

TW PZ 46 Church Laneham River Meadowlands

Policy: Conserve and Reinforce

Character Summary

This is a flat, low-lying pastoral landscape located to the east of the settlement of Laneham, and to the west of the settlement of Church Laneham. The River Trent flows northwards along the north-east boundary of the area. A stream flows from the south west to the north east across the area, along the southern side of Church Laneham.

The area consists of small irregular fields of improved and unimproved pasture. There is a small arable field to the north and, to the east, there is one field of ridge and furrow. River bunds follow the stream around Church Laneham and the western bank of the River.

There are mature Willows and scrubby riparian vegetation along ditches and open channels of water. The area has mature stands of Willow with occasional Poplar trees. To the south, there is a row of large pollarded Crack Willows along roads and streams.

The fields and lanes are enclosed by well maintained, species-rich hedgerows (Hawthorn, Bramble spp, Blackthorn, Wych Elm, Elder, Ash and Field Maple) with occasional Ash standard trees. To the east, there is a large bushy hedgerow (Hawthorn, Elder, Blackthorn, Rose spp, Hop and Ash) along Moor Lane; and a possibly ancient hedgerow (Hawthorn, Field Maple, English Elm, Elder and Rose spp) with Oak and Ash standard trees along Clayhough Lane.

The Trent Valley Way runs from the south west to the north east across the centre of the area.

PHOTOGRAPH –



CHARACTERISTIC VISUAL FEATURES

- Flat topography
- Improved and unimproved pasture
- Willows and scrubby riparian vegetation associated with watercourses
- Pollarded willows
- Well maintained, species-rich hedgerows, some ancient

LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Landscape Condition

The overall condition of this landscape is defined as **good**.

The pattern of landscape elements is **coherent**. The area has **few** detracting features, pylons run from the north to the south along the centre of the area; and there is a caravan and camping site located to the north of the area. Overall this is a **visually unified** area.

The historic field pattern is evident and the hedgerows are generally intact along the roads and adjacent to the villages therefore the cultural integrity is **variable**.

The area has no SINC designations. The trees, species-rich hedgerows, improved and unimproved pasture and riparian vegetation along watercourses provide a **moderate** network of wildlife habitats.

A **moderate** network for wildlife and a **variable** cultural integrity leads to a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife. An area that is **visually unified** with a **coherent** functional integrity / habitat for wildlife has a **good** landscape condition.

Landscape Sensitivity

Landscape sensitivity is defined as **moderate**.

The historic time–depth is evident. The small field boundaries have survived the intensification of farming which has occurred to the far north, outside the Policy Zone area, and the field pattern remains largely unchanged since the Sanderson Plan of 1835. The features which give the area its local distinctiveness are **characteristic** of the Trent Washlands RCA and the continuity / time-depth is **historic** (post 1600). The area has a **moderate** sense of place.

The views are enclosed to the north of the area by large mature Willow trees. The views in the south of the area are enclosed to the north and west by trees and the villages of Laneham and Church Laneham. There are open views to the south and east. The landform is **insignificant** and has limited tree cover which leads to **moderate** visibility of the area from outside the PZ.

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

LANDSCAPE ACTIONS – Conserve and Reinforce

Landscape Features

- **Conserve** existing hedgerows and seek opportunities to restore the historic field pattern with new hedgerow planting.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** pasture areas and seek opportunities to restore arable land to permanent pasture.
- Promote measures for enhancing the ecological diversity of alluvial grasslands.
- **Conserve** and **reinforce** river channel diversity and marginal riverside vegetation.
- **Conserve** pollarded Willows and seek opportunities to re-pollard Willows to maintain the traditional riparian character of the landscape.
- **Conserve** and seek measures to protect the character of village-side pastoral sites.
- **Conserve** ridge and furrow features.
- **Conserve** and enhance the pattern and special features of meadowland hedgerows.

CONTEXT

NCC Landscape Sub Type: River Meadowlands
Policy Zone: TW PZ 46
Landscape Character Parcel: TW 30

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: Coherent

Detracting Features: Few

Visual Unity: Unified

Ecological Integrity: Moderate

Cultural Integrity: Variable

Functional Integrity: Coherent

Sensitivity

Moderate

Distinctiveness: Characteristic

Continuity: Historic

Sense of Place: Moderate

Landform: Insignificant

Extent of Tree Cover: Open

Visibility: Moderate

Built Features

- **Conserve** the sparsely settled rural character of the landscape by concentrating new development around existing settlements of Church Laneham.
- 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.