

EAST HOATHLY WITH HALLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

LOCAL GREEN SPACE ASSESSMENT



Note: This document had previously been an annex to the Submission Neighbourhood Plan and has been removed to a separate document on the recommendation of the Independent Examiner.

Version 1

Updated: 31 May 2024

ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL LOCAL GREEN SPACES IN EAST HOATHLY WITH HALLAND PARISH

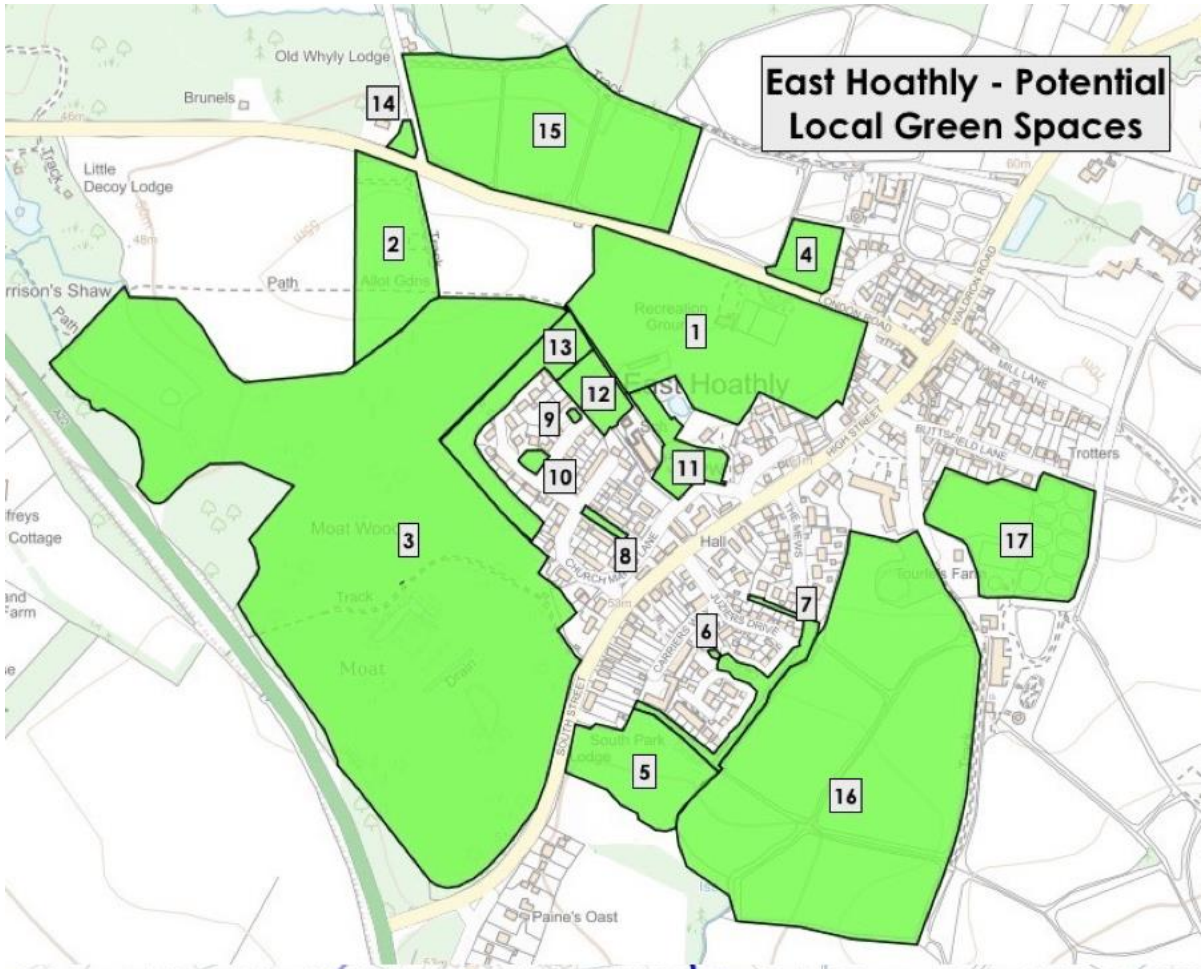
Methodology

1. The consultation process of the Neighbourhood Plan identified a wide range of suggestions for consideration as Local Green Spaces in the Parish. These were prioritised in Consultation Events and a shortlist of 20 potential sites was prepared.
2. The NPPF 2023, Paragraph 106, requires that **“Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:**
 - a. **In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;**
 - b. **Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife; and**
 - c. **Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land”.**
3. A shortlist of potential Local Green Space options was established:
 - a. Potential Option 1 - East Hoathly War Memorial Sports Ground.
 - b. Potential Option 2 - East Hoathly Garden Plots (Allotments).
 - c. Potential Option 3 - Moat Wood and Decoy Pond.
 - d. Potential Option 4 - Long Pond.
 - e. Potential Option 5 - Circle of Oaks Green Gap.
 - f. Potential Option 6 - Juziers Play Area.
 - g. Potential Option 7 - Juziers Drains/Swales.
 - h. Potential Option 8 - Church Marks Lane Lawn.
 - i. Potential Option 9 - Nightingales Play Area.

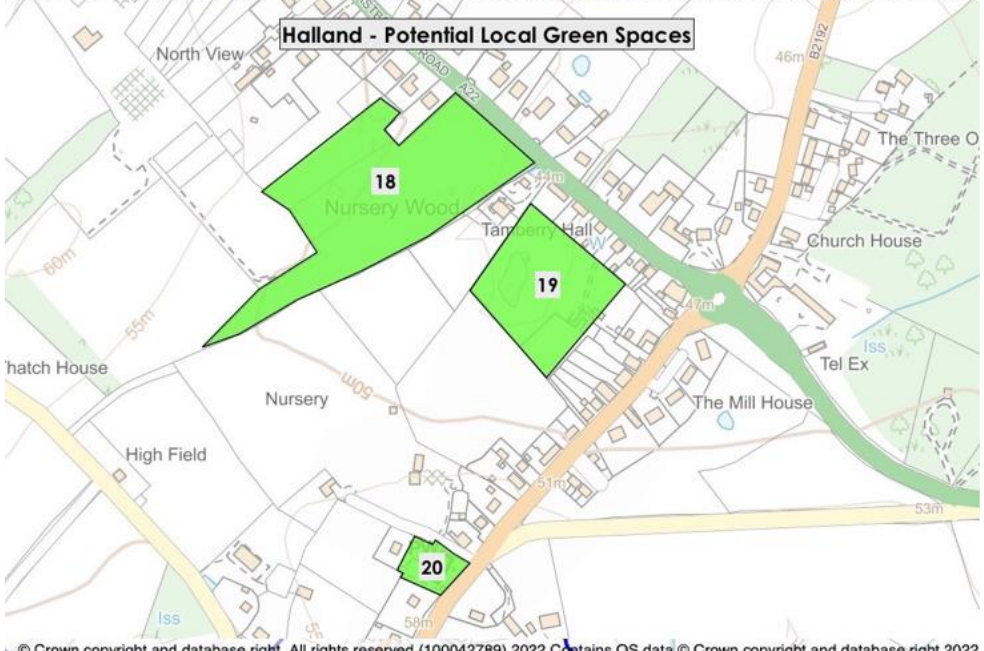
- j. Potential Option 10 - Nightingales Lawn.
- k. Potential Option 11 - East Hoathly Church Yard.
- l. Potential Option 12 - School Field.
- m. Potential Option 13 - Church Marks Green.
- n. Potential Option 14 - Croom Cottage Meadow.
- o. Potential Option 15 - Approach to East Hoathly on London Road.
- p. Potential Option 16 - South Downs View.
- q. Potential Option 17 - Buttsfield Lane.
- r. Potential Option 18 - Nursery Wood.
- s. Potential Option 19 - Land to the rear of the Blacksmith's Arms.
- t. Potential Option 20 - Halland Chapel Burial Ground.

4. These potential options were assessed against the criteria of Paragraph 106 of the NPPF 2023. The results are detailed in a table following the assessment of each option. A summary of the results is presented in Table 21 and the outcome of the assessment indicated. Five sites were rejected and as a result 15 sites were proposed as Local Green Spaces. Two of the potential options in Halland (potential options 18 and 19) received poor public support during consultation events and were rejected. Three of the potential options in East Hoathly (potential options 15, 16 and 17) were not supported by WDC on the grounds that they were too large in area and were not of sufficient merit and were rejected. Following the Examiner's Report, two additional potential options in East Hoathly (potential options 3 and 5) were not supported by the Examiner and were rejected.

5. Halland has no public open space or greenspace. One potential site (Halland Chapel - Proposed Local Green Space 20) is being proposed as a Local Green Space but this does not satisfy the need for a publicly accessible open space or greenspace for the residents of Halland. Such a site would preferably be in the North West quadrant of Halland where the greatest density of housing exists and remains an aspiration for this plan.



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Figure 1 – Potential Local Green Spaces in Parish

Potential Local Green Space 1 - East Hoathly War Memorial Sports Ground

6. The War Memorial Sports Ground Trust was established in 1947 after purchase of the 4 Hectare site with the proceeds of a War Memorial Fund. The Conveyance stipulates that the land must not be used for any other purpose than as a sports and recreation ground for the benefit and use of the Parish. The East Hoathly Parish Council became the Trustees in 1952 and the Trust was registered as a charity in 1963. The Sports Ground is central to the sporting life of our community. It is currently home to:



East Hoathly War Memorial Sports Ground

- a. East Hoathly Cricket Club
- b. East Hoathly Rifle Club
- c. East Hoathly Tennis Club (Three floodlit courts)
- d. Children's Play Area
- e. Occasional use by local Cycle Racing Club
- f. Basketball Hoop



East Hoathly Tennis Courts

7. There is a self-contained wooden building owned and administered by the Rifle Club.

8. The single storey Pavilion was built in 1980 and is of simple brick construction within a steel agricultural style framework with an asbestos roof. It has a tarmac car parking area with access onto London Road. It is now in poor condition, energy inefficient, with inadequate shower and changing facilities. It has one changing room large enough for a football team with showers and one toilet. The second changing room is only large enough for half a football team with a very small shower and no toilet. If mixed gender teams are playing there is no capacity to have separate changing facilities. There are no changing facilities for officials. The building was not designed to cater for disabled people or wheelchair access. Disabled facilities are limited to one toilet.

9. The Pavilion has a kitchen, a store for machinery and sports equipment and a function room that is used for cricket and tennis refreshments. It is available for other sporting or recreational uses and private hire for social events. It is occasionally used by local cycling groups as the base for races and time trials.



East Hoathly Sports Ground Pavilion and Car Park

10. The whole of the grassed area of the Sports Ground is poorly drained and sits towards the bottom of a slope of higher ground to the North and East. Surface water drains across the Sports Ground to the watercourses to the West, which feeds into the River Uck and River Cuckmere catchments. The result is that in wet weather most of the Sports Ground is waterlogged and in particular, the area of the Football Pitch is unplayable for large periods of the football season. The lack of playable conditions led to the demise of the East Hoathly Football Club and it is unlikely that this will start again without improvements to the drainage. The Parish Council wish to improve this by providing adequate drainage for this area. The possibility of the level of the football pitch area being raised by infilling the area with waste soil has been examined.

11. The Sports Ground is also the site for various Parish events. The annual Carnival in November is part of the wider Sussex tradition of Carnivals and Bonfires but the East Hoathly Carnival Society formed in 1918 is unique in commemorating those from the Parish who died in War. The event includes a formal act of remembrance and culminates in a large firework display. It attracts thousands of visitors and raises considerable sums for charity and local causes. Other events include the Midsummer Music Festival, Dog Shows and occasional Fetes.

12. It is the primary area for public recreation in the Parish. In addition to formal sports, it is a much-loved place to walk, exercise dogs, sit, picnic and

for informal games. Its status as a War Memorial is special to many parishioners, its recreational value is unquestionable and it provides an invaluable benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of residents.

13. The Sports Ground was proposed as a Multi-Functional Green Space in Background Paper 6 Green Infrastructure to the WDC 2013 Core Strategy. It was recognized as a Key Open Space in the WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021.

Table 1 – Potential Local Green Space 1 – East Hoathly War Memorial Sports Ground

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 200 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, a sports ground of open greenspace with facilities for football, cricket, tennis, basketball, children’s play area, pavilion and rifle club. The area also has a large pond surrounded by mature trees and scrub providing a wildlife haven and is an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. The sports ground is surrounded by mature woodland, hedgerows, Churchyard, open fields and village housing. Size - 4.33 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	Yes, the Sports Ground is a War Memorial (gifted into Trust following WW2) and holds a special place in the minds of the community. This is remembered every year as part of the East Hoathly Carnival commemorations. In addition to being the sporting centre of the Parish it hosts an annual music festival – Midsummer Magic and

	<p>occasional village fetes. An essential amenity for the local community, used for sport, games, picnics and recreation. The East Hoathly Cricket Club and East Hoathly Tennis Club are active users of the facilities and Pavilion.</p> <p>The open green nature of this site means that it is used frequently by children playing ball sports. The provision of children's play equipment and a Basketball Hoop means that it is used by older and younger residents alike. Benches within the site provide an important space for residents to meet and relax. The space is much used by dogwalkers. The space contributes to the open character of this area.</p> <p>Mature hedgerows and trees that line the perimeter are important habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife. The pond and surrounding mature trees are a particularly important wildlife habitat. The pond forms an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. This network is a rich environment for plants and animals that depend on aquatic habitats.</p>
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Potential Local Green Space 2 - East Hoathly Garden Plots (Allotments)

14. East Hoathly Garden Plots are located on the South side of the London Road opposite the turning to Old Whyly. They were created in 2013 to replace the original much loved allotments at Church Marks Lane that were turned into housing in the 1950s. They are highly valued by Parish residents.



East Hoathly Garden Plots

15. The Garden Plots provide recreational benefits and the opportunity for people to grow their own food. The people doing so have formed their own supportive community aiding their health and wellbeing. There is also a separate organisation, which runs a Community Garden and Community Orchard. The Community Garden is a Community Interest Company that started in 2015 to provide a safe and nurturing space for local people, who are challenged by mental health and physical disabilities. Further details can be found by typing the following into your internet browser:

<https://www.ourcommunitygarden.org.uk/>

or select the following link: [Link to Community Garden Website](#)

16. The Garden Plots are often bustling with activity, yet they also provide a quiet place to enjoy healthy activity surrounded by the natural world.

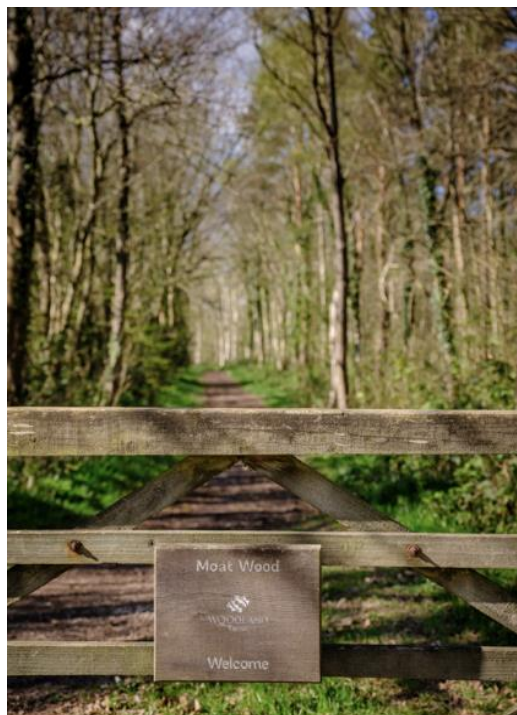
Table 2 – Potential Local Green Space 2 – East Hoathly Garden Plots (Allotments)

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 560 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, an open greenspace containing allotments used to grow vegetables, fruit and flowers. The space also has a community orchard and a Community Garden providing a safe and nurturing space for local people, who are challenged by mental health and physical disabilities. The Garden Plots are surrounded by mature woodland, hedgerows and open fields. Size – 1.61 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	Yes, the Garden Plots (allotments) are the only ones available in the Parish. Many homes in the Parish have small garden spaces, no garden, or have used their garden space for vehicle parking. The Garden Plots are therefore an essential asset and much loved by those using them. The allotments provide excellent recreational value for tenants and their families, to grow vegetables, fruit and flowers for personal consumption, and healthy physical exercise. The allotments provide an atmosphere of tranquillity and comradeship – an escape for those with busy family or working lives. The Garden Plots connect with local footpaths and are often visited by parishioners on walks who enjoy interacting with the gardeners. The Community Garden has been a

	wonderful initiative providing an opportunity for people with mental and physical disabilities to work in a safe and natural environment and benefit from the pleasures and wonder of gardening.
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Potential Local Green Space 3 - Moat Wood and Decoy Pond

17. Moat Wood is designated Ancient Woodland and contains a Scheduled Monument. It is also protected by a TPO. It is located on the West side of East Hoathly and provides an important screen to the village from the A22. The public footpaths within it are well used by residents and are an important part of the network of footpaths in the village. The area is also an important catchment area with a series of ponds and waterways into which the higher land to the North East of the Parish drain.



**Entrance to Moat Wood,
East Hoathly**

18. The woodland, which in total extends to almost 19 Hectares and has several different owners as shown on the map below. The fringe of woodland alongside the A22 is owned by ESCC. The Woodland Trust own the main section that is accessed by the public and contains the Scheduled Monument.

The section on the Eastern edge of the woodland abutting South Street is owned by a property company and is regularly advertised for sale as potential development land.

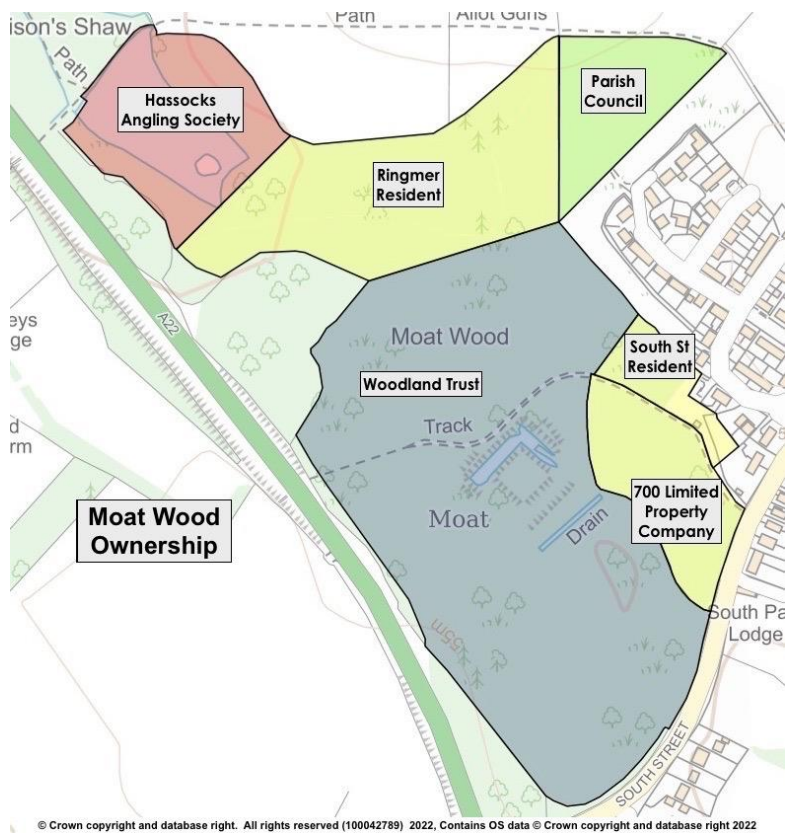


Figure 2 - Ownership of Moat Wood

19. The area represents a highly important area of biodiversity and habitat. Some of the rare and protected species that live in this area are the black adder, nightingales, many species of bats, badgers, water voles, smooth and great crested newts, pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly, colonies of wasp spiders, green tiger beetle, dormice, grass snakes and slow worms. It is home to many deer which move around the surrounding fields seeking forage and occasionally visit resident's gardens.

20. The area includes several ponds and water courses the largest of which is Decoy Pond. This is a popular fishing destination and is run by the Hassocks Angling Society. They offer 5 pegs with disabled wheelchair access.



Area of Scheduled Ancient Monument in Moat Wood, East Hoathly

21. Moat Wood and Decoy Pond are the most popular destinations for walking in the Parish. The natural beauty of the mature ancient woodlands across all seasons makes it a constant tonic. The recreational value of this area is unquestionable and it provides an invaluable benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of residents. The walks and resting places provide the opportunity for tranquility and quiet reflection.

22. The WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021 states, at Paragraphs 5.1.1 and 5.1.2, that **“Trees, hedges, open spaces and other natural elements form a significant part of the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The landscape around East Hoathly still has a very rural character of fields, hedges, treed boundaries, and woodland, which provides an important backdrop to the settlement”**. Moat Wood is specifically identified as having an important impact on the Conservation Area.

Table 3 – Potential Local Green Space 3 – Moat Wood and Decoy Pond

<p>NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria</p>	<p>Assessment</p>
<p>1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.</p>	<p>Yes, within 460 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within walking distance.</p>
<p>2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.</p>	<p>Yes, very local in character, an area of Ancient Woodland containing a large number of important mature trees and significant wildlife haven. The woodland contains many ponds and watercourses and forms a significant part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. Part of the site is a fishing pond which provides access for anglers using wheelchairs. Another part contains the remains of a medieval moated site which is a scheduled Ancient Monument. The Ancient Woodland is surrounded by additional mature woodland, hedgerows, open fields and village housing. Size – 18.82 hectares.</p> <p>The NPPF does not specify what constitutes an extensive tract of land. Government guidance on open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space, states: “There are no hard and fast rules about how big a Local Green Space can be because places are different and a degree of judgment will inevitably be needed”.¹ In other places, sites in the order of 20 Hectares have been granted Local Green Space designation. Moat Wood is owned by different parties but as a woodland it is a single entity. Our assessment is that</p>

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space>

	<p>the size of the woodland is in proportion to the size of the parish and the scale of the village.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.</p>	<p>Yes, Moat Wood is a very important area of Ancient Woodland in the Parish. It is adjacent to East Hoathly village and has a section that is accessible to the public (the only such publicly accessible Ancient Woodland in the Parish).</p> <p>It has significant historic interest with the remains of a medieval moated site (Scheduled Ancient Monument). The name Hoathly is thought to have derived from the Old English <i>hath leah</i>, a heathy woodland clearing where heather grows.² It has been linked to the name of <i>De Hodleigh</i>, landowners in the 12th century.³ It is therefore the only remaining section of Ancient Woodland adjacent to the village created in that woodland clearing.</p> <p>The woodlands excellent recreational value for all age-groups and is very popular with dog walkers. It provides children with a natural playground in the fresh air, space to play hide and seek and shade to play under in the hot summer months. It provides a sense of calm and tranquillity with an opportunity to be close to nature and wildlife. This opportunity to embrace the natural world is important for mental wellbeing and quiet reflection.</p> <p>The space provides an extremely rich series of habitats with abundant biodiversity. Ancient Woodland acts as an extremely important seedbank of plant life in addition to the existing</p>

² Mills AD 2011, A Dictionary of British Place Names.

³ Lower, M A. A Compendious History of Sussex 1870.

	<p>vegetation. Mature trees from saplings to decaying fallen trunks all provide vital habitats and food sources for birds, mammals, insects and invertebrates. The area is carpeted in wildflowers and woodland foliage all providing cover and food for the many animals that live in the woodland or use it to transit through the area.</p> <p>Decoy Pond is owned and stocked by a Fishing Club which provides access for disabled anglers. The pond is the largest of several ponds, ditches and waterways that drain the woodland and form an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. This network is a rich environment for plants and animals that depend on aquatic habitats.</p> <p>Some of the rare and protected species that live in this area are the black adder, nightingales, many species of bats, badgers, deer, water voles, smooth and great crested newts, pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly, colonies of wasp spiders, green tiger beetle, dormice, grass snakes and slow worms.</p>
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Potential Local Green Space 4 - Long Pond

23. Long Pond has been an important water feature in the Parish appearing on the Tithe Map of 1840. It is one of the few remaining ponds in the area of East Hoathly from that period, many of which have been built over or infilled. Long Pond is recorded by the Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre as a Great Crested Newt breeding site.



Long Pond, East Hoathly

24. The trees and shrubs that surround the pond are an important part of the setting for the nearby Heritage assets and the Conservation Area.

25. The land was owned by Trills Builders that operated on adjacent land until 1988 when it sold to Rydon Homes for housing that is now Thomas Turner Drive. The area containing Long Pond was transferred to the ownership of the Parish Council in 1994 as part of a Section 106 Agreement with Rydon Homes when a final “in-fill” part of the development was completed. It had been intended that the area would be a public open space but health and safety concerns and objections by the Parish Council insurers meant that only supervised access was allowed. The Parish Council attempted to drain the pond in September 2000 in an attempt to make the land more accessible but the excavation work caused the bank of the pond and part of the garden of one of the houses in Thomas Turner Drive to collapse. The bank was restored and public access remained prohibited.

26. In 2009 an attempt was made to apply for a change of use permission to allow allotments to be created on the site. WDC indicated that they were likely to grant the consent but required an ecological survey to be done. The significant amount of wildlife on the site and in particular the presence of a breeding population of Great Crested Newts meant that the Parish Council withdrew its application.

27. The land was transferred to Hesmond's Stud in 2012 as part of a land swap for a piece of Hesmond's Stud land on Harrison's Field where the Garden Plots are now situated. The site is now closed to public access but remains a very important wildlife sanctuary.

28. The land is part of a proposed development site (WD/2016/2796/MAO and WD/2022/0341/MAJ). However, in neither planning application is the land identified as Long Pond proposed for anything other than a greenspace, retaining the pond and all its wildlife.

Table 4 – Potential Local Green Space 4 – Long Pond

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 280 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, a large pond and surrounding land with mature trees and scrub providing a wildlife haven and an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. The pond is recorded as a breeding site for Great Crested Newts. The site is surrounded by mature woodland, hedgerows, open fields and village housing. Size – 0.45 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as	Yes, Long Pond has an important part in the history of East Hoathly village. It appears on the 1840 Tithe Map and is one of the few remaining ponds in the Parish from that period.

a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.

Long Pond is large and deep and forms an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. This network is a rich environment for plants and animals that depend on aquatic habitats and Long Pond has been recorded as a Great Crested Newt Breeding Pond.

The land adjacent to the pond is natural scrub with some mature and important trees. Its wild nature and lack of public access has led to it becoming an important sanctuary for wildlife and plants. It is home to squirrels, rabbits, foxes, ducks, snakes, nesting birds and is used as a resting place by deer. The wide range of plants, wildflowers and decaying wood provide forage for many animals and habitats for insects.

Potential Local Green Space 5 - Circle of Oaks Green Gap



Circle of Oaks Green Gap

29. The Green Gap on South Street is known locally as Circle of Oaks owing to the characteristic circle of oak trees growing in the centre of the site. It provides a corridor of access linking the wildlife of the Ancient Woodland to the West in Moat Wood to the open countryside to the East and South of the Village. This is important because the wildlife in Moat Wood and its surrounding areas is enclosed to the West by the significant barrier of the A22. The Green Gap on South Street is the only connection that wildlife has to the open countryside to the East. This is recognized as one of the community and environmental benefits identified in the Locality Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations by **“Providing habitats for wildlife and natural corridors and spaces through urban areas”**. Any development here would affect a variety of wildlife:⁴

Bats

a. Large numbers of bats, of varying species, have been detected flying in the area. It is mostly used as a transit route with the bats emerging from Moat Wood and crossing South Street at the Green Gap and heading East to the tree-line at the Eastern edge of the site. They then follow the tree line South to the Sewage Works where they feed on the abundant insects flying above the Works.

Deer

b. It is also known that deer use the cover of Moat Wood and emerge from it to cross South Street through the Green Gap to connect to the countryside beyond for grazing.

Reptiles

c. Slow worms and grass snakes have been found in this area. They use the habitats in the margins of the area and the open spaces for foraging. The rare Black Adder that has been located in Moat Wood may also be present in the area.

30. The circle of oak trees in the centre of the area is a well-known local feature and attractive reminder of the rural nature of this village. These mature trees are protected with a Tree Preservation Order in acknowledgement of their importance.

⁴ Locality - Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations in your NP – 2021, Paragraph 1, Page 6.

31. The importance of green gaps providing separation between housing in settlements is identified in the WDC Landscape Character Assessment.⁵ One of its guidelines for the Ouse Catchment (Zone 6D), in which the Circle of Oaks sits, is to: **“Limit the amount and scale of development in rural areas, protecting the existing low-density settlement pattern of dispersed rural villages, hamlets, and scattered farms, and the separation between these different settlement types”**. The importance of this open greenspace is also recognized in the WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal 2021:

- a. **“Open spaces within and on the edge of the conservation area are important as they help to define the built environment and create a sense of place”**.⁶
- b. **“The most important views looking into, out of and through the conservation area are shown on the character appraisal map in Appendix 1. These contribute to the character and setting of the conservation area and care needs to be taken to ensure that they are not lost or compromised by future development or poorly sited services”**.⁷

32. The site has been subject to repeated attempts to obtain planning consent for housing. These began in 1961 and there have been 15 applications since then all of which were refused permission or withdrawn and two of which then had appeals rejected. A further planning application was made in 2018 which was refused in 2021, the decision appealed and that appeal has now been withdrawn. WDC has assessed the site as suitable for housing in their SHELAA report (SHELAA ref:154/1950) but 14 refusals of permission, two rejected appeals and four applications/appeals withdrawn indicates strongly that this site is unsuitable for development. It is therefore still considered to meet the criteria for a Local Green Space.

⁵ WDC Landscape Character Assessment 2022: <https://www.wealden.gov.uk/UploadedFiles/Wealden-LCA.pdf>

⁶ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.4.1.

⁷ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.5.1.

Table 5 – Potential Local Green Space 5 – Circle of Oaks

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 300 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, an open agricultural field bordered by hedgerows and containing a group of mature trees (mostly oak) broadly in a circular pattern in the centre of the field. It provides habitat for many species, a green gap between the housing on South Street, East Hoathly and an important transit route for wildlife transiting between Moat Wood and the open countryside to the East. A building in the corner of the field is part of the East Hoathly Conservation Area. The field is surrounded by mature woodland, hedgerows, open fields and village housing. Size – 1.31 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	Yes, Circle of Oaks is a well-known landmark within the community and provides an important green gap between the main part of East Hoathly village and the end of South Street. The buildings at the end of South Street grew up around the original position of Watford’s Farm which is possibly shown on two maps dating from 1770/80s. ⁸ The property appears on the East Hoathly Tithe Map of 1840 and is occupied by hop farmer, David Paine and the property remains known as Paines Farm. ⁹ The nature of this section of the village changed significantly when the A22 bypass made

⁸ Yeakell and Gardner Map 1778 – 1783. Ordnance Survey Drawing – Eridge Park dated 1789.

⁹ East Hoathly Tithe Map Apportionment 1841 - Numbers 454 to 459 - Occupier David Paine for property of Late Watfords.

	<p>this southern section of the village a more tranquil and pleasant environment. The existence of the green gap is something that adds significantly to the character of the village.</p> <p>The space is an open field bounded by hedgerows containing many mature trees. A brick built, clay tiled, gabled roofed stable block sits in the corner of the field adjacent to South Street and forms part of the East Hoathly Conservation Area. The circle of mature oak trees in the middle of the field (protected by a Tree Preservation Order) is a very pleasing landmark viewable on entry to East Hoathly village from the South.</p> <p>The space provides important habitats for nesting birds and many other animals, plants and insects. More importantly, the space provides a transit route for wildlife including many bats and deer that move from Moat Wood and the West of the village to the open land to the East and South of the village for grazing and forage. Many bats move through this area to get to the East Hoathly Sewage Works where they feed on the insects above the Works.</p>
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Potential Local Green Space 6 - Juziers Play Area

33. This open greenspace is a children’s play area and amenity space. The recreational value of this area is self-evident and it provides an invaluable benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of children and all residents.

34. Identified in WDC - The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016) as Children’s Play Area. Also identified in WDC Green Infrastructure Study 2017 as being an important part of the Green Infrastructure Network.



Figure 3 – Potential Juziers Local Green Spaces



Juziers Play Area

35. This open greenspace is demonstrably special to the local community. It gives the housing development a sense of place and openness with views onto a safe play area, greenery and trees. It makes the environment a more beautiful and attractive place to live. This reflects several of the community

and environmental benefits identified by Locality Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations as follows: ¹⁰

- a. **“Being part of the public realm, where informal social interaction can take place”**.
- b. **“Forming part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through an area”**.
- c. **“Providing flexible space for recreation, local cultural events and performance”**.
- d. **“Adding to local amenity, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties”**.

6 – Potential Local Green Space 6 – Juziers Play Area

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 190 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, it provides a small fenced, grassed play area within a housing estate. It is surrounded by mature trees, open space and housing. Combined with Potential Local Green Space 7 this creates a significantly more healthy and attractive setting for the housing and its residents. Size – 0.01 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as	Yes, the proposed Local Green Spaces 6 and 7 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing. Proposed Local Green Space 6 provides a tranquil open area of

¹⁰ Locality - Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations in your NP – 2021, Paragraph 1, Page 6.

a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.

greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.

Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play safely and a meeting point.

The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of children and other residents.

Potential Local Green Space 7 - Juziers Drains/Swales

36. This open greenspace was established partly as an amenity space and partly as a buffer zone for the housing development. The buffer zone incorporates the drains and swales for the housing development. This area is planted with trees and shrubs (to supplement those originally on the site) and provides an attractive backdrop for the housing linking it with the surrounding countryside.



Juziers Drains/Swales

37. The importance of such tree planting is recognized in the WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021. Identified in Planning Decision Notice as a Green Buffer Zone containing Drainage Swales and planted with native trees and shrubs to add to the existing vegetation. This reflects several of the community and environmental benefits identified by Locality Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations as follows:¹¹

- a. **“Being part of the public realm, where informal social interaction can take place”**.
- b. **“Forming part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through an area”**.
- c. **“Providing flexible space for recreation, local cultural events and performance”**.
- d. **“Providing habitats for wildlife and natural corridors and spaces through urban areas”**.
- e. **“Adding to local amenity, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties”**.
- f. **“Forming part of flood mitigation, such as SUDS”**.

38. This open greenspace is demonstrably special to the local community. It gives the housing development a sense of place and openness with views onto greenery and trees. It makes the environment a more beautiful and attractive place to live. It also provides an important habitat for biodiversity connecting the countryside into the housing development.

¹¹ Locality - Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations in your NP – 2021, Paragraph 1, Page 6.



Juziers Drains/Swales

Table 7 – Potential Local Green Space 7 – Juziers Drains/Swales

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 190 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, green open space with mature trees and water features providing separation and open space within the surrounding housing

	<p>estate. Combined with Potential Local Green Space 6 this creates a significantly more healthy and attractive setting for the housing and its residents. Size – 0.5 hectares.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.</p>	<p>Yes, the proposed Local Green Spaces 6 and 7 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 7 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for neighbours to meet and interact. The water features, mature trees and planting within the area provide habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming. The views out to the East onto open countryside with the South Downs in the distance create a sense of place and character for the development.</p> <p>The benefits of this natural space within the built environment and the views are of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 8 - Church Marks Lane Lawn

39. This is an open, amenity greenspace. Greenspaces such as this provide a place for limited recreation, but more importantly they provide openness within the built environment and a natural space to balance the hard landscaping of the urban setting. These are of benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of all residents in addition to making the built environment a more attractive place to live.



Figure 4 – Potential Nightingales Local Green Spaces

40. Identified in WDC - The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016) as an Amenity Green Space. This open greenspace is demonstrably special to the local community. It gives the housing development a sense of place and openness with views onto greenery and trees. It makes the environment a more beautiful and attractive place to live. It also provides an important habitat for biodiversity connecting the countryside into the housing development. This reflects several of the community and environmental benefits identified by Locality Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations as follows:¹²

- a. **“Being part of the public realm, where informal social interaction can take place”.**
- b. **“Forming part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through an area”.**
- c. **“Providing flexible space for recreation, local cultural events and performance”.**

¹² Locality - Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations in your NP – 2021, Paragraph 1, Page 6.

- d. “Adding to local amenity, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties”.



Church Marks Lawn

Table 8 – Potential Local Green Space 8 – Church Marks Lane Lawn

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 220 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, it provides an open greenspace within a housing estate. The site is grassed with some trees. It is surrounded on 2 sides by houses and provides a pedestrian route

	<p>through the housing estate. Combined with Potential Local Green Spaces 9, 10 and 13 this creates a significantly more healthy and attractive setting for the housing and its residents. Size – 0.05 hectares.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.</p>	<p>Yes. The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 8 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for neighbours to meet and interact. The trees within the area provide habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 9 - Nightingales Play Area

41. This open greenspace is a children’s play area and amenity space. The recreational value of this area is self-evident and it provides an invaluable benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of children and, by extension, all residents.



Nightingales Play Area

42. Identified in WDC - The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016) as Children's Play Area. Also identified in WDC Green Infrastructure Study 2017 as being an important part of the Green Infrastructure Network. This reflects several of the community and environmental benefits identified by Locality Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations as follows:¹³

- a. **“Being part of the public realm, where informal social interaction can take place”.**
- b. **“Forming part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through an area”.**
- c. **“Providing flexible space for recreation, local cultural events and performance”.**
- d. **“Adding to local amenity, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties”.**

¹³ Locality - Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations in your NP – 2021, Paragraph 1, Page 6.

43. This open green space is demonstrably special to the local community. It gives the housing development a sense of place and openness with views onto a safe play area and greenery. It makes the environment a more beautiful and attractive place to live.

Table 9 – Potential Local Green Space 9 – Nightingales Play Area

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 250 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, it provides a small fenced, grassed play area with play equipment within a housing estate. It is surrounded by the school field and housing. Combined with Potential Local Green Spaces 8, 10 and 13 this creates a significantly more healthy and attractive setting for the housing and its residents. Size – 0.02 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	<p>Yes. The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 9 provides an important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play safely and a meeting point for neighbours to interact. The provision of play equipment makes it a popular location for children of all ages.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. The planting within the area provides habitats for wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p>

	<p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of children and other residents.</p>
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Potential Local Green Space 10 - Nightingales Lawn

44. This is an open amenity greenspace. Greenspaces such as this provide a place for limited recreation but more importantly they provide openness within the built environment and a natural space to balance the hard landscaping of the urban setting. These are of benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of all residents.



Nightingales Lawn

45. Identified in WDC - The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016) as an Amenity Green Space. This reflects several of the community and environmental benefits identified by Locality Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations as follows:¹⁴

¹⁴ Locality - Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations in your NP – 2021, Paragraph 1, Page 6.

- a. **“Being part of the public realm, where informal social interaction can take place”.**
- b. **“Forming part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through an area”.**
- c. **“Providing flexible space for recreation, local cultural events and performance”.**
- d. **“Adding to local amenity, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties”.**

46. This open greenspace is demonstrably special to the local community. It gives the housing development a sense of place and openness with views onto greenery and trees. It makes the environment a more beautiful and attractive place to live.

Table 10 – Potential Local Green Space 10 – Nightingales Lawn

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 290 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, it provides an open greenspace within a housing estate. The site is grassed with some trees. It is surrounded by houses. Combined with Potential Local Green Spaces 8, 9 and 13 this creates a significantly more healthy and attractive setting for the housing and its residents. Size – 0.06 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as	Yes. The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing. Proposed Local Green Space 10 provides a tranquil open area of

<p>a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.</p>	<p>greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for neighbours to meet and interact. The trees within the area provide habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>
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Potential Local Green Space 11 - East Hoathly Churchyard

47. The East Hoathly Churchyard is an area of tranquility and contemplation with the graves of many local people, historic characters and includes the war memorial. The War Memorial was dedicated in 1921 to commemorate the 20 East Hoathly servicemen who died in the First World War. The names of a further seven servicemen and four civilians were added following the Second World War. The graves are surrounded by a wonderful display of natural wildflowers, orchids and plants. The area had a wooden fence from at least 1726 which was paid for by parish landowners. They were responsible for a length of fencing based on their land ownership and their initials were carved onto their fence posts which is why the adjacent road is called Church Marks Lane.



East Hoathly Churchyard

48. The area was recognized as Key Open Space in the WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021. Cemeteries and Churchyards are identified in WDC Green Infrastructure Study 2017 as being an important part of the Green Infrastructure Network. Also Identified in WDC - The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016) as an Open Space.

Table 11– Potential Local Green Space 11 – East Hoathly Churchyard

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 200 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, a churchyard containing over one thousand memorials and many more thousands of burials amongst land that

	<p>is managed as a wildflower area.¹⁵ The churchyard is adjacent to the Rectory and East Hoathly Primary School and surrounded by trees, open space, Village Hall and village housing. Size – 0.5 hectares.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.</p>	<p>Yes, the East Hoathly Churchyard is a very special place for this community. It is the final resting place for many former residents and their families. It is a very popular place to find some tranquillity for quiet reflection. Its monuments and the inscriptions are a physical catalogue of the history of many of this community's residents.</p> <p>The area contains many mature trees that provide habitats for nesting birds and many insects. The management of the area for native wildflowers has changed the character from that of a sombre graveyard and provided a more natural and welcoming space. The planting has made the area a haven for wildlife and in particular birds and insects.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 12 - School Field

49. The School Field was given to the East Hoathly Church of England Primary School as part of the Nightingales development legal agreement. It provides an open green amenity space for the children's play and sport. The space adds to the general attractiveness of the School setting and of the nearby Heritage Assets. The recreational value of this area is self-evident and it provides an invaluable benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of children attending the School and, by extension, the children's parents.

¹⁵ In Loving Memory – Gravestone Inscriptions and Memorials in East Hoathly Churchyard, Jane Seabrook 1999.

50. Identified in WDC - The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016) as Educational Open Space.

Table 12 – Potential Local Green Space 12 – School Field

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 270 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, a green open space and play area for the East Hoathly Church of England Primary School. It abuts the School and is surrounded by trees, open space and village housing. Size – 0.39 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	<p>Yes, the School Field is very special to the children who attend the school and by extension to the whole community.</p> <p>It provides a space for the children to play and be creative in the open air and in a natural environment. It also provides a space for sporting activities which has a significant benefit for their physical development and health. The benefits to their education and mental wellbeing are significant.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 13 - Church Marks Green

51. This is an open amenity greenspace. Greenspaces such as this provide a place for limited recreation but more importantly, they provide openness within the built environment and a natural space to balance the hard landscaping of the urban setting. These are of benefit to the physical and mental wellbeing of all residents in addition to making the built environment a

more attractive place to live. This Lawn was created as a buffer zone surrounding the Nightingales development to protect the ancient woodland to the West and South West.

52. This open greenspace is demonstrably special to the local community. It gives the housing development a sense of place and openness with views onto greenery and trees. It provides a buffer to protect the Ancient Woodland yet also adds foraging and transit space for biodiversity to flourish. This reflects several of the community and environmental benefits identified by Locality Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations as follows:¹⁶

- a. **“Being part of the public realm, where informal social interaction can take place”.**
- b. **“Forming part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through an area”.**
- c. **“Providing flexible space for recreation, local cultural events and performance”.**
- d. **“Adding to local amenity, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties”.**



Church Marks Green

¹⁶ Locality - Guide to Making Local Green Space Designations in your NP – 2021, Paragraph 1, Page 6.

Table 13 – Potential Local Green Space 13 – Church Marks Green

<p align="center">NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria</p>	<p align="center">Assessment</p>
<p>1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.</p>	<p>Yes, within 300 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.</p>
<p>2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.</p>	<p>Yes, very local in character, a buffer zone of grass created to protect the Ancient Woodland of Moat Wood from the surrounding housing estate. surrounded by Ancient Woodland, open space and village housing. Size – 0.94 hectares.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.</p>	<p>Yes. The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 13 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature. This area which acts as a buffer zone for the Ancient Woodland is regularly visited by the rich biodiversity of Moat Wood.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for neighbours to meet and interact. The grassed area provides habitats for many insects and forage for deer, rabbits and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 14 - Croom Cottage Meadow

53. Croom Cottage Meadow is designated as a Local Wildlife Site (LWS) with rare wild flowers and orchids. It is the beginning of the open rural approach to East Hoathly on the London Road and adds significantly to the landscape setting of the village of open fields backed by woodland. Identified in WDC Green Infrastructure Study 2017 as being an important part of the Green Infrastructure Network.



Croom Cottage Meadow, East Hoathly

Table 14 – Potential Local Green Space 14 – Croom Cottage Meadow

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 560 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within walking distance.

<p>2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.</p>	<p>Yes, very local in character, a wildflower meadow designated as a Local Wildlife Site. It is part of the garden of Croom Cottage and is surrounded by Ancient Woodland, the Garden Plots and land designated for village housing. Size – 0.08 hectares.</p>
<p>3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.</p>	<p>Yes, Croom Cottage Meadow is a rare remnant of a wildflower meadow and designated as a Local Wildlife Site. It is an important sanctuary for insects and plants that can only thrive in this type of habitat.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. It is a visually attractive space that is much appreciated by residents and visitors passing on the Wealdway footpath.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 15 - Approach to East Hoathly on London Road

54. The three roads entering East Hoathly are generally tree/hedge lined with green verges and open vistas across pasture and into woodland. This is a particularly striking feature of this village and adds significantly to its attractiveness.

55. The London Road approach has especially wide green verges and is very open in its views into the village and Conservation Area. This is noted in the WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021:

- a. **“Views across the wider countryside are also important, with views in and out of the conservation area providing a strong sense of place and affording strong inter-visibility with historic buildings in the historic core”.**¹⁷
- b. **“Views through the character area are along the roads and back to the village core, and across the fields to the west and views to the large houses set back to the eastern side of the road,**

¹⁷ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 3.3.6.

which are often glimpsed through trees. Views across the wider countryside are important and the fields to the west allow views in and out of the conservation area and to the large area of woodland beyond”.¹⁸

c. “The landscape around East Hoathly still has a very rural character of fields, hedges, treed boundaries, and woodland, which provides an important backdrop to the settlement. Views across the wider countryside are also important, with views in and out of the conservation area providing a strong sense of place and affording strong inter-visibility with historic buildings in the historic core. There are views across surrounding fields and to area of woodland beyond, as well as views southwards towards the South Downs”.¹⁹

d. “Open spaces within and on the edge of the conservation area are important as they help to define the built environment and create a sense of place”.²⁰

56. Potential Local Green Space 15 is not supported by WDC. It is subject to a Planning Application. WDC have granted outline Planning Permission and it no longer meets the Local Green Space criteria. It is therefore rejected.

Table 15 – Potential Local Green Space 15 – Approach to East Hoathly on London Road

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 360 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, an area of open fields bounded by hedgerows marking the entrance to East Hoathly village. The area is surrounded by Ancient Woodland, Croom Cottage Local Wildlife Site, East Hoathly War

¹⁸ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 3.4.6.

¹⁹ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.1.2 and 5.2.

²⁰ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.4.1.

	Memorial Sports Ground and open space. Size – 4.37 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	<p>Yes, the approach to East Hoathly village on the London Road is special to this community. The open fields and wide hedgerows marked by mature trees provide an attractive and appropriate entry to a rural Sussex village. The glimpses of the village and the church tower establishes the setting for this historic community. This has been greatly enhanced following the creation of the A22 bypass and has allowed some peace and tranquillity to return to East Hoathly. The field patterns and this setting for the village has remained the same for at least 250 years.²¹</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. The open fields bounded by hedgerows containing many mature trees provide significant habitats for nesting birds and wildlife. The fields provide forage for animals emerging from the surrounding ancient woodland.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 16 - South Downs View

57. The public footpath from Old Lane towards South Street and eventually Blackberry Farm, passes adjacent to these fields along an avenue of mature oak trees. There are unspoilt views across these fields to the South Downs on the horizon. For those walking to the village from the far end of South Street it is a charming way to approach the village as there is virtually no built-up hinterland before one enters the village centre.

58. The importance of the views southwards towards the South Downs are recognized in the WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021:

²¹ Yeakell and Gardner Map 1778 – 1783.

- a. **“Views across the wider countryside are also important, with views across the fields adjacent to the conservation area to the west and southwards towards the South Downs”**.²²
- b. **“Open spaces within and on the edge of the conservation area are important as they help to define the built environment and create a sense of place”**.²³
- c. **“The open landscape makes an important contribution to the traditional open setting of the conservation area. The rural location of the village within the gently sloping agricultural landscape of the Low Weald and in close proximity to the South Downs means that there is open fields and woodland surrounding the conservation area”**.²⁴
- d. **“The most important views looking into, out of and through the conservation area are shown on the character appraisal map in Appendix 1. These contribute to the character and setting of the conservation area and care needs to be taken to ensure that they are not lost or compromised by future development or poorly sited services”**.²⁵

59. Potential Local Green Space 16 is not supported by WDC. It is deemed not to meet the strict definition of a Local Green Space criteria. It is therefore rejected.

Table 16 – Potential Local Green Space 16 – South Downs View

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 180 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, an area of open fields bounded by hedgerows with views of the South Downs. The area is

²² WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 3.5.5.

²³ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.4.1.

²⁴ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.4.3.

²⁵ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.5.1.

	surrounded by trees, open space and village housing. Size – 9.94 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	<p>Yes, views to the South Downs are special to this community. The open fields and the views beyond provide an attractive natural setting for East Hoathly. It reminds people that this is an historic rural community and provides a sense of tranquillity and calm.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. The open fields bounded by hedgerows provide habitats for nesting birds and wildlife. The fields provide forage for animals emerging from the surrounding woodland.</p>

Potential Local Green Space 17 - Buttsfield Lane

60. Buttsfield Lane sits at the highest point of East Hoathly and is part of the Wealdway public footpath route which passes through the village. There are commanding views from it across the adjacent countryside to the South and East, in particular towards the South Downs.

61. The importance of the views southwards towards the South Downs are recognized in the WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021:

- a. **“Views across the wider countryside are also important, with views across the fields adjacent to the conservation area to the west and southwards towards the South Downs”.**²⁶
- b. **“Open spaces within and on the edge of the conservation area are important as they help to define the built environment and create a sense of place”.**²⁷
- c. **“The open landscape makes an important contribution to the traditional open setting of the conservation area. The rural location of the village within the gently sloping agricultural**

²⁶ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 3.5.5.

²⁷ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.4.1.

landscape of the Low Weald and in close proximity to the South Downs means that there is open fields and woodland surrounding the conservation area”²⁸

d. “The most important views looking into, out of and through the conservation area are shown on the character appraisal map in Appendix 1. These contribute to the character and setting of the conservation area and care needs to be taken to ensure that they are not lost or compromised by future development or poorly sited services”²⁹

62. Potential Local Green Space 17 is not supported by WDC. It is deemed not to meet the strict definition of a Local Green Space criteria. It is therefore rejected.

Table 17 – Potential Local Green Space 17 – Buttsfield Lane

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 260 metres of centre of East Hoathly village, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, an area of open fields bounded by hedgerows with views of the South Downs. The area is surrounded by trees, open space and village housing. Size – 1.99 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	Yes, this area at the top of Buttsfield Lane with views to the South Downs is special to this community. The open fields and the views beyond provide an attractive natural setting for East Hoathly. It reminds people that this is an historic rural community and provides a sense of tranquillity and calm. Contributes to the open character of this area. The open fields bounded by hedgerows provide habitats for nesting

²⁸ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.4.3.

²⁹ WDC Draft Conservation Area Character Appraisal Jan 2021, Paragraph 5.5.1.

	<p>birds and wildlife. The fields provide forage for animals emerging from the surrounding woodland.</p> <p>It is much appreciated by residents and visitors passing on the Wealdway footpath.</p>
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Potential Local Green Space 18 - Nursery Wood, Halland

63. This potential Local Green Space received poor public support at consultation events and has been rejected.

Table 18 – Potential Local Green Space 18 – Nursery Wood, Halland

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, this is the centre of the built area of Halland, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, an area of Ancient Woodland in Halland. The area is surrounded by open space and village housing. Size – 2.6 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	<p>No, this potential Local Green Space received poor public support at Consultation Events and was not considered to be demonstrably special to the local community.</p> <p>Nursery Wood is an important area of Ancient Woodland in Halland.</p> <p>The space provides an extremely rich series of habitats with abundant biodiversity. Ancient Woodland acts as an extremely important seedbank of plant life in addition to the existing vegetation. Mature trees from saplings</p>

	to decaying fallen trunks all provide vital habitats and food sources for birds, mammals, insects and invertebrates. The area is carpeted in wildflowers and woodland foliage all providing cover and food for the animals that live in the woodland or use it to transit through the area.
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Potential Local Green Space 19 - Land to rear of The Blacksmith’s Arms, Halland

64. This potential Local Green Space received poor public support at consultation events and has been rejected.

Table 19 – Potential Local Green Space 19 – Land to rear of The Blacksmith’s Arms, Halland

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 170 metres of centre of the built area of Halland, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, an area of paddocks and open space to the rear of housing and a public house. The area is surrounded by open space, village housing and a public house. Size – 1.2 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	No, this potential Local Green Space received poor public support at Consultation Events and was not considered to be demonstrably special to the local community.

Potential Local Green Space 20 - Halland Chapel Burial Ground

65. The Halland Chapel Burial Ground is an area of tranquility and contemplation with the graves of many local people. Cemeteries and Churchyards are identified in WDC Green Infrastructure Study 2017 as being an important part of the Green Infrastructure Network. Also Identified in WDC - The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016) as an Open Space.

Table 20 – Potential Local Green Space 20 – Halland Chapel Burial Ground

NPPF 2023 Local Green Space Criteria	Assessment
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within 270 metres of centre of the built area of Halland, therefore within easy walking distance.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, very local in character, a Burial Ground that is part of the Halland Chapel. The area is surrounded by open space and village housing. Size – 0.21 hectares.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds a particular significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, tranquillity, recreational value (including as a playing field), or richness of wildlife or historical significance.	Yes, the Halland Chapel Burial Ground is a special place for this community. It is the final resting place for former residents and their families. Visitors to the Burial Ground find tranquillity for quiet reflection. Its monuments and the inscriptions are a physical catalogue of the history of many of the community’s residents.

**Table 21 – Summary Assessment of Potential Local Green Spaces
against NPPF 2023 Criteria**

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
1	200	✓	<p>The Sports Ground is a War Memorial (gifted into Trust following WW2) and holds a special place in the minds of the community. This is remembered every year as part of the East Hoathly Carnival commemorations.</p> <p>In addition to being the sporting centre of the Parish it hosts an annual music festival – Midsummer Magic and occasional village fetes. An essential amenity for the local community, used for sport, games, picnics and recreation. The East Hoathly Cricket Club and East Hoathly Tennis Club are active users of the facilities and Pavilion.</p> <p>The open green nature of this site means that it is used frequently by children playing ball sports. The provision of children’s play equipment and a Basketball Hoop means that it is much valued by younger residents. Benches within the site provide an important space for residents to meet and relax. The space is much used by dogwalkers. The space contributes to the open character of this area.</p> <p>Mature hedgerows and trees that line the perimeter are important habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife. The pond and surrounding mature trees are a particularly important wildlife habitat. The pond forms an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. This network is a rich environment for plants and animals that depend on aquatic habitats.</p>	✓	4.33	✓	✓
2	560	✓	<p>The Garden Plots (allotments) are the only ones available in the Parish. Many homes in the Parish have small garden spaces, no garden, or have used their garden space for vehicle parking. The Garden Plots are therefore an essential asset and much loved by those using them. The allotments provide excellent recreational value for tenants and their families, to grow vegetables, fruit and flowers for personal consumption, and healthy physical exercise. The allotments provide an atmosphere of tranquility and comradeship – an escape for those with busy family or working lives. The Garden Plots connect with local footpaths and are often visited by parishioners on walks who enjoy interacting with the gardeners. The Community Garden has been a wonderful</p>	✓	1.61	✓	✓

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
			initiative providing an opportunity for people with mental and physical disabilities to work in a safe and natural environment and benefit from the pleasures and wonder of gardening.				
3	460	✓	<p>Moat Wood is a very important area of Ancient Woodland in the Parish. It is adjacent to East Hoathly village and has a section that is accessible to the public (the only such publicly accessible Ancient Woodland in the Parish).</p> <p>It has significant historic interest with the remains of a medieval moated site (Scheduled Ancient Monument). The name Hoathly is thought to have derived from the Old English <i>hath leah</i>, a heathy woodland clearing where heather grows.³⁰ It has been linked to the name of <i>De Hodgeleigh</i>, landowners in the 12th century.³¹ It is therefore the only remaining section of Ancient Woodland adjacent to the village created in that woodland clearing.</p> <p>The woodlands excellent recreational value for all age-groups and is very popular with dog walkers. It provides children with a natural playground in the fresh air, space to play hide and seek and shade to play under in the hot summer months. It provides a sense of calm and tranquility with an opportunity to be close to nature and wildlife. This opportunity to embrace the natural world is important for mental wellbeing and quiet reflection.</p> <p>The space provides an extremely rich series of habitats with abundant biodiversity. Ancient Woodland acts as an extremely important seedbank of plant life in addition to the existing vegetation. Mature trees from saplings to decaying fallen trunks all provide vital habitats and food sources for birds, mammals, insects and invertebrates. The area is carpeted in wildflowers and woodland foliage all providing cover and food for the many animals that live in the woodland or use it to transit through the area.</p> <p>Decoy Pond is owned and stocked by a Fishing Club which provides access for disabled anglers. The pond is the largest of several ponds, ditches and waterways that drain the woodland and form an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. This network is a rich</p>	✓	18.82 (Note 3)	✓	✓

³⁰ Mills AD 2011, A Dictionary of British Place Names.

³¹ Lower, M A. A Compendious History of Sussex 1870.

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
			<p>environment for plants and animals that depend on aquatic habitats.</p> <p>Some of the rare and protected species that live in this area are the black adder, nightingales, many species of bats, badgers, deer, water voles, smooth and great crested newts, pearl-bordered fritillary butterfly, colonies of wasp spiders, green tiger beetle, dormice, grass snakes and slow worms.</p>				
4	280	✓	<p>Long Pond has an important part in the history of East Hoathly village. It appears on the 1840 Tithe Map and is one of the few remaining ponds in the Parish from that period.</p> <p>Long Pond is large, deep and forms an important part of the surface water drainage network in the Parish. This network is a rich environment for plants and animals that depend on aquatic habitats and Long Pond has been recorded as a Great Crested Newt Breeding Pond.</p> <p>The land adjacent to the pond is natural scrub with some mature and important trees. Its wild nature and lack of public access has led to it becoming an important sanctuary for wildlife and plants. It is home to squirrels, rabbits, foxes, ducks, snakes, nesting birds and is used as a resting place by deer. The wide range of plants, wildflowers and decaying wood provide forage for many animals and habitats for insects.</p>	✓	0.45	✓	✓
5	300	✓	<p>Circle of Oaks is a well-known landmark within the community and provides an important green gap between the main part of East Hoathly village and the end of South Street. The buildings at the end of South Street grew up around the original position of Watford's Farm which is possibly shown on two maps dating from 1770/80s.³² The property appears on the East Hoathly Tithe Map of 1840 and is occupied by hop farmer, David Paine and the property remains known as Paines Farm.³³ The nature of this section of the village changed significantly when the A22 bypass made this southern section of the village a more tranquil and pleasant environment. The existence of the green gap is</p>	✓	1.31	✓	✓

³² Yeakell and Gardner Map 1778 – 1783. Ordnance Survey Drawing – Eridge Park dated 1789.

³³ East Hoathly Tithe Map Apportionment 1841 - Numbers 454 to 459 - Occupier David Paine for property of Late Watfords.

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
			<p>something that adds significantly to the character of the village.</p> <p>The space is an open field bounded by hedgerows containing many mature trees. A brick built, clay tiled, gabled roofed stable block sits in the corner of the field adjacent to South Street and forms part of the East Hoathly Conservation Area. The circle of mature oak trees in the middle of the field (protected by a Tree Preservation Order) is a very pleasing landmark viewable on entry to East Hoathly village from the South.</p> <p>The space provides important habitats for nesting birds and many other animals, plants and insects. More importantly, the space provides a transit route for wildlife including many bats and deer that move from Moat Wood and the West of the village to the open land to the East and South of the village for grazing and forage. Many bats move through this area to get to the East Hoathly Sewage Works where they feed on the insects above the Works.</p>				
6	190	✓	<p>The proposed Local Green Spaces 6 and 7 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 6 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play safely and a meeting point.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of children and other residents.</p>	✓	0.01	✓	✓
7	190	✓	<p>The proposed Local Green Spaces 6 and 7 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 7 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for</p>	✓	0.50	✓	✓

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
			<p>neighbours to meet and interact. The water features, mature trees and planting within the area provide habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming. The views out to the East onto open countryside with the South Downs in the distance create a sense of place and character.</p> <p>The benefits of this natural space within the built environment and the views are of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>				
8	220	✓	<p>The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 8 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for neighbours to meet and interact. The trees within the area provide habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>	✓	0.05	✓	✓
9	250	✓	<p>The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 9 provides an important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play safely and a meeting point for neighbours to interact. The provision of play equipment makes it a popular location for children of all ages.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. The planting within the area provides habitats for wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of children and other residents.</p>	✓	0.02	✓	✓

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
10	290	✓	<p>The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 10 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for neighbours to meet and interact. The trees within the area provide habitats for nesting birds and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>	✓	0.06	✓	✓
11	200	✓	<p>The East Hoathly Churchyard is a very special place for this community. It is the final resting place for many former residents and their families. It is a very popular place to find some tranquillity for quiet reflection. Its monuments and the inscriptions are a physical catalogue of the history of many of this community's residents.</p> <p>The area contains many mature trees that provide habitats for nesting birds and many insects. The management of the area for native wildflowers has changed the character from that of a sombre graveyard and provided a more natural and welcoming space. The planting has made the area a haven for wildlife and in particular birds and insects.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area.</p>	✓	0.50	✓	✓
12	270	✓	<p>The School Field is very special to the children who attend the school and by extension to the whole community.</p> <p>It provides a space for the children to play and be creative in the open air and in a natural environment. It also provides a space for sporting activities which has a significant benefit for their physical development and health. The benefits to their education and mental wellbeing are significant.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area.</p>	✓	0.39	✓	✓

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
13	300	✓	<p>The proposed Local Green Spaces 8, 9, 10 and 13 are closely linked and combine to provide a special atmosphere to this area of housing.</p> <p>Proposed Local Green Space 13 provides a tranquil open area of greenspace for recreation and the enjoyment of nature. This area which acts as a buffer zone for the Ancient Woodland is regularly visited by the rich biodiversity of Moat Wood.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. An important amenity for the residents, providing an area for children to play and space for neighbours to meet and interact. The grassed area provides habitats for many insects and forage for deer, rabbits and other wildlife making the environment natural and welcoming.</p> <p>The benefit of this natural space within the built environment is of great importance for the mental health and well-being of residents.</p>	✓	0.94	✓	✓
14	560	✓	<p>Croom Cottage Meadow is a rare remnant of a wildflower meadow and designated as a Local Wildlife Site. It is an important sanctuary for insects and plants that can only thrive in this type of habitat.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. It is a visually attractive space that is much appreciated by residents and visitors passing on the Wealdway footpath.</p>	✓	0.08	✓	✓
15	360	✓	<p>The approach to East Hoathly village on the London Road is special to this community. The open fields and wide hedgerows marked by mature trees provide an attractive and appropriate entry to a rural Sussex village. The glimpses of the village and the church tower establishes the setting for this historic community. This has been greatly enhanced following the creation of the A22 bypass and has allowed some peace and tranquillity to return to East Hoathly. The field patterns and this setting for the village has remained the same for at least 250 years.³⁴</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. The open fields bounded by hedgerows containing many mature trees provide significant habitats for nesting birds and wildlife. The fields</p>	✓	4.37	✓	✗

³⁴ Yeakell and Gardner Map 1778 – 1783.

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
			provide forage for animals emerging from the surrounding ancient woodland.				
16	180	✓	<p>The views to the South Downs are special to this community. The open fields and the views beyond provide an attractive natural setting for East Hoathly. It reminds people that this is an historic rural community and provides a sense of tranquillity and calm.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. The open fields bounded by hedgerows provide habitats for nesting birds and wildlife. The fields provide forage for animals emerging from the surrounding woodland.</p>	✓	9.94	✓	✗ (See Para 59)
17	260	✓	<p>The area at the top of Buttsfield Lane with views to the South Downs is special to this community. The open fields and the views beyond provide an attractive natural setting for East Hoathly. It reminds people that this is an historic rural community and provides a sense of tranquillity and calm.</p> <p>Contributes to the open character of this area. The open fields bounded by hedgerows provide habitats for nesting birds and wildlife. The fields provide forage for animals emerging from the surrounding woodland.</p> <p>It is much appreciated by residents and visitors passing on the Wealdway footpath.</p>	✓	1.99	✓	✗ (See Para 62)
18	0	✓	<p>This potential Local Green Space received poor public support at Consultation Events and was not considered to be demonstrably special to the local community.</p> <p>Nursery Wood is an important area of Ancient Woodland in Halland.</p> <p>The space provides an extremely rich series of habitats with abundant biodiversity. Ancient Woodland acts as an extremely important seedbank of plant life in addition to the existing vegetation. Mature trees from saplings to decaying fallen trunks all provide vital habitats and food sources for birds, mammals, insects and invertebrates. The area is carpeted in wildflowers and woodland foliage all providing cover and food for the animals that live in the woodland or use it to transit through the area.</p>	✗	2.60	✓	✗ (See Para 63)
19	170	✓	This potential Local Green Space received poor public support at Consultation Events and was	✗	1.20	✓	✗

Potential Local Green Space	Proximity to Community (m) Note 1	Pass /Fail	Demonstrably Special Note 2	Pass /Fail	Local and not Extensive (area - hectares)	Pass /Fail	Overall Decision
			not considered to be demonstrably special to the local community.				(See Para 64)
20	270	✓	The Halland Chapel Burial Ground is a special place for this community. It is the final resting place for former residents and their families. Visitors to the Burial Ground find tranquillity for quiet reflection. Its monuments and the inscriptions are a physical catalogue of the history of many of the community's residents.	✓	0.21	✓	✓

Notes for Table 21

1. An acceptable distance to the Potential Local Green Space has been taken as 600 metres which complies with the buffer applied in WDC The Open Space, Sports and Recreation Assessment (2016). Proximity to Community has been based on the distance from the centre of the Local Green Space to:

For East Hoathly - Lydfords Care Home (which represents roughly the centre of the built area of East Hoathly)

For Halland - Nursery Wood (which represents roughly the centre of the built area of Halland.

2. The Potential Local Green Space should be demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife. Continuing consultation has been taking place as part of the process of determining the relationship of the local community to potential Local Green Spaces. During a public consultation event in September 2019 people were asked to rate the importance of the 9 Potential sites identified at that stage. The results are shown in the Table 22 below. The figures shown are the level of support for each site expressed as a percentage:

Table 22 – Level of public support for Potential Local Green Spaces in September 2019 Consultation Event

Potential Local Green Space	Level of Support
1 – East Hoathly War Memorial Sports Ground	86%
2 – East Hoathly Garden Plots (Allotments)	72%
3 – Moat Wood and Decoy Pond	97%
5 – Circle of Oaks Green Gap	71%
15 – Approach to East Hoathly on London Road	84%
16 – South Downs View	71%
17 – Buttsfield Lane	67%
18 – Nursery Wood, Halland	26%
19 – Land to rear of The Blacksmith’s Arms, Halland	26%

3. The NPPF does not specify what an extensive tract of land is. In other places, sites in the order of 20 Hectares have been granted Local Green Space designation. For the purpose of this assessment, the judgement has been taken in proportion to the size of the built area and the size of the greenspaces in the area.