

Designated Local Gaps

What is a Local Gap?

Local Gaps are used to separate smaller settlements and are important to maintain their separate identities. They also preserve the setting for a settlement and prevent it from merging with neighbouring towns and villages. It is common for local gaps to have public rights of way within them which are usually heavily used and of high value to the local community. Reducing or removing local gaps will not only adversely affect the use and amenity of any public rights of way within the gaps, it is also likely to impede attempts to introduce new or extended footpaths or cycleways.

In Crookham Village Parish we have two local gaps. The largest gap surrounds Crookham Village and separates it from Fleet and Church Crookham. To the north of Crookham Village this gap comprises the land known as Grove Farm and to the south, the land known as



Cross Farm. The land on Grove Farm is currently the subject of a planning application for 450 houses which is due to be considered by Hart District Council shortly, while the land at Cross Farm was the subject of a consultation in March 2016 for 170 retirements homes together with a 64 bed care home. There is also a smaller gap that separates

Crookham Village from Dogmersfield.

Local gaps also help to preserve the setting of villages as the land immediately outside settlement boundary can be important to the form and character of the village as this provides opportunities for views to and from the settlement which are an essential part of its character and appearance.

