

## **Rackheath Neighbourhood Plan Review (Submission Plan) – QB responses in respect of Local Green Spaces – 8<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

### **Policy ENV7**

I note that the local authority comments on the first paragraph have been accepted.

The NPPF only provides for green spaces to be named or designated as Local Green Space if specific criteria are met. Therefore, it's not possible to protect any space, current or future, "as if they are Local Green Space". As the local authority has indicated, designation at a later date might be sought. I note that Appendix 4 helpfully tabulates how each space (except that listed as (h)) has been assessed against the NPPF criteria, except that those criteria have been misleadingly truncated. The NPPF says (para 107) that to be designated a local green space must be (inter alia): "demonstrably special to a local community *and* holds a *particular local significance*" (*my emphases added*) but the Appendix 4 table fails to mention this significant part of the overall criterion and fails to identify "particular" – as distinct from general – significance for the spaces listed. Before I visit I would like to receive an explanation of the "particular" significance of each space and, for the new spaces, I will need a larger scale map of each from which it is possible easily to identify their boundary. A yet to exist space cannot be assessed.

**QB Response: Maps and assessment tables attached, please note there is no map or assessment table for i) as it is yet to exist.**

# Appendix 4: Justification for Local Green Spaces

## d) The Landings

**In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves**

Within main built-up area of the settlement, located on Green Lane West, surrounded by development, bordered by new dwellings

**Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife**

Area of open green space provided as part of the development of site formerly known as GT19. Located at the entrance to the development the spaces contribute to the greening of the entrance to this part of Rackheath, along from the 'Village sign' located at the entrance to the built up area. The spaces provide a pleasant informal amenity setting of the entrance of the development set back from the road. There are very few existing spaces along the roadside in this part of Rackheath. The space as amenity and informal recreation value.

**Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land**

Not an extensive tract of land and has physical boundaries. Does not extend into open countryside.





<b>e) Princes Park</b>	
<b>In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves</b>	Within main built-up area of the settlement, surrounded by development, bordered by new dwellings
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife</b>	Area of open green play space provided as part of the development of site formerly known as GT19. Demonstrable community and recreational value by virtue of use as an equipped play area with informal green space surrounding it. The space is the principal children's play area/play space to serve this particular new development. There are no other equipped play space sin the immediate area.
<b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land</b>	Not an extensive tract of land and has physical boundaries. Does not extend into open countryside.





<p><b>f) Liberty Park</b></p> <p><b>In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves</b></p>	<p>Within main built-up area of the settlement, adjacent to new residential development at Stanway Road and Harmer Drive.</p>
<p><b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife</b></p>	<p>Area of green amenity space provided as part of the adjacent affordable housing development. The space provides the location for the attenuation lagoon serving the development and serves as the only green areas delivered on the development which are capable of informal amenity use by the adjacent residents.</p>
<p><b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land</b></p>	<p>Not an extensive tract of land and has physical boundaries. Does not extend into open countryside.</p>





<b>g) Wendover Park</b>	
<b>In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves</b>	Within main built-up area of the settlement, surrounded by new dwellings.
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife</b>	Area of informal green amenity space provided specifically as part of the open space provision for the Wendover Park development off Salhouse Road. Local residents contribute financially to a management company who are responsible for its maintenance . The space is central to the new development and provides the only greenspace of any usable size for informal recreation/amenity value for the adjoining residents. There are no other equivalent spaces in the area..
<b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land</b>	Not an extensive tract of land and has physical boundaries. Does not extend into open countryside.



<b>h) Trinity Meadow</b>	
<b>In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves</b>	Within main built-up area of the settlement, bordered by new dwellings.
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife</b>	A network of areas of green amenity space provided as part of the surrounding development on Green Lane East. Spaces have amenity and community value. Spaces are central to the development and have been provided specifically as part of the open space provision for the development. The spaces provide opportunities for informal amenity for local residents and also informal children's play space with football goals often erected to enable children to play.

**Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land**

Not an extensive tract of land and has physical boundaries. Does not extend into open countryside.



**Please note, we also have photos of Newman Woods.**