



# Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan Review 2023-2040

**Local Green Space Assessment  
August 2023**

Hargrave Parish Council

Prepared for Hargrave Parish Council by

**PLACES4PEOPLE** **P4P**  
PLANNING CONSULTANCY

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## HARGRAVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

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### LOCAL GREEN SPACES

The parish of Hargrave has several 'green spaces' that are important to the character of the village and provide an amenity for its residents. Paragraphs 101 and 102 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2021) identifies the possibility of identifying green spaces that meet certain characteristics as "Local Green Spaces". The paragraphs state:

101. The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.
102. The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:
- a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
  - b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
  - c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

This report provides an assessment of the green spaces in the village against the criteria in paragraph 102 in order to support the designation of local green spaces in the Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan.

### The Identified Green Spaces

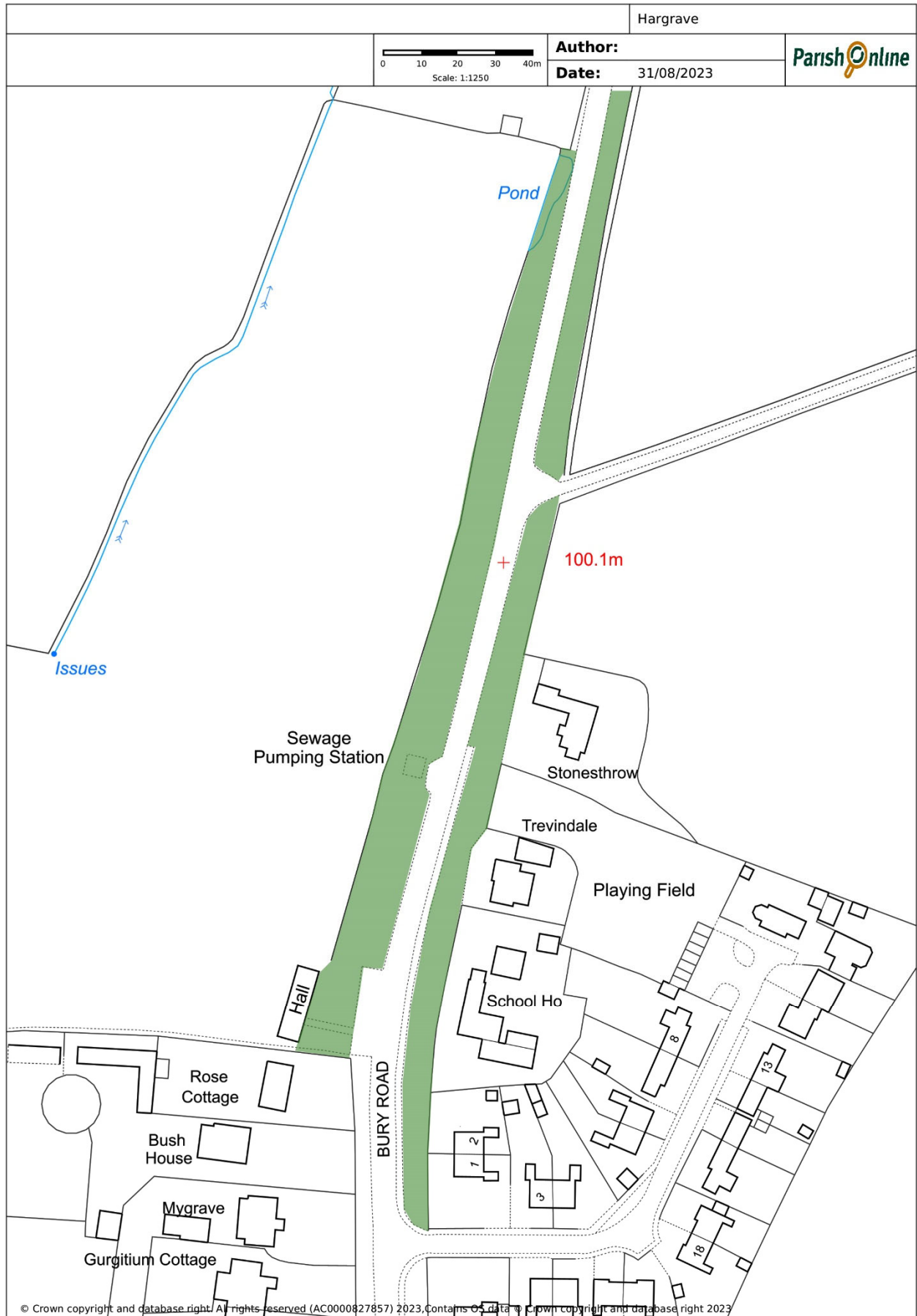
A list of the green spaces is detailed below. Some of the spaces are grouped together.

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Bury Road verges         | 4. Church Lane verges   |
| 2. The Green verges         | 5. Little Knowles Green |
| 3. Wickhambrook Road verges | 6. Great Knowles Green  |

### Appraisal

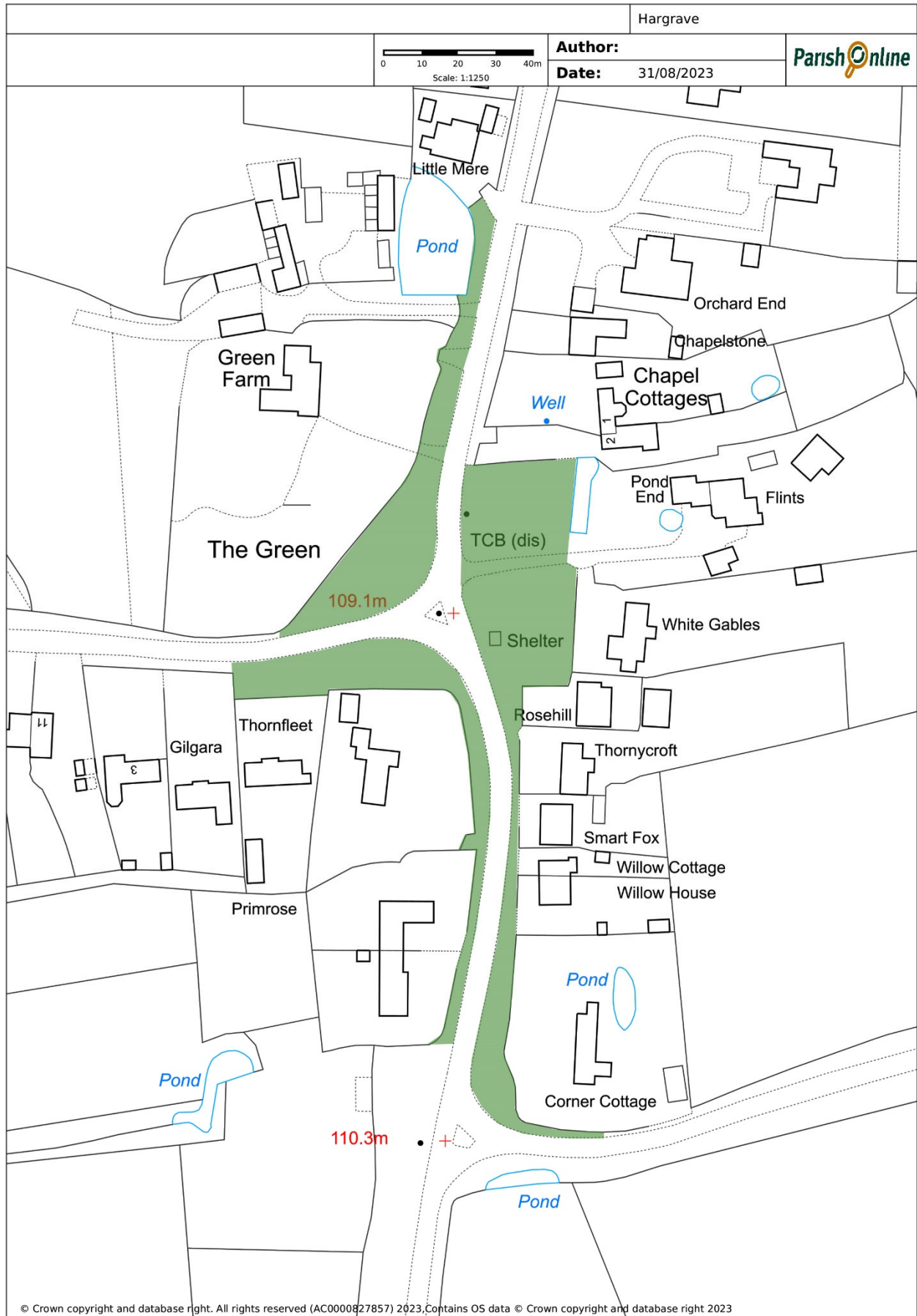
The following pages provide a detailed assessment of the identified spaces to ascertain whether they conform with the Local Green Space definition of the NPPF.

# 1. Bury Road Verges



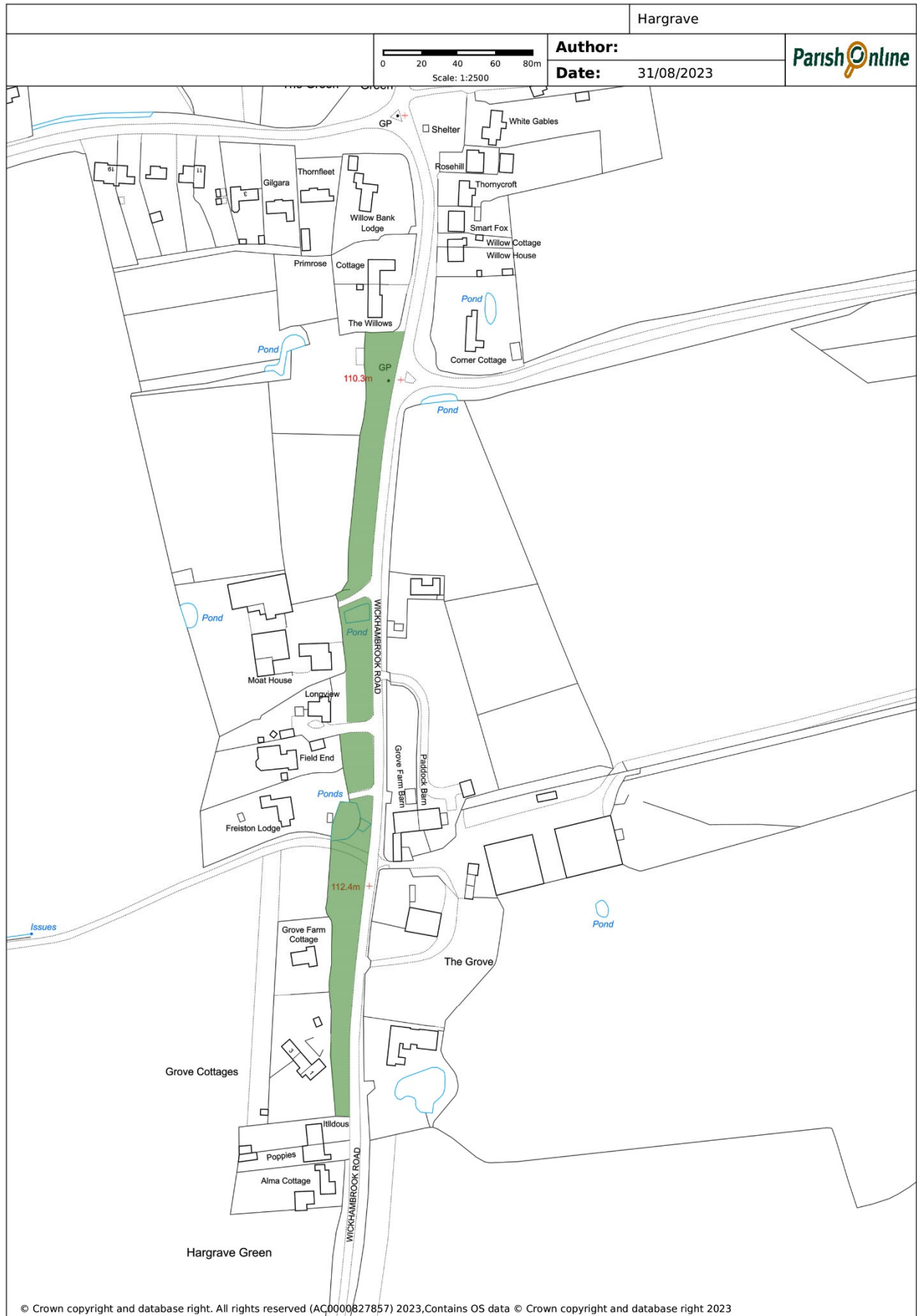
<b>Site Details</b>	
<b>Description and purpose</b>	Wide grass verges at northern edge of village centre
<b>Checklist</b>	
<b>Statutory designation</b>	None
<b>Site allocations</b>	None
<b>Planning permissions</b>	No outstanding planning consents
<b>Area</b>	0.47 hectares
<b>Ownership</b>	Believed to be Suffolk County Highway land
<b>NPPF Criteria Assessment</b>	
<b>Close to the community it services</b>	In village centre
<b>Public access</b>	Open access at all times
<b>Ecologically significant</b>	Contains a number of trees plus hedgerows on boundary
<b>Historically significant</b>	No significance recorded other than the wide verges have been a feature of the village for many decades
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance</b>	The verges make a significant contribution to the character of the village and were designated as Local Green Space in the 2018 Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan
<b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.</b>	The site does not form an extensive tract of land
<b>Conclusion</b>	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

## 2. The Green



<b>Site Details</b>	
<b>Description and purpose</b>	Roadside verges and village green
<b>Checklist</b>	
<b>Statutory designations</b>	None
<b>Site allocations</b>	None
<b>Planning permissions</b>	No outstanding planning consent
<b>Area</b>	0.45 Ha
<b>Ownership</b>	Marquis of Bristol and verges believed to be Suffolk County Highways land
<b>NPPF Criteria Assessment</b>	
<b>Close to the community it services</b>	Located in the centre of the village, it hosts the brick-built bus shelter and a range of parish notice boards as well as the village sign, a letter box and a bench.
<b>Public access</b>	Publicly accessible at all times
<b>Ecologically significant</b>	No records of significance but there are a number of trees located within the space and it is generally bounded by hedgerows. Daffodils flower in these spaces in the spring.
<b>Historically significant</b>	No historic significance
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance</b>	The main green space within this area provides an informal and distinct green space that is a focal point for the village. Designated as a Local Green Space in the 2018 Neighbourhood Plan
<b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land</b>	The site does not form an extensive tract of land
<b>Conclusion</b>	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

### 3. Wickhambrook Road Verges





<b>Site Details</b>	
<b>Description and purpose</b>	Roadside verges
<b>Checklist</b>	
<b>Statutory designations</b>	None
<b>Site allocations</b>	None
<b>Planning permissions</b>	No outstanding planning consent
<b>Area</b>	0.6 Ha
<b>Ownership</b>	Believed to be Suffolk County Highway land
<b>NPPF Criteria Assessment</b>	
<b>Close to the community it services</b>	In village centre and providing a key part of the buffer between the village centre and The Grove
<b>Public access</b>	Publicly accessible at all times
<b>Ecologically significant</b>	No records of significance but the area does include ponds
<b>Historically significant</b>	No historic significance
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance</b>	The verges make a significant contribution to the character of the village and were designated as Local Green Space in the 2018 Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan
<b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land</b>	The site does not form an extensive tract of land
<b>Conclusion</b>	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

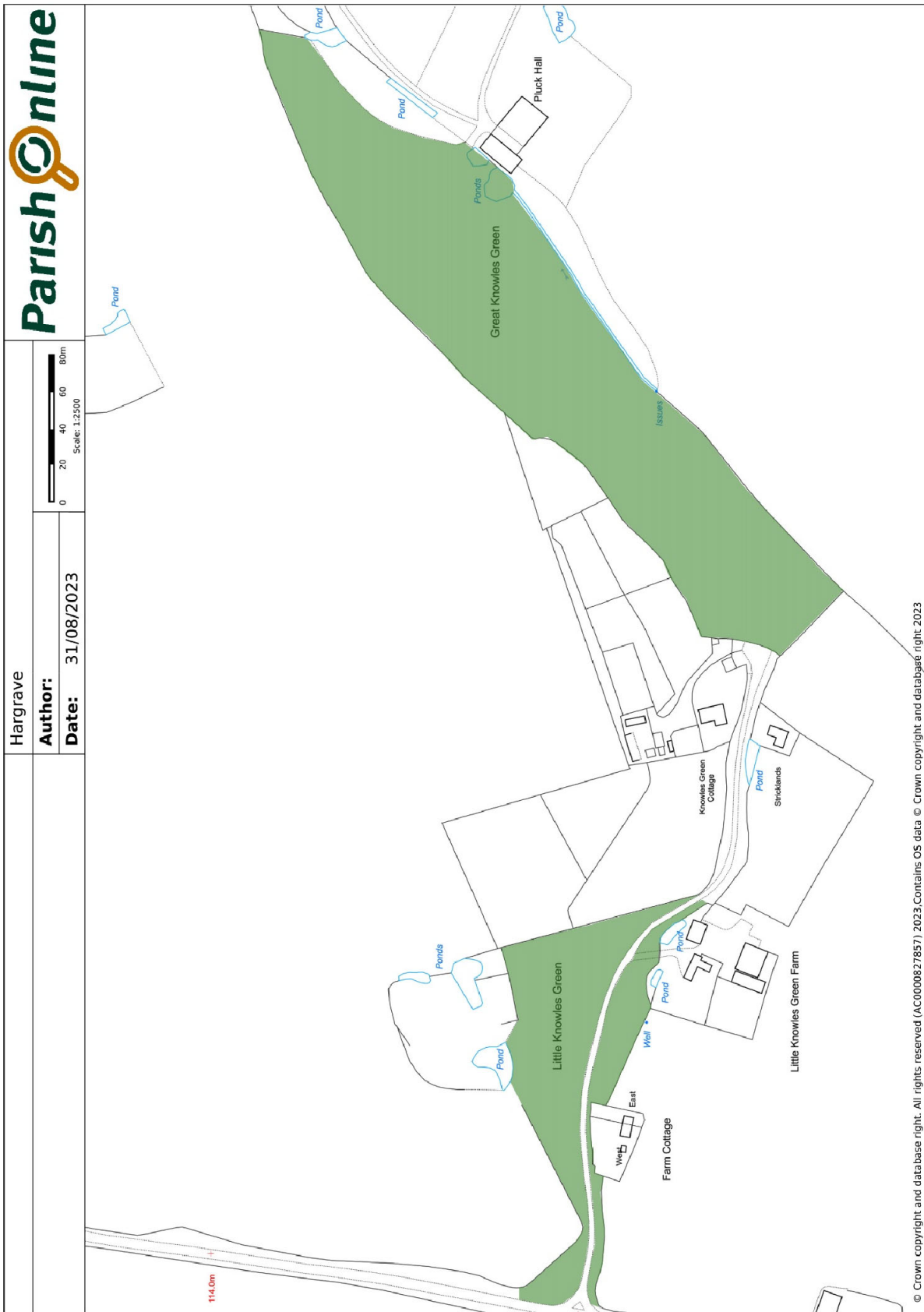
## 4. Church Lane Verges



<b>Site Details</b>	
<b>Description and purpose</b>	Roadside verges
<b>Checklist</b>	
<b>Statutory designations</b>	None
<b>Site allocations</b>	None
<b>Planning permissions</b>	No outstanding planning consent
<b>Area</b>	0.6 Ha
<b>Ownership</b>	The Gittus family
<b>NPPF Criteria Assessment</b>	
<b>Close to the community it services</b>	Close to Parish Church in a discreet area away from the main village centre
<b>Public access</b>	Publicly accessible at all times
<b>Ecologically significant</b>	No records of significance but the area does include watercourses and is bounded by significant hedgerows
<b>Historically significant</b>	No historic significance
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance</b>	The verges make a significant contribution to the character of the village and were designated as Local Green Space in the 2018 Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan
<b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land</b>	The site does not form an extensive tract of land
<b>Conclusion</b>	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation

5. Little Knowles Green

6. Great Knowles Green



Site Details	
<b>Description and purpose</b>	Roadside verges
Checklist	
<b>Statutory designations</b>	None
<b>Site allocations</b>	None
<b>Planning permissions</b>	No outstanding planning consent
<b>Area</b>	Little Knowles Green - 0.9 Ha Great Knowles Green – 2.7 Ha
<b>Ownership</b>	Declared through investigation by the Commons Commissioner in 1973 to be in the ownership of Hargrave Parish Council  See <a href="https://acraew.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/Suffolk/LITTLE%20KNOWLES%20GREEN%20-%20HARGRAVE%20NO.VG.6.pdf">https://acraew.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/Suffolk/LITTLE%20KNOWLES%20GREEN%20-%20HARGRAVE%20NO.VG.6.pdf</a>  And <a href="https://acraew.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/Suffolk/GREAT%20KNOWLES%20GREEN%20-%20HARGRAVE%20NO.VG.7.pdf">https://acraew.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/Suffolk/GREAT%20KNOWLES%20GREEN%20-%20HARGRAVE%20NO.VG.7.pdf</a>
NPPF Criteria Assessment	
<b>Close to the community it services</b>	A distinctly separate area of the village and town of a number of greens across the parish, forming the most intact and extensive
<b>Public access</b>	Publicly accessible at all times – a bridleway and public footpath passes through Great Knowles Green
<b>Ecologically significant</b>	No records of significance but the areas do include ponds and are bounded by significant hedgerows. Some trees are also found within Little Knowles Green.
<b>Historically significant</b>	No historic significance
<b>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance</b>	The areas make a significant contribution to the character of the village and were designated as Local Green Space in the 2018 Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan
<b>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land</b>	The sites do not form an extensive tract of land
<b>Conclusion</b>	Qualifies for Local Green Space designation