

Appendix 2: Local Green Space Site Assessments

Site Name: Arthington Lane Verges	
Location	5 sites adjoining Arthington Lane:- 1) Outside Pool village Hall and continuing to Troutbeck across the front of Pool School. 2) Raised area of land in front of the Parks Estate on the south side of Arthington Lane. 3) From White Holme Drive to turning for Kepstorn House. 4) In front of The Woodlands on the south side of Arthington Lane. 5) In front of The Tower Drive on the south side of Arthington Lane
Size	1)1000sq m 2) 1400sq m 3) 311sq m 4) 269sq m 5) 285sq m
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes - all adjacent to residential properties fronting or set back from Arthington Lane.
Local or community value	Yes – all verges serve to visually enhance the rural nature of the village for the local community and, importantly, act as traffic calming devices and pollution filters in a village with acknowledged air quality problems. The impact of the traffic is lessened by these green areas. Area 1 is a very well used area by the community and provides a safe space from passing traffic outside the primary school and village hall.
Landscape value	Yes - the verges with their many mature trees add greatly to the landscape of Arthington Lane by softening the winding route which at points also has high stone walls. Leeds City Council’s Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan describes how “mature trees are dominant within the streetscape of Arthington Lane.”
Historical value	None known
Recreational value	Limited - Area 2 is used by residents of the Parks Estate.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Limited Local – the mature trees provide useful local habitat. The verges act as useful green fingers connecting the open countryside to the east with the heart of the village.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	The verges clearly meet 2 of the 5 qualifying criteria. As they also have some value in relation to recreational and wildlife criteria, it is considered that there is sufficient overall basis to recommend them for designation.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Church Lane	
Location	Off Church Close along the southern boundary of St Wilfrid's Church. The route extends from the church gate west and runs across the front gardens of the Jane Whiteley almshouses.
Size	0.12ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – residential properties are established on both north and south sides of the route.
Local or community value	Yes - this pleasant green pathway is used as a pedestrian route from Church Close to the entrance of St. Wilfrid's Churchyard. Notices re requesting care due to bulb planting provide evidence of local resident/community care of the site.
Landscape value	Yes – an attractive, natural, green pathway bounded by mature trees and a grass verge. Seasonal bulb-planting adds to its appearance. Forms part of one of the few 'open green areas' within the conservation area as identified in the Leeds City Council Pool-in-Wharfedale Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP). Also affords important long distance views to the south towards Old Pool Bank and The Chevin. Forms part of important setting to the key landmark structure that is St Wilfrid's listed church.
Historical value	Yes - the route was the original lane that serviced Pool House Farm and the agricultural land lying to the west of the village. It is documented on old maps as Lodge Lane and Sludge Lane. Church Close was built alongside it in the mid-1950s but was cut off from Sludge Lane by a hedge (now grown to become the line of trees) and a traffic barrier across the end of Church Close. Sludge Lane continued to be used for access to Pool House Farm for some decades after the building of Church Close until it became necessary to take a combine harvester through, at which point the barrier had to be removed so that the driver of the harvester could use Church Close instead. Sludge Lane was then largely abandoned for vehicles.
Recreational value	Limited Local - important for safe access to the church grounds and the village centre. Forms a pleasing and quiet informal walking route for local residents.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Local - the site provides local habitat in the largely built-up part of the village, in association with the adjacent St Wilfrid's Churchyard. It offers a green finger extending west to open countryside. The lane is still very natural in appearance even though it is kept in good order by the local community.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets 3 of the 5 qualifying criteria, while also having some local recreational and wildlife/infrastructure value.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Old Pool Bank Children's Playground	
Location	Quarry Farm Road - Old Pool Bank
Size	Less than 1.0ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – next to housing and village hall on Quarry Farm Road.
Local or community value	Yes – the children's' play area is well appointed and in good condition. It is open to the public during the day; no playing is permitted after dusk or 8 pm. It enhances the facility of the adjacent main hall. It is the community's only formal open space.
Landscape value	Yes – falls within Special Landscape Area. Provides attractive focal point in the centre of the hamlet of Old Pool Bank. Planting is well-established and of value to the aesthetics of the area. Long distant views are to be had to the east and north/north-east.
Historical value	No
Recreational value	Yes - central area of outdoor recreation for the children of the Old Pool Bank community – the community's only formal recreational open space.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Yes – falls within Strategic Green Infrastructure but has only very limited local habitat value.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets 3 of the 5 qualifying criteria, while also contributing to strategic wildlife value.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Pool Bank Quarries	
Location	To the south/south-east of Old Pool Bank, either side/east of Cabin Road. West/south-west of Avenue des Hirondelles.
Size	10.27ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – various established residences exist along Cabin Road and at the southern end of Old Pool Bank.
Local or community value	Yes – owned and cared for by Pool Parish Council. Crossed by footpaths and well-used by the local community.
Landscape value	Yes – falls within a Special Landscape Area. Attractive wooded feature developed on former stone quarries. Long distance panoramic views across the Wharfe valley to the south. Leeds City Council’s Pool-in-Wharfedale Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP) states that “the mature woodland which now covers the area of former Pool Bank Quarry is important to the character and appearance of the conservation area. It provides Pool with a wildlife location distinct from the surrounding area. Within walking distance from the village centre, this green space is important to both the history and present character of Pool”.
Historical value	Yes - Pool Quarries were worked in this area and are shown on maps dating from 1774 although the exact date when quarrying started in the area is not known. These quarries were worked by horses until 1895. In 1880 a gravity-operated railway system was established from the other quarries lying on the south side of the A660 (also in the designated area) to bring the large lumps of stone down the hillside. While this weight came down on bogies, a counter weight was achieved with other bogies often loaded with coal to return to the top of the hill. The fuel was used in the brick works that were located next to the upper quarries. The quarries remained active with only a short break until 1941. Fossilised trees are to be found in these woods. See also ‘Landscape Value’.
Recreational value	Yes - the area is well-used for walking and observation of wildlife. Orienteering groups use the area.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Yes – part of the Leeds Habitat Network. Identified in the Neighbourhood Plan as part of ‘Local Green Infrastructure’. A wide variety of wildlife is resident in this area including deer. See also ‘Landscape Value’.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets all of the 5 qualifying criteria.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Pool Riverside Park (Pool Recreation Ground/Pool Sports & Social Club Grounds)	
Location	Extends from opposite the Shell Petrol Station on Main Street, eastwards along the southern bank of the River Wharfe up to the boundaries of Pool Village Memorial Hall, Pool C of E Primary School and open fields.
Size	7.16ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – housing abuts the southern boundary round to Pool Village Memorial Hall.
Local or community value	Yes – the park is well-used by local residents and visitors to Pool for both formal (cricket, football, tennis) and informal recreation. It offers accessible open space within the surrounding agricultural belt plus access to the riverside. In 1971 the park area was established in its current layout and was gifted to the community by the Whiteley Family to be held in a charitable trust created for the benefit of ‘the inhabitants of Pool and surrounding area’. Pool Recreation Ground Trust (Charity No.512427) owns the land, and is administered by Pool Recreation Ground Management Committee (RGMC). The committee actively works to ensure the grounds are kept in good order for the community.
Landscape value	Yes - the park offers far-reaching views along the valley, to the north to Almscliffe Crag and to the south to The Chevin, as well as short-range views of and along the river. Its varied woodland, grassland and wetland areas provide inherent landscape value for those within and looking into the park.
Historical value	Yes - the park includes the site and remains of Pool Corn Mill dating back to the 12 th century, adjacent to the boundary with Mill Lane. Following advice from the West Yorkshire Archeological Society, the ruins of the mill are largely buried to preserve them. Some of the structure is still evident and the former mill pond and race can be clearly discerned. An information board has been erected to share its history. The site is identified as a Non-Designated Heritage Asset in the Neighbourhood Plan.
Recreational value	Yes - the area has immense recreational value offering formal cricket, football and tennis opportunities through the various senior and junior teams run by Pool Cricket and Football Clubs and the tennis club on the sports and social club grounds. The park/grounds are widely used by all age groups and are especially valued by the primary school who share in projects undertaken by the RGMC from time to time. The school benefits from use of the tennis courts. The cricket club has been in existence for over 125 years and is successful at all levels. It runs 3 senior and 9 junior cricket teams which use the ground throughout the spring/summer months.

Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Yes – the park falls within the Leeds Habitat Network and Strategic Green Infrastructure. Leeds City Council have identified the River Wharfe as a designated wildlife site – formerly a SEGI (Site of Ecological or Geological Importance), now a Candidate Local Wildlife Site. The RGMC commissioned an environmental study of the grounds which now informs their planned management and development of the grounds. White clawed crayfish live in the stream running into the river and otter spraint has been found along the banks. A wide variety of birdlife is regularly seen in and around the woodland and open areas. Nesting boxes and bat roosting boxes are well established. A continuous programme of tree management is in operation and to mark the Queens’ Diamond Jubilee a new copse was planted by the children of Pool School. The variety of trees were specified by the Woodland Trust.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets all 5 qualifying criteria.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Pool-in-Wharfedale Church of England Primary School Grounds	
Location	North side of Arthington Lane, opposite Park Way.
Size	1.97ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes - residential property to east and the 'Parks' housing development across road to the south.
Local or community value	Yes – in school-time, the grounds serve the needs of the school children, drawn largely from the Pool community. The grounds are also frequently used by the wider community for events and activities. The early years play area is open to the public outside of school times.
Landscape value	Yes - the school landscape is open and affords views to the woodland beyond the sports areas. It is situated behind mature trees and set back from the road. It offers an attractive scene at this social centre of the village.
Historical value	No
Recreational value	Yes - the campus of the school is open, although some specific areas are fenced off for their use sole use. The school site is put to excellent recreational use throughout the year, with playground areas marked out for sports such as netball. There is an early-years play area for school and wider community use.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Yes – the site lies within Strategic Green Infrastructure. The mature trees along its eastern boundary form part if the Leeds Habitat Network.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Designation	Site clearly meets 4 of the 5 qualifying criteria.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: St Wilfrid's Churchyard	
Location	At the junction of Main Street and Church Lane, opposite the Half Moon Inn
Size	0.46ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – residential properties exist on all boundaries.
Local or community value	Yes - links present-day villagers to their past generations. Some burial plots are still available although the church has identified a need for more burial land.
Landscape value	Yes – identified in the Leeds City Council Pool-in-Wharfedale Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP) as one of the few 'open green areas' within the conservation area. Also affording important long distance views to the south towards Old Pool Bank and The Chevin. Forms important setting to the key landmark structure that is St Wilfrid's listed church. The southern wall is identified as a 'key boundary treatment' in the CAAMP. The churchyard is kept in excellent order and forms an attractive focal point in the centre of Main Street.
Historical value	Yes - many people who were influential in Pool's history are buried in the cemetery.
Recreational value	No
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Local - the churchyard provides local habitat in the largely built-up part of the village, in association with the adjacent Church Lane 'green walkway', which in turn offers a green finger extending west to open countryside.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets 3 of the 5 qualifying criteria, while also having some local wildlife and limited infrastructure value.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Stocks Hill	
Location	Off the mini roundabout at the junction of Arthington Lane and Pool Bank New Road.
Size	0.04ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – backing on to Pool Bank Cottage farm yard.
Local or community value	Yes – owned and cared for by Pool Parish Council. Has many local/historical associations for the Pool community related to past uses and the site’s origins in its current incarnation. Informal use by local residents and through-route for people crossing roads at this busy intersection.
Landscape value	Yes – described in Leeds City Council’s Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Pool-in-Wharfedale Conservation Area as “providing a welcome break in the stone-dominated Main Street, adding value to the streetscape as a whole”. Forms focus at a key intersection in the village/ conservation area for views from the north-west, while also offering key mid-distance views to the north-west. Includes wooden semi-circular seat and attractive flower beds, heritage style sign posts and the stocks which give the site its name.
Historical value	Yes - the site has an extensive history, documented as far back as 1756 (ref Pat Lazenby – “Pool-in-Wharfedale: History of Transport etc” reprinted 2018). The stocks which now give the site its name were built by Stephen Kaye and Son. In the 20 th century various small businesses have been located here including a cobbler, a butcher, a taxi service and a pie and pea shop. Officially opened in 1958 in its current form.
Recreational value	Limited – some use of seating by local residents
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Limited - planting is well established and of local habitat value in otherwise largely built-up area of the village, but value diminished by very ‘urban’ location amidst heavy traffic and air pollution.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets 3 of the 5 qualifying criteria.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Swallow Drive	
Location	Off Swallow Drive and Acorn Way
Size	0.33ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – bounded on all sides by housing.
Local or community value	Yes – this area was formally created during the construction of the Swallow Drive development by Redrow Homes in 2002. Ball sports are played on the grounds and a bandstand area has been placed in a prominent position providing attractive and interesting appeal. This area allows local children to play without passage through the narrow pavements of Main Street to get to the park at the other end of the village. Well maintained by the Residents Management Committee.
Landscape value	Yes - the landscaping gives open and green character to the development which would otherwise be quite urban in appearance due to the densely populated building plan and not in keeping with its rural location.
Historical value	Limited - an ancient hedge has been preserved on the green space as a planning stipulation.
Recreational value	Yes - very well used recreational space – ball sports, bandstand, children’s play.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Limited Local - the site has sympathetic planting which is advantageous to birds and wildlife. Some trees break up the open sward. Offers some local habitat in otherwise closely built-up area of village.
Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation	Site clearly meets 3 of the 5 qualifying criteria. It also has some local wildlife value and a marginal link to its rural past.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Swallow Drive to Disused Railway Walkway	
Location	From E end of Swallow Drive south to the disused railway ('Station Road')
Size	0.21ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – backed onto by the gardens of properties in Swallow Drive and Acorn Way to the west and occasional residential properties in large grounds to the east.
Local or community value	Yes - long established and well-used informal footway retained/left in situ by planners/developers as part of the Swallow Drive development. It is accessed by formal gateways leading from Swallow Drive and Acorn Way. It was anticipated that a cycle route would be established along the disused railway line to Arthington.
Landscape value	Yes - the walkway is bounded by mature trees and provides an attractive informal area between the development areas.
Historical value	None known
Recreational value	Yes – a regular walking route for residents of the estate, dog walkers and children.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Yes - the walkway forms a useful corridor for deer and other mammals and supports bird life and wild flora. Together with the adjacent Tower Drive LGS to the east, it forms part of 'Local Green Infrastructure' as identified in the Neighbourhood Plan.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets 4 of the 5 qualifying criteria.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: The Tower Drive	
Location	Off Arthington Lane on the south side, at the eastern edge of the Neighbourhood Area/parish.
Size	0.36ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – large residential properties lie within the site. It is bounded to the west by properties in the modern Swallow Drive development.
Local or community value	Yes – private drive flanked by mature growth and planting is cared for and enjoyed by the local Tower Drive residents. Appreciated by the whole community for its appearance and history.
Landscape value	Yes – described by Leeds City Council in the Pool-in-Wharfedale Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP) as one of “the two most important green spaces within the conservation area”. Further described as “a mature green space providing access to housing. The planting and cultivation of this area is in line with the high status of its houses, both historic and modern.” The area is long established as a wooded area with grassed areas abutting agricultural land. It can be viewed from the east on approach to the village. Area provides an impressive façade to the eastern edge of the village with mature trees and open grassed areas.
Historical value	Yes - the land was part of an estate purchased by William Magson Nelson in 1870 upon which the substantial Victorian villa known as The Tower was built. Subsequently other period houses have been built. Includes 6 ‘positive buildings’ as identified in the CAAMP. See ‘Landscape Value’.
Recreational value	Yes - this pleasant well-maintained area is enjoyed by its residents.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Yes – identified as part of ‘Local Green Infrastructure’ in the Neighbourhood Plan. The area allows local wildlife to access the surrounding land acting as a mature wooded habitat area and transition between the village and open countryside to the east.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets all 5 of the qualifying criteria.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: War Memorial Gardens	
Location	West side of Main Street at its junction with Church Lane in front of St Wilfrid's Church and opposite the Half Moon Inn.
Size	0.1ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – adjacent to and opposite to both residential and commercial property.
Local or community value	Yes – owned and well maintained by the parish council. Remembrance Day services are held here and attended by many residents, some of whom are related to the fallen noted on the memorial. A map/notice board was erected in 2003 showing a map of Pool in 1888 and placed on cobbles taken from the old part of the 1754 Pool bridge during its strengthening. The casing, drawing, laying of cobbles and overall idea and co-ordination of the project was by Pool residents/volunteers. Also regularly used as a safe walking route to the pedestrian crossing to the south.
Landscape value	Yes - identified in the Leeds City Council Pool-in-Wharfedale Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan (CAAMP) as part of one of the few 'open green areas' within the conservation area. The site forms a focal point in the heart of Main Street lying alongside a wide road junction and lends a spacious relief to the otherwise narrow footpaths and closely set houses along the road. Attractively planted.
Historical value	Yes - the area was gifted to Pool Parish Council by Mrs Emily Swallow (ref the Swallows of Troutbeck (Hall) and Avenue des Hirondelles) in 1920 for the building of a war memorial. She stipulated that should it ever cease to be used for that purpose that the land be given to the church to join up with the churchyard. Also that it should never become an eyesore and 'detrimental to the church'. Community donations of £323 6s 5d paid for the memorial, casket and wreath plus iron railings and asphalt of the area. The casket contents are not fully known but it does hold a coin of the realm, list of the fallen, list of parish councillors and local and regional newspapers of the day. Also historical association with former Pool bridge (see above).
Recreational value	Limited – path, bench and litter bin encourage informal use and site is used by local people.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Local - provides local habitat in the largely built-up part of the village, in association with the adjacent churchyard and Church Lane 'green walkway', which in turn offers a green finger extending west to open countryside.
Summary Assessment/Basis for Recommendation	Site clearly meets 3 of the 5 qualifying criteria as well as having some limited recreational and wildlife value.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space

Site Name: Wharfedale Court Amenity Space	
Location	Off Main Street on NE side, between the pharmacy and The White Hart
Size	0.10ha
Adjacent to existing properties?	Yes – the space lies in the heart of the sheltered housing development and runs alongside Main Street.
Local or community value	Yes – this green space forms an important area of relief from the narrow bounds of Main Street. Pinch points in the busy street lie either side of the site. This, plus the narrow footways in Pool serve to trap pollution from the heavy and often standing traffic, resulting in acknowledged poor air quality. This broad green space helps to alleviate some of the contamination caused by traffic passing through the area. It is an important green open space resource for the elderly residents of Wharfedale Court and a visual amenity for pedestrians. Well-managed and cared for by the owners.
Landscape value	Yes - the grounds are mature and well-planted lending a pleasant environment for residents as well as passers-by. It is one of the few open green areas in the village centre.
Historical value	No
Recreational value	Yes - the site, with its seating areas, is a key recreational resource for the residents of Wharfedale, their visitors and for staff.
Wildlife or green infrastructure value	Very limited - some local habitat value in a largely built-up area of the village.
Summary Assessment/Basis of Recommendation	Site clearly meets 3 of the 5 qualifying criteria.
Recommendation	To be designated as a Local Green Space