

Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan

Local Green Space Background Paper

January 2023

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The local green space (LGS) designation is a way to protect green areas or open spaces against development where they are of particular importance to local communities. LGS designations are made for use in local plans or neighbourhood plans. These plans can identify on a map ('designate') areas for special protection. Once designated, LGSs receive protection consistent with national Green Belt policy.
- 1.2 The purpose of this background paper is to explain the process which will lead to the proposed designation of areas of LGS in the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan. It sets out the national and local backgrounds to LGS and explains the methodology used in the assessments.
- 1.3 Comments were invited on the background papers as part of the consultation on the pre-submission draft plan.

2. Planning policy background

National Planning Policy Framework

2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF – 2021) sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. Section 8 of the NPPF highlights the important role the planning system can play in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities.

2.2 Paragraph 98 identifies that access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities. Paragraph 99 states that:

‘Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or*
- b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
- c) the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.’*

2.3 With regard to Local Green Space (LGS) designation, paragraph 101 states:

‘The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.’

2.4 Paragraph 102 explains when the designation should be used:

‘The Local Green Space 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.’*

2.5 Paragraph 103 identifies that local policy for managing development within a LGS should be consistent with policy for Green Belts. National Green Belt policy requires that inappropriate development, that which is harmful to the allocation, on land designated as LGS will only be permitted where very special circumstances can be demonstrated.

National Planning Practice Guidance

2.6 The NPPF is supported by guidance set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). With regard to LGS, NPPG identifies:

- Designating LGS needs to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. Plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306);

- LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented (Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306);
- LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village, neighbourhood, town or city (Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306);
- If land is already protected by another designation, consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as LGS (Paragraph: 010 Reference ID: 37-010-20140306);
- The LGS will need to meet the criteria set out in paragraph 102 of the NPPF (see paragraph 2.4 above). Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land where sports pavilions, boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, as well as urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis (Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 37-013-20140306);
- The proximity of a LGS to the community it serves will depend on local circumstances, including why the green area is seen as special, but it must be reasonably close. For example, if public access is a key factor, then the site would normally be within easy walking distance of the community served (Paragraph: 014 Reference ID: 37-014-20140306);
- There are no hard and fast rules about how big a LGS can be because places are different and a degree of judgment will inevitably be needed. However, paragraph 100 of the NPPF is clear that LGS designation should only be used where the green area concerned is not an extensive tract of land. Consequently, blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. Designation should not be proposed as a 'back door' way to try to achieve what would amount to a new area of Green Belt by another name (Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306);
- Provided land can meet the criteria at paragraph 102 of the NPPF there is no lower size limit for an LGS (Paragraph: 016 Reference ID: 37-016-20140306);
- Land can be designated as LGS even if there is not public access e.g. green areas which are valued because of their wildlife, historic significance and/or beauty. Designation does not in itself confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Any additional access would be a matter for separate negotiation with landowners, whose legal rights must be respected (Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 37-017-20140306);
- Areas that may be considered for designation as LGS may be crossed by public rights of way. There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation (Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306);
- A LGS does not need to be in public ownership. However, the qualifying body should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as LGS. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan (Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 37-019-20140306);
- Designating a green area as LGS would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners (Paragraph: 020 Reference ID: 37-020-20140306);
- Management of land designated as LGS will remain the responsibility of its owner. If the features that make a green area special and locally significant are to be conserved, how it will be managed in the future is likely to be an important consideration. Local communities can consider how, with the landowner's agreement, they might be able to get involved, perhaps in partnership with interested organisations that can provide advice or resources (Paragraph: 021 Reference ID: 37-021-20140306); and

- Land designated as LGS may potentially also be nominated for listing by the local authority as an Asset of Community Value. Listing gives community interest groups an opportunity to bid if the owner wants to dispose of the land. (Paragraph: 022 Reference ID: 37-022-20140306).

3. Local green space methodology

Background

3.1 In order to seek to identify areas of LGS which meet the requirements of the NPPF and NPPG, Newbiggin by the Sea Town Council prepared a methodology to be followed. The application of the methodology is described below.

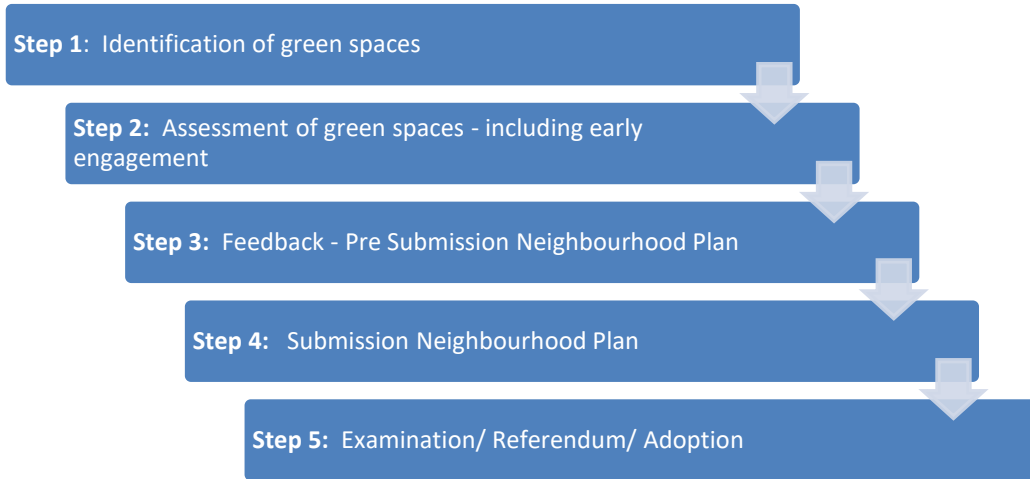


Figure 1: LGS identification process

Step 1: Identification of green/ open spaces, including early engagement

3.2 The first step was to identify a list of green areas and open spaces to assess as potential LGS. A variety of sources of information will be used to inform this process:

- Sites allocated in the development plan;
- Northumberland Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Assessment (2011)¹;
- Northumberland Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)²;
- Review of current information, such as local studies, character appraisal and the historic environment record; and
- Feedback from early engagement on the neighbourhood plan (Autumn 2020).

Step 2: Assessment of spaces, including further engagement

3.3 Once the list of green spaces and maps have been collected from the sources listed in step 1, the town council assessed their suitability for designation as LGS against the criteria in the NPPF and NPPG as outlined in section 2.

3.4 In order to be identified as LGS all of the following criteria, identified in figure 2 below were required to be met:

Criteria	Explanation
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the designation would be compatible

¹ <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Planning/Reports.aspx>

² <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Planning/Reports.aspx>

Criteria	Explanation
	with the planning permission or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented. (NPPG Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306) Q: Does the space have planning permission?
Land is not allocated or proposed for development in the local or neighbourhood plan. Unless it can be shown that the LGS could be incorporated within the site as part of the allocated development.	LGS should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services (NPPF Paragraph 99) Designating any LGS will need to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. In particular, plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (NPPG Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306) The space should be capable of enduring beyond the plan Period (NPPF Paragraph 101) Q: Is the space allocated or proposed to be allocated in a Development Plan?
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	LGS designation should only be used where the green area is not an extensive tract of land. Blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. (NPPG Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306) Q: How close is the space to the community it serves? Q: Where are the nearest centres of population?
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village or a neighbourhood in a town. (NPPG Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306) The space must be demonstrably special by meeting at least one of criterion in the following table. Q: Is the proposal to designate supported by any of the following: A friends group, local community groups, a parish plan, the town council, ward member(s)?

Figure 2: LGS criteria required to be met by all potential sites

3.5 The criteria in figure 3 below then seeks to draw out what it is about the space that makes it ‘demonstrably special to the local community’. A LGS should meet at least one of the criteria in the table below, although some spaces will meet more than one of the criteria:

Criteria	Explanation
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its beauty? Does the space contribute to the visual attractiveness of the townscape or character / setting of the settlement? Is the space covered by other landscape or townscape designations? (e.g. conservation area)
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its historic significance? Does the proposed space or elements of the space have

Criteria	Explanation
	local historical significance? (e.g. conservation area) Are there any historic buildings or structures in the space? (e.g. listed building or scheduled monument) Are there any important historic landscape features on the space? (e.g. veteran trees or old hedgerows) Does the space have a historic literature or art connection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its recreational value? There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation. (NPPG Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306) What variety of recreational activities does the space support? (e.g. the space is used for playing sport and for informal recreation) Is the space already identified in the Northumberland Open Space study?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its tranquillity? Why is the space considered to be tranquil? Is the space used for quiet reflection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its richness of wildlife? Is the proposed space formally designated for its wildlife value? (e.g. is it a SSSI, SNCI or local nature reserve). Are any important habitats or species found in the space? Does the proposed space support species of fauna or flora? (e.g. protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 or Habitat Regulations 2010, Section 41 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006) Does the proposed space support species of birds listed on the red, amber or green lists of species of conservation concern or notable assemblage of invertebrates? Does the proposed space support irreplaceable habitats such as ancient semi-natural woodland and veteran trees? Does the proposed space function as part of a wildlife corridor or green infrastructure enabling the dispersal of species of flora and fauna?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of another reason not covered by criteria above	Are there any other reasons why the proposed space has a particular local significance for the local community?

Figure 3: Criteria that identify why the space is demonstrably special to the local community

3.6 The assessment then concluded whether all the nationally required criteria have been met and listed the relevant local criteria and whether the space is considered to be suitable as LGS.

- 3.7 For sites that were not considered to meet the required criteria, consideration was then given to whether they should be allocated as protected open space. This considered whether the space was valued for its local amenity and/ or informal recreation. In addition, consideration was given to whether another, alternative allocation would be more appropriate such as allotment or open countryside designation. Sites that were already protected in other ways, for example designated wildlife sites/ nature reserves, were not proposed for further protection. As part of the assessment, the town council were mindful of proposed allocations within the Northumberland Local Plan.
- 3.8 Prior to formal consultation on proposed areas for designation contact was made with the owners of the sites where ownership information was available.

Step 3: Feedback - pre-submission neighbourhood plan

- 3.9 The pre-submission neighbourhood plan proposed the allocation of 8 sites as local green space. Through consultation on the plan, the town council sought further feedback on the proposed designations.

Step 4: Submission neighbourhood plan

- 3.10 Responses received to the consultation on the pre-submission draft neighbourhood plan informed the preparation of the submission plan, which will be subject to a further six-week public consultation organised by Northumberland County Council.

Step 5: Examination/ referendum/ adoption

- 3.11 Following the submission of the neighbourhood plan, it will then be examined by an independent examiner. The examiner will review the evidence base for the plan – including whether there is evidence to justify the allocation of LGS. Once the plan passes examination it will then go to referendum and will be formally ‘made’ by Northumberland County Council.

4. Conclusion and next steps

- 4.1 This background paper explains the process which has led to the proposed designation of areas of LGS in the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan. It summarises the national and local background to LGS and explained the methodology that has been used in the assessments.
- 4.2 All of the sites that have been assessed for designation are included in Appendix 1 – this provides a brief explanation of the reasons why a site has or has not been proposed to be included in the submission draft neighbourhood plan which has been submitted to Northumberland County Council for examination. Further details on those that have been proposed to be allocated as LGS is included within Appendix 2 and site maps included within Appendix 3.

Appendix 1 All sites assessed – summary

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
1	Spital allotments	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	x	Well used for recreation. Were created following the First World War, therefore have historical significance. Protected open space within the Northumberland Local Plan (6001). Whilst the site meets the requirements for designation, as allotments, they are protected through other regulations, therefore LGS protection is not required.
2	Newbiggin allotments	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	Well used for recreation. Relocated in the 1970s. Protected open space within the Northumberland Local Plan (6009). Whilst the site meets the requirements for designation, as allotments, they are protected through other regulations, therefore LGS protection is not required.
3	Manleys Field	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Amenity open space which is used for recreation. The site is protected open space within the NLP (6030), therefore it is not necessary to repeat this

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											designation within the neighbourhood plan.
4	Moor Estate	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Amenity open space which is used for recreation. The site is protected open space within the NLP (6031), therefore it is not necessary to repeat this designation within the neighbourhood plan.
5	Argyle Terrace	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Amenity open space which is used for recreation. Was created circa 1980 and was formerly vegetable gardens for the properties on Argyle Terrace. The site is protected open space within the NLP (6032); therefore it is not necessary to repeat this designation within the neighbourhood plan.
6	Church Point	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	Important part of the setting to the grade I listed Church of St Bartholomew, the site also includes three grade II listed structures and lies within the Newbiggin by the Sea Conservation Area. The site is well used by the local community and visitors to the area as a result of its prominent location across the bay and out to sea. Local burials from over several hundred

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											years have taken place here. A place for private and tranquil reflection Protected open space in the NLP (6033 and 6108).
7	Atlee Terrace	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	Amenity open space, however, mostly used for parking. The site is protected open space within the NLP (6037), therefore it is not necessary to repeat this designation within the neighbourhood plan.
8	Milburn Park	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	An ancient park that was gifted to the town by the Milburn Estate around 100 years ago. It is well used by the local community, with a thriving bowls club (established in 1933) and play area. Protected open space within the NLP (6100, 6155 and 6187).
9	Promenade and Quay Wall	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	Whilst only a small amount of the original promenade remains (following coastal protection works), the area still has an important historical significance. It is used by the local community for recreation. Tranquil as a result of its coastal location. Protected open space within the NLP (6113).

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
10	Newbiggin Piazza	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	Former boat storage area, pedestrianised area which includes the band stand. Lies within the conservation area and adds to the significance of the conservation area. Protected open space within the NLP (6114).
11	Woodhorn Picnic Area	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Well used by the local community and visitors for recreation. Includes a number of listed buildings, including the grade I Church of St Mary Woodhorn Church Museum (11 th century). The woodland on the site provides an important habitat for wildlife. Proposed as protected open space within the emerging NLP (6143)
12	Newbiggin Central Park	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	The site was reclaimed following the closure of the colliery in the mid to late 1960s. It is well used by the local community for recreational purposes and includes a play area, MUGA, skate park and football pitches. It is protected open space within the NLP (6183 and 6154).
13	Newbiggin Memorial Park	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓	x	✓	Created from a former quarry to commemorate the sacrifices from the

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
											wars. The local community consider the whole park to be the memorial, particularly since the installation of NAE boards and flag poles. Lies within the conservation area and the memorial, archway, gates, railings and boundary wall are grade II listed. Protected open space within the NLP (6157).
14	Spital Burn, Milburn Park	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Used for recreation following an improvement scheme by Northumbrian Water. Protected open space within the NLP (6187) therefore no need to repeat the allocation within the neighbourhood plan.
15	North Seaton Land for Reclamation	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Used for recreation. Protected open space within the NLP (6225) therefore no need to repeat the allocation within the neighbourhood plan.
16	Lyne Sands Reclamation Scheme	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	Protected open space within the NLP (6225) therefore no need to repeat the allocation within the neighbourhood plan.
17	Newbiggin Colliery memorial and	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	Important to the local community. The memorial lies at the entrance road to the former Newbiggin Colliery and

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquillity	Richness of wildlife		
	former colliery site										offices. The centenary was just celebrated. The wider site is used by the local community for recreation and also bird watching.
18	Land to the east of the A189	✓	x	✓	x	x	✓	✓	✓	x	Whilst the site is special to the local community, it is a large site that could be considered to be an extensive tract of land therefore cannot be designated as local green space. However, consideration could be given to protection by other means e.g. as open countryside and/ or wildlife corridor.
19	Path between Sandy Bay and Milburn Park	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Designated rights of way are protected through legislation. If the path is not a designated PROW then there is the opportunity to identify and protect it as an important route within the plan.
20	North of the golf course	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	x	Protected open space within the NLP (6228) therefore no need to repeat the allocation within the neighbourhood plan.

Appendix 2 Detailed Assessment of proposed LGS

Site Ref	LGS1	
Site Name	Church Point	
Ownership	NCC and Church of England	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Protected open space within the NLP (6033).
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Small site sitting between the built-up area and the sea.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Within the built-up area.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	An important part of the character of the area – prominent site on the coastline.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Contains the grade I listed Church of St Bartholomew and three grade II listed structures. Lies within the conservation area. Church Point is described in the conservation area character appraisal as ‘a remarkable piece of historic development with a striking and evocative presence definitive of the experience of the bay’.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Well used by the local community and visitors to the area as a result of its prominent location, giving views across the bay and out to sea.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil location, particularly as a result of the presence of the sea.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value and tranquillity.		

Site Ref	LGS2	
Site Name	Milburn Park	
Ownership	NCC and NTC	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Protected open space within the NLP (6100, 6155 and 6187)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Small site between the built-up area and the sea.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Adjacent to residential dwellings.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	An ancient park that was gifted to the town by the Milburn Estate around 100 years ago. Has been the home to the bowls club since 1933.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Well used by the local community, includes bowls club and play area. The town council are looking to enhance the recreational facilities at the site.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its historic significance and recreational value.		

Site Ref	LGS3	
Site Name	Promenade and Quay Wall	
Ownership	NCC (part) remaining area is unregistered	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Protected open space within the NLP (6113)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Small site.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Within the urban area.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Important to the character of the local area.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Whilst only a small amount of the original promenade remains (following coastal protection works), the area still has an important historical significance.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Used by the local community and visitors for recreation.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil site, predominantly as a result of its coastal location.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value and tranquillity.		

Site Ref	LGS4	
Site Name	Newbiggin Piazza	
Ownership	Unregistered	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Protected open space within the NLP (6114)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Small site.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Within the built-up area.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	An important part of the character of the local area
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Former boat storage area, pedestrianised area which includes the band stand. Lies within the conservation area and adds to the significance of the conservation area.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The bandstand provides a focal point for local community events.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its beauty, historic significance and recreational value.		

Site Ref	LGS5	
Site Name	Woodhorn Picnic Area	
Ownership	NCC/ Church Commissioners	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Protected open space within the NLP (6143)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Small site on the edge of the village
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Adjacent to residential dwellings.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Important to the setting of the village.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Includes eight listed buildings/ structures, including the grade I Church of St Mary Woodhorn Church Museum (11th century) and seven grade II.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Well used by the local community and visitors for recreation.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil location.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The woodland on the site provides an important habitat for wildlife.
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity and richness of wildlife.		

Site Ref	LGS6	
Site Name	Newbiggin Central Park	
Ownership	NCC and NTC	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Protected open space within the NLP (6154 and 6183)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Local in character when compared against the size of the town.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Adjacent to residential properties.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The site was reclaimed following the closure of the colliery in the mid to late 1960s.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	It is well used by the local community for recreational purposes and includes a play area, MUGA, skate park and football pitches.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its historical significance site and is well used for recreation.		

Site Ref	LGS7	
Site Name	Newbiggin Memorial Park	
Ownership	NCC	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Protected open space within the NLP (6157)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Small site.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Within the built-up area.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Created from a former quarry to commemorate the sacrifices from the wars. The local community consider the whole park to be the memorial, particularly since the installation of NAE boards and flag poles. Lies within the conservation area and the memorial, archway, gates, railings and boundary wall are grade II listed.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A tranquil place, for reflection.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its historic significance and tranquillity.		

Site Ref	LGS8	
Site Name	Newbiggin Colliery Memorial and Former Colliery Site	
Ownership	NCC and Coal Authority	
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Local in character in the context of the size of the town.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Adjacent to residential development.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	See below.
At least one criterion must be met		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Important to the local community. The memorial lies at the entrance road to the former Newbiggin Colliery and offices. The centenary was just celebrated. Includes the grade II listed war memorial.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Used by the local community for informal recreation.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	A popular location for bird watching.
Conclusion		
Highly valued by the local community as a result of its historic significance and recreation value.		

Appendix 3 Maps of proposed LGS designations

LGS01 Church Point



LGS02 Milburn Park



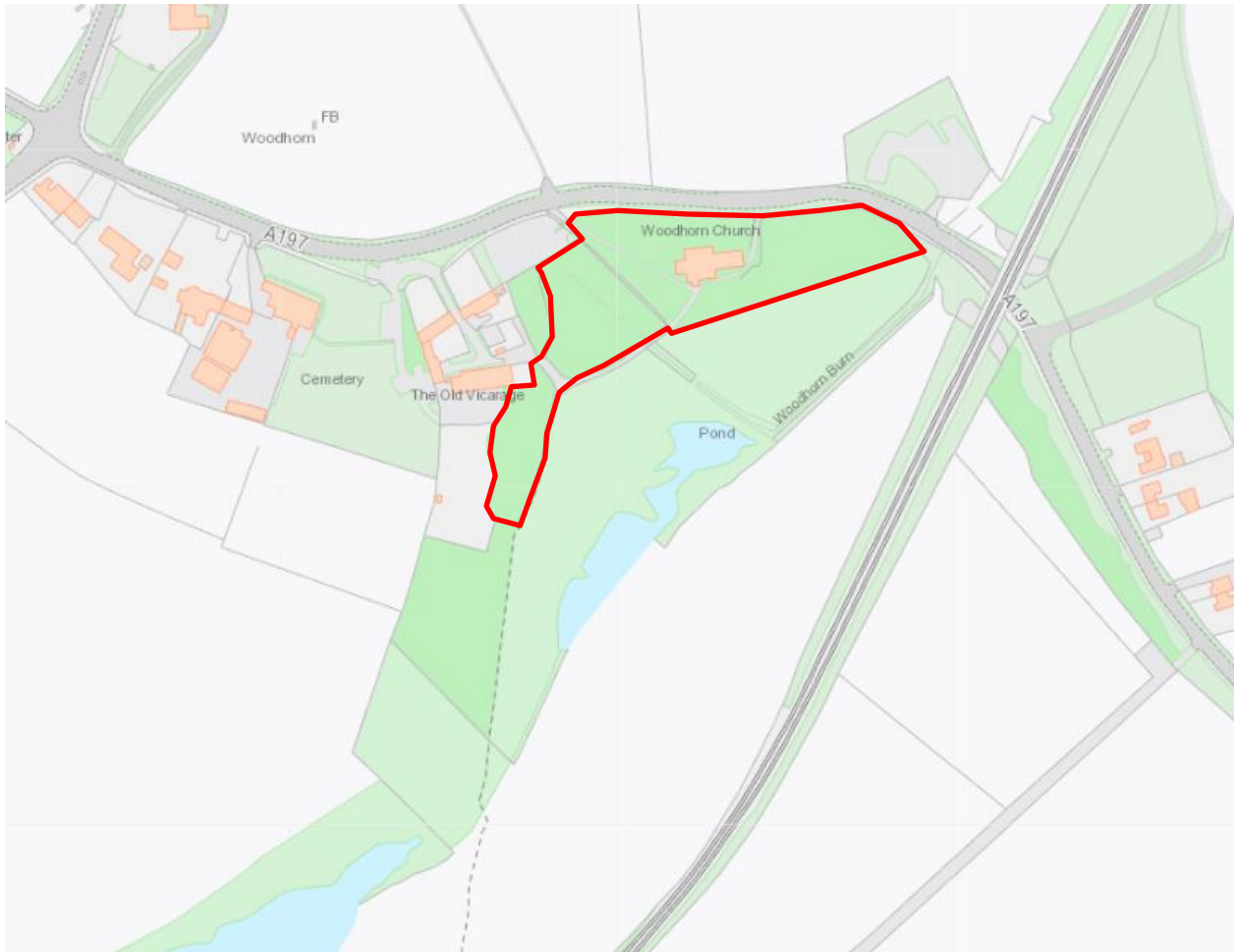
LGS03 Promenade and Quay Wall



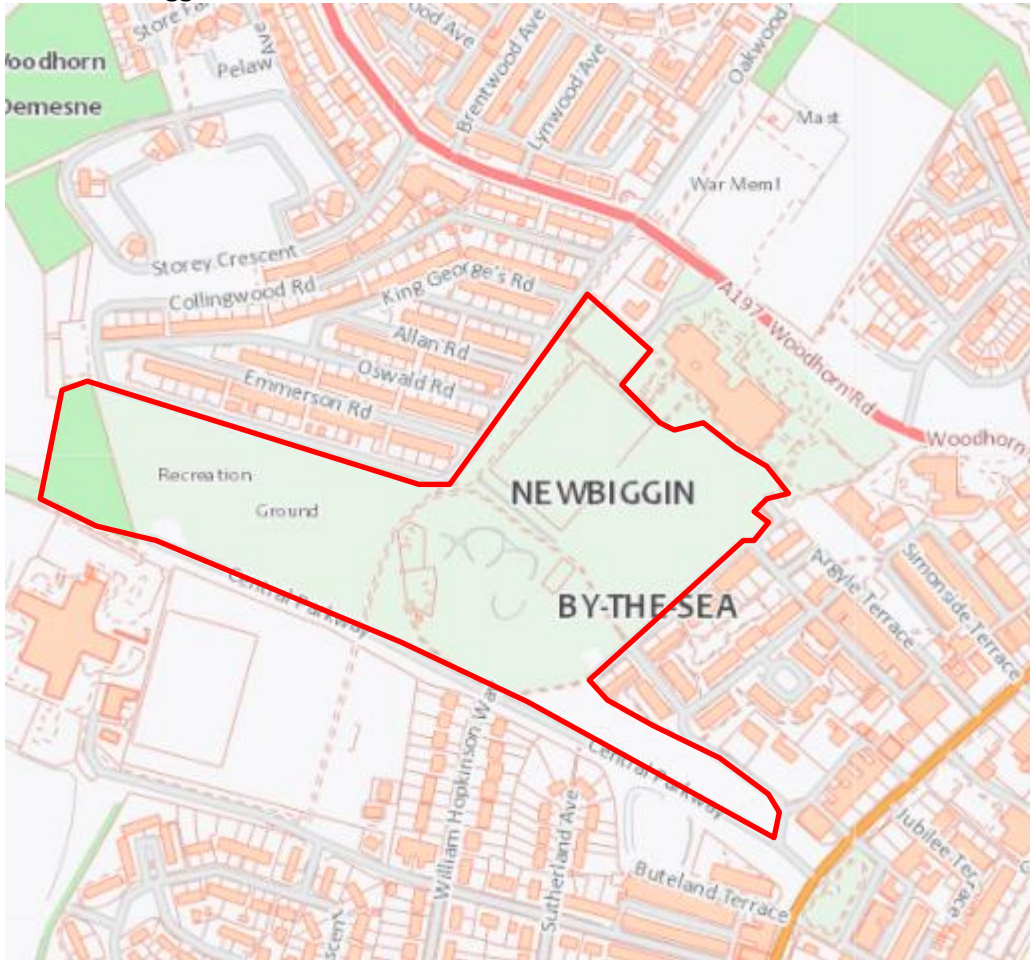
LGS04 Newbiggin Piazza



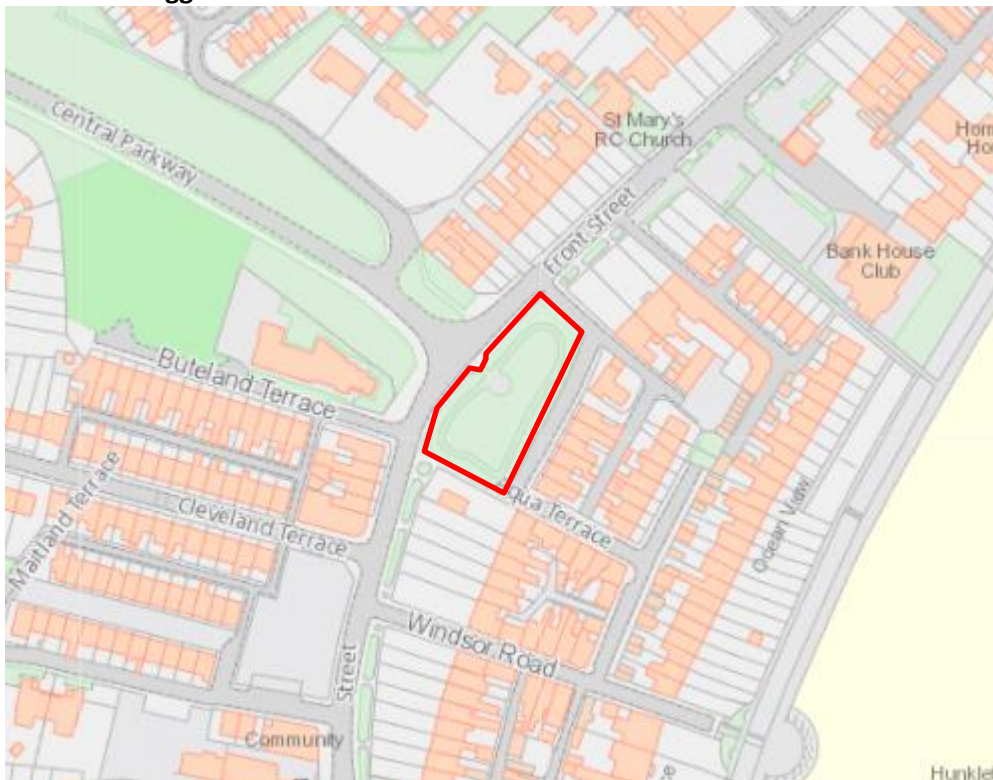
LGS05 Woodhorn Picnic Area



LGS06 Newbiggin Central Park



LGS07 Newbiggin Memorial Park



LGS08 Newbiggin Colliery Memorial and Former Colliery

