

## **Wetley Rocks Settlement Description**

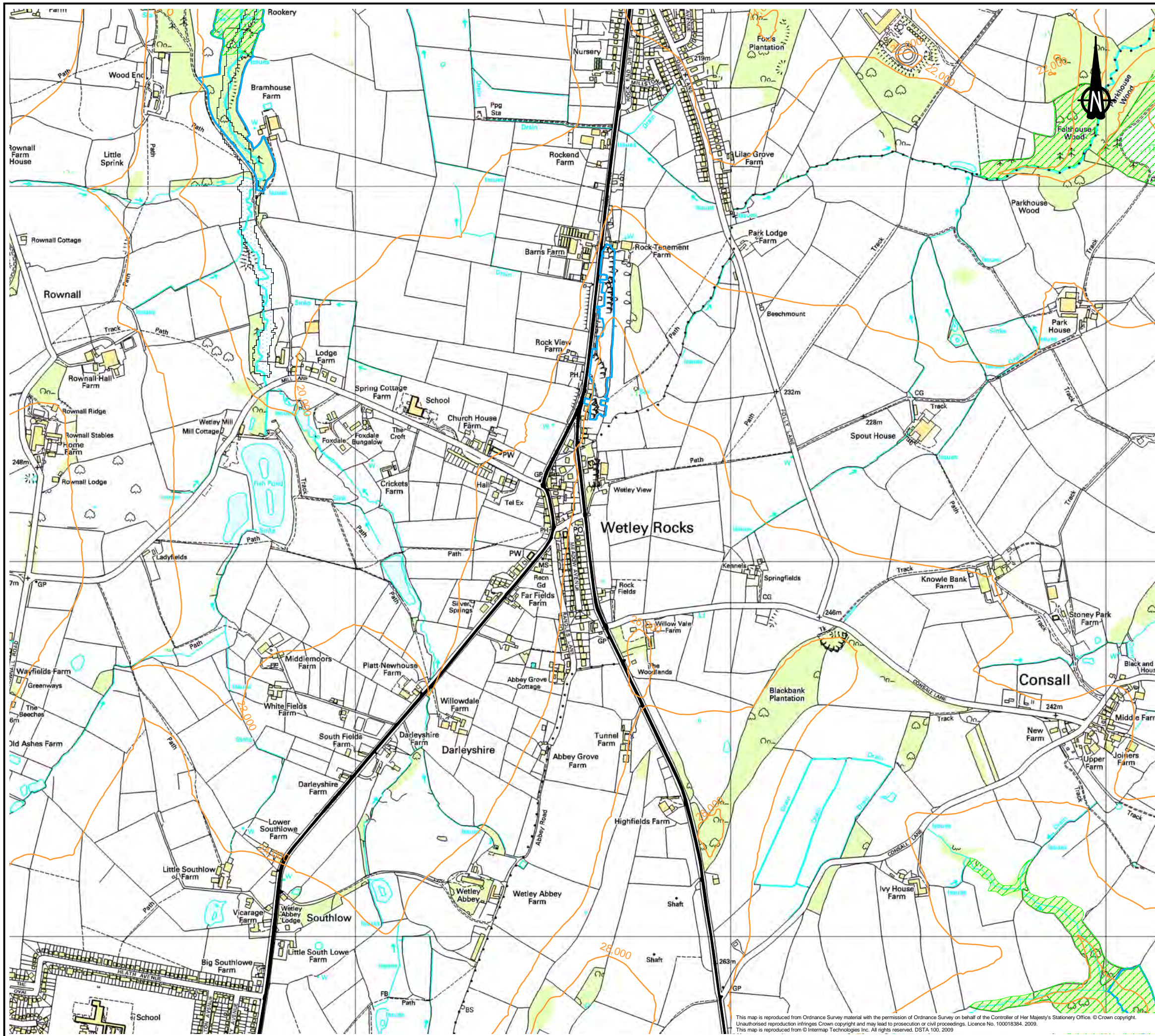
- Wetley Rocks lies along the boundary between two landscape character types: the Settled Plateau Farmland Slopes and the Ancient Slope and Valley farmlands. Features characteristic of all three areas can be seen within or in proximity to the village.
- This linear village lies on a generally north south axis alongside the A520 where it converges with the A522.
- Rock outcrops and remains of a former quarry restricts the growth of the settlement around the eastern side of the A520, north of its junction with the A522.
- With the exception of the development of Meadow Avenue, the village has expanded little from the original settlement shown on the OS first edition.
- The building materials are generally stone and red brick.
- Field boundaries are a mixture of dry stone walling and hedgerows. Small scaled fields provide a well structured setting to the village in the west and south.
- There are long views up and across the valley, towards the north west including views of Brookhouse Farm.
- Remnant historic parkland at Wetley Abbey to the south and Rownall Hall and Westwood Park in the west contributes to the landscape setting of the village.













## **Visual Open Space**

### **WR01 / Adjacent ST John's Church and Mill Lane**

**Suitable**

- Part of church, graveyard and open grass field. Land slopes from east to west. Footpath runs within the site along the southern boundary afford wide views up the valley.



-  Registered Parks and Gardens
-  Ancient Woodland
-  Scheduled Ancient Monuments
-  Sites of Biological Interest
-  Nature Reserves
-  Visual Open Space
-  Conservation Areas
-  Environmentally Sensitive Area
-  Floodzone
-  Main Road Network
-  Staffs Moorland DC Boundary
-  Contours (20m interval)

CLIENT  
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

PROJECT  
Landscape & Settlement  
Character Assessment

DRAWING TITLE  
Wetley Rocks  
Constraints Plan

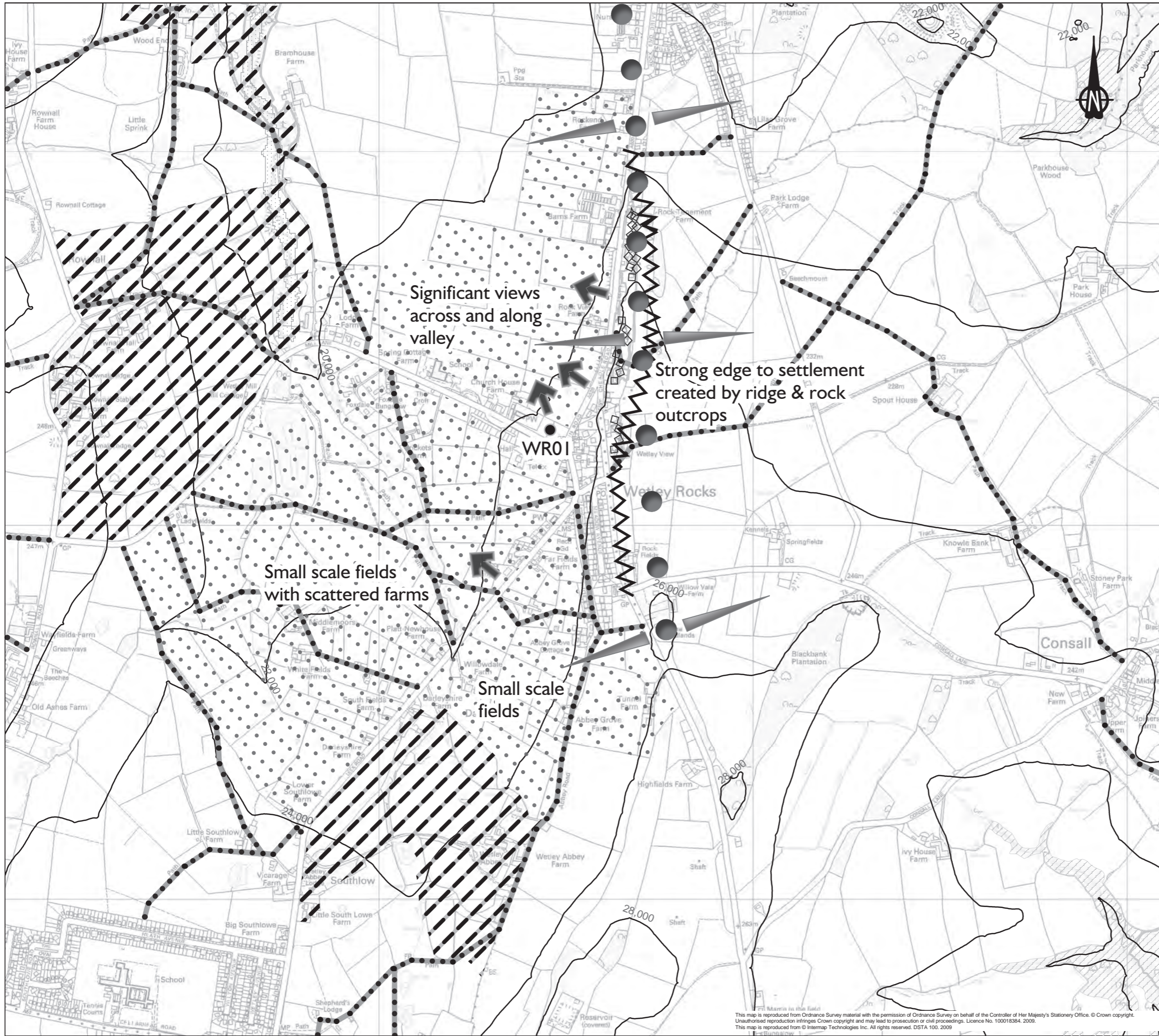
DRG No ST10553-18a	SCALE 1:10 000 at A3	DATE September 2009
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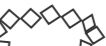







DRAWN BY MJH	CHECKED BY BJ	APPROVED BY CAH
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STOKES-ON-TRENT (HEAD OFFICE) TEL 0845 111 7777	<input type="checkbox"/> CARDIFF TEL 029 2038 2465
<input type="checkbox"/> NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE TEL 0191 232 0943	<input type="checkbox"/> LEIGH TEL 01642 260101
<input type="checkbox"/> WEST BROMWICH TEL 0121 580 0909	<input type="checkbox"/> SHEFFIELD TEL 0114 245 6244
<input type="checkbox"/> LONDON TEL 020 7287 2872	<input type="checkbox"/> EDINBURGH TEL 0131 555 3311



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-  Significant public footpaths
-  Staffordshire Way
-  Cycleway
-  Railway
-  Remnant historic landscape
-  Important landscape setting to settlement
-  Rocky outcrops
-  Ridgeline
-  Strong edge to settlement
-  Canal
-  Planting to strengthen edge of settlement or for mitigation
-  Significant views
-  IE02 Visual open space - suitable
-  IE00 Visual open space - not suitable

CLIENT  
**Staffordshire Moorlands District Council**

PROJECT  
**Landscape & Settlement  
 Character Assessment**

DRAWING TITLE  
**Wetley Rocks  
 Setting**

DRG No ST10553-18b	SCALE 1:10 000 at A3	DATE December 2009
DRAWN BY LJ / MAB	CHECKED BY BJ	APPROVED BY CAH

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STONE-ON-TRENT (HEAD OFFICE) TEL 0845 111 7777	<input type="checkbox"/> CARDIFF TEL 029 2038 2465
<input type="checkbox"/> NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE TEL 0191 232 0943	<input type="checkbox"/> LEIGH TEL 01942 280101
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## Wetley Rocks

<b>GENERAL CHARACTER / LANDSCAPE</b>	<b>Regional (Joint) Character Area</b>	<b>64</b> Potteries and Churnet Valley
	<b>Landscape Character Types</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Settled plateau farmlands</li> <li>• Ancient slope and valley farmlands</li> </ul>
	<b>Historic Landscape Classification</b>  [Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) completed in 2006]	<p>Wetley Rocks has been identified primarily as 'settlement', with small area of 'ornamental, parkland and recreation' located to the south of the settlement. The settlement is surrounded by Fieldscapes.</p> <p>Areas of Ancient Woodland have also been identified to the west of the settlement.</p>
	<b>Geology</b>	<p><b>Solid Geology:</b> Settlement is underlain by upper carboniferous sandstone.</p> <p><b>Drift Geology:</b> The settlement is underlain by Boulder Clay superficial deposit.</p>
	<b>Minerals</b>  Staffordshire Minerals Core Strategy (May 2008)	<p>Captain's Barn Farm an operational sand and gravel site located at an approximate distance of 4 miles south west to the Wetley rocks.</p> <p>Kingsley, "Other" non energy minerals permitted site is situated at an approximate distance of 4 miles to the south east of Wetley Rocks.</p> <p>Staffordshire Minerals Core Strategy (May 2008) has identified sites with an extent of silica sand close to Wetley Rocks.</p>
	<b>Topography</b>	Settlement runs along a minor ridge on a north south axis. Land to the west falls into a valley. To the east the ridge runs along the edge of a plateau which slopes down generally to the north east. Rock outcrops are visible along the northern part of the ridgeline
	<b>Contour Range</b>	250m (Highfields, SW to Wetley Rocks) – 229m (Rock View Farm, North of Wetley Rocks)
<b>SPECIFIC LANDSCAPE FEATURES</b>	<b>Significant Vegetation</b>  (e.g. trees, woodland, heathland, marshes, commons, parkland)	<p>Ancient Woodlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Rookery (SJ957506)</li> <li>• Crowgutter and Booth's Woods (SJ977500)</li> <li>• Crowgutter and Booth's Woods (SJ979502)</li> <li>• Crowgutter and Booth's Woods (SJ997495)</li> <li>• Lawn And Ladyparks Woods (SJ985477)</li> </ul>

		<p>Ancient Replanted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crowgutter and Booth's Woods (SJ978501)</li> <li>• Crowgutter and Booth's Woods (SJ988498)</li> </ul> <p>Parkland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Historic Parkland</b></p> <p><i>(1<sup>st</sup> Edn. OS Map)</i></p>	<p>Registered Park and Garden (English Heritage):</p> <p>None</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetley Abbey</li> <li>• Rownall Hall</li> <li>• Westwood Park</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Water Bodies / Water Courses</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River Churnet to the East of the settlement</li> <li>• Waterbodies exist within the surrounding area of the settlement</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Floodplains</b></p>	<p>Floodplain follows the course of the River Churnet.</p>
	<p><b>Major Routes</b></p> <p>(e.g. roads, railways, canals)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheadle Road (A520)</li> <li>• Leek Road (A520)</li> <li>• Leek Road (A522)</li> <li>• Consall Lane</li> <li>• Mill Lane</li> <li>• Randles lane</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Significant Visual Features / Landmarks / Viewpoints</b> (e.g. hedgerows, stone walls, significant architectural features)</p>	<p>Rock outcrops alongside Cheadle Road</p> <p>Extensive views along the valley to the west and north.</p>
<p><b>DESIGNATED AREAS</b></p>	<p><b>Green Belt / Special Landscape Area</b></p>	<p><b>Green Belt:</b></p> <p>The settlement is surrounded by Green Belt</p> <p><b>Special Landscape Area:</b></p> <p>Area around the settlement is designated Special Landscape Area</p>
	<p><b>Designated Areas of Ecological Significance</b></p> <p>(e.g. SSSIs / SPAs / Nature Reserves / SBIs / SACs)</p> <p><i>(<a href="http://www.magic.gov.uk">www.magic.gov.uk</a> and Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan)</i></p>	<p>SSSIs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetley Moor (3 units)</li> <li>Unit 1 (SJ933485) - 22.28 Ha.</li> <li>Unit 2 (SJ927480) - 35.36 Ha.</li> <li>Unit 3 (SJ929489) - 11.83 Ha.</li> </ul> <p>SBIs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Rookery (SJ958507)</li> </ul> <p>BAS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Nature Conservation Sites</b></p> <p><i>(Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan)</i></p>	<p>None</p>

	<b>Scheduled Monuments</b>	None
<b>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</b>	<b>Proposed/recent development</b> <i>[Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (1998)]</i>	No obvious significant recent development (local plans- aerals)
	<b>Conservation Areas</b> <i>[Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (1998)]</i>	None
	<b>Other</b>	

Date of Reassessment: 03.11.09

<b>Settlement:</b>	Wetley Rocks	
<b>VOS number / Site:</b>	WR01 / Adjacent to St. John's Church and Mill Lane	
<b>Brief Description:</b> Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Part church graveyard and open grass field. Land slopes from east to west.	
<b>Criteria</b>		<b>Notes</b>
<b>Character</b> Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	The churchyard, graveyard and the field are important to the setting of the village.
<b>Amenity Value</b> Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	It is an important open area providing wide views of the valley setting of the settlement.
<b>External Views</b> Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	Path within the site following the southern boundary affords wide views up the valley towards the north and northwest.
<b>Internal Views</b> Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	Site is visible from the internal footpath and within the graveyard.
<b>Break Between Development</b> Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	Sites lies between Church House and the settlement where it follows the A520.
<b>Ecological Value</b> Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Mature trees around the church are included in the site.
<b>Cultural or Historical Association</b> Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✓	Proximity and setting of St. John's Church and graveyard. Shown as 1 <sup>ST</sup> Ordnance Survey as part of larger field.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Suitable as VOS</b> This site is a valuable open space on the western edge of Wetley Rocks having significant amenity value and providing significant external and internal views.	



Views to east across graveyard to properties fronting A520

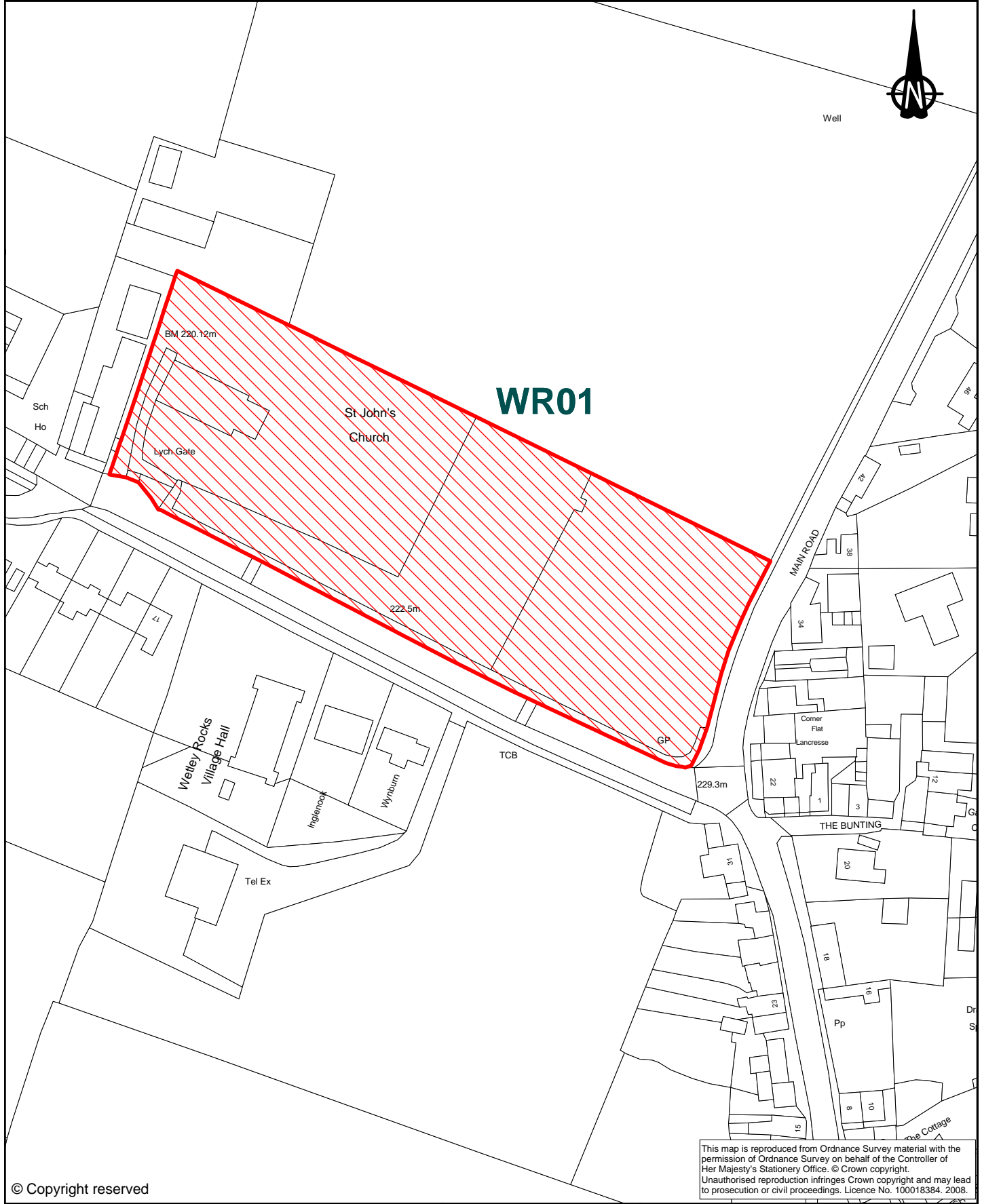


Wide views to north from footpath within the site





Well



**WR01**

BM 220.12m

Lych Gate

St John's Church

222.5m

MAIN ROAD

Wetley Rocks Village Hall

Tel Ex

Inglebrook

Wynburn

TCB

GP

229.3m


THE BUNTING

Pp

The Cottage

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CLIENT <b>Staffordshire Moorlands District Council</b>	DRG No <b>ST10553-18c</b>	SCALE <b>1:2500</b>	DATE <b>December 2009</b>
PROJECT <b>Landscape &amp; Settlement Character Assessment</b>	DRAWN BY <b>MAB</b>	CHECKED BY <b>BJ</b>	APPROVED BY <b>CAH</b>
DRAWING TITLE <b>Wetley Rocks WR01 - Visual Open Space</b>	 <b>Wardell Armstrong</b> Engineering & Environmental Solutions		