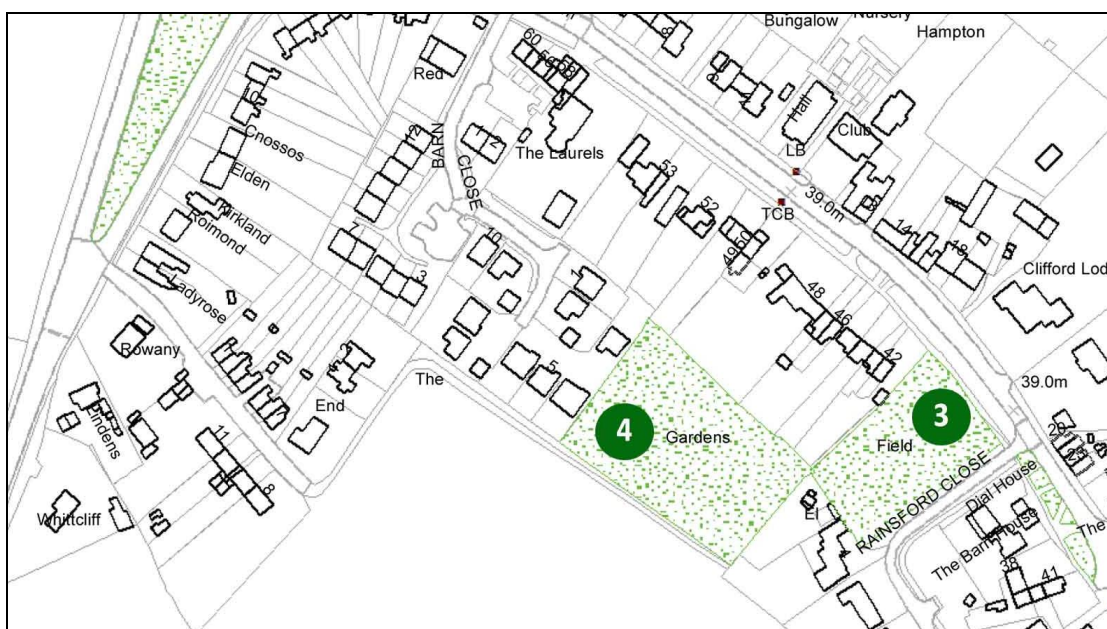


CLIFFORD CHAMBERS NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Local Green Space Site Assessment: January 2018

Site Address	Site Area	Site Ref
Recreational Ground off Main Street	Approx. ha: 0.25	LGS No: 3

Plan



Site Description and Current Land Use

The site is mainly laid to lawn, well maintained and mown. It contains a playground area which is well stocked with equipment that is in good condition. Also on the site are goal posts, benches and a notice board with historic information about the site. It is an enclosed area; partly by hedge and partly by fence, with a low historic brick wall along the road frontage. Houses surround the site on all sides. There are mature trees and hedges along the perimeter.

Relevant Planning History

None

Site Ownership

The Recreation Ground. The Owner of the freehold is the Diocesan of Coventry. The Field is on a 32 year lease with the Parish Council and is managed by the Village Hall Management Committee who are a registered Charity (1089042).

Site Constraints

The site is situated in the conservation area. It sits within an area of ‘High Sensitivity’ for

archaeology as noted in the Historic Environment Assessment of Local Service Villages Stratford-on-Avon District County of Warwickshire (July 2012).

Public Access

There are two entrances along the road frontage and one through the allotment at the northwest corner of the site.

Site Photo



Taken in January 2018

Ecological Significance

The site contains a number of mature trees, hedges and shrubs. Mixed species of hedgerows and shrubs are important for a number of birds and mammals as they provide food, shelter and nesting sites. They increase the diversity of insect species (including butterflies and bees which are currently in decline), which are a food source for bird and mammal species and can also play an important role in the pollination of plants and crops in the surrounding area. The diversity and population numbers of insects directly impacts the food chain for other fauna in the area and has a wider impact on the cultivation of crops.

The border areas have been set aside to allow meadow flowers to grow and the area on the western boundary specially created as a habitat for hedgehogs.

Trees provide nesting sites for birds as well as habitats for small mammal species e.g. squirrels. These are all vital for the wider food web and species diversity within the village ecosystem.

In the village there have been sightings of larger fauna species such as bats, birds of prey (e.g. buzzards and owls), rabbits and hedgehogs. The site plays an important contributory role in the wider ecological significance of the village.

Special Qualities and Local Significance

The site is the only formal recreational ground/facility in the village. It is locally significant because it is well used and valued by the local community as a formal area of open space.

The special qualities of the site include its recreational value for children and adults through community events, sports and the playground. Usage includes annual events such as 'Apple day' and games evenings (mainly rounders) organised by village groups.

It is a tranquil and open environment for those walking through the site on the way to the adjacent allotments beyond. As noted in the previous section, the border areas have been set aside to allow meadow flowers to grow and the area on the western boundary specially created as a habitat for hedgehogs.

The site is demonstrably special to the local community as evidenced by the content of the site's information board which notes that a volunteer group, the Clifford Pounders, raised money for new playground equipment in 2005.

Summary and Suitability for Designation as Local Green Space

This site is well related to and used by the local community and makes a positive contribution to the health and well-being of local residents.

LGS3 as outlined on the above plan is considered to be suitable for Local Green Space designation in accordance with paragraph 77 of the National Planning Policy Framework in that it:

- is in very close proximity to the community it serves;
- is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance because of its recreational value and richness of its habitats and wildlife potential; and
- is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.