

North Tawton Neighbourhood Plan
Policy CH1: Local Green Space Designation
Landowners Responses

The list of Local Green Spaces proposed for designation within Policy CH1 was compiled both from residents' responses in the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire about green spaces that were important to them and responses to a questionnaire sent to sports groups and organisations to gauge how well used green space and sports pitches were and their importance to residents.

Where the land proposed for designation is privately owned or managed by Trustees they were contacted by the Neighbourhood Plan Group and given opportunity to make representations or object to proposals for designation (see below letter and form sent to landowners/Trustees). A summary of their responses can be found in the table below.

Designated Local Green Space & Owners: Summary of responses

Green Space	Criteria	Owner	Response
Frank Henson Gibbings Memorial Park	Historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity.	North Tawton Town Council (NTTC)	Support – agreed by NTTC at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 7 th March 2017
*Football Club Field, The Wardens, Exeter Street	recreational value (including as a playing field),	Arthur Bale (deceased) Trustees	Football Club would support however don't own the land Response from Executor in the Estate of the late Arthur Samuel Bale who owned the Football field. - I have received Open Space proposals via my Solicitor. I am not the owner but cannot personally see any objection to this land being included.
Bowling Green,	recreational value,	Bowling Club Trustees	Support – G Denham, Hon Secretary, North Tawton

North Street	historic significance		Bowling Club
Rugby Field, Fore St	recreational value, tranquillity, beauty & richness of wildlife – river frontage,	Rugby Club Trustees	Support – land owned by Rugby Club and would never be sold
Rugby Practice Field Taw Meadow	recreational value, tranquillity, beauty & richness of wildlife – river frontage,	Rugby Club Trustees	Support - land owned by Rugby Club and would never be sold
**The Depot dedicated allotment space, Devonshire Gardens. (Used by Environmental Trust) Registered as Asset of Community value	tranquillity, richness of wildlife, recreational value	Peninsula Properties (South West Water)	Object – received from Bell Cornwell on behalf of Peninsular Properties – the Depot is a sustainable and deliverable site for development – brownfield land, contribute to West Devon’s 5 year housing land supply, location on edge of a settlement. Response questioned LGS guidance criteria as applied to this land – beauty, ecological value and potential for long term management.
Churchyard, St Peter’s Church		Vicar & PCC of St Peter’s Church (Rev Nick Weldon)	Consecrated ground usually doesn't need any further designation as you couldn't build houses on it anyway or change the use of the land, especially as there is no part of the churchyard that has not been used for burials in the past.

			Query - being designated a LGS, would this mean the church building could never be extended in any way beyond its current footprint? For example... a larger porch created for disabled access. If the designation would stop any future development of the church building then we should not agree to it.
Cemetery & Cemetery extension, Exeter St	tranquillity, beauty, richness of wildlife, historic significance	North Tawton Town Council (NTTC)	Support - agreed by NTTC at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 7 th March 2017
Allotments - behind Fore St	recreational value, tranquillity, richness of wildlife, historic significance	Rosemary & Nigel Davies	Support - allotments are rented out on an annual basis.
The Butts Field	Historic significance, tranquillity	Alan Stephens	Object - land used to provide animal grass keep; no public access or rights of way into or through the site. Land forms part of Wainhomes 20 year masterplan which includes open green space for the town. This area forms a site for a future school. This objection supported by Emery Planning, consultants to Wainhomes.

*The Wardens football field was registered as an Asset of community Value in May 2017

**The Depot site has been replaced by the Depot - dedicated allotment space (500sq.m) in Policy CH1

Letter to Landowners

Local Green Space Consultation

February 2017

The North Tawton Neighbourhood Plan Group are writing to you because we believe you are the owner, or represent the owner, of a piece of land which it is proposed to designate as a Local Green Space. The proposal has been made as a result of the questionnaire of residents in 2014, where residents were asked to identify green and open areas of importance to them within the town.

The Natural Environment White Paper (The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature 2011) highlighted “the importance of green spaces to the health and happiness of local communities”.

Green spaces, particularly natural green spaces, located close to local people provide a range of social, environmental and economic benefits, including –

- improved mental and physical health
- increased social activity
- increased physical activity
- reduced crime
- improvements to children’s learning
- increased voluntary action
- improved community cohesion and sense of belonging
- potential for local food growing
- more attractive places to live, work, play, visit and invest ☒ enhanced opportunities for wildlife habitats and wildlife corridors
- climate change adaptation for example by flood alleviation

The White Paper recommended that a new Green Areas designation be introduced that would give local people an opportunity to protect green spaces that have significant importance to their local communities.

“We propose that green spaces should be identified in neighbourhood plans and local plans which complement and do not undermine investment in homes, jobs and other essential services. Given the importance of green spaces to the health and happiness of local communities the Government considers the new designation should offer suitably strong protection to localised areas that are demonstrably special”

That recommendation was incorporated into the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as the new designation of Local Green Spaces. Attached is West Devon Borough Council Local Green Space Guidance.

If you are the owner of the land proposed for designation, your support, or your objection, to designation, will be included in the submission by the Neighbourhood Plan Group to West Devon Borough Council.

The land proposed for designation is:

The criteria for designation of this land is:

- the proposed space is local in character;
- the space is within close proximity to the community it serves;
- the space is demonstrably special to the local community;
- the space is of particular local significance because of:

➤ its recreational value

Please confirm if you or your organisation are the landowner: YES/NO

If you are not the landowner can you provide their name and contact details?

IF YOU ARE THE LANDOWNER PLEASE PROVIDE A MAP OF YOUR OWNERSHIP

If you are the landowner, are you in support of or objecting to the proposals to designate this land?

SUPPORT/OBJECT

If you are objecting to the proposals to designate your land, what are your reasons?

April 2017

If you would like to discuss this with a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Group please contact the Town Clerk 01837 880121 or at the address below

