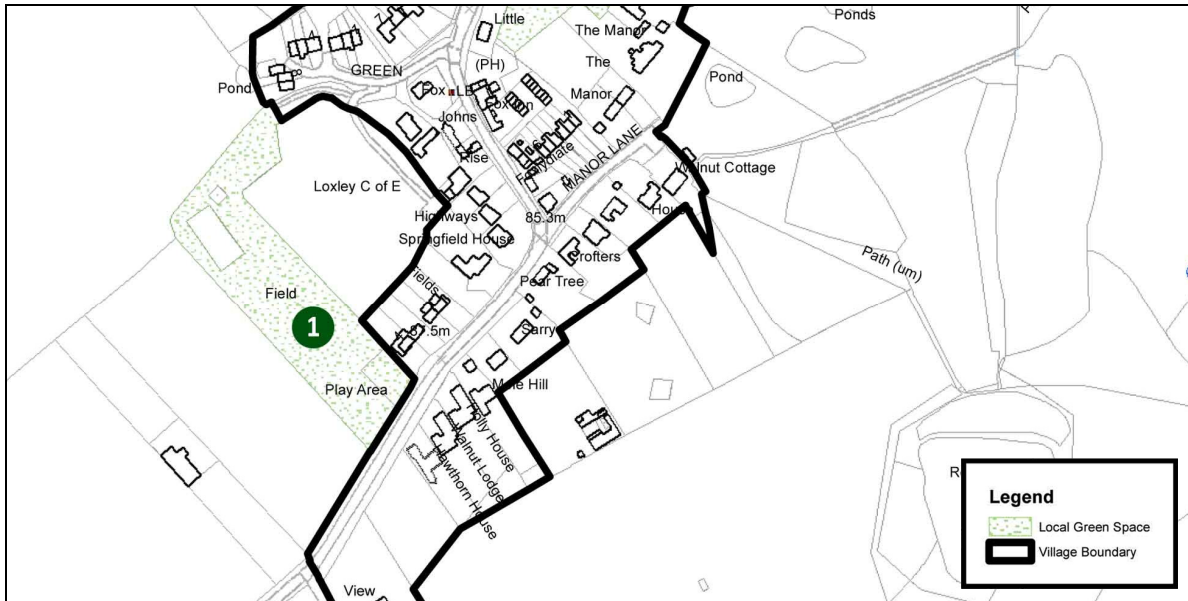


LOXLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Local Green Space Site Assessment: January 2018

Site Address	Site Area	Site Ref
Playing Field, Goldicote Road	Approx. ha: 0.95	LGS No: 1
Plan		
		
Site Description and Current Land Use		
<p>The site is an actively used recreational ground with a football pitch and goal posts, tennis and basketball courts and a well-equipped children's play area which is enclosed by low fencing and is in good condition. The lawned areas are closely mown and well-maintained. The entire site is enclosed by mature trees and hedgerows and generally surrounded by open green fields with the exception of housing adjacent to the northeast and southeast corners and along the road opposite. There is pavement access along the road frontage.</p>		
Relevant Planning History		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 74/01351/FUL: Provision of a hard tennis court Permission Granted: 27/03/1975 		
Site Ownership		
<p>Loxley Parish Council holds this land in Trust.</p>		
Site Constraints		
<p>The site is a greenfield site at the edge of the village.</p>		

Public Access

The site is open to the public and fully accessible. There are two public entrances one on Goldicote Road and the other from Mudd Lane which is adjacent to Barracks Green.

Site Photo



Taken in January 2018

Ecological Significance

The site contains a mix of mature trees and some shrubs. Mixed species hedgerows and shrubs are important for a number of birds and mammals as they provide food, shelter and nesting sites. They increase the diversity of insect species (including butterflies and bees which are currently in decline), which are a food source for bird and mammal species and can also play an important role in the pollination of plants and crops in the surrounding area. The diversity and population numbers of insects directly impacts the food chain for other fauna in the area and has a wider impact on the cultivation of crops.

Trees provide nesting sites for birds as well as habitats for small mammal species e.g. squirrels. These are all vital for the wider food web and species diversity within the village ecosystem.

In the village there have been sightings of larger fauna species such as muntjac deer, bats, birds of prey (e.g. buzzards and owls), rabbits and hedgehogs. The site plays an important contributory role in the wider ecological significance of the village.

Special Qualities and Local Significance

The site is the only formal recreational ground/facility in the village. The special qualities of the site include its recreational value for children and adults through community events, sports and the playground. The open green fields surrounding the site create a sense of space and tranquillity.

The field is used by the school at lunch times in the Summer term. It is also used for after school clubs (football, tag-rugby) and the tennis court has been used for tennis lessons. Forest School sessions also take place in the field, as do fun runs and the annual sports day.

The site is demonstrably special and locally significant as it is actively used and valued by the local community as a formal area of open space.

Summary and Suitability for Designation as Local Green Space

This site is well related to and appreciated and valued by the local community and makes a positive contribution to the local distinctiveness of the village.

LGS1 as outlined on the above plan is considered to be suitable for Local Green Space designation in accordance with paragraph 77 of the National Planning Policy Framework in that it:

- is in very close proximity to the community it serves;
- is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance because of its recreational value, tranquillity and richness of its habitats and wildlife potential; and
- is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.