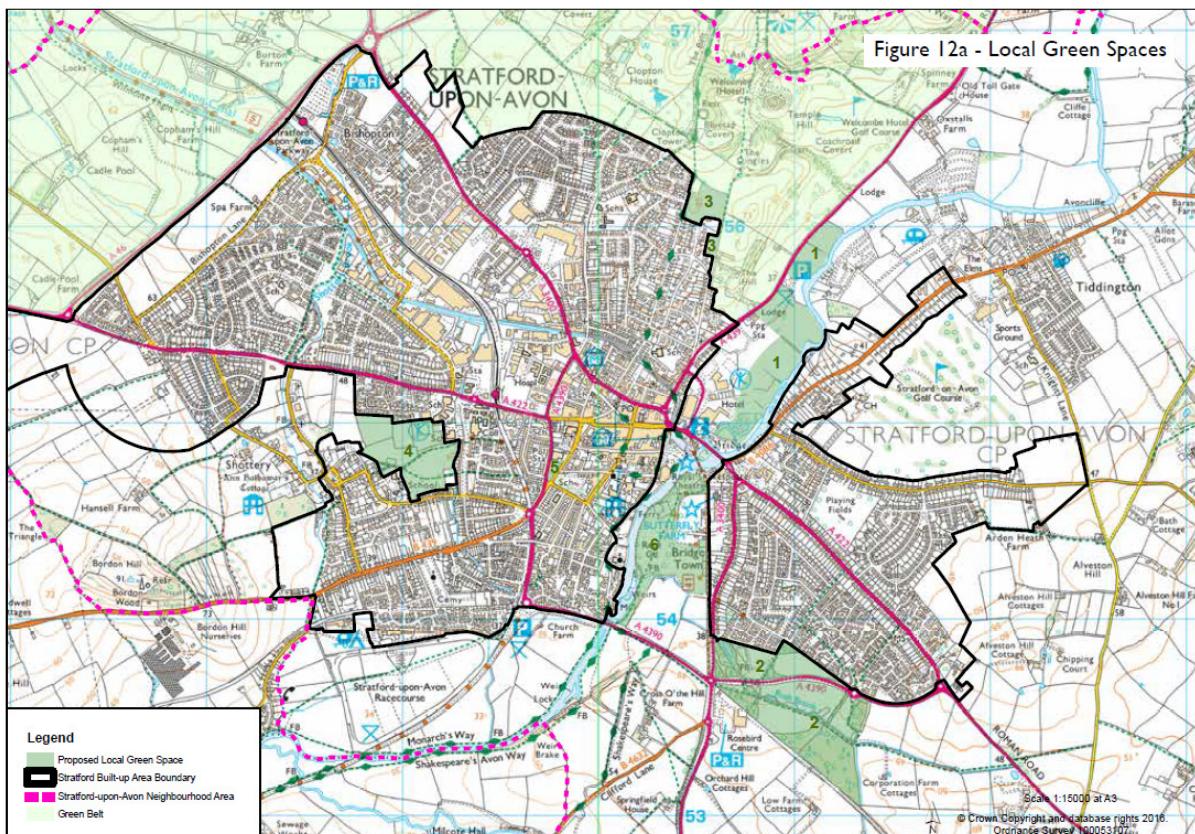


Stratford-upon-Avon Neighbourhood Development Plan Local Green Space Site Assessment - March 2016

Site Address	Site Area	Site Ref
Firs Garden, Evesham Place	Approx. 0.6 ha	LGS5

Plan



Site Description and Current Land Use

This site, known as Firs Garden, comprises a parcel of open land situated between Evesham Place and Rother Street.

This tranquil corner of Stratford was refurbished in 1990, a joint project between Town and District Councils. 'The Firs', a nearby house no longer in existence, lends its name to the garden.

When it was sold in 1910, Marie Corelli, the famous novelist, bought the garden to preserve the open space for the benefit of the town.

Relevant Planning History

None

Site Ownership
Stratford-on-Avon District Council
Site Constraints
The site is within the Stratford-upon-Avon Conservation Area and is flanked by two listed buildings.
Public Access
The site has full public access.
Ecological Significance
<p>The site contains a number of habitats such as trees, grassland and hedging all of which are ideal habitats for a variety of wildlife.</p> <p>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 village ecosystem. The site plays an important contributory role in the wider ecological significance of the town.</p>
Special Qualities and Local Significance
<p>The special qualities of the site include its recreational value, scenic beauty, tranquillity, environment for wildlife habitats and ease of access for the community and visitors to enjoy. The site is locally significant because it is well used and valued by local residents as an area of open space, which is well connected to the town given its central location. It is closely related to the community.</p> <p>The site is a rare example of a valuable open space within the centre of the town and it adds significant value to the Conservation Area.</p>
Summary and Suitability for Designation as Local Green Space
<p>This site is not considered to be an extensive tract of land and is contained within existing boundaries. It is well related to and used by the local community and makes a positive contribution to the well being of local residents. The site outlined on the above plan is suitable for Local Green Space designation in accordance with the relevant Planning Practice Guidance.</p>