

## Local Green Spaces and Important Green Infrastructure

### Identifying the areas under these two different categories

#### Feedback from Mr Matheson on our Green Spaces: -

*I need to know the outcome of your reflection on the distinction of green spaces as between Local Green Spaces - where the NPPF criteria require that the space is (my emphasis added) "demonstrably special ... and holds a particular local significance" - and Green Infrastructure, which might cover the sort of incidental green spaces that contribute significantly to the character of a place."*

**Action:** To produce two separate policies for Local Green Spaces and Important Green Infrastructure, with the relevant parcels of land clearly identified.

#### Proposed allocations

The proposed Policies and allocations are as follows: -

#### Local Green Spaces

Policy NE2 – Local Green Spaces

This Plan designates the following areas of Local Green Spaces as being demonstrably special and holding a particular local significance in the Neighbourhood Area as identified on the map in Figure xxx

The Local Green Spaces in our Neighbourhood Plan area are as follows: -

- LGS 3 – Allotment Gardens
- LGS 5 - Model Village open green space and cricket ground
- LGS 6 - Communal green space, Beechcroft south of The Green
- LGS 7 - The Green and Village Pond
- LGS 8 - Green End recreation ground and playground
- LGS 9 - LILAC Field
- LGS 11 – Playground and open green space west of Leigh Crescent

#### Evidence

1. Each area identified in this policy has been independently assessed and recognised as being demonstrably special and holding a particular local significance to the character of the Neighbourhood Area.

2. Chart 38 of the QS results shows that 76% of respondents consider that open spaces within built up areas are 'Extremely' or 'Very' important to their enjoyment of the Neighbourhood Area environment.
3. The Houses of Parliament POSTnote 538 published in October 2016 entitled 'Green Space and Health' contends that '*Local green spaces may provide important areas for social interaction and integration ...and ...may also have more immediate benefits for mental health and wellbeing*'
4. Policy CS.7 of the Core Strategy states that: - 'The existing Green Infrastructure network in the District will be promoted through the principles of protection, enhancement, restoration and creation. The network will help to:
  - create a more attractive District for visitors and support tourism
  - promote healthy and active communities
  - protect and support historic and archaeological settings, sense of place and the distinctive landscape and character of the District

### **Incidental Green Spaces**

Policy NE3 (?) – Incidental Green Spaces

This Plan designates the following areas as Incidental Green Spaces which contribute significantly to the character of the Neighbourhood Area as identified on the map in Figure xxx

The Incidental Green Spaces in our Neighbourhood Plan area are as follows: -

- LGS 1 - Dale Close estate, play area and open green space
- LGS 2 - Green area south of Galanos / east of Sabin Close
- LGS 4 - Open green space south of Church Road
- LGS 10 – Green and ponds at Bishops Drive and Cox Crescent
- LGS 12 – Green space southwest of Leigh Crescent
- LGS 13 – Cluster of incidental green communal spaces and verges from the junction of Collingham Lane and Stockton Road to Leigh Crescent
- LGS 14 – Green space Wulfstan Drive
- LGS 15 – Keepers meadow green spaces
- LGS 16 – Spinney Fields green spaces

## Evidence

1. Each area identified in this policy has been independently assessed and recognised as contributing significantly to the character of the Neighbourhood Area.
2. Chart 38 of the QS results shows that 76% of respondents consider that open spaces within built up areas are 'Extremely' or 'Very' important to their enjoyment of the Neighbourhood Area environment.
3. The Houses of Parliament POSTnote 538 published in October 2016 entitled 'Green Space and Health' contends that '*Local green spaces may provide important areas for social interaction and integration ...and ...may also have more immediate benefits for mental health and wellbeing*'
4. Policy CS.7 of the Core Strategy states that: - 'The availability of open spaces, waterways and other green infrastructure features will be maintained and improved as a contribution towards:
  - quality of life and attractive communities
  - biodiversity and the provision of habitats
  - landscape character and quality

It is proposed that the Site Assessments given in Appendix C are all still relevant but need to be separated under the above two criteria, given the revised category heading and renumbered. In addition, the Policy numbers for Natural Environment will need to be renumbered and new maps will need to be produced showing the locations for each category.

RSJ  
20 March 2022