

# Audley Rural Neighbourhood Plan Local Green Space Consultation



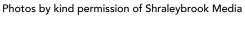


Site 66 Halmer End Minnie Pit Memorial Site

# From Friday 7th October to Friday 4th November 2022











### What are we doing?

Audley Rural Neighbourhood Plan (ARNP) steering group are consulting on 54 Local Green Spaces that are proposed to include in our Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan will include a policy designating areas of Local Green Space which are valued by the community within our Parish. We would like your views on these proposed sites.

This consultation does not include changing the status of Green Belt within the Parish. The Green Belt is designated and modified through Newcastle under Lyme's Local Plan process.

# What is Local Green Space designation?

Local Green Space designation is a way to provide special protection for green areas of particular importance to local communities (where new development is ruled out other than in very special circumstances). The Government has made it possible for communities to designate these areas as Local Green Spaces within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2021. The proposed 54 Local Green Spaces must meet the criteria included in the NPPF paragraph 102. This states that 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'.

The Household survey conducted in the spring of 2022 showed which green spaces people felt most strongly about.



Extract of ARNP Household Survey Results 2022

We have used the information from the survey along with local knowledge to produce a long list of 103 green space sites. The long list has been tested against the NPPF criteria to produce 54 proposed sites – as shown on page 7. You can find out more about the long list of sites and view an interactive map of the 54 sites at www.audleyplan.org/greenspaces.php

If sites do not fit the criteria for Local Green Space protection, they will be protected in other policies within the Neighbourhood Plan.



Site 36 - Margaret's Garden, Church Street Audley



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# Why green space is important

Planning for green spaces can help to achieve social, economic and environmental benefits in a neighbourhood. Some of the community and environmental benefits of green spaces are:

- Being part of the public realm, where informal social interaction can take place
- Providing pitches and facilities for sports and supporting physical activity
- Forming part of a network of paths and spaces, enabling movement through an area
- Providing habitats for wildlife and a natural corridors and spaces through urban areas



Site 58 - Public Footpath number Audley 12 along stream at Mill Dale located off Barthomley Road

- Providing flexible space for recreation, local cultural events and performance
- Adding to local amenity, providing an attractive setting and outlook for surrounding residential and commercial properties

- Forming part of the character or setting of historic areas, buildings and townscape
- Forming part of flood mitigation, such as Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS).
- Providing areas and opportunities for growing local food.

Green spaces contribute to quality of place, together with buildings, urban spaces and the wider public realm. Quality of place is a key factor in attracting investment, jobs and growth to an area. It is also important in making an area an attractive place to live, work and spend leisure time. So green spaces have real economic value to the surrounding area, in addition to creating community wellbeing.



# Achieving sustainable development

One of the basic conditions for neighbourhood plans is achieving sustainable development. The social, community, economic and environmental benefits of green spaces help to make local places sustainable.



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The impact of new development on green spaces, and the provision of new green spaces as part of new development will often be significant factors in considering whether development is sustainable. Planning for green spaces needs to be considered as an integral part of the wider planning for the area.



Site 23 - Alsagers Bank Cricket Club playing fields and play area

#### Green belt

Green belts have the following stated purposes:

- to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas
- to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another
- to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment
- to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns
- to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.



Green Belt of Audley Parish

Green belts are designated and modified through the local plan process. They may not be modified by neighbourhood plans.

#### Local Green Space implications:

Green belts are applied to the fringe of urban areas. They do not preclude all development (appropriate kinds of development are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework).

Therefore, Local Green Space designation could be useful in the green belt, where the land meets the NPPF criteria.

Green belts do not recognizes the landscape quality or community value of land. So there are instances where Local Green Space designation could be useful. For example, it could recognise and protect the community value of a sports pitch on the edge of the green belt, adjacent to a housing estate.



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Where there is no green belt, it would not be appropriate to try to use Local Green Space designation to attempt to impose green belt type protection of land around an urban area. This would be a misuse of the designation and would be likely to result in the neighbourhood plan running into difficulties in meeting the basic conditions at the independent examination stage.

### How to get involved



Site 42 - Westfield Avenue Local Green Space

We are holding consultation events around the Parish to speak to people about these sites. We are also writing to all landowners of the sites concerned for their views. Dates and venues are below:

#### **Sunday 9th October 2022**

Wood Lane Community Centre, Apedale Road - 4pm to 5pm

Audley Pensioners Hall, Church Street - 5.30pm to 7.00pm

#### Sunday 23rd October 2022

Alsagers Bank Primary School, The Drive - 3pm to 4pm

Halmer End Institute, Wesley Place - 4.30pm to 5.30pm

#### Friday 28th October 2022

Audley Methodist Church Hall, New Road, Bignall End - 6pm to 7pm

Audley Rural Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will consider all the responses after the consultation closes on Friday 4th November 2022 and then make a final list of those to be designated as Local Green Space in the Neighbourhood Plan. For further information visit: www.audleyplan.org

#### **Useful Definitions**

#### Audley Rural Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2042

The document, produced by local people with Audley Rural Parish Council, that sets out planning policies for the Parish until 2042. It highlights green spaces and heritage assets that we want to protect and design guidance on for new housing. Once the Plan is adopted it will be used by Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council, within the Newcastle under Lyme Local Plan, when considering planning applications.



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#### Newcastle under Lyme Local Plan 2020 - 2040

The document, produced by the Newcastle Borough Council, which sets the vision and framework for how Newcastle-under-Lyme will grow to 2040. The Local Plan sets out targets for the number of homes and jobs to be delivered in the Newcastle Borough and a spatial strategy to guide development to the most sustainable locations. The Local Plan will allocate sites for housing and employment to provide certainty on where growth will occur.

#### **Local Green Space**

This is a formal designation that may be made by neighbourhood plans, to provide protection for green spaces valued by the local community.

#### Neighbourhood Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2021

The document which sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. This is revised from time to time. View it at www.gov.uk and search "NPPF".

#### Green Field

Land where there has been no previous development.

#### Green Belt

A designated band of land around urban areas, designed to contain urban sprawl. The Green Belt is designated and modified through the Newcastle under Lyme Local Plan process. They may not be modified by neighbourhood plans.



Site 91 - Green space in front of the Walled (Model) Farm on Nantwich Road, Audley





## List of 54 Proposed Local Green Spaces for consultation

Please visit audleyplan.org/greenspaces.php to view the 54 Local Green Space proformas.

REF	Function	Site Name	Street	Village
1	Playing Field, Play area and BMX track	Queen Street Fields of Trust play area	Wereton Road	Audley
4	Playing Field	Wood Lane Cricket Club	Megacre	Wood Lane
5	Playing Field	Bignall End Cricket Club	Boon Hill	Bignall End
8	Playing Field	Audley Cricket Club	Nantwich Road	Audley
10	Playing Field and play area	Bignall End Road Play Area	Bignall End Road	Bignall End
12	Allotments Or Community Growing Spaces	Alsager Road	Alsager Road	Audley
14	Playing Field	Audley Football Club	Old Road	Audley
15	Playing Field and play area	Alsager Road Play Area	Alsager Road	Audley
18	Playing Field and play area	Albert Street Play Area	Albert Street	Bignall End
20	Playing Field and play area	Scot Hay Play area / Playing Field	Leycett Road	Scot Hay
23	Playing Field and play area	Alsagers Bank Cricket Club	High Street	Alsagers Bank
26	Playing Field and play area inc MUGA	Miles Green Play area	Station Road	Miles Green
29	Play Space	Wood Lane Play area (Aspire)	Wood Croft	Wood Lane
30	Playing Field	Halmer End Institute	Wesley Place	Halmer End
31	Allotments Or Community Growing Spaces	Halmer End Allotments	Harrison Close	Halmer End
32	Bowling Green	Halmer End Bowling Club	Wesley Place	Halmer End
33	Playing Field and play area	Halmer End play area	Harrison Close	Halmer End
36	Pocket Park	Margaret Garden (green space, bench, planted, maintained)	Church Street	Audley





REF	Function	Site Name	Street	Village
37	Pocket Park	Greenspace (landscaped, benches, planted and Cherry trees) Top of Vernon Ave/Wereton Road junction	Vernon Avenue/ Wereton Road	Audley
38	Planted area	Church Bank (planted area with mining monument)	Church Street	Audley
41	Monument and surrounding land	Wedgwood Monument and immediate surrounding space	Land off Audley Road	Bignall End
42	Greenspace area	Westfield Ave	Westfield Avenue	Audley
45	Landscaped greenspace	Pit tub areas in parish - Boon Hill/ Ravens Lane entrance to Marians Way	Ravens Lane	Bignall End
46	Landscaped greenspace	Pit tub and planted area - Bignall End Road/Ravens Lane	Audley Road roundabout	Bignall End
47	Landscaped greenspace	Bignall Hill/Land off Megacre Highway Verge, planted	Bignall Hill/ Megacre junction	Bignall End
48	Landscaped greenspace	Bignall Hill - CAGOO Pit Wheel and Planted areas	Bignall Hill/ Audley Road	Wood Lane
49	Greenspace trees	Bignall Hill - planted area trees on the left on the hill next to 3 Butters Green	Bignall Hill/ Audley Road	Wood Lane
50	Greenspace corridor	Station Walks - green space by houses/planters avenue of trees opposite school STBH, pit tub and memorial	Station Road	Halmer End
51	Tree gateway feature	Highway Verge/Gateway to parish Nantwich Road - avenue of Cherry trees	Nantwich Road	Audley
52	Greenspace/landscaped	Verge on corners of Barthomley Road/Nantwich Road junction - trees and seating	Nantwich Road	Audley
53	Greenspace/landscaped	Grass area by Barthomley Road/ Nantwich Road post box - trees and seating	Nantwich Road	Audley
54	Tree memorial	Highway Verge on Nantwich Road Golden jubliee trees plantation	Nantwich Road	Balterley





REF	Function	Site Name	Street	Village
55	Greenspace Millenium Green	Audley Millenium Green	Land off New Road/Alsager Road	Audley
56	Pond	Barthomley Road pond	Nantwich Road/ Barthomley Road junction	Audley
57	Greenspace	Kent Hills Quarry and land in front	Land off Nantwich Road	Audley
58	Greenspace/watercourse/ ancient wood	Mill Dale/King Fisher farm stream off Barthomley Road	Land off Barthomley Road	Audley
59	Memorial garden	St James Church memorial garden	Church Street	Audley
60	Greenspace/seating	Greenspace by old police house, Nantwich Road opp Wilbrahams Walk / Chester Road	Nantwich Road	Audley
64	Woodland	Burgess Woods	Off The Drive	Alsagers Bank
65	Scot Hay village gateways	Approach to Scot Hay	Leycett Road	Scot Hay
66	Halmer End Memorial site	Entrance to Podmore Lane/ Bateswood	High Street	Halmer End
69	Richard Heathcote School playing fields	Next to school	The Drive	Alsagers Bank
70	Sir Thomas Boughey School playing fields	Next to school	High Street	Halmer End
71	Ravensmead Primary School playing fields	Next to school	Chapel Street	Bignall End
72	Wood Lane Primary School playing fields	Next to school	Apedale Road	Wood Lane
81	Informal football area by Wood Lane Play area	Wood Street green space	Wood Street	Wood Lane
82	Diglake Mine shaft entrance	Diglake	Off Bignall End Road	Bignall End
87	Church Fields (informal) Sledging area	Church Fields (up from Church Farm)	High Street	Alsagers Bank
89	Land between Aarons Drive/ Stephens Way/Greenways	Green space Aarons Drive	Aarons Drive	Bignall End



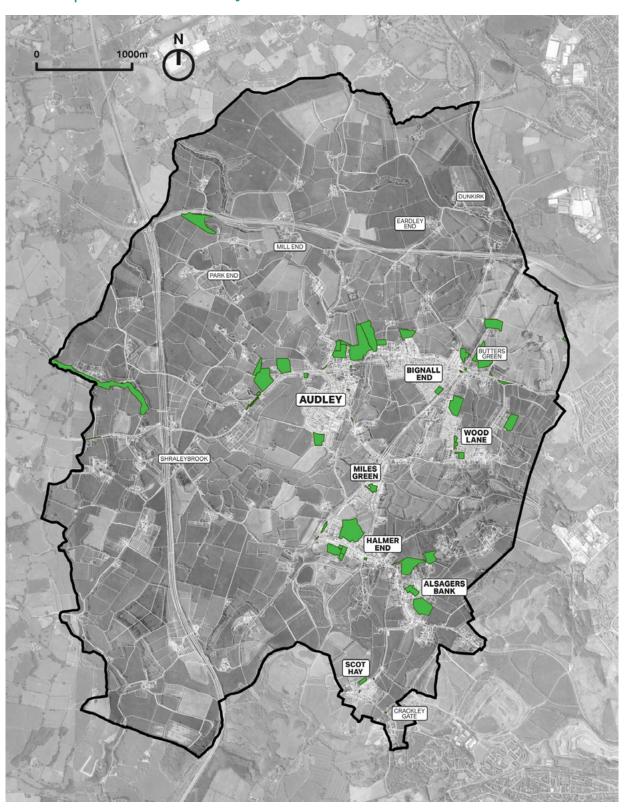


REF	Function	Site Name	Street	Village
90	Land off Stephens Way/ Brindleys Way	Green Space Stephens Way	Stephens Way	Bignall End
91	Land by Wall Farm Model Farm	Wall Farm	Nantwich Road	Audley
94	Land along by Grassy Green Lane (Four Winds Field verge) Hougherwall Road	Hougher Wall Road	Hougher Wall Road	Audley
97	Former Bignall Hill Colliery Site Part A and Part B	Bignall Hill Colliery Site part A and part B	Audley Road	Bignall End
100	Woods	Brookwood Hill	Land off Park Lane	Audley





## Map showing overall location of Local Green Spaces across Audley Rural Parish



Map of Audley Rural Neighbourhood Plan and Villages

