

NDP: ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN SPACES

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NDP: ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN SPACES

1. INTRODUCTION

Dursley is a town situated on the Cotswold Escarpment in the South Gloucestershire area under administrative control of Stroud District Council. It has a population nearing 7,000 and this number is set to grow with new developments. In the SDC Local Plan, Dursley together with Cam are **'First Tier Centres'**. Such a ranking is based on; size as well as range of Facilities and Services. It is therefore a primary focus for growth and development, earmarked for providing jobs and homes by the District Council.

The topography of the Dursley area comprises ancient hillside woodlands to the south, west and partly east borders restricting development along these wooded boundaries. The hills are predominantly Jurassic oolitic limestone.

It forms part of the Cotswold way.



Fig. 1 Map showing Key Wildlife Sites, AONB, Protected outdoor play areas and the Conservation zone.

The settlement boundary within which development can take place is shown in figure 2. Outside this boundary areas below the tree line and to the north of the town are designated AONB. Despite this designation, some building encroachment has taken place and further is planned.

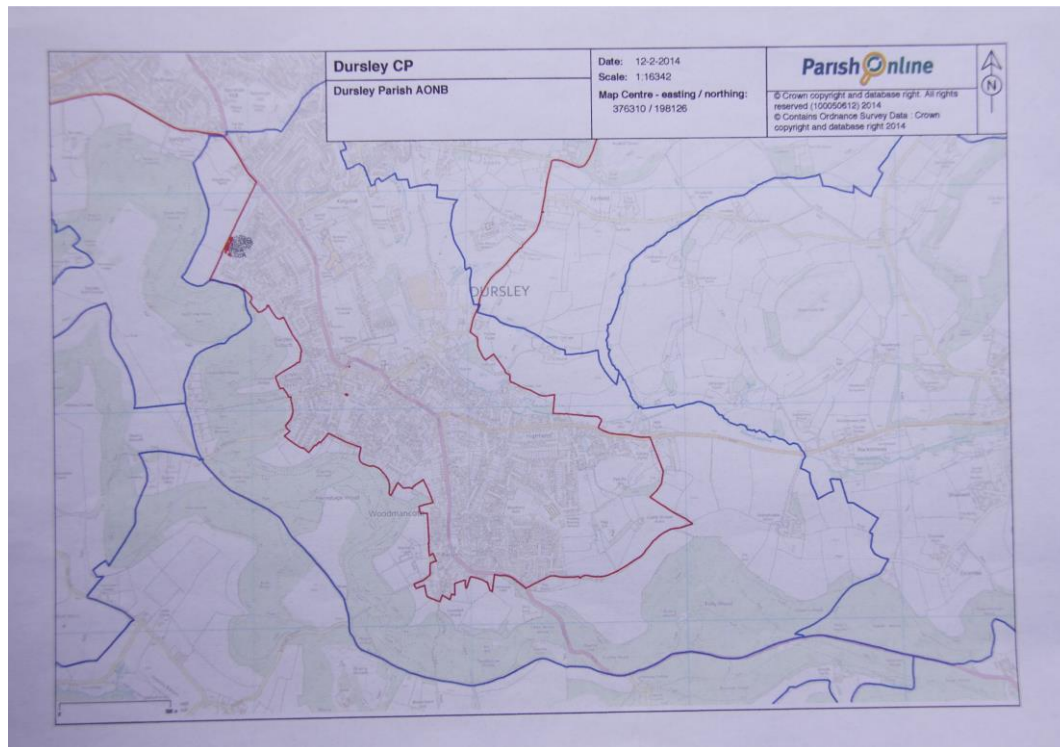


Fig 2 Shows the Town boundary in blue and settlement boundary in red.

Present proposed developments are:

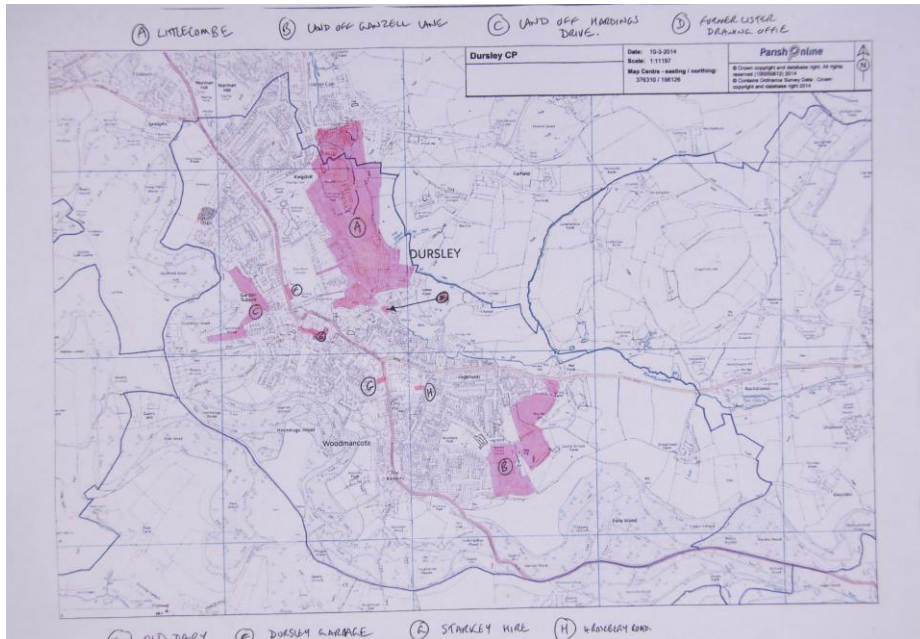


Fig 3. Areas of proposed development in pink

On the Littlecombe site to the north bordering with Cam parish,
Land off Harding Avenue and Cedar Close and
Land off Ganzell Lane.

Important fact 1.

Population density (people per hectare) shows that Dursley has a considerably higher population density than Gloucestershire (over 6 times the density 14.4 cf 2.3 people per hectare) and England (over 3 times the density 14.4 cf 4.1 people per hectare) (Source – Census 2011)

2. BENEFIT OF GREEN SPACES

Natural England/MENE

<http://nepubprod.appspot.com/publication/40017?category=127020>

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/about_us/news/2013/300713.aspx

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/mene-infographic-report-2012-13_tcm6-36346.pdf

http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/about_us/news/2013/300713.aspx

Quote from natural England MENE (Monitoring Engagement with Natural Environment) survey 2013.

“The survey shows that green spaces near home are an important part of modern life. In total, 55

percent of the population claim to make one leisure visit or more to the outdoors every week. Visits tend to be taken close to where people live, with two thirds within two miles of home. The survey also shows that 92 per cent of people 'agree' that having green spaces close to where they live is important. Groups in the English population who don't visit green spaces regularly are people aged 16-24, people in less affluent socio-economic groups and to a lesser extent those aged 65 and over.

The evidence from MENE is being used by Public Health England to help local authorities identify priorities for greening their communities, which will, in turn, improve people's health and wellbeing. Other studies have shown that on average, one visit a week for between 10-60 minutes is enough to raise self-esteem – which is a facet of mental health [1]; while 10-15 minutes at least three times per week will allow the human body to synthesise enough vitamin D to supplement physiological health [2].

Natural England Commissioned Report NECR067: "Green spaces access, green spaces use, physical activity and overweight.

Conclusion

"This study has provided new evidence that good access to urban green spaces is associated with higher use, higher physical activity levels, and a lower likelihood of being overweight or obese. Informal physical activity is an important component of overall activity levels, and provision of facilities such as green spaces which can be used for a wide range of physical activities, has population wide benefits. It is important that supportive environments are available to facilitate active lifestyles, and our findings suggest that green spaces may provide a valuable resource in urban areas".

Consultation information from parish plan 2012

4 questions in the community plan survey in 2012 contained a number of questions relating to the environment. Responses are summarised below:

Question in parish plan survey 2012	Responses (% , comments etc 148 responses from Dursley parishioners)	Conclusions/Key messages
Q8.07 –Should we keep the following in the plan? Environment improvement areas. Q25- What do you think should be done to	73% keep, 4% change, 9% drop 84% maintain footpaths & bridleways, 83% preserve green	Most respondents think that improving and enhancing the local environment is important, particularly preserving green spaces & maintaining footpaths,

enhance the local environment?	spaces, 76% maintain walls & hedges, 74% maintain historic buildings, 53% plant more trees & flowers, 53% preserve special trees.	bridleways, walls, hedges & historic buildings.
Q9 –Importance: Access to the countryside. Q10-How would you rate the following? Access to the countryside	65% essential, 26% quite important, 4% not very important, 0% not needed, % don't know 50% very good, 35% good, 10% reasonable, 1% poor, 1% very poor, 0% don't know	Most respondents think that access to the countryside is important and most think that it is very good or good.
Q9-Importance :Parks & open spaces Q10 –How would you rate the following? Parks & open spaces	61% essential, 29% quite important, 6% not very important, 0% not needed, 1% don't know 7% very good, 32% good, 42% reasonable, 10% poor, 3% very poor, 2% don't know	Most respondents think that parks and open spaces are important but 40% think they are good or very good (the most common answer was 'reasonable'). This suggests that improvements to parks and open spaces are needed.
Q47- What infrastructure do you think will be needed to support significant new housing?	41% parks and open spaces	The comments in the questionnaire will suggest how they should be improved (i.e . is it a maintenance issue or a provision issue)

SDC/URS Habitats Regulation Assessment

http://www.stroud.gov.uk/info/plan_strat/Habitat_regulations_assessment_2013.pdf

At page 55 – Recommendations

Future policy should incorporate standards for provision of new semi-natural greenspace for new developments that ensure that Natural England criteria are met for new development across the district. The local authority should ensure that to accompany new development additional accessible natural greenspace would be provided at the following rates:

- **Provision of at least 2ha of accessible natural green space per 1,000 population;**

- ***No person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural green space.***

Depending on circumstances this greenspace could be provided strategically by the local authority (ensuring that it is delivered before the new housing it is intended to serve becomes occupied) or (if the associated development is sufficiently large) could be provided as part of a specific development.

SDC Local Plan – draft (Submitted to SoS) : ‘Our Environment and Surroundings’:

Strategic Objective SO6

Our environment and surroundings

extract p132

Strategic Objective SO6: Our District’s distinctive qualities

Conserving and enhancing Stroud District’s distinctive qualities, based on landscape, townscape and biodiversity

6.3 The Local Plan seeks to minimise the impact of development on biodiversity and sensitive landscapes by prioritising development on sites that lie outside the Cotswolds AONB or the protected landscapes of the River Severn estuary. Making the most of brownfield land will limit adverse effect on wildlife and habitats; while well-planned new development on both brownfield and greenfield locations will offer opportunities to design-in rich new habitat and wildlife areas.

6.4 Stroud District has a rich built heritage and unique townscape features. There are opportunities to make significant environmental enhancements and to open up opportunities for more community uses and the Local Plan includes policies to enable this to happen.

6.5 The policies in this Plan emphasise the importance of high quality design, and an intelligent, holistic approach to ‘place making’ at both large scale and small scale. This is crucial for our District, not only as a means of helping new development to ‘fit in’ to our high quality environment (whether through contemporary or traditional design), but also as a means of

stimulating economic growth: the quality of our built and natural features is a selling point for Stroud District, central to its appeal as a tourist and leisure destination, and also important to town centre vitality.

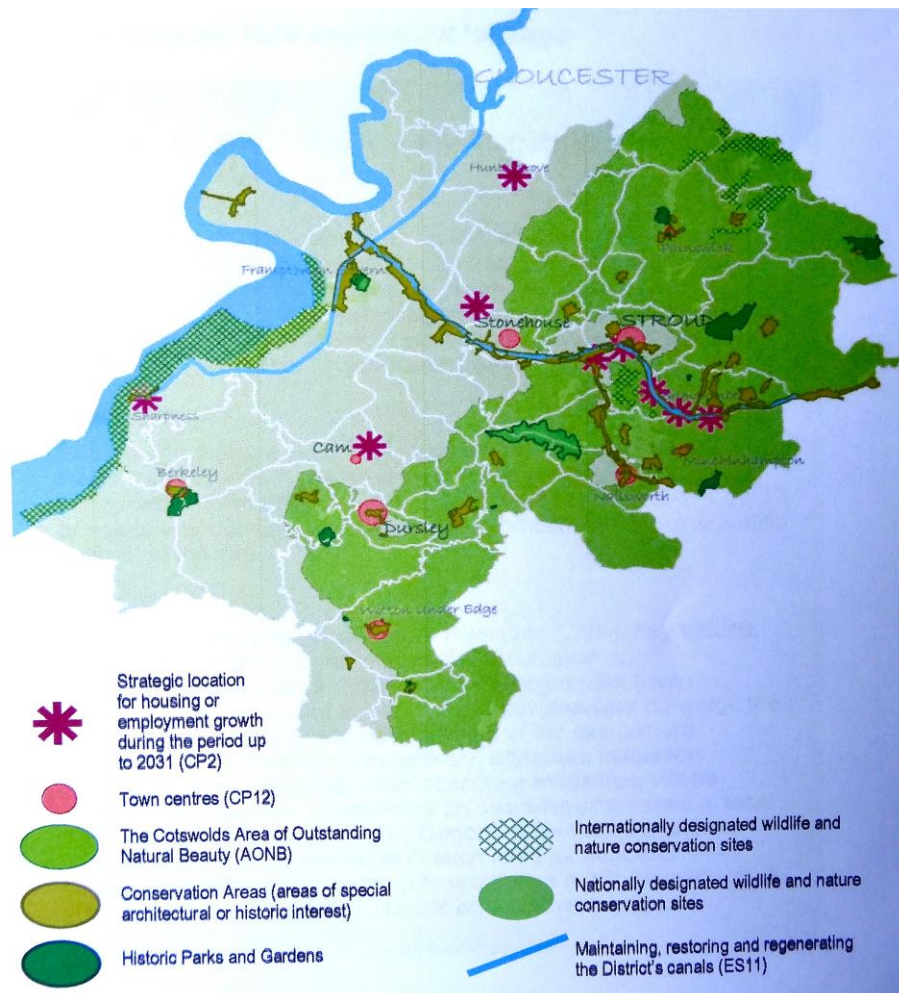


Fig 4. Stroud map from the SDC Local Plan
Open Spaces Society: Information Sheet No. C20

Extract from National Planning Policy Framework (DGLG 2012, paragraphs 76-78)

76. Local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them. By designating land as Local Green Space, local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances. Identifying land as Local Green Space should therefore 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 reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.

77. *The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:*

- Where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- Where the green area is 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*
- Where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.*

78. *Local policy for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts.*

3. LISTING OF NPFA/FIT DEFINED OUTDOOR PLAY SPACES



Fig 5. Map of Green Spaces within the NPFA Classification

Dursley Outdoor Play Space Analysis 2014

(Population census data from 2011 **6,697**)

NB. With new developments having been built since this time, the population has risen: figures unavailable.

Dursley Outdoor Play Space analysis 2014

POPULATION (2011 CENSUS)

6,697

SITE	Overall size	Youth/ adult	Playing pitch	Children's play space
War Memorial recreation ground, Kingshill Road	5	2.98	1.82	0.2
Kings Hill House play park	0.4	0.2	0	0.2
Listers bowling green	0.1	0	0.1	0
Cambridge Avenue play area	0.2	0	0	0.2
Highfield approach field and play area	1.1	0.9	0	0.2
Maple Close play area	0.2	0	0	0.2
Acacia Drive play area	0.2	0	0	0.2
TOTAL	7.2	4.08	1.92	1.2
STANDARD (hectares per 1000 population)	1.95	1.7	1.21	0.25
REQUIREMENT (hectares)	13.06	11.38	8.10	1.67
SHORTFALL (hectares)	-5.86	-7.30	-6.18	-0.47

Fig 6 DTC Analysis



Lister Bowling Club



Highfileds Play area



Cambridge Avenue Play area



Kingshill Park play area



War Memorial Recreation ground

Not included are the LAPs and LEAPs

4. SDC SURVEY OF OUTDOOR PLAY SPACE

Stroud District Council Outdoor Playing Space A Survey of Local Provision and Needs (September 2013)

Introduction

Well-managed and maintained spaces can create opportunities for all sections of the community to interact. They can promote a sense of place and be a source of community pride, and also offer opportunities for people to play an active part in caring for the local environment. Open space provides opportunities for sport and recreation, helping to promote active and healthy lifestyles, and can open up opportunities for environmental education for local groups, schools and individuals.

This 2013 survey has only considered those elements of open space, which are used for sport, recreation and children's play, whether in public or private ownership. It adopts the National Playing Field Association's (now rebranded as Fields In Trust, FIT, and will be referenced in the cluster data) definition of outdoor playing space as described in their 'Six Acre Standard' document. Other elements of open space such as highway verges, woodlands, commons, ornamental parks and general amenity space within residential areas have not been included within this survey.

The SDC Survey was based on information sent by DTC: See above

http://www.stroud.gov.uk/info/plan_strat/open_space_study.pdf

SDC Outdoor Play Place study, based on the 2004 study under the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 takes into account the previous version of the PPG17 National Playing fields Association (NPFA) 'Six Acre Standard' (2.5Ha per 1,000 population) as the adopted assessment of play space requirements.

(paperwork included)

Important fact 2.

For Dursley, Owlpen and Uley grouping (2004) : **Dursley Survey 2014**

The NPFA overall shortfall = -7.4Ha : = **-5.86**

Youth/Adult = -8.26Ha : = **-7.30**

Playing Pitch = -5.31 : = **-6.18**

Equipped CPA = +1.22 : = **-0.47**

The 2013 survey grouped Dursley, Cam, Coaley, Stinchcombe, Uley, Nympsfield and Owlpen

There is serious under-provision of Designated Outdoor Play Spaces totalling **19.81Ha** at the present time and this will increase with the influx of new comers onto the estates being built.

The Infrastructure theme group's assessment of play areas also concludes that there is insufficient provision in Dursley'.

5. ALLOTMENTS



Definition: An allotment is an area of land, leased either from a private or local authority landlord, for the use of growing fruit and vegetables. In some cases this land will also be used for the growing of ornamental plants, and the keeping of hens, rabbits and bees. An allotment is traditionally measured in rods (perches or poles), an old measurement dating back to Anglo-Saxon times. 10 poles is the accepted size of an allotment, the equivalent of 250 square meters

If allotments are on land owned by the local authority then it will either be classed a statutory or temporary site. Statutory sites are protected by the Allotments Acts.

The allotment land in Dursley is sited behind Kingshill cemetery. It is on land originally purchased by the local authority for burial and therefore is classed as a temporary site.

Important fact 3 At present there is a 6 year waiting time to obtain an allotment. There are at present 27 people on the waiting list.

With small or absent gardens in new developments the need for allotment space is set to increase.

Dursley Town Council Allotment Waiting List (February 2016)

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total on
Numbers added to the list each year	3	5	5	3	6	5		27

<http://www.allotmoreallotments.org.uk/legislation.htm>

Planning Policy Guidance 17 (PPG17) requires that local authorities make provision for all types of open space that may be of public value. It also requires local authorities to undertake robust assessments of local needs for, and audits of, existing open space, sports and recreational facilities and to establish standards for new provision. It is expected that by implementing the guidance in PPG17, local authorities should make adequate provision for allotments.

Furthermore, if an allotment authority is of the opinion that there is a demand for allotments in its area, it is required under **Section 23 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908**, to provide a sufficient number of allotments and to let them to persons residing in its area who want them.

Written representations may be made to the local authority on the need for allotments by any 6 residents on the electoral register or persons liable to pay council tax, and the local authority must take those representations into account (*section 23(2) of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908*). *The Council must assess whether there is a demand for allotments in their area. If the council decides that there is a demand for allotments; they have a statutory duty to provide a sufficient number of plots. In terms of the duty to provide under section 23 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 there is no time limit for provision once it has been established that there is a demand.*

Acquisition of land for purpose of Act.

(1)

S 25. The Council of a borough, urban district, or parish may, for the purpose of providing allotments, by agreement purchase or take on lease land, whether situate within or without their borough, district, or parish **[F7**or may purchase such land

compulsorily in accordance with the provisions of this Act and of the [F8Acquisition of Land Act 1981],in that behalf].

http://www.google.co.uk/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=smallholdings+and+allotments+act+1950&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8&gfe_rd=cr&ei=EKXkU4vFB4XI4Qanv4DoDA

Government Policy 2012

In March 2012, the Government explained what it was doing to encourage allotments:

78

Tim Farron: To ask the **Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government** what plans his Department has to ensure parish and town councils which wish to provide allotments for residents are able to do so.

Andrew Stunell [holding answer 19 March 2012]: The Government recognise that allotments are valuable green spaces and community assets providing people with the opportunity to grow their own produce as part of the long-term promotion of environmental sustainability, health and well-being, community cohesion and social inclusion. All councils, with the exception of inner London authorities, but including parish and town councils have a duty to provide allotments. Section 23 of the Small Holdings and Allotments Act 1908 places a duty on local authorities including parish councils (except for inner London boroughs) to provide allotments where they perceive a demand for them in their area. There is however no time constraints within which to provide land. In March 2010 DCLG published 'A Place to Grow' to help local authorities minimise the length of time an individual has to wait before getting an allotment plot. It also contains guidance on the better management of existing plots, for example reducing plot sizes and taking action in cases where plots are not being cultivated and is available to local authorities on the LGA website at:

We are working with a range of partners to promote the importance of allotments and to encourage and support local authorities to make more allotment land available. And significant progress has been made. The 2011 Survey of Allotment waiting lists in England shows that new allotment sites were brought into use by 31 councils (compared with 17 councils in the 2010 survey) with the total number of plots on these new sites being 939.

New neighbourhood planning provisions in the Localism Act also provide communities with a means to boost the number of sites with powers to protect existing allotments and identify new plots.

The Community Right to Reclaim Land will help communities to find space for food growing by making information about land owned by public bodies more easily available and help to ensure that under-used or unused land owned by public bodies and some other organisations is brought back into beneficial use.

Alongside the 'How to' guide that my Department published at the end of August, providing advice for communities interested in creating or cultivating community orchards:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/newsroom/1973439> Regarding Orchard

The DTC has recently become a member of the National Allotment Association.

Possible Solutions is to Lease (minimum statutory period is 14 years up to 31 years) from neighbouring farmers who at present lease land for paddocks.

6. INFORMAL GREEN SPACES

- **Long Street town Green (not yet finalised)** – ownership SDC

Fig 7



Fig 8



- Area off Caswell Mews /Previous Mawdsley site – Ownership unknown



Fig 9. Green space adjoining pond area. Note the varied architecture of the houses.



Fig 10. Pond area with wild duck

- Green Space opposite Parsons Close at border of Fern Hill



Fig 11. Small maintained area off Fern Hill footpath



Fig 12 footpath track shown

Land off The Slade – ownership GCC



Figures 13 & 14 Land off Sutton Close and The Slade



Lands South-West of Hardings Close and Garden Suburb, including Cedar Drive. There is at present an application for Town Green status pending resolution.

Ownership: Mr. Clutterbuck, private.

Ownership of Woodland behind: SDC



Figs 15 & 16 & 17 Lands below Tree-line of SDC owner woods



Fig 15



Fig 17.



Fig 18, Twinberrow Wood sculpture trail



Fig 19. Twinberrow Woods sculpture trail



Fig 20 Twinberrow Woods sculpture trail

Important fact 4

These informal areas are used and enjoyed by the people who live in the neighbourhood as the *Natural England* data show, and provide benefits of health and well being.

7. WILDLIFE AND BIODIVERSITY

Dursley lies in a shallow valley surrounded by ancient woodlands on the west and south sides with farmlands to the east and Cam settlement to the north.

The composition of the woodlands and the areas beneath form an excellent habitat for the numerous animals, reptiles, amphibians, birds and insects that not only feed and reside there but also at times encroach into the settlement areas enriching the natural experience of those who enjoy their presence.

Dursley's rich wildlife encouraged the BBC to film some of the 'Garden watch' programs on areas off Harding Avenue and Cedar Drive.

Ash trees, with some oak and many mature beeches, dominate the Woods. in the understory there is hazel and elderberry. On the woodland edge and

within the grasslands there are whitebeam, wayfaring tree, spindle, common buckthorn and the scrub-forming dogwood, hawthorn and blackthorn. There are numerous hollies and a few yew trees and also the invasive evergreen oak introduced by the Victorians.

(Taken from www.stinchcombehill.org.uk/ecology.aspx as well as some of the information on the wildlife in and around the wooded slopes).

No official wildlife survey of the area has been undertaken as many of the species reflect the habitat formed by the Cotswold Hills and the wooded slopes. There has been attempts to map out the slow worm populations in Dursley, see fig 19)

The **DBWPS** Garden Bird Survey findings for October 2012-2013 including an individual survey by members of the DBWPS at Woodland Avenue (Kingshill), have been included in the listing below.

Information also taken from Gordon Kirk's Book, "The Birds of Gloucestershire, which maps out the distribution of birds and has a foreword by HRH The Prince of Wales.

Wildlife Listing

East side

Those that visit the long-stay car park late evening or very early in the morning maybe startled by the appearance of Roe deer. This easterly area also has visiting badgers and foxes, though the previous hedgehog population has dwindled. There are two bat varieties foraging round the gazette offices due to the floodlights attracting nocturnal insects. The Crest Nicholson Estate is also rich in bird-life. Along Ewelme and Water Street you can catch sight of Dippers, moorhens, Mallards, Little egrets occasional Herons and Kingfishers. There are Linnets, Fieldfare, Redwing, Gold Crest, Swift, Buzzard and Starling together with some the usual crowd listed below. As in Long Sreet, there are bats, wood mice, hedgehog, toad and the ubiquitous squirrels.

Westside

These animals are present in numbers in the woods and under the tree-line.

The Stinchcombe Trust Survey, together with residents' observations, from the West and South areas form the following listing.

Mammals

Roe deer, muntjac and sika, these latter two are considered invasive and non-native. Fox, badger, rabbit and stoat (although as rabbit numbers have dwindled so have its predators the weasel and the stoat), moles, hedgehogs (in decline because of the rise in badger population), the menace; grey squirrel, small rodents such as wood, field and harvest mice, voles and shrews (common and pygmy) as well as some varieties of bats.

Habitation is right for the presence of the rare and protected Hazel dormouse in the areas round Ganzell Lane and this is under investigation.

Amphibians and reptiles

Amphibians, such as common toads and frogs, the great, smooth, common and palmate newts, often use neighbouring garden ponds to mate and spawn. There are also sightings of the common lizard, adder and grass snake and there are pockets of slow worms a protected species.

Birds

Information received from the **DBWPS surveys**.

There is an extra-ordinary range of birds, from the raptors such as buzzard, kestrel, sparrowhawk and the rarer red-kite and merlin to the ubiquitous raven, crow, jackdaw, blackbird, pigeon, collared dove and magpie. There are jays, greater spotted woodpecker, whose knocking we can hear in the woods. There are green woodpeckers that forages in the fields for ants and one can hear the sounds and occasional late evening sightings of barn and tawny owls. There is the usual crowd that visits urban gardens; swallow, swift, robin, wren, sparrow, dunnock, finches; chaffinch, green, gold and bullfinch as well

as the marsh, coal, great, blue and long tailed tits. There are mistle and song thrush, albeit in reduced numbers as well as siskin, treecreeper and warbler. The list is in-complete as it does not cover the winter visitors such as the redwing or fieldfare and others.

Insects

The insects are numerous with over a hundred species of beetle and several hundred species of moth. Butterflies we see in the gardens, some have flourished others have reduced in number or disappeared. The Stinchcombe Trust has identified over 32 species.

It is vital to preserve the plant life on which these species feed as it forms part of the essential ecological system. Birds and bats and small mammals feed on the vegetation. They in turn are predated by the larger animals. The reduction in the rabbit population has seen a reduction in the stoat and weasel population. It is important that our management and preservation of the environment, whilst still accommodating development does not cause an irreversible imbalance in this delicate system.

Some photographs of local animals below



Field mouse



Hedgehog



Badger



Fox



Stoat



Roe deer



Owl



Red admiral



Slow worm

NDP: ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN SPACES

Access to documents and communications

- Maps of formal Green spaces
- Maps of Proposed Developments
- Maps of areas designated as AONB

Biodiversity and the Environment

- Observations of Fauna at the bottom of Long Street-KD
- Observations of Fauna at Crest Nicholson Estate -DE

- EPR (Ecological Planning and Research) document as to the possibility of Protected Species at the bottom of Ganzell Lane
- Stinchcombe Trust: Information on Flora and Fauna in the area
- Defend Dursley Green Escarpment: Data on website on fauna
- John and Trisha Andrews: Observations and listing of mammals recorded off Harding Drive.
- Application for Town Green Status: Documentation and reports on fauna observations
- Dursley Birdwatching Society: Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell: observation, National garden bird survey for the area
- Dr. McGlone: Wildlife Consultancy: Contacted, no reply as yet
- Dursley Ramblers: Chris Cherry contacted, no reply as yet
- Ellen Winters: Gloucester Wildlife Trust: Contacted replied with Survey proforma.
- Dr. Fiona Firth: Information and photographs
- Kathy Meakin: Gloucester Wildlife Trust: Contacted, responded, meeting to be arranged
- Gloucestershire Environment Partnership: The Natural Environment Report 2011

Allotments

- National Society of Allotment and Leisure gardeners LTD
- House of Commons Library. Standard Note: SN/SC/887 Regarding the Law on Allotment provision and regulation + Proposals for the future 2011

Evidence of Well being with regards to green space provision

- National Planning Policy Framework (Department of Communities and Local Government 2012. Planning Practice Guidelines
 - Ministerial Foreword
 - Open Spaces, Sports & Recreation facilities, Public Rights of Way and Local Green Spaces

- Promoting Healthy Communities
- Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

URS (Infra-Structure & Environment UK LTD): Habitat Regulation Assessment. Report for SDC 2012

- 2013 Report from Natural England. Publishing Evidence form MENE (Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment: 4th Annual Report Used by Public Health England to help Local Authorities identify priorities for greening their communities
- Dursley NDP Briefing Note on Parish Plan Survey -148 respondents. Issue of Green Spaces, Facilities and Access
- Open Spaces Society: Information Sheet no. C20. Local green Spaces Designation and Benefit
- SDC Local Plan – draft Submitted to SoS ‘Our Environment and Surroundings: Strategic Objective SO6

Survey of Play areas

- Dursley Outdoor Play Spaces Analysis 2014
- SDC Outdoor Playing Spaces: A survey of Local provision and Need 2013
- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): Standards & Provision

Developments

- SDC Local Plan Submission – Core Policy CPI
- Specific to Cam and Dursley

NDP: ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN SPACES

Potential Questions

1. Given the information about the recognized benefits of having green spaces within neighbourhoods in terms of health and well-being, how important do you think these green spaces are?
2. Given the information about the biodiversity in the area, how important do you think it is to protect it from unsympathetic development?
3. Do you think, given the above answers that wildlife corridors and green spaces should become part of a development?
4. Given the exceptionally attractive wooded and hillside surroundings including areas below the tree-line, which have been designated as AONB (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty), do you think these areas should be subject to development?
5. Given the recognised shortfall in allotment provision, with a 6 year waiting list, do you think given the small size of gardens in the new-build, allotment space should be provided for growing vegetables?
6. Given the official recognition of nearly a 6Ha shortfall in the provision of formal play and recreation areas in Dursley, do you think this shortfall needs to be address by more facilities?

