

Source:

The Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) illustrates the extent to which the development (modelled at 8m) as a whole is potentially visible from the surrounding area (1.6m high receptor). The plan has been prepared using GIS computer software (MapInfo) and Ordnance Survey landform data, and as such does not take into account built form or vegetation present within the landscape. Field verification is required to refine the accuracy of the ZTV.



Project

Westhampnett / North East Chichester SDL

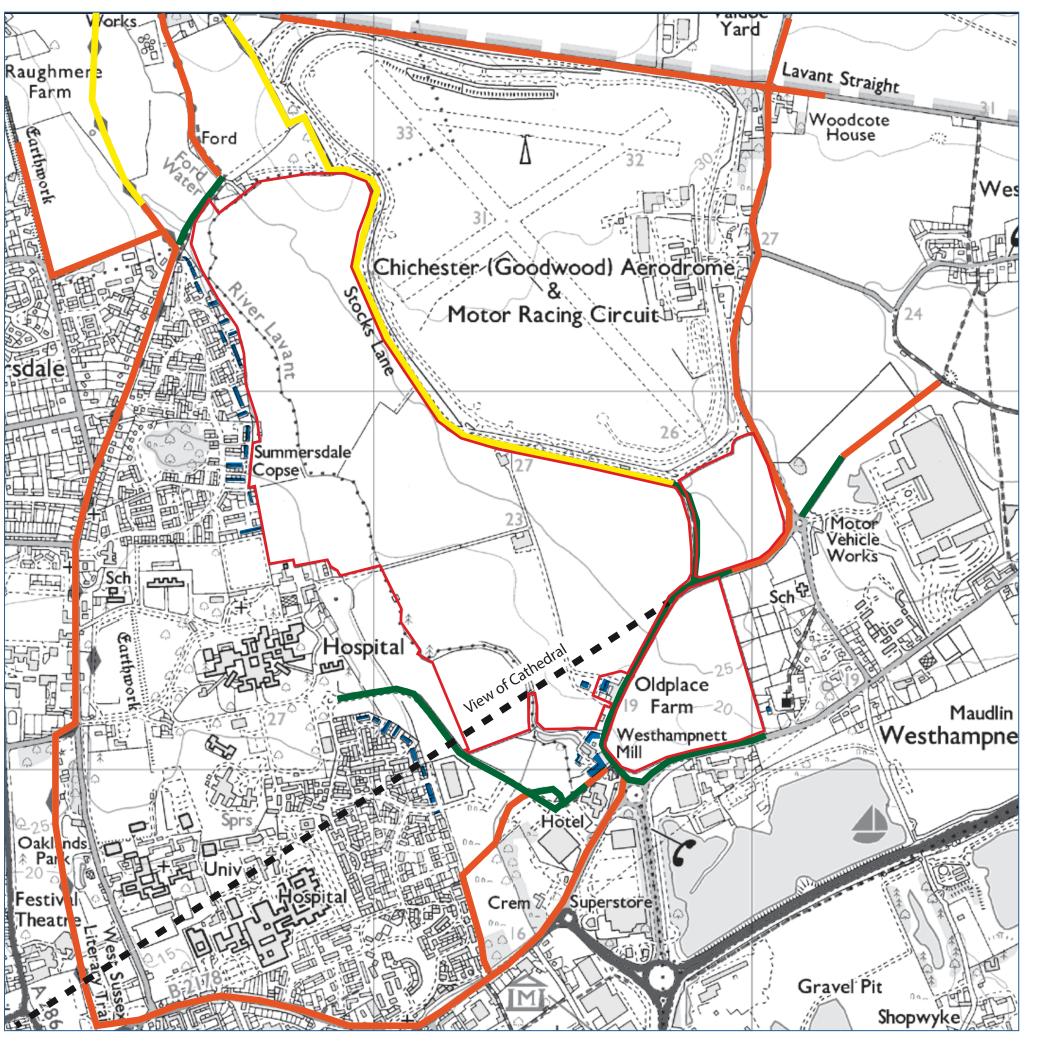
Plan 8: First Sieve Visual Analysis - Development

As Shown (Approximate) Scale 1566/P08c Drawing No. Date December 2013

Checked CB/SC



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Site Boundary

Public routes with no views of the Site

Pubilc routes with occassional views of the Site

Public routes with clear views of part of the Site

Private properties with potential views of the Site. NB these may be limited to first floor views.

N 0 25

Project

Westhampnett / North East Chichester SDL

Drawing Title

Plan 7: Winter visibility from local routes

Scale
Drawing No.
Date
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As Shown (Approximate) 1566/P07c December 2013





Photoviewpoint 1: From Drayton Lane at the junction of Oving Road looking north west. This is a flat semi-rural landscape. Commerical buildings can be partially seen through the mature hedgerow and trees that line the left hand side of Drayton Lane. Along the right hand side of Drayton Lane there is a large arable field with the nursery's greenhouse and wooded tree belts visible beyond. Due to the existing topography and vegetation the Site is not visible from this vantage point.



Photoviewpoint 2: From the pedestrian crossing of the A27, near to footpath 553, looking north west. The A27 and its associated signage are dominant in the foreground. In the middle distance the lake of the Chichester Watersports Centre is visible, with the club house partially visible to the right. Beyond the lake wooded tree belts are prominent with commercial buildings off Stane Street partially visible through a row of mature trees. Due to the flat topography and existing vegetation the Site is not visible from this vantage point.



Photoviewpoint 3: Tangmere Road, south west of Tangmere, looking north west. Well maintained mature hedgerows along Tangmere Road block views to the wider countryside. Along this vehicular route there are occassional field gates that open up fleeting views. Looking over flat arble fields with intermittent hedegrows and trees, in the middle distance the village of Maudlin can be partially seen through mature trees and vegetation. On the skyline is the South Downs National Park. From this vantage point the Site is not visible.



Photoviewpoint 4: From the cycle route, Cycle Chichester, next to the A27 north of Tangmere. The A27, its signage and lighting columns, are dominant in foreground. To the left of the view is Cassons Restaurant and the cycle route towards Chichester. Mature wooded tree belts line the A27. Due to the topography and existing vegetation the Site is not visible.



Photoviewpoint 5: From Stane Street, north east of Maudlin. Looking west over a large arble field with mature hedgerows and trees. The Rolls Royce vehicle works is visible on higher ground in the middle distance. In the far distance, to the right of the view, the South Downs National Park is visible. Due to the topography the Site is not visible from this location.



Photoviewpoint 6: From Stane Street, south west of Maudlin, looking west. Stane Street, lighting columns, grass verges and roadside trees and hedgerows are dominant in the view. In the far distance to the left of Stane Street are a group of commercial buildings including the waste disposal centre. Mature hedgrows and trees along Stane Street block any views of the Site.



Photoviewpoint 7: From Stane Street by the Chichester Mediation Services (waste disposal centre), looking north west. Gaps in the hedgerow along Stane Street provide partial views of the south east facing slopes of the southern parcel of land that is to the right of Oldplace Farm. Evergreen trees along Madgwick Lane are visible at the top of the slope. In the far distance there are glimpsed views of the South Downs National Park.



Photoviewpoint 8: From the corner of Madgwick Lane by Chichester Park Hotel, looking north east. Madgwick Lane and its associated signage and lighting columns dominant the foreground. A pathway leading to housing off The Sadlers is visible to the left of the view. Housing along Madgwick Lane can partially be seen through signage, hedgerows and trees. Beyond the grass verge of Madgwick Lane trees line the boundary of the southern parcel of land that is to the right of Oldplace Farm is partially visible.



Photoviewpoint 9: From the Chichester By Pass, north of the Portfield Way and A27 roundabout, looking north. The Chichester By Pass and its associated signage, lighting columns, grass verges and mature buffer planting are dominant in the view. On the skyline there are partial views of the South Downs National Park. Due to the topography and existing vegetation the Site is not visible from this location.



Photoviewpoint 10: From footpath 322, near to Southdown Close, looking north east. The pedestrian and cycle path runs through an area of open srcub land between the housing edge of Chichester and the Chichester Park Hotel. Due to the rising topography and the existing shrubs and trees the Site is not visible from this location.



Photoviewpoint 11: From footpath 3044, looking south east. From this location the northern part of the Site is visible. Looking over pasture to the course of the River Lavant. Beyond the river a large arble field rises to the hedgrow of Stocks Lane and the partially tree lined edge of Goodwood. The footpath, to the left of the view, runs along the edge of Chichester to the isolated property.



Photoviewpoint 12: Bridleway 3082/1 (Stocks Lane) looking south west. From Stocks Lane gaps in the hedgerow provide partial views over the large arable fields to the tree lined edge of Chichester in the far distance. Due to the relatively flat topography there are extensive views across the Site through the gaps in the hedgerow.



Photoviewpoint 13: Bridleway 3082/1 (Stocks Lane) looking east. Through a large gap in the hedgerow on Stocks Lane, between two areas of the Site, there are views across the eastern parcel of land. Large arable fields with mature hedgerows and trees prevail in the landscape. In the middle distance properties along Claypit Lane, to the right, and properties in Westerton, to the left, can partially be seen. In the far distance the South Downs National Park is visible on the skyline to the left of the view.



Photoviewpoint 14: From the junction of Stocks Lane and Madgwick Lane, looking south. This vantage point represents the general open character of the southern parcel of land. The lack of trees in this location (characteristic of the Lavant Arable Valley Floor landscape) and the nature of the agricultural operations mean that there are open views across the field. In the far distance the commercial buildings along Stane Street are visible. To the right of the view the Chichester Park Hotel, residential properties and other commercial units are also visible.



Photoviewpoint 15: From Madgwick Lane, looking west. Whilst not specifically protected as an important view in planning policy terms this route into Chichester has been noted as being important as the approach to the settlement and ability to see the Cathedral. The visual experience is not continuous along the road with the Cathedral only being visible from a limited section of the road and as such the view of the spire can be best described as fleeting. There is the potential to enhance this approach and increase the visibility of the spire as part of the development strategy. To the left of the view the southern parcel of land can be seen through a newly planted hedgerow. Whilst the partial views of the main part of the Site to the tree lined edge of Chichester can be seen to the right of the view.



Photoviewpoint 16: From footpath 416, next to Rolls Royce vehicle works entrance on Claypit Lane, looking over the roundabout of Claypit Lane, Madgwick Lane and the Rolls Royce entrance the road, signage and lighting columns are dominant in the middle view. Mature trees and hedgerows line Madgwick Lane and Claypit Lane. In the foreground is the grass footpath with landscaped areas of the Rolls Royce entrance on either side. Through the planted area to the right there are views across to the easterly slopes of the eastern parcel of land.



Photoviewpoint 17: From the junction of footpath 416 and bridleway 3583 (Sidengreen Lane) looking south west. Due to the rising topography and the existing vegetation there are no views of the Site from this location.



Photoviewpoint 18: From bridleway 3583 (Sidengreen Lane) looking south west. Views across a large open field with trees and hedgerows on the skyline. The Cathedral spire is clearly visible from this location. Due to the rising topography the Site is not visible from this vantage point.



Photoviewpoint 19: From the junction with the road to Westerton and New Road, looking south west (South Downs National Park). Looking over country lanes to open well maintained fenced fields. A row of confiers blocks views to Westerton in the south west. In the far distance, to the left of the view buildings and earthworks associated with Goodwood are partially visible. Due to the elevated flat topography the Site is not visible from this location.



Photoviewpoint 20: From the lane to Goodwood House (South Downs National Park), north of Claypit Lane, looking south. Country lane, grass verges, mature hedgerows and trees prevail in the view. Looking over the double gates across an open field buildings associated with Goodwood are partially visible over the mature hedgerows of New Road. The tower at the Graylingwell Hospital is visible and is a distinct landmark from this vantage point. Due to the elevated and flat topography the Site is not visible from this location.



Photoviewpoint 21: From the junction of Fordwater Road and footpath 459 (South Downs National Park), southern edge of East Lavant, looking south east. Within the coastal plain landscape the relatively flat and low-lying landform means that visibility is easily restricted by features in the foreground and middle distance. From this vantage point the pastoral landscape dominates the view with woodland block and mature trees significant features in the view. To the right of the view Raughmere Farm and surrounding properties are partially visible.



Photoviewpoint 22: From Chalkpit Lane (South Downs National Park), north of East Lavant, looking south. Chalkpit Lane is set in cutting thus limiting opportunities to view the Site from this part of the lane.



Photoviewpoint 23: From Pook Lane (South Downs National Park) looking south. Looking across open fields from a field gate on Pook Lane. To the right of the view are the hedgerows and trees associated with the garden boundary of an isolated property. On the brow of the field is an isolated property and its associated trees located on New Road. Electricity lines and telegraph poles run across the landscape. In the far distance is the wooded edge of Chichester, the Cathedral spire is visible on the skyline. The distant field to the left of the view is part of the main Site.



Photoviewpoint 24: From New Barn Hill (South Downs National Park), north of The Cass Sculpture Foundation, looking south. Country lane, grass verges, hedgerows and trees are dominant this view. Due to the topography and the existing vegetation the Site is not visible from this location.



Photoviewpoint 25: From the Trundle (South Downs National Park) looking south. An elevated vantage point in the National Park which offers the opportunity to enjoy extensive views across the landscape to the South. Near to a public car park and on the route of the West Sussex Literary Trail views will be experience by a high number of users with a primary purpose of enjoying the open-air recreational experience of the National Park. Whilst not specifically protected as an important view in planning policy terms this vantage point has been noted as being potentially sensitive to changes in view associated with the extension of Chichester.

From this location the foreground of the view is characterised by the rolling foothills and large woodland blocks with the middle distance comprising settlement with scattered smaller areas of woodland and areas of farmland. The linear Poplar tree belts on the boundary of the Goodwood Racing Circuit are notable in the landscape creating a prominent and eye-catching landmark. The Site is present in the view but is not a distinct or obvious feature.



Photoviewpoint 26: From Chalkpit Lane looking south (South Downs National Park). Expansive views across the coastal plain landscape with large open skies. The relatively lower ground and flat nature of the coastal plain means that the settled landscape beyond the South Downs occupies a narrow band in the view. The foreground is dominated by the agricultural landscape associated with the South Downs. In the middle distance the composition of the view is mixed with woodland blocks and settlement distributed throughout the view.



Photoviewpoint 27: West of Chalkpit Lane on the West Sussex Literary Trail (South Downs National Park)

Expansive views across the coastal plain landscape with large open skies. The relatively lower ground and flat nature of the coastal plain means that the settled landscape beyond the South Downs occupies a narrow band in the view. The foreground is dominated by the agricultural landscape associated with the South Downs. In the middle distance the composition of the view is mixed with woodland blocks and settlement distributed throughout the view.



Photoviewpoint 28: From Halnaker Windmill looking south west (South Downs National Park). Expansive views across the coastal plain landscape with large open skies. The relatively lower ground and flat nature of the coastal plain means that the settled landscape beyond the South Downs occupies a narrow band in the view. The foreground is dominated by the rolling foothills, agricultural fields and wooded blocks associated with the South Downs. In the middle distance the composition of the view is mixed with woodland blocks and settlement distributed throughout the view. From this location the Chichester Cathedral spire and the tower at the Graylingwell Hospital are visible in the far distance. The Site is present in the view but is not a distinct or obvious feature.

Opportunities

Policy

Whilst outside of the National Park the site provides the opportunity to connect Chichester to the South Downs to increase access for the local population and the ability to enjoy the open-air recreational experience.

Protection of the existing rights of way and creation of new routes will maintain and enhance the amenity value of the Public Rights of Way.

Deliver landscape enhancements in keeping with the landscape character of the area.

Opportunities to enhance views of Graylingwell Hospital in accordance with policy.

Character

Located on the edge of Chichester there are opportunities to address the character of the urban fringe and include new woodland blocks to screen off-site development.

Extensive woodland blocks would be inappropriate in this coastal plain landscape, however new hedgerows and occasional woodland planting at field corners will enhance the landscape and ensure the longevity of tree cover, at an appropriate scale in this location.

Opportunities exist to diversify the landscape features and increase the functionality of the land, particularly in respect of the riparian environment.

New planting will break up and soften the appearance of the built form and screen off-site detractors.

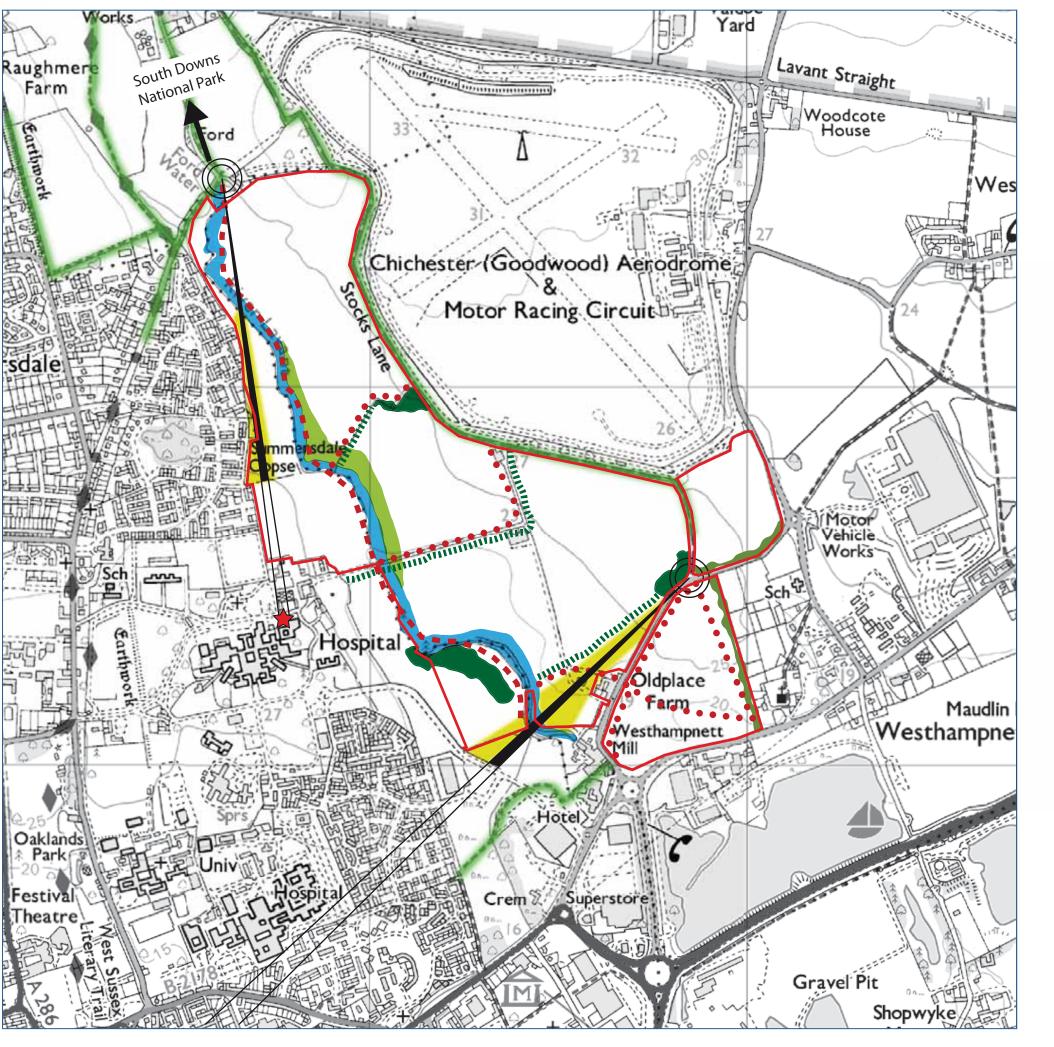
Views and Visibility

Whilst not protected by policy the design proposal will need to:

"consider the impact of built development on views from Madgwick Lane and conserve views of Chichester Cathedral from this road."

(The Future Growth of Chichester: Landscape and Visual Amenity Considerations, April 2005)

The provision of occasional small blocks of woodland integrated within the development will ensure that the character of views from The Trundle with the South Downs is consistent with the existing situation.





Ability to connect population to South Downs
National Park via an attractive route

 Provision of new footpaths to enable circular routes and add to the variety of character and duration of walks

Protection of existing Public Rights of Way

Enhancement of riparian landscape to benefit the environment and create an attractive setting to the new footpath

Explore opportunities to open and define new vista towards the cathedral/Graylingwell Hospital to provide legibility and ensure visual connectivity and links with Chichester

Provision of new woodland planting to soften views of off-site retail and light industry developments. Field corner plantations to increase tree cover

Enhancement of boundary edges through native tree and hedgerow planting

Provision of areas of enhanced grassland

New hedgerow planting to link features and enhance ecological value

Pedestrian and vehicular arrival points

N 0 250

Project

Westhampnett / North East Chichester SDL

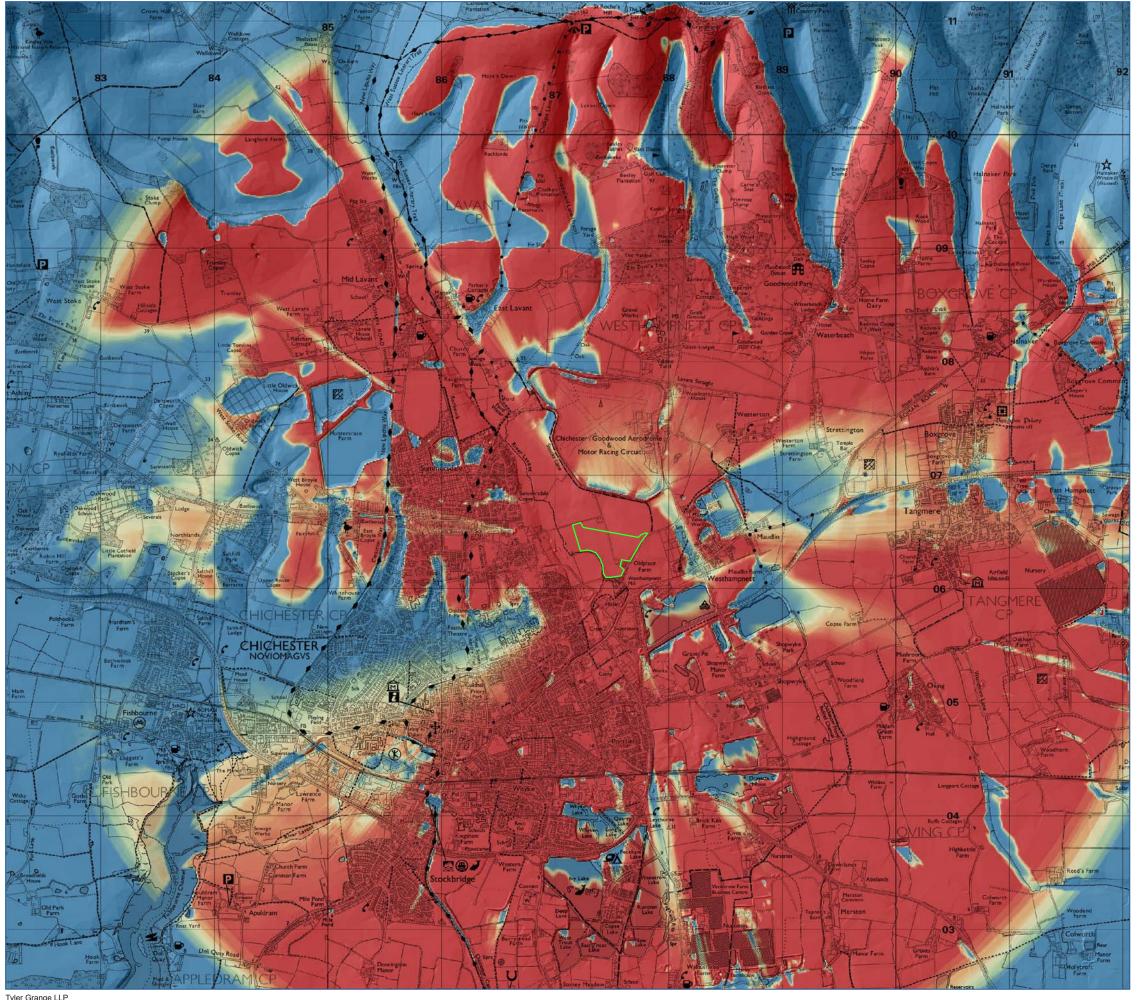
Drawing Title

Plan 9: Landscape and Visual Opportunities

Scale
Drawing No.
Date
Checked

As Shown (Approximate) 1566/P09d December 2013





Site Boundary

Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

High Potential Visibility Low Potential Visibility No Visibility

Source:
The Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) illustrates the extent to which the site (modelled at 13m) is potentially visible within a 5km radius (1.6m high receptor). The ZTV has been modelled using GIS computer software (Global Mapper) and Ordnance Survey Terrain 5 data, and as such does not take into account built form or vegetation present within the landscape. Field verification is required to refine the accuracy of the ZTV.



Old Place Farm, Chichester - Phase 3

Drawing Title

Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

Scale Drawing No. Date Checked As Shown (Approximate) 11436/P01

January 2018 JC/AW



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Photoviewpoint 1 and 2



Photoviewpoint 1:

Distance from Site:

Coordinates:

Description / Commentary:

Panoramic view from Chalkpit Lane in the South Downs National Park looking southwards to the coast. Chichester Cathedral and Graylingwell Tower are just discernible in the view with the Goodwood circuit and aerodrome also located within it. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible at this distance.



Description / Commentary:

Panoramic priority view from the car park on St Roche's Hill in the South Downs National Park looking southwards to the coast. Within Chichester, Chichester Cathedral and Graylingwell Tower are just discernible in the view with the Goodwood circuit and aerodrome also located within it. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible at this distance.

Photoviewpoint 3 and 4



Description / Commentary: Panoramic priority view from the Trundle on St Roche's Hill in the South Downs National Park looking southwards to the coast. Within Chichester, Chichester Cathedral and Graylingwell Tower are just discernible in the view with the Goodwood race circuit and aerodrome also located within it. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible at this distance.



Description / Commentary: Panoramic priority view from the Halnaker Windmill in the South Downs National Park looking south-westwards to the coast. Within Chichester, Chichester Cathedral is just discernible in the view with buildings relating to Goodwood race circuit and aerodrome also located within it. Settlement around Chichester is a noticeable component in the view. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible at this distance.

Photoviewpoint 5 and 6



Description / Commentary:

Panoramic view to the west of Oving on High Street looking across agricultural land towards the South Downs National Park skyline. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible at this distance screened from view by landform and landcover.



Description / Commentary:

View from New Road looking westwards across agricultural land for temporary access connected to Goodwood aerodrome and race circuit. The site is not visible due to the presence of marquees and intervening vegetation.

Photoviewpoint 7 and 8



Description /
Commentary:

View across agricultural land from a bridleway looking south-westwards across grazed pasture to a rising skyline partly fringed with trees. The skyline is pierced by the spire of Chichester Cathedral and the site is present but not visible.



Description / Commentary:

View from New Road looking westwards across agricultural land for temporary access connected to Goodwood aerodrome and race circuit. The site is not visible due to the presence of marquees and intervening vegetation.

Photoviewpoint 9 and 10



Description / Commentary:

View from PRoW that passes within the churchyard of St Peter's Church in Westhampnett. Enclosing elements, intervening vegetation and gentle topographic changes affect visibility beyond the close range. Glimpses of the South Downs are just visible between trees.



Photoviewpoint 10: Taken from the junction of Stocks Lane bridleway and Madgwick Lane.

Distance from Site:

Orientation:

Coordinates:

Description / Commentary:

View from Stocks Lane bridleway at the intersection with Madgwick Lane. A priority view of a glimpsed view to the spire of Chichester Cathedral looking across the site.

Photoviewpoint 19 and 20



Photoviewpoint 11: Taken from Stocks Lane bridleway.

Distance from Site:

Orientation:

Coordinates:

Description / Commentary:

View from Stocks Lane bridleway through the gateway at Old Farm buildings looking south across the site.



Description / Commentary:

View from Stocks Lane bridleway at a gap in the hedgerow looking south across the site. Graylingwell Tower features along the edge of Chichester and the Mill buildings and those off Kingsmead Avenue form the settled skyline across the River Lavant.



Photoviewpoint 11 and 12



Description / Commentary:

View from the entrance to Old Farm at the intersection with Madgwick Lane looking into the site. Graylingwell Tower and associated buildings form part of the skyline with the Monterey Pines forming a feature and filtering views as the follow the River Lavant.



Description / Commentary:

View from the corner of Madgwick Lane looking northwards. Tree lined hedgerow and buildings close by filter any more distant views. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible.



Photoviewpoint 13 and 14



Photoviewpoint 15: Taken from Kingsmeade Avenue roundabout.

Distance from Site:

Orientation:

Coordinates:

Description / Commentary:

View from Kingsmead Avenue roundabout looking north across the business park. The top of Graylingwell Tower is visible views are truncated by built development. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible.



Photoviewpoint 16: Taken from Kingsmead Avenue.

Distance from Site:

Orientation:

Coordinates:

Description / Commentary:

View from Kingsmead Avenue looking eastwards towards the site. The Monterey Pines locate the River Lavant alignment.



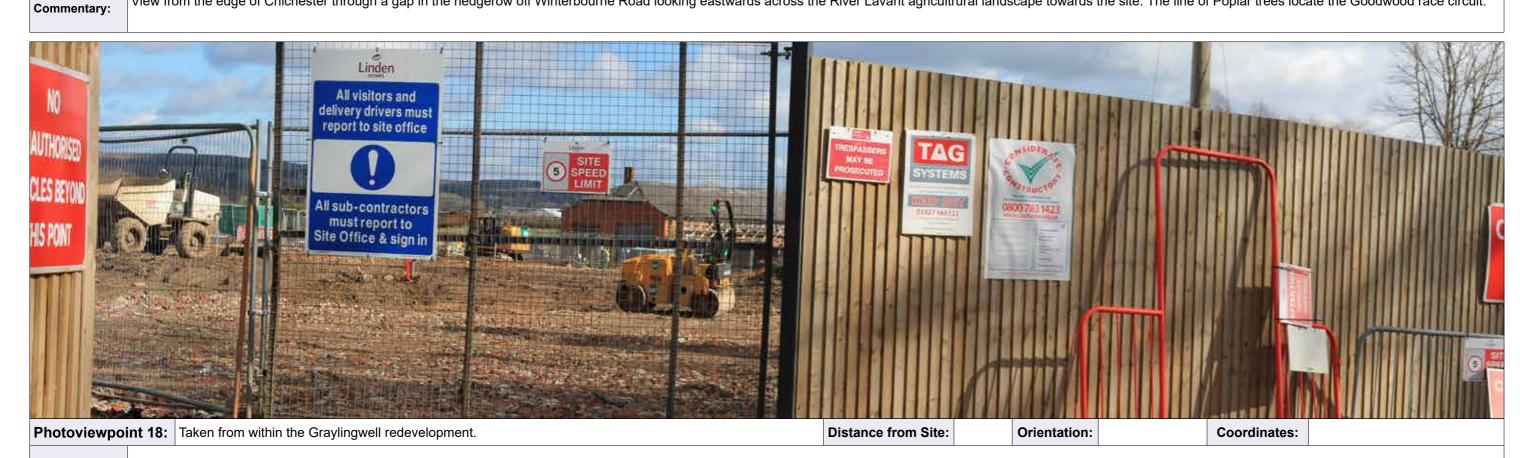
JC/TRS Checked

Photoviewpoint 15 and 16



Description /

View from the edge of Chichester through a gap in the hedgerow off Winterbourne Road looking eastwards across the River Lavant agricultrural landscape towards the site. The line of Poplar trees locate the Goodwood race circuit.



Description / Commentary:

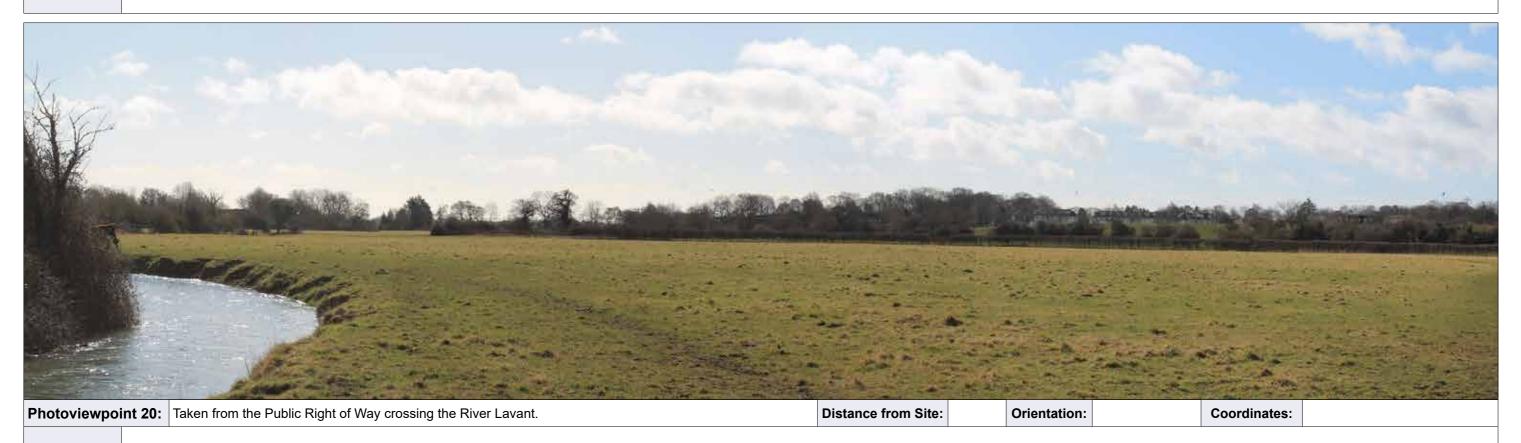
View from within the Graylingwell redevelopment looking eastwards. The site lies within the view but is not visible due to intervening built form.



Photoviewpoint 17 and 18



Description / Commentary: View from Fordwater Road looking southwards across the River Lavant agricultural landscape with the edge of Chichester and the line of Poplar trees on the edge of the Goodwood race circuit noticeable in the view. The site lies within the view but is not clearly visible at this distance at the gentle rise on the skyline.

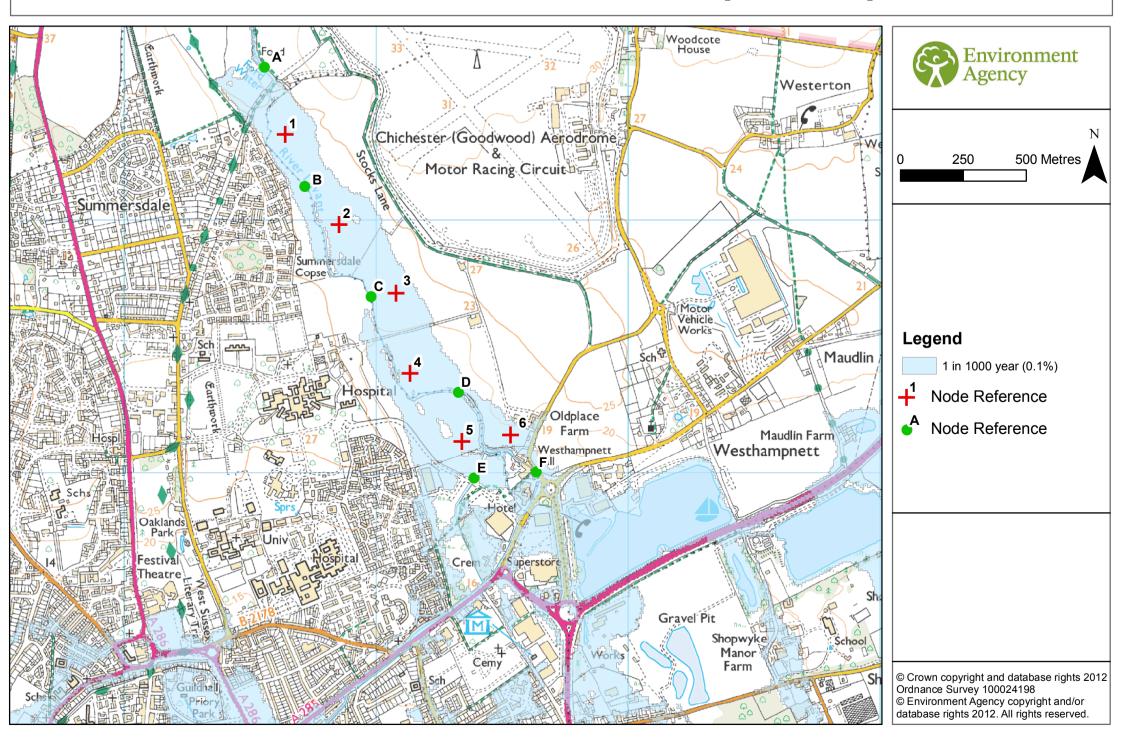


Description / Commentary:

View from PRoW bridge crossing over the River Lavant close to the sewage works. Vegetation at the sewage works and along the river edge screens the edge of the view. The site lies within the view but is not clearly discernible.

Appendix 6

Flood extents for site on River Lavant - created on 19th October 2012 [SSD/3721/RM]



Appendix 7



Our ref: 303.07 2019_01_29 TBN.docx

29 January 2019

Technical Briefing Note

Baker Consultants carried out a range of ecological survey work across the Westhampnett and North East Chichester Strategic Development Location between 2012 and 2018, as well as completing a full assessment of historical survey work conducted by other consultants.

Ecological surveys completed across the site cover habitats, dormice, bats, water voles, otters, badgers, reptiles, winter birds and breeding birds, whilst desk study data provided by the local biodiversity records centre has also been reviewed.

The site is essentially arable farmland through which the River Lavant flows, together with associated hedgerows and scrub around field edges. A number of farm buildings are also present within the site.

The site is considered to be largely of low ecological value, although it does support some interest within hedgerows, scrub and the river corridor. There is also some use of the arable fields by ground nesting birds such as skylarks.

The development offers considerable opportunity for ecological enhancement through the creation of new habitats, in particular associated with the river corridor and existing mature hedgerows that currently form boundary features. Such habitats could be fully integrated within the masterplan design and help provide variety within public open spaces across the scheme, as well as linking to other habitats nearby.

The proposals as a whole are considered to be deliverable from an ecological point of view, with no significant issues for protected species that cannot be managed through careful design and mitigation. It is likely that the final scheme will deliver a positive impact on ecology within the local area.

Carlos Abrahams MCIEEM
Technical Director

Phase 3 of the Westhampnett/ NE Chichester SDL

(Land North of Madgwick Lane)

Bird Survey Report 2018







baker consultants

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Who we are:

Baker Consultants is an ecology and sustainability consultancy. We work in terrestrial, freshwater and marine environments, providing a range of services to industry, government, developers, public services and utilities.

Baker Consultants comprises a highly experienced team of professional ecologists. We do wildlife surveys - but they are only the first steps in the process for most projects. We are also involved in ecological assessment, environmental law, biodiversity management and design planning.

We don't just work with wildlife, because we know that communication with clients, design teams and conservation bodies is the key to project success. Explaining the implications of survey data, and interpreting legislation, policy and best practice is one of our strengths. We help decisions to be made and actions taken, allowing constraints to be kept to a minimum and project risks to be managed.

Our approach is scientific, pragmatic and creative. Alongside tried and tested methods, we seek to innovate, introduce clients to new ways of thinking and always deliver sound commercial awareness. You will find us honest and approachable, but we're not afraid to be robust and challenging - or to ask difficult questions.

We do believe in nature conservation. But we also believe in good development, well delivered. We know that, with our input, projects and plans can provide benefits for both nature and people.

That's not the whole story.

For more information, look at our web site www.bakerconsultants.co.uk, subscribe to our blog, or call us on 01629 593958.



Client Hywel James – Nexus Planning -on behalf of CEG

Project Chichester 2018

Phase 3 of the Westhampnett / North East Chichester Strategic

Report title Development Location (Land North of Madgwick Lane) – Bird Survey

Report 2018

File reference 303.10 rep 001 JL

Team leader Rich Hall

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	Name	Position	Date
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Unless otherwise stated in this document, the assessments made assume that the study site referred to will continue to be used for its current purpose without significant change. The assessment, recommendations and conclusions contained in this document may be based upon information provided by third parties and upon the assumption that the information is relevant, correct and complete. There has been no independent verification of information obtained from third parties, unless otherwise stated in the report.

Where field investigations have been carried out, these have been restricted to the agreed scope of works and carried out to a level of detail required to achieve the stated objectives of the services. Natural habitats and species distributions may change over time and further data should be sought following any significant delay from the publication of this document.

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1 Summary

1.1 The Proposed Development

- 1.1.1 This report has been prepared on behalf of CEG in support of an outline planning application proposing new residential development comprising up to 200 residential dwellings on an area of land which falls within Westhampnett/North East Chichester Strategic Development Location (WNEC SDL).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development could potentially result in impacts on the ecological features of the site and/or its surroundings. This report details the results of our breeding bird survey of the site carried in 2018 and describes features of ecological value found to be present. It also provides advice to help minimise impacts, thereby enabling the development to comply with current nature conservation policy and legislation.

1.2 Ecological Receptors

- 1.2.1 The ecological assessment, set out in detail below, has found the site to hold a breeding bird assemblage at Site level importance.
- 1.2.2 Notable species recorded on site include dunnock, skylark and yellowhammer.
- 1.2.3 The site as a whole is of limited value to breeding birds, with boundary features being the most likely habitat to play host to any breeding species. Any bird species that may suffer from a loss of the habitats within the development footprint can benefit from potential habitat creation indicated within this report.

1.3 Recommended Actions

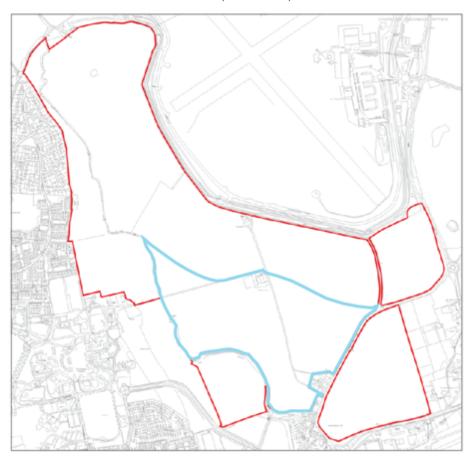
1.3.1 Ecological impacts on features of interest will need to be avoided, or appropriate mitigation put in place to reduce the effects of development.

2 Introduction

2.1 Site Description

- 2.1.1 The Applicant is submitting an outline planning application to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) Chichester District Council (CDC), for a mixed residential-led development.
- 2.1.2 The site lies within the WNEC SDL and is henceforth referred to as 'the Site', or land within the 'Application Boundary', as shown in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1. Location of 'the Site' and 'Application Boundary' (blue line) within the WNEC SDL (red line).



2.2 Study Scope

- 2.2.1 Baker Consultants was commissioned by the client to undertake the following works in relation to the Site:
 - Breeding Bird Survey
- 2.2.2 This report takes into account standard guidance from a variety of sources including the

Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management 1 2 3, British Standards Institution 4, and www.gov.uk 5.

- 2.2.3 The report considers, in particular, potential effects on the following biodiversity features:
 - European Protected Species
 - National Protected Species
 - Habitats and Species of Principal Importance for Conservation
 - Habitats and species of local interest

¹ CIEEM (2018). Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment In The UK And Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

² CIEEM (2015). Guidelines on Ecological Report Writing. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

³ CIEEM (2017). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

⁴ BSI (2013). BS42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development

⁵ https://www.gov.uk/guidance/protected-species-how-to-review-planning-applications

3 Methods

3.1 Surveyor Qualifications and Experience

- 3.1.1 Principal Ornithologist Rich Hall MCIEEM led the project and undertook all three breeding bird surveys in the spring/summer of 2018. Rich is an experienced ornithologist and has carried out numerous bird surveys across the UK.
- 3.1.2 Wherever appropriate during surveys, Natural England's Standing Advice on Protected Species 6 was taken into account, along with a wide range of other best practice guidance on survey methods. These are referenced in the text below. However, the professional judgement of the surveyors was also applied in relation to the site conditions and target species/habitats being considered. This may have required changes to the published guidance.

3.2 Surveys

- 3.2.1 The breeding birds survey broadly followed the 'Common Bird Census' method 7. This technique involves walking the site during the bird breeding season, while watching and listening for birds. The location and behaviour of every bird recorded during this survey is then mapped using a standardized system of notation.
- 3.2.2 The surveyor assessed all habitats on the site for evidence of breeding birds, including specific features such as buildings which may be used by species such as barn owl.
- 3.2.3 Three visits were undertaken to each part of the site during the bird breeding season in suitable weather conditions. The visits were made either in the early morning or evening, when birds are most active. The surveyors, dates, times and weather conditions during these surveys are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1. Breeding Birds Survey Conditions

Date	Surveyor	Times (hrs)	Weather conditions	Sunrise/set time
12-04-2018	RH	07:15	13-15C, 80% Cloud Cover, Wind F2, Dry	06:15
03-05-2018	RH	18:30	16C, 25% Cloud Cover, Wind F2-F3, Dry	20:27
25-05-2018	RH	07:00	17 -20C, 10% Cloud Cover, Wind F1, Dry	05:01

⁶ https://www.gov.uk/guidance/protected-species-how-to-review-planning-applications

⁷ Marchant, J.H. (1983). Common Bird Census Instructions. British Trust for Ornithology, Tring.

4 Results

4.1 Study Limitations

- 4.1.1 Whilst every effort was made in the field survey to provide a comprehensive description of the site, no investigation can ensure the complete characterisation and prediction of the natural environment. Also, natural and semi-natural habitats are subject to change, species may colonise the site after surveys have taken place and results included in this report may become less reliable over time.
- 4.1.2 Survey data is generally only considered valid if it is from the current or previous active season. In some cases, surveys up to three years old may be considered acceptable by consultees if the habitats have not significantly changed in the intervening period.
- 4.1.3 Full access to the Site was available to complete all surveys and no significant constraints were noted.

4.2 Birds

Site Description

- 4.2.1 The habitats on site are limited to large areas of arable field with small areas of dense scrub and tall ruderal. Hedgerows form the eastern boundary of the Site and divide the arable fields centrally, running parallel with a hard-standing track. The western boundary of the site is flanked by the River Lavant corridor which is lined along much of its length by scattered broadleaf and coniferous trees.
- 4.2.2 Opportunities for the majority of nesting birds within the site are limited to hedgerows, scrub, scattered mature trees and the ruderal/grassy margins of the River Lavant.

Breeding bird assemblage

4.2.3 A total of 26 species of birds were recorded during the site surveys, of which none were confirmed to be breeding (B), nine were probably breeding (Pr) and 11 possibly (Po) breeding. Six species were considered to be non-breeding visitors (N). See Table 2 for a detailed species list, their breeding status, the habitat in which the bird was recorded and their legal protection.

Table 2. Bird Survey results

Species	Conservation	Breeding Habitat	Breeding status
	Concern?		
Blackbird Turdus merula	=	Scrub/Woodland/Hedgerows	Probable
Blue tit Cyanistes caeruleus	-	Mature trees	Possible
Buzzard Buteo Buteo	-	-	Probable
Carrion crow Corvus corone	-	-	Non-breeding
Chaffinch Fringilla coelebs	-	Scrub/Hedgerows	Probable
Chiffchaff Phylloscopus collybita	-	Scrub	Probable
Collared dove Streptopelia decaocto	-	Mature trees (especially conifers)	Possible
Coot Fulica atra		River margins	Possible
Dunnock Prunella modularis	Amber, SPI	Scrub/Hedgerows	Probable
Goldfinch Carduelis carduelis	-	Scrub	Possible

Species	Conservation	Breeding Habitat	Breeding status
	Concern?		
Great tit Parus major	-	Mature trees	Possible
Greenfinch Carduelis chloris	-	Scrub/Hedgerows, Adjoining gardens	Possible
House sparrow Passer domesticus	Red, SPI	Adjoining housing estate	Non-breeding
Kestrel Falco tinnunculus	Amber	-	Non-breeding
Mallard Anas platyrhynchos	Amber	River margins	Possible
Pheasant Phasianus colchicus	-	Tall ruderal vegetation	Non-breeding
Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	-	Scrub/Hedgerows	Probable
Skylark Alauda arvensis	Red, SPI	Grassland	Probable
Song thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Red, SPI	Scrub/Hedgerows	Possible
Starling Sturnus vulgaris	Red, SPI	-	Non-breeding
Swallow Hirundo rustica	-	-	Non-breeding
Whitethroat Sylvia communis	-	Scrub/Hedgerows	Possible
Willow warbler	Amber	Scrub/Hedgerows	Possible
Woodpigeon Columba palumbus	-	Scrub / Hedgerows	Possible
Wren Troglodytes troglodytes	-	Scrub/ Hedgerows	Probable
Yellowhammer Emberiza citronella	Red, SPI	Hedgerows	Probable

Key-

SPI – Species of Principal Importance for Conservation (NERC Act)

Amber – Species of Moderate Conservation Concern

Red – Species of High Conservation Concern

5 Assessment

5.1 National Policy

5.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2018) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It states that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development, combining economic, social and environmental objectives, and 'protecting and enhancing our natural --- environment; including ---helping to improve biodiversity'. Within this framework, the requirements in relation to biodiversity are included within several policies. The two most relevant to individual planning decisions are Paragraphs 170 and 175, shown below:

170: Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
- b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
- c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
- d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;

etc...

175. When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:

- a) if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
- b) development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
- c) development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
- d) development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to incorporate biodiversity improvements in and around developments should be encouraged, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity.

5.1.2 Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 places a duty on every public authority to have regard to conserving biodiversity. Section 41 of the same Act requires that the Secretary of State must publish a list of the living organisms and types of habitats that are of 'Principal Importance' for the purpose of conserving biodiversity. The Secretary of State must take steps, as appear reasonably practicable, to further the conservation of those living organisms and habitats in any list published under this section. The list of species and habitats of principal importance currently includes 943 species and 56 habitats.

5.2 Legislation

- 5.2.1 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CRoW Act 2000) provides for the notification and confirmation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). These sites are identified for their flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features by Natural England. The Act also contains measures for the management of SSSIs and protection against damaging operations. Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) define zones around each site which reflect the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified and indicate the types of development proposal which could potentially have adverse impacts 8.
- 5.2.2 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CRoW Act 2000) is the primary legislation which protects native animals, plants and habitats in the UK. The Act makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild animal listed on Schedule 5, and prohibits interference with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places. The Act also makes it an offence to intentionally pick, uproot or destroy any wild plant listed in Schedule 8, or any seed or spore attached to any such wild plant.
- 5.2.3 European Protected Species (EPS), such as bats and great crested newts, are protected under both the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CRoW Act 2000) and under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Taken together, these make it an offence to:
 - a) Deliberately capture, injure or kill a EPS;
 - b) Deliberately disturb any EPS, in particular any disturbance which is likely to (i) impair their ability to survive, breed, reproduce or to rear or nurture their young; or in the case of hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or (ii) to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.
 - c) To be in possession or control of any live or dead EPS or any part of, or anything derived from a EPS;
 - d) Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of a EPS;
 - e) Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place that a EPS uses for shelter or

⁸ Available at: http://www.magic.gov.uk

protection;

f) Intentionally or recklessly disturb a EPS while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection.

5.3 Birds

- 5.3.1 All nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage or destroy its nest whilst in use or being built, or take or destroy its eggs. In addition to this, for some rarer species (listed on Schedule 1 of the Act), it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb them while they are nest building or at or near a nest with eggs or young, or to disturb the dependent young of such a bird.
- 5.3.2 The Birds of Conservation Concern initiative 9 publishes lists of Red and Amber species. Birds on the Red list are of high conservation concern within the UK, while those on the Amber list are of medium conservation concern. In addition, a number of bird species are also included as Species of Principal Importance under the provisions of the NERC Act 2006.
- 5.3.3 A total of 26 bird species were recorded within and adjoining the site boundary during the 2018 bird surveys. The notable species present are set out in Table 3 below.
- 5.3.4 A total of eight of these species are on the Amber or Red BOCC lists, and five of these species are listed as Species of Principal Importance under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act, 2006.

Table 3. Notable Bird Species

Species	Legal / Policy Status	Breeding Status
Dunnock Prunella modularis	Amber, SPI	Probable
House Sparrow Passer domesticus	Red, SPI	Non-breeding
Kestrel Falco tinnunculus	Amber	Non-breeding
Mallard Anas platyrhynchos	Amber	Possible
Skylark Alauda arvensis	Red, SPI	Probable
Song thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Red, SPI	Possible
Starling Sturnus vulgaris	Red, SPI	Non-breeding
Willow warbler Phylloscopus trochilus	Amber	Possible
Yellowhammer Emberiza citrinella	Red, SPI	Probable

Key:

BoCC Listed as red or amber under the Birds of Conservation Concern initiative

Sect.41 Section 41 species on Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)

WCA1 Listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

5.3.5 To assess the overall breeding bird assemblage, a published method 10 for assessing the ornithological interest of sites has been used, whereby the importance of a site is defined by the number of breeding species present. These have been adapted to fit the geographical levels used by CIEEM, and also to reflect ongoing declines in bird

⁹ Eaton, M.A. et al (2015). Birds of Conservation Concern 4: The population status of birds in the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. British Birds 108, pp708-746.

¹⁰ Fuller, R.J. (1980). A method for assessing the ornithological interest of sites for conservation. Biological Conservation 17:229-239.

populations. It is these adapted criteria that are shown in Table 4 below:

Table 4. Breeding Birds Site Evaluation

Number of breeding bird species	Site importance		
<13	Site		
13-25	Local		
25 – 49	District		
50 – 69	County		
70 - 84	Regional		
>85	National		

- 5.3.6 A total of nine species have been assessed as either confirmed or probably breeding on the site. Using the adapted version of Fuller's criteria, the site is therefore considered to be of Site importance.
- 5.3.7 Dunnock was noted throughout the hedgerows on site with several individual singing males recorded on all three surveys. In addition, a yellowhammer was observed singing in the central hedgerow on three separate occasions, indicating that the species are probably breeding on site in low numbers.
- 5.3.8 Skylark was recorded on all three surveys. These included singing males, and the species was also noted to be using the surrounding arable fields. This species is the most likely to face an adverse impact if open ground is to be lost as part of the development.
- 5.3.9 Those habitats with the greatest value to breeding birds are the boundary habitats, which predominately includes the eastern and central species poor hedgerow and River Lavant corridor. These habitats support probable breeding birds but are also considered to serve as important connective habitat linking to the wider landscape.
- 5.3.10 The site as a whole is of limited value to breeding birds, with boundary features being the most likely habitat to play host to any breeding species. The ruderal or arable areas within the site proved to be of low overall value to birds, with few recorded other than those briefly landing to forage (e.g., crow and starling), or simply flying over the site.
- 5.3.11 Site clearance or construction works, if undertaken during the bird breeding season, could potentially damage active nests and result in an offence under the legislation. Impacts to consider include damaging or removing breeding sites, disturbing birds and their young, removing vegetation or changing habitats, demolishing or changing buildings or natural features like rock faces, and removing ground nest habitats with activities like soil stripping.
- 5.3.12 Many species will actively benefit from the addition of gardens and green infrastructure planting, which will enhance the currently low value of the majority of the site for birds. Additional enhancements for birds will include a variety of nest boxes, which are of benefit to species such as house sparrow, swallow, house martin, and starling, providing nesting opportunities for species that are not currently known to be breeding at the site.

6 Recommendations

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The recommendations below for further survey and mitigation are based on the results and assessment set out above, taking into account standard published guidance from a number of sources (as referenced through the report), including the GOV.UK information on Planning and Development 11 12.
- 6.1.2 Individual Local Planning Authorities have their own requirements for ecological information to support the validation and assessment of planning applications. These requirements often vary widely between Authorities and sometimes do not accord with national guidance- including that issued by the statutory nature conservation organisations. As a result, we have applied the more consistent national guidance to our survey and mitigation recommendations set out below.

6.2 Mitigation Measures

- 6.2.1 Maintenance of the boundary hedgerows will provide a dense, wide-based cover for nesting, as well as associated margin vegetation to provide additional cover, feeding opportunities, and some protection from a possible increase in domestic cat presence. Seed bearing plant mixes may be considered to provide winter feeding opportunities, or potentially seed feeding stations in relatively undisturbed areas. This combination of features will help to maintain the site's viability as a breeding and wintering resource, despite the presence of development.
- 6.2.2 These enhancements are also likely to benefit other species such as dunnock, house sparrow and skylark (which also use adjacent fields and are likely to continue doing so). During construction activities, the hedgerows should be buffered and protected to minimise disturbance to birds, and any damage to the hedgerows themselves. New habitats and nest boxes can be provided for enhancing existing features of value.
- 6.2.3 Impacts on nesting birds should be avoided in particular, by carrying out site clearance and similar operations outside of the bird breeding season (March August inclusive). Construction activities that might directly impact upon breeding birds should hence be limited to the September-February period.
- 6.2.4 If the timing or location of work activities cannot be changed to avoid affecting birds, then birds may be prevented from starting to nest by blocking access to nest sites, clearing vegetation or structures used for breeding, or using deterrents they can see or hear, e.g. tapes or flashing lights. These techniques cannot be used, however, once a nest is established.

¹¹ https://www.gov.uk/topic/planning-development/protected-sites-species

¹² https://www.gov.uk/guidance/natural-environment#biodiversity-and-ecosystems

Appendix 1: Breeding Status

Breeding Status

The breeding status of birds encountered within the survey area are classified in three categories as a result of behaviour observed during the surveys and following the criteria set out by the European Ornithology Atlas Committee.

J	1 67			
Confirmed	Nest containing eggs located.			
breeding	Nests with young seen or heard.			
	Used nests or eggshells found.			
	Recently fledged or downy young observed.			
	Adults entering/leaving nest, particularly if with food or faecal sacs.			
	Distraction display or injury feigning by disturbed adult.			
Probable Pairs observed in suitable nesting habitat in the breeding season.				
breeding	Permanent territory presumed through registration or territorial behaviour on at least two different			
	visits at the same place.			
	Display and courtship behaviour observed.			
	Birds seen visiting probable nest site.			
	Agitated behaviour or anxiety calls from adults.			
	Building nest or excavating nest hole.			
Possible	Species observed in breeding season in likely nesting habitat.			
breeding	Singing male(s) present or breeding calls heard.			

Legislative Status

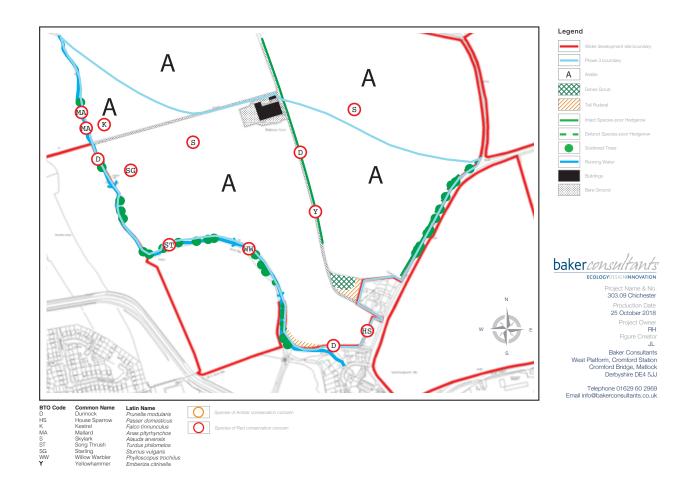
BB	All nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
BD	Listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive (2009)
Sect.41	Section 41 species on Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)
WCA1	Listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC)

Birds are included on the BoCC list after assessment against a set of objective criteria which places each species on one of three lists, green, amber or red, indicating an increasing level of conservation concern.

	U	
R		Species is red listed
A		Species is amber listed
G		Species is green listed
No statu	IS	Non-native species, not assessed

Appendix 2: Notable bird map









baker consultants

Appendix 8