

There are four trails that are short walks and all are pushchair accessible. The majority of the green spaces are wheelchair accessible.

The two maps show the locations of the following 25 green spaces.

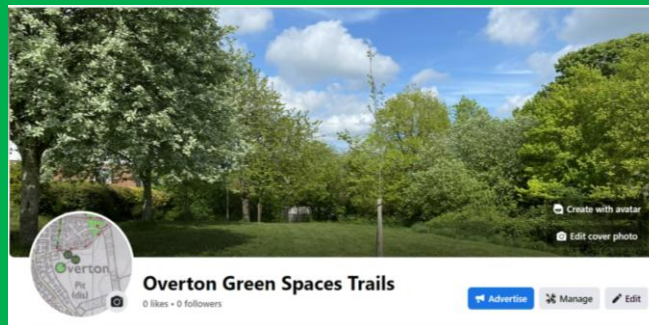
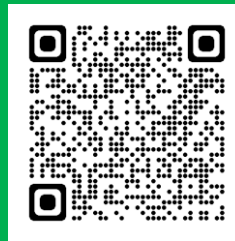
1. Court Drove mini wood
2. Little Meadow 
3. St Mary's Church Cemetery
4. Overton Recreation Centre
For official recreation only
5. Kingsclere Road Allotments
Private, for allotment holders only
6. Flashetts 
7. Copse Road mini wood 
8. Foxdown play area 
9. David's Wood 
10. Overton Hill Orchard and play area 
11. Overton Hill Lower Meadow 
12. Overton Hill Upper Meadow 
13. Overton Hill Neighbourhood Park 
14. Berrydown Sports Field
For official recreation only
15. Two Gate Lane play area 
16. Sovereign Gate play area
Under construction
Specific area not known at time of print
17. Two Gate Lane mini wood
18. Sapley Lane recreation area and skate park 
19. Poultons play area 
20. Dellands sunken lanes 
21. Town Meadow Golf Course
Members only
22. King's Meadow path
23. Harvey's Field play area 
24. Parish Council Allotments
Private, for allotment holders only
25. Edward Kersley play area 

This leaflet is produced by the Environmental Team
of Sustainable Overton – an initiative of
Overton Parish Council.



We would love to know what you saw on your walks around
the green spaces and play areas of Overton.

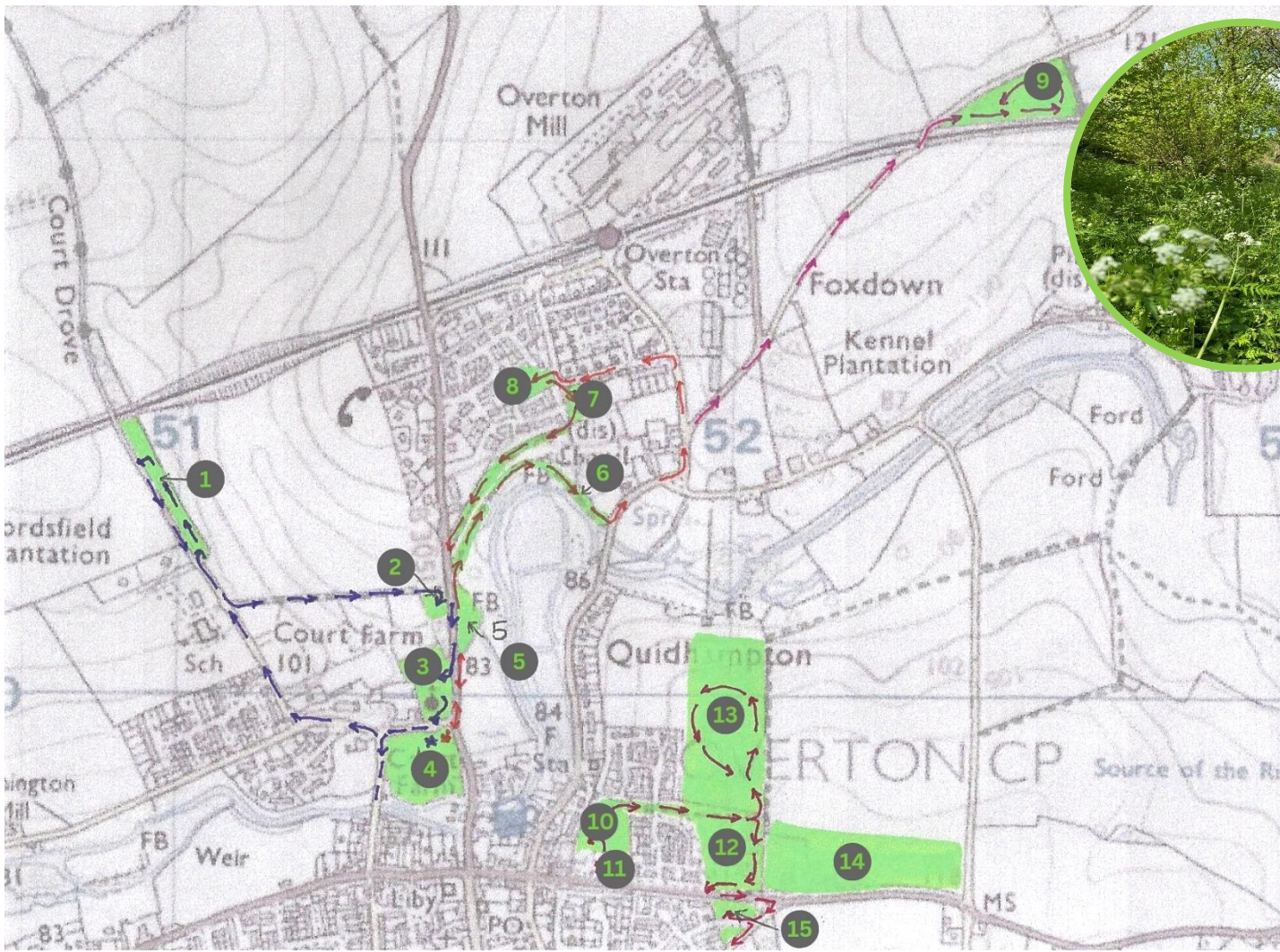
Tell us by posting on our Green Spaces Trails Facebook page.



Devised by Anne Phillips

Overton Green Spaces Trails





A little further along the path the owners of the land, in conjunction with Hampshire Wildlife Trust have done a lot of work to improve the habitats in and around the River Test: Speeding up the flow of the river and reducing the shade whilst still maintaining an area where children can play in the water (6). At the end of the Flashetts track turn left onto Station Road, then fork left into Station Approach. Turn left onto Copse Road, the road bends right and after about 30 metres take the left path which leads to the Foxdown play area (8).

Here there is children's play equipment for a range of ages, a good kick about space, lots of bushes and trees and grass to sit and have a picnic. Leave the play area from the same path that you entered and turn right onto Copse Road then, on the corner, take the path on the right through the little area of woodland (7) (this path is accessible for a single pushchair) There are many different trees – looks out for sycamore, hawthorn, holly, ash, and horse chestnut.



in May the following flowers have been spotted – cow parsley, dandelions, ivy, cleavers, cuckoo pint, dock, dogs mercury (very poisonous) and brambles. Continue along the footpath which runs parallel to the lower Flashetts track.

Up here you should see some butterflies in summer among the coppiced hazel trees. Along the path are also seen ferns growing in the shady areas. The footpath comes out on the Kingsclere road. Turn left and follow the pavement back to the church car park.



Extension to trail 2 - Pink trail

If you have time and want a longer walk, after you exit Flashetts on Station Road, instead of forking left up Station Approach continue straight on, then take the right fork (not the road to the Mill) head on up the hill on a single-track road, cross over the railway bridge then immediately turn right on the path through David's Wood (9).

Trail 1 – Court Drove mini wood, Little Meadow and Cemetery (Numbers 1, 2 and 3 on the north map). Purple trail.

Start from St Mary's Church car park and walk west along Church Road with the ORC (4) on your left. Turn left into Bridge Street and walk as far as the bridge over the River Test. Here you can see trout swimming in the river and a lot of noisy ducks



Trail 2 – Flashetts and Foxdown (Numbers 6, 7 and 8 on the north map with an extension to David's Wood 9). Orange trail.

Starting from St Mary's Church car park head north on the Kingsclere Road passing the allotments (5) on your right. In the summer look out for butterflies that can be seen fluttering over the various wildflowers in the allotments.



You may catch sight of a kingfisher if you are lucky but should certainly see moorhens. Turn back up Bridge Street and left into Court Drove. There are some fine large trees growing in gardens, a walnut tree in The Old Rectory and large sycamores going up the hill.



Keep on Court Drove until you pass Overton Primary School and swimming pool.

Look out for a path on the right (opposite the private drive and the 'keep clear' road markings) that takes you into the woods (1). This path is negotiable with a single sized pushchair.



In the woods are a variety of native trees. Look out for fungus on the dead trees. When the path reaches a clearing turn left and walk up to the Court Drove track then turn left back towards the school. Opposite the school take the footpath down to Kingsclere Road. When you get to the road turn right into Little Meadow (2). This area (owned by Overton Parish Council) has been created by Overton Biodiversity Society to encourage biodiversity. You will see a range of flowers throughout the year from snowdrops in February, cowslips in April, cranesbill, campion and Marjoram through the summer. There are seats here to stop and have a picnic if you wish. Come out of Little Meadow and cross the road turning right back towards the village.



When you come to St Mary's cemetery cross the road and take the slope up into the cemetery (3). Although most of the graveyard is mown and kept tidy there is an area left unmown in the middle which has a lovely array of wildflowers and grasses throughout the year. Head back to the front of the church to end this trail.

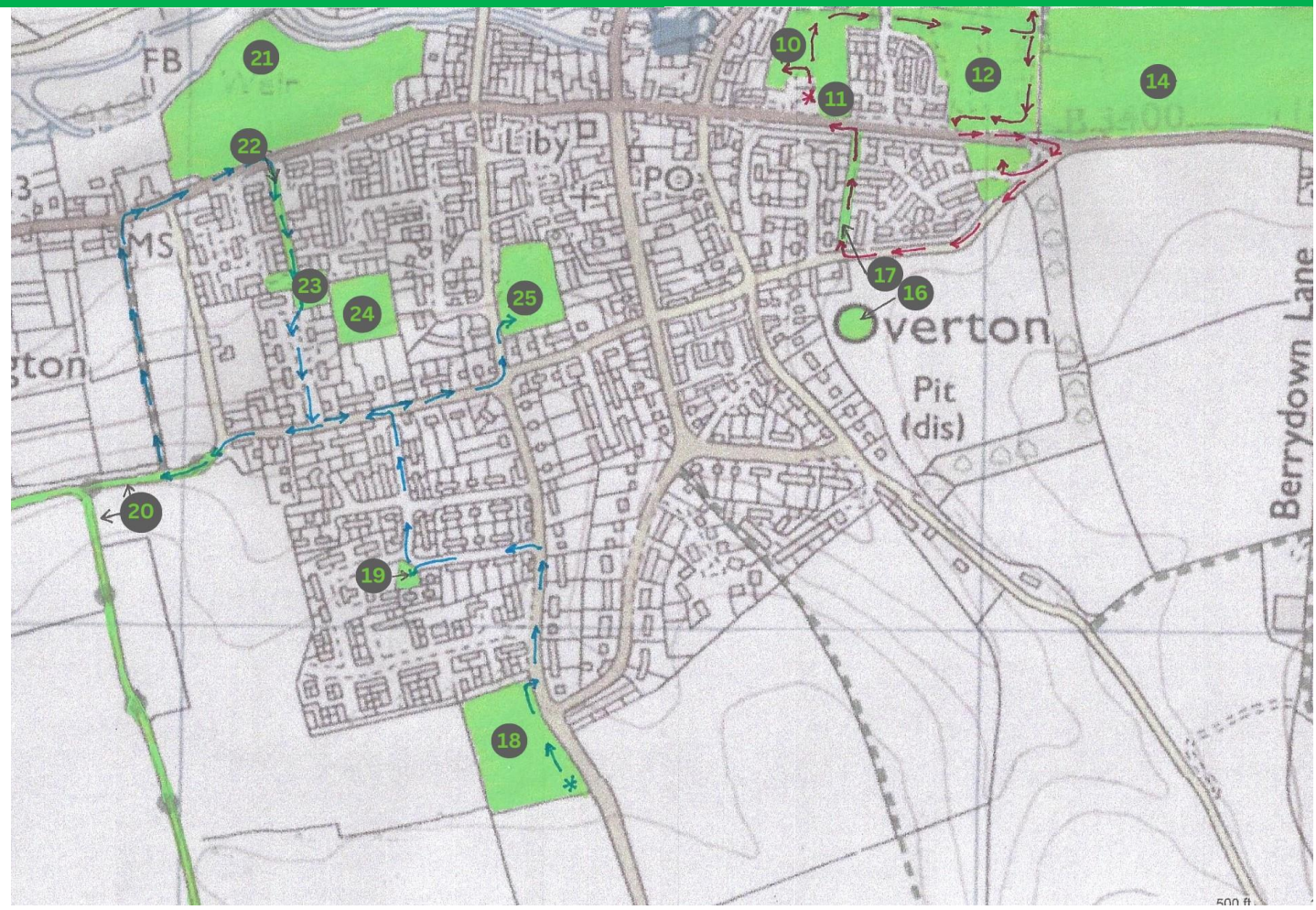
Turn right up the track that is more or less opposite the footpath up to the school. The Flashetts track is marked with two brick and flint pillars. To the right of this track is a very important area for nature.



A wet woodland or fen.

Even in winter the moss on the trees makes a beautiful sight. Over the rest of the year can be seen a range of moisture loving plants and wildflowers. Birds can be heard in the branches overhead. You will pass the house called Flashetts on your left. Next you will reach a bridge over a small chalk stream – an excellent place for children to play pooh sticks.

This is a fabulous spot to spend a lazy hour. Many trees – cherry, field maple, pine, holly, hawthorn, silver birch, beech, yew and whitebeam. Flowers in May included wood avens, dandelions, cleavers, stinging nettles and bluebells in shady parts. Although you are right next to the railway line it is a very peaceful spot with views to Overton village, Overton Hill, Berrydown Sports Ground and pretty fields to Polhampton.



Trail 3 – Overton Hill and Two Gate Lane (Numbers 10-15 on the north map and 16 and 17 on the south map). Red trail.

Starting from the car park on Overton Hill (by the re-cycling containers) head into the community orchard (10) for a wander around. There is a notice board for information on the trees that are planted. The area is cut to encourage wildflowers, you might even spot an orchid in May. You are welcome to enjoy the fruit in the autumn. The area between the car park and the Overton Hill houses is being developed into the Overton Hill Lower Meadow (11). Over the years you will be able to see a range of wildflowers. Head on through the play area and up the path that crosses the Overton Hill Road. You will reach the Overton Hill Upper Meadow (12) which has the sheep seats in it.

This area has a wide range of bushes, trees and wildflowers. Something to spot all year round – knapweed, hogweed, bird's-foot trefoil, dock, yellow rattle, thistle, hedge bedstraw and lady's bedstraw, geranium, roses and wild carrot. Trees are hawthorn, field maple, ash sallow, hazel and wild privet.

There are good views of the surrounding countryside from up here including St Mary's Church and the north field behind it. When you get to the top of the hill you can turn left through a gate and enter the Neighbourhood Park (13) that was created when the last of the houses were built on the 'Charters Hill' development. This area has been planted with trees, a hedge along the eastern fence boundary and a whole range of wildflowers, salad burnet spotted in early June. There are benches dotted around and the path is gravel, giving relatively easy access for pushchairs and wheelchairs (although the park is on a slope). This park should mature over time. Head back through the gate and carry on straight past the sheep seats then bend right near the main road, go down the hill and turn left on the path that takes you out onto the London Road.



Turn left and take the pavement up the hill until you get to the entrance to Two Gate Meadow. Cross the road and enter Two Gate Meadow. Before the houses, turn right into a play area (15). Here can be found play equipment, some benches and a decent sized piece of mown grass for a kick about.

After the play area head down Two Gate Lane, a nice green lane with mature trees and hedging on either side. Be careful with traffic here, there is no pavement and it is a single-track road. By 2024 there should be a path created on the south side of the Two Gate Lane hedge through the new Sovereign Gate development. This might be a safer route. Heading on down Two Gate Lane, pass the paths to Two Gate Meadow and Sovereign Gate and before you get to The Green you will spot a path on the right (opposite a private drive). Take this path through a little mini wood (17). During the spring you can see bluebells, primroses and celandines. When you get to a tarmac path turn left and the path comes out by the bus stop on the B3400 London Road from where you can cross over and head back to the car park.



Trail 4 – Sapley Lane Park to Edward Kersley Park via Dellands, King's Meadow and Harvey's Field. (No's 18-25 on the south map). Blue trail.



From the car park walk down through the field and pass through the gate on bottom right-hand side, turn left onto Sapley Lane then second left into Poultons Road.

Start at the car park for the Sapley Lane playing field. On the playing field (18) are sited a skate park and basketball hoop. In the future this area will also include a children's play area, a Petanque pitch and have a range of trees and shrubs planted. There will also be areas left to encourage a range of native wild plants to become established.

At the end of Poultons Road you will come to the Poultons play area (19). Here are some swings and a climbing frame and slide in the shape of a steam engine. There is a bench and some grass with a few mature trees of ash, sycamore and cherry. Now, walk down Crawts Road to the end and take the steps down to Dellands, turn left then carry along Dellands taking the track straight ahead when Dellands Lane bends to the right. You are now walking along a series of leafy lanes (20), an area called a SINC (special interest for nature conservation). Here are growing many different trees and wildflowers giving homes to a range of birds and mammals. After a few hundred yards take the footpath on your right which runs down to the London Road at Southington. Turn right on to the London Road. Pass Dellands Lane and Harvey's Field then take a path that is just to the right of King's Meadow. Carry on up the path to a play area at the top (23).

Here there is a range of play equipment (a climbing frame for older children and a slide for the younger ones) and a grass area for a kick about, plus benches to rest your feet. Next to this play area are the allotments owned by the Parish Council (24). You will often see red kites hovering over the allotments looking for small mammals. Take the path into Kercher's Field, turn left onto Dellands then at the top shop crossroads left again into Red Lion Lane. Walk down Red Lion Lane and turn right into Edward Kersley playing field (25). Here you will find play equipment suitable for a range of children's ages, plenty of seating and a lot of room for running around and kicking a ball about. You can finish the trail here or to get back to Sapley Lane head back to Red Lion Lane, up the hill on to Sapley Lane and carry on to the Sapley Lane playing field car park.

