

	Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
5.1	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is within the community it serves.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	There are no barriers to stop the local community from accessing the site	
6	Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community” Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
6.1	Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i>	
	There is no Parish or Town Council	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Introduced and listed by local residents attending the Fairview Community Association meeting on 4th December as in the attached : Initial assessment matrix - research by communities Fairview_4 December 2014	
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 – <u>Cheltenham Borough Council</u>, <u>Gloucestershire County Council</u>, <u>House of Commons</u></i>	
	Initial assessment matrix reviewed and appended to Steve Jordan (CBC) e-mail 17th December 2014 as attached	
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>	
	None known about	
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
7.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	Yes. It is beautiful in as much as it is a green, well maintained and attractive, especially when the site’s trees are in blossom	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	This site sits within a very busy area in terms of traffic and property and is unique in its character. It is well maintained and attractive with young but well established and beautiful trees. A local resident, Mrs. Judy Shaw, is particularly enthusiastic and about the Tulip tree on this site; especially when in bloom	
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 can be clearly seen from the public road, from the rear of the school and from adjacent houses.	
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 – <u>Cheltenham Borough Council</u>; <u>Natural England</u>;</i>	
	Yes, it lies within the 30 April 2009 CBC Central Conservation Area	
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 – <u>Cheltenham Borough Council</u>; <u>Natural England</u>; <u>Cotswolds Conservation Board</u></i>	
	No	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
	Some of the neighbouring property is late-Victorian in style and although it does not directly contribute to history of the properties it does offer green space and safe area	
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>	
	Not known	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	This area “holds a particular local significance” for the people who live there and use the site as an open green space in an otherwise busy and built up area.	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – <u>Cheltenham Borough Council</u>; <u>English Heritage</u>; <u>Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record</u>; <u>Gloucestershire Archives</u>; <u>local history society</u>;</i>	
	No	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – <u>Cheltenham Borough Council</u>; <u>English Heritage</u>; <u>Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record</u>; <u>local history society</u></i>	
	There are beautiful trees but not ancient or historic.	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	

	Not known	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	Not known	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
	Not known	
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 criterion relevant to this site?	
	YES. This area holds a particular local significance because it is a green open space in an otherwise busy and built up area. It has a recreational value although it would not be suitable as a children’s play area because of its proximity to the busy road. It can and is used as a meeting place and for dog walking	
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 – <u>Sport England</u></i>	
	It is not suitable for sport because of its proximity to the road	
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 – <u>Gloucestershire County Council</u></i>	
	The area is totally accessible to the public. This large, green island includes two small areas divided by a little-used access road. Its size and utility would be greatly-enhanced if the road could be eliminated and the two, separate areas merged.	
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>	
	The area is used for community recreation and dog walking. It is not suitable for sports because of its proximity to the road.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	Yes. This area holds “a particular local significance” because of its relative tranquillity. It is close to a busy road but it is a piece of well-maintained grassland with trees which offer an environmental respite. It provides a buffer to the inner ring road for the Witcombe Place residents.	

10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	The site could not be described as tranquil because of its proximity to a busy road but it is green and attractive	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the <u>Campaign to Protect Rural England's</u> tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	No	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc. Further information - <u>Natural England</u>; <u>Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</u></i>	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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. Further information - <u>Natural England</u>; <u>Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</u>; <u>National Biodiversity Network</u>; <u>RSPB</u></i>	
	Not known but doubtful	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - <u>Natural England</u>; <u>Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</u>; <u>National Biodiversity Network</u>;</i>	
	This would not be an area significant for its wildlife although it would provide an area of safety for animals, especially birds.	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No knowledge of any such study.	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	This is an area much loved and cherished by the local community as it is an attractive green space in a built up area. It is a safe escape from the busy road	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	This is the only green space in the close proximity of the community. Much of the area is dominated by housing, the school, a large municipal car park and a busy ring road.	

Appendix 1

From: Steve.Jordan@cheltenham.gov.uk
To: *supplied*
Subject: RE: Green spaces assessments
Date: Wed, 17 Dec 2014 16:32:22 +0000

Hello *name supplied*,

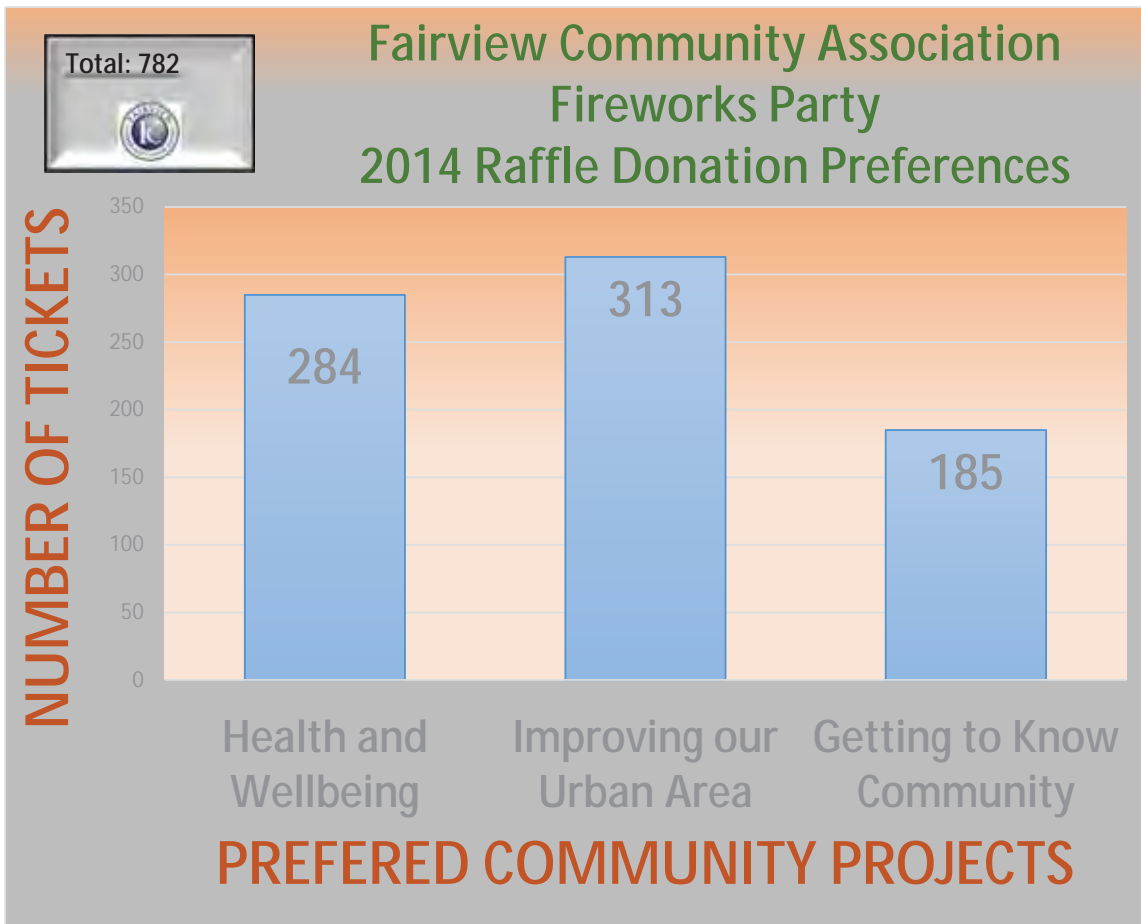
Have added some details on why the sites picked are special - let me know what you think.

Not sure if/when the owners of the land get involved. Most are CBC so no problem with those but I guess the schools and church may be interested at some point – presume you can cover the cricket club.

I had a look at the CBC green space audit from 2008 which showed All Saints had less green space per head than any other ward – shows why each site is important! It also listed a couple of sites we didn't. Both are in the 'new' bit of FCA area. They were The Grove (presume the green bit in the middle of the turning circle at the end of the cul-de-sac) and Hales Close (not really sure what that refers to unless the green verge on the left hand side). Having said that, I'm happy to go with what we've got.

As mentioned I think that's all we need at this stage. Are you happy to go with this or would you like to meet/discuss?


Thanks, Steve.





Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 4

Fairview Green

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Fairview Green, Cheltenham, GL52 2JT	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 <p>The site includes an open green space plus an enclosed, children's soft-play area.</p>	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Fairview Community Association	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	To be confirmed.	

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)	
	N/a	
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 – it serves the whole of Fairview Community area.	
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	
	Approx. 0.2 hectare	
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>	

	No	
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>	
	Yes. Because it is conveniently positioned for families for either post school or generally at the weekends close to All Saints households. Soft children’s play area, dog walking, serves a community that would otherwise have to walk to Pittville Park. Many terraced houses in the area served have only small gardens. This space is unique in the area with allowing children to play in a safe area, with minders able to enjoy the grassed park on the benches provided at a distance which allows independence for the local children.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes. Very dense population / households in area means it’s a critical piece of green space. It offers green space and a safe area around, otherwise, very small property back gardens. The CBC green space audit from 2008 showed All Saints had less green space per head than any other ward (Steve Jordan (CBC) e-mail 17 th December 2014 as attached)	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	Yes. On the door step. Otherwise, significant public areas such as Pittville and Sandford Parks are at least 10 minutes away in other areas and across major roads.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No.	
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>	
	n/a	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals.	

	<i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Introduced and listed by local residents attending the Fairview Community Association meeting on 4th December as in the attached : Initial assessment matrix - research by communities Fairview_4 December 2014. One attendee, Mrs. Jill Julier of Hewlett Road, specifically cited this as a very-attainable, useful and enjoyable space for her visiting grandchildren.	
6.3	Evidence of support from community leaders <i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc. Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</i>	
	Letter from County Councillor Colin Hay to Councillor Steve Jordan on 12 January 2015 as attachment. Initial assessment matrix reviewed and appended to Steve Jordan (CBC) e-mail 17 th December 2014 as attached.	
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>	
	n/a	
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 criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	Mature trees, well maintained	
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>	
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 Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;</i>	
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>	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	

	Some of the neighbouring property is late-Victorian, terraced housing. It offers green space and a safe area around, otherwise, very small property back gardens.	
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>	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	Letter from County Councillor Colin Hay to Councillor Steve Jordan on 12 January 2015 as attachment: “In the late 1970’s the Borough Council designated Fairview as a ‘General Improvement Area’ (GIA). I was the street representative and was involved in the consultations for the GIA. It included giving improvement grants to properties basic standards and a number of environmental improvements - including the establishment of a green space and play area known as Fairview green from a car par and some redundant properties owned by the Borough. The consultations were both through and detailed, I well remember that the establishment of Fairview Green had the full support of the community, as there was nowhere within easy access for children to play and for people to sit and relax.”	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site?	

	<i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
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 criterion 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>	
	Recreational facility for local families. Children’s soft-play area and green.	
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>	
	Yes, the site is landscaped for public use with benches, paths, dog bins. There is good disabled access with paved paths and flat even surfaces maintained. The playground is also accessible.	
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>	
	Yes. Ball games, informal recreation, dog walking and socialising. Letter from County Councillor Colin Hay to Councillor Steve Jordan on 12 January 2015 (appendix 1) “It is on the way home for many parents whose children go to Holy Trinity School and they often stop to allow the children to play, this also provides parents to valuable space to socialise. Local children use the green and play area on a daily basis”.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	Yes, Letter from County Councillor Colin Hay to Councillor Steve Jordan on 12 January 2015 (see Appendix 1) “This is a valuable, much used and well-loved oasis of green space in a town centre setting which the local community would be outraged if it were to be developed.”	

	It is away from significant roads and traffic in an area of small streets and terraced housing.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England 's tranquillity maps	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc. Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? 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. Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ; RSPB	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ;	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	Yes, it includes a designated children's play area owned and maintained by CBC	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	

County Councillor Colin Hay

Steve Jordan
Leader Cheltenham Borough Council
Municipal Offices
The Promenade
Cheltenham

Dear Steve

Designation of 'Fairview Green' as Local Green Space

I'm writing to support the designation of Local Green Space for 'Fairview Green' which lies between the corner of Sherbourne and York Streets, and Glenfall Street. In the mid 1970's and mid 80's I lived at 1 Glenfall Street and from 1985 to the present day I have lived at 12 York Street, the boundaries of both properties include Fairview Green. In 1981 I became the County Councillor for All Saints which at the time included Fairview Green. In the late 1970's the Borough Council designated Fairview as a 'General Improvement Area' (GIA). I was the street representative and was involved in the consultations for the GIA. It included giving improvement grants to properties basic standards and a number of environmental improvements - including the establishment of a green space and play area known as Fairview green from a car park and some redundant properties owned by the Borough. The consultations were both thorough and detailed, I well remember that the establishment of Fairview Green had the full support of the community, as there was nowhere within easy access for children to play and for people to sit and relax.

I have seen first-hand as a local resident just how well the play area and green have been used over the years, and how valuable it has become a resource. Often the school and local playgroups will bring children to play there. It is on the way home for many parents whose children go to Holy Trinity School and they often stop to allow the children to play, this also provides parents a valuable space to socialise. Local children use the green and play area on a daily basis, indeed my own three children used the park a great deal whilst growing up.

This is a valuable, much used and well-loved oasis of green space in a town centre setting which the local community would be outraged if it were to be developed. I fully support its designation as a Local Green Space.

Regards

Colin Hay 12th January 2015

Appendix 2

From: Steve.Jordan@cheltenham.gov.uk
To: *address supplied*
Subject: RE: Green spaces assessments

Date: Wed, 17 Dec 2014 16:32:22 +0000

Have added some details on why the sites picked are special - let me know what you think.

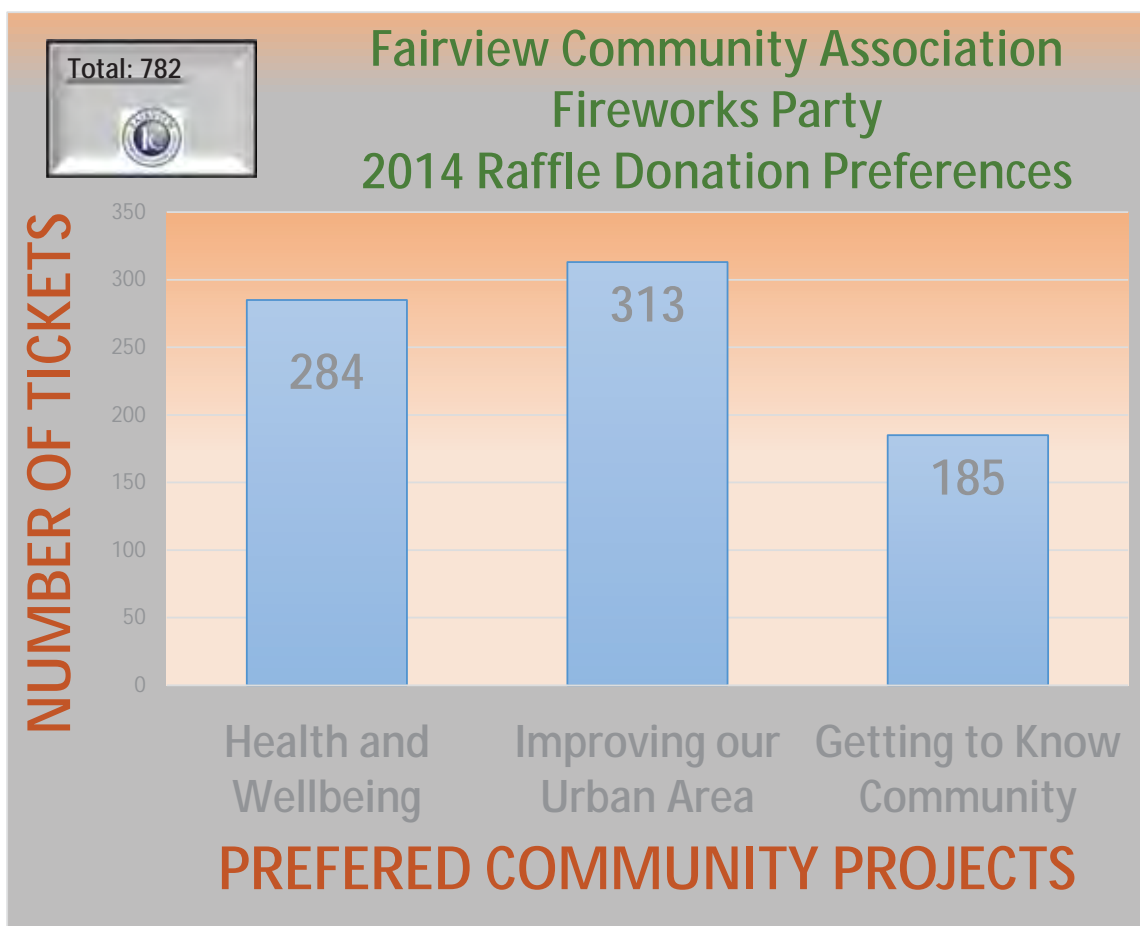
Not sure if/when the owners of the land get involved. Most are CBC so no problem with those but I guess the schools and church may be interested at some point – presume you can cover the cricket club.

I had a look at the CBC green space audit from 2008 which showed All Saints had less green space per head than any other ward – shows why each site is important! It also listed a couple of sites we didn't. Both are in the 'new' bit of FCA area. They were The Grove (presume the green bit in the middle of the turning circle at the end of the cul-de-sac) and Hales Close (not really sure what that refers to unless the green verge on the left hand side). Having said that, I'm happy to go with what we've got.



As mentioned I think that's all we need at this stage. Are you happy to go with this or would you like to meet/discuss?

Thanks, Steve.

Appendix 3



CHECKLIST AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Newcourt Green (Newcourt Road Green), between Cirencester Road and Newcourt Road, Charlton Kings	✓
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 	✓
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Charlton Kings Parish Council	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Understood to be owned by Cheltenham Borough Council	

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 in support	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	<i>See attached Appendix 4</i>	√
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>	
	Surrounding Residential Areas, hundreds of local homes on about 30 local roads.	
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	
	1.3ha	
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>	
	There is no other open land in the immediate vicinity to draw comparison with; however it “feels” like a local green space and is often referred to as the village green.	
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>	
	Yes it does feel part of the local area and is used by many local people to walk dogs and for children to play on: see attached petition and letters. Daily route to school for children from four local schools: Balcarras, Charlton Kings Infants, Charlton Kings Junior and Saint Edwards.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location?	

	<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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	It provides a welcome break to the density of housing in the surrounding area and due to this density provides a valuable shared space resource for the many local residents.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is completely surrounded by the community it serves.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	Although there are roads to 2 sides of the area (one A road, one unclassified) it is still very easily accessible. It has access points from 3 of the four sides and is used by pushchairs and wheel chairs.	
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>	
	This application is being made by the Parish Council.	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	There are numerous letters of support, a survey of over 60 users and a petition which has been signed by over 350 people (summer 2014). In the recent application to build a convenience store on the park boundary <i>many</i> local people expressed their concern to protect this valuable green space. (Appendices 5 and 6) Appendix 1 and 3 - extracts from letters/ survey responses from residents.	√
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>	
	We have the support of the local Parish Councillors who are making this application, Borough Councillors, County Councillor and MP. Please see below Appendix 2.	√
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>	

7	<p>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></p>	
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
7.3	<p>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></p>	
7.4	<p>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></p>	
7.5	<p>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></p>	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
7.7	<p>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></p>	
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) <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? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i></p>	

	<i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
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>	
	Informal football, cricket, rounders 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>	
	Very easy access to the site via road/footpath as can be seen on google earth. It has access points from 3 of the four sides and is used by pushchairs and wheel chairs. It is also used by many more elderly residents who can no longer take advantage of the local hill walks. Daily route to school for children from four local schools: Balcarras, Charlton Kings Infants, Charlton Kings Junior and Saint Edwards.	
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>Informal football, cricket and tennis, picnics, sledging, building snowmen, sitting and relaxing, dog walking. You may even be lucky enough to hear guitar playing and see tightrope walking occasionally.</p> <p>For over 60 years and Cheltenham Borough Council acquired an additional part of the site extended the site in 1951 to help satisfy the local demand for such facilities.</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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	<p>Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i></p>	
	It provides a very welcome break to the surrounding housing and main road and its peaceful nature was mentioned repeatedly by those surveyed.	
10.3	<p>Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England’s tranquillity maps</i></p>	
	No idea as can’t find the maps on this website?	
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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
11.2	<p>Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i></p>	
11.3	<p>Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i></p>	
11.4	<p>What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i></p>	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community?	

	<i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	

Appendix 1

Quotes from Surveys and Letters:

“valuable peace and quiet”

“a pleasure to come and sit and relax”

“tranquillity and visual space”

“baby walking”

“nice open space to play”

“fresh air and relaxation”

“lovely wildflower bed”

“only open green space in this area”

“we sincerely hope that it can be protected and preserved for the benefit of all”

“there is certainly no similar area for recreation for local residents”

“this space especially makes a huge contribution to the street scene in an otherwise urban environment”

Appendix 2

Extracts from letters from elected members (scans of originals seen by GRCC)

“I would certainly support this proposal. Newcourt Green is a wonderful local green space much used and valued by local people, I can think of no other such space that could be more deserving of this additional protection...Informal spaces such as these are often undervalued when compared to spaces used for organised sport but informal spaces are so important simply for walking, playing with children, walking dogs, picnics and kick a bouts. And of course this space especially makes a huge contribution to the street scene in an otherwise urban environment.” Councillor Paul Baker

“There is no doubt the green is local in character and in close proximity to the community it serves, and we trust our survey and petition demonstrate how special it is to the local community.” Councillor Mike Palmer

“Charlton Kings is surprisingly short of accessible, informal urban green spaces. The Cotswold escarpment and the AONB are not far away but extremely steep in most places. Naunton Park is nearly a mile and well over ten minutes’ walk away while the smaller green area near Church Piece is almost as far and is the wrong side of the very busy A435 Cirencester Road for younger and older residents living on Newcourt Road and the surrounding area. Newcourt Green is a welcome and prominent island of green in an urban landscape. I remember playing on it when I was a child and I regularly see children, dog walkers and older people enjoying it now. The pressure for development has increased all over Cheltenham but particularly in high value areas like Charlton Kings and I strongly support the designation of this site.” Martin Horwood MP - Member of Parliament for Cheltenham

“I am very supportive of the application. That part of the parish has very little green space and therefore it is an important leisure amenity for local residents.” Cllr Helena McCloskey

"Newcourt Green is well used by the local community for play and activities – we can all remember special occasions and events like the royal wedding celebrations when it's been buzzing (and the whole area) with children and families." Cllr Paul McLain

"I have spent the last 25 years living in the South Ward of the parish of Charlton Kings which is the area immediately adjoining Newcourt Green.

During that period I have been an active user of its facilities, as a play area for my children, a dog walking field and a place to picnic and enjoy a good book in natural surroundings. I have a long term awareness of just how important this space is valued by the people of Charlton Kings and how it is used by a large number of residents on a regular basis for a wide range of recreational activities.

It also fulfils another really important function in making a major contributing to the aesthetics and visual appeal of the parish. Charlton Kings displays ribbon development along the whole stretch of the Cirencester Road from the entry point at the Holy Apostles junction, through to its boundary just beyond the Charlton Park Hotel. Importantly, Newcourt Green acts as a welcome break in this otherwise uniform linear lay out and adds real value in enhancing the rural "feel".

With a designation of "Green Space" this historically well used tract of land would receive the kind of recognition and protection it deserves as a cherished asset for the community.

I fully support the proposals."

Rob Reid, Borough Councillor for Charlton Kings and member of the local Parish Council.

Appendix 3

Extracts from letters from residents (Scans of originals seen by GRCC)

"It is a much valued open green space, with mature trees, blossom in the Spring and wild flowers including sweet smelling violets, and a good variety of birds. It has been used by the local community for many years...One of its boundaries is "Chestnut Walk", marked on old maps and used for generation. The Green is much used and appreciated by local people (and some from further afield) of all ages for recreation, dog walking, children's games, teen age meetings, and generally socially meeting others crossing the Green by the various footpaths. It provides a green oasis in the middle of our built up area, quite tranquil and beautiful, with views to Charlton Kings Common, within easy walking distance of the local population (No cars needed). I greatly value it, use it regularly and wish to see it protected for us and future generations. TB.

"This area has been locally known as The Green. It is an important amenity in Charlton Kings. I have lived nearby for the last 45 years and have seen a great variety of folk enjoy this grassy open space. Youngsters delight in kicking a ball or letting off steam: for others it is a valuable place to exercise their dog. This valuable area needs to be preserved for future generations, who will appreciate it a wide variety of ways. It is an essential part of life in Charlton kings." Mrs. GP

"I have been a resident of Charlton Kings for over 50 years and my late husband had lived here all his life. Newcourt Green has always been much appreciated by local residents. My children and grandchildren have all played on there countless times and I still see children of all ages using it. It is a safe site. It is such a pleasant Green, with the line of poplar trees, and the recently added wild flower bed an added pleasure. I regularly walk across it to reach the village. I appeal to you to ensure that this valued space is not lost to us in its present form, but designated as a local green space." JS

"Local children from the Charlton Close, all used to congregate over there after school in the summer and decide which game they were going to play that day. Its nice to see that has continued...The field has been a great environment for our family over the years. We are not alone, most local families use this field for similar reasons. It would be heartbreaking to see it lost to development, never to be replaced." ST

Examples of a few of the comments from local residents showing how much they value Newcourt Green which can be viewed at CBC Planning Portal Ref: 14/01436/FUL

"the park land is a meeting place for my children and dog walkers. Its size and number of established trees allow a decent blockage from the road noise."

"an important and highly used green-space by the local community"

"The site abuts an area of high quality and valued residential green space. This is also a valuable gateway feature providing visitors with a positive image of Cheltenham as they enter along this important route into the town"
"locals do their best to maintain the beautiful area around Newcourt Road green."

Appendix 4







Appendix 5

Content of survey form and results

Number of responses = 63

The green space between Newcourt Road and Cirencester Road (Newcourt Green) is an important amenity for Cheltenham residents. In order for it to be designated as a Local Green Space and thereby given a greater degree of protection from possible future development, Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC) have asked for justification that the area is 'demonstrably special' to the local community.

Completing this short survey will help to provide CBC with information on how Newcourt Green is being used and is a vital part of protecting it for future use by the community.

Thank you for your participation.

1. How often do you use Newcourt Green?

Daily? - 33

Once or Twice a Week? - 21

A few times a Month? - 8

A few times a Year? - 1

2. For what reasons do you use Newcourt Green (tick all that apply)

Dog Walking - 38

Exercise/Games - 26

Informal Gatherings - 8

Picnics/Parties - 14

The Footpaths - 42

Trees, Flowers & Wildlife - 49

Other (Please specify) – Sitting, children's play, relaxation (2), guitar, the only one, scenic area/views (3), tranquillity

3. Is Newcourt Green important to your Quality of Life?

Yes -62

No – 1

4. Your details

Appendix 6

Petition in 2014 was signed by 350 people (scans of originals seen by GRCC)

Wording: We, the undersigned, who greatly value our Green between Newcourt Road and Cirencesters Road urge the Council to assign Local Green Space Designation (NPPF) to Newcourt Green

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 6

Hardwick Campus/Marsh Lane

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Hardwick Campus Green Space, AKA The Marsh. Located at Marsh Lane/St Pauls Road, Cheltenham.	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	<i>Insert here or attach separately</i> <i>See APPENDIX A</i>	✓
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Elmfield Neighbourhood Coordination Group	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Church of England, Training Colleges Trust / Diocese of Gloucester. The current proprietor is the University of Gloucestershire. Two PDF files attached outline the planning applications in 1992 and 2011 for developing the site. Residents believe that these indicate that agreement to develop would be required from more than one agency.	
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)	
	Unknown, but it is believed that proprietors are aware. It is unknown as to whether they support the application. APPENDIX D shows a response to community attempts to designate it as a green space as part of queens jubilee. Email from Sir Henry Elwes.	✓
1.6	Photographs of site	

	<i>Insert here or attach separately</i> See APPENDIX B	✓
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>	
	Residents of part of St Pauls, St Peters, Elmfield, including the immediate local area, Gas Green and Students of Hardwick Campus.	
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	
	0.9 of a Hectare	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	Yes. It is used by local people for dog walking/training, casual ball games, socialising during the warmer months. The fact that it has 1.2metre perimeter railings, which are ornate in character, with small access gates and is overlooked by the households of Marsh Lane, some Swindon Road addresses and Hardwick’s Halls of Residence makes this a reasonably safe environment for local people to use. It is situated in an area that contains a considerable amount of terraced housing, some of which have little or no gardens. It is also very close to the lower end of the town centre. It contributes greatly to the local townscape.	✓

	A group of residents, supported by local councillors and community organisations is in the process of consulting with all residents to assess how this space could be improved for community use. The university is aware of this and is supportive of the space being used for e.g a community garden, bee-keeping, informal sports space, or used for occasional markets/craft fairs.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes, it is the only green space in the St Pauls ward.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is central to the community it serves. In fact it is only the width of a single track (2 lanes) road away from the nearest 75 houses in its proximity that overlook the field. There are then hundreds of houses immediately beyond those, within 500 metres. This site serves at least 2,000 local people. The local animal shelter use this space to exercise and train rescue dogs. In the summer it is used by the Cubs and Brownies who meet at Gas Green Community Centre for informal sports. The map at APPENDIX A shows the proximity of a heavily built up area made up of housing.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	NO	
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 local councillors Andrew Lansley and John Walklett. APPENDIX F	✓

6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
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 of support from Martin Horwood(MP)	✓
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>	
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 ?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
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>	
	It is highly visible from passing traffic and pedestrians,	
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>	
	It was mentioned in Cheltenham Borough Councils Green Space Audit. Believed to be in 2010	
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	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	✓
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES See APPENDIX C	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	No	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	No	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	The site was once owned by “The Elms” (the local workhouse) until the early 20 th century. It contained allotments which helped feed the residents of the workhouse. It was once part of Marsh Common. See APPENDIX C	✓
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	It is believed that the gallows were here at some stage	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	

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>	
	Casual sport (no fees or membership required) played by local people with their children and students. Football, cricket, rounders etc. It has been used in this way since it ceased to be allotments, (late 1960s).	
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>	
	Yes it is easily accessible to all, including disabled people. It is a flat piece of land with level paths on the highway surrounding it on the two sides adjacent to the road. It has three single width access gates. The whole site is accessible to all on an “as of right” basis.	
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>	
	Yes, and with significant increase in numbers during the last 3 years.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	Not exceptionally Tranquil.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	

11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	It is used as a walking route for local people. This is particularly useful for parents and children who are able to walk to school / work using a route that reduces the need to walk along and cross busy roads.	

APPENDIX A

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Site NRU13 Hardwick site, St Paul's Road



APPENDIX B



APPENDIX C

History of site

In the 19th century it is shown on local maps (1847) as burgage allotments for work house, which was based a few hundred yards away on what is now Cheltenham Maternity Hospital. I believe that the land may have been bequeathed by Admiral Sir Robert Tristram Ricketts (1777 – 1842) a significant local benefactor whose will was contested, which I am researching. Certainly, Sir Robert owned a substantial house close by upon which now stands sheltered housing for the elderly (Popes Close).

When the workhouse closed at the start of the 20th century the site became allotments for the local community. There is a photograph in the Borough Council offices showing as such dated 1965. Indeed, one of the surviving residents of Marsh Lane worked an allotment with her late husband until this date.

In 1965 the land (approximately 2 acres) was sold by the Minister of Health to The Council of The Church of England Training Colleges at Cheltenham. This was effectively St Pauls College, a male teacher training college specialising in physical education whose main site was, and remains a quarter of a mile away at Francis Close Hall, a Grade II listed church college and chapel with no outside recreational facilities.

The site was re named Hardwick from The Marsh after Charles Hardwick, a prominent theologist of the 19th century and a contemporary of Francis Close and Francis Fullwood, after whom The Park site was named on the other side of town. The Park was the female teacher training college called St Marys and is now also part of the University of Gloucestershire.

My belief is that the land was sold for a peppercorn amount as St Pauls had no money to speak of (both Francis Close Hall and The Park were bequeaths) for the purpose of teacher training, specifically physical education, and the land was designated for education and recreation purposes. The site map held by the council still has a hockey pitch marked on it.

In 1970 St Pauls College obtained permission to build an indoor swimming pool, a three classroom size single storey administration/teaching block and a discreet (in one corner of the site, accommodation for the chaplain and warden. This required the approval of the Secretary of State for Education, which they had to wait some time for. The swimming pool etc were eventually built in 1974.

In 1978 St Paul's College merged with St Mary's to become the The St Paul and St Mary College of Higher Education to obtain degree status ratified by Bristol University.

In early 1990s this entity merged with other local tertiary education institutions (Art College, Technical Colleges) to become The Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education.

In 2001, after several unsuccessful attempts, university status was approved and all the previously mentioned institutions became part of the University of Gloucestershire.

In 1986 they successfully applied to build a sports hall on an isolated patch of green land between the existing administration block, the existing small car park and the disused railway line.

In 1988 they unsuccessfully applied to construct an all weather floodlit practice pitch on the green space

In 1992 they successfully applied to build three halls of residence (122 rooms) infilling around the existing structures, bringing about one half of the land now developed but leaving a significant (0.9 acre) and green space between the buildings and the public road fronting the houses to Marsh Lane.

On the 19th February 1993 there was an agreement between (1) The Trustees of Cheltenham and Gloucester Higher Education Trust, (2) The Official Custodian for Charities and (3) Cheltenham Borough Council pursuant to Section 106 of Town and Country Planning Act 1990 containing restrictive conditions.

Details of these have been obtained from the council under the Freedom of Information Act.

To summarise thus far, there has been creeping development over the last couple of decades or so, albeit contained to one half of the site, the furthest away from residences, and not encroaching on the green space used for recreation.

However, in 2011 they applied to convert the existing sports hall to an arts and photographic complex (extending upwards), the addition of an extra 40 or so car parking spaces by encroaching onto the green space and erecting a six foot steel spiked pallisade fence around the whole perimeter of the site, thus preventing the local community accessing the green space that they have done so without harm for decades.

The local community fought the latter two developments – losing on the car park (which has been built) but winning, for the main part, on the fence aspect. The compromise reached by the council was the steel fence would only be erected around the existing developed area leaving the (reduced) green space for unofficial community use managed by the University. There was supposed to be some landscaping to make it more formal and inviting but very little has been done. Students now do not have access to the green space unless they enter through gaps in old fences (pre war railings) along the boundary with Marsh Lane. This is how the community gain access to the green space.

We believed that it was an attempt to break the continuous unofficial use of the site by the community in order to prime the land for development in the future, either by the University themselves or to sell the whole site for housing development in the future.

However, having recently obtained the Title Deed from Land Registry it appears that the University is The Proprietor and the actual owner is the Church of England with the land being held in a charitable trust or have charity status.

St Pauls is a conservation area but this site lies outside the old ward boundary and is not included. It is now within the new ward boundary but the conservation area has not been reviewed for a few years. The houses along Marsh Lane pre date much, if not all, of those within the conservation area. This is the only green space within the ward although there are green spaces just outside the ward.

July 2012 – Under pressure from local residents and a local councillor to fulfil their planning permission conditions, the University have replaced the pre war railings (and a stretch of high

timber fencing) with bow top (1.2m) railings around the one half of the perimeter of the site bordering the residential streets. Included in this were three access gates. Though there are no signs to the effect it is clearly a tacit statement that the open green space may be used. The numbers of residents, including children, now using the site on a daily basis has grown exponentially. Many for the first time and not seen to do so before.

Town Green Application

As a result of the on going development and the attempt to change the usage, the local community are united in protecting the green space for future generations.

We believe that the green space meets most, if not all, the criteria laid out for such applications

The green space has always been used informally by students and local residents (without implied permission) for recreational purposes and no one has ever been stopped from using the land, or be told to vacate it, despite it being known to be private land. Several local residents (double figures) will give statements to continual usage for at least 20 years (some stretching back 50 years).

APPENDIX D

email from Sir Henry Elwes with reference to green space designation

----- Original Message -----

From: Henry Elwes

To: *name supplied*

Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2013 1:09 PM

Subject: Hardwicke Campus Cheltenham - Queen Elizabeth II Fields Challenge

Dear Mr Moss

Thank you for your letter about the possibility of naming the playing area close to Hardwicke Campus as a Queen Elizabeth Field.

As Pro-Chancellor I am only deputy to the Chancellor, Baroness Rennie Fritchie DBE, and, as you say, we hold an ambassadorial role but I must let you know that we do not have any executive powers and do not attend University Council meetings.

I have not heard anything about the open space but will make enquiries about the reasons for the University not wishing to respond favourably to your proposal. It might be that the

University or the Church wish to keep options open for developing additional space for the University in a rather crowded area of the town.

As President of the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association for almost 20 years until recently, I strongly support the provision of sports and play areas but I cannot promise that I have any powers to intervene on this issue. In the meantime, perhaps you could let me know who you represent in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Sir Henry Elwes KCVO

APPENDIX E

Letter to editor of Gloucestershire Echo from Martin Harwood MP 4th December 2014

Where he puts the case for defending green belt land and talks about urban areas where green space should be defended such as that at Hardwick Campus/Marsh Lane

Dear Sir

Kit Braunholtz lays down the challenge to local politicians to explain what they mean by defending the Green Belt (Letters, 4 December) and I'm happy to pick up the gauntlet, especially as there has been so much use of the term by my Conservative opponent and his recent guest Mr Pickles, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

Kit's letter rightly identifies the problem: Green Belt actually no confers no particular protection on areas valued by communities for their intrinsic environmental or community value. It is strictly for the defined purposes he describes in his letter such as keeping towns apart and preventing urban sprawl. The land itself may not even be accessible to the public. Now I'm all for preventing urban sprawl and keeping some green breathing space between Cheltenham and Gloucester **but areas like the green fields in Leckhampton, or other urban green spaces like Weaver's Field in Warden Hill, or next to Marsh Lane in St.Paul's**, are not Green Belt and are never likely to qualify as Green Belt, being largely or completely surrounded by development already. A recent Green Belt review for local councils suggested 'other policies' would be needed in cases like these.

But what other policies? Sites of Special Scientific Interest and the Birds and Habitats Directive protect land important to rare spearwort or dark green fritillary butterflies. National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty cover our most scenic landscapes like the Costwold Hills. There was no policy for accessible urban green spaces that are simply important to local people. But they have value too: they provide us with food, and absorb our pollution, and give us space to walk and breathe, and improve our mental and physical health, and allow our children to muck about somewhere muddy or meet pigs or watch out for bats.

That's why, when the LibDems were in opposition, I proposed a policy of designating local green spaces special to urban communities. Somewhat to my surprise, it ended up in the LibDem manifesto and slipped into the coalition agreement and then into a government white paper and finally into the National Planning Policy Framework. All credit to the Tory planning minister at the time, Greg Clark

(sadly replaced shortly afterwards by someone more developer-friendly).

There was a condition though. The new designation couldn't be used ad hoc to prevent whatever planning application for housing came along. It had to be part of the local plan-making process.

Frustratingly, our principal local plan-making process, the Joint Core Strategy, completely ignored the new designation. Luckily, Cheltenham's LibDem Borough Council has initiated a review of where it could be used, at least within Cheltenham's borders. Ironically, the only Conservative-led council to do likewise is the overwhelmingly rural Cotswold District which already enjoys extensive AONB protection, not our two JCS partners Tewkesbury and Gloucester who appear to want nothing to do with it. Their loss. **I hope at least our green spaces at Leckhampton, Marsh Lane and elsewhere in Cheltenham are protected as a result.**

But I'm afraid Mr Pickles' noisy declarations about Green Belt won't help these areas at all.

Martin Horwood MP

Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Cheltenham

16 Hewlett Road Cheltenham GL52 6AA | 01242 224889 | martin@martinhorwood.net

@MartinChelt on Twitter | Martin Horwood for Cheltenham on Facebook

www.martinhorwood.net

APPENDIX F

Letters of support from local councillors.

From: cllr.jon.walklett@cheltenham.gov.uk [mailto:cllr.jon.walklett@cheltenham.gov.uk]

Sent: 13 January 2015 14:06

To: Bernice Thomson

Cc: Andrew.Lansley@cheltenham.gov.uk; tess.beck@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Hardwick green space

Letter of support-

The Hardwick/Marsh Lane green space has enabled generations of local residents together with students to utilise an attractive well used and locally valued amenity. Meeting the needs of the

community and enhancing biodiversity, uses range from play, exercising, and studying to enjoying the view whilst picnicking.

Cheltenham has often been described as a "town within a park" and as well as the larger better known Pittville, Montpellier, Imperial and Hatherley parks and gardens there exists quite a number of smaller areas worthy of "green space" status which in itself serves to promote and protect peoples right to enjoy open space close to their homes.

I therefore fully support the action taken by the local community and local residents committee in pursuing the preservation of the Hardwick/Marsh Lane amenity.

Jon

Cllr Jon Walklett
(St Paul's ward)
(Cabinet member for Corporate Services)

Cllr Andrew Lansley

Hardwick Green Space

FAO Cheltenham Borough Council & Gloucestershire Rural Community Council

I am writing to you in my capacity as councillor for St Paul's to support our neighbours and residents in designating this area for special protection under the Cheltenham plan.

I have met with members of the community in Marsh Lane and Marsh Gardens as well as estates staff at the University of Gloucestershire – all of who are keen to see this area protected for use by the community.

The area is in constant use by the community: early morning dog walkers, families and children throughout the day and children and young people in the evening.

Following meetings with Stuart Dove and Nigel Wichall, steps were taken to improve the area following the Hardwick campus development, including the planting of trees on the boundary to go along with the new fences and gated access for the local community to use.

St Paul's is one of the most densely populated areas of the town and despite being close to Aggs Field has very little green space of it's own. I believe protection of this

space is critical and any future loss would have a detrimental effect on the community.

I would be happy to meet and discuss this issue in further detail with anyone who is willing to help our community protect such a valuable space and offer my support unreservedly.



Kindest regards,


Cllr Andrew Lansley

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 7

Pilgrove Park

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Pilgrove Way Park	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i> <i>Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Hesters Way Partnership	
1.4	Ownership of site if known	

	Information on land ownership can be obtained from the Land Registry . Some land parcels are not registered however local people may know the owner.	
	Cheltenham Borough Council	
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, via this application process	
1.6	Photographs of site	
		
1.7	Community served by the potential Local Green Space i.e. does the site serve the whole village/town or a particular geographic area or group of people?	
	Central to the communities of Springbank, Arle Farm, Newlands and Springfields. A population of 1,500 people.	
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	
	3 hectares	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	Yes, it is very local in character. The current park runs adjacent to Pilgrove Way but we would like to see this extended to include all the green spaces connected to it in the vicinity of the road as shown on the map above. The green spaces provide the lungs for the local community and are the only accessible green spaces provided for the local estates.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes, the site lies within a short walk of and adjacent to all properties in the local estates estate. It also offers a through route on foot and by bike towards the main Springfield Park and the town centre supporting health and access for the town	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is at the heart of the local community of Springbank, Arle Farm, Newlands and Springfields with a population of 1,500 people. affording access from 3 areas offering social interaction across communities	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?	

	<i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No	
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>	
	No parish council	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	None supplied	
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>	
	Cllr Jeffries “I give my full support of the local green space proposals you will be submitting. Having spoken to CBC officers there will be a further opportunity for residents to express support or otherwise when the overarching collated documents go out for public consultation. Finally please accept my thanks on behalf of residents and myself for a job well done in such a short timeframe. Kind regards, Peter”	
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>	
	No	
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.	
	No	
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 very visible from Pilgrove Way and generates an open and pleasant entrance to the residential streets.	
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	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	N/A	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	N/A	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town?	



	<i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	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>	
	No	
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>	
	The public has access to the whole site.	
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>	
	The site is used for dog walking, general play, picnicking, use of children’s play area, summer bbqs.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there are any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	


	The site lies adjacent to Pilgrove Way and the fields to the back of the properties off Harry Yates Way. It provides openness and walking routes within a busy residential area.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England 's tranquillity maps	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
	Running adjacent to the fields to the west of Cheltenham the site is home to a wide diversity of wildlife and provides a corridor for plants and animals which links Cheltenham to the countryside and on into the town via Springfield Park.	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ; RSPB	
	No	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ;	
	N/A	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	No	


Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 8

George Readings Park extension

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
1	George Readings Park extension	
1 . 2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i> <i>Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 	

1 . 3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Hesters Way Partnership	
1 . 4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Cheltenham Borough Council	
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, via this application process	
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>	
	Central to the communities of Hesters Way. The area currently protected as public green space is only a proportion of that which is used by local residents. It is proposed that the additional space as marked on the map above should be incorporated into the current George Readings Park provision.	
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	Is the site allocated for development in the existing Development Plan, emerging Joint Core Strategy, Cheltenham Plan or a Neighbourhood Plan?	
2	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	Area of proposed site	
1		
	3 hectares	
3	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space)</i>	
2	<i>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>	
	No	
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</i>	
3	<i>does it connect physically, visually and socially to the local area? What is your evidence?</i>	
	<p>Yes, it is very local is character. The park runs adjacent to George Readings Road and behind the properties on Carter Road and along the River Chelt. It offers great amenity space especially for walkers and dog owners and is very popular with local young people. It is also regarded as of high value as a wildlife corridor as described in the Biodiversity survey conducted by Middlemarch Environment Ltd.</p> 	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <i>e.g. is there a shortage of accessible greenspace in the area? Is there a</i>	
1	<i>village needs survey or parish plan that provides evidence of that need.</i>	

	<i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes, the site lies within a short walk of housing on the George Readings Estate and also provides their only accessible green space. It also offers a through route on foot and by bike towards the town centre supporting health and access for the town	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is at the heart of the local community of affording access from 3 locations and offering social interaction across communities	
5 . 2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No.	
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>	
	No parish council	
6 . 2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	None supplied	
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>	
	Cllr Jeffries “I give my full support of the local green space proposals you will be submitting. Having spoken to CBC officers there will be a further opportunity for residents to express support or otherwise when the overarching collated documents go out for public consultation. Finally please except my thanks on behalf of residents and myself for a job well done in such a short timeframe. Kind regards, Peter”	
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>	

	N/A	
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 has many beautiful trees and offers a wonderful walk along the banks of the River Chelt.	
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 embedded within the local housing of the George Readings Estate.	
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	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	

8 1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
8 2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council ; English Heritage ; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record ; Gloucestershire Archives ; local history society;	
	N/A	
8 3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage ; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record ; local history society	
	N/A	
8 4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.	
	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? e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.	
	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) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
9 1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
9 2	Is the site used for playing sport? If so what sport? How long has it been used for sports provision? Is this sports provision free or is a club membership required? Further information – Sport England	
	No	
9 3	Are the public able to physically access the site? 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.) Further information – Gloucestershire County Council	
	The public has access to the whole site from Village Road and along the Chelt. There is a through route from Village Road to Princess Elizabeth Way and on to Chelt Walk Park and then in to town. This is used by both walkers and cyclists and affords good disability access.	
9 . 4	Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when? e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc	
	The site is used for Dog walking, general play, picnicking, use of children's play area, summer bbqs.	
1 0	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
1 0 . 1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
1 0 . 2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?	
	The site lies behind housing on Kingsmead Close and along George Readings Way and from there along the River Chelt. It is a peaceful haven within a busy residential area.	
1 0 . 3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England 's tranquillity maps	
	No	
1 1	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) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
1 1 . 1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
1 1 . 2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
	Running adjacent to the river the site is home to a wide diversity of wildlife and provides a corridor for plants and animals which links Cheltenham to	




	the countryside to both the West and South East of the town. See biodiversity corridor map above	
1 1 . 3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
	Yes, its proximity to the River Chelt reveals links to a wide diversity of wildlife and the need to maintain River quality as exemplified by the Love Your River Chelt campaign run by the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.	
1 1 . 4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
	N/A	
1 1 . 5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No	
1 2	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
1 2 . 1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
1 2 . 2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	No	

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 9

Henley Road and Triscombe Way

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Henley Road and Triscombe Road Parks and the hedgerow adjacent to Henley Road and adjoining the park (marked in yellow and blue below)	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i> <i>Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 	

1.3	<p>Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i></p>	
	Hesters Way Partnership	
1.4	<p>Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Cheltenham Borough Council	
1.5	<p>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)</p>	
	Yes, via this application process	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	  	
1.7	<p>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></p>	
	Central to the communities of Springbank. A population of 1,500 people.	


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	
	3 hectares	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	Yes, it is very local is character. The park runs adjacent to Henley and Solway Roads but we would like to see the green spaces on Triscombe included too. The green spaces provide the lungs for the local community and are the only accessible green spaces provided for the local estates.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes, the site lies within a short walk of and adjacent to all properties in the local estates estate.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is at the heart of the local community of Springbank, with a population of 1,500 people.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No	
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>	
	No parish council	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Local residents when interviewed commented as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We’ve been here since it was built in 1968 and would not want it <i>changed. When we look out of our front window we see lovely shades of colour. It’s a lovely outlook from our front window.</i> • <i>It gives the kids somewhere to play, they use the footie goal.</i> • We’ve been here 40 years and they haven’t built because of the pylons. <i>The kids love playing there.</i> • <i>I would like to keep it as an open space, local children play on it, people walk their dogs, when the weather is nice people sit out.</i> • I’d have nowhere to walk the dog, and he needs plenty of <i>space!</i> • <i>My children play on it and we walk the dog there every day.</i> <p>GRCC has had sight of these comments, verified with resident signatures</p>	
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>	
	Cllr Jeffries “I give my full support of the local green space proposals you will be submitting. Having spoken to CBC officers there will be a further opportunity for residents to express support or otherwise when the overarching collated documents go out for public consultation. Finally	

	please except my thanks on behalf of residents and myself for a job well done in such a short timeframe. Kind regards, Peter"	
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>	
	No	
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.	
	No	
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 very visible from local roads and generates an open and pleasant entrance to the residential streets and a play area at the end of Triscombe Way.	
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	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u> ” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	N/A	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	N/A	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	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>	
	A small junior football pitch is available at the Triscombe Way Park part of the site	



9.3	<p>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></p>	
	The public has access to the whole site.	
9.4	<p>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>	
	The site is used for dog walking, general play, picnicking, use of children's play area, summer bbqs.	
10	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	<p>Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i></p>	
	The site lies adjacent to Henley and Solway Roads and the fields to the west of the town. It provides openness and walking routes to the countryside within a busy residential area.	
10.3	<p>Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i></p>	
	No	
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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
11.2	<p>Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i></p>	
	Running adjacent to the fields to the west of Cheltenham the site is home to a wide diversity of wildlife and provides a corridor for plants and animals which links Cheltenham to the countryside and on into the town via Springfield Park. It offers moderate wildlife corridor opportunities as defined by the Middelmarsh Environment survey (see below)	


		
11.3	<p>Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i></p>	
	The hedgerow provides a habitat for birds, small mammals and local flora.	
11.4	<p>What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i></p>	
	N/A	
11.5	<p>Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	No	

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 10

Former Christ College playing field

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Former Christ College Playing Field	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Hesters Way Partnership	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	

	Diocese of Clifton	
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, via this application process	
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>	
	Central to the communities of Arle and Rowanfield. A population of 2,500 people.	
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	
	1.5 hectares	
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>	

	No	
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>	
	Yes, as the former Christ College School playing field the site has a long history in Hesters Way.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes, the site lies within a short walk of houses in the Rowanfield and Arle estates. If opened up it would provide a through route from on foot and by bike from the Chelt Walk Park via Arle Road and Alstone Lane and provide additional facilities for the Sea Cadets, Army Cadets and St Georges Centre all located within easy walking distance of the field.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is at the heart of the local community of Rowanfield and Arle affording access from 2 areas offering social interaction across communities	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	Yes the site is currently inaccessible.	
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>	
	No parish council	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Local residents when interviewed commented as follows;	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Should remain as a playing field / green space with public access. Understood that was to be the case <u>as part of the planning agreement for Saxon Quarter.</u></i> • <i>A lot of houses round here don't have gardens so it's nice to see some green space and wildlife</i> • <i>A park would be great for local residents.</i> • <i>Would like to keep it as a green space, there is too much concrete everywhere.</i> • <i>For bees, allotments, please keep as a green space.</i> • <i>I would like to see this space protected from development.</i> • <i>Good for wildlife, habitats should be kept for animals.</i> • <i>It should be used as a place for children to play.</i> <p>GRCC has had sight of these comments, verified with resident signatures</p>	
6.3	<p>Evidence of support from community leaders e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc. Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</p>	
	<p>Cllr Jeffries</p> <p>"I give my full support of the local green space proposals you will be submitting. Having spoken to CBC officers there will be a further opportunity for residents to express support or otherwise when the overarching collated documents go out for public consultation. Finally please except my thanks on behalf of residents and myself for a job well done in such a short timeframe. Kind regards, Peter"</p>	
6.4	<p>Evidence of support from other groups e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</p>	
	<p>St Georges School commented;</p> <p><i>As a school we would like to use the field for PE etc.</i></p>	
7	<p>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></p>	
7.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	<p>No</p>	
7.2	<p>Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.</p>	
7.3	<p>Site visibility</p>	

	<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 generally visible from Arle Road	
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?	
	Formerly the playing fields of Christ College School	
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	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	N/A	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	N/A	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town?	

	<i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	Yes, as the former Christ College School playing field the site has a long history in Hesters Way	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	The public does not currently have access to the site but are keen that it should remain as an open green space with local amenity status.	
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>	
	The site is would be used for dog walking, games pitches general play, picnicking and summer bbqs, and could be the site of a children’s play area, allotment or orchard. The site has offers an opportunity for local sports, a local allotment and orchard through routes and usage by the Sea Cadets, Army Cadets and St Georges Centre all located within easy walking distance of the field.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	

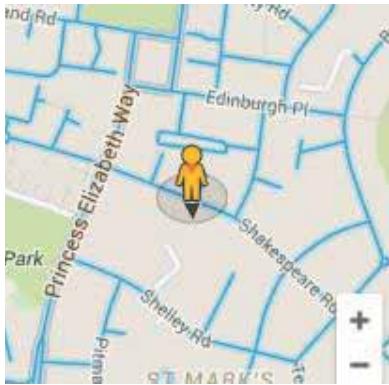

10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	The site lies between two residential roads and behind local gardens and the St Georges Centre and Sea Cadet Centre and is a peaceful haven within a busy residential area.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
	No, but the biodiversity study by Middlemarch Environment did not include the site in its submissions.	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
	No but the biodiversity study by Middlemarch Environment did not include the site in its submissions.	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
	N/A	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	



12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	No	

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 11

Former Monkscroft School Field

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Former Monkscroft Playing Field	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i> <i>Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Hesters Way Partnership	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Gloucestershire County Council	
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, via this application process	
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>	
	<p>Central to the communities of St Marks and Hesters Way, a population of 3,000 people. More specifically, this space serves ‘the poets’ area, an estimated population of 500-600 people. The people who live in these houses are largely elderly and part of a well-established community.</p> <p>However, the site could also serve the wider community connecting west Cheltenham to the town as part of a green walk through (see points made in 6.2)</p>	
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	
	3 hectares?	

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>	
	No – in comparison to the large KGV and Hesters Way Park, this space is very local and cosy in feel and scale.	
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>	
	Yes. The former Monkscroft School playing field the site has a long history in Hesters Way, contributing to the character of the area: Monkscroft school was built as a part of the estate development in the 1950s and therefore has been a green space within the community since its inception, by design. Therefore socially and physically this space has always been an integral part of the local area since it was created.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes, the site lies within a short walk of 200 flats on Princess Elizabeth Way and houses in the St Marks estate. Access to Hesters Way Park is restricted by the very busy Princess Elizabeth Way KGV is used for formal sports by pitch hire; is large and open and not terribly personal or local in feel. There is a need for a space in this area that local people can feel comfortable in. Also the location of this site would allow access to a green space for the largely elderly nearby residents, who would not easily make the journey to the large and sporting KGV. One resident described how the space used to be used by residents when it was open with the school, of which they have been deprived of upon its closure.	
5	Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves” Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
5.1	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	(See 1.1) The site is at the heart of the local community of St Marks and Hesters Way affording access from 2 areas offering social	

	interaction across communities. More specifically, this space serves 'The poets' area with an estimated population of 500-600 people, all within a 2 minute walk of the site.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	The site is not accessible at all as it is closed off to the public however if this were lifted, there would be no barriers of access.	
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>	
	No parish council	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	<p>Door knocking interviews with residents were conducted over two days in January. I've lived here 20 years and love seeing the kids <i>playing on the green</i>. <i>I signed a petition before the care home was built.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>It would be great to use the space for family picnics and games.</i> <i>It would be much appreciated as a playing field for local people.</i> <i>Please protect as a green space, perhaps for allotments or for the elderly.</i> <i>Please protect it as a green oasis.</i> <i>I like looking out of my window and looking at grass.</i> <i>Why not open it up for the kids to play on.</i> <i>It could be used as a place where locals can get together for bbq's, rounders etc. (as used to happen). I would like to gain access to it and help clear it up to make a usable space, including a kids playing area.</i> <p>The residents also referred to a consultation which GCC conducted when the care home was built but we do not have access to this data.</p> <p><i>GRCC has had sight of these comments, verified with resident signatures</i></p>	
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>	
	Councillors were canvassed for their opinions.	
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>	
	Monkscroft Care Home <i>“Having recently arrived here we would be keen to support community usage of the green space and some of our residents have expressed an interest in walking and spending time there”</i>	
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES – relative beauty compared to the surrounding built up estates	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	The site has beautiful trees, and has potential for great landscaping.	
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 visible from Shakespeare and Shelley Roads and is overlooked by the care home.	
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> Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;	
	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	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable)	

	<i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	<p>Yes The original school was built as a part of the estate development in the 1950s and therefore has been a green space within the community since its inception, by design. Therefore socially and physically this space has always been an integral part of the local area'</p> <p>A History of Hesters Way Vol 1 discusses Monkscroft Junior School:</p> <p>"MONKSCROFT JUNIOR SCHOOL</p> <p>The first primary school to be built on the estate was Monkscroft Junior School which opened in 1954 under the headship of Miss P.N. Chandler. The school on Shelley Road is set in a landscaped area and gives a pleasant background for the pupils to work in. Over the years it has been extended and recently changed its logo but is proud of its traditions.</p>	
8.2	<p>Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i></p>	
	N/A	
8.3	<p>Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i></p>	
	N/A	
8.4	<p>Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i></p>	
	Yes – as the site was the formerly the grounds of Monkscroft School which was established to serve the community created by the poets development. The development spreading westward in Cheltenham is part of the post war development of the town.	
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 this is old school playing field, this site previously been used for sports and games and could support this in the future easily.	
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>	
	The public does not currently have access to the site but are keen that it should remain as an open green space with local green space status and we would wish for this to also achieve local amenity status with public access.	
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>	
	The site is would be used for dog walking, games pitches general play, picnicking and summer bbqs, and could be the site of a children's play area, allotment or orchard	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES - relatively	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	The site lies between two residential roads and behind local gardens and the new Monkscroft care home and is a peaceful haven within a busy residential area.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	



11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	No, but the biodiversity study by Middlemarch Environment did not include the site in its submissions.	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	<p>It is significant because it has been closed off and made unavailable to those who live in the area and would wish to use it. The lack of accessibility has made the site even more significant to residents by virtue of their exclusion from a recreational green space within the residential area. Upon the closure of the site, access to green space in the area has been reduced.</p> <p>Additionally, if opened up it would provide a through route from on foot and by bike from south St Marks and West Cheltenham, to the Coronation Square shopping centre and local facilities eg library and potentially linking up western Cheltenham to KGV and then on into town.</p>	

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 12

Hesters Way Community Centre

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	St Marks and Hesters Way Community Centre grounds	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Hesters Way Partnership	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Cheltenham Borough Council	
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, via this application process	
1.6	Photographs of site	

	 	
1.7	<p>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></p>	
	<p>Central to the communities of St Marks and Hesters Way. A population of 3,000 people. More specifically, the residents of 200 flats on Princess Elizabeth Way and houses in the St Marks estate streets use this space informally.</p> <p>The Hesters Way community centre based at the site also serves and attract people from the wider community. It is used by the 41st Cheltenham Scouts for their scout hut, activities and allotments. Usage is also made by the Community Association for summer events and as a garden bar. The community also use the field as part of local events held on the premises.</p>	
2	Planning History	
2.1	<p>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</p>	
	No	
2.2	<p>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</p>	
	No	
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	

	2 hectares	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	Yes, the site has a long history in Hesters Way at the grounds of the former US Army base from WW2 and was handed over to the community in the early 50s, and used as a community centre ever since.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes. Access to Fishy park on the other side of Princess Elizabeth Way is restricted by the busy road. KGV is the other nearest green space, which is accessible but used for formal sports. This space is more local in scale to the community and the use of the community centre means that green space for activities is needed.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	New housing around Coronation Square and the flats on Brooklyn road. Due to the fact that it is run by the Hesters Way and St Marks Community Association which hosts numerous events it attracts people from all over the west of Cheltenham.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No – however the houses near Monkscroft would have to walk around to access the site making it less easily accessible to this entrance side.	

	Small barriers to physical access are often overcome by locals in their need for access to green space on their doorstep.	
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>	
	No parish council	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Local residents when interviewed commented as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The space is well used for sports.</i> • <i>I would like to see it used for the children as a park/play area.</i> • <i>It is currently being used by youngsters as a sports field, should remain as such.</i> • <i>Used as a recreation ground. Could be used by the scouts and as an allotment.</i> <p>GRCC has had sight of these comments, verified with resident signatures</p>	
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>	
	Support from Cllr Jeffries: <i>“I give my full support of the local green space proposals you will be submitting. Having spoken to CBC officers there will be a further opportunity for residents to express support or otherwise when the overarching collated documents go out for public consultation. Finally please accept my thanks on behalf of residents and myself for a job well done in such a short timeframe. Kind regards, Peter”</i>	
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>	
	St Marks and Hesters Way Community Association Vice Chair Brian Cassin; <i>“The land at the back of the building has been used for many years for community events including the Jubilee celebrations and large community events. We have allotments which are worked by the probation service and they supply vegetables for the weekly lunch club for local residents”</i> Scout Leader, Lin Bourne;	

	"The cubs and scouts in our group love to use the grass behind our hut and we do lots of badge activities there plus build our rope bridge and use the expedition tents. It's an invaluable space for us"	
7	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>," (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	No	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	No	
7.3	Site visibility 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?	
	The site is visible from Brooklyn Road	
7.4	Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;	
	No	
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? e.g. Cotswolds AONB landscape character assessment. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England; Cotswolds Conservation Board	
	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? e.g. is the site mentioned in a well-known poem or shown in a famous painting?	
	No	
8	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>" (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes, the site has a long history in Hesters Way at the grounds of the former US Army base from WW2 and was Handed over to the	

	community in the early 50s, and used as a community centre ever since.	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	N/A	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	N/A	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	The public does not currently have full access (as the site is privately managed by the community association) but are keen that it should remain as an open green space with local amenity status, and local green space designation.	
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>	
	The site has been used since the post war period by the 41 st Cheltenham Scouts for their scout hut, activities and allotments. Usage is also made by the Community Association for summer events and as a garden bar. The community also use the field as part of local events held on the premises. Unofficial usage by local young people for sports dog walking and unofficial allotments, demonstrates the use that local people feel and the demand for green space nearby.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	The site lies between a residential road and behind local gardens and is a peaceful haven within a busy residential area.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	No but the biodiversity study by Middlemarch Environment did not include the site in its submissions.	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	


11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	No	


Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 13

Lynworth Green

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Site known locally as Lynworth Green and is the triangle of land bordered by Lynworth Place on 2 sides and Mendip Road on the third side.	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i> <i>Please indicate the scale.</i>	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Oakley Regeneration Partnership	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Not known	

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)	
	See above	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	 <p>Aerial Photos from Google Images</p>	

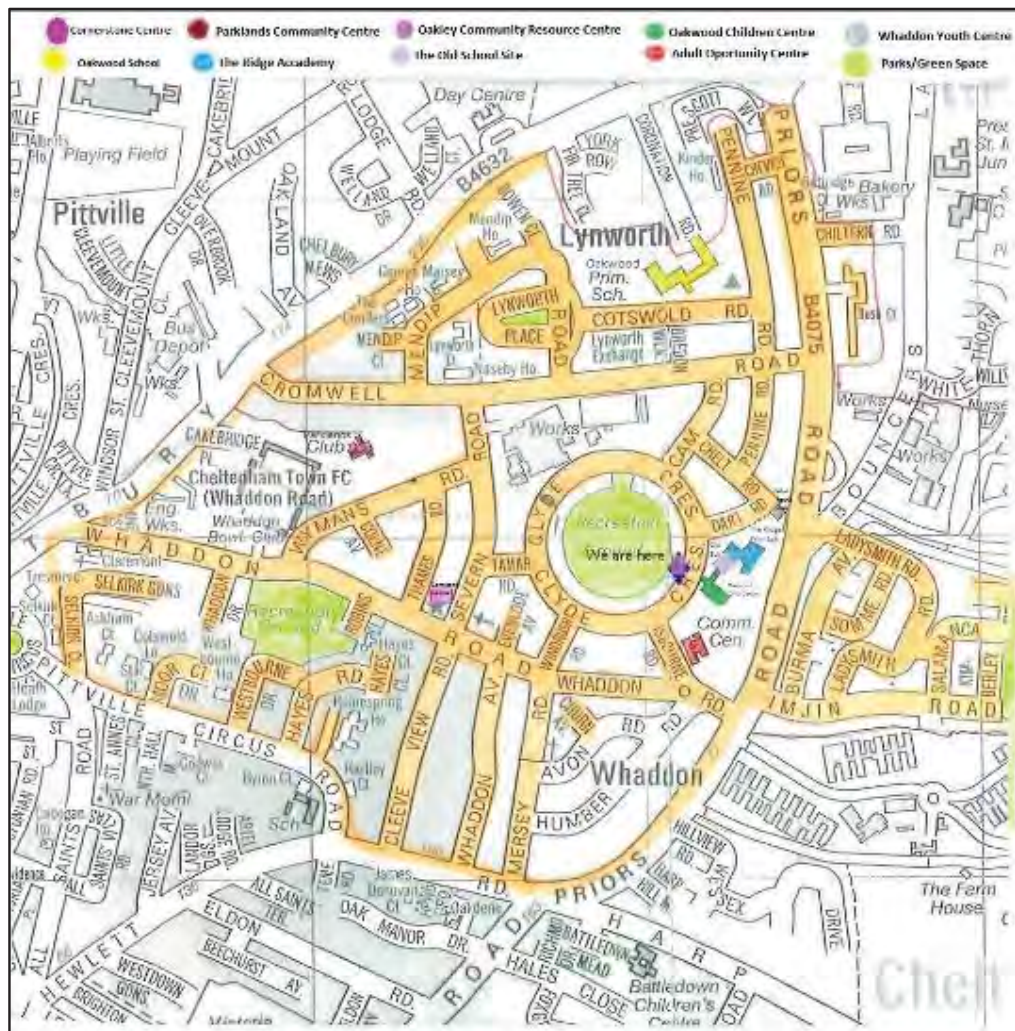
	 <p>Recent photo showing view of the green taken from outside the shops in Lynworth Exchange on Mendip Road</p>	
1.7	<p>Community served by the potential Local Green Space</p> <p><i>i.e. does the site serve the whole village/town or a particular geographic area or group of people?</i></p>	
	<p>The site will be used most frequently by residents living in the Lynworth area of the ward but because of the close proximity of the local primary school (Oakwood School on Cotswold Road which is off Mendip Road – approx. 3 minutes walk away) and a major employer in the area (Kohler Mira showers sited on Cromwell Road – approx. 3 minutes away) and the fact that there are several shops in Lynworth Exchange (the building facing the green) the footfall in this area is greatly increased and it is accessed by people from right across the ward or sometimes from further away.</p>	
2	<p>Planning History</p>	

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	
	Not as far as we are aware	
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	
	Not as far as we are aware	
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	
	The site is relatively small being 105 metres in length and 46 metres wide tapering down to 21 metres at its narrowest point at the other end of the green.	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space)</i> <i>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>	
	No see above 3.1	
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>	
	Physical It is in the centre of the Lynworth part of Oakley ward, easily reached by residents there but also easily reached by road or footpath from any part of the ward and is within easy walking distance for all residents in Oakley.	

	<p>Visual</p> <p>The green is part of a housing development from the 1940's/1950's and adds to the character and pleasant open aspect of that development where care has been taken to create an open environment with wide grass verges and green areas. It is the largest green area on the development and it the natural centre of the Lynworth housing estate as it was conceived by the developers being surrounded by housing with a row of shops at one end. It has the visual appearance and feel of a 'village green'. See Appendix 1 resident comments that it 'looks very attractive – like an old village' and that 'to build on it would make it overcrowded.'</p> <p>Social</p> <p>Regularly used by local residents those children play there and also used by dog walkers. The Green is in close proximity to the local primary school, Oakwood, so is a natural gathering point for children and families as they come and go and also has footfall from local residents coming and going from the shop, and employees on their to the nearby factory, Kohler Mira.</p>	
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>	
	<p>The green serves the community of Oakley, which is an area of multiple high deprivation with lower than average income, poorer health compared to other wards. Car ownership is lower compared to other parts of Cheltenham. Statistical evidence supporting this can be found from MAIDEN or the census. The health benefits of having easy access to green spaces are well known and if this space was lost some of the local residents would not be easily able to reach other open spaces such as Clyde Crescent Doorstep Green or Whaddon Recreation Park. This is of particular significance for the very young and the elderly in the area.</p> <p>There is sheltered housing at one end of the green with many of the flats facing out onto it and there are further sheltered schemes just a little further away on Mendip Road. See Appendix 4 – email from the Senior Neighbourhood Housing Officer, Cheltenham Borough Homes, supporting the protection of this green space because the elderly residents nearby would struggle to get to any other green space on the ward. Anecdotal evidence from Oakley Neighbourhood Project and Cheltenham Borough Homes, two organisations working in this area, suggests that the residents of these schemes are not able to attend events held in other parts of the ward such as the Oakley Community Resource Centre on the</p>	

	<p>edge of Clyde Crescent Doorstep Green unless transport is laid on for them. Removing this green space would greatly limit their access to a green space.</p> <p>For families with young children a safe local space where children can play is of great importance. See Appendix 4 where the Senior Housing Officer notes that ‘Families living close can allow their children to play on the green and be within eye sight and supervision.’ Families on their way to and from the shops or the school will make use of this space, but in addition, although it is not fenced off because the roads around it are quiet and relatively safe; many families will feel comfortable with their children meeting friends there and playing there. The successful open access play scheme which was run there for several years by Oakley Neighbourhood Project is evidence that families were, and still are, happy to allow their children to play on this green space. The positive impact on the development of primary age children of outdoor play and the benefit of socialising with their peers is well recognised.</p>	
5	<p>Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
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>	
	<p>The site is centrally located to the community it serves with housing around it and shops, a school and businesses nearby. See map in 5.2 to gain an impression of where it sits within the community.</p>	
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>	
	<p>A map of Oakley ward is below. The ward has Prestbury Road running along one of its boundaries and two other relatively busy roads dissect it: Priors Road which separates the estate of Priors from the rest of the ward while Whaddon Road runs</p>	

through the middle of the ward. The ward consists of three housing estates, each built as separate developments as the need for housing increased, namely Lynworth, Whaddon and Priors. Socially, each of the three estates has a separate entity and residents of each estate are likely to access activities, events and the amenities in their own area in preference to anything elsewhere on the ward although the ward is relatively small and most parts could be considered accessible to everyone living there. The exceptions to this are younger children (primary age and below) and the elderly who because of either their age or health are not physically able to access all parts of the ward. It should also be noted that the major roads on the estate form natural barriers. People using Lynworth Green will tend to either live very locally to it (not having to cross any of the roads named above) or will have another reason for coming into the Lynworth area (to access the shops, their place of employment or the school).



6	Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”	
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	<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>	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	<p>Residents' views on the green spaces in the area were sought by providing information on the spaces in the area at different points in the community (The Cornerstone Centre, Oakley Neighbourhood Project, Oakwood School and Cheltenham Borough Homes) and inviting residents to comment on the importance of the areas, usage and benefits. In addition, information was sent out in the local magazine, Oakley Live, inviting residents to ring with their comments and letters were delivered to the houses on Lynworth Place. Residents were also able to express their views at the Oakley Residents Association meeting.</p> <p>There were a couple of general comments at the meeting about the need for green space in a residential area:</p> <p>'Providing important green area in an area with lots of housing.'</p> <p>'This is a very built up and residential area – open space is needed to create a good balance'.</p> <p>In addition there were specific comments about Lynworth Green. A local resident commented that the green was important because it gave an open aspect to the area, was attractive and peaceful and tranquil as well as affording a nice view of the hills for local residents. He also felt it was used by birds when feeding (the resident recalled watching a flock of goldfinches there in the early morning).</p> <p>Another resident also commented that it made the area feel more open, was peaceful and tranquil and visually attractive.</p> <p><i>See Appendix 1. Comments from local residents</i></p> <p><i>See Appendix 2 Letter of support from Oakley Residents Association</i></p>	
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>	
	<p>Cllr Colin Hay wrote to express his support saying that ‘Lynworth Green is at the centre of the estate and provides a much valued open space ‘ and that ‘Oakley itself is an area of deprivation with poor health outcomes for residents, any diminishing of open green space would have a significant effect on health and wellbeing in the ward’. See Appendix 3 Letter of support from County Councillor Colin Hay</p> <p>Amanda Wragg, Trustee of ORP wrote ‘ Consultation with the public and other organisations has shown how much these green spaces are appreciated by the local population and how crucial they are to health and well-being and general quality of life. Local people value them highly.’</p> <p>See Appendix 5 Letter of support from Trustee of ORP</p>	
6.4	<p>Evidence of support from other groups</p> <p><i>e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</i></p>	
	There has been support from Cheltenham Borough Homes, those sheltered housing scheme overlooks the green space. See Appendix 4.	
7	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	

7.3	<p>Site visibility</p> <p><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></p>	
7.4	<p>Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations?</p> <p><i>e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area</i></p> <p><i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;</i></p>	
7.5	<p>Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents?</p> <p><i>e.g. Cotswolds AONB landscape character assessment. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England; Cotswolds Conservation Board</i></p>	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
7.7	<p>Is the site highlighted in literature or art?</p> <p><i>e.g. is the site mentioned in a well-known poem or shown in a famous painting?</i></p>	
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 ?	

	YES	
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>	
	The site is the central focus of the housing development started in the years after the second world war and finished in 1950, its presence adds to the character of this particular development.	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	No	
8.6	<p>Do any historic rituals take place on the site?</p> <p><i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i></p>	
	No	

9	<p>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)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
9.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
9.2	<p>Is the site used for playing sport?</p> <p><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></p> <p><i>Further information – Sport England</i></p>	
	Although not used for more formal sporting activities because its small size precludes this the site is well used by children playing ball games.	
9.3	<p>Are the public able to physically access the site?</p> <p><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></p> <p><i>Further information – Gloucestershire County Council</i></p>	
	There is good access to the site since it is reached easily by road or on foot and it is unfenced.	
9.4	<p>Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when?</p> <p><i>e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc</i></p>	
	See 9.2. The site has also been used by organisations to deliver play activities because of its central location in the Lynworth part of the estate.	
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>	

	<i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there are any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
	No but even a small green area such as this can help sustain and enrich urban wildlife particularly birdlife by providing a provide a source of food. See Appendices 1 and 2 where residents noted the use of the green area by house sparrows and goldfinches to feed.	

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>	
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>	
	Site used by birds see 11.2.	
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	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	It is the natural central focus point for that part of Oakley which is known as Lynworth see notes in section 3.3.	

Letters from residents

Dear Sirs,

I support in principal the green at Lymington Exchange, but lorries and cars outside the shop have churned up the small green outside the shop. The large green is used for ball games and is hit on but the top by the shop has been lower ever.

It would be good if some protection could be implemented and the parking in the very narrow road sorted out.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- "LYNWORTH GREEN"

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED]

Tel and/or email [REDACTED] Postcode [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	X	
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?	X	Hardly ever!
I walk around here with/without a dog	X	Flock of goldfinches (in early mornings) "toadstools" in claret, but little else
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓✓	
It has history! (please explain)	X	No!
It is attractive visually	✓	Nice view of hills for Lynw. Court residents.
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	
Potential for growing food there	✓	Could be!
Any other reason	✓	Develop it sensibly, and thus stop horrible devts.

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- Lynworth Green

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED] Postcode [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here		
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?		
I walk around here with/without a dog	✓	
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?		don't know.
It has history! (please explain)	✓	terminus of old train line I believe
It is attractive visually	✓	looks very attractive – like an old village
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	yes as little traffic there. Has a feeling of a safe space.
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	I think that to build on it would make it overcrowded.
Potential for growing food there	✓	could do
Any other reason		

Appendix 2

Dear Sir

The green spaces at Priors Sportsfield/ Priors fields and at Lynworth Place

I am a Trustee of the Oakley Residents Association and am writing on behalf of that Association following a discussion at our last meeting on the 15th January. The meeting wanted me to pass onto you their comments on the green spaces listed above.

The residents were concerned at the possible loss of any of the green spaces in this ward. Many residents in the ward are on low incomes and do not have cars so would not be able to easily access green spaces which are further away. It was noted that the development at Starveall Farm meant that the residents were already losing access to another green space which would have been accessible to some residents.

There were also a number of comments made about the two green spaces being considered under the local green space survey.

Lynworth Green

There was concern that development on this green area would close up that area, destroying what is currently a pleasant open aspect on that estate. It was noted that such spaces, even though small, help give a feeling of openness and calm to an area and that conversely the loss of such space could have a negative impact on people's mental health and wellbeing. There was discussion about the use of the green space by children and residents felt that the space was used by wildlife (notably birds – including house sparrows and goldfinches).

Priors Sportsfield and Priors fields

There were a number of concerns about whether any further development higher up might result in further flooding lower down the estate. In 2007 there was flooding on several roads including Clyde Crescent, Whaddon Road, Thames Road and Wymans Road due to the inability for rain water run-off from the escarpment to be absorbed during heavy rain fall. There has been work on the Priors estate during the last year to put in catchment basins and rain gardens to help absorb run off. Phase 2 to this work will start soon. You should note that there is already a development planned on the old GCHQ site adjacent to Priors Fields and that there is concern that this will reduce the ability of the rain water to be absorbed. Residents reported that after the rain in the last few days the Sports field and other fields were very waterlogged.

There was discussion about the need to preserve access to the countryside and an acknowledgement that at the moment there was a natural green corridor with the sports field leading onto the fields which in turn lead onto the area of AONB beyond. It was felt that this was one of the few points of ready access onto open countryside from the estate and was well used by residents including dog walkers. The benefits to children of experiencing play in the open countryside with the opportunities it brought for activities such as den making were pointed out.

The residents were also concerned to protect wildlife in the area which provides a range of habitats including grassland, a stream, ancient hedgerows, mature trees. Wildlife sighted up there include larks, red kites, cuckoos, roman snails, badgers, foxes, deer, hares and bats.

I hope that when a decision is made about which green spaces receive additional protection, the above comments will be taken into consideration and the area of Priors Sports Field and the fields beyond like be afforded some additional protection from further development.

Yours faithfully

Name supplied

Appendix 3

Dear Steve

Local Green Space application for the green at Lynworth Place

I wish to support the application for Local Green Space status for the green at Lynworth Place. I am currently the County Councillor for All Saints and Oakley and Borough Councillor for Oakley, over the years I have got to know the views of the residents who live close to the green and can say that over the 10 years I have represented the area local residents' views have remained consistently supportive of the green.

Designed and built in the late 50's and early 60's the estate has an open feel to it, with small greens and wide verges by the larger roads. Lynworth green is at the centre of the estate and provides a much valued open space. It is well recognised that such areas do much for people's health and wellbeing – especially as there are a number of blocks of flats nearby.

Oakley itself is an area of deprivation with poor health outcome for residents, any diminishing of open green space would have a significant effect of health and wellbeing in the ward.

Establishing this space as Local Green Space has my full support.

Regards

Colin Hay 12th January 2015

As the senior neighbourhood housing officer managing properties in the location of the above, I would support that this remains and becomes a protected green area for the following reasons.

- 1) It is close to a sheltered scheme accommodating elderly and disabled residents, who would struggle to get other green open spaces in the area and for some that face onto the green they would lose the visual appearance of the green.
- 2) Previous consultation regarding this green spaces, referencing adding play equipment or skate park on site received overwhelming negative response from those living close to and looking onto the green, many of which are owner occupiers.
- 3) Families living close can allow their children to play on the green and be within eye sight and supervision

Name and email address supplied

Appendix 5

Dear Mr Jordan

Oakley Green Spaces Protection

I am writing as a trustee of Oakley Regeneration Partnership with respect to the protection of green spaces in the local area, following our local public consultation. Whilst all the green areas in Oakley are important to residents, many are already well protected as parks and recreational areas. We particularly therefore want to request protection for two that appear less protected, these being the area of Priors Park and Fields and the area of Lynworth Green.

Between them these spaces serve to provide informal and formalised recreational space; are areas of either historical or wildlife interest; and, are easily accessible to the public. In the case of Priors Fields this area provides a route through to the open countryside, which is particularly important to local people, many of whom do not have their own transport. It also serves as a bio-corridor and borders an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and we believe is significant in terms of flood protection (indeed SuDS have been retro-fitted nearby on Priors Farm Estate and more building in the area would exacerbate surface run-off problems).

In the wake of the decision to build on Starvehall Farm, which was another such area that provided access to open space for Oakley residents, we feel that Priors Park and Fields should be protected from any development other than allotments. We also believe that Lynworth Green affords a quiet, 'village green' space which is part of the history of the way that the estate developed and that any building on it would create a sense of over-crowdedness. Consultation with the public and other organisations has shown how

much these green spaces are appreciated by the local population and how crucial they are to health and well-being and general quality of life. Local people value them highly.

We have submitted relevant evidence and ask that these areas are protected as green spaces for future generations to use.

Yours sincerely

Name supplied

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 14

Priors Fields

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	The site is known as Priors fields.	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	Priors Fields are the three fields that follow on from Priors Sports Field (which we understand is already protected under the 2006 plans). It is bounded by the cemetery on one side, Priors Sports Field on another, Battledown Park estate on the third side with Wymans brook forming a natural boundary (but falling within the green space), and, the AONB at the top of the fields in the foothill to the Cotswold hills edge.	✓
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Oakley Regeneration Partnership	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Believed to be Cheltenham Borough Council (please check)	
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)	
	See above	
1.6	Photographs of site	



Aerial view showing Priors Sportsfield (a) and the area known as Priors fields (b), (c) and (d)



View across the sports field towards Priors Field



View showing the edge of the grassland habitat, hedgerow and trees



View showing top of Priors field after rainfall

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>	
	Priors Sports field itself is well used for organised recreation – there are sports pitches and a children's play area. The fields beyond form part of a natural progression out into the open countryside and up to the AONB. They are well used for more informal pursuits and healthy activities such as dog walking; jogging; picnicking; walking; blackberrying; bird watching; children's play; sitting and as a viewpoint (particularly the top end which is raised and from where there is an open view across Cheltenham). It also provides access to the countryside	

	and hills with many paths. The area is very well used by sports players, walkers/dogwalkers and local families. The area is very much appreciated by local people from Oakley particularly as ward has low car ownership so not everyone can access the countryside easily but can appreciate being able to walk in open green spaces close to home. In addition, because it forms a natural green corridor out to the AONB it is also accessed by people from the rest of Cheltenham as a route out to the open countryside.	
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	
	No way of measuring area	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? (<i>Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space</i>) <i>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>	
	No the area is local in nature although it adjoins open countryside	
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 proposed site feels as if it is part of the local area because it is close to housing and shops. It is easily accessible to the local community by roads and paths. It provides an open viewpoint and sense of space (‘one resident has commented that the area is ‘very beautiful’); and it joins the AONB to the town. See photos in 1.6	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	<p>The green serves the community of Oakley, which is an area of multiple high deprivation with lower than average income, poorer health compared to other wards. Car ownership is lower compared to other parts of Cheltenham. Statistical evidence supporting this can be found from MAIDEN or the census. The health benefits of having easy access to green spaces are well known and if this space was lost some of the local residents would not be easily able to reach open countryside. Removing this green space would greatly limit their access to that countryside.</p> <p>For families with young children a safe local space where children can play is of great importance. There are play opportunities elsewhere on the ward but it is significant that for some families this will be their only access to open countryside. The positive impact on the development of children of outdoor play and the benefit of socialising with their peers is well recognised. However, the particular opportunities afforded to children when they play in an area where they are in the words of ecologist, Robert Pyle, ‘free to climb trees, muck about, catch things, and get wet’ are not found in local parks and these opportunities, such as den making, ‘support the development of creativity and problem solving’ (Kellert 2005).</p>	

	<p>Finally, while we recognise that this may fall outside the selection criteria for designation as a green space, we must point out that the area is also important in terms of flood risk management because, owing to the geology of the Cotswold limestone escarpment, water emerges under the limestone when it percolates down to the impermeable clay layer which causes a number of intermittent streams with variable volume to drain down towards Oakley ward. In 2007 there was flooding in Whaddon partly as a result of the geology. As part of the old GCHQ site has already been developed there is concern from residents that more development on the edge of the hill would be a very bad decision. In fact, adjacent to these fields (in Priors estate) SUDS have been recently built to help mitigate flooding. Further development would lead to increased surface run-off and increase the potential for flooding.</p>	
5	<p>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></p>	
5.1	<p>How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i></p>	
	<p>The site is within 2km of Oakley ward and is particularly well used by residents on Priors estate. See map of area showing proximity to the Priors estate.</p>	
5.2	<p>Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i></p>	
	<p>There is a main road (Priors Road) between this area and the majority of Oakley but there are two level crossings near the shops (Simpsons Fish & Chips) and Sainsbury's which mean that it is safely accessed.</p>	
6	<p>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></p>	
6.1	<p>Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i></p>	
		✓
6.2	<p>Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i></p>	
	<p>Residents' views on the green spaces in the area were sought by providing information on the spaces in the area at different points in the community (The Cornerstone Centre, Oakley Neighbourhood Project, Oakwood School and Cheltenham Borough Homes) and inviting residents to comment on the importance of the areas, usage and benefits. At the Oakley Residents Association meeting in January there were a couple of general comments about the need for green space in a residential area: ‘Providing important green area in an area with lots of housing.’ ‘This is a very built up and residential area – open space is needed to create a good balance’. In addition there were specific comments about Priors Fields, e.g. ‘it is one of the main attractions about living in this area...it is a huge asset to the area’; and, ‘it is a peaceful area and a quick place to visit to feel one is out in the countryside’. IN terms of wildlife value one local resident who lives in Priors Farm has seen ‘butterflies, hares, badgers, foxes, squirrels’. Another has enjoyed hearing a cuckoo at the top of the field. One resident states that it is</p>	✓

	<p>'essential' to him to 'get away from the bustle and claustrophobia of town streets, traffic and work'.</p> <p>See Appendix 1 letters and comments from residents</p>	
6.3	<p>Evidence of support from community leaders e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc. Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</p>	
	<p>"The Fields in question are extensively used to walk and exercise dogs, as well as being some open countryside for children to play in and be adventurous in, which is just very different from parks. They provide an important 'green corridor' by which local people can access the open countryside of the AONB."</p> <p>See Appendix 2 Letter of support from County Councillor Colin Hay</p>	✓
6.4	<p>Evidence of support from other groups e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</p>	
	<p>The issue of green spaces in Oakley has been discussed by the Oakley Residents Association and a letter of support is attached. (See appendices 2 and 4).</p>	✓
7	<p>Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty," (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</p>	
7.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	<p>YES</p>	
7.2	<p>Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.</p>	
	<p>Written comments from the community consultation exercise include the use of the words 'it is beautiful'. Since it borders the AONB the views from the fields towards the hills would be classed as beautiful by very definition. See comments from residents in Appendix 1</p>	✓
7.3	<p>Site visibility 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?</p>	
	<p>It is easy to see the site from further up the hill and the nearby roads and Battledown Park and Priors Farm estates. There are long distance views of the site from above.</p>	
7.4	<p>Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;</p>	
	<p>The area is adjacent to an AONB and is part of the natural progression from the sports field to the AONB beyond</p>	
7.5	<p>Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? e.g. Cotswolds AONB landscape character assessment. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England; Cotswolds Conservation Board</p>	
	<p>Not as far as we know.</p>	
7.6	<p>Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?</p>	
	<p>Yes there is a manor house/retreat centre above it on the hillside. It also borders an area of woodland.</p>	

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>	
	Not as far as we know.	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes, in that families have lived in this area for generations and when children play up there they are playing in an area used by their parents and even their grandparents.	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	See 7.6 and 8.1 above. We are not aware that the area is registered anywhere.	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	Yes there are old hedgerows and trees along the site boundaries and a stream. The trees support important wildlife and species that are protected in the county's Biodiversity Action Plan. Examples include the cuckoo, house sparrows, starlings and hares.	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	Yes because it has long been an area used for sports (since 1940s) since the development of housing in the Oakley ward and therefore is well known and used by local residents. It has historical associations for many people who played there as children and now their grandchildren play there.	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	Don't know	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
	Don't know	
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>	
	Yes,, it is used for walking, jogging/running and other forms of healthy outdoor activity.	
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?</i>	

	Is there good disabled access to the site? (A site can still be designated even if there is no public access.) Further information – Gloucestershire County Council	
	There is good access to the site since it is reached easily by road or on foot and it is unfenced. There are public rights of way alongside the site and going out of it up to the hill and over to Prestbury. There is a tarmacked path alongside the playing field which is wheel chair accessible.	
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>	
	The site is very well used for dog walking and play e.g. forms of outdoor play that would not be possible in a park such as den making and playing in trees and hedgerows. It has been used for decades for this purpose. It is used informally for ball games and other children's play, and there is an unfenced play area. Please refer to letters supplied by residents (see Appendix 1), e.g. 'the park is always in use in one way or another when I am strolling around it – people playing ball games, families walking, wildlife enthusiasts, blackberry pickers(in the Autumn) kids and families in the play area, pensioners stretching their legs. Same goes for the fields – every few minutes you see a dogwalker or jogger looking relaxed and enjoying the countryside'. Another resident wrote that 'it is a lovely place to fly kites'. And another mentions that 'it is a great place for taking photographs of wildlife'. This underlines the point that the area connects local residents with nature.	✓
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	The area is very tranquil as you can get right away from roads and it is bordered on one side by the AONB / open countryside. It also has the cemetery along one edge which is another peaceful area. One resident has written that it is 'very peaceful', another that he goes there 'to get away from the hustle and bustle of town life'. An e-mail from the resident to the local councillor states that 'it is a peaceful area and a quick place to visit to feel one is out in the countryside'. (see Appendix 1).	✓
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	Not sure	
11	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) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
	It is not believed that there is formal designation in place but see 11.3 and 11.4 for evidence of wildlife diversity	

11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
	There are hedgerows with hedgerow trees, streams, stream banks, grassland and woodland very close by. The following species have been mentioned by residents in the Residents Association meeting held on 15/01/15, and on consultation forms: hares; deer; badgers; foxes; sparrows; cuckoos (Gloucestershire BAP priority species); birds of prey; bats; roman snails; wood pigeons; skylarks higher up the hill; squirrels. The area falls under the category of 'Large site with low/moderate existing biodiversity value and with moderate/high potential biodiversity OR small site with moderate existing biodiversity value on Cheltenham Borough Council's Greenspace Strategy Biodiversity Quality map'. This is Category B+ which is the second highest priority for biodiversity significance and therefore should be protected.	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
	Likely to have various water species that live in streams and stream banks as well as many types of bird and butterflies.	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	Don't know	
12	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>"; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	It helps with water retention and lowering surface run-off. The adjacent area has been developed for housing (Battledown Park) which causes higher run-off because of increase in areas covered by concrete, tarmac and roofs. In fact, SuDS have been put into the area below the fields only last year which emphasises the fact that there are already drainage problems which should not be exacerbated. A number of residents in the area experienced flooding in 2007 and every effort should be made to minimize the risk of a reoccurrence. Recently, there have been discussions about establishing allotments at the beginning of the fields. Although this would mean the loss of some of the open countryside; the green corridor to the AONB would still exist, the capacity for water retention would not be diminished and there would be a positive financial and the health implications to those who participate in an allotment scheme.	

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Piers Park & fields to protect it as a green space. I go there at least every fortnight to walk and feel that I am out of the urban area and am in the countryside. This is very important to me because I do not have a car so it is harder for me to get out of Chatterham.

It is a great viewpoint and I have seen many brilliant sunsets from there, plus enjoyed seeing a heavy wildlife (e.g. a cuckoo). It is tranquil and gives me a feeling of a sense of space.

I use the area for walking and as a route up to Cleeve Hill. There is a good network of paths that link the area to the hilltop. I always see many people walking dogs, children using the play area and in the summer people picnicking. Very much adds to my quality of life & well-being.
Yours sincerely, [REDACTED]

To whom it may Concern,

I am writing in support of keeping Priors park & field a green space.

I often walk through these areas to get away from the hustle & bustle of town life; It is one of the main attractions of living in this area.

The park is always in use one way or the other when I am strolling around it - people playing ball games, families walking, wildlife enthusiasts, blackberry pickers (in the autumn) ~~kids~~ kids + families in the play area, pensioners stretching their legs. Some go for the fields, every few minutes you will pass a dog walker or jogger, looking relaxed and just enjoying the countryside.

If you were to ask all around the surrounding area, I'm sure many would agree! It's a huge asset to the area and it would be a real shame to see it go.

yours sincerely,

Oakley: Fields beyond the playing fields.

I would hate those fields to be built on. It is an area for walking and wild life. I walk there from time to time and a good place for dog walking too.

It is a peaceful area and a quick place to visit to feel one is out in the countryside.

I would not be against its potential as an allotment as long as there is space for walking.

Best wishes
Josie

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- 10 - Priors fields

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	✓	I walk the fields often, essential to 'get away' from urban landscape
It is used for sport - what sport and who by?	✓	Lots of Joggers around. Further up hill I see tennis - tennis ^{beach} & para remote control aeroplane club
I walk around here with/without a dog	✓	
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	Cuckoo, birds of prey (various), fox, blackberries
It has history! (please explain)	-	probably - certainly geog. and geology? not sure though....
It is attractive visually	✓	Especially in summer / spring, early morning, but all year
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	as mentioned before, essential to 'get away' from bustle and claustrophobia of town streets / traffic / work
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	One of the ^{main} reasons this area is nice to live in
Potential for growing food there	✓	The ground seems well drained and fertile + allotments are don't obstruct wildlife + scenery (as long as people don't use pesticides - they should be banned!)
Any other reason		

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- 11 - Priors fields

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here		
It is used for sport - what sport and who by?	✓	Football
I walk around here with/without a dog	✓	
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	5. Sparrows, 3. Goldfinches, 4. Robins, 5. Thrushes
It has history! (please explain)	✓	3. The location of fields has been here since 18th century
It is attractive visually	✓	3. The trees
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views		
Potential for growing food there		
Any other reason		1. A great source of future generations

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space: PRIORS FIELDS

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is used for sport - what sport and who by?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FOOTBALL, CRICKET
I walk around here with/without a dog	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is peaceful/tranquil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Potential for growing food there		
Any other reason		TO MANY OF THESE SPACES ARE BEING SOLD OFF, MONEY RULES OK!!

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space: PELURS ESTATE "SPORTS" FIELD

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED]

Tel and/or email: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is used for sport - what sport and who by?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
I walk around here with/without a dog	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sono walked Dill here frequently.
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A really ace blackberry bush (shar't tell you which one) - Nice & amsons (ditto)
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is peaceful/tranquil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Potential for growing food there		Not if used as soccer pitches
Any other reason		

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- PRIOR Acre

Your Details (optional) Name [REDACTED]

Tel and/or email [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	✓	Lowly View Peaceful
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?	✓	my Grand children play here
I walk around here with/without a dog	✓	football youngsters
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	always Pick up poo.
It has history/ (please explain)	✓	Very Important for wildlife
It is attractive visually	✓	The White house always nice view.
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	Walks up the hills
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	Very beautiful -
Potential for growing food there	✓	calm
Any other reason	✓	Please don't spoil our Lowly View & walks
		we all want to keep our green areas

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- Fields at top of Prior's Farm Estate

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED]

Tel and/or email [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here		
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?		
I walk around here with/without a dog	✓	
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	Butterflies, hares, badgers, foxes, Squirrels etc
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually	✓	
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	
Potential for growing food there		Possibly? We really do need some more allotments in Cheltenham!
Any other reason		

Please return to: Cllr Rowena Hay, 12 York Street, Cheltenham, GL52 2JT
or Liberal Democrats, Freepost SWC 0744, 16 Hewlett Road, Cheltenham GL52 6ZZ

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- Priors Farm

Your Details (optional) Name [REDACTED]

Tel and/or "

ema [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here		
It is used for sport - what sport and who by?	✓	Foot ball / Jogging by Residents local Teams
I walk around here with/without a dog		
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	Badgers, Foxes, Birds ie Kites, kestrels, owls owls
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually	✓	Yes lots of visitors have said how beautiful it is
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	It is set away from the main Rd and is great for peace
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	It is a beautiful view for Residents
Potential for growing food there	✓	Could have allotments there
Any other reason	✓	Great place for taking photos of the natural wild life

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- Priors Farm

Your Details (optional) Name [REDACTED]

Tel and/or

email [REDACTED]

Postcode [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	its a lovely place to fly kites
It is used for sport - what sport and who by?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Football local Teams
I walk around here with/without a dog	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bodgers, Foxes, Birds, Great place to be
It has history! (please explain)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	it has been a focal point since I was a child, and it looks so lovely
It is attractive visually	<input type="checkbox"/>	yes Beautiful View
It is peaceful/tranquil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	yes very peaceful
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Great open Space
Potential for growing food there	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Any other reason	<input type="checkbox"/>	

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:-

LAN gaming group
Priors Park - 9

Your Details (optional) Name:

Postcode

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	✓	
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?	✓	football, rugby
I walk around here with/without a dog	X	
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	bushes, trees, grass, flowers etc
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually	✓	
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	most of the time
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views		
Potential for growing food there	✓ X	no, too busy
Any other reason		

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:-

LAN gaming group
Priors Park

Your Details (optional) Name:

Postcode

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	✓	
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?	✓	football, rugby
I walk around here with/without a dog	X	don't have a dog
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	bushes, trees, grass, flowers
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually		
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	
Potential for growing food there	✓	
Any other reason		

This green space is important because.....

LAN gaming group

Your Details (optional)

Name of green space: Q
code _____

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is used for sport -what sport and who by?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	football + Rugby
I walk around here with/without a dog	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A variety of of trees and plants, to the side.
It has history! (please explain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
It is attractive visually	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It is peaceful/tranquil	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	large field
Potential for growing food there	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Any other reason	<input type="checkbox"/>	

This green space is important because.....

Name of green space: Priory Fields 10

Your Details (optional) Name

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here		
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?		
I walk around here with/without a dog	✓	I very much enjoy the feeling of being able to get out of the urban area and be in the countryside with trees about 10 minute walk. I especially value this space because I don't have a car.
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	heard a cuckoo here June 2014. lots of other birds blackberry picking
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually	✓	
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	
Potential for growing food there	✓	
Any other reason		Probably important for ensuring there watercocks into area following 2007 floods

COULD NOT MAKE MEETING HAVE BEEN ILL
I HAVE BEEN TO THESE MEETING BEFORE, DO NOT
MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE
This green space is important because.....

Name of green space:- PRIORS ESTATE FIELDS.

Your Details (optional) Name: [REDACTED]

Tel and email [REDACTED] Pos [REDACTED]

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here GRANDCHILDREN	✓	ITS NICE TO SEE PARENTS PLAYING FOOTBALL WITH THEIR CHILDREN OR CRICKET ECT.
It is used for sport - what sport and who by?	✓	FOOTBALL YOUNG BOYS KITES. RUNNING.
I walk around here with/without a dog.	✓	ITS NICE JUST TO WANDER WHEN ELDERLY AND DO NOT DRIVE
It is important for wildlife - which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	I HAVE BEEN LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE HAD FOX'S A BADGER VISIT MY FRONT GARDEN FRIGHTENED TO DEATH IN CASE THEY GOT KILLED AND A DEER
It has history! (please explain)		THERE IS A WONDERFULL VARIETY OF TREES, WHICH MEANS BIRDS RS WELL (I HAVE BIRD FEEDERS).
It is attractive visually	✓	ITS BEAUTIFUL TO WATCH THE MOON RISE OVER THE HILLS AND RAINCLOUDS
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	AT THE MOMENT (WE HAVE ROAD NOTICES) BUT O.K NOW
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	FOR HOW LONG I DO NOT KNOW AS LONG AS MANY TALKS, WE DO NOT COUNT. I HAD VIEWS OF THE HILL AT THE BACK TILL YARD BOUILT HIGH FLATS
Potential for growing food there	✓	BETTER IDEAS THAN HOUSES. I DO NOT COUNT I AM OLD BUT THINKING OF MY GRANDCHILDREN
Any other reason	✓	USE BROWN FILL SITE'S INSTEAD OF CONCRETING EVERYWHERE

AND DID THOSE FEET IN ANCIENT TIMES WALK OVER ENGLAND'S GREEN & PLEASANT LAND

Please return to: Cllr Rowena Hay, 12 York Street, Cheltenham, GL52 2JT

Reason	Tick (as appropriate)	Comments
My children play here/ I play here	✓	GRANCHILD PLAYS THERE. AND MY CHILDREN BEFORE HIM
It is used for sport –what sport and who by?		
I walk around here with/without a dog	✓	ADDS TO SENSE OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT TO MEET OTHER WALKERS / DOG OWNERS
It is important for wildlife – which animals/plants/trees have you seen?	✓	CUCKOOS / ROBINS / ADGES BLACKBERRY BUSHES ALL AND WILDLIFE
It has history! (please explain)		
It is attractive visually	✓	
It is peaceful/tranquil	✓	
It makes the area feel open/gives sense of space/good views	✓	
Potential for growing food there	✓	
Any other reason		

Dear Sir

The green spaces at Priors Sportsfield/ Priors fields and at Lynworth Place

I am a Trustee of the Oakley Residents Association and am writing on behalf of that Association following a discussion at our last meeting on the 15th January. The meeting wanted me to pass onto you their comments on the green spaces listed above.

The residents were concerned at the possible loss of any of the green spaces in this ward. Many residents in the ward are on low incomes and do not have cars so would not be able to easily access green spaces which are further away. It was noted that the development at Starveall Farm meant that the residents were already losing access to another green space which would have been accessible to some residents.

There were also a number of comments made about the two green spaces being considered under the local green space survey.

Lynworth Green

There was concern that development on this green area would close up that area, destroying what is currently a pleasant open aspect on that estate. It was noted that such spaces, even though small, help give a feeling of openness and calm to an area and that conversely the loss of such space could have a negative impact on people's mental health and wellbeing. There was discussion about the use of the green space by children and residents felt that the space was used by wildlife (notably birds – including house sparrows and goldfinches).

Priors Sportsfield and Priors fields

There were a number of concerns about whether any further development higher up might result in further flooding lower down the estate. In 2007 there was flooding on several roads including Clyde Crescent, Whaddon Road, Thames Road and Wymans Road due to the inability for rain water run-off from the escarpment to be absorbed during heavy rain fall. There has been work on the Priors estate during the last year to put in catchment basins and rain gardens to help absorb run off. Phase 2 to this work will start soon. You should note that there is already a development planned on the old GCHQ site adjacent to Priors Fields and that there is concern that this will reduce the ability of the rain water to be absorbed. Residents reported that after the rain in the last few days the Sports field and other fields were very waterlogged.

There was discussion about the need to preserve access to the countryside and an acknowledgement that at the moment there was a natural green corridor with the sports field leading onto the fields which in turn lead onto the area of AONB beyond. It was felt that this was one of the few points of ready access onto open countryside from the estate and was well used by residents including dog walkers. The benefits to children of experiencing play in the open countryside with the opportunities it brought for activities such as den making were pointed out.

The residents were also concerned to protect wildlife in the area which provides a range of habitats including grassland, a stream, ancient hedgerows, mature trees. Wildlife sighted up there include larks, red kites, cuckoos, roman snails, badgers, foxes, deer, hares and bats.

I hope that when a decision is made about which green spaces receive additional protection, the above comments will be taken into consideration and the area of Priors Sports Field and the fields beyond like be afforded some additional protection from further development.

Yours faithfully

Name supplied

Appendix 3

Dear Steve

Local Green Space application for 'Priors Fields'

I wish to support the application for Local Green Space status for the fields which lie between the playing field at the top of the Priors estate and the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) of the Cleeve Hill escarpment. I have been the Borough Councillor representing Oakley Ward for the past 10 years and previously in the early 1980's I was County Councillor for All Saints - which at the time included the Priors Estate. I am also currently County Councillor for the Oakley and All Saints division.

The Fields in question are extensively used to walk and exercise dogs, as well as being some open countryside for children to play in and be adventurous which is just very different from parks. They provide an important 'green corridor' by which local people can access the open countryside of the AONB. The fields link the AONB to the Playing field effectively bringing the countryside to the edge of the Priors Estate at the top of Imjin Road. It is of particular relevance to Oakley because of the poor health outcomes found in the ward that coupled with one of the lowest car ownerships in Gloucestershire means that any barrier to the countryside would be to the detriment of the area's health and wellbeing. It's worth saying that the fields are used by residents across the ward and not simply the Priors estate.

Priors estate itself was built in the sixties with a very open aspect which is a stark contrast to the new Battledown estate which is very dense. It is very hard to protect development site from densities which would close down the openness to the countryside and hence be a barrier. Across town and indeed the country, I've walked along rights of way that have been protected through estates, which involve narrow fenced paths with no outlook where it's difficult to pass anyone coming towards you and which seem to take ages to get along, either that, or walking through built up residential estates. So despite the proximity of the AONB, development would be a barrier for many, seriously affecting ease of access.

The ability to walk in open country is a great stress reliever. Protecting the fields as open spaces will help the efforts being made to substantially improve health and wellbeing outcomes for the ward. Though I do not represent Battledown Park, I do know that its residents also value the ease with which they can get to open countryside without the need to get in a car, especially given the estate's density.

Establishing these fields as Local Green Space has my full support.

Regards

Colin Hay 12th January 2015

Appendix 4

Dear Mr Jordan

Oakley Green Spaces Protection

I am writing as a trustee of Oakley Regeneration Partnership with respect to the protection of green spaces in the local area, following our local public consultation. Whilst all the green areas in Oakley are important to residents, many are already well protected as parks and recreational areas. We particularly therefore want to request protection for two that appear less protected, these being the area of Priors Park and Fields and the area of Lynworth Green.

Between them these spaces serve to provide informal and formalised recreational space; are areas of either historical or wildlife interest; and, are easily accessible to the public. In the case of Priors Fields this area provides a route through to the open countryside, which is particularly important to local people, many of whom do not have their own transport. It also serves as a bio-corridor and borders an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and we believe is significant in terms of flood protection (indeed SuDS have been retro-fitted nearby on Priors Farm Estate and more building in the area would exacerbate surface run-off problems).

In the wake of the decision to build on Starvehall Farm, which was another such area that provided access to open space for Oakley residents, we feel that Priors Park and Fields should be protected from any development other than allotments. We also believe that Lynworth Green affords a quiet, 'village green' space which is part of the history of the way that the estate developed and that any building on it would create a sense of over-crowdedness. Consultation with the public and other organisations has shown how

much these green spaces are appreciated by the local population and how crucial they are to health and well-being and general quality of life. Local people value them highly.

We have submitted relevant evidence and ask that these areas are protected as green spaces for future generations to use.

Yours sincerely

Name supplied

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 15

Albemarle Orchard Garden

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Albemarle Orchard Garden, Saville Close, Cheltenham GL50 4NE	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	<i>Insert here or attach separately</i>	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Albemarle Orchard Garden Group	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Cheltenham Borough Council	
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)	
	They are unaware of the potential designation.	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	<i>Insert here or attach separately</i> See appendix 1	
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>	
	The site serves the residents of Pittville Mount Estate but is also open to the public.	
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	
	There is currently a planning application being considered for 'change of use' from an unused area of public land to a community orchard garden. Application reference: 14/02039/COU. Decision date: 02/02/2015	
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	
	658m ²	
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 area of land is large enough to contain a small community orchard that can easily be managed by the local residents. We plan on planting 31 local heritage fruit trees and having seating areas with benches. There is also space for wildlife / insect habitats to be built. The area of land is enclosed on all sides by hedges and feels more like a garden than a large tract of land.	
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>	
	Although the land is enclosed and cannot be seen from the public highway it is within short walking distance of all the local residents in the area. It is very much part of the Albemarle Gate estate and totally separate from Pittville Park itself. All the local residents are aware of the orchard project with many of them being members of the group. The local community has become much closer with residents keen to use the orchard to continue this growing sense of community.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	With Pittville Park on our doorstep there is plenty of green space nearby but the orchard will provide a unique site within our neighbourhood and will be a	

	feature that Pittville park does not have. It will be a unique site as it will have been created and maintained by local residents, to be enjoyed by the whole neighbourhood and those who visit.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The land is within a ½ mile radius of the residents it serves. There are approximately 4,500 residents in the Pittville ward who live within walking distance of the site. It is overlooked by some homes and is perceived by local residents who are involved to be in the heart of our community.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	There are no barriers to access the land. The route for all local residents is direct along the public highway. There is currently a vehicular gate on to the land which is kept locked although our group will be installing a pedestrian gate which will be left unlocked.	
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>	
	We have had a strong supportive vote from the Cheltenham Borough Council Assets Committee who have given our project the go-ahead. We have negotiated a 5 year lease on the land which is currently being drawn up in time to plant the fruit trees in February. G.A.V.C.A (Gloucestershire Organisation for Voluntary and Community Action) have also been extremely supportive and helpful. They are keen to see the project be a success. We have also received a grant from the Council's Community Pride Award Scheme in support of the project (see Appendix 6).	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Following the last 18 months our neighbourhood has worked closely to protect this land by proposing to set up a community orchard. It has been clear that the residents of Pittville Mount Estate are keen to see the land kept	

	for community use. We have regular meetings with many local residents attending and have now set up a committee with an agreed constitution in place. (For a copy of the minutes from the last AGM see appendix 5).	
6.3	<p>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></p>	
	<p>We have received support for the Orchard from Cllr John Rawson; Chairman of the Council's Asset Committee, Martin Horwood; local MP and Cllr David Prince; our local ward councillor who has attended all our meetings and has provided a vital source of help and advice. Support from MP Martin Horwood – see appendix 2</p>	
6.4	<p>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></p>	
	<p>Martin Hayes from the Gloucestershire Orchard Trust has attended our meetings and offered to be our tree consultant to help guide us through the project. He will source the trees, help plant them and has assisted us in drawing up a ten year management plan. – see appendix 3 for G.O.T support and appendix 7 for the 10 year management plan.</p> <p>We have also received advice and support from Adam Reynolds (CBC's Parks Manager) and Janice Payne (CBC Community Ranger). Friends of Pittville have also taken an interest and offered their support.</p> <p>GAVCA statement of support – see appendix 4</p>	
7	<p>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></p>	
7.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	<p>NO</p>	
7.2	<p>Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.</p>	
7.3	<p>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></p>	
7.4	<p>Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations?</p>	

	e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council ; Natural England ;	
	The site is located within a conservation area.	
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? e.g. Cotswolds AONB landscape character assessment. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council ; Natural England ; Cotswolds Conservation Board	
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? e.g. is the site mentioned in a well-known poem or shown in a famous painting?	
	No	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council ; English Heritage ; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record ; Gloucestershire Archives ; local history society ;	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council ; English Heritage ; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record ; local history society	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.	

8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	The land is classed as Council owned Public Open Space. The existing vehicular access gate is currently locked and the land is unused. It has not been used by the public for over 40 years. Previously the Council had used it as a turf nursery but have recently indicated that they wish to gain planning consent to build on the land and sell it. Our proposal to create a community orchard has halted this process. We intend to install a pedestrian gate with disabled access to allow public to enter.	
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>	
	No	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	

	Although there is a road to the side of the land, the site is enclosed by a Yew and Privet hedge which is high and dense so the land is very protected. This will provide a quiet, pleasant area for people to meet and enjoy the orchard that our community will have worked to create. It will also be an excellent environment for nature to thrive.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England 's tranquillity maps	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? 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. Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ; RSPB	
	None presently known.	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ;	
	None yet although we intend to encourage wildlife by building various habitats.	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.	
	Members of the Albemarle Orchard group have expressed an interest in creating wildlife habitats for future study, including bee-keeping. All Saints Scout Group have asked to be involved in creating insect lodges and using the site for educational purposes. Children in the neighbourhood will be able to learn about growing fruit and the wildlife habitats they attract. It will help provide a focus for outdoor activity for all ages thus creating a sense of pride and ownership of a community orchard. The fruit trees themselves will be as important because of the heritage varieties we intend to plant. The varieties of apple, pear and plum we have chosen are unique to Gloucestershire's heritage	

12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	It has been evident from the planning of the orchard that we now have a tighter local community with people getting to know their previously unacquainted neighbours. Once established the orchard will continue to bring the community together through the increased use of the land. Its continued sustainability through careful management and ongoing development will create a recognised site of interest. The orchard will bring an improved feeling of well-being to local residents through a sense of involvement and achievement in the project. The neighbourhood will benefit from higher levels of biodiversity. It will provide an educational resource for children and an opportunity for local residents to learn new skills in horticulture.	

Appendix 1





Appendix 2

Dear Vince

I am delighted to support the application for a Local Green Space designation for the proposed Albemarle Orchard Garden. In contrast to the much larger and more open park over the road, this small, enclosed space would be extremely safe for younger children, very accessible to everyone and a real community asset if it was developed as a community orchard as the local residents propose. The Local Green Space designation is designed to protect land of value to local people, including for recreation and enjoyment and local food production and this small human-scale space could meet all those objectives. I have no hesitation in welcoming and supporting this application.

All the best

Martin Horwood

Martin Horwood MP

Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Cheltenham

Appendix 3

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE- Albemarle Orchard Garden

I would like to add my support, and, as the Chief Surveying Officer for the Gloucestershire Orchard Trust (GOT) I have the authority of the committee, and thus the full membership, to give their backing to the afore mentioned project. As a trust we (GOT) promote orchards, their conservation and their importance within the community. This support is on a practical level in the form of 6 fruit trees, donated by the trust, and my time as a consultant to the orchard project.

My involvement started early on and, with the help of GOT, was able to set about formulating a 10 year management plan with costing. What struck me more than any of the projects I am involved in was the turnout at each of the meetings I attended. The Albemarle orchard Garden truly represents a community orchard , bringing people together and making for an inclusive neighbourhood, something that we need to celebrate and support .
I am happy to meet any Cheltenham BC members on site to discuss the merits of this exciting Orchard Garden
Name and address supplied

Appendix 4

Hi Vince
Please feel free to include the statement below:

GAVCA has been pleased to support the AOG with developing the organisation, by advising on the governance structure for the group. It seems there is plenty of local support for the group. There is a desire to engage with members of the local community to develop the work using voluntary action to protect and improve the environment and develop a strong community infrastructure.

Hope that helps
Name supplied

Appendix 5

Albemarle Orchard Garden Annual General Meeting Minutes of the meeting held on 20103-06 at 19:00

2014:047 Present: 18 names supplied

Apologies: 3 names supplied

2014:048 Introduction: Councillor David Prince thanked all present for attending. He outlined the events leading up to the meeting. Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC) had proposed that the piece of land at the corner of Saville Close and Albemarle Gate, presently part of the designated public open space of Pittville Park, should be sold as building land for development. However, if the local community can demonstrate a need for it and present a viable scheme for its use, we have the chance to save it from development. The chair of the Assets Committee, John Rawson, was previously involved in preventing the land from being built on, so is supportive. However, his views are not shared by all members of the Assets Committee, at least one of whom is keen to see the land built upon. About 20 people from the local area have had several meetings hosted by Vince & Emma Norvill to consider possibilities. It has been agreed that a community orchard would be a good use

of the land and leaflet drops have been done in the area to stimulate interest. A name and a draft constitution for the project have been agreed, and some funding possibilities investigated. 130 fliers were distributed from Tommy Taylors Lane to Evesham Road to announce this first AGM, the purpose of which is to formally create the group. Once formally constituted, the Group can go on to develop detailed plans.

2014:049 Election of Committee: Derek Buckley, Rowland Carson, Colin Eynon, Rosemarie Kenshole, Mary- Ann McClaran, Vince Norvill, Emma Norvill, Wendy Vick were all prepared to stand. David Prince asked if the meeting was prepared to accept these names en-bloc for the Committee and this was agreed unanimously.

2014:050 Election of Chairman: Diane Hibbert proposed and Jacqueline Buckley seconded Vince Norvill for Chairman. Agreed unanimously.

2014:051 Election of Treasurer: Diane Hibbert proposed and Mary-Ann McClaran seconded Emma

Norvill for Treasurer. Agreed unanimously.

2014:052 Election of Minute Taker: Jacqueline Buckley proposed and Rosemarie Kenshole seconded Rowland Carson for Minute Taker. Agreed unanimously.

2014:053 Election of Vice-Chair: Diane Hibbert proposed and Jacqueline Buckley seconded Mary-Ann McClaran for Vice-Chair. Agreed unanimously.

2014:054 Chairman's address: Vince Norvill said that this is a very good time to be starting this project because of the Government's support of such initiatives. The localism bill suggests that we might be able to get the land listed as an asset of community value which would then give us the right to buy it. Obviously the proposed orchard would be a community resource, and also an educational resource for local schools and an opportunity for all of us to learn new skills. We could hold community events, and that need not wait until the fruit trees are planted (probably in Autumn 2015). Once established, we could apply for a Green Aag Community Award. In answer to a question from the floor, David Prince made it clear that CBC owns the land and that it is still part of the public open space. Thus, anyone can walk into it; the gate erected recently is to prevent entry by vehicles for parking or squatting. Either CBC or the Group might consider improving the fence along the boundary with 6 Saville Close. In answer to a question from the floor, David Prince agreed to seek the views of John Rawson on the most appropriate arrangement for our management of the land. There might be a qualifying period to see how things work out before we could apply for a long lease.

2014:055 Adoption of Constitution: Copies of the draft Constitution had been issued to all attending. Vince Norvill had received some suggestions for minor improvements to that draft from Angela Gilbert of Gloucestershire Association for Voluntary & Community Action (GAVCA) and read them

out for consideration. It was agreed unanimously to adopt the Constitution, incorporating those amendments. A copy of the amended Constitution is attached to these minutes.

2014:056 Next Steps: Vince Norvill said that our Committee intends to hold 3 meetings in preparation for our presentation to the CBC Assets Committee on 26 June. Our Committee will consider selection of trees, layout, costs, community benefits and events and anything else that could help to make our submission effective and successful, and will keep the members informed of progress by distributing copies of Committee Meeting minutes.

2014:057 Date of first Committee Meeting: The Committee agreed to meet at 7pm on 27 March at 1 Saville Close. Rowland Carson gave apologies in advance that he would be unable to attend on that date; Mary-Ann McClaran agreed to take the minutes in his stead.

2014:058 Closure: The meeting closed at 20:00. There were 16 people (not including councillors) present for 1 hour

Appendix 6

Community Pride Funding 2014

Further to my recent correspondence, I am pleased to tell you that the Council's Cabinet has agreed £3777 for the Albemarle Orchard Garden project. I have attached two signed copies of a project agreement which I would be pleased if you could sign and return one copy to me.

To claim the funding, you will need to submit a monitoring report / claim form. I can issue this on request although it is available on the council's website:

<http://www.cheltenham.gov.uk/communitypride>

Good luck with the project and do let me know how you are getting on. If you have any queries, please contact me on the number above.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact me on the number above.

Yours sincerely

Appendix 7

TEN YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ALBEMARLE ORCHARD GARDEN

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- To conserve the rural character and scenic quality of the site.
- To develop and maintain an attractive environment for the use and enjoyment of the local community and those who visit.
- To conserve protected species on the site, e.g. bats.
- To conserve and develop site biodiversity.
- To refurbish any trees and hedgerows for long-term viability.
- To achieve an environmentally and economically sustainable management level for the site that is sensitive to future changes.
- To replace with appropriate materials or species all trees and plants which die, become over-mature, diseased or unsafe.
- To use plant materials of British provenance and, where practical, from local sources.
- To avoid the use of chemicals, pesticides and herbicides other than those approved by The Soil Association.

- PLANTING

The new trees are to be on different rootstocks the largest of which would be semi dwarfing and placed at the entrance side of the orchard. The time for planting is from the end of November till end of April but this is dependent on the weather.

SITE PREPARATION

All trees encroaching on to the site to be crown lifted and cut back from the site to give maximum light and space for the new orchard. Waste and cuttings to be retained and utilised for reasons of biodiversity.

The hedge along the road which may have evidence of honey fungus will be removed and a barrier placed underground between that and the new orchard. This will be done with a mechanical digger and the waste burnt. Alternatively the new trees can be planted away from any infected hedge.

The sward is to be cut prior to planting to make it easier to dig the holes.

MAINTENANCE

Grass is to be cut frequent enough to disperse the cuttings. If less frequent the cuttings will be composted. Any weed growth will also be controlled by mowing.

All Hedgerow around the site will be trimmed at least once a year in order to maintain their current height and width, encourage bushy growth and prevent any further growth out of existing shrubs. Trimming of the hedgerows will take place in January/early February to minimise the risk of damaging active birds' nests. Any gaps within the hedgerows will be filled by laying of adjacent sections where possible.

Sufficient watering will be applied to maintain healthy growth to the trees during the growing season and following any dry periods of 7 days.

YEAR 1.

There is a saying about the first few years of a new planted fruit tree "Year 1 they sleep, year 2 they creep, year 3 they leap". So in the early years not much will be done to the tree itself.

July- Tree guards to be re-adjust where needed, particularly if any chaffing is evident. Broken stakes to be replaced. Grass to be removed from inside tubes and around the base of the tree. Any fruit to be removed from the trees to help wood growth.

YEAR 2.

Jan/Feb- Orchard to be walked regularly checking if pruning is required, cutting broken and diseased wood out from the apple and pear.
Plum trees are not to be cut.

July/aug- Guards to be checked and adjusted as required. Spirals to be checked for damage and changed as required. Any growth below the knee to be pruned away. Grass to be carefully removed from around the trunk of the trees. Plum trees to be pruned and any excess fruit removed. New spirals and guards to be fitted as required.

October- Apple day celebrations!!

YEAR 3.

Jan/Feb- Guards and spirals to be checked. Trees pruned cutting back leader to encourage lower limb growth.

July- Guards and spirals to be adjusted and change where needed. Trees pruned and grass removed along with any excess fruit. Plum trees to be pruned.

October- Apple day celebrations!!

YEAR 4.

Jan/Feb- Shaping of the trees can now begin so pruning where required. Check Guards and remove grass. Remove and replace dead trees .

June /July- Guards to be checked. Continue to shape the trees being careful to chose well positioned branches; to be advised by tree consultant. Grass to be removed around tree. Pruning of plum trees and thinning of fruit.

October- Apple day celebrations .

YEAR 5.

Jan/feb- Trees to be pruned in earnest, guards checked and removal of grass. Replace any dead, unhealthy, or squirrel-damaged trees.

June/July- Prune plum trees and summer prune apple and pear. Thin out fruit Check guards and remove grass.

October- Apple day celebrations!!

Time to think about what to do with the fruit. Ideas include making chutney's and jams. Sending fruit off to be pressed for own juice (possibly with own branding).

Fruit can be sold to local shops, cafes and restaurants.

Begin to prepare for storage and picking. Apple boxes, plum trays and picking equipment as well as the use of bodgers and ladders.

YEAR 6.

Jan /Feb- Removal of sheep guards. Winter pruning. Remove rotten fruit still on trees, grass to be kept in check.

June/July- every year there is a phenomenon called 'June Drop' whereby apples plums and pears shed fruit that is not going to be pollinated for what ever reason. It is quite obvious when it happens as the ground will be festooned with small discarded fruit. After this occurrence the trees are to be thinned out of fruit to ensure larger better quality apples, plums and pears.


Summer prune the trees for light and future growth. Prune the plum trees.

Years 7 –10.

The trees will now be well developed. Pruning will continue in accordance with good horticultural practice to maintain healthy well shaped specimens.

This management plan was drawn up with the assistance of Martin Hayes from the Gloucestershire Orchard Trust. As part of his commitment to the Gloucestershire Orchard Trust he has volunteered to act as Orchard consultant on the project and will be available to give free pruning workshops and educational talks on good horticultural practice. This will enable members of our local community to learn the skills required to maintain the orchard as set out in this plan.

CHECKLIST AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Circa development / Bloor Homes development on former Midwinter site southern green public space/ greenlink between Honeybourne line and Elmfield playing field	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	<p>Area coloured in green, taken from the planning application (final version), as this area is not yet on any maps that I have been able to access.</p> 	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	St Paul's NCG	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Bloor Homes. The site is still in the process of being developed. There are no plans by Cheltenham Borough Council to adopt this land once the	

	development of the site is completed. It is envisaged that it will be taken over by a management company on behalf of the owners of the new houses.	
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)	
	They are not aware, but the area is designated as public green space within the current planning permission.	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	 <p>View from the Honeybourne Line</p>  <p>Entrance to Elmfield Playing field</p>  <p>View from Elmfield entrance</p>	
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>	
	As well as serving the residents of the new houses on the former Midwinter allotment site, this green space serves as a link between various local communities and local resources avoiding Swindon Road which is a busy road with narrow pavements. It enables communities from Elmfield, and Gardners Lane access to Leisure @ Cheltenham, Pittville park and the Prince of Wales stadium, as well as all the other areas afforded access via the Honeybourne line.	

	It links residents of St Paul's and further afield to Gardners Lane school and childrens centre, Midwinter allotments, the animal shelter and the co-op.	
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	
	This site was granted planning permission in January 2012 for a housing development of 176 houses. This area is designated public green space within the current planning permission. The houses nearest this green space have been completed and recently occupied. The houses at the north end of the development are still being built.	
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. See above	
3	Size, scale and "local nature" of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	See 1.7	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	A certain amount of green space was required within the housing development by Planning requirements. Provides an attractive traffic free route for pedestrians and cyclists. Avoids narrow pavements and busy traffic on Swindon Road	

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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is immediately adjacent to the new houses on the site. It is also within 2 km of the communities it serves as a green corridor, St Pauls, Elmfield and Gardners' Lane	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	Tommy Taylors Lane is mentioned as a barrier.	
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>	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	<p>4 letters received from individuals.</p> <p>“I would like to add my comments in respect of the Honeybourne line cycle path and the passage through to Elmfield park. I am an allotment tenant at the Midwinter site and for the past 12 years have used this route from my home in St.Pauls. When I was employed in Hatherley for 6 years I chose the Honeybourne line as my preferred route to get to work ,as a cyclist, although not as direct ,it was for me a lot safer and more pleasurable than using roads with commuting heavy traffic. I would almost everyday after work cycle to my plot via the old abandoned allotments. This meant I could get from the railway station to Midwinter without having to venture into the road and cycle home laden with veg also with minimal road use. It was an enormous difference whilst the new housing development was being built and the route was cut off from the Honeybourne .The shutting of the route resulted in my having a couple of very near accidents one where I was actually pushed from my bike (all at the Swindon road) and stopped me from choosing to go at all to my plot because I couldn't face the heavy traffic. To visit the animal shelter or local co-op shop likewise.</p> <p>I look forward to any future enhancements to safe cycle paths in and around Cheltenham and specifically feel that the Pittville park cycle route could be joined to the Honeybourne path at the Prince of Wales via a safe road crossing”.</p> <p>“As a former resident of Wymans Brook and organiser of a community allotment in Midwinter, I can confirm that this particular route to the Honeybourne line is</p>	

	<p>both well used and highly valued by residents of Wymans Brook and allotment holders. It is important that the route itself is protected as a right of way and that it remains green to keep it as a pleasant route for the many people that use it." best wishes, A</p> <p>I live in St Paul's. I have an allotment at Midwinter and my youngest son used to attend Gardners Lane children's centre when he was younger.</p> <p>"I have cycled or walked to my allotment at Midwinter via the Honeybourne line, the old allotment site and Elmfield playing field since I first took it on 9 years ago.</p> <p>This also was a route that I was also happy for my older son to take by bike from when he was still in primary school. I took my youngest son on his pushchair or bikeseat, or from the age of 2 or 3 he could use his own bike (starting off with one without pedals). We used this route when we went to the stay and play at Gardner's Lane Children's Centre.</p> <p>This made the allotment and the Children's Centre very accessible for us as a family as it is quite a long walk for little legs but an easy bike ride. The children enjoyed riding their bikes. And I wouldn't want to use the car for a journey as short as that.</p> <p>When Bloor Housing were given permission to develop the site they gave us assurances that we would still be able to use this route. Unfortunately once they started building they shut it off, probably for safety reasons.</p> <p>We then had to go along Swindon Road to get to the allotment. For the children this was far from ideal. The pavement along Swindon Road is very narrow so it's not good to cycle along for the children's safety or for the safety of other pedestrians. As adult and experienced cyclist, I didn't like cycling along Swindon Road much. It is narrow (no room for cars to overtake bikes) and very busy.</p> <p>I admit that we visited our allotment less during this period and much less often as a family. I would end up going by myself, leaving the children at home with their father.</p> <p>Now that the houses have been built and it is re-opened it is much better! There is a little bit of mud you have to go across getting onto the old allotments from the Honeybourne - otherwise you have to bump up and down into the parking bay and back up onto the path. It would be nice if that could be paved over.</p> <p>I visit my allotment more often and my family can come with me. My son often brings his friends. It is nice for primary school age children to have routes they can cycle off road to build up their confidence.</p> <p>I often meet other people coming and going across this green area. I know a lot of other people from the allotments go this way. It is nice that it is opened up and overlooked by houses so it feels very safe. It looks like there is a bit more</p>	
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	<p>landscaping still to do, but it is nice that it is very green.</p> <p>It would be nice if this route was signposted so even more people knew about it.</p> <p>This piece of green space is very important to me and my family because it means we can walk and cycle away from the busy Swindon road and enjoy the nature and peace"</p> <p><i>"But it's certainly an important access route to Midwinter ~ ****e lives in Pittville & always walks to the allotment); there are also a couple of longstanding Midwinterites who live on the new development & use it to access the allotments"</i></p>	
6.3	<p>Evidence of support from community leaders e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc. Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</p>	
6.4	<p>Evidence of support from other groups e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</p>	
7	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</p>	
7.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	<p>YES / NO</p>	
7.2	<p>Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.</p>	
7.3	<p>Site visibility 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?</p>	
7.4	<p>Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;</p>	
7.5	<p>Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? e.g. Cotswolds AONB landscape character assessment. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England; Cotswolds Conservation Board</p>	

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

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> Further information – Sport England	
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> Further information – Gloucestershire County Council	
	Full access for the public. Two of the letters from residents state that there was inconvenience, less safety and	
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>	
	Walking and cycling- Letters in Appendix 1 from residents describe their use of the area and confirm it is well used.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES / <u>NO</u>	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	This site is tranquil relative to the alternative routes. It is in an urban area. But by linking to other green spaces and off road routes it provides part of a safe off road network for both people and wildlife	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES / <u>NO</u>	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	

11.3	<p>Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i></p>	
11.4	<p>What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i></p>	
	<p>This site has been green space for a long time. It was formerly allotments and before that a market garden. Before development there was a variety of insects, birds and invertebrates on the site, including slow worms</p> <p>As an urban green or wildlife corridor this will contribute to wildlife diversity in the adjacent areas (http://www.forestry.gov.uk/fr/urbangreenspace) such as the Honeybourne line, Midwinter allotments and the Elmfield playing field which although a playing field, has a dense mature hedge of shrubs along its northern border.</p> <p>This is enhanced by the planting of hedges and shrubs at the boundaries and fruit trees, which have already brought birds and insects back into the area</p>	
11.5	<p>Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i></p>	
12	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
12.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</p>	
	YES / NO	
12.2	<p>Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?</p>	
	<p>This site is significant because it provides a traffic free route for a number of local communities connecting them with schools, leisure facilities and links to the Honeybourne line cycle path.</p> <p>The alternative road route is a busy road, not wide enough for bikes and cars to share comfortably and with narrow pavements.</p> <p>This link will be further enhanced as a cycle route if the Big Local get enough funding to make up a path across Elmfield playing field from this entrance to the other entrances (as planned).</p> <p>As the neighbouring road Swindon Road is so busy, this route addresses the aims of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Sustainable Travel Programme by “making it easier and safer to travel by sustainable means within urban centres and along key transport corridors within and between each settlement” (</p>	

	http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/extra/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=50874&p=0) If there is an attractive walking and cycling route this will help promote modal shift.	
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Appendix 1

1. ----- Forwarded message -----

From: name supplied
Date: 6 January 2015 at 11:38
Subject: Honeybourne line
To: Tess Beck

I would like to add my comments in respect of the Honeybourne line cycle path and the passage through to Elmfield park. I am an allotment tenant at the Midwinter site and for the past 12 years have used this route from my home in St.Pauls. When I was employed in Hatherly for 6 years I chose the Honeybourne line as my preferred route to get to work ,as a cyclist, although not as direct ,it was for me a lot safer and more pleasurable than using roads with commuting heavy traffic. I would almost everyday after work cycle to my plot via the old abandoned allotments. This meant I could get from the railway station to Midwinter without having to venture into the road and cycle home laden with veg also with minimal road use. It was an enormous difference whilst the new housing development was being built and the route was cut off from the Honeybourne .The shutting of the route resulted in my having a couple of very near accidents one where I was actually pushed from my bike (all at the Swindon road) and stopped me from choosing to go at all to my plot because I couldn't face the heavy traffic. To visit the animal shelter or local co-op shop likewise.

I look forward to any future enhancements to safe cycle paths in and around Cheltenham and specifically feel that the pitville park cycle route could be joined to the Honeybourne path at the Prince of Wales via a safe road crossing.

2. ----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Name supplied**
Date: 8 January 2015 at 21:42
Subject: Re: Open space between Marsh Lane & Midwinter Allotments
To: Tess Beck

Dear Tess,

Thanks very much for this; I think the small area of land on the south of the development on what was formerly part of the Midwinter site is relatively safe as it's beneath overhead electricity cables ~ I think these are so expensive to move that it wouldn't be worth shifting them just to allow building on that little bit of land.

But it's certainly an important access route to Midwinter ~ one person who uses it for this purpose is Anne Vine (she lives in Pittville & always walks to the allotment); there are also a couple of longstanding Midwinterites who live on the new development & use it to access the allotments ~ don't know their surname, but they're John & Linda...

Best wishes,

M

3. ----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Name supplied**

Date: 19 January 2015 at 09:20

Subject: green space

To: Tess Beck

"As a former resident of Wymans Brook and organiser of a community allotment in Midwinter, I can confirm that this particular route to the Honeybourne line is both well used and highly valued by residents of Wymans Brook and allotment holders. It is important that the route itself is protected as a right of way and that it remains green to keep it as a pleasant route for the many people that use it."

best wishes, A

4. Letter – name supplied 20.1.15

I live in St Paul's. I have an allotment at Midwinter and my youngest son used to attend Gardners Lane children's centre when he was younger.

I have cycled or walked to my allotment at Midwinter via the Honeybourne line, the old allotment site and Elmfield playing field since I first took it on 9 years ago.

This also was a route that I was also happy for my older son to take by bike from when he was still in primary school. I took my youngest son on his pushchair or bikeseat, or from the age of 2 or 3 he could use his own bike (starting off with one without pedals). We used this route when we went to the stay and play at Gardner's Lane Children's Centre.

This made the allotment and the Children's Centre very accessible for us as a family as it is quite a long walk for little legs but an easy bike ride. The children enjoyed riding their bikes. And I wouldn't want to use the car for a journey as short as that.

When Bloor Housing were given permission to develop the site they gave us assurances that we would still be able to use this route. Unfortunately once they started building they shut it off, probably for safety reasons.

We then had to go along Swindon Road to get to the allotment. For the children this was far from ideal. The pavement along Swindon Road is very narrow so it's not good to cycle along for the

children's safety or for the safety of other pedestrians. As adult and experienced cyclist, I didn't like cycling along Swindon Road much. It is narrow (no room for cars to overtake bikes) and very busy.

I admit that we visited our allotment less during this period and much less often as a family. I would end up going by myself, leaving the children at home with their father.

Now that the houses have been built and it is re-opened it is much better! There is a little bit of mud you have to go across getting onto the old allotments from the Honeybourne - otherwise you have to bump up and down into the parking bay and back up onto the path. It would be nice if that could be paved over.

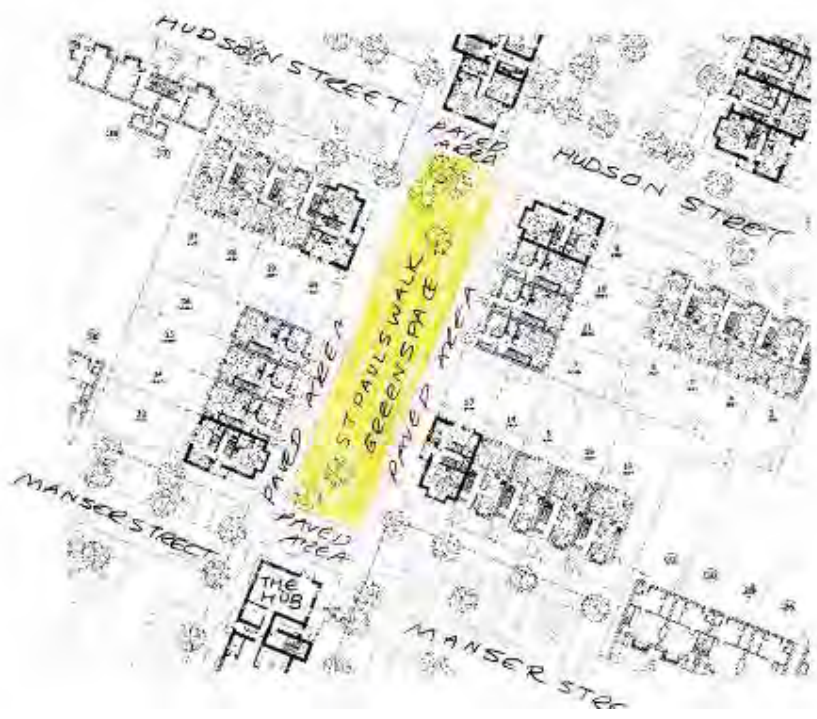
I visit my allotment more often and my family can come with me. My son often brings his friends. It is nice for primary school age children to have routes they can cycle off road to build up their confidence.


I often meet other people coming and going across this green area. I know a lot of other people from the allotments go this way. It is nice that it is opened up and overlooked by houses so it feels very safe. It looks like there is a bit more landscaping still to do, but it is nice that it is very green.

It would be nice if this route was signposted so even more people knew about it.

This piece of green space is very important to me and my family because it means I can walk and cycle away from the busy Swindon road and enjoy the nature and peace.

CHECKLIST AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	St Paul's Walk green space, St Paul's Walk	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	<p><i>This does not yet appear on maps. This is an excerpt from the planning application.</i></p> 	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	St Paul's NCG	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	

	Unsure of ownership as some areas remain 'unadopted' (while some have been adopted by Gloucestershire County Council. Responsibility for maintenance lies with Cheltenham Borough Homes)	
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)	
	Cheltenham Borough Homes (not owner but responsible for the site) have provided a supporting statement (Appendix 1)	
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>	
	Primarily the residents of St Paul's estate: St Paul's Walk, Hudson Street and Manser Street. To a lesser extent residents of neighbouring streets including Hanover Street, Folly Lane, Brunswick Street. When phase 2 of the St Pauls regeneration is completed it is envisaged that they will use it too.	
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	
	This space was created as part of the most recent planning development, which was a major regeneration of the St Paul's housing estate carried out after extensive research with the residents of the estate. The plan for the current site was approved January 2010 with residents moving into the new houses in 2013.	
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	
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>	
	No	
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 greenspace is in the heart of the new St Paul's estate development, in St Paul's Walk, overlooked by houses on all sides and with St Paul's Hub on its south side. The Hub hosts many local organisations and activities, many of which also use the greenspace, especially the youth club. The Hub also uses the greenspace for community events especially in the summer.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	There is a requirement under current social housing planning regulations to provide a certain amount of greenspace within any new development.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?	
	The area is immediately adjacent to and in the heart of the community it serves	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?	
	No, it can be reached by children on the adjacent streets without the need to cross any roads. There is a busy road Folly Lane/ Tommy Taylors Lane separating the St Paul's estate regeneration phase 2 from this part of St Paul's estate (phase 1).	

6	Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community” Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
6.1	Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i>	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Letter written jointly from members of the youth club that meets twice a week at the St Paul's Hub and regularly uses the green space, during the club, for informal recreation at other times Some comments recorded from discussions at a community event in November 2014	
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>	
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>	
	Letter of support from St Paul's regeneration officer, Laura Neale on behalf of Cheltenham Borough Homes	
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
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>	
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>	
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</i>	

	<u>Conservation Board</u>	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
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>	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
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> Further information – Sport England	
	The site is not used for organised sport as there are lots of windows of local houses overlooking the site.	
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> Further information – Gloucestershire County Council	
	The site is publicly accessible on foot with no barriers (other than those bollards necessary to prevent vehicular access). There is hard standing/ pavements on all 4 sides and a circle of hardstanding in the centre. Along with no steps or dropped curbs, this means the site is also open to wheelchair users and others with impaired mobility .	
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>	
	The site is particularly well used for playing out. Because it is away from traffic but within site of the houses, parents feel safe letting their children play there with minimum supervision. “I wouldn’t let her go to the park on her own, but because I can keep an eye out for her there, I know she won’t get into any trouble” Mother of a 9 year old girl. This also helps build community cohesion. Playing out helps children get to know others in their neighbourhood in a way that would not be possible otherwise. “When I moved here I didn’t know anybody, but <i>because I could play out it helped me make new friends</i> ” Girl 9 The youth club also regularly use it, and statements by the youth club members echo those above. (See evidence in Appendix 2 –from 12 youth club members and their youth workers) Comments relate to recreation- eg making friends, playing games such as tag and football, running ,bike riding.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
10.	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area?	

3	e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England 's tranquillity maps	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ; RSPB	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ;	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	This site is part of an award winning regeneration of St Paul's estate by Nash Partnership. The development was the winner of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) award for exemplary planning to deliver housing 2014. http://www.rtpi.org.uk/33696 And later that year the regeneration project was named the 'Best in the West' at an RTPI regional awards ceremony http://www.cheltborohomes.org/2014/07/23/st-pauls-regeneration-crowned-best-in-the-west/	

Appendix 1

----- Forwarded message -----

From:

Date: 21 January 2015 at 09:51

Subject: RE: Green space assessment St Paul's Walk

To:

Hi Tess

The upshot is that CBH don't 'own' the large green area but rather are responsible for it. The plan I have sent shows the extent of the highway / green space that has been adopted by the county. The areas marked blue, pink and brown are adopted highway, the rest remains unadopted.

I would like to state my support for the retention of the green space. In addition to (and in support of) the views of Young Glos, I can confirm that all community activities that can be done outside of the CBH community hub (which borders the green space) will be so on that green in the drier, warmer months. This can include community days, exercise sessions, children's clubs (in addition to the 11-18 Youth Club) and all community consultation, engagement and informal meetings. It provides a green vista from the hub, a central 'bumping' space for local residents and a space for young people to meet and play safely and within the watch of their homes.

Laura Neale

Community Regeneration Manager

Cheltenham Borough Homes Ltd

Appendix 2

The Youth Club

Cheltenham Borough Homes3St Paul's Community Hub

5/6 Windsor Court

St Paul's

Cheltenham

12/1/15

To whom it may concern

We are really pleased that you are considering the green area in St Paul's Walk to become a designated local green area. We are all young people and residents of St Paul's who attend the youth club and use the green space. It is important to us that it is protected for many reasons;

- Many of the young people go out there on a daily basis for various reasons! It would be wrong to take that away from them! They play football, tag etc! It's easier for the locals' parents to keep an eye on their children. JW 17

- I really enjoy playing football because I'm with my friends and my family can keep an eye on me. It is also good because we can relax on the grass in the summer. It is also good because you are not inside playing video games. SK 13
- I really like the green because you can practise green running LP 11
- I would like to keep the green circle because me and my friends play football and do skids on out bikes and have fun. NR (11)
- I would like to keep the circle for a boxing ring and hang out with friends C (11)
- I would like to keep the circle because kids play there and it's a nice place for community days and play outs M (13)
- .. because it's more fun to play instead of being bored inside B (11)
- I would like to keep the circle because I have my mates around there. AJ (13)
- Please keep the area so we can have fun and play. A (11)
- In the summer we had a community day to raise money for the YC. We used the green space.

Youth worker comments

- I think it's important to keep the grass there as all the children play on it.
- It is important to retain the green space, it forms a heart in the community a place to meet and a place for young people to play safely near their homes (Youth worker)
- This area is important to all who live in this community. Please keep as green space.

To whom it may concern

The YC
Cheltenham Borough Homes
St Paul's Community Hub
516 Windsor Court
St Paul's Cheltenham
12/1/15

We are really pleased that you are considering the green area in St Paul's Walk to become a designated local green area. We are all young people and residents in St Paul's who attend ~~and~~ the Youth Club and use the green space.

It is important to us that it is protected for many reasons;

Many of the young people go out there on a daily basis for various reasons! It would be wrong to take that away from them! They play football, tag, etc! It's easier for the local's parents to keep an eye on their children! Jordan Wright, 17

I really enjoy playing football because in with my friends and my family can keep an eye on me. It is also good because we can relax on the grass in the summer. It is also good because you are not inside playing ~~for~~ video games. Sophie Kerry (13)

I really like the green because you can practice freerunning w/out pullitt - Lindsey (11)

I would like to keep the green circle because me and my friends play football and do stunts on our bikes and have sun.

Mikolas Rewzuck (12)
I would like to keep the circle for a boxing ring and hang out with friends.
Callan (11)

I would like to keep the circle because kids play their and its a nice place for community days and play outs. Morgan (13)

~~to stop~~ ^{to stop} play because its more fun to play tag instead of being bored inside Bailey. (11)

AJ B
I would like to keep the circle because I have my mates around there AJ (13)

please keep the area so we can have sun and play away. (11)

I think its important to keep the grass there as all the children play on it
Staci Volontini


It is so important to retain the green space, it forms a heart in the community a place to meet and a place for young people to play safely near their homes. Claire (Youth Worker)


this area is very important to all who live in this community
please keep as green space Kirsty (CBH St Paul's)

in the Summer we had a community day to raise money for the YC. We used the green space.



CHECKLIST AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Parish Council Playing Fields. Prestbury Road, Prestbury, Cheltenham	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i> <i>Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 Playing Fields – 195 metres x 137 metres	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Prestbury Parish Council	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	

	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)</i> <i>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	<p>Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
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	<p>Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	

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	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
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>	
	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.	
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>	
	No	
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	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
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>	
	No	

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	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	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.’	

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.

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>	
	Blacksmith's Lane Allotment Gardens	
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>Allotment Gardens – 246 metres X 184 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	
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 (letter of support from Parish Council Appendix 1)	
1.6	Photographs of site	
		
1.7	<p>Community served by the potential Local Green Space</p> <p><i>i.e. does the site serve the whole village/town or a particular geographic area or group of people?</i></p>	
	Tenancy of an allotment garden is open to all residents of Prestbury, and the surrounding area.	

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	
	246 metres x 184 metres	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space)</i> <i>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 allotment gardens are on a large plot of land as shown on the attached photograph. With the exception of St Mary's School playing fields there are no other open spaces in the vicinity.	
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 allotment gardens are an integral part of the Parish, and have been so for the past 50 years. The allotment gardens are not a prominent feature hidden as they are on three sides by residential properties. And as such provide a welcome open space.	
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>	
	<p>Allotment gardens were often located close to the residents they served. Over time Prestbury has expanded, but many of the tenants live within walking distance of the site. The parish council letter (Appendix 1) confirms that there are 140 plots. All are in use and there are 18 people on the waiting list.</p> <p>It is the only allotment garden available to the residents within the Parish.</p>	
5	<p>Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
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 allotment gardens to the community. The site is bordered on 3 sides by residential properties and is within walking distance for many. The parish council letter (Appendix 1) shows how it is easily accessible from Blacksmith's Lane by car, so convenient for drop off of tools /pick up of produce.	
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. All residents can access the allotment gardens from two entrances off Blacksmith's Lane.	
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>	
	Parish Council letter of support –Appendix 1 The Parish Council owns the Allotment Gardens and undertakes all associated maintenance. The revenue from the tenants covers the cost of maintenance and utilities.	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	The Allotment Gardens are well supported by local residents, all plots are currently occupied and there is a waiting list.	
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 of support from Councillor John Payne- Appendix 2 As the Cheltenham Borough Councillor for Prestbury Councillor John Payne fully supports the Parish Council in the provision of the Allotments Gardens, and sits on the Allotments Committee, playing an active role in managing the site. The letter references how many tenants have worked their allotments for over 40 years, some taking over plots from their fathers. The tenants support a local Produce Show which will this year be open to residents of Prestbury.	
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>	
	<p>Representative of the allotments group on the Prestbury Parish Council Allotments committee's letter of support – Appendix 3. This includes reference to how important the allotment is to local people and gives full support for the application as a resident of Prestbury and an allotment holder.</p> <p>Letters from other allotment tenants could be made available, if required.</p>	
7	<p>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
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, and provides an open space.	
7.3	<p>Site visibility</p> <p><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></p>	
	The site is screened on all sides by a watercourse and hedging to the south, and by the boundaries of residences on the other three sides.	
7.4	<p>Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations?</p> <p><i>e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area</i></p> <p><i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England;</i></p>	

	No	
7.5	<p>Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents?</p> <p><i>e.g. Cotswolds AONB landscape character assessment. Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; Natural England; Cotswolds Conservation Board</i></p>	
	No	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
	No	
7.7	<p>Is the site highlighted in literature or art?</p> <p><i>e.g. is the site mentioned in a well-known poem or shown in a famous painting?</i></p>	
	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>	

	Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council ; English Heritage ; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record ; Gloucestershire Archives ; local history society;	
	No	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage ; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record ; local history society	
	No	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	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> Further information – Sport England	
	No	

9.3	<p>Are the public able to physically access the site?</p> <p><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></p> <p><i>Further information – Gloucestershire County Council</i></p>	
	As previously stated the site is readily accessible, with no restrictions.	
9.4	<p>Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when?</p> <p><i>e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc</i></p>	
	<p>Allotment gardening can be regarded as a recreational activity, the occupancy of the site suggests that it is an activity enjoyed on the site by over 120 tenants.</p> <p>There is some dog walking on the site, but this is not encouraged for health and safety reasons.</p> <p>The South West Counties Allotments Association stresses that 'having an allotment is a great way of getting your hands on valuable gardening space and is also a great opportunity to meet fellow allotment holders. Allotments have a new role to play in the way we live our lives today, not only do they provide us with a place to grow fruit and vegetables they are a place to escape to away from the hassles of everyday life. Nothing beats the satisfaction of growing something from seed, to put food on your table and being able to say "I grew that"'</p> <p>"The allotments are rented by a wide range of people; young families, community groups and retired people; the plots not only provide fruit and vegetables but also social contact, a means of keeping fit and tranquillity from the everyday stress and strain of modern living" Parish Council letter Appendix 1</p> <p>"Allotment gardening provides healthy outdoor exercise linked with the enjoyment and benefits of growing your own vegetables" Councillor John Payne letter Appendix 2</p> <p>"I see on a daily basis the enjoyment allotment gardening brings not only to the tenants, but to their families and increasingly the number of children becoming involved." Letter from allotment holder Appendix 3</p>	
10	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>" (if applicable)	

	<i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	Allotment gardening is a slow contemplative process which does lend an air of tranquillity to the site. The parish council letter (Appendix 1) also references the tranquillity of the site.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes.	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site?	

	<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>	
	As many tenants will testify there is an abundance of wildlife, mice, rats, hedgehogs, foxes and badgers.	
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	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	It is the only allotment garden available to the residents within the Parish.	

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 Blacksmiths Lane Allotments, Prestbury, granted protected status from development under the Cheltenham Borough Council Local Plan.

The allotments are owned by the Parish Council and there are one hundred and forty plots which are all used, there is currently a waiting list of eighteen people. The allotments are rented by a wide range of people; young families, community groups and retired people; the plots not only provide fruit and vegetables but also social contact, a means of keeping fit and tranquillity from the everyday stress and strain of modern living.

The allotments are easy accessible from Blacksmith's Lane and vehicles can be parked in special areas so tools and produce can be dropped off and collected.

It is important that this area is protected so that local people can produce fresh crops which they would not be able to do without this facility.

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.

Blacksmith's Lane Allotment Gardens.

To many parishioners the allotment gardens have been central to their lives. Many tenants have worked the same plot for over forty years, some taking the plots over from their fathers.

There are approximately 130 plots, number change as plots are split to create small plots. The Parish Council manages the Allotments through an Allotment Committee comprising 3 councilors and two representatives from the tenants.

Allotment gardening provides healthy outdoor exercise linked with the enjoyment and benefits of growing your own vegetables.

The popularity of the allotments can be judged by the continued demand, and a long waiting list from parishioners.

The tenants support a local Produce Show, which this year will be open to residents of Prestbury.

The Allotments gardens are close to the centre of the village and are surrounded on three sides by residential properties, but the gardens themselves provide a tranquil of peaceful environment, enhanced by the views of the Cotswold Escarpment.

Allotments by their very nature attract wildlife, and the Blacksmith's Lane Allotment gardens are no exception, foxes, badgers, mice and rats, together with a wide variety of bird life are common sights.

I fully support their continued use as Allotment Gardens.

Yours sincerely
Cllr. John Payne
Cheltenham Borough Councillor for Prestbury.

Appendix 1

Wording from letter from allotment holder – name supplied

Dear Parish Clerk

Local Green Space- Blacksmith's Lane Allotment Gardens

It has been brought to my attention that the Parish Council has applied to have the Allotment Gardens protected from development under the evolving Cheltenham Borough Council Local Plan, and have been asked if I will support this application.

As a resident of Prestbury and an allotment tenant I fully support the application by the Parish Council.

As a tenant I fully appreciate the benefits of allotment gardening, which at times is hard work, but the setting of the Blacksmith's Lane Allotment Gardens provides a pleasant and tranquil setting; an escape from the ever increasing lives we appear to lead, with the added bonus of providing my family with fresh home grown fruit and vegetables.


As the Allotments tenants' representative on the Parish Council's Allotment Committee I see on a daily basis the enjoyment allotment gardening brings not only to the tenants, but their families and increasingly the number of children that are becoming involved.


The loss of the Allotments Gardens would be a devastating blow to hundreds of people in the village, where allotments have been a part of their lives for as long as people can remember.

Yours sincerely

(Name supplied)

CHECKLIST AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Robson Memorial Field	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site.</i> <i>Please indicate the scale.</i>	
	 <p>Robson Field – 65 x 69 metres</p>	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Prestbury Parish Council	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	

	Prestbury Parish Council is aware of and supports the application	
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>	
	The site is available to all residents, but primarily serves those in the Noverton area of Prestbury	
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	
	65 metres x 69 metres	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space)</i> <i>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 Robson Field is a small area of land.	
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 an integral part of the Parish despite being located on the boundary of the Parish, it acts as the gateway to the Cotswold Escarpment and the Cheltenham Circular Walk. Access to the fields is via a footbridge of a stream at the end of Roberts Road or via the Pieces footpath which runs from Bouncers Lane to Noverton Lane. Access may as be gained via the fields at the bottom of the Cotswold Escarpment.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	There is a clear and demonstrable need for this green space, being the only one with full public access in the Noverton area.	
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>	
	<p>The attached map shows the relationship of the Robson Field to the community. It is on the edge of the parish and has housing on one side of the field.</p>	
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>	
	<p>There are no barriers to access. All residents can access the Robson Field with no restrictions.</p>	
6	<p>Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
6.1	<p>Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council</p> <p><i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i></p>	
	<p>The Parish Council owns the Robson Field and undertakes all associated maintenance.</p>	
6.2	<p>Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals.</p> <p><i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i></p>	
	<p>None available</p>	
6.3	<p>Evidence of support from community leaders</p> <p><i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc.</i></p> <p><i>Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</i></p>	
	<p>As the Cheltenham Borough Councillor for Prestbury I fully support the Parish Council in its support for the Robson Field.</p>	
6.4	<p>Evidence of support from other groups</p> <p><i>e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</i></p>	

	No specific groups use the Robson Fields, so no such support is 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. Its significance is that it enhance the setting of Prestbury and provides excellent views to the Cotswold Escarpment.	
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 a watercourse and hedging to the north, to the west a large hedge screens the field from the Crematorium, the two remaining sides are natural hedges.	
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	<p>Do any historic rituals take place on the site?</p> <p><i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i></p>	
	No	

9	<p>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)</p> <p><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
9.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
9.2	<p>Is the site used for playing sport?</p> <p><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></p> <p><i>Further information – Sport England</i></p>	
	There are no formal arrangements for sporting activity. However, the field is used by children to play a range of sporting activities.	
9.3	<p>Are the public able to physically access the site?</p> <p><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></p> <p><i>Further information – Gloucestershire County Council</i></p>	
	As previously stated the site is readily accessible, with no restrictions.	
9.4	<p>Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when?</p> <p><i>e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc</i></p>	
	<p>The field gives access to open green space at the foot of the Cotswold Escarpment, and to footpaths, including the Cheltenham Circular Path. Dog walking and children’s games are the predominant activities.</p> <p>Parish council letter (Appendix 1) states that “the field on the outskirts of Prestbury provides a recreational facility to dog walkers, ramblers, families and is also used for picnics and a means of keeping fit; it gives access to the Cotswold Way and Cheltenham Circular Walk.”</p> <p>Borough Councillor letter (Appendix 2) states that “it is used on a regular basis by local children and families. It is used extensively by dog walkers as it gives access to other open fields which are in the Borough of Tewkesbury”.</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>	

	<i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there are any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	The Robson Field is a tranquil location, free as it is from intrusive traffic noise. Parish council letter (Appendix 1) states that benches have been provided for the public's use.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
	There is an abundance of wildlife, mice, rats, hedgehogs, foxes and badgers.	

	<p>Letter from parish council (Appendix 1) states that ‘wildlife and fauna can be observed in this field.’</p> <p>Letter from borough councillor (Appendix 2) states that “wildlife is abundant, predominately foxes and badgers plus a wide variety of birdlife”</p>	
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	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	<p>The Robson Field was bequeathed to the Parish for the enjoyment of residents, long may this continue.</p> <p>Links to national and local walks for the community.</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 Robson Memorial Field, Prestbury, granted protected status from development under the Cheltenham Borough Council Local Plan.

The Robson Memorial Field is owned by the Parish Council, having been bequeathed to the Parish some considerable years ago.

This field on the out skirts of Prestbury provides a recreational facility to dog walkers, ramblers, families and is also used for picnics and a means of keeping fit; it gives access to the Cotswold Way and the Cheltenham Circular Walk; wild life and fauna can also be observed in this field. The field has easy access and benches have been provided for the public's use.

It is important that this area remains a green space as it provides open air recreational benefit and links to national and local walks for the community.

Yours sincerely

Chris Franklin
Prestbury Parish Clerk

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.

The Alan J Robson Memorial Field.

This small field is situated on the south east boundary of the Parish, it was donated to the Parish from the de-la-Bere family, for the enjoyment of the residents. It is essentially a playing field, the only Parish

Council owned open space in that part of the village, and as such is used on a regular basis by local children and families. It is used extensively by dog walkers as it gives access to other open fields which are in the Borough of Tewkesbury.

The field also provides a gateway to the Cotswold Escarpment, the Cheltenham Circular Walk, and the Cotswold Way.

Being adjacent to open fields, wildlife is abundant, predominantly foxes and badgers plus a wide variety of birdlife.

I fully support the retention of the Robson field as it provides essential recreational space to residents on two local housing developments.

If you require any further evidence to support the application please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Cllr.John Payne

Cheltenham Borough Councillor for Prestbury.

UP HATHERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

REVIEW OF GREEN SPACES IN THE PARISH

A review of green spaces within Up Hatherley parish for Gloucestershire Rural Community Council and Cheltenham Borough Council including recommendations for Local Green Space areas to be incorporated within the Cheltenham Borough Local Plan. A report by the Open Spaces working group comprising:-

Parish Councillors:
Stuart Fowler
Roger Whyborn
Sarah Bamford
Richard Johnes

Version 6

6th January 2015

UP HATHERLEY PARISH COUNCIL - REVIEW OF GREEN SPACES IN THE PARISH

1. Executive Summary, and Background to this report

1.1) Cheltenham Borough Council (CBC) has commissioned a process to produce a new Local Plan, to cover all aspects of Planning Policy within the borough. This will sit under the Joint Core Strategy (JCS), and will supersede the now out of date 2006 Local Plan.

1.2) At its full Council meeting on 9th April 2014, which approved the final pre-consultation draft of the JCS, CBC determined to conduct a review of green spaces across its area, with a view to establishing which spaces would be suitable for designating as Local Green Spaces (LGSs) within the meaning of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraphs 76-78. This is a new designation for green space which gives a level of protection to appropriate spaces akin to that which would apply if they were Green Belt, and the qualifications are closely defined.

1.3) CBC subsequently appointed Gloucestershire Rural Community Council as its agent to assist in this review, and to consult with Parish Councils and community groups. Following a presentation to Up Hatherley Parish Council (UHPC) on 4th November 2014 by GRCC, the Parish Council established a working group to review all of the green spaces within its boundaries, with a view to deciding which ones were appropriate to be put forward as Local Green Spaces. The working group identified some nine pieces of green space within the parish, of all types but bigger than 0.1 Ha (¼ acre), as well as an area which is already green belt. Some of the spaces were less than 1/4 hectare, others up to 2 hectares but even where it did not consider that LGS criteria were met, the group decided to make recommendations as to appropriate protection for each piece of land.

1.4) As a result, two areas of open space were clearly identified, Chargrove Open Space, and Redthorne Way Open Space as being demonstrably special to the local community, and as having high amenity value, and further value as areas of trees and/or wildlife, and in which major loss of amenity would occur if it was decided to develop these areas, and which could not simply be replaced with an alternative green area of similar size. These two open spaces are put forward as firm proposals for Local Green Space designation.

The working group identified two further areas, as having high amenity value, Caernarvon Park, and Manor Park Open Space, but it did not consider it had sufficient resource to produce the necessary evidence within the very tight timescale of the consultation period. In the case of Caernarvon Park, the amenity value was very high, though it was felt the risk of development was relatively low.

A matter which became clear to the working group was the great shortage of green space existing within Up Hatherley Parish, hence the very high priority which the Parish Council places on protecting and maintaining green spaces within the area.

Finally it was observed that the green corridor between Davallia Drive and Justicia has never had any open space protection applied to it on CBC maps. It is recommended that this area is designated as Public Green Space, and the appropriate protections applied.

1.5) This report by the working group was presented to, and accepted by the Parish Council at its meeting of 6th January 2015.

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2. Initial evaluation of Green Spaces within Up Hatherley Parish

A map showing the location of all these spaces is attached as Appendix (1), with a street map attached at appendix (1a). As previously stated, some nine spaces were examined, an Initial Evaluation Matrix is shown at Appendix (2). The group had to do an initial sift to decide which sites met the criteria of the NPPF paragraphs 76 -78 as follows:

76. Local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them. By designating land as Local Green Space local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances. Identifying land as Local Green Space should therefore be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.

77. The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:

- where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
- where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.*

78. Local policy for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts

2.1) Chargrove Open Space

Chargrove Open Space is the name for the area of some 2 Ha (5 Acre), as designated by CBC, and which has a wide historic hedgerow, believed to be over 100 years old, running through it north-South, and which is historically known as Greatfield Park on east side, and it is understood, Holmer Park on the west side. Greatfield Park is the remnant of the much larger original "The Great Field".

This area is much used as an amenity space, including informal play such as football and use of frisbees etc. This space is one of the only two spaces large enough to allow people to 'spread themselves out' for these forms of activity. Also much used for dog walking and general recreation.

There is significant wildlife including nesting birds, and plant life, which is reported on at para 4A.11.3. It also immediately adjacent to a traditional orchard, and appears itself to have remnants of orchard, that is Perry trees within the historic hedge. It appears as "Public Green Space" on the 2006 CBC Local Plan. It is believed to be owned by CBC, and may have some covenants upon it. It represents a substantial green space between estates. The working group considered that it was a strong candidate for LGS designation because:

- It is the only space of 2 Ha within the parish.
- The amenity value is high.
- The historic hedgerow is irreplaceable.
- It is well used.
- It also acts as a significant buffer Green space between the estates at Timperley Way and Chargrove Lane.

Whilst the Parish is unaware of any immediate proposals for development, it is not feasible to replace this land by an alternative site, and it is the only green area of any significance within 300m of much of the south-west of the parish. This is shown at appendix (4)

2.2) Caernarvon Park

This is an area of some 1.1 Ha (2.6 Acre) and contains children's play areas, a football pitch, an informal marked running track, a shelter, and other amenities. A good deal of effort by CBC and others on restoration etc. went in during 1990's, in conjunction with the PALS group of volunteers, to restore the park after some years of neglect. It is a much used place for teenagers to "hang out" during the summer (in preference to less suitable areas such as Caernarvon Court and Morrisons area). Some of the history is shown in the photo at Appendix (3). Partly as a result of the high usage by young people, there were more enhancements to the park – particularly the hedging etc in the period 2007/2008.

It appears as "Public Green Space" on the 2006 CBC Local Plan. The land is owned and maintained by CBC. The working group considered that it was certainly a candidate for LGS designation, but in view of the limited resources which were to hand to evaluate Local Green Spaces, the group has not gathered significant evidence to promote this aim. Moreover the working group considered that the likelihood of an attempt to re-develop the site was very low, it is already a fully 'developed' park. Nevertheless Cheltenham Borough Council may wish to give consideration as to whether Caernarvon Park should be designated as Local Green Spaces under the forthcoming Cheltenham Local Plan. In any event the working group took the view that **this space should retain protection beyond the general level of "public green space" / "public open space"** because:

- The amenity value is very high
- It is the only park within the parish
- It is very heavily used, especially by children and young people
- It is the only green area of any significance within 300m of much of the northern part of the parish. This is shown at appendix (4).

The Parish Council should explore further options for protection of this park with CBC.

2.3) Redthorne Way Open Space

This site is a site bounded by Morrisons supermarket, Greatfield Park School, and housing around Redthorne Way, which is defined in more detail in paragraph 4B.

This is a green area of some 1.2 Ha (3 Acre), incorporating a Children's play area, and an informal green space area used for playing ball games, cricket/frisbees etc; it is also used for dog walking and picnicking etc., and also as a place to sit down quietly, perhaps after shopping in the nearby centre. It benefits from a wooded edge with very substantial row of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees, which can be fully appreciated when viewed from the furthest corner of the open space. There will be some significant wildlife and plant life, particularly within the wooded area edging the site.

It is "Public Green Space" on the 2006 Plan and owned by CBC. As such it acts as an important buffer of Green space between estates. Whilst the Parish is unaware of any immediate proposals for development, its proximity to commercial and other non-residential property is a matter of latent concern. (Both Morrisons and Greatfield Park Primary school are at capacity on their sites.) It is not easily replaceable by an alternative site, it is the only green area of any significance within 300m of much of the south-east of the parish, and indeed parts of Warden Hill. This is shown at appendix (4). The working group considered that it was a strong candidate for LGS designation because:

- The amenity value is high.
- The wooded edge is important and used by local playgroup.
- The area provides a significant green buffer and place of relative tranquillity between the bustling shopping centre, and the housing areas of Up Hatherley.
- It is heavily used, especially by children and young people.

2.4) Manor Park

This is an area of some 0.53Ha (1.3 Acre) between Sedgewick Gardens and Manor Park. It is mainly amenity space, with some informal play, as well as being a area for dog walking.

It is "Public Green Space" on the 2006 Plan and owned by CBC. As such it acts as an important buffer of Green space between estates. It was considered by the working group for Local Green Space, being adjacent to existing recent development, and thus under possible threat. However in applying the "demonstrably special" test, after further evaluation it was felt appropriate to concentrate on the fore-mentioned two sites at Chargrove Open Space and Redthorne Way Open Space as being more special, and indeed larger.

The working group considered that CBC should retain protection of this land as "public green space" / "public open space". It was important to retain protection because:

- The amenity value is high, for informal play and walking, including dog walking.
- The importance of green space between estates.

2.5) Broad Oak Way Open Space

This is an area of some 1.2 Ha (3 Acre) and is of reasonably substantial size (for the area of Up Hatherley), being important as green corridor between otherwise very large unbroken tracts of housing; it is used as amenity space, with some informal play. It is also used for dog walking, and as a traffic free route to/from local schools. According to the CBC notices in the area, ball games of up to four people are permitted, but in practice this is treated as guidance.

It appears as "Public Green Space" on the 2006 CBC Local Plan. The land is mainly owned by CBC, though there some GCC owned footpaths and verges which are public highway land.

The working group considered that CBC should retain protection of this land as "public green space" / "public open space". It would be difficult in practice to develop but it was important to retain protection because:

- The amenity value is high
- The importance of green corridor for walking to/from school, or just walking through

2.6) Space between Davallia Drive and Justicia Way

This is a green area of some 0.8 Ha (2 Acre) which is important as green corridor between otherwise very large unbroken tracts of housing; it is used as amenity space, with some informal play. It is also used for dog walking, and as a traffic free route to/from local schools.

The ownership of this area is unclear, it is thought to still be in the ownership of the developer. Given its importance as green corridor/ green break between estates, it is proposed that it be protected as a new area of "public green space" / "public open space" because:

- The amenity value is high
- The importance of green corridor for walking to/from school, or just walking through

2.7) Fernleigh Green

This is a green area of some 0.27Ha (0.7 Acre) which is important as ornamental Green. It is primarily amenity space, containing a number of mature trees, including a fine willow tree. In addition it is used annually on Christmas Eve by the Parish Council for the singing of Christmas Carols, an activity well supported by several hundred people. This space is owned by the Parish Council.

The working group recommends that the protection of this green is maintained as existing public green space/ public open space. However due to its small size and its ownership by the Parish Council it was seen as inappropriate to seek LGS status for this site.

2.8) Long Mynd Green

This is a green area of some 0.25Ha (0.6 Acre) which is important as ornamental Green. It is primarily amenity space, containing a number of mature trees, including three willow trees.

The working group recommends that the protection of this green is maintained as existing public green space/ public open space. However due to its small size and the fact that it is also owned by the Parish Council, it was seen as inappropriate to seek LGS status for this site.

2.9) Coney Gree

This is a green 'island' of some 0.14Ha (0.3 Acre) between a service road and the main carriageway in Hatherley Road. It is amenity green space, with some flowers and trees. Its ownership is unclear.

It is shown as "Public Green Space" on the 2006 CBC Plan. The working group recommends that the protection of this green is maintained as existing public green space/ public open space. However due to its small size and limited usability, it was seen as inappropriate to seek LGS status for this site.

2.10) Green Belt to the side of Sunnyfield Lane.

It would be inappropriate to recommend any change in designation from continuing green belt, given that is what is proposed in the JCS. However the working group considered it worthwhile to point out some demonstrably special features of the part of this area which is close to the Sunnyfield Lane/Up Hatherley Way junction, and is a former traditional orchard; this evidence is attached at appendix (5). It is also germane to this study to note the existence of a second traditional orchard adjacent to it, within the Borough of Tewkesbury, in the corner of Chargrove Lane and Up Hatherley Way, on the "country" side of the road. This second former traditional orchard is relevant to the proposal to designate Chargrove Open Space as an LGS, there being a biodiversity corridor between this site and Chargrove Open Space, as is evidenced at Appendix (12).

2.11) Other areas, particularly around Windermere Road

A number of areas of green space exist in the parish, as green breaks in housing, which do not appear as public green space on the 2006 CBC Local plan. None of these are over 0.1 Ha, and whilst important, are not large enough for significant development. Indeed they should not be developed in the working group's view. There are a significant number of such sites particularly around the Windermere Road area, sometimes known as the Lakeside Estate, which add a significant green element to what would otherwise be large tracts of built environment without greenery.

Given the recent number of planning applications by Cheltenham Borough Homes to build houses on garage sites within this area, the working group draws to the attention of the Borough Council to the importance of maintaining these green areas in Windermere Road and roads off it.

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3) General level of provision of Green Space, and its importance in Up Hatherley

The working group was impressed negatively by how little green space exists within the parish boundaries, and the urban environs beyond. The ANGSt (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard - Natural England 2010) standards recommend that everyone, wherever they live, should have an accessible natural greenspace:

- of at least 2 hectares (5 acres) in size, no more than 300 metres (325 yards) (5 minutes walk) from home;
- at least one accessible 20 hectare (50 acres) site within two kilometres (1.25 miles) of home;
- one accessible 100 hectare (250 acres) site within five kilometres (3 miles) of home; and
- one accessible 500 hectare (1240 acres) site within ten kilometres (6.25 miles) of home; plus
- at least one hectare (2.5 acres) of statutory Local Nature Reserves per 1000 population.

The first of those criteria is not met across Up Hatherley, with only one space of 2 hectares (5 acres) in the parish, and with much of the parish being considerably in excess of 300m away. If we **reduce** the standard to a minimum of 1 hectares (2.5 acres), no more than 300 metres from home, and ignore areas which are only 'corridors', we get a situation where most of the parish is within 300m of a 1 Hectare+ site, in respect one or more of the following spaces which is depicted on Appendix (4):

- Open Space around Brizen (in Warden Hill area, outside parish)
- Weavers Field, Warden Hill
- Redthorne Way Open Space – in Up Hatherley parish
- Caernarvon Park – in Up Hatherley parish
- Chargrove Open Space – in Up Hatherley parish
- Open space in the Reddings, across Hollis Road footbridge
- Benhall open space, across 'Cloddymore' footbridge, off Hatherley Road

Even this reduced standard – **which is in no way accepted as good practice**, places some areas, especially around Hatherley Road more than 300m from accessible green space of 1 Ha or more.

The second, third, and fourth criteria are largely met by the extensive green belt to the south of Up Hatherley Way. However this area is across a busy distributor road without safe crossing points, except near Brizen, so this green belt land does not satisfy the first of the criteria, namely to be able to access green space within 5 minutes walk.

Appendix (4) map therefore demonstrates the great shortage of green space existing within Up Hatherley Parish, and points up the very high priority which the Parish Council places on maintaining and enhancing those green spaces which are identified in this report.

4A) Local Green Space Evaluation of Chargrove Open Space – using CBC ‘Toolkit’

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	✓
	Chargrove Open Space. (North of Up Hatherley Way, it is located between Timperley Way and Chargrove Lane.)	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	✓
	See map at appendix (1) and scale bar on map. Also street map appendix (1a)	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	✓
	Up Hatherley Parish Council	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	✓
	Cheltenham Borough Council. It may also have some covenants upon it.	
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)	✓
	To be discussed with CBC	
1.6	Photographs of site	✓
	Attached as Appendix (6)	
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>	✓
	This site serves the whole of Up Hatherley and parts of Warden Hill, being an area of 3000-4000 households, of which approximately 700 households within 300 metres.	
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, and any development would seriously impair ability of the remaining site to function as a Green Open Space.	

4A - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Chargrove Open Space

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	✓
	2 Hectares (5 acres)	
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>	✓
	Not by any criteria, all within parish built up area.	
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>	✓
	Yes, this is evident from the map supplied, being surrounded on three sides by houses.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	✓
	Yes – serious need: The ANGSt guideline of at least 2 hectares (5 acres) in size, no more than 300 metres (325 yards) (5 minutes walk) from home is not met in much of Up Hatherley Parish. Importantly , this is evidenced at paragraph 3 of the Parish Council's REVIEW OF GREEN SPACES IN THE PARISH at appendix (4). Chargrove Open Space is the only green area of any significance within 300m (5 minutes walk) of much of the south-west of the parish.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	✓
	The site is within immediate proximity to housing, and within 1.2km of the most of the parish. It appears as "Public Green Space" on the 2006 CBC Local Plan. It represents a substantial green space between estates. This question is also covered at point 4.1, and further evidenced in the map at appendix (4).	

4A - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Chargrove Open Space

5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	✓
	No barriers. Easy and flat access through several gates and one stile.	
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 Up Hatherley Parish Council – appendix (9).	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	✓
	Letters from local groups – appendix (8).	
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>	✓
	Letters from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP – appendix (9)	
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>	✓
	Survey of residents in surrounding area – appendix (10), with references to walking running, and a place to sit, enjoy the wildlife, play games, children's activities/play. Some also named beauty or tranquillity.	
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.	
	Formal evidence is not supplied under this criteria, but several survey respondents have identified the beauty of this site as significant -Appendix 10.	
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>	
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>	

4A - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Chargrove Open Space

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>	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
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>	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its historic significance” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	✓
	YES	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	NO	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	✓
	YES . Chargrove Open Space is the name for the area of some 2 Ha (5 Acre), as designated by CBC, and which has a wide historic hedgerow, known as Greatfield Hedge, believed to be over 100 years old, running through it north-South, and of some 150m length and in excess of 10m wide. The site is historically known as Greatfield Park on its east side, and it is understood, Holmer Park on the west side. Greatfield Park is the remnant of the much larger original "The Great Field". This is also referenced in appendix (12).	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	✓
	Greatfield hedge separates Holmer Park from Greatfield Park. The latter is the remnant of the much larger original "The Great Field", nearly all of which was eventually build on during the urban development of Up Hatherley, including the area which is now Timperley Way. Prior to building Up Hatherley Way the site would have been contiguous green space with the area of green belt now known as “Chargrove triangle” to the south of Up Hatherley Way. This is also referenced in appendix (12).	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	Not that we know of.	

4A - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Chargrove Open Space

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>	✓
	Informal sports, ball games etc. Use of Frisbees and running/jogging etc.	
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>	✓
	Yes in all cases, good footpath accesses, with paths across, disabled access.	
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>	✓
	The site has been used for informal recreation since it was "created" by virtue of building the adjacent housing. This is borne out by local residents at Appendix (10) survey. It is much used as an amenity space, including informal sports/play such as football and use of frisbees etc. This space is one of the only two spaces large enough to allow people to 'spread themselves out' for these forms of activity. Also much used for dog walking and general recreation. It is also an important local area for blackberry picking around late August/September	
10	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u> " (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	✓
	The area is tranquil once away from its boundary with Up Hatherley Way.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	

4A - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Chargrove Open Space

11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
	Not that we know of, but see also paragraph 11.3 & see support letters from Glos Orchard Trust & Glos Wildlife Trust at Appendices (11) & (13)	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ; RSPB	✓
	There is a great deal of wildlife to be found on this site. Mrs Nelson’s e-mailed report, at appendix (12) details the existence of a large population of sparrows and starlings in the Greatfield Park hedge. In addition the biodiversity of the site is important in conjunction with the former traditional orchard area on the opposite side of Up Hatherley Way, which contains much important wildlife including bats. It also appears itself to have remnants of orchard, that is Perry trees within the historic hedge. Ms Nelson advises that this (adjacent) area is a Biodiversity Action Plan Habitat. Mrs Mary Nelson is well known in the parish as a local wildlife specialist. The hedge is also a major bee site, and contains a magnificent mature oak providing a habitat rich in diversity to support insects, nesting birds, and plant life, fungi, etc.	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ;	✓
	See paragraph 11.3.	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	We are not aware of any formal studies of wildlife in the area, but in the light of Mrs Nelson’s report, it may well be useful to consider conducting such a study, which should also research the question of remnants of an orchard. The Parish Council working group endorses the findings of The Gloucestershire Orchard Trust in its submission to the Cheltenham Local Plan [http://tinyurl.com/nda2t3m and appendices 11,12, 13]	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u> ”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	✓
	General public concern about high value and shortage of green spaces within the Parish area, as in their comments to the survey Appendix (10). See 4.1	

4B) Local Green Space Evaluation of Redthorne Way Open Space – using CBC ‘Toolkit’

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	✓
	Redthorne Way Open Space. (located behind Morrisons / Hillview Community Centre etc)	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	✓
	See map at appendix (1) and scale bar on map. Also street map appendix (1a)	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	✓
	Up Hatherley Parish Council	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	✓
	Cheltenham Borough Council	
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)	✓
	To be discussed with CBC	
1.6	Photographs of site	✓
	Attached as Appendix (7)	
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>	
	This area serves much of Up Hatherley, particularly at its eastern end, and much of Warden Hill. This amounts to some 3000 households, of which approximately 700 households within 300 metres.	
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, and any development would seriously impair ability of the remaining site to function as a Green Open Space.	
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	✓

4B - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Redthorne Way Open Space

	No	
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	
	1.2 Hectares (3 acres)	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space)</i> <i>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>	✓
	Not by any criteria, all within parish built up area.	
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>	✓
	Yes, it is surrounded by houses, a primary school, and a supermarket/community complex.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	✓
	Yes – serious need: The ANGSt guideline of at least 2 hectares (5 acres) in size, no more than 300 metres (325 yards) (5 minutes walk) from home is not met in much of Up Hatherley Parish. Importantly , this is evidenced at paragraph 3 of the Parish Council’s REVIEW OF GREEN SPACES IN THE PARISH at appendix (4). Redgrove Way Open Space is the only accessible green area of significance within 300m (5 minutes walk) of much of the south-east of the parish. ☐	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	✓
	The site is within 300m proximity of about 700 houses, and within 1.5 km of the most of the parish. It appears as “Public Green Space” on the 2006 CBC Local Plan. It represents a significant green space between estates. This is apparent in the map at appendix (4).	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	✓
	No barriers. There are three flat open access points at the corners of the site.	

4B - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Redthorne Way Open Space

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 Up Hatherley Parish Council – appendix (9).	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	✓
	Letters from local groups – appendix (8).	
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>	✓
	Letters from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP – appendix (9)	
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>	✓
	Survey of residents in surrounding area – appendix (10) who especially valued walking and the children’s playground/children’s activities, with some interest as well in the site as a place of tranquillity, as well as for wildlife.	
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 ?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	Evidence is not supplied under this criteria.	
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>	
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>	
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>	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	

4B - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Redthorne Way Open Space

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>	
8	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u> " (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	NO, Evidence is not supplied under this criteria. However for background information, this site was designed to be left as green space following construction of the estates in the 1980s. The site is sometimes known locally as Cheriton Park, and confusingly sometimes wrongly labelled as Greatfield Park – which is actually elsewhere. It is bounded by Morrisons supermarket, Hillview Community Centre, Greatfield Park School, and housing around Cheriton Close and Redthorne Way. For the avoidance of doubt we have used the CBC official designation of Redthorne Way Open Space	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	No	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	Not that we know of.	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	Not that we know of.	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	Not that we know of.	
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	

4B - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Redthorne Way Open Space

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>	✓
	Informal sports, ball games and running/jogging etc	
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>	✓
	Yes in all cases, good footpath access, with paths across, disabled access.	
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>The site has been used for informal recreation since it was created in the 1980s by virtue of building the adjacent housing. It is much used as an amenity space, including informal play such as football and use of frisbees etc. This site is also host to a well used children's playground. The area is also used for dog walking and picnicking etc., and also as a place to sit down quietly, perhaps after shopping in the nearby centre. This is borne out by local residents at Appendix (10) - survey.</p> <p>The area is well situated for community use being near to the shopping complex of Morrisons and other smaller retailers, and immediately adjacent to both the community centre and library.</p> <p>The area benefits from a wooded edge with a substantial row of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees, which can be fully appreciated when viewed from the furthest corner of the open space, as can be seen from the photographs at Appendix (7). There is wildlife and plant life, within the wooded area edging the site</p>	
10	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u> " (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	✓
	The site is tranquil, as it is away from all main roads and separated from the shopping centre by its wooded edge.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	

4B - continued) Local Green Space Evaluation of Redthorne Way Open Space

11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	✓
	YES, Marginally. It is known that children from the local playgroup have explored the wooded edge of the site with their leaders in search of wildlife as at point 11.4. This is evidenced in appendix (8).	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	✓
	No known special habitats or species.	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	✓
	Any area with mature deciduous trees has some flora and fauna which should be treasured, especially in an area where mature trees are in short supply.	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No	
12	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u> "; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	✓
	General public concern about high value and great shortage of green spaces within the Parish area, as in their comments to the survey Appendix (10).	

5) Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 That Chargrove Open Space, and Redthorne Way Open Space be designated as Local Green Space as in paras 76-78 of the NPPF under the forthcoming Cheltenham Borough Local Plan.

5.2 That Cheltenham Borough Council re-affirms the strategic importance of Caernarvon Park within the green space strategy for the Up Hatherley parish area, and considers designating this area also as Local Green Space. The Parish council notes that Caernarvon Park, in combination with Chargrove Open Space, and Redthorne Way Open Space is a necessary component of the green space required to provide access to at least minimal green spaces of 1 Ha or more across the parish within 5 minutes' walk. If CBC is not minded to grant LGS status to Caernarvon Park, then strong assurances need to be given as to alternative protections to this park, over and above the general Public Green Space designation.

5.3 That the following areas, as in the map at Appendix (1), be designated as Public Green Spaces (Public Open Spaces) under the forthcoming Cheltenham Local Plan:

- Caernarvon Park ~ with further protection as in 5.2
- Manor Park Open Space
- Land between the houses in Broad Oak Way and Caernarvon Close
- Land between Davallia Drive and Justicia Way
- Fernleigh Green
- Long Mynd Green
- Coney Gree.

In the case of land between Davallia Drive and Justicia Way, this will be a new designation.

-ENDS-

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Enclosures:

List of Appendices

- (1) Map of the area listing all the green spaces above 0.1 Ha.
- (1a) Map of the parish with street names.
- (2) Initial evaluation Matrix.
- (3) Caernarvon Park history, including work of the PALS group.
- (4) Map of the area showing the extent to which the Natural England ANGSt first criterion is met within Up Hatherley, as in green space within 300 metres' or 5 minutes' walk of home.
- (5) Write-up on the area of green belt including historic orchard near to Sunnyfield roundabout.
- (6) Photographs of Chargrove Open Space (otherwise known as Greatfield Park + Holmer park).
- (7) Photographs of Redthorne Way Open Space (otherwise known as Cheriton Park)
- (8) Supporting comments from Hillview Playgroup.
- (9) Covering Letter from Up Hatherley Parish Council and .Letters of support from local MP and elected Councillors.
- (10) Results of survey of local residents.
- (11) Supporting comment by Orchard Biodiversity Officer of People's Trust for endangered species (accessed via Gloucestershire Orchard Trust).
- (12) Reports on wildlife and biodiversity at Chargrove Open Space, from Mrs Mary Nelson.
- (13) Supporting comment by Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

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Cheltenham Borough Council Local Green Spaces research by communities: INITIAL ASSESSMENT MATRIX Appendix (2)

Use this form to record initial assessment of space demonstrably special to your community /holds a particular local significance

Name of neighbourhood/parish: Up Hatherley Parish Council		Date: 11 th November 2014 P 1 of 2			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name of site Name of assessor(s) Approximate size of site 	How is this site special and how is it used? (indicate scale of use) E.g. Demonstrably special because of its <u>beauty</u> , <u>historic significance</u> (heritage), <u>recreation</u> (formal and informal), <u>wildlife</u> , <u>tranquillity</u> , any other reason.	Give details if the site is allocated for development (planning permission granted, pending or named in the current Local Plan or named in the emerging JCS or Local Plan)	Give details of any current protective designations, SSSIs or conservation areas	Other comments, incl ownership.	Conclusions: Will you pursue this site as a suggested Local Green Space by completing the full assessment (CBC toolkit)? Why/why not?
Chargrove Open Space 2 Ha (5 Acre)	Historic hedgerow, amenity, informal play including football, dog walking. General recreation. Wildlife = TBA	None	Amenity Green Space "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Owned by CBC Check any covenants on this land. Substantial green space between estates	YES
Broad Oak Way Open Space 1.2 Ha (3 Acre)	Mainly amenity space, some informal play.	None	Amenity Green Space "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Owned by CBC Important as green corridor(s)	NO Retain protection as existing public green space/ public open space
Caernarvon Park 1.1 Ha (2.6 Acre)	Children's play areas, football and amenity, a lot of volunteer effort went in during 1990's through PALS on restoration etc. More enhancements to hedging etc in 2000's.	None	Parks and Gardens "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Owned by CBC	YES
Redthorne Open Space (aka Cheriton Park) 1.2 Ha (3 Acre)	Children's play area, informal play/cricket/frisbees etc, dog walking and picnicking etc. Trees/wooded area at one edge. Wildlife = TBA	None	Amenity Green Space "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Owned by CBC Green space between estates. Adjacent to non-residential development, and could become under threat.	YES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Name of site Name of assessor(s) Approximate size of site 	How is this site special and how is it used? (indicate scale of use) E.g. Demonstrably special because of its beauty, historic significance (heritage), recreation (formal and informal), wildlife, tranquility, any other reason.	Give details if the site is allocated for development (planning permission granted, pending or named in the current Local Plan or named in the emerging JCS or Local Plan)	Give details of any current protective designations, SSSIs or conservation areas	Other comments, incl ownership.	Conclusions: Will you pursue this site as a suggested Local Green Space by completing the full assessment (CBC toolkit)? Why/why not?
Space between Davallia Drive and Justicia Way 0.8 Ha (2 Acre)	Mainly amenity space, some informal play, dog walking.	None	Unprotected	Ownership unclear - developer? Important as green corridor/ green break between estates.	NO Propose add new protection as public green space/ public open space **
Fernleigh Green 0.27Ha (0.7 Acre)	Amenity space Trees Important as Ornamental Green Used for annual Christmas Carols	None	Amenity Green Space "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Owned by Parish Council	NO Retain protection as existing public green space/ public open space in PC ownership.
Long Mynd Green 0.25Ha (0.6 Acre)	Amenity space Trees Important as Ornamental Green	None	Amenity Green Space "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Owned by Parish Council	NO Retain protection as existing public green space/ public open space.
Manor Park (green space adj to Sedgewick) 0.53Ha (1.3 Acre)	Mainly amenity space, some informal play, dog walking.	None	Amenity Green Space "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Owned by CBC Adjacent to existing recent development, and could become under threat.	YES
Coney Gree 0.14Ha (0.3 Acre)	Amenity space, some flowers and trees.	None	Amenity Green Space "Public Green Space" on 2006 Plan	Ownership unclear	NO (Too small) Retain protection as existing public green space/ public open space.

(Above excluding existing Green Belt which we comment on elsewhere)**

Signed on behalf of Up Hatherley Parish Council:

Roger Whyborn

** Put in report

Date: 11-Nov-2014

THE HISTORY OF CAERNARVON PARK

From a farmer's field in the 1960s, Caernarvon Park has come a long way.

When the Coombe Glen Estate (Long Mynd Avenue, Carmarthen Road and Pembroke Road area) was built, in 1963, it was surrounded by green fields. Children played in the trees and long grass. The hay was cut and, on occasion, was spread in the gardens. In those days there was a footpath across the fields to Green Farm where you could buy milk and eggs. This is now the one stop shop in Alma Road.

Ten years later play sessions began for the building of Broad Oak Way. With a ban on ball games on the Mynd and Fernleigh Greens, local parents feared there would be nowhere for their children to play, so they raised a petition which they presented to the Council. As a result, 'Green Farm recreation area' was created, with promise from the council that it would never be built on. The parents were delighted to have secured a field for children to play in.



Caernarvon Park Fun Day

In later years play equipment was installed – the swings and roundabout you see now, a very high slide and climbing frame, all on concrete bases. The slide was damaged by fire in the late 1980s and replaced by a small climbing frame with a slide – on a safe surface this time.



Local children and Park Rangers undertaking native tree planting

However, the whole facility was in a neglected state and waterlogged in winter, so one of those who had organised the original petition began a campaign to improve it. After a public meeting PALS (Play Area & Leisure Scheme) was formed. PALS fundraised and worked with Cheltenham Borough Council and other organisations to improve the park. The first phase saw installation of a play area for young children, a basketball hoop and seating for teenagers. The hedge was lowered and the name changed to Caernarvon Park.

Further improvements followed – a circular path, an archway at the entrance, and native planting of oak, ash, willow and birch trees, with wildflower meadow areas, to encourage wildlife.

The archway was partially funded by a Jubilee grant, commemorating the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002. The paths and planting were paid for entirely by a grant from the Gloucestershire Environmental Trust with Land Fill Tax contributions donated by Cory Environmental. They were installed under the direction of Cheltenham Borough Council with design help from pupils of Lakeside Primary School.

The paths give year-round access for everyone and we have a park to be proud of – Caernarvon Park.

Caernarvon Park

This facility has been developed by Cheltenham Borough Council in conjunction with PALS of Caernarvon Park. Help us to look after your park by following the

Park Code

Ball Games

Ball games should only be played in designated areas. The use of hard balls (golf, cricket etc.) is NOT permitted in this park.

Cycling

Cyclists should give way to pedestrians at all times and show due consideration to other park users.

Dogs

Keep your dog under control and clean up after it. Do not allow your dog to annoy other people or frighten children.

Litter

Please use the bins provided or take your litter home.

Children's Play Area

The play area is intended for children of 12 years and under. Older children should use the adult facilities provided.

The Park Managers thank you for your help.

General Information

If you require further information or would like to report misuse of the Park please contact the Green Environment Division on: 01242 250019.

E-mail: parksandgardens@cheltenham.gov.uk.



CHELTENHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

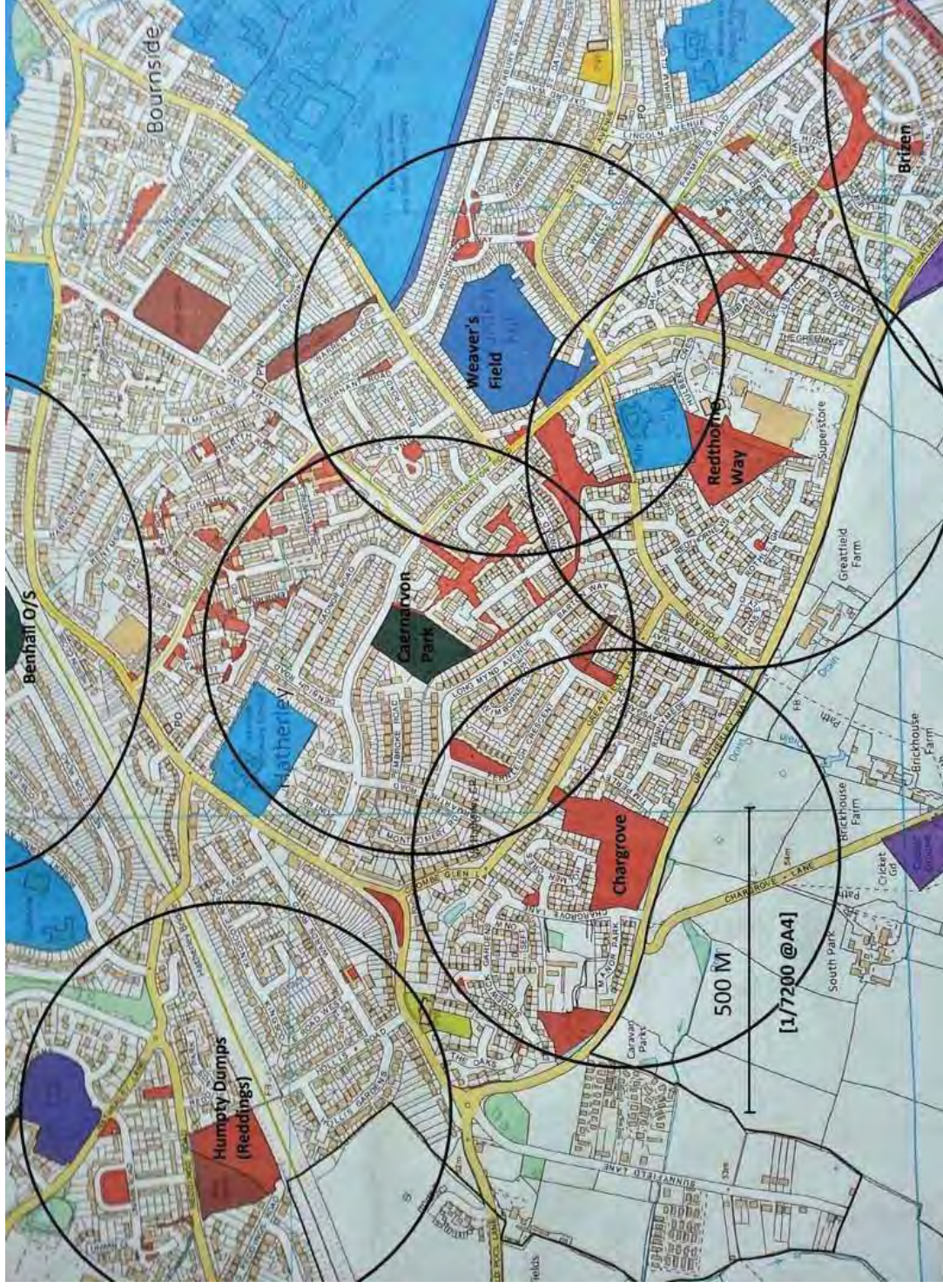


CHILDS PLAY
CENTRE

PALS



Pictures showing various facilities with children braving the December 2014 weather.



Appendix 4 Proximity of Residential areas of Up Hatherley Parish to public Green Spaces in excess of 1 Ha, within 300M (5 minutes walking distance) of each of the spaces. Note: Green space on the southern (Tewkesbury) side of Up Hatherley Way is difficult to access from northern (Cheltenham side) – and therefore not considered to be within the 5 minutes walking distance, except at Brizen where there is a crossing point.

A significant green space for the community of Up Hatherley is the triangle of land bordered by Sunnyfield Lane and Up Hatherley Way. This area is on the "country" side of Up Hatherley Way within Cheltenham Borough and is in green belt.

The triangle of approximately 3.5 hectares is in private ownership. At the junction of Sunnyfield Lane and Up Hatherley Lane, the triangle is an overgrown orchard and there are large areas of brambles around the edges of the field. The grassy area is occasionally occupied by 1 or 2 horses and is annually mowed.

Although the land is privately owned, it has a high amenity value for residents as the land supports wildlife: rabbits, pheasants, foxes, deer and many different species of small mammals, insects and birds. In late Summer and Autumn, residents of all ages greatly enjoy the pleasures of "food for free" (blackberry picking!).

27-12-2014

Note. This site should not be confused with a similar traditional orchard site adjacent, or nearly so, at the corner of Chargrove Lane and Up Hatherley Way, on the "country", i.e. Tewkesbury Borough side of the latter road, and referred to in appendix (12) of this report.

<http://ptes.org/get-involved/surveys/countryside-2/traditional-orchard-survey/orchard-maps/>



Appendix 6 - Chargrove Open Space – otherwise known as Greatfield Park with Holmer Park.
-showing children playing (with permission), dog walkers, the magnificent Oak Tree, and historic hedgerow. Pictures taken December 2014.



Appendix (7) - Redthorne Way Open Space – otherwise known as Cheriton Park.
-showing children's playground and wooded edge and other views. Pictures taken December 2014.

Up Hatherley Parish Council – PROTECTING OUR OPEN SPACES FROM DEVELOPMENT

December 2014

BACKGROUND – ASKING VIEWS OF LOCAL GROUPS

The Parish Council has been asked to take part in a "Local Green Spaces" review which Cheltenham Borough Council is doing within its so called Local Plan. This will form part of the Borough Council's strategic planning for up to the next 15 years, and determines which land is available for development, and which is protected as parks and open spaces; a new category is being introduced for places which are particularly special to the community which is called "Local Green Spaces", which would have similar level of protection to green belt.

The Parish Council is interested to know views about the green spaces in the Parish which hold special importance to local groups and their members, which can be incorporated into their evidence as to what is special. This is important because it may be possible to increase the level of protection provided under local planning policy. No open spaces in Up Hatherley Parish are currently threatened with development.

Group name: GREATFIELD PLAYGROUP Contact Phone number: 07591 214591
E-mail etc (optional): _____

1) Name/location of Open space RED THORNE OPEN SPACE - (BEHIND HILLVIEW)

2) It is of special important to our group because of its

Walking (including dog walking) or exercise ☐
Informal Sports (Football, cricket, Frisbees) ☐
Wildlife ☒ History ☐

Tick '✓' all that apply
Childrens Playground / Children's activities ☒
Place to meet, sit, chat, or picnic ☐
Beauty, history or tranquillity (circle which) ☒

3) Please expand on your answer to Q2

THE CHILDREN IN THE PLAYGROUP LIKE TO GO OUT INTO THIS AREA DURING THE SNOW.

WE ALSO LIKE TO EXPLORE THE WOODED AREA FOR ITS WILDLIFE ETC.

OUTSIDE PLAYGROUP TIMES THE CHILDREN & THEIR PARENTS LIKE VISIT THE CHILDRENS PLAY AREA WHICH IS WELL USED.

IMPORTANT TO KEEP THIS AREA, AS THERE ARE NOT OTHER AREAS NEARBY.

Name/Signature of contact

 (KELLY BLOOMFIELD)
Thank you for your time. Please return to either of the following addresses by 28th December 2014:

UP HATHERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

Clerk – Kathryn Oakey, 15 Holmer Crescent, Up Hatherley, Cheltenham, GL51 3LR
Chairman – Stuart Fowler, 16 The Oaks, Up Hatherley, Cheltenham, GL51 3TS

Elin Tattersall
Assistant Chief Executive
Gloucestershire Rural Community Council,
Community House,
15 College Green,
Gloucester,
GL1 2LZ

8th January, 2015

Dear Elin,

Local Green Spaces Review

Following your presentation to Up Hatherley Parish Council in November, a working group was established to review those local green spaces in the Parish accessible to our residents.

The report of the working group is enclosed from which you will see that the group's recommendation is for Chargrove Open space and Redthorne Way Open space to be designated as Local Green Spaces. The report has unequivocal support from the Parish Council: these spaces are demonstrably special to the local community; they have high amenity value and further value as areas of trees and/or wildlife.

Along with the adjacent Green Belt, Caernarvon Park and other smaller green spaces in the Parish, are the vital "Green Lung" which makes Up Hatherley a healthy place for people to live.

We ask for these spaces to be considered as very strong candidates for designation as Local Green Spaces for inclusion in the emerging CBC Local Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart Fowler



Mrs K Oakey
Clerk
Up Hatherley Parish Council
15 Holmer Crescent
Up Hatherley
Cheltenham
GL51 3LR

7 January 2015

Local Green Space designations in Up Hatherley

I have been contacted about two possible Local Green Space designations in the parish of Up Hatherley. I take a keen interest in this as I was responsible for drafting the original Liberal Democrat policy in opposition which became the LGS designation when the coalition implemented the National Planning Policy Framework. There were effective protections in place for green spaces that were important for their scientific value or their landscape quality but nothing for local communities, particularly in urban areas, that simply wanted to protect green spaces for their intrinsic value to local people. Local green space is good for people's mental and physical health and is vital for free recreation, which is also known to reduce health inequalities; it absorbs pollution, both carbon emissions which contribute to global warming and dangerous particulate pollution which contribute to heart disease, respiratory and other problems; it can teach us, and particularly our children, about nature, wildlife and our local natural heritage; it can provide accessible and tranquil spaces for simple enjoyment; and it can provide local food production.

The agreement was that these Local Green Space designations would not be used randomly but as part of the plan-making process and I'm delighted that Cheltenham Borough Council has decided to pro-actively look for Local Green Spaces to designate in their local plan-making and that your parish has taken up the challenge.

Hatherley has obviously seen a great deal of development in recent decades and so it is now very important to protect the remaining green spaces for the increased local population. The pressure for development has not diminished though and I strongly support the designation of two sites you have identified:

Local Green Space at Redthorne Way

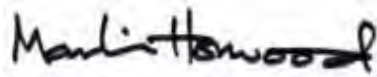
This space is in an area which has seen a great deal of development in recent decades and attracts traffic to Morrisons supermarket as well as through traffic, so its environmental value is obvious as a green lung and buffer between large areas of development. It also provides an important and well used children's play area near Hillview and not far from the local primary school. I know it is special to the local community and is used for informal play, cricket, frisbee throwing and dog walking. I understand it is also the only piece of accessible green space over 1Ha within 5 minutes walk which is important for less mobile residents. It has a wooded edge with deciduous & coniferous trees which are important in the absorption of CO₂ and particulate pollution in a built-up area.

Local green Space at Chargrove

This 2 hectare site is a significant area of local natural heritage with an historic hedgerow, mature oak trees and perry trees. The area provides an important habitat for wildlife, is a major bee site and provides for nesting birds every spring. In hosting local perry trees it is part of an historic local natural landscape which also includes the historic orchard within the so-called Chargrove triangle which enjoys National Biodiversity Action Plan Habitat Status. It is also an important amenity space for informal play and recreation including football and dog walking. It is the only piece of accessible green space over 1Ha within 5 minutes' walk, again important to local residents with less mobility in particular.

I strongly support these applications and wish you well.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Horwood', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Martin Horwood MP
Member of Parliament for Cheltenham

16 Hewlett Road
Cheltenham
GL52 6AA

01242 224889
martin@martinhorwood.net

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

Simon Wheeler

County Councillor for Up Hatherley, Benhall & The Readings
20 Castlemaine Drive
Cheltenham
GL51 0UA
T: 01242 230827
E: saw50@mac.com

Up Hatherley Parish Council
Cold Pool Lane
Cheltenham
GL51 6HZ

Dear Parish Councillors,

Just a short note from me to say that I fully support your plan to have Local Green Space status for the green spaces in Up Hatherley. Up Hatherley is very short of green spaces, and it is really important to protect the ones you have.

The Chargrove one is the only really big space, and is the one with the big hedgerow with lots of wild plants, and blackberries etc. That would be really important to protect as an island of peace and quiet amongst all the busyness. It is also the area where you could start a country walk from within the Hatherley area.

Also the Redthorne space, which I call Cheriton Park has a really good children's playground, and serves the houses all round there. It should be protected due to limited amount of green space at that end of your Parish.

You do not appear to be seeking LGS status for Caernarvon Park, presumably because it is already a park. However I did used to live very nearby with my family, and I would have to say it is a very well used and busy park, particularly used by young people, and has been a fairly vital space in terms of facilities for young people in the area. So it is most important to keep from any development.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Wheeler



COUNCILLOR ANDREW MCKINLAY

29th December 2014:

Up Hatherley Parish Council,
c/o 15 Holmer Crescent,
Up Hatherley GL51 3LR

Dear Parish Councillors,

LOCAL GREEN SPACE EVALUATION FOR CHELTENHAM LOCAL PLAN

This letter is just a short note to say that I am in complete support of your proposal that Redthorne Open Space and Chargrove Open Space should become Local Green Spaces, as defined in the NPPF.

As a ward Councillor and parent I am very aware of the amenity value of the Redthorne green space behind Morrisons, both as a children's playground and as a safe and quiet place for walking to the housing areas from the busy shopping area, and which also has trees, and benches.

The Chargrove space is also very important for play and walking, and I see you have also identified important wildlife and biodiversity aspects there.

From our past experience and knowledge of Caernarvon Park as a recreation area, especially for young people, I would also endorse the importance of protecting this park in its present form.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr. Andrew McKinlay
Up Hatherley
c.c. Cllr R Whyborn

Observations: 20 forms were returned out of about 1000 distributed to homes, centred around the two sites – Redthorne Way and Chargrove Open Spaces, which the working group had initially evaluated as the prime candidates for LGS status. This represents a sample of 2%. However this survey was conducted over a limited time period in the late December, when survey responses are historically low. To avoid bias, the form did not name sites – rather encouraged participants to choose their own. It may be speculated that had sites been named, close to the surveyed homes, a higher preference for that site would have been expected.

Chargrove Open Space: Of the 8 people who named Chargrove Open space:-

7 out of 8 named walking (including dog-walking), and a place to sit and chat as important, and 4 to 6 mentioned informal sports/games, wildlife, children's activities/play. 2 also named beauty or tranquillity, and 3 beauty. Indeed there were at least two requests for installation of seating in this area.

Redthorne Way Open Space: Of the 5 people who named Redthorne Way Open Space :-

4 named walking (including dog-walking), and 4 valued the children's playground/children's activities, there was some limited interest in the site as a place of tranquillity, as well as for wildlife.

General:

For everybody who answered the question, the frequency of visiting was in excess of once per month.

In terms of the totality of response, including the other sites, walking, wildlife, children's play, beauty and tranquillity were most frequently mentioned as important to local people. The latter two were unexpected by the working group who had not planned to evidence beauty within the proposals made.

4) Anything else you want to say about the open space in Question 1, or about any other green space. REASON

Green spaces provide an essential part of any urban landscape, both for the human inhabitants as places of tranquillity, general leisure and recreation as well as a vital ecosystem for wildlife which face a constant battle for shelter and food sources in ever increasing urban sprawls.

4) Anything else you want to say about the open space in Question 1, or about any other green space. CHARGROVE

These 2 fields are used constantly by Children, families, dog walkers etc. It's the only open space in the local area where Children can run & play both freely & safely

With all best wishes,

Wildlife ☒ History ☐ Beauty ☒ history or tranquillity (circle which) ☒

4) Anything else you want to say about the open space in Question 1, or about any other green space.

I FEEL THAT SUCH A FUTURE COULD BE
INSTALLED LIKE IN CAERNARVON PARK AS THERE
IS A NICE VIEW LOOKING UPON THE HILL UP HATHERLEY WAY
REF. TO 2 FIELDS CHARGROVE LAND.

4) Anything else you want to say about the open space in Question 1, or about any other green space. CHARGROVE

WE USE CHARGROVE FOR WALKING + RUNNING, AND ENJOYING THE WILDLIFE (FOXES, DEER, BIRDS ETC). HAVING RECENTLY HAD A BABY WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO USING THE GREEN SPACES WITHIN THE HATHERLEY DEVELOPMENT EVEN MORE - WE ALREADY USE THEM FOR STROLLS WITH THE PRAM AND HAVE ALWAYS USED THEM ETC WALKING / GAMES / LUNCHES / SITTING IN THE NICE BENCHES

4) Anything else you want to say about the open space in Question 1, or about any other green space. CHARGROVE

This piece of land has been used for play by my n/a 3 children over the last 25 years. now it is being used by my grandchildren. Most of our gardens are too small for ball games, so this is where we go to play.

With all best wishes,

4) Anything else you want to say about the open space in Question 1, or about any other green space.

It is privately owned & occasionally occupied by Gypsy hares who are not usually locked after. The space is a haven for wildlife + birds - deer, rabbits, pheasants & even some a big cat!

With all best wishes, CHARGROVE @ SUNNYFIELD, 0PM FISH ON UP HATHERLEY WAY

Received 02/01/2015



To whom it may concern,

PTES have, for the past eight years, been working to conserve and promote the traditional orchard Priority Habitat as part of our mission to reduce the loss of UK biodiversity. I have recently been made aware of a proposal to designate Chargrove Open Space as a Local Green Space. The area contains an important hedgerow which ends adjacent to an important 140+ year old orchard, latterly separated by a road, Up Hatherley Way. Whilst the orchard provides a habitat for a huge variety of flora and fauna, the better connected it is, the greater its potential biodiversity value. The hedgerow forms an important wildlife corridor that connects the urban area to the north to the wider countryside via the orchard.

PTES would like to support the proposal and offer our services for any future queries regarding the orchard.

Kind regards,

[signed on original]

Steve Oram

Orchard Biodiversity Officer

Other links

The submission by The Gloucestershire Orchard Trust to Cheltenham Local Plan can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/nda2t3m>.

Maps depicting traditional Orchards <http://ptes.org/get-involved/surveys/countryside-2/traditional-orchard-survey/orchard-maps/>

E-mails from Mrs Mary Nelson, local resident and wildlife specialist, reference Chargrove Open Space

From: M E Nelson [<mailto:marynelson22@yahoo.co.uk>]

Sent: 08 December 2014 18:05

To: Roger Whyborn

Subject: Green space etc.

Hi Roger,

Further to our recent conversation I have copied the following out of a document I wrote a while back:

"Traditional orchards have now been given **NATIONAL Biodiversity Action Plan Habitat Status** following recent detailed ecological surveys by Natural England, and under which they are designated priority habitats.

They are also part of the **Local Habitat Action Plan for Gloucestershire**, promoted by the Gloucestershire Orchard Trust, the Wildlife Trusts etc. The Peoples Trust for Endangered Species are currently undertaking orchard surveys across the UK, including Gloucestershire.

The orchard has excellent connectivity to the green spaces within the existing Up Hatherley housing developments i.e. Greatfield Park and Holmer Park.

These two informal green spaces are on the other side of Up Hatherley Way (opposite the orchard) and are adjacent to each other but separated by a substantial wide (double) hedge with an opening linking both spaces. Both abut the Up Hatherley Way road, which is the Green Belt boundary.

So there is an existing beneficial green link across Up Hatherley Way to the orchard*, which lies behind the thicketed high hedge opposite."

The above explains it a bit more, and can be copied if necessary into your document.

Regards,
Mary

[Working group note*. This orchard is also referred to in Paragraph 2.10 of this report, and is hence part of a key biodiversity corridor from Chargrove Open Space. See also Appendix (5)]

Working group reference: <http://ptes.org/get-involved/surveys/countryside-2/traditional-orchard-survey/orchard-maps/>

From: M E Nelson [<mailto:marynelson22@yahoo.co.uk>]

Sent: 17 November 2014 23:22

To: Councillor Roger Whyborn whyborn@cheltenham.gov.uk

Cc: whyborns@blueyonder.co.uk; stuart.fowler@blueyonder.co.uk

Subject: Re: Wildlife in Up Hatherley Green Spaces

Hello Roger,

The area you refer to is, I think, what we call Greatfield Park, which adjoins Holmer Park. The old wide hedge dividing these two areas is indeed an important wildlife habitat, especially for birds, but also for bees/insects. In April the blackthorn blossom provides food for bees, followed in June, July and August by large quantities of blackberry flowers - one of the few "major honey plants" for bees. There are many "minor honey plants" but not so many major ones.

Greatfield Park is the remaining green open space of what was once called The Great Field. This was a very big field, the largest in the area (our house sits within its former boundary). This space is important as it provides a "green link" from the open countryside on the other side of Up Hatherley Way, encouraging wildlife into the urban area. The extensive hedge running down Greatfield Lane (in front of our house) links to this green space, and this hedge and the hedges around Greatfield and Holmer Park are important bird habitats. We have a large population of sparrows and starlings in the hedge in front of our house, and both these species have been falling sharply in numbers over recent years. We do everything we can to support this population. If you walk down Greatfield Lane, sometimes you can hear them chirping all together and it is an incredible sound.

There is a magnificent mature oak in the Greatfield Park hedge - the oak provides a habitat rich in diversity supporting more organisms, especially insects, than any other tree. A mature oak tree can support up to 284 species of insect, birds, fungi, etc. and because of its longevity it plays an important role in the ecosystem. We should treat mature oaks like this one, with the greatest reverence and respect. Also a couple of perry trees are now growing within the hedge, the remnant of a small orchard, the perry pears yet to be identified (we have been too busy lately to concentrate on the remaining perry trees on this side of Up Hatherley Way), but it is possible these could be "squashes".

The other important aspect of these interlinking green spaces is that they are very accessible by the local community, being surrounded on three sides by residential development.

So yes they could qualify as LGS. They could be improved in terms of providing more wildlife habitat, by planting a few more trees perhaps, and creating a wildflower area. It would be great to get Quince and Medlar fruit trees planted, as these are becoming scarce now.

Do these spaces need LGS status to qualify as "green space" in the Local Plan? There are other green spaces in Up Hatherley but none that I can think of which provide that important link to open countryside.

Hope this helps,
Regards,
Mary



12 January 2015

Local Green Space Application

Holmer Park and Greatfield Park, Chargrove Lane, Up Hatherley

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust was asked to offer a letter of support by Up Hatherley Parish Council in its application for Holmer Park and the adjoining Greatfield Park off Chargrove Lane (known as Chargrove Open Space) to be designated as a Local Green Space within the meaning of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), paragraphs 76-78.

The parks are owned and maintained by Cheltenham Borough Council. The Council's Biodiversity Ranger has been advised that the Trust has been asked to submit a letter of support. Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records (GCER) has confirmed that there are no wildlife records for the area.

A brief ecological survey of the site was undertaken on 9th January 2015. The site is surrounded by a hedge on the edge of a large development. There is an overgrown double hedge dividing the parks in two. Across a busy road there is an old orchard and farmland. The proximity of the orchard and farmland offers means the site may have some value as a buffer habitat for generalist species from these areas, although local gardens are likely to be of higher value than the farmland.

The double hedge is reported to be 100 years old – however, it was not possible to determine if it contained the diversity of species that would be expected in a hedge of that age as it is currently overgrown with bramble. There is a large oak tree in the middle of the hedge, which has some value for wildlife. The grassland has low value for wildlife as it is mown regularly by the council, but there may be some naturalised plants in the sward that would flower if it was left uncut. To ascertain its current biodiversity value a more thorough survey would need to be done and the records submitted to GCER.

The site is of health and wellbeing value to the local community as an area to walk, exercise and play in a large development and has the potential to be improved for wildlife (for example putting in a small orchard, leaving areas of the grass uncut) subject to agreement by Cheltenham Borough Council.

Jo Worthy-Jones


North Gloucestershire Community Wildlife Officer



Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 23.

A40 Green Verge

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	A40 trunk road adjacent to Campden Road & Miserden Road	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
		
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Benhall Residents Association / Cllr Nigel Britter	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	Highways Agency A40 side – Residential side to be confirmed	
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)	
	No	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	See appendix 2	
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>	
	This green corridor is a linear feature dominated by an ancient hedgerow and grassland. As a main gateway into Cheltenham it affects the whole town in particular residents of both Campden Road and Miserden Road.	

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	
	The strip of land stretches for approximate a kilometre	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space)</i> <i>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>	
	No	
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>	
	Yes. Because it is a green corridor into Cheltenham from the south west and motorway interchange. It is a deliberate physical and sound barrier for the local residents between them and the main road. It includes an ancient hedgerow that encompasses a wide range of fauna and flora. This green open space is a local amenity. In feedback from local residents this is regarded as local gem and should be protected.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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> <i>Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes. It is a green corridor into the town centre with the hedgerow also providing a high value wildlife corridor connecting to other areas of semi natural open spaces. Maintaining and improving Cheltenham’s environment which will promote economic health by making the borough attractive to residents and visitors.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is on the door step	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No	
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>	
	Cheltenham Borough Council - Green Space Strategy, Cheltenham Climate Change Strategy, Biodiversity Strategy.	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	See appendix 1. Indication of 44 responses in support of the site.	
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>	
	Supported by Cllr Nigel Britter, Cllr Jacky Fletcher Ward Council Members, County Councillor Simon Wheeler and Cheltenham MP Martin Horwood who will supply letters of support if required.	
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>	
	Not yet approached.	
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. Retained for practical reasons.	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	N/a	
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>	
	Yes This public space is a vital part of the everyday lives of the residents and children living in Campden and Miserden Roads	
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	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?	
	Yes. Ancient hedgerow.	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
	No	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	
	Old hedgerows and mature trees	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
	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 ?	
	No	
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>	
	N/a	
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>	
	Yes	
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>	
	Yes Dog walkers on the suburban roads of Campden & Miserden Roads since the Benhall Estate was constructed (over 50 years ago)	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	It acts as a sound and a visual barrier from the busy A40	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
	No	

11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes Wildlife survey being undertaken	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
	To be confirmed	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
	To be confirmed	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	Road verges form an important wildlife corridor providing links between habitats. These links help to protect and maintain sustainable populations of flora and fauna which in turn enable species to adapt to climate change.	

Appendix 1

Feedback from residents with regard to protecting ward green spaces				
Area	Email	Letter	In person	Total
A40	10	2	32	44
Colesbourne Road	4	1	7	12

Redgrove Park				
Whittington Road			2	2
Unwin Road	1		3	4
Grace Gardens	6		3	9
Benhall Open Space	16	1	10	27
Grovefield Way	1			1

Appendix 2












CHECKLIST AND CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

Site 24

Colesbourne Road & Redgrove Park

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Green verges adjacent to Colesbourne Road & Redgrove Park	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
		
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Cllr Nigel Britter	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	to be confirmed	
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)	
	No	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	See Appendix 2	
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>	
	This green corridor is a linear feature dominated by ancient woodland grassland. It affects the residents living in both Colesbourne Road and Redgrove Park.	

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	
	The strip of land stretches for approximate half a kilometre	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	Yes. Because it is a green buffer which was deliberately created to enhance the area for residents between them and the main road. It includes ancient woodland that encompasses a wide range of fauna and flora. This green open space is a local amenity.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes. It is a green physical barrier between to housing developments. With the woodland providing a high value wildlife corridor connecting to other areas of semi natural open spaces.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	

	The site is on the door step	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No	
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>	
	Cheltenham Borough Council - Green Space Strategy, Cheltenham Climate Change Strategy, Biodiversity Strategy.	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Appendix 1 Indication of support from 12 residents	
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>	
	Supported by Cllr Nigel Britter, Cllr Jacky Fletcher Ward Council Members, County Councillor Simon Wheeler and Cheltenham MP Martin Horwood who will supply letters of support if required.	
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>	
	Not yet approached.	
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. Retained for practical reasons.	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	N/a	
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>	

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

	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 Flat green area that children play on	
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>	
	N/a	
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>	
	Yes	
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>	
	Yes Dog walkers and children ball games etc since the Benhall Estate was constructed (over 50 years ago)	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there are any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	It acts as a green visual barrier	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area?	

	e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England 's tranquillity maps	
	No	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	Yes	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
	No	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
	To be confirmed	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
	To be confirmed	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
	No	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	Road verges form an important wildlife corridor providing links between habitats. These links help to protect and maintain sustainable populations of flora and fauna which in turn enable species to adapt to climate change.	

Appendix 1

Feedback from residents with regard to protecting ward green spaces				
Area	Email	Letter	In person	Total
A40	10	2	32	44
Colesbourne Road	4	1	7	12
Redgrove Park				
Whittington Road			2	2
Unwin Road	1		3	4
Grace Gardens	6		3	9
Benhall Open Space	16	1	10	27
Grovefield Way	1			1

Appendix 2




Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 26

Victoria Cricket Ground

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	The Victoria Ground, Princes Street, Cheltenham, GL52 6BE	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	

		
1.3	<p>Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i></p>	
	Fairview Community Association (FCA)	
1.4	<p>Ownership of site if known <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>	
	The Cheltenham Cricket Club	

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. Submission and Green Space designation agreed in a review with Andy Gallagher, Club Chairman.	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	See appendix 1	
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>	
	Fairview area as designated by the NCG It is a central facility for community and social meetings as recognised in the attached proposal document: Building Stronger Communities in Fairview, 9 April 2013 to re-establish the FCA. The majority of formal and committee FCA meetings are held there throughout the year. This stability has been recognised by the award of an enabling, CBC Neighbourhood Management Grant. Individual, recent meetings have included the August 2013 Gloucestershire County Council Traffic Consultation for Cheltenham, an October 2013 Fairview Stakeholder Meeting and this, GRCC, Green Spaces plan. The FCA	
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	
	The area covers approximately 3 hectares (7.4 Acres).	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? (<i>Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space</i>) <i>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>	

	No. Whilst it is the most significant green space within the Fairview area, the land in itself is not extensive in comparison to alternative public spaces such as Sandford and Pittville Parks. It is therefore, highly valued.	
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 Cricket Club hosts on this ground an active social scene of both club and community events. Recent events have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2012 Community Queen's Jubilee celebration – limited to 120 attendees to contain a seated meal within the pavilion • Annual September Beer Festival – attracting nearly 1,000 attendees over two days • Annual November Fairview Community Fireworks Party – with nearly 2,500 attendees • Annual December Resident's Christmas Party 	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	There is a shortage of accessible green space in the Fairview area to hold community events, the most significant of which are a community firework event and an annual Beer Festival. For families within the local area the space offers a chance to escape from urban area offering a both physical and visual connection with the Cleeve hills. The CBC green space audit from 2008 showed All Saints had less green space per head than any other ward (Steve Jordan (CBC) e-mail 17 th December 2014 as attached)	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	The site is in the heart of the local community and is within easy walking distance for all residents of the Fairview Area	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	No. Direct access to the Victoria Ground is enabled to all 53 resident families on its periphery through their garden gates.	

	Access to the Ground and Pavilion are readily available from two, CC committee key-holders in Kings Road.	
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>	
	Introduced and listed by local residents attending the Fairview Community Association meeting on 4th December as in the attached : Initial assessment matrix - research by communities Fairview_4 December 2014.	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	Initial assessment matrix reviewed and appended to Steve Jordan (CBC) e-mail 17 th December 2014 as attached Without the green area the FCA would not have been able to undertake a local community survey at the 2014 Annual Fireworks display. 800 local community residents offered their support through the survey carried out on Nov 7 th 2014. Detailed survey and results are available from the FCA and an outline summary is attached.	
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>	
	October 2013. Local stakeholder consultation including Local Councillors, business leaders and CBC community engagement officers provided support during consultation for the importance of maintaining a green space facility within Fairview. Information on consultation available from FCA.	
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>	
	To be updated to include local schools. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berkhamstead School (daily use of green space) • St Johns School (annual school sports day) Likely completion in February 2015 after assignments of funds from the Fireworks Event proceeds.	
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?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	

7.3	<p>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></p>	
7.4	<p>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></p>	
7.5	<p>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></p>	
7.6	<p>Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?</p>	
7.7	<p>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></p>	
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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
8.1	<p>Is this criteria relevant to this site?</p>	
	<p>Yes</p>	
8.2	<p>Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i></p>	
	<p>The pavilion includes a Commemorative Plaque erected with assistance from Cheltenham Civic Society.</p>	
8.3	<p>Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i></p>	
8.4	<p>Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i></p>	

8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	Opened by Dr. W. G. Grace on 21 June 1897	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
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 criterion relevant to this site?	
	YES There are several series of regular community activities held in the pavilion including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly, local choir practice • Weekly art classes • Pilates classes • (previously) Ballet classes conducted by Helen Gill School of Ballet In addition, social activities include its availability for family parties, annual company events and the regular screening of major, international sporting events such as rugby and football championships hosted by the Cricket Club.	
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>	
	Predominantly used by the Cricket Club, however, many local schools use this site for typically football, rounder's, hockey and other sporting activities. There is club membership but the space can be accessed for use throughout the year. Organised activities over the last two years have included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berkhamstead School (daily use of green space) • St Johns School (annual school sports day) • Weekly, seniors,fitness training with Matt Holdback of Just Camps • Weekly Boot Camp training • Regular Skittles team and occasional, inter-street community matches • Recreational rounder's for community use 	
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>	
	Yes – public can access the site during organised activities or on request. Local residents have access to the Ground especially those living on the perimeter of the site.	

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>	
	Local residents use the site for dog walking, recreational play for children on a daily basis plus social and family parties, BBQs and picnics	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc. Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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. Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	

12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u> ”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	

Appendix 1



The 2014 Community & Cricket Club Fireworks







Appendix 2

Subject: RE: Green spaces assessments
Date: Wed, 17 Dec 2014 16:32:22 +0000

Hello *name supplied*

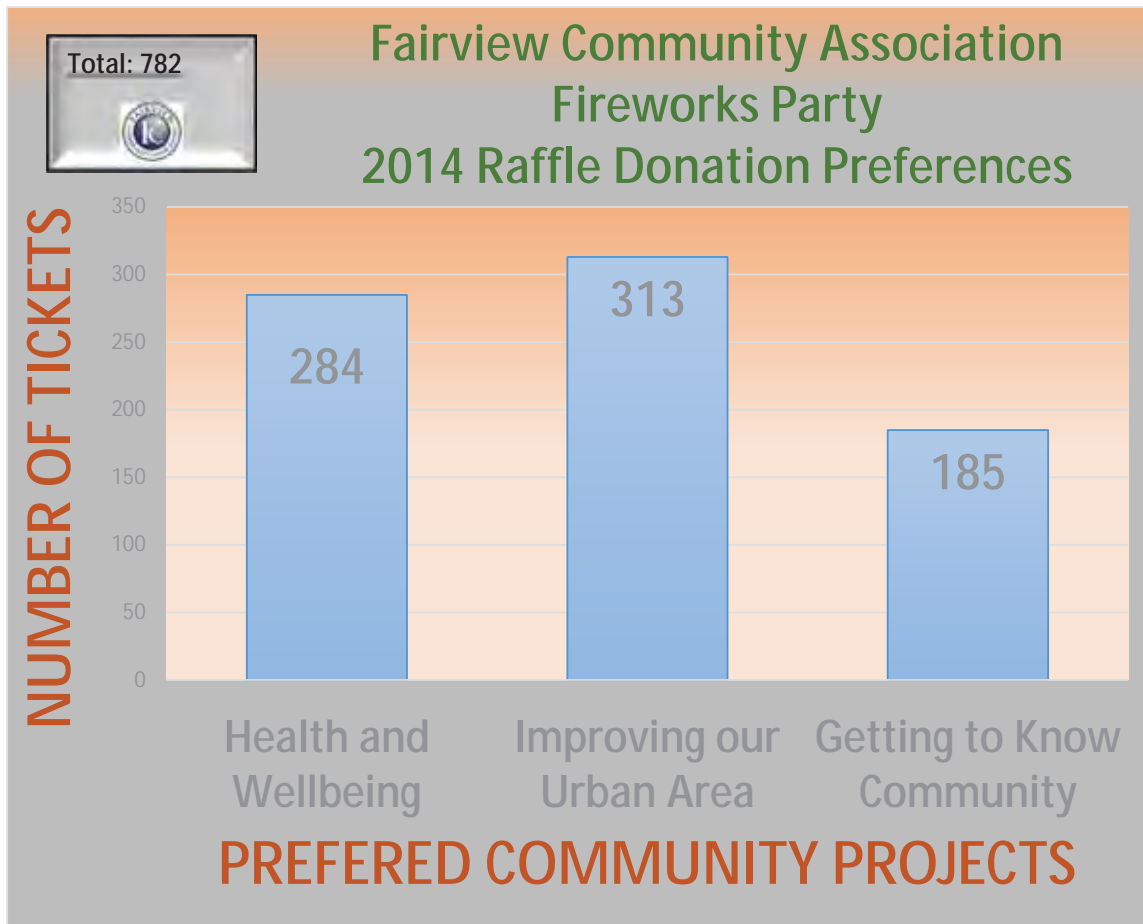
Have added some details on why the sites picked are special - let me know what you think.

Not sure if/when the owners of the land get involved. Most are CBC so no problem with those but I guess the schools and church may be interested at some point – presume you can cover the cricket club.

I had a look at the CBC green space audit from 2008 which showed All Saints had less green space per head than any other ward – shows why each site is important! It also listed a couple of sites we didn't. Both are in the 'new' bit of FCA area. They were The Grove (presume the green bit in the middle of the turning circle at the end of the cul-de-sac) and Hales Close (not really sure what that refers to unless the green verge on the left hand side). Having said that, I'm happy to go with what we've got.

As mentioned I think that's all we need at this stage. Are you happy to go with this or would you like to meet/discuss?

Thanks, Steve.



Building Stronger Communities in the Fairview Area

9th April 2013

Proposal

To build a stronger community in the Fairview area based on utilizing the availability of the facilities and resources at the Cheltenham Cricket Club, Victoria Ground

Background

The Victoria Cricket Ground is the most- significant green-space within Fairview Community Area. It covers approximately 3 hectares (7.4 acres) of grounds including a Pavilion providing function and changing rooms, a licensed bar, kitchen, Skittle Alley and toilets. It is

home to Cheltenham Cricket Club (CCC) which fields a number of competitive teams in local leagues including a thriving Junior section for both Boys and Girls.

In addition to the sporting aspect; the club hosts an active social scene of both club and local community events. These include regular, local school activities, Boot Camp and Personal Trainer sessions plus dance classes. The most-significant events are the annual Beer Festival and a Fireworks evening; both managed and staffed by volunteers.

Potential

There is a common desire to improve the CCC social facilities to create a more-flexible environment for increased community use; particularly out-of-season. Initially, this would need to be instigated and led by local volunteers. Longer-term, additional resources from Cheltenham Borough Council plus funding from sport and community initiatives are being sought to augment CCC and Fairview residents' contributions.

Plan


We need to engage the Fairview community to:



- audit already existing facilities, community groups, their staffing and volunteers within the area
- establish the needs and wishes of the community. Priorities could, for example, include Disabled and Women's groups; particularly as both of these are not adequately catered for within current Victoria Ground facilities. However, we may need to be open to an extensive range of requirements suited to our diverse community. We need to find out what these are.
- confirm the enthusiasm of Fairview residents to develop and build a stronger community and central facility to accommodate its needs. This initiative will only be successful by utilising the skills and contributions of our Fairview community.

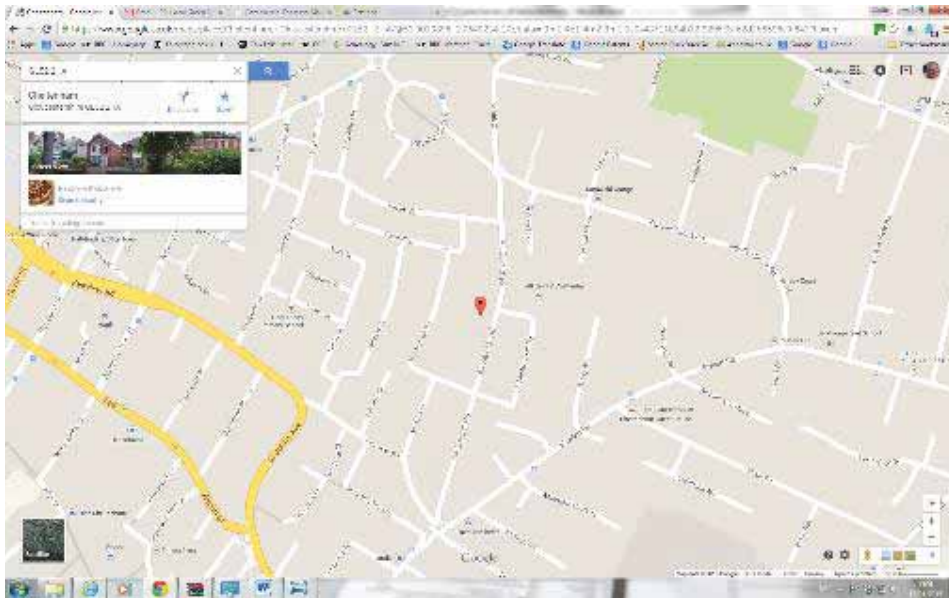
Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 27

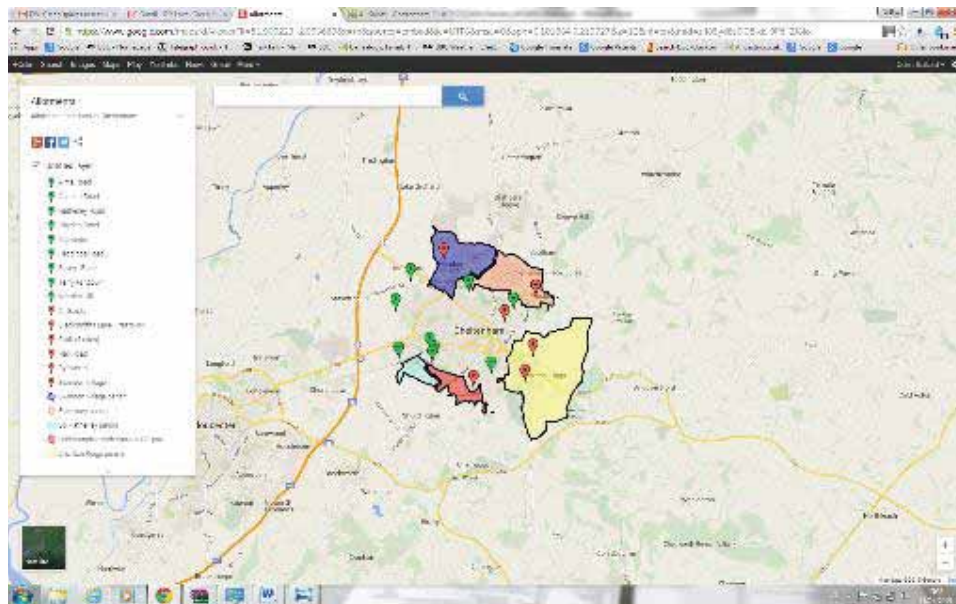
All Saints allotments and church grounds

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	X
	All Saints' Allotments, All Saints' Church, All Saints Road, Cheltenham, GL52 2HA	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	X
	Small allotment site adjacent to the church plus a similar size Church Yard encircling the rear of the church. 	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	X
	Fairview Community Association (FCA)	
1.4	Ownership of site if known	X

	Information on land ownership can be obtained from the Land Registry . Some land parcels are not registered however local people may know the owner.	
	North Cheltenham Team Ministry Office, St Nicolas' Church, Swindon Lane, Cheltenham, GL50 4PA	
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)	X
	Yes, initial information communicated on 13 January 2015	
1.6	Photographs of site	X
	 	
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>	X
	Sixteen individual allotment holders; predominantly from the Fairview area.	
2	Planning History	X
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	X
	None since records back to 1972	
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	X
	No	
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space	X
3.1	Area of proposed site	X
	0.2 Hectares (approx.)	
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”?	X

	<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>	
	No	
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>	X
	Yes. The church is a landmark feature in Fairview and a local social hub in that it offers a space for local residents with similar interests to come together within their neighbourhood	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	X
	Yes, Fairview has, reportedly, the lowest proportion of green space of any area in Cheltenham. The CBC green space audit from 2008 showed All Saints had less green space per head than any other ward (Steve Jordan (CBC) e-mail 17 th December 2014 as attached) This is the only area of allotments in Fairview. Demand is clearly indicated by the waiting list of 10 for allocation of an allotment.	
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>	X
5.1	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	X
	A centrally-situated site in Fairview situated within easy walking distance from any part of the area: 	


Allotments in Cheltenham:



The 16 allotment holders predominantly comprise local, Fairview residents.

5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	X
	Adjacent to public pathways but direct access only by allotment holders.	
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>	X
6.1	Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i>	X
	Introduced and listed by local residents attending the Fairview Community Association meeting on 4th December as in the attached : Initial assessment matrix - research by communities Fairview 4 December 2014.	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	X
	Initial assessment matrix reviewed and appended to Steve Jordan (CBC) e-mail 17 th December 2014 as attached Discussions started with North Cheltenham Team Ministry Office, 13 January 2015. Their next step is for this to be presented and reviewed at the next Parochial Church Council meeting – feasibly 15 January 2015.	
6.3	Evidence of support from community leaders <i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc.</i>	X

	<i>Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</i>	
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>	
	Input from existing 16 tenants not obtained.	
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>	X
7.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	X
	NO This site is a public amenity for working allotment holders and use by the All Saints' Playgroup children.	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
	N/A	
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>	X
	Yes, limited general visibility but adjacent to public pathways.	
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>	X
	Not to our knowledge	
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>	X
	Not to our knowledge	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	X
	Not to our knowledge	
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>	X
	Not to our knowledge	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable)	X

	<i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	X
	Yes	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	X
	<p>Adjacent to, and within the same site as, All Saint's Church but not inherently historically-significant.</p> 	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i>	X
	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The churchyard has some large specimen trees which enhance the setting of the church. The rear of the churchyard backs onto allotment gardens. They contrast with the formality of the church architecture; however the allotment gardens do provide a green spacious setting for the church even if somewhat utilitarian. A number of small hedgerows are also present within the grounds which act as a soft boundary treatment. (Fairview And All Saints' Character Appraisal & Management Plan – July 2008) http://www.cheltenham.gov.uk/downloads/file/3173/16-fairview_and_all_saints</p>	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	X

	Not to our knowledge. The allotments are not consecrated ground. They are not statutory allotments.	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	X
	To be confirmed.	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	X
	Regular church services are held in All Saint's Church	
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>	X
9.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	X
	YES Allotment activities include growing your own fruit and vegetables. The various recreational, physical, health and social benefits of renting an allotment include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put fresh, tasty produce on your plate • teach children about growing food • enjoy being out in the fresh air • get fit doing some digging • reduce food miles • grow organically The adjacent churchyard green space is used by All Saints' Playgroup for children's activities and recreation.	
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>	X
	Physical exercise only in working to grow fruit and vegetables. The adjacent churchyard green space is used by All Saints' Playgroup for children's activities and recreation.	
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>	X
	Adjacent to public pathways and accessible through the church grounds.	
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>	X
	Not by the general public. Direct access only by allotment holders.	
10	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>" (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	X
10.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	X

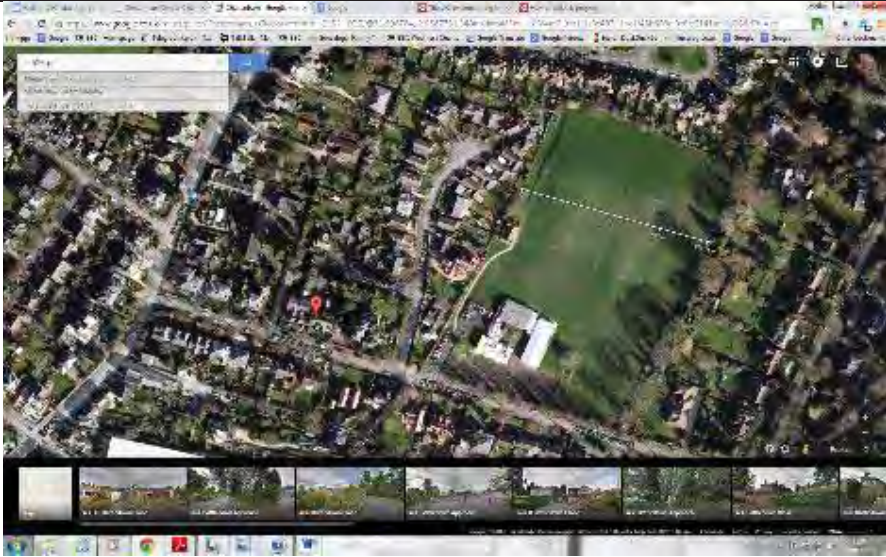
	YES Very small allotment site adjacent to the church.	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	X
	A sheltered, tranquil area hidden behind the church and isolated from noise and activity the encircling main thoroughfares: All Saints and Hewlett Roads plus Pittville Circus Road.	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	X
	Not to our knowledge.	
11	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of the richness of its wildlife”; (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	X
11.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	X
	YES By very nature of their function, allotments encourage a broader, richer biodiversity than adjacent, sterile, high-density, residential, urban areas typified by the many, local terraced houses. A variety of plant life encourages an equal variety of wildlife and plants can even be selected for their enhancement of, for example, pollinating species. The All Saints' Playgroup additionally erects and maintains bird feeders.	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc.</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	X
	Not to our knowledge	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	X
	Not to our knowledge	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	X
	To be confirmed	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	X
	Not to our knowledge; though the All Saints' Playgroup erect and maintain bird feeders.	

12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u> ”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	X
12.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	X
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	X
	This is the only area of allotments in Fairview. Its significance is reflected by the current, full utilisation and waiting list for any future, vacant plots. Safe, exterior space for recreational use by All Saints' Playgroup.	

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 28

Holy Apostles Primary School field

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Holy Apostles C of E Primary School (Fields), Battledown Approach. Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL52 6QZ	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
		
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Fairview Community Association	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	To be confirmed.	
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)	

	Work in progress. January / February consultation.	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	<i>Not applicable – school site.</i>	
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>	
	Provides grass area used by school children.	
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	
	Not to our knowledge.	
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	
	Not to our knowledge.	
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	
	Approx. 2.0 hectares	
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>	
	No	
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>	
	Yes. It's in the heart of the community.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes.	

5	Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves” Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
5.1	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	Yes. The site is within the local area.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	n/a	
6	Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community” Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
6.1	Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i>	
	To be confirmed	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	To be confirmed	
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>	
	To be confirmed	
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>	
	To be confirmed	
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
7.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	

7.3	<p>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></p>	
7.4	<p>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></p>	
7.5	<p>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></p>	
7.6	<p>Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?</p>	
7.7	<p>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></p>	
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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></p>	
8.1	<p>Is this criterion relevant to this site?</p>	
	<p>NO</p>	
8.2	<p>Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i></p>	
8.3	<p>Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; local history society</i></p>	


8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>	
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 criterion 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>	
	All sport and activities. The school is generally well equipped; enjoys a safe outdoor play area and a large field which provide ideal settings for sports and social events	
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>	
	No. During school hours.	
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>	
	To be confirmed	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
10.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	

10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England 's tranquillity maps	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc. Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? 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. Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ; RSPB	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Further information - Natural England ; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records ; National Biodiversity Network ;	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	

Local Green Space Toolkit Application

Site 29

Holy Trinity School fields

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Holy Trinity Primary School (Playing Fields), Jersey Street, Cheltenham, GL52 2JP.	
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
		
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Fairview Community Association	
1.4	Ownership of site if known <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>	
	To be confirmed.	

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)	
	Work in progress. January / February consultation.	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	<i>Not applicable – school site.</i>	
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>	
	This space provides the school with a playing field in a densely populated area and also a wooded area used as a Forest School, an innovative educational approach to outdoor play and learning that provides engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities for children in outdoor environment.	
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	
	Not to our knowledge.	
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	
	Not to our knowledge.	
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	
	Approx. 0.08 hectare	
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>	
	No	
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>	

	Yes. It's in the heart of the community.	
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <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. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i>	
	Yes.	
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	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	Yes. The site is within the local area.	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i>	
	n/a	
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>	
	To be confirmed	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>	
	To be confirmed	
6.3	Evidence of support from community leaders <i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc. Further information on these contact details – Cheltenham Borough Council, Gloucestershire County Council, House of Commons</i>	
	To be confirmed	
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>	
	To be confirmed	
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 criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.	
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>	
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>	
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>	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
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>	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>” (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
8.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments ; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record; Gloucestershire Archives; local history society;</i>	
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site?	

	e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features Further information – Cheltenham Borough Council; English Heritage ; Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record ; local history society	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.	
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) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
9.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	YES	
9.2	Is the site used for playing sport? If so what sport? How long has it been used for sports provision? Is this sports provision free or is a club membership required? Further information – Sport England	
	All sport and activities.	
9.3	Are the public able to physically access the site? 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.) Further information – Gloucestershire County Council	
	No. During school hours.	
9.4	Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when? e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc.	
	To be confirmed	
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable) Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.	
10.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	

10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England's tranquillity maps</i>	
11	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) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
11.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	Yes	
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc.</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records</i>	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <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> <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>	
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records; National Biodiversity Network;</i>	
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i>	
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”; (if applicable) <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
12.1	Is this criterion relevant to this site?	
	NO	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	



**LOCAL GREEN SPACE APPLICATION
SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**



Opening Quotations

Martin Horwood, MP: I strongly support this Local Green Space application ... I take a keen interest in this as I was responsible for drafting the original Liberal Democrat policy in opposition which became the LGS designation...I know from personal experience how special this area is to local people. I have enjoyed walking through these fields many times with my own family and seen many others do so...it is particularly striking to have seen it enjoyed by so many people of different ages from young people to much older residents.

Laurence Robertson, MP: I am fully supportive of the Green Space Application. This application, if granted, will preserve the rural nature of the Swindon Village Parish area, and will ensure that the feel of the village is maintained.

Cllr Dr Flo Lucas, OBE, Cheltenham Borough Council: The application is a tremendous piece of work...The land that is proposed as local green space...is essential to the wellbeing of the Village and its residents...The application has my full and wholehearted support.

Cllr Bernard Fisher, Cheltenham Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Council: As both County and Borough Councillor for Swindon Village, I wholeheartedly support your application for Local Green Space around Swindon Village to soften the blow of the JCS should it come to fruition.

Cllr Chris Nelson, Cheltenham Borough Council: I fully support Swindon Parish Council's application for Local Green Space designation of the historic fields immediately surrounding Swindon Village. It is clear that these fields are very special and valuable to the local community. What is proposed appears very modest and eminently sensible, given the need to maintain the integrity of this 10th Century Village...

Rachel Smith, leader of Swindon Village Scout Group: We hike [in this Green Space] in both the summer and winter months ... Most of all we can enjoy being able to have the freedom to explore our natural world as it is meant to be, to see nature and to experience the great outdoors. To run, play and to use energy and our imaginations – something that is sadly lacking in today's society and that needs encouraging more than ever before.


Children at Swindon Village Primary School: 'We children need space to run and get exercise and wildlife need a place to live', 'I love the wildlife and I would be distraught if they go', 'We love walking and picking sloes', 'we love to play in the fields', 'I go walking with gran', 'I love going on nature walks with my mummy in these fields', 'I love seeing horses', 'I've seen a deer!', 'I love mucking about', 'I love walking Sam – he has a swim in the stream'

Cover photos: Upper Hill Meadow and Bushy Close, Swindon Village.

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The Application

1	General Information	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site	
	<p>The proposed Green Space consists of the Cheltenham Town FC playing field and eleven fields around Swindon Village. The historic names of the fields are: Parson's Close, The Bank, Green Dean Furlong, Wheatlands Orchard, Little Wheatlands, Peas Furlong, Shepherd Close, Bushby Close, Upper Hill Meadow, Home Leaze, Furzen Hill, and Hill Orchard.</p>	
1.2	Site location plan	
	<p>The shaded green area is the proposed area that we are requesting Local Green Space designation for. In this document it will be referred to as the 'proposed Green Space'.</p> 	

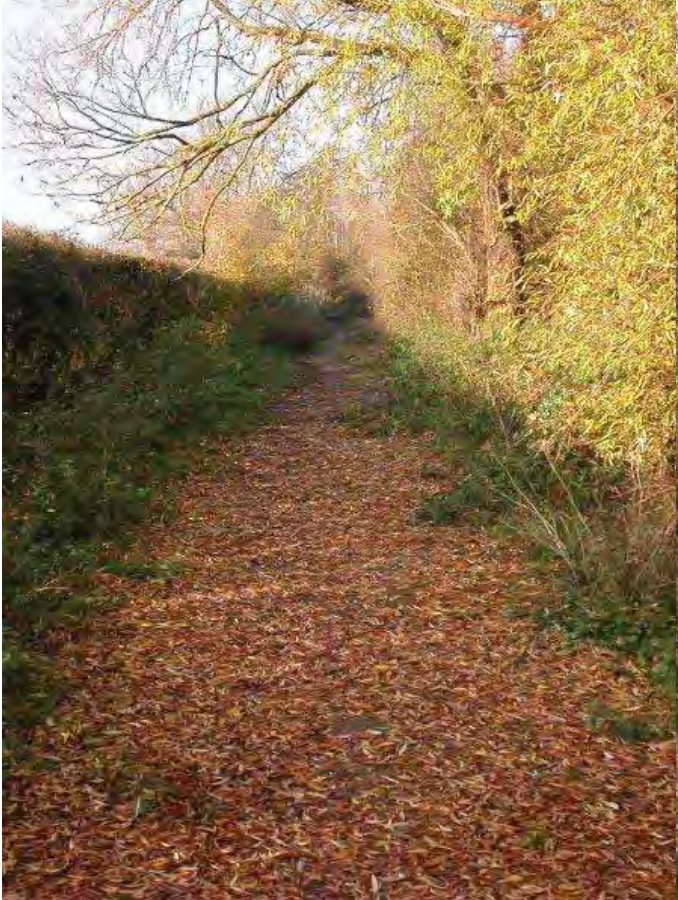
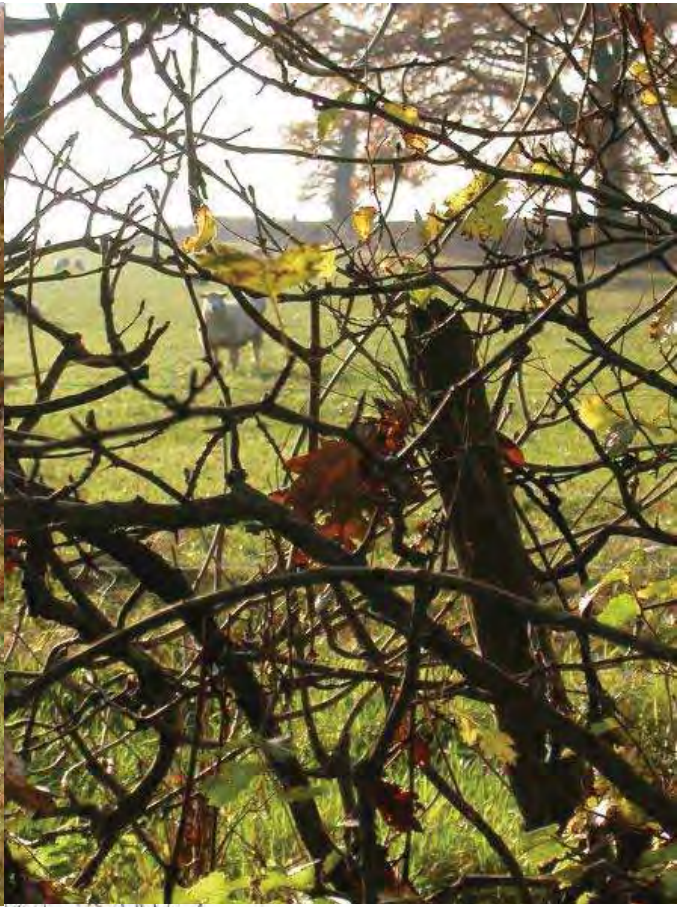
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation	
	Swindon Parish Council	
1.4	Ownership of site if known	
	<p>According to the Land Registry, the land belongs to the following four organisations:</p> <p>Home Farm Quat Goose Ln Swindon Village Cheltenham GL51 9RP</p> <p>Manor Farm Church Rd Swindon Village Cheltenham GL51 9RB</p> <p>Swindon Farm Manor Road Swindon Village Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 9SQ</p> <p>Cheltenham Town FC Whaddon Road Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 5NA</p> <p>We have recently received information that Green Dean Furlong and Shepherd Close may have been sold to developers (Robert Hitchens and Bloor Homes), so further clarification of ownership will be necessary.</p>	
1.5	Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?	
	Swindon Parish Council sent an earlier draft of this Green Space Application to the four owners mentioned above in writing. So far, we have only received one response – a letter from the owners of Home Farm indicating that they do not support the proposal.	
1.6	Photographs of site	
	<i>See overleaf</i>	



Top left: The Bank (Cheltenham FC football training ground). Top right: Green Dean Furlong.
Bottom left: Little Wheatlands and Parsons Close, with Home Farm in the background.
Bottom Right: Wheatlands Orchard and Home Farm

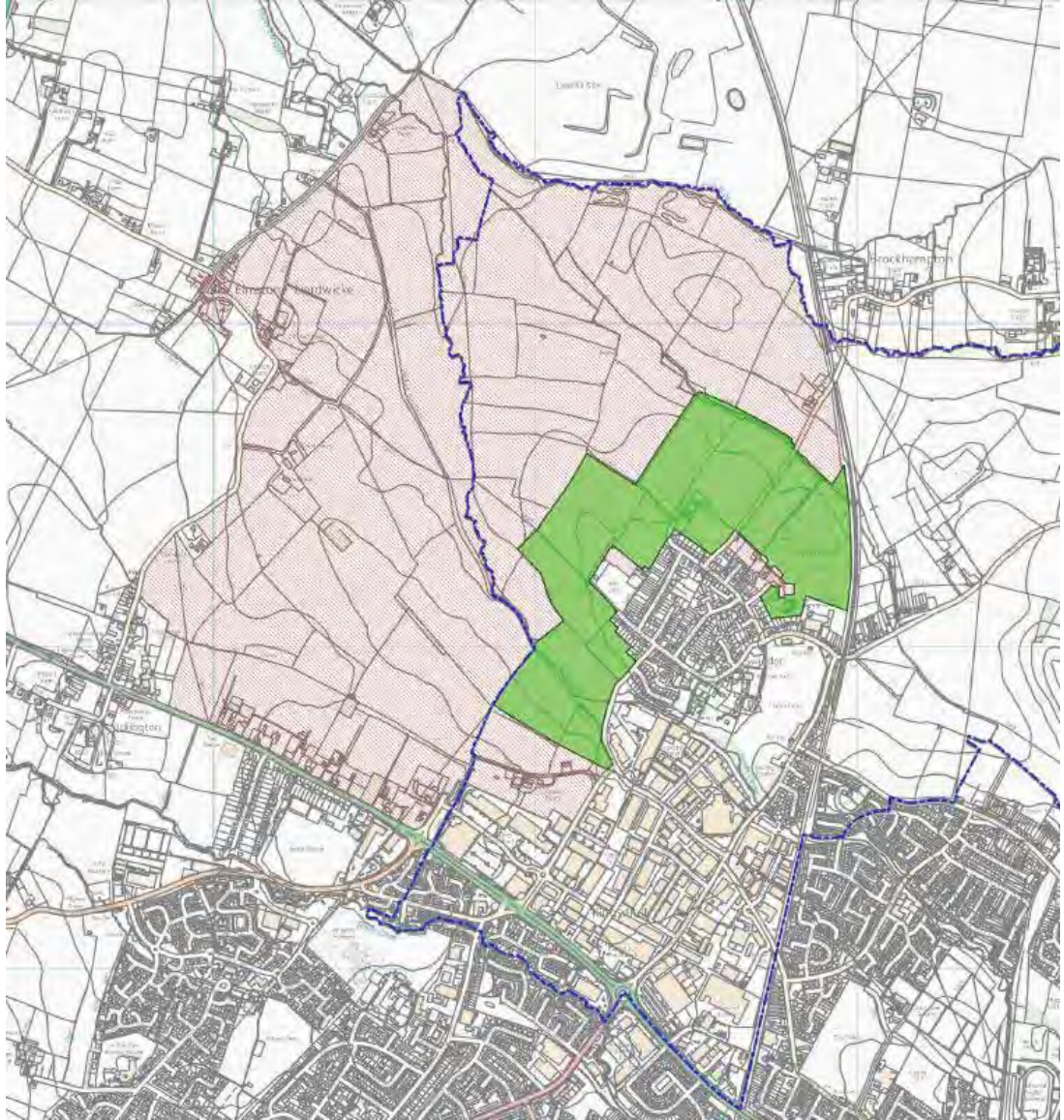


Top left: Shepherd Close, Top right: Peas Furlong.
Bottom left: Bushby Close, Bottom Right: Home Leaze



Top left: Upper Hill Meadow with Swindon Manor in the background. Top right: Furzen Hill.
Bottom left: Dog Bark Lane. Bottom Right: Hill Orchard, with woodland area at rear

1.7	Community served by the potential Local Green Space	
	<p>The proposed Green Space directly serves the population of the centre of Swindon Village, which is entirely surrounded by the green area. This central area of the village consists of approximately 364 households and 850 people. For these people the fields are outside or very close to their house and are a direct part of their daily experience. The area also indirectly serves those living within the larger Swindon Village ward (an additional 2177 households and 4850 residents). For these residents, the fields are within a distance of less than about 2 kilometres.</p> <p>Importantly, if the planned JCS housing goes ahead, the site will also serve the new community, which will be up to 4800 households. In that case the proposed Green Space will act as a key social space for integrating the communities in a beneficial way. Dog walkers, runners, mountain bikers, and nature enthusiasts from both sides could come across each other in the fields and could discuss their shared interests and passions. It would be possible for community groups such as the scouts and art club to draw people from both communities together into activities in the fields. In addition, the new community would have the opportunity to visit a historic village surrounded by green fields. On one hand, the Green Space will help preserve the existing sense of community in the village, but on the other offers valuable resources, both natural and social, for the new community.</p>	
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?	
	<p>There is no current planning application and the area is Green Belt land (as of 13/1/15). However, we are expecting an application from Bloor and Persimmon shortly and have seen the draft plans. Our proposed Green Space could easily be incorporated into Bloor and Persimmon's draft plan, since it already contains some green space within the proposed Green Space area, including new allotments, a playing field and a river area. Expanding this green space would have minimal impact on the total number of houses to be built and offers significant benefits (both social and natural) for the new community (as detailed in 1.7 above). If the few houses planned for the proposed Green Space area were moved to other parts of the extensive JCS housing area then there would be no impact on housing numbers at all.</p>	
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?	
	<p>The site is allocated for housing in the JCS, but since the area requested is a small fraction (approx. 14%) of the overall housing land, the developers could easily ensure that it remains green space within their planned housing development.</p>	
3	Size, scale and "local nature" of proposed Local Green Space	
3.1	Area of proposed site	
	47 hectares	

3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”?	
	<p>The definition of ‘extensive’ is context specific, and in this context the area is far from extensive. This is because an extremely large area of greenbelt, approximately 356 hectares, has been allocated in the JCS for around 4800 houses. Within these 356 hectares, the 47 hectares of proposed Green Space around the village is just 14% of the area. This can easily be accommodated within any proposed development while still leaving ample room for the new housing. Martin Horwood MP, who drafted the LGS legislation, is strongly in favour of the proposal. Cllr Chris Nelson (CBC) describes the application as ‘very modest and eminently sensible’; Cllr Flo Clucas (CBC) refers to the proposed Green Space as ‘a small area’ and ‘a small fraction of the land that is outlined for building in the JCS’; Cllr Roger Whyborn (CBC) confirms that the proposed Green Space ‘seems to fall within the meaning of the three relevant paragraphs 76 to 78 of the NPPF’ (see Appendix 2 for full responses). The diagram below shows the JCS allocation for housing land in red, and the proposed Green Space in green. Swindon Parish Council and many residents would like to protect the <i>entire</i> red area so this is a significant compromise, focusing only on the most valued and well-used green space.</p>  <p>Red - land allocated for housing in the JCS. Green – the proposed Green Space area</p>	✓

3.3	Is the proposed site “local in character”?	
	<p>This area is very local – in fact, it is contiguous with the central area of Swindon Village. The identity of the village as a village depends on being surrounded by these fields. The evidence we have of this is both geographic (the location of the site) and ethnographic. Swindon Parish Council conducted a survey and a series of individual discussions with residents in November and December 2014, which revealed the importance of these fields as essential to the character of the village (see <i>The Green Space Survey</i>, Appendix 1). In total 104 people filled in the survey, consisting primarily of residents of the historic area of Swindon Village, and also some who have an intimate connection with the village such as parents of children who go to school here. Of key concern for this question (/s the proposed site “local in character”?) is the following statement from the survey: “The green fields surrounding the historic Swindon Village are what make it a village, and are essential for its identity, the cohesiveness of the community, and a sense of belonging.” In total, 99 of 104 respondents indicated agreement with this statement (see Appendix 1). Specific comments from residents who filled out the form include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The green fields around the village are an essential part of life. • We feel the integrity of the village should be maintained. • The village must remain as a village. • To protect the unique, valued, village nature of the area. • This is an exceptionally good move and will enhance the chance to maintain the character of the village as a separate identity for all residents and future generations. • If the green space was filled in with houses we would no longer be a separate village community. Vitally important to all who live here. • The primary aim must be to hold onto all those aspects which make Swindon Village worthy of the name ‘village’ • These area are integral to maintaining the identity of the village • The shaded areas defined on the map [the proposed Green Space] will greatly help to preserve our village statues <p>It is not just the villagers who would benefit from the Green Space – it would also become ‘local’ to the new community in the proposed housing estate, giving them the chance to enjoy the natural areas and visit a historic village surrounded by green fields.</p>	✓
4	Need for Local Green Space	
4.1	Is there a need for a local green space in this location?	
	<p>Yes, there is a clear need considering the historical nature and rural character of the village and the other available green spaces for local residents. Swindon Village is served by a playing field area to the south west which is valuable for sport and has a modest children’s playground. However it lacks the natural features, wildlife areas, biodiversity, and the feeling of being in open countryside that are provided by the proposed Green Space. There are fields to the north east, but access to these is limited by the need to cross the railway line. There are only four places to cross the line, two controlled by slow level crossings, one accessible only by an overgrown footpath and one requiring crossing at a busy road with limited visibility. The other currently accessible green areas to the north and west are all scheduled for housing in the JCS.</p>	
5	Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”	

5.1	How far is the site from the community it serves?	
	<p>It is immediately contiguous to the community in the centre area of the village (with a population of 850). Many people have houses which back straight onto these fields and for everyone else they are a walk of less than 1 or 2 minutes. For those in the larger Swindon Village (4850 residents) the green space is less than 2 km. Please see the map above (at start of application) which shows how the proposed area envelopes the centre of Swindon Village.</p>	
5.2	Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?	
	<p>No. There are multiple entrance points to the footpaths that traverse the proposed Green Space area from all around the village (including at both ends of Quat Goose Lane, Brockhampton Lane, Stantons Drive, Hyde Lane and two entrances on Manor Road – one to Dog Bark Land and one to Upper Hill meadow). This is an important point because the more convenient the green space is, the more likely residents will use it and gain health and wellbeing benefits. The multiple entrances also make it an ideal area for residents from different parts of the village to meet in a natural setting away from traffic, helping to build social cohesion. If the new housing goes ahead, it will be possible to build more entrances to the footpaths on the other side of the green space. This will provide access for the new residents, creating a pleasant social space where the communities can interact.</p> <p>Access to Upper Hill Meadow, Bushby Close and Furzen Hill is via un-demarcated footpaths which run directly across the fields, giving a sense of space and a chance to observe the wildflowers that frequently grow in these fields. Dog Bark Lane is a wide bridleway with numerous trees and grass verges and offers access to views of Furzen Hill, Hill Orchard, and Upper Hill Meadow. Access to The Bank consists of a footpath that runs along the west side, with views over the Cotswolds hills, and a footpath along the north through a hedgerow, which gives a woodland feeling. Importantly, The Bank immediately adjoins Swindon Village Primary School, giving a countryside setting to the school and providing the children with a view across green space to the distant hills. Players (including children) and spectators (including parents) have access to the fields themselves. Access to Green Dean Furlong consists of views from footpaths on two sides and Brockhampton Lane to the West. There is no public access to the field itself, but the views across this land from the footpaths are important, and deer are commonly seen from the footpaths. Little Wheatlands and Wheatlands Orchid can be viewed from an attractive, wide footpath to the North and lanes to the side. Again there is no public access into the fields themselves, but the view is important since it includes the Home Farm buildings set amidst the fields. Shepherd Close is used for horses and has no public access, but is important because it provides attractive views of the countryside from within the village itself. Peas Furlong has the least access, though is visible from Bushby Close, and from the far corner of Quat Goose Lane.</p>	
6	Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”	
6.1	Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council	
	<p>This application is produced by Swindon Parish Council, which is unanimous in its support from all councillors. In addition the Parish Council has conducted the <i>Green Space Survey</i> which confirms strong support from all parishioners who responded (see Appendix 1). The topic of Green Space designation was first raised at the Parish Council meeting of 27th May (minute 14/63). It was discussed further on 10th June (minute 14/77), 8th July (minute 14/89), 12th August (minute 14/103), 14th October (minute 14/121), 11th November (minute 14/133) and 9th December (14/144). On all occasions it</p>	✓

	was met with enthusiasm and full support (see Appendix 16 for full details of the minutes and confirmation of the support of the council). The final draft was approved for submission in the council meeting of 13 Jan.	
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals.	
	<p>The <i>Green Space Survey</i> conducted by Swindon Parish Council reveals significant support from local individuals. Of the 104 respondents, 96 agreed that the fields were valuable for their beauty; 102 agreed that they were valuable for horse riding, dog walking running and other leisure activities; 102 for preserving the identity of the village; 95 for avoiding light pollution; 101 for tranquillity; 101 for wildlife; 99 for children's interaction with nature; and 101 for historical reasons. There were 101 respondents who agreed with the summary statement 'In general, the fields surrounding the village make it a much more attractive place to live, work, play and visit'. There were also 38 relevant written comments received on the survey. These comments described the importance of the proposed green space area for mountain biking, exercise, fresh air, food provision, views, feelings of space, wildlife, the identity of the village, dog walking, nature walking, emotional wellbeing, relaxation, a sense of history, fruit picking, community spirit, horse riding, astronomy and tranquillity (see Appendix 1 for a summary of all comments and responses).</p> <p>Swindon Parish Council has received letters of support from the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Swindon Village Society (Appendix 6) b) Gloucestershire Hash House Harriers (Appendix 7) c) Swindon Village Art Club (Appendix 8) d) Bishops Cleeve District Rangers (Appendix 9) e) 1st Swindon Village Scout Group (Appendix 10) f) Terrapins After School Club (Appendix 11) g) Swindon Village Rainbows (Appendix 12) h) Save the Countryside (Appendix 16) <p>The letters of support give details of how the groups use, benefit from and enjoy the proposed Green Space area, including history walks (group a); biodiversity/wildlife observation (groups a,c,d,f); conservation activities (group a); running (group b); dog walking (groups b,c); fruit picking (groups b,c,d,e); sketching and painting (group c); nature walks (groups c,d,f); children's play (groups c); star gazing (groups c,d); orienteering (groups d,e); hiking (group e); surveys of hedgerows (group e); educational walks (group e); den building (group f); learning about wild plants and flowers (group f); and exploring the environment (group f).</p> <p>Rachel Smith, leader of the 1st Swindon Village Scout Group, states the following: Most of all we can enjoy being able to have the freedom to explore our natural world as it is meant to be, to see nature and to experience the great outdoors. To run, play and to use energy and our imaginations – something that is sadly lacking in today's society and that needs encouraging more than ever before. (Appendix 10).</p> <p>Swindon Parish Council invited parents and children at the local school to draw pictures and write comments to show the ways in which they value the proposed Green Space area. In total 81 individuals described a range of uses of the green space including mountain biking, nature walks, running, dog walking, sports, playing, football, doing cartwheels, mucking around, enjoying the fresh air, picking fruit, and watching wildlife and animals including butterflies, horses, and deer. The comments from children included 'I love the wildlife and I would be distraught if they go', 'We children need space to run and get exercise and wildlife need a place to live', 'We love walking and picking sloes', 'we love to play in the fields', 'I go walking with gran', 'I love going on nature walks with</p>	✓

	<p>my mummy in these fields', 'I love seeing horses', 'I've seen a deer!', 'I love mucking about', 'I love walking Sam – he has a swim in the stream', 'I love the fields', 'I love walking my grandad's dog' (see appendix 5 for all responses).</p> <p>Swindon Village Primary School is in the process of preparing a letter of support on behalf of both the Head Teacher and the governors. In sum, aside from a letter received from Home Farm objecting to the application, all respondents to the extensive consultation conducted by Swindon Parish Council were positive in their support.</p>	
6.3	Evidence of support from community leaders	
	<p>Martin Horwood, MP for Cheltenham, states: "I strongly support this Local Green Space application which I know will be of value to my constituents as well as to the immediate population of Swindon Village... I take a keen interest in this as I was responsible for drafting the original Liberal Democrat policy in opposition which became the LGS designation...I know from personal experience how special this area is to local people. I have enjoyed walking through these fields many times with my own family and seen many others do so...it is particularly striking to have seen it enjoyed by so many people of different ages from young people to much older residents."</p> <p>Local MP Laurence Robertson states "I am fully supportive of the Green Space Application. This application, if granted, will preserve the rural nature of the Swindon Village Parish area, and will ensure that the feel of the village is maintained...Much of the pattern of the older part of the village was determined by the local agricultural sector and this application will protect and identify this for the future and as such will enhance the amenity for local residents in not just Swindon Village but Uckington and surrounding areas as well".</p> <p>Local CBC councillor Dr Flo Clucas OBE states "The application is a tremendous piece of work...The land that is proposed as local green space...is essential to the wellbeing of the Village and its residents as it provides much needed, accessible recreation space that is safe and sustainable for those who live in the Village...The application has my full and wholehearted support"</p> <p>CBC councillor Chris Nelson states that "I fully support Swindon Parish Council's application for Local Green Space designation of the historic fields immediately surrounding Swindon Village. It is clear that these fields are very special and valuable to the local community. What is proposed appears very modest and eminently sensible, given the need to maintain the integrity of this 10th Century Village...I hope your well thought out proposal is accepted by the Council."</p> <p>CBC councillor Roger Whyborn states that 'I have enjoyed a number of country walks commencing from, or finishing at, points in Swindon Village, including the football training ground and the ends of Stantons Drive or Quat Goose Lane. These places feature on your map, as entry points to the area you propose. In principle I would be very supportive of green spaces in your area as you seem to have made the case that they fall within the meaning of the three relevant paragraphs 76 to 78 of the NPPF'.</p> <p>Local CBC and County councillor Bernard Fisher states that 'As both County and Borough Councillor for Swindon Village I wholeheartedly support your application for Local Green Space around Swindon Village'</p> <p>CBC councillor Anne Regan states that 'As a local Borough Councillor I understand and condone the effort you are making to protect the green fields surrounding Swindon Village...from where our town is situated in the midst of the Cotswolds it should be protected'</p>	✓

	Appendix 2 contains the full responses from these MPs and councillors.	
6.4	Evidence of support from other groups	
	CPRE have provided a letter of support which includes the statement “CPRE supports in principle the application being made by Swindon Village Parish Council for an area of the current Green Belt immediately to the North and to the West of the Village to be designated as area of Local Green Space... Much of the area proposed is already used for informal recreational purposes including horse riding, dog walking, running, walking, children’s play and other such activities that contribute to the health, wellbeing and quality of life of the villagers. The area to be designated will...help to protect the setting and amenities of this self-contained historic settlement” (see Appendix 12 for full letter)	✓
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>beauty</u>,”	
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 consists of undulating fields bordered by fine hedgerows, mature trees, numerous species of wild plants and flowers, a great variety of wildlife, and an area of woodland, with undisturbed views over the Malvern and Cotswolds hills. In the Green Space Survey, 96 of 104 indicated agreement with the statement “The green fields and hedgerows are beautiful, particularly against the backdrop of the Cotswold and Malvern hills.” Residents wrote the following additional comments “We agree about the views across the fields to the Malverns. It is also lovely when walking to look back and see Cleeve Hill and the Cotswolds”; “I moved to Swindon village so that my two year old son could grow up in a beautiful scenic village environment and community”; “The views from the conservation area are important for its character” The JCS Historic Environment Assessment confirms that “Swindon Village is a Conservation Area, with key views overlooking the allocation area.” [in this case the ‘allocation area’ refers to the proposed Green Space area, since this is the area that the conservation area looks onto].	✓
7.3	Site visibility	
	There are views of the site from a number of vantage points within the centre of the village, including Quat Goose Lane, Church Road, Stantons Drive, Rivelands Road, Manor Road, and Manor Court Road. The views of the proposed Green Space from Brockhampton Lane and Manor Road are particularly important since they are approach roads, giving the feeling of Swindon Village as a village. The area is overlooked directly by the historic Swindon Manor, and is visible from the windows of a large number of properties that border it. The network of footpaths that run through the site itself offer exceptional views of green trees, hedgerows and fields against the backdrop of distant hills (as described in 5.2).	
7.4	Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations?	

	The site itself is currently Green Belt (as of 13 Jan 2015), and it surrounds the Swindon Village conservation area. Details of the conservation area are included in Appendix 3.	✓
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents?	
	The green setting of Swindon Village is mentioned in Cheltenham Borough Council's <i>Swindon Village Conservation Area Character Appraisal</i> . The appraisal states "The green environment makes a hugely significant contribution to the quality of Swindon Village. The dominance of large tree groups and open spaces has to a large degree shaped the rural character and appearance of the area" and mentions the importance of "greenbelt land to the north and west which has sustained the village's physical, predominantly rural setting...". (see Appendix 3) This greenbelt land is the proposed Green Space area and the fields beyond it.	
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?	
	<p>Yes, the green fields provide a vital context for the Swindon Village conservation area, which includes the 10th century St Lawrence Church, the listed buildings of Swindon Manor and Swindon Hall, a historic farm (Manor Farm), the original school and post office buildings and the picturesque thatched cottage, Maude's Elm. The JCS Historic Environment Assessment (JCSHEA) states that conservation area has "a strong historical relationship with the allocation area which comprises open agricultural land historically utilised by the assets. Erosion of this setting could significantly affect the historic value of these assets." The same report indicates a risk that "The village of Swindon, a Conservation Area, will be almost fully encompassed by the development, divorcing it from its former agricultural setting. Furthermore key views out from the Conservation Area will be significantly impacted by the development". The assessment specifically mentions the risk "of affecting the setting of those designated heritage assets situated adjacent to the allocation area, comprising: Church of St Lawrence, Grade II* and associated Grade II monuments; Swindon Hall, Grade II; Swindon Manor, Grade II." The JCSHEA recommends that "Development should attempt to preserve, and where possible enhance, the character and setting of Swindon Conservation Area... Furthermore development should be designed with regard to preserving the separation and landscape character of...Swindon [Village]". The proposed Green Space would accomplish this preservation of the landscape character with minimal impact on the number of houses that can be built.</p> <p>CBC's <i>Swindon Village Conservation Area Character Appraisal</i> states the following: "Swindon Village conservation area is special because: a) The village has a long history dating back to the 10th Century. The Church of St. Lawrence contains a Norman tower, dating back to around 1100AD; b) The area has retained its unique character and appearance through the dominance of historically and architecturally important buildings and their historic settings; c) The area has a diverse mix of building types and styles including grand historic buildings dating from the 17th - 19th Centuries; d) Large areas of open space and mature tree growth contribute significantly to the overall appearance and character of the area. (see Appendix 3 for more extracts from the document). Point (d) has been highlighted here because of its importance for this application.</p> <p>In addition, and significantly, in an earlier planning enquiry an HM Planning Inspector ruled that the fields Home Lease and the Eastern end of Upper Hill Meadow (which are contiguous with the Swindon Village Conservation Area) should not be developed but provide an important buffer between the Industrial and the Residential development.</p>	✓

7.7	Is the site highlighted in literature or art?	
	Not specifically, however the Chair of the Swindon Village Society, Barry Simon, has written on the history of the village and given a number of public talks (see letter of support from Barry Simon in Appendix 6).	
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its <u>historic significance</u>”	
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site?	
	<p>Yes. Within the proposed Green Space area are the attractive buildings of Home Farm, which was established in the mid 1800s and, according to the Swindon Village Society, represents a classic farm establishment of that period with a particularly fine timber framed barn. The Green Space designation will ensure that Home Farm remains in its historic context surrounded by green fields.</p> <p>While Home Farm is the only historic building that is actually within the site, the proposed Green Space area provides an essential rural context for the historic buildings of the Swindon Village Conservation Area (as discussed in 7.6 above).</p>	✓
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site?	
	<p>The proposed Green Space area has a long history of settlement and agricultural use, with traces of past land use evident in ridge and furrow formations. The JCS Historic Environment Assessment notes (JCSHEA) that “The Current settlement within the allocation area [i.e., the NW JCS site, including the proposed Green Space] had been established by the post-medieval period, and there is a therefore a high potential for remains relating to settlement and agricultural activities, especially in proximity to the current villages.” The Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments at English Heritage has confirmed that the fields Green Dean Furlong and The Bank include remnants of ridge and furrow earthworks (Appendix 14). The Gloucestershire Historical Environment Record (GHER) shows that there are earthworks (of various kinds) on all of the fields in the application (Appendix 15). The JCSHEA notes the “high potential for encountering remains of agricultural activity in the form of ditches, pits and the ploughed out remains of ridge and furrow. Areas of extant ridge and furrow are also still evident”. The GHER states the following about land directly within the proposed Green Space area (Furzen Hill and Hill Orchard): HER 44923 description: Settlement remains, comprising a small number of rectilinear/sub-circular enclosures recorded in the southeast part of the 2009 geophysical survey of land northwest of Cheltenham. It is likely that this activity extended northwards onto land currently/previously occupied by The River Swilgate. The survey recorded sinuous palaeochannels along the majority of the northern bank of the river and it is possible that archaeological remains survive undetected beneath substantial depths of alluvium. (Appendix 15).</p> <p>While the historical features of the landscape may not be immediately obvious to those walking through it, the area clearly does have an ancient history of settlement and agricultural use. There is potential for further, more detailed geophysical and</p>	✓

	archaeological exploration, e.g., in the alluvium of the River Swilgate and of the ridge and furrow patterns in Green Dean Furlong and surrounding fields.	
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town?	
	Yes – Swindon Village developed as a rural/agricultural village with Manor Farm in the centre and Home Farm and Swindon Farm at the edge. The name of the village itself, ‘Swindon’ is agricultural, meaning ‘pigs hill’. The fields in the proposed Green Space area (aside from The Bank) belong to these farms; they made Swindon Village the rural settlement that it was, and are vital to the continuing existence of the village as a village. MP Lawrence Robertson states “Much of the pattern of the older part of the village was determined by the local agricultural sector and this application will protect and identify this for the future and as such will enhance the amenity for local residents in not just Swindon Village but Uckington and surrounding areas as well”	
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?	
	Not that we know of, but there is one event that is of importance to some local people. Dog Bark Lane, which runs directly through the proposed Green Space, was the old road from Cheltenham to Tewkesbury. As such it was the route used by the Yorkist Army on their way from Sodbury to Tewkesbury on the day before the Battle of Tewkesbury in 1471. King Edward IV was at their head (information from Barry Simon, Swindon Village Society). One resident from Brockhampton Lane wrote the following in the Green Space Survey: “Dog Bark Lane was the main road from Cheltenham to Tewkesbury in the 15 th Century and was used by the Yorkist army led by Edward of York and his brother Richard of Gloucester on their march to the decisive battle of Tewkesbury (1471) when Edward defeated the Lancastrian Army of Margaret of Anjou and became Edward IV. Therefore it is of inestimable historic importance.”	✓
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? Not that we know of.	
9	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its recreational value (including as a playing field)”	
9.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
9.2	Is the site used for playing sport?	
	The field named The Bank is Cheltenham Town FC’s training ground, and is used not just for professional training but also for children’s football matches.	
9.3	Are the public able to physically access the site?	
	There is public access to the footpaths that traverse the site, with entrances from Quat Goose Lane, Manor Road, Stantons Drive, Hyde Lane and Brockhampton Lane. There is a network of bridleways, footpaths and country lanes across the area, with the main ones marked on the maps overleaf. In addition to the official rights of way there is unhindered physical access across some of the meadows and fields, with well-used informal paths evident (see photos on cover). The Cheltenham Circular path runs straight through the area, and the bridleway Dog Bark Lane is heavily used by walkers and horse riders to reach Elmstone Hardwick. The footpath that runs between Green Dean Furlong and The Bank is popular with children on their way home from school, offers stunning views of the Cotswold Hills, and is the first part of a route to Brockhampton. The footpath behind The Bank (not marked on the map) runs through a mature hedgerow and is the first part of a highly attractive route to Prestbury. (see 5.2 for details of access to specific fields)	✓

Footpaths, bridleways, country lanes, and tracks in the proposed Green Space area and its surroundings:



Cheltenham Circular Footpath:



Footpaths and bridleways only (lanes and tracks are not highlighted):



9.4	Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when?	
	<p>Yes. The site is used extensively for a great variety of forms of informal recreation which enhance health and wellbeing. Evidence of this was provided firstly by children and parents at Swindon Village Primary School who identified the following uses: <i>mountain biking, nature walks, running, dog walking, sports, playing, football, doing cartwheels, mucking around, enjoying the fresh air, picking fruit, and watching wildlife and animals including butterflies, horses, and deer</i> (see section 6.2 and Appendix 5 for full details).</p> <p>Secondly, Swindon Parish Council has received letters of support from seven local groups which described using the proposed Green Space for <i>history walks, biodiversity/wildlife observation, conservation activities, running, dog walking, fruit picking, sketching and painting, nature walks, children's play, star gazing, orienteering, hiking, surveys of hedgerows, educational walks, den building, learning about wild plants and flowers and exploring the environment</i> (see section 6.2 for more details).</p> <p>Thirdly, in the Green Space Survey, 90 of 104 respondents indicated agreement with the statement "<i>The fields are important for horse riding, dog walking, running, walking, children's play and other leisure activities that contribute to the health, wellbeing and quality of life of the villagers</i>". Comments on the forms described how the proposed Green Space is used for <i>exercise, fresh air, food provision, views, feelings of space, dog walking, nature walking, relaxation, mountain biking, fruit picking, horse riding and astronomy</i> (see Appendix 1 for full details).</p> <p>Fourthly, the popular Cheltenham Circular Route runs directly through the proposed Green Space, with walkers and runners enjoying a stretch of open countryside through Bushby Close, followed by an attractive footpath between The Bank and Green Dean Furlong with views of the hills, then through along a mature hedgerow on the North side of The Bank (see 9.3 for map). In 2012, runners on the Cheltenham Circular Challenge signed five large canvases to express support for keeping the area green for the future. In total 628 runners signed the canvases.</p>	✓
10	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>"	
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ? YES	
	YES.	
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil?	
	<p>YES – the green fields are a haven of tranquillity because they are undisturbed by the noise of major roads, there is very little aircraft noise, and it is possible to hear the sound of the wind in the trees, birdsong all year round, and crickets in the summer. In the <i>Green Space Survey</i>, 101 of 104 respondents indicated agreement with the statement 'The fields provide an important space for tranquillity, both for those walking within them and all the bordering houses'. One respondent writes "I feel it is underestimated how important green spaces are to the mental wellbeing of people. Keep the green spaces so at least some small area of tranquillity can be appreciated and welcomed on both a physical and mental basis."</p>	✓

	The tranquillity of the proposed Green Space area is important not only for those enjoying the area itself, but also for the tranquil feeling of the village as a whole. CBC's <i>Swindon Village Conservation Area Character Appraisal</i> specifically refers to this tranquillity: "The heart of the village has managed to retain its unique qualities with a distinctive mix of historically important buildings predominantly from the 18th-19th Centuries... These are set within a quiet and tranquil 'village' atmosphere... In present day, the Swindon Village conservation area has remained relatively well preserved with a moderate amount of recent development. This preservation has enabled the village to retain its special qualities, characteristics and tranquil village atmosphere." (see Appendix 3).	
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area?	
	There are no formal recognition documents, but, as mentioned in 10.2, tranquillity is described as a key feature of the village in CBC's <i>Swindon Village Conservation Area Character Appraisal</i> (Appendix 3).	
11	Evidence to show that the green area "holds a particular local significance, for example because of the richness of its wildlife";	
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES In the Green Space Survey, 101 of 104 respondents indicated agreement with the statement "The fields with their hedgerows and streams provide a haven for a great variety of insects, bird species, as well as mammals such as roe deer, giving an important chance for villagers to interact with natural wildlife." Comments included 'There are at least four identifiable ponds/wet areas within the scope of the green zone, all of which are natural habitats worthy of protection in their own right'; 'Some of the hayfields have not been ploughed or re-sown in many years leading to an exceptionally rich biodiversity. Many of the hedges are also very ancient as can be detected from the rich variety of plants they contain. I have counted 10 varieties of flowering plants. In autumn the hedges are hosts to migrating flocks of redwing, and the hedges are rich with wild plum and sloe.'; and 'It's a joy to see deer roaming these fields, watch foxes, pheasants, green and spotted woodpeckers, jays and a host of other species of birds. Once the green fields/hedgerows are gone these too will be lost forever'. At the school event, children drew pictures of butterflies, trees, birds, deer, and rabbits that they'd seen in the proposed Green Space area. Comments from children and parents included: "I love the wildlife and I would be distraught if they go", "wildlife need a place to live", "Nature is important to our children and wildlife", "Walking and wildlife and wonder", "I really appreciate the butterflies in Dog Bark Lane", "That's where wildlife live and wildlife is important.", and "I love watching the magnificent deer".	✓
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value?	
	Not currently.	
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site?	
	YES. The JCS Historic Environment Assessment describes the importance of the hedgerows in the area: "The existing boundary scheme is illustrated on ... the 1841 Swindon Tithe map. Although there has been some loss and alterations to boundaries, a significant proportion are likely to be considered 'important' under the Hedgerow	✓

	<p>Regulations.” Within the proposed Green Space area there are potentially important hedgerows that run along the backs of The Bank, Green Dean Furlong and Little Wheatlands, and both sides of Upper Hill Meadow and Bushby Close. The hedgerows contain a large number of mature trees, and a great variety of plant species which provide important habitats for wildlife. The hedgerow that runs along the north of The Bank is particularly important because of an attractive footpath that runs within it, allowing local people to interact with plants and wildlife. The field Green Dean Furlong is a rich habitat, favoured by deer and a great variety of birdlife because it is left unploughed.</p>																																																															
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site?																																																															
	<p>Swindon Village Society has been monitoring bird species and to date have sighted the following birds in the vicinity (information supplied by Barry Simon, President of SVS).</p> <table><tr><td>House Sparrow</td><td>Great Tit</td></tr><tr><td>Jay</td><td>Buzzard</td></tr><tr><td>Rook</td><td>Crow</td></tr><tr><td>Blackbird</td><td>Wood Pigeon</td></tr><tr><td>Collard Dove</td><td>Blue Tit</td></tr><tr><td>Missel Thrush</td><td>Robin</td></tr><tr><td>Wren</td><td>Magpie</td></tr><tr><td>Green Woodpecker</td><td>Common Gull</td></tr><tr><td>Kestrel</td><td>Dunnock</td></tr><tr><td>Mallard</td><td>Chiff Chaff</td></tr><tr><td>Goldfinch</td><td>Greenfinch</td></tr><tr><td>Stock Dove</td><td>Collared Dove</td></tr><tr><td>Goldcrest</td><td>Long Tailed Tit</td></tr><tr><td>Magpie</td><td>Starling</td></tr><tr><td>Lesser Blackbacked Gull</td><td>Herring Gull</td></tr><tr><td>Kingfisher</td><td>Sparrowhawk</td></tr><tr><td>Willow Warbler</td><td>Pheasant</td></tr><tr><td>Skylark</td><td>Meadow Pipet</td></tr><tr><td>Chaffinch</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>Plants include:</p> <table><tr><td>Arun Lilies</td><td>White Dead Nettle</td></tr><tr><td>Red Dead Nettle</td><td>Celandine</td></tr><tr><td>Comfrey</td><td>Cow Parsley</td></tr><tr><td>Goose Grass</td><td>Groundsel</td></tr><tr><td>Dock</td><td>Elephants Ear</td></tr><tr><td>Vetch</td><td>Crack Willow</td></tr><tr><td>Germander Speedwell</td><td>Shepherds Purse</td></tr><tr><td>Ground Ivy</td><td>Ground Elder</td></tr><tr><td>Whitlow Grass</td><td>Hedge Garlic</td></tr><tr><td>Coltsfoot</td><td>Broadleaf Plantain</td></tr><tr><td>Violet</td><td>Blue Aconite</td></tr><tr><td>Ribwort Plantain</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>In addition, the surveys conducted by Swindon Parish Council indicate that residents enjoy seeing butterflies, deer, rabbits, badgers, and foxes. One respondent to the Green Space Survey wrote ‘We often see the deer in various fields including those highlighted. Also badgers have resettled in the sett that was destroyed in Dog Bark Lane. Also foxes, buzzards and herons.’</p>	House Sparrow	Great Tit	Jay	Buzzard	Rook	Crow	Blackbird	Wood Pigeon	Collard Dove	Blue Tit	Missel Thrush	Robin	Wren	Magpie	Green Woodpecker	Common Gull	Kestrel	Dunnock	Mallard	Chiff Chaff	Goldfinch	Greenfinch	Stock Dove	Collared Dove	Goldcrest	Long Tailed Tit	Magpie	Starling	Lesser Blackbacked Gull	Herring Gull	Kingfisher	Sparrowhawk	Willow Warbler	Pheasant	Skylark	Meadow Pipet	Chaffinch		Arun Lilies	White Dead Nettle	Red Dead Nettle	Celandine	Comfrey	Cow Parsley	Goose Grass	Groundsel	Dock	Elephants Ear	Vetch	Crack Willow	Germander Speedwell	Shepherds Purse	Ground Ivy	Ground Elder	Whitlow Grass	Hedge Garlic	Coltsfoot	Broadleaf Plantain	Violet	Blue Aconite	Ribwort Plantain		✓
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Ribwort Plantain																																																																

11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community?	
	Yes, the Swindon Village Society has been studying birds in the area over the last 10 years (see Appendix 6 and 11.4 above).	✓
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for <u>any other reason</u>”;	
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ?	
	YES	
12.2	Are there any other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swindon Village has a no streetlight policy, and the green fields help keep the sky dark for sound sleeping and views of the stars, and benefit wildlife. In the Green Space Survey, 95 of 104 respondents indicated agreement with this statement. • The green fields surround a major primary school, giving children the chance to grow up interacting directly with nature and learning about the natural world. In the Green Space Survey, 99 of 104 respondents indicated agreement with this statement. • In general, the fields surrounding the village make it a much more attractive place to live, work, play and visit. In the Green Space Survey, 101 of 104 respondents indicated agreement with this statement. 	✓

Appendix 1: The Green Space Survey

The Green Space Survey was designed by Swindon Parish Council in order to test whether potential statements that could be made on the CBC toolkit about the proposed Green Space have the backing of the community. The survey consists of nine statements with boxes for respondents to tick if they agree with them, and an area for free written comments to provide extra evidence. The statements were based on the information required by the CBC toolkit, adjusted to the specific context of the village. The survey was distributed door-to-door in the centre of the village, sent via email to members of local groups and handed out during an event at the local school. The number of respondents was 104, representing primarily local people from the heart of the village, as well as others who have an intimate connection with the village such as parents of children who go to school here. The survey is not a representative sample of population of Swindon Village since return of the forms was voluntary. The respondents are therefore likely to be those with strong opinions about the application, either for or against it, although in this case all 104 supported the application. Separately, all known local community groups were contacted and asked to describe how they use the fields. The responses from the survey and the relevant free comments are detailed overleaf, and responses from the local groups are given in full in the appendices below.

Swindon Village Parish Council

Local Green Space Designation

Important survey – your help needed!



Cheltenham Borough Council has asked communities to identify green spaces of particular value to protect for the future. Swindon Village Parish Council has chosen a band of green space around the village that we think is very important for everyone who lives here (see map overleaf). To be granted Local Green Space protection for this area we need to gather evidence that the community really does value this green space.

Please look at the green space marked on the map, which currently consists of fields, hedgerows, footpaths and playing fields. Is this space valuable because (tick those that apply):

number of
respondents
who ticked
the box

	✓
The green fields and hedgerows are beautiful, particularly against the backdrop of the Cotswold and Malvern hills.	96
The fields are important for horse riding, dog walking, running, walking, children's play and other leisure activities that contribute to the health, wellbeing and quality of life of the villagers.	102
The green fields surrounding the historic Swindon Village are what make it a village, and are essential for its identity and the cohesiveness of the community and a sense of belonging.	102
Swindon Village has a no streetlight policy, and the green fields help keep the sky dark for sound sleeping, views of the stars, and the benefit of wildlife.	95
The fields provide an important space for tranquillity, both for those walking within them and all the bordering houses.	101
The fields with their hedgerows and streams provide a haven for a great variety of insects, bird species, as well as mammals such as roe deer, giving an important chance for villagers to interact with natural wildlife.	101
The green fields surround a major primary school, giving children the chance to grow up interacting directly with nature and learning about the natural world.	99
The village is historic, having a Norman Church and an extensive conservation area, with ridge and furrow fields showing that the area has been farmed since the middle ages. The green fields are essential to maintaining the historic character of the village.	101
In general, the fields surrounding the village make it a much more attractive place to live, work, play and visit.	101
Total number of responses received (counting those signed by two residents twice)	104

The street that you live on:

Your name (if you want to add it):

Please write additional comments overleaf:

Your comments on why the green fields around the village (identified on the map below) are valuable, or on what other green areas in the Parish should be protected:

The following comments were written by residents in the box above. Only comments that were relevant have been included, i.e., ones which directly comment on why the fields are valuable. A number of respondents indicated that the proposed area is too small and that other areas should also be included, and other respondents described how the historic village would be negatively impacted if it was engulfed in a large housing estate. These comments are not included here but will inform other action by the Parish Council separate from this application.

- For wildlife, feelings of space and exercise.
- We need space and freedom for our children to appreciate and learn about the countryside. Fresh air is also important.
- This is valuable agricultural land and can never be replaced. It should remain so as to provide food for our future generations
- Our wildlife is important. If we keep destroying our green spaces nature will suffer in the long term and so will humans.
- We bought our homes for the very reason they backed onto fields.
- There are at least four identifiable ponds/wet areas within the scope of this green zone, all of which are natural habitats worthy of protection in their own right.
- The views from the conservation area are important to its character.
- We feel the integrity of the village should be maintained. Further development would mean the village would lose its identity. It is therefore imperative to have Local Green Space Designation.
- The village must remain as a village. A green space around the village as indicated is an excellent idea and we welcome the Parish Council's suggestion. Well done!
- To protect the unique, valued, village nature of the area. To reduce light pollution in Swindon Village. To prevent birds, foxes, deer and so much more being driven away.
- Our village is a distinctive areas, feeling separate to the main town. It feels rural and isolated and has a real sense of community which risks being lost if additional unnecessary building takes place.
- The green fields should be protected for all the reasons stated overleaf plus for the residents to be able to walk their dogs safely near to their homes.
- This is an exceptionally good move and will enhance the chance to maintain the character of the village as a separate identity for all residents and future generations.

- This [the reasons on the form] is an excellent summary of the case for preserving the Green Belt or at least part of it around the village.
- Some of the hayfields have not been ploughed or re-sown in many years leading to an exceptionally rich biodiversity. Many of the hedges are also very ancient as can be detected from the rich variety of plants they contain. I have counted 10 varieties of flowering plants in [the hay fields]. In autumn the hedges are hosts to migrating flocks of redwing, and the hedges are rich with wild plum and sloe. You only have to look at the complex network of well worn paths to see evidence of how widely and how often people from the village come through these fields. Finally, these diverse green spaces are needed to keep up with the government's recognition that we have to protect pollination.
- If the green space was filled in with houses we would no longer be a separate village community. Vitally important to all who live here. If the Green Space was allowed it would make the provision of new homes more acceptable.
- It is imperative that we keep this historic village as it is, for residents and others to enjoy, for all the reasons stated. Please preserve this piece of history.
- The green fields around the village are an essential part of life. Sometimes we take nature's beauty for granted but once lost, it will be forever! We all need the space for our emotional wellbeing, whether young or old.
- It's nice to be able to take a walk outside your front door without having to use a car.
- The greenbelt affects the balance of all our lives and all other creatures living in it.
- The primary aim must be to hold onto all those aspects which make Swindon Village worthy of the name 'village'.
- We used the footpaths daily when we had a dog and I still use them now for relaxation. Our son, who was brought up in the village and now lives in London regularly walks them whenever he comes home. Dog Bark Lane was the main road from Cheltenham to Tewkesbury in the 15th Century and was used by the Yorkist army led by Edward of York and his brother Richard of Gloucester on their march to the decisive battle of Tewkesbury (1471) when Edward defeated the Lancastrian Army of Margaret of Anjou and became Edward IV. Therefore it is of inestimable historic importance.
- Swindon Village is scheduled to bear the brunt of the building strategy between it and Elmstone Hardwick...Is it too much to ask that we be left some space to walk our dogs?
- These areas are integral to maintaining the identity of the village and should be protected so that all future generations can enjoy the spaces and have the opportunity to experience the village life set amongst these open spaces.
- We have lived in the village for 10 years and use the fields regularly three to four times a week for dog walking with the family and neighbours. The children have gone on adventures without adults for picnics and rambling in the summer. Blackberry picking – we enjoy Swindon Village apple and blackberry crumble year round having frozen our local blackberries. Sloes too! The beavers and cubs walk through the village and fields for various activities. The fields/pathways are used and enjoyed by many. We often see the deer in various fields including those highlighted. Also badgers have resettled in the sett that was destroyed in Dog Bark Lane. Also foxes, buzzards and herons.
- Maintaining adequate air quality due to inevitable pollution and to preserve the village status.
- The green fields are historic and unique to our area. We have an ancient Norman Church with a village community that should not be swallowed up into a monstrous housing project which will destroy the wildlife and wonderful views we have – for ever. Greed

should not destroy our countryside, our future and our grandchildren's enjoyment of wonderful green spaces.

- I moved to Swindon village so that my two year old son could grow up in a beautiful scenic village environment and community. We frequently go on local walks and see all sorts of wildlife in our own garden and surrounding fields. This land must be protected to keep the charm of the village and more importantly keep it a village.
- We agree about the views across the fields to the Malverns. It is also lovely when walking to look back and see Cleeve Hill and the Cotswolds.
- All green fields should be protected for wildlife and trees which in turn help us humans to live.
- Swindon Village is an historic discrete settlement with its church and hall. Protecting the fields which are shown below would be the minimum we would consider necessary to respect the singular qualities of Swindon Village.
- Without the green space – i.e., if built on – the congestion arising would make living in what is now a quiet, friendly village more like living in a town – impersonal and lacking community spirit.
- The fields 'Home Lease' and eastern end of 'Upper Hill Meadow' should also be protected so that it will be an open buffer zone to separate it from the industrial units which are noise producers. The buffer zone would be in accord with an earlier report by an HM planning inspector.
- Cheltenham and its environs is presently regarded as a very desirable historic town, but I worry this image will be destroyed if all the green spaces existing now are developed into an endless housing estate. Swindon village is very much a part of this heritage, and I think the shaded areas defined on the map will greatly help to preserve our village status, benefit the overall area and consider it would be a small concession on behalf of CBC to retain it...for us and future generations to enjoy.
- These area of fields, hedges and woodlands are essential, providing clean air and recreational facilities for every age group. Future generations will benefit from our efforts now. It's a joy to see deer roaming these fields, watch foxes, pheasants, green and spotted woodpeckers, jays and a host of other species of birds. Once the green fields/hedgerows are gone these too will be lost forever.
- The area in question is a natural habitat for wildlife and a haven for those who enjoy horse riding, dog walking etc.
- [I am] a user of the green space, nature watching, walking, astronomy, mountain biking...
- I feel it is underestimated how important green spaces are to the mental wellbeing of people. Keep the green spaces so at least some small area of tranquillity can be appreciated and welcomed on both a physical and mental basis.

Appendix 2: Letters and emails of support from MPs, CBC and County councillors.

From: Martin Horwood MP Private <martin.horwood.2nd@parliament.uk> Sent: Wed 07/01/2015 1
To: STIBBE, Arran (Dr)
Cc: FIDGEON, David; dlr.flo.clucas@cheltenham.gov.uk; TOD, Fiona
Subject: FW: Swindon Village Green Space Designation

I strongly support this Local Green Space application which I know will be of value to my constituents as well as to the immediate population of Swindon Village.

I strongly support retention of local Green Belt protection against urban sprawl but local green spaces are important even where Green Belt criteria are considered to be less strongly met.

I take a keen interest in this as I was responsible for drafting the original Liberal Democrat policy in opposition which became the LGS designation when the coalition implemented the National Planning Policy Framework. There were effective protections in place for green spaces that were important for their scientific value or their landscape quality but nothing for local communities, particularly in urban areas, that simply wanted to protect green spaces for their intrinsic value to local people. Local green space is good for people's mental and physical health and is vital for free recreation, which is also known to reduce health inequalities; it absorbs pollution, both carbon emissions which contribute to global warming and dangerous particulate pollution which contribute to heart disease, respiratory and other problems; it can teach us, and particularly our children, about nature, wildlife and our local natural heritage; it can provide accessible and tranquil spaces for simple enjoyment; and it can provide local food production.

I know from personal experience how special this area is to local people. I have enjoyed walking through these fields many times with my own family and seen many others do so. Being a relatively level landscape it is particularly accessible from the immediate urban area and it is particularly striking to have seen it enjoyed by so many people of different ages from young people to much older residents.

I am happy to lend my support to this application.

Martin Horwood MP

Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Cheltenham



STRONGER ECONOMY. FAIRER SOCIETY.



COUNCILLOR ROGER WHYBORN

5th December 2014:

Dr Arran Stibbe
Councillor, Swindon Village Parish Council
White Rose, Swindon Village
Cheltenham, GL51 9RL

Dear Dr Stibbe

LOCAL GREEN SPACES WITHIN SWINDON VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL BOUNDARIES

I write as Borough Councillor for Up Hatherley, where I also serve on their Parish Council. For your information, Up Hatherley Parish Council is also studying the Local Green Space toolkit, and it may be that we shall make a proposal of our own, if the Parish Council deems it appropriate.

I am not sufficiently familiar with the geography of Swindon Village to give specific endorsements to any particular areas within your parish, but I will say that I have enjoyed a number of country walks commencing from, or finishing at, points in Swindon Village, including the football training club, and the ends of Stantons Drive or Quat Goose Lane. These places feature on your map, as entry points to the area you propose. In principal I would be very supportive of the protection of green spaces in your area, as you seem to have made the case that they fall within the meaning of the three relevant paragraphs 76 to 78 of the NPPF.

My assumption is that you are looking at areas which are expected to come out of green belt under the JCS. I would have hoped that under a well ordered planning regime, that even after major development, it would be possible to walk out through green 'corridors' from your village to the countryside, but I recognise you are limited by borough boundaries as to what can be achieved.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr. Roger Whyborn - Up Hatherley

From: Flo.Clucas@cheltenham.gov.uk
To: STIBBE, Arran (Dr)
Cc: parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk
Subject: Re: Swindon Parish Council Local Green Space Application

Sent: Thu 04/12/2014 2

Dear Cllr Stibbe,

The application is a tremendous piece of work and sets down what local constituents say to me about the value to them, of the land that is proposed as local green space.

I am very happy to endorse the application as it protects a small fraction of the land that is outlined for building in the JCS. It is essential to the well being of the Village and its residents as it provides much needed, accessible recreation space that is safe and sustainable for those who live in the Village, especially the children. It gives an opportunity for local residents to interact with nature, to ensure historic elements are not lost and to be able to relate historic acts and events to today's modern world. For such a small area to be able to do such a lot is amazing.

The application has my full and wholehearted support and I look forward to a successful application.

Best wishes,

Cllr Dr Flo Clucas OBE LLD (hc) Cav

From: Bernard.Fisher@cheltenham.gov.uk
To: STIBBE, Arran (Dr)
Cc:
Subject: Re: Swindon Parish Council Local Green Space Application

Sent: Thu 04/12/2014

Dear Arran,

As both County and Borough Councillor for Swindon Village, I wholeheartedly support your application for Local Green Space around Swindon Village to soften the blow of the JCS should it come to fruition.

Yours sincerely

Cllr Bernard Fisher

From: Anne.Regan@cheltenham.gov.uk
To: STIBBE, Arran (Dr)
Cc:
Subject: Re: Swindon Parish Council Local Green Space Application

Sent: Fri 05/12/2014

As a local Borough Councillor I understand and condone the effort you are making to protect the green fields surrounding Swindon Village.

We are fighting to protect our local green space area here in Leckhampton and it should be acknowledged that where our town is situated in the midst of the Cotswolds it should be protected from over development.

Cllr Anne Regan

Warden Hill Ward

Cheltenham Borough Council

From: Chris.Nelson@cheltenham.gov.uk
To: STIBBE, Arran (Dr)
Cc:
Subject: Re: Swindon Parish Council Local Green Space Application

Sent: Sun 07/12/2014 1

Dear Dr Stibbe

I fully support Swindon Parish Council's application for Local Green Space designation of the historic fields immediately surrounding Swindon Village. It is clear that these fields are very special and valuable to the local community.

What is proposed appears very modest and eminently sensible, given the need to maintain the integrity of this 10th Century Village from the huge JCS site of Elms Park and it's 5000+ houses. I have always been of the opinion that Elms Park needs to be moved closer to the M5, so that more green space can be retained between the existing population in the area of the Village and the enormous new JCS development.

I hope your well thought out proposal is accepted by the Council.

Best regards

Cllr Chris Nelson

From: CALWAY, Mark <CALWAYM@parliament.uk>
Date: 15 December 2014 at 17:05
Subject: FW: Local Green Space Application - Swindon Parish Council
To: "parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk"
<parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk>

"I am fully supportive of the Green Space Application. This application, if granted, will preserve the rural nature of the Swindon Village Parish area, and will ensure that the feel of the village is maintained. In addition, it will help preserve the very valuable Green Belt, that is so essential in this area to prevent any more urban sprawl, which has blighted much of the area since the late 1980s. Much of the pattern of the older part of the village was determined by the local agricultural sector and this application will protect and identify this for the future and as such will enhance the amenity for local residents in not just Swindon Village but Uckington and surrounding areas as well".

Laurence Robertson MP.

Kind Regards
Mark Calway
Assistant to Laurence Robertson MP
22 High Street
Tewkesbury
Gloucestershire
GL20 5AI
Tel 01684 291640

Appendix 3: Swindon Village Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan

by Cheltenham Borough Council, February 2007

[extracts, with key phrases in red]

Summary of special interest 1.9 Swindon Village conservation area is special because: a) The village has a long history dating back to the 10th Century. The Church of St. Lawrence contains a Norman tower, dating back to around 1100AD; b) The area has retained its unique character and appearance through the dominance of historically and architecturally important buildings and their historic settings; c) The area has a diverse mix of building types and styles including grand historic buildings dating from the 17th - 19th Centuries; d) Large areas of open space and mature tree growth contribute significantly to the overall appearance and character of the area.

Location and context

2.1 Swindon Village is located to the north west of Cheltenham, approximately 2 miles from the town centre and 9 miles from the historic town of Tewkesbury. The village is set within a low-lying landscape which is predominantly agricultural land. Parts of this land are gradually being encroached upon by the growth of housing and retail industries.

General character and plan form

2.2 Swindon Village conservation area captures the historic heart of rural Swindon Village. It contains historic houses, an historic farm and also important resources such as the old school and large recreational field.

2.3 Historic houses are loosely clustered around the Church of St. Lawrence within large plots surrounded by mature trees in spacious grounds. Housing of the 1960s and onwards has been more densely developed on smaller compact plots, within land to the north and west of the conservation area.

Wider landscape setting

2.4 Swindon Village's physical character has, to a large extent, been determined by the presence of the built environment, for example the raised railway to the east, which has created a physical barrier to development. There is an industrial park to the south of the parish between Tewkesbury Road and the southern boundary of the conservation area, and greenbelt land to the north and west which has sustained the village's physical, predominantly rural setting.

2.5 The physical character is also determined by open spaces and gaps between the buildings which provide constant views of Cleeve Hill to the east, Bredon Hill to the north and agricultural land to the west. Views of mature tree groups growing adjacent Wyman's Brook, for example, are evident from the Kingsditch Industrial Estate, and are important in establishing a sense of atmosphere and character.

The character and interrelationship of spaces within the area and key views/vistas

4.6 Distance views of hills – and occasionally the lack of any such views – have a significant impact on the character of the conservation area and are all the more important because these views regularly change. At various points in the north of the conservation area, views are stopped at a considerable distance by the Malverns, Bredon Hill, Nottingham Hill, Cleeve Hill and other parts of the Cotswold Scarp. At some points (for example looking across the

playing fields towards Hyde Lane, from about its junction with Quat Goose Lane) the scarp, viewed through trees, takes up more of the view to the horizon than does the sky.

Use of area and how use creates special interest

5.1 In the past, Swindon Village remained predominantly an agricultural settlement, until relatively recently when it has become a dormitory village and suburb of Cheltenham. 5.2 In present day, the village is predominantly urban in nature. However, despite threats from industrial, retail and housing developments in recent years, the village has remained largely well conserved and unspoilt. Farming has historically played a key role in the development of the village and the continued working of Manor Farm makes a significant contribution to the rural character. The farm also provides an example of traditional economic activity within the village. Outside the conservation area, Swindon Farm is also still a working farm and the fields around Home Farm are still farmed.

Contribution of trees and green spaces

5.54 The green environment makes a hugely significant contribution to the quality of Swindon Village. The dominance of large tree groups and open spaces has to a large degree shaped the rural character and appearance of the area.

Appendix 4: Cheltenham Circular Challenge Signatures

The Cheltenham Circular Challenge runs directly through the proposed green area – specifically through the field Bushby Close. In 2012, runners were asked if they would sign a petition when they reached Home Lease. The petition called for the fields the runners were running through to be protected. The following are the signatures collected:



On 15 November 2014 Swindon Parish Council created a stall at the Swindon Village Primary School fête, where we asked children and parents what they thought was valuable about the fields that surround the school and the village. We asked them to write or draw how they used the specific fields we are proposing for Green Space Designation. The following are the results:



Where would I walk my dog?
 I like walking my dog.
 For sports and energy.
 Sam and his mum like to play in the green fields.
 Because we children need space to run and get exercise. Also wildlife need a place to live.
 More exercise.
 Nature is important to our children and wildlife
 Walking and wildlife and wonder
 I like playing in the fields
 I like to go for walks.
 I like taking my dog for walks in the fields
 It is so we can play football
 Just love walking my children, dogs, friends in green fields. Dogs have their daily bath in the stream too.
 I really appreciate the butterflies in Dog Bark Lane.
 Doing cartwheels and playing
 That's where wildlife live and wildlife is important.
 We love walking and picking sloes.
 We play on it.
 I love our village sense of community.
 We love to play in the fields and walk our dogs
 I walk in the footpaths in this area with friends most days.
 I love walking in this area with my friend.
 I walk my dogs in the fields.
 I like mucking about in it.
 We walk our dogs in those fields and we love it.
 I like walking my dog.
 I like playing football in the fields
 Playing and walking with the children and dog
 I go walking with gran.
 I love going on nature walks with my mummy in these fields
 I love seeing horses
 I've see a deer!
 I love the mucking about.
 I love walking Sam – he has a swim in the stream
 I like walking here.
 I like to play football
 I like the deer.
 I like walking with my dog and playing with my family.
 I like the air.
 I like walking here.
 We go blackberrying every year
 I like playing in the fields with my friends
 Everybody walks their dog and kids like to play
 I love watching the magnificent deer from my bedroom window.
 I love the fields
 I love walking my gradad's dog.
 My open play space.

Appendix 6: Letter of support from Swindon Village Society

From: Barry Simon
Organisation: Swindon Village Society
Address: 3 Swindon Hall
Swindon Village
Cheltenham GL51 9QR
Date: 29 November 2014

Swindon Village Society

I represent the Swindon Village Society who use the land selected by Swindon Village Parish Council to be part of their Local Green Spaces Application.

I fully support the Parish Council Local Green Spaces Application and hope that this green land that is used by my group today can continue to be made available to us for our use in future. The land in question is used by my group in the following ways:

A part of the remit of The Swindon Village Society is conservation. As such we undertake regular bird walks in the area under discussion. These are primarily for our own interest but we do encourage the participation of youngsters to come and start taking an interest in birds and other wild life. Our current bird list is attached.

In addition, as part of the annual village walk which includes this area we try to involve the youngsters that take part by providing information on local history, trees and nature. Again I attach some of our efforts in this direction which have appeared as part of quiz sheets used on the walks. While only a part of the walk covered the designated green space, this area would become even more important were the rest of the land to fall to development.

Barry Simon
Chairman, SVS

[the map referred to in this letter has been incorporated in the site location plan in section 1.2, and bird list mentioned appears in section 11.4]

Swindon Village Society – example of information supplied to walkers on countryside walk

Once upon a time all the fields had names and all the people would know them. These are some of the names from the 1841 Tithe Allocation. Starting from Swindon Village: The first field as you turn off Manor Road was called 'Upper Mill Meadow'. That is because once there was a small corn grinding mill very close to where the Wyman's Brook crosses under Manor Road. It had a mill pond that stretched out east running behind the church where the amenity area is now. The next field was 'Lower Mill Meadow' You then cross into the end of 'Bushy Close' Then a few paces over ' Little Crow's Nest' to get to the bridge across Wyman's Brook. You then cross 'Square Meadow' before walking along 'Gibb's Piece' We don't know the name of the last field before you get to the road into Elmstone Hardwicke. On the way back you walk up Lowdilow Lane and turn off to return across the fields. We don't know the name of the first field but the second you come to is 'Rye Hedge'.

Then ' Little Ground' Next comes 'Clark's Lower Ground' Then short crossings of two field. The First is 'Twelve Acres' but it was also known as 'Second Daisy Stalls'. The next field is 'Nine Acres' but this was also known as 'First Daisy Stalls'. Now the 'acres' bit is easy – that is the size of the fields

– but we have no idea where the ‘ Daisy Stalls’ name came from. The next field is ‘Crow’s Nest’ before you cross to ‘Little Crow’s Nest’ again. You finish off by walking along Bushy Close again to the end of Stanton’s Drive. The name Swindon comes from over 1000 years ago. If you look at Swindon carefully you will see that it is on a low hill. The hill is a small mound of sand left in a saucer of clay after the melting of the last ice age sent lots of water and rubble down from the north to create the Severn Vale. The church is on the top of this small hill. Before the church was built 900 years ago it would seem that the Anglo-Saxons kept pigs on the hill because the place was known in Saxon as ‘Suin-done’ – ‘the hill where the pigs are kept’. So if you are not keen on the name Swindon , remember it could have been worse. We could have been ‘Pigshill’. **Trees:** Here are three trees to look out for. White Willow: When starting from Swindon Village, in the first field you walk along there are lots of trees on the right. The biggest about half way along is a White Willow. It has long catkins that have now opened to release lots of small seeds. It has a tough light pliable wood and is used to make cricket bats and wooden legs. Its twigs are used to make baskets.

The first tree on the right in the second field is another sort of Willow, a crack willow, so called because if you bend the branches they break with a crack. English Oak: Further along the second field the biggest tree on the left with dark leaves is an Oak. On Swindon’s playing fields there are six different sorts of Oak. The way you know this is an English Oak is that the leaves don’t have a stalk but come straight off the wooden twig. They are used to make good quality furniture . They used to be used to make large ships. The ships that fought the Armada were all made of Oak. Field Maple: In the second field, just as the path takes a small turn to the right, if you look left you can see a Field Maple. This is a medium sized darkish tree but you can see lots of red seeds on it. These are winged just like those on the better known Sycamore (which is also a sort of Maple).

Appendix 7: Letter of support from Gloucestershire Hash House Harriers (a running group)

Local Green Space Designation by Swindon Parish Council

From: RUSSELL MURPHY
(TREASURER)

Organisation:
GLOUCESTERSHIRE GOURMET
HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Address:
45 QUEENS RD
CHELTENHAM GLOS GL50 2LX

Date: 28-11-2014

To: Swindon Parish Council
C/O Cllr. Dr. Arran Stibbe,
White Rose
Stantons Drive
Swindon Village
Cheltenham GL519RL

I represent the above group who use the land selected by Swindon Village Parish Council to be part of their Local Green Spaces Application.

I fully support the Parish Council Local Green Spaces Application and hope that this green land that is used by my group today can continue to be made available to us for our use in future.

The land in question is used by my group in the following ways:

1. WEEKLY RUNS ALONG COUNTRY FOOTPATHS, TYPICALLY WITH 20-30 RUNNERS PER OCCASION (8 DOGS).
2. COUNTRY WALKS WITH DOGS.
3. SUGARBERRY PICKING.

I WOULD ALSO SAY THAT PATHS WITHIN HOUSING ESTATES OR WOODS ONCE BORDERING ESTATES (AS SEVERAL OF THESE DO) ARE NOWHERE NEAR AS PLEASANT AS PATHS TOTALLY IN AGRICULTURAL FIELDS. TAKE BISHOP'S CREEVE AS AN EXAMPLE!

Signature:



Appendix 8: Letter of support from Swindon Village Art Club

Adrian Skilling
Chairman of Swindon Village Art Club
32 Church Road
Swindon Village
Cheltenham
GL51 9QS

To:
Swindon Parish Council
c/o Cllr. Dr. Arran Stibbe
White Rose
Stantons Drive
Swindon Village
Cheltenham
GL51 9RL

Local Green Space Designation by Swindon Parish Council

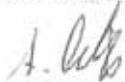
I represent the Swindon Village Art and Craft Club, the members of which use the land selected by Swindon Parish Council to be part of their Local Green Spaces Application.

I fully support the Parish Council Local Green Spaces Application and hope that this green land that is used by our group today can continue to be made available for us in the future.

This land is used and valued by our group in the following ways:

Sketching and painting
For walking
For dog walking
For Childrens play (and grandchildren)
For wildlife itself and for observing wildlife
To provide a tranquil and attractive setting for the Village
The no street light policy means this space is excellent for star gazing
Foraging: Blackberry picking, rose hips, sloes and more

Yours faithfully



Adrian Skilling

Appendix 9: Letter of support from Bishops Cleeve District Rangers

Local Green Space Designation by Swindon Parish Council

From: Victoria Bailey

Organisation: Bishops Cleeve
District Rangers

Address: 4/12/14

Date:

To: Swindon Parish Council
C/O Cllr. Dr. Arran Stibbe.
White Rose
Stantons Drive
Swindon Village
Cheltenham GL519RL

I represent the above group who use the land selected by Swindon Village Parish Council to be part of their Local Green Spaces Application.

I fully support the Parish Council Local Green Spaces Application and hope that this green land that is used by my group today can continue to be made available to us for our use in future.

The land in question is used by my group in the following ways:

- Playing games
- exploring the natural world
- orienteering.
- fruit picking
- walking

Signature:



Appendix 10: Letter of support from 1st Swindon Village Scout Group

Local Green Space Designation by Swindon Village Council

Rachel Smith
1st Swindon Village Scout Group
8, Seneca Way
Wymans Brook
Cheltenham
Glos.
GL50 4SG
3/12/14

Swindon Village Council
C/O Cllr Dr Arran Stibbe
White Rose
Stantons Drive
Swindon Village
Cheltenham
GL51 9RL

I represent the above group who use the land selected by Swindon Village Parish Council to be part of their Local Green Spaces Application.

I fully support the Parish Council Green Spaces Application and hope that this green land, which is used by my group today, can continue to be made available to us for our use in the future.

The land in question is used by our group in the following ways:

We hike both in the summer and the winter months as training for our activity camps.

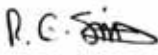
We set up orienteering routes and use them to practice our map and compass work.

We do surveys of the hedgerows for some of our badge work.

Local people from within our community take us on learning walks which again help us with our badge work and camping skills.

Our younger members enjoy blackberry picking and then making them into pies.

Most of all we can enjoy being able to have the freedom to explore our natural world as it is meant to be, to see nature and to experience the great outdoors. To run, play and to use energy and our imaginations – something that is sadly lacking in today's society and that needs encouraging more than ever before.


Rachel Smith

Appendix 11: Letter of support from the Terrapins After School Club

Local Green Space Designation by Swindon Parish Council

From:

Organisation: The Terrapins After school Club
Address: Swindon Village Primary School
Church Road
Swindon Village
Cheltenham Glos

Date:

To: Swindon Parish Council
C/O Cllr. Dr. Arran Stibbe.
White Rose
Stantons Drive
Swindon Village
Cheltenham GL519RL

I represent the Terrapins After School Club who use the land selected by Swindon Village Parish Council to be part of their Local Green Spaces Application.

I fully support the Parish Council Local Green Spaces Application and hope that this green land that is used by my group today can continue to be made available to us for our use in future.

The land in question is used by my group in the following ways:

- Nature walks.
- Den building.
- Seeing wildlife in it's natural habitat.
- Learning about wild plants and flowers.
- To be able to explore different environments.

Signature: *R. Stibbe*

Appendix 12: Letter of support from the Campaign to Protect Rural England



Cheltenham, Gloucester &
Tewkesbury District

Major Tom Hancock, DL (Chairman)
Saltway House, The George,
Winchcombe,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL54 5LJ

Tel: 01242 602173

4 December 2014

Philip Stephenson
Senior Planning Officer
Cheltenham Borough Council
Municipal Offices, Promenade
Cheltenham GL50 9SA

Dear Mr Stephenson

CPRE supports in principle the application being made by Swindon Village Parish Council for an area of the current Green Belt immediately to the North and to the West of the Village to be designated an area of Local Green Space.

Much of the area proposed is already used for informal recreational purposes, including horse-riding, dog walking, running, walking, children's play and other such activities that contribute to the health, wellbeing and quality of life of the villagers. However, its exact boundaries may require adjustment from those proposed better to fit the natural contours of the land.

Providing Local Green Space protection, and its inclusion in the forthcoming Cheltenham Local Plan, will be particularly important should the Joint Core Strategy be approved in its present form. The area to be designated will therefore additionally help to protect the setting and amenities of this self-contained historic settlement.

Yours sincerely

Major Tom Hancock DL
Chairman

Appendix 13: Letter of support from Swindon Village Rainbows

Local Green Space Designation by Swindon Parish Council

From: Jackie Bailey

Organisation: Swindon Village Rainbows

Address:

Date: 4/12/14

To: Swindon Parish Council
C/O Cllr. Dr. Arran Stibbe.
White Rose
Stantons Drive
Swindon Village
Cheltenham GL519RL

I represent the above group who use the land selected by Swindon Village Parish Council to be part of their Local Green Spaces Application.

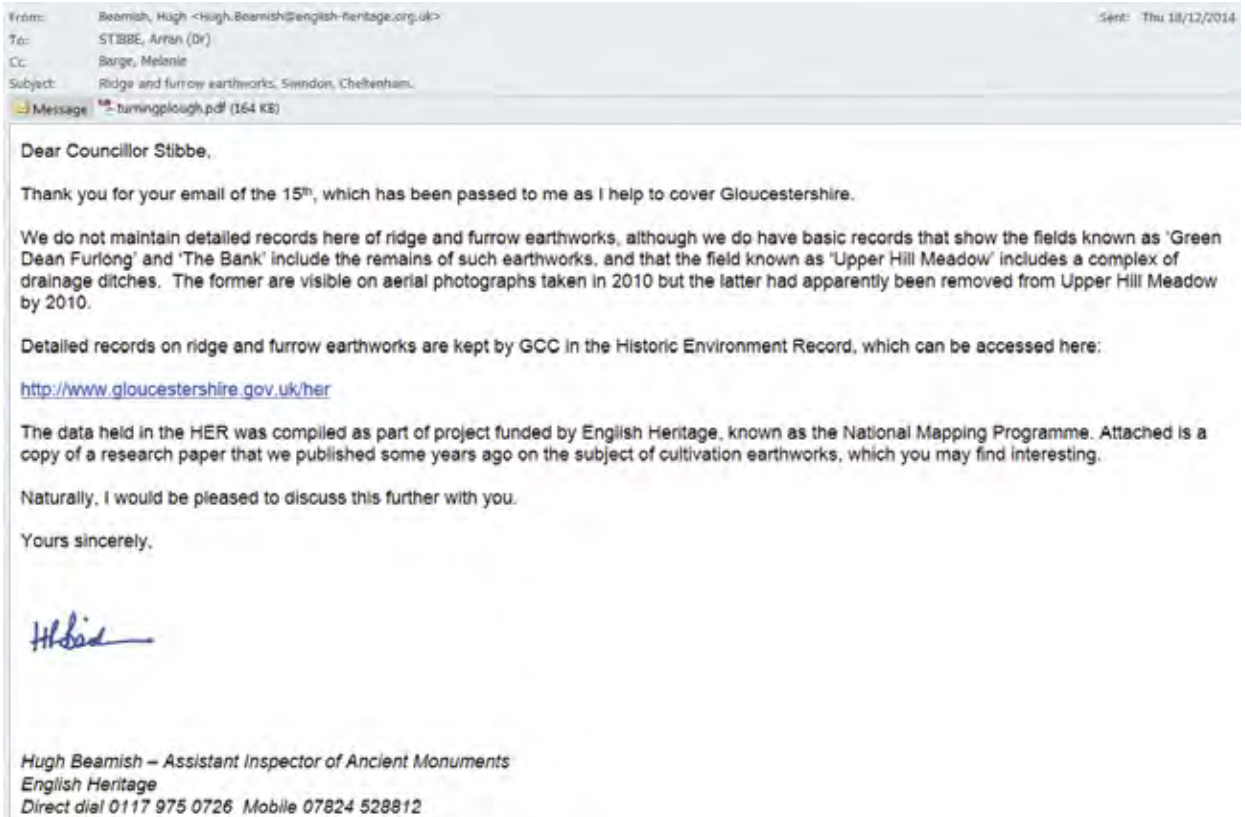
I fully support the Parish Council Local Green Spaces Application and hope that this green land that is used by my group today can continue to be made available to us for our use in future.

The land in question is used by my group in the following ways:

- Treasure hunts
- Teaching about ^{the} countryside.
- walks
- blackberry picking

Signature: 

Appendix 14: Email from English Heritage on the subject of ridge and furrow fields



Appendix 15: Information on local earthworks from Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record

NB: Earthworks (of various kinds, including ridge and furrow) are marked with blue arrows.

Gloucestershire Historic Environment Record	TITLE: Ridge and Furrow
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NAME:	2009 geophysical survey of land northwest of Cheltenham.
STATUS:	
GRID REF:	392277 225612
PARISH:	ELMSTONE HARDWICKE
MAP SHEET:	SO92SW

HER 44804 DESCRIPTION:-

2009 "A fluxgate gradiometer survey was undertaken on land to the northeast of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Approximately 270ha has been identified as a potential site for residential and associated development.

- The majority of the site appears to be clear of archaeological remains that are capable of responding to magnetic survey. However, the survey has identified a number of sites, including the full extent of a probable prehistoric / Romano-British settlement in the mid northern part of the proposed development (on land to the northwest of the village of Swindon, in Fields 23 - 26). At least two ditched trackways appear to extend northwards from the settlement.
- Less extensive settlement remains, comprising a small number of rectilinear/sub-circular enclosures, were also recorded in the southeast part of the site (in Field 36). It is likely that this activity extended northwards onto land currently/previously occupied by The River Swilgate (the survey recorded sinuous palaeochannels along the majority of the northern bank of the river and it is possible that archaeological remains survive undetected beneath substantial depths of alluvium).
- Similarly, the western extents of groups of ditches (including penannular examples) recorded in the northwest region of the site (Fields 2 - 3) appear to have been partially truncated by a subsequent westward meander of the river.
- The survey detected the northernmost element of possible settlement remains on land to the north of the A4019 (in Field 50), close to southern edge of the proposed development. Romano-British remains are known in this area and it is suggested that the survey has identified further traces of activity that dates to this period. To the northeast of this, a small ring ditch was detected in the central part of Field 53. Potential ditches and pits were also recorded in this area.
- An unusually shaped partial enclosure was detected in the mid northern part of the site (Field 13). This lies in relative isolation and possibly represents a livestock corral.
- Traces of archaeological remains were recorded in the western region of the site. These include three distinct groups of enclosures, linear ditches and pits in Field 64. The northern most examples appear to form part of a larger complex of ditches that continues into the northern half of Field 65.
- The survey recorded widespread traces of ploughed out ridge and furrow.
- The survey registered the strong magnetic response of a number of buried services.
- Zones of relatively weak magnetic variation were recorded in close proximity (and predominately to the north/east) to The River Swilgate. These almost certainly reflect natural processes/features, such as ferrous-rich silt and peat deposits within palaeochannels, or as isolated deposits. (Quoted from Source Work 12138.)

NAME:	Settlement remains, comprising a small number of rectilinear / sub-circular enclosures recorded in the southeast part of the 2009 geophysical survey of land northwest of Cheltenham
STATUS:	
GRID REF:	393049 224813
PARISH:	
MAP SHEET:	SO92SW

HER 44923 DESCRIPTION:-

Settlement remains, comprising a small number of rectilinear/sub-circular enclosures recorded in the southeast part of the 2009 geophysical survey of land northwest of Cheltenham (in Field 36). It is likely that this activity extended northwards onto land currently/previously occupied by The River Swilgate. The survey recorded sinuous palaeochannels along the majority of the northern bank of the river and it is possible that archaeological remains survive undetected beneath substantial depths of alluvium. (Source Work 12138.)

Appendix 16: Letter of support from Save the Countryside



Trails End, Stantons Drive
Swindon Village
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire GL519RL
hwells@mdlz.com
Tel 07770 986078

To Swindon Parish Council

Save The Countryside is an organisation made up of many residents from Swindon Parish and other Cheltenham areas. Working since 2006, we all share the determination to protect the precious Greenbelt land around Cheltenham, nationwide and in particular the Greenbelt at the North West of the town under consideration for re classification.

We are delighted to support the green space application by Swindon Parish Council.

While we recognise that a reasonable level of growth should be possible in Cheltenham and the surrounding area, we believe that urban extensions and incursions into the Green Belt are unnecessary and in the specific case of Swindon Village, have grave doubts about the suitability of this green belt land as a development site. We have separately responded to various consultations regarding planning for development in the area.

Members of our organisation regularly use the public bridleways and footpaths that cross over the fields identified within the green space application for recreational activities, health and wellbeing and to view the surrounding countryside and its wildlife.

For the last 8 years, around 150 people walk the footpaths on this land together, for the annual Save the Countryside walk. This has become a very popular community social event attracting press coverage.

We maintain our view that Greenbelt land in North West Cheltenham should be retained for the following reasons:

- It prevents Swindon Village and Cheltenham sprawling,
- It prevents any merging of Swindon Village with Elmstone Hardwicke and Uckington
- It encourages the regeneration of Cheltenham town centre and other brownfield urban areas.
- It ensures continued productive agricultural use of the land
- It also acts as a soak away for floodwaters in this area which has very poor drainage and has often experienced flooding.

If it is not feasible to retain all the greenbelt land that separates Swindon village from Elmstone Hardwicke and Uckington, then the team support Swindon Parish Council's green space designation so that a protected a green zone around Swindon village can be maintained and used productively.

Yours sincerely,

H. Wells Chairman Save the Countryside

Appendix 17: Relevant minutes from Swindon Parish Council

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Extracts from Swindon Parish Council Minutes

27 May (minute 14/63)

Cllr. Wells stated that she and Cllr. Stibbe had been investigating Local Green Spaces. These are designated areas (described in the NPPF) that can be used to provide a buffer between new developments and existing residential areas. Cllrs. Wells and Stibbe sought the Council's approval to pursue an application for a Local Green Space designation...

10 June (minute 14/77)

Cllrs. Stibbe and Wells were in the process of trying to meet with Borough Council Planning to discuss Local Green Space designation and how it might be used.

8 July (minute 14/88)

Cllr. Allen stated that if we produce a Green Space Plan it will be deemed a single policy neighbourhood Plan with all the attendant cost and complexity. Cllr. Stibbe said that he would continue to look into what needs to be done. The Clerk said that GRCC might be able to provide us with advice.

12 August (minute 14/103)

The Local Green Space proposal had been submitted and receipt acknowledged by the Borough Council. The Borough Council are producing a toolkit which we will need to complete.

14 October (minute 14/121)

Elin Tattersall of GRCC was present to discuss Local Green Spaces. GRCC had been commissioned by Cheltenham Borough Council to assist Parish Councils and Neighbourhood Co-ordination Groups wishing to prepare a case for designating areas of Local Green Space. Ms. Tattersall described the process that had to be used to identify, justify and prioritise green areas and left the Council with resources to use.

11 November (minute 14/133)

Molly Gallagher of GRCC would be meeting with Cllrs. Wells and Stibbe at Cllr. Wells' house on Monday next to continue the process of identifying spaces with potential for protection under the Local Green Spaces programme. The other councillors were invited to participate.

9 December (minute 14/144)

Cllr. Stibbe had been driving this with the assistance of Cllr. Wells. They had consulted a number of individuals and organisations and had received 100 letters back. The first draft of the document had been sent to GRCC and the Borough Council...

SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

"Morris Hill Crossing"
Swindon Lane
Cheltenham
Glos GL50 4PE

Philip Stephenson
Senior Planning Officer
Cheltenham Borough Council
Municipal Offices
Promenade
Cheltenham
Glos GL50 9SA

22nd December 2014

Swindon Parish Council
Local Green Space Application

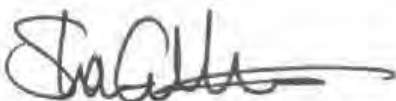
Dear Philip,

GRCC have made clear to us that, since the above application is being made on behalf of Swindon Parish Council, we should demonstrate that the Parish Council is fully supportive. You will be aware that one of our councillors approached you in the Spring to make initial enquiries about the prospect of making a Local Green Space application. Once the Borough Council's Local Green Space tool kit was made available a working party of our councillors worked through the process in association with representatives from GRCC.

For the record I wish to emphasise that this activity has always benefited from the unanimous and enthusiastic support of Swindon Parish Council. Drafts of the Local Green Space proposal were submitted to all councillors and their comments were included in subsequent revisions.

The relevant extracts from the council's minutes are included in the application.

Yours sincerely,



Shaun Cullimore
Clerk to Swindon Parish Council,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
Email parish.clerk@swindonparish.org.uk