



Shearsby Neighbourhood Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY



	DESCRIPTION / EVIDENCE	NPPF 2012 Local Green Space (LGS) Criteria									Total score/32
		Access /4	Proxim. /4	Bounded /4	Special /4	Rec/Edu /4	Beauty (views) /2	Tranq. /2	History /4	Wildlife etc. /4	
01	<p>Thorpehill Farm Spinney west</p> <p>New planting, 1979, and now managed and protected for wildlife. One of only four areas of woodland in the Plan Area. Includes native deciduous tree species, existing streamside willow trees, area of woodland wild flowers, stock-proof boundaries.</p> <p>At least three BAP Priority Species birds are present. Natural England listing in Priority Habitat inventory, deciduous woodland (England).</p> <p>No public access but viewable from immediately adjacent footpath Y73.</p>	2	2	4	4	3	2	2	0	3	22
02	<p>Thorpehill Farm Spinney east</p> <p>New planting, 1980, and now managed and protected for wildlife. One of only four areas of woodland in the Plan Area. Includes seven native tree species.</p> <p>At least two BAP Priority Species birds are present.</p> <p>No public access but viewable from immediately adjacent footpath Y73</p>	2	3	4	4	3	2	2	0	3	23
03	<p>Back Lane verges and green areas</p> <p>Group of mostly linear open spaces on the most used access route into Shearsby, providing an attractive entrance for the village. Back Lane was the footway from the village toward Fleckney until the Enclosure of 1773, but was also part of one of several ancient west-east routes across Leicestershire. The wide verges are evidence of its use for driving livestock. Lawns, grassland, ornamental trees, ornamental and native flowers, species-rich hedgerows.</p> <p>Full public access.</p> <p>High level of community appreciation, as shown by consultation.</p>	4	4	3	4	3	3	2	2	2	27

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04	<p>Fenny Lane – Bear’s Hole field and brook</p> <p>Small unimproved grass field with adjacent stream and banks. Until fairly recently it was managed by seasonal grazing, with no herbicide or fertiliser use, and was the best site in the Plan Area for native damp grassland wild flowers. With ending of grazing and no current management, the area has become mixed scrubland, grass and trees, particularly along the brook, but has potential for restoration and is still of high biodiversity value.</p> <p>Some 20 bird species records, including several BAP species, mammals, bats, reptiles, amphibians, dragonflies, butterflies and other invertebrates.</p> <p>Access via footpaths Y70 and 71, providing part of a popular circular walking route in the village.</p>	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	1	4	28
05	<p>Welford Road bungalows triangle</p> <p>Managed grass with ornamental trees and spring bulbs among the grass.</p> <p>Part of an informal wildlife corridor through this part of the village.</p> <p>Valued community amenity, with seat.</p> <p>Full public access.</p>	4	4	3	4	3	1	1	0	1	19
06	<p>Old Turnpike Road</p> <p>Old course of the Leicester to Welford Turnpike Road (1765) now bypassed by the realigned A5199. Now forms footpath Y105 and provides a safe walking and cycling route off the main road.</p> <p>Important area of woodland of landscape and biodiversity value, with several BAP Priority Species birds, three mammal species and a variety of woodland wild flowers.</p>	4	2	3	4	3	2	2	2	3	25
07	<p>Willow Brook Farm meadows and riparian corridor</p> <p>An area of semi-improved grassland / permanent pasture with streamside rough vegetation, scrub, small spinney and pond.</p> <p>The small brook has a semi-natural aspect, with hedgerow and mature tree species.</p> <p>The northern section has well-preserved ridge and furrow.</p> <p>Good range of farmland birds; amphibians.</p> <p>Crossed by footpath Y5, Y7 passes along northwest boundary</p>	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	23

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08	Medieval village earthworks, Meadowcroft Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) MLE21831. Earthworks at north end of parcel represents one or more house platforms – indicates extent of the medieval settlement. Access from footpath Y5	3	3	4	3	3	2	1	3	1	23
09	Medieval village earthworks, west of church Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) MLE2347. Earthworks representing a curved hollow way (probably the village's 'back lane' with its ditch), several house platforms and two small ponds – clearly indicates extent of the medieval (pre-14 th century?) settlement.	1	3	4	2	0	1	1	3	1	16
10	Medieval village earthworks, north of church Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) MLE2346. Permanent pasture, quite heavily grazed. Earthworks of the shrunken medieval village, showing two building platforms and associated enclosures ('crofts') and the boundary of the open fields, with ridge and furrow Registered in SHINE (Selected Heritage Inventory for Natural England) for protection through a targeted agricultural management plan for this field. Provides valued historical landscape context for the Parish Church and this part of the village. Visible from Church Road and the churchyard.	2	4	4	4	3	2	1	3	1	24
11	Burial ground and mound, St Mary Magdalene Church Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) MLE21833. The church (Listed, grade II*) is largely a late 19 th -century rebuild (tower is late 18 th C) but stands on the site of the medieval church and partly on a larger mound (augmenting a small natural hill) which may be part of a pre-Christian (Dark Ages or early medieval) religious site and is undoubtedly a surviving component of the original settlement. HDC Open Space (churchyard).	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	4	2	29

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	Mown grass, headstones (some Swithland Slate, 18 th -19 th century), ornamental trees and other planting. On west and south boundaries the mound is retained by stone walls. The rather exposed site means this churchyard is not of high local value for biodiversity. Unhindered public access.										
12	Shearsby windmill field Includes Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) MLE2351. Semi-improved grass field, previously subdivided – a line of trees represent the old hedgeline. The northern part includes the earthworks (mound and other features) of a windmill, last worked c.1890. This mill was on the same site as a succession, the first (probably) in c.13 th century, soon after windmill technology was introduced to the Midlands, and later ones around 1756 and in the early 19 th century.	1	2	3	3	1	1	1	3	1	16
13	Mill Lane orchard Triangular parcel, part of a small field which appears to be a group of pre-Enclosure crofts (associated with medieval dwellings/smallholdings) on the south edge of the medieval settlement. A number of fruit trees, mixture of mature and more recent plantings. Natural England listing in Priority Habitat inventory, traditional orchard (England). Visible from Mill Lane and footpath Y70	2	3	4	3	2	2	2	2	2	22
14	Medieval village earthworks, east of Mill Lane Leicestershire & Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) MLE21832. Permanent pasture, rather heavily grazed, with overgrown hedge to east, hedge and ditch to south, and line of trees to west (developed land to north). Earthworks of house platforms and a grid of old lanes, which survive as 'hollow ways' in the grass. Accessed via footpath Y70.	3	3	4	3	3	2	1	3	2	24

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15	New Inn Farm spinney north Area of scrub and mature trees, grass, rough vegetation etc., in use (part) for agricultural purposes. Natural England listing in Priority Habitat inventory, deciduous woodland (England).	0	1	3	1	1	1	1	0	3	11
16	New Inn Farm spinney south and pond Area of mature native trees, scrub and paths with a pond (0.9 ha)(partly overgrown) fed by a ditch from the west. Natural England listing in Priority Habitat inventory, deciduous woodland (England).	0	1	3	1	1	1	1	0	3	11