

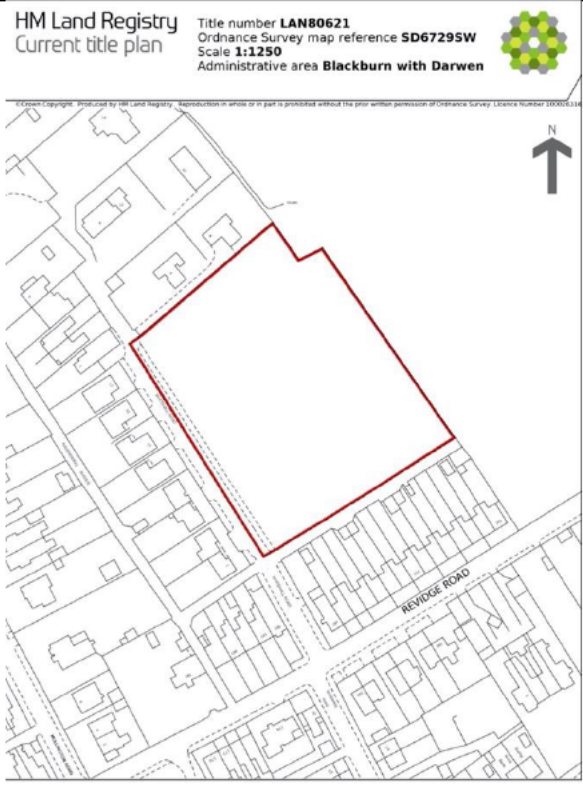
## Whitehall Road Playing Field, Blackburn

[illegible]


## Amendment History

Date	Issue	Reason for change
16/12/2019	1.0	Initial Issue
06/01/2020	2.0	Aligned response to section 2.1- Size of Proposed Green Space to BwD PDF and inserted additional photograph in Appendix 2

## APPLICATION FOR LOCAL GREEN SPACE (LGS) DESIGNATION

1	<b>General Information</b>	Tick if relevant evidence provided
1.1	Name and address of site <i>Some sites have several names and all known names should be given</i>	
	Whitehall Road, Blackburn, Lancashire.  Land identified in Title number LAN80621	✓
1.2	Site location plan <i>The plan can be at any scale, but must show the location and boundaries of the site. Please indicate the scale.</i>	
		✓
1.3	Organisation or individual proposing site for designation <i>This will normally be a Town or Parish Council or a recognised community group</i>	
	Whitehall Road Neighbourhood Forum	✓
1.4	Ownership of site if known Information on land ownership can be obtained from the Land Registry. Some land and parcels are not registered however local people may know the owner.	
	Blackburn with Darwen Council (Formerly Blackburn Corporation)	✓
1.5	Photographs of site	
	See Appendix 2	✓

1.6	Community served by the potential Local Green Space <i>i.e. does the site serve the whole village/town or a particular geographic area or group of people?</i>	
	<p>The field serves a surprising amount of the local area, children from Revidge Road, Whitehall Road and Ravenswing use the field as a safe play area with no main roads to cross, making dens in the trees at the boundary of the field and enjoying the freedom of using the green space for all manner of games. Per National Planning Policy Framework and Natural England guidance, natural green spaces should be within easy walking distance of the local community:</p> <p>There are a number of groups from the wider area that use the field for football training, one group bring goals and use it for goalkeeper one to one training whilst the sports teacher from Lammack school uses it for football training with some children.</p> <p>Young children from other areas come to play football. This also allows opportunity for other children to participate, socialise and make new friends.</p> <p>In the Summer the field becomes a focal point for the neighbourhood with family groups enjoying food and socializing. A community barbeque was held last year which was attended by a wide number of local residents from different cultural backgrounds and age groups .</p>	✓
2	<b>Size, scale and “local nature” of proposed Local Green Space</b>	
2.1	Area of proposed site <i>It is unlikely that a site of over 20ha (50 acres) would be considered suitable for designation.</i>	
	2.13 Acres	✓
2.2	Is the site an “extensive tract of land”? <i>(Extensive tracts of land cannot be designated as Local Green Space) e.g. how large is it in comparison to other fields; groups of fields; areas of land in the vicinity etc.? Does the site “feel” extensive or more local in scale?</i>	
	NO.	✓
2.3	Is the proposed site “local in character”? <i>e.g. does the site feel as though it is part of the local area? And why? How does it connect physically, visually and socially to the local area? What is your evidence?</i>	
	Yes, the site is part of a parcel of land bought in 1925 by the council. The development of the houses on Whitehall Road has been around the land which borders Whitehall Road on one side, the rear of Revidge Road at the South, houses at the North and the golf course at the East. The field acts as the focal point for the local community and brings neighbours together.	✓

3	<b>Need for Local Green Space</b>	
3.1	<p>Is there a need for a local green space in this location?  <i>e.g. is there a shortage of accessible greenspace in the area? Is there a village needs survey or parish plan that provides evidence of that need.</i>  <i>Further information – Natural England (<a href="#">Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard</a>)</i></p>	
	<p>The Natural England Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard states that ‘no person should live more than 300m from their nearest area of natural greenspace’;</p> <p>Whilst Corporation Park is within a relatively short distance of the area it is necessary to cross a busy main road with a difficult junction to reach the park. Local children have the freedom to play on the field in safety as their parents can see them from their houses.</p> <p>There is a real community feel to the field, everyone stops to chat, there are no gangs of youths hanging around intimidating people as there often are in the Park and both young and old and those with special needs appreciate the environment whether it is for keeping physically fit , walking the dog, getting in tune with nature or just having a safe green space to support mental health.</p> <p>There are families with children with learning disabilities who come to the field to allow their children that safe space; one of the local families have a child with such severe autism that a telegraph pole which had been installed outside the family home had to be moved* and they fully support the efforts to retain the field as a green space where their child and others can play.  *As reported in Lancashire Evening Telegraph on September 28<sup>th</sup> 2019.</p> <p>The field is a rare asset, it is a small local area of grassland that isn't part of a public park, it isn't a dumping ground for rubbish nor does it attract drug users or troublemakers. It is an area where children can use their imagination and play outside and supports the physical and mental well-being of the local residents.</p> <p>The recommendation made in English Nature Research Report No. 153, Accessible Natural Greenspace in Towns and Cities (Harrison et al., 1995, p6-7), is that a definition of natural greenspace should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "sites awaiting redevelopment which have been colonised by spontaneous assemblages of plants and animals;</li> <li>• land alongside water-ways, transport and service corridors which, although perhaps once deliberately landscaped or planted are now mixtures of planted and spontaneous assemblages;</li> <li>• tracts of 'encapsulated countryside' such as woodlands, scrub, heathlands, meadows and marshes which, through appropriate management, continue to support essentially wild plant and animal assemblages. Often these natural areas exist within the framework of formally designated public open space;</li> <li>• ponds, ditches, rivers, lakes and reservoirs;</li> <li>• the less intensively managed parts of parks, school grounds,</li> <li>• sports pitches, golf courses, churchyards and cemeteries;</li> </ul> <p>incidental pocket-sized plots along residential and commercial roads, pathways, car parks and property boundaries,</p> <p>The criteria highlighted in green apply to this application.</p>	

	<p>In the Sustainability Appraisal for the Blackburn with Darwen Local Plan Part 2: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies SA Report April 2015. This Site is marked as Protected Open Space (see Appendix 1) and this document states that:</p> <p>The NPPF (National Planning policy Framework) identifies the importance of the social role of the planning system, which is defined as ‘supporting vibrant and healthy communities’, with a ‘core planning principle’ being to ‘take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all’. The NPPF also outlines that high quality open spaces should be protected or their loss mitigated, unless a lack of need is established.</p>	
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4	<b>Evidence to show that “the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves”</b> <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
4.1	How far is the site from the community it serves? Is the site within 2km of the local community? <i>Possible evidence – a map to show that distance</i>	
	As the map above shows the field is adjacent to Whitehall Road and Revidge Road.	

5	<b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>recreational value</u> (including as a playing field)”, (if applicable)</b> <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
5.1	<b>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</b>	
	<b>YES</b>	
5.2	Is the site used for playing sport? <i>If so what sport? How long has it been used for sports provision? Is this sports provision free or is a club membership required?</i> <i>Further information – <a href="#">Sport England</a></i>	
	We understand that the site has been used as playing fields for nearly 100 years, evidence that the field was denoted as ‘children’s playing fields’ in 1931 Ordnance survey map is included in appendix 1 and also at the time that 6 Whitehall road was built in the early 1960s is shown in appendix 1. The field is widely used for the following sports (see section 1.6 above) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Cricket</li> </ul>	
5.3	Are the public able to physically access the site? <i>e.g. are there any public rights of way across the site? Or adjacent to the site? Has access been allowed on a discretionary basis? Is there public access to the whole site or only part? Is there good disabled access to the site? (A site can still be designated even if there is no public access.)</i>	
	There is extensive public access to the site from Whitehall Road	
5.4	Is the site used by the local community for informal recreation? And since when? <i>e.g. dog walking; sledging; ball games etc</i>	
	Yes, the site has been used for recreation since the land was sold to the council in the 1920s. Activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking the dog</li> <li>• Walking</li> <li>• Jogging</li> <li>• Children playing</li> <li>• Picnicking</li> <li>• Neighbourhood social events</li> </ul>	
6	<b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its <u>tranquillity</u>” (if applicable)</b> <i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i>	
6.1	<b>Is this criteria relevant to this site ?</b>	

	YES	
6.2	Do you consider the site to be tranquil? <i>e.g. are there any roads or busy areas close by?</i>	
	<p>The site is a haven of tranquility, despite being close to the busy Revidge Road. The site has views across the golf course and the houses at the North of the field are screened by trees. The traffic noise from Revidge Road is muffled by the houses and when walking on the field the only sounds are often bird song and children playing. The tranquility of the site is one of the reasons that it supports mental wellbeing and partly why the site is so valued by the families who have children with special needs who use the site. Retaining this area of tranquility is fully aligned to Blackburn with Darwen's stated strategy to become an Autism Friendly Borough.</p> <p>There is significant research which demonstrates the value of greenspaces on mental health and wellbeing. (see references for further examples). The Wildlife Trusts have commissioned Exeter University to undertake a literature review to identify existing work that assesses the health and wellbeing benefits of Natural environments (See references in Appendix 4)</p> <p>This document identifies current challenges to wellbeing in the UK including the fall in people's physical activity levels in everyday lives; the increase in obesity; growing mental ill health, dementia and social isolation; and continuing health inequalities.</p> <p>It reports that the New Economics Foundation (Nef) identified five evidenced-based actions to improve wellbeing: i) Connect; ii) Be Active; iii) Take Notice; iv) Keep Learning; and v) Give (Nef, 2008). Nef suggested that if each of these Five Ways to Wellbeing were built into daily routines, health and wellbeing would be enhanced.</p> <p>As this application demonstrates the Whitehall Road playing field is used for exercise, it brings people together (improving their connection to the Neighbourhood), and it provides residents a natural greenspace with exposure to nature.</p> <p>The Wildlife Trusts report goes on to identify that there is currently an increasing evidence base to show that exposure to the natural environment positively affects physical health and mental wellbeing.</p> <p>The report also states that viewing nature from a window can lead to health and wellbeing benefits such as recovery from mental fatigue and improvements to mental wellbeing. The view of the field from the houses on Revidge Road and the houses on Whitehall Road which face the field is something that the local residents value highly but this research suggests that it could also be helping their mental wellbeing.</p> <p>The report concludes that local green space and nearby nature are vital for individuals regardless whether this consists of an urban park or a rural wilderness area. Being in the presence of nearby nature plays an important role in human health and wellbeing. Improved general health has been found to be related to increased access to green space regardless of the socioeconomic status of individuals. Perceived neighbourhood greenness is strongly associated with better mental and physical health, with those living in highly green areas being between 1.37 and 1.60 times more likely to have better health.</p> <p>Research has identified links between the amount of accessible green space in an area and psychological wellbeing, indicating that accessible green space helps recovery from stress, protects from future stress and improves concentration.</p> <p>Blackburn with Darwen's own Planning for Health Supplementary Planning Document states that: 'The Health and Wellbeing Board is firmly committed to improving the physical and mental health and wellbeing of the borough's residents. Blackburn with Darwen has high levels of deprivation in certain wards, which contributes to the poor health issues. As such, the borough experiences significantly higher than average levels of poor health among its population. Furthermore, the health of people in Blackburn with Darwen is</p>	

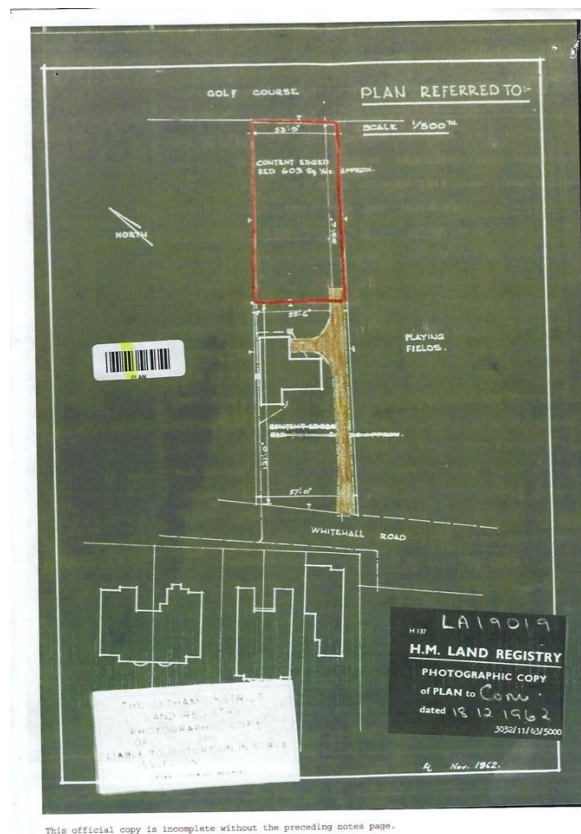


	<p>generally worse than the England average. Particular issues are obesity and related illnesses, diseases related to smoking, and the effects of alcohol. The Council and its partners are also particularly concerned about the health of young people, both in terms of immediate term safeguarding and the potential long term consequences that aspects of their lifestyles will have for their health.'</p> <p>By designating the Whitehall Road Playing field as Local Green Space and protecting this area for future generations Blackburn with Darwen council can be seen to be acting in accordance with its stated principles above.</p>	
7	<p><b>Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of the <u>richness of its wildlife</u>”; (if applicable)</b>  <b><i>Please indicate what evidence you have provided against each point.</i></b></p>	
7.1	Is this criteria relevant to this site?	
	YES	
7.2	Evidence of richness of wildlife:	
	<p>The site contains grassland, which is marshy in places, particularly at its margin with the golf course. On the Northern side of the field there is a scrubland area adjoining a ditch which in turn joins with a small water course running at the side of the golf course. There is a small copse of trees in this scrub area which is dense with brambles and a thick tree hedge including Laurel, Damson, Elder, Holly, Hawthorn and Rowan which provide shelter and food for birds. The field forms part of a wider wildlife corridor with the golf course.</p> <p>The area supports a large newt population which are known to breed in the adjacent garden ponds (see photograph in Appendix 2 as an example). Residents from Revidge Road at the South and Whitehall Road at the North report seeing newts in their gardens, frogs are also observed.</p> <p>Bats can be seen hunting over the field and a Tawny Owl survey conducted by a local resident last year identified 5 pairs of Tawny Owls.</p> <p>Foxes and even Roe Deer have also been observed on the site as have Hedgehogs. In the BBC Countryfile list of the 10 most endangered species in the UK, the Hedgehog is listed at position 8. (see appendix 4)</p> <p>Bird species observed by residents include: Blackbird, Song Thrush, Goldfinch, Goldcrest, Nuthatch, Bullfinch, Chaffinch, Blue Tit, Coal Tit, Great Tit, Long tailed Tit, Magpie, Rook, Greater Spotted Woodpecker, Tree Creeper, Dunnock, Wren, Robin, Collared Dove, Wood Pigeon, Kestrel and Sparrow Hawk. The Song Thrush is on the RSPB Birds of Conservation Concern 4 Red list of birds. The Tawny Owl, Bullfinch and Dunnock are all on the Birds of Conservation Concern 4 Amber list.</p> <p>A large number of orange tip butterflies can be seen which lay their eggs on the cuckooflowers in the field.</p>	

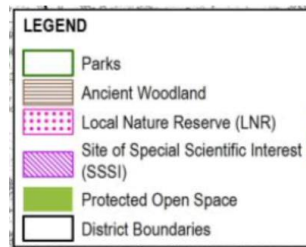
Appendix 1 – Documentation showing the field as a playing field and as Protected Open Space.



*O/S map showing land designated as playing fields in 1931*



*Land registry document showing the field marked as playing fields in 1962*



*Map from the Sustainability Appraisal for the Blackburn with Darwen Local Plan Part 2: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies SA Report April 2015. The Site is marked as Protected Open Space.*



## Appendix 2 – Site Photographs



*Google maps aerial view showing the Playing field in relation to the golf course and to Whitehall Road.*



*One of the many newts that breed in the garden ponds just beyond the tree hedge at the Northern edge of the field.*



*Roe Deer grazing on the golf course just behind the field. They are occasionally spotted on the field itself.*



*Residents and pets use the field extensively throughout the year.*





*Residents showing support for the campaign to save the field as Green Space.*

*Jan 05 2020*

## Appendix 3 - Letters of Support

*In addition to support from the local residents, we have received messages of support from other organisations. A sample of the supporting letters is included in this appendix.*

### Email from Arts to Heal



29 James Street  
Blackburn  
BB1 6BE

30<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear

**Supporting letter for the campaign for a local field being designated a Local Green Space on Whitehall Road, Blackburn.**

As the manager of a local Mental Health Charity, and facilitator of a series of projects designed specifically to encourage spending time in nature to improve mental health and wellbeing, I write in support of the residents to oppose the development of the area.

Within our local communities there is an urgent need for accessible and cost-effective mental health infrastructure. Our local public green spaces were originally designated to provide health benefits, the green space on Whitehall Rd plays a pivotal role in the well-being of the local residents. Residents include the most vulnerable groups, the elderly residents for whom the green space reduces the risk of isolation, improves the sense of well-being, self-esteem and control associated with improved social interaction and provides a sense of belonging. For local youths' green spaces are linked with beneficial influences on individuals' emotions and ability to reflect on life problems. Research strongly supports the importance of green space to promote pro-mental health behaviour across all ages.

It is also worth reflecting on Blackburn with Darwen Councils agenda which promotes "Our Communities Our Future", through various funds being allocated to local organisations, for the very purpose of bringing communities together which the green space on Whitehall Road quite clearly provides.

Given the current prevalence and cost of mental ill-health and the rise in mental health related illnesses across all ages, there is a need for greater collaboration and support from key decision makers within the local authority.

I hope you will take these points into consideration to approve protection on the land.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]  
Banu Adam

Manager  
[Redacted Address]

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**Email from David Dunlop**  
**Conservation Officer for Central & Western Lancashire**  
**Lancashire Wildlife Trust**

Dear Ms Harris

I'm responding further to the email request of 20<sup>th</sup> November, with an accompanying attachment, received from Mr Tony Hopwood.

This public access site at Whitehall Road, Blackburn has no county, national or international wildlife designation and such data as we have suggests that it wouldn't currently qualify at those levels. Consequently, it's not a priority for us in terms of its direct value for nature conservation *per se*.

However, we would support the retention of this site at Whitehall Road, northern Blackburn as accessible semi-natural greenspace important for local *people* if the designating authority accepts your and other verifiable evidence of such local importance.

One of our objectives is to maintain and improve access to nature for everyone across the county and two city regions that we cover. Regrettably, we currently have no core charitable or external funding available to deliver a dedicated project to assess and deliver that within Blackburn with Darwen Borough (and most of the 25 other local government districts for which we have a charitable remit), so no means to assess suitable sites ourselves.

Examples of externally funded projects connecting people with nature that we are consequently able deliver in other parts of our sub-region may be found on our website, [here](#); with supporting evidence on The Wildlife Trusts' national website, [here](#).

**Season's Greetings**

Dave

David Dunlop

**Conservation Officer for Central & Western Lancashire**

(Blackburn with Darwen, Chorley, Preston, South Ribble, West Lancashire)

[REDACTED]

Mob: NONE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] : [REDACTED]

**The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside**

(Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Fylde, Hyndburn, Knowsley, Lancaster, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Pendle, Preston, Ribble Valley, Rochdale, Rossendale, St Helens, Salford, Sefton, South Ribble, West Lancashire, Wigan, Wyre)

**"The Movie":** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aB9OdwbBEMI&t=2s>

**Our Web Site:** [www.lancswt.org.uk](http://www.lancswt.org.uk)

**Our Irish Sea Living Seas website:** [www.livingseasnw.org.uk](http://www.livingseasnw.org.uk)

**We're a local membership charity: joining details are online at:** <http://www.lancswt.org.uk/membership>.

**See** [www.wildlifetrusts.org](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org) **for details of The Wildlife Trusts' national campaigns for a #WilderFuture.**

<https://www.lancswt.org.uk/wilder-future-campaign/wind-in-the-willows>

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## Email From The Open Spaces Society

11 December 2019

Dear Sir

Whitehall Road Playing Field, Blackburn

The Open Spaces Society was founded in 1865 and is Britain's oldest national conservation body. It campaigns to protect common land, village greens, open spaces and public paths, and people's right to enjoy them.

The society supports the application for the designation of land at Whitehall road as a local green space. It is clear that the land is used by the public and valued as an amenity area for the health and well-being of local people. It is an important open space and should be protected for continued use by local people.

Yours faithfully



Nicola Hodgson  
Case Officer

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## Local Resident's emails

To whom it may concern. My family and I have been a resident on Revidge Rd since July 2000. I moved into the property when my oldest son was aged two and my daughter was aged 6 months. The area appealed to me as there was a field at the back that could be utilised and benefit us as a family.

Neighbours informed me that the community used the open area for many purposes. Since residing on Revidge Road I have benefitted from having an open space. I have a balcony that looks over on to the field and it has been a pleasure to spend my days outside.

My children have grown up on the field playing football, playing badminton and socialised with other children from within the neighbourhood.

My son is now aged 22 and my daughter is 20. As a family, we now benefit using the field to exercise and have a neighbourhood get together where families bring food and we eat together.

I have also seen other families who travel to use the field. The family have children with learning disabilities and Autism, where they have the opportunity to utilise the space to burn their energy.

My neighbour has a daughter currently aged seven and has recently been diagnosed with ADHD and Autism. The family moved to the home when their daughter L was aged two. Her mother informed me that L can be up between 03:00 -04:00am. However having the open space at the back she can take her daughter out where L can roam around and burn her energy. This in return allows her mother and family to have some form of respite. Without the open space it would impact on the whole family and would also negatively impact on L causing behaviours that challenge.

I also use the field to walk my cats, they are a rare breed therefore I am unable to let them out freely.

I also see families with their pets on the field.

I now have an 8-year-old son whom has the opportunity to exercise, run play and meet other young children. The field allows them to have the opportunity to keep occupied and prevent crime in later life as they have the resource to keep occupied and safe.

It is a great asset to have not only does it ensure my children's safety being nearby where I can see them at all times. It allows them to have fresh air, exercise, promote their wellbeing, spend less time on their consoles and improves their mental wellbeing. Daily exercise on the field reduces the likelihood of obesity and promoting health and well-being from an early onset will be part of their life and they can then pass it on to other individuals which will have a positive impact at a later stage of life.

It is also nice to see the Canadian geese and wild ducks on the field. On the odd occasion early hours of the morning I have also had the opportunity to see deer on the field.

I have also had newts in my garden from the field. Therefore not only has the field had a good use for humans it continues to benefit our wildlife.

Rahana Ismail  
213 Revidge Rd  
Blackburn

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Subject: Proposals for developing Whitehall Playing Field, Revidge, Blackburn

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Phil,

My husband, family and I have been worried since reading in the local paper about proposals for a housing development on the field at the back of our house. We use this field on a daily basis throughout the year, even though this year it has been boggy than usual and we suspect that this is due to an uncharacteristic lack of maintenance by the Council. We walk on the field with the dogs, as do lots of other people and for all the spring and summer months, the children of my household and the neighbours' households congregate and play for many long hours. It is a safe space for our children to play whilst we are able to watch on; something rare these days. I have watched children from other areas come to play on this field- children from Lammack areas and Pleckgate; it is a valuable local resource. During summer months, we join together with neighbours to eat and socialise with our children.

Living in Blackburn i am aware that there are many areas of land, maybe privately owned, that would lend themselves much better than our field, to housing development. These areas are full of rubbish and are neglected; they are eyesores and I know that residents near to them would be happy with developing them into areas for families.

In terms of safety, access off Revidge Road is often perilous and the prospect of significantly more cars is worrying.

Hope you are well,

Lisa Guinan



Tony Hopwood [REDACTED]

25/11/2019 08:28



To: Vicki

Vicki,

I support the application to keep the land as our community land. I for one have had mental health issues over the years the land has helped me recover by being able to take the dogs on there or even just walk around it.

I take the dogs on there in the mornings.

It's really good to see others using the field for football and football training, cricket, badminton, frisbee throwing, as well as social gatherings, picnics, barbecues, etc

There are too many pieces of green space disappearing.

Regards

Tony

6 Whitehall Road

To whom it may concern

We are a family of 6 comprising of 4 young children who always enjoy time spent on the playing field. Even though our property has a good size garden, the field provides the children with opportunities to socialise and play with others from the local area. They often speak fondly of finding dens and secret hideaways together. During the summer months they often ride up and down the field and join in with ball games.

As a parent the field gives us piece of mind knowing they are away from cars and other hazards on the road whilst enjoying outdoor activities.

It is an area used daily by dog walkers & for recreation. It is one of the reasons we purchased our property and I'm sure others did too. It would be absolutely devastating to find this Safe Space become a congested housing development.

Kind Regards

Mr & Mrs Amin  
14 Whitehall Road,  
Blackburn

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Sheila Gutteridge/Whitehall Road

I have lived in the area for forty three years now, twenty of them on Whitehall Road. When my boys were at school, at St Silas's, they used to walk up here to practise football on the green. Just the walk up here was so good for their fitness levels - something the government is all too keen to inform us that we need to do in order to keep our children fit and healthy and not obese.

When we moved here I walked my dogs, the boys played there all the time in a safe environment, not too far from home. we have built snowmen, set off fireworks and honed our skills with remote controlled cars. I hope to be doing that in the future with my new granddaughter!

The trees skirting the area give wildlife a small but essential place to call home and surely we should be hanging on to the trees we already have for the sake of our planet? Perhaps we should be planting more?

Spaces like this used to be called the lungs of our towns and cities and yet now they are being filled in to choke us at every turn.

The exit from Whitehall Road onto Revidge, is one of the most dangerous we experience each day. I cannot imagine what sort of chaos a further forty or so residents would create each day, especially at school run time. It will surely result in more accidents! There is nowhere for these extra cars to park either, as it is already sometimes difficult to find spaces.

I do hope you will think again about the unsuitability of our green space for your plans.

Regards

Sheila Gutteridge

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Ms Woodruff of 5 Ravenswing Ave - myself, daughter and dog use the field most days for dog walks. My daughter and her friends play there on weekends, afterschool and in the holidays. As a lone female walking my dog I feel safe there especially as I was approached in corporation park last year whilst walking my young puppy by 3 young males who thankfully were disturb by another dog walker. My daughter and I regularly see the ducks walking around on there and enjoy playing there. It's a safe fun place to build snowmen and play in the snow too which we have done on several occasions

Many Thanks

Liz

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Whitehall Road - Green space

We use this area daily on several occasions to walk our dog (& 5 cats who usually accompany him). It is a quiet safe area where he can sometimes be let off his lead.

Our grand daughters regularly play there too. Again it is a local safe space where they can enjoy outdoor play. Sadly the local park is not.

It is a quiet peaceful area of tranquility which benefits greatly the local residents & children

Regards

Trevor & Helan Robins

197 Revidge Rd

Blackburn

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I use the field regularly to enjoy the local surroundings playing sports with my children.

It is widely used by all the local residents for a variety of purposes.

People from Whitehall and the full surrounding locality use this for 'Dog Walking' as it is the only green space in the area.

Kind regards

Salim A Ibrahim

12 Whitehall Road

Blackburn

BB2 6DU

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## Whitehall rd field



Carol Covill

To [REDACTED]

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Tue 19/11/2019 22:27

To whom it may concern,

I have lived on Whitehall for over 20 years my children grew up playing on the field and now my grandchildren, nieces and nephews are starting to play on the field and enjoy being outdoors walking the dogs and exploring the field. They have learnt about the trees, enjoyed blackberry picking, watched the birds, made dens, played ball games, had picnics, made snowmen, had bonfires and much more. This space provides a safe, natural area for adults, children, pets and wildlife to enjoy and thrive. The children can play in safe view of the surrounding houses and everyone keeps a watchful eye on them. The green space gives an openness, a gentle tranquility and positive energy to the overly built up urban area if Revidge. Green spaces are known to support mental health and well-being. Which is another reason to protect this area. Looking out onto the field really lifts the spirits and makes you feel good. The light the field brings is also very beneficial to personal well-being.

I use the field at least 3 times a day for dog walking and my grandson walks and plays on the field 3 days a week. It will be invaluable to his learning about the outdoors and his physical development as it was to my children years ago.

Regards  
Carol Covill

4 Whitehall Road  
Revidge  
BB2 6DU

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 December 2019 10:03  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** How we use the field

To whom it may concern,

Our 3 children use the field on a almost daily basis. The 2 boys use it in the morning as a means to exercise. On the weekends I train my boys and other local residents to play football. It is our way of keeping ourselves healthy and active.

Yours faithfully

Yaser Amin  
(15 WHR)

## Appendix 4 – References.

### Planning References

Natural England ([\*Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard\*](#))

English Nature Research Report No. 153, Accessible Natural Greenspace in Towns and Cities (Harrison et al., 1995)

National Planning Framework: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

Sustainability Appraisal for the Blackburn with Darwen Local Plan Part 2: Site Allocations and Development Management Policies SA Report April 2015.

### Wellbeing References

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/nature-health-and-wild-wellbeing#evidence>

<https://www.who.int/sustainable-development/cities/health-risks/urban-green-space/en/>

<https://www.newgeography.com/content/003945-health-happiness-and-density>

<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/145305/green-space-is-good-for-mental-health>

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2016/11/09/green-space-mental-wellbeing-and-sustainable-communities/>

<https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/sites/default/files/media/pdfs/SPD-Planning%20for%20Health.pdf>

### Nature References

#### Birds of Conservation Concern

<https://www.bto.org/our-science/publications/psob>

#### BBC Countryfile 10 most endangered species in the UK

<https://www.countryfile.com/wildlife/10-of-the-most-endangered-animal-species-in-britain/>