

# WARWICK DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF KLER GROUP – MATTER 7D: PROPOSED HOUSING SITE ALLOCATIONS – GROWTH VILLAGES AND HOCKLEY HEATH

This Statement has been prepared by Barton Willmore on behalf of Kler Group in relation to their land interest within Warwick District at Cromwell Lane, Burton Green. Kler Group currently hold an option with the landowners Mr and Mrs Swindells with whom we have previously promoted the site through the emerging plan process. There is an agreement in principle with Star Pubs and Bars Ltd to provide access to their land to serve the proposed development and all parties are willing to accommodate the proposed access arrangement, including the tenant of the public house (now renamed to Hickory's Smoke House).

### MATTER 7d:- PROPOSED HOUSING SITE ALLOCATIONS (Land at Cromwell Lane, Burton Green)

We respond to each question in turn below:

#### 1) What is the current planning status of the site?

- 1.1 The site is currently within the Green Belt and is not the preferred site (H24) at Burton Green for housing development. There is no known planning history on the site, however it has been promoted throughout the emerging Plan process. The site has been promoted through the SHLAA under site reference R91 which was rejected on the basis of its backland location and access. An agreement in principle is in place with the brewery (Star Pubs and Bars Ltd) to obtain an access arrangement through the public house land and all parties are willing to accommodate the arrangement to ensure that satisfactory access can be obtained for the development from Cromwell Lane.
- 1.2 The draft allocated site (H24) sits adjacent to the proposed HS2 route and any movement to the planned route may impact upon the deliverability in terms of timing and separately, capacity of the site.

#### 2) How does it fit within the overall spatial strategy?

2.1 The site fits within the overall spatial strategy given that it adjoins the built up area of Burton Green; which is considered a sustainable rural village. The Sustainability Appraisal Report



(February 2015) set out the broad location for allocated sites which confirmed that the findings of the SA were not significantly affected as set out in the Revised Development Strategy SA Report in 2013.

- 2.2 Burton Green is described as a 'Secondary Service Village' in the Council's Draft Settlement Hierarchy Report (2013) and is recognised as a Growth Village in the Plan thereby capable of accommodating a level of growth to meet the increased housing target of 16,776 dwellings (or potentially higher depending on the outcome of the Matter 2 Hearing Sessions). It is considered a sustainable location being situated close to public transport options (bus and rail) and within walking distance to retail and employment opportunities within the village and edge of Coventry.
- 2.3 A level of rural growth is essential in order for the Council to support thriving rural communities, as required by bullet point 5 of paragraph 17 of the NPPF.
- 3) In addition to housing provision, are there other benefits that the proposed development would bring?
- 3.1 In addition to market housing provision on the site, the proposals would include for a policy compliant level of affordable housing provision, thereby assisting in meeting the substantial affordable housing needs as outlined in the Joint Coventry and Warwickshire SHMA. The housing mix would also be catered to provide for a range of tenures to meet local needs in Burton Green.
- 3.2 The site would also assist in providing appropriate accommodation to meet the needs of those residents who would be displaced as a result of HS2. The site at Cromwell Lane would enable those residents who wish to remain in the village to do so, particularly whilst construction related to HS2 (including a tunnel) is ongoing.
- 3.3 It is a contained site situated at the centre of the village. The site offers the opportunity to spread the housing delivery across the village rather than offering a one site strategy approach.
- 3.4 Alongside these benefits, there would be significant economic benefits which would include; the creation of job opportunities during the construction phase of development, increased levels of disposable income from new residents which could be spent in supporting local services and facilities and also the payment of the New Homes Bonus to the local authority. The site would also provide for Section 106 monies which would go towards local infrastructure improvements within the village.



- 3.5 In terms of environmental benefits, the proposals would seek to ensure enhanced pedestrian and cycle linkages to the surrounding built up area of Burton Green thereby reducing the reliance on the private car. The site would also provide for enhanced landscape buffers along key boundaries to enhance the permanent and physical boundaries of the site. Furthermore, the creation of SUDS and enhanced landscaping will act as a catalyst to enhance biodiversity within the locality which is currently of limited ecological value due to the agricultural nature of the site.
- 4) What are the potential adverse impacts of developing the site? How could they be mitigated?
- 4.1 A poorly designed development could impact the landscape character of the surrounding area and the Green Belt could be undermined were the site not sensitively developed. In both instances, we consider that the impacts can be mitigated.
- 4.2 Furthermore, we note that the Council have also raised some concern with the location of the site, describing it as 'inconsistent with character of settlement' in the Village Profile and Housing Allocations (February 2016). An initial Green Belt Review and Landscape and Visual Report (Appendix 1) reviews these considerations. At paragraph 5.1 it acknowledges that the site will extend beyond the existing settlement boundary; however it would go no further than the existing residential property at the end of Cromwell Lane along the northern boundary of the site. This effectively terminates the built edge along Cromwell Lane in terms of views from the west.
- 4.3 Given that Burton Green is a linear settlement, any expansion to the village will result in a similar development pattern to that proposed off Cromwell Lane. However, the site is well contained with existing landscaping providing a defensible boundary to the Green Belt. Indeed, the principle of releasing Green Belt in this location has been established through the release of land immediately north of the site (within Coventry City's administrative boundary site ref H2:8) and Site H42 and the safeguarded land S1 at Westwood Heath. These draft allocations will result in a change to the visual impact of the Green Belt in this location as a whole.
- 4.4 Viewed against the backdrop of existing residential development along Cromwell Lane, the site will not have a significant adverse landscape and visual impact due to the containment of the site by its defensible boundaries. The site also offers a logical extension to the village, being in a sustainable location having good access to public transport and being within walking distance



to Tile Hill Rail Station and employment and retail opportunities at Charter Avenue Industrial Estate.

- 5) Is the scale of development proposed compatible with the capacity of the village to accommodate further growth in terms of its character and appearance, the level of services and existing infrastructure?
- 5.1 The scale of development is considered commensurate with the Council's assessment of Burton Green's capacity. We therefore consider that the site is more than capable of meeting the needs of the village without a detrimental impact upon the level of services and existing infrastructure. Furthermore, any proposed development on the site will generate Section 106 contributions which will ensure that any improvements to infrastructure in the locality as a result of the proposals are met accordingly.
- 5.2 The draft allocated site H24 has recently had its capacity increased through the Proposed Modifications. It is considered that some of the capacity could be adequately accommodated within the proposed site at Cromwell Lane at an appropriate density to reflect the local landscape character should the draft allocated site be subject to any significant delays or constraints as a result of HS2.
- 6) What are the infrastructure requirements/costs and are there physical or other constraints to development? How would these be addressed?
- 6.1 There are no known physical or other constraints to development of the site. The site sits within Flood Zone 1 and it has been agreed in principle with Star Pubs and Bars Ltd that a suitable access arrangement can be gained to the site from Cromwell Lane through the former Peeping Tom public house (now Hickory's Smoke House). The site is well contained by existing landscaping, however this has the potential to be enhanced through development proposals which could mitigate against any landscape visual constraints to the development of the site.
- 6.2 In comparison, the draft allocated site (H24) sits adjacent to the proposed HS2 route and therefore has a significantly higher risk of its deliverability been hampered by the uncertainty over the route and timescales for development. This site also has the potential to be impacted upon much more by noise and vibration as a result of the high speed rail line running in close proximity to it. Whilst these impacts could be mitigated against, it is our opinion that the proposed site at Cromwell Lane should be allocated in addition to site H24 to ensure sufficient



delivery of housing within Burton Green over the emerging plan period to 2029 especially in the early years, should there be any significant delays as a result of the HS2 proposals.

#### 7) Is the site realistically viable and deliverable?

- 7.1 We are of the opinion that the site is realistically viable and deliverable. It is a greenfield site with no significant constraints or abnormals on the site which would impact upon the viability of the site from coming forward for development.
- 7.2 The site is in the control of a land promoter (Kler Group) who would seek to secure outline planning permission before passing on to a housebuilder. The local housing market is viable and the site would be attractive to both regional and national housebuilders to bring forward in the immediate future.

#### 8) What is the expected timescale for development and is this realistic?

8.1 Subject to the removal of the site from the Green Belt, it would be anticipated that an outline planning application would be submitted in 2017/early 2018 (at the latest) with delivery of the site occurring by 2019/2020.

### 9) What would be the effect of the proposal on the purposes of including land within the Green Belt?

- 9.1 We have previously undertaken a Green Belt Review and Landscape and Visual Report of the site which is enclosed at **Appendix 1**.
- 9.2 The document concluded that the sites overall contribution to the purposes of the Green Belt is 'limited to some'. It considers that it provides some contribution to the check of unrestricted sprawl and prevention of towns from merging into one another and that it provides a limited contribution towards safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and preservation of the setting and special character of historic towns. The site is considered to form an isolated pocket of greenfield land immediately adjacent to existing residential development, therefore the site is experienced in this context rather than as an area of open countryside.
- 9.3 The Council's Green Belt and Green Field Review (November 2013) valued the assessment of the parcel (BG6) as medium-high assessment. The assessment does acknowledge that certain aspects of the parcel have been compromised by residential development but that the parcel as



a whole assists in maintaining the wider strategic Green Belt around Coventry and the open setting of Burton Green. The character of the Green Belt in this location will change significantly given the adjoining draft allocation within Coventry's administrative boundary and nearby Westwood Heath.

#### 10) What would be the effect on the openness of the Green Belt?

- 10.1 The Council's Joint Green Belt Study (June 2015) considered the site as part of a wider parcel, BG3 within Burton Green. The Report set out that the parcel scored 12 out of 20 against the five objectives of Green Belt. The parcel itself (BG3) is split across several authority administrative boundaries, including Warwick District.
- 10.2 Our own Green Belt Review (**Appendix 1**) set out at paragraph 2.7 that the site does not contribute significantly to the importance of the Green Belt in terms of its openness, primarily due to its robust boundaries and sense of physical and visual enclosure. This assists in reducing the impact of proposed development on the site to the objective of openness within the Green Belt.
- 10.3 It is considered that the site has a high degree of containment, as does the Council's preferred site at Burrow Hill Nursery. Following a review of the site's contribution to the Green Belt it is therefore considered that it is suitable for development due to the containment of the site through existing defensible boundaries.

### 11) Are there exceptional circumstances which justify altering the Green Belt? If so, what are they?

- 11.1 Following the suspension of the emerging Local Plan the Council have had to revisit the overall housing target for the District to meet the needs of the housing market area and the needs of Coventry as well through a Memorandum of Understanding.
- 11.2 This has resulted in an overall housing target of 16,776 dwellings for the emerging Plan period to 2029, subject to the ongoing considerations relating to Matter 2. It is also noted that the Plan allows for limited flexibility of 7.2% over and above the target of 16,776 dwellings which could be increased further with additional allocations in sustainable locations. Burton Green is one such sustainable identified location identified by the Council.



- 11.3 The need to meet the objectively assessed need for the District is considered to be an exceptional circumstance which justifies the release of sites from the Green Belt to meet this challenging target for the District.
- 11.4 The Proposed Modifications sought to increase the draft allocation of Site H24 from 60 to 90 dwellings to accommodate the uplift in housing numbers. In doing so, the Council have adopted a one site strategy for Burton Green, thereby reducing the flexibility that could be offered by the allocation of additional land within the village to assist in meeting the uplift in housing numbers. Furthermore, development on the site can be brought forward now which will help assist with the displacement of existing residents particularly given that the trajectory indicates that development on draft allocation H24 will not commence until 2018/19 with completion anticipated for 2020/21.
- 11.5 Furthermore, the release of land at Cromwell Lane, Burton Green is in accordance with the Council's hierarchy of settlements and it is essential and consistent with the NPPF to allow for the sustainable growth of the settlement over the Plan period.

### Green Belt Review and Landscape And Visual Report

Land at and to the Rear of Peeping Tom Public House, Burton Green

January 2014

#### Green Belt Review and Landscape and Visual Report

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Checked by:		

Barton Willmore LLP Regent House Prince's Gate 4 Homer Road Solihull B91 3QQ

Tel: 0121 711 5151 Ref: 20612/A3/FF/sw

Fax: 0121 711 5152

Email: <a href="mailto:tom.armfield@bartonwillmore.co.uk">tom.armfield@bartonwillmore.co.uk</a>
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#### **CONTENTS**

		Page
1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Site Location and Context	2
3.0	Green Belt Assessment Methodology	6
4.0	Landscape and Visual Appraisal	9
5.0	Summary	12

Introduction

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### **Background**

- 1.1 A Green Belt review was undertaken of the suitability of Land at and to the Rear of the Peeping Tom Public House (the Site) to accommodate housing.
- 1.2 This review of the Site was undertaken to coincide with the consultation on the Emerging Local Plan published by Warwickshire District Council (November 2013) which is been used to identify a selection of Sites to release from the Green Belt, and subsequent ability to accommodate housing in the future.
- 1.3 A partial Green Belt Review was undertaken by the Council (November 2013), however this did not focus on the Site but rather on a wider landscape parcel in which it sits (BG6). This strategic assessment concludes that "this parcel plays an important role in maintaining the wider strategic Green Belt around Coventry and has a significant role to play in maintaining the open setting of Burton Green. It is however acknowledged that certain aspects of the parcel have been compromised by residential development."
- 1.4 This landscape parcel encompasses a large area of land without acknowledging the specific landscape and visual characteristics of individual sites within it. Although the initial Green Belt assessment is sufficient at a strategic level, further work has been required to determine if the Site can accommodate housing without compromising the permanence and openness of Green Belt land. As such, a more detailed assessment of the Site's contribution to the Green Belt has been undertaken.

#### 2.0 SITE LOCATION & CONTEXT

- 2.1. As illustrated with reference to **Figure 1: Site Context Plan**, the Site is located outside the south-western extents of Coventry City on the north-eastern edge of the settlement of Burton Green. Burton Green extends in a linear elongated manner along Cromwell Lane from the northern boundary of the Site continuing this pattern of development along Hob Lane and Red Lane to the south. The Site is approximately 1.7 hectares in area and comprises two pastoral fields currently in use as horse paddocks and divided north-south by a belt of mature canopy trees.
- 2.2. A side-road (public footpath) via Cromwell Lane adjoins the Site along its northern boundary, from which access to the adjacent residential properties to the north is obtained.
- 2.3. A large pond defines the north-eastern boundary adjacent to an established hedgerow which follows the eastern boundary across the Site, beyond which are the rear gardens of properties along Cromwell Lane, and a playground adjacent to the Peeping Tom Public House. These boundaries are well defined by mature planting (approximately 10m) and provide a high degree of physical and visual enclosure for these properties.
- 2.4. The southern and western boundaries of the Site are also defined by established treebelts which include a number of mature canopy trees. Beyond these contained boundaries, the character of the landscape opens out to medium to large scale agricultural fields.
- 2.5. Land use surrounding the settlement of Burton Green typically includes agricultural fields, woodland blocks and scattered farmsteads. In addition to this, the following land uses are present locally:
  - A National Grid Power Station is situated approximately 650m south-west of the Site.
  - Nailcote Hall Golf Course lies to the north-west of the Site, the closest extents of which are approximately 680m from the Site.
  - Nailcote Farm complex lies approximately 600m north-west of the Site.

#### Landscape Character

2.6. The Landscape Character Assessment approach is a descriptive approach which seeks to identify and define the distinct character of landscapes that make up the country. This approach recognises the intrinsic value of all landscapes, not just 'special'

landscapes. The description of each landscape is used as a basis for evaluation in order to make judgements to guide, for example, landscape management or development.

#### **National Character Areas**

2.7. Natural England has produced a Countryside Character Map of England which includes broad-brush descriptions of the different character areas. The Site lies within National Character Area (NCA) 97: Arden.

NCA 97: Arden

- 2.8. Arden is described as comprising predominantly farmland and former wood-pasture, and extends from Dudley Unitary Authority (UA) in the west to Coventry UA in the east, Staffordshire in the north to Stratford-on-Avon District in the south. Burton Green is roughly located within the central-eastern part of the NCA.
- 2.9. Land use is noted as mainly residential and agricultural, with industrial coal mining active in the north-east of the NCA. Key landscape features include "mature oaks set within hedgerows, distinctive field boundaries, historic parklands and narrow river corridors" (page 1)
- 2.10. Relevant key Characteristics include:
  - "Well-wooded farmland landscape with rolling landform.
  - Mature oaks, mostly found within hedgerows, together with ancient woodlands, and plantation woodlands that often date from the time of enclosure. Woodlands include historic coppice bounded by woodbanks.
  - Numerous areas of former wood-pasture with large, old, oak trees often associated with isolated remnants of more extensive heathlands. [...]
  - Diverse field patterns, ranging from well hedged, irregular fields and small woodlands [...]"
- 2.11. In addition to the above, brick and timber are noted as common building materials throughout the NCA, and common oaks the dominant tree species, present within towns and villages and as part of hedgerow systems.
- 2.12. Environmental opportunities include the management and enhancement of valuable woodland, hedgerows, field boundaries and enclosure patterns, and the creation of new networks of green infrastructure.

#### **County Landscape Character Areas**

- 2.13. The Warwickshire Landscape Project was set up in 1897, to provide a set of guidelines on maintaining diversity and beauty, and conserve landscape features. Of relevance to the Site are the Arden Landscape Guidelines.
- 2.14. The Site is situated on the eastern edge of an 'Ancient Ardent' character area. An area of 'Arden Parklands' is located to the north and east of this, and is therefore of relevance to the Site.

Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines: Ancient Ardent

- 2.15. Ancient Ardent is described as "a small scale farmed landscape with a varied, undulating topography, characterised by an irregular pattern of fields and narrow, winding lanes" (page 17).
- 2.16. Characteristic features include:
  - "A varied undulating topography.
  - A network of winding lanes and trackways often confined by tall hedgebanks.
  - An ancient irregular field pattern.
  - Hedgerow and roadside oaks [...]" (page 17)
- 2.17. In relation to views, the guidelines state:

"Views are restricted by thick roadside hedgerows and are often short, overlooking two or three fields to a wooded skyline. Occasional distant views are afforded from hilltops and ridgelines revealing a varied, wooded topography." (page 16)

Warwickshire Landscape Guidelines: Arden Parklands

- 2.18. Arden Parklands is described as "an enclosed, gently rolling landscape defined by woodland edges, parkland and belts of trees" (page 23)
- 2.19. Characteristic features include:
  - "Middle distance views enclosed by woodland edge.
  - Belts of mature trees associated with estatelands.
  - Large country houses set in mature parkland.
  - Many ancient woodlands, often with irregular outlines.
  - Remnant deerparks with ancient pollard oaks.
  - Thick roadside hedgerows, often with bracken" (page 23)

- 2.20. Under 'Development Guidelines' the following are of relevance to all Ardent character areas:
  - "Avoid the removal of hedgerows, especially along footpaths, bridleways, parish boundaries and woodland edges
  - Promote the management of hedgerows and landscape features" (page 39)
- 2.21. Guidelines specifically relevant to Ancient Ardent include:
  - "New hedge planting should reflect the irregular field pattern and include only mixed native species
  - Encourage the natural regeneration of hedgerow oaks" (page 42)
- 2.22. Guidelines specifically relevant to Arden Parklands include:
  - "Conserve and strengthen primary hedgelines and manage these more positively as landscape features" (page 48)
- 2.23. Species noted as characteristic of Arden include Field Maple, Common Alder, Sessile Oak, Pendunculate Oak, Hazel and Hawthorn (page 54).

#### 3.0 GREEN BELT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 Under National Planning Policy Framework (2012), Green Belt is a functional designation, its purpose as stated at paragraph 79 being to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open and as such the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and permanence. More specifically Green Belt serves the following five purposes as stated at paragraph 80:
  - "to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;
  - to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;
  - to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
  - to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
  - to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land."
- 3.2 The fifth purpose relates specifically to brownfield land and as the Site is located on greenfield land, it has therefore been assessed against the four remaining Green Belt purposes.
- 3.3 Following a Site visit and a review of baseline material and in evaluating the contribution of the land to the Green Belt, the following criteria (**Table 1**) was used to assess the contribution of the Site to the first four purposes of the Green Belt:

Table 1: Contribution the Site makes to the Green Belt Purposes

Threshold	Assessment
High	Significant Contribution to Green Belt Purpose
Medium	Some Contribution to Green Belt Purpose
Low	Limited Contribution to Green Belt Purpose

3.4 The landscape and visual objectives for each of the four purposes of the Green Belt are set out in **Table 2** below:

Table 2: Landscape and visual objectives relating to Green Belt purposes

Green Belt purposes	Landscape and visual objective
To check the unrestricted sprawl of	Maintaining settlement identity, and

large built-up areas	strong, defensible, Green Belt
	boundaries
To prevent neighbouring towns	Maintaining settlement identity
from merging into one another	(including actual and perceived
	separation between settlements)
To assist in safeguarding the	Maintaining perceived separation of
countryside from encroachment	town and country, including strong,
	defensible Green Belt boundaries
To preserve the setting and special	Protecting areas of landscape which
character of historic towns	contribute to setting and character of
	historic towns and historic features
	within settlements

#### Assessment against the Characteristics of the Green Belt

- 3.5 The NPPF states that the key characteristics of the Green Belt are 'their openness and their permanence,' (paragraph 79). In defining new boundaries to the Green Belt, it must be ensured that these characteristics are not diminished for the areas remaining within the Green Belt designation as a direct result of development on the Site.
- 3.6 An assessment has been made of the openness of the Green Belt in that particular location and to what extent the removal of the Site will have on the perception of openness in the remaining designated area.
- 3.7 In addition, the Site and its location has been described demonstrating its relationship to existing elements, such as motorways and rivers, as well as visual barriers, such as ridgelines and areas of woodland. This is to help assess the impacts of the development upon the openness of the remaining designated areas and to help identify boundaries that may be considered to be 'permanent'.

#### Definitions

3.8 When considering the ability of the Site to meet each of the purposes of the Green Belt, the following definitions should be considered.

#### Openness

Openness is taken to be the degree to which the area is unaffected by built structures. It is considered that, in order to be a robust assessment, this should be considered from first principles, i.e. acknowledging existing structures that occur within the area, rather than seeing them as being 'washed over' by the existing Green Belt designation.

Sprawl

3.10 Disorganised and unattractive extension to developed area (perhaps lacking defensible boundary).

Defensible boundaries

3.11 The NPPF states that, when choosing boundaries, 'local authorities should defined boundaries clearly, using physical features that are readily recognisable and likely to be permanent,' (paragraph 85).

#### 4.0 LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL APPRAISAL

#### Land at the Rear of the Peeping Tom Pub

Visual Influence

- 2.1. As illustrated with reference to **Figure 2: Site Appraisal Plan**, the Site is set within mature natural defensible boundaries to the south, west and by the rear gardens of residential development to the east and north. Within the Site, two pastoral fields are divided by a mature hedgerow (approximately 10m) which provides both a physical and visual buffer across the Site.
- 2.2. The enclosed nature of the Site effectively contains it in views from the wider landscape. From within Burton Green (along Cromwell Lane), the Site is well contained in views with the exception of a partial near distance view through vegetation adjacent to the Peeping Tom Public House. From this location, the Site is seen in the context of existing residential development beyond the pub car park/playground. The most western boundary of the Site limits any distance views out into the countryside from this location.
- 2.3. From the north and west when travelling along the public footpath, views into the Site are curtailed by existing mature vegetation associated with rear gardens of residential properties with partial views into the Site obtained from immediately adjacent to the northern boundary. Beyond this, views into the Site are filtered by a mature treebelt when travelling along the public footpath to the west within the open countryside. From this location the Site is seen beyond a mature treebelt boundary which follows a north-south direction along Cromwell Lane. The Site is therefore effectively contained within this context.
- 2.4. From the wider area, potential visibility of the Site is restricted to a broadly rectilinear area defined by Hodgetts Lane to the south-west, Nailcote Lane (B401) and Duggins Lane/railway to the north and Cromwell Lane to the east. Within this area, views are influenced by subtle changes in topography to the north where the landform falls away to the railway line restricting views of the Site and by intervening trees and hedgerows across the medium to large scale fields.
- 2.5. As a result the Site is effectively only visible in near distance views immediately adjacent to the Peeping Tom Public House to the east, immediately adjacent to the northern boundary along the public footpath and glimpsed through a dense treebelt to the west from further along this footpath. From elsewhere within this wider parcel of land, the Site is curtailed from view.

2.6. Visual receptors who experience views of the site comprise those immediately adjacent to the Site, including fixed residential receptors along Cromwell Lane to the north and east, transient recreational users of a short section of the public footpath immediately adjacent to the northern and western boundary of the Site and from those using the Peeping Tom Public House and carpark.

#### Landscape Value

2.7. The wider parcel of land (BG6) assessed as part of the initial Green Belt assessment undertaken by the Council in November 2013, identified the function of this parcel (in Green Belt terms), as a strategically important area of Green Belt which maintains the setting and Character of Balsall Common, Burton Green and Kenilworth and Coventry. However, in the context of this landscape parcel, and at a Site specific level, the Site does not contribute significantly to the importance of the Green Belt in terms of its openness, primarily due to its robust boundaries and sense of physical and visual enclosure. It is considered to form an isolated pocket of greenfield land immediately adjacent to existing residential development and therefore is experienced in this context, rather than forming part of or being experienced as an area of open countryside whose character exists beyond the Site boundary.

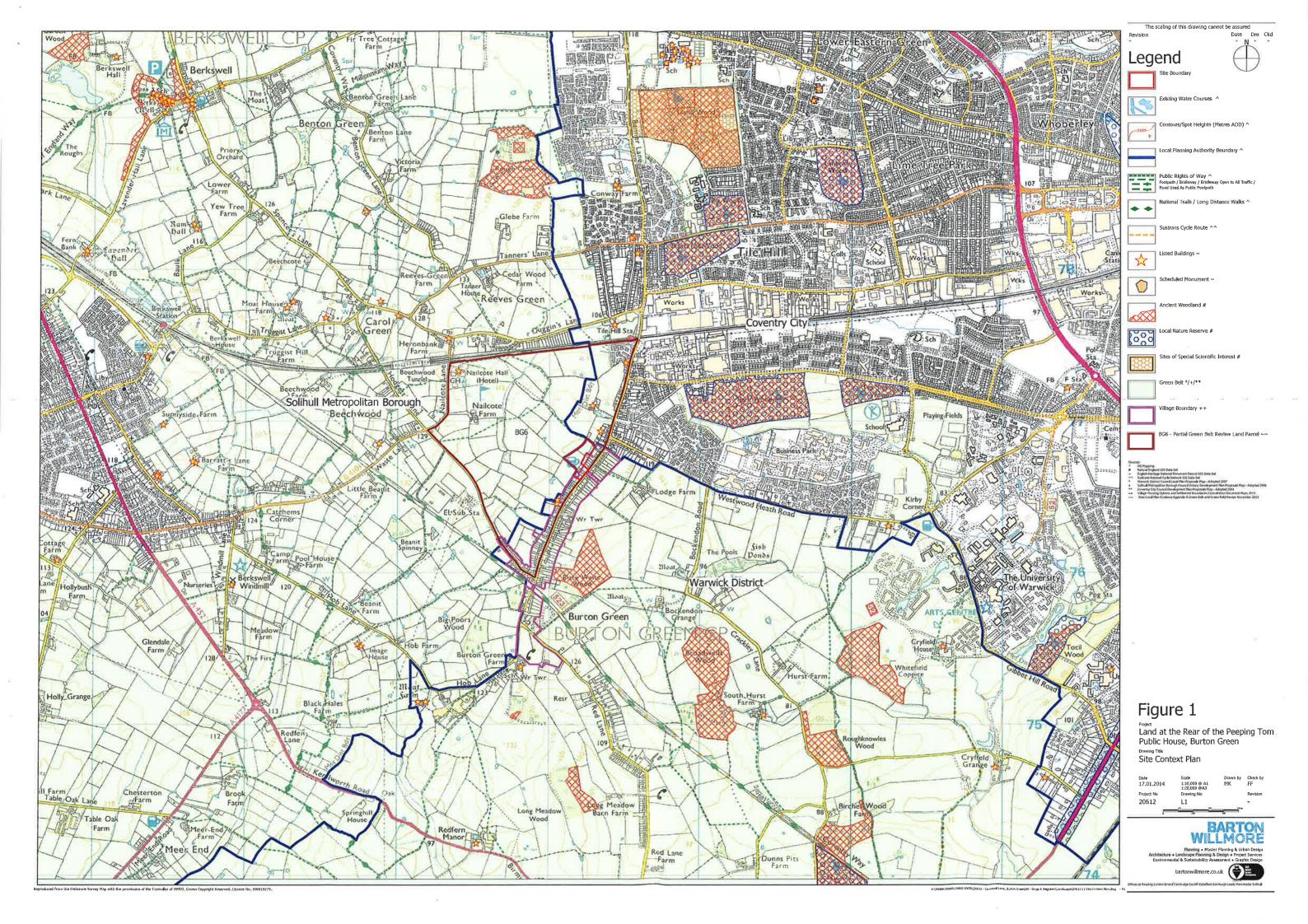
Table 3: Review of Contribution of the Site to the Green Belt

Purposes of the Green Belt	Discussion	Contribution to Green Belt Purpose
Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The western boundary of the Site is formed of a robust landscape structure; however, the development of the Site would extend the linear form of the settlement beyond the existing residential properties within Burton Green.  Immediately beyond the village boundary to the north, a residential property adjoins the western most extents of the developed edge along Cromwell Lane. Beyond this, another residential property extents into the countryside development of the Site which combine to form a deeper settlement edge along Cromwell Lane. The development of the Site would therefore follow this pattern along the western most boundary of the Site, limiting the degree to which it forms an	Some

Purposes of the Green Belt	Discussion	Contribution to Green Belt Purpose
	isolated pocket of development outside the linear form the settlement.  The western and southern boundaries of the Site effectively curtail any further development into the countryside.	
Prevent nearby towns from merging into one another	There is an existing physical link between Burton Green village and Coventry City formed by residential properties whose gardens both back onto Cromwell Lane (village boundary) to the north of the Site. Any further development within Burton Green would therefore reflect this characteristic.  The enclosure provided by existing mature	Some
	boundaries within the Site means that the potential for the development of this Site to result in coalescence between Burton Green and another settlement is limited	
Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	Due to the Sites close association with the existing built edge along Cromwell Lane, it is considered that the perceived edge of the settlement is the western most boundary of the Site when seen from the surrounding landscape. This boundary therefore effectively limits any potential to encroach upon the countryside.	Limited
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns		Limited
Overall Contribut	ion to the Purposes of the Green Belt	Limited to Some

#### 5.0 SUMMARY

- It is considered that in landscape and visual terms, there is potential to establish residential development within the Site. The development of the Site would go beyond the existing settlement boundary; however it would go no further than the existing residential property at the end of Cromwell Lane (PROW) along the northern boundary of the Site, which effectively terminates the built edge along Cromwell Lane in views from the west. Any development would be contained within the Site's defensible boundaries which would therefore reduce the potential for adverse effects on the perception of the openness of the Green Belt.
- 5.2 The introduction of development would inevitably introduce development into a greenfield site, however the physical and visual containment provided by residential properties to the north and east along Cromwell Lane, and the robust landscape structure created by the mature treebelts to the west and south would enable the Site to appropriately accommodate housing with very limited adverse landscape and visual effects.
- 5.3 Following a review of the Site's contribution to the Green Belt, it is considered that the Site is as suitable (in Green Belt terms) due to its high degree of containment, as the Council's 'preferred' Site at Land at Burrow Hill Nursery. Notwithstanding its suitable location within a brownfield site, Land at Burrow Hill Nursery is partially exposed in filtered views from the north due to its location on the summit of Red Lane.





The scaling of this drawing cannot be assured

Revision

#### **LEGEND**





Public Rights of Way



Listed Buildings ~



## Figure 2

Land at the Rear of the Peeping Tom Public House, Burton Green

Drawing Title

Site Appraisal Plan

Date 17.01.2014 Drawn by Check by 1:1,250 @ A3 Project No Drawing No 20612



Planning • Master Planning & Urban Design Architecture • Landscape Planning & Design • Project Services Environmental & Sustainability Assessment • Graphic Design

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