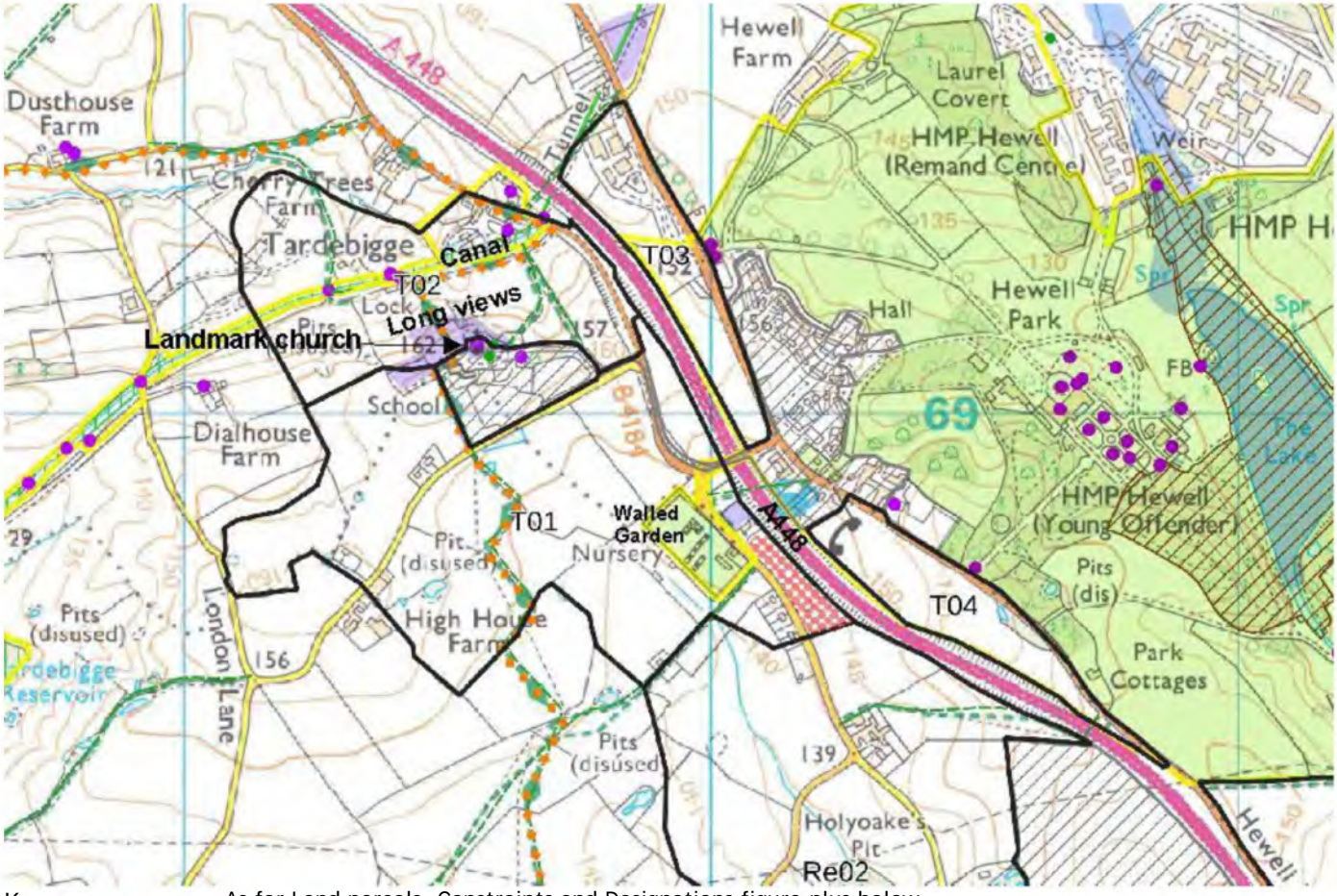
Settlement Sensitivity Summary: Tardebigge

Summary

The area considered around Tardebigge lies on gently undulating land with distinct slopes down to the Worcester and Birmingham canal with its associated locks, workshops and tunnel entrance. This estate farmland lies west of Hewell Grange Registered Park and Garden and is split by the A448 which is mainly on an embankment. The listed St Bartholomew's Church and its spire is a distinctive landmark on the skyline visible to a wide area, especially to the north. The area east of the A448 and the walled garden to the west are part of the Hewell Grange Conservation Area and the canal is also a Conservation Area. There are various listed structures such as gatehouses related to the Park and Garden and some distinctive estate-related buildings along Hewell Lane.

Sensitivity to housing is considered high on the area to the north around the canal and church and along Hewell Lane close to the Registered Park and Garden and within the Conservation Area. Sensitivity is considered high/medium to the south and west of the A448. There may be a limited opportunity in T01 to the south east of the bowling green for a linear development of a few houses along the minor road opposite existing houses.

Sensitivity to employment use is considered high in all areas.



Key

As for Land parcels, Constraints and Designations figure plus below.

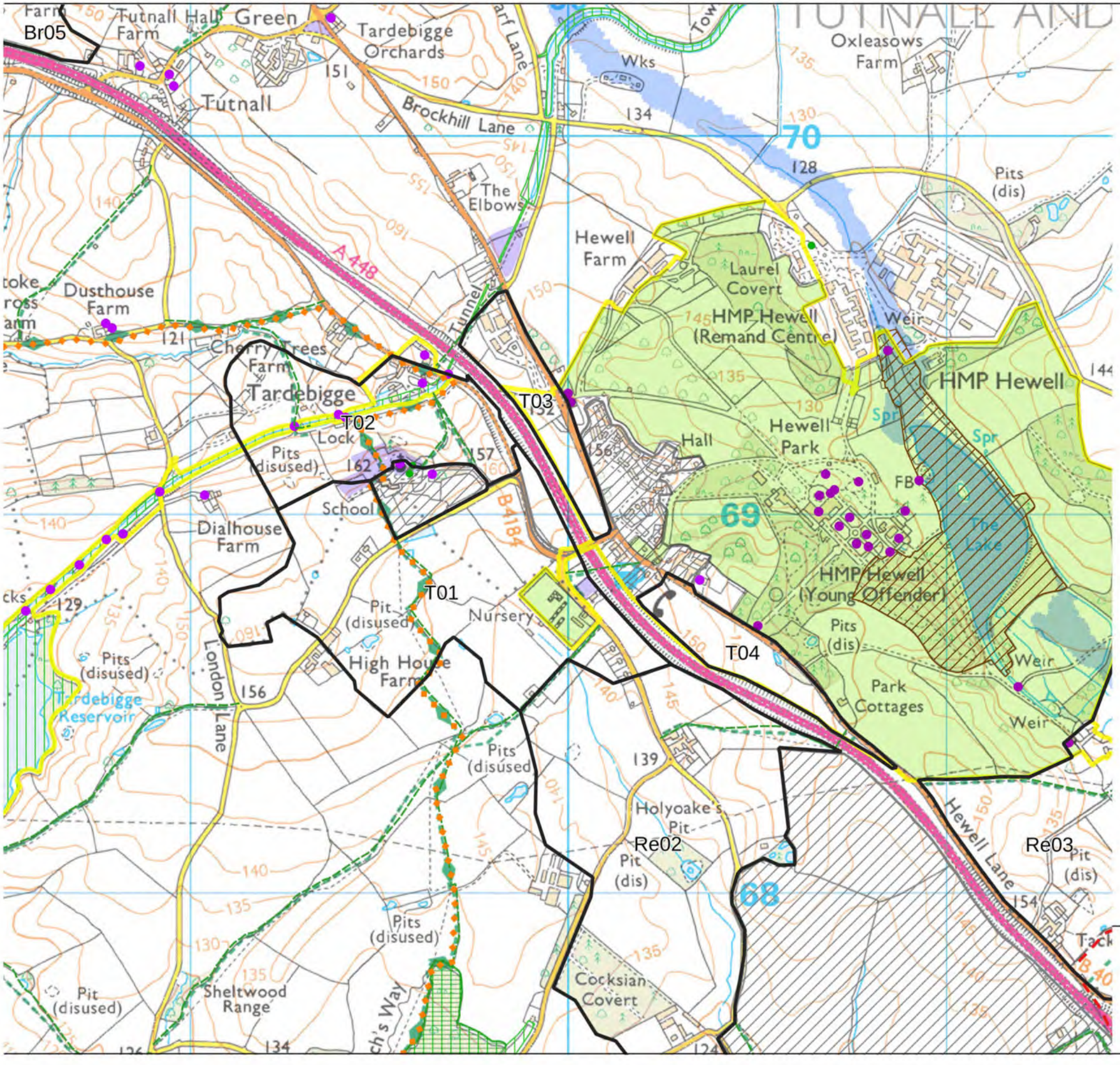
Secondary opportunity for Housing

View south east towards Hewell Grange across undulating landscape (T01).

View north to minor skyline west of Hewell Lane (T03).

View of Tardebigge church on skyline beyond canal and sloping sheep pasture (T02).

Approaches to the settlement along Hewell Lane with Tardebigge and church spire in the background (T04).



KEY

- District Boundary
- Land Parcels
- Settlement development limits
- Ancient Woodland
- Ancient Veteran and Notable Trees
- Registered Historic Parks & Gardens
- Conservation Areas
- Listed Buildings
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Local Wildlife sites
- Open Spaces
- Monarchs Way
- Public rights of way
- Flood Zone 3

N

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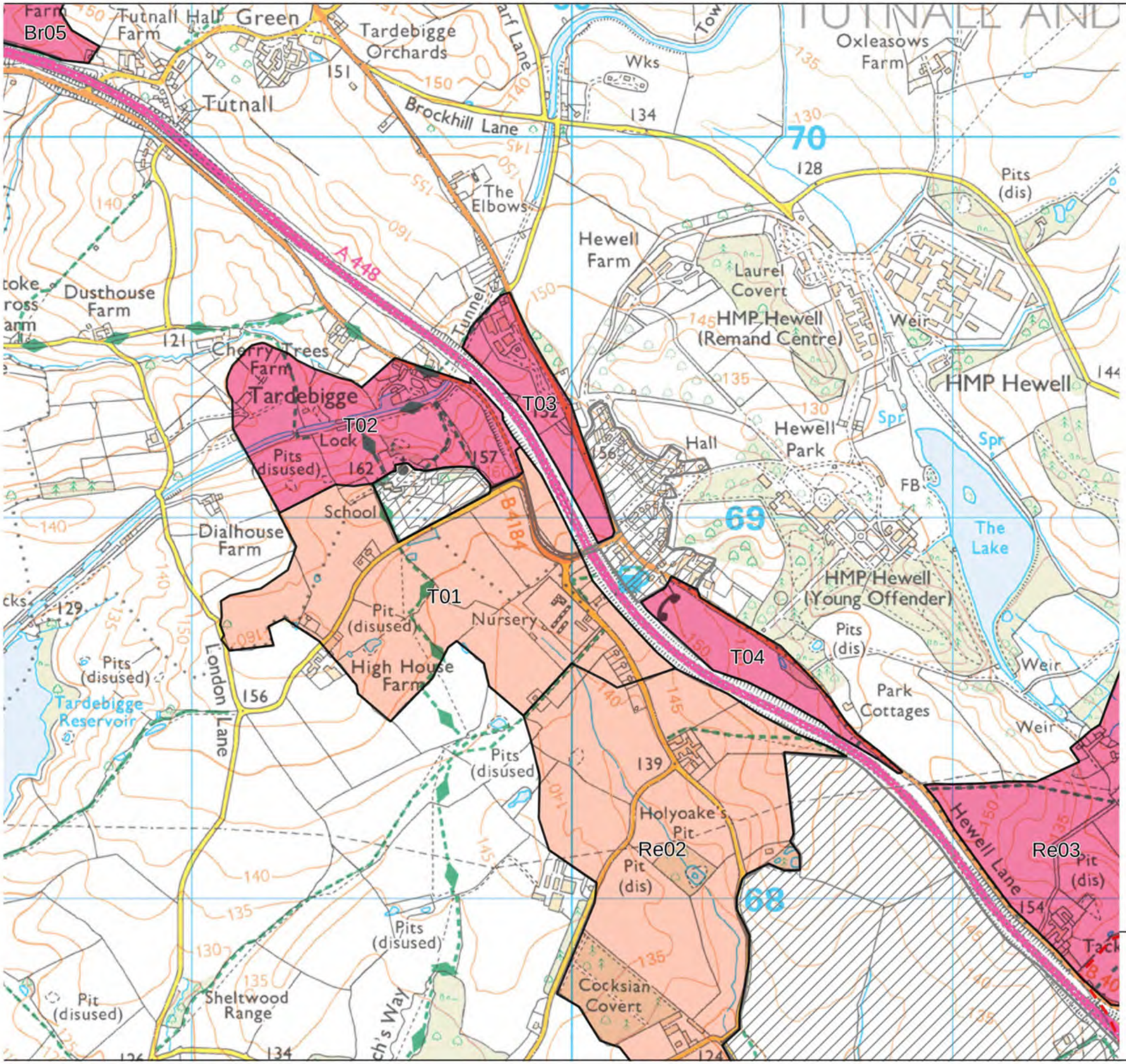
Project: Bromsgrove District Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Study
Client: Bromsgrove District Council

Tardebigge
Land parcels, Constraints and Designations



KEY

- District Boundary
- Settlement development limits

Sensitivity to housing development

- High
- High/medium

N

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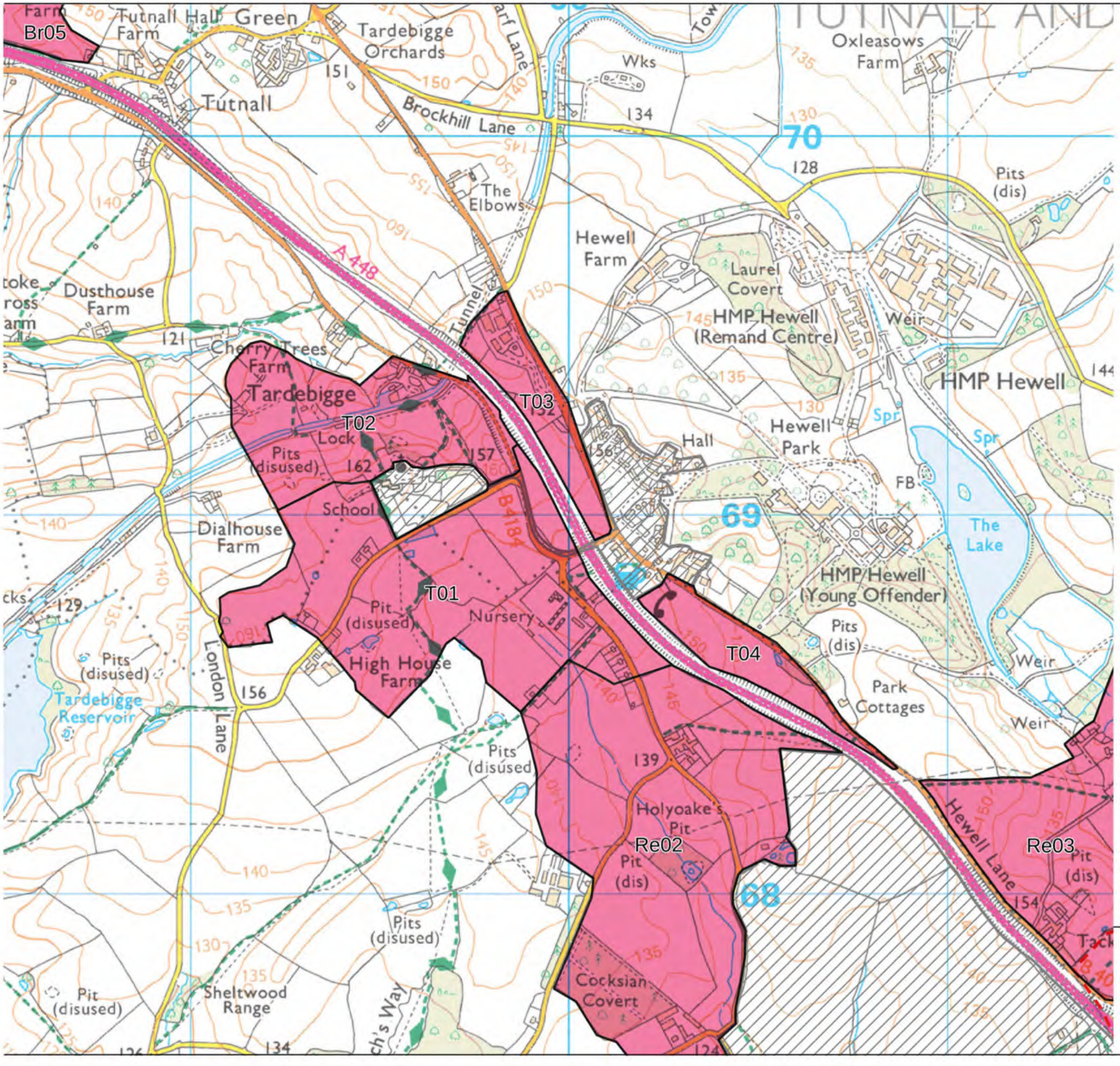
Project: Bromsgrove District Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Study
Client: Bromsgrove District Council

Tardebigge
Settlements: Sensitivity to Housing



KEY

District Boundary

Settlement development limits

Sensitivity to employment use

High

N

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Project: Bromsgrove District Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Study
Client: Bromsgrove District Council

Tardebigge
Landscape sensitivity to employment use

Land Cover Parcel No.	T01

ASSESSED SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Sensitivity to Housing	High/Medium
Sensitivity to Employment	High

Sensitivity Summary

The landscape value lies in the walled garden which is part of the Hewell Grange Registered Park and Garden and Conservation Area, the field ponds , tree cover and hedges. The landscape susceptibility to housing lies in the open rolling slopes , role as the skyline to the north, the relationship with the church spire landmark in trees to the north, the separation of the area from the main part of the settlement on the other side of the A448, and presence in an essentially rural landscape on the edge of a very small rural settlement. The visual susceptibility to housing lies in the intervisibility to the rural landscape to the south west, views from Monarch's Way which passes through the centre of the area and from PROWs to the south and west. The parcel is sensitive to housing at most scales due to the small size of the settlement and its relationship with Hewell Grange and its intervisibility in its western parts. Very limited housing in linear form with large rear gardens may be able to be accommodated south east of the bowling green but no further south than existing dwellings and the existing hedge. Linear and other development to the north would undermine the open green and rural connection between the Park and Tardebigge church. Sensitivity to employment uses would be greater than to housing due to the size and visibility of structures and as it would be completely out of character.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT

National character area	Arden
WCC landscape character type (LCT)	Wooded Estatelands
WCC land cover parcel (LCP) sensitivity	High

LANDSCAPE VALUE FACTORS

Landscape designations	H/M	-
Natural heritage	M/L	Larger arable fields with trimmed hedges and field ponds surrounded by trees to the west and smaller enclosure of meadows/pasture to the east.
Cultural heritage	H/M	Walled Garden associated with Hewell Grange originally which forms part of the Registered Park and Garden and also the Conservation Area. Piecemeal enclosure, now amalgamated, of arable fields with trimmed hedges and field ponds surrounded by trees to the west and smaller piecemeal enclosure of meadows/pasture to the east.
Distinctiveness	H/M	The brick walled kitchen garden is distinctive and the area is distinctive as a wooded estateland with small woods.
Perceptual	H/M	
Scenic factors		Attractive rolling open agricultural landscape.
Tranquillity		Some noise from A448 on embankment to the east although screened by vegetation. Settlement limited to some rural dwellings. Monarch's Way running through area.
Recreational and functional	M	
Recreational		Monarch's Way
Functional		Ponds and woodland have GI potential.
Condition	M/L	Redundant hedges internally but well trimmed roadside hedgerows.

Associations		N/A
Summary evaluation of overall value		**H/M**

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

Natural factors	M	
Landform eg steep slopes		Gently rolling slopes rising to the north.
Presence of water		Several remnant field ponds.
Cultural factors	M	
Historic field/land use pattern		Piecemeal enclosure, now amalgamated, of arable fields with trimmed hedges and field ponds surrounded by trees to the west and smaller piecemeal enclosure of meadows/pasture to the east.
Settlement pattern		Rural dwellings on the fringes in linear pattern along lane to the east.
Land use factors	M	
Function of area e.g. floodplain, GI corridor, biodiversity corridor or patch, productive land.		Ponds with trees act as GI patches with hedges as GI corridors.
Amenity- presence of footpaths/recreation corridors		Monarch's Way
Functional relationship between the area and the settlement/key features		As above.
Perceptual factors		
Scale		Large to small.
Enclosure		Open to the west and more enclosed to the east.
Skyline		Spire and woodland and hedge to the north on skyline.
Landmarks/features		Church spire and woodland to the north.
Detractors		A448.
Settlement edge character		Divorced from main settlement by A448. Key buildings within trees to the north.
Visual relationship between the area and the settlement/key features (eg cumulative impact issues)		Divorced from main settlement by A448. Key buildings within trees to the north.
Summary evaluation of landscape susceptibility		**H/M**

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

General factors		
Intervisibility	H/M	Highly intervisible to the south.
Key views	H	View from Monarch's Way.
Key receptors		
Residents- rural/semi-rural	H	Rural residents to south east

Residents-urban/suburban edge		N/A
Promoted trails	H	Monarch's Way through the area.
Public rights of way	H/M	PROWs to the south and west
Access/common land		N/A
Cycleways		N/A
Roads	M	Lanes and A448 glimpses in winter.
Summary evaluation of visual susceptibility		**H/M**

OPPORTUNITIES, DESIGN AND MITIGATION

Development location, layout and design recommendations where appropriate:

Housing is undesirable in this parcel. Very limited housing in linear form with large rear gardens may be able to be accommodated south east of the bowling green but no further south than existing dwellings and the existing hedge. Houses should reflect or be sensitive to the rural estate style including front boundaries.

Opportunities and potential for landscape mitigation where appropriate:

As above.

Land Cover Parcel No.	T02

ASSESSED SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Sensitivity to Housing	High
Sensitivity to Employment	High

Sensitivity Summary

The landscape value lies in the Worcester & Birmingham canal, designated as a Conservation Area and a Local Wildlife site, the role of the area as a landscape setting to the listed St Bartholomew's Church and other buildings and their approaches on the hilltop to the south, the superb views from the churchyard and PROWs including Monarch's Way to the north and west, and the tree cover that complements the built form, particularly around the church. Landscape susceptibility to housing lies in the steep open slopes exposed to view to the north, east and west, the unspoilt skyline, the highly rural character of the parcel and the area's relationship with landmark church and the traditional settlement cluster and the canal and the parcel's high recreational amenity value. Visual susceptibility to housing lies in the high intervisibility of the slopes, the superb views from the top of the hill and slopes over the parcel from Monarch's Way, PROWs, canal and towpath, rural residents and road users. The parcel is very sensitive to housing. The parcel has a greater sensitivity to employment use (within the range of high sensitivity) due to its greater scale and being completely out of character.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT

National character area	Arden
WCC landscape character type (LCT)	Principal Timbered Farmlands
WCC land cover parcel (LCP) sensitivity	High

LANDSCAPE VALUE FACTORS

Landscape designations	H	Conservation Area covering canal boat workshop, canal and towpath at Tardebigge.
Natural heritage	H/M	Worcester and Birmingham canal Local Wildlife site with improved pasture to the south with clusters of trees and scrub on the hill slopes to the south and a fine mature clump of trees around the church, including some conifers, and further improved pasture to the north partly enclosed by outgrown hedgerows.
Cultural heritage	H	Canal and the associated bridges, locks and workshops at the mouth of the Tardebigge tunnel. Irregular fields derived from piecemeal enclosure and amalgamated south of the canal on slopes running up to St Bartholomew's Church.
Distinctiveness	H	Highly distinctive sloping area defined by St Bartholomew's Church and spire on the hilltop and canal at the base wih a strong industrial heritage character.
Perceptual	H	
Scenic factors		Attractive sloping landscape with wide views to the north and views to the church and canal.
Tranquillity		A448 screened to the east of Alcester Road. Built form rural with canal related buiildings. Three PROWs.
Recreational and functional	H	
Recreational		Three PROWs and Monarch's Way crossing canal.
Functional		Canal Local Wildlife site with clusters of trees and scrub on the hill slopes and top and outgrown hedgerows contribute to GI.
Condition	M	Canal and towpath generally well maintained, but adjoining land often overgrazed

		with gappy hedgerows, or overgrown/untidyly managed.
Associations	H	Strong associated industrial heritage.
Summary evaluation of overall value		**H**

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

Natural factors	H	
Landform eg steep slopes		Steep north facing slopes to the canal with flatter land to the north and south.
Presence of water		Canal
Cultural factors	H/M	
Historic field/land use pattern		Irregular fields derived from piecemeal enclosure and amalgamated south of the canal.
Settlement pattern		Settled pattern of dispersed farmsteads and clusters of roadside dwellings and some canal boats as dwellings.
Land use factors	H/M	
Function of area e.g. floodplain, GI corridor, biodiversity corridor or patch, productive land.		Canal Local Wildlife site with clusters of trees and scrub on the hill slopes and top and outgrown hedgerows contribute to GI.
Amenity- presence of footpaths/recreation corridors		Canal is major strategic recreational corridor and is combined with Monarch's Way and several PROWs crossing it.
Functional relationship between the area and the settlement/key features		PROWs link settlement around church to canal and wider countryside.
Perceptual factors	H	
Scale		Medium.
Enclosure		Enclosed along canal towpath, but more open with longer distance views from adjoining higher ground.
Skyline		Prominent skyline at top of slope along southern edge of parcel, but elsewhere variable.
Landmarks/features		Church spire on hilltop.
Detractors		-
Settlement edge character		Only church visible in strongly treed setting on hilltop.
Visual relationship between the area and the settlement/key features (eg cumulative impact issues)		Area acts as strong rural and relatively open setting to church and associated buildings.
Summary evaluation of landscape susceptibility		**H**

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

General factors		
Intervisibility	H	High intervisibility of area with its surroundings.

Key views	H	Distant views over rural landscapes to the north and west from PROWs and churchyard.
Key receptors		
Residents- rural/semi-rural	H/M	Farmsteads and rural dwellings within and around parcel.
Residents-urban/suburban edge		-
Promoted trails	H	Monarch's Way and Worcestershire & Birmingham canal towpath passing through the area.
Public rights of way	H/M	Other PROWs connecting with towpath.
Access/common land		-
Cycleways		-
Roads	M/L	Restricted views from road passing through eastern edge of area.
Summary evaluation of visual susceptibility		**H**

OPPORTUNITIES, DESIGN AND MITIGATION

Development location, layout and design recommendations where appropriate:

Opportunities and potential for landscape mitigation where appropriate:

Land Cover Parcel No.	T03

ASSESSED SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Sensitivity to Housing	High
Sensitivity to Employment	High

Sensitivity Summary

The landscape value of this land parcel lies in its location partly within the Hewell Grange Conservation Area, its relationship with the historic parkland entrance with listed gatehouses opposite the parcel across the old road, its estate character and related copse and well managed hedgerows. Landscape susceptibility to housing lies in its role as a green buffer between the parkland and the A448, its rolling landform leading to a skyline located centrally, and its open historic rural estate character and acting as the setting to a key view to the distinctive Tardebigge pub which is one of the key buildings indicating the character and prosperity of the estate. Visual susceptibility lies in views from two roads running either side of the parcel and and from users of the adjacent Tardebigge pub. The parcel is very sensitive to housing in this estate landscape. Sensitivity to employment use is greater (within the range of high sensitivity) with the greater impact of commercial buildings and the limited depth of the parcel.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT

National character area	Arden
WCC landscape character type (LCT)	Wooded Estatelands
WCC land cover parcel (LCP) sensitivity	Medium

LANDSCAPE VALUE FACTORS

Landscape designations	H	Hewell Grange Conservation Area extends into the southern part of this parcel.
Natural heritage	M	Mix of trimmed and outgrown hedgerows with copse and occasional hedgerow trees bounding mainly arable land.
Cultural heritage	H	Within Hewell Grange Conservation Area and adjacent to the Registered Park and Garden indicated by two listed gatehouses on the other side of the old road. Semi-regular fields derived from piecemeal enclosure with a linear character caused by the A448 cutting through the field pattern.
Distinctiveness	H/M	This area has a strong wooded estate character.
Perceptual	M	
Scenic factors		Well managed farmed estate landscape.
Tranquillity		Between A448 which is a major noise source and old road. Settlement edge largely screened by trees and set back from road. No public access.
Recreational and functional	M	
Recreational		No access into parcel by PROW.
Functional		Mix of trimmed and outgrown hedgerows with copse and occasional hedgerow trees contribute to GI. Productive arable land.
Condition	H/M	Landscape features such as hedgerows generally well maintained.
Associations		-
Summary evaluation of overall value		**M**

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

Natural factors	M	
Landform eg steep slopes		Rolling landform
Presence of water		-
Cultural factors	M	
Historic field/land use pattern		Semi-regular fields derived from piecemeal enclosure with a linear character caused by the A448 cutting through the field pattern.
Settlement pattern		None within parcel.
Land use factors	M	
Function of area e.g. floodplain, GI corridor, biodiversity corridor or patch, productive land.		Mix of trimmed and outgrown hedgerows with copse and occasional hedgerow trees contribute to GI.
Amenity- presence of footpaths/recreation corridors		No public access.
Functional relationship between the area and the settlement/key features		No direct functional relationship.
Perceptual factors	H/M	
Scale		Medium
Enclosure		Strong sense of enclosure from surrounding woodland edge and tree lined hedgerow along A448.
Skyline		Forms skyline in views along old road.
Landmarks/features		The Tardebigge pub is a highly distinctive building evoking the character of the estate.
Detractors		Adjoining A448
Settlement edge character		Softened by tree cover and internal open space.
Visual relationship between the area and the settlement/key features (eg cumulative impact issues)		Limited visual relationship to settlement, other than providing a rural setting.
Summary evaluation of landscape susceptibility		**H/M**

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

General factors		
Intervisibility	M/L	Self contained landscape with low intervisibility.
Key views	H/M	Along old road towards The Tardebigge.
Key receptors		
Residents- rural/semi-rural		-
Residents-urban/suburban edge		-
Promoted trails		-

Public rights of way		-
Access/common land		-
Cycleways		-
Roads	M	Frequent views from adjoining roads.
Summary evaluation of visual susceptibility		**M**

OPPORTUNITIES, DESIGN AND MITIGATION

Development location, layout and design recommendations where appropriate:

Opportunities and potential for landscape mitigation where appropriate:

Land Cover Parcel No.	T04

ASSESSED SENSITIVITY EVALUATION

Sensitivity to Housing	High
Sensitivity to Employment	High

Sensitivity Summary

The landscape value of this land parcel lies in its location within the Hewell Grange Conservation Area, its relationship with the historic parkland and listed Home Farmhouse opposite the parcel across the old road, its estate character and related copse and well managed hedgerows. Landscape susceptibility to housing lies in its role as a green buffer between the parkland and distinctive estate buildings and the A448, its rolling landform leading to a skyline located centrally, and its open historic rural estate character. Visual susceptibility lies in views from two roads running either side of the parcel and and from users of the adjacent Home Farmhouse. The parcel is very sensitive to housing in this estate landscape. Sensitivity to employment use is greater (within the range of high sensitivity) with the greater impact of commercial buildings on estate character and the limited depth of the parcel.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER CONTEXT

National character area	Arden
WCC landscape character type (LCT)	Wooded Estatelands
WCC land cover parcel (LCP) sensitivity	Medium

LANDSCAPE VALUE FACTORS

Landscape designations	H	Hewell Grange Conservation Area extends into all of this parcel.
Natural heritage	M	Trimmed hedgerows with copse and very occasional hedgerow trees bounding arable field.
Cultural heritage	H	Within Hewell Grange Conservation Area and adjacent to the Registered historic Park and Garden including listed watertower on the other side of the old road. Listed Home Farmhouse which related to historic vernacular estate complex overlooks area across B4096. Large semi-regular field derived from piecemeal enclosure with a linear character caused by the A448 cutting through the field pattern.
Distinctiveness	H/M	This area has a strong wooded estate character.
Perceptual	M	
Scenic factors		Well managed farmed estate landscape complementing verancular complex to the north east.
Tranquillity		Between A448 which is a major noise source and old road. Old settlement edge apparent. No public access.
Recreational and functional	M	
Recreational		No access into parcel by PROW.
Functional		Trimmed hedgerows with copse and very occasional hedgerow trees contribute to GI. Productive arable land.
Condition	H/M	Landscape features such as hedgerows generally well maintained.
Associations		-

Summary evaluation of overall value		**M**

LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

Natural factors	M	
Landform eg steep slopes		Rolling landform
Presence of water		Small pond
Cultural factors	M	
Historic field/land use pattern		Large semi-regular field derived from piecemeal enclosure with a linear character caused by the A448 cutting through the field pattern.
Settlement pattern		None within parcel.
Land use factors	H/M	
Function of area e.g. floodplain, GI corridor, biodiversity corridor or patch, productive land.		Trimmed hedgerows with copse and very occasional hedgerow trees contribute to GI. Productive arable land.
Amenity- presence of footpaths/recreation corridors		No public access.
Functional relationship between the area and the settlement/key features		No direct functional relationship.
Perceptual factors	H/M	
Scale		Medium
Enclosure		Strong sense of enclosure from surrounding woodland edge and tree lined hedgerow along A448.
Skyline		Forms skyline in views along old road.
Landmarks/features		Home Farmhouse and Watertower adjacent (although screened from the road by tree cover).
Detractors		Adjoining A448
Settlement edge character		Traditional vernacular buildings on other side of old road form a very positive edge. Small single storey roadside 'Old Forge' building to the north west with car park.
Visual relationship between the area and the settlement/key features (eg cumulative impact issues)		Parcel forms strong open rural estate setting.
Summary evaluation of landscape susceptibility		**H/M**

VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY FACTORS

General factors		
Intervisibility	M/L	Self contained landscape with low intervisibility.
Key views	M/L	Limited viewpoints.
Key receptors		

Residents- rural/semi-rural	H	From Home Farmhouse.
Residents-urban/suburban edge		
Promoted trails		-
Public rights of way		-
Access/common land		-
Cycleways		-
Roads	M	Frequent views from adjoining roads.
Summary evaluation of visual susceptibility		**H/M**

OPPORTUNITIES, DESIGN AND MITIGATION

Development location, layout and design recommendations where appropriate:

Opportunities and potential for landscape mitigation where appropriate: