



CHECKLIST AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	<p>Name and address of site</p> <p><i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i></p>	
	Parish Council Playing Fields. Prestbury Road, Prestbury, Cheltenham	
1.2	<p>Site location plan</p> <p><i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i></p> <p><i>Please indicate the scale.</i></p>	
	 <p>Playing Fields – 195 metres x 137 metres</p>	
1.3	<p>Organisation or individual proposing site for designation</p> <p><i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i></p>	
	Prestbury Parish Council	
1.4	<p>Ownership of site if known</p> <p><i>Information on land ownership can be obtained from the Land Registry. Some land parcels are not registered however local people may know the owner.</i></p>	

	Prestbury Parish Council Aware of and supports the application (see Appendix 1)	
1.5	Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation? (Sites may be designated as Local Green Spaces, even if there are objections from the site owners)	
	Yes	
1.6	Photographs of site	
		
1.7	Community served by the potential Local Green Space <i>i.e. does the site serve the whole village/town or a particular geographic area or group of people?</i>	
	Yes, local people play on the site in addition to football teams from other parts of Cheltenham.	
2	Planning History	
2.1	Is there currently a planning application for this site? If permitted, could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space? for further information please contact Cheltenham Borough Council Planning Applications team	
	No	

2.2	Is the site allocated for development in the existing Development Plan, emerging Joint Core Strategy, Cheltenham Plan or a Neighbourhood Plan? If allocated, could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space? For further information please contact Cheltenham Borough Council Planning Policy team	
	No	
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	
	Playing Fields – 195 metres x 137 metres	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space) e.g. how large is it in comparison to other fields; groups of fields; areas of land in the vicinity etc.? Does the site “feel” extensive or more local in scale?</i>	
	The playing field incorporates two full size football pitches, two tennis courts, a multi use games area and open spaces. In addition the Pavilion and Parish Council Office are situated on the field. The only adjacent field is slightly larger and is currently subject to outline planning permission.	
3.3	Is the proposed site “local in character”? <i>e.g. does the site feel as though it is part of the local area? And why? How does it connect physically, visually and socially to the local area? What is your evidence?</i>	
	The site is clearly integral to the local area. It is bounded on 3 sides by residential properties and is used by local residents to exercise dogs, local children use the games area, the local tennis club uses the tennis courts and local football teams use the pitches. In the summer families and groups use it for picnics and a range of family sports activities. The Pavilion is used by a local baby and toddler group five days a week, and the building has also been used to hold the local Produce Show.	

	Physically it is on the boundary of the parish, but has good footpath and road access.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	<p>Is there a need for a local green space in this location?</p> <p><i>e.g. is there a shortage of accessible greenspace in the area? Is there a village needs survey or parish plan that provides evidence of that need.</i></p> <p><i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i></p>	
	Yes, whilst there are other green spaces around the parish, they are all privately owned and do not have the sporting facilities currently available on the playing fields. There are two fields close to the playing fields but currently have outline planning permission.	
5	Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”	
	<i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
5.1	<p>How far is the site from the community it serves?</p> <p>Is the site within 2km of the local community?</p> <p><i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i></p>	
	The attached map shows the relationship of the playing fields to the community. It is bounded on 3 sides by residential development.	
5.2	<p>Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?</p> <p><i>e.g. railway line; main road</i></p> <p><i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i></p>	
	There are no barriers to access. Access is via Prestbury Road and New Barn Avenue. There are no barriers to overcome.	
6	Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”	
	<i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	

6.1	Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i>	
	Letter from the Parish Council (Appendix 1) which owns this field and undertakes all associated maintenance. The revenue from the field does not cover the cost of maintenance. The Parish Council regards the support for the playing field as an essential element in its support to the residents. The letter from the parish council states the field 'provides an important community benefit to the area'	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Local footballs clubs, the Nursery and the Prestbury tennis club hire the facilities of the playing fields. Accounts are available to demonstrate the financial contribution made by these organisations.	
6.3	Evidence of support from community leaders <i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc.</i> <i>Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</i>	
	Letter from Borough Councillor for Prestbury - John Payne (Appendix 2) Cheltenham Borough Councillor for Prestbury - supports the application and states the field is an 'essential recreational facility situated close to the centre of the village'	
6.4	Evidence of support from other groups <i>e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</i>	
	If required letters from the users of the playing fields could be made available.	
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?	
	YES	

7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	The site in itself has no particular significance for its beauty, but it does enhance the setting of Prestbury.	
7.3	Site visibility <i>e.g. is it easy to see the site from a public place? Are there long-distance views of the site? Are there views of the site from any key locations?</i>	
	The site is screened on all sides by natural hedging. Views of the Cotswold Escarpment are easily seen from the field.	
7.4	Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? <i>e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;</i>	
	No	
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? <i>e.g. Cotswolds AONB landscape character assessment. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England; Cotswolds Conservation Board</i>	
	No	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
	No	
7.7	Is the site highlighted in literature or art? <i>e.g. is the site mentioned in a well-known poem or shown in a famous painting?</i>	
	No	

8	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
8.2	<p>Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site?</p> <p><i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i></p> <p><i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i></p>	
	No	
8.3	<p>Are there any important historic landscape features on the site?</p> <p><i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i></p> <p><i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i></p>	
	No	
8.4	<p>Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town?</p> <p><i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i></p>	
	No	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	No	

8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
	No	
9	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>recreational value</u> (including as a playing field)”, (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
9.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
9.2	Is the site used for playing sport? <i>If so what sport? How long has it been used for sports provision? Is this sports provision free or is a club membership required?</i> <i>Further information – Sport England</i>	
	As mentioned before this is primarily a playing fields, which supports football, tennis, children’s play area and open games spaces. It has been used for league football (Senior and Junior) and tennis.	
9.3	Are the public able to physically access the site? <i>e.g. are there any public rights of way across the site? Or adjacent to the site? Has access been allowed on a discretionary basis? Is there public access to the whole site or only part? Is there good disabled access to the site? (A site can still be designated even if there is no public access.)</i> <i>Further information – Gloucestershire County Council</i>	
	As previously stated the site is readily accessible from 2 points in the neighbouring, with no restrictions.	
9.4	Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when? <i>e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc</i>	

	<p>Yes, as previously stated open space is available for general recreation and activities such as dog walking. The fields has been in use for at least the last thirty years.</p> <p>The parish council letter (Appendix 1) lists the facilities as '2 football pitches, a football training area, two tennis courts, a multi-use playing area, a shelter and a young persons' playing area with swings etc'. There is also a Pavillion on site which is used by the playgroup, an office which houses the Parish Council and changing/shower facility for the football and tennis club.'</p>	
10	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
10.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	<p>NO</p>	
10.2	<p>Do you consider the site to be tranquil?</p> <p><i>e.g. are there are any roads or busy areas close by?</i></p>	
	<p>Being a playing field does not qualify it to be called tranquil. The field is bordered on the east by Prestbury Road, to the south by an old playing field, to the north and west by residential properties.</p>	
10.3	<p>Is the site within a recognised tranquil area?</p> <p><i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i></p>	
	<p>No</p>	
11	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of the <u>richness of its wildlife</u>”; (if applicable)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
11.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	<p>NO</p>	
11.2	<p>Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value?</p> <p><i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i></p> <p><i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i></p>	
	<p>No</p>	

11.3	<p>Are any important habitats or species found on the site?</p> <p><i>e.g. habitats and species listed in the UK priority habitats and species lists or Gloucestershire Biodiversity Action Plans or protected species or on the red/amber lists of birds of conservation concern.</i></p> <p><i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i></p>	
	No	
11.4	<p>What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site?</p> <p><i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i></p>	
	None	
11.5	<p>Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community?</p> <p><i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i></p>	
	No	
12	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
12.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	NO	
12.2	<p>Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?</p>	
	<p>It is the only recreational facility freely available to the residents in the Parish. The letter from the parish council (Appendix 1) states that the ‘field is also used on occasion to host community events such as Jubilee Festival and fetes.’</p>	

Prestbury Parish Council

Clerk: Chris Franklin
Telephone: 01242 575129
E-Mail: prestburyparish@btconnect.com

Parish Council Office
The Pavilion
New Barn Close
Prestbury
Cheltenham GL52 3LP

Your ref:
Our ref:

Mrs Elin Tattersall
GRCC
15 College Green
Gloucester
GL1 2LZ

20TH January 2015

Dear Elin Tattersall

As you are aware the Prestbury Parish Council is applying to have the Prestbury Road Playing Field, which is located between Prestbury Road and New Barn Close, Prestbury, granted protected status from development under the Cheltenham Borough Council Local Plan.

This playing field is owned by Prestbury Parish Council and provides an important community benefit to the area; it has two football pitches, a football training area, two tennis courts, a multi-use playing area, a shelter and a young person's playing area with swings etc.

There is also a Pavilion on the site which is used by a playgroup, an office which houses the Parish Council and changing/shower facility for the football and tennis club. The playing field is maintained by a Groundsman and an Assistant who are employed by the Parish Council.

The tennis club use the site to play league tennis and are affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association, the football teams play in the local league.

The field is used on occasions to host community events such as the Jubilee Festival and fetes; it is also used by local dog walkers and a means of keeping fit.

This area also enhances the community as it provides a green space with views across the Cotswold Escarpment, it has three access points which makes it easy accessible for all the community.

It is important that this area is protected as it provides recreational facilities which are of benefit to the community, playgroup facilities and office accommodation which are all used for community purposes.

Yours sincerely

Chris Franklin
Prestbury Parish Clerk

Appendix 2

Councillor John Payne

Cheltenham Borough Council

Municipal Offices

Promenade

Cheltenham

GL50 1PP

Tel: 07736771915

Email: cllr.john.payne@cheltenham.gov.uk

Date: 23rd January 2015

Mrs. Elin Tattersall
GRCC
15 College Green
Gloucester
GL1 2LZ

Dear Elin,

Prestbury Parish Council – Local Green Space Applications.

In my capacity as Ward Councillor for Prestbury I am writing in support of the three applications presented by the Council for:

Prestbury Parish Council Playing Fields
Blacksmiths Lane Allotment Gardens
Alan J Robson memorial Field.

Prestbury Parish Council Playing Fields.

The Playing Fields are an essential recreational facility to the parish, situated as they are close to the centre of the village.

The fields have two football pitches which are used by a variety of both junior and senior teams. Fees from these teams contribute to the maintenance of the field.

The local tennis club uses the two courts situated on the fields, and surprisingly they are even used in winter months, weather permitting.

There is a Multi Use games Area, which is in regular use by local children.

Also situated on the playing fields is the Pavilion, a brick structure that comprises a community activity room, kitchen and an office and workshop for the groundsman. The Parish Office was added some time later. The community room is currently used on a daily basis by a Mother and Toddler Group.

The playing field is an attractive green space in the heart of residential properties and commands views of the Cotswold Escarpment.

Yours sincerely

Cllr. John Payne

Cheltenham Borough Councillor for Prestbury.