

Local Green Space Designation

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) offers the opportunity for local communities to identify green areas of particular importance to them for special protection. Once designated these open spaces will not be developed except in very special circumstances. Any type of green space could be suitable for designation and may also include land where sports pavilions, boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, or urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis.

Local Green Space:

- should only be designated when a Local or Neighbourhood Plan is prepared or reviewed;
- should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services; and must be capable of enduring beyond the end of the Plan period

National policy also states that designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:

- where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- where the green area is 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
- where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land

The proposed designation of spaces must be based on evidence to demonstrate why the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance. Blanket designation of all/most green areas or open space within an area is not appropriate.

The following guidance reflects the local interpretation of national guidance and national planning policy.

Educational sites

School and college playing fields and grounds would not normally be suitable for designation. This is because national guidance states that the space designated as 'local green space' must be capable of enduring beyond the plan period. In order to address future needs for school places there may, on some school sites, be a need to reconfigure the arrangement of school buildings and playing fields. The NPPF states that local planning authorities should give great weight to the need to create, expand or alter schools. Therefore, given this priority educational sites (grounds and playing fields) would not normally be suitable for designation.

Highway land/roadside verges

Highway land/roadside verges would not normally be suitable for designation. This is because national guidance states that the local green space must be capable of enduring beyond the plan period. Land adjoining an existing highway is the subject of 'Permitted Development' rights, which could be used to bring forward development that may be

contrary to a Local Green Space designation, but would not require planning permission to be granted. Highway land may also be utilised in bringing forward future highway/transport schemes. Therefore, highway land/roadside verges would not normally be suitable for designation.

The B&NES 5 step process to designating Local Green Space

Step 1: All submissions to be received by 5pm on 27th February 2015

Submissions sought from the Parish/Town Councils and from residents associations in Bath.

Step 2: (March 2015)

All results are logged and mapped onto an excel spreadsheet by B&NES and all relevant data contained within the submitted pro-forma is added. A desktop evaluation is undertaken to evaluate the sites to ensure that they met the NPPF criteria.

Step 3: (April 2015)

Information on the officer's evaluation is sent out to the relevant parties. If necessary, additional information and/or evidence can be requested with appropriate deadlines.

Step 4: (June 2015)

Landowners are contacted at this stage which is in accordance with Planning Guidance (para 19, Ref: 37-019-20140306). This will provide landowners with the opportunity to make comments prior to inclusion in the Draft Placemaking Plan.

Step 5: (Autumn 2015)

Recommendations are put into the Draft Placemaking Plan for consultation, everyone in the district will be given the opportunity to make comments.

Local Green Space Designation Pro-Forma

Green Space reference:	
Parish/Ward:	Abbey
Address of site:	Henrietta Park, Henrietta Road, Bath. BA2 1EE.
Landowner if known:	B&NES Council
Is the owner of the site aware of the potential designation ? Do they support the designation ? (Sites may be designated as Local Green Spaces, even if there are objections from the site owners)	YES
Planning history of the site (if known)	

Map of the site:

OS Landranger Map Sheet Number: 172 Grid Ref: ST754652
Latitude: 51.3853 Longitude: -2.35489



Table 1:

Every proposed space must meet all the criteria 1-4 and at least one sub section of no.5 in table 1.

Criteria		Explanation of criteria / evidence prompts
1.	It will rarely be appropriate to designate spaces that are the subject of a planning permission for development.	Is the space the subject of a planning permission for development? NO
2.	It will not be appropriate to designate spaces that are allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan, unless it can be shown that the Local Green Space could be incorporated within the site as part of the allocated development	Is the space allocated or proposed to be allocated in a Local or Neighbourhood Plan? NO

3.	The space must not be an extensive tract of land and must be local in character	<p>Designated spaces would normally be contained with clearly defined edges.</p> <p>This pleasant 2.8 hectare (7 acre) park is situated close to the city centre and was laid out and opened to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria of 1897. It contains many fine trees, extensive shrubberies, beautiful flower beds and public toilets.</p> <p>It also contains the King George V Memorial Garden where superb bedding displays are arranged around a central pool and fountain. A place to sit quietly, an oasis of peace, tranquillity and beauty just minutes away from the bustle of city life. (Quote from B&NES website)</p> <p>As the map shows, Henrietta park is entirely enclosed by residential homes along Henrietta Road, Henrietta Gardens and Great Pulteney Street. It serves as an outlook and setting for Grade 1 and 2 listed buildings along Great Pulteney Street and Henrietta Road/Street. It is a clearly defined space that provides a beautiful area of peace and relaxation for much of the local community. This only 250m from Pulteney Bridge. An extra feature is referred to below by Parks & Gardens UK which is the leading on-line resource for historic parks and gardens:</p> <p>This feature is the George V memorial garden. This small area, laid out as a memorial garden in 1937, was re-designed specifically as a garden for the blind in the 1950s. It is a small enclosed area centred on a rectangular goldfish pond. The pond is surrounded by a wooden pergola. The whole garden is planted with scented and fragrant herbs, shrubs and flowers. Planted: 1950 to 1959.</p>
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4.	The space must be within close proximity to the community it serves	Within 250 m. of the boundaries lie the entire area bounded by Pulteney Mews and Great Pulteney Street, Sydney Place, Bathwick Street and the River Avon between Cleveland Bridge and
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		<p>Pulteney Bridge.</p> <p>This area contains, Nursing homes, Care homes and sheltered accommodation for the over 65s. There are several hotels, many flats of one and two bedrooms along with some larger homes. The local community of all ages makes great use of the space.</p> <p>On two recent occasions the local community has staged a "Party in the Park" and welcomed all visitors from across Bath.</p>
5.	The space must be demonstrably special to the local community (see example criteria below)	Blanket designation of all/most green areas or open space within an area is not appropriate. The space must be demonstrably special.
5a	The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty	<p>Henrietta Park is particularly well endowed with mature trees. Below is a comprehensive list compiled by a former resident:</p> <p>HENRIETTA PARK, BATH. THE TREES FORMERLY KNOWN AS BATHWICK PARK--1N 1897 7 ACRES WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE BATH COUNCIL BY CAPT.FORESTER—HEIR TO THE BATHWICK ESTATE</p> <p>PARK WAS OPENED DURING QUEEN VICTORIA'S DIAMOND JUBILEE WEEK ON 22-JUNE-1897</p> <p>A JUBILEE OAK WAS PLANTED TO MARK THE OCCASION.</p> <p>THIS OAK MAY HAVE BEEN REMOVED —OR IT MAY STILL BE THERE BUT IN A DIFFERENT SPOT TO THE LOCATION SHOWN ON LATER MAPS.</p> <p>MANY TREES EXIST FROM THE OLD BATHWICK PARK—BECAUSE SOME ARE OBVIOUSLY BETWEEN 150 AND 200 YEARS OLD.</p> <p>LIST OF TREES:</p> <p>Acer cappadocicum-Cappadoicicum Maple -recognised by its suckers</p> <p>Acer davidii agg-Pere davids Chinese Snake Bark maple</p> <p>Acer negundo-Ask Leaved Maple -both male and female trees occur in the park. Note the pinnate leaves</p> <p>Acer platanoides -Norway Maple</p> <p>Acer pseudoplatanus "Atropurpureum" -Purple Sycamore Central tree is a Champion and grown from seed</p> <p>Acer pseudoplatanus "Atropurpureum" -Purple Sycamore others occur which are plainly grafted</p> <p>Acer pseudoplatanus "Variagatum"-large variegated grafted Sycamore</p> <p>Acer pseudoplatanus -sycamore</p> <p>Acer saccharinum-N.American Silver Maple -wrongly labelled as Sugar Maple-Commem tree</p>

		<p>Aesculus hippocastanum "Baumannii"-Conker1ess Conker trees of French origin.-grafted ground level-young</p> <p>Aesculus hippocastanum "Baumannif"-Conkeriess Conker trees of French origin-several 150yr old specimens</p> <p>Aesculus x camea -Hybrid Red Chestnut, both grafted and seed grown forms occur</p> <p>Ailanthus altissima -Tree of Heaven from China -both male and female in the Park</p> <p>Betula nigra-multistemmed form of the N. American River Birch</p> <p>Betula pendula "Youngii" -weeping common Silver Birch c.v,</p> <p>Betula pendula -Common birch large specimen</p> <p>Betula pendula -our Silver Birch -some are very old and may be late C19th plantings</p> <p>Betula utilis "Doorenbos"-white barked c.v of Asiatic Birch always grafted at the base</p> <p>Betula utifis var jaquemontii-Himalayan white barked Birch species</p> <p>Buxus sempervirens-"Bullatus" box cultivar</p> <p>Buxus sempervirens-Common Box</p> <p>Castanea sativa -Spanish/Sweet Chestnut from S, Europe</p> <p>Cedrus atlantica "Glauca" -Blue Atlantic Moroccan Cedar -young specimen</p> <p>Cedrus deodare -young Himalayan Cedar</p> <p>Cercis siliquastrum-Tree of Juda (Judas Tree) from Palestine , Anatolia Turkey and S. Med regions</p> <p>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana-lawsons Cypress from Oregon W.N. America and a few cultivars</p> <p>Cotoneaster frigidus -Himalayan Mountain Cotoneaster</p> <p>Cotoneaster salicifolia -Asiatic Willow leaved Cotoneaster</p> <p>Cotoneaster x watereri hybrid c.v -hybrid tree form of Cotoneaster always including C. frigidus</p> <p>Crataegus laevigata and c.vs -Our Midland Hawthorn and c.vs</p> <p>Crataegus monogyna -Common Hawthorn</p> <p>Crataegus x lavatlei-Lavals hybrid Hawthorn</p> <p>Crataegus x prunifolia -Plum leaved Hawthorn hybrid</p> <p>Crateagus crus-galli -N.American Hawthorn -Commem tree</p> <p>Cupressus arizonica var glabra Arizona Cypress in Scented Garden; Strangely it is grafted at base??</p> <p>Eleagnus macrophylla -Asitic evergreen shrub of distinctive form</p> <p>Fagus sylvatica "Atropurpurea"-Purple (Copper) Beech-some are grafted others are poor seedling specimens</p> <p>Fraxinus excelsior "Jaspidea"-Golden Ash</p> <p>Fraxinus excelsior "Pendula'-Weeping Common Ash -grafted</p> <p>Fraxinus excelsior -Common Ash</p>
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		<p>Prunus padus -our native Bird Cherry Prunus x subhirtella "Pendula Plena Rosea" -weeping Spring Cherry c.v Quercus robur -Common European Oak Is this the Jubilee Oak? Salix caprea -Goat Willow -native tree Sophora japonica -Chinese Pagoda Tree -good specimen Sorbus "Joseph Rock"-yellow berried Chinese rowan. Most likely a hybrid in the wild Sorbus aria "Lutescens"-cultivar of our native Whitebeam Taxus baccata -Common Yew Tilia platyphyllos -native Broad leaved Lime -several from the old Bathwick Park-others younger Tilia tomentosa "Petiolaris"--Weeping Silver lime -young ones grafted near ground level older at about 10ft! Tilia tomentosa "Petiolaris"-Weeping Silver lime of unknown origin-there are specimens over 150 yearsold Ulmus x hollandica "Dampierii Aurea-sometimes known as "Wredei"-golden hybrid Wlmof upright form Viburnum pilicatus "Mariesii"-Asiatic tabular form shrub. Viburnum tinus -Laurestinus-European shrub Vitis coignetiae-The Asiatic Coin Vine Japan, Korea and Sakhalin Russia References -Historic Public Parks of Bath -by R. Gilding-Avon Gardens trust ISBN 0 95310130 £5.95 +p/p Bath and West Evening Chronicle wed. April 27 1988 pp10 a pre-war picture of park also wed 17th March 1954 -a tree memorial to Capt Forrester planted by the Mayor-followed by a plaque placed by the tree by Capt Forrester's widow Mrs A Forrester. No mention of which tree. Also on the 18thJan 1971, 50 members of the Argyle Congregational Church, Bath gathered to plant an Acer saccharinum to commemorate Conservation Year 1971. Here it is called the silver (or sugar maple). This tree had to be replaced recently. The replacement has the old label attached calling it a sugar maple. The Bath Daily Chronicle, wed June 23rd 1897, on the front page records the opening of Henrietta Park.</p>
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5b	The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its historic significance	<p><i>Below is a short history of the park followed by an excerpt from the Bath Chronicle on the occasion of its opening.</i></p> <p><i>Henrietta Park.</i> <i>Henrietta Park was laid out on land which was for building and had never been developed, being marshy and low lying. However the site, formerly known as Bathwick Park, was at the centre of the Bathwick estate developed in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century, and the creation of a park on this particular spot served to both enhance and protect the settings of the houses around it. In 1897 seven acres of this open land were transferred to the ownership of the City Council by a private benefactor, Captain Forester, the nephew of the last Duke of Cleveland and heir to the Bathwick estate. The park was designed by a Councillor Morris, of the Council's Pleasure Grounds Committee, who daily supervised the work in progress, earning praise as 'one of the busiest and most useful of our public men'. The park was opened on the 22nd. Of June 1897, during Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee Week. Photographs taken a few years after the park's opening show that there were already a number of mature trees established on the site. Formerly enclosed by railings, the park now has no ironwork other than the railings and ornamental gate enclosing the George V Memorial Garden on its western side. An irregularly shaped triangular site sloping into a bowl-like declivity at the centre, the park is now thickly treed with a mixture of species which close up the vistas and obscure its surrounding housing. On the south-eastern side above Henrietta Mews the high backs of Great Pulteney Street's eighteenth century terraces are revealed, their facades scarred by a mixture of extensions, alterations and rubble and brick infill; many are constructed of the rough masonry adopted by entrepreneurial Georgian developers for the parts of their buildings which were not on display, contrasting with the smooth ashlar of the main street facades. On the park's opposite side, Henrietta Road has a mixture of semi-detached and detached villas dating from the mid-nineteenth century. The third side of the triangle, Henrietta Gardens, is a row of inter-war, semi-detached houses, some with stained glass front door panels. The park is laid out with serpentine paths which meander around a circular bowl-like lawn, with little planting other than a few formal bedding displays close to the entrance, where a wall-mounted marble drinking fountain, now non-functional, must predate the park, as it is inscribed with the donor's name and the date 1859. Also</i></p>
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adjacent to the entrance is the George V Memorial Garden, laid out in 1937 but redesigned in the 1950's, and more recently revived under the sponsorship of the commercial company Crabtree and Evelyn. A pergola overgrown with wisteria and roses surrounds a rectangular pool with a small fountain, enclosed by trees and banks of greenery edged by flower beds, with seats and arbours, creating a quiet, secluded place with a more informal character than that of the park beyond, which still evokes the period in which it was made.

“Present:

His Worship the Mayor of Bath.

The Town Clerk.

The Rector of Bath.

The Venerable Archdeacon of Bath.

Clergy and Ministers.

City Council and Magistrates.

Civic Officials.

The Board of Guardians.

Jubilee Committee.

Citizens.

The pressure of the crowd was so great that it was with difficulty that the procession could pass. Amid cheering, the central lawn was at length reached however, and the Mayor at once called upon Mr. Farwell who said: Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen. It will be within the recollection of the Council that two years ago, during the mayoralty of Mr. Alderman Jolly, I was instructed by Captain Forester to make an offer to the city of the land on which we now stand and which is generally known as Henrietta Park, provided that certain conditions were complied with so that it should be dedicated and laid out as a public park. (Hear, hear.) Captain Forester, in making this offer, was actuated by a desire that the land should always remain as an open space and never be built upon. Open spaces are like the lungs in human beings—the very essence of life. The more breathing spaces a town can secure the healthier it must become, and this is especially of importance in a city like Bath, the resort of visitors and invalids. The conditions made by Captain Forester have now all been complied with, and the grounds, thanks to the unceasing care and labour of Mr. Morris, for he has spared neither time nor labour (applause), have been admirably laid out. The Mayor could not have selected a more appropriate day to throw them open to the public.

A day of holiday and rejoicing it has given the citizens every opportunity of attending and judging for themselves of the value of this gift to the city. (Applause.) It only remains for me to hand over the

deeds of gift, to express Captain Forester's regret that he is unable to be present himself, and to request the Mayor to open the park and declare it open to the citizens. (Applause.)

Mr. J. W Morris, who was next called upon, said In the absence of the Chairman of the Pleasure Grounds Committee I am deputed to make a brief statement. The maps of the early guide book of this city show not only the streets actually built, but those which it was in contemplation presently to erect. The area of this park was thus mapped out for the construction of a grand square to be approached from Pulteney Street by way of Sunderland Street. Within the area of this Square about four times the size of Queen Square—there was to be a large circular enclosure or garden. This is shown in every map of the period. It is not a little curious that the central lawn and circular path opened this day to the public should almost exactly correspond in position with the original design When this ambitious building scheme was abandoned, the void place was let out for cultivation, and was long known as Bathwick Park. It is thus designated on the map as late as 1860. The name of Henrietta' subsequently found favour family associations replacing the local designation. The generous bestowal of this domain by Captain Forester upon the city has imposed upon the Corporation the duty of laying it out suitably, and planting it with trees and shrubs for the public enjoyment. This duty has been entrusted to the Pleasure Grounds Committee, who have endeavoured to discharge their trust with a due regard to economy' (laughter and applause), but ever with an earnest desire to do justice to the purpose of the generous donor and improve the advantages of a delightful neighbourhood. (Hear, hear.)

The work was taken in hand in September, 1896, and is now sufficiently advanced to make this new Pleasure Ground available for its future service, and it cannot but be a matter of congratulation that such an addition to the attractions of the city should be opened by your Worship on a day memorable henceforth in the annals of this Nation and Empire the day of National rejoicing over the Diamond Jubilee of our Gracious Sovereign Queen Victoria. The duty of the Committee being thus far discharged, we leave to the kindly development of nature and the fostering care of the Corporation the completion of a design which provides and promises so many advantages to this parish of Bathwick and to the city of Bath." (Applause.)

		<p><i>The Mayor, in reply, said: I do not purpose detaining you more than a few moments in this spot. We are all thankful and pleased that we have a fine day for our festivities. If it had not been so, I am afraid it would have spoiled everything that has been carried out to-day on behalf of the citizens. It is my very pleasant duty as Mayor of this fair city to express, on behalf of the Corporation and citizens, hearty acknowledgement of the munificent gift of Captain Forester of this beautiful park. (Applause.) I am sure I may say that this gift is a valuable addition to the attractions of our beautiful city, and will be fully appreciated by the inhabitants, particularly by those who reside in these parts. (Hear, hear.) I desire also to thank the Pleasure Grounds Committee for the great labours bestowed upon making this park so beautiful, and especially Mr. Morris, for the admirable manner in which these grounds have been laid out. They are elegant and attractive without being extravagant. I am pleased to see the Rev. Canon Quirk and the Venerable Archdeacon with us on this auspicious occasion. Allow me to again express the city's great indebtedness to Captain Forester for his gift, and my deep regret at his inability to be with us to-day. (Applause.)"</i></p> <p>There are no literary connections that we are aware of.</p>
5c	The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value	<p>The park is used by all ages for recreation and quiet contemplation. An oasis close to the bustle and noise of central Bath.</p> <p>No organised sport can take place in the park because of the close nature of the trees and shrubs. There is, however, much casual and informal activity including morning joggers, dog walkers, picnickers and children playing in a safe environment in full view of resting parents. The park is particularly busy in Summer when it provides an outside area for relaxation and recreation for the large numbers of flat-dwellers in the immediate vicinity, with many students and other young people.</p> <p>On occasions in recent years the local residents have staged a party event which has welcomed many visitors from across bath.</p>

5d	The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity	<p>The park is most certainly an “oasis of calm” in a busy and noisy city.</p> <p>Just across the river is central Bath with its many visitors and behind the houses on one side is Great Pulteney Street and on two others, Bathwick Street and Sydney Place.</p> <p>The noise of the heavy traffic on these roads rarely interrupts the calm of Henrietta Park. Night-time in the park is particularly tranquil, providing a haven for nocturnal mammals, owls and bats.</p>
5e	The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife	<p><i>A wide variety of wildlife is seen in the park.</i></p> <p><i>Mammals: badgers are frequently seen at dusk.</i></p> <p><i>There are many bats in the Summer.</i></p> <p><i>Birds: a wide variety are seen including two varieties of woodpecker (Green and Great spotted), Tawny owls frequently heard at night, many varieties of tits (Great, Blue, Coal, Long-tailed; many of which nest in the “Blind Garden”, goldcrests, blackcaps, jays, corvids, fieldfares feeding on the abundant winter berries, dunnocks and thrushes as well as more common suburban birds such as blackbirds, robins and various finches. Many of these have been reported in adjacent gardens in the RSPB Great Garden Birdwatch in recent years.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Whilst not formally designated as a nature reserve, the Blind Garden is a unique asset locally known for the fragrance of its plants.</i>

		<p><i>Bats (protected under EU Directive on conservation) are seen in significant numbers late evening in the summer, feeding on the abundant insects at tree canopy level in the park.</i></p> <p><i>The park supports the following birds from the “Red List”: House sparrow, And the following from the Amber List: Mistle Thrush, Dunnock, Green woodpecker. Additionally, Swifts (at high altitudes) and Swallows (at lower altitudes and skimming the tree envelopes in the summer evenings) are seen above, the park contributing to the ecosystem above this part of the city that supports these birds.</i></p> <p><i>The age and established nature of the tree population including aged trees pre-dating establishment of the park makes it irreplaceable.</i></p>
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		<i>The park together with nearby open spaces including the river corridor and the Recreation Ground form a valuable infrastructure enabling a wide variety of wildlife to be sustained.</i>
5f	Are there any other reasons why the proposed space has a particular local significance for the local community?	

Alternatives to Local Green Space Designations

If during the process it becomes evident that the site is not appropriate for local green space designation, there are other options that can be investigated.

Agreements with land-owners

It may be possible for local communities to reach either formal or informal agreements with the owner of the site to ensure access to the site for local people. This may be an appropriate option where the site owner has a long-term connection with the local area, for example the owner of a large historic estate. It may be possible for the land-owner to dedicate the site as “open access land”.

<https://www.gov.uk/right-of-way-open-access-land/use-your-right-to-roam>

Community Purchase

In some instances local communities have purchased important sites to ensure that they remain in community control in perpetuity. The ownership can lie with the Town or Parish Council or with a specific trust.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/get-involved/take-part/take-over-a-local-pub-shop-or-greenspace-for-the-community>

Assets of Community Value

The Community Right to Bid gives community groups a fairer chance to prepare and bid to buy community buildings and facilities that are important to them. This could include village shops, pubs or allotments. The right covers private as well as public assets. It is important to nominate land and buildings to be part of the register of „assets of community value“, which is held by the Local Authority (Cotswold District Council). If something on this register is offered for sale, the community then have up to six months to prepare a bid.

<http://mycommunityrights.org.uk/community-asset-transfer/>