

Elmstead Parish Green Spaces Report



Supporting Document to Elmstead Neighbourhood Plan
2022



Elmstead Parish Council

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Introduction and Process

In establishing Elmstead's Neighbourhood Plan it was established that a number of spaces held special significance to the community, and as such should be recognised and protected.

Over the formation of the neighbourhood plan and during its early public conversations a wide range of spaces were collated that fit this description to various degrees.

As varying aspects of the plan emerged some of these spaces were deemed to be better served by other classifications, or to already be protected by other designations affording a greater degree of recognition.

The remaining spaces were subjected to the three primary tests from the national planning policy framework paragraph 102 criteria for local green spaces.

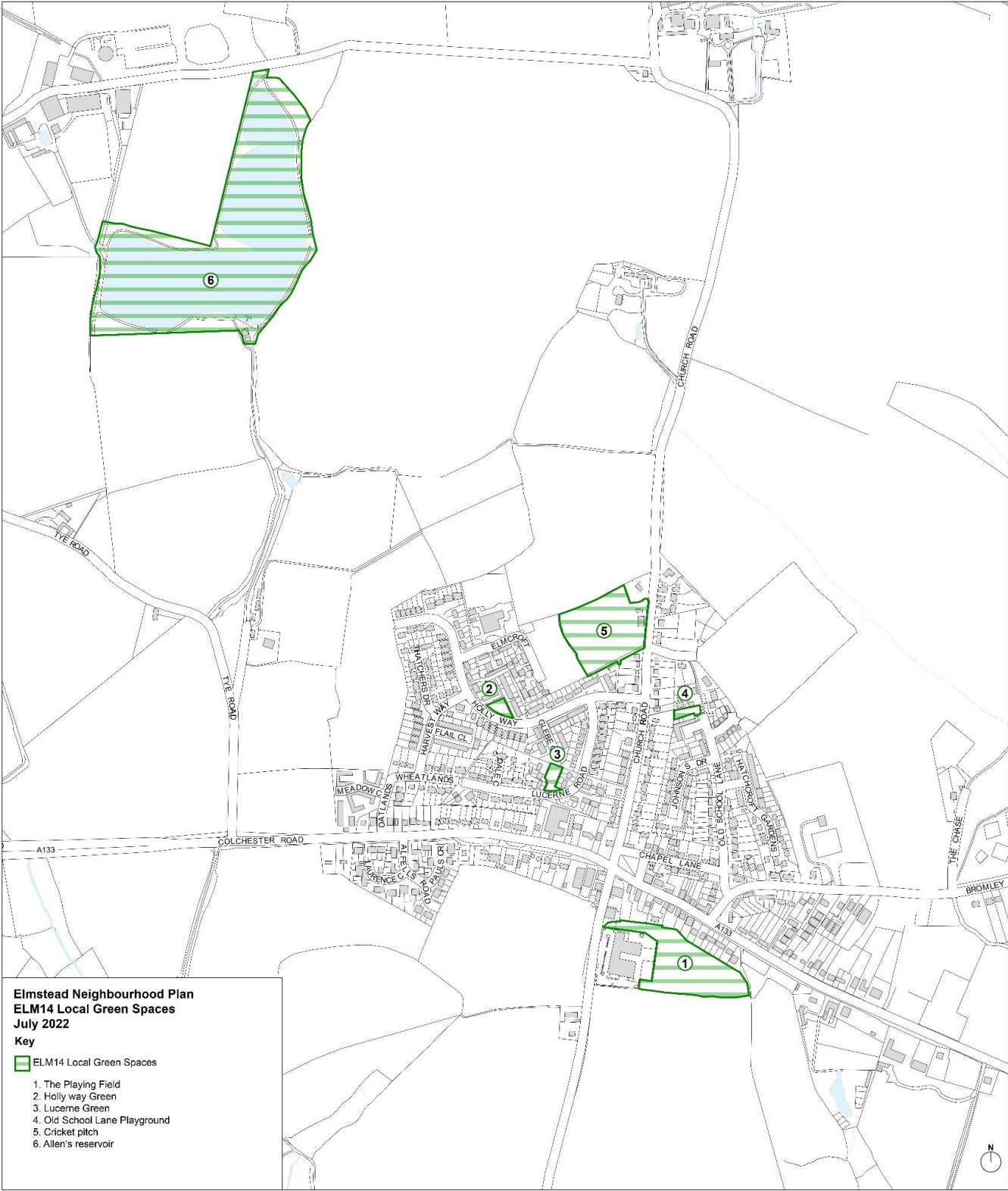
Paragraph 102 of the NPPF states that a LGS designation should only be used where the green space is: a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves; b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

The owners/stakeholders responsible for these spaces were then contacted to explain the process thus far, the implications of the designation, and their opinions on the relevant spaces becoming local green spaces.

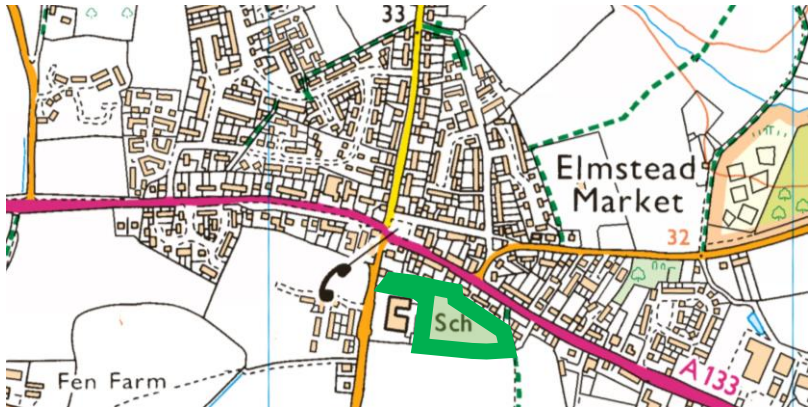
Responses were brought before the Elmstead Neighbourhood Plan steering committee to be considered, where the decision was made not to pursue any spaces in opposition to stakeholders wishes.

Spaces that were endorsed by this procedure have been evaluated within this report to maintain their protection community use for the neighbourhood plans period.

GREEN SPACES



Site Name	The Playing Field
Location	East of School Road, CO7 7ET
Landowner	Essex County Council
Description	An outdoor turf area, used as a playing field, football pitch, outdoor learning space and venue for occasional community events.



Assessment Against Criteria	
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes – adjacent to village centre and within village core.
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land	Yes – green space within village, 1.5 ha area including football pitch.
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular significance	A remnant of Elmstead's historic trading site, the field is responsible for the villages full name of Elmstead market. With an extensive history of public use the space has been utilised by the community for generations and is the only venue for larger community events.



Consultation with Landowner	
Landowner Consultation	Letter sent by email 09/06/22
Landowner Support/Objection to inclusion of greenspace	Landowner reply received objecting – reason given that they consider the space to already be sufficiently protected. Steering committee has decided to continue designation on the grounds that reasonable circumstances may occur where designation is beneficial.

Site Name	Lucerne Green
Location	North of Lucerne Road, CO7 7YH
Landowner	Tendring District Council
Description	A grass area dotted with mature trees that functions as an outdoor social space and play area especially for young children.



Assessment Against Criteria	
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Located in the midst of Elmstead's residential neighbourhood
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land	Yes, green space within village boundary, 0.13 ha
3. Demonstratably special to the local community and holds particular significance	Closest public green space to many dwellings and safe space for families and children to gather and play.

Consultation with Landowner	
Landowner Consultation	Letter sent by email 23/06/22
Landowner Support/Objection to inclusion of greenspace	No reply received by consultation start date.

Site Name	Holly Way Green
Location	North of Holly Way
Landowner	<i>Believed to be conglomeration of local homeowners. Details being confirmed at time of publication.</i>
Description	Open space used to open past housing developments and maintain a rural aesthetic. Appreciated as open green space for community use.



Assessment Against Criteria	
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes, within settlement boundary
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land	Yes, green space within village, 0.12 ha
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular significance	Designated open space when developed, appreciated for communal uses.



Consultation with Landowner	
Landowner Consultation	<i>Consultation incorporated into public consultation, outreach ongoing.</i>
Landowner Support/Objection to inclusion of greenspace	<i>To be established</i>

Site Name	Elmstead Cricket Ground
Location	To the west of church road, CO7 7AT
Landowner	Diocese of Chelmsford and Jesus College Cambridge
Description	Open grass area with seasonal sports pitch and surrounding lawns and trees.

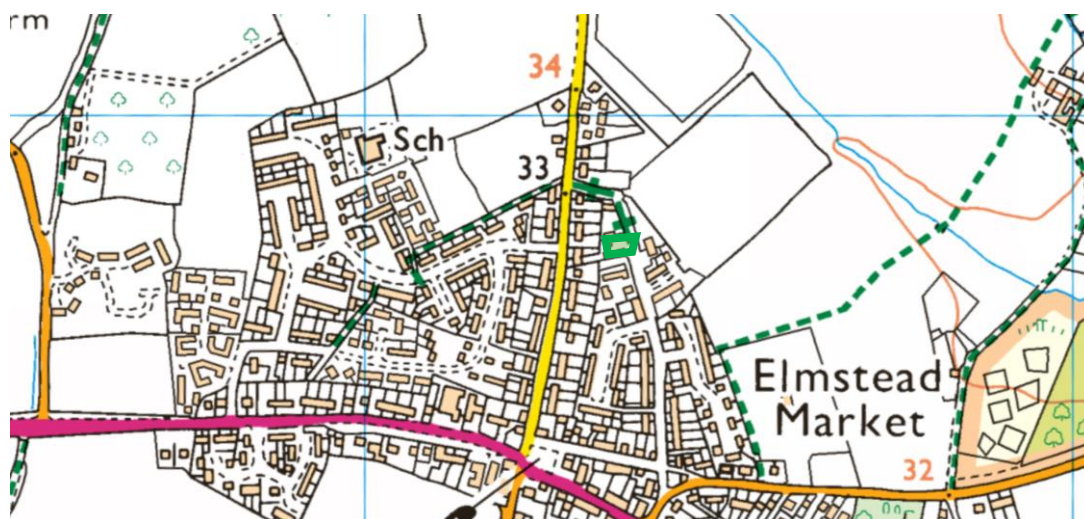


Assessment Against Criteria	
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Within settlement boundary and now surrounded by residential areas
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land	Yes, green space within village settlement, 1.5 ha
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular significance	Community gathering point and only dedicated sports club/playing area



Consultation with Landowner	
Landowner Consultation	Questions have arose considering landowning parties responsibilities. Both have been contacted as part of public consultation.
Landowner Support/Objection to inclusion of greenspace	None received as of date of publication.

Site Name	Old School Lane Playground
Location	West of old school lane, CO7 7AN
Landowner	Tendring District Council
Description	A dedicated area for young children with play equipment

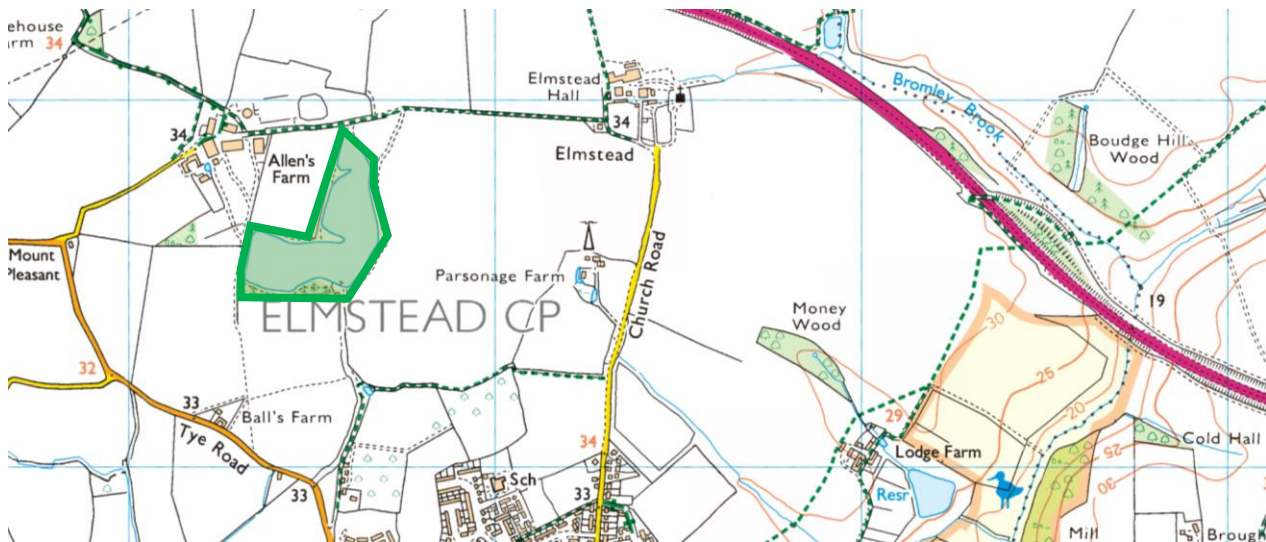


Assessment Against Criteria	
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Within the village settlement boundary
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land	Green space within settlement, 0.06 ha
3. Demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular significance	Safe green open community space specifically for children's and family use



Consultation with Landowner	
Landowner Consultation	Letter sent by email 23/06/22
Landowner Support/Objection to inclusion of greenspace	No reply received by consultation start date.

Site Name	
Location	North East of Tye Road, adjacent to the south of the Elmstead hall to Crockleford footpath
Landowner	David Hunter
Description	A large irrigation reservoir that also functions as blue infrastructure, providing a unique opportunity for wildlife interaction, occasional water sports venue and generally appreciated as a walking destination.



Assessment Against Criteria	
1. In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.	Yes – within 500m of settlement boundary and in easy walking distance
2. Local in character and not an extensive tract of land	Yes, and its 8 ha area is necessary to fulfil its many functions.
3. Demonstratably special to the local community and holds particular significance	only place of its character within the parish and often mentioned in public discourse as a valued area



Consultation with Landowner	
Landowner Consultation	Letter sent by email 13/04/22
Landowner Support/Objection to inclusion of greenspace	Responded "Sounds like a good idea."

Post-Consultation Space holder