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weymouthneighbourhoodplan@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk

10th May 2023

Jane Biscombe
Town Clerk
Weymouth Town Council
Email: janebiscombe@weymouthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Dear Jane,

Wyke Playing Fields (Our ref WTCLGS039)
Ryemead Open Space (Our ref: WTCLGS040)
Douglas Road Play Area and Open Space (Our ref: WTCLGS041)
Wyke Gardens (Our ref: WTCLGS042)
Purbeck Close Green (Our ref: WTCLGS043)
Forehill Maple Close Green Space (Our ref: WTCLGS046)

The Steering Group who are preparing the Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan, is proposing to introduce a policy which designates and protects 'local green spaces' in the neighbourhood area in accordance with the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework.

I understand that you are the owner/part owner of the area of land designated on the attached map. I am writing to inform you that we are considering designating the site listed above as a local green space within the Neighbourhood Plan subject to further public engagement.

Designating areas of Local Green Space is a way of ensuring that those important areas of amenity or informal recreation spaces within or close to settlement areas are not at risk from development. The sites considered were identified by work undertaken by a task group of local people reporting to the Steering Group. A long list of potential sites is being considered against the NPPF criteria. It is proposed that your site should be subject to designation as Local Green Space or a similar site-specific policy for inclusion in the draft submission of the Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan, which will go out for formal community consultation later in 2023.

If assessed as suitable for Local Green designation the policy, we have in mind is as follows:
"The areas listed below are designated 'Local Green Spaces':

Inappropriate development in these areas will only be supported in very special circumstances."

For your information we have reproduced the relevant paragraphs 101 to 103 of the National Planning Policy Framework in an appendix to this letter.

If you support this proposal or have any comments to make about this proposal, please can you let me know in writing, letter or email by May 31st, 2023.

We would be grateful if you would in any case acknowledge safe receipt of this letter.
Yours sincerely

Councillor David Northam
for Weymouth Town Council

National Planning Policy Framework

101. The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should 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 updated and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.
102. The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:
 - a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
 - b) 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
 - c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.
103. Policies for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with those for Green Belts.”