

The Neighbourhood Plan for Addingham

Green Spaces Consultation Report – June 2017

Background

The Neighbourhood Plan consultations held in November 2015 and November 2016 showed the importance, for many Addingham residents, of the local green spaces, the countryside coming down into the centre of the village, with the views to the Moorside and Beamsley Beacon.

To inform green space proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan (NP), the NP Forum and the Civic Society's Environment Group, organised a survey consultation on green spaces in Addingham in May/June 2017. This set out to explore residents' views in more detail, including how green spaces could be enhanced and improved for people and wildlife.

The Survey

The questionnaire (Annex 1) was devised jointly by the NP Forum and Addingham Environment Group to gather information and views on:

- which areas of green space residents use and enjoy
- which areas are important to the Village as a whole
- what they like to do in Addingham's green spaces
- how Addingham's open spaces could be improved.

All areas designated as open space in the current local plan¹ were included in the questionnaire. Areas in the Green Belt which are managed or used as open space, but not currently designated, were also included, together with smaller areas in the Village envelope such as the gardens and seating areas on Main Street and North Street looked after by Addingham Garden Friends. Annex 2 show the location of the open space.

The consultation was launched at the Addingham Environment Day on 13 May where the NP Forum had a stand focussing on Green Spaces, where copies of the questionnaire were available.

The questionnaire was made available for completion online through the Parish Council's website (NP page), and the Addingham Civic Society and Environment Group websites. It was also publicised via Addingham Quack facebook page and the Village Website.

Information about the survey was sent to a range of village organisations, and a number including Addingham Primary School, Addingham Pre-School, Nursery Rhymes Day Nursery, Addingham Scouts and Cricket Club, The Garden Friends and Civic Society undertook to send out details including the online link via their newsletters/facebook pages/ parents or member circulation lists.

¹ Bradford Unitary Development Plan (RUDP) adopted in 2005

The Response

In total 111 questionnaires were returned between mid-May and mid-June, 60% of which were completed on line. Fifty-one respondents offered ideas, comments and suggestions on priorities for green space improvement. All respondents were resident in Addingham. Relative to the Craven Ward population (2011 Census), the over 60 age group were over represented, and under 30's under-represented. (Table 1). Responses from the 31-45 and 46-60 age groups were approximately in line with their share of the Ward population.

Table 1

Age Range	No.	%	2011 Census Craven Ward %	Variance
under 18	1	1	19	-18
19-30 years	6	5	11	-6
31-45 years	19	17	19	-2
46-60 years	24	22	21	1
over 60	61	55	30	25

N=111

Analysis

Which areas of green space do you use and enjoy?

Table 2

Most Frequently Used Green Spaces	Frequently	%	Occasionally	%	Frequently or Occasionally %
Sugar Hill, Back Beck Lane & Sawmill Pond (7)	87	78	13	12	90
The Church Field, St Peter's Church (5)	77	69	32	29	98
Manor Garth (7)	76	68	24	22	90
Addingham Primary School Field & boundary footpath (8)	66	59	31	28	87
The Memorial Hall Recreation Area & Gala Field (2)	58	52	39	35	87
The former First School site, Methodist Graveyard & footpaths up to the Golf Course (9)	50	45	37	33	78
Seating/Planting areas on Main Street & North Street cared for by the Garden Friends (1)	48	43	47	42	86
Dawson Crossley Field at High Mill & field behind Bark Lane (6)	46	41	41	37	78
The Cricket Field, footpaths in adjacent fields up to the Moorside (3)	42	38	44	41	79
The Southfield Farm fields behind the Sailor Pub, Burnside, Southfield Terrace & footpath links to the Moorside (10)	41	37	52	46	83
Marchup Beck/Big Meadow Drive & Danny Palmer Nature Reserve (11)	36	32	51	46	78
The Hoffman Wood Field (adjacent to Sycamore Drive, between Main Street & Church Street (4)	35	32	35	32	64
Silsden Road Recreation Area & Allotments (12)	32	29	49	44	73

N=111

The survey found that three areas of green space are exceptionally well used. Sugar Hill and Back Beck Lane, which forms a 'green corridor' with the Sawmill Pond path, is used frequently by 78% of respondents. The Church Field at St Peter's (the Parish Church) is used frequently by 69% of respondents, and Manor Garth by

68%. Taking into account, occasional use The Church Field is used by 98%, and Manor Garth and the Sugar Hill/Back Beck Lane/ Sawmill Pond by 90% of all respondents.

Addingham Primary School field and boundary footpath and the Memorial Hall Recreation Ground & Gala Field area are also very well used, with 59% and 52% respectively saying that they use these green spaces frequently. Occasional users bring the proportion of all respondents using these two areas up to 87%.

Use of the former First School site, taken together with the Methodist Graveyard and footpaths up to the Golf Course, is higher than might be anticipated with 45% reporting frequent use of this area and a further 33% occasional use. This use is borne out by the informal paths across the former playing field, and evidence of play activity such as den building.

The small seating and planting areas on Main Street and North Street, maintained by the Garden Friends are used by 86% of respondents, with similar proportions of frequent (43%) and occasional users (42%).

Use of the Dawson Crossley Field and field to the rear of Bark Lane above the River Wharfe is also fairly evenly split between frequent (41%) and occasional users (37%).

The remainder of green spaces are used frequently by less than 40% of respondents, but all attract significant levels of occasional use, for example Marchup Beck 47%, the Southfield Farm Fields Village Green Space 46%, the Cricket Field and adjacent paths 40%, Silsden Road Rec 44%. The Hoffman Wood Field, was the least well-used space in the survey, but is still used (frequently or occasionally by almost two-thirds of respondents.

Which Green Spaces do you value as important to the Village?

Table 3

	High	%	Medium	%	Low	%
The Church Field, St Peters Church (5)	96	87	5	5	1	1
The Memorial Hall Recreation Area & Gala Field (2)	93	84	11	10	1	1
Manor Garth (7b)	89	80	7	6	4	4
Seating /Planting areas on Main Street & North Street cared for by the Garden Friends (1)	87	78	12	11	3	3
Sugar Hill, Back Beck Lane (7a) & Sawmill Pond (7c)	86	77	13	12	1	1
Addingham Primary School Field & boundary footpath (8)	85	77	12	11	3	3
The Cricket Field, footpaths in adjacent fields up to the Moorside (3)	83	75	16	14	4	4
The Southfield Farm fields behind the Sailor Pub, Burnside, South Field Terrace & footpath links to the Moorside (10)	75	68	19	17	7	6
Marchup Beck/Big Meadow Drive & Danny Palmer Nature Reserve (11)	70	63	14	13	12	11
Silsden Road Rec & Allotments (12)	69	62	21	19	7	6
Dawson Crossley Field at High Mill & field behind Bark Lane (6)	66	59	25	23	7	6
The Hoffman Wood Field (adjacent to Sycamore Drive between Main St & Church St) (4)	63	57	23	21	9	8
The former First School site, Methodist Graveyard & footpaths up to the Golf Course (9)	61	55	25	23	12	11

N=111

Day-to-day use may be different to the value which local residents place on green spaces as village amenity. The Church Field at St Peter's is the most highly valued green space, rated as highly important by 87% of

respondents. The Memorial Hall Recreation Area & Gala Field and Manor Garth, in the centre of the Village also score over 80%. The seating and planting areas on Main Street and North Street, Sugar Hill/Back Beck Lane/Sawmill Pond, Addingham Primary School Field, Cricket Field and surrounding fields are also rated as highly important by over three-quarters of respondents.

The Southfield Farm Fields Village Green Space, on the south side of Main Street behind Burnside Mill and the Sailor Pub is rated as of high importance by 68%, with a further 17% considering it to be of medium importance.

Marchup Beck to Danny Palmer Nature Reserve and Silsden Road Recreation Ground at the top of the Village on either side of Silsden Road are regarded as of high importance by 63% and 62% respectively; a further 13% and 19% rated them as of medium importance.

Dawson Crossley Field at High Mill, the Hoffman Wood Field, together with the Former First School Site are rated as highly important by over half (55%-60%) of respondents with approximately a quarter regarding each of these as being of medium importance (a further 23-25%).

Using Addingham's Green Spaces

Table 4

	Frequently	%	Occasionally	%
Go for a walk	104	95	4	4
Enjoy the views of the surrounding countryside	100	92	4	4
Enjoy the wildlife, trees & plants	97	89	7	6
Enjoy peace & tranquillity	95	87	6	6
Walk through or past on my way to school/work/home/the shops	94	86	7	6
Walk the dog	39	36	13	12
Meet friends	34	31	36	33
Go for a run	30	28	20	18
Play games	28	26	24	22
Kick a ball about	22	20	21	20
Have a picnic	16	15	30	27

N=110

Respondents were asked how they used Addingham's green spaces. Walking is the most popular activity, with 95% frequently enjoying going out for a walk. Walking through or past green spaces as part of daily activity (on the way to school/work/home/the shops for example) is also very popular: 86% do this frequently. Almost half use green spaces to walk their dogs, either frequently (36%) or occasionally (12%).

Views of the surrounding countryside (92%), the wildlife, trees and plants (89%) and the peace and tranquillity (87%) associated with the Village's green spaces are all enjoyed frequently by high numbers.

Informal, social activities, are also important with over 60% using green spaces as a place to meet up with friends either frequently or occasionally. The proportions engaging in more active activities on the green spaces, going for a run, playing games, kicking a ball about - or having a picnic - are smaller, but close to half of respondents use Addingham's green spaces either frequently or occasionally for each of these.

Respondents were invited to list other things they enjoy doing. Twenty-one did so (see Annex 3). A diverse range of specific activities are mentioned, for example attending village events, photography, birdwatching, gardening and working on the allotment, picking wild fruit, drone flying, playing with grandchildren.

The importance of green space for health and wellbeing was a common theme of respondents' comments: *'breathe fresh air', 'meditation and mindfulness', 'fresh air and exercise', 'enjoy the sounds, colours and scents of the green space', '....I have no garden so somewhere I can relax in nature and enjoy birdsong'.*

Some respondents also took the opportunity to emphasise how important they consider green spaces are to quality of life in Addingham:

'The green spaces 'make' Addingham; they give it the distinctive feel of a village that grew from farms. I'd say 50% of the generally lovely feel of the place is because of the green space (the rest being building style and the lovely people).....'

'The green space around the village is what makes it so special'.

'The fact that Addingham is a separate space you can see as you drive from Ilkley, and that both entrances to the village are clear of heavy building in the main - again separating us from traffic and the bypass.'

'Think how fortunate I am to live in Addingham!'

Priorities for improving Addingham's Green Spaces

Table 5

	High priority	%	Medium priority	%	Low priority	%
Manage & improve for wildlife e.g. wildflowers, birds, bees, butterflies	67	63	26	24	4	4
More trees & hedgerow planting	59	55	21	20	10	9
Better footpath links	43	40	35	33	11	10
More seating	30	28	37	35	26	24
Better play facilities	19	18	40	37	31	29

N=107

High proportions responded to the questions on priorities for improvements to village green space, and 51 offered comments, ideas and suggestions.

Managing and improving Addingham's green spaces for wildlife is the top priority, with 63% regarding this as high priority and a further 24% medium priority.

Ideas and comments include:

'stop cutting meadow grass in Church Field, improve Sawmill Pond area and highlight its existence'

'provide swift boxes'

'improve council owned green spaces for wildlife e.g. wildflowers'

'improve wildlife habitat on part of Hoffman Wood field e.g. butterfly area and improved hedging and wood coppicing area'

'wildflowers, meadows and habitats for birds'.

More tree and hedgerow planting was regarded as high priority by 55%, with a further 20% rating this as medium priority.

Specific thoughts include:

'create small areas of woodland to be linked with footpaths. Will also help in areas prone to flooding'

'Addingham Garden Friends find it difficult to find any more sites with good soil for tree and hedgerow planting'

'I would like to see Back Beck Lane just for pedestrians and develop hedgerow down there'

'More trees & hedgerow planting - in the form of a park or campsite (old football field)'. i.e. Hoffman Wood Field.

Encouraging enjoyment & interest

Another theme relating to the environment was action to encourage interest in wildlife: ideas include:

'interpretation/information boards identifying flowers/trees/wildlife in appropriate locations'

'bird watching hides'

'perhaps create a wildlife centre somewhere e.g. Southfield Farm fields with observation facilities'.

Beck Management

Improving management of water courses was also mentioned:

'there are potential obstructions & rubbish (but not a lot!) in the becks, e.g. there are now disused metal grids in the beck at Aynholme Bridge. How can the becks be better cared for?' This respondent makes the link to other issues: *'Wildlife is threatened by speeding traffic. There is a high duck mortality rate in Bolton Road!'*

'checking becks to make sure not so over grown, they could add to flooding, making sure banks are stabilised and not in danger of falling'

'does the Sawmill Pond need to be dredged?'

Strategic comments

Some comments related to overall policy and approach to the environment and management of green spaces:

'We need to look at the foot paths and improve the wild life ..stop people cutting the trees on the beck and all over Addingham .. the free land ..along the paths and beck ..to be natural ..it's natural space not for garden plants and for people to extend their gardens. The green land into Addingham needs to be left not cut ..just left to be nature and the flowers to grow ...not the tidy look we have but natural ..many areas in the UK do this why in Addingham do we do the trim lawn look.'

'High priority - look carefully at future open space/footpath/wildlife linkages & identify improvements to be carried out.'

'High priority - decide on level of development to new open space balance on the Southfield Farm site with a major parkland, new habitats all as managed open space with new enhanced footpath connections into Main Street.'

'Wharfe River bank beyond caravan park is a very important area, also The Street.'

Better Footpath Links - 40% of respondents considered improving footpath links a high priority, with 33% rating this as medium.

There were some calls for improvements in all locations, and particularly linking together green spaces.

Ideas for action can be grouped under five topics: footpaths out of the village to the south and to the north, cycle routes, improved signage and footpath management.

To the moors/open country

'from village to open countryside'

'lights on one of the A65 crossing points'

'better footpath links to Rombalds Moor'

Towards Bolton Abbey

'create a foot/cycle path to Bolton Abbey along the old railway line.'

'better footpath links - old railway line to Bolton Abbey'

'link from back Bolton Road across and up to Haw Pike would be useful'

'better footpath links - to and from Bolton Abbey'

Routes for cycling including family friendly provision

'traffic free cycle routes for families/ children to Bolton Abbey / Ilkley'

'create a foot/cycle path to Bolton Abbey along the old railway line.'

'cycle/walking tracks' (x2)

'The main other issue is cycle path links. I don't feel safe taking the kids cycling. Seems a waste of our beautiful surroundings to have to go in the car to go for a bike ride.'

Provision for family friendly cycling was also a theme in suggested improvements to play facilities:

'a cycle track - there is nowhere to learn to ride a bike safely'

'a bike track with bumps like at Aireville Park (this would be VERY popular)'

'possibly a bike track for children like Skipton. We have no legacy from the Tour de France or Yorkshire Tours.'

Improving signage

'better footpath signage from the main street'

'better signposting of public footpaths'

'maintain clearly marked footpaths to surrounding moors and villages'.

Footpath management

There were also some comments relating to improving maintenance of the existing network:

'maintenance of some of the paths could be better (hedge cutting, surface stability). Also dog-poo bins where dog walkers frequently leave a mess.'

'.....On all my walks the prickly bramble is a menace and needs removing, probably with machinery as it is so severe.'

'Manor Garth footpath is becoming overgrown.'

'existing footpaths so long as they remain are adequate'.

More Seating: the need for more seating was cited by 87%, almost as many as prioritised environmental improvement, but respondents rated this as a much lower priority

Providing seating that meets the needs of older people was particularly mentioned, both in terms of location and type of seating:

'elderly cannot get up from poor height seating and need two arms to press on to get up often'

'there are a lot of older people in Addingham who would surely welcome more seating generally'

'more seating on long stretches.'

There were varied opinions on whether more seating is needed in the centre of the Village.

Specific places where seating would be appreciated are:

Back Beck Lane

Church Field (alongside graveyard wall suggested) & along the lane to Low Mill

Memorial Hall Rec/MUGA (perhaps with a shelter)

Chemists up to Gala Field: for elderly (at correct height and with two arms)

Ilkley Road to give views beyond the cricket field up to the Moorside.

Better Play Facilities: improving play provision was also cited by many, but was high priority for only 18% of respondents, with most giving it as medium or low priority.

This may partially be explained by the age profile of those responding to the survey, although parents of school age children were reasonably well represented, and many in the older age group are grandparents, who are likely to use play areas/green spaces with grandchildren.

Some of the feedback received was around the need to improve safe access and ancillary facilities:

'I think the playgrounds are generally fine (and I have small kids). Maybe somewhere to shelter in the rain in both playgrounds? What we could really do with is zebra crossings next to the two playgrounds.'

'The park at the memorial hall is great but ideally would have toilets on site. Often tricky when we have walked from home to know where to use the toilet. Sugar Hill feels a bit of a walk with toddlers.'

There were also useful suggestions for specific improvements and additions to provision which might be considered:

Silsden Road Rec:

'the Silsden road rec green space could be improved i.e. rotate the goals so flatter pitch'

'update play area Silsden road, for toddler/primary school ages'

'Play facilities for under 5's and 5-10lack behind neighbouring villages. Some equipment at Silsden Rd park left unmaintained for 6 months until recently replaced. This park urgently needs a drainage plan as it floods due to not having a 6 inch kerb preventing water entering the park rather than bypassing it. Drainage fixing for small football pitch at same park due to sunken land drain A sand pit missing in Addingham.'

Memorial Hall Rec & Play Area:

'The play park is not great and needs a lot of improvement. More baby swings needed. A slide for older children. An updated trim trail and roundabout. A built-in trampoline. A bike track with bumps like at Aireville park (this would be VERY popular)'

'Perhaps some outdoor fixed table tennis tables could provide fun for all ages.'

'Better play facilities for age 6+, and a cycle track - there is nowhere to learn to ride a bike safely. The skateboard ramps are dangerous'

'Better provision at Gala Field/Memorial Hall Recreation Area (for under 15's).'

Hoffman Wood Field:

The former 'football' field was mentioned as a possible place to locate new facilities, perhaps reflecting the current limited use/appeal of this green space:

'I would also suggest that the field where the cricket nets are located could be improved. Possibly a bike track for children like Skipton. We have no legacy from the Tour de France or Yorkshire Tours.'

'old football field paddling pool/lido for young children'

'a park with café & shelter possibly on 'old' football field'

Teenagers:

Several respondents mentioned the need of better provision for teenagers, and two had specific thoughts about location and what might be provided.

'Play facilities are good for young children. Could maybe improve for teenagers- not necessarily in the village centre as crowds of teenagers may put off younger families using children's play area.'

'Fitness circuit suitable for teenagers and adults'.

Further engagement is needed to understand and capture the needs and aspirations of this age group, perhaps via group discussions.

ANNEX 1: The Questionnaire

The Neighbourhood Plan for Addingham

Protecting & Improving our Green Spaces

The Neighbourhood Plan can identify and designate land for special protection as 'local green space', where it is of 'particular importance and significance to the community' – for instance for its beauty, historical significance, wildlife and recreational use.

The Plan will also include policies to protect other open space such as playing fields, recreation grounds and allotments.

Many of Addingham's open spaces are currently protected by being in the 'adopted' Green Belt surrounding the built-up area, however Bradford District Council is likely to review Green Belt boundaries as part of the new Development Plan.

We know from the consultations held so far, that one of the things many Addingham residents like about living in the village is its greenspaces, the countryside coming down into the centre of the village, the views to the Moorside and Beamsley Beacon.

The Neighbourhood Plan Forum & The Civic Society's Environment Group wish to explore residents' views in more detail, including how green spaces could be enhanced and improved for people and wildlife.

We would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire and hand it in here.....

or at Addingham Post Office or Hadfield Photocraft.

THANK YOU!

Please give us your name, email address or tel. no. if you are happy to be contacted by the Neighbourhood Plan Forum, Civic Society/Environment Group:

Name:

Email:

Tel:

Which areas of green space do you use & enjoy, and think are important to the Village as a whole?

Area	Which areas of green space do you use and enjoy?		Which green spaces do you value as important to the Village?		
	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
Seating /Planting areas on Main Street & North Street cared for by the Garden Friends (1)					
The Memorial Hall Recreation Area & Gala Field (2)					
The Cricket Field, footpaths in adjacent fields up to the Moorside (3)					
The Hoffman Wood Field (adjacent to Sycamore Drive between Main St & Church St) (4)					
The Church Field, St Peters Church (5)					
Dawson Crossley Field at High Mill & field behind Bark Lane (6)					
Manor Garth (7b)					
Sugar Hill, Back Beck Lane (7a), & Sawmill Pond (7c)					
Addingham Primary School Field & boundary footpath (8)					
The old First School site, Methodist Graveyard & footpaths up to the Golf Course (9)					

Area	Which areas of green space do you use and enjoy?		Which green spaces do you value as important to the Village?		
	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
The Southfield Farm fields behind the Sailor Pub, Burnside, South Field Terrace & footpath links to the Moorside (10)					
Marchup Beck/Big Meadow Drive & Danny Palmer Nature Reserve (11)					
Silsden Road Rec & Allotments (12)					

What kind of things do you like to do in Addingham's green spaces?

(please tick as many as apply)

ACTIVITY	FREQUENTLY	OCCASIONALLY
Meet friends		
Walk through/past on my way to school/work/home/to the shops		
Play games		
Kick a ball about		
Have a picnic		
Go for a walk		
Go for a run		
Walk the dog		
Enjoy peace & tranquillity		
Enjoy the wildlife, trees & plants		
Enjoy the views of the surrounding countryside		
Other things (please list):		

How could Addingham's open spaces be improved?

Improvement	High priority	Medium	Low
Better play facilities			
<i>For which age group & location?</i>			
Better footpath links			
<i>In which location?</i>			
More seating			
<i>In which location?</i>			
Manage & improve for wildlife eg wildflowers, birds, bees, butterflies			
More trees & hedgerow planting			
Do you have any other ideas & suggestions?			

Please confirm you are resident in Addingham Parish: **Yes** **No**

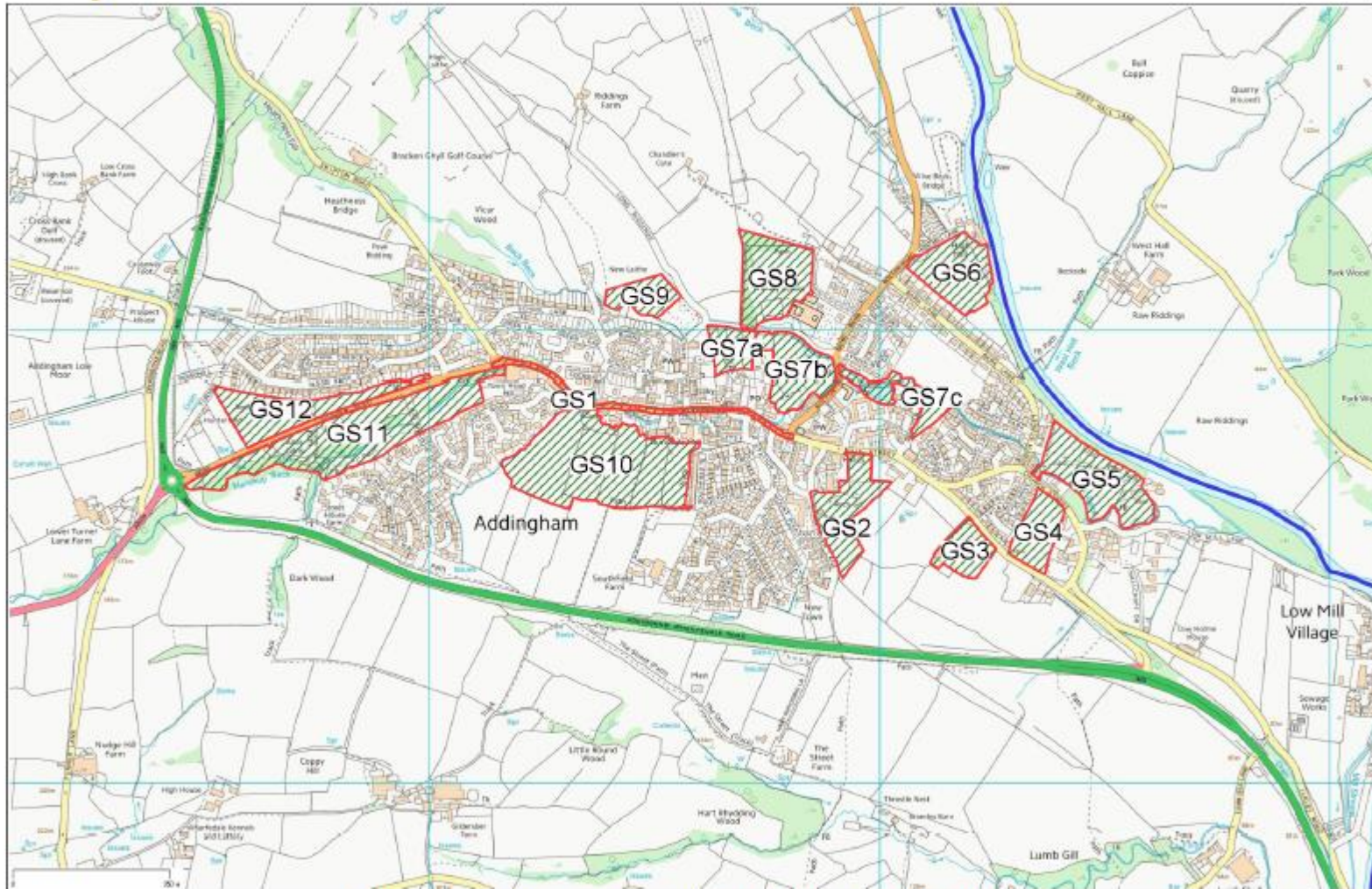
If you are a visitor please tell us where you live (town/village):

It would be helpful if you could tell us which age category you are in:

12 or under 13-18 yrs 19-30 31-45 46-60 over 60

(please ring the age bracket).

ANNEX 2 - Map to be updated



Date Created: 16-8-2017 | Map Centre (Easting/Northing): 407592 / 449740 | Scale: 1:11125 | © Crown copyright and database right. All rights reserved (0100058229) 2017 © Contains Ordnance Survey Data : Crown copyright and database right 2017

ANNEX 3: Using Addingham's Green Spaces – other things respondents enjoy

Village events
Photography, mindfulness, birdwatching
Photography, meditation & mindfulness
Exercise & fresh air
Enjoy the space
Garden
Picking wild fruits, fungi etc.
Work on our allotment!
Fruit picking
Enjoy open views to the hills
Just love the space I can walk picnic etc
Safe places for children to play and families to meet
Show visitors around
Think how fortunate I am to live in Addingham!
Fly my drone (responsibly!)
Enjoy the colours, sounds and scents of the green space.
Play with grandchildren
The fact that Addingham is a separate space you can see as you drive from ilkley, and that both entrances to the village are clear of heavy building in the main - again separating us from traffic and the bypass. The central space of Manor garth is much used and appreciated as are the views towards the Cricket pitch from across the road and from further into the village toward the Memorial Hall please do not allow infil between the Cricket pitch and Church St on the south side or between the bypass and Main Street. This is all a continuation of The Moorside with typical stone walling. Small pockets of houses rather than large swathes in sympathetic areas. For instance a few houses on the Western end of Main Street where there is a council tip and the Old School are both good potential and not over large sites. Preserve all Green Fields if possible.
The green spaces 'make' Addingham; they give it the distinctive feel of a village that grew from farms. I'd say 50% of the generally lovely feel of the place is because of the green space (the rest being building style and the lovely people), and the fact that you can go one building off the main road and be in the countryside, up lanes like Sugar Hill. These spaces, especially Manor Garth, the Cricket Ground, Sugar Hill, the area between the Clay estate and the Silsden Road, and the area behind the Sailor, need fighting for to preserve the character of the village.
The green space around the village is what makes it so special
Breathe fresh air. I have no garden, so somewhere I can relax in nature and enjoy birdsong