

# Pimperne

## LOCAL GREEN SPACES

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National planning guidance makes clear that, through neighbourhood plans, local communities can identify green spaces for special protection (where new development is ruled out other than in very special circumstances) which will endure well beyond the end of the plan period. Identifying land as a Local Green Space should therefore not undermine the potential to provide sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services in the longer term.

The designation should only be used where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves, where it is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

This document therefore provides the evidence to justify why the Local Green Spaces are special to the local community and hold a particular local significance for this neighbourhood plan area. It also lists the other sites that were identified and considered, but were not felt to justify a local green spaces designation, and why.


As part of the assessment the neighbourhood plan group focussed on reviewing the Important Open and Wooded Areas (IOWAs) <http://www.northdorsetlocalplan.co.uk/maps/maps.htm>, and then identified additional areas that potentially warranted consideration.


In undertaking the review it was noted that the IOWA designations were limited to land within the settlement boundary. Given that land outside of settlement boundaries can be subject to development (for example, for affordable housing rural exception sites, farm workers dwellings, or even housing in the absence of a five year housing land supply), the coverage of any potential green spaces was extended where applicable to cover the area which was of potential value, and not limited to the previous designation.


The proposed local green spaces were included and consulted on in the October 2016 options draft consultation. This report supports the Pre-Submission draft plan (November 2017).


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## Proposed Local Green Spaces

<b>Name</b>	<b>LGS-LSC The green around the Lych Gate and Standing Cross</b>	
<b>Size (in hectares)</b>	0.017 h	
<b>General description</b>	The open space around the Lych Gate and Standing Cross.	
<b>Reason for review and any changes</b>	IOWA designation	
<b>Reason for designation</b>		<b>Notes / Explanation</b>
<b>Landscape quality/importance</b>	High	Focal point for the village; reputed to be the site of the original Village Green. Trees have been sited on this important location for centuries; the current being a plane tree planted 3 years ago surrounded by circular seating to replace the village's much loved Horse Chestnut which succumbed to disease.
<b>Historic significance</b>	High	The Standing Cross is a late 15 <sup>th</sup> Century Grade II listed scheduled monument. The lych gate dates from the 1940s and was donated by a prominent local family to commemorate WWII losses.
<b>Recreational value or tranquillity</b>	High	Both the Lych Gate and circular seat are used by villagers as places for rest and reflection and form an informal meeting place at the core of the village. The annual outdoor Carol Service is held around the tree.
<b>Wildlife value</b>	n/k	Not known
<b>Any existing development consent</b>	No	
<b>Any landowner feedback</b>	Yes	Owner supports designation.
<b>Public Support</b>	High	90% completed responses support the designation as a Local Green Space (October 2016 consultation results).
<b>Photos</b>		
 <p>The left photograph shows a wooden lych gate with a brick base and a wooden fence, leading to a church. The right photograph shows a wide view of the village green, featuring a circular seating area, a bench, and a church in the background.</p>		

<b>Name</b>	<b>LGS-OSF Old School Field</b>	
<b>Size (in hectares)</b>	0.464 h	
<b>General description</b>	A grassed playing area with peripheral tree planting and wide hedges. Former school playing field.	
<b>Reason for review and any changes</b>	IOWA designation. School has moved site. Area leased to Pimperne Parish Council for 50 years to be used for recreational purposes.	
<b>Reason for designation</b>		<b>Notes / Explanation</b>
<b>Landscape quality/importance</b>	Medium	Provides the only central green area within the village.
<b>Historic significance</b>	Low	Former school playing field. On the edge of the existing Conservation Area.
<b>Recreational value or tranquillity</b>	High	Important community asset for public use. It is well used by villagers for outdoor pursuits.
<b>Wildlife value</b>	n/k	Potential due to hedges providing important cover and nesting sites for birds and wildlife.
<b>Any existing development consent</b>	No	
<b>Any landowner feedback</b>	Yes	Owner supports designation.
<b>Public Support</b>	High	90% completed responses support the designation as a Local Green Space (October 2016 consultation results).
<b>Photos</b>		
		

<b>Name</b>	<b>LGS-SPC Land surrounding St Peter's Church</b>	
<b>Size (in hectares)</b>	0.254h	
<b>General description</b>	Open space surrounding St Peter's Church	
<b>Reason for review and any changes</b>	IOWA designation.	
<b>Reason for designation</b>		<b>Notes / Explanation</b>
<b>Landscape quality/importance</b>	High	Extensive views over the surrounding village.
<b>Historic significance</b>	High	War Memorial and Commonwealth War Graves. Parish registers date from 1559. Setting of Grade II* listed church, parts of which date from the 12 <sup>th</sup> Century. Rebuilt in part by the Victorians in 1873. Charles Kingsley (author of The Water Babies) was parson in the 1840s.
<b>Recreational value or tranquillity</b>	High	Enhances tranquillity of church space. Quiet place of contemplation.
<b>Wildlife value</b>	n/k	Potential due to mature hedges, green areas and proximity to open fields.
<b>Any existing development consent</b>	No	
<b>Any landowner feedback</b>	Yes	Supports designation.
<b>Public Support</b>	High	90% completed responses support the designation as a Local Green Space (October 2016 consultation results).
<b>Photos</b>		
		

<b>Name</b>	<b>LGS-PSF Priory Sports Field</b>	
<b>Size (in hectares)</b>	2.023 h	
<b>General description</b>	Important sports field for village recreation purposes.	
<b>Reason for review and any changes</b>	IOWA designation – area amended to exclude pavilion / parking / access areas	
<b>Reason for designation</b>		<b>Notes / Explanation</b>
<b>Landscape quality/importance</b>	Medium	Provides green edge on the south western entrance to the village.
<b>Historic significance</b>	Low	Village sports moved to this site in 1995 from Larksmead in Blandford.
<b>Recreational value or tranquillity</b>	High	Important community asset. It includes football and cricket facilities. To one side is a sports pavilion which is also used by Pimperne Pre-school. It is managed and well used by villagers and visiting teams.
<b>Wildlife value</b>	n/k	Unlikely due to degree of maintenance.
<b>Any existing development consent</b>	No	
<b>Any landowner feedback</b>	Yes	Parish Council supports designation.
<b>Public Support</b>	High	90% completed responses support the designation as a Local Green Space (October 2016 consultation results).
<b>Photos</b>		
		

## Sites suggested through consultation proposed as a Local Green Space

<b>Name</b>	<b>LGS-MPA and LGS-JPA Multiplay area and Junior Play Area</b>	
<b>Size (in hectares)</b>	0.337 h	
<b>General description</b>	Two play areas adjacent to the Village Hall and in proximity to the village school.	
<b>Reason for review and any changes</b>	Junior Play area IOWA designation. Multiplay area outside Settlement Boundary therefore no IOWA designation. Proposed by Pimperne residents following the Options Consultation.	
<b>Reason for designation</b>		<b>Notes / Explanation</b>
<b>Landscape quality/importance</b>	Medium	Significant green area to north west entry to the village.
<b>Historic significance</b>	Low	
<b>Recreational value or tranquillity</b>	High	Important community assets both in public ownership. Highly valued by both residents and the school, plus visitors and users of the Village Hall.
<b>Wildlife value</b>	n/k	Unlikely due to degree of maintenance.
<b>Any existing development consent</b>	No	
<b>Any landowner feedback</b>	Yes	Parish Council supports designation
<b>Public Support</b>	Yes	Recommended during the options consultation by parishioners.

### Photos



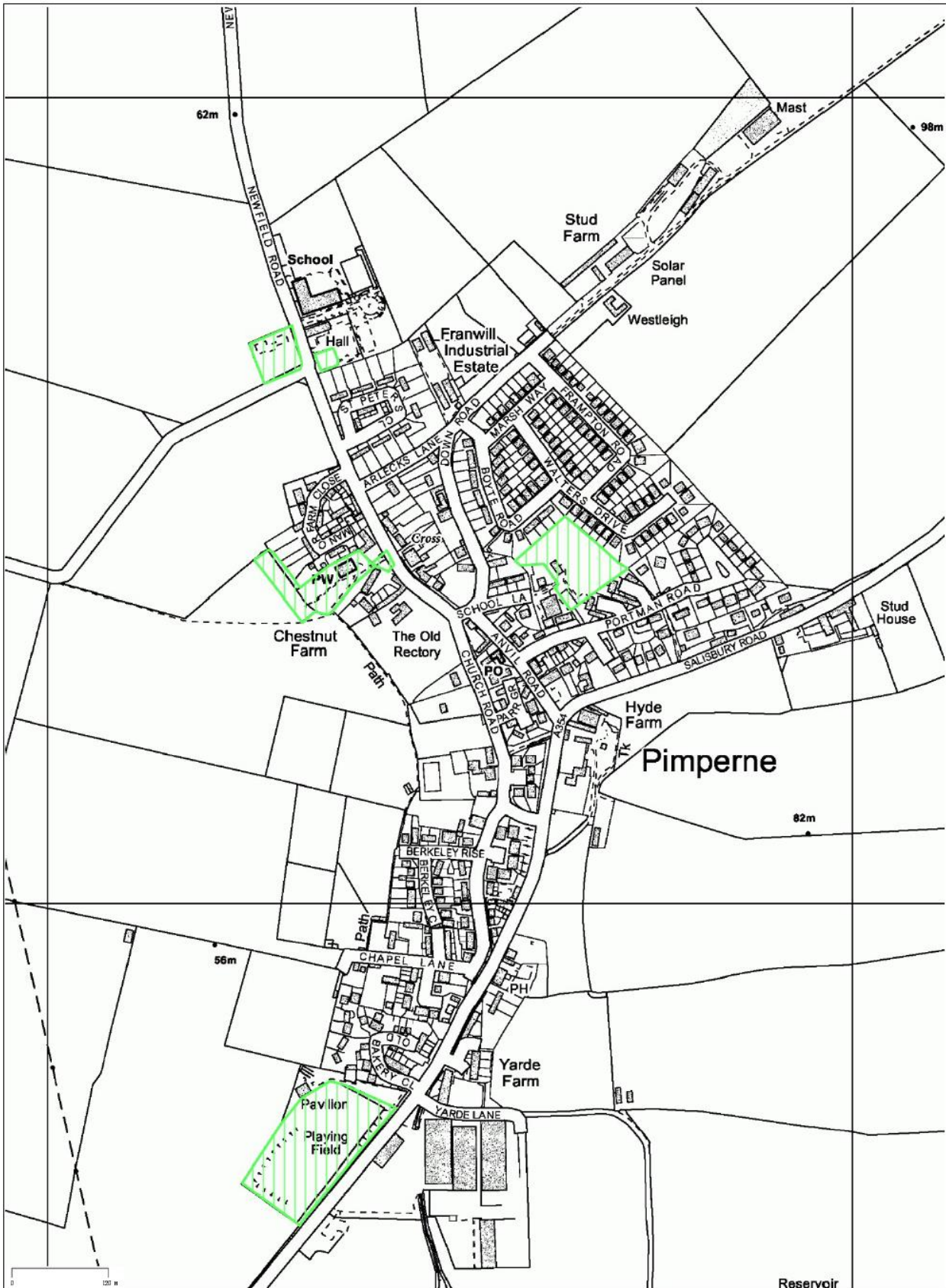
## Existing IOWAs not proposed to be retained as Local Green Spaces

Site location/ description	Landscape importance	Historic significance	Recreational value	Wildlife value	Notes / conclusions
Grounds of The Old Rectory and adjoining land off Church Road	Of some landscape value, but no public access. Visible from footpaths.	Within the Conservation Area.	No public access	Unknown but potential due to mature trees and hedges.	Although of merit, this area was more questioned than the other areas proposed as Local Green Spaces, mainly due to the fact that the area consists entirely of private gardens having no local function. The heritage value of the area would be protected through its Conservation Area status, setting of Listed Buildings, and many of the trees are also protected through an area TPO. ON this basis additional protection as LGS not considered to be necessary.

## Sites suggested through consultation but not proposed as Local Green Spaces

Site location/ description	Landscape importance	Historic significance	Recreational value	Wildlife value	Notes / conclusions
Field north of Manor Farm	Forms part of the western approach to the village. Limited intrinsic value.	Archaeological interest to western / higher ground. Adjoins Conservation Area	No public access	Limited - currently agricultural land used as arable field.	Although of some merit, it is not considered to have particularly strong grounds and its designation would prevent development (for which it has potential).
Green spaces around Letton (and Letton Close)	Letton Park has a distinctive treed and spacious character	Grounds of stately Letton House (largely demolished)	No public access	Unknown but potential due to mature trees	Although of some merit, it is not considered to have particularly strong grounds for designation and is reasonably extensive at just under 5ha (Letton Park). It is considered part of the important gap between Blandford and Pimperne and would gain protection through this policy approach.

# Appendix 1 – Map of proposed local green spaces



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# Appendix 2 – Local Plan Map – IOWA Designations

