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Your ref:
Our ref: FS-Case-11487552



Mr G Thompson
Parish Clerk
Witton Gilbert Parish Council
7 Hillside
Witton Gilbert
DH7 6RB

Date: 26 January 2017

Dear Mr Thompson

Re: Witton Gilbert Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan – Proposed Protected Green Spaces

Thank you for your correspondence dated 5th January 2017 in regards to the parcel of land which separates the southern end of Falkous Terrace with Front Street in Witton Gilbert (G16).

I understand from your letter that you propose to have this parcel of land designated as an Area of Local Green Space by means of the Witton Gilbert Neighbourhood Plan which is currently under development. Site reference G16 is in addition to the other proposed Local Green Space sites previously submitted by Eileen Hall of the Witton Gilbert Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

The Local Green Space designation provides special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to local communities. Paragraph 77 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that proposed Local Green Spaces need to be both “demonstrably special” and of “particular local significance” in order to justify the proposed designation.

In regards to site G16 I have sought a response from Durham County Council Assets as landowner who advise that the land is protected through the existing planning policy in the form of policy E5a of the City of Durham Local Plan.

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Regeneration and Local Services

Durham County Council, County Hall, Durham DH1 5UQ
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We would, therefore, have no objection to this land being included. With regard to the policy currently identified within the draft Neighbourhood Plan, we will contact the Steering Group separately to update following recent guidance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Timmiss', written in a cursive style.

Stuart Timmiss
Head of Planning and Assets