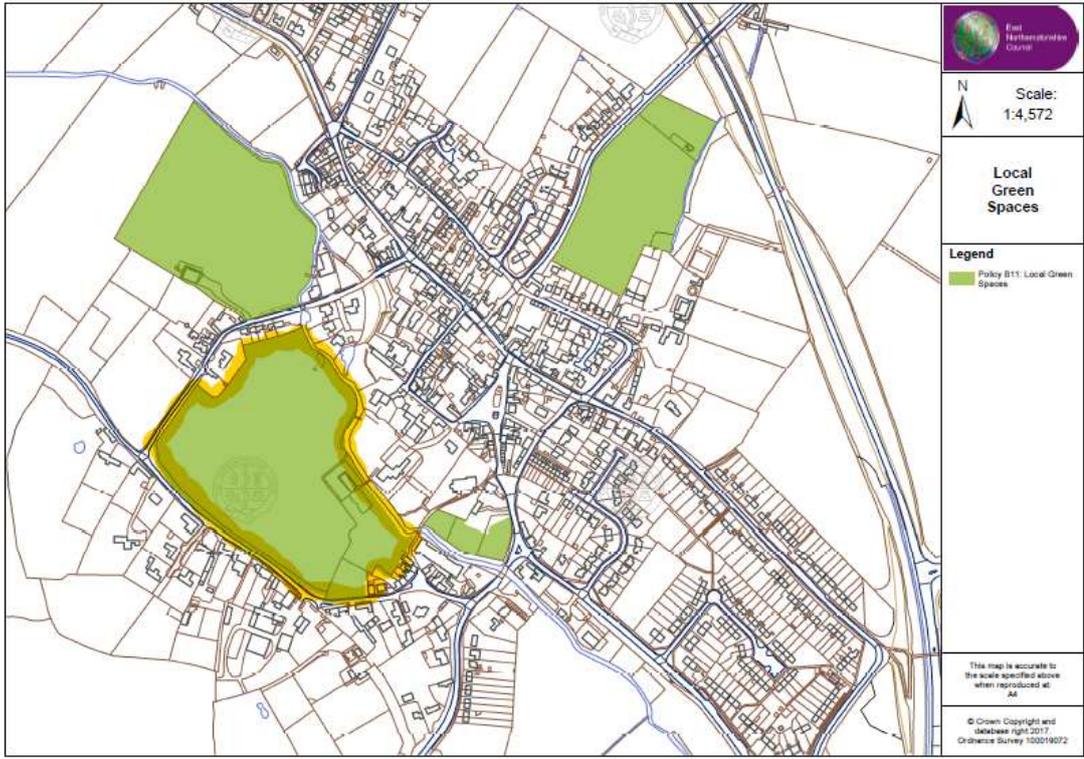


# LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

## OPEN SPACE – THE PARK

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 Park, Park Walk, 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>
	Spencer Brothers
1.5	Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation?
	The site is already designated under the Local Plan
1.6	Does the owner support the designation? <i>Sites may be designated as Local Green Spaces, even if there are objections from the site owners</i>
	Yes
1.7	Photographs of site
	See sheet below
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 to the south of the village, adjoining the village centre and has Park Walk as its southern boundary. From the south it allows full views of the village. The views of the Park and over the Park were deemed one of the most desirable views in the NP questionnaire in the village
<b>2</b>	<b>Planning History</b>
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
<b>3</b>	<b>Size, scale and "local nature" of proposed Local Green Space</b>
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 5.43 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 at least the 16th century. It is a grass meadow and is grazed by local cattle and horses. It has not been ploughed in living memory. Visually it is part of one of the favourite village walks as people can look across the Park to the church, Manor House and old water mill.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Need for Local Green Space</b>
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 not generally accessible to the public, being private grazed farmland. It has been used in the past for special events when it was opened to the public. The site gives an open aspect to the village from the south to the ancient Manor House, the Church and the old Mill House. It contributes to the open feel and rural nature of the village.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”</b>
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>The site is surrounded by Park Walk and Bridge St which are both public highways and feed back in the village. The site can be viewed from both of these roads.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Evidence to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”</b>
6.1	<p>Evidence of support from Parish or Town Council  <i>e.g. letter of support; Council minutes</i></p>
	<p>This site has been designated an important open space since the Local Plan was adopted in 1996 (policy EN20). This was supported by the Parish Council and the District Council.</p>
6.2	<p>Evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals.  <i>e.g. letters of support; petitions; surveys etc.</i></p>
	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire suggested this site and this was supported by 95% of those that responded.</p>
6.3	<p>Evidence of support from community leaders  <i>e.g. letters of support from Ward Members; County Councillors; MP etc.</i></p>

	Not available
6.4	Evidence of support from other groups <i>e.g. letters of support from organisations such as Campaign to Protect Rural England; local amenity societies; local schools etc.</i>
	The village questionnaire showed a large majority in favour of this being designated open space
<b>7</b>	<b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty,” (if applicable)</b>
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	YES
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.
	The site is an important open space that offers views across a meadow, grazed by cattle or horses full of buttercups and other wild flowers in the summer and dotted with ancient horse chestnut trees. At the far side of the meadow are the trees that border Harper's Brook and the Manor with the village rookery near the church. In the winter there are clear views of the Manor and the old watermill. Park Walk forms part of a popular circular walk round Brigstock used by villagers of all ages. It is unusual to have such a large open space near the centre of a village.
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 Park Walk and Bridge St which are Public Highway. The Park is the open space over which the northern area of the village is visible.
7.4	Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? <i>e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area</i> <i>Further information –Natural England</i>
	The site is within the Conservation Area.
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? <i>Further informtoation –Natural England</i>
	No
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?
	The site is adjacent to the listed buildings around Mill Lane and will enhance their aspect. Over the site can be viewed the Manor House, the church and the old
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
<b>8</b>	<b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance for example because of its historic significance” (if applicable)</b>
8.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	YES
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>
	No, not that we know of, but archaeological investigations have taken place to ascertain if remains exist. None found to date.
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>
	At one time the Park formed part of the Manor gardens and there is evidence of previous settlement on the site including what could be old fishponds. There are a number of ancient trees, mainly horse chestnuts. The site once had a stone wall enclosing it and there are the remains of this at various points.
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>
	Part of the old garden of the Manor house.
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?
	Not to our knowledge.
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>
	No
<b>9</b>	<b>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)</b>
9.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	NO
9.2	Is the site used for playing sport? <i>If so what sport? How long has it been used for sports provision? Is this sports provision free or is a club membership required?</i> <i>Further information – Sport England</i>

9.3	Are the public able to physically access the site? <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>
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>
<b>10</b>	<b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its tranquillity” (if applicable)</b>
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site? YES
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 the east, south and 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. The site is extremely tranquil as it is used for grazing horses and cattle and is not cultivated.
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
<b>11</b>	<b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of the richness of its wildlife”; (if applicable)</b>
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.</i> <i>Further information - Natural England; National Biodiversity Network; RSPB</i> No
11.4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; National Biodiversity Network</i> This is an important part of the green corridor running through the village based on Harpers Brook

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
<b>12</b>	<b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for any other reason”; (if applicable)</b>
12.	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

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### 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.