

111 99

8

WP

Professor Dame Margaret Turner Warwick DBE
DM (Oxon), Ph D (Lond) FRCP, F Med Sci

Tel. [REDACTED]
FAX [REDACTED]

Pynes House
9 Silver Street
Thorverton
Exeter. EX5 5LT

ID. 3520
ACK



25.2.11

Dear Ms Pickering

Re Green Infrastructure Strategy

Thank you for your letter of 16.2.11. and for the clarification of the information you were asking for. You asked me to list the different types of land about which I know, accessible to the public. Please check the accuracy of this information, but it may give you some helpful leads for you more detailed enquiries.

There are several types of green open spaces in the Parish of Thorverton. They have different ownership but all are available to the public under different legal arrangements.

You may be surprised, as are others, that rural communities have a need for allocated green areas. This is because farmers, for very good reasons, are reluctant to have the public potentially damaging their crops or allowing livestock to stray, by wandering across their fields. The narrow country lanes are dangerous for families with children and pets who are, at the same time being encouraged to take more exercise.

1. **Thorverton Millennium Green.** Owned by a Trust with Charitable status but accessible to the public from sunrise to sunset. 5 acres. Maintained by the Trusts and volunteers. This is specifically designed to allow access to people in wheel chairs and children in Buggies. Paths are mown and benches placed at strategic positions to encourage the elderly and others to remain mobile especially when recovering from surgery. Dogs are allowed provided people 'pick up' and the MDDC contribute by emptying the dog waste bins. There are many features to attract wildlife and it contributes to various local and national events including moth and bat counts, 'Tree O'Clock' tree planting and 'Spring and Autumn Watch'. The playgroups and preparatory School are encouraged to use it for sports and environmental awareness. These are recorded in their Annual Reports.
2. **Sports field and playground.** Owned and maintained by the Parish Council.
3. **Public footpaths.** Of various type across private land, Trust land, Parish Council land. You will have details of these at MDDC,
4. **Jubilee Green.** Owned by Parish Council. Maintained by PC and volunteers.
5. **Environmental Stewardship Schemes.** Public access around the margins of specified fields, owned by Charity Commission but under Tenant farmers Stuart Crang and Nick Hurd. (there may be others)
6. **National Trust Properties** (I think Fursdon comes under this arrangement.)

7. **'Right to Roam'**. Other land over which the public have the right to walk under this legislation.

Do please keep in touch if I can help with any further specific information. It would certainly be helpful if you could specify what type of detail you are requiring (and why), so that the information you collect is more uniform in quality.

Yours sincerely