

# Local Green Spaces Report



## **Contents**

1. Introduction

2. Planning policy background

3. Local Green Space designation process

4. Conclusion and next steps

Appendix 1 Local Green Space assessment

Appendix 2 Consultation and Comments on Proposed Local Green Spaces at the Open Forum event and Library

Appendix 3 Letter template to Land Owners

Appendix 4 Maps of Proposed Local Green Spaces

Appendix 5 Species observed in proposed Local Green Space 7

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The Local Green Space (LGS) designation is a way to protect green areas or open spaces against development where they are of particular importance to local communities. Local Green Space designations are made for use in Local Plans or Neighbourhood Plans. These plans can identify on a map ('designate') green areas for special protection. Once designated, Local Green Spaces receive protection consistent with national Green Belt policy.

1.2 The purpose of this Report is to explain the process which has led to the proposed designation of areas of LGS in Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan(CNP). It sets out the national and local background to LGS and explains the methodology used in the assessment.

1.3 All of the sites that have been assessed are included in Appendix 1 – this provides a brief explanation of the reasons why a site has, or has not been included in the Pre Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan. Further details on those that have proposed to be allocated are included within Appendix 2 which includes comments received from the public on its suitability and identification of other potential sites. Following this consultation additional sites have been included as proposed designations.

1.4 Prior to the consultation on the Pre Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan we invited comments on the proposed LGS designations from landowners.

1.5 Consultation on the Pre Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan which included the proposed LGS was carried out from 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020 for a 6 week period. The Plan was available for viewing on Charmouth Parish Council's website at

<https://www.charmouthparishcouncil.gov.uk/charmouth-nhp> under the tab 'Neighbourhood Plan'.

## 2. Planning policy background

### **National**

2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF – 2019) sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

2.2 Section 8 of the NPPF highlights the important role the planning system can play in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Paragraphs 99 – 100 refer specifically to LGS. Paragraph 99 states:

*‘The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them.*

*Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.’*

2.3 Paragraph 100 states: *‘The 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), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.’*

2.4 Paragraph 101 identifies that local policy for managing development within a LGS should be consistent with policy for Green Belts.

2.5 The NPPF is supported by guidance set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG).

With regard to LGS NPPG identifies:

Designating LGS needs to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. Plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306);

LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with

the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented (Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306);

LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village or in a neighbourhood in a town or city (Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306);

If land is already protected by another designation, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as LGS (Paragraph: 010 Reference ID: 37-010-20140306);

The LGS will need to meet the criteria set out in paragraph 100 of the NPPF (see paragraph 2.3 above). Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land where sports pavilions, boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, or urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis (Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 37-013-20140306);

The proximity of a LGS to the community it serves will depend on local circumstances, including why the green area is seen as special, but it must be reasonably close. For example, if public access is a key factor, then the site would normally be within easy walking distance of the community served (Paragraph: 014 Reference ID: 37-014-20140306);

There are no hard and fast rules about how big a LGS can be because places are different and a degree of judgment will inevitably be needed. However, paragraph 100 of the NPPF is clear that LGS designation should only be used where the green area concerned is not an extensive tract of land. Consequently, blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. In particular, designation should not be proposed as a 'back door' way to try to achieve what would amount to a new area of Green Belt by another name (Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306);

Provided land can meet the criteria at paragraph 100 of the NPPF there is no lower size limit for a Local Green Space. (Paragraph: 016 Reference ID: 37-016-20140306);

Land can be designated as LGS even if there is no public access e.g. green areas which are valued because of their wildlife, historic significance and/or beauty. Designation does not in itself confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Any

additional access would be a matter for separate negotiation with land owners, whose legal rights must be respected (Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 37-017-20140306);

Areas that may be considered for designation as LGS may be crossed by public rights of way. There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation (Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306);

A LGS does not need to be in public ownership. However, the qualifying body should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as LGS. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan (Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 37-019-20140306);

Designating a green area as LGS would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners (Paragraph: 020 Reference ID: 37-020-20140306);

Management of land designated as LGS will remain the responsibility of its owner. If the features that make a green area special and locally significant are to be conserved, how it will be managed in the future is likely to be an important consideration. Local communities can consider how, with the landowner's agreement, they might be able to get involved, perhaps in partnership with interested organisations that can provide advice or resources (Paragraph: 021 Reference ID: 37-021-20140306); and

Land designated as LGS may potentially also be nominated for listing by the local authority as an Asset of Community Value. Listing gives community interest groups an opportunity to bid if the owner wants to dispose of the land. (Paragraph: 022 Reference ID: 37-022-20140306).

### **Local**

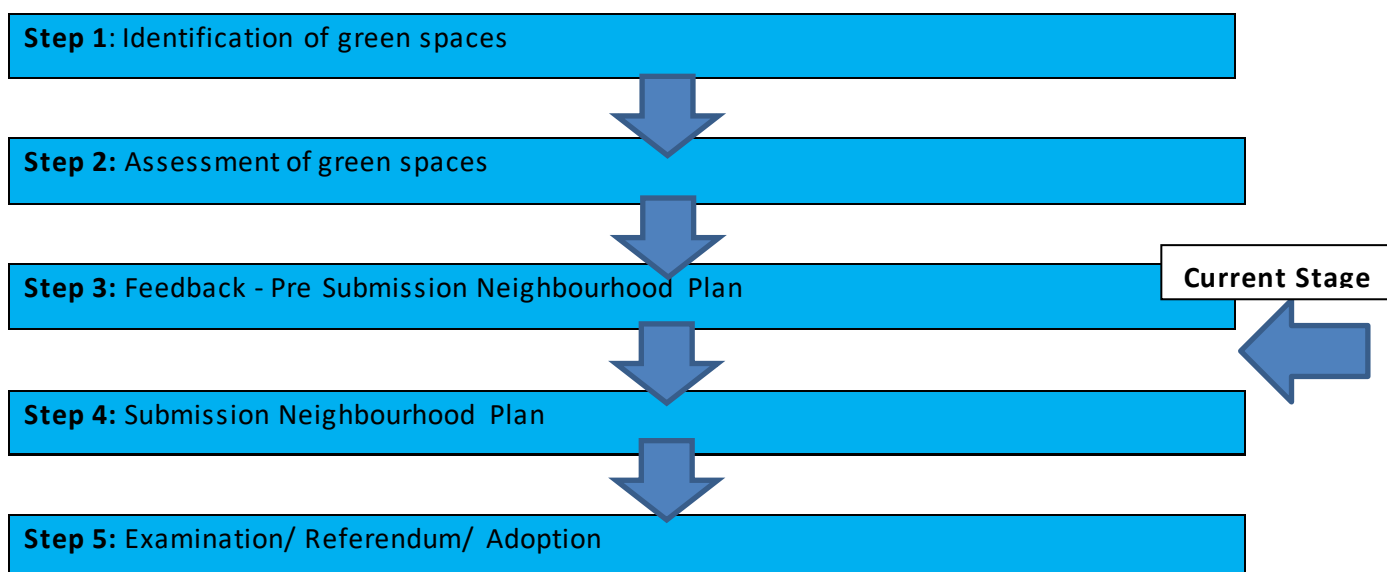
2.6 The Neighbourhood Plan must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. Within Charmouth Neighbourhood Area this currently consists of the policies contained in West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland Local Plan (2015).

2.7 Dorset Council is currently reviewing/preparing a Countywide Local Plan that will replace West Dorset, Weymouth & Portland Local Plan. The Local Plan identifies the need to protect local green spaces, contributing to local green infrastructure to the health and well-being of local communities and visitors. The Local Plan states:

*‘The councils will work together with local communities, developers and other relevant partners, such as town and parish councils, to develop a green infrastructure strategy for the plan area. Details of when this work will commence will be given in the Local Development Scheme. This will identify those areas to be included in the green infrastructure network, which can include small open gaps which prevent neighbouring communities that have distinct and separate characters from merging into one another, areas of particular local landscape or townscape importance, historically important spaces such as those identified within Conservation Area Appraisals, and the more urban key wildlife corridors and local nature conservation sites referred to in the above policy. The reasons for their inclusion will be clearly recorded. Local communities may identify further areas of particular importance to them through neighbourhood development plans, making clear the reason/s for their designation. Such a network is intended to support, but not prevent, the long-term development of communities. The resulting green infrastructure network will be given significant protection from development.’ (Ref.2.2.25).*

### 3. Local Green Space designation process

3.1 This section explains the methodology followed by Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan Group to determine the areas of land proposed to be designated as LGS in the Pre Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan.



**Figure 1: LGS identification process**

### Step 1: Identification of green spaces

3.2 The first step was to identify a list of green areas and open spaces to assess as potential LGS. A Natural Environmental Green Audit was carried out for all green areas within the Parish and potential Local Green Spaces identified. See Appendix D of the Plan.

3.3 Potential areas of LGS(10 sites) were displayed at the Open Forum Event on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and in addition, displayed in the Library for a further 6 weeks following this. The comments from this consultation are shown in Appendix 2. Additional sites were added during this process as other suggestions came forward.

### Step 2: Assessment of green spaces

3.4 Once the list of green spaces had been collected from the sources listed in step 1, their suitability for designation as LGS against was assessed against the criteria in the NPPF and NPPG as outlined in section 2 of this report.

3.5 In order to be identified as LGS all of the following criteria, identified in figure 2 below were required to be met:

Criteria	Explanation
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the designation would be compatible with the planning permission or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented. (NPPG Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306)
Land is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan. Unless it can be shown that the Local Green Space could be incorporated within the site as part of the allocated development.	LGS should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services (NPPF Paragraph 76) Designating any LGS will need to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. In particular, plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (NPPG Paragraph:

	007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306) The space should be capable of enduring beyond the plan Period (NPPF Paragraph 76)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character	LGS designation should only be used where the green area is not an extensive tract of land. Blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. (NPPG Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306)
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village or a neighbourhood in a town. (NPPG Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306) The space must be demonstrably special by meeting at least one of criterion in the following table.

**Figure 2:** LGS criteria required to be met by all potential sites

3.6 The criteria in Figure 3 below then seeks to draw out what it is about the space that makes it ‘demonstrably special to the local community’. A LGS should meet at least one of the criteria in the table below, although some spaces met more than one of the criteria:

Criteria	Explanation
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its beauty? Does the space contribute to the visual attractiveness of the townscape or character / setting of the settlement? Is the space covered by other landscape or townscape designations? (e.g. Conservation Area)
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its historic significance? Does the proposed space or elements of the space have local historical significance? (e.g. Conservation Area) Are there any historic buildings or structures in the space? (e.g. Listed Building or Scheduled Monument) Are there any important historic landscape features on the space? (e.g. veteran trees or old hedgerows)

	Does the space have a historic literature or art connection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its recreational value? There is no need to designate linear corridors as Local Green Space simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation. (NPPG Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306) What variety of recreational activities does the space support? (e.g. the space is used for playing sport and for informal recreation)
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its tranquillity? Why is the space considered to be tranquil? Is the space used for quiet reflection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its richness of wildlife? Is the proposed space formally designated for its wildlife value? (e.g. is it a SSSI, SNCI or Local Nature Reserve). Are any important habitats or species found in the space? Does the proposed space support species of fauna or flora? (e.g. protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 or Habitat Regulations 2010, Section 41 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006) Does the proposed space support species of birds listed on the Red, Amber or Green Lists of Species of Conservation Concern or notable assemblage of invertebrates? Does the proposed space support irreplaceable habitats such as ancient semi-natural woodland and veteran trees? Does the proposed space function as part of a wildlife corridor or green infrastructure enabling the dispersal of species of flora and fauna?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of another reason not covered by criteria above	Are there any other reasons why the proposed space has a particular local significance for the local community?

**Figure 3:** Criteria that identify why the space is demonstrably special to the local community

3.7 The assessment then concluded whether all of the nationally required criteria have been met and listed the relevant local criteria and whether the space was considered to be suitable as LGS.

3.8 Following this, contact was made with the owners of the sites, notifying them of the potential Local Green Space on their land. See Appendix 3.

### **Step 3: Feedback - Pre Submission Neighbourhood Plan**

3.9 Draft Policy NE4 of the Pre Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan proposed to designate 15 sites (see Appendix 1). Through the consultation on the plan we were seeking feedback on the proposed designation of LGS.

### **Step 4: Submission Neighbourhood Plan – CURRENT STAGE**

3.10 **This is the current stage of the LGS designation process.**

There were 2 objections received on the proposed LGS during the pre-submission consultation process. Highways England objected to LGS1 as it forms part of their operation highway estate and they have highway rights upon it. Following a review by CNP Steering Group it was agreed to remove this LGS designation from the list of LGS sites. Table 6.5 of the CNP has been amended.

The other objection was regarding LGS7. The person contested the proposed site on the grounds the site was within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and also made reference to Schedule 1 of NP Regulations 2012: ‘proportionate, robust evidence should support the choices made and the approach taken’. Following specialist advice the CNP Steering Group considered whilst all of the proposed sites were within AONB that the criteria to satisfy this particular space was still eligible to be designated as a LGS and that due process had been followed to substantiate its choice. It was suggested that a survey of the area should be carried out. However a Species List has been compiled (March 2020 to March 2021) from observations viewed from the adjacent track during walks and, even from this inspection point, shows that it is a haven for various wildlife species in this stretch of land. See Appendix 5.

Other comments received were supportive of the proposed LGSs.

Comments received during the pre-submission consultation are summarised in the Consultation Statement.

CNP has been amended and following review/approval by Charmouth Parish Council will now be submitted to Dorset Council for a further six-week public consultation.

#### **Step 5: Examination/ referendum/ adoption**

3.11 Following the submission of the Neighbourhood Plan, it will then be examined by an Independent Examiner. The Examiner will review the evidence base for the plan – including whether there is evidence to justify the allocation of LGS. Once the plan passes Examination it will then go to referendum and will be formally ‘made’ by Dorset Council.

### **4. Conclusion and Next Steps**

4.1 This background Report has explained the process which has led to the proposed designation of areas of LGS in the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan(CNP). It has summarised the national and local background to LGS and explained the methodology used in the assessment.

4.2 All of the sites that have been assessed are included in Appendix 1 – this provides a brief explanation of the reasons why a site has, or has not been included in the Submission of the Neighbourhood Plan to Dorset Council. Further details on those that have proposed to be allocated are included within Appendix 2, which includes feedback from the local community on the proposed LGS designations including suggestions for additional sites .

4.3 As part of the consultation on the Pre Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan we sent letters to owners of the proposed LGS inviting comments

4.4 Responses received to the consultation on the Pre Submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan were considered and associated tables/maps amended

4.5 14 proposed sites (LGS2-LGS15 inclusive) are included in the submission of CNP to Dorset Council for a further six-week public consultation.

## Appendix 1: Local Green Space Assessment

Site Ref.	Local Green Space Location	Grid Reference: (6 figures)	Hectares	Character	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space
								Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife	
LGS 2	National Trust field, top of Old Lyme Hill.	SY356933	0.241	Attractive small wild field, with panoramic views of Lyme Bay.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
LGS 3	The Pound: Corner of Old Lyme Road and Old Lyme Hill.	SY360936	0.0037	Small green space at the top of the hill. Historic site of village stocks with bench and view down The Street. (Table 4.1 H2)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
LGS 4	The Knapp: Corner of Higher Sea Lane and The Street.	SY361935	0.0052	Small area up the hill with a bench and view up and down The Street. ( Table 6.1 View A)	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓
LGS 5	Higher Sea Lane: Two patches of	SY362933	0.0115 and 0.01	Small areas of grass and wildflowers and a bench.	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓

Green Spaces Report April 2021 Rev5 – Submission stage

	green at the end of the right of way down to Double Common													
LGS 6	Higher Sea Lane : Corner of the track down to the beach (The Triangle)	SY362932	0.0134	Small area of grass, shrubs and wildflowers.	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓
LGS 7	A stretch of biodiverse habitat between Higher Sea Lane and The Lookout Green, bordered by the grassed car park and the right of way	SY363932	0.0974	Stretch of wilderness which includes a stream and which supports a diverse range of species for the size of the area. A Species List can be seen in Appendix 5.	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓		✓
LGS 8	Look Out Green	SY364930	0.2123	Grassy area with benches and picnic tables; panoramic view of the sea. Much used by residents and visitors.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓

LGS 9	Grassy and scrubby area to west of Look Out Green bordering Black Ven			Wilder extension of Look Out Green, panoramic views of the sea and coastline. Much used by residents and visitors.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
LGS 10	Playing Fields (Recreation Ground)	SY365938	2.0076	A large area next to the centre of the village, used for sports, recreation and community events.(See Table 5.1 A9)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
LGS 11	Northern extension to LGS10	SY366930	2.0076	Large area next to the Playing Fields used for sports activities (See Table 5.1 A9)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
LGS 12	'Tommy's Patch' - Silent Silhouette. Lower Sea Lane.	SY365935	0.0007	A small piece of ground made available by the Parish Council for Remembrance. A space created from donations by the community.	✓	✓	✓		✓					✓
LGS 13	Wesley's Close Green	SY366935	0.0565	A small play area in the centre of a circle of houses, much used by the children living there.	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓
LGS 14	Bridge Road Green	SY368935	0.0367	A small play area in the middle of a group of houses, much used	✓	✓	✓			✓				✓

				by the children living there.										
LGS 15	Evan's Cliff	SY366930	0.166	Green area by beach, east of the river. Play area, picnic tables and benches, information display about safety for beach and fossil hunting.	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓
<b>The following sites were considered for inclusion but did not meet the criteria</b>														
	School playing field and grounds			High value to school and community										
	Reed bed			SSSI, SAC										
	Allotments			High value to local community.										
	St Andrew's Churchyard			Consecrated ground. Historic value. Green area around church, trees, some shrubs, mosses, lichens on gravestones.										

**The following site was removed following pre-submission consultation**

LGS1	Area of grass, shrubs and trees at western entrance to Charmouth east of roundabout	SY356938	0.0171	Roadside area with benches for those needing a rest or waiting for a bus. Footpath to Wood Farm. Responses in Village Survey suggest improvement to this main entrance point into Charmouth.									
------	---	----------	--------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## Appendix 2: Consultation and Responses on Proposed Local Green Spaces at the Open Forum event and Library

### LOCAL GREEN SPACES

The National Planning Policy Framework allows communities to designate **Local Green Spaces**.

“**Local Green Space** designation is a way to provide special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to the local community. Planning for green spaces can help to achieve social economic and environmental benefits for a neighbourhood.”

It is stated that even areas which already have the protection of covenants, SSSI designation etc, would benefit from having **LGS** designation as well, as this would strengthen their protection.

Note that **LGS** designation is not generally available to protect large areas such as fields.

Owners of such spaces must be consulted. Not all owners of the suggested **LGS** for Charmouth have yet been consulted: current owners known so far appear to be Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, housing association, private, and unknown! It is of course possible that permission will not be granted.

There is no guarantee that any suggested **LGS** will gain protection.

### WE WOULD LIKE YOUR VIEWS PLEASE

On the sheets nearby you will see some green areas around the village which have been suggested for potential designation of **Local Green Space**, providing additional protection for the future from development. Note that the risks mentioned e.g. of potential tarmacking, have not even been suggested at this time.

There is a process to follow to reach designation of any space and so gaining positive views from you at this stage may not ultimately end up with designation, although your approval would help. Note that not all the owners have been consulted yet.

**Please indicate whether you support the suggested green spaces, or not; comment upon those shown; or suggest any other areas you think might merit such protection.**

### **Definition of Local Green Space**

Paragraph 77 of the NPPF sets out the criteria that green space must meet in order to be designated as ‘**Local Green Space**’:

“The **Local Green Space** designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:

- Where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves
- Where the green area is 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), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife
- Where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land”

**Local Green Space** designation is not appropriate for community spaces where it is the use, but not the exact location, which is important. This is particularly relevant if the use could be relocated to another (and possibly better) site

## **NORTHERN EXTENSION TO THE RECREATION GROUND [SITE 8] SITE REF. NOW LGS 11**

Owned by CPC who state they would never sell or develop. But **LGS** would protect the area further from any potential future change - just in case.



### **RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed – promotes health + wellbeing for all.
2. Agree.
3. Agree encourage further use.
4. Completely agree. Important for all aspects of health and well-being.
5. Important village venue – fair, football etc.
6. Strongly agree.
7. Disagree. Space is underused. Council should have the option open to them.
8. Northern Extension. Disagree that this needs extra protection. The Parish Council should decide what it is best used for.

**WILDERNESS BESIDE TRACK BETWEEN KITTIWAKE, HIGHER SEA LANE, DOWN TO BEACH HUT GREEN. BETWEEN THE TRACK AND THE TOP OF THE GRASS CAR PARK [SITE 5]. SITE REF. NOW LGS 7**



Untouched wilderness area. This is filled with shrubs and small trees; all sorts of plants including some which are uncommon such as tall bedstraw; insects; a lovely range of lichens; as well as the more obvious birds. There is a stream which can be heard but not seen.

### **RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed.
2. Agreed.
3. Agreed.
4. Agreed.
5. I agree.
6. Strongly agree.
7. Crucial to keep this natural. Many wild plants including lichens etc as well as animals. It is a natural corridor which needs to remain as untouched as possible.
8. Agree.
9. Agree!
10. Totally agree. [These last 3 comments were written on the post-it with this fuller comment]
11. A lovely track for locals and visitors alike. Loads of wildlife here and lovely blackberries too. Haven for butterflies, birds, so needs protection.
12. This track to the beach in particular, but all should be protected (*sic*). Charmouth need to keep its small green spaces.
13. Load of wildlife. Please protect.
14. This is a really nice place to walk with all the wildflowers and blackberries in season. It needs to be preserved.

**HIGHER SEA LANE: TWO PATCHES OF GREEN AT THE END OF THE PATH DOWN TO DOUBLE COMMON [SITE 2] SITE REF.**

**NOW LGS 5**



Creates an open area with seating appreciated by passers-by. Might seem too small, but could be at risk of potentially being tarmacked for parking or even being sold to next door houses, incorporated in garden and maybe sold as housing space.

**RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed. 2. Agreed. 3. Agreed. 4. Agreed. 5. I agree.
6. Really important space for people to rest on the way up the hill (HSL) or to reflect on the environment.
7. Important Green Space – should be kept! 8. Plant for wild flower. 9. Neighbour already plants bulbs. 10. Agree! 11. Agree. [This comment written on same post-it]
12. Strongly agree.
13. Disagree. [No comment or reason provided]
14. We don't need to build or fence off every bit of flat ground in Charmouth.
15. After walking up from the beach or somewhere it's nice to have a sit on the bench and sometimes there are daffodils as well. Nice to keep.
16. Agree 100%, re 2,5,6 and 10

**HIGHER SEA LANE: CORNER OF THE TRACK DOWN TO BEACH HUT GREEN [SITE 9] SITE REF. NOW LGS 6**



Pretty corner, passed by anyone walking down Higher Sea Lane to the beach. Neatly maintained triangle with small trees and shrubs, providing a visual green area along this stretch of road, appreciated by those passing by.

**RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed. 2. Agreed. 3. Agreed. 4. Agree. 5. Agreed 6. Agreed. 7. I agree. 8. Agree
9. Strongly agree
10. A lovely area admired by visitors and locals alike.
11. Disagree [unfortunately there was no comment or reason to state why the disagreement]
12. This is a lovely area of HSL and needs to be preserved.
13. [Sites 9 and 4] Agree these should be kept green as they add to Charmouth's character.

**HIGHER SEA LANE: END OF FOOTPATH BETWEEN TILlicUM AND COVE COTTAGE [SITE 10] CURRENTLY NOT TAKEN FORWARD**



This area is much wider than a normal footpath, and providing it with **LGS** would protect it from encroachment. Past the wide area in the photo, the path then narrows through trees and shrubs to reach the wild area above Beach Hut Green.

**RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed.
2. Agreed.
3. Definitely agree.
4. I agree.
5. Agree.
6. Agree.
7. Strongly agree.

**RECREATION GROUND [SITE 3] SITE REF. NOW LGS 10**



Although the Recreation Ground was given to the Parish in 1933, and has covenants on it, it has been suggested that by providing it with **LGS** designation would provide extra protection for the future – just in case.

## **RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed. 2. Agreed. 3. Fully agree 4. Strongly agree  
5. Fully agree – important for physical and mental health

6. Important to village and visitors – venue for fair, sport etc – and good for wildlife.

7. Important for so many groups it MUST be protected. The village would lose more than just space if it was lost to development. 8. Agreed.

[This 2<sup>nd</sup> comment written on same post-it]

**WESLEY CLOSE GREEN [SITE 1] SITE REF. NOW LGS 13**



Designating this space as **LGS** would allow its continuation as playing space, and would stop the area potentially being converted into car parking.

**RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed – must keep playing space.
2. Agreed.
3. Agreed.
4. Agreed.
5. Strongly agree.
6. Important play space.
7. Agreed – important for social cohesion, physical health and good mental health.
8. Been used for generations for playing for so many families. Keep the tarmac away!
9. Please turn Wesley's and Bridge Road (far end) into official Play Roads with 5mph speed limit. [Sites 1 and 7]
10. I am a resident on Wesley Close and my children and children in the neighbourhood all play on this green – it is a very special place and needs protecting.
11. [Sites 1 and 7] Children need space to play out so these need to be protected and saved for the community which surrounds it. Any wild flowers needs to be left to seed and not be mown in flower.
12. Agreed.

## BRIDGE ROAD GREEN [SITE 7] SITE REF. NOW LGS 14



Designating this space as LGS would allow this area to continue as a playing space, and would stop the area potentially being turned into car parking.

### RESPONSES:

1. I agree – protect playing spaces.
2. Fully agree.
3. Agreed.
4. Agreed.
5. Agreed.
6. Strongly agree.
7. A much-used play area – must be kept.
8. Same comments as for Wesley Close. The children need to be able to play outside. [i.e. 8a. Been used for generations for playing for so many families. Keep the tarmac away. 8b. Please turn Wesley's and Bridge Road (far end) into official Play Roads with 5mph speed limit.]
9. Very well used play areas for local children to enjoy. A safe place to play. Much needed.
10. Important for all aspects of health to preserve this area of Charmouth.

**THE KNAPP: CORNER OF HIGHER SEA LANE AND THE STREET [SITE 6] SITE REF. NOW LGS 4**



Two small areas on the, corner with seating, much appreciated by those walking up the hill. **LGS** would keep the space green, saving it from potentially being tarmacked, or the road being widened round the corner.

This is the site of one of the Viewpoints noted in the “Charmouth Chideock and Seatown Conservation Area Appraisal”.

**RESPONSES:**

1. Agreed.
2. Agreed.
3. Agree.
4. Agreed.
5. Strongly agree!
6. Strongly agree.
7. Fully agree – important for wild flowers when not mown at the wrong time!
8. This area is often full of weeds. It could be converted to a lovely wild flower garden.
9. I agree.
10. Also agree.

## THE POUND: CORNER OF OLD LYME ROAD AND OLD LYME HILL [SITE 4] SITE REF. NOW LGS 3



The green at the site of the old Village Pound is on a small and narrow corner. It has seating much appreciated by those walking up the hill. **LGS** would keep the space green, save it from potentially being removed or tarmacked.

### RESPONSES:

1. Agreed.
2. Agreed.
3. Agreed.
4. Agreed.
5. Strongly agree.
6. Agreed – historically and environmentally important.
7. Agreed.
8. Agree. [These comments written on the same post-it]
9. Historic – should be protected.

## **There were a few post-its referring to ALL locations / general comments.**

1. All sensible suggestions. 2. Yes – fully agree. [This comment written on the same post-it]
3. Keep as many green spaces as possible for locals to enjoy “living in the country” also visitors to enjoy otherwise we will be like any other urban village.
4. Total agreement to all green spaces being retained.
5. Glad to see this initiative. Go for it!
6. Always in favour of retaining green spaces.
7. I regularly walk past all these areas, and definitely would support no change here.
8. Charmouth is great. Keep all these green spaces. Mike and Angela, Higher Sea Lane.
9. All. In principle agree all these spaces add to the village and should be protected.
10. I agree that all these spaces are precious and should be preserved.
11. Please protect all these areas.
12. I support all these open spaces. The path from Higher Sea Lane is in great danger from ... proposed .... To Cove Cottage. This intrusion should be stopped. [this refers to site 10]
13. 1 to 10 – All these green spaces with or without seats must preserved as amenity.

## **THE MAP – OTHER SUGGESTIONS**

1. Westcliff Road, opposite Larus Len. Owners planning to build a pond, wildlife area, bees.
2. Area between coast and Higher Sea Lane (back of Cove Cottage to Cliffend) should be kept natural. 3. Yes – agree! [This comment written on the same post-it]
3. It’s only small but the little piece of land on LSL near the main notice board, adjacent to Tennis Courts’ wall with the ‘Tommy’ on it, should be protected too.
4. Higher Sea Lane. All of the grass areas west of the Heritage Coast Centre and south of Higher Sea Lane should be designated as permanent green areas as public access spaces are under threat from encroachment – and a unique environmental asset.

## Appendix 3: Letter template to Land Owners

Dear XXXX,

### Re Local Green Space Nomination - Landowner Notification

Dear Sir

### Re Local Green Space Nomination - Landowner Notification

I am writing to inform you that \*\*\*\*\*have been nominated as Local Green Spaces for designation within the Charmouth Neighbourhood Development Plan. Enclosed is a map identifying the green spaces that have been nominated; Ordinance Survey Reference: \*\*\*\*. This was the result of an initial assessment of potentially suitable green spaces within the Charmouth parish and consultation with village residents.

Although an initial assessment has been undertaken, a decision has not yet been made in relation to whether this site is a suitable candidate for Local Green Space designation.

#### *What does Local Green Space Nomination mean?*

Successful designation of the site as a Local Green Space would mean that any new development on the land would not be possible other than in “very special circumstances” (National Planning Policy Framework, para 76). In line with nationally defined criteria to be suitable for designation, the local green space must be:

- In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- Demonstrably special to the local community and hold particular significance, for example, because of its beauty, historic significance recreational value (including playing fields), tranquility or richness of wildlife, and
- Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.

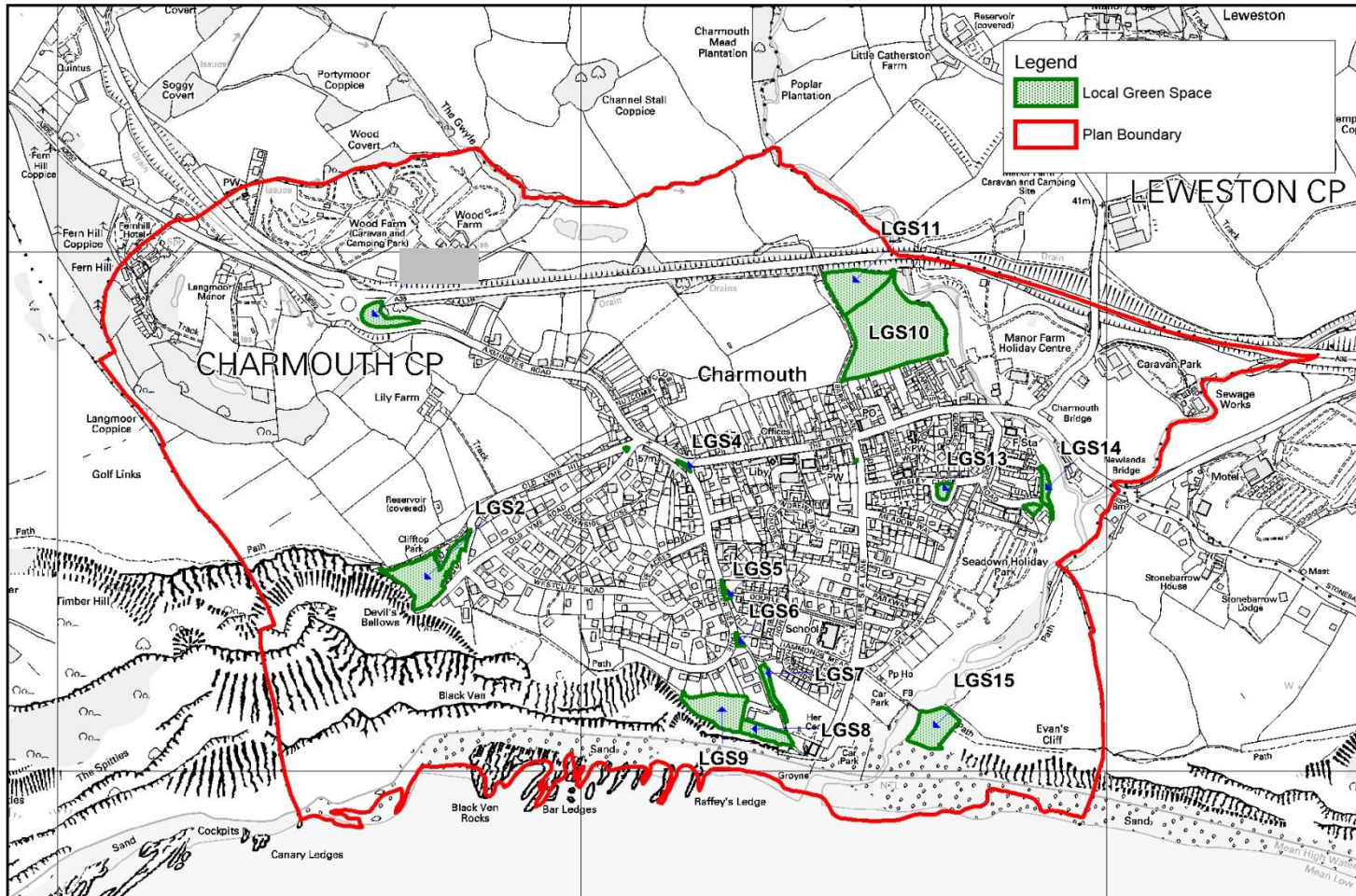
In addition, land which is subject to existing national planning designation will need very good justification for additional designation, in line with national guidance, for example land within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Please get in touch with any comments or concerns before \*\*\*\*.

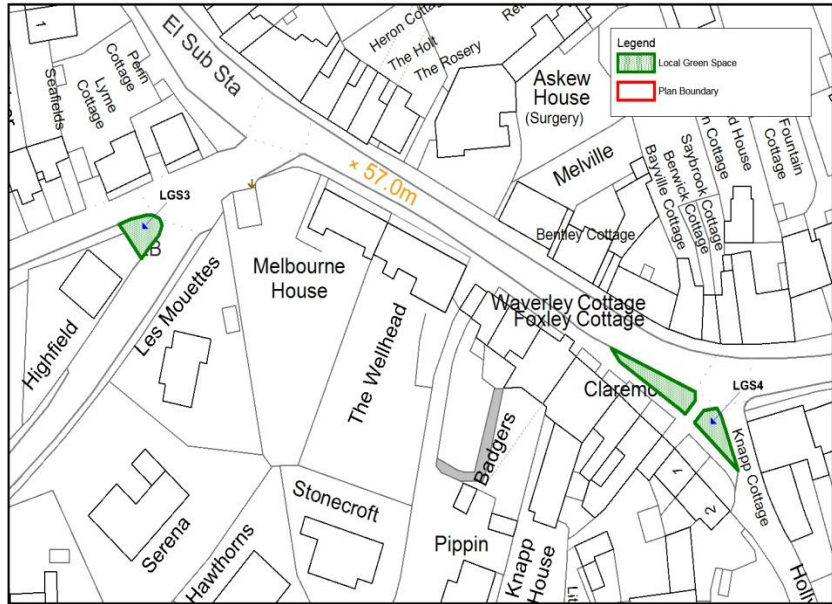
A formal consultation on the draft Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan is due to follow in the next couple of months. As part of this process you will be able to comment again on the recommended inclusion/exclusion of your site as a Local Green Space in the Draft Plan. We will write to you again after this stage to notify you in relation to the latest position in relation to your site.

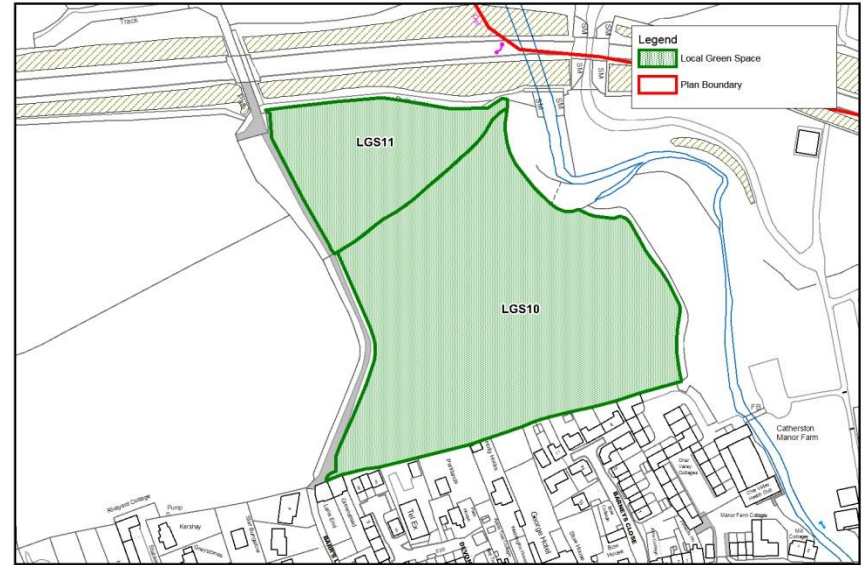
Yours sincerely

## Appendix 4: Maps of proposed Local Green Spaces

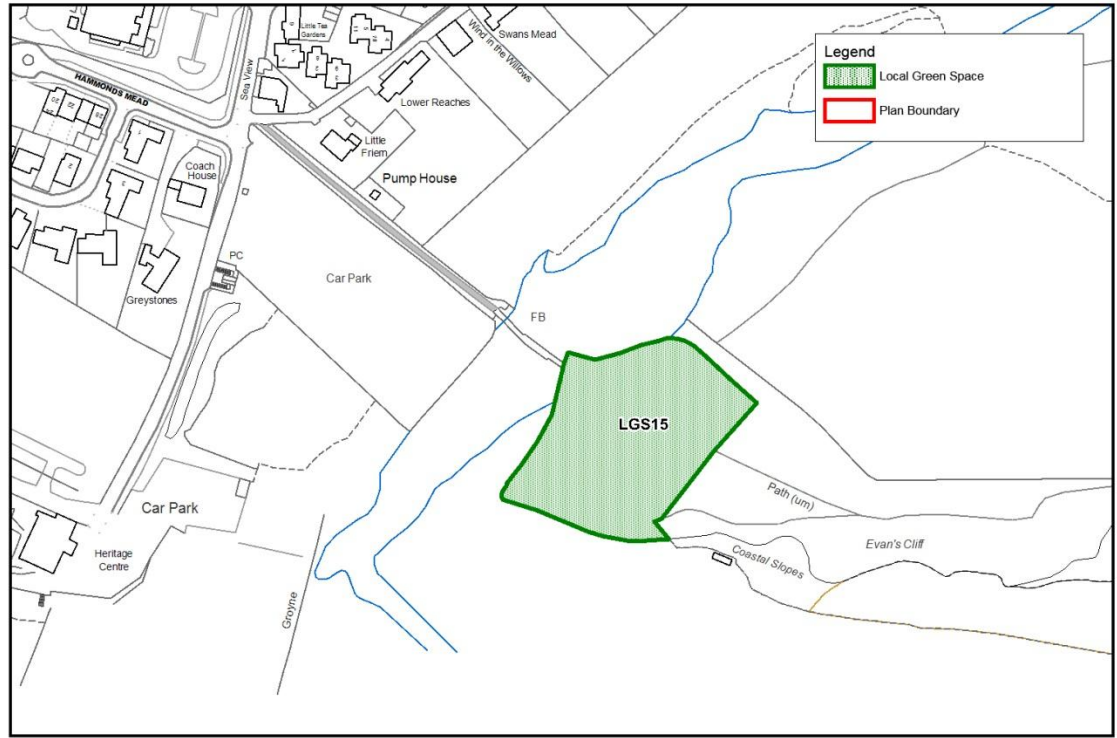












## Appendix 5: Species observed in proposed Local Green Space 7

March 2020 to March 2021

This list is not comprehensive. It has not been compiled by any sort of survey, scientific or otherwise. Species were observed from the track during walks since March 2020.

<b>BIRDS</b>			<b>PLANTS</b>	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>		Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>		Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Hedge Sparrow (Dunnock)	<i>Prunella modularis</i>		Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>		Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>		Buddleia	<i>Buddleia davidii</i>
Blue Tit	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>		Bramble (blackberry)	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>		Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus</i> and/ or <i>Calystegia</i> spp
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>		Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>
Tree Sparrow (11 <sup>th</sup> April 2020)	<i>Passer montanus</i>		Hedge Bedstraw (see note below)	<i>Gallium molluga</i>
			Red campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>

		Horsetail	<i>Equisetum</i> spp
		Rosebay willowherb ?	<i>Epilobium angustifolium</i> ?
Plenty of <b>INSECTS</b> including		Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
<b>BUTTERFLIES</b>		Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Dandelion/hawkweed / similar	Several spp not id'd
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Old Man's Beard	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
Peacock	<i>Inachis io</i>	Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	Montbretia	<i>Crocsmia</i>
Meadow Brown	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Vetch	Not yet id'd
Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia ithonus</i>	Butterbur	<i>Petasites hybridus</i>
various Whites	Not id'd	Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis</i> spp
		Plantains spp	<i>Plantago</i> spp
<b>OTHER</b>		Speedwell spp	<i>Veronica</i> spp
Adder	<i>Vipera berus</i>	Grasses various	not id'd
		Tongue Fern	<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>
Lichens	various	Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
Mosses	various	Pussy Willow	<i>Salix cinerea</i>
		Lesser Celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
		Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
		Lords and ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>

			Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
			Daffodil	<i>Narcissus sp</i>
			Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
			Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>

The document “Biodiversity Appraisal in Dorset” from Dorset Council, contains a Plant List of Dorset Notables and other indicator species. Hedge Bedstraw *Galium molluga* is included as an indicator species.

Though not large, this area contains a very good range of plant species, which will thus encourage a good variety of insects and other species.

The green area of LGS7 includes the wild scrub area, verges and the adjacent green ‘square’ next to the scrub area up the track.