



**Bourne Parish  
Neighbourhood Plan**  
Supported by Bourne Town Council

## Green Infrastructure



Bourne Parish Neighbourhood  
Plan Steering Group.  
Draft Background Paper.  
November 2023.

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## Purpose of the Background Paper

- 1.1 This background paper identifies key open spaces of public value (as defined in paragraph 3.1) within or closely associated with the town of Bourne, where development pressures are greatest, and within the smaller settlements of Dyke, Twenty and Cawthorpe. It includes an assessment of the qualities of each open space to articulate its importance to the local community and the reasons why it should be protected. In some instances, where specified criteria are met, sites are proposed for designation as 'Local Green Space' which affords a higher level of protection. The paper also identifies Green Infrastructure (GI) corridors (as defined in section 5), within the town and along the strategic waterways within the Parish.
- 1.2 The paper does not include planning policies; these will be set-out in a Draft Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan (BPNP) which will be the subject of consultation at a future date. Rather, the intention at the present time is to identify and seek consensus through the current consultation on those assets that should be protected and enhanced with policies to be subsequently included in the BPNP to support their protection, integrity, enhancement, and extension where opportunities arise.
- 1.3 While the focus of the background paper is on open spaces and corridors, this is not intended to imply that other GI assets, including trees, hedges, field ditches and ponds are unimportant; their value will be recognised in policies used to determine planning applications and in the use of other tools, such as Tree Preservation Orders.
- 1.4 Publication of the background paper provides an opportunity to comment on the accuracy and conclusions of the assessment and to identify any additional open spaces or GI corridors within the town or villages of the Parish. Following consultation, the Steering Group responsible for preparing the BPNP on behalf of the Town Council will update the background paper, where appropriate, and use this to inform policy to be included in the Draft BPNP.

## Background

- 2.1 The BPNP will include planning policies which, in combination with the Government's [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) and the [South Kesteven Local Plan](#) (SKLP) will be used to manage development in our Parish. The NPPF indicates that planning policies and decisions should contribute towards the provision and enhancement of green infrastructure while the SKLP refers to the need to maintain and improve the green infrastructure network within and around settlements.
- 2.2 Earlier consultation undertaken by the Steering Group responsible for preparing the BPNP on behalf of Bourne Town Council has indicated very strong support for

measures to be undertaken to protect our most important green assets; to improve and increasing the provision of open space and green infrastructure links; to conserve and enhance biodiversity; and to encourage walking and cycling.

- 2.3 Green infrastructure (GI) is defined in the NPPF as ‘a network of multi-functional green and blue space and other natural features, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, climate, local and wider communities and prosperity’. GI has its own set of components including not only open space of recreational or nature conservation value such as parks, playing fields, allotments, woodland, lakes and water courses but also other assets such as trees, hedges and ponds.
- 2.4 Some of the benefits of GI include: enhancing the setting of a settlement and the character and distinctiveness of the local area; increasing physical activity for adults and children; adapting to climate change through carbon dioxide absorption, shading or flood alleviation; improving mental health; creating more attractive places to work, live and visit; encouraging active transport like walking and cycling; improving air quality; improving water quality by reducing harmful runoff into local water courses; and enhancing biodiversity and opportunities for wildlife.
- 2.5 The identification of assets to be protected as part of the BPNP will contribute towards these objectives. Mapping their location will also help to identify opportunities to incorporate further, quality GI into development proposals, delivering links between open spaces and the extension of GI corridors, where feasible. The [Design Guidelines for Rutland and South Kesteven](#) includes guidance on the development of continuous GI corridors which can provide opportunities to enhance biodiversity and landscape/townscape features and to use these assets to walk and cycle, improve health and well-being and reach destinations such as schools, shops, community facilities and employment areas. Identifying corridors and developing associated planning policy will also ensure that their integrity and value is recognised in the determination of future planning applications.

## Open Space

- 3.1 Both Government policy (NPPF) and the [South Kesteven Local Plan](#) (SKLP) define ‘open space’ as ‘all open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity’. The SKLP also refers to allotments, parks, equipped play space, sport pitches and informal natural open space, route ways and corridors as examples of open space.
- 3.2 Policy OS1 of the SKLP indicates that development of open space will only be permitted where:
  - a proposal will provide increased or improved open space and/or recreational facilities; or

- the site is not required to meet the local standards set out in that policy; or
- equivalent (or better) replacement provision is to be made within the locality; and
- the site does not support important or protected habitats or species.

## Local Green Space

- 4.1 'Local Green Space' (LGS) is defined in Government policy as 'an area of local open space which 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. Such areas can be designated and protected through Neighbourhood or Local Plans'. Designating land as LGS rules out development other than in very special circumstances. However, the designation must only be applied to sites of particular importance to the local community and must complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Designation should only be used where the green space is:
- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
  - demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; local in character and is not an extensive tract of land; and
  - capable of enduring beyond the plan period
- 4.2 Guidance in respect of Government policy on LGS is set out in [National Planning Practice Guidance \(NPPG\)](#). The guidance indicates the following:
- i. Plans must identify sufficient land to meet identified development needs. LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making.
  - ii. Designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented.
  - iii. Sites may be designated where the space is demonstrably special to the local community.
  - iv. Different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. If land is already protected by designation, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as LGS.
  - v. The site will need to meet the criteria in the NPPF. Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land where sports pavilions, boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, or urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis.
  - vi. The proximity of a LGS to the community it serves will depend on local circumstances, including why the green area is seen as special, but it must

- be reasonably close. For example, if public access is a key factor, then the site would normally be within easy walking distance of the community served.
- vii. There are no hard and fast rules about how big or small a LGS can be. However, it should not be an extensive tract of land.
  - viii. Some areas may already have largely unrestricted public access, though even in places like parks there may be some restrictions. However, other land could be considered for designation even if there is no public access (eg green areas which are valued because of their wildlife, historic significance and/or beauty).
  - ix. Designation does not confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Any additional access would be a matter for separate negotiation with land owners, whose legal rights must be respected.
  - x. There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation.
  - xi. LGS does not need to be in public ownership. However, landowners should be contacted at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as LGS. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan.
  - xii. Designating a green area as LGS would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners.
  - xiii. The management of LGS will remain the responsibility of its owner. If the features that make a green area special and locally significant are to be conserved, how it will be managed in the future is likely to be an important consideration. Local communities can consider how, with the landowner's agreement, they might be able to get involved, perhaps in partnership with interested organisations that can provide advice or resources.
  - xiv. Land designated as LGS may potentially also be nominated for listing as an Asset of Community Value. Listing gives community interest groups an opportunity to bid if the owner wants to dispose of the land.

4.3 The differences between 'open space' (OS) and 'Local Green Space' (LGS) are further articulated in section 7, below.

## Green infrastructure (GI) corridors

- 5.1 Our highway infrastructure includes a vast network of roads. In a similar way GI needs to form an integrated network of corridors which link GI assets together to form routes for wildlife to move between habitats and beyond settlements into the open countryside. Where they are publicly accessible, these GI corridors provide recreational opportunities and sustainable routes for people to use. The corridors may consist of linear GI resources, such as water courses or public footpaths, or they may include a series of connected open spaces.
- 5.2 GI functions at a range of levels, from large rural landscapes and strategic corridors to local scale corridors in settlements. Strategic corridors connect key GI resources

across administrative boundaries while local corridors connect local areas of open space and/or link neighbourhoods to the strategic corridor network. However, a strategic network is not defined in the SKLP while the BPNP must relate solely to the parish of Bourne. Consequently, the emphasis in this background paper is on local corridors within the town and obvious corridors into the wider countryside in the form of public footpaths and key water courses including Car Dyke and Bourne Eau. This approach accords with Policy EN3 of the SKLP which recognises the need within and around settlements to enhance, create and manage green spaces that are well connected to each other and the wider countryside.

- 5.3 A number of GI corridors have been incorporated into the overall masterplan for the Elsea Park area and are gradually being realised as more detailed plans for each zone of the development are brought forward and implemented. Across the remainder of the town, key open spaces are more spread out and are frequently disconnected from each other. Nevertheless, corridors have been identified along the Car Dyke/Bourne Eau on the east side of the town; along public footpaths which link the residential development in the north-west of the town with Bourne Wood; and through open space which links the town centre and Elsea Park. The corridors are identified on the maps referred to in section 8 of this background paper. It will be important to ensure that the integrity of the corridors is not compromised and that new development extends the existing framework, where possible.

## Designated Wildlife Sites

- 6.1 Within or adjacent to the wider Parish there are a number of important wildlife sites. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are designated by Natural England and while there are no such sites within Bourne Parish there are SSSIs adjacent or near to the Parish boundary at Math and Elsea Wood, directly south of Bourne town, and at Baston and Thurlby Fen near the south-east corner of the Parish. Natural England has developed 'impact risk zones' for these sites which indicate that some forms of development within parts of Bourne Parish have the potential to have a negative impact on the SSSIs. A further important area adjacent to Baston Fen is designated as a Special Area of Conservation, providing an important habitat for the spined loach.
- 6.2 Bourne Wood, located to the west/north-west of the town is not a SSSI but does include Ancient Woodland as does Auster Wood which is outside the Parish but adjacent to the southern end of Bourne Wood. Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) are identified and selected locally and while they do not have the same status as SSSIs they represent valuable areas for wildlife. There are several LWS within or adjacent to Bourne Parish including Bourne and Auster Woods; several sites along the River Glen and South Forty Foot Drain on the east/south-east Parish boundary; several drains to the east of Dyke; and Toft Tunnel.
- 6.3 The various wildlife sites referred to above are shown on the mapping referred to in section 8 of this background paper. They have not been assessed as part of the

preparation of this background paper because they are already designated for their wildlife value and therefore have an appropriate level of protection from development. Nevertheless, it is important to highlight their location so that their value and connectivity to the green infrastructure network are enhanced where opportunities arise.

## The Designation Process

- 7.1 The stages being followed to identify GI corridors and land to be designated either as LGS or OS in the BPNP are as follows.

1.	Identification of possible sites and site assessment.
2.	Informal consultation on the draft assessment (current stage).
3.	Amend, as appropriate, the draft assessment and undertake consultation on policies in a Draft version of the Neighbourhood Plan.
4.	Submission Plan (amend sites/policy, where appropriate, and submit the Plan to South Kesteven District Council (SKDC)).

Publication of this background paper forms stage 2 of the process, providing an opportunity to comment on the accuracy and conclusions of the assessments and to identify any additional sites or corridors that ought to be considered for inclusion in the BPNP.

- 7.2 The [Open Space Study 2017](#) undertaken by SKDC includes a database of sites and associated mapping for the town of Bourne with the exception of the Elsea Park area. SKDC has therefore provided the Steering Group with a copy of the masterplan for Elsea Park which has been supplemented by examining planning applications made for various zones within the development. Local knowledge has also been used to identify other sites within the town and the villages of Dyke, Cawthorpe and Twenty.
- 7.3 An assessment form was designed using the criteria outlined in Government policy and completed for each site following a desktop survey and site visit. To deliver a consistent approach, the following principles have been applied:
- i. **Local Green Space (LGS).** Essentially areas of LGS are of such local significance that it is unlikely that they could be replaced elsewhere. For example, a LGS might contribute to a particularly important view of a landmark building or an iconic view that you might expect to find on a postcard. Alternatively, it might be a site where a specific, historic event took place or it may support protected species of plants or animals. The assessment must be objective and critical and has therefore been undertaken with considerable rigour, given the high bar set by Government policy and guidance for the designation of sites as LGS. However, while sites designated as open space have less protection than LGS they will, nevertheless, enjoy significant protection as defined in Policy OS1 of the Local Plan.



- ii. **The assessment** is based on NPPF criteria (see paragraph 4.2). A key requirement is that a site should be demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance to merit designation as LGS. The criteria listed in the NPPF include beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity; richness of wildlife; and other. The following questions were used as a guide to assist in this process.

Beauty.	<p>How is the space important for its beauty?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the site particularly attractive and of aesthetic value, contributing significantly to local identity and character and does it play an important role in defining a sense of place? (e.g. a village green or an open space that provides an important focus)</li> <li>• Does the site contribute significantly to a particularly important public view of a local landmark building (e.g a church) or an iconic view that you might expect to find on a local postcard?</li> </ul>
Historical significance.	<p>How is the space of historic significance?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the site designated as an historic asset or does it make a positive contribution to an historic asset or its setting?</li> <li>• Does the site contribute positively to the character or setting of the Conservation Area?</li> <li>• Does the space have a link to a historic person or event or is it referred to in literature or art?</li> </ul>
Recreational value.	<p>How is the space important for its recreational value?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What variety of recreational activities does the space support?</li> <li>• Does the space offer something unique or could the use(s) be accommodated elsewhere?</li> <li>• Is the public able to physically access the site?</li> </ul>
Tranquillity.	<p>How is the space important for its tranquillity?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the site exhibit a feeling of remoteness or quiet contemplation (e.g. peaceful and quiet, hearing birdsong, seeing natural landscape, hearing wildlife, seeing streams and running water)?</li> <li>• Is there a general inability to see infrastructure such as roads and power-lines?</li> <li>• Is there a general lack of noise from vehicles, industry or people?</li> </ul>
Richness of wildlife.	<p>How is the space of particular local significance for its richness of wildlife?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value?</li> <li>• Are there any known important habitats, wildlife or species found on the site?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the space support a significant, diverse range of wildlife evidenced by records, ecological surveys and/or expert advice?</li> </ul>
Other reason.	Are there any other reasons why the space has a particular local significance for the local community?

- iii. **School playing fields and grounds.** These have been excluded from designation as either LGS or OS. This is because Government policy (NPPF) gives great weight to the need to expand or alter schools which may give rise to the need to reconfigure buildings and playing fields which could be difficult to achieve if playing fields and grounds were designated as LGS or OS. In addition, it is understood that none of the school playing fields in Bourne are available for public hire. Moreover, publicly funded playing fields are currently subject to a level of protection as a result of Government legislation requiring the consent of the Secretary of State prior to disposal. However, in some instances playing fields form part of a green infrastructure corridor or are located adjacent to such a corridor. It will be important to ensure that the integrity of the corridor is not compromised and that appropriate links into the corridor are provided where the opportunity arises.
- iv. **Other sports pitches and allotments.** These have not been designated as LGS where located in the open countryside. This is because existing planning policy places severe restrictions on development in the open countryside and provides an appropriate level of protection. However, in recognition of their important recreational value, it is considered appropriate to designate such sites as OS. Within the town, development pressures are likely to be more significant and sites are potentially more vulnerable. Consequently, these sites, which may be demonstrably special not only for their recreational value but also for other reasons, have usually been proposed for designation as LGS.
- v. **Amenity areas.** There are many amenity areas within Bourne, including roadside verges and grassed areas, some of which are landscaped. In many instances these make a valuable contribution towards the character and quality of the immediate area. However, because such areas are too numerous to identify in total, the assessment has focused on the larger amenity areas. Whilst these are frequently of visual significance, they are not normally demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in i and ii, above. Consequently, such areas have usually been proposed for designation as OS.
- vi **Children's play areas.** It is important for play equipped spaces to be located within the housing areas that they serve. Mapping the location of these areas indicates a clear deficiency in some parts of the town (e.g. the north-west sector has a single play equipped area at Pinewood Close). However, while play areas are important to the immediate area that they serve, they are not normally demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in i and ii, above. In recognition of their important recreational value, such sites

have normally been included for designation as OS. However, an exception has been made to designate the occasional equipped play spaces as LGS where it forms part of a larger, multi-functional area that merits such a designation.

- vii. **Elsea Park green infrastructure corridors.** The main corridors are the Linear Park which runs west to east across the development from Raymond May's Way to South Rd and the corridor planned on the north/north-east side of the development which links into the Well Head Fields and Wherry's Spinney. These corridors are shown on the maps in Appendix C. They are highly important to the overall landscape and character of the development and for their recreational value and the opportunities that they provide to enhance biodiversity and sustainable transport. In addition, the corridor between Wherry's Spinney and the Meadows, south of Raymond May's Way, is particularly important as a wildlife corridor and for the informal recreation opportunities it provides. It is therefore proposed to designate these corridors as LGS. However, there are other corridors, either existing or planned, within the development and which are primarily focused on linear features such as ditches or hedge lines. Examples include the corridors alongside Raymond May's Way and Haydock Park Drive. Some of these will provide opportunities for informal recreation, though of a more limited scale than the main corridors; they also provide opportunities to enhance the wildlife value of the development and, in some instances, they include footpath/cycleways to support sustainable transport. Maintaining the integrity of these corridors will be of vital importance.

- 7.4 Appendix A of this background paper includes an assessment of sites proposed for designation as LGS whilst Appendix B includes an assessment of sites proposed for designation as OS.

## Maps Illustrating the Location of Sites and Green Infrastructure Corridors.

- 8.1 Maps illustrating the location of the OS and LGS sites, the GI corridors and the designated wildlife sites can be viewed on the Bourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan website at: [www.bourneparishneighbourhoodplan.org.uk](http://www.bourneparishneighbourhoodplan.org.uk). The maps include:

- Map 1 – an overview of the Parish;
- Map 2- Bourne North including Open Space sites 1-17, Local Green Space sites A and B and Green Infrastructure Corridors;
- Map 3 – East of Bourne including Open Space sites 18-20;
- Map 4 – Bourne South including Open Space sites 21-34, Local Green space sites C-Q and Green Infrastructure Corridors;
- Map 5 – Dyke including Open Space site 35, Local Green Space site R and Green Infrastructure Corridor; and
- Map 6 – Twenty including Open Space site 36.

The key or legend for the maps is included on Map 1 and is shown below:

**Parish**



**Special Area of Conservation (SAC)**



**Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)**



**Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)**



**Green Corridors**



**Local Green Space Sites**



**Open Space Sites**



## Appendix A - Assessment of sites proposed for designation as Local Green Space.

Note: The site number column includes a hyperlink to take the reader to the location of the site in Google Maps.

Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
<a href="#">A</a>	Bourne Community Orchard, Land off Beech Avenue	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>Orchard located on Forestry Commission land and run by local volunteers. The site hosts community events; it provides an opportunity for quiet enjoyment; and there is a working party to maintain and enhance its biodiversity value.</p> <p>Defined as a traditional orchard on the Government's 'Magic' website (see <a href="http://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx">magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx</a>).</p> <p>Traditional orchards are defined as a 'priority habitat' of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in both the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan and England Biodiversity List.</p> <p>The site is demonstrably special as a community orchard. It is therefore proposed to designate it as LGS in recognition of the unique contribution it makes to the Bourne community.</p>
<a href="#">B</a>	Recreation Ground, Recreation Rd.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>The site of ~2.65ha includes playing pitches for hire, changing facilities, car parking and equipped play areas for pre-school children and children under 12. It is also used for informal recreation and community events – see <a href="#">Bourne Lions Family Fun Day</a> .</p> <p>The site is in an accessible location close to the town centre. It is of town-wide importance for its recreational value and includes one of only two equipped play areas in the north-east quadrant of the town. It also provides a significant and important visual amenity within the immediate locality.</p> <p>The site is demonstrably special. It is therefore proposed to designate it as LGS in recognition of the contribution it makes to the Bourne community.</p>

Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
<a href="#">C</a>	Abbey Lawn, south side of Abbey Rd	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>The Abbey Lawn, owned by Bourne United Charities, is a site of ~3.8ha which provides sports facilities of major importance to Bourne. It is home to Bourne Town Football Club, Bourne Town Cricket Club, Bourne Lawn Tennis Club, Bourne Bowls Club and Bourne Abbots Petanque Club. In addition, planning permission has been granted for a skatepark. The site once formed part of the grounds of Bourne Abbey and has been a recreation ground for over 200 years. Further information on its historical significance can be found in the article: <a href="#">‘the Abbey Lawn’</a>.</p> <p>The site is located within the Conservation Area. <a href="#">The Appraisal</a> indicates that it contributes towards a spacious character that contrasts with the busy town centre and offers attractive views westwards towards the church tower and Cedars Retirement Home.</p> <p>The Bourne Eau, though in part culverted, flows through and adjacent to the site and may have some wildlife value.</p> <p>In conclusion, the Abbey Lawn is of demonstrable importance to Bourne and it is therefore proposed to designate the site as LGS.</p>
<a href="#">D</a>	The Well Head Fields	x	√	x	x	√	√	x	<p>A visually attractive and multifunctional green space close to the town centre and within the Conservation Area. Managed by Bourne United Charities, it is important for informal recreation and contemplation and includes an equipped children’s play area.</p> <p>Important views are identified in the Conservation Area Appraisal. The area is of high archaeological and historic significance and includes a Scheduled Monument including the remains of Bourne Castle and St Peters Pool, a natural artisan well and source of the river Eau. The Fields also contribute to the setting of the listed buildings known as Well Head Cottage, Shippon Barn and The Red Hall.</p> <p>The natural watercourses provide a habitat for flora and fauna and nature walks have been established. At the southern end of the site is a conservation meadow.</p> <p>The Fields are used for staging various events throughout the year.</p>

Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
									Scheduled Monument status does not apply to the whole site and while the land is within the Conservation Area, such a designation does not preclude development. The area is demonstrably special to the public. In recognition of the combined, positive assets of the space and its importance to the character and form of the settlement, it is proposed to designate it as LGS. In addition, the land is an integral part of a green infrastructure corridor as shown in Appendix 3.
<a href="#">E</a>	Memorial Gardens, South St	x	x	x	x	√	√	x	The Memorial Gardens are located on the eastern edge of the Well Head Fields and are identified in the Conservation Area Appraisal as 'important open space'. The cenotaph stands in the centre flanked by two pools of water. The Gardens provide for contemplation and offer attractive views as identified in the Conservation Area Appraisal, including views of the Abbey Church. The site enjoys significant protection within the Conservation Area. However, it is demonstrably special to the public and in recognition of the need to emphasise its open character, its positive assets and its importance to the character and form of the settlement, it is proposed to designate it as LGS.
<a href="#">F</a>	Land between and to rear of nos 23 and 23a South St	x	x	x	x	√	√	x	The paddock, which is not publicly accessible, is largely identified as 'important open space' in the Conservation Area Appraisal. Its open and rural character offers attractive views from the Well Head Fields (located to the west) and the public footpath (located to the south) including views of the Red Hall and the tower of Abbey Church. There is also a pleasant view towards the Well Head Fields from the access gate located on South St. The land is demonstrably special for its open and rural character and the views across the site and it is therefore proposed to designate it as LGS.
<a href="#">G</a>	Bourne Cemetery, South Rd.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	Town cemetery of ~2.7ha established in 1885. It contributes to the setting of the listed buildings within its curtilage (the Chapel of Rest and Ostler Memorial Fountain) and includes Commonwealth War Graves.

Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
									The cemetery serves the town as a whole and is demonstrably special to the local community, particularly for its historical significance and as a place of serene remembrance in a landscaped setting. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as LGS.
<a href="#">H</a>	Land rear of Westwood Drive and Harvey Close	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>A multifunctional green corridor primarily located along the northern edge of Elsea Park. Much of the land has yet to be landscaped, though it will include balancing ponds, a pump track facility; a cycle route/footpath and opportunities to enhance the biodiversity value of the area.</p> <p>The corridor is demonstrably special and in recognition of the combined, positive assets and its strategic importance as part of the green infrastructure network, it is proposed to designate it as LGS.</p>
<a href="#">I</a>	Land north of Wherry's Spinney and south of Wellhead Fields	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>Includes a large balancing pond. An informal football pitch and play area are planned as part of the Elsea Park development. A cycletrack (Wincanton Way) on the west flank links the Linear Park to the Wellhead Fields via Manor Lane.</p> <p>A public footpath on the east side provides a further route to the Wellhead Fields. The land forms part of a green infrastructure corridor as indicated in Appendix 3.</p> <p>The land is demonstrably special and in recognition of the combined, positive assets and its strategic importance as part of the green infrastructure network, it is proposed to designate it as LGS.</p>
<a href="#">J</a>	Wherry's Spinney, East of Wincanton Way	x	x	x	x	x	√	x	<p>Area of woodland incorporating a spoil bank resulting from the development of the railway line in the 1850s. It forms an important feature in the local landscape.</p> <p>The Spinney is the subject of a <a href="#">TPO</a> made in 2021. It is crossed by <a href="#">public footpaths</a> and is used both by walkers and for cross country by the neighbouring school.</p> <p>A planning application (S19/0821) for 10 dwellings on part of the site was made in 2019 but subsequently withdrawn. An accompanying ecological survey indicated the presence</p>



Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
									<p>of badger setts, great crested newts and trees with a high potential to support roosting bats.</p> <p>The area is demonstrably special to the local community, particularly for its combined recreational value, tranquillity, richness of wildlife and contribution to local distinctiveness. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as LGS. In addition, the land forms an integral part of a green infrastructure corridor as shown in Appendix 3.</p>
<a href="#">K</a>	Corridor linking Grammar School playing fields to Linear Park.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>A green corridor of informal open space under a high voltage power line with fenced ditch running through its centre. At its southern end, it links into the Linear Park where there is a drainage ditch and attenuation pond (Arena Pond). To the north-west the corridor links into the playing fields of the Grammar School. The site provides an important amenity and recreational resource and forms part of a green infrastructure corridor. It incorporates features to encourage wildlife into the development. The site is demonstrably special as it forms an integral part of a green infrastructure corridor as highlighted in Appendix 3 and provides opportunities for informal recreation and wildlife. It is proposed to designate the land as LGS.</p>
<a href="#">L</a>	Willow Pond Land adjacent to artificial grass pitch.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>The natural pond and adjoining land provide a rural, peaceful and visually attractive setting. It is not currently accessible to the public but is to be retained and enhanced for its biodiversity and informal recreational value as part of the Elsea Park development. The site was part of a horse sanctuary until 1973 and was located adjacent to a former railway line.</p> <p>The pond is considered to be demonstrably special for the above reasons and its value to the local community will be enhanced as part of the Elsea Park proposals. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as LGS. In addition the site will link directly into that section of the Linear Park between Wherry's Spinney and Raymond May's Way.</p>

Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
<a href="#">M</a>	Linear park west of Wherry's Spinney to Raymond Mays Way.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>A green corridor of informal open space with a cycle path to encourage sustainable transport. It forms a continuation of the linear park to the east of Wherry's Spinney. The western-most part is currently (April 2022) incomplete but will provide green links to the artificial grass pitch off Fontwell Park Drive, Willow/Klondyke Lake (Site L) and equipped children's play areas.</p> <p>The park is demonstrably special and in recognition of the combined, positive assets and its strategic importance as part of the green infrastructure network, it is proposed to designate it as LGS.</p>
<a href="#">N</a>	Linear park east of Wherry's Spinney to South Rd (A15)	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>A green corridor of ~3.5ha largely informal open space along which there is a cycle path (Pimpernel Walk) to encourage sustainable transport. At the western end, in front of the community centre, there are equipped play areas both for older and younger children. An adjacent balancing pond (fronting Greenacres Drive) with associated planting enhances the biodiversity potential of the corridor.</p> <p>The park is demonstrably special to the public. In recognition of the combined, positive assets of the space and its strategic importance as part of the green infrastructure network, it is proposed to designate it as LGS.</p>
<a href="#">Q</a>	Setts Green	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>An area of rough grassland and scrub with a ditch, retained hedgerow and mature trees. Access is restricted due to its primary function as a badger protection zone. It forms part of a green corridor which links Wherry's Spinney (Site J) to the north with the Meadows (site Q) south of Raymond Mays Way. A badger tunnel under the A151 provides a wildlife link to the Meadows.</p> <p>The land is demonstrably special as part of a wildlife corridor/badger protection zone. In recognition of this importance it is proposed to designate the land as LGS.</p>

Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
<a href="#">P</a>	Wake ponds, Junction of A151 and Tilia Way	x	v	x	x	x	v	x	The Wake Ponds provide surface water attenuation and act as a gateway site, giving a strong visual impression at the entrance to Elsea Park and providing a visual amenity for local residents with seating. The Elsea Park Management Plan notes their wildlife value for fish, amphibians and birds and suggests that the earth banks would be suitable for water voles '(in the event they passed beneath the A15 roundabout from the local population at Car Dyke)'. The wildlife value is further enhanced because the ponds form part of a linked network of wildlife habitats planned for the whole of Elsea Park and also link to the Car Dyke via a ditch immediately north of the Sugar Mill pub on Milestone Rd. The land is demonstrably special as it offers attractive views and an area for contemplation. It is of wildlife value and forms an integral part of a wildlife corridor network. In recognition of these attributes it is proposed to designate the ponds as LGS.
<a href="#">Q</a>	Elsea Meadows. Land south of Raymond Mays Way (A151) and west of Bourne Rd (A15).	x	v	x	x	x	v	x	A nature reserve owned/managed by the Elsea Park Community Trust. The Meadows are managed as a buffer between Elsea Park and the Math and Elsea Wood SSSI to the south. The land includes a wetland site of ponds linked by a watercourse and a flower-rich grassland meadow. Between the meadow and SSSI there is a buffer strip of rough grass, scrub and trees. The site is demonstrably special not only as a nature reserve but also as an area for quiet contemplation and informal recreation. It is therefore proposed to designate it as LGS in recognition of the unique contribution it makes to the Bourne community.

Site No	Location	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
R	Village green, Main Rd, Dyke.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	<p>Small village green with several trees, seating and Millenium Well. Not registered with Lincolnshire County Council. The green has played an important part in the history of Dyke – see <a href="http://dykehistory.org.uk/dyke-village-green">http://dykehistory.org.uk/dyke-village-green</a> and acts as a pleasant amenity area within the village.</p> <p>The land is demonstrably special, primarily for its historical significance, and it is therefore proposed to designate it as LGS.</p>

## Appendix B - Assessment of sites proposed for designation as Open Space.

Note: The site number column includes a hyperlink to take the reader to the location of the site in Google Maps.

Site No	Location and site area	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
<a href="#">1</a>	Rochester Court.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Part balancing pond. Views across the site into the open countryside to the north of the town. While the site provides a visual amenity within the immediate locality, giving views into the open countryside beyond, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">2</a>	Junction of Beaufort Drive/ Broadlands Ave.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area with some landscape planting, including trees. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">3</a>	Holly Drive/Willow Drive.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area, mainly grass with some trees. Accessible from both Holly Drive and Willow Drive. Views of Bourne Woods and agricultural land. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">4</a>	Waterside Close	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Natural green space within a housing area. Includes a number of trees centred on a water course. While the site provides a significant visual amenity within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">5</a>	Hazelwood Drive.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area, mainly grass with some trees and a balancing pond. Site is located adjacent to a Green Infrastructure corridor - along the southern edge there is a public footpath and drain which link to Bourne Wood.

Site No	Location and site area	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
									While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">6</a>	Laburnum Close.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area with some landscape planting. Located adjacent to a Green Infrastructure corridor - along the southern edge there is a public footpath and drain which link to Bourne Wood. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">7</a>	Land between Ash Grove and Viking Close.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area, mainly grass with some trees. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">8</a>	Oak Crescent.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area, mainly grass with some trees. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">9</a>	Poplar Crescent.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area, mainly grass with some trees. Forms part of a Green Infrastructure corridor – a public footpath linking Exeter St to Bourne Wood passes through the site. There is also a north-south path which connects Oak Crescent to Westbourne Park. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">10</a>	Junction of Tarragon	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Landscaped amenity area at the centre of a housing crescent. Includes a sustainable drainage feature. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational

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	Way/Rosemary Gardens.								within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">11</a>	Junction of Woodland Avenue/Forest Avenue.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area, mainly grass with some trees. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">12</a>	Pinewood Close.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children and toddlers play equipped area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">13</a>	Land adjacent no 18 Northfields.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children's equipped play area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">14</a>	Land between no 12 and 14 Wingate Way	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space largely laid to grass. While the site provides a visual amenity within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">15</a>	Junction of Kohima Close/Mountbatten Way.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space with several trees. While the site acts as a significant visual amenity and focal point within the immediate locality there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.

Site No	Location and site area	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
<a href="#">16</a>	Junction of Barkston Close/ Arnhem Way.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity space in housing area. Includes a number of trees. While the site provides a visual amenity within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">17</a>	Land opposite 10-12 Ancaster Rd.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity area. Largely laid to grass. Notice prohibiting ball games. While the site provides a visual amenity within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">18</a>	East of Spalding Rd/Meadow Drove junction.	x	√	x	x	√	x	√	Allotments land of ~0.7ha owned by the Town Council. The site is of recreational importance and may have some wildlife value. The semi-rural location is an important element of its character and its open countryside location provides significant protection from development pressures. In addition, statutory allotments, with some exceptions, cannot be sold or used for other purposes without the consent of the Secretary of State. In recognition of the recreational value of the site it is proposed to designate the land as 'open space'.
<a href="#">19</a>	Milking Nook Drove – south side of junction with Spalding Rd (A151).	x	x	x	x	√	x	√	Bourne Sports Club includes sports pitches and a clubhouse used by Bourne RUFC and Bourne Town Juniors FC on a site of ~4ha. The land provides important sports facilities for the town. However, it is located ~1 mile from the eastern edge of the town. Additionally, the <a href="#">Bourne Sports Club</a> website indicates that the club wishes to link with other sports clubs to provide an integrated facility for Bourne. Guidance provided by Locality ( <a href="#">Neighbourhood Planning Local Green Spaces</a> ) suggests that if there is the possibility of alternative or better facilities being provided in the future, designation as LGS could be judged inflexible. In addition, the rural location also provides significant protection from development pressures. Consequently, in recognition of the recreational value of the site, it is proposed to designate the land as 'open space'.



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<a href="#">20</a>	Allotments. North side of South Fen Road.	x	√	x	x	√	x	√	Allotment land of ~1.5ha. Well used with a long waiting list. The site is of recreational importance to the local community and may have wildlife value. The semi-rural location is an important element of its character and its open countryside location provides significant protection from development pressures. In recognition of the recreational value of the site it is proposed to designate the land as 'open space'.
<a href="#">21</a>	Junction of Welland Drive/Nene Close	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Maintained grassed amenity area with trees. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">22</a>	Land adjacent to no 20 Great Northern Gardens	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space with large weeping willow and footpath through from Great Northern Gardens to the Red Hall and South Street. The site is adjacent to the Conservation Area and provides views of Red Hall. There is no evidence to suggest that the space is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate it as 'open space'.
<a href="#">23</a>	Western end of Southfields	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Grassed area maintained by SKDC and used for informal recreation. It is crossed by a public footpath which provides access to Wherry's Spinney. While the site provides a recreational resource within the immediate locality there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">24</a>	Plumpton Chase	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children's equipped play area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">25</a>	Market Rasen Drive	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children's equipped play area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF

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									criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">26</a>	Junction of Uttoxeter Close/Haydock Park Drive	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children's equipped play area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">27</a>	Great Leighs	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children's equipped play area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">28</a>	Little Garth. Junction of Newton Abbot Way/Haydock Park Drive	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Area for informal recreation which incorporates benches, flower beds and tree planting. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for informal recreational within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">29</a>	Chepstow Drive Pocket Park	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Grassed area with seating and children's balance beam. The site is crossed by a public footpath which provides access to the countryside beyond Raymond Mays Way. There is a built pedestrian path which gives access to the adjoining residential development. The park forms an integral part of the green infrastructure corridor along Raymond Mays Way. While the site provides a visual amenity and opportunities for recreation within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant LGS status. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.

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<a href="#">30</a>	Badger Lane	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children's equipped play area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">31</a>	Springbank Drive	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space in housing area with an equipped children's play area and of sufficient size to offer opportunities for informal recreation. While it provides a visual amenity and a recreational resource within the immediate locality, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">32</a>	Elsea Park Way	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Children's equipped play area within housing estate which provides an important recreational resource. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The facility could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">33</a>	Heartsease Way	x	x	x	x	x	x	√	Landscaped, informal open space with substation and storage area. Includes a pedestrian link to linear park adjacent to A15 (South Rd). While the site provides a visual amenity within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant designation as LGS. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.

Site No	Location and site area	An extensive tract of land	Close proximity to the community it serves	Has planning permission	Allocated for development in the Local Plan	Already protected by some form of designation	Designate as LGS	Designate as open space	Explanation and conclusion
<a href="#">34</a>	Land adjacent to Hawk Crescent/ Finn Close/Windle Drive.	x	√	x	x	x	x	√	Amenity green space with trees. Includes play equipment on Windle Drive and an attenuation pond. The land is located adjacent to the Car Dyke which forms a key green infrastructure corridor. While the site provides a visual amenity within the immediate locality, there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant designation as LGS. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">35</a>	RH Ash Memorial Field, Dyke Drove, Main Road, Dyke.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	The land extends to ~1.2ha and is owned by Bourne Town Council It includes an equipped children's play area with the remainder of the field used to host village events. While the site provides an important recreational facility there is no evidence to suggest that it is so special as to warrant designation as LGS. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.
<a href="#">36</a>	Land adjacent to the village hall, Station Road, Twenty.	x	√	x	x	x	√	x	Equipped children's play area. In need of refurbishment. However, the actual site is not demonstrably special when assessed against the NPPF criteria in paragraph 6.3, above. The play area could possibly be relocated if a similar or improved facility was to be offered within the locality. It is therefore proposed to designate the site as 'open space'.



