

1 General Information

1.1 Name and address of site. **Sketchley Woodland & Footpath.**

1.2 Site location. **Field 05 ' Burbage Neighbourhood Plan Environment Proposals' map. SP421924**



1.3 Who is proposing site for designation. **Burbage Parish Council**

1.4 Site ownership, if known. Details on land ownership can be obtained from the Land Registry. To note land parcels may not be registered, however local people may know the owner. **Leicester Diocese**

1.5 As the owner of the land been made aware of the potential designation? **The owner will be informed during the Neighbourhood Plan Submission Public Consultation period.**

1.6 Land owner support of the designation? **No representation was received from the owner during the Neighbourhood Plan Pre Submission Public Consultation period.**

1.7 Photographs of site



Public footpath along eastern edge.



Line of sited mature trees along footpath



Eastern edge of mature Woodland.



Southern entrance of site with additional informal footpaths.

1.8 This potential Local Green Space serves which community. **In particular the community on the eastern edge of Burbage including Sketchley and Sketchley Meadows via the north south public footpath.**

2 Planning History

2.1 Any current planning application for this site? If planning permission granted could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space? **No.**

2.2 Has this site been allocated for development in the Local Plan? Could part of the overall site still be used as a Green Open Space if allocated? **Yes.**

3 Area, scale, size and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space (LGS)

3.1 Proposed site area. **4.4 ha.**

3.2 Can the proposed LGS site be considered an “extensive tract of land”? **small size area, surrounded by grassland and industry.**

3.3 Can this proposed LGS been considered “local in character”, if so why? **The site is located approximately 200m from Sketchley Lane in the south and similar distance to Sketchley Brook housing development to the north. Highly valued by the local community especially in conjunction with public footpath connecting the two residential areas close by, open views and impressive tree line.**

Evidence from Burbage Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Questionnaire 'Our Village - Our Choice' 2015. Q7 What do you enjoy about living in Burbage. 83.55% said Easy access to the Countryside.

4 Need for local green space

4.1 Is there a need for a local green space in this location? **See 3.3 above.**

5 Evidence to indicate the proposed LGS is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”

5.1 How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site less than 2km of the community it serves ? **Located on the eastern side of Burbage between Sketchley old village and Sketchley Meadows residential development.**

5.2 Any obstacles or barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes? **The site is located along the edge of a public footpath.**

6. What evidence is there to show that the green area is “demonstrably special to a local community”

6.1 What evidence of support from Parish or Town Council. **The Parish Council have approved the submission of the Burbage Neighbourhood Plan that identifies the site as a local green space.**

6.2 Any evidence of support from other local community groups or individuals. **Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Questionnaire 'Our Village - Our Choice' 2015 Q9 Do you think that the Countryside around Burbage is important to its distinctive character 96.76% said yes and Q8 Do you use the Countryside 93.47% said yes.**

6.3 Any evidence of support from community leaders. **Not aware of any.**

6.4 Show any evidence of support from other groups **Not aware of any.**

7 Is there any evidence of natural beauty for this proposed LGS holds a particular local significance; (if applicable)

7.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **Only remaining Parish Woodland left on the western side of Burbage. Unique for Burbage feature, line of mature substantial trees (many with TPO's).**

7.2 Why does the community feels that the site has a particular local significance for its beauty. **Well used public footpath including additional informal footpaths indicating consistent and regular use.**

7.3 Site visibility. **Viewable from well used footpath along eastern boundary of site.**

7.4 Any landscape or similar designations for proposed LGS? e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty; Conservation Area; Special Landscape Area Further information –Natural England. **Woodland is an area of Tree Preservation Orders.**

7.5 Is the site (or the type of site) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments or similar documents? **Part of proposed Green Corridor and see 11.3 below.**

7.6 Does the site contribute to the setting of any special feature or historic building? **Immediately adjacent is an area of ridge & furrow.**

7.7 Is the site highlighted in art or literature? **Not aware of any**

8 Is there any historic evidence to show the proposed LGS holds a particular local significance; (if applicable)

8.1 Any criteria relevant to this site? **Line of substantial mature trees sited to form an impressive landscape feature (see photo).**

8.2 Are there any historic remains or buildings on the proposed LGS? **No.**

8.3 Evidence of important historic landscape features? e.g.; ancient trees; historic ponds; old hedgerows or historic garden features. Further information may be available English Heritage or local history society **See section 11 below.**

8.4 Has this proposed LGS been involved with the historic development of the village or town? **No.**

8.5 Did any important historic events take place on the site? **None.**

8.6 Any evidence of historic rituals at this site? **None.**

9 Is there any recreational value evidence to show that the proposed LGS holds particular local significance; (if applicable).

9.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **No.**

9.2 Is the site used for playing sport? **No.**

9.3 Can public physically access this site? Either via rights of way across or adjacent? Has this access been allowed on a formal or discretionary basis? Is there disabled access to the site? (To note a site can still be designated even if there is no public access.) **Yes – pubic footpath runs along eastern edge of site joining two residential areas. With additional informal footpaths.**

9.4 Does the local community use the site for informal recreation? And since when? **Footpath along eastern edge which has been in existence for over 100 years.**

10 Is there any evidence of tranquillity to show that the proposed LGS holds a particular local significance; (if applicable).

10.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **Yes.**

10.2 Do you consider the site to be tranquil? **Yes, open grassland to the east with open views.**

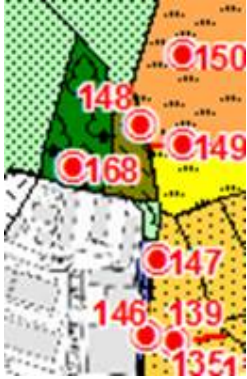
10.3 Is the site within a recognised tranquil area? **No.**

11 Is there any evidence of richness of wildlife to show that the proposed LGS holds a particular local significance; (if applicable)

11.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site ? **No.**

11.2 Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value? **No.**

11.3 Are any important habitats or species found on the site? **LRERC 2013 survey (Appendix 24)**



Target note 168 Parish level woodland.

Natural England priority habitat inventory:

"the geographic extent and location of Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) Section 41 habitats of principal importance."

11.4 What other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? **Not aware of any.**

11.5 Is the site part of a long term study of wildlife by members of the local community? **Not aware of.**

12 Is there any evidence to show that the proposed LGS holds a particular local significance, for any other reason; (if applicable)

12.1 Is this criteria relevant to this site? **Part of proposed Green Corridor. Open views over historical Ridge & Furrow to the east.**

12.2 What are the other reasons why the site has a particular local significance for the local community? **Help form the eastern boundary line between residential and industrial development. Offering easy and direct access to both open grassland, close views of mature woodland, plus views of historical ridge & furrow immediately adjacent.**