

SE16 AREAS OF OPEN SPACE

Important areas of open green space that do not already enjoy appropriate protection have been identified on the plan as areas of Local Green Space. It is hoped that further areas of open space will be created as part of the proposed residential and commercial development. There is a presumption that these areas will be retained for recreation, local amenity or as breaks in the built form. Future development will not be permitted on such areas, except small-scale facilities for sport, leisure and assembly, where such facilities cannot be provided elsewhere, and there is a proven need for such facilities in the area. Areas of existing and proposed Local Green Space are listed below with their criteria and are indicated on Map 5.

Existing Local Green Spaces

Area 1. The Recreation Ground. Playing field for Sports Club and Recreation ground for village.

Area 2. Green space near church. Central to village, creates the setting for the medieval church.

Area 3. The Play Park. Central to village and contains the main children's play park

Area 4. 'Podgers' and West Street green space. A small area of green space at the Western end of West St at the junction with the hamlet of Shitterton, providing a visual break between these two communities. Podgers has the ancient hand pump used in the past by steam tractors.

Area 5. Bitchams Mead green space and nature reserve. An area of green space on the northern bank of the Bere Stream, part SNCI, which has rich wildlife and streamside features, as well as the footpath linking Shitterton with the village centre.

Area 6. Souls Moor SNCI and village nature reserve. An unspoilt water meadow rich in wildlife close to the heart of the community, designated common land.

Area 7. Souls Moor green space. An unremarkable area of rough grazing, partly in flood plain, which links the Eastern settlements to the school and village and contains the school access drive.

Area 8. Elder Rd green space. Designated common land, containing some youth recreational facilities and the Scout Hut, close to the village centre.

Proposed Local Green Spaces

Area 9. North Street local green space. Close to North Street, and contiguous with Area 1. The Recreation Ground. This is a former area of grazing and pasture, with great potential recreational value.

Area 10. Elder Road extension. Close to the village centre, mainly in flood plain, this small piece of woodland has the potential to complete the streamside nature reserve and link the Bitchams Mead and the Elder Road local green spaces.

Area 11. Barrow Hill local green space. In close proximity to the northern residential areas of the village, the potential of this unspoilt field is to protect and preserve a rich diversity of wildlife and the archaeological heritage of the ancient Butts of the village. It will also provide an important footpath link from Barrow Hill and Snow Lane to the proposed SANG to the North.

These areas are highlighted in orange of Map 5 of the Plan.

Policy BR10: Local Green Space

Existing areas of open space will be designated Local Green Space. Three other parcels of land as identified on Map 5 will be designated as Local Green Space.

