Oving Parish

Opportunities for designated Local Green Space within Oving Parish

Evidence

Site name	Old Oving Road, Chichester
Site location	
Land parcel reference number	
Landowner	
Description of Green Space	Section of disused road running east -west between Shopwyke Park and Tangmere airfield. Gated off at both ends and comprising metalled / unmetalled road, vegetated banks, mature trees, fragmented hedgerows and ditches. Lane is relatively level (12.2 – 13.1m AOD) and appears sunken with banks on both sides retaining higher open farmland.
Planning Constraints/ Designations (Chichester Local Plan interactive map consulted)	• SAC Bat Movement Network applied to majority of the lane , part of a wider network of vegetation and ditches associated with field boundaries • Lane lies approx. 360 lin. m to the north of Oving's Conservation Area north-west facing and would be considered part of its rural setting. • Large arable field to south including bank within HELAA 2021(**HOV0019),** Land surrounding Oving, **achievable:** Developable. • Is it still classed as Adoptable highway? • Does not contain a designated right of way (footpath or bridleway)
Map	OPC to append
Assessment against NPPF LGS criteria (para 107, NPPF 2024)	
(a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves	Well served by public rights of way with easy flat access to three adjacent settlements of Shopwyke Park, Oving and Tangmere. West end of the lane is close to Little Meads Business Centre (Woodfield House) with bus stop and regular bus service (500) between Chichester to Littlehampton. It is in easy walking distance to Oving village, estimated at 2 and 4 minutes depending on which footpath taken. Accessible to local residents, walkers and local business visitors/workers: 1 no. footpath exits field at Woodfield House (bus stop), 2 no. footpaths from the north from St Andrews Church, Tangmere and Stane Street (Roman Road),1 no. footpath crossing open field (approx. 309 lin.m to Oving village to the south). Approx. 150 lin.m from junction with Church lane to reach Oving with play area beyond. Linked to Designated cycle route around outer perimeter of Tangmere airfield used by walkers, runners and cyclists on the day.
(b) special to a local community and holds particular local significance, for example because of its:	
Beauty	The sinus alignment and gaps in the hedges and tree cover reveals iconic Chichester landmarks along its length

	Sussex church spire at Oving and St Andrews church steeple at Tangmere, distant panoramic views of the South Downs ridge, including Halnaker Windmill, Goodwood Race Course buildings, nursery greenhouses and airfield buildings on Tangmere Airfield. Surrounded by fields and attractive villages, slightly marred by equestrian fencing and stables at western end Hedges : typically, Hawthorn, blackthorn and possibly Box? Tree copses: include Field maple, Ash, Bird Cherry, Lime and Willow noted. Typical species for the locality.
Historic significance	O.S map of 1896 indicate the road was in use with buildings: Smithy, White Horse Inn in place up until . After 1941and by 1944 (according to aerial map) the road formed the south west boundary of the WW2 airfield at the end of the main runway. The lane abuts the metalled surface of the outer perimeter now designated as cycle route (bridleway). By 1950-60 Tangmere Road replaced Oving Road as the main route out of Chichester. Isolated mature trees on banks (multi stemmed appearance) show evidence of past coppicing management. Large boles indicate historic management.
Recreational value	Equestrian use in field to north (stables and paddocks), road used for access. Evidence of heavy footfall circumnavigating the gates. Arable farmland crossed by footpath well used. Cyclists leaving cycleway . Field to north used for Evidence of walkers, dog walkers using adjacent field edge as informal route and cyclists following the cycle route leaving the trail to join the lane.
Tranquillity	Perception of tranquillity and rural qualities increases as the distant vehicle noise recedes when moving eastwards. Glare from rows of glasshouses seen looking east somewhat detracts.
Richness of wildlife	Banks contain burrows. Tree and vegetation species present are known to provide rich habitats. Butterflies noted. Open wet and dry ditches run parallel to the lane linked with cross field drainage. Area of interest at junction with field drain – pond? hidden by willow copse in field corner. Banks rich in spring flowering flora.
(c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land	Not an extensive track of land. Well confined, narrow and linear. A local feature, now used for informal recreation. Its sinuous alignment, containing isolated mature trees, clumps of riparian vegetation linked to field drainage ditches is highly typical of and characteristic of the wider landscape character.
LGS	
Site area measured in hectares	Approx. 883 lin.m . OPC to calculate area
Recommendation	Eligible for designation. Fulfils all criteria required for Local Green Space designation