

Green Spaces - Detailed Assessment of Shortlisted Sites

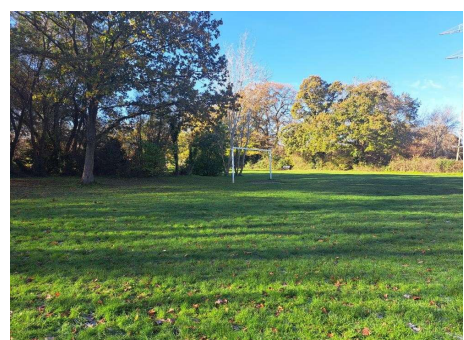
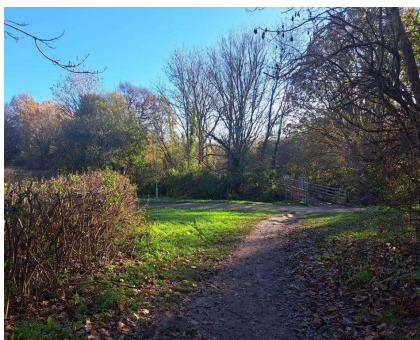
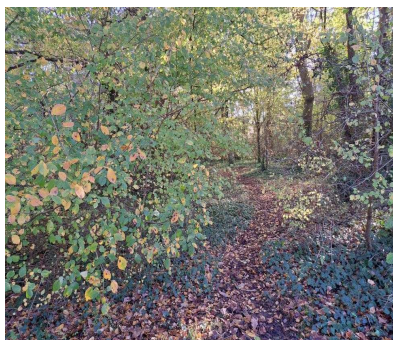
Site name and/or address	Land being the remainder of Moors Farm adjacent to Hawkers Close, Totton, SO40 3GG
Is the site allocated for development or subject of planning permission?	No
Is the site already protected from development?	An agreement dated 7 th Dec 2001 between NFDC, Geoffrey Stephen Snow, Kenneth Mooney & Linden Homes with particular reference to the first Schedule paragraph 1 “That the Open Space Land shall only be used as agricultural land or open space or for recreational purposes”
Is the site reasonable proximity to the community it serves?	Yes
Is the site local in character? Or is the site an extensive tract of land?	It is an extensive tract of land.
Is the site demonstrably special to the community it serves or of particular importance?	Yes, it's a 'green lung' to contrast with the air pollution in Totton and has been used by the local people of Totton for recreation even before Hawkers Close was built, mainly for walking – with or without dogs, blackberry picking, bird watching, sledging and playing energetic games with children. It proved invaluable as a recreational space for people during the Covid pandemic. Large numbers use it regularly; it is a popular calm and quiet area, unlike other green spaces in Totton. It is a valued amenity. It also includes Wetrton Copse – a carpet of bluebells in the spring. The provision of this green space allows visitors to walk locally and supports the impact on the New Forest locally, by reducing visitor numbers.
Recommended for Designation?	Yes, as a green space due to the following factors – recreational value, richness of wildlife and it offers tranquility.



Site name and/or address	Calmore Recreation Ground, Nutsey Close, Calmore
Is the site allocated for development or subject of planning permission?	No, requests have been made to use it for commercial football, but it was felt the request would effectively remove the facility from public use.
Is the site already protected from development?	The land is owned by New Forest District Council and is leased to Totton and Eling Town Council to maintain.
Is the site reasonable proximity to the community it serves?	Yes, next to the school, very close to the Community Centre and among houses on the Calmore estate.
Is the site local in character? Or is the site an extensive tract of land?	It is a municipal recreation ground, maintained as low grass and surrounded by low shrubs and trees. It has an outdoor gym facility. It is heavily used and is in the style of other sites across the town.
Is the site demonstrably special to the community it serves or of particular importance?	There are few sites of this size on the estate, and it is big enough to allow football, and cricket matches at an informal level for local young people. It is widely used by dog walkers, children, and young people. The provision of this green space allows visitors to walk locally and supports the impact on the New Forest locally, by reducing visitor numbers.
Recommended for Designation?	Yes, as a green space it is important to the community for its recreational value.



Site name and/or address	Testbourne Play area including Briarwood, West Totton
Is the site allocated for development or subject of planning permission?	No
Is the site already protected from development?	No
Is the site in reasonable proximity to the community it serves?	Yes, surrounded by houses and alongside a green walking and cycling infrastructure for local residents.
Is the site local in character? Or is the site an extensive tract of land?	The site is a continuation of the Bartley Park and Bartley Water wildlife corridor as well as a green space for residents. It is used as a dog walking area and recreation ground but also has woodland and areas for wildlife so it is a good community facility for a town which was much more rural until a few decades ago. The variety of habitats epitomizes the character of the town which is urban but runs alongside a rural history.
Is the site demonstrably special to the community it serves or of particular importance?	The site links parts of Northwest Totton to a larger green space alongside the Bartley Water River, a New Forest Stream which runs through West Totton and on to Goatee Beach. It serves as a green space for recreation for a community of residents living adjacent to it but also for estates nearby which do not have similar amenities. Young people, children and dog walkers are the most common users. However, the route also extends a cycling and walking green route to Northwest Totton, making active travel to the lower west town easier and is also used as part of a cycling and walking route to local community centres, sports facilities, shops and cultural facilities. The provision of this green space allows visitors to walk locally and supports the impact on the New Forest locally, by reducing visitor numbers.
Recommended for Designation?	Yes, as a local green space due to the following factors - recreational value, richness of wildlife and it offers tranquility.



Site name and/or address	Goatee Beach, Eling
Is the site allocated for development or subject of planning permission?	No
Is the site already protected from development?	Yes, partly. One area is part of a conservation area, and another part of the beach is at the end of the Glebe Fields owned by the local church.
Is the site in reasonable proximity to the community it serves?	Yes, the area is used by residents of Eling and beyond in Totton. It is the only stretch of sea that people can walk to from Totton and Eling and it forms the start of a footpath which progresses along the shoreline to Marchwood.
Is the site local in character? Or is the site an extensive tract of land?	The site is individual in character as there is no other beach. However, the area is well known and well used by local people and gives direct access to the water for swimming, canoeing and yachting for example. It allows people to watch events at the docks such as firework displays and ship launches.
Is the site demonstrably special to the community it serves or of particular importance?	The site is a link to the heritage of Totton and Eling and is an area where bricks were made and shipped out, where boats passed by to take treated telegraph poles and pit props to the whole county. Three masted sailing ships were watched from there by the local community and yachting galas were held on the fields and beaches. Evidence of occupation has been found there dating back to neolithic times. Beacons were lit there to celebrate events and historically the fields and beach were where most of Eling and much of Totton spent Sundays and learnt to swim.
Recommended for Designation?	Yes, as a local green space due to the following factors – beauty, recreational value and tranquility.



Site name and/or address	Bartley Park and Bartley Water, From Myrtle Avenue to Goatee Beach, Totton and Eling.
Is the site allocated for development or subject of planning permission?	No
Is the site already protected from development?	Some of the site has been designated as a conservation area; some has been designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and other parts of the area remain undesignated.
Is the site in reasonable proximity to the community it serves?	Yes, it runs through and behind the estates of homes to the West and South of Totton and Eling.
Is the site local in character? Or is the site an extensive tract of land?	The site is extensive and runs along the full length of the Bartley Water from where it first runs through Totton and Eling to Goatee Beach at its estuary.
Is the site demonstrably special to the community it serves or of particular importance?	<p>The area is a major wildlife corridor and allows for a range of habitats and biodiversity which otherwise would not only be missing from Totton and Eling but also from the area more widely. This allows people access to wildlife in a way which they would not otherwise be able to have. There are a number of rare species which have been found in the area including Epipactis Helleborines and rare reptiles. Seals and otters have also been seen swimming in this area.</p> <p>Much of the area also doubles as an active travel corridor between the North of the town and the Southwest and is a much valued, off-road travel route. It is also hoped that areas which have been closed to the public will be reopened to enable more residents to use it as an extensive area in the heart of a residential part of the town.</p> <p>The provision of this green space allows visitors to walk locally and supports the impact on the New Forest locally, by reducing visitor numbers.</p>
Recommended for Designation?	Yes, as a green space due to the following factors - recreational value, beauty, richness of wildlife and tranquility. It could form a country park in the future.



Site name and/or address	Civic Green, Town Centre, Totton
Is the site allocated for development or subject of planning permission?	No
Is the site already protected from development?	No. The Civic Green is currently part of a larger green area which is owned by Hampshire County Council and is in the Town Centre, across the road from the precinct, between the police station, library and Civic centre.
Is the site in reasonable proximity to the community it serves?	Yes, it is at the heart of the town in the town centre. It is between the main town car park and the main shopping precincts and outside the library and civic centre. It is most often used in the summer as a place for families to pause on seating, office workers to picnic, for people to wait and meet family and friends etc. It also forms part of the arrangements for the town market which is on Library Road running close by.
Is the site local in character? Or is the site an extensive tract of land?	The site is an interesting mix of ornamental trees, some of which are very mature and open grass. A number of benches provide seating for members of the public to dwell in the heart of the town.
Is the site demonstrably special to the community it serves or of particular importance?	The site is commonly used by visitors to the town centre providing a place for meeting each other, families to stop while children play on the grass and for local workers to find a quiet space to enjoy food bought locally. While the town has a municipal park, the civic green is more immediate to the town centre.
Recommended for Designation?	Yes, as a green space due to the following factors - recreational value, and tranquility within the Town Centre.

