

MATTER 11 – RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Representations by Bollington Town Council (David Naylor) 1226864, Michael Burdekin (Bollington Neighbourhood Plan) 986865, 1186533 – Representor Michael Burdekin

Q 172 (c) Policy REC 1 – Green/open space protection – Dyers Pond Mill.

The response from Bollington Town Council to Question 172(c) Dyers Mill Pond is as follows:

In response to item (c) the question of Open Space in Bollington was given major consideration in the Bollington Neighbourhood Plan (PDB213, PDB216, RPD58). The Green Environment Objective GE.01 in the Neighbourhood Plan is stated as:

“To enhance and protect the Peak Park Fringe setting of Bollington and its four historic communities by preserving Open Spaces, retaining the extent of the Green Belt and enhancing valued wildlife habitats. Access will be maintained and enhanced wherever possible for all from Bollington to the surrounding Peak Fringe Area. “

Open Space Policy EOS.P1 in the Neighbourhood Plan states:

All currently designated Open Spaces will be maintained as such. Development will not be supported unless:

- (a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the type of open space to be surplus to requirements,
- (b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location, and
- (c) the development is for alternative sports and recreation provision, the needs of which clearly outweighs the loss.

Policies SE6 and SE7 of the Local Plan deal with Green Infrastructure and the Historic Environment respectively. Policy SE6, item 3, identifies the Peak Park Fringe as one of its Strategic Green Infrastructure Assets. Paragraph 13.47 of the Local Plan emphasises the concerns of local people about linking all the various green assets of Cheshire East from parks and gardens to woodland copses, hedges and ponds. Application of the standards for Open Space requirements given in the Local Plan Strategy Table 13.1. shows that for a current estimated population of 8,000, the overall requirement would be 20.8 ha, whereas the current allocation is 20.2 ha. The Dyers Court Millpond is one of four stretches of enclosed 'open space' water in Bollington and has a historic significance as being associated with the former Dyers Mill, now redeveloped for housing. The Millpond is immediately alongside Ingersley Vale with a beautiful view across the pond up to the historic emblem of Bollington, White Nancy. Bollington Town Council is totally of the view that the designation of Dyers Millpond as protected 'Open Space' is fully justified (FDR1207, FDR1208).