

Aerial Perspective looking from North East.



Aerial Perspective looking from North West.



Aerial Perspective looking from South East.



Aerial Perspective looking from South West.

# 3.0 Site Analysis

## 3.1 Site Location

The site is located approximately 1.4km East of Solihull town centre. The site faces residential dwellings and healthcare facilities on Damson Parkway to its West, Grand Union Canal to its North, Heritage Assets, arable lands and sports fields to its East and shares the rear boundaries of residential dwellings to the South on Hampton Lane.

The total site within the red line boundary equates to 43 Ha of which the developable extents within this is subject to a detailed review of site constraints.

Current land uses include a mix of arable fields, semi-improved grasslands, sports club, residential/ commerical use (Lugtrout Farm and associated land) and an abandoned orchard. An overhead electrical transmission line has been identified crossing the North Eastern part of the site. The site falls under various ownerships (see later graphic). There are some woodlands identified to the West of the site (screening Damson Parkway) and to the North West part of the site North to Lugtrout Lane.

The former Pinfold Nursuries land is a Rejected Local Wildlife Site. The Draft Local Plan Ecological Assessment recommends retention of boundary hedgerows as habitats. Sections of hedgerows and trees may require further detailed independent assessment.

The site and Grand Union Canal are within Flood Risk Zone 1, an area of low probability of flooding. There will still be a requirement to undertake a flood risk assessment due to the development exceeding the 1ha threshold limit.

Fieldhouse Farm on Field lane and 239 Lugtrout Lane are both Grade II listed buildings, thus careful consideration has been given to their settings.

The site does not lie within a Site of Special Scientific Interest. There is a known live overhead electrical cable and dead buried cable crossing the site.

### 3.2 Site Boundary Plan



Existing Site Area Plan showing Development Extents

### SO1 Masterplan

Identified Utility Constraints to part of the site as illustrated by Wardell Armstrong



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### 3.4 Site Land Uses

### Key



According to the SMBC site assessments, the land is classed as a low performing parcel (score of 4) of Green Belt status, identified as 'suitable for development' with parcels of land split by hedgerows.

Current site land uses include a mix of :

- Arable fields.
- Semi-improved grasslands.

• Residential/ commerical use (Fieldhouse Farm and associated land).

• An abandoned orchard (former Pinfold nursuries).

• Coldlands Colts Football Club and related sports pavillion building.

• Woodlands.

The site is predominantly surrounded by land uses of existing residential development and a mix of further arable fields and sports fields to the North East.



SO1 Masterplan

#### 3.5 Site Land Ownerships



#### 3.6 **Ecology Constraints Matrix**

### Key

### Area of Ecology Survey Required

- Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Habitat Biodiversity Team Ecology Constraints, January 2016. Scope of Phase 1 Habitat Survey by Cotsold Wildlife Surveys, 25th February 2019.
- Scope of Phase 1 Habitat & Phase 2 Surveys by Wardell Armstrong, Febrouray 2019.

This diagram illustrates an overlay of Ecological constraints from various reports, superimposed with an aerial image. Subsequent dialogues with Warwickshire's Habitat Biodiversity Team identify the following:

1. The areas marked in green and constraints map indicate where development should be avoided and ecological enhancement encouraged.

2. These are: 30m buffer around woodland, 8m buffer either side of adjacent to watercourses, 5m buffer either side of intact hedgerow.

3. The former Rejected Local Wildlife Site remains rejected.

4. The developing woodland north of the Pinfold Nursery site is not buffered as it can be incorporated to form useful buffers to development in it's own right with elm being the dominant species.

5. Further buffers were advocated to 'Notable' or 'Veteran' Trees, an Arboricultural Survey is required to identify (see further on).

6. Hedgerows may be entitled to protection and/ or deemed Historic under the Hedgerow Regulations.

7. The circular green dots represent notable/veterans trees which should be retained and incorporated into green infrastructure.

The Cotswold Wildlife Phase 1 Habitat Survey summarised the area North of Lugtrout Lane has limitied ecological importance with no rare or particularly unusual species noted. The Phase 1 Habitat Survey from Wardell Armstrong recommends that notable Habitats of Hedgerows are retained and incorporated where possible, but does not advocate buffer zones. The Phase 2 Survey indicates that 13 species of birds of conservation concern are identified.



Extract from the Habitat Biodiversity Audit Partnership for Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Ecological Services Warwickshire County Council

Northern parts of site yet to be surveyed for Ecology and Habitat.

Eastern parts of site yet to be surveyed for Ecology and Habitat.

Former Pinfold Nursuries site/ Rejected Local Wildlife Site recommended by Warwickshire HBA to remain as rejected.

SO1 Masterplan

#### 3.7 Woodlands Map



SO1 Masterplan

Legend			
Woodland Priority Habitat Network (England)			
High Spatial Priority			
Lower Spatial Priority			
Woodland Improvement (England)			
High Spatial Priority			
Lower Spatial Priority			
Ancient Woodland (England)			
Modland Semi-Natural			
Ancient Replanted Woodland			
Priority Habitat In ventory- Deciduous Woodland (England)			
Woodland Bird Assemblage (England)			
Wood land - Willow Tit (England)			
Woodland - Black Grouse (England)			
Woodland - Red Squirrel - Creation (England)			
Woodland - Red Squirrel -			
Management (England) Woodland - Water Quality (England)			
High Spatial Priority			
Lower Spatial Priority			
Woodland - Flood Risk			
(England)			
High Spatial Priority			
Lower Spatial Priority			
Woodland - Water Quality- Acidification (England)			
Project Areas - Woodland for			
Water Priority Catchments (England)			
Ancient Woodland (England)			
Moodland Semi-Natural			
Ancient Replanted Woodland			
Priority Habitat In ventory - De ciduous Woodland (England)			
English Woodland Grant Schemes (England)			
Wood land Trust Sites (GB)			
Woodland Grant Scheme 1 (England)			
Woodland Grant Scheme 2 (England)			
Woodland Grant Scheme 3 (England)			
Projection = OSGB36			
xmin = 415400	0	0.1	0.2
ymin = 279700 xmax = 418000	J	km	
ymax = 281100			
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