

**Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment
Magnesian Limestone Ridge: ML PZ 01**

Magnesian Limestone Ridge

Policy Zone 01: Langold

POLICY: CONSERVE

Character Summary

The area is located north of Langold and immediately west of the A60 (Malpas Hill). It is traversed by a minor road, a track and a disused railway. The village of Styrrup lies to the east.

Topography is gently undulating from the south-east corner leading to a plateau in the north-west. Open views to ridgelines in the south and east are apparent. There are also views to higher ground in the west.

Mixed use arable farming is the major land use, with some pasture and set aside in irregular field patterns. The area encompasses two woodlands; Clatticar Wood and Oldcotes Disused Railway, both are designated SINC. Although the railway is dismantled, a line cutting across the landscape is evident. Park House, an isolated vernacular farmhouse with some modern non-vernacular outbuildings, lies at the southern boundary of the Policy Zone. No other buildings or settlement is contained within the area. Hedgerow condition is generally strong and well maintained along the A60 but is quite gappy within the field pattern itself.

Magnesian Limestone Ridge – Policy Zone 01: Langold

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Large scale arable farmland.
- Clatticar Wood – deciduous woodland [SINC].
- Oldcotes Disused Railway [SINC].
- Park House and non-vernacular outbuildings.
- Open views towards ridgelines in the south and east.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is very good. There is a coherent pattern of elements with few detracting features within the Policy Zone, including high voltage power lines, the A60 and fly tipping at Clatticar Wood. Overall this equates to a **visually unified** area.

Arable farmland dominates the area with some pasture in the north and south. The historic field pattern is largely intact although fields have been rationalised. The former railway line is evident in the landscape. Park House, of red brick construction, and surrounding outbuildings are the only built features within the area. The overall cultural integrity is **good**.

Two SINCs fall within the Policy Zone; Clatticar Wood, deciduous woodland and Oldcotes Disused Railway which affords a diverse range of habitats. Tree cover is fairly low and of a mature age structure, comprising a deciduous woodland blocks of ash, birch, holly and hazel species. Hedgerows are fragmented, though some connect to the woodland areas, whereas roadside hedgerows are intact. The ecological integrity is described as **moderate** which overall gives a **strong** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity gives a **very good landscape condition**.

Sensitivity

Features which give the area local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Magnesian Limestone region and the continuity/time depth is **historic** [post 1600] giving a **moderate** sense of place.

High visibility is afforded due to the low tree cover allowing open views towards ridgelines in the south and east. The scale of landform is **apparent**. A **moderate** sense of place combined with **high** visibility results in **high landscape sensitivity** overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS

Conserve

Landscape Features

- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to pastoral.
- **Conserve** the ecological diversity of Clatticar Wood and Oldcotes Disused Railway, enhance where appropriate.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing surrounding settlements of Styrrup and Langold.
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new development within historic enclosed boundaries, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary.
- **Conserve** the traditional architectural style of stone/red brick construction in new development
- Create areas of woodland to contain and soften new development preferably in advance of development

CONTEXT

Policy Zone: ML PZ 01
Land Cover Parcel[s]: ML01

Condition

Good	REINFORCE	CONSERVE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE
Moderate	CREATE & REINFORCE	CONSERVE & CREATE	CONSERVE & RESTORE
Poor	CREATE	RESTORE & CREATE	RESTORE

Low Moderate High

Sensitivity

SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS

Condition	Very Good
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Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

Sensitivity	High
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Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Open

Visibility: High