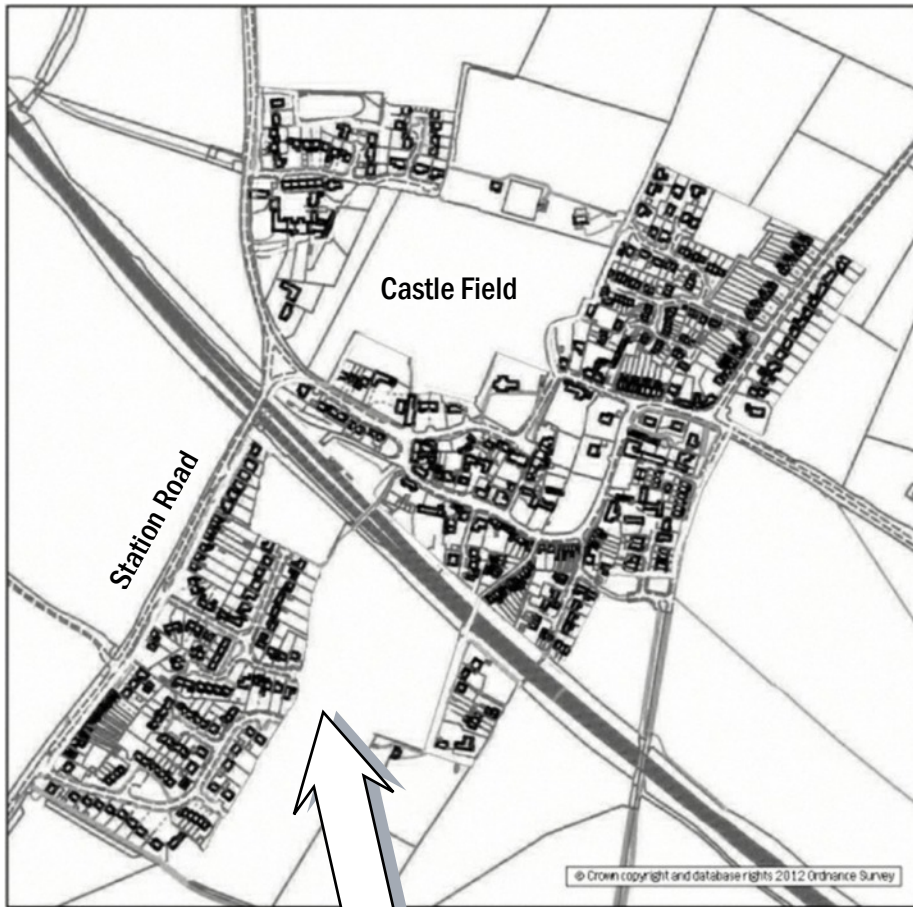


Castlethorpe



Gobbeys Field



Castlethorpe
Parish
Council

Castlethorpe Neighbourhood Plan – Gobbeys Field

6 September 2016

Dear Residents,

The Parish Council designated Gobbeys Field as a Local Green Space (LGS) in the new draft Neighbourhood Plan, in recognition of its long history of use by the community as a recreation resource going well beyond using the single Public Right of Way (PRoW), the path running from north to south of the field.

The whole field has been used for very many years for a wide variety of recreation activities and has been accessed from Prospect Place, The Chequers and Shepperton Close in addition to the access from the path from the railway bridge.

For many years it provided the easiest access for many residents across the field to the village shop when the shop was located there in New Road until February 2005.

The Plan is going through its final stages before being adopted by Milton Keynes Council but a late objection has been made by the owners of Gobbeys.

This objection seeks to deny the long history of usage by the community and to restrict public use to the single PRoW, also to remove its

designation as a LGS. This would prevent use of the field for general recreation and it is clear from their objection that the owners wish to develop the field for housing.

The Parish Council does not accept this objection and wants retain Gobbeyes as a LGS in the Plan. It has provided an important recreation resource for very many years and we want to safeguard its future.

We now need to formally gather evidence of the community’s use over the years, So we’re asking you to tell us about the history of your individual use of Gobbeyes by completing the questionnaire section of this letter,

This important information will then be used to rebut the owners’ challenge. We need as many responses as possible as soon as possible, by **Friday 23 September** at the very latest. Where more than one person in a household uses the field, please make individual responses, as each one counts.

Please complete, sign and detach the questionnaire section and return it to us. Paper copies can be delivered to the Village Shop over the counter or to the Parish Council Clerk, Steve Bradbury, at 63 Thrupp Close. You can download more copies to print out and fill in from <http://www.castlethorpevillage.org.uk/downloads> in the “Other documents” section.

Thank you in your advance for helping the Parish Council to ensure that Gobbeyes Field is enjoyed by us, our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren for many, many years to come.

Philip Ayles
Chair, Castlethorpe Parish Council

Castlethorpe
Parish
Council



Gobbeyes Field Usage Survey

I have used Gobbeyes Field regularly since(enter a year):

I use the field for (tick all boxes that apply):

- walking
- jogging
- dog walking
- children’s games
- various recreational activities, such as football
- for access to paths to the River Tove, the Canal and Cosgrove
- for access to the Castlethorpe Duck Race on the River Tove
- for access to the Village Shop until February 2005 (when it was located in New Road)
- for access to the Village Shop after February 2005

I have used the field (tick all boxes that apply):

- daily
- weekly
- monthly
- randomly throughout the year

I have seen many members of the public using the whole field for the recreational purposes shown above since (enter a year):

I greatly value Gobbeyes Field as a recreational and environmental resource and want to keep its current unspoiled character. I want it to have the special protection that being designated as a Local Green Space gives against development, reflecting its particular importance to the local community.

Name:

Signed: Date:

