

Great Waldingfield Neighbourhood Plan

Possible Local Green Space designation – Great Waldingfield airfield



Area 1

Site Details	
Description and purpose	Former airfield. Part agricultural land and important hedgerow.
Checklist	
Statutory designations	County Wildlife Site
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	1.1 Ha
Ownership	Suffolk County Council
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	It is a five minute walk from the village shop and two minutes from the Bowls and Social Club.
Public access	No public access, but viewed from a footpath
Ecologically significant	Forms significant part of the the first habitat for Red Listed RSPB birds and others after flying West to East across the large expanse of arable fields forming the County Wildlife Site. The scrub here is vital for the survival of these birds providing food and habitat for butterflies, moths and bees - conditions not readily available elsewhere on the County Wildlife Site. The Western end of the CWS has lost a large amount of its habitat, making this East end critical for the survival of many species. Uncommon and rare arable weeds have also been recorded here in particular spreading hedge parsley.
Historically significant	It is part of the WW2 American airfield and still contains the original runways.
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	Not only is it part of the historic airfield, it is also the most valued area for recreation for the Western end of the village, regularly used by a large number of people. It is particularly accessible for wheelchairs and buggies due to its flat terrain.
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	It forms part of the WW2 airfield with wide views across the remainder of the CWS. It is not an extensive tract of land.
Conclusion	Qualifies for LGS designation.

Area 2

Site Details	
Description and purpose	Former airfield. Important tree belt surrounding employment land.
Checklist	
Statutory designations	None
Site allocations	None
Planning permissions	No outstanding planning consent
Area	0.5 Ha
Ownership	Chilton Grain
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
Close to the community it services	It is a five minute walk from the village shop and two minutes from the Bowls and Social Club.
Public access	No public access, but viewed from local footpaths.
Ecologically significant	Deciduous woodland priority habitat. Forms significant part of the the first habitat for Red Listed RSPB birds and others after flying West to East across the large expanse of arable fields forming the County Wildlife Site. Also both tree belts are important wildlife corridors to and from the CWS.
Historically significant	No
Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance	These tree belts are extremely important in that they surround the industrial buildings on the site, maintaining a rural aspect when viewed both from the village and from the footpaths on the County Wildlife Site.
Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	They are part of the small wooded areas that exist in this area in contrast to the wide open spaces of the CWS. They are not an extensive tract of land.
Conclusion	Qualifies for LGS designation