

LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

OPEN SPACE – RECTORY PADDOCK

1	General Information
1.1	<p>Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i></p>
	<p>Rectory Paddock, Church St, Brigstock</p>
1.2	<p>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>
	
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>

	Brigstock 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>
	Brigstock PCC
1.5	Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation?
	The site is already designated under the Local Plan
1.6	Does the owner support the designation? <i>Sites may be designated as Local Green Spaces, even if there are objections from the site owners</i>
	This has been designated for some time in the previous local plan. No objections have been received.
1.7	Photographs of site
	See sheet at end of document
1.8	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 situated beside Church St and Grafton Road, just below Hall Hill. It is on the east of the old part of the village and is a green space to compliment the old centre of the village.
2	Planning History
2.1	Is there currently a planning application for this site? If planning permission has been permitted could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space?
	No planning permissions exist on this site
2.2	Is the site allocated for development in the Local Plan? If allocated, could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space?
	The site is not allocated for development
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space
3.1	Area of proposed site <i>It is unlikely that a site of over 20ha (50 acres) would be considered suitable for designation.</i>
	The area of the site is 1.02 ha
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 site is several inter-connecting fields but it is not an “extensive 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>

	The site definitely has "local character". This area has existed in this form since records began as an open area. It has a grass meadow, open garden and allotments. It has a footpath through it alongside the river.
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>
	This site is not generally accessible to the public, being owned by the church. It is used for special events when it was opened to the public such as fetes, festivals and parking for church activities. The site gives an open aspect to the village from the east in front of the Rectory and the church.
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? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>
	The site is within the village envelope and is within the Conservation Area. The plan for question 1.2 shows its location.
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 does not have public access, but is easily accessed from public highways when required. The site is adjacent to Church St, Grafton Rd and the church walk
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 <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i>
	This site has been designated Open Space for quite a few years in previous local plans. This supported by the Parish Council and the District Council
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>
	The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire suggested this site and this was supported by 89% of those that responded.
6.3	Evidence of support from community leaders <i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc.</i>
	Not available

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>
	The designation was supported by large majority in the recent village questionnaire
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty,” (if applicable)
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 is a historic open field possibly early orchard. It is an impressive open space before the village centre on Hall Hill is reached. It is an important frontage to the Rectory and church.
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 Grafton Rd and Church St
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 –Natural England</i>
	The site is within the Conservation Area.
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? <i>Further information –Natural England</i>
	No
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?
	Over the site can be viewed the church and the main roads, and is an important setting within the village
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 historic significance” (if applicable)
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 –English Heritage; local history society</i>

8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? e.g. <i>old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information –English Heritage; local history society</i>
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? e.g. <i>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? e.g. <i>well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>
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)”, (if applicable)
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>
9.3	Are the public able to physically access the site? e.g. <i>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>
9.4	Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when? e.g. <i>dog walking; sledging; ball games etc.</i>
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its tranquillity” (if applicable)
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	YES
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? e.g. <i>are there are any roads or busy areas close by?</i>

	There are quiet local roads on the east and north of the site. The south side has Harpers Brook as a boundary. The west boundary is with the garden of the Rectory
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 richness of its wildlife"; (if applicable)
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</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 in Biodiversity Action Plans or protected species or on the red/amber lists of birds of conservation concern.</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i>
	No
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; National Biodiversity Network</i>
	The site is part of the green corridor through the village based on Harpers Brook and has significant mature trees within the boundary.
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 any other reason"; (if applicable)
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	No
12.2	What are the other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?



APPENDIX 1: MODEL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN POLICY AND SUPPORTING TEXT

Draft Supporting Text

National policy makes provision for local communities to identify green areas of particular importance to those communities, where development will not be permitted except in very special circumstances. The following sites have been designated as Local Green Spaces through the Neighbourhood Plan consultation process:

Policy B11: Local Green Spaces

The following sites have been designated as Local Green Spaces:

The Meadow

The Park

Rectory paddock and allotments

Benefield Road allotments

Development that would harm the openness or special character of a Local Green Space (as designated on the Policies Map) or its significance and value to the local community will not be permitted unless there are very special circumstances which outweigh the harm to the Local Green Space.