

# REPORT ON ASSESSMENTS OF LOCAL GREEN SPACE PROPOSALS IN CANTERBURY DISTRICT



**April 2014**

**Report and Assessments**

**Evidence base study prepared by  
Canterbury City Council**





## Contents

Report on Local Green Space Designations .....	1
Introduction .....	1
National Policy Context.....	1
Local Policy Context .....	2
Methodology.....	2
Outcomes .....	3
New local plan text and policy: .....	4
Conclusion.....	5
Appendix 1: Local Green Space Evaluation Table .....	7
Appendix 2: Local Green Space Site assessment Forms .....	11
LGS1 Westmeads Recreation Ground.....	11
LGS2 West Cliff Meadow.....	14
LGS3 Prospect Field.....	17
LGS4 Cornwallis Circle.....	21
LGS5 Apex of land on corner of Station Rd and Railway Ave .....	25
LGS6 Columbia Avenue Recreation Ground .....	28
LGS7 Church Street Recreation Ground.....	31
LGS8 Tankerton Slopes .....	34
LGS9 Crab and Winkle Way Embankment .....	38
LGS10 Chaucer Fields.....	42
LGS11 Kingsmead Field .....	46
LGS12 Green gap between Sturry and Canterbury.....	50
LGS13 Green Gap between Sturry and Broadoak.....	54
LGS14 Green Gap between Blean and Rough Common .....	57
LGS15 Green Gap between Canterbury and Tyler Hill.....	60
LGS16 Herne Bay Downs.....	63
LGS17 Herne Bay Beach .....	67
LGS18 Whitstable Beach .....	71
LGS19 West Beach .....	75

The Ordnance Survey mapping included within this publication is provided by Canterbury City Council under licence from the Ordnance Survey in order to fulfil its public function to act as a planning authority. Persons viewing this mapping should contact Ordnance Survey copyright for advice where they wish to licence Ordnance Survey map data for their own use.

The maps are based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. (Canterbury City Council) (100019614) (2014).



## Report on Local Green Space Designations

### Introduction

The purpose of this background paper is to explain the designation of Local Green Spaces in the Canterbury District Local Plan. It sets out the national and local background to Local Green Spaces and explains the methodology used by the Council. A full list of green spaces proposed for designation is set out in Appendix 1 along with a reason for inclusion or non-inclusion in the Canterbury District Local Plan.

### National Policy Context

The National Planning Policy Framework 2012 (NPPF) introduced the concept of Local Green Spaces (LGS). Paragraph 76 of the document says that local communities should be given the opportunity to identify green areas of particular importance to them through local and neighbourhood plans. These designations need to be consistent with planning for homes, jobs and services, would rule out development other than in very special circumstances and would need to live on beyond the end of the plan period.

*Local communities through local 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.*

Paragraph 77 of the NPPF states that the LGS designation would not be appropriate for most green areas. It sets out the following criteria for designating Local Green Spaces

*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.*

The protection given to Local Green Spaces should be in line with that given to green belt land. Paragraph 78 states that policies for managing LGS's should be in line with Green Belt policy, which is referred to in paragraphs 79-92 of the NPPF.

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

## Local Policy Context

The Preferred Option Consultation Draft of the Canterbury District Local Plan was consulted on from June-August 2013. Paragraphs 11.16 and 11.17 referred to the NPPF and Local Green Spaces. The draft Local Plan did not identify local green spaces at this stage because there are already a large number of local protections for open spaces and wildlife in the district, including:

- Protection of Existing Open Space (PEOS)
- Green Gap
- Area of High Landscape Value (AHLV)
- Open Space
- Local Natural Reserve
- Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)
- Conservation Areas
- Allotments
- Queen Elizabeth II Fields (QEII<sup>1</sup>)

Along with regional, national and international protections:

- Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- International Wildlife sites (SPA, RAMSAR, SAC)
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- National Nature Reserve

As part of the consultation on the draft Local Plan 18 sites have been put forward by community members, 10 in Whitstable, 6 in and around Canterbury and 2 in Herne Bay, no purely rural ones. Four are beaches and associated downs/cliffs, 4 are green gaps around Canterbury, 4 recreation grounds, 4 pockets of green or wilding space, as well as Kingsmead and Chaucer Fields. (Please see the attached schedule in Appendix 1 and maps and assessments in Appendix 2). The majority of the sites already carry Protected Existing Open Space (11) or Green Gap allocations (4).

Please note in accordance with paragraph 76 of the NPPF we have only assessed those open spaces that have been put forward by the community. There are other open spaces in the district that could well fit the NPPF criteria but that were not put forward by the community so have not been assessed. Should members of the community wish other areas to be considered for inclusion in the Local Green Space allocation this would need to be done through the neighbourhood planning process or the Local Plan review process.

## Methodology

The NPPF sets out criteria for designating Local Green Spaces, shown above. These criteria were used to create a Local Green Space evaluation form. To allow comparative assessment of the sites a form was created based on the criteria in Paragraphs 76-78 of the NPPF (see appendix 2). This included current allocations and uses, local significance/use, amenity, attractiveness, durability, recreation and wildlife value. It was also considered important to find out whether the sites were permanently accessible to the public.

---

<sup>1</sup> A Queen Elizabeth II Field is held in trust for use for recreation and leisure purposes by the local community. Outdoor recreation and leisure pursuits are preferred but indoor facilities are allowable where a need is shown. Full public access must be available except where sports club rooms or maintenance is needed. Sites can be developed but all money must go back into the Trust and be used to develop better facilities/grounds within the same catchment area. The sites are to be managed locally.

Site visits were carried out in January 2014 to assess all of the sites. A visual and desktop appraisal was made of each green space to see whether they met the criteria set in the NPPF as outlined on the assessment form. The results of the assessment are summarised in the table in Appendix 1.

## Outcomes

Canterbury has quite a mixed landscape from a small city, two large towns and a mix of rural villages with tracts of countryside between them. However, the majority of the proposed green spaces were located in reasonably close proximity to the city, two towns and the communities they serve.

Appendix 1 briefly provides details of the sites, whether they are to be allocated and why. The majority of the sites put forward are not suitable for allocation as Local Green Space for sustainable planning, size, locality, use or accessibility reasons.

These sites were not recommended for allocation because they did not comply with the NPPF criteria set out in Paragraphs 76-78:

- The 4 green gaps around Canterbury (LGS12-15) – are protected as green gaps, are not local in character, do not have public access and some are extensive (large areas of land), are strategic allocations or in education use.
- The Whitstable and Herne Bay beaches and Herne Bay and Tankerton Downs (LGS8, 16-18) – are extensive/large tracts of land, well protected as PEOS, SSSI, and QEII Fields, have more than local use, require full and complete access for engineering works to deal with cliff stabilisation and coastal erosion.
- Chaucer Fields (University of Kent) and Church Street School playing fields (Community College of Whitstable) (LGS7 and 10) – Limited public access allowed at discretion of landowner/occupier, these are part of important education uses/services. Church Street School playing fields are already PEOS.
- Land at Station Road (LGS5) – Is amenity open space left over from a housing development, it has limited tranquillity, recreational or wildlife value.
- Westmeads Recreation Ground and Cornwallis Circle Recreation Ground (LGS1 & 4) –Both are PEOS and Cornwallis is in process to become QEII Field. LGS may prevent/impact on construction facilities and running of concessions and maintenance of the drainage tanks under Cornwallis circle, Westmead is used regularly by football teams.
- Westcliff Meadow (LGS2) – is a bank/small cliff covered in vegetation, doesn't meet all criteria especially accessibility and an LGS may prevent access to top/remove trees and any stabilisation or flood works required. It is already PEOS.
- Last section of Crab and Winkle Way (LGS9) – is currently PEOS and CA and has active planning permissions for installation of a cycle route and associated bridges/works. At the moment the site is poorly managed and inaccessible, however, if the cycle route is constructed it will meet most of the NPPF criteria.
- Kingsmead Field (LGS11) – is currently allocated for housing and is waiting on a decision on a village green application. However, it meets many of the LGS criteria, so if it is not developed for housing or granted village green status some level of protection such as PEOS could be considered.

There are two sites that are fully suitable for allocation and comply with NPPF, officers recommend that they allocated:

1. Prospect Field –It meets all of the criteria (LGS3).
2. Columbia Avenue Recreation Ground - meets all of the criteria (LGS6).

At the Council meeting on 24 April 2014 two changes were agreed. Firstly it was agreed to include a portion of Whitstable beach called West Beach. It is the area of beach between the Whitstable Harbour and West Beach Pavilion Caravan Park, from the sea wall to the Mean High Water mark (MHW) (LGS19).

The Council Minute states that it was agreed:

*“That the section of West Beach, Whitstable be designated as a local green space.”*

The reasons for inclusion are:

- The strong public support for additional protection of this section of beach (NPPF para 76);
- The historic significance of the beach and its close connection with the town and long association with boatbuilding, fisheries and the Oyster Bay Fisheries Company (NPPF para 77 point 2);
- This is the only stretch of coastline in our district where there is intensive direct interaction of the urban environment and the beach area (NPPF para 77 point 2);
- Due to the easy access and direct interaction of the town centre and dense residential area, this portion of beach is under considerable pressure from human use and is highly sensitive as shown by its SSSI status (NPPF para 77 points 1 & 2).
- Significant community and recreation use of this area of beach (NPPF para 77 point 2).
- It is local in character and not extensive (NPPF Para 77 point 3).

To ensure protection of the three sites selected a new policy based on green belt guidance in NPPF paragraphs 79-92 was developed and is included in the publication draft of the Local Plan.

Secondly, that, as part of amendments resulting from the consultation on the preferred option draft of the Local Plan 2013, the allocation of Kingsmead Field (LGS11) be changed to the large western portion being Protection of Existing Open Space and the smaller eastern area remaining for housing as per the report on item/minute 215 of the Executive agenda 10 April 2014 and agreed at Full Council on 24 April 2014.

***New local plan text and policy:***

The National Planning Policy Framework enables local communities, through local and neighbourhood plans, to identify land as ‘Local Green Space’ *for special protection*, however, the local green space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space

*The City Council has undertaken an assessment of the sites put forward by the community for Local Green Space designation, it explains that; the Local Green Space designation, must be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development for homes, jobs and services, must be demonstrably important to the local community, not extensive and be able to endure. By designating Local Green Spaces the Council will be able to protect them from development and ensure their retention for the enjoyment of the local community. The sites listed in the new Policy, as defined on the Proposal Maps are designated as Local Green Spaces. These Local Green Spaces will be preserved and proposals for development which would conflict with the purposes of designating the land or impact upon the character of the Local Green Space will not be permitted, other than in exceptional circumstances.*

***Policy OS1- Local green spaces***

***The following sites are designated as Local Green Space:***

<b><i>Site</i></b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>	<b><i>Settlement</i></b>	<b><i>Size/ha</i></b>
<u>Prospect Field</u>	<u>Joy Lane</u>	<u>Whitstable</u>	<u>2.53</u>



<u>Columbia Avenue Recreation Ground</u>	<u>Columbia Avenue</u>	<u>Whitstable</u>	<u>1.54</u>
<u>West Beach</u>	<u>Beach from Whitstable Harbour to West Beach Pavilion Caravan Park, between sea wall and MHW.</u>	<u>Whitstable</u>	<u>4.26</u>

Only proposals that protect or enhance these Local Green Spaces will be permitted and development proposals that would impact upon or change the character of the Local Green Space will only be permitted under very special circumstances, such as:

1. The construction of a new building for one of the following purposes: essential facilities for outdoor sport or recreation, allotment use or community uses that do not conflict with the purpose of the Local Green Space;
2. The extension or alteration of an existing building provided it does not result in disproportionate additions;
3. The re-use or replacement of existing buildings, provided that uses do not conflict with the character of the Local Green Space and any replacement building is not materially larger; and
4. The carrying out of engineering or other operations required for public safety.

## Conclusion

The City Council considers it important that local people are involved in the formulation of the Local Plan. The designation of Local Green Spaces has offered local communities the opportunity to become part of the decision making process. This paper has sought to explain the process the Council used to decide which green spaces put forward by the public should be designated.



## **Appendix 1: Local Green Space Evaluation Table**

<b>Site Ref</b>	<b>Locality</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>Size ha</b>	<b>Allocate as LGS?</b>	<b>Why</b>
LGS1	Whitstable	Westmeads Recreation Ground Corner of Westmeads and Wheatley Road	2.6	No	Already PEOS, publicly available, well used for recreation by the community, including football teams. However, LGS would restrict the leisure, recreation and community use of this site. Not compliant with NPPF Para 76 planning of services and Para 77 'designation will not be appropriate for most green areas/open space'.
LGS2	Whitstable	West Cliff Meadow/Cliff West Cliff Road	0.8	No	There is no public access to the site, it is not demonstrably special to the local community, and the site is not at risk of development and is PEOS already. Does not comply with para 77 of the NPPF.
LGS3	Whitstable	Prospect Field Joy Lane	2.5	Yes	The site complies with NPPF Para's 76 and 77, it is already PEOS, QEII, publicly available and well used, beautiful, significant wildlife habitat, the site is demonstrably important to the local community with a Local Friends group set up to manage it.
LGS4	Whitstable	Cornwallis Circle Recreation Ground	1	No	Already PEOS/QEII Field, publicly available, well used for recreation by the community. LGS would restrict the leisure, recreation and community use of this site. It may impact on access/maintenance to the drainage tanks under this site. Not compliant with NPPF Para 76 planning of services and Para 77 'designation will not be appropriate for most green areas/open space'.
LGS5	Whitstable	Apex of land on corner of Station Rd and Railway Ave	0.45	No	Does not fully comply with criteria of the NPPF (especially Para 77, most sites not appropriate, recreation use, habitat).
LGS6	Whitstable	Columbia Avenue Recreation Ground	1.5	Yes	Complies with NPPF Para's 76 and 77, it is already PEOS, publicly available, well used for informal recreation by the community, provides wildlife habitat.
LGS7	Whitstable	Church Street Recreation Ground (Part of school paying fields)	5.1	No	Limited access allowed by service provider/landowner. May impact on the effective function/provision of education use. Site is already PEOS. Not compliant with NPPF Para 76 as may impact on the provision of an essential service and it may not endure.
LGS8	Whitstable	Tankerton Slopes Marine Parade, Tankerton	19	No	An extensive stretch of land already PEOS/SSSI/QEII. Allocation may impact on businesses and leisure activities. Not compliant with NPPF Para's 76 and 77 point 3.

Site Ref	Locality	Site	Size ha	Allocate as LGS?	Why
LGS9	Whitstable	Crab and Winkle Way Embankment between The Sidings and Ivy House Rd	1.4	No	Presently the site has no public access or recreation value, it is not managed for any purpose and is to be part of an extensive cycle network. The site is already well protected with PEOS and Conservation Area. The site does not comply with the criteria set out in Paragraphs 76 and 77 of the NPPF it is inaccessible and carries a strategic allocation for a cycle/pedestrian route. If the cycle/pedestrian route is installed the resulting recreation use, public access and management means the site could be reconsidered for LGS.
LGS10	Canterbury	Chaucer Fields University Of Kent	18.6	No	Scores highly, but, public access is allowed by service provider/landowner so could be removed at any time. May impact on the effective function and provision of University education use. Not compliant with NPPF Para 76 as may impact on the provision of an essential service and may not endure and 77(3) it is extensive.
LGS11	Canterbury	Kingsmead Field Corner of Broadoak and Kingsmead Rd	1.5	No	It is allocated in the draft local plan for housing and previously for a school/housing in an approved development brief, so it is not compliant with Para 76. The site is awaiting a decision on a village green application. However, if the housing allocation is adjusted or only a portion of the site developed and the Village Green is not approved then some level of protection such as PEOS could be considered as in many respects this site meets the NPPF criteria in Para 77 for allocation of Local Green Space.
LGS12	Canterbury	Green Gap – Sturry/Canterbury	34.3	No	Not local in character, contains a strategic road safeguarding route, is a large rural area, protected by green gap and AHLV. Not compliant with NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 points 1, 2 and 3
LGS13	Canterbury	Green Gap – Sturry/Broadoak	2.9	No	Farmland, not local in character, contains a strategic road safeguarding route and strategic housing allocation, protected by green gap allocation. Not compliant with NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 points 1, 2 and 3
LGS14	Canterbury	Green Gap – Blean/Rough Common	7.3	No	School and university playing fields and paddocks/farmland, not local in character, protected by green gap allocation and AHLV. Not compliant with NPPF Para's 76 and 77 points 1 and 2
LGS15	Canterbury	Green Gap – Canterbury/Tyler Hill	5.4	No	Site not accessible to the public, is not local in character, protected by the green gap allocation and a Conservation Area. Not compliant with NPPF Para 77 points 1, 2 and 3.

Site Ref	Locality	Site	Size ha	Allocate as LGS?	Why
LGS16	Herne Bay	Herne Bay Downs from Canterbury Road to Bishopstone	31	No	Extensive area of land, PEOS/SSSI/QEII Field. LGS allocation may impact on flood protection and cliff stabilisation works and leisure activities. Not compliant with NPPF Para's 76 and 77 point 3, or 78 as maintenance and enhancement of earth and structural works to prevent the cliff slumping could change the Downs character and value.
LGS17	Herne Bay	Herne Bay Beach from Hampton (Coast Guard Cottages) to Bishopstone (Reculver Country Park)	26	No	Extensive stretch of land (7km, 26ha), PEOS/SSSI/QEII Field in places, serves the wider district. Allocation may impact upon flood protection and coastal works and commercial and leisure activities. Not compliant with NPPF Para's 76 and 77 point 3, or 78 as maintenance and enhancement flood and erosion defences may alter the character and value of beach.
LGS18	Whitstable	Beach from Sportsman Pub in Seasalter to the Coast Guard Cottages at Swalecliffe	38	No	Extensive stretch of land (9.5km, 38ha), protection of existing open space/SSSI in places, serves wider district. Allocation may impact upon flood protection, coastal works, leisure activities and business uses including harbour operations and redevelopment. Not compliant with NPPF Para's 76 and 77 point 3, or 78 as maintenance and enhancement flood and erosion defences may alter the character and value of beach.
LGS19	Whitstable	Beach from Whitstable Harbour to Caravan Park	4.17	Yes	This stretch of Whitstable Beach (West Beach) was included in the publication draft of the local plan at Full Council on 24 April 2014. The reasons for inclusion are: The strong public support for additional protection of this section of beach; The historic significance of the beach and its close connection with the town and long association with boatbuilding, fisheries and the Oyster Bay Fisheries Company; This is the only stretch of coastline in our district where there is intensive direct interaction of the urban environment and the beach area; Due to the easy access and direct interaction of the town centre and dense residential area, this portion of beach is under considerable pressure from human use and is highly sensitive as shown by its SSSI status.



## **Appendix 2: Local Green Space Site assessment Forms**

### **LGS1 Westmeads Recreation Ground**

<b>Code</b>	LGS1
<b>Site</b>	Westmeads Recreation Ground
<b>Address/location</b>	Corner of Wheatley and Westmeads Roads, Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	2.64ha
<b>Ownership</b> <b>Public Access</b>	Council Owned – recreation ground/public open space Public park and children’s playground



**Northern side with seating and basketball court**

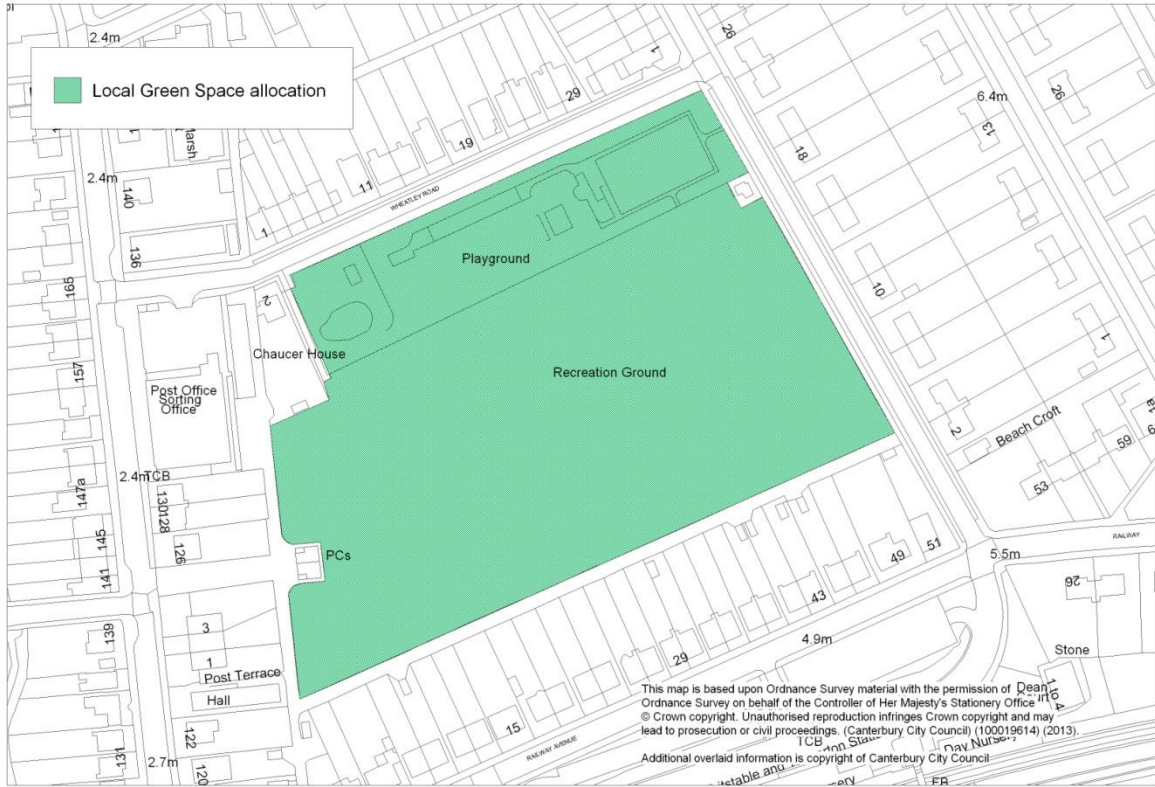


**Playground and mini football pitch**



**Full sized football pitch**

Westmeads recreational ground, Whitstable



Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo



Site Description	Public recreation field in the middle of a residential area. Open grassed playing field surrounded by hedgerows and back gardens on north, west and south sides with sparse trees along the open Westmeads Road boundary. Contains a full football pitch in the middle, mini football pitch, playground and basketball court along the northern boundary. There are toilets/clubrooms to the west and some park seats. The pitches are used for games by local football teams. Sometimes concessions and fairs are run on the site. Direct access is available from Westmeads Rd Wheatley and Cromwell Roads.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Flood Zone 1 and 2 over 2/3 of the site Urban Area
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Flood Zone 1 and 2 over 2/3 of the site Urban Area
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes or employment, however, the Protected Existing Open space allocation and the playing field provide a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space and recreation provision within the district.
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – it is already protection of existing open space and has been a recreation ground since housing was built.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve? I.e. within 400m</b>	Yes - within housing area near Whitstable Town Centre
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes – the site was put forward by a community group.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by the community?</li> <li>• Is it multi-use space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available?</li> </ul>	Yes – has been well used by Whitstable residents for years, contains open grass space for football, a playground, basketball court and sitting space.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	The open space and playing field provide visual amenity to local residents in this very built up area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	It has been a recreation ground since the area was developed for housing (between 1919 and 1939). As well as the toilets it once had a metrological station on it. The site may have links to the Battle of Cressie.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, in/formal</i></li> </ul>	Yes – currently football field, basketball court and playground. Used for games by local football teams.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Not particularly – but it is what you would expect for inner town park/playing field next to a road.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Limited – Some hedgerows and amenity grassland. Offers habitat enhancement opportunities and existing potential for nesting birds
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. serves local community and not extensive)</b>	Yes – very much serving the local community
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	The site is already protection of existing open space, publicly available, well used for recreation by the community. However, an LGS allocation would restrict the leisure, recreation and community use of this site potentially preventing the construction of new buildings or any changes in the type of leisure use. Not compliant with NPPF Para 76 planning of services and Para 77 ‘designation will not be appropriate for most green areas/open spaces’.

## LGS2 West Cliff Meadow

<b>Code</b>	LGS2
<b>Site</b>	West Cliff Meadow
<b>Address/location</b>	West Cliff Road, Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	0.79ha 230m long and between 25 and 40m wide
<b>Ownership</b> <b>Public Access</b>	Council Owned – 1985 use waste ground Inaccessible – footpath runs beyond the top boundary.



Looking down and along the site from the south

West Cliff Meadow, Whitstable



Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Description of site	A steep northwest facing bank containing thick relatively undisturbed vegetation and habitat. A public footpath runs along the top of the bank beyond the edge of the site. Overlooks the golf course and out to the Thames Estuary. North of the site is the Golf Course (PEOS) then a strip of houses before the beach. South and east are houses. West is more protection of existing open space (Golf Club and allotments).
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Protected Existing Open Space Flood Zone 2 and 3 Urban Area
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Protected Existing Open Space Flood Zone 2 and 3 Urban Area
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however, the Protected Existing Open Space allocation contributes to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes - Part of a wider Protection of Existing Open Space allocation including the golf course and allotments and Prospect field.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	There are a number of houses within 400m but a lot of the adjacent area is already protection of existing open space, although not all is available to the public as it includes a golf course and allotments.
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Not demonstrable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multi-use space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	No – not useable space due to steep nature of slope and vegetation cover.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Pleasant stretch of semi-natural scrubland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	None
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	None and no ability to become so due to steep nature of bank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	A peaceful place between a cul-de-sac road and the golf course
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Yes - vegetated grass/scrubland offers potential habitat for nesting birds and reptiles as well as habitat enhancement opportunities
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	The site is small and local in character but does not provide any public access.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	There is no public access to the site, it is not demonstrably special to the local community, the site is not at risk of development and is PEOS already. Does not comply with Para 77 of the NPPF.

## LGS3 Prospect Field

<b>Code</b>	LGS3
<b>Site</b>	Prospect Field
<b>Address/location</b>	Accessed off Joy Lane (located between Joy Lane and the Railway Line), Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	2.53ha
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Council Owned – open space/recreation/allotments



**Ponds and wildlife planting**



**View along site to west**

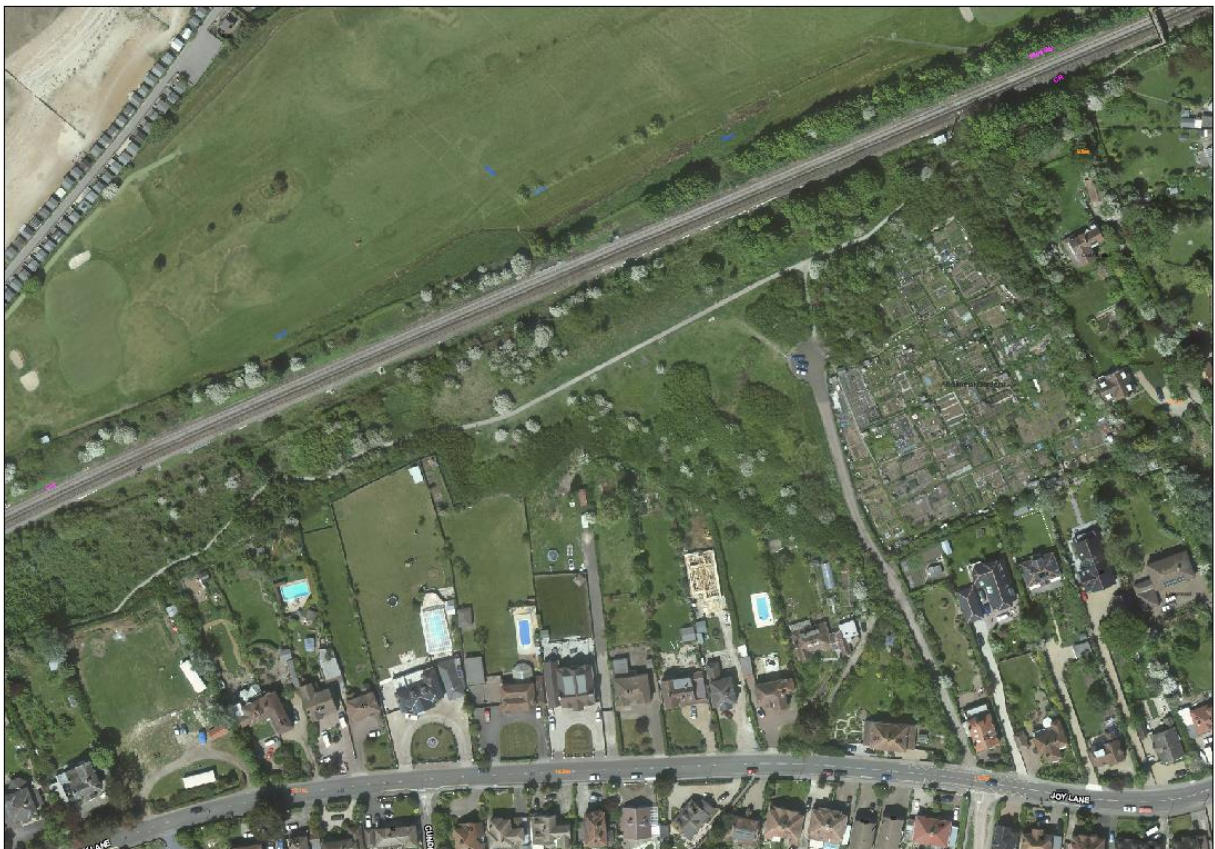


**View across site to north**

Prospect Field, Whitstable



Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Site Description	<p>Unusual shaped piece of land. Mixture of allotments to the east, with some small copses with mixed managed and unmanaged grassland and shrubs to the west. A cycle/pedestrian route runs east to west through the length of the site and beyond this is a bank that slopes down to the railway line that runs along the northern boundary of the site. Beyond this is protection of existing open space that makes up part of the golf club. The residential area abuts the southern and eastern boundaries of the site and to the west are protection of existing open space and the continuation of the coastal cycle route. There are views out to the Thames Estuary and Sheppy.</p> <p>The site has 2 accesses from Joy Lane (including vehicle access) there is a small informal car park for the allotment users. The site also links to other areas east and west via the cycle/pedestrian route. The site is managed by a community Friends group for informal recreation and wildlife habitat.</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<p>Majority of site is Protection of Existing Open Space (except a small sliver to the northeast)</p> <p>Urban Area</p> <p>A small amount to the south and east is in a Conservation Area (South Whitstable)</p>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<p>Majority of site is Protection of Existing Open Space (except a small sliver to the northeast)</p> <p>Urban Area</p> <p>A small amount to the south and east is in a Conservation Area (South Whitstable)</p>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however, the protected existing open space allocation provides a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? <i>Why?</i></b>	Yes – is already PEOS, QEII, Allotments However, there have been issues of encroachment by the adjoining residential properties in the last few years.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> <i>I.e. within 400m</i>	Yes
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes – this site has a lot of community input in terms of its protection and management.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available?</li> </ul>	Yes – for picnics, walking, cycling (along cycle route), there is a small area mowed grass area for informal recreation. The allotments are also well used.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes very – with semi-natural habitat and extensive views.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	Not particularly, however the footpath that runs through the site is shown on early maps as far back as 1843. The area where the allotments are may have housed a couple of railway cottages. The land seems to be linked to the railway line on earlier maps of the area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used</i></li> </ul>	Yes – for informal recreation and cycling/walking. The allotments in the east of the site area are obviously well used

<i>formally or informally for sports</i>	and have substantial protections of their own.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Yes very – lovely peaceful area away from traffic and domestic noise. Does get some noise from the trains that run below.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Yes - Community managed grassland featuring invertebrate, reptile, stag beetle, nesting bird habitat
<b>Is the site local in character?</b> ( <i>i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive</i> )	Yes – small semi-natural site managed and used by the local community.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	The site complies with NPPF Para’s 76 and 77, it is already protection of existing open space, QEII, publicly available, beautiful, tranquil and well used, as well as providing significant wildlife habitat. The site is demonstrably special to the local community, shown by the high community involvement with the site including a Local Friends group set up to manage the site. Recommend allocation of the site as Local Green Space.



**LGS4 Cornwallis Circle**

<b>Code</b>	LGS4
<b>Site</b>	Cornwallis Circle
<b>Address/location</b>	Cornwallis Circle Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	0.96ha
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Council Owned – Public Open Space Full public access



Looking across the field and playground from the southeastern corner

Cornwallis Circle, Whitstable



Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Site Description	Public recreation field in the middle of a residential area. Contains a large closely mown field with informal football nets, a well-used child's playground sits in the western corner of the site which backs on to houses and gardens. The site is surrounded by a road on three sides with houses and businesses beyond. To the east is Oxford Road shopping street. The site is also now a QEII field.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Flood Zone 2 and 3 Conservation Area (Whitstable Town Centre) Whitstable Town Centre Urban Area
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Flood Zone 2 and 3 Conservation Area (Whitstable Town Centre) Whitstable Town Centre Urban Area
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes or employment, however, the protection of existing open space allocation provides a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space and recreation provision within the district.
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – it has been public open space since housing was developed there.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	Yes - Surrounded by houses in the middle of the urban area and within the town centre of Whitstable
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	Well used by the local community, predominately families and dog walkers. Publicly available, playground and field Publically supported QEII field
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	The open space and playing field provide visual amenity to local residents in this very built up area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	No - but it has been a recreation ground since the area was developed for housing (between 1919 and 1939). It is also within the Whitstable Town Conservation Area
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Playground and a large area of mowed grass providing for many informal sports.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Not particularly – but it is what you would expect for inner town park/playing field next to a road and near houses, employment and businesses uses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Amenity grassland of limited biodiversity value. Habitat enhancement potential.
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	Yes - very much serving the local community

<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	Already protection of existing open space/QEII Field, publicly available, well used for recreation by the community. However, LGS would restrict the leisure, recreation and community use of this site by preventing the construction of new buildings or any changes in the type of leisure use. Also it may impact on access to/maintenance of the drainage tanks under this site. Not compliant with NPPF Para 76 planning of services and Para 77 'designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space'
--	---

**LGS5 Apex of land on corner of Station Rd and Railway Ave**

<b>Code</b>	LGS5
<b>Site</b>	Apex of land on corner of Station Road and Railway Avenue
<b>Address/location</b>	Corner of Station Road and Railway Avenue Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	0.045ha Triangle of land 23m by 31m
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Council Owned – Council Housing



Looking across the site from the southeastern road corner.



Except from Local Plan 2006 Proposals Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Site Description	Triangle of land left over from an early 20 <sup>th</sup> century housing development. Covered in grass with four small trees, a memorial stone and salt box. Station Road runs down the east side, Railway Ave along the south side and a footpath and houses along the northwestern side. Site is in a residential area surrounded by houses. Provides an open visual outlook and pedestrian access to three houses.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Urban Area
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Urban Area
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Possibly the small open green corner has been there since the houses were built in 1921, but it is titled for social housing.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	Yes
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	It was put forward by a member of the community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	It is visual amenity space rather than useable public space. It could be improved by the installation of a park bench and flower beds. However, it is publicly available and is used as a short cut.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Small amenity green space left at the end of a housing development.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	No- but it has been there since the council housing development in 1920-1921 according to a small memorial stone on the site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	No – too small and surrounded by roads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	No - surrounded by roads and near railway line
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Limited - Amenity grassland with four small trees. Potential for nesting birds. Habitat enhancement potential.
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	Yes
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	Does not fully comply with criteria of the NPPF (especially Para 76, recreation use, habitat, 77 'designation will not be appropriate for most green areas/open space').

**LGS6 Columbia Avenue Recreation Ground**

<b>Code</b>	LGS6
<b>Site</b>	Columbia Avenue Recreation Ground
<b>Address/location</b>	Columbia Avenue Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	1.54ha
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Council Owned – playing field and playground



**View from southeastern corner looking across park.**

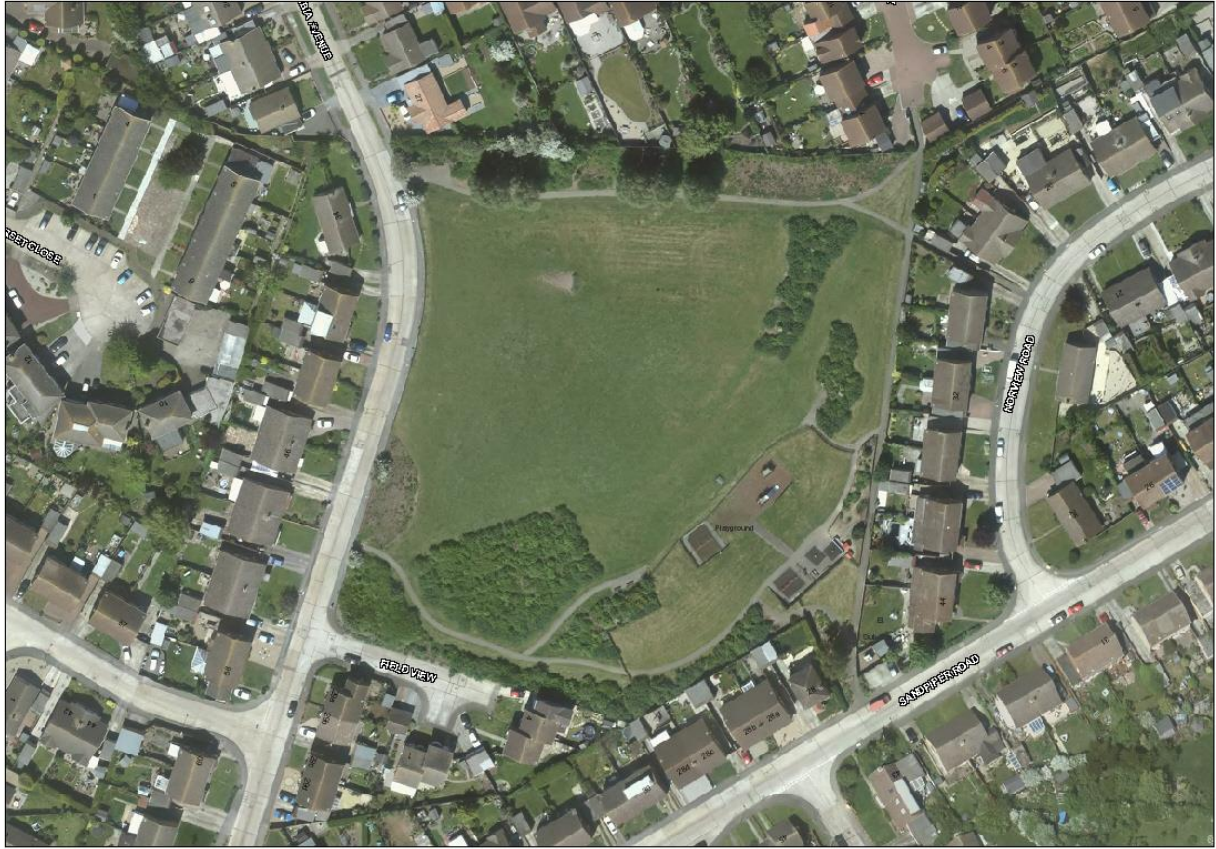


**Northwestern gate to the park from Columbia Ave**





Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Site Description	Public recreation field in the middle of a modern residential development. Open grassed playing field with an informal football net, and gardens, with a terraced playground in the top southeastern corner. The entire park is fenced and on a sloping hillside (down from south to north). There are wildlife gardens and trees to the north and east and in the southwestern corner. There are also a number of picnic tables and seats provided. The site is well overlooked by surrounding houses on three sides with Columbia Avenue running along the western boundary. There are a number of sealed paths across and around the park that connect up to the adjacent streets providing pedestrian access to the park from Sceptre Way, Norview Road, Sandpiper Road as well as Columbia Avenue.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Urban Area
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Urban Area
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however the PEOS allocation provides a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – it has been a protected playing field/green space since the houses were built and it is PEOS.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve? I.e. within 400m</b>	Yes – surrounded by houses.
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	Yes - The site was being well used by children, dog walkers and as a walking shortcut when visited. Public Park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes – a very attractive park with spectacular views over the Thames Estuary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	None – formally a field until recent housing development of the area. A public footpath is shown as having run along the eastern boundary of the site on maps as early as 1843.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Yes – playground, dog walking and training and an informal kick about area, walking paths.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Yes – in the context of a suburban park
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Amenity grassland featuring some scrub habitat – potential for nesting birds and reptiles.
<b>Is the site local in character? (serves local community and not extensive)</b>	Yes - very much serving the local community
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	Complies with NPPF Para's 76 and 77, already protection of existing open space, publicly available, attractive and well used for recreation by the community, As well as providing some wildlife habitat. Recommend allocation of the site as Local Green Space.

## LGS7 Church Street Recreation Ground

<b>Code</b>	LGS7
<b>Site</b>	Church Street Recreation Ground, part of Community College Whitstable.
<b>Address/location</b>	Between Church Street and the Thanet Way Church Street, Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	5.12ha
<b>Ownership</b> <b>Public Access</b>	School – Kent County Council Limited and informal



Looking through gate from south



Fence that surrounds site



Field looking along Church St

Church Street recreational ground, Whitstable



Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Site Description	A very large flat school playing field. Mown grass with hedgerows around it. The site is fully fenced with 8ft metal railing fences and locked keypad gates. The field is separated from the school by the former Crab and Winkle Railway Line. The field is at times used for athletics and other outdoor school activities. Also currently used for boot fairs in summer weekends to raise money for the school. Has stability and water logging problems. Some informal public access for dog walkers and runners is allowed on an ad hoc basis.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Urban Area Adjacent to Church St Conservation Area
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Protection of Existing Open Space Urban Area Adjacent to Church St Conservation Area
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	Yes - forms part of an education use as it is school playing fields
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	It is already protection of existing open space and used for playing fields
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	There is housing on 2 sides, but public access could be restricted by the school
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Site was put forward by the Whitstable Society
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	The large open field provides a large multiuse space. However, public access is limited by the school.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Large flat nondescript school playing field.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	No – was large agricultural fields probably part of Parsonage Farm, until the school was built.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Yes - playing fields and athletics track
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Noise from Thanet Way (an A road)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Predominately amenity grassland with some broadleaved woodland, TPO, hedgerow. Potential nesting bird and bat activity. Habitat enhancement potential.
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	Yes
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	Limited access is allowed by service provider/landowner, which could be removed at any time. An LGS may impact on the effective function and provision of school/education use. The site is already protection of existing open space. Not compliant with NPPF Para 76 as may impact on the provision of an essential service and may not endure.

## LGS8 Tankerton Slopes

<b>Code</b>	LGS8
<b>Site</b>	Tankerton Slopes
<b>Address/location</b>	Marine Parade Tankerton, Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	19.02ha
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Majority in Council Ownership – public open space and coastal protection, QEII Field



Tankerton slopes with the beach huts and beach

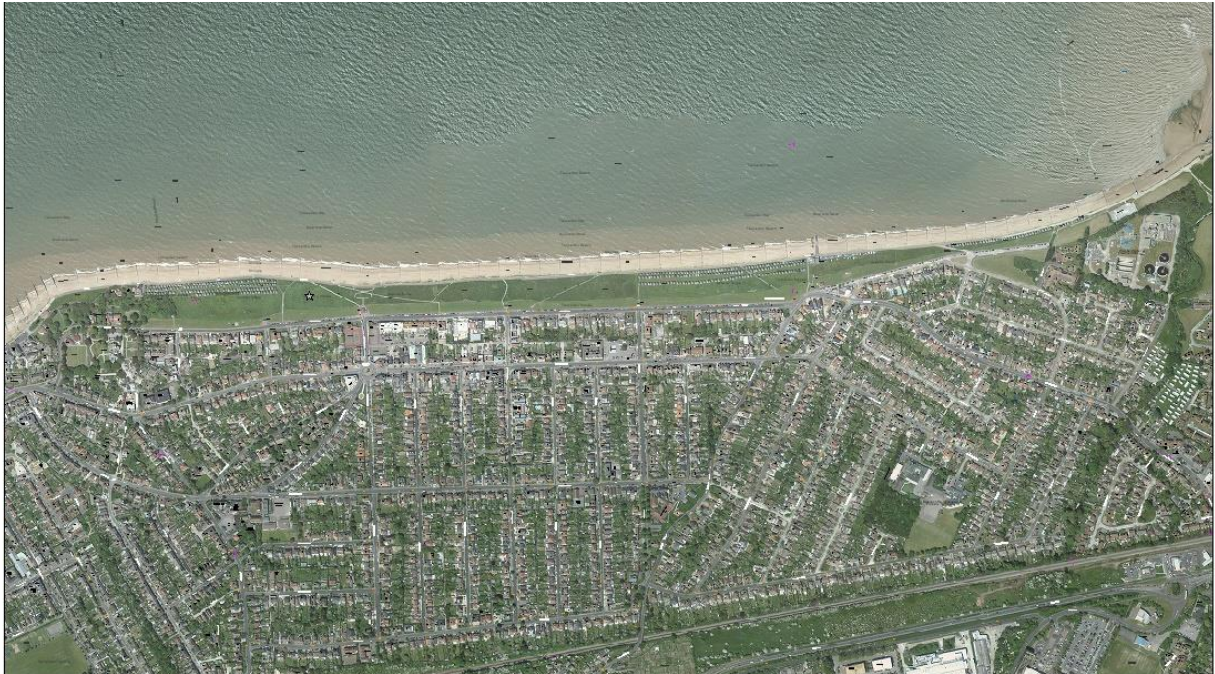


Top of Tankerton Slopes to right with Marine Parade and adjacent houses

Tankerton Slopes, Whitstable



Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Site Description	<p>Tankerton Slopes is a substantial area of open space that consists of a grassy bank sloping down to the sea. At the base of the slopes are numerous beach huts and below them a promenade and narrow pebble beach. The top of the slopes have a number of seats, shelters, a beacon and other memorabilia, as well as a couple of shops and public toilets.</p> <p>At the top of the slopes runs Marine Parade beyond which are houses and the suburb of Tankerton. Paths zigzag down the slope from various points along Marine Parade.</p> <p>While most of the grassed area is amenity grassland some is protected rough grassland habitat for rare species.</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<p>Undeveloped Coast (eastern end)  SSSI – Thanet Coast  SSSI – Tankerton Slopes  Green Gap (eastern end)  Flood Zones 2 and 3 (northern coastal boundary)  Cycle Pedestrian route  Tankerton Conservation Area (western end)  Urban Area</p>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<p>Undeveloped Coast (eastern end)  SSSI – Thanet Coast  SSSI – Tankerton Slopes  Green Gap (eastern end)  Flood Zones 2 and 3 (northern coastal boundary)  Cycle Pedestrian route  Tankerton Conservation Area (western end)  Urban Area</p>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however the protection of existing open space allocation provides a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan?</b> <i>Why?</i>	Yes – it is green space and promenade next to the beach, is protection of existing open space and QEII Field, and will remain so for the foreseeable future.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> <i>I.e. within 400m</i>	It is in close proximity to Tankerton suburb, however, usage is much wider than the immediate Tankerton community.
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes – local and regional. Although the site serves the local community it is also widely used by visitors to the area and holidaymakers in the Summer months.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	<p>Yes - the area has been used for local recreation including the use of the beach huts since Edwardian times and for the use by local sailing and yacht clubs.</p> <p>The space is flexible as provides for a number of uses including walking, cycling, skateboarding, football, bird watching and picnicking, beach huts and just sitting and watching the world go by while the sun sets. It is also used for local events and activities.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes the area has high visual amenity with far reaching views. There are areas with flora & fauna value. The area is also renowned for its beautiful sunsets which can be seen



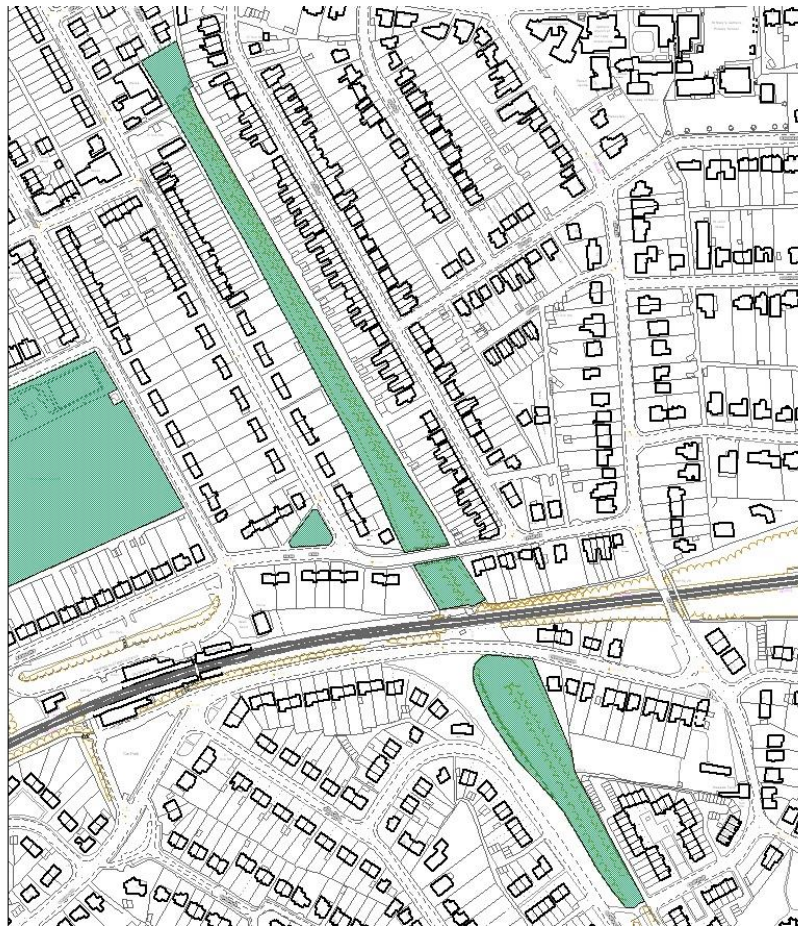
	all along the proposed site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	Yes Historically, the beach and slopes has been used for recreation and beach huts since Edwardian times. Before this parts of the beach were used in the Copperas industry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Yes – boat club and promenade The area is used for walking including dog walking, cycling, running, skateboarding, bird watching, picnicking and informal and formal sports. Parts of the Slopes are used for festivals and local events and activities, mainly the summer season.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Tranquil in winter – from Spring to Autumn it is a very busy place catering for a wide range of people.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Yes - Extensive area proposal, including CA, TPO, SSSI, scrub and grassland habitat - potential for reptiles, nesting birds, rare flora and invertebrates (including wasp and bee species, Fishers Estuarine Moth, Hogs Fennel). Notified features of the SSSI.
<b>Is the site local in character?</b> <i>(i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</i>	No – it is a large area used by a lot of people from across the district and south east.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	No – the area is well protected, it is a very large area that serves the wider community of the district. Extensive stretch of land already protection of existing open space/SSSI/QEII. LGS allocation may impact on businesses and leisure activities. Not compliant with NPPF Para’s 76 and 77 point 3.

**LGS9 Crab and Winkle Way Embankment**

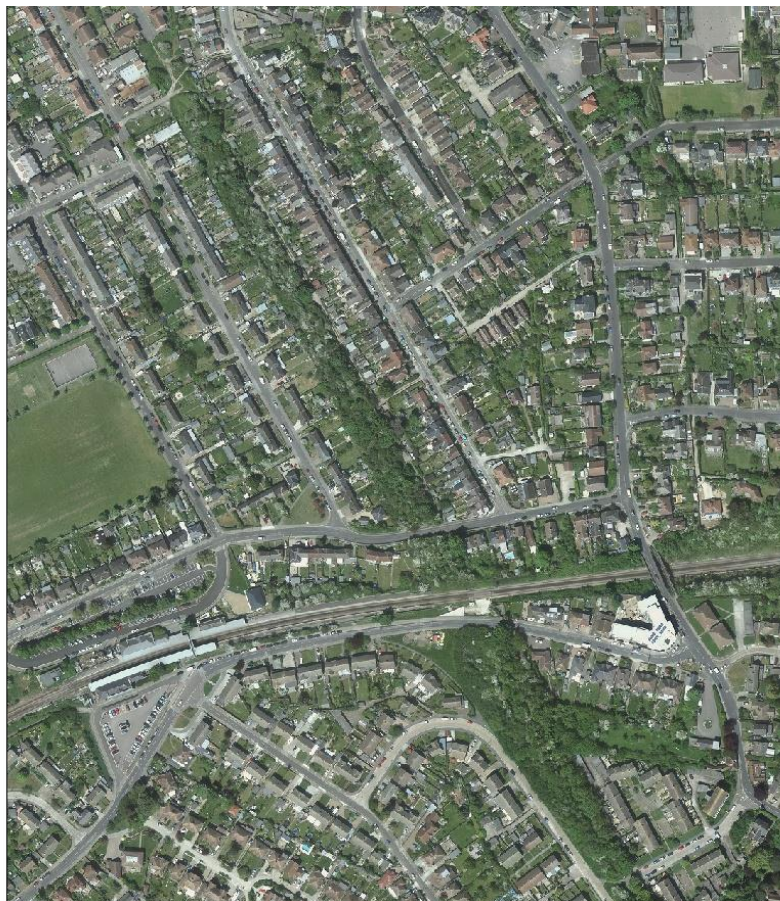
<b>Code</b>	LGS9
<b>Site</b>	Crab and Winkle Way Embankment
<b>Address/location</b>	From Ivy House Road to The Sidings Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	1.42ha
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Crab and Winkle Trust



**Looking across and down the embankment from the south**



Map showing potential Local Green Space allocation



Aerial Photo

Site Description	<p>Forms part of the historic Crab and Winkle railway line that ran from Whitstable Harbour to Canterbury West Station until it was made obsolete in 1952. Most of the railway line up to this section has been developed into a cycle route that now links Canterbury and Whitstable. This is the last undeveloped section of the former Railway cutting and embankment. It has been left for many years and has naturally regenerated and is overgrown with trees and shrubs. The area is currently unmanaged with obvious litter. Old Bridge and Teynham Roads cut across the site. The roads are set within the abutments of the former railway bridges and the embankment is elevated at these points and gradually declines in height as it continues northwards. The surrounding area is residential with back gardens backing onto the rail line. A rear access road serving properties fronting Clare Road runs along the eastern side of the site.</p> <p>There is no easy public obvious access but the site is open and publicly available. Planning permission has been granted for the cycle route and associated engineering works such as over bridges (Planning permissions CA/10/01293/FUL CA/07/01442/WHI).</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<p>Protection of Existing Open Space (all)  Conservation Area (Crab and Winkle railway - 1991)  Flood Zone 2 (Northern tip)  Urban Area  Cycle/Pedestrian route safeguarding</p>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<p>Protection of Existing Open Space (all)  Conservation Area (Crab and Winkle railway - 1991)  Flood Zone 2 (Northern tip)  Urban Area  Cycle/Pedestrian route safeguarding  (Planning permissions CA/10/01293/FUL CA/07/01442/WHI).</p>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	<p>No in terms of housing or employment – however, both the approved and draft plans have a strategic cycle/pedestrian route safeguarding allocation</p>
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	<p>Yes – It is protection of existing open space and Conservation Area and part of the wider strategic cycling network plans.</p>
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	<p>Yes – however, if a cycle route was developed usage would be much wider than the immediate Whitstable community</p>
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	<p>It is a regionally significant site in terms of the former railway line and the proposed cycle route.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly?</li> </ul>	<p>No use is presently available but if the cycle path/pedestrian route is formed it will be opened up to the public with easy access and a recreation use.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	<p>No - It is a sliver of green presently unmanaged partly regenerated vegetation within the urban area, which shows signs of fly tipping.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	Yes – forms part of the Crab and Winkle railway line route. It is a Conservation Area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	When the Cycle/Pedestrian route is put in it will provide public access to the site and provide a recreation use.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	If the site could be accessed it might be considered tranquil.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Yes - TPO, Conservation Area, broadleaved woodland, potential for bats and nesting birds.
<b>Is the site local in character?</b> ( <i>i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive</i> )	This site forms part of a large rail/cycle network used by a lot of people from across the district and southeast.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	No – At the present time this site has no real public access or recreation value, it is not managed for any purpose and is to be part of an extensive cycle network. Also the site is already well protected with PEOS and Conservation Area allocations. At this point in time the site does not comply with the criteria set out in Paragraphs 76 and 77 of the NPPF. However, in the future if the cycle/pedestrian route that has planning permission is installed it will provide a recreation use and public access and management of this site and the site could be reconsidered for LGS.

## LGS10 Chaucer Fields

<b>Code</b>	LGS10
<b>Site</b>	Chaucer Fields
<b>Address/location</b>	University of Kent Canterbury
<b>Size</b>	18.56ha
<b>Ownership</b> <b>Public Access</b>	University of Kent Informal



Looking up Chaucer field from the south



Woodland in east



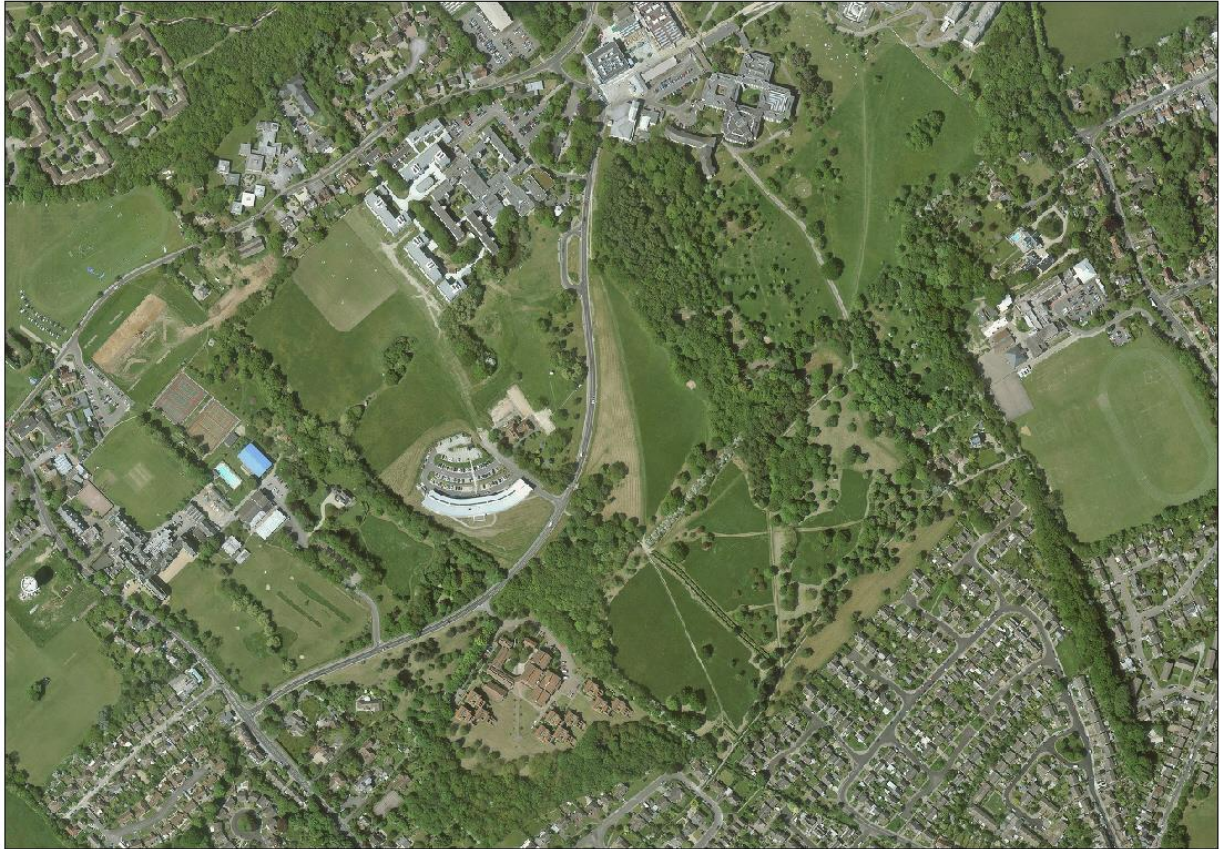
Bridleway



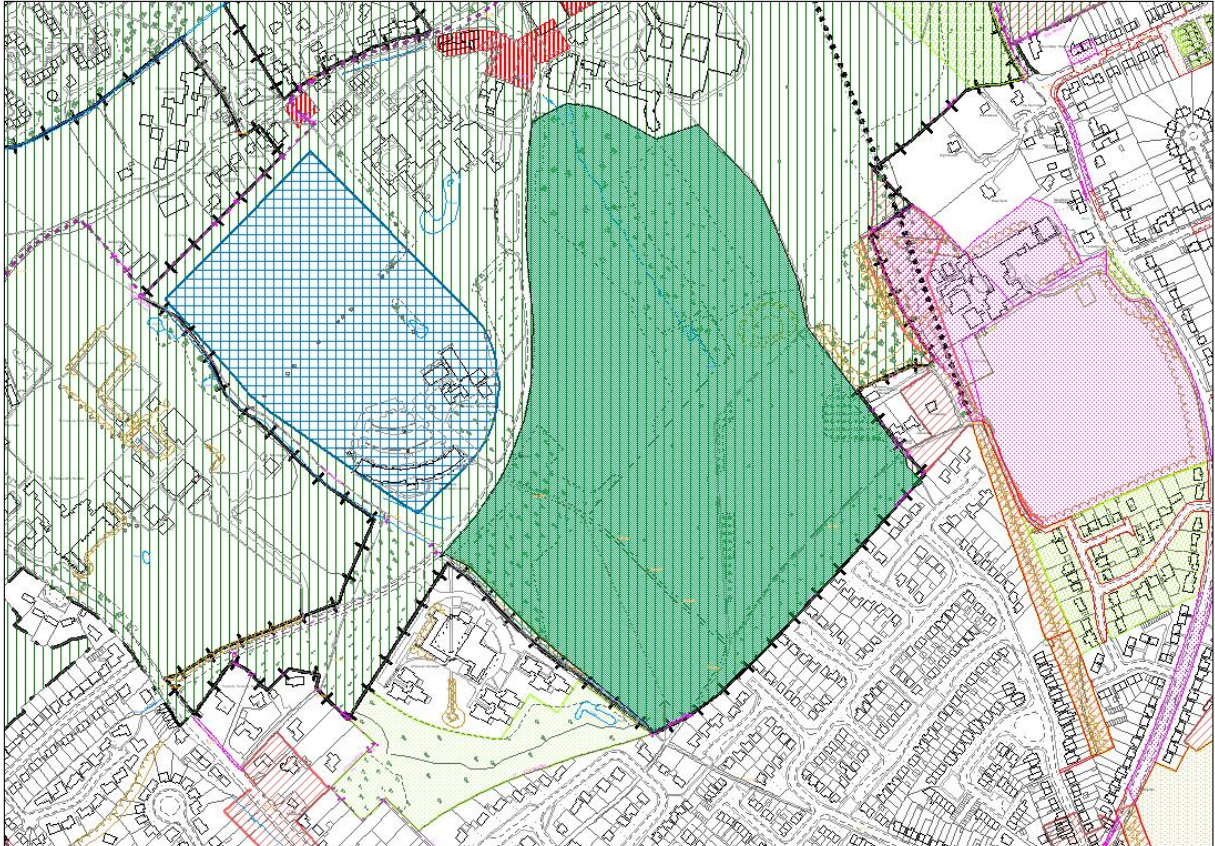
Chaucer field looking east




and looking northwest to innovation centre



**Aerial Photo**



**Excerpt from Local Plan 2006 Proposals Map showing potential Local Green Space**

Site Description	<p>The site is part of the northern valley sides of the Stour River valley in which Canterbury City is built. It is A large gentle slope down from northwest to southeast. Covered in a mix of amenity grassland, wildflower meadow, old woodland and hedgerows. A stream runs along the western boundary, a hedged bridleway up the middle and a woodland with ponds makes up most of the northeastern area of the site. The rest of the site is meadow/amenity grassland with individual specimen trees split up by hedgerows. A paved path runs along the northern and eastern boundaries of the site. The area is also crisscrossed with informal walking paths.</p> <p>To the west of this are the listed Beverly Farmhouse, the Innovation Centre and Chaucer College. To the north is the main university campus. South is a residential area and to the east are a few houses and more open space.</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	University of Kent Campus Area of High Landscape Value
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	University of Kent Campus Area of High Landscape Value
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	Yes - forms part of an education use and is located within the University campus in the local plan.
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	<p>No – in ownership of the university who could restrict access and or change land use subject to planning permission.</p> 
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	Yes
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Substantial – there has been a very strong, vocal and well supported local campaign to protect this area.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	The site is well use by university students and residents for informal recreation at the discretion of the University management.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes – very attractive mix of woodland and maintained grassland and wildflower meadows with views across the city to the cathedral. Also provides an attractive green backdrop to Canterbury City being the northern valley sides of the Stour River valley.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	Limited in its self but is part of the setting/backdrop of the historic City of Canterbury. The woodland in the north of the site is shown on early maps of the area (1843), the remainder of the site has been fields, a nursery and orchards.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Yes – informal recreation including, walking, jogging, picnics, sledding by university students and surrounding residents.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	<p>Yes – a very peaceful place.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	<p>Yes - Extensive, characterful area of neutral grassland, broadleaved woodland and scrub habitat, with potential for high biodiversity interest including bats, nesting birds, reptiles.</p>
<p><b>Is the site local in character?</b> (<i>i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive</i>)</p>	<p>The site serves the local community but 18ha so is a large area of land.</p>
<p><b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b></p>	<p>The site scores highly with respect to the local significance and public and wildlife value and its importance as a back drop to the historic city of Canterbury. It is within in an AHLV and could be considered for some additional protection. However, it is a large site where public access is allowed at discretion of the service provider / landowner so could be removed at any time. Also and LGS may impact on the effective function and provision of the University education use. Therefore, the site is not compliant with NPPF Para 76 as may impact on the provision of an essential service and may not endure and 77(3) is an extensive tract of land.</p>

**LGS11 Kingsmead Field**

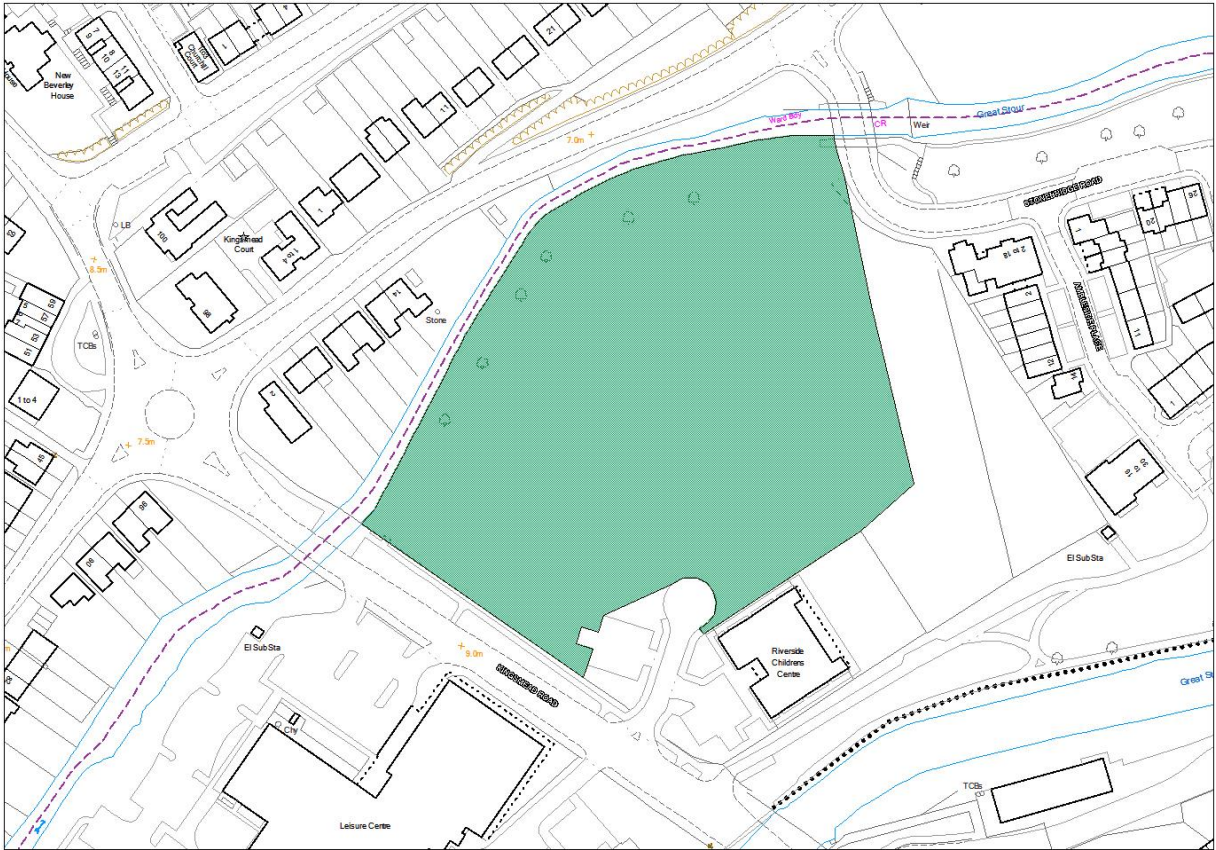
<b>Code</b>	LGS11
<b>Site</b>	Kingsmead Field
<b>Address/location</b>	Corner of Kingsmead and Broadoak Roads, Canterbury
<b>Size</b>	1.5ha
<b>Ownership</b>	Council Owned
<b>Public Access</b>	Full public access



View across Kingsmead Field from the northern corner looking south towards the city – view of cathedral.



Great Stour River and Broadoak Rd along NW boundary



Map showing potential Local Green Space



Aerial Photo

Site Description	<p>The site is a low-lying flat field of rough grass used predominately for dog walking, informal sports, picnics and fairs and events. There is an informal running track that has formed over the years.</p> <p>The site is enclosed along the western and northern sides with hedges, trees and the river. The eastern boundary is fenced especially around the children's centre and against the new housing development.</p> <p>A branch of the Great Stour runs along the western and northern boundaries. The stream is bordered with scrub and established trees. To the north is a public seat and, until recently, pedestrian access to Broadoak Road. Broadoak Road runs along the northwestern boundary. Houses across Broadoak Road are significantly higher than the field and have views over it. Along the northeastern boundary is the new housing development of Kingsbrook Park. The tall buildings along this boundary have primary windows overlooking the field. An unkempt area of trees and scrub also runs along this boundary. In the southern corner is the Riverside Children Centre, nursery and associated parking and playgrounds.</p> <p>The site has one road and two pedestrian accesses from Kingsmead Road, which, runs along the southwestern boundary.</p> <p>There are significant views of the Cathedral from the northern corner of the site.</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<p>Flood Zone 2 (most of site)</p> <p>Flood Zone 3 (along river)</p> <p>Regeneration Zone</p> <p>Urban Area</p> <p>The Future of Kingsmead Development Brief (2004/6) – school or housing</p> <p>Local Wildlife Site (the Stour and adjacent land)</p>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<p>Flood Zone 2 (most of site)</p> <p>Flood Zone 3 (along river)</p> <p>Housing (100 units)</p> <p>Urban Area</p> <p>Local Wildlife Site (the Stour and adjacent land)</p> <p>Undecided application for a Village Green</p>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	Yes – it is allocated for 100 units
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – it has had long standing formal and informal recreation and amenity uses and is well supported by the local community who has put in an application for village green status to protect it.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	Yes – Particularly the new housing development at Kingsbrook and housing in St Stephens and along Broadoak Road.
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	There is a local campaign group. The site was put forward by members of the public and received a lot of support for retention as open space/Local Green Space in the 2013 draft Local Plan consultation. The community have also put

	forward a village green application.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	<p>The site is not intensively maintained nor contains any particular facilities. However, considering that it is fairly well used. It provides an open space for dog walking, informal sports such as football and lacrosse, running, summer picnics and the children's centre and adjacent nursery frequently use the site. The site also hosts events such as the circuses and fun fairs. Previously the site was a pedestrian shortcut with access from Broadoak until this was fenced off a couple of years ago.</p> <p>The site been shown as a playing field since the 1960's and has been available for public use.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes – the site its self is with the river, trees and views of the Cathedral. Some of the buildings surrounding the site are less spectacular
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	<p>Historic documented views of the Cathedral</p> <p>The site has been available for public use for approximately 50 years. Before it appears on maps as fields.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Yes – It provides an open space for dog walking, informal sports such as football, rugby training and lacrosse, running, summer picnics and the children's centre and adjacent nursery frequently use the site. It is also used for occasional events such as funfairs and circuses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Yes in the context of an urban park – there is noise from rush hour traffic along Broadoak and Kingsmead Roads.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Yes – part of it is a Local Wildlife Site, riverside area of potential value to bats, nesting birds. Monotone amenity grassland offers limited opportunities at present. Habitat enhancement potential.
<b>Is the site local in character?</b> <i>(i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</i>	Yes and predominately used locally, although city wide for events.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	No – because it is currently allocated in the preferred option draft local plan for housing and previously either for a school or housing in an approved development brief, so it is not compliant with Paragraph 76 of the NPPF. Also it is currently awaiting a decision on a village green application. However, if the housing allocation was reduced or only a portion of the site was developed and the Village Green allocation is not approved then some level of protection such as PEOS could be considered as in many respects this meets the NPPF criteria in Paragraph 77 for Local Green Space allocation.

**LGS12 Green gap between Sturry and Canterbury**

<b>Code</b>	LGS12
<b>Site</b>	Green gap between Sturry and Canterbury
<b>Address/location</b>	Land to north of Sturry Road
<b>Size</b>	34.27ha
<b>Ownership</b>	Private
<b>Public Access</b>	No access beyond public footpaths and an A road

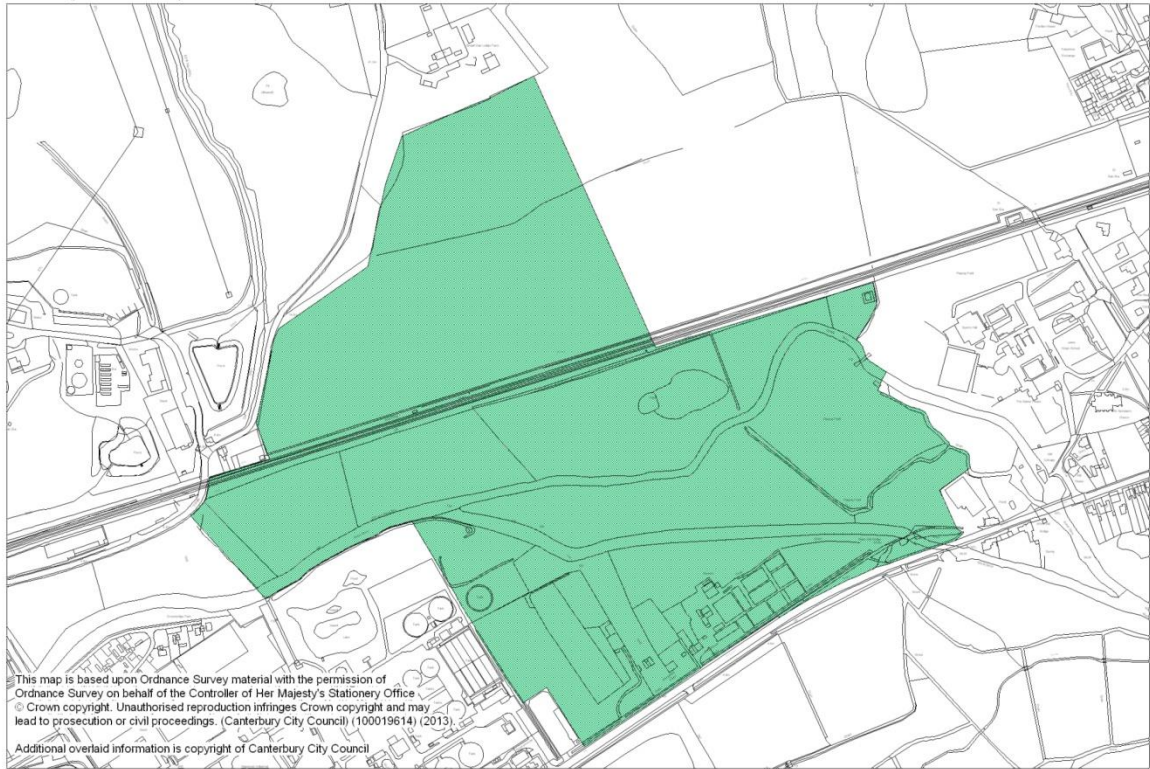


Looking northeast



Along the A28 boundary

Existing Green Gap - Sturry



Map showing proposed local Green Space



Aerial view

Site Description	The site consists of low lying farm land, some playing fields and a plant nursery. The Great Stour river runs through the middle of the site from west to east and most of the land makes up part of the flood plain. The railway lines also run through the site. To the south is Sturry Road (A28). To the west is the sewerage works, then the retail area of Vauxhall Road. To the north is more farmland a substation and depot and some scattered houses. To the east are a car sales yard and the township of Sturry.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	The southern half of the area is green gap Area of High Landscape Conservation Area (between railway line and road) Flood Zones 2 and 3
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Green gap Area of High Landscape Conservation Area (between railway line and road) Flood Zones 2 and 3 Road safeguarding route Playing fields Strategic allocation
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	Yes - it provides the route for the Sturry By-Pass Road which is a strategic requirement to provide increased road capacity and an improved railway crossing to facilitate housing development in Sturry, Hersden and Herne Bay. Also the Green Gap allows the retention of the separate identities of existing settlements.
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	No – The land is either farmland or in other commercial use and there is a strategic allocation running through it.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve? I.e. within 400m</b>	No - is a green gap so by definition has a sparse local population
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	No – put forward by CPRE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>Is it publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	No – not publicly available
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	It is an AHLV and is attractive next to the river. However, to the south and west this is marred by the noise and traffic on the A28 Sturry Road and the processes and smell of the sewage works.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	Provides the landscape setting to the Historic Village of Sturry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Includes some private school playing fields and some rural footpaths.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	No it is working farmland and is adjacent to the City's sewage works, industrial and commercial business and a substation. As well as containing a railway line and an A road.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Conservation Area, adjacent to TPO and Local Wildlife Site. Extensive area with potential for bats, reptiles, amphibians, nesting birds, badger, and a range of other species. Habitat enhancement potential.



<p><b>Is the site local in character?</b> (<i>i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive</i>)</p>	<p>No it is a very large site with no easy public access, and only has a few houses within 400m</p>
<p><b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b></p>	<p>The area is not local in character, contains a strategic road safeguarding route, is a very large extensive rural area and it is protected by green gap and AHLV allocations. Not compliant with NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 points 1, 2 &amp; 3.</p>

## LGS13 Green Gap between Sturry and Broadoak

<b>Code</b>	LGS13
<b>Site</b>	Green Gap between Sturry and Broadoak
<b>Address/location</b>	Land either side of Herne Bay Road Broadoak, Canterbury
<b>Size</b>	2.92ha
<b>Ownership</b>	Private
<b>Public Access</b>	Only on one public footpath that crosses the eastern paddock



Looking east from A28



Looking west from A28

### Existing Green Gap - Sturry Hill



Map showing potential local green space



Aerial photo

Site Description	Productive farm land east and west of Herne Bay Road. Power pylons cross the site. There is a public footpath on the eastern side of the road and bus shelters either side of the road. The busy Herne Bay Road runs through the middle of it. Provides a 150m undeveloped gap between Broadoak and Sturry villages.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Green Gap
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Green Gap Road safeguarding route Strategic allocation (for the Sturry/Broadoak housing development)
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	Yes – western side is part of the Sturry Broadoak housing and employment allocation and contains a strategic road safeguarding route Also the Green Gap allows the retention of the separate identities of existing settlements.
<b>If site allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan?</b>	No – site is farmland and has strategic allocations under the proposed plan.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	It is within 400m of houses but is not available for public use.
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	No – put forward by CPRE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	No – it is farmland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Not especially, it is productive farmland with a busy road and power pylons running through it and it is surrounded by the back fences of houses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	No – it is either side of a busy road with high tension power lines running through it.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Grassland area offering habitat enhancement potential links to nearby SSSI and LWS areas.
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	No – it is farmland with a strategic allocation
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	It is farmland, which is not local in character. It contains a strategic road safeguarding route and strategic housing allocation. It is also protected by green gap allocation. Not compliant with NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 points 1, 2 and 3.

## LGS14 Green Gap between Blean and Rough Common

<b>Code</b>	LGS14
<b>Site</b>	Green Gap between Blean and Rough Common
<b>Address/location</b>	Land either side of Whitstable Road Blean, Canterbury
<b>Size</b>	7.25ha
<b>Ownership</b> <b>Public Access</b>	Private, School and University No public access



View from Whitstable Rd looking north



School playing fields to the west



View from Whitstable Road looking east

Existing Green Gap - Whitstable rd, Canterbury



Map showing potential Local Green Space.



Aerial Photo

Site Description	Farmland and playing fields between Rough Common and Blean villages. The site consists of Kent College school farm and cricket ground in the east and University of Kent playing fields and some small privately owned paddocks either side of Whitstable Road. Most of the fields are surrounded by hedgerows, some more maintained than others. There are a couple of detached houses with large gardens in the east. Provides a 30-130m gap between the villages.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Green Gap The top northwestern corner is Special Landscape Area Area of High Landscape Value Hothe Court Conservation Area (southern and eastern half) University Campus (eastern side)
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Green Gap Area of High Landscape Value Hothe Court Conservation Area (southern and eastern half) University Campus (eastern side)
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No - in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however, the Green Gap allows the retention of the separate identities of existing settlements.
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	No – private playing fields and farmland
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	No – there are a few houses nearby but no public access
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	No – put forward by CPRE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	Limited to school and university playing fields
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	An attractive semi-rural environment between villages.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Only to the School and University
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	A busy road that passes through
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Conservation Area, TPO, grassland with hedgerow and scrub edges. Potential for nesting birds and reptiles, bats.
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	No – they are institution's playing fields and farmland with no current public access.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	The site consists of school and university playing fields and paddocks/farmland, so it is not local in character. It is also protected by green gap allocation and AHLV. Not compliant with NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 points 1 and 2.

**LGS15 Green Gap between Canterbury and Tyler Hill**

<b>Code</b>	LGS15
<b>Site</b>	Green Gap – between Canterbury and Tyler Hill
<b>Address/location</b>	Land east of Canterbury Hill Canterbury
<b>Size</b>	5.44ha
<b>Ownership</b> <b>Public Access</b>	Private No



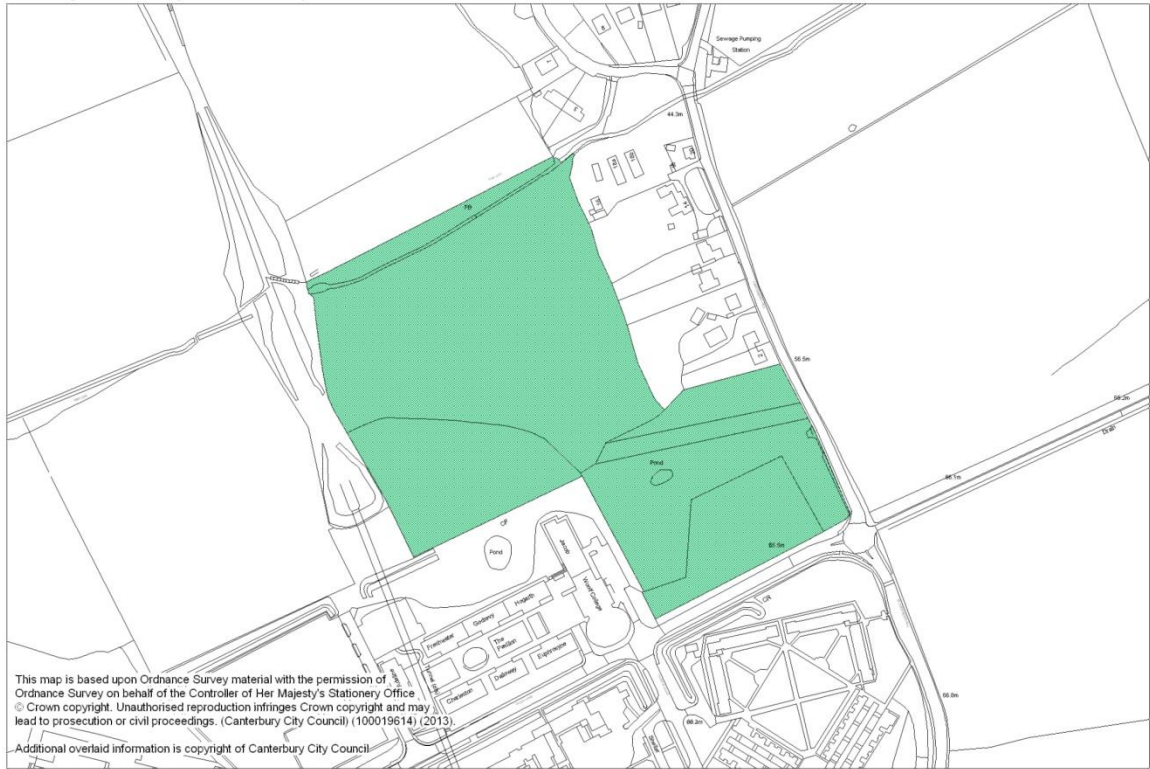
Woodland looking east



Looking north over field (shows fence with barbed wire)



Existing Green Gap - Canterbury Hill



Map showing potential Local Green Space



Aerial Photo

Site Description	Site consists of two areas. The northern area is a large field surrounded by hedgerows with some established trees on the field; the southern area is covered in dense woodland. There is a small pond in the middle of the woodland. The site is fenced and topped with barbed wire.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	Green Gap Tyler Hill Conservation Area (northern section) Adjacent to pedestrian route, University campus and AHLV allocations
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	Green Gap Tyler Hill Conservation Area (northern section) Adjacent to pedestrian route, University campus and AHLV allocations
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No - in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however the Green Gap allows the retention of the separate identities of existing settlements.
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	No – Woodland and farmland with no public access.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	No – Close to university but not houses
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	No – put forward by CPRE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	No – access is prevented by fences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes attractive Kentish countryside fields and woodland.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	No
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	No - farmland
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Yes – apart from the University accommodation and busy road adjacent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Yes - Conservation Area, TPO, broadleaved woodland and grassland with scrub edges. Good potential for bats, nesting birds and other species.
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	No – it is farmland and woodland in the green gap with no public access.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	The site is not accessible to the public, it is not local in character, is it also protected by the green gap allocation and a Conservation Area. Not compliant with NPPF Paragraph 77 points 1, 2 and 3.

## LGS16 Herne Bay Downs

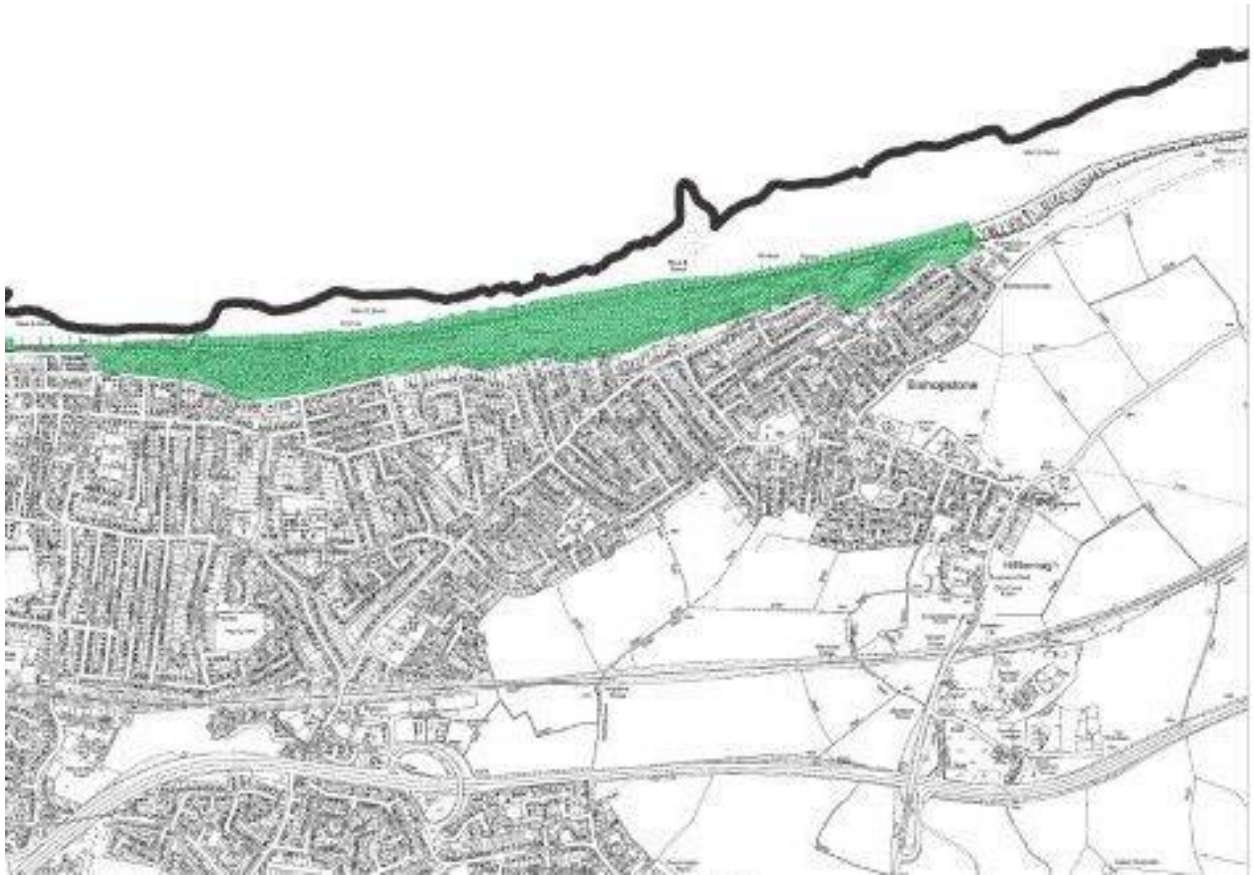
<b>Code</b>	LGS16
<b>Site</b>	Herne Bay Downs
<b>Address/location</b>	Herne Bay Downs adjacent to Herne Bay Beach from Canterbury Road to Bishopstone and Reculver Country Park.
<b>Size</b>	Approximately 31ha Approx. 3 kilometres in length
<b>Ownership</b>	Predominately Council Owned
<b>Public Access</b>	Yes



The Downs looking east from the cliff top at the western end.



The Downs looking east from the beach at Bishopstone.




Map showing potential Local Green Space



Aerial Photo

Site Description	<p>Approximately 3km of north facing coastal slopes/cliffs stretching from Canterbury Road at the edge of Herne Bay Town centre to the start of Reculver Country Park at Bishopstone. This is a large tract of protection of existing open space adjacent to the beach known as The Downs. The top portion is a more maintained park like environment where as the lower slopes are rough grassland with patches of shrubs and trees.</p> <p>The cliffs are London Clay and as such have extensive drainage and cliff stabilization works which can be seen on the ground and from the air, creating a Herringbone pattern. At the bottom of the cliffs are extensive concrete seawalls.</p> <p>A cycleway and pedestrian route runs the length of the coast at the bottom of the cliff. A cliff top pathway runs along most of the top of the cliff with a number of zigzagging pathways down the cliff.</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of Existing Open Space (all)</li> <li>• Cycle and Pedestrian Route (protection of)</li> <li>• SSSI Thanet Coast (Seaward areas and to east)</li> <li>• Coastal Protection Zone (in places)</li> <li>• Urban Area (western edge)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Town Centre (western edge)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Conservation area (western edge)</li> <li>• Undeveloped Coast</li> <li>• Kings Hall leisure</li> </ul>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of Existing Open Space</li> <li>• SSSI Thanet Coast (east)</li> <li>• International wildlife site (follows SSSI)</li> <li>• Coastal Protection Zone (in places)</li> <li>• Urban Area (western edge)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Town Centre (western edge)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Conservation area (western edge)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Area Action Plan (western edge)</li> <li>• Undeveloped Coast</li> <li>• Kings Hall leisure</li> </ul>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	<p>The Kings Hall and yacht club provide leisure uses and the sewage pumping station is located along the northwestern end of the downs.</p> <p>The cliffs are London Clay and subject to slumping which in conjunction with sea erosion means that the Downs cliff area is significantly unstable without extensive drainage and cliff stabilization works. At the moment these take the form of Herringbone drains and concrete seawalls. Vehicle access is required for monitoring and at times large machinery and extensive ground works will be required when problems are detected.</p> <p>Also the Protected Existing Open space allocation provides a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.</p>

	
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – the site is coastal cliffs and not suitable for development. It is also protected Open Space and SSSI in places.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve? I.e. within 400m</b>	Yes – Houses front the top edge of the cliffs
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	Yes Walking, cycling and picnicking mainly. Public access is encouraged only on the paths and maintained grassed areas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes – it is a coastal area with wide views and large stretches of vegetation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	At the western end is a King Hall and there is a history of walking the cliffs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	Informal recreation including walking, running and cycling.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Yes – although the western end can be busy with the Hall and club.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Extensive area featuring Conservation Area, various SSSI designated areas, potential for invertebrates, bats, bees, wasps, reptiles, nesting birds, notified features of the SSSI. International designations (SPA, Ramsar) also apply.
<b>Is the site local in character? (i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</b>	No – it is an extensive area some 31 ha in size.
<b>Should it be designated as a local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	It is an extensive stretch of land; it is already protection of existing open space and SSSI in places. The LGS allocation may impact on the undertaking of necessary flood protection and cliff stabilisation works and other leisure activities that occur on the Downs. Not compliant with NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 point 3. It would may also struggle to comply with paragraph 78 as maintenance and enhancement of earth and structural works to prevent the cliff slumping could change the character and value of the Downs.

## LGS17 Herne Bay Beach

<b>Code</b>	LGS17
<b>Site</b>	Herne Bay Beach
<b>Address/location</b>	Herne Bay Beach from the edge of Hampton to the end of Bishopstone, Herne Bay
<b>Size</b>	Approximately 26ha Approx. 7 kilometres in length
<b>Ownership</b>	Predominately Council Owned
<b>Public Access</b>	Yes



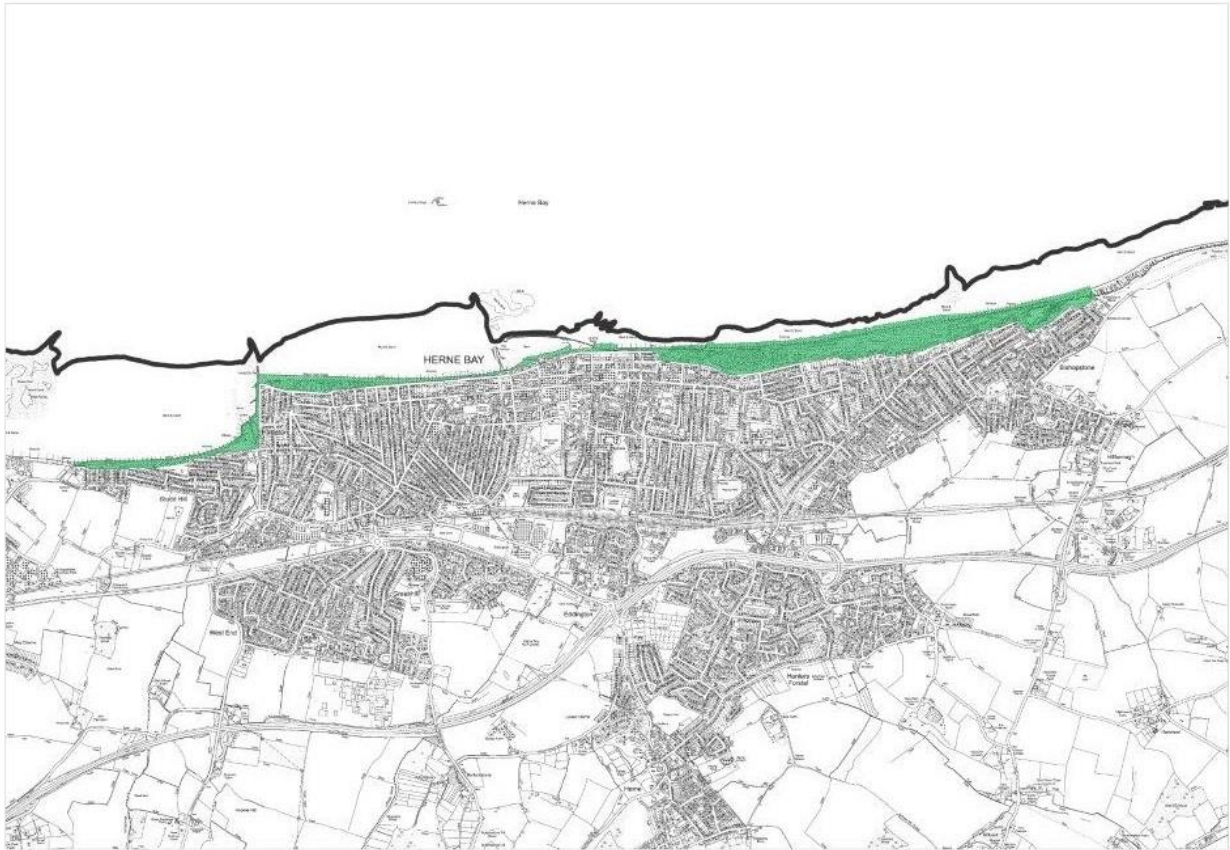
Stretch of Herne Bay beach looking east from Hampton Pier.



Herne Bay seafront and beach huts and the promenade.



Herne Bay beach looking west from Bishopstone



Map showing potential Local Green Space



Aerial Photo



Site Description	<p>Approximately 7 km of coastal beach stretching the length of Herne Bay from Hampton to Bishopstone.</p> <p>Pebble Beach with extensive coastal protection works, car parks, beach huts, pier, bandstand and gardens, clock tower, angling and boating clubs and some minor commercial uses. There are also small pockets of open spaces adjacent to the beach in the west and large tracts of protection of existing open space adjacent to the beach in the east (known as The Downs).</p> <p>A cycleway and pedestrian route/promenade runs the length of the coast/beach.</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of Existing Open Space</li> <li>• Cycle/ Pedestrian Route safeguarded</li> <li>• Flood Zones 2 and 3 (northern/coastal side)</li> <li>• SSSI Thanet Coast (Seaward areas to east and west of Herne Bay Town Centre and the downs)</li> <li>• Coastal Protection Zone (in places)</li> <li>• Urban Area (central area)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Town Centre (along central part)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Conservation Area (along central part)</li> <li>• Undeveloped Coast to east</li> </ul>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of Existing Open Space</li> <li>• Flood Zones 2 and 3 (northern/coastal side)</li> <li>• SSSI Thanet Coast (Seaward areas to east and west of Herne Bay Town Centre and the downs)</li> <li>• International wildlife site (follows SSSI)</li> <li>• Coastal Protection Zone (in places)</li> <li>• Urban Area (central area)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Town Centre (along central part)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Conservation Area (along central part)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Area Action Plan (along central part)</li> <li>• Herne Bay Pier (part of Herne Bay Area Action Plan)</li> <li>• Undeveloped Coast to east</li> </ul>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	<p>The central part of the coast is part of the Herne Bay Area Action Plan.</p> <p>Coastal protection works are required and the Herne Bay Pier and bandstand area provide leisure and commercial uses and require redevelopment in places. Also part of this coast line is mentioned in the Local Plan as suitable for a marina.</p> <p>The protection of existing open space allocation provides a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.</p>
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – it has been a recreation beach since Victorian times and will remain as a beach and protection of existing open space.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	The beach has a large number of houses in close proximity, however, usage is much wider than the immediate Herne Bay community
<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes
• Is it well used by wide range of	Yes

<p>community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it multiuse space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publicly available for use?</li> </ul>	<p>The space is flexible as provides for a number of uses including walking, cycling, skateboarding, water sports, bird watching and picnicking. Many of the areas are used for dual purposes for local events and activities.</p> <p>Predominately Council Owned with extensive access allowed</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	<p>Yes – it has high visual amenity and far reaching views, it is a coastal area, although in places busy with built up areas adjoining it and extensive coastal protection works are in evidence including groins and large concrete retaining/protection walls.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	<p>Yes – it is a beach with a history of beach huts, recreational use and swimming dating back to Victorian times.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	<p>The area is used for walking including dog walking, cycling, water sports, skateboarding, bird watching, picnicking and informal and formal sports. Parts of the area are used for local events and activities, mainly the summer season.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	<p>A lot of the beach is fronted by houses and is within Herne Bay town centre, which is particularly busy during the summer.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	<p>Yes - Extensive area featuring Conservation Area, various SSSI designated areas, potential for invertebrates, bats, bees, wasps, reptiles, nesting birds, notified features of the SSSI. International designations (SPA, Ramsar) also apply.</p>
<p><b>Is the site local in character?</b> <i>(i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</i></p>	<p>No – it is an extensive area incorporating approximately 4 miles of coastline that although well used by the community is used more widely across the district and by holiday makers.</p>
<p><b>Should it be designated as a local Green Space or not? Why?</b></p>	<p>It is an extensive stretch of land (7km 26ha), already protection of existing open space and SSSI in places that serves more than local people. An LGS allocation may impact upon the undertaking of necessary flood protection and coastal works and commercial and other leisure activities that occur along this stretch of coast such as beach huts, angling and yachting clubs and redevelopment of the pier and a possible marina.</p> <p>Not compliant with NPPF Paragraphs 76 and 77 point 3. May not comply with para 78 as maintenance and enhancement flood and erosion defences may alter the character and value of beach.</p>

## LGS18 Whitstable Beach

<b>Code</b>	LG18
<b>Site</b>	Whitstable Beach
<b>Address/location</b>	The beach from the Sportsman Pub in Seasalter to the Swalecliffe/Hampton Coastguard Cottages, Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	Approximately 38ha covering 9.5 kilometres of coast
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Much is in Council ownership although some is privately owned/leased by organisations such as the Boat Landing ramp –leased to Oyster Fishing Company and Whitstable Harbour





Excerpt from local plan 2006 proposals maps showing potential Local Green Space



Aerial Photo

Site Description	The site consists of approximately 9.5km of coastal beach stretching the length from the Sportsman Public House, Seasalter to Swalecliffe coastguard cottages, Whitstable. It consists of large areas of pebble beach with areas of grassland and beach huts. There are areas for the storage of boats and yachts for local sailing and water-ski clubs. There is a large area of open space at Tankerton slopes with a large quantity of beach huts in this location, a café and public toilets. There are several areas for recreational use adjacent to the site which includes a Golf course, tennis courts and several public houses. The Whitstable Lifeboat station is also located adjacent to the site which requires permanent access to the beach area at all times. In the middle of this stretch of beach adjacent to the town centre is Whitstable Harbour, which is still a working harbour.
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protected of Existing Open Space (except harbour)</li> <li>• SSSI (Swale west, Thanet Coast east, Tankerton Slopes)</li> <li>• Special Landscape area (to west of Seasalter)</li> <li>• Conservation Areas</li> <li>• Flood Zones 2 and 3</li> <li>• Urban Area</li> <li>• Whitstable Harbour Mixed Use allocation</li> <li>• Whitstable town Centre (mainly adjacent)</li> <li>• Green Gap</li> <li>• Some Over Topping Zones</li> <li>• Undeveloped Coast (east and west of Whitstable town)</li> <li>• Cycle/Pedestrian Route safeguarding</li> </ul>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of Existing Open Space (except harbour)</li> <li>• SSSI (Swale west, Thanet Coast east, Tankerton Slopes)</li> <li>• International wildlife Sites (following SSSI)</li> <li>• Area of High Landscape Value (to west of Seasalter)</li> <li>• Conservation Areas</li> <li>• Flood Zones 2 and 3</li> <li>• Urban Area</li> <li>• Whitstable Harbour Mixed Use allocation</li> <li>• Whitstable town Centre (mainly adjacent)</li> <li>• Green Gap</li> <li>• Undeveloped Coast (east and west of Whitstable town)</li> <li>• Some Over Topping Zones</li> </ul>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however, the protection of existing open space allocation makes a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – it is a beach with adjacent green space in certain areas and will remain so for the foreseeable future.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> I.e. within 400m	The majority of the site is within close proximity to the local community, however, usage is much wider than the immediate Whitstable community. Also there are areas, in particular the Seasalter area adjacent to the Sportsman PH which is further away. Although the beach serves the local community it is also widely used by visitors to the area and holidaymakers in the summer months.

<b>Does the site have local significance?</b>	Yes, the area has been used for local recreation including the use of the beach huts since Victorian times and for the use by local sailing and yacht clubs. The area is renowned for its production of oysters and the annual oyster festival, a revival from Norman times, is a local tradition which brings together the community.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it flexible space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publically available for use?</li> </ul>	<p>Yes, it is well used by a wide range of the community, however, in the summer season and during the Oyster festival and Whitstable Biennale international Arts Festival the area is also used by visitors and holiday makers.</p> <p>The space is flexible as provides for a number of uses including walking, cycling, skateboarding, water sports, bird watching and picnicking. Many of the areas are used for dual purposes for local events and activities.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	Yes, the area has high visual amenity with far reaching views. There are areas of green space with flora & fauna and local wildlife. The area is also renowned for its beautiful sunsets which can be seen all along the coast.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	Yes, The Sportsman Public House, adjacent to the site has been a village Inn since 1642. Historically, the beach has been used for recreation and beach huts since Victorian times. The cultivation and production of oysters has been associated with this area since Norman times.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is it used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	The area is used for walking including dog walking, cycling, water sports, skateboarding, bird watching, picnicking and informal and formal sports. Parts of the area are used for festivals and local events and activities during different times of the year, mainly the summer season.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	Outside of the summer season, the area is very tranquil and provides an area for the local community to use for this purpose which adds to the quality of life for local people. During the summer season certain parts of the site become very busy and overcrowded, there are, however, certain areas that remain tranquil.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	Yes, majority of the site falls with the Swale SSSI, the Thanet Coast SSSI and an SLA. Extensive area featuring Conservation Area, various SSSI designated areas, potential for invertebrates, bees, wasps, reptiles, nesting birds, notified features of the SSSI. International designations (SPA, Ramsar) also apply.
<b>Is the site local in character?</b> <i>(i.e. able to service the local community and not extensive)</i>	No - it is an extensive area incorporating approximately 5 miles of beach and also serves the wider community and visitors to the area.
<b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b>	This is an extensive stretch of land (9.5km, 38ha), which already has protection of existing open space/SSSI protection in places. It also serves the wider district. Allocation for LGS may impact upon flood protection and coastal works and leisure activities i.e. beach huts, angling/yachting clubs, festivals and business uses including harbour operations, fisheries and redevelopment. Not compliant with NPPF Para's 76 and 77 point 3, or 78 as maintenance and enhancement flood and erosion defences may alter the character and value of beach.

## LGS19 West Beach

<b>Code</b>	LGS19
<b>Site</b>	West Beach
<b>Address/location</b>	The beach from Whitstable Harbour to the West Beach Pavilion Caravan Park, Whitstable
<b>Size</b>	Approximately 4.26ha covering 1.17 kilometres of coast
<b>Ownership Public Access</b>	Most of this beach is privately owned but open to the public



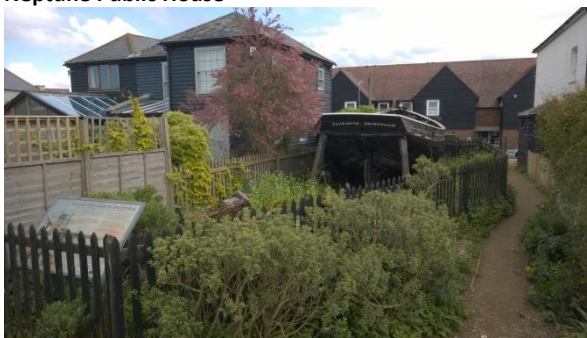
Looking south along beach towards the Caravan Park – seawall and beach huts to left



Neptune Public House



Houses fronting the beach and the informal path



Relics of the boat building era



Slipway

West Beach, Whitstable



Map showing potential Local Green Space




Aerial Photo



Site Description	<p>The site consists of approximately 1.17km of coastal beach stretching the length from Whitstable Harbour to West Beach Pavilion Caravan Park, Whitstable. It is a large area of pebble beach with some grassed areas located between the Mean High Water mark (MHW) and the sea wall. The pebble beach runs up to the seawall beyond which is Whitstable Town Centre and residential area. Extensive groynes and floodgates protect the beach and town from coastal erosion and flooding. There is a small path that runs beside the seawall for the northern portion of the beach and to the south to the north is just pebble beach trodden into an informal path over many years. Many of the local residents moor their recreation craft on the beach and in one place the capstans or winches for hauling out boats still remain. There are two boat launching areas/slipways. The popular Old Neptune Public House is located right on the beach. Houses and businesses directly front the most of this area of beach with a number of small alleyways connecting the beach and town.</p> <p>There are areas for the storage of boats and yachts associated with the Yacht Club and Sailing School. There are several areas for recreational use adjacent to the site, including a Golf course, tennis courts, beach huts, yacht and angling clubs and a sailing school as well as public houses. The Whitstable Lifeboat Station, RNLI is also located adjacent to the site and requires permanent access to the beach area and slipway at all times.</p>
Local Plan 2006 allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protected of Existing Open Space (all)</li> <li>• SSSI (The Swale)</li> <li>• Conservation Area (Whitstable town)</li> <li>• Flood Zones 2 and 3</li> <li>• Urban Area</li> <li>• Whitstable Harbour Mixed Use allocation (top section)</li> <li>• Adjacent to Whitstable town Centre</li> </ul>
Preferred Option draft Local Plan allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of Existing Open Space (all)</li> <li>• SSSI (The Swale)</li> <li>• International Wildlife Site (following SSSI)</li> <li>• Conservation Area (Whitstable town)</li> <li>• Flood Zones 2 and 3</li> <li>• Urban Area</li> <li>• Whitstable Harbour Mixed Use allocation (top section)</li> <li>• Adjacent to Whitstable town centre</li> </ul>
<b>Does site contribute to LP strategic requirements for provision of homes, employment or services?</b>	No, in terms of provision of homes, employment or services, however, the protection of existing open space allocation provides a substantial contribution to the strategic requirement for open space provision within the district.
<b>If allocated as local green space can it endure beyond plan? Why?</b>	Yes – it is a beach with adjacent green space in certain areas and will remain so for the foreseeable future.
<b>Is it in close proximity to the community it would serve?</b> le within 400m	The site is within close proximity to the local community, however, usage is much wider that the immediate Whitstable community. It is used by visitors to the area and

	<p>holidaymakers in the summer months. Easy access and direct interaction with the town centre and dense residential area mean that this portion of beach is under considerable pressure.</p>
<p><b>Does the site have local significance?</b></p>	<p>This section of the coast received 9 submissions in support of its inclusion (although some were for the full stretch of the Whitstable Beach) and has widespread local backing from residents and Community groups such as the Whitstable Society and the Whitstable Beach Campaign.</p> <p>The area is used for local recreation including the use of the beach huts, boat mooring and building. The area is renowned for its production of oysters and the annual oyster festival, a revival from Norman times, is a local tradition that brings together the community.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it well used by wide range of community?</li> <li>• Is it flexible space?</li> <li>• Is it currently publically available for use?</li> </ul>	<p>Parts of this beach are used for local events and activities. Yes, it is well used by a wide range of the community, however, in the summer season and during the Oyster Festival and Whitstable Biennale international Arts Festival the area is also used by visitors and holidaymakers.</p> <p>The space is flexible as provides for a number of uses including walking, cycling, skateboarding, water sports, bird watching and picnicking.</p> <p>Public access is allowed at the discretion of private owners.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it beautiful? <i>(Is the area attractive with high visual amenity)</i></li> </ul>	<p>Yes, the area has high visual amenity with far reaching views. There are areas of green space with flora &amp; fauna and local wildlife. The area is also renowned for its beautiful sunsets, that can be seen all along the coast.</p> <p>West Beach is unusual amongst seaside towns in the southeast of England as it has no promenade. This creates a unique juxtaposition between the intensively built-up urban environment to the east of the sea wall and the easily accessible rugged natural coastal environment to the west. This contrast and the sense of immediate access to nature has great appeal.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have historic significance?</li> </ul>	<p>Historically, the beach has been used for fishing, boat building, and recreation and since Edwardian times for bathing and beach huts. The cultivation and production of oysters has been associated with this area since Roman times.</p> <p>In 1793 the rights to harvest the oyster beds were bought by the newly established Oyster Company of Free Fishers and Dredgers. Until 1875 the well smacks or early longliners out of local fishing ports would collect lugworms and whelks from Whitstable's bait-diggers and dredgers before beginning their fishing trip to Iceland.</p> <p>This was also the last seawall built along the inner edge of the 'island' behind which was the salt pans, now enclosed and making up much of the golf course along with a residential area.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does it have recreation value? <i>including playing fields, is if used formally or informally for sports</i></li> </ul>	<p>The area is used for walking including dog walking, cycling, water sports, skateboarding, bird watching, picnicking and informal and formal sports. Parts of the beach are used for festivals and local events and activities.</p>

	<p>There is also an annual sailing regatta, the first Whitstable Regatta being held on 7 August 1792 and has been held almost every year since then</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is it tranquil? <i>Is it a peaceful place away from noise and bustle</i></li> </ul>	<p>This part of the beach is always quite busy being easily accessed from the centre of town. But it provides an area for the local community to use for informal recreation which adds to the quality of life for local people. However, during the summer season the site can become very busy and overcrowded.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the site have wildlife value? <i>Biodiversity</i></li> </ul>	<p>Yes, majority of the site falls with the Swale SSSI. Extensive area featuring Conservation Area, various SSSI designated areas, potential for invertebrates, bees, wasps, reptiles, nesting birds, notified features of the SSSI. International designations (SPA, Ramsar) also apply. An additional uniqueness is that on a north-facing coast it is west-facing with a micro-climate protected from cold east winds.</p>
<p><b>Is the site local in character?</b> (<i>ie able to service the local community and not extensive</i>)</p>	<p>The beach could be considered local in character but it also serves the wider community and visitors to the area.</p>  <p>It is not extensive being only a fifth of the Whitstable coastline. It should also be noted, however, that access is allowed at the discretion of the private owner.</p>
<p><b>Should it be designated as local Green Space or not? Why?</b></p>	<p>This stretch of Whitstable beach was included in the publication draft of the local plan at Full Council on 24 April 2014. The minute states: "That the section of West Beach, Whitstable be designated as a local green space."</p> <p>The reasons for inclusion are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This has widespread local backing from residents and Community groups such as the Whitstable Society and the Whitstable Beach Campaign. This section of the coast received 9 submissions in support of its inclusion (although some were for the full stretch of the Whitstable Beach).</li> <li>2. This is the only stretch of coastline in our district where there is intensive direct interaction of the urban environment and the beach area. The majority of the rest of the coast is buffered by either large areas of protected slopes and open space, formal gardens and parks, promenades or has much lower densities of adjacent development. Due to the easy access and direct interaction of the town centre and dense residential area this portion of beach is under considerable pressure from human use. Unlike other stretches of beach in the district there are no adjacent parks/slopes/promenades to help relieve and disperse recreational activity. Businesses and recreation opportunities already have a considerable impact here. It should be noted that this area is particularly sensitive to human intervention</li> </ol>

	<p>shown by its SSSI status.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="703 192 1455 331">3. The historic significance of the beach and its close connection with the town and long association with boatbuilding, fisheries and the Oyster Bay Fisheries Company.</li><li data-bbox="703 338 1455 405">4. The area is not extensive and amounts to small fraction of the Whitstable coastline (less than 1/8<sup>th</sup>).</li></ol>
--	--