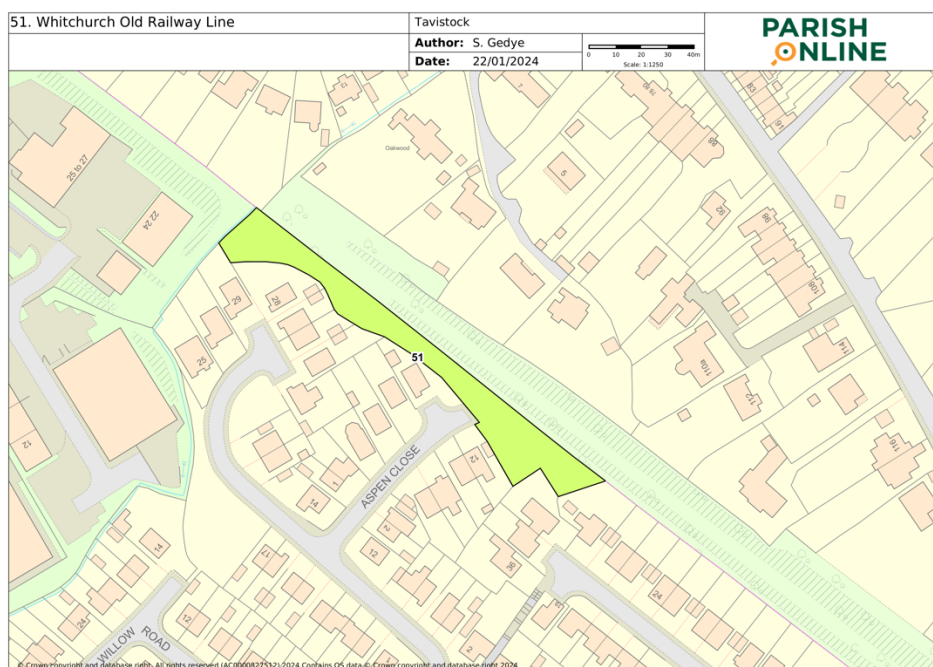


## 51. Whitchurch Old Railway Line (Aspen Close)



Site	Whitchurch Old Railway Line (Aspen Close)	
1	<b>Planning History</b> - Does it meet LGS criteria?	Y
	Does the sites have an extant planning permission, which can still be implemented and would conflict with a Local Green Space designation? <i>(If yes, the site is considered not suitable for Local Green Space Designation)</i>	N
	Has the site been allocated for an incompatible Local Green Space use? <i>If yes, the site is considered not suitable for Local Green Space Designation</i>	N
	Any further points to raise from the Strategic Land Availability Assessment?	N
2	<b>Other Designations</b> - Does it meet LGS criteria?	Y

	<p>Is the site covered by any of the following designations?</p> <p>Special Areas of Conservation; Special Protection Areas; Sites of Special Scientific Interest; Registered Parks and Gardens; Local Nature Reserves; Registered village greens; Common land; Strategic Green Space; Minerals Safeguarding Area</p> <p><i>If yes, the site is considered not suitable for Local Green Space Designation</i></p>	N
<b>3</b>	<b>Proximity to Community</b> - Does it meet LGS criteria?	Y
	<p>Is the site within 240m radius of 10 dwellings or more?</p> <p><i>If yes, the site is considered suitable for Local Green Space Designation due to its proximity to the community it serves</i></p>	Y
<b>4</b>	<b>Local Character and Not Extensive Tract of Land</b> - Does it meet LGS criteria?	Y
	<p>Is the site, or adjacent green spaces appropriate for Local Green Space taken together, larger than 10ha?</p> <p><i>If yes, the site is considered not suitable for Local Green Space Designation</i></p>	N
	<p><b>How does the site relate to the local area?</b> Does the site feel part of the local area? Does the site connect physically, visually and/or socially to the area? Is the site distinct from its context by virtue of its size, land type or landscape features, e.g. what are its boundary conditions?</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below :</i></p> <p>The area forms a small patch of steep grass with some trees on the outside edge of old railway line. The strip acts as a green backdrop within a housing estate. The site is distinct in its topography (steep), vegetation (trees and grass) and use (outer edge of railway embankment). It is a strip of ground which on its northern edge it is bounded by a railway cutting and on the southern long edge abuts gardens but is also open to Aspen Close.</p>	
	<p><b>The site should not be an extensive tract of land.</b> How large is the site in comparison to the community it serves and areas of land in the vicinity?</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below:</i></p> <p>The site is 0.21 Ha compared to a parish area of 1,330 Ha.</p>	
	<p><b>Is the extent of the size reasonable for its potential designation as a Local Green Space</b> - How has the size of the site been decided? Does the site follow natural features or existing constraints? Does the whole site justify allocation as Local Green Space or is some of the site unnecessarily included? Is the site unusually large for its use?</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below:</i></p>	Y

	The size has been defined on the basis of mapped boundaries and its character, as described above.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Particular Local Significance</b> - Does it meet LGS criteria?	<b>Y</b>
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Beauty</b> - Does it meet LGS criteria?	<b>N</b>
	Is the site discernibly beautiful or more beautiful than the surrounding areas?  <i>Please provide justification below</i>	
	Site visibility - Is the site visible from a public place? Are there views of the site from any key locations?  <i>Please provide justification below</i>	
	Is the site (or type of landscape) specifically mentioned in any relevant landscape character assessments, conservation area appraisals or similar documents?  <i>Please provide justification below</i>	
	Is the site covered by any landscape or similar designations?  <i>Please provide justification below</i>	
	Are there any cultural references to the site's scenic quality?  <i>Please provide justification below</i>	
	Does the site bring interest from further afield to the local area?  <i>Please provide justification below</i>	
	Does the green space help to improve the overall appearance of the area by means of its features?  <i>Please provide justification below</i>	
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Historic Significance</b> - Does it meet LGS criteria?	<b>N</b>
	Are there any historic buildings, features or remains on the site? For example, listed buildings, scheduled ancient monuments, and war memorials.	

	<i>Please provide justification below</i>	
	<p>Are there any historic landscape features on the site? For example, old hedgerows, ancient trees, historic ponds, historic garden features, ancient woodlands.</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	
	<p>Did the site play an important role in the historic development of the village or town? For example, part of the grounds for the manor house, site of an old railway station, village green.</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	
	<p>Did any important historic events take place on the site? Is there a longstanding event which takes place on the site? For example, fete's, well-dressing, maypole dancing, pace egg rolling, plays, market</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Recreational Value - Does it meet LGS criteria?</b>	<b>Y</b>
	<p>Is there evidence or is it feasible that the site is used for playing sport or is it included in the playing pitch strategy to deliver sports provisions?</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	<b>N</b>
	Which Sport?	
	Is this sports provision free?	
	Is it good quality?	
	Are there better facilities nearby?	
	<p>Does the Green space incorporate play provision or is it included in the play strategy to deliver new play provision? What is the quality of the play area?</p> <p><i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	<b>N</b>

	<p>Are there any other play provisions within a 240m for local playable space or 600m for strategic play space?  <i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p>	
	<p>Is there evidence or is it feasible that the site is used for informal recreation? Can the site be accessed easily? Are there desire-lines present on site?  <i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p> <p>This strip of land is accessible from Aspen Close. It is steep ground and is the type of ground that children play on. This site is not the type of ground that would be heavily used but nonetheless, it is a patch of green space, wild in places, that is unusual and would be attractive for occasional play. Many green spaces are relatively flat, for utility reasons, but preserving less typical spaces like this adds variety to the play environment.</p>	Y
	<p>Does the site incorporate any recreational routes, e.g. bridleways, PRoWs, National Cycle Routes, key pedestrian and cycle links?  <i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p>	N
<b>5.4</b>	<b>Tranquillity - Does it meet LGS criteria?</b>	<b>N</b>
	<p>Is the site considered to be tranquil? If yes, what features make it feel tranquil?  <i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	
	<p>Does it enhance the feeling of tranquillity within the local area through a feeling of remoteness?  <i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	
	<p>Does it provide an area of tranquillity within a busy setting by hiding man-made structures such as roads, power-lines or lighting and by reducing the appearance of noise and light impacts?  <i>Please provide justification below</i></p>	
<b>5.5</b>	<b>Richness in Wildlife - Does it meet LGS criteria?</b>	<b>Y</b>
	<p>Is the site formally designated for its wildlife value?  <i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p>	N

	<p>If the site is not formally designated, is there any evidence that there are important habitats or species found on the site?</p> <p><i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p> <p>The site shares a long edge with the cutting of railway track (which lies in private gardens) that is part of the Nature Recovery Network. It therefore helps to extend a nature space and helps it join up with other scrub areas in the vicinity including green spaces that intersperse the Plymouth Road Industrial Estate.</p>	Y
	<p>Have ecological surveys been undertaken on or close to the site?</p> <p><i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p>	N
	<p>Has the site been defined as part of the JLP biodiversity network? Is the site adjacent to a designated site?</p> <p><i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p>	N
	<p>Is there any evidence, or is it likely that other wildlife of interest has been found on the site? Are there ancient hedgerows, woodland, veteran trees on the site?</p> <p><i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p> <p>As above, this site shares a long edge with a Nature Recovery Network site, and in conjunction with this and other nearby green spaces helps to join up nature corridors. This particular green space has some trees of wildlife value. The rest of the bank is mown and sub-optimal for wildlife. However, this site has potential, if managed differently to offer greater wildlife benefit.</p>	Y
6	<p><b>Evidence of Local Support and Alternate Green Space Provision - Is there sufficient current evidence of Local Support?</b></p> <p><i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p> <p><i>As stated above in relation to site recreational use, it is difficult to evidence support/use on a site that is an empty green space without conducting a survey.</i></p>	N
7	<p><b>Could the site help to mitigate against the effects of climate change on the local community? Does the site have sufficient landscape qualities that could help tackle climate change?</b></p> <p><i>If yes, please provide details below</i></p> <p>The site is probably too small to have much impact as a climate change resilience site.</p>	N

8	<b>Does the site include any landscape features that could help build resilience to climate change challenges?</b> Does the site have sufficient landscape features that could build resilience to climate change?	N
	<i>If yes, please provide details below</i>  As above	
9	<b>Conclusion</b> - Should site be considered for allocation?	Y
	The preservation of this space is supported because of its informal recreational value within a housing estate context. It offers a steep and therefore less typical play space with wilder elements. The site also links with sites of wildlife value (NRN site adjacent) and helps connect up local green space in the area.	