## **APPENDIX 8: LOCAL GREEN SPACE DESCRIPTIONS**

		NPPF (2012) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA									
Ref.	EVIDENCE	Access 1	Proximity /4	Bounded 1	Special /4	Rec/Ed /2	Beauty/	Tranq. /2	History /4	Wildlife /4	TOTAL /26
160	Hare Pie Bank	1	2	1	4	2	4	2	4	3	23

Includes Stowe Close and Tentus (old field names) and Hallaton Brook and its banks at north end.

This iconic landscape, visible from many parts of the Village, achieved equal highest scoring to feature as one of our Protected Green Spaces. It defines Hallaton as its ceremonial site, and its history and beauty are highly valued by Villagers. The steeply rising ridge and furrow, and parkland with ancient trees of Hare Pie Bank have been the setting for the Easter ceremony of Bottle Kicking since time immemorial. Legends of ancient sites of worship and pilgrimage, long associated with this landscape, have been made material by recent excavations revealing the remains of medieval St Morrell's Chapel, itself built over Roman remains, and what is probably an Iron Age trackway. The most interesting approach to the site along the narrow pathway of Tentus between old stone walls, leading to a bridge crossing the stream is a favourite village walk. The stream and spinney, many mature trees and 18C enclosure date hedges together with the adjoining open pattern of fields make good wildlife habitats.



Sycamore, young chestnut and good understorey.

Hare Pie Bank
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187 Hunt's Lane

Long-established steep banks to ancient lane, so good bio-diversity with many small herbs and plants. Ash,

Although this deeply sunken old lane at first sight would not seem to qualify as a green space, over the centuries it has taken on a unique aspect which has become a much valued feature for Hallaton people and visitors. Its high banks and interlacing trees form a beautiful green corridor with lovely views down to the old cruck cottage. It is a favourite, tranquil route for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. It is a historic way, leading from the Church onto the ancient Goadby Road, and connecting with the public footpath to the old Mill mound. Its steep borders which abut the old pasture of Pump Close on one side, and the allotments on the other, offer excellent habitat for small mammals, birds and invertebrates. There is high biodiversity with a variety of small herbs and plants; an understorey of shrubs, young Chestnuts and Field Maple; and mature Ash and Oak, Hawthorn, Hornbeam and thick ivy above.







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131/ 132	Lady Close (Hallaton allotments) and Rocking Horse Park	1	4	1	4	2	4	2	3	2	23

The highest ranking green space within the village from the initial consultation event, this area is well used with full public access. The allotments provide residents with access to a garden of their own for growing produce and the community of growers is thriving. There is good diversity of planting which provides excellent insect habitat. This in turn supports gatherings of swallows and house martins as well as other varied bird and animal life. South of the growing area is set aside as grassland with picnic benches and tables. The setting in the heart of the village, with beautiful views to the south, is idyllic and the public footpath across links the popular walking route up the Goadby Road with the historic Buttercross and Bewicke public house. To the east is a tranquil children's play area with a rocking horse, adjacent to a row of early Victorian almshouses and enclosed by a brick wall contemporary with the cottages. A beautiful mature cherry tree frames the delightful view south across the village to the Church and beyond. The site includes the children's play area known locally as 'rocking horse park'.



Lady Close allotments from the south, 2016



128/ 129

Hacluit's Pond and North End 'village green' (old horsefair)

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A much loved feature of the village, visited by children to feed the ducks and by others for the enjoyment of the setting. The pond and adjoining grass area are common land, as is Horse Fair Green. This grass area is used as a traditional village green by children for play but also by walkers, cyclists and residents as a rest area. Featuring mature tress including oak and the village sign it serves as a welcoming entrance to the village. Site of mobile post office and fish and chip van. The pond attracts varied bird, animal and insect life and is surrounded by mixed vegetation including waterside planting. Borders The Fox garden. History appendix attached for both Hacluit's Pond and Horse Fairs.



Hacluit's Pond, The Fox and North End greens, summer 2017



**Walnuts Paddock** 

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Elevated paddock to the North of Hallaton providing a beautiful wide panorama to the south and south-west including views of the Grade I church, Grade II almshouses and Slawston Hill in the distance. Its open nature, together with Its borders which flank the tranquil Hunt's and Hogg's Lanes, form part of a mosaic which defines the historic village setting. Under the (now approved 18/01266/FUL) Grace Homes development this paddock is divided into two. The western section described here consists of two thirds of the original 'The Walnut's' paddock, which is to be made a public open space, with mown public footpath linking North End and Hogg Lane. It is to be planted with mixed species native trees, species rich grassland and a wet meadow drainage pond, which enhances the value to wildlife considerably

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