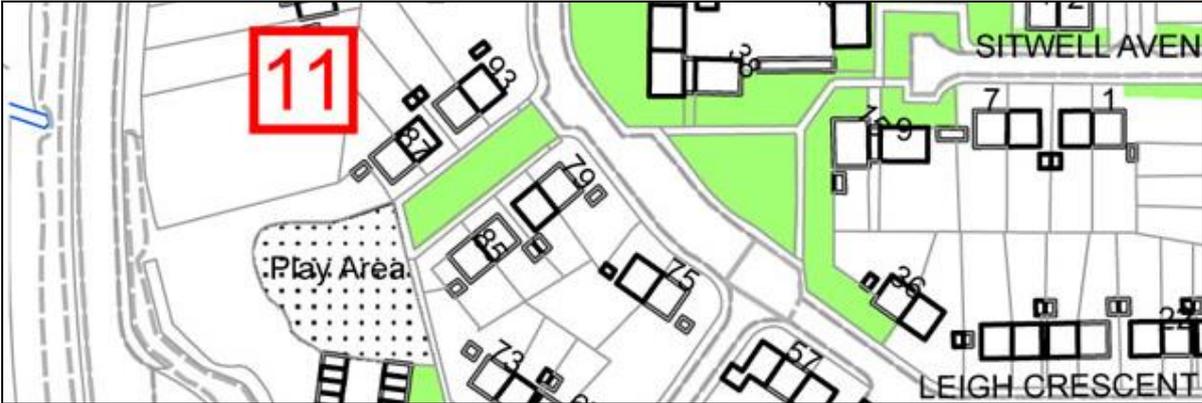


**LONG ITCHINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**Local Green Space Site Assessment: March 2019**

Site Address	Site Area	Site Ref
Playground and open green space, west of Leigh Crescent, Long Itchington	Approx. 0.2 ha	LGS No: 11
<b>Plan</b>		
		
<b>Site Description and Current Land Use</b>		
<p>The site is a well-maintained playground and open green space at the southwest edge of the Leigh Crescent estate. It is well-stocked with play equipment for young children.</p> <p>A small number of trees populate the site but the majority of trees and hedges can be found along the site's western perimeter and southwest corner. Cement post and wire fence line the site's north, west and southwest boundaries.</p> <p>Residential dwellings and an incidental open green space line the site to the east of the site. Residential garages line the site's southern boundary. Residential gardens line the site's northern boundary and the verges along Southam Road lines its western boundary.</p>		
<b>Relevant Planning History</b>		
No relevant planning history found.		
<b>Site Ownership</b>		
Vested in Long Itchington Parish Council. <b>TBC</b>		
<b>Site Constraints</b>		
To the west of Southam Road, in close proximity to the site's western boundary is zone LI04, an area of Medium Sensitivity to housing and High to commercial development according the Stratford-on-Avon District Landscape Sensitivity Assessments for Villages, Volume 1 (2012) by White Consultants.		

### Public Access

The site is open and accessible to the public.

### Site Photo



### Ecological Significance

Due to the nature of its use, the site itself has limited ecological value. However, there is some ecological value with the presence of a small number of trees that inhabit the site and the density of trees and that line its western and southwestern boundaries.

These contribute to the village's wildlife corridor and green infrastructure. Additionally they provide food and shelter for numerous species, such as insects, small mammals and birds and their associated nesting sites.

All of which are vital for the wider food web and species diversity within the village ecosystem. And as such, the site plays a contributory role in the wider ecological significance of the village.

### Special Qualities and Local Significance

The site is a recreational facility and open green space that is easily accessible to local residents of the Leigh Crescent estate.

The special qualities of the site include its recreational and social value for children and adults as an open green space and play area. This amenity space serves the local residents, walkers and dog walkers of the immediate area and provides a 'green lung' and sense of openness in a built-up area.

The site is demonstrably special and locally significant as it is actively used and valued by the local community as a formal area of open space.

### Summary and Suitability for Designation as Local Green Space

This site is well related to and appreciated and valued by the local community and makes a positive contribution to the local distinctiveness of the village.

The LGS as outlined on the above plan is considered to be suitable for Local Green Space designation in accordance with paragraphs 99-101 of the National Planning Policy Framework in that it is:

- within the community it serves;
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance because of its recreational value (including as a play equipment), tranquillity and richness of its habitats and wildlife potential; and
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.