Almeley Neighbourhood Plan

Local Green Space Assessment

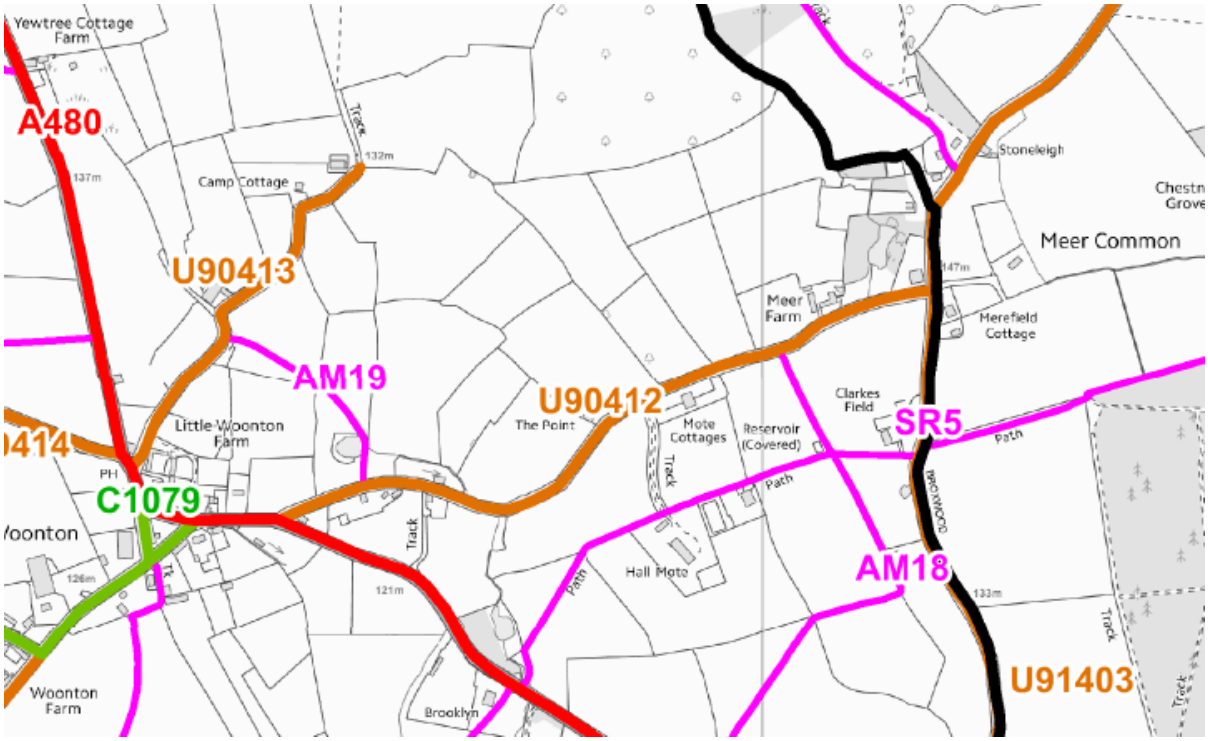
Site Details		
Site/Area	**Grid Ref.**	**Description and Purpose**
Meer Common	3361 2520	Area of common land used for informal leisure with an area of c2.5 acres. The common is bordered by a road and has a large pond located within it. The common itself is clearly largely marsh land. It is understood that the common has grazing rights for sheep, cattle, ducks, geese, donkeys and horses.

C**hecklist**		
Statutory designations (e.g. SSSI)	**Site allocations (Give details)**	**Planning permissions (Give details)**
No statutory designations. Area is a registered common (Privately owned/vested in Herefordshire Council?).	No site allocation. Not within or adjacent to a named settlement. Space within open countryside.	No current planning permissions

NPPF Criteria		
Close to the community it serves	**Demonstrably special to local community (beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other)**	**Local in character and not extensive tract**
The space is not within or adjacent to the built-up area of one of the two named settlements. Area is around 1 km to the east of Woonton and	There is an abundance of local wild flowers on the common.The pond adds biodiversity value. It is somewhat	The common is an important local facility. It is unlikely to offer opportunity for building due to the topography and size of the space

straddles the border with a neighbouring parish. There is no footpath along the road which provides the most direct route to the space.	overgrown.	available.

Conclusion
The area meets a number of the criteria for designation as Local Green Space although is unlikely to come under pressure from development in that it is a site in the open countryside, and policies for the protection of nature conservation would apply. Its status as common land would also restrict development potential. Policy ALM3 should afford sufficient protection. Designation as Local Green Space is unnecessary to ensure its value as part of the Parish's green infrastructure is retained.







Notes:

To be eligible for designation as Local Green Space, the space in question would need to meet the NPPF criteria.

Site details section
Include the name of the space (if there is one) and the address (roads flanking the site). Estimate the size if possible.

The 'description and purpose' box should include any primary purpose (for example informal grassed area, park or football pitch) and any other occasional or secondary uses.

Checklist Section

The 'statutory designations' box should list all designations, e.g. conservation area, register of historic parks and gardens, SSSIs (Refer to SEA Scoping document if necessary).

Existing or proposed site allocations (e.g. in a local plan) or valid planning permissions for a site should be identified. Either of these is likely to exclude that site from consideration for designation as Local Green Space.

NPPF Criteria Section

In 'close to the community it serves' box describe the proximity of the green space to the local community. The space should be within easy walking distance to meet this criterion satisfactorily (1.25 miles or less).

The 'demonstrably special to local community' should describe the ways in which the space is used or enjoyed by the community. Community engagement may be used to demonstrate this. This includes consideration of beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity, wildlife, or other values.

The 'Local in character and not extensive tract' box should be used to demonstrate that the space in question is a local facility and not, for example, green space in the countryside. The purpose of Local Green Space designation is to protect local spaces. Containing urban sprawl or protecting open countryside would not be proper uses of the designation.