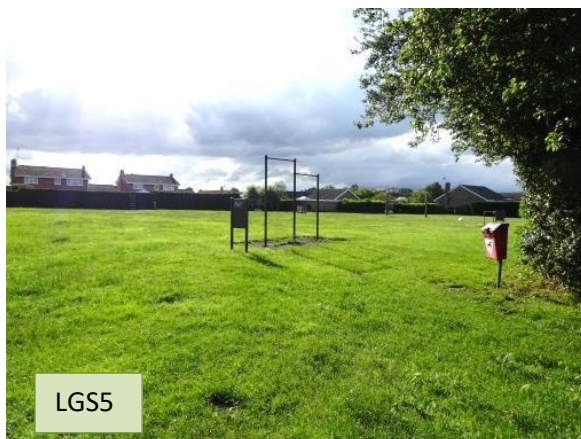


## 17 Appendix B. Local Green Spaces Justification and Maps



## 1. Local Green Space Designation

The Neighbourhood Planning Team held a statutory six week public consultation between October and November 2019 to seek responses to the *draft* Neighbourhood Plan. This document contained the proposed sites to be considered as Local Green Spaces (LGS) arising from previous local research and consultation activities. Of the 17 sites submitted for consideration, a reduced list 8 of these have been recommended for designation as LGS in the final Neighbourhood Plan. This followed a review of comments made in the consultation period. A Local Green Space Designation Report of the assessment process for these sites is given below. LGS/map numbering has changed as a result of this review process.

## 2. Introduction

The Natural Environment White Paper (The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature 2011) highlighted “the importance of green spaces to the health and happiness of local communities”. Green spaces, particularly natural green spaces, located close to local people provide a range of social, environmental and economic benefits, including:

- improved mental and physical health
- increased social activity
- increased physical activity
- reduced crime
- improvements to children’s learning
- increased voluntary action
- improved community cohesion and sense of belonging
- potential for local food growing
- more attractive places to live, work, play, visit and invest
- enhanced opportunities for wildlife habitats and wildlife corridors
- climate change adaptation, for example by flood alleviation

The White Paper recommended that green spaces should be identified in neighbourhood plans and local plans which complement and do not undermine investment in homes, jobs and other essential services.

Given the importance of green spaces to the health and happiness of local communities the Government considers the new designation of LGS should offer suitably strong protection to localised areas that are demonstrably special.

That recommendation was incorporated into the National Planning Policy Framework February 2019 (NPPF) as the new designation of Local Green Spaces. The NPPF provides the following information on Local Green Space designations.

**99.** *The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.*

**100.** *The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:*

*(a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*

*(b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*

*(c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.*

**101.** *Policies for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with those for Green Belts.*

There are no restrictions on the type of green space which can be designated as Local Green Space. Allotments or urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis could be designated. Land which is partly developed with structures such as sports pavilions, boating lakes or war memorials could also be appropriate.

The key characteristic for the designation should be the particular importance to the local community. The NPPG advises that land already subject to a designation could be proposed as Local Green Space, but that consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space.

A site proposed as Local Green Space must meet the criteria set out within the NPPF (quoted above). This has been elaborated upon in the National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) that offers the following advice. Extracts quoted are NPPG Revision date 06.03.2014 are only those directly relevant to the exercise. The original references may be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space#Local-Green-Space-designation>

### ***What is Local Green Space designation?***

*Local Green Space designation is a way to provide special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to local communities.*

### ***Can all communities benefit from Local Green Space?***

*Local Green Spaces may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village or in a neighbourhood in a town or city.*

### ***What types of green area can be identified as Local Green Space?***

*The green area will need to meet the criteria set out in [paragraph 100](#) of the National Planning Policy Framework. Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land where sports pavilions,*

boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, or urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis.

### **How close does a Local Green Space need to be to the community it serves?**

The proximity of a Local Green Space to the community it serves will depend on local circumstances, including why the green area is seen as special, but it must be reasonably close. For example, if public access is a key factor, then the site would normally be within easy walking distance of the community served.

### **How big can a Local Green Space be?**

There are no hard and fast rules about how big a Local Green Space can be because places are different and a degree of judgment will inevitably be needed. However, [paragraph 100](#) of the National Planning Policy Framework is clear that Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green area concerned is not an extensive tract of land. Consequently blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. In particular, designation should not be proposed as a 'back door' way to try to achieve what would amount to a new area of Green Belt by another name.

### **Is there a minimum area?**

Provided land can meet the criteria at [paragraph 100](#) of the National Planning Policy Framework there is no lower size limit for a Local Green Space

### **What about public access?**

Some areas that may be considered for designation as Local Green Space may already have largely unrestricted public access, though even in places like parks there may be some restrictions. However, other land could be considered for designation even if there is no public access (eg green areas which are valued because of their wildlife, historic significance and/or beauty). Designation does not in itself confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Any additional access would be a matter for separate negotiation with land owners, whose legal rights must be respected.

### **Does land need to be in public ownership?**

A Local Green Space does not need to be in public ownership. However, the local planning authority (in the case of local plan making) or the qualifying body (in the case of neighbourhood plan making) should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as Local Green Space. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan.

### **Would designation place any restrictions or obligations on landowners?**

*Designating a green area as Local Green Space would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners.*

### ***Who will manage Local Green Space?***

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

### **3. Assessment Methodology**

In order to assess sites submitted against the criteria the following assessment methodology was used:

#### **Assessment 1: Does the site have an extant planning permission for an alternative use that would be incompatible with a Local Green Space designation?**

Is the site allocated within an existing Local Plan for an incompatible alternative use?

Is the site likely to be allocated for an incompatible alternative use within an emerging plan?

*Method Assessment* - Check site planning history, Check HELAA (Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment), remove sites with extant planning permission/ allocations/ proposed allocations unless the proposed development is no longer capable of being implemented or the approved development would be compatible with the Local Green Space designation.

#### **Assessment 2: Is the site already subject to a designation?**

*Method Assessment* - Remove any sites which are wholly designated as: Sites of Special Scientific Interest: protected under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 Local Nature Reserves: protected by the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Registered village greens and common land: protected by the Commons Act 2006.

#### **Assessment 3: Is the site within reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?**

*Method Assessment* - The following standards can be used to assess whether the site is considered to be within reasonably close proximity to the community it serves:

- Parks and Gardens: 1 km
- Natural and Semi Natural Greenspaces: 3kms
- Outdoor Sports Facilities: 3kms
- Amenity Greenspace (includes green corridors): 1 km
- Provision for children and young people: 1 km
- Allotments and community gardens: 1 km
- Cemeteries, disused churchyards and other burial grounds: 3 km in the main urban area, 1 km in all other areas.

Sites not meeting these standards are scoped out, unless evidence has been provided to show that the special characteristics and/or features of a site serve communities from a wider area.

#### **Assessment 4: Is the site local in character and not an extensive tract of land?**

*Method Assessment* – Team review of submission site visits where required (The NPPF is clear that the Local Green Space designation should only be used where the site is not an extensive tract of land.) Extensive tracts of land on the edge of settlements and blanket designations of open countryside are not appropriate. Whilst there is no size limit on how small or large a Local Green Space can be, a judgement has been made to ensure that the proposed space is of a size that reasonably relates to the community that it serves. As such, the areas submitted are fairly self-contained and have clearly defined boundaries. Larger areas of the open countryside and long-distance green ways/river corridors have not been considered appropriate for Local Green Space designation. Consideration as been given to the following questions:

- How does the site relate to the local area?

- Does the site feel part of the local area? Why?
- How does it connect physically, visually and socially to the area?
- Is the site distinct from surrounding countryside by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features?
- Is the site an extensive tract of land?
- How large is the site in comparison to the community it serves and areas of land in the vicinity?
- Does the site surround all or part of the village/town/local area?
- How has the size of the site been decided? Does the site follow natural features or existing constraints?
- Does the whole site justify designations or is some of the site unnecessarily included?
- Is the site unusually large for its use?

### **Assessment 5: Does the site hold a particular local significance?**

*Method Assessment* - Team assessment to ensure the proposed designation is based on evidence to demonstrate why the green area is demonstrably special to the local community and is of particular local significance. To meet this requirement each area fulfils one or more of the criteria below.

[A] Beauty and visual attractiveness in its own right. Is the site visible from a public place? Are there views of the site from any key locations? Is the site (or type of landscape) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments, conservation area appraisals or similar documents? Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations? Does the site bring interest from further afield to the local area?

[B] Historic significance. In order to meet this criterion, there must be evidence to demonstrate that the site is of historic importance to the community. Are there any historic buildings, features or remains on the site? For example, listed buildings, scheduled ancient monuments, war memorials. Are there any historic landscape features on the site? For example, old hedgerows, ancient trees, historic ponds, historic garden features. Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? For example, part of the grounds for the manor house, site of an old railway station, village green. Did any important historic events take place on the site? Is there a longstanding event which takes place on the site?

[C] Recreational value. There must be evidence to show that the space has local significance for recreation and is of value to the community. Whilst a large number of green spaces will offer some form of recreational value, it will be necessary to identify why a particular space offers something unique that could not realistically be accommodated on other spaces that would serve the same community. Is there evidence or is it feasible that the site is used for playing sport? Which sport? Is this sports provision free or is club membership required? Is it good quality? Are there better facilities nearby? Is there evidence or is it feasible that the site is used for informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily?

[d ] Tranquillity. There must be evidence to show that the site submitted is viewed to be of importance to the local community because of the tranquillity it provides offering a place for reflection and peaceful enjoyment. This is a subjective assessment and will require clear justification as to why an area is of particular value. Is the site considered to be tranquil?

What features make it feel tranquil? Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area through a feeling of

remoteness? Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding man-made structures such as roads, powerlines or lighting?

[E] Richness of wildlife. There must be evidence to show that the site is viewed to be of local significance because of the wildlife it is home to. Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? If the site is not formally designated, is there any evidence that there are important habitats or species found on the site? Have ecological surveys been undertaken on or close to the site? Could it form part of an ecological network? Is the site adjacent to a designated site? Is there any evidence, or is it likely that other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Are there ancient hedgerows, woodland, veteran trees on the site?

[F] For any other reason. There must be evidence that the proposed site holds particular local significance for the community for reasons other than those identified above. What are the other reasons which make the site significant for the local community? Is the site a focal point or stopping place? Does it provide key views across or looking out of the local area? What features make this site important?

#### **Assessment 6: Is the site demonstrably special to the local community?**

*Method Assessment* - Evidence of local support, submitted evidence will be reviewed to determine: How the site was identified? Was it instigated by the community or parish council? Or an individual? Was it raised at a meeting or through a survey? Has the site been subject to discussion or planning processes before? Is there a petition? Are the signatures from local people? Does the petition relate to just this one site? Do the letters of support show that they clearly understand the justification for designating the site as a Local Green Space? Was the site received favourably during consultations? Does the evidence show that a large proportion of the community use or value the site? Have there been any objections to the designation? Who are these from and on what grounds is the objection made? Do their comments undermine or cast doubt on how special the site may be to the wider community? Is there a need for Local Green Space in this location? Is there a shortage of accessible green space in the area? Is there evidence of a need for this type of space in particular? Could the use of the green space be replicated elsewhere in the vicinity?

#### 4. Assessment Conclusions

The South Kesteven Open Space assessment (2017) and policy requirements identifies that the Deepings is currently deficient in its allocation of green space (extract given in appendix 1).

Detailed assessment forms are available for each site included in this report. The assessment forms clearly explain why a site has been assessed as being suitable for designation or, conversely, why a site is not considered suitable for designation. Of the 17 unique sites submitted for consideration, 8 have been agreed for designation in the Deepings Neighbourhood Plan. These are now re-numbered as:

LGS1	John Eve Field	<i>Park space</i>
LGS2	Glebe Field	<i>Park space</i>
LGS3	Rectory Paddock + Cemetery	<i>Wildlife and quiet space</i>
LGS4	Riverside Park	<i>Remembrance garden</i>
LGS5	Greensland	<i>Park and recreational space</i>
LGS6	Mill Field	<i>Natural open space</i>
LGS7	Jubilee Park	<i>Park space</i>
LGS8	Woody Heights	<i>Recreational space</i>

**Deepings Neighbourhood Plan Local Green Space Assessment Grid Summary – to accompany document on Local Green Spaces Assessment Methodology and in addition to information, maps and photographs already provided.**

Ref	Site name	Assessment 1		Assessment 2	Assessment 3	Assessment 4	Assessment 5						Assessment 6	Summary and Recommendations
		HELAA	Planning history	Existing protection	Proximity to community	Local and not extensive tract	A	B	C	D	E	F	Demonstrably special	
LGS1	John Eve Field	none	none	owned by Town Council	YES Central	YES			✓			✓	YES	Include as LGS
LGS2	Glebe Field	none	none	owned by Town Council	YES Central	YES			✓			✓	YES	Include as LGS
LGS3	Rectory Paddock + Cemetery	none	none	owned by Town Council	YES Central	YES		✓		✓		✓	YES	Include as LGS
LGS4	Riverside Park	none	none	owned by Town Council	YES South	YES				✓		✓	YES	Include as LGS
LGS17	Greensland	none	none	owned by Town Council	YES Central/west	YES		✓	✓				YES	Include as LGS
LGS18	Mill Field	none	none granted	none	YES Adjacent/west	YES (Larger than others, but is contained)	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	YES	Include as LGS

LGS30	Jubilee Park	none	none	owned by SKDC	YES Central	YES			✓		✓		<b>Include as LGS</b>
LGS31	Woody Heights	none	none	owned by DSJ Parish Council	YES Central	YES			✓		✓	Yes	<b>Include as LGS</b>
													<b>Below are not included as LGS</b>
LGS5	Welland Gardens	none	none	owned by Town Council	YES South	YES	✓			✓	✓	YES	Sufficiently protected already as IOS
LGS7	Tattershall Drive (Towngate)	none	none	none SKDC	YES West side	YES						Not so obvious	Relatively new green space
LGS8	Sandringham Way	none	none	none SKDC	YES West side	YES						Not so obvious	Relatively new green space
LGS9	Tattershall Drive (South)	none	none	none SKDC	YES West side	YES						Not so obvious	Relatively new green space
LGS16	Cherry Tree Park	none	none	Owned by SKDC	YES Central/west	YES		✓	✓			Possibly. Needs improvement	Sufficiently protected already as IOS
LGS19	Wellington Way/Scout area	None/possibly	none	none	YES North	YES			✓			YES	Used by scouts for activities
LGS24	Charter Avenue	none	none	none	YES North/east	YES						Not so obvious	Relatively new green space
LGS32	*Riverside Park DSJ	none	none	Owned by DSJ United Charity	YES South	YES	✓			✓		YES	*Remove from list at the request of property owners
LGS33	Millennium Wood	none	none	owned by Parish Council	YES East	YES			✓			YES	Sufficiently protected already as IOS

\*All criteria positively identified under Assessment 5 includes further comment below – as identified in the *draft* NP document

Sites assessed as not meeting the criteria for Local Green Space have been transferred and added to the list of designated Important Open spaces (exception LGS32 which has been removed from both allocations).

## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

### i) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS1 John Eve Field</b>		
Address	Godsey Lane, Market Deeping		
Description of Green Space	A large flat public open space bordered on two sides by housing north and west. The east faces towards the Tesco supermarket and two primary schools. Maintained as a green field for public use and includes children's playground equipment. This is a dog free area.		
Area of Green Space	1.79 ha	Map attached	Refer to map 1

### ii) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty		Tranquillity	
Historic significance	John Eve Field was gifted by the John Eve family to the people of Deeping.	Richness of wildlife	
Recreational value	In constant use as a park	Other: specify	
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The field is in constant recreational use by local residents</li> <li>A popular picnicking and sunbathing spot on sunny day</li> <li>Well maintained and generally free from littering (bins near exit)</li> <li>Easily accessible to residents via footpaths/non-car use</li> <li>Provision of a tarmac surface and net for basketball net practice</li> <li>Has an enclosed area with equipment for younger children</li> <li>Has play equipment and an activity area for older children.</li> <li>The field has also been used for many years for public events including carnivals, fun fairs, circuses and specialist days.</li> <li>It can also be hired privately for public events.</li> <li>Good proximity to two local primary schools for after-school play</li> <li>A number of significant trees (horse chestnut) on the southern edge of the field have preservation orders.</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	YES		

## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

### i) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS2 Glebe Field</b>		
Address of Green Space	Godsey Lane, Market, Deeping		
Description of Green Space	A large flat public open space adjacent to John Eve Field. Bordered on two sides by housing south and west. The east faces towards the Tesco supermarket and two primary schools. Maintained as a green field for public use and includes a BMX track. This is a dog access area.		
Area of Green Space	2.47ha	Map attached	Refer to map 1

### ii) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty		Tranquillity	
Historic significance	Land purchased by the Town Council as an open space with conditions of sale being nothing can be built upon it	Richness of wildlife	
Recreational value		Other: specify	
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This area has a purpose-built BMX track which is very popular with local young people</li> <li>It is also a very popular open and social space for dog walkers.</li> <li>A Historic pathway - footpath 4, leads between Glebe Field and John Eve Field to St. Guthlac's Church, Rectory Paddock and the cemeteries.</li> <li>A number of significant trees (oak) on the field have preservation orders.</li> <li>Well maintained and generally free from littering (bins near exit)</li> <li>Easily accessible to residents via footpaths/non-car use</li> <li>The field is also used for car boot sales and other local activity</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	YES		

## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

### i) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS3 Rectory Paddock and MD Cemetery</b>		
Address of Green Space	Church Street, Market Deeping		
Description of Green Space	An area maintained as an open grass area for the use of residents. Originally used for pasture. It has a pond, bulrushes and water lilies.		
Area of Green Space	1.47ha	Map attached	Refer to map 1

### ii) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty	A lovely meadowland with wildflowers	Tranquillity	A peaceful place next to the church and cemetery
Historic significance	Purchased 20 years ago by the Town Council as an open green space. Historically pasture land.	Richness of wildlife	Several habitat types and home to many species of flora and fauna
Recreational value	A pleasant social space for sitting in and walking through	Other: specify	
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rectory Paddock is well maintained and improved by volunteers</li> <li>• The recreational value of this is considerable, with people being able to make use of mown grass paths and public benches to sit and chat.</li> <li>• Adjacent to the Rectory and historic St. Guthlac Church</li> <li>• A good place to enjoy the bell-ringing at certain times of the week.</li> <li>• Specific wildlife activity with solar-powered swift nesting boxes, bats etc. Pleasant peaceful area for residents to enjoy.</li> <li>• Well maintained and generally free from littering (bins near exit)</li> <li>• Easily accessible to residents via footpaths/non-car use</li> <li>• Popular with dog walkers and a through route to The Spinney (for remembrance and scattering of ashes) and the Town Cemetery.</li> <li>• Pathway links through to the John Eve Field and the Glebe Field</li> <li>• The area won the Orsted Award and a Community Award from the Wildlife Trust.</li> <li>• It has an attractive pond feature</li> <li>•</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	YES		

Map 1 Location of LGS1 John Eve Field/LGS2 Glebe Field/ LGS3 Rectory Paddock, Cemetery



## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

### i) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS4 Riverside Park</b>		
Address of Green Space	High Street, The Boundary, Market Deeping		
Description of Green Space	A relatively small-sized open green space bordering the river on the boundary between MD and DSJ.		
Area of Green Space	0.25ha	Map attached	Refer to map 2

### ii) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty	Views across the river to open countryside/south	Tranquillity	A peaceful location beside the River Welland
Historic significance	On the Roman Carr Dyke route	Richness of wildlife	Riverbank species
Recreational value	A popular picnic spot and resting area	Other: specify	Includes a public sculpture/work of art
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designated a memorial garden.</li> <li>• The Garden of Remembrance is located within the Riverside area.</li> <li>• From 2015 used annually for the town Remembrance service.</li> <li>• Owned and maintained by the Town Council.</li> <li>• Access point for the river with seating.</li> <li>• Often used by families and local residents for picnics to sit and enjoy the riverside views.</li> <li>• Situated near to retail outlets, opposite the Deepings Community Library and adjacent to the Deepings Community Centre, as such it contributes to being a social destination for families</li> <li>• Includes a public map board and local heritage information</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	YES		

Map 2 Location of LGS4 Riverside Park



## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

### i) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS5 Greensland</b>		
Address of Green Space	Off Halfleet, Market Deeping		
Description of Green Space	A moderately large, flat, open green space. Bordered by housing on all four sides		
Area of Green Space	0.73ha	Map attached	Refer to map 3

### ii) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty		Tranquillity	
Historic significance	Yes	Richness of wildlife	
Recreational value	A popular community playing field	Other: specify	
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In public use and enjoyment for a considerable number of years</li> <li>• Owned and maintained by the Town Council</li> <li>• Use by residents for annual bonfire and firework displays</li> <li>• Contains children's play equipment for family use</li> <li>• Popular with dog walkers</li> <li>• Well maintained and generally free from littering (bins near exit)</li> <li>• Easily accessible to residents via footpaths/bus/non-car use</li> <li>• Good walking access from the west/east and north</li> <li>• Adjacent to the (charity-run) Jubilee Hall and able to be used in conjunction with a variety of public events and activities</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	YES		

Map 3 Location of LGS5 Greensland



## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

### i) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS6 Mill Field</b>		
Address of Green Space	West of Millfield Road		
Description of Green Space	Mill Field comprises two separate adjacent fields of flat permanent grassland bordered by mature hedgerows and trees. There are drainage ditches to the north and eastern edges of the fields. The Deepings Bypass forms the boundary to the west and includes a soil embankment with several woodland trees. The size of this piece of land reasonably relates to the community it serves, with a clearly defined boundary.		
Area of Green Space	10.8 ha	Map attached	Refer to map 4

### ii) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty	A natural open space with a defined boundary	Tranquillity	A peaceful area of adjacent countryside
Historic significance	Recreational, sporting and cultural events since at least 1882.	Richness of wildlife	Many habitats and a wide range of flora and fauna species.
Recreational value	Public Right of Way that is popular with walkers,	Other: specify	Site of the Deepings Agricultural Show
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mill Field provides an attractive gateway and setting for the historic, rural town of Market Deeping.</li> <li>• A large, informal green space which is very close to home but has the character of an open countryside park.</li> <li>• Recreational activities co-exist with agricultural use.</li> <li>• It provides a range of natural habitats for wildlife including Muntjac deer, rabbits, owls, woodpeckers and bats</li> <li>• The peace and tranquillity of this natural green space has significantly benefitted the physical, mental and emotional health of local residents for many years.</li> <li>• Other activities include jogging, cycling, kite flying, berry picking, sketching or painting.</li> <li>• It is free, can be walked at any time of the day or night</li> <li>• The proposed route for the Deepings Green Walk (refer to DGW policy) is designated to pass directly through Mill Field</li> <li>• Historically, the Oddfellows Charity held a popular annual Gala, every July, with stalls, brass bands, races, competitions, and fair</li> <li>• During the two World Wars football matches were held and after the second World war the Deepings Agricultural Show, was held there annually, until 2013.</li> <li>• Sometimes community dances and church services held here</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	<b>YES Please also refer to a further and more detailed document relating to Mill Field's demonstrably Special Criteria for inclusion as an LGS</b>		

Map 4 Location of LGS6 Mill Field



## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

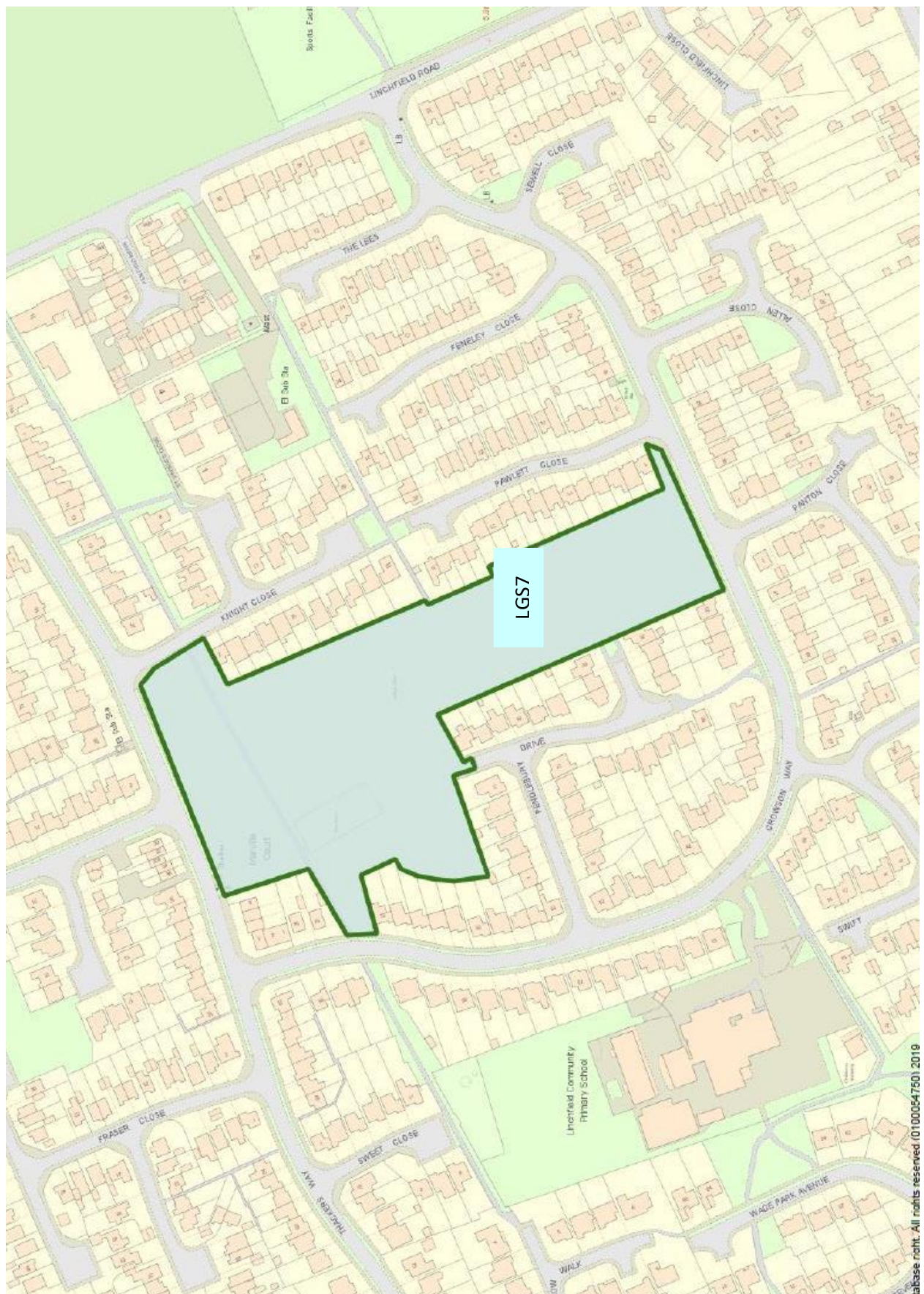
### i) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS7 Jubilee Park</b>		
Address of Green Space	Thackers Way and Crowson Way, Deeping St. James		
Description of Green Space	This provides a good-sized public open space in the middle of a more recently built large housing estate in 1980s. The land is grassed and undulates.		
Area of Green Space	2.29ha	Map attached	Refer to map 5

### ii) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty		Tranquillity	
Historic significance		Richness of wildlife	
Recreational value	A popular public park area	Other: specify	
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This park is supported by a local community group 'Friends of Jubilee Park'</li> <li>The DSJ Parish Council supports a number of events held there annually- Bark in the Park (dog show) and Carols in the Park.</li> <li>Financial support for improvements is also provided by various organisations, including the Parish council,</li> <li>There is an installation of a fitness trail with 8 pieces of fitness/training equipment.</li> <li>There is also a play area for smaller children with play equipment owned by the Parish Council and also SKDC.</li> <li>The area has benefitted from the installation of Dog Bins</li> <li>number of public seats are installed around the park.</li> <li>Plans are currently being development for the installation of a mains electrical supply to assist with the running of events and installation of CCTV.</li> <li>Jubilee Park contains a community beacon for lighting during significant national events</li> <li>This is the only large open space in close proximity to the families of Deeping St. James</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	YES		

Map 5 Location of LGS7 Jubilee Park



## The Deepings Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

### iii) Green Space information

Name of Green Space	<b>LGS8 Woody Heights</b>		
Address	Linchfield road, Deeping St. James		
Description of Green Space	This is a good-sized public open space used as for active recreation, primarily as a skate park. It is situated on the edge of a large housing estate (1970/80s). Maintained as a green field for public use and includes specialist skate park equipment. This is a dog free area.		
Area of Green Space	0.44 ha	Map attached	Refer to map 6

### iv) Demonstrably Special criteria

Beauty		Tranquillity	
Historic significance		Richness of wildlife	
Recreational value	In constant use as a park	Other: specify	Great cultural importance to young people as a safe meeting place.
Significance to the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good proximity to two local primary schools and the Deepings Academy (Secondary age and Sixth Form) for after-school activity.</li> <li>• Funded and well maintained by DSJ Parish Council.</li> <li>• Named by local young people.</li> <li>• Generally free from littering (bins near exit).</li> <li>• Easily accessible to residents via footpaths/bus/non-car use</li> <li>• It is adjacent to the school playing fields and the Deepings Rugby club pitches.</li> <li>• Located adjacent to a large housing estate along Linchfield Road</li> <li>• Free access as a sports venue (cycle, skate and board sports)</li> <li>• It is unique as a skate park within the Deepings, this is the only large open space of its type within the wider area.</li> <li>• Has a very positive local reputation and is intensively used.</li> <li>• Contributes to a reduction in anti-social youth behaviour.</li> <li>• Activity equipment has been recently refurbished.</li> <li>• Supported and improved through fundraising by local young people.</li> </ul>		
Meets the required criteria for inclusion	<b>YES Please also refer to a further and more detailed document relating to Woody Heights' demonstrably Special Criteria for inclusion as LGS</b>		

Map 6 Location of LGS8 Woody Heights



## Additional historic information supporting Local Green Spaces

### **LGS1. John Eve Field, Market Deeping**

The field was once part of Hall Farm owned by the Eve Family. In past times the farm building had been the Medieval manor house and what is now Rectory Paddock with its dew pond and pasture was where the family grazed their herd of Friesians. John Eve was a Parish Councillor and together with other Councillors including some from Deeping St James Parish Council had worked hard to try and obtain land for a playing field for the young people. This proved a difficult and frustrating task. Mr Eve retired from the Council, however years later when he decided to sell Hall Farm, he gave the land to the Council for a playing field for the young people of the Town. It is a great community asset. The Council has liaised with the schools and got the children's ideas for play equipment and how it could be developed.

Hall farm is only remembered now through the naming of the housing development next to Rectory Paddock and John Eve's name by the playing field and the road name.

### **LGS2. The Glebe Field**

The Glebe Field was purchased by the Town Council. As it had been earmarked for housing it took a lot of work to persuade the Diocesan Board to allow the Council to purchase it. As it was going to cost a great deal of money, the Council had a meeting with the residents to ask what they felt about paying out this money as it would put a strain on the Council tax. It was agreed very favourably and the council took out a 20-year loan, which has just been paid off. One of the conditions was that the land wouldn't be developed in the future. At the request of older students at the school a BMX track has been installed

### **LGS3(a). Rectory Paddock**

The Rectory Paddock [Old Vine Close} was also added to the agreement between the Diocese and the Council. It is now a conservation area. There is a pond, wild flowers and a swift tower all of which attracts all kinds of wild life. It provides a place to sit and rest which is open to all residents. The Council is delighted and grateful to all the volunteers who help to manage the site.

### **LGS3(b). The Old Cemetery, Market Deeping**

The cemetery was purchased from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of England in 1894. It was part of Vineyard Close which was part of the Market Deeping Inclosure award 1813. The land purchased was one acre of the Close, together with the timber trees and an entitlement to use the public footpath to the South. One condition was that the trees should not be 'maimed or cut'. This part of the cemetery is now called the Spinney where ashes may be scattered. The rest of Vineyard Close was to be fenced off.

### **LGS3(c). The New Cemetery, Market Deeping**

In the early 60's the Parish council became aware that burial places were at a premium and decided to look for more land. After a while an agreement was made between the Eve Family, who owned Hall Farm next to the Old Cemetery, and the Parish Council. The land purchased once formed part of Nine acres Close bounded by Godsey Lane on the East, by

Vineyard Close on the West and to the South by Diocesan land {the Glebe Field}. It was purchased in 1969.

#### **LGS4. Riverside Park, Market Deeping**

This park was purchased from Lincolnshire County Council in 1974 by Market Deeping Parish Council. The land formed part of the Wade Family's land and had been sold to LCC. The House is now the Library. The Council had expressed a wish to have a landing stage by the River and a place to access the river. An agreement was made and the land was purchased and is now maintained by Market Deeping Town Council. It a place to sit by the river and enjoy the surrounding area. The Peace Memorial is on the site and plays an important part in the Towns Remembrance Commemorations.

#### **LGS5. Greensland**

The recreational land known as Greensland is an open green space behind the Coronation Hall and is believed to have been previously connected to the Chapel. (The Primitive Chapel closed in 1940 and it is now known as the Coronation Hall). There are ancient footpaths across the land. Greensland is owned by SKDC. The Town Council has installed some Play equipment on it.

#### **LGS6. Millfield, Market Deeping**

Millfield together with the Pit Field, Northfield and Eastfield formed part of the medieval field system. In some old documents the field is known as South Field. It is possible that there was a mill on the field but evidence is thin. There is an ancient foot path across the field. It joins the foot path to West Deeping in the West and to Linchfield and onwards in the East. The parish organises an annual walk along the path each year.

After the Inclosure in 1800s the land was allocated out. In Market Deeping Parish Rates book of 1855, it is noted that Thomas Shillaker, Rev Hildyard, Market Deeping Feoffees, who still have the land, The Goodale family, The Addy family and the Rev Mossop all paid rates on the land.

After the fields used by the Deeping Agricultural show in Deeping St James were sold for development (Millfield, Manor Way and Hereward Way) local farmers had a tenancy for two fields in the Millfield to enable them to hold the annual show. The lease was given up circa 2014.

#### **LGS7. Jubilee Park**

Historic records are not held for this area – previously open field

#### **LGS8. Woody Heights**

Historic records are not held for this area – previously open field

**Public responses and comments arising through consultation, relating to the importance of retaining green spaces whilst still ensuring sustainable development in the future:**

Your comments on policies to deliver A Green, Clean and Safe Environment

(95.1% of 102 read it) 31 written responses to this topic

- Ambitious and very preferable
- I support DNP 9 10 711- good ideas.
- What seems essential in this section is the need to think clearly about each area, its connection to others and how the planning should do all it can to promote the movement of people between in a "non-carbon" way. Modern thinking is at last, certainly at central government level, trying to discourage the use of the motor car. So new planning should seek to put housing, schools, retail and as much industry as possible in relatively close proximity to each other, thus promoting the use of walking and cycling to and from each place. Clearly access for those people with disabilities will also need to be at the forefront of planning policy. New development on the fringe of the area should be the last resort as this will always involve the use of the motor car at certain times of day causing greater choking of existing roads to the area's facilities, especially its schools at opening and closing times.
- Deeping St James needs a family friendly park, with paths, seating and shrubbery as well as play spaces. The proposed green walk round the whole area is also a great idea. The planned footbridge next to the railway bridge is much needed too.
- Whilst more and more houses are built this will be a massive challenge
- Green walk is excellent proposal, and I hope it will link (off road) to Langtoft to the West of the by-pass to link with Stowe Road.
- It's vital to protect our current green spaces and also to provide more in any future developments. The green walk is a great idea to promote the Deepings as a great place to live - providing a safe and planned walk for residents to follow aiding well-being and promoting better health. The Deepings has many great habitats for wildlife such as Mill Field and these should be protected for the future generations.
- As residents of Millfield Road, we are pleased to see that on pages 156-158 of Appendix C, the NP highlights the special nature of the Mill Fields (area LGS18, shown on the map at page p143), as being "the last area of accessible countryside within Market Deeping ... situated very close to the community that it serves ... [and which is] highly valued by the Town Council and local residents" for the amenities it provides for walking, meeting people, enjoying wildlife and for children to run freely with safety. In addition, it observes that "The proposed route for the Green Walk will also pass directly through Mill Field"
- I like the ideas written
- I am very favourable to general aspirations. To gain full perceived benefits, it is vital that all modalities are integrated and will require a long term commitment.
- We all deserve that
- Unless sufficient employment is provided locally it will be impossible to stop people travelling by car. There would need to be significant. increases in public transport at affordable cost.
- No comment to make.
- Please see letter of 19 November 2019 from Robert Love at Bidwells.
- This is more important than ever and should be prioritised
- It is important to build a healthy community where people can choose to walk or cycle safely, not just for leisure but also to schools and work and to access the services they need. Safe cycle and walking routes are essential so the residents can leave their car at

home when wanting to go to a pub or restaurant. Everyone including the business community will benefit from lots of safe access routes.

- The Deepings for about 300 years was a Canal Town. Whilst the Canal to Stamford has now gone, parts could be restored for the benefit of the whole community. Reconstructing Low Lock, and possibly Briggins Lock would open up the Welland to boat traffic to Crowland, Spalding and Springfield. This will bring more visitors to the area, and boost the local economy. It will also create more use for the river, which would then be better maintained.
- Addressing the lack of public transport is key. Street lighting is a concern. Footpaths should be well lit. Streets need to have good lighting if the aim is to encourage people to walk.
- Good luck with that!
- More Dog bins required at all green spaces
- Green spaces are so important and nothing should be done to adversely impact upon them, in particular, nothing should be built upon the Mill Field
- Agree
- We must keep our green spaces to ensure a healthy lifestyle and well-being, areas such as Millfield are well used and must be kept
- A green clean and safe environment is paramount to this community & future generations
- Millfield, market Deeping is a very important green area. It supports diverse wildlife and is a valuable recreational area. It is important for this to be retained as such. Similarly, Millfield Road is an attractive lane surrounded by ancient hedgerows and mature trees. This lane should be kept as a Green Lane.
- DNP11 & 14: We are pleased to note that the Neighbourhood Plan aims to enhance the green infrastructure and the watercourse corridor biodiversity. This will contribute to achieving Water Framework Directive aims of improving the ecological status of the waterbody. Please note however that any plans for the proposed infrastructure will need to ensure there is no loss of floodplain and that flood risk is not increased as a result. Any proposed works affecting statutory main rivers or within the indicative floodplain or within the byelaw distance requires the prior written approval of the Environment Agency under the relevant statutory legislation and current land drainage byelaws. Please contact the Environment Agency Partnerships and Strategic Overview team if further information is required or visit the Flood Risk Activity Permit section of the GOV.UK website <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-activities-environmental-permits>. In addition, any development plans should be carried out in accordance with the NPPF and South Kesteven SFRA as there may be certain development types which may not be appropriate. The River Welland corridor currently has limited biodiversity value as much has been developed and is in private ownership as residential gardens on the north side of the Welland, the south side appears to be out of scope for this consultation. Any opportunity to protect areas and managed riparian areas for the benefit of biodiversity such as Welland Gardens, Riverside Park and Riverside Park DSJ would provide valuable havens for the local wildlife. Please note that there is a designated conservation area (site of special scientific interest) located just outside of the area boundary of the neighbourhood plan. DNP12: There are a large number of small 'pockets' of open space; these mostly look to be mown/intensively managed areas with little biodiversity value. There could be a change in the way some appropriately chosen sites are managed to encourage more biodiversity-rich meadow areas. This would have the additional benefit of requiring less maintenance and realise a saving for the local authority. DNP13: We support the protection of these areas, some of which are less intensively managed than those listed in 'Important Open Spaces'

- It would be a shame to lose Mill Field to housing. A green buffer is required to offset all the other proposed development.
- Feel strongly that the existing green infrastructure, local green spaces and important open spaces should be preserved and retained, with absolutely no more development supported.
- retain Millfield as green environment
- Proposed development will impact on this with more vehicles and homes generating greenhouse gases and the gradual over development swallowing up the few open green areas we have.
- Please refer to information submitted to [info@deepingsfirst.org.uk](mailto:info@deepingsfirst.org.uk)

## Appendix 1 to Assessment of Local Green spaces

### Review of South Kesteven Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities Report (2017)

#### 1. Current Local and National Policy

##### 2.1 Current South Kesteven open space policy

The current South Kesteven policy for open space is covered by Policy SAP10 in the SAP DPD and Policy EN1 in the CS as follows:

##### “2.1.1 Policy SAP10: Open Space Provision

The standards in the table below will be used to ensure the availability of adequate open space\* for all areas. They will be used to ensure adequate levels of provision for each type of open space, based on existing and future needs. This will be achieved by both protecting existing open space and by opportunities to deliver additional open space where it is required.

	Standard	Component Parts
<b>Informal /Natural green space</b>	2.0 ha per 1000 population within 480m	Informal open space, natural green space, e.g. woodland, wetland, meadow and heath, green infrastructure, routeways and corridors
<b>Outdoor sports space</b>	1.0 ha per 1000 population within 480m	Dedicated outdoor sports pitch provision (includes grass pitch provision and sometimes hard/synthetic surfaces)
<b>Other Open Space</b>	0.8ha per 1000 population	Play equipped space 0.15ha
		Young Persons spaces 0.15ha
		Allotments 0.20ha
		Parks 0.30ha

#### Providing New Open Space

To ensure that new housing developments provide sufficient new (or improved) open space to meet the needs of the development, the above standards will be applied to all development proposals for new housing that meet the thresholds set out in the Planning Obligations SPD. Development proposals in areas that do not currently meet the standards for open space will be required to make appropriate provision, based upon this standard, as part of the development proposal.

Open space provision should form an integral part of the development layout. It should be easily accessible by means of pedestrian connections through the development and should be designed to ensure that it is clearly visible to the public.

Where open space cannot be provided on-site as part of the development an off-site financial contribution for the provision of a new open space, or to improve the quality of existing open space within the locality of the proposal, will be expected.

## Protecting Existing Open Spaces

All existing open space including allotments, parks, equipped play space, sport pitches and informal natural open space, route ways and corridors will be protected. Development proposals for existing open spaces will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that

- the proposal will provide increased or improved open space and/or recreational facilities, or
- the site is not required to meet the local standard set out above, or
- equivalent (or better) replacement provision is to be made within the locality, or
- the site does not support important or protected habitats or species.

\* open space includes allotments, parks, equipped play space, sports pitches and informal natural open space, routeways and corridors.”

## 2. Application to the Deepings

SKDC produced a 2017 and 2019 Open Spaces Survey that may be referred to in the links below.

- Open Space study 2009  
<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=18014&p=0>
- Open Space review 2017  
<http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=21278&p=0>

The Neighbourhood Plan Team have reviewed the above with following conclusions:

***Between 2009 and 2017 there has been a loss of 13 % of open space in The Deepings . There is presently clear no policy response to this loss.***

Open space amounts – all types ha = hectares	SKDC 2009	SKDC 2017	2009-2017 Change +/-
Deeping St James	2.19 ha	1.59 ha	-0.6 ha - 27%
Market Deeping	2.29 ha	2.32 ha	+0.03 ha +1.3%
<b>total</b>	<b>4.48 ha</b>	<b>3.91 ha</b>	<b>-0.57 -13%</b>

The 13% reduction in open space is of significance, yet there are presently no clear reasons apparent. It is accepted the open space ‘loss’ might be accounted for by different surveying and recording measures; if that is the case then there remains doubt about the reliability of the data. On the other hand, if the Council is relying on these Studies then there is clear evidence of radical action being necessary to curtail

the loss. Remedying of loss will be beyond a reasonable requirement on large scale developers to provide for their own open space (as expected by the new SKDC plan), and could include safeguarding of land for new open space creation..

### **3. Conclusion.**

The Deepings population (Market Deeping and Deeping St. James) is now (in 2020) approximately 15,000 and to meet the SK open space policy standards above, should reasonably expect to secure adequate green space across the area and in proximity to populated areas;

- 30ha of informal/natural green space
- 15ha of outdoor sports space *and*
- 12ha of other types of open space
- Total 57 ha.

SKDC's estimate summarised above is that there is only 3.91 ha of open space of all types. Plainly this is well below what should normally be expected as it is only 7% of standards. This all reinforces the Neighbourhood Plan's aim to protect land that is suitable for current and future open space use.