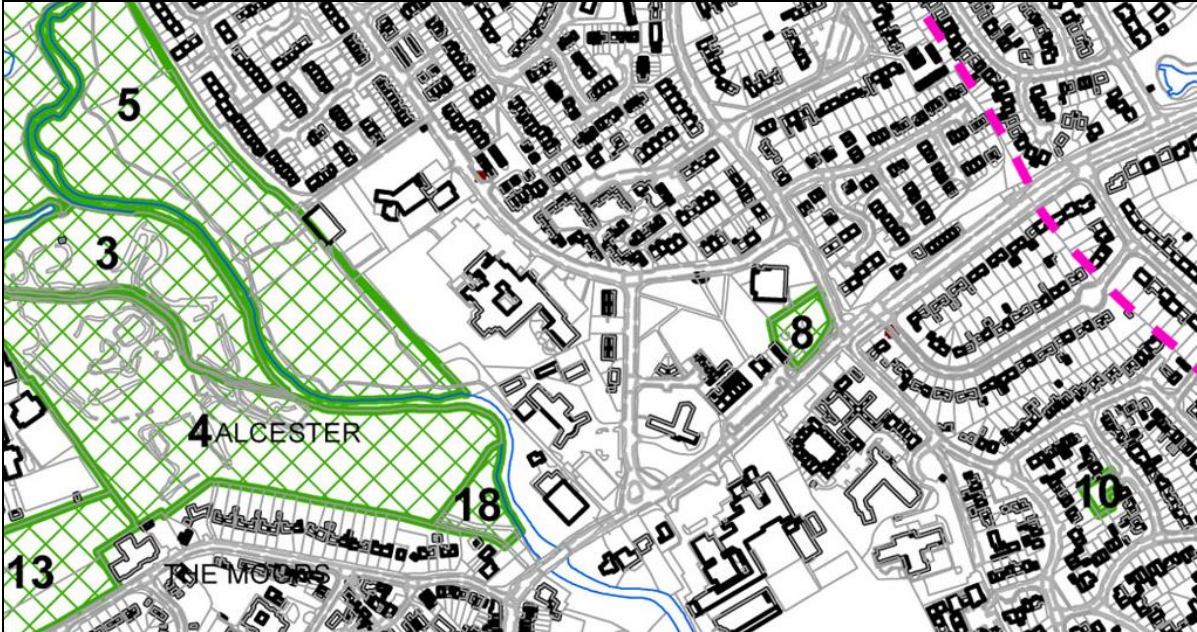


**Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan
Local Green Space Site Assessment - August 2018**

Site Address	Site Area	Site Ref
Collins Way Children’s Play Area, near Fields Park Drive and Throckmorton Road, Alcester	Approx. 0.06ha	LGS 10
Plan		
		
Site Description and Current Land Use		
<p>This small L-shaped green space is located on the west side of Collins Way and is surrounded by residential dwellings on all sides. It is a well-used enclosed recreational area. There is a bench on the site as well as a number of play equipment for young children including; swings, slide, see-saw and roundabout.</p> <p>A variety of mature trees and shrubs line the perimeter of the site to the east, south and west. A wooden post and rail fence, 5-bar gate and kissing gate line the pedestrian pavement along the road frontage.</p>		
Relevant Planning History		
<p>Application no: 81/01093/S53S(Collins Way Play Area)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed: Erection of 12ft high chain link fence along boundary • Decision: Application permitted • Decision Date: 18/03/1982 		
Site Ownership		
Owned and managed by Alcester Council. Title Ref: WK209562		

Site Constraints

None.

Public Access

The site is open and accessible to the public along the road frontage.

Site Photo



Ecological Significance

With the exception of the mature trees and shrubs that frame the site, the majority of the site has low ecological value.

The mixed species trees and shrubs that are there are important for a number of birds and mammals as they provide food, shelter and nesting sites. They increase the diversity of insect species (including butterflies and bees which are currently in decline), which are a food source for bird and mammal species and can also play an important role in the pollination of plants and crops in the surrounding area. The diversity and population numbers of insects directly impacts the food chain for other fauna in the area and has a wider impact on the cultivation of crops.

Trees provide nesting sites for birds as well as habitats for small mammal species e.g. squirrels. These are all vital for the wider food web and species diversity within the town's ecosystem.

In the town, there have been sightings of larger fauna species such as bats, birds of prey (e.g. buzzards and owls), rabbits and hedgehogs. The site plays an important contributory role in the wider ecological significance of the town.

Special Qualities and Local Significance

The site is a recreational facility and open green space that easily accessible to local residents.

The special qualities of the site include its recreational and social value for young children and their parents. Its enclosed aspect adds to its value making a safe environment for young children to play in within a built-up residential area.

The site is demonstrably special and locally significant as it is actively used and valued by the local community as a formal area of open space.

Summary and Suitability for Designation as Local Green Space

This site is well related to and appreciated and valued by the local community and makes a positive contribution to the local distinctiveness of the village.

The LGS as outlined on the above plan is considered to be suitable for Local Green Space designation in accordance with paragraphs 99-101 of the National Planning Policy Framework in that it is:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance because of its recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity and richness of its habitats and wildlife potential; and
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.