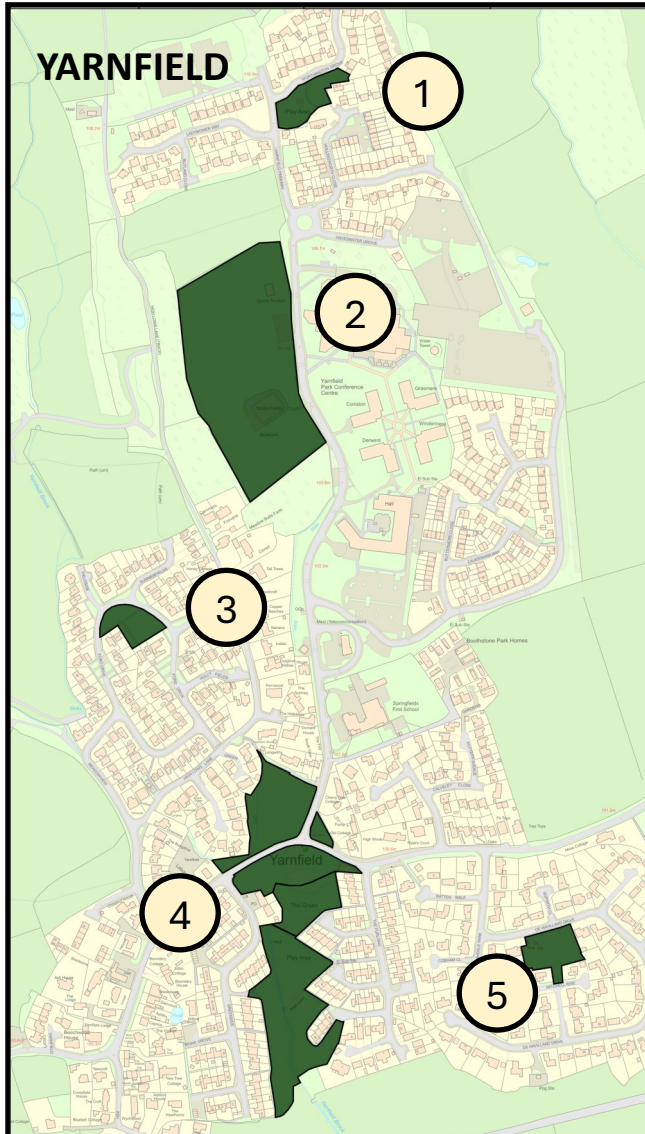




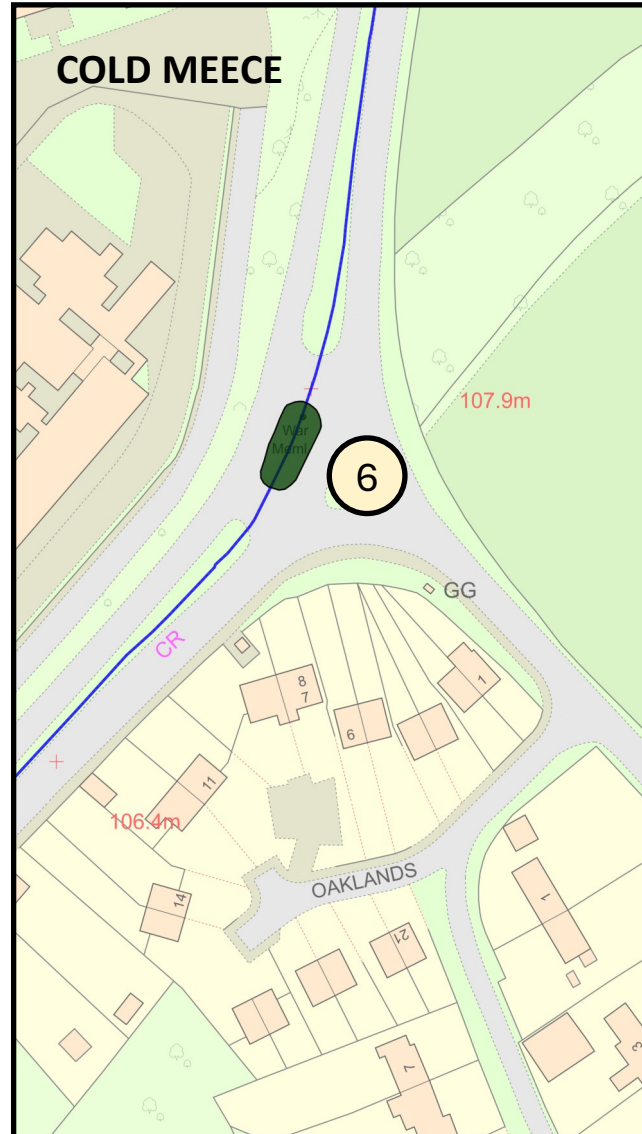
**Yarnfield and Cold Meece  
Parish Council**

**Neighbourhood Plan — Local Green Space  
Site Proposals**





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Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council, working with residents, has identified 6 sites that are valued by the community as local green spaces.

Yarnfield: the 5 sites are over washed by the North Staffordshire Greenbelt and as such already have a degree of protection. The proximity of the community and the special characteristic of the sites warrants further protection to guarantee each continues to be available to future generations.

One site, the village green, is partly made up of common land and requires no further protection. However the southern and middle sections of the village green is not common land and as such warrants being designated as local green space.

The site identified in Cold Meece, while small, is of great significant to the community with links to both the 1st and 2nd World War, being a place of remembrance.

The location of the six sites:

- Worthington Grove - 1
- Yarnfield Parkway - 2
- Ford Drive - 3
- Village Green - 4
- Ashdale Park - 5
- Cold Meece War Memorial - 6



## Policy Background

The NPPF<sup>1</sup> states that: “Access to a network of high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and physical activity is important for the health and well-being of communities, and can deliver wider benefits for nature and support efforts to address climate change.”

## Protection afforded by the North Staffordshire Green Belt

The 5 sites in Yarnfield are over washed by the North Staffordshire Greenbelt and as such already have a degree of protections. However, development in Green Belt may be allowed under certain strict conditions:

**Very special circumstances:** A strong case must be made that the potential harm is clearly outweighed by other considerations. This is often difficult to prove but could include providing essential infrastructure.

**Permitted exceptions:** The National Planning Policy Framework lists specific exceptions that are not considered inappropriate development on Green belt land:

- **Limited infilling** within a village.
- **Limited affordable housing** for local community needs, as long as it is part of a plan-led process.

If land is already protected by Green Belt policy then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space. One potential benefit in areas where protection from development is the norm (e.g. villages included in the green belt) but where there could be exceptions is that the Local

Green Space designation could help to identify areas that are of particular importance to the local community.<sup>2</sup>

## Community Consultation

The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the need for open space, sport and recreation facilities . The information gained from the community consultation and subsequent assessment of the sites has been used to determine what open space, sport and recreational provision should be put forward with in the Neighbourhood Plan.

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### Footnote

<sup>1</sup> National Planning Policy Framework, December 2024

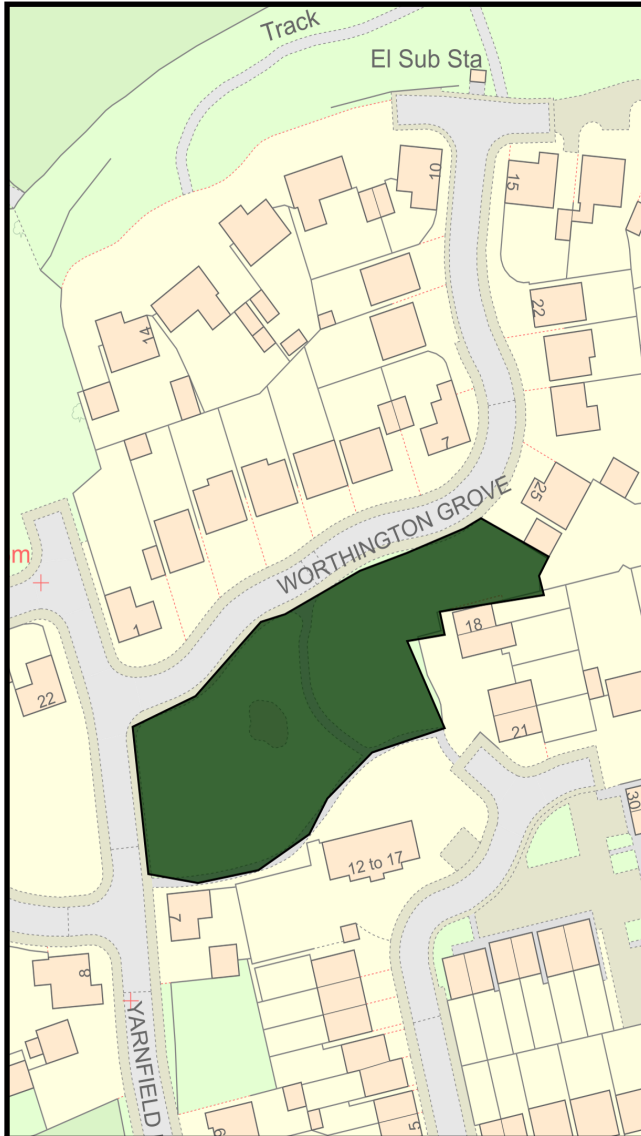
<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Housing , Communities and Local Government guidance — Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space

**YCM-LGS 1 – Worthington Grove  
Yarnfield**

**OS Reference: SJ865335**

**Area = .25 Hectares**

1



**Current use of the site**

- Public open space on the Yarnfield Park housing development
- Children's play provision for under 12s.
- Used by residents' for walking, dog walking and by the community running club.
- Site is maintained by Trustgreen on behalf of the of the Resident's Management Committee.

**How close is the space to the community it serves?**

- The site is within walking distance for residents of Yarnfield Park.

**Planning Permissions or site allocation**

- 09-12911/OUT—site formed as a public open space to service the housing development.
- Site is not included in the Stafford local plan 2011—2031 as local green space.
- Site owned by the developer, Barratts West Midlands .

**The space is special to the local community and holds local significance**

- The site is enjoyed by all ages for informal recreation with younger children's play equipment and benches.
- Spring flowering bulbs planted along the perimeter of the site.

**Recreational value**

- Children and families use the space throughout the year for informal recreation.
- Dog walkers use the space to exercise and train their dogs
- Local community running club use the site.
- Its visual attractiveness and contribution to the character of the surrounding housing estate.



**YCM-LGS 2– Yarnfield Parkway**  
**Public open space, Yarnfield**

**OS Reference: SJ865332**  
**Area = 2.9 Hectares**

2



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**Current use of the site**

- Multiuse play area with basketball court, football pitch, changing rooms, play equipment and benches
- Used for walking, dog walking and by the community running club
- Has been used to stage community events

**How close is the space to the community it serves?**

- The site is within walking distance for residents of Yarnfield Park
- Site is not included in the Stafford local plan 2011—2031 as local green space.

**Planning Permissions or site allocation**

- 09-12911/OUT—site formed as a public open space to service the housing development
- Site currently owned by the developer, the parish council is in discussions to acquire the site.
- Site not included in the Stafford local plan 2011—2031 as local green space.

**The space is special to the local community and holds local significance**

- The site is enjoyed by all ages for informal recreation with younger children's play equipment and benches.

**Recreational value**

- Children and families use the space throughout the year for informal recreation.
- Multiuse play area with basketball court and play equipment used throughout the year by the community and visitors to the parish.
- Dog walkers use the space to exercise and train their dogs



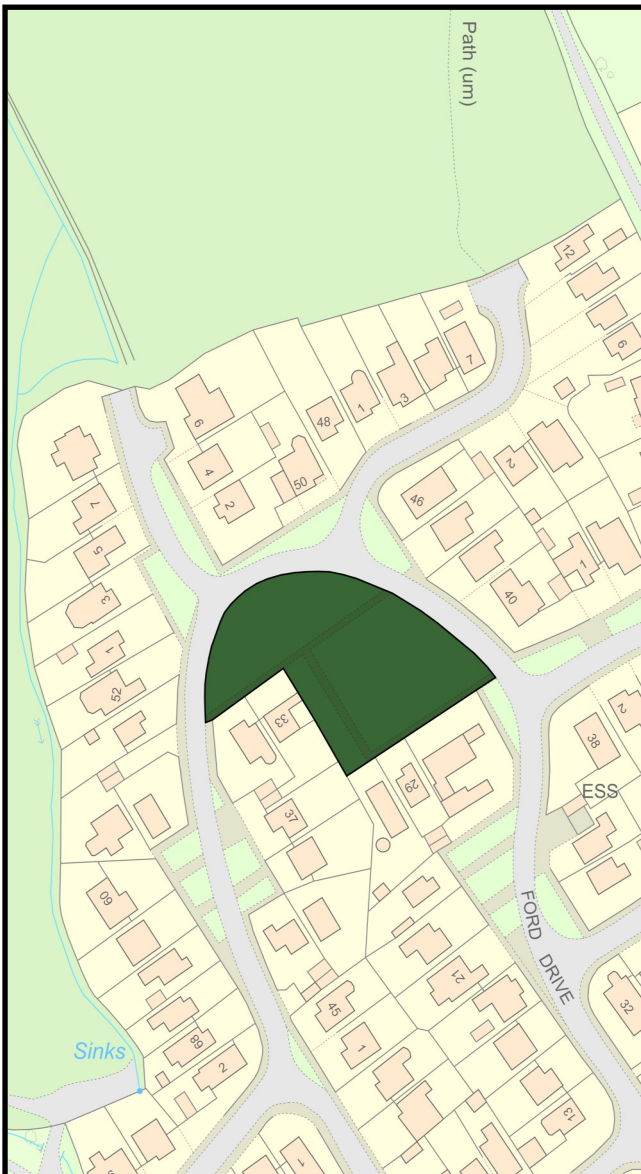
Place holder

**YCM-LGS 3 – Ford Drive  
Yarnfield**

**OS Reference: SJ863329**

**Area = .2 Hectares**

3



**Current use of the site**

- Public open space at the centre of the Ford Drive housing development.
- Site for community defibrillator to be completed by March 2025
- Site owned and maintained by Stafford Borough Council .

**How close is the space to the community it serves?**

- At the centre of the Ford Drive estate
- Max 2 minutes' walk from every home on the estate.

**Planning Permissions or site allocation**

- Open space included in as part of the development of the estate in the mid 1970's.
- Site owned by Stafford Borough Council
- Site recognised as local green space.

**The space is special to the local community and holds local significance**

- Provides a sense of space and the mature oak tree is a valued characteristic of this space.
- Provides a quiet, calm space in the centre of the development.
- Residents of all ages use and value the site
- In the spring daffodils, paid for by the parish council and planted by residents, line the pavement

**Recreational value**

- Site used by residents and the wider community as an amenity for walking, dog walking,
- Informal games, and recreation for family to enjoy open space
- Its visual attractiveness and contribution to the character of the surrounding housing estate.



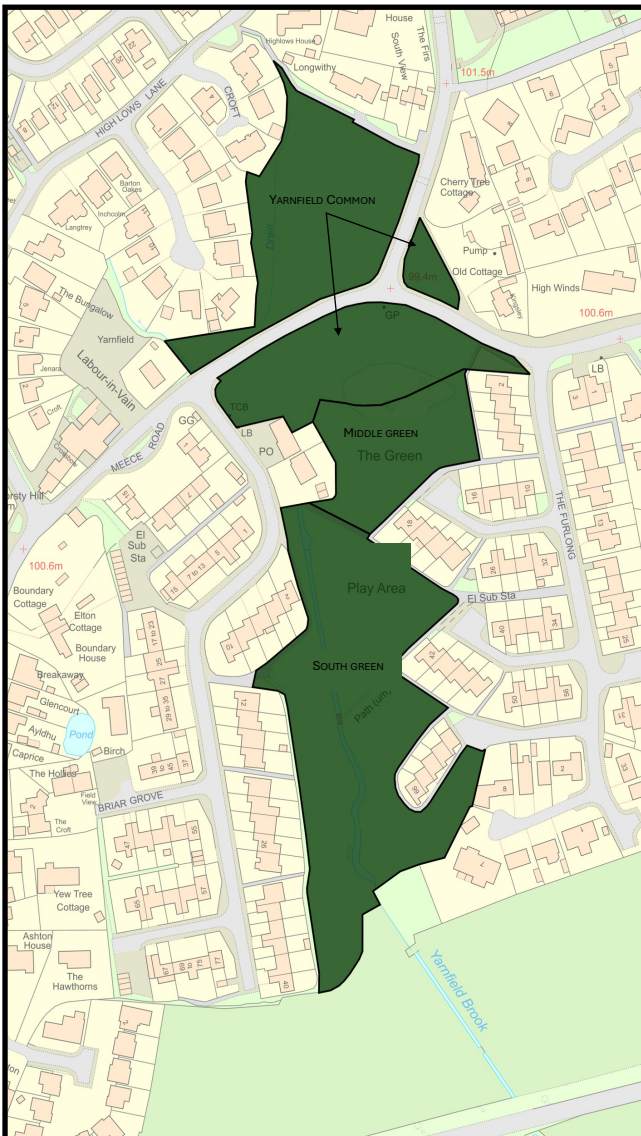
## YCM-LGS 4 – Village Green

### Yarnfield Lane, Yarnfield

OS Reference: SJ865326

Area = 2.5 Hectares

4



#### Current use of the site

- The site is made up of Yarnfield Common, Middle Green and South Green
- Public open space at the centre of the Yarnfield
- Children’s playground is located on the south green
- Site owned by Stafford Borough Council and maintained by Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council .

#### How close is the space to the community it serves?

- The village green is at the centre of Yarnfield.
- Easy walking routes available from all parts of Yarnfield

#### Planning Permissions or site allocation

- The 3 north sections of the village green is Common Land. (see plan)
- Site not included in the Stafford Local Plan 2011—2031 as local green space.

#### The space is special to the local community and holds local significance

- Runs through the centre of the village providing a sense of space and adding to the wellbeing of the community.
- The site is highly valued by the community and visitors to the parish. It is visually very attractive and provides a tranquil space with trees, park benches.
- The village green is enjoyed by all ages for informal recreation. The village green is recognised as providing a significant contribution to the village’s unique character and historic identity.

#### Recreational value

- Football, cricket and other games are played by children and parents;
- Children and families use the space throughout the year
- Dog walkers use the space to exercise and train their dogs
- Annual summer events are held on the village green
- Parish council playground on the southern green is frequently used by children and families. Parish Council investing in new equipment for the play area funded by s106 money provided by Stafford Borough Council.



**YCM-LGS 5 – Ashdale Park**  
**De Havilland Drive , Yarnfield**

**OS Reference: SJ868325**

**Area = 0.27 Hectares**



**Current use of the site**

- Public open space at the centre of the Ashdale Park housing development.
- Parish Council—community defibrillator located on the site.
- Site owned and maintained by Stafford Borough Council .

**How close is the space to the community it serves?**

- At the centre of the Ashdale Park estate
- Max 2 minutes’ walk from every home on Ashdale Park.

**Planning Permissions or site allocation**

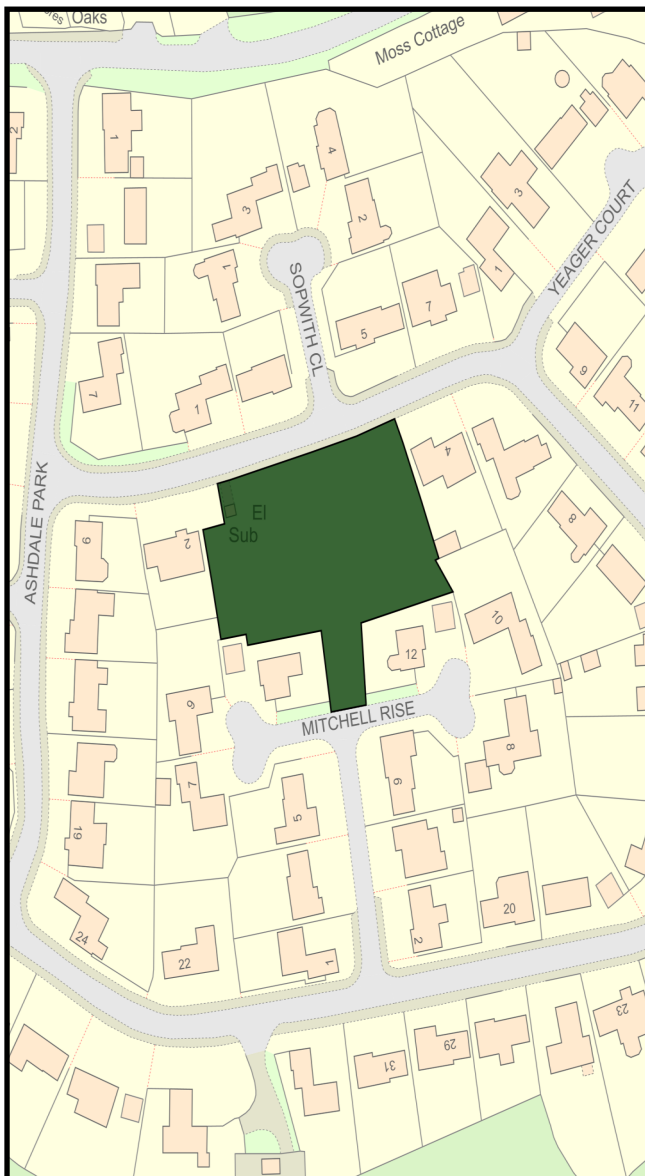
- Open space included in planning application 88/21607/OUT
- Site owned by Stafford Borough Council
- Site not included in the Stafford local plan 2011—2031 as local green space.

**The space is special to the local community and holds local significance**

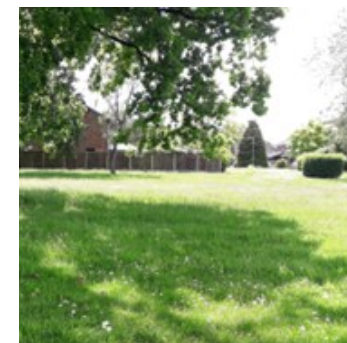
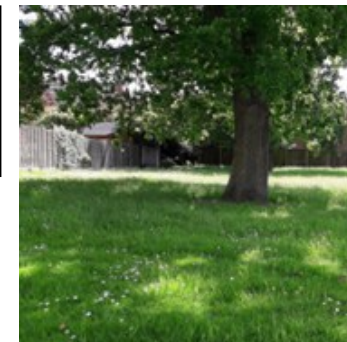
- Provides a sense of space and the trees are a valued characteristic  
Provides a quiet calm space in the centre of the development.
- Residents of all ages use and value the site
- In the spring daffodils, paid for by the parish council and planted by residents, line the pavement
- 2 mature oak trees with TP Orders, 3 newly planted cherry trees

**Recreational value**

- Its visual attractiveness and contribution to the character of the surrounding housing estate.
- Football, cricket and other games are played by children and parents; snowmen are built in the winter
- Children and families use the space throughout the year
- Dog walkers use the space to exercise and train their dogs
- Safe space for children to play



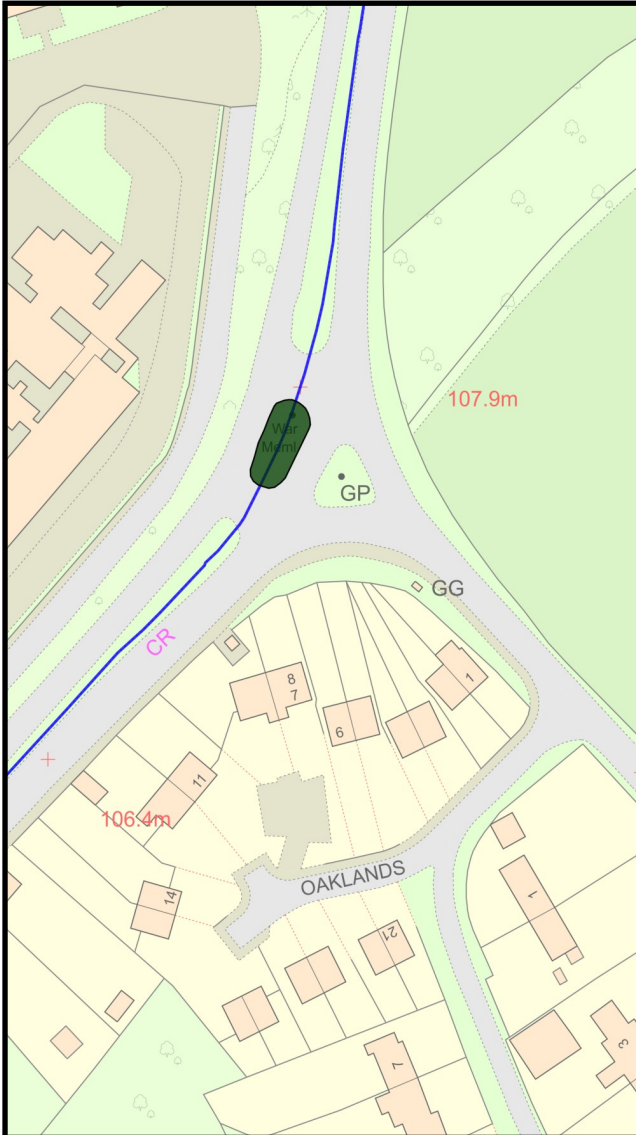
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**YCM-LGS 6 – Cold Meece  
War Memorial & Rose Garden**

**OS Reference: SJ855328  
Area = 0.005 Hectares**

6



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**Current use of the site**

- WW1 Grade II listed War Memorial
- The rose garden and community bench maintained by Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council .

**How close is the space to the community it serves?**

- The site is within walking distance for residents of the parish .

**Planning Permissions or site allocation**

- Planning Permission—none
- Site appears to form part of the Staffordshire County Council highways estate
- Site not included in the Stafford local plan 2011—2031 as local green space.

**The space is special to the local community and holds local significance**

- Historical significance: the site has a long history of being used by residents and the family and relatives of the many thousands of women known as the “Swynnerton Roses” and other personnel who worked at The Royal Ordnance Factory No. 5 Swynnerton from 1940 — 45.
- The War Memorial is the site of annual Remembrance Day Services held by the community and MOD Swynnerton.

**Recreational value**

- This area is special to the local community and visitors.
- Park bench by the rose garden used by residents, local families and others as a place to rest and remember.



Place holder