

# ST STEPHEN-IN-BRANNEL NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023 – 2030 LOCAL GREEN SPACE REPORT – UPDATED JULY 2023



#### ST STEPHEN-IN-BRANNEL NDP GREEN SPACE ASSESSMENT

- 1. Introduction. The NPPF 2021 says in para 101 that: '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. In Para 102 it advises that '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.'
- 3. The policy implication of Local Green Space designation is significant and therefore the NPPF sets a high standard of criteria to be met for designation. The selection of the areas should be fully justified, and the boundaries carefully drawn.
- 4. What is reasonable proximity and how big can a Local Green Space be ? NPPF Para 102 leaves room for interpretation as to what 'reasonably close proximity', 'local in character' and 'not an extensive tract of land' may mean. National Planning Policy Guidance says that 'There are no hard and fast rules about how big a Local Green Space can be because places are different, and a degree of judgment will inevitably be needed. However, paragraph 1001 of the National Planning Policy Framework is clear that Local Green Space 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. In particular, 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.'
- **5.** Referring to proximity, National Planning Policy Guidance<sup>2</sup> says that 'The proximity of a Local Green Space 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'.
- 6. In an attempt to arrive at a meaningful definition we can make reference to Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt) to help to judge what the size and distance from the local community an area of land may be to qualify as a Local Green Space. This says that everyone, wherever they live, should have an accessible natural greenspace of at least 2 hectares in size, no more than 300 metres (5 minutes walk) from home and at least one accessible 20 hectare site within two kilometres of home. On basis of all this guidance, the approach taken in this assessment is that Local Green Spaces should normally not be greater than about 2ha in area, and no more than 300 metres from a settlement, the only exceptions being where there is a strong justification in terms of exceptional beauty, landscape character and historic environment which makes a larger more distant site more widely attractive.
- 7. Is the list of special and significant characteristics that may justify designation as a Local Green Space exclusive? NPPF Para 102 lists local significance as being beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), and tranquillity or richness of wildlife, but the use of the phrase 'for example' makes it clear that this is not an exclusive list, and that there may be other local reasons why a site has significance to a local community. National Planning Policy Guidance says Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Now para 102

where sports pavilions, boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, or urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis'.

**8.** The assessment of whether a proposed site is demonstrably special to the local community for the five criteria set out above is challenging because terms such as 'beauty' are largely subjective. This assessment has considered each of these five terms using the key considerations and prompts as set out below:

SOME USEFUL DEFINI	TIONS
Principal	
Considerations	
Beauty	Beauty is clearly a very subjective concept but we have used the normal meaning of the word i.e. a combination of qualities, such as shape, colour, or form, that pleases the aesthetic senses, especially the visual attractiveness and aesthetic value of the site, and its contribution to the streetscape, landscape, character or setting of a settlement. To qualify, the site should contribute significantly to local character, for example by defining a sense of place, or by helping to define the physical form of a settlement.
Historic significance	Consideration is given to how the proposed LGS holds particular local significance with regard to the history of the community or settlement e.g. historic village events, historic buildings, structure or landscape features present on site with a particular connection to the local community. This could be because it contributes to the setting of a heritage asset or some other locally valued landmark. It might be because the site holds cultural associations which are of particular significance to the local community.
Recreational value	Sites would need to hold local significance for recreation and be important to the community for a particular recreation activity or range of activities. These could be formal or informal activities. This could take into account observations from site visits of how the site is used for recreation e.g. playing sport, informal recreation, children's play etc. Also consider social cohesion value from opportunities to meet others.
Tranquillity	Tranquillity is considered to be a state of calm, quietude and is associated with a feeling of peace; a state of mind that promotes mental wellbeing. It is a perceptual quality of the landscape, and is influenced by things that people can both see and hear around them. Positive tranquillity factors include seeing a natural landscape, natural looking woodland, rivers and open vistas, and hearing natural sounds such as birdsong, an absence of human activity, or even silence. In order to qualify, the site would need to be viewed by local people as important for the tranquillity it provided, offering a place for reflection and peaceful enjoyment.
Wildlife	Consideration should be given to how the proposed LGS holds particular local significance. A site would need to be locally significant for wildlife in a way that could be demonstrated. It might, for example, home to species or habitats of principal importance, veteran trees, or locally characteristic plants and animals, or be important for its contribution to the wider green infrastructure network. Where the site is already protected by a designation (e.g. SSSI), consideration should be given as to whether any additional benefit would result from designation as Local Green Space.
Other considerations	
Public access	Although not a requirement for LGS designation, public access can be a key factor as to why the site may be considered demonstrably special, for example with regard to its recreational value.
Settlement character	Sites might be special and locally significant for reasons other than those identified above. For example, a site might make a particular contribution to defining the individual character of a settlement, or it might be an asset of community value.

**9. Must a potential Local Green Space be accessible?** Neither of the NPPF paragraphs require or infers that a local green site should be publicly accessible. National Planning policy Guidance says that '...land

could be considered for designation even if there is no public access (eg 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 land owners, whose legal rights must be respected'.

- **10. Must a potential Local Green Space be in public ownership?** Neither of the NPPF paragraphs refer to the nature of ownership of the site. National Planning Policy Guidance says that 'A Local Green Space does not need to be in public ownership...... However, ... the qualifying body (in the case of neighbourhood plan making) should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as Local Green Space. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan'.
- **11.** It seems reasonable therefore to take the view that the fact that a green space is not publicly accessible and is in private ownership does not preclude it being identified as a Local Green Space to be protected if it is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance.
- **12. What about public rights of way?** Areas that may be considered for designation as Local Green Space may be crossed by public rights of way. There is no need to designate linear corridors as Local Green Space simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation.
- **13. How does Local Green Space designation relate to development?** National Planning Policy Guidance says that 'Designating any Local Green Space 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 Local Green Space designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making'. In other words, the designation cannot be used to prevent planning applications which are demonstrably addressing an identified need.
- 14. What if land is already protected by designations such as National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Site of Special Scientific Interest, Scheduled Monument or conservation area? National Planning Policy Guidance says that 'Different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. If land is already protected by designation, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space'.
- **15.** This also calls for a subjective judgment. It is considered that the following protections are considered to be sufficient and therefore not in need of further LGS designation (unless they protected only a small proportion of the site or if site-specific circumstances justify an exception) because they are normally specifically targeted and apply a clear protection for the special characteristics to which they are related:
  - Common Land and CRoW Act S4 Conclusive Open Countryside;
  - Village/Town Greens;
  - Ancient Woodland;
  - Local Nature Reserves;
  - Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
  - National Trust, Woodland Trust, and Forestry Commission owned sites;
  - Designated heritage assets ie Grade I & II Listed Buildings, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens;
     Scheduled Monuments;
- **16.** However it is considered that Conservation Area, AONB and AGLV designation is not sufficient to exclude LGS designation as they are generally applied, targeted on broad landscape issues, and open to considerable interpretation in application.
- **17. What if land has planning permission for development?** National Planning Policy Guidance says that 'Local Green Space designation will rarely be appropriate where the 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.'

- **18. What policy should be applied to Local Green Spaces?** Para 103 of the NPPF adds that 'Policies for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with those for Green Belts.' National Planning Policy Guidance adds that 'Designating a green area as Local Green Space would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners'.
- **19.** The NPPF approach to Green Belts is explicit: Para 147 says that 'Inappropriate development is, by definition, harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances'. Para 148 says that 'When considering any planning application, local planning authorities should ensure that substantial weight is given to any harm to the Green Belt. 'Very special circumstances' will not exist unless the potential harm to the Green Belt by reason of inappropriateness, and any other harm resulting from the proposal, is clearly outweighed by other considerations.'
- **20.** The NPPF goes on, in Para 149 to say that 'a local planning authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in the Green Belt. Exceptions to this are:
  - a) buildings for agriculture and forestry;
  - b) the provision of appropriate facilities (in connection with the existing use of land or a change of use) for outdoor sport, outdoor recreation, cemeteries and burial grounds and allotments; as long as the facilities preserve the openness of the Green Belt and do not conflict with the purposes of including land within it;
  - c) the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building;
  - d) the replacement of a building, provided the new building is in the same use and not materially larger than the one it replaces;
  - e) limited infilling in villages;
  - f) limited affordable housing for local community needs under policies set out in the development plan (including policies for rural exception sites); and limited infilling or the partial or complete redevelopment of previously developed land, whether redundant or in continuing use (excluding temporary buildings), which would:
  - not have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt than the existing development; or
  - not cause substantial harm to the openness of the Green Belt, where the development would reuse previously developed land and contribute to meeting an identified affordable housing need within the area of the local planning authority.
- **21.** Para 150 lists various forms of infrastructure development considered to be appropriate in Green Belts, and Para 151 says that *elements of many renewable energy projects will comprise inappropriate development. In such cases developers will need to demonstrate very special circumstances if projects are to proceed. Such very special circumstances may include the wider environmental benefits associated with increased production of energy from renewable sources.'*
- 22. The NDP Policy proposed to be applied to Local Green Spaces says that 'Development that would harm the openness or special character of a Local Green Space or its significance and value to the local community will not be permitted unless there are very special circumstances which outweigh the harm to the Local Green Space'. Note that this extends beyond the impact of proposals within LGS sites, but also the impact of proposals nearby which may impact on them.
- 23. Who will manage Local Green Space? National Planning Policy Guidance says that 'Management of land designated as Local Green Space 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'.
- **24. Site Selection**. To begin, potential sites were suggested by the NDP Steering Group, referring to community engagement returns and local knowledge. This was a very extensive and wide-ranging list

which was reviewed to clean out any sites which were obviously unsuitable in terms of the NPPF requirements. This resulted in a long-list of candidate sites which were then further analysed to identify a short-list of sites for more in depth assessment. The long-list sites identified were:

Site Number and Name		Туре
1	North Road, White Moor, entrance to china clay plant	Highway verge
2	Millennium Obelisk site, Nanpean	Civic space
3	Grenville estate open space	Amenity spaces
4	Land adjacent to War Memorial, St Georges Road	Unused.
5	Goverseth, adjoining football ground.	Amenity space & playspace
6	Braddock Close, Foxhole	Amenity space
7	Hensbarrow Meadows, Foxhole	Amenity space
8	Fortescue Close, Foxhole	Unused
9	Former Mid Cornwall Clay works, west of Foxhole	Unused
10	Land surrounding Foxhole Village Green, Foxhole	Unused
11	St Stephens Beacon, Foxhole	Agricultural
12	Gainsborough, Foxhole	Unused
13	Hillside Meadows	Verge to property access
14	Land fronting Sunny Corner, High Street	Highway verge
15	Land fronting Tzaneen, Lanjeth	Road island
16	Land fronting Coombe Meadow, Coombe	Amenity space
17	Land fronting Coombe Meadow, Coombe	Unused
18	Coombe Fields, Coombe	Agricultural
19	Kings Arms Field, St Stephen	Agricultural
20	McCarthy Drive, St Stephen	Amenity space
21	Entrance to Creakavose, St Stephen	Amenity space and highway verge
22	Creakavose, St Stephen	Amenity space
23	Brannel Green, St Stephen	Amenity space
24	Kenrick Close, St Stephen	Amenity space.

It was decided that spaces which could be described as 'amenity space', 'civic space' were practically protected under NPPF, CLP and NDP policy relating to leisure, recreational and sports spaces, and should therefore not be further investigated as possible LGS. Neighbourhood Plan Examiners now frequently recommend that 'highway verge' is not appropriate as LGS, so such areas were also excluded.

The short-list for further examination was therefore set as being the following:

Site Number and Name		Туре
4	Land adjacent to War Memorial, St Georges Road	Unused.
8	Fortescue Close, Foxhole	Unused
9	Former Mid Cornwall Clay works, west of Foxhole	Unused
10	Land surrounding Foxhole Village Green, Foxhole	Unused
11	St Stephens Beacon, Foxhole	Agricultural
12	Gainsborough, Foxhole	Unused
13	Hillside Meadows	Verge to property access
17	Land fronting Coombe Meadow, Coombe	Unused
18	Coombe Fields, Coombe	Agricultural
19	Kings Arms Field, St Stephen	Agricultural

- **25. Proposed green spaces:** Following the assessment given in the next section the following sites are suggested for designation in the Neighbourhood Development Plan as Local Green Space:
  - Land adjacent to War Memorial, St Georges Road

- Former Mid Cornwall Clay works, west of Foxhole
- Coombe Fields, Coombe
- Kings Arms Field, St Stephen

#### 26. The community and landowners (where identifiable) were consulted on these proposals.

Objection was received only from St Austell Brewery, owner of the Kings Arms Field.

27. In summary the objection stated the following:

'We note that a Draft Local Green Space Report (the 'LGS Report') was provided and that this states that the Field has: i) Beauty in an historic landscape context; and ii) historic significance.

In NPPF and PPG terms, the Field cannot have beauty because of its historic significance and therefore we focus solely on the proposed historic significance as set out in the LGS Report.

The LGS Report is rather ambiguous, setting out a lot of detail about features that are not the Field, or related to the Field, and simply stating that "It is possible that the wrestling events moved to the Kings Arms Field..." – that is not an appropriate basis on which to consider that the Field has sufficient historic significance to warrant designation as Local Green Space.

We attach a copy of a heritage appraisal of the Field (the 'Appraisal') – there is no evidence that this field had any special value for use for wrestling at the time claimed - the value of the Field itself is somewhat lessened as it is only one of many locations where wrestling occurred - occasional use [for wrestling] is not sufficient to warrant designate as Local Green Space - single pre-1971 reference made to the activity occurring "near the King's Arms", is not a sufficient basis to justify a historic significance which is demonstrably special to the local community - the Field is a small part of what was once a much larger area and therefore even if wrestling did ever occur (more than once) in the field immediately adjacent to the Kings Arms that does not mean that if occurred in the Field.

The summary in the LGS Report that "This small site makes a significant contribution to the historic character of St Stephen in Brannel village centre, and it is therefore concluded that the site is appropriate to be identified as a local green space" cannot be justified on the evidence available.

#### **Conclusions**

Our clients object to the proposed designation of the 'Kings Arms Field' as Local Green Space.

The Field does not meet the relevant tests in the PPG and the NPPF.

The proposed designation is contrary to the basic conditions.

The Kings Arms Field should therefore be omitted from the proposed Local Green Space designation'.

28. The Steering Group, on behalf of the Parish Council, gave careful consideration to this objection and carried out further investigations. It concluded that the Local Green Space designation should be applied to the Kings Arms Field for the following reasons:

The NPPF lists beauty as one of the reasons for designating a site as LGS but gives no further definition. NPPG does not give a definition as to what beauty is in the case of LGS. However it says that 'Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion'. In exercising its discretion, the NDP Steering Group has defined a list of Principal Considerations to ensure consistency of approach. For 'Beauty' this quality is defined as: 'a combination of qualities, such as shape, colour, or form, that pleases the aesthetic senses, especially the visual attractiveness and aesthetic value of the site, and its contribution to the streetscape, landscape, character or setting of a settlement. To qualify, the site should contribute significantly to local character, for example by defining a sense of place, or by helping to define the physical form of a settlement'. In the assessment of the site its contribution as part of the historic landscape of St Stephen in Brannel Churchtown as 'a central feature of the area' which gives the village its distinctive sense of place and quality is considered to be very significant. To dismiss the 'beauty' aspect of the justification for LGS designation is clearly erroneous.

Turning to historic significance, the objection focuses solely on the assertion that the Field is not the traditional Cornish Wrestling site, and that its use for such has been occasional, and that therefore the LGS

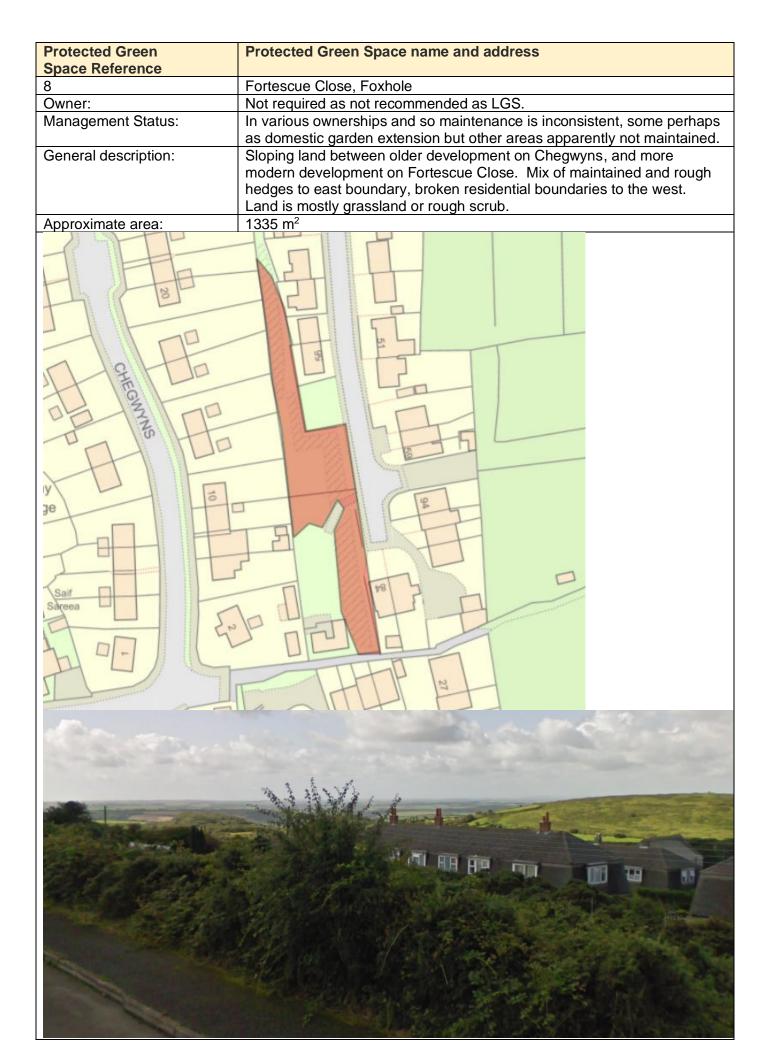
designation is contrary to the Basic Conditions. This ignores the main argument given in the LGS report for the LGS designation, which is actually that the Kings Arms Field is a central feature of the Churchtown Area, and makes an important contribution to the village's distinctive sense of place.

In fact further research by the NDP Steering Group shows that the Field has been used for wrestling throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, the most recent being 2019, with the following years being impacted by Covid, as well as for fetes, donkey derbys, tug-of-war events [the tug-of-war rope being now kept in the Queens Head nearby], and the location for the St Stephen Feast Week [newspaper article from 2014] with the most recent community event being 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 [Queens Jubilee Weekend]. This evidence not only reinforces the historic significance case, but also adds a further justification for the designation of the site as LGS under the category of recreational use. This information has been introduced to the assessment of the site given in this Local Green Space Report.

Protected Green Space Reference	Protected Green Space name and address
4	Land adjacent to War Memorial, St Georges Road
Owner:	Sir Ian Heathcoat Amory BT, Sir John Christopher Parson K.C.V.O, The Estate Office, Boconnoc, Lostwithiel PL22 0RG
Management Status:	Appears unused, but occasional maintenance evident.
General description:	Small area of open land fronting the Mission Church, between the
·	war Memorial and residential properties ton the east. Slightly rising
	so quite visible, with hedge to Church boundary, and rubble wall to
Approximate area:	road frontage 900 m <sup>2</sup>
Approximate area:	900
Church Rooms PO Wat	2 37111111111111111111111111111111111111
168.7m/	168.0m
DOT SE COMP	

Basic Requirements Assessment		
Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment	
Statutory Designations.	No.	
Allocated for development in LP, DPD or	No.	
NDP?		
Planning Applications or Permissions.	No.	
Is the Open Space in reasonably close	Immediate to residential properties, Church Rooms and	
proximity to the community it serves?	school.	
Is the Open Space demonstrably special a	and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the	
following reasons?		
Beauty?	Yes. Not exceptionally attractive in itself but provides a good	
	open frontage to the Church which together with adjoining	
	buildings and the War Memorial preserves the continuity of	
	the Victorian/Edwardian character of this stretch of the village.	
Historic significance?	Yes. Is part of the setting of the adjacent War Memorial, which	
	is Listed.	
Recreational value (inc as a playing	No.	
field)?		
Tranquillity?	No.	
Richness of wildlife?	No.	
Any other reason??	No.	
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No.	

This site helps to maintain the historic character of this area and is part of the setting of a Listed structure so is considered appropriate to be designated as a Local green Space

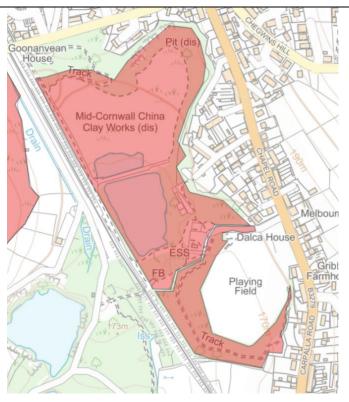


Basic Requirements Assessment		
Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment	
Statutory Designations.	No.	
Allocated for development in LP, DPD or	No.	
NDP?		
Planning Applications or Permissions.	No.	
Is the Open Space in reasonably close	At heart of residential area.	
proximity to the community it serves?		
Is the Open Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the		
following reasons?		
Beauty?	No.	
Historic significance?	No.	
Recreational value (inc as a playing	No.	
field)?		
Tranquillity?	No.	
Richness of wildlife?	No.	
Any other reason??	Provides a green area in an otherwise developed estate and	
·	affords long views to the west.	
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No.	
STIMMADV:		

Although this site has some value, it is not considered that it is sufficient to justify designation as a Local Green Space.

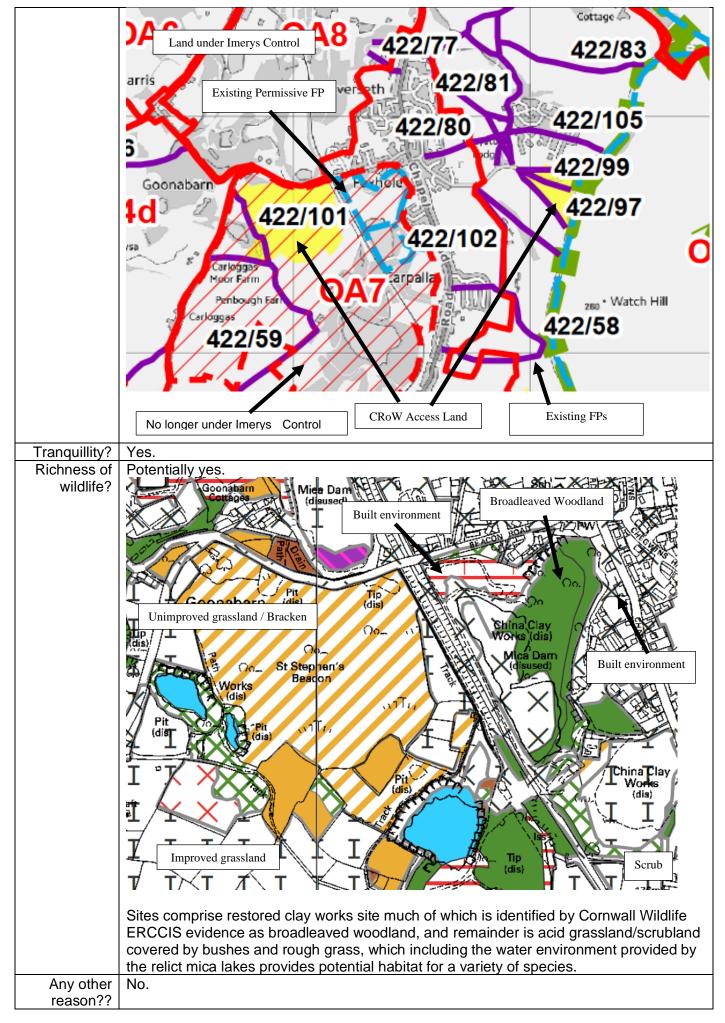
Protected Green Space Reference	Protected Green Space name and address
9 & 10	Former Mid Cornwall Clay works, west of Foxhole, Land surrounding Foxhole Village Green, Foxhole
Owner:	Carpalla Limited, 77 Fore Street, Bugle, St Austell PL26 8PD
	Thomas John Neville Williams, Cransleigh House, Chapel Road, St. Austell
	Mervyn Joseph Crowle, 7 Carpalla Terrace, Carpalla Foxhole, St. Austell
	Arthur David John Bullock, 23 Goverseth Terrace, Foxhole, St. Austell
Management Status:	Part of former clay works in OA7 Carpalla working area now long disused. A restoration and aftercare management was agreed in 2000 and ceased in 2015. Minimal maintenance associated with permissive FPs which circulate the area.
General description:	Former clay workings mica dam area with surrounding land and plant, now mostly dried out, comprising scrubland, areas of natural re-growth, remains of mica lakes and disused buildings. Permissive Footpath no 422/102 circles the site, providing links into the village. The landscape scheme undertaken on these former China Clay Works is now well established and has assimilated the site in the wider countryside setting. [Note: The site is not classified as previously developments land (PDL) as set out in the NPPF, as PDL excludes land that has been developed for minerals extraction or waste disposal by landfill purposes where provision for restoration has been made through development control procedures, this is the case here as it forms China Clay Works where restoration planting has been approved and implemented].
Approximate area:	Northern section: 6.9ha. Southern 1.5ha





Basic Requirements Assessment		
Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment	
Statutory	No.	
Designations.		
Allocated for	No.	
development		

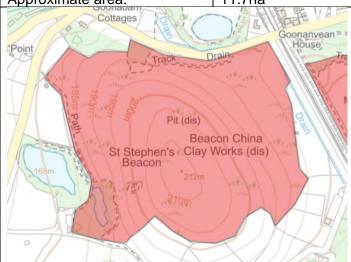
in LP, DPD	
or NDP?	
Planning	Yes. Minerals restoration agreement OA7 Carpalla (R10/Env/OA7). Also PA 17/11829,
Applications	outline application for residential Park Home site on the north and west of the site was
or	refused in 2018 as it was considered to be in conflict with policy 3 of the CLP and is not
Permissions.	infill or rounding off development. In terms of landscape impact, it was also considered
	that the development would result in a material domestication of this edge of settlement
	site which is not justified and would erode the character and appearance of the site and
	wider countryside setting.
Is the Open	Within 10 minute walk of the village housing estates.
Space in	
reasonably	
close	
proximity to	
the	
community it	
serves?	
	ace demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the
following reaso	
Beauty?	Yes, as setting or nearby SAM and the village defining its sense of place, and helping to
	define the physical form of the settlement. Is part of the wider landscape which has great
	local significance in terms of its relationship with the evolution of the china clay industry,
	the local urban 'island settlement' form, and the daily experience of living in a distinctly
	unusual but well recognised Cornish landscape. It also has important literary links, to the
	works of Jack Clemo, A L Rowse and Alan Kent. [see below].
Historic	Yes. Former clay mining area below St Stephen's Beacon, and therefore part of the
significance?	setting of the Scheduled Ancient Monument. Also the presence of the former works is
	part of the historic setting of Foxhole, helping understanding of the evolution of the 'island
	settlements' and making a contribution to its historic character. The sites themselves are
	part of the Wheal Bull, a Clay Works dating from the 1880s.
Recreational	Permissive Footpath no 422/101 and 422/102 circle the site, providing links into the
value (inc as	village. Also future potential: Cornwall Council Restoration Strategy for St Austell China
a playing	Clay area says that 'where opportunities arise to reinstate former historic and recognised
field)?	routes between settlements, improvements should also be considered. For example,
	connectivity between the PRoW network to the east of Foxhole including footpaths
	422/55; 422/102, 422/58 and 422/54, could be potentially improved to link with the
	existing section of the Blackpool Trail, which runs broadly north to south along the
	western flank of the Blackpool operational area'. The southern area is a green space that
	surrounds the village playing field.



Is it an	Yes.
extensive	
tract of land?	

SUMMARY: As green space immediately adjacent to Foxhole and its residential areas the two sites together now form an attractive natural setting for the village with considerable potential for the extension of the limited recreational use [permissive footpaths]. They also have historic environment value as a setting for St Stephens Beacon SAM, and themselves contribute to the local historic charter of the village. The landscape and habit produced by the restoration has potential to host a wide variety of species. Although the two sites together are some 8.5 ha and therefore not strictly compliant with the NPPF guidance on local green spaces, their value is such that it is considered appropriate they be identified as a local green space.

Protected Green Space Reference	Protected Green Space name and address
11	St Stephens Beacon, Foxhole
Owner:	Not required as not recommended as LGS.
Management Status:	Maintained grazing land.
General description:	Formed by a granite extrusion, has a distinct elliptical shape, rsing above the village of Foxhole. The summit is an early neolithic hillfort, around which the land is sloping with modern enclosed fields used for grazing.
Approximate area:	11.7ha





Basic Requirements Assessment		
Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment	
Statutory Designations.	Yes, Scheduled Ancient Monument at centre. Crow act under	
	S4 as 'Conclusive Open Country'	
Allocated for development in LP, DPD	No.	
or NDP?		
Planning Applications or Permissions.	Minerals restoration OA7 Carpalla (R10/Env/OA7).	
Is the Open Space in reasonably close	At extent of ten minute walk of village.	
proximity to the community it serves?		
Is the Open Space demonstrably special	and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the	
following reasons?		
Beauty?	Yes as part of the wider landscape which has great local	
	significance in terms of its relationship with the evolution of the	
	china clay industry, the local urban 'island settlement' form,	
	and the daily experience of living in a distinctly unusual but well	
	recognised Cornish landscape. It also has important literary	
	links, to the works of Jack Clemo, A L Rowse and Alan Kent.	
	For Clemo in particular the china clay landscape had symbolic	
	importance for his mystical and religious experiences, and his	
	words capture how the expanding clay industry impacted on	
	nature, which, after abandonment of the works, were reclaimed	
	by nature. Indeed the landscape between the workings and	
	around the village is surprisingly green – overgrown rather than	
	planted – full of bushes and trees and small green fields	
Historic significance?	Yes. Includes a Scheduled Ancient Monument (early neolithic	
	hillfort] and several post-medieval pits and quarry sites. St	
	Stephens Beacon is where William Cookworthy first discovered	
	China Clay at the site of an open cast tin mine, and nearby	
	Carloggas is the site of his first sett. The area thus has very	
	great historic environment significance.	
Recreational value (inc as a playing	Yes. Most of the site is covered by the Crow act under S4 as	
field)?	'Conclusive Open Country' to which there is public access. A	

	public footpath passes down the west boundary of the site. [See Recreation map Sites 9 & 10 assessment above]
Tranquillity?	Yes. The site is located away from busy roads and industry, although they are in sight.
Richness of wildlife?	Yes potentially as ERCCIS records the land as 'Unimproved grassland / Bracken'. Unimproved grassland is land that hasn't been reseeded, fertilised or drained and tends to be full of flowers and wildlife. [See Wildlife map in Sites 9 & 10 assessment].
Any other reason??	No.
Is it an extensive tract of land?	Yes.

This site has clear landscape, historic environment, recreational value and potential nature conservation value. However it is a large area and already covered by Scheduled Ancient Monument and CRoW act provisions, and is just on the margins of a reasonably walkable neighbourhood distance of Foxhole. It is therefore considered that the site is not appropriate for designation as a Local Green Space.

Protected Green Space Reference	Protected Green Space name and address
12	Land south of Gainsborough
Owner:	Not required as not recommended as LGS.
Management Status:	E.g. 'Well managed and maintained. Includes Young children's play area/football pitch/ public open space
General description:	E.g. Sloping field with marked out football pitch and team shelter, defined play area: swings and young children's fenced, equipped playground. Picnic benches and seating along the Southern edge.  Mature trees along the western edge.
Approximate area:	North section 0.94ha. South section 2.2ha



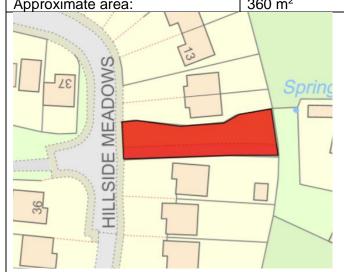




Basic Requirements Assessment		
Criteria and reason for protection Yes/No/Comment		
Statutory Designations.	Crow act under S4 as 'Conclusive Open Country'	
Allocated for development in LP, DPD	Mineral Safeguarding area for china clay.	
or NDP?		
Planning Applications or Permissions.	Restoration and Tipping Strategy for the	
-	St Austell China Clay area refers.	
Is the Open Space in reasonably close	400m from Foxhole via steep lane, but close to Gainsborough	
proximity to the community it serves?	Park residential Home estate.	
Is the Open Space demonstrably special following reasons?	and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the	
Beauty?	Yes. An area of windswept open ground, with wide-ranging panoramic views of the surrounding landscape.	
Historic significance?	Some. Shown as upland rough ground on Historic Landscape	
	Characterisation mapping with the Cornwall HER, close to the	
	site of Chegwins and several closely spaced medieval	
	settlement sites, so may be undisturbed by china clay mining	
D ( )   ( )	and of some antiquity.	
Recreational value (inc as a playing field)?	Is Crow act under S4 as 'Conclusive Open Country'	
Tranquillity?	No. Windswept.	
Richness of wildlife?	Yes. Comprises lowland heathland Priority Habitat and shown	
	on ERCCIS as Dry dwarf shrub heath.	
	Goverseth	
	1 1 1 Reservoir	
	I I I I J Gainsborough	
	Gainsborough	
	(Cerolar Paris)	
	T	
	Foxhele	
	Chegwins	
	The state of the s	
Any other reason??	No.	
Is it an extensive tract of land?	Individually, No.	
CLIMMADV.	mairiadally, 140.	

Site with clear landscape, historic, recreation and wildlife value, and may be of some historic environment value. However, as S4 as 'Conclusive Open Country' it is not appropriate that it be designated as a Local Green Space.

Protected Green Space Reference	Protected Green Space name and address
13.	Land at Hillside Meadows, Foxhole.
Owner:	Not required as not recommended as LGS.
Management Status:	Well managed and maintained.
General description:	Appears to be land within the estate layout reserved to provide access to Higher Carpalla Farm. Contigous to land across the estate road running west which is identified as amenity space protected under NPPF, CLP and NDP policy relating to leisure, recreational and sports spaces.
Annrovimate area:	360 m <sup>2</sup>





Basic Requirements Assessment		
Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment	
Statutory Designations.	No.	
Allocated for development in LP, DPD or	No.	
NDP?		
Planning Applications or Permissions.	88/18/01735/0 Dated 11/6/91 for Residential Development.	
Is the Open Space in reasonably close	Integral to residential estate.	
proximity to the community it serves?		
Is the Open Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the		
following reasons?		
Beauty?	No.	
Historic significance?	No.	
Recreational value (inc as a playing	No.	
field)?		
Tranquillity?	No.	
Richness of wildlife?	No.	
Any other reason??	No.	
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No.	
OLIMANA DV		

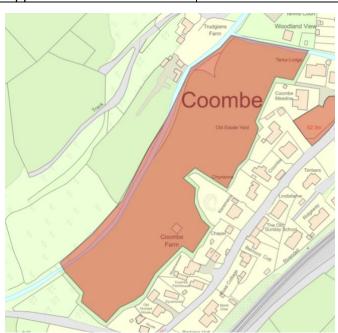
Appears to be greenspace associated with access to a property located behind the estate and has no functional value as a Local Green Space. Therefore is not considered appropriate to be identified as a local green space

Protected Green	Protected Green Space name and address
Space Reference	i iotecteu Oreen opace name and address
17.	Land fronting Coombe Meadow, Coombe
Owner:	Not required as not recommended as LGS.
Management Status:	North east portion at mouth of private road appears well
Management Status.	maintained, remainder of site has substantial hedgerow trees an
	area which appears to have minimal management.
General description:	North east portion is a larger area of highway verge that has
General description.	amenity value The remainder
Approximate area:	
Coombe Meadow  Timbers	Honeycomb Brann
Basic Requirements Assessment	
Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment
Statutory Designations.	Part of hedgerow fronting the main road has TPO trees [5
	Sycamore and 1 Hawthorn], whilst the south-eastern

	boundary includes 4 Sycamore and 1 Hawthorn that are
	covered by a TPO.
	Within Area of Great Landscape Value.
Allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	No.
Planning Applications or Permissions.	C2/84/00681/S01 Development of four dwellings, approved 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 1988.
Is the Open Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Integral to the village.
Is the Open Space demonstrably special a	and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the
following reasons?	
Beauty?	Yes. The north east portion contributes to the open and
•	spacious appeal of this small estate.
Historic significance?	No. Nearby the field-names 'Higher' and 'Lower Round
ŭ .	Meadow' suggests the site of an Early Iron Age to Romano
	British round, but there are no remains.
Recreational value (inc as a playing	No.
field)?	
Tranquillity?	No.
Richness of wildlife?	No.
Any other reason??	No.
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No.
is it an extensive tract or land:	INO.

The north east portion is most appropriately treated as type 1 amenity green space and protected under NPPF, CLP and NDP policy relating to leisure, recreational and sports spaces. The remainder appears to be an unbuilt plot consented under the 1988 permission. As this has been partly implemented, the permission is likely to be perpetuated and therefore it would not be appropriate to designate the site as a local green space.

Protected Green Space Reference	Protected Green Space name and address
18.	Coombe Fields, Coombe
Owner:	Sir Ian Heathcoat Amory BT, Sir John Christopher Parson K.C.V.O, The Estate Office, Boconnoc, Lostwithiel PL22 0RG The field is rented by a local farmer from Boconnoc Estate
Management Status:	Agricultural maintenance.
General description:	Comprises two flattish agricultural fields alongside Gwindra Stream.  Hedgerows alongside stream and other boundaries, although very patchy to the residential boundaries on the south, Crossed by hedgerow mid-way along length. About half the area abutting the Gwindra Stream is in the flood plain.
Approximate area:	2ha



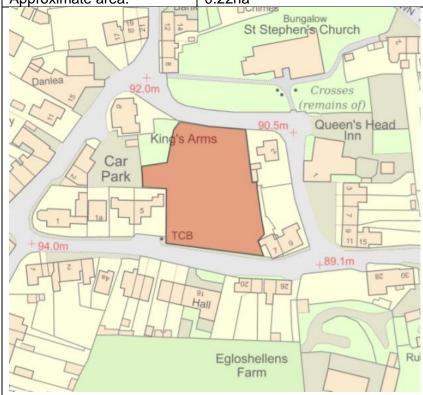


Basic Requirements Assessment		
Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment	
Statutory Designations.	Area of Great Landscape Value.	
Allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	No	
Planning Applications or Permissions.	Although the land was identified in the SHLAA as a housing site, it is far too large to be regarded as a sustainable development in the context of this small village	
Is the Open Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	Give distance in metres.	
Is the Open Space demonstrably special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the following reasons?		
Beauty?	Yes. The Gwindra Stream and its flood-plain is very attractive rural setting for the village.	
Historic significance?	Some. The historic field names 'Higher' and 'Lower Round Meadow' for the northern part of the site [which is shown in the 1940 Tithe map as being in six smaller parts] suggests the site of an Early Iron Age to Romano British round, but there are no remains. Shown on the Historic Landscape Characterisation as post-medieval enclosed land.	
Recreational value (inc as a playing field)?	Site is used for the annual Coombe Gymkhana which has been sited there for the last 40 years or so.	
Tranquillity?	Yes. The village has an intimate, peaceful ambiance to which the Gwindra Stream and its flood-plain is integral.	

Richness of wildlife?	Yes, part has potential. The fields are shown as improved grassland on ERICCIS but the streamside area is broadleaved woodland.
Any other reason??	No
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No.

As noted above, Coombe village has an intimate, peaceful ambiance to its sense of place to which the Gwindra Stream and its flood-plain is integral. The loss of this site to development would effectively destroy this atmosphere. It is therefore considered appropriate to designate the area as a Local Green Space.

Protected Green Space Reference	Protected Green Space name and address
19.	Kings Arms Field, St Stephen
Owner:	St Austell Brewery Company Limited, 63 Trevarthian Road, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4BY
Management Status:	Agricultural use.
General description:	Small field enclosed by development, used for grazing. Part of boundary to west formed by tall timber fencing and hedgerow, with a gap between by which access is gained from the adjacent public car park. To north boundary is a low granite block wall which fits in well with the 'Churchtown' character of the area. To the east boundary is hedges, and south open timber fencing through which views into the site are possible.
Approximate area:	0.22ha







Pacia Paguiromento Assassm	aont
Basic Requirements Assessm Criteria and reason for protection	Yes/No/Comment
Statutory Designations.	No.
Allocated for development in LP, DPD or NDP?	No.
Planning Applications or Permissions.	No planning history.
Is the Open Space in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves?	At centre of village.
following reasons?	y special and hold a particular local significance for one or more of the
Beauty?	
Historic significance?	Yes. Some 100m to the north is the site of a possible 'plen-an-gwari', a Cornish medieval amphitheatre, now the site of the Churchtown Craft Workshops and Parish Council Offices. The latter site was shown on the 1840 tithe map as a school and wrestling ring. It is thought that the wrestling events moved to the Kings Arms Field when the school was extended in 1896, carrying on the tradition through to 2019.  St Stephen has an historic core, essentially the old 'Churchtown' area
	around the 12th Century Church of St Stephen. This core is very distinctive: tight with narrow and bending streets, with terraced and individual cottages, and the former Kings Arms pub, all of no more than two-storey form on small plots, built with the local lighter coloured granite in block and rubble, but only a few with detailing flourishes such as quoins or decorative lintels. Amongst these are four listed buildings including the Church itself (Grade I), the Queens Head pub, the former Church Room, and the Methodist Church and Sunday School (all Grade II). The Kings Arms Field is a central feature of the area, enclosed by 'The Square'. The Churchyard and nearby cemetery also include 17 listed crosses and the War Memorial, and two Scheduled Ancient Monuments. It is this core that gives St Stephen its sense of place and quality, for which a 'Historic Core' designation in the NDP is proposed.
Recreational value (inc as a playing field)?	Yes. The Field has been used for wrestling throughout the 20th Century [see tables and posters below] and into the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century, including on Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2017, and 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2019, [see Cornish wrestling fixture list at <a href="http://www.cornishwrestling.co.uk/category/events/">http://www.cornishwrestling.co.uk/category/events/</a> and poster below] as well as for fetes, donkey derbys, tug-of-war events [the tug-of-war rope being now kept in the Queens Head nearby], and the location for the St Stephen Feast Week [see newspaper article from 2014] with the most recent community event being 3rd June 2022 [see poster and facebook post for Queens Jubilee Weekend].

#### WRESTLING AT ST. STEPHENS-IN-BRANWELL

At St. Stephens-in-Branwell on Wednesday (Feast Wednesday) the annual wrestling competitions took place in a field near the Queen's Head Hotel, where no less than sixteen competitors entered the ring. A silver cup valued at four guineus, with large money prizes, were offered; consequently sense of the best wrestlers in the county were present, and there was a very large attendance of spectators. The cup had to be wen two years in succession by the same person before it could become the property of the winner, and last year it was secured by J. Jefford, of St. Mewan. The men were evenly matched, and some interessing bouts were witnessed, the sticklers being Mesers. C. Proeman, St. Austell, and J. Vivian and G. Bragg, St. Stephens. A strong committee, with Captain Tim Rowse, of Lanburery, at the head, managed the proceedings. The chief tussles were between R. Chapman and J. Jefford (the latter proving superior), J. Prynns and W. Rowe (the former winning), R. Stephens and J. Snell (the latter again being vanquished), and C. Chapman and W. Ellis ithe former throwing his opponent). In the final round J. Jefford proved the victor, thus winning the cup outright, and £3 in money; C. Chapman took the second prize of £2, J. Prynn the third of £1, and R. Stephens the fourth of 10s.

#### Silver Cup for Wrestling.

INTERESTING COMPETITION AT ST. STEPHENS-IN-BRANWELL,

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Newspaper articles from 1908.



Total	351	5	5	6	14	11	26	29	19	9	21	42	23	61	18	8	9	13	15	8	9
Place	Decade	1800	1810	1820	1830	1840	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990
Bethel	2															2					
Bugle	9													7	2						
Carthew	7								2						5						
Charlestown	8								2		1	4	1								
Holmbush	3												2	1							
Indian Queens	3							1												2	
Luxulyan	5							2	3												
Mount Charles	5	_							2			2		1							
Nanpean	8							1	-			6		1							
Par	12										2	4				6					
Polkyth	1										1					U					
CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR	2	_									1							2			
Porthpean											2	-	2	12			-	2			
Roche	33						40	47		•	2	6	2	12	4		7				
St Austell	106	3	1	6	11	11	13	17	8	3	2	5	4	17	3		2				
St Blazey	31				1		9	1	2		1	4	7	6							
St Blazey Gate	2	-										1	1								
St Dennis	8									1	3	1		1	2						
St Stephens	90		1		2		4	6		5	7	6	5	11	2			11	15	6	9
Tregony	13	2	3					1			2	3	1	1							
Tregrehan	3													3							
10/08/1978 ?		Gerry Ca	wlev																		
10/08/1978 ?		Keith Cole																			
10/08/1978 ?		Brian Warne																			
08/1983 Open		Keith Cole			Peter I	nnos															
08/1983 U18		Fred Thomas			Mark Trudgeon																
08/1983 U16		Stephen Arthur			John Hailett			Ma	Matthew Deacon												
08/1983 U14		Barry Grose			Christopher Barker				Pam Chapman												
08/1983 U12		Jeremy Treloar			John				Trevriliot												
		Martyn Tellar			Andre	w Swee	t	Gre	gory Ca	rthew											
08/1994 Heavyweight 08/1994 U18		Matthew Deacon Michael Deacon																			
08/1994 Featherweight Michael B 10/08/1996 Heavyweight Gerry Caw																					
		Jonathan Platt																			
The second secon		Jonathan Platt																			
The state of the s		Gavin Benney			Ashley	Cawle	<b>y</b>														
10/08/1996 U12		Lee Bradd				Benney															
10/08/1996 U10		Chris Co	ad		John F	rench															

Tables from 'Cornish wrestling in the St Austell area' showing that Cornish wrestling continued in St Stephen from 1810 to 1996. This will include the original site lost to the School, the Kings Arms Field and the Recreation Ground.





### WRASSLIN'S COMING HOME

SATURDAY 17TH AUGUST 2:00FM KINGS ARMS FIELD • ST STEPHEN

#### COMPETITION CLASSES:

CORNISH LIGHTHEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP - (UNDER 15 STONE)
MEN'S OPEN CLASS • JUNIOR CLASSES - UNDER 10, UNDER 12,
UNDER 11, UNDER 16 & UNDER 18

GWARY WHEK YU GWARY TEK! GOOD PLAY IS FAIR PLAY!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENTER PLEASE CONTACT PETER SHELDON: 01872 21,2001

St. Stephen-in-Brannel Wrestling Committee

## WRESTLING

Kings Arms Field, St. Stephen-in-Brannel

ST. AUSTELL

Thursday, August 5th, 1976

Commence 6-20 nm prompt

Entrice on field his 6-19



#### OPEN HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

1st PRIZE: (20 AND HAWKINS MOTORS CUP (PERPETUAL)

#### YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP

A COMPETITION TO ENCOURAGE CORNISH YOUTHS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE 1st PRIZE: CUMBERLAND CUNDY CUP (PERPETUAL),

A CASH PRIZE FOR EVERY NON PRIZE WINNER

THE POCHIN CUP will be awarded to the wrestler engaged in the CORNISH CHINA CLAY INDUSTRY who gives the best wrestling

"Fair Play is Good Play"

Admission 20p, O.A.P. & Children 10p
The Committee will not accept responsibility for any accidents which
may occur, and reserve the right to make any alterations they deem
necessary

\* FREE CAR PARK

ENTRIES to Hon. Sec.: J. K. COCKS, 10, Eastfield Way, Fairfield Park, St. Austell OR ON THE FIELD

J. Edyveon G. Son, Printers, St. Columb. Tel. 347						
Tranquillity?	No.					
Richness of wildlife?	No.					
Any other reason??	No.					
Is it an extensive tract of land?	No.					

#### SUMMARY:

This small site has historic significance, makes a significant contribution to the historic character of St Stephen village centre, and has a long history of recreational use. It is therefore concluded that the site is appropriate to be identified as a local green space.