

APPENDIX E

Summary Schedules of LSCA Findings

PARCEL No. 01	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. North side of Raycombe Lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 103 Malvern Hills (but also on eastern boundary of NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands)	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Principal Wooded Hills (PWH), but on boundary with Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D)	<u>Key Issues:</u> PWH LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>North-eastern gateway / approach to village on north side of Raycombe Lane.</p> <p>Rural / agricultural / wooded character, very sparsely-settled.</p> <p>Hope End Registered Park and Garden lies c. 300m to east.</p> <p>Area has limited physical association with / is divorced from village, situated on north-eastern outskirts.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to the north and west due to topography & vegetation, but more open to south / south east, with steep south east-facing slope which continues down to watercourse on east side of village. Frith Wood on skyline to south east and occasional long-distance views to south (incl. May Hill).</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in better condition on north side of lane than south side in this part of sector.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of LCT Divorced from village Gateway / approach In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed south east-facing slope Condition generally good / very good beyond influence of settlement
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises medium-sized, irregularly-shaped sloping grass field adjacent to lane in open countryside, at gateway / approach to village.</p> <p>Landuse: grazed pasture.</p> <p>Raven Hill Wood is distinctive feature on ridge of higher ground beyond field along west / north-western boundary: mature, dense, mixed deciduous / coniferous woodland (Ancient Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland, and on the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (NIWT)). Woodland and slope add to village's sense of containment.</p> <p>Hedgerow and track along north east boundary.</p> <p>Strong, tall native roadside hedge along Raycombe Lane boundary – long road frontage.</p> <p>Small cluster of mainly traditional wayside cottages at junction of Raycombe Lane and Petty France Lane. Properties including extensive equestrian complex along south side of lane opposite parcel.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Gateway / approach Road frontage Strong landscape pattern; elements and features predominantly intact. Well-managed, in good condition. Makes important contribution to landscape character

Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies adjacent to Malvern Hills AONB	<u>Key Issues:</u> High to Very High Landscape Value (adjacent AONB)
Historic Landscape	Field appears on tithe map (1841) as 'Callow Field', and shape is unchanged. Raven Hill Wood is marked on tithe map as 'Scotland Wood'. A quarry just beyond parcel's north boundary (in woodland) is marked on mid-C19 map. Hope End Registered Park and Garden lies c. 300m to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Biodiversity	UK BAP / PHI site (Lowland Meadow) to north of parcel. High biodiversity potential and probability of European Protected Species (EPS) in habitats on and around site esp. Raven Hill Wood.	<u>Key Issues:</u> High value & sensitivity woodland / grassland habitat on boundaries (high probability of EPS)
Landscape Function	In rural open countryside adjacent to AONB at north-eastern gateway / approach to village. Makes important contribution to rural context and setting of village especially along road frontage.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural open countryside adjacent AONB Gateway / approach to village Rural context & setting of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Long road frontage along south / south-eastern boundary – also route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way. Residential properties along lane to east and south of parcel. The parcel is currently well-screened from view along lane by tall, dense native hedge but if lost or trimmed lower, there would be clear views in. From slightly further away there are clear views over the hedge to the steeply rising land. Visible from British Camp and other parts of the Malvern Hills, over Sidings Wood. Ridgeline and Raven Hill Wood form screen to west and north: very limited visibility from PRoW on west side of wood. Hedge also partly screens views from PRoW south of lane, the mid and upper parts of the parcel are however in view looking north directly along PRoW WH13 Field visible from PRsoW to south east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along west side of Frith Wood): built form on slope would be visible from these VPs, albeit with woodland backdrop. Also visible from VP2. Field is most closely visible looking along Petty France Lane eastwards on Herefs Trail / Geopark Way, at village gateway.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way run along length of south boundary Built form would be visible from PRsoW to south east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way) and more prominently from the east on the Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way at the village gateway and looking north along PRoW WH13. <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties) Intervisibility with British Camp & other parts of Malvern Hills

RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	Adjacent AONB Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way run along lane on parcel's south / south-eastern boundary (no footway)	<u>Key Issues:</u> Adjacent AONB Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way adjacent
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients. Access may potentially be physically feasible off the lane, but if there is a sightline issue, this would result in loss of hedgerow. ALC Good to Moderate.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steeply-sloping land Potential loss of hedgerow to achieve sightlines
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 01:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	High	Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Views from British Camp and the other part of the Malvern Hills in this sector of the AONB are of a very sparsely-settled landscape with densely-wooded ridgelines. This means that the location and siting of any new built form and removal of vegetation especially on higher ground would have to be very carefully considered. Any new buildings should be sparsely-scattered and kept at a low density, in colours and materials that camouflage / integrate into the landscape. Mitigation by way of screen planting should be considered, but it must be locally-appropriate.

PARCEL No. 02	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. South side of Raycombe Lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Moderate	Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 103 Malvern Hills (but also close to eastern boundary of NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands)	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but on boundary with Principal Wooded Hills (PWH)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>North-eastern gateway / approach to village on south side of Raycombe Lane.</p> <p>Rural / agricultural / wooded character, scattered wayside properties. Hope End Registered Park and Garden lies c. 350m to east.</p> <p>Area has limited physical association with / is divorced from village, situated on north-eastern outskirts.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to the north and west due to topography & vegetation, but more open to south / south east, with steep south east-facing slope which continues down to watercourse on east side of village. Frith Wood on skyline to south east and occasional long-distance views to south (incl. May Hill).</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in better condition on north side of lane than south side in this part of sector.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of LCT Divorced from village Gateway / approach In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed south east-facing slope Condition generally good / very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises small, sloping, triangular grassed paddock to east of, and associated with recently-built brick property on south side of junction between Raycombe Lane and Petty France Lane. The site was previously occupied by the village stores and post office.</p> <p>On edge of open countryside.</p> <p>Landuse: garden / grazing</p> <p>In prominent location on upper valley slopes.</p> <p>Well-managed native hedgerow along lane frontage on north-western boundary, other boundaries hedged with some escaped trees.</p> <p>Associated with small cluster of properties to north east of junction, and equestrian complex further south. From this part of lane there is no intervisibility with the latter, but both are clearly visible from Petty France Lane to the east.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent location on edge of open countryside Road frontage Some erosion of elements and features, others intact
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	<p>Parcel shown as orchard on mid-C19 map.</p> <p>Hope End Registered Park and Garden lies c. 350m to east.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted

Biodiversity	Potential wildlife habitats on and around parcel	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Function	In rural open countryside in AONB at north-eastern gateway / approach to village. Contribution to rural context and setting of village along road frontage limited due to localised 'domesticated' character. However, there is a fine, albeit glimpsed, long-distance view from the lane across the parcel. If developed, view would be reduced, as would the small but locally-important green gap between the adjacent house and the equestrian complex.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural open countryside in AONB Gateway / approach to village Forms part of small but important green gap Development could adversely affect rural context & setting of village, & would reduce green gap
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Road frontage along north-western boundary – also route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way. Residential properties adjacent and to north of parcel, as well as others to the east with views in. Land currently partially screened from near-distance views along lane by native hedge but if lost or trimmed lower, there would be clear views in. Visible from Petty France Lane (Geopark Way / key village VP2) to the east. Topography and woodland screen long-distance views from west and north. Land visible from PRsoW to south east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along west side of Frith Wood) and prominent from VP2 and Petty France Lane to east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way).	<u>Key Issues:</u> Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way run along length of north-western boundary Development would adversely affect views from local lanes esp. key village VP2 (Geopark Way) Built form would be visible from PRsoW to south east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way) <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way run along lane on parcel's north-western boundary (no footway)	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way adjacent
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Slope is potential constraint to development. Separate access would result in partial loss of hedgerow and may be sightline issues ALC Good to Moderate.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Sloping land Potential loss of hedgerow to achieve sightlines

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 02:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Moderate	Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
If Parcels 02 and 03 both developed, there could be unacceptable cumulative effects due to the closure of the important green, rural gap: settlement would extend all the way along the lane from the Raycombe Lane / Petty France Lane junction to the centre of the village. Effects would be reduced if any future development was restricted to a single dwelling in a large garden, and native roadside hedgerow retained and managed.

PARCEL No. 03	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. South side of Raycombe Lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Moderate	Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 103 Malvern Hills (but also close to eastern boundary of NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands)	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but on boundary with Principal Wooded Hills (PWH)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>North-eastern gateway / approach to village on south side of Raycombe Lane.</p> <p>Rural / agricultural / wooded character, scattered wayside properties.</p> <p>Area has limited physical association with / is divorced from village, situated on north-eastern outskirts.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to the north and west due to topography & vegetation, but more open to south / south east, with steep south east-facing slope which continues down to watercourse on east side of village. Frith Wood on skyline to south east and occasional long-distance views to south (incl. May Hill).</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in better condition on north side of lane than south side in this part of sector.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of LCT Divorced from village Gateway / approach Condition generally good, although locally moderate to low In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed south east-facing slope
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises two small, square, grassed paddocks, and an area of hardstanding used for parking, storage etc. Paddocks subdivided by timber post and rail.</p> <p>Open countryside.</p> <p>Associated with large equestrian complex adjacent to west, with significant visual clutter especially incongruous ornamental boundary features, signage, and current damage to roadside.</p> <p>Landuse: Horse-keeping (grazing / parking / storage)</p> <p>In prominent location on upper valley slopes.</p> <p>Well-managed native hedgerow along lane frontage on northern boundary.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Prominent location Road frontage Erosion of landcover, clutter associated with horse-keeping
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	Tithe & mid-C19 maps show parcel was originally part of single, larger field called Cowley Meadow - now much subdivided (Parcels 03, 04 plus field to east, 05 & 06, and equestrian complex yard / buildings).	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted

Biodiversity		<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Function	In rural open countryside in AONB at north-eastern gateway / approach to village. Contribution to rural context and setting of village along road frontage limited due to restricted visibility (views screened by hedge), but would be much greater if no hedge. If developed, the important green gap between the house along the lane to the north east and the equestrian complex would be reduced.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural open countryside in AONB Gateway / approach to village Development could adversely affect rural context & setting of village, & would reduce important green gap
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Road frontage along northern boundary – also route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way. Residential properties adjacent and to north of parcel, as well as others to the east with views in. Land currently screened from near-distance views along lane by native hedge but if lost or trimmed lower, there would be clear views in. Within 'Exceptional' view corridor from Malvern Hills AONB: intervisibility with British Camp and other parts of Hills, the south east part of the parcel being more prominent. Visible from PRoW along western boundary. Topography and woodland screen long-distance views from west and north, but visible from Petty France Lane (Geopark Way / key village VP2) to east. Land visible from PRsoW to south east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along west side of Frith Wood), although probably only for a short section of the path due to domed topography south of parcel.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way run along length of northern boundary Hedge currently screens view from lane to north but visible from lane to east (Geopark Way / key village VP2) Within 'Exceptional' view corridor from Malvern Hills AONB: intervisibility with British Camp & other parts of Hills Built form would be visible from PRsoW to south east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way) <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way run along lane on parcel's northern boundary (no footway)	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way adjacent
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	ALC Good to Moderate.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 03:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Low	Moderate
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Moderate	Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>The capacity of the northern part of the parcel (hardstanding) is considerably greater than the areas of paddock to the south. Any new built development should be restricted to the hardstanding area; the paddocks should be retained as green open space / gardens.</p> <p>The green rural gap between parcels 2 and 3 is very important; settlement should not extend all the way along the lane from the Raycombe Lane / Petty France Lane junction to the centre of the village. Therefore any future development of parcel 3 should be restricted to good quality single dwellings in large gardens with the native roadside hedgerow retained and managed.</p> <p>Any new built form should be located so it does not break the skyline and adversely affect local and / or wider views (the parcel is visible from British Camp). Views from British Camp and the other part of the Malvern Hills in this sector of the AONB are of a very sparsely-settled landscape with densely-wooded ridgelines. This means that the location and siting of any new built form and removal of vegetation especially on higher ground would have to be very carefully considered. Any new buildings should be sparsely-scattered and kept at a low density, in colours and materials that camouflage / integrate into the landscape. Mitigation by way of screen planting should be considered, but it must be locally-appropriate.</p>

PARCEL No. 04	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. South side of Raycombe Lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	Very Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 103 Malvern Hills (but also close to eastern boundary of NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands).	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but influenced by Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	Rural / agricultural / wooded character, scattered wayside properties. Area has limited physical association with / is divorced from village, situated on north-eastern outskirts. Limited association with wider landscapes to the north and west due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south east, with steep south east-facing slope which continues down to watercourse on east side of village. Frith Wood on skyline to south east and occasional long-distance views to south (incl. May Hill). Landscape elements & features generally in better condition on north side of lane than south side in this part of sector.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of LCT Divorced from village In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed east-facing slope Condition generally good / very good, although locally moderate to low
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	Parcel comprises large, open, featureless grass field with steep, undulating east-facing slope. Open countryside. Associated with large equestrian complex adjacent to west. Landuse: Horse-keeping (grazing). Forms large part of setting & context of northern edge of village in views from Petty France Lane to north east. Also seen from some places as foreground to extensive, panoramic vista to south. Visual clutter from timber post-and-rail fencing, erosion of landcover, and other paraphernalia associated with horse-keeping. Overhead line of cables on double poles also a detractor. Good, mature native hedge along south boundary with PRoW to north side, and woodland adjacent to south-eastern boundary.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Prominent in views from north east Erosion of landcover, clutter associated with horse-keeping
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) within parcel. Tithe & mid-C19 maps show parcel was originally part of single, larger field called Cowley Meadow - now much subdivided (Parcels 03, 04 plus field to east, 05 & 06, and equestrian complex yard /	<u>Key Issues:</u> Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) within parcel

	buildings). Original (C19) boundary with Hope End Farm orchards was straight, and is still visible on aerial photos.	
Biodiversity	Good, mature native hedge along south boundary forms important wildlife corridor between habitats (well-wooded gardens to west, and woodland adjacent to south-eastern boundary).	<u>Key Issues:</u> Limited biodiversity potential on grazed areas, but likely to be high along south boundary
Landscape Function	In rural open countryside: good contribution to character of AONB Forms large part of setting & context of northern edge of village in views from Petty France Lane to north east. Also seen from some places as foreground to extensive, panoramic vista to south.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In rural open countryside: good contribution to character of AONB Prominent in near-distance views from north east / east, making important contribution to rural setting and context of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Forms large part of setting & context of northern edge of village in views from Petty France Lane to north east - key village VP2 and Geopark Way. Also in foreground of extensive, panoramic vista to south from key village VP3. Clear views from PRoW along south boundary. Otherwise relatively limited visual envelope due to local topography & vegetation.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent in views from north east including Geopark Way along Petty France Lane (key village VP2), & from key village VP3 Visible from PRoW along south boundary <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB. PRoW along south boundary.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRoW along south boundary
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients. If new access created off lane, likely loss of important roadside hedgerow to achieve sightlines. ALC Good to Moderate.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slope Sightline issue may result in loss of hedgerow.

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 04:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Low	Moderate
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	Very Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
N/A

PARCEL No. 05	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. South side of Raycombe Lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	Very Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 103 Malvern Hills (but also close to eastern boundary of NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands)	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but influenced by Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to east	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	Rural / agricultural / wooded character, scattered wayside properties. Area has limited physical association with / is divorced from village, situated on north-eastern outskirts. Limited association with wider landscapes to the north and west due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south east, with steep south east-facing slope which continues down to watercourse on east side of village. Frith Wood on skyline to south east and occasional long-distance views to south (incl. May Hill). Landscape elements & features generally in better condition on north side of lane than south side in this part of sector.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of LCT Divorced from village In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed east-facing slope Condition generally good, although locally moderate to low
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	Parcel comprises small to medium-sized featureless grass field, associated with large equestrian complex adjacent to north west. Open countryside. Locally prominent topography and high point – dome-shaped hill forming 'break' between village to west and open countryside to east and south. One of few places in & around village where influence of Malvern Hills to east is experienced. Landuse: Horse-keeping (grazing) Forms part of setting & context of northern edge of village in views from Petty France Lane to north east. Visual clutter from timber post-and-rail fencing, erosion of landcover, and other paraphernalia associated with horse-keeping. Overhead lines of cables also detractors. Poor eroded / domesticated boundary between field and paddock / rear gardens to west: steep slope down to houses in centre of village.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside. Prominent in views from north east Within influence of Malvern Hills Erosion of landcover, elements & features, clutter associated with horse-keeping
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)

Historic Landscape	Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) within parcel Tithe & mid-C19 maps show parcel was originally part of single, larger field called Cowley Meadow - now much subdivided (Parcels 03, 04 plus field to east, 05 & 06, and equestrian complex yard / buildings).	<u>Key Issues:</u> Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) within parcel
Biodiversity	Landuse, and loss / erosion of boundary hedges & trees is likely to result in limited biodiversity value.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Limited biodiversity potential on grazed areas and boundaries
Landscape Function	In rural open countryside, contributing to character of AONB Locally prominent topography and high point – dome-shaped hill forming 'break' between village to west and open countryside to east and south.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In rural open countryside, contributing to character of AONB Prominent high point forming break between village to west and open countryside to east and south. Important contribution to rural setting and context of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Prominent in views from Petty France Lane to north east (Geopark Way and key village VP2), making important contribution to rural setting and context of village. Clear views of parcel from PRsoW along west and south boundaries. Malvern Hills' summits (including British Camp) & upper slopes visible on skyline ('Exceptional' AONB viewpoint and view corridor) from PRow along west boundary - key village VP19. Although topography means land within parcel is barely visible from the village, it is likely that new built form would intrude into the wooded skyline. This would give rise to localised visual effects as the wooded skylines are an important characteristic of the villagescape.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Within 'Exceptional' view corridor from Malvern Hills AONB: intervisibility with British Camp & other parts of Hills Prominent in views from north east (key village VP2) Parcel visible from PRsoW along west (key village VP19) & south boundaries <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB PRsoW along west and south boundaries	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRsoW along west & south boundaries

OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>No direct access to highway (possible through parcel 03 to north).</p> <p>ALC Good to Moderate.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slopes</p> <p>No direct access to parcel from highway.</p>
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 05:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	High	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	Very Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Views from British Camp and the other part of the Malvern Hills in this sector of the AONB are of a very sparsely-settled landscape with densely-wooded ridgelines. This means that the location and siting of any new built form and removal of vegetation especially on higher ground would have to be very carefully considered. Any new buildings should be sparsely-scattered and kept at a low density, in colours and materials that camouflage / integrate into the landscape. Mitigation by way of screen planting should be considered, but it must be locally-appropriate.</p>

PARCEL No. 06	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. South of Raycombe Lane, east of The Common	
Landscape Capacity:	Moderate	Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 103 Malvern Hills but west side of parcel forms boundary with NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Village is characterised by steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches.</p> <p>Highest point in village is c. 160m AOD at north-eastern edge. Lowest point is c. 85m AOD at southern end.</p> <p>Significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>This combination of topography and vegetation results in the village being remarkably well-contained where 'inward-looking'; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Villagescape character is very varied, displaying a wide variety of buildings ranging from C16 timber-framed to C21 red brick houses, several different building materials (including the distinctive yellow ochre stone) and styles.</p> <p>This great natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Village is generally very well-maintained and managed. Landscape elements & features generally in good condition and intact.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steeply-sloping and densely-wooded character results in this sector of village being very 'contained', with very limited influence in wider landscape; also important characteristic of villagescape, along with diversity of built form Linear settlement pattern Condition generally good / very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel lies on west-facing slope at north-east edge of village, just below highest point in village (c. 160m AOD).</p> <p>Edge of open countryside but more closely associated with village due to orientation.</p> <p>Comprises a small, sloping grassed paddock with scattered orchard trees, and two small, linear paddocks to the south.</p> <p>Open countryside to east and properties along The Common to west (The Common is on route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way).</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Edge of open countryside Some local prominence but limited Some elements & features in good condition but erosion & clutter associated with horse-keeping

	Landuse: Horse-keeping (grazing) / pasture / grassland / garden. Some good, mature trees within / on boundaries of smaller paddocks, and good levels of management, but east & west boundaries of parcel mostly lost / eroded / domesticated.	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) within parcel Tithe & mid-C19 maps show parcel was originally part of single, larger field called Cowley Meadow - now much subdivided (Parcels 03, 04 plus field to east, 05 & 06, and equestrian complex yard / buildings).	<u>Key Issues:</u> Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) within parcel
Biodiversity	Potential for biodiversity in and on boundaries of smaller paddocks but limited in larger one apart from orchard trees.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Some biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	Limited function within village although contributes to green open and wooded slopes / skyline	<u>Key Issues:</u> Contributes to green open and wooded slopes / skyline
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Prominent in some localised views from part of village to west & possibly south west, including several residential properties although very limited visual envelope. Views through gaps between properties from The Common (NB route of Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way). Potential skyline issue if upper parts of slopes developed. Clearly visible from PRoW alongside eastern boundary (off-site) but potential for mitigation with appropriate planting (i.e. robust native hedge & trees).	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent in some localised views from part of village Views through gaps from Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way, though overall visibility limited Visible from PRoW along east boundary (off-site) <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB PRoW along east boundary (off-site) Routes of Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way run along The Common to west.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRoW along east boundary (off-site) Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way close to west

OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>The parcel overlooks the rear of existing housing fronting The Common</p> <p>No direct access to highway (possible through equestrian complex to north).</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes No direct access to parcel from highway.</p>
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 06:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Low	Moderate
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Low	Moderate
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Low	Moderate
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Low	Moderate
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Moderate	Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Capacity is close to Moderate, but categorised as Moderate to Low due to contribution to green gaps which are an important characteristic of the built-up parts of the village. Any new built form should be located so it does not break the skyline. Parcel overlooks the rear of existing housing fronting The Common; this would require careful consideration if developed, as mitigation of this is likely to be difficult.</p>

PARCEL No. 07	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. South of Raycombe Lane, east side of Ochre Hill	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 103 Malvern Hills but west side of parcel very close to boundary with NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but also influenced by Settled Farmlands and River Terrace, and Principal Wooded Hills LCTs to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>North-eastern tip of main village.</p> <p>Here, Ochre Hill runs along locally-distinctive ridgeline which separates east side of village from west, with land sloping away steeply on both sides.</p> <p>Many traditional C19 & earlier properties in this area, with access tracks following original routes.</p> <p>Marked difference in character between west and east sides of Ochre Hill.</p> <p>Along east side, significant mature trees along eastern boundaries of gardens and paddocks, beyond which steep south east-facing slopes fall to watercourse and rise again to Frith Wood. Landuse is mixture of pasture and commercial bush orchards. Extensive and high-quality panoramic views from many places to east (Frith Wood on skyline) & south (May Hill).</p> <p>Along west side of Ochre Hill, significant mature trees run along the upper part of the ridge, forming distinctive and locally-characteristic skyline from many directions.</p> <p>To north, land rises to highest point in village is c. 160m AOD at north-eastern edge. Lowest point of village is c. 85m AOD at southern end.</p> <p>Area has limited association with wider landscapes to the north and west due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good / very good condition although some localised erosion.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> <p>In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed south east-facing slope</p> <p>Marked difference between west (village) and east (open countryside) sides of Ochre Hill</p> <p>Historic part of village</p> <p>Significant vegetation</p> <p>Condition generally good / very good</p>
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises several mature, ornamental gardens beyond properties on south east-facing slope of Ochre Hill at north-east edge of village.</p> <p>On edge of open countryside.</p> <p>Just below highest point in village (c. 160m AOD).</p> <p>Forms important element in setting and context of northern edge of village in views from south east.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> <p>Edge of open countryside</p> <p>Prominent in views from south east</p> <p>Important element in setting & context of village</p> <p>Mostly in excellent condition, high quality ornamental landscapes</p>

	Residential properties scattered along ridgeline to north and south. Significant vegetation within gardens including large area covered by TPO. Also significant mature trees along eastern boundaries of properties' gardens / paddocks. Mostly in excellent condition.	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB. Large area covered by TPO.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB) TPO = High Value
Historic Landscape	Tithe map (1841) shows small cluster of properties in large gardens extant, with same access as today, off The Common and along the track (Ochre Hill PRoW). mid-C19 map shows loss of two buildings at north end of track (a property has been built there since then). Mature trees shown on mid-C19 map – ornamental (deciduous & evergreen), and orchards.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Historic part of settlement with many locally important & diverse elements & features (landscape & built form)
Biodiversity	Part of parcel designated Priority Habitat Inventory ('No main habitat but additional habitat exists (England)') High potential for biodiversity due to diverse habitats with significant tree cover, location on edge of open countryside, and direct connection to other important habitats in wider landscape via hedgerow corridor to south east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI) site within parcel High biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	Important element in historic setting & context of northern edge of village in views from south east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Context & setting of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Prominent in views from south east (esp. key village VPs 4, 5 & 6 – Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way), making important contribution to setting and context of village. Clear sightline to Malvern Hills Partial visibility from PRsoW along west and north boundaries. A few residential receptors in close proximity. Very limited visibility from north, south and west due to topography and vegetation. Any new development may potentially be visible from key village VP2 to north east, although views currently well-screened by mature vegetation.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent in views from south east (key village VPs 4, 5 & 6) Partially visible from local PRsoW <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)

RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB. PRsoW along west and north boundaries (off-site).	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRsoW along west and north boundaries (off-site)
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients No direct access to parcel from highway, and Ochre Hill is significant constraint to additional traffic.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes No direct access to parcel from highway.
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 07:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)		High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)		High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)		Moderate High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *		Moderate High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)		Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *		Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
N/A

PARCEL No. 08	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. East of The Common	
Landscape Capacity:	Moderate	Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but east side of parcel on boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>In north-eastern sector of main village, Ochre Hill runs along locally-distinctive ridgeline which separates west side of village from east, with land sloping away steeply on both sides and marked difference in character between both sides of Ochre Hill.</p> <p>Along west side of Ochre Hill, significant mature trees run along the upper part of the ridge, forming distinctive and locally-characteristic skyline from many directions.</p> <p>Village to west is characterised by steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches.</p> <p>This distinctive combination of topography and vegetation results in parts of the village being remarkably well-contained where ‘inward-looking’; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Along east side of Ochre Hill, significant mature trees along eastern boundaries of gardens / paddocks, beyond which steep south east-facing slopes fall to watercourse and rise again to Frith Wood. Landuse is mixture of pasture and commercial bush orchards. Extensive and high-quality panoramic views from many places to east (Frith Wood on skyline) & south (May Hill).</p> <p>Area has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good condition although some localised erosion.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Marked difference between west (village) and east (open countryside) sides of Ochre Hill Steeply-sloping and densely-wooded character results in this sector of village being very ‘contained’, with limited influence in wider landscape; also important characteristic of villagescape, along with diversity of built form Significant wooded ridgeline Condition generally good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel lies on west side of Ochre Hill (adjacent to track / PRoW) and on prominent ridgeline in north east sector of main village.</p> <p>Comprises very small area of grassland surrounded by fine, mature trees which make important contribution to significant vegetation on ridgeline – this is a key local characteristic.</p> <p>Quite narrow strip of flatter land adjacent track, then very steep slope down to The Common and properties in village below.</p> <p>Robust, well-managed native hedge along track / east boundary.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent location on Ochre Hill Significant vegetation

	Trees appear to be in very good condition.	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	Tithe map (1841) shows parcel was probably land associated with property to the west, but less significant vegetation shown in vicinity of site on mid-C19 map.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Biodiversity	Very good potential for biodiversity due to significant tree cover in and around parcel.	<u>Key Issues:</u> High biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	Integral part of Ochre Hill's distinctive wooded ridgeline.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Wooded ridgeline important characteristic of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	<p>Ochre Hill ridgeline is prominent in views from south east (esp. key village VP5 – Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way), making important contribution to setting and context of village. Any built development on parcel would be visible from here. Well-spaced built form is characteristic along ridgeline so single, small, well-designed additional dwelling could potentially be accommodated in visual terms.</p> <p>Trees in and around parcel are highly important characteristic of village. So long as the trees were retained, new built form would not break skylines as trees form backdrop (and screen views from west, although visibility higher in winter without leaf cover).</p> <p>Parcel visible from Ochre Hill track / PRoW on east boundary.</p> <p>Residential receptors in close proximity.</p> <p>Very limited visibility from north and south due to topography and vegetation.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent in views from south east (key village VP5) Visible from Ochre Hill track / PRoW Visibility from west likely to be higher in winter Any loss of trees would give rise to unacceptable adverse effects <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB. Well-used PRoW along Ochre Hill track to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRoW along Ochre Hill track to east

OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, although there is some flatter ground.</p> <p>No direct access to parcel from highway, and Ochre Hill is significant constraint to additional traffic.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes No direct access to parcel from highway.</p>
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 08:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Moderate	Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Well-spaced built form is characteristic along ridgeline so a single, small, well-designed additional dwelling could potentially be accommodated in visual terms.</p> <p>Trees in and around parcel are highly important characteristic of village. So long as trees were retained, new built form would not break skyline as trees form backdrop. Otherwise, loss of trees would result in unacceptable adverse effects.</p>

PARCEL No. 09	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. East side of Ochre Hill	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	Very Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	Mostly NCA 103 Malvern Hills but boundary of NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands runs through south west corner of parcel.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but influenced by Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to east and Settled Farmlands on River Terrace to east and south.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	Rural / pastoral / wooded character with extensive areas of commercial bush orchards. Scattered settlement along Ochre Hill ridge to west, unsettled to east apart from historic farmstead. Area has limited physical association with / is divorced from village, situated beyond eastern outskirts. Limited association with wider landscapes to north and west due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south east, with steep south east-facing slope which continues down to watercourse on east side of village. Frith Wood on skyline to south east and occasional long-distance views to south (incl. May Hill). Natural landscape elements & features generally in very good condition.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural / pastoral / wooded character with extensive areas of commercial bush orchards Unsettled Divorced from village In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed east-facing slope Condition generally very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	Parcel comprises large, open, featureless grass field on east side of village in open countryside. Exposed, steep south east-facing slope down to well-wooded watercourse on south-eastern boundary. Woodland includes traditional alder carr habitat. Landuse: Pasture. Forms large part of setting and context of eastern side of village in views from south east. Also seen from north east as foreground to extensive, panoramic vista to south. Several PRsoW on boundaries / in vicinity: one to north side of parcel (off-site), continuing south-eastwards. Joins PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) which crosses field to south of parcel and runs along southern boundary of field along watercourse, continuing to Frith Wood and turning south east. Western boundary of parcel has significant, mature predominantly native vegetation along its length; to west of this are gardens and properties on Ochre Hill ridgeline.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Prominent in views from south-east & north east (Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way) Important contribution to rural setting and context of village Significant vegetation on boundaries Several PRsoW on boundaries / in vicinity In very good condition

	Very good, well-managed vegetation on north, east and south boundaries – native hedgerows and trees including very scattered, fine mature oaks.	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe & mid-C19 maps show field as 'Dogberry Field', although southern end has subsequently been extended (boundary lost) to include western side of field called 'Bridge Moor'. This may have been one of the points where the watercourse could be crossed at that time.</p> <p>C19 landscape patterns and landuse have remained almost unchanged: woodland, pasture bounded by hedges, and orchards (also hopyard fields shown on the tithe map).</p> <p>Alder carr habitat along watercourse is characteristic of Saxon landscapes.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith, an historic C16 – C17 farmstead to the south east: Grade II listed building, also associated Grade II barn and attached wheelhouse. Potential for adverse effects on setting.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Historic field patterns Alder carr Setting of Grade II listed buildings
Biodiversity	<p>Significant, mature boundary vegetation, pasture and watercourse are all important habitats: likelihood of presence of, and / or use by, European Protected Species (EPS).</p> <p>Eastern boundary and watercourse form part of key wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality and associated aquatic / terrestrial habitats and species.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very high biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	<p>In rural open countryside: good contribution to character of AONB.</p> <p>Forms large part of historic rural setting and context of eastern side of village in views from south east.</p> <p>High quality, rural foreground to extensive, panoramic vistas to south, in views from Petty France Lane to north east.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> In rural open countryside: good contribution to character of AONB Setting and context of village Important element in panoramic views from north east

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Several PRsoW on boundaries / in vicinity: one to north side of parcel (off-site), continuing south-eastwards. Joins PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) which crosses field to south of parcel and runs along southern boundary of field along watercourse, continuing to Frith Wood and turning south east.</p> <p>Field is clearly visible in foreground of view from key village VP3 along Petty France Lane to north east, forming integral part of fine panoramic views to south. Note that key village VP3 is adjacent to boundary of Hope End Registered Park and Garden (RPG).</p> <p>Field is less visible in views from key village VP2 due to topography and vegetation along parcel's northern boundary, but built development would still be visible (more so in winter without leaf cover) and would form an unacceptable intrusion into the good quality rural and unsettled open countryside east of the village.</p> <p>Clearly visible from Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along edge of Frith Wood to south east (key village VPs 4, 5 & 6), forming important part of historic rural setting & context of eastern side of village.</p> <p>Partially visible from PRoW (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way) crossing field beyond south boundary (key village VP18).</p> <p>Limited visual envelope to west of Ochre Hill and south west due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Few detractors (line of overhead cables on poles crossing field).</p> <p>Few residential receptors.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith, an historic C16 – C17 farmstead to the south east: Grade II listed building, also associated Grade II barn and attached wheelhouse.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Several PRsoW on boundaries / in vicinity</p> <p>Prominent in views from north east (key village VP3 adjacent RPG), south-east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way key village VPs 4, 5 & 6), & partially visible from PRoW (key village VP18) to south</p> <p>Historic & rural setting & context of village</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u></p> <p>Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>Several PRsoW on boundaries / in vicinity: one to north side of parcel (off-site), continuing south-eastwards. Joins PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) which crosses field to south of parcel and runs along southern boundary of field along watercourse, continuing to Frith Wood and turning south east.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>In AONB</p> <p>Several PRsoW on boundaries / in vicinity</p>

OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>No access to public highway.</p> <p>Flood risk along watercourse at south-eastern boundary</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality of watercourse on boundary.</p> <p>ALC Good to Moderate.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slope</p> <p>No access to public highway</p> <p>Flood risk (small part of site)</p> <p>Potential for adverse effects on water quality</p>
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 09:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	High	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	Very Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
N/A

PARCEL No. 10	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. South of Raycombe Lane, east side of Ochre Hill	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	Lies on boundary between NCA 103 Malvern Hills (east side) and NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands (west side).	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but also influenced by Settled Farmlands and River Terrace, and Principal Wooded Hills LCTs to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Eastern side of main village.</p> <p>Here, Ochre Hill runs along locally-distinctive ridgeline which separates east side of village from west, with land sloping away steeply on both sides.</p> <p>Many traditional C19 and earlier properties in this area, with access tracks following original routes.</p> <p>Marked difference in character between west and east sides of Ochre Hill.</p> <p>Along east side, significant mature trees along eastern boundaries of gardens, beyond which steep south east-facing slopes fall to watercourse and rise again to Frith Wood.</p> <p>Landuse is mixture of pasture and commercial bush orchards.</p> <p>Extensive and high-quality panoramic views from many places to east (Frith Wood on skyline) & south (May Hill).</p> <p>Along west side of Ochre Hill, significant mature trees run along the upper part of the ridge, forming distinctive and locally-characteristic skyline from many directions.</p> <p>To north, land rises to highest point in village is c. 160m AOD at north-eastern edge (lowest point of village is c. 85m AOD at southern end).</p> <p>Area has limited association with wider landscapes to the north and west due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good / very good condition although some localised erosion.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> <p>In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed south east-facing slope</p> <p>Marked difference between west (village) and east (open countryside) sides of Ochre Hill</p> <p>Historic part of village</p> <p>Significant vegetation</p> <p>Condition generally good / very good</p>
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises a series of small, grassed fields / paddocks / rear garden areas on south east-facing slope of Ochre Hill at north-east edge of village.</p> <p>On edge of open countryside.</p> <p>Forms important element in setting & context of east side of village in views from south east.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> <p>Edge of open countryside</p> <p>Prominent in views from south east</p> <p>Important element in setting & context of village</p> <p>Mostly in very good condition</p>

	<p>Ochre Hill track and PRoW runs along western boundary.</p> <p>Residential property on west side of parcel, and others scattered along ridgeline to north and south.</p> <p>Significant vegetation including mature trees on boundaries dividing plots and along eastern boundary.</p> <p>Mostly in very good condition.</p>	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	Tithe and other mid-C19 maps show similar arrangement of orchards and gardens with mature trees.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Historic part of settlement with many locally important & diverse elements & features (landscape & built form)
Biodiversity	Very good potential for biodiversity due to diverse habitats with significant tree cover, location on edge of open countryside, and direct connection to other important habitats in wider landscape via hedgerow corridors.	<u>Key Issues:</u> High biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	Important element in historic setting & context of eastern side of village in views from south east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Context & setting of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	<p>Ochre Hill ridgeline is prominent in views from south east (esp. key village VP5 – Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way), making important contribution to setting and context of village.</p> <p>Any built development on parcel breaking skyline would be visible from here. Some screening of lower levels due to mature trees (greater level of visibility in winter).</p> <p>Partial visibility from Ochre Hill track / PRoW to west, limited visibility from PRoW (also Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way) crossing field south of southern boundary – key village VP18 - but only screened by vegetation.</p> <p>A few residential receptors in close proximity.</p> <p>Very limited visibility from north, south and west due to topography and vegetation.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent in views from south east along Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way and key village VPs 4, 5 & 6 Partially visible from PRoW along west boundary <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)

RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB. PRoW along west boundary (track along Ochre Hill)	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRoW along west boundary (off-site)
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients No direct access to parcel from highway, and Ochre Hill is significant constraint to additional traffic.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes No direct access to parcel from highway.
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 10:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	High	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Well-spaced built form is characteristic along ridgeline so two small, well-designed additional dwellings could potentially be accommodated in visual terms. Trees in and around parcel are highly important characteristic of village. So long as trees were retained, new built form would not break skyline as trees form backdrop. Otherwise, loss of trees would result in unacceptable adverse effects.

PARCEL No. 11	LOCATION: North to East sector of study area. East of The Common	
Landscape Capacity:	Moderate	Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but very close to boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>In north-eastern sector of main village, Ochre Hill runs along locally-distinctive ridgeline which separates west side of village from east, with land sloping away steeply on both sides and marked difference in character between both sides of Ochre Hill.</p> <p>Along west side of Ochre Hill, significant mature trees run along the upper part of the ridge, forming distinctive and locally-characteristic skyline from many directions.</p> <p>Village to west is characterised by steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches.</p> <p>This distinctive combination of topography and vegetation results in parts of the village being remarkably well-contained where ‘inward-looking’; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Along east side of Ochre Hill, significant mature trees along eastern boundaries of gardens / paddocks, beyond which steep south east-facing slopes fall to watercourse and rise again to Frith Wood. Landuse is mixture of pasture and commercial bush orchards. Extensive and high-quality panoramic views from many places to east (Frith Wood on skyline) & south (May Hill).</p> <p>Area has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good condition although some localised erosion.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Marked difference between west (village) and east (open countryside) sides of Ochre Hill Steeply-sloping and densely-wooded character results in this sector of village being very ‘contained’, with limited influence in wider landscape; also important characteristic of villagescape, along with diversity of built form Significant wooded ridgeline Condition generally good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel lies on west side of Ochre Hill (adjacent to track / PRoW) and on prominent ridgeline in north east sector of main village.</p> <p>Comprises small area covered by fine, mature trees which make important contribution to significant vegetation on ridgeline – this is a key local characteristic.</p> <p>Quite narrow strip of flatter land adjacent track, then very steep slope down to The Common and properties in village below.</p> <p>Trees appear to be in very good condition.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent location on Ochre Hill Significant vegetation

Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	Tithe map (1841) shows parcel as two separate plots ('Plecks')	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Biodiversity	High potential for biodiversity due to significant tree cover in and around parcel.	<u>Key Issues:</u> High biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	Integral part of Ochre Hill's distinctive wooded ridgeline.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Wooded ridgeline important characteristic of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Ochre Hill ridgeline is prominent in views from south east (esp. key village VP5 – Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way), making important contribution to setting and context of village. Any built development on parcel breaking skyline would be visible from here. Trees in and around parcel are highly important characteristic of village, and are visible from key village VP11 to west. Loss of trees here would give rise to unacceptable adverse effects. Parcel visible from Ochre Hill track / PRoW on east boundary. Residential receptors in close proximity. Very limited visibility from north and south due to topography and vegetation.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent in views from south east (key village VP5) Visible from Ochre Hill track / PRoW Loss of trees would give rise to unacceptable adverse effects <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB. Well-used PRoW along Ochre Hill track to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRoW along Ochre Hill track to east
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slopes are potential constraint to development. No direct access to parcel from highway, and Ochre Hill is significant constraint to additional traffic.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes No direct access to parcel from highway

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 11:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Moderate	Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Well-spaced built form is characteristic along ridgeline so it is possible that one or two, small, well-designed additional dwellings could potentially be accommodated on the parcel.</p> <p>Trees in and around parcel are highly important characteristic of village. Loss of trees would result in unacceptable adverse effects.</p>

PARCEL No. 12	LOCATION: East to South sector of study area. South-eastern end of Ochre Hill, east of Horse Road	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	Very Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	Boundary between NCA 103 Malvern Hills and NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands runs through centre of parcel.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but influenced by Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to east and Settled Farmlands on River Terrace to east and south.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	Rural / pastoral / wooded character with extensive areas of commercial bush orchards. Scattered settlement along Ochre Hill ridge to north and south east-facing slopes of ridgeline running through village to west. Unsettled to east apart from historic farmstead. Area has limited physical association with village, being situated beyond eastern outskirts. Limited association with wider landscapes to north and west due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south east, with steep south east-facing slope which continues down to watercourse on east side of village. Frith Wood on skyline to south east and occasional long-distance views to south (incl. May Hill). Natural landscape elements & features generally in very good condition.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural / pastoral / wooded character with extensive areas of commercial bush orchards. Unsettled. Limited association with village In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed east-facing slope Condition generally very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	Parcel comprises large, open, featureless grass field on east side of village in open countryside. Exposed, steep south east-facing slope down to well-wooded watercourse on south-eastern boundary, where land is slightly flatter and partially-screened by trees. Woodland includes traditional alder carr habitat. Landuse: Pasture. Forms important part of setting & context of eastern side of village in views from south east. Also seen from north east as foreground to extensive, panoramic vista to south. Well-used PRow (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) crosses through field, linking village to Frith Wood. North-eastern boundary is good, well-managed, mature native hedge with fine, escaped oak. Woodland belt and watercourse along south-eastern boundary delineate parish boundary.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Important contribution to rural setting and context of village Significant vegetation on boundaries PRow (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way) crosses site In very good condition

	<p>Western boundary of parcel has significant, mature mixed native and ornamental vegetation along its length; to west of this are several small fields / paddocks associated with properties at the southern, lower end of the Ochre Hill ridgeline.</p> <p>Landscape elements and features generally in very good condition.</p>	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map shows parcel subdivided, with 'Dogberry Field' to the north, and Pudding Clog to the south (the latter suggests that this field flooded / was poorly drained, having the watercourse along its eastern boundary).</p> <p>Later mid-C19 map shows a slightly different arrangement – Dogberry, Pudding Clog, and a small area of coppice, have been amalgamated into one field (today, the coppice is once again a separate field, not part of this parcel).</p> <p>A track is shown crossing the field and the watercourse, leading to Frith Farm (or, The Frith), an historic C16 – C17 farmstead lying to the south east: Grade II listed building, also associated Grade II barn and attached wheelhouse.</p> <p>C19 landscape patterns and landuse have otherwise remained almost unchanged: woodland, pasture bounded by hedges, and orchards (also hopyard fields shown on the tithe map).</p> <p>Alder carr habitat along watercourse is characteristic of Saxon landscapes.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith: potential for adverse effects on listed buildings' setting.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Historic field patterns</p> <p>Alder carr</p> <p>Setting of Grade II listed buildings</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Significant, mature boundary vegetation, pasture and watercourse are all important habitats: likelihood of presence of, and / or use by, European Protected Species (EPS).</p> <p>Eastern boundary and watercourse form part of key wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality and associated aquatic / terrestrial habitats and species.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very high biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>In rural open countryside: good contribution to character of AONB.</p> <p>Forms large part of historic rural setting & context of eastern side of village in views from south east.</p> <p>High quality, rural foreground to extensive, panoramic vistas to south, in views from Petty France Lane to north east.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>In rural open countryside: good contribution to character of AONB</p> <p>Setting and context of village</p> <p>Important element in panoramic views from north east</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Well-used PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) crossing parcel: key village VP18.</p> <p>Field is clearly visible in mid-ground of view from key village VP3 along Petty France Lane to north east, forming integral part of fine panoramic views to south. Note that VP3 is adjacent to boundary of Hope End Registered Park and Garden (RPG).</p> <p>Very limited views of field from key village VP2 due to topography and vegetation along parcel's northern boundary, but built development would still be visible (more so in winter without leaf cover) and would form an unacceptable intrusion into the good quality rural and unsettled open countryside east of the village. Occasional views possible from key village VP21.</p> <p>Clearly visible from Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along edge of Frith Wood to east and south east (key village VPs 4, 5 & 6), forming important part of historic rural setting & context of eastern side of village.</p> <p>Limited visual envelope to west of Ochre Hill and south west due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Few detractors (line of overhead cables on poles crossing field).</p> <p>Few residential receptors.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith, an historic C16 – C17 farmstead to the south east: Grade II listed building, also associated Grade II barn and attached wheelhouse.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) crossing parcel: key village VP18</p> <p>Clearly visible from north east (key village VP3 adjacent RPG), & east & south-east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way key village VPs 4, 5 & 6)</p> <p>Historic & rural setting & context of village</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u></p> <p>Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) crossing parcel.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>In AONB</p> <p>PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) crossing parcel</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>No direct access to public highway.</p> <p>Flood risk along watercourse along south-eastern boundary.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality of watercourse.</p> <p>ALC Very Good.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slope</p> <p>No direct access to public highway</p> <p>Flood risk</p> <p>Potential for adverse effects on water quality</p> <p>ALC Very Good</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 12:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	High	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	Very Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
N/A

PARCEL No. 13	LOCATION: East to South sector of study area. East side of Horse Road	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills close to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but influenced by Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to east and Settled Farmlands on River Terrace to east and south.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Character in this part of sector is relatively 'domesticated', being closely-associated with, and influenced by, the village.</p> <p>Complex, steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches. This area lies at southern end of Ochre Hill's sloping spur, and on the south east-facing side of the western spur.</p> <p>The village's distinctive combination of topography and vegetation results in it being remarkably well-contained where 'inward-looking'; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Villagescape character is very varied, displaying a wide variety of buildings ranging from C16 timber-framed to C21 red brick houses, several different building materials (including the distinctive yellow ochre stone) and styles.</p> <p>This great natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Rural / pastoral character to east of village more eroded in this area, but traditional field patterns still exist. Extensive areas of commercial bush orchards. Frith Wood dominates skyline to east and south east. Unsettled to east apart from historic farmstead.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and west due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south east.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features generally in very good condition.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Influence of settlement results in domesticated character In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed south east-facing slope Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises several small fields / paddocks / garden areas associated with properties (mixture of modern and old timber-frame) at the southern, lower end of the Ochre Hill ridgeline.</p> <p>Exposed, steep south east-facing slope down to well-wooded watercourse on southern boundary, where land is slightly flatter and</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Important contribution to rural setting and context of village

	<p>relatively well-screened by trees. Woodland includes traditional alder carr habitat.</p> <p>Landuse: Pasture / garden.</p> <p>In character terms, forms important part of setting & context of south-eastern side of village in views from south east, although mature trees screen views of the lower slopes.</p> <p>Also seen from north east in mid-ground of extensive, panoramic vista to south.</p> <p>PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) along northern boundary (off-site).</p> <p>Vegetation both on boundaries and within plots very mixed: some fine, mature trees along boundaries in parts, interspersed with young and mature ornamental species. Southern section of eastern boundary with parcel 12 delineated by change in landuse. Several free-standing trees.</p> <p>Woodland belt and watercourse along south-eastern boundary delineate parish boundary.</p> <p>Landscape elements and features generally in very good condition.</p>	<p>Significant vegetation on boundaries</p> <p>PRoW (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way) along northern boundary (off-site)</p> <p>In very good condition</p>
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel subdivided into the same plots as it is now. Several properties were scattered along both sides of Horse Road to the west: the gaps between them are now occupied by modern, red brick properties.</p> <p>Alder carr habitat along watercourse is characteristic of Saxon landscapes.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith (Grade II listed buildings): potential for adverse effects on setting.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Historic field patterns</p> <p>Alder carr</p> <p>Setting of Grade II listed buildings</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Significant, mature boundary vegetation, pasture, gardens and watercourse are all important habitats: likelihood of presence of, and / or use by, European Protected Species (EPS).</p> <p>Vegetation and watercourse form part of key wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality and associated aquatic / terrestrial habitats and species.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very high biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Forms part of historic rural setting & context of eastern side of village in views from east and south east.</p> <p>Visible in mid-ground of extensive, panoramic vistas to south, in views from Petty France Lane to north east, although area appears very well-wooded.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Setting and context of village</p> <p>Visible in panoramic views from north east</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) runs along northern boundary of parcel (off-site) but dense vegetation along this section currently screens views of the parcel.</p> <p>Parcel is visible in mid-ground of view from key village VP3 along Petty France Lane to north east, forming integral part of fine panoramic views to south. Note that VP3 is adjacent to boundary of Hope End Registered Park and Garden (RPG).</p> <p>Development would intrude into the good quality rural and unsettled open countryside east of the village. Area appears very well-wooded from certain viewpoints, but probably is more visible in winter without leaf cover. Any loss of trees would increase visibility.</p> <p>Visible from Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along edge of Frith Wood to east and south east (key village VPs 4, 5 & 6), although partially screened by mature trees. Several of the village's old, timber-framed properties are visible from here.</p> <p>Occasional views possible from key village VP21.</p> <p>Forms important part of historic rural setting & context of eastern side of village.</p> <p>Limited visual envelope to west of and south west due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Few residential receptors but properties along western boundary.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith, an historic C16 – C17 farmstead to the south east: Grade II listed building, also associated Grade II barn and attached wheelhouse.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) (off-site) Visible from north east (key village VP3 adjacent RPG), & east & south-east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way key village VPs 4, 5 & 6) Historic & rural setting & context of village</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB. PRoW (Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way) to north of parcel (off-site)</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRoW (Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way) to north of parcel (off-site)</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>No access to public highway.</p> <p>Flood risk along watercourse along southern boundary.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality of watercourse.</p> <p>ALC Very Good.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slope No access to public highway Flood risk Potential for adverse effects on water quality ALC Very Good</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 13:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Although visual sensitivity of parcel is moderate, reliance cannot be placed on vegetation to screen views in future due to factors such as direct or indirect loss from development / management practices, pests and diseases, accidents, pollution and so on. This has been factored in to judgement about Capacity.

PARCEL No. 14	LOCATION: East to South sector of study area. East side of Horse Road	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills close to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but on boundary with Settled Farmlands on River Terrace to east and south, and influenced by Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to east	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Character in this part of sector is relatively 'domesticated', being closely-associated with, and influenced by, the village.</p> <p>Complex, steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches. This area lies on the south east-facing side of the village's western spur.</p> <p>The village's distinctive combination of topography and vegetation results in it being remarkably well-contained where 'inward-looking'; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Villagescape character is very varied, displaying a wide variety of buildings ranging from C16 timber-framed to C21 red brick houses, several different building materials (including the distinctive yellow ochre stone) and styles.</p> <p>This great natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Rural / pastoral character to east of village more eroded in this area, but traditional field patterns still exist. Extensive areas of commercial bush orchards encircle southern end of spur. Frith Wood dominates skyline to east.</p> <p>Unsettled to east apart from historic farmstead.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and west due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south east.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features generally in very good condition.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Influence of settlement results in domesticated character In area with limited influence in wider landscape but exposed south east-facing slope Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises medium-sized grass field (managed as hay meadow) along with paddocks / garden areas associated with properties on the eastern side of Horse Road.</p> <p>Exposed, steep south east-facing slope down to well-wooded watercourse along eastern boundary, where land is slightly flatter and</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Important contribution to rural setting & context of village

	<p>relatively well-screened by trees. Woodland includes traditional alder carr habitat.</p> <p>Landuse: Pasture / garden.</p> <p>In character terms, forms important part of setting & context of south-eastern side of village in views from north east and east, although mature trees screen views of the lower slopes especially in summer.</p> <p>Also seen from north east in mid-ground of extensive, panoramic vista to south.</p> <p>Well-used PRow linking village to Ledbury runs along west side of watercourse and crosses parcel.</p> <p>Vegetation both on boundaries and within plots very mixed: some fine, mature trees along boundaries in parts, interspersed with young and mature ornamental species. Field partly sub-divided with fence and vegetation. Several free-standing trees. Line of telegraph poles crosses field.</p> <p>Woodland belt and watercourse along eastern boundary delineate parish boundary.</p> <p>Landscape elements and features generally in very good condition.</p>	<p>Significant vegetation on boundaries</p> <p>PRow crosses field</p> <p>In very good condition</p>
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel as 'Hacknell Meadow' with single property along Horse Road to west, but property is not shown on later mid-C19 map.</p> <p>Alder carr habitat along watercourse is characteristic of Saxon landscapes.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith (Grade II listed buildings): potential for adverse effects on setting.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Historic field patterns</p> <p>Alder carr</p> <p>Setting of Grade II listed buildings</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Significant, mature boundary vegetation, pasture (possibly unimproved), gardens and watercourse are all important habitats: likelihood of presence of, and / or use by, European Protected Species (EPS).</p> <p>Vegetation and watercourse form part of key wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality and associated aquatic / terrestrial habitats and species.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very high biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Forms part of historic rural setting & context of eastern side of village in views from north east to south east.</p> <p>Visible in mid-ground of extensive, panoramic vistas to south, although area appears well-wooded.</p> <p>Part of area used informally by local community for various outdoor activities and events: valuable local resource.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Setting and context of village esp. in views from north east, east and south east</p> <p>Valuable local recreational resource</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Well-used PRoW linking village to Ledbury crosses parcel. Parcel is visible in mid-ground of view from key village VP3 to north east, forming integral part of fine panoramic views to south. Note that VP3 is adjacent to boundary of Hope End Registered Park and Garden (RPG).</p> <p>Development would intrude into the good quality rural and unsettled open countryside east of the village. Area appears well-wooded from certain viewpoints, but is more visible in winter without leaf cover. Any loss of trees would increase visibility.</p> <p>Forms important part of historic rural setting & context of eastern side of village.</p> <p>Occasional views possible from key village VP21.</p> <p>Visible from Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along edge of Frith Wood to north east, east and south east (key village VPs 4, 5 & 6), although partially screened by mature trees. In mid-ground of fine view to Marcle Ridge from certain viewpoints along route (distinctive stand of TPO pine trees west of parcel visible): new development would intrude into view with adverse effects.</p> <p>Limited visual envelope to west of and south west due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Few residential receptors but properties on west and north boundaries.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith, an historic C16 – C17 farmstead to the south east: Grade II listed building, also associated Grade II barn and attached wheelhouse.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> PRoW crossing parcel Historic & rural setting & context of village Visible from north east (key village VP3 adjacent RPG), & north east to south-east (Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way key village VPs 4, 5 & 6) <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>Well-used PRoW linking village to Ledbury crosses parcel.</p> <p>Part of area used informally by local community for various outdoor activities and events: valuable local resource.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB Well-used PRoW linking village to Ledbury crosses parcel Valuable local recreational resource</p>

OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>No direct access to public highway, although access to field possible via track off Horse Road.</p> <p>Flood risk along watercourse along southern boundary.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality of watercourse.</p> <p>ALC Very Good.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slope</p> <p>No direct access to public highway</p> <p>Flood risk</p> <p>Potential for adverse effects on water quality</p> <p>ALC Very Good</p>
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 14:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
N/A

PARCEL No. 15	LOCATION: East to South sector of study area. South end of village on east side of Beggars Ash lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills close to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT) but on boundary with Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings to north, and influenced by Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> SFRT LCT is categorised as Moderate Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Southern 'tip' of village, where complex, steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography to north and hills to east becomes more undulating, and flattens out under influence of River Leadon to west and south west. Watercourse on east side of village turns westwards at this point and theoretically discharges into River Leadon, although its course appears to have been compromised where it runs through Withers Farm (where soft fruit is grown under polytunnels).</p> <p>This part of the sector is less well-associated with the village, as slopes face away from settlement.</p> <p>Rural landscape but characterised by extensive areas of commercial bush orchards which encircle southern end of village spur. Frith Wood dominates skyline to east.</p> <p>Significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Unsettled to east apart from historic farmstead.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and west due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south west.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features generally in very good condition.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards In area with limited influence in wider landscape & limited association with village due to topography Exposed south & south east-facing slopes but well-wooded Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	Parcel comprises medium-sized grass field at southern tip of village. Domed topography with steep south / south east-facing slope away from village down to well-wooded watercourse along east and south boundaries, where land is slightly flatter (at lowest point of village c. 85m AOD).	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Village gateway

	<p>Very well-screened by trees. Woodland along watercourse includes traditional alder carr habitat.</p> <p>Landuse: Pasture.</p> <p>In character terms, forms important part of rural, heavily-wooded setting & context of southern end of, and gateway to, village, although mature trees screen views of slopes especially in summer.</p> <p>Well-used PRow linking village to Ledbury runs along eastern boundary of parcel on west side of watercourse.</p> <p>Significant, mature native vegetation on all parcel boundaries. South-western boundary is tall native hedgerow and trees along Beggars Ash lane: access to parcel is via field gate off lane.</p> <p>Trees surrounding parcel can be seen from north east in mid-ground of extensive, panoramic vista to south.</p> <p>Line of telegraph poles crosses field.</p> <p>Woodland belt and watercourse along eastern boundary delineate parish boundary.</p> <p>Landscape elements and features in very good condition.</p>	<p>Important contribution to rural, heavily-wooded setting & context of village but limited physical association</p> <p>Significant vegetation on all boundaries</p> <p>PRow along eastern boundary</p> <p>In very good condition</p>
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB, on its western edge.	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel as 'Hacknell Field'. Unusual 'serrated' western boundary which appears to still exist. Mid-C19 map shows field as woodland.</p> <p>Alder carr habitat along watercourse is characteristic of Saxon landscapes.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith: potential for adverse effects on listed buildings' setting.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Historic field patterns</p> <p>Alder carr</p> <p>Setting of Grade II listed buildings</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Significant, mature boundary vegetation, pasture and watercourse are all important habitats: likelihood of presence of, and / or use by, European Protected Species (EPS).</p> <p>Vegetation and watercourse form part of key wildlife corridors.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality and associated aquatic / terrestrial habitats and species.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very high biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Lies at southern gateway to village.</p> <p>Forms part of rural, heavily-wooded setting & context of southern end of village in views in arc from north east to west.</p> <p>Visible in mid-ground of extensive, panoramic vistas to south, although area appears very well-wooded.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Village gateway</p> <p>Setting and context of village</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Well-used PRoW linking village to Ledbury runs along east boundary of parcel.</p> <p>Trees surrounding parcel can be seen from north east (key village VP3) in mid-ground of extensive, panoramic vista to south.</p> <p>Forms important part of rural, heavily-wooded setting and context of southern end of village.</p> <p>Significant mature vegetation on all boundaries currently forms strong visual screen, although field is more visible in winter without leaf cover. Any loss of trees would increase visibility. Lower southern slopes of parcel visible from field gate at village gateway along Beggars Ash, and possibly from property on high ground to west. Trees visible in views from south to west.</p> <p>Visible from Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along edge of Frith Wood to north east, east and south east (key village VPs 4, 5 & 6), although very well-screened by mature trees (part of field visible through trees from certain points). In mid-ground of fine view to Marcle Ridge from certain viewpoints along route.</p> <p>Development would intrude into the good quality rural and unsettled open countryside south east of the village.</p> <p>No residential receptors noted.</p> <p>Parcel may be visible from The Frith, an historic C16 – C17 farmstead to the south east: Grade II listed building, also associated Grade II barn and attached wheelhouse.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>PRoW along east boundary</p> <p>Setting & context of village</p> <p>Currently limited visual envelope due to mature trees, but without, field would be visible from many VPs in arc from east to west</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u></p> <p>Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>Well-used PRoW linking village to Ledbury on eastern boundary of parcel.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>In AONB</p> <p>Well-used PRoW linking village to Ledbury along east boundary</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>Access off Beggars Ash may require hedgerow removal to achieve sightlines.</p> <p>Flood risk along watercourse along southern boundary.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality of watercourse.</p> <p>ALC Very Good.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slope</p> <p>Flood risk</p> <p>Potential for adverse effects on water quality</p> <p>ALC Very Good</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 15:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	High	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Visual sensitivity could be classified as Low to Moderate due to current screening by mature trees, but if lost, visibility would be higher – parcel is in a prominent position at southern tip of village ridgeline.

PARCEL No. 16	LOCATION: East to South sector of study area. South end of village on east side of Beggars Ash lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills close to east.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT).	<u>Key Issues:</u> SFRT LCT is categorised as Moderate Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Southern 'tip' of village, where complex, steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography to north and hills to east becomes more undulating, and flattens out under influence of River Leadon to west and south west. Watercourse on east side of village turns westwards at this point and theoretically discharges into River Leadon, although its course appears to have been compromised where it runs through Withers fruit farm.</p> <p>This part of the sector is less well-associated with the village, as slopes face away from settlement.</p> <p>Rural landscape but characterised by extensive areas of commercial bush orchards which encircle southern end of village spur.</p> <p>Significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Wider landscape is relatively unsettled with scattered wayside dwellings / farmsteads.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and east due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south / south west.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features generally in very good condition.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards In area with limited influence in wider landscape and limited association with village due to topography Exposed south and south east-facing slopes but well-wooded Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises narrow, small to medium-sized grass field and woodland at southern tip of village.</p> <p>Steep south west-facing slope down to Beggars Ash lane at lowest point in village c. 85m AOD.</p> <p>Landuse: Pasture / woodland.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Open countryside Makes contribution to rural setting & context of village but limited physical association Significant vegetation on west and east boundaries

	<p>In character terms, forms part of setting and context of southern end of village in views from south east to west, although mature trees screen views of slopes especially in summer.</p> <p>Significant, mature woodland vegetation on west side of parcel and east boundary – predominantly native trees but ornamental (<i>Leylandii</i> hedging) introduces domesticated character. Quarry shown in woodland on old map (not verified on site).</p> <p>South-western boundary along Beggars Ash lane is timber post-and-rail fence with recently-planted native hedge.</p> <p>Track through parcel leads to residential property at northern end.</p> <p>Unsightly sewage pumping station at southern end of parcel (off-site, on Beggars Ash lane).</p> <p>Landscape elements and features well-managed and in very good condition.</p>	In very good condition
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB, on its western edge.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel as field called 'Little Hacknell', with woodland block to west.</p> <p>Mid-C19 map shows quarry which is noted on Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).</p> <p>Unusual 'serrated' eastern boundary which appears to still exist.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> SMR Historic field patterns
Biodiversity	<p>Significant, mature boundary vegetation and pasture are important habitats: possibility of presence of, and / or use by, European Protected Species (EPS).</p> <p>Vegetation forms part of key wildlife corridors, especially watercourse to south west.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Possibly very high biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	<p>Lies at important southern gateway to village.</p> <p>Forms part of rural, heavily-wooded setting & context of southern end of village in views from west to east.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Village gateway Setting and context of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	<p>Forms part of rural, heavily-wooded setting & context of southern end of village.</p> <p>Significant mature vegetation on west and east boundaries currently forms strong visual screen, although field is more visible in winter without leaf cover. Any loss of trees would increase visibility.</p> <p>Trees around field can be seen from viewpoints in wider landscape, in an arc from east to west.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Visible from lane at village gateway Setting & context of village Limited visual envelope due to mature trees, but trees are visible from VPs in wider landscape <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)

	Currently clearly visible from Beggars Ash lane (over fence and newly-planted hedge) at village's southern gateway, and possibly from property on high ground to west.	
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients. ALC Very Good.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slope ALC Very Good
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 16:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Visual sensitivity could be classified as Low to Moderate due to current screening by mature trees, but if lost, visibility would be higher – parcel is in a prominent position at southern tip of village ridgeline.

PARCEL No. 17	LOCATION: South to West sector of study area. South end of village on east side of Beggars Ash / south side of Horse Rd.	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT).	<u>Key Issues:</u> SFRT LCT is categorised as Moderate Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Southern 'tip' of village, where complex, steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography to north and hills to east becomes more undulating, and flattens out under influence of River Leadon to west and south west. Watercourse on east side of village turns westwards at this point and theoretically discharges into River Leadon, although its course appears to have been compromised where it runs through Withers fruit farm.</p> <p>This part of the sector is less well-associated with the village, as slopes face away from settlement.</p> <p>Rural landscape but characterised by extensive areas of commercial bush orchards which encircle southern end of village spur. Poly tunnel development influence on villagescape begins at this south-western corner.</p> <p>Significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Wider landscape relatively unsettled with scattered wayside dwellings / farmsteads.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and east due to topography and vegetation, but more open to south and west.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features generally in very good condition.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards and polytunnels South west-facing slopes have influence in wider landscape but limited association with main village due to topography Exposed south and south east-facing slopes but well-wooded Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	Parcel comprises narrow grass field at southern tip of village. Steep, prominent south west-facing slope down to Beggars Ash. Landuse: Pasture.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Makes contribution to rural setting & context of village, although partly ornamental character Significant vegetation on south boundary

	<p>In character terms, forms part of setting and context of southern end of village in views from south west and west, although mature trees west of Beggars Ash screen views of slopes especially in summer.</p> <p>Field is associated with modern residential property and mature garden along Horse Road on higher ground to north of parcel: land is well-managed and relatively ornamental in character, being more closely-associated with the main village.</p> <p>Significant, mature vegetation (belt of native trees) on south boundary along Beggars Ash. Well-managed hedges on north and west boundaries, latter trimmed low allowing views from Horse Road to west (partially-screened by trees in summer).</p> <p>Landscape elements and features well-managed and in good condition.</p>	In good condition
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB, on its western boundary.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Very High Landscape Value (AONB)
Historic Landscape	Tithe map (1841) shows parcel as 'Croft'. Mid-C19 map shows quarry which is noted on Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Biodiversity	Site is a Special Wildlife Site (SWS). - Longworth Meadow SO73/02. Habitats provide very high potential for biodiversity. Vegetation forms part of key wildlife corridors, especially watercourse to south west.	<u>Key Issues:</u> SWS with very high biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	Forms transition between rural landscape along lane to south, and start of more ornamental villagescape to north. Although not especially 'natural' in character, field contributes to rural setting and context of southern end of village in views from south west / west.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Setting & context of village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	<p>South west-facing slope is fairly prominent in views from south west, although belts of mature trees along lanes currently screen or filter views (visibility increases in winter without leaf cover).</p> <p>Parcel is visible from Beggars Ash and Horse Road along site boundaries, but visibility depends on height at which boundary hedges are maintained. Taller hedges would restrict views, but built form would still be prominent on slope and may not be able to be screened.</p> <p>Residential receptors to north.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent slope Visible from lanes along boundaries Setting & context of village <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)

RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients. ALC Very Good.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slope ALC Very Good
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 17:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)		Moderate
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)		High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)		Moderate
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *		Moderate High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)		Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *		Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>The SWS (Longworth Meadow) was designated in 1990 due to its rich hay-meadow and woodland-type flora. It is not known whether the habitat is still present, and there is evidence of recent earthworks on the north half of the parcel which may have disturbed it. It is recommended that contact is made with HC and the local wildlife trust to determine whether a new survey is required, and if the habitat has been eroded / lost, whether it could / should be restored.</p> <p>Visual sensitivity could be classified as Low to Moderate due to current screening by mature trees, but if lost, visibility would be higher – parcel is in a prominent position at southern tip of village ridgeline.</p>

PARCEL No. 18	LOCATION: South to West sector of study area. North of Horse Road	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	Very Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT).	<u>Key Issues:</u> SFRT LCT is categorised as Moderate Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Southern tip of village's western ridgeline gives way to prominent south west- and west-facing slopes which fall to River Leadon valley. Beyond, rural agricultural landscapes to west are typical of Herefordshire Lowlands NCA. These stretch to Marcle Ridge, which is a distinctive feature on the skyline in views from higher levels.</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge.</p> <p>The landscape is generally of good to high quality, but it is also characterised by extensive commercial orchards and polytunnels including those at Withers Farm and Haygrove Farm near Pixley. These are significant detractors.</p> <p>There is less woodland cover west of the village, but significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Wider landscape to west is relatively unsettled, with scattered wayside dwellings / farmsteads, but to south west, industrial development on northern outskirts of Ledbury becomes a defining influence.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and east due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features in mixed condition: very good in parts, but eroded / lost in others, especially where landuse is intensive agriculture. Lines of uncharacteristic Lombardy poplar are planted as windbreaks and visual screens.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards & polytunnels Exposed but well-wooded south west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape but limited association with main village due to topography Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good

Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises an area of woodland and mature, well-wooded gardens on land lying at south-eastern edge of village in between Horse Road and Ledbury Road (Horse Road also forms the south boundary).</p> <p>Lies at southern end of spur, with land sloping steeply down to east, south and west, and up to north.</p> <p>Properties along lanes to west and east range from C19 to C21.</p> <p>Vegetation is a combination of native and ornamental, and is of high value and significance: trees in the central part of the parcel are covered by a TPO, and the woodland in the northern part of the parcel is a PHI site (Deciduous Woodland). (The Scots pine TPO lies in gardens just beyond the parcel's east boundary- almost certainly same group of trees as shown on mid-C19 map.)</p> <p>The trees also make important contribution to village's wooded skyline in views from west and east.</p> <p>Landscape elements and features appear well-managed and in good to very good condition.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Trees make significant contribution to villagescape and wider landscape character</p> <p>TPO</p> <p>PHI site</p> <p>In good to very good condition</p>
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	<p>Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB, on its western boundary.</p> <p>Large area within parcel covered by TPO</p> <p>Northern part of parcel is PHI (Deciduous Woodland) site</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p> <p>TPO</p> <p>PHI site</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>On tithe map (1841), parcel is identified as 'Land'. Mid-C19 map shows area in between lanes as orchard bisected by track leading to quarry to north, with single property to north west.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>None noted</p>
Biodiversity	<p>High potential for biodiversity due to diverse habitats with significant tree cover, and connection to other important habitats in wider landscape via local tree belts and hedgerow corridors.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Southern end of spur is prominent in wider landscape, forming part of village's context and setting from east, south and west.</p> <p>Trees make important contribution to village's characteristic wooded skyline in views from west and east.</p> <p>Character of parcel is typical of villagescape's diverse natural and built features, and makes an important contribution to local villagescape character.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Makes important contribution to setting, context & character of village</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Trees on southern end of spur with east-, south- and west-facing slopes are visually prominent in wider landscape, although topography and vegetation screen views from many places. Any loss of trees would result in adverse visual effects. Parcel is visible through gaps in, and over, houses and vegetation along Horse Road and Ledbury Road, and there are residential receptors adjacent to east, south and west.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent slope Visible from lanes along boundaries Setting, context & character of village <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 18:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	Very Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Visual sensitivity could be classified as Moderate due to current screening by mature trees, but if lost, visibility would be higher – parcel is in a prominent position at southern tip of village ridgeline.

PARCEL No. 19	LOCATION: South to West sector of study area. East of Ledbury Road	
Landscape Capacity: Undesignated Areas (19a)	Moderate	Low
Landscape Capacity: Designated Areas (19b)	Low	Very Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT).	<u>Key Issues:</u> SFRT LCT is categorised as Moderate Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Western side of village's western ridgeline gives way to prominent west-facing slopes which fall to River Leadon valley. Beyond, rural agricultural landscapes to west are typical of Herefordshire Lowlands NCA. These stretch to Marcle Ridge, which is a distinctive feature on the skyline in views from higher levels.</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge. The landscape is generally of good to high quality, but it is also characterised by extensive commercial orchards and polytunnels including those at Withers Farm and Haygrove Farm near Pixley. These are significant detractors.</p> <p>There is less woodland cover west of the village, but significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Wider landscape to west is relatively unsettled, with scattered wayside dwellings / farmsteads, but to south west, industrial development on northern outskirts of Ledbury becomes a defining influence.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and east due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements and features in mixed condition: very good in parts, but eroded / lost in others, especially where landuse is intensive agriculture. Lines of uncharacteristic Lombardy poplar are planted as windbreaks and visual screens.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards & polytunnels Exposed but well-wooded south west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape but limited association with main village due to topography Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good

<p>Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds</p>	<p>Parcel comprises an area of land east and south of Ledbury Road. The north-eastern part of the parcel is on the spur's ridgeline: the land slopes down steeply to the west and less steeply to the south.</p> <p>The larger, south-western part of the parcel comprises a small- to medium-sized grass field, to the east of which are significant, mature woodland and ornamental trees, including on the upper slopes and ridge. Beyond this, residential properties run down the south east-facing sides of the ridge, although the two sides have relatively limited association.</p> <p>The woodland on the ridge runs northwards, within the gardens of a large, modern residential property adjoining the parcel's west boundary. The northern part of the parcel comprises a small meadow, with a modern property and garden adjacent to the northern boundary.</p> <p>Vegetation is of high value and significance: most of the trees forming the woodland along the ridgeline are covered by a TPO, and almost the same area is a PHI site (Deciduous Woodland). The trees also make an important contribution to village's wooded skyline in views from west and east.</p> <p>Landscape elements and features mostly appear well-managed and in good to very good condition, but the hedge along the western boundary (Ledbury Road) is in very poor condition.</p> <p>Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Trees make significant contribution to villagescape & wider landscape character</p> <p>Sparsely-settled, heavily-wooded ridgeline is important feature of edge of AONB in views from west</p> <p>TPO</p> <p>PHI site</p> <p>Mostly in good to very good condition but some erosion</p>
<p>Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors</p>	<p>Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB, on its western boundary.</p> <p>Large area within parcel covered by TPO and is a PHI (Deciduous Woodland) site</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p> <p>TPO</p> <p>PHI site</p>
<p>Historic Landscape</p>	<p>On title map (1841), parcel was subdivided ('Common Piece' and 'Crofts'). Mid-C19 map shows meadow at northern end of parcel as an orchard, and a quarry in the south-eastern corner of the parcel.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>None noted</p>
<p>Biodiversity</p>	<p>Most of the trees forming the woodland along the ridgeline are a PHI site (Deciduous Woodland).</p> <p>High potential for biodiversity due to diverse habitats with significant tree cover, and connection to other important habitats in wider landscape via local tree belts and hedgerow corridors.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>PHI site</p> <p>High biodiversity potential</p>
<p>Landscape Function</p>	<p>Ridgeline of spur and west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape to the west, forming part of both AONB and village's context and setting from this direction.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Makes important contribution to setting, context and character of both AONB & village</p>

	<p>Trees make important contribution to village's characteristic wooded skyline in views from west and east.</p> <p>Character of parcel is typical of villagescape's diverse features, and makes an important contribution to local villagescape character.</p>	
VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Trees on ridgeline of spur are visually prominent in wider landscape. Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge.</p> <p>Lower parts of parcel currently partially-screened from long-distance views from west by mature trees along west side of Ledbury Road, although visibility is greater in winter without leaf cover. Higher parts are visible from west, where not screened by trees.</p> <p>Any loss of trees on ridgeline would result in adverse visual effects.</p> <p>Parcel is visible from Ledbury Road, the southern end of Jack's Lane and in particular, from the grass triangle to north east of parcel, with bench, 'Best Kept Village' sign, and at starting point of well-used PRow known as 'Harry's Walk' – key village VP10 (faces away from parcel).</p> <p>Residential receptors adjacent, but limited visibility from east due to topography and vegetation.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Prominent slope</p> <p>Important contribution to setting, context and character of both AONB & village</p> <p>Visible from Ledbury Road & lies at focal point of village</p> <p>Setting, context & character of village</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u></p> <p>Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>Adjacent to grass triangle to north east of parcel, with bench and at starting point of well-used PRow known as 'Harry's Walk'.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>In AONB</p> <p>Adjacent grass triangle</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slopes</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 19:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Undesignated Areas) Area 19a on Figure 4	Moderate	Low
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Designated Areas) Area 19b on Figure 4	Low	Very Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>The assessment concluded that the areas covered by designations had lower capacity than the rest of the parcel, and it was thus subdivided into two (19a and 19b). Visual sensitivity could be classified as Moderate due to current screening by mature trees, but if lost, visibility would be higher – parcel is in a prominent position on village ridgeline and west-facing slopes. Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge. This means that any new built form would have to be well below the tree line (bungalows or split-level, ideally), very well-spaced and of very low density. Recommend restoration and management of eroded roadside hedge.</p>

PARCEL No. 20	LOCATION: South to West sector of study area. West of Ledbury Road / Beggars Ash lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT).	<u>Key Issues:</u> SFRT LCT is categorised as Moderate Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Western edge of village's western ridgeline gives way to prominent west-facing slopes which fall to River Leadon valley. Beyond, rural agricultural landscapes to west are typical of Herefordshire Lowlands NCA. These stretch to Marcle Ridge, which is a distinctive feature on the skyline in views from higher levels.</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge.</p> <p>The landscape is generally of good to high quality, but it is also characterised by extensive commercial orchards and polytunnels including those at Withers Farm and Haygrove Farm near Pixley. These are significant detractors.</p> <p>There is less woodland cover west of the village, but significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Wider landscape to west is relatively unsettled, with scattered wayside dwellings / farmsteads, but to south west, industrial development on northern outskirts of Ledbury becomes a defining influence.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north and east due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features in mixed condition: very good in parts, but eroded / lost in others, especially where landuse is intensive agriculture. Lines of uncharacteristic Lombardy poplar are planted as windbreaks and visual screens.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards & polytunnels Exposed but well-wooded south west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape but limited association with main village due to topography Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good

<p>Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds</p>	<p>Parcel comprises four fields in open countryside on prominent west-facing slopes of village's western ridgeline, west of Ledbury Road.</p> <p>The southern field lies at village's southern gateway. It is a small area of unmanaged grassland, with a steep slope down to the well-wooded watercourse along the southern boundary.</p> <p>The central fields are pasture, and the northern field is currently used for growing blueberries (part of Withers fruit farm): all slope quite steeply westwards from Ledbury Road, although the slope flattens out at the western boundary.</p> <p>The fields are featureless, and some of the original hedged field boundaries (those between the two central fields, and along their eastern boundary) are eroded or lost. The two central fields were once used as an equine cross-country course, which may have contributed to the slight decline in condition.</p> <p>One PRoW runs along the dividing line between the two central fields, and another runs along the northern boundary. The PRsoW connect the village to the wider footpath network.</p> <p>The northern boundary consists of a tall, unmanaged native hedge with some fine, mature escaped trees; PRoW runs along the field side between trees and boundary fence – footpath is known as 'Harry's Walk' (starts at key village VP10 off Ledbury Road to east). Callow Croft (Grade II listed building) lies close to north boundary.</p> <p>The eastern boundary runs along Ledbury Road, with a short section of good, well-managed native hedge followed by a dense tree belt which surrounds a single wayside, timber-framed property. The tree belt is a significant feature in the local landscape, and contributes to the heavily-wooded character of the village. It continues along the lane to the watercourse, and divides the southernmost field from the central ones. A native hedgerow separates the central fields from the northern one.</p> <p>Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open countryside Village gateway Prominent west-facing slopes PRsoW crossing parcel & along north boundary Significant vegetation along eastern, northern & southern boundaries Trees make significant contribution to villagescape & wider landscape character Sparsely-settled, heavily-wooded ridgeline & unsettled slopes are important feature of edge of AONB in views from west Some elements & features in very good condition but also erosion & loss esp. hedges & landcover
<p>Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors</p>	<p>Parcel lies adjacent to the Malvern Hills AONB, on its western boundary.</p> <p>Grade II listed building close to northern boundary.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High to Very High Landscape Value (adjacent AONB) Grade II listed building in close proximity

Historic Landscape	<p>On tithe map (1841), parcel was similarly subdivided (south field was 'Pleck', south central field was 'Old Orchard', north central field was 'Fallow Orchard', and north field was 'Twinklow Field'. The route of the central PRoW runs along a track which led to 'Root Farm' (not shown on later mid-C19 map, although it shows a belt of coniferous trees and artificial changes in level).</p> <p>Mid-C19 map also shows what is likely to be remnant orchard in the south central field; the field names suggest that orchards were already in decline on this side of the ridge, being replaced by arable or pasture. Lack of deciduous trees along boundaries on map also suggests erosion at this time.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Historic field patterns and trackways</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Mature tree belts, watercourse and unmanaged pasture have high potential for biodiversity and connect to other important habitats in wider landscape.</p> <p>Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality and associated aquatic / terrestrial habitats and species.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> High biodiversity potential in some habitats</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Unsettled west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape to the west, forming part of both AONB and village's context and setting from this direction.</p> <p>Southern end of parcel is at village's southern gateway</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Makes important contribution to setting, context and character of both AONB & village Village gateway</p>
VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Slopes are visually prominent in wider landscape to west, although some views partially-screened by tall poplar windbreaks in fruit farm, less so in winter without leaf cover).</p> <p>Parcel is clearly visible from a network of well-used PRsoW: one PRoW runs along the dividing line between the two central fields (starts at key village VP9 on Ledbury Road to east); another (Harry's Walk) runs along the northern boundary.</p> <p>Parcel is visible from the grass triangle to north east, with bench and 'Best Kept Village' sign, at starting point of 'Harry's Walk'.</p> <p>The PRsoW connect the village to the wider footpath network, and key village VPs 12 and 13 along the PRoW to the west have views eastwards across the parcel towards the west side of the village.</p> <p>Land within parcel is currently partially-screened from views from east by mature trees along west side of Ledbury Road, although visibility is greater in winter without leaf cover, and is also greater at the northern end where the hedge is kept trimmed.</p> <p>Few residential receptors.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent slope Setting, context & character of both AONB & village Some sections of parcel well-screened by vegetation, but visible from parts of Ledbury Road, from grass triangle and key village VPs 9, 10, 12 and 13, and from several PRsoW crossing parcel including 'Harry's Walk'</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>

RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>Adjacent AONB.</p> <p>Adjacent to the grass triangle to north east of parcel, with bench, 'Best Kept Village' sign and at starting point of well-used PRoW (Harry's Walk).</p> <p>A PRoW also runs along the dividing line between the two central fields (key village VP9).</p> <p>These PRsoW connect the village to the wider footpath network.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Adjacent AONB</p> <p>North part of site adjacent to, & visible from, grass triangle</p> <p>Visible from parts of Ledbury Road, from PRsoW crossing parcel including 'Harry's Walk', & from key village VPs 9, 10, 12 and 13</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>ALC Good to Moderate (southern section) and Very Good (northern section).</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slopes</p> <p>North part of parcel Very Good ALC</p>
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 20:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	High	Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Recommend restoration and management of lost / eroded native boundary hedges.

PARCEL No. 21	LOCATION: South to West sector of study area. East of Floyds Lane in village centre	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but close to boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Village is characterised by steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches.</p> <p>In north-eastern sector of main village, Ochre Hill runs along locally-distinctive ridgeline which separates west side of village from east, with land sloping away steeply on both sides. To west, a longer spur forms another distinctive ridgeline, falling away to west to flatter land with Marcle Ridge on skyline.</p> <p>Significant mature woodland and ornamental trees run along ridges and slopes forming distinctive and locally-characteristic skylines from many directions.</p> <p>This combination of topography and vegetation results in parts of the village being remarkably well-contained where ‘inward-looking’, but exposed on prominent, outward-facing slopes; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Area has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Villagescape character is very varied, displaying a wide variety of buildings ranging from C16 timber-framed to C21 red brick houses, several different building materials (including the distinctive yellow ochre stone) and styles.</p> <p>This great natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Village is generally very well-maintained and managed. Landscape elements and features generally in good condition and intact.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steeply-sloping & densely-wooded character results in parts of village being very ‘contained’, with very limited influence in wider landscape, but other parts more exposed Complex topography & significant vegetation are important characteristic of villagescape, along with diversity of built form Significant wooded ridgelines Condition generally good / very good
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	Parcel lies in village centre, on land between Floyd’s Lane to west and Pub Lane to east, with The Farmers Arms pub on south east boundary.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Locally-prominent slope & exposed to east, but otherwise very enclosed in wider landscape Significant vegetation west of parcel

	<p>Comprises grass field with locally-prominent, steep, east-facing slope from upper part of ridge down to valley floor (Pub Lane) and small watercourse.</p> <p>Surrounded by predominantly modern residential properties including on north and north east boundaries.</p> <p>PRoW runs along track (Oakeys Lane) adjacent north boundary, linking to PRsoW (Pub Lane) running north – south to east of field – both are well-used local tracks through village.</p> <p>Mixed boundary treatments: important line of mature trees with TPO along Floyd's Lane to west, native / ornamental hedges and trees along other boundaries but some erosion / loss esp. along boundary with Floyds Lane.</p> <p>Very enclosed in wider landscape by topography and vegetation to west, north, north east and south, but upper parts of field exposed to east / south east, with Frith Wood on skyline. Slope faces properties on Ochre Hill slopes to east.</p>	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	<p>Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.</p> <p>TPOs on trees along Floyd's Lane to south west of parcel (canopies extend into parcel: root protection issues).</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p> <p>TPOs (off-site but adjacent)</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Field has similar form to that shown on tithe map (1841)</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>None noted</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Some potential for biodiversity esp. in unmanaged habitats.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Some biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Parcel makes very important contribution to village's character as it is one of the few green, open gaps remaining in surrounding areas of built form.</p> <p>From east, field contributes to pattern of wooded ridges and slopes interspersed with sloping fields / paddocks – read in same context as land on east-facing slopes of Ochre Hill to north east</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Green space important to villagescape character, also context & setting from east</p>
VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Field is visible from sections of PRoW along west side of Frith Wood (esp. key village VP5 – Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way), contributing to character, context and setting of village. Built development on parcel would be visible from here, although mature trees currently help to screen lower areas (more visible in winter with no leaf cover).</p> <p>Clear views across field from Floyd's Lane along west boundary (key village VP11), from parts of PRoW to east and from south end of The Common including play area (Pool Piece) and the Farmers Arms. (The Common is on route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way.)</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Visibility in wider landscape very limited, but locally-prominent.</p> <p>Visible from short section of Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way.</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u></p>

	Prominent in views from west-facing slopes of Ochre Hill (residential properties). Residential receptors on boundaries and in close proximity. Very limited visibility from wider landscapes to north, south and west due to topography and vegetation.	Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	In AONB. Well-used PRsoW and tracks adjacent / in vicinity.	<u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB PRsoW adjacent / in vicinity
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients. No level access to parcel from highway, and Floyd's Lane is significant constraint to additional traffic. Access to lower eastern side from Pub Lane PRow.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slope No level access to parcel from highway
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 21:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)		Moderate
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)		Moderate
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)		Moderate
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *		Moderate
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)		Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *		Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Capacity potentially higher on lower, east side of parcel. Development on upper slopes would result in built form closing existing green gap between properties to north and south which would result in adverse effects on local landscape character and views. Development on the lower area could potentially be the subject of a more detailed assessment with other matters, and constraints and opportunities (such as designating the higher land as local greenspace), factored in.

PARCEL No. 22	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. West of The Common	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but close to boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Village is characterised by steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches.</p> <p>In north-eastern sector of main village, Ochre Hill runs along locally-distinctive ridgeline which separates west side of village from east, with land sloping away steeply on both sides. To west, a longer spur forms another distinctive ridgeline, falling away to west to flatter land with Marcle Ridge on skyline.</p> <p>Significant mature woodland and ornamental trees run along ridges and slopes forming distinctive and locally-characteristic skylines from many directions.</p> <p>This combination of topography and vegetation results in parts of the village being remarkably well-contained where ‘inward-looking’, but exposed on prominent, outward-facing slopes; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Area has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Villagescape character is very varied, displaying a wide variety of buildings ranging from C16 timber-framed to C21 red brick houses, several different building materials (including the distinctive yellow ochre stone) and styles.</p> <p>This great natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Village is generally very well-maintained and managed. Landscape elements & features generally in good condition and intact.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steeply-sloping & densely-wooded character results in parts of village being very ‘contained’, with very limited influence in wider landscape, but other parts more exposed Complex topography & significant vegetation are important characteristic of villagescape, along with diversity of built form Significant wooded ridgelines Condition generally good / very good

Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel lies north of village centre, on land between Ledbury Road to west and The Common to east.</p> <p>Comprises various areas of garden and significant woodland / ornamental trees on locally-prominent, steep, south-east-facing slopes with fall from north to south. Just below plateau at northern end of ridge.</p> <p>Residential properties on boundaries.</p> <p>PRoW runs along south west boundary (The Bank), linking to PRsoW to south and south west. The Common is on route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way.</p> <p>Ornamental gardens in southern part of parcel with some tree cover but relatively open to views from southern end. Central and north parts of parcel heavily-wooded (mature native trees mixed with ornamentals / conifers). Area of grassland / garden with scattered trees on west side of central part.</p> <p>Trees form distinctive and characteristic woodland edge along west side of The Common, creating strong sense of containment along road. Mixed native and ornamental hedges along other boundaries.</p> <p>Very enclosed in wider landscape by topography and vegetation in most directions, but upper parts of parcel where PRoW meets Ledbury Road more exposed to east / south east, with Frith Wood and May Hill on skyline. Slope faces properties on Ochre Hill slopes to south east.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very enclosed in wider landscape</p> <p>Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along east boundary</p> <p>Significant vegetation in & around parcel</p>
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	<p>Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel similarly subdivided into small plots associated with residential properties. Mid-C19 map shows extensive orchard and tree coverage.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Historic field patterns</p>
Biodiversity	<p>High potential for biodiversity due to diverse habitats with significant tree cover, and connection to other important habitats in wider landscape via local tree belts and hedgerow corridors.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Parcel makes very important contribution to village's character as it is one of the few green, open gaps remaining in surrounding areas of built form.</p> <p>Mature trees make important contribution to villagescape character.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Green space and mature trees important to villagescape character</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Parcel is very well-screened from most directions by topography and vegetation. Land is most clearly visible from The Common to south, where gardens are more open, but trees beyond gardens form dense screen.</p> <p>Trees in rest of parcel can be seen from some local viewpoints, especially from the junction of the PRoW along west boundary with Ledbury Road where there is a fine view (key village VP22) towards Frith Wood and May Hill over the tops of the tree canopies.</p> <p>Boundary vegetation limits views in from PRoW to west.</p> <p>Any loss of vegetation would increase visibility (and result in adverse effects on landscape character and visual amenity). Some parts of parcel may be more visible in winter without leaf cover.</p> <p>Residential receptors on boundaries and in close proximity.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Visibility in wider landscape very limited, but locally-prominent</p> <p>Visible from key village VP22</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u></p> <p>Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>PRoW along west boundary (off-site).</p> <p>The Common to east is on route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>In AONB</p> <p>PRoW & Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way adjacent</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slope</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 22:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Low	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
N/A

PARCEL No. 23	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. West of The Common, east of Ledbury Road	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands but close to boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D)	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Village is characterised by steeply-sloping ridge and valley topography, with north – south spurs and occasional small watercourses / ditches.</p> <p>In north-eastern sector of main village, Ochre Hill runs along locally-distinctive ridgeline which separates west side of village from east, with land sloping away steeply on both sides. To west, a longer spur forms another distinctive ridgeline, falling away to west to flatter land with Marcle Ridge on skyline.</p> <p>Significant mature woodland and ornamental trees run along ridges and slopes forming distinctive and locally-characteristic skylines from many directions.</p> <p>This combination of topography and vegetation results in parts of the village being remarkably well-contained where ‘inward-looking’, but exposed on prominent, outward-facing slopes; in parts it is further subdivided by these features, with discrete character zones occurring throughout.</p> <p>Area has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Villagescape character is very varied, displaying a wide variety of buildings ranging from C16 timber-framed to C21 red brick houses, several different building materials (including the distinctive yellow ochre stone) and styles.</p> <p>This great natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Village is generally very well-maintained and managed. Landscape elements and features generally in good condition and intact.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steeply-sloping & densely-wooded character results in parts of village being very ‘contained’, with very limited influence in wider landscape, but other parts more exposed Complex topography & significant vegetation are important characteristic of villagescape, along with diversity of built form Significant wooded ridgelines Condition generally good / very good

Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel lies near northern end of village, on land between Ledbury Road to west and The Common to east.</p> <p>Comprises land on steep, east-facing slope just below plateau at northern end of ridge.</p> <p>Residential properties on north and south boundaries, and to east and west: notable local building (Hope End School House, Grade II listed) on west side of Ledbury Road opposite parcel.</p> <p>The Common is on route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way.</p> <p>Landcover is rough grassland / scrub / scattered trees (possible orchard remnants), with significant woodland vegetation along The Common to east.</p> <p>Trees form distinctive and characteristic woodland edge along west side of The Common, creating strong sense of containment along road.</p> <p>Good native hedge along Ledbury Road boundary.</p> <p>Enclosed in wider landscape to north, west and south by topography and vegetation, but upper parts of parcel more exposed to east / south east, with Frith Wood and May Hill on skyline. Slope faces properties on Ochre Hill slopes to east, and topography opens up area of influence to north east.</p> <p>Telegraph pole and wire cross site.</p> <p>Apparently unmanaged, perception is of landscape in good health.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Enclosed in wider landscapes in most directions although more open to east</p> <p>Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way along east boundary</p> <p>Significant vegetation in & around parcel</p> <p>Fair condition</p>
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	<p>Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB.</p> <p>Grade II listed building adjacent.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p> <p>Grade II listed building adjacent</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel as 'Beck's Orchard', with properties adjacent to north and south.</p> <p>Grade II listed building (mid-C19 Hope End School House) on west side of Ledbury Road opposite parcel.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Possibly remnant of traditional orchard</p> <p>Setting of Grade II listed building</p>
Biodiversity	<p>High potential for biodiversity due to diverse habitats with significant tree cover, and connection to other important habitats in wider landscape via local tree belts and hedgerow corridors.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Parcel makes very important contribution to village's character as it is one of the few green, open gaps remaining in surrounding areas of built form.</p> <p>Parcel forms important part of eastern setting of Hope End School House (Grade II listed).</p> <p>Mature trees make important contribution to villagescape character.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Green space and mature trees important to villagescape character</p> <p>Setting of Grade II listed building</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Parcel is well-screened from wider landscapes to north, west and south by topography, built form and vegetation.</p> <p>Slope faces properties along The Common to east, although tall trees screen views into parcel. The Common is on route of Herefordshire Trail and Geopark Way.</p> <p>Upper parts of parcel more exposed to east / south east, with Frith Wood and May Hill on skyline, and topography opens up area of influence to north east.</p> <p>Clear views of trees on parcel from PRoW along Ochre Hill ridgeline to north east and east esp. from key village VP9. Although focus of view from VP9 is to east, looking west, parcel forms integral part of setting of Grade II listed Hope End School House.</p> <p>Hedge along Ledbury Road currently screens views of land, but if lower, views may be possible.</p> <p>Any loss of vegetation esp. to create access / achieve sightlines would increase visibility (and result in adverse effects on landscape character and visual amenity).</p> <p>Some parts of parcel may be more visible in winter without leaf cover.</p> <p>Residential receptors on boundaries and in close proximity.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Currently well-screened from most views esp. by vegetation, but visible from PRoW to east</p> <p>Herefordshire Trail / Geopark Way on east boundary</p> <p>Loss of vegetation esp. along Ledbury Road would increase visibility & give rise to adverse effects</p> <p>Integral part of setting of Grade II listed building</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u></p> <p>Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>Routes of Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way run along The Common to east.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>In AONB</p> <p>Herefordshire Trail & Geopark Way along east boundary</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>Access likely to require loss of trees and / or hedgerow.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Steep slope</p> <p>Access likely to require loss of trees and / or hedgerow</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 23:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Low	Moderate
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Development on lower, eastern portion of parcel fronting The Common could potentially reduce the level of likely adverse effects on the setting of Grade II listed Hope End School House, and capacity could potentially be higher. This could potentially be the subject of a more detailed assessment with other matters, and constraints and opportunities (such as designating the higher land as local greenspace), factored in.

PARCEL No. 24	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. West of Ledbury Road	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	Very Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D) but on boundary with Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT) to west.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Western side of village's western ridgeline gives way to prominent west-facing slopes which fall to River Leadon valley. Beyond, rural agricultural landscapes to west are typical of Herefordshire Lowlands NCA. These stretch to Marcle Ridge, which is a distinctive feature on the skyline in views from higher levels.</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge.</p> <p>The landscape is generally of good to high quality, but it is also characterised by extensive commercial orchards and polytunnels including those at Withers Farm and Haygrove Farm near Pixley. These are significant detractors.</p> <p>There is less woodland cover west of the village, but significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern is linear, predominantly aligned north – south with topography and roads.</p> <p>Wider landscape to west is relatively unsettled, with scattered wayside dwellings / farmsteads, but to south west, industrial development on northern outskirts of Ledbury becomes a defining influence.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north, east and south due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements and features in mixed condition: very good in parts, but eroded / lost in others, especially where landuse is intensive agriculture. Lines of uncharacteristic Lombardy poplar are planted as windbreaks and visual screens.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards & polytunnels Exposed but well-wooded south west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape but limited association with main village due to topography Linear settlement pattern Condition generally very good

<p>Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds</p>	<p>Parcel comprises land within triangle of roads and tracks – Church Lane to north, Ledbury Road to east, and Jack’s Lane (PRoW and byway) to west.</p> <p>The north-eastern part of the parcel is on the plateau at the western village spur’s ridgeline at c. 150m AOD. The land slopes down to the west, very steeply in parts, and has limited association with main part of village to east due to topography of spur.</p> <p>Much of the parcel is dense, mature and significant woodland (Wellington Heath Wood) which is of very high value (most of woodland is on National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (NIWT) and is a Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI) site. Predominantly native but some ornamental / coniferous species.</p> <p>The trees make a highly important contribution to village’s characteristic wooded skyline in views from west and east.</p> <p>As well as woodland, several separate plots and landuses within parcel, including gardens of residential properties and associated grass fields / paddocks with scattered trees. Three small fields at southern end of parcel are Traditional Orchard PHI sites.</p> <p>Access to properties on west side of parcel is via Jack’s Lane, a narrow and probably very old trackway along wooded edge of slope; filtered views across open landscapes to west. Lane is a highly characteristic feature of the village and is well-used by walkers.</p> <p>Various Grade II listed buildings: Hope End School House adjacent north east boundary, Squatter’s Cottage adjacent west side of parcel, and Callow Croft to south west.</p> <p>Village church (Christ Church, built 1841), rectory and old smithy on Church Lane to north. Village Memorial Hall along Ledbury Road to east.</p> <p>Landscape elements and features mostly appear well-managed and in very good to excellent condition.</p> <p>Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Limited association with main part of village to east</p> <p>Trees make significant contribution to villagescape and wider landscape character</p> <p>Sparsely-settled, heavily-wooded ridgeline is important feature of edge of AONB in views from west</p> <p>PHI sites</p> <p>NIWT</p> <p>Mostly in very good to excellent condition</p>
<p>Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors</p>	<p>Parcel lies within Malvern Hills AONB, on its western boundary.</p> <p>PHI sites</p> <p>Listed buildings.</p> <p>NIWT</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Very High Landscape Value (AONB)</p> <p>PHI sites</p> <p>Listed buildings</p> <p>NIWT</p>

Historic Landscape	<p>On tithe map (1841), woodland area is marked as 'Plantation'. Existing subdivided plots at southern end of parcel were a single field '(Common Piece)', with small plots north of Squatter's Cottage (Grade II listed building). Squatter's Cottage listing states: '<i>This cottage is depicted on the Ledbury Enclosure map of 1814. A rare, largely unaltered, small 2-room plan C18 timber-framed dwelling</i>'. Also Grade II listed Hope End School House adjacent north east boundary, and Callow Croft to south west.</p> <p>Scattered wayside dwellings shown to north with church (also 1841), one dwelling to east.</p> <p>Mid-C19 map shows both woodland and ornamental (including coniferous) vegetation, with small areas of orchard. Woodland is unlikely to be 'ancient'.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Listed buildings</p>
Biodiversity	<p>Most of woodland is a Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI) site. Also PHI Traditional Orchards, and PHI 'Additional Habitat'.</p> <p>Very high potential for biodiversity including European Protected Species (EPS) due to diverse habitats with significant tree cover, and connection to other important habitats in wider landscape via local tree belts and hedgerow corridors.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Various PHI sites Very high biodiversity potential</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Ridgeline of spur and west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape to the west, forming part of both AONB and village's context and setting from this direction.</p> <p>Trees make highly important contribution to village's characteristic wooded skyline in views from west and east.</p> <p>Character of parcel is typical of villagescape's diverse features, and makes an important contribution to local villagescape character.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Makes important contribution to setting, context and character of both AONB & village</p>
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	<p>Trees on ridgeline and slopes of spur are visually prominent in wider landscape.</p> <p>Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge.</p> <p>Views into parts of parcel from points along surrounding lanes, but visibility varies considerably depending on viewpoint and density of vegetation. Properties and gardens / paddocks on west side of parcel visible from Jack's Lane (PRoW / byway). Views from most of Church Lane screened by built form and vegetation, but fine views to Marcle Ridge across north-western corner of parcel looking westwards from</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent slope Important contribution to setting, context & character of both AONB & village Dense tree cover limits visibility</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>

	<p>western end of lane and from parts of the cemetery to the north (key village VP20).</p> <p>Land within parcel is currently partially-screened from long-distance views from west by mature trees along west side of Ledbury Road and Jack's Lane, although visibility greater in winter without leaf cover. Trees in north-eastern part of parcel visible from north east and east esp. from PRoW along Ochre Hill (near key village VP19).</p> <p>Orchard at southern end of parcel is visible from Ledbury Road, near grass triangle with bench, 'Best Kept Village' sign, and at starting point of well-used PRoW known as 'Harry's Walk' – key village VP10 (faces away from parcel).</p> <p>Any loss of trees on ridgeline and slopes would result in adverse effects on landscape character and visual amenity.</p> <p>Residential receptors adjacent.</p>	
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>In AONB.</p> <p>PRoW / byway along Jack's Lane on west boundary.</p> <p>Close to grass triangle to north east of parcel, with bench and at starting point of well-used PRoW known as 'Harry's Walk'.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> In AONB</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>No direct access to parcel from highway, and Jack's Lane is significant constraint to any additional traffic.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes No direct access</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 24:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	High	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	High	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	High
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	High	
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY:	Low	Very Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Visual sensitivity could be classified as Moderate due to current screening by mature trees, but if lost, visibility would be higher – parcel is in a prominent position on village ridgeline and west-facing slopes.</p> <p>Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge. This means that any new built form would have to be well below the tree line, very well-spaced and of very low density.</p>

PARCEL No. 25	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. West of Jack's Lane	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT).	<u>Key Issues:</u> SFRT LCT is categorised as Moderate Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>At north-western edge of village, northern end of western ridgeline is incised by a small valley formed by small watercourse rising south of Church Lane; valley falls to south west, forming undulating topography with slopes facing south and west.</p> <p>Beyond, rural agricultural landscapes to west are typical of Herefordshire Lowlands NCA. These stretch to Marcle Ridge, which is a distinctive feature on the skyline in views from higher levels. To north west and north, land rises towards Fromes Hill and Bromyard where character area is Herefordshire Plateau (NCA 101).</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge / Fromes Hill. The landscape is generally of good to high quality, but it is also characterised by extensive commercial orchards and polytunnels including those at Withers Farm and Haygrove Farm near Pixley. These are significant detractors.</p> <p>There is less woodland cover west of the village, but more typical to north. Significant mature native and ornamental trees throughout village, on ridges and slopes, are highly characteristic. They give rise to distinctive wooded skylines, either 'smooth' and flowing with the topography where native woodland, or serrated / punctuated by tall coniferous species.</p> <p>Natural and historical diversity is an important characteristic of the village.</p> <p>Settlement pattern in this sector is scattered wayside dwellings and farmsteads.</p> <p>Limited association with wider landscapes to north, east and south due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Natural landscape elements & features in mixed condition: very good in parts, but eroded / lost in others, especially where landuse is intensive agriculture. Lines of uncharacteristic Lombardy poplar are planted as windbreaks and visual screens.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Rural landscape characterised by extensive commercial orchards & polytunnels Exposed but well-wooded west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape but limited association with main village due to topography Scattered settlement pattern Condition generally very good

<p>Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds</p>	<p>Parcel comprises three fields and garden area adjacent house on west / south west-facing slopes at northern end of village's western ridgeline, west of Jack's Lane. Fields are in open countryside.</p> <p>Watercourse rising to north east forms localised undulating valley (apparently dry in places), with large pond adjacent west boundary.</p> <p>Parcel has limited influence in landscape esp. to north, east and south, but also quite limited to west due to topography and vegetation.</p> <p>Northern and central fields are medium-sized, south-western field is smaller: all are used for fruit-growing by Withers farm. Garden is associated with Callow Croft (Grade II listed late C16 timber-framed house) at south end of parcel.</p> <p>Burtons Lane runs along north boundary: lane is narrow and a 'holloway' in parts, with tall, unmanaged hedges either side. Further south west, land flattens out, hedges are lower, and views open up from lane towards parcel, north east and east across commercial fruit orchards (these also extend north, west and south of lane: Withers farm complex is on north side of lane).</p> <p>Jack's Lane along east boundary is at edge of heavily-wooded slopes and ridgeline of spur which are important characteristic of village and edge of AONB.</p> <p>Callow Croft is locally-distinctive property set in ornamental gardens surrounded by good, mature trees. Part of garden within parcel is Traditional Orchard Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI) site. A PRoW runs through the garden and joins Burtons Lane to north west.</p> <p>South boundary consists of a tall, unmanaged native hedge with some fine, mature escaped trees; PRoW runs along south side of hedge (off-site) – footpath is known as 'Harry's Walk' (starts at key village VP10 off Ledbury Road at south east corner of parcel). The PRsoW connect the village to the wider footpath network.</p> <p>West boundary of northern field delineated by change in orientation of rows of fruit. North and central fields separated by tall hedge / tree belt along line of watercourse; belt continues along parcel's western boundary, with mature trees making good contribution to landscape character. Tree clump forms distinctive feature around off-site pond.</p> <p>Few residential properties in vicinity: as well as Callow Croft, there is a modern house close to west boundary at northern end of parcel, and another further south west. Scattered properties east of Jack's Lane on upper slopes of ridge, and along Church Lane / Hollow Lane to north.</p> <p>Built development on west side of ridge is characteristically very scattered. This is an important feature of the edge of the AONB, as</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Open countryside</p> <p>PRsoW crossing parcel & along south boundary</p> <p>Significant vegetation along most boundaries</p> <p>Trees make significant contribution to villagescape & wider landscape character</p> <p>Limited association with main part of village to east, & limited influence to west</p> <p>Sparsely-settled, heavily-wooded ridgeline is important feature of edge of AONB in views from west</p> <p>PHI site</p> <p>Mostly in very good condition</p>
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	longer-distance views towards it from the west are of a sparsely-settled, densely-wooded ridge. Most boundary vegetation and garden area in very good condition.	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies adjacent to the Malvern Hills AONB, on its western boundary. Traditional Orchard Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI) site. Grade II listed building.	<u>Key Issues:</u> High to Very High Landscape Value (adjacent AONB) PHI site Listed building
Historic Landscape	Tithe map (1841) shows Callow Croft (Grade II listed late C16 timber-framed house) and garden / orchard, with Callow Croft Meadow to west of house, a 'Nursery' along west side of Jack's Lane, and Callow Croft Hopyard to north. Northern field was eastern portion of 'Summer Field'. Field patterns only slightly altered since that time. Mid-C19 map shows northern field as orchard.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Grade II listed building Historic field patterns Traditional orchard
Biodiversity	Several habitats with high potential for biodiversity, esp. mature trees, watercourse and pond, and orchard. These connect to other important habitats in wider landscape. Potential for built development to result in adverse effects on water quality and associated aquatic / terrestrial habitats and species. Traditional Orchard Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI) site.	<u>Key Issues:</u> High biodiversity potential in some habitats PHI site
Landscape Function	Unsettled west-facing slopes are prominent in wider landscape to the west, forming part of both AONB and village's context and setting from this direction. However, parcel has limited influence due to topography and vegetation.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Contributes to setting, context & character of both AONB & village
VISUAL BASELINE		
NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.	Visibility of parcel in wider landscape limited due to topography and vegetation. Well-screened to north, although adjacent residential property has clear views across fields. Views from Jack's Lane to east are heavily-filtered by trees with glimpses through gateways, but visibility is likely to be higher in winter without leaf cover. A PRoW crosses the parcel, and Harry's Walk runs adjacent to the southern boundary, with relatively open views to north. Southern end of parcel is adjacent to grass triangle, with bench and 'Best Kept Village' sign, at starting point of Harry's Walk (key village VP10). Many views from west also screened by topography and vegetation, although parts of parcel are visible from PRoW to south west (key village VP 13). Few residential receptors apart from those close to boundaries.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Limited visibility in wider landscape, but views from local PRsoW & residential properties <u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)

RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	Adjacent AONB. PRsoW crossing site, and along east and south boundaries (off-site). These PRsoW connect the village to the wider footpath network. Adjacent to village 'green' to north east of parcel, with bench, 'Best Kept Village' sign and at starting point of 'Harry's Walk'.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Adjacent AONB North part of site adjacent to grass triangle Visible from PRsoW and key village VPs.
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	Steep slopes are potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients. ALC Very Good.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Steep slopes ALC Very Good
SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 25:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Low	Moderate
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	High	Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Although visual sensitivity is Low to Moderate, Overall Sensitivity is moderate to high due to location in open countryside. Access could be better achieved from Burtons Lane in preference to the unadopted byway, Jack's Lane.

PARCEL No. 26	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. North side of Church Lane.	
Landscape Capacity:	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands, but close to boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D), but on boundary with Principal Wooded Hills (PWH).	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Northernmost end of village lies on high plateau (c. 150m AOD) with sloping sides.</p> <p>To north west, west and south west, land falls away steeply, and landscape opens up across commercial orchards and polytunnels on slopes before land flattens out across rural agricultural landscapes with panoramic, long-distance views. To north west and north, land rises towards Fromes Hill and Bromyard where character area changes to Herefordshire Plateau (NCA 101).</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge / Fromes Hill.</p> <p>To south and east, ridge and valley topography which characterises main village forms distinctive, steep-sided spurs with more gentle fall north to south. Ridges and slopes are mostly heavily-wooded, although there is more open pasture to the east.</p> <p>Village has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography & vegetation, including significant woodland north of Church Lane and along Raycombe Lane. Beyond plots and properties along north side of Church Lane, landscape character is rural / agricultural / wooded and very sparsely-settled. Quality of landscape here is very high, with strong, intact field patterns and mature native (often ancient) woodland blocks and belts. Fine long-distance views from PRsoW, with Malvern Hills on skyline.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good to fair condition along lanes, with some erosion / loss. Very good / excellent condition landscapes beyond northern edge of village.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Beyond village to north, rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of PWH LCT</p> <p>In area with limited influence in wider landscape due to topography, built form & vegetation, but close to high point of village & more exposed to west</p> <p>Condition generally good / very good beyond influence of settlement</p>
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises an irregularly-shaped, small grass field between southern edge of Cannon Heath Wood and Church Lane.</p> <p>Land slopes to south west, but localised variations in level, with terraced upper slope and flatter, shallow 'saddle' north of cemetery.</p> <p>Landuse: grazed pasture.</p> <p>Woodland is a significant feature, and forms a strong and distinctive edge to north side of parcel: it is mixed deciduous and coniferous</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Locally-prominent slope</p> <p>Road frontage</p> <p>Field contributes to character, setting & context of village</p> <p>Good condition</p>

	<p>Ancient Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland, and is on the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (NIWT). It also 'contains' the rest of the village from the north.</p> <p>Also significant mature trees on eastern boundary, with residential properties and gardens to east.</p> <p>Church Lane runs along part of south boundary, with native hedgerow and scattered ornamental trees behind. Access to field off lane.</p> <p>Limited association with rest of village due mainly to vegetation and built form; however, character along both sides of Church Lane is ornamental / domesticated and area is very much part of villagescape. Hope End School House (Grade II listed) lies on south side of Church Lane, opposite south-eastern corner of parcel. The Rectory and Christ Church also lie south of the lane.</p> <p>The village cemetery lies on the parcel's south-western boundaries, separated by hedges and clumps of mature trees. A residential property lies adjacent to the field's western boundary.</p> <p>Elements and features generally in good condition.</p>	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	<p>Parcel lies adjacent to Malvern Hills AONB.</p> <p>Grade II listed building opposite.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High to Very High Landscape Value (adjacent AONB)</p> <p>Grade II listed building opposite</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Field appears on tithe map (1841) as 'Home Orchard', with properties on east and west boundaries. Property to east is shown as a post office on mid-C19 map. Orchard does not appear to be intact on mid-C19 map, suggesting gradual change in use to pasture.</p> <p>Cannon Heath was marked as 'Scotland Wood' on tithe map.</p> <p>Grade II listed building (mid-C19 Hope End School House) on south side of Church Lane opposite parcel.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Setting of listed building</p>
Biodiversity	<p>High biodiversity potential and probability of European Protected Species (EPS) in habitats on and around site esp. woodland.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High value & sensitivity woodland habitat on boundaries (high probability of EPS)</p>
Landscape Function	<p>At edge of open countryside adjacent to AONB at northern edge of village.</p> <p>Contributes to rural context and setting of village especially along road frontage.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Adjacent AONB</p> <p>Rural context & setting of village</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Although prominently located on high plateau, parcel has limited visibility in the local landscape due to topography, built form and vegetation. However, because the land slopes away to the north, the line of trees to north east boundary is thin, and in winter there are filtered views to British Camp. Loss of these trees would increase visibility.</p> <p>No views from any PRsoW were found.</p> <p>Field is visible from Church Lane along south boundary, although vegetation partially-screens views.</p> <p>Residential receptors on west and east boundaries, and on south side of Church Lane.</p> <p>Panoramic long-distance views open up from upper parts of field in arc from north west to south west, but wooded slopes below screen middle-distance views from these directions (visibility may be greater in winter without leaf cover). If considered for development, a more detailed visual assessment to identify points in wider landscape from which parcel is visible would be required.</p> <p>Key village VP20 is in cemetery south west of parcel, but view is oriented away, to west.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent location, but currently limited visibility</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>Adjacent AONB, along lane which forms boundary.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Adjacent AONB</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Steep slope is potential constraint to development, which is likely to require significant engineering to accommodate built form and access / internal road gradients.</p> <p>Access may potentially be physically feasible off lane, but if sightline issue, could result in loss of hedgerow.</p> <p>ALC Good to Moderate.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Steeply-sloping land Potential loss of hedgerow to achieve sightlines</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 26:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	High	Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Although Capacity is Low, further consideration could be given to one or two well-designed single dwellings on lower-lying land within parcel. If considered for development, a more detailed visual assessment to identify points from which parcel is visible (esp. in arc from north west to south west) would be required.

PARCEL No. 27	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. North side of Church Lane.	
Landscape Capacity:	Very Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands, but near boundary with NCA 103 Malvern Hills.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D), but on boundary with Principal Wooded Hills (PWH).	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>Northernmost end of village lies on high plateau (c. 150m AOD) with sloping sides.</p> <p>To north west, west and south west, land falls away steeply, and landscape opens up across commercial orchards and polytunnels on slopes before land flattens out across rural agricultural landscapes with panoramic, long-distance views. To north west and north, land rises towards Fromes Hill and Bromyard where character area changes to Herefordshire Plateau (NCA 101).</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge / Fromes Hill.</p> <p>To south and east, ridge and valley topography which characterises main village forms distinctive, steep-sided spurs with more gentle fall north to south. Ridges and slopes are mostly heavily-wooded, although there is more open pasture to the east.</p> <p>Village has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography & vegetation, including significant woodland north of Church Lane and along Raycombe Lane. Beyond plots and properties along north side of Church Lane, landscape character is rural / agricultural / wooded and very sparsely-settled. Quality of landscape here is very high, with strong, intact field patterns and mature native (often ancient) woodland blocks and belts. Fine long-distance views from PRsoW, with Malvern Hills on skyline.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good to fair condition along lanes, with some erosion / loss. Very good / excellent condition landscapes beyond northern edge of village.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Beyond village to north, rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of PWH LCT In area with limited influence in wider landscape due to topography, built form & vegetation, but close to high point of village & more exposed to west Condition generally good / very good beyond influence of settlement
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel comprises a small, rectangular, gently-sloping grass field between southern edge of Cannon Heath Wood and Church Lane. Land slopes to south west.</p> <p>It lies on south-western boundaries of adjacent sloping grass field, separated by hedges and trees.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Cemetery Road frontage Extensive views Contributes to character, setting & context of village Very good condition

	<p>Part of the field is the village cemetery, and there are areas of rough grassland / wildflower meadows and locally-significant clumps of mature trees.</p> <p>Extensive, panoramic views open up in arc from north west to south west.</p> <p>The woodland is a significant feature, and forms a strong and distinctive edge beyond north boundary of parcel: it is mixed deciduous and coniferous Ancient Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland, and is on the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (NIWT). It also 'contains' the rest of the village from the north.</p> <p>Residential property and garden to west, others to east beyond adjacent field, and on south side of Church Lane which runs along south boundary at lower level, with native hedgerow and scattered ornamental trees behind.</p> <p>Limited association with rest of village due mainly to vegetation and built form; however, character along both sides of Church Lane is ornamental / domesticated and area is very much part of villagescape. The Rectory and Christ Church lie south of the lane opposite the cemetery, and Hope End School House (Grade II listed) lies along the lane to the south east.</p> <p>Elements and features generally in very good condition.</p>	
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	<p>Parcel lies adjacent to Malvern Hills AONB.</p> <p>Grade II listed building close to south east.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High to Very High Landscape Value (adjacent AONB)</p> <p>Grade II listed building in close proximity</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel was part of 'Home Orchard', with properties on east and west boundaries. Property to east is shown as a post office on mid-C19 map. Orchard does not appear to be intact on mid-C19 map, suggesting gradual change in use to pasture.</p> <p>Cannon Heath was marked as 'Scotland Wood' on tithe map.</p> <p>Grade II listed building (mid-C19 Hope End School House) on south side of Church Lane neat to parcel.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Setting of listed building</p>
Biodiversity	<p>High biodiversity potential and probability of European Protected Species (EPS) in habitats on and around site esp. woodland and meadow. It is understood that wild flowers are a particular feature, especially on the west side of the parcel.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High value & sensitivity habitats (high probability of EPS)</p>
Landscape Function	<p>Village cemetery</p> <p>Very high value to community as place to visit, reflect, enjoy view and watch wildlife.</p> <p>At edge of open countryside adjacent to AONB at northern edge of village.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Village cemetery</p> <p>Very high community value</p> <p>Adjacent AONB</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Panoramic long-distance views open up from upper parts of field in arc from north west to south west (key village VP20), but wooded slopes below screen middle-distance views from these directions (visibility slightly greater in winter without leaf cover).</p> <p>Although prominently located on high plateau, parcel has limited visibility in the local landscape due to topography, built form and vegetation.</p> <p>No views from any PRsoW were found. Field is visible from Church Lane along south boundary, although vegetation partially-screens views.</p> <p>Residential receptors on west and east boundaries, and on south side of Church Lane.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent location (key village VP) but limited local visibility apart from near-distance viewpoints</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>Adjacent AONB, along lane which forms boundary.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Adjacent AONB</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Access may not be physically feasible off lane due to change in level, and if sightline issue, could result in loss of hedgerow.</p> <p>ALC Good to Moderate.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Access constraints due to levels Potential loss of hedgerow to achieve sightlines</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 27:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	Very High	
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Very Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Unlikely to be considered suitable for development, but if so, a more detailed visual assessment to identify points from which parcel is visible (esp. in arc from north west to south west) would be required.

PARCEL No. 28	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. North side of Church Lane.	
Landscape Capacity: Excluding orchard (28a)	Moderate	Low
Landscape Capacity: Orchard (28b)	Low	
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D), but on boundary with Principal Wooded Hills (PWH).	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>North-westernmost end of village lies at edge of high plateau (c. 150m AOD) with sloping sides.</p> <p>To north west, west and south west, land falls away steeply, and landscape opens up across commercial orchards and polytunnels on slopes before land flattens out across rural agricultural landscapes with panoramic, long-distance views. To north west and north, land rises towards Fromes Hill and Bromyard where character area changes to Herefordshire Plateau (NCA 101).</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge / Fromes Hill.</p> <p>To south and east, ridge and valley topography which characterises main village forms distinctive, steep-sided spurs with more gentle fall north to south. Ridges and slopes are mostly heavily-wooded, although there is more open pasture to the east.</p> <p>Village has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography & vegetation, including significant woodland north of Church Lane and along Raycombe Lane. Beyond plots and properties along north side of Church Lane, landscape character is rural / agricultural / wooded and very sparsely-settled. Quality of landscape here is very high, with strong, intact field patterns and mature native (often ancient) woodland blocks and belts. Fine long-distance views from PRsoW, with Malvern Hills on skyline.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good to fair condition along lanes, with some erosion / loss. Very good / excellent condition landscapes beyond northern edge of village.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Beyond village to north, rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of PWH LCT In area with limited influence in wider landscape due to topography, built form & vegetation, but close to high point of village & more exposed to west Condition generally good / very good beyond influence of settlement
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel lies at north-western gateway to village, close to junction of Church Lane / Hollow Lane, and Burtons Lane.</p> <p>Land slopes to, and is exposed to, west. It comprises gardens (lawn and ornamental planting), and separate paddock / orchard associated</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Village gateway Cemetery adjacent PHI site

	<p>with residential property lying between southern edge of Cannon Heath Wood and Church Lane.</p> <p>Orchard is a Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI) site.</p> <p>Extensive, panoramic views open up in arc from north west to south west. Key village VP20 in cemetery adjacent to east, but parcels currently separated by tall vegetation along hedgeline (intervisibility slightly greater in winter without leaf cover).</p> <p>The woodland is a significant feature, and forms a strong and distinctive edge beyond north boundary of parcel: it is mixed deciduous and coniferous Ancient Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland, and is on the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (NIWT). It also 'contains' the rest of the village from the north.</p> <p>Church Lane runs along south boundary: good native hedgerow and escaped trees along most of length, but post and rail fence along lawned area.</p> <p>Limited association with rest of village due mainly to vegetation and built form; however, character along both sides of Church Lane is ornamental / domesticated and area is very much part of villagescape.</p> <p>Scattered wayside dwellings in close proximity, along south side of Church Lane / Hollow Lane.</p> <p>Elements and features generally in very good condition.</p>	<p>Road frontage</p> <p>Extensive views</p> <p>Contributes to character, setting and context of village</p> <p>Good condition</p>
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies adjacent to Malvern Hills AONB.	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High to Very High Landscape Value (adjacent AONB)</p>
Historic Landscape	<p>Tithe map (1841) shows parcel was divided into two equal-sized plots occupied by dwellings / buildings. On later, mid-C19 map, plots are shown as amalgamated (orchard) with westernmost property removed.</p> <p>Cannon Heath was marked as 'Scotland Wood' on tithe map.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Traditional orchard</p>
Biodiversity	High biodiversity potential and probability of European Protected Species (EPS) in habitats on and around site esp. woodland, orchard and meadow.	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>High value & sensitivity habitats (high probability of EPS)</p>
Landscape Function	<p>At edge of good quality open countryside, adjacent to AONB.</p> <p>Lies at village gateway from north west.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u></p> <p>Adjacent AONB</p> <p>Village gateway</p>

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Although prominently located on high plateau, parcel has limited visibility in the local landscape due to topography, built form and vegetation.</p> <p>A well-used PRoW runs along the west side of Cannon Heath Wood, starting at Church Lane, at the western end of the parcel. Views are currently screened by dense vegetation.</p> <p>Parts of parcel are visible from Church Lane along south boundary, although visibility is greater along section of post-and-rail fence and where roadside hedge is trimmed low.</p> <p>Residential property adjacent parcel is distinctive red brick, lying on higher land with woods behind. Also residential receptors in close proximity, along south side of Church Lane / Hollow Lane.</p> <p>Panoramic long-distance views from parts of parcel in arc from north west to south west (key village VP20 lies in cemetery to east). If considered for development, a more detailed visual assessment to identify points in wider landscape from which parcel is visible would be required, especially any adverse effects on receptors at key village VP20.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent location, but currently limited visibility apart from near-distance viewpoints (incl. village gateway) & possibly from long-distance viewpoints in arc from north west to south west</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>Adjacent AONB, along lane which forms boundary. Well-used PRoW along west boundary (off-site).</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Adjacent AONB PRoW adjacent to west</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Access may potentially be physically feasible off lane, but if sightline issue, could result in loss of hedgerow.</p> <p>ALC Good to Moderate.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Potential loss of hedgerow to achieve sightlines</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 28:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	High	Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY: Excluding orchard Area 28a on Figure 4	Moderate	Low
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY: Orchard Area 28b on Figure 4	Low	

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
If considered for development, a more detailed visual assessment to identify points from which parcel is visible (esp. in arc from north west to south west) would be required, especially any adverse effects on receptors at key village VP20.

PARCEL No. 29	LOCATION: West to North sector of study area. South side of Hollow Lane / west side of Burtons Lane.	
Landscape Capacity:	Moderate	Low
BASELINE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER		
National Character Area (NCA)	NCA 100 Herefordshire Lowlands	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
County Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Forest Smallholdings and Dwellings (FS&D), but on boundary with Principal Wooded Hills (PWH) to north, and Settled Farmlands on River Terrace (SFRT) to west.	<u>Key Issues:</u> FS&D LCT is categorised as High Sensitivity
Local Landscape Character Context	<p>North-westernmost end of village lies at edge of high plateau (c. 150m AOD) with sloping sides.</p> <p>To north west, west and south west, land falls away steeply, and landscape opens up across commercial orchards and polytunnels on slopes before land flattens out across rural agricultural landscapes with panoramic, long-distance views. To north west and north, land open up, rising towards Fromes Hill and Bromyard where character area changes to Herefordshire Plateau (NCA 101).</p> <p>The character of the wider landscape is complex, with several LCTs covering the areas between the village and Marcle Ridge / Fromes Hill.</p> <p>To south and east, ridge and valley topography which characterises main village forms distinctive, steep-sided spurs with more gentle fall north to south. Ridges and slopes are mostly heavily-wooded, although there is more open pasture to the east.</p> <p>Village has limited association with wider landscapes to the north due to topography & vegetation, including significant woodland north of Church Lane and along Raycombe Lane. Beyond plots and properties along north side of Church Lane, landscape character is rural / agricultural / wooded and very sparsely-settled. Quality of landscape here is very high, with strong, intact field patterns and mature native (often ancient) woodland blocks and belts. Fine long-distance views from PRsoW, with Malvern Hills on skyline.</p> <p>Landscape elements & features generally in good to fair condition along lanes, with some erosion / loss. Very good / excellent condition landscapes beyond northern edge of village.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Beyond village to north, rural / agricultural / wooded character – good representation of PWH LCT In area with limited influence in wider landscape due to topography, built form & vegetation, but close to high point of village & more exposed to west and north Condition generally good / very good beyond influence of settlement
Description of Parcel and Immediate Surrounds	<p>Parcel lies at edge of open countryside, at north-western gateway to village, at junction of Church Lane / Hollow Lane, and Burtons Lane. Land slopes quite gently to, and is exposed to, west.</p> <p>It comprises gardens (lawns / grassland and mature ornamental planting) associated with residential properties on south side of Hollow Lane, west of Burtons Lane.</p>	<u>Key Issues:</u> Village gateway Adjacent good quality open countryside Road frontage Extensive views

	<p>Woodland lying beyond lane to north / north east is a significant feature, and forms a strong and distinctive edge beyond north boundary of parcel: it is mixed deciduous and coniferous Ancient Semi-Natural Ancient Woodland, and is on the National Inventory of Woodland and Trees (NIWT). It also 'contains' the rest of the village from the north.</p> <p>Hollow Lane runs along north east boundary: mixed boundary treatment including native and ornamental hedges and high timber fencing. Extensive, panoramic views open up along Hollow Lane to north and north west, across very good quality rural / agricultural landscape; to south west, mature vegetation and polytunnel development along west boundary of parcel act as lower-level screens at certain times of year.</p> <p>Significant, mature vegetation along Burtons Lane – predominantly good, native trees including some covered by TPO, but also domestic boundaries, and some loss / erosion of elements and features.</p> <p>Area has limited association with main village especially as slopes face away from it, although this area was settled since at least the 19th century.</p>	Good to fair condition
Landscape Designations, Key Features & Receptors	Parcel lies adjacent to Malvern Hills AONB. TPOs along east boundary (Burtons Lane)	<u>Key Issues:</u> High to Very High Landscape Value (adjacent AONB) TPOs
Historic Landscape	Tithe map (1841) shows parcel was divided into small plots ('Home Orchard' and 'Inclosure', others occupied by dwellings / buildings). On later, mid-C19 map, existing property at junction is shown, but property along Burton Lane has been removed. Cannon Heath was marked as 'Scotland Wood' on tithe map.	<u>Key Issues:</u> None noted
Biodiversity	Some biodiversity potential esp. mature trees which connect to wider habitats.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Some biodiversity potential
Landscape Function	At edge of good quality open countryside, adjacent to AONB. Lies at village gateway from north west.	<u>Key Issues:</u> Adjacent AONB Village gateway

VISUAL BASELINE		
<p>NOTE: Criteria setting out sensitivity of visual receptors are set out in Table LVIA4.</p>	<p>Although prominently located on high plateau, parcel has limited visibility in the local landscape due to topography, built form and vegetation.</p> <p>A well-used PRoW runs along the west side of Cannon Heath Wood, starting at Church Lane, opposite the eastern end of the parcel which is visible from the lane end.</p> <p>Jack's Lane PRoW / byway joins Burton Lane opposite south boundary of parcel.</p> <p>Parts of parcel are visible from Hollow Lane along north east boundary, although views are also partly screened by boundary vegetation / high fences, and built form.</p> <p>Very limited views beyond parcel boundaries from Burtons Lane to east due to dense vegetation (visibility may be higher in winter without leaf cover).</p> <p>Panoramic long-distance views from parts of parcel in arc from north to south west. If considered for development, a more detailed visual assessment to identify points in wider landscape from which parcel is visible would be required.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Prominent location, but currently limited visibility apart from near-distance viewpoints and possibly from long-distance viewpoints in arc from north to south west</p> <p><u>Sensitivity of visual receptors:</u> Very High (AONB visitors) & High (users of long-distance trails / well-used PRsoW; people in nearby residential properties)</p>
RECREATION & ACCESS BASELINE		
	<p>Adjacent AONB, along lane which forms boundary.</p> <p>Well-used PRsoW: one opposite eastern end of parcel, and Jack's Lane opposite parcel's eastern boundary on Burtons Lane.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Adjacent AONB PRsoW opposite boundaries</p>
OTHER BASELINE FACTORS / POTENTIAL CONSTRAINTS		
	<p>Access may potentially be physically feasible off lane, but if sightline issue, could result in loss of hedgerow.</p> <p>ALC Good to Moderate.</p>	<p><u>Key Issues:</u> Potential loss of hedgerow to achieve sightlines</p>

SUMMARY OF LANDSCAPE CAPACITY PARCEL 29:		
LANDSCAPE QUALITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA1)	Moderate	
LANDSCAPE CHARACTER SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA2)	Moderate	High
VISUAL SENSITIVITY (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA3)	Moderate	
OVERALL SENSITIVITY (Based on level of Landscape Character Sensitivity combined with level of Visual Sensitivity) *	Moderate	High
LANDSCAPE VALUE (Levels in accordance with criteria in Table LSCA4)	High	Very High
LANDSCAPE CAPACITY: (Based on level of Overall Sensitivity combined with level of Landscape Value) *	Moderate	Low

* Judgements about overall sensitivity and capacity take into account, and factor in, the relevant issues identified during the baseline studies. Professional judgement is also applied.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Capacity assumes retention of significant vegetation on boundaries. Loss would increase visual sensitivity, and potentially reduce capacity. If considered for development, a more detailed visual assessment to identify points from which parcel is visible (esp. in arc from north west to south west) would be required.