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Open and Green Spaces Audit

1. Purpose and Scope

Moulton Parish Council are committed to improving accessibility to Public Open Spaces throughout the parish.

This document empowers Moulton Parish Council to conduct an Accessibility Audit on their land holdings and helps to focus on and highlight any improvements that can be made for the benefit of everyone .

2. Legal Responsibility & Policy Support

[Equality Act \(2010\) \(legislation.gov.uk\)](http://legislation.gov.uk)

3. Public Open Space (POS)

What do we mean by Open Space?

The overall definition of open space within the Planning Practice Guidance is:

Open space: All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity (see [National Planning Policy Framework](#)).

4. Types of Open Space

Many open spaces are multi-functional. sports. Each open space will be classified by its 'primary purpose' so that it is counted only once in the audit.

The different typologies of open space have categorised as follows. The 9 categories are:

1. Parks and Gardens
2. Provision for Children & Young People
3. Natural and Semi-natural greenspaces
4. Outdoor Sports Facilities
5. Green Corridors and Greenways
6. Allotments and Community Gardens

7. Amenity Greenspace
8. Cemeteries and Churchyards
9. Civic spaces

All open spaces are assessed by area (i.e., hectares) apart from green corridors and Greenways that are assessed in length (metres).

Type	Definition	Primary Purpose
1.Parks and Gardens	Includes urban parks, formal gardens and country parks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • informal recreation • community events
2. Provision for children and young people	Areas designed primarily for play and social interaction involving children and young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • equipped play areas • ball courts • outdoor basketball hoop areas • skateboard areas • teenage shelters and 'hangouts'
3.Natural and Semi-natural Greenspaces	Includes publicly accessible woodlands, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands (e.g. downlands, commons, meadows), wetlands, open and running water and wastelands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wildlife conservation, • biodiversity • environmental education and awareness.
4.Outdoor Sports Facilities	Natural or artificial surfaces either publicly or privately owned used for sport and recreation. Includes school playing fields.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outdoor sports pitches • tennis and bowls • golf courses • athletics • playing fields (including school playing fields) • water sports
5.Green Corridors	Includes towpaths along canals and riverbanks, cycleways, rights of way and disused railway lines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • walking, cycling or horse riding • leisure purposes or travel opportunities for wildlife migration.
6.Allotments	Opportunities for those people who wish to do so to grow their own produce as part of the long term promotion of sustainability, health and social inclusion. May also include urban farms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • growing vegetables and other root crops • N.B. does not include private gardens
7. Amenity Greenspace	Most commonly but not exclusively found in housing areas. Includes informal recreation green spaces and village greens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • informal activities close to home or work enhancement of the appearance of residential or other areas

8.Cemeteries & Churchyards	Cemeteries and churchyards including disused churchyards and other burial grounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • quiet contemplation • burial of the dead • wildlife conservation • promotion of biodiversity
9.Civic Spaces	Civic and market squares and other hard surfaced community areas designed for pedestrians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • markets • setting for civic buildings • community events

5. Wildlife Sites

Communities can consider (in accordance with landowners) including Local Wildlife Sites as green space in a neighbourhood plan to offer them some protection against development. As well as protecting Local Wildlife Sites and protected species, communities have an opportunity to identify existing habitat corridors that may be used by wildlife to move between areas of habitat.

It should be noted that new Local Wildlife Sites can be designated, and also new records of protected species can occur at any time.

6. Moulton Parish Council Open and Green Spaces Audit

Site Name	Location	Category (1-9)	Size	Des Local Green Space Y/N	Description	Owner / Management	Accessible
Busby's Meadow Pocket Park	///gets.tunes.desire		0.8 acres		Public Open Space, Watercourse	MPC	
Crowfields Common Local Nature Reserve			23.26 acres		Nature Reserve	MPC	
Forester Road	///resist.kick.bike				SUD's – 2 basins, Public Open Space, Play Area	MPC	
Lunchfield Triangle			0.4 acres				
Moulton Cemetery	NN3 7UE ///chromatic.claps.lilac		3 acres		Cemetery	MPC	
Moorbridge Road POS part 1 (Cary Fields development)	///wants.pools.depend – Play Equip				Public Open Space, Play Area, SUD's – 3 basins	MPC	
Moorbridge Road POS part 2	///noisy.paid.bucks - SUDs						
Morning Star Lane (David Wilson)	fostered.jumpy.awake				Play Area, SUD's – 1 basin	MPC	
Moulton Football Club Land			6.4 acres		Playing Fields – Leased to Moulton Football Club	MPC & MFC	
Public Gardens	///chop.film .letter – Play Equip ///value.usual.oath – SUD's ///park.pens.insert – Church Hill ///bounty.monks.mason – Church Street		2 acres		Public Open Space, Play Area, Memorial, Café, Watercourse	MPC	
Sandy Hill Lane	///hotels.bucket.degree – Play Area ///proposals.careless.crest –				Play Area, SUD's – 1 basin	MPC	

	SUD's						
Rose Tree Close (David Wilson)	///stages.silks.alive - SUDs				SUD's x 1 Basin	MPC	
Spinney Close, Sandy Hill	///stir.began.fits				Play Area	MPC	

7. Related Policies

This policy is reviewed annually by the Executive Officer and submitted to the full council for approval.

Last Reviewed: September 2023
Review Due: Jan 2024