**Policy for local green spaces**

The areas listed below and shown on the proposals map are designated local green spaces that are protected from new development unless very special circumstances can be demonstrated

**Cuckney**

1. Sites of open space value in Cuckney

These areas provide relief to the built form of the village. They are an important feature of the village and contribute to its character.

1. Mill Hill

 This wooded hill can be accessed by steps from the road and from the Dam head. There is an unmarked path circumventing the hill. It has been used as an unofficial play area for generations of children, and its hilly nature affords great views over the river and the Dam.

The footpath link through Mill Hill connects with the footpath via Park House farm to Warsop and Northwards to Creswell Road.

1. Community garden

This is a small central area in the village opposite the village shop. This lovely garden replaced an area that had been neglected, and was landscaped by Groundworks. It is regularly maintained by Cuckney residents, giving local people the opportunity to work together.

The garden has seating and is open for everyone to enjoy.

1. Woodland

This hillside is filled with mature beeches and chestnut trees, and is part of a continuous woodland that runs along the north side of a natural ridge from Langwith to Budby.

There could be possibilities for some business or leisure development, with the caveat that the wooded nature of the area should be preserved.

1. Sites of sport, recreation and amenity value in Cuckney.

These are sites valued for their open access for sport, recreation and amenity. They are areas where residents can come together both informally and where community events are held.

1. Cuckney cricket ground

This site was established pre WW2 and has been in regular use ever since. The site had major developments in the 1990’s with Lottery money and is used on a daily basis by Cuckney cricket teams, and youth training. There is an indoor cricket sports hall that is also used for social events.

1. Football field

The field was leveled to provide a full sized football pitch. It is used intermittently by youth teams, who use the changing facilities of the cricket club.

1. Recreation ground and playground

The northern part of the playground is fitted with up-to-date play equipment for children and is regularly used. The play equipment is maintained by Cuckney Parish council.

The southern area of the recreation field has a junior size football pitch, and it is also regularly used by the school for football and games lessons. A bridge over the river connects the recreation ground to the school. The ground is maintained by Bassetlaw council.

The recreation ground is occasionally used for village events.

The easterly area of the field is designated as a car parking area for the school and the playing field (as yet to be developed)

1. St Mary’s church and churchyard

The 12th century church is the most significant architectural building in Cuckney. It is regularly used by the residents of Cuckney and Norton for religious services and ceremonies. It is occasionally used for concerts and exhibitions. There is currently a group of local historians researching the records of the Church to prove the existence of King Edwin’s connections with Cuckney.

The graveyard around the church is well maintained and is used for burials. The graveyard to the west of the church is very old and is believed to be the original site of a castle/manor house predating the church. This area is less well maintained and is the property of the Church.

1. Village Hall and Car park and Pound

For over fifty years, the building has been used for village meetings, clubs and events. It continues to be used regularly by various local clubs, and play groups. It is well equipped and well maintained: it is licensed to accommodate 120 people.

The Pound, sited next to the Village hall, has significant local historic interest.

The car park serves the village hall and the Church and has a recycling area. This car park is important as there is no safe roadside car parking nearby. There is car parking space for about 20 cars.

C. Sites of nature conservation value

There are a number of sites in the Parish that are significant in terms of their wildlife value that warrant protection

1. The Dam and Dam meadow

The meadow is an area of wetland bounded by the River Poulter to the north and Cuckney dam to the south. It has the old millstream running through it to the weir.

The dam and dam meadow are home to river and wetland birds all year round. The meadow has many varieties of wild flowers. The dam is also used for fishing. Some of this area is under the tenancy of a local farmer.

1. Remise on Sandy Lane (also known as Donkey Lane)

This is a small field surrounded by large mature trees and low ground cover shrubs. It was established to give cover and roosting for game birds for the local Welbeck shoot. The field is set with wildflowers and grasses that support wildlife and birds. Buzzards regularly nest in the remise.

This area adds to the character of the landscape, and is a good example of our local rural environment.

Potential future Green spaces in Cuckney

 11.This area from the A60 to the back of Riverside close, Glovers Close

 is already a wetland area, on the north side of the river.

Further development at the back of Riverside close and Glovers close would result in an estate of houses that would be contrary to the rurality of the village. Therefore designating this part of area 10 would ensure conservation of the wetland.

There is also a small field on the south side of the river (bounded by the A60 and the A616) that is currently under the tenancy of the resident of White Cottage. Under his tenancy this area has been intentionally allowed to be in its natural state to encourage wild fauna and flora.

1. Church meadow and Fieldings Bank

The bank on the north side of the River Poulter offers excellent views of the wetland, the church and the fields beyond. The south side of the river is mostly wetland and often floods in winter. A public footpath on the north side connects Cuckney and Norton. Beyond the northern bank , there is an area of set aside land that would be ideal to increase the area of woodland. The existing trees are very mature and are likely to need replacing within the next 15 years. It would be in the interests of the local residents to increase the number of trees in this area, and make it more accessible.

There is also the potential to connect Fieldings Bank and Church meadow to Area 10, and to make this entire area accessible for local people

 13. It is proposed that a number of houses will be built along the A60

To provide a green space area for these houses, and protect this area from further development, the area north of the building line that is along the edge of the river should be allocated as a green space. There would also be the possibility of connecting this area with Area 12 to make a permissive route circuiting around the village through areas , 11, 9 and 1 to connect with Park House Farm track, Area 3 and Sandy Lane (AKA Donkey Lane)

14. It is proposed that the disused council yard and field behind should be developed for housing. There should be a green space in this development to ensure that the houses are well spaced out and in keeping with the rural character of the village.

**Holbeck**

1. Sites of open space value in Holbeck

15. Millenium garden in Holbeck Woodhouse has garden seats and is a memorial garden. Trees have been planted by local residents that are dedicated to people who have lived and worked for the community.

It is owned and maintained by Welbeck estate and is accessible for the community

The garden is close to the proposed development of the Woodhouse Hall housing complex for elderly people.

1. Sites of sporting, recreation and amenity value in Holbeck

16. Recreation ground at High Holbeck.

This is set in the middle of the houses in high Holbeck. The recreation ground is primarily used by the residents of High Holbeck but it is open to the public. There is a play area with play equipment provided and maintained by Holbeck parish council.

The recreation ground is used for community events.

17. Bowling Green and village green

The bowls club is actually situated in Welbeck village, though it is in fact within Holbeck Parish.

The Bowling Green and Club is a popular club, that has its own club house. There are members and the club plays in the local league competitions

The Bowls club is the property of Welbeck Estate and the grounds are maintained by the Garden department.

The village green adjacent to the Bowls Club is owned and maintained by Welbeck Estates. It is used for Welbeck Estate events.

18. St Winifred’s Church and graveyard

This church serves the communities of Holbeck and Welbeck village and the surrounding farms of Holbeck parish.

There are regular church services and ceremonies, and it is occasionally used for exhibitions.

The graveyard is still used for burials, and the Dukes of Portland are buried there.

19. Lady Margaret Hall complex

This area comprises a large community hall, with staging and catering facilities; tennis courts, facilities for caravan events, a car park and a field at the side.

The community hall is regularly used for all kinds of social events.

The tennis courts are used regularly by Welbeck Tennis Club. The courts are hard surface. It is a thriving club that encourages young people, and has an enthusiastic coaching team.

The car park is regularly used for events in the hall, and also for Caravan club gatherings. The field at the side of the hall is part of the complex facilities.

20. Walled garden

This was originally a walled garden that served the Abbey. It is now used as a Car Park by The Welbeck Farm shop, The Harley Gallery, Limehouse Café, and Nottcutts garden centre. Three of the original walls remain intact.

1. Sites of nature conservation value

21. Little remise and Hill Top remise

These two areas are significant and characteristic features of the local landscape. Each remise is a small field surrounded by large mature trees. The purpose of these areas is to give cover, and grazing for game birds for the Welbeck shoot. It is important to conserve these two remises for game birds, local birdlife, and to maintain the unique characteristic of the landscape.

**Norton**

1. Sites of open space value in Norton

22. The Lady Margaret Crescent Lawn

This is an attractive feature, bounded on one side by the Crescent of bungalows and on the other side by a hedge and mature trees

It is maintained by the Welbeck Estate and serves as a village green where outdoor village events are held.

1. Sites of sporting, recreation and amenity value in Norton

23. Norton Play area is situated centrally in the village, just off the main through road to Clumber Park

It is well used by local children; also parents from outside our village often bring their children to use the equipment provided.

It is a safe place for children to play on the six pieces of equipment which are: 2 swings for the very young and 2 for older children, a climbing frame with slide, a see-saw and 2 bouncing pieces.

There is also seating for adults to rest on whilst supervising the children.

Potential Sites for conservation in Norton

24.Bunkers hill plantation is the site of Norton camp that was a prisoner of war camp in World War 2.

There have been events in the recent past where families of the prisoners of war have come to visit the site. Although none of the buildings remain, the road ways are still present. It was locally known as the University behind Wire, as many people were given the chance to receive education here as part of a repatriation scheme

This could be included in the development of a local history trail in our area.

1. This area abuts onto area 12 on the Cuckney map. This area is uncultivated, due to its’ hilly nature. It would be an ideal area to introduce more trees.

July 10th 2014