

ML24 Market Warsop River Meadowlands and Pasture



CONTEXT

Regional Character Area: Limestone Farmlands

LDU Reference: 345

Landscape Policy Zone (LPZ) Reference: ML24



CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

Landform and hydrology

- A shallow narrow river valley of the River Meden, the meandering river channel sometimes has steep-sided banks and an abundance of wetland fringe vegetation
- Narrow alluvial floodplains border the river used as either pasture, wetland meadow or for recreation
- There are a number of ponds and lakes within the LPZ, their presence is demarcated by riparian woodland and individual trees

Landuse

- Within the open space, known as The Carrs (Recreation Ground and Local Nature Reserve/LNR), the river widens out in the east end of the LPZ and is characterised by weeping willows which frame views of older properties within Market Warsop
- Recreational open space is varied: mown grassland (e.g. Manor Park at Mansfield Woodhouse & The Carrs Recreation Ground); wildflower meadows, scrub and small pockets of woodland (The Carrs LNR Market Warsop); and private fishing ponds (Spion Kop)
- Pasture land within the LPZ has a rural and tranquil character. It is a narrow band of long linear pasture fields with infrequent built form
- As the LPZ passes close to the urban edge of Market Warsop it has a less rural character although the informal amenity space retains a rural character
- Fields are usually bordered by mature hedgerows with hedgerow trees, however closer to Sookholme these fields have been sub-divided by post and wire fencing
- The settlement pattern of Church Warsop is linear in nature, an important Conservation Area characteristic

Landscape Features

- Wooded character perceived through frequent trees along the river, small woodlands such as The Carrs Local Nature Reserve (LNR) close to Market Warsop and mature hedgerows
- Sookholme Moor area is designated as a Special Site of Scientific Interest (Hills and Holes SSSI) is a large area characterised by calcareous/neutral grassland with some scrub establishment occurring close to the river
- Pockets of wetland meadow and rough grassland often contain mature hawthorn trees and some scrub establishment

Built form

- Rural village of Sookholme is distinctive containing a number of vernacular Mansfield White stone buildings with orange pantile roofs. Buildings include former farmsteads and workers' cottages and other individual properties set within large mature gardens
- The edge of Church Warsop includes distinctive views towards St Peter and St Pauls Church and a small cluster of older buildings fronting Church Road.
- Church Warsop has Mediaeval origins. The area is designated as a Conservation Area. Buildings are constructed of Mansfield White stone with orange pantile roofs. Stone boundary walls are important.
- Modern development includes semi-detached properties set within small gardens. Boundary vegetation is variable with some properties well-screened and others present as a continuous line of housing. There is no overriding style or consistent building materials




Views

- Channelled and enclosed views close to the river opening up to wider more expansive views across adjacent farmland and within open spaces

Other Features

- The railway line and wooded tracks are prominent linear features through the landscape
- Frequent informal tracks through the area bordered by mature hedgerows; in places these merge together forming a 'tunnel' around the footpaths
- Arches of the railway bridge are visible through trees as the railway rises to cross over the river



LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS																		
Condition																		
<p>The area is characterised by a rural wetland and pasture landscape strongly associated with the River Meden and associated riparian vegetation.</p> <p>Land use is mostly either recreation close to urban fringes or pasture further away from buildings. Most of the land has a modern field pattern of small linear and geometric fields following watercourses. The field pattern alters and in places is not present through areas used for recreation.</p> <p>Riparian woodland is a feature of this LPZ and often demarcates the route of the river and surround ponds and the lake throughout the LPZ. Other vegetation of importance to the character are meadows including an extensive area of calcareous grassland, Hills and Holes SSSI, formed on former limestone quarries. Willows are a distinctive feature along the river especially weeping willows along the river close to Church Road. Within some pasture fields scrub is establishing and many hedgerows in these locations have been left to become mature forming 'tunnels' along footpaths.</p> <p>The landscape condition is considered to be MODERATE. Whilst some areas are intact, fragmentation of hedgerows and in other places establishment of scrub on former meadow and pasture diminishes the landscape condition.</p>	<div><p>ML024E</p></div> <div><p>ML024F</p></div> <div><p>ML024G</p></div>																	
Landscape Strength																		
<p>Views are generally enclosed and channelled within the valley although becoming more open within public open space at The Carrs. The riparian vegetation along the river is a key feature within views. Within this LPZ built form is infrequent in views although it becomes more prominent from within open spaces, this creates a rural and tranquil character although it diminishes slightly closer to urban edges and roads.</p> <p>This LPZ has a MODERATE-GOOD character. The River Meden is a distinctive feature and where land is either rural pasture or informal meadows the character is GOOD. However this is not consistent across the area with some recreation areas and unused pasture where scrub is fragmenting and weakening the character slightly.</p>	<table><tr><td rowspan="4">Landscape Condition</td><td>Good</td><td>MODERATE <i>Enhance</i></td><td>MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i></td><td>GOOD <i>Conserve</i></td></tr><tr><td>Moderate</td><td>POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i></td><td>MODERATE <i>Enhance</i></td><td>MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i></td></tr><tr><td>Poor</td><td>POOR <i>Restore/Create</i></td><td>POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i></td><td>MODERATE <i>Enhance</i></td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Weak</td><td>Moderate</td><td>Strong</td></tr></table> <p>Landscape strength</p> <p>The overall landscape strategy is CONSERVE and ENHANCE</p>	Landscape Condition	Good	MODERATE <i>Enhance</i>	MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i>	GOOD <i>Conserve</i>	Moderate	POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i>	MODERATE <i>Enhance</i>	MODERATE - GOOD <i>Conserve and Enhance</i>	Poor	POOR <i>Restore/Create</i>	POOR - MODERATE <i>Enhance and Restore</i>	MODERATE <i>Enhance</i>		Weak	Moderate	Strong
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LANDSCAPE ACTIONS																		
<p><u>Landscape features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conserve open landscape views around Nettleworth / Spion Kop area and between Market and Church WarsopConserve areas of calcareous/neutral grassland and seek opportunities to extend and enhance these areasConserve existing areas of woodland (including wet woodland) and ensure appropriate managementConserve and enhance the woodland content of the landscape through seeking opportunities for new woodland planting particularly along village and urban fringesConserve and enhance wetland meadows through open space and along the river edgeConserve and enhance areas of river pasture close to the river through appropriate management to limit the extent of scrub establishmentConserve and enhance the narrow field pattern close to the river ensuring hedgerows are retained and used rather than post and wire fencingConserve and enhance riparian vegetation along the river through seeking opportunities for new tree planting along the riverConserve the naturalistic character of the River MedenConserve and enhance field ponds and associated wetland fringes and reedbeds <p><u>Built form</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conserve the distinctive character of Church Warsop and Sookholme ensuring any new buildings respect the scale, design and form of existing buildings. Refer to the Church Warsop Conservation Area Appraisal/policy advice.Encourage any new buildings or infill development on fringes to use appropriate building materials similar to Mansfield White stone and orange pantile roofsEnhance village fringes through planting of new trees and woodlands to soften harsh urban edgesConserve the distinctive character of Church Warsop Conservation Area <p><u>Other development/ structures in the landscape</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Conserve narrow rural tracks and lanes through the LPZConserve the 'tunnel' character of some public footpaths through the LPZ																		