



Baylham Neighbourhood
Plan

**Landscape Assessment:
Character and Sensitivity
and
Key Views**

May 2024

The report was undertaken by Chartered Landscape Architect Lucy Batchelor-Wylam CMLI. I have nearly 20 years experience of working as a landscape professional in Suffolk and East Anglia for private practice and, for the last 12 years, as a freelance consultant. I specialise in LVA and LVIA for all types of land use applications as well as character and sensitivity assessment at both district and parish level. I have undertaken assessment to support Neighbourhood Plan groups in Suffolk, Norfolk, and Cambridgeshire in recent years.



Lucy Batchelor-Wylam
Landscape architecture LucyBW@outlook.com

Chartered Landscape Architect
Lucy Batchelor-Wylam CMLI

Landscape planning and landscape
architecture services.
Tel: 07905 791207
email: LucyBW@outlook.com

Contents

	page
Introduction	3
1: Baylham and its landscape	6
A brief overview of Baylham and its historic landscape setting, concluding with an examination of the current pressures faced by the landscape.	
2: Designations and policy	14
A review of the designations, planning policy and other constraints in the parish	
3: Rural Landscape Character and Sensitivity	29
A parish level assessment of three landscape character areas and an appraisal of their sensitivities. Identification of the environmental issues and opportunities within each area.	
4: Local Landscape Designations	48
4.1 Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity	
4.2 Local Green Space	
4.3 Locally Important Views	
References	65

Introduction

1. Baylham Parish Council’s Neighbourhood Plan group commissioned this landscape assessment in winter 2023 to assist the group in the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan, and to assist with land management change in the future.
2. The area covered by this study comprises the parish boundary of Baylham, as shown on Figures 1 and 2. The assessment looks at the whole parish, although most focus naturally falls on the rural area that fringes the settlement clusters, and in particular the setting of the main settlement along Upper Street.
3. The aims of the assessment are:
 - To provide a character assessment as a framework for understanding and defining the character of the parish
 - To identify aspects of landscape and visual sensitivity in the different character areas. The results of this will help identify the more sensitive areas, and help enable their protection.
 - To evaluate the previously defined Special Landscape Area and identify whether this area, or a different area, meets the Landscape Institute’s criteria for ‘Valued’ landscape and could be considered for a protective designation in the Neighbourhood Plan.
 - To enable appraisal of important views to help form policy around protecting particularly valued views within the Parish.
4. This document will be useful to the Parish and District Councils in managing future applications for development, to landowners to understand the parameters which might limit changes in land use, and to householders or developers considering development options.
5. The aim of the Neighbourhood Plan group is to manage change so that the special character of the parish landscape is recognised, conserved and enhanced.
6. This aim is consistent with current national planning which requires development to relate well to local character, offering sympathetic responses and enhancement measures. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states in paragraph 132;

‘...Design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area’s defining characteristics. Neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of each area and explaining how this should be reflected in development, both through their own plans and by engaging in the production of design policy, guidance and codes by local planning authorities and developers.’
7. Para 135 (dw) states, *‘Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments..... are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change’.*
8. This document hopes to illuminate what ‘being sympathetic to character’ actually means for Baylham in practical terms, translating assessment and analysis into useful guidance. A key aim of this study is to ensure the special characteristics of the parish landscape are recognised, and measures are put in place for their protection via the Neighbourhood Plan.

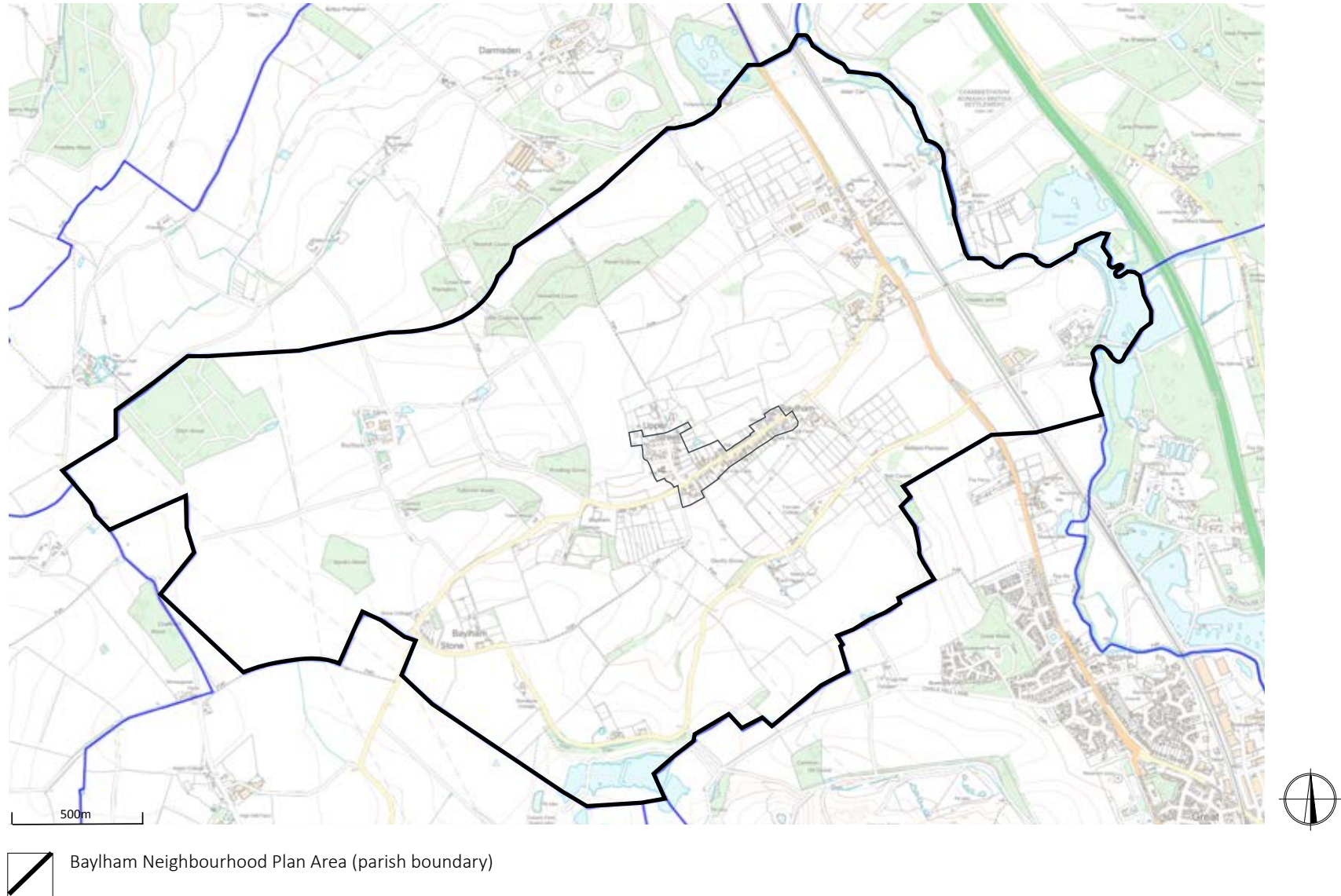
Introduction continued:-

FIGURE 1: NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA ON AERIAL VIEW



Introduction continued:-

FIGURE 2 : NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA AND THE EXISTING SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY (UPPER STREET)





Part 1

Baylham and its Landscape

1. Baylham and its landscape setting

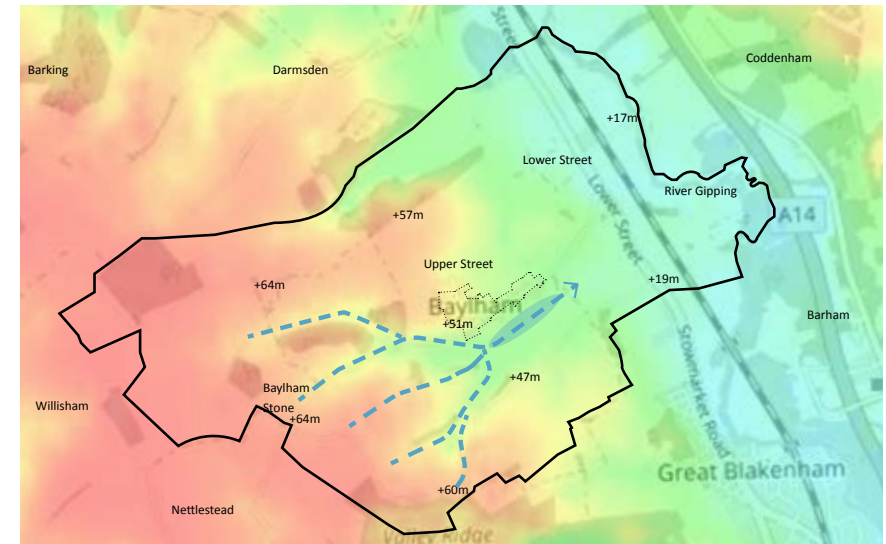
Baylham’s landscape and history

1. A good starting point for understanding landscape character is understanding the history of a settlement and how it evolved into the parish seen today. This section aims to give a brief overview of the history of the village and its key features.
2. Baylham is an ancient agricultural parish in the district of Mid Suffolk. It is located in the valley of the River Gipping, seven miles north west of the county town of Ipswich and five miles south east of Stowmarket. Baylham parish had a population of 302 at the last census in 2021, and this represents a 16% increase since 2001.
3. Baylham is perhaps best known outside of the parish for its water mill, on the Gipping, which dates back to 16th century and has been captured in works by artists including David Gentleman and Frank Graham Bell. It is also known for its rare breed farm, which is also part of the site of a Roman settlement called Combretovium.

Topography and hydrology

4. The parish sits on the western side of the Gipping Valley, with the land rising from the river and its flood plain in the east by approximately fifty metres to the highest ground in the west. In the flood plain the land is largely flat, rising quite steeply up the slope through the middle of the parish and then levelling out onto a broad plateau in the west.
5. There is a small Y-shaped sub-valley in the main valley slope south of houses on Upper Street, in the area known as Baylham Common. On Hodkinson’s 1783 map of Suffolk, a Y-shaped tributary stream is clearly shown in this area, and whilst there is no permanent stream evident today, the sub-valley carries run-off which can pool and flood the valley bottom (see photograph on previous page).

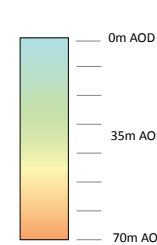
FIGURE 3: TOPOGRAPHIC MAP



Base image source: en-gb.topographic-map.com

KEY:

Representation of approximate height above ordnance datum in metres (AOD)



Indicative location of Y-shaped sub-watershed



Sub-valley bottom prone to flooding

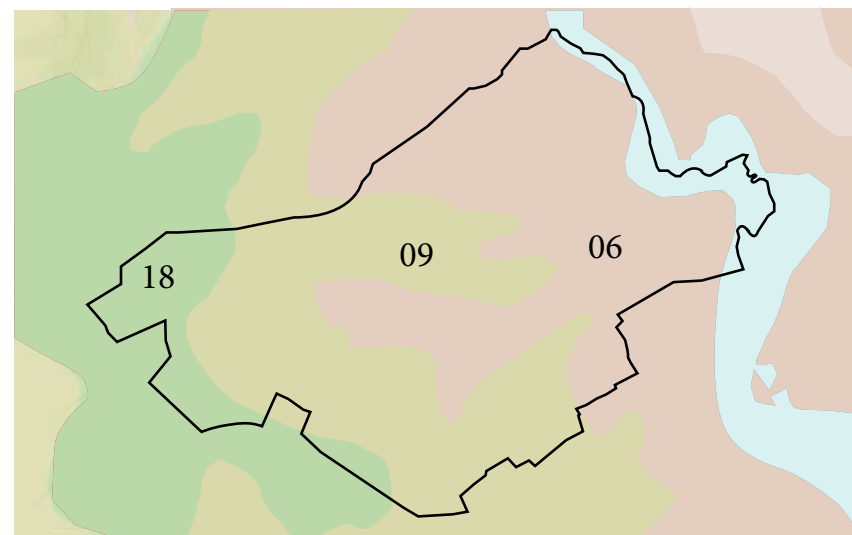


1. Baylham’s landscape and history continued:-

Soils, farming and enclosure

6. The soil profile varies across the parish, reflective of the topographical variation. The profile is more mixed on the rolling slopes above the river where the water course has cut down through glacial deposits. The valley bottoms are thick clayey alluvial soils, overlying peaty deposits. As a result, they are frequently wet and are unsuitable for arable farming. Such linear strips of land are usually meadows, with patches of wet, carr woodland.
7. Owing to the better quality of the soils on the plateau and valley sides, enclosure of agricultural fields happened early in this area of Suffolk; enclosure is pre-18th century and would be considered ‘ancient’. The [Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Map](#) states, ‘*The systems vary in size, merge in and out of one another, and generally fail to follow one particular aspect or angle. In some cases these systems represent the early, piecemeal, enclosure of common fields.*’ Permanent enclosure in this part of the country was mostly by means of hedges ditches and banks in various combinations and configurations.
8. In the western part of the parish on the clay plateau, some of these enclosures have been removed to create a modern, open arable landscape- a sight seen frequently across Suffolk’s claylands, particularly in the north of the county. Enclosures have endured much better on the valley slopes, as aerial/satellite imagery illustrates (refer back to Figure 1).
9. The effect of this is that the character of Baylham consequently varies across the parish. It varies with the sense of openness or enclosure, and the sense of enduring history or ‘timedepth’, depending on how much of the historic landscape structure endures, and what the soils have been historically suitable for. Modern farming of course cuts across these influences, with drainage techniques and large scale machinery, changing and shaping farming practice and the modern landscape, particularly in the flatter parts of the parish .

FIGURE 4: SOILS MAP



Base image source: LANDIS - <https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/>

KEY:

- Soilscape #06
Freely draining slightly acid loamy soils;
low fertility
- Soilscape #09
Lime-rich loamy and clayey soils with
impeded drainage; high fertility
- Soilscape #18
Slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich
loamy and clayey soils; moderate fertility

1. Baylham's landscape and history continued:-

Settlement history and heritage

10. The river Gipping is key to the historic settlement in the area with access to water, woodland and farmland making life possible here. Archeological evidence of human activities is suggestive of organised farming dating from the Neolithic period. The Roman site, Combretovium, was a 60 hectare open settlement beside the river, with occupation from the late Iron Age through to the mid 4th century. Study of an aerial photograph taken in 1978 show two superimposed forts of different periods, both close to the river crossing. The settlement was focused at the junction of five Roman roads and on the tribal boundary between the Icene to the north and the Trinovantes to the South.
11. The river is known to have been still navigable in 800AD when it was used by the Danes sailing up the Orwell to establish Ratles-Dane (modern-day Rattlesden) in the upper Gipping Valley. The river was canalised in the 18th century between Ipswich and Stowmarket, and this was a boon to the agricultural industry to export its products out of Ipswich's docks.



St Peter's Church (eastern elevation)



Grade II Listed (early 18th century)- a distinctive thatched cottage and mature yew tree on Upper Street



Early 20th century postcard- Baylham Mill

12. Baylham is mentioned in Domesday Survey of 1086 as 'Beleham' or 'fair enclosure' in old English. The survey states that there was a population of 37 households, putting Baylham in the largest twenty percent of settlements in England at the time, with five land holdings, a parish church and two mills, suggesting a well-established Anglo-Saxon settlement prior to the Norman invasion. A doorway in the parish church of St Peter dates back to this time.
13. St. Peter's church is not generally seen from Upper Street, and views from the wider landscape are limited to those from footpaths across the Common. These glimpses of its elevated position on the valley side are a key part of the identity and experience of Baylham. Unsympathetic addition of a modern weatherboarded barn has had a detrimental effect to views of the church, and its setting.
14. There are four grade II* listed buildings or features in the parish and 16 grade II listed structures. There are several attractive farmstead houses scattered across the parish, include the impressive moated hall house of Baylham Hall (Grade

Yew Tree Cottage

1. Baylham’s landscape history continued:-

II*). A further 9 are identified in the Statutory List as having once been “Hall houses”; an historical type of particular significance and often indicating a building or owner/occupant of high social status. Other notable buildings include the Mill, (also Grade II* listed) and its mill house which mostly date from the 19th century, but elements survive from the 16th century or earlier, and this may be the site of one of the mills mentioned in Domesday. There are some charming timber frame and thatch cottages, such as Lilac Cottage on Upper Street and Yew Tree Cottage. Many of these surviving historic buildings date from the 15th and 16th centuries, and contribute significantly to the village’s identity and character.

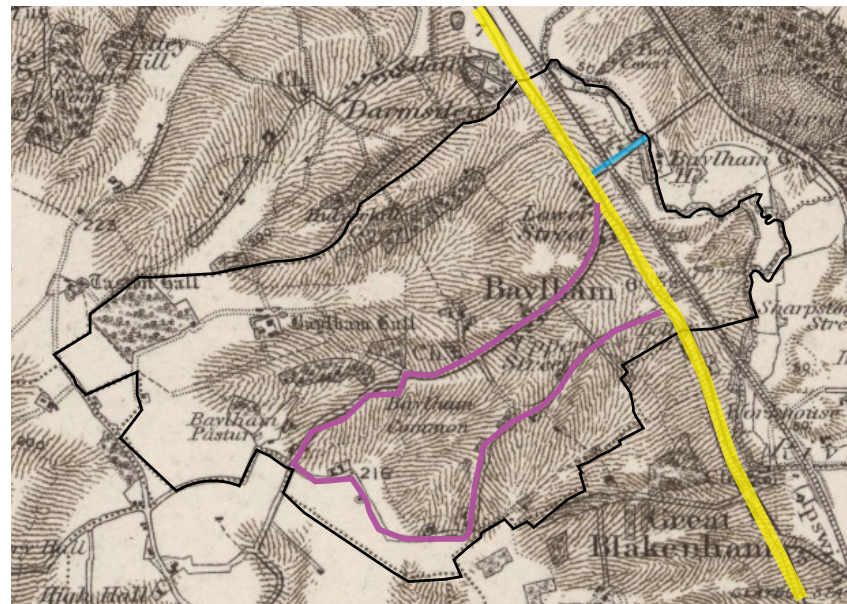
15. In addition to the listed buildings, there are some 19 further buildings or structures that the Heritage Survey undertaken by Malcolm Starr for the Neighbourhood Plan process, survey has identified as having some architectural or historic interest. Please refer to this study for further details.

Settlement pattern and road network

16. The village has are three settlement clusters- at Upper Street, Lower Street and Baylham Stone, (known as ‘The Stone’) as well as scattered rural dwellings.
17. Upper Street is the main village, the largest cluster, a linear strip of settlement that ascends the valleyside. This features St Peters church and the village hall. This is the only cluster that features a Local Plan settlement boundary. All other settlement would be considered to be in ‘countryside’ in planning terms. Lower Street (B1113) features a cluster of dwellings around the junction of Upper Street, the car-garage and also a recently built care home for the elderly. Further northeast, either side of the B1113 is an agriculturally focused cluster; historic farmhouses are located on the slightly higher ground on the western side of Lower Street, as well as some 20th century infill development. There is also a business park on the eastern side of the road at the junction with Mill Lane.

18. Baylham Stone (noted as Baylham Pasture on the historic maps) is a scattering of houses in the far west of the parish, on the most elevated land. It occupies one end of a ‘circular’ lane which winds down along the valley side, passing various equestrian dominated land parcels, before connecting onto the B1113. Given the early settlements just described, this busy main road is likely to be an ancient route.

Figure 5: Excerpt from the 1894 Ordnance Survey Hills Edition



Main public highway/vehicle routes still present today are marked as:

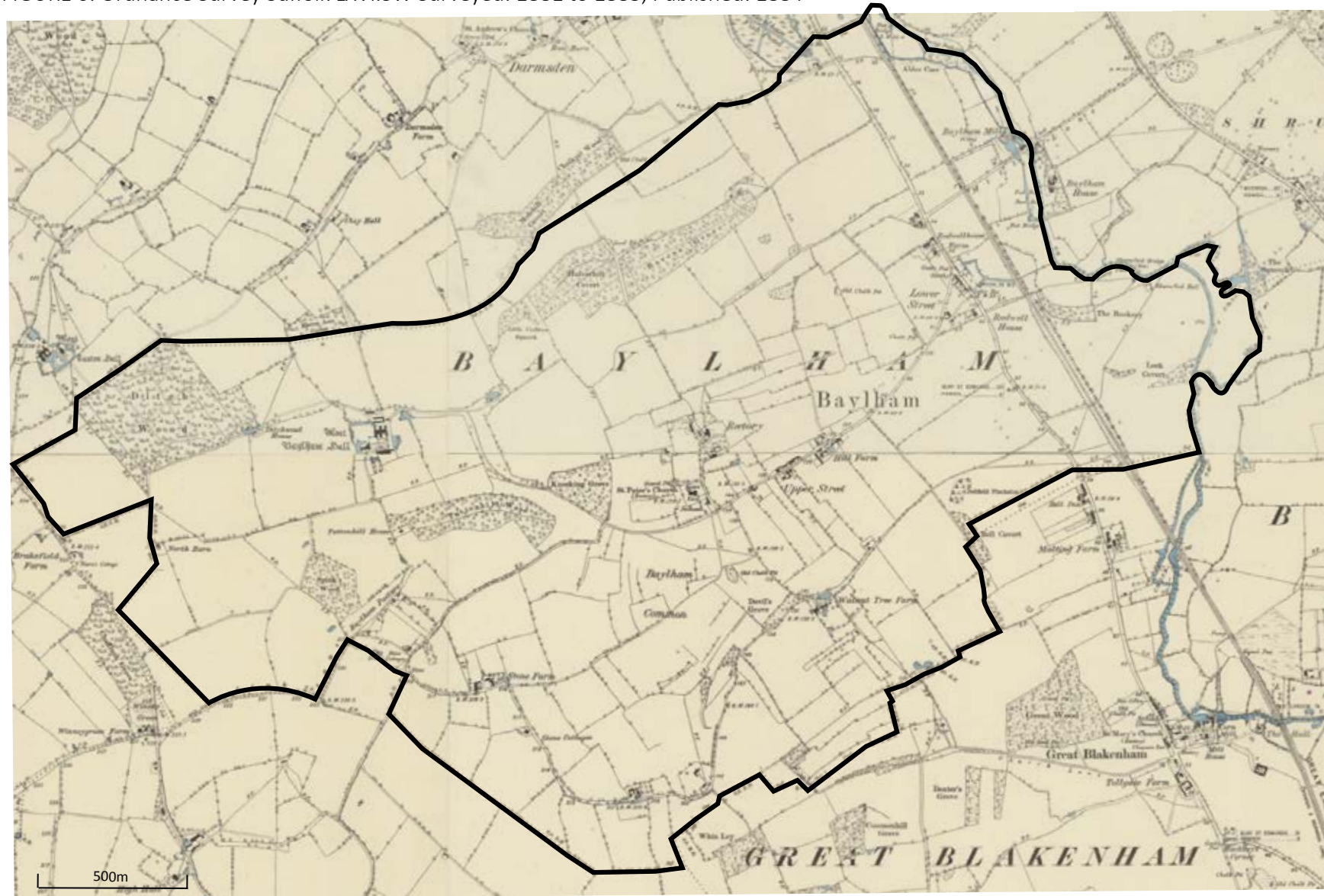
Yellow- Lower Street (B1113)

Blue- Mill Lane

Pink- circular route Lower Street- Upper Street- Baylham Stone/Back Lane - Lower Street

1. Baylham's landscape history continued:-

FIGURE 6: Ordnance Survey Suffolk LXVI.SW Surveyed: 1881 to 1883, Published: 1884



1. Baylham’s landscape history continued:-

19. As well as the B1113 cutting directly along the valley bottom, the valley floor is also bisected by the mainline railway linking London and Norwich via Stowmarket. These two busy routes effectively sever the river from the rest of the parish. A junction leads from Lower Street east down Mill Lane, a narrow dead-end, over a level crossing to Baylham Mill and the rare breed centre.
20. The main A14 trunk road connecting Felixstowe and Ipswich and the midlands runs on the eastern side of the Gipping valley, passing through the parishes of Coddenham and Barham, and whilst it can’t be seen from Baylham, distant traffic noise can be heard in some places depending on weather conditions. Views over the A14 to the estate-lands of Shrublands Park, including its architectural landmarks emerging from the trees, are part of the experience of the long views to the northeast.

Recreation and Cultural associations

21. As noted above, Baylham is perhaps best known outside of the parish for its water mill, and has been captured in works by artists including David Gentleman and Frank Graham Bell.
22. The Gipping Way is a popular local and regional walking route which celebrates the industrial heritage associated with the canalisation of the river. The Gipping Trust is a local organisation that works to conserve elements of this heritage, including restoring the lock/sluice at Baylham mill as well as promoting enjoyment and recreation along the river, so bringing visitors to and through the parish.
23. The local visitor attraction Baylham Rare Breeds Farm at Baylham House is accessed via Mill Lane in the parish, but is actually located in the neighbouring parish of Coddenham.

Pressures for Landscape Change

24. Whilst Baylham has seen some growth in the recent years, future pressures

are likely to be experienced, given the good access to a main road network and proximity to Needham Station. These may include:

- Infill development and change of use, particularly on the B1113
- Intake of further fields into equestrian use
- Solar and power network development
- Hedgerow removal and/or lack of management
- Poor woodland management
- Changing farming practices due to social, economic or environmental reasons

25. Development in neighbouring parishes could impact valued aspects of the parish landscape, such as dark skies, valued views and tranquillity. In particular the site of the ‘Valley Ridge’ leisure development (previously known as Snoasis) in the disused quarry at Great Blakenham, close to the south east border with Baylham, although at the moment that development is off the table.

Opportunities

26. Preparation of a new Neighbourhood Plan is an opportunity for the community to review, record and reflect on what is valued and how to conserve and enhance these elements, as well as what is missing or could be better.
27. Alongside proposals for new neighbourhood policy designations and guidelines to protect and enhance valued landscape, some of the opportunities noted during the course of this assessment include:
 - Replant lost hedgerows
 - Maintain existing hedgerows, ditches and hedgerow trees (to prevent them losing their structure integrity)
 - Maintain traditional forms of woodland management such as coppice rotation

- Create or maintain strategic gaps in vegetation to increase the visibility of the church from around that parish
- Reinstate historic public rights of way, or look for opportunities to create new ones that connect to the existing network
- Record veteran trees and propose Tree Protection Orders for prominent trees in the village
- Maintain and restore traditional grazing meadows and pasture and encourage traditional management
- Create new ponds
- Encourage planting of traditional orchards
- Encourage replacement of suburban dwelling curtilage treatments with more sympathetic to the rural setting of dwellings such as native hedges
- Protect and enhance the setting of St. Peter's church, avoiding modern introductions that detract from the important views of its tower.



Recent addition of an open fronted barn has degraded views towards the church



Baylham is well served by attractive footpaths- this one leaves the village edge and winds through small scale historic meadows

A rural landscape featuring a small house with a red roof and a chimney, situated on a grassy hill. The house is surrounded by dense green trees and shrubs. In the foreground, there is a field of tall grass. The sky is filled with white and grey clouds, with some blue visible. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text.

Part 2

Designations & policy

2.1 Designations and policy context

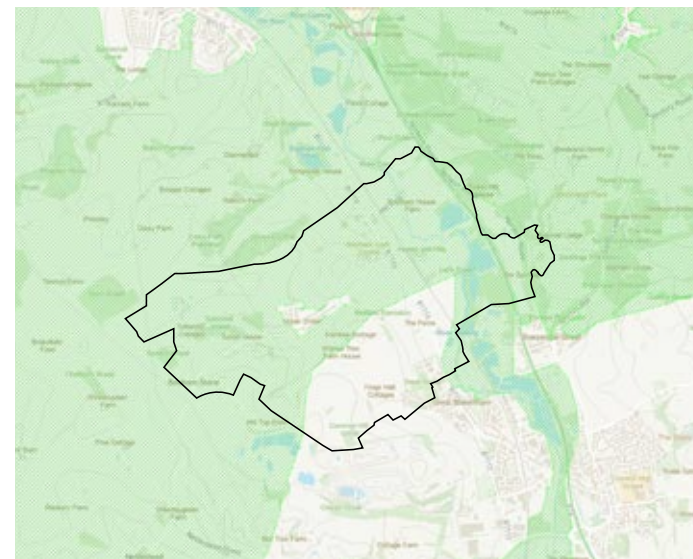
Special Landscape Area


1. Baylham is not in any formally designated landscape, however, parts of the parish were covered by a Local Plan policy indicating landscapes of higher value under a Special Landscape Area designations (SLA). This is now considered a ‘historic’ policy designation as, at the time of preparing this Assessment the District Council had adopted Part 1 of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan. Part 1 contains the strategic planning policies and the development management policies for the area. The adoption of Part 1 meant that Special Landscape Areas previously identified in the Local Plan have now fallen away.
2. SLAs were first proposed in the 1980 and 90s, to provide an additional layer of protection for landscapes of higher value, and the principles were set out at County level in the Suffolk Structure Plan. This defined SLAs criteria broadly as:
 - River valleys which still possess traditional grazing meadows with their hedgerows, dykes, and associated flora and fauna;
 - Historic parklands and gardens;
 - Other areas of countryside where undulating topography and natural vegetation, particularly broadleaved woodland, combine to produce an area of special landscape quality and character.
3. The district councils were tasked with defining the geographical areas of SLAs in their respective local plans and providing accompanying policy wording. Mid Suffolk District Council mapped a number of SLAs that included much of Baylham parish. Policy criteria were set out in Local Plan policy but there is no record of any assessments undertaken which justify the extent of each SLAs. This is one reason why SLAs have been removed across the County as the districts renew their Local Plans.
4. Instead, the Babergh Mid Suffolk District Councils’ (BMSDC) Joint Local Plan (JLP) takes the approach that all landscapes have value, and that all development proposals must demonstrate sympathy with local character and distinctiveness. The exception will be landscape that falls inside Suffolk’s National Landscape (formerly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) which are subject to additional protection, through policy LP18 of the JLP.

Landscape and Character in Other National and Local Policy

5. The need for Local Authorities and applicants to understanding and respond to local character is now emphasised at all levels of the planning system. Following the lead of the District Council, the Baylham NP group must also integrate a requirement for the protection of landscape character and settlement identity into their plan making process. This makes for better design outcomes and ensures compliance with the planning framework that they sit within.

FIGURE 7: FORMER SPECIAL LANDSCAPE AREA



 Mid Suffolk former Special Landscape Area (SLA)

6. At the National Level, the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 (NPPF) sets out principles for how landscape character must be considered. Paragraph 135 requires ‘good design’ and states that planning policies and decisions should aim to ensure that developments:
 - will function well and add to the overall quality of the area,
 - are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;
 - **are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change.**

2.1 Designations and policy context continued

7. In addition, Para 130 also guides new design. It states;
 - ...significant weight should be given to:*
 - a) development which reflects local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes; and/or*
 - b) outstanding or innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability, or help raise the standard of design more generally in an area, so long as they fit in with the overall form and layout of their surroundings.*
8. The Neighbourhood plan must also sit within, and be consistent with the requirements of BMSDC Landscape policy. Policy LP17 of the new JLP specifically focuses on landscape and character. It states:
 1. *To conserve and enhance landscape character development must:*
 - a. Integrate with the existing landscape character of the area and reinforce the local distinctiveness and identity of individual settlements;*
 - b. Be sensitive to the landscape and visual amenity impacts (including on dark skies and tranquil areas) on the natural environment and built character; and*
 - c. Consider the topographical cumulative impact on landscape sensitivity.*

Where significant landscape or visual impacts are likely to occur, a Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) or a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) must be prepared to identify ways of avoiding, reducing and mitigating any adverse effects and opportunities for enhancement.
9. Planning in relation to landscape is also supported at District level by the ‘*Joint Landscape Guidance*’ noted above, published in 2015. Guidance is provided for each landscape character type. The implications for this are set out in the next section.
10. In addition to the SLA, other designated and undesignated aspects of value are shown on Figure 8 and include:
 - 18 listed buildings including Grade II* church, hall and mill
 - Two Visually Important Open Spaces (1998 Mid Suffolk Local Plan designation)
 - Baylham Common - anecdotally an Undesignated Heritage Asset

VOIS

11. The former Mid Suffolk Local Plan adopted in 1998 contained a policy designating VOIS- Visually Important Open Spaces, as follows:

Policy SB3 - Retaining Visually Important Open Spaces:

Within or abutting settlement boundaries, visually important open spaces will be protected because of their contribution to the character or appearance of their surroundings and their amenity value to the local community. The district planning authority will resist development which would have a harmful effect on these identified visually important open spaces because of their contribution, in an undeveloped form, to the distinctiveness of their setting or the character of a settlement or nearby landscape.

12. There were two designated Visually Important Open Spaces in Baylham- the churchyard and another area encompassing private gardens north of the church- see mapped on figure 8. The VOIS is no longer a relevant policy in part 1 of the new MSDC Joint Local Plan. Instead, under the current Local Plan, these areas are designated as countryside, and as such are covered by Local Plan Policies LP17 as above.
13. A footpath passes through the land, but otherwise there is no public access, or views into this area from the wider landscape. However, it does have special heritage character and the Neighbourhood Plan group will seek to use policy protection of its special characteristics using justification from a heritage point of view. The area demonstrates the historical connection between the church, the rectory and its buildings, the enormous flint wall, the old school and listed assets such as Church Piece.

Ecology

14. There are two statutory designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest within the parish: Ditch Wood, part of the Barking Woods SSSI and Great Blakenham SSSI. There are also eight non-statutory sites, seven County Wildlife Sites (CWS).
15. Of the twenty Suffolk Priority Habitats identified by the Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan, seven habitats have been identified in Baylham. These are:
 - Hedgerows
 - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

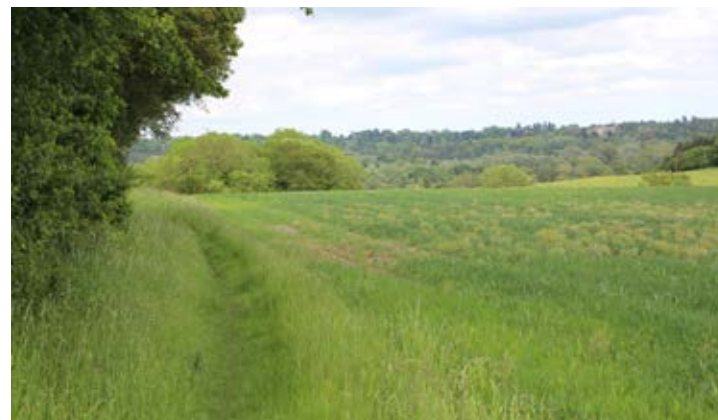
2.1 Designations and policy context continued

- Ponds
- Wood pasture and parkland
- Traditional orchards
- Wet woodland
- Rivers and streams

16. For further details of parish ecological assets refer to the *Landscape and Biodiversity Evaluation: Baylham, Wilder Ecology December 2023*.

Rights of Way

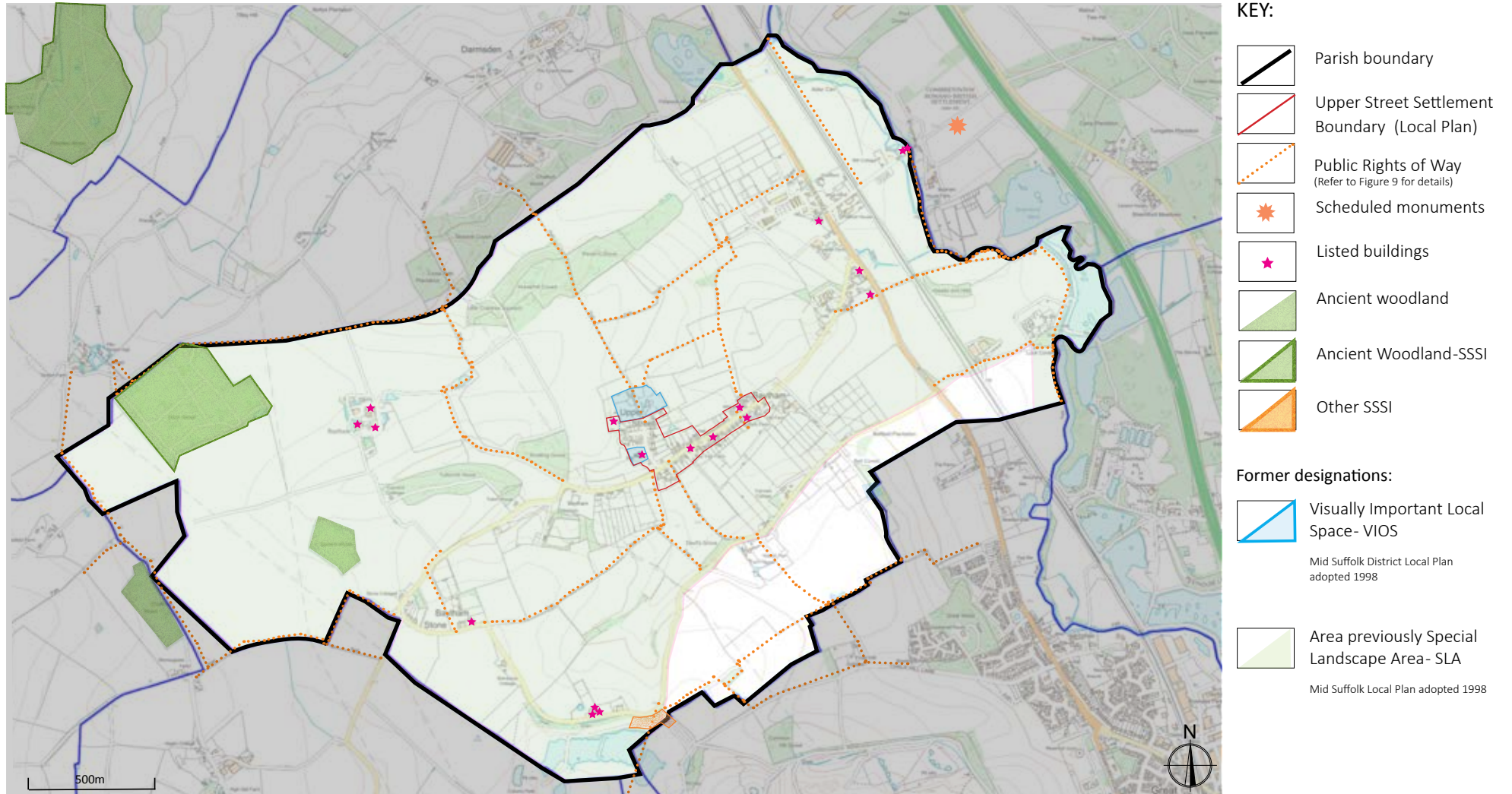
17. Figure 9 shows all current rights of way as recorded on the Suffolk County Council definitive map for the parish. The parish is well served by footpaths. However, reference to historic Ordnance survey maps shows a loss of public rights of way in the western part of the parish, probably due to the removal of field boundaries and field consolidation in the 20th century. Some of these routes have been extinguished and no trace remains on the ground, whilst others are now private farm tracks.
18. There are few bridleways or byways. These are limited to a small number of short stretches - #29, #35A and #40 in the south of the parish. Given the amount of equestrian development, this is likely to be a cause of potential conflict between horses, vehicles and pedestrians on the narrow lanes, where there are few passing places.



Some of the attractive footpaths and lanes through the parish

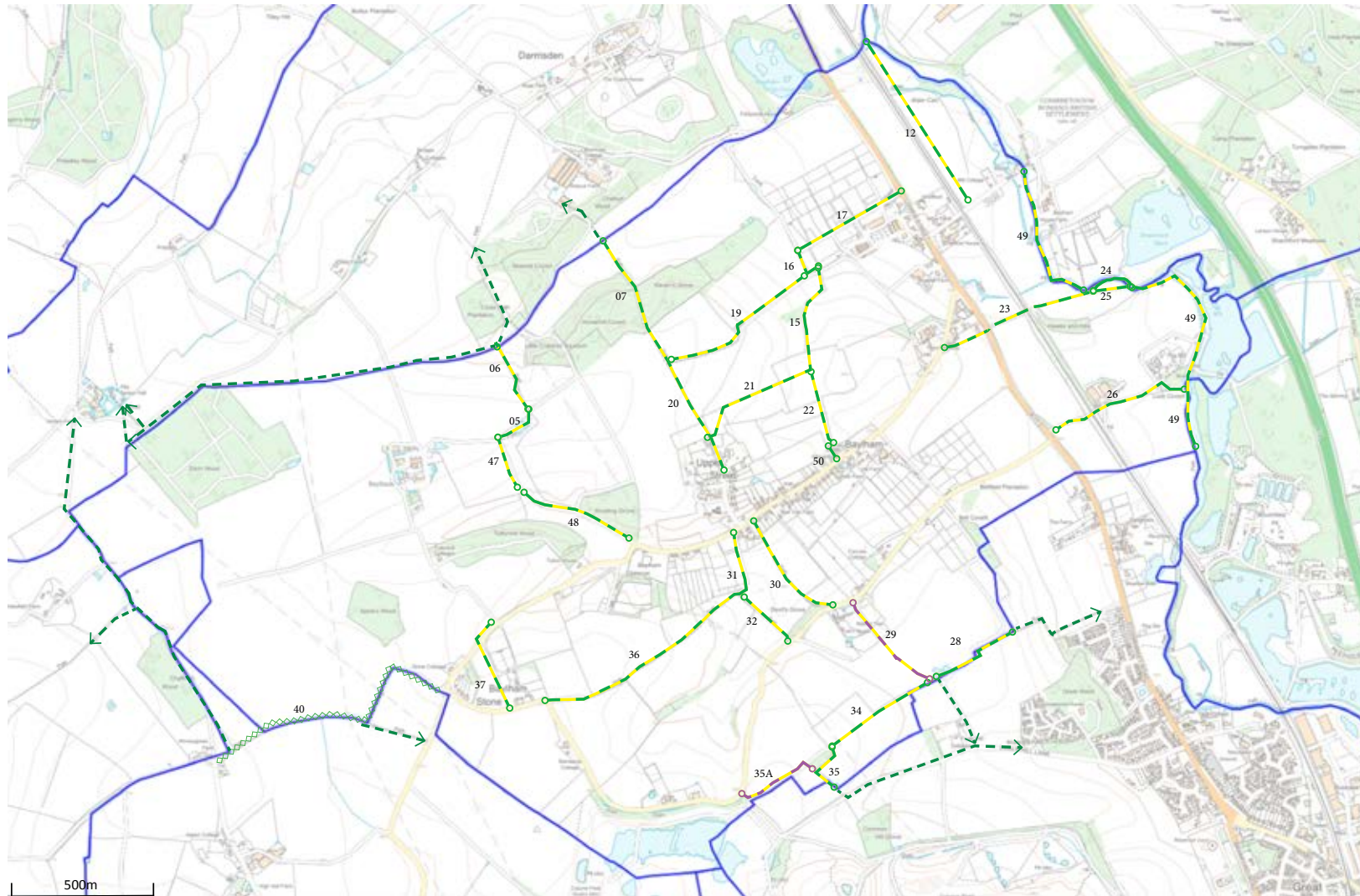
2.1 Designations and policy context continued

FIGURE 8: DESIGNATIONS



2.1 Designations and policy context continued

FIGURE 9: RIGHTS OF WAY



Public Rights of Way
Based on Suffolk County Council Definitive Map 4/10/1991

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| | Footpath | | Restricted Byway | | Public right of way in neighbouring parish |
| | Bridleway | | Byway Open to All-traffic | | Parish Boundary |



2.2. Landscape Character Assessment Context

Landscape Character Assessments

1. Parish level character assessments fit into a wider structure of landscape characterisation that has been developing over the last 25 years in the UK. The English landscape is assessed and mapped at larger spatial scales- there is a National Character assessment and also a County level assessment available in Suffolk. Both these are relevant and provide the context into which this parish level study fits.
2. 'Landscape' is understood as a result of the interaction of the natural, physical components of the environment with the human elements- historical and cultural, land use and human interventions over time. Assessment of character maps and describes the variations in physical, natural and cultural attributes that relate to the landscape, as well as its experiential characteristics, such as tranquillity. Landscapes are not just experienced visually, but through sounds, smells, memories and cultural associations. Landscape Character Assessment presents descriptions of these attributes in a consistent, robust and structured way so the characteristics of different areas can be understood and compared. The process analyses the differences which combine to create unique and distinctive sets of characteristics.
3. Character Assessment helps provide an understanding of 'sense of place' by looking at;
 - how the village developed historically, its position in the landscape, and how this should limit or influence any future growth;
 - the factors that make it distinctive that don't just include its well known historic core.
 - how character varies across the parish from valley bottom to plateau top.
 - how its location, heritage, and open spaces and vegetative features contribute to character and how these, and other aspects of value, should be subject to protection;
 - where and how any important views within the village contribute to its identity
4. Taking a landscape character-led approach to the Neighbourhood Plan will ensure that local distinctiveness is maintained and enhanced, highly valued places and views are identified and development is directed to the 'right' places. The assessment will also seek to identify opportunities for landscape enhancement that could be the subject of future projects.
5. This parish study identifies rural landscape character *areas* but references the relevant *types* identified in Suffolk County Council's Landscape Character Assessment.

Landscape typologies explained:

Landscape character types are landscapes with broadly similar combinations of geology, landform, vegetation, land use, field and settlement patterns. They might repeat across Suffolk so that landscapes of a particular type, such as 'Valley meadowlands' or 'Plateau estate farmlands', can be found in several different places across the county. They are labelled according to the position in the landscape along with a label relating to soil profile and/or farm type.

Landscape character areas are unique units that occur in only one place and are therefore geographically specific. They have their own individual character and identity and are labelled according to some local place or feature.

National level Assessment

6. At the largest scale there are 159 National Character Areas (NCAs). The descriptions for these are available on the Natural England website. The parish of Baylham straddles the boundary of two of Suffolk's largest character areas.
7. The parish is with in **NCA 86 'South Suffolk and North Essex Clayland'**. This covers an area across four counties south of the A14 between Ipswich and Bury, as far as Chelmsford in the south and Stevenage in the west. It describes an ancient landscape of wooded, arable countryside with a distinct sense of enclosure. The overall character is of a gently undulating, chalky boulder clay plateau, the undulations being caused by the numerous small-scale river valleys that dissect the plateau. There is a complex network of old species-rich hedgerows, ancient woods and parklands, meadows with streams, and rivers that flow eastwards. Traditional irregular field patterns are still discernible over much of the area, despite field enlargements in the second half of the 20th century. The widespread moderately fertile, chalky clay soils give the vegetation a more or less calcareous character.
8. Its key characteristics and environmental opportunities are set out on the following three pages:

National Character Area profile:

86. South Suffolk and North Essex Clayland

Supporting documents

Introduction & Summary

Description

Opportunities

Key facts and data

Landscape change

Analysis

Key characteristics



Large, often ancient hedgerows link woods and copses to form wooded skylines, that are a key characteristic of the area.

- An undulating chalky boulder clay plateau is dissected by numerous river valleys, giving a topography of gentle slopes in the lower, wider valleys and steeper slopes in the narrower upper parts.
- Fragments of chalk give many of the soils a calcareous character, which also influences the character of the semi-natural vegetation cover.
- South-east-flowing streams and rivers drain the clay plateau. Watercourses wind slowly across flood plains, supporting wet, fen-type habitats; grazing marsh; and blocks of cricket-bat willows, poplars and old willow pollards. Navigation locks are present on some rivers.
- Lowland wood pasture and ancient woodlands support the dormouse and a rich diversity of flowering plants on the clay plateau. Large, often ancient hedgerows link woods and copses, forming wooded skylines.
- The agricultural landscape is predominantly arable with a wooded appearance. There is some pasture on the valley floors. Field patterns are irregular despite rationalisation, with much ancient countryside surviving. Field margins support corn bunting, cornflower and brown hare.
- Roman sites, medieval monasteries and castles and ancient woodlands contribute to a rich archaeology. Impressive churches, large barns, substantial country house estates and Second World War airfields dot the landscape, forming historical resources.

Continued on next page...

National Character Area profile:

86. South Suffolk and North Essex Clayland

Supporting documents

Introduction & Summary

Description

Opportunities

Key facts and data

Landscape change

Analysis

Key characteristics continued...

- There is a dispersed settlement pattern of scattered farmsteads, parishes and small settlements around 'tyes' (commons) or strip greens and isolated hamlets. The NCA features a concentration of isolated moated farmsteads and numerous well-preserved medieval towns and large villages.
- Larger 20th-century development has taken place to the south and east around Chelmsford, Ipswich and the new towns of Harlow and Stevenage.
- Traditional timber-frame, often elaborate buildings with exposed timbers, colour-washed render, pargeting and steeply pitched roofs with pegtiles or long straw thatch. Sometimes they have been refronted with Georgian red brick or Victorian cream-coloured bricks ('Suffolk whites'). Clay lump is often used in cottages and farm buildings.
- Winding, narrow and sometimes sunken lanes are bounded by deep ditches, wide verges and strong hedgerows. Transport infrastructure includes the A14, A12, M11 and Stansted Airport.
- A strong network of public rights of way provides access to the area's archetypal lowland English countryside.

National Character Area profile:

86. South Suffolk and North Essex Clayland

Supporting documents

Introduction & Summary

Description

Opportunities

Key facts and data

Landscape change

Analysis

Statements of Environmental Opportunity

- **SEO 1:** Maintain and enhance the character of this gently undulating, rural landscape by maintaining agricultural productivity and encouraging sustainable land management practices that protect and enhance the landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity assets and benefit carbon storage and water quality, as well as the over-riding sense of place.
- **SEO 2:** Protect and enhance the area’s ancient woodland cover, parkland trees, river valley plantations and ancient hedgerows, through the management of existing woods and the planting of new woods, hedgerows and hedgerow trees to benefit landscape character, habitat connectivity and a range of ecosystem services, including timber provision, the regulation of soil erosion and the strengthening of the sense of place and history.
- **SEO 3:** Enhance the slow-flowing, winding rivers and their pastoral valley flood plains that provide linkages through the landscape, including redundant sand and gravel extraction sites, for their ecological, historical and recreational importance. This will support the operation of natural processes and their contribution to biodiversity, geodiversity, soil quality, water availability, regulating water flow and the character of the area.
- **SEO 4:** Conserve and enhance the distinctive character of the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with its much-visited ‘Constable Country’ and improve opportunities for people to enjoy and understand the distinctive assemblage of historic landscapes outside the AONB. Ensure that access and recreational resources are managed to be compatible with the tranquillity of the area and the special qualities of protected landscapes, while providing a valuable health, education and access resource.

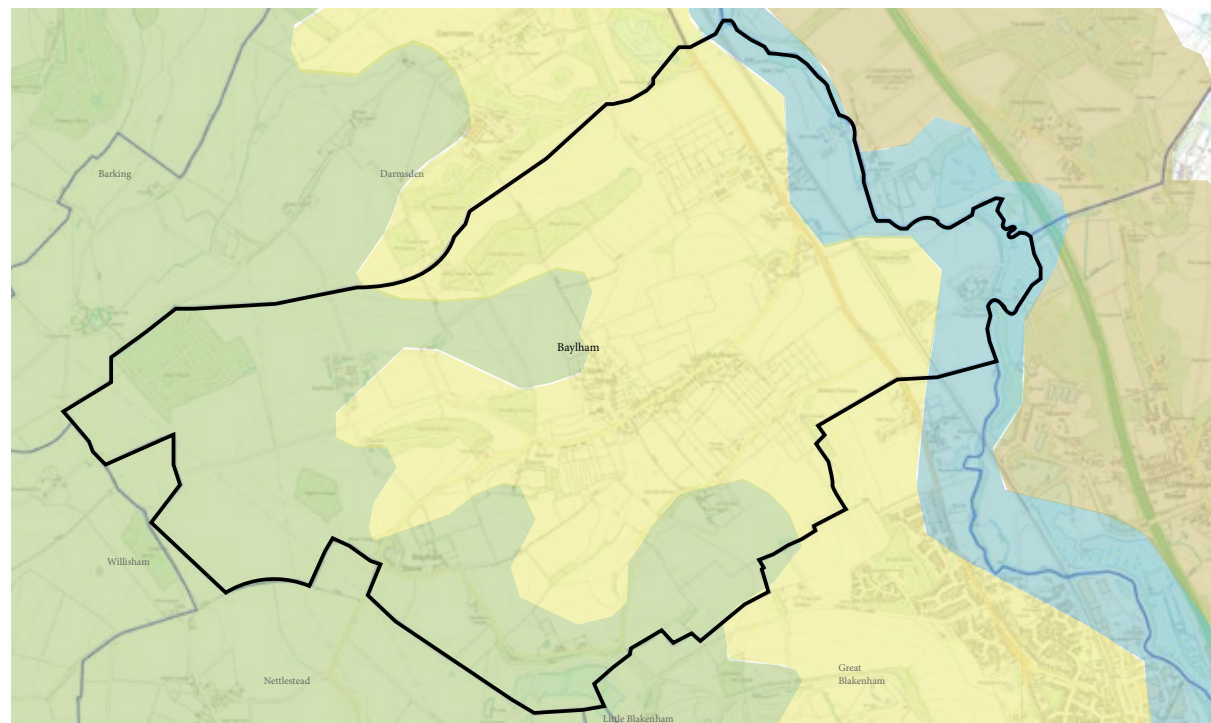


The gently undulating rural landscape characterised by arable fields within a network of hedgerows, copses, fragmented woodlands and isolated farmsteads.

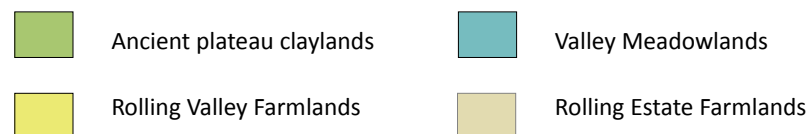
County Level Assessment

1. Offering a finer grain of detail is the Suffolk County Council Landscape Character Assessment¹ which was first published in 2008 (updated 2011). It is a good and comprehensive assessment and describes 31 character types within Suffolk as a whole.
2. The assessment describes four Landscape Character Types in the parish of Baylham as presented on figure 10. The boundaries of this assessment formed the initial basis of the parish characterisation process.
3. Guidance from the Joint Babergh and Mid Suffolk Landscape Guidance that accompanies each Suffolk character type is also provided as it helps set direction for change management that should be carried through to parish character areas, as appropriate.
4. A summary of the landscape types, and the guidance that accompanies each one, provided at County and also at District level through the MSDC Joint Landscape Management Guidelines (2015), is provided on the following pages. There is much relevant useful advice in this summary that should be drawn forward into the Neighbourhood Plan landscape strategy.

FIGURE 10 :SUFFOLK LANDSCAPE CHARACTER TYPES



Suffolk Landscape Character Types



¹ <http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment: Ancient Plateau Claylands - summary

Key Characteristics

Flat or gently rolling arable landscape of clay soils dissected by small river valleys

Field pattern of ancient enclosure – random patterns in the south but often co-axial in the north. Small patches of straight-edged fields associated with the late enclosure of woods and greens

Dispersed settlement pattern of loosely clustered villages, hamlets and isolated farmsteads of medieval origin

Villages often associated with medieval greens or tyes

Farmstead buildings are predominantly timber-framed, the houses colour-washed and the barns blackened with tar. Roofs are frequently tiled, though thatched houses can be locally significant

Scattered ancient woodland parcels containing a mix of oak, lime, cherry, hazel, hornbeam, ash and holly

Hedges of hawthorn and elm with oak, ash and field maple as hedgerow trees.

Substantial open areas created for WWII airfields and by 20th century agricultural changes

Network of winding lanes and paths often associated with hedges create visual intimacy

Forces for change and sensitivities

Forces for change are listed as:

- Expansion of garden curtilage

- Change of land use to horse paddocks and other recreational uses

- Settlement expansion eroding the characteristic form and vernacular styles

- Conversion and expansion of farmsteads for residential uses

- Impact of deer on the condition of woodland cover

- Large-scale agricultural buildings in open countryside

- Redevelopment of former airfield sites to new uses

- Development of wind turbines

Settlement expansion eroding the characteristic form and vernacular styles:

Parishes in this landscape tend to consist of multiple clusters of varying sizes. The release of land for development should, if at all possible, reflect the local pattern.

Ribbon development destroys this pattern and can have a considerable impact on the wider landscape. When vernacular styles and detailing are used for housing or other development the choice should echo that of the immediate locality or the specific cluster in which the development is proposed.

Guidance from the BMS Joint Landscape Guidelines (2015):

Aims

- To retain, enhance and restore the distinctive landscape and settlement character. In particular strengthening the woodland, parkland and prairie landscape with appropriate planting and safeguarding the dispersed settlement pattern

Objectives

- To maintain and enhance the landscape areas and settlement pattern, ensuring the sense of separation between settlements is maintained where appropriate.
- To reinforce and enhance the existing field boundaries
- To safeguard the plantation and ancient woodland areas
- Safeguard the parkland area

BMS Key Design Principles

- I. This is quite open landscape with the potential of any form of development to be visibility intrusive if it has been designed without sufficient screening or an appropriate landscape design plan
- II. Reinforce, enhance, restore or where locally appropriate create the estate and parkland characteristics in new developments
- III. Any development that impacts upon the historic parkland will be accompanied by a management plan or other detailed evidence, including a detailed scheme of mitigation and enhancement, to support the proposals.
- IV. Whenever possible incorporate existing landscape features such as tree belts woodland or hedge lines into the design and layout of development proposals such that the locally characteristic patterns can be retained within new land uses
- V. Ancient woodlands and old existing hedge lines are to be protected and maintained within this landscape character.
- VI. To maintain the character and condition of the landscape any major developments will enter into a Section 106 Legal Agreement for landscaping.

Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment: Rolling Valley Farmlands - summary

Key Characteristics

Gentle valley sides with some complex and steep slopes

Deep well drained loamy soils

Organic pattern of fields smaller than on the plateaux

Distinct areas of regular field patterns

A scattering of landscape parks

Small ancient woodlands on the valley fringes

Sunken lanes

Towns and villages with distinctive mediaeval cores and late mediaeval churches

Industrial activity and manufacture, continuing in the Gipping valley

Large, often moated, houses

Forces for change and sensitivities

- Expansion of settlements.
- Construction of large agricultural buildings.
- Expansion of garden curtilage.
- Change of land use, especially the creation of horse paddocks.
- Impact of deer on the condition of woodland cover.
- Mineral extraction.

Land Management Guidelines

- Reinforce the historic pattern of sinuous field boundaries.
- Recognise localised areas of late enclosure hedges when restoring and planting hedgerows.
- Maintain and increase the stock of hedgerow trees.
- Increase the area of woodland cover; siting should be based on information from the Historic Landscape Characterisation and in consultation with the Archaeological Service.
- Maintain and restore the stock of moats and ponds in this landscape

Guidance from the BMS Joint Landscape Guidelines (2015):

Aims

-To retain, enhance and restore the distinctive landscape and settlement character.

-In particular strengthening the rolling valley landscape with appropriate planting and safeguarding the dispersed settlement pattern

Objectives

- To maintain and enhance the distinctive landscape and settlement pattern.

- To safeguard the parkland areas, Village Greens and Tyes

- To safeguard and appropriately increase the woodland cover

BMS Key Design Principles

I. Due to the rolling landscape development in this area is considered to have a wide zone visual impact. All development must take into consideration the cultural and historic importance of this area and the potential visual impact on AONB and Conservation Areas

II. Reinforce the parkland and village green features in new developments.

III. Woodlands are to be protected and maintained within this landscape character.

Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment: Rolling Estate Farmlands - summary

Key Characteristics

A valley side landscape of deep loams, with parklands, plantations, and Ancient Woodlands
 Gently sloping valley sides and plateau fringes
 Generally deep loamy soils
 An organic pattern of fields modified by later realignment
 Important foci for early settlement
 Coverts and plantations with some ancient woodlands
 Landscape parks with a core of wood pasture
 Location for mineral workings and related activity, especially in the Gipping valley

Forces for change and sensitivities

- Expansion of settlements.
- Changes of land management.
- Extension of garden curtilage.
- Changes in the management and use of landscape parklands.
- Mineral extraction especially, but not exclusively, in the Gipping Valley.

Land Management Guidelines

- Reinforce the historic pattern of sinuous field boundaries.
- Recognise localised areas of late enclosure hedges when restoring and planting hedgerows.
- Maintain and increase the stock of hedgerow trees.
- Maintain the area of woodland cover.
- Maintain and restore historic parklands and their features.

Guidance from the BMS Joint Landscape Guidelines (2015):

Aims

- To retain, enhance and restore the distinctive landscape and settlement character

Objectives

- To maintain and enhance the landscape areas and the distinctive settlement pattern.
- To safeguard the woodland plantations and Parkland areas.
- To safeguard and enhance the estate features.

BMS Key Design Principles

- I. Maintain the distinctive settlement pattern, ensuring the sense of separation between settlements is maintained.
- II. Reinforce and recreate the estate features in new developments.
- III. Plantation woodlands, parklands and old existing hedges are to be protected and maintained within this landscape character.

Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment: Valley Meadowlands - summary

Key Characteristics

Flat valley floor grasslands where seasonally wet clays overlie alluvial deposits and peaty soils

Long use as grassland meadows. Where these survive, they are now predominantly used as animal pastures rather than for hay.

Grassland divided by wet ditches or dykes that in places are lined by trees or scrubby hedges.

Occasional carr woodland and plantations of poplar and small reedbeds

Unsettled although there are occasional farmsteads on the edge of the valleys or on locally higher spots.

Some fields drained and converted to arable production

Decline in the value of meadows in the 20th century led to plantations, particularly of poplars or cricket-bat willows.

Often form wonderful examples of pristine and picturesque meadows in a wider arable landscape

Some of these landscapes are in excellent condition, However, many are affected by intakes into arable production, by horse grazing and by under-grazing.

The sense of tranquillity and isolation of this landscape can also be intruded upon by the development of the adjacent rolling valley landscapes, which are often a focus for settlement and development.

Forces for change and sensitivities

Development and land use change adjacent to this landscape type.

The loss of grazing by cattle.

The creation of new woodlands.

The introduction of horse grazing.

Neglect of the characteristic ditch and hedgerow networks.

The conversion of grassland to arable production.

Guidance from the BMS Joint Landscape Guidelines (2015):

Aims

To retain, enhance and restore the distinctive landscape and settlement character. In particular strengthening the valley meadowlands landscape with appropriate planting and safeguarding the dispersed settlement pattern

Objectives

- To maintain and enhance the landscape areas and the settlement pattern, ensuring the sense of separation between settlements is maintained.
- To safeguard the historic features such as moated sites
- To reinforce and enhance meadows and retain the existing field boundaries
- To safeguard the plantation areas
- To protect and enhance the ecological environment
- To safeguard the floodplains
- To safeguard the tranquillity of the area

BMS Key Design Principles

- I. Any development that impacts upon the historic moated sites will be accompanied by a management plan or other detailed evidence to support the proposals.
- II. Any changes or developments will have a significant effect on the landscape therefore all proposals should provide mitigation strategies to minimise the detrimental impact on both the visual amenity and the landscape character of the valley floor
- III. All development must take into consideration the cultural and historic importance of this area and the impact on floodplains and the ecological environment.
- IV. Retains the scenic and tranquil quality of the Valley Meadowlands Landscape



Part 3

Rural character & sensitivity

3. Rural Character Assessment

3.1 Methods of Assessment

1. The first stage of this study was the parish-wide character assessment. This was followed by an analysis of issues of landscape and visual sensitivity in the settlement fringes of each character area. Methods follow nationally accepted best practice and available guidance ¹ and, in the interests of brevity, are not replicated here.
2. The study does not consider the different character areas within the settlement itself.

Parish Landscape Character Assessment

3. The boundaries for the parish LCA were initially drafted through desktop study. The starting point was the available Suffolk Character Assessment - the boundaries used for this assessment helped provide a basis for parish character areas.
4. To develop a further level of detail, mapped information was overlaid, using Adobe design software, on the district character type boundaries. The following sources were used:
 - Topography data from OS maps
 - Soils and geology data from Landis/BGS
 - Designations for heritage and ecology information from government GIS website Magic Map ²
 - Historic mapping from National Library of Scotland website
 - Google's aerial photography
 - Historic England designation maps
 - Babergh Mid Suffolk GIS mapping software
 - Natural England Green Infrastructure GIS

Base maps are provided in the separate Appendix document.

5. The initial desktop stage resulted in a set of 3 draft parish character areas, which were then tested and adjusted following visual survey in the field. Existing mapped lines and 'on the ground' features were used to define and draw the boundaries.

6. The draft boundaries were submitted to the Baylham NP group for comment before the final descriptions for each area were written up in full. The descriptions are supported by a set of representative illustrative photographs. The topics are considered under set headings, as set out in table 3.1:

Landscape Sensitivity Assessment

7. The next step was to assess the sensitivity of the land fringing the settlement in each of the character areas. A set of tables were prepared that allowed sequential assessment of the landscape value and visual sensitivity in each part of the settlement's fringe. This is presented as the final page of each character area description. It provides detail on the specific landscape and visual issues in each part of the fringe and sets out future management objectives.
8. Baylham has a small defined linear settlement on Upper Street close to the church. This is enclosed by a drawn Local Plan settlement boundary. In addition there is a further cluster of settlement on the main road to the northeast, as well as a scattering of houses at Baylham Stone and along Back Road. All settlement outside the main cluster is considered 'countryside' in planning terms. Development in countryside has less support in the NPPF and district planning policy and must meet strict tests to be acceptable. But where land abuts the existing built-up area there is usually more scope for development than on land separated from the village edge. This is why the fringes are likely to experience most pressure for future change and development and why they are the focus of study in this way.
9. This study provides an understanding of the sensitivity of the various fringe areas and whether there is any potential ability (in landscape terms) for allocating or consenting sites for development. New housing should only be consented or planned in appropriate locations that do not harm the special character of the village, or its valued views or features, (and where all other policy tests are met).

¹ An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment Natural England 2014

² magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap

TABLE 3.1 LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT: HEADINGS AND EXPLANATION:

Physical landscape	Location and underlying character type	Reference to the relevant underlying landscape type in the Suffolk Character Assessment. The location of the area within the village.
	Topography / hydrology / position in the landscape	Describes where the area sits within the landscape. Describes the landform, its elevation in metres above ordnance datum (AOD); whether there are water courses or ponds in the area; the direction that drainage basins fall toward.
	Landcover/Landuse	Describes how the land is being used, the types of farming or cropping, and whether it is being managed for other activities, such as shooting. It describes the pattern of enclosures. What patterns the landscape demonstrates in terms of the size and form of its fields, e.g. whether organic or geometric in shape, and the presence or absence of boundary hedges.
	Trees and woodland Cover cover	The amount and type of woodland present. Whether it's ancient or of more recent origin.
Cultural perceptual, and aesthetic:	Scale and enclosure	Whether a feeling of openness or containment prevails, given the arrangement of vegetation and topography. The degree to which an area's pattern of subdivisions is small and frequent (fine grain), or large and infrequent (coarse grain).
	Historic landscape/time depth	Lists historic aspects of value such as Listed buildings/structures and their settings. How today's patterns relate to the historic pattern.
	Settlement interfaces and road network	Describes the pattern of settlement found, the shape or form and 'grain' of the settlement. Describes the transition between settlement and the countryside. Includes the forms of roads.
	Perceptual and visual experience/tranquillity	Whether the area feels noisy or tranquil, busy or remote and isolated. Whether the landscape feels well cared for and in good condition, or where there are aspects that are degraded or cause visual intrusion. Judgement about the level of tranquillity. Identify any sources of noise, movement and disruption. Description of the visual experience- whether views are generally open or intimate, whether long or short; how scenic they are. Whether the area feels noisy or tranquil, busy or remote and isolated. Whether the landscape feels well cared for and in good condition, or where there are aspects that are degraded or cause visual intrusion. Are there any Key views in the area?
	Indicators of value and Rights of Way	Areas designated and protected for geological or biological conservation, such as SSSIs and County Wildlife Sites; ancient woodland and veteran trees. Designated greenspace or public open space, or other features which contribute positively to the character of an area. The presence of any footpaths or rights of way or recreation sites.
Management issues	Issues / Change pressures	Is any aspect under threat? What should be the objectives for conservation or enhancement? Are there possibilities for future creation of ecological habitat, or expanded recreation, etc.?

Method

10. This study will assist with the following task and decisions:
 - a) provide the Neighbourhood Plan group an aid for making sound decisions in relation to spatial planning and policy formation, in relation to landscape;
 - b) provide evidence to help the parish respond to future planning applications;
 - c) help identify and justify land for allocation (or not), and aid site planning on any such land;
 - d) aid transparency; it is important that residents and land owners understand why decisions have been made, particularly in relation to allocation, and understand where development might be supported and where it might be discouraged;
 - e) identify opportunities for the enhancement, management and conservation of the landscape and views.
11. It is important to note that the results of the study are not intended to suggest specific development site areas or define future settlement boundaries. The study also takes no account of other factors that would

influence development, for example such as availability of land, flood risk, sustainability issues or whether highways access is possible.

12. Methods for assessing landscape sensitivity have only fairly recently been published. *“An approach to landscape sensitivity assessment – to inform spatial planning and land management”* was published in June 2019 (Christine Tudor, Natural England). The guidance urges studies to be simple, transparent, robust and defensible. An idealised process schematic is shown at the end of this document.

13. The guidance provides the following definition of sensitivity (p5):

‘.Landscape sensitivity may be regarded as a measure of the resilience, or robustness, of a landscape to withstand specified change arising from development types or land management practices, without undue negative effects on the landscape and visual baseline and their value... a process that assesses the resilience / robustness of landscape character and the visual resource – and what we value - to a defined change, or changes.’

14. The assessment relies on the premise that development or change should be more readily acceptable in the least sensitive areas, and where appropriate forms of mitigation would be possible. Development would be least acceptable in areas of higher landscape value and where visual sensitivity is high, and/or where conditions are such that the landscape would be sensitive to available mitigation measures.

15. Conditions indicating HIGH sensitivity are where **landscape value** is high and where **visual sensitivity** is high, for example in the following scenarios:

- Where impacts might result to recognised indicators of value- the setting of heritage features (such as listed buildings) or key landmark buildings
- Where impacts might result to natural or topographic features that contribute notably to local character and sense of place
- Where impacts might result because land is very visually prominent, and openness is an essential contributor to character
- Where settlement has stark edges and assimilation of new development would be hard
- Where commonly valued ‘Key’ scenic views, that are important to the experience

of a settlement, are vulnerable

- Where a large number of people might be affected, and/or viewers would be considered sensitive (i.e. views experience directly from homes or busy recreational areas)
- Where a sense of tranquillity is strong

16. Conditions indicating LOW sensitivity are where **landscape value** is low and where **visual sensitivity** is low, for example in the following scenarios:

- Where there is a lack of any designations for landscape, ecology or heritage,
- Where there is little visual amenity or aesthetical value in the views affected
- Where the landscape does not fall into any key views of the village and/or has little scenic value
- Where land is contained or well vegetated and where development could be assimilated without wider impact
- Where development would fit well with the historic pattern of settlement development
- Where development might offer the opportunity for the enhancement or reinforcement of character.
- Where there are few receptors- few opportunities for people to view change
- Where a sense of tranquillity is absent

17. In most cases, the conditions aren’t so clear cut and professional judgement has to be applied to determine values.

18. Further example circumstances indicating higher and lesser value are given in the tables in 3.2 (landscape related factors) and 3.3 (visual and perceptual related factors) that follow.

TABLE 3.2 INDICATORS OF VALUE & SENSITIVITY: Landscape

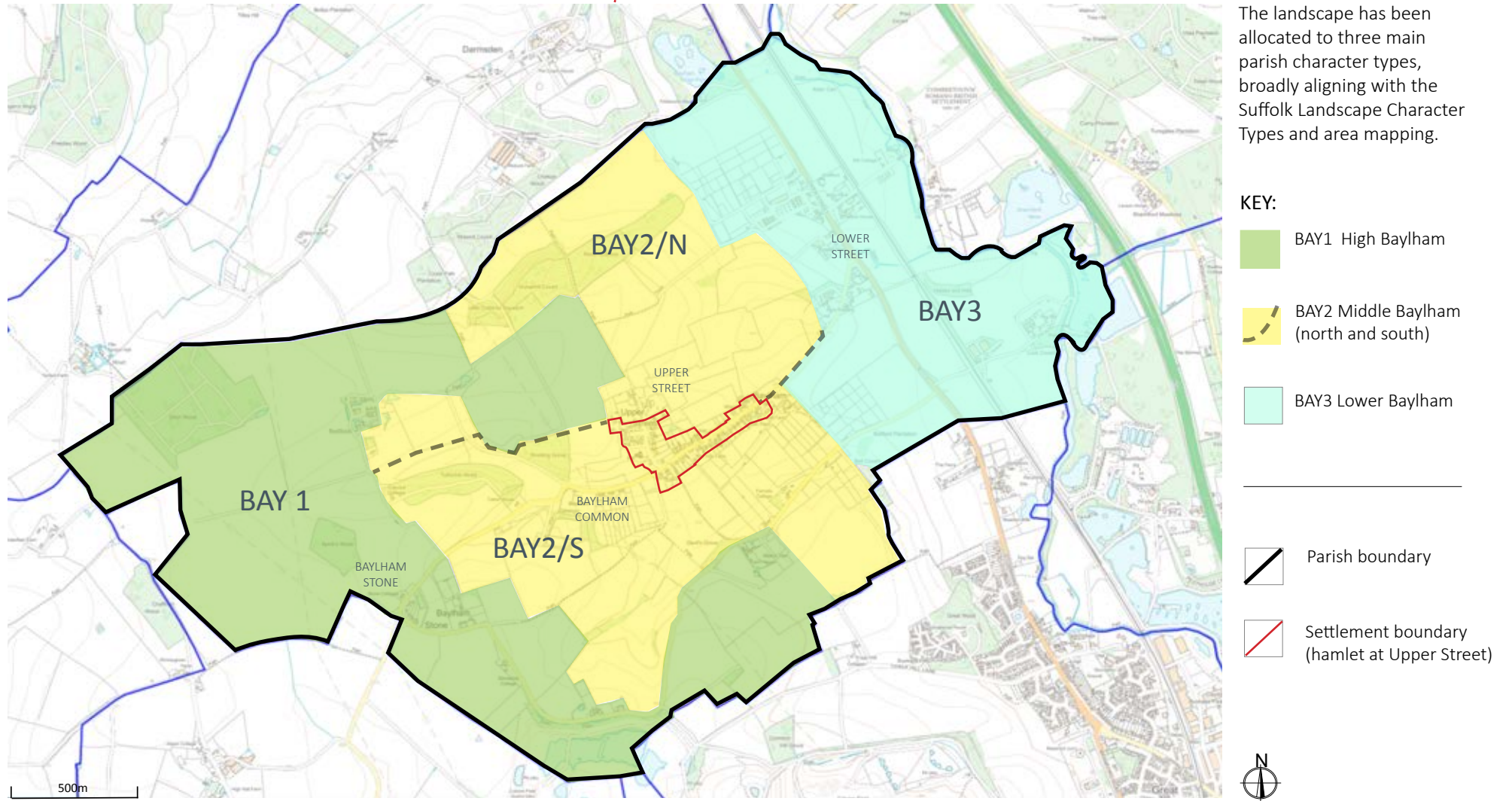
LANDSCAPE FACTORS		Lower value and/or sensitivity ←-----→ Higher value and/or sensitivity		
Physical landscape and vegetation	Vulnerability of ‘sense of place’ to the loss or erosion of visible landform or hydrological features. Extent that vegetative features such as woodland, significant trees, or hedges, would foreseeable be lost/compromised as a result of development.	No loss of distinctive landform; landform plays little role in defining local character. No significant vegetation would be lost, or minor losses but easy to mitigate.	Some loss of landform or water features that play some role in defining character. Moderate loss of vegetative features but mitigation generally viable.	Significant loss of distinctive landform that is important to local character, or vegetative feature and/or water course, and where mitigation would be difficult.
Settlement Pattern and gateways	Vulnerability of the distinctive and historic settlement pattern. Consideration of the nature and form of the adjacent settlement edges and gateways. Likelihood of successful integration with existing edges- modern or historic. Likelihood of causing coalescence between the main village and other hamlets. Prominence of character area relating to gateway or arrival points where sense of place would be influenced.	Development within the character area would fit well with the settlement pattern given its location, size and position in the landscape. No impact to distinctive arrival points. No disruption to historic patterns.	Development of the character area would be somewhat discordant with the historic settlement pattern, given its location, size and position in the landscape; potential for minor adverse impacts to distinctive arrival points.	Development of any part the character area would be very discordant with the historic settlement pattern, given its location, size and position in the landscape; potential for adverse impact to distinctive arrival points.
Local rural character	To what extent does the character area contribute to local distinctiveness and sense of pace and how vulnerable would the characteristics it be if development was to take place.	Contributes little to local landscape character, possibly with even detracting elements. Loss of historic patterns; hedges absent. Landscape in poor condition and good potential for enhancement	Contributes to distinctive rural character. Condition of features mixed, some hedgerow trees endure. Some indication of time-depth/ historic continuity	Area contributes notably to distinctive rural character and features intact hedges, mature trees- landscape in good condition. Strong indication of time-depth / historic continuity
Biodiversity and wildlife	Extent of potential harm to features with ecological value and as part of ecological network.	Little current value; little foreseeable impact to ecological system/wildlife and/or mitigation very feasible	Limited current value and modest foreseeable impact to ecological system or to wildlife and mitigation feasible	Value high and foreseeable harmful impact to ecological system mitigation unlikely to be feasible
Historic Landscape	Relationship of the character area to the setting of Listed Buildings or to Conservation Area. Extent of potential impact on the historic landscape.	No impact on Heritage Assets or CA. No loss of historic landscape features.	Some inter-visibility between Heritage assets and character area. Some loss of a historic landscape features.	Foreseeable direct impact on at least one designated asset or loss of a historic landscape feature.

Table 3.3 INDICATORS OF VALUE & SENSITIVITY: Visual and Perceptual

VISUAL AND PERCEPTUAL FACTORS		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> LOWER value and/or sensitivity ←----- -----> HIGHER value and/or sensitivity </div>		
Visual prominence	<p>How generally visible the site is from the surrounding landscape, and how prominently the land is located within views from the village edge or principal roads.</p> <p>Vulnerability of skylines. Impact on any notable views.</p>	<p>Conditions combine to make views of the area generally difficult to experience.</p> <p>Limited visibility from principal routes or arrival points.</p> <p>Intact hedge network, woodland or existing urban edge provides good screening and assimilation potential.</p> <p>No mitigation required.</p>	<p>Some views available where conditions allow.</p> <p>Moderately visible in views from principal routes or village edge.</p> <p>Boundaries partially open, some opportunity for screening and assimilation but mitigation required.</p>	<p>Visually prominent, forming part of view from many points.</p> <p>Integral part of view from one or more principal routes or village edge.</p> <p>Boundaries very open, little opportunity for screening and assimilation. Extensive mitigation would be needed.</p>
Visual amenity	<p>Nature of impacts on the visual amenity of existing residents and other sensitive receptors such as users of footpaths.</p>	<p>No views from visually sensitive receptors.</p> <p>Any visual impacts are on receptors of low sensitivity; e.g. minor road users, people at work.</p> <p>No impacts on Key Views</p>	<p>Views from a few visually sensitive points and/or at longer range.</p> <p>Views are Moderately sensitive; e.g. some views from dwellings at some distance.</p> <p>Some limited influence on Key View</p>	<p>Direct and close range views from one or more sensitive receptors.</p> <p>Highly sensitive receptors such as footpath users and residents with ground floor views.</p> <p>Multiple Key View would be sensitive</p>

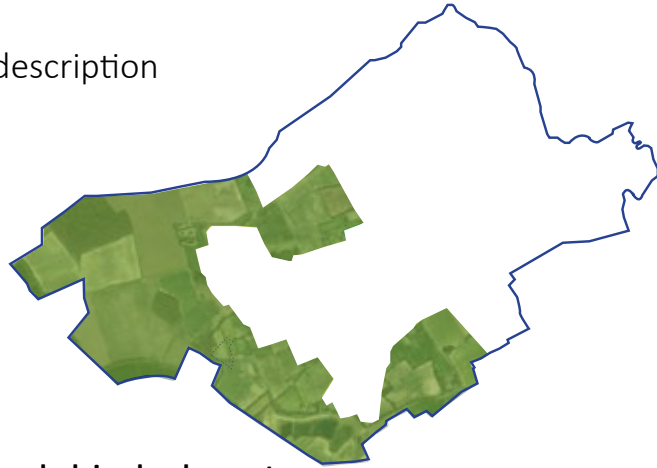
3.2 Parish Character Areas

Fig 11 PARISH CHARACTER AREAS



The landscape has been allocated to three main parish character types, broadly aligning with the Suffolk Landscape Character Types and area mapping.

Character description



Location and underlying landscape type

- Topographically elevated, western area of the parish.
- Largely corresponds to Ancient Plateau Claylands Suffolk Landscape Type.
- Part of the southernmost area of the 'High Suffolk' clay plateau of North and Mid Suffolk.

Topography / hydrology / soils

- Flat/gently rolling topography
- Lime-rich loamy and clayey soils; seasonally wet; moderate to high fertility; mostly classed as Grade 3 agricultural land (good to moderate quality).
- Small ponds are dotted about, often found at the old farmsteads, and drainage ditches are maintained along field boundaries.

Landcover/land use

- Medium-sized irregular shaped arable fields (ancient origins) with hedgerow boundaries
- Land use is predominantly arable due corresponding to good quality soils.
- Many private farm tracks but few Public Rights of Way within this character area.
- Overhead electricity cables and pylons are prominent on the skyline.

Woodland and trees

- Hedgerow trees, especially common English oaks, are prominent
- Wooded backdrop to the long views over the flat or gently rolling fields
- Blocks of Ancient and other Woodland of high biodiversity value are present, including Ditch Wood, a part of a group of woodland blocks known collectively as Barking Woods SSSI.

Historic landscape/Time-depth

- The field boundaries are irregularly-shaped, with significant hedgerows and veteran hedgerow trees present. As such this reads as an ancient enclosed landscape despite loss of some boundary hedges to consolidate arable fields in the 20th century.
- Pylons and overhead power lines are the most noticeable modern feature.

Settlement interfaces and road network

- This is a sparsely populated area- there only a few scattered farmsteads accessed by private farm tracks, a small cluster of mid/late C20th farm cottages at Baylham Stone.
- The only vehicular highway is Back Road, a single track lane bound by ditches and hedges.
- There are small number of farmsteads and cottages situated adjacent to the road at intervals along its routes down the valley to connect to the main B1113 Lower Street in the valley floor.

Perceptual and visual experience/tranquillity

- The overall perception is of an isolated and ancient landscape.
- The sense of tranquillity is high.
- A sense of enclosure and intimacy on the lane contrasts with wider views across open fields, but there are few long views available from publicly accessible locations.
- This area feels part of the wider flat clay plateau, and detached and somewhat remote from the main Baylham settlement at Upper Street, and significantly separate from the valley floor transport corridor and settlement at Lower Street.

Indicators of value and Rights of Way

- Late 19th century Ordnance Survey maps record many more footpaths in this area, linking Stone Cottages/Baylham Stone, with a lost common marked as Baylham Pasture on old maps, and the woods and Baylham Hall to the west.
- Today, several footpaths run along the boundaries with the neighbouring parishes and the Baylham Valley Sides character area, so this landscape is largely viewed, but not entered, by the public.
- The most prominent buildings are Listed - traditional Farmhouses on the lane and impressive moated Baylham Hall (Grade II*), although there are few publicly accessible points from which to view it.

Issues / Change pressures / Detractors

- Overhead cables and pylons- pressure continues for pylons in the area.
- Hedgerow removal or poor woodland management.
- Addition of suburban/urban features to front gardens.
- Potential for pressure for solar energy generation on lower value farmland.
- Changes associated with leisure - mostly equestrian uses spreading up the valley sides.

Illustrative photos



a Open arable fields with woodland and overhead power lines in the distance (looking west from Footpath 20)



b A characteristic sunken lane (looking south on Back Road at entrance to Footpath 37)



c Large open arable fields with cottage cluster, large oaks and hedgerow boundary, wooded backdrop and overhead power lines (Looking west from Footpath 36)



d Isolated farmstead (Stone Farm- Grade II Listed 15th century farmhouse, Back Road)

Table 3.4 High Baylham - value and sensitivity to potential change

	Sensitivity Factor:	Source /Evidence / Indicator	Assessment of sensitivity and value	Management recommendations	Sensitivity H/M/L
LANDSCAPE FACTORS	Physical landscape including vegetation Impact on distinctive topography / water features / significant trees or other vegetation.	<i>OS mapping; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	Topography is notable in that it is flat leading to feel of openness and exposure sometimes- a defining characteristic of 'High' Suffolk, of which this is part of the southern edge. There is a network of farmland hedges and trees, and also several ancient woodland and other woodland blocks.	This aspect of landscape character is not particularly vulnerable, but wooded and undeveloped skylines and 'big skies' character should be protected.	LOW
	Settlement pattern and gateways Fit with historic pattern; prominence of parcel in relation to arrival points; nature of road network/function in relation to settlement(s)	<i>OS maps; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	The pattern of settlement is broadly consistent with the typical historic pattern on the clay plateaus of ancient scattered farms, with the addition of several 19C and 20C dwellings. The one public highway serving dwellings in this part of the parish is a single-track lane, which loops through this part of the parish, with one spur leading to the Nettlestead, sunken in parts and with no edges or verges in many places, so any increase in traffic is not desirable.	Protect the undeveloped rural setting of the old farmsteads and the informal rural character of the roads.	HIGH
	Local rural landscape character Contribution of parcel and setting to local character and distinctiveness	<i>County and District Character assessment; designation history, Site observations and professional judgement</i>	This area is typical of the Suffolk Ancient Plateau Claylands, due to its open and elevated position, the persistence of ancient field patterns, hedgerow boundaries and trees, mixed and ancient woodland blocks, scattered farmstead and sunken lane.	Conserve and enhance hedgerows and hedgerow trees, woodland blocks. Protect the rural character of the landscape.	HIGH
	Biodiversity and wildlife Impact on designated features or features with potential value as part of ecological network	<i>Reference to GIS mapping; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	Much of this area is open farmland with little biodiversity value, which is limited to farmland hedges and trees. Ancient woodland, in particular SSSI woodland is highly valuable, as are ponds including moats.	Conserve and enhance hedgerows and hedgerow trees, ponds, ditches and the woodland blocks. Look for opportunities to reinstate or bolster hedgerows, especially where this connects existing features and networks.	MED
	Historic landscape Landscape as setting to designated heritage features; impacts on Conservation Area; SAMs; etc	<i>Reference to Historic England mapping; site observations.</i>	The landscape is setting to a number of listed farmhouses and farm buildings.	Protect the rural setting of listed farmhouses.	MED
VISUAL / PERCEPTUAL	Visual prominence Prominence of parcel in general views around the village; impacts to skyline; impacts on any important views;	<i>Site observations and professional judgement relating to visual sensitivity</i>	This area is very visually open with long views over fields to wooded skyline. The back of many dwellings are prominent when viewed from public rights of way. Views are contained by vegetated banks along much of the road.	Resist isolated development in the countryside and suburban-type treatment to curtilages, including inappropriate planting such as non native coniferous hedges. Native hedging and simple post and rail type fencing is most appropriate on visible edges.	HIGH
	Visual amenity and perceptions Nature of receptors experiencing visual impacts; types of experiences perceived	<i>Site observations and professional judgement</i>	PRoWs offer long views across undeveloped and ancient countryside. Most residents will have long views from upstairs windows and some residents may view the open landscape from ground floor habitable rooms.	Explore opportunities with landowners to reinstate lost footpaths and otherwise expand the network of PRoWs.	HIGH

Character description



Location and underlying landscape type

- North-east facing valley slopes forming the central part of the parish.
- Complex dog-leg interface with BAY 1 to the west, but a simple straight form to the boundary with BAY 3 to the east where the valley sides meet the valley floor.
- The largest parish character area, corresponding broadly to the Rolling Valley Farmlands type of the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment.

Topography / hydrology / soils

- Moderate valley-side slopes, rising from approximately 20m AOD (Above Ordnance Datum) in the east to 55m AOD along the western edge.
- Freely draining slightly acid loamy soils; low fertility but mostly classified as Grade 2 agricultural land (good to high quality).
- The Y-shaped sub-valley in the southern part of this area, BAY2/S, has led to somewhat distinctive land use and character, as noted below.

Landcover/land use

- Small and medium sized organic shaped and some narrow linear arable fields with substantial hedgerow boundaries.
- Land use is a mix of arable on the flatter parts (especially in BAY2/N, and pasture on the slopes, especially BAY 2/S).
- The parish has an unusually high degree of equestrian land use on pasture, with a corresponding impact on the character of the landscape.

Woodland and trees

- Blocks of woodland present. Many veteran hedgerow trees and woodland blocks give an overall moderately wooded feel.
- Distant views to the significantly wooded eastern valley slopes (in Barham and Coddendam), especially to the parkland at Shrubland Hall, are a distinctive part of the experience of this part of the parish.

Historic landscape/ Time-depth

- This area reads as an ancient enclosed landscape, despite loss of some boundary hedges to consolidate arable fields in BAY2/N.
- BAY 2/S contains an area within the sub-valley, but without distinct boundaries, known as Baylham Common.
- Due to the quality of the soils this was likely former arable common land rather than common pasture; an unusual historical landscape in Suffolk, where most arable land was subject to early enclosure.

Settlement, interfaces and road network

- The main village settlement is focused along Upper Street, with the parish church of St Peter sitting at the highest point of the hamlet, overlooking BAY2/S but largely not visible from BAY2/N.
- Back Road - a single track lane defines the southern boundary of this area in BAY2/S.
- There are open and partially open views across the valley sides and Baylham Common to Upper Street, from the section of the lane that bounds this area in the south.

Perceptual and visual experience/tranquillity

- The overall perception is of an ancient landscape but with modern adaptations, particularly towards equestrianism.
- This is a quiet and tranquil landscape, especially in BAY2/S.
- In BAY2/S, an overriding sense of enclosure and intimacy is provided by the topography and woodland cover.
- Long views to the wooded parkland on the other side of the Gipping Valley are a distinctive part of the sense of place in BAY2/N. Due to more openness, in BAY2/N the B1113 and railway can be heard faintly and high-sided vehicles on the road can be seen from some points.

Indicators of value and Rights of Way

- There is a good network of Public Rights of Way in this part of the parish (mostly footpaths, and only two small sections of Bridleway)
- The main cluster of historic buildings, include the church of St Peter, the former school house, former rectory and traditional thatched cottages and other listed buildings.

Issues / Change pressures / Detractors

- Expansion of leisure and equestrian uses eroding the sense of traditional arable landscape.
- Unsympathetic infill development.
- Unsympathetic treatments to residential gardens and backs of properties bounding Baylham Common. Lack of management of hedges and woodland (impact on biodiversity, visual amenity).
- Overhead power lines and pylons detract from the sense of rural tranquillity and time-depth.
- Unsympathetic addition of a modern weatherboarded barn has had a detrimental effect to views of the church, and its setting.

BAY2: MIDDLE BAYLHAM

Illustrative photos- BAY2/N Middle Baylham North



a Looking south from Footpath 21 to Glebe House and its private garden, with substantial clipped boundary hedge and distinctive mature ornamental evergreen trees. Backs of dwellings on Upper Street are visible with long views to the wooded valley sides and ridge at Coddendam/Barham.



b Looking east from Footpath 19 across arable fields and overgrown hedges with significant trees to the wooded valley slopes and ridge of Shrubland Park, Coddendam/Barham.



c Large arable field of chalky clay loam soil on the flatter area bordering BAY1 High Baylham with long views to the wooded/parkland on the other side of the valley. (Looking north west to Shrubland Park, Coddendam from Footpath 20)



d View west through the churchyard from Church Lane to St Peter's Church.



e View west from Footpath 30 to Glebe House and its gardens with mature ornamental evergreen trees. The Church is just visible through the trees in winter conditions.



f Mixed native broadleaved woodland (sycamore, oak, ash, hazel, beech) with box understorey - Hulverhill Covert/Raven's Grove Footpath 07)

BAY2: MIDDLE BAYLHAM

Illustrative photos- BAY2/S Middle Baylham South



8 Gently rolling pasture and wooded backdrop (Looking south from St Peter's Churchyard)



9 Gently rolling valley pasture and well-wooded backdrop with filtered views of the church tower and the backs of houses including listed buildings on Upper Street (From Back Road looking northwest)



10 Long views down the valley over Baylham Common to Upper Street and St Peter's Church (from Back Road looking northeast)



11 View to St Peter's Church and Upper Street from south east (From Footpath 31 through Baylham Common)



12 Approach to Baylham Common from the north west on Footpath 48 (with Knotting Grove on the left and Tuttonhill Wood on the right)



13 Baylham Common framed by Knotting Grove and Tuttonhill Wood from the north west, where Footpaths 31, 32 and 36 meet. The church tower is just out of the frame to the right.

Table 3.5 Middle Baylham- Value and sensitivity to potential change

	Sensitivity Factor:	Source /Evidence / Indicator	Assessment of sensitivity and value	Management recommendations	Sensitivity H/M/L
LANDSCAPE FACTORS	Physical landscape including vegetation Impact on distinctive topography / water features / significant trees or other vegetation.	<i>OS mapping; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	The topography is characteristic of Rolling Valley Farmland, with a notable Y-shaped sub watershed valley in BAY2/S. There is a typical network of farmland hedges and trees, and also several woodland blocks.	Protect the sub-watershed as a coherent topographical/drainage unit. Protect farmland hedges, trees, and woodland blocks.	MED
	Settlement pattern and gateways Fit with historic pattern; prominence of parcel in relation to arrival points; nature of road network/function in relation to settlement(s)	<i>OS maps; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	The pattern of settlement is typical of rural parishes in this part of Suffolk, with a church and occasional ancient/medieval farmsteads dotted along a lane, which has seen infill over the subsequent centuries and particularly in the late 20/early 21C, and so developed into a more compact, linear hamlet, with a small number of farmhouses and cottages dotted on the lane on the southern boundary. There are no isolated dwellings. The one public highway serving dwellings in this part of the parish is a single-track lane, sunken in parts and with no edges or verges in many places, so any increase in traffic is not desirable.	Protect the undeveloped rural setting of the old farmsteads and the informal rural character of the road.	HIGH
	Local rural landscape character Contribution of parcel and setting to local character and distinctiveness	<i>County and District Character assessment; designation history, Site observations and professional judgement</i>	BAY2/N is typical of Rolling Valley Farmlands, with it's open, elevated position, and sloping fields, persistence of some ancient field patterns, hedgerow boundaries, trees, and woodland blocks. BAY2/S is highly distinctive due to it's sub-watershed topography and enduring historic use as an arable common 'Baylham Common'.	Conserve and enhance hedgerows and hedgerow trees, woodland blocks. Protect the rural character of the landscape. Protect Baylham Common and its setting.	HIGH
	Biodiversity and wildlife Impact on designated features or features with potential value as part of ecological network	<i>Reference to GIS mapping; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	Much of this area is open farmland, with little biodiversity value which is limited to farmland hedges and trees. The biodiversity status of the former arable common is unknown.	Conserve and enhance hedgerows and hedgerow trees, ponds, ditches and the woodland blocks. Look for opportunities to reinstate or bolster hedgerows, especially where this connects existing features and networks. Consider specialist advice on management strategies for improving the biodiversity of Baylham Common.	MED
	Historic landscape Landscape as setting to designated heritage features; impacts on Conservation Area; SAMs; etc	<i>Reference to Historic England mapping; site observations.</i>	The landscape is setting to a number of listed farmhouses and farm buildings, most prominently St Peter's Church (BAY2/S) Baylham Common is an example of an enduring rare historic land use (arable common)	Protect the rural setting of listed church and farmhouses. Protect Baylham Common and its setting.	MED BAY2/N HIGH BAY2/S
	VISUAL / PERCEPTUAL	Visual prominence Prominence of parcel in general views around the village; impacts to skyline; impacts on any important views;	<i>Site observations and professional judgement relating to visual sensitivity</i>	BAY2/N is quite open with mid-distance views to woodland and long views over fields to the opposing wooded/parkland valley sides. In BAY2/S many views are contained by the sub-valley, although the back of dwellings on Upper Street are prominent when viewed from public rights of way on Baylham Common and likewise these properties have views over the common area. Views are contained by vegetated banks along much of Back road, but where there are gaps there are views over the Common to the hamlet and the church.	Resist isolated development in the countryside and suburban-type treatment to curtilages, including inappropriate planting such as non native coniferous hedges. Native hedging and simple post and rail type fencing is most appropriate on visible edges.
Visual amenity and perceptions Nature of receptors experiencing visual impacts; types of experiences perceived		<i>Site observations and professional judgement</i>	PROWs offer a variety of views across undeveloped and ancient countryside. Most residents will have long views from upstairs windows and some residents may view the open landscape from ground floor habitable rooms.	Explore opportunities with landowners to reinstate lost footpaths and otherwise expand the network of PROWs.	HIGH

BAY3: LOWER BAYLHAM

Character description



Location and underlying landscape type

- Eastern fringes of the parish, forming the smallest character area- a narrow belt mainly east of the B1113.
- The landscape is the valley floor in the floodplain of the River Gipping which flows northwest to southeast through this area.
- Along the riverside the corresponding Suffolk landscape type is the 'Valley Meadowlands,' with the area between the railway line and B1113/Lower Street falls largely within the lower slopes of the Rolling Valley Farmlands.

Topography / hydrology / soils

- This is low-lying flat floodplain lying beneath the 20m contour line. It's frequently waterlogged alongside the river after heavy rain.
- Various permanent water bodies are present adjacent to the river; many of these are former gravel extraction pits now used for recreational fishing.
- The soils are seasonally wet clays overlying alluvial deposits and peat.

Landcover/land use

- Predominantly meadow grazing pasture for cattle and sheep, with ditch or scrubby hedge boundaries and occasional carr woodland and reed bed pockets.
- The floodplain is mostly undeveloped with some isolated buildings in strategic locations, notably Baylham Mill.
- Land at the bottom of the valley sides and some other land which has been drained and is under arable crops.
- Baylham Rare Breed Farm is a local tourist destination.
- The old main road from Ipswich to Stowmarket (B1113/Lower Street) and the London to Norwich mainline railway run in this corridor.
- Built development of farmhouses, cottages and commercial use is concentrated adjacent to the B1113/Lower Street at the hamlet know as Lower Street, mostly on the slightly higher ground to the west of the road.

Woodland and trees

- Small parcels of wet/carr woodland and willow plantations
- Scrub and trees along the railway embankments.
- Some east-west hedgerow and ditch field boundaries.

Historic landscape/Time-depth

- Parish falls within the site of a large Roman settlement 'Combretovium' shared with Coddendam. Extensive cropmarks show a roman settlement and road system, backed by many archaeological finds
- Wet meadows in the floodplain, particularly where these are still grazed by animals, are a picturesque and traditional form of land management that should be protected.
- The Mill and lock are strong reminders of the long tradition of using the river for water power and navigation.

Settlement interfaces and road network

- Little settlement. Built development of farmhouses, cottages and commercial use is concentrated adjacent to the B1113/Lower Street at the hamlet know as Lower Street, largely on the west side of the road outside but inter-visible with some of this area.
- The train line and B1113 have disrupted and divided the historic floodplain landscape.

Perceptual and visual experience/tranquillity

- Along the roadside there is frequent traffic noise and movement, and intermittent train noise and movements.
- Alongside the river, traffic noise is less noticeable and only sometimes visible, making this a moderately tranquil area with a sense of pastoral and rural industrial history.

Indicators of value and Rights of Way

- This part of the parish is well served by footpaths and rights of way, including the long distance promoted path, The Gipping Way, connecting Ipswich to Stowmarket
- Listed buildings: three farmhouse/cottages on Lower Street. Baylham Mill is Grade II* Listed- partially 16th century and the C.18th bridge at the mill is Grade II Listed.
- Baylham Lock has been partially restored and is an interesting industrial heritage feature on the Gipping Way long distance trail

Issues / Change pressures / Detractors

- The flood zone protects much of this area from development but there may be some pressure for further infill development on the route of the B1113
- Traditional permanent meadow land may be at risk of conversion to arable cropping
- Incursion of equestrian and leisure uses in arable fields and meadows
- Loss of hedges and ditches
- Inappropriate amenity woodland/hedge planting

BAY3: LOWER BAYLHAM

Illustrative photos



a River Gipping and Baylham Mill (Grade II* listed) and 18C Bridge (Grade II listed)



b River Gipping with grazing meadows and wooded backdrop



c Equestrian use on the lower valley slopes to the rear of Lower Street. Looking east from Footpath 17)



d Valley floor arable field between the B1113 and the railway line, with the business park in the background. There are filtered views to dwellings on Lower Street and the bottom of Upper Street within the generally well-wooded lower valley slopes.

Table 3.6- Lower Baylham- Value and sensitivity to potential change

	Sensitivity Factor:	Source /Evidence / Indicator	Assessment of sensitivity and value	Management recommendations	Sensitivity H/M/L
LANDSCAPE FACTORS	Physical landscape including vegetation Impact on distinctive topography / water features / significant trees or other vegetation.	<i>OS mapping; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	The physical features in this area, the river and its associated vegetative communities, are of relatively high importance at parish level. They are very sensitive to change through land drainage or pollution. It has important ecosystem service functions as a floodplain, carbon sink etc. that should be protected.	Protect and maintain wet meadows, carr woodland, hedgerows and ditches. Work with landowners to protect water quality.	HIGH
	Settlement pattern and gateways Fit with historic pattern; prominence of parcel in relation to arrival points; nature of road network/function in relation to settlement(s)	<i>OS maps; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	Historic farmhouses are dotted along the on the B1113 Lower Street and loosely mark the entrances to the parish. The clusters of dwellings and small commercial sites do not read as a settlement, in contrast to larger neighbouring parishes.	Prevent further development- this is a historically sparsely settled part of the parish.	MED
	Local rural landscape character Contribution of parcel and setting to local character and distinctiveness	<i>County and District Character assessment; designation history, Site observations and professional judgement</i>	The character of this parcel is typical of Suffolk valley meadowlands, especially in the areas adjacent to the river where land is used as grazing pasture, it has a strong sense of place and time depth.	Protect the wildlife value of the river corridor and the network links into the countryside. Seek enhancement opportunities	MED/HIGH
	Biodiversity and wildlife Impact on designated features or features with potential value as part of ecological network	<i>Reference to GIS mapping; Site observations and professional judgement</i>	The river and railway corridors, as well as hedgerows and other areas of woodland and scrub and grassland are part of wider ecological network. Small areas are designated County Wildlife Site. Priority habitats present- carr woodland hedgerows and ponds. Priority species e.g. otter and bats recorded.	Protect the wildlife value of the river corridor and the network links into the countryside. Seek enhancement opportunities.	MED/HIGH
	Historic landscape Landscape as setting to designated heritage features; impacts on Conservation Area; SAMs; etc	<i>Reference to Historic England mapping; site observations.</i>	Setting for listed farmhouses (Lower Street) and Grade II* mill and mill house; adjacent to large Roman site.	Protect the rural setting of listed buildings and other heritage assets.	MED/HIGH
	VISUAL / PERCEPTUAL	Visual prominence Prominence of parcel in general views around the village; impacts to skyline; impacts on any important views;	<i>Site observations and professional judgement relating to visual sensitivity</i>	Due to the low lying land, and presence of hedges and woodland pockets, little built form is visible from areas close to the river, but the lower valley slopes are highly visible. This area is generally not intervisible with the higher areas of the parish.	Maintain hedges and woodland. Protect the lower valley slopes from development.
Visual amenity and perceptions Nature of receptors experiencing visual Impacts; types of experiences perceived		<i>Site observations and professional judgement</i>	This area is viewed from Rights of Way, including by walkers on the Gipping Way and people using the river and its corridor for other types of recreation. Residents of dwellings on Lower Street will have wide views the landscape from their upstairs and possibly ground floor windows, Car and railway passengers will view the landscape at speed and so are less sensitive receptors.	Resist infill development on Lower Street and equestrian incursion onto the lower valley slopes. Protect hedgerows, trees, carr and other woodland.	MED/HIGH

Character, Value and Sensitivity- Summary and Recommendations

Character Areas

1. The parish character area study found that there are three parish character areas that broadly map to the Suffolk county-wide landscape types and areas. These reflect the underlying topography and hydrology, soils and vegetation type and their corresponding cultural land use patterns, which in many parts of contemporary Baylham still strongly map to historic and sometimes ancient uses.
2. The three parish character areas have been named:
 - **High Baylham**- broadly typical of the Ancient Plateau Claylands Suffolk Landscape Type
 - **Middle Baylham** - broadly typical of the Rolling Valley Farmlands Suffolk Landscape Type
 - **Lower Baylham**- broadly typical of the Valley Meadowlands Suffolk Landscape Type
3. Middle Baylham presents a more complex picture than the other two parts of the parish, as this is the location of the historic and present-day village core settlement area, Upper Street, including the parish church and a number of other listed historic buildings. To the south of Upper Street and viewed from the back of dwellings, the highway and crossed by numerous public rights of ways there is a sub-watershed valley containing an area known as Baylham Common, which is thought to be a rare example in this part of the country of unenclosed common arable land. For these reasons, Middle Baylham has been divided into two sub-character areas, north and south.

Value and Sensitivity to Change

4. The value and sensitivity to change of most aspects of landscape across all three character areas has been judged to be **medium to high**. This reflects the strong sense of place, tranquillity, time depth and overall integrity of much of this landscape, including the enduring presence of designated and undesignated historic and heritage features, the location and presence of existing dwellings and numerous rights of way from which residents and visitors access and view these landscapes.

Pressures for Change

5. Baylham has seen proportionately significant infill housing and other development in the second half of the 20th century and again in the first twenty years of the 21st century. There are currently no allocated development sites in the parish
6. The main pressures for change in the parish are:
 - Equestrian uses, including a large amount of fencing, sheds and ancillary structures, and vehicles in former arable fields or grazing pasture.
 - Traditional permanent meadow conversion to arable cropping
 - Further loss of hedges and ditches, though removal or lack of maintenance
 - Inappropriate amenity woodland/hedge planting
 - Light pollution
 - Overhead power lines and pylons
 - Inappropriate curtilage treatments to dwellings
 - Solar farm development
7. Given its small size and population, Baylham has seen significant infill housing and other development in the second half of the C.20th and especially in the first twenty years of the C.21st. There are currently no allocated development sites in the parish. Although the flood zone and listed buildings offer protection, there may be some pressure to develop further infill sites and brown field sites along the B1113/Lower Street, which could further erode the historic settlement pattern of scattered farmhouses and their landscape settings. The Neighbourhood Plan needs to consider how it would deal with such applications if they were to come forward, and use this study to shape appropriate policies and/or future responses.



Part 4

Local Landscape designations

4. Local landscape designations

4.1 Valued landscape

1. As already outlined in section 2, the previous Mid Suffolk Local Plan included a Special Landscape Area (SLA), which covered most of Baylham parish. (Refer to Fig 7 above).
2. The designation was attached to a district planning policy that guided how development in these defined areas was to be approached. Policy CR04 of the 2006 Local Plan stated that development proposals in Special Landscape Areas would only be permitted where they *'maintain or enhance the special landscape qualities of the area'* and ensure that the proposal is designed and sited so as to *'harmonise'* with the landscape setting.
3. This policy designation is now considered *'historic'*. At the time of preparing this Assessment the District Council had adopted Part 1 of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan. Part 1 contains the strategic planning policies and the development management policies for the area. It is understood that the preparation of Part 2, defining the district settlement hierarchy, making site allocations and defining settlement boundaries, will be commenced in 2024. The adoption of Part 1 meant that Special Landscape Areas have now fallen away. Landscape is now dealt with under a general policy that requires a sympathetic, landscape character-led approach to development in all locations.
4. Nevertheless, previous designation as an SLA indicates potentially *'valued'* landscape and they should still be acknowledged as an indicator of landscape value.

Redesignating valued landscape

5. This assessment provides the evidence for redefining landscape of higher value in the Neighbourhood Plan, to define the area to which an additional level of policy protection is appropriate, over and above it being *'countryside'* in planning terms.
6. Landscape promoted for a local value designation need to meet the criteria

for *'valued landscape'* in planning terms. Paragraph 174 of the NPPF states: *'Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by...protecting and enhancing valued landscapes...'* Value is identified by statutory designations such as National Landscapes (formerly AONBs) but outside of those, there remains scope to identify and protect landscapes with greater value.

7. The definition of a Valued Landscape has recently been clarified through guidance published by the Landscape Institute. Guidance Note TG02/21 *'Assessing landscape value outside national designations'* was published in 2019 and states that a valued landscape is an area identified as having *'sufficient landscape qualities to elevate it above other more everyday landscapes'*. It goes on to state, *'it is not possible to set a definitive threshold ... It is a judgment that must be made on a case-by-case basis, based on the evidence. There should be a weight of evidence that supports the recognition of a landscape as valued above more everyday landscapes.'*
8. The guidance supports identification of higher value landscapes through Neighbourhood Planning. It advises, in paragraph 2.2.1; *'Landscape value at the local authority or neighbourhood level can be assessed and mapped spatially, i.e. through identifying areas for local landscape designation. Studies to support spatial designations should identify the landscape qualities of each area of landscape proposed for designation.'*
9. It gives guidance on the approach. In paragraph 2.3.2 it states; *'In undesignated areas, landscape value should be determined through a review of existing assessments, policies, strategies and guidelines and, where appropriate, by new survey and analysis'* and suggests assessing value under the following 8 headings:
 - Natural heritage
 - Cultural heritage
 - Landscape condition
 - Associations

4.1 Valued Landscape continued:-

- Distinctiveness
- Perceptual (Scenic)
- Perceptual (Wildness and tranquillity)
- Functional aspects.

10. The approach in TG02/21 is also in line with accepted national guidance on:

- Landscape Character Assessment (Natural England)
- Landscape Sensitivity Assessment (Natural England)
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (the Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment)

Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity

11. This appraisal, therefore, uses this approach to summarise the evidence for a new 'valued' landscape. The term the Neighbourhood Plan group agreed on for these areas is: **Area of Local Landscape Sensitivity Value (ALLS)**; distinct from the previous 'SLA', to avoid confusion.

12. Based on the findings, and after discussing the issue with Baylham Neighbourhood Plan group, this report suggests redefining an area for protection in the Neighbourhood Plan that covers the areas that were judged, in line with the accepted sensitivity methodology, to have a number of 'HIGH' sensitivity values, in either landscape or visual terms.

13. A table summarising a response to the 8 headings is provided on the following page- table 3.6.

14. After discussion with the group, it was agreed to include **all three parish character areas** in the proposed ALLS. These areas are valued and sensitive owing to one or more of the following factors:

- Lowland river valley character.

- Scenic combinations of topography with good landscape structure. Enduring Traditional land management practices
- Associations with heritage assets to which it provides setting.
- Amenity and recreational value from numerous footpaths.
- Role as backdrop or intrinsic connection

15. The intention is to protect the ALLS from development that will harm its character or prove intrusive within its views. Any proposals for development in the ALLS will have to accord with the requirements of the Neighbourhood Policy of the same name. The supporting text should make reference to this document, where the specific aspects of value and sensitivities, that are present in each area, are set out.



Table 4.1 Summary of how criteria for ‘valued’ landscape are met in Baylham (as defined by TGN 02/21)

Criteria (from TGN1 02/21):	Evidence - designation or policy	Comment
1. Natural heritage	Woodland Trust- Ancient Tree Inventory BMSDC- Tree Preservation Orders Professional appraisal/site visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baylham has a large number of veteran trees, as mapped on the Woodland Trust’s Ancient Tree Inventory. • Significant blocks of Ancient Woodland and one large block, Ditch Wood, that is part of the Barking Woods designated Site of Specific Scientific Interest (SSSI), recorded as being extant since the 13C. • Many hedgerows and ditches, on ancient field boundaries. • Seven County Wildlife Sites
2. Cultural heritage	Heritage listings Conservation Area Appraisal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eighteen Listed Buildings including four Grade II*- Baylham Hall, its stable range, Baylham Mill and St. Peter’s church • Rare non-designated heritage landscape- unenclosed arable common at Baylham Common • Good network of public rights of way
3. Landscape condition	Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment Professional appraisal/site visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout the parish the landscape is generally in good condition to very good condition. There is a significantly intact ancient field pattern, with boundary hedgerow and ditches, veteran trees and ancient mixed woodland blocks, with a strong time depth and tranquillity. Some areas are somewhat degraded due to intake into equestrian uses or conversion from grazing to arable production.
4. Associations	Various web references	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no particularly well-known cultural associations with this parish, although the mill at Baylham has been the subject of 20C paintings by several somewhat-famous artists, and there is regional and specialist interest in the industrial heritage of the Gipping Navigation, reflected in the restoration and access promotion work of the Gipping Valley Trust.
5. Distinctiveness	Professional appraisal/site visits Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment Designation history (SLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the parish area was covered by the Mid Suffolk District Council local plan designation Special Landscape Area. • The parish character areas correspond well with, and are generally good examples of, the Suffolk Landscape Character Types
6. Perceptual/ Scenic	Professional appraisal/site visits Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are many ancient rights of way in the parish which give access to the three character areas, and from which there are many places to enjoy a range of moderately-highly scenic views within intimate landscapes and of long distances, including many views to the listed parkland and hall at Shrubland Hall on the other side of the Gipping Valley. • There is little built form present in many parts of the parish, so many views are of ancient countryside and a wooded skyline
7. Wildness and Tranquillity	Professional appraisal/site visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is farmed and managed landscape of ancient enclosed fields, but feels tranquil and remote in many parts of the parish • Dark skies, particularly in High Baylham and Middle Baylham north.
8. Function	Multiple ecosystem services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The parish has very little built development, being predominantly under ancient arable fields and meadow land • There is a good network of hedgerows, connecting ancient and veteran trees and woods. • The Gipping and its floodplain are important for flood storage. • The river and the railway are important long-distance ecological corridor features

4.2 Local Green Space

1. Local Green Space (LGS) is a policy designation that is available at Neighbourhood Plan level. Paragraph 102 of the NPPF sets out the criteria that green space must meet in order to be designated :

“The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the space is:

a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;

b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and

c) is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land”.

2. After walking the parish and discussing the issue with Baylham Neighbourhood Plan group, it was agreed that should be a LGS policy in Baylham covering the distinctive, scenic and important setting to the village along its south side - the area shown on Figure 12. The LGS predominantly relates to the historic area of common arable land known as Baylham Common and the upper arms of the scenic Y-shaped valley that contributes significantly to sense of place and distinctiveness in Baylham. It is scenic as it is fringed by woodland in the west and falls towards the river, contained by steep slopes with sometimes complex

topography. Much of the area is under equine use, which doesn't always convey a sense of land in good condition, and there are associated visual issues, but the swathe of pastoral green space is overlooked by much of the village and therefore highly valued. It also functions as setting to St. Peter's church.

3. It is considered it meets the designation criteria above and the following evidence is provided:

- **Proximity:** the area is adjacent to the main settlement in the heart of the parish, and as such is directly overlooked by a significant proportion of the village population, and easily accessed by residents and visitors from a number of public footpaths that cross through it. These provide a particularly scenic and tranquil experience.
- **Significance:** the area is an undeveloped and intimate valley, which is a rare remaining example of an historic unenclosed arable common. There are clear views to the parish church of St Peter from many points on publicly accessible routes. It is tranquil place with a sense of history. The steeply rolling contours provide strong local distinctiveness.
- **Local and not extensive:** the area is naturally contained by the topography and subsequent land use patterns, within a small sub-watershed, and bounded by the backs of dwellings in the hamlet of Upper Street to the south.



Glimpse of the church sitting on the brow of the hill



View into meadows tucked between woodland

4.2 Local Green Space continued:-



View from footpath 36 over valley bottom in the direction of Baylham Hall showing steep topography, flanking woodland and the resultant and feeling of intimacy



Woodland at Knotting Grove and Tuttonhill Wood fringes the skyline above the Common and gives a strong rural feel



View from a gateway in Back Road over the old Common towards the Upper Street settlement- many windows and rear gardens overlook the area

4.2 Local Green Space continued:-

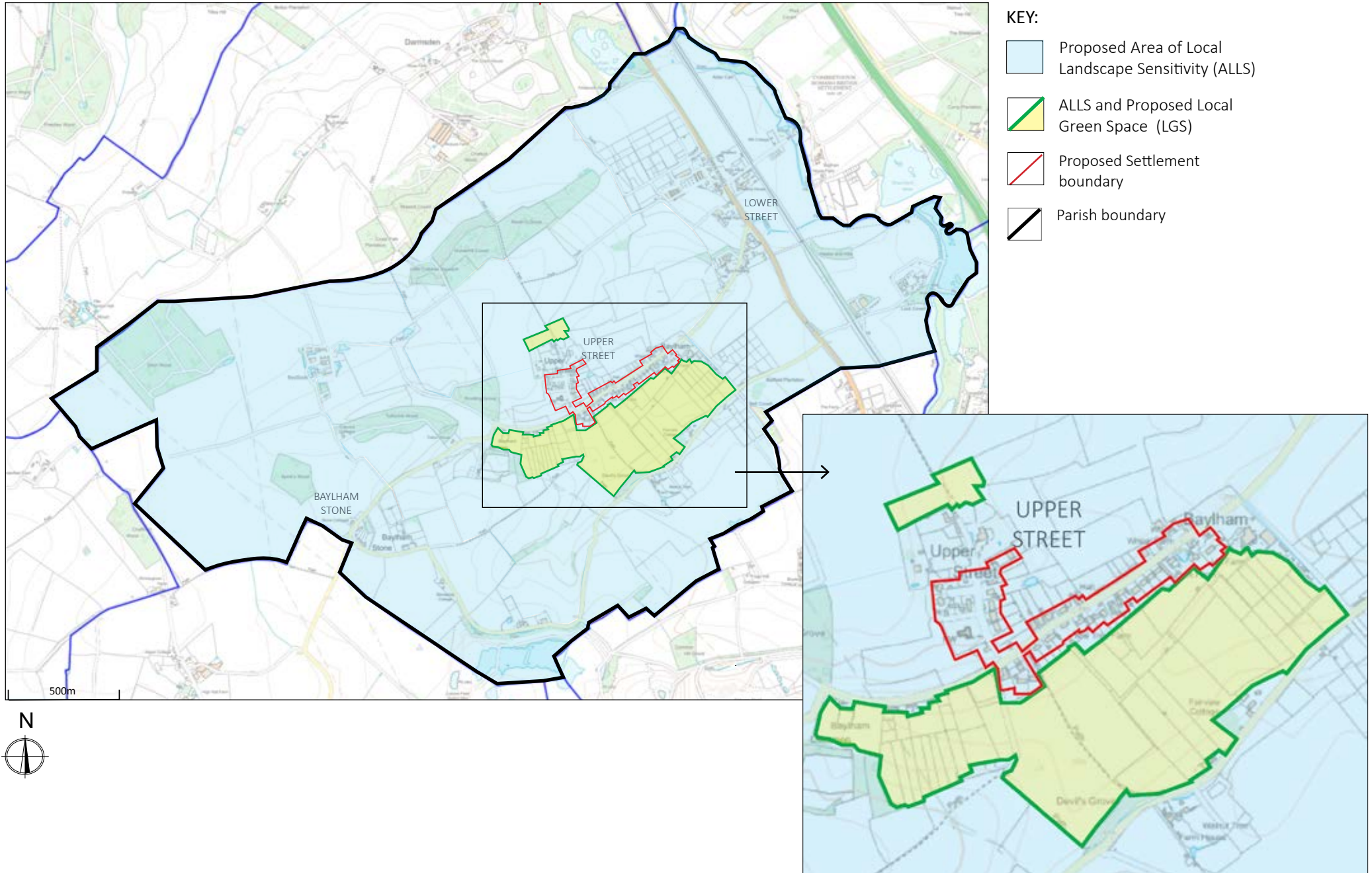


Equestrian land use dominates much of Baylham Common today



A glimpse of St. Peter's between two oak trees

FIGURE 12 : PROPOSED AREAS OF LOCAL LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY (ALLS) and LOCAL GREEN SPACE (LGS)

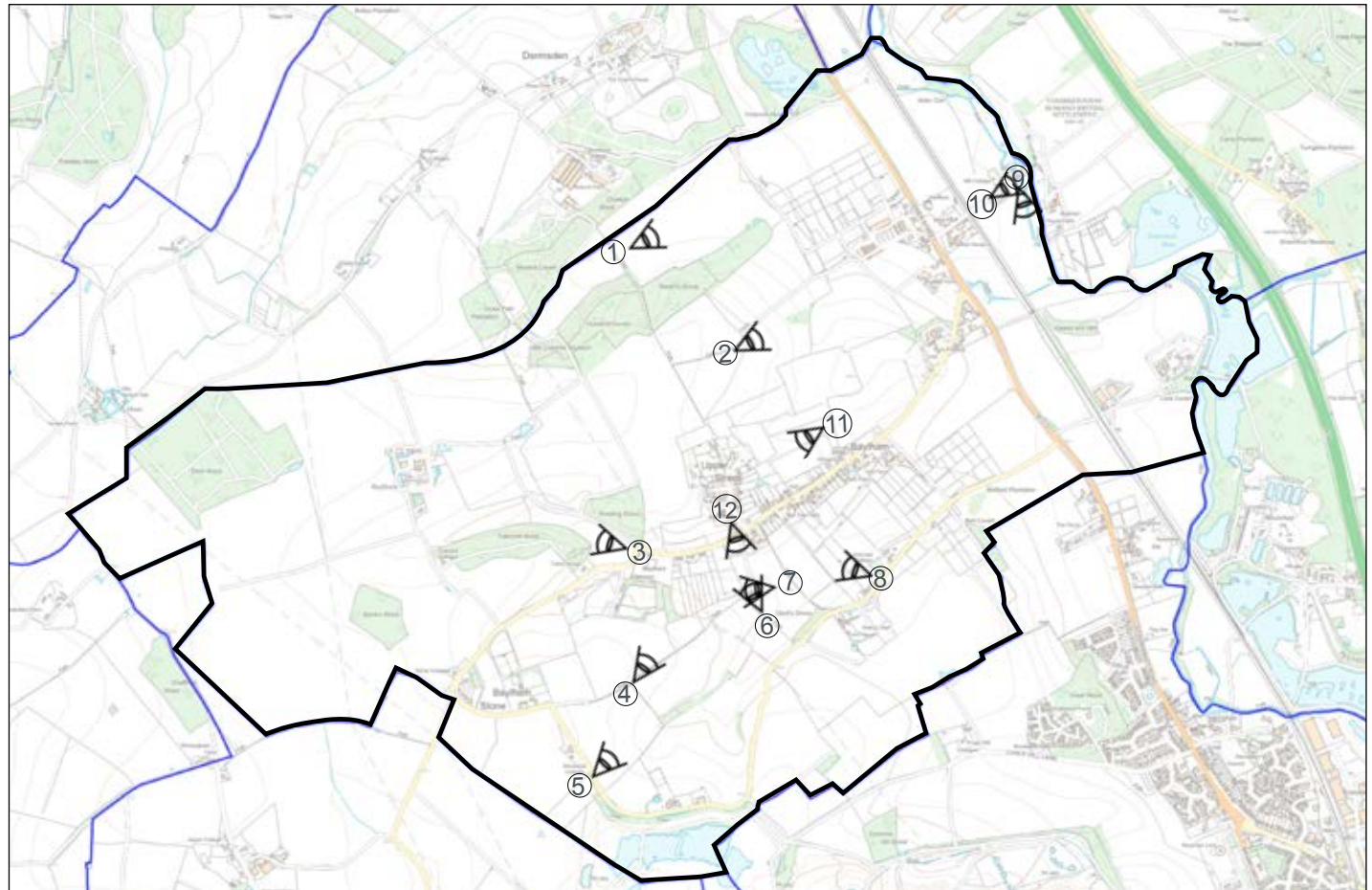


4.3. Locally Important Views

The purpose of Defined View studies

1. As part of the assessment of local identity and value, identifying which views people particularly enjoy and which views help define a sense of place is very useful. Once identified, these views can be subject to a Neighbourhood Plan policy to try to conserve their special qualities. This supports the aim of planning policy, at all levels, which requires local character and distinctiveness to be recognised and responded to appropriately.
2. Whilst there is not an accepted definition of what constitutes a ‘Defined’ or ‘Important’ view, in any of the published and accepted landscape guidance, they are usually understood along the lines of a scene that helps define the special character and qualities of a place. They might feature distinctive and/or historic buildings, local landmarks, or an appealing or historically intact arrangement of topography, natural features and built form that together help give a settlement its identity. They also contribute to experience, feelings and emotions, and to well-being. Views must be publicly accessible and available.
3. Consideration of these views also help justify the application of the ALLS defined area as they show the qualities of the landscape across the parish. Some view offer vistas right across the Gipping Valley to a grade I listed stately home, whilst others are intimate and contained, with a strong rural feel. The views over the pretty little sub-valley system (the old Common) offer a particular sense of local distinctiveness, highly valued by local people.

FIGURE 13 : LOCALLY IMPORTANT VIEWS- Key Plan



4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-

View criteria / justification

4. The selection of a defined view should be justifiable, intelligible, and the process transparent. The following factors might apply:
 - The overall impression should be of higher than usual scenic value. This might arise from a number of factors such as landscape composition and complexity, an appreciation of topography, the depth of field, its naturalness, and arrangement of natural and vegetative features.
 - Views which are indicative of a special ‘sense of place’ which reflect the intrinsic character of a place.
 - The value might be enhanced because high numbers of people experience the view. For example, a view from a well-used footpath on a village edge, identified by numerous local people as important, might be considered more valued than one selected from an isolated point on a quiet lane.
 - Views that attract visitors to an area would be highly valued.
 - Views that feature local landmarks, perhaps with skyline presence, aid orientation in the landscape or along a route.
 - The view might contribute to the setting of a Heritage asset. It might help illustrate the village’s history and how the land has been used, managed and settled.
 - It might have particular cultural associations
5. Selection should also be subject to public consultation to ensure the views put forward are an accurate reflection of the value attributed by the community.

Selected views

6. Twelve views were together selected by the landscape consultant and the Neighbourhood Plan group. The group also asked for feedback from local residents on the subject of valued views. Photographs were taken during winter and spring 2023/24. The locations are presented on figure 13 and the photos are presented on the following pages and numbered according to location. Some views are panoramic and broad, others are more contained with a clear focal point, such as the church tower. These qualities are not easy to represent on plan but they noted in the descriptions and illustrated in the accompanying photos where possible.

7. The photos were taken with a Canon 700D SLR with a 50mm fixed lens. The panoramic photos presented are made up from two or three consecutive images, with approximately a 50% overlap. These were digitally stitched together, using photoshop, to form panoramas. They are a Type 1 Visual Representation ¹ (for illustrative purposes and not be treated as ‘verifiable’). Whilst specific points are mapped, some views might be representative of a number of similar or sequential views which might be experienced along a road or footpath.
8. Importantly, each representative photo is accompanied by a few points explaining why the views are considered particularly special, and which features within the view are the key aspects of value. This provides a more focused basis for protection of those aspects through NP policy. Receptors refers to people who experience the view. In the context of this assessment, ‘road users’ includes people using vehicles, walkers and people on horses or cycles, as there are no footways on the parish’s rural roads.
9. However, it should be noted that the final list is not an exhaustive list of the only views with special qualities in the parish, there are many other views that contribute to local distinctiveness and rural character and it should not be inferred that other views in the parish have little value and are not worthy of protection.

¹ Visual Representation of Development Proposals, Technical Guidance Note 06/19 17 September 2019

4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-

Table 4.2 Locally Important Views Log and Description

Key plan reference See Fig. 13	Location	Receptors	Description and aspects of value within the view
1	Footpath #07, looking east	Footpath users	Representative of a series of views. Unusually long panoramic vista over open countryside on the lower valley slopes across the Gipping Valley to the extensive listed parkland and stately home at Shrubland Hall, Coddendam. The front of the Hall itself is glimpsed at certain points on the footpaths in this area. Little other evidence of the modern world despite the A14 sitting, generally out of sight, in the bottom of the valley. Strong rural feel with mature woodland framing the view to either side - sense of naturalness, tranquillity and history.
2	Footpath #21, looking east	Footpath users	Representative of a series of views. Long panoramic vista over open countryside on the lower valley slopes to across the Gipping Valley to the extensive listed parkland and stately home at Shrubland Hall, Coddendam. Enables appreciation of the rolling contours of the valley topography.
3	Footpath #48	Footpath users / Road users	View from footpath 48 down through narrow valley sub-system. Mature woodland encloses the view and gives strong sense of tranquillity and ruralness. The relatively steep topography contributes significantly to distinctiveness and the scenic qualities of this attractive view. View back into this meadow from the lane are of similar quality (see photo on page 50).
4	Footpath #36, looking east	Footpath users	Representative of a series of views. Elevated views over the intimate picturesque valley that contains Baylham Common. The backs of dwellings on Upper Street and St Peter’s Church are glimpsed. Steeply rolling topography is highly distinctive and the church adds a landmark feature and sense of history in its apparently isolated position. Visually, the equestrian land use does not add positively but the underlying landscape qualities remain robustly evident despite its prevalence.
5	From Back Road, looking north east	Road users and walkers (small number)	Long views over intimate rolling countryside down the picturesque sub-valley that contains Baylham Common, to rooftops of dwellings on Upper Street and St Peter’s Church tower. Such complex topography is not common in Suffolk. Distant views to wooded valley sides and skyline on the other side of the Gipping are also possible. Sense of isolation and tranquillity which belies the proximity of Great Blakenham and the A14 with its sizeable commercial and transport related infrastructure.
6	On Footpath #32 at the junction with Back Road and, looking north/east	Footpath users Road users	Representative of a series of views from the footpath network across the picturesque sub-valley that contains Baylham Common over intimate countryside, to St Peter’s Church. Scenic views result from the combination of rolling contours, woodland, pasture, and the landmark heritage feature - the church - which acts as a focal point in the view. Strong sense of history from the limited modern features in the view.

4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-

Table 4.2 Locally Important Views Log and Description

Key plan reference See Fig. 13	Location	Receptors	Description and aspects of value within the view
7	On Footpath #30, looking east	Footpath users	<p>Mid length views are available up and down the picturesque rolling sub-valley that contains Baylham Common. Photo selected shows picturesque westward view in the direction of Knotting Grove and Baylham Hall. Very wooded skyline and pastoral land use gives a sense of history and time depth. Visually, the equestrian land use does not add positively but the underlying landscape qualities remain robustly evident despite its prevalence.</p> <p>Similarly pleasant views in the opposite direction although polytunnels and small holding structures interfere somewhat with the scenic qualities.</p>
8	From Back Road, looking north west	Footpath users Road users	<p>At a small number of points on Back Road views over the attractive, wooded rolling sub-valley are possible to the backs of houses on Upper Street. These views reveal the distinctive topography and setting to the village. Equestrian land use, polytunnels and small holding structures somewhat detract but the scenic qualities of the landscape are robust.</p>
9	On Footpath #49, looking south east	Footpath users (promoted long distance route) and visitors to Baylham Rare Breed Farm	<p>Scenic views from Mill Lane over the Gipping and its adjacent grazed water meadows- the featured photo is taken from the bridge. Sense of historic, little changed landscape - interrupted at intervals by passing trains on the mainline.</p> <p>'Reverse views' from the footpath as it skirts the meadow are of equal quality and feature the Mill and bridge.</p>
10	On Mill Lane, looking east	Road users	<p>Views to the listed water mill and bridge flanked by grazing meadows. A historic view that would improve if refurbishment of the Mill were to take place. Selective tree clearance could help the landmark value of the features.</p>
11	On Footpath #22, looking west and south	Footpath users	<p>Close/middle distance highly scenic views over intact historic meadows to the frontage of Glebe House and the church tower (in winter only). Strong sense of history and traditional land use. Little sense of the modern world.</p>
12	In the churchyard looking south/west	Worshippers and visitors to the church and churchyard	<p>Mid range scenic view through gaps in the Churchyard boundary vegetation over the intimate valley to a wooded skyline ridge. The relatively steep topography contributes significantly to distinctiveness and the scenic qualities of this attractive view.</p>

4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-



1 Eastwards towards shrublands from footpath No. 7



2



3



4

4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-



5



6

4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-



7



8

4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-



9



10

4.3. Locally Important Views continued:-



11



12

References

Web Resources

DEFRA Mapping

magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap

CPRE Dark Skies Mapping

<https://www.cpre.org.uk/light-pollution-dark-skies-map/>

Babergh Mid Suffolk Local Plan Mapping

<https://baberghmidsuffolk.opus4.co.uk/>

Babergh Mid Suffolk Local Plan Policies

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/joint-local-plan>

Wikipedia - general information

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baylham>

Historic England Listed Buildings Register

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/map-search/>

Historic Mapping

<https://maps.nls.uk/>

Woodland Trust Veteran Trees Mapping

<https://ati.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>

Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service

<https://www.suffolkbis.org.uk/>

Suffolk Heritage Information Service

<https://heritage.suffolk.gov.uk/>

Suffolk Landscape Assessment

<http://www.suffolklandscape.org.uk/>

Locality

<https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance>

National Planning Policy Framework

[www.](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/431424/nppf-2019.pdf)

Babergh Mid Suffolk Joint Landscape Guidance 2015

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/documents/54707/94713/Joint-Landscape-Guidance-Aug-2015.pdf/>

Books

Hodkinson's Map of Suffolk in 1783, Intro. by D.P. Dymond, Larks Press,,2003; reprinted 2016)

An Approach to Landscape Character Assessment, Natural England, 2014

The Suffolk Landscape, Norman Scarfe, 2002