

Living Networks

Biggleswade

Green Infrastructure Plan

April 2021



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BIGGLESWADE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

Introduction

The Biggleswade Green Infrastructure (GI) Plan is one of over 40 parish and town GI plans to have been produced across Bedfordshire.

The production of the Biggleswade GI Plan has been funded by Biggleswade Town Council (BTC) as part of their funding of the Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan. It has been produced by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (BRCC).

The production of the GI Plan was requested by the Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (NPSG) on behalf of BTC; to be a valuable tool in its own right as a planning document, and to inform policies and objectives in the emerging Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan. This Plan is a revision of the original Biggleswade GI Plan (2010), see Appendix 1. This revised plan will be reviewed annually by BTC to determine progress made, and the NPSG will review the GI Plan every five years and update where required, on behalf of BTC.

BRCC was appointed to facilitate the production of this Plan as it is a charity that works with local communities and landowners to conserve and enhance the landscape, wildlife and history in this area. At the heart of BRCC's work is the belief that empowering local communities, giving them a say in issues that affect them, achieves the best results. BRCC has over 60 years' experience of community development support and facilitating community consultation; and has 25 years experience of planning and delivering green infrastructure projects in Bedfordshire.

The need for GI Planning has been identified at all levels, from central government, through regional bodies (the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy and the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub-Regional Strategy), to County and District levels. The Bedfordshire and Luton Strategic GI Plan was produced in 2007 by the Bedfordshire & Luton Green Infrastructure Consortium. Parish and Town GI Plans are valuable tools for planners, committees, developers and communities themselves. They can help inform important decisions and help local people identify what is important to them, and what they would like to happen in the future. Parish and Town GI Plans have been used to support funding bids, helping people make important improvements to their local environment, and they also provide a snapshot of the local environment.

It should be acknowledged that not all of the aspirations identified will be delivered, because there are many other influencing factors, such as the views of landowners, existing planning permissions and allocations, potential future land use allocations and the cost of implementation. The value of this GI plan lies in the fact that it has been produced by local residents for their own community. It can help inform planning decisions and be used as a mechanism to identify where financial benefits from development should be directed. It cannot be used as a tool to prevent development but may influence considerations in the planning process. All aspirations that gained community support have been included; however, it remains a community owned document that, while supported by CBC, has not been formally adopted. The plan as a whole is based on a robust approach to mapping and implementing a high quality GI network for the existing, and future, residents of Biggleswade.

Context

Biggleswade lies on the River Ivel, 11 miles (18 km) south-east of Bedford and 20 miles (30 km) to the west-south-west of Cambridge.

Early historical writings suggested that the Gifre tribe settled in the area around the turn of the century, and by the Norman invasion of 1066 there were three manors; Biggleswade - Anglo Saxon from a personal name 'Biceil' & 'Waed', meaning ford. Stratton - Roman from 'Straet Tun' meaning 'road by the settlement of farmstead'. Holme - taken from the Old Norse name, 'Holm' meaning Island.

In 1227, King Henry III granted Biggleswade full market town status after an original confirmation from King John. The main Charter Market continues to the present day, and is held every Tuesday and Saturday in the Market Square.

Its geographical and territorial position has proved pivotal to Biggleswade's development as a town and its sense of identity. From the early Roman road, linking Baldock with Godmanchester, transport has been key and in the 1700's the Great North Road from Edinburgh to London came through the town. Biggleswade owed much of its early prosperity to highway coach trade and the town became a staging post of inns, which allowed travellers to rest while coach horses were changed on long journeys.

The creation of a navigable route on the river through Biggleswade in 1758 offered greater trade and transport links and three wharfs were built to allow the carrying of local agricultural produce, coal and timber. River trade continued to flourish until the 1876 when the Ivel Navigation Trust, who opened that stretch of the river, went into liquidation.

The opening of the Great Northern Railway in 1850 gave the growing local market gardening industry access to the bustling London markets, such as Covent Garden, with fresh vegetables flowing from the town, while Biggleswade received horse manure, sent by rail from London stables to enrich the sandy soil.

Biggleswade's agricultural links are still strong to this day, with many arable farmers working the local land, while the Jordan family have been producing their world famous cereal products in the town for well over 150 years.

After the end of the Second World War a major house building programme increased the size of the town and since then there has been a steady growth in population, accelerated in the 1990's with the building of the Saxon Gate development and more recently King's Reach, both on the eastern side of the town. As a result the town's population has positioned itself as a blend of commuter and locally employed, with the estimated population standing at 21,000 in 2018.

The area's soil is mostly freely draining and slightly acid, but with a base-rich, loamy texture of sand, silt and clay particles.

The underlying geology of the Ivel Valley is alluvial. The town centre stands largely on river gravel but with smaller areas of green and brown sands and sandstones, and glacial gravel. Boulder clay dominates the outlying southern and eastern parts.

The town centre is about 28m (92ft) above sea level. The land rises to 78m (256ft) at the parish's southern boundary near the water tower on Topler's Hill.

Biggleswade Common, at 300 acres (120ha) is the largest area of Common Land in Bedfordshire. The Common extends northwards along the eastern bank of the River Ivel from the Shortmead Street bridge and continues clockwise, crossing Potton Road to a section known locally as the Pastures.

A large retail park, opposite Stratton Business Park, is home to a number of national stores and the Market Square has a range of shops, cafes and pubs.

Biggleswade's Green Wheel, launched in 2015, is a popular route surrounding the town with a number of 'spokes' leading from the 'hub' of the town.

There is a wind farm of ten turbines to the south of the town.

Endorsements and Support

Endorsement by Biggleswade Town Council:

Biggleswade Town Council endorses this Green Infrastructure Plan, which has been produced by current residents of the parish, for this and future generations. In endorsing this Plan, the Town Council confirms its support for the concept of GI planning and the methodology used to produce the Plan. In addition, the Town Council will seek to be an active partner in the delivery of this Plan, leading and assisting the implementation of those actions which fall into the remit and plans of the Council. The Town Council will annually review the Plan, reporting to the community activity undertaken and planned, both by the Council and others, towards implementing the Plan.

Endorsement by Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan Strategy Group:

Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan Strategy Group endorses this Green Infrastructure Plan. It has been produced using an agreed and well developed process involving current residents in a series of community engagement activities. As such it represents their more detailed views on how the issues previously identified can be addressed in the future. It sets a clear plan for the future that will be supported by local planning policies in the forthcoming Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan.

Support from Central Bedfordshire Council:

Central Bedfordshire Council recognises the need to provide a framework for green infrastructure provision in the District to meet the needs of existing and new residents and help create sustainable communities. In 2008, Mid Beds District Council produced a district-wide GI plan which has informed the Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy and other Local Development Documents. The production of this parish-level GI Plan for Biggleswade gives added detail and together with the views of local people adds value to, and compliments, the Mid Beds District GI Plan and the Strategic GI Plan for Bedfordshire and Luton which was produced in 2007. All levels of GI Plan, including this Biggleswade GI Plan, will be used by the Authority in considering development proposals and assisting with the creation of green infrastructure assets.

Support from BRCC:

BRCC will support the community of Biggleswade in implementing this Plan where appropriate and feasible, providing advice, support in securing funding and in implementing practical works.

What is Green Infrastructure?

Green Infrastructure covers the themes of landscape, history, biodiversity, access and open space; and is formed by the network of green spaces, access routes, wildlife habitats, landscapes and historic features. Combined, these features provide:

- a healthy and diverse environment
- attractive places to live and visit
- a good quality of life
- a sustainable future

Green Infrastructure assets include:

- Accessible green space
- Country parks
- Green corridors
- Urban parks and gardens
- Habitats for wildlife including nature reserves, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and County Wildlife Sites.
- Historic parks and gardens and historic landscapes
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Waterways and water bodies, including flooded quarries
- Public rights of way and cycleways
- Allotments
- Children's play spaces
- Formal sports facilities
- Cemeteries

It is important to plan the GI network in the same way that we plan other networks and facilities, so that we can safeguard and enhance the environment and meet the needs of a wide range of people, both now and in the future. Green infrastructure also provides social and economic benefits, including:

- Places that can be used as a focus for community activity and events
- Opportunities to keep fit and healthy
- Helps support the local economy, including village shops, pubs and B&Bs
- Links between town and country helping people in rural areas to access facilities
- Helps reduce the use of cars

Aims of this Plan

To identify the key existing natural, historic, cultural and landscape assets, accessible greenspace and rights of way and to plan new features that will provide a connected network of green infrastructure for the benefit of present and future generations.

To inform the emerging Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan, including through the identification of important green spaces and the proposal to designate eligible sites as Local Green Spaces.

Objectives

The objective of this Plan is to create a comprehensive document that will assist the local community to:

- Protect and where possible enhance the landscape, biodiversity and the historic environment
- Improve access and links for people and wildlife
- Provide a multi functional green infrastructure network
- Provide a source of information and guidance for planners, landowners and developers in formulating land use plans
- Promote community involvement
- Identify projects and produce an action plan to implement projects.

Links to other GI related plans

The Bedfordshire & Luton Strategic Green Infrastructure Plan

The Bedfordshire & Luton Strategic Green Infrastructure Plan (2007) identifies a broad, spatial vision for green infrastructure across the area and highlights 11 strategic GI corridors across the county. Biggleswade lies within the Ivel River Valley Corridor.

The Mid Bedfordshire GI Plan

The Mid Bedfordshire GI Plan (2008) identifies a network for protecting and enhancing GI across the whole of the former Mid Beds District. This Network is broken down into a series of six 'areas', with Biggleswade lying in the Ivel Valley.

CBC Leisure Strategy

In March 2014 Central Bedfordshire Council adopted its Leisure Strategy, which comprises three facility-based chapters and replaces the 2008 PPG17 Study. Chapter 2: the Recreation and Open Space Strategy, focuses on the provision of nine types of open space, which are:

- Countryside Recreation
- Urban Parks
- Informal Recreation
- Large Formal Recreation Areas
- Small Amenity Spaces
- Facilities for Children
- Facilities for Young People
- Allotments
- Cemeteries & Burial Grounds

Chapter 2 assessed the current provision of each of the nine open space types and, utilising national guidance and local requirements, it established a set of local standards to guide future provision of open space on both a strategic and local level in Central Bedfordshire.

To define open space provision on a parish level, a Parish Schedule has been created for each parish in Central Bedfordshire. It identifies current provision, shortfalls or surpluses against the local standards and priorities.

Based on national standards for levels of provision; the CBC figures for 2019 indicate that across the town, Biggleswade has a shortfall (deficiency) in countryside recreation sites, urban parks and large formal recreation areas, as well as in small amenity spaces, play areas for children and allotments

The Leisure Strategy for Biggleswade includes in its key priorities:

- Improvement to quality / range of children's play provision
- Upgrading and creating new recreation space / amenity spaces
- Provision of facilities for young people

There are also site-specific priorities regarding:

- The development of the Biggleswade Green Wheel
- Major improvements to Franklin's Recreation Ground
- Additional provision of facilities for young people at Chambers Way

Methodology & Community Involvement

A methodology for the production of Parish Green Infrastructure Plans was developed in 2007 and 2008 by the PGIP Working Group and endorsed by the Beds & Luton Green Infrastructure Consortium (now the Beds & Luton Local Nature Partnership). This standard methodology has been used to produce 40+ parish-level GI Plans across Bedfordshire, as it was for the Biggleswade GI Plan of August 2010 (see Appendix 2).

The 2020/21 revision of the Biggleswade's GI Plan has included three 'drop in' consultation events that were held as part of the Plan's community engagement activity:

- 1st February 2020, 11am – 1pm – Market Stall at Biggleswade Market Square
- 5th February 2020, 4pm – 8pm – Training Room at the Orchard Community Centre
- 6th February 2020, 4pm- 8pm – Council Chamber at the Town Council Offices

At each of these events people were asked to peruse the Aspirations map and table that had been produced as part of the 2010 GI Plan - as well as a draft 2020 map - and answer the following four questions:

1. *From the aspirations identified by the public in 2010, are there any which you feel are no longer needed / relevant?*
2. *From the aspirations identified by the public in 2010, which ones do you most strongly agree should be carried forward in the 2020 version of the GI Plan?*
3. *Are there any new ideas that you would like to suggest for inclusion in the 2020 version of the GI Plan?*
4. *Which of the town's green spaces do you feel are most important to the community?*

Across the three events approximately 60 local people engaged with the Plan.

Note: the 2010 GI Plan Aspirations Map and associated table are shown at Appendix 2, as an extract of the 2010 GI Plan.

The responses to the above engagement activities led to the drafting of a revised GI Plan.

Due to restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic, follow-up workshops and face:face events were not possible. Consequently, online engagement was undertaken in autumn 2020 through a Survey Monkey questionnaire which was promoted by various local means, including the We Love

Biggleswade Facebook page. The article, which encouraged residents to look and at comment on the draft GI Plan, reached* over 8,000 people and engaged* with over 800. (*Facebook metrics).

The survey, which was accompanied by a draft GI map with table of aspirations and a draft green spaces map asked the following:

Aspirations map:

The Aspirations map shows aspirations for improving Biggleswade's Green Infrastructure Network. These have all been identified by local residents through previous consultation activities. Of these 38 aspirations, can you please rank your personal top 5 – those that you would most like to see implemented.

Are there any other green infrastructure aspirations that you would like to see added to the Green Infrastructure Plan? If yes, please give details below.

Are there any existing aspirations which you strongly disagree with? If yes, please give the Aspiration number below; and say why you disagree with it.

Green Spaces map:

The Green Spaces map shows Biggleswade's main publicly accessible green spaces. Through the emerging Neighbourhood Plan we hope to protect as many of these sites as possible from future development by designating them as Local Green Spaces (LGS). Sites identified as important to the community will be assessed against set LGS criteria and those that meet the criteria will be put forward for protection.

Which of the green spaces labelled in black (LGS Areas for Consideration) do you consider to be the most important sites to protect? Please rank your top 5 sites – those that you are most keen to see protected. (Please note that those sites labelled in red (LGS Priority Areas) have previously been identified as priorities and will therefore be assessed, so please choose your 5 sites in addition to these.)

In relation to the Green Infrastructure Plan as a whole:

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the local area that you think will be important in planning the future of Biggleswade's Green Infrastructure Network?

The collation and analysis of the survey responses led to the production of the final GI map and prioritised table of aspirations; and the identification of important green spaces, as detailed in the following pages.

GI Aspirations Map (2021)

The numbered locations on the map below are the aspiration numbers shown in the following tables.

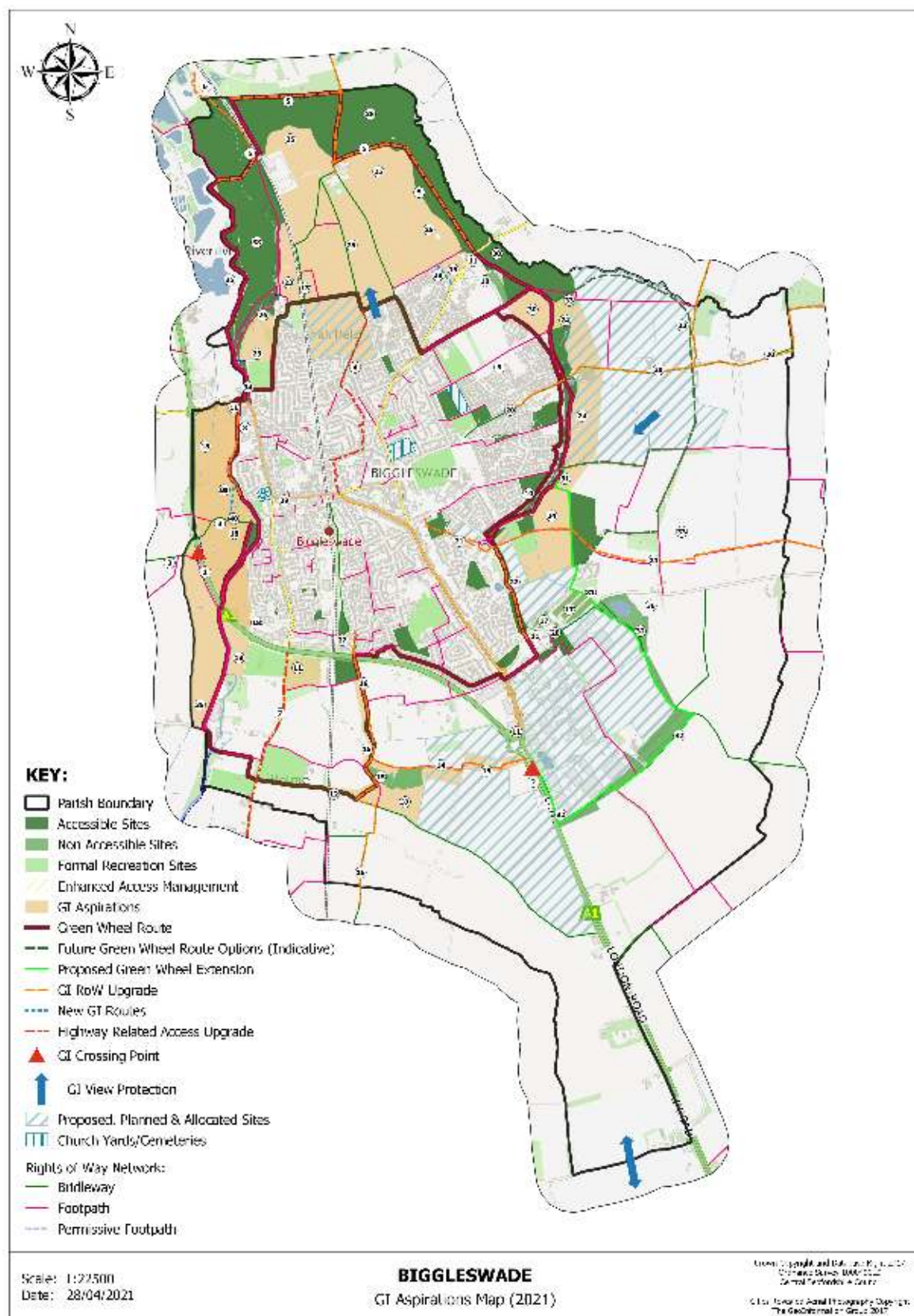


Table of GI Aspirations

The Aspiration numbers in the table below relate to locations on the GI Map on the previous page.

Asp No.	Aspirations
1	Create single improved access under A1 for FP23 and BW22 for pedestrians and cyclists
2	Create pedestrian/ cycleway access over A1 to provide 'Green Wheel' link, west of the town
3	Upgrade surface of BW22/ BW3 to improve access westwards
4	Create and promote Great North Cycleway through town, including the installation of a safe traffic-lit crossing near Stratton House
5	Secure permissive paths on Biggleswade Common as Public Rights of Way
6	Secure permissive path linking Biggleswade Common to New Road Sandy as a Public Right of Way
7	Create a cycleway alongside Langford Road to link Biggleswade and Langford – possibly by widening and managing vegetation along existing pavement
8	Secure missing link for 'Green Wheel' by upgrading status of the northern part of FP21 to permit cycling
8a	Create new 'Green Wheel' route north from Mill Lane
9	Ensure all Planning Conditions relating to Green Corridors, access routes and open space in the King's Reach development are enforced
10	Ensure linear park habitats and access routes are created in accordance with Planning Conditions, near northern end of Baden Powell Way
11	Enhance gateways (x5) into town through planting and landscaping as appropriate
12	Create/ upgrade safe crossing of railway at Holme Green Crossing
13	Create/ upgrade safe crossing of railway near Shortmead House
14	Upgrade FP49, south of the town, to Public Bridleway/ Cycleway
15	Create woodland belts and meadow areas as habitat links and green corridors to create new southern section of 'Green Wheel', thus linking Aspiration 2 (bridge over A1) to the wider Green Wheel network
16	Create Great North Cycleway south from Biggleswade

17	Create public access to Stratton Moat and adjoining meadow
18	Create 'Town and Country Park', west of the town, including woodland walk, nature reserve, picnic area, café / drinks stall, boating lake, etc. Consider restoration of river to create a more natural setting
19	Create allotments, by Potton Road
20	Improve surface of BW28 and BW31/BW3 to enable family cycling east of the town
21	Upgrade FP's24 and Dunton FP8 to Public Bridleway/ Cycleway to enable family cycling east of the town
22	Formalise Public Right of Way through linear woodlands by Saxon Drive
23	Secure land to west of railway to buffer Biggleswade Common
24	Extend proposed linear park to east of watercourse, extending Biggleswade Common southwards to enhance eastern section of Biggleswade 'Green Wheel'
25	Extend Biggleswade Common (Furzenhall Common) southwards; and include a community orchard
26	Plant small woodland to north of Fairfield House, extending the woodland fringe of Biggleswade Common
27	Enhance Grasmere green space, close to railway line
28	Restore walled garden adjacent to Stratton Moat
29	Increase area of greenspace in town centre
30	Build Outdoor Activity Centre / campsite if sports ground north-east of the town is no longer needed (if not able to be provided in this location, to be provided in either area 24 or one of areas 25)
31	Create new outer rim of 'Green Wheel' to the east of the Saxon Drive development, linking Dunton Lane to Baden Powell Way, including provision of safe crossing point on Dunton Lane
32	Upgrade paths to east and south of Stratton Business Park as an additional outer route of the 'Green Wheel'
33	Create additional outer route of 'Green Wheel', east of Baden Powell Way, to encompass new settlement (indicative route only)
34	Extend Dan Albane Picnic Area northwards
35	Maximise the amenity and wildlife value of the River Ivel
36	Create public access to field east of Dunton Lane Balancing Pond

37	Extend Holme Green Wood southwards
38	Protect and enhance Biggleswade Common, making it more welcoming to people
39	Provide new outer route for the 'Green Wheel' north of Potton Road by upgrading FP12 and creating a new link to the Baden Powell Way roundabout / cycleway
40	Undertake landscaping / habitat creation through appropriate planting in field corner, north of Mill Lane
General GI aspirations – not site specific and so not shown on the map	
Asp No.	Aspirations
41	Build play parks with facilities for disabled and older people
42	Provide toilet facilities or signage to nearby toilet facilities along route of 'Green Wheel'
43	Install benches and picnic tables around route of 'Green Wheel'
44	Consider appropriate lighting for most popular green spaces
45	Ensure that all GI assets are managed and maintained appropriately
46	Plant more trees around streets / roads within the town
47	Protect all areas of woodland, enhancing and extending them where possible
48	Provide 4G sports pitch for community use
49	Provide and promote additional parking areas for users of the 'Green Wheel'

Future Development

Where future built developments are proposed on land where GI aspirations have been identified, consideration should be given as to whether the aspiration(s) can be delivered either as part of a potential built development, or whether an alternative location for the aspiration(s) can be found. Such developments may contribute, either financially or through direct works, to the implementation of GI aspirations.

Table of Prioritised GI Aspirations

The following aspirations were identified as priorities by survey respondents who each ranked their top 5.

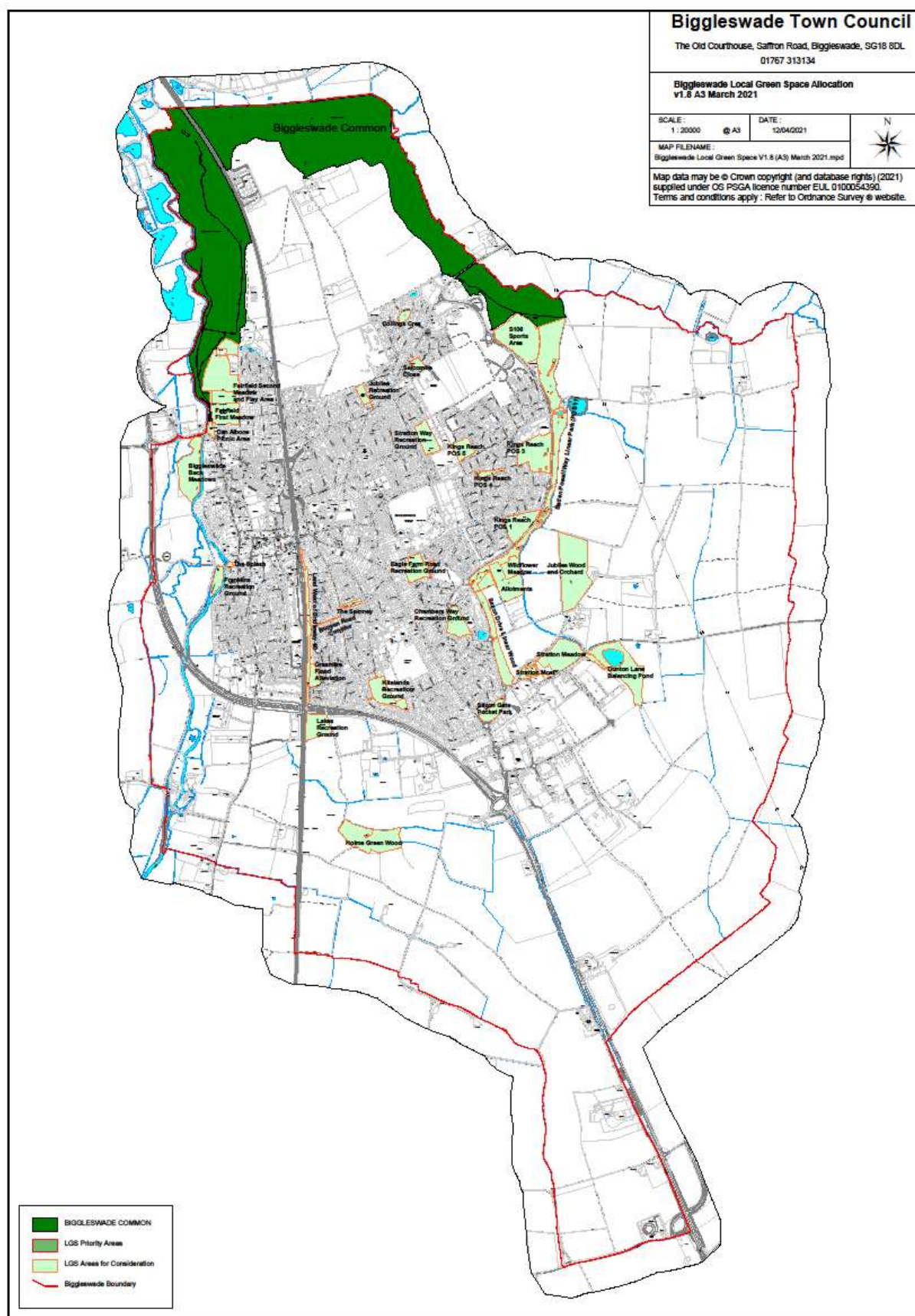
Priority order	Aspiration number	Aspiration
1	18	Create 'Town and Country Park' including woodland walk, nature reserve, picnic area, boating lake, etc. Consider restoration of river to create a more natural setting.
2	25	Extend Biggleswade Common (Furzenhall Common) southwards; and include a community orchard
3	24	Extend proposed linear park to east of watercourse, extending Biggleswade Common southwards to enhance eastern section of Biggleswade Green Wheel.
4	26	Plant small woodland to north of Fairfield House, extending the woodland fringe of Biggleswade Common
5	2	Create pedestrian/ cycleway access over A1 to provide 'Green Wheel' link
6	22	Formalise Public Right of Way through linear woodlands by Saxon Drive
7	1	Create single improved access under A1 for FP23 and BW22 for pedestrians and cyclists
8	5	Secure permissive paths on Biggleswade Common as Public Rights of Way
9	7	Create a cycleway alongside Langford Road to link Biggleswade and Langford – possibly by widening and managing vegetation along existing pavement
10	9	Ensure all Planning Conditions relating to Green Corridors, access routes and open space in the King's Reach development are enforced
11	23	Secure land to west of railway to buffer Biggleswade Common
12	15	Create woodland belts and meadow areas as habitat links and green corridors to create new southern section of 'Green Wheel', thus linking Aspiration 2 (bridge over A1) to the wider Green Wheel network

Green Spaces

In addition to proposing aspirations for the future enhancement of Biggleswade's GI, residents were asked to identify, from the following table and accompanying map, important green spaces.

Green Spaces (* indicates the space is openly accessible to the public)	
Allotments	Kings Reach Public Open Space 1*
Baden Powell Way Linear Park Public Open Space 11*	Kings Reach Public Open Space 3*
Biggleswade Back Meadows (although does have a Public Footpath through it)	Kings Reach Public Open Space 4*
Biggleswade Common*	Kings Reach Public Open Space 5*
Chambers Way Recreation Ground*	Kitelands Recreation Ground*
Collings Crescent	Lakes Recreation Ground*
Dan Albone Picnic Area*	Land west of Bridleway 40
Dunton Lane Balancing Pond	Moat and Meadow
Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground*	Play Area (by football ground)*
Fairfield First Meadow*	S106 Sports Area*
Fairfield Second Meadow	Salcombe Close
Franklin's Recreation Ground*	Saxon Drive Linear Wood*
Grasmere Flood Alleviation*	Saxon Gate Pocket Park*
Green area - west of Dells Lane to railway path (south of Bunyan Road)*	Stratton Way Recreation Ground*
Holme Green Wood	The Spinney
Jubilee Recreation Ground*	The Splash
Jubilee Wood and Orchard*	Wildflower Meadow (by allotments)*

The following map identifies Biggleswade's main green spaces, as listed above.



At the GI Plan community engagement drop-in events in spring 2020 residents were asked to identify from the above list, the green spaces that they felt were the most important. This exercise was extended in the online survey undertaken in the autumn of 2020, where residents were asked to rank their top 5 most important green spaces.

Through the above exercises, the green spaces within Biggleswade that were identified as the most important by the local community are:

Priority Ranking	Green Space
1	Biggleswade Common
2	Back Meadows
3	Allotments
4	Baden Powell Way Linear Park
5	Wildflower Meadow (by allotments)
6	Stratton Moat and association meadow (Dunton Lane)
=7	Franklins Recreation Ground
=7	Jubilee Wood and Orchard
=9	Dan Albone Picnic Area
=9	Fairfield First Meadow
11	Chambers Way Recreation Ground
=12	Fairfield Second Meadow
=12	Holme Green Wood
=12	Green corridor south of Bunyan Road
=15	Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground
16	Stratton Way Recreation Ground
17	The Lakes Recreation Ground
18	Saxon Drive Linear Wood
19	Saxon Gate Pocket Park
20	Kitelands Recreation Ground

The remaining sites, not listed above, received no or very few votes; and are consequently not considered to be among the prioritised sites.

Local Green Space Designation

A stated aim of this GI Plan is to propose the designation of important green sites as Local Green Spaces through the emerging Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. A designation to protect local green areas of particular importance to local communities has been introduced. The Local Green Space designation will allow communities to identify and protect areas that are of value to the community through local and neighbourhood plans.

The designation should only be used:

- where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- where the green area is 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
- where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

A full LGS assessment has been undertaken on 20 most important sites, as identified by the local community and shown in the table on page 19 above.

The full LGS Report is shown in Appendix 1 of this GI Plan.

A summary of the LGS Report is given on the following pages:

Local Green Space Assessment

Stage 1 Assessment

The stage 1 assessment is designed to filter out which sites - proposed for LGS Designation by the 2020 Biggleswade Green Infrastructure Plan - do not meet the basic LGS eligibility criteria. Sites which have current planning permission, or have been allocated for development, or have an existing designation giving the same level of protection as a LGS designation, do not meet the criteria and are not carried forward to the stage 2 assessment.

Site name and reference number	Current Planning Permission?	Allocated for Development?	Already Designated?	Pass to Stage 2?
1 Allotments & Wildflower Meadow	N	N	Part CWS	Y
2 Back Meadows	N	N	N	Y
3 Baden Powell Way Linear Park	N	N	N	Y
4 Biggleswade Common	N	N	Registered Common Land & CWS	N [1]
5 Bunyan Road/ Lincoln Crescent green corridor	N	N	N	Y
6 Chambers Way Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
7 Dan Albone Picnic Area	N	N	Registered Common Land	Y [1]
8 Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
9 Fairfield First Meadow	N	N	N	Y
10 Fairfield Second Meadow (including the play area)	N	N	N	Y
11 Franklins Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
12 Holme Green Wood	N	N	N	Y
13 Jubilee Wood & Orchard	N	N	N	Y

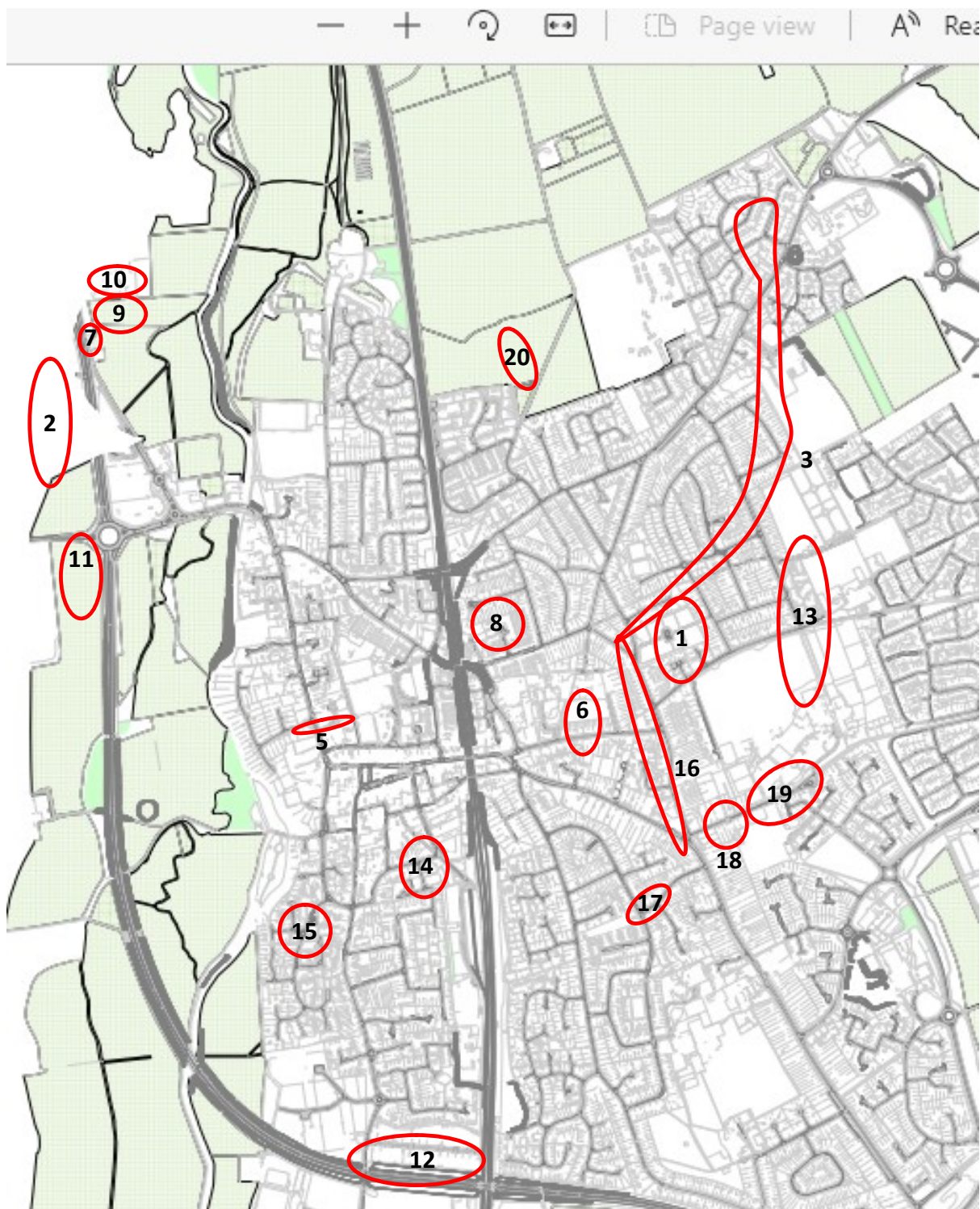
14 Kitelands Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
15 Lakes Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
16 Saxon Drive Linear Wood	N	N	N	Y
17 Saxon Gate Pocket Park	N	N	N	Y
18 Stratton Moat	N	N	Scheduled Monument	Y
19 Stratton Moat Meadow (Dunton Lane)	N	N	Scheduled Monument	Y
20 Stratton Way Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y

The site numbers above are identified on the location map on the next page.

N[1] – As Registered Common Land, Biggleswade Common is already protected to the same level as LGS designation would achieve. It is also known that the Common greatly exceeds the Stage 2 criteria of size; and would therefore not be eligible for designation as a LGS even if it was not registered Common Land.

Y[1] – The Dan Albone Memorial Picnic Area is strictly speaking part of Biggleswade Common, and as such could be considered as per N[1] above for the wider Common. However, the picnic area has is entirely different parcel of land managed as a much more formal green space. The public perception of it is a separate site to the Common, but of equal importance and so it is considered that there is significant additional local benefit to designate this site as LGS.

Potential Local Green Spaces - to progress to Stage 2 assessment



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Not to Scale

The numbered locations above relate to the sites identified in the table on the previous pages.

See individual site assessments on the following pages for detailed locations/ boundaries.

Stage 2 Assessment – Overall Summary

The table below summarises the detailed assessments in the following pages.

Site	Not Extensive	Close Proximity	Demonstrably Special/ Locally Significant	Recommend for Designation?
1 Allotments & Wildflower Meadow	Y	Y	Y	Y
2 Back Meadows	Y	Y	Y	Y
3 Baden Powell Way Linear Park	Y	Y	Y	Y
5 Bunyan Road/ Lincoln Crescent green corridor	Y	Y	N	N
6 Chambers Way Recreation Ground	Y	Y	Y	Y
7 Dan Albone Picnic Area	Y	Y	Y	Y [1]
8 Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground	Y	Y	N	N
9 Fairfield First Meadow	Y	Y	Y	Y
10 Fairfield Second Meadow (including the play area)	Y	Y	Y	Y
11 Franklins Recreation Ground	Y	Y	Y	Y
12 Holme Green Wood	Y	Y	Y	Y
13 Jubilee Wood & Orchard	Y	Y	Y	Y
14 Kitelands Recreation Ground	Y	Y	Y	Y
15 Lakes Recreation Ground	Y	Y	N	N

16 Saxon Drive Linear Wood	Y	Y	Y	Y
17 Saxon Gate Pocket Park	Y	Y	Y	Y
18 Stratton Moat	Y	Y	Y	Y [2]
19 Stratton Moat Meadow (Dunton Lane)	Y	Y	N	Y [2]
20 Stratton Way Recreation Ground	Y	Y	N	N

Y [1] – This site is part of the Registered Common Land of Biggleswade Common and as such LGS designation would not be necessary unless additional local benefit would be gained by designation. However, the site has an additional profile as a ‘green-gateway’ to the town and it has a discrete identity as a more formal space compared to the wider Common. It is therefore felt that the additional designation as a LGS, on top of that of Registered Common Land, adds additional local benefit.

Y [2] – As a Scheduled Monument, Stratton Moat and the meadow to the east is already protected; and as such LGS designation would not be necessary unless additional local benefit would be gained by designation. However, significant recent development to the north and south of this site has encroached upon and detracted from the setting of these features. It is therefore felt that additional local benefit will be gained by maximising the levels of protection of the site against further development.

Stage 2 Assessment – Individual Site Assessments

The Stage 2 assessment assesses whether the proposed LGS meets the following criteria:

1. The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character
2. The space is within close proximity of the community it serves
3. The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.

The 3rd of these criteria is sub-divided into:

- a. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty
- b. The proposed space is of particular local historic significance
- c. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value
- d. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity
- e. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its wildlife
- f. The proposed space is of particular local significance for another reason

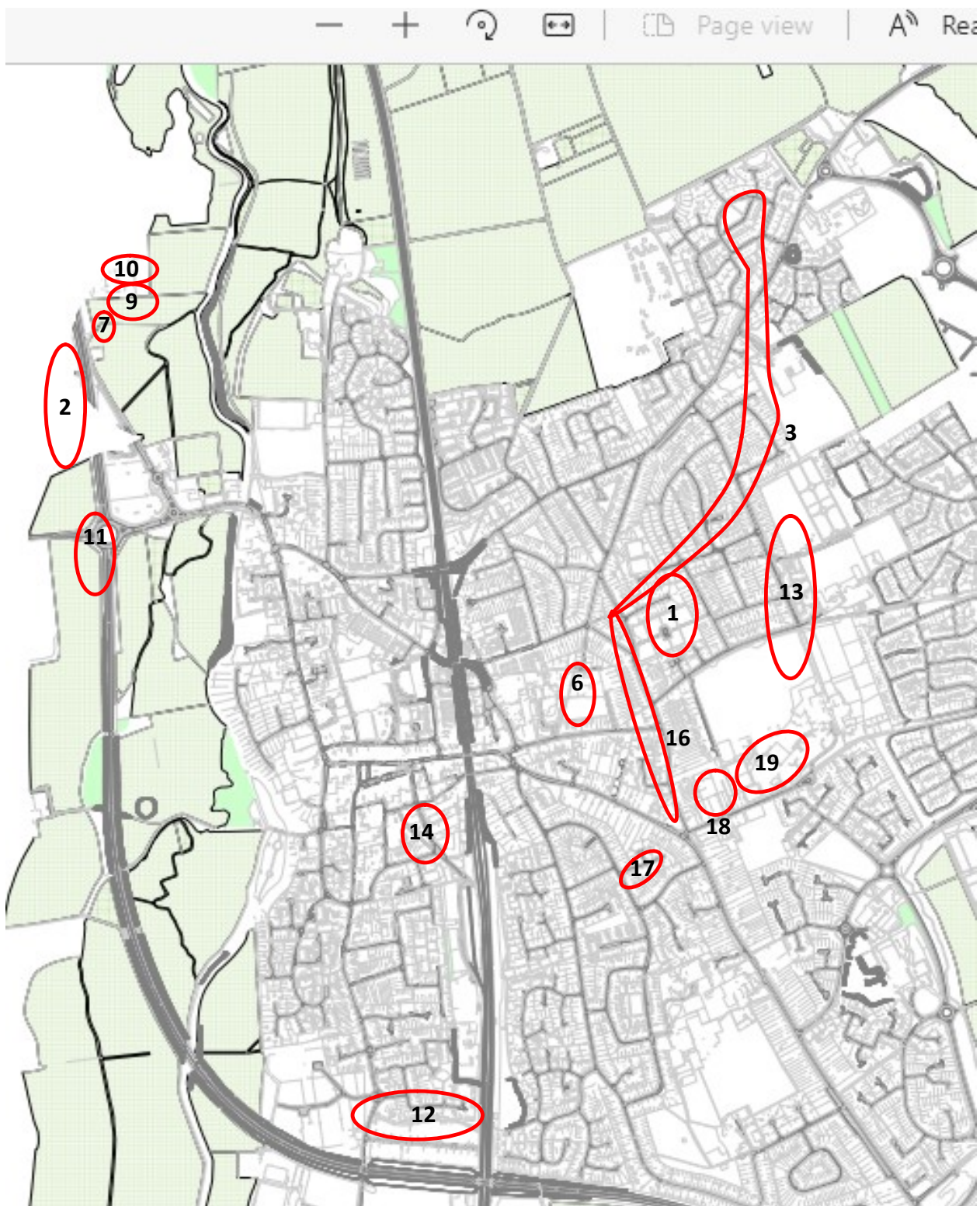
To meet the Stage 2 assessment criteria, a space has to fulfil criteria 1 and 2; and at least 1 a-f component of criteria 3.

The following sites have been assessed and considered to meet LGS criteria; and as such are proposed for designation as Local Green Spaces through the Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan.

Sites assessed and proposed for LGS Designation within the Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan	
1	Allotments & Wildflower Meadow
2	Back Meadows
3	Baden Powell Way Linear Park
6	Chambers Way Recreation Ground
7	Dan Albone Picnic Area
9	Fairfield First Meadow
10	Fairfield Second Meadow (including the play area)
11	Franklins Recreation Ground
12	Holme Green Wood
13	Jubilee Wood & Orchard
14	Kitelands Recreation Ground
16	Saxon Drive Linear Wood
17	Saxon Gate Pocket Park
18	Stratton Moat
19	Stratton Moat Meadow (Dunton Lane)
Sites assessed and considered to not meet LGS criteria	
5	Bunyan Road/ Lincoln Crescent green corridor
8	Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground
15	Lakes Recreation Ground
20	Stratton Way Recreation Ground

Note: A stage 1 assessment was undertaken to remove any sites which did not meet the top-level LGS assessment criteria; and therefore which did not require a full stage 2 assessment. While Biggleswade Common is clearly a highly important green space to the local community, it is already designated and protected as Registered Common Land and so was not assessed at Stage 2 for LGS designation.

The above proposed LGS sites are shown on the map on the following page.



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Not to Scale

Biggleswade Parish Green Infrastructure Plan Action Plan

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| [1] Lead Partner | Organisation / individual taking the lead in the planning and implementation of the aspiration (See key below table) |
| [2] Other Partners | Other organisations to be involved in the planning and implementation of the aspiration |
| [3] Resourcing | Likely level of funding needed: Low (achievable with no or minimal funding), Medium (achievable with moderate new funding), High (achievable with significant new funding) |
| [4] Timescale | Likely date of implementation: Short 2022-24; Medium 2024-26; Long 2026+ |

BTC*	Biggleswade Town Council	LO	Landowner
CBC*	Central Bedfordshire Council	IDB	Internal Drainage Board
BRCC*	Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity		
PNPSG*	Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	BGWSG	Biggleswade Green Wheel Steering Group (comprising asterisked * partners)

Ref	Aspiration	Possible Lead Partner [1]	Other Partners [2]	Resourcing [3]	Timescale [4]	Next Steps
1	Create single improved access under A1 for FP23 and BW22 for pedestrians and cyclists	CBC Highways (RoW). Highways Agency	LO	High	Medium - Long	BTC & CBC contacting Highways England re. drainage issue
2	Create pedestrian/ cycleway access over A1 to provide 'Green Wheel' link, west of the town	CBC Planners. Developers		High (Development)	Medium	Await planning process and request as opportunities arise.
3	Upgrade surface of BW22/ BW3 to improve access westwards	CBC Highways (RoW)	LO	Medium / High	Medium	
4	Create and promote Great North Cycleway through town, including the installation of a safe	CBC Highways (RoW).	LO	High	Medium - Long	BTC & CBC contacting Highways England re. drainage issue

Ref	Aspiration	Possible Lead Partner [1]	Other Partners [2]	Resourcing [3]	Timescale [4]	Next Steps
	traffic-lit crossing near Stratton House	Highways Agency.				
5	Secure permissive paths on Biggleswade Common as Public Rights of Way	CBC Highways (RoW)	Fen Reeves of Biggleswade Common			
6	Secure permissive path linking Biggleswade Common to New Road Sandy as a Public Right of Way	CBC Highways (RoW). BRCC	LO	Low-medium	Medium	
7	Create a cycleway alongside Langford Road to link Biggleswade and Langford – possibly by widening and managing vegetation along existing pavement	CBC Highways	Sustrans			
8	Secure missing link for ‘Green Wheel’ by upgrading status of the northern part of FP21 to permit cycling	BRCC CBC Highways (RoW)	LO	Medium (secured)	Short	In-principle agreement secured
8a	Create new ‘Green Wheel’ route north from Mill Lane	BRCC CBC Highways (RoW)	LO	Medium (secured)	Short	BRCC awaiting LO response
9	Ensure all Planning Conditions relating to Green Corridors, access routes and open space in the King’s Reach development are enforced	CBC Planners	Developers	Low	Short-Medium	?? to Contact CBC Planning Officer to inform of action and request update
10	Ensure linear park habitats and access routes are created in accordance with Planning Conditions, near northern end of Baden Powell	CBC Planners	Developers	Medium	Short	?? to Contact CBC Planning Officer to inform of action and

Ref	Aspiration	Possible Lead Partner [1]	Other Partners [2]	Resourcing [3]	Timescale [4]	Next Steps
	Way					request update
11	Enhance gateways (x5) into town through planting and landscaping as appropriate	BTC	CBC Highways LO	Medium	Short-Medium	Work has commenced
12	Create/ upgrade safe crossing of railway at Holme Green Crossing	Network Rail	CBC Highways (RoW) LO	High	Long	
13	Create/ upgrade safe crossing of railway near Shortmead House	Network Rail	LO	High (Secured)	Short	Subject of current planning application
14	Upgrade FP49, south of the town, to Public Bridleway / Cycleway	CBC Highways (RoW)	LO	Medium	Short-Medium	Pursue through current Holme Farm planning process
15	Create woodland belts and meadow areas as habitat links and green corridors to create new southern section of Green Wheel, thus linking Aspiration 2 (bridge over A1) to the wider Green Wheel network	Developer CBC Planning LO	BRCC	Medium - High	Short-Medium	Pursue through current Holme Farm planning process
16	Create Great North Cycleway south from Biggleswade	CBC Highways (RoW)	BRCC LO	Medium-High	Medium	BRCC to discuss with CBC
17	Create public access to Stratton Moat and adjoining meadow	CBC	BRCC	Low-Medium	Medium	BRCC to discuss with CBC
18	Create 'Town and Country Park', west of the town, including woodland walk, nature reserve, picnic area, café / drinks stall, boating lake, etc.	CBC BTC LO	BRCC EA UBOCP	High	Long	

Ref	Aspiration	Possible Lead Partner [1]	Other Partners [2]	Resourcing [3]	Timescale [4]	Next Steps
	Consider restoration of river to create a more natural setting					
19	Create allotments, by Potton Road	BTC	LO	Medium	Short - Medium	
20	Improve surface of BW28 and BW31/BW3 to enable family cycling east of the town	CBC Highways (RoW)	Developer	Medium-High	Medium	To be partially achieved through development
21	Upgrade FP's24 and Dunton FP8 to Public Bridleway / Cycleway to enable family cycling east of the town	CBC Highways (RoW)	LO	Medium-High	Medium	
22	Formalise Public Right of Way through linear woodlands by Saxon Drive	CBC Highways (RoW) LO (CBC)	LO	Low	Short-Medium	
23	Secure land to west of railway to buffer Biggleswade Common		LO	Medium - High	Long	
24	Extend proposed linear park to east of watercourse, extending Biggleswade Common southwards to enhance eastern section of Biggleswade Green Wheel	Developer BTC	BRCC	Medium-High	Short-Medium	Seek as part of current development proposals
25	Extend Biggleswade Common (Furzenhall Common) southwards; and include a community orchard	BTC?	LO BRCC	Medium	Medium	
26	Plant small woodland to north of Fairfield House,	BTC?	LO	Medium	Medium	

Ref	Aspiration	Possible Lead Partner [1]	Other Partners [2]	Resourcing [3]	Timescale [4]	Next Steps
	extending the woodland fringe of Biggleswade Common		BRCC			
27	Enhance Grasmere green space, close to railway line	BTC (LO)	BRCC	Low-Medium	Short-Medium	
28	Restore walled garden adjacent to Stratton Moat		LO			
29	Increase area of greenspace in town centre	BTC	LO	Medium-High	Medium-Long	
30	Build Outdoor Activity Centre / campsite if sports ground north-east of the town is no longer needed (if not able to be provided in this location, to be provided in either area 24 or one of areas 25)	?	LO	High	Long	
31	Create new outer rim of 'Green Wheel' to the east of the Saxon Drive development, linking Dunton Lane to Baden Powell Way, including provision of safe crossing point on Dunton Lane	Developer CBC Highways (RoW)	LO's BRCC	Medium (partly secured)	Short-Medium	
32	Upgrade paths to east and south of Stratton Business park as an additional outer route of the Green Wheel	CBC Highways (RoW) CBC Planning Developers	BRCC LO	Medium-High	Short-Medium	Seek as part of ongoing development proposals for expansion of Business Park
33	Create additional outer route of Green Wheel, east of Baden Powell Way, to encompass new	Developer CBC Planning CBC Highways	BRCC	Medium-High	Short-Long	Seek as part of ongoing development proposals for land east of Biggleswade

Ref	Aspiration	Possible Lead Partner [1]	Other Partners [2]	Resourcing [3]	Timescale [4]	Next Steps
	settlement (indicative route only)	(RoW)				
34	Extend Dan Albone Picnic Area northwards	Fen Reeves of Biggleswade Common	BRCC BTC	Low-Medium	Short-Medium	
35	Maximise the amenity and wildlife value of the River Ivel		BRCC Angling Clubs			
36	Create public access to field east of Dunton Lane Balancing Pond		LO			
37	Extend Holme Green Wood southwards	CBC (LO) CBC Planning	BRCC	Medium	Medium-Long	May link with aspiration 15
38	Protect and enhance Biggleswade Common, making it more welcoming to people	Fen Reeves of Biggleswade Common	BRCC BTC	Low-High	Ongoing	
39	Provide new outer route for the Green Wheel north of Potton Road by upgrading FP12 and creating a new link to the Baden Powell Way roundabout / cycleway	CBC Highways (RoW) LO	BRCC	Medium	Short-Medium	
40	Undertake landscaping / habitat creation through appropriate planting	BRCC LO		Low-Medium	Short-Medium	Linked to 8a; to be implemented together subject to landowner approval.

General GI aspirations – not site specific and so not shown on the map						
41	Build play parks with facilities for disabled and older people	BTC		Medium	Medium-Long	
42	Provide toilet facilities or signage to nearby toilet facilities along route of Green Wheel	BTC	CBC			
43	Install benches and picnic tables around route of Green Wheel	BRCC BTC LO	CBC Highways (RoW)	Low-Medium	Short-Medium	BRCC to identify locations and seek LO consent
44	Consider appropriate lighting for most popular green spaces	BTC	CBC	Medium-High	Medium - Long	BTC to consider
45	Ensure that all GI assets are managed and maintained appropriately	BTC CBC	BRCC LO's	Low	Ongoing	
46	Plant more trees around streets / roads within the town	BTC	BRCC CBC Highways	Low-Medium	Medium	
47	Protect all areas of woodland, enhancing and extending them where possible	LO's	BRCC	Low-Medium	Ongoing	
48	Provide 4G sports pitch for community use	BTC		High	Medium - Long	BTC currently exploring options
49	Provide and promote additional parking areas for users of the Green Wheel	BTC LO	CBC BRCC	High	Long	

Proposed Local Green Space Designations for Biggleswade



**This report is an assessment of sites identified, by the local community, in the
Biggleswade Green Infrastructure Plan to be considered for
Local Green Space Designation within the Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan**



April 2021

BIGGLESWADE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – LGS ASSESSMENT

Stage 1 Assessment

The stage 1 assessment is designed to filter out which sites - proposed for LGS Designation by the 2020 Biggleswade Green Infrastructure Plan - do not meet the basic LGS eligibility criteria. Sites which have current planning permission, or have been allocated for development, or have an existing designation giving the same level of protection as a LGS designation, do not meet the criteria and are not carried forward to the stage 2 assessment.

Site name and reference number	Current Planning Permission?	Allocated for Development?	Already Designated?	Pass to Stage 2?
1 Allotments & Wildflower Meadow	N	N	Part CWS	Y
2 Back Meadows	N	N	N	Y
3 Baden Powell Way Linear Park	N	N	N	Y
4 Biggleswade Common	N	N	Registered Common Land & CWS	N [1]
5 Bunyan Road/ Lincoln Crescent green corridor	N	N	N	Y
6 Chambers Way Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
7 Dan Albone Picnic Area	N	N	Registered Common Land	Y [1]
8 Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
9 Fairfield First Meadow	N	N	N	Y
10 Fairfield Second Meadow (including the play area)	N	N	N	Y
11 Franklins Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
12 Holme Green Wood	N	N	N	Y

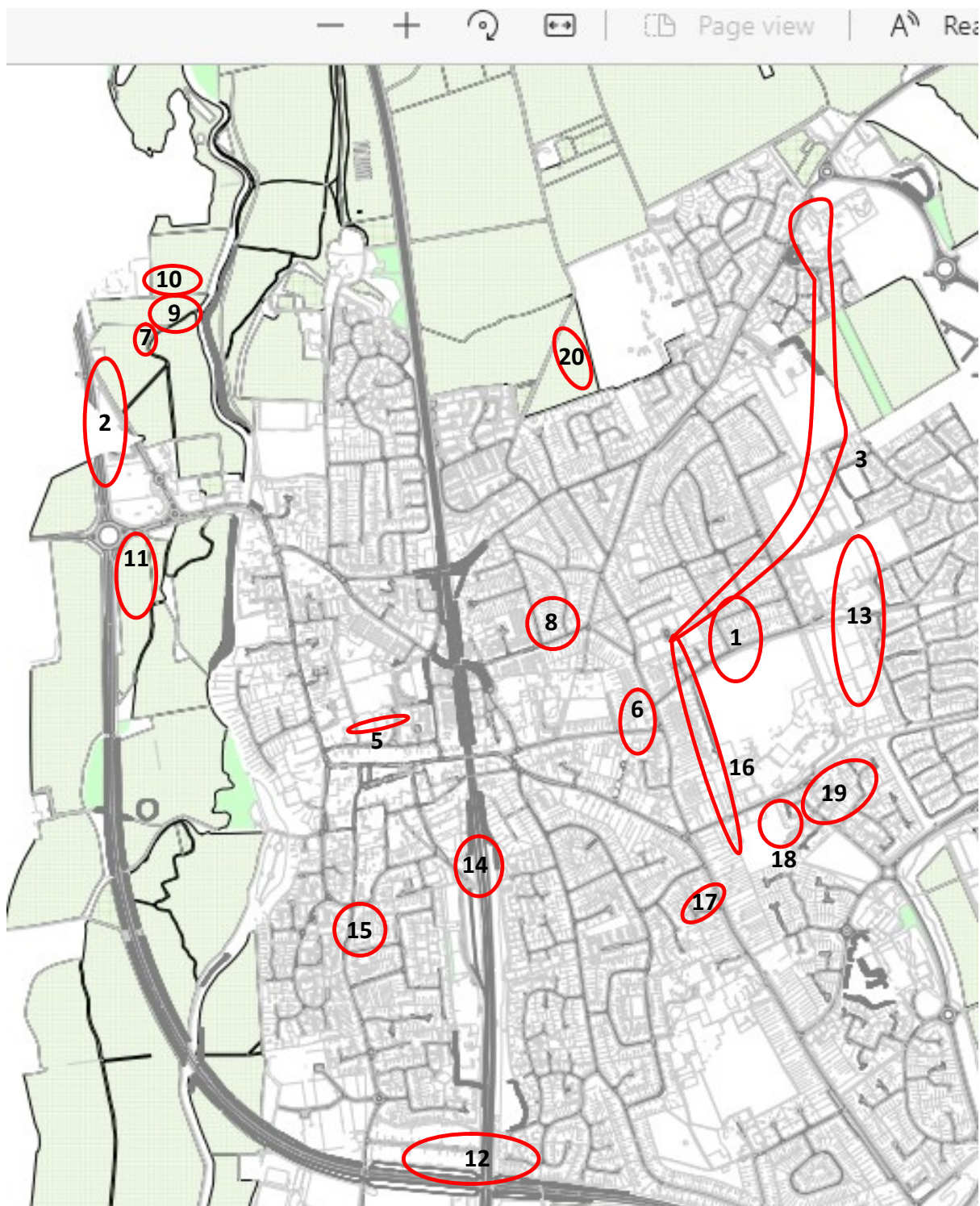
13 Jubilee Wood & Orchard	N	N	N	Y
14 Kitelands Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
15 Lakes Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y
16 Saxon Drive Linear Wood	N	N	N	Y
17 Saxon Gate Pocket Park	N	N	N	Y
18 Stratton Moat	N	N	Scheduled Monument	Y
19 Stratton Moat Meadow (Dunton Lane)	N	N	Scheduled Monument	Y
20 Stratton Way Recreation Ground	N	N	N	Y

The site numbers above are identified on the location map on the next page.

N[1] – As Registered Common Land, Biggleswade Common is already protected to the same level as LGS designation would achieve. It is also known that the Common greatly exceeds the Stage 2 criteria of size; and would therefore not be eligible for designation as a LGS even if it was not registered Common Land.

Y[1] – The Dan Albone Memorial Picnic Area is strictly speaking part of Biggleswade Common, and as such could be considered as per N[1] above for the wider Common. However, the picnic area has is entirely different parcel of land managed as a much more formal green space. The public perception of it is a separate site to the Common, but of equal importance and so it is considered that there is significant additional local benefit to designate this site as LGS.

Potential Local Green Spaces - to progress to Stage 2 assessment



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Not to Scale

The numbered locations above relate to the sites identified in the table on the previous pages.

See individual site assessments in the full report for detailed locations/ boundaries.

Stage 2 Assessment – Overall Summary

The table below summarises the detailed assessments in the following pages.

Site	Not Extensive	Close Proximity	Demonstrably Special/ Locally Significant	Recommend for Designation?
1 Allotments & Wildflower Meadow	Y	Y	Y	Y
2 Back Meadows	Y	Y	Y	Y
3 Baden Powell Way Linear Park	Y	Y	Y	Y
5 Bunyan Road/ Lincoln Crescent green corridor	Y	Y	N	N
6 Chambers Way Recreation Ground	Y	Y	Y	Y
7 Dan Albone Picnic Area	Y	Y	Y	Y [1]
8 Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground	Y	Y	N	N
9 Fairfield First Meadow	Y	Y	Y	Y
10 Fairfield Second Meadow (including the play area)	Y	Y	Y	Y
11 Franklins Recreation Ground	Y	Y	Y	Y
12 Holme Green Wood	Y	Y	Y	Y
13 Jubilee Wood & Orchard	Y	Y	Y	Y
14 Kitelands Recreation Ground	Y	Y	Y	Y
15 Lakes Recreation Ground	Y	Y	N	N

16 Saxon Drive Linear Wood	Y	Y	Y	Y
17 Saxon Gate Pocket Park	Y	Y	Y	Y
18 Stratton Moat	Y	Y	Y	Y [2]
19 Stratton Moat Meadow (Dunton Lane)	Y	Y	N	Y [2]
20 Stratton Way Recreation Ground	Y	Y	N	N

Y [1] – This site is part of the Registered Common Land of Biggleswade Common and as such LGS designation would not be necessary unless additional local benefit would be gained by designation. However, the site has an additional profile as a ‘green-gateway’ to the town and it has a discrete identity as a more formal space compared to the wider Common. It is therefore felt that the additional designation as a LGS, on top of that of Registered Common Land, adds additional local benefit.

Y [2] – As a Scheduled Monument, Stratton Moat and the meadow to the east is already protected; and as such LGS designation would not be necessary unless additional local benefit would be gained by designation. However, significant recent development to the north and south of this site has encroached upon and detracted from the setting of these features. It is therefore felt that additional local benefit will be gained by maximising the levels of protection of the site against further development.

Stage 2 Assessment – Individual Site Assessments

The Stage 2 assessment assesses whether the proposed LGS meets the following criteria:

4. The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character
5. The space is within close proximity of the community it serves
6. The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.

The 3rd of these criteria is sub-divided into:

- g. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty
- h. The proposed space is of particular local historic significance
- i. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value
- j. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity
- k. The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its wildlife
- l. The proposed space is of particular local significance for another reason

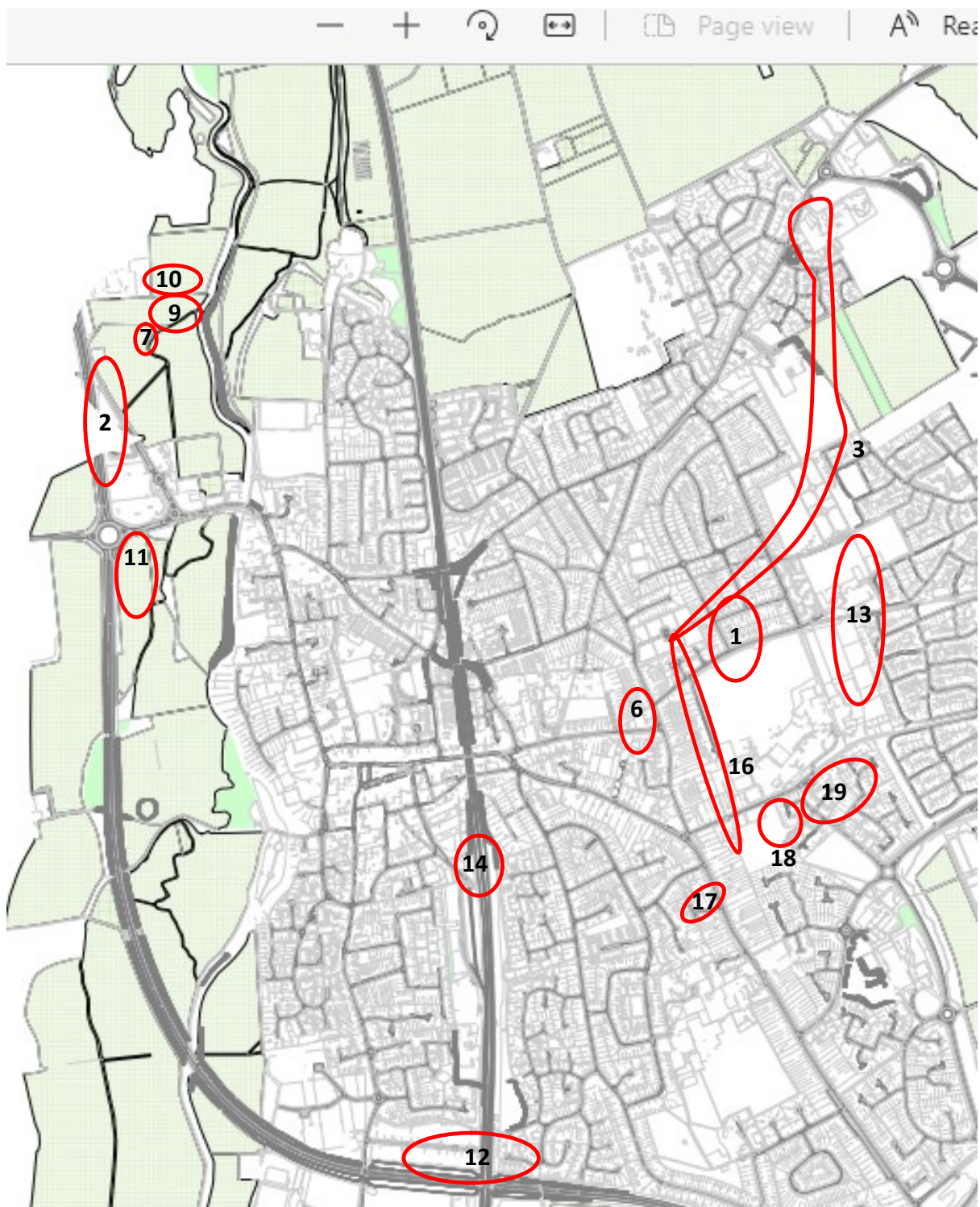
To meet the Stage 2 assessment criteria, a space has to fulfil criteria 1 and 2; and at least 1 a-f component of criteria 3.

Final Proposed Local Green Space Designations

The following sites have been assessed and considered to meet LGS criteria; and as such are proposed to be designated as Local Green Spaces through the Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan.

Sites assessed and proposed for LGS Designation within the Biggleswade Neighbourhood Plan
1 Allotments & Wildflower Meadow
2 Back Meadows
3 Baden Powell Way Linear Park
6 Chambers Way Recreation Ground
7 Dan Albone Picnic Area
9 Fairfield First Meadow
10 Fairfield Second Meadow (including the play area)
11 Franklins Recreation Ground
12 Holme Green Wood
13 Jubilee Wood & Orchard
14 Kitelands Recreation Ground
16 Saxon Drive Linear Wood
17 Saxon Gate Pocket Park
18 Stratton Moat
19 Stratton Moat Meadow (Dunton Lane)
Sites assessed and considered to not meet LGS criteria
5 Bunyan Road/ Lincoln Crescent green corridor
8 Eagle Farm Road Recreation Ground
15 Lakes Recreation Ground
20 Stratton Way Recreation Ground

The above proposed LGS sites are shown on the map on the following page.



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Not to Scale

This assessment has been undertaken by Cliff Andrews, BRCC's Deputy Chief Executive and Mike Fayers, BRCC's Community & Environment Officer; with support from Richard Lawrence, BRCC Ecologist.

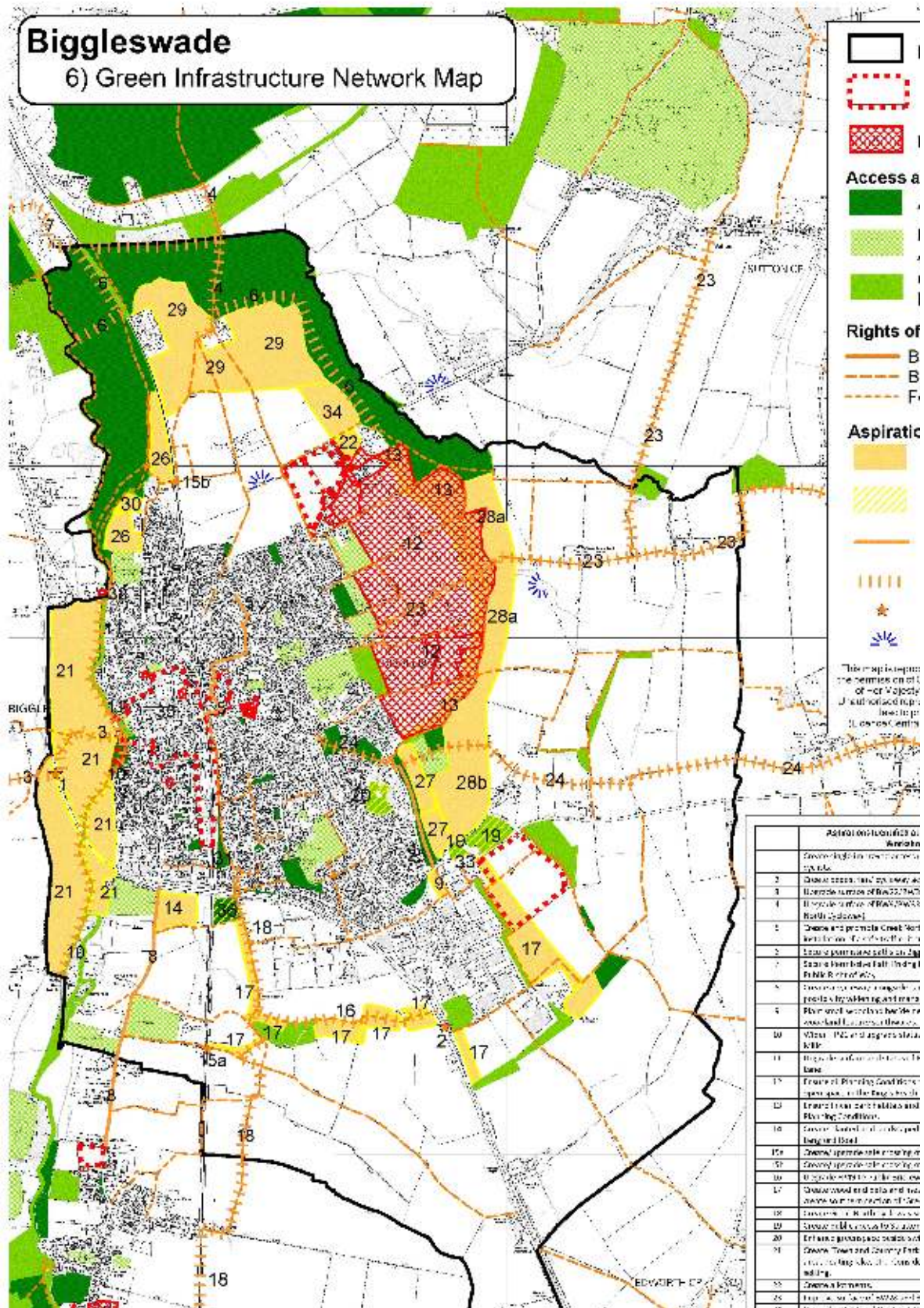
Site visits were undertaken during November 2020 – February 2021.

Cliff Andrews, BedsRCC Deputy Chief Executive.

March 2021.

APPENDIX 2– Biggleswade GI Plan 2010 Extract

GI Map



GI Aspirations

ref	Aspirational GI Enhancements
1	Create single improved access under A1 for FP23 and BW22 for pedestrians and cyclists.
2	Create pedestrian/ cycleway access over A1 to provide 'Green Wheel' link
3	Upgrade surface of BW22/ BW3 to improve access westwards.
4	Upgrade surface of BW9/ BW33 to improve access northwards (as part of Great North Cycleway)
5	Create and promote Great North Cycleway through town, including the installation of a safe traffic-lit crossing near Stratton House
6	Secure permissive paths on Biggleswade Common as Public Rights of Way
7	Secure Permissive Path linking Biggleswade Common to New Road, Sandy as a Public Right of Way
8	Create a cycleway alongside Langford Road to link Biggleswade and Langford – possibly by widening and managing vegetation along existing pavement.
9	Plant small woodland beside new church on Dunton Lane to extend linear woodland feature southwards
10	Widen FP21 and upgrade status to Public Bridleway to link Mill Lane to Holme Mills
11	Upgrade surface and status of FP21 to Public Bridleway to link Mill Lane to Hill Lane
12	Ensure all Planning Conditions relating to Green Corridors, access routes and open space in the King's Reach development are enforced.
13	Ensure linear park habitats and access routes are created in accordance with Planning Conditions
14	Create planted and landscaped area to provide 'green gateway' into town of Langford Road.
15a	Create/ upgrade safe crossing of railway at Holme Green Crossing
15b	Create/ upgrade safe crossing of railway near Shortmead house
16	Upgrade FP49 to Public Bridleway/ Cycleway
17	Create woodland belts and meadow areas as habitat links and green corridors to create southern section of 'Green Wheel'
18	Create Great North Cycleway south from Biggleswade
19	Create public access to Stratton Moat and adjoining meadow

20	Enhance greenspace beside swimming pool as public park
21	Create 'Town and Country Park' including woodland walk, nature reserve, picnic area, boating lake, etc. Consider restoration of river to create a more natural setting.
22	Create allotments
23	Improve surface of BW28 and BW31/BW3 to enable family cycling
24	Upgrade FPs24 and Dunton FP8 to Public Bridleway/ Cycleway to enable family cycling
25	Create Public Right of Way through linear woodlands
26	Secure land to west of railway to buffer Biggleswade Common
27	Extend linear woodlands westwards
28a	Extend proposed linear park to east of watercourse, extending Biggleswade Common southwards to enhance eastern section of Biggleswade Green Wheel.
28b	Incorporate a sports, leisure and community complex into southern end of proposed linear park extension as part of Biggleswade Green Wheel.
29	Extend Biggleswade Common (Shortmead Common) southwards
30	Plant small woodland to north of Fairfield House, extending the woodland fringe of Biggleswade Common
31	Enhance play area beside Grassmere/ railway through planting and more, natural, play features
32	Enhance Dan Albone Picnic Area and entrance to Common as a stock-free pocket park, including screening of Pumping Station
33	Restore walled garden adjacent to Stratton moat
34	Create a community orchard linking proposed allotments at 22 and proposed extension of Common at 29
35	Increase area of greenspace in town centre
36	Restore 'The Lakes' recreation ground, incl provision of graffiti boards
	General aspiration: To seek to protect all existing features of landscape and wildlife value

Priorities:

At each of the consultation events, participants were asked to indicate which of the aspirations put forward they considered to be priorities. A summary of the initial priorities was presented to the final workshop, whose attendees then participated in a more formal prioritising exercise. Activities at the youth consultation events also resulted priorities being identified.

The following aspirations were identified as the priorities at the community workshops, with the most popular aspirations listed first:

ref	Priority aspirations, listed in order of highest priority first
	Priority 1
21	Create 'Town and Country Park' including woodland walk, nature reserve, picnic area, boating lake, etc. Consider restoration of river to create a more natural setting.
	Priority 2
28a	Extend proposed linear park to east of watercourse, extending Biggleswade Common southwards to enhance eastern section of Biggleswade Green Wheel.
28b	Incorporate a sports, leisure and community complex into southern end of proposed linear park extension as part of Biggleswade Green Wheel.
	Priority 3
27	Extend linear woodlands eastwards
	Priority 4
29	Extend Biggleswade Common (Furzenhall Common) southwards
	Priority 5
17	Create woodland belts and meadow areas as habitat links and green corridors to create southern section of 'Green Wheel'