

## Open Spaces 4

There is considered to be three main Green Corridors in Fairford, 1) River Coln, 2) Pitman Brook and 3) the PROW from town to lake 104. Fairford is well served with PROW and permissive paths, many of which are kept in good condition. There are areas of the footpath along the Coln that are in a state of disrepair and require urgent action to stop the bank from further degeneration. Lovers Walk requires resurfacing.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Green Corridors</b>  1) River Coln  2) Pitman Brook  3) PROW from Path the town to lake 104	1) Mix of PROW, permissive path & private.  2) Permissive Path (closed every Tuesday)  3) Public access	1) Mix of PROW, permissive path & private.  2) Permissive Path (closed every Tuesday)  3) Public access	<b>Essential</b> - All are clean and litter free  E - (1) has clearly defined footpaths with a level surface (2) & (3) defined footpath, but not level.  E - All have nature features  <b>Desirable</b> - All have appropriate signage  D - All sites don't have multiple use, only walking  D - All have no dog/litter bins  X - (1) has disabled access in places (2) & (3) not  X - 1, 2 & 3 have staff or volunteer involvement.
Total amount of accessible space		17,728 metres	
Total amount of accessible space within 2 KM with 2 KM radius)		17,728 metres	(includes Public Rights of Way
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		NA	

## Findings Green Corridors

**Quantity and Accessibility:** There is no requirement to set catchments for green corridors due to their linear nature. Access to the three sites is mixed

## 4 Open Spaces

Quantity: Of the Essential criteria, all of the sites are clean and litter free and have natural features. The River Coln has clearly defined footpaths with a level surface. Pitman Brook and the Public Right of Way path from the town to lake 104 have defined footpaths, but are not level. Under the Desirability criteria a multi use green corridor the purposes other than walking, fore example cycling is not possible at any of the sites,as is the provision of dog/litter bins. The Quality questions revealed that there is some disabled access along the River Coln, but none at Pitman Brook and the Public Right of way from the path to town to lake 104. The River Coln is managed by its owners as is the Pitman Brook Path. All other Public Rights of Way are walked annually by a group of volunteers.

### Additional Questions & Answers:

- Are the open spaces you have sufficient to meet local need? **No - Access to much of the open spaces in the district relies very heavily on the goodwill of the landowner granting access to the countryside.**
- Do you plan to open any new facilities/open spaces in the near future? **Yes - An amenity space is due to be fully enabled once the development is complete at Fairford Gate, along the Milking Path**
- Have you closed any open spaces in recent times? **No**
- Are any of your open spaces under threat from such factors as under use, a lack of finance for maintenance? **The tenure of many of the open spaces in Fairford is insecure and reliant on the good will of the owner.**
- Does your parish hold any certificates for its open spaces or take part in any national events for example Green Flag for its parks, Love Parks week or Britain in Bloom? **No**
- Any further general comments about open space provision in your area or the district as a whole? **Access to much of the open spaces in the district relies very heavily on the goodwill of the landowner granting access to the countryside. It is a county-wide issue, but seems particularly pertinent in Fairford.**

### Other areas of Open Space

What	Quantity	Accessibility
Outdoor Sports Facilities - 3 sites	NA	School Site - Limited Cricket Ground - Limited School Sites - Limited * information from desktop assessment

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What	Quantity	Accessibility
Total amount of accessible space	NA	
Total amount of accessible space within 2 KM	NA	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m	NA	

**Accessible Open Space in Fairford**

The national standards ANGst (Accessible Natural Green Space) have been used as a basis to measure the size and distance of the Open Space typologies in each of the 17 settlements that are known to have public access.

For Fairford it was necessary to draw ten, 300 meter circles to cover the main urban area and one 2KM circle for the area.

The table below only counts sites that are available to the public. The type, number and size of the Open Space is logged. Then the sites are broken down into sites that are within the 300 meters radius and within 2KM radius . To avoid counting a site twice if it is within the 300 metre zone it is not counted in the 2KM zone.

Typology	Number & Size	Within 300m radius	Within 2KM radius
<b>Allotments</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Churchyards and Cemeteries</b>	3 Sites = 12038.77m <sup>2</sup> / 1.203877 Ha	3 Sites = 12038.77m <sup>2</sup> / 1.203877 Ha	0
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	5 Sites = 5169.08m <sup>2</sup> / 0.516908 Ha	5 Sites = 5169.08m <sup>2</sup> / 0.516908 Ha	0
<b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b>	1 Site = 12062.22m <sup>2</sup> / 1.206222 Ha	1 Site = 12062.22m <sup>2</sup> / 1.206222 Ha	0
<b>Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Country Parks</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Green Corridors</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Other Green Spaces</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total: 29270.07m<sup>2</sup> / 2.927007 Ha</b>	29270.07m <sup>2</sup> / 2.927007 Ha	29270.07m <sup>2</sup> / 2.927007 Ha	NA

## 4 Open Spaces

### Accessible Open Space

Requirement Location	Requirement Met?	Largest Site &
1 site 2 hectares 300m radius = 1.206222 Ha (Walnut Tree Field, The Croft)	No	12062.22m <sup>2</sup> /
1 site 20 hectares 2km radius =	No	

By applying the Open Space criteria Fairford does not have a sufficient amount of Open Space within a 300m radius. The largest site is Walnut Tree Field at the centre of the Town. Smaller areas are dotted around the north of the town, but there is less access to the south of the town. There are a number of outdoor sports facilities, but these have been discounted as access is limited to sporting use or school use.

Fairford does not have access to one site that is 20 Ha within a 2km radius. The town does have access to 17,728m of Public Rights of Way within a 2km radius

## Recommendations in light of Evidence from Fairford Town Council

### Allotments:

- The new allotments, once up and running, should be closely monitored. The maintenance of these sites will be vital to ensure that those on the waiting list are not waiting too long for sites that are not being utilised.
- Demand for allotments in the area should be taken into account. Therefore, the location and availability of a further site should be investigated.
- Continue to monitor demand in other areas (by recording requests to the Town Council) and support plans to increase provision where additional demand is identified.

### Cemetery and Churchyards:

- Support should be given to the new Cemetery/Churchyard.

### Amenity Green Spaces:

- Continue to maintain the areas to their existing standard

### Parks and Gardens:

- Although the 2011 study did not make reference to Fairford in particular disabled access to Parks and Gardens in the District was highlighted as a concern. The 2015 study highlight that disabled access was an issue locally, therefore access to parks in the area should be revisited.
- In accordance with the the Green Flag guidance The Walnut Tree met most of its basic criteria. Therefore the site might be eligible for Green Flag status, the possibility should be investigated.

### Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces:

- There is the opportunity to work with local land owners, to further increase public access.

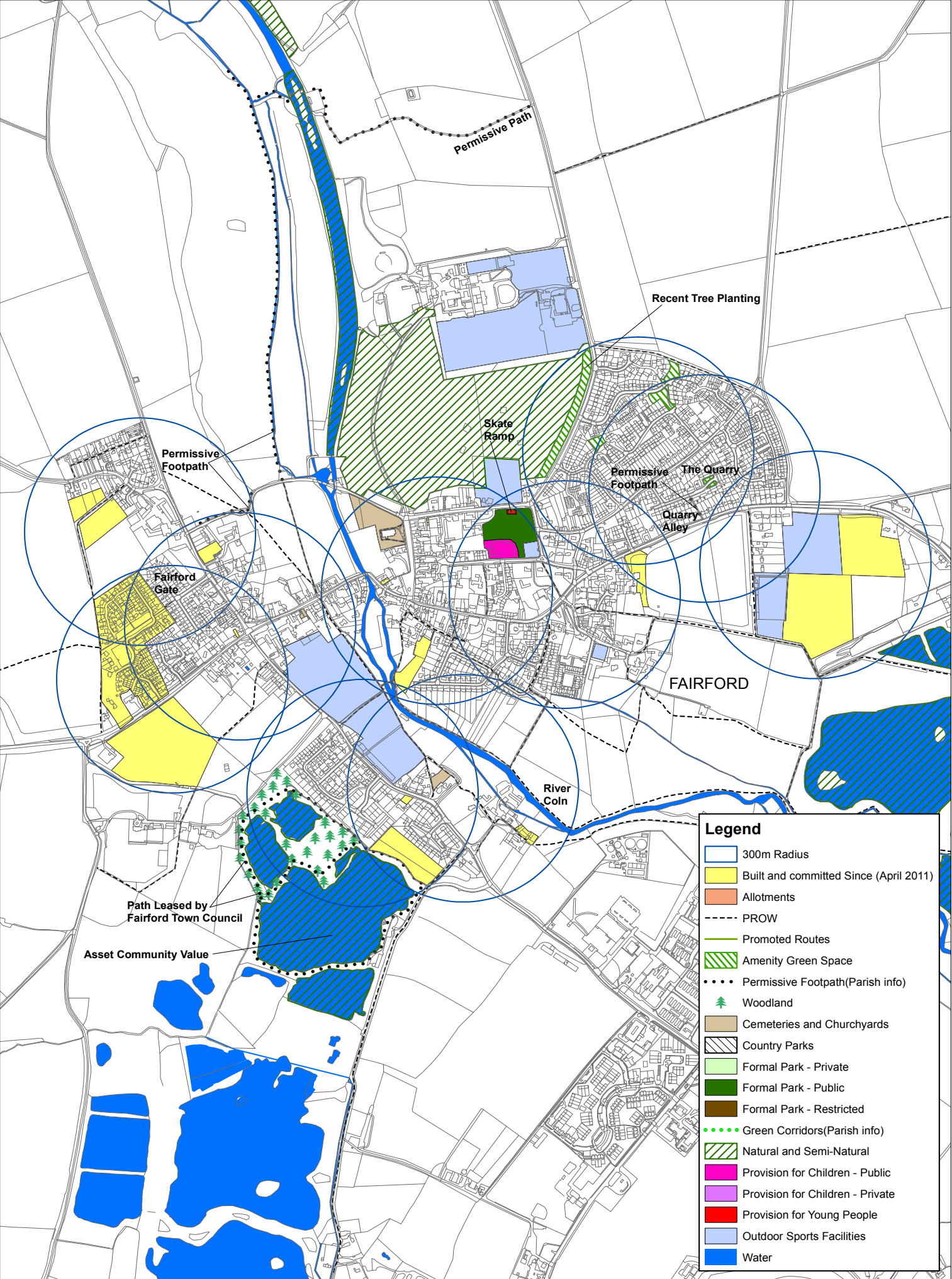
### Country Parks:

- Access to Bowmoor has been extended.

### Green Corridors, Popular Walks & Public Rights of Way:

- There are footpaths that require further attention. Improvements to footpaths along the Coln River and the footpath known as Lovers Walk should be investigated
- Securing greater access to the countryside should be investigated by working with local landowners.
- Newly formed and adopted footpaths should be maintained.

# FAIRFORD UPDATE 2016





FAIRFORD GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE 2017





## 4 Open Spaces

### Kemble

#### 2011 Study Findings

Overall, the 2011 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study for Kemble did not highlight any major concerns for the Parish.

A number of points were raised about natural and semi natural open spaces and allotments. These are listed below:

Typology	Comment
Natural and Semi Natural Green Space	Increase the provision of Natural and Semi Natural Green Space
Amenity Green Space	Provision of Amenity Green Space is important in Kemble

#### Provision in the Local Plan 2011-31 Reg 19 for Kemble

- **Number of dwellings** - Up to the year 2031 Kemble is one of the 17 Principal Settlements allocated in the Cotswold District Council Local Plan 2011 - 2031. As such, Kemble has been allocated 36 dwellings in the plan period. K\_1B Land between Windmill Road and A429 (13 dwellings net); K\_2 Land at Station Road (12 dwellings net); and K\_5 Land to the North West of Kemble Primary School (11 dwellings).
- **Local Green Spaces** - Three sites in Kemble have been put forward for Local Green Space designation in the Local Plan via extensive work from Kemble Parish Council and community. The Green West Lane Kemble (Policy EN3 - LGS6), Community Gardens at Station Road (in conjunction with proposed housing allocation Policy S6, Site K\_2) (Policy EN3 LGS 7) and Playing Field at Clayfurlong Kemble Policy EN3 - LGS8).
- **Infrastructure** - Provision of a safe footpath between Ewen and Kemble.

#### 2011 v 2015 findings

- The provision of Amenity Green Space and Semi Natural and Natural Open space is important

#### 2015 Study Findings

The tables over the next few pages give an overview of the results from Kemble Parish Council 2015 regarding Open Spaces in the Kemble Parish. The Open Spaces covered are Allotments, Cemeteries and Churchyards, Amenity Green Space, Parks and Gardens, Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces, Green Corridors and other areas of Open Space.

For each of the types (typology) of Open Space a table identifies the location of the space, the number, the accessibility and if appropriate the quality and size.



## Open Spaces 4

The Cotswolds District does not hold any Green Flag Awards, a national award that encourages the provision of good quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable way. However, it is thought that within the 17 settlements in the district there are parks that could meet the Green Flag standard. Therefore, the basic criteria questions of the Green Flag award relating to Parks have been included in the review of this study.

Each of the tables, where possible, provide a total number of square metres or hectares in each of the areas and whether they are within 300m or 2km of the village.

If additional information has been made available, by the Parish this has also been added.

### **Additional Comments from Parish**

At the moment we believe there are enough Open Spaces however, with an increase of 50 houses the need for open spaces will increase. There will be some open space in the Top Farm development especially the area over the railway tunnel. The need for a new cemetery will become critical and viewed as needed in the next five years. Lack of natural /semi natural open space.

A cycle /walking route to Cirencester along disused railway line is very important.

Kemble and Ewen Parish Council has ownership of the village hall, but no ownership of any open space in the parish, except for the cemetery. Kemble Community Gardens provides allotments and semi-natural open area, but its future is not secure. Its location is ideal for its functions.

Kemble Station is an important way into tourism in the area - more could be made of this with an emphasis on walking and cycling routes from the station. A cycle /walking path to Cirencester would help. An alternative to the busy A429 for cyclists.

### **Allotments in Kemble**

**What are they?** Allotments can include community gardens, orchards and city urban farms

**What additional benefits can they have?** Allotments are health benefits, social environmental

**Information from Kemble Parish Council** There is one allotment site in Kemble, Kemble Community Gardens, it has half plots and an orchard and the rest is semi-natural, woodland and scrub with open grass areas. The Community Gardens fulfills three functions, 1) allotments, 2) Open Space, 3) semi natural wildlife.

## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity Standard	Accessibility	Existing Provision Size & Number	Quality Summary
<b>Allotments</b>  1 site Kemble Community Garden.  28 plots	<b>Quantity</b>  15 per 1,000 households  300 square yards or 250m <sup>2</sup>	Public Access	28 plots	<b>Essential</b> - Site is well maintained  E - Site has good quality boundaries  E - No access to mains water  E - Safe & secure no issues to date  E - litter/dog bins  <b>Desirable</b> - No parking  D - level grass footpaths  - Notice boards at both ends  X - Volunteer Involvement  X - No toilet  X disabled access, footpath entrance
Total amount of accessible space			8986.43m <sup>2</sup> / 0.898643 Ha	
Total amount of accessible space within 2km, but outside 300m			0	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m			8986.43m <sup>2</sup> / 0.898643 Ha	

### Additional Information

- Kemble Community Garden has been put forward in the Cotswold District Council Local Plan 2011 - 2031: Submission Draft Reg. 19 June 2016 for Local Green Space designation. (Policy EN3 LGS7) (in conjunction with proposed housing allocation Policy S6, Site K\_2)

## Open Spaces 4

**Allotment Findings:**

**Quantity:** The predicted number of residential properties in Kemble up to the year 2031 would suggest that, using the quantity standard there is enough provision within the Parish for allotments.

**Accessibility:** there is public access to the site

**Quality:** All of the **Essential criteria** for the Allotments is met, with the exception of the site having no mains supply of water. Of the **Desirable criteria** the site has no parking, but is a level site, with notice boards at its two entrances. The new **Quality questions** identify that the site has volunteer involvement, but no toilets, there is disabled access at the footpath entrance.

**Cemeteries & Churchyards in Kemble**

**What are they?** Urban burial grounds in the 19th century were originally envisaged as public open spaces, and were professionally designed to be attractive places to visit in their own right.

**What additional purpose can they have?** Regarded as public landscapes as well as functional burial places. Cemeteries have the potential to deliver as many amenity and ecological benefits as parks.

**Information from Kemble Parish Council**

There are two Cemeteries/Churchyards in Kemble, 1)Kemble Churchyard, which is closed and not used for 100 years and 2) Kemble Cemetery, which has an estimate of five years left. The Parish Council are in discussions with a local landowner about purchasing a new cemetery.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Cemeteries &amp; Churchyard</b>	1) 1287.79m <sup>2</sup> / 0.128779 Ha 2) 2213.88m <sup>2</sup> / 0.221388 Ha	1) Public access 2) Public access	<b>Essential</b> - All sites limited parking E - All sites have well kept grass E - All are clean & litter free <b>Desirable</b> - (1) has a toilet D - (1) seat in church porch (2) some benches
1)Kemble Churchyard			
2) Kemble Cemetery			



## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
			<p>D - All sites have <b>no</b> litter/dog bins</p> <p>D - All are <b>not</b> considered to be part of a dog walk area</p> <p>X - All sites well maintained</p> <p>X - (1) disabled access-paths to church, no paths in churchyard. (2) level wide gravel footpaths</p> <p>X- (1) managed by PCC, (2) staff.</p>
Total amount of accessible space		3501.67m <sup>2</sup> / 0.350167 Ha	
Total amount of accessible space within 2km, but outside 300m		None	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		3501.67m <sup>2</sup> / 0.350167 Ha	

### Cemetery and Churchyards Findings:

Although there is no Quantity, Accessibility or a number Standard set for Cemeteries and Churchyards, Kemble's Cemeteries and Churchyards all have public access. The Quality standard was applied. The Cemeteries and Churchyards met most of the **Essential criteria**, apart from having limited parking facilities, but this was not identified as being a particular issue.

Of the **Desirable criteria**, there is a toilet at 1)Kemble Churchyard and a seat in the porch with benches available in 2) the cemetery. The sites are not considered to be dog walking areas and do not have litter/dog bins. The new **Quality questions** identify that all the sites are in good condition, with disabled access to the church, but no paths in the churchyard itself and level wide gravel footpaths in the cemetery. 1) Kemle Churchyard is managed by the Parish Council and 2) Kemble Cemetery two members of staff, including the warden and a member of staff employed by the Parish Council.

### Amenity Green Space in Kemble

**What are they ?** (most commonly but not exclusively in housing areas) including informal recreation spaces, green spaces in and around housing, domestic gardens and village greens.

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**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Informal activities close to home or work, biodiversity, environmental education and awareness

### Information from Kemble Parish Council

There are four Amenity Green Spaces in Kemble.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility Standard	Quality Summary
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	1) 799.60m <sup>2</sup> / 0.07996 Ha	1) Public access	X - All sites are in very good condition
1) West Hay Green	2) 1301.88m <sup>2</sup> / 0.130188 Ha	2) Public access	X - There is staff or volunteer involvement
2) Kemble Green	3) 716.75m <sup>2</sup> / 0.071675 Ha	3) Public access	X - None of the sites have toilet
3) Windmill Road Kemble	4) Counted under Allotments as dual purpose.	4) Public access	X - Disabled access (1) level area & footpath next to it (2) tarmac path, but steep banks on to site (3) tarmac path.
4) Community Garden			
Total amount of accessible space		2818.23m <sup>2</sup> /0.281823 Ha	
Total amount of accessible space within 2km, but outside 300m		None	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		2818.23m <sup>2</sup> /0.281823 Ha	

### Amenity Green Space Findings

**Quantity, Size and Accessibility:** There are four Amenity Green Spaces in the Kemble Parish. All four sites have public access with the total size of the sites measuring 0.281823 Ha .

**Quality:** All of the sites are in very good condition, they all have staff involvement. Disabled access (1 West Hay Green has a level area & footpath next to it , 2) Kemble Green has a tarmac path, but steep banks on to site, 3)Windmill Road Kemble has a tarmac path and 4) Kemble Community Gardens has disabled access at the footpath entrance.

### Parks and Gardens in Kemble

There are no Parks/Gardens in Kemble

## 4 Open Spaces

### Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces in Kemble

**What are they?** They include publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, commons, meadows), wetlands, open running water and wastelands.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** They can be spaces for recreation, but a clear distinction should be made between those natural spaces which are accessible to the public and those are not, as many sites can also be Key Wildlife Sites and (SSSIs) Scientific Sites of Special Interest.

**Information from Kemble Parish Council** Kemble Wood is marked on the area map but there are no PROW's through the wood and is privately owned. There is no commonland in the parish. The nearest semi-natural/natural green spaces are either the Clatlinger Farm nature reserve on the far side of Poole Keynes, Hailey Woods or Cirencester Park.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces</b>  1) Kemble Community Garden	Counted under Allotments as dual purpose.	1) Public Access	<b>Essential</b> - Site clean & well maintained  E - Has natural features  E - There are footpaths  <b>Desirable</b> - No parking  D - Trees, shrubs  D - 2 dog bins  D - Dog walking area within woodland on lead.  D - There are two signs  X - Disabled access, there is a footpath at the entrance,  X - Site has volunteer involvement
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF ACCESSIBLE SPACE 00.00Ha</b>			

### Additional Information



## Open Spaces 4

- Kemble Community Garden has been put forward in the Cotswold District Council emerging Local Plan 2011 - 2031: Local Green Space designation. (Policy EN3 - LGS 7)

### Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces Findings:

**Quantity, Size and Accessibility:** There is one Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces in the Kemble Parish. The sites has public access .

**Quality:** All of the Essential criteria for the semi natural and natural green space is met. Of the Desirable criteria the site has no parking, but is a level site, with notice boards at its two entrances. The new Quality questions identify that the site has volunteer involvement, but no toilets, there is disabled access to the footpath entrance.

### Country Parks in Kemble

There are no Country Parks in the Kemble area.

### Green Corridors in Kemble

**What are they?** They include river and canal banks, cycle ways and public rights of way as well as accessible green space in urban fringes.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Walking, cycling or horse riding, Leisure purposes or travel Opportunities for wildlife migration

### Information from Kemble Parish Council

The Thames Path runs along the river bank up to the edge of Ewen after which it runs along the public highway. Rejoins the river on the Ewen - Poole Keynes Road. This is the part of a National Trail.

There are two significant Green Corridors in the parish - Disused Thames and Severn Canal and the main railway line and the disused branch line to Cirencester. These are significant wildlife areas but there is no public access.

## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Green Corridors</b>  1)River Thames (Thames Path)	There is no requirement to set catchments for green corridors due to their linear nature.	Public Access	<b>Essential</b> - Some litter on one (1)  E - All have defined footpaths  E - All have nature features  <b>Desirable</b> - All have appropriate signage  D - All have no dog/litter bins
Total amount of accessible space: 10,484 m			
Total amount of accessible space within 2 KM: 10,484 m (includes Public Rights of Way within 2KM)			
Total amount of accessible space within 300m: NA			

### Popular Walks and Public Rights of Way

- 1)Thames Path - national trail - very well used by visitors. Footpaths are good with plenty of signs.
- 2) Footpath from West Lane to Kemble Wick - Refer to map - very good for walking, well maintained by land owner.
- 3) Washpool Lane - popular for walking because traffic is light, quiet lane status so also good for cycling.
- 4) Railway Station Area - Railway Station area - roads and station often used as part of a walk.

### Findings Green Corridors

**Quantity:** There is no requirement to set catchments for green corridors due to their linear nature.

**Accessibility:**

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**4.3 Quality:** Of the Essential criteria, the main site is relatively clean and litter free, has natural features and clearly defined footpaths with a level surface. The desirability of a multi use green corridor for purposes other than walking, for example cycling is not possible at the site, and there is no provision of dog/litter bins. The new Quality questions revealed that there are not toilets and no disabled access. There is staff and volunteer involvement.

### Additional Questions & Answers:

- Are the open spaces you have sufficient to meet local need/demand? **Yes.**
1. **At the moment we believe there is enough however, with an increase of 50 houses within the coming year the need for green spaces will increase. There will be some open space in the new Top Farm development especially the area over the railway tunnel.**
  2. **The need for a new cemetery will become critical**
  3. **Lack of natural/semi natural open space**
- Do you plan to open any new facilities/open spaces in the near future? **No**
  - Have you closed any open spaces in recent times? **No**
  - Are any of your open spaces under threat from such factors as under use, a lack of finance for maintenance? **The proposed 12 houses on part of the Community Garden site will have a serious impact on the site and its use at the moment.**
  - Does your Parish hold any certificates for its open spaces or take part in any national events for example Green Flag for its parks, Love Parks week or Britain in Bloom? **No**
  - Any further general comments about open space provision in your area or the district as a whole?
1. **A cycle/walking route to Cirencester along the disused railway line is very important.**
  2. **The Kemble & Ewen Parish Council has ownership of the village hall but no ownership of the of any open space in the Parish (except for the cemetery). The playing field is on a ten year lease. Kemble Community Garden provides allotments & semi natural open area but its future is not secure. It's location is ideal for its functions.**
  3. **A new cemetery will be needed in the next five years.**
  4. **Kemble Station is an important way into (tourism) the area - more could be made of this with an emphasis on walking and cycle routes from the station. A cycle/walking path to Cirencester would help. An alternative to the busy A429 for cyclists is needed.**



## 4 Open Spaces

### Other Areas of Open Space

What	Quantity	Accessibility
Kemble School Field	1 site - 6954m <sup>2</sup> / 0.6954 Ha	School site - limited access - NA  *Information from desktop assessment

## Open Spaces 4

## Accessible Open Space in Kemble

The national standards ANGst (Accessible Natural Green Space) have been used as a basis to measure the size and distance of the Open Space typologies in each of the 17 settlements that are known to have public access.

For Kemble it was necessary to draw four, 300 meter circles to cover the main urban area and one 2km circle for the area.

The table below only counts sites that are available to the public. The type, number and size of the Open Space is logged. Then the sites are broken down into sites that are within the 300 meters radius and within 2km radius . To avoid counting a site twice if it is within the 300 metre zone it is not counted in the 2km zone.

Typology	Number & Size	Within 300m radius	Within 2km radius
<b>Allotments - Community Garden</b>	1 Site = 8986.43m <sup>2</sup> / 0.898643 Ha	1 Site = 8986.43m <sup>2</sup> / 0.898643 Ha	NA
<b>Churchyards and Cemeteries</b>	2 Sites = 3501.67m <sup>2</sup> / 0.350167 Ha	2 sites = 3501.67m <sup>2</sup> / 0.350167 Ha	0
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	3 Sites = 2818.23m <sup>2</sup> / 0.281823 Ha	3 Sites = 2818.23m <sup>2</sup> / 0.281823 Ha	0
<b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b>	0	0	0
<b>Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces</b>	0	0	0
<b>Country Parks</b>	0	0	0
<b>Green Corridors</b>	See PROW	See PROW	See PROW
<b>Other Green Spaces</b>	Kemble Playing Field 16521.20 m <sup>2</sup> 1.6521 Ha	Kemble Playing Field 16521.20 m <sup>2</sup> 1.6521 Ha	NA
<b>Total = 31827.53m<sup>2</sup> / 3.1827Ha</b>	There are seven accessible sites measuring 31827.53m <sup>2</sup> / 3.1827Ha	There are seven sites within a 300m radius. These measure 31827.53m <sup>2</sup> / 3.1827Ha	0

## Accessible Open Space

Requirement Location	Requirement Met?	Largest Site &
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1 site 2 hectares	300m	radius	=	No	Kemble Playing Field
16521.20 m <sup>2</sup>	1.6521 Ha				
1 site 20 hectares	2km	radius	=	No	

By applying the Accessible Open Space criteria Kemble does not have sufficient accessible open space within a 300m or 2km radius. The largest site is Kemble Playing Field 16521.20 m<sup>2</sup> 1.6521 Ha.

## **Recommendations/Actions in light of Evidence from Kemble Parish Council**

### **Allotments:**

- Continue to monitor demand (by recording requests to the Parish Council) and support plans to increase provision when additional demand is identified.

### **Cemetery and Churchyards:**

- Support request for new Cemetery.

### **Amentiy Green Spaces:**

- Continue to maintain the areas to their existing standard.
- Continue to support Local Green Space designation. (Policy EN3 LGS7) (in conjunction with proposed housing allocation Policy S6, Site K\_2)
- Investigate the provision of more Amenity Green Space in the Kemble area.

### **Parks and Gardens:**

- There are no Parks and Gardens in Kemble. Investigate the need and provision of a park in the Kemble area.

### **Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces:**

- There are one Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces. Continue to maintain the areas to their existing standard.
- Investigate the provision of more Amenity Green Space in the Kemble area.

### **Country Parks**

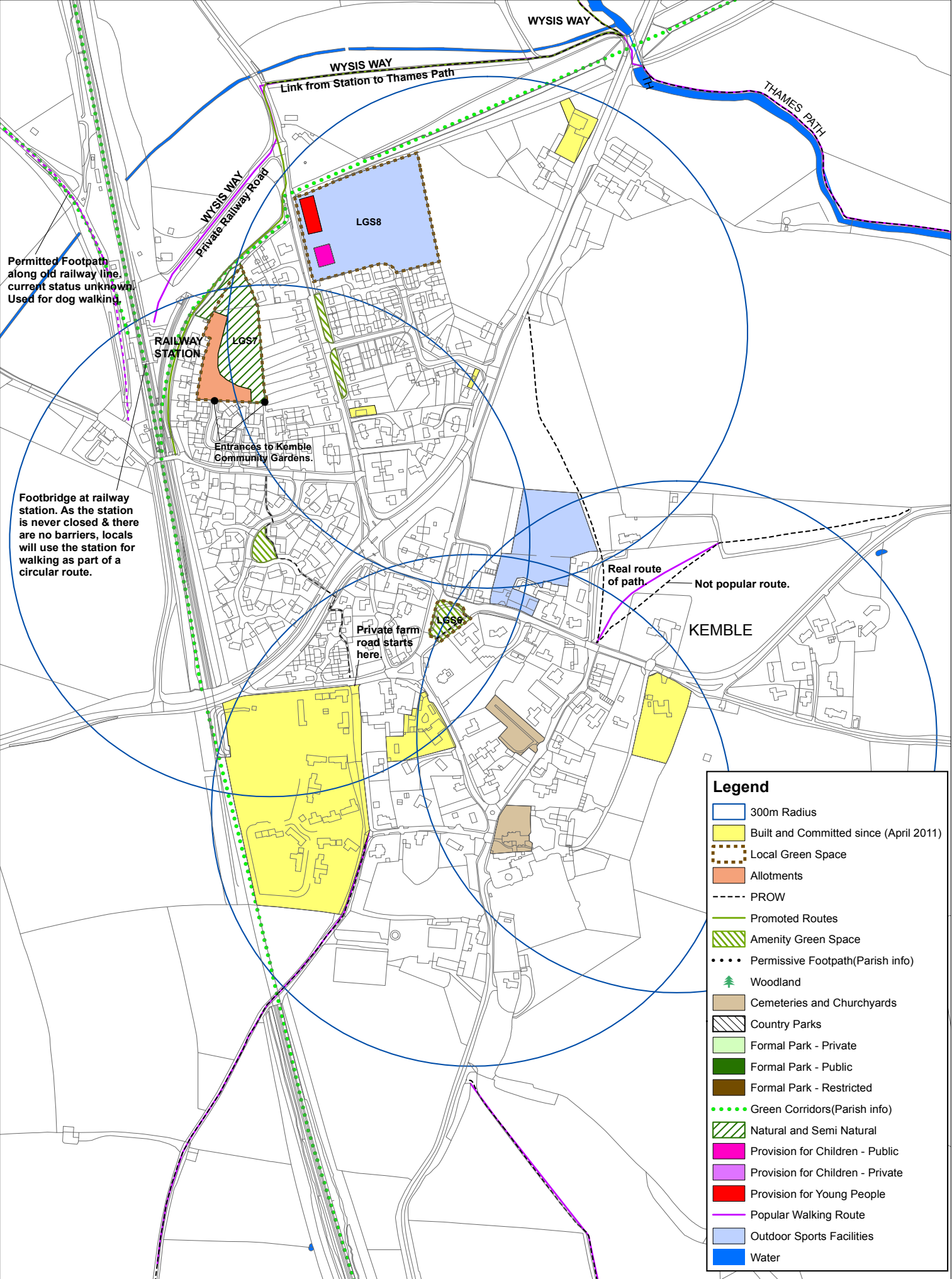
- There are no Country Parks in Kemble

### **Green Corridors, Popular Walks & Public Rights of Way:**

- Investigate the opportunity to improvement of footpaths and cycle links.

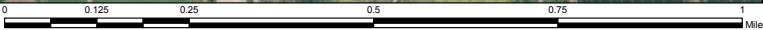
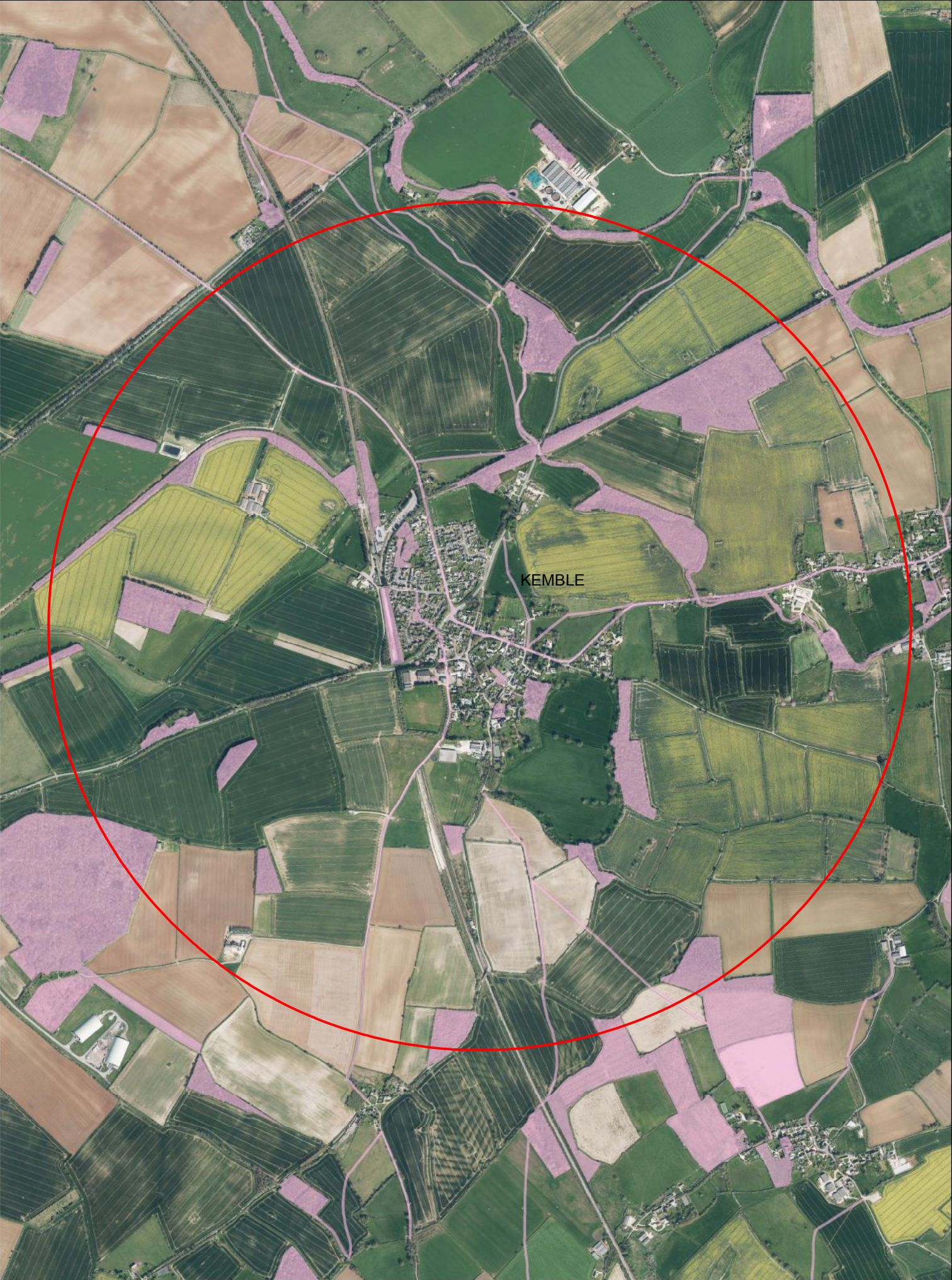


# KEMBLE UPDATE 2016





KEMBLE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE 2017





## 4 Open Spaces

### Lechlade

#### 2011 Study Findings

Overall, the 2011 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study for Lechlade did not highlight any major concerns for the parish.

A number of points were raised about natural and semi natural open spaces and allotments. These are listed below:

Typology	Comment
Allotments	Provide new Allotments.

#### Additional Comments from Lechlade Parish 2015

It is hoped to open up the old railway line from Lechlade to Fairford as a wildlife corridor and walking / cycle route. Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust have offered to revive this project.

We enjoy one of the most beautiful countrysides in the UK, but not all residents have access to their local area – Kempsford is an example of a community with only one PROW, no access to the local river etc.

There are very few safe cycle paths especially for children

Some paths are permissive only e.g. Country Park off A417 by Lakes for Yoo.

#### Provision in the Local Plan 2011-31 Reg 19 for Lechlade

- **Number of dwellings** - Up to the year 2031 Lechlade, is one of the 17 Principal Settlements allocated in the Cotswold District Council Local Plan 2011-31. As such, Lechlade has been allocated 18 dwellings in the plan period. L\_18B Land west of Orchard Close, Downington (9 dwellings net); and L\_19 Land south of Butlers Court (9 dwellings net).
- **Local Green Spaces** - One site in Lechlade has been put forward for Local Green Space designation in the Local Plan via extensive work from Lechlade Town Council. The site is the Eric Richardson and Phyllis Amey Nature Reserve Lechlade (Policy EN3 - LGS9).
- **Open Space related infrastructure** - A site is allocated for a cemetery. Provision of safe footpath and cycle links to the Cotswold Water Park, canal route and Fairford. Installation of a new footbridge over the River Thames. Improvements to the public realm at entrances to Lechlade and town centre.

#### 2011 v 2015 findings

- The 2015 study reveals that there is a need to increase provision of accessible open space in Lechlade. Securing greater access to the countryside should be investigated.

## Open Spaces 4

**2015 Study Findings**

The tables over the next few pages give an overview of the results from Lechlade Town Council 2015 regarding Open Spaces in Lechlade. The Open Spaces covered are Allotments, Cemeteries and Churchyards, Amenity Green Space, Parks and Gardens, Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces, Green Corridors and other areas of Open Space, such as playing fields and Sports pitches.

For each of the types (typology) of Open Space a table identifies the location of the space, the number, the accessibility and if appropriate the quality and size.

The Cotswolds District does not hold any Green Flag Awards, a national award that encourages the provision of good quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable way. However, it is thought that within the 17 settlements in the district there are parks that could meet the Green Flag standard. Therefore, the basic criteria questions of the Green Flag award relating to Parks have been included in the review of this study.

Each of the tables, where possible, provide a total number of square metres or hectares in each of the areas and whether they are within 300m or 2km of the village.

If additional information has been made available by the parish, this has also been added.

**Allotments in Lechlade**

**What are they?** Allotments can includes community gardens, orchards and city urban farms

**What additional benefits can they have?** Allotments are health benefits, social environmental

**Information from Lechlade Town Council**

Allotments have been created on at least two occasions in the past and have fallen into disuse on both occasions albeit after a number of years. There is private provision of garden space on a local farm which is believed to satisfy the local demand for allotments.

Typology	Quantity Standard	Accessibility	Existing Provision Size & Number	Quality Summary
<b>Allotments</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	10 minute walk time (480m catchment)	NA	NA
None	15 per 1,000 households 300 yards <sup>2</sup> or 250m <sup>2</sup>			

## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity Standard	Accessibility	Existing Provision Size & Number	Quality Summary
<b>Restricted Access - : TOTAL AMOUNT OF ACCESSIBLE SPACE - 00.00 Ha</b>				

### Cemeteries & Churchyards in Lechlade

**What are they?** Urban burial grounds in the 19th century were originally envisaged as public open spaces, and were professionally designed to be attractive places to visit in their own right.

**What additional purpose can they have?** Regarded as public landscapes as well as functional burial places. Cemeteries have the potential to deliver as many amenity and ecological benefits as parks.

### Information from Lechlade Town Council

There are three Cemeteries/Churchyards in Lechlade 1) St Lawrence Church, Shelleys Walk is closed for burials - Occasional interment of cremated ashes only, 2) Town Council, Downington has approximately 15 to 20 years remaining and 3) Baptist Church, Sherborne Street is closed. The Town Council has identified potential land to enable the cemetery to be extended, but this will require negotiation to buy the land and there are potentially archaeological issues to be overcome.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Cemeteries &amp; Churchyards</b>	1) 4897.77m <sup>2</sup> / 0.489777 Ha	No recommended standard	<b>Essential</b> - No sites have dedicated parking
1) St Lawrence Church, Shelleys Walk	2) 4964.76m <sup>2</sup> / 0.496476 Ha	1) Public access	E - All sites have well kept grass
2) Town Council, Downington	3) 201.41 <sup>2</sup> / 0.020141 Ha	2) Public access	E - All are clean & litter free
3) Baptist Church, Sherborne Street		3) Public access	<b>Desirable</b> - None have toilets
			D - (2) & (3) sites have seating
			D - All sites have litter bins



## Open Spaces 4

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
			D - (2) & (3) have public path/ dog walk area  X - All sites in good condition  X - All have have disabled access  X- All have both staff and volunteer involvement
Total amount of accessible space		10063.94m <sup>2</sup> / 1.006394 Ha	
Total amount of accessible space within 2km		NA	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		10063.94m <sup>2</sup> / 1.006394 Ha	

**Cemetery and Churchyards Findings:**

Although there is no Quantity, Accessibility or a number Standard set for Cemeteries and Churchyards, Lechlade's Cemeteries and Churchyards all have public access. The Quality standard was applied. The Cemeteries and Churchyards met most of the **Essential criteria**, apart from parking facilities, but this was not identified as being a particular issue.

Of the **Desirable criteria**, again most of the criteria was met. There are no toilets at any of the sites, but again this was not raised an issue of concern. 1) St Lawrence Church, Shelleys Walk does not have any seating or is considered to be a dog walking area. The new **Quality questions** identify that all the sites are in a good condition, that all three sites have disabled access and that 1) St Lawrence Church, Shelleys Walk and 3) Baptist Church, Sherborne Street sites have both staff and volunteer involvement and 2) Town Council, Downington is staffed.

**Amenity Green Space in Lechlade**

**What are they ?** (most commonly but not exclusively in housing areas) including informal recreation spaces, green spaces in and around housing, domestic gardens and village greens.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Informal activities close to home or work, Biodiversity, Environmental education and awareness

**Information from Lechlade Town Council**

## 4 Open Spaces

We have left Sherborne Park as an amenity green space rather than a Formal Park. Allcourt Meadow in Downington is part of a residential facility for the over 50s. However members of the public do have limited access to the footpath that runs through this site (cattle grids at points of access).

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	1) 1213.03m <sup>2</sup> / 0.121303 Ha	1) Public access	X - Apart from (1) All sites are in good condition
	2) 1397.3m <sup>2</sup> / 0.13973 Ha	2) Public access	
1) Sheltered Housing The Gassons	3) 14216.50m <sup>2</sup> / 1.42165 Ha	3) Public access	X - Apart from (6) there is public access
2) Cuthwine Place	4) 8058.33m <sup>2</sup> / 0.805833 Ha	4) Public access	
3) Memorial Hall Recreation ground	5) 3825.59m <sup>2</sup> / 0.382559 Ha	5) Public access	X - (1),(2), (5), (7) have staff involvement, (3) & (4) have staff & volunteer involvement (6) not known.
4) Allcourt Meadow	6) NA	6) Not known	
5) Sherborne Park	7) 1900.81m <sup>2</sup> / 0.190081 Ha	7) Public access	X - None of the sites have toilet
6) St Birinus			X - All have disabled access
7) Perrinsfield Play area			
Total amount of accessible space		30611.56m <sup>2</sup> / 3.061156 Ha	
Total amount of accessible space within 2km		NA	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		30611.56m <sup>2</sup> / 3.061156 Ha	

### Amenity Green Space Findings

**Quantity, Size and Accessibility:** There are seven Amenity Green Spaces in Lechlade. Six of the seven sites have public access with the total size of the sites measuring 30611.56m<sup>2</sup> / 3.061156 Ha .

**Quality:** All of the sites are in good condition, they all have staff and/or volunteer involvement and disabled access. None of the sites have a toilet, but this was not raised as a particular concern. There were no concerns raised regarding amenity green spaces in Lechlade.

### Parks and Gardens in Lechlade

**What are they?** Includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Informal recreation, Community events

## Open Spaces 4

## Information from Lechlade Town Council

The Riverside Park, managed by the Cotswold Water Park Trust is on the parish boundary. This allows public access to the river Thames and offers parking for cars with access from the A417 before entering the town. The pedestrian access from the bridge is very poor and there are plans to install a ramp to enable disabled access. There are toilets at the car park entrance. Also litter and poo bins at appropriate locations on site. The site is maintained by CWPT wardens and volunteers and is in generally good condition. Although technically outside the parish is very popular with local residents as well as attracting significant numbers of visitors especially from Easter to the Autumn.

Typology	Quantity Standard (National Standards)	Recommended Accessibility Standard	Existing Provision  Size & Number	Quality  Summary
<b>Parks and Gardens</b>	None	None	Access, but on the Parish Boundary	None
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF ACCESSIBLE SPACE - 00.00 Ha</b>				

## Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces in Lechlade

**What are they?** They include publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, commons, meadows), wetlands, open running water and wastelands.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** They can be spaces for recreation, but a clear distinction should be made between those natural spaces which are accessible to the public and those are not, as many sites can also be Key Wildlife Sites and (SSSIs) Scientific Sites of Special Interest.

## Information from Lechlade Town Council

There are plans to improve disabled access to the Nature Reserve also to link the 3 reserves – ERPA, Briworth Lane and Whelford Pools by a path along the old railway line (Lechlade - Fairford)

Typology	Quantity & Size	Access	Quality Summary
<b>Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces</b>	1) 140077.23m <sup>2</sup> / 14.007723 Ha  2) 131905.52m <sup>2</sup> / 13.190552 Ha	1) Public access  2) Public access	<b>Essential</b> - Sites clean & well maintained (1) some issues with dog poo

## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity & Size	Access	Quality Summary
<p>1)Field off Cemetery Lane,</p> <p>also accessible from Cuthwine Place and Moorgate *(includes PROW)</p> <p>2) Eric Richardson &amp; Phyllis Amey (ERPA) Nature Reserve</p>			<p>E - Both have natural features</p> <p>E - Both have footpaths/Public Rights of Way</p> <p><b>Desirable</b> - No parking (1) on road (2)</p> <p>D - Both have trees, shrubs</p> <p>D - Both have dog bins at the entrance</p> <p>D - Both have dog walking area</p> <p>D - Both have information &amp; signage</p> <p>X - (1) Disabled access to gate, but no pathways (2) limited access to northern lake viewing point only</p> <p>X - (1) maintained by farmer (2) Site has volunteer involvement</p>
Total amount of accessible space	27198.75m <sup>2</sup> / 27.198275 Ha		
Total amount of accessible space within 2km	NA		
Total amount of accessible space within 300m	27198.75m <sup>2</sup> / 27.198275 Ha		

### Additional Information

. \* The reserve has been granted Local Green Space status through the adoption of Lechlade's Neighbourhood Plan.

### Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces Findings

## Open Spaces 4

**Quantity, Size and Accessibility:** There are Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces in Lechlade, both sites have public access.

**Quality:** Both sites meet all of the **Essential criteria**, but 1)Field off Cemetery Lane, also accessible from Cuthwine Place and Moorgate does have a few issues with dog fouling. The **Desirable criteria** reveals that one of the sites has on street parking, 2) the nature reserve, but they are available for dog walking, have dog/litter bins, trees and shrubs as well as information and signage. Of the new **Quality questions** (1)Field off Cemetery Lane, has disabled access to the gate, but no pathways. (2) The Eric Richardson & Phyllis Amey (ERPA) Nature Reserve has limited disabled access to northern lake viewing point only and has staff and volunteer involvement.

### Country Parks in Lechlade

**What are they?** Includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Informal recreation, Community events

### Information from Lechlade Town Council

There is one Country Park in the Lechlade area, Bowmoor. The Country Park is informal parkland provided as part of the Section 106 agreement for the Lakes by Yoo development. It includes permissive paths and a lake used by the Bowmoor sailing club.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Country Parks</b>  Bowmoor	NA	NA	NA
<b>Notes : *In November 2016 access to Bowmoor was extended</b>			

### Green Corridors in Lechlade

**What are they?** They include river and canal banks, cycle ways and public rights of way as well as accessible green space in urban fringes.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Walking, cycling or horse riding, Leisure purposes or travel Opportunities for wildlife migration

### Information from Lechlade Town Council

There is on main Green Corridor in Lechlade, The River Thames. There is a need for a cycleway between Lechlade and Fairford. This would also form a wildlife corridor linking the 3 nature reserves at ERPA, Briworth Lane and Whelford Pools.



## 4 Open Spaces

There are numerous PROWs in and around the town which are extensively used by dog walkers, locals and visitors to the area.

We promote the walks with leaflets, self-guided walks and a guided programme of walks in the Summer Months.

A few paths are accessible by gates and have good surfaces for walking, but most are country paths with stiles and rough ground.

Generally the walks are in good condition although currently a gate on the Seven Stiles footpath is damaged and a tree is overhanging the path. On most footpaths some hedgerows are overgrown and occasionally farmers do not keep the PROWs clear when planting.

There is high demand for dog walking areas in or close to the town which has resulted in the field off Cemetery Lane being extensively used by dog walkers who walk around the field rather than remaining on the 3 PROWs that intersect on the field.

Typology	Quality Standard	Access	Quality Summary
Green Corridors	No requirement to set catchments for Green Corridors due to linear nature	Public Access	<p>Essential - site is clean &amp; litter free in parts</p> <p>E- has defined footpaths with level surface</p> <p>E has nature features</p> <p>Desirable - Site has appropriate signage</p> <p>D - Site used for walking only, no other use</p> <p>D - Site has dog/litter bins</p> <p>X - Disabled access is limited</p> <p>X - Staff/volunteer involvement unknown</p>
Total amount of accessible space 14,386m			
Total amount of accessible space within 2KM 14,386m (includes Public Rights of Way within 2KM radius)			
Total amount of accessible within space within 300m			

### Findings Green Corridors

## Open Spaces 4

**Quantity:** There is no requirement to set catchments for green corridors due to their linear nature.

**Accessibility:** Includes the River Thames.

**Quality:**

The site alongside the River Thames meets all of the Essential criteria, it is clean and litter free, has natural features and clearly defined footpaths with a level surface. Of the desirable criteria the site is used for walking, but cycling is not possible, there are dog/litter bins, appropriate signage, a toilet is also available at the Riverside Park. The new Quality criteria revealed that there is some, but limited disabled access and the level of staff or volunteer involvement was not known.

#### Additional Questions & Answers:

- Are the open spaces you have sufficient to meet local need? **No – see comments on dog walking above. Also the Cricket Club is not secure in its present site – 16 year lease.**
- Do you plan to open any new facilities/open spaces in the near future? **We are hoping to open up the old railway line from Lechlade to Fairford as a wildlife corridor and walking / cycle route. Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust have offered to revive this project. If the option came up the Town Council could consider buying more of the field off the cemetery Lane than is required for the cemetery extension as additional green space / Cricket ground etc.**
- Have you closed any open spaces in recent times?
- Are any of your open spaces under threat from such factors as under use, a lack of finance for maintenance? **Yes: the Cricket Pitch is not secure – 16 year lease. There are discussions about developing on the Reddies**
- Does your parish hold any certificates for its open spaces or take part in any national events for example Green Flag for its parks, Love Parks week or Britain in Bloom? **Yes 2007 Bledisloe Cup runner up 2009 Calor Village of the Year Competition runner up in the Safer and Stronger communities section, 2012 GRCC Vibrant Village of the Year runner up in Most resilient Community section, 2015 Reports by Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association very complimentary about Memorial Hall Recreation Ground facilities**
- Any further general comments about open space provision in your area or the district as a whole? **We enjoy one of the most beautiful countrysides in the UK, but not all residents have access to their local area – Kempsford is an example of a community with only one PROW, no access to the local river etc. There are very few safe cycle paths especially for children. Some paths are permissive only e.g. Country Park off A417 by Lakes for Yoo.**

## 4 Open Spaces

### Other areas of Open Space

What	Quantity	Accessibility
Cricket Field	1 Site = 13557.49m <sup>2</sup> / 1.355749 Ha	Accessible (PROW)
School Site	1 Site = NA	School Site - Restricted access
		*Information from desktop assessment

## Open Spaces 4

**Accessible Open Space in Lechlade**

The national standards ANGst (Accessible Natural Green Space) have been used as a basis to measure the size and distance of the Open Space typologies in each of the 17 settlements that are known to have public access.

For Lechlade it was necessary to draw seven, 300m radius to cover the main urban area and one 2km radius for the area.

The table below only counts sites that are available to the public. The type, number and size of the Open Space is logged. Then the sites are broken down into sites that are within the 300m radius and within 2km radius . To avoid counting a site twice if it is within the 300m zone it is not counted in the 2km zone.

Typology	Number & Size	Within 300m radius	Within 2km radius
<b>Allotments</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Churchyards and Cemeteries</b>	3 Sites = 10063.94m <sup>2</sup> / 1.006394 Ha	3 Sites = 10063.94m <sup>2</sup> / 1.006394 Ha	
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	6 Sites = 30611.56m <sup>2</sup> / 3.061156 Ha <sup>2</sup>	6 Sites = 30611.56m <sup>2</sup> / 3.061156 Ha	
<b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b>	NA	NA	
<b>Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces</b>	2 Sites = 27198.75m <sup>2</sup> / 27.198275 Ha	27198.75m <sup>2</sup> / 27.198275 Ha (Most sites in or partially in)	
<b>Country Parks</b>	NA	NA	
<b>Green Corridors</b>	NA	NA	
<b>Other Green Spaces</b>	1 Site = 13557.49m <sup>2</sup> / 1.355749 Ha	0	1 Site = 13557.49m <sup>2</sup> / 1.355749 Ha
<b>Total = 81431.74m<sup>2</sup> / 8.143174 Ha</b>	12 accessible sites = 81431.74m <sup>2</sup> / 8.143174 Ha	12 sites 11 within or partially 300m radius. = 67874.25m <sup>2</sup> / 6.787425 Ha	There is one site within 2km radius

## 4 Open Spaces

### Accessible Open Spaces

Requirement Location	Requirement Met?	Largest Site/s &
1 site 2 hectares 300m radius =	No	14216.50m <sup>2</sup> / 1.42165 Ha (Memorial Hall Recreation ground)
1 site 20 hectares 2km radius =	No	1)Field off Cemetery Lane, also accessible from Cuthwine Place and Moorgate *(includes PROW)2) Eric Richardson & Phyllis Amey (ERPA) Nature Reserve = 27198.75m <sup>2</sup> / 27.198275 Ha

By applying the Open Space criteria Lechlade does not have a sufficient amount of Open Space within a 300m radius and 2km radius. There are a number of sites dotted across the town, but no one site is 2 hectares in size within a 300 radius or 20 hectares in a 2km radius.



## **Recommendations in light of Evidence from Lechlade Town Council**

### **Allotments:**

- Continue to monitor demand (by recording requests to the Town Council) and support plans to increase provision where additional demand is identified.

### **Cemetery and Churchyards:**

- Continue to support the maintenance of areas to their existing standard.
- Support the allocation of a new Cemetery.

### **Amentiy Green Spaces:**

- Continue to maintain the areas to their existing standard

### **Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces:**

- Support plans to improve disabled access to the Nature Reserve.

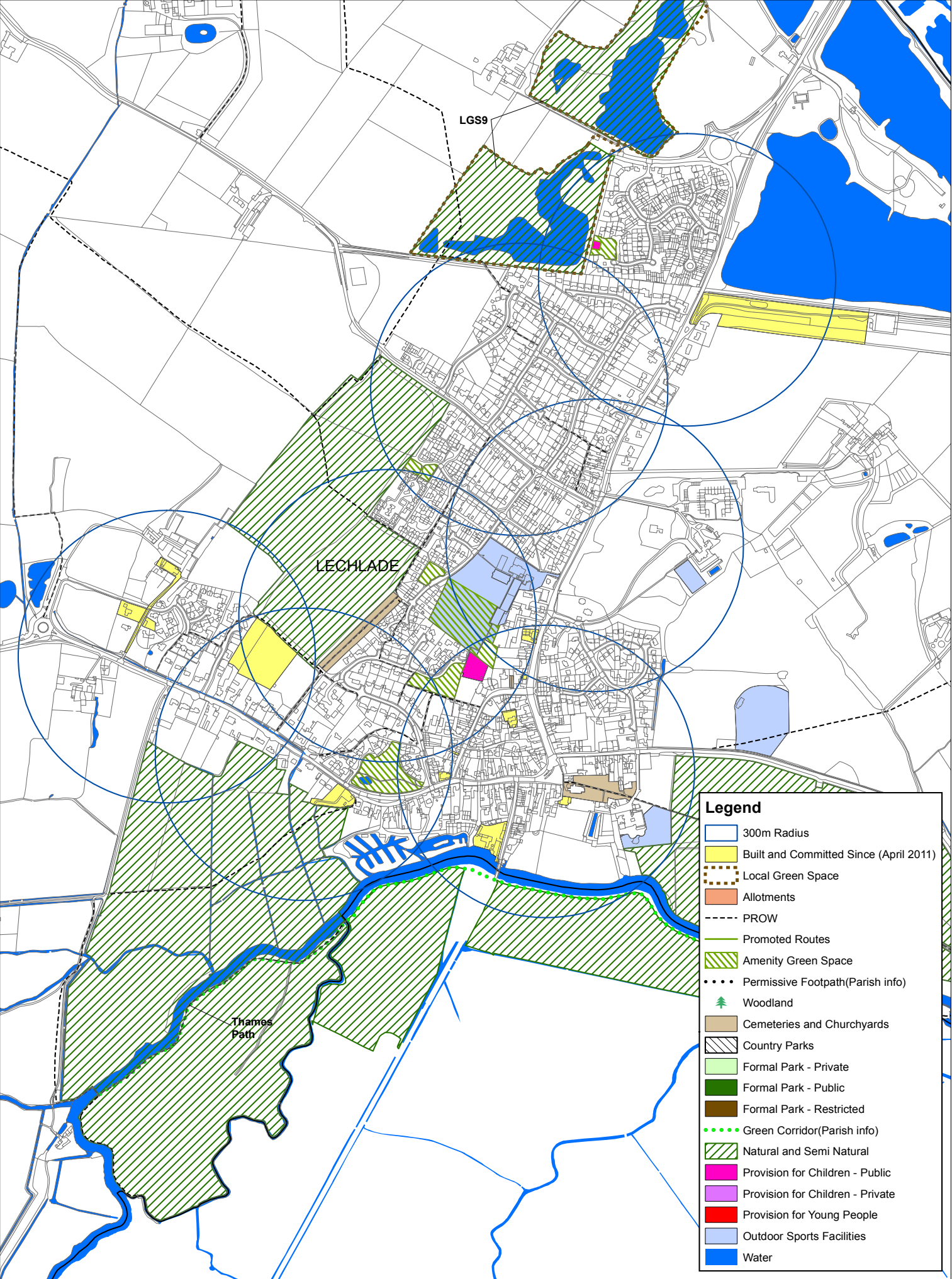
### **Country Parks:**

- Access to Bowmoor has been extended.

### **Popular Walks and Public Rights of Way/ Green Corridors:**

- Continue to monitor use as demand is increased.
- Securing greater access to the countryside should be investigated by working with local landowners.

# LECHLADE UPDATE 2016





# LECHLADE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE 2017





## 4 Open Spaces

### South Cerney

#### 2011 Study Findings

Overall, the 2011 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study for South Cerney did not highlight any major concerns for the parish.

A number of points were raised about natural and semi natural open spaces and allotments. These are listed below:

Typology	Comment
Natural and Semi Natural Green Space and Country Parks	
Allotments	Provide new allotments
Parks	Provide small local pocket parks if a friends group can be created. Particular focus should be placed on <b>South Cerney</b> , which has the highest shortfall.

#### 2015 Study Findings

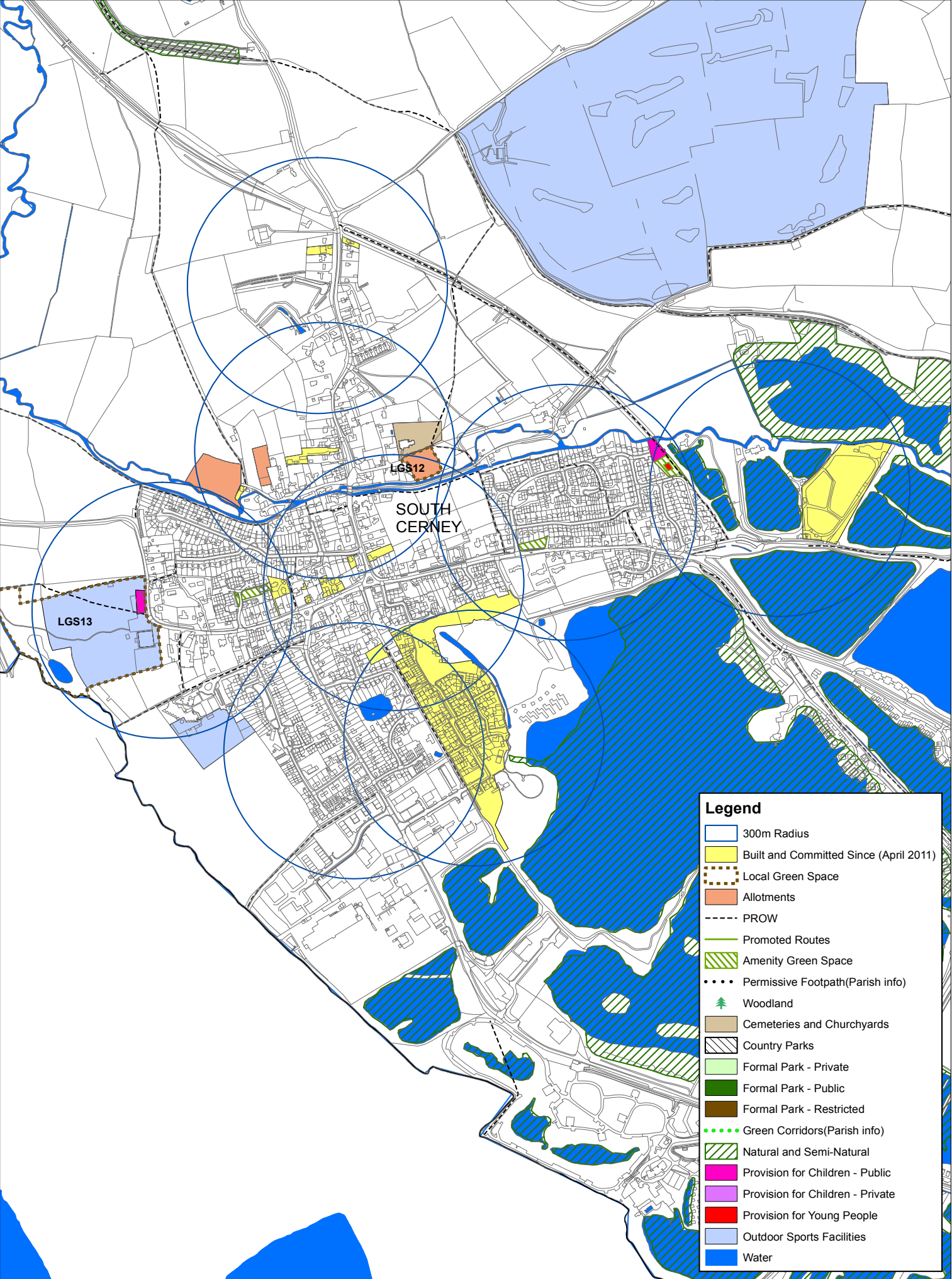
At the time of the initial research carried out for this study in 2015 South Cerney Parish Council were unable to contribute to the findings. Therefore, a full assessment of the Open Spaces in South Cerney has not been undertaken. It is hoped that when the work, at a local level, for the Green Infrastructure commences, a review of the Open Spaces can be conducted at the same time.

#### Provision in the Local Plan 2011 - 2031 Reg 19 for South Cerney

- South Cerney (Policy S8) The village lies within the Cotswold Water Park and close to the route of The Thames - Severn Canal. The canal route through the local Plan, and the restoration of the canal could bring several benefits
- **Local Green Spaces** - Two sites in South Cerney that have been put forward for Local Green Space designation in the Local Plan via extensive work with South Cerney Parish Council. These sites are Church Lane Allotments, South Cerney (Policy EN3 - LGS12) and Upper Up Playing Fields South Cerney(Policy EN3 - LGS13).

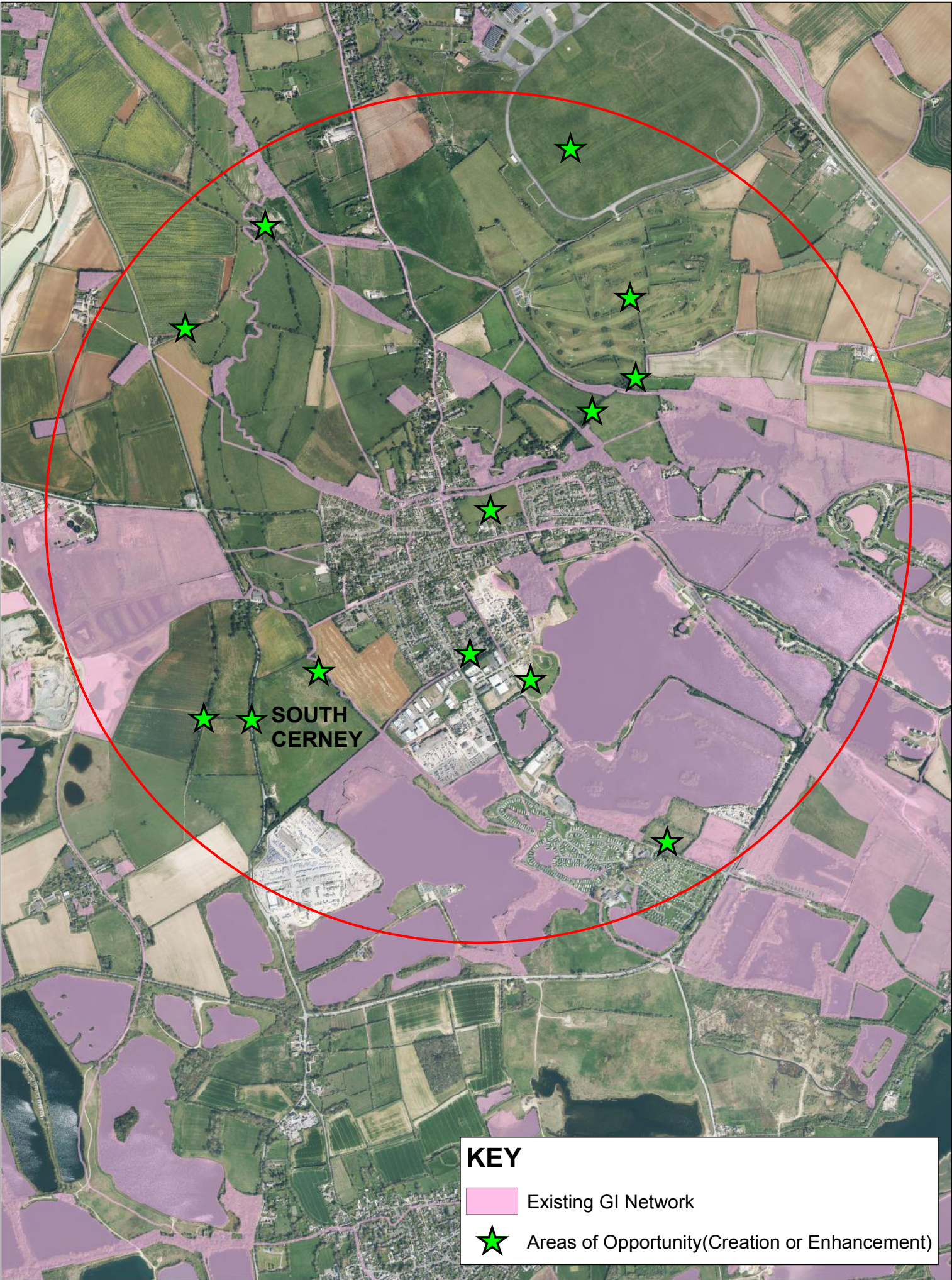
There is 17,667m of Public Rights of Way in South Cerney.

# SOUTH CERNEY UPDATE 2016





# SOUTH CERNEY Example of GI Areas of Opportunity





## Open Spaces 4

## Tetbury

## 2011 Study Findings

Overall, the 2011 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study for Tetbury did not highlight any major concerns for the parish.

A number of points were raised about natural and semi natural open spaces and allotments. These are listed below:

Typology	Comment
Parks and Gardens	Provide a formal Park
Natural and Semi Natural Green Space and Country Parks	Increase provision of Semi Natural Open Space
Amenity Green Space	Ensure that new Amenity Green Space is provided
Allotments	Provide new allotments

## Additional Comments from Parish

Given the future development we are unclear whether we have sufficient facilities, however, marked on maps 2 & 3 numbers 15-21 which are spaces that are believed to be sites currently unallocated and not owned by Tetbury Town Council which could form part of the emerging Neighbourhood development Plan and see allocated in the future. 15) Folly Field 16) Priory Park 17) Land adjacent to Recreational ground 18) allocated in accordance with new development 19) allocated in accordance with new development 20) Park area as part of new development 21) potential rugby ground.

Preston Park footpath under threat as result of lack of maintenance or finance.

## Provision in the Local Plan 2011 - 2031 Reg 19 for Tetbury

- **Number of dwellings** - Up to the year 2031 Tetbury, is one of the 17 Principal Settlements allocated in the Cotswold District Council Local Plan 2011 - 2031. As such, Tetbury has been allocated 70 dwellings in the plan period. T\_24B the former Matbro site (9 dwellings net); T\_31B land adjacent to Blind Lane (43 dwellings net) and T\_51 Northfield Garage (18 dwellings net).
- **Open Space related infrastructure** - improve leisure provision.

## 2011 v 2015 findings

- The 2015 study reveals that there remains the need to increase the provision of new allotments and a new cemetery for Tetbury.

## 4 Open Spaces

### 2015 Study Findings

The tables over the next few pages give an overview of the results from Fairford Town Council regarding Open Spaces in Tetbury. The Open Spaces covered are Allotments, Cemeteries and Churchyards, Amenity Green Space, Parks and Gardens, Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces, Green Corridors and other areas of Open Space.

For each of the types (typology) of Open Space a table identifies the location of the space, the number, the accessibility and if appropriate the quality and size.

The Cotswolds District does not hold any Green Flag Awards, a national award that encourages the provision of good quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable way. However, it is thought that within the 17 settlements in the district there are parks that could meet the Green Flag standard. Therefore, the basic criteria questions of the Green Flag award relating to Parks have been included in the review of this study.

Each of the tables, where possible, provide a total number of square metres or hectares in each of the areas and whether they are within 300m or 2km of the village.

If additional information has been made available by the parish, this has also been added.

### Allotments in Tetbury

**What are they?** Allotments can includes community gardens, orchards and city urban farms

**What additional benefits can they have?** Allotments are health benefits, social environmental

### Information from Tetbury Town Council

There is a waiting list of a year. With planned expansion of the town and with an already long waiting list it is hoped that further provision can be made in the future alongside future housing development. There is provision for allotments in the plans for the new houses at Highfield Farm

Typology	Quantity Standard	Accessibility	Existing Provision Size & Number	Quality Summary
<b>Allotments</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	1) Public access	2 sites, both private:	<b>Essential</b> - Both sites are well maintained
1) Herd Lane Allotments	15 per 1,000 households	2) Public access	1) Herd Lane Allotments - number of plots not known.	E - Both sites have high quality boundaries
2) Hampton Street Allotments	300 square yards or 250m <sup>2</sup>		2) Hampton Street Allotments, 28 plots	E - Both sites have access to water

## Open Spaces 4

Typology	Quantity Standard	Accessibility	Existing Provision Size & Number	Quality Summary
				<p>E - (1) not Safe &amp; secure (2) Safe &amp; secure</p> <p>E - (1) litter bins (2) No litter bins</p> <p><b>Desirable</b> - Both sites have parking</p> <p>D - (1) No level surfaces &amp; footpaths (2) Does</p> <p>X - Both sites have volunteer Involvement</p> <p>X - Both sites have no toilet</p> <p>X - (1) No disabled access (2) disabled access</p>
<b>Restricted Access:- TOTAL AMOUNT OF ACCESSIBLE SPACE - 00.00 Ha</b>				

**Allotment Findings:**

**Quantity:** The predicted number of residential properties in Tetbury up to the year 2031 would suggest that, using the quantity standard there is just enough provision within the parish for allotments. However, local circumstances identify that with a waiting list of over 1 year, demand outstrips supply.

**Accessibility:** The two sites are in public ownership and therefore open to the public, but as space used by allotment members it is not considered to be an open space for all. Therefore, the site is discounted from contributing to total amount of accessible open space in Tetbury.

**Quality:** Most of the **Essential criteria** for the Allotments is met at both the 1) Herd Lane Allotments and 2) Hampton Street Allotments with the exception of Hampton Street Allotments having no dog/litter bins and 1) Herd Lane Allotments not being considered safe and secure.

Of the **Desirable criteria** both allotments have parking, but unlike 2) Hampton Street Allotments, 1) Herd Lane Allotments has not level surfaces and footpaths. The **new Quality questions** identify that both allotments have volunteer involvement, but no toilets, there is no disabled access at 1) Herd Lane Allotments, but there is at 2) Hampton Street Allotments.

## 4 Open Spaces

### Cemeteries & Churchyards in Tetbury

**What are they?** Urban burial grounds in the 19th century were originally envisaged as public open spaces, and were professionally designed to be attractive places to visit in their own right.

**What additional purpose can they have?** Regarded as public landscapes as well as functional burial places. Cemeteries have the potential to deliver as many amenity and ecological benefits as parks.

### Information from Tetbury Town Council

There is a real need for expansion of our current burial ground and/or need to find an alternative site for future burials. Especially given the impact of future development. 1) St Saviour's Church, has four years of burial plots remaining and 2) Church of St Mary and the Virgin has none.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Cemeteries &amp; Churchyards</b>  1) St Saviour's Church  2) Church of St Mary and the Virgin	No recommended National Standard  1) 4557.57 m <sup>2</sup> / 0.455757 Ha  2) 8797.89 m <sup>2</sup> / 0.879789 Ha	1) Public access  2) Public access	<b>Essential</b> - Both sites have no parking  E - Both sites have well kept grass  E - Both are clean & litter free  <b>Desirable</b> - Both sites do not have a toilet  D - Both sites have seating  D - Both sites have litter/dog bins  D - Both sites are considered to be part of a dog walking area  X - Both sites in good condition  X - Both sites have disabled access

## Open Spaces 4

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
			X- (1) has staff involvement (2) has staff & volunteer involvement
Total amount of accessible space		13355.46m <sup>2</sup> / 1.335546 Ha	
Total amount of accessible space within 2km		NA	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		13355.46m <sup>2</sup> / 1.335546 Ha	

**Cemetery and Churchyards Findings:**

Although there is no Quantity, Accessibility or a number Standard set for Cemeteries and Churchyards, Tetbury's Cemeteries and Churchyards all have public access. The Quality standard was applied. The Cemeteries and Churchyards met all of the essential criteria, apart from parking facilities, but this was not identified as being a particular issue. Of the desirable criteria, again most of the criteria was met. There are no toilets at any of the sites, but again this was not raised an issue of concern. The new Quality criteria identify that all the sites are in good condition, have disabled access and that both sites have volunteer involvement. 2) Church of St Mary and the Virgin is also staffed. 1

**Amenity Green Space in Tetbury**

**What are they ?** (most commonly but not exclusively in housing areas) including informal recreation spaces, green spaces in and around housing, domestic gardens and village greens.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Informal activities close to home or work, Biodiversity, Environmental education and awareness

**Information from Tetbury Town Council**

There are fourteen amenity green spaces in Tetbury, of the 14 sites 13 have public access. The six main sites are listed below , the remaining sites are marked up on the map.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	1) 21657.75m <sup>2</sup> / 2.165775 Ha	1) Public access	X - (1), (2), (3) & (4) sites in good condition (5) & (6) not known

## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality
Summary			
1) Talboys Walk	2) 392.61m <sup>2</sup> / 0.039261 Ha	2) Public access	X - (1), (2), (3) & (4) site have involvement
2) Berkley Croft	3) 1420.67m <sup>2</sup> / 0.142067 Ha	3) Public access	X - None of the sites have toilet
3) Braybrook	4) 407.29m <sup>2</sup> / 0.040729 Ha	4) Public access	X - (1), (2), (3) have disabled access
4) Linfoot	5) NA	5) Unsure ?	(4) & (5) no disabled access (6) unsure
5) Preston Park, the Herd	6) NA	6) Unsure ?	
6) Football Park			
Total amount of accessible space		23878.32m <sup>2</sup> / 2.387832 Ha	
Total amount of accessible space within 2km		NA	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		23878.32m <sup>2</sup> / 2.387832 Ha	

### Amenity Green Space Findings

**Quantity and Accessibility:** 14 sites 13 have public access

**Quality:** The majority of the sites are in good condition, but the condition of 5) Preston Park, the Herd and 6) Football Park is not known. There is staff and volunteer involvement at 1) Talboys Walk, 2) Berkley Croft, 3) Braybrook and 4) Linfoot. None of the sites have a toilet, but this was not raised as a particular concern. Of the six sites 1) Talboys Walk, 2) Berkley Croft and 3) Braybrook have disabled access.

No particular concerns regarding amenity green spaces in Tetbury were raised.

### Parks and Gardens in Tetbury

**What are they?** Includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Informal recreation, Community events

**Information from Tetbury Town Council**

## Open Spaces 4

There are 12 Parks and Gardens in Tetbury, of the 12 parks and gardens information for the main six areas, 1) Recreation Ground, 2) Rail lands Public Park, 3) Suffolk Close Play Area/Ground, 4) Braybook Close Play Area, 5) Webb Road Play Area, 6) Anniversary Gardens has been given. The remaining six areas 7) Millennium Green, 8) The Green, 9) The Knapp, 10) The Gardens London Road, 11) Grassed area Linfoot Road, 12) Courtfield/Magdalen are marked up on the map.

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary	Green Flag Guidance
<b>Parks and Gardens</b>	1) 42911.23m <sup>2</sup> / 4.291123 Ha	1) Public access	<b>Essential</b> - (1), (2) & (6) have flowers, trees and shrubs	Do you believe the park/s to be a welcoming place? Yes
1) Recreation Ground	2) 21657.75m <sup>2</sup> / 2.165775 Ha	2) Public access		
2) Rail lands Public Park	3) 875.13m <sup>2</sup> / 0.087513 Ha	3) Public access	E - All are litter and graffiti free	- Do you believe the park/s to be healthy, safe & secure? Yes
3) Suffolk Close Play Area/Ground	4) 1420.67m <sup>2</sup> / 0.142067 Ha	4) Public access	E - All have well kept grass	
4) Braybook Close Play Area	5) 204.41m <sup>2</sup> / 0.020441 Ha	5) Public access	<b>Desirable</b> - (1) & (2) Have parking (3),(4),(5)&(6) do not	- Do you believe the park/s to be well maintained? Yes
5) Webb Road Play Area	6) 356.39m <sup>2</sup> / 0.035639 Ha	6) Public access	D - (1), (2) & (6) have footpaths	- Is there community involvement in the management of the park/s? Yes
6) Anniversary Gardens			D - No toilets apart from (2) has a portaloo	
			D - (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) have bins (6) not sure	The recreational ground & Rail lands.



## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary	Green Flag Guidance
			<p>D - (1) &amp; (6) level sites (2) level in some areas, (3), (4) &amp; (5) not level.</p> <p>D - (1), (2) &amp; (6) have seating, (3), (4) &amp; (5) do not.</p> <p>X - (1), (3), (4), (5) &amp; (6) have disabled access (2) has in parts</p> <p>X - (1) &amp; (2) believe to have both staff &amp; volunteers (3), (4), (5) have staff involvement (6) does have staff involvement.</p>	- Are any events held at the park? Yes
Total amount of accessible space		67425.58m <sup>2</sup> / 6.742558 Ha		
Total amount of accessible space within 2km		NA		
Total amount of accessible space within 300m		67425.58m <sup>2</sup> / 6.742558 Ha		

### Parks and Gardens findings

**Quantity and Accessibility:** There are six parks and gardens in Tetbury that have public access.

**Quality:** All of the **Essential criteria** was met for most of the sites, but 3) Suffolk Close, 4) Braybook Close Play Area and 5) Webb Road have no flowers or trees. Of the **Desirable criteria** only the 1) Recreation Ground and 2) Rail lands Public Park have parking, but the lack of parking at the other sites

## Open Spaces 4

was not raised as a concern as was only having a portaloo at 2) Rail lands Public Park. The vast majority of the sites have litter/dog bins. Three of the six sites have seating, 1) Recreation Ground, 2) Rail lands Public Park and 6) Anniversary Gardens. Most of the sites are considered to not be level, but the new **Quality questions** shows that there is disabled access to most of the sites, apart from 2) Rail lands Public Park, which has access in parts. There is believed to be both staff and volunteer involvement at 1) Recreation Ground 2) Rail lands Public Park, there is both staff and volunteer involvement at (6) Anniversary Gardens. At the three play areas 3) Suffolk Close Play Area/Ground, 4) Braybook Close Play Area, 5) Webb Road Play Area there is staff involvement.

### Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces in Tetbury

**What are they?** They include publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, commons, meadows), wetlands, open running water and wastelands.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** They can be spaces for recreation, but a clear distinction should be made between those natural spaces which are accessible to the public and those are not, as many sites can also be Key Wildlife Sites and (SSSIs) Scientific Sites of Special Interest.

### Information from Tetbury Town Council

There are two Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces in Tetbury, 1) Cooks Pool and 2) Rail Lands

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces</b>  1) Cooks Pool  2) Rail Lands (see Parks & Gardens)		1) No Public access  2) Public access	<b>Essential</b> - Clean & maintained OK  E - Has natural features, pond  E - No footpaths (NA)  <b>Desirable</b> - No parking (NA)  D - Trees & shrubs  D - No dog bins (NA)  D - Not a dog walking area (NA)  D - No information or signage (NA)  X - No disabled access (NA)  X - Staff involvement

## 4 Open Spaces

Typology	Quantity & Size	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT OF ACCESSIBLE SPACE - Not counted 1) Cooks Pool no access 2) Rail Lands counted under Parks &amp; Gardens.</b>			

### Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces findings

**Quantity and Accessibility:** There is no access to 1) Cooks Pool. See map.

**Quality:** Although there is no access to the two sites and information was not available for 1) Cooks Pool was considered to be OK in terms of being clean and well maintained, with natural features including a pond and trees and shrubs. The remaining quality requirements were not seen as applicable, apart from the staff involvement in the site.

### Country Parks in Tetbury

There are no Country Parks in Tetbury

### Green Corridors in Tetbury

**What are they?** They include river and canal banks, cycle ways and public rights of way as well as accessible green space in urban fringes.

**What additional purpose can they serve ?** Walking, cycling or horse riding, Leisure purposes or travel Opportunities for wildlife migration

### Information from Tetbury Town Council

There are two Green Corridors in Tetbury, 1) Cutwell 2) Scavenge Lane.

Typology	Quantity	Accessibility	Quality Summary
<b>Green Corridors</b>	.	(No information)	(No information)
1) Cutwell	(No information)		
2) Scavenge Lane			
Total amount of accessible space		22,522m	

## Open Spaces 4

Typology	Quantity	Accessibility	Quality Summary
Total amount of accessible space within 2km Rights of Way with 2km radius)	22,522m	(includes Public	
Total amount of accessible space within 300m	NA		

## Additional Questions &amp; Answers:

- Are the open spaces you have sufficient to meet local need? **Given the development we are unclear whether we have sufficient facilities, however, we have marked on the maps 2 & 3 no's 15 - 21 which are spaces that we believe are unallocated and not owned by the TTC which could part of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan and would like to see allocated.**
- There is increasing demand for more walking areas **No**
- Do you plan to open any new facilities/open spaces in the near future? **No**
- Have you closed any open spaces in recent times? **No**
- Are any of your open spaces under threat from such factors as under use, a lack of finance for maintenance? **Yes, Preston Park footpath.**
- Does your parish hold any certificates for its open spaces or take part in any national events for example Green Flag for its parks, Love Parks week or Britain in Bloom? **Tetbury in Bloom group, which is affiliated to the Parish Council**

## Other Areas of Open Space

What	Quantity	Accessibility
There are four outdoor sports facilities in Tetbury. These are:	1) NA	1) NA
1. Preston Park Football club listed under Amenity Green Space	2) NA	2) NA
	3) 42911.23m <sup>2</sup> / 4.291123 Ha	3) School Site - Limited Access
2. The Recreation Ground listed under Parks & Gardens	4) NA	4) NA
		* Information from desktop assessment

## 4 Open Spaces

What	Quantity	Accessibility
3. The School Field (Sir William Romney School) not listed, but area totals		
4. Potential Rugby Ground, not listed as not designated at time of the Strategy's production		

## Open Spaces 4

**Accessible Open Space in Tetbury**

The national standards ANGst (Accessible Natural Green Space) have been used as a basis to measure the size and distance of the Open Space typologies in each of the 17 settlements that are known to have public access.

For Tetbury it was necessary to draw 12,300m circles to cover the main urban area and one 2km circle for the area.

The table below only counts sites that are available to the public. The type, number and size of the Open Space is logged. Then the sites are broken down into sites that are within the 300 meters radius and within 2km radius . To avoid counting a site twice if it is within the 300m zone it is not counted in the 2km zone.

Typology	Number & Size	Within 300m radius	Within 2km radius
<b>Allotments</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Churchyards and Cemeteries</b>	2 Sites = 13355.46m <sup>2</sup> / 1.335546 Ha	2 Sites = 13355.46m <sup>2</sup> / 1.335546 Ha	0
<b>Amenity Green Space</b>	4 Sites = 23878.32m <sup>2</sup> / 2.387832 Ha	4 Sites = 23878.32m <sup>2</sup> / 2.387832 Ha	0
<b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b>	6 Sites = 67425.58m <sup>2</sup> / 6.742558 Ha	6 Sites = 67425.58m <sup>2</sup> / 6.742558 Ha	0
<b>Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces</b>	NA	NA	
<b>Country Parks</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Green Corridors</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Other Green Spaces</b>	NA	NA	NA
<b>Total = 104659.36m<sup>2</sup> / 10.465936 Ha</b>	12 accessible sites measure 104659.36m <sup>2</sup> / 10.465936 Ha	12 sites within the 300m radius. measuring 104659.36m <sup>2</sup> / 10.465936 Ha	

## 4 Open Spaces

### Accessible Open Spaces

Requirement Location	Requirement Met?	Largest Site &
1 site 2 hectares 300m radius = Ha (The Recreation Ground)	Yes	42911.23m <sup>2</sup> / 4.291123
1 site 20 hectares 2km radius =	No	None

Tetbury has a sufficient amount of Open Space within a 300m radius, the The Recreation Ground, but not within a 2km radius.

### Recommendations/Actions in light of Evidence from Tetbury Town Council

#### Allotments:

- Continue to monitor demand (by recording requests to the Town Council) and support plans to increase provision.
- Investigate the provision/need for litter/dog bins at Hampton Street Allotments .
- Investigate the provision/need for better security at Herd Lane Allotments.
- Investigate the provision/need for toilets at both Hampton Street and Herd Lane Allotments

#### Cemetery and Churchyards:

- A new location for churchyard should be sought.
- Continue to maintain the areas to their existing standard.

#### Amentiy Green Spaces:

- Continue to maintain the areas to their existing standard

#### Parks and Gardens:

- In accordance with the the Green Flag guidance, one of the three main, parks/gardens in Tetbury might be eligible for Green Flag status, the possibility should be investigated.

#### Semi Natural and Natural Green Spaces:

- Continue to maintain the areas to their existing standard



## Open Spaces 4

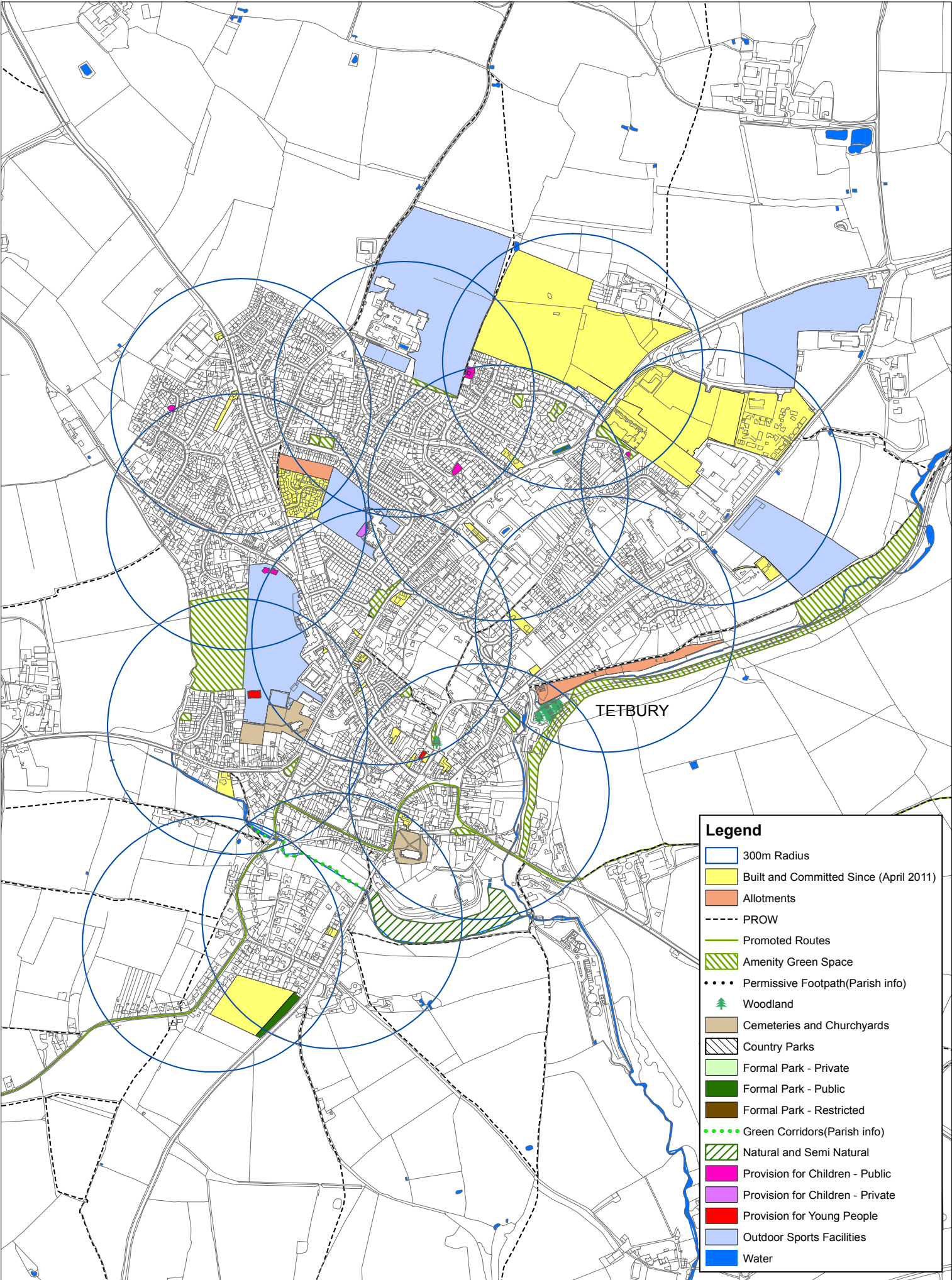
### **County Parks:**

- There are no Country Parks in the Tetbury area.

### **Popular Walks and Public Rights of Way/ Green Corridors:**

- Continue to monitor use as demand is increased.
- Review the maintenance of Preston Park footpath.

# TETBURY UPDATE 2016





# TETBURY GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE 2017





## 4 Open Spaces

### Survey Results

#### Wider Community Survey Findings - Stage 2, Part 2

##### Wider Consultation

To make sure the strategy took account of the wider picture, electronic surveys were set up and links sent to the organisations listed below.

- Survey Monkey Questionnaire to all remaining parish councils (See below)
- Survey Money Questionnaire – Primary Schools in the District (See Play Spaces Chapter 4, Appendix C2)
- Survey Monkey Questionnaire to Secondary Schools in the District (See Play Spaces Chapter 4, Appendix C3)

The surveys focused several key issues: the type of open spaces people used the most; how people get to the open space (on foot, bicycle, car, etc.); are there enough facilities; are there enough areas for casual games; are there enough footpaths/ bridleways, cycle paths, country parks, local countryside and wildlife areas; the reason why people visited the open space; and what would encourage them to use open spaces more.

An online survey was put on the Council website for residents asking the same questions (see below).

##### Survey Results of the Parish Councils

**4.4** In total Cotswold District has 115 parishes, 87 of which have parish and town councils and 28 have a parish meetings. The emerging Local Plan's 17 Principal Settlements were sent surveys to complete. The findings are provided at Appendix C4. An electronic survey was sent to the remaining 98 other parish councils and parish meetings, of which 36 surveys were completed and returned.

##### Response to Question 3 & 4

*"How many cemeteries and churchyards does the Parish have?" "Any further comments?"*

The majority of the parishes have one cemetery or churchyard and no further issues were raised.

##### Response to Question 5 & 6

*"How many allotments sites does the parish have?" "Any further comments?"*

Most of the parishes do not have allotments, but Quenington Parish Council is looking for provision at the request of local residents.

##### Response to Question 7 & 8

*"How many amenity spaces does the parish have?" "Any further comments?"*

## Open Spaces 4

Few parishes have one or more amenity space, usually a village green or a playing field. Cowley and Birdlip Parish Council expressed concern that there are no publicly available areas of open space with the exception of the car park/viewing area at Shab Hill.

Great Rissington has recently been gifted a piece of land, central to the village to use as a green space.

### Response to Question 9 & 10

*"How many Parks and Gardens does the parish have?" "Any further comments?"*

All but one of the parishes do not have a Park or Garden.

### Response to Question 11, 12, 13 & 14

*"How many Natural and semi natural green spaces, and green corridors does the parish have?" "Any further comments?"*

None of the parishes raised any specific issues or concerns.

### Response to Question 15

*"Other Facilities not covered - excluding Indoor/Outdoor Sports & Recreation facilities, Provision for young people and children, including children's play areas."*

None were listed.

### Response to Question 16 & 17

*"Are the open spaces sufficient to meet local demand?" "Any further comments?"*

The majority of parishes considered there were a sufficient number of open spaces. The few who expressed a concern view are reflected in the complete survey results.

### Response to Question 18 & 19

*"Do you plan to open any new facilities/open spaces in the near future?" "Details if so"*

The majority of the parishes do not plan to open new facilities. However, Shipton Oliffe Parish Council with a view to make improvements to the Shipton sports field. Guiting Power Parish Council had just opened a new play area and Quentington Parish Council are looking to provide new allotments.

### Response to Question 20 & 21

*"Have you closed any open spaces in recent times or under threat?"*

Resources an issue for one of the smaller parishes wishing to put forward a local green space and one parish looking to encourage use of existing space.

### Response to Question 22 & 23



## 4 Open Spaces

*"Are the local public rights of way and bridleways regularly used?" "Are there any issues?"*

The majority of parish councils reported no problems with the local footpaths or bridleways, but one did report the need to ask parishioners who live close to bridleways to take responsibility for maintenance as parish funds are limited.

### **Response to Question 24**

*"To finish, please make any further general comments about your open spaces provision in your area and the Cotswold District area as a whole."*

Most parish's confirmed that they had adequate provision as a whole. Comments relating to any issues or concerns are referred to in the previous questions.

## Open Spaces 4

### Online and Paper Survey

**4.5** An online survey was put on the Council website. This was aimed at residents to establish their thoughts on the District's open spaces. The online survey is provided at Appendix C1. A hard copy of the survey questions, accompanied by a prepaid return envelope, was also sent to the District's libraries along with a poster advertising the survey. A list of all publicity and communications is provided at Appendix D.

**4.6** In total 96 electronic copies and 29 hard copies of the survey were completed and returned. Three surveys were completed by people who do not live in the District. The breakdown of the responses is provided at Appendix C.

**4.7** Responses to Question 1 "*What town or village do you live in?*" and 2) "*What is your age?*" The majority of responses came from people who live in Cirencester. 52 responses were received from people aged between 25-49, 38 from the 50-64 age bracket and another 32 from the sixty five plus age group. Three online responses came from the 16-24 age range.

### Open Spaces

- Allotments
- Children's Play areas
- Country Parks, local local countryside & woodland
- Footpaths, bridleways, cyclepaths
- Grass amenity open spaces
- Local recreation ground or park
- Outdoor facilities for teenagers
- Outdoor tennis/netball courts, bowling greens
- Playing Fields for football, cricket rugby
- Wildlife areas, nature reserves
- Golf courses Artificial turf pitches

### Response to Question 3

*"How often do you visit the open spaces listed?"*

Footpaths, Bridleways and cyclepaths were the most frequently visited open space; with country parks and grass amenity open spaces next. The majority of respondents never visited golf courses or artificial turf pitches.

### Response to Question 4

*"how long are you prepared to travel to visit these different types of open spaces?"*

The results show that it is common for someone to live more than 20 minutes from an open space or between 6 and 10 minutes. Meaning then people lived fairly close or quite far away.

### Response to Question 5

## 4 Open Spaces

*"What is your preferred method of transport to get to the facilities?"*

Most people preferred to walk to facilities, followed by using the car. The bicycle and bus were not as popular.

### Response to Question 6

*"Is there a need for more, the same or fewer of the facilities in the District?"*

Just under half of the people asked thought that more open spaces are needed (44%) while approximately a third thought that there were enough open spaces. According to the survey the spaces most thought there are enough of were the local recreation ground, country park and playing fields.

### Response to Question 7

*"How do you rate the quality of the facilities in the District?"*

Country Parks, local countryside & woodland, local recreation grounds or parks receive a high rating, followed closely by wildlife areas and nature reserves. At the other end of the scale outdoor facilities for teenagers, footpaths bridleways, cyclepaths, grass amenity open spaces

### Response to Question 8

*"What do you think the most important qualities and characteristics for open spaces?"*

The most valued qualities and characteristics for open spaces was considered to be control of dogs and cleanliness. Easy to get to was third.

### Response to Question 9

*"What facilities would you like to see given priority for potential improvements?"*

The most requested facility to be improved was 'footpaths, bridleways, and cyclepaths. Followed by wildlife areas, nature reserves, Country Parks, local countryside and woodland, Grass amenity open spaces and outdoor facilities for teenagers.

### Response to Question 10

Most people talked in some capacity about preserving our local green spaces (such as the Humpty Dumps in Cirencester) and there were a few comments about improving cycleways and footpaths.

## Play Spaces 5

### Play Areas in the Cotswolds

Within the 17 Principal Settlements there are 38 Play Areas and areas for Young People. Cirencester and Tetbury, as the largest settlements, have the most.

As part of the research for the Open Space section of the Strategy electronic surveys were sent to all the Primary and Secondary Schools in the Cotswold district.

These surveys concentrated on what type of open spaces pupils Primary Schools and Secondary Schools used the most, how they got to the open space, by foot car etc, whether there were enough facilities and areas for casual games, footpaths/bridleways, cycle paths, country parks, local countryside, wildlife areas and the reason why they visited the open space and what would encourage them to use them more.

### Primary School Survey

The Survey was sent to 18 Primary Schools, all of which were in the 17 Principal Settlements in the District. Of the 18 Schools, six schools responded to the surveys with a total of 141 pupil responses. (Appendix C2)

There was a fairly even spread of responses, however, most of the pupils attended schools in Cirencester.

It was found that pupils visit playgrounds reasonably frequently, the majority either most days or once or twice a week. Outdoor sports facilities are visited equally frequently. Grass areas are visited very frequently with 43% visiting most days. Skate parks etc are not visited frequently, 45% of respondents never visited. Footpaths were used pretty frequently, with 40% using them most days. Cycle paths are used frequently by approximately half of those asked, but equally half use them at most once or twice per month. Country parks seem to be used reasonably frequently and very few never visiting. Allotments are not attended frequently and 40% never use/visit.

The of majority of pupils believe there are enough playgrounds, sports facilities, grass areas, footpaths, and country parks. However there isn't believed to be enough cycle paths, allotments and skate parks.

Asked why pupils visited the areas playing games with family and friends, and walking the dog were the most popular answers. Watching sport and attending events were statistically the least popular choice.

When asked what would encourage pupils to use open spaces more overall most pupils felt they would use open spaces more if there were more suitable places near their home and if there were more activities and events.

When asked "*What is your favourite open space and why?*", the Park was the most popular, with the Abbey Grounds in Cirencester being first and the open Air Swimming pool very popular as well. Approximately 95% of pupils said that visiting open spaces was 'fun'.

## 5 Play Spaces

### Secondary School Survey

The Survey was sent to six Secondary Schools, Cirencester Deer Park, Cirencester Kingshill, Cotswold School Bourton on the Water, Sir William Romney School Tetbury, Farmor's School, Chipping Campden Secondary School. In total there were 109 pupil responses. (Appendix C3)

There was a fairly even spread of responses, however, most of the pupils attended schools in Cirencester. However, when asked what town or village the pupils lived there was a greater spread of pupils living in the villages surrounding Cirencester.

There was a fairly even spread of responses, however, most of the pupils attended schools in Cirencester. However, when asked what town or village the pupils lived there was a greater spread of pupils living in the villages surrounding Cirencester.

When asked "*Which open space do you use the most?*", the vast majority went to some form of park, with the recreation centre and football pitches being the second most popular.

When asked "*How long, approximately, does it take you to reach this area of open space from your home?*", approximately 72% of students said that they live within 10 minutes of their most used space, with relatively few people living further away.

When asked "*How do you usually get to this area of open space?*", the vast majority of people walk and the numbers are similar to question 2, suggesting that those who live within ten minutes tend to walk and those who don't tend to drive to the open space.

When asked "*How frequently do you visit the following?*"

- *Outdoor sports facilities for example pitches/tennis courts*
- *Grass areas for casual games for example kick about areas*
- *Skate parks, BMX tracks or multi use games areas*
- *Footpaths/bridleways*
- *Cycle Paths*
- *Country parks, local countryside, wildlife areas*
- *Allotments*

The results identified frequent use of outdoor sports facilities and grass areas, and infrequent use of allotments and children's playgrounds. A high proportion of respondents, nearly half, reported not to use skate parks and BMX tracks at all.

When asked "*Are there enough of the facilities listed above?*" The majority believed that there were enough playground/play areas, grass areas, footpaths/bridleways and country parks. The general consensus was that there wasn't enough cycle paths.

When asked "*Why do you visit your local open space?*", the top three reasons are, respectively, meeting with friends, playing games with friends, and sports facilities. With the least popular reasons being watching sports, playing in the children's play area and skateboarding/BMX.

## Play Spaces 5

When asked "*What would encourage you to use open spaces more?*", the main reasons were 'more suitable places near my home'; 'more activities and events'; and new open spaces and facilities'. If they were cleaner and better maintained was suggested a lot, however, this reason was not quite as important as the other three.

When asked "*What is your favourite open space and why?*", most prefer the park and areas where they can meet with friends and/or have a large open area, often to play sports in.

### Site Visits

Site visits were made to the known play areas in the 17 settlements in 2016. Sites were accessed for a number of features. These covered the whether the site was clean and litter free, there was well kept grass, litter bins, and dog bins if appropriate. Clear and defined boundaries, site within a open welcoming location and separated from areas of major vehicle movement. Whether the site was accessible directly from pedestrian routes that were accessible by children with disabilities and were lit and signed. Was the play area close to priority parking for disabled vehicles and situated on land that was suitable for the facility. Were the play areas overlooked by houses and close well used pedestrian routes, but far away enough from houses to reduce the general disturbance from noise or other potential sources of nuisance. Linked as as far as possible with other open spaces and footpath systems and within community boundaries.

Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
<b>North Cotswolds</b>		
Blockley	1	Blockley Play area is located in the centre of the village within an amenity green space. There is a good mix of play experiences, over 5 for younger and older children. Litter bins are provided and there are a number of benches and seats. The site is sloped, but there is access for disabled users at the top of the site. The site is enclosed by a dry stone wall with access points at the top and the bottom. There is room for parking, but this is not strictly for disabled use. There is lighting, street lighting. The site could benefit from more signs at the entrances to it.



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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
Chipping Campden	2	<p>There are two play areas in Chipping Campden. The Recreation Ground off George Lane is a large site with a good mixture of equipment , for younger and older children, over eight play experiences. The site is located on the east of the town, but is served by a number of footpaths. The site is a dog area and has excellent information/signs. There is access for disabled users and parking at the entrance to the site next to the tennis court. The Play areas on land off Castle Garden's Road, is a small site with two pieces of play equipment. It has a litter bin, seating and has a suitable boundary.</p>
Mickleton	1	<p>There is one Play area in Mickleton. The site has three pieces of play equipment, it has disabled access, but has no footpath boundary or signs. There was no priority parking near by for disabled vehicles, but was accessible by children with disabilities. It was clean and litter free with well kept grass litter/dog bins and seating and within a dog free area. It was sited in a welcoming open location. Separated from areas of major vehicle movements and sited on land suitable for the facility. The play area was overlooked by houses and close well used pedestrian routes, but far away enough from houses to reduce the general disturbance from</p>

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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		noise or other potential sources of nuisance. It was linked as far as possible with other open spaces and footpath systems and within community boundaries.
Moreton-in Marsh	2	There are two Play areas in Moreton in the Marsh. Tinkers Close Play area has four/five pieces of play equipment for the under 12's. The main Play area is located in the grounds of Queen Victoria Gardens. The park has numerous play equipment for all ages, including an area for teenagers with a shelter. There is parking available, at both sites, but there is no specific parking for disabled users. The Queen Victoria park has won a number of awards, from Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association the most recent being as a runner up in 2013 as a Large Playing Area.
Willersey	1	There is one Play area in Willersey, with five pieces of play equipment aimed at older children located on the recreation ground. Suitable parking was not available. The site was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins with a dog free area and sited in a suitable location.
<b>Mid Cotswolds</b>		
Andoversford	1	Andoversford has one Play area with eight pieces of Play equipment. It did not have clear and defined boundaries. The notice board was a bit small and

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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		<p>there was no parking close by suitable for disabled users. The site was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins with a dog free area and sited in a suitable location. The play area was overlooked by houses and close well used pedestrian routes, but far away enough from houses to reduce the general disturbance from noise or other potential sources of nuisance. It was linked as as far as possible with other open spaces and footpath systems and within community boundaries and separated from areas of major vehicle movement</p>
Bourton on the Water	3	<p>There are three Play Areas in Bourton on the Water, Colettes Court, Station Road and Rye Crescent, with five pieces of Play equipment. The site at Collettes at the time of the site visit was not litter free, but it was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins with a dog free area and sited in a suitable location. The Rye Crescent Play area is suitable for all ages with five pieces of play equipment. There is parking, but no specific for disabled users. The site was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins with a dog free area and sited in a suitable location. It was runner up in as a small Play area in 2012 awarded by the Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association. The third site at Station Road has 4/5 pieces of Play equipment it is</p>

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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		suitable for children up to 15 years. The site was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins with a dog free area and sited in a suitable location. There is parking close by, but this is not specifically for disabled users. There was disabled access.
Northleach	2	There are two Play areas in Northleach at Tayler Road and near the Primary School. The Play area at Tyler Road has three pieces of Play equipment. The site was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins with a dog free area and sited in a suitable location with disabled access. There is parking close by, but this is not specifically for disabled users. The site near the Primary school has a number of facilities. There was reported to be no seating and no specific disabled parking, but there was disabled access. The site was litter free, with well kept grass, litter bins within a dog free area. However, the site was not considered to be within a open/welcoming location.
Stow on the Wold	1	There is one Play area in Stow on the Wold at King George's Field, to the east of the town. The site has various play experiences for various ages. The site was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins with a dog free area and sited in a suitable location. There was parking close by, but this is not

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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		specifically for disabled users. There was disabled access. The play area was overlooked by houses and close well used pedestrian routes, but far away enough from houses to reduce the general disturbance from noise or other potential sources of nuisance. It was linked as far as possible with other open spaces and footpath systems and within community boundaries and separated from areas of major vehicle movement.
Upper Rissington	tbc	Work on Upper Rissington was still under way at the time research for this study was undertaken.
<b>South</b>		
Cirencester	6	There are six Play Areas in Cirencester, these are located at varies locations in Cirencester. The main Play Areas are located in the Abbey Grounds Park and St Michael's Field. All of the areas offer different Play experiences for different ages. Of the six sites, all of the sites were clean and litter free, are accessible from pedestrian routes and by children with disabilities, are sited on land suitable for the facility, in open and welcoming locations and linked as far as possible with other open spaces. There was no seating at the Countess Liliass Road and Queen Elizabeth Play areas. Cranhams Lane and Queen Elizabeth were

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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		considered not to be in a dog free area. Cranhams Lane and Countess Lillas Road were thought not to have clearly defined footpaths. Of the six sites the largest sites, Abbey Grounds Park and St Michael's Field are close to priority parking for disabled access. Cirencester has also recently opened a Skate Park near Kingshill School.
Down Ampney	1	There is one Play area in Down Ampney, this play area numerous play experiences The site was litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins and sited in a suitable location with disabled access and priority parking for disabled vehicles. Next to the Play Area is a Multi Use Game Area for older children.
Fairford,	2	There are two Play Areas in Fairford, one near Croft Street, which has eight various play experiences and the other near Park Street, which has a skate park. The sites were litter free, with well kept grass, seating, litter bins and sited in a suitable location. The play areas were overlooked by houses and close well used pedestrian routes, but far away enough from houses to reduce the general disturbance from noise or other potential sources of nuisance. They were linked as as far as possible with other open spaces and footpath systems and within community boundaries and separated from



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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		areas of major vehicle movement.
Kemble	2	<p>There are two Play areas in Kemble located in the Playing fields. One is for younger children and one is for older children. The area for younger children has over eight various play experiences. The site was litter free, with well kept grass in the younger children's area, seating and litter bins. The sites are in a suitable location with disabled access and priority parking for disabled vehicles. There was no seating in the area for older children, but both sites were sited within open and welcoming locations, with clear and defined boundaries, separated from areas of major vehicle movement, overlooked by houses. They are far away from houses to reduce the general disturbance from noise or other potential sources of nuisance.</p>
Lechlade	2	<p>There are two Play Areas in Lechlade, one at the Recreation Ground and one at Perrins Field. Both sites have a mixture of play experiences. The Recreation Ground was litter free with well kept grass, litter bins and seating and sited within an open and welcoming location. It did not have clear defined boundaries that created a dog free area. Both sites were separated from major vehicle movements and accessible directly from</p>

## Play Spaces 5

Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		pedestrian routes, which are accessible by children with disabilities. The Recreation Ground is close to priority parking for disabled vehicles, but Perrins Field is not. The play areas were sited on land suitable for the facility and overlooked by houses or well used pedestrian routes, far enough away from houses to reduce the general disturbance from noise or other potential sources of nuisance and linked as far as possible with other open spaces, footpath systems.
South Cerney	3	At the time of the initial research carried out for this study in 2015 South Cerney Parish Council were unable to contribute to the findings of the research
Tetbury	6	There are six Play Areas in Tetbury. The Play areas are located at Suffolk Close, Berkley Croft, Webb Road, Recreation Ground 1, Recreation Ground 2 and Baybrook Close. The Play areas offer a mixture of play experiences. All the sites were litter free, had clearly defined boundaries and separated from major vehicle movements and accessible directly from pedestrian routes, which are accessible by children with disabilities. They are sited on land suitable for the facility, overlooked by houses or well used pedestrian routes. They are far enough away from houses to reduce the general disturbance

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Area and Settlement	Number of Play Areas	Comments as a result of site visits made 2016
		from noise or other potential sources of nuisance and linked as far as possible with other open spaces, footpath systems. The Recreation Ground 2 had no grass, litter bins, seating or an area that was dog free. Berkley Croft had no litter bins or seating or an area that that could be dog free. Webb Road and the Recreation Ground 1 were not close to priority parking for disabled vehicles.

### Provision in the Local Plan 2011 - 2031 Reg 19 for Open Space/Play Space related infrastructure

In the emerging Local Plan 2011 - 2031 Reg 19 there is provision for Open Space/Play Space related infrastructure for a number of Principal Settlements.

**Blockley:** Provision of a youth shelter or other appropriate facility

**Chipping Campden:** A new pocket park in the north east of the village

**Andoversford:** A new natural open space or pocket park

**Cirencester:** Provision of additional play space and facilities for children and young people. Improvement of the functionality, amenity, safety biodiversity, environment and attractiveness of City Bank.

**Down Ampney:** Provision of new facilities for young people. Improvements in links to the Folley and Down Ampney Pits and existing pocket parks; and provision of or contributions to a new natural open space or pocket park.

## Play Area Guidelines

### Introduction

Play is generally recognised as being a vital element in the development of children. It helps children of all ages to learn, solve problems and work together in a fun environment. The provision of opportunities for play as part of new housing areas benefits future residents in terms of providing an attractive environment for everyone in addition to providing a valuable play resource.

This section provides practical design guidelines for the provision of new play facilities and also to assist with the improvement of existing play areas. This advice is aimed at all those with an interest in such provision whether as developer, landowner or Parish/Town Council.

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### Play Standards

Fields in Trust has offered guidance for practitioners on open space provision and design known as the Six Acre Standard (6AS) most recently updated to Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play (PDOSP) in 2008. While there is need for review, given the changes in political, planning and social landscapes since 2008, the benchmark standards within PDOSP still remain a useful guidance tool.

The PDOSP seeks the protection, provision and improvements of outdoor spaces for sport and play and good planning and design is central to the philosophy and objectives. Using this current guidance will help to ensure that the provision of play is a sufficient size to enable effective use; is located in an accessible location and in close proximity to dwellings; and of a quality to maintain longevity and encourage its continued use.

It is recommended that Equipped / Designated Play Spaces be promoted in the form of:

- Local Areas for Play (LAPs) aimed at very young children;
- Locally Equipped Areas for Play (LEAPs) aimed at children who can go out to play independently; and
- Neighbourhood Equipped Areas for Play (NEAPs) aimed at older children.

These can be complimented by other facilities including Multi Use Games (MUGAs) and Skateboard parks etc.

In general terms, Designated Play Spaces should have the following features:-

	LAP	LEAP	NEAP
Maximum walking distance *this should be measured as distances actually walked rather than 'as the crow flies'	100m / 1 minutes' walk	400m / 5 minutes' walk	1000m / 10-15 minutes' walk
Minimum size of activity zone	100 sq. m	400 sq. m	1000 sq. m
Buffer zone *this is the minimum distance between the activity zone and the nearest dwelling	5m	10m	30m
Characteristics	Small, low-key games area. Can or cannot be equipped.	Five types of equipment, small games area.	Eight types of equipment, opportunities for ball game activities.

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### Principal Design Considerations

The principle objective in providing children's play areas should be to create an attractive and safe environment within which children will want to play and where parents/carers feel it is safe for them to play. A variety of factors will contribute towards achieving this. Design considerations are based on the principles that are outlined in Chapter 6 of the 2008 PDOSP document.

### Location

The following factors should be used to guide the location of any play area:

- Play areas should be designed as an integral part of any proposed housing development and should not be viewed as an afterthought to fit into any unwanted areas of the site;
- Play area should be accessed via a hard surfaced footpath and should not involve the use of notional routes;
- Play areas should be in open, accessible and welcoming locations and not in remote corners or other locations where there is inadequate surveillance from nearby dwellings;
- Play areas should be linked into any open space and footpath networks on the site and should contribute to the amenity value of networks;
- Play areas should be well related to any existing or proposed local or community facilities (e.g. school, community centre, shops etc.);
- Play areas should be sited on land suitable for the type of play intended. Where equipment is to be provided the site should be relatively flat and level;
- There may be occasions where a proposed housing development is part of a larger area that is likely to be developed in the future. In such circumstances the proposed play area should be located where it could be extended as part of the future development;
- Play areas should be located away from any overhead electricity cables that may cross the site.

### Design

Just as the location is important in helping to make play areas attractive to children so is the design of such areas. Furthermore a well-designed play area can contribute to an attractive environment on new housing developments. The design of play areas incorporates a number of different aspects which should be considered when designing any play area. In all cases, the design of a play area should have regard to the needs of the children for whom the play area is intended.

### General

- Electricity sub-stations should not be located within or adjoining plays areas.
- Ideally inspection chambers should not be located within play areas. However, where this is unavoidable the inspection chamber must have a firmly sealed cover to prevent accidents.
- Perimeter fences are generally considered inappropriate though some fencing may be necessary. Where boundary treatments are in place gates should be used to control access and should have appropriate self-closing mechanisms.
- Appropriate seating and litter bins should be included as part of any play area.
- There should be a sign to indicate that the area is for children's play and that dogs are not welcome.
- Consideration of long term maintenance and requirement costs



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### Access

- Play areas should be designed to allow for ease of access by all, including disabled children and for parents with prams or pushchairs. Accessibility to any footpath network as outlined above will help to achieve this.
- The need for access for maintenance purposes should also be catered for (e.g. by the incorporation of double maintenance gates).

### Surfacing

- The play area should be well drained in order to minimise the risk of flooding which could render the play area periodically unusable.
- The play area should incorporate an appropriate play surface such that the risk of injury is minimised. Safety surfaces, in accordance with European Safety Standards BS EN1176/1177 or an appropriate alternative in operation at the time of installation, should be provided around all play equipment. It should be noted that the use of loose fill (e.g. bark mulch, wood shavings and sand) may attract additional expenditure for maintenance.

### Landscaping

Play areas should incorporate appropriate landscaping. Landscaping can perform a number of functions including enhancing the appearance of a play area and the wider environment.

- The proposed landscaping scheme should be an integral part of the broader landscaping scheme for the site. Wherever possible the proposed landscaping scheme should seek to incorporate any existing natural features such as trees.
- Landscaping can also be used to break up larger play areas to discourage their use for ball games, unless designed specifically for that purpose.
- Any proposed species should be appropriate to both the use and the size of the proposed play area. Thorn species will only be appropriate where they are intended to protect nearby dwellings from problems of nuisance and disturbance.
- Proposed species must be non-toxic.
- Landscaping proposals should be robust and take into account the need to avoid undue effects from vandalism.
- The landscaping scheme should have regard to the need to be capable of easy maintenance with convenient access for mowing machinery and other plant.
- Low level planting will be most appropriate around the boundary of a play area in order to maintain visibility in to the play area.
- Fast growing trees and shrubs should be restricted to areas where they will not obscure views into the play area or where they are required as a buffer with nearby dwellings.

### Play Equipment

- The provision of play equipment within play areas will enhance their play value. Play areas should include the provision of suitable play equipment which provides for a range of stimulating and challenging play experiences that may include balancing, rocking, climbing, overhead activity, sliding, swinging, jumping, crawling, rotating, imaginative play, social play, and play with natural

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materials such as sand and water, or other activities. A minimum number of six play experiences is recommended for a LEAP and nine for a NEAP.

- It is essential that all play areas meet the needs of very young children on their doorstep. Older children are more likely to be prepared to travel further distances to play areas and the older the children the easier it will be for them to do this on their own.
- All play equipment should comply with the European Safety Standard BS1176/1177 and must be correctly installed as per manufacturer's guidelines.
- In the case of natural features such as rocks, boulders, logs etc. risk assessments must be carried out in accordance to ROSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) Guidance.
- Each major site should have inclusive equipment.

### Action Plan

- Ensure appropriate facilities are provided within new residential developments that meet PDOSP standards.
- Ensure that designs for new facilities stimulate and challenge children and young people.
- Ensure that each major site has inclusive equipment.
- Available funding should be targeted at identified priorities across the district.
- Areas in the district with greater need, i.e. those areas deficient in provision or with poor access to facilities should be considered a priority for future action.
- Explore options to improve data collection to aid play area management.
- Identify new areas which could be used for play space and review current play spaces in parks.
- Create programme of further improvements.
- Create a programme of equipment replacement based on level of risk of obsolete equipment.
- Upgrade small play areas (LAPS) if this helps to address deficiencies in provision, and / or accessibility to facilities.
- Encourage local communities to take 'ownership' of facilities.

### Play Area Checklist - As a matter of general practice, children's play areas should be:

Appropriate to the needs of the local community;

Accessible for every child within the appropriate walking time for LAPs, LEAPs and NEAPs;

Accessible without having to cross main roads, railways or waterways;

Sited in open, welcoming locations;

Separated from areas of major vehicle movements and accessible directly from pedestrian routes;

Sited on land of natural topography or on land capable of being landscaped for the type of play experiences intended;

Designed in accordance with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act, 1995;

Integrated, as far as possible, with other open spaces and areas of amenity planting to provide separation from nearby dwellings;

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### Play Area Checklist - As a matter of general practice, children's play areas should be:

Visible from nearby dwellings or well used pedestrian routes;

Accessible by footpaths with a firm surface;

Surfaced in a manner fitting to the intensity of use;

Provided with seating for accompanying adults, carers and siblings;

Designed to provide a stimulating and challenging play experience that may include equipment and other features providing opportunities for balancing, rocking, climbing, overhead activity, sliding, swinging, jumping, crawling, rotating, imaginative play, social play, play with natural materials such as sand and water, ball games, wheeled areas or other activities.

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