



# Stonesfield Parish Council

## APPENDIX C

# Stonesfield Local Green Spaces

## November 2024

Revised May 2025

Access to green spaces is as important in a rural village as in towns, for the physical and mental health and well-being of its residents. Larger green spaces such as the community and school playing fields offer not only space for sports and recreation, but space for rest and appreciation of the open air, or a pleasant open aspect from a village lane. Greens, gardens and spaces within the street pattern provide welcome and high-quality views, and access to the broader countryside.

In the Village Survey 2023, 573 out of 584 respondents (more than 98%) felt that protecting green spaces was very important or important. This is a very clear message and responds to the NPPF policy that allows communities to 'identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them' by designating them in their neighbourhood plans as Local Green Spaces.

It is important that any further infill of gaps between properties minimises the loss of green space, and does not affect the Local Green Spaces designated in this Plan.

The following areas of land proposed to be designated as Local Green Spaces are all within or physically very close to the community of Stonesfield. Each one is 'special to the local community', as demonstrated by the approval given in the Village Survey for designation in each case. The features of each designated Local Green Space which indicate its particular local significance are listed in full in the following pages.

In the Village Survey, residents were asked to what extent they agreed with the need to protect the proposed 15 designated green spaces – support ranged between 73% and 94%. All of the spaces achieved strong agreement from 60% or more of the 578 respondents. Eighty per cent of respondents registered strong or slight agreement for protection of 11 out of the 15 designated spaces.



# 1 Field south-east of William Buckland Way

## 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Field south-east of William Buckland Way
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Vanbrugh Trustees Limited  
The Estate Office, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1PP
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owners has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*  
See below
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

## 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

## 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
4.38ha
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO  
The field is large, but more than 50% of it is scheduled ancient monument.

- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The field is land in relation to which the author of the Landscape Assessment, having noted the "strong rural character" of the landscape on this side of Stonesfield i.e. "the Stonesfield Inner Fields", points out that it "forms part of a rural landscape setting when approaching Stonesfield from two of the four roads that converge in the village," one of which is the Combe Road which borders the land (page 49 para 6 Landscape Assessment).

## 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no footpaths over the site, but it is viewed directly from the Combe Road, the Oxfordshire Way and from William Buckland Way with views over the site to the dry valley and Notoaks Wood.

## 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'.

**The land:**

- forms part of land the sensitivity of which so seriously concerned the planning inspector, Stephen Normington, in the Cala Homes case when he considered the harmful effect of development of the adjacent Charity Farm estate upon the views looking towards the village from the Oxfordshire Way, Akeman Street (paragraph 52 Appeal Decision dated 21 June 2019 APP/D 3125/W/18/3209551);
- was similarly the subject of the concern of the author of the Stonesfield Parish Landscape Character Assessment February 2024 ("the Landscape Assessment") prepared for the Stonesfield

Neighbourhood Plan, who said the adjoining "Recent housing development at Charity Farm has created a hard edge to the village in these views, and additional development will further threaten the integrity of its valued rural character" (page 48, paragraph 3, Landscape Assessment);

- is part of the "rural landscape setting for the



**Field south-east of William Buckland Way seen from the Combe Road.**

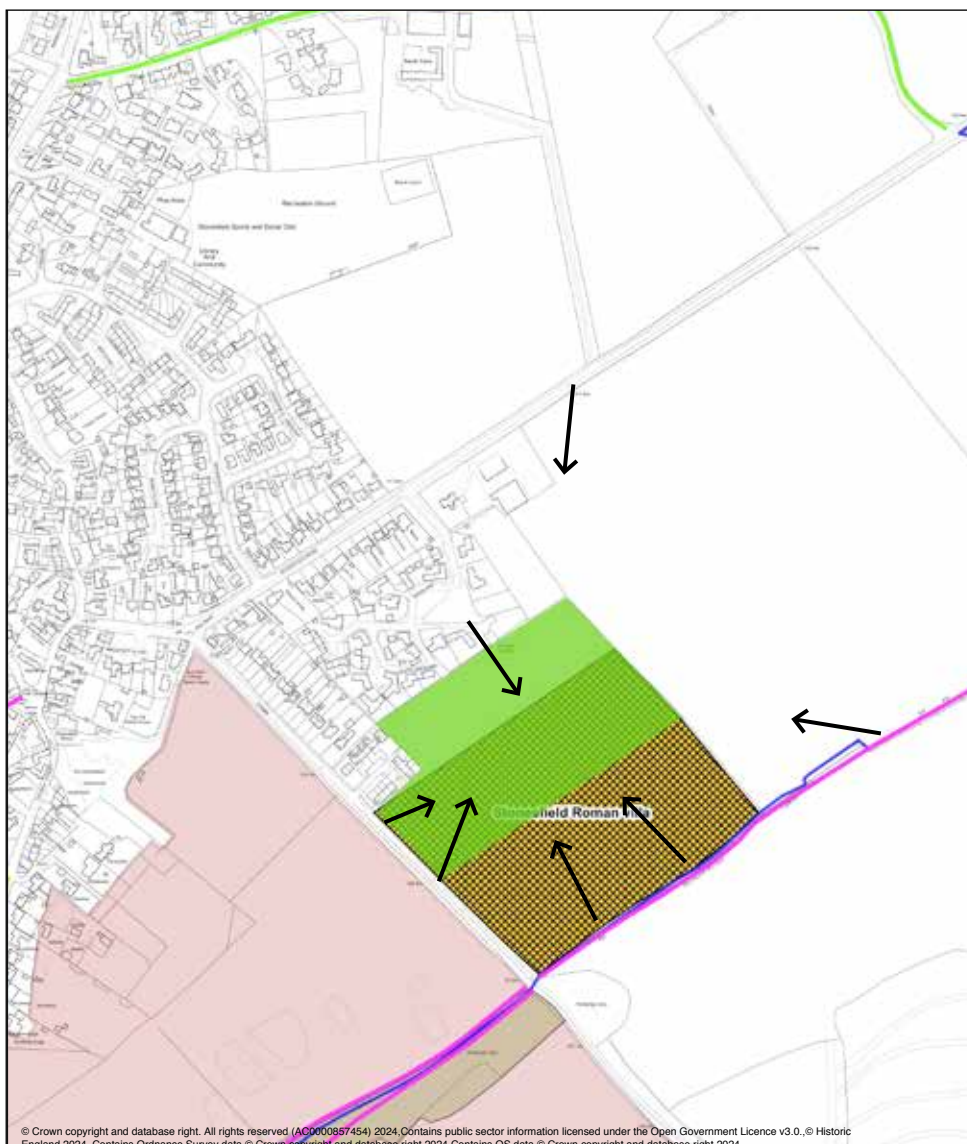


settlement” which the Landscape Assessment says “contributes to the special qualities of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty” and is one of the “Remaining pockets of pastoral land on the southern edge of the village” which “add to the settlement’s sense of time depth and survive as remnants of historic field enclosures” and “are valued for the ‘outward’ views they provide from the edge of the village” (page 50, bullet points 2, 3 & 4 Landscape Assessment);

- includes the site of the Stonesfield Roman villa, a

designated scheduled monument discovered in 1712, when it had four elaborate and well-preserved tessellated pavements, baths and a hypocaust, sadly now destroyed but nonetheless still of historic significance (page 49, bullet point 6, Landscape Assessment);

- achieved 73.7% support for designation in the Village Survey.



Field south-east of William Buckland Way.

Plan of land south-east of William Buckland Way

Scale 1:5000

Green area = land to be designated

Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA

Cross hatched area = Scheduled Ancient Monument, Stonesfield Roman Villa

Magenta lines = public rights of way

Arrows = views from Woodstock Road, Combe Road, Akeman Street, Oxfordshire Way long distance footpath, and from William Buckland Way play area.

## 2 Manor House Field, Combe Road

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Manor House Field, Combe Road
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Basil Stephen Talbot Eastwood.  
Hall Floor Flat, 15 Elmdale Road, Tyndalls Park  
Bristol BS8 1SF
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owners have been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*



TOP: The paddock seen from the corner of Combe Road and Manor Drive.

BOTTOM: Manor Field seen from the Combe Road

- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
2.6ha
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*

The paddock forms a major part of the setting of the grade 2 listed Stonesfield Manor House, a central feature of the village, when viewed from the south-east and particularly from Akeman Street.

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.

- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*

There are no footpaths over the site, but it is viewed directly from the lane by the war memorial and can be seen through the trees, especially in winter, all the way down the Combe Road and from the Oxfordshire Way long distance footpath.

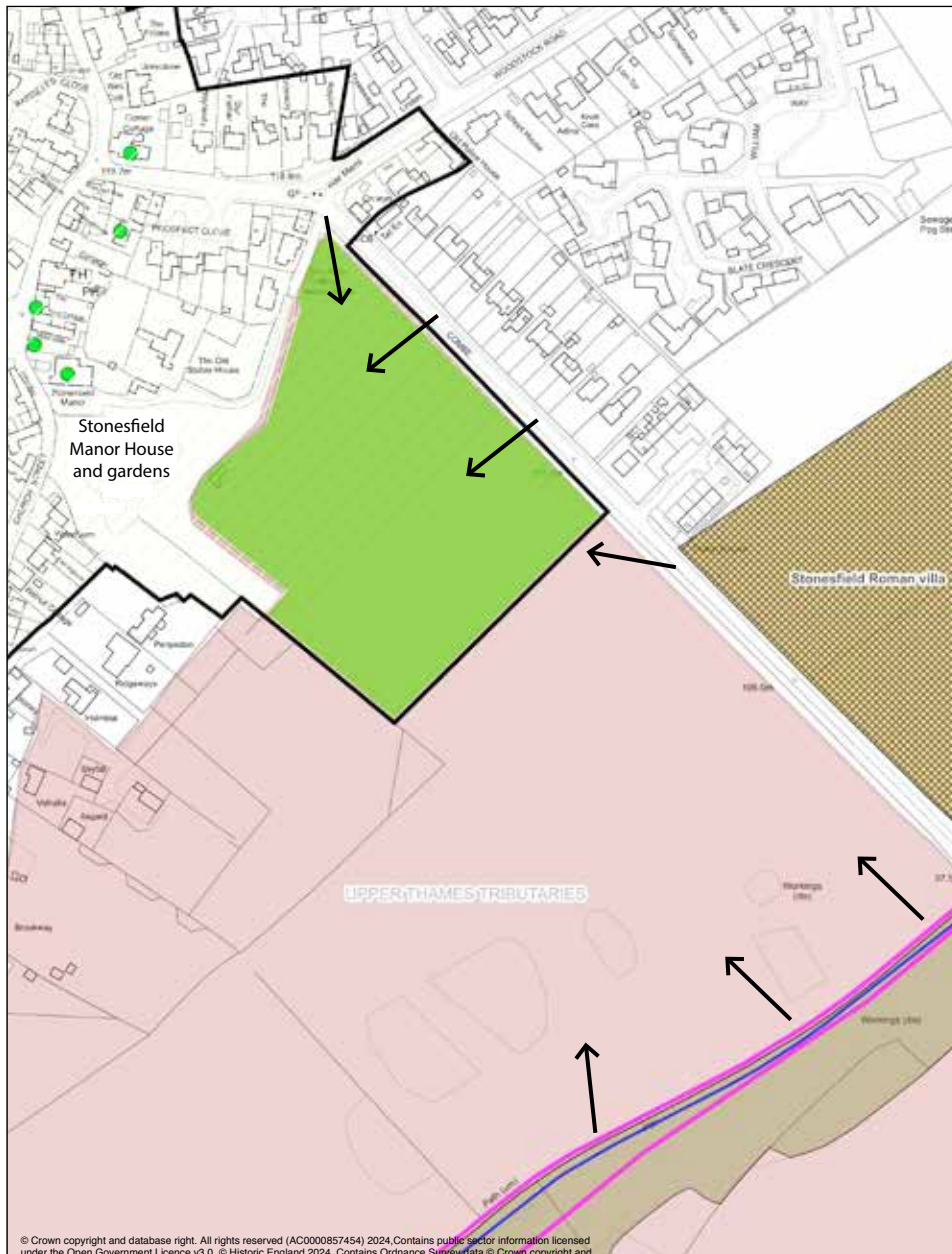
### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:

- is also within the area which concerned Mr Normington in considering the harmful effect of development upon the views from Akeman Street (paragraph 52 Appeal Decision dated 21 June 2019 APP/D 3125/W/18/3209551);
- is within the Conservation Area and therefore section 72 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 requires that in the exercise of functions under or by virtue of the planning Acts



and Part 1 of the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 and certain other enactments "special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance" of the area;

- was considered by the author of the Landscape Assessment who said of it "the enclosures immediately on the edge of the village – to the east and south-east of Stonesfield Manor/Church Street – have retained much of the hedgerow vegetation and therefore their historic field patterns have been preserved. These much smaller fields have a more pastoral character that is distinctive and contrasts with the rest of the LLCA and they provide valued 'outward' public views from the settlement edge" (page 47, final paragraph and page 48, first paragraph, Landscape Assessment);
- is free from the mechanical intervention of arable farming and adjacent to 3 woodland copses and therefore richly fosters wildlife and a range of vegetation;
- forms part of the "rural landscape setting" of the approach to Stonesfield and of this side of the village remarked upon in the Landscape Assessment (see 1b, c and d above) which warns that this is "highly sensitive to development which would impact on its rural character; the village edge setting; open views across the landscape towards the settlement, or 'outward' views across the remaining pastoral fields south-east of Stonesfield Manor..... Development within the remaining smaller-scale pastoral fields to the south and south-east of the village will result in the loss of part of Stonesfield's historic landscape setting" (page 51 "Threats and Issues" Landscape Assessment);
- falls within the statutorily designated Upper Thames Tributaries environmentally sensitive area ("the ESA" – see the Landscape Assessment);
- achieved 75.9% support for designation in the Village Survey.



**Plan of the Manor field**

**Scale 1:2500**

**Green area = land to be designated**

**Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA**

**Beige area = SSSI**

**Magenta lines = public rights of way**

**Black line = conservation area**

**Arrows = views from Combe Road, Akeman Street/Oxfordshire Way long distance footpath**

### 3 The paddocks east of Church Street and Brook Lane

#### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Land lying east of Church Street and Brook Lane, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Joanna Sophie Browne, 4 Brook Lane, Stonesfield, Oxon OX29 8PR
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner have been informed of the Council's desire to designate the paddocks an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*  
No photos available
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

#### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

#### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

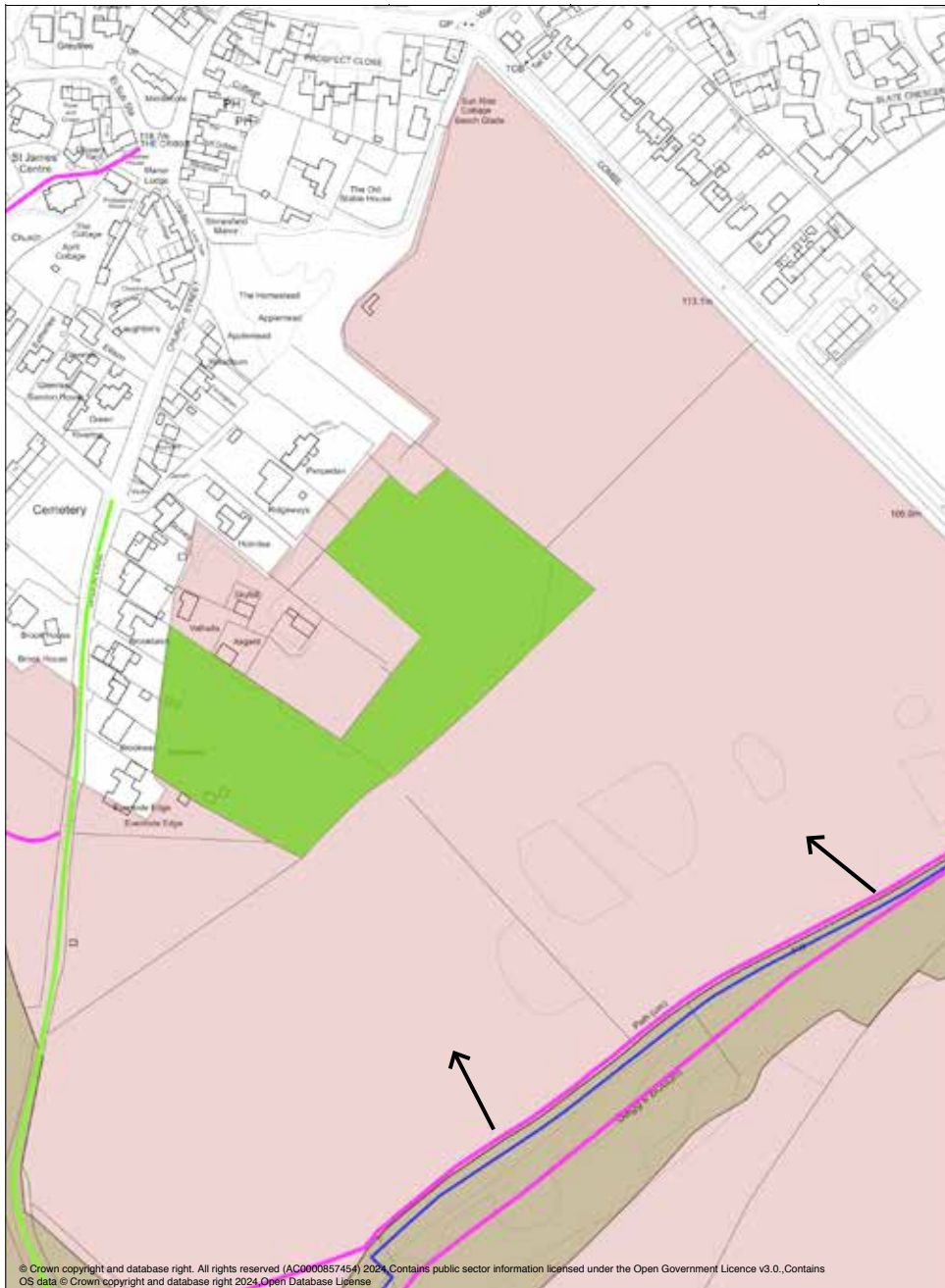
- *Area of proposed site*  
1.7ha.
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The land is also within the area which concerned Mr Normington and forms part of the village setting (see above) and in particular the setting of the Manor House when viewed from Akeman Street.

#### 4 Evidence to show the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no footpaths over the site, but it is viewed directly from the Oxfordshire Way long distance footpath number 370/2/10.

#### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:

- is part of the land described by the author of the Landscape Assessment, i.e. "the enclosures immediately on the edge of the village – to the east and south-east of Stonesfield Manor/Church Street" which have "retained much of the hedgerow vegetation, and therefore their historic field patterns have been preserved" and "These much smaller fields have a more pastoral character that is distinctive and contrasts with the rest of the LLCA, and they provide valued 'outward' public views from the settlement edge" (page 47 final paragraph and 48 first paragraph Landscape Assessment and see 1b,c & d and 2d & e above);
- is within the Upper Thames Tributaries ESA;
- is directly adjacent to land that is designated a Conservation Target Area (CTA) by Wild Oxfordshire;
- achieved 80.5% support for designation in the Village Survey.



**Plan of the paddocks  
behind Church Street and  
Brook Lane**

**Scale 1:2500**

**Green area = land to be  
designated**

**Pink area = Upper  
Thames Tributaries ESA**

**Beige area = SSSI**

**Magenta lines = public  
rights of way**

**Arrows = views  
from Akeman Street  
Oxfordshire Way long  
distance footpath,**



## 4 Field after the last house on the left at the top of Brook Lane

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Field after the last house on the left at the top of Brook Lane
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
The Melrose family
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*  
See below
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
**YES / NO**  
Permission in Principle for the construction of one dwelling ref: 24/02390/PIP. Refused 22.10.24
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
**YES / NO**

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
6,389 sq.m.
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
**YES / NO**
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The field is part of "the enclosures immediately on the edge of the village" the value of which was noted by the author of the Landscape Assessment (see 3b above).

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no footpaths over the site, but it is viewed directly from Brook Lane, the Oxfordshire Way long distance footpath number 370/4/10.

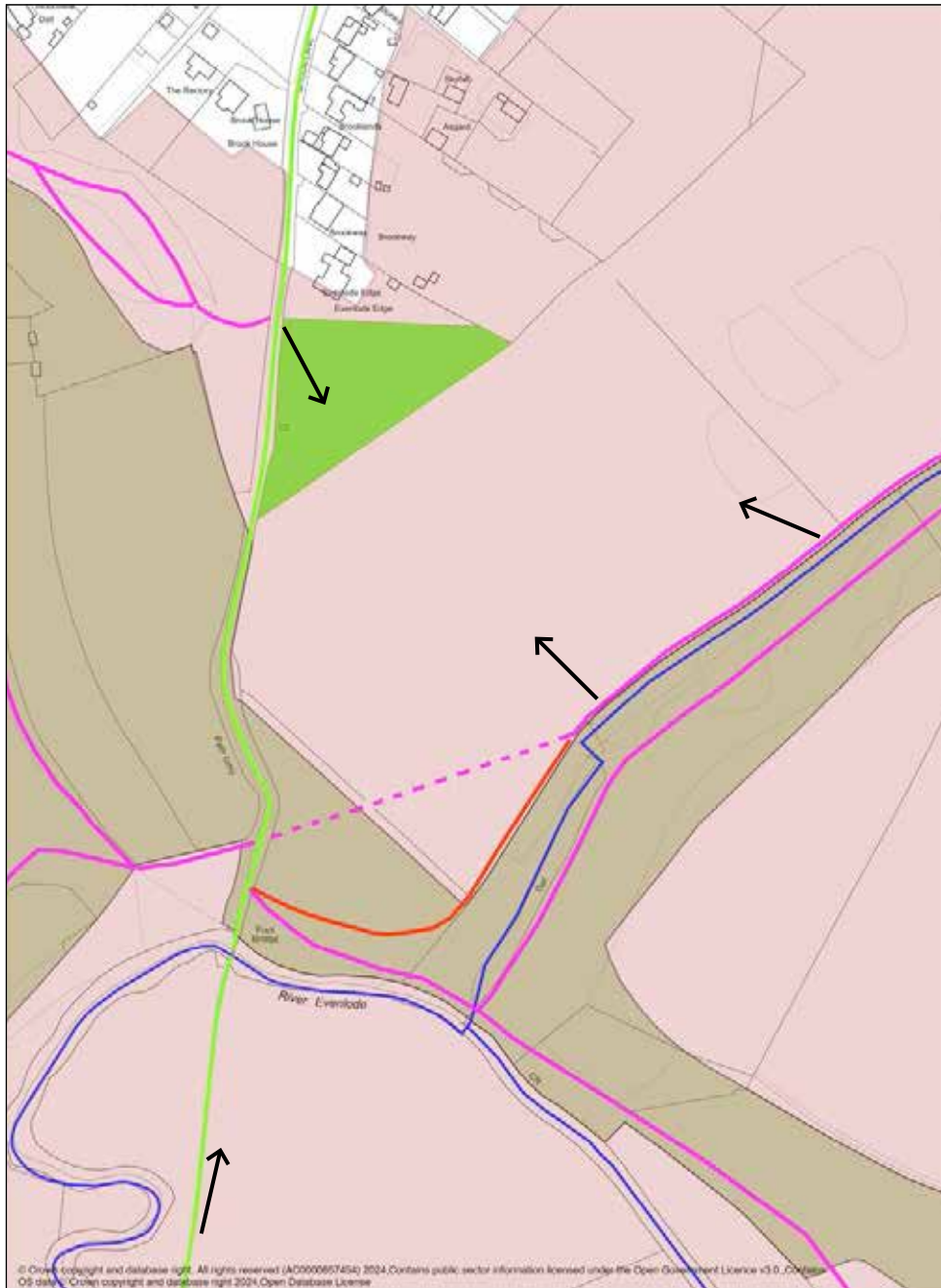
**View across the field from Brook Lane towards Baggs Bottom and the Evenlode valley.**





**5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'.  
The land:**

- is also crucial to the views of the village from Akeman Street;
- is also crucial to the setting of the village from bridleway 312/1/10 from North Leigh Roman Villa, being prominent on the top of the hill
- is part of "the enclosures immediately on the edge of the village" the value of which was noted by the author of the Landscape Assessment (see 3b above);
- is land the maintenance of which as open green space protects the views from the village and from the Brook Lane footpath down to the Evenlode and of Bagg's Bottom, through which Akeman Street passes, again confirmed by the author of the Landscape Assessment (See 1b,c & d and 2d & e) above);
- is within the Upper Thames Tributaries ESA;
- is directly adjacent to land that is designated a Conservation Target Area (CTA) by Wild Oxfordshire;
- achieved 86.1% support for designation in the Village Survey.



**Plan of the paddock at the top of Brook Lane**

**Scale 1:2500**

**Green area = land to be designated**

**Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA**

**Magenta and green lines = public rights of way**

**Beige area = SSSI**

**NOTE: the dashed magenta line doesn't accurately represent the route of the path as walked for generations. The red line shows the correct route of the path.**

**Arrows = views from Brook Lane, Akeman Street, Oxfordshire Way, long distance footpath, and footpath number 312/1/10 from North Leigh Roman Villa**

## 5 The Glebe land between Brook Lane and the Scout Hut

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Land adjoining The Rectory, Brook Lane, Stonesfield, Witney (OX29 8PR)
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Although the site would appear as one piece to a walker, it is owned by two separate organizations. The majority of the land is owned by:  
5a: Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance, Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GF  
The area around the Scout Hut is owned by:  
5b: 1st Stonesfield Scouts  
Eastcote, Peakes Lane, Stonesfield, OX28 8PY
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owners have been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*  
See below
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
1.34ha
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The lower part of the Glebe leading to the Scout Hut is above, and includes, the chipping banks, the left over waste from the historically important Stonesfield slate industry. It is immediately adjacent to the Village Green, Stockey Woods, described by the Landscape Assessment (page 41, first paragraph) as "enjoyed generally for its informal recreational value."

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
NO. The Glebe is between the Brook Lane bridleway (370/4/10) and footpath 370/5/10 from Churchfields to Stockey Woods at the Scout Hut. The Glebe land is crossed by public footpaths 370/16/10 to 370/16/40.

### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:

- is part of the wider Local Landscape Character Area described by the Landscape Assessment (page 40, first paragraph) as having "a small network of public footpaths that provide direct and easy access from Stonesfield and is particularly valued by villagers for



View of footpath 370/17/10 leading from Brook Lane down towards the Scout Hut with Stockey Woods in the distance.



its informal amenity value and for its importance for nature conservation”;

- 45% of village survey respondents said they walked the paths across the Glebe at least weekly, a further 21.6% said they did monthly;
- is free from the mechanical intervention of arable farming and therefore richly fosters wildlife, including rabbits, hares, muntjac deer, squirrels, foxes, pheasants, partridge, kites, swallows, martins and a rich flora especially the chipping banks;
- is distant from heavily trafficked vehicular highways and therefore protects the tranquility of the recreational walker of the footpaths;
- In 1962 the Scouts built a prefab hut, bought from Chipping Norton, to become the village Scout Hut, locally known as Andy’s Den. The old hut was eventually closed and demolished in 2023, and a new hut is being built for completion in 2025. The Glebe land has been the centre of scouting activity and will continue to be so;
- affords what the Landscape Assessment (page 45 Valued Quality) describes as “some open views and intervisibility with the attractive broad floodplain landscape to the south”;
- is immediately adjacent to the Stonesfield Bottom and Banks SSSI;

- is within the Upper Thames Tributaries environmentally sensitive area;
- is within the Wild Oxfordshire CTA;
- is part of the Ruddywell dry valley Blue/Green corridor see Section 9 Policy SNEL9 (A to B on the map);
- achieved 88.6% support for designation in the Village Survey.

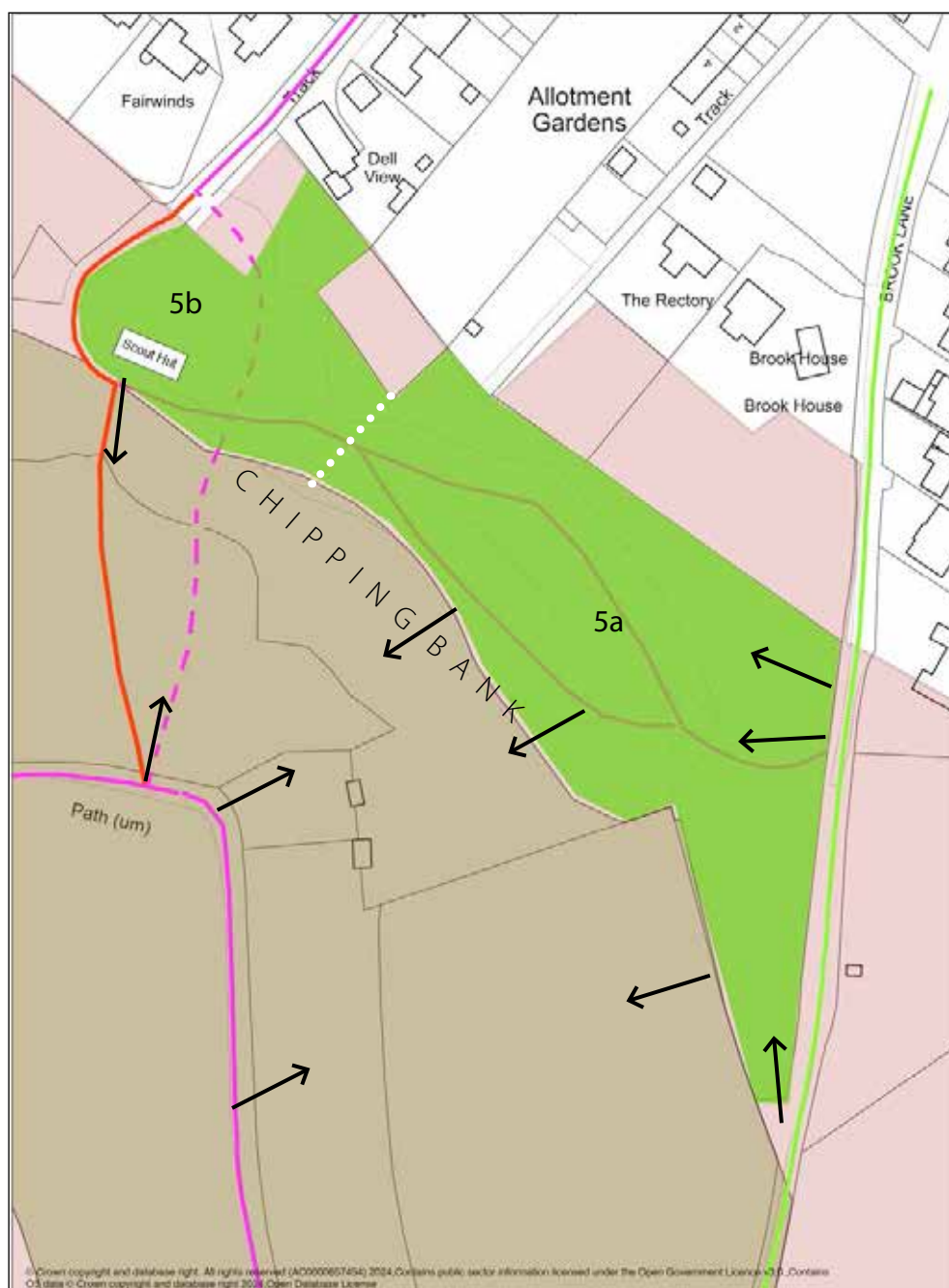
**Bench in the corner of the Glebe land overlooking Stockey Woods looking south towards the Evenlode valley. The quote is from Hilaire Belloc’s poem *The Evenlode*. *The tender Evenlode that makes her meadows hush to hear the sound of water mingling in the brakes***







View, looking south, of Stockey Bottom and Woods from the stile on the footpath below the Scout Hut.



Plan of the Glebe land from Brook Lane to the Scout Hut

Scale 1:1250

Green area = land to be designated

Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA

Beige area = SSSI

Magenta and green lines = public rights of way

White dotted line = the boundary between the Diocese glebe land 5a and the 1st Stonesfield Scouts land 5b

NOTE: the dashed magenta line doesn't accurately represent the route of the path as walked for generations. The red line shows the correct route of the path today.

Arrows = views from Brook Lane, and from Stockey Bottom footpath towards the site, also from the site towards Stockey Bottom and Woods.



## 6 Churchfields allotments

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Churchfields allotments, land adjoining The Rectory, Brook Lane, Stonesfield, Witney (OX29 8PR)
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance, Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GF
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
4,176 sq.m.
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*

It is the only allotment site left within Stonesfield village. Allotments used to stretch from Brook Lane to the old Methodist Chapel at the junction with Boot Street.

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is within the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There isn't a public right of way across the allotments, but of course is open to all 27 allotment holders and the 44 members of the Allotment Association.

### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:

- is over-subscribed, i.e. demand exceeds available plots: as of March 2024 there was a waiting list and it was not unusual to wait a year;
- is special to the local community as demonstrated e.g. by the raising of over £3000 in February 2019, enabling the allotment holders to install the infrastructure necessary for 4 new water troughs to supply the allotments with fresh water from the Thames Water network;
- includes a small stall which was at that time constructed at the entrance to the allotments where produce from the allotments is deposited for villagers to take at will, free of charge, with allotment members aiming to give at least 10% of their crops to the stall;
- of whose members a survey of important aspects of being an allotment-holder was conducted at



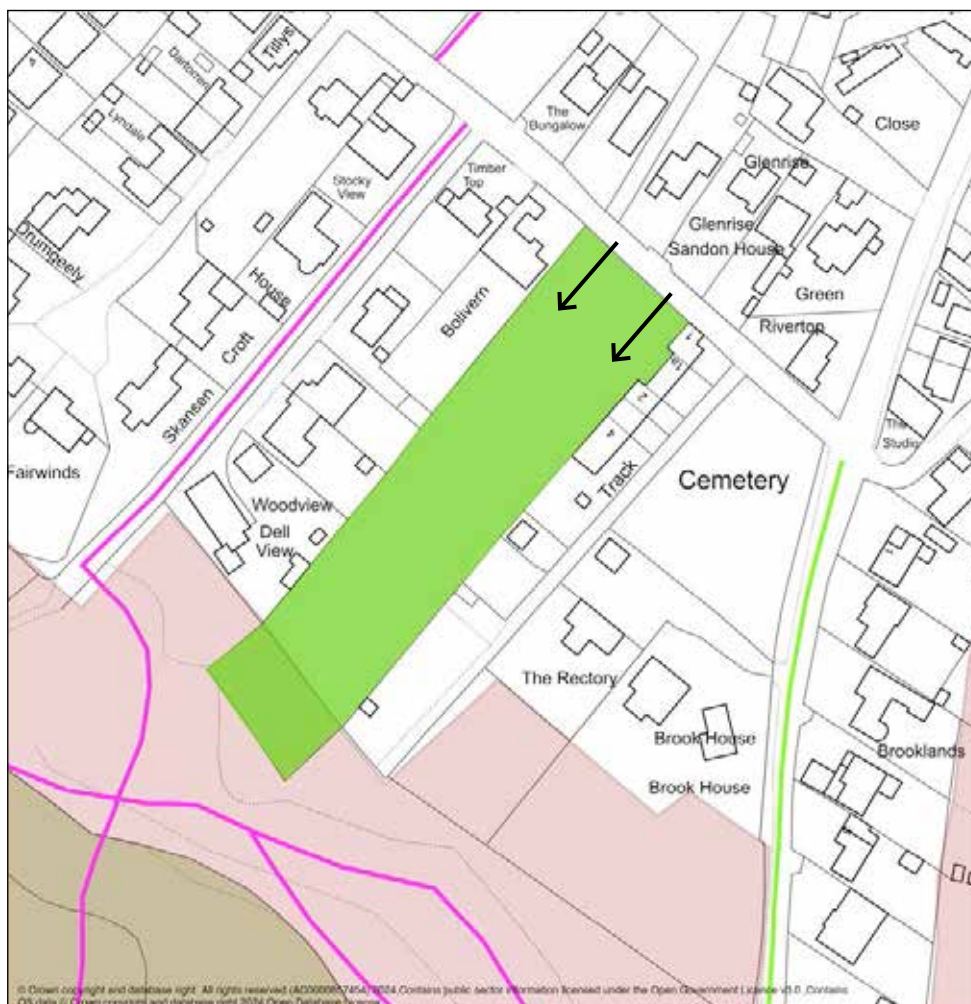
Looking south-west from Churchfields over the allotments towards Stockey Woods in the distance.

short notice for the purposes of this policy; 88.9% of allotment holders were represented in the response, accounting for 88.4% of members -- the detailed results of the survey are available for inspection indicating the reasons why the allotment holders valued the availability of the allotments including fresh food/zero miles, physical well-being, mental health, closer to nature/support wildlife, share knowledge and resources, support and connect to community, organic food, support and friendship, "no dig";

- comprises well-tended allotments, peat-free, one third chemical-free and steadily progressing towards all-organic and “no dig”, i.e. exhibits evidence of high recreational value;
- is adjacent to the SSSI;
- forms part of the Stonesfield Conservation Area and is therefore subject to the restrictions applying to conservation areas (see 2b above);
- provides a green lung linking the historic centre of the village, which includes the Church and the Conservation Area, with views from Churchfields toward Stockey Woods Village Green;
- is a haven of tranquillity, rich in wildlife with: –
  - a substantial population of slow worms, grass

snakes and Roman snails;

- soil full of the worms and fungi essential for plant growth;
  - a store of carbon;
  - a long ivy hedge which is an autumn nectar and pollen source for a vast range of insects, has attracted specialist interest and provides a nesting resource for birds;
  - a wide range of birdlife including the yearly nesting of blackbirds, robins, dunnock, blue tits, greenfinch, great tits, red-legged partridge and pheasants
  - wild animals including foxes, stoats, weasels, (unwanted) muntjac deer and rabbits;
  - as recorded by the “allotments entomologist” in the week before drafting this, now accommodates *asiraca clavicornis*, a Nationally Notable B species invertebrate which is in decline and in the UK now restricted to areas of the south-east i.e. is its most westerly location recorded in the last 10 years;
- achieved 87.6% support for designation in the Village Survey.



### Plan of the Churchfields allotments

Scale 1:1250

**Green area = land to be designated**

**Pink area = Upper  
Thames Tributaries ESA**

Beige area = SSSI

**Magenta and green lines  
= public rights of way.**

**Arrows = views from Churchfields looking over the allotments towards Stockey Woods.**



## 7 Paddocks to the right after the last house of Timber Yard Lane

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Land at Stockey Bottom, Churchfields, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
The Incumbent of the Benefice of Stonesfield with Combe Longa and the churchwardens of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Stonesfield in the county and diocese of Oxford and their successors  
Church House Oxford, Langford Locks, Kidlington OX5 1GF  
St. James Centre, High Street, Stonesfield, Witney OX29 8PU
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
1.2ha

- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The site is one of "the enclosures immediately on the edge of the village" described by the Landscape Assessment as having "retained much of the hedgerow vegetation" so that "their historic field patterns have been preserved" and "These much smaller fields have a more pastoral character that is distinctive and contrasts with the rest of the LLCA and they provide valued 'outward' public views from the settlement edge" (page 47 final paragraph and 48 first paragraph Landscape).

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no public rights of way across the land, but is immediately adjacent to and is open space viewed from footpath 370/5/10, affording further views through it across Stockey Woods Village Green.

### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:

- is adjacent to the Village Green, Stockey Woods;
- is immediately adjacent to the SSSI;
- is part of the Upper Thames Tributaries ESA and the Wild Oxfordshire CTA;
- is part of the Ruddywell dry valley Blue/Green corridor see Section 9 Policy SNEL9 (A to B on the map);



Views of the paddocks looking west from Timber Yard Lane towards Stockey Woods.

- is part of the wider Local Landscape Character Area described by the Landscape Assessment as having “a small network of public footpaths that provide direct and easy access from Stonesfield and is particularly valued by villagers for its informal amenity value and for its importance for nature conservation” (page 40, para 1 Landscape Assessment);
- is free from the mechanical intervention of arable farming and therefore richly fosters wildlife, including rabbits, hares, muntjac deer, squirrels, foxes, pheasants, partridge, kites, swallows, martins and a range of vegetation;
- is distant from heavily trafficked vehicular highways and therefore protects the tranquility of the recreational walker of the adjacent footpath 370/5/10;
- is a viewpoint enriched by a wealth of blackberries at its border adjacent to the footpath in autumn, attracting villagers who pick fruit, savour the view along with the blackberries;
- is adjacent to the village Scout Hut (being rebuilt) and the open aspect contributes significantly to the beauty, recreational value, and tranquility of the environment of the Scout Hut;
- attracts overwhelming local support for its designation as a Local Green Space confirmed by the village survey, which showed 83.9% out of a total of 569 respondents, either strongly or slightly agreed that the paddocks should be designated a Local Green Space;
- has recreational value which is clearly demonstrated by the frequency with which residents of Stonesfield walk footpath 370/5/10 which adjoins it, affording views over it and which the village survey showed 44% out of a total of 583 respondents walked at least weekly, whilst a further 18% walked the path monthly.



**Plan of the paddocks at Stockey Bottom**

**Scale 1:1250**

**Green area = land to be designated**

**Dark green area = proposed community orchard with public access**

**Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA**

**Beige area = SSSI**

**Magenta and green lines = public rights of way.**

**NOTE: the dashed magenta line doesn't accurately represent the route of the path as walked for generations. The red line shows the correct route of the path.**

**Arrows = views from Timber Yard lane, and from Stockey Bottom footpath**



## 8 Paddocks to the south of Witney Lane

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Paddocks to the south of Witney Lane, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Although the site would appear as one piece to a walker on Witney Lane or footpath 370/19/10, it is owned by two separate owners, believed to be:  
8A: Mr Stobo, Oaklands Farm, Stonesfield, OX29 8DW  
8B: Ms Heidi Laughton-Hill, Spratts Farm, Witney Lane, Stonesfield OX29 8DN
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owners have been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
8A: 8,785m<sup>2</sup> 8B: 9,266m<sup>2</sup> Combined total: 1.8ha
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO

- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The site is immediately alongside and viewed from Witney Lane, which is frequently used by walkers (rarely by vehicular traffic, which is limited to the few residents of dwellings of Witney Lane) who use it as a link between the village, Oxfordshire Way, and the network of footpaths within the Stockey Woods Village Green.

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no public rights of way across the land, but there are numerous important views across the paddocks towards Stockey Woods and Bottom and the edge of the village all along Witney Lane as far as Spratts Farm. The same views are afforded from footpath 370/19/10 adjacent to the land.

### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'

**The land:**

- is within the Upper Thames Tributaries ESA;
- is immediately adjacent to the Stockey Bottom and Banks SSSI;
- is part of the proposed Ruddywell dry valley Blue/Green corridor see Section 9 Policy SNEL9 (A to B on the map);
- is part of Wild Oxfordshire Conservation Target Area;
- forms part of what the Landscape Assessment author (page 41, para 1) describes as "a patchwork of pastoral fields, enclosed by mature hedgerows and trees..... flanked to the west by a woodland on the other valley side";



View 1 from Witney Lane looking south over paddock 8A towards Stockey Woods and Stockey Bottom.



View 2 from Witney Lane looking east over paddock 8A towards Stonesfield.

- is, the Landscape Assessment (page 42, 6th bullet point) says, part of “a series of steep sided dry valleys and banks with unimproved limestone grassland and scrub habitats” and “is one of the largest remnants of this grassland type in the county;”
- is:
  - of high recreational value in affording exceptional views to walkers;
  - part of one of the few “pastoral” enclaves in a parish, the landscape of which is predominantly arable fields, and this enclave is home to what the Landscape

Assessment (page 42, paragraph 2) describes as “the ‘hidden’ nature of parts of the valley” which “strongly reinforces the parish’s rural character”;

– free from the mechanical intervention of arable farming and therefore richly fosters wildlife and a range of vegetation;

– distant from heavily trafficked vehicular highways and therefore affords tranquility to the recreational walker;

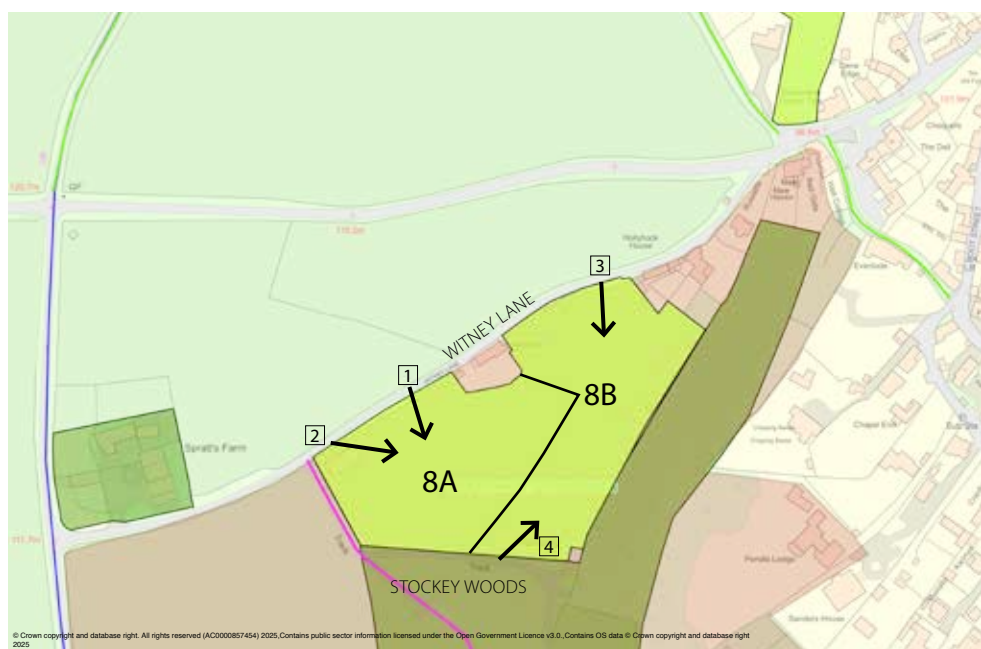
- achieved 84.1% support for designation in the Village Survey.



View 3 from Witney Lane looking south over paddock 8B towards Stockey Woods.



View 4 from Stockey Woods path looking north over paddock 8B towards the village with the SSSI site on the right.



Plan of the paddocks south of Witney Lane

Scale 1:1900

Green area = land to be designated (8A & 8B)

Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA

Olive green area = SSSI

Magenta and green lines = public rights of way.

NOTE: because Stockey Woods is a Village Green, residents are able to walk outside the designated public rights of way.

Arrows = views from Witney Lane, and from Stockey Woods footpath



## 9 The Dene

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
The Dene, Laughton Hill, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Believed to be the Blenheim Estate  
Vanbrugh Trustees Limited, The Estate Office,  
Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1PP
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
5,750 sq.m
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO

- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The site is specifically described by the Landscape Assessment (page 33, final para) as "The narrow hay meadow to the east of Lower Farm on the edge of Stonesfield ... included in the Village Conservation Area" and "allows pleasant framed views to the north between the farmhouse and the settlement edge from Laughton Hill".

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no public rights of way across the land. However, it is viewed by anybody passing on the road or on foot at the junction of Laughton Hill, Witney Lane, the Fawler Road and the Oxfordshire Way, ref number 370/18/10, and is of particular local significance because of its beauty, recreational value and tranquility.

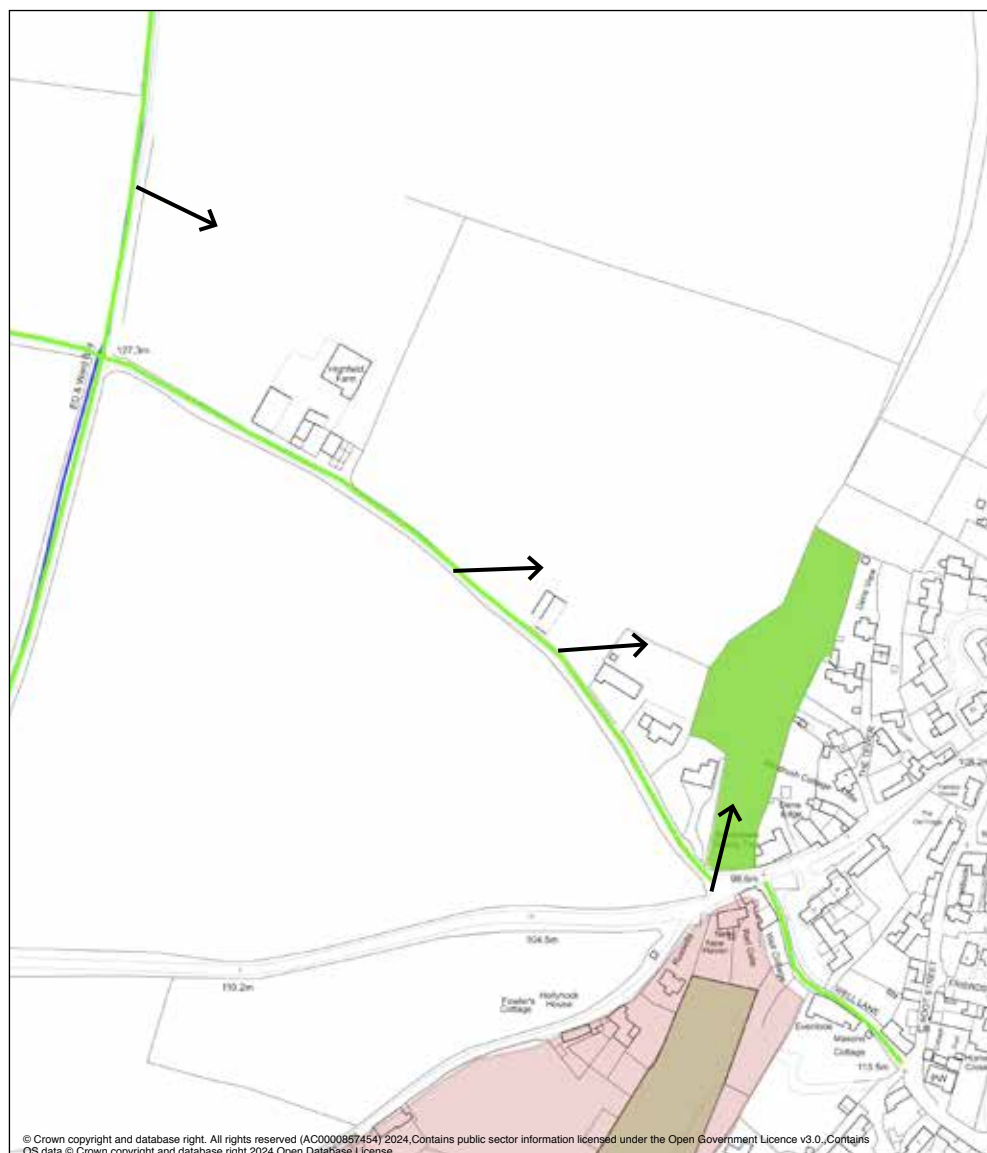


The Dene in summer and in winter. The Dene is part of the dry valley running up to Ruddywell, which was the original source of drinking water for the village. After heavy rain a winterbourne can form flooding the Dene.

## 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'.

### The land:

- is part of the floor of a steep-sided dry valley formed as a tributary of the Evenlode, which is described in the Landscape Assessment (page 33, paras 2 & 3 ) as having a "strong rural character" and "more pastoral in character" than the predominant arable agricultural land in most of the parish;
- is part of the Ruddywell dry valley Blue/Green corridor see Section 9 Policy SNEL9 (A to B on the map);
- is part of Wild Oxfordshire CTA;
- can also be viewed (as noted by the Landscape Assessment page 44, para 3) from Bridleway 208/3/10 which links into the Oxfordshire Way and from the Oxfordshire Way as it descends from the ridgeline along which the Bridleway passes, affording, as noted by the Landscape Assessment, "a particularly attractive view of the village which rises up on the far side of the valley" and comprising one of the "key views within the parish" which are "a significant component of the settlement's rural landscape setting";
- forms part of the Stonesfield Conservation Area and is therefore subject to the restrictions applying to conservation areas (see 2b above);
- has recreational value which is clearly demonstrated by the frequency with which residents of Stonesfield walk the Oxfordshire Way footpath (370/18/10) which adjoins it, affording views over it and which the village survey showed 54% out of a total of 588 respondents walked at least monthly, many more frequently. The number of people walking this path is substantially higher than the ones the village survey recorded;
- achieved 81.2% support for designation in the Village Survey.



Plan of the Dene

Scale 1:2500

Green area = land to be designated

Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA

Beige area = SSSI

Green lines = public rights of way.

Arrows = views from corner of Laughton Hill and Fawler Road, and from Oxfordshire Way.



## 10 Land adjoining and to the west of the Ridings, Stonesfield

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Land behind Stonesfield Garage and the White Horse pub, to the west of The Ridings, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
10a: The Miller family, Stonesfield Garage, The Ridings, Stonesfield  
10b: Robert Ivor Ransley and Wendy Frances Ransley, Springwell, The Ridings, Stonesfield, Oxon OX8 8EA
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owners have been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.

- *Photographs of site*  
See below
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
1.9 ha
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO



Views of the land from  
bridleway 208/3/10  
(above) and from the  
Oxfordshire Way (left).

- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The site is the continuation beyond the Dene of the steep-sided dry valley, formed as an Evenlode tributary.

**4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.**

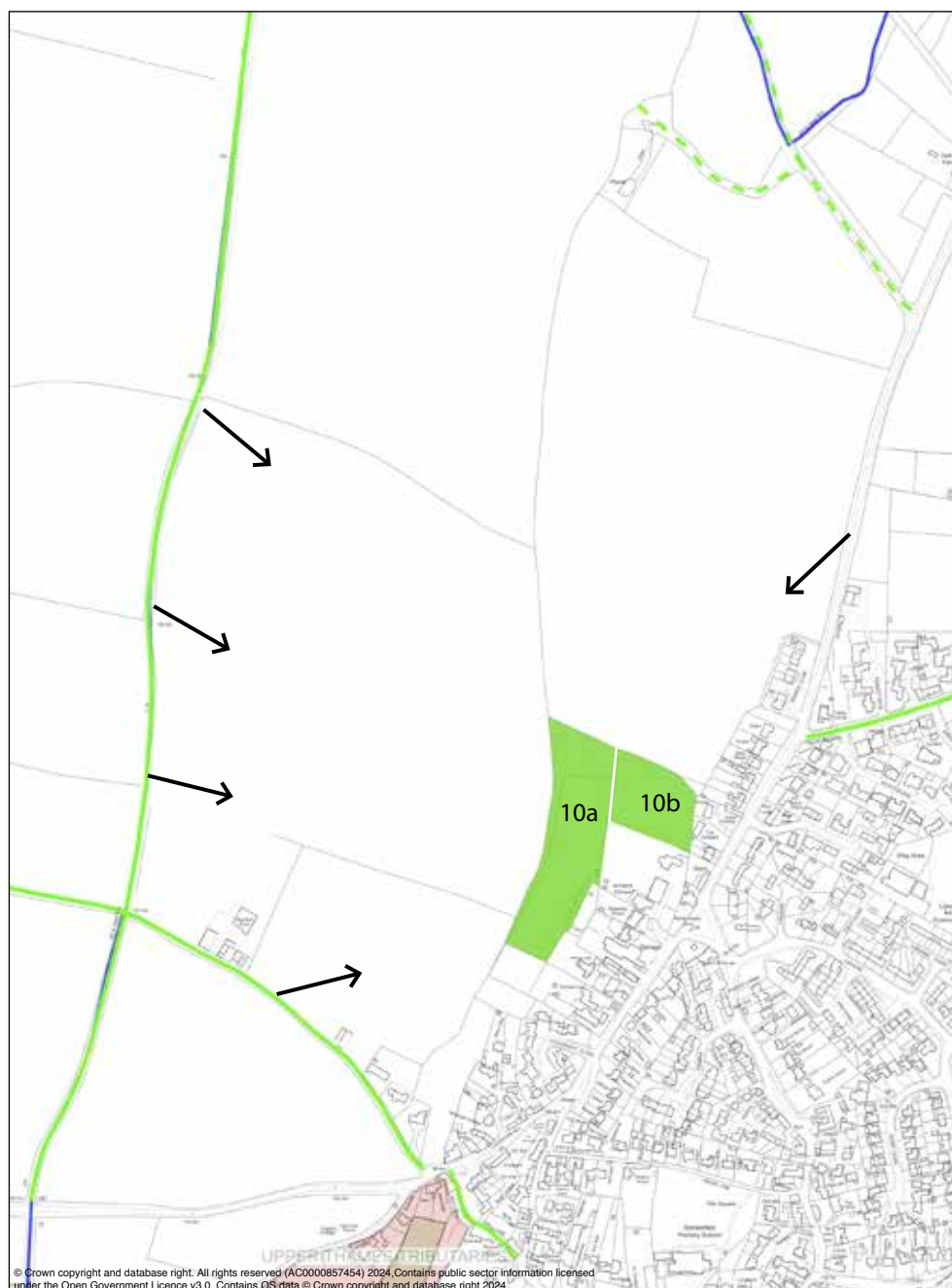
- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no public rights of way across the land.

**5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:**

- can be viewed (as noted by the Landscape Assessment page 44, para 3) from Bridleway 208/3/10

which links into the Oxfordshire Way and from the Oxfordshire Way as it descends from the ridgeline along which the Bridleway passes, affording, as noted by the Landscape Assessment "a particularly attractive view of the village which rises up on the far side of the valley" and comprising one of the "key views within the parish" which are "a significant component of the settlement's rural landscape setting";

- is an integral part of that view which is of particular local significance because of its beauty, recreational value and tranquility and because it is seen daily by the many users, villagers and from further afield, of the Bridleway and the Oxfordshire Way;
- is part of the Ruddywell dry valley Blue/Green corridor see Section 9 Policy SNEL9 (A to B on the map);
- is part of Wild Oxfordshire CTA;
- achieved 75.7% support for designation in the Village Survey.



**Plan of the land west of the Ridings**

**Scale 1:5000**

**Green area = land to be designated**

**Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA**

**Beige area = SSSI**

**Green lines = public rights of way.**

**Arrows = views from the Oxfordshire Way, from bridleway 208/3/10, and from the Ridings .**



# 11 Stonesfield Primary School playing field

## 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Stonesfield Primary School Playing field, High Street, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Oxfordshire County Council, County Hall, New Road, Oxford, OX1 1ND
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

## 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO

- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

## 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
7,463sq.m.
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The site is the largest remaining open space within the built-up envelope of the village.

## 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no public rights of way across the land.

View across the Primary School wild meadow from High Street.



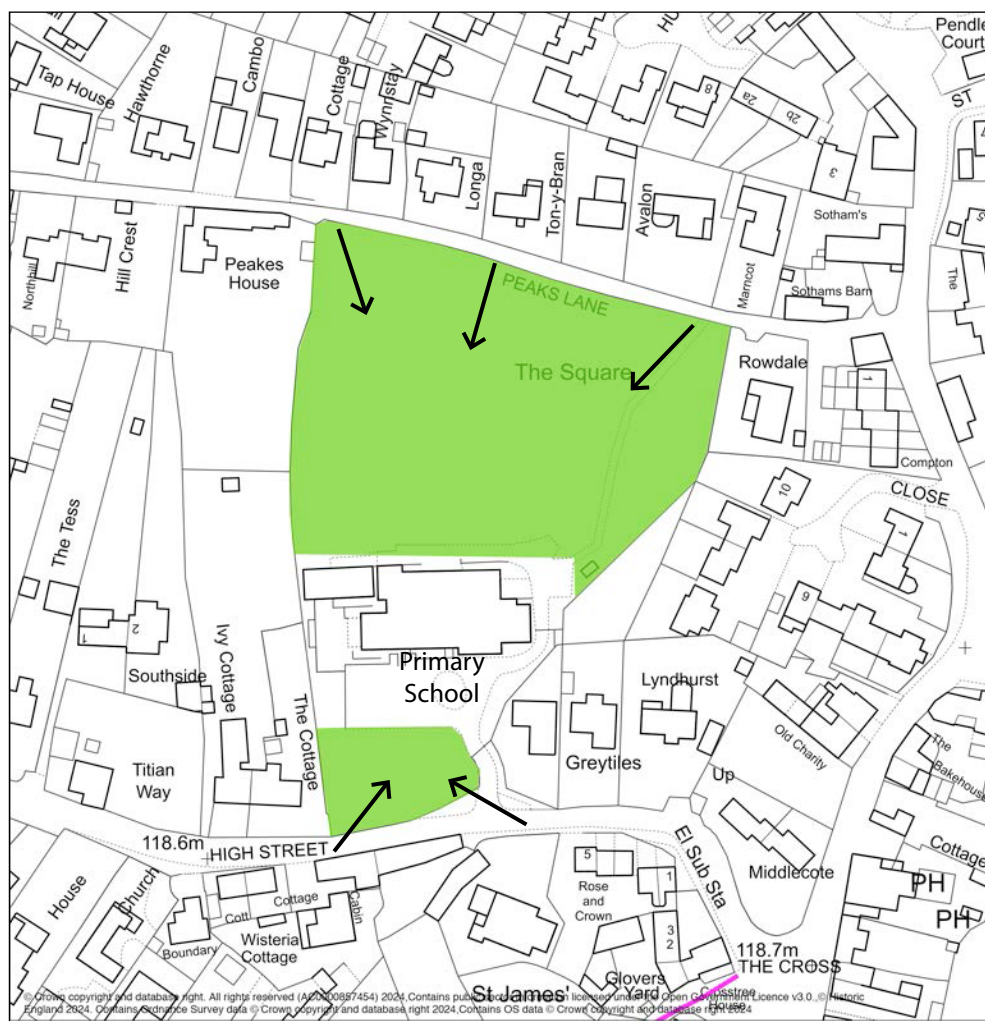


## 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:

- affords a tranquil resort to pass for the many villagers, especially the elderly unable to venture further afield, who take a short walk for exercise within the village including within their route Peak's Lane and High Street, which passes alongside it;
- is central to the Conservation Area and is therefore subject to the restrictions applying to conservation areas (see 2b above);
- has for decades been the main facility for recreation for the pupils of the thriving school;
- incorporates tree-planting and nature-friendly garden areas and a playground as well as sports facilities;
- is regularly used for village-wide events, e.g. fêtes;
- has a recreational value, tranquility (when not in use by schoolchildren!) and wildlife value of undeniable local significance;
- achieved 91.4% support for designation in the Village Survey.



View of main playing field seen from Peakes Lane.



Plan of the Stonesfield Primary School playing fields

Scale 1:1250

Green area = land to be designated

Arrows = views from High Street and Peakes Lane



## 12 Triangle of land opposite the White Horse pub and the corner of Pond Hill and Longore

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Triangle of land opposite the White Horse pub at the junction of Pond Hill and The Ridings, and the land at the corner of Pond Hill and Longore
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
The two separate adjacent sites are owned by:  
12a: Stonesfield Parish Council, and  
12b: Cottsway Housing Association Limited, Cottsway House, Heynes Place, Avenue Two, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 4YG  
Ownership is identified on the site location plan.
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owners have been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*

- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
Combined area of 1,375sq.m.
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
The site is one of the few remaining open spaces with a magnificent horse chestnut tree within the built-up envelope of the village at this important junction of roads opposite the newly reopened, village owned, public house.

Residents celebrating on the triangle outside the pub just after they had heard that the pub had been successfully bought by the community.

View from Longore corner towards the triangle with its magnificent chestnut tree in front of the White Horse.



**4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.**

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
**NO.**



View from Pond Hill looking up Longore.

**5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'.**

**The land:**

- affords a pleasant green space with a bench on which to sit;
- affords a welcome relief to this part of the predominantly post-war housing development in the village centre;
- would, if built upon, obstruct visibility for traffic at what amounts to a three-way junction which is already difficult to negotiate;
- achieved 81.1% support for designation in the village survey.



Plan of the corner of Longore and Pond Hill

Scale 1:1250

Green area = land to be designated

Arrows = views from the Ridings, Pond Hill and Longore



## 13 Stonesfield village Playing Field

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Stonesfield Playing Field, Field Close, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Stonesfield Playing Field Association
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
3.4ha
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
Accommodates the activities of several village football teams, 2 village cricket teams, and a village tennis club with 3 tennis courts, one of which doubles as a multi-use-games-area (MUGA), and a children's playground;

### 4 Evidence to show the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
**NO**

### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community'. The land:

- is the venue for almost all sporting activity in the village;
- accommodates a well-used children's playground;
- has a symbiotic recreational relationship with the village Sports and Social Club, which is housed on land forming part of the endowment of the charity which is the Playing Fields Charity;
- is situated on land surrounded on two sides by open countryside achieving the combination of beauty, tranquility (when not disturbed by the invigorating sound accompanying energetic sport) and intense recreational value;
- demonstrated its "particular local significance" when the sports clubs combined successfully over 30 years ago to raise money and build the Sports and Social Club;
- achieved 93.3 % support for designation in the Village Survey.





# Plan of the village Playing Field

Scale 1:1250

Green area = land to be designated

Arrows = views from playing field over open countryside



## 14 Field north of Woodstock Road, Stonesfield

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Land at Woodstock Road, Stonesfield
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Michael Hedley Robinson, 56 Kimmeridge Road,  
Cumnor, Oxford OX2 9RQ  
(Mary Doreen Evins, Avalon, Peaks Lane, Stonesfield,  
Witney OX29 8PY now deceased)
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
6.1ha
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
Forms a major part of the landscape setting on the most heavily trafficked approach to the village i.e. the Woodstock Road, described by the Landscape Assessment (page 18 final para) as "fundamental" i.e. "the landscape setting is fundamental in inward views of the village and this gives Stonesfield its rural settlement character";

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
The site is contiguous with the built environment.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
There are no public rights of way over the site, however there are views over the site from the directly adjacent Woodstock Road towards the Playing Field, and from the Playing Field over open landscape.

### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community' The land:

- immediately adjoins the village playing field and by being preserved as open space enhances the beauty, tranquillity and recreational value of the playing field;
- contributes substantially to the "lack of visible development" which the Landscape Assessment says "reinforces rural character on approaching the village from the north-east and adds to the significance of this LLCA as part of a rural 'buffer' between Stonesfield and the World Heritage Site at Blenheim Palace" (page 54, para 6);
- contributes substantially to what the Landscape Assessment (page 54, final para) observes to be, for those using the "important recreational route" which is the footpath using the line of the former Roman Road, Akeman Street, "clear views towards Stonesfield across the open farmland" putting the Stonesfield Inner Fields firmly in the settlement's rural landscape setting;
- is within and is essential to the openness of that setting, which the Landscape Assessment (page 54 final para, page 55 first para) judges to be at risk because "Recent housing development at Charity Farm (William Buckland Way) has created a hard edge to the village in these views, and additional development will further threaten the integrity of its valued rural character";
- encompasses the site, development of which was rejected so robustly in his Cala Homes planning appeal decision by the planning inspector, Stephen Normington, in June 2019 (paragraph 52 Appeal Decision dated 21 June 2019 APP/D 3125/W/18/3209551) when he agreed with the current Landscape Assessment stating: –  
– from the Akeman Street footpath "current views looking towards the village on this approach are dominated by the incongruity of the Charity Farm development, which, owing to its urban form and materials, appears as a disjointed protrusion into the rural landscape and displays little integration with the rest of the village" and  
– "The proposed development would add to this incongruity. The cumulative visual impact of the existing and proposed development when viewed from Oxfordshire Way would fundamentally and unacceptably change the characteristic open character of the dip slope lowland. This change would be visibly and perceptibly experienced at close quarters by users of the public right of way on the approach to the village such that in views looking north-west the village would appear as more of a modern 'suburbanisation' of a rural settlement within the AONB. This change would adversely affect the enjoyment of the users of the path" and

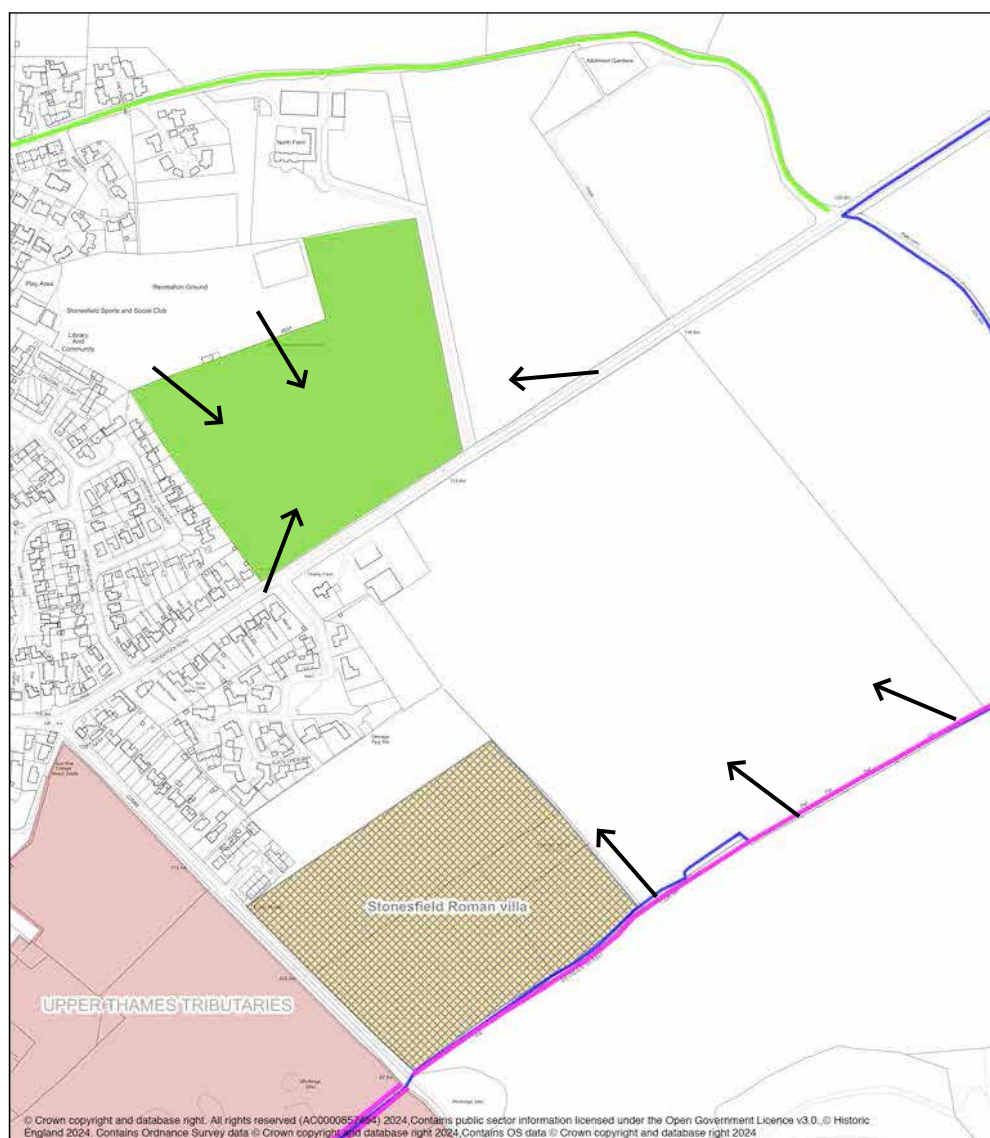
– speaking of the Woodstock Road approach to the village, “The appearance and rural character of this part of the AONB would be unacceptably changed and a more suburban character would prevail. This would unacceptably harm the rural setting of Stonesfield within the context of the settled landscape articulated in the various character assessments.”

- achieved 78.2% support for designation in the Village Survey.



Top photo shows residents protesting against Cala Homes developing this field in 2019.

The photo below is taken from the same gateway at the edge of the village showing the whole field looking towards the Playing Field.



Plan of the land north of Woodstock Road

Scale 1:5000

Green area = land to be designated

Cross hatched area = scheduled ancient monument, Stonesfield Roman Villa

Pink area = Upper Thames Tributaries ESA

Green line = bridleway

Magenta line = Akeman Street Oxfordshire Way long distance footpath

Arrows = views from the Woodstock Road, the Oxfordshire Way, and from the village Playing Field.



## 15 Woodstock Road allotments

### 1 General information

- *Name and address of site*  
Land part of Blenheim Estate lying to the north of Woodstock Road
- *Site location plan*  
See attached plan
- *Organisation proposing site for designation*  
Stonesfield Parish Council
- *Ownership of site if known*  
Vanbrugh Trustees Limited, The Estate Office, Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon OX20 1PP
- *Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation? Do they support the designation?*  
The owner has been informed of the Council's desire to designate the field an LGS.
- *Photographs of site*
- *Community served by the potential LGS*  
Stonesfield

### 2 Planning history

- *Is there currently a planning application for this site?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the site allocated for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan?*  
YES / NO

### 3 Size, scale, and 'local nature' of the proposed LGS

- *Area of proposed site*  
3,725sq.m.
- *Is the site an 'extensive tract of land'?*  
YES / NO
- *Is the proposed site 'local in character'?*  
Is the second of only two allotment sites serving the population of Stonesfield. It is without doubt special to the local community and holds particular local significance because of its beauty, recreational value, tranquility and richness of wildlife.

### 4 Evidence to show the 'green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves'.

- *How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community?*  
Circa 500 meters to the east of the village envelope.
- *Are there any barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes?*  
NO

### 5 Evidence to show that the green area is 'demonstrably special to a local community' The land:

- forms part of the landscape setting on the most heavily trafficked approach to the village, i.e. the Woodstock Road, described by the Landscape Assessment as "fundamental" i.e. "the landscape setting is fundamental in inward views of the village and this gives Stonesfield its rural settlement character";
- whilst it is situated outside the village envelope is in reasonably close proximity to the community, being within easy walking distance along the Farley Lane track;
- is necessary to the recreational value derived by members of the community from allotment cultivation, because
  - there is no availability of allotments on the only "in village" allotment site at Churchfields, which is oversubscribed;
  - it is more accessible to many would-be allotment cultivators living in the northern areas of the village than are the Churchfields allotments;
- at the date of drafting comprises 26 allotments, accommodating 25 allotment holders;
- whilst there is no formal "waiting list" when a plot holder leaves, the vacant plot is immediately taken on by a new plot-holder so that plots are always being worked;
- comprises well-tended allotments, some "chemical-free" and some part "chemical-free", some "no-dig" and all benefit from a regular delivery of horse manure and availability from time to time of mulch;
- plot-holders supply their own water, mostly by collecting rainwater;
- is a fertile home for wildlife including: –
  - birds including red kites, sparrowhawks, skylarks, pheasants, partridge, blue tits, great spotted and green woodpeckers and owls;
  - insects, notably butterflies, moths and cockchafer beetles;
  - frogs, toads and common lizards;
  - foxes and mice and (less welcome) muntjac deer, rabbits, hares and rats;
- includes in particular a tree-lined back perimeter which encourages all of the above wildlife and more;
- achieved 83.9% support for designation in the Village Survey.



**Plan of Woodstock Road allotments**

**Scale 1:2500**

**Green line = Farley Lane bridleway**

**Arrows = views from the Woodstock Road**