

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 10 / 278 Environment Agency</p>	<p>Development Control: The site is located within Flood Zone 1. We would suggest that the site is equally acceptable to the preferred allocations from purely a flood risk perspective.</p> <p>Biodiversity: There are no biodiversity concerns regarding this site.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 12 / 278 Wiltshire Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>We do not object to the potential development of this site. However, we do wish to draw to the Council's attention that the WSBRC has records of bats and badgers in the vicinity.</p> <p>All bats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), and under the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994. These species prefer downward pointing lights pointed away from roosts and flightlines. Any development here will need to be designed from the outset with bats in mind, and proposals will need to be informed and supported by up to date ecological survey information. Similarly any works needed on site should account for the possible presence of badgers.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 19 / 288 Melksham Without Parish Council</p>	<p>This land has been used for both formal and informal recreation since RAF Melksham days – at least fifty years. It is the main site for football and community games for the whole community area. It comprises well-drained level fields of good quality which are fully utilised by a variety of sports teams every weekend.</p> <p>The Parish Council are seeking to finalise a Legal Agreement with the County Council to ensure this area remains as recreational land. The County Council has verbally agreed to sell the land to the Parish Council for £1 so that it can remain in perpetuity as recreational open space. However, some County Officers have made it clear they would like to see it developed and the open space relocated to the proposed new Woolmore Farm site. This is against the wishes of the community who fully supported the Parish Council's application to register it as new village green in 1997, so that it could remain. The Green application is still pending with the County Council. This site is an ideal location, being within walking distance from the thriving local 3,000+ population of Bowerhill and within easy reach of Melksham, without having to cross any major roads. It is the only playing field with pitch space available for the large Bowerhill community.</p> <p>The alternative site being proposed by the DPD at Woolmore Farm, is further away, across the very busy A365.</p>

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	<p>The amount of land being offered at this proposed site has not yet been confirmed by the County Council and the community is concerned it could end up to be too little land than is available at the present in a less accessible location. Bowerhill has expanded significantly in the last ten years and Melksham too is scheduled to have at least another 1,000 houses built.</p> <p>The sports field has in the past been used for cricket and the community would like to revive this use. It is sufficiently large and of the right quality. There are no other equivalent open spaces in such good condition for cricket to be played. It takes years to get a field up to standard to play cricket.</p> <p>The site also houses the Bowerhill Pavilion Club – a thriving youth facility with it’s own basketball court. It is important this facility remains with safe and easy walking distance of the Bowerhill community. The Parish Council already has outline planning permission to relocate the Pavilion and youth facility on another part of the same sports field.</p> <p>The Parish Council believes that all the major recreational open space and formal pitches for the Melksham area should be listed in the Leisure and Recreational document to avoid any future confusion as to their uses. Land is now at a premium for development for profit, especially in the Melksham area and we feel that unless our recreational space is properly categorised and identified, it could be sold off in future, on grounds that it does not form part of the DPD or new Development Framework..</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 23 / 257 A F Baines</p>	<p>This land provides level long established playing pitches and informal open space in a location safely accessible to a large population without any risk of creating disturbance to residential neighbours. It includes an established youth facility with basketball court and is suitable for use as a cricket square.</p> <p>No alternative is being proposed for use as informal open space and no other land is able to offer equivalent facilities for cricket.</p> <p>This land allows recreational facilities to be available close to users' homes in a diverse location rather than being concentrated at one large facility.</p> <p>The pitches are currently being intensively used due to a shortage of formal provision in the Melksham area.</p>

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<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 44 / 257 Mr A M Jones</p>	
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 51 / 257 R C Butler</p>	<p>The sites for recreation indicated are so badly needed. There is very little recreation land available in the Melksham area.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 121 / 225 Mr Dale Robinson</p>	<p>Please see attached correspondance with Mike Mills Parish Council and Roy While. I have been resident on Bowerhill since 1986, the sportsfield have always been central to the community on Bowerhill. The thriving youth facility at the Pavilion and the desire to expand existing/ future facilities to accommodate the cub/ scout pack needs to be fully considered.</p> <p>The loss of the football pitches would also be an enormous loss placing pressure on existing green areas on the estate.</p> <p>I am writing both as a concerned resident and as Chair of Bowerhill Community Action Group re the retention of sports fields at Bowerhill. I strongly support the retention of the playing fields and support Melksham Without Parish Council in pressing for the inclusion of sports fields in the new Leisure and Recreation DPD.</p> <p>They are widely used by Bowerhill residents, many parents will see the facilities at Woolmore Farm as not being a suitable alternative in particular because of the busy main road that devides Bowerhill from the site. In addition we have a successful youth facility operating from the Pavilion on the Bowerhill playing fields and have recently been approached by the Cub and Scout Group about the possibility of them locating themselves at the Pavilion; the key attraction for them being the sports field.</p> <p>The last 2 years have seen the fun in the sun initiative run at the sportsfields, it has been highly successful, largely because of the fact that parents feel safe in allowing their children to go there and its proximity to Christie Miller.</p>

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<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 122 / 228 Mr & Mrs R W Scott</p>	<p>This is important public open space which should not be lost for this and future generations. I played on the now Bowerhill Sports Field as a child and would like others to be able to do this for years to come. It is valuable recreational space.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 123 / 228 Mr M G Mills</p>	<p>The Bowerhill Sports Fields are heavily used by local football teams, especially the youth football for both boys and girls. Sports pitches are in very short supply in Melksham, so the availability of these sports fields is very welcome.</p> <p>The fields are also used for informal recreation by residents of Bowerhill and by workers on the Bowerhill Industrial Estate. The changing rooms here are used by the thriving Bowerhill Youth Club and the basketball court next to the Club is widely used. These fields are within walking distance of the residential development and provide a safe area for play.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 124 / 232 Mr & Mrs S G & B M Roberts</p>	<p>Bowerhill Sports Field is the only area which is large enough to support organised sport and recreational facilities within walking distance of much of Bowerhill. There are few spaces for children and adults to freely exercise away from housing and householders who resent the noise which tends to accompany children at play.</p> <p>The sports field is a safe area away from the dangers of ever increasing traffic on local roads. The location of the present youth centre on the edge of this open space helps to centralise such activities as Bowerhill possesses and deserves full support.</p> <p>Weekends show as many as five organised games of football taking place at the same time with groups of families supporting them or exercising in their own right. A rare sight in an age where the threat of increased building on green open spaces can result in an enormous housing estate with virtually no recreational facilities other than a commercial centre whose own future is under some uncertainty in a strained local government financial situation. The lack of facilities will give rise to the likelihood of more bored youngsters and resultant troubles.</p> <p>The Bowerhill Sports Field is away from busy main roads and the local population can benefit from the fact that there are no fees for enjoying this open space.</p>

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<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 125 / 232 Andrew Newman</p>	<p>The loss of any open space/ recreational land goes against the current argument of their being an acute shortage of formal recreational land and open spaces - WWDC Leisure & Recreation DPD Preferred Options (Stage 2) Consultation Paper (March 2007). Melksham short of sports pitches by some 90, 962 sqm and urban parks by some 30, 569 sqm.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 129 / 232 Kate House</p>	<p>Include and keep this land for recreational use - it is a valuable asset to Bowerhill and provides a local area for kids to play.</p> <p>Erect a new pavilion as a matter of urgency. Melksham Town Youth use this as their home ground and the players need changing and toilet facilities.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 130 / 270 Corsham Town Council</p>	<p>Resolved; to write to West Wiltshire Distirct Council, supporting the inclusion of site 1 - 5 listed above, for the provision of recreation in the West Wiltshire Leisure and Recreation DPD.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 134 / 270 Gill Butler</p>	<p>All three sites for recreation named in the document in Melksham need to be included in the document. Recreation land is in short supply in this area.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 135 / 249 Anthony M J Frith</p>	<p>It is important that both formal and informal recreational space be retained, the latter providing safe playing area for children. Melksham is drastically short of such open spaces.</p> <p>Pathfinder Way and Bowerhill Sports Fields are both very well used and again very important to all of Melksham.</p>
<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 136 / 249 Mr & Mrs P A & J A Lamb</p>	<p>Very important to keep informal as well as formal recreation space AMAP.</p>

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<p>Bowerhill Sports Field 137 / 261 Mrs Marlyn Jones</p>	<p>No-one seems to care what happens to this country anymore. It's all money, money, money at all cost. What is happening to "England's green and pleasant land"? We are destroying everything. We are accused of being fat and lazy and of being couch potatoes but our informal recreational spaces are all taken away for building.</p> <p>Not everyone can afford to pay gym prices or even get to one.</p> <p>By taking away fields and felling trees at the rate that it is then carbon dioxide must be building at a great rate contributing to global warming.</p> <p>I am therefore in favour of keeping all open spaces for the good of the people now and for generations to come.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 3 / 276 Wiltshire County Council (Pegasus Planning Group)</p>	<p>Wiltshire County Council objects to Melksham Without Parish Council's proposal to allocate land south of Dunch Lane, Melksham.</p> <p>The land identified by the Parish Council is owned by the County Council and currently comprises the playing fields and recreational elements of the George Ward Secondary School. The school occupies a split site separated by Dunch Lane. The school buildings and some of the playing field and recreational land are located on the main site to the south of Dunch Lane and east of Bath Road/ Shurnhold. The remainder of the school playing fields are located on the land to the north of Dunch Lane. The school provides for some community use of the playing fields under a dual-use arrangement.</p> <p>The County Council have secured planning consent for a replacement school part funded by the Government's Building Schools of the Future Pathfinder programme. The new school is due to open in time for the September 2009 intake and as a consequence the existing George Ward School will be surplus to requirements and closed accordingly. The playing field and recreational facilities to be provided at the new school will also be available to the community under a dual-use arrangement and will more than compensate for the existing facilities available at the existing George Ward School.</p> <p>In August 2007, the County Council submitted an outline planning application to the District Council for the redevelopment of the George Ward School site (Ref No W07/02806/OUT). This application proposed the development of up to 270 dwellings on the land south of Dunch Lane with the land to the north of Dunch Lane proposed for community playing fields, car parking and changing facilities. The application was reported to the</p>

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	<p>meeting of West Wiltshire District Council's Planning Committee held on 31 January 2008, recommended for approval. However, the Council resolved to refuse outline planning permission and an appeal has now been lodged against the Council's decision.</p> <p>Wiltshire County Council consider that the potential inclusion of land south of Dunch Lane as a site allocation within the L&R DPD would make that document unsound since it would fail Tests of Soundness 4 and 7.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 10 / 276 Environment Agency</p>	<p>Development Control: The northern fields are wholly located within Flood Zone 3 of the South Brook. The southern fields are mainly Flood Zone 1, although there is a small amount of Flood Zone 3 and 2 encroaching into the southern site's northern boundary. Sequentially, the site must therefore be less favourable than the preferred sites in terms of flood risk. We would have concerns over the allocation of the northern fields without flood risk and channel access mitigation safeguards.</p> <p>Biodiversity: The north boundary of the site is bordered by the South Brook. This watercourse is known to support water voles. Surveys for protected species would need to accompany an application for development.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 12 / 276 Wiltshire Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>Part of the proposed new pitches for allocation into the DPD borders the South Brook. The Wiltshire & Swindon Biological Records Centre (WSBRC) has records for water voles along this watercourse.</p> <p>Section 9 (4) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) makes it an offence to intentionally damage, destroy, or obstruct access to any structure or place which water voles use for shelter or protection or to disturb water voles while they are using such a place.</p> <p>We do not object to the proposed new pitches but we do wish to highlight the potential sensitivity of the site. Any allocation for sports pitches should allow for a suitable riverside buffer strip and the banks of the Brook should remain unaffected.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 19 / 286 Melksham Without Parish Council</p>	<p>All recreation land on either side of Dunch Lane needs to be included. The description Dunch Lane is too vague.</p> <p>These areas of land form part of the rural buffer between Shaw village and Melksham Town which forms an important visual gap.</p>

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	<p>The area south of Dunch Lane, adjoining the existing George Ward School has been used for informal recreational purposes by the local community for over 50 years.</p> <p>There is an acute shortage of recreational land in the Melksham area, especially for football and rugby. Up and coming youth teams struggle to find enough space to play.</p> <p>The area south of Dunch Lane has erroneously been included in the Melksham Town Policy Limits by the District Council even though it is within Melksham Without Parish rural boundary which goes through the middle of the land.</p> <p>The area is under immediate threat of development by the County Council who wish to sell the land to raise funds for a new school.</p> <p>If the land were to be developed, there is no other site in the immediate locality where substitute recreational land can be provided, as stipulated in Policy R2 in the current Local Development Framework.</p> <p>Local residents are concerned to safeguard this land that they have submitted as Village Green application to protect it. Unfortunately Wiltshire County Council, who has a huge financial interest, wish to determine the outcome of this application rather than let it be decided by an independent adjudicator.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 23 / 134 A F Baines</p>	<p>There are two parcels of land at Dunch Lane and both should be included in the L&R DPD. Land to the north of the lane is currently laid out as formal pitches and needs to be retained and enhanced due to the shortage of such facilities identified in the Melksham area. This formal provision is of great value to the community resident to the west of the River Avon.</p> <p>Land to the south of the lane, adjoining the George Ward School complex, has been used for over 50 years by the local community for informal recreation. This land forms a significant rural buffer against the coalescence of Melksham town with the village of Shaw. It is currently under threat of development by the County Council who are seeking to include it with the brownfield land presently occupied by the school buildings. If this land were to be lost, the recreation space could not be replaced in the immediate locality as required by Policy R2 (ii) of the adopted District Plan 1st Alteration.</p>

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<p>Dunch Lane 30 / 134 Marion Howard</p>	<p>I believe it is very important to keep a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.</p> <p>There are a lot of children here and this land must be retained for both formal and informal recreation areas.</p> <p>With additional housing imminent this is even more important.</p> <p>Children need space to play in together and as parents also get involved this makes our community strong.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 31 / 136 Mr & Mrs D G Chapman</p>	<p>No written comments submitted.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 32 / 136 R Woodruff</p>	<p>No written comments submitted.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 33 / 136 Mrs M Knott</p>	<p>I feel that it is important to keep informal and formal recreation space and a clear distinction between Shaw and Melksham. Increased traffic and road safety are a major concern.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 34 / 138 L J & G A Millichip</p>	<p>Community recreation space for comprehensive range of leisure activities.</p> <p>Buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 35 / 140 Frank Roberts</p>	<p>I support the compulsory purchase of these fields to maintain the buffer zone between the town and the villages. To keep the recreational facilities for Melksham and villages.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 36 / 140 Leonard & Jeanette White</p>	<p>It is essential that the existing green fields adjoining Bath Road should be kept as a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw and provide playing fields for both formal and informal play activities. The north fields of Dunch Lane should be maintained as formal pitches for football, rugby etc.</p>

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<p>Dunch Lane 37 / 140 Mr Philip Herman</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintaining play zone for children and recreation space. 2. Prevention of water problems which have been regular over recent months. 3. Buffer zone between present school building and Shaw should be maintained. 4. Present housing building and future plans especially when the bypass stretches to Beanacre are already excessive in relation to lack of infrastructure IE hospital, dentists, shopping, sewerage
<p>Dunch Lane 38 / 142 Michael Thorn</p>	<p>The fields have been used by local inhabitant on a regular basis for a number of years and become an integral part and vitally important part of the area. It is used for sporting activity and a place for children to play safely.</p> <p>If yet another housing estate is to be built the importance of such a green space becomes even more vital, providing a communal area for all to enjoy. If Melksham is to grow it must do so responsibly, giving thought to the well-being of the inhabitants and not creating yet another tightly packed jumble of houses with nowhere for the young and not so young to relax and enjoy the area in which they live.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 39 / 142 Kevin Davis</p>	<p>With more and more open space being developed, the retention of this area, which is already used for sport and recreation by the community is of even more importance.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 40 / 144 David King</p>	<p>The proposal to build houses on the George Ward playing fields are flawed for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The development would be too close to the village of Shaw and would infact overlay it in part. b. According to the L&R DPD, Melksham is deficient in terms of green spaces and sports facilities etc. c. The sewerage system on the A365 is already overloaded during heavy rain, causing foul water sewers to back up into houses, presenting a health hazard. More houses would make the problem even greater.

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<p>Dunch Lane 41 / 146 Sheena Roberts</p>	<p>I support the compulsory purchase to ensure that Green Belt land stays and keeping formal and informal recreation areas.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 42 / 146 Barry Salt</p>	<p>The ground between Dunch Lane and Shaw is used and has been used for decades as recreational area: walking, dog walking, golf practise etc.</p> <p>The erection of houses will substantially reduce the quality of life for local residents.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 43 / 146 Andy Footner</p>	<p>Melksham is very short of formal sports facilities for younger teams. I believe the idea of a formally run sports facility, with proper changing facilities and ample parking would be of a great benefit to young people. If cricket, football and rugby pitches were made available it would benefit the whole of Melksham.</p> <p>I myself am a Coach at Beanacre CC who have 85 kids playing cricket every week but only have the one pitch at the King George V playing field.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 44 / 148 Mr A M Jones</p>	<p>There is a huge lack of open space for recreation in the area as it is. To loose the fields and open spaces in Dunch Lane area would be a sin. At the moment there is a buffer between Melksham and Shaw this would be gone forever if all the land were built on.</p> <p>At the moment the fields are used by local rugby clubs, football clubs, cricket clubs as well as for general recreation, walking, kite flying and just taking a look at the wildlife in the area. Kids need a safe place to play. This would be a good opportunity to get this.</p> <p>There is lies, damn lies and statistics. These fields do flood quite often and badly. The fear of flooding in this area is very high. Messing about with water is a risky business even in this day and age especially if corners are cut for high profit.</p> <p>Once again the future of our countryside is being devastated by the money grabbing bureaucrats of this country. They run roughshod over everything that was once considered decent and acceptable in this once respectable and special country. Health and safety, do gooders and money mad politicians, councillors and stopping us from</p>

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	<p>living out normal lives. I am English and proud of it but am finding it more difficult every day to justify the feeling the country is being ruined by the bureaucrats.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 45 / 150 Mr & Mrs B Snook</p>	<p>We would like to see the area kept as an informal recreation area and as a buffer between Melksham and Shaw, also a safe place for children to play.</p> <p>We also feel that for this amount of housing development there is not the infrastructure in this area, IE no hospital in the town, not enough doctors available and not enough school places at primary school.</p> <p>The road structure planned for the proposal site is inadequate to cope with the volume of traffic that uses the Melksham to Bath road at peak times IE morning and evening.</p> <p>We are also concerned about flooding in the area, during the recent heavy rain the grounds of the school was standing in water, the allotments and our back garden which backs onto the school were under water.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 46 / 150 J & D Thorne</p>	<p>No written comments.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 47 / 150 Mr & Mrs T Andrews</p>	<p>We are supporting the north side playing fields stay as they are, for recreation purposes.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 48 / 152 Mr & Mrs A Senneck</p>	<p>One of the principle reasons for moving into this area was the semi-rural environment. Also to this is the pleasure that the fields provide to so many of all ages.</p> <p>If the land is to be used purely for housing these doesn't appear that the necessary levels of supporting infrastructure will be developed in line with development of so much housing.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 49 / 152 Mr & Mrs Bridgford-Whittick</p>	<p>I wish to state the need for keeping informal as well as formal recreational space, the need for a buffer zone between Shaw and Melksham, an area for children to play safely, to ensure access to the houses 65, 67, 69,71, 73, 75 & 77 Dunch Lane by the emergency services, as currently the only access available is across the field adjoining to the playground, (because the current road is not wide enough to provide access - especially for a fire engine.).</p>

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<p>Dunch Lane 50 / 154 Mr L Coles, Mr R Coles & Miss J Coles</p>	<p>We need the area to be kept free of building so future children have freedom of space to run and play as we did.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 51 / 154 R C Butler</p>	<p>For 53 years this field has been used by local community and from those further afield for informal activities. Walking, rounders, cricket, kite flying, model aircraft flying and there has in the past been community celebrations held on the field. I have used the field for 40 years to play with my children and then my grandchildren. I have never been challenged by the school authorities for using the field in all that time. The field must be preserved for the community and future residents of the whole area.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 52 / 156 Sam Koprowski</p>	<p>I object to the building of more houses in and around the Melksham area - we have enough!!</p> <p>Furthermore, having recreational open space available for the use of dog-walkers, football (and other sports) players or indeed children who need a safe playing area is very important to keep!!!</p> <p>Also keeping a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw is necessary to retain the identity of each location and not have a distinction blurred.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 53 / 158 Mr & Mrs Maynard</p>	<p>No written comments</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 54 / 158 P J & A S Mason</p>	<p>This area has been of recreational value to both public and school users for all of the years (30) we have lived in the area, it has been used by the community for public events IE Jubilee, by local football teams (junior) as a practice area including splash during the school holidays. Local children use this area for family sports IE French cricket and football, kites are regularly flown from the site and I have witnessed and photographed its use by Wiltshire Air Ambulance on a number of occasions as a liason between it and road ambulance (clear access to both modes of transport).</p> <p>The area also represents a rural buffer between the town boundary and Shaw village which should be preserved. The loss of this area would be detrimental to the provision of public open space leisure to this end of the town.</p>

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<p>Dunch Lane 55 / 160 Mrs Maureen Webb</p>	<p>I believe it is imperative and essential to preserve our open spaces and recreational grounds so that all ages but particularly our youngsters can continue to partake in outdoor games and activities. The media constantly reports that children and young people are becoming couch potatoes, so we really cannot afford to loose these safe play areas. Exercise and fresh air are vital for healthy growth and bodies and anything that encourages youngsters off the streets and keeps them from becoming idle and troublesome should be worth preserving.</p> <p>I have often used these green areas to exercise and entertain my young grandchildren who also live in the area and I would be extremely sad to see the fields lost to more housing that is neither essential or required in this location.</p> <p>I also believe that the buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw should be retained as was initially intended.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 56 / 160 Mr & Mrs Mills</p>	<p>I feel there has been a large number of housing projects in the neighbourhood and there is a large need for recreational to stay.</p> <p>Instead of a concrete jungle. We need space for football, rugby and running field.</p> <p>We seem to ignore flood plane land, please do not ignore green spaces as well.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 55 / 160 Mr & Mrs Prjaiwr</p>	<p>It would reduce green field area for recreation for local residents. Dunch Lane area and surrounding.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 58 / 160 Mrs I W Gardner</p>	<p>I have lived in Dunch Lane for fifty nine years and object to any development on all the green fields now used for recreation on both sites back and front.</p> <p>There are not enough recreation sites in Melksham which our children need to further teach sports etc. So please keep these sites.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 59 / 164 Mr S & Mrs T Hallet</p>	<p>No written comments.</p>

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<p>Dunch Lane 60 / 164 Mrs Irene Roberts</p>	<p>1. Having regard to the increase in population of the Dunch Lane area, there will be no recreation facility or open space for the community to use.</p> <p>2. The rural buffer between Melksham and the villages of Shaw and Whitley will be largely eroded, opening the future possibility of these villages merging with the town and losing their vital cohesiveness as separate communities.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 61 / 164 T D Champion</p>	<p>This area is one of the few sites left for recreation for children etc. Its more important for young people to have somewhere they can let off their energy.</p> <p>Not everyone can afford to take their kids off to sports centres. I feel sure there must be a better way to use this site.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 62 / 166 A J Bennetts</p>	<p>It is important to keep these green areas for formal recreation and also informal recreation.</p> <p>This is the only area on this side of the town for kite flying and football playing with children. I would like to see the small children's play area upgraded, with more equipment benches to sit on and some landscaping.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 63 / 168 Mrs M Thomas</p>	<p>There is a need for recreational space in the area for people to enjoy with their families. Safe places for children to play in.</p> <p>A buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw is essential and an opportunity to improve pedestrian access to Shaw school from Melksham as the present pavement between Dunch Lane and Shaw is very narrow and a little daunting to walk along with young children.</p>

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<p>Dunch Lane 64 / 168 Miss Rachael Mortimer</p>	<p>It is important that the community has a strong voice regarding their views.</p> <p>The residents at Addison Road, Dunch Lane etc have no recreation space for children, teenagers except a small area of which is toddlers usage, swings etc. More houses means even less area to which young children, teenagers can use their spare time. George Ward School at least has tennis courts, astro turf and football areas to play.</p> <p>I can see nothing but an increase in bad behaviour, destruction of property etc, more crime in Melksham - tax payers again loosing out and us paying for the Councillors reckless decisions for short term money gains! You would think with the money made would be at least given the residents a proportion of this.</p> <p>A tree preservation order (TPO) is being addressed due to several trees on George Ward property. At least 2 is over 100 + years old we have the legislation regarding this. We will fight this with relevant professional backing us including help from Lackham College.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 65 / 170 Miss V Paradise</p>	<p>I think this space should be used for informal recreation space.</p> <p>Also the area has been used as a recreational space for the seventy five years I have lived in this area. It's been an area for kite flying, football and other outdoor sports and keeps children off the road to a safe playing area, in easy reach of home where parents can keep an eye on their children. There are quite a lot of children living in the area at present.</p> <p>Shaw has grown over the last few years and we need a buffer zone.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 66 / 170 Graham Carter</p>	<p>The maintainance of informal and formal recreation area is of key and vital importance to the character and community of the area in question.</p> <p>It is essential that the ground is kept for the local community to utilise for the recreation of all.</p>

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<p>Dunch Lane 67 / 170 Mark Lewis</p>	<p>This is the only space for ball games for older children this side of Melksham. If we lose this our children don't have anywhere that they can play in safe - which leads to crime and unexercised kids!</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 68 / 172 Mrs T Evans</p>	<p>We do not have enough recreational areas in Melksham as it stands. If we lose this area, where are we going to have to keep our children fit and enthusiastic about outdoor activities. We need this area.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 69 / 174 Mrs N Evans</p>	<p>I am supporting this proposal to purchase both pieces of land for recreational use. Melksham has a lack of sports facilities and these sites are the perfect solution for housing all sports facilities in one location.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 70 / 174 Steven McGrath</p>	<p>With the rate of expansion of Melksham it is important to maintain green belt land and separation of Melksham from the surrounding villages.</p> <p>The government plans to support parks and recreation for children needs playing fields and sports facilities.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 71 / 176 Ms K Williams</p>	<p>I think these plans for new houses on this site is unreal. We have enough empty homes Not only that but the hassle on the roads with traffic. Where will the children enjoy their sports?</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 72 / 176 Charles Adams</p>	<p>Absolute need to protect informal recreation ground as well as sports pitches. Importance of buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw - as well as visual gap.</p> <p>The field to the south of Dunch Lane has been used for informal recreation for many years. It is safe, open yet overlooked and appropriate for young children to use.</p> <p>If the MUGA (astro pitch) were also retained this would be a valuable addition. It is already much oversubscribed.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 73 / 178 Mr & Mrs R Griffiths</p>	<p>I strongly support this application.</p> <p>With the density of housing and 3 storey height of some of the buildings now being proposed, it is essential that a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw be retained. This buffer zone would have the added advantage of providing less formal recreation facilities for the local community which could also include the existing all weather formal pitches which were only recently installed at great expense to the tax payer.</p> <p>I trust that Members of the Planning Committee of WWDC will make decisions judged solely on the merits of this application and the associated planning application for the George Ward School. Otherwise they will be failing in their duty if their decisions are influenced and/ or made due to the pressures brought upon them by a hidden agenda.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 74 / 178 Mr McLloyd</p>	<p>The fields are an important open space for informal recreation, walking, ball games and kite flying etc.</p> <p>It is also acting as a much needed buffer zone between Melksham and neighbouring Shaw.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 75 / 180 Mrs S M Hollest</p>	<p>Unavoidable increase of traffic turning onto the A365 would inevitably lead to an increase in ACCIDENTS on an already DANGEROUS area of road.</p> <p>Open land like this is vital for the local community and would be totally inappropriate, as well as the detrimental effect to land drainage caused by the buildings.</p> <p>There would be no land barrier between Melksham and Shaw/ Whitley if the development went ahead.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 76 / 180 Mr R H Hollest, FRICS</p>	<p>It would be completely inappropriate to build on open land that is used as an amenity by local people.</p> <p>Also it would erode the land barrier between Shaw and Whitley and Melksham.</p> <p>Further loss of open land being concreted over must increase the risk of flooding.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	Finally, the significant increase in traffic onto the busy A365 will inevitably lead to many more accidents on what is already an accident black spot.
Dunch Lane 77 / 180 Mrs K M Henman	I object to the number of houses proposed on this site of George Ward School. In my opinion the proposed number should be diminished to cover the ground at present covering the actual school buildings and leaving all the recreational ground for future use.
Dunch Lane 78 / 182 Mr W Evans	To maintain a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw to prevent a domino effect of development. Providing formal open space for all residents to enjoy which cannot be taken away. A balance must be kept between providing new homes but also large areas of open space are protected for us all.
Dunch Lane 79 / 182 Mr R & Mrs G Head	No written comments made.
Dunch Lane 80 / 184 Mrs T & Miss S Chivers	It is important of keeping both informal and formal recreation space. We also need to keep a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.
Dunch Lane 81 / 184 Mrs T & Miss S Chivers	I support the intention of Melksham Without Parish Council to purchase the north fields behind houses in Dunch Lane, which I hope will ensure that it will remain as a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw. Hopefull this will also ensure that the land is not sold for housing development or for use by travellers as at Semington.
Dunch Lane 82 / 186 Mr & Mrs B Mitchell	The need for a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw and safe children playing space football, cricket, kite flying etc etc.

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 83 / 186 Richard de Trey-White</p>	<p>Retention of these green spaces is crucial to the recreational amenity of the Dunch Lane area both in the form of formal sports fields and informal areas for children to, families to walk etc.</p> <p>It will also be key in keeping the buffer zone which currently separates Melksham from Shaw.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 84 / 188 Mrs J A Collins</p>	<p>It would be beneficial to keep the south field in Dunch Lane as a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.</p> <p>It would also be of benefit to people of Melksham to have a general recreation field because these areas are in short supply in Melksham.</p> <p>Also in the past the south field has been used for the emergency helicopter.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 85 / 188 Jeanette Smith</p>	<p>My main objections are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disappearance of the green fields, more housing in Melksham unnecessary (the doctors surgery already unable to cope). • An unpleasant site - eg housing estate as you approach Melksham from the Bath side. • I don't think the school should be moved at all - - surely cheaper to rebuild/ refurbish existing premises.
<p>Dunch Lane 86 / 190 Mrs S La Barbera</p>	<p>There is a definite need for informal recreation space in this area (it's nice to go somewhere for a walk that is safe for the children).</p> <p>There should be a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 87 / 192 Peter Dent</p>	<p>No written comments included.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 88 / 192 Mrs S Phelps</p>	<p>I believe that it is important to keep an area of green space between Melksham and Shaw. I also believe that it is important to have safe playing space for children and residents of the area to enjoy, exercise and outdoor play which is important.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	<p>This part of Melksham does not have local amenities near by such as shop, doctors surgery etc and I believe if this land is developed it would have significant negative impact on the area. I am concerned that our local school is the infants and juniors at Shaw which is already full - could it cope with a sudden influx of families in this area?</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 89 / 192 Mr R Butler & Sarah Beech</p>	<p>I used the area of recreation ground in Dunch Lane as a child. My own children have used the field. All sorts of recreation pursuits are played regularly on the field. It should be preserved for future generations of children to play on.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 90 / 194 B W & A N Goodey</p>	<p>There is a need for a play area plus a sports area which is safe for children we are getting more and more houses but no extra facilities.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 91 / 196 Mr & Mrs B T Helps</p>	<p>The Dunch Lane play area is a vital part of community life. My father was a member of the committee which developed this area. Initially it was 2 or 3 times as big and had a football pitch on it.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 92 / 196 Edgar Fillis</p>	<p>Support proposition that ground either side of Dunch Lane presently used for sports and recreational facilities should remain open space for the continuance of these amenities.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 93 / 196 Edgar Fillis</p>	<p>We need a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw and a safe place for the local children to use.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 94 / 198 Dr & Mrs R J Morley</p>	<p>We believe there is a need for a green recreational space providing safe places for children and adults to take part in a range of activities.</p> <p>Melksham has a lot of new housing yet services do not keep up with the demand eg GP surgeries, schools etc.</p> <p>This part of Melksham, on the outskirts, falls into countryside and local villages, and there needs to be a buffer zone between Melksham itself and Shaw and Whitley.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	<p>Green space is important for our children's future and safety! Also Dunch Lane does not need any more additional traffic passing along it.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 95 / 200 Stephen John Bennett</p>	<p>I support this application because it is important to retain informal as well as formal recreation space in the local area for children and families to enjoy.</p> <p>It would also mean the important buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw would be retained and stop the merging of Melksham with Shaw and Whitley.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 96 / 200 N Merchant</p>	<p>Both the north and south playing fields are a necessity for the local residents on this side of Melksham. I have been using both areas for recreational purposes ever since I was a pupil at the George Ward School (over 30 years).</p> <p>It is important to maintain a buffer between Shaw and Melksham to make both areas hold onto their sense of individual communities.</p> <p>Also as the population of Melksham increases we will need more playing fields not less as seems to be the current trend.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 97 / 202 Dr John Temporal</p>	<p>I believe that the Leisure and Recreation DPD needs to be expanded to include all the land either side of Dunch Lane, that is currently used for recreation. This would safeguard the area as open space: loss of this area would mean that the majority of recreation and leisure space around Melksham was biased towards the south of the town, leaving the north with fewer facilities. Several local organisations have already stated that they wish to continue to use this land for leisure and recreation.</p> <p>At a time when obesity, related to lack of exercise, is high on the political agenda, it would be apposite to ensure that an area, which is highly regarded as being of great value to the local community, is not lost.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 98 / 202 B J & L M J Larkin</p>	<p>Storm water and sewer is not adequate for a development of proposed size. Serious problems now when road/ drains flood and blocks sewers.</p> <p>Additional traffic on road is also a major concern. Narrow pavements on main road are also a concern with such heavy traffic.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 99 / 202 Mr & Mrs J Turner</p>	<p>As there is such a shortage of open space it is essential to keep this for the benefit of many.</p> <p>With many new dwellings coming to Melksham, recreation land will be in even more demand.</p> <p>Keeping this space green will provide a buffer between Melksham and Shaw.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 100 / 204 Mr S P Mitchell</p>	<p>From the age of 13 I have used these fields for recreation purposes I am now 39 and my children use them. We would like to keep these fields for recreation purposes for future generations.</p> <p>We feel there should be a buffer between Melksham and Shaw and by building on this land Shaw will become part of Melksham.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 101 / 206 Ms Karen McCarrick</p>	<p>Need for buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.</p> <p>Safe play area for children.</p> <p>Preserving opportunity for organised activities (supporting community integration and education).</p> <p>Recreation space for family enjoyment.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 102 / 206 Mr & Mrs M R Cleverley</p>	<p>We feel that the playing fields both north and south should be retained for leisure purposes to serve the existing community and benefit the occupiers of the proposed new dwellings. However, a solid block of housing without relief on the present school site will simply create a huge housing estate in this part of Melksham to include approximately one thousand additional residents.</p> <p>Currently it is a pleasant place to live because of the surrounding open spaces, and the approach to Melksham from Whitley is enhanced as a result. The proposed alternative will give this area of the town an urban and industrial ambience from the outset.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 103 / 206 Mrs Joyce Hughes</p>	<p>This open space in front of my house, has been used for recreation purposes since the school was built. My children played there, my grandchildren played there in complete safety. It should be preserved for the future generations of children to play in safety.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 104 / 208 Mr M J & Mrs L A Whittick</p>	<p>Overdevelopment of site.</p> <p>Loss of amenity land.</p> <p>No buffer between Melksham and Shaw.</p> <p>No schooling medical amenities etc.</p> <p>Please note that the only access for emergency vehicles for house 66 - 77 Dunch Lane (private road next to playground) is across the GWS playing field next to all weather sports pitch.</p> <p>With reference to 75 Dunch Lane. The drainage ditch between us and the playing field is our only means of drainage for patio and roof rainwater.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 105 / 208 R Liston</p>	<p>No written comments included.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 106 / 210 Mr & Mrs R W Scott</p>	<p>These playing fields provide important formal and informal recreational space for both the local community and the rest of the Melksham area and surrounding villages. The southern field has been used for many years as informal recreation land. Likewise the northern fields have been used for formal matches etc. Both these fields need to be protected for future generations to use.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 107 / 210 Wendy Simpson</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sewage capability. Previous problems in my area have aeady been noted (Shaw). 2. Loss of Shaw / Melksham divide is to be deplored. There does not appear to be a sufficient take up of new property in area anyway. 3. Loss of recreational facilities in an already under provided part of Wiltshire. I believe Melksham is a very badly off second cousion with regards to this compared to sister towns in Wiltshire.
<p>Dunch Lane 108 / 212 Mr & Mrs E Hayes</p>	<p>There needs to be more green areas. In the last 30 years more development has taken place but no large green sites are available.</p> <p>With Spencer Gate children have no real play areas. And with extra houses built on George Ward site more is needed.</p> <p>My family use the all weather football pitch. And it would be a shame to loose it.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 109 / 212 Mildred Tucker</p>	<p>Dunch Lane is not wide enough or suitable to take traffic for 200+ houses. Only a number of houses built on the school site in keeping with the residential cottages will be recommended.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 110 /214 Cary & Sue Staddon</p>	<p>There is need for a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw to keep it safe for children of all ages whilst playing and also safe for everyone living in the surrounding area.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 111 /214 Mr & Mrs Brooks</p>	<p>As there is such a shortage of open space it is essential to keep this for the benefit of many. With so many new houses coming to Melksham, recreation land will be even more in demand.</p> <p>Keeping this green space will provide the necessary buffer between Melksham and Shaw.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 112 / 216 Mr & Mrs Currey</p>	<p>No written comments included.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 113 / 218 Claire, Michael & Josie Bainton</p>	<p>Keep informal and formal recreation space buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe childrens' playing space. • Place for exercise/ health. • Benefit to wildlife/ protection of community socialisation. • Green lung in urban environment. • Space for children and young people. • Safe exercise space for older people. • Dog exercise area (clean up area restrictions). <p>Bat colony present. House martins feeding area.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 114 / 218 Mr & Mrs J Kenyon</p>	<p>Important to keep informal as well as formal recreation space - the need for a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw, safe childrens playing space etc.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 115 / 218 Mr & Mrs J Kenyon</p>	<p>Better to keep its present format so residents (adults and kids) can use the fields for leisure activities. Even golfers have spent time practicing (dog walkers often found their (lost) balls!). Over the years the fields have been an area open to any activity for those of us fortunate enough to live here.</p> <p>Any other development can only degrade the environment.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 116 / 220 Andrew Charles Newman</p>	<p>In support of allocating the playing fields in Dunch Lane, Melksham for inclusion in the Leisure & Recreation DPD, I would like to state that:</p> <p>Section 3.2.6g of the WWDC District Plan (further development within towns - D) states that "they do not result in the loss of an open area or visual gap important for recreation or amenity reasons". Any development on these playing fields will do just that, not only will we lose scarce recreational land but it also provides a vital green gap between the town of Melksham and the village of Shaw.</p> <p>Again, Section 3.2.17 (5) of the WWDC District Plan states that "Town policy limits have been identified around Melksham which seek to prevent coalescence with Bowerhill and to protect the open countryside", furthermore, it talks about "Development off Beanacre Road could lead to coalescence between Beanacre and Melksham", what about the coalescence with Shaw? The playing fields and in particular the southern ones, will provide not just an important open space but that vital rural buffer between Shaw and Melksham.</p> <p>The WWDC District Plan Section 2.5 deals with Open Space and Recreation with an aim "to conserve existing resources and to allocate land for additional facilities to meet the increasing recreational needs of the District".</p> <p>2.5.1 states "Over the years there has been an uneven development of recreational opportunities in the District, and a largely uncoordinated approach to securing further facilities. The urban areas have continued to expand without adequate provision being made for the recreational needs of the growing population". Policy R2 deals with the Protection of Recreational Space and clearly states that development will not be permitted where this would involve the loss of existing playing fields, play spaces and other recreational land, whether publicly or privately owned.</p> <p>The proposed redevelopment of the school site does not meet any of the 3 considerations available to redevelop recreational land in that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The offer of building changing facilities and a car park on the northern playing fields, contrary to the current WWDC District Plan, does not enhance the current area when nearly half of the current playing fields will be built upon. ii) The provision of a replacement recreational site, for those fields being proposed for building, the other side of town does not meet the criteria "in the immediate locality". iii) There is certainly not an excess of sports pitches and public open spaces in the area. This is further evidenced through the WWDC Leisure and Recreation DPD preferred options consultation paper, which clearly states that

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	<p>Melksham is short of sports pitches and courts by some 90, 962 sqm and urban parks by 30, 569 sqm.</p> <p>The northern playing fields form part of the flood plain with the southern fields helping to alleviate further serious flooding by acting as a large sponge, even so, they are often flooded after heavy rain. By maintaining these fields for leisure and recreational purposes will assist in alleviating the potential for flooding, especially in the light of climate changes.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 117 / 222 Mr & Mrs E W Hall</p>	<p>We object to the use of green spaces, including playing fields adjacent to and across from the existing George Ward School being used for housing and urban development.</p> <p>We propose that all the existing land currently used for recreation on both sides of Dunch Lane, should be safeguarded as open space for leisure and recreation.</p> <p>The new all-weather sports facilities could be used and further developed for community use, at a time when sports facilities in the Melksham area require improvement and expansion.</p> <p>An ideal solution would be to develop sports and recreation facilities to take over from the aging Christie Miller centre.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 118 / 222 Mr J & Mrs Y Brooke</p>	<p>We are writing to you to support the proposal that all the existing land currently used for recreation, on both sides of Dunch Lane, Melksham should be safeguarded in the future DPD as open space for leisure and recreation so that firm rural buffer is maintained between Melksham Town and the villages of Shaw and Whitley.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 119 / 224 Mr & Mrs Tonkin</p>	<p>The existing open space/ playing fields at George Ward school on either side of Dunch Lane should be retained to prevent the erosion of the buffer of green space between Melksham and Shaw and to prevent the increase of traffic on the already busy Melksham and Corsham/ Bath Road.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 120 / 224 Mr & Mrs Webber</p>	<p>I feel it is important for the keeping of informal as well as formal recreation space, for the safe play of children and families.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	Also retaining a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.
Dunch Lane 130 / 224 Corsham Town Council	Resolved; to write to West Wiltshire Distirct Council, supporting the inclusion of site 1 - 5 listed above, for the provision of recreation in the West Wiltshire Leisure and Recreation DPD.
Dunch Lane 133 / 237 Melksham (Cooper Avon Tyres) Rugby Club	<p>Melksham (CAT's) RFC would like to support the land at Dunch Lane and land off Pathfinder Way, Bowerhill continuing to to be allocated as for the purpose of leisure and recreation.</p> <p>The club is looking for a perminate home for the second team and mini's section with the possibility of the full club moving in the near future both of these sites would suit the clubs needs with suitable investment.</p>
Dunch Lane 134 / 247 Gill Butler	<p>All three sites for recreation named in the document in Melksham need to be included in the document.</p> <p>Recreation land is in short supply in this area.</p>
Dunch Lane 135 / 247 Anthony M J Frith	<p>It is important that both formal and informal recreational space be retained, the latter providing safe playing area for children. Melksham is drastically short of such open spaces.</p> <p>The Dunch Lane application has added importance in providing a clear and visual buffer between Melksham and Shaw.</p>
Dunch Lane 136 / 247 Mr & Mrs P A & J A Lamb	<p>Very important to keep informal as well as formal recreation space AMAP.</p> <p>And the need for a buffer zone between Melksham and Shaw.</p> <p>Also a safe childrens play space to keep them from playing on the busy roads. Informal football games kite flying on this space no overhead power lines. For safety's sake on Dunch Lane fields.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Dunch Lane 137 / 259 Mrs Marlyn Jones</p>	<p>No-one seems to care what happens to this country anymore. It's all money, money, money at all cost. What is happening to "England's green and pleasant land"? We are destroying everything. We are accused of being fat and lazy and of being couch potatoes but our informal recreational spaces are all taken away for building. Not everyone can afford to pay gym prices or even get to one.</p> <p>By taking away fields and felling trees at the rate that it is then carbon dioxide must be building at a great rate contributing to global warming.</p> <p>I am therefore in favour of keeping all open spaces for the good of the people now and for generations to come.</p>
<p>Dunch Lane 138 / 259 J R Dobson</p>	<p>Melksham has a shortfall of recreation space. The development plan states that existing recreation space should not be used for development but maintained for residents use.</p> <p>I believe that this area coloured green on the Melksham plan is included in sports areas already and should be compulsory purchased from WCC to protect it for future generations.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 10 / 277 Environment Agency</p>	<p>Development Control</p> <p>The site is located within Flood Zone 1, and is bounded to the north and south by the Berryfield Brook and Bowerhill watercourse respectively, both main rivers under our control. Subject to any leisure/ recreation layout safeguarding appropriate access corridors alongside the main river channels (notionally 8.0 m wide a minimum), we would suggest that the site is equally acceptable to the preferred allocations from purely a flood risk perspective.</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>The Berryfield Brook follows the western boundary of the site. Development should allow space adjacent to the watercourse to preserve the riparian corridor.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 12 / 277 Wiltshire Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>The Trust has no issues with this site.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 19 / 287 Melksham Without Parish Council</p>	<p>This land is identified as an alternative suitable site for recreational land in the current Local Development Framework. It was jointly agreed to be a suitable replacement site by the County Council, District Council, Town Council and Parish Council in 2003.</p> <p>All the local authorities agreed prior to the last District Plan review that the amount of 10.8 ha was required to make up the shortfall of recreational land the Melksham area.</p> <p>Despite this no serious attempt has been made to negotiate with the landowner for its release, because both the County and the District Councils now wish to place all recreational facilities at Woolmore Farm, despite the fact that the amount of alternative land at present on offer from Wiltshire County Council here is far less (4.9 ha). No firm guarantee has been given by the County Council that enough community land will be made available at Woolmore Farm to replace 10.8 ha needed for the current supporting needs. At present the DPD relies on the delivery of all the recreational land at just one site; Woolmore Farm, even though the amount of land to be made available is unknown.</p> <p>The additional land at Pathfinder Way needs to be safeguarded to ensure enough land is available to cover recreational needs of the whole of Melksham area. The amount of 10.8 ha was identified several years ago and since then Melksham has expanded rapidly with a further 1,000 housing units scheduled to be built in the next few years.</p> <p>The Pathfinder Way site is at a more suitable and sustainable location to serve Bowerhill and Melksham community than the Woolmore Farm site. The latter site is only accessible across a busy A-class road.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 23 / 256 A F Baines</p>	<p>This land was agreed by Wiltshire County Council, West Wilts District Council, Melksham Without Parish Council and Melksham Town Council as suitable alternative to the Christie Miller Rugby Field and to meet the identified shortfall in recreation land in the Melksham area. The total of 10.8 ha thereby determined was identified as Policy R5(3) in the District Plan 1st Alteration at this location to provide a sustainable use for the land which would otherwise have been a rural buffer. It is correctly described as accessible, appropriately located and capable of accommodating formal open space provision to address issues of deficiency and</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	<p>reorganisation of local provision.</p> <p>No serious attempt has ever been made to negotiate the delivery of this land for recreational use, even though the landowner has a willingness to release it. However, it must be accepted by all local authorities that if the existing recreation land at the Christie Miller Field is to be sold by the County Council for commercial development, its replacement cannot be purchased at agricultural prices.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 44 / 256 Mr A M Jones</p>	
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 51/ 226 R C Butler</p>	<p>The sites for recreation indicated are so badly needed. There is very little recreation land available in the Melksham area.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 122 / 226 Mr & Mrs R W Scott</p>	<p>This is important public open space which should not be lost for this and future generations. I played on the now Bowerhill Sports Field as a child and would like others to be able to do this for years to come. It is valuable recreational space.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 125/ 226 Andrew Newman</p>	<p>The loss of any open space/ recreational land goes against the current argument of their being an acute shortage of formal recreational land and open spaces - WWDC Leisure & Recreation DPD Preferred Options (Stage 2) Consultation Paper (March 2007). Melksham short of sports pitches by some 90, 962 sqm and urban parks by some 30, 569 sqm.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 126 / 230 Melanie Rolph</p>	<p>I understand consideration is being given to making the new GWS grounds municipal and using the present grounds at Bowerhill for other purposes. I completely disagree with this proposal. At present there are insufficient facilities for leisure use. The current playing fields throughout Melksham are in constant use. Melksham has many clubs and teams (both junior and adult) which have high numbers of members. Any playing grounds within GWS would not be able to cater for current demand - without the added increase to the population when the new builds commence. Bowerhill Fields must remain as such. It is incredibly short-sighted to cut the numbers of playing areas and the gain would be financial - for the Council.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 127 / 230 Melksham (Cooper Avon Tyres) RFC</p>	<p>As a member and committee member of Melksham RFC we are desperate to secure additional leisure land for an every increasing club (100+ senior members and 200+ junior members).</p> <p>No land that is presently earmarked as leisure land should be lost or moved/ replaced - unless it is replaced in a like for like replacement.</p> <p>Our town, our citizens and more importantly our children, more than ever before need somewhere to play, exercise or just relax in. Sites such as the ones proposed are very few and far between (particularly in relation to their locations) and they should not be lost at any cost.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 128 / 234 Gary Looke</p>	<p>I support the site allocation representation as we cannot allow leisure designated land to be anything other than this.</p> <p>There are not enough playing fields or sports pitches or just recreational leisure land as it is and too loose more land will be a loss that will never be replaced and if it is replaced it would normally be to a smaller degree and out of the way where no one uses it.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 129 / 234 Kate House</p>	<p>To use this site for recreation use would lose green land. There would be no parking and the site is too close to busy roads for children playing sports especially if the A350 enhancement is built. It is also not confirmed that the landowner supports this proposal.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 130 / 269 Corsham Town Council</p>	<p>Resolved; to write to West Wiltshire District Council, supporting the inclusion of site 1 - 5 listed above, for the provision of recreation in the West Wiltshire Leisure and Recreation DPD.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 133 / 269 Melksham (Cooper Avon Tyres) Rugby Club</p>	<p>Melksham (CAT's) RFC would like to support the land at Dunch Lane and land off Pathfinder Way, Bowerhill continuing to be allocated as for the purpose of leisure and recreation.</p> <p>The club is looking for a permanent home for the second team and mini's section with the possibility of the full club moving in the near future both of these sites would suit the club's needs with suitable investment.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 134 / 244 Gill Butler</p>	<p>All three sites for recreation named in the document in Melksham need to be included in the document. Recreation land is in short supply in this area.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 135 / 253 Anthony M J Frith</p>	<p>It is important that both formal and informal recreational space be retained, the latter providing safe playing area for children. Melksham is drastically short of such open spaces.</p> <p>Pathfinder Way and Bowerhill Sports Fields are both very well used and again very important to all of Melksham.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 136 / 253 Mr & Mrs P A & J A Lamb</p>	<p>Very important to keep informal as well as formal recreation space AMAP.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 137 / 253 Mrs Marlyn Jones</p>	<p>No-one seems to care what happens to this country anymore. It's all money, money, money at all cost. What is happening to "England's green and pleasant land"? We are destroying everything. We are accused of being fat and lazy and of being couch potatoes but our informal recreational spaces are all taken away for building. Not everyone can afford to pay gym prices or even get to one.</p> <p>By taking away fields and felling trees at the rate that it is then carbon dioxide must be building at a great rate contributing to global warming.</p> <p>I am therefore in favour of keeping all open spaces for the good of the people now and for generations to come.</p>
<p>Land off Pathfinder Way 138 / 264 J R Dobson</p>	<p>Melksham has a shortfall of recreation space. The development plan states that existing recreation space should not be used for development but maintained for residents use.</p> <p>I believe that this area coloured green on the Melksham plan is included in sports areas already and should be compulsory purchased from WCC to protect it for future generations.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Land west of Leigh Park 2/ 273 Westbury Town Council</p>	<p>Westbury Town Council supports the proposal to allocate land west of Leigh Park for recreation use in the Development Plan Document but does not believe that this site can necessarily be developed in accordance with the illustration submitted by Persimmon Homes, and although in their representation they do not seek any associated enabling development, it has to be accepted that funding for such sports facilities is only likely to arise out of future housing development.</p> <p>Therefore, the provision of essential requirements such as effective drainage (fundamental to this site), changing facilities, power, water and adequate car parking must be robustly enforced through the planning process in order to provide the high quality sports and recreational facilities aspired to in the West Wiltshire District Council's stated vision.</p>
<p>Land west of Leigh Park 10 / 274 Environment Agency</p>	<p>Development Control</p> <p>The site is partially in Flood Zone 1, part Zone 2 and part Zone 3. With reference to the indicative pitch layout drawing provided, the Flood Zone 3 area is avoided, although there are some pitches located within Flood Zone 2. Sequentially, it could therefore be argued that the site is less preferable to the four allocated sites, although in reality the development is unlikely to increase Flood Risk provided that existing ground levels are not altered within the Flood Zone 3 and 2 parts of the site. We are not aware if this is the case.</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>The western side of this site is bordered by the Biss Brook. This watercourse is important for water voles and any application for development should take this into consideration by including a buffer strip of undeveloped land between the development and the river.</p>
<p>Land west of Leigh Park 12/ 283 Wiltshire Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>This site would appear to be in a much more sustainable location compared with the LaFarge site.</p>
<p>Land west of Leigh Park 130 / 266 Corsham Town Council</p>	<p>Resolved; to write to West Wiltshire Distirct Council, supporting the inclusion of site 1 - 5 listed above, for the provision of recreation in the West Wiltshire Leisure and Recreation DPD.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Land west of Leigh Park 131 Dilton Marsh Parish Council</p>	<p>The Parish Council considers that Persimmon's site allocation representation made in the following terms: "That land west of Leigh Park be allocated for new recreation use in the DPD" to be unsound in all respects, and opposes the change sought to the plan for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The land shown on the site location plan and indicative layout plan is crossed diagonally (NE to SW) by a public footpath and by high voltage overhead power lines and there is a substantial change of levels between the wet meadow land adjacent to the Biss Brook (running northwards along the western boundary of the site and forming the boundary between the town of Westbury and the parish of Dilton Marsh) and drier pasture land to the east adjacent to the Western Distributor Road and its balancing pond. These factors will make seven level and well-drained sports pitches within the site (as shown on the indicative layout, or otherwise) very costly to construct even if the requisite consents to re-route the public footpath and power lines are forthcoming. 2. The indicative layout does not demonstrate that satisfactory vehicle access can be provided to the site and that changing room facilities etc can be provided within the site. 3. No source of funding has been identified by Persimmon for this development and the District Council has no plans for any funding in Westbury of this magnitude within the foreseeable future. There is therefore little or no certainty that the development will proceed within the lifetime of the Plan. Indeed, the present likelihood is overwhelmingly that it will not. 4. In these circumstances there is no justification for making the proposed allocation of the site. If this (or any other) allocation of the site is made, it will simply become a 'Trojan Horse' for inappropriate and non-conforming land uses in the future.
<p>Land west of Leigh Park 136 / 250 Mr & Mrs P A & J A Lamb</p>	<p>Very important to keep informal as well as formal recreation space AMAP.</p>
<p>Land west of Leigh Park 139 / 250 Westbury United FC</p>	<p>Westbury United Football Club has been part of the social fabric of Westbury Town for many years. The club has over 150 members, 5 senior teams and has partnership development links with Westbury Youth FC and Westbury Rangers FC. It is a strong football club and is performing very well this season in the Toolstation Western Football League.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	<p>The proposed allocation site lies west of the new Leigh Park Development and the associated distributor road is north of Penleigh Road. The land is well contained by the railway line to the north, the Biss Brook, the existing Penleigh Road and distributor road.</p> <p>The Club supports the allocation of Land West of Leigh Park within the Leisure and Recreation DPD for recreation purposes. The site is well related to the existing urban area of Westbury and capable of being developed for recreation uses, served off existing infrastructure. It is readily accessible by foot and cycle from the Westbury urban area. The Club considers the site as preferable to the proposed allocation at LeFarge Sports Ground, currently included within the DPD.</p> <p>The land has been previously proposed for recreation uses and has local support for such use. The evidence base for the DPD acknowledges the shortfalls in sports provision at Westbury. Therefore, a new proposal west of Leigh Park will be a major improvement to the facilities available for local people and others from the Westbury area.</p> <p>The proposals at LeFarge Sports Ground are poorly located in terms of reducing the need to travel by car, compared to the alternative site West of Leigh Park and will be severed from the town once the Westbury Bypass is constructed. It is noted that the bypass application has been “Called in” by the Secretary of State and will be subject of a planning inquiry shortly.</p> <p>The Club endorses the use of Land West of Leigh Park and considers it suitable for a variety of recreation uses, including football.</p> <p>The site is relatively unconstrained and capable of immediate development for a range of recreation purposes. It can be brought forward for development in accordance with the Council’s policies and standards in respect of recreation land.</p> <p>The site can potentially accommodate the future relocation of the Club from its current site where future success is significantly constrained by the condition and size of the facilities. The Club endorses the future allocation of this land for recreation use and wishes to work with the District Council to discuss the proposed new pitches and other community sports facilities which could be located west of Leigh Park. This will not only address current sports and pitch facility deficiencies in the Westbury area but also enable a substantial improvement to the facilities available for the continued success of Westbury United FC as well as Westbury Youth FC and Westbury Rangers FC.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 10 / 275 Environment Agency</p>	<p>Development Control</p> <p>In essence, the comments for Leigh Park also apply to this proposed site, although it is implicit that the on-river canal navigation must be located with Flood Zone 3. We wonder whether the Leisure & Recreation DPD is the appropriate document through which to promote this project? We have no objections in principle, provided that all the necessary flood risk and environmental concerns or the EA can be satisfactorily addressed by the Canal Trust.</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>The proposed Melksham River Route for the W&B Canal is still subject to assessment in terms of the potential ecological impacts on the existing ecology and opportunities for enhancement. It is possibly too early to include this route in this document given that there is much work to be done before we can support this.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 12 / 285 Wiltshire Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>The Trust supports the Council's currently proposed policy WR4 and objects to the alternative suggested by the W&B Canal Trust.</p> <p>The route should not be safeguarded until the Canal Trust can state that there will be no adverse impacts on the natural environment. We are very concerned that the Canal Trust has continued to build momentum for this preferred option without doing the basic environmental assessment work needed to demonstrate its viability. The Wildlife Trust does not believe that the Canal Trust can make an informed response based on the data gathered so far, and we do not believe that it is helpful to allow them to become more and more committed to a route that we think may never be sustainable.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 19 / 285 Melksham Without Parish Council</p>	<p>Melksham Without Parish Council fully supports in principle safeguarding the preferred route option which is to use the River Avon to pass through the town centre. There has already been more than enough exploration re deliverability of the alternative route options and the preferred route option now needs to be properly protected. The Canal will help to regenerate the town centre and bring more tourism to the area. While there is still some work to be done on the details of the route, the route itself is supported by the majority of the community. It therefore needs to be recognised in the Local Development Framework and included in the DPD.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 23 / 285 A F Baines</p>	<p>A route corridor using the River Avon is the only feasible option for the re-creation of the Wilts & Berks Canal as a navigable waterway which will benefit the town of Melksham. A route bypassing the town to the east would effectively also bypass West Wiltshire District and only serve to divert benefit into North Wiltshire District. It would have permanent major detrimental effects on open countryside and its indigenous wildlife. If it is reconstructed, the Wilts & Berks Canal needs to be made an amenity for the town and that is only possible by developing the route corridor utilising the River Avon.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 24 / 127 Drs Ian and Gillian Cardy</p>	<p>We wish to support the proposed Leisure & Recreataion DPD Policy WR4 for the Wilts & Berks Canal. We wish to object to the proposal by the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust for the safeguarding of the River Avon Route, as insufficient evidence has been provided on the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Landowner agreement 2. Effect on the natural environment 3. Sustainability 4. Water resources, and 5. Funding
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 25 / 129 Luke Walker</p>	<p>I wish to add my support for the route solution proposed for the Wilts & Berks Canal to be adopted and protected. It is vital for the success of this project that a continuous route is identified and protected. Without a through route the waterway will not deliver its full potential benefits both for the population of West Wiltshire and for the other districts it passes through.</p> <p>The proposed route through Melksham will enhance the visual amenity of the town and bring economic</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	<p>advantages to businesses in the town. A route around Melksham would not bring these advantages.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 26 / 129 Mr Rolf Brindle</p>	<p>The objection relates to the non-inclusion of the preferred route via the River Avon.</p> <p>The studies of the route are both now available so there is now no need to hang back on the inclusion of the preferred route.</p> <p>Undoubtedly there are benefits to Melksham opening up the old route of the Canal to Lacock will provide a wonderful recreational route bring green tourism to that village.</p> <p>Moorings between K&A Canal and the town will bring economic benefit.</p> <p>A canalside housing development (say north of Melksham) could provide part of the towns housing allocation and canalside amenities for boaters.</p> <p>Both Melksham Town and Parish Councils support the route and wish to get on and see it happen.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 27 / 129 Andrew Newman</p>	<p>To bring the Canal back to Melksham can only help improve tourism and the town centre - just see how Devizes has fared with the Canal running right through it.</p> <p>It will be an important part of the Leisure & Recreation for the entire town and will help link up with the K&A Canal thereby providing a safe cycle route to Trowbridge and Devizes.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 28 / 131 British Waterways</p>	<p>Thank you for the consultation in respect of the above.</p> <p>British Waterways is a public body set up to maintain and develop the network of canals and other inland waterways in a sustainable manner so that they fulfil their full economic, social and environmental potential. In addition to statutory navigation and safety functions, British Waterways has to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Conserve our waterway heritage and environment · Promote and enable rural and urban regeneration · Maintain and enhance leisure, recreation, tourism and education opportunities for the general public and

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
	<p>· Facilitate waterway transport.</p> <p>British Waterways wish to support representation number 2, Wilts and Berks Canal route corridor via the River Avon at Melksham. We believe that the site allocation should be included in the DPD.</p> <p>Our reason for supporting this is set out below.</p> <p>The importance of canal corridors as a network, joining spaces should not be underestimated. The full benefit of canal restoration has been witnessed following the restoration of the Kennet and Avon Canal and it is clear that the reopening of the Wilts and Berks canal can bring similar ecological, recreational and transport links through the area.</p> <p>The desire to re-open the Wilts and Berks Canal is fully supported by British Waterways and although much of the work will at this stage be carried out by The Wilts and Berks Trust we are likely at some point in the future to add financial support and advice may ultimately take control of the Canal.</p> <p>The project is fully supported by all the Local Authorities along the line of the canal, Wiltshire CC Oxfordshire CC North Wiltshire DC, Swindon Borough Council, and Vale of White Horse DC, who have included policies to protect and restore the Canal, not only their LDF documents but also on the ground in various major development projects.</p> <p>The success or failure of the project however rests on its inclusion into the greater Canal network via a link to the Kennet and Avon Canal near Melksham. This will eventually link the K&A via the Wilts and Berks to the Cotswold Canal network, opening up a huge cruising area and removing some of the pressure which currently exists on the Kennet and Avon.</p> <p>The route of the canal should be protected as it will in the future form important public space for both active and passive recreation. To this end it is requested that the route of the canal is protected as Public Open Space at this stage to allow the successful regeneration of the Canal in the future.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 29 / 255 Melksham Trust</p>	<p>Melksham Trust wish to object to the statement which says "The Canal Partnership will search for a new line for the Canal at Melksham..."</p> <p>The route issues have been discussed over at least 10 years with three major studies and reports, the latest study, Black and Veatch 2007, and report indicates a viable route using the river through Melksham.</p> <p>Melksham Trust strongly supports the "River Route" and wishes the route indicated in the Black & Veatch 2007 Study to be included and protected in the L&R DPD.</p> <p>Melksham Town Council, Melksham Without Parish Council and the community area partnership, Melksham 1st all support the river route.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 44 / 255 Mr A M Jones</p>	
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 51 / 255 R C Butler</p>	<p>I feel the Canal would be good for Melksham, it would bring prosperity to a town which is struggling for prosperity.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 130 / 267 Corsham Town Council</p>	<p>Resolved; to write to West Wiltshire Distirct Council, supporting the inclusion of site 1 - 5 listed above, for the provision of receration in the West Wiltshire Leisure and Recreation DPD.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 134 / 267 Gill Butler</p>	<p>The Canal would be a wonderful asset to Melksham for tourism and recreation.</p>

RESPONDENT	REPRESENTATION
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 135 / 246 Anthony M J Frith</p>	<p>The Wilts and Berks Canal application is vitally important to the revitalisation of Melksham as a whole and the local economy.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 136 / 246 Mr & Mrs P A & J A Lamb</p>	<p>Very important to keep informal as well as formal recreation space AMAP.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 137 / 258 Mrs Marlyn Jones</p>	<p>No-one seems to care what happens to this country anymore. It's all money, money, money at all cost. What is happening to "England's green and pleasant land"? We are destroying everything. We are accused of being fat and lazy and of being couch potatoes but our informal recreational spaces are all taken away for building. Not everyone can afford to pay gym prices or even get to one.</p> <p>By taking away fields and felling trees at the rate that it is then carbon dioxide must be building at a great rate contributing to global warming.</p> <p>I am therefore in favour of keeping all open spaces for the good of the people now and for generations to come.</p>
<p>Wilts & Berks Canal Route Corridor 138 / 258 J R Dobson</p>	<p>Melksham has a shortfall of recreation space. The development plan states that existing recreation space should not be used for development but maintained for residents use.</p> <p>I believe that this area coloured green on the Melksham plan is included in sports areas already and should be compulsory purchased from WCC to protect it for future generations.</p>