

Neighbourhood Plan
Evidence Gathering results

P1 'To maintain and enhance the physical appearance of the town in its rural surroundings and help to secure the surrounding countryside, as much as possible, in its present essentially rural state.'

P1 Policy

Local Green Space

Our locally valued green spaces (green infrastructure) are identified on map X and are designated as Local Green Space. These LGS (and the reason(s) for their designation) are:

- a) Memorial Park (leisure and recreation)
- b) Football Club Field, The Wordens, Exeter Street, (leisure and recreation)
- c) Bowling Green, North street, (leisure, recreation, health & well-being)
- d) Rugby Field, Fore St, (leisure & recreation)
- e) Environmental Trust, The Depot, Devonshire Gardens. (Biodiversity and wildlife, educational)
- f) NT Primary School Field, Exeter St (educational, community resource)
- g) Top site From Survey
- h) Second site From Survey
- i) Third site From survey

These areas will be protected from loss for the reasons and uses set out. Development proposals on or likely to impact the sites' use and reason for designation will only be supported where they:

Evidence to support the Local Green Space policy

Football Club Field, The Wardons, Exeter St

North Tawton Youth Football Club regularly uses the Football Field at the Wordens, providing opportunity for children within North Tawton and surrounding areas to play youth football. It offers FA qualified coaches to educate and allow children from 4-14 years old to play football and enjoy sport.

Current usage by the community of North Tawton and surrounding area is 100 children & youth players, 3 times a week; 30 adult players, twice a week; 25 over 35 (veteran players), monthly.

Bowling Green, North Street

Flat green bowling is important for the **Health and Wellbeing** of men and women in the community of North Tawton. Lawn bowls is a low-impact, therapeutic exercise that can improve fitness, coordination and confidence. It is played for the challenge and competition, personal enjoyment, activity, the pleasure of spending time outdoors and for social interaction. Bowls provides exercise of a moderate intensity. It also offers a mental challenge through the development of skills and tactics.

Lawn bowls is a great game for people of all ages providing opportunity for keeping active, improving muscle strength, flexibility and endurance, improves co-ordination and concentration, socialising with people in the local community, and giving a sense of belonging from being part of a team.

The Club maintains attractive grounds which contribute to the town's green space, and premises and community facilities that currently support summer outdoor recreational activity, and with the new development will support indoor and winter recreational and social activity.

There are currently 50 members, who use the green on a regular basis throughout the summer, in 3 mens leagues, 2 ladies leagues, and friendly and internal club games. Members are mixed gender and mixed ages, though predominantly in the older age range. Whilst many are long standing members who have lived in North Tawton for many years, the Club also attracts newcomers to the area who find its ethos welcoming and sociable, and a good way to make friends.

Environmental Trust, The Depot, Devonshire Gardens – registered with West Devon as an 'Asset of Community Value'

The North Tawton Environmental Trust is based at the Depot providing a Community Growing project offering growing space and composting facilities for families and individuals who do not have enough space to grow vegetables at home, thus teaching children where their food comes from. The Depot provides valuable wildlife habitat which can act as a reservoir and refuge for the area's wildlife encouraging environmental best practice.

The Depot is used by approximately 20 families. The Youth Club have space in the poly tunnels, which are attended daily in the summer on a shared rota.

North Tawton Primary School field

The Primary school land is held in 'Trust' and has been transferred to the Coop Trust to ensure that it will only be used for the benefit of the community. The school provides **both Educational facilities and a venue for Sports and other events.**

'To provide a safe and healthy place in which individuals and families can thrive where community facilities and services are supported, enhanced and maintained' [Protecting Community Facilities from Loss](#)

Existing community facilities will be protected for such use.

Our particularly locally valued community amenities and facilities are identified on map X and are:

- j)
 - i) The post office;
 - ii) The Town Hall;
 - iii) The Youth and Community Centre;
 - iv) The Depot, Environment Trust (ACV)

- v) The Café
- vi) The Pharmacy
- vii) The Surgery
- viii) North Tawton Football Club
- ix) North Tawton Rugby Club
- x) North Tawton Bowling Club

'To welcome and support measures which maintain and improve the effectiveness of the retail centre of the town'

June 2016