

WSLNF – Proposed green sites – Bulverhythe Recreation Grd Lower tier – No 09

Site Details (complete this form for each site to be proposed for designation)

Local Green Space Assessment for: Grosvenor Gardens	
Date of assessment: Desk based assessment 27 th December 2024	
Assessors: Jim Boot, Community Planner	
Site Name and Address (location)	Grid Ref:
Bulverhythe Recreation Ground Lower tier	TQ 77311 08649
Site owner (if known)	Hastings Borough Council
Have they been informed / discussed?	If yes date:
Yes from 2024	
Description and purpose / current use	
<p>Within Combe Valley Countryside Park this often flooded playing fields and amenity grassland at the south edge of the park between Gorringer Stream and the ditch along the back of Bexhill Road's gardens. This is the lowest and wettest of the area's playing fields and is therefore never used for games and couldn't be used for housing. The Combe Valley Countryside Park CIC is designing and applying for funding to dig a meandering stream bed from west edge to east edge. The spoil from it will be built into a wide bund along the south bank of the Gorringer and West Bank of the Combe Haven just north of Bexhill Road which will contain flooding and be a dry, traffic-free walking and cycling route from Sheepwash Bridge to Freshfields and hence to Lewis Avenue. The Forestry Commission is providing a grant to plant a Wet Woodland, with willows, alders and other trees adapted for the environment. This will repurpose the field to flood mitigation and wildlife haven for local rejuvenation with facilities for informal exercise</p>	
Statutory designations (eg SSSI¹)	Other designations (eg LNR²)
Close to the Coombe Haven SSSI.	Amenity Open Space
Site allocations in Local Plan	
No	
Access & proximity including how close to the community it serves (in meters)	
<p>The area is very popular with local dog walkers and is a southern entrance to the Countryside Park via the Combe Haven riverside path and access paths from the Bexhill Road. Access and use could be greatly improved with better infrastructure for walking and cycling along Bexhill Road and with a bridge over the Combe Haven from the Holiday Park which would provide access from Harley Shute.</p>	

¹ Site of Special Scientific Interest

² Local Nature Reserve

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List any public rights of way to or across the site:

The following link to the site from Bexhill Road:

- HAS/9/1
- HAS/10/1
- HAS12/1
- HAS14/1

Which of the following criteria does it meet?

Fully / Partially / Not (if F or P provide details)

- **Beauty**

Partially – an area of public open space

- **Historic significance / heritage**

No

- **Recreational value**

Fully – Dog walking now and a Wet Woodland in the future.

- **Tranquillity**

Partially – a quiet spot to enjoy set back from the Bexhill Road

- **Wildlife**

Partially – the ditch running along the northern boundary has some trees and reeds.

Local in character – how would you describe for this statement?

Popular with local residents after work and at weekends.

Area (in hectares)

5.4 ha

Photograph

View during the summer



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**View North East
across the site**

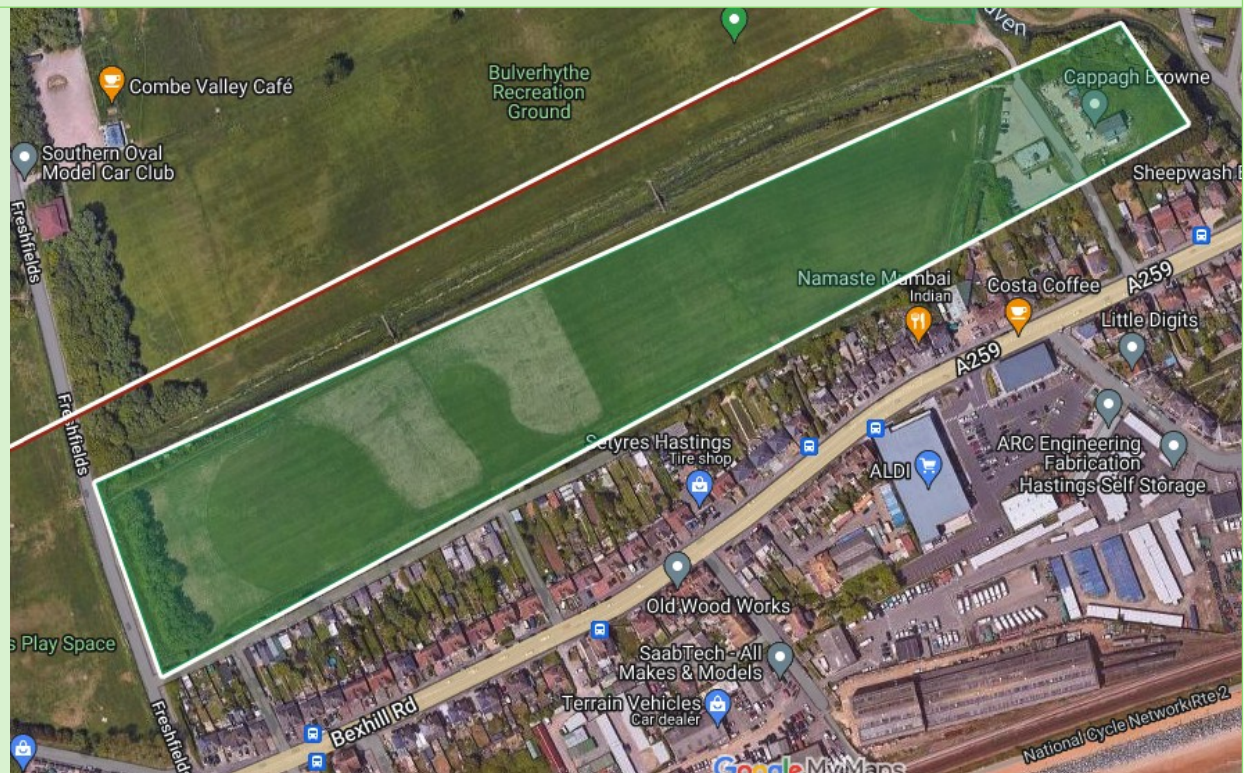


**Flooding during the
winter**



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Aerial photo map or plan showing accurate boundary of site.



Adapted from Locality Local Green Spaces, 2019:

<https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/making-local-green-space-designations-neighbourhood-plan/>