

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Battle Civil Parish (CP) Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Steering Group, having heard of a Planning Application in another District Council area that had been accepted on land that locals thought was Green Space and would not be built upon, decided that an analysis of Battle CP to identify Local Green Spaces (LGS) and potentials for some form of registration was an essential part of the NP. Initially an extensive Civil Parish-wide green infrastructure survey was undertaken (see Green Infrastructure Report 2018-Dec.)
- 1.2. A candidate Local Green Spaces (LGS) list was then developed and considered, by the NP Steering Group on 2017-02-01, subsequently several versions have been produced as knowledge grew.
- 1.3. The list is focussed on LGS, however expert advice is required to make a determination about how they should be categorised for protection: such as an Asset of Community Value classification, a Common Land, a Village Green etc. Indeed some sites already have significant protections (e.g. GS12 which is within the registered ancient battlefield site). Nevertheless the community desire is to highlight *all* sites, to provide an overall view of the importance of LGS within the CP.
- 1.4. Subsequently an LGS Designation Candidates list was drawn up issued in v6.1 of this document dated 2019-04-30, tabulated with reference to the National Planning Policy Framework criteria for LGS qualification. This enabled the NP Steering Group to determine that all the sites listed at that time met the three criteria (a, b, c) required by NPPF paragraph 100, thus:
  - 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.

- 1.5. The current list derives from a review begun in 2019-June to include information from landowners, where known; subsequently land registry inquiries have informed the list now delivered. As a result, a few sites have been deleted because the site is a private property and/or the landowner has expressed a positive statement that they do not want their site to be included into the NP consideration. These sites are not now shown in the new sections 5.1 and 5.2 but their maps (shown 'greyed-out') are retained in the Annex 6 for reference, only.
- 1.6. Sections 5.1 and 5.2 are added to this version (v7.4) to provide site ownership and justification narrative for the sites to be included in the NP. NOTE: Deletions from the previous list, as described (i.e. sites GS14, 21, 22, 24, 26 and 27), results in some now unused site numbers that do not appear in these sections.

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### 2. <u>Current List of Local Green Spaces</u>

- 2.1. The current list of Local Green Spaces has been elaborated since the candidate list which considered local concerns for small green spaces. The Battle CP Boundary map (see Annex 1) shows the three 'large-area' Green Spaces within the CP: Darwell Wood, Great Wood and Beauport Park, which each have a number of protections and provide important recreational facilities, as well as their environmental significance. The current LGS list is now more precisely described and listed below, roughly north-west to south-east and recent additions have been included.
- 2.2. In order to use a comprehensive/unique site numbering system within <u>all</u> Battle CP NP documents the RDC - SHLAA potential building site numbers have been retained (e.g. NE 07). Other codes are used to designate sites with differing characteristics (e.g. proposed Green Space allocation), therefore an individual site may have more than one number used.
- 2.3 A specific NP set of numbers has been invoked for Green Spaces, numbered thus: NE GS 01, NE GS 02... = Netherfield Green Space number series – not priority ordered BA GS 01, BA GS 02... = Battle Green Space number series – not priority ordered

NOTE 1: Telham sites are included in the Battle number series (see also Annex 3).

NOTE 2: The "Battle Abbey" site under English Heritage management and very fully protected, is not herein listed.

Ref. No.	Green Space	Location	Location detail	NPPF criteria
NE GS01	Children's Play equipment area	Netherfield	Darvel Down [NE 11]	a, b, c
NE GS02	Village Green	Netherfield	Darvel Down / B2096 opposite shop [NE 07]	a, b, c
NE GS03	Green space	Netherfield	Netherfield Road	a, b, c
NE GS04	Recreation Ground	Netherfield	Off Netherfield Road	a, b, c
NE GS05	Green space in front of school	Netherfield	Darvel Down south-east	a, b, c
NE GS06	Estate green space opposite school	Netherfield	Darvel Down east, middle	a, b, c
NE GS07	School Playing field	Netherfield	East of Darvel Down	a, b, c

## 3. <u>Netherfield sites – NPPF analysis</u> (see Annex 4 and 6)

NOTE: The list includes some relatively small areas, such as roadside verges that are unlikely to be developed with buildings, nevertheless they are included to ensure that any roadway development does not impact them; since they are a significant component of the Battle CP street scene.

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## 4. <u>Battle and Telham sites – NPPF analysis</u> (see Annex 5 and 6)

Ref. No.	Green Space	Location	Location detail	NPPF criteria
BA GS01	GS01 Netherfield Hill Allotments (8 plots)		Off Beech Close, Netherfield Hill	a, b, c
BA GS02	Watch Oak Allotments (26 plots)	Battle	Chain Lane	a, b, c
BA GS03	Virgins Croft Allotments (14 plots)	Battle	Off Virgins Lane	a, b, c
BA GS04	Kingsmead Open Space – two interconnected fields	Battle	Between Virgins Lane & Caldbec Hill	a, b, c
BA GS05	Green Space (roadside and including north-western footway and hedge/trees)	Battle	Caldbec Hill, Whatlington Road (summit) - requires defined residents car park area adjacent to road	a, b, c
BA GS06	Claverham College, playing fields	Battle	Off North Trade Road	a, b, c
BA GS07 Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment areas)		Battle	North Trade Road	a, b, c
BA GS08 Teaching & Education Centre (includes grass area with seat overlooking roadway & skateboard ramp)		Battle	Off A2100 – east of roundabout	a, b, c
BA GS09	BA GS09 Battle & Langton CE Primary School, additional field		South and west of school compound	a, b, c
BA GS10 Mansers Shaw and Amenity Field		Battle	Between Recreation Ground and Battle & Langton CE Primary School and the 1066 Country Walk	a, b, c
BA GS11	Guild Shaw	Battle	Off Western Avenue	a, b, c
BA GS12 George Meadow and Upper Stumbletts including cricket ground (includes field further south – not mapped)		Battle	Off Park Lane, west of High Street	a, b, c
BA GS13			High Street	a, b, c
BA GS14			Off High Street	a, b, c
BA GS15	Cherry Gardens Allotments (40 plots)	Battle	Off Mount Street – via FP31a/track to Little Park Farm	a, b, c
BA GS16	Lake Meadow (National Trust)	Battle	Adjacent to Marley Lane	a, b, c



Ref. No.	Green Space	Location	Location detail	NPPF criteria
BA GS17 Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment area)		Battle	Coronation Gardens	a, b, c
BA GS18	Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment area)	Telham	Off Hastings Road, Telham	a, b, c
BA GS19	Green Space, Telham	Telham	West side of A2100, Hastings Road/Telham Lane junction	a, b, c
BA GS 20	Green space with Heritage Trail marker/seat	Battle	Beside Marley Lane	a, b, c
BA GS 21	Glengorse - garden	Battle	Garden adjacent to former PW	a, b, c
BA GS 22	Glengorse – central driveway mound	Battle	Specimen trees in front of house	a, b, c
BA GS 23	BA GS 23 Cemetery		Off Marley Lane	a, b, c
BA GS 24	Bowling Green	Battle	Station Road, next to Senlac Inn	a, b, c
BA GS 25	"TenSixtySix roundabout" with 1066 Battle Memorial sculpture	Battle	Junction of A2100, London Road and North Trade Road	a, b, c
BA GS 26	Market Square – grass verge, garden and trees & "bandstand"	Battle	Market Square	a, b, c
BA GS 27	Caldbec Hill Arboretum	Battle	Off Whatlington Road with PRoW access	a, b, c
BA GS 28	Green Space, Hastings Road, trees & daffodils planting	Battle	South side - east of Glengorse junction	a, b, c

NOTE: The list includes some relatively small areas, such as roadside verges that are unlikely to be developed with buildings, nevertheless they are included to ensure that any roadway development does not impact them; since they are a significant component of the Battle CP street scene.



## 5.1 Netherfield sites confirmed for NP inclusion (see Annex 4 & 6)

Ref. No.	Green Space / Location	Justification / Owner
NE GS01	Children's Play equipment area, Darvel Down [NE 11]	This area has a fenced child safety area with play equipment and open green space - much used and revered by younger families.
		Owner: RDC
NE GS02	Village Green, Darvel Down / B2096 opposite shop [NE 07]	This area provides an open area for informal sports activity fenced off from the road to avoid players being endangered. Provides footway between shop and GS01 and houses to west of village.
		Owner: RDC
NE GS03	Green space, Netherfield Road	This area provides a village seat with specimen tree planting – adding significantly to the wider hill-top village feel - frequently used and provides a safe viewing point looking south towards coast.
		Owner: ESCC
NE GS04	Recreation Ground, off Netherfield Road	This area is used by villagers for recreational sports activities and includes the Village Hall/Pavilion.
		Owner: RDC
NE GS05	Green space in front of school, Darvel Down south-east	This area provides a narrow buffer strip in front of the school, immediately adjacent to the roadway offering some safety to children and families.
		Owner: ESCC
NE GS06	Estate green space opposite school, Darvel Down east, middle	This area provides a remarkable and large open area ("green lung") within the very densely arrayed houses – it is a significant feature of the Darvel Down village street scene centre.
		Owner: Optivo requested - NO RESPONSE
NE GS07	School playing field, east of Darvel Down	Fenced, grass play area providing a safe yet vital school facility.
		Owner: ESCC/LEA



# 5.2 Battle and Telham sites confirmed for NP inclusion (see Annex 5 and 6)

Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS01	Netherfield Hill Allotments (8 plots), off Beech Close	BTC leased and operated – utilisation: 100%
		Owner: Optivo
BA GS02	Watch Oak Allotments (26 plots), Chain Lane	BTC leased and operated – utilisation: 50%
		Owner: RDC
BA GS03	Virgins Croft Allotments (14 plots), off Virgins Lane	BTC operated – utilisation: 90%
		Owner: BTC
BA GS04	Kingsmead Open Space – two interconnected fields, between Virgins Lane and Caldbec Hill	Important public space, with spectacular views to the north – site of an OS triangulation point underlying the high visibility in the landscape of this area. As a result of local initiatives some of the area has been sown with wildflowers; a small emerging population of wild orchids indicating improving biodiversity due to appropriate management over recent years. Supposed site of King Harold's 1066 army overnight stop before 1066 battle. Site of several significant trees, including the 950 <sup>th</sup> anniversary planted commemorative pear tree. Very significant daily footfall of residents, using PRoW footpaths.
		Owned and maintained: RDC
BA GS05	Green Space (roadside and including north-western footway and hedge/trees), Caldbec Hill, Whatlington Road (summit)	This area is the site of special wildflower cultivation and is a defining street scene summit location - requires a demarcated residents car park area adjacent to road and protection from other vehicle invasion for parking. (ESCC and BTC working to provide vehicle protection.) Owner: ESCC/Highways
BA GS06	Claverham College, playing	Fenced, grass play area providing a safe yet vital
DA 0000	fields, off North Trade Road	school facility.
		Owner: ESCC/LEA



Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS07	Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment areas), North Trade Road	BTC operated central recreation area with ground staff workshop, play areas, tennis courts, limited car parking, football pitches and Pavilion. Long term development plans and projects projected for further additional facilities.
		Owner: BTC
BA GS08	Teaching & Education Centre (includes grass area with seat overlooking roadway & skateboard ramp), off A2100 –	Open public access play area providing a safe off road skateboard ramp area, adjacent to education building.
	east of "TenSixtySix roundabout"	Owner: ESCC/LEA
BA GS09	Battle & Langton CE Primary School, additional field, south of school compound	Unfenced, grass area providing an additional wild meadow adjacent to school – accessible only from adjacent areas BA GS10.
		Owner: ESCC/LEA
BA GS10	Mansers Shaw and Amenity Field & adjacent to 1066 Country Walk	Mansers Shaw provides a woodland/ghyll-side permissive walk with hard surfaces and play zones. Very high daily footfall mainly residents. Connected to Amenity Field providing open grassland circular walk Market Road and to 1066 Country Walk/Park Lane.
		Mansers Shaw Owner: BTC and
		Amenity Field Owner: ESCC, leased to BTC
BA GS11	Guild Shaw, off Western Avenue	An unusual very peaceful haven comprising copse trees and grass with extensive spring bulb flowers – much enjoyed by residents and tourists. Owner: BTC
BA GS12	George Meadow and Upper Stumbletts including cricket ground (includes field further south-west – not mapped), off Park Lane, west of the High Street	Fenced area used by an active Cricket Club, including nets out-of-season. This land is subject to long term agricultural lease for cattle grazing and includes the high footfall 1066 Country Walk connections to Bexhill and west to Pevensey. From Footpath Battle 84 there are views south-west across the cricket ground towards the South Downs Beachy Head ridge. Owner: BTC



Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS13	The Abbey "Green" (English Heritage), High Street	Hard surface area at the heart of Battle town, in front of Battle Abbey Gatehouse- site of the "Bull-ring" and annual bonfire. Provides for a significant number of off street events (e.g. markets, maypole dancing, etc.) annually and seating for residents and tourists. Managed by BTC Owner: English Heritage
BA GS15	Cherry Gardens Allotments (40 plots), off Mount Street – via FP31a/track to Little Park Farm	BTC operated – utilisation: 100% Owner: BTC
BA GS16	Lake Meadow (National Trust), adjacent to Marley Lane	Important managed grassland with excellent views northwards, includes PRoW with heavy footfall onto countryside path network. Owner: National Trust
BA GS17	Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment area), Coronation Gardens	Large flat grass area for sports activities and low fenced children's play area with recently renewed equipment, lobbied for by local residents who much need this facility without having to cross High Street. Will be important for children living in new housing at Blackfriars. Owner: RDC
BA GS18	Recreation Ground (includes Children's Play equipment area), off Hastings Road, Telham	Small grass area for sports activities and children's play area with equipment, local residents use. This site commands excellent uninterrupted views north-west towards the registered 1066 battlefield site and west towards Catsfield, with distant views of the South Downs Beachy Head ridge. Owner: BTC
BA GS19	Green Space, Telham, west side of A2100, Hastings Road/Telham Lane junction	Site important to nearby residents, providing rural post box, BTC noticeboard with single car layby. It has a shrubbery planted raised bed that provides a 'visual marker' on the roadside, when travelling from east, of the start of the CP dwellings. Owner: Adopted highway / Gas utility u/g access
BA GS 20	Green space with Heritage Trail marker/seat, beside Marley Lane	This site forms a safe off-road resting place for Heritage Trail walkers to rest and plan their next walking segments through the Coronation Gardens estate.
		Owner: RDC and adopted highway



Ref. No.	Green Space	Justification / Owner
BA GS 23	Cemetery, off Marley Lane	Cemetery actively used and recent developed by BTC includes important specimen trees and areas of exceptional wildflowers, including several species of orchids and nationally rare plants. Owner: BTC
BA GS 25	"TenSixtySix roundabout" with Battle Memorial sculpture, junction of A2100, London Road and North Trade Road	Significant modern sculpture commemorating the 1066 Battle of Hastings with small wild grass/flowers under-mat. Managed by BTC Owner: ESCC/Highways
BA GS 28	Green Space, Hastings Road, trees & daffodils planting, South side - east of Glengorse junction	Wide grass verge mixing wildflowers with planted spring bulbs providing an important cherished green area, much cared for by local residents. Includes many mid-maturity trees along its length softening the visual impact of housing fences. Includes the Battle Town "Gate" sign and road sign: "Battle Hill".



## 6. Historic Farmsteads (see Annex 2)

An important characteristic of the Civil Parish is that it contains many historic farmsteads and notably has an above average coverage of small farms that are typically half the national average farm area size. The NP Steering Group believe that the historic farmsteads and small farms structure shall be considered unsuitable for any housing development and that such land as remains should be encouraged to be kept and used as low-input farming.

## 7. Sites of environmental importance

7.1	Darwell Wood	37.6 Ha	mainly hornbeam coppice (PAWS)
7.2	River Line	1.87 Ha	geological value – inlier gorge
7.3	Blackhorse Quarry	0.19 Ha	geological value (adjacent to covered reservoir)
7.4	Hemingfold Meadow	4.9 Ha	meadow grasses and wildflowers

The CP has four Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within its boundary:

There are several other SSSIs in the proximity of the CP – all shall be afforded the maximum protection from any development as prescribed in current legislation, *including* 'guard areas' around them.

NOTE: The on-line DEFRA Magic map can be used to display the 'guard areas'.

There could potentially be other sites within the CP, so far undesignated for their environmental importance – one is presently listed for further consideration to the HW-AONB:

7.5	Burnt Chimney Farm	4.3 Ha	unimproved grassland meadows (x2)
			with yellow rattle / orchid populations

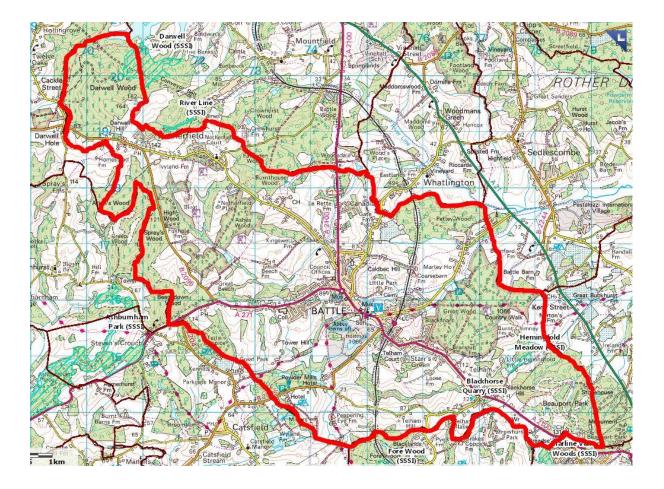
(see also AONB Field & Heath map)

#### 8. Ancient Woodland (see Annex 3)

Battle CP has a high percentage of woodland by national averages, much of which is designated as Ancient Woodland and has AONB Management Plan objective W1 status – namely that it should be maintained as ancient woodland. Many of the woods maybe so called Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS), nevertheless they contain species rich ecology that provides both recreation and small scale commercial activity. Without exception the NP Steering Group believe that no housing development should be permitted in these woodland areas.

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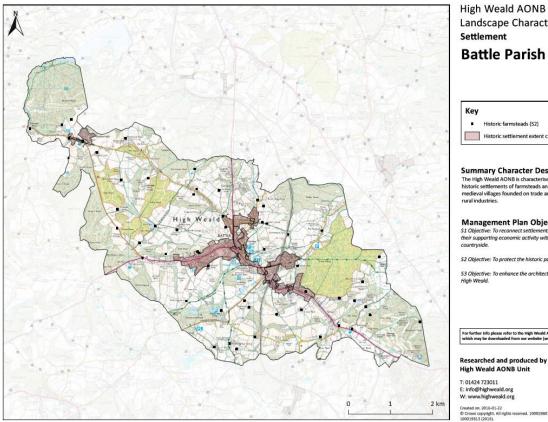
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Annex 1: Battle Civil Parish – boundary (shown superimposed on OS map)



### **Annex 2: Historic Farmsteads**



Landscape Character:

#### **Battle Parish**



Summary Character Description: The High Weald AONB is characterised by dispersed historic settlements of farmstaads and hamlets, and late medieval villages founded on trade and non-agricultural rural industrise

Management Plan Objectives S1 Objective: To reconnect settlements, residents their supporting economic activity with the surrou

S3 Objective: To enhance the architectural quality of the High Weald.

For further info please refer to the High Weald AONB Ma which may be downloaded from our website (see address

Researched and produce High Weald AONB Unit

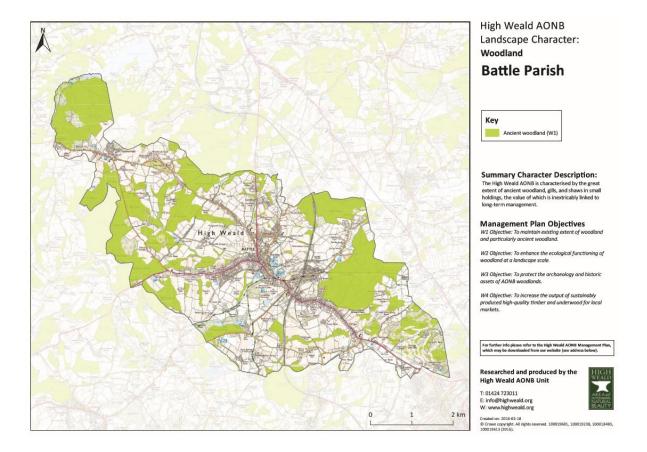


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#### Annex 3: Ancient Woodland



NOTE: Battle Great Wood is marked on the map as ancient woodland. It is classified as a Plantation on an Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) – i.e. the site is believed to have been continuously wooded since at least 1600AD. Even though it has been re-planted at some point in its history and is now not all Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW), it nevertheless falls under the overall ancient woodland umbrella (PAWS + ASNW).

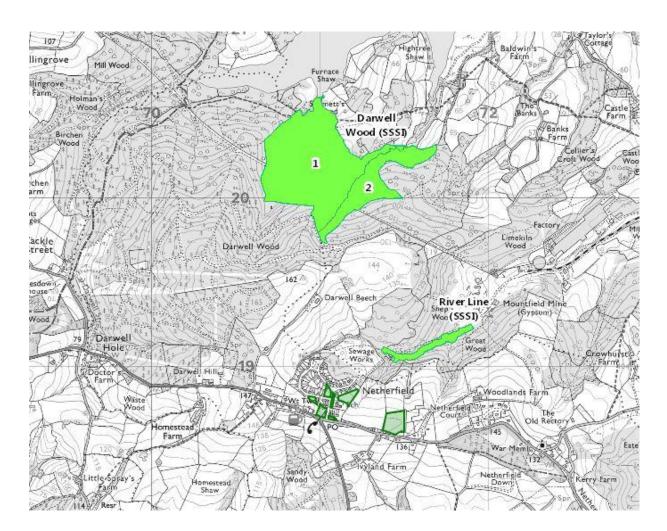
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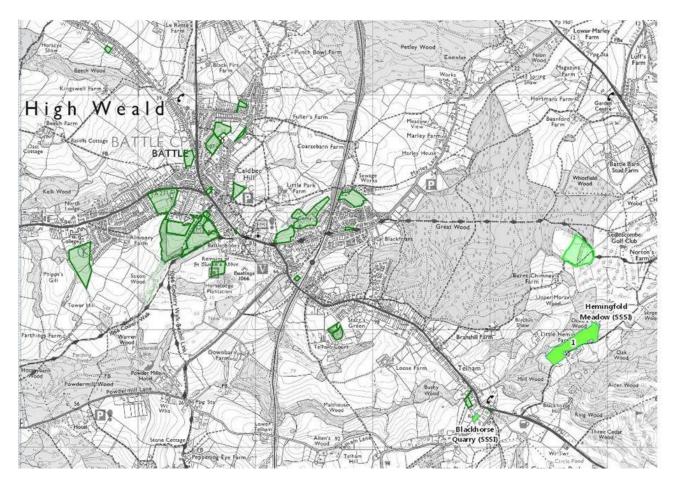
#### Annex 4: Netherfield sites and SSSIs

(most sites indicative locations – not at a specific scale)



#### Annex 5: Battle and Telham sites and SSSIs

(most sites, indicative locations - not at a specific scale)



**Battle Neighbourhood Plan** 

NOTE: The site shown north-east of "Burnt Chimney Farm" is the site noted in Section 7.5

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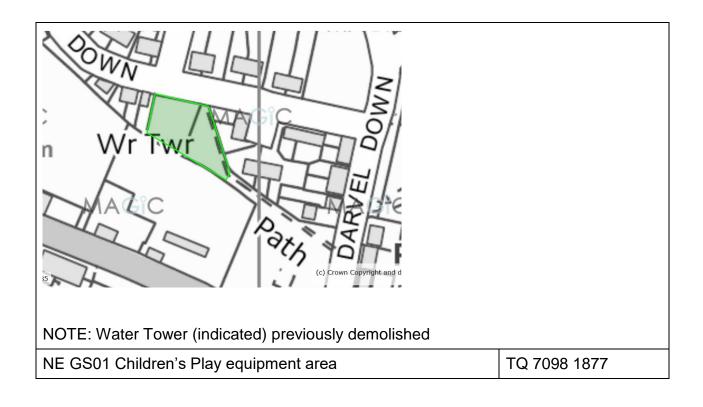
#### Annex 6: Netherfield, Battle and Telham sites

(indicative locations – not at a specific scale)

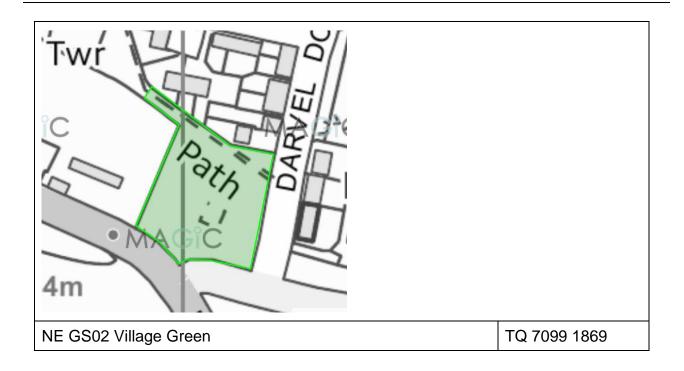
The following plans show each individual site at readable scale to indicate the site outline.

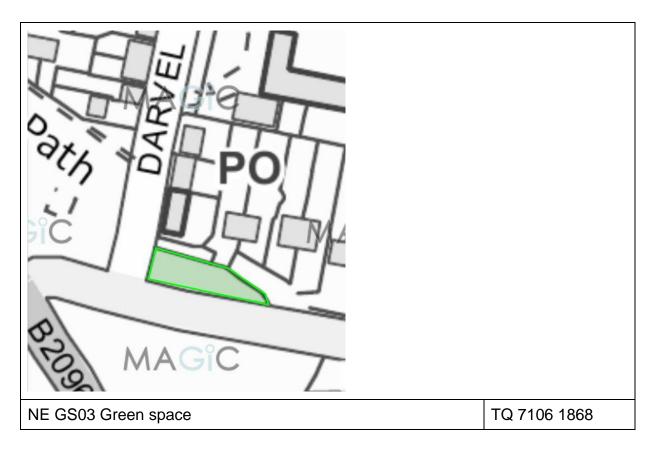
NOTES:

- Plans are not at a specific scale but generally taken from" Magic-map" at 1:2500 or where larger areas are shown 1:5000 to present at 2 per page size for readability.
- OS NGR are given for the most southerly and where sensible south-westerly point of site.





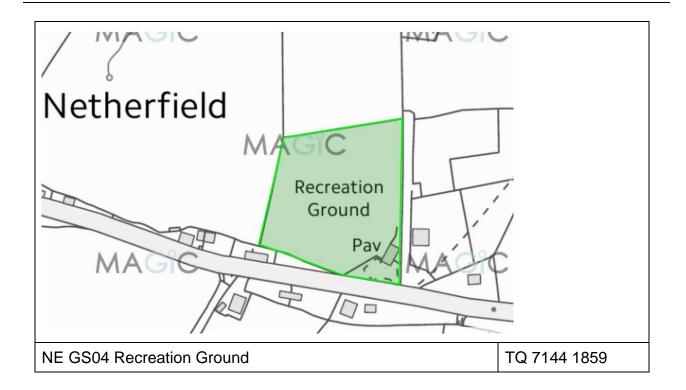


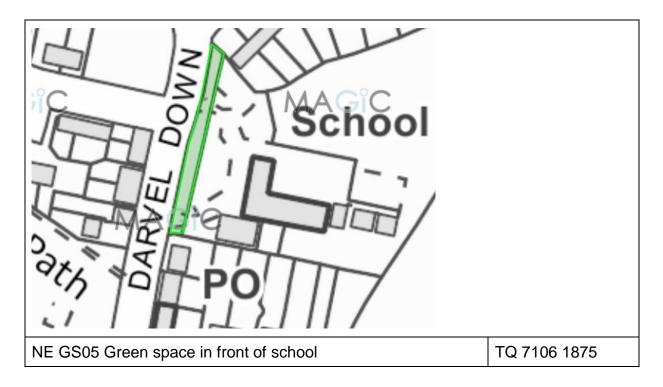


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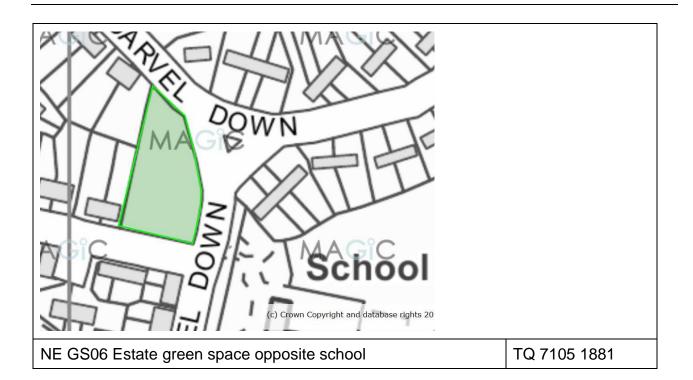


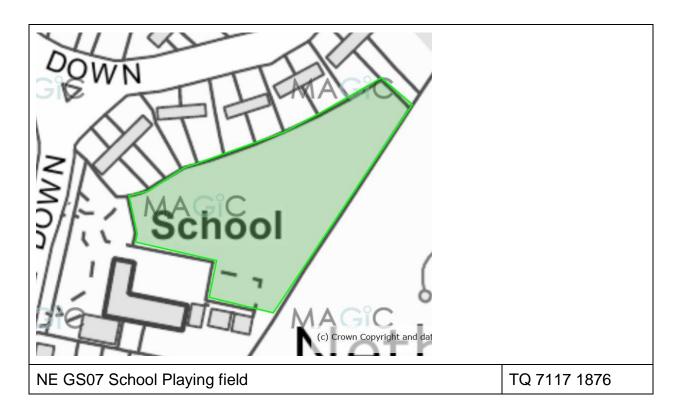


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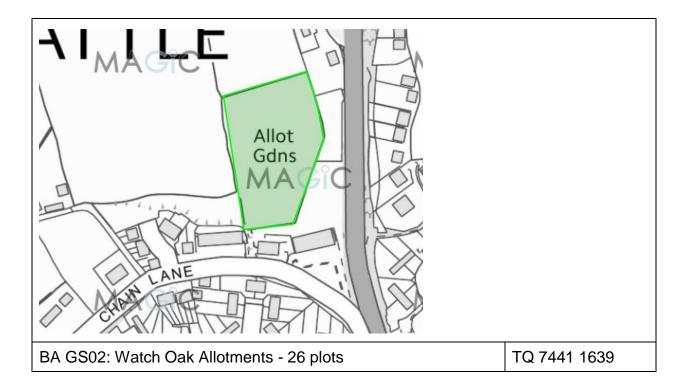


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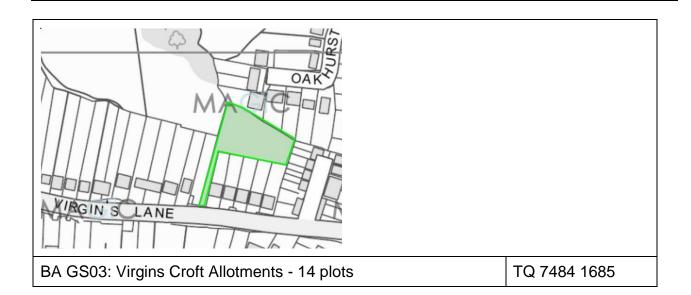
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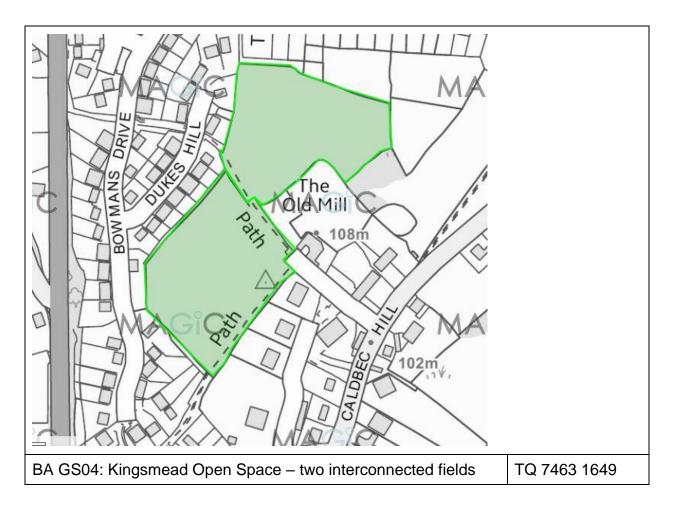








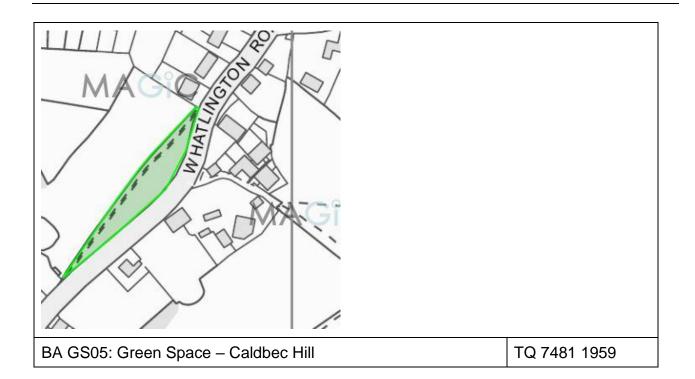


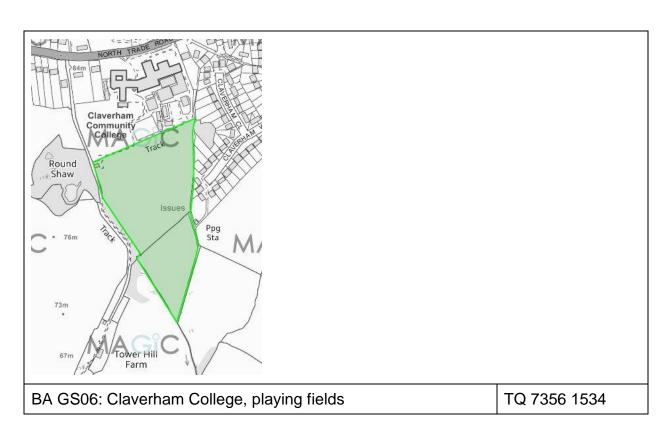


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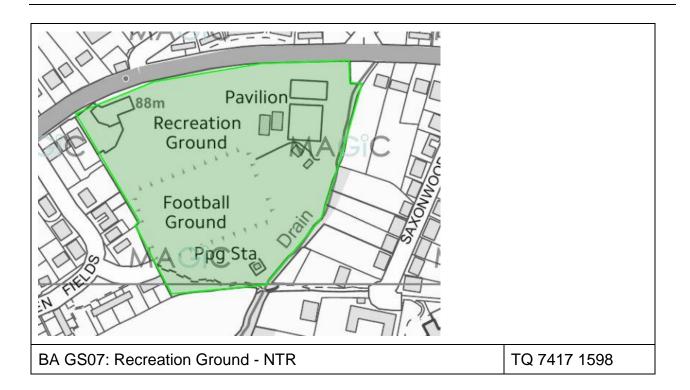


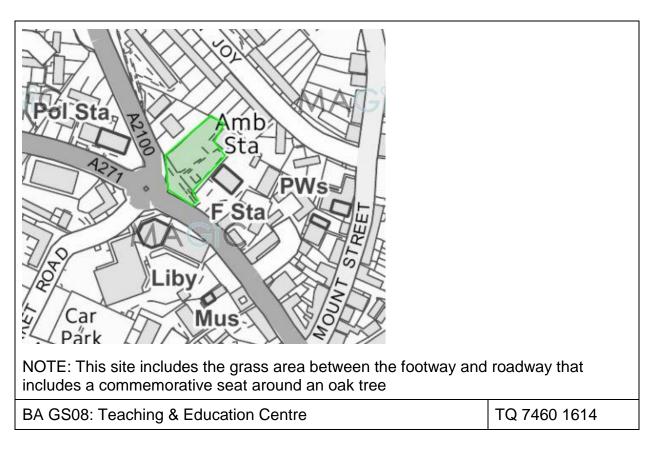


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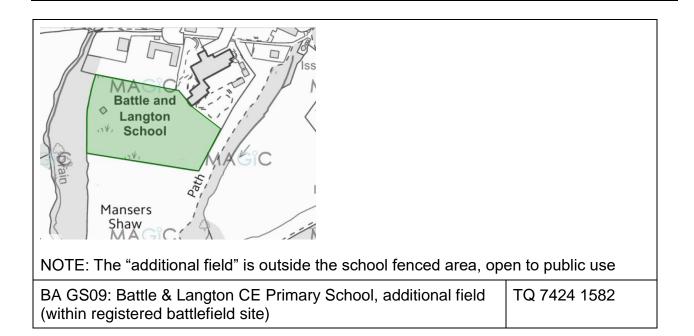


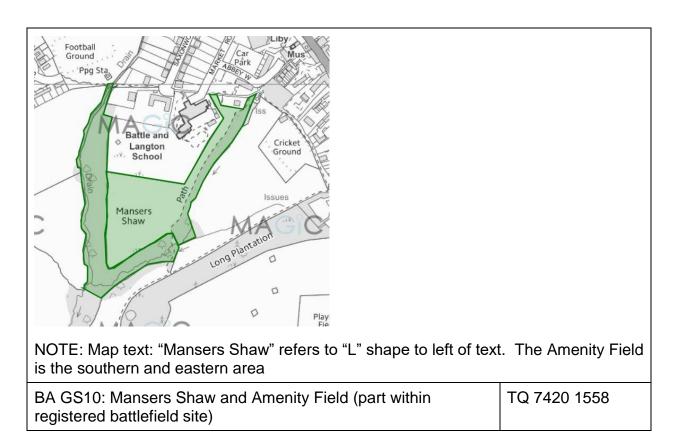


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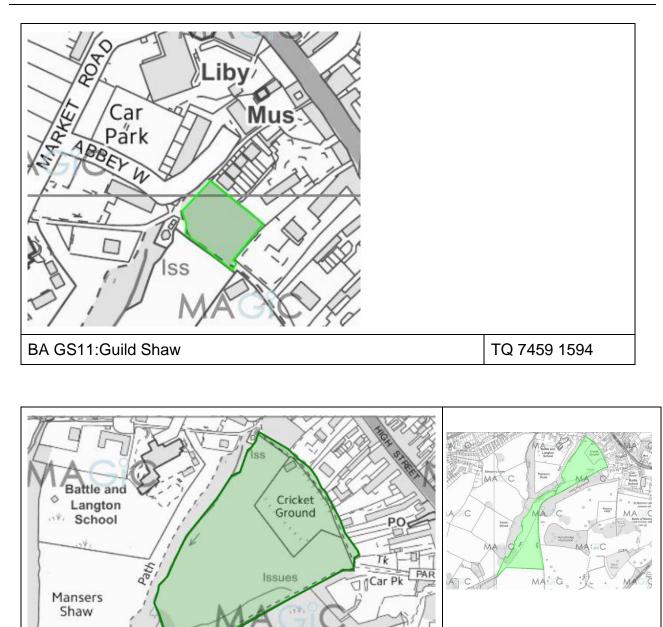




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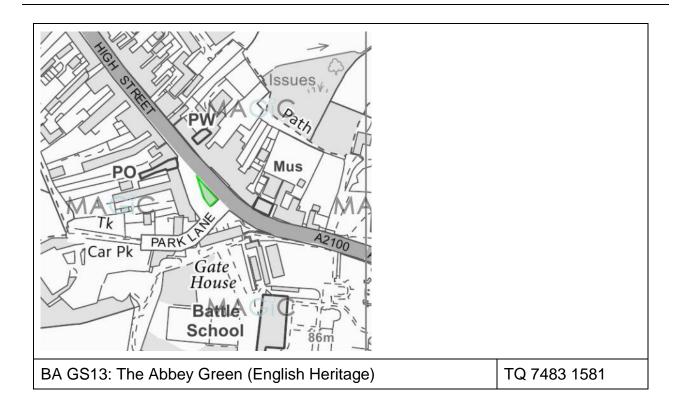


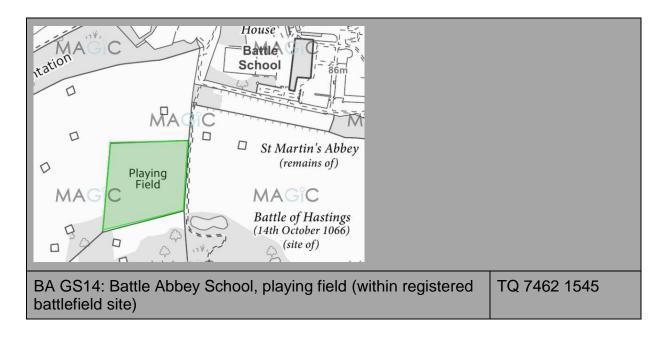


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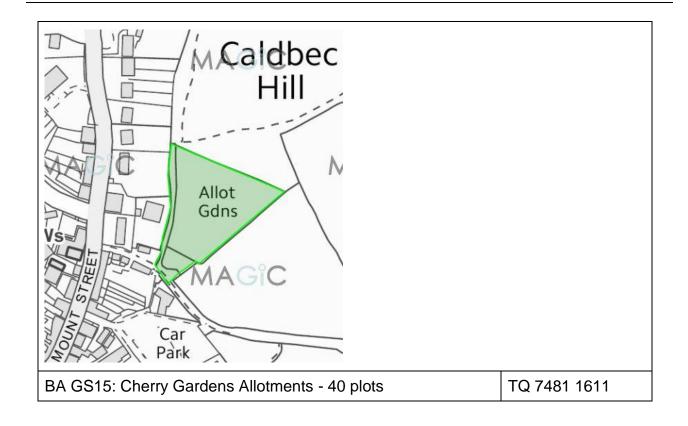


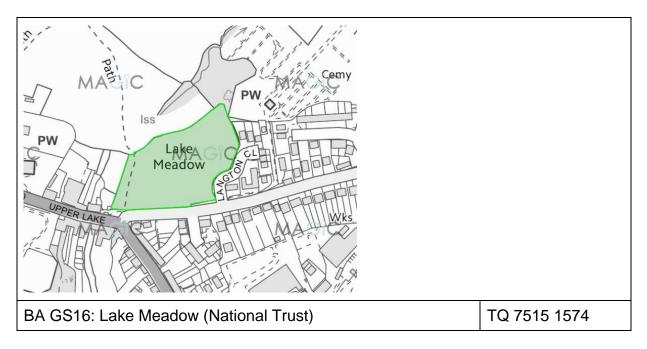


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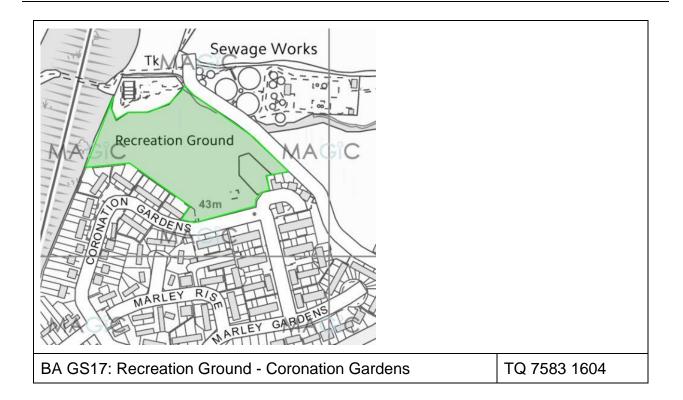


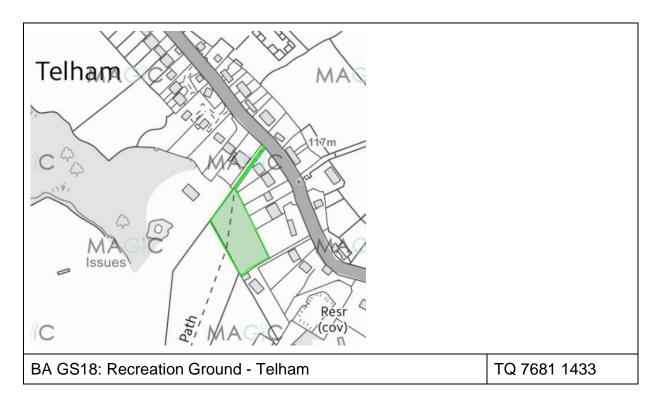


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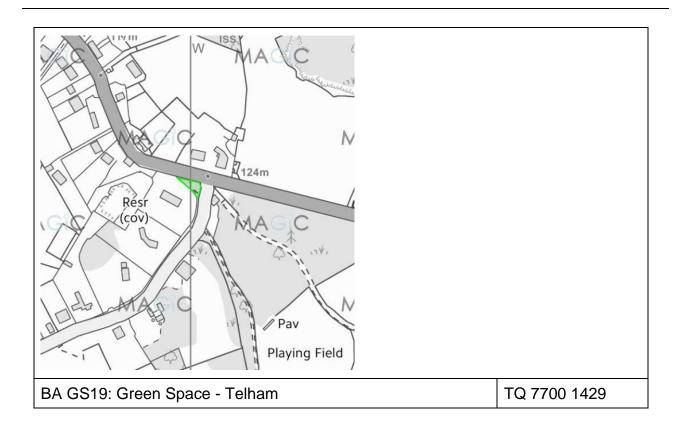


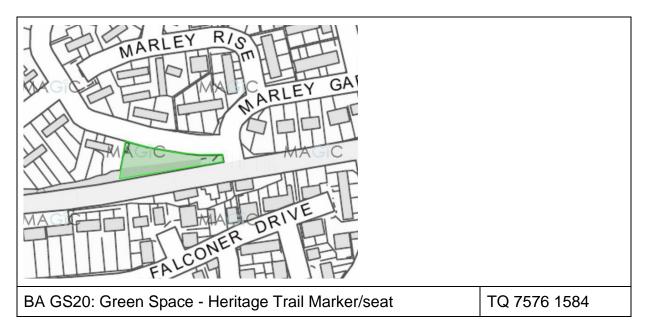


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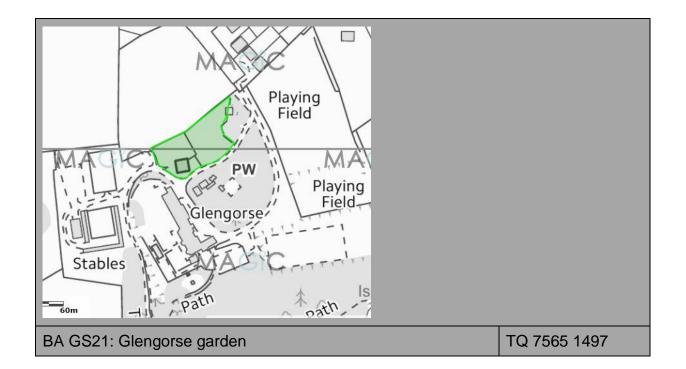


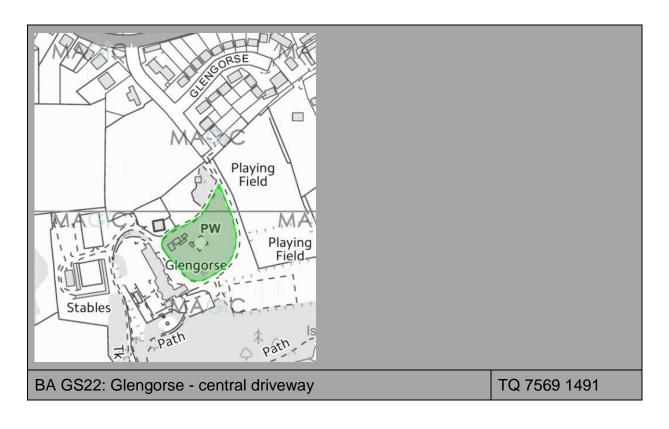


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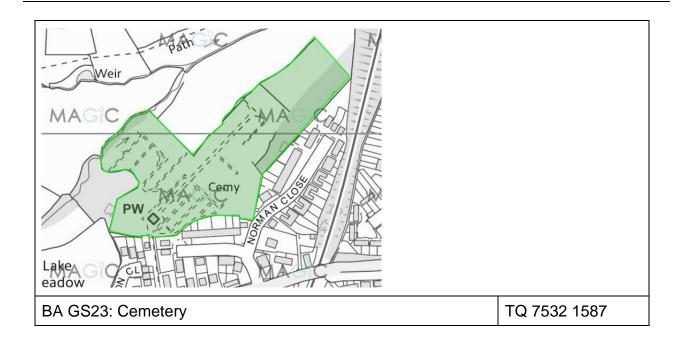


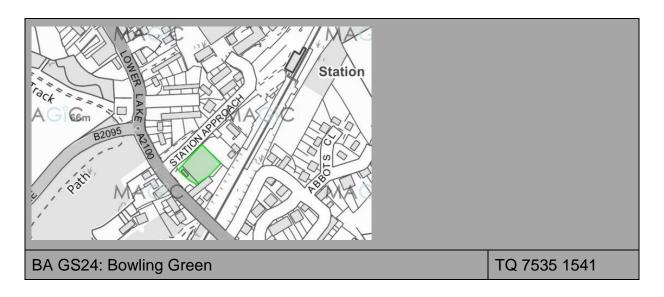


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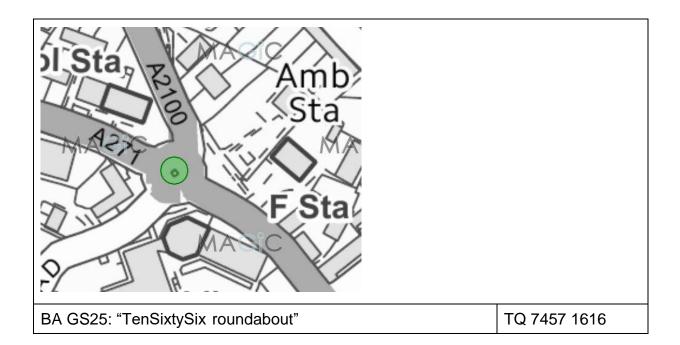


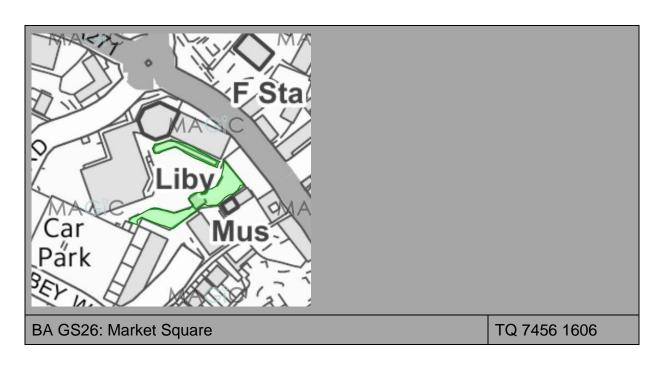


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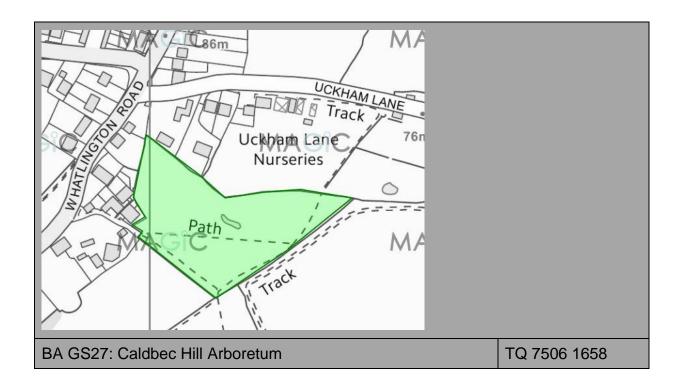


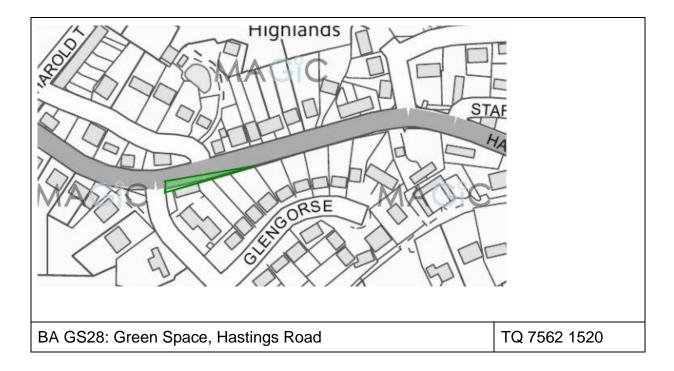


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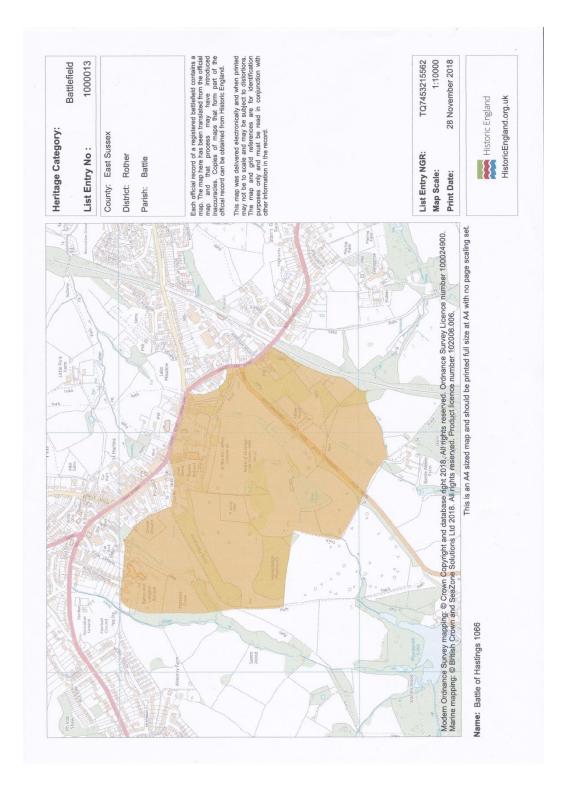


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#### Annex 7: Historic England: registered battlefield map



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	Revisions / Versions:
Date	Item
2017-05-20	comprehensive numbering system developed
2017-05-20	BA GS01 confirmed by BTC to be extant - retained
2017-05-20	BA GS08 added
2017-05-20	NE GS05 added
2017-05-20	NE GS06 added
2017-05-26	minor text edits
2018-06-15	edits and additions (NE GS07, BA GS19 to GS 24) - version 5
2019-04-16	Watermark removed
2019-04-29	V6 Updated to reference to NPPF_Feb 2019, "Open space and recreation, paragraphs 96 to 100, as requested at SG meeting 2019-04-17. Para 1.4 added; Tables in Section 3 and 4 redrawn with
	declared NPPF ratings and new NOTE. Removed 'Notional Green Belt', since now covered in Strategic Gaps document; Annex 6 (2019-04-11).
	By reference back to LGS Candidates v2, added four sites: BA GS 25-28, which meet current NPPF criteria.
2019-04-30	V6.1 NPPF paragraph 100 criteria (a, b, c) added to para 1.4
2019-10-21	V7.1 updated: Sections 1.5 and 1.6 added Sections 5.1 and 5.2 added (number of sites removed) Text changes /additions in red text for review Maps BA GS 09, 10 and 12 amended. Watermarked SG Review copy
2019-10-24	V7.2 update: Further minor edits – following SG comments NE GS03 Owner edited Removed duplicated section 8. Repaginated. Watermark removed.
2019-10-25	V7.3 update: additional details for BA GS 12, BA GS 18 and BA GS 19; minor edits including notes added to maps for further clarity. Annex 5 edits.
2019-11-04	For clarity, Annex 6 maps showing sites GS14, 21, 22, 24, 26 and 27, shown with 'greyed-out' table surround, since they are no longer listed for designations; and minor text edits. Annex 7 added – registered battlefield map: those sites within the designated area annotated accordingly in Annex 6; including minor text edits.

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