

## How we assessed Open Spaces

Up to now, some open spaces and woodland within the Sturminster Newton Parish have been protected under the North Dorset Local Plan. This was done some time ago and the Neighbourhood Plan has the chance to reassess the open areas in and around the town to determine which should be designated as protected local green spaces, and where the protection may no longer be relevant.

Local green spaces will have the similar protection to green belt. They must be pieces of land that can be shown to be special to all or part of our community and be close to those that benefit. They must have particular local meaning and they cannot be too extensive in area. The factors we can use to identify this are:

- \* Beauty, both looking into the space and out from it
- \* Historical significance
- \* Recreational value – level of use
- \* Tranquility
- \* Richness of wildlife
- \* Anything else of local importance.

If an area is designated a local green space this will preclude future development. So it would not make sense to apply this designation to some spaces, such as school playing fields, where ancillary buildings may be needed in the future (though these spaces will be protected as community assets). It also cannot be applied to areas that have been allocated for development. However, on larger sites, plans for new housing should include some new green public space. We have not proposed protection for sites that are adequately covered by other designations, such as Piddles Wood, which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Over 50 open spaces in and around Sturminster have been assessed by the Open Spaces Group and members of the team using the criteria listed above. Some 31 spaces are potentially significant enough to be considered for designation as a local green space.

The locations of all the assessed sites are shown on the map and further details can be found by looking up the reference number in the information sheets on the table

***Please answer the questions in section 3 of our questionnaire***





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PanishOnline

Important Open Spaces

Sturminster Newton CP



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Map Key:

Not Protected as Open Space  
(Note may be protected under a different category  
e.g. Special Site of Scientific Interest, Community Asset)



Protected as an Important Open Space





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12/13



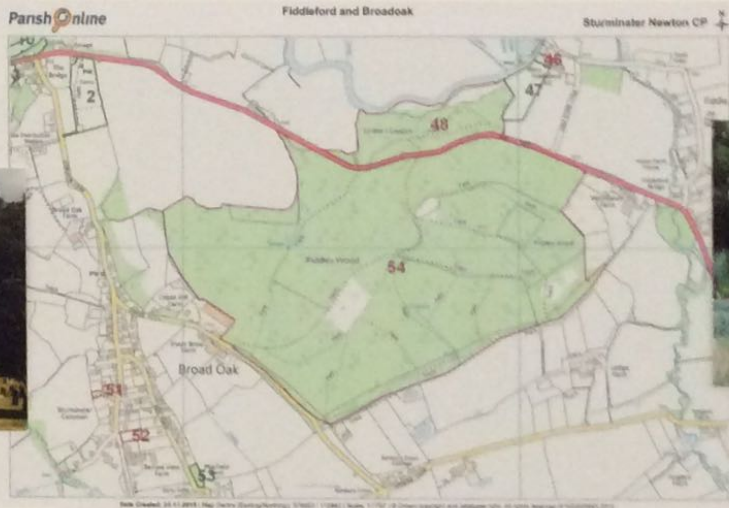
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KEY TO OPEN SPACES	
Reference No.	Name of Open Space
1	Sturminster Newton Cemetery
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3	Sturminster Newton Cemetery
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53	Sturminster Newton Cemetery
54	Sturminster Newton Cemetery

# KEY TO OPEN SPACES

Reference No	Name of Open Space
1	Riverside meadows opposite Bull Inn
2	SN Town Cemetery.
3	Sturminster Newton Castle
4	Mill and land between River Stour and Newton Hill west of town bridge
5	Island created by by-pass channel for weir at mill
6	Durrants Fields - river bank to Memorial Rec
7	Memorial Recreation Ground, Ricketts Lane
8	Open land in front of West End Cottages, between cottages and memorial rec.
9	Wooded river bank north of memorial gardens
10	Field between garden of Beech House and river
11	St Mary's Churchyard
12	Barnes Close Green, Nos 18-35
13	Barnes Close Green, Nos 2-17
14	Museum precincts and car park, Market Cross and Church Street
15	Market Place, town centre
16	Station Road car park
17	Station Road pedestrian precinct
18	Green at Stourcastle (East end of development)
19	Meadow between Elm Close and Trailway
20	Allotment Gardens, behind Chinnocks off Lower Rixon Road
21	Hansons and Streeters Car Park
22	Railway Gardens, Station Road
23	Old Market Hill Corner
24	Exchange Car Park abutting Market Hill
25	Land at junction of Old Market Hill and Station Road
26	Left hand entrance to Butts Pond Estate
26	Right hand entrance to Butts Pond Estate
27	Area adjoining fire station, Bath Road
28	Play area in The Gavel
29	Roundabout in White Lane Close
30	Filbridge Rise Play Area
31	Filbridge Rise Allotments
32	Hambledon View green.
33	Rixon recreation ground
34	Green between Riversmead and Filbridge Rise
35	Market Fields
36	Butts Pond Meadows
37	Field Close Play area
38	Yewstock School grounds - garden area
39	North Fields Green
40	Green Lane Northfields-Chivrick Close
41	Chivrick Close Play Area
42	Yewstock.SN High School playing fields, Bath Rd
43	Sturminster Newton Football Club - off Honeymead Lane
44	Long Close PlayArea
45	Green on corner of Long Close/North Fields
46	Fiddleford Manor grounds
47	Dorset Lavender Farm Project
48	Girdlers Coppice
51	Field entrance between Lumley Cottage and Vale Edge
52	Apple Orchard adjacent to Ropley Lane bottom.
53	Broad Oak Community Orchard New Road, Broad Oak
54	Piddles Wood, Copse Hill