

- 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
Biddulph
Setting

Scale
1:10,000 at A1

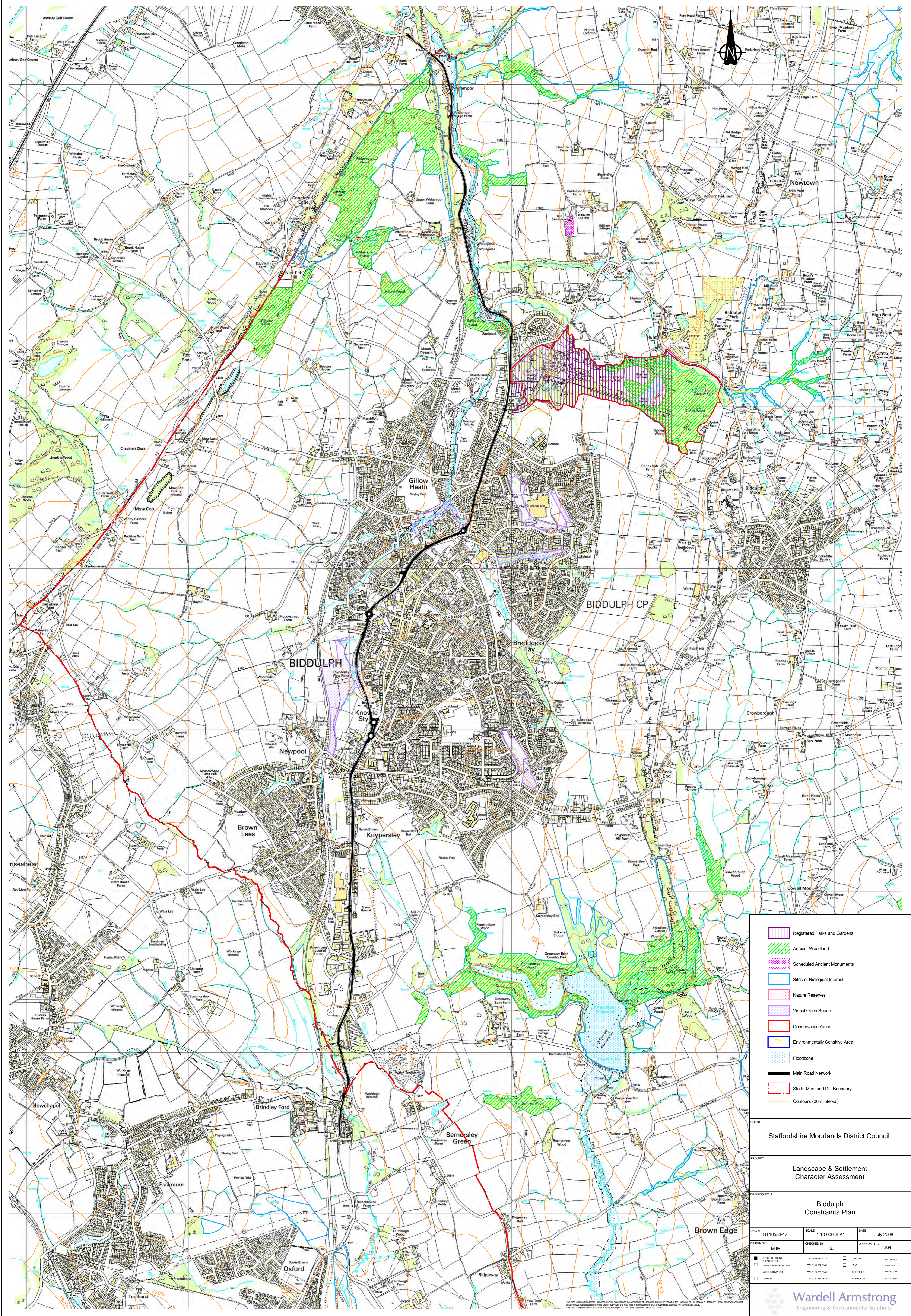
Date
August 2008

Drawn by
MAB

Checked by
BJ

Approved by
CAH

Wardell Armstrong
Engineering & Environmental Solutions



- 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)

<p>Staffordshire Moorlands District Council</p>			
<p>Landscape & Settlement Character Assessment</p>			
<p>Biddulph Constraints Plan</p>			
<p>DRG No: ST10553-1a</p>	<p>SCALE: 1:10,000 at A1</p>	<p>DATE: July 2008</p>	
<p>DRAWN BY: MJH</p>	<p>CHECKED BY: BJ</p>	<p>APPROVED BY: CAH</p>	
<p> <input type="checkbox"/> STAKE ON FIELD <input type="checkbox"/> NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE <input type="checkbox"/> WEST BROMWICH <input type="checkbox"/> LONDON </p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> TEL 0845 111 7777 <input type="checkbox"/> TEL 0191 232 0843 <input type="checkbox"/> TEL 0121 360 0000 <input type="checkbox"/> TEL 0121 360 0001 </p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> GARDIFF <input type="checkbox"/> LEIGH <input type="checkbox"/> SHEFFIELD <input type="checkbox"/> BIRMINGHAM </p>	

Biddulph Settlement Description

- Biddulph is a town that lies mainly within the Ancient Slopes and Valley Farmlands character area, but it is contained along its northern extent by the Gritstone Uplands which lead to the Gritstone Highland Fringe beyond.
- The town is set within a valley contained by Mow Cop ridge to the west and in the far east by Lask Edge ridge. There is a minor ridge between Biddulph and Lask Edge along which there is a line of rocky outcrops that contain the eastern edge of the important landscape setting to the east of the settlement.
- Biddulph Grange historic parkland and Country Park lie in proximity north of the town.
- South East of Biddulph the landscape is characterised by a series of wooded stream valleys with large scale fields with strong hedgeline boundaries and scattered rocky outcrops to higher ground.
- Greenway Bank Country Park and Knypersley Reservoir lie to the south of the town and contribute to the landscape setting of the settlement.
- A cycleway runs along a disused railway line through the western fringes of the town linking Biddulph with Congleton.
- The Staffordshire Way Gritstone Trail follows the Mow Cop ridgeline to the west of the town with connecting footpaths into Biddulph.
- West of the town strong vegetation along streamlines runs down slope from the Mow Cop ridgeline with incised lanes. This area of landscape is important landscape setting to the settlement.
- Hurst Quarry is located to the north east of Biddulph.
- The Biddulph bypass forms a strong edge to the south west of the town the land that falls away steeply from it to the east is part of the landscape setting for the settlement.

Visual Open Spaces

BI01 / Land between Ox-Hey Drive and Carriage Drive

Not Suitable

- Site slopes from east to west, Shrub land, some mature trees and hedges. Litter, private land-no public access. Visual contribution of the site is significantly reduced with the erection of palisade fencing. Site acts as a buffer for industrial development with visibility being restricted to the upper floors of residential properties
DOES NOT SATISFY CRITERIA FOR VISUAL OPEN SPACE

BI02 / Around Knypersley View Farm

Suitable

- Relatively flat in east, but gentle slope, mainly agricultural land, track to farm

BI03 / Land at Thames Drive and Ribble Drive

Suitable

- Unmanaged mature woodland belt, watercourses, public access.

BI04 / Land at Halls Road Playing Field

Suitable

- Relatively flat, grassland, well maintained, full public access, playing field

BI05 / Springfield Road**Suitable**

- Grass / scrub – looks untidy – some litter, private land but accessible to public.

BI06 / Land between Moorland Road and Thames Drive**Suitable**

- Linear, managed grassland with mature trees. Gently sloping towards watercourse with slight undulations throughout. There is a crossing point over the watercourse to the east. Full public access.

BI07 / Dorset Drive and south of Halls Road**Suitable**

- Grass, stream, mature trees, hedgerows, slight undulating topography, generally maintained. Full public access.

BI08 / Land East of Woodland Street**Suitable**

- A large open grassed areas on different levels. There is a slope west to east and various smaller peaks and slopes. Full public access is available.

Biddulph

GENERAL CHARACTER / LANDSCAPE	Regional (Joint) Character Area	64 Potteries & Churnet Valley
	Landscape Character Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gritstone Uplands – to the north • Ancient Slope And Valley Farmlands – to the east, south and west
	Historic Landscape Character	Biddulph is described as consisting mainly of settlement, with some areas of ornamental, parkland and recreation land distributed throughout. Woodland areas are mainly limited to the periphery of the town.
	Geology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Coal measures • Millstone Grit series <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rough Rock group • Middle Grit group • Kinderscout Grit group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upper Churnet Shales - Middle Churnet Shales - Lower Churnet Shales - Minn Beds - Lask Edge Shales • Carboniferous Limestone series <p>There is a fault located to the west of Biddulph (Mow Cop fault located on the Astbury anticline, adjacent to the Red Rock fault)</p>
	Minerals	<p>Parts of Biddulph are identified in the Staffordshire Minerals Core Strategy Draft Background Paper (2007) as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Strategic Site for Aggregates’ due to superficial sands and gravel; • ‘Strategic Site for other Non-Energy Minerals’ due to silica sand; and • ‘Extent of Hydrocarbon Resources’ due to the shallow coal with less than 50m Overburden. <p>No specific site proposals for mineral extraction have been submitted for the area.</p>

	<p>Topography</p>	<p>Town of Biddulph: The town is contained within the Biddulph valley with Mow Cop ridge to the west and Lask Edge ridge to the east.</p> <p>Area to the N of Biddulph: Small scale rolling landform incised by mainly steeply sided streams, falling from higher moorland areas and 145 to Cheshire Plain.</p> <p>Area to the E of Biddulph: Series of steeply sloping incised stream valleys in larger scale rolling valley landform between obvious millstone ridge with large exposed stones as strong features to tops with associated heathy character e/g. Wicken slopes.</p> <p>Area to the S of Biddulph: Steep loping strong rounded landform rising up to edge of conurbation from west.</p> <p>Area to the W of Biddulph: Dissected valley sides falling into Biddulph. Small streams, valleys form mounded undulations along main valley slope. (Some woodlands in these valleys).</p>
	<p>Contour Range</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Min 135m AOD (north Biddulph, around Bailey's Wood) • Max 225m AOD (southeast Biddulph, around the junction of Mill Hayes Road and Park Lane)
<p>SPECIFIC LANDSCAPE FEATURES</p>	<p>Significant Vegetation (e.g. woodland, heathland, marshes, commons, parkland)</p>	<p>Ancient Woodland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Wood (Biddulph Grange) 300m E • Bands Wood 1.4km N • Whitemoor Farm (east of) 830m N • Whitemoor Wood 950m NW • Round Wood 660m NW • Willocks Wood 850m NW • Bailey's Wood 30m E • Sprinks Farm (west of) 1.3km E • Knypersley Wood 500m SE • Greenway Wood 600m SE • Crowbridge Wood 960m SE • Plankhollow Wood 230m SE • Green Bank Farm (west of) 360m SE • Dallows Wood 1km SE <p>Historic Parklands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biddulph Grange and Country Park <p>No Registered Commons</p>

	<p>Historic Parkland (1st Edn. OS Map)</p>	<p>Registered Park and Garden (English Heritage):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biddulph Grange (Grade 1) <p>Other Historic Parks and Gardens:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biddulph Hall - Grade I Listed Building (SJ8959) and surrounds
	<p>Water Bodies / Water Courses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biddulph Brook (S-N flow) • Knypersley Reservoir – used as a canal feeder for the Caldon Canal.
	<p>Floodplains</p>	<p>Floodplain along the northern banks of Biddulph Brook and at Knypersley Reservoir has a 1 in 75 year chance of flooding.</p>
	<p>Major Routes (e.g. roads, railways, canals)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A527 Biddulph Road/Tunstall Road
	<p>Significant Visual Features / Landmarks / Viewpoints (e.g. hedgerows, stone walls, significant architectural features)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the east are areas of rock outcrops coupled with steep valleys. The presence of Knypersley Reservoir provides facilities for anglers and visitors, in addition to accommodating various bird species. • To the south is the Wedgewood Monument and old mining settlements • To the west of Biddulph is the disused railway line – this forms the western boundary to the town
	<p>Other Significant Landscape Features (e.g. mineral workings)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It would appear that from consultation of the historic maps of the area, Biddulph emerged from the Biddulph Grange estate (now the area protected within the designated conservation area) which occupied the medieval grange of Hulton Abbey. • The gardens at Biddulph Grange have been managed by the National Trust since they were acquired in 1988 • Elmhurst Farm/Hurst Quarry (SJ900957) is located to the northeast of Biddulph. • Bailey’s Wood, to the north of Biddulph, is under the management of the Woodland Trust • The surrounding landscape consists mainly of fields and small farmsteads. To the east of Biddulph is the village of Biddulph Moor.
<p>DESIGNATED AREAS</p>	<p>Green Belt / Special Landscape Area</p>	<p>Green Belt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land located to the north, east, south and west (to the west of the dismantled railway) of Biddulph is designated Green Belt • Land located to the north, east, south and west (to the west of the dismantled railway) of Biddulph is designated Green Belt

DESIGNATED AREAS	<p>Designated Areas of Ecological Significance</p> <p>(e.g. SSSIs / SPAs / Nature Reserves / SBIs / SACs)</p> <p>www.magic.gov.uk/Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan</p>	<p>LNR (Local Nature Reserves):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marshes Hill Common LNR (SJ 904 550, 6.41ha) is located 1.9km southeast of the Knypersley area of Biddulph • Biddulph Valley Way (Whitemoor) LNR (SJ 886 600, 4.31ha) is located 675m north of Biddulph <p>SSSIs (Site of Special Scientific Interest):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roe Park Woods SSSI (SJ864 585, 34.6ha) is located 1.5km west of the Gillow Heath area of Biddulph • Ganister Quarry SSSI (SJ869 592, 1.98ha) is located 1.2km northwest of the Gillow Heath area of Biddulph <p>RIGs (Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knypersley Meltwater Channel 162m S • Knypersley Reervoir Stone 800m SE <p>SBI (Sites of Biological Importance):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congleton Edge 700m N • Congleton Edge (south of): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Whitemoor Wood 950m NW ❖ Round Wood 660m NW • Bands Wood 1.4km N • Whitemoor Farm (east of) 830m N • Troughstone Hill 1.1km E • The Sprink 1.1km E • Greenway Bank 240m SE • Marshes Hill 1.9km SE <p>BAS (Biodiversity Alert Site):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dallows Wood 1km SE • Packmoor 500m S • Knypersley Fishing Pool 120m SE • The Nursery 50m E • Willocks Wood 850m NW • Willocks Wood (southwest of) 900m NW • Mow Cop Quarry 1.1km W
	<p>Nature Conservation Sites</p> <p><i>(Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan)</i></p>	<p>None</p>
	<p>Scheduled Ancient Monuments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shepherds Cross, 250m south east of Over Hall Farm (SJ8962 6042) • Ringwork Castle in Bailey's Wood (SJ8894 5947) • C16th mansion and gardens at Biddulph Old Hall (SJ8936 6012)

BUILT ENVIRONMENT	<p>Proposed/recent development</p> <p><i>(Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (1998)/ Aerial photos)</i></p>	<p>Recent Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential development to the north of Torville Drive (Blackbird Way, Linnet Way, Plover Drive) • Residential development along and roads off St David's Way • Residential development off the A527 (to the east of Station Road) • Residential development off Walley Street • Small scale residential development between High Street and Diamond Close • Small employment development off Walley Street • Employment development to the south of Wharf Road (adjacent to the roundabout with A527) • Partial employment development to the south of Brown Lees Road <p>Proposed residential sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land between Lyneside Road and A527 (Tunstall Road)
	<p>Conservation Areas</p> <p><i>(Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (1998))</i></p>	<p>Biddulph Grange Conservation Area.</p>
	<p>Other</p>	

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI01

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site:	BI01 / Land between Ox-Hey Drive and Carriage Drive	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Site slopes from east to west, Shrub land, some mature trees and hedges. Litter, private land-no public access. Visual contribution of the site is significantly reduced with the erection of palisade fencing. Site acts as a buffer for industrial development with visibility being restricted to the upper floors of residential properties.	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	An unattractive undeveloped piece of scrubland, enclosed by high steel palisade fencing between suburban dwellings. Limited views and longer views to the open countryside.
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✗	This is a poor area of visual amenity as the site is fenced off – restricted access to authorised persons only. The area is unmanaged and views are obscured by tall scrub species.
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✗	The VOS is overlooked by properties along Ox-Hey Drive and Carriage Drive, however these are likely to be limited to the upper floors to the rear of these properties; a number of properties located along The Uplands front onto the site which is visible through the fencing. Views across to the open countryside would be limited to upper floor windows.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	Not accessible – no internal views
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	Yes.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Due to the unmanaged nature of the VOS, this area will provide suitable habitats for wildlife.
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Not suitable as VOS Poor visual amenity of site with no accessibility and limited views. The site is also in private ownership.	



View into site from fencing on eastern edge



View into site from fencing on eastern edge

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI02

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site:	BI02 / Around Knypersley View Farm	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Relatively flat in east, but gentle slope, mainly agricultural land, track to farm	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	Attractive belt of farmland between the bypass and the footpath along the former mineral railway line. Reinforces the settlement edge and enables long distance views across the countryside towards Mow Cop. Short distance views towards the former railway line.
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	An important open area along the edge of the town, contributing to its setting. Provides a real sense of openness – this area is overlooked by residential properties which back onto Colliers Way. This site is mainly managed for agriculture. Provides amenity value for those walking along the bypass, residents and from the road.
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	From east to west into and across the site to countryside beyond, land gently slopes in middle – attractive. No views in to site from the north end (Wharf Road) as site is higher than road.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	Views from the dismantled railway to the east.
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✗	Surrounded by development on three sides – acts as an important green wedge extending into the built up area.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Has the potential to support a range of wildlife species and habitats. There are a number of mature trees along the dismantled railway.
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Suitable as VOS This site is a valuable open space on the western edge of Biddulph contributing to the character of the local area while having significant amenity value and containing significant internal and external views.	



View to south from Telephone Exchange off A527



View to south from Telephone Exchange off A527



View to south from Telephone Exchange off A527



View to south from Telephone Exchange off A527



View to south from Telephone Exchange off A527



View to north from Telephone Exchange off A527

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI03

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site:	BI03 / Land at Thames Drive and Ribble Drive	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Unmanaged mature woodland belt, watercourses, public access.	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	A series of attractive linear woodland belt areas following the route of a Biddulph Brook tributary. Unmanaged area – contrast with adjacent residential development.
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	High - Accessible to the public.
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	Numerous – from Moorland Road (longer distance), Thames Drive, Ribble Drive and surrounding roads and residential areas.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	Significant – from west to east along the tributary of Biddulph Brook.
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	Visual physical break between residential areas which form part of a series of open spaces.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Trees, watercourses, unmanaged
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Suitable as VOS Land is important linear woodland site that is significant as a break between development in this densely developed area of Biddulph. In addition it provides amenity and ecological value.	



View to north from Palmerston Way

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI04

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site::	BI04 / Land at Halls Road Playing Field	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Relatively flat, grassland, well maintained, full public access, playing field	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	Mainly flat, small mound to north-west, grass – very open – vast.
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	High – used for sport and recreation – full public access.
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	Significant – from west, north and south.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	Very significant – to hillsides east and south – looks on to surrounding countryside.
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	Surrounded by relatively modern houses.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Limited value; but has numerous mature trees
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Suitable as VOS The site has amenity value within the recent residential development while contributing to the character of the local area.	



View from Brook Gardens adjacent to site to west



View from Brook Gardens adjacent to site to the north west

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI05

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site::	BI05 / Springfield Road	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Grass / scrub – looks untidy – some litter, private land but accessible to public.	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	An open area, in contrast to surrounding estate housing enjoying superb views east to Lask Edge. Site slopes down from Springfield Road to properties at rear of St David's Way.
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	Public can gain access at present – no fencing but privately owned (according to SMDC). Main value is views.
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	Very significant views to the east, of Lask Edge.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	Very significant views to the east, of Lask Edge.
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	The site is surrounded by housing development. Provides significant break.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Open grassland habitats
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Suitable as VOS The site has a strong visual character providing a valuable break between residential recent development to the east and dense residential development to the west.	



View to north from Springfield Road adjacent to site



View to south east from Springfield Road



View to east from Springfield Road adjacent to site



View to east from Springfield Road adjacent to site

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI06

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site::	BI06 / Land between Moorland Road and Thames Drive	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Linear, managed grassland with mature trees. Gently sloping towards watercourse with slight undulations throughout. There is a crossing point over the watercourse to the east. Full public access.	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	Linear managed open space. A number of mature trees along the watercourse. Provides a contrast with the adjacent residential development.
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	Accessible and well used by the public with a series of paths through the site.
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	From Moorland Road and Thames Drive and from adjacent residential properties.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	Along internal footpaths within the site and from open areas within the VOS.
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	Significant break between the surrounding residential areas.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Yes – Matures trees and wetland vegetation along watercourses.
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Suitable as VOS The open space provides a significant break between development on Moorland Road to the west and dense residential development to the east. There are tracks throughout the site linking the residential areas to the east and the west of the open space.	



View to north from southern part of site



View to north from southern part of site

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI07

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site:	BI07 / Dorset Drive and south of Halls Road	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	Grass, stream, mature trees, hedgerows, slight undulating topography, generally maintained. Full public access.	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	Linear feature: vegetation along water courses. Trees and small valleys retain openness to area connects with other areas within the VOS. The land to the south of Halls Road connects with the adjacent VOS (playing field)
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	High – public access, views, and openness, of value to surrounding residents.
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	Views from Craigside public footpath which is enclosed to open area of site. Also significant views from the west to east. From north of Halls road there are unrestricted views into this part the site. There are short distance views from the rear of properties surrounding this part of the VOS.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	From Dorset Drive there are short distance views to the rear of residential properties to the south and north, with views of the VOS to the west and east. To the north-west there are long views to hills and open countryside. There are views from Halls Road across to the adjacent VOS (playing field) and beyond towards the wooded area along the dismantled railway.
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	Yes – Natural feature based on watercourses which provides a long break between housing.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Wetland feature, mature trees, hedges, shrubs.
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Suitable as VOS The site has amenity value with public access from local residents. It also contributes to the local character of this part of Biddulph while providing a significant linear break along Dorset Drive.	



View along Hall Road to west (VOS to left of view)



View from Field View to VOS east



View to south from end of Smokies Way

Staffordshire Moorlands Visual Open Space Assessment

BI08

Date of Reassessment: 19.06.2008

Settlement:	Biddulph	
VOS number / Site:	BI08 / Land East of Woodland Street	
Brief Description: Topography, vegetation, access etc.	A large open grassed areas on different levels. There is a slope west to east and various smaller peaks and slopes. Full public access is available.	
Criteria		Notes
Character Does the site contribute to the character of the surrounding neighbourhood / settlement?	✓	Featureless grassland open space with wide views to Lask Edge.
Amenity Value Is the site of amenity value to the public while not requiring public access to the site itself?	✓	Public have access, openness and views. Could be improved with planting to add interest
External Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant external views across the open area (i.e. views from surrounding area into VOS)?	✓	Significant, particularly west to east. West side is on a high level so it enjoys superb views of Lask Edge with no obstacles as the land slopes downwards.
Internal Views Does the site allow the public to enjoy significant internal views across the open area (i.e. views within the VOS)?	✓	West to east – no features so unobscured views.
Break Between Development Does the site form a significant break between development within a settlement?	✓	Significant – large open area surrounded by dense housing development. Links to school playing field.
Ecological Value Is the site of local ecological value?	✓	Could be enhanced by native tree and shrub planting
Cultural or Historical Association Does the site have significant, proven local cultural or historical association?	✗	
Recommendation:	Suitable as VOS Site has significant value as an informal recreation space and a break between development in a dense residential area.	



View to east from Church Close



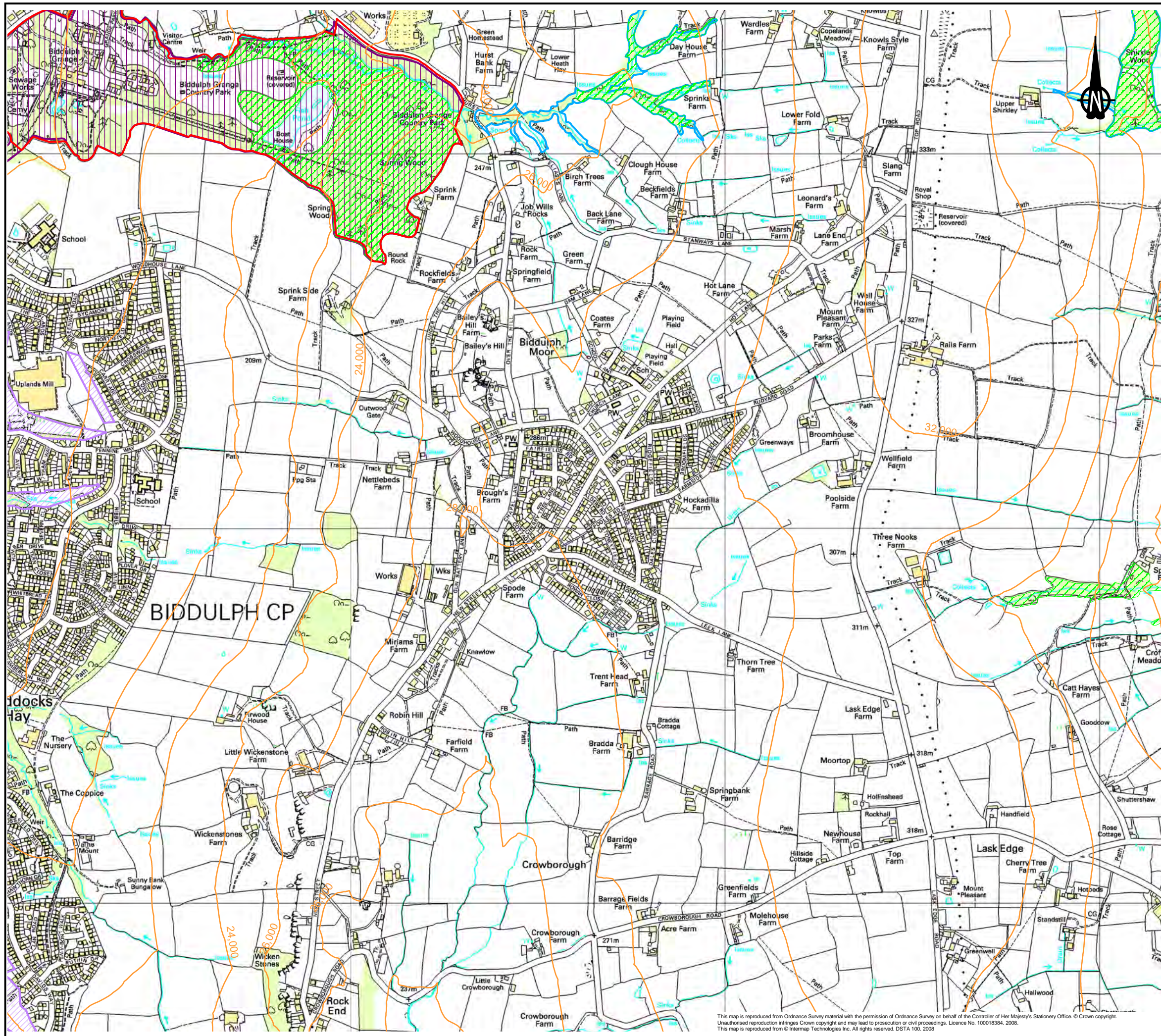
View to west towards Woodland Street from Church Close
















View to north east from Church Close



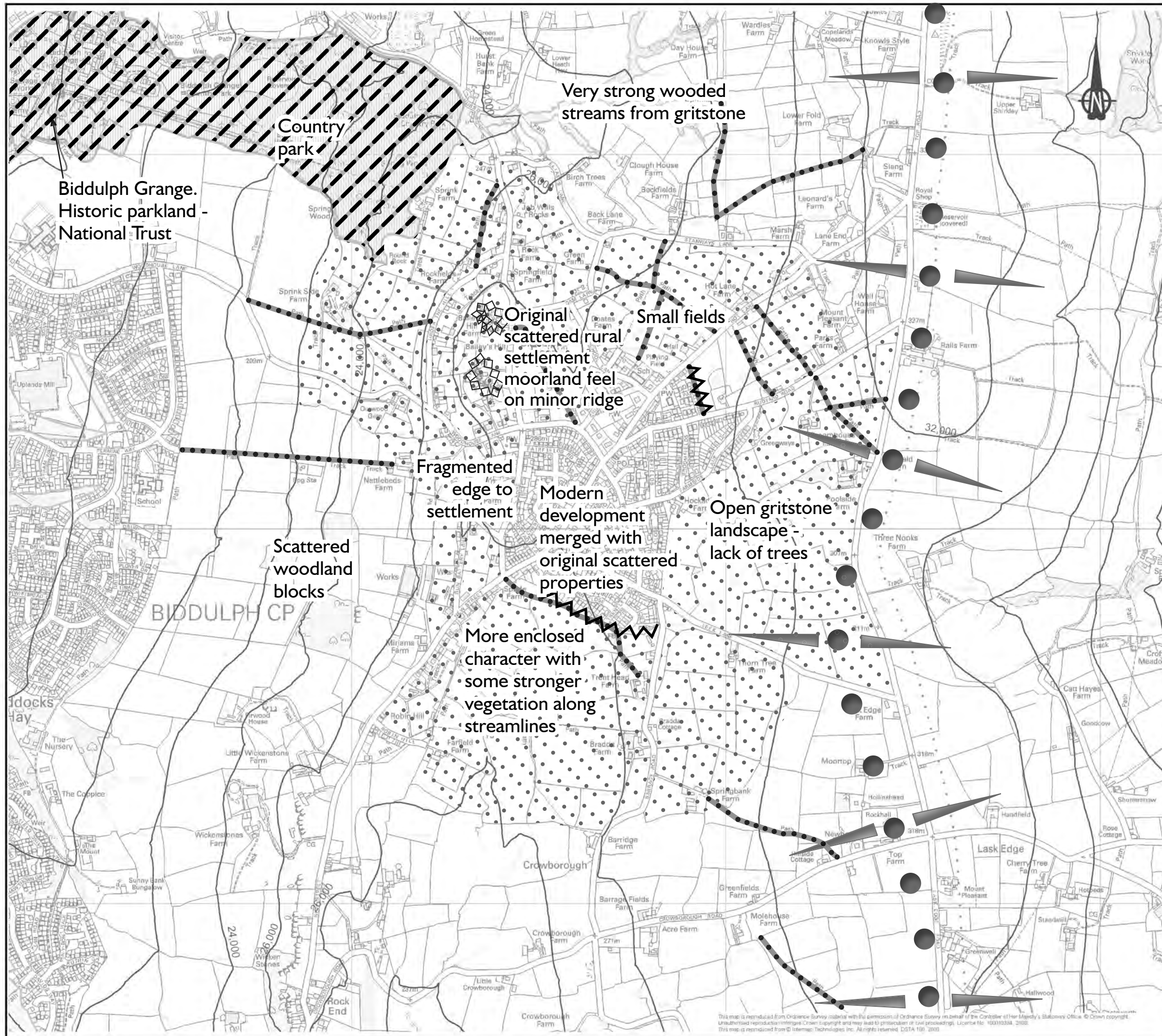
View to north from Church Close



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

CLIENT		
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council		
PROJECT		
Landscape & Settlement Character Assessment		
DRAWING TITLE		
Biddulph Moor Constraints Plan		
DRG No	SCALE	DATE
ST10553-6a	1:10 000 at A3	July 2008
DRAWN BY	CHECKED BY	APPROVED BY
MJH	BJ	CAH
<input type="checkbox"/> STOKES-ON-TRENT (HEAD OFFICE) <input type="checkbox"/> NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE <input type="checkbox"/> WEST BROMWICH <input type="checkbox"/> LONDON	TEL 0845 111 7777 TEL 0191 232 0943 TEL 0121 580 0909 TEL 020 7287 2872	<input type="checkbox"/> CARDIFF <input type="checkbox"/> LEIGH <input type="checkbox"/> SHEFFIELD <input type="checkbox"/> EDINBURGH TEL 029 2038 2465 TEL 01942 260101 TEL 0114 245 6244 TEL 0131 555 3311
 Wardell Armstrong Engineering & Environmental Solutions		

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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
Biddulph Moor Setting

DRG No ST10553-6b	SCALE 1:10 000 at A3	DATE August 2008
DRAWN BY MAB	CHECKED BY BJ	APPROVED BY CAH

<input type="checkbox"/> STONE MOUNTAIN (HEAD OFFICE) TEL: 0145 111 7777	<input type="checkbox"/> CHORLEY TEL: 0120 2030 2855
<input type="checkbox"/> MENCHESTER (UPON TIME) TEL: 0161 323 9943	<input type="checkbox"/> L2001 TEL: 01642 099001
<input type="checkbox"/> WEST BROMWICH TEL: 0121 560 9908	<input type="checkbox"/> SHEFFIELD TEL: 0114 245 0044
<input type="checkbox"/> LONDON TEL: 020 7297 2872	<input type="checkbox"/> EDINBURGH TEL: 0131 555 3311

Wardell Armstrong
Engineering & Environmental Solutions

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Biddulph Moor Settlement Description

- Biddulph Moor is a medium sized village that lies between the Gritstone Uplands and the Ancient Slope and Valley Farmlands character area.
- The original settlement comprised of scattered rural dwellings..
- Modern suburban residential development has merged with the original scattered properties.
- The townscape is a mixture of stone dwellings with a large number of modern brick dwellings
- The village is relatively flat but sited high on the Lask Edge and the land rises to a ridge line east of the village.
- Scattered rocky outcrops lie to the north of the village.
- Biddulph Grange historic parkland and Country Park lie in proximity northwest of the village.
- There are views to the west towards Biddulph Grange Country Park from the elevated eastern edge of Biddulph Moor at Top Road and Hot Lane.
- The landscape setting is important to the village, particularly where the more open upland, characterised by drystone walls and lack of trees, contrasts with the stronger vegetational pattern along streamlines and the environs of the historic parkland.

Visual Open Spaces

- None

Biddulph Moor

GENERAL CHARACTER / LANDSCAPE	Regional (Joint) Character Area	64 Potteries & Churnet Valley
	Landscape Character Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient Slope and Valley Farmlands • Gritstone Uplands
	Historic Landscape Classification	Biddulph Moor identified primarily as 'settlement', with small area of 'ornamental, parkland and recreation' located in the north-east of the village (playing field). Several small clusters of woodland also identified to the SW.
	Geology	<p>Drift Geology: Entire settlement and surrounding area underlain by till (DMTN).</p> <p>Solid Geology: Entire settlement underlain by Millstone Grit (argillaceous rocks, undifferentiated).</p>
	Minerals	<p>Biddulph Moor is located just east of the Potteries Coalfield.</p> <p>Hurst Quarry (Biddulph) extracts silica sand, located 1.1km NW of Biddulph Moor. Extension to this site proposed in the Staffordshire Minerals Core Strategy (May 2008).</p> <p>Silica sandstone extraction works also located slightly further north at Elmhurst Farm. Extension also proposed for this site.</p>
	Topography	Settlement relatively flat. Slopes downwards slightly towards western edge and upwards towards NE. No steep changes in topography.
	Contour Range	295m (Bailey's Hill, NW Biddulph Moor) – 270m (Robin Hill, S Biddulph Moor)
SPECIFIC LANDSCAPE FEATURES	<p>Significant Vegetation (e.g. trees, woodland, heathland, marshes, commons, parkland)</p>	<p>Ancient Woodland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring Wood, Biddulph Grange, approx 500m NW of Biddulph Moor (SJ900590, 20 ha) • Shirkley Wood, Upper Shirkley, located approx. 1.2 km NE of Biddulph Moor • Part of Cliff Wood, located 1.7km east of Biddulph Moor • Ancient woodland along stream which passes Day House Farm, 600m N of Biddulph Moor

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ancient woodland along stream to the east of Three Nooks Farm, 900m east of Biddulph Moor <p>Other Significant Woodland/Tree Belts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trees lining stream that passes N of Biddulph Grange and Biddulph Moor • 3 small patches of woodland located SW of settlement • Trees lining stream to east of Three Nooks Farm, approx. 800m east of Biddulph Moor • Trees screening Hurst Quarry, approx. 1km NNW of Biddulph Moor • Woodland nr. Wicken Stones and Knypersley Hill Farm, Rock End, approx. 1.2km SW of Biddulph Moor
	<p>Historic Parkland (1st Edn. OS Map)</p>	<p>Biddulph Grange (located approx 500m NW of Biddulph Moor) is a Registered Park & Garden (Grade1).</p>
	<p>Water Bodies / Water Courses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several small streams flow outwards from the settlement to the north, west and south, including the Head of the Trent, which flows southwards from the southern edge of the settlement. • Fish pond at Biddulph Grange, 1km NW of Biddulph Moor. • No major water bodies or water courses.
	<p>Floodplains</p>	<p>No floodzones identified within/surrounding settlement</p>
	<p>Major Routes (e.g. roads, railways, canals)</p>	<p>No major A or B roads pass through the settlement.</p> <p>Woodhouse Lane (passing through NW of Biddulph Moor) and New Street/Park Lane (exiting S of Biddulph Moor) pass through Biddulph where they join the A527.</p> <p>Top Road (exiting N of Biddulph Moor) and Crowborough Road (passing S of Biddulph Moor) continue N and E respectively, eventually joining the A523 to Macclesfield and Leek.</p>
	<p>Significant Visual Features / Landmarks / Viewpoints (e.g. hedgerows, stone walls, significant architectural features)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biddulph Grange Park / Spring Wood, located approx 500m-1km NNW of Biddulph Moor • Settlement of Biddulph, located approx. 850m W of Biddulph Moor • Hurst Quarry, located approx. 1km NNW of Biddulph Moor

	<p>Other Significant Landscape Features</p> <p>(e.g. mineral workings)</p>	Scattered rock outcrops
DESIGNATED AREAS	<p>Green Belt / Special Landscape Area</p>	<p>Green Belt: The land surrounding Biddulph Moor is designated Green Belt.</p> <p>Special Landscape Area: The land surrounding Biddulph Moor is a Special Landscape Area</p>
	<p>Designated Areas of Ecological Significance</p> <p>(e.g. SSSIs / SPAs / Nature Reserves / SBIs / SACs)</p> <p>www.magic.gov.uk/Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan</p>	<p>Ancient Woodland: See 'Significant Vegetation' section above</p> <p>SBIs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sprink (brook), located approx. 500m N of Biddulph Moor • Cliff Wood and east of Cliff Wood, located approx. 1.6km ESE of Biddulph Moor • Shirkley Wood, located approx. 1.2km NE of Biddulph Moor • Troughstone Hill, located approx. 1km N of Biddulph Moor, just north of The Sprink <p>No Nature Reserves, SSSIs, RIGs, BASs, Registered Commons, SPAs or SACs.</p>
	<p>Nature Conservation Sites</p> <p><i>(Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan)</i></p>	No nature conservation sites within / surrounding Biddulph Moor.
	<p>Scheduled Ancient Monuments</p>	None
BUILT ENVIRONMENT	<p>Proposed/recent development</p> <p><i>(Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (1998)/ Aerial photos)</i></p>	<p>No sites recently developed.</p> <p>No sites proposed for development.</p>
	<p>Conservation Areas</p> <p><i>(Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan (1998))</i></p>	<p>Biddulph Moor is not located within a conservation area.</p> <p>Biddulph Grange (approx. 500m NW of Biddulph Moor) is located within a conservation area.</p>
	<p>Other</p>	Nucleated settlement. Originally a small hamlet centred around Christ Church (now located in the north of Biddulph Moor – 1 st Edn. OS). Has since expanded to south along New Street. It is now around 10 times the size it was on the 1 st Edn. OS.

