

## **TW PZ 23 - Sturton le Steeple Village Farmlands**

### **Policy: Conserve and Reinforce**

#### **Character Summary**

This is a completely flat landscape which is all under 5 metres AOD. The field pattern is regular geometric through out the area.

Land use consists of arable crops including cereals and oil seed rape. There is some improved pasture closer to the extremities of the village of Sturton le Steeple on the western side of the LCP.

There are no large areas of woodland within the LCP; the only 2 small areas being Fenton Gorse and the woodland south of Cow Pasture Lane. There are robust, mature hedgerows along the field access tracks which cross the area, species include Elder, Elm, Hawthorn, Hazel, and Rose. These also contain mature trees, species include Ash and Willow. The roadside hedgerows and internal field boundaries are more fragmented and poorly maintained, species include Hawthorn predominantly, also Elder, Hazel, Rose and Holly.

There are no MLAs with in the area and 1 SINC.

Small water courses are present through out the area; some of these contain aquatic vegetation.

There is very limited settlement within the area and this comprises isolated farms and one residential property Littleborough Cottage. These are a mix of vernacular and non vernacular styles.

Cottam Power Station to the south and West Burton Power Station to the north dominate the views from this LCP and power lines connecting the two stations cross the area. The views to the north and south are long distance. Views to the east are more constrained by distant elevated ridgelines and vegetation.

## TW PZ 23 Sturton le Steeple Village Farmlands

### PHOTOGRAPH



### CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

- This is a flat landscape less than 5metres AOD
- Views are dominated by West Burton and Cottam Power Stations to the north and South
- Mature trees are limited and confined to small woodlands and field access tracks
- The PZ is largely uninhabited except for isolated properties
- Field access track hedgerows are mature and of mixed species with mature trees
- Roadside hedges and field boundaries are more fragmented and gappy
- Watercourses are present throughout the PZ

### LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

#### Landscape Condition

Landscape condition is defined as **good**. There is a **unified** pattern of elements with **few** detracting features within the PZ. The detractors include pylons and masts. Overall this gives a **strongly visually unified** area.

The overall cultural integrity is **variable**.

The tree cover is poor, the integrity of the ecological network is **weak** which together with a **variable** cultural integrity gives a **weak** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife overall.

A **strongly visually unified** area with a **weak** functional integrity/habitat for wildlife gives a **good** landscape condition.

#### Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands and the continuity/time depth is described as **historic** (post 1600) which gives a **moderate** sense of place.

Cottam Power Station to the South and West Burton Power Station to the north dominate the views from this LCP and power lines connecting the two stations cross the area. The views to the north and south are long distance. Views to the east are more constrained by distant elevated ridgelines and vegetation. The landform is **insignificant**, there is poor tree cover which leads to a **moderate** visibility both in and out of the PZ.

A **moderate** sense of place with a **moderate** visibility leads to a landscape of **moderate** sensitivity

### CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Type: Village farmlands  
Policy Zone: TW PZ 23  
Landscape Character Parcel TW32

### 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 **Good**

Pattern of Elements:	Unified
Detracting Features:	Few
Visual Unity	Strongly unified
Cultural Integrity	Variable
Ecological Integrity	Weak
Functional Integrity:	Weak

#### Sensitivity **Moderate**

Distinctiveness:	Characteristic
Continuity:	Historic
Sense of Place:	Moderate
Landform:	Insignificant
Extent of Tree Cover	Open
Visibility:	Moderate

### LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

#### Landscape Features

- **Reinforce** hedgerows where these are gappy and in poor condition particularly to road edges and field boundaries.
- **Conserve** mature hedgerows to field access tracks.
- **Reinforce** and strengthen the continuity and ecological diversity of stream and ditch corridors.
- Seek opportunities to create small woodlands to reduce visual impact of power stations.
- Seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture/ wet grassland.
- **Conserve** and strengthen the simple unity and sparsely settled character of the landscape.

#### Built Features

- Promote measures for reinforcing the traditional character of isolated farm buildings using vernacular building styles.
- **Conserve** historic field pattern by containing new small scale development within historic boundaries, maintain existing hedgerows, restore and reinforce poor hedgerow boundaries where necessary.
- **Conserve** and respect the local vernacular of red brick and pantile roof construction in any new development.
- Promote sensitive design and setting of new agricultural buildings.