

Stoneleigh & Ashow Joint Parish Council (Parklands Consortium) 1055 / 6099

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING
WARWICK DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION
MATTERS AND ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE INSPECTOR

MATTER 7b

H40 East of Kenilworth comprising Crewe Gardens, Southcrest Farm and Woodside Training Centre.

H40 is an area of mainly pastoral farmland, south east facing and located between Crewe Lane to the north which commands views to the south of Stoneleigh Park. Crewe Lane approaches Stoneleigh Park following the boundary of Crewe Gardens and proceeds to the B4115 to the east, sweeping beneath the A46 with Crew Farm backed by Glasshouse wood to the south east.

The land package lies within the *Arden Landscape* character area and *Arden Parkland* character type.

The topographical aspect of the land package would naturally link to the Avon valley and Stoneleigh Village to the east and Stoneleigh Abbey to the west. The extensive woodland planting creates enclosure and visual breaks and is enhanced by the historic planting within Glasshouse Wood and Thickthorn Wood. This historic planting has also integrated into the A46 corridor.

H40 has several features of cultural and historical interest. There is a Romano British site of interest within Glasshouse Wood, (Scheduled Monument), historically part of the landholdings held by Stoneleigh Abbey and containing features from the designed landscape of Stoneleigh Abbey Park, (Grade II* registered landscape). Southcrest Farm, (Knoll House), is possibly a former Estate cottage/ farmhouse. The paths through Glasshouse Wood and along Rocky lane follow close to the original route ways between Stoneleigh Abbey and Kenilworth.

Glasshouse Lane forms a definite edge to the east side of Kenilworth. It might be argued that the A46 road has undermined the historic landscape continuity between Kenilworth, Stoneleigh Abbey and the Avon Valley but the A46 corridor forms an interface between the settlement and the rural landscape setting. The designed landscape has absorbed the A46 as it slides through the Stoneleigh Estate Landscape. Further development adjacent to the A46 would have major impacts to the wider landscape context. It might be argued that H40 does not serve an appropriate green belt function but this would be incorrect and this area should not be removed from the green belt to facilitate further development.

Hazel Fryer.

31st August 1916