Horringer-cum-Ickworth Neighbourhood Plan

2026-2041

Local Green Space Assessment

Horringer-cum-Ickworth Parish Council
October 2026







Prepared in support of the
Horringer-cum-Ickworth Neighbourhood Plan

PLACES4PEOPLE
PLANNING CONSULTANCY

Horringer-cum-Ickworth parish has several 'green spaces' that play a significant role in defining the character of the village and places for meeting and/or recreation. Policy HC 2: 'Local Green Space' identifies the possibility of identifying green spaces that meet certain characteristics as "Local Green Spaces". The policy states:

1. *Local and neighbourhood plans may designate land as Local Green Space where this would safeguard green areas of particular value to the local community. Local Green Space should be limited to situations where the land concerned is:*
   a. *In close proximity to the community it serves;*
   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), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
   c. *Local in character and not an extensive tract of land.*

2. *Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and the provision of sufficient land for homes, jobs and other needs. Local Green Space should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and should be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.*

This report provides an assessment of the green spaces in the parish against the criteria in NPPF Policy HC 2 in order to support the designation of local green spaces in the emerging Horringer-cum-Ickworth Neighbourhood Plan.

The Identified Green Spaces

The green spaces assessed are identified below:

1. The Green west of the A143 and at College Close
2. The Green north of the entrance to Ickworth Park
3. The Churchyard
4. Hornings Park
5. The Green east of the A143 and south of Manor Lane
6. The Green east of the A143 and north of Meadow Drive
7. The Green east of the A143 and south of Meadow Drive
8. Holly Close Play Area
9. Link between Hawthorn Drive and Meadow Drive
10. Open space adjoining 3-4 The Chestnuts and 10 Meadow Drive
11. Sharps Green

Appraisal

The following pages provide a detailed assessment of the identified spaces to ascertain whether they conform with the Local Green Space definition of the NPPF.

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1. The Green west of the A143 and at College Close



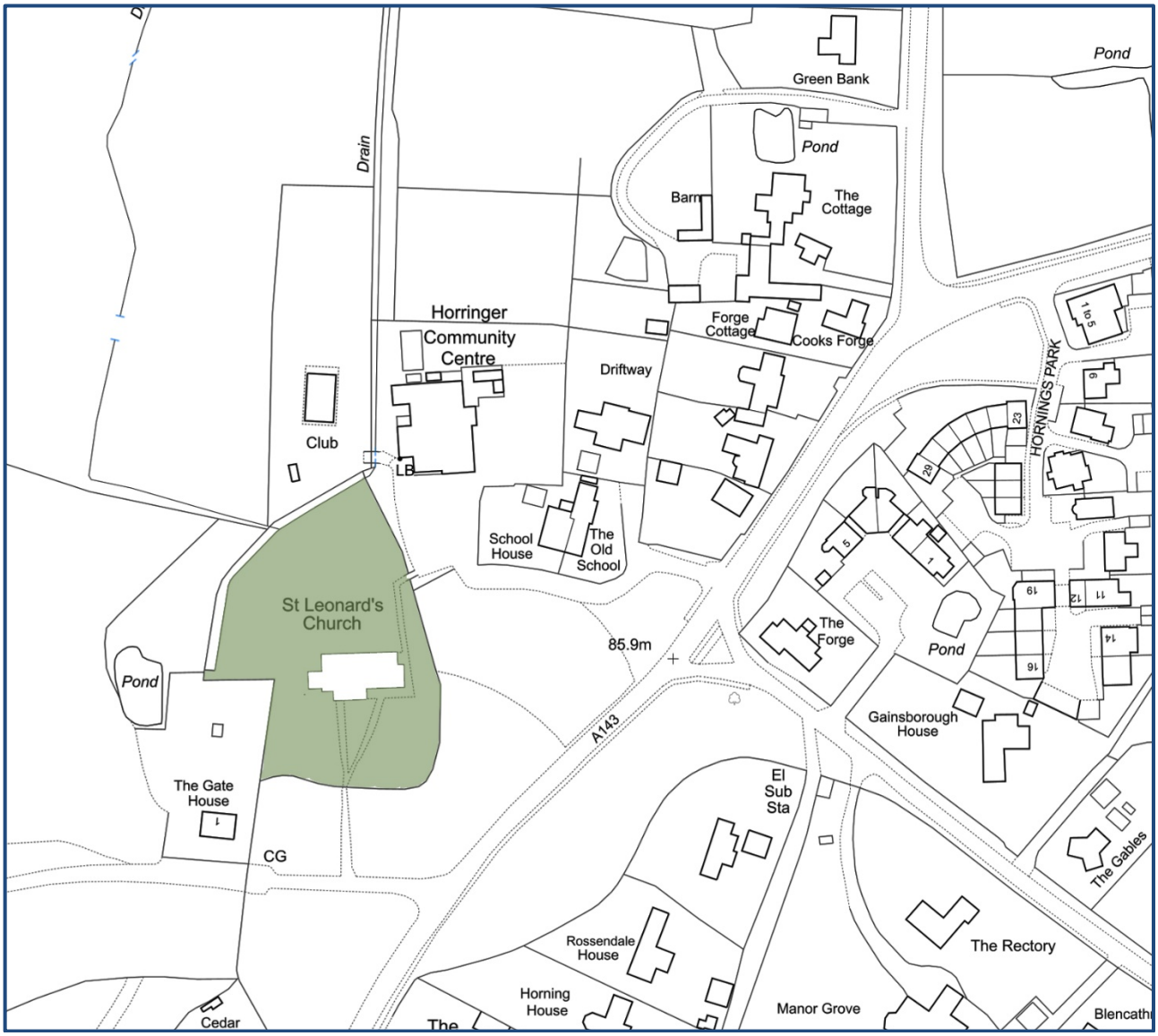
Site Details	
Description and purpose	Part of original village green
Checklist	
Statutory designations	In Conservation Area
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.64 Ha
Ownership	Bristol Estates and Havebury Homes
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	In the village centre
Public access	Public access at all times
Ecologically significant	Contains two ponds and some significant and mature trees. The border is generally formed of hedgerows, al of which provide important habitats.
Historically significant	The 1884 Ordnance Survey map indicates that the green was present at that time. In conservation area.
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Important open area that makes a significant contribution of the character of the conservation area.
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

2. The Green north of the entrance to Ickworth Park



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Village Green
Checklist	
Statutory designations	In Conservation Area
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.56Ha
Ownership	Bristol Estates
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	In village centre
Public access	Public access at all times
Ecologically significant	Some mature trees present
Historically significant	The 1884 Ordnance Survey map indicates that the green was present at that time. In conservation area.
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Important open area that makes a significant contribution of the character of the conservation area.
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

3. The Churchyard



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Parish Church churchyard
Checklist	
Statutory designations	Church is listed Grade II*. In Conservation Area
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.46 Ha
Ownership	Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	In centre of village
Public access	Public access at all times
Ecologically significant	Bordered by a hedgerow and a number of mature trees on the boundary with Ickworth Park
Historically significant	The burial site for many significant former residents of the village
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	The cemetery is of significant local importance
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes.
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

4. Hornings Park



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Amenity Open Space
Checklist	
Statutory designations	In Conservation Area
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.15 Ha
Ownership	Hornings Park Management Ltd
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Located in village centre adjoini.ng housing
Public access	Public access at all times
Ecologically significant	Some medium sized trees present
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Important amenity open space and trees providing setting for the Conservation Area
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Yes, totally self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

5. The Green east of the A143 and south of Manor Lane



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Village Green
Checklist	
Statutory designations	In Conservation Area
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.38 Ha
Ownership	Bristol Estates
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Within the centre of the village
Public access	Accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Contains a range of significant trees and is bordered by a large hedge that provides an important habitat
Historically significant	The 1884 Ordnance Survey map indicates that the green was present at that time. In conservation area.
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Important open area that makes a significant contribution of the character of the conservation area.
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	A self-contained area
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

6. The Green east of the A143 and north of Meadow Drive



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Amenity open space
Checklist	
Statutory designations	In Conservation Area
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.19 Ha
Ownership	Bristol Estates
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located within village
Public access	Publicly accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Nothing of significance
Historically significant	In Conservation area
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Provides location for Village Sign and Parish Council notice board
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	A self-contained area
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes, outside Settlement Boundary
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

7. The Green east of the A143 and south of Meadow Drive



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Road verge part of which was originally village green. Contains former telephone call box which is now a book-swap. Parish Council notice board also present.
Checklist	
Statutory designations	In Conservation Area
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	Total 0.13 Ha
Ownership	Bristol Estates / Parish Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located within village
Public access	Publicly accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Hedgerow borders area
Historically significant	In Conservation Area and part forms part of original village green
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Important amenity space in historic centre of village
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	The area is self-contained
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation.

8. Holly Close Play Area



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Children's Play Area
Checklist	
Statutory designations	Part in Conservation Area. Trees are protection by TPO
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning permissions
Area	0.18 Ha
Ownership	Parish Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located within village and within residential area
Public access	Publicly accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Trees protected by preservation order
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Provides an important facility for children of the parish
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Defined area and not an extensive tract.
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

9. Link between Hawthorn Drive and Meadow Drive



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Amenity Open Space
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning permissions
Area	0.14 Ha
Ownership	West Suffolk Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located within village and within residential area
Public access	Publicly accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Contains a number of trees and bordered by hedgerows
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Provides an important amenity open space and separation between primary school and housing
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Defined area and not an extensive tract.
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

10. Open space adjoining 3-4 The Chestnuts and 10 Meadow Drive



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Amenity Open Space
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning permissions
Area	0.06 Ha
Ownership	West Suffolk Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located within village and within residential area
Public access	Publicly accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Contains a range of trees
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Provides an important amenity open space
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Defined area and not an extensive tract.
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

11. Sharps Green



Site Details	
Description and purpose	Amenity Open Space
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning permissions
Area	0.35 Ha
Ownership	West Suffolk Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	Centrally located within southern part of village and surrounded by dwellings
Public access	Publicly accessible at all times
Ecologically significant	Contains numerous trees of varying sizes
Historically significant	None
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Provides an important amenity open space
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Defined area and not an extensive tract.
Is the space capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period?	Yes
Conclusion	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation