Green Infrastructure Network Report 2016

This report has been prepared to define the existing Green Infrastructure Network to make opportunities for maintaining and improving the network clear and should be read with Policy 9 of the Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan.

Descriptions of each site in the report can be found in the Local Green Spaces Working Group Report 2015 in the evidence base for the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Trailway forms the spine of the Green Infrastructure Network. It enters the Blandford + area from the North East to Blandford Forum and this report will follow the Green Infrastructure Network from this point.

The Trailway leads onto the Milldown. Damory Down Amenity Areas can be accessed from the Milldown by following Footpath E1/19 up to the footpath that leads to Eastleaze Road. From Eastleaze Road there is a pedestrian connection to Jubilee Way, and another pedestrian connection to Badbury Drive and onto Mortain Close.

If Footpath E1/19 is followed to the former allotment site the walkway continues onto Blandford Heights Industrial Estate. There is a break in the network through the Industrial Estate before Footpath E1/16 that leads onto Badbury Heights open spaces after crossing Higher Shaftesbury Road.

The Badbury Heights open spaces includes a green corridor which leads to the Preetz Way corridor and onto Larksmead Recreation Ground.

Moving back to the Trailway Footpath E1/19 can also be followed towards Milldown Road where pedestrian access is available to Land adjacent to the Leisure Centre. Park Road Recreation Ground can also be accessed from the Trailway and provides a route into the town centre as well as towards Land adjacent to the Leisure Centre.

The Trailway continues to Station Court Car Park where pedestrian and cycle ways lead into the town centre, Woodhouse Gardens, Footpath E1/11 at the parish churchyard, Stour Meadows, Langton Road Play Area, Westbury Way amenity and play areas, Angus Woods on Footpath E1/15-18, Black Lane towards Blandford Camp and Diamond Way amenity area. From Diamond Way there is also pedestrian access to Footpath E1/18 on Black Lane.
Footpath E1/3 leads from the town centre to Stour Meadows where there are views across the Crown Meadows. A break in the Green Infrastructure Network exists and pedestrian access, as well as crossing the bypass onto Bournemouth Road is required from Stour Meadows to join Bridleway E4/3 onto the Trailway in Blandford St Mary towards Charlton Marshall and Spetisbury.

From the Stour Meadows there are pedestrian accesses to the Coppice and Badger Sett and Bryanston Hills in Blandford St Mary. There is no formal pedestrian right of way to access the village of Bryanston.