

Appendix C: Local Green Spaces (Policy ASH12)

The green and blue infrastructure network includes some land that qualifies as a Local Green Space. These spaces are particularly special and cherished by the local community. They would be especially missed if they were to be lost to development.

The Local Green Spaces that have been identified and listed were selected as part of Ash Parish Council's Neighbourhood Planning process, led by the Neighbourhood Plan committee, and chosen through Parish records, using local knowledge of the land around Ash, Ash Vale and Ash Green and through informal consultation periods with local residents. The green spaces chosen for designation have been selected due to their intrinsic beauty, historic significance, strong recreational value or their qualities of tranquillity and richness of wildlife. All green spaces are local in character and are not extensive tracts of lands.

Relevant landowners of the listed green spaces were contacted ahead of and as part of the Regulation 14 consultation period. Sites 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 23 are owned by Ash Parish Council. Sites 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 15, 17, 20, 22 and 24 are owned by Guildford Borough Council. Site 6 is owned by the MOD. All others are privately owned or operated by management companies for developers.

The following 35 areas are identified as Local Green Spaces under Policy ASH12:

#	Name	Beauty	Historic Significance	Recreational Value	Tranquillity	Richness of Wildlife
ASH VALE						
1	Carrington Recreation Ground					
2	Snaky Lane Nature Reserve					
3	Lakeside Nature Reserve Play Area					
4	Cody Close Playground and Vickers Road Open Space					
5	Sopwith Close Open Space					
6	Keogh Barracks Playing Fields					
7	Avondale Playground					
8	Play Area in Old Farm Place					
9	Shackleton Close Playground and Open Space					
ASH WHARF						

10	Ash Common Recreation Ground					
11	Coronation Gardens					
12	Coronation Extension Gardens					
13	Harpers Recreation Ground					
14	Open Space off Ash United Football Club					
15	Open Space off Old School Close					
16	Heathcote Play Area (Parson's Nose)					
17	Rowan Field					
18	Harpers Road Allotments					
19	Shawfield Road Allotments					
ASH SOUTH						
20	Manfield Open Space					
21	Ash Green Meadows					
22	The Briars					
23	Ashley Park Play Area (Blackwater Close)					
24	Parish Close Play Area and Open Space					
25	Hop Garden Way Play Area					
26	Hop Garden Way Sports Court Playground and Open Space					
27	Minleys Close Play Area					
28	Holme Close Play Area					
29	Yalden Gardens Play Area					
30	Alden Copse Play Area					
31	Parsons Way Play Area					
32	Wanborough Way Play Area					
33	Compass Rose Road Play Area					
34	Green Space South of Hazel Road					
35	Green Spaces West of White Lane					

Ash Vale

1. Carrington Recreation Ground



Images by APC



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Located off Nexus Park in the north of Ash Vale, Carrington Recreation Ground is a large, well-used area combining open playing fields, wooded edges, and recreation facilities including a playground and sports courts, and is also home to the Blackwater Valley B-P Scout Group. It is designated as a Local Green Space for its high community value, accessible location, and contribution to local amenity and wellbeing, providing value as the largest open recreational green space in the Parish and the only publicly accessible one of its kind in Ash Vale.

2. Snaky Lane Nature Reserve



Images: APC



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Situated at the northern edge of the Parish on the border with Mytchett, Snakey Lane Nature Reserve is a valued community wildlife area containing a rich mix of habitats that support a wide range of species. Its natural beauty, biodiversity, and tranquil character make it an important space for local residents and wildlife alike.

3. Lakeside Nature Reserve Play Area



Images: APC



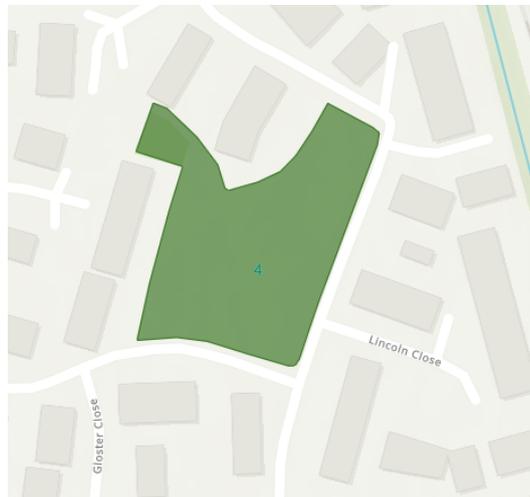
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Located at the entrance to Lakeside Nature Reserve, just off the car park on Lakeside Road, this play area provides a safe and welcoming space for younger visitors and nearby residents. Its proximity to the wider Country Park enhances opportunities for outdoor play and family recreation within a natural setting and encourages a wider group of people to visit the nature reserve.

4. Cody Close Playground and Vickers Road Open Space



Images: APC



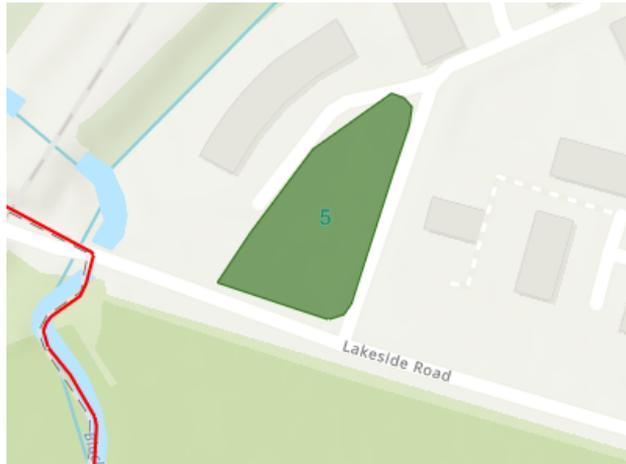
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Located within the modern residential area off Old Farm Place, these linked play and open spaces around Wyvern Close, Cody Close, Vickers Road and Hawker Road provide valuable recreation opportunities for nearby residents of all ages. The well-maintained green areas contribute to the neighbourhood's sense of community and provide safe, accessible outdoor space for play and relaxation without needing to travel too far from their residences, with access otherwise limited by the development being nestled in between the two railway lines cutting through Ash Vale

5. Sopwith Close Open Space



Images: APC



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A small green area between Sopwith Close and Buttermere Court on the western edge of the Parish, this open space offers local residents a pleasant setting for informal recreation and relaxation. Its accessible location and greenery add to the character and amenity of the surrounding homes.

6. Keogh Barracks Playing Fields



Images: Microsoft/Esri



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Located within the historic, and active, Keogh Barracks site, between Mytchett Lake and the barracks buildings themselves, these large playing fields provide essential recreational space for stationed personnel and their families. As the only open, recreational green area in this part of Ash Vale, the fields play an important role in supporting wellbeing and community activity within the barracks.

7. Avondale Playground



Images: APC



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Situated at the southern end of the Avondale estate in Ash Vale, where two railway lines intersect, this play area and adjoining open space offer valuable recreation for local residents. The range of play equipment and open grassed areas support use by all age groups, fostering community activity and outdoor enjoyment. It is also connected, via a footpath, to the communities living on and across Fir Acre Road.

8. Play Area in Old Farm Place



Image: APC.

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Set among mature trees and adjoining a portion of green space opposite neighbouring homes, this playground provides a safe and attractive space for children living in the surrounding area. Its green setting and accessible location make it a valued focal point for local families.

9. Shackleton Close Playground and Open Space



Image: APC.

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Located between Beaufort Road and Shackleton Close, this green space includes a well-used playground and surrounding open areas that serve nearby residents. It provides safe, accessible recreation for children and contributes to the open character of the neighbourhood that's constructed in the space between two railway lines.

Ash Wharf

10. Ash Common Recreation Ground



Image: APC.



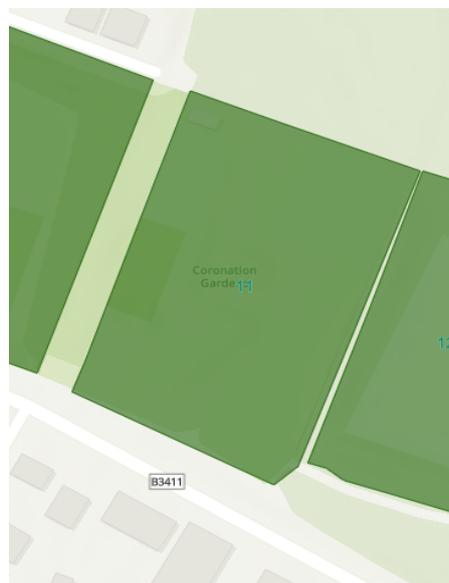
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Located between the Ash Hill Road and Balmoral Road and lined on three sides by significant tree coverage, Ash Common Recreation Ground is a large, open green space in a valley providing playing fields, a children’s playground, and areas for informal recreation. Its central location and extensive facilities make it an important community hub for sport, leisure, and local events.

11. Coronation Gardens



Image: APC.



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Situated immediately east of Ash Common Recreation Ground and south of the Ash Ranges, and on the opposite side of Ash Hill Road to the Victoria Hall, Coronation Gardens is a landscaped green space featuring formal planting, seating areas, and open lawns. The space offers a quieter, more reflective setting alongside the adjoining recreation ground, skatepark and the Ash Tennis club.

12. Coronation Extension Gardens



Image: APC.

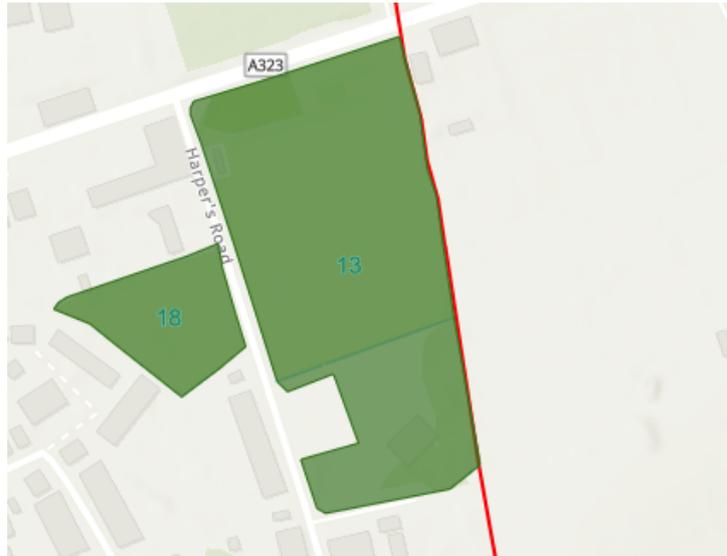
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Located directly east of Coronation Gardens, this extension area provides additional open space with grassed areas and mature trees that complement the formal landscaping of the main gardens. It enhances the continuity of green space along this stretch of Ash and offers a peaceful setting for informal recreation and relaxation. Also featured in this location is a popular single-sided basketball court.

13. Harpers Recreational Ground



Image: APC.



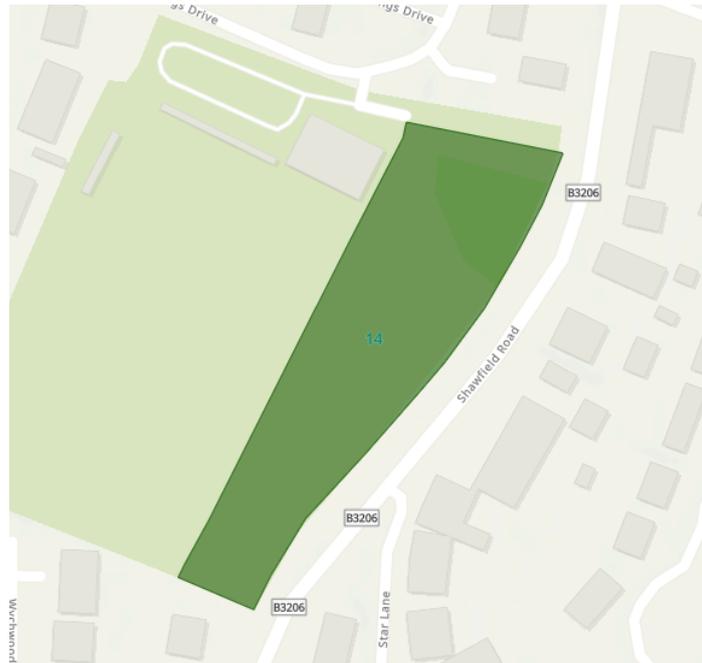
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On the eastern boundary of the parish, Harpers Recreation Ground provides recreational facilities in the form of an open green space, a combined single-sided basketball and football court and a playground. At the south of the site is located a car park and the Harpers Road Scout Hut, which was constructed in 1974 by the Royal Engineers as part of a Military Aid to the Civil Community project, and currently occupied by a local nursery and scouting groups. The space supports local sport and outdoor activity, offering an important area for play, leisure, and community use within the heart of the local community of Harpers Road and Guildford Road.

14. Open Space off Ash United Football Club



Image: APC.



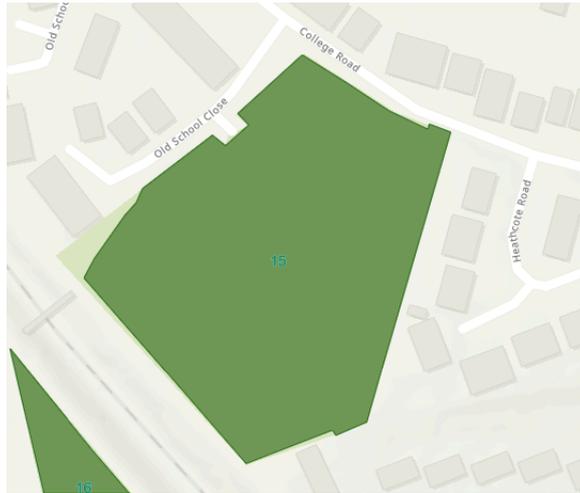
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Situated off Shawfield Road, beside Ash United Football Club, this open green area provides additional space for informal recreation and community use. Its proximity to the football grounds and surrounding homes makes it a valued extension of local sporting and leisure activity, combining green open space, a playground and a single-sided basketball court

15. Open Space off Old School Close



Image: APC



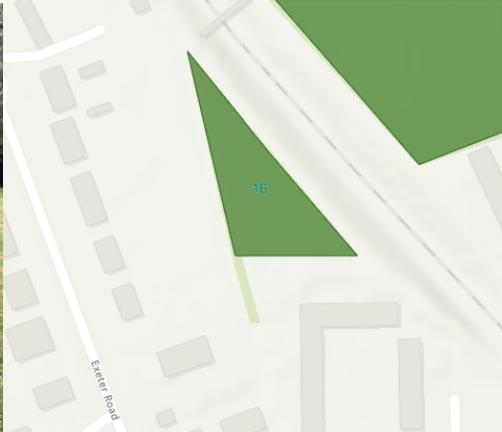
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This small green area off Old School Close provides a pleasant open setting within the residential neighbourhood. The space offers opportunities for informal recreation and contributes to the visual openness and community character of the surrounding area. This well maintained green open space sits between Old School Close, College Road and the railway line previously belonged to the former Heathcote School that existed near to the site. It is also connected to the properties on Winchester Road through a footpath over the railway line, and properties on Fairview Road through the footpath onto Ash Close.

16. Heathcote Play Area (Parson's Nose)



Image: APC



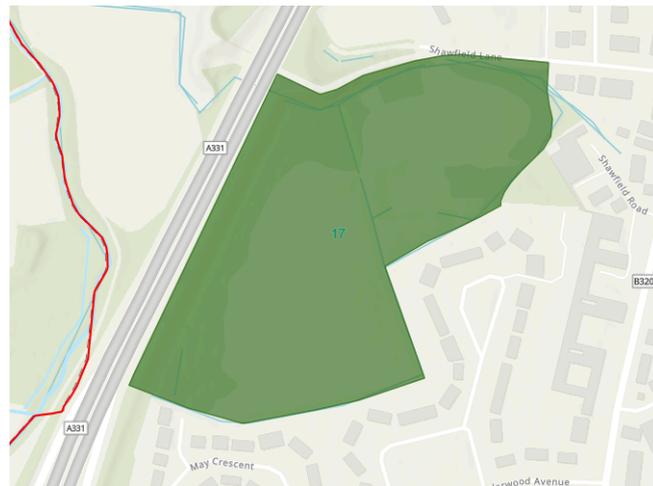
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This small play area and open space sits behind a number of homes on Winchester Road and Exeter Road. Accessible by a footpath from those areas and Murrell Road. Parson's Nose provides a safe and accessible recreation for children living in the surrounding neighbourhood. The space is framed by mature trees and open grass, offering a welcoming environment for play and community use.

17. Rowan Field



Image: APC



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Situated south of Shawfield Lane, Rowan Field is an open grassed area that provides valuable space for informal recreation and outdoor activities. Its openness and natural setting contribute to the area's green character and offer residents a peaceful place to enjoy the outdoors. This 7-hectare park is an area landscaped and planted in 1996 by Guildford Borough Council. Features include a large wildlife pond, a wide variety of trees, wild flower planting, seating and picnic facilities. Provides a tranquil area in the west of the Parish, a habitat for wildlife, and recreational facilities.

18. Harpers Road Allotments



Image: APC



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A 0.75 acre, twelve plot allotment site off Harpers Road. One of two allotment sites in the Parish, this established allotment site provides local residents with opportunities to grow food, garden, and enjoy outdoor activity. The allotments support community interaction, sustainability, and the retention of green space within the urban area.

19. Shawfield Road Allotments



Image: APC



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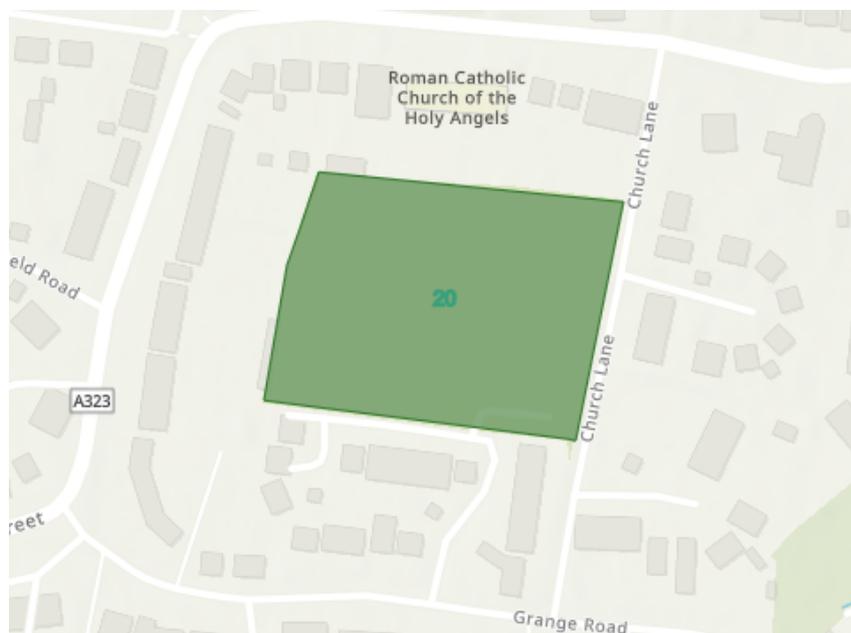
A four-acre, 98 plot allotment site off Shawfield Road. The larger of the two allotment sites in the Parish, providing practical local growing spaces for residents. Both allotment sites are incredibly popular and serve as valuable places for like-minded residents to come together and socialise whilst enjoying the health and wellbeing benefits of cultivating.

Ash South

20. Manfield Open Space



Image: APC



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Located between Collins Gardens and Church Lane, behind Holy Angels Catholic Church, Manfield Open Space comprises large, well-maintained playing fields and open grassland. The area is widely

used by local residents for walking, sport, and community activities, and its mix of wildlife - including deer, foxes, and red kites - adds to its natural appeal and tranquil character.

21. Ash Green Meadows



Images: APC



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Created as a Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) as part of new developments in the area to avoid increased recreational pressure on the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA). Incorporating the ancient semi-natural wooded space of Bin Wood, Cardinal Meadows, a Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SINC) home to a range of damp grassland species, and some other former agricultural fields. Ash Green Meadows is located off the disused Ash – Tongham railway line, which now makes up part of the Christmas Pie trail and provides an attractive setting for walking and nature conservation.

22. The Briars Playground



Image: APC



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This green open space features a recently upgraded playground at the top of the hill, providing safe and enjoyable facilities for local children. The area is well-used for recreation and offers an attractive open setting for the surrounding community.

23. Ashley Park Play Area (Blackwater Close)



Image: APC



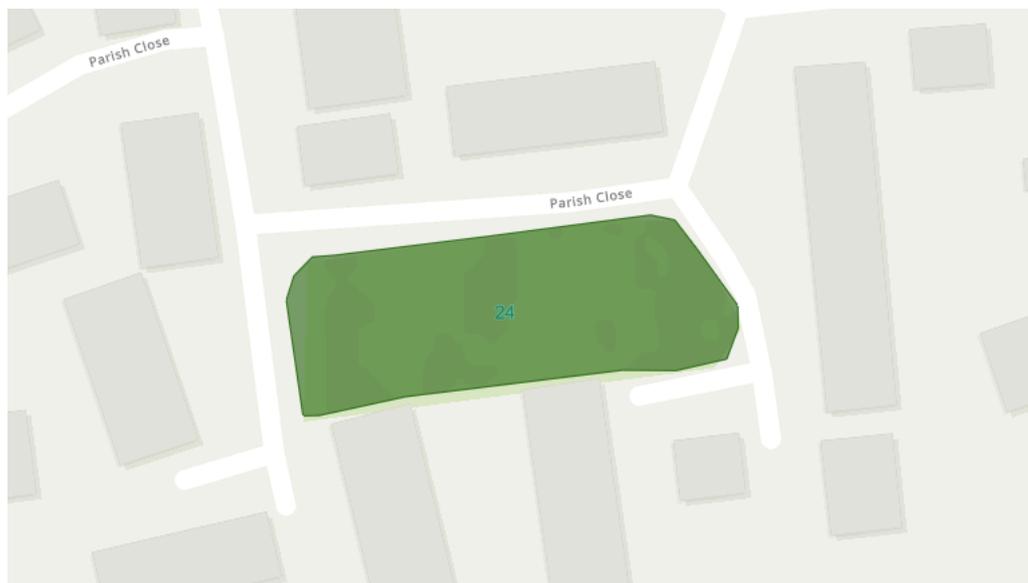
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Located on Blackwater Close, this small playground sits within a pleasant green space and provides safe, accessible play facilities for local children. Its setting within the residential area makes it a valued spot for families and informal outdoor activity.

24. Parish Close Play Area and Open Space



Image: APC



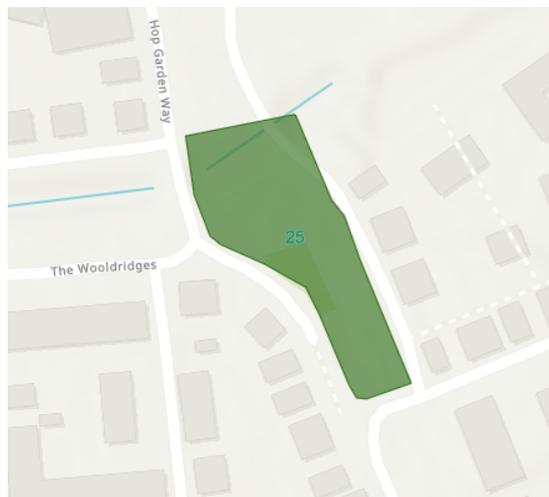
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Situated at the heart of Parish Close, this small playground is set within an open green space and provides safe, convenient play facilities for local children. It contributes to the neighbourhood's sense of community and accessible outdoor space.

25. Hop Garden Way Play Area



Image: APC



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Located on Hop Garden Way, this small, well-maintained woodland style play area provides safe and accessible recreation for children living nearby. Flanked by trees and bushes, its green setting offers a welcoming space for families within the surrounding residential area.

26. Hop Garden Way Sports Court Playground and Open Space



Images: APC



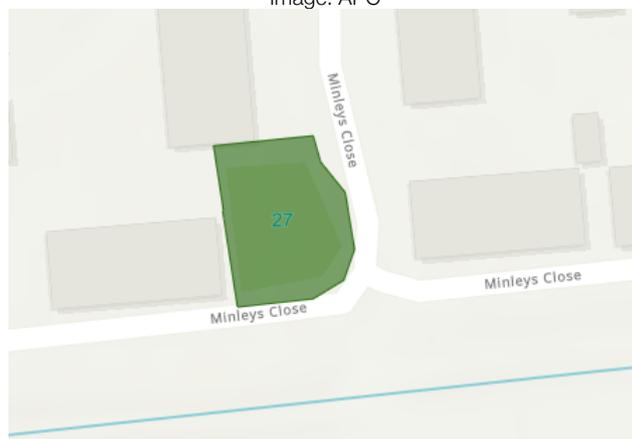
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Located on Hammersley Drive and bounded by a wooded area and green space reserved for water drainage, this large fenced recreation area includes a multi-sports court with facilities for basketball, football, hockey and tennis, alongside an adventure playground and adjoining green space and footpaths linking to Headley Way and Holme Close. The site offers diverse recreational opportunities for all ages within a well-connected community setting.

27. Minleys Close Play Area



Image: APC



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This small playground on Minleys Close provides safe and convenient play facilities for younger aged children living nearby. Its location within the residential area makes it a valued and accessible space for local families without needing to travel too far.

28. Holme Close Play Area



Image: APC



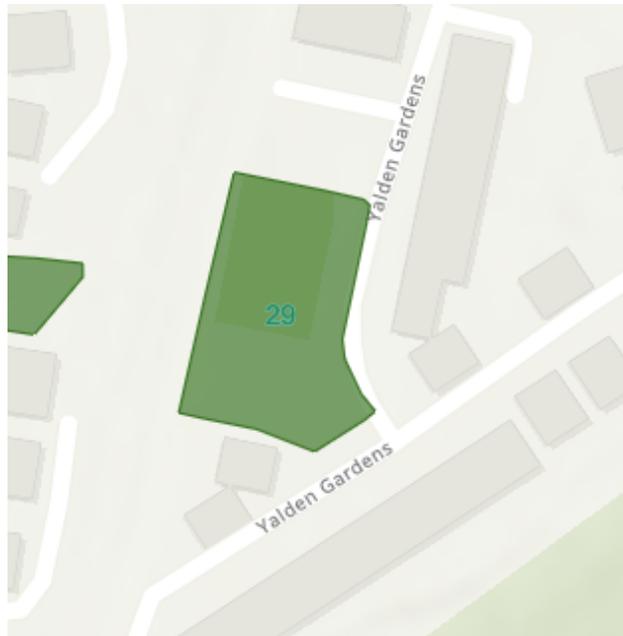
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Located on Holme Close, this small playground provides safe and accessible play facilities for local children. Its proximity to nearby homes makes it a convenient and well-used space for families in the area.

29. Yalden Gardens Play Area



Image: APC



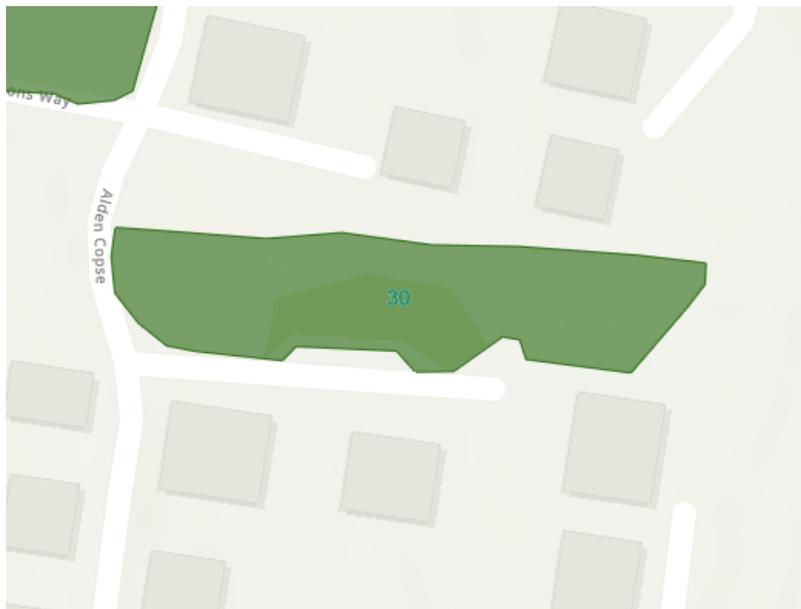
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This play area, designated for the residents of Yalden Gardens, provides a range of play equipment for children living within the immediate community. Its secure and well-maintained setting offers a safe and enjoyable space for local families.

30. Alden Copse Play Area



Image: APC



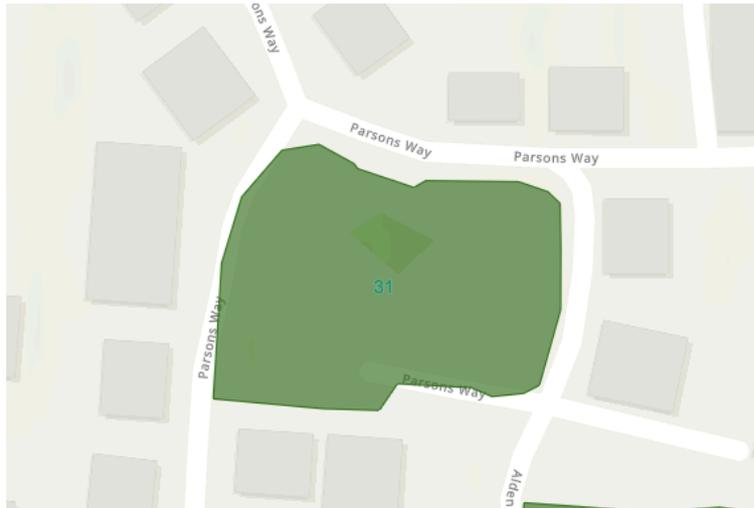
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Situated on Alden Copse, towards the southern edge of the Parish, this small playground offers safe and convenient play facilities for children in the surrounding neighbourhood. Its green setting provides a pleasant and accessible space for local families.

31. Parsons Way Play Area



Image: APC



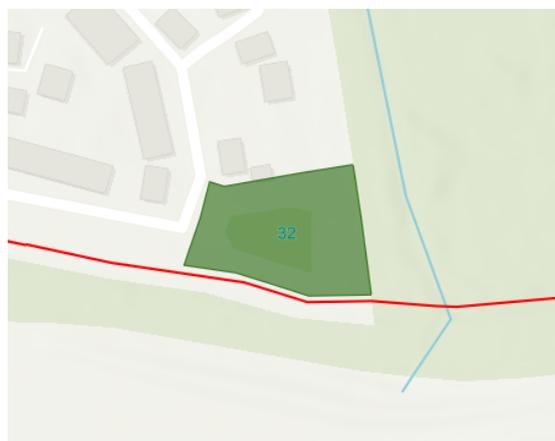
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Set within a moderately sized open space in the centre of Parsons Way, this playground provides safe and accessible recreation for children and families living nearby. The green surroundings enhance the character of the area and support informal outdoor activity.

32. Wanborough Way Playground



Image: APC



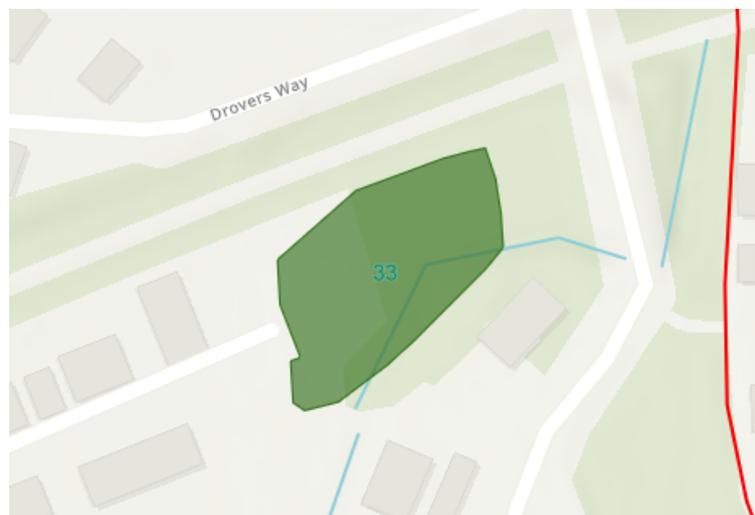
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Located within a new residential area in Ash Green, this modern playground provides much-needed play facilities for local children. Its well-designed equipment and accessible setting offer a valuable recreational space in a part of the Parish with limited existing provision.

33. Compass Rose Road Play Area



Image: APC



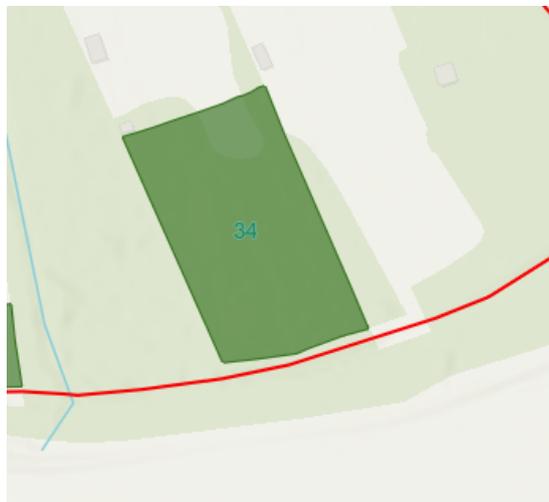
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Situated within a landscaped open space on Compass Rose Road, just south of the old railway line section of the Christmas Pie Trail, this play area has been designed to reflect the rural character of its surroundings. It provides safe and attractive recreational facilities for children and families within the development where none other exists within walking distance.

34. Green Space South of Hazel Road



Image: APC



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Located in the south of Ash Green, this private green space provides a peaceful natural setting that supports local wildlife and biodiversity. Its tranquil landscape contributes to the rural character and environmental quality of the area.

35. Green Spaces West of White Lane



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Situated to the west of Ash Green, these private green spaces offer a tranquil environment that supports diverse wildlife. Their natural character contributes to local biodiversity and preserves a sense of openness in the area as part of Ash Green's rural setting which is highly valued by the community.