

Asset of Community Value Assessment – South Lakeland District Council

<b>Nominate By:</b>	Colton Parish Council
<b>Number of Nominations:</b>	1
<b>Date of Submission:</b>	8 November 2022
<b>Address of Nomination:</b>	Stony Hazel Woods, Rusland
<b>Date of DED:</b>	12 January 2023

### Section One - Eligible Criteria

Eligible Criteria	YES	NO	Further Comments
Is the nominating body eligible to nominate?	✓		
Does the nominating body have a connection to the nomination?	✓		The asset is located within the parish
Is the nominated asset outside of one of the categories that cannot be assets of community value?	✓		

### Section Two – Determining Usage

	YES	NO	Further Comments
<b>1.)</b> Is there evidence of the use being described in the nomination?	✓		The nomination states that the asset is a semi-ancient area of woodland suitable for exercise and relaxation.
Is this the main, and non-ancillary, use of the land or premises?	✓		The nomination states that the main, non-ancillary use of the asset is that of a publicly accessible area of woodland.
Or has it been its use within the last 12 months?	✓		

	YES	NO	Further Comments
<b>2.)</b> Does this use further the social well-being and social interest of the community?	✓		The nomination states that the asset is used extensively by the local community and visitors on a regular basis as a beautiful semi-ancient woodland suitable for exercise and relaxation. The nomination states that the asset is managed for biodiversity with traditional woodland skills, while it features on one of the joint Rusland Horizons/Lake District National Park

			greenwood trails which aims to support open and safe access for all.
What is the current level of use of the asset and who uses it?			The nomination states that the asset is used extensively by the local community and visitors on a regular basis.
Is it used by particular communities of interest or need?	✓		The nomination states that, in addition to general recreational walkers, the asset is used by; Lakeland Orienteering Club, local walking groups (Ulverston Walkfest, Ulverston U3A), The Rusland Horizons Trust (education and outreach activities), Search and Rescue dog training and Rookhow charitable organisation activities.
What do communities gain from their use of the asset and what would be the impact if it were lost?	✓		The nomination states that the community gain health benefits from outdoor exercise, educationally through Rusland Horizons schemes, and culturally through a shared local resource. It states that local small businesses in the community gain through woodland management activities and visitor facility.

	YES	NO	Further Comments
<b>3.)</b> What is the nature of social well being and social interest which the asset particularly supports?			
<b>Does the use of the asset do the following:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce isolation</li> </ul>	✓		The nomination states that the asset offers numerous physical and mental health benefits that outdoor activities offer, one of those being reducing isolation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address the needs of disadvantage members of the community</li> </ul>	✓		The nomination states that asset offers a safe place to exercise to those who may be less physically able. It states that the asset is adjacent to the Rusland Reading Rooms, which offers facilities that make outreach and educational activities accessible to all.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reach vulnerable people</li> </ul>	✓		The nomination states that the asset is adjacent to the Rusland Reading Rooms, which offers

			facilities that make outreach and educational activities accessible to all.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support community cohesion and involvement</li> </ul>	✓		The nomination states that the asset brings increased community cohesion as the community are able to join the various courses and activities centred on Stony Hazel, particularly by Rusland Horizons, Rookhow and conjunction with the nearby Rusland Reading Rooms.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enable communities to be self supporting</li> </ul>	✓		The nomination states that the asset enables the community to be self supporting as they are able to join the various courses and activities centred on Stony Hazel, particularly by Rusland Horizons, Rookhow and conjunction with the nearby Rusland Reading Rooms.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase access to positive activities</li> </ul>	✓		The nomination states that the asset offers numerous physical and mental health benefits that outdoor activities offer, including improving wellbeing and physical fitness.

<b>4.)</b> Does the community feel strongly that the asset should be retained as a community asset?	The nomination states that the community does feel strongly that the asset should be retained as a community asset, and this can be evidenced by the policies adopted in the Colton Parish Community Led Plan. It states that Covid restrictions only increased the need for access to the outdoors in a safe and inspiring environment.
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<b>5.)</b> Could the asset realistically continue to be used for this or another qualifying community purpose (or could this be achieved within the next five years)?	The nomination states that the asset can continue to be used in the beneficial ways described indefinitely.
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#### Section Four - Non-ancillary use of the building or other land.

Officers are asked to consider the following questions, where appropriate, in relation to non-ancillary usage:

	Yes	No	Comments
Has the building/land legal requirement for this usage changed significantly that the asset is not fit for purpose?		✓	
Could the asset be made fit for purpose practically and within reasonable			N/A

resource requirements and within timescales?			
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Recommendation and reasons for:

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that Stony Hazel Woods be accepted as an asset of community value.

Current (or recent) use of the asset

The nomination states that the asset is used extensively by the local community and visitors on a regular basis. The nomination states that, in addition to general recreational walkers, the asset is used by a number of local community groups including walking groups and local charities.

Legislation

This states that an asset can be listed as a community asset if its principle use furthers (or has recently furthered) the community's social well-being or social interests and is likely to do so in the future. There is evidence provided in the nomination that the asset is used by various local groups and it could be said that it does further the community's social well-being and interests. The legislation also requires that the asset is able to do so in the future. It is stated that there is no reason why the asset cannot continue to assist in furthering social wellbeing and interests in the future. The nomination states that the asset can continue to be used in the beneficial ways described indefinitely.

Previous additions to the community asset register

The asset was previously listed as an asset of community value on the Council's community asset register. It was added 28 September 2017, and delisted 28 September 2022 once the 5 year listing period had expired. The Council has previously approved nine other nominations of similar assets to be registered as assets of community value.