

Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick Neighbourhood Plan

Local Green Space and Protected Open Space Background Paper

January 2025

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The local green space (LGS) designation is a way to protect green areas or open spaces against development where they are of particular importance to local communities. LGS designations are made for use in local plans or neighbourhood plans. These plans can identify on a map ('designate') area for special protection. Once designated, LGSs receive protection consistent with national Green Belt policy.
- 1.2 Protected open space (POS) designation is a way to protect other areas of open space which are valued for their local amenity and for informal or formal recreational purposes, but which do not meet the full LGS criteria. Once designated, they should be safeguarded and only lost where detailed criteria are met.
- 1.3 The purpose of this background paper is to explain the process which will lead to the proposed designation of areas of LGS and POS in the Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick Neighbourhood Plan (LBHNP). It sets out the national and local backgrounds to LGS and POS and explains the methodology used in the assessments.
- 1.4 Early engagement and feedback as part of the consultation on the pre-submission draft plan has informed this background paper and the final proposed allocations.

2. Planning policy background

National Planning Policy Framework

2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF – December 2024) sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. Section 8 of the NPPF highlights the important role the planning system can play in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities.

2.2 Paragraph 103 highlights that access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities. Paragraph 104 states that:

‘Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields and formal play spaces, should not be built on unless:

- an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or*
- the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
- the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.’*

2.3 With regard to Local Green Space (LGS) designation, paragraph 106 states:

‘The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should 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 updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.’

2.4 Paragraph 107 explains when the designation should be used:

‘The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- 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*
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.’*

2.5 Paragraph 108 identifies that local policy for managing development within a LGS should be consistent with national policy for Green Belts, excluding provisions relating to grey belt and previously developed land. National Green Belt policy requires that inappropriate development, that which is harmful to the allocation, on land designated as LGS will only be permitted where very special circumstances can be demonstrated.

National Planning Practice Guidance

2.6 The NPPF is supported by guidance set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). With regard to LGS, NPPG identifies:

- Designating LGS needs to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. Plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified

development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306);

- LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented (Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306);
- LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village, neighbourhood, town or city (Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306);
- If land is already protected by another designation, consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as LGS (Paragraph: 010 Reference ID: 37-010-20140306);
- The LGS will need to meet the criteria set out in paragraph 77 of the NPPF (see paragraph 2.3 above). Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land where sports pavilions, boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, as well as urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis (Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 37-013-20140306);
- The proximity of a LGS to the community it serves will depend on local circumstances, including why the green area is seen as special, but it must be reasonably close. For example, if public access is a key factor, then the site would normally be within easy walking distance of the community served (Paragraph: 014 Reference ID: 37-014-20140306);
- There are no hard and fast rules about how big a LGS can be because places are different and a degree of judgment will inevitably be needed. However, paragraph 100 of the NPPF is clear that LGS designation should only be used where the green area concerned is not an extensive tract of land. Consequently, blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. Designation should not be proposed as a 'back door' way to try to achieve what would amount to a new area of Green Belt by another name (Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306);
- Provided land can meet the criteria at paragraph 77 of the NPPF there is no lower size limit for an LGS (Paragraph: 016 Reference ID: 37-016-20140306);
- Land can be designated as LGS even if there is not public access e.g. green areas which are valued because of their wildlife, historic significance and/or beauty. Designation does not in itself confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Any additional access would be a matter for separate negotiation with landowners, whose legal rights must be respected (Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 37-017-20140306);
- Areas that may be considered for designation as LGS may be crossed by public rights of way. There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation (Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306);
- A LGS does not need to be in public ownership. However, the qualifying body should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as LGS. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan (Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 37-019-20140306);
- Designating a green area as LGS would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners (Paragraph: 020 Reference ID: 37-020-20140306);
- Management of land designated as LGS will remain the responsibility of its owner. If the features that make a green area special and locally significant are to be conserved, how it will be managed in the future is likely to be an important consideration. Local communities can consider how, with the landowner's agreement, they might be able to get involved,

perhaps in partnership with interested organisations that can provide advice or resources (Paragraph: 021 Reference ID: 37-021-20140306); and

- Land designated as LGS may potentially also be nominated for listing by the local authority as an Asset of Community Value. Listing gives community interest groups an opportunity to bid if the owner wants to dispose of the land. (Paragraph: 022 Reference ID: 37-022-20140306).

2.7 POS designation can be applied to those areas of open space which are valued for their local amenity value and for informal or formal recreational purposes, but which do not meet the full LGS criteria. NPPG identifies that open space, which includes all open space of public value, can take many forms, from formal sports pitches to open areas within a development, linear corridors and country parks. It can provide health and recreation benefits to people living and working nearby; have an ecological value and contribute to green infrastructure, as well as being an important part of the landscape and setting of built development, and an important component in the achievement of sustainable development.

3. Local green space and protected open space methodology

Background

- 3.1 In order to seek to identify areas of LGS and POS which meet the requirements of the NPPF and NPPG, Longhoughton Parish Council (LPC) prepared a methodology to be followed. The application of the methodology is described below.

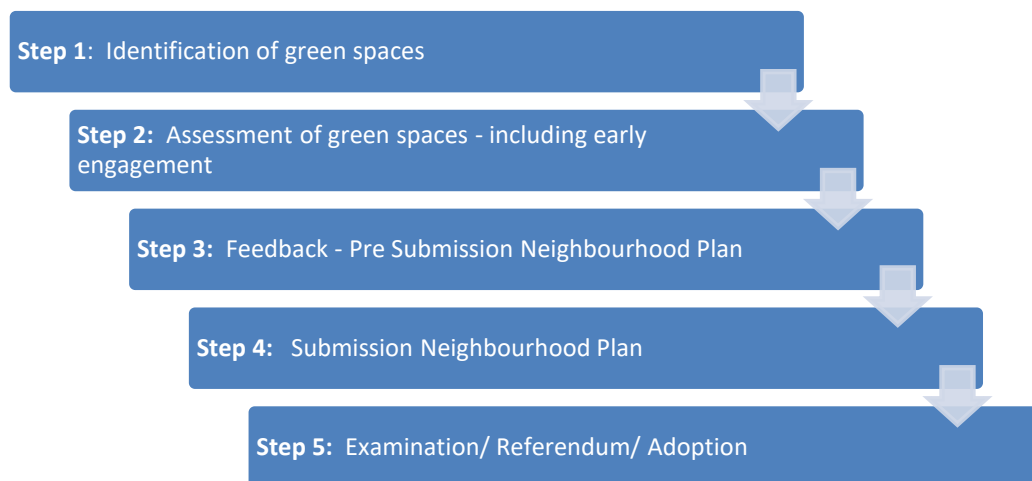


Figure 1: LGS identification process

Step 1: Identification of green/ open spaces, including early engagement

- 3.2 The first step was to identify a list of green areas and open spaces to assess as potential LGS and POS. A variety of sources of information will be used to inform this process:
- Sites allocated in the Northumberland Local Plan;
 - Northumberland Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Assessment (2011)¹
[NOTE: just prior to the submission of the neighbourhood plan, a draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment was published for consultation. The outcomes of the draft document have been considered and the background paper updated where considered relevant];
 - Northumberland Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)²;
 - Review of current information, such as local studies, character appraisal and the historic environment record; and
 - Feedback from early engagement on the neighbourhood plan – this included village surveys and reviews (undertaken in 2017, 2018 and 2019) and engagement on vision, objectives and policy themes (January 2020).

Step 2: Assessment of spaces, including further engagement

- 3.3 Once the list of green spaces and maps had been collected from the sources listed in step 1, members of the steering group assessed their suitability for designation as LGS against the criteria in the NPPF and NPPG as outlined in section 2.

¹ <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Planning/Reports.aspx>

² <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Planning/Reports.aspx>

- 3.4 In order to be identified as LGS all of the following criteria, identified in table 1 below were required to be met.

Table 1 – LGS criteria to be met by all potential sites

Criteria	Explanation
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the designation would be compatible with the planning permission or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented. (NPPG Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306) Q: Does the space have planning permission?
Land is not allocated or proposed for development in the local or neighbourhood plan. Unless it can be shown that the LGS could be incorporated within the site as part of the allocated development.	LGS should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services (NPPF Paragraph 99) Designating any LGS will need to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. In particular, plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (NPPG Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306) The space should be capable of enduring beyond the plan Period (NPPF Paragraph 99 – now para 106) Q: Is the space allocated or proposed to be allocated in a Development Plan?
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	LGS designation should only be used where the green area is not an extensive tract of land. Blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. (NPPG Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306) Q: How close is the space to the community it serves? Q: Where are the nearest centres of population?
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village or a neighbourhood in a town. (NPPG Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306) The space must be demonstrably special by meeting at least one of criterion in the following table. Q: Is the proposal to designate supported by any of the following: A friends group, local community groups, a parish plan, the town council, ward member(s)?

- 3.5 The criteria in table 2 below then seeks to draw out what it is about the space that makes it ‘demonstrably special to the local community’. A LGS should meet at least one of the criteria in the table below, although some spaces will meet more than one of the criteria:

Table 2 – Criteria to demonstrate why a site is demonstrably special to the community

Criteria	Explanation
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its beauty? Does the space contribute to the visual attractiveness of the townscape or character / setting of the settlement? Is the space covered by other landscape or townscape designations? (e.g. conservation area)
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its historic significance? Does the proposed space or elements of the space have local historical significance? (e.g. conservation area) Are there any historic buildings or structures in the space? (e.g. listed building or scheduled monument) Are there any important historic landscape features on the space? (e.g. veteran trees or old hedgerows) Does the space have a historic literature or art connection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its recreational value? There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation. (NPPG Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306) What variety of recreational activities does the space support? (e.g. the space is used for playing sport and for informal recreation) Is the space already identified in the Northumberland Open Space study?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its tranquillity? Why is the space considered to be tranquil? Is the space used for quiet reflection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its richness of wildlife? Is the proposed space formally designated for its wildlife value? (e.g. is it a SSSI, SNCI or local nature reserve). Are any important habitats or species found in the space? Does the proposed space support species of fauna or flora? (e.g. protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 or Habitat Regulations 2010, Section 41 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006) Does the proposed space support species of birds listed on the red, amber or green lists of species of conservation concern or notable assemblage of invertebrates? Does the proposed space support irreplaceable habitats such as ancient semi-natural woodland and veteran trees?

Criteria	Explanation
	Does the proposed space function as part of a wildlife corridor or green infrastructure enabling the dispersal of species of flora and fauna?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of another reason not covered by criteria above	Are there any other reasons why the proposed space has a particular local significance for the local community?

- 3.6 The assessment then concluded whether all of the nationally required criteria have been met and listed the relevant local criteria and whether the space is considered to be suitable as LGS.
- 3.7 For sites that were not considered to meet the required criteria, consideration was then given to whether they should be allocated as protected open space. This considered whether the space was valued for any of the following reasons:
- As a natural and semi-natural green space;
 - As amenity green space; or
 - For formal or informal recreation.
- 3.8 Protected open space designation would not be considered appropriate for large areas of arable land which form part of the wider countryside. This would be protected as a result of its open countryside location.
- 3.9 Following this initial assessment consultation took place on a draft LGS and POS background paper in June 2021. This included consultation with the owners of the sites proposed for designation. The draft background paper was then updated.

Step 3: Feedback - pre-submission neighbourhood plan

- 3.10 The pre-submission neighbourhood plan proposed the allocation of eight sites as local green space and 14 sites as protected open space. Through consultation on the plan, the parish council sought further feedback on the proposed designations.

Step 4: Submission neighbourhood plan

- 3.11 Responses received to the consultation on the pre-submission draft neighbourhood plan were considered and informed the preparation of the submission plan, which will be subject to a further six-week public consultation organised by Northumberland County Council.

Step 5: Examination/ referendum/ adoption

- 3.12 Following the submission of the neighbourhood plan, it will then be examined by an independent examiner. The examiner will review the evidence base for the plan – including whether there is evidence to justify the allocation of LGS and POS. Once the plan passes examination it will then go to referendum and will be formally ‘made’ by Northumberland County Council.

4. Conclusion and next steps

- 4.1 This background paper explains the process which has led to the proposed designation of areas of LGS and POS in the Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick Neighbourhood Plan. It summarises the national and local background to LGS and POS and explained the methodology that has been used in the assessments.
- 4.2 All of the sites that have been assessed for designation are included in appendix 1 – this provides a brief explanation of the reasons why a site has or has not been proposed to be included in the pre-submission draft neighbourhood plan. Further details on those that have proposed to be allocated as LGS is included within Appendix 2 and site maps included within Appendix 3.
- 4.3 Appendix 4 contains the assessment for the areas of POS proposed to be allocated within the neighbourhood plan, with maps included within Appendix 5.

Appendix 1 All sites assessed – summary

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
1	Howick Hall and Arboretum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	Howick Hall is a grade II* listed building. It was designed and built in 1782 by Newcastle architect William Newton. It is the ancestral seat of the Earls Grey. The grounds include St Michael's and All Angels church, which is also grade II listed. The graveyard contains a number of memorials to the members of the Grey family. The site includes Howick Cricket Ground, which is home to Howick, Alnmouth and Lesbury Cricket Club. The cricket ground was opened in 1904 and is well used by local teams. The cricket ground is allocated as protected open space within the Northumberland Local Plan (1423) and is identified within the draft update to the open space assessment. It is located within a wooded area, a tranquil location which is rich in wildlife. The gardens were created between 1920 and 2001 and

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											are well known for their spring bulbs and woodland. The site is also a grade II designated park and garden. The arboretum includes around 11,000 trees and shrubs. The site is open to the public (entrance fee payable) and has a number of established walks. Whilst the site clearly meets the defined criteria, as it is protected by its charitable trust status, it is considered that there would be no additional benefits to its allocation as local green space.
2	Evelyn Howick Memorial Reserve	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Owned by the Northumberland Wildlife Trust, the site is a disused limestone quarry. https://www.nwt.org.uk/nature-reserves/evelyn-howick-memorial It is considered to have the best exposure of Acre limestone in the country, with diverse habitats favoured by birds, amphibians and invertebrates. It was created in memory of the late Lord Howick. The site includes historic lime kilns which are grade II listed and other

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											reminders of the former quarry. The site is allocated in the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1389) however is not included within the draft open space assessment update. It is considered that the site meets all of the requirements to be designated as local green space.
3	Woodland to the north and east of the B1339	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	Identified as priority habitat – deciduous woodland and also included on the National Forest Inventory. It is an important wildlife corridor, an important habitat for a range of birds, animals, invertebrates and other insects. Part of the site include a well-used footpath which extends across the fields towards Howick. It is a tranquil location. Part of the site is allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1092) however is not included within the draft open space assessment update. As the site is demonstrably special for its wildlife and recreational value and is well used for recreation, it is proposed

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											that the site should be designated as local green space.
4	Woodland to the North of Tedder Place	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	Wooded area which is important for local wildlife, part of the green infrastructure network of the area. Provides an important habitat for a range of birds, animals, invertebrates and insects. Includes well used allotments, which are important to the local community and a tranquil location. Allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (part of sites 1091 and 1095), however the full site is not included within the draft open space assessment update. As a result of its richness of wildlife, tranquillity and recreational value, it is proposed that the site should be allocated as local green space.
5	West of Elworthy and Tedder Place	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. Allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											(part of site 1095), and included within the draft open space assessment update as amenity green space – no need to repeat protection within the neighbourhood plan.
6	Land between Tedder Place and Portal Place	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. Already allocated as protected open space within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1094 and 1103) and included within the draft open space assessment update as amenity green space. No need to repeat POS designation in neighbourhood plan.
7	Portal Place and Portal Court	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	Already allocated as protected open space within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1093) and included within the draft open space assessment update as amenity green space. No need to repeat POS designation in neighbourhood plan.
8	Tedder Place playground	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x		A well-used recreation and children's play area. As only part of the site is

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1096 part) and an extended site identified within the update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment. it is important that this is extended to the whole site.
9	South east of youth club and doctors surgery, Portal Place	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. Allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1099) and identified within the update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment as amenity green space. Not necessary to repeat POS designation within the neighbourhood plan.
10	Westfield Park	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	The grounds in which Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre is located. This is a very well used community resource. It includes the community and sports centre building. There are two full size grass pitches and a flood-lit seven-a-side synthetic turf

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											pitch (STP) supported by FA standard changing facilities for players and officials. It is the home of Longhoughton Rangers Football Club. There is also a natural play area with seating which is suitable for children aged ten and below. The site is allocated as protected open space within the Northumberland Local Plan (1426) identified within the update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment. No need to repeat POS designation within the neighbourhood plan.
11	Eastfield	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. Allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as POS (1104) identified within the update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment as amenity green space. No need to repeat POS designation within the neighbourhood plan.

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
12	The Old Recreation Field	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Neighbourhood plan is proposing the identification of this site for a mixture of uses – housing, open space and parking (L8) Allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1106) and identified within the update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment as amenity green space.
13	St Peter and St Pauls Church and Churchyard	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	This site includes St Peter and St Pauls Church and churchyard. The church is a grade I listed building and site also includes five structures which are grade II listed. The nave and west part of the church have their origins in the mid 11 th century. The church and the graveyard are an important element of this part of the village and is highly valued by the local community. The graveyard is a place for tranquil reflection and provides an important habitat for a mixture of animals, birds, insects and wildflowers. The site is included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											Assessment as churchyard and cemetery. As a result of the beauty, historic significance, tranquillity and wildlife value, the site is proposed for designation as local green space.
14	Sea View	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Two areas of amenity open space which are important to the character of the local area. As a result of the amenity value, they are proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
15	Cunningham Road	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Four areas of amenity open space which are important to the character of the local area. As a result of the amenity value, the sites are proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
16	Carey Place/ North End	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Two open areas which are important to the character of the local area. As a result of their amenity value, they are

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
17	Carey Place	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Two open areas which are important to the character of the local area. As a result of their amenity value, they are proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
18	East Moor (1)	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. As a result of its amenity value, it is proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
19	Bader Crescent	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Two areas of amenity open space which are important to the character of the local area. As a result of the amenity value, the sites are proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
20	Park Road	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. As a result of its amenity value, it is proposed for allocation as protected open space. Identified within the update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment as amenity green space.
21	East Moor (2)	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. As a result of its amenity value, it is proposed for allocation as protected open space. Identified within the update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment as amenity green space.
22	East Moor (3)	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. As a result of its amenity value, it is proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											Open Space Assessment.
23	North of Westfield House	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Paddock which is important to the character of the local area and also historical connections. As a result of its amenity value, it is proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
24	Pondfield	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓		The site has been considered through the neighbourhood plan for allocation as housing, open space and a greenway there was also a recent planning application which was refused. Through the planning application process the importance of the site to the local community became clear as did the issues regarding the significance of the site, particularly regarding its importance to the character of the local area, setting of the grade I listed church and its wildlife value. As a result, the site is therefore proposed for allocation as local green space.

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
25	Chancel Place	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Three areas of amenity open space which are important to the character of the local area, include SuDS ponds and green corridor. As a result of their amenity value, they are proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
26	Springfield	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. As a result of its amenity value, it is proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
27	South End	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x		Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area. As a result of its amenity value, it is proposed for allocation as protected open space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
28	Boulmer Links	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The site has been used by the fishing fleet for many centuries for the storage of boats, nets and equipment. The site includes 'the Herring Sheds' where herring was processed and large numbers of people were employed. Part of the dunes is regarded as the village green for Boulmer and is well used by both the local community and visitors to the area. A tranquil site. The foreshore at low water is an extensive feeding area for birds. It is preserved by national and international designations. The birds attract much attention from ornithologists and lay people. The site therefore meets the requirements to be designated as local green space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
29	Boulmer Hall Farm	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	The site is an important part of the setting of the village. When approaching Boulmer from Longhoughton they are significant and important features that identify the

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											location and place. The well-maintained paddocks and pastures offer a feeling of tranquillity. The land has been farmed for centuries. The pasture to the south of Boulmer Hall farm that floods in winter, known locally as the mere, is of significant importance as a winter-feeding ground for birds in including many species that are on the danger list. It is protected by national and international designations. The site therefore meets the requirements to allow it to be designated as local green space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
31	Howick pond	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	The pond was renovated in 2020 and contains numerous species. Whilst it is only a small site, it is important to the character of the village and the area around the pond is well used by the local community. A tranquil location. Whilst the site clearly meets the defined criteria, as it is protected by its

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space or protected open space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											charitable trust status, it is considered that there would be no additional benefits to its allocation as local green space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
32	Pasture to the south of Station Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x		Through early engagement on the neighbourhood plan many local residents highlighted the value of the site to the character of the village. A tranquil site used for the grazing of horses. Whilst there is no public access it is highly valued by the local community and therefore is proposed for allocation as local green space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
33	The Pondfield	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x		An important part of the character of the local area. Important to the setting of the grade I listed Church of Saints Peter and Paul. Informal amenity space. Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.

Appendix 2 Detailed Assessment of proposed LGS

Site Ref	LGS1	
Site Name	Evelyn Howick Memorial Nature Reserve	
Ownership	Howick Trustees	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Allocated as protected open space within the Northumberland Local Plan (1389) – however is not included within the open space assessment update
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	6ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	The site can be accessed via a right of way (124/016), which links to Littlehoughton and Longhoughton to the south and Littlemill to the north.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Includes two ponds, trees, grassland
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The reserve was created in memory of the late Lord Howick, formerly chairman of the Nature Conservancy Council and a former President of Northumberland Wildlife Trust from a ‘dormant’ quarry site. There are reminders of the site’s active quarrying days, including lime kilns which are a Grade II listed building. There is also a steel ammunition (explosives) shed made from a former ship’s boiler, trackways connecting the quarry face to the lime kilns, a series of stone compartments (used for coal storage), a stone-lined pumping shaft with remains of headworks, a filled-in shaft (marked as a well on some maps), remnants of

		both rails and sleepers, and iron piping.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Whilst it is a private reserve, it can be accessed by members of the Northumberland Wildlife Trust.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil location.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The reserve's diversity of habitat creates favourable conditions particularly for birds, amphibians and invertebrates. The grassland, formerly species-poor, has now developed a range of flora. The wide variety of interest makes the reserve important for naturalists, geologists and historians as well as the casual visitor. Active management is required if its full potential is to be realised. The ponds around the edge of the site contain water plantain, bulrush and bur-reed, and are used by coots and moorhens, with frogs and smooth newts also present. Tufted duck, sparrowhawk and willow warbler are just a few of the bird species that can be seen at the reserve. Common mammals include stoats, moles and shrews. The grassland contains species such as bulbous buttercup, early purple orchid and mouse-eared hawkweed. https://www.nwt.org.uk/nature-reserves/evelyn-howick-memorial
Conclusion		
It is considered that the site meets all of the LGS criteria, it is proposed for designation as local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS2	
Site Name	Woodland to the north and east of the B1339	
Ownership	Howick Trustees	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Part of the site is allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (1092) – however is not included within the open space assessment update
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	2ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	On the edge of the village of Longhoughton
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Important to the character of the local area.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Part of the site includes a well-used footpath which extends across the fields towards Howick.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil location enjoyed by many local residents.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	Identified as priority habitat – deciduous woodland and also included on the National Forest Inventory. It is an important wildlife corridor, providing an important habitat for a range of birds, animals, invertebrates and other insects.
Conclusion		
As the site is demonstrably special for its beauty, wildlife, tranquillity and is well used for recreation, it is proposed that the site should be designated as local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS3	
Site Name	Woodland to the North of Tedder Place	
Ownership	Howick Trustees	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Allocated within the Northumberland Local Plan as protected open space (part of sites 1091 and 1095) – however the full site is not included within the open space assessment update
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	1.4ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Located on the edge of Longhoughton village
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Important to the character of the local area.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Includes well used allotments, which are important to the local community
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil location.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	Wooded area which is important for local wildlife and part of the green infrastructure network of the area. Provides an important habitat for a range of birds, animals, invertebrates and insects
Conclusion		
As a result of its beauty, richness of wildlife, tranquillity and recreational value, it is proposed that the site should be allocated as local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS4	
Site Name	St Peter and St Pauls Church and Churchyard	
Ownership	Church of England	
 		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment as churchyard and cemetery.
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	0.3ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Within the village of Longhoughton
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The site is an important element of this part of the village and is highly valued by the local community.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The church is a grade I listed building and site also includes five structures which are grade II listed. The nave and west part of the church have their origins in the mid-11th century.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil place for reflection.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The site is an important habitat for birds including, blackbirds, sparrows, robins and blue tits. Jackdaws nest in the louvres of the bell chamber window. There have also been sightings of hedgehogs and bats. The site includes a number of areas which are left undisturbed to support the local wildlife.

Conclusion
This site meets the required criteria to be protected as a local green space.

This site meets the required criteria to be protected as a local green space.

Site Ref	LGS5	
Site Name	Boulmer Links	
Ownership	Northumberland Estates	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	4ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	The site lies within Boulmer village.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The links at Boulmer have been used by the fishing fleet for many centuries for the storage of boats, nets and equipment. Two boats still fish from the site on a daily frequency. The site includes ‘the Herring Sheds’ where herring was processed and large numbers of people were employed. Part of the dunes is regarded as the village green for Boulmer. The whole area apart from two enclosures adjacent to Beach View which are used for agricultural purposes is open to the public for recreation and the lease for the land is partly held by Longhoughton Parish Council.

The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The whole of the dunes were used by the Boulmer fishing fleet for the storage of boats, nets and other necessary equipment. Two fishing businesses still exist and store their equipment in this area.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Boulmer Haven and its dunes is a traditional area for recreation. There is a car park which is well used by both local people and visitors. The area is used for walking, dog walking, sea swimming, sea sports, bird watching and lots of other recreational activities.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The area is part of the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is tranquil. There are no commercial activities in Boulmer apart from the Fishing Boat Inn and a small art gallery.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The foreshore at low water is an extensive feeding area for birds. It is preserved by British, European and World conservation designations. The birds attract much attention from ornithologists and lay people.
Conclusion		
This site meets all the criteria to be protected as a Local Green Space.		

Site Ref	LGS6	
Site Name	Boulmer Hall Farm	
Ownership	Northumberland Estates	
 		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	18ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	On the edge of Boulmer village
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below

At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	In relation to the ancient fishing village of Boulmer this farm and its immediate enclosures and pastures are part of the setting of the village. When approaching Boulmer from Longhoughton they are significant and important features that identify the location and place.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The area of land is to the west, south and east of Boulmer Hall Farm including its enclosures. This has been farming land for centuries. To the east and immediately to the south of the farm house are a number of animal enclosures surrounded by sandstone walls. To the west of the farm is a grazing enclosure which incorporates a pond that is surrounded by trees. On the south side of the Boulmer to Longhoughton road is an extensive pasture.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	x	No public access
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	Boulmer is within the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Boulmer Hall Farm is an important feature within the community. The well-maintained paddocks and pastures offer a feeling of tranquillity and for those approaching the village from Longhoughton this is the first view that people have of the village.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The pasture to the south of Boulmer Hall farm that floods in winter, known locally as the mere, is of significant importance as a winter feeding ground for birds in including many species that are on the danger list. It is protected by UK and European conservation designations.
Conclusion		
This site meets the required criteria to be protected as a local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS07	
Site Name	Pasture to the south of Station Road	
Ownership	Northumberland Estates	
 		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	1.29ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	On the edge of Longhoughton village
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	In the consultations that have been done for the Neighbourhood Plan this pasture has been commented upon by many residents as having a significant influence in shaping the sense of place

		of Longhoughton. The pasture is located to the south of Station Road approximately 50 metres south of the railway arch that is the entrance to Longhoughton from Alnwick. Residents highly value this open pasture and believe that it is an important feature when entering and leaving Longhoughton. The pasture is currently used for grazing horses and these are noticed as part of the scene and it is considered that this pasture should be retained without any development.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	x	No public access
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The well-maintained pastures with grazing horses offers a feeling of tranquillity and for those entering the village from Alnwick and those leaving the village towards Alnwick. The pasture portrays a feeling of tranquillity and serenity.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
This site meets the required criteria to be protected as a local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS08	
Site Name	The Pondfield	
Ownership	Northumberland Estates	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	Planning application for 4 dwellings refused (22/01297/FUL)
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Not included within the draft update to the Northumberland Open Space Assessment.
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	0.98ha
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Within the village
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its	✓	The site forms an important part of the character of the local area. This was acknowledged within the

beauty.		case officers report for the refused planning application that the development of the site would result in an erosion of open space that is an important part of the character of the area.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Important to the setting of the grade I listed Church of Saints Peter and Paul.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Used as informal amenity space.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
This site meets the required criteria to be protected as a local green space.		

Appendix 3 Maps of proposed LGS designations

LGS1 Little Houghton Nature Reserve



LGS2 Woodland to the north and east of the B1339



LGS3 Woodland to the North of Tedder Place



LGS4 St Peter and St Pauls Church and Churchyard



LGS5 Boulmer Links



LGS6 Boulmer Hall Farm



LGS07 Pasture to the south of Station Road



LGS08 The Pondfield



Appendix 4 Protected Open Space Assessment

Reference		Site	Description of amenity value
LBHNP	NCC		
POS01	1096	Tedder Place Playground	A recreation area and children's play area to the north of Elworthy and Trenchard Way.
POS02		Sea View	Open areas on either side of the entrance to the Sea View cul-de-sac. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS03		Cunningham Road	Open areas at the junction of Clarey Place/Cunningham Court and along the east side of Cunningham Road. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS04		Carey Place/ North End	Open areas on either side of the entrance to Carey Place off North End. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS05		Carey Place	Open areas on both sides of Clarey Place. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS06		East Moor (1)	Open area at the northern end of East Moor. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS07		Bader Crescent	Open areas between Badger Crescent and North End. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS08		Park Road	This is an open area in the centre of the houses at Park Road. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS09		East Moor (2)	Open area on the east side of East Moor. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS10		East Moor (3)	Open area at the southern end of East Moor at the west of the road. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS11		North of Westfield House	Paddock to the north of Westfield House and to the south of Quarry Lane. The open space is important to the character of the local area. The area has also been identified as a site of special archaeological interest. It has had a tradition of community use, such as for the annual village show.
POS12		Chancel Place	Three areas of amenity open space which are important to the character of the local area. Includes SuDS ponds and a green corridor which links to a footpath under the railway line.

Reference		Site	Description of amenity value
LBHNP	NCC		
POS13		Springfield	Open area to the east of the Springfield road just north of its junction with Boulmer Road. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.
POS14		South End	Open areas off South End. Amenity open space which is important to the character of the local area.

Appendix 5 Protected Open Space Maps

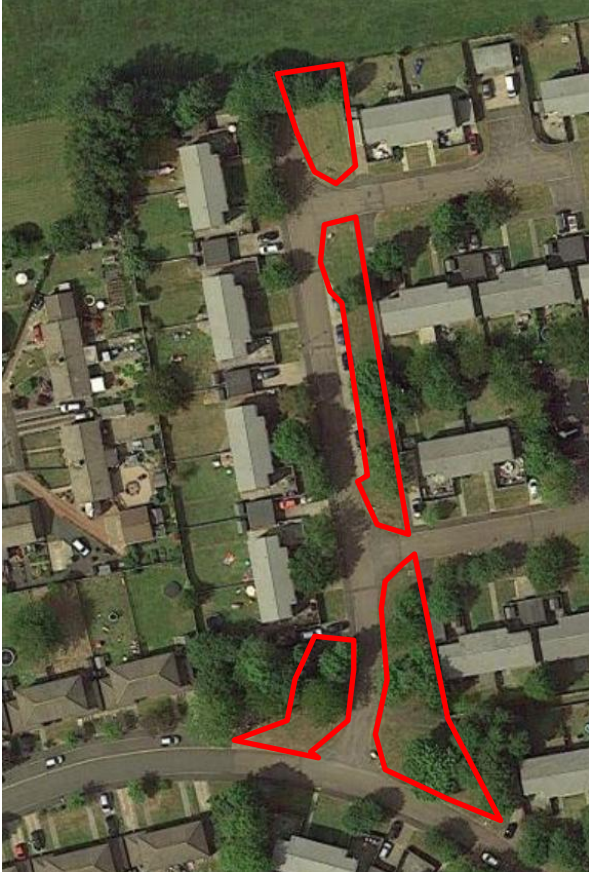
POS01 Tedder Place Playground



POS02 Sea View



POS03 Cunningham Road



POS04 Carey Place/ North End



POS05 Carey Place



POS06 East Moor (1)



POS07 Bader Crescent



POS08 Park Road



POS09 East Moor (2)



POS10 East Moor (3)



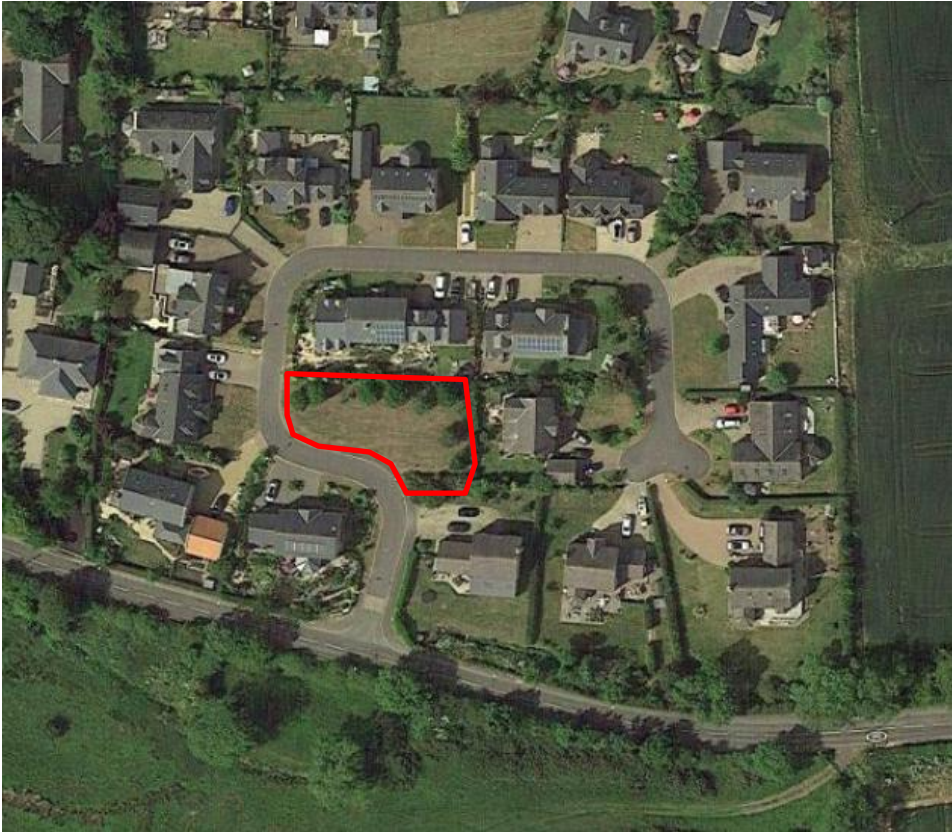
POS11 North of Westfield House



POS12 Chancel Place



POS13 Springfield



POS14 South End

