

Evidence base for Local Green Spaces and Open Space, Sport & Recreation sites

Legend:

- Local Green Space
- Rugby Borough Council Open Space, Sport & Recreation sites (Emerging Local Plan, 2025 - 2042)
- Other (unadopted) Open Space, Sport & Recreation sites in recent development

Map Labels:

- 001 Great Central Way
- 017 Five Arches Meadow
- [Nature Reserve]
- 005 Edward Cave AGS and Play Park
- The Leys AGS
- 007 Balancing Ponds
- 002 Coton Park Pool
- 001 Great Central Walk
- 003 Coton Park North AGS
- 003 Coton Park Central AGS
- 004 Langlands Place AGS
- 004 Betony Road AOS and Play Area
- 001
- 049
- 044 St Thomas Cross Fields
- 006

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2. Evidence, with reference to NPPF criteria for Local Green Space

INVENTORY MAP REFERENCE	SITE NAME	NPPF (2023) CRITERIA FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESIGNATION						TOTAL /25	
		LOCAL: BOUNDED, NOT EXTENSIVE YES/NO	PROXIMITY 0 - 5	SPECIAL TO COMMUNITY (<10)			LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE (<10)		
				BEAUTY 0 - 3	TRANQUIL 0 - 2	REC. VALUE 0 - 5	HISTORY 0 - 5		WILDLIFE 0 - 5

Local Green Spaces

001	Great Central Walk (section in Newton parish) and nature reserve	Y	4	3	2	4	3	4	20
Bounded: Yes Proximity: Close to the western edge of Newton village and the eastern edge of the Coton Park residential development; it is part of the highly-valued green buffer between the two settlements Special to community Recreational value: very high use, as part of a number of short, medium and long circular walks from and between Newton and Coton Park and for informal recreation. Car park, picnic area, managed footpaths/cycleways, boardwalks, interpretive signage, seating. Designated cycleway, accessible paths. OSSR (<i>Accessible Natural Green Space</i>) in the Rugby Borough Council <i>Open Space. Playing Pitch and Sports Facilities Study</i>, 2015 Beauty: High Tranquillity: High Local Significance History: track-bed, embankments, cuttings, retaining walls, under- and over-bridges, station platform and sidings (goods traffic) remains, etc. Part of ‘the last main line’ of the Great Central Railway (1899, Manchester/Sheffield to London via Nottingham, Leicester and Rugby; closed 1969) Wildlife: Local Wildlife Site LWS SP5711 as Great Central Walk North (Warks CC designation). A mosaic of Priority Habitats (Natural England designations) and other regionally-significant habitat types, including deciduous woodland, scrubland, wetland, dry grassland, etc. Good biodiversity, enhanced by management by both RBC and a residents’ volunteer group, includes invertebrates (lepidoptera, etc.), amphibians and reptiles, birds (farmland, woodland and wetland species), small mammals, bats									

006	Newton allotments	Y	4	2	1	5	3	3	18
Bounded: Yes Proximity: adjacent to the eastern edge of Newton village <u>Special to community</u> Recreational value: high: the site provides 33 allotments an 1 community orchard which are all occupied by residents of the parish and immediate neighbouring area. They provide a valuable resource which meets the practical, social and recreational needs of allotment holders. They also provide a recreational resource for the wider community being crossed by well-used public footpaths. OSSR (<i>Allotments</i>) in the Rugby Borough Council <i>Open Space. Playing Pitch and Sports Facilities Study, 2015</i> Beauty: yes – well-maintained and mature allotment gardens; views to open countryside Tranquillity: yes, both intrinsic (birdsong, traffic noise subdued) and as a place of quiet recreation for its users <u>Local Significance</u> History: One of the oldest surviving allotment sites established 1757 in the country being over 250 years old and dating back to a mid-18th Century Act of Enclosure. – already shown as such on the 1899 Ordnance Survey map Wildlife: locally significant for invertebrates, amphibians, slow worm, grass snake, small mammals, garden and farmland birds. Recorded as grassland habitat in the Warks Green Infrastructure (connectivity) survey, 2015									

002	Coton Park Pool	Y	4	3	2	3	1	4	17
c.3.5 ha. Wet woodland, reedbeds, open water etc. in a flood resilience area associated with the first phase of Coton Park development. Bounded: Yes Proximity: Immediately adjacent to the eastern edge of Coton Park residential area, and one field away from the western edge of Newton village. The two communities are connected by well-used footpaths and there are views between them across Great Central Walk and this Local Green Space <u>Special to community</u> Recreational value: high. Very well-used, regular recreational walks location, particularly for Coton Park residents. Paths, boardwalks and viewpoints, bins, etc. all created by the developers. Enjoyment of nature Beauty: High – natural environment									

[illegible]

Open Space, Sport & Recreation sites

003	Begonia Way / Aster Drive open space, Coton Park	Yes	5	1	1	3	0	1	11
Bounded: Yes Proximity: Immediately adjacent to residential development for which it provides a valuable informal recreational resource. Special to community Recreational value: OSSR, this Plan (<i>Amenity Green Space</i>) Beauty: Tranquillity: A relatively quiet green area in an otherwise busy sub-urban development. Local Significance History: Implemented as part of the Coton development and included in the 1980s Master Plan for that development. Wildlife: Recorded as grassland habitat in the Warks Green Infrastructure (Connectivity) Survey 2015									

004	Betony Road / Coltsfoot Road open space, Coton Park	Yes	5	3	1	3	0	2	14
Bounded: Yes Proximity: adjacent to established residential area. <u>Special to community</u> Recreational value: OSSR, this Plan (<i>Amenity Green Space</i>) Beauty: - an attractive area with changes in levels and incorporating a SUD swale. Views to the south and south east. Tranquillity: A relatively quiet area in a busy sub-urban development. <u>Local Significance</u> History: provided as part of the Coton development and included in the Master Plan. Wildlife: Evidence of invertebrates, small mammals and dragonflies adjacent to the swale, remainder of site recorded as grassland.									

005	Ellis Gardens open space, Newton	Yes	5	1	0	5	0	1	12
Bounded: Yes Proximity: - Immediately adjacent to residential development. <u>Special to community</u> Recreational value: OSSR, this Plan (<i>Amenity Green Space</i>). Provides the only significant area of open space in the village of Newton Beauty: A relatively new green space that will mature and be enhanced over time. Tranquillity: a relatively tranquil site in an otherwise developed area. <u>Local Significance</u>									

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Wildlife: the site provides a habitat for ground nesting birds and small mammals and hunting areas for raptors and Barn Owls. There is also some evidence of otters foraging in the stream along the western boundary. It is intended that the wildlife value of the site be significantly enhanced in future.