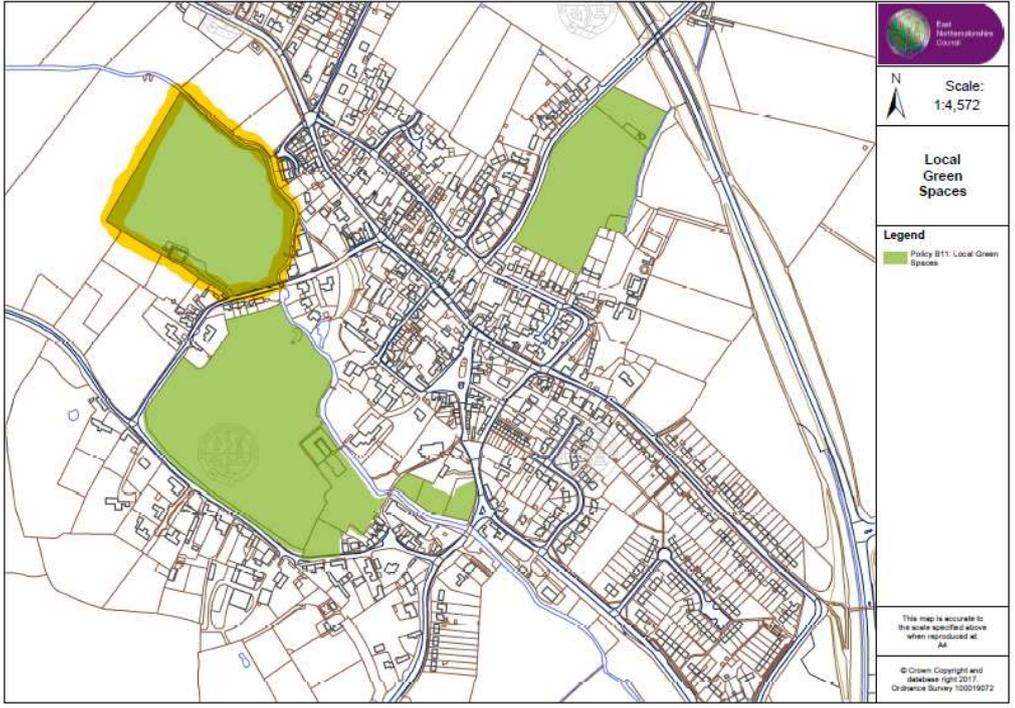


LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

OPEN SPACE - THE MEADOW

1	General Information
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>
	The Meadow, Bridge St, Brigstock
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>
	
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>
	Brigstock Parish Council
1.4	Ownership of site if known <i>Information on land ownership can be obtained from the Land Registry. Some land parcels are not registered however local people may know the owner.</i>
	Mr Robert Spencer, with a 28 Year lease from 11/10/2005 granted to Brigstock Parish Council. The site is sub-let to Brigstock Cricket Club as a cricket ground.
1.5	Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation?

	The site is already designated under the Local Plan and they has been contacted again to confirm its re-designation under the Neighbourhood plan.
1.6	Does the owner support the designation? <i>Sites may be designated as Local Green Spaces, even if there are objections from the site owners</i>
	Yes
1.7	Photographs of site
	<i>See sheet below</i>
1.8	Community served by the potential Local Green Space <i>i.e. does the site serve the whole village/town or a particular geographic area or group of people?</i>
	The site is situated in the south west area of the village, close to the village centre and has Bridge St as its eastern boundary. The site is presently used by the Cricket Club with 2 adult teams, and youth teams and training sessions. This is available to all the village, as well as sportsmen from outside the village. The site is also used for many community events such as the Fireworks Display, Beer Festival fun day, and for school outside activities.
2	Planning History
2.1	Is there currently a planning application for this site? If planning permission has been permitted could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space?
	No planning permissions exist on this site.
2.2	Is the site allocated for development in the Local Plan? If allocated, could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space?
	The site is not allocated for development.
3	Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space
3.1	Area of proposed site <i>It is unlikely that a site of over 20ha (50 acres) would be considered suitable for designation.</i>
	The area of the site is approximately 3.5 hectares.
3.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space) e.g. how large is it in comparison to other fields; groups of fields; areas of land in the vicinity etc.? Does the site “feel” extensive or more local in scale?</i>
	The site is one field but it is not an “extensive tract of land”

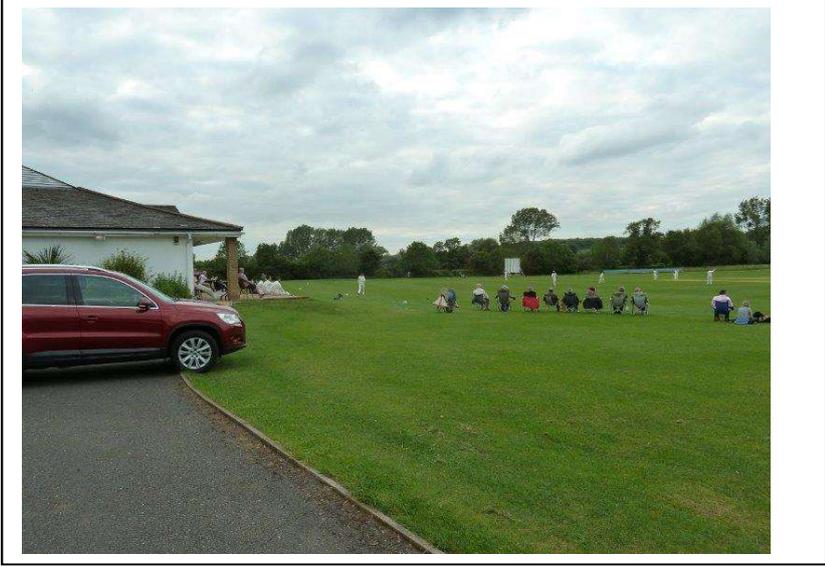
3.3	<p>Is the proposed site “local in character”? <i>e.g. does the site feel as though it is part of the local area? And why? How does it connect physically, visually and socially to the local area? What is your evidence?</i></p>
	<p>The site definitely has “local character”. This field has existed in this form since records began. It is a grass meadow and has been used for recreation since 1958. It is an important open space used for many village events as well as the cricket matches.</p>
4	Need for Local Green Space
4.1	<p>Is there a need for a local green space in this location? <i>e.g. is there a shortage of accessible greenspace in the area? Is there a village needs survey or parish plan that provides evidence of that need. Further information – Natural England (Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard)</i></p>
	<p>This site is fully accessible to the public with 2 public footpaths crossing the site. It is used by residents exercising their dogs on a regular basis. It is used for many community events during the year being the only large accessible green that is available in the village. The site is bordered by Harpers Brook on the north side. During periods of flooding, parts of the field do go under water acting as flood plain. The levels soon drop and the field quickly becomes usable again. The primary school which is located off Bridge St does not have its own playing field and uses the Meadow as its main exercise and games area. Without this, the school would not manage to provide adequate sports events.</p>
5	Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”
5.1	<p>How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i></p>
	<p>The site is within the village envelope and is within the Conservation Area. The plan for question 1.2 shows its location.</p>
5.2	<p>Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? <i>e.g. railway line; main road</i> <i>Possible evidence – a map to show any potential barriers and how those can be overcome.</i></p>
	<p>No there are no barriers. The site is adjacent to Bridge St which is public highway and connects to the High St near the centre of the village. The site also has 2 footpaths leading into it from the west and south.</p>
6	Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”
6.1	<p>Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i></p>

	This site has been designated an important open space since the Rural North, Oundle and Thrapston Plan was adopted in 1996 (policy EN10). The site is leased by the Parish Council for the use of the village. This is supported by the District Council and County Council.
6.2	Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i>
	The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire suggested this site and this was supported by 98% of those that responded.
6.3	Evidence of support from community leaders <i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc.</i>
	Not available
6.4	Evidence of support from other groups <i>e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</i>
	See question 6.2
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty,” (if applicable)
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	YES
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.
	The site offers views across to the open countryside to the west of the village. It is bordered along the northern edge by the pretty Harper's Brook by the side of which have been planted some white and cricket bat willows.
7.3	Site visibility <i>e.g. is it easy to see the site from a public place? Are there long-distance views of the site? Are there views of the site from any key locations?</i>
	The site is visible from Bridge St, and from Stanion Road across Harper's Brook, both public highway.
7.4	Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? <i>e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area</i> <i>Further information –Natural England</i>
	The site is adjacent to the Conservation Area.
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? <i>Further information –Natural England</i>
	No

7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?
	There is a very clear view of the old Wallis and Linnell factory, an important landmark building in the village and designated Grade 2 listed, from most parts of the Meadow.
7.7	Is the site highlighted in literature or art? <i>e.g. is the site mentioned in a well-known poem or shown in a famous painting?</i>
	No
8	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its historic significance” (if applicable)
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	No
8.2	Are there any historic buildings or remains on the site? <i>e.g. listed buildings; scheduled ancient monuments; registered parks and gardens; war memorials; other historic remains or structures.</i> <i>Further information –English Heritage; local history society</i>
8.3	Are there any important historic landscape features on the site? <i>e.g. old hedgerows; ancient trees; historic ponds or historic garden features</i> <i>Further information –English Heritage; local history society</i>
8.4	Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? <i>e.g. the old site of the town railway station; the old garden for the manor house etc.</i>
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>

9	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its recreational value (including as a playing field)”, (if applicable)
9.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	YES
9.2	Is the site used for playing sport? <i>If so what sport? How long has it been used for sports provision? Is this sports provision free or is a club membership required?</i> <i>Further information – Sport England</i>
	YES – It is used by the local Cricket Club for twice weekly matches over the summer and for practice sessions for all ages. It has a clubhouse / pavilion owned by the Cricket Club. It is used by the village primary school for sports and games. It is used by the general public for playing games and exercise during the week.
9.3	Are the public able to physically access the site? <i>e.g. are there any public rights of way across the site? Or adjacent to the site? Has access been allowed on a discretionary basis? Is there public access to the whole site or only part? Is there good disabled access to the site? (A site can still be designated even if there is no public access.)</i>
	There is full public access to the site via a bridge from the village hall car park, a small gate and a large gate allowing vehicle access. Two rights of way cross the site with stiles to adjoining fields. Disabled access is via the bridge or gate.
9.4	Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when? <i>e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc.</i>
	The site has permanent public access. It is used for dog walking, informal games such as family / youth football. It is also used for events such as the Firework Display, Beer Festival fun days, car boot sales and other such events.
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its tranquillity” (if applicable)
10.1	Yes
	The site is extremely well-used by many members of the community. It is an area that provides a quiet location for reflection while walking
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>
	There are quiet local roads on west of the site. The north site has Harpers Brook as a boundary. It is also adjacent to the back gardens of several large properties to the north side, and farmland to the west.
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England’s tranquillity maps</i>
	No

11	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of the richness of its wildlife”; (if applicable)
11.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site ? YES
11.2	Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? <i>e.g. as a site of special scientific interest; a key wildlife site etc Further information - Natural England</i> NO
11.3	Are any important habitats or species found on the site? <i>e.g. habitats and species listed in the UK priority habitats and species lists or in Biodiversity Action Plans or protected species or on the red/amber lists of birds of conservation concern. Further information - Natural England; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i> NO
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; National Biodiversity Network</i> This site is part of the green corridor for the countryside into the village following the brook. This encourages wildlife into and through the village
11.5	Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? <i>e.g. long-term monitoring of breeding birds.</i> No
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for any other reason”; (if applicable)
12.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site? No
12.2	What are the other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community?



APPENDIX 1: MODEL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN POLICY AND SUPPORTING TEXT

Draft Supporting Text

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

Policy B11: Local Green Spaces

The following sites have been designated as Local Green Spaces:

The Meadow

The Park

Rectory paddock and allotments

Benefield Road allotments

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