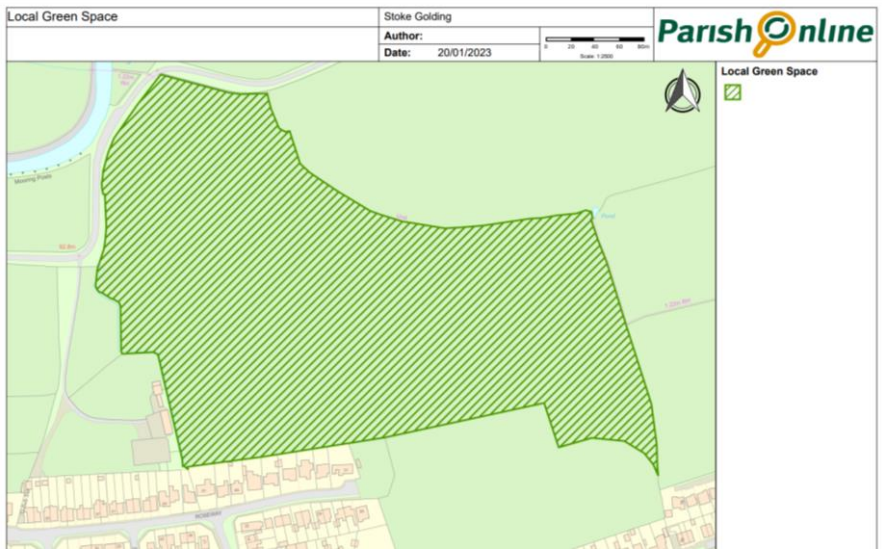



Step 2: Complete checklist

If it seems that the candidate site may meet the designation criteria, complete the designation checklist below (and provide all the relevant evidence). The checklist should be completed for each candidate site.

1	General Information
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>
	Land to the south of Stoke Road. Also known as Duck bend Bath.
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>
	Stoke Golding 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>
	Alfred William Oliver of The Farm, Fenn Lane, Upton, Leics
1.5	Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation?
	The intention is to consult with the owner as part of the Regulation 14 consultation process
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>

	Unknown
1.7	Photographs of site
	See separate attachment for additional photographs
	
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>
	Serves principally the village of Stoke Golding and Dadlington
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
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?
	No
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>
	20.9 acres
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>
	No, at around 8.4 hectares the defined site sits within the Stoke Golding Parish boundary and represents the northern most area of open countryside for the parish. There are several other sites all within visual eyeshot of this site including land to the North and North West of Stoke Lane of larger scale. However, these sites all fall outside the Parish boundary.

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 shares similar characteristics to sites within the same visual context. However, these sites all fall outside of the Stoke Golding boundary. Therefore, the site provides a visual consistency when viewed along with these neighbouring sites. The site forms a key role in providing both this rural consistency whilst at the same time visually distancing the two settlements of Stoke Golding and Dadlington which have their own distinctive local characters.</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>The site forms the bulk of the visible area of separation between the settlements of Stoke Golding and Dadlington as defined in the Hinckley and Bosworth council Area of separation review.</p> <p>The site borders the quiet country lane of Stoke Road which connects both aforementioned villages. This route is heavily used by cyclists, horse riders, pedestrians including popular dog walk circuit.</p> <p>To the Northwest of the site is the Ashby Heritage Canal and this site helps seat the canal in its rural setting enabling people on the western towpath to clearly look across the canal to open fields beyond. Multiple canal boat moorings are within 20m of the site of which several are permanent moorings. The Ashby heritage canal is an important local tourist and visitor attraction as identified in the Neighbourhood plan. “Measures to protect this historic character and setting and maintain its value as a tranquil location are important for encouraging people to use this freely accessible [Ashby Canal] resource which enable them to enjoy the local countryside and landscape. Such measures can also help to reduce the risk of there being adverse impacts on the canal’s role as a wildlife habitat that could arise from inappropriate new development in proximity to it” :- Canal & River trust</p> <p>The south eastern corner of the site forms part of the open green space for the Stocche Acre estate. Commanding an elevated position this allows for clear views of the open countryside including down to the Ashby heritage canal.</p> <p>This site therefore, provides great amenity to local people giving them access to open countryside without having to leave the parish.</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 falls within the parish boundary for the village and is well within 2km for the local community</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>South Eastern portion of the site is publicly accessible through the Stocche Acre estate with an off road path to it from Roseway. There is also car parking at the Ashby canal on Stoke Lane where this site forms part of the wider visual backdrop for the canal.</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>
	<p>In 2012, Hinckley & Bosworth prepared an “Areas of Separation Review” which recognised the importance of the site in protecting the much diminished gap along between the two villages of Stoke Golding & Dadlington.</p> <p>The approved 2020-39 Neighbourhood Plan recognises the importance of this space as an area of separation between the villages which should be preserved.</p> <p>Stoke Golding Parish Council has contributed fully to the revision of the Neighbourhood Plan which identifies this site as a Local Green Space.</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 2016 Stoke Golding Household Survey Household Survey showed over 70% of respondents opposed any further development in the direction of Dadlington, which would further diminish or eradicate the gap (excluding respondees who didn't express a view, 93% of the respondees opposed further development of the gap).</p> <p>Further positive letters of support were made during the regulation 14 2023 consultation from persons within the borough.</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>
	None
6.4	<p>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></p>
	<p>Canal and Riverside Trust: 2 page letter of support written by Area Planner Ian Dickinson.</p> <p>Final paragraph “The additional protection provided for this site through the proposed designation will undoubtedly help protect the character and appearance of the canal and support its role as a wildlife corridor...”</p>
7	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty,” (if applicable)
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?

	YES
7.2	Describe why the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty.
	The site is an open rolling field providing clear views of wider landscape and providing the clearest separation of urban development of both communities of Stoke Golding and Dadlington which lie on the raised horizon and border of this site. It provides visual continuity to surrounding fields and provides a rural backdrop to the Ashby heritage canal and the canal boat moorings.
7.3	Site visibility 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?
	Yes the site has an increasing elevation from Stoke Road and is easily visible from Key local view points D & E in policy SG10 of Stoke Golding Neighbourhood plan adopted 2022
	Taken from letter of support from Canal & Riverside Trust: “The site rises gently to the south-east [of the Ashby canal] and is thus quite visible from the canal, both approaching from the north and from the west. As such the site makes a valuable contribution to the rural character of the Ashby Canal conservation area”
7.4	Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area Further information –Natural England
	Unknown
7.5	Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? Further information –Natural England
	Yes. The site forms part of the Stoke Golding vale and rolling countryside as defined in Hinckley and Bosworth borough landscape character assessment September 2017
7.6	Does the site contribute to the setting of a historic building or other special feature?
	Yes both 13th century church of St Marys of Antioch and the Ashby heritage canal are visible across the site when viewed from Stoke Lane,
7.7	Is the site highlighted in literature or art? e.g. is the site mentioned in a well-known poem or shown in a famous painting?
	Unknown
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?
	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
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>
	<p>The Battle of Bosworth Field (1485) was a turning point in English history. The site lies just c. 25m to the southeast of the Registered Battlefield at its nearest point. The site likely formed part of Stoke Golding’s agricultural hinterland during the medieval and post-medieval periods. This is alluded to by the Ridge and Furrow seen in the field to the east of the site. The site therefore, would have formed part of the landscape backdrop to the battlefield. It is part of the Registered Battlefield’s setting.</p> <p>Today the site survives as an open and undeveloped rural parcel. Although a different size and under different agricultural practices, it still reflects some traits of its likely appearance and land-use at the time of the battle. The site and its neighbouring agricultural land therefore provides historic context. This helps us understand the character of the wider surroundings in which the battle was fought. This area’s positive contribution to the battlefield’s setting is denuded somewhat by the spread of the 20th/21st century housing. This lies to the west, east and south of the site. It creates a visible urban fringe which has eroded away parts of that historic landscape backdrop to the battlefield. It negatively impacts the battlefield’s setting.</p> <p>Stoke lane which the site abuts is featured as part of guided walk book “The Battlefields & Boderlands way:- A circular walk through 2000 years of English History” by Eddie Smallwood & Michael Dix</p>
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>
	Unknown
8.5	Did any important historic events take place on the site?
	See 8.3
8.6	Do any historic rituals take place on the site? <i>e.g. well-dressing; maypole dancing etc.</i>
	No
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>
	NO
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>
	Yes. The south eastern portion of the site is accessible from the Stocche Acre estate with footpath connecting to the road pavement on Roseway. Additionally, the western and northern perimeter of site is heavily used by local community for recreation and amenity along the Stoke lane because of the areas quiet and undeveloped setting. Its amenity is easily accessible by both communities being just outside of the built up form of both settlements. There is also a small car park on the North western edge of the site that further increase its amenity accessibility to the community.
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>
	Yes the site includes the LEAP from the Stocche Acre estate which is based on natural play for children. The site acts as a quiet rural setting for cyclists, walkers and dog walkers who walk along the western and northern perimeter of the site. Stoke lane provides a quiet alternative to the busier and more urbanised nearby alternatives.
10	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its tranquillity” (if applicable)
10.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?
	YES
10.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>
	Being undeveloped and providing a physical buffer to the nearby urban settlements the site provides high degree of tranquillity for the local community. The site forms the wider backdrop for the Ashby heritage canal. A popular place for people to visit and relax. There are benches nearby and people often visit to feed ducks or relax. A resident from the borough response from regulation 14 consultation: “To me it represents one of the closest places I can park the car and escape the hustle and bustle of urban life and be surrounded by open countryside.. A very peaceful place to reflect.”
10.3	Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? <i>e.g. within the Campaign to Protect Rural England’s tranquillity maps</i>

	Unknown
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.	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. However, the site acts as an important wildlife corridor for the Ashby Heritage canal (see letter of support Canal and River Trust)
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>
11. 4	What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? <i>Further information - Natural England; National Biodiversity Network</i>
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>
12	Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for any other reason”; (if applicable)
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?

Step 3: Neighbourhood Plan Group considers designation

The Neighbourhood Plan Group should review the evidence provided and decide whether the site is suitable for designation and whether any additional evidence is required.

Not every potential site will meet every criterion, however all sites must meet the following criteria in the checklist -

2.1	not with an extant planning permission within which the Local Green Space could not be accommodated
2.2	not allocated for development in the relevant Neighbourhood Plan, unless it can be shown that the Local Plan housing allocation is not strategic and can be re-located somewhere else in the neighbourhood plan area; or alternatively that the Local Green Space could be incorporated within the site as part of the allocated development
3.2	Not an "extensive tract of land"
3.3	"local in character"
5	in "proximity to the community it serves"
6	"demonstrably special to the local community"

And all sites must meet at least one of the following criteria in the Checklist -

7	"particular local significance ... because of its beauty"
8	"particular local significance ... because of its historic significance"
9	"particular local significance ... because of its recreational value"
10	"particular local significance ... because of its tranquillity"
11	"particular local significance ... because of its wildlife"
12	"particular local significance ... for any other reason"

In order to provide greater certainty, the checklist incorporates Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt) to define the likely size of a suitable Local Green Space and its distance from the local community.

A site of over 20ha (50 acres) is considered to be "an extensive tract of land" and therefore not suitable for designation as a Local Green Space.

If during the process it becomes evident that the site is not appropriate for local green space designation, there are other options that can be investigated (see Appendix 2).

Step 4: Consult landowner

The Neighbourhood Plan Group should consult the landowner.



Step 5: Neighbourhood Plan Designation

The site can now be designated in the Neighbourhood Plan. The site designation will be “tested” through the plan process. Anybody can object to policies or sites in a plan during the consultation process and these consultation responses must be considered.

The Neighbourhood Plan will be scrutinised by an Independent Examiner, who will ensure that the plan is robust and based on sound evidence. The completed checklist will form part of that evidence. The Neighbourhood Plan will also be subject to a local referendum.

Formal designation will be complete when the Neighbourhood Plan is ‘made’.



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:

Draft Policy

Development that would harm the openness or special character of a Local Green Space (as designated on the Polices 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.



APPENDIX 2: ALTERNATIVES TO LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION

Agreements with land-owners

It may be possible for local communities to reach either formal or informal agreements with the owner of the site to ensure access to the site for local people. This may be an appropriate option where the site owner has a long-term connection with the local area, for example the owner of a large historic estate. It may be possible for the land-owner to dedicate the site as "open access land".

Further information:

[Right of way and open access land - GOV.UK](#)

Community Purchase

In some instances local communities have purchased important sites to ensure that they remain in community control in perpetuity. The ownership can lie with the Town or Parish Council or with a specific trust.

Village Green status

Anyone can apply to register land as a green if it has been used by local people for lawful sports and pastimes 'as of right' (i.e. without permission, force or secrecy) for at least 20 years.

Further information:

[Town and village greens: how to register Open Spaces Society](#)

Local Nature Reserves

A Local Nature Reserve (LNR) provide people with special opportunities to study or learn about nature or simply to enjoy it. Local Nature Reserves are designated by district or county councils and the Local Authority must control the LNR through ownership, lease or agreement with the owner.

Further information:

[Natural England](#)

Assets of Community Value

The Community Right to Bid gives community groups a fairer chance to prepare and bid to buy community buildings and facilities that are important to them. This could include village shops, pubs or allotments. The right covers private as well as public assets. It is important to nominate land and buildings to be part of the register of 'assets of community value', which is held by the Local Authority. If something on this register is offered for sale, the community then have up to six months to prepare a bid.

Further information:

[www.gov.uk My Community Rights](http://www.gov.uk/My-Community-Rights)