

# Quinton Neighbourhood Development Plan Local Green Space Site Assessment - January 2019



## Site Description and Current Land Use

The site is a well-maintained open green space located on Millfield Close and north of Main Road. Residential dwellings lie to the north, east and west of the site and a single dwelling to the south. Two mature walnut trees are situated at the eastern side of the site. A tall, dense hedgerow lines the site's southern boundary. The main entrance to the site is off Main Road at the southwest corner of the site. However, at the site's southeast corner, there is also a pedestrian path leading into the site from Main Road and which runs across the site from north to south.

#### **Relevant Planning History**

No relevant planning history found.

#### Site Ownership

QUINTON PARISH COUNCIL of Honeysuckle Cottage, 34 Back Lane, Lower Quinton CV37 8SF

NDP: Quinton

## **Site Constraints**

There are two Tree Preservation Orders on the Walnut trees at the eastern side of the site.

The site has low archaeological sensitivity according to the Historic Environment Assessment of Local Service Villages, Stratford-on-Avon District County of Warwickshire On behalf of Stratford-on-Avon District Council, July 2012 AOC Project No: 32127

## Public Access

The site is open and accessible to the public.

## **Site Photos**





LGS no: 2

NDP: Quinton

#### APS Ltd - Independent Planning and Development Consultants

## **Ecological Significance**

The grassed areas of the site have low ecological value. However the walnut trees and dense, mixed species of hedgerows and shrubs present along the periphery offer high ecological value.

These create a wildlife corridor and provide food and shelter for numerous species, such as insects, small mammals and birds and their associated nesting sites. They increase the diversity of insect species (including butterflies and bees which are currently in decline), which are a food source for bird and mammal species and can also play an important role in the pollination of plants and crops in the surrounding area.

The diversity and population numbers of insects directly impacts the food chain for other fauna in the area and has a wider impact on the cultivation of crops. Within the village, there have been sightings of larger fauna species such as bats, birds of prey (e.g. buzzards and owls), rabbits and hedgehogs.

These are all vital for the wider food web and species diversity within the village ecosystem. And as such, the site plays a contributory role in the wider ecological significance of the village.

**Special Qualities and Local Significance** 

The majority of Lower Quinton is characterised by relatively modern residential developments interspersed with pockets of incidental open green spaces. They provide a sense of openness within the built-up urban areas. This site is one of those open green spaces.

This particular site is well-used, easily accessible and highly appreciated by the community, local residents, visitors and dog walkers for its recreational and social value. The space is used by residents for ball games, social events and dog walking/training and is notable for the TPOs on the site's Walnut trees.

The special qualities of the site include its strong contribution to local character and green infrastructure. It is also distinctive due to its natural beauty and open aspect.

Summary and Suitability for Designation as Local Green Space

This site is well related to and used by the local community and makes a positive contribution to the health and well-being local residents.

This site as outlined on the above plan is considered to be suitable for Local Green Space designation in accordance with paragraph 99 and 100 of the National Planning Policy Framework in that it:

- is in very close proximity to the community it serves;
- is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance because of its accessibility, value as an area of incidental open space, tranquillity and richness of its habitats and wildlife potential and the contribution it makes to sustainability; and
- is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

NDP: Quinton