



Landscape Character and Visual Impact Assessment of Proposed Development at Rockfield Road, Monmouth

Text, Plans, Photographs & Appendices

Prepared for Morspan Pension Scheme

August 2021

TDA/2629/LC&VIA/RhC/08.21



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Section 1

INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Tirlun Design Associates (TDA) have been instructed by Morspan Pension Scheme to undertake a landscape character and visual assessment of land at Rockfield Road, Monmouthshire ('The Site'), and assess the general visual and landscape character impacts of a proposed new mixed-use development upon its surrounding landscape.
- 1.2 Desktop research and site surveys were carried out in July and August 2021 and their findings are contained herein.
- 1.3 The following document should be read in conjunction with the statement prepared by Asbri Planning.
- 1.4 The primary question asked within this document is:

'Can the proposed site at Rockfield Road accommodate a mixed-use development without unacceptable landscape character and/or visual amenity impacts upon its immediate setting or the wider landscape?'

- 1.5 The document has been set out as follows:
 - **Section 2 - Qualifications & Experience** introduces the member of staff dealing with this assessment on behalf of TDA and highlights their qualifications and experience relevant to this study.
 - **Section 3 – Rockfield Road: Site/Landscape Context & Landscape Character** introduces the site, its landscape context and reviews the landscape character baseline.
 - **Section 4 - Visual Appraisal & Landscape Assessment** is a visual appraisal and landscape
 - **Section 5 – Landscape Mitigation & Enhancement** sets out the soft landscape proposals for the site
 - **Section 6 - Summary & Conclusion** provides a summary of the study and presents a conclusion to the question raised within paragraph 1.4.

Section 2

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- 2.1 This assessment has been carried out on behalf of TDA by Rhodri Garth Crandon. His qualifications include an honours degree in Landscape Architecture gained from Cheltenham & Gloucester College of Higher Education (CGHE) and a Post Graduate Diploma in Landscape Architecture also from CGHE.
- 2.2 Rhodri is the director of TDA, a landscape consultancy practice based in South Wales, and has over 15 years professional practice experience within the field of landscape architecture. Over this period, he has undertaken many projects relevant to this study which have dealt with issues relating to landscape design, landscape planning and landscape & visual assessment.
- 2.3 In addition, Rhodri has worked as an expert witness in relation to landscape character and visual issues on many relevant projects both in the private and public sector, including Monmouthshire County Council during their Unitary Development Plan Inquiry in 2004.

Section 3

ROCKFIELD ROAD: SITE/LANDSCAPE CONTEXT AND LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Site Context

- 3.1 The proposed development site is located on the eastern side of Rockfield Road immediately adjacent to the suburban area of Over Monnow, 360 metres north west of the River Monnow, approximately 600 metres north west of Monmouth town centre.
- 3.2 The site, which lies in suburban landscape with some rural characteristics, comprises former poultry sheds with associated hard surfacing. It is defined to the north, east & west by remnant field boundary hedgerow and to the south by a retail development and associated car parking.
- 3.3 TDA drawing no. TDA/2629/01 – Location of Photo Viewpoints (refer to Plans section of this document) clearly illustrates the site and its context.

Landscape Context

- 3.4 The site does not contain any bridleways, byways or other routes of public access. A number of footpaths are located within a short distance. Refer to TDA drawing no. TDA/2629/01 – Location of Photo Viewpoints which is included in the Plans section of this document.
- 3.5 Based upon the study of up-to-date mapping provided by Sustrans, there is one national cycle route within the site's locality. National Cycle Route 423 follows Drybridge Street approximately 400 metres to the south east.
- 3.6 The site does not contain any listed buildings or scheduled ancient monuments and none of the trees present are subject to Tree Preservation Orders.
- 3.7 Based on the Monmouthshire Local Development Plan (February 2014), the site and its surroundings are located within an Area of Amenity Importance.
- 3.8 Developments within areas of amenity importance are covered by policy DES2 of the Monmouthshire Local Development Plan (2014). This policy states that:

Development proposals on areas of amenity importance will only be permitted if there is no unacceptable adverse effect on any of the following:

- a) the visual and environmental amenity of the area, including important strategic gaps, vistas, frontages and open spaces;***
- b) the relationship of the area of amenity importance to adjacent or linked areas of green infrastructure in terms of its contribution to the character of the locality and / or its ability to relieve the monotony of the built form;***
- c) the role of the area as a venue for formal and informal sport, general recreation and as community space, expressed in terms of actual usage and facilities available, as well as its relationship to general open space requirements as set out in policy CRF2;***
- d) the cultural amenity of the area, including places and features of archaeological, historic, geological and landscape importance; and***

e) the nature conservation interest of the area, through damage to, or the loss of, important habitats or natural features (policy NE1 applies)

Landscape Character

LANDMAP – Natural Resources Wales

- 3.9 The Countryside Council for Wales, now Natural Resources Wales, has undertaken an extensive landscape character assessment of Wales using the LANDMAP information system.
- 3.10 LANDMAP is a GIS (Geographical Information System) based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated into a nationally consistent data set.
- 3.11 Specialists collect LANDMAP Information in a structured and rigorous way that is defined by five methodological chapters, the Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitats, Visual & Sensory, Historic Landscape and Cultural Landscape (Refer to Appendix 1). Each of these elements and how they assess the site and its surroundings (including principal management recommendations and long-term guidelines) are further explored below:

Geological Landscape

- 3.12 LANDMAP has located the site within the ‘Monmouth-Over Monnow’ aspect area.
- 3.13 It states that this aspect area, which is classified as being of moderate overall value, comprises a broad alluvium filled basin underlying the western part of Monmouth town.
- 3.14 The principal management recommendations and guidelines for the aspect area are to ensure that no geomorphological or geological features of significance are lost or damaged.

Landscape Habitats

- 3.15 LANDMAP has located the site within the ‘Monmouth (West of Wye)’ aspect area.
- 3.16 It states that this aspect area, which is classified as being of low overall value, is a predominantly built-up area dominated by housing together with their associated gardens.
- 3.17 The principal management recommendations and guidelines are to encourage farmers to participate in agri-environmental schemes and preserve hedgerows and woodlands.

Visual & Sensory

- 3.18 LANDMAP has located the site within the ‘Wonastow’ aspect area.
- 3.19 It states that this aspect area, which is classified as being of high overall value, forms part of the flat valley floor of the river Monnow. The landcover is dominated by large fields of arable crops and permanent pasture enclosed by low intensively managed hedges and occasional mature hedgerow trees. Individual field trees are also a feature, as remnants of a field boundary structure long since lost. Intrusive large-scale poultry units dominate part of this open intensively farmed valley floor
- 3.20 The principal guidelines are to maintain existing hedges, hedgerow trees and field trees and maintain role as open setting to the town.

Historic Landscape

- 3.21 LANDMAP has located the site within the 'Modern Monmouth' aspect area.
- 3.22 It states that this aspect area, which is classified as being of moderate overall value, is characterised by 19th-20th century suburban development, which has obliterated the extensive field system surrounding the historic core of Monmouth
- 3.23 The assessment does not contain any principal management recommendations or guidelines.

Cultural Landscape

- 3.24 The LANDMAP Cultural evaluation for this area is unavailable.
- 3.25 Following a more detailed, site-specific visual appraisal and landscape assessment carried out in July 2021 (refer to Section 4) it can be confirmed that the summaries made by LANDMAP are a broadly accurate description of the landscape which defines and surrounds the Rockfield Road site.
- 3.26 Indeed, the site sits in a relatively flat suburban landscape characterised by the sprawling residential development on the western side of Rockfield Road. Land to the east there is a more rural in character with an agricultural field pattern, well defined by a network of field boundary vegetation.
- 3.27 Due to a combination of existing residential development to the west, the existing retail development to the south, the surrounding vegetation and strong field boundary hedgerow network, the site's visual envelope and influence is generally restricted.

Section 4

VISUAL APPRAISAL & LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

Assessment Methodology

- 4.1 The following section has been produced in accordance with the 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (3rd Edition)' produced by The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (2013) and The Landscape Institute's Advice Note 01/11 'Photography and photomontage in landscape and visual impact assessment'.

Desktop Assessment

- 4.2 In addition to the research undertaken to establish the site's landscape context and character described in Section 3, a desktop assessment of the site was undertaken to identify local visual receptors.
- 4.3 Drawing no. TDA/2629/01 – Location of Photo Viewpoints, located in the Plans section of this document, clearly identifies local, publicly accessible, visual receptors.

Visual Appraisal

- 4.4 As a consequence of the assessment described above, photo viewpoints were carefully selected to review the development's possible impacts upon visual receptors throughout the surrounding area.
- 4.5 For document clarity and ease of interpretation views are categorised according to their distance from the site as follows:
- Short-range – 0-0.5 kilometres from the nearest site periphery.
Mid-range – 0.5-1.0 kilometres from the nearest site periphery.
Long-range – 1.0+ kilometres from the nearest site periphery.
- 4.6 The significance of the development's impact upon existing views from areas accessible to the general public has been assessed using the significance criteria for visual impact included in Appendix 2. The visual impact of the proposed development upon each photo viewpoint is described in ***bold italics*** below.
- 4.7 Due to a combination of existing residential development to the west, the existing retail development to the south, the surrounding vegetation and strong field boundary hedgerow network, the site's visual envelope and influence is generally restricted. This is clearly illustrated by the photographs taken from publicly accessible areas adjacent to and surrounding the site which are further described below.

Photo Viewpoints

- 4.8 Photo viewpoints 1-9 below can be found in the Photographs section of this document. Their locations and view angles are illustrated by TDA drawing no. TDA/2629/01 – Location of Photo Viewpoints, located in the Plans section of this document.
- 4.9 **Photo Viewpoint 1** is a short-range view looking north from Rockfield Road. The site is predominantly screened by the existing retail development and adjacent trees and hedgerow.
Development's visual impact: slight adverse impact
- 4.10 **Photo Viewpoint 2** is a short-range view looking east from Rockfield Road. The is screened by field boundary hedgerow and associated hedgerow trees.
Development's visual impact: no change
- 4.11 **Photo Viewpoint 3** is a short-range view looking south-east from Rockfield Road. The site is screened by existing residential properties.
Development's visual impact: no change
- 4.12 **Photo Viewpoint 4** is a mid-range view looking south east from a public footpath off Rockfield Road. The site is screened by field boundary hedgerow and associated hedgerow trees.
Development's visual impact: no change.
- 4.13 **Photo Viewpoint 5** is a mid-range view looking south east from Ancrehill Lane. The site is screened by field boundary hedgerow and associated hedgerow trees.
Development's visual impact: no change.
- 4.14 **Photo Viewpoint 6** is mid-range view looking south from a public footpath linking Ancrehill Lane and Rockfield Road. The site is screened by field boundary hedgerow and associated hedgerow trees.
Development's visual impact: no change.
- 4.15 **Photo Viewpoint 7** is short-range view looking north west from a public footpath off Rockfield Road. The site is screened by the existing retail development.
Development's visual impact: no change.
- 4.16 **Photo Viewpoint 8** is short-range view looking west from a public footpath linking Ancrehill Lane and Rockfield Road. The site is screened by field boundary hedgerow.
Development's visual impact: no change.
- 4.17 **Photo Viewpoint 9** is a mid-range view looking west from Monmouth Castle. The site is screened by trees and vegetation surrounding Monmouth Castle.
Development's visual impact: no change.

Landscape Assessment

- 4.18 The visual appraisal has established that, with the exception of Photo Viewpoints 1, views of the site from local, publicly accessible, visual receptors are screened by a combination of field boundary hedgerows & hedgerow trees and existing built development.
- 4.19 With regards to photo viewpoint1, it is important to note that the viewpoint is immediately adjacent to the site boundary, as such any visual impact is highly localised. Also, only small glimpses of the development will be available.
- 4.20 Furthermore, as the surrounding residential properties and retail development are already clearly visible, glimpses of additional dwellings will not be out of context and the development will not be visually incongruous.

Landscape Character

- 4.21 It is clear from photo viewpoint 1 that a future development would be viewed in the context of the existing properties Rockfield Road and the retail development immediately to the south. Whilst any proposed development would change the character of the site itself, the development would represent a relatively small extension to the existing residential and retail/business developments and would therefore be in keeping with the wider landscape character surrounding much of the site.
- 4.22 Consequently, based on the screening provided by a combination of surrounding hedgerows & trees and existing built development, it is considered that the site could accommodate a new mixed-use development without unacceptable landscape character or visual amenity impacts upon its immediate setting or the wider landscape.

Monmouthshire Landscape Sensitivity Study

- 4.23 A Landscape Sensitivity Study was produced in October 2020 by White Consultants on behalf of Monmouthshire County Council. With regards to the site at Rockfield Road, the study concluded that:

“The susceptibility of the site lies in its role as part of the River Monnow green corridor penetrating close to the town core, forming part of the settlement’s setting to the north. The existing buildings are out of character with the surrounding fields and rural green space but substituting these with housing would reinforce the adverse effect on the character of the green corridor east of Rockfield Road. The value of the area lies in its location adjacent to the Town Conservation Area. LANDMAP value is outstanding for cultural landscape and high for visual and sensory”.

- 4.24 The site, currently occupied by disused poultry sheds and associated hard standing, is located 400m from the River Monnow at its closest point. Due to the lack of visual impact established by the assessment above and as all of the existing green infrastructure on and surrounding the site is to be retained, there will be no material effect upon the River Monnow Green Corridor.
- 4.25 Furthermore, once detailed landscape proposals are implemented as part of the new development, site biodiversity and existing green infrastructure assets will be enhanced.
- 4.26 Also, whilst adjacent to the town conservation boundary, the site, in terms of visual amenity and landscape character, is detached from the town itself.
- 4.27 Finally, while the site has been identified by the study as having high / medium sensitivity, it is worth noting that of the 17 candidate sites identified in the Monmouth area, 14 are rated as having high / medium sensitivity while 3 are rated as medium.

Section 5

LANDSCAPE MITIGATION & ENHANCEMENT

5.1 The landscape strategy for this site will facilitate the improvement of the landscape characteristics in the medium to long term. The strategy includes:

- The retention of all existing trees and hedgerows wherever possible in accordance with LANDMAP recommendations.
- The enhancement of field boundaries with new native planting to soften the edges of the development.
- Detailed on plot landscape scheme and public open space provision to break up massing of the development and improve the biodiversity and landscape value of the site.
- Native and ornamental tree planting to provide biodiversity improvements and a strong arboricultural character.

Section 6

SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

Summary

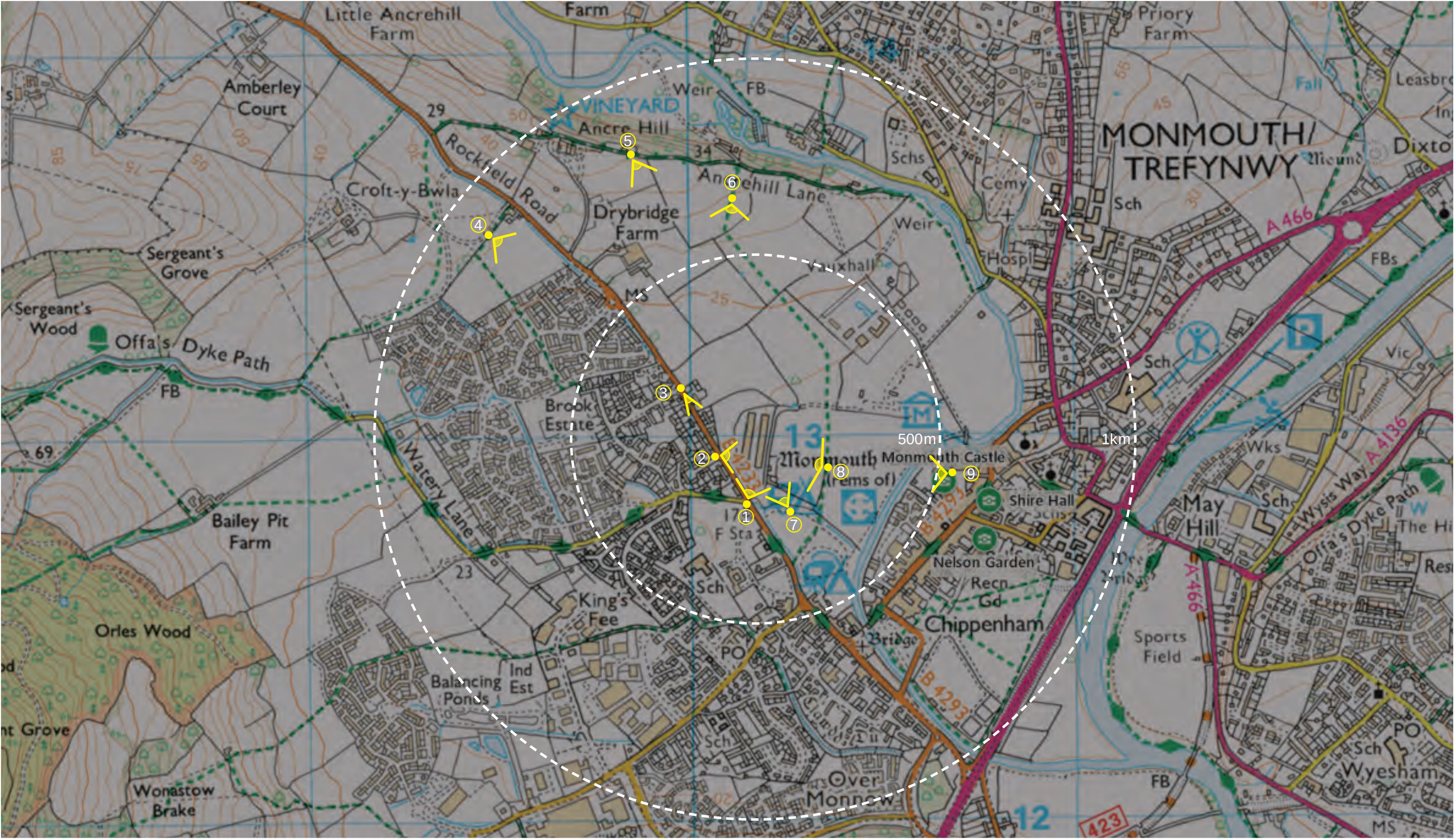
- 6.1 In assessing whether the site at Rockfield Road can accommodate a new mixed-use development without unacceptably impacting upon the landscape character or visual amenity of its immediate setting or the wider landscape this study has:
- Undertaken a desktop assessment of the site's landscape character;
 - Undertaken an on-site visual appraisal and landscape assessment.
- 6.2 Section 1 of this document identified a key question in relation to the site, this being:
- 'Can the proposed site at Rockfield Road accommodate a mixed-use development without unacceptable landscape character and/or visual amenity impacts upon its immediate setting or the wider landscape?'**
- 6.3 This section of the document will summarise the study's findings in helping to answer the question.
- 6.4 Firstly, Section 3 –Rockfield Road: Site/Landscape Context and Landscape Character established that, Due to a combination of existing residential development to the west, the existing retail development to the south, the surrounding vegetation and strong field boundary hedgerow network, the site's visual envelope and influence is generally restricted.
- 6.5 Secondly, Section 4 – Visual Appraisal & Landscape Assessment established that, with the exception of Photo Viewpoint 1, views of the site from local, publicly accessible, visual receptors are screened by a combination of field boundary hedgerows & hedgerow trees and existing built development.
- 6.6 With regards to Photo Viewpoint 1, it was noted that the viewpoint is immediately adjacent to the site boundaries, as such any visual impact is highly localised. Furthermore, only small glimpses of the development will be available.
- 6.7 Also, with regards to landscape character, it was noted that a future development would be viewed in the context of the existing properties on Rockfield Road and the retail development immediately to the south. Whilst any proposed development would change the character of the site itself, the development would represent a relatively small extension to the existing residential and retail/business developments and would therefore be in keeping with the wider landscape character surrounding much of the site.
- 6.8 Finally, Section 5 – Landscape Mitigation & Enhancement described how biodiversity and green infrastructure of the site will be enhanced through a carefully designed landscape strategy.

Conclusion

- 6.9 Overall it is therefore considered that the site can accommodate a new mixed-use development without unacceptable landscape character or visual amenity impacts upon its immediate setting or the wider landscape.

PLANS

TDA/2629/01 - Location of Photo Viewpoints



Key



Site Location



Photo Viewpoints
& Approximate View Angles

NOTE:
General visual receptors such as public rights of way, other routes of public access and roads / paths represented by standard Ordnance Survey symbols

Client	Morspan Pension Scheme
Project	Rockfield Road
Drawing Title	Location of Photo Viewpoints
Drawing No.	TDA/2629/01
Scale	Not to Scale
Date	August 2021



Environment | Landscape | Design
The Granary
Newland Fawr Farm, Llangan, CF35 5DN
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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo Viewpoint 1	Short-range view looking north from Rockfield Road
Photo Viewpoint 2	Short-range view looking east from Rockfield Road
Photo Viewpoint 3	Short-range view looking south-east from Rockfield Road
Photo Viewpoint 4	Mid-range view looking south east from a public footpath off Rockfield Road
Photo Viewpoint 5	Mid-range view looking south east from Ancrehill Lane
Photo Viewpoint 6	Mid-range view looking south from a public footpath linking Ancrehill Lane and Rockfield Road
Photo Viewpoint 7	Short-range view looking north west from a public footpath off Rockfield Road
Photo Viewpoint 8	Short-range view looking west from a public footpath linking Ancrehill Lane and Rockfield Road
Photo Viewpoint 9	Mid-range view looking west from Monmouth Castle

Rockfield Road

The site (predominantly screened)



Photo Viewpoint 1: Short-range view looking north from Rockfield Road

The site (screened)

Rockfield Road



Photo Viewpoint 2: Short-range view looking east from Rockfield Road

Rockfield Road

Approximate location
of site (screened)



Photo Viewpoint 3: Short-range view looking south-east from Rockfield Road

Approximate location
of site (screened)

Properties on Hamilton Way



Photo Viewpoint 4: Mid-range view looking south east from a public footpath off Rockfield Road

Approximate location
of site (screened)



Photo Viewpoint 5: Mid-range view looking south east from Ancrehill Lane

Approximate location
of site (screened)



Photo Viewpoint 6: Mid-range view looking south from a public footpath linking Ancrehill Lane and Rockfield Road

The site (screened)

Monmouth Caravan Park



Photo Viewpoint 7: Short-range view looking north west from a public footpath off Rockfield Road

Approximate location
of site (screened)



Photo Viewpoint 8: Short-range view looking west from a public footpath linking Ancrehill Lane and Rockfield Road

Approximate location
of site (screened)

Monmouth Castle



Photo Viewpoint 9: Mid-range view looking west from Monmouth Castle

APPENDIX 1

LANDMAP (Natural Resources Wales)

Geological, Landscape Habitats, Visual & Sensory, Historic, Cultural Chapters



SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHGL023 - 2021-07-20

Area Unique ID: MNMTHGL023

Aspect: Geological Landscape

Area: Monmouth-Over Monnow

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2006-11-24

- Level 1: Lowland hills and valleys
- Level 2: Lowland river and drainage systems
- Level 3: Ancient lowland river flood plain system

Monitoring

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- No Answer

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- No Answer

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- No Answer

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- Yes
 - Part of a terrace system of the rivers Monnow and Wye in th Monmouth area (including MNMTHGL23, 24, and 28).

Description

Q3 - If Classification is "Other", specify here

- N/A.

Q4 - What is the geographical and topographical character of this area?

- Broad alluvium filled basin underlying the western part of Monmouth town, W of the Trothy river. Dominated by river terrace deposits with some modern alluvium in lowest part (Quaternary: Pleistocene-Holocene). Surrounded to the S, W and N by an escarpment of Lower Old Red Sandstone Group (Lower Devonian).

Q4a - Where bedrock dominated, what is the dominant bedrock type?

- No Answer

Q4b - Where bedrock dominated, what is the age that characterises the aspect area?

- No Answer

Q4c - Where bedrock dominated, what is the major rock lithogy (-ies)?

- No Answer

Q4d - Where drift dominated, what is the dominant drift deposit?

- Fluvial

Q4e - Where drift dominated, what is the major sediment that characterises the area?

- Other

Q5 - What is the characteristic Level 3 component of the area?

- No Answer

Q6 - Which of the following is a significant contributor to the geological character of the area?

- Superficial deposits
 - Fluvial deposits dominate with 1st and 2nd terrace deposits and some recent alluvium (Quaternary: ?Pleistocene (Devensian)-Holocene).
- Active processes
 - Stream.
- Past processes
 - Fluvial

Q7 - What additional subsidiary Level 3 components are notable?

- Engineered features and reclaimed / infilled land

Q8 - What Level 4 components are notable in this area?

- River terrace
- Urban / industrial development

Q9 - What active geological and geomorphological processes are significant in this area?

- Empty value
- Stream.

Q10 - Are there components of significant hydrological importance?

- Yes
- Stream.

Q11 - Are there any pedological processes that are significant in the area or have had a landscape forming effect?

- Not known

Q12 - Is there current mineral extraction?

- No

Q13 - Has there been mineral extraction in the past?

- Not known

Q14 - Are there SSSI/GCR sites here?

- No

Q15 - Are there geological SINC, 2nd tier, or RIGS sites in the area?

- No

Evaluation

Q16 - Value

- Moderate
- No notable sites/landforms recorded and area partly developed.

Q17 - Condition

- Fair
- Partly developed area but natural features remain.

Q18 - Trend

- Declining
- Partly developed area but natural features remain.

Recommendations

Q19 - Existing management

- Generally Inappropriate

Q20 - Existing management remarks:

- Partly developed area but natural features remain.

Q21 - Principal management recommendations

- Ensure that no further significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged (e.g. due to development).

Q22 - Guideline

- Long Term
 - Ensure that no further significant geological or geomorphological features are lost or damaged (e.g. due to development).

Tolerance To Change

Q23 - Are there any significant threats to the current integrity and condition of the Earth Heritage features of the area?

- Yes
 - Development which destroys or sterilises key features or deposits without adequate scientific recording. No such losses should be considered appropriate.

Aspect Area Boundary

Q24 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q25 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- Most
 - Aspect Area boundaries surveyed at 1:10,000, mapped at 1:25,000.

Q26 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
 - 1:50,000 British Geological Survey maps, aerial photographs, OS 1:25,000 Landranger topographical map.

Q27 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:25,000

Q28 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- Break of slope at base of solid geology massif and junction with valley systems.

Evaluation Matrix

Q29 - Evaluation Criteria: Research Value

- Moderate
 - No notable sites/landforms recorded and area partly developed.

Q29a - Evaluation Criteria: Educational Value

- Low
 - No notable sites/landforms recorded and area partly developed.

Q30 - Evaluation Criteria: Historical Value

- Low
 - No notable sites/landforms recorded .

Q31 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity / Uniqueness

- Moderate
 - No notable sites/landforms recorded.

Q32 - Evaluation Criteria: Classic Example

- Low
 - No notable sites/landforms recorded.

Q33 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- Moderate
 - No notable sites/landforms recorded and area partly developed.

Q34 - Justification of overall evaluation

- No notable sites/landforms recorded and area partly developed.

Bibliography

Q35 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES 1974, Monmouth, Sheet 233 (1:50,000), NERC; ORDNANCE SURVEY 2005b, OS Explorer Map OL14 (1:25, 000); WELCH, F.B.A. and TROTTER, F.M. 1961, Memoir of the Geological Survey, England and Wales, Sheets 233 and 250.

Assessment

Q36 - Additional Assessments

- Gwent Geodiversity Audit (Davies 2006): no sites recorded (to 12/06).

Q37 - Additional Comments

- Additional Level 4 features include: Stream.



SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHHL024 - 2021-07-20

Area Unique ID: MNMTHHL024

Aspect: Historic Landscape

Area: Modern Monmouth

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2007-09-28

- Level 1: Built environment
- Level 2: Settlement
- Level 3: Nucleated Settlement

Monitoring

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2017-03-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Historic Landscape change detection work completed by the relevant Welsh Archaeological Trust (WAT) for this area, the planning authority have been included. Quality Assurance of change detection work was completed by Trysor. Trysor have completed the monitoring amendments to the changed surveys and the WATs to the GIS boundaries

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record has been updated following monitoring work, there was a real change in the aspect area

Q1c - Change indicated by

- OS Data, Aerial Photographs
- Policies, plans & information resources

Q1d - What has changed?

- Description
- Boundaries

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- No

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- Yes
 - Former agricultural land farmed from H25 Monmouth...

Description

Q3 - If Classification is "Other", specify here

- Empty value

Q4 - Summary Description / Key Patterns and Elements

- Site Location This Aspect Area consists of the rural hinterland surrounding the historic core of the medieval and early post-medieval urban settlement of Monmouth and its suburb at Overmonnow, consisting of the settlements of Dixon, Osbaston and Wyesham, which have been significantly encroached upon by suburban development during the late 19th-20th century. Historical Overview The earliest recorded evidence of prehistoric activity within the Aspect Area is represented by a flint scatter of Neolithic/Bronze Age date recovered during archaeological investigations prior to the construction of a housing estate off Rockfield Road (NGR SO 495 130), and a single Neolithic flint scraper identified during an evaluation carried out on the edge of Dixon village in 1996 (Clarke, 1996, 63-4). Roman occupation has been identified in several locations within the Aspect Area. A concentration of pottery dating from the 2nd century AD has been recovered during investigations at Rockfield Road, while at Dixon, several iron-smelting sites and scatters of iron slag have been recorded (NGR SO 5160 1351), indicative of Roman industrial activity extending to the NE of the known extent of the Roman fort and civilian settlement of Blestium (Clarke, 1996, 75). Little archaeological evidence of early medieval occupation has been identified within the Aspect Area. A charter of c.735 does refer to the existence of a church at Dixon (Podum Henllan) and its surrounding estate, which implies the presence of a settlement there at that date (Davies, 1979, 110; Kissack, 1996). However, the evidence of place-names such as Dixon, Osbaston and Wyesham, all of which are decidedly English in character, suggests that these settlements, in their present form, are of post-Conquest origin. At Dixon, the remains of a Norman ringwork castle survive to the NW of the parish church, the earliest fabric of which dates from the late 11th century (Newman, 2000). During the medieval period, the settlements of Dixon, Osbaston and Wyesham formed individual manors which formed part of the demesne lands of the lordship of Monmouth, which appears to have been established by c.1086, when it was held by a Breton lord, William fitz Baderon, whose descendants remained as lords of Monmouth until the middle of the 13th century (Kissack, 1974; Kissack, 1996). The lordship was subsequently granted to Edmund of Lancaster in 1267 and thereafter it remained part of the estates of the Duchy of Lancaster until the 17th century (Kissack, 1974) Documentary evidence shows that the town was surrounded by an extensive system of open fields, parts of which survived until the middle of the 19th century. The exceptional nature of the town's field system and its survival into the post-medieval period may reflect the town's origins as a Norman plantation and the continuing anglicised nature of Monmouth's population (Courtney, 1994, 130). It was not until the 1830s that significant expansion of settlement took place outside the boundaries of the medieval town. On the opposite bank of the Wye, a small industrial settlement had developed at Wyesham at the terminus of the Monmouth tramroad, constructed in 1810, including a brickyard, a coal and lime wharf and the site of the Monmouth Gas Works (Hadfield, 1960, 174; Kissack, 1975, 281). The settlement at Wyesham further expanded during the middle decades of the 19th century with the establishment of the Monmouth Steam Saw Mills in 1856 and the construction of a station at May Hill on the Wye Valley railway line to Ross in 1873. However, it was not until after the Second World War that Wyesham developed into a significant residential suburb (Kissack, 1977, 13) At Osbaston, to the NW of the town, the 1843 tithe map shows that a minor settlement had developed around the Monmouth Forge by the mid 19th century, which was employing about 25 men in 1851. In 1877, ambitious proposals were put forward to build an extensive residential suburb on the Great Osbaston Estate, consisting of 167 house plots and similar plans were proposed in 1897 to develop the Knowle Estate, to the W of the Old Hereford Road, as a high-class residential area comprising "handsome villas" (Kissack, 1977, 11-12). However, although limited development had taken place during the late 19th-early 20th century, evidenced by the laying-out of roads and the construction of a small number of villas, the main phase of suburban development at Osbaston did not take place until after the Second World War. To the NE of Monmouth, the village of Dixon appears to have remained largely isolated from the suburban growth of Monmouth until the 1950s-60s. Topography of Aspect Area Information on the extent of the extensive medieval open-field system surrounding the town of Monmouth is largely derived from documentary sources, in particular, a survey of the borough and lordship of Monmouth dated 1613, which refers to four common fields, Williams Field, Castle Field, Leviattes Field and Merettes Field, and a common meadow, Chippenham (Rees, 1953). The tithe map of 1844 reveals that the open-field system had largely disappeared by the mid 19th century; only Chippenham Meadow and a much-reduced Leviattes Field remained. John Wood's map of Monmouth, dated 1835, provides the earliest evidence for suburban expansion at Wyesham, which slowly grew during the mid-late 19th century, as shown on the OS 1st edition 25 inch map of 1880. The OS 1st-4th edition maps show that only limited suburban expansion took place between c.1880-1940. However, an OS 1:2500 map of 1969 shows that extensive housing development had occurred to the NW and NE of the town, absorbing the settlements of Osbaston and Dixon, while to the SE, significant suburban expansion had occurred at Wyesham on the E bank of the Wye. Justification for Area Boundaries The boundaries of the Aspect Area represent the extent of 19th-20th century suburban development surrounding the historic core of the medieval town of Monmouth and its suburb of Overmonnow, defined from modern OS mapping and aerial photography.

Q5 - If working at level 3, the classification describes the dominant historic pattern, but which other patterns are important to the historical pattern of this area? (Tick all that apply)

- ☐ Nucleated Settlement
- ☐ Processing/Manufacturing
- ☐ Other Settlement

Q6 - If working at level 4, which other 'details' are also significant to the historic character of this area? (Please tick all that apply)

- ☐ No Answer

Q7 - If working at level 4 only, which building types prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- ☐ No Answer

Q8 - If working at level 4 only, which periods prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- ☐ No Answer

Q9 - If working at level 4 only, which architectural types prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- ☐ No Answer

Q10 - If working at level 4 only, which traditional walling materials prevail in the area? (tick all that apply)

- ☐ No Answer

Q11 - If working at level 4 only, which traditional roofing materials prevail in the area? (select up to three)

- ☐ No Answer

Q12 - Which traditional boundary types prevail in the area? (Tick all that apply)

- ☐ Mortared Wall

Q13 - What is the nature of any significant archaeological interest in the area? (Tick all that apply)

- ☐ Buried-dry
- ☐ Buildings & Structures
- ☐ Documentary

Q14 - Which chronological period is dominant in the area?

- ☐ Medieval (to 1536)
- ☐ Post Medieval (1536+)
- ☐ Recent

Q15 - Has a Historic Landscape Characterisation been undertaken here?

- ☐ No

Q16 - Are there SMR sites here?

- ☐ Yes

Q17 - Are there SAMs here?

- Yes
 - MM308 St.Peter's Churchyard Cross Dixon, MM348 Mayhill Pillboxes.

Q18 - Are there Listed Buildings here?

- Yes

Q19 - Are there Registered Historic Parks and Gardens here?

- Yes
 - Monmouth Chippenham PGW(Gt)6(Mon), Monmouth Chapel House PGW(Gt)43(Mon).

Q20 - Are there Conservation Areas here?

- No Answer

Q21 - Are there World Heritage Sites here?

- No

Q22 - Is the area within a Registered Landscape of Historic Interest?

- No

Evaluation

Q23 - Value:

- Moderate
 - The Aspect Area is characterised by 19th-20th century suburban development, which has obliterated the extensive field system surrounding the historic core of Monmouth during the medieval period. Information relating to this field system survives only in documentary form. However, the Area does offer some potential for the recovery of further remains relating to prehistoric and Roman occupation.

Q24 - Condition:

- No Answer

Q25 - Trend:

- No Answer

Recommendations

Q26 - Existing management

- No Answer

Q27 - Existing management remarks:

- Empty value

Q28 - Principal management recommendations

- Empty value

Q29 - Guideline

- No Answer

Aspect Area Boundary

Q30 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q31 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- All

Q32 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- OS Raster

Q33 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000

Q34 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- The boundaries of the Aspect Area represent the extent of 19th-20th century suburban development surrounding the historic core of the medieval town of Monmouth and its suburb of Overmonnow, defined from modern OS mapping and aerial photography...

Evaluation Matrix

Q35 - Evaluation Criteria: Integrity

- High
 - The dominant pattern of 19th-20th century suburban development surrounding the historic core of Monmouth and its suburb of Overmonnow, as defined from modern OS mapping and aerial photography, is clearly visible and easily understood.

Q36 - Evaluation Criteria: Survival

- High
 - There are no visible elements of the medieval landscape surviving, although parts of an extensive system of open fields survived until the middle of the 19th century. The Aspect Area is today characterised by suburban development dating from the 1830s onwards. The main period of development commenced after the Second World War, with the village of Dixton to the NE of Monmouth largely isolated from suburban growth until the 1950s-60s.

Q37 - Evaluation Criteria: Condition

- High

Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity

- Low
 - The character of the area is typical of 19th-20th century suburban development (HL008, HL031, HL042, HL043).

Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Potential

- Moderate
 - Further development within the Area may provide opportunities to gain additional information relating to prehistoric and Roman occupation, evidence of which emerged during investigations at Rockfield Road and Dixon.

Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- Moderate

Q41 - Justification of overall evaluation

- The Aspect Area is characterised by 19th-20th century suburban development, which has obliterated the extensive field system surrounding the historic core of Monmouth during the medieval period. Information relating to this field system survives only in documentary form. However, the Area does offer some potential for the recovery of further remains relating to prehistoric and Roman occupation.

Bibliography

Q42 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust: Sites and Monuments Record Printout National Monuments Record of Wales (RCAHMW): NMR Printout Courtney, P..., 1994, Medieval and later Usk, Cardiff Davies, W..., 1979, The Llandaff Charters, Aberystwyth Kissack, K...E, 1974, Medieval Monmouth, Monmouth Kissack, K...E..., 1975, Monmouth, the Making of a County Town, Chichester... Kissack, K...E..., 1977, Victorian Monmouth, Monmouth Kissack, K...E..., 1996, The Lordship, Parish and Borough of Monmouth, Hereford Rees, W..., 1953, A Survey of the Duchy of Lancaster Lordships in Wales 1609-13, Cardiff

Assessment

Q43 - Additional Assessments

- Empty value

Q44 - Additional Comments

- Empty value



SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHLH080 - 2021-07-20

Area Unique ID: MNMTHLH080

Aspect: Landscape Habitats

Area: Monmouth (west of Wye)

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2007-03-12

- Level 1: Dry (Relatively) Terrestrial Habitats
- Level 2: Built Up Areas
- Level 3: Residential/Green Space

Monitoring

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2016-01-15

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Stages 1, 2 and 3 change detection, field verification and amendment completed by Environment Systems in conjunction with the local planning authority. Quality Assurance completed by TACP.

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record remains unchanged following monitoring work

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- Yes
 - Area has been both driven and walked through.

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q3 - What is the total land area within the boundary (in hectares)?

- 293 hectares

Description

Q4 - What are the dominant soil types? (specify up to 3 types)

- Brown soils

Q5 - What Phase 1 habitat types are present? Only select the five most dominant types and, for each of these, specify below what percentage of the Aspect Area is made up of these.

- Improved Grassland
 - 2%
- Amenity Grassland
 - 3%
- Dense Scrub
 - <1%
- Semi-improved Neutral Grassland
 - 1%
- Buildings
 - 92%

Q6 - Does the area contain habitats of international importance?

- No

Q7 - If yes, which habitats of international importance?

- No Answer

Q8 - Does the area contain BAP habitats?

- Not known

Q9 - If yes, which BAP habitats?

- No Answer

Q10 - Does the area contain protected sites?

- Yes
 - SAC(1.36ha) SSSI(1.36ha) Local Wildlife Site(2.9ha)

Q11 - If yes, which ones?

- SSSI
- Local wildlife site
- SAC

Q12 - Approximately what proportion of the Aspect Area is within the protected site?

- 1-10%
 - 1.45%

Q13 - Does the area support important species?

- Yes

Q14 - If yes, which species? (for each of the species, also note the source of information)

- Roe Deer and Fallow Deer (both pre 1900 records), Rough Hawk"s-beard, Common Shrew, Blue Water-speedwell (all LBAP. Kentish Glory (moth), Flat-roack Grimmia, Pyrrhodium sanguineum (a longhorn beetle), Upright Spurge, Autum Lady"s Tresses (all Red Data Book 1). Slow-worm (very old record), Pearl Bordered Fritillary (pre 1900 record). Badger, Whiskered/Brandts Bat, Noctule, Common & Soprano Pipistrelle, Brown Long-eared Bat, Atlantic Salmon, Great Crested Newt. (all records from SEWBRcC.

Q15 - Are there any significant threat species present in abundance? (Field visit required)

- Not known

Q16 - What other features significantly influence the biodiversity in this area?

- No Answer

Q17 - Are any of these features in a very good condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q18 - Are any of these features in a poor condition? (Field visit required)

- Unknown

Q19 - What are the main land management activities taking place in the area? (Field visit required)

- Other
 - Gardening
- Mowing

Q20 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable positive impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
 - Gardening can provide positive impacts if undertaken in a way sympathetic to wildlife.

Q21 - Do any of the above appear to have an appreciable negative impact on biodiversity? (Field visit required)

- Some
 - Mowing generally reduces the biodiversity potential of lawns.

Q22 - Is the biodiversity in the area in any way threatened?

- Not known

Q23 - Are there clear opportunities to improve the biodiversity aspect of this area?

- Yes
 - Householders can be encouraged to garden in a wildlife friendly way.

Q24 - Summarise the key features that define this area's biodiversity character

- The key features that define this area are built up area dominated by housing together with there associated gardens.

Evaluation

Q25 - Value

- Low
 - The area is built up which is a low biodiversity value habitat so evaluated as low despite the presence of a small area of SSSI and SAC (v. small parts of these designated areas that relate to very small areas on the banks of the River Wye) and a number of key species being present (a lot of these are very old records).

Q26 - Condition

- Unassessed

Q27 - Trend

- Constant

Recommendations

Q28 - Existing management

- Unassessed

Q29 - Existing management remarks:

- The main areas of biodiversity potential are peoples private gardens, these are managed in a large variety of ways dependent on the desire of the individual owners.

Q30 - Principal management recommendations

- Encourage people to garden in a wildlife friendly way. The area is largely built up. Built up areas are not a scarce habitat commodity. Householders can be encouraged to garden in a wildlife friendly way. Built up areas are not in decline but are increasing. The area is generally built up so of low biodiversity value even though small areas of higher value are present. Evaluated as moderate as a number of key species are present, these are generally present despite not because of the built up nature of the area. Rated as low because the area is largely built up so has low biodiversity value habitat and as a consequence does not support so many key species and ones it does support are there despite the area being built up.

Q31 - Guideline

- Medium Term
 - Encourage people to garden in a wildlife friendly way.
- Long Term
 - Ensure that activities within this Aspect Area do not pollute the River Wye.
- Long Term
 - Ensure that small areas of higher value i.e. SSSI and SAC and areas used by protected species are preserved.

Aspect Area Boundary

Q32 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q33 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- All

Q34 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- Other
 - Phase 1 habitat, Aerial photographs and OS Raster.

Q35 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000

Q36 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- They encompass the built up area of Monmouth that lies to the west of the River Wye and small areas of habitat contained within. The part of Monmouth to the east of the River Wye is contained within a separate Aspect Area as the Aspect Area formed by the River Wye and its floodplain divides Monmouth.

Evaluation Matrix

Q37 - Evaluation Criteria: Priority Habitats

- Low
 - The area is largely built up.

Q38 - Evaluation Criteria: Significance

- Low
 - Built up areas are not a scarce habitat commodity.

Q39 - Evaluation Criteria: Opportunity

- Moderate
 - Encourage people to garden in a wildlife friendly way.

Q40 - Evaluation Criteria: Expansion rates

- Unassessed

Q41 - Evaluation Criteria: Sensitivity

- Unassessed

Q42 - Evaluation Criteria: Connectivity/Cohesion

- Moderate
 - Generally relatively poor connectivity but network of gardens provides some connectivity and the River Wye which passes adjacent to the Aspect Area is an important wildlife corridor.

Q43 - Evaluation Criteria: Habitat Evaluation

- Low
 - The area is generally built up so of low biodiversity value even though small areas of higher value are present.

Q44 - Evaluation Criteria: Importance for key species

- Moderate
 - Evaluated as moderate as a number of key species are present, these are generally present despite not because of the built up nature of the area and a number are also quite old records as well. Rated as low because the area is largely built up so has low biodiversity value habitat and as a consequence does not support so many key species and ones it does support are there despite the area being built up.

Q45 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation Habitat and Species

- Low
 - Rated as low because the area is largely built up so has low biodiversity value habitat and as a consequence the key species that it supports are there despite the area being built up not not because it is.

Q45a - Justification of overall evaluation

- The area is built up which is a low biodiversity value habitat so evaluated as low despite the presence of a small area of SSSI and SAC (v. small parts of these designated areas that relate to very small areas on the banks of the River Wye) and a number of key species being present (a lot of these are very old records).

Bibliography

Q46 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- CCW Phase 1 data (digitised), Aerial photographs (digitised), OS Raster (1:10,000), Protected species information from SEWBRcC, Protected sites information from CCW (digitised), SINC sites provided by SEWBRcC (digitised), Invasive plant mapping provided by SEWBRcC (digitised), Monmouthshire LBAP, Monmouthshire Unitary Development Plan, Protected Sites citations from CCW website (www.ccw.gov.uk), Protected Sites citations from the JNCC website (www.jncc.gov.uk), Soils of England and Wales 1:250,000 (Sheet 2 Wales). Wildlife Site/SINC data used within this project were collated by Local Environmental Records Centres Wales on behalf of the various Local Authorities and Wildlife Trusts involved in the site designation process.

Assessment

Q47 - Additional Assessments

- N/A

Q48 - Additional Comments

- N/A



SURVEY DETAILS FOR MNMTHVS049 - 2021-08-16

Area Unique ID: MNMTHVS049

Aspect: Visual and Sensory

Area: Wonastow

Region: Monmouthshire

Survey Date: 2007-01-30

- Level 1: Lowland
- Level 2: Flat Lowland/Levels
- Level 3: Flat Lowland Mosaic

Monitoring

Q1 - Date of monitoring?

- 2015-02-06

Q1a - Monitoring undertaken by

- Stages 1, 2 and 3 change detection, field verification and amendment completed by Bronwen Thomas, in conjunction with the planning authority. Quality Assurance completed by White Consultants.

Q1b - Has this record been updated following monitoring work?

- This record remains unchanged following monitoring work

Q1c - Change indicated by

- No Answer

Q1d - What has changed?

- No Answer

Q1e - Has the information ever been verified in the field?

- Yes
 - 1:10,000

Q2 - Does this area have a special or functional link with an adjacent area?

- No

Q2a - During which season(s) was fieldwork carried out?

- No Answer

Description

Q3 - Summary Description

- Forming part of the flat valley floor of the river Monnow this landscape is sheltered by Kings Wood to the west and overlooked by the town of Monmouth, Osbaston and the wooded scarp slopes of Buckholt. Historically forming part of the floodplain of the River Monnow, the landcover is dominated by large fields of arable crops and permanent pasture enclosed by low intensively managed hedges and occasional mature hedgerow trees. Individual field trees are also a feature, as remnants of a field boundary structure long since lost. Intrusive large-scale poultry units dominate part of this open intensively farmed valley floor, with large farm complexes located on upper valley slopes. There are few roads although the area is crossed by numerous footpaths.

Q4 - Physical Form And Elements: Topographic Form?

- Levels

Q5 - Physical Form And Elements: Landcover Pattern?

- Field Pattern/Mosaic

Q6 - Physical form and elements: Settlement pattern

- Scattered Rural/Farm

Q7 - Physical form and elements: Boundary type

- Managed Hedge

Q8 - Aesthetic Qualities: Scale?

- Medium

Q9 - Aesthetic Qualities: Sense of Enclosure?

- Enclosed

Q10 - Aesthetic Qualities: Diversity?

- Simple

Q11 - Aesthetic Qualities: Texture?

- Medium

Q12 - Aesthetic Qualities: Lines?

- Angular

Q13 - Aesthetic Qualities: Colour?

- Muted

Q14 - Aesthetic Qualities: Balance?

- Balanced

Q15 - Aesthetic Qualities: Unity?

- Neutral

Q16 - Aesthetic Qualities: Pattern?

- Organised

Q17 - Aesthetic Qualities: Seasonal Interest?

- Autumn
 - n/a

Q18 - Other Factors: Level of Human Access?

- Infrequent

Q19 - Other Factors: Night Time Light Pollution?

- Moderate

Q20 - Other Factors: Use of Construction Materials?

- Generally Inappropriate

Q21 - What materials? Give Details:

- wire fencing, large scale poultry units

Q22 - There are attractive views...

- ...both in and out
 - across the valley floor to the River Monnow and out to the surrounding hills

Q23 - There are detractive views...

-out
 - to the outskirts of Monmouth and to poultry units

Q24 - Perceptual and Other Sensory Qualities

- Sheltered
- Settled
 - -

Q25 - What is the sense of place/local distinctiveness

- Moderate
 - The area has a clear sense of place partly acting as the important setting of Monmouth forming a transition zone to higher enclosing ground

Evaluation

Q26 - Value:

- High
 - The area forms an attractive green setting to Monmouth forming part of a leafy green corridor adjacent to the river to the east with views to the backcloth of Kings Wood to the west. This landscape has unity and is generally unspoilt by visually intrusive or inharmonious development. This landscape has a clear sense of place as a semi rural valley floor adjacent to the country town. As part of the valley floor the areas has not a particular rarity value.

Q27 - Condition:

- Fair
 - n/a

Q28 - Trend:

- Constant
 - n/a

Recommendations

Q29 - Existing management

- Generally Inappropriate

Q30 - Existing management remarks:

- loss of hedges and hedgerow trees

Q31 - Principal management recommendation:

- to maintain the patchwork of field boundaries and natural character

Q32 - Guideline

- Immediate
 - maintain existing hedges, hedgerow trees and field trees
- Medium Term
 - encourage conservation headlands in arable fields
- Long Term
 - maintain role as open setting to the town

Q33 - Define the key qualities that should be conserved:

- Tranquillity, enclosure

Q34 - Define the key qualities that should be enhanced:

- Enclosure

Q35 - Define the key qualities that should be changed:

- -

Q36 - Define the key elements that should be conserved:

- Tree cover and hedgerows

Q37 - Define the key elements that should be enhanced:

- Tree cover and hedgerows

Q38 - Define the key elements that should be changed:

- Poultry units

Tolerance To Change

Q39 - Are there any significant threats to the current integrity and condition of the visual & sensory features of the area?

- Not known

Aspect Area Boundary

Q40 - To what level was this information site-surveyed?

- Level 3

Q41 - At 1:10,000, how much of the Aspect Area boundary is precise?

- All

Q42 - What baseline information source was used for Aspect Area boundary mapping?

- OS Raster

Q43 - If OS Data was used, what was the scale?

- 1:10,000 and 1:25,000

Q44 - What is the justification for the Aspect Area boundaries?

- Defined by settlement to the south and east and the rising valley sides to the north and west.

Bibliography

Q45 - List the key sources used for this assessment

- -

Evaluation Matrix

Q46 - Evaluation Criteria: Scenic quality

- High
 - The area forms an attractive green setting to Monmouth forming part of a leafy green corridor adjacent to the river to the east with views to the backcloth of Kings Wood to the west.

Q47 - Evaluation Criteria: Integrity

- High
 - This landscape has unity and is generally unspoilt by visually intrusive or inharmonious development.

Q48 - Evaluation Criteria: Character

- High
 - This landscape has a clear sense of place as a semi rural valley floor adjacent to the country town.

Q49 - Evaluation Criteria: Rarity

- Moderate
 - As part of the valley floor the areas has not a particular rarity value.

Q50 - Evaluation Criteria: Overall Evaluation

- High
 - The area forms an attractive green setting to Monmouth forming part of a leafy green corridor adjacent to the river to the east with views to the backcloth of Kings Wood to the west. This landscape has unity and is generally unspoilt by visually intrusive or inharmonious development. This landscape has a clear sense of place as a semi rural valley floor adjacent to the country town. As part of the valley floor the areas has not a particular rarity value.

Q51 - Justification of overall evaluation

- Three highs and one moderate equals high value.

Assessment

Q52 - Additional Assessments

- -

Q53 - Additional Comments

- -

LMP 14 & 09

Q54 - LANDMAP derived landscape types (LMP14)

- Valleys, rolling and flat lowland (wooded >50%)

Q55 - LANDMAP derived landscape types (LMP09)

- Lowland mosaic >20% wooded

APPENDIX 2

Significance Criteria for Visual Impact

Extract of 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (3rd Edition) produced by The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment 2013).

SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA FOR VISUAL IMPACT

Extract of 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (2nd Edition) produced by The Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment (2002).

Substantial adverse impact.

Where the scheme would cause a significant deterioration in the existing view.

Moderate adverse impact

Where the scheme would cause a noticeable deterioration in the existing view.

Slight adverse impact

Where the scheme would cause a barely perceptible deterioration in the existing view.

Slight beneficial impact

Where the scheme would cause a barely perceptible improvement in the existing view.

Moderate beneficial impact

Where the scheme would cause a noticeable improvement in the existing view.

Substantial beneficial impact

Where the scheme would cause a significant improvement in the existing view.

No change

No discernable deterioration or improvement in the existing view.