

Shouldham Neighbourhood Plan 2025-2040



**SUMMARY DESCRIPTION AND MAPS OF
GREEN CORRIDORS IN SHOULDHAM
VILLAGE**

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SUMMARY OF GREEN CORRIDORS IN SHOULDHAM VILLAGE AND ENVIRONS

INTRODUCTION

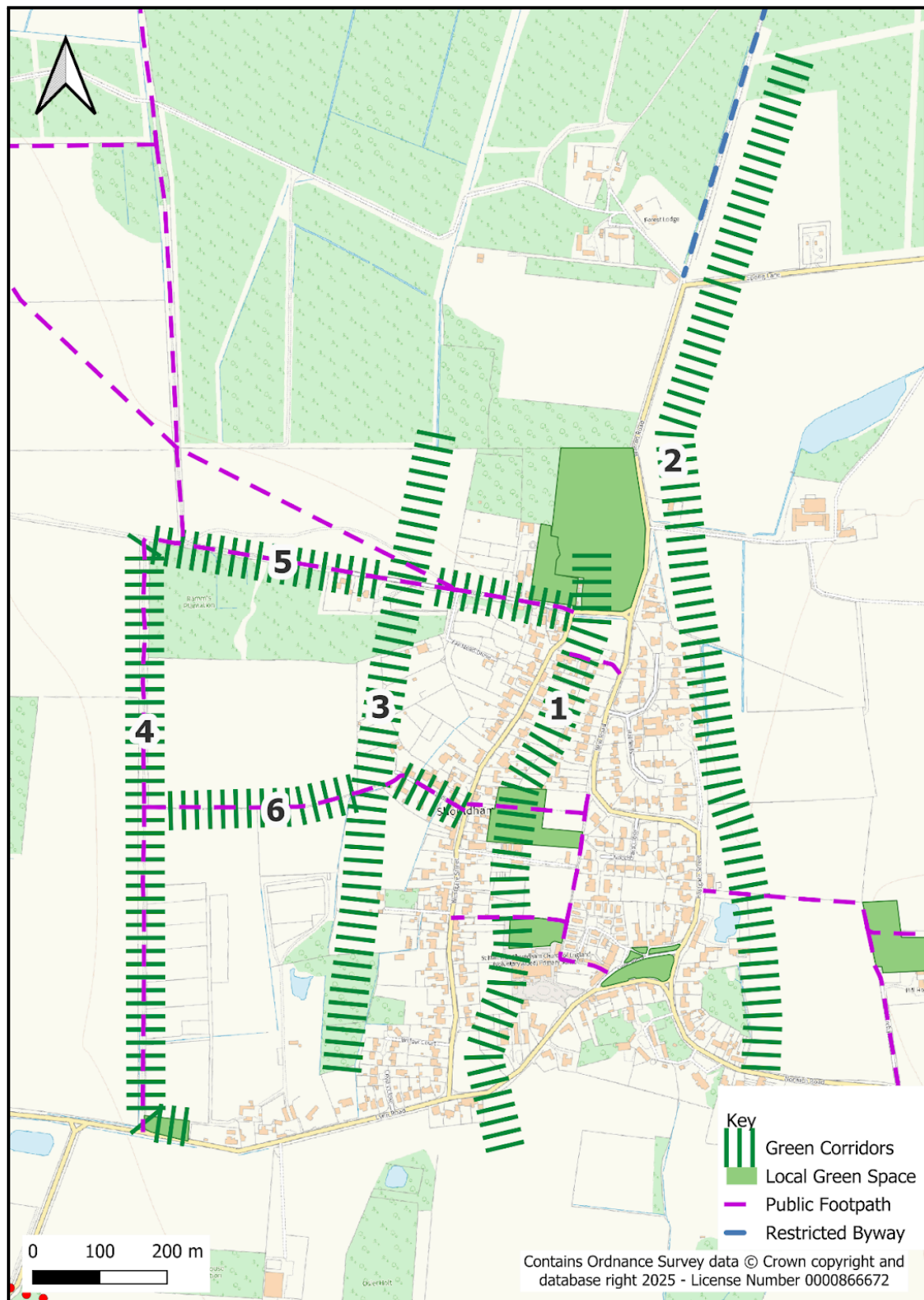
Green corridors and infrastructure

1. Green corridors can be defined as linear natural infrastructure such as trees and plants that link up other green and open spaces to form a green network. Green corridors fall within the green infrastructure network which as defined by the NPPF (December 2024) is a network of multi-functional green and blue spaces and other natural features, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental, economic, health and wellbeing benefits for nature, climate, local and wider communities, and prosperity.
2. Green infrastructure plays an important role in society for the preservation of the natural environment and how humans interact with nature. The NPPG sets out that policies should enable and support healthy lives through promoting and providing safe access to green infrastructure. Plans should also maintain and enhance networks of habitat and green infrastructure and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across boundaries.

Shouldham village context

3. Shouldham is a particularly green parish, both into the countryside and within the settlement area owing to the abundance of trees and open green spaces. Shouldham Warren, to the north of the Parish, is a significant benefit to wildlife. There are natural green corridors through the village, across green spaces, along public footpaths and field margins that link blocks of habitat most of which run north to south. With one exception the corridors are interlinked. The corridors are identified and numbered in **Figure 1**.
4. The corridors have a clear benefit to wildlife and residents alike. Some of the corridors are managed green spaces either in public or private use and will provide opportunities for wildlife to move between areas where fragmentation is not present e.g. blocked passageways or boundaries such as brick walls or fences.
5. The Plan aims to protect the importance of these green corridors and encourage improvements that will enhance their biodiversity and amenity value for the community.

Figure 1- Green Corridors in the village and environs



Route descriptions of all corridors

Green corridor 1 runs north south from the field alongside Lynn Road at its junction with Westgate Street and then crosses the school playing field, the Paddocks, the rhubarb field, various rear gardens to properties in Eastgate Street, into the field at the junction of Westgate Street and New Road and ending in George V Playing Field.

Green corridor 2 runs north south from the field adjacent to Norwich Road (below the Church) and crosses the fields at the rear of the village hall, Victoria Hall and properties in Hallfields and Warren Road and ends in the Warren.

Green corridor 3 runs north south from the wood to the east of Willow Court and then crosses the fields to the east of various properties in Westgate Street, crosses Fairstead Drove and ends in the Warren.

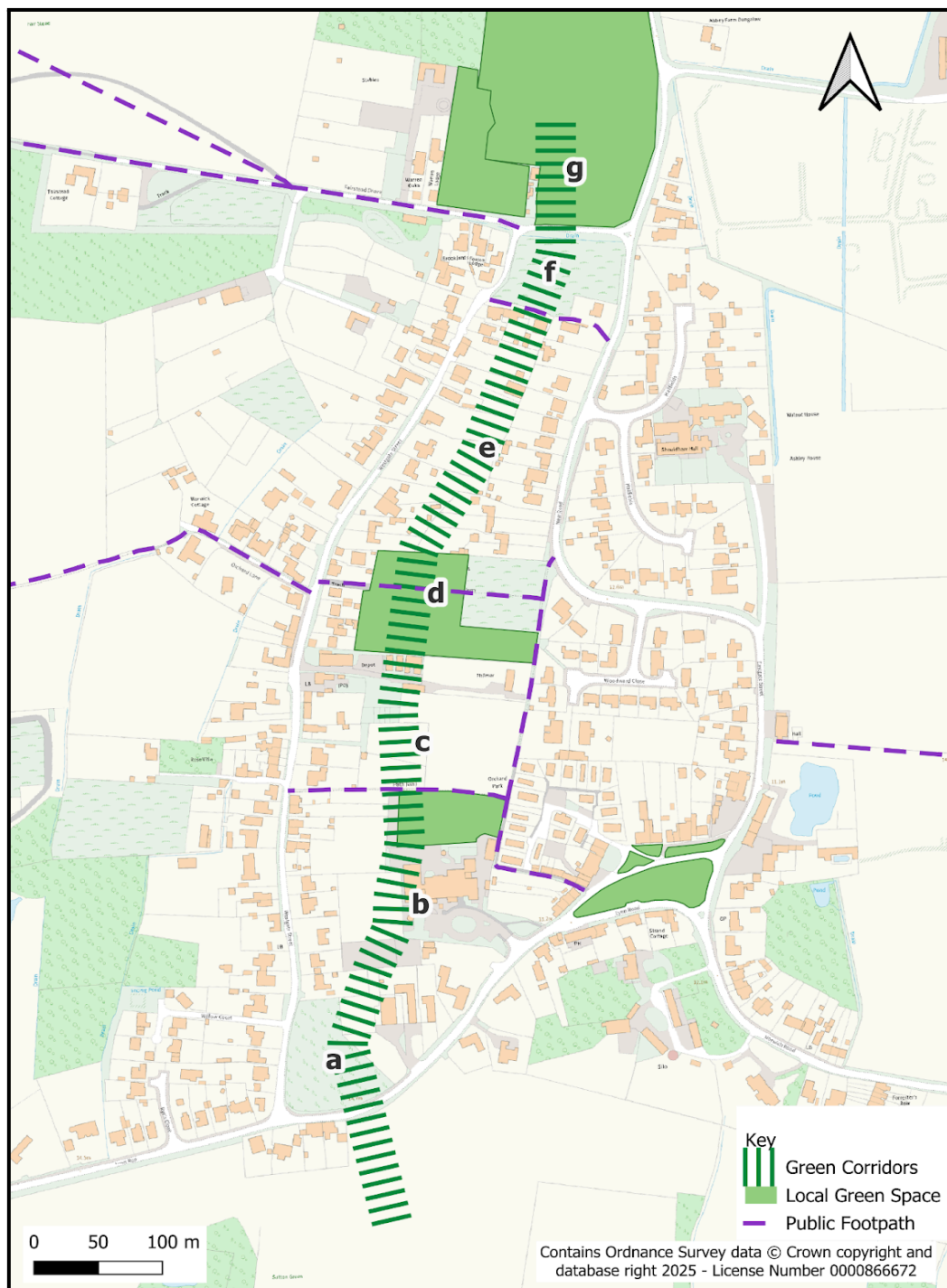
Green corridor 4 runs north south starting on Lynn Road by the Community Orchard and follows the line of Mill Lane, ending at the junction with Fairstead Drove (green corridor 5).

Green corridor 5 runs east west along the route of Fairstead Drove and ending at the junction with Mill Lane (green corridor 4).

Green corridor 6 runs east west, starting in Westgate Street and follows the line of Orchard Lane and the public footpath across the fields before ending at the junction with Mill Lane (green corridor 4).

Central corridor 1

Green corridor 1 is shown in **Figure 2**. It merits a special description as it brings a unique beauty to the heart of the village and is a key feature of Shouldham with its green spaces and abundance of trees within the settlement.



Central corridor route description

Section (a). The field at the junction of Lynn Road and Westgate Street. It is edged by a native mixed hedgerow and contains several mature tree specimens.

Section (b). The school playing field. It is laid to grass and edged on its eastern and northern boundaries by trees which are adjacent to public footpaths.

Section (c). The Paddocks. Mainly laid to grass with a line of trees along part of its eastern boundary and “shares” the trees on the northern boundary of the school playing field.

Section (d). The rhubarb field. A wide open field with a native hedgerow and bramble patches. It adjoins several residential gardens, particularly against its western boundary. It is crossed by a public footpath and is adjacent to another.

Section (e). The rear gardens of several residential properties that front Eastgate Street.

Section (f). The field at the junction of New Road and Westgate Street, opposite George V Playing Field. It is rough grass edged by a native hedgerow.

Section (g). George V Playing Field is a large expanse of grass edged by a tree lined hedge and a line of Pine alongside Warren Road and Westgate Street. It adjoins a field on its north side which in turn is adjacent to the Warren.