

New Public Open Spaces



Community feedback shows that open spaces are very important to residents. So, the Plan provides for 2 new areas of publicly accessible open space:

- South and west of Broomfield Place
- East of Saxon Way.

Both are:

- On private land that currently has no official public access
- On unused/scrub land with no agricultural activity
- Linked to a community facilities development on part of the site. These facilities will help financially to secure the open space, as well of offering useful community services.

South and West of Broomfield Place

Key features:

- 1.3 hectares of open space
- The original parkland of the big house Broomfield Place (NB the house and gardens are in private ownership and are not part of this scheme)
- Possible ideas for using the space include: tranquil, natural space with firm paths to create accessibility; recreating parts of the original gardens. There will be further consultation and opportunities to put forward more ideas
- Proposed access: a new foot path and cycle path from Main Road and from School Lane
- Community facility linked to this open space: a new day care facility for people with learning disabilities; and those living with dementia and their carers. The facility would be on and around the old car park area.



East of Saxon Way



Key features:

- 4 hectares
- Old gravel workings now rough grassland. It contains the site of the Broomfield Anglo-Saxon Burial, though this has been completely dug out
- Possible ideas for using the space include: informal open space with paths for dog walkers etc; areas for biodiversity and wildlife, e.g. pockets of woodland and ponds; a feature to mark the site of the Anglo-Saxon Burial; foot and cycle path from Valley Bridge.
- Proposed access: from Saxon Way, with a new foot and cycle path from Valley Bridge
- Community facility linked to this open space: a small 1.3 hectare site in the north-west corner for a GP surgery and/or genuinely affordable housing for existing Broomfield people. To be run by a charity called a Community Land Trust.