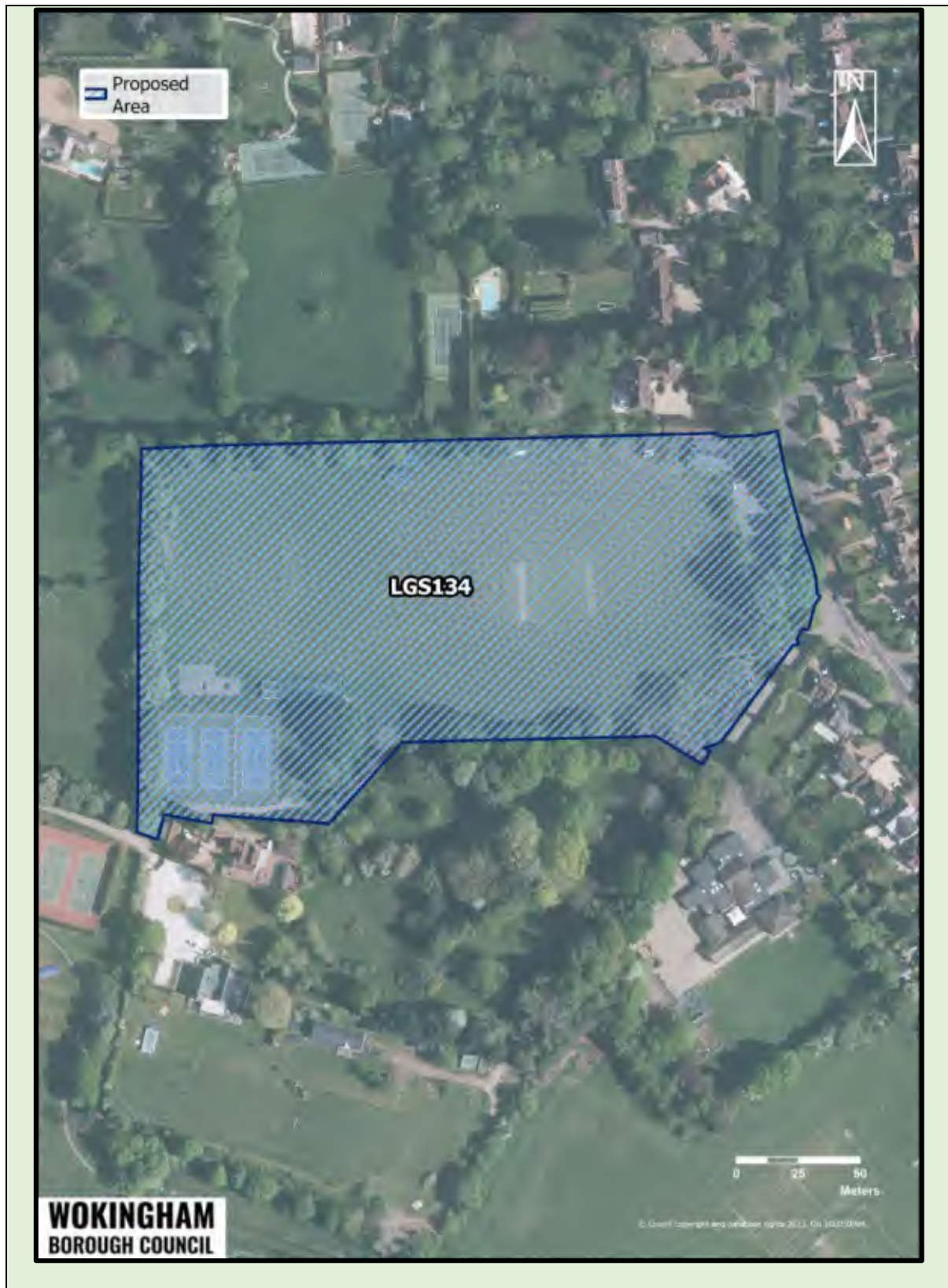


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS133; LGS223</b>
Site name	Ali's Pond Nature Reserve
Site address	Sonning Lane, Sonning
Site size	0.43ha
Site Description	<p>Ali's Pond is a small area of natural and semi natural greenspace, a pond and a Local Nature Reserve situated in the open countryside on the edge of the village of Sonning and within the Sonning Conservation Area. The northern boundary is defined by residential development along Pearson Road. The western boundary is defined by Sonning Lane (B4446) with the southern and northern boundaries by a small parcel of agricultural land and the adjacent King George's Field (LGS134).</p> <p>It is recognised that the adjacent area of green space to the western boundary comprises features that are identical to Ali's Pond such as a pond and footpath that connects to Sonning Lane, and therefore there is merit in incorporating this area into the Local Green Space.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves as Ali's Pond can be accessed publicly via the adjacent King George's Field which is also proposed for Local Green Space designation (LGS134). According to the Sonning Parish Council website, Ali's Pond Local Nature Reserve was established in 1997 by the parish council following an ecological survey which confirmed that the village had very few areas of high conservation value with public access.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as Ali's Pond is a small well self-contained site with clearly defined boundaries. This area of natural and semi-natural greenspace is bound by existing housing at Pearson Road to the north, to the south and west by a small parcel of agricultural land along Sonning Lane (B4446) and to the east by the adjacent King George's Field.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Ali's Pond is small area of natural and semi-natural greenspace and Local Nature Reserve which is a recognisable area of amenity greenspace that is publicly accessible for residents of Sonning. The site is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace which was recognised as being of high value and high quality to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment (2012).</p> <p>Ali's Pond also includes a small network of footpaths which provide access to the adjacent King George's Field for wider recreational opportunities and to Sonning Lane to the west, providing access to the village centre.</p> <p>According to the Sonning Conservation Area Appraisal (2017), Ali's Pond is an extension to the adjacent King George's Field and is recognised as one of four distinct open spaces in the Conservation</p>

Site reference	<b>LGS133; LGS223</b>
	<p>Area, which <i>‘provides a peaceful green area near the centre of the village whilst simultaneously providing a valuable refuge for protected species.’</i></p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is situated in the Sonning Conservation Area. According to the latest Sonning Conservation Area Appraisal (2017), the Conservation Area is enhanced significantly by the river and the green boundary, providing four distinct open spaces, most notably Ali’s Pond Nature Reserve, which forms an extension to the adjacent King George’s Field (LGS134).</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Ali’s Pond Local Nature Reserve was established by Sonning Parish Council following an ecological survey which confirmed that the village had very few areas of high conservation value with public access. According to the latest Sonning Conservation Area Appraisal (2017), Ali’s Pond is a small Local Nature Reserve that consists of a large pond surrounded by a wildflower meadow and native tree and scrub planting. Since its establishment in 1997, the site has become home to a wide variety of wildlife including priority species such as Great Crested Newt and Stag Beetle.</p> <p>Further, the Sonning Parish Design Statement (2004) recognises that the gardens and paddocks surrounding Ali’s Pond and King George’s Field are particularly important as they provide valuable refuges for the five species of reptile and amphibian which breed in the nature reserve pond and other ponds in those gardens. Since its establishment, various activities have been implemented to enhance the area and increase community involvement in its management and use, including pond creation, hedgerow and tree planting, wildflower planting, bird and bat box installation and erection of information boards. A Friends of Ali’s Pond (FAP) Group has been set up which consists of over 60 members, who regularly participate in volunteer management and conservation activities.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular tranquillity value and scores relatively low against CPRE’s Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) predominantly as the site is bounded by existing housing and community uses and is situated within the centre of Sonning village.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Ali’s Pond is a recognisable area of natural and semi-natural greenspace and Local Nature Reserve which holds high conservation

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS133; LGS223</b>
	and recreation value with public access for the residents of Sonning village.

King George's Field, Liguje Way



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS134</b>
Site name	King George's Field
Site address	Liguge Way, Sonning
Site size	3.49ha
Site Description	King George's Field is an area of amenity greenspace and a play area situated in the open countryside on the edge of the village of Sonning. The northern and eastern boundaries are defined by residential development along Pound Lane. The western boundary is defined by the grounds of Reading Blue Coat School, and the southern boundary is defined by community uses, notably Sonning Church of England Primary School and Berkshire County Sports Club.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves as King George's Field serves the residents of Sonning village. The field is the only recognisable and significant area of recreational space at Sonning. Access to the site is provided by Pound Lane to the east which connects to Old Bath Road (A4) a recognised green route.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as King George's Field is well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. The area of amenity greenspace is bound by existing housing at Pound Lane and Parkway Drive to the north and east, and to the south by the primary school and sports club, and to the west by the grounds of Reading Blue Coat School.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>King George's Field is maintained by Sonning Parish Council and is considered to be a recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space that is publicly accessible for the residents of Sonning. The site is classified as amenity greenspace and a play area which were both recognised as being of high value and high quality to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment (2012). According to the assessment, the amenity greenspace at King George's Field was identified as the highest scoring site due to a number of sports and ancillary facilities present on the site.</p> <p>The Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) recognises that facilities present on the site include the cricket pitch (home to Sonning Cricket Club), tennis courts and a car park. According to the study, both the cricket pitches and tennis courts are available for community use and are well used, notably for sports clubs such as Sonning Cricket Club, Reading Dynamites Cricket Club and Sonning Lawn Tennis Club.</p> <p>King George's Field also includes a pavilion which provides ancillary facilities such as changing rooms and bathrooms.</p> <p>Other additional facilities present on the site include play equipment for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area for</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS134</b>
	<p>Play (LEAP), a skate park, outdoor fitness equipment and Beech Lodge (a Scout Hut).</p> <p>According to the Sonning Village Design Statement (2004), the deeds to King George’s Field contain a covenant that the area can only be used for communal and recreational purposes.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is situated in the Sonning Conservation Area. According to the latest Sonning Conservation Area Appraisal (2017), the Conservation Area is enhanced significantly by the river and the green boundary, providing four distinct open spaces, most notably King George’s Field which is home to local sports clubs, a children’s playground and other recreational facilities (section 4.2). According to the Sonning Conservation Area Appraisal (2017), the green boundary around the Conservation Areas is defined by several features, including King George’s Field, which provide a <i>‘buffer zone preventing urban creep from Reading and Wokingham towards the heart of the historic village’</i> (Section 7).</p> <p>King George’s Field is managed by Sonning Parish Council using funds from the King George V Trust appeal and is designated as a Field in Trust. The distinctive herald plaques at the entrance of the site signifies its status as a King George V Field and were provided by the King George’s Field Foundation set up in 1936 to commemorate the King’s death.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site not considered to hold any particular ecological value but is situated adjacent to Ali’s Pond Local Nature Reserve.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular tranquillity value and scores relatively low against CPRE’s Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) predominantly as the site is bounded by existing housing and community uses, notably Sonning Church of England Primary School and Reading Blue Coat School and is situated within the centre of Sonning village.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. King George V Field is a recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space that is publicly accessible for the residents of Sonning village. The site also provides a range of facilities for formal and informal recreation.

Sports facilities and areas of the Old Redingensians Rugby Club, Old Bath Road, Sonning



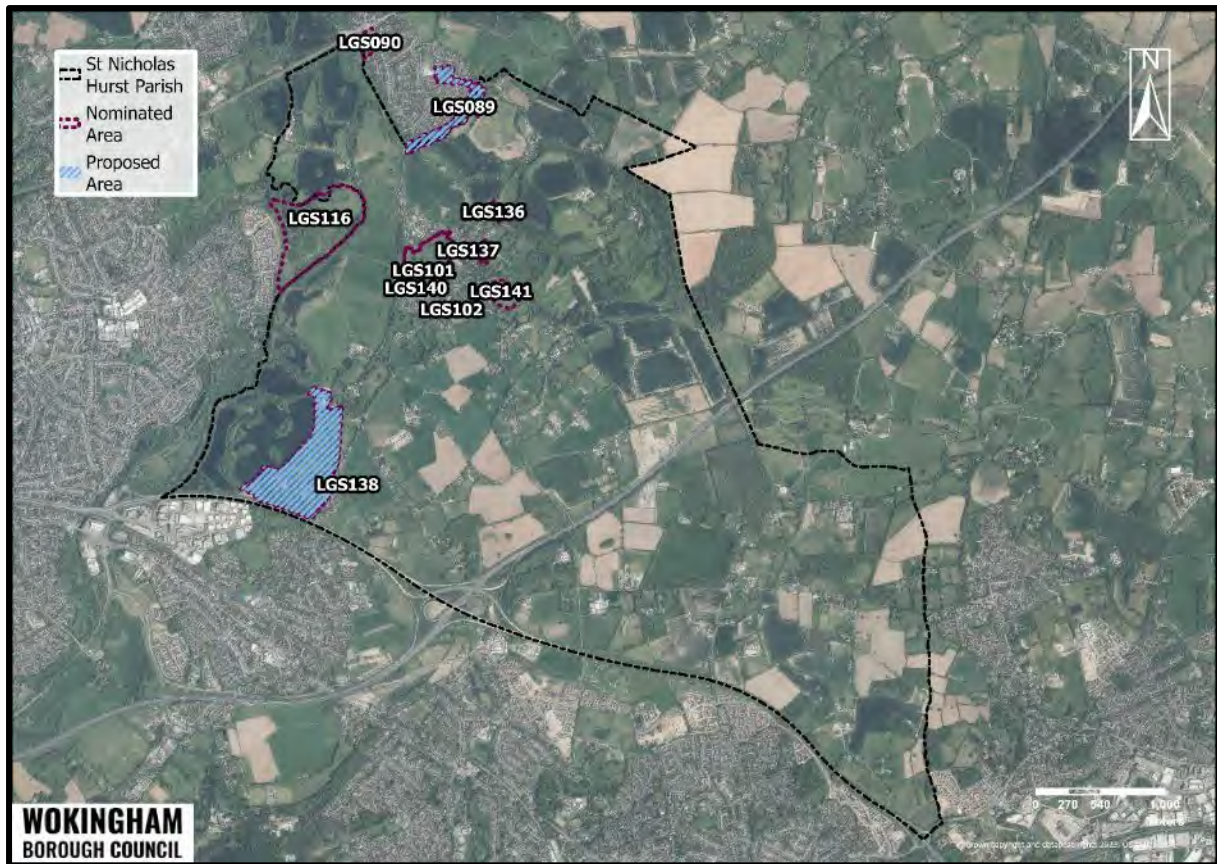


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS196</b>
Site name	Sports facilities and areas of the Old Redingensians Rugby Club
Site address	Old Bath Road, Sonning
Site size	4.3ha
Site Description	<p>The Old Redingensians Rugby Club is situated on the edge of Sonning village and in between Charvil village, along the Old Bath Road.</p> <p>The site is bounded to the north by the A4 (Bath Road), to the east by residential and commercial uses at Model Farm, to the south by Sonning Golf Club and to the west by Sonning Gardens Care Home.</p> <p>The land is privately owned and tenanted to the Reading Rams Rugby Club.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community due to its relationship on the edge of Sonning village.</p> <p>The site is privately owned, but the facility is open to spectators attending matches. The site therefore serves a relatively small proportion of the local community.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained by residential and commercial uses to the east and west, the A4 (Bath Road) to the north and Sonning Golf Club to the south.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some recreational value as the rugby facilities are used by spectators and visitors attending matches for the Old Redingensians Reading Rams Rugby Club. However, as the facility is privately owned, the use of the sports facilities is limited to members of the rugby club, serving a smaller proportion of the community and thereby tempering its local significance.</p> <p>Further, according to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the rugby club aspire to relocate their current facilities to a new site which is likely to affect the long-term use of the site and therefore its ability to endure beyond the local plan period, contrary to national policy and guidance.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value that would warrant further consideration.</p>

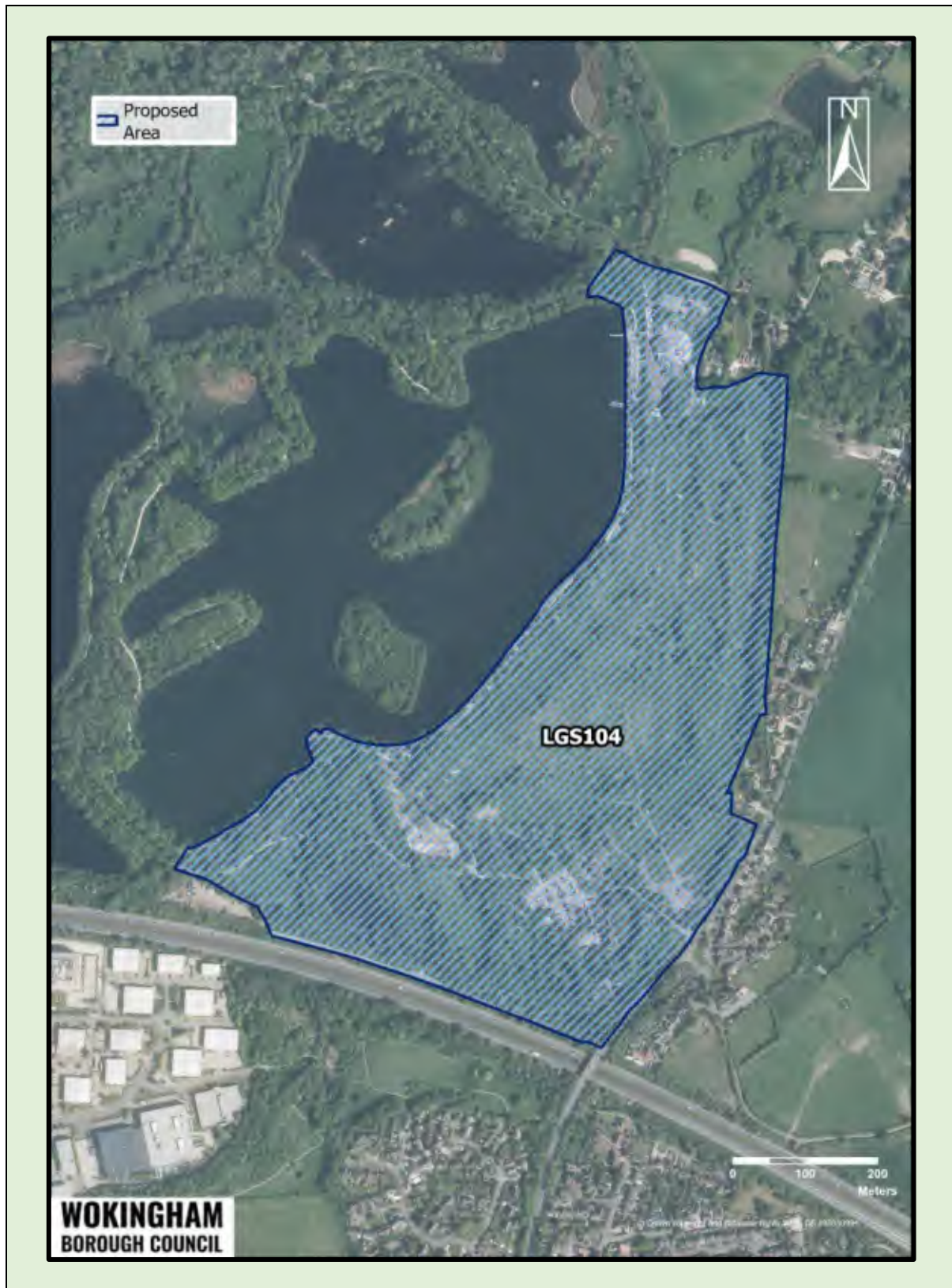
<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS196</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold a degree of tranquillity value, possibly due to its relationship to the golf course to the south. However, it is recognised that the western and northern parts of the nominated area hold very limited tranquillity value due to their proximity to the main road and residential and commercial uses. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the western parts of the site, on the edge of Sonning village score much lower compared to the tranquillity offered in the eastern and southern parts of the site.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>No. Whilst the facilities and ground at the Old Redingensians Rugby Club provide some opportunities for recreation, for its members and visitors, its private ownership limits wider community uses which is considered to limit its recreational value. Further, the rugby club have plans to relocate to a new site which would affect the long-term use of the land. As a result, there is some uncertainty as to whether the land would be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period if recommended for designation. The site is also not considered to hold any particular ecological value, historical value or tranquillity value that would warrant the facility being considered demonstrably special to the local community.</p>

## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

St Nicholas Hurst Parish:



Dinton Pastures, Hurst



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS104</b>
Site name	Dinton Pastures
Site address	Dinton Pastures, Hurst
Site size	39ha
Site Description	<p>The nominated area forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park and is situated to the east of Woodley and to the south of Hurst village. The country park is recognised as a valuable resource for formal and informal recreation for the local community.</p> <p>The southern and eastern boundaries of the site are defined by the A329(M) and the B3030 (Davis Street). The northern boundary of the site is defined by existing housing along Sandford Lane. The western boundary is defined by Black Swan Lake.</p> <p>This part of the park comprises an extensive network of footpaths, a play area, the Dragonfly Café and area of open green space.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of Loddon ward and Hurst ward. This part of the country park also facilitates pedestrian links to wider areas at Dinton Pastures, notably Mortimer Meadows (ref: LGS120) to the west. Further, the route of the proposed Loddon Long Distance Path and Emmbrook Riverside Footpath will improve connectivity to Dinton Pastures Country Park from Wokingham and Winnersh.</p> <p>A Public Right of Way runs through the centre of the nominated area and connects to Sandford Lane to the north and the B3030 to the east.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The nominated area at Dinton Pastures Country Park is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well self-contained, with clearly defined boundaries. For instance, the southern and eastern boundary is defined by the A329(M) and the B3030. The northern boundary of the site is defined by existing housing along Sandford Lane. The western boundary is defined by Black Swan Lake.</p> <p>The nominated area forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park Local Wildlife Site. The site falls within the B1 'Loddon River Valley with Open Water' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019). According to the LCA, this area comprises a peaceful floodplain landscape, where former gravel extraction has modified the landscape, resulting in a mix of land uses, including open water bodies, nature reserves and country parks.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The nominated area forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park, which is classified as a country park and park and garden and was recognised as being of high quality and high value to</p>

Site reference	LGS104
	<p>the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Further, according to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019) Dinton Pastures Country Park is recognised as a ‘popular recreational landscape’, and one of the key valuable attributes is the network of bridleways and public footpaths which provide recreational opportunities and enjoyment of the area. Together with the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park, the nominated area of greenspace is the only significant and recognisable area of open, recreational space that serves the residents in Loddon and Hurst wards.</p> <p>The site also comprises a play area, which provides play facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play (NEAP). The play facilities were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the Open Spaces Assessment Report, Dinton Pastures was identified as the flagship countryside site in the Borough, popular for activities such as walking, cycling and fishing. The park also offers water sport activities on Black Swan Lake, as well as activities such as fishing, frisbee golf and boating. A new activity centre at Dinton Pastures Country Park also opened in August 2021 which includes an activity hall, water sports facilities, changing facilities and coffee shop.</p> <p>The country park also forms part of the Council’s Health Walk Project.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some historical value, associated with its former use as an old gravel workings. According to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), the workings have been extensively restored resulting in the creation of Dinton Pastures Country Park, and this area has been subject to considerable modification due to gravel extraction practices, which has led to the creation of new landscape types characterised by natural floodplain and open water bodies.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The nominated area forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park, which is designated as a Local Wildlife Site and holds significant ecological value. According to Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) this Local Wildlife Site is based around old gravel pits that are managed for recreation and nature conservation. The site comprises areas of woodland, a small wet meadow and a larger area of grassland. The Landscape Character Assessment (2019) states that the country park represents the</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS104</b>
	<p>largest wetland site in the area, comprising lakes, wet woodlands and wetlands that support nationally important numbers of wintering gadwell and smew. This part of Dinton Pastures also comprises several areas of priority habitat, notably lowland fens, lowland mixed deciduous woodland, traditional orchards and eutrophic standing waters.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The nominated area of green space holds a degree of tranquillity in the context of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park Local Wildlife Site. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) and the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), where localised areas of tranquillity occur around the restored lakes and away from transport corridors and visual influence of adjacent settlements, but areas are less tranquil further to the east and south, predominantly due to their proximity to residential uses and roads, such as the B3030 and the A329.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The nominated area of green space forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park which is one of the most significant and recognisable green spaces that serves the residents of Loddon ward and Hurst ward, as well as attracting visitors across the Borough and further afield. The site also holds significant ecological value due to its designation as a Local Wildlife Site, which comprises several priority habitats including lowland fens, lowland mixed deciduous woodland and traditional orchards.</p>

School Road Recreation Ground, Hurst





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS137</b>
Site name	School Road Recreation Ground
Site address	School Road, Hurst
Site size	0.59ha
Site Description	<p>The recreation ground at School Road comprises an area of amenity greenspace and a play area situated in the village centre of Hurst, identified as an Area of Special Character in Policy TB26 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan (2014). The northern boundary of the recreation ground is defined by existing housing along the A321 (Broadwater Lane). The eastern, southern and western boundaries are defined by existing housing along School Road and Barker Court.</p> <p>The site boundaries are also defined by a line of trees and hedgerows.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the residents of Hurst as it is situated close to the village centre. Access to the site is provided by the A327 (Broadwater Lane) which is a recognised green route.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is located within the settlement of Hurst and situated in the Hurst village centre Area of Special Character.</p> <p>The site is therefore local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. The recreation ground is bound by existing housing and the A321 (Broadwater Lane). The northern and western boundaries are defined by a small linear hedgerow and the southern and eastern boundaries are defined by a group of trees which contribute to the character of the area.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The recreation ground at School Ground is the only recognisable area of open, recreational space for residents that is publicly accessible in the village centre of Hurst. The site is classified as amenity greenspace which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The park also provides recreational facilities such as play equipment for children and teenagers in the form of a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP). According to Hurst Parish Council, the play facility includes a basketball post, football goals and a shelter as well as being regularly used by dog walkers<sup>1</sup>. The play facilities were recognised as being of high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hurstpc.org.uk/facilities>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS137</b>
	<p>The amenity greenspace is used by several local organisations, including an outdoor fitness group. The recreation ground is also the venue for many community events, such as the annual St Nicholas Day celebrations held during the Christmas festivities.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate to high historical value, as the recreation ground is situated in the village centre of Hurst Area of Special Character, comprising several historic and listed buildings, notably Hurst Lodge, a Grade II* listed building and Local Historic Park and Garden; and Peacocks, a Grade II listed building that surrounds the site.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is classified as improved and cultivated/disturbed amenity land by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC), but there are no known or recorded ecological species or priority habitats present on the site. However, it is acknowledged that the adjacent Townsend's Pond is likely to be a suitable habitat for Great Crested Newts.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, but this is likely to be affected by the existing housing and local transport routes which are in proximity to the recreation ground, notably the A321 (Broadwater Lane). This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores moderate to low.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The recreation ground at School Road is a recognisable area of open, recreational space in the centre of Hurst village that can be publicly accessed by the residents of Hurst. The playpark comprises several pieces of play equipment and amenity greenspace that provides a range of formal and informal recreational activities. The recreation ground is also used as a venue for several community events, including to celebrate the annual St Nicholas Day during the Christmas festivities. The site also contributes to the character and setting of the Hurst village centre, Area of Special Character.</p>

Davis Street Playpark, Hurst



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS138</b>
Site name	Davis Street Recreation Ground
Site address	Davis Street, Hurst
Site size	0.45ha
Site Description	The playing field at Davis Street comprises an area of amenity greenspace in the countryside and between the settlements of Hurst and Winnersh. The northern, southern and eastern boundaries of the playing field are defined by small linear hedgerows. The western boundary of the playing field is defined by existing housing along the B3030 (Davis Street).
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves as the recreation ground serves the residents of Hurst. The site is one of few recognisable areas of recreational space in Hurst village. Access to the site is provided by a partial footpath along the B3030 (Davis Street). A larger area of green space can be found at Winnersh Meadows, further south of the site, which offers a greater range of recreational opportunities. However, the area is severed by the A329(M), making access by walking and cycling more difficult for residents in this part of Hurst.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is in the countryside and located near the edge of Winnersh.  The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. The recreation ground at Davis Street is bounded by housing and the B3030 (Davis Street). Small hedgerows and trees define the northern, southern and eastern boundaries.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  The playing field at Davis Street is a recognisable area of open, recreational space in Hurst village. The site is classified as amenity greenspace which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  The playing field also provides recreational facilities such as play equipment for children. According to Hurst Parish Council, the facility includes a basketball post, football goals, swings and benches, as well as being regularly used by dog walkers <sup>2</sup> . The play area was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  <u>Historical value:</u>  The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure. It is

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.hurstpc.org.uk/facilities>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS138</b>
	<p>recognised that the area was historically a former allotment site and was purchased by Hurst Parish Council in 1937 for use as a recreation ground, which is now a popular amenity and recreational resource for local residents in Hurst.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value as this area of greenspace is classified as improved grassland, although it does comprise some trees and newly planted hedgerows.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value as the amenity greenspace is in proximity to housing and local roads. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores lowly.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The recreation ground at Davis Street is a recognisable area of open, recreational space in the southern part of Hurst village and provides some facilities for formal and informal recreation.

Martineau Green, Martineau Lane, Hurst



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS224</b>
Site name	Martineau Green
Site address	Martineau Lane, Hurst
Site size	0.89ha
Site Description	An area of amenity green space and play area situated to the southwest of Hurst village. Martineau Green is surrounded to the north, east and west by housing at Martineau Lane. The southern boundary is defined by Sawpit Road.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves as Martineau Green serves the residents of Hurst. The site is one of few recognisable areas of recreational space in Hurst village. Access to the site is provided by several points along Martineau Lane and Sawpit Road.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. Martineau Green is surrounded on three sides by housing at Martineau Lane and bounded to the south by Sawpit Road.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Martineau Green is a recognisable area of open, recreational space in Hurst village. The site is classified as amenity greenspace and a play area which were both recognised as being of high quality and high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to Hurst Parish Council, the green space at Martineau Green has been the venue for the annual Hurst Show since 2019, and attracts residents and visitors, as well as supporting local charities, schools, clubs and organisations.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Martineau Green is adjacent to the Old School House, Hurst Area of Special Character, which comprises a cluster of buildings centred around the junction of Orchard Road, Sawpit Road, Church Hill and School Road. The roads are heavily vegetated with mature trees and hedging. The green space at Martineau Lane is named after Sir Philip Martineau, a lawyer, philanthropist and benefactor of Hurst.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value, but does comprise trees and hedgerows, and may support habitats for bat roosting.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS224</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value as it is surrounded by housing and local roads. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores lowly.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Martineau Green is a recognisable area of open, recreational space in the central part of Hurst village and provides facilities for formal and informal recreation, as well as the venue for hosting local community events, notably the annual Hurst Show.</p>



Willowmead Field, Orchard Road, Hurst



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS139</b>
Site name	Willowmead Field
Site address	Orchard Road, Hurst
Site size	1.23ha
Site Description	<p>An area of land between School Road and Orchard Road which lies adjacent to St Nicholas Hurst Church of England Primary School and Hurst Village Hall.</p> <p>The site is an open, undeveloped field surrounded by boundary trees and hedgerows, situated on the edge of Hurst village and in the countryside.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in Hurst village centre and in relative proximity to the community it serves. There is no public access to the site, but a Public Right of Way runs along the eastern boundary from School Road and Orchard Road.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is in the countryside and located adjacent Hurst village.</p> <p>The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. Willowmead Field is bound to the west by community uses, including Hurst Village Hall and St Nicholas Hurst Church of England Primary School. To the south, the site is bound by mature hedgerows along Orchard Road. To the east, the site is bound by a mature hedgerow forming the boundary of residential development at Orchard Chase. The northern boundary of the site is defined by the playground associated with the school, and School Road.</p> <p>The land was subject to a planning application (ref: 230074) for the proposed erection of 23 dwellings that was refused by the council's Planning Committee in February 2024. The officer's report acknowledged the site's location adjacent to an Area of Special Character. It was noted that, whilst the north side of development would appear to fit slightly better with the street pattern, it would change the street scene of School Road and the sense of permeability, landscape character and tranquillity provided by the wooded pasture field.</p> <p>The site falls within the I4 'Hurst Farmed Clay Lowland' LCA in the Landscape Character Assessment (2020) where the settlement area is of low density and there is importance of maintaining and enhancing key landscape features such as trees and hedgerows.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Willowmead field is not publicly accessible but has in the past been used to host annual social events, notably the Hurst Show and Country Fayre. Prior to its relocation to alternative sites in the village, the event had been held on Willowmead field since 1979. The field was also previously used to host the Party in the Park (since</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS139</b>
	<p>2000) and the Hurst Cottage Gardens Horticultural Show (since 1985).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is adjacent to the Old School House Area of Special Character (AoSC) (1994), which represents a specifically identified area of historic and or traditional buildings and landscape characteristics. The Old School House AoSC contains a number of Victorian period buildings, notably Hurst Village Hall, The Old School House, Willowmead and The Lodge, and forms the historic core of Hurst village centre. It is recognised that Willowmead field provides a positive countryside setting, and the undeveloped open field provides a setting to the south of School Road, but the officer’s report did conclude that there would only be a degree of localised harm to the character and appearance of the countryside and the Area of Special Character due to the loss of the undeveloped field. The officer’s conclusion does not therefore suggest that the loss of the undeveloped open field would make a significant contribution to the setting of School Road and Hurst village.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Willowmead Field predominantly comprises improved grassland fields with trees and hedgerows along the boundaries. The area lies outside of, but between two Biodiversity Opportunity Areas, as recognised in the council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2019).</p> <p>Mature hedgerows run along Orchard Road and between St Nicholas Primary School. Willowmead Field comprises several tree species including alder, ash, cherry, chestnut, lime, oak, willow and yew.</p> <p>An open ditch runs along the boundary of Orchard Road and is likely to provide a suitable habitat for several ecological species, including Great Crested Newts, common newts, frogs and toads. The council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2020) acknowledges that features such as open ditches are typical of the landscape and character of Hurst village.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>This site does not hold any particular tranquillity value as supported by the Landscape Character Assessment (2020) where the majority of this area scores relatively low. However, it is recognised that the landscape features do contribute towards the ‘open character’ of Hurst and create a positive sense of place.</p>
<b>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</b>	No. Willowmead Field was used to host annual social events, notably the Hurst Show and Country Fayre since 1979, however this event is now hosted on a variety of sites around Hurst village. The

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS139</b>
	site is not publicly accessible and therefore this limits its recreational value.

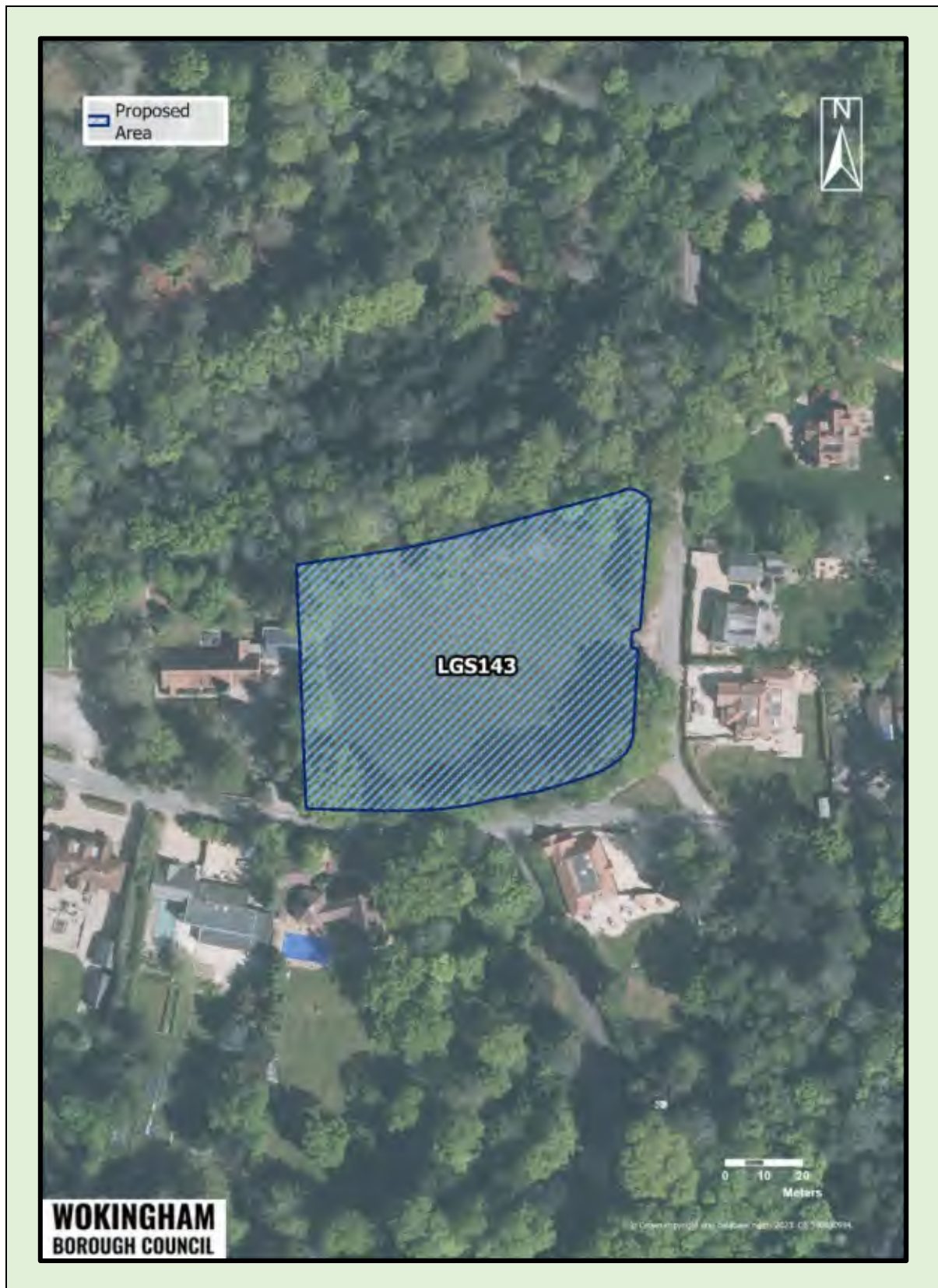
## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Swallowfield Parish:



LGS143

Farley Hill King George V Field, Swallowfield



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS143</b>
Site name	Farley Hill King George V Playing Field
Site address	Farley Hill, Swallowfield
Site size	0.6ha
Site Description	<p>Farley Hill King George V playing field is situated to the north of Farley Hill village and is designated countryside.</p> <p>The nominated area is also within the Farley Hill, Swallowfield Area of Special Character and adjacent to Farley Hall, a National Historic Park and Garden and Grade I Listed Building.</p> <p>The playing field is bound to the south by Bungler’s Hill and to the east by Castle Road. To the north, the site is bound by an existing Public Right of Way and the adjacent Farley Hall. St John’s Church is adjacent to the western boundary of the playing field.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, as the playing field is situated in the centre of Farley Hill village. The playing field is a recognisable and modest area of amenity green space that serves the residents of Farley Hill. Access to the site is provided by an existing Public Right of Way along the northern boundary connecting to the adjacent Farley Hall and via an entrance gate on Castle Road.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is designated as open countryside and forms part of the wider setting of the historic grounds of Farley Hall (a National Historic Park and Garden and Listed Building) and is situated within the Area of Special Character.</p> <p>The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is self-contained and enclosed by a wooded backdrop and the local road network. The playing field is also bound by St John’s Church to the west.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The King George V playing field is considered to be a recognisable and modest area of amenity greenspace in the centre of Farley Hill village. The site is classified as amenity greenspace which was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The playing field has been identified as a protected greenspace by the Fields in Trust (2022) since September 1938.</p> <p>According to Swallowfield Parish Council (2023), the playing field also comprises a children’s play area and sports field which are used by Farley Hill Primary School.</p>

Site reference	<b>LGS143</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is situated within the Farley Hill, Swallowfield Area of Special Character which is an area dominated by parkland estates and open fields/agricultural hinterland with a village cluster and infill developments. The Area of Special Character comprises many linear groupings of small cottages and farmsteads which have wooded backdrops. The wooded estate boundaries and entrance gates/lodges of the large, listed houses of Farley Hall (adjacent to the north) contribute to the character of the area.</p> <p>The site has been protected by the Fields in Trust since September 1938. Fields in Trust work in partnership with landowners to protect land through a Deed of Dedication, a binding legal commitment with the landowner, which secures spaces in perpetuity for current and future generations to enjoy.</p> <p>The herald plaques at the entrance of the site signifies its status as a King George V Field and were provided by the King George’s Field Foundation set up in 1936 to commemorate the King’s death.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is classified as cultivated/disturbed land and amenity grassland by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC), but there are no known or recorded ecological species present on the site. It is noted that the playing field is enclosed by woodland and trees which could support a variety of wildlife and habitats.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate tranquillity value, possibly due to the site’s location in the open countryside, enclosed by woodland and parkland associated with the historic grounds of Farley Hall. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the scoring for the playing field is moderate. Further, the nominated area is situated in the L2 ‘Farley Hill Wooded Sand and Gravel Hills’ Landscape Character Area (LCA), where according to the latest Landscape Character Assessment (2020) some key characteristics and attributes of the landscape include ‘<i>a historic parkland landscape</i>’, ‘<i>areas with a strong sense of seclusion and rural tranquillity</i>’, and ‘<i>an experience of dark skies due to the lack of settlement</i>’. Notwithstanding, the tranquillity of the area is somewhat diminished possibly due to the site’s proximity to the local road network and existing housing.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Overall, the playing field at Farley Hill is a recognisable and modest area of amenity greenspace that serves residents of Farley Hill village. The nominated area also forms the setting of the historic



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS143</b>
	grounds of Farley Hall, which contributes to the tranquil and rural character of the area.

Riseley Recreation Ground and Community Orchard, Odiham Road, Swallowfield



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS144</b>
Site name	Riseley Recreation Ground and Community Orchard
Site address	Odiham Road, Swallowfield
Site size	1.97ha
Site Description	The nominated area at Odiham Road comprises a modest area of amenity greenspace, a children's play area, skatepark, outdoor tennis courts, grass pitches, a community hall and a community orchard situated on the south-western edge of the village of Riseley. The northern boundary of the recreation ground is defined by housing along Part Lane. The western boundary is defined by Odiham Road forming the edge of the settlement. The eastern boundary is defined by a linear row of mature trees. The southern boundary of the recreation ground is defined by the historic route of The Devil's Highway Roman Road and forms the boundary between Wokingham Borough and Hart District.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in relative proximity to the community it serves as the recreation ground at Odiham Road serves the residents of Riseley village. The site is the only recognisable and significant area of recreational space at Riseley. Access to the site is provided by an existing Public Right of Way at the northern boundary along Part Lane which connects to the village centre. The western boundary of the site is the B3349 (Odiham Road), which is a green route and also provides public access to the car park at Riseley Memorial Hall.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is designated as open countryside and is located adjacent/on the edge of the development limits of Riseley.  The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. The Odiham Road recreation ground is bound by the local road network, notably Part Lane and Odiham Road and by the historic route of The Devil's Highway Roman Road and the administrative boundary of Hart District to the south. A row of mature trees also defines the eastern boundary and create a rural character to the area.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  The recreation ground is considered to be the only recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space in Riseley village. The site is classified as public open space and amenity green space which is recognised as being of high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  The recreation ground provides a range of recreational facilities for all users, including play equipment for young and older children, amenity greenspace, outdoor tennis courts, grass pitches, a skatepark and a community orchard.

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS144</b>
	<p>The memorial hall is used for village events and is the main meeting point for village groups and social gatherings.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The southern part of the site is located adjacent to the historic route of the Devil's Highway Roman Road. According to the East Berkshire Historic Landscape Characterisation report (2019), the Devil's Highway is the oldest known road in East Berkshire and runs between London and Silchester.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is classified as improved and cultivated/disturbed arable land by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC), but there are no known or recorded ecological species present on the site.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, possibly due to its location in the open countryside. However, other parts of the site are considered to be less tranquil due to their relative proximity to existing housing on the edge of the settlement and the local transport routes, such as the B3349 (Odiham Road) and Part Lane. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the scoring for the recreation ground is moderately low.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Riseley Recreation Ground and Community Orchard is the only recognisable area of open, recreational space that serves the residents of Riseley village and provides a wide range of facilities for formal and informal recreation.

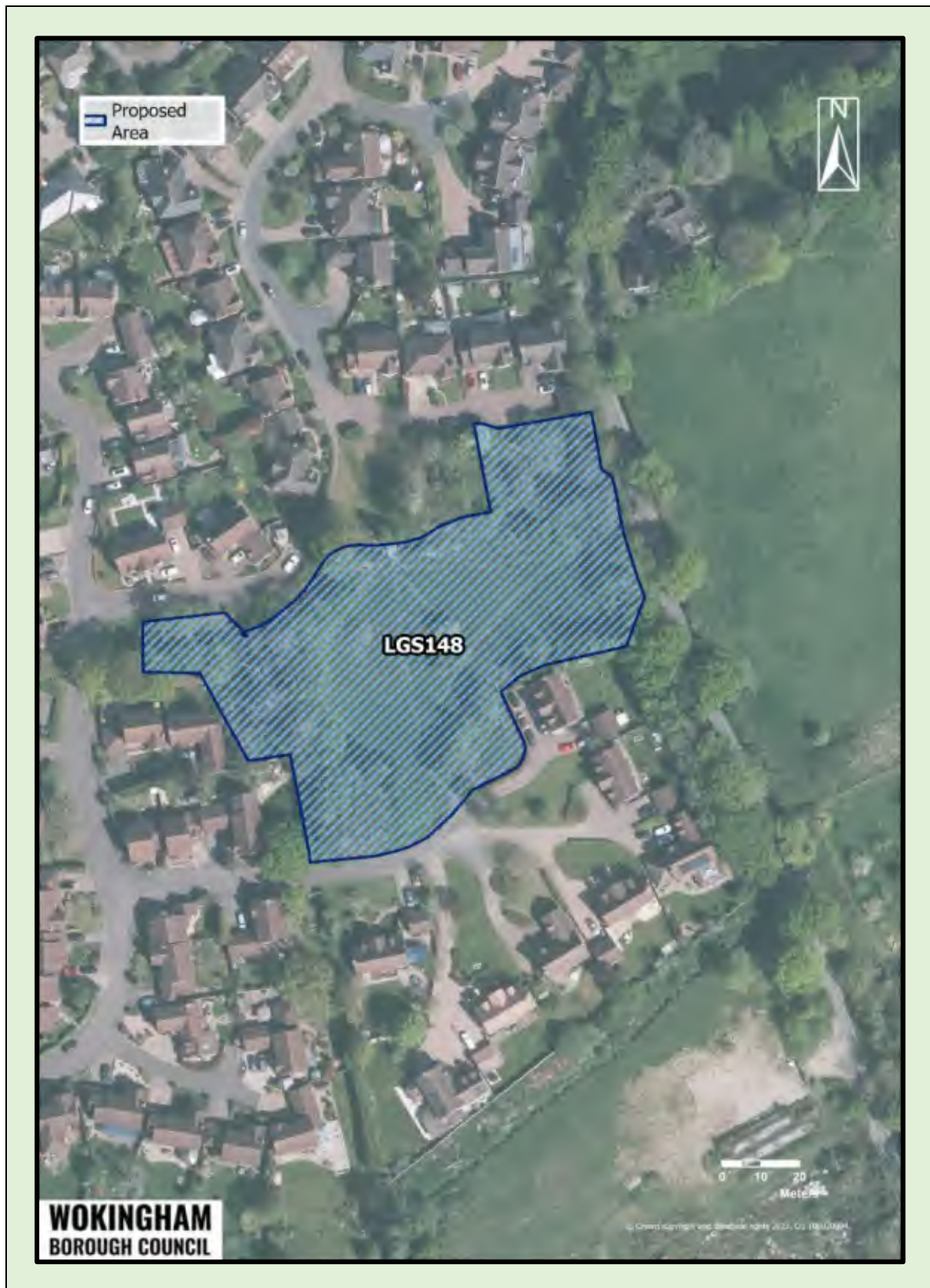
Swallowfield Recreation Ground, Swallowfield



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS147</b>
Site name	Swallowfield Recreation Ground
Site address	Swallowfield Street, Swallowfield
Site size	1.54ha
Site Description	The nominated area, known as Swallowfield Park, comprises a moderate area of amenity greenspace, grass football pitch and a children's play area situated on the northern edge of Swallowfield village. The nominated area is also situated in the grounds of Swallowfield Park, a Grade II National Historic Park and Garden. The northern and western boundaries of the recreation ground are defined by a linear row of trees and hedgerows, framing views of Swallowfield Park. The southern boundary is defined by Swallowfield Street forming the edge of the settlement. The eastern boundary is defined by some community uses, notably the Swallowfield Parish Hall and Swallowfield Pre-school.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in relative proximity to the community it serves as the recreation ground serves the residents of Swallowfield village. The site is the only recognisable and significant area of amenity green space at Swallowfield that provides a range of formal recreational opportunities. Access to the site is provided by a footpath along Swallowfield Street on the site's southern boundary.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is designated as open countryside, forming part of the setting of Swallowfield Park and is located adjacent/on the edge of the development limits of Swallowfield.  The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. Swallowfield Recreation Ground is bound by Swallowfield Street to the south, community uses to the east and to the north and west by a linear row of trees and hedgerows
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  The recreation ground is considered to be a recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space in Swallowfield village. The site is classified as a park and garden which was recognised as being of high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The report acknowledged that there were a number of sites, including Swallowfield Park, that were identified during assessment as being ' <i>in more dispersed locations, and are therefore likely to offer valuable open space provision aside from the surrounding countryside</i> '.  The recreation ground also includes play provision for children and teenagers in the form of a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP). The play facilities were recognised as being of high value to the community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).

Site reference	LGS147
	<p>According to Swallowfield Parish Council (2023), the recreation ground comprises a significant area of green space, a grass football pitch and goalposts, a multi-purpose games court for outdoor tennis, basketball and football, children’s play area and older children’s area and therefore provides a range of formal and informal recreation opportunities for residents of Swallowfield.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is situated within the grounds of Swallowfield Park, a National Historic Park and Garden. According to Historic England (2023), Swallowfield Park is a 17<sup>th</sup> Century country house with gardens and pleasure grounds surrounded by a landscape park. The setting of the park is largely agricultural and wooded, with the village of Swallowfield to the south-west and Spencers Wood village to the north-west.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is classified as cultivated/disturbed land and amenity grassland by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC), but there are no known or recorded ecological species present on the site.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate tranquillity value, possibly due to the site’s location in the open countryside and relationship with the historic grounds of Swallowfield Park. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the scoring for the recreation ground is moderate to high. Further, the nominated area is situated in the River Loddon Valued Landscape Area and Loddon River Valley Landscape Character Area (LCA) where, according to the latest Valued Landscapes Topic Paper (February 2020) its value is attributed to a <i>‘remote and rural landscape in the south of the area’</i> and <i>‘tranquil and rural character’</i> with <i>‘localised areas with a strong sense of tranquillity particularly in the south, with naturalistic qualities’</i></p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Overall, the recreation ground at Swallowfield Park is a recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space that serves residents of Swallowfield village. The nominated area also forms the setting of the historic grounds of Swallowfield Park, a National Historic Park and Garden and contributes to the tranquil and rural character of the area.</p>

Swallowfield Meadows Local Nature Reserve, Swallowfield





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS148</b>
Site name	Swallowfield Meadow Local Nature Reserve
Site address	Part Lane, Swallowfield
Site size	0.71ha
Site Description	<p>Swallowfield Meadow is a Local Nature Reserve and moderate area of natural and semi-natural greenspace situated in the southern part of Swallowfield village.</p> <p>The nominated area is bounded by existing housing to the north, west and south and by Part Lane to the east.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in proximity to the community as the Local Nature Reserve serves as a recreational and ecological resource for the residents of Swallowfield village. The site can be accessed publicly via the surrounding residential estates at Curly's Way and The Naylor's as well as to the east along Part Lane.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Swallowfield Meadow is a small Local Nature Reserve situated within an existing housing estate at The Naylor's in Swallowfield village.</p> <p>The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is well contained with clearly defined boundaries. The Local Nature Reserve is bounded by existing housing to the north, south and west and to the east by Part Lane forming the edge of the settlement.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Swallowfield Meadow is a recognisable area of natural and semi-natural greenspace in Swallowfield village. The site was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012) and was identified as one of the highest scoring sites based on the quality of natural and semi-natural greenspace provision in the borough.</p> <p>According to Swallowfield Parish Council (2023), informal pathways have been cut in the grass and a hexagonal bench installed on the site which facilitate activities for walking and other forms of recreational use for the residents of Swallowfield.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Swallowfield Meadows is a Local Nature Reserve and moderate area of natural and semi-natural greenspace that comprises meadows, trees, native hedgerows, a small copse, ditches and seasonal ponds</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS148</b>
	<p>which contain a rich variety of habitats for plant and wildlife<sup>1</sup> such as silver birch, field maple and hazel, as well as attracting water voles.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate tranquillity value, possibly due to the site's edge of settlement location and nature as a Local Nature Reserve. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the scoring for Swallowfield Meadow is moderate to high. Further, the nominated area is situated in the River Loddon Valued Landscape Area and Loddon River Valley Landscape Character Area (LCA) where, according to the latest Valued Landscapes Topic Paper (February 2020) its valued is attributed to a <i>'remote and rural landscape in the south of the area'</i> and <i>'tranquil and rural character'</i> with <i>'localised areas with a strong sense of tranquillity particularly in the south, with naturalistic qualities.'</i> Notwithstanding, this element of tranquillity is likely to be affected due to the site's proximity to existing housing.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Swallowfield Meadows is a small Local Nature Reserve which is situated within an established housing estate at The Naylor's and provides an area of green space for recreational and ecological value for the residents of Swallowfield village. The meadow and other features support a rich variety of habitats and wildlife including the endangered northern water vole.

<sup>1</sup><https://www.swallowfieldpc.gov.uk/recreation-and-green-spaces/green-spaces>

Farley Hill Cricket Field, Church Lane, Swallowfield



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS202</b>
Site name	Farley Hill Cricket Field
Site address	Church Lane, Swallowfield
Site size	1.51ha
Site Description	<p>Farley Hill Cricket Field is situated in the open countryside, north of Farley Hill and adjacent to Farley Hall, a National Historic Park and Garden and Grade I Listed Building.</p> <p>The nominated area is also within the Farley Hill, Swallowfield Area of Special Character.</p> <p>The site is bound to the north, west and south by mature woodland and to the east by a large parcel of agricultural land.</p> <p>The land is privately owned and includes a sports pavilion used by which is used by members and supporters of Farley Hill Cricket Club.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Whilst not within a recognised or identified settlement, the cricket club is in close proximity to the residents of Farley Hill. Public access to the site is provided via an existing Public Right of Way which runs along the eastern boundary from Priest Hill in the north to Church Lane in the south.</p> <p>The site is privately owned, and the facilities are primarily used by the members of Farley Hill Cricket Club. The site therefore serves a relatively small proportion of the local community.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, particularly as it is relatively well self-contained by mature woodland to the north, west and south and being situated within the Farley Hill, Swallowfield Area of Special Character.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some recreational value, as it offers opportunities for cricket. The site is privately owned, and the use of the facilities are mainly for members of the cricket club. The site therefore serves a smaller proportion of the local community and limits its recreational use.</p> <p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value that would warrant further consideration, but it is noted that the cricket ground is surrounded by mature woodland which could support a variety of wildlife and habitats.</p> <p><u>Historical Value</u></p> <p>The site is situated within the Farley Hill, Swallowfield Area of Special Character which is an area dominated by parkland estates</p>

	<p>and open fields/agricultural hinterland with a village cluster and infill developments. The Area of Special Character comprises many linear groupings of small cottages and farmsteads which have wooded backdrops. The wooded estate boundaries and entrance gates/lodges of the large, listed houses of Farley Hall (adjacent to the west) and Farley Court contribute to the character of the area. According to the Farley Hill Cricket Club official website (2023) the cricket ground forms part of the historic Farley Hall estate, and in 1984 a formal lease agreement was established for the land, on the condition that it remains as an operational cricket club.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold moderate tranquillity, possibly as the site is located in the open countryside and surrounded by parkland and woodland. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the scoring for the cricket ground is moderate/high compared to other areas in Farley Hill. Further, the nominated area is situated in the L2 ‘Farley Hill Wooded Sand and Gravel Hills’ Landscape Character Area (LCA), where according to the latest Landscape Character Assessment (2020) some key characteristics and attributes of the landscape include ‘<i>a historic parkland landscape</i>’, ‘<i>areas with a strong sense of seclusion and rural tranquillity</i>’, and ‘<i>an experience of dark skies due to the lack of settlement</i>’.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>No. Whilst Farley Hill Cricket Club provides some form of recreational value, the facility is isolated from any defined or recognised settlement and is therefore not in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.</p>

## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Twyford Parish:



LGS031

Malvern Way open space, Malvern Way, Twyford



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS031</b>
Site name	Malvern Way open space
Site address	Malvern Way, Twyford
Site size	1.32ha
Site Description	<p>This area of green space at Malvern Way is located north of Twyford and is classified as public open space. The site is bounded to the north by the A4 (New Bath Road) and to the south, east and west by housing along Malvern Way.</p> <p>This site is primarily used as community green space for recreation. However, it also provides a natural buffer from existing housing to New Bath Road (A4) and therefore provides a degree of amenity value.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Twyford ward. The open space at Malvern Way can be accessed by the public from Malvern Way to the south. The A4 (New Bath Road) is adjacent to the north and is recognised as a green route enhancement area.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries of residential development and New Bath Road (A4).
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>The nominated area at Malvern Way is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace, which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Malvern Way is one of a few recognisable areas of open space for recreation that serve the residents in the north of Twyford village centre.</p> <p>The open space was planned in as part of the established housing estate at Malvern Way and provides a natural buffer from the main road and existing housing. The site therefore holds a degree of recreational and amenity value.</p> <p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>The site is classified by Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) as improved grassland and a number of TPOs are also present across the site. However, the area of green space is considered to hold only limited ecological value.</p> <p><u>Historical value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p>



	<p><u>Tranquillity value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as the open space at Malvern Way is situated in the built-up area of Twyford village and is in proximity to existing housing and the A4 (New Bath Road). This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) and the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019) where the site scores relatively low.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. The open space at Malvern Way is one of few areas of open space for recreation that serves the residents in the north of Twyford village centre. The open space was planned to provide a natural buffer from the A4 for the residential development at Malvern Way. The site therefore holds a degree of recreational and amenity value which would warrant further consideration as a Local Green Space designation.</p>

LGS042

King George V Field, Loddon Hall Road, Twyford



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS042</b>
Site name	King George V Field
Site address	Loddon Hall Road, Twyford
Site size	6.17ha
Site Description	King George V Field comprises an area of amenity greenspace, a play area, tennis courts, football pitches, basketball court and a skate park, which are situated in the centre of Twyford village. The site is a protected space by the Fields in Trust. The field is bounded by Longfield Road to the north and is surrounded by existing housing and community uses, notably Polehampton Church of England Junior School to the east.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in proximity to the community as it serves the residents in the centre of Twyford. King George V Field is the only significant and recognisable area of recreational space in Twyford. Public access to the site is provided by Longfield Road to the north via the A321 Wargrave Road (a recognised green route) and by a footpath at Hermitage Drive.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is entirely local in character as it is situated in the heart of Twyford village and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well-contained within the built-up area of Twyford. The field has clearly defined boundaries, including residential, educational and community uses.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>King George V Field is considered to be one of few recognisable and significant areas of open, recreational space that are accessible for residents in the north of Twyford village centre. Both the amenity green space and play area on the site were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The playing field provides facilities such as play equipment, amenity greenspace, basketball courts, tennis courts and a skate park. According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the recreation ground comprises one adult football pitch and three junior football pitches which are available for community use and are well used. The football pitches on the site are the home of Twyford Comets Football Club.</p> <p>The adjacent Loddon Hall also accommodates private functions and events and is the headquarters for the 1<sup>st</sup> Twyford Scouts.</p> <p>Tennis courts on the site are also well maintained and are used by Twyford Tennis Club. The facilities are also available for community use by public and private members. The tennis facilities received a good quality rating in the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024). According to the strategy, membership at Twyford Tennis Club is at</p>

	<p>capacity and oversubscribed, which demonstrates how well the facilities are used by the local community.</p> <p><u>Ecological value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Historical value</u></p> <p>The site is managed by Twyford Parish Council. The herald plaques at the entrance of the site signifies its status as a King George V Field and were provided by the King George's Field Foundation set up in 1936 to commemorate the King's death.</p> <p>The site has been protected by the Fields in Trust since March 1939. Fields in Trust work in partnership with landowners to protect land through a Deed of Dedication, a binding legal commitment with the landowner, which secures spaces in perpetuity for current and future generations to enjoy.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular tranquillity value and scores relatively low against CPRE's Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) predominantly as the site is bounded by existing housing and community uses and is situated within the centre of Twyford village.</p> <p><u>Local significance</u></p> <p>The King George V Field also hosts a number of frequent and annual community events, most notable the annual bonfire and fireworks extravaganza.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. King George V Field is a significant and recognisable area of open, recreational space that serves the residents of Twyford, with a number of sports and leisure facilities that are home to local sports clubs and organisations. The site also holds some local significance as the field hosts a number of local events including the annual bonfire and fireworks extravaganza and is the base for Twyford Comets Football Club and the 1<sup>st</sup> Twyford Scouts. Furthermore, the site commemorates King George V's death, which provide a sense of local identity and distinctiveness to the area.</p>

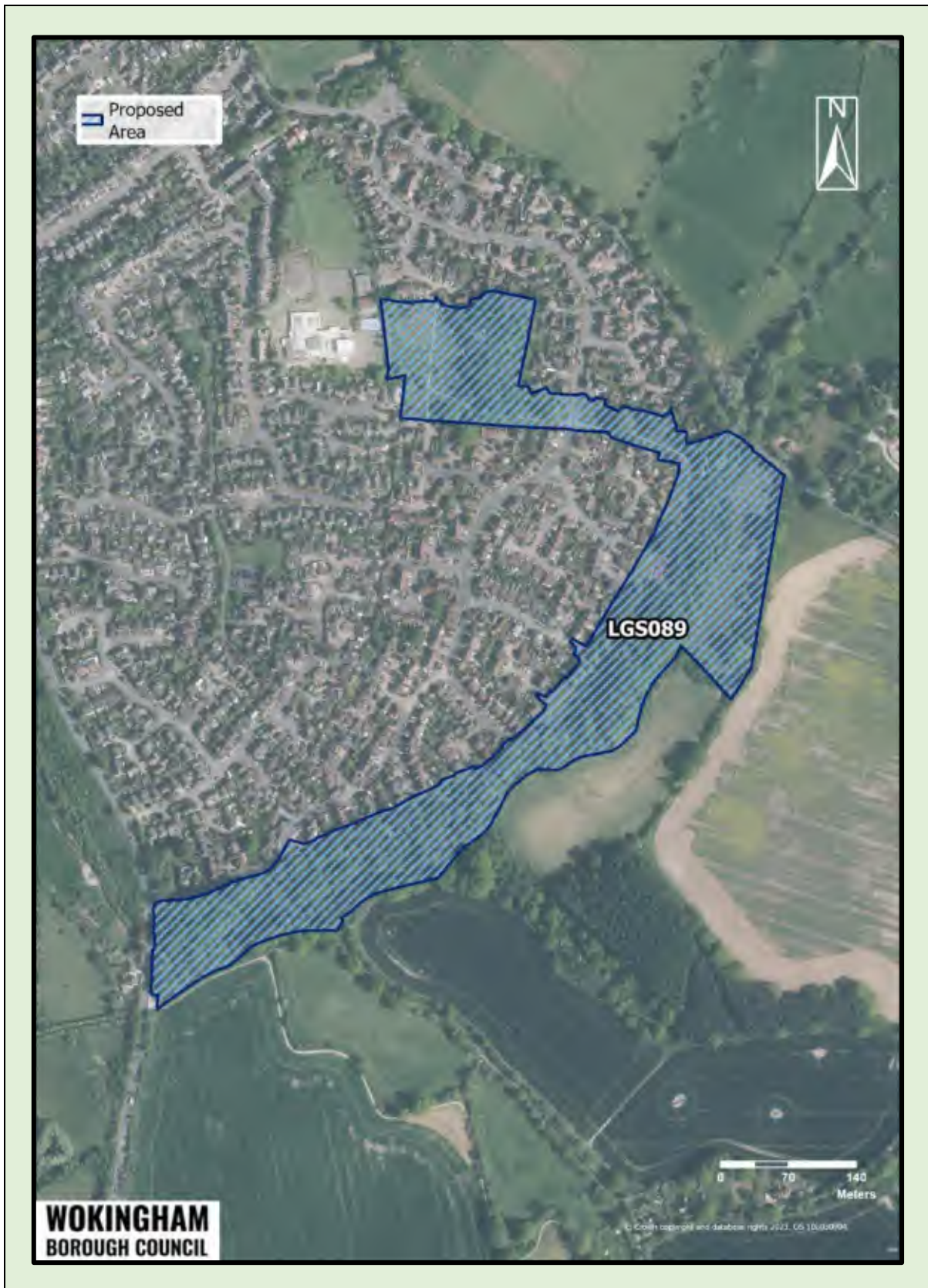
Stanlake Meadows, Waltham Road, Twyford



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS043</b>
Site name	Stanlake Meadows
Site address	Waltham Road, Twyford
Site size	7ha
Site Description	Stanlake Meadows is a recreation ground located southeast of Twyford village centre, comprising amenity greenspace, football pitches and cricket pitches. The site is bound to the north by the Great Western railway line, to the east by Stanlake Lane and a small area of woodland and copse, and to the south and west by existing housing along Waltham Road (B3018).
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in proximity to the community as it serves the residents in southern Twyford and Ruscombe for formal or informal recreation. Public access to the site can be achieved via an existing Public Right of Way along Waltham Road, which is a recognised green route that provides connectivity to the village centre.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is entirely local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well-contained within the built-up area of Twyford. The recreation ground has clearly defined boundaries, as the site is bounded by the railway line to the north, existing housing along the B3018 (Waltham Road) to the south and west and Stanlake Lane to the east. The site's boundaries are also screened by a row of trees and hedgerows.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>Stanlake Meadows is considered to be one of two recognisable and significant areas of open, recreational space in Twyford.</p> <p>Stanlake Meadows Recreation Ground is classified as amenity greenspace and according to the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012) is the largest amenity greenspace in the borough (10 hectares). The amenity green space at Stanlake Meadows was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The recreation ground provides two adult football pitches and cricket pitches and ancillary facilities which are used by Twyford Comets Football Club and Twyford &amp; Ruscombe Cricket Club. According to the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), both facilities are available for community use, well used and achieved a standard to good quality rating.</p> <p>The site also includes a fitness trail which provides further opportunities for recreation.</p> <p>Stanlake Meadows also hosts the Annual Twyford Village Fair, Dog Show and Classic Car show and the annual Twyford Beer Festival, while the pavilion is also used as a Polling Station.</p>

	<p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>This site is considered to hold some ecological value as the northern part of the site contains lowland mixed deciduous woodland (BAP Priority Habitat). Further, the southern part of the site contains traditional orchards (BAP Priority Habitat).</p> <p><u>Historical Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>The site holds limited tranquillity value and scores low/medium against CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) predominantly due to the proximity of the railway line. Given the location of the site on the edge of the village it is therefore considered to hold some degree of tranquillity value.</p> <p><u>Local significance</u></p> <p>Stanlake Meadows also hosts a number of community events, most notably the annual Twyford Village Fair, Dog Show and Classic Car show and the annual Twyford Beer Festival.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Stanlake Meadows is a significant and recognisable area of open, recreational space that serves the residents in the southern part of Twyford. The site also holds local significance as the recreation ground hosts a number of local events and is home to several sports clubs, including Twyford Comets and Twyford and Ruscombe Cricket Club.</p> <p>During engagement with the parish council, it was recognised that the nominated area excluded the adjacent woodland and copse to the east which comprises some community tree planting. The boundary of the proposed area has been amended to incorporate the copse and woodland as it is considered to hold recreational and amenity value. The proposed Local Green Space designation is shown in the map above.</p>

**Broad Hinton open space, Broad Hinton, Twyford / Hurst**





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS089</b>
Site name	Broad Hinton open space
Site address	Broad Hinton, Twyford / Hurst
Site size	9.78ha
Site Description	The nominated area at Broad Hinton comprises Waltham Close amenity greenspace and play areas at Verey Close and Waltham Chase. The area of greenspace is situated to the south of Twyford, on the edge of the settlement and stretches east to west along Broad Hinton. The site follows the course of the Twyford Brook which abuts the southern boundary of the site.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents in the south of Twyford. The area of greenspace at Broad Hinton can be accessed publicly from several points, notably to the west by the A321 (Hurst Road) which is identified as a green route enhancement area and to the east by the B3018 which is a recognised green route. Public access can also be achieved via a footpath along the route of Broad Hinton, as well as adjacent roads.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is well contained, with clearly defined boundaries. The nominated area of green space follows the course of Twyford Brook which abuts the southern boundary and is defined to the east and west by main roads (the A321 and B3018) and to the north by existing housing, notably along Broad Hinton.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>Yes. The area at Waltham Close is classified as amenity green space and comprises two play areas; Verey Close and Waltham Chase which provide facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) and a Local Area for Play (LAP). Waltham Close amenity green space is a significant and recognisable area of green space that serves the residents in the southern part of Twyford for recreation. The amenity green space was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Both play areas were recognised as being of high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>A footpath along the southern boundary of the amenity green space follows the course of the Twyford Brook, which connects to two play areas further east and north, as well as providing opportunities for walking and running.</p> <p><u>Ecological value</u></p> <p>The Twyford Brook contributes towards some of the ecological significance of the site, as in addition to flora and fauna associated with the lowland mixed deciduous woodland, it provides an aquatic habitat. Across the whole site, the area of green space comprises</p>

	<p>lowland mixed deciduous woodland. Several area and woodland Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and veteran trees are also present across the site, and comprise a variety of tree species, notably oak, ash, willow and goat willow.</p> <p><u>Historical Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value, and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, predominantly in the southern part of the site associated with the Twyford Brook and transition to the open countryside. The northern part of the site holds limited tranquillity value, predominantly as it is situated within the built-up area of Twyford and surrounded by built development. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) and the Council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2019) where the site scores higher in the southern part of the site than further north towards the built-up area.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. The site is demonstrably special to the local community as part of amenity greenspace alongside the Twyford Brook, which provides recreational opportunities.</p> <p>The site also holds some ecological value given the veteran trees and lowland mixed deciduous woodland which may provide a habitat for some ecological species.</p>

Hurst Park, Hurst Park Road, Twyford



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS093</b>
Site name	Hurst Park
Site address	Hurst Park Road, Twyford
Site size	0.37ha
Site Description	<p>Hurst Park is an area of amenity greenspace and play area, which is situated to the south of Twyford, off Hurst Park Road.</p> <p>The site is completely bound by existing housing and pedestrian footpaths, and adjoins a nominated area for consideration as Local Green Space designation between Colleton Drive and Wessex Gardens (ref: LGS094).</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents in the southern part of Twyford ward.</p> <p>Hurst Park can be accessed publicly from multiple points along Hurst Park Road. A footpath runs through the site and provides connectivity to the adjacent nominated area of greenspace between Colleton Drive and Wessex Gardens.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained, bound by existing housing within the built-up area of Twyford.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>Hurst Park is classified as amenity greenspace and comprises a play area providing facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP). Hurst Park is one of two recognisable areas of green space that serve the residents in the southern part of Twyford for recreation. Both the amenity green space and the play area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value, but there are a number of trees present on the site.</p> <p><u>Historical Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as Hurst Park is situated in the built-up area of Twyford village and is in proximity to existing housing. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April</p>

	2007) and the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019) where the site scores relatively low.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Hurst Park is a recognisable area of green space that provides an important recreational facility for the local community, notably for residents in the southern part of Twyford. The adjacent open space between Colleton Drive and Wessex Gardens has also been nominated and there is potential for the sites to be considered as one Local Green Space designation.

Open area adjacent to Colleton Drive, Colleton Drive, Twyford



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS094</b>
Site name	Open area adjacent to Colleton Drive
Site address	Colleton Drive, Twyford
Site size	0.29ha
Site Description	<p>This nominated area comprises a park and garden and play area which is known as Wessex Gardens, situated in the southern part of Twyford ward. The southern boundary of the site abuts the nominated area at Hurst Park (ref: LGS093) which falls within Hurst ward.</p> <p>This is an elongated site within the built-up area of Twyford and is completely surrounded by existing housing, including along Wessex Gardens to the north and west and Colleton Drive and Swanscourt to the east.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents in the southern part of Twyford ward.</p> <p>Wessex Gardens can be accessed publicly from two points along Colleton Drive to the east. A footpath also runs south to north and provides wider connectivity to the adjacent nominated area of greenspace at Hurst Park.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained, bounded by existing housing within the built-up area of Twyford.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>Wessex Gardens is classified as a park and garden in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). This area of greenspace comprises a play area, providing facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP). Wessex Gardens is a recognisable area of green space that serves the residents in the southern part of Twyford for recreation. Both the amenity green space and the play area were recognised as being of high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>This site is considered to hold some ecological value as traditional orchards (a BAP priority habitat) are present on the site.</p> <p><u>Historical Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p>

	<p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as Hurst Park is situated in the built-up area of Twyford village and is in proximity to existing housing. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) and the Council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2019) where the site scores relatively low.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. The nominated area, known as Wessex Gardens, is a recognisable area of green space and park and garden that serves a recreational facility for the community, notably for residents in the southern part of Twyford. The adjacent Hurst Park (ref: LGS093) to the south has also been nominated and is recommended for LGS designation due to its recreational value.</p>



Twyford Parish Council Burial Ground and Millennium Garden, Station Road, Twyford



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS095</b>
Site name	Twyford Parish Council Burial Ground and Millennium Garden
Site address	Station Road, Twyford
Site size	0.8ha
Site Description	<p>Twyford Parish Burial Site and Memorial Garden is a small site that forms part of the grounds of St Mary's Church. The site is 250m north of Twyford Station, and is largely bound by residential properties, including those on Polehampton Close and Brook Street. The River Loddon is to the west and Station Road to the east.</p> <p>This site is situated within the Twyford Station Conservation Area. The Burial Site and Memorial Garden is not classified or recognised as public open space in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012), but is privately owned by St Mary's Church.</p> <p>The primary use of this site is as a burial ground for St Mary's Church, but there is also a memorial garden.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Twyford Parish Burial Site and Memorial Garden is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents of Twyford village.</p> <p>The site is publicly accessible from Station Road.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to be an extensive tract of land and forms the historic grounds of the church. The site is well maintained and has clear boundaries which separate it from the surrounding areas.</p> <p>The site is entirely local in character as the church and burial ground are likely to be closely linked to parishioners and residents from the local area.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>This site is considered to have recreational value and offers opportunities for quiet reflection. The site is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>There is considered to be some ecological value at this site, part of the site (to the south) contains lowland mixed deciduous woodland that is classified as a BAP habitat by Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC).</p> <p><u>Historical Value</u></p> <p>The site is situated in the Twyford Station Conservation Area and forms the historic grounds of St Mary's Church, a Grade II Listed</p>

	<p>Building. According to the Twyford Station Conservation Area Appraisal (2013), the Conservation Area was designated in June 1996 and covers the Victorian era of development in the village associated with the arrival of the Great Western Railway in Twyford.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>This site is considered to have an average tranquillity value. The millennium garden section of the site includes benches and a seating area.</p> <p>The site is classed as average for tranquillity as identified in the Council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2019). However, it does sit within the built-up urban area of Twyford with Station Road next to the site, potentially lowering the tranquillity value.</p> <p><u>Local significance</u></p> <p>In addition to the site’s recreational and historical value, the burial site and memorial garden at St Mary’s Church in Twyford also holds particular local significance as the church and burial ground are likely to be closely linked to parishioners and residents from the local area. Its use as an area for quiet reflection and remembrance is considered to be demonstrably special to the local community.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. The burial site and memorial garden at St Mary’s Church is situated in the Twyford Station Conservation Area and is used as a place for quiet reflection and remembrance. Notwithstanding its limited recreational value, the site holds particular local significance as the church, burial ground and memorial garden are likely to be closely linked to residents in the local area and is therefore considered to be demonstrably special to the local community and contribute to the character and identity of Twyford village.</p>

Orchard Estate open space, Orchard Estate, Twyford

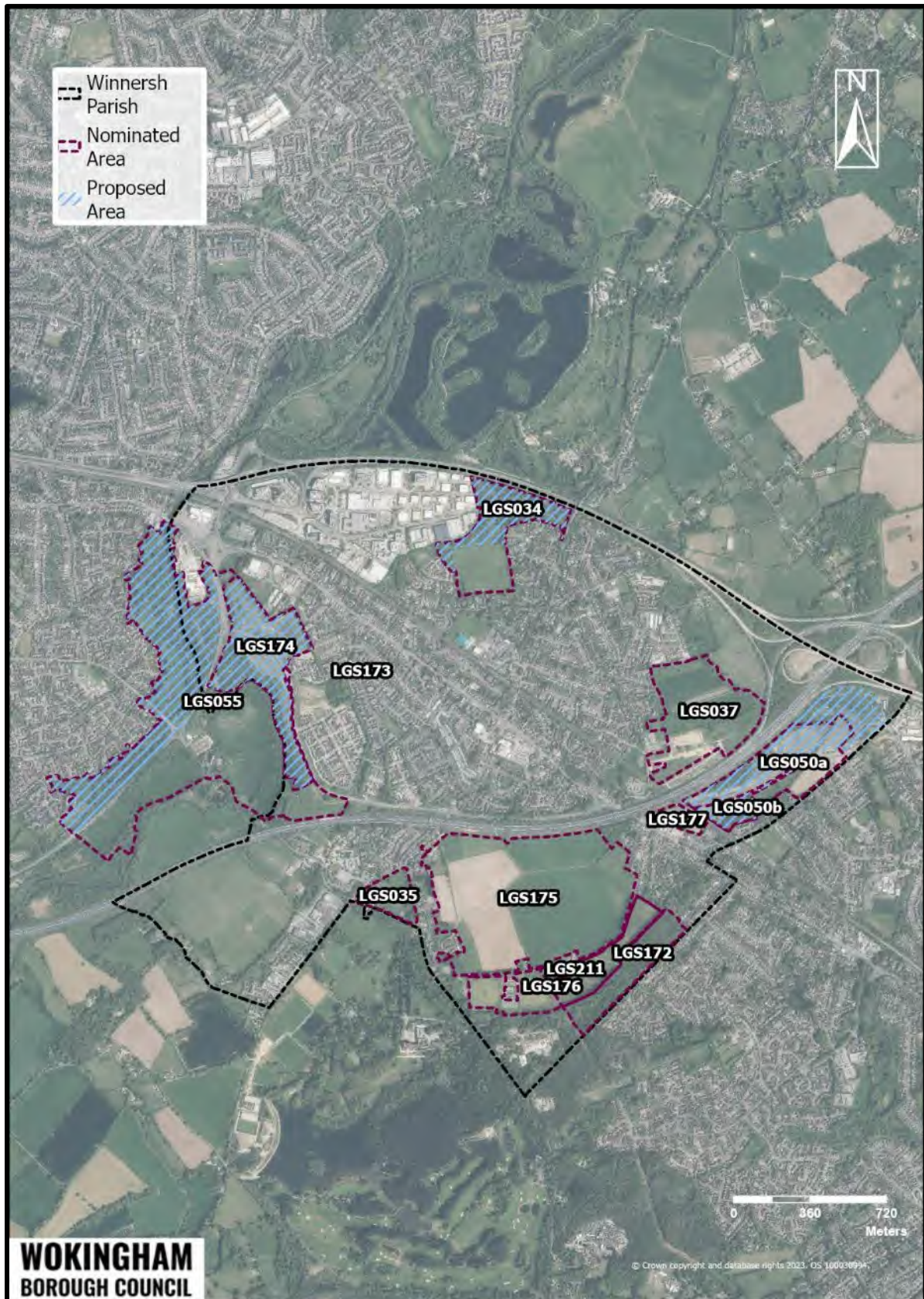


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS097A; LGS097B</b>
Site name	Orchard Estate open space
Site address	Orchard Estate, Twyford
Site size	0.63ha/0.22ha
Site Description	<p>Orchard Estate comprises two relatively small parcels of land in the centre of Twyford village.</p> <p>The area to the south (ref: LGS097B) is classified as public open space and comprises a play area, providing a recreational facility for children. This area of greenspace is completely surrounded by existing housing at Orchard Estate and local roads.</p> <p>The area to the east (ref: LGS097A) is not a recognisable public open space. This area of greenspace is bound by housing and residential roads at Orchard Estate.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The sites are in close proximity to the community as they serve the existing residents in the centre of Twyford village, and particularly the residents of the surrounding Orchard Estate.</p> <p>The area to the south can be accessed via Orchard Estate and the area to the east can be accessed via Ruscombe Road (B3024) to the north. Whilst both sites are likely to serve the residents surrounding Orchard Estate, the area to the south is one of few recognisable recreational spaces and play areas in Twyford village.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Both sites are local in character as they are small areas of green space that serves the local community, particularly the residents of the surrounding Orchard Estate. The nominated areas are not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as they are relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries, bounded by existing housing at Orchard Estate.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>The area to the south (ref: LGS097B), known as Orchard Park is classified as public open space in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The area also comprises a play area, which provides a facility for young children in Twyford village, particularly the residents of the surrounding Orchard Estate. Both the Orchard Park public open space and play area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). There are other areas of green space in the surrounding area, such as Stanlake Meadows Recreation Ground, but this does not provide any formal play facilities. Further, the nearest play areas to Orchard Estate are either further north of Twyford village (e.g., King George V Playing Field) or access to sites further south are severed by the main railway line.</p>

	<p>The area to the east (LGS097A) is not recognised or classified as public open space and holds very limited recreational value.</p> <p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>Both areas of green space are not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Historical Value</u></p> <p>Both areas of green space are not considered to hold any particular historical value and have no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>Both areas of green space are considered to hold limited tranquillity value, predominantly due to their location in the built-up area of Twyford and proximity to existing housing at Orchard Estate. This is supported by the Council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2020), where this particular area scores relatively low in comparison to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in the surrounding area.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes, in part. The nominated area to the south ref: (LGS097B), comprises Orchard Park public open space and play area, which is a recognisable area of open space for recreation that serves the residents of Twyford village, particularly the residents of the surrounding Orchard Estate. Therefore, this particular area does warrant further consideration as Local Green Space designation due to its recreational value.</p> <p>The nominated area to the east (ref: LGS097A) is not recognised or classified as public open space and holds very limited recreational, historical, ecological or tranquillity value, and therefore this particular area does not warrant further consideration as a Local Green Space designation.</p> <p>The proposed Local Green Space designation is shown in the map above.</p>

# Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Winnersh Parish:



LGS034

**Winnersh Meadows, Williamson Close, Winnersh**





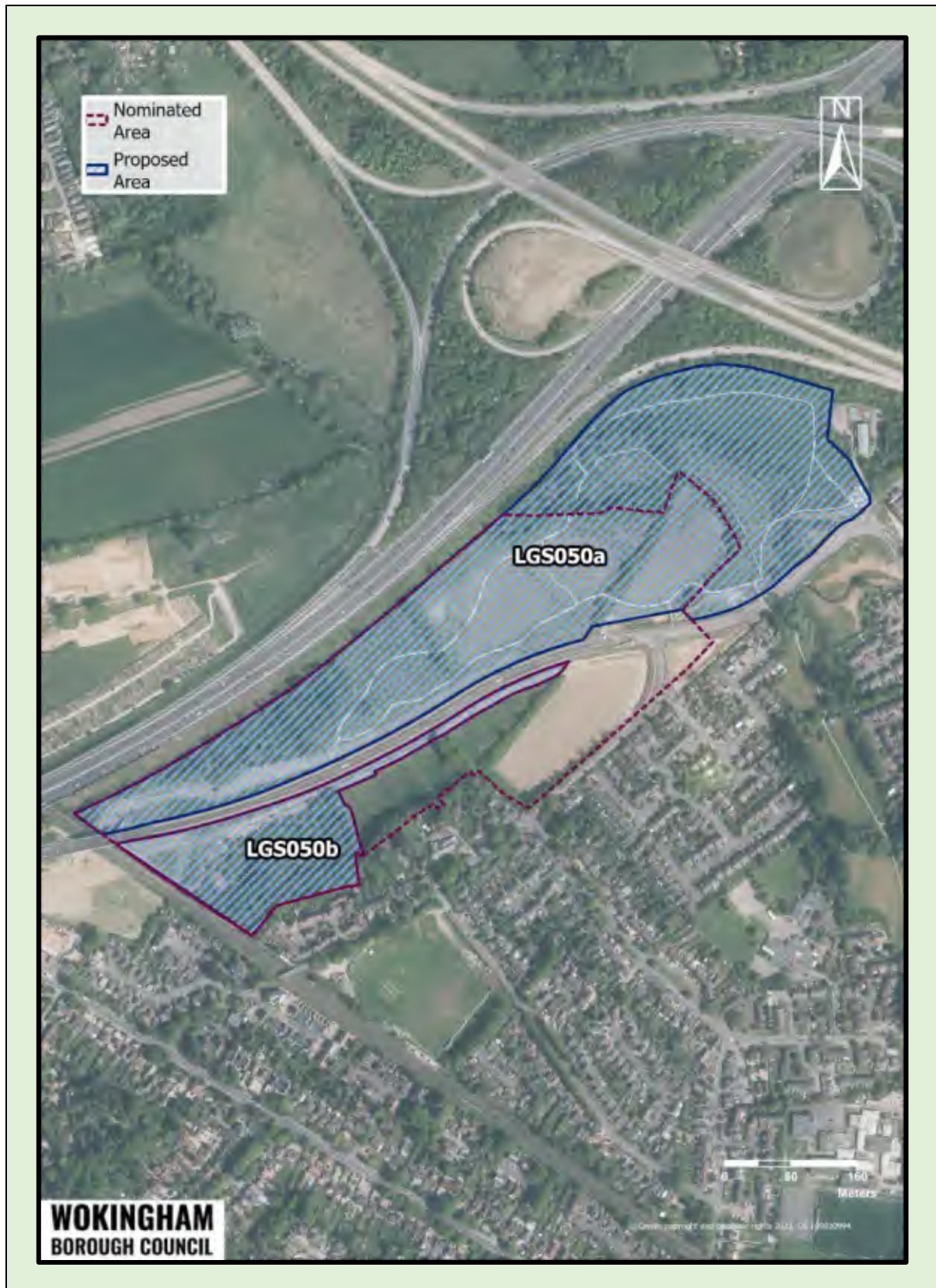
<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS034</b>
Site name	Winnersh Meadows
Site address	Williamson Close, Winnersh
Site size	14.8ha
Site Description	<p>Winnersh Meadows is around 15-hectares of green open space located along the northern boundary of Winnersh, south of the A329(M).</p> <p>The site is bounded to the north-west/west by Winnersh Triangle, an allocated employment and commercial site in Policy CP15 of the Core Strategy (2010). Existing housing surrounds the southern and eastern boundaries of the site. To the north, the site is also bounded by the A329(M).</p> <p>This area of public open space is predominantly open, but part of the site comprises an orchard and a pond. The site is considered to be particularly used as a formal/informal recreation space by employees at Winnersh Triangle (according to the Winnersh Triangle website; 2017) and the existing residents of Winnersh.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, as the site is accessible to residents to the north of Winnersh parish. The northern boundary of the site is situated on the route of the proposed Emmbrook Riverside Footpath, identified in Policy CC03 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan.</p> <p>The site can be accessed publicly by pedestrians from Williamson Close, Primrose Lane, Bluebell Meadow, Arbor Lane or at the southern end of Winnersh Triangle.</p> <p>A significant area of open space can be found at Dinton Pastures Country Park, immediately to the north of the site but is severed by the A329(M), and access is difficult via walking/cycling. There are no other immediate areas of open green space towards the south of the A329(M), and therefore Winnersh Meadows is the only recognisable area of open green space in close proximity to the community.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site occupies a large area, but it is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well contained and has clearly defined boundaries. The site is designated countryside but is adjacent to the Major Development Location of Winnersh and the Winnersh Triangle Core Employment Area. To the south, the site is bounded by a recreation ground off Arbor Lane and to some extent the railway line. The site is also bounded to the east and west by existing housing, notably along Arbor Lane, Merrill Drive and Snowdrop Grove. The site is separated from Winnersh Triangle by a distinct and strong line of trees and hedgerows.</p> <p>The course of the Emm Brook runs along part of the northern boundary of the site and provides a linear open space that creates</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS034</b>
	an attractive green corridor, connecting the rural environment with the urban core.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site can be separated into two key elements: Winnersh Triangle/Winnersh Meadows, and Winnersh Triangle/Bluebell Woods. The Open Spaces Assessment (2012) classifies Winnersh Triangle/Winnersh Meadows as amenity greenspace, and Winnersh Triangle/Bluebell Woods as natural and semi-natural greenspace. Both areas of greenspace are recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment (2012).</p> <p>There are no immediate areas of open green space to the south of the A329(M), therefore Winnersh Meadows is the only recognisable area of open green space in close proximity to the local community. A significant area of open space can be found at Dinton Pastures Country Park but access to the site is severed by the A329(M).</p> <p>Winnersh Meadows provides a recreational resource for the employees at Winnersh Triangle and serves the residents of Winnersh.</p> <p>There are running and walking routes around the surrounding area which run through the centre of Winnersh Meadows. The site also includes Winnersh Meadows Play Area, which provides play and recreation facilities such as agility units, fitness equipment, picnic table and a basketball net.</p> <p>A boardwalk was opened in October 2020 at Winnersh Meadows to improve the connectivity between Winnersh Triangle business park and the local community. The boardwalk improves pathways between the site and residential area, as well as improving access for employees to the business park.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Winnersh Meadows consist of a wildflower meadow, native fruit trees and a selection of ponds. The north of the site contains several Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) priority habitats including lowland fens and ponds. The southern part of the site is predominantly amenity greenspace consisting of neutral/semi-improved grassland and scrub, but also comprises an area of broadleaved woodland</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS034</b>
	<p>plantation. Parts of the site are also located within a Great Crested Newt Consultation Zone.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site does not hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to its proximity to Winnersh Triangle railway station and the Core Employment Area at Winnersh Triangle. The A329(M) runs along the northern boundary of Winnersh Meadows and therefore disturbs any sense of tranquillity in the area according to the Landscape Character Assessment (2020).</p> <p><u>Local significance:</u></p> <p>The area of greenspace was rejuvenated in 2011 by members of the Winnersh Neighbourhood Action Group, with the assistance of a National Lottery Grant and funding from Wokingham Borough Council and parish councils. The site was renamed Winnersh Meadows.</p> <p>The promotion of Winnersh Meadows for continued recreational use is a strategic aim identified by Winnersh Parish Council<sup>1</sup>.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Winnersh Meadows is considered to be demonstrably special to the local community as this is the only recognisable area of open space / amenity greenspace south of the A329(M) that provides significant opportunities for recreation and amenity value.</p> <p>During engagement with the landowners, it was recognised that the nominated area included the playing fields at Forest School and the designation would likely restrict any future operational and educational changes. The inclusion of this land would not be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The boundary of the nominated area is therefore amended to exclude the playing fields from the Local Green Space designation., as shown in the map above.</p>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.winnersh.gov.uk/parish-council/strategy>

Land surrounding the west of Old Forest Road, Old Forest Road, Winnersh



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS050A / LGS050B</b>
Site name	Land surrounding the west of Old Forest Road
Site address	Old Forest Road, Winnersh
Site size	18.12ha / 3.18ha
Site Description	<p>An area of green space in the north of Wokingham that comprises Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), ancient woodland and the Millennium Arboretum. The North Wokingham Distributor Road (NWDR) cuts through the centre of the site.</p> <p>The central and eastern part of the site includes land to the west of Old Forest Road, which is proposed as a housing allocation for around 50 dwellings in the Local Plan Update. The western part of the site includes an area of land promoted for leisure / public open space through the local plan process.</p> <p>The site is bounded to the north-east by the Old Forest Road Meadows SANG and to the north-west by the M4 motorway. The main railway line forms the south-west boundary, and to the south and south-east, the site is bounded by existing housing along Old Forest Road.</p> <p>The site was developed as SANG to provide informal recreation for new and existing residents of the Borough.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Emmbrook and Winnersh wards. Access for pedestrians and cyclists is via the Old Forest Meadows SANG immediately north of the site or the Millennium Arboretum to the south of the site.</p> <p>The route of the proposed Emmbrook Riverside footpath also falls within the site, which will provide improved connectivity from south of Wokingham to Dinton Pastures in Woodley.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, with clearly defined edges, bounded by the main railway line and the M4 motorway to the south-west and north-west of the site. The southern and eastern parts of the site are defined by housing and the north-east boundary is defined by Old Forest Meadows SANG.</p> <p>The site is local in character as it comprises the Berkshire Millennium Arboretum woodland, which was planted in 2000 by Wokingham Borough Council. The area of green space also comprises several tree species and an area of ancient woodland which contribute towards the character of the area.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Part of the nominated area includes Old Forest Meadows, an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace and an extension to a designated Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), which</p>

Site reference	LGS050
	<p>provides informal recreation for new and existing residents. This is one of few recognisable areas of green space that serve the residents in the southern part of Winnersh ward (south of the M4 motorway).</p> <p>The site also falls within the proposed Emmbrook Riverside footpath, which will provide wider pedestrian connectivity to south Wokingham and Dinton Pastures.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Toutley Hall, a recognised Building of Traditional Local Character, is situated to the east of the site, but the nominated area does not hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site holds some ecological value due to the presence of ancient and semi-natural woodland which contains several veteran tree species, notably English Oak. The site also includes the Berkshire (Millennium) Arboretum, which is classified as public open space and natural/semi-natural greenspace with mixed habitats. The Arboretum was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The nominated area is also a known habitat for Great Crested Newts.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to the site’s proximity to the main railway line M4 motorway, housing and the North Wokingham Distributor Road. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores fairly low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas in the locality. Further, according to the Council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2019), major transport routes, such as the M4 <i>‘introduce noise and traffic flow and the proposed Northern Distributor Road will further fragment the landscape’</i> and <i>‘disturb any sense of rurality or tranquillity in the area’</i>.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes, partially. The nominated area which comprises the Millennium Arboretum and Old Forest Meadows is one of few recognisable areas of open, recreational space that serve the residents in the southern part of Winnersh ward. To an extent, this area of green space also serves residents in the northern part of the North Wokingham Strategic Development Location, which is further east of the site. However, the inclusion of the North Wokingham Distributor Road and the land proposed for housing to the west of</p>

Site reference	LGS050
	<p data-bbox="603 237 1428 300">Old Forest Road in the Local Plan Update will not be appropriate and is therefore proposed to be excluded from the boundary of the LGS.</p> <p data-bbox="603 342 1428 517">As a result, it is recommended that the boundary of the proposed Local Green Space for 'Land surrounding the west of Old Forest Road' is divided into two separate areas (North and South), which excludes the NWDR and land proposed for housing in the Local Plan Update.</p> <p data-bbox="603 560 1428 622">There is further merit in extending the northern boundary to include the wider area of SANG at Old Forest Meadows.</p> <p data-bbox="603 665 1428 728">The two proposed Local Green Space designations are shown in the map above.</p>

Jersey Drive open space, Jersey Drive, Winnersh

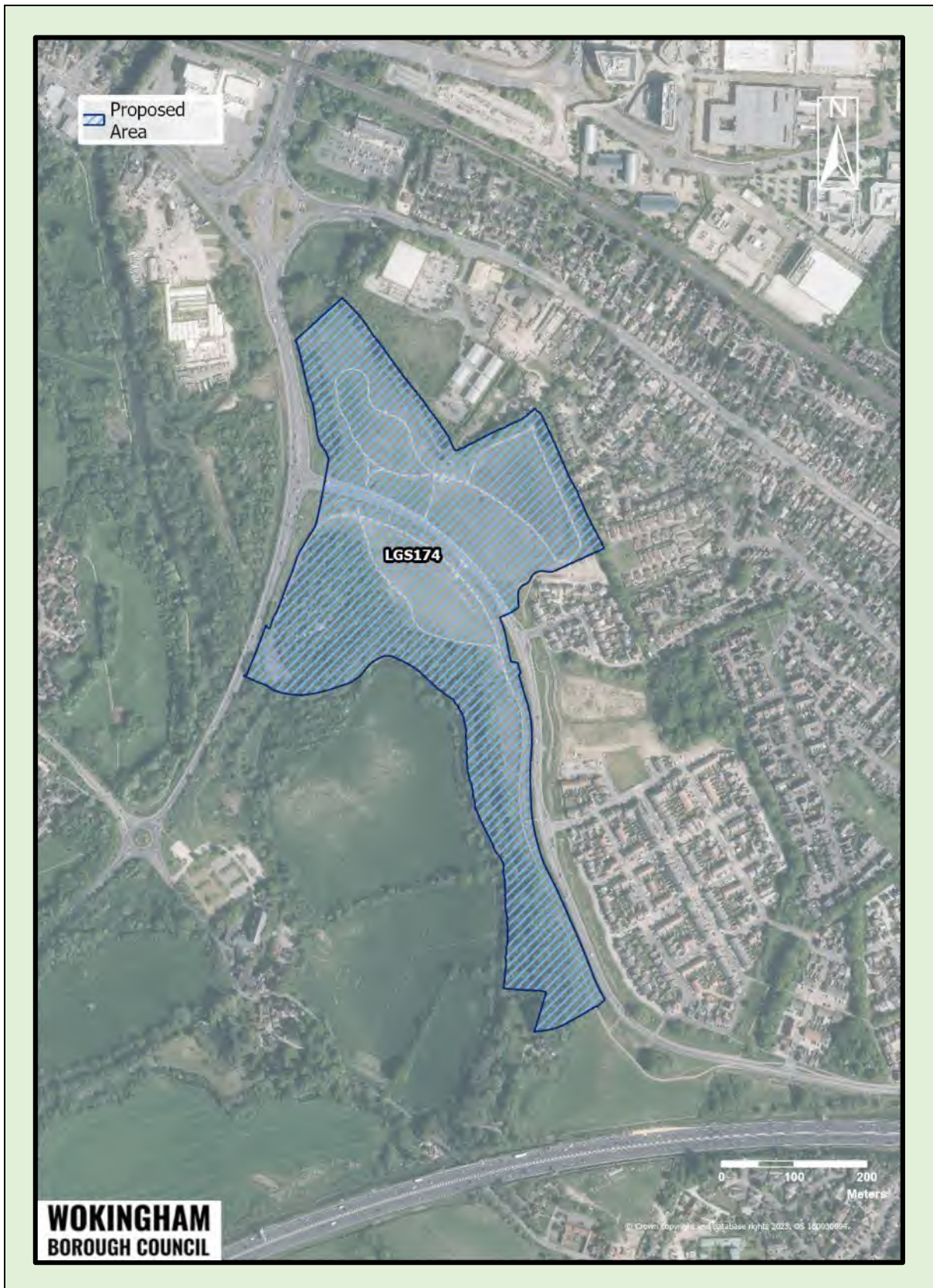




<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS173</b>
Site name	Jersey Drive open space
Site address	Jersey Drive, Winnersh
Site size	0.21ha
Site Description	An area of amenity green space and play area situated within the eastern part of Winnersh and the nearby major development at Hatch Farm, Winnersh.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The open space at Jersey Drive is in close proximity to the community as it is situated in the eastern part of Winnersh and serves the residents of Winnersh ward, and the residents of Hatch Farm. The site can be accessed via a Public Right of Way from the north to south that connects to the A329, a recognised green route. The open space can also be accessed from nearby residential roads, notably Jersey Drive and Dexter Way.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as the boundaries are well contained by existing housing.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The open space at Jersey Drive is classified as amenity greenspace, which is recognised as being of low quality and value to the community in the council's latest Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012), however the play area on the site is well used by children and scored highly in the assessment for its quality and value to the community. The play area offers several pieces of play equipment for children including swings, a roundabout and a multi-play unit.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as it is situated in proximity to existing housing and residential roads. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low, compared to the tranquillity offered in areas further north, notably in proximity to the River Loddon.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS173</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The open space at Jersey Drive is a recognisable area of amenity green space and play facility that is valued by the residents of Winnersh.

Hatch Farm Country Park, Hatch Farm Way, Winnersh



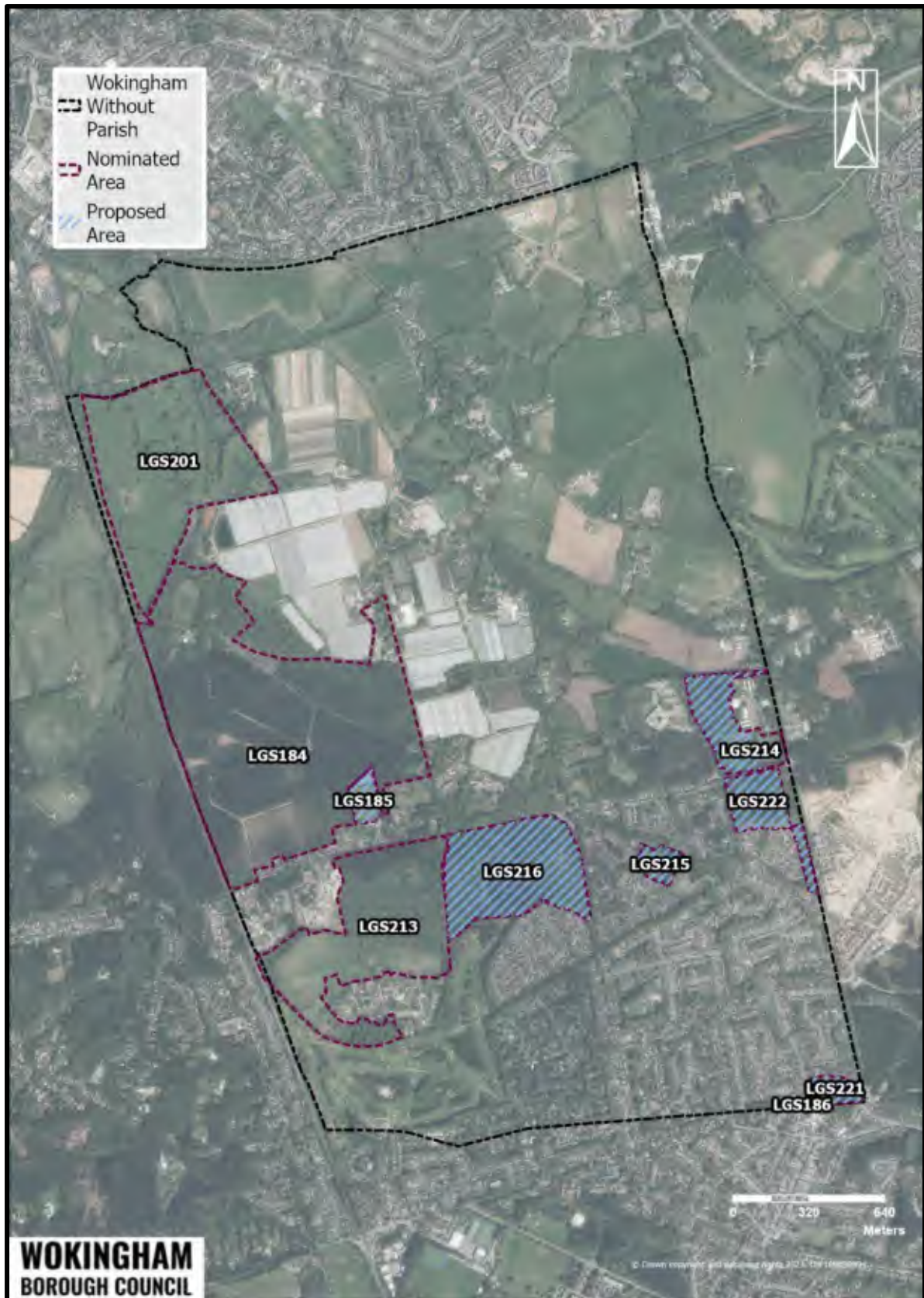
<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS174</b>
Site name	Hatch Farm Country Park
Site address	Hatch Farm Way, Winnersh
Site size	18.1ha
Site Description	<p>Hatch Farm Country Park is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace situated in the floodplain of the River Loddon valley on the western edge of Winnersh. The nominated area comprises two areas of greenspace that are severed by the Winnersh Relief Road (Hatch Farm Way), which runs through the country park in a north-south direction.</p> <p>The southern boundary of the site is defined by the M4 motorway. The northern boundary of the country park is defined by the route of the B3270 (Lower Earley Way). The western part of the site is defined by the course of the River Loddon, which follows the western edge up to the point where it intersects Lower Earley Way. The eastern part of the site is bounded by residential development at Hatch Farm.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it primarily serves the new residents at Hatch Farm. However, the park also attracts other residents in the Borough, due to its proximity to the settlements of Earley and Winnersh. The northern part of the site is publicly accessible by using a footpath and the pedestrian crossing along Lower Earley Way. The southern part of the site is publicly accessing from a Public Right of Way off the Winnersh Relief Road, which runs through the residential development at Hatch Farm and connects to the A329 (Reading Road) a recognised green route enhancement area.</p> <p>The country park is also interconnected by a network of footpaths and routes and can also be accessed from most residential roads at the Hatch Farm development.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as the country park is well contained with some clearly defined boundaries, such as the River Loddon to the west, the M4 motorway to the south, the B3270 (Lower Earley Way) to the north and residential development to the east.</p> <p>Hatch Farm Country Park lies within the A2 'Loddon River Valley' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019). The A1 LCA identifies this as an area occupied by the flat alluvial floodplain of the River Loddon and its tributaries. It is recognised as an agricultural landscape of fields and small scale wet meadows on frequently flooded land adjacent to the river. A key attribute of the landscape is the naturalness of the meandering course of the River Loddon and wide floodplain which provide a strong sense of place. Whilst the LCA report acknowledges that roads such as the Winnersh Relief Road which cross the floodplain create physical and visual severance along the</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS174</b>
	<p>floodplain, it is recognised that this infrastructure has opened up some opportunities for recreation and access to the countryside associated with Hatch Farm Country Park.</p> <p>The country park is also situated within the proposed River Loddon Valued Landscape area, which gains much of its identity through the alluvial floodplain which provides a significant green and blue infrastructure corridor running across the southern half of the borough and valued for its character and appearance.</p>
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Hatch Farm Country Park is a recognisable area of natural and semi-natural greenspace that serves the residents of Winnersh, notably for the communities at Hatch Farm, and (to an extent) the residents of Earley, for recreational purposes.</p> <p>Hatch Farm Country Park includes a network of footpaths and routes for walking and cycling.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Hatch Farm Country Park holds a moderate degree of ecological value as it is situated within the Loddon Valley South Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) and comprises several known Biodiversity Action Plan (BAPP priority habitats including lowland mixed deciduous woodland, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh. The River Loddon which runs along the western boundary of the site is also recognised as a Local Wildlife Site, which supports a range of uncommon aquatic species.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The nominated area is considered to hold moderate tranquillity value, due to its proximity to the River Loddon and the natural landscape of the flat alluvial floodplain along the River Loddon. According to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), the A2 'Loddon River Valley' LCA comprises localised areas with a strong sense of tranquillity, particularly in the south, with naturalistic qualities away from roads and visual influence of large-scale settlement in adjacent areas. However, it is recognised that parts of the nominated area are in proximity to main roads, including the Winnersh Relief Road and Lower Earley Way which may limit its tranquillity value. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity</p>

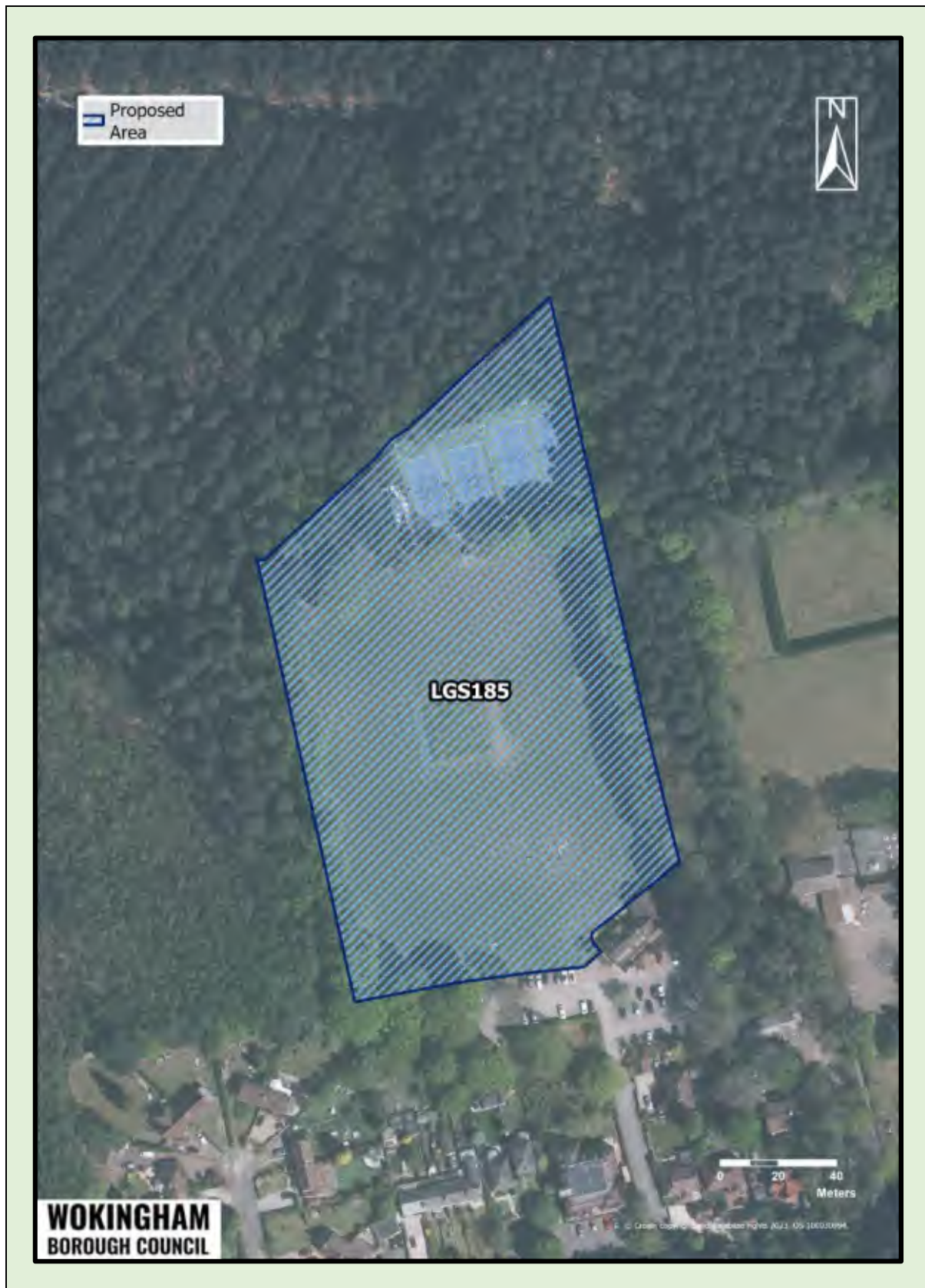
<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS174</b>
	Composite Weighted Score, where the tranquillity value is varied across Hatch Farm Country Park.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Hatch Farm Country Park is a significant area of natural and semi-natural greenspace that serves the residents of Winnersh, notably for the communities at Hatch Farm for recreational purposes. The country park is also situated within the Loddon Valley South BOA, which comprises several priority habitats, including an area of lowland mixed deciduous woodland and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh.

## Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Wokingham Without Parish:



**St Sebastian's playing fields, Nine Mile Ride, Pinewood (Crowthorne)**





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS185</b>
Site name	St Sebastian's playing fields
Site address	Nine Mile Ride, Pinewood (Crowthorne)
Site size	2.20ha
Site Description	<p>St Sebastian's playing fields comprises tennis courts and sports pitches situated to the north west of Pinewood (Crowthorne).</p> <p>The site is surrounded by extensive woodland and adjacent to St Sebastian's Church of England Primary School. The western boundary of the playing fields is adjacent to the Gorrick Plantation.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Whilst not adjacent, the site is situated in relatively close to the community it serves. The site can be access via St Sebastian's Close off Nine Mile Ride.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is bound by extensive woodland.</p> <p>The nominated area falls within the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' LCA, where, according to the council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020), states that <i>'the principal land cover outside of settled areas is woodland frequently used as recreation area. The dense woodland is varied with mixed woodland and is notable for the high incidence of conifers, including Scots Pine and other exotic species'</i> and are recognised as key features of the landscape.</p> <p>Further, the character and distinctiveness of the playing fields has been recognised by the St Sebastian's Playing Field Trust, who state on their website that <i>'one of the most striking aspects about the club is our beautiful grounds. The sports pitches are surrounded by extensive woodland, and the club offers a delightful escape from urban life<sup>1</sup>'</i></p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>St Sebastian's playing fields is recognised in the council's latest Sports Assessment Report (2012) as being of high quality and high value to the community. The playing fields comprise one adult grass football pitch and two mini grass football pitches, tennis courts and a cricket pitch for community use, which are the home of several sports clubs and organisations, including Pinewood Football Club, Crowthorne and Crown Wood Cricket Club and Crowthorne Tennis Club.</p> <p>According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the sports facilities are available for community use, and are operating at their peak use. The strategy recognised that the facilities scored a standard to good quality rating.</p>

<sup>1</sup> <https://stsebs-sports.org.uk/homepage.htm>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS185</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value, but it is acknowledged that the playing fields are adjacent to Gorrick Plantation and surrounded by extensive woodland, which may support wildlife habitats and species.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Despite the site's proximity to residential and community uses, the site is considered to hold moderate tranquillity value due to its location in the countryside and containment with extensive woodland. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the score is moderately high.</p> <p>The nominated area is situated within the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' Landscape Character Area, where the council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020) indicates that <i>'there are localised areas of remoteness within woodlands and smaller areas of pasture, mire and heath, which provide a sense of tranquillity'</i>.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The playing fields and sports facilities at St Sebastian's are recognised as a valued recreational resource for the residents of Pinewood and Crowthorne. The Open Spaces Assessment (2012) recognises that there are limited recreational and play facilities in Crowthorne, due to insufficient access to open space in the area more generally. The St Sebastian's playing fields are home to several sports clubs and organisations, notably Pinewood Football Club, Crowthorne and Crown Wood Cricket Club and Crowthorne Tennis Club.</p>

Walter Recreation Ground, Pinewood Avenue, Pinewood (Crowthorne)



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS186</b>
Site name	Walter Recreation Ground
Site address	Pinewood Avenue, Pinewood (Crowthorne)
Site size	0.16ha
Site Description	<p>Walter Recreation Ground is an area of incidental greenspace and small area of woodland in the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne). The nominated area adjoins the administrative area of Bracknell Forest Council.</p> <p>The site is bounded by existing housing to the north. To the south, the site is bounded by commercial, and community uses along the B3348, notably Crowthorne Church of England Primary School, situated in Bracknell Forest; and to the west by adjacent residential development. The eastern boundary of the site is defined by Pinewood Avenue. The nominated area of greenspace at Circle Hill (ref: LGS221) is separated by Pinewood Avenue.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, being situated within the built-up area.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. The site is self-contained with clearly defined edges, for instance the site is bounded to the north by existing housing, to the west by the playing fields at Crowthorne Church of England Primary School, to the south by the B3348 and the east by Pinewood Avenue.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Walter Recreation Ground is an area of open ground with small woodland, footpath and seating area which is jointly managed by Crowthorne Parish Council and Wokingham Without Parish Council.</p> <p>The Walter Recreation Ground Charity maintains the recreation ground for public use, as it provides recreational activities, including walking and relaxation. The area was recognised as natural and semi-natural green space in Bracknell Forest's Play Open Space and Sports Study (August 2017) but its nature as a small area of incidental amenity green space is not a significant contribution to its overall recreational value, that would warrant further consideration as a Local Green Space.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS186</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value, however it is acknowledged that the recreation ground comprises groups of trees which may support a variety of wildlife and habitats.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold very limited tranquillity value as the recreation ground is situated in the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne) surrounded by residential, commercial and community uses and being adjacent to the B3348, a major road connecting Crowthorne with Bracknell. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores low in this particular area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>No. Walter Recreation Ground is a modest area of amenity green space and woodland within an existing residential development. Whilst it is likely to provide some form of recreation for residents and provides some connectivity to nearby Circle Hill (LGS221), the nature of the green space is not as significant in contributing to the site's overall recreational value, and would therefore not warrant further consideration as a Local Green Space designation when considered against the NPPF criteria in the round.</p>

LGS214

**Pinewood Leisure Centre (including Dickie's Pond), Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS214</b>
Site name	Pinewood Leisure Centre (including Dickie's Pond)
Site address	Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham
Site size	9.25ha
Site Description	<p>The nominated site comprises a moderately sized area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, woodland, allotments, playing fields, play area and a small pond (Dickie's Pond) that is situated in the countryside and north of the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne). The eastern boundary of the nominated area also adjoins the administrative area of Bracknell Forest.</p> <p>The site is bound by the B3430 (Nine Mile Ride) to the south, which is a recognised green route. To the north, the site is bound by a linear row of trees and a narrow track. The eastern boundary is defined by Old Wokingham Road, forming the administrative boundary between Wokingham Borough and Bracknell Forest. The western boundary is defined by a footpath that runs from Nine Mile Ride to the adjacent commercial use.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it provides a recreational and amenity resource for the residents of Pinewood (Crowthorne). The site is a recognisable and moderate area of recreational and greenspace in Pinewood (Crowthorne), to which consideration as a Local Green Space would address a general deficiency of open space in the area, as recognised in the council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>A footpath runs along the western boundary of the greenspace and connects to the B3430 (Nine Mile Ride), which is identified as a green route and provides access to an area of SANG at Oakham Woods across the road. Laid footpaths are also present on the site and provide public access to the facilities at Pinewood Leisure Centre.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and does not constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained by built form, notably Pinewood Leisure Centre and Old Wokingham Road to the east. The southern boundary is defined by the local road network, notably Nine Mile Ride and the northern and western boundaries are defined by a narrow track and footpath. The nominated area falls within the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' LCA, where <i>'the principal land cover outside of settled areas is woodland frequently used as recreation areas. The dense woodland is varied with mixed woodland and is notable for the high incidence of conifers, including Scots Pine and other exotic species'</i>, which are key features of the landscape.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The nominated area covers a moderate natural and semi-natural greenspace, playing fields, play area and allotments associated with Pinewood Leisure Centre, which provide recreation opportunities for</p>

Site reference	LGS214
	<p>residents in Pinewood (Crowthorne). The facilities were recognised as being of high value to the local community in the council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012) and to an extent, most were scored as high quality in the assessment.</p> <p>The Open Spaces Assessment (2012) recognises that there are limited recreational and play facilities in Crowthorne, due to insufficient access to open space in the area more generally.</p> <p>According to the landowner, the playing field is leased to Pinewood Football Club until 2048 and is therefore not publicly accessible. The Council’s Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) recognises that the facility comprises one adult pitch and two junior pitches, which are only available for use by the football club, and therefore this limits its recreational value. The boundary of the Local Green Space designation is therefore amended to exclude the playing field, as shown on the map above.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure; however, a known archaeological site is adjacent to the southern boundary in Oakham Woods.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some ecological value due to a small area in the north-western corner of the greenspace being classified as lowland mixed deciduous woodland by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC). The nominated area is covered by trees and woodland and a small pond (Dickie’s Pond), which may support habitats for wildlife and other species.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Despite the site’s proximity to the local road network, residential and community uses, the site is considered to hold some tranquillity value due to its location in the countryside and nature as an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace with trees and woodland. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where most of the site scores highly in the central and western parts compared to the eastern part where the tranquillity is somewhat diminished due to the presence of Old Wokingham Road and residential or community uses.</p> <p>The nominated area is situated within the M1 ‘Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands’ Landscape Character Area, where the council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2020) indicates that <i>‘there are localised areas of remoteness within woodlands and</i></p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS214</b>
	<i>smaller areas of pasture, mire and heath, which provide a sense of tranquillity'</i>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The area surrounding Pinewood Leisure Centre is an important and recognised recreational facility for the residents of Pinewood (Crowthorne). The latest Open Spaces Assessment report also recognises that Crowthorne has limited access to open space, recreational and play facilities.

**Bigshotte Park, Holmbury Avenue, Pinewood (Crowthorne)**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS215</b>
Site name	Bigshotte Park
Site address	Holmbury Avenue, Pinewood (Crowthorne)
Site size	2.16ha
Site Description	<p>Bigshotte Park is an urban park and garden, comprising an area of open space and a grass football pitch located in the north of the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne). The park provides an area of open space for recreation for the residents of Pinewood (Crowthorne).</p> <p>The site is bound by existing housing to the south and west. To the north, the site is bounded by a group of mature trees/woodland along Hatch Ride and to the east by community uses, notably the grounds of Hatch Ride Primary School.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it provides a recreational resource which serves the existing residents of Wokingham Without ward. The site is a recognisable and significant area of recreational space in this part of Pinewood (Crowthorne).</p> <p>Bigshotte Park can be accessed from Holmbury Avenue to the west via a few entrance gates. The site can also be accessed from an existing Public Right of Way to the north along Hatch Ride.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is self-contained with clearly defined edges, for instance the site is bounded to the south and west by existing housing, to the east by Hatch Ride Primary School and to the north by a small area of woodland and Hatch Ride, an existing Public Right of Way.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Bigshotte Park is classified as an urban park and garden which was recognised as being of high quality to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The park also comprises one mini grass football pitch for community use.</p> <p>The Open Spaces Assessment (2012) recognises that there are limited recreational and play facilities in Crowthorne, due to insufficient access to open space in the area more generally.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Bigshotte Park is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS215</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited ecological value, predominantly as the park is classified as cultivated, disturbed land and amenity grassland, according to the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC).</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold only limited tranquillity value as the park and garden is situated in the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne) and is within proximity to potential sources of noise, notably existing residential development and community uses, such as Hatch Ride Primary School. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Bighotte Park is a recognised park and garden situated in the northern part of Pinewood (Crowthorne), that serves the residents for recreational value.

Heath Lake, Belmont Road



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS216</b>
Site name	Heath Lake
Site address	Belmont Road, Crowthorne
Site size	22.2ha
Site Description	<p>Heath Lake is an area of woodland and heathland situated in the southern part of Wokingham in Pinewood (Crowthorne). The nominated area is partly designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is wholly identified as a Local Nature Reserve. Heath Lake is recognised as the only acid lake in Berkshire that has retained its characteristic flora and holds significant ecological value. The Local Nature Reserve is also recognised as a valuable recreational and amenity resource for the local community.</p> <p>The northern and eastern boundaries of the site are defined by New Wokingham Road and the B3430, a recognised green route. The western boundary of the site is defined by a Public Right of Way, which connects from B3430 to Duke's Ride at Crowthorne. Ravenswood Village is also adjacent west of the nominated area. The southern boundary of the site is defined by existing housing and the grounds of East Berkshire Golf Club.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of Wokingham Without ward.</p> <p>A Public Right of Way runs along the western boundary of Heath Lake and provides connectivity from the B3430, a recognised green route to Duke's Ride further south in Crowthorne village. Heath Lake SSSI and Local Nature Reserve can also be accessed directly from the B3430, which also includes a car park for visitors of the site. Heath Lake comprises a network of footpaths for walking around the Local Nature Reserve.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The nominated area at Heath Lake is local in character and not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is reasonably contained with clearly defined boundaries. For instance, the northern and eastern boundaries are defined by the local road network and the western and southern boundaries are defined by a Public Right of Way and existing housing and community use (East Berkshire Golf Club).</p> <p>The nominated areas comprise a part of the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is wholly covered by a Local Nature Reserve, which is entirely local in character. Heath Lake falls within the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' Landscape Character Area as identified in the council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019). According to the LCA, this area is characterised by an elevated plateau of dense woodland, varied with semi-natural areas and forestry plantation, interspersed with areas of heathland. Key characteristics include rich semi-natural habitats associated with lowland heathland and lowland dry acid grassland, with large acidic lakes or meres, such as Heath Lake.</p>

Site reference	LGS216
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Heath Lake is a designated SSSI, Local Nature Reserve and area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, which is identified as being high quality and high value to the local community in the council's latest Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019) recognises that Heath Lake is one several formal parks that provide good public accessibility for recreation and amenity purposes. Formal parks such as Heath Lake are connected by a network of laid footpaths which provide a recreational resource for residents and visitors.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some historical value, as according to the council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019), Heath Lake is one of several large lakes or meres that originate from its former use as an historic brick pit. According to the council's latest Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012), the primary reasons for its designation as a Local Nature Reserve, is due to it being one of very few recognised acid lakes in Berkshire.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Heath Lake holds significant ecological value as recognised by its designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Local Nature Reserve. According to the council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019), Heath Lake consists of a small shallow lake, surrounded by birch and pine woodland with areas of relict heathland. The site is of ecological interest due to its populations of restricted aquatic plants associated with the acid lake. The coniferous woodland and scrub birch are actively managed to restore the lowland heathland.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The nominated area at Heath Lake holds a moderate degree of tranquillity value due it's nature as a Local Nature Reserve and SSSI in the countryside. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores moderate across the site. The council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019) recognises that away from settlement, the landscape demonstrates a strong sense of enclosure and remoteness and remains a landscape highly valued for recreation and relative tranquillity. It is recognised that the tranquillity value offered by the site could be somewhat diminished due to its proximity to the local road network, notably the B3430 to the north and New Wokingham Road to the east.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS216</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Whilst partly designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Heath Lake meets the criteria for Local Green Space designation, particular due to its recreational and ecological value, (recognised by its status as a Local Nature Reserve) for residents of Wokingham Without wards, and visitors in and outside the Borough. Heath Lake is one of very few recognised acid lakes in Berkshire and contributes to the character and distinctiveness of the landscape.



Circle Hill, Pinewood Avenue, Pinewood (Crowthorne)



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS221</b>
Site name	Circle Hill
Site address	Pinewood Avenue, Pinewood (Crowthorne)
Site size	2.02ha
Site Description	<p>Circle Hill is an area of semi-natural and natural greenspace within and on the southern edge of the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne). The nominated area also adjoins the administrative area of Bracknell Forest.</p> <p>The site is bounded by existing housing to the north along Circle Hill Road. To the south, the site is bounded by the administrative area of Bracknell Forest and to the west by community uses and existing housing, notably the grounds of Crowthorne Church of England Primary School and Pinewood Avenue. The eastern boundary of the site is defined by Bracknell Road (B3348). The nominated area of greenspace at Walter Recreation Ground is adjacent to the site and separated by Pinewood Avenue.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it provides a recreational and amenity resource which serves the existing residents of Wokingham Without ward. The site is a recognisable and moderate area of recreational space in this part of Pinewood (Crowthorne).</p> <p>Circle Hill can be accessed publicly from an existing Public Right of Way which runs through the site and connects to the adjacent Walter Recreation Ground via Pinewood Avenue. The site can also be accessed from some entrance gates from Brookers Cor and Pinewood Avenue.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is self-contained with clearly defined edges, for instance the site is bounded to the north by existing housing, to the west by Pinewood Avenue, to the south by the administrative area of Bracknell Forest and to the east by the Bracknell Road and Circle Hill Road.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Circle Hill is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, which comprises small open areas, a woodland and laid footpath. The nominated area is managed by Crowthorne Parish Council and Wokingham Without Parish Council and maintained by The Walter Recreation Ground Charity for public use and is well used by the residents of Pinewood (Wokingham Borough) and Crowthorne (Bracknell Forest) for recreational activities, including walking, cycling and dog walking.</p> <p>Circle Hill was recognised as being of high value to the residents of Pinewood (Crowthorne) and Crowthorne in the council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS221</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The historic route of the Devil’s Highway Roman Road runs directly through Circle Hill, which according to the East Berkshire Historic Landscape Characterisation Report (2019) is the oldest known ancient road in East Berkshire and runs between London and Silchester.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value; however, it is acknowledged that this area of greenspace comprises mixed and semi-natural woodland which may support a variety of wildlife and habitats.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold very limited tranquillity value as the recreation ground is situated in the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne) and adjoins the administrative area of Bracknell Forest, whilst also being within proximity to existing housing and the local road network, notably Circle Hill Road, Pinewood Avenue and Bracknell Road. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low in this particular area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Circle Hill is a recognisable area of amenity greenspace that holds a degree of recreational and amenity value for the residents of Pinewood (Wokingham Borough) and Crowthorne (Bracknell Forest). A laid footpath is present on the site and provides some connectivity to the adjacent Walter Recreation Ground.</p>

Oakham Woods, Old Wokingham Road, Wokingham

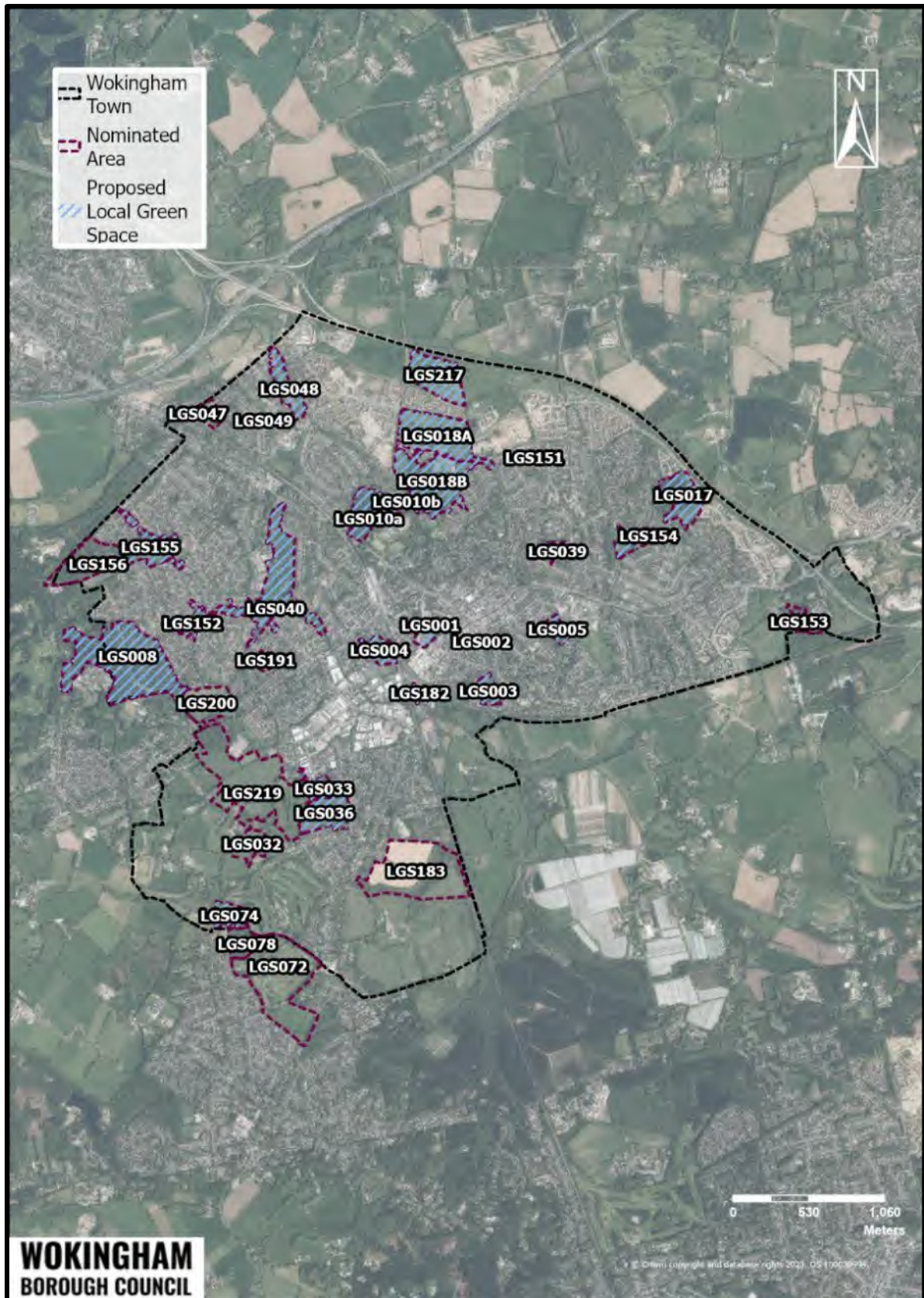


<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS222</b>
Site name	Oakham Woods
Site address	Old Wokingham Road, Wokingham
Site size	6.61ha
Site Description	<p>Oakham Woods comprises two areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace and allocated Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) within the countryside and on the northern edge of the settlement of Pinewood (Crowthorne). The eastern boundary of the nominated area also adjoins the administrative area of Bracknell Forest.</p> <p>The site is bounded by the B3430 (Nine Mile Ride) to the north. To the south and west, the site is bounded by existing housing at Dove Close, Hatch Ride, Lupin Ride, Charity Way, Swords Drive and Dashers Close and to the east by Old Wokingham Road forming the administrative boundary between Wokingham Borough and Bracknell Forest.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it provides a recreational and amenity resource which serves the residents of Wokingham Without ward, notably housing at Oakham Park. The site is a recognisable and moderate area of recreational space and SANG in this part of Pinewood (Crowthorne).</p> <p>An existing Public Right of Way runs along the western boundary of the northern parcel of Oakham Woods connecting from the B3430 (Nine Mile Ride), an identified green route and provides public access to the SANG. Public access can also be achieved to both parcels from Old Wokingham Road to the east. Laid footpaths are also present on the site and provide a form of access to and from the adjacent housing estates at Oakham Park.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is self-contained with clearly defined edges, for instance the site is bounded to the north by existing housing and Nine Mile Ride, to the west and south by residential development at Oakham Park and to the east by Old Wokingham Road and the administrative area of Bracknell Forest.</p> <p>The nominated area is situated in the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' Landscape Character Area, where the Landscape Character Assessment (2020) indicates that the '<i>network of woodland and forestry help to provide physical and visual separation between settlements</i>', notably between Wokingham Borough and Bracknell Forest; and '<i>to filter and screen views to the settlements within the area, as well as providing an attractive setting to housing</i>', notably at Oakham Park.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS222</b>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Oakham Woods is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace and Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), which provides informal recreation for residents in Pinewood (Crowthorne).</p> <p>Despite the area having no formal Public Right of Way, the site includes a circular footpath for visitors to walk through the woodlands.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure; however, it is acknowledged that Oakham Woods is within a known archaeological site.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The nominated areas of land are classified as mixed woodland plantation and grassland by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) but are considered to hold only limited ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Despite the proximity of the nominated site to the local road network and residential areas, the site is considered to hold some tranquillity value due to its location within the countryside and nature as a SANG with an area of mixed woodland. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the eastern parts of the site score very low compared to the tranquillity offered in the western parts of the site. Further, the nominated areas are situated within the M1 'Finchampstead Forested and Settled Sands' Landscape Character Area, where the council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020) indicates that <i>'there are localised areas of remoteness within woodlands and smaller areas of pasture, mire and heath, which provide a sense of tranquillity'</i>.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Oakham Woods (known as Old Wokingham SANG) is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace that serves the residents in Pinewood (Crowthorne) and the residential development at Oakham Park. The site comprises an area of mixed woodland with a footpath providing some recreational value.

# Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Wokingham Town:



LGS001

Elms Field, Wellington Road, Wokingham





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS001</b>
Site name	Elms Field
Site address	Wellington Road, Wokingham
Site size	1.9ha
Site Description	The site is a town park located within Wokingham Town Centre. The site is identified as Public Open Space in the form of a park and garden and new housing, retail and leisure uses front on to the park as part of the wider town centre regeneration. The site is used as a recreational space for children and a civic space for community events such as the Wokingham May Fayre.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located immediately adjacent to Wokingham Town Centre within easy walking distance for existing residents and visitors.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The area is not considered to be an extensive tract of land, as it relates well to the local area, within close proximity to Wokingham Town Centre. The site is considered by the community to provide a 'green lung' for the Town Centre. The site is clearly self-contained, surrounded by residential and commercial uses and has clearly defined edges.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site holds recreational value as a new play area and open space has been created to provide a variety of other recreational activities in the surrounding area, including for children. The site has frequently been used to host a range of public events such as the Wokingham May Fayre and the annual food and drink festival. The site is regularly used by local residents for a range of other informal and formal recreation activities.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>This site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value that would warrant further consideration for Local Green Space designation; however, it is acknowledged that there are several veteran trees present on the site.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Although this site has relatively low tranquillity, due to it being characterised by predominantly urban development, it is considered by the local community to act as a 'green lung' for Wokingham Town Centre.</p>

	The site has been improved as part of the regeneration of Wokingham Town Centre.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The site is demonstrably special to the local community because of its recreational value, including for special events and because it forms a 'green lung' for the Town Centre.

LGS002

Howard Palmer Gardens, Cockpit Path



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS002</b>
Site name	Howard Palmer Gardens
Site address	Cockpit Path, Wokingham
Site size	0.32ha
Site Description	A small park located behind the Cockpit Path car park in Wokingham Town centre. The site is identified as Public Open Space in the form of a park and garden and situated within the Wokingham Town Centre Conservation Area.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located immediately adjacent to Wokingham Town Centre and is within 140m walking distance of Wokingham Town Hall.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is recognised by the local community as a civic space and a park and garden and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. It is well contained, being surrounded on the western and southern boundaries by housing, and northern and eastern boundaries by car parking.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Howard Palmer Gardens is classified as a park and garden and area of civic space, which was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The site has also hosted a range of community and charitable events, including the Wokingham Walk which starts and ends at Howard Palmer Gardens.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>This site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value that would warrant further consideration for Local Green Space designation.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Howard Palmers Garden is situated within the Wokingham Town Centre Conservation Area, which contains a number of buildings that have a varied scale and colour and make the area rich in character.</p> <p>The site is managed by Wokingham Town Council, having been transferred as a Deed of Gift in 1968 to remember Mr Howard Palmer, who was a prominent local resident of Wokingham and Chairman of Huntley &amp; Palmers, the Reading biscuit makers.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS002</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Although the site has a low level of tranquillity due to the influence of busy roads and the car park, it is located within the Wokingham Town Centre Conservation Area, one of the first to be designated in Berkshire in 1970 to preserve the qualities of the townscape. The Conservation Area contains a number of buildings that have a varied scale and colour which make the area rich in character.</p> <p><u>Local significance:</u></p> <p>The site also features a sundial which was specifically designed by pupils at Emmbrook School.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The site is demonstrably special to the local community because of its recreational and historical value. The site is locally significant, due to its association with a prominent historic figure in Wokingham and its location within the Wokingham Town Centre Conservation Area, one of the first to be designated in Berkshire (1970).

Langborough Recreation Ground, Gipsy Lane



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS003</b>
Site name	Langborough Recreation Ground
Site address	Gipsy Lane, Wokingham
Site size	2.17ha
Site Description	A recreation ground located south of Fairview Road, within the Langborough Road Conservation Area and in close proximity to the Murdoch Road Conservation Area. The site is identified as Public Open Space and part of the site is also registered as a village green.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located within close proximity to existing residents of Murdoch Road and Langborough Road and with easy access from Wokingham Town Centre.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained and bounded by residential development along Gipsy Lane and Fairview Road. The site is located within the Langborough Road Conservation Area and in proximity to the Murdoch Road Conservation Area, entirely local in character. The Langborough Road Conservation Area has distinct characteristics, separate to the Wokingham Town Centre Conservation Area. The area is associated with Victorian development characterised by large ornate villas and small artisan cottages which are attractive in their character and appearance, giving the area distinct character and a unique identity.</p> <p>The area to the south of Langborough Recreation Ground, and towards the fringes of Wokingham form a sense of openness associated with open views to the countryside across a flat landscape and a lack of enclosure.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site is owned by Wokingham Borough Council and is partly registered as a village green under section 29 of the Commons Act 1876. Langborough Recreation Ground comprises a children’s play area, recreation ground and an adult football pitch, which are well used by residents. Both the play area and recreation ground were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). According to the Council’s Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the ancillary facilities at the recreation ground are of standard quality and the football pitch is operating at capacity, which shows that it is well used by the community.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is situated in the Langborough Road Conservation Area and within the wider setting of the Murdoch Road Conservation Area.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS003</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value, as supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the area around the recreation ground scores relatively low.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. This site provides important recreational and amenity value, including for the existing residents of Murdoch Road and Langborough Road and is located within two Conservation Areas. Although part of the site is designated as a village green under section 29 of the Commons Act, and provides an element of protection under legislation, it is considered that the distinctive local and historic character of the site warrants designation as a Local Green Space.</p>



LGS004

**Barkham Road Recreation Ground, Latimer Road, Wokingham**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS004</b>
Site name	Barkham Recreation Ground
Site address	Latimer Road, Wokingham
Site size	3.15ha
Site Description	A recreation ground located west of the main railway line. The site contains an allotment, a community garden, an adult football pitch and is used for leisure and recreation activities for children and teenage/youth provision. The site is bordered by an avenue of veteran lime trees. An existing Public Right of Way runs across the site providing access to Wokingham Town Centre.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located within close proximity to existing residents of Barkham and within reasonable distance for residents towards the south of Wokingham Town Centre via Barkham Road. Barkham Recreation Ground is accessible from Barkham Road and Ormonde Road. A Public Right of Way also runs across the site along the southern boundary, providing access to Wokingham Town Centre.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained and surrounded by residential development along its western and northern boundaries, for instance Ormonde Road and Latimer Road, Molly Millars Industrial Area to the south and the railway line to the east.  The site also contains an allotment for 60 plots and a community garden which are very popular with residents of the town of Wokingham and the parishes of Arborfield and Barkham.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  The site currently holds recreational value due to the presence of existing play provision which is well used by children. Barkham Recreation Ground offers recreational provision in the form of a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) and children/teenage provision. The site also contains one football pitch which according to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) is available for community use, and used regularly for senior matches. It is recognised in the strategy that the pitch is operating at or above capacity during peak use.  Both the recreation ground and play facilities were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  Wokingham Town Council hold, in conjunction with the Wokingham Horticultural Association (WHA), their annual allotments open day, which has run for seven consecutive years in support of National Allotments Week. The latest event was held on Saturday 10 August 2019 and provided an opportunity for visitors to explore the allotment sites as well as participating in a range of activities and listening to local live music.

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS004</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is bordered by an avenue of veteran lime trees planted to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935 and gives the area a local identity and distinctiveness.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Although the site has relatively low levels of tranquillity primarily due to its proximity to local highways and the main railway line, the site is bordered by an avenue of veteran lime trees planted to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935, and gives the area a local identity and distinctiveness. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low in tranquillity.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The site is demonstrably special to the local community because of its recreational, historic and ecological value. The site has an important visual amenity value and functions as an allotment site that is valued by the local community. The site is also bordered by an avenue of veteran trees associated with the celebration of King George V Silver Jubilee, giving the area local identity and an element of distinctiveness.</p>

LGS005

King George V Playing Field, Goodchild Road, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS005</b>
Site name	King George V Playing Field
Site address	Goodchild Road, Wokingham
Site size	2.02ha
Site Description	King George V Playing Field is located off Goodchild Road, adjacent to St Crispin's School playing field. The site is identified as Public Open Space and also a Fields in Trust protected space. The site is used for leisure, sport and recreation activities for younger and older children.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located within close proximity to the residents of Goodchild Road and within easy walking distance to the eastern part of Wokingham Town Centre.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well contained and surrounded by residential development to the north, south and west along Goodchild Road and Easthampstead Road and St Crispin's School to the west.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site holds recreational value as a playing field adjacent to St Crispin's School. The site is divided by existing play provision for younger and older children.</p> <p>King George V Playing Field offers sport and recreational provision in the form of an adult football pitch which is available for community use, a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) and youth/teenage provision. The council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) recognises that the football pitch is operating at or above capacity during peak use.</p> <p>The site is particularly valuable to residents towards the eastern part of Wokingham town.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is managed by Wokingham Town Council using funds from the King George V Trust Appeal. The herald plaques at the entrance of the site signifies its status as a King George V Field and were provided by the King George's Field Foundation set up in 1936, to commemorate the King's death.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value, primarily as King George V playing field is within the built-up area of Wokingham and surrounded by residential and community uses. This is</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS005</b>
	supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low in tranquillity.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Although the site is public open space and therefore protected by national and local policy, the site is considered to be demonstrably special to the local community because of its recreational and historic value. The site has an important visual amenity for existing residents of Goodchild Road and those located to the eastern part of Wokingham Town Centre. The presence of herald plaques at the entrance of the site, associated with the commemoration of King George V's death provide a sense of local identity and element of distinctiveness to the area, warranting its designation as a Local Green Space.

LGS008

**Fox Hill, Wokingham**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS008</b>
Site name	Fox Hill
Site address	Fox Hill, Wokingham
Site size	27.6ha
Site Description	The site is predominantly woodland and scrubland and is used for recreational activities including walking and cycling and as a community space for local Scout groups.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located within close proximity to existing residents of Woosehill and Barkham. Several Public Rights of Way exist along the southern boundary of the site, providing pedestrian access for existing residents at these settlements.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. Whilst the site is self-contained by residential development at Woosehill and Limmerhill, part of the site is also open countryside in the form of Coombes Wood and Bearwood Estate which is designated as a Registered Park and Garden and Local Wildlife Site. However, the site also supports separation between the settlements of Woosehill and Barkham due to undulating hills characterised by dense woodland which provide local character and distinctiveness to the area.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Fox Hill is classified as natural and semi-natural greenspace and is well-used by the local residents for a range of recreational and leisure activities, including walking and cycling. The site was recognised as being of low quality but high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Part of the site is designated as ancient and semi-ancient woodland and is also situated in the wider setting of Bearwood College (Royal Navy Merchant School), a Grade II* Listed Building and Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site comprises veteran trees, areas of broadleaved woodland, ancient and semi-ancient woodland, and falls within a known badger consultation zone.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site holds a relatively high level of tranquillity associated with the undulating hills and dense woodland of Coombes Wood and Bearwood Estate. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where most of the site scores highly for tranquillity.</p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS008</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The site is demonstrably special to the local community because of its recreational, historic and ecological value. The site has clear recreational value as it is frequently used by walkers and cyclists for leisure activities. Furthermore, the site is located within the wider setting of Bearwood College, a Grade II* Listed Building, Registered Park and Garden and Local Wildlife Site. The site also forms an important separation between the settlements of Woosehill and Barkham and has a sense of tranquillity associated with the undulating hills and dense woodland of Coombes Wood and Bearwood Estate.

Joel Park and Holt Copse, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS010A; LGS010B</b>
Site name	Joel Park and Holt Copse
Site address	Joel Park and Holt Copse, Wokingham
Site size	7.5ha; 0.48ha
Site Description	A park owned by Wokingham Town Council situated between Reading Road, Holt Lane and Jubilee Avenue. The site is currently designated as a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) in Policy TB22 of the Managing Development Delivery Document (MDD). The site is also designated as a Local Wildlife Site and a Local Nature Reserve. The park comprises Public Open Space and a play area which are used for formal and informal recreation. Joel Park also encompasses Holt Copse; an area of ancient and semi-natural woodland.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located immediately adjacent to Reading Road, Holt Lane and Jubilee Avenue, serving an accessible and attractive open space for the local communities in this area. The presence of a 'greenway route' through the site provides excellent accessibility for visitors or local residents coming from Wokingham Town Centre and Wokingham Station. The site also have strong linkages to Cantley Park which is adjacent to the eastern boundary, and Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) to the north. Joel Park and Holt Copse are also easily accessible for existing residents at Woosehill and Emmbrook, along with the new communities established at Matthewsgreen.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is recognised by Wokingham Town Council and the local community as an important public open space and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. It is a self-contained area of land surrounded by development on all sides, with clearly defined edges and boundaries along Holt Lane, Jubilee Avenue and Reading Road. Holt Copse is surrounded by land uses consisting of residential development, parkland and secondary woodland. Joel Park is located on the rural fringes adjacent to Cantley Park and creates a wooded character giving a sense of seclusion in places where views to the adjacent residential areas are restricted, which is unusual to find being so close to Wokingham Town Centre. The woodland within Holt Copse also contributes to the wider sense of place and the wooded characteristics of Wokingham. The woodland and trees provide a setting to Holt School and St Paul's Church.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u> Joel Park and Holt Copse continue to be used extensively by the local community, including dog walkers, families and children as a popular area for formal and informal recreation. This area of green space was recognised as being of high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Informal recreation is provided at Holt Copse through the use of marked 'woodchip' paths within the woodland. The site also holds recreational value due to the presence of existing play provision in the form of a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP) and children/teenage provision at Joel Park. The Joel Park and Holt Copse play area was recognised as being of low quality

Site reference	LGS010
	<p>but high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is owned and managed by Wokingham Town Council, having been previously transferred by local families Crutchley and Heelas (the owner of Heelas which moved to Reading to become part of the John Lewis Partnership). Joel Park and Holt Copse has a rich heritage dating back to 1453, where the woodland and adjoining land formed part of the Beaches Manor Estate. As part of the transfer to Wokingham Town Council, it was agreed that this area should be used to provide public open space as recreational use for local residents.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Holts Copse is a Local Wildlife Site. The woodland and part of Joel Park are also designated as a Local Nature Reserve which are of local and County importance. These areas consist of ancient and semi-natural mixed deciduous woodland in an urban area and informal grassland, including drainage ditches. These features provide a natural habitat for a variety of ecological species including oak, wild cherry, alder and ash and protected species such as bluebells.</p> <p>The trees within Joel Park and Holt Copse provide a wooded horizon to the northern parts of Wokingham, which is a distinct characteristic of this part of Wokingham.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Although the site has relatively low levels of tranquillity, the site is bordered by two distinct oak avenues, forming seventy trees at Long Avenue consisting of Green Oaks and Silver Birches, and Short Avenue, consisting of Red Oaks and Lombardy Poplars. These were planted to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of King George V in 1935 and gives the area a sense of local identity and distinctiveness.</p> <p><u>Local significance:</u></p> <p>Relating to the maintenance of the site, the Holt Copse Conservation Volunteers (HCCV) was formed by some local residents in 1999, who manage and maintain Holt Copse and Joel Park on behalf of the Town Council. HCCV has set up an extensive programme for the site's continued management and maintenance to improve its civic amenity and ecological value to the local community. HCCV's continued success was recognised nationally, receiving a number of environmental awards including the Dorothy Morley Conservation Award. This a scheme available to groups in Berkshire that involve their local community in managing green spaces that are treasured and valued to them.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS010</b>
	<p>The site routinely forms part of the Wokingham in Bloom competition. Membership of the group has increased significantly with volunteers joining from the surrounding area and receiving sponsorship from other organisations, demonstrating its significance to the local community.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Although the site is covered by several designations, including a Site of Urban Landscape Value, and is protected by national and local policy, the site is considered to be demonstrably special to the local community, as evidenced by Wokingham Town Council and the establishment of the Holt Copse Conservation Volunteers (HCCV). This group actively seeks to protect, restore and improve the sites' ecological and amenity value to the community.</p> <p>The site has an important amenity value for formal and informal recreation which is valued by residents at Joel Park, Woosehill and Emmbrook. The site is bordered by two oak avenues associated with King George V Silver Jubilee and contains semi and semi-natural woodland which is rich in ecology and distinctive in character.</p> <p>The longstanding history of this site and its value and significance to the local community, along with the SULV's distinctive and special qualities associated with the Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site, warrant its designation as a Local Green Space.</p>

Keepatch Park Nature Reserve, Diamond Jubilee Way, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS017</b>
Site name	Keephatch Park Nature Reserve
Site address	Diamond Jubilee Way, Wokingham
Site size	7.19ha
Site Description	<p>Keephatch Park is a local nature reserve situated north of Wokingham. Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) has since been created to provide informal recreation for new and existing residents of the Borough.</p> <p>Keephatch Park is situated to the north of Wokingham within the North Wokingham Strategic Development Location (SDL). The southern boundary of the site is defined by Binfield Road. The northern boundary of the site is defined by existing residential/commercial uses along Diamond Jubilee Way. To the east, the site is bound by the route of the Northern Distributor Road (NDR), Diamond Jubilee Way and the A329(M). The eastern boundary of Keephatch Park is defined by residential uses.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the residents of Norreys ward, including the homes at the North Wokingham SDL.</p> <p>Keephatch Park Nature Reserve is accessible via footpaths at Montague Close to the north-west and Binfield Road further south.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is entirely local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as the site is relatively self-contained with clearly defined edges.</p> <p>Keephatch Park is a local nature reserve situated in the north of Wokingham and comprises four areas of woodland that contain a wide variety of tree species.</p> <p>According to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), whilst predominantly providing recreational and ecological value, community open spaces and SANGs, such as Keephatch Park Nature Reserve, have also been created to separate the development at the North Wokingham SDL from the visually and audibly intrusive road transport corridors.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Keephatch Park is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, Local Nature Reserve and Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), which provides informal recreation for new and existing residents, north of Wokingham.</p> <p>Although there is no formal Public Right of Way, the site comprises a network of footpaths for visitors to walk through the woodlands.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS017</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site holds a degree of ecological value due to its nature as a Local Nature Reserve. Keephatch Park comprises some Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats, notably lowland mixed deciduous woodland. According to the Friends of Keephatch Local Nature Reserve (a voluntary group providing community support in the conservation of the site), the site comprises areas of woodland supporting several tree species including oak, birch, horse-chestnut, sycamore, Norway maple and ash. The woodland provides a habitat for a variety of wildlife.</p> <p>Due to the ecological importance of the site, the Friends of Keephatch Local Nature Reserve are an established group of volunteers who help maintain the recreational and conservation facilities at the nature reserve.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Despite being designated as a Local Nature Reserve, Keephatch Park is considered to hold limited tranquillity value. In particular, the Landscape Character Assessment (2019) has identified that within the J1 'Wokingham-Winnersh Settled and Farmed Clay' Landscape Character Area, <i>'the dominance of the M4 and A329(M) disturb any sense of rurality or tranquillity in the area'</i>. This is further supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in Wokingham town.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Keephatch Park is the only recognisable and significant area of recreational space that serves the residents of the North Wokingham Strategic Development Location.</p> <p>The continued protection and conservation of Keephatch Park Local Nature Reserve has been recognised by the Friends of Keephatch, a voluntary group providing community support on the site and the maintenance of facilities at the nature reserve. This highlights the importance of this area to the local community and therefore warrants further consideration as a Local Green Space designation.</p>



Cantley Park, Twyford Road, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS018A; LGS018B</b>
Site name	Cantley Park
Site address	Twyford Road, Wokingham
Site size	13.7ha; 15.8ha
Site Description	<p>Cantley Park is a park and garden located in the centre of Wokingham, recognised as a valuable resource for formal and informal recreation for the local community. The site is a mix of formal and informal recreation spaces and can be divided into two parts.</p> <p>The southern part of the site (LGS018B) consists of informal amenity grassland with trees and scrub. Tree belts and copses surround the edges making this part relatively enclosed. This area also contains Cantley House Hotel, Wokingham Theatre, tennis courts, sports pitches and a car park.</p> <p>The northern part of the site (LGS018A) consists of open space, grass and artificial sports pitches, tennis courts, a play area, pavilion and café. Several mature Oak trees are scattered across the area, but is mostly a relatively open landscape.</p> <p>The western boundary of Cantley Park is defined by existing residential along Milton Road and Twyford Road and new residential development at Matthewsgreen. The northern and western boundary are defined by new residential development at Bell Foundry Lane, forming the settlement edge of Wokingham.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Cantley Park is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Norreys and Emmbrook wards. The site also serves the residents of the North Wokingham Strategic Development Location (SDL).</p> <p>The site can be accessed via Twyford Road along the western boundary and connectivity to the site will be improved through a network of proposed green routes.</p> <p>Cantley Park is considered to be the only significant area of open green space for formal and informal recreation in close proximity towards the northern end of Wokingham Town Centre.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries. For instance, to the west the site is defined by existing residential along Milton Road and Twyford Road, as well as new residential at Matthewsgreen. To the north and west, the site is bounded by Bell Foundry Lane where new residential development forms the settlement edge.</p> <p>Mature tree belts and copses are found on the edge of the open space, particularly to the south making this part of the site relatively enclosed. The tree belts and associated open space relate to the</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS018A; LGS018B</b>
	<p>original parkland setting of Glebelands which contributes to the wider landscape setting of the area.</p> <p>The site is also proposed as a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) in the emerging local plan as it provides a significant landscape resource with a strong sense of place in an urban area due to the site's parkland character.</p>
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Cantley Park is classified as a park and garden and is recognised as a valuable resource for formal and informal recreation, which is well-used by local residents and visitors, notably from the Norreys and Emmbrook wards. The site was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012), as well as being recognised as the highest scoring site against the Green Flag criteria. The assessment concluded that it is <i>'a flagship park and outdoor sports facility providing a range of good quality features such as grass football pitches, artificial all weather pitch, tennis courts, a pavilion and an outdoor play area'</i>.</p> <p>Recent works have been undertaken to improve facilities at Cantley Park, including a new 3G artificial pitch, upgraded pavilion with café and artificial cricket wicket. The Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) identifies seven football pitches for adults and juniors that are available for community use. Whilst identified in the Playing Pitch Strategy as scoring relatively poorly for their quality, the pitches are operating at or above capacity, which shows they are well used by the local community. In addition to grass pitches, Cantley Park has a full sized 3G artificial grass pitch which is available for community use and achieved a good rating for its quality. Cantley Park also comprises a full sized 3G artificial grass pitch for hockey and ancillary facilities including a pavilion with bathroom facilities and changing rooms. The facilities are available for community use and are also home to South Berkshire Hockey Club.</p> <p>The recently developed non-turf cricket pitch at Cantley Park has one wicket, which is available for community use. The facility is operating at capacity and achieved a standard rating for the quality of their provision in the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024).</p> <p>There are also twelve tennis courts at Cantley Park that are privately owned but available for community use. According to the Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) the tennis courts are the home of Cantley Park Tennis Club. The facilities achieved a good rating for their quality of provision and are well used by the local community.</p>

Site reference	LGS018A; LGS018B
	<p>A new destination play area was completed in March 2022 as part of the infrastructure to support the North Wokingham Strategic Development Location. The new play area, which replaced the existing play facilities, incorporates high-tech interactive equipment that is accessible for all users, including children and younger people, and wheelchair users. The play equipment is laid out in zones for different age groups, allowing all ages to use the interactive facilities.</p> <p>In addition to providing play and recreation facilities, Cantley Park is one of four sites identified in the Council's Health Walk Project/Programme.</p> <p>The playing fields are also used to host the annual Bonfire Night event which is popular with local residents and communities.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold a moderate degree of historical value, predominantly as the open parkland and recreation ground originally formed part of the pleasure grounds for two important former estates: Cantley House (Matthewsgreen House) and Glebelands, a Grade II Listed Building. According to The Times newspaper, Matthew's Green was previously advertised as a <i>'capital house with pleasure grounds, stabling, farmer, three cottages and very picturesque will timbered park size land'</i><sup>1</sup>. In 1955 Cantley House was occupied by James Butler, the 6<sup>th</sup> Marquis of Ormonde (1893-1971) who served as the High Steward of Wokingham from 1956 to 1971. Today, Cantley House operates as a 36-bedroom hotel surrounded by a parkland setting.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Cantley Park is recognised as an important landscape resource, providing parkland setting and character with significant landscape features. Despite not being a formally designated wildlife site, there are a larger number of mature, near-veteran and veteran trees found within the area and the copses, informal grassland and scrub will also support a large variety of birds, mammals and insects.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to be of only limited tranquillity value, possibly due to the influence of local highways and surrounding built development. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low compared to the tranquillity of other areas in the locality.</p>

<sup>1</sup> "Cantley House," Wokingham's Virtual Museum, accessed September 3, 2021, <https://www.wokingham-tc.gov.uk/museum/document/451>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS018A; LGS018B</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Cantley Park is an important and valued recreational resource that serves the residents of Wokingham. Recent improvements to recreational facilities have served to reinforce its importance and local significance.

LGS033

Leslie Sears Playing Field, Reeves Way, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS033</b>
Site name	Leslie Sears Playing Field
Site address	Reeves Way, Wokingham
Site size	2.77ha
Site Description	Leslie Sears is a playing field and area of amenity green space / public open space, situated on the edge of Wokingham town. The southern boundary of the site is defined by Viking Field, an area of adjacent open space. To the north, the site is bounded by Molly Millars Industrial Estate Core Employment Area. To the east, the site is bounded by existing residential along Reeves Way and Crail Close. The western boundary is defined by existing residential properties off Blagrove Lane.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Evendons ward.  Leslie Sears Playing Field can be accessed publicly from Crails Close via a 'Countryside for All' gate.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries, including the adjacent Viking Field, industrial estate and residential properties.  The site is designated as open countryside and lies adjacent to the Major Development Location of Wokingham and the Molly Millars Industrial Estate Core Employment Area.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  The site is classified as amenity green space / public open space and comprises a play area which provides play facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP). Leslie Sears Playing Field was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  The playing field comprises areas of open grassland with a peripheral path for activities such as walking and cycling.  Leslie Sears Playing Field connects to an adjacent area of open space at Viking Field (ref: LGS036) via a footpath and acts as an active travel route from Robert's Grove, Crail Close and Reeves Way for people either commuting to the railway station or school children accessing Evendons Primary School.  <u>Historical value:</u>  'Leslie Sears' is associated with a Wokingham born, former county cricket player from the 1920s and 1930s and therefore adds some local significance to the area.

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS033</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is classified by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) as improved grassland but is considered to hold only limited ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold only limited tranquillity value, predominantly due to its proximity to Molly Millars Industrial Area Core Employment Area and existing residential along Evendons Lane.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Leslie Sears Playing Field is a recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space that has a particular historical and local significance and serves the residents of Evendons ward.



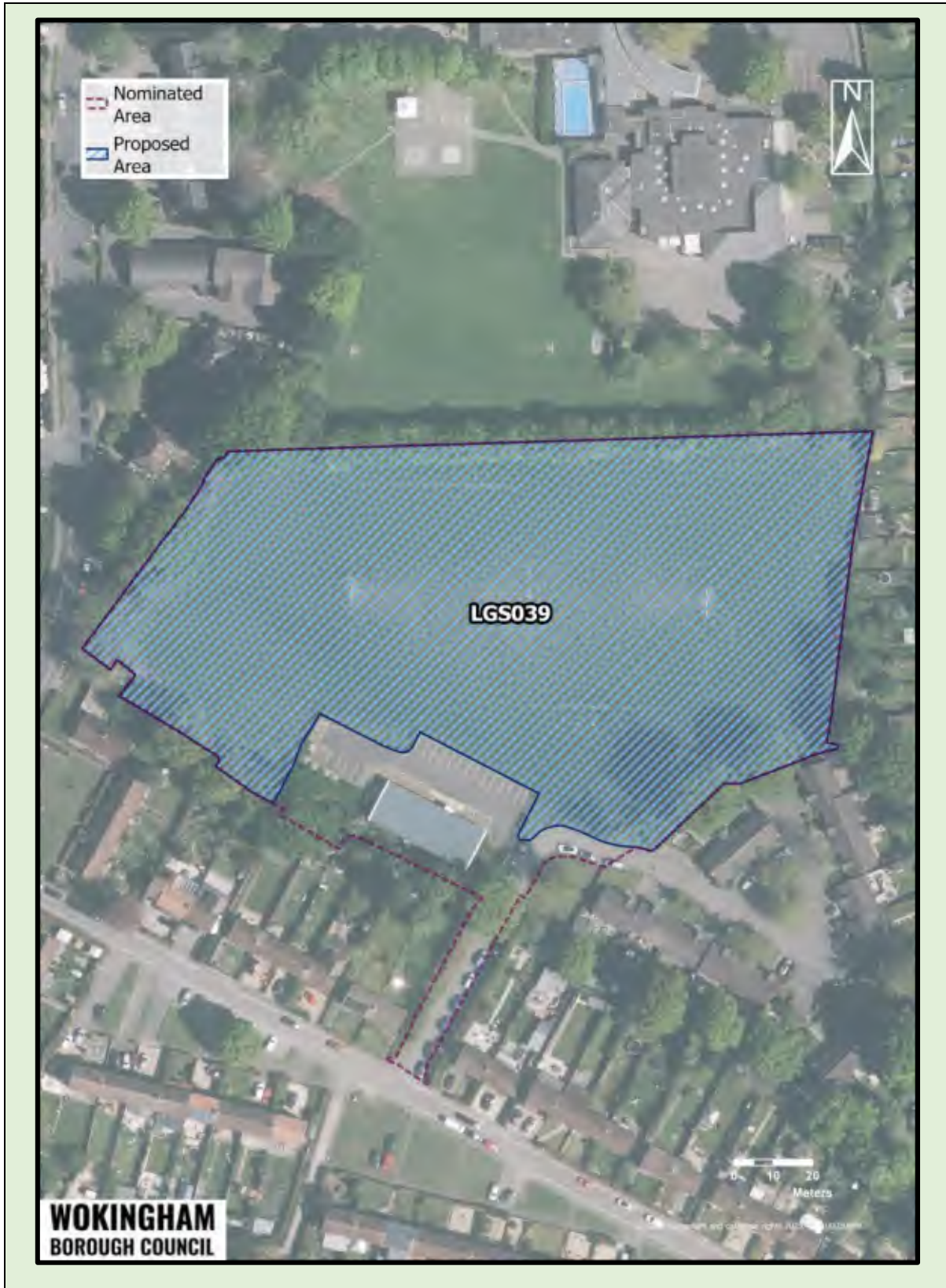
Viking Field, Tanners Row, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS036</b>
Site name	Viking Field
Site address	Tanners Row, Wokingham
Site size	6.88 ha
Site Description	Viking Field is an open space, natural and semi-natural greenspace with a natural grass meadow, situated on the edge of Wokingham town. The northern boundary of the site is defined by Leslie Sears Playing Field, an area of adjacent open space and existing housing along Blagrove Lane. The western boundary is defined by trees and hedgerows with agricultural land beyond. The eastern and southern boundaries are defined by existing housing along Evendon's Lane.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. Viking Field is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Evendon and Wescott wards.  The site is situated adjacent to Leslie Sears Playing Field (ref: LGS033) and can be accessed from Blagrove Lane and Tanners Row via an existing Public Right of Way. The field is also on the route of a proposed Greenway.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries, including the adjacent Leslie Sears playing field and residential properties.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  Viking Field was bequeathed to Wokingham Borough Council in 1997 by Mrs Henagulph to be kept as a 'wildflower field' and to be used as a public amenity and be kept as a natural area.  The site is classified as a large open space / natural and semi-natural greenspace with a natural grass meadow. Both the playing field and play area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  <u>Historical value:</u>  No, although a substantial part of the site contains an area of archaeological potential.  <u>Ecological value:</u>  The northern part of the site is classified as lowland mixed deciduous woodland, a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Habitat according to the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC).

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS036</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value, predominantly due to its proximity to Molly Millars Industrial Area Core Employment Area and existing residential along Evendons Lane. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores fairly low for its tranquillity compared to other parts of Wokingham.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Viking Field (together with Leslie Sears Playing Field) are considered to be the only recognisable and significant areas of recreational space in this part of Wokingham that serve the residents of Evendons Ward. The field appears to be well-used by local residents as there are footpaths around the perimeter of the site.</p>

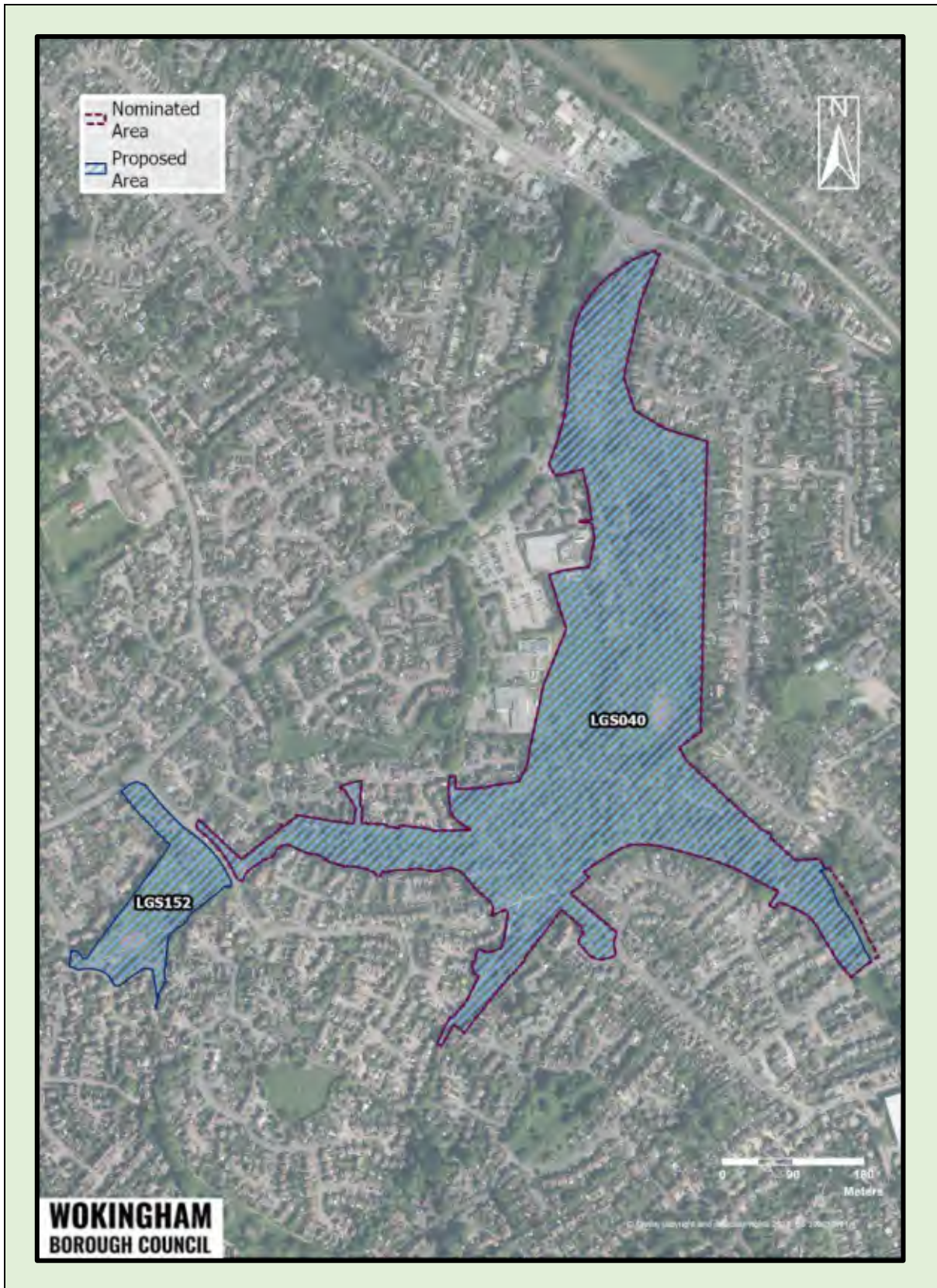
Elizabeth Park, Pyke Close, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS039</b>
Site name	Elizabeth Park
Site address	Pyke Close, Wokingham
Site size	1.76 ha
Site Description	Elizabeth Park is an area of public open space, amenity greenspace and a playing field (adult football pitch) situated on the edge of Wokingham Town Centre. The site is surrounded on the southern, western and eastern boundaries by existing residential, notably along Norreys Avenue and Pyke Close and on the northern boundary by All Saints Primary School.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Norreys ward. Elizabeth Park can be accessed from Pyke Close to the south and from Norreys Avenue linking to Wiltshire Road, which is recognised as a Green Route in the Council's Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Elizabeth Park is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as the site is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined boundaries.</p> <p>The site is located within the Major Development Location of Wokingham.</p> <p>Elizabeth Park is situated within the J1 'Wokingham-Winnersh Settled and Farmed Clay' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Council's latest Landscape Character Assessment. The LCA has recognised a key characteristic of this area as '<i>small areas of arable fields and open space between larger urban areas separate the settlements</i>'.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Elizabeth Road Recreation Ground (Pyke Close) is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace, which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The Recreation Ground contains one senior football pitch which is available for community use and is well used. According to the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), Elizabeth Park scored a good quality rating and was recognised as operating at capacity, which demonstrates its value and use by the community.</p> <p>The park is recognised as one of the most significant open space/recreational spaces in the Norreys ward. Elizabeth Park is located towards the centre of the community, adjacent to All Saints Primary School and Norreys Church and is therefore likely to be well-used by residents. The nominated Local Green Space includes a building used by the 2499 (Wokingham) Squadron, Royal Air Force</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS039</b>
	<p>Air Cadets. The area of the recommended LGS is therefore amended to exclude the building, as shown in the map above.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is classified as cultivated/disturbed land amenity grassland by Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) and is therefore considered to be of limited ecological value. However, according to the Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association, the site does contain a number of veteran trees, notably English Oak.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to be of any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to its proximity to existing residential and community uses, notably All Saints Primary School. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low compared to the tranquillity offered by other parts of the surrounding area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Elizabeth Park is the only recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space in this part of Wokingham that serves the residents south of Norreys ward. Given the site is situated towards the centre of the community adjacent to residential, community and educational uses, Elizabeth Park is considered to be demonstrably special to the local community due to its recreational value.

Woosehill Meadows, Arthur Road, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS040; LGS152</b>
Site name	Woosehill Meadows
Site address	Arthur Road, Wokingham
Site size	17.7ha; 1.9ha
Site Description	<p>Woosehill Meadows (also known as Riverside Walk) is a park and garden / urban park located towards the east of Wokingham within the residential area of Woose Hill. A network of footpaths provide access to other open spaces, including Fox Hill and Heron Field (ref: LGS152)</p> <p>The northern part of the site is defined by the A329 and the Emm Brook runs through the centre of the site. The eastern and southern boundaries are defined by existing housing along Arthur Road. Woosehill and the Windmill Primary School defines the site's western boundary.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. Woosehill Meadows is in proximity to the community as it is surrounded by existing residential development in the Emmbrook and Evendons wards. The site can be accessed by a pedestrian/cycling route via Smiths Walk, a restricted byway that passes through part of the site and links Woosehill to Woosehill Lane in the south. A network of footpaths provides access to adjacent open spaces, notably Heron Field, Fox Hill and Round Hill.</p> <p>The site is also on a route identified for a proposed Riverside Footpath along the Emm Brook and a proposed Greenways route through Fox Hill and Cantley Park.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. It is relatively well self-contained and provides a green lung within surrounding residential areas.</p> <p>According to the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020), the landscape of the J1 'Wokingham-Winnersh Settled and Farmed Clay' Landscape Character Area and the presence of the Emm Brook which flows through the heart of the area, provides an attractive green corridor connecting the rural environment with the urban core.</p> <p>Woosehill Meadows is also proposed as a Site of Urban Landscape Value in the emerging Local Plan Update due to its value as an important landscape resource and relationship to the Emm Brook.</p> <p>According to the assessment of the proposed SULV, the site is surrounded by parkland and associated vegetation giving the area character and a strong sense of place in an urban area. Groups of mature trees enhance the character of the area and provide a wooded backdrop when viewed from the surrounding residential areas.</p>

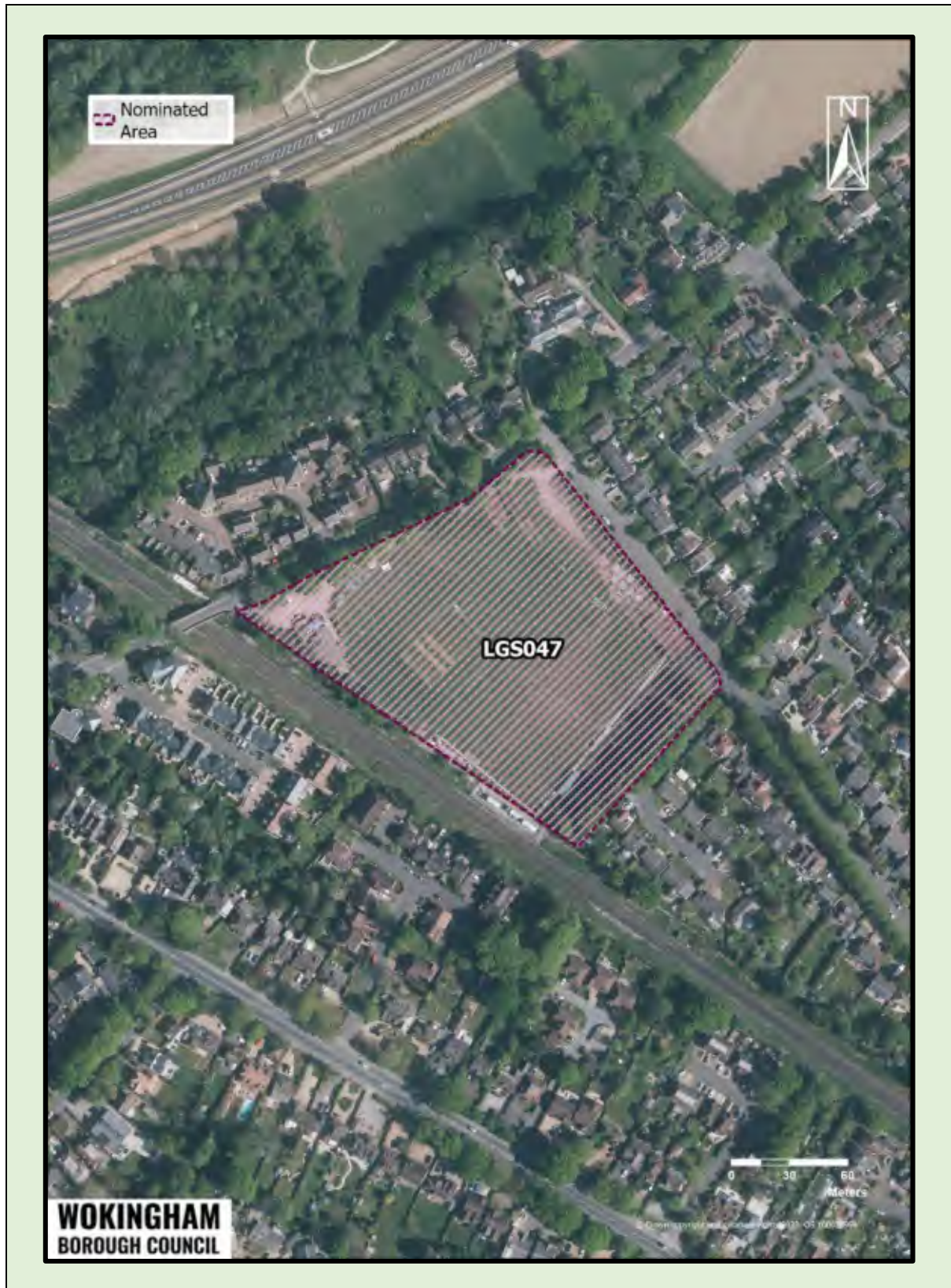


Site reference	LGS040; LGS152
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Woosehill Meadows is an important recreational resource for residents in the Woosehill area. The site comprises a number of recreational facilities including a play area and BMX track.</p> <p>The meadows also form a network of walking routes designed by Wokingham Borough Council which provide a valuable resource for informal/formal recreation and support active lifestyles.</p> <p>Heron Field comprises an area of green space and a play area. A footpath runs through the field connecting to the meadows, as well as Woosehill and surrounding residential areas.</p> <p>Both areas of green space were recognised as being of high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Whilst there are no formal designated wildlife sites, key features such as the stream, areas of informal grassland and scrub support a large variety of birds, mammals and insects. Parts of the site are also classified as semi-natural and lowland mixed deciduous woodland (a Biodiversity Action Plan Phase 1 Habitat) as identified by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC).</p> <p>According to the assessment of the SULV in the Topic Paper (2020), the site comprises a large number of mature, near-veteran and veteran trees, mainly situated to Emm Brook or Smiths Walk, which are protected by several linear Tree Preservation Orders (12/1973).</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Yes, despite the proximity of the site to the railway line and Reading Road, the site is considered to hold some tranquillity value. The assessment of Woosehill Meadows SULV sets out how this area creates a strong sense of place, as the Emmbrook valley, the parkland type character and associated vegetation are significant landscape features within the wider residential development at Woosehill.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS040; LGS152</b>
	<p><u>Local significance</u></p> <p>Conservation group 'Friends of the Emm Brook' undertake enhancement works on Woosehill Meadows and have created a wildflower meadow in Riverside Walk. The group also undertake regular surveys of flora and fauna in and around the brook with the aim to protect and enhance the Emm Brook and its floodplain for wildlife.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Woosehill Meadows is an important and valued recreational and ecological resource for local residents in the Woosehill area. The continued conservation and enhancement of Woosehill Meadows has been supported by Friends of the Emm Brook whose aim is to protect and enhance the Emm Brook and its floodplain for wildlife. Heron Field (ref: LGS152) in the western part of the nominated area also comprises an area of green space and a play area to serve residents of Woosehill.</p> <p>Responses from two private landowners to the Revised Growth Strategy consultation disagreed with the inclusion of their land adjacent to Meadow Walk and Meadow Road. This was due to the land being in private ownership with no public access. The boundary of the nominated area is therefore amended to exclude the parcel of land from the Local Green Space designation, as shown in the map above. The boundary of the nominated area is also amended to also incorporate Heron Field (ref: LGS152).</p>

LGS047

Lowther Road sports field and play area, Lowther Road, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS047</b>
Site name	Lowther Road sports field and play area
Site address	Lowther Road, Wokingham
Site size	2.5ha
Site Description	This area of green space at Lowther Road is located north of Wokingham town and comprises a private sports ground with a club house and associated facilities and a children's play area. The site is bound by the main railway line; by residential properties on Old Forest Road on the northern boundary and Lowther Road to the east.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Emmbrook and Winnersh wards. According to the landowner, the sports facilities at Lowther Road are leased to Emmbrook Sports and Social Club and are therefore not publicly available for wider community use. However, the play area in the north-east corner of the site can be accessed from Lowther Road
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, with clearly defined edges, bounded by existing housing to the east and south-east along Lowther Road, to the south and south-west by the main railway line and to the north and north-west by Old Forest Road.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Lowther Road sports field and play area is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace, which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Lowther Road Play Area is considered the only play facility in Emmbrook, and is well used by younger children in the area.</p> <p>The recreation ground was also identified as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the landowner, the sports field is not available for community use, as recognised in the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024). The facility comprises a senior football pitch, a junior football pitch and one grass cricket pitch which are all privately owned and secured and therefore, this limits its recreational value to the wider community. The site is home to Wokingham and Emmbrook Football Club and Emmbrook and Bearwood Cricket Club.</p> <p>Lowther Road sports field also includes a pavilion/clubhouse which provides an active social centre and a venue for private functions. The venue hosts performances from local groups, notably the Wokingham Music Club, as well as being used for other community events.</p>

Site reference	LGS047
	<p>The play area in the north-east corner of the site is publicly accessible from Lowther Road and scored highly in terms of its quality and value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>No, however, Lowther Road is owned by Wokingham Borough Council, having previously been transferred by Edmund Becher Skinner via a Deed of Gift in 1949. The Deed included a covenant that <i>“the property shall not be used for any purposes whatsoever except physical training and recreation”</i>.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value but may be a potential habitat for bat roosting.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to the site’s proximity to the main railway line and being surrounded by existing residential. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores fairly low compared to the tranquillity offered by other areas in the locality.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	No. Whilst the Lowther Road sports field and play area forms an integral part of the public open space in Emmbrook, the facilities are privately owned and, therefore, its public access is limited to members of the club. This limits its recreational value to the wider community.

Emmbrook Walk, Emmbrook Road, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS048</b>
Site name	Emmbrook Walk
Site address	Emmbrook Road, Wokingham
Site size	5.04 ha
Site Description	Emmbrook Walk is a linear strip of water meadow containing the Emm Brook. The meadow stretches from Emmbrook Road and Toutley Road junction in the south to Old Forest Road in the north. It consists mainly of grassland, with trees and hedgerows along its boundaries and on the banks of the stream.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Emmbrook and Winnersh wards. Emmbrook Walk can be accessed publicly from several points, including Woodhurst Lane and Emmbrook Vale and via gate ways from Emmbrook Road, Toutley Road and Old Forest Road.</p> <p>Emmbrook Walk is situated on the route of the proposed Emmbrook Riverside Footpath which is identified in Policy CC03 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is well contained, with clearly defined edges. The proposed area of Local Green Space follows the course of Emmbrook. Emmbrook Walk is bounded: to the south by Emmbrook Road which forms existing housing and commercial uses, to the east by existing housing along Emmbrook Vale and Toutley Road, to the west by existing housing along Woodhurst Lane and community uses, notably Emmbrook Junior and Infant School. Immediately adjacent to the north of the site is the Old Forest Meadows Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG).</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Emmbrook Walk is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>The site is considered by the local community to act as a 'green lung', providing significant recreational and amenity value as it offers a safe and pleasant surrounding for activities such as walking, running and cycling.</p> <p>Emmbrook Walk also provides access to adjacent open green spaces, notably Old Forest Meadows SANG via a green route. Its location on the proposed route for a riverside footpath and cycleway along the Emmbrook will provide further links to Wokingham Town and Dinton Pasture Country Park.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS048</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value, and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The presence of the Emm Brook contributes towards the ecological significance of the site, as in addition to flora and fauna associated with meadowland, it provides an aquatic habitat. According to the Council's SuDS Strategy (2016), the Emmbrook was assessed as having moderate ecological status due to the presence of fish species, notably Salmonid and Cyprinid.</p> <p>The Friends of the Emmbrook Group Management Strategy published in 2005 ensures the continued protection and enhancement of the brook and its floodplain for wildlife. As part of the Management Strategy, several species have been planted by the group in the amenity grassland along the brook, including native species such as English Oak, aspen, silver birch, rowan and common lime. Trees have also been established naturally within the wetland environment, notably common alder, grey willow, crack willow, goat willow and osier. Other surveys undertaken by the group have recorded several bird, aquatic and insect species.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold only limited tranquillity value, predominantly due to its proximity to the M4 and A329(M), which according to the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020), disturbs any sense of tranquillity or rurality in the area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The site is considered to be demonstrably special to the local community as the area of open space / amenity greenspace along the Emmbrook maintains a 'green lung' and provides significant opportunities for recreation and amenity value as it offers a safe and pleasant environment for activities including walking, cycling and running.</p> <p>The site also holds ecological value due to the variety of species which are present in the Emm Brook and adjacent areas of meadowland. The continued protection and enhancement of the brook and floodplain for wildlife has been supported by the Friends of the Emmbrook Group, which highlights the importance of this area to the local community.</p>



Waverley Way open space, Nashgrove Lane, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS074</b>
Site name	Waverley Way open space
Site address	Nashgrove Lane, Wokingham
Site size	3.4 ha
Site Description	<p>Waverley Park is situated adjacent to Finchampstead North and comprises the only recognisable area of amenity green space that serves the residents in this area. The site is situated within Wokingham Town but abuts the Finchampstead Parish boundary.</p> <p>Adjacent to the south of the site is Waverley Prep School, while The Moors amenity green space, which is designated as Local Green Space in the made (adopted) Finchampstead Neighbourhood Plan is just to the south. To the east of the site is Sand Martins Golf Club and to the west is Nashgrove Lane.</p> <p>The main use of this site is as a playing field and play area for Waverley Prep School. However, the site is publicly accessible by a Public Right of Way from Evendon's Lane to the north of the site.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in proximity to the community as it serves the residents in the northern part of Finchampstead North. Waverley Park is the only recognisable and significant area of recreational space in this part of the village.</p> <p>There is a large community situated to the south of site. There are homes along Nashgrove Lane. There are few homes directly to the north, east and west of this site, however the size of the community to the south is large enough to justify meeting this criterion. Waverley Prep School also frequently use this site.</p> <p>This is an accessible site, there is a Public Right of Way just to the north of the site which connects the site to the community on Evendon's Lane. While there is also a byway to the west of the site which passes through the main community to the south that this site would predominantly serve.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as the site is well self-contained, with clearly defined boundaries. For instance, the northern, eastern and western boundaries of the site are screened by trees, while the southern boundary of the site is defined by Waverley Prep School and an area of woodland.</p> <p>This site is accessible to the public and provides an important recreational space for the local community.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational Value</u></p> <p>The nominated area is identified as Waverley Park, which is classified as an urban park / park and garden. The park was</p>

	<p>recognised as being of high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>This area of green space also comprises Waverley Park Play Area which provides assorted play equipment for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP). There is a play area on site. The play area was also recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the Council’s Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), Waverley Park comprises an adult football pitch which is available for community use. Whilst the pitch scored a low-quality rating, the facility is well-used by the community, most notably for children at the adjacent Waverley Prep School.</p> <p>The area of greenspace also includes a laid footpath which provides connectivity an adjacent area of green space and Local Wildlife Site at The Moors, which is designated as Local Green Space in the made (adopted) Finchampstead Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p><u>Ecological Value</u></p> <p>Waverley Park is lined by a row of trees and comprises a small area of woodland, which may provide a habitat for some ecological species. However, the ecological value of this site is limited due to no particular ecological designations or sites being present on the site.</p> <p>Notwithstanding, it is noted that the site is adjacent to The Moors (including Sand Martins Golf Course Edge) Local Wildlife Site, which comprises an area of wet woodland, marsh and meadow and supports a variety of wetland species.</p> <p><u>Historic Value</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity Value</u></p> <p>This site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, as supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) and the Council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2019) where areas near Finchampstead North score average to moderate, possibly due to their edge of settlement location and proximity to the countryside. However, the tranquillity of this area is likely to be affected by the adjacent residential and community uses.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Waverley Park is the only recognisable area of open, recreational space which serves the residents in the northern part of</p>

	Finchampstead North. A footpath is laid across the site which provides access to the adjacent Local Wildlife Site at The Moors.
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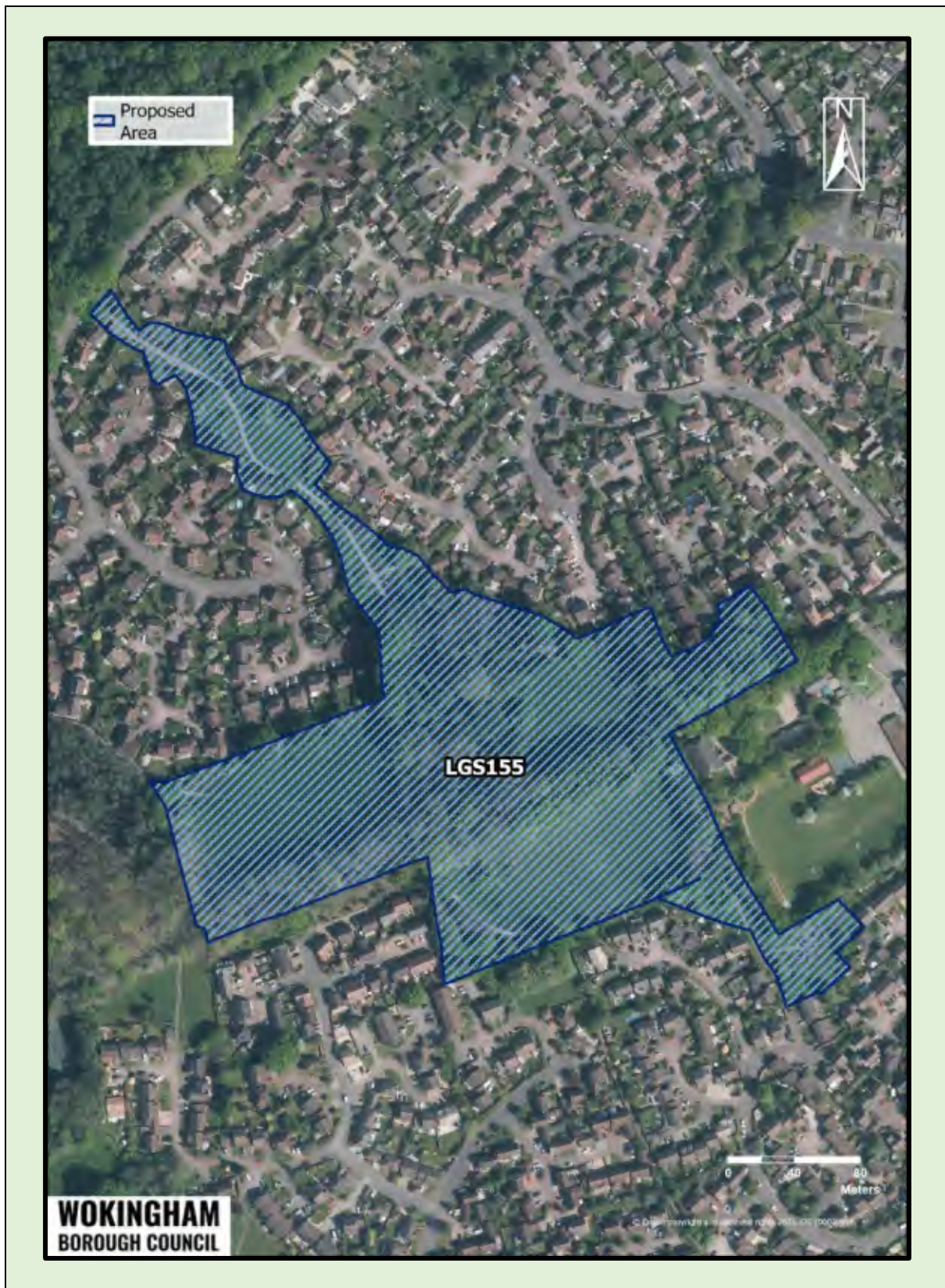
Park between Keephatch Road and Binfield Road, Wokingham



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS154</b>
Site name	Keephatch Road Park
Site address	Keephatch Road / Binfield Road, Wokingham
Site size	3.90ha
Site Description	<p>Keephatch Park is a park and garden, which comprises a play area, ponds and an area of green space that is situated in the eastern part of Wokingham and to the west of the North Wokingham Strategic Development Location.</p> <p>The southern boundary of the site is defined by Binfield Road. The western boundary of the site is defined by Keephatch Road, a recognised green route that connects to the North Wokingham SDL and further to Wokingham Town Centre using the A329 (London Road). Twycross Road runs through the centre of the site connecting to Binfield Road to the south and development at North Wokingham SDL to the north. The northern boundaries of the site front on to existing housing along Willowherb Close and Dyer Road.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, being situated within the built-up area. The site is publicly accessible along Binfield Road to the south. From the western part of the site, Keephatch Road Park can be accessed from a recognised green route along Keephatch Road and from nearby residential roads.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is entirely local in character given its nature as a park and garden within the built-up area of Wokingham. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land being well contained by the local road network and existing residential development. For instance, to the north and east, the site is defined by existing housing. To the south, the site is bound by Binfield Road. The western boundary is defined by Keephatch Road, which is a recognised green route.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Keephatch Road Park is a park and garden comprising a play area and area of greenspace that provides recreation for the residents of Wokingham, in particular Norreys ward, and to an extent the adjacent development at the North Wokingham SDL.</p> <p>The park was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the council's Open Spaces Assessment report (2012).</p> <p>The park also includes a play area, comprising several play facilities for younger children.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold a moderate degree of ecological value, due to a number of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats</p>

	<p>being present across the site, notably ponds and lowland mixed deciduous woodland.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site holds a degree of tranquillity value, predominantly due to its nature as a park and garden which is well screened from the existing housing by trees. However, the tranquillity value offered by Keephatch Road Park is somewhat diminished due to its proximity to residential development and major roads. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the tranquillity value in the southern part of the site, closer to Binfield Road, is slightly lower compared to other areas of the park and garden.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Keephatch Road Park is a recognisable park and garden, comprising an area of green space and play area that provides a valued recreational resource for the residents of Norreys ward, including existing residents in Wokingham and to an extent new residents at the adjacent North Wokingham SDL.</p> <p>It is recognised that the nominated area includes two dwellings and land which is in private ownership, with no public access and therefore not considered to meet the criteria for designation. The boundary of the recommended area excludes the parcels of land from the Local Green Space designation, as shown in the map.</p>

Land north-west of Chestnut Avenue, Wokingham





<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS155</b>
Site name	Land north-west of Chestnut Avenue,
Site address	Chestnut Avenue, Wokingham
Site size	6.36ha
Site Description	<p>An area of amenity greenspace, recreation grounds and play area situated in the western part of Wokingham, known locally as Simons Park.</p> <p>The park is bounded by existing housing to the north and south. A larger area of amenity greenspace and ancient woodland at Bob's Copse is adjacent to the site's western boundary. The eastern boundary is defined by the grounds of The Hawthorns Primary School and Woosehill Community Church. The northern part of the site is bounded by an existing Public Right of Way along Simons Lane</p> <p>A tree-lined avenue runs through the centre of Simons Park connecting to Chestnut Avenue to the east of the site.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves being situated within a built-up area.</p> <p>Simons Park can be accessed from a Public Right of Way running along Simons Lane to the north where a laid footpath continues across the centre of the park in a north-south direction. The park can also be accessed from nearby residential roads, notably Chestnut Avenue.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, being relatively well contained, bounded by existing housing and a Public Right of Way to the north, existing housing to the east and south and Bob's Copse, an area of greenspace and ancient woodland to the west.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Simons Park is identified as an area incorporating amenity greenspace, recreation grounds and a play area, in the form of a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP).</p> <p>Both the park / greenspace and play area were recognised as being of lower value and lower quality to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012), compared to other areas of greenspace in the surrounding area, but serve a recreational purpose for residents in Evendons ward.</p> <p>Simons Park includes a play area, comprising several play facilities for younger children and teenagers and a few recreation grounds to the south and west of the site.</p>

	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some ecological value, due to the presence of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats such as lowland mixed deciduous woodland.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Simons Park is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as the site is situated within Wokingham and being surrounded by residential and community uses, notably The Hawthorns Primary School and Woosehill Community Church. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores lower compared to areas further west of the site which are in the countryside.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Simons Park is a recognisable area of greenspace / open space and play area that serves the residents of Wokingham, notably in Evendons ward, where opportunities for formal recreational activities are more limited.</p>

Playground at Oakey Drive



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS182</b>
Site name	Playground at Oakey Drive
Site address	Oakey Drive, Wokingham
Site size	0.45ha
Site Description	This is an area of green space and play area at Oakey Drive, situated to the south of Wokingham town. The site is bounded by residential properties to the north and west, and by commercial and retail uses at Bridge Retail Park to adjacent to the south.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves, being situated within the built-up area.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is considered to be local in character and not an extensive tract of land, being of modest scale and well defined by development to all sides.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Yes. Oakey Drive play area is classified as an area of amenity greenspace and play area, which is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Whilst there are other areas of green space in the surrounding area, notably Elms Field, access to these sites is severed by the main railway line and the A321 (Finchampstead Road). Oakey Drive is therefore considered the only play facility in Wescott wards that is well used by children and younger people in the area.</p> <p>The play area comprises several pieces of equipment, including swings, modular unit and spring rocker.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>No. The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>No. The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value but may be a potential habitat for bat roosting.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>No. The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to the site's proximity to the main railway line and being surrounded by residential, commercial and retail uses. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores very low compared to the tranquillity offered by areas further south of Wokingham town.</p>

Site reference	LGS182
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p data-bbox="603 235 1431 409">Yes. Oakey Drive is a moderate area of green space that serves the residents of Wescott ward for recreational purposes. There are other areas of green space in the area, such as Elms Field, but access to this site is severed by the main railway line and Finchampstead Road (A321).</p> <p data-bbox="603 450 1431 656">During a review of the nominated areas, it was recognised that the north-east corner of the area recommended at Oakey Drive included two private car parking spaces for residents with no public access. The boundary of the nominated area is therefore amended to exclude the parcel of land from the Local Green Space designation, as shown in the map above.</p>

Ashridge Meadows, Wokingham



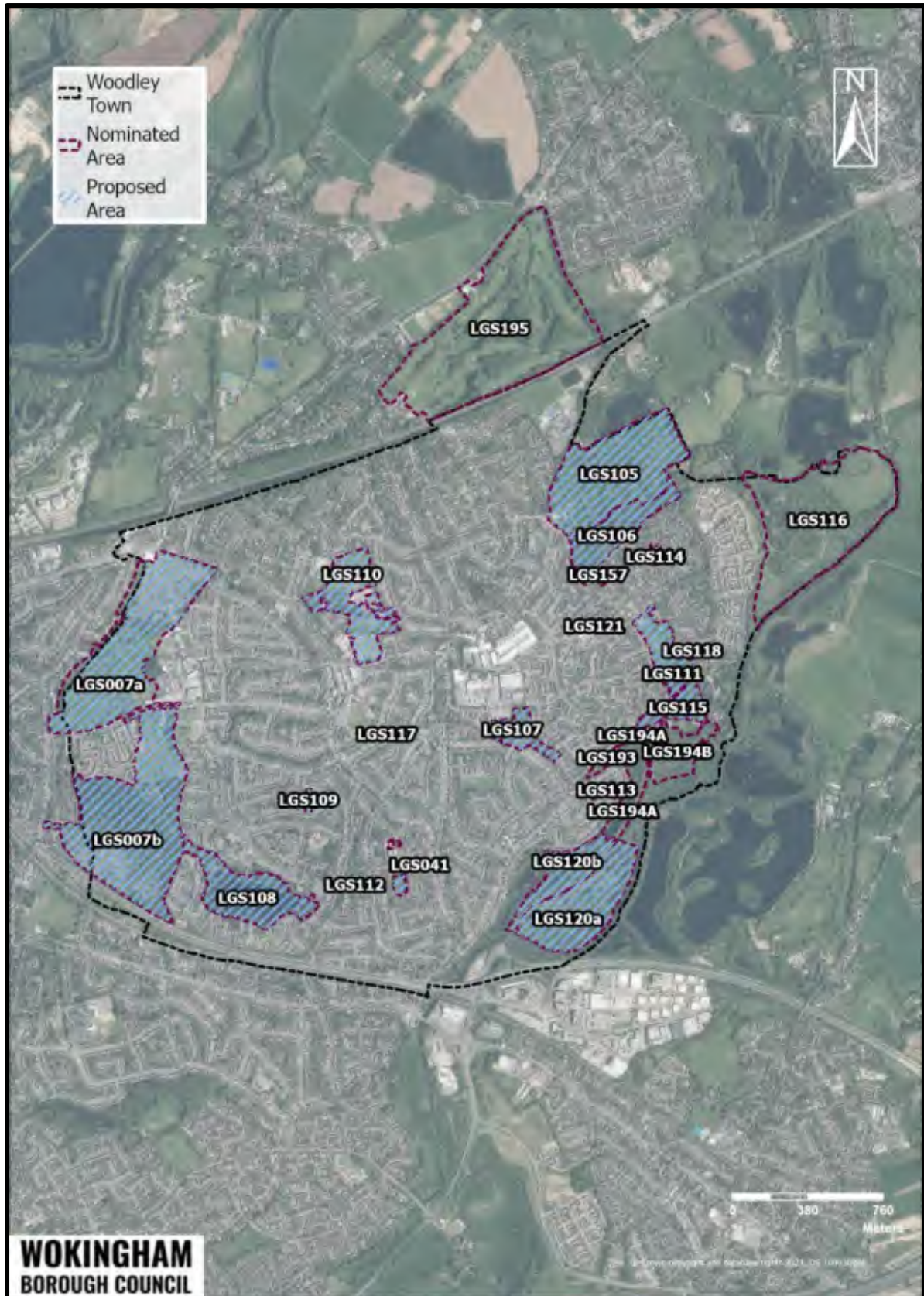
<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS217</b>
Site name	Ashridge Meadows
Site address	Land north of Bell Farm, Bell Foundry Lane, Wokingham
Site size	8.99ha
Site Description	<p>An area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, comprising trees, meadows, wooded areas and ponds that form part of the North Wokingham Strategic Development Location (SDL). The site was developed as a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) and provides informal recreation for new and existing residents of the Borough, which is often known locally as Bell Farm nature park.</p> <p>Ashridge Meadows is situated in the northern part of the North Wokingham SDL. The southern boundary of the site is defined by housing along Eldridge Avenue and Bingham Drive. The northern part of the site is defined by the A329(M). To the west, the site is defined by Twyford Road. The eastern boundary of the site is less clearly defined, but is adjacent to land proposed for housing in the Local Plan Update, and which has planning permission for 153 dwellings and SANG (ref: 201515).</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves being adjacent to the built-up area from which it is publicly accessible at multiple points.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land. The area is modest in scale compared to the community to which it relates and is relatively well defined.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Ashridge Meadows is an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, comprising meadows, woodland and ponds, which is designated as Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG). The Ashridge Meadows SANG provides informal recreation for new and existing residents of north Wokingham. The site comprises a multi-use path for walking/cycling.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold modest ecological value, but features of Ashridge Meadow such as the woodlands, meadows and ponds/streams could support wildlife habitats and species.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS217</b>
	<p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site holds some degree of tranquillity value, predominantly due to its appearance as a meadow and area of woodland. However, it is recognised that the tranquil value offered is diminished due to the proximity to residential development and major roads. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the tranquillity of this area is varied across the site.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Ashridge Meadows is a significant and recognisable area that provides an important and valued recreational resource for the residents of the North Wokingham area.



# Site Assessments by Town / Parish

Woodley Town:



Bulmershe, Land south of Reading Road, Earley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS007A / LGS007B</b>
Site name	Bulmershe, Earley
Site address	Land south of Reading Road, Bulmershe, Earley
Site size	31.5ha; 38.2ha
Site Description	The site is currently designated as a Site of Urban Landscape Value in Policy TB22 of the Managing Development Delivery Document (MDD) local plan. In his final report, the Inspector acknowledged the separation between the settlements of Earley and Woodley at Bulmershe. Both northern and southern sections of the site contain allotments. The site includes ancient woodland, scrub and heathland and contains a Local Nature Reserve, Local Wildlife Site, playing fields and public open space in the centre.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is situated to the west of the settlement of Woodley and is within close proximity to existing residents in the surrounding area. The site currently serves Woodley and north Earley, in particular the Wards of South Lake and Bulmershe & Whitegates. Woodlands Avenue runs through the centre of the site, with minor residential roads running adjacent to parts of the site's eastern boundary. The southern portion of the site adjoins Woodlands Avenue/Church Road and provides public access and opportunities for informal recreation for the area's residents. Existing Public Rights of Way run through the centre of the site and along the eastern boundary, providing pedestrian access for residents in Woodley and Earley via a footbridge over the A3290. A connection of footpaths link Town Lane/Bulmershe Park to the north to High Wood and South Lake to the south. An existing bridleway is also adjacent to High Wood.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is well contained, adjacent to Addington School, Bulmershe School and Highwood Primary School to the east of the site and housing to the west. The A3290 forms the southern boundary.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The SULV is used as an area for informal and formal recreation. This area also comprises Bulmershe Park and Bulmershe Fields. Bulmershe Park was recognised as being of low quality but high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), the playing fields comprise a junior football pitch and four adult football pitches which are available for community, well used and achieved a good quality rating.</p> <p>High Wood Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site are also located to the south of the site, which contain exotic trees, including Giant Redwood and Monkey Puzzle within the ground of Woodley Lodge.</p> <p>During engagement with a landowner, it was recognised that the nominated area included playing fields at Bulmershe School and Addington School. Designation would likely restrict any future</p>

Site reference	LGS007A / LGS007B
	<p>operational needs and would not be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The boundary of the proposed area therefore excludes the playing fields from the Local Green Space designation, as shown in the map above.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The grounds of Bulmershe estate have some historical significance associated with John Claudius Loudon, an influential city planner, botanist and garden designer who advocated the concept of ‘breathing spaces’ to provide access for residents to recreational areas within easy walking distance of their homes. The woodlands at Bulmershe Court are home to the first Bhutan pine tree, which was planted by Loudon.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The southern part of the Bulmershe SULV contains High Wood Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site, and comprises a small area of heathland, ancient woodland and exotic trees, including Giant Redwood and Monkey Puzzle. The presence of exotic tree specimens are associated with a former arboretum within the grounds of Woodley Lodge.</p> <p>Most of the site also contains a diverse range of habitats and forms an area of mixed woodland, wetland and a mix of improved grassland for use of the playing fields and allotments.</p> <p>The site also contains several trees within the rear gardens of properties along Pitts Lane to the north-west and woodland to the north and south which provide a wooded horizon, seen as a distinctive characteristic of the SULV.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Part of the site has moderate to high levels of tranquillity, characterised by High Wood Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site located to the south of the site. This consists of a small area of heathland and contains some ancient woodland indicator species which create a strong sense of place. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where some areas of the site score moderate for their tranquillity.</p> <p><u>Local significance:</u></p> <p>The value of the Bulmershe SULV was first articulated by Earley Town Council and Woodley Town Council in the Wokingham District Plan 1996-2004 and previous to this, in the Berkshire Structure Plan 1991-2006.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS007A / LGS007B</b>
	<p>The site has since been consistently supported by Earley Town Council, Woodley Town Council and the Association of Central Earley Residents, through an historic campaign during the Local Plan process, the Managing Delivery Development (MDD), and is supported by local communities in Earley and Woodley. Both Woodley Town Council and Earley Town Council have formed a Joint Working Group and Statement to protect the Bulmershe SULV, advocating the designation's importance in maintaining the green lung between the western edge of Woodley and the north of Earley. Both Town Councils continue to campaign for this site's additional protection through local and national policy.</p>
<p>Recommendation for Local Green Space designation</p>	<p>Yes. Although the site is covered by several designations, including a Site of Urban Landscape Value, and is therefore has some protection in local policy, the site is considered to be demonstrably special to the local community. Local residents, the Association of Central Earley Residents, Woodley Town Council and Earley Town Council have responded through Local Plan processes, including the MDD to protect and maintain the 'green lung' and the physical and visual separation between the settlements of Earley and Woodley.</p> <p>The site has an important visual and recreational amenity for residents to the west of Woodley and the north of Earley, in particular the wards of South Lake and Bulmershe &amp; Whitegates.</p> <p>The longstanding history of this site and its value and significance to the local community, along with the SULV's distinctive, local and special qualities associated with High Wood Local Nature Reserve and the Local Wildlife Site, warrant its designation as a Local Green Space. Its designation as a LGS will offer the site sufficient policy protection and ensure the site's quality and capacity is capable of enduring beyond the plan period.</p>

Remaining part of Crescent Field, South Lake, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS041</b>
Site name	Remaining part of Crescent Field, Woodley
Site address	South Lake, Woodley
Site size	0.77 ha
Site Description	<p>The southern parcel comprises an area of amenity greenspace and play area situated to the south of Woodley. The northern parcel includes land which has received planning permission for housing and is currently under construction.</p> <p>Crescent Field is defined by roads and existing housing on all boundaries and to the north by extra care homes at Alexandra Place.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of Loddon ward. The area of greenspace at Crescent Field can be accessed via a Public Right of Way from Loddon Bridge Road and The Ridgeway.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, surrounded by existing housing on the southern, eastern and western boundaries and extra care housing at Alexandra Place to the north.</p> <p>This area of greenspace is situated within the settlement of Woodley.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site includes Southlake Crescent Play Area which contains play facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Neighbourhood Equipped Area of Play (NEAP). The area of open space and play area at Southlake Crescent were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). According to the report, the site is well-used by the local community which <i>'offers an excellent range of equipment with good levels of maintenance and cleanliness'</i>.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to be of any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as the site is surrounded by housing on all boundaries and is situated in the Major Development Location of</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS041</b>
	Woodley. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low in comparison to the tranquillity offered by other areas of green space in Woodley.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. The southern parcel, which comprises an area of amenity greenspace at South Lake Crescent, is a recognisable and local area of open space that serves residents south of Woodley, aside from Dinton Pastures Country Park to the east which is larger in scale and provides a wider range of recreational opportunities. Nevertheless, South Lake Crescent provides an important recreational resource for residents in the western part of Loddon Ward.</p> <p>The northern parcel comprises land which was granted planning permission for housing and is built out. It should therefore be excluded from the designation.</p> <p>The proposed Local Green Space designation is shown in the map above.</p>



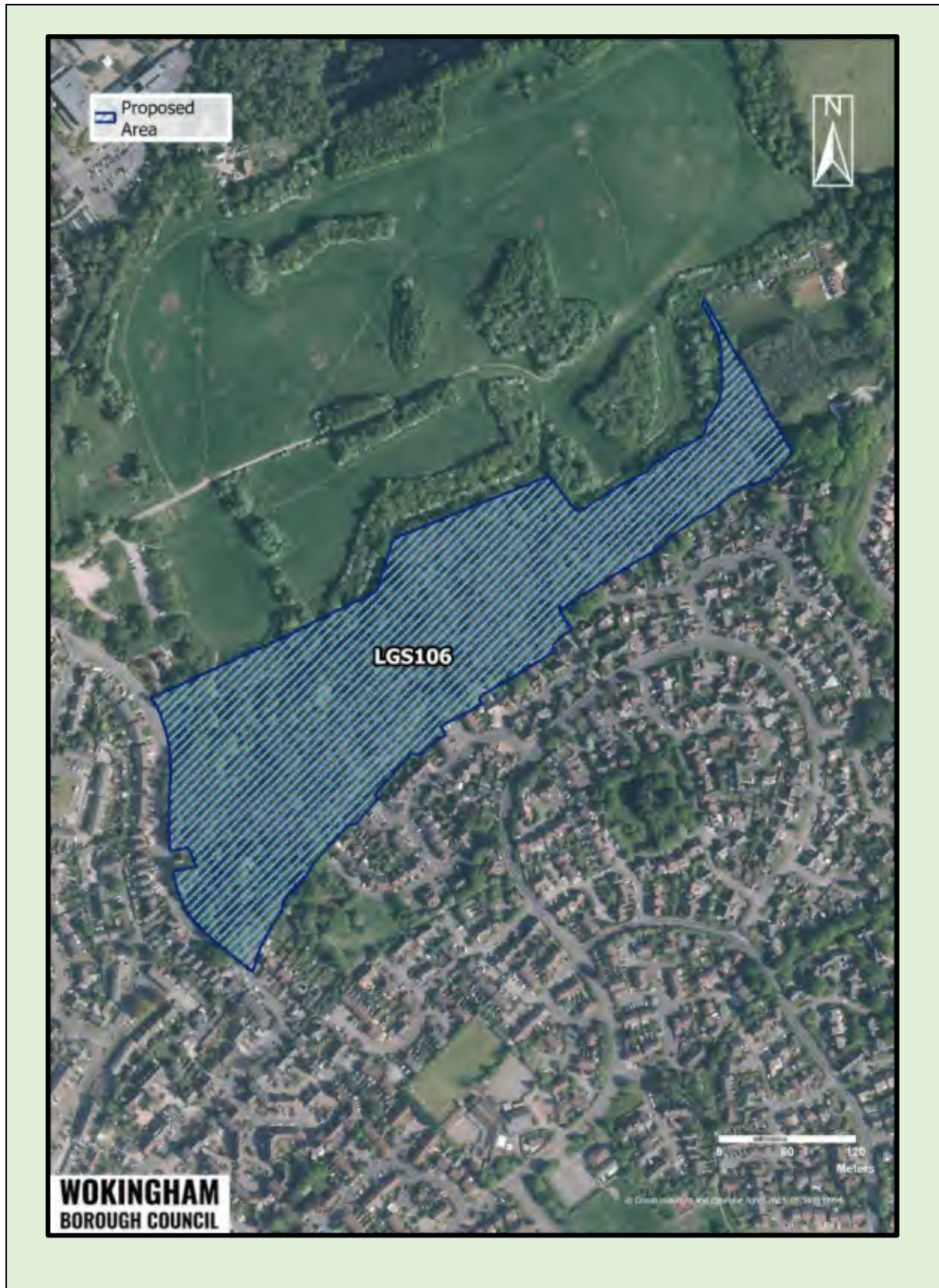
Ashbury Park, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS105</b>
Site name	Ashenbury Park, Woodley
Site address	Ashenbury Park, Woodley
Site size	24.9 ha
Site Description	<p>Ashenbury Park is a park and garden located to the north-east of Woodley. The Park provides opportunities for informal/formal recreation, comprising a play area and providing connectivity to the River Loddon.</p> <p>The Park is bounded by existing housing to the west, a nature reserve to the south, and open fields to the east beyond Beggars Hill Road. To the north, the site is bounded by the main Land's End Lake and Waingel's College.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of Coronation, Charvil and Loddon wards. An existing Public Right of Way runs through the centre of the site from Beggars Hill Road to Denmark Avenue, facilitating access to Ashenbury Park.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Ashenbury Park is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined edges, including areas of woodland, highways and housing.</p> <p>The site is designated as open countryside, and according to the Woodley Village Design Statement (2009) provides some form of separation between the settlements of Woodley and Charvil.</p> <p>The site is considered local in character as supported by the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020) which identifies this area as comprising '<i>pockets of open space remaining which include public parks and sports grounds within the settled area</i>'. The LCA suggests that '<i>the demand for residential development is continuing to push towards the coalescence of adjacent built area including Sonning and Woodley and Charvil, and fragmentation of remnant open rural landscape</i>' and recommends that these areas of open land are protected.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Ashenbury Park is classified as a park and garden and provides leisure facilities and recreation for the local community. The Park is considered demonstrably special to the local community as it is the only recognisable and significant area of green space that serves the residents to the north-east of Woodley. The site provides a range of opportunities for informal/formal recreation and forms part of a Wokingham Health Walk. Ashenbury Park also provides a pedestrian link to the River Loddon and forms a section of the National Trail Network.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS105</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Ashenbury Park was formally known as Woodley Gravel Pit and includes a lake relating to its former gravel extraction.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is adjacent to two Local Wildlife Sites, Norris Copse Bird Sanctuary and Alder Moors. Alder Moors is also a designated nature reserve. Ashenbury Park is adjacent to Loddon Valley Gravel Pits a Berkshire Biodiversity Opportunity Area.</p> <p>Most of the site is classified as improved grassland and broadleaved woodland plantation. However, a part of the site to the north-west contains ancient and semi-natural woodland according to Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC), and therefore holds a degree of ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site holds some form of tranquillity value, as supported by the findings set out in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2020) which suggests <i>that 'the high demand for recreation continue to threaten the tranquillity of the landscape'</i>. Ashenbury Park is situated in the J4 Woodley-Earley Settled and Farmed Clay Landscape Character Area where <i>'light pollution at night causes sky glow'</i> and therefore the site provides an element of tranquillity to the area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Ashenbury Park is the only significant and recognisable space that serves the residents to the north-east of Woodley and therefore provides an important facility for the residents of Coronation and Loddon wards and to a certain extent Charvil ward. There are other areas of significant green space locally notably Sandford Farm Country Park and Dinton Pastures Country Park, but these sites are either further from the community or provide different types of recreation compared to Ashenbury Park.</p>

**Aldermoors Nature Reserve, Alder Moors, Woodley**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS106</b>
Site name	Aldermoots Nature Reserve, Woodley
Site address	Alder Moors, Woodley
Site size	8.53 ha
Site Description	Aldermoots is a Local Nature Reserve, for which its name derives from the alder trees that populate the ancient woodland. The nature reserve is situated within a shallow valley in Woodley and located between Ashenbury Park and residential development.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of Coronation, Charvil and Loddon wards. Aldermoots Nature Reserve also facilitates pedestrian links to wider areas of open green space, notably Ashenbury Park (ref: LGS105), with further connections to the River Loddon.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Aldermoots Nature Reserve is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is bounded by Ashenbury Park to the north (a classified Park and Garden) and existing housing at Tippings Lane, Cody Close and Beggars Hill Road to the south, east and west.</p> <p>The site is designated as open countryside and is both a Local Wildlife Site and a Local Nature Reserve.</p> <p>According to the Woodley Village Design Statement – Consultation Document (2009), the site forms part of a wider area that maintains some form of separation between the settlements of Woodley and Charvil.</p> <p>The site is considered local in character, as supported by the Council’s latest Landscape Character Assessment (2020) which identifies this area as comprising ‘<i>pockets of open space remaining which include public parks and sports grounds within the settled area</i>’. The LCA suggests that ‘<i>the demand for residential development is continuing to push towards the coalescence of adjacent built area including Sonning and Woodley and Charvil, and fragmentation of remnant open rural landscape</i>’ and recommends that these areas of open land are protected.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site provides a pedestrian link to Ashenbury Park and wider areas of green space, notably along the River Loddon. Aldermoots Nature Reserve is also classified as an area of natural and semi-natural greenspace, which was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the community in the Council’s latest Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>Aldermoots Nature Reserve is considered to be of particular historical value, as evidenced in the Council’s latest Landscape</p>

Site reference	LGS106
	<p>Character Assessment (2020) which suggests that <i>‘modern settlement dominates this landscape, but irregular boundaries of surviving areas of woodland, such as Alder Moors, suggest assert inclosures indicating earlier settlements’</i>.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Aldermoors Local Wildlife Site is an established semi-natural broad-leaved woodland at the edge of suburban Woodley. The site is also designated as a Local Nature Reserve. According to the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) the nature reserve comprises a steep-banked gravelly stream which cuts through the middle of the reserve, dividing the site into woodland of two species, oak-bracken wood on the well-drained slope of the western bank, and damp alder-hazel woodland on the flat eastern bank.</p> <p>The site also contains lowland mixed deciduous woodland and wet woodland, classified as habitats of principal importance. Some species such as Mallard and Willow Warbler are also present on the site.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site holds some form of tranquillity value, as supported by the findings set out in the Council’s latest Landscape Character Assessment (2020) which suggests that <i>‘the high demand for recreation continue to threaten the tranquillity of the landscape’</i>. Aldermoors Nature Reserve is situated in the J4 Woodley-Earley Settled and Farmed Clay Landscape Character Area where <i>‘light pollution at night causes sky glow’</i> and therefore the site provides an element of tranquillity to the area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Aldermoors is a Local Wildlife Site and Local Nature Reserve, which is recognised as an important ecological resource in Woodley. The site also forms wider linkages with other areas of greenspace, notably the adjacent Ashenbury Park (ref: LGS105).</p>

Vauxhall Park, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS107</b>
Site name	Vauxhall Park, Woodley
Site address	Vauxhall Park, Woodley
Site size	3.6 ha
Site Description	<p>Vauxhall Park is an urban park / park and garden, comprising a play area, basketball court and BMX track, which is situated to the east of Woodley.</p> <p>The site is bounded by existing housing on three sides (east, west and south) and Headley Road East (Woodley Airfield) Industrial Estate Core Employment Area to the north.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of Bulmershe and Whitegates and Loddon wards.</p> <p>Vauxhall Park can be accessed from Vauxhall Drive and a Public Right of Way runs from Loddon Bridge Road.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, bounded by existing housing on its eastern, western and southern boundaries and Headley Road East (Woodley Airfield) Industrial Estate, a designated Core Employment Area on the site's northern boundary.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Vauxhall Park is classified as an urban park / park and garden and comprises a play area in the form of a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP). The site also includes a BMX track. Vauxhall Park is one of two significant and recognisable areas of green space that are situated in the Bulmershe and Whitegates ward. However, Vauxhall Park is the only significant area of open space that serves the residents further east of the Bulmershe and Whitegates ward, and to some extent also provides an important recreation facility for residents in the Loddon ward. There are other areas of green space in the surrounding area, but they are further away from communities in the Bulmershe and Whitegates wards.</p> <p>Both the park and garden and play area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS107</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value but is classified as cultivated disturbed land / amenity grassland.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Vauxhall Park is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as the site is situated adjacent to Headley Road East (Woodley Airfield) which is designated as a Core Employment Area and comprises several commercial/industrial uses.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Vauxhall Park is one of two significant areas of green space that are recognised as an important recreational facility for the community, notably in the Bulmershe and Whitegates ward.

South Lake, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS108</b>
Site name	South Lake, Woodley
Site address	South Lake, Woodley
Site size	12.1 ha
Site Description	<p>South Lake is a small Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) located to the south-east of Woodley. It is surrounded on all sides by existing residential properties, and to the A3290 further south.</p> <p>The site is also classified as an urban park / park and garden, and comprises an area of woodland and open water which are recognised as important facilities for informal recreation.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in relatively close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of South Lake ward.</p> <p>South Lake can be accessed from a bridleway passing on the western edge of the SULV and a footpath running parallel to Nightingale Road. A good network of informal footpaths surround the site, connecting South Lake to the adjacent residential development and Bulmershe SULV.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is entirely local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is self-contained with edges defined by mature tree boundaries along the margin of South Lake. The Waterside Public House backs onto part of the northern boundary towards the eastern end.</p> <p>South Lake is currently designated as a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) in line with Policy TB22 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan (2014). The Inspector acknowledged in their final report that South Lake was an important landscape feature due to the dominance of mature trees surrounding the margins of the lake and its distinct urban and parkland type character.</p> <p>According to the SULV Topic Paper (2024) South Lake <i>'consists of wooded margins providing a strong wooded character and backdrop to the adjacent residential areas.'</i> The report acknowledges that the site is important to the local community as <i>'it provides a green lung within areas of extensive housing and the lake and the parkland type character provides a strong contrast to adjoining uses.'</i></p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>South Lake is classified as an urban park / park and garden and comprises the South Lake Amenity Play Area. The park and garden was recognised as being of lower quality but higher value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). The Southlake Amenity Play Area provides play facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP). The play area was recognised as being of high quality and</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS108</b>
	<p>high value to the local community in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p>According to the assessment of the South Lake SULV in the Topic Paper (2020), <i>'this site has its own identity, being well used by the local community as a recreational resource, as all areas of the lake have good informal and formal access.'</i> South Lake also contains formal and informal footpaths and seating around the lake with a formal play area situated in the north-west.</p> <p>The formal open space and play area adjacent to Kingfisher Drive also provides visual and physical links between the South Lake SULV and the Bulmershe SULV.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>According to the Woodley Village Design Statement – Consultation Document (2008) produced by the Woodley Community Partnership, South Lake used to form part of Bulmershe estate, and provided an important leisure facility for Woodley. Nevertheless, the site is considered to hold limited historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>South Lake is designated as a Local Wildlife Site, which is of local significance. According to the assessment of the SULV in the Topic Paper (2020), <i>'the area consists of open water with several small islands, as well as marginal wetland on the lake edges'</i>. South Lake also contains <i>'mature established planting (mainly tree cover) with natural regeneration and planting of mixed ages.'</i></p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site holds limited tranquillity value, predominantly as South Lake is in close proximity to the A3290 and surrounded by existing residential and commercial uses. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low. Nevertheless, the site is designated as a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) where, in the council's assessment contained in the Topic Paper (2020), concluded that the <i>'well-treed/wooded characteristics of the SULV and lake are essential in providing a strong sense of place within Woodley, giving a feeling of seclusion whilst within it which is unusual within a large area of housing.'</i> Therefore, despite scoring low, the site does offer some degree of tranquillity to the area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. South Lake is an important and valued recreational and ecological resource that serves the residents of Woodley. Its designation as a Site of Urban Landscape Value (SULV) emphasises

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS108</b>
	the site's role in providing a wooded backdrop to the urban development of Woodley and contributing to the verdant character of the wider area.

Malone Park, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS109</b>
Site name	Malone Park, Woodley
Site address	Malone Park, Woodley
Site size	0.6 ha
Site Description	<p>Malone Park is a small area of public open space / amenity greenspace which also comprises a play area, providing a facility for younger children and teenagers.</p> <p>The site is situated to the south of Woodley and is bounded on all sides by residential development.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of South Lake ward. The open space at Malone Road can be accessed by Malone Road to the south and Jerome Road to the north.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained bounded by existing housing along Jerome Road, Malone Road and Cartmel Drive.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Malone Park is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace and also comprises a play area providing facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Locally Equipped Area of Play (LEAP). Malone Park is one of two play areas which serve the residents of South Lake ward. Southlake Amenity Play Area is further south, and therefore less accessible to the residents north of South Lake ward. Both the open space and play area were assessed as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value predominantly due to the site's proximity to existing housing and being situated in the heart of the Major Development Location of Woodley.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Malone Park is recognised as one of two play areas which serve the residents of South Lake ward and therefore has recreational

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS109</b>
	value. Southlake Amenity Play Area is situated further to the south and is therefore less accessible to the residents north of the ward. There are other areas of green space in the surrounding area, notably Bulmershe SULV, but the site does not offer the same level or type of play facilities provided by Malone Park.



**Woodford Park and the Memorial Recreation Ground (also known as Coronation Fields),  
Woodford Park, Woodley**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS110</b>
Site name	Woodford Park and the Memorial Recreation Ground (also known as Coronation Fields)
Site address	Woodford Park, Woodley
Site size	11.1ha
Site Description	<p>Woodford Park is a park and garden / urban park located in the centre of Woodley. The park, also known as Coronation Fields, provides a range of facilities including a leisure centre, community centre, bowling green, playing fields, play area, skate park and a memorial garden.</p> <p>The site is bounded by existing housing and community uses, notably the Oakwood Centre and St Dominic Saviour Primary School.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community, serving the residents of Bulmershe and Whitegates, Coronation and Sonning wards.</p> <p>Woodford Park is accessible to the public from several points, notably Headley Road from the south and Leisure Drive and Halstead Close from the east.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Woodford Park is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, surrounded by existing housing along Headley Road, Haddon Drive, Reading Road and Farmers Close and community uses to the north and south, notably the Oakwood Centre and St Dominic Saviour Primary School.</p> <p>The site lies within the Major Development Location of Woodley, and according to the Woodley Village Design Statement (2008) is one of two open spaces that form Woodley's 'green heart'. The area of green space is situated in the J4 'Woodley-Earley Settled and Farmed Clay' Landscape Character Area. The Landscape Character Assessment (2020) identifies this area as having a '<i>densely settled area with a strong urban and suburban character. There are pockets of open space remaining which include public parks and sports grounds within the settled area</i>'.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Woodford Park is classified as a park and garden / urban park in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012) and comprises Woodford Park Play Area and Community Centre and Woodley Memorial Park Play Area providing play facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP).</p> <p>The park is recognised as being of high quality and well-valued by the local community as evidenced in the Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012) as the site provides a variety of facilities that are accessible to a wider range of users, including a play area, bowling green, paddling pool and cricket field. Woodford Park achieved</p>

Site reference	LGS110
	<p>Green Flag Award status in 2018/19, which is used to mark the high quality of a park or green space.</p> <p>Woodford Park also includes several sports facilities including six grass football pitches that are available for community use and well used by adults and juniors. The park is the home to several clubs, notably Woodley United Football Club, Woodley Hammers Football Club, Woodley Town Football Club. According to the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024), Woodford Park is one of three central venues for the Berkshire Youth Development League.</p> <p>The site also includes a cricket pitch in community use with changing facilities and is the home of Woodley Cricket Club and Reading Gladiators Cricket Club. A bowling green is also situated on the site and is well-used by the local community.</p> <p>There is a tennis court which is available for community use and is a well-used facility for residents of Woodley.</p> <p>Other facilities noticeable on the site include a skate park, the Woodford Park Leisure Centre, The Oakwood Centre, rotary garden, garden of remembrance. Ancillary facilities at Woodford Park Leisure Centre include bathrooms, changing facilities and car parking and were recognised as achieving a good quality rating in the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024).</p> <p>Recent works have also been undertaken to improve current play facilities at Woodford Park. A new destination play area was completed in June 2022 and replaced the existing play facilities to the rear of Oakwood Centre. The new play area incorporates multiple pieces of equipment, including a play unit, slide, sensory area, wheelchair accessible play mound and a canopy and agility trail.</p> <p>In addition to providing an area of green space for formal/informal recreation, Woodford Park also hosts several popular community events which run frequently, notably Woodley Carnival and is a route for an organised weekly park run.</p> <p>A community orchard was planted at Woodford Park in 2014 in partnership with Transition Reading (a community focused approach to creating positive change, reducing environmental impact and dependence on oil). According to the Woodford Park Management Plan (2018), the orchard <i>'consists of 20 fruit trees planted by local families and volunteers, providing fruit for the community as well as food and habitats for birds and insects'</i>. The project also trains volunteers in tree planting and promoting the benefits of healthy eating and physical exercise.</p>

Site reference	LGS110
	<p data-bbox="603 237 794 264"><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="603 309 1422 546">The site is considered to hold some historical value, as Woodford Park includes a memorial ground that is held in trust by Woodley Town Council since 1939 for the <i>'recreation and enjoyment of the inhabitants of the Civil Parish of Woodley and Sandford'</i>. According to Woodley Town Council, the land was originally bought in 1919 by former trustees as a memorial to the men of Woodley who died in the First World War.</p> <p data-bbox="603 591 1382 725">The Woodford Park Management Plan (2018) highlights that the bespoke gates present on the site were commissioned with symbolism to reflect Woodley, Woodford Park and the memorial ground.</p> <p data-bbox="603 770 1417 904">A 'Garden of Remembrance' was opened in 2000, where the names of loved ones can be inscribed on brass plaques that are placed on the wooden posts for remembrance and contribute to the local significance of the area.</p> <p data-bbox="603 949 1426 1151">The Community Centre (Coronation Hall) was opened in 1965 by the local war hero, Group Captain Sir Douglas Bader, who learnt to fly at Woodley Aerodrome. The hall has become the centre for community events and remains an essential venue for local residents of Woodley, as evidenced in the Woodford Park Management Plan (2018).</p> <p data-bbox="603 1196 804 1223"><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="603 1267 1410 1442">The Woodford Park Management Plan (2018) suggests that the landscape of the park is predominantly a creation of the 1960s and early 1970s with a distinctive landscape of sculpted hills and a lake. The lake provides a habitat for several species of duck, Canada Geese, Egyptian Geese, Coots, Moorhens, Heron and Cormorant.</p> <p data-bbox="603 1487 1385 1554">The community orchard consists of a number of fruit trees which provide a source of food for birds and insects.</p> <p data-bbox="603 1599 820 1626"><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p data-bbox="603 1671 1422 1912">The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, as evidenced in the Landscape Character Assessment (2020) where generally the Landscape Character Area (J4 'Woodley-Earley Settled and Farmed Clay) is subject to <i>'high demands for recreation continue to threaten the tranquillity of the landscape. Recreational pressure can lead to erosion of special archaeological features, ecological features and other landscape features'</i>.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS110</b>
	<p><u>Local significance:</u></p> <p>A Residents Survey conducted annually by Woodley Town Council found that around 83% of local households used Woodford Park in 2017, making it the most used facility by residents in Woodley (Appendix 9 of the Woodford Park Management Plan (2018)). Further, the quality of the facilities at Woodford Park scored highly by residents who responded to the survey in 2017. This included both existing and new facilities, such as the 3G football pitch and skate park. Approximately 77% of the residents who responded to the survey rated the standard of Woodford Park as good or excellent (Appendix 9 of the Woodford Park Management Plan (2018)).</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. Woodford Park is a recognisable and significant area of open, recreational space that serves the residents of Earley, Woodley and Sonning. The site also holds some historical and local significance, and includes a 'garden of remembrance' which is likely to be linked to the residents of Earley, Woodley or Sonning.</p>

Sandford Park, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS111</b>
Site name	Sandford Park, Woodley
Site address	Sandford Park, Woodley
Site size	5.40 ha
Site Description	<p>Sandford Park is a park and garden / urban park located to the east of Woodley. The park provides a range of facilities used by residents for recreation, including playing fields and a play area and the Woodley Airfield Youth and Community Centre.</p> <p>The site is bounded by existing housing along Comet Way to the east and west, and by community uses, notably Woodley Church of England Primary School.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Loddon ward.</p> <p>Sandford Park can be accessed from Mohawk Way to the south and Hurricane Way to the north.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. The site is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is bounded by existing housing on the eastern and western boundary along Comet Way. To the north, the site is bounded by Woodley Church of England Primary School and to the south by Sandford Fen Copse which is a designated Local Wildlife Site.</p> <p>The site lies within the Major Development Location of Woodley.</p>
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Sandford Park is classified as a park and garden / urban park and comprises a play area in the form of a Local Area for Play (LAP). Both the park and the play area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Sandford Park also includes two grass football pitches for community use which, according to the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (2024) are operating at, or around, their capacity, demonstrating that they are well-used by the local community.</p> <p>The Woodley Airfield Youth and Community Centre is also well-used as a venue for hosting activities and events run by community groups and organisations.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some historical value associated with the former Woodley military airfield. According to the Woodley Village Design Statement (2009), the airfield is recognised as a large part of Woodley's history and is home to the Museum of Berkshire Aviation. Woodley airfield is associated with well-known historic figures in the aviation industry, notably Sir Douglas Bader during the</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS111</b>
	<p>Second World War and Charles Lindbergh who was the first man to fly solo across the Atlantic. Mohawk Way runs along the southern boundary of the site and is associated with the Miles Mohawk plane which was produced by one of two major manufacturers at Woodley airfield.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly as the site is situated in the heart of an existing residential area and is in close proximity to Woodley C of E Primary School. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low for tranquillity compared to other areas in Woodley.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Sandford Park is a significant and recognisable open recreational space for residents east of Woodley and provides an important facility for residents of Loddon ward.



Redwood Play Area, Redwood, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS113</b>
Site name	Redwood Play Area
Site address	Redwood, Woodley
Site size	0.5 ha
Site Description	The site is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace (Redwood Avenue Open Space) and includes a play area. Redwood Play Area is situated towards the east of Woodley and in proximity to a significant area of greenspace at Dinton Pastures Country Park. The site is within the centre of established housing estates at Cypress Road, Holly Road and Redwood Avenue.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is within close proximity to the community it would serve, as it serves the existing residents of Loddon ward.  The site can be accessed to the east from Redwood Avenue and to the south by Holly Road. A public footpath also runs through the centre of the site.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land, as it is relatively well self-contained with clearly defined edges, bounded by existing housing, most notably Holly Road, Redwood Avenue and Cypress Road.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  The site is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace (Redwood Avenue Open Space) and also comprises a play area providing facilities for children and younger people. The site was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  <u>Historical value:</u>  The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.  <u>Ecological value:</u>  The site is not considered to hold any particular ecological value.  <u>Tranquillity value:</u>  The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Weighted Composite Score (April 2007) where the site scores relatively low in comparison to the tranquillity offer by other areas of green space in Woodley and the surrounding area.

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS113</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Redwood Play Area is in close proximity to the community and offers a moderate degree of recreational value for the residents of Woodley.

LGS114

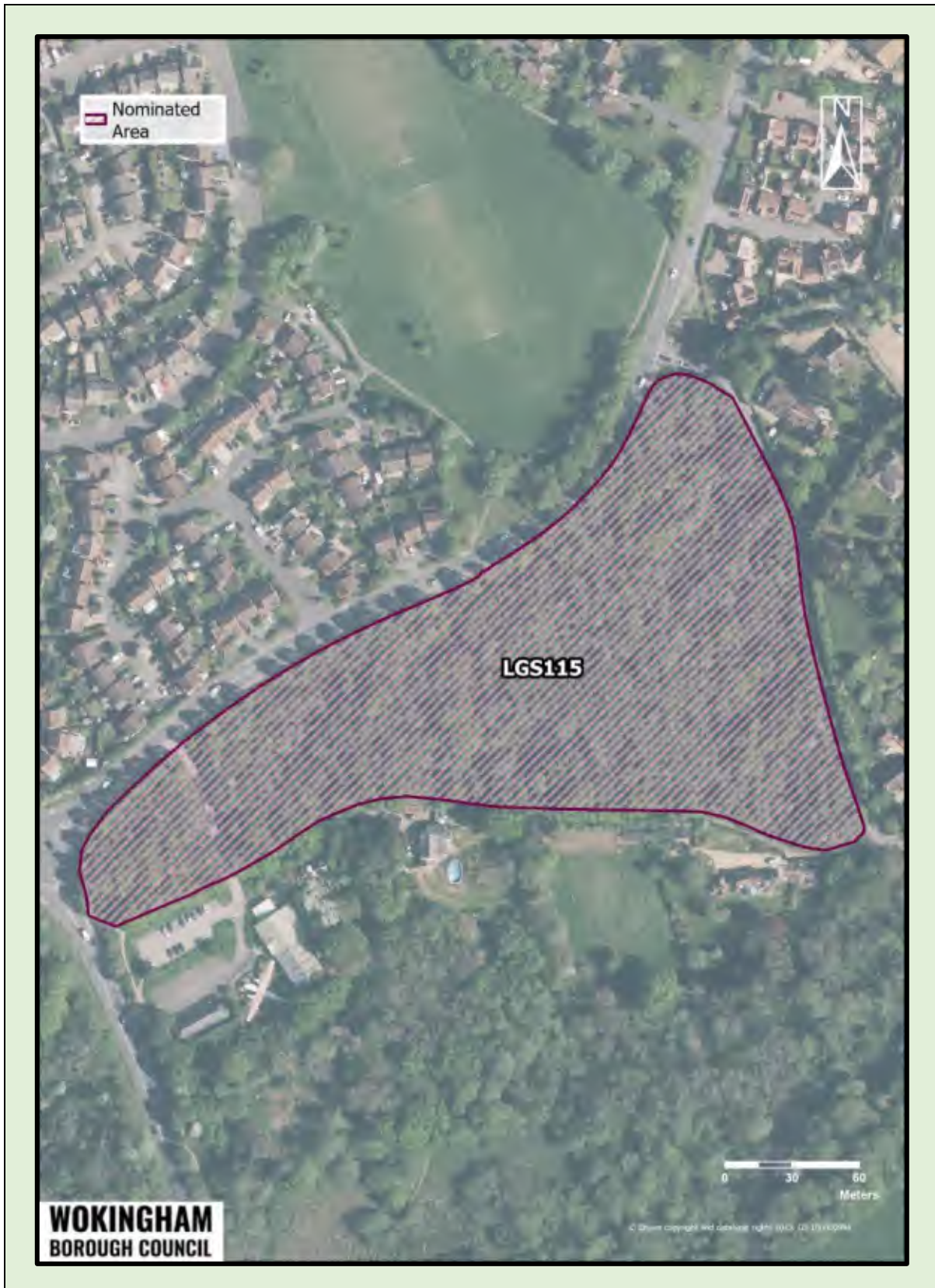
Park between Masters Close and Marathon Close, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS114</b>
Site name	Park between Masters Close and Marathon Close
Site address	Masters Close and Marathon Close, Woodley
Site size	0.62 ha
Site Description	An area of open space / amenity greenspace situated to the north-east of Woodley surrounded by existing housing. The site also comprises Blanchard Close Play Area, which provides a facility for children and teenagers.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is located in close proximity to the community it would serve, serving the existing residents of Loddon and Coronation wards. The area of open space can be accessed from several points, notably Marathon Close, Master Close, Blanchard Close and Harris Close.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well-contained with defined edges and is bounded by existing housing on all of its boundaries.  The site is also situated in the Major Development Location of Woodley.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  Blanchard Close is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace and includes a play area which comprises facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Area of Play (LAP). The site is recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  <u>Historical value:</u>  The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.  <u>Ecological value:</u>  The site is classified by the Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) as cultivated /disturbed land, amenity grassland, but does not hold any particular ecological value.  <u>Tranquillity value:</u>  Blanchard Close public open space is not considered to hold any particular tranquillity value, predominantly due to the site's proximity to existing residential development. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the area of green space scores relatively low compared to other areas of green space in Woodley.

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS114</b>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. The area of open space at Blanchard Close is recognised as a facility for recreational purposes that serves the residents of Woodley.

Area between Mohawk Way and Old Colemans Moor Road, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS115</b>
Site name	Area between Mohawk Way and old Colemans Moor Road
Site address	Mohawk Way and old Colemans Moor Road, Woodley
Site size	3.7ha
Site Description	An area of green space and designated Local Wildlife Site which is wholly covered by woodland. The nominated area forms part of a wider and significant area of green space close to Dinton Pastures Country Park. The site is situated on the edge of Woodley and borders the parish of St Nicholas Hurst. The site is defined by housing on its northern and western boundaries. To the south, the site is bounded by Dinton Pastures car park and the Museum of Berkshire Aviation.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is within close proximity to the community as it serves the existing residents of Loddon ward. There is no identified public access, but the nominated area forms part of a wider framework of open green space relating to Dinton Pastures Country Park which is an important resource to the local community.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is well-contained with clearly defined edges. For instance, this area of green space is bounded by residential development along Mohawk Way (north and north-west), Sandford Lane (east) and Colemans Moor Road (south).
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>This area comprises a wider and significant area of green space, close to Dinton Pastures Country Park but holds limited recreational value compared to the wider Dinton Pastures, as there is no identified public access. Despite this, the Landscape Character Assessment (2019) acknowledges that, regarding the B1 'Loddon River Valley with Open Water' Landscape Character Area, the <i>'valued areas for recreation including large Country Parks, accessible through a network of bridleways and public footpaths allow enjoyment of the area'</i>.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold a degree of historical value, primarily due to the presence of pillboxes remaining from the Second World War, according to the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019).</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site includes Sandford Fen Copse, a designated Local Wildlife Site, which comprises wet woodland with open areas of marshy habitat. According to Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC), Sandford Fen Copse comprises areas of drier scrub with</p>



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS115</b>
	<p>hawthorn and blackthorn. The scrub provides good habitats for bird species, including garden warbler and chiffchaff.</p> <p>The site is also situated in the Loddon Valley Gravel Pits Biodiversity Opportunity Area, which according to the Berkshire Local Nature Partnership (2020) includes a variety of woodland and grassland habitats and standing water, notably at Sandford Lake. There are also areas of marginal fen habitat associated with the gravel pits and remnants at Sandford Fen.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some degree of tranquillity value, as according to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), this part of the landscape (B1 Loddon River Valley with Open Water) has <i>'open views across the restored gravel pit lakes, but the wooded context of the fringing carr vegetation creates an enclosed landscape and a sense of place'</i>. Further, there are <i>'localised areas of tranquillity particularly around the restored lakes, away from transport corridors and the visual influence of adjacent settlements.'</i> However, this particular area is not considered to be as tranquil, as evident by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007), where this site scores lower compared to the tranquillity offered by wider areas at Dinton Pastures further south.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	No. The nominated area is a recognisable ecological resource, which is connected to the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park that serves the residents of Woodley and Hurst. Despite its ecological value, there is no public access and therefore its recreational value is limited.

LGS116

Land over the river from Loddon Park estate, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS116</b>
Site name	Land over the river from Loddon Park estate
Site address	Land over the river from Loddon Park estate, Woodley
Site size	36 ha
Site Description	<p>The nominated area is situated on the edge of Woodley and comprises Sandford Farm Country Park, an area of public open space that is allocated in Policy SAL04 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan.</p> <p>To the west, the site follows the course of the Old River and is also bounded by new residential development at Loddon Park. The eastern and southern boundary of the site follow the course of the River Loddon.</p> <p>Part of the land in the north-east section of the nominated area is not publicly accessible as it is used for the grazing of horses and ponies connected to the Lands End Equestrian Centre, which is further north.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	<p>Yes. The site is in reasonable proximity as it serves the residents of Loddon Park, as well as the residents of the Loddon and Twyford, Ruscombe and Hurst wards.</p> <p>The area of greenspace can be accessed by a footbridge adjacent to Snowdrop Gardens, forming part of the residential development at Loddon Park. A Public Right of Way runs around the edge of the site from the eastern to southern boundary. The eastern boundary of the site is also on the route of the proposed River Loddon Long Distance Path.</p>
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	No. Whilst the site is local in character, it is considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as the area of green space is on the edge of Woodley in a countryside location with less clearly defined boundaries. Nominating this area for LGS would constitute the blanket designation of open countryside contrary to national policy.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>The site comprises most of Sandford Farm Country Park, which is classified as a park and garden, and is allocated as public open space in Policy SAL04 of the Managing Development Delivery (MDD) local plan. Restored from previous minerals extraction, the country park creates a vibrant and biodiverse green space for occupants of the adjacent development at Loddon Park as well as residents in Woodley and the surrounding area.</p> <p>The western part of the nominated area holds higher recreational value as it includes a network of laid footpaths which provide connectivity to the adjacent Loddon Park estate to the west and access to wider countryside to the south and east.</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS116</b>
	<p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event and figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The site is situated in the Loddon Valley Gravel Pits Berkshire Biodiversity Opportunity Area which encompasses all the gravel pits at the north end of Loddon Valley between Winnersh and Twyford and includes various areas of adjacent land with woodland and grassland habitats, according to the Berkshire Local Nature Partnership.</p> <p>According to Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC), most the site comprises broadleaved woodland with small parcels of broadleaved woodland, semi-natural and lowland mixed deciduous woodland.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>This area of green space is considered to hold a high degree of tranquillity, predominantly as the nature of the site is an area of parkland and is situated in the open countryside. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the site scores highly compared to other areas of green space in the surrounding area.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>No. Whilst the site holds a high degree of recreational value, there are other areas of green space within proximity to Loddon Park that provide a greater range of recreational opportunities for residents, notably Sandford Park (ref: LGS111), Ashenbury Park (ref: LGS105) and Dinton Pastures Country Park. Parts of the nominated area in the north-eastern section of the site are less publicly accessible as the land is used for the grazing of horses and ponies connected to a local commercial enterprise.</p>

**Mortimer Meadows, Woodley**



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS120A; LGS120B</b>
Site name	Mortimer Meadows, Woodley
Site address	Mortimer Meadows, Woodley
Site size	15.8ha; 7.0ha
Site Description	<p>Mortimer Meadows comprises two parcels of land on the edge of Woodley, separated by The Bader Way. Both areas form part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park, which is recognised as a valuable resource for formal and informal recreation for the local community.</p> <p>The area to the east of The Bader Way (LGS120A) comprises Dinton Pastures Country Park which is classified as a park and garden and includes an extensive network of footpaths that provide connectivity to wider parts of the country park. The boundaries of the site are defined by The Bader Way, the River Loddon and White Swan Lake. The area of green space is covered by trees, with area TPOs running along the eastern edge.</p> <p>The area to the west of The Bader Way (LGS120B) comprises part of Dinton Pastures Country Park, which is classified as a park and garden and includes a network of footpaths that provide connectivity to the adjacent area of green space (LGS120A) and the Loddon Long Distance Path. The boundaries of the site are defined to the east by The Bader Way, the west by a small lake known as 'The Moor' and to the north by existing housing.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community it serves, serving the existing residents of Loddon ward. This part of the country park also facilitates pedestrian links to wider areas at Dinton Pastures, notably White Swan Lake and Black Swan Lake. Further, the route of the proposed Loddon Long Distance Path will improve connectivity across the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	<p>Yes. Mortimer Meadows is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is relatively well self-contained, bounded by the River Loddon and White Swan Lake to the south and east, to the north by existing housing along Redwood Avenue and Kingsford Close, and to the west by a small lake known as 'The Moor'.</p> <p>The area at Mortimer Meadows forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park Local Wildlife Site. The site falls within the B1 'Loddon River Valley with Open Water' Landscape Character Area as identified in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment (2019). According to the LCA, this area comprises a peaceful floodplain landscape, where former gravel extraction has modified the landscape, resulting in a mix of land uses, including open water bodies, nature reserves and country parks.</p>

Site reference	LGS120A; LGS120B
<p>Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?</p>	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>Mortimer Meadows forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park, which is classified as a country park, and park and garden and was recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council’s Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012). Further, according to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019) Dinton Pastures Country Park is recognised as a ‘popular recreational landscape’, and one of the key valuable attributes is the network of bridleways and public footpaths which provide recreational opportunities and enjoyment of the area. Together with the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park, the nominated area of greenspace is the only significant and recognisable area of open, recreational space that serves the residents in the eastern part of Loddon ward, on the edge of Woodley.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some historical value, associated with its former use as an old gravel workings. According to the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), the workings have been extensively restored resulting in the creation of Dinton Pastures Country Park, and this area has been subject to considerable modification due to gravel extraction practices, which has led to the creation of new landscape types characterised by natural floodplain and open water bodies.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>Mortimer Meadows forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park, which is designated as a Local Wildlife Site and holds significant ecological value. According to Thames Valley Environment Records Centre (TVERC) this Local Wildlife Site is based around old gravel pits that are managed for recreation and nature conservation. The site comprises areas of woodland, a small wet meadow and a larger area of grassland. The Council’s Landscape Character Assessment (2019) states that the country park represents the largest wetland site in the area, comprising lakes, and wet woodlands that support nationally important numbers of wintering gadwell and smew. This part of Dinton Pastures also comprises several areas of priority habitat, notably lowland fens, lowland mixed deciduous woodland and eutrophic standing water.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>Some areas at Mortimer Meadows hold a degree of tranquillity in the context of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park Local Wildlife Site. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) and the Landscape Character Assessment (2019),</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS120A; LGS120B</b>
	with localised areas of tranquillity around the restored lakes and away from transport corridors and visual influence of adjacent settlements. Areas closer to the edge of Woodley therefore provide less tranquillity value due to their proximity to housing and roads.
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	Yes. Mortimer Meadows forms part of the wider Dinton Pastures Country Park which is one of the most significant and recognisable green spaces that serves the residents of Loddon ward and Hurst ward, as well as attracting some visitors across the Borough and further afield. The site also holds significant ecological value due to its designation as a Local Wildlife Site, which comprises several priority habitats including lowland fens and lowland mixed deciduous woodland.



Alderwood Open Space, Mannock Way, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS157</b>
Site name	Alderwood Open Space
Site address	Mannock Way, Woodley
Site size	0.60ha
Site Description	An area of open space and amenity greenspace situated to the north-east of Woodley. The open space at Alderwood is adjacent to Aldermoors Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site (ref: LGS106). The site also comprises Alderwood (Mannock Drive) play area, which provides play facilities for children and teenagers.
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is in close proximity to the community as it is situated on the north-eastern edge of Woodley and serves the residents of Coronation and Loddon wards. The area of open space at Alderwood can be accessed publicly from several points, notably a footpath along Mannock Way to the north and via the adjacent areas of greenspace at Aldermoors Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site (ref: LGS106) and Ashenbury Park (ref: LGS105).
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is a relatively modest area of greenspace / open space which is well contained with clearly defined boundaries.  Most of the site is situated in the Major Development Location of Woodley.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<u>Recreational value:</u>  Alderwood is classified as public open space / amenity greenspace and includes a play area which comprises facilities for children and teenagers in the form of a Local Area of Play (LAP). Both the Alderwood open space and play area were recognised as being of high quality and high value to the local community in the Council's Open Spaces Assessment Report (2012).  Alderwood open space is also adjacent to Aldermoors Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site and Ashenbury Park, which can be accessed publicly and provide opportunities for wider recreational activities for the residents of Woodley.  <u>Historical value:</u>  Whilst the open space at Alderwood is not considered to be of any particular historical value, the adjacent Aldermoors Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site (ref: LGS105) is considered to hold moderate historical value, as evidenced in the Council's latest Landscape Character Assessment (2020) which suggests that <i>'modern settlement dominates this landscape, but irregular boundaries of surviving areas of woodland, such as Alder Moors, suggest assert inclosures indicating earlier settlements'</i> .

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS157</b>
	<p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The area of open space at Alderwood is considered to hold only limited ecological value as it is classified by Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) as cultivated/disturbed land, amenity grassland. Notwithstanding, it is recognised that the adjacent Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site at Aldermoors runs along the southern boundary of Alderwood open space, and comprises several Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitats, notably lowland mixed deciduous woodland and wet woodland which may support ecological species and habitats.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold some tranquillity value, as supported by the findings set out in the Council’s latest Landscape Character Assessment (2020), which suggests that the <i>‘high demand for recreation continue to threaten the tranquillity of the landscape’</i>. Notwithstanding, the tranquillity value of the area is somewhat diminished by the existing housing and local road network. This is supported by CPRE’s Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the area of open space at Alderwood scores lower compared to the adjacent areas of Ashenbury Park and Aldermoors Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>Yes. This is a recognisable area of open space and play area that provides recreational opportunities for the residents of Woodley, notably in the Coronation and Loddon wards. The site also forms linkages with adjacent areas of greenspace, such as Aldermoors Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site, an important ecological resource in Woodley, and Ashenbury Park which provides opportunities for wider recreational activities.</p> <p>In taking forward the Local Green Space designation, it is considered that the area of open space at Alderwood should be combined with Aldermoors Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site.</p>

Park at north-east of Colemansmoor Road, Bader Way, Woodley



<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS193</b>
Site name	Park at north-east end of Colemans Moor Road
Site address	Bader Way, Woodley
Site size	0.93ha
Site Description	<p>An area of green space adjacent to Dinton Pastures Country Park which is situated on the eastern edge of Woodley.</p> <p>The site's eastern, western and southern boundaries are surrounded by existing housing, and the northern boundary is adjacent to the Local Wildlife Site at Dinton Pastures Country Park.</p>
Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?	Yes. The site is within close proximity to the community as it is situated on the eastern edge of Woodley and serves the residents of the adjacent residential areas, notably in Loddon ward.
Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes. The site is local in character and is not considered to constitute an extensive tract of land as it is contained by existing housing with clearly defined boundaries. For instance, this area of green space is bounded by residential development along Colemans Moor Road to the north and west and to the east and south by the adjacent Local Wildlife Site and existing housing at Redwood Avenue.
Does the site have a particular local significance? Can the site be shown to be demonstrably special to a local community?	<p><u>Recreational value:</u></p> <p>This area comprises a wider and moderate area of open green space, adjacent to Dinton Pastures Country Park. This particular area (also referred to as Dunbar Drive Park) holds some recreational value as it comprises an area of park and garden, however it is recognised that there are other significant areas of green space in the surrounding area, notably Vauxhall Park and Dinton Pastures Country Park that provide greater opportunities for recreation.</p> <p><u>Historical value:</u></p> <p>The site is not considered to hold any particular historical value and has no known associations with an historic event or figure.</p> <p><u>Ecological value:</u></p> <p>The nominated area is not considered to hold any particular ecological value as this area of greenspace is classified as improved grassland, although it is recognised the adjacent Local Wildlife Site does comprise priority habitats which may provide a form of connectivity to the nominated site.</p> <p><u>Tranquillity value:</u></p> <p>The site is considered to hold limited tranquillity value, as this particular area of greenspace is surrounded by existing residential uses. This is supported by CPRE's Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score (April 2007) where the western parts of the site in proximity to residential development score low. Notwithstanding, minor areas of</p>

<b>Site reference</b>	<b>LGS193</b>
	<p>the eastern part of the site do hold a degree of tranquillity value, as supported by the Landscape Character Assessment (2019), where this this part of the landscape (B1 Loddon River Valley with Open Water) has <i>'open views across the restored gravel pit lakes, but the wooded context of the fringing carr vegetation creates an enclosed landscape and a sense of place'</i>. Further, there are <i>'localised areas of tranquillity particularly around the restored lakes, away from transport corridors and the visual influence of adjacent settlements.'</i> The CPRE Tranquillity Composite Weighted Score also identifies lower levels of tranquillity in the western part of the site.</p>
Recommendation for Local Green Space designation	<p>No. Whilst this is an area of green space within a residential area, there are other significant and recognisable areas of green space in the surrounding area that serve the residents of Woodley, notably Dinton Pastures Country Park and Vauxhall Park. As such, there is limited evidence to suggest the area is demonstrably special to the local community and of particular local significance.</p>