

Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment
Sherwood: S PZ 30

Sherwood

Policy Zone 30: Worksop

POLICY: CONSERVE

Character Summary

The area lies immediately south-west of Worksop and north of Welbeck Estate. The A57 forms the eastern boundary of the Policy Zone, beyond which is the urban edge of Worksop. Mansfield Road [A60] bounds the area to the north.

Landform is gently rounded and undulating with flatter areas around Broad Lane. Worksop Manor sits on higher ground in the north. Views tend to be medium distance with frequently wooded skylines, though there are some longer distance views from the higher points.

The Policy Zone is mostly a network of well managed arable fields enclosed by hawthorn hedgerows interspersed with woodland plantations. The formal parkland, with individual trees, attached to Worksop Manor also appears to be well managed. Smaller fields bounded by livestock fencing are evident north of Hawk's Nest, there is also some unimproved pasture north of Broad Lane. Scattered woodland clumps are mostly Scots pine and oak mix, a strong coniferous belt stretches along the field boundary east of Broad Lane. Drainage ditches are apparent along some of the field boundaries.

Sherwood – Policy Zone 30: Worksop

PHOTOGRAPH



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- Intensive arable farmland.
- Worksop Manor with associated estate buildings and parkland.
- Woodland blocks including West Wood and Menagerie Wood.
- Strong hedgerow field boundaries with occasional hedgerow trees.

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Condition

The landscape condition is very good. There is a coherent pattern of elements and few detracting features within the area, namely two busy roads; the A60 and A57. Overall this equates to a **visually unified** area.

The Policy Zone comprises intensive arable farmland and parkland/woodland associated with Worksop Manor. The historic field pattern is intact with hedgerow boundaries, mostly hawthorn, and occasional young hedgerow trees, these are reinforced by post and wire fencing in places. Buildings include Worksop Manor and Manor Park House, both stone built. Associated with these are estate cottages and the gatehouse, also in stone. Other development of the local architectural style is red brick dwellings and farmhouses, some with fairly utilitarian barns. A cemetery is located at the north-eastern corner of the area. The overall cultural integrity is **good**.

Two woodland blocks are prominent in the north of the area; West Wood and Menagerie Wood. Smaller fragmented plantations are dotted across the Policy Zone. Oak, Scots pine and beech are the dominant species, maple and sycamore are also evident. Mature parkland trees at Worksop Manor are mostly oak. Ponds occur within the woodland and some flood meadow is apparent. There is an area of designated ancient woodland at Sloswick Springs in the south-west, otherwise there are no SINC's or other ecological designations. The ecological integrity is defined as **moderate** which gives a **strong** habitat for wildlife/functional integrity. A **visually unified** area with a **strong** functional integrity results in a **very good landscape condition** overall.

Sensitivity

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

There are views beyond the Policy Zone boundary to the south and south-west, however views to the north are more limited. Overall, **moderate** visibility is afforded. The landform has been assessed as **apparent**. A **moderate** sense of place with **moderate** visibility gives **moderate landscape sensitivity** overall.

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS

Conserve

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** the historic field pattern, restoring hedgerow boundaries where necessary. Create new hedgerows to replace post and wire fencing. Seek opportunities to increase hedgerow trees.
- **Conserve** ancient woodland and woodland block structure, reinforce as necessary.

Built Features

- **Conserve** the rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development to the north of the Policy Zone/southern fringe of Worksop.
- **Conserve** and respect the historic character and setting of Worksop Manor, its estate and surrounding parkland.
- Contain new development within historic field boundaries.
- Seek opportunities to revert arable farmland to permanent pasture.
- Sensitive design and siting of new agricultural buildings.

CONTEXT

Policy Zone: S PZ 30
Land Cover Parcel[s]: S34

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

Pattern of Elements: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Good

Functional Integrity: Strong

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Apparent

Extent of Tree Cover: Intermittent

Visibility: Moderate

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