

TO: Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council

I attach the 800 (approx) signatories to a petition calling for the council to place the Butts, Thistleberry Parkway and Howard Place Green in the Green Space Strategy as areas protected from building developments.

There will be a need to build on certain types of fields in the future, but these three spaces are not fields, they are parks, recreation areas and beauty spots. From the Butts, you can see 15 miles towards the Peak District. Numerous people walk all three of these spaces, throughout the year and in all sorts of weather. Thistleberry Parkway is undergoing improvements to enable more people to use it. Howard Place Green is the only green space near a large number of streets, where houses are being increasingly occupied by families, who have no children's play area close to their houses.

In the review of the Green Space Strategy, it is important to identify certain parks and recreation areas as protected from building developments. The public concern about this matter includes a fear of losing access to open space near their homes and this can only be acknowledged by assuring them that these types of spaces (as opposed to any unused fields) are protected. It will take some of the 'heat' out of the concern.

OTHER ISSUES:

The need to build more houses and premises for employment is clear and it is also clear that we are very short of brownfield sites in the technical sense. Many people would include in the term brownfield sites, places where the ground is very rough and not used, even though these places have not previously been built on.

In my view we can include land that is not of good agricultural use and which does not have a great visual impact on existing residents, even though we have to accept that the views from the windows of certain houses cannot all be preserved.

Another aspect of this matter is the need to ensure that both existing residents and future residents live within reasonable walking distance of a green open space.

Yet another aspect is the character of all areas of the Borough. Thus the hills to the west, such as Bunny Hill, the Butts and the hills above Apedale should never be built on; they are part of the character of the Borough and seen from so many places in the urban area. Those living in these urban areas get psychological benefit (often unconsciously) from seeing these hills.

Cllr. Nigel Jones (April 2015)



Thistleberry Ward

Borough Wards

Silverdale and Parksit Ward

Thistleberry Parkway

Poolfields

NEWCASTLE

Town Ward

Rosemary Hill Wood

Rosemary Wood Cottage

Recreation Ground

Thistleberry Parkway

Butts' Walk

Howard Place Green

The Butts

Barker's Wood

Flagstaff Plantation

Butts' Walk

Flagstaff Plantation

Keele Ward

Barker's Wood

Hands Wood

Verdun Plantation

Brickkiln Plantation

Pie Rough

Golf Course

Seabridge

Westlands Ward

Little Oxhay Farm

Loggerhead:
Ivy Cottage



NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
BOROUGH COUNCIL

0 50 100 200 300 400 500 Metres

1:10,000 at A4

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