

Belton with Browston, Burgh Castle, and Fritton with St Olaves Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2038



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Introduction

1. The parishes Belton with Browston, Burgh Castle, Fritton and St Olaves are preparing a joint neighbourhood plan which will include a policy designating areas of Local Green Space which are particularly valued by the community.

2. In consultation with the community in early 2023 a questionnaire was conducted between January and February 2023. Question 28 in the questionnaire asked the community if there are any local green spaces that they think should be protected within the neighbourhood plan. Q28 received 196 comments. The most common response was to protect all green areas, to protect wildlife areas, help mental health and wellbeing, to protect Grade 1 and 2 agricultural land and to keep access via footpaths for recreational reasons. A range of specific green spaces were suggested, including some which were not in the NPA which are marked with an *

 - Fields around Belton sports field
 - Playing fields including near the school Bell Lane Playing Field/Park/Play Area) (Parish owned)
 - Fields on Beccles Road and New Road, Belton
 - Field in front of Church Lane, Belton
 - *Bluebell Woods
 - The Roman Fort and surrounding grounds, Burgh Castle
 - Burgh Castle community centre (Trust)
 - Bland Corner (Parish owned)
 - *Lound Lakes
 - Fishing lakes (privately owned)
 - *Herringfleet Hills
 - Waveney Forest, Fritton (privately owned, most of which are CWS 1426 &1427)
 - Belton Common (privately owned)
 - Bell Lane, Church Lane and Sandy Lane
 - Angles Way
 - *Hobland Area
 - Browston Hall grounds and golf course (privately owned)
 - *Somerleyton fields

3. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group identified 10 areas of green space to investigate which would be appropriate for the neighbourhood plan. As well as this the group did an audit of county wildlife sites, CROW sites, informal green

space and play areas within the NPA to explore adding as LGS designations. Each of these was visited and further evidence gathered on them to determine whether they meet the national criteria for Local Green Spaces.

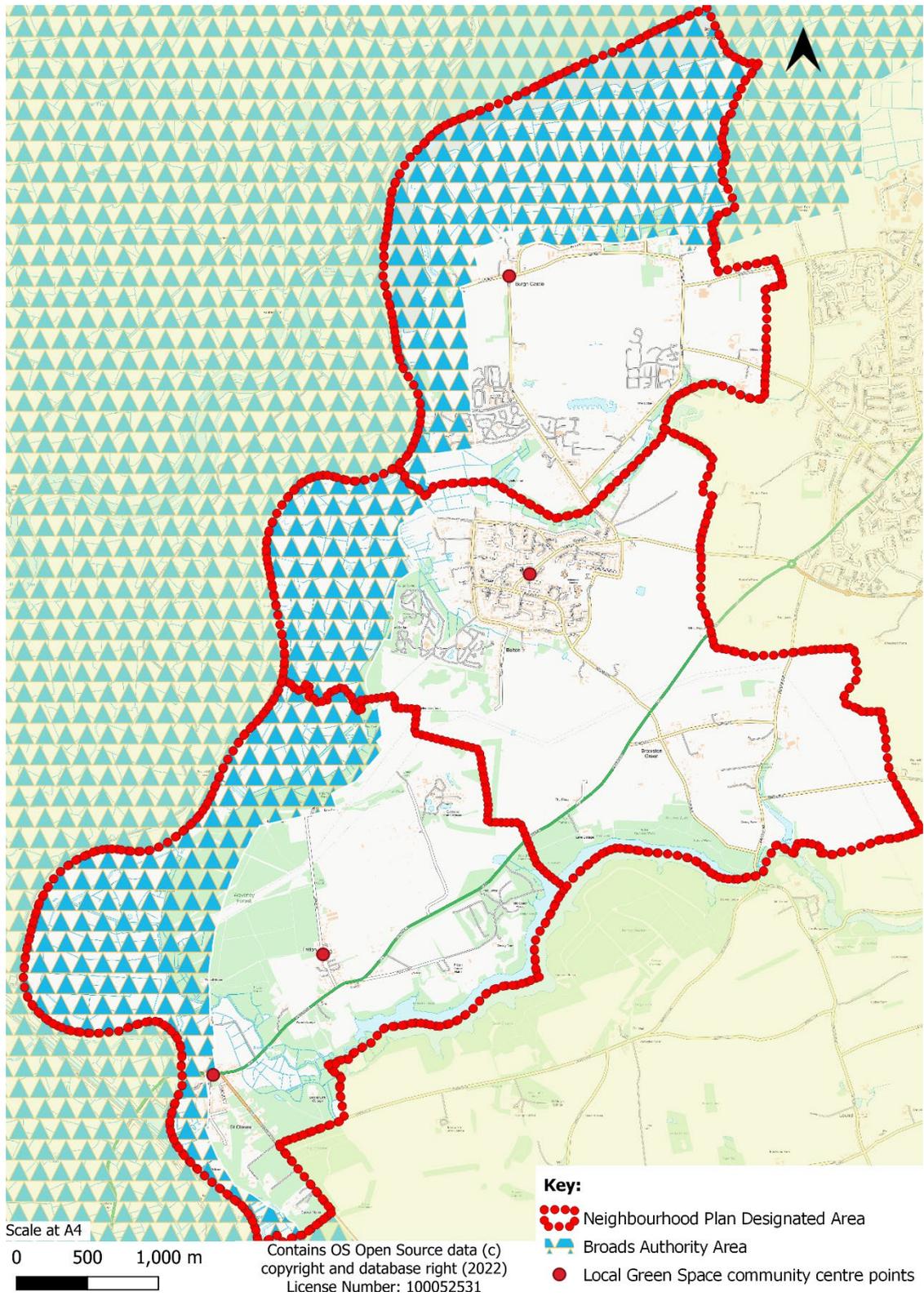
4. This document provides the assessment and reasoning of all 10 areas of green space visited or suggested for us to investigate to include in the neighbourhood development plan; however, those we wish to take forward have been separated from ones which were eliminated to make this easier for readers.
5. Chapter 3 provides the assessment and explanation of the 10 green spaces we feel are justified and supported to be a LGS in the Neighbourhood Plan Area.
6. Chapter 4 sets out in a summary table followed by the assessment forms of the 22 green spaces which did not meet the criteria to make an LGS designation for the plan.

Policy Context

2. Local Green Space designation is a way to provide special protection for green areas of particular importance to local communities. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) published in 2012 (revised July 2021) introduced the concept of Local Green Space designation.
3. Paragraph 102 of the NPPF sets out that communities should be able to identify green spaces of particular importance through neighbourhood plans, with para 102 Determining:
 - a. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
 - b. Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
 - c. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.
4. In addition, the National Planning Practice Guidance states:
5. Local Green Space designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented.

6. Other designations, such as Special Areas of Conservation, do not necessarily preclude or support designation as a Local Green Space. However, it is necessary to consider whether the additional designation is necessary and would serve a useful purpose.
7. In applying the NPPF criteria, close proximity would normally mean easy walking distance, which based on Natural England standards would mean 1.25 miles or less. Due to this being a joint neighbourhood plan, a number of central points have been mapped around the built-up settlements for each parish to make an assessment if the site was 1.25 miles or less from these centre points for the community to access. This helped shape the decision whether to take certain green spaces forward for designation. The centre points are mapped in **Figure 1**.
8. Consideration of whether the green space is local in character, and not an extensive tract of land, suggests spaces within a locality, rather than for example, extensive green areas in the countryside.
9. The Great Yarmouth Local Plan includes strategic policies for the neighbourhood area. Planning Practice Guidance on Neighbourhood Planning sets out that plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the development plan if it is to meet the basic conditions.

Figure 1: LGS Centre Points Marked for the NP parishes.



Assessment of the green spaces being designated

10. The Local Green Spaces Assessment Tool from My Community: Neighbourhood Planning Local Green Spaces² has been used as a basis to assess each site identified by the community. This includes:

- LGS1- Playing Field, Church Road, Burgh Castle including Childrens' Play Area
- LGS2- Breemar Pony Stud (CWS2184) Porters Loke, Burgh Castle
- LGS3- Sports Field, New Road, Belton
- LGS4 Blands Corner Nature Reserve, corner of Stepshort and New Road, Belton
- LGS5- Playing Field, Bell Lane, Belton
- LGS6- Belton Common (CROW Site) Marsh Lane, Belton also part of (CWS1429)
- LGS7- Belton Common South/Belton Sand Pit, Back Lane / Angles Way (CWS1428)
- LGS8- The Parish Pit, Herringfleet Road, St Olaves (CROW Site)
- LGS9- Horse Common, (CROW site) including Play Area, New Road, Fritton
- LGS10- St. Olaves Village Hall Green Space, Herringfleet Road, St. Olaves

Maps of the of whole of the NDP area and parishes are in **Figures 2 to 6**.

Figure 2: LGS Centre Points Marked for the NP parishes and Local Green Spaces

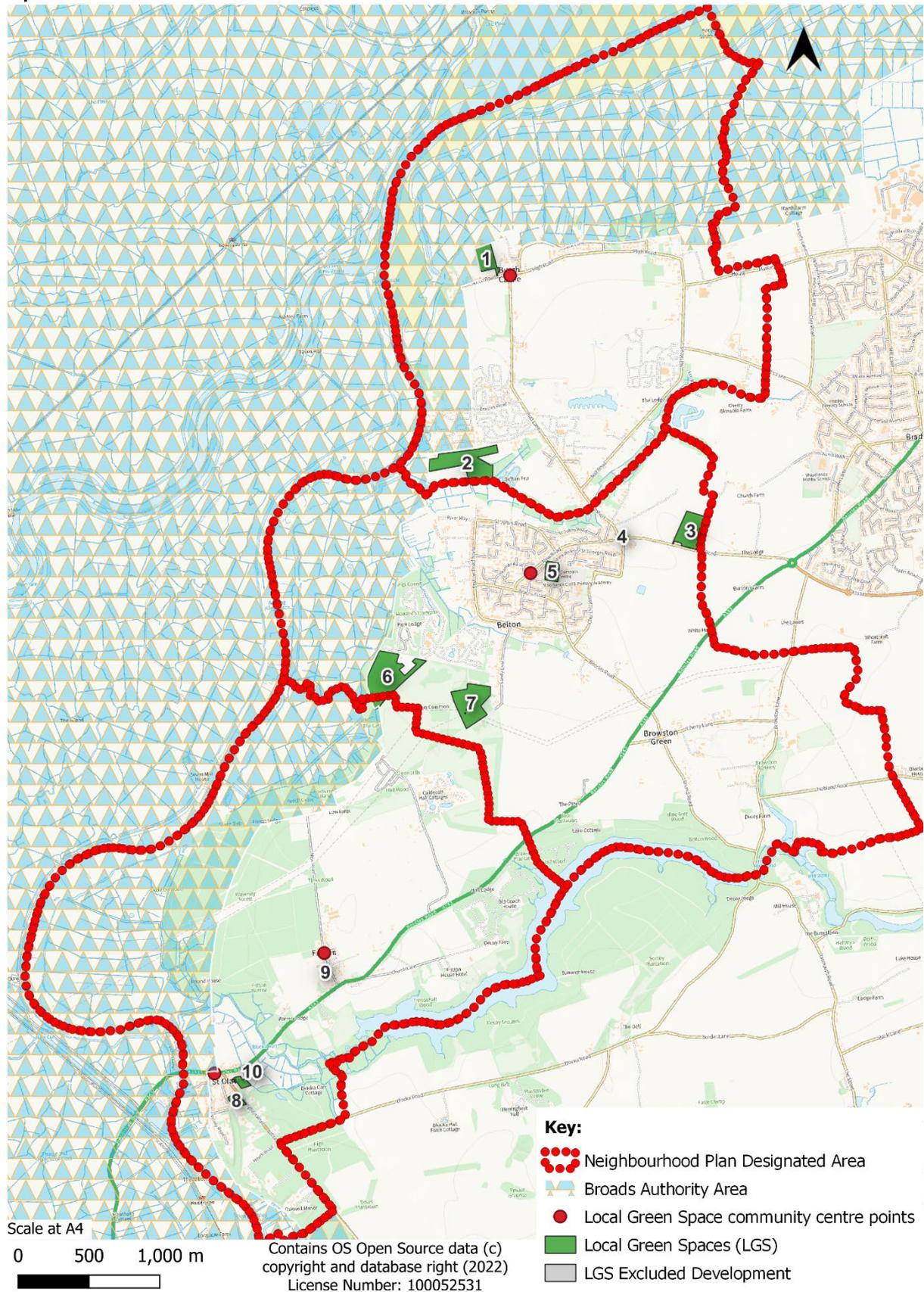


Figure 3: Local Green Spaces in Burgh Castle

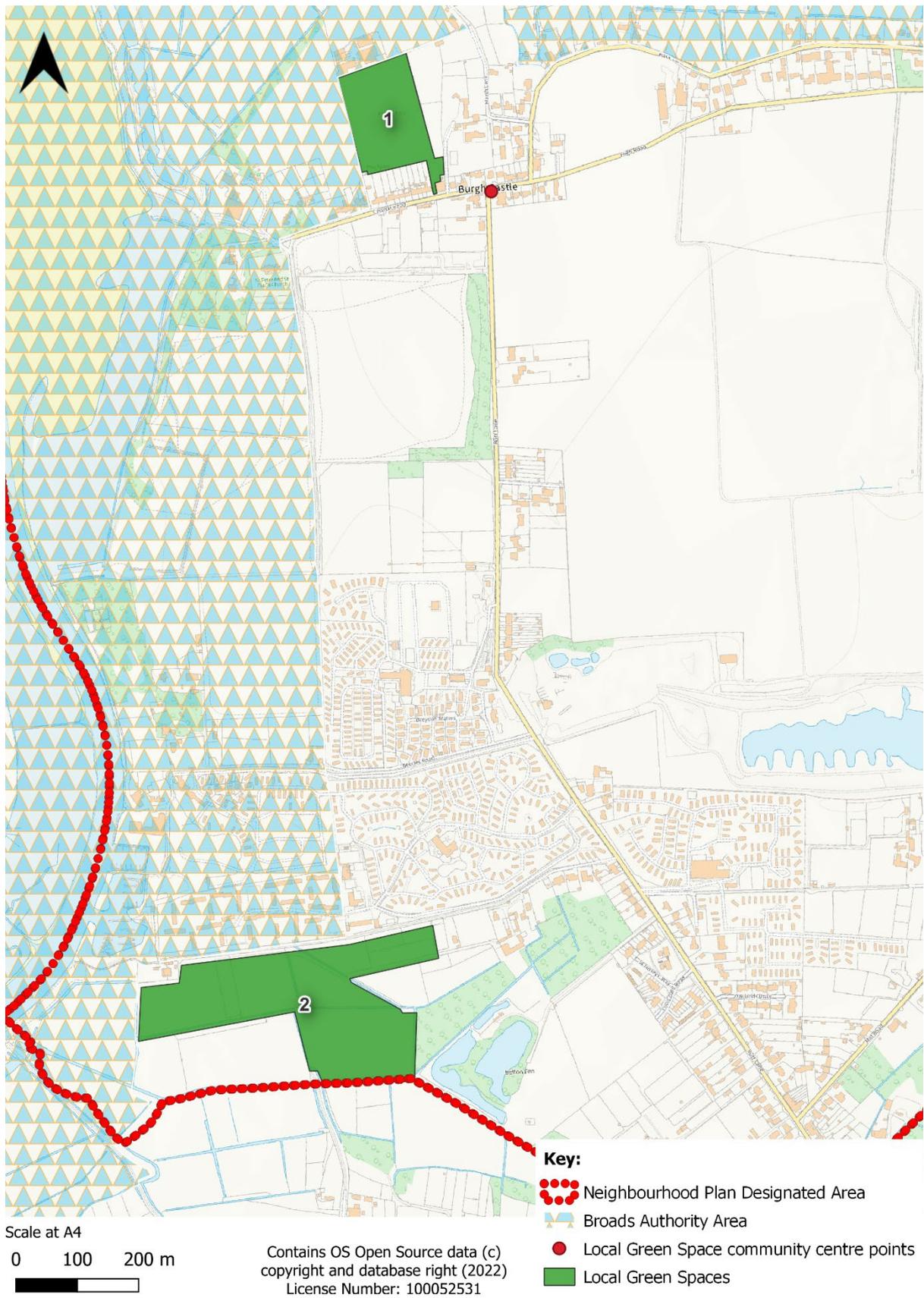


Figure 4: Local Green Spaces in Belton with Browston

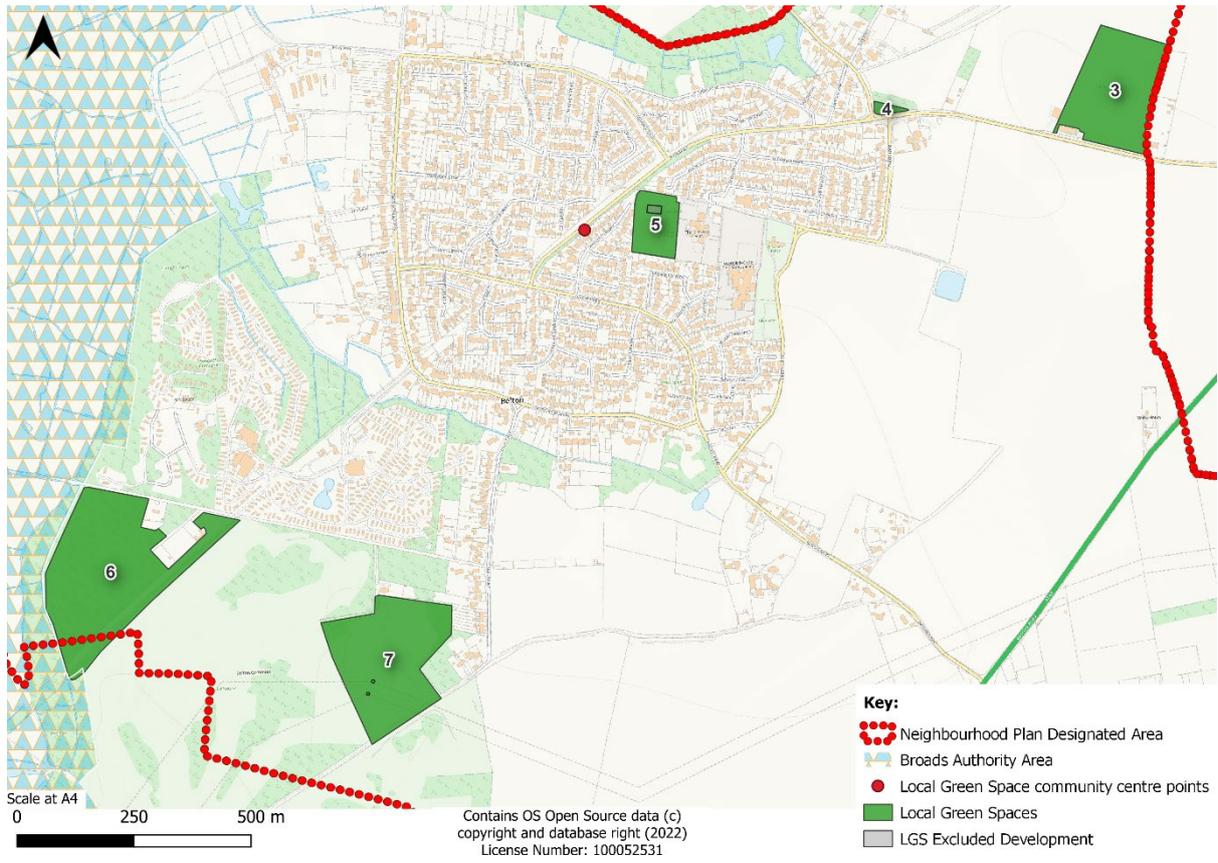


Figure 5: Local Green Spaces in Fritton

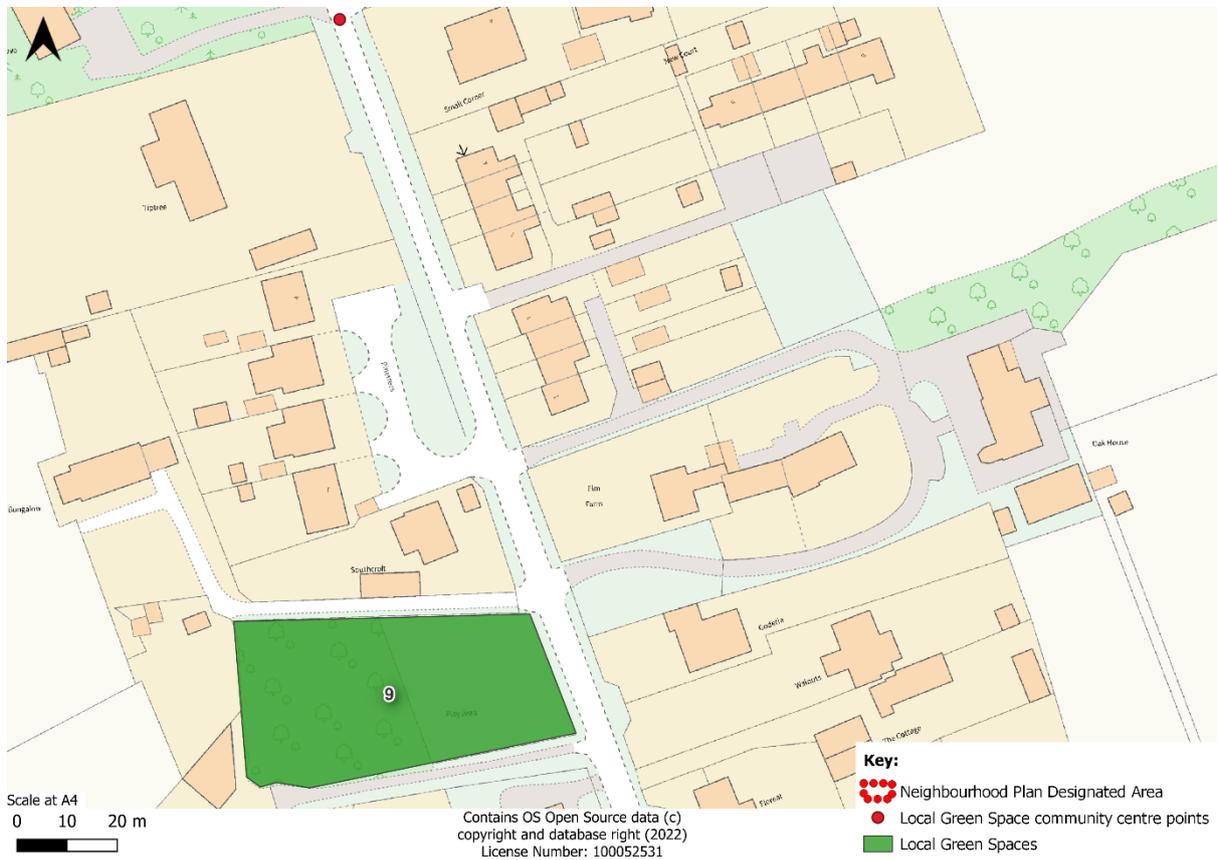
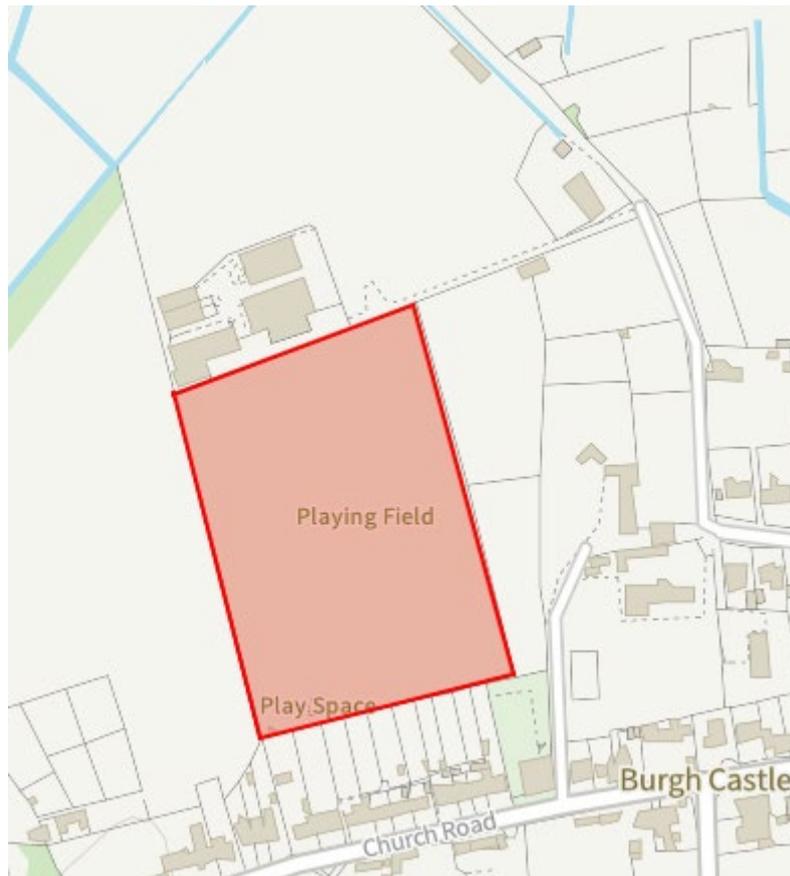


Figure 6: Local Green Spaces in St Olaves



LGS1- Playing Field, Church Road, Burgh Castle including Children's' Play Area





Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Playing Field, Church Road, Burgh Castle including Children's' Play Area
Description and purposes	Burgh Castle Playing Field is a five acre site adjacent to the village hall with a children's playground and used regularly for football and outdoor events. A well-used open space. It is located off Church Lane, Burgh Castle close to the centre of the village. One of the parks and green spaces protected by Fields in Trust in perpetuity.

Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - ie CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	It is only 75m from the centre of the

Criteria	Comments
	village. The playing field is located behind mostly ex LA housing. It is easily accessible both by foot and cycle. It would only take 5 minutes to get to the LGS from the heart of the village.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	This site has been audited by the GYBC Lothian Play Area Audit Summary. The play area was identified as a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP). This site is and has been the only recreational site in the village of Burgh Castle for 70+ years. It is within walking distance of most dwellings in the village. It is a key open green space of recreational value for the local community e.g. a playing field.
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	2.0ha at Church Road, Burgh Castle NR31 9QG The site is local in character to the community it serves and easily accessible from Church Road.

Reason for designation

This site is of significant recreational importance. Play equipment is in place for young children and the field is regularly used for football. Fetes, displays, a dog training club, guides and adventure cadets all regularly use the facility. In 1964 it was Registered as a Charity, BURGH CASTLE PLAYING FIELD Charity number: 304720. To provide a green space for families and sporting activities, i.e. Amateur Sport and Recreation.

LGS2- Breinar Pony Stud (CWS2184) Porters Loke, Burgh Castle





Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Bremar Pony Stud (CWS2184) Porters Loke, Burgh Castle
Description and purposes	This marshland site, is highly valued by

Criteria	Comments
	the area's inhabitants due to its inherent untouched natural habitat and wildlife. The site has numerous species of grasses and rushes due to the numerous dykes. It also has a vast range of flowering 'Forbs' plants, synonymous with rare and diminishing meadow land. When asked in the neighbourhood plan survey "how important to you are Wildlife and Natural Habitats" 92% stated that they were very important. The location of this site is adjacent to Burgh Castle FP1 PROW.

Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Falls within a County Wildlife Site - Halvergate Marshes Conservation Area is in close proximity to the west and southwest of this LGS (which is on the Heritage at Risk Register 2022) - Adjacent to the Broads Authority Area - Priority habitats purple moor grass and rush pastures and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh are present in this greenspace.
Site allocations	None. It is close to one of the holiday accommodation areas set out in the Great Yarmouth Local Plan and within Flood Zone 3.
Planning permissions	None present on search land 31/03/2023.

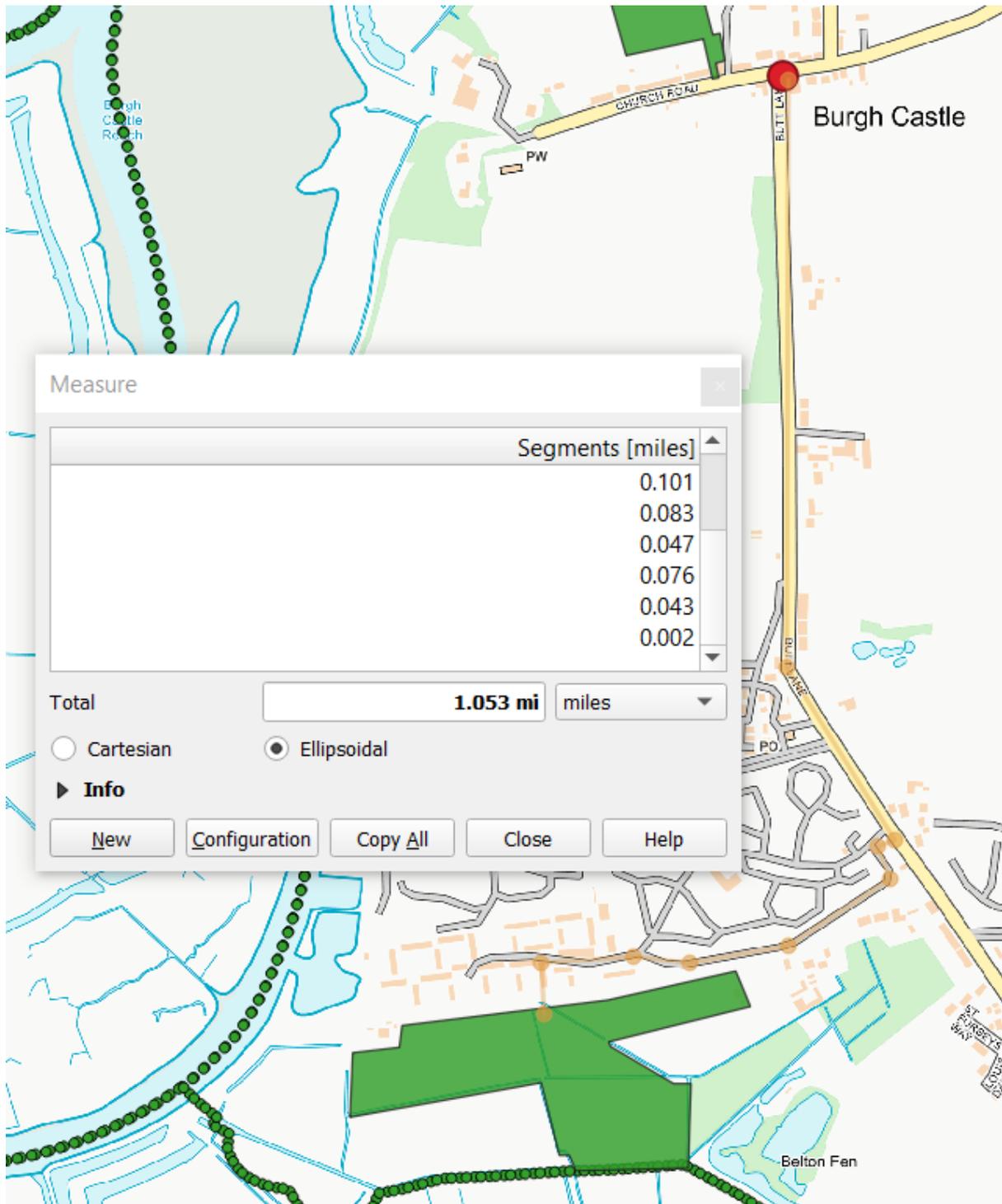
NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	This site is approximately 1.053 miles from the Centre point marked for Burgh Castle. However, it is also close to the community it serves such as the holiday

Criteria	Comments
	<p>accommodation adjacent to the north. The site is accessed off Butt Lane, via Porters Loke / PROW Burgh Castle FP1 or from the holiday accommodation from the west.</p>
<p>Demonstrably special to the local community.</p>	<p>Latest CWS survey was undertaken in August 2009 and this site is numbered CWS2184. This site is being designated due to its wildlife significance within the NPA area as described in the CWS survey:</p> <p>Bremar Pony Stud is an area of species-rich marshy and neutral grassland close to the River Waveney across from Langley Marshes. The site is grazed by ponies with cutting of some areas. The site has been managed in this way for a number of years and has resulted in a diverse vegetation community.</p> <p>Much of the site is fairly flat and even lying on fairly clay rich wet loamy soil. To the west of the site the ground rises somewhat and the soil becomes a more free draining and less clayey loam.</p> <p>There are numerous grass species present common to both the neutral and marshy grasslands with the most common including Yorkshire Fog (<i>Holcus lanatus</i>), Creeping Bent (<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>), Crested Dog's-tail (<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>), False Oat-grass (<i>Arrhenatherum eliatum</i>), Red Fescue (<i>Festuca rubra</i>), Rough Meadow-grass (<i>Poa trivialis</i>) and Perennial Ryegrass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>).</p> <p>Within the areas of marshy grassland the sward contains frequent to occasional rushes including Jointed Rush (<i>Juncus</i></p>

Criteria	Comments
	<p>articulatus), Hard Rush (<i>Juncus inflexus</i>) and Blunt-flowered Rush (<i>Juncus subnodulus</i>) with Soft Rush (<i>Juncus effuses</i>) in the southern field. The southern field also supports a patch of locally abundant Common Yellow Sedge (<i>Carex viridula</i> subsp <i>oedocarpa</i>).</p> <p>The structure of the vegetation community is fairly varied within the marshy areas with close-grazed and longer patches adding to the plant diversity. Forbs present include Marsh Arrowgrass (<i>Triglochin palustris</i>), Lesser Spearwort (<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>), Marsh Pennywort (<i>Hydrocotyle vulgaris</i>), Devil's-bit Scabious (<i>Succisa pratensis</i>), Marsh Pea (<i>Lathyrus palustris</i>), Yellow Flag (<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>), Early Marsh-orchid (<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i>), Southern Marsh-orchid (<i>Dactylorhiza praetermissa</i>) and Bog Pimpernel (<i>Anagallis tenella</i>).</p> <p>The neutral grassland contains less marshy species but still supports some Southern Marsh-orchid, Ragged-Robin (<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>) and small amounts of Jointed Rush. Forb species here include Ribwort Plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>), Selfheal (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>), Meadow Buttercup (<i>Ranunculus acris</i>), Creeping Buttercup (<i>Ranunculus repens</i>) and Tufted Vetch (<i>Vicia cracca</i>). In the drier grassland Hare's-foot Clover (<i>Trifolium arvense</i>), Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>) and Perforate St John's-wort (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>) also appear.</p>

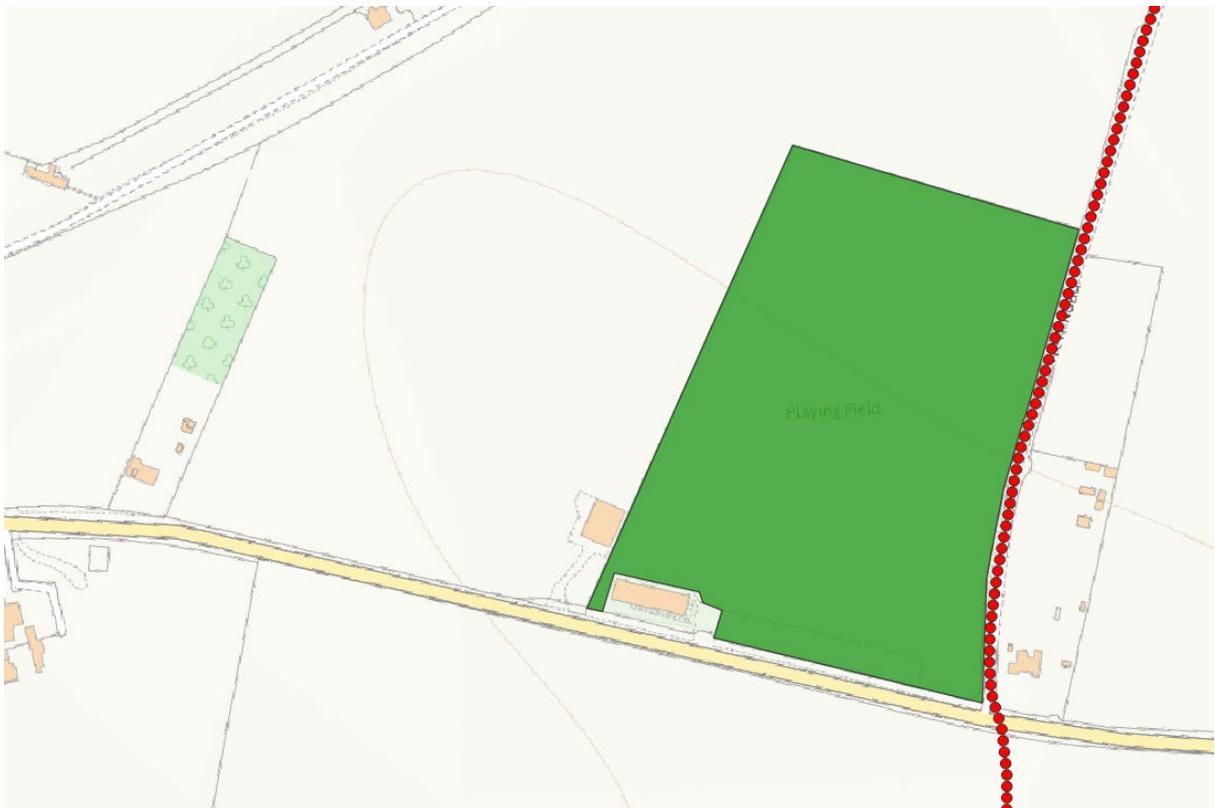
Criteria	Comments
	<p>Numerous water filled ditches occur through the site and include species such as Whorl-grass (<i>Catabrosa aquatica</i>), Celery-leaved Buttercup (<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>), Water Horsetail (<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>) and Great Pond-sedge (<i>Carex riparia</i>).</p> <p>Most of this site is listed as an 'archaeology area' by the NHER mainly resulting from the Roman Period with some finds dating back to the Palaeolithic Period.</p>
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	<p>6.52ha Grid reference TG477037</p> <p>The site is local in character to the community it serves and would not be considered an extensive tract of land in comparison to the designation of the NPA.</p>



Reason for designation

This is a Nationally important site with its abundance of wildlife, grass varieties, rushes and 'Forbs' meadowland flowering plants. It is in very close proximity to the Angles Way and the Grade 1 listed Roman fort of Gariannonum. It is also located on the boundary of the parishes' of Belton and Burgh Castle.

LGS3- Sports Field, New Road, Belton





Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Sports Field, New Road, Belton
Description and purposes	This field has four football pitches. It is heavily used for training and matches by the Bohemians Youth Football Club Saturday and Sunday mornings and afternoons, and evenings, midweek in the summer. During the week other activities take place at this location, i.e. archery, model flying etc. The Parish council are also investigating other uses such as fetes, special events, car boot sales, country/garden market, and street food market to cover the ever increasing running costs of the site.

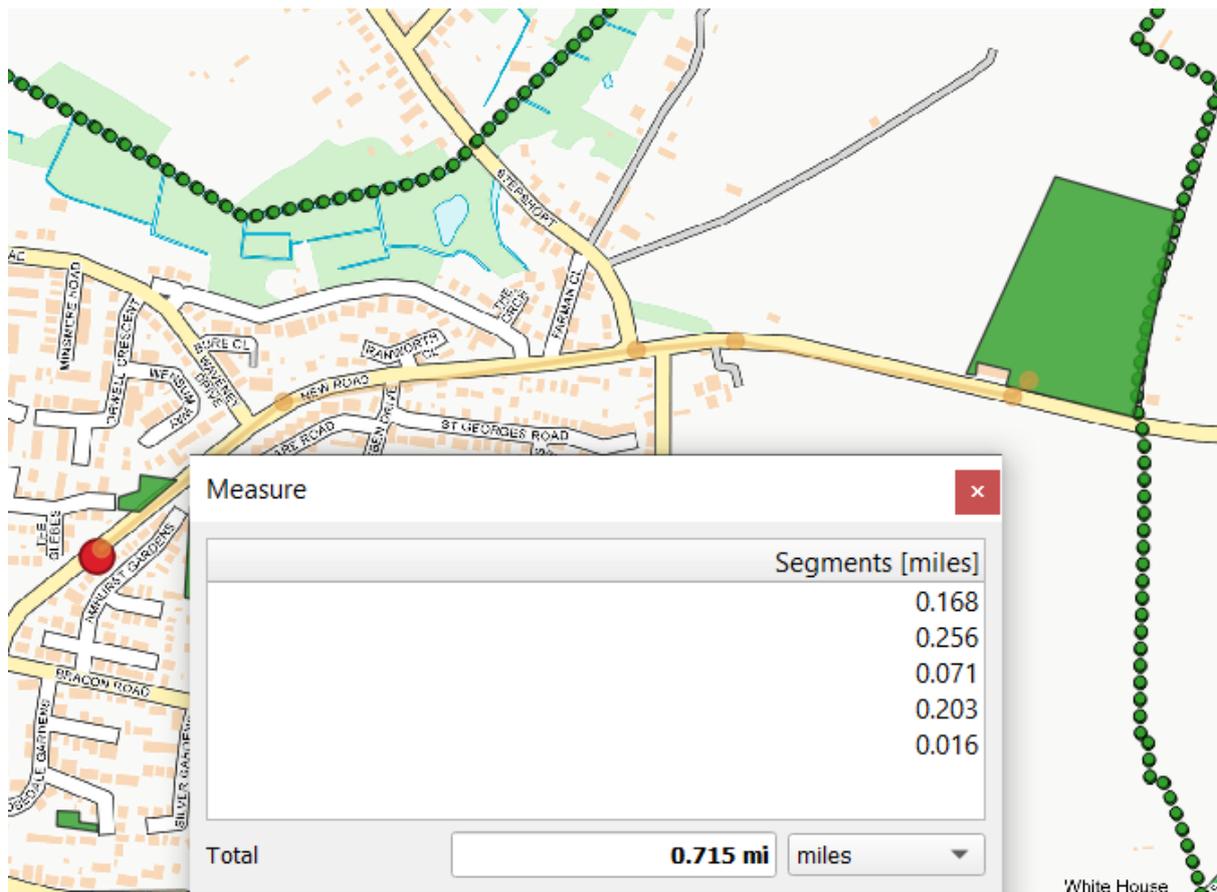
Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	None
Site allocations	None

Criteria	Comments
Planning permissions	No title found on searchland to indicate a planning application is current- 31/03/2023

NPPF Criteria

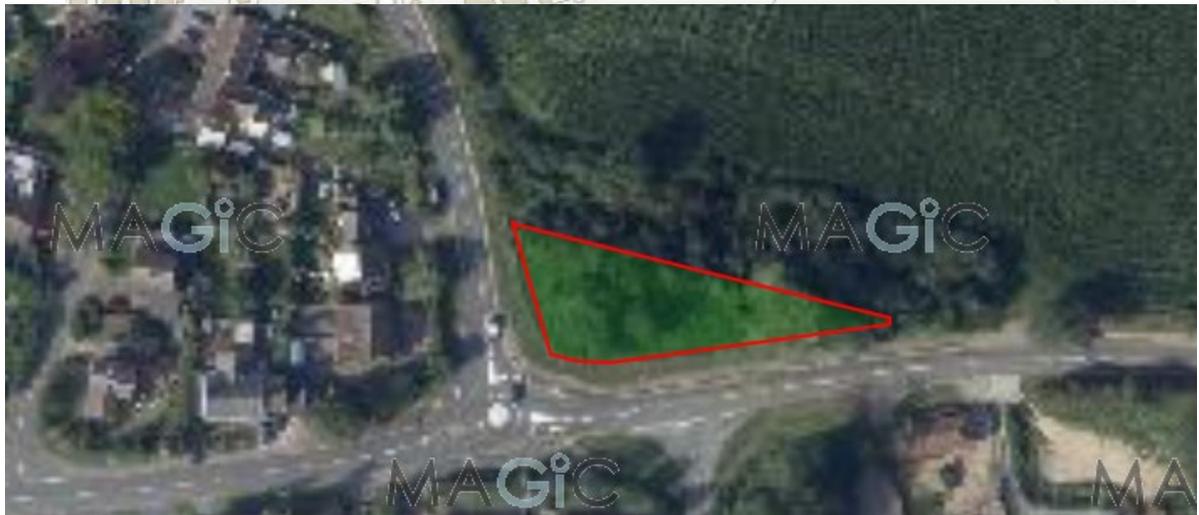
Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	This LGS is 0.715 miles away from the centre point mapped for Belton. This is close to the community it serves and can be accessed from New Road. There is a public footpath and cycle path that can be used to get to this site, a bus stop directly outside the site and a large car parking area.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	This site has been chosen due to its special qualities for recreational reasons to the community. In the consultation questionnaire (Jan/Feb 2023) several residents suggested the playing field as being an area to protect.
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	4ha of the green space falls within the neighbourhood designated area and this excludes the building on the site. This site is therefore considered local in character to the community it serves and would not be considered an extensive tract of land in comparison to the designation of the NPA.



Reason for designation

The value of this site lies within recreation both in terms of sporting activity and a social hub for the community within walking distance of the main settlement area.

LGS4- Blands Corner Nature Reserve, corner of Stepshort and New Road, Belton



Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Blands Corner Nature Reserve, corner of Stepshort and New Road, Belton
Description and purposes	This small site has been dedicated to nature. It has a dyke running through it where moorhens and duck nest. The dyke is also a natural capital asset, in that it takes the surface water in times of heavy downpours, as this junction is prone to flooding.

Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	The LGS is 0.4 miles away on the outskirts of the village and accessible by walking via public footpaths and a cycle path.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	Blands corner is a historic site of significant natural value with an ancient orchard bordering the site. It is a small natural haven within Belton, easily accessible for all inhabitants. In the consultation questionnaire (Jan/Feb 2023) several residents suggested the site as being an area to protect. When asked in the neighbourhood plan survey "how important to you are Wildlife and Natural Habitats" 92% stated that they were very important. There is a World War Two spigot mortar emplacement within the ancient orchard, sited here within range of the railway bridge.
Local in character and not extensive tract of land	This 0.144ha site is local in character to the community it serves.

Reason for designation

This site is important for many reasons, historic, nature, wildlife, recreation, well-being, beauty and tranquillity.

LGS5- Playing Field, Bell Lane, Belton







Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Playing Field, Bell Lane, Belton
Description and purposes	This site is located in the centre of Belton. It is very well used by children, adults and dog walkers. The play provision consists of a children's play area, MUGA for football and basketball, a Skateboard Area and an additional practice hoop for teenage children. There is a dedicated and fenced area with play equipment for young children with picnic tables' close by. It is a grassed landscape with some trees and shrubs.

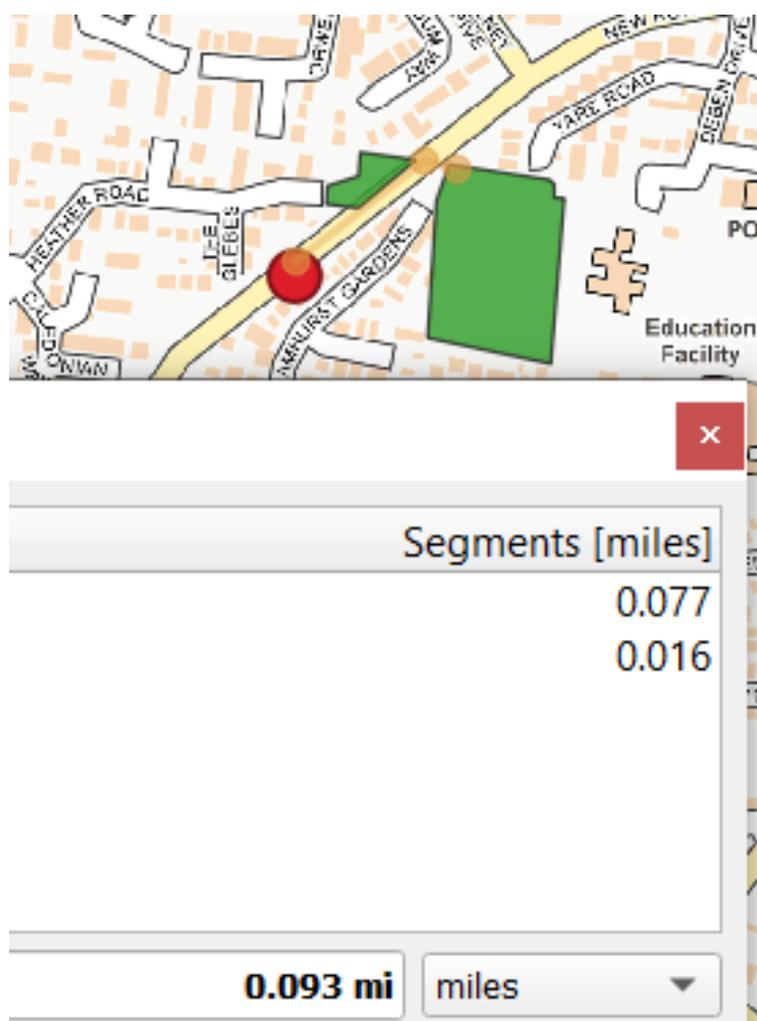
Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No title found on searchland to indicate a planning application is current- 31/03/2023

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	The LGS is 0.093 miles away, tantamount to the village centre. The site is close to the community it serves and can be accessed by foot off Bell Lane, Amhurst Gardens, Belton FP2 PROW and via the Bell Lane footbridge from the west of Belton.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	<p>This site has been chosen as this centrally located hub caters for young and old parishioners' recreation and is of vital importance as such to the community. In the consultation questionnaire (Jan/Feb 2023) several residents suggested the playing field as being an area to protect.</p> <p>This site was also audited in the GYBC Lothingland Play Area Audit Summary. The site type was categorized as a neighbourhood equipped area of play.</p> <p>This site is historically important as in 1946 all the villagers of Belton raised the money to purchase the site to Welcome Home their sons & daughters from WW2.</p> <p>The site is registered with the Charity Commission: Belton Playing Field, Charity number: 269321 (1) the object of the charity is, in the interests of social welfare, to improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of political, religious or other opinions by the provision and maintenance of a</p>

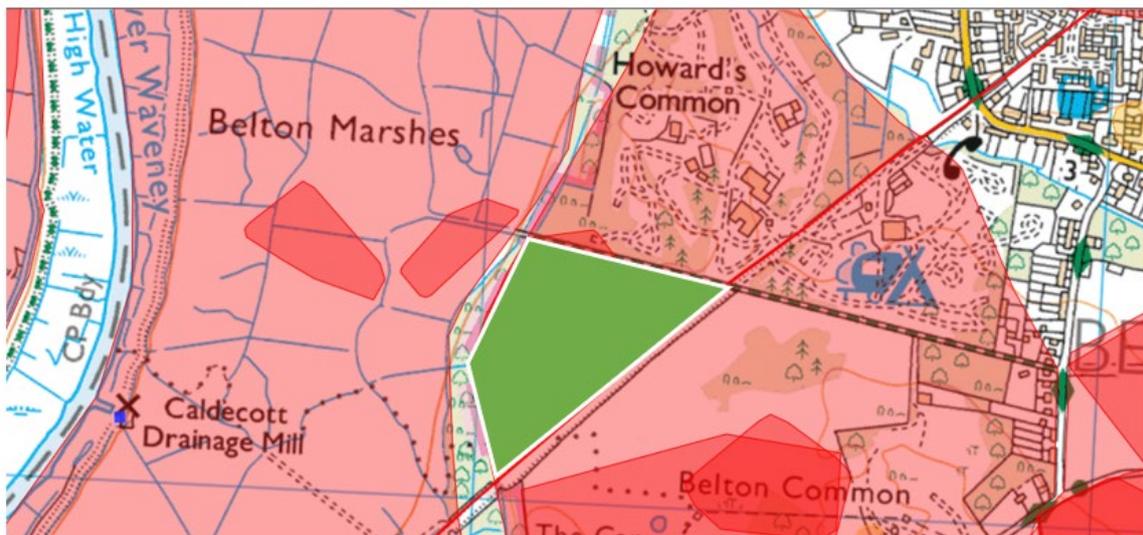
Criteria	Comments
	recreation ground or recreation grounds. (2) the land identified in part 1 of the schedule to this scheme must be retained by the trustee for use for the object of the charity. (3) if the property of the charity is no longer required for the provision of a recreation ground for the area of benefit, the object of the charity will be the promotion of general charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of benefit.
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	1.3ha as measured on QGIS from an existing OS Map Greenspace layer including the sports hall.



Reason for designation

This site is of significant recreational and historic importance to the residents of the parish of Belton, providing health and wellbeing in this open green space at the heart of the village.

LGS6- Belton Common (CROW Site) Marsh Lane, Belton also part of (CWS1429)



NHER Archaeology areas



Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Belton Common (CROW Site) Marsh Lane, Belton also part of (CWS1429)
Description and purposes	This is a CROW Open Access Land site, part of CWS 1429, valued and heavily used by walkers for its tranquility and natural habitat, a part of the once vast Common that ran from Bradwell through Burgh Castle, Belton to Fritton. The site is mostly in Belton with a small part in the parish of Fritton. Adjacent to wooded fenland carr but predominantly woodland and heathland. When asked in the neighbourhood plan survey "how important to you are Wildlife and Natural Habitats" 92% stated that they were very important.

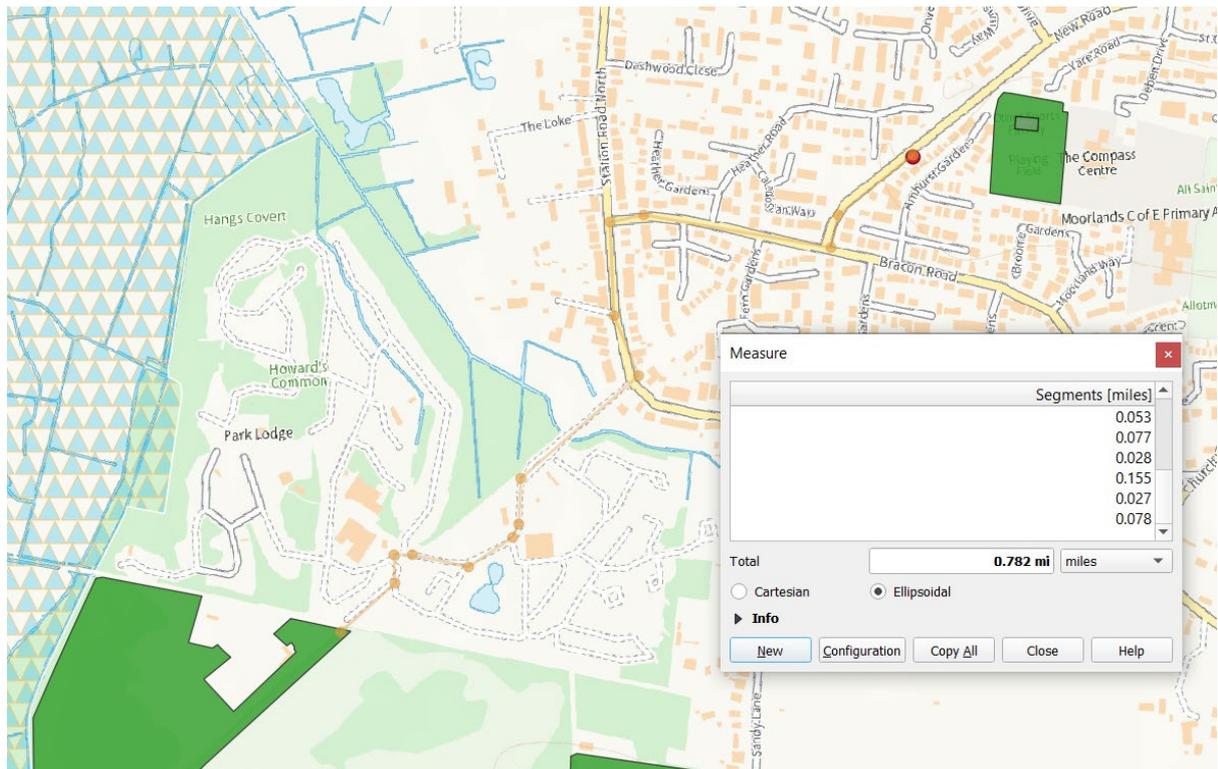
Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Falls within part of a County Wildlife Site (REF 1429- Howards Common, Belton Common North and Wild Duck Caravan Park) - Halvergate Marshes Conservation Area is adjacent to the west of this LGS (which is on the Heritage at Risk Register 2022) - Falls partly within the Broads Authority Area - Priority habitat deciduous woodland is present on site.
Site allocations	None but adjacent to one of the holiday accommodation areas set out in the Great Yarmouth Local Plan.
Planning permissions	None present on search land 31/03/2023.

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	<p>This site is approximately 0.794 miles from the Centre point marked for Belton. However, it is also close to the community it serves such as the holiday accommodation adjacent to the north. The site is easily accessed off Sandy Lane (Angles Way) via Marsh Lane, Belton FP10 PROW.</p>
Demonstrably special to the local community.	<p>The site is highly valued by parishioners for its tranquil and natural environment, and for recreation and subsequent health and well-being benefits.</p> <p>Latest CWS survey was undertaken in 2019 and this site is numbered CWS1429. This site is being designated due to its wildlife significance within the NPA area as described in the CWS survey:</p> <p>This site is located immediately adjacent to the village of Belton and forms a remnant area of a once larger tract of heathland. The site is divided north-south by Marsh Lane, to the north of which lies the Wild Duck Caravan Park.</p> <p>South of Marsh Lane, the site is characterised by a mosaic of dwarf shrub heath and dry acidic grassland with scattered acidic scrub. Much of the common is now under dense bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>. Historically, this part of the site was linked to Belton South, but is now separated from it by a golf course.</p> <p>Areas of open heath occur along the old railway track with small amounts of ling heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> and bell heather <i>Erica cinerea</i> juxta positioned with very short rabbit-grazed acidic grassland. <i>Peltigera</i> spp. and <i>Cladonia</i> spp.</p> <p>Dwarf cudweed <i>Filago minima</i> was not recorded during the resurvey, with sand</p>

Criteria	Comments
	<p>sedge <i>Carex arenaria</i> rare across the heath. Other species present include occasional early hair-grass <i>Aira praecox</i>, perforate St John's-wort <i>Hypericum perforatum</i>, mouse-ear hawkweed <i>Pilosella officinarum</i>, heath bedstraw <i>Galium saxatile</i> and bird's-foot trefoil <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>. Creeping cinquefoil <i>Potentilla reptans</i> is rare. Birdsfoot <i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i> and whitlow grass <i>Erophila verna</i> were not recorded in 2018-19. New records include sheep's fescue <i>Festuca ovina</i> and mossy stonecrop <i>Crassula tillaea</i>.</p> <p>The scattered acidic scrub is typified by patches of gorse <i>Ulex europaeus</i>, hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> and silver birch <i>Betula pendula</i> with broom <i>Cytisus scoparius</i>.</p> <p>This site is listed as an 'archaeology area' by the NHER mainly resulting from the Roman Period.</p>
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	7.5ha Grid Reference TG472024. The site is local in character to the community it serves and would not be considered an extensive tract of land in comparison to the designation of the NPA.

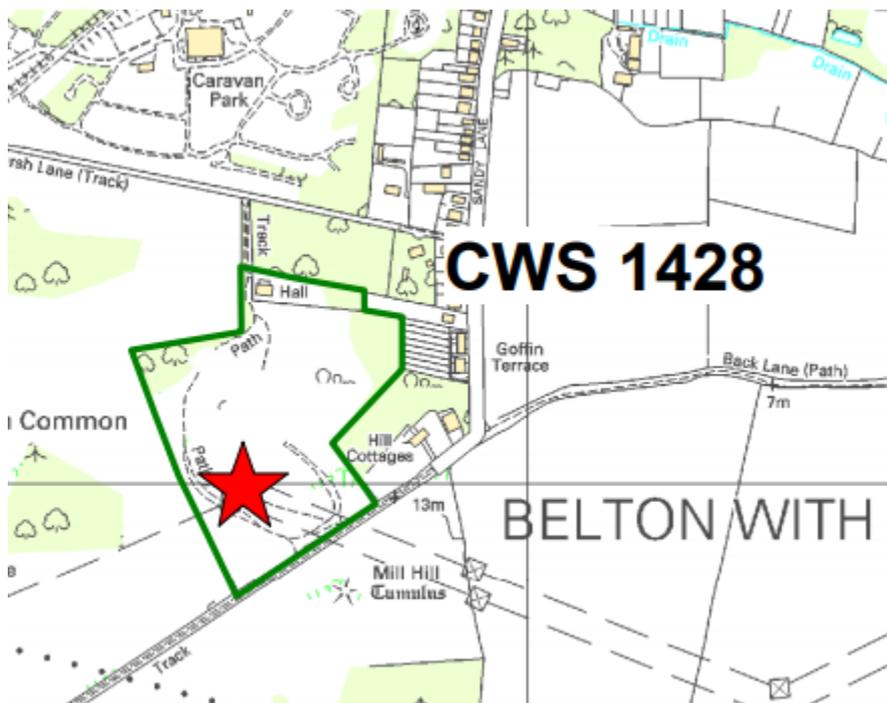
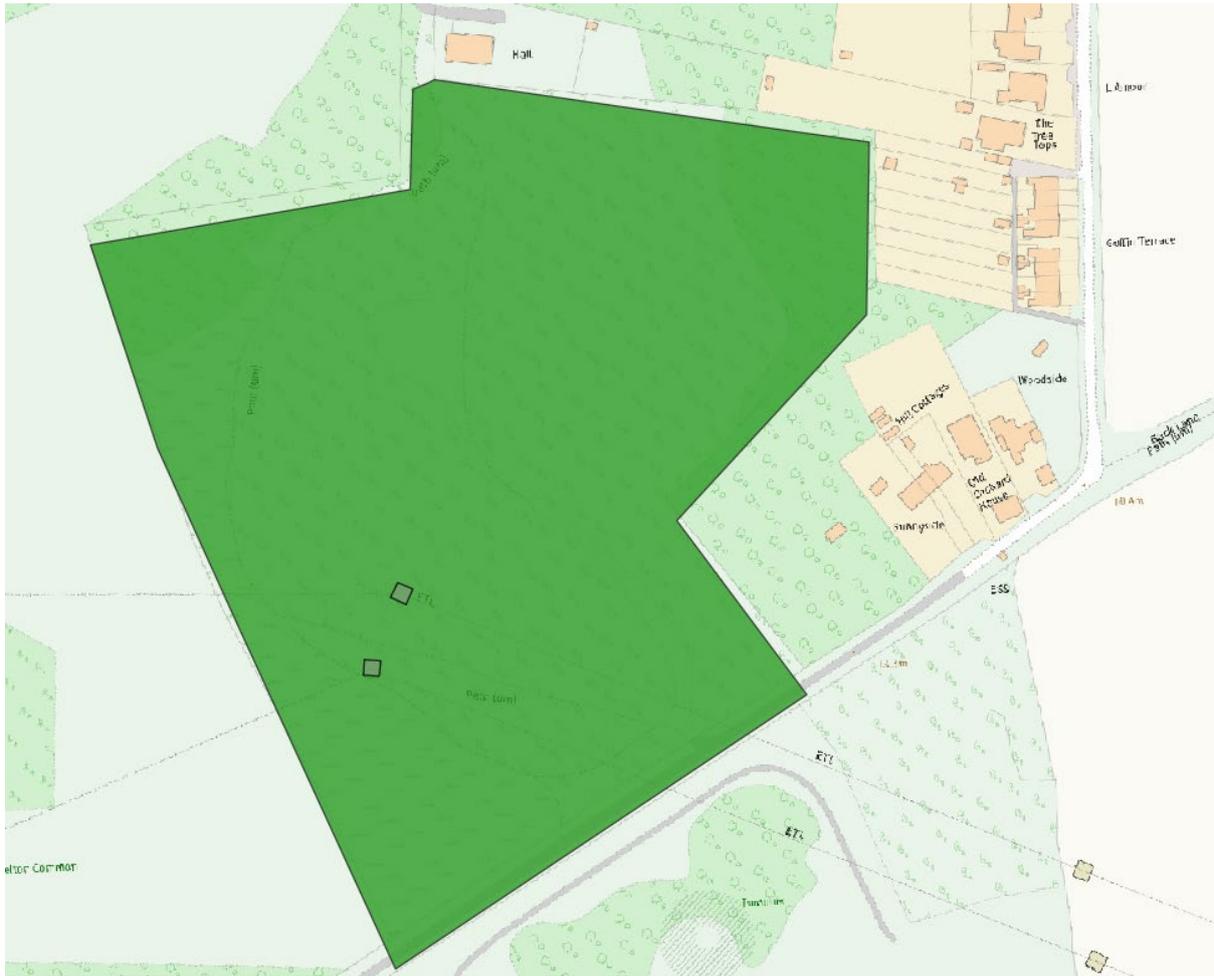


Reason for designation

This site is of importance for numerous reasons, the natural, tranquil and wildlife rich location, the recreational and health benefits to the local and tourist community and its historic significance.

LGS7- Belton Common South/Belton Sand Pit, Back Lane / Angles Way (CWS1428)

A





Belton Common (CWS1428) 1953

Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Belton Common South/Belton Sand Pit, Back Lane / Angles Way (CWS1428)
Description and purposes	This, well used by naturalists and walkers, rare and diminishing lowland heath site, is highly valued by the area's inhabitants due to its inherent untouched natural habitat and wildlife. When asked in the neighbourhood plan survey "how important to you are Wildlife and Natural Habitats" 92% stated that they were very important. The location of this site is accessed off Sandy Lane via Marsh Lane or Back Lane.

Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Falls within a County Wildlife Site - Close in proximity to a scheduled monument (Mill Hill Bowl Barrow) - Priority habitat deciduous woodland is present on site.
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	Looking on search land. There are no planning applications found (31/03/2023)

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	This space is around 1.009 miles away from the Centre point marked for Belton. It is considered close to the community it serves and can be accessed off Sandy Lane a narrow road, part of Angles Way.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	Latest CWS survey was undertaken in July 1994 and this site is numbered CWS1428. This site is being designated

Criteria	Comments
	<p>due to its wildlife significance within the NPA area. As described in the CWS survey:</p> <p>Belton Common South is a relatively small site situated on the outskirts of the village of Belton, historically linked to the northern part of the site, but now separated from it by a golf course. It is one of a complex of heathland County Wildlife Sites, and remnant heathland communities still cover the majority of the site. These communities vary from acidic and neutral grassland to continuous stands of dense gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>) or open sand.</p> <p>Relatively species-rich acidic grassland occurs throughout the site, particularly along paths. Species present include sheep's sorrel (<i>Rumex acetosella</i>), sheep's fescue (<i>Festuca ovina</i>), small cudweed (<i>Filago minima</i>), bird's foot (<i>Ornithopus perpusillus</i>), bird's-foot trefoil (<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>), dove's-foot crane's-bill (<i>Geranium molle</i>), viper's bugloss (<i>Echium vulgare</i>), common stork's-bill (<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>), little mouse-ear (<i>Cerastium semidecandrum</i>) and the moss <i>Polytrichum piloferum</i>. Sand sedge (<i>Carex arenaria</i>) is abundant in the more open and sandy area, with occasional lady's bedstraw (<i>Galium verum</i>) and musk thistle (<i>Carduus nutans</i>).</p> <p>Throughout the site continuous stands of dense gorse (<i>Ulex europaeus</i>) and patches of consolidated bracken (<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>) are present, with scattered young oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>), hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) and silver birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>). Towards the</p>

Criteria	Comments
	<p>west scrub is sparser, giving way to a coarser sward dominated by false oat-grass (<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>). Of interest in this area is the very local presence of sea couch (<i>Elymus atherica</i>) and common restharrow (<i>Ononis repens</i>), giving a coastal feel to the sward. Elsewhere, the sward becomes locally species-rich, and includes species such as bird's-foot trefoil and broad-leaved everlasting pea (<i>Lathyrus latifolius</i>).</p> <p>Mixed semi-natural broadleaved woodland dominates the south-eastern part of the site and includes silver birch and oak with a bracken-bramble (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) field layer including false oat-grass, rough meadow grass (<i>Poa trivialis</i>) and Yorkshire fog (<i>Holcus lanatus</i>). This is surrounded by a mature hedge of hawthorn, with some large old oak trees, extending to the northern boundary.</p> <p>Preliminary Ecological Appraisal by Eco-Check Consultancy Ltd for Belton Common South, January 2019.</p> <p>Belton Common (CWS) is designated principally for its heathland communities and is also a locally important site for reptiles including Adder, Grass Snake, Common Lizard and Slow Worm. The sites patchy mosaic of scrubland, gorse, grassland, bare ground and open basking areas make the site good quality habitat for reptiles.</p> <p>The site also supports a wide range of birds, including birds of conservation concern (BoCc) and Schedule 9 bird species such as turtle dove, buzzard, willow warbler, cuckoo, whitethroat,</p>

Criteria	Comments
	<p>bullfinch and common crossbill. Bird observations including BAP and RSPB status: Blackbird, Blackcap, Blue tit, Buzzard, Carrion crow, Chaffinch, Chiff Chaff, Common Whitethroat, Corn bunting, Dunnock, Firecrest, Goldfinch, Great tit, Herring gull, Kestrel, Linnet, Magpie, Robin, Siskin, Sparrowhawk, Starling, Swallow, Tree sparrow, Wood Pigeon and Wren. The on-site scrub and gorse provide potential nesting habitat for birds including the BAP listed birds.</p> <p>Invertebrate observations included: Bee-fly, Buff-tailed Bumblebee, Honey Bee, Ladybird (7 spot) Lipped Snail, Small heath and Small White butterfly. The nationally important population of the BAP listed Small Heath Butterfly known from the encompassing CWS, Belton Common and was recorded during the survey.</p> <p>The east and south-east sections of the site are included in the National Forest Inventory as Broadleaf Deciduous Woodland however in addition we wish to highlight the local importance of natural habitats, including scrubland and heathland to bats, reptiles and nesting birds.</p> <p>The PRA Identified habitat as being of "Low/Medium" suitability for foraging and commuting bats. Any vegetation should remain untouched.</p> <p>NHER records of Belton Common. NHER43359</p> <p>A World War Two searchlight battery is visible on aerial photographs on Belton Common. The site consists of earthwork emplacements and military structures, a</p>

Criteria	Comments
	<p>pillbox and slit trenches. The whole site is enclosed by barbed wire.</p> <p>NHER43360</p> <p>A group of World War One practice trenches is visible on aerial photographs on Belton Common. The trenches are visible as both earthworks and cropmarks and are situated within an area of later World War Two practice trenches.</p> <p>NHER43358</p> <p>The site of a World War Two military training site is visible on aerial photographs of Belton Common. The site consists of a complex system of slit trenches and large areas of weapons pits.</p> <p>NHER10477</p> <p>Neolithic scrapers found at Belton Common.</p>
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	<p>5.35ha Grid reference TG478019 (Excluding built development on site)</p> <p>The site is local in character to the community it serves and would not be considered an extensive tract of land in comparison to the designation of the NPA.</p>

Reason for designation

This site is of International importance as a rare diminishing habitat of lowland heath and the subsequent exceptional wildlife that inhabit the area. It is also of historic importance in terms of 20th century activity and its occupation dating back to the Neolithic period.

LGS8- The Parish Pit, Herringfleet Road, St Olaves (CROW Site)





Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	The Parish Pit, Herringfleet Road, St Olaves (CROW Site)
Description and purposes	This is an old Surveyors of Allotments site that is now naturalised woodland and heavily used by dog walkers in conjunction with the adjacent bridleway. This is the only publicly accessible and recreational area in St Olaves and therefore vitally important to parishioners.

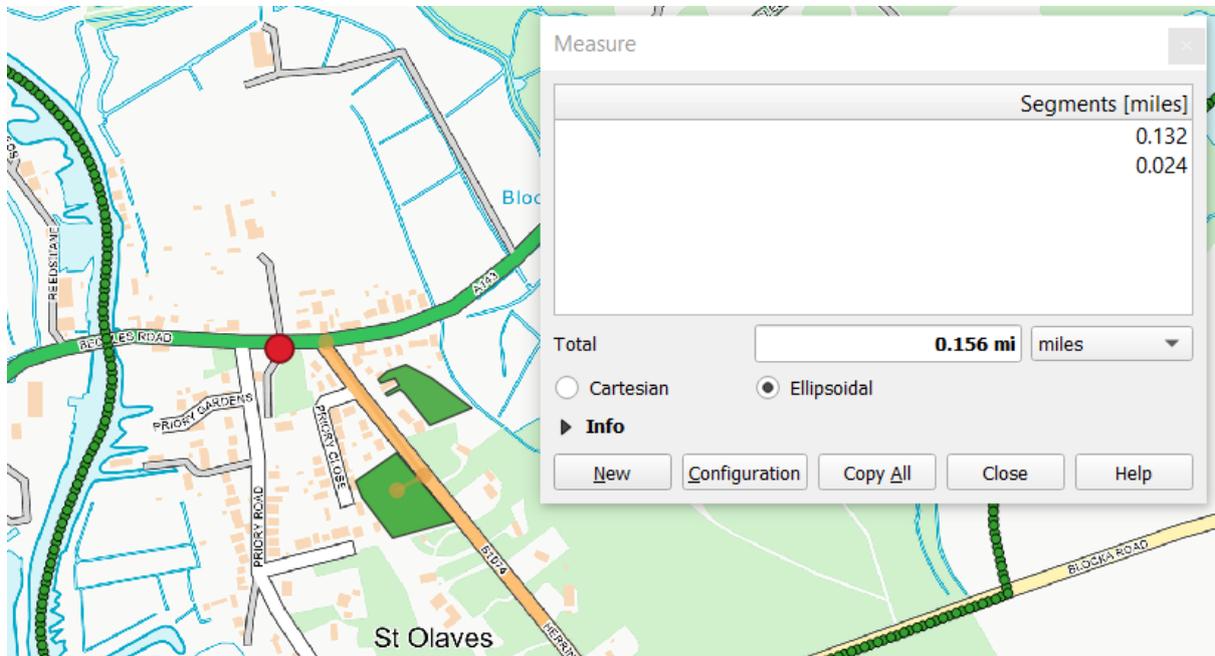
Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	No. However, priority habitat deciduous woodland is present on site.
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No title found on searchland to indicate a planning application is current- 31/03/2023

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	This site is 0.156 miles away from the centre point for St Olaves. It is close to the community it serves and can be accessed from a public bridleway along Herringfleet Rd, Old Parish of Herringfleet BR6.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	<p>The land ("the Unit Land") comprised in this Register Unit contains (as I estimate from the Register map) a little less than 2 acres. On its east side it fronts on a public road leading southwards off the main Yarmouth-Beccles road (A.143). The Unit Land is a very attractive hollow. On it there are a number of fine pine trees. In summer, it is used extensively by visitors to the Village who wish to picnic; some coming by the nearby river Waveney, but mostly coming by road. It is also locally used as a run for dogs.</p> <p>https://www.acraew.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/Norfolk/THE%20PARISH%20PIT%20-%20ST%20OLAVES%20-%20HERRINGFLEET%20-%20LOTHINGLAND%20RD%20NO.CL.2.pdf</p> <p>This is the only publicly accessible, natural and recreational area in St Olaves and therefore vitally important to parishioners. It is within walking distance for parishioners. This is a valued natural site in respect of its beauty, wildlife, recreation, tranquility, well-being, health and historic significance.</p>

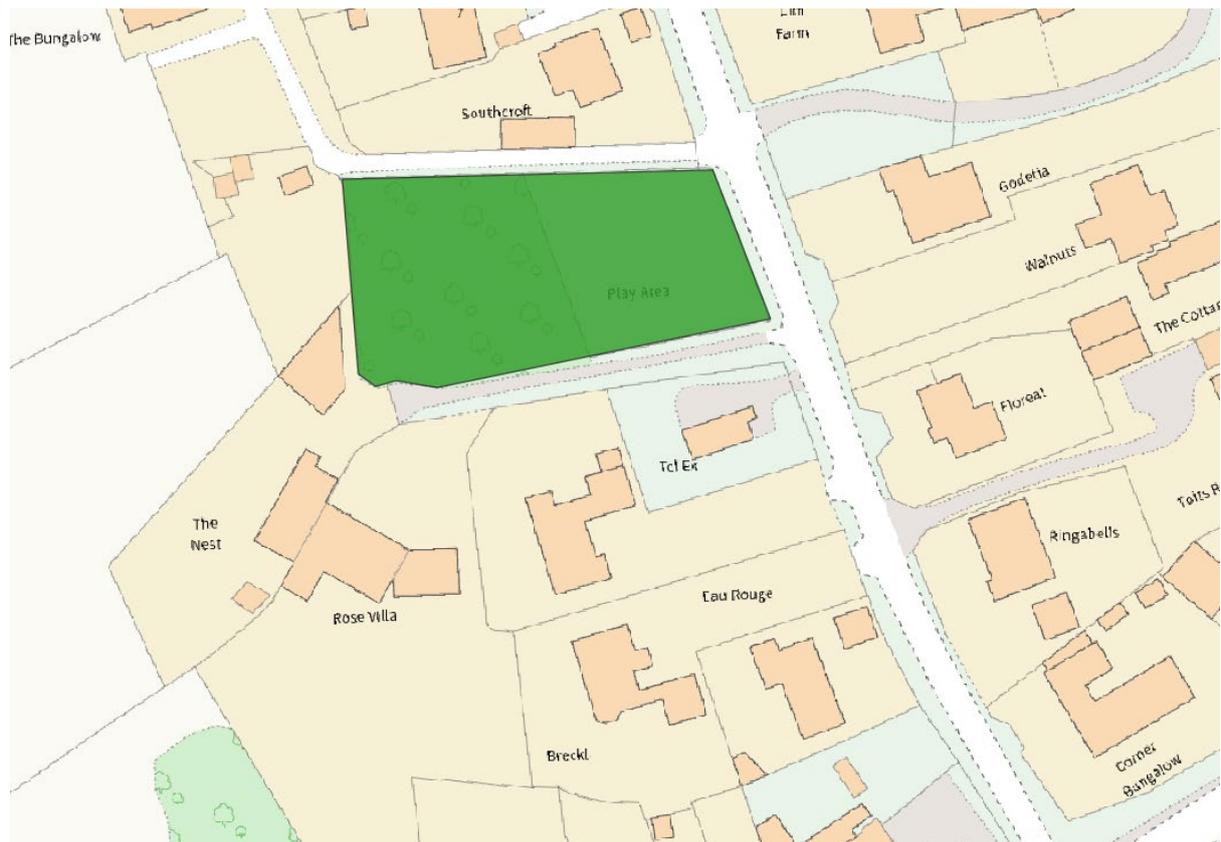
Criteria	Comments
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	0.9ha The site is local in character to the community it serves. Accessible from the Herringfleet Road and BR6 PROW.



Reason for designation

This site, the only publicly accessible, natural and recreational area in St Olaves is of vital importance to parishioners. This is a valued natural site in respect of its beauty, wildlife, recreation, tranquillity, well-being, health and historic significance.

LSG9- Horse Common, (CROW site) including Play Area, New Road, Fritton





Site Details

Criteria	Comments
Site	Horse Common, (CROW site) including Play Area, New Road, Fritton
Description and purposes	Over half of the site is a well-used children's play area. The rest having wildlife value being left to naturalise and contains a pond. The site is located at Horse Common, (CROW site) including Play Area, New Road, Fritton

Checklist

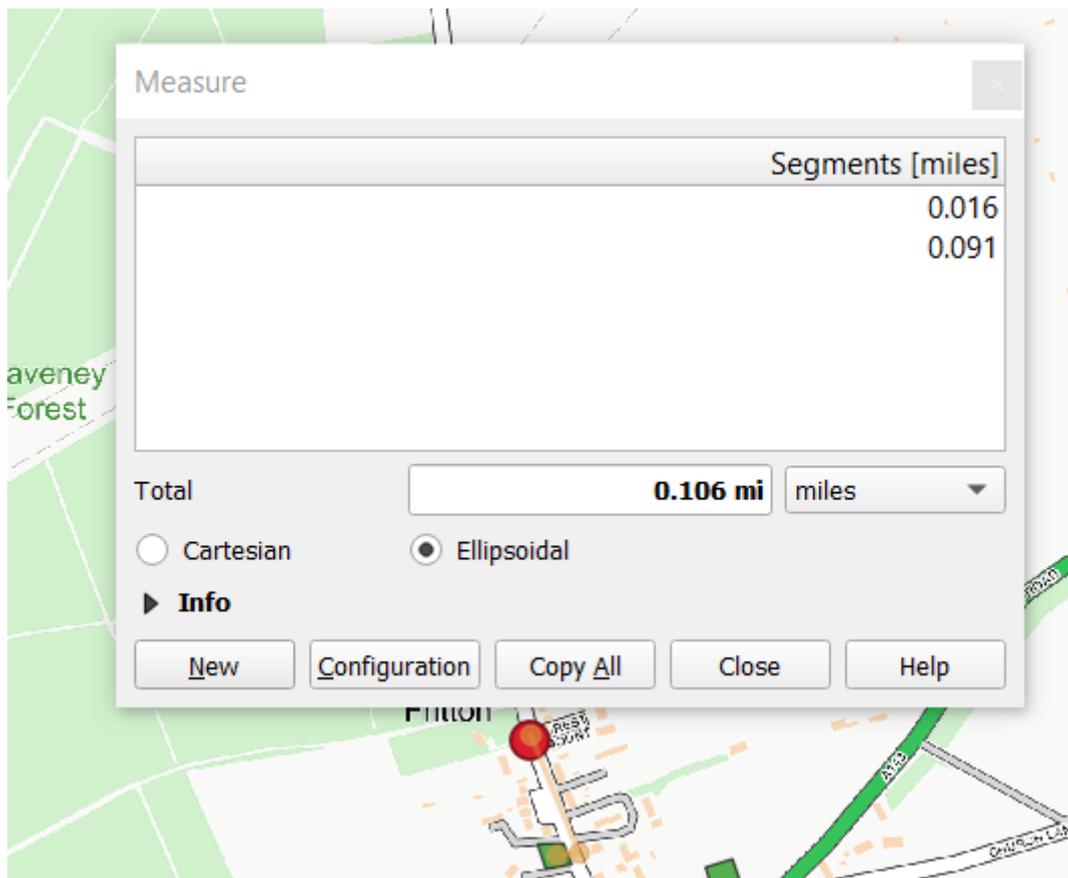
Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	CROW site
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No title found on searchland to indicate a planning application is current- 31/03/2023

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	This site is 0.106 miles away from the Fritton centre point. It would be considered close to the community it

Criteria	Comments
	serves and can be accessed from New Road.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	<p>This site has been audited by the GYBC Lothingland Play Area Audit Summary. The area was identified as a Local Equipped Area of Play (LEAP). It is also the same land classed as a CROW site called The Horse Common.</p> <p>This area is being designated for its recreational purpose to the community it serves. It has a well-used play area for children and adults to go to and use. It also has historic value re the following: The Horse Common (CL.65) is rectangular shaped and contains (as I estimate from the Register map) a little more than ½ an acre. On the Ordnance Survey map (on which the Register map is based) it is called "HORSE DYKE". It fronts on a public road leading northwards from the A.143. Mr. Young said the land is bounded on the north by a fence separating it from a footpath and private road the ownership of which is claimed by Miss Smith; it is bounded on the south by a similar footpath and private road (not claimed by Miss Smith) and similarly fenced; in the fence separating it from the public road on the east there is a gate; it is used as a playground for children and appears to be well looked after; it is a fairly deep hollow with a still water pond.</p> <p>Commons Registration Act 1965 dated 19th October 1973.</p> <p>Source: https://www.acraew.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/Norfolk/THE%20DELL%20THE%20HORSE%20COMMON%20AND%20BRAKEHILL%20SAND%20PIT%20-%20FRITTON%20-%20LOTHINGLAND%20RD%20NO.CL.64%20NO.CL.65%20NO.CL.66.pdf ACRA, the Association of Commons Registration Authorities Evidence derived from: (49) GEORGE III Cap. 62. An Act for inclosing Lands in the Parishes of Bradwell, Belton, and Fritton, in the County of Suffolk. 12th May 1809.</p>

Criteria	Comments
	<p>XX. And be it further enacted, That the said Commissioners shall and may, and they are hereby authorized and required to set out and allot such Part or Parcels of the said Common Heaths, Marshes, Doles and Waste Lands, hereby intended to be divided and inclosed, as they shall think requisite in each of the several Parishes of Bradwell, Belton, and Fritton, aforesaid, as and for public Watering Places for Cattle, and as and for public Clay, Gravel and Sand Pits, with convenient Roads to and from the same, to be used by the Proprietors of Lands and Estates in the said several Parishes respectively. Allotments shall be vested in the Surveyors of the Highways of the said several Parishes of Bradwell, Belton, and Fritton aforesaid respectively, in Trust for the Purposes aforesaid;</p>
<p>Local in character and not extensive tract of land.</p>	<p>0.02ha at New Road, Fritton. The site is local in character to the community it serves and easily accessible from New Road.</p>



Reason for designation

The Horse Common, (CROW site) with over half of the site being a well-used children's play area with the remainder having wildlife value being left to naturalise and with a pond is the only public area for recreation in Fritton. This area is being designated for its recreational purpose and natural space to the community it serves.

LGS10- St. Olaves Village Hall Green Space, Herringfleet Road, St. Olaves





Site Details

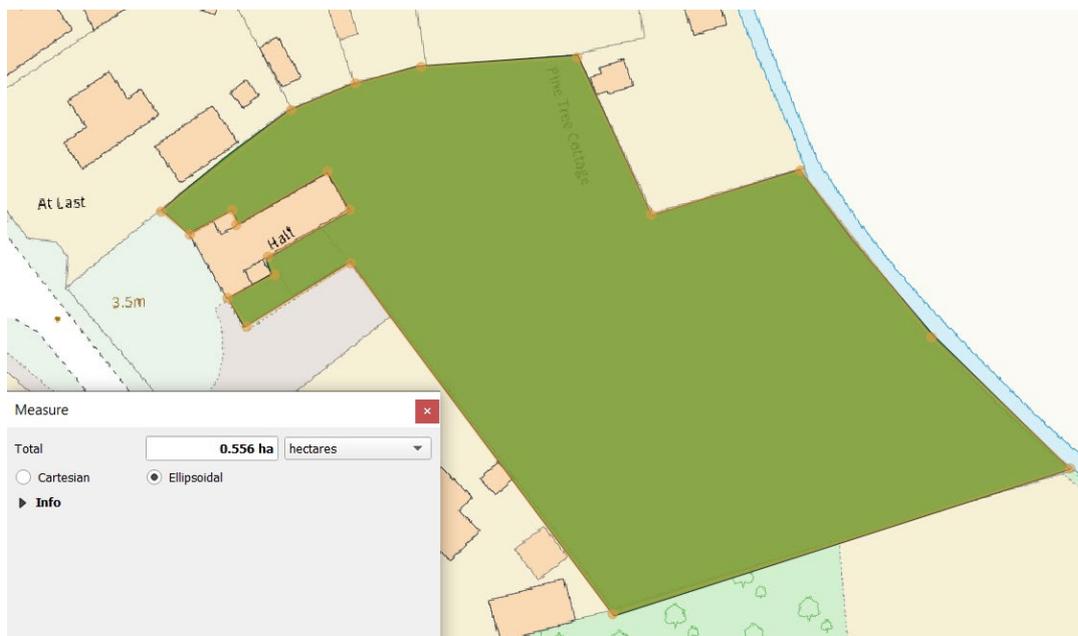
Criteria	Comments
Site	St. Olaves Village Hall Green Space, Herringfleet Road, St. Olaves
Description and purposes	This site is located off Herringfleet Road St Olaves and accessed via the entrance to the village hall. It is used for recreation and sports but also village fetes, community events and the base for the Jormungandr Austr Saxon and Viking Re-enactment Society. The site, including the village hall, is the only site in St Olaves that can stage community events.

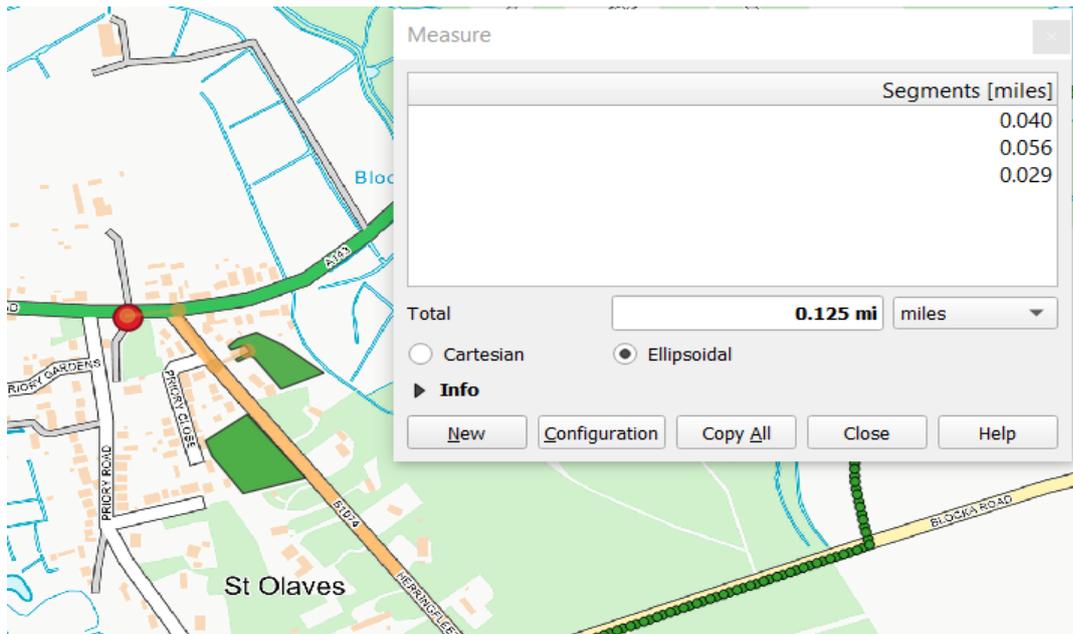
Checklist

Criteria	Comments
Statutory designations - i.e. CWS, listed status, SSSI, SPA, NNR, SAC	No. However, priority habitat deciduous woodland is present on site.
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No title found on searchland to indicate a planning application is current- 31/03/2023

NPPF Criteria

Criteria	Comments
Close to the community it serves.	This site is 0.125 miles away from the centre point for St Olaves. It is close to the community it serves and can be accessed from the Herringfleet Rd.
Demonstrably special to the local community.	The site is of significant importance to the community in terms of recreational, social, sporting activities and is a wonderful open green space that lends itself to numerous activities and events.
Local in character and not extensive tract of land.	0.556ha off Herringfleet Road, St Olaves. The site is local in character to the community it serves and easily accessible from the Herringfleet Road.





Reason for designation

The site is being designated as it is the only community area of significant importance to the community in terms of recreation, social interaction, sport, and is a wonderful open green space that has the potential to stage numerous activities and events.

5 Green spaces not being designated

A number of green spaces were explored in the early preparations of the neighbourhood plan by members of the steering group. For a number of reasons these have been ruled out at this the first stage since they could be considered an extensive tract of land, are not easily accessible, or they are already afforded protection within the GYBC Local Plan.

Extensive tract of land

There is not a set rule on how large a site has to be to be considered an extensive tract of land. Different local authorities may agree different sizes. However, usually green spaces do not designate which are of a large hectare size. For this reason, it is appropriate to rule out the spaces in the table below from the document due to size at this stage.

County Wildlife Site Number	Site Name	Area ha
1426	Fritton Warren South	55.1
1427	Waveney Forest	26.6
1429	Howards Common, Belton Common North	18.2
2279	Burgh Castle	25.1

Once mapping sites it is also worth noting that if many LGS sites are close together these could be looked at as a whole and be considered an extensive tract of land. So conscious effort must be given on considering appropriate designation depending on location too.

In the latest Great Yarmouth Borough Open Space Needs Assessment November 2022¹, it was identified that several informal amenity greenspaces in the NPA have quantity deficit. This included sites at Rosedale Gardens, Fern Gardens, Caledonian Way Crofters Walk and land to the corner of Louis Dahl and Butt Lane. As identified in this assessment, accessibility for residents for these existing informal amenity green spaces should be retained and protected in accordance with Policy E3 from the Local Plan. So, it may be suitable to not take these spaces forward since protection is already existing in the local plan. The sites listed in the GYBC open space audit summary are shown below.

¹ [Heritage, culture, tourism and open space evidence - Great Yarmouth Borough Council \(great-yarmouth.gov.uk\)](https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk)

Ref	Site	Parish	Area ha		
Loth05	Land Opposite 35 To 39 Rosedale Gardens	Belton	0.082		
Loth06	Land Rear 97 To 109 Rosedale Gardens	Belton	0.067		
Loth07	Land West 63 To 68 Fern Gardens, Belton	Belton	0.115		
Loth08	Land Between 10 To 21 And 19 To 21 Caledonian Way Crofters Walk, Belton	Belton	0.185		
Loth09	Land Adjoining 61 To East Heather Road, Belton	Belton	0.135		
Loth10	Land around Berry Close, Belton	Belton	0.237		
Loth11	Land around Dashwood Close, Belton	Belton	0.094		
Loth12	Land around Heather Road, Belton	Belton	0.281		
Loth13	Land around Paddock Close, Belton	Belton	0.048		
Loth14	Land around Orwell Crescent and Wensum Way, Belton	Belton	0.016		
Loth15	Land around Ranworth Close, Belton	Belton	0.032		
Loth17	Land to corner of Louis Dahl and Butt Lane, Burgh Castle	Burgh Castle	0.046		
Loth18	Land to corner of Station Road South and Beccles Road, Belton	Belton	0.065		
Loth03	Nursery Close	Belton	GYBC	LEAP	0.038

The following were not listed in the LGS as they were deemed as having little recreational value, minimal or no use and not easily accessible.

Village	Location	Name	Area ha
Fritton	Beccles Road	Village Hall, rough grass	0.1
Fritton	New Road	Pulk Hole	0.1
Fritton	Beccles Road	Brakehill Sandpit	1.0
Fritton	Beccles Road	The Dell	0.5