

## LONG ITCHINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

### Local Green Space Site Assessment: March 2019

Site Address	Site Area	Site Ref
Incidental Green Space, southwest of Leigh Crescent, Long Itchington	Approx. 0.3 ha	LGS No: 12
<b>Plan</b>		
<b>Site Description and Current Land Use</b>		
<p>The site consists of a natural open green space located southwest of Leigh Crescent. Residential dwellings lie to the northeast, garages to the north and the Two Boats Inn and its car park to the south.</p> <p>The site provides part of the setting for the Grand Union Canal and Grand Union Canal Walk which border the site to the south. Another public footpath, the Millennium Way, is in close proximity to the west.</p> <p>Within the site there are numerous mature trees, the majority of which line the southern and eastern perimeters. A footpath dissects the site from northeast to southwest and crosses over a brook that runs parallel to the western boundary.</p>		
<b>Relevant Planning History</b>		
<p><b>Applications adjacent to the site:</b></p> <p>Application Reference: 98/01294/FUL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address: Two Boats Inn Southam Road Long Itchington Southam Warks CV47 9QZ</li> <li>• Proposal: Two Boats Inn land to rear of - change of use to have site for a maximum of 10 touring caravans (overnight or weekly stays).</li> <li>• Decision: Application refused</li> <li>• Date Decision Issued: 04/11/1998</li> </ul>		

### Site Ownership

Vested in Long Itchington Parish Council. **TBC**

### Site Constraints

The site borders zone LI04 to the west, an area of Medium Sensitivity to housing and High to commercial development according to the Stratford-on-Avon District Landscape Sensitivity Assessments for Villages, Volume 1 (2012) by White Consultants.

It also sits within an area of Low archaeology sensitivity according to the Historic Environment Assessment (Ed. 4.9.1), Stratford-on-Avon District, July 2012 conducted by AOC Archaeology Group.

### Public Access

The site is open and accessible to the public.

### Site Photos



### **Ecological Significance**

The ecological value of the site lies predominantly in the brook that runs through the site and in the mix trees in and around it. These natural features provide the perfect habitat for shelter, nesting sites and food for many birds, amphibians, invertebrates and insects. They increase the diversity of insect species (including butterflies and bees which are currently in decline), which are a food source for bird and mammal species and can also play an important role in the pollination of plants and crops in the surrounding area. The diversity and population numbers of insects directly impacts the food chain for other fauna in the area and has a wider impact on the cultivation of crops.

Within the village, there have been sightings of larger fauna species such as bats, birds of prey (e.g. buzzards and owls), rabbits and hedgehogs. These are all vital for the wider food web and species diversity within the village's ecosystem. As such, they play an important contributory role in the wider ecological significance of the village as part of its green infrastructure and wildlife corridor.

### **Special Qualities and Local Significance**

The special qualities of the site include its recreational and social value for children and adults as an open green space on the southeastern side of the village. This open green space serves the local residents, walkers and dog walkers of the immediate area and provides a sense of openness in this natural environment. The site also provides part of the setting for the Grand Union Canal and Grand Union Canal Walk which border the site to the south.

Due to its natural beauty and open aspect, it strongly contributes to the village's local character and green setting and infrastructure. The site is demonstrably special and locally significant as it is actively used and valued by the local community as an informal 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:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance because of its recreational value, tranquillity and richness of its habitats and wildlife potential; and
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.