



Horam Parish

Neighbourhood Plan

Local Green Space Assessment

September 2023

HORAM PARISH NDP
Local Green Space Assessment
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PREPARED ON BEHALF OF:
Horam Parish Council



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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document presents an assessment of all green spaces in Horam Parish put forward for designation as a Local Green Space in line with the powers established in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) that enable Neighbourhood Plan groups to identify and designate such spaces.
- 1.2 The designation of sites for protection is considered important by the local community, with responses to consultation on emerging policy ideas of the Neighbourhood Plan (undertaken in October and November 2022) indicating that 98% of all people responding agreed or strongly agreed that existing green spaces that are special to the local community should be protected.
- 1.3 This document presents an overview of the importance of green spaces and the criteria for determining whether a space warrants designation, followed by assessment of proposed spaces.
- 1.4 The sites identified for potential designation were subject to wider consultation at the Regulation 14 stage. Feedback from that process has fed into the final list of proposed designations.
- 1.5 The method followed in recommending which spaces to designate was:
 - a) Potential sites for designation were suggested by and to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
 - b) Information on each of the sites was set out on a proforma to show how the site meets the NPPF criteria for designation (see Section 4 of this report).
 - c) The sites suggested for designation, and the information provided in each proforma, was further assessed alongside the policy context and wider evidence, including for example, open space assessments undertaken as part of the Local Plan process, to identify which of the sites might be suitable for designation (see Section 5 of this report).
 - d) A list of sites recommended for designation based on the assessment outlined above was prepared (See Section 6 of this report).
 - e) Sites recommended for designation formed part of the Regulation 14 consultation of the Neighbourhood Plan, with the feedback from that set out in Section 7 of this report.
 - f) Following review of the responses to consultation, a final list of sites considered suitable for designation in the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan is set out (See section 8 of this report).

2. Role and Purpose of Local Green Space Designations

- 2.1 [Planning Practice Guidance](#) (PPG) (Paragraph: 005 Reference ID: 8-005-20190721) highlights the importance of green infrastructure for communities, referencing benefits such as *'enhanced well-being, outdoor recreation and access, enhanced biodiversity and landscapes, food and energy production, urban cooling and the management of flood risk'*.
- 2.2 Green infrastructure can drive economic growth and regeneration, reinforce and enhance local landscape character and contribute to a sense of place. It can also help to improve the health and well-being of a community, providing opportunities for residents and visitors to exercise, interact with one another, experience nature, and get involved in their community through activities like food growing and gardening, all of which bring physical and mental health benefits.
- 2.3 In their research project ['Revaluing Parks and Green Spaces'](#), Fields in Trust, the independent charity working to secure the protection of parks and green spaces at both the local and national level, quantified the 'Wellbeing Value' of such spaces. They established that an individual would need to be compensated by £974 a year to replace the life satisfaction they would have gained from using their local park or green space.

Equally, parks and greenspaces are estimated to save the NHS around £111 million per year based solely on a reduction in GP visits.

- 2.4 As highlighted in research by the [Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors](#), such spaces are particularly important in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. With access to gyms, sports facilities, cafés, shops and other community facilities restricted, open spaces have become hugely important places where people can exercise and interact with one another in a socially distanced and safe environment. This is highlighted in recent guidance published by the [Town and Country Planning Association](#) (TCPA), which identifies 'good green spaces in the right places' as a key ingredient in the '20-minute neighbourhood', being places where the community has access to the full range of services and facilities to support day-to-day life.
- 2.5 Equally, the [Quality of Life Framework](#) identifies access to places for leisure and recreation, and contact with nature, as being important determinants in the quality of a place and people's quality of life, making health and wellbeing central to the way we plan for our communities. Furthermore, and with the requirement to demonstrate biodiversity net-gain on development sites through the [Environment Act](#) (2021) and publication of the [Natural England Biodiversity Metric](#), Local Green Spaces might comprise locations where net gain can be delivered.

2.6 Under the NPPF, Neighbourhood Plans can designate Local Green Spaces which are of importance and value to the local community. The [NPPF](#) states, at para 102, that Local Green Spaces should only be designated where the green space is:

- a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it services;
- 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.

2.7 It is important to note that whilst designation affords the green space similar policy protection to Green Belt, it does not place any new restrictions or obligations on landowners. Management of the land remains the responsibility of the landowner although, with the agreement of the landowner, there may be opportunities that can be explored which allow the local community to become more involved in the management of the space. Furthermore, designation does not confer any rights of access over what exists at present.

2.8 Where sites are designated as Local Green Space in a Neighbourhood Plan, new development will only be allowed within those spaces where very special circumstances can be demonstrated in accordance with

the National Planning Policy Framework and which might include provision of essential utility infrastructure, such as drainage pipes or sewer tunnels, or where the proposal is supplementary to and supports the function of that green space, such as new changing rooms associated with sports pitches.

2.9 Further information on the Local Green Space designation is set out in Planning Practice Guidance, as included in the appendix to this summary report.

3. Local Plan Policy Context

- 3.1 The Wealden Local Plan comprises the [Core Strategy](#) (2013), saved policies of the [1998 Wealden Local Plan](#), as well as the [Affordable Housing Delivery Plan](#) (2016). Of relevance to the assessment of Local Green Spaces, Policy WCS13 (Green Infrastructure) of the Core Strategy notes that:

'Development proposals will not be permitted which would result in the loss of existing open space or harm to Wealden's network of green spaces unless measures are incorporated within the development that will either mitigate the effects of development or alternative and suitable provision is made that is accessible, of good quality and value to its users, in an appropriate location, at an appropriate scale and nature and would positively contribute to the overall network of green space.'

- 3.2 This provides a fairly high degree of protection of green spaces, though does allow for some loss and development of those spaces. Application of the Local Green Space designation would provide a higher level of protection.

- 3.3 Saved policies of the 1998 Local Plan of relevance to the Local Green Space assessment include:

- EN6: Which notes that development will only be permitted if it conserves or enhances the natural beauty and character of the landscape of the High

Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (which includes much of Horam Parish).

- EN8: Which requires development in the Low Weald (that is outside the AONB) to have particular regard to areas of unspoilt and remote countryside, the setting of settlements, areas on the fringe of adjacent statutorily designated landscapes, the retention of woods, boundary trees and hedges, and attractive vernacular buildings and groups of buildings.
- EN12: Which seeks to resist the loss of trees where they make a valuable contribution to the character of the landscape, a settlement or its setting.
- EN18: The loss of open areas and undeveloped gaps within settlements, and which contribute to the character or amenities of the locality, will be resisted.
- LR2: Proposals that would result in the loss of playing fields or other open space with recreational or amenity value, will not be permitted – unless there is an excess of that space and alternative provision is made available nearby.
- LR6: Proposals for the development of allotment land will not be permitted, unless alternative provision can be made.

- 3.4 The suite of policies outlined above give some protection to the retention of green spaces.

- 3.5 A new Local Plan is now being prepared, with a ['Direction of Travel'](#) document subject to consultation in November

2020. This does not set out draft policies but does indicate potential considerations for new policies. These include protecting and delivering biodiversity net gain, to resist the inappropriate loss of green infrastructure, to protect and enhance rural landscape features (e.g.: hedgerows, trees etc) and *'provide support for the designation of Local Green Spaces where appropriate in Neighbourhood Plans'*.

- 3.6 The assessment of sites submitted for designation is mindful of the policy position outlined above but also makes use of other documents forming evidence to the Local Plan. This includes cross-references to those spaces assessed in the [Wealden Open Space Study](#) (2016-2028).
- 3.7 The [parish profile](#) prepared in the 2016-2028 Open Space study indicates there to be an under supply of amenity green space in the parish, and with gaps in provision across the parish. It also notes that all of the spaces classified as amenity space, play space, parks and recreation would benefit from some form of improvement. It notes that the provision of open space in new development is a priority, and without which there would be a shortfall in provision. This supports the need to retain, and potentially designate, these spaces as Local Green Spaces.
- 3.8 Alongside the Open Space Study, a [Playing Pitch Strategy](#) was also prepared on behalf of Wealden and covering the same period (2016-2028). This notes that, in Horam,

additional pressures generated by new development can be met by the existing supply of sports pitches at the Horam recreation ground, but that this will result in additional wear and tear.

- 3.9 Furthermore, the [Wealden Green Infrastructure Study](#) (May 2017) indicates that more than 80% of the district is deficient in neighbourhood level accessible natural greenspace, and that there are very limited areas of accessible natural greenspace in Horam.

4. Suggested sites

4.1 Green spaces suggested for consideration as Local Green Space designations, and the reasons why (in terms of the criteria established in the NPPF), are presented in the tables on the following pages. The information on these has been provided by and to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The full list of sites considered is:

1. Land at corner of A267 / accessway to Village Hall.
2. Land in front of Four Seasons adjacent to A267.
3. Allotments.
4. Horam Recreation Ground.
5. Memorial Garden, Hillside Drive.
6. Land on corner of Paynsbridge Way with Vines Cross Road.
7. Land behind Maynards Green School, west of the Cuckoo Trail.
8. Area by Hillside car park, junction with Meadow Rise.
9. Station area, Horam, including access land from B2203.
10. Field and bank north of solar farm including fishing lakes bordering southern edge of Coneyburrow Wood.
11. Land between Horebeech Lane and Beauford Road.
12. Land between the High Street and garages in Beauford Road.
13. Vines Cross Pond, Foords Lane junction with Ballsocks Lane.
14. Land at Hurst Shaw, Vines Cross.
15. Land at Foords Farm with duck pond.
16. Golf course.
17. Cuckoo Trail.
18. Area between Cuckoo Trail and Maynards Green Road, south of entrance to Hendalls Farm and North of Oast.
19. Corner of Laundry lane and Horebeech Lane.
20. Wooded strip of land on west side of Chiddingly Road between Kingston Villas and power lines.
21. Greens trip between electricity substation on Chiddingly Road and Crematorium.
22. Strip of land between Merrydown estate and the A267.
23. Pond between tennis/football pavilion and Winter Gardens.
24. Land behind The Brewers Arms.
25. Field behind The Brewers Arms, Vines Cross.
26. Strip of land alongside Nettlesworth Lane, Vines Cross.
27. Field crossed by Footpath 11.
28. Treed open space setting of footpath alongside Waldron Ghyll.
29. Main part of Clearhedge Wood.
30. Eastern arm of Clearhedge Wood bordering Horam Manor campsite.
31. Main part of Coneyburrow Wood.
32. Crescent-shaped Ancient Woodland south-west of Horam Manor.
33. Field enclosed by Ancient Woodland at Site 32.
34. Fishing lakes and surrounds.
35. Land and banks behind units in Discovery Way.
36. Land south of Grange Close, adjacent to A267 Horam Road.

SUGGESTED SITE 1

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land at corner of A267 / accessway to Village Hall.
Grid ref (if known):	TQ E 557599 N -117082
Description of site:	Rectangular site with unofficial footpath across it. Pond with mature trees and naturally seeded saplings
Area	0.406 Hectares
Quality and condition of site:	Overgrown with naturally seeded saplings. Not tended.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	It was designated Open Space as part of the Merrydown development
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes - see below
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Historic hedge-enclosed small field, providing a break in development along the A267, albeit capable of enhancement
Historic significance? If so, say why:	The War Memorial was originally sited here
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Informal footpath from village centre to recreation ground, crosses field, notably used by dog walkers and as a route to the Scout Hut.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Peaceful; refuge from activity of adjacent road and other uses
Wildlife? If so, say why:	The pond is used by ducks. Abundance of rabbits
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Green buffer between the A267 and the commercial units in Discovery Way. Bounded by hedges; subject to conditions as part of Merrydown development; scope to enhance value as a natural greenspace/amenity
Supporting comments	

Site Location Plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 2

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land in front of Four Seasons adjacent to A267. (The site is bisected by the entrance road to Four Seasons development, with Site 2a to the north of the access road and Site 2b is south of the access road.)
Grid ref (if known):	TQ E 557476 N 116725 E 557502 N 116826
Description of site:	Informal wooded area with ponds
Area	2a = 0.405 ha; 2b = 0.293 ha; TOTAL = 0.698 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Currently no evident management
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	To be retained as open space as part of adjacent Four Seasons development
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No – see above
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes, it is a small but valuable-woodland
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Traversed SSW-NNE by old (drove) road
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Informal access
Tranquility? If so, say why:	It helps to limit the road noise and is a peaceful area
Wildlife? If so, say why:	A valuable nesting site for birds and f Frequented by a variety of wildfowl and water insects for adjacent pond (Site 23).
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Its amenity and tranquillity contribute to mental health of the residents.
Supporting comments	Retention as part of Four Seasons development.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

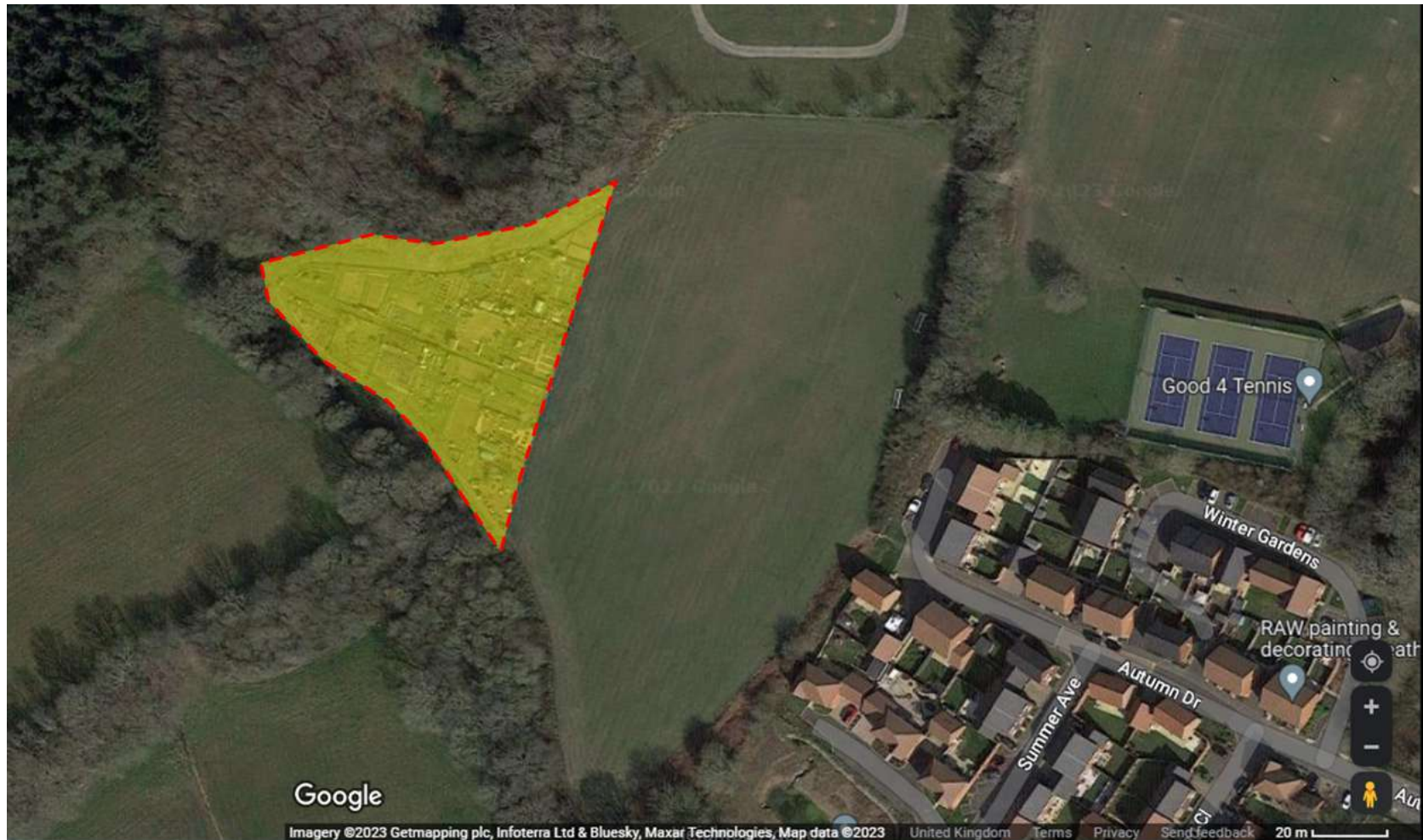


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 3

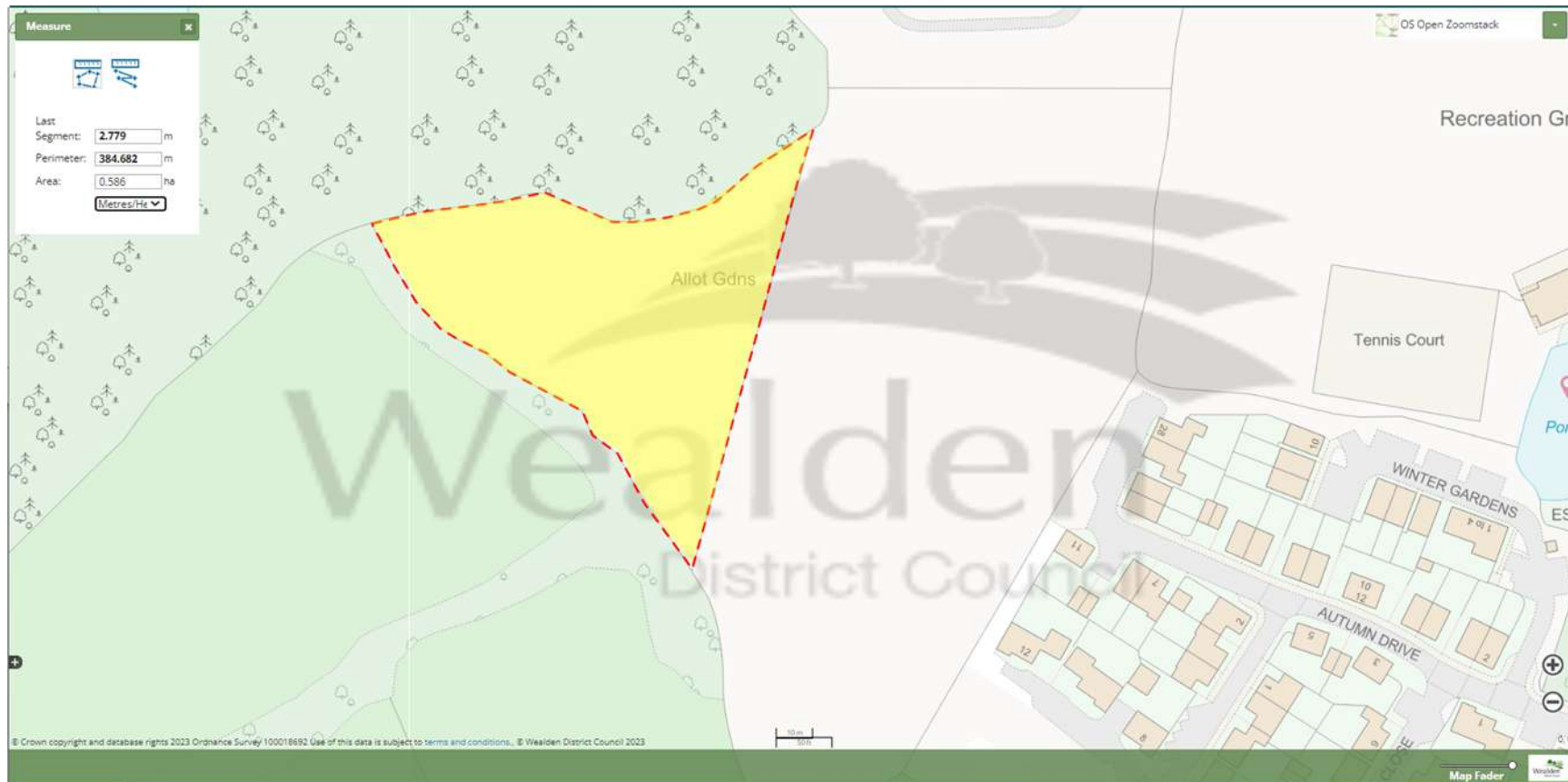
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Allotments
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557231 N 116872
Description of site:	Designated allotment
Area	0.586 ha
Quality and condition of site:	A structured and managed allotment area
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Understood to be non-statutory allotments (Owned by the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Charity)
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	A cultivated area of nature
Historic significance? If so, say why:	No
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Heavily utilised by the local community for cultivating homegrown produce and plants for their own pleasure
Tranquility? If so, say why:	A peaceful haven for residents who enjoy gardening but don't have sufficient green space of their own
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Bees, butterflies, and other vitally important insects to the local ecosystem
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Area provides opportunities to grow local food, achieving a more sustainable development of the community.
Supporting comments	Allotments have a social importance, and they are essential as they are important and sustainable spatial structures of urban greenery systems.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 4

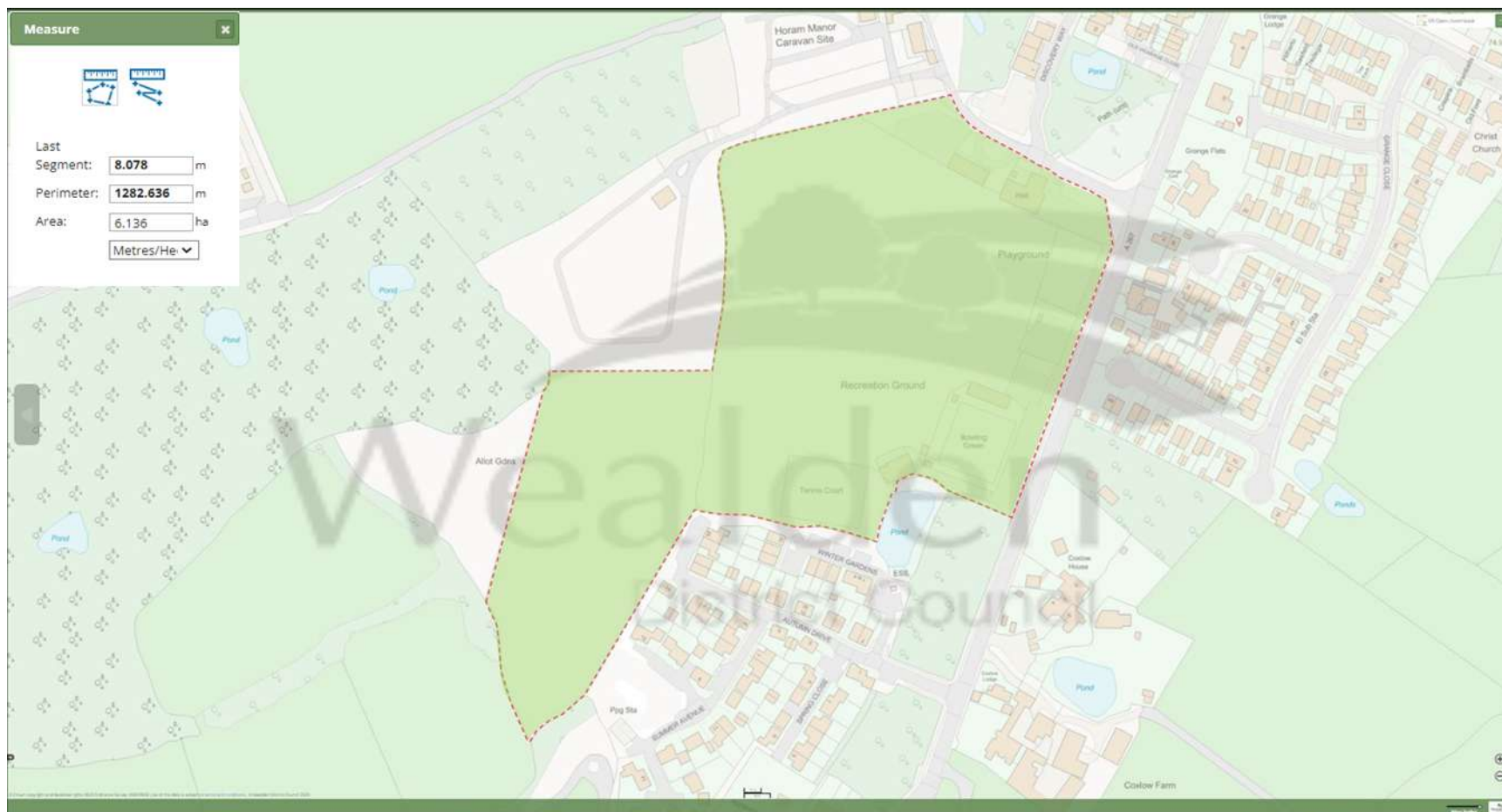
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Horam Recreation Ground
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557472 N116975 TQ557298. N116862
Description of site:	Well maintained grassed open space used for walking through, informal and formal games, football competitions, tennis courts, bowling green, gym workouts and village activities e.g. Horam Fun Day. Also, ancillary buildings.
Area	6.136 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Well maintained grassed open space.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	An expansive undeveloped and accessible area of grassland surrounded by hedges
Historic significance? If so, say why:	It has been a long-standing part of the local community, hosting numerous village events over the years. It is an integral part of Horam
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Heavily utilised by the local community for playing formal and informal sports, dog walking and gathering for village social occasions. Local sports clubs based here – football, tennis, bowls
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Mainly grassed area away from the hustle and bustle of the village and traffic, whilst still maintaining the social aspect of a close-knit community
Wildlife? If so, say why:	.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Base for local scouts, etc.
Supporting comments	The heart of the local community

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 5

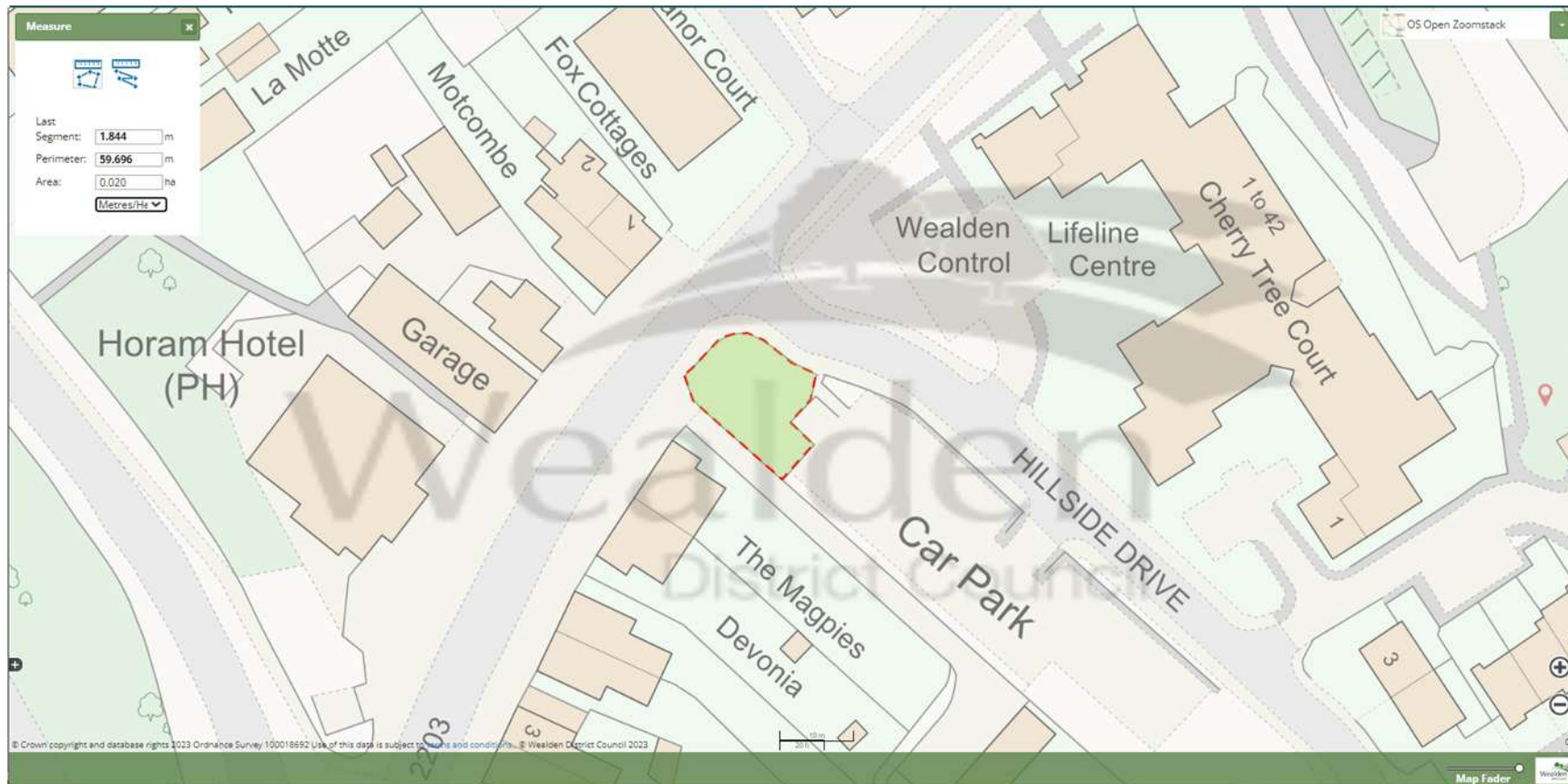
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Memorial Garden, Hillside Drive
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557784 N 117435
Description of site:	Small, grassed area bounded by shrubs with post and rail fencing. The Memorial for deceased local residents and the Jubilee Tree is sited here.
Area	0.020 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Well, maintained.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	
Tranquility? If so, say why:	There is a seat within the area for residents to sit and remember
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Also, Armistice Memorial on 11 th Nov held here
Supporting comments	Owned by HPC. Parish Council Notice board is sited on it.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

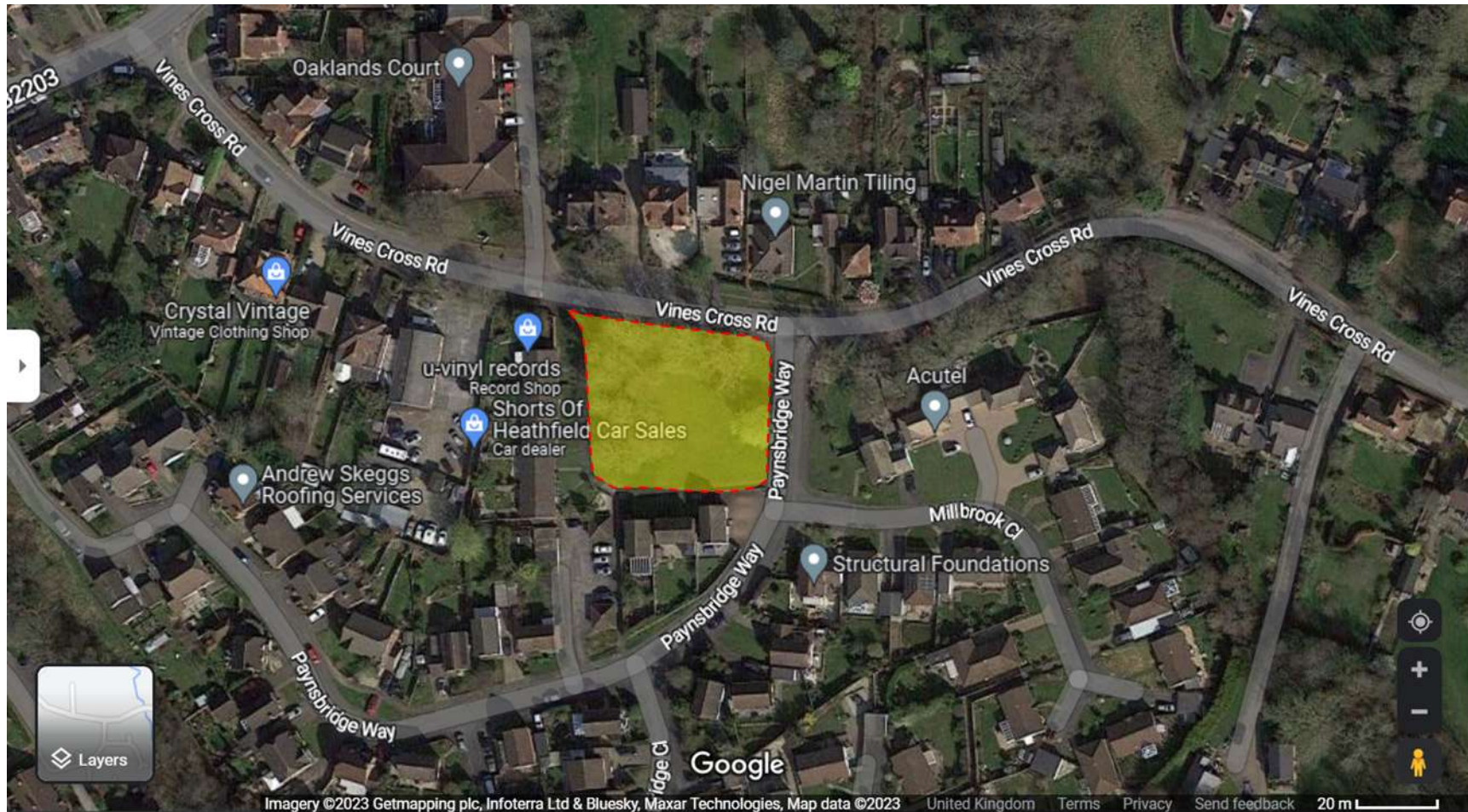


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 6

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land on corner of Paynsbridge Way with Vines Cross Road
Grid ref (if known):	TQ558065 N 117481
Description of site:	Rectangular grass area with several mature trees
Area	0.177 ha
Quality and condition of site:	
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Earmarked as a green area on the original planning permission for the estate. TPO designation on frontage of Vines Cross Road
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Attractive informal grassland, flanked on two sides by mature tree belts
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Used for informal play by local children, as well as dog walkers
Tranquility? If so, say why:	
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	The trees screen the development from the road and vice versa. The area provides water retention in heavy rainfall.
Supporting comments	It sets the development back from the road and gives the area a less formal setting, which is characteristic of the area.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 7

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land behind Maynards Green School, west of the Cuckoo Trail
Grid ref (if known):	TQ558013 N 118645
Description of site:	Open grassland surrounded by trees
Area	0.589 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Grassland managed for school playing field use
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	An expansive area of undeveloped grassland surrounded by mature trees, partially overlooked from the Cuckoo Trail,
Historic significance? If so, say why:	No
Recreational value? If so, say why:	A playing field for the local primary school
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Peaceful area away from traffic noise
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Area and boundary trees/hedges inhabited by a variety of wildlife
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Part of the undeveloped valley side of the Waldron Ghyll
Supporting comments	Heavily relied upon by the local primary school to provide the children with the necessary sporting facilities/activities

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 8

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Area by Hillside Car Park, junction with Meadow Rise
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557854 N 117374
Description of site:	Grassed area. Abutted by mature trees on two sides.
Area	0.065 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Wooded and grassed amenity area adjacent to car park.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	A modestly sized grassed area, with heavy tree cover that contributes to the setting of adjacent housing, being on its approach and separating it from the main village car park immediately to its north.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Informal use only; path created from bottom of car park to adjacent footway, as a short-cut to the Cuckoo Trail
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Quiet area (Siting of a bench has been suggested.)
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	Understood that there are sewers underneath it.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 9

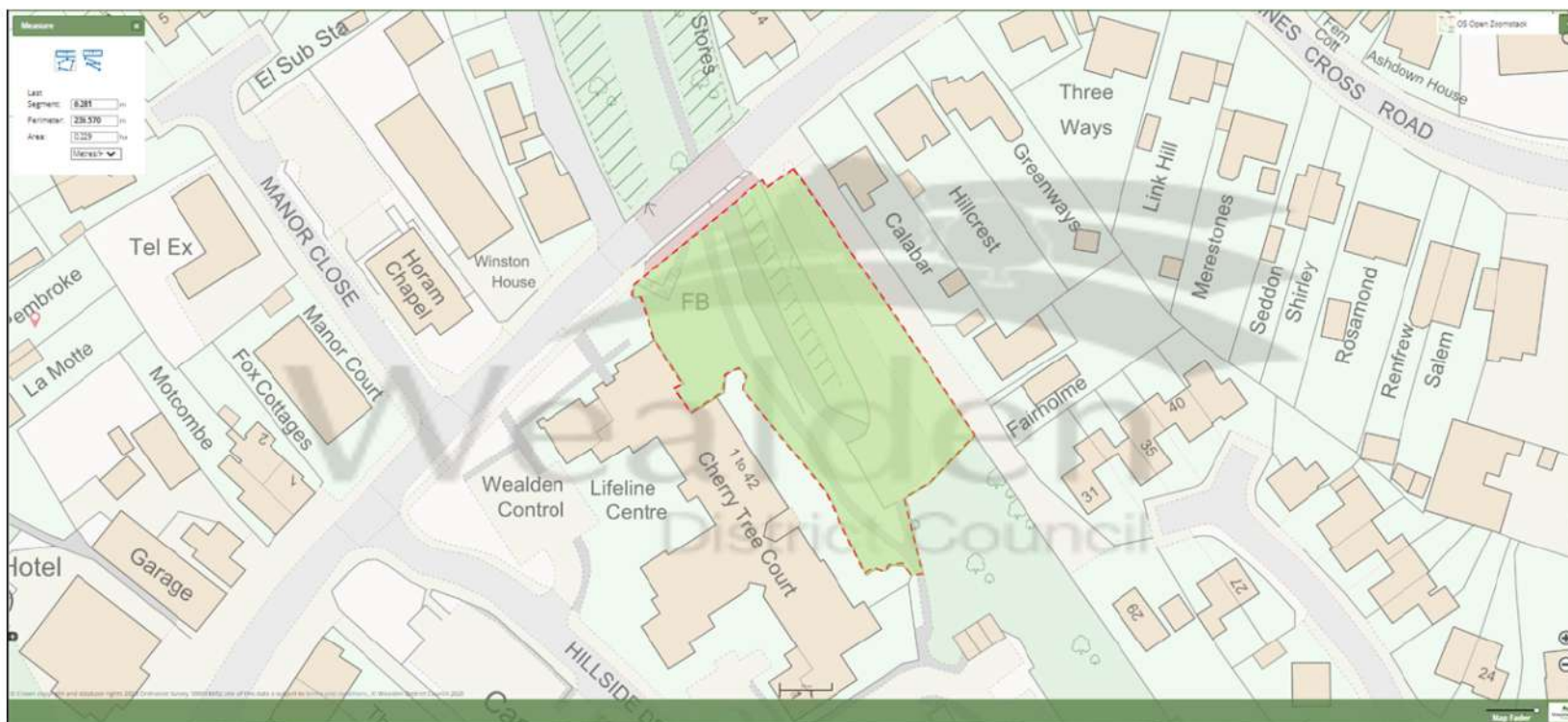
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Station area, Horam, including access land from B2203
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557885 N 117448
Description of site:	Old railway land part of and adjacent to the Cuckoo Trail.
Area	0.229 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Mainly grass and paths, with trees and hedges as well as remnants of station platforms and structures.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	See below
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Site of the former Horam Station. About a third of the southbound platform survives, together with station board supports and lamp standards with metal sign brackets. A short length of the northbound platform can also be seen.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Focal area of the Cuckoo Trail locally. It is enjoyed by walkers, cyclists, and horse riders alike. A safe area for children. Well, used by locals and visitors. Provides cycle hire and picnic area.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Traffic-free.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	Provides pedestrian/bike access for commuting to Heathfield and Hailsham. Steps to High Street, and a slopping path giving access to wheelchairs. Was used for VE Day Community event a few years ago.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

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Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 10

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Field and bank north of solar farm including fishing lakes bordering southern edge of Coneyburrow Wood
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 567 171 (centre)
Description of site:	Field / bank sloping to north bordering Coneyburrow Wood; gradually reverting to scrub woodland; includes a couple of well-used and managed fishing lakes bordering the wood.
Area	3.551 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Area around fishing lakes well managed with mown grass; circular walk paths around wider field kept mown for walkers, with waymarkers and benches.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	No
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes – tranquil pond area, and extensive views from top of bank with wider landscape significance
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Yes - Origins of ponds associated with Wealden iron industry (probably)
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Yes – fishing lakes popular with anglers, and paths across top of bank form part of the well-used Horam Manor Nature Trail walks. Well-sited benches enjoyed by local walkers and visitors staying at the nearby campsite.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Yes – peaceful quiet haven away from traffic
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Yes – bank provides valuable transitional scrub habitat (frequented by nightingales), and lakes provide valuable aquatic habitat
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Popular well-used area easily accessible on foot from the village
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 11

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land between Horebeech Lane and Beauford Road
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557762 N 117171
Description of site:	Grassed area. Mature trees along the roadside
Area	0.274 HA
Quality and condition of site:	Maintained by Wealden DC
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Mature roadside trees line the grassland
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Used by local children for play. Also used by dog walkers.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	
Wildlife? If so, say why:	A small natural pond forms in the southeast corner when wet which is frequented by ducks and other wildlife. Birds roost in the trees.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Buffer between Horebeech Lane and Beauford Road. Orientation of houses around this green space gives them a green outlook
Supporting comments	Site was left as green space when the estate was planned and developed.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

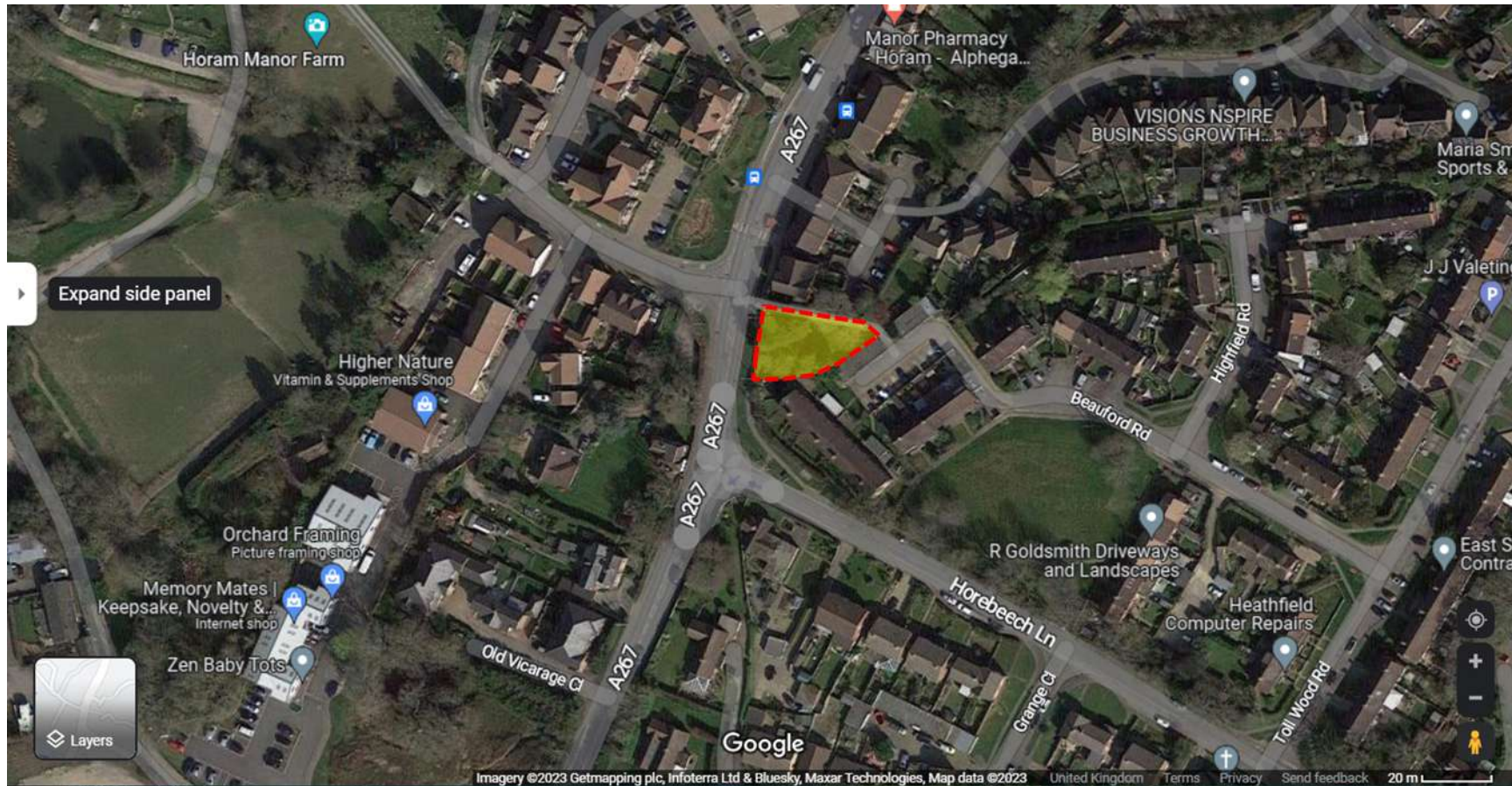


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 12

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land between the High Street and garages in Beauford Road
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557702 N 117217
Description of site:	Grassed area with trees. A tarmac path provides a shortcut from Beauford Rd to the A267. Park bench sited in centre.
Area	0.055 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Maintained by WDC
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Treed and grassed space
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Space for quiet relaxation.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Well-contained amenity grassland with good tree cover, providing a refuge (with bench) close to main road.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Provides a cut through to the High Street from housing estate.
Supporting comments	Site provided as green space for homes when area developed.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

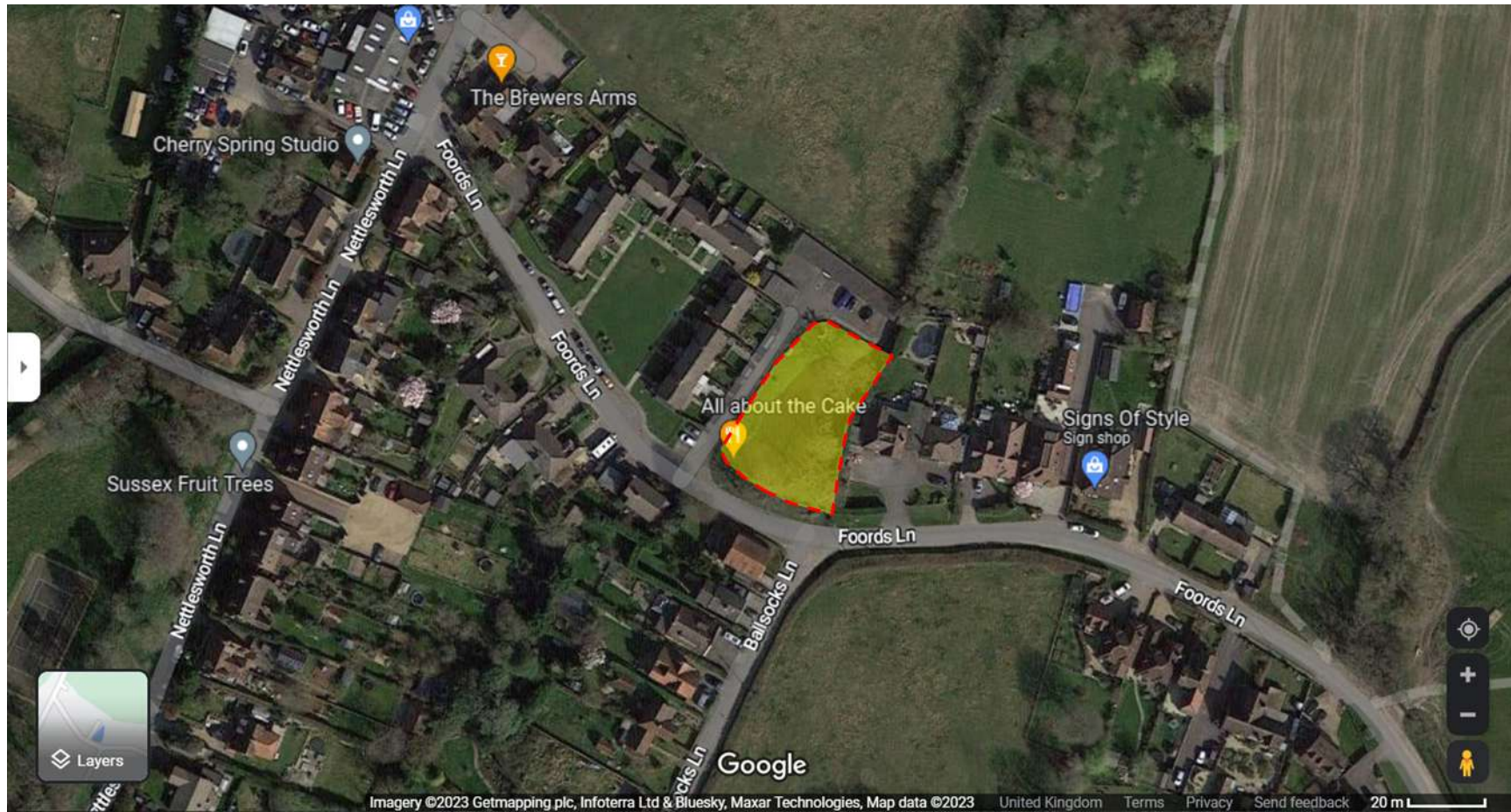


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 13

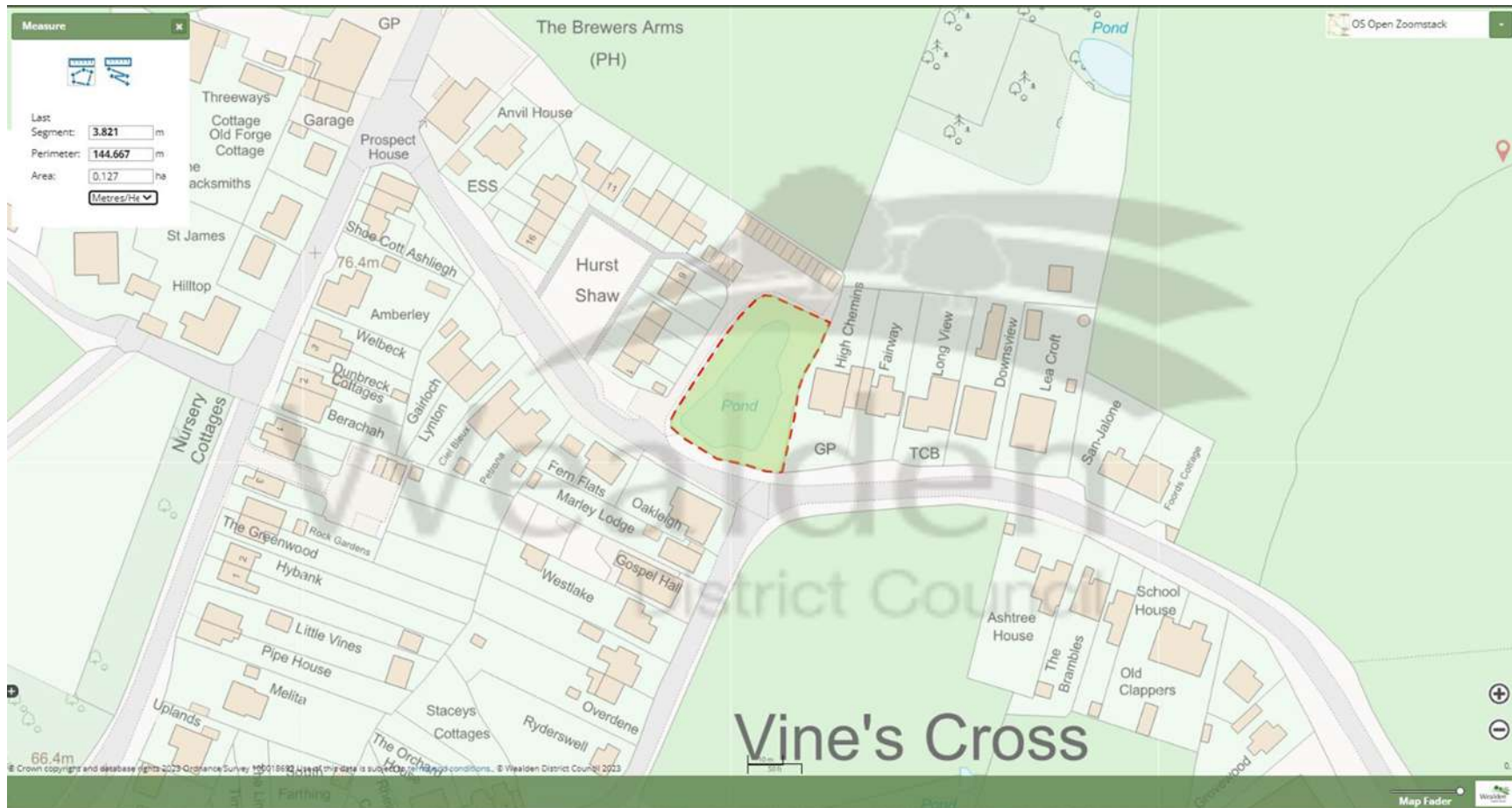
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Vines Cross Pond, Foords Lane junction with Ballsocks Lane
Grid ref (if known):	TQ559502 N 117734
Description of site:	Attenuation pond for the Hurst Shaw development. Lined with chestnut fencing and hedge on eastern flank. Contains mature trees and two benches.
Area	0.127ha
Quality and condition of site:	Well maintained, tidy, home to two ducks who are permanent residents.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	This is a large pond with grass banks around the edge. Well maintained shrubs and ornamental trees run around the pond on the grass verges/banks. A duck house sits to the northern end of the pond. Pond reeds and irises grow in the pond. Two resident ducks add to the attraction of this site.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	This space was created when the small residential development of Hurst Shaw Gardens was built.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Residents often fish for carp.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Yes; provided by pond and fringing trees, hedging. There is a bench for the public to sit and enjoy the calm overlooking the water and feeding the ducks.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Carp, two resident ducks
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Contains the Vines Cross Community Association noticeboard.
Supporting comments	The Village Pond is a focal spot of the village and attractive setting for the housing estate alongside it. Natural environment beneficial for mental health.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

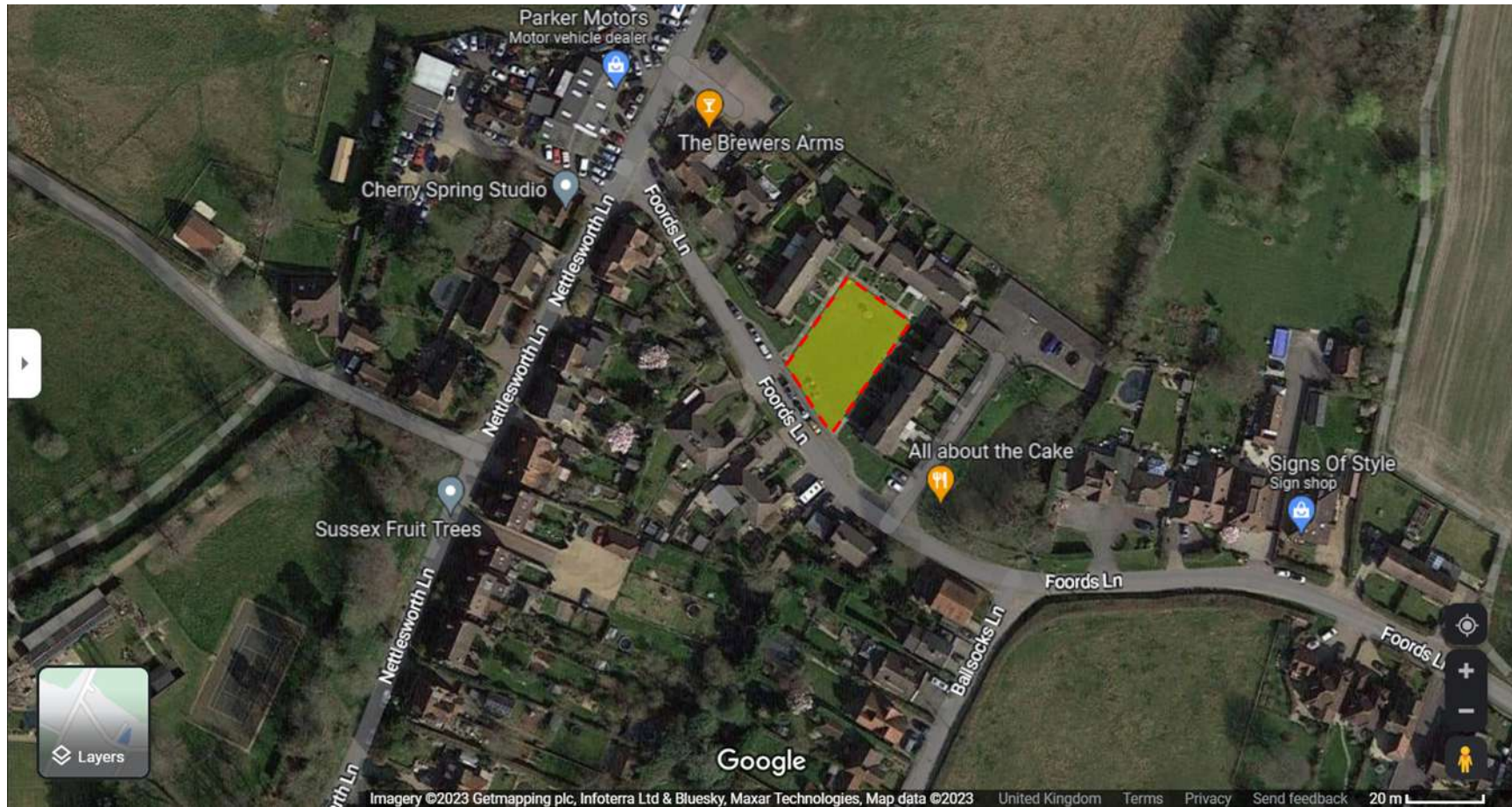


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 14

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land at Hurst Shaw, Vines Cross
Grid ref (if known):	TQ559442 N 117810
Description of site:	Informal well maintained grassed open space
Area	0.063 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Well maintained and kept very clean and tidy, well-tended lawn and associated flowerbeds.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Houses form a horseshoe shape around this well-kept lawned area and forms part of the setting of Hurst Shaw Gardens.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Was part of the original design of the development Hurst Shaw Gardens
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Resident children play in this area; football, ball games, riding bikes/trikes etc. Was used as community space for the village during the Queen's Jubilee Street Party.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Residents have situated tables, chairs, and benches around the perimeter, outside their properties and enjoy sitting outside their homes reading, relaxing and meeting other residents.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	In the heart of the village and provides green space for this small housing development.
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



SUGGESTED SITE 15

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land at Foords Farm with duck pond
Grid ref (if known):	TQ559725 N 117476
Description of site:	Traditional large old style duck pond fronted by trees sited in front of the original farmhouse. A grass verge separates Foords Lane from the pond which is set back. The grass verge contains Orchids
Area	0.210 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Well maintained, clean and attractive. High quality
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Foreground to very attractive, historic farmhouse. The pond forms a local point of interest and beauty on the approach into the village. The pond and surrounding green space are home to a variety of wild ducks and waterfowl.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Part of the curtilage of Foords Farm. The pond and land at Foords Farm are reminiscent of the history of the area. Foords Farmhouse is Grade II listed.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	A point of reference for local walkers/ramblers. Children cycle/walk to see the ducks.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	The pond overlooks green arable working fields to the East and North.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Wild ducks, waterfowl, herons and fish.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

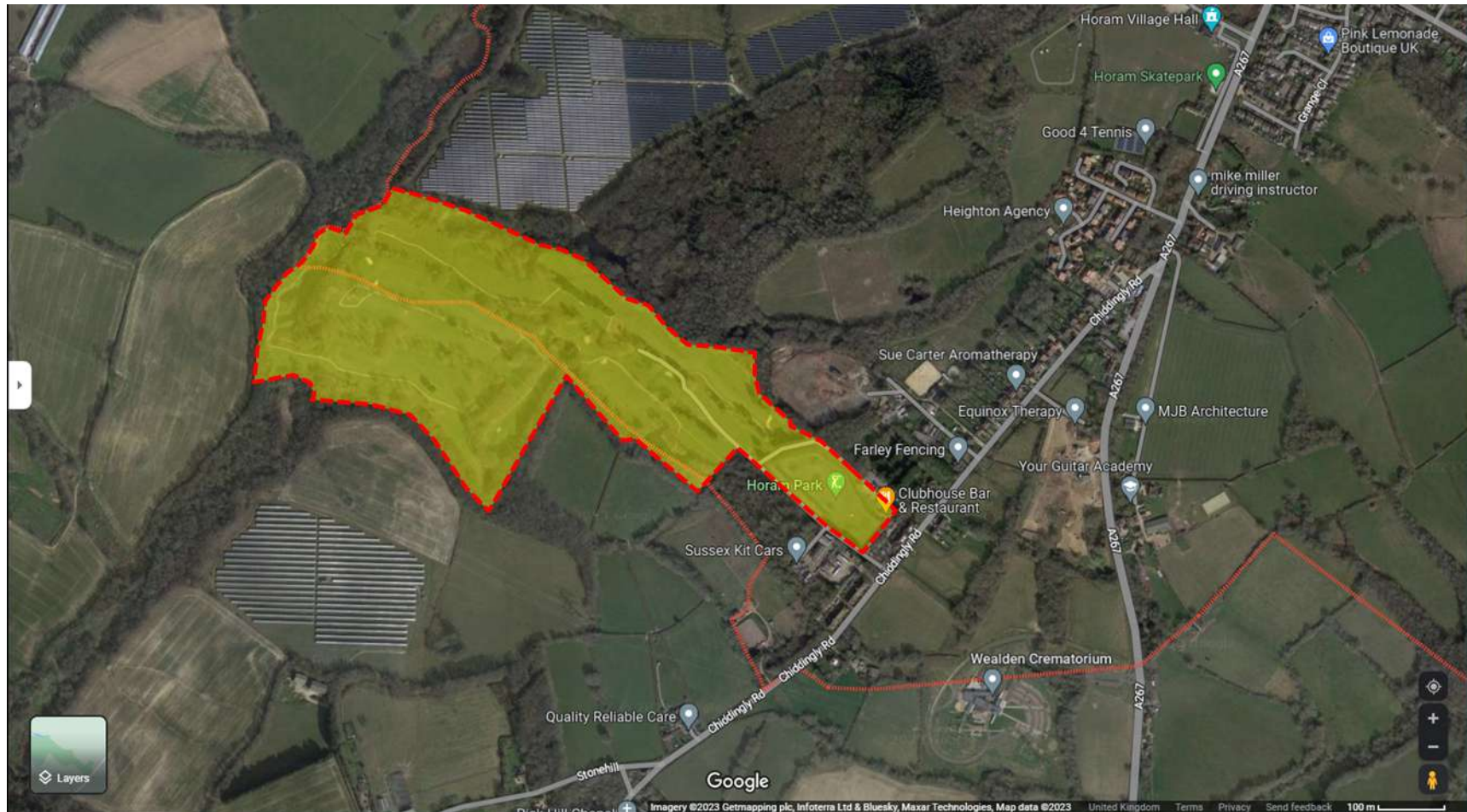


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 16

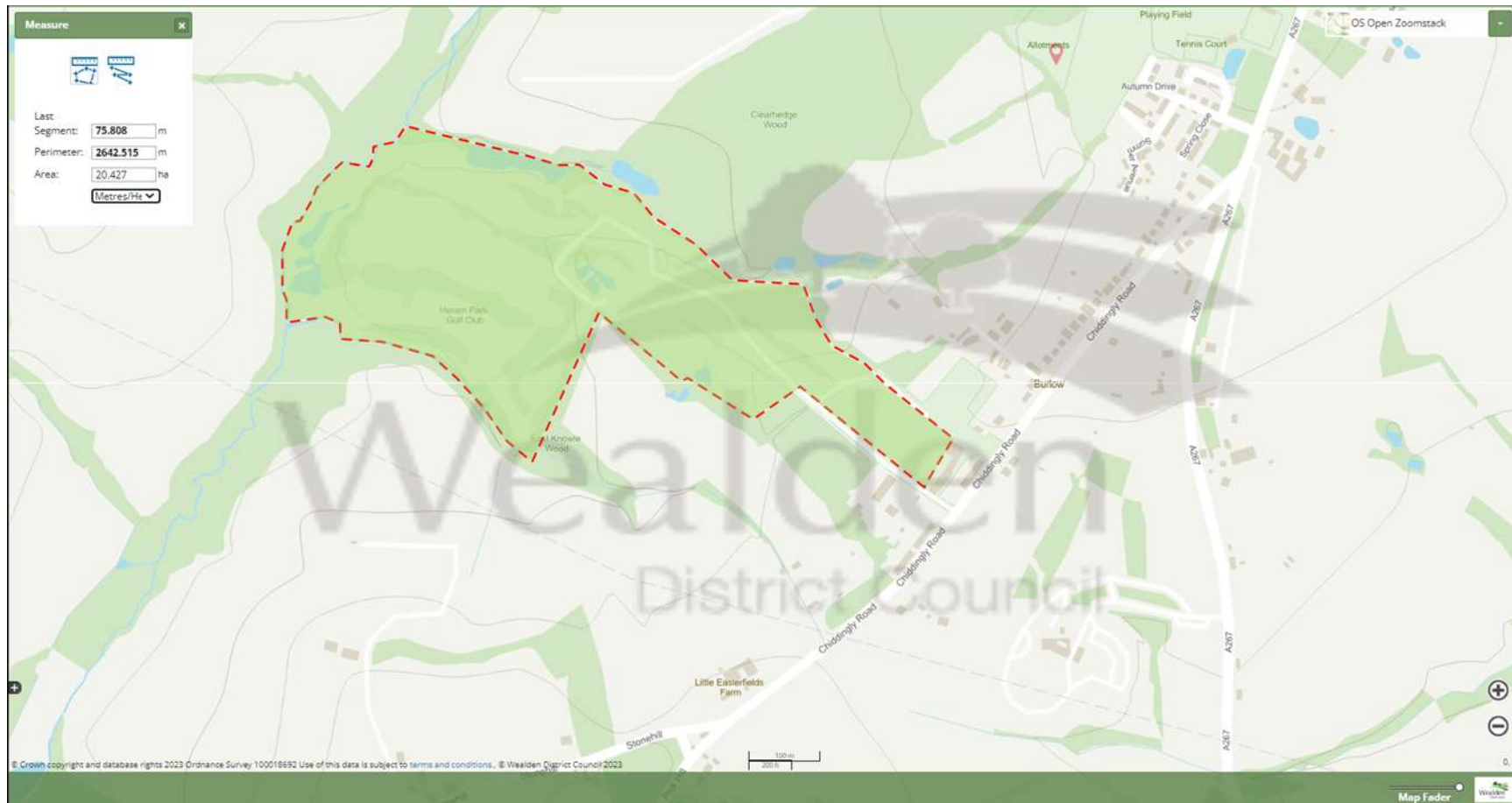
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Golf Course
Grid ref (if known):	TQ556861 N 116413
Description of site:	A formal area of open grassland with ponds, pathways and mature trees. Currently used for golf.
Area	20.427 ha (of which 12.166 ha is in Horam Parish)
Quality and condition of site:	Well maintained
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Unknown
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	No
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	A peaceful expanse of grassland, trees, and hedges
Historic significance? If so, say why:	No
Recreational value? If so, say why:	It is used for playing golf, encouraging visitors to Horam and providing a facility to exercise, which is both good for physical and mental well-being.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	An area inhabited by an abundance of wildlife, away from traffic noise and the hustle and bustle of the village
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Inhabited by deer, foxes, rabbits, and badgers along with many varied species of birds.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Opportunity for people to get away from the stress and noise of modern life.
Supporting comments	Important for the continued sustainable development of the village.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

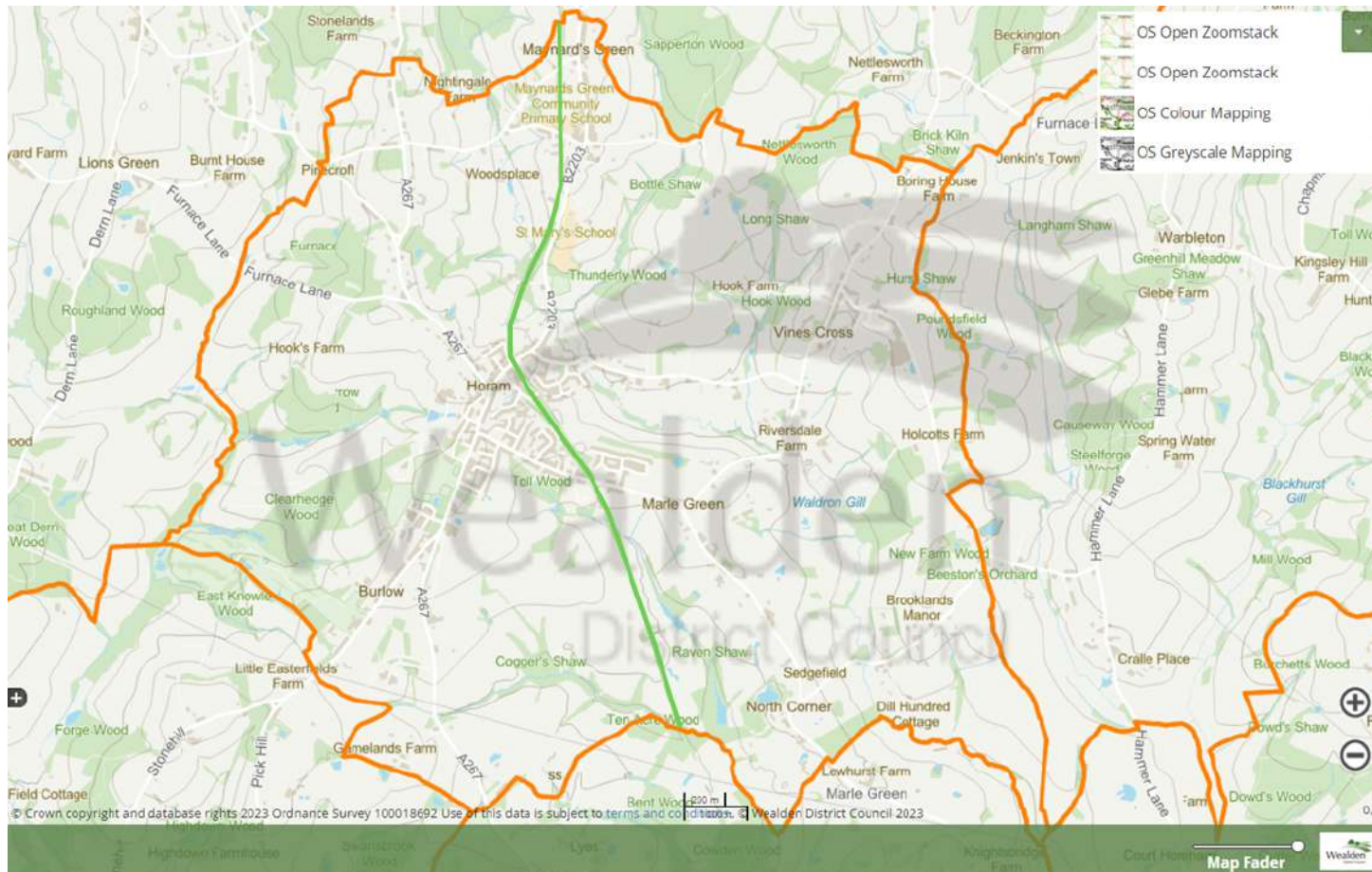
SUGGESTED SITE 17

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Cuckoo Trail
Grid ref (if known):	
Description of site:	Old railway line that now has a made surface and is part of Sustrans' national cycling network. A green tree-lined corridor with a host of natural wildlife. There are benches, picnic tables sculptures and other artwork along its route.
Area	8.3 ha (this is the whole narrow strip from the Parish boundary with Hellingly to the Parish boundary with Heathfield and Waldron)
Quality and condition of site:	The path is well maintained. The banks either side of it are left to nature.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	A National Trail
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	No
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	
Historic significance? If so, say why:	The Cuckoo Trail follows the route of the former Polegate to Heathfield railway line, which was largely responsible for the growth of Horam.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	It is away from the hustle and bustle of the surrounding area, and it is a place of peace and tranquillity to quieten the mind and allow like-minded people to connect as they traverse its length.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Being mainly traffic free it is a very popular and well used route for eco-minded commuters travelling to and from work in the area.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	It is a valuable source of recreation for cyclists, walkers, horse riders and young families to enjoy
Supporting comments	

Site location plan

This proposed designation applies to the entire route of The Cuckoo Trail through the Parish.

It has not been mapped in detail. The green line on the plan below indicates the route of The Cuckoo Trail.

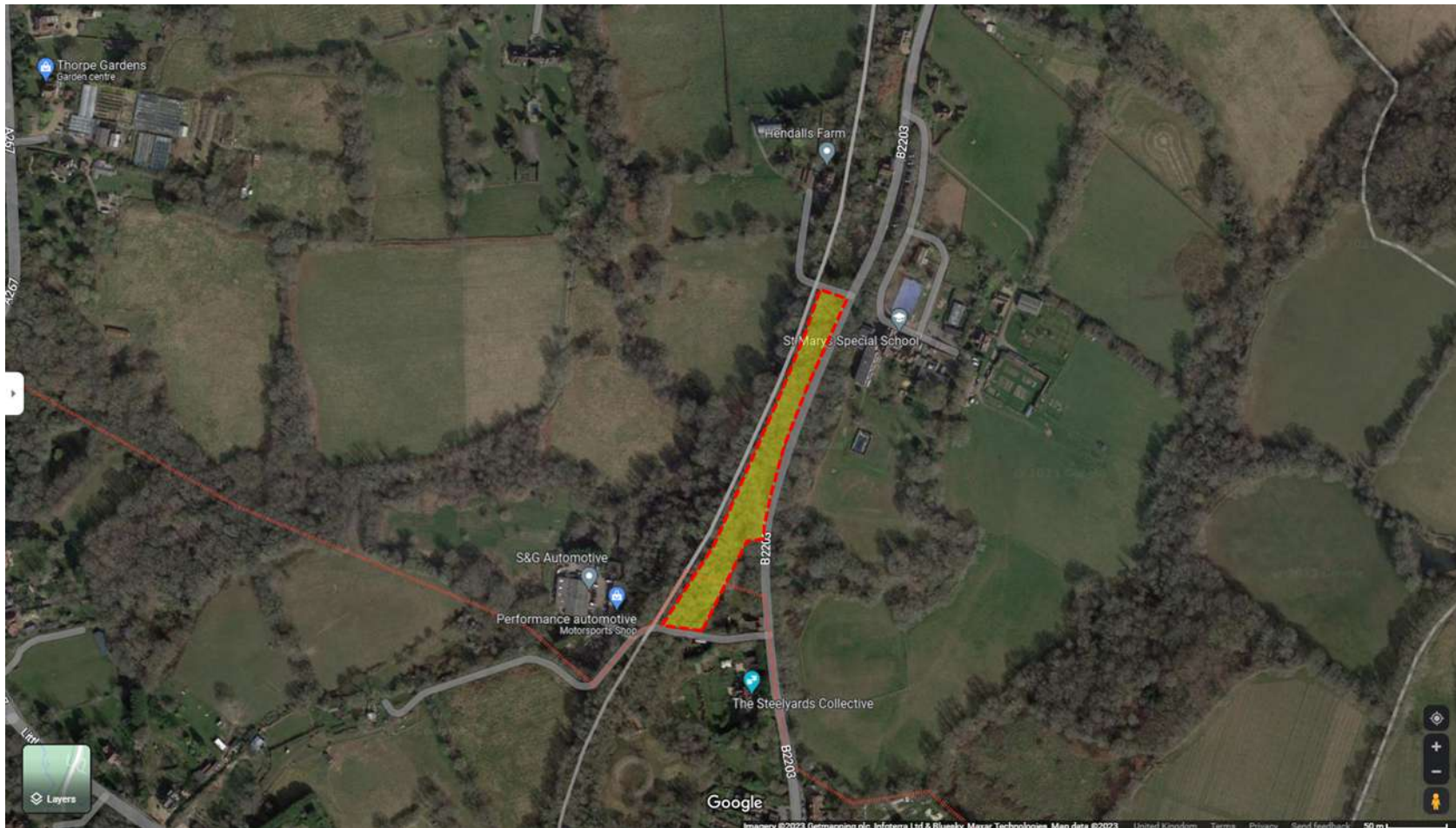


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 18

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Area between Cuckoo Trail and Maynards Green Road. South of entrance to Hendalls Farm and North of Stillyans Oast
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 5567984 N 118028
Description of site:	Wooded area between Cuckoo Trail and Maynards Green Road
Area	0.662 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Untended natural vegetation, although may be managed as part of the Trail
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat Inventory
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Trees screen road from Cuckoo Trail
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Area of old 'Milk Siding' when the Cuckoo Trail was a railway.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Part of the area used by local children for off-road cycling.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Birds, insects, vegetation Part of the Green Corridor that is the Cuckoo Trail
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Contributes to green gap between Horam and Maynards Green
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



SUGGESTED SITE 19

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Corner of Laundry Lane and Horebeech Lane
Grid ref (if known):	TQ558645 N 116817
Description of site:	The wide stretch of verge and road frontage with mature Oak trees creates a vision of tranquillity when leaving the village of Horam and a valuable reconnection to the countryside after the intensity of the Rosemead Housing Estate. It is the entrance to footpath 11.
Area	0.108 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Well maintained tree-lined grass area with bench. Understood to be part of highway land.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Gives a rural feel to the corner. It has that atmosphere about it when seen from the east. A beautiful spot to sit and view.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Bench seat to rest and appreciate rural setting
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 20

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Wooded strip of land on west side of Chiddingly Road between Kingston Villas and power lines
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 556960 N 116090
Description of site:	Rectangular strip of woodland.
Area	0.399 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Part overgrown but contains many mature trees and saplings
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Contains trees and hedgerows, with range of flora and fauna.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	According to ESHER, the site is that of a post medieval Romano-bloomery.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Originally given to the residents of Kingston Villas for growing vegetables, keeping chickens, etc. Subsequent change of ownership and agreement. Now no formal access.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Peaceful setting to Villas.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Lots of wildlife especially birds. Grass snakes, slow worms, dormice etc.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 21

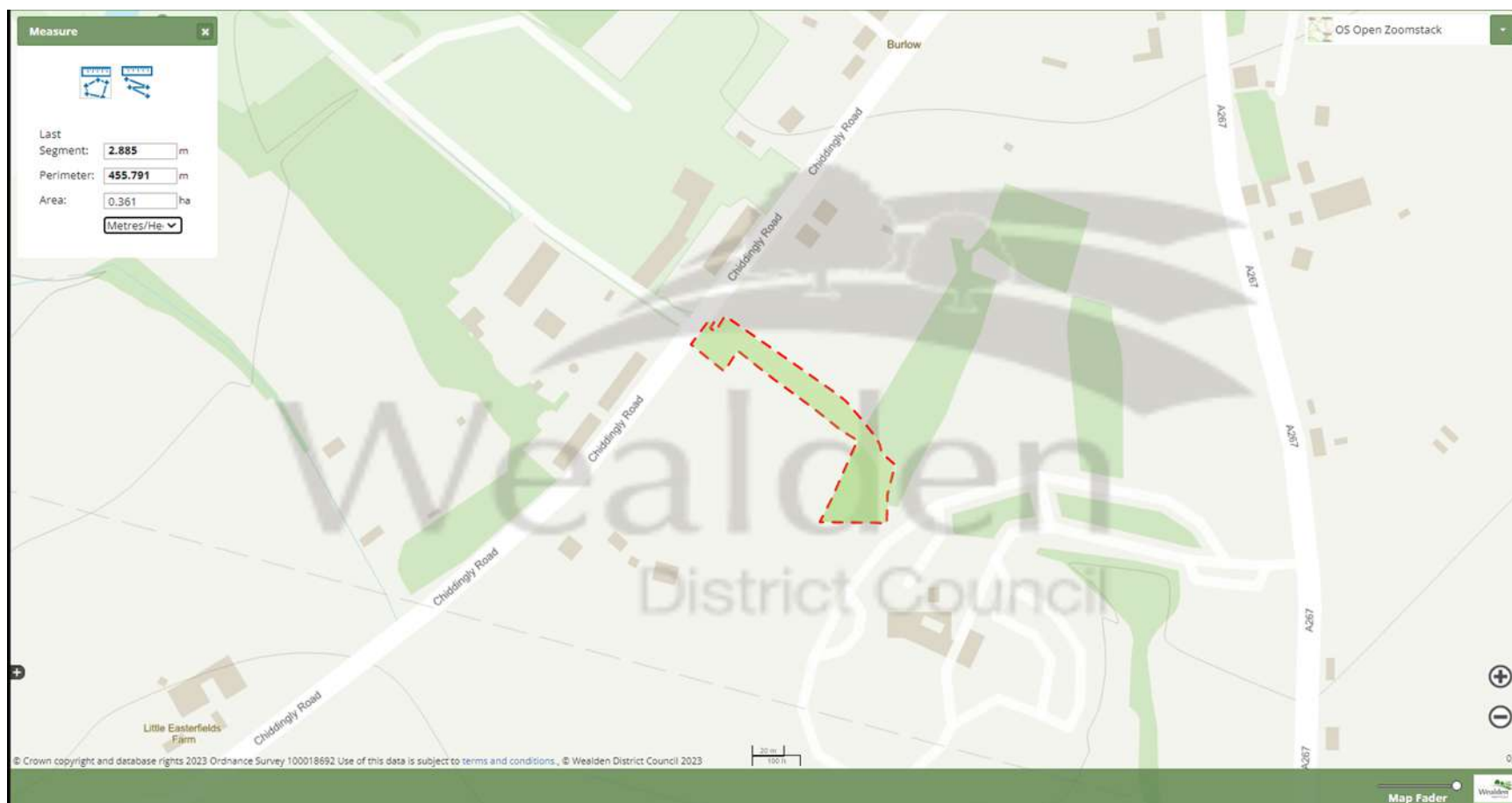
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Green strip between electricity substation on Chiddingly Road and Crematorium
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557127 N 116206
Description of site:	Grassed area planted with some tree whips
Area	0.361 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Grass, partly mown.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Permissive footpath is understood to exist.
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	It currently looks over fields to either side, one mainly has sheep grazing it and the other is a meadow
Historic significance? If so, say why:	The site is part of the historical area known as Horeham Flat. Features associated with the Bloomeries were identified in a past geological survey of the Horeham Flat Farmlands including ditches, areas of potential slag heaps, furnace locations and possible roasting.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	People picnic on it and it's nice to walk through
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Sheep near by
Wildlife? If so, say why:	In abundance in the hedgerows
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 22

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Strip of land between Merrydown estate and the A267
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557687 N 117414
Description of site:	Open space and woodland belt between Merrydown housing and the A267.
Area	0.374 ha
Quality and condition of site:	The woodland and attenuation pond are untended while the grass area is cut during the summer months
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Contributes to the rural character and visual amenity of the core of the village
Historic significance? If so, say why:	The old cider press from the Merrydown cider factory has been placed at the southern end, close to the bus stop. The eastern edge of the wooded strip follows, along much of its length, the original, unpaved bed of the original 'drove' road northwards out of Horam. There is additional historic interest in the boundary brick wall into which two loop-holes were cut during World War 2 from which to fire upon any soldiers advancing up the High Street.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	It visually provides a green break in the built environment at the village core.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Wild flowers, primroses, grow and flower on the bank beneath the brick wall.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	It provides a green buffer that sets the Merrydown estate back from the A267
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 23

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Pond between tennis/football pavilion and Winter Gardens
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557477 N 116852
Description of site:	Pond surrounded by trees
Area	0.144 hectares
Quality and condition of site:	Neglected, not maintained, with muddy banks, some ducks.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Adjacent to old drove road could have been used to water livestock
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Provides a different habitat/scenery/environment to the open grass of the Recreation Ground
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Tucked away in a quiet corner
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Wildlife (ducks) associated with pond.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Provides part of a green buffer between the Four Seasons estate and the A267, helping to mitigate its urbanising impact.
Supporting comments	Adjacent to, and contiguous with, LGS sites 2a & 4

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 24

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land behind The Brewers Arms
Grid ref (if known):	TQ559422 N 117903
Description of site:	Land behind Brewers Arms – being the part of field that used to be a children's play park. (See also site below.)
Area	0.092 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Overgrown with saplings growing on woodchip of former playpark, with three donkeys grazing the field.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	AONB
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	This is a fenced part of larger field which is part of the setting of the village.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	This land was previously used as a children's playpark with apparatus, including swings, slides and a climbing frame, provided by the Vines Cross Community Association. This permissive use ceased some years ago and there is currently no public access. However, there is the potential to reinstate with a new playpark in an accessible and visible location.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	It presently affords a peaceful, rural setting for those enjoying this popular country pub at the centre of the community.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 25

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Field behind The Brewers Arms, Vines Cross
Grid ref (if known):	TQ559477 N 117900
Description of site:	The field surrounding the old playpark behind the Brewers Arms.
Area	1.303 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Managed, flat grazing pasture. Well maintained, fenced with hedging on three sides and includes a shelter for donkeys.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	AONB
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	No
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	This field is an intrinsic view of Vines Cross and is gives a sense of space and light on the approach in/out of the village. It contains copious wildflowers.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	The field was used for community events over many years in recent history.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	This area of land was regularly used as community space for many years and events were held here including the annual bonfire and firework event including a torch parade, annual village fete, beer festival, children's sports days, Christmas events, etc. often co-hosted by the adjoining pub. No current public access, but could still be utilised for local events and gatherings – Vines Cross does not have community land or building for public use.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Grazing pasture full of nature, wildflowers and three donkeys.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Meadow flowers.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

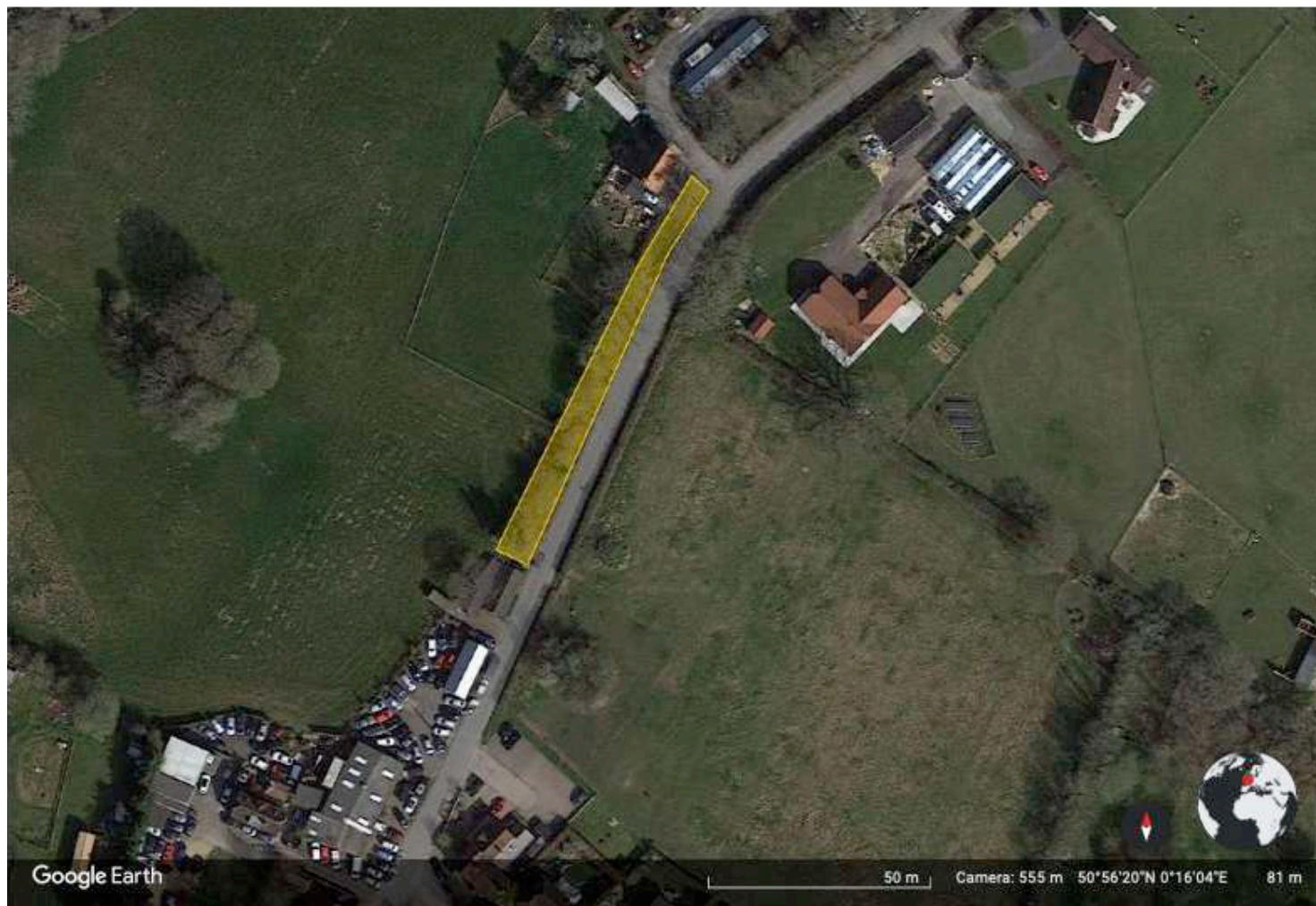


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 26

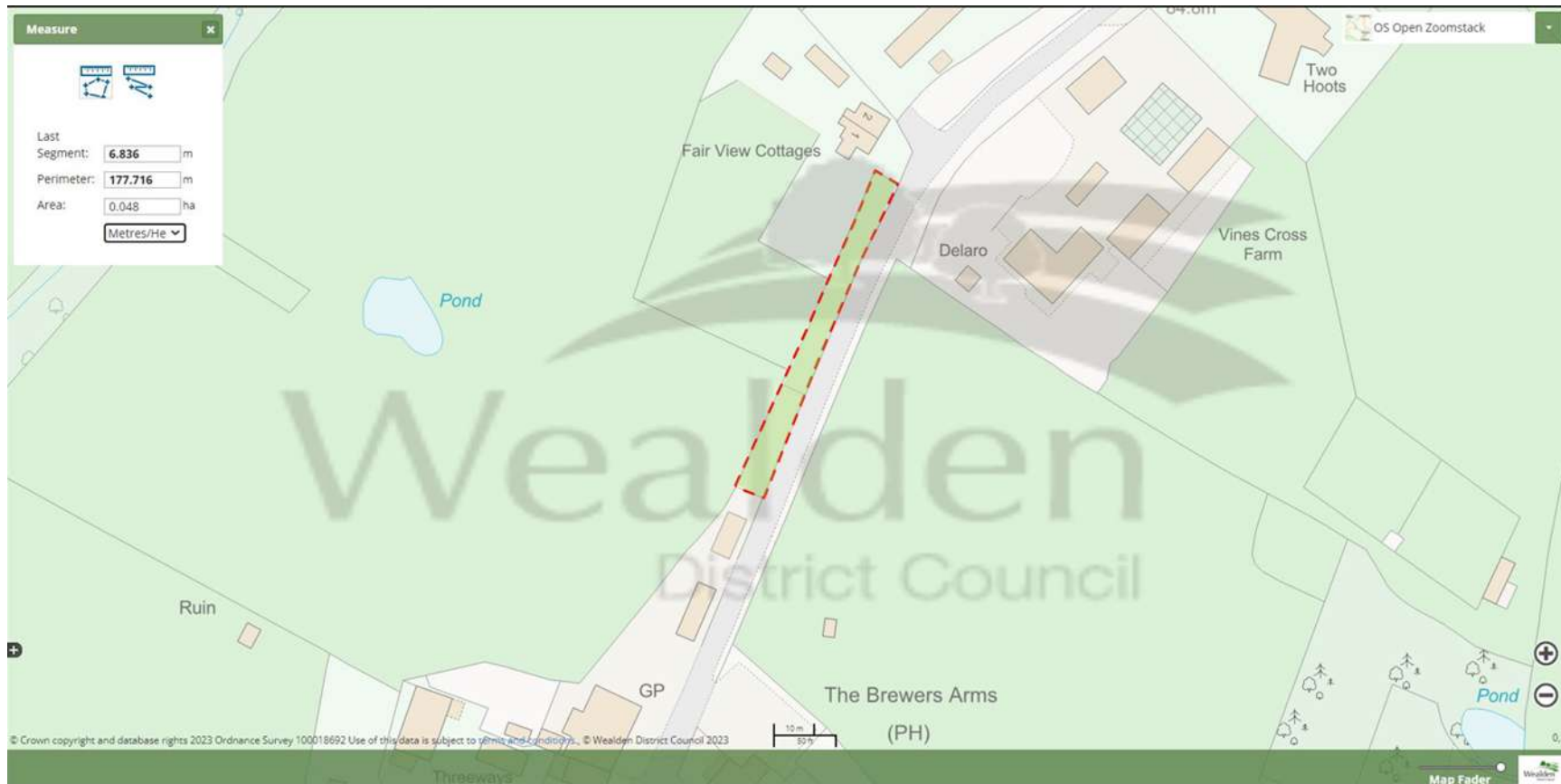
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Strip of land alongside Nettlesworth Lane, Vines Cross
Grid ref (if known):	TQ559424 N 117965
Description of site:	Strip of land adjacent to road, with many mature trees
Area	0.048ha
Quality and condition of site:	Aside from tree cover, unused area.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Within the AONB
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Avenue created by the boundary trees and hedgerows, once part of old drove road, typical of the High Weald.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	The drove dates back to medieval times and was, until recently, in use by farmers herding sheep and cattle. It holds historical and potentially archaeological interest.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Has been used by pedestrians avoiding the highway to the East.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Home to an abundance and variety of wildlife.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	It creates a natural green barrier between traffic on Nettlesworth Lane and agricultural farmland within the AONB.
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 27

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Field between Laundry Lane and recent Rosemead Place development, crossed by Footpath 11
Grid ref (if known):	TQ558673 N 116986
Description of site:	Grassed field. Also, part of the green break between Horam and Marle Green.
Area	2.142 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Grazed by sheep
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes; it is pasture land integral to the High Weald landscape character of the area, bounded by a historic routeway, and with views across the High Weald AONB to the north and to the South Downs southwards.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Part of historic landscape pattern, with a pond on the north-western edge, species-rich hedgerow to Laundry Lane.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Well used public footpath for walkers crosses diagonally through the field.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	The field affords a real sense of peace and tranquillity, feeling very rural, being apart from the nearby village edge., Trees and houses on Horebeech Lane mitigate noise. Surrounded by ancient field boundaries.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Amphibians and reptiles associated with adjacent ponds
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Forms a vital break in development between Horam and Marle Green, as well as contributing to the setting of the High Weald AONB.
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 28

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Treed open space setting of footpath alongside the Waldron Ghyll
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 558128 N 117604
Description of site:	Wooded strip of land between back gardens and Waldron Ghyll running between Vines Cross Road and the B2203
Area	0.279 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Natural, unkempt and in times of high rainfall subject to localised flooding
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat Inventory. Also, many trees covered by a TPO.
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	The ghyll and associated woodland and washlands are characteristic local landscape features
Historic significance? If so, say why:	
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Integral to the rural fringe setting of the public footpath, and hence to its enjoyment, by the many people that walk along it.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Trees muffle the noise of the village, and you can just hear the noise of the stream
Wildlife? If so, say why:	It forms part of the natural stream corridor and, as such, an important wildlife resource. Abundance of Birds and insects, as well as water voles.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Unique, as it is the only place in the Parish where you can walk alongside the Ghyll.
Supporting comments	It is not within residential curtilages.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

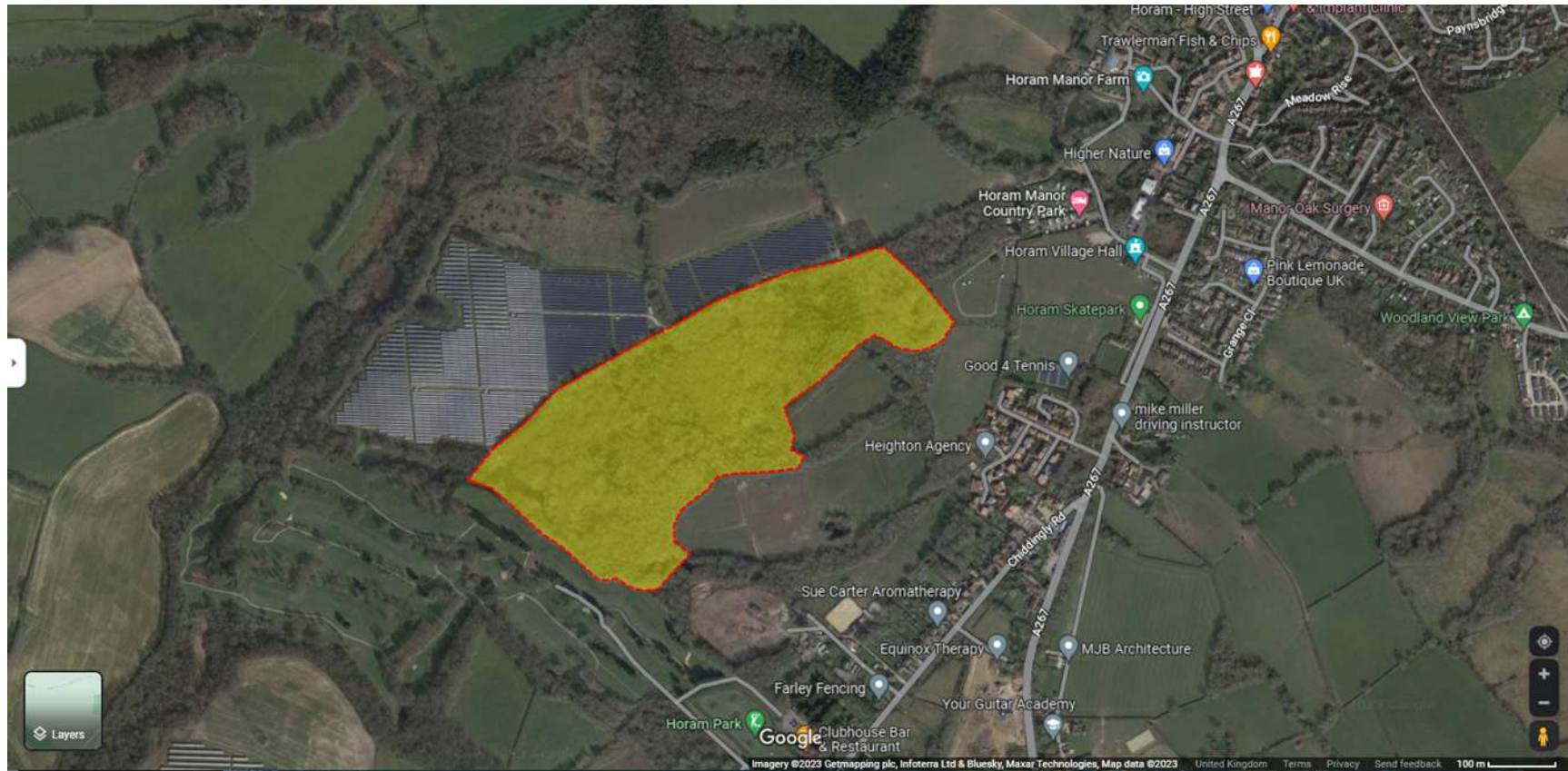


Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 29

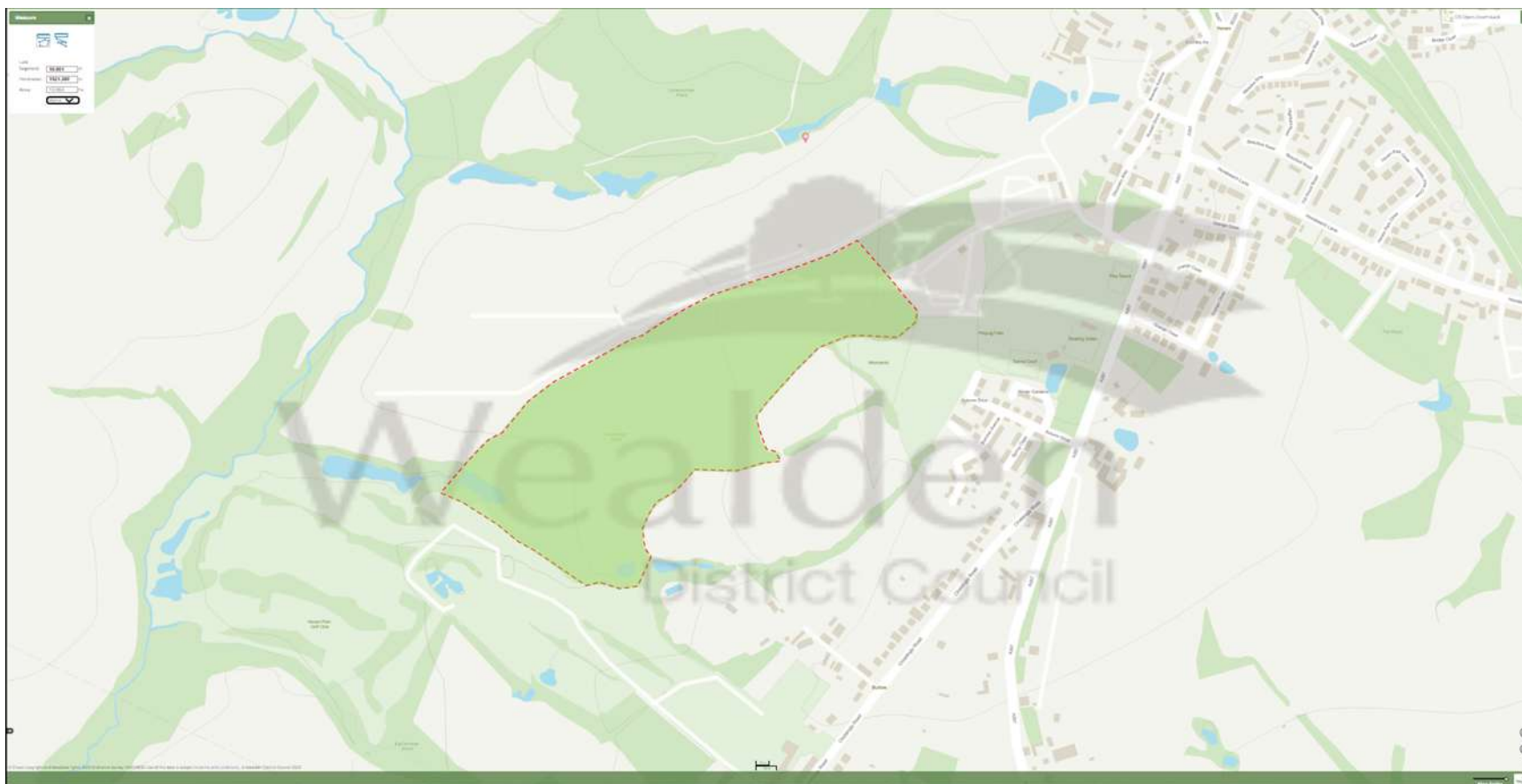
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Main part of Clearhedge Wood
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 569 168 (centre)
Description of site:	Ancient Woodland, some semi-natural, some replanted; includes a length of ravine / ghyll woodland.
Area	13.965 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Managed for access with circular 'nature trail' walk, and horse rides through the woodland. Very good ancient woodland ground flora with carpets of bluebells and anemones in the spring. Extensive conifer planting in 1980's but native species have grown back and the wood is gradually reverting to its original semi-natural condition.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Classified as Semi-natural Ancient Woodland (ASNW)
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	No
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes – high quality ancient woodland with landscape significance
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Yes – includes archaeological features relating to the former iron industry.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Yes – permissive access for a nature trail and for horse riding
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Yes – offers peaceful and quiet walking venue
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Yes – high quality ancient woodland flora
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Bordering the golf course includes two well-used fishing lakes
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 30

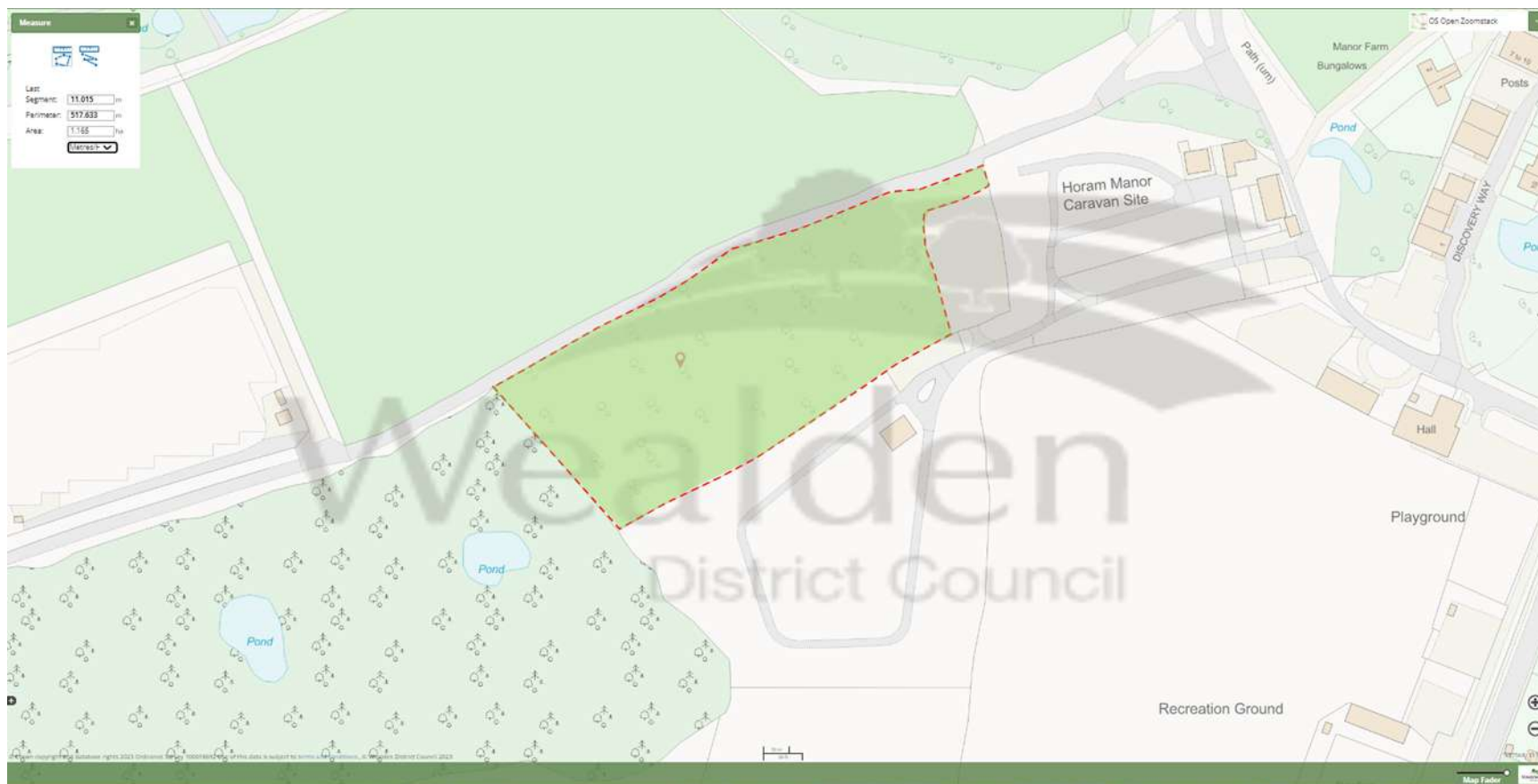
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Eastern arm of Clearhedge Wood bordering Horam Manor campsite
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 572 171 (centre)
Description of site:	Eastern end of Semi-natural Ancient Woodland.
Area	1.165 Ha
Quality and condition of site:	This is a relic of the original ancient woodland but is very heavily grazed by horses, with loss of ground flora and damage to younger trees.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Classified as Semi-natural Ancient Woodland (ASNW)
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes – it is ancient woodland with landscape significance, and borders the camping field.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	May include archaeological features relating to the former iron industry.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Yes – there is a nature trail running adjacent to the edge of the woodland.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Potentially – though wildlife value suffering due to current use.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	
Supporting comments	Change of management needed to improve the quality and value of this section of ancient woodland.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 31

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Main part of Coneyburrow Wood
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 569 172 (centre)
Description of site:	Ancient Woodland, some semi-natural, some replanted; (mapped area also includes an old cider-apple orchard at TQ 567 172 – non-woodland and also an area identified as Known Wildflower Meadow (FH3) on the High Weald AONB Landscape Character Field & Heath map for Horam Parish.
Area	13.097 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Managed for access with circular ‘nature trail’ walk, and horse rides through the woodland. Ancient woodland ground flora in non-conifer areas. Includes a conifer plantation of Western Hemlock.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Classified as Semi-natural Ancient Woodland (ASNW)
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	No
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes – high quality ancient woodland with landscape significance
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Yes – includes archaeological features relating to the former iron industry.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Yes – currently used as a nature trail and for horse riding (permitted access, honesty box)
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Yes – offers peaceful and quiet walking venue
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Yes – high quality ancient woodland flora
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Forms backdrop to fishing lakes
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 32

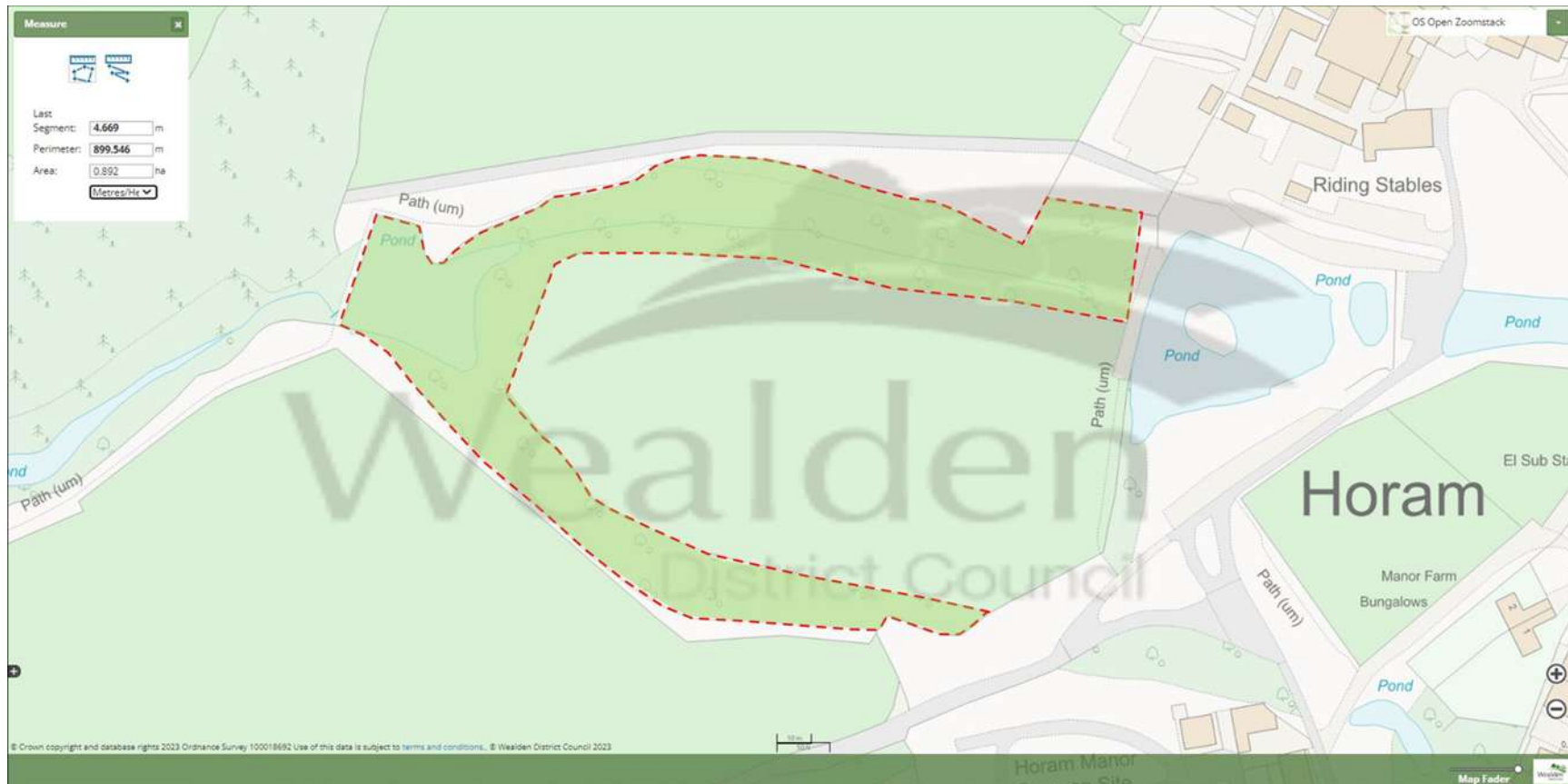
SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Crescent-shaped Ancient Woodland south-west of Horam Manor
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 573 172 (centre)
Description of site:	Two Semi-natural Ancient Woodland ghylls / ravine woodlands
Area	0.892 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Managed for access with circular 'nature trail' walk. Good ancient woodland ground flora.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	Classified as Semi-natural Ancient Woodland (ASNW)
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes – high quality ancient woodland with landscape significance
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Yes – includes archaeological features relating to the former iron industry.
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Yes – currently used as a nature trail and for horse riding (permitted access, honesty box)
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Yes – offers peaceful and quiet walking venue
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Yes – high quality ancient woodland flora
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Forms part of access to fishing lakes
Supporting comments	

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 33

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Field enclosed by ancient woodland at Site 32
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 574 172 (centre)
Description of site:	Old native Wealden meadow / permanent pasture
Area	1.352 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Not open for general public access; occasional use by organised groups. Periodically sheep grazed.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes – old Wealden meadow of landscape significance
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Not known
Recreational value? If so, say why:	No – not currently open or available for public access.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	N/A
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Yes – old native Wealden meadow / permanent pasture
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Occasionally used by organized groups.
Supporting comments	Change of ownership raises potential risk of more commercial development.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 34

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Fishing lakes and surrounds
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 575 172 (centre)
Description of site:	Fishing lake (likely former / 'hammer' (water supply) pond for iron industry); mown grass areas surrounding
Area	0.534ha
Quality and condition of site:	Managed as fishing lake, and surrounding areas open for general public access / picnicking, etc.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Attractive landscape feature
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Origins and former use associated with Wealden iron industry
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Yes – well-used by local people, and visitors staying at the nearby campsite, as well as patrons of the adjacent café and from museum.
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Yes – peaceful water-side area and popular for fishing
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Yes – provides useful aquatic habitat and frequented by waterfowl
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Popular well-used area easily accessible on foot from village
Supporting comments	Change of ownership raises potential risk of more commercial development and potential removal of free access.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 35

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land and banks behind units in Discovery Way
Grid ref (if known):	TQ 575 171 (centre)
Description of site:	Small pond (former / 'hammer' (water supply) pond for iron industry); wild grass areas and scrub land on bank to west of industrial units
Area	0.403ha
Quality and condition of site:	Not currently managed for fishing, pond becomes seasonally dry as it is fed mostly by run-off from Discovery Way and business units. Western edge is shorter mown grass.
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Yes – tranquil pond area with landscape significance
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Origins and former use associated with Wealden iron industry (probably)
Recreational value? If so, say why:	Yes – bench adjacent to pond is used by local people, dog walkers, visitors staying at the nearby campsite, as well as scouts and guides from nearby scout / guide HQ
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Yes – peaceful quiet water-side haven
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Yes – provides useful seasonal aquatic habitat frequented by waterfowl
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Close to Discovery Way / village hall, etc.
Supporting comments	Has been identified as a potential SHLAA site.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

SUGGESTED SITE 36

SITE DETAILS	
Site Name:	Land south of Grange Close, adjacent to A267 Horam Road
Grid ref (if known):	TQ557615 N 116875
Description of site:	Rectangle of land stripped of trees by illegal felling in August 2021
Area	0.410 ha
Quality and condition of site:	Unused area, now barren but subject to Environment Agency enforcement action to replant
Are there any existing policy designations on the site?	No
CRITERIA	
Does the green space have planning permission for development?	No
Is the green space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the green space local in character and not an extensive tract of land?	Yes
Is the green space considered demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particularly local significance because of:	
Beauty? If so, say why:	Provided a tree filled buffer, visually separating close-spaced dwellings in Grange Close from both A267 and the scattered dwellings of Coxlow House, and vice-versa.
Historic significance? If so, say why:	Contains building dating back to WW2
Recreational value? If so, say why:	
Tranquility? If so, say why:	Trees provide peaceful amenity between A267 and Grange Close.
Wildlife? If so, say why:	Before the tree felling was home to an abundance and variety of wildlife.
Other values? If so, say what and why:	Natural green barrier between traffic on A267 and Grange Close estate.
Supporting comments	Replanting of trees is required under enforcement action for unauthorised felling. Regrowth will duly regain previous significance.

Site location plans



Map source: Google Earth



Map source: Created using Wealden DC Online Mapping Tool (<https://maps.wealden.gov.uk/WebMap/>)

5. Assessment of suggested sites

- 5.1 Based on the information presented in the proformas in the previous section an assessment of the potential for designation is now presented in this part of the report, suggesting whether it should be taken forward for further consideration and consultation.
- 5.2 In addition to the information presented in the proformas additional consideration has also been given to the following in this section:
- a) Policy review: this has explored whether a site benefits from existing environmental or historic designations, including: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Country Parks, Local Nature Reserves, National Parks, RAMSAR, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Flood Zones 2 and 3, ancient woodland, Conservation Area or Scheduled Ancient Monument designations. If the site falls within a number of the above designations, the site is deemed to already be sufficiently protected and therefore does not warrant designation as a local green space.
 - b) Protections through statute: it is recognised that both allotments (where in the ownership of the public sector, i.e.: Parish Councils) and school playing fields are protected under, respectively, the Allotments Act 1925 and Schedule 1 of the Academies Act 2010 and

Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. This legislation places great weight against the disposal of allotments and school playing fields and that designation as Local Green Space is not necessary.

- c) Other considerations: if, through observational analysis, there are clear design considerations, i.e., if the site is small or is well overlooked by surrounding properties, and which would limit the risk of development on such a site, it is not considered appropriate to designate the site. In addition, where a site is considered to have some very localised community value but would not necessarily be valued by the community as a whole, designation is not considered appropriate.

- 5.3 In addition, it is unnecessary to designate linear corridors such as Public Rights of Way as Local Green Space, as these benefit from policy protection. Equally, road side verges and associated corridors are not generally designated as Local Green Spaces, particularly where this might preclude any future infrastructure works that might improve road safety and conditions for example. In such instances, these might be noted as contributing to the character of the settlement and which might be included in design policies in the Plan that require development to strengthen and enhance local character.

Summary Assessment Table

Site Reference	Site Name	Suitable for designation	Consult on potential designation	Reasons
1	Land at corner of A267 / accessway to Village Hall.	Yes	Yes	Classified as an 'Accessible Natural Green Space' in Wealden Open Space Study. Forms part of green corridor extending along A267 either site of Recreation Ground on approach into village. Is located in close proximity to the existing built-up area.
2	Land in front of Four Seasons adjacent to A267. Bisected by the entrance road to Four Seasons	Yes	Yes	Classified as an 'Accessible Natural Green Space' in Wealden Open Space Study. Forms part of green corridor extending along A267 either site of Recreation Ground on approach into village. Is located in close proximity to the existing built-up area and forms part of the setting of adjacent residential development.
3	Allotments	Yes	Yes	Allotments bring benefits in terms of social health and wellbeing. As the allotments are in the ownership of a charity (but not the District or Parish Council), they are not subject to the protections in the Allotments Act and would thus benefit from designation.
4	Horam Recreation Ground	Yes	Yes	Classified as a Park and Recreation Ground in Wealden Open Space Study, including play space or children and youths, as well as 'fixed' outdoor sports facilities. Used for sports and required to support increased pressures that might arise from future development. Site immediately adjacent to existing built up area and accessible to the community for us.
5	Memorial Garden, Hillside Drive	Yes	Yes	Although the site is small and unlikely to come under pressure for development, it is a site of significance and importance to the local community and history of the area.
6	Land on corner of Paynsbridge Way with Vines Cross Road	Yes	Yes	Classified as 'Amenity Green Space' in Wealden Open Space study and which forms the setting of neighbouring residential properties.

Site Reference	Site Name	Suitable for designation	Consult on potential designation	Reasons
7	Land behind Maynards Green School	No	No	This site benefits from protection under legislation as a school playing field, and thus additional protection as a designed Local Green Space is not necessary. The field is only used by the School and is not open to the wider public. Note that the site is within the AONB.
8	Area by Hillside Car Park, junction with Meadow Rise	Potentially	Yes	Relatively small area of land, but likely some amenity value for adjacent housing estate and in providing separation from car park. Uncertain value; hence, consult on this. .
9	Station area, Horam, including access land from B2203	Potentially	Yes	Clear public value in this core space around the Cuckoo Trail in the heart of the village. It may be more appropriate to have a separate policy in the Neighbourhood Plan that seeks to safeguard the route and use of the Cuckoo Trail, and which allows for investment in this, including improvements to it and appropriate uses / activities along it.
10	Field and bank north of solar farm including fishing lakes bordering southern edge of Coneyburrow Wood	No	No	A relatively large area of land removed from / distant from the settlement. Any intrinsic landscape value would be considered under other policies.
11	Land between Horebeech Lane and Beauford Road	Yes	Yes	Classified as an 'Amenity Green Space' in the Wealden Open Space study. Is located within the settlement, is accessible to the community and forms the setting of the surrounding residential properties.
12	Land between the High Street and garages in Beauford Road	Yes	Yes	Although small, the site has been identified locally as having value both as a break in built-up street frontage and to rest in.
13	Vines Cross Pond, Foords Lane junction with Ballsocks Lane	Yes	Yes	Classified as an 'Accessible Natural Green Space' in the Wealden Open Space Study. Forms part of the character of the settlement. Site is within the settlement area and provides for the enjoyment of residents.

Site Reference	Site Name	Suitable for designation	Consult on potential designation	Reasons
14	Land at Hurst Shaw, Vines Cross	Yes	Yes	Classified as an 'Amenity Green Space' in the Wealden Open Space study. Accessible to and forms part of the setting of adjacent residential properties. Arrangement of homes overlooking the site limits the risk of potential future development.
15	Land at Foords Farm with duck pond	Potentially	Yes	Site is beyond the immediate village envelope and is adjacent to the AONB. It comprises an attractive backdrop to the farm buildings and approach into the village. Wider value of the site to the public to be explored through consultation.
16	Golf Course	No	No	An extensive tract of land removed from / distant from the settlement. The golf course straddles the parish boundary which would complicate policy application in a Neighbourhood Plan.
17	Cuckoo Trail	No	No	See other policy opportunities. Recognised as a strategically important green access link in the Wealden Green Infrastructure Study (2017). Unnecessary to classify entire trail as a Local Green Space. Other policies and initiatives to be developed that safeguard the route and promote enhancements.
18	Area between Cuckoo Trail and Maynards Green Road. South of entrance to Hendalls Farm and North of Oast	No	No	Narrow, tree-lined strip of land. Next to Cuckoo Trail and within the AONB. Part of gap between Horam and Maynards Green, but understood to be protected as part of publicly-owned Cuckoo Trail.
19	Corner of Laundry Lane and Horebeech Lane	No	No	Relatively small area of open lane at road junction. Adds to character of setting but part of, albeit generous, highway verge, so not appropriate for designation, notwithstanding local amenity value.
20	Wooded strip of land on west side of Chiddingly Road between Kingston Villas and power lines	No	No	A narrow, planted strip of land that forms part of the character of the settlement. TPOs are appropriate protection. Could be subject to policies in the NDP around the design and character of the area.

Site Reference	Site Name	Suitable for designation	Consult on potential designation	Reasons
21	Green strip between electricity substation on Chiddingly Road and Crematorium	No	No	Beyond being a point of access to the crematorium, the site appears to have limited value in terms of the NPPF criteria.
22	Strip of land between Merrydown estate and the A267	Yes	Yes	Comprises green corridor along A267 in close proximity to the centre of the village. Part of the setting of adjacent residential properties and the character of the village.
23	Pond between tennis/football pavilion and Winter Gardens	Yes	Yes	Natural feature closely associated with adjacent wooded area – see Site 2a – which enhances overall value.
24	Land behind The Brewers Arms	No	No	Located within the AONB. While there has previously been public access, this was rescinded some time ago and currently used for grazing. Value as part of setting of this part of the village, which would be subject to landscape policies. Ambitions to reuse land for community benefit are noted, but would need to be separately considered, potentially through an allocation.
25	Field behind The Brewers Arms, Vines Cross	No	No	The site is in the AONB and is relatively large. Similar reasoning as Site 24 above.
26	Strip of land alongside Nettlesworth Lane, Vines Cross	No	No	Site located within the AONB. A narrow, planted strip that forms part of the character of the area and approach to the settlement. Could be subject to policies in the NDP around the heritage of the area.
27	Field crossed by Footpath 11	Yes	Yes	While there is only public access across the middle of the field, it is recognised as an intrinsically important field in terms of the rural character, setting and amenities of the area, with visual links to the AONB to the north and Downs to the south. It provides important tranquillity, and well-being, to walkers and Laundry Lane. It is critical

Site Reference	Site Name	Suitable for designation	Consult on potential designation	Reasons
				in providing critical separation between Horam and Marle Green. These factors support designation of a LGS.
28	Treed open space setting of footpath alongside the Waldron Ghyll	Potentially	Yes	Site is immediately adjacent to AONB and to the rear of gardens. There is a limited risk of development, though the site does have value in terms of wildlife and tranquillity. Use and value of site can be explored further through consultation.
29	Main part of Clearheadge Wood	No	No	An Extensive area of land beyond existing built-up area. Designated as an area of Ancient Woodland and thus already benefits from protection. Unnecessary to add an extra layer of policy.
30	Eastern arm of Clearheadge Wood bordering Horam manor campsite	No	No	Designated as an Area of Ancient Woodland and thus already benefits from protection. Unnecessary to add an extra layer of policy.
31	Main part of Coneyburrow Wood	No	No	Designated as an Area of Ancient Woodland and thus already benefits from protection. Unnecessary to add an extra layer of policy.
32	Crescent-shaped Ancient Woodland south west of Horam Manor	No	No	Designated as an Area of Ancient Woodland and thus already benefits from protection. Unnecessary to add an extra layer of policy.
33	Field enclosed by ancient woodland at Site 32	No	No	Ownership, access and value to wider community unclear. Not demonstrably special.
34	Fishing lakes and surrounds	Potentially	Yes	Is in close proximity to settlement and appears to have value as an amenity, wildlife and recreational asset, through ownership and access arrangements unclear. To explore further through consultation.
35	Land and banks behind units in Discovery Way	No	No	Although the site is well-treed, it is of little amenity value in its own right, being largely overgrown and containing derelict buildings. Critically, it is not visible from public vantage points and, furthermore,

Site Reference	Site Name	Suitable for designation	Consult on potential designation	Reasons
				tall boundary hedging also contains it from the paddocks to the south, and the café and fishing lake beyond.
36	Land south of Grange Close, adjacent to A267 Horam Road	Potentially	Yes	Well-wooded area adjacent to A267, but which has been clear-felled, apparently without a felling Licence. Requirement to restock should ultimately restore value. However, this may be considered further through consultation.

6. Recommendations from Initial Assessment

6.1 Based upon the above, nineteen of the sites suggested may be considered appropriate for Local Green Space designation subject to consultation through the Neighbourhood Plan. These are:

1. Land at corner of A267 / accessway to Village Hall (Site Ref. 1)
2. Land in front of Four Seasons adjacent to the A267. Bisected by the entrance road to Four Seasons (Site Ref. 2)
3. Allotments (Site Ref. 3)
4. Horam Recreation Ground (Site Ref. 4)
5. Memorial Garden, Hillside Drive (Site Ref. 5)
6. Land on corner of Paynesbridge Way with Vines Cross (Site Ref. 6)
7. Area by Hillside Car Park, junction with Meadow Rise (Site Ref. 8)
8. Station area, Horam, including access land from B2203 (Site Ref. 9)
9. Land between Horebeech Lane and Beauford Road (Site Ref. 11)
10. Land between the High Street and garages in Beauford Road (Site Ref 12)
11. Vines Cross Pond, Foords Lane junction with Ballsocks Lane (Site Ref. 13)
12. Land at Hurst Shaw, Vines Cross (Site Ref. 14)
13. Land at Foords Farm with duck pond (Site Ref. 15)
14. Strip of land between Merrydown estate and the A267 (Site Ref. 22)
15. Pond between tennis/football pavilion and Winter Gardens (Site Ref. 23)
16. Field crossed by footpath 11 (Site Ref. 27)
17. Treed rural fringe along banks of Waldron Ghyll and footpath (Site Ref. 28)
18. Fishing Lakes and surrounds (Site Ref. 34)
19. Land south of Grange Close, adjacent to A267 (Site Ref. 36)

7. Consultation Feedback

- 7.1 Landowners of the sites proposed as potential Local Green Space designations were contacted to ask for their views on these. A copy of the letter sent is presented at the end of this section.
- 7.2 A limited number of responses were received in response to the letter. Of those that did respond:
- The owners of Foords Farm (Site Ref. 15) objected to the proposed designation.
 - The owners of the 'Field crossed by Footpath 11' (Site Ref. 27) objected to the proposed designation.
 - On behalf of the owners of 'land south of Grange Close' (Site ref. 36) an objection was received to the proposed designation.
 - One of the owners of land along the Waldron Ghyll (Site Ref. 28) wrote to express support for the designation.
 - The Hurt Shaw Residents Association (Site Refs. 13 and 14) wrote to express support for both proposed designations.
- 7.3 All of the proposed designations were presented for wider consultation at the Regulation 14 stage, with letters sent to owners of the proposed designations to invite their feedback. A copy of the letter sent is presented at the end of this section.
- 7.4 Of those who responded to that part of the Regulation 14 survey asking for views on the proposed designations, 89% said they strongly agreed with the policy and 9% said they agreed. Of the remainder, just over 1% said they neither agreed nor disagreed, and less than 1% said they strongly disagreed.
- 7.5 The survey results indicate strong support for the designation of Local Green Spaces in the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 7.6 Of those who provided comments on the survey, respondents overwhelmingly expressed support for the policy and the green spaces identified for designation in the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 7.7 Some specific comments were received from statutory consultees, agents and landowners. These are set out below:
- a) East Sussex County Council suggest that reference should also be made to the health and mental wellbeing benefits of local green spaces. This is noted, with health and wellbeing aspects referenced in this report (see Section 2).
 - b) Gladman considers that some of the designations comprise extensive tracts of land and that the proposed designations be revisited to ensure compliance with higher level policy.
 - c) The landowner of proposed Local Green Space site reference 27 (Field crossed by footpath 11) objected

to designation, noting that the description is inaccurate and that, other than the footpath through the site, there is no public access or community benefit arising from the site, and that it is not demonstrably special in any way. The objection to this site is also made separately by Strutt & Parker on behalf of Welbeck Strategic Land.

- d) Igloo, on behalf of D. L. and G. Blackden, objects to proposed Local Green Space site reference 36 ('land south of Grange Close'), noting that the land is not demonstrably special against the criteria outlined in the NPPF.

7.8 Wealden District Council also provided comments on the full list of proposed designations (including those that the assessment had already indicated did not meet the criteria for designation). Their comments and responses to those are set out in the table overleaf.

7.9 Some of the comments are set in the context of the District Council's SHELAA associated with the emerging Local Plan. Wealden comment that some of the proposed designations are on sites put forward for consideration in the SHELAA and that, if the designations are taken forward, this could result in limiting the supply of potential housing sites and the number of dwellings that can be delivered on these sites to meet the housing needs of the local community in Horam. WDC states that the NPPF, at paragraph 28, is clear that Neighbourhood Plans should not promote less development than is set

out in the strategic policies for the area or undermine those strategic policies.

7.10 The Parish does not agree with this view.

7.11 Sites currently put forward for consideration in the SHELAA are just that at the moment. They have not yet been assessed and have no planning status, have not been consulted upon, nor tested as part of an emerging Plan. Indeed, this remains some way off at the time of writing.

7.12 NPPF paragraph 28 relates to neighbourhood plans allocating sites for housing and to existing, adopted Local Plans. At this point, there is no up-to-date Local Plan in place that provides a basis for concluding that the Neighbourhood Plan promotes less development than the strategic policies for the area.

7.13 The review of SHELAA sites, which cover an extensive area of land in the Parish, should now take account of the aspirations and emerging policies within the Neighbourhood Plan to determine whether they are suitable locations for growth.

7.14 Even with the Neighbourhood Plan policies applied, there will be more than sufficient land within the Parish to allocate to both meet local housing needs and make an appropriate contribution to meeting wider housing needs.

Suggested Site	Comment	HPC Response
Site 1- Land at Corner of A267	<p>Part of this site is within the Council's SHELAA process (reference 1062/3030) and will therefore be considered for both employment and housing use, which it is being promoted for (excludes the pond). Its designation as a Local Green Space may be seen as removing an opportunity for development and meeting the basic conditions test.</p> <p>Of course, it goes without saying, that the landowner (given the site has been submitted to the SHELAA process) will likely dispute this and this is therefore a risk to the NDP.</p> <p>The Council would not consider this site as tranquil, given its location adjacent to the A267 to the east and employment uses to the west.</p> <p>Given the above we do not believe this site is appropriate for Local Green Space designation.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>This land is subject to a s106 Agreement as part of the approval for the "Merrydown Village" development to be retained and managed as open space.</p> <p>That it is now being promoted for development is contrary to the decision of WDC in relation to this development. It cannot be seen as failing the 'basic conditions' test'.</p> <p>It is accepted that the land is not currently being managed, which WDC is requested to investigate as an enforcement matter.</p> <p>However, it is still seen locally as a valuable "green break" to development, connecting with the recreation ground.</p> <p>A positive approach to its management will help maximise its contribution to the local amenities and the character of the area. To this end, it is now proposed as a community project.</p> <p>Summary: For reasons given above, it is considered that the site satisfies the criteria for designation</p>
Site 2- Land in front of Four Seasons	<p>We would question the tranquility issue once more here, given the proximity to the A267 and being bisected by Autumn Drive.</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted, but each area provides a sense of calm and an appreciation of nature, notwithstanding nearby traffic.</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 3 - Allotments	<p>No specific comments provided but do express support for designation</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>

Site 4 – Horam Recreation Ground	<p>No specific comments provided but do express support for designation</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 5- Memorial Garden, Hillside Drive	<p>Is there more that can be added here? We do understand the purpose of the Local Green Space designation, but given its owned by HPC is there any need for this designation? Is there some historical significance as this has been left empty in the Local Green Space Report?</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation (though does not feel this is necessary given land in ownership of Parish Council)</p>	<p>The designation recognises its value in line with the NPPF criteria, and is consistent with the identification of other proposed LGSs.</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 6- Corner of Paynsbridge Way with Vines Cross Road	<p>It is good quality residential amenity space, but does it meet the high bar of being demonstrably special to the community? Although the public can access the green space, there is no seating or other places to dwell / spend time.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>The absence of seating barely detracts from the frequent use of the space for informal play, walking, relaxing, social gatherings, etc., nor does it impact on its visual amenity value. The addition of a bench by WDC, as landowners, would still be welcomed.</p> <p>Summary: For reasons given above, it is considered that the site satisfies the criteria for designation</p>
Site 7- Land behind Maynards Green School	<p>If it's a school playing field, then does this need an extra level of protection. We therefore, question whether it should be designated as a Local Green Space.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>This site is not included in the HNP for designation as a LGS.</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
Site 8- Area by Hillside Car Park	<p>It is good quality residential amenity land for residential development, but does it meet the high bar of being considered as demonstrably special at this stage. Although the public can access the green space, there is no seating or other places to dwell / spend time.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>The absence of seating barely detracts from the frequent use of the space for relaxing, especially in connection with the use of the adjacent Cuckoo Trail, etc., nor does it impact on its visual amenity value. The addition of a bench by WDC, as landowners, would still be welcomed.</p> <p>Summary: For reasons given above, it is considered that</p>

		<i>the site satisfies the criteria for designation</i>
Site 9 - Station area, Horam, including access land from B2203	No specific comments provided but do express support for designation <i>Summary: Supports designation</i>	Noted <i>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</i>
Site 10- Field and bank north of solar farm	It appears from the wording that the origin of the ponds has not been agreed, so perhaps don't use this unless it can be certain that it relates to the Wealden iron industry. If support was to be given (it appears from the summary table that you do not intend to designate) then the justification will need to be thought out more thoroughly. We agree that there may be some difficulty in making the connection that this land is demonstrably special to the local community. <i>Summary: Does not support designation</i>	This site is not included in the HNP for designation as a LGS. <i>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</i>
Site 11 – Land between Horebeech Lane and Beauford Road	No specific comments provided but do express support for designation <i>Summary: Supports designation</i>	Noted <i>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</i>
Site 12 - Land between the High Street and garages in Beauford Road	No specific comments provided but do express support for designation <i>Summary: Supports designation</i>	Noted <i>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</i>

Site 13 - Vines Cross Pond, Foords Lane junction with Ballsocks Lane	<p>No specific comments provided but do express support for designation</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 14 - Land at Hurst Shaw, Vines Cross	<p>No specific comments provided but do express support for designation</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 15- Land at Foords Farm	<p>We would question whether this green space is in close proximity to the community it serves, given its location outside of Vines Cross and with no substantive pedestrian connectivity. Can the general public use it?</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>This green space is part of the setting of Foords Farm, the buildings of which adjoin the main built-up part of the village.</p> <p>Notwithstanding that it is regarded as intrinsic to the character of the approach to the village, it is accepted that it is safeguarded as part of the setting of the Listed farmhouse.</p> <p>It is proposed that this LGS designation is accordingly withdrawn from the HNP.</p> <p>Summary: Based on responses and further review the site is to be removed as a designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 16- Golf Course	<p>Agree with the conclusion here, but we consider it to be an extensive tract of land in our view and should not be brought forward as a LGS. Of course, part of the golf course is also outside the Parish as well so cannot be included.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>

Site 17 - Cuckoo Trail	No comments provided Summary: n/a	Summary: The site is not proposed for designation. The response from WDC is taken as agreement to this. No change therefore required.
Site 18- Area between Cuckoo Trail and Maynards Green Road	Agree with the conclusions, the site is already in the High Weald AONB, heavily treed, narrow and is owned as part of the Cuckoo Trail. There is no further requirement to designate as an LGS. Summary: Does not support designation	Noted Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.
Site 19- Corner of Laundry Lane and Horebeech Lane	Agree with summary, that this is a very small parcel of land that relates to a highway verge and vehicle crossovers and is not demonstrably special, albeit those trees of course hold amenity value. This should not be an LGS. Summary: Does not support designation	Noted Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.
Site 20- Wooded strip of land on west side of Chiddingly Road	Agree with the conclusion that states a TPO is potentially the most likely protection here and that a LGS is not necessary. Summary: Does not support designation	Noted Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.
Site 21- Green strip between electricity sub-station and Crematorium	Part of this site is included within the SHELAA process (reference 911/3030) and also forms part of a planning application for new homes under reference 2022/1899. There is planning permission for housing development (38 (net) dwellings) for the site under WD/2018/2526/MAO that was granted in November 2022. We would advise strongly that this not included as a LGS, given the risks to the NDP. I have noted that your summary concludes that you will not bring this forward as a LGS and we agree with this.	This site is not included in the HNP for designation as a LGS. Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.

	Summary: Does not support designation	
Site 22 - Strip of land between Merrydown estate and the A267	<p>No specific comments provided but do express support for designation</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 23 - Pond between tennis/football pavilion and Winter Gardens	<p>No specific comments provided but do express support for designation</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>
Site 24- Land behind the Brewers Arms	<p>Agree with conclusion to this LGS candidate. The site use is no longer in operation and is located within the High Weald AONB, so is sufficiently protected.</p> <p>We would note that the field itself was submitted to the SHELAA under reference 239/3320 but was found 'unsuitable' in the latest assessment in 2019. Nonetheless, there is a risk the landowner would not support the designation of a LGS here and this in turn would be a risk to the NDP.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
Site 25- Field behind the Brewers Arms, Vines Cross	<p>See comment above for the smaller part of this site. Agree with the conclusion and would strongly suggest that you do not designate this site as a LGS. The site is within the High Weald AONB in any case.</p> <p>Is there a reason why this has been considered separately to Site 24, given they form part of the same field?</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>

<p>Site 26- Strip of land alongside Nettlesworth Lane</p>	<p>Agree with conclusion that the site is not suitable for LGS designation, given its existing protection as part of the High Weald AONB and its narrow form, as well as its lack of recreational value.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
<p>Site 27- Field between Laundry Lane and Rosemead Place development</p>	<p>This site has been put forward within the SHELAA process under reference 830/3030 and at a high level was found suitable for residential development within the 2019 SHELAA assessment. The site has also been subject to several planning applications in recent years for residential development including the latest planning application under reference WD/2022/1694/MAO for 46 homes that was refused in June 2023 following a committee decision.</p> <p>It is noted that there will likely be strong resistance from the developer during the NDP preparation and this is of course a substantial risk to the NDP. In addition, the Council does not agree with the assessment in terms designating the site as a LGS, given its agricultural nature and its proximity to the Poppy Drive development to the west that is largely constructed.</p> <p>It was advised that this LGS should not come forward within the Regulation 14 version of the NDP and this continues to be the advice moving forward.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>This comment seems inconsistent with WDC's formal decision to refuse planning permission for the application cited (and a previous one).</p> <p>Central to that decision was that <i>"the development would significantly impact upon the visual amenity of the rural landscape character of the area, it would result in the loss of a valued open space that contributes to that rural landscape character, it would undermine the settlement pattern and the gaps between settlements, and it would harm the rural landscape setting of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty"</i>.</p> <p>It is strongly believed that the site meets the NPPF criteria, which does not exclude agricultural land from designation. Its proximity to the recent Rosemead Place ("Poppy Drive") development only increases its local amenity value.</p> <p>WDC officers are respectfully asked to review their position in the light of their own Council's decision noted above.</p> <p>Summary: For reasons given above, it is considered that the site satisfies the criteria for designation</p>

Site 28- Open space alongside the Waldron Ghyll	<p>Part of this site to the south has been submitted to the Council under the SHELAA process (reference 925/3030) and was found unsuitable for development due to TPO protections, views to the AONB and flood risk in the 2019 SHELAA.</p> <p>Given the environmental protections in place, including flood risk, it is not considered necessary to designate this site as a LGS as stated, as there are limited options for development in this location.</p> <p>In addition, as stated before, given the submission of the land within the SHELAA process, there is a risk that the landowner will actively disagree with the assessment as an LGS, and therefore, this is a risk to the NDP.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>As noted in earlier comments regarding the SHELAA, it has no planning status. It can also be seen that there is still some landowner interest.</p> <p>In any event, WDC is mis-applying the test as to the appropriateness of the LGS designation. It is not a designation that relates to a perceived threat of potential development, but is based on its merits in line with the NPPF criteria for LGS designation.</p> <p>The environmental merits of this stream-side corridor appear to be agreed.</p> <p>Summary: For reasons given above, it is considered that the site satisfies the criteria for designation</p>
Site 29- Main part of Clearhedge Wood	<p>Agree with the conclusion to this assessment as almost all of the land is Ancient Woodland so strongly protected, and moreover, this is an extensive tract of land. Therefore, we would agree with the conclusion that this site should not be a LGS.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
Site 30- Eastern arm of Clearhedge Wood	<p>Agree with conclusion that there is no need to designate this site as an LGS given its existing protection as Ancient Woodland.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
Site 31- Main part of Coneyburrow Wood	<p>Agree with conclusion that there is no need to designate this site as a LGS given it is largely still protected as Ancient Woodland. The site is also an extensive tract of land and quite some distance from the local community.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>

	Summary: Does not support designation	
Site 32- Ancient woodland south west of Horam Manor	<p>Agree with the conclusion that there is no need to designate this site as an LGS given its existing protection as Ancient Woodland.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
Site 33- Field enclosed by Ancient Woodland	<p>Agree with the conclusion that the site is not demonstrably special and it is also not publicly accessible, meaning it is unlikely to pass the NPPF criteria at paragraph 102.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
Site 34 - Fishing Lakes and surrounds, opposite Lakeside Cafe	<p>No specific comments provided but do express support for designation</p> <p>Summary: Supports designation</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Summary: Retain as designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</p>

<p>Site 35- Land and banks behind units in Discovery Way</p>	<p>This site is within the SHELAA process (reference 117/3030) and was considered suitable for residential development within the 2019 SHELAA report. It is also known that there is a live planning appeal for residential development with the Planning Inspectorate (reference 2022/1180) so it is likely that the landowner will challenge this designation as an LGS.</p> <p>This is of course a risk to the NDP and will likely be challenged. There is also a risk that the appeal succeeds. Given the above, it is advised that this parcel of land is not designated as an LGS.</p> <p>That this site is subject to an ongoing planning appeal for residential development should be stated in the assessment.</p> <p>Summary: Does not support designation</p>	<p>This site is not included in the HNP for designation as a LGS. It is accepted that it does not reach the threshold for a LGS, notwithstanding that it has some value in providing a semi-rural edge to the adjacent countryside.</p> <p>Summary: The site is not proposed for designation in any event. No change required.</p>
<p>Site 36- Land south of Grange Close</p>	<p>This site has been submitted to the SHELAA (reference 123/3330 and 875/3030) and was previously considered as part of an allocation for housing within the withdrawn Wealden Local Plan (2019) and is actively promoted for residential development. Both sites were considered suitable for residential development as part of the 2019 SHELAA report.</p> <p>This is a significant risk to the NDP and designation as a LGS has been actively criticised by the developer/landowner through the Regulation 14 consultation process. In addition, it is not considered that this site is demonstrably special to Horam and moreover, it is difficult to envisage how it would meet the NPPF criteria.</p>	<p>The proposed designation should not be swayed by whether a landowner or developer is promoting the site for development. It is not in an adopted Local Plan and is beyond its 'development boundary'</p> <p>The proposal for a LGS recognises the contribution that the trees - now felled - made to the setting of this part of the village.</p> <p>It is understood that there is ongoing enforcement action in respect of the felling and that, if there is a requirement to replant, then this may be re-established. However, at this point, the outcome is not known and, moreover, the replanting would be subject to separate legislation.</p> <p>Therefore, it is concluded that, on balance, the proposal for a LGS would be premature.</p>

	<i>Summary: Does not support</i>	<i>Summary: Based on responses and further review the site is to be removed as a designation in the Neighbourhood Plan</i>
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Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

Horam Parish Council
The Horam Centre
3, Bank Buildings
High Street,
TN21 0EH

March 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

Horam Parish Neighbourhood Plan:
Local Green Space Designations – Land in ownership of <<INSERT NAME>>

I am writing to invite your input to Horam Parish Councils Neighbourhood Plan, specifically in respect of 'Local Green Space' designations.

The Localism Act granted powers to Town and Parish Councils to prepare Neighbourhood Plans. Once formally 'made' these Plans will form part of the Development Plan and suite of policies used by Wealden District Council to inform and determine planning applications in the parish of Horam. In Horam, the Parish Council has established a Steering Group to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan.

Through work undertaken on the Neighbourhood Plan so far the importance of green space has been identified. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has identified a number of spaces that it is proposing to designate as 'Local Green Spaces' in the Neighbourhood Plan. Use of such designation gives special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to local communities.

The National Planning Policy Framework outlines the criteria that should be satisfied for a Local Green Space to be designated. The green space should be:

- a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular 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.

The Steering Group considers that the green space, <<INSERT NAME OF GREEN SPACE>> in the ownership of <<INSERT NAME OF LANDOWNER>> meets the criteria for designation. As the landowner, we are asking for your views, concerns, comments on the appropriateness of such a designation. All will be considered through production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

It is important to note that whilst designation would afford the green space similar policy protection to Green Belt, it does not place any new restrictions or obligations on landowners. Management of the land remains the responsibility of the landowner. Furthermore, designation does not confer any rights of access over what exists at present.

Further information can be found in:

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

Planning Practice Guidance:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space>

Please let us have your views by 11th April 2023.

These can be provided by email via the clerk clerk@horam.com or in paper form to the Horam Parish Council offices, address as above.

If you are not the current owner of this land, please could you notify the clerk, and if possible, advise as to who is.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely
For the Horam Parish Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group

Sally Blades
Clerk Horam Parish Council

Above: Copy of letter sent to landowners asking for their views on designation (page 1)

Above: Copy of letter sent to landowners asking for their views on designation (page 2)

Horam Neighbourhood Plan: Local Green Space Assessment

Horam Neighbourhood Plan
Horam Parish Council
The Horam Centre
3, Bank Buildings
High Street,
Horam
East Sussex
TN21 0EH

2nd June 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

I am contacting you as the registered owner of land identified through the previous Neighbourhood Plan consultations as potential Local Green Space.

I am now pleased to advise that we are in the formal consultation stage of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan which runs until 3rd July 2023.
(Regulation 14, Town and Country Planning, England, Neighbourhood Planning Regulations)

The Neighbourhood Plan and accompanying consultation material is available to view at the Parish Council offices as well as being available online via the Parish Council website:

Paper copies of the Horam Draft Plan & Supporting Documents will all be available to inspect at drop-in events on 10th, 17th and 24th of June when Parish Councillors/Steering Group members will be present. (See website for details) www.horam.com

If you would like to make representations, please complete the online survey accessible via the Parish Council website. Alternatively, you can download the survey form from the website and return by hand or post to the above address.

Representations can also be submitted by email, to: clerk@horam.com

With Regards

Clerk
Horam Parish Council

Above: Copy of letter sent to landowners of potential LGS designations at the Regulation 14 stage

8. Recommended Sites for Designation

8.1 Further to the responses received to consultation, it is proposed to amend the list of sites proposed for designation. Two sites are to be removed as designations, being:

- Site 15: Land at Foords Farm with duck pond.
- Site 36: land south of Grange Close, adjacent to A267.

8.2 Seventeen sites are carried forward as Local Green Space designations in the submission version of the Neighbourhood Plan. These are:

- Site 1: Land at corner of A267 / accessway to Village Hall.
- Site 2: Land in front of Four Seasons adjacent to the A267 (bisected by the entrance road to Four Seasons).
- Site 3: Allotments.
- Site 4: Horam Recreation Ground.
- Site 5: Memorial Garden, Hillside Drive.
- Site 6: Land on corner of Paynsbridge Way and Vines Cross Road.

- Site 8: Area by Hillside Car Park, junction with Meadow Rise.
- Site 9: Station area, Horam, including access land from B2203.
- Site 11: Land between Horebeech Lane and Beauford Road.
- Site 12: Land between the High Street and garages in Beauford Road.
- Site 13: Vines Cross Pond, Foords Lane junction with Ballsocks Lane.
- Site 14: Land at Hurst Shaw, Vines Cross.
- Site 22: Strip of land between Merrydown estate and the A267.
- Site 23: Pond between tennis/football pavilion and Winter Gardens.
- Site 27: Field east of Rosemead Place, north of Marle Green, crossed by footpath 11.
- Site 28: Treed rural fringe along banks of Waldron Ghyll and footpath, between Maynards Green Road and Vines Cross Road.
- Site 34: Fishing Lakes and surrounds, opposite Lakeside Café.

Appendix: Planning Practice Guidance

The following is extracted from [Planning Practice Guidance](#) and provides an overview of the Local Green Space Designation, how these should be identified and what is conferred by 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.

Paragraph: 005 Reference ID: 37-005-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

How is land designated as Local Green Space?

Local Green Space designation is for use in Local Plans or Neighbourhood Plans. These plans can identify on a map ('designate') green areas for special protection. Anyone who wants an area to be designated as Local Green Space should contact the local planning authority about the contents of its local plan or get involved in neighbourhood planning.

Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 37-006-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

How does Local Green Space designation relate to development?

Designating any Local Green Space will need to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. In particular, plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the Local Green Space designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making.

Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

What if land has planning permission for development?

Local Green Space designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented.

Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

What if land is already protected by Green Belt or as Metropolitan Open Land (in London)?

If land is already protected by Green Belt policy, or in London, policy on Metropolitan Open Land, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space. One potential benefit in areas where protection from development is the norm (e.g.: villages included in the green belt) but where there could be exceptions is that the Local Green Space designation could help to identify areas that are of particular importance to the local community.

Paragraph: 010 Reference ID: 37-010-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

What if land is already protected by designations such as National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Scheduled Monument or conservation area?

Different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. If land is already protected by designation, then

consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space.

Paragraph: 011 Reference ID: 37-011-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

What about new communities?

New residential areas may include green areas that were planned as part of the development. Such green areas could be designated as Local Green Space if they are demonstrably special and hold particular local significance.

Paragraph: 012 Reference ID: 37-012-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 37-013-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 014 Reference ID: 37-014-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 016 Reference ID: 37-016-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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 (e.g.: 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.

Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 37-017-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

What about public rights of way?

Areas that may be considered for designation as Local Green Space may be crossed by public rights of way. There is no need to designate linear corridors as Local Green Space simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation.

Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 37-019-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 020 Reference ID: 37-020-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

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.

Paragraph: 021 Reference ID: 37-021-20140306 Revision date: 06 03 2014

Can a Local Green Space be registered as an Asset of Community Value?

Land designated as Local Green Space may potentially also be nominated for listing by the local authority as an Asset of Community Value. Listing gives community interest groups an opportunity to bid if the owner wants to dispose of the land.

Related policy: paragraphs 99-100 Paragraph: 022 Reference ID: 37-022-20140306



Horam Parish Council
Neighbourhood Plan
Local Green Space Assessments
September 2023