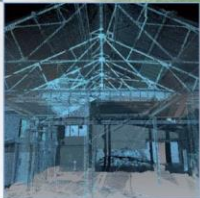
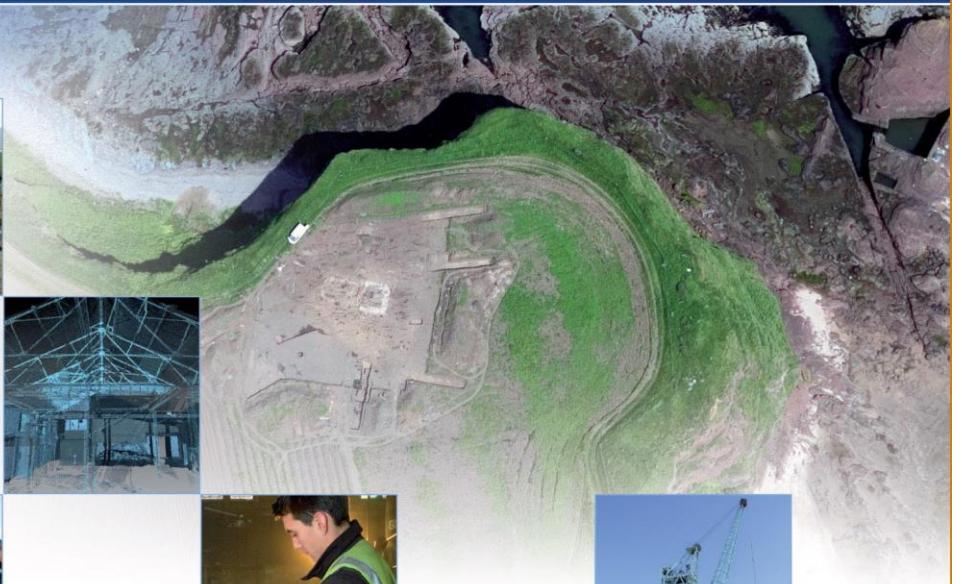


Heath Farm Solar Farm, Leicestershire: Cultural Heritage Assessment

AOC Project Number: 26242

June 2025



Heath Farm Solar Farm, Bagworth, Leicestershire:

Cultural Heritage Assessment

On Behalf of:	Renewable Connections Developments Ltd
National Grid Reference (NGR):	SK 45429 05884 (centre)
AOC Project No:	26242
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This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by Renewable Connections Developments Ltd to provide cultural heritage advice during the formulation of proposals for a solar farm development on land south of Heath Road in Bagworth, Leicestershire (the Proposed Development) (Figure 1). This will include a grid connection that, with the exception of the point of connection itself, will be routed beneath the public highway. The Site lies within the administrative area of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council.
- 1.2 This Cultural Heritage Assessment will be submitted with an accompanying Geophysical Survey report (AOC Archaeology Group 2024) as part of the planning application package.
- 1.3 This assessment has established that the Site was predominantly used for agricultural purposes from at least the post-medieval period until the present day. Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) records the Site as 'Very Large Post-War Enclosed Fields' (HLE421), which were usually created through the amalgamation of smaller fields in order to meet the requirements of intensive 20th century arable cultivation. No heritage assets are recorded on the Site either by Historic England's National Heritage List for England (NHLE) or the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (HER). A geophysical survey of the Site was undertaken in 2018 by a different developer as part of an unrelated development proposal. This identified a range of anomalies that are believed to relate to ploughing, field boundaries and drainage. While the archaeological report on this work is in the public domain through the HER, the geophysical data itself is not and presumably has been retained by the original developer. A second geophysical survey was undertaken in 2023 by AOC Archaeology as part of the proposed mitigation package and identified similar agricultural remains.
- 1.4 The assessment considers that there is therefore a Low potential for finds or remains from the prehistoric, Roman, Early Historic and medieval periods to be present on the Site. Given the results of the geophysical survey there is considered to be a Medium to High potential for agricultural post-medieval remains and a Low potential for other post-medieval remains to survive on the Site. Post-medieval agricultural remains relating to ploughing, drainage and former boundaries are generally considered to be of Negligible importance as they are common features recorded on historic mapping. Overall, there is considered to be a Low potential for Modern remains to survive on the Site and any remains that do survive are likely to be of Negligible importance. Whilst it is possible that disturbance associated with modern agricultural activities may be encountered, there is a potential for previously unrecorded buried archaeological remains to survive on the Site, although the impacts of modern ploughing must be taken into account.
- 1.5 The proposed solar farm at Bagworth is being structured around a 'maximum design scenario' which reflects the 'Rochdale Envelope' approach. This provides a 'worst case' scenario approach to the impact of a project and allows for a broad definition of the project to be framed within a number of set parameters. This approach allows for a project to be assessed on the basis of maximum project design parameters in order to provide flexibility, while ensuring all potentially significant effects (positive or adverse) are assessed within the planning application. The ultimate design of the constructed development will not be finalised until consent has been obtained, and therefore the cultural heritage strategy needs to be flexible enough to evolve during the course of the design process.
- 1.6 A four-stage mitigation process is therefore proposed:
- A Cultural Heritage Assessment (CHA) (this assessment),
 - An additional Geophysical Survey (undertaken in 2023 by AOC Archaeology Group 2024),

- Development of the Submission Design (which would be informed by the CHA and the results of the Geophysical Survey); and
 - Archaeological mitigation measures (if required).
- 1.7 Although the results of both geophysical surveys suggest that the Site's archaeological potential may be limited, the possibility that previously unrecorded buried archaeological remains may survive cannot be discounted. Consultation between the Applicant, AOC and the Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET) at Leicestershire County Council who provide archaeological advice to Hinkley and Bosworth Borough Council established that although further archaeological work will be required this can be secured by means of a planning condition and undertaken post-determination. HNET indicated that they will recommend trial trenching based on an initial 2% sample, but with an additional 1% sample available as a contingency in the event of additional clarification of features being required. Any mitigation would be carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which would be approved by HNET prior to any work being undertaken. The WSI should also include provision for further phases of monitoring or investigations should this be required, as well as reporting for post-excavation analysis, reporting and dissemination.
- 1.8 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) records scheduled moated sites at Lindridge Fields Farm (**Asset 2**) and Bagworth (**Asset 36**) within the 2km study area whilst a third Scheduled moated site (**Asset 1**) lies immediately adjacent to the study area at Newbold Verdon Hall, the Hall itself being Grade I Listed (**Asset 3**). Newbold Verdon moat (**Asset 1**), the hall (**Asset 3**) and nine Grade II Listed Buildings (**Assets 4-9 & 11-12**) all lie within the Newbold Verdon Conservation Area (**Asset 14**). The Grade II Listed Ivy Cottage (**Asset 10**) is located to the west of the Conservation Area.
- 1.9 There are four II Grade Listed Buildings in the village of Barlestone to the west of the Site (**Assets 38, 40-42**), which include the Church of St Giles (**Asset 42**). The NHLE also record the Grade I Church of St Peter (**Asset 37**) and two Grade II Listed Buildings to the north of the Site (**Assets 39 & 43**).
- 1.10 The site visits to designated heritage assets within the 2km Study Area found that the Proposed Development would potentially be visible from the Grade II Listed Bagworth War Memorial (**Asset 43**) and the Grade II Listed corner cottage (**Asset 39**) in Station Lane. The remaining designated assets have no intervisibility with the Site due to intervening topography, vegetation or built structures. Where this assessment has found that there is no potential for the Proposed Development to impact upon the setting of an asset, then no harm will occur. Where potential intervisibility has been identified it is generally very limited and distant and, consequently, the assessed levels of impact upon the character of Bagworth War Memorial (**Asset 43**) and the corner cottage in Station Lane (**Asset 39**) are judged to be Neutral. Neutral effects are not considered to constitute harm in terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
- 1.11 For all of the designated assets considered by this assessment the potential impact upon their setting has been judged to be none or Neutral. Consequently, no harm to these assets is predicted, and the policy tests as set out in NPPF are not invoked.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Site Location

- 2.1.1 The proposed solar farm (henceforth ‘the Site’) consists of three fields in agricultural land south of Heath Road in Bagworth. The Site is centred SK 45429 05884, and it is bound to the south by Merrylees Road and to the north by Heath Road and agricultural fields, and to the west and the east by agricultural fields. The site boundary also includes the route of the proposed grid connection that, with the exception of the point of connection itself, will be routed beneath the public highway. The village of Bagworth is located to the north of the Site and the village of Newbold Verdon is located to the southwest of the Site (**Figure 1**).

2.2 Topographical & Geological Conditions

- 2.2.1 The British Geological Survey (BGS) (2024) indicates that the Site is largely underlain by Edwalton Member (mudstone), a sedimentary bedrock formed between 237 and 228.4 million years ago during the Triassic period.
- 2.2.2 The BGS (2024) records the superficial deposit in Fields A and B as Oadby Member (diamicton), a sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period; on Field C as Thrussington Member (mudstone), a sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period.
- 2.2.3 The BGS (2024) records two historic boreholes on the southeast corner of Field B (SK40NE60 & SK40NE5) immediately to the north of Merrylees Road. Both boreholes were sunk in a section of Halifax Farm by Desford Colliery Coal Company in 1915 which confirmed the presence of coal measures. Another borehole (SK40NE38) was sunk on the western edge of the Site in 1975 to prove the base of Trias and New Main seam. The records of the boreholes are summarised below:

BGS Reference SK40NE60

This Borehole was located at NGR 445829, 305680 and recorded soil and gravel to a depth of 0.6m below ground level (bgl), layers of boulder clay, marl, gypsum and sandstone to a depth of 96m bgl, layers of bind at a depth of 99.3m bgl and coal at a depth of 99m bgl.

BGS Reference SK40NE5

This borehole is located at NGR 445820, 305670 and recorded soil and gravel to a depth of 0.6m bgl, layers of clay, marl, gypsum and sandstone to a depth of 96.3m bgl, bind at a depth of 99.3m bgl and coal in the New Main at a depth of 99.6m bgl.

BGS Reference SK40NE38

This borehole is located at NGR 445378, 306236 and recorded gravel to a depth of 3m bgl, a sequence of mudstone, sandstone and siltstone to a depth of 120m bgl and coal at a depth of 121m bgl.

- 2.2.4 On the evidence of the 1915 bore holes it therefore appears that coal extends below the Site a depth of approximately 100m although it is unclear from Coal Authority records (BGS 2023c) whether coal was extracted from beneath the Site itself. One hundred metres is comparatively shallow for 20th century underground workings, and it should be noted that the Northern Mines Research Society record extensive damage to properties within Barlestone and Newbold Verdon resulting from the workings of the Desford and Merrylees collieries (NMRS n.d).

- 2.2.5 The Site is located on undulating land to the southeast of Little Fox Covert and to northwest of the Great Fox covert. The Site is flanked by water streams; one to the west that starts at Little Fox Covert, and it follows a northwest-southeast route and another water stream to the east that starts at Great Fox Covert that follows a northeast-southwest route. There is a shallow valley (**Plate 2**) in the ground which follows a northeast-southeast route along the east side of the eastern field which is likely a paleochannel.

2.3 Development proposal

- 2.3.1 The Proposed Development consists of the installation of a new solar farm (12MW; 27 ha) on land south of Heath Road, Bagworth, Leicestershire. The proposal will entail the erection and operation of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels as well as the construction and installation of associated infrastructure, including inverters, security cameras, fencing, access tracks, landscaping, and the grid connection route which for the most part will run beneath the public highway (**Figure 1**).

2.4 Historic Landscape

- 2.4.1. The Site lies towards the southern end of the Leicestershire and Derbyshire Coalfield. The landscape is in continuing transition, from an unenclosed rolling landform that was extensively scarred by abandoned collieries, spoil tips and clay pits, to a matrix of new woodland, restored colliery sites, active brick pits and commercial developments that are woven into an essentially rural, agricultural landscape (Natural England, 2014).
- 2.4.2. Fields A and B (**Figure 1**) is located within a Very Large Post-War Enclosed Fields Character Area (HLE4211), which is characterised by very large fields as the result of Post-War agricultural improvements intended to meet the requirements of intensive arable cultivation (Leicestershire County Council, 2019). Fields were amalgamated after the Second World War with the introduction of more powerful farm machinery. During this period there was a change from pasture to arable farming.
- 2.4.3. Field C and the cable route (**Figure 1**) are located within an area that is recorded as Planned Enclosure (HLE4202), which is characterised by small or large fields with boundaries showing a geometric planned appearance, and as a result of 18th and 19th century enclosures (Leicestershire County Council, 2019). This type includes commons enclosed by Act of Parliament. The wider landscape is predominantly agricultural, comprising an expanse of former open fields and heath divided into regular, small- to medium- sized fields, enclosed by Act of Parliament during the 18th and 19th centuries (Leicestershire County Council, 2019). The western edge of the Cable Route is located within an area that is recorded as a Farm Complex Settlement (HLE2600), which is covered by farmhouses and associated outbuildings. Most areas falling into this category are likely to date from the 18th and 19th centuries although significant number will be modern. In the case of the Cable Route, it falls within an area that appears to have been associated with the farmsteads (**Asset 47 & 54**) that are shown on the late 19th century OS maps.
- 2.4.4. The potential for below ground archaeology is dependent upon previous land use and the agricultural regimes employed on the land since enclosure. Where fields have remained in permanent pasture for a significant period potential is likely to be higher. Any field or group of fields over 1ha, for reasons of size, are considered to have Medium to High potential for Pre-Second World War remains to survive within the Site (Leicestershire County Council, 2019).

2.5 Government and local planning policies and guidance

Legislative Framework

- 2.5.1. Parliamentary legislation for Listed Buildings is provided by the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, whilst specific legislation for Scheduled Monuments is provided by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The most recent legislation, the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023, includes provision for designated heritage assets including Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Registered Parks and Gardens, as well as placing a Statutory duty on Local Planning Authorities to maintain Historic Environment Records (HERs). With regard to World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, Protected Wrecks and 'other area[s] of land included in a register maintained by the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England [Historic England]' Section 102 of the 2023 Act amends Section 58 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 include a new section, Section 58B which states that:

'In considering whether to grant planning permission or permission in principle for the development of land in England which affects a relevant asset or its setting, the local planning authority or (as the case may be) the Secretary of State must have special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the asset or its setting' (TCPA 1990, Section 58 as amended by LURA 2023, Section 102).

- 2.5.2. However, it should be noted that for the recent Hamilton Hill Solar Farm appeal decision the Inspector commented that this amendment "is not in force by Royal Assent and secondary legislation is required for it to come into force" (Thompson 2024, 2). Therefore, whilst weight should be attached to Section 102 of LURA, until the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act is amended the legislative framework remains as set out in Sections 66(1) and 72(1) of the 1990 Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act which cover Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas respectively.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 2.5.3. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and last updated in February 2025. The NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework within which locally prepared plans for development can be produced and assessed. Chapter 16 of the document is concerned with '*Conserving and enhancing the historic environment*'. It identifies heritage assets as '*an irreplaceable resource*' and notes that they "*should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations*" (MHCLG 2025, para 202).
- 2.5.4. Where designated assets are concerned, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset the greater that weight should be. '*Any harm to or loss of significance should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:*
- *grade II listed building or grade II registered parks or gardens should be exceptional;*
 - *assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.'* (MHCLG 2025, para 213).
- 2.5.5. With regard to proposals that are predicted to lead to substantial harm to or the total loss of significance to a designated asset, Paragraph 214 states that '*local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or total loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that*

outweigh that harm or loss' (MHCLG 2025, para 213). Where *'a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated asset'* Paragraph 215 states that *'this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use'* (MHCLG 2025, para 215).

2.5.6 Impacts upon non-designated heritage assets are also a pertinent planning consideration; Paragraph 216 states that *'In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset'* (MHCLG 2025, para 216).

2.5.7 Where a heritage asset is to be lost, either in part or in whole, as a result of the development, the local planning authority should require developers to *'record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible'* (MHCLG 2025, para 218).

Planning Practice Guidance

2.5.8 Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) was published in 2016 to expand upon the NPPF and is a live document which is updated periodically, though the section on the Historic Environment was last updated on the 23rd of July 2019 (DLUHC & MHCLG, Live Document, Historic Environment Section).

2.5.9 Section 18a of the guidance is concerned with *'...enhancing and conserving the historic environment'*. The Guidance notes that *'conservation is an active process of maintenance and managing change. It requires a flexible and thoughtful approach to get the best out of assets as diverse as listed buildings in everyday use and as yet undiscovered, undesignated buried remains of archaeological interest'* (Ibid, Para 002, Reference ID: 18a-002-20190723).

2.5.10 When considering whether a proposal would cause substantial harm to a designated asset the PPG observes that:

'Substantial harm is a high test, so it may not arise in many cases. For example, in determining whether works to a listed building constitute substantial harm, an important consideration would be whether the adverse impact seriously affects a key element of its special architectural or historic interest. It is the degree of harm to the asset's significance rather than the scale of the development that is to be assessed. The harm may arise from works to the asset or from development within its setting.'

While the impact of total destruction is obvious, partial destruction is likely to have a considerable impact but, depending on the circumstances, it may still be less than substantial harm or conceivably not harmful at all, for example, when removing later additions to historic buildings where those additions are inappropriate and harm the buildings' significance. Similarly, works that are moderate or minor in scale are likely to cause less than substantial harm or no harm at all. However, even minor works have the potential to cause substantial harm, depending on the nature of their impact on the asset and its setting' (Ibid, Para: 018 Reference ID: 18a-018-20190723).

Local Planning Policy – Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

2.5.11 The Site lies within the administrative area of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council whose local plan consists of a Core Strategy (2009) and its Site Allocations and Development Management Policies (2016).

- 2.5.12 The Core Strategy (2006-2026) is the key document forming the strategic component of the Local Plan. Section 4 of the Core Strategy is entitled *The Spatial Strategy*, which contains an integrated spatial strategy and policies. The following section of *Policy 11* is relevant to this assessment:

'Policy 11: Key Rural Centres Stand Alone

Newbold Verdon

To support the local services in Newbold Verdon and maintain rural population levels the council will:

- *Require new development to respect the character and appearance of the Newbold Verdon Conservation Area'* (Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, 2009a)

- 2.5.13 Section 3 of the Core Strategy is entitled *Issues, Visions and Objectives* which contains environment spatial objectives, the following elements of which are relevant to this assessment:

'Spatial Objective 10 – Natural Environment and Cultural Assets

To deliver a linked network of green infrastructure, enhancing and protecting the borough's distinctive landscapes, woodland, geology, archaeological heritage and biodiversity and encourage its understanding, appreciation, maintenance and development.

Spatial Objective 11 – Built Environment and Townscape Character

To safeguard, enhance and where necessary regenerate the borough's distinctive built environment including its wider setting particularly associated with Conservation Areas, Listed Building and historic industries' (Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, 2009a)

- 2.5.14 The Site Allocations and Development Management Policies was adopted in July 2016 and supports the delivery of the Core Strategy and contains more detailed planning policies. The following policies are relevant to this assessment:

'Policy DM10

Developments will be permitted providing that the following requirements are met:

[...] c) It complements or enhances the character of the surrounding area with regard to scale layout, density, mass, design, materials and architectural features [...]

Policy DM11 – Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment

The Borough Council will protect, conserve and enhance the historic environment throughout the borough. This will be done through the careful management of development that might adversely impact both designated and non-designated heritage assets.

All development proposals which have the potential affect heritage assets or its setting will be required to demonstrate:

- a) An understanding of the significance of the heritage assets and its setting; and*
- b) The impact of the proposal on the significance of the asset and its setting, including measures to minimise or avoid these impacts; and*
- c) How the benefits of the proposal will outweigh any harm caused;*
- d) Any impact on archaeology in line with Policy DM13*

Policy DM12 – Heritage Assets

All development proposals affecting heritage assets and their setting will be expected to secure their continued protection or enhancement, contribute to the distinctiveness of the areas in which they are located and contribute to the wider vibrancy of the borough.

Listed Buildings

Proposals for the change of use, extensions and alterations of listed buildings and development affecting the setting of listed buildings will only be permitted where it is demonstrated that the proposals are compatible with the significance of the building and its setting.

Conservation Areas

Development proposals should ensure the significance of a conservation area is preserved and enhanced through the consideration and inclusion of important features (as identified in the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan) including... the preservation and enhancement of key views and/or vistas in and out of the Conservation Area.

Historic Landscapes

Proposals affecting historic landscapes, their features or setting should have regard to their significance and be justified in line with Policy DM11...

Scheduled Monuments

Proposals which adversely affect a scheduled monument or its setting should be wholly exceptional and accompanied by clear and convincing justification.

Locally Important Heritage Assets

Assets identified on the Locally Important Heritage Asset List¹ should be retained and enhanced wherever possible. The significance of the assets illustrated in the List and the impact on this significance should be demonstrated and justified in line with Policy DM11.

Policy DM13 – Preserving the Brough's Archaeology

Where a proposal has the potential to impact a site of archaeological interest, developers should set out in their application an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where applicable, the results of a field evaluation detailing the significance of any affected asset.

Where applicable, justified and feasible the local planning authority will require remains to be preserved in situ ensuring appropriate design, layout, ground levels, foundations and site work methods to avoid any adverse impacts on the remains.

Where preservation of archaeological remains in situ is not feasible and/or justified the local planning authority will require full archaeological investigation and recording by an approved archaeological organisation before development commences.' (Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, 2016)

¹ In preparation December 2022 <https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/info/200023/conservation/316/heritage/4>

Emerging Planning Policy

- 2.5.15 Hinckley and Bosworth Council are currently working on a new Local Plan which will set out land allocations and planning policies for the period 2024 to 2045. The Draft Local Plan (June 2021-August 2021) has completed its initial Regulation 18 and Regulation 19 Consultation, and a further round of Regulation 18 Consultation in July 2024-September 2024. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) indicates that the timeframes going forwards that a further round of Regulation 18 and 19 consultations will need to be programmed in late 2025-early 2026 to allow for changes arising from the new NPPF, NPPG and standard housing method introduced in December 2024. The Local Plan submission to the Secretary of State (Regulation 22) is anticipated for late 2026 and in late 2027 for adoption.. The 2021 Draft Local Plan addresses heritage and conservation in Section 11 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, 2021). The following policies from the draft plan are relevant to this assessment:

'HE01 – Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment

The historic environment will be conserved, enhanced, sensitively managed and enjoyed for its contribution to quality of life, to the distinctive local character of places and spaces, and to sustainable development within the borough by:

1. *Giving significant weight to the conservation or enhancement of designated heritage assets and their settings in accordance with national policy and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. significant weight shall be applied irrespective of the level of potential harm to the asset.*
2. *Requiring the submission of a Heritage Statement to accompany all proposals that may affect a heritage asset. A Statement should be proportionate to the asset(s) significance and the complexity of the proposal, identify all assets likely to be affected, the significance of those assets and the level of impact with explanation provided to demonstrate how any harm to significance has been avoided, minimised, or mitigated;*
3. *Supporting development which makes a positive contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment...*
5. *...Seeking to preserve the positive contribution that heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality;*
6. *Supporting and developing innovative initiatives that identify, conserve, sustain or return to beneficial use designated or non-designated heritage assets;*
7. *Capitalising on in an appropriate and sensitive manner the regeneration, tourism and energy efficiency potential of heritage assets...*
12. *...Improving understanding, awareness, promotion, and enjoyment of the historic environment where appropriate, by supporting proposals that retain, create, or facilitate public access to heritage assets and increase an understanding of their significance.*

HE02 – Heritage Assets

Development proposals affecting heritage assets (both designated and non-designated) and their settings should recognise and respond to their significance and demonstrate how they conserve or enhance the significance of the asset(s), including any contribution made by their setting where appropriate. All development proposals must accord with in particular Policy PMD01: High Quality Design. Development affecting archaeology must accord with

Designated Heritage Assets

1. *Proposals affecting designated heritage assets and/or their settings should:*
 - a) *Be sympathetic and complementary to local context, distinctiveness, and character, in terms of the pattern of development and urban grain, building form, siting and layout, building technique(s) and materials, and landscape character;*
 - b) *Complement or enhance the historic character of the area through its design with matters including scale, height, density, massing, siting, layout, form, architectural detailing, and high-quality materials.*
 - c) *Use landscaping, boundary treatments and surfacing appropriate to the historic setting;*
 - d) *Ensure significant views and vistas away from, through, towards and associated with the heritage asset(s) are preserved or enhanced.*
 - e) *Consider any further defining characteristics and elements of significance as identified in relevant documents including, but not limited to, the National Heritage List for England (NHLE), Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans, Heritage Statements, Landscape Character Assessments, and Characterisation Studies.*
2. *Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset, including from development within its setting, will require clear and compelling justification.*
3. *Proposals that result in substantial harm to or loss of grade II listed buildings should be exceptional and proposals that result in substantial harm to or loss of grade I and II* listed buildings, scheduled monuments, and the Bosworth Battlefield (these being assets of the highest significance) should be wholly exceptional.*
4. *For proposals that result in substantial harm to (or total loss of) the significance a designated heritage asset, planning permission will only be granted where it can be demonstrated that the harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh the harm or loss...:*
5. *Proposals that result in less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset will only be supported where it is demonstrated that the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use, will outweigh any harm identified.*

Non-Designated Heritage Assets

6. *In weighing proposals that directly or indirectly affect a non-designated heritage asset, a balanced judgement will be reached based on the significance of the asset, the scale of any harm identified, and evidence submitted in relation to the proposal.*
7. *Proposals that conserve or enhance the significance of a non-designated heritage asset will be supported. For this to be achieved, proposals should be sympathetic to and reflective of the same characteristics identified within criterion 1 of this Policy.*

Policy HE03 – Preserving the Borough’s Archaeology

Where an initial assessment indicates that the site on which development is proposed includes or has potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, applicants are required to submit an appropriate desk-based

assessment with their application and, where applicable, the results of a field evaluation detailing the significance of any affected asset.

Where applicable, justified, and feasible, the Borough Council will require remains to be preserved in situ ensuring appropriate design, layout, ground levels, foundations, and site work methods to avoid any adverse impacts on the remains.

Where preservation of archaeological remains in situ is not feasible and/or justified, the Borough Council will require full archaeological investigation and recording by an approved archaeological organisation before development commences’ (Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, 2021).

2.6 Planning considerations pertaining to the Site

- 2.6.1. Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council are advised on archaeological matters by the Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET) at Leicestershire County Council. Any requirement for archaeological work either preceding or during development will be determined by the HNET.
- 2.6.2. The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) identifies two Scheduled Monument within the 2km Study Area; the moated site (**Asset 2**) 440m southwest of Lindridge Fields Farm is located 1.6km to the southeast of the Site (**Figure 2**); and the Moat with fishponds at Bagworth (**Asset 36**) is located c. 1.8km to the north of the Site. A further Scheduled Monument which is outside the Study Area has been added to this assessment due to its importance and given that it is located within the Newbold Verdon Conservation Area (**Asset 14**): the moated site (**Asset 1**) south of Newbold Veron Hall.
- 2.6.3. The NHLE records the Conservation Area of Newbold Verdon (**Asset 14**) c. 1.9km to the south of the Site. The designated area includes the Grade I Listed Newbold Verdon Hall (**Asset 3**), and nine Grade II Listed Buildings: Church Farmhouse and Fence (**Asset 4**), K6 Telephone Kiosk (**Asset 5**), Pavilion at southeast corner of forecourt at Newbold Verdon Hall (**Asset 6**), Gates and Side Screens of the Old Rectory (**Asset 7**), Church of St. James (**Asset 8**), The Old Rectory (**Asset 9**), Pavilion at northwest corner of forecourt at Newbold Verdon Hall (**Asset 11**), Pavilion at southwest corner of forecourt at Newbold Verdon Hall (**Asset 12**) and Cob Cottage (**Asset 13**). A further Grade II Listed Building, Ivy Cottage (**Asset 10**) stands c. 100m to the east of the Conservation Area.
- 2.6.4. Four Grade II Listed buildings are recorded within the village and civil parish of Barlestone to the west of the Site: Church Farmhouse (**Asset 38**), the Manor House (**Asset 40**), the White House (**Asset 41**) and the Church of St Giles (**Asset 42**).
- 2.6.5. The NHLE records the Scheduled moated site with ponds at Bagworth (**Asset 36**) c. 1.8km to the south of the Site, Grade I Listed Church of St Peter (**Asset 37**) c. 1.8km to the northeast of the Site, the Grade II Listed corner cottage (**Asset 39**) c. 1.9km to the northeast of the Site, and the Grade II Listed Bagworth War Memorial (**Asset 43**) c. 1.3 km to the north of the Site.
- 2.6.6. No World Heritage Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens or Registered Battlefields are recorded within 2 km of the Site.

2.7 Limitations of Scope

- 2.7.1 It should be noted that the report has been prepared under the express instructions and solely for the use of DWD Property & Planning and their associates. All the work carried out in this report is based upon AOC Archaeology Group’s professional knowledge and understanding of current (February 2024) and relevant United Kingdom standards and codes, technology, and legislation.

- 2.7.2 Changes in these areas may occur in the future and cause changes to the conclusions, advice or recommendations given. AOC Archaeology Group does not accept responsibility for advising DWD Property & Planning or associated parties of the facts or implications of any such changes in the future.
- 2.7.3 This Heritage Impact Assessment is based upon data obtained from publicly accessible archives as described in Section 4.2 below; National Heritage List for England (NHLE) information was obtained in January 2024 and data from the Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Leicestershire HER obtained in January 2024.
- 2.6.4 A search was also undertaken of the aerial photographic resources that are held by the Historic England Archive.

3 OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 The main objective of this assessment is to identify the potential for cultural heritage assets to be impacted by the Proposed Development at the proposed solar farm at Heath Farm Bagworth, Leicestershire. The evidence presented and the conclusions offered will provide a comprehensive basis for further discussion and for the formulation of a further mitigation strategy, should this be required. This will be done by examining a variety of evidence for upstanding and buried remains of heritage interest including designated and non-designated heritage assets. The assessment is based upon data obtained from publicly accessible archives as described in *Data Sources* (Section 4.2).

3.2 Assessment Criteria

- 3.2.1 The assessment aims to identify the known and likely archaeological potential of the Site and the relative value or importance of such a resource / asset. The criteria for assessing these factors are laid out in detail in Appendix 4. The criteria for assessing archaeological potential are expressed in this report as ranging between the scales of High, Medium, Low and Uncertain.
- 3.2.2 Levels of importance in the report are expressed as ranging between the scales of High, Medium, Low and Unknown. The importance of heritage assets is determined firstly by reference to existing designations – for example Scheduled Monuments are already classified as National, and therefore of High, Importance. For assets where no designation has previously been assigned, the likely importance of that resource has been based upon the available evidence and professional knowledge and judgement.
- 3.2.3 The likely magnitude of the impact of the Proposed Development works is determined by identifying the degree of change from the Proposed Development upon the ‘baseline’ conditions of the Site and the heritage resource identified in the assessment. This impact can be either adverse (negative) or beneficial (positive) and is ranked according to the scale of Major, Moderate, Minor, and Negligible.

Assessment of Setting Impacts

- 3.2.4 The setting assessment has been undertaken in line with the requirements of NPPF and HE setting guidance.

- 3.2.5 The NPPF defines setting as:

The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral’ (DLUHC, 2023, 75).

- 2.2.6 In December 2017, Historic England published an updated guidance document on setting as part of their Good Practice Advice Notes intended to explain how to apply the policies contained in the NPPF. This document states:

'Setting is not itself a heritage asset, nor a heritage designation, although land comprising a setting may itself be designated. Its importance lies in what it contributes to the significance of the heritage asset or to the ability to appreciate that significance.' (2017, 4).

2.2.7 The Historic England (HE) guidance states:

'A thorough assessment of the impact on setting needs to take into account, and be proportionate to, the significance of the heritage asset under consideration and the degree to which proposed changes enhance or detract from that significance and the ability to appreciate it' (ibid, 2).

2.2.8 The guidance sets out the ways in which setting may contribute to the value of a heritage asset. It advocates a five-stage approach which comprises:

'Step 1: Identify which heritage assets and their settings are affected;

Step 2: Assess the degree to which these settings make a contribution to the significance of the heritage asset(s) or allow significance to be appreciated;

Step 3: Assess the effects of the Proposed Development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance or on the ability to appreciate it;

Step 4: Explore ways to maximise enhancement and avoid or minimise harm;

Step 5: Make and document the decision and monitor outcomes' (ibid, 8).

2.2.9 The guidance provides a checklist of potential attributes of setting which may contribute to or make appreciable the significance of the asset in question. HE acknowledges that the checklist is non-exhaustive and that not all attributes will apply in all cases.

2.2.10 The assessment of the impact on setting undertaken for this assessment has followed the staged approach outlined in the HE guidance on setting. It has had regard to the checklist therein but, in the interest of being proportionate to the importance of the asset and the potential magnitude of impact, only discusses those attributes which apply to the asset and the potential impacts.

2.2.11 Site visits were undertaken to designated heritage assets within the 2 km Study Area. These site visits established the current setting of the assets, how setting contributes to the significance and appreciation of the assets and how the Proposed Development could potentially impact upon setting, such that it could cause harm and affect significance.

2.2.12 It is noted that, in many cases identified effects upon setting are 'neutral' and as such, it is not always necessary or appropriate to propose mitigation or enhancement measures. Where relevant, mitigation and enhancement measures are identified as part of this assessment.

Assessment of Direct Impacts

2.2.13 The assessment of Direct Impacts will be undertaken in line with the assessment criteria noted above and in Appendix 4. This will be done by establishing the historic environment baseline through examination of the data sources outlined in Section 4.2 and a walkover survey. The Proposed Development will be assessed against the established historic environment baseline, and potential direct impacts on known and unknown heritage assets will be identified.

Assessment of Harm

- 3.2.14 PPG (DLUHC & MCHLG: Live Document, Historic Environment Section para 18), where designated heritage assets are concerned, requires an assessment to be made as to the level of harm which could be caused to designated heritage assets by a Proposed Development. It requires a judgement to be made as to whether that harm is 'substantial' or 'less than substantial' (DLUHC, 2023, Para 205), and the level of harm predicted establishes the planning test to be applied (*ibid*, Paras 207 and 208).
- 3.2.15 Historic England define harm in their Conservation Principles (2008) as a '*change for the worse, here primarily referring to the effect of inappropriate interventions on the heritage values of a place*' (HE 2008, 71).
- 3.2.16 The PPG (DLUHC & MHCLG, Live Document) notes that '*substantial*' harm is a '*high test*' and that as such it is unlikely to result in many cases. What matters in establishing whether harm is 'substantial' or not, relates to whether a change would seriously adversely affect those attributes or elements of a designated asset that contribute to, or give it, its significance (DLUHC & MHCLG, Live Document, Historic Environment Section - Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 18a-018-20190723).
- 3.2.17 There are no designated heritage assets within the Site and as such will be no direct impacts upon designated heritage assets and no harm. In the case of the Proposed Development the potential for harm upon designated heritage assets relates solely to potential impacts upon their settings.
- 3.2.18 Assessment of harm resulting from impacts upon the setting of designated heritage assets will relate to whether a change would seriously adversely affect those attributes or elements of the setting of a designated asset that contribute to, or give it, its significance resulting in change for the worse. This will be considered in line with criteria for magnitude of impact in Appendix 4. However, it should be noted that change will not always lead to harm and that there is potential for beneficial as well as neutral impacts. Where there are beneficial, neutral or no impacts there will be no harm.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Standards

- 4.1.1 The scope of this assessment meets the requirements of current planning regulations set out in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979; Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990; Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023; National Planning Policy Framework (DLUHC, 2023); Planning Practice Guidance (DLUHC & MCHLG: Live Document, Historic Environment section updated PARA 18); and local planning policy.
- 4.1.2 This assessment has been carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Code of Conduct (2014- Updated 2022) and Regulations for Professional Conduct (2019-Revised 2021), as well as with the following Standard and Guidance documents: Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (CIfA 2017-Updated 2020a); and Commissioning Work or Providing Consultancy Advice on the Historic Environment (CIfA 2014-Updated 2020b).
- 4.1.3 AOC Archaeology Group is a Registered Organisation of the CIfA. This status ensures that there is regular monitoring and approval by external peers of our internal systems, standards, and skills development.
- 4.1.4 AOC is ISO 9001:2015 accredited, in recognition of the Company's Quality Management System.

4.2 Data sources

4.2.1 The following data sources were consulted during preparation of this Heritage Impact Assessment:

- **Leicestershire County Council:** for Historic Environment Record (HER) data (received on 8th January 2024)
- **National Heritage List for England (NHLE):** for data regarding designated assets, i.e Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, World Heritage Sites, Registered Battlefields, and Protected Wreck Sites;
- **National Library of Scotland (NLS):** for cartographic evidence of the Study Area including old Ordnance Survey (OS) maps (1st & 2nd Editions).
- **The Genealogist.co.uk:** for copies of the tithe maps and apportionments through AOC Archaeology Group's online subscription.
- **The British Library Online:** for pre-OS historic maps.
- **Historic England Archive:** for vertical and oblique aerial photographs held by Historic England;
- **Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA):** for 0.25m to 2m DSM and DTM LiDAR survey data;
- **Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Record Office (Wigston):** for pre-OS historic maps and archival sources;
- **Historic England's online webmaps:** for Aerial Photo Explorer, which holds freely available, geo-located vertical and oblique aerial photographs; and Aerial Archaeology Mapping Explorer, which shows geo-referenced transcriptions of probable heritage assets identified via the National Mapping Project (NMP) and/or local and regional aerial mapping projects and LiDAR mapping projects;
- **The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS):** for recorded findspots within 1km from the Site; and
- **Other online sources:** for historic information about the Site and surrounding area including for example the Domesday Book online, placename etymology, and the British History Online; and for pre-OS mapping and in-copyright OS mapping.

4.3 Report structure

4.3.1 Each heritage asset (Asset) and previous archaeological investigation (Event) is referred to in the text is listed in the Gazetteer in Appendix 2. Each has been assigned an 'Asset/Event No.' unique to this assessment, and the Gazetteer includes information regarding the type, period, grid reference, HER number, protective designation, and other descriptive information, as derived from the consulted sources. Each heritage asset referred to in the text is plotted on Figures 2 at the end of the report, using the assigned Asset/Event Nos.

4.3.2 All heritage assets located within 1 km of the Site have been included in the assessment. The aim of this is to identify the potential for impacts upon known heritage assets and to help predict whether any similar hitherto unknown archaeological remains may survive within the Site. Designated heritage assets within 2 km of the Site have also been identified in order to assess the anticipated impact of the development on the setting and character of these designated assets in the surrounding landscape. These study areas were deemed to be sufficient to

develop the heritage baseline based on the size of the Site, the type of development proposed and the density of known heritage assets in the surrounding area.

- 4.3.3 All sources consulted during the assessment, including publications, archived records, photographic and cartographic evidence, are listed under *References* in Section 7.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

5.1 Prehistoric Evidence (8000 BC – AD 43)

- 5.1.1. No prehistoric remains or artefacts are recorded within the Site boundary.
- 5.1.2. There are two non-designated assets recorded within 1km from the Site, a Ring Ditch (**Asset 17**) around 400m to the southeast of the Site that most probably represent the remains of a prehistoric barrow and three lithic artefacts; two fire cracked pebbles and a single flint flake (**Event 28**) that were found during fieldwalking within the vicinity of the ring ditch.
- 5.1.3. Taken together the ring ditch and the lithics suggest a concentration of prehistoric evidence, perhaps representing Bronze Age funerary practices on the land to the northeast of the Site, although given the distance of separation based on the current available evidence the potential for previously unrecorded prehistoric remains or artefacts to be present on the Site is considered to be Low.

5.2 Romano-British Evidence (AD 43 - 410)

- 5.2.1. No Romano-British remains or artefacts are recorded within the Site boundary.
- 5.2.2. Evidence for Romano British activity within the 1km study area is limited to a Roman copper alloy trumpet Brooch (**Asset 23**) recorded in a field c.540m to the southwest of the Site, a coin of Faustina Senior (**Asset 44**) recorded by a metal detectorist c. 900m to the west of the Cable Route, and a bead (**Asset 48**) recorded by the PAS c. 900m to the southwest of the Site. This could possibly represent casual loss rather than physical archaeological remains and given these limitations and the distance of separation the potential for previously unrecorded Romano-British remains or artefacts to be present on the Site considered on current evidence to be Low.

5.3 Early Historic Evidence (AD 410 - 1066)

- 5.3.1. No Early Historic remains or artefacts are recorded within the Site boundary and evidence from the wider 1km study area is limited to a single sherd of a Stamford-ware cooking pot dating from 850-1250 recovered c. 300, to the northwest of the Site. Stamford Ware was an early mass-produced glazed ceramic and was widely distributed both across Britain and overseas. Given the limitations of the current evidence the potential for previously unrecorded Early Historic remains or artefacts to be present on the Site is considered to be Low.

5.4 Medieval Evidence (AD 1066 - AD 1540)

- 5.4.1. The Site is located within the parish of Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire immediately to the south of its boundary with the adjacent parish of Bagworth both of which were recorded at Domesday as falling within the hundred of Guthlaxton (Powell-Smith N.d). Domesday records Newbold as being in the ownership of the Crown but tenanted to Hugh of Grandmesnil who was granted extensive estates across Leicestershire following the Conquest (Powell-Smith N.d). Newbold had a recorded population of 3.5 households in 1086, putting it in the smallest 20% of

settlements recorded in Domesday. Verdon was added to the parish name during the 13th century following a change in ownership and it is derived from the same French family name as Verdun.

- 5.4.2. No medieval remains or artefacts are recorded on the Site and it is possible that settlement was nucleated within the village cores by the time of the Conquest.
- 5.4.3. The Scheduled moated site (**Asset 1**) at Newbold Verdon Hall lies on the southwestern edge of the village around 50m to the southwest of the 2km Study Area. The moated area measures 90 by 100m overall and fragments of roof tile recovered during excavations there suggest the former presence of a manor house on the island that was defined by the moat.
- 5.4.4. A second Scheduled moat (**Asset 2**) is located c. 1.6km to the southeast of the Site 440m southwest of Lindridge Fields Farm. It has external dimensions of approximately 105m northwest-southeast and 116m northeast-southwest and includes both inner and outer moat ditches. There is no visible evidence for the original access onto the moated island and it is thought that it was via a bridge.
- 5.4.5. A third Scheduled moat (**Asset 36**), which entails a large, moated site with a fishpond to the west and a second fishpond to southeast, is located at Bagworth c. 1.8km to the north of the Site. The moat at Bagworth is an unusual example of a manorial site with exceptionally well-documented evidence of the manor and the associated fishponds since at least the 14th century.
- 5.4.6. The Grade I Listed Church of St Peter (**Asset 37**) lies c. 1.8km to the northeast of the Site. The church was originally built in the 13th century and underwent alterations between the 14th and the 16th centuries. The chancel dates from 1864.
- 5.4.7. The Grade II Listed Church of St. James (**Asset 8**) stands around 80m northeast of the Newbold Hall moated site and c. 1.9km to the southwest of the Site. The Church of St. James dates from the 12th century although it was rebuilt in 1899 and the spire was not added until 1960. The Church comprises western tower, nave, north aisle and chapel, chancel, south porch and vestry. The lower part of the tower appears to date from the 12th century. In the north aisle is a reused three light stepped 13th lancet set within a round arch externally. In the north chapel east wall is a reused 15th century three light traceried window thought to be the former east window of the medieval church. All other fenestrations date from the 1899 rebuilding.
- 5.4.8. A further church listed at Grade II lies in the civil parish of Barlestone to the west of the Site; Church of St Giles (**Asset 42**). While the church was originally built in the medieval period, only the chancel dates from the 14th century as the rest of the church was rebuilt in 1854 by Benjamin Ferry.
- 5.4.9. The PAS record a silver penny likely of Edward II (**Asset 49**) to the south of the Site, probably within the 1km Study Area although it cannot be proven given that the grid reference has been shortened to 4 figures.
- 5.4.10. Only one artefact is recorded within 1km of the Site boundary and therefore based on present evidence there is considered to be a Low potential for remains from these periods to survive within the Site.

5.5 Post-Medieval Evidence (AD 1540 – 1900)

- 5.5.1. Early maps tend to be schematic and lacking in detail and often only record settlements at the county level. Saxton's 1583 Map of Leicestershire (**Figure 3**), is in line with this, depicting both '*Bagworthe*' and '*Newbold*' as villages with churches but lacking any further detail.
- 5.5.2. The National Heritage List (NHLE) records a range of Listed Buildings within the Newbold Verdon Conservation Area (**Asset 14**). The Grade I Listed Newbold Verdon Hall (**Asset 3**) built around 1700 for Nathaniel Crew, 3rd Baron

Crew of Stene, Northants, Bishop of Durham from 1674 until his death in 1721. The house stands just to the north of the Scheduled moat (**Asset 1**) that had surrounded the earlier manor house. It is approached from the end of the principal street in the village, Main Street through a long axial forecourt which was formerly flanked by four pavilions of which three survive, converted into farm buildings and Listed at Grade II (**Assets 6 & 11-12**). Other Grade II Listed Buildings within Newbold Verdon include Church Farmhouse (**Asset 4**), the Old Rectory (**Asset 9**), gates and side screens (**Asset 7**), Cob Cottage (**Asset 13**). The Ivy Cottage (**Asset 10**) is located c. 100m to the east of the Conservation Area.

- 5.5.3. By 1801 Newbold Verdon contained 80 houses inhabited by 339 people of whom 89 were employed in agriculture and 116 in trade and manufacturing (Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council 2009b). The census in 1841 showed the main occupations to be in either agriculture or framework knitting, though by the 1891 census framework knitting had disappeared and mining was a common occupation. In the 19th century the settlement remained a key local centre and boasted a parish church, hall, parsonage, school, several inns and windmills, Almshouses, a smithy and numerous cottages.
- 5.5.4. The NHLE records three Grade II Listed buildings in the village of Barlestone to the west of the Site; the early-18th century Church Farmhouse (**Asset 38**), the 18th century Manor House (**Asset 40**) and 19th century White House, which was the former vicarage. A further Grade II Listed building is recorded c. 1.9km to the northeast of the Site; corner cottage and attached railings in Station Lane (**Asset 39**)
- 5.5.5. Records held by the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland (ROLLR) show that Newbold Verdon and Newbold Heath was enclosed during 1810 and 1811 (Ref. Nos DE5936, M978, DE40/34/5, DE4907/2-3 & DE9293/21/5/1), whilst an examination of the surviving minute book by Maurice Beresford records that three commissioners John Burcham, Samuel Stone and John Smith were appointed following the passing of an Act of Parliament in '50 Geo III' (1810) (Beresford 1947, 295). Beresford notes that the commissioners undertook their work between July 1810 and August 1811 at a cost of a little of £4,000 of which nearly £1,000 was borne by the 'principal proprietor'. The commissioners had two tasks:
 - to remove the common rights that all landowners within Newbold or Barlestone held with respect to Newbold Heath and to allocate individual portions of this land to these owners,
 - to similarly enclose around 300 acres of 'Open Fields meadow and pasture' (*ibid.*297).
- 5.5.6. Beresford notes that that the enclosure required the replanning of fields and the creation of new five new roads, a sixth road having been rejected following an objection (*ibid.*298) a sketch map which accompanies Beresford's publication indicates that the Site formerly lay upon Newbold Heath and that both Merryleas Lane and Bagworth Road were new roads created as a result of the enclosure (*ibid.* 294, not illustrated).
- 5.5.7. The 1849 Tithe Map of the Township of Barlestone in the adjacent Parish of Market Bosworth (not illustrated) shows Barlestone Lodge (**Asset 22**) c. 750m to the west of the Site. A map of Barlestone Estate from the 1870s shows the estate straddling the parish boundary between Market Bosworth and Newbold Verdon (Ref. No: DE56/32). The estate owned fields immediately to the west of Bagworth Road.
- 5.5.8. The 1885 Ordnance Survey (**Figure 4**) records the Fields A and B as seven agricultural fields bounded to the south by Merrylees Road and to the north, the west and the south by other fields. The 1885 map records Field C as two agricultural fields. The northernmost field is depicted with a pond (**Asset 51**). This field is bounded by Heath Road to the north, Fields A and B to the south and further agricultural fields to the east and the west. The Cable route is depicted to the west of Field C following an east-west route along Heath Road. A small section of the Cable Route

lies within agricultural land to the West of the Site. The map also records a number of non-designated assets within the area including Heath Farm (**Asset 19**) and Desford Colliery (**Asset 18**) to the east, and Barlestone Field (**Asset 45**), the Hill (**Asset 46**) and Garland Lane (**Asset 47**) farmsteads to the west of the Site. The HER records two post-medieval brick kilns, one east of Heath Farm Lodge to the north of the Site (**Asset 19**), the other within Brick Kiln Field to the northeast of Heath Road (**Asset 21**).

- 5.5.9. The PAS records a silver threepence of Elizabeth, dating to 1575 (**Asset 50**) c. 900m to the southwest of the Cable Route, although its exact location cannot be proven given that the grid reference has been shortened to 4 figures.
- 5.5.10. While the paucity of post-medieval remains within the Study Area suggests a Low potential for remains from this period to survive within the Site, there is judged a Medium to High potential for agricultural remains to survive, although any such evidence would in all probability relate to cultivation and field boundaries and would therefore be of Negligible importance.

5.6 Modern (AD 1900-)

- 5.6.1. While the 1901 and 1958-67 Ordnance Surveys both show the Site unchanged since 1885 (**Figures 5 & 6**), changes within the wider area include the development of Fox Covert Farm (**Asset 52**) and Oak Farm (**Asset 53**) the north of the Cable Route, and of Desford Colliery (**Asset 18**) to the northeast of the Site. The colliery commenced production in 1902 (ROLLR Ref No: L.662.182) its shafts 218m shafts gave access to eleven coal seams, including the Lower Main Seam and a subsidiary mine Merry Lees was subsequently opened to the east of the Site. The colliery closed in 1984. The logs of boreholes that were sunk on the Site by the colliery company in 1915 record that at least part of the Site lay within the landholding of Halifax Farm at that time (see section 2.2 for a wider discussion of these boreholes).
- 5.6.2. In 1913 the Desford Coal Company Limited signed an agreement with the Barlestone Lodge Estate for mining lease (ROLLR Ref. No: DE56/36). A plan of c. 1931 showing lands which belonged to collieries in the area, depicts the Site within land owned by Desford Coal Company Limited (ROLLR Ref No: DE1982/292).
- 5.6.3. Twentieth century assets within the 1 and 2km study areas include a Grade II Listed telephone kiosk (**Asset 5**) within Newbold Verdon, the Grade II Listed Bagworth War Memorial c. 1.3km to the north of the Site, and a non-designated memorial to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment (**Asset 20**) c. 800m to the north of the Site on Bagworth Heath.
- 5.6.4. Given that Ordnance Survey mapping suggests that the Site remained unchanged throughout the 20th century, the potential for non-agricultural modern remains to be present on the Site is considered, at worst to be Low.

5.7 Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 5.7.1. The HER records 11 previous archaeological investigations (**Events 24 to 34**) within the 1km Study Area (**Figure 2**) these include three desk-based assessments (**Events 27, 30 & 31**), three geophysical surveys (**Events 24, 29 & 32**), two field walking surveys (**Events 28 & 34**), one environmental statement (**Event 26**), one trial trenching (**Event 25**), and one watching brief (**Event 33**).
- 5.7.2. Magnitude Surveys were commission in 2018 to undertake a geophysical survey of c.53ha area of land at Desford Quarry (**Event 24**), which included the entirety of the present Site boundary as well as land to the east (**Figure 2**). Although the survey identified a range of anomalies on the Site all were interpreted as being of either natural or agricultural origin including a post-enclosure field boundary (Magnitude Anomaly 8a) recorded on the 1st edition

1885 OS map (**Figure 4**) and a paleochannel (Magnitude Anomaly 8b) (Magnitude 2018) in Fields A and B, and natural anomalies shown on an 1994 (see section 5.8) and an east-west orientated linear feature in Field C (Magnitude Anomaly 1a) (Magnitude 2018) which corresponds with the location of a former field boundary also recorded on the 1885 OS map (**Figure 4**).

- 5.7.3. The survey results also showed a focus of anthropogenic activity outside the Site to the northeast, which encompassed a complex cluster of intersecting linear anomalies that may be indicative of agricultural features, although this is not entirely clear.
- 5.7.4. Following the geophysical survey, 56 trenches were excavated in four areas of Desford Quarry (**Event 25**), immediately to the north and the east of the Site. Of these, 38 trenches targeted geophysical anomalies, of which a number corresponded with ceramic field drains. A double gully filled with gravel and brick was identified as a late post-medieval track way/field entrance. No artefacts were observed in the topsoil across the Site other than modern pottery and a high quantity of broken brick, especially in the area where the Brick Kiln Field was located (**Asset 21**). The lack of archaeological features across the Site suggests little has changed within the Site since the current field system was established. Evidence recovered from the evaluation suggests that the Site has been used for agriculture during the post-medieval period.
- 5.7.5. A desk-based assessment (**Event 30**) and a fieldwalking survey (**Event 34**) prior to a proposed poultry farm on land adjacent to Little Fox Covert adjacent to the Site confirmed no archaeological sites of interest and no finds on the land. No artefacts were recovered from a gully matching which matched geophysical anomalies.
- 5.7.6. In general, the archaeological works in the Study Area have not recorded a lack of archaeological remains, with some remains dating to the post-medieval period and being reflective of agricultural activities and in that period.

5.8 Aerial Photography and LiDAR

- 5.8.1. No aerial photographs of the Site were available via the online portals of Cambridge Air Photo's (<https://www.cambridgeairphotos.com/>); Britain from Above (<https://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/>); or Historic Environment Scotland's National Collection of Aerial Photographs (NCAP) (consulted online, via AOC Archaeology's subscription).
- 5.8.2. One aerial photograph from 1948 (RAF_541_212_rp_3075) was available on Historic England's Aerial Photo Explorer (<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/>). However, this photograph does not show the Site, although it shows land immediately to the west of the Site.
- 5.8.3. A standard search of the aerial photographs held by the Historic England Archive was undertaken as part of this assessment. Photography from 1945 to 2001 was ordered and consulted. A list of available and consulted photographs is provided in Section 7.3.2.
- 5.8.4. Aerial photography from 1945 (RAF106G/LA/150/2018) show the eastern portion of Fields A and B as undeveloped agricultural fields with the same field boundaries as recorded on the 18th and 19th century OS maps (**Figures 4-6**).
- 5.8.5. Three photographs from 1948 (RAF/CPE/UK) show Fields A and B as seven undeveloped agricultural fields as shown on the 19th and 20th century OS maps (**Figures 4-6**). The three photos depict the shallow valley interpreted as a possible paleochannel in the east edge and harvest strips in the centre of Fields A and B. The 1948 photographs show Field C as two undeveloped fields as depicted on historic maps (**Figures 4-6**), and a feature in the northernmost field which seems to correlate with the historic pond recorded as early as 1885 (**Asset 51**).

- 5.8.6. Photography from 1978 (OS/78062) show that Fields A and B changed from seven plots to four plots, which relates to the reorganisation of enclosed field that took place in the area after the Second World War to meet the requirements of intense arable cultivation as discussed in section 2.4 (Historic Landscape). Aerial photography from 1978 still shows Field C as two fields with occasional harvest strips.
- 5.8.7. AOC ordered digital copies of two of the aerial photographs that are held by the Historic England Archive; OS/94200/43 which was taken on the 23rd of June 1994 and OS/011022A/1091 from the 16th of February 2001. Both images show the Site under arable crop, the 1994 photo shows in Fields A and B the now removed field boundary that was detected by the geophysics (Magnitude Survey 2018, 8a; AOC Archaeology Group 2024, A3 & B4) intact and upstanding and also the palaeochannel that was detected the 2018 geophysical survey (Magnitude Survey 2018 8b; AOC Archaeology Group 2024, B1). Further cropmarks are also visible in Field B, although all would be consistent with the presumed natural and agricultural anomalies that were detected by the geophysical surveys. The 1994 photograph shows the natural anomalies in Field C as detected by the 2018 and 2024 geophysical surveys (Magnitude Survey 2018; AOC Archaeology Group 2024). No cropmarks were visible on the 2001 aerial photograph other than former field boundary (Magnitude Survey 2018, 8a; AOC Archaeology 2024, A3 & B4) which can still be traced although the boundary itself appears to have been removed by this time.
- 5.8.8. LiDAR data downloaded from the Environment Agency includes composite 1 m and 2 m resolution digital terrain models (DTM) and digital surface models (DSM), dated 2017 and 2020 and data from the National Mapping Project collected in 2018. The data was processed using Relief Visualization Toolbox (RVT- version 2.2.1, 2019) which produced imagery with simple local relief model (SLRM) (**Figure 8**), slope gradient, sky-view factor (16 directions) and 16- directional hill-shade visualisations (**Figure 7**). This imagery was consulted in grey scale and colour as part of the assessment. Hill shading is the most common visualisation technique for archaeological purposes and is effective for identified earthwork features (Challis et al. 2011). Challis (et al. 2011) and Doneus (2013) note that reliance on a single technique can be detrimental and stated that whilst hill shading may be the most common form of visualisation its can be the least likely to identify, in detail, archaeological remains. Simple Local Relief Model (SLRM) (also known as Local Relief Models) greatly enhances the visibility of small scale, shallow topographic features (Hesse, 2010).
- 5.8.9. LiDAR imagery (Figures 7 & 8) shows no anomalies within the Site, except for the natural anomalies detected through geophysics; broad, sinuous bands, which mostly align down-slope, are likely resultant from the movement of water or material across the topography (Magnitude Survey 2018, 8b; AOC Archaeology Group 2024, B1). One of these is the shallow valley or paleochannel following the contour of the ground in the easternmost part of Field B.

5.9 Walkover Survey

- 5.9.1. The Site comprises three fields and a cable route. Fields A and B were visited on 24th April 2023 and Field C and the Cable Route were visited on 18th January 2024 in dry and overcast conditions, although there was good visibility. The purpose of this survey was to assess the existing land use, the potential for heritage constraints within the Site and to evaluate the anticipated impact of the Proposed Development.
- 5.9.2. The Site, which is accessed through a trackway off Heath Road, is bounded to the north by Heath Road, to the south by Merrylees Road, and by agricultural fields to the east and the west. A large, wooded area formed by Bagworth Heath Woods, Desford Brickworks Wood and Bagworth Park to the north of the Site between Heath Road and Bagworth, somewhat obscure outward views from the Site to the north and northwest. The Great Fox

Covert located approximately 230m to the southeast of Field B, screens outward views towards the southeast. The Little Fox Covert is situated about 20m to the north of the Fields A and B and 10 to the west of Field C.

- 5.9.3. Fields A and B are two agricultural fields (**Plates 1-6**) located to the south of Field C divided by a field boundary infilled by a hedgerow (**Plate 3**). The ground in Fields A and B were under long grass during the visit, and they were bounded to the north by a field boundary infilled by a hedgerow (**Plate 4**); to south by Merrylees Road, which is flanked by a field boundary infilled with a hedgerow and occasional trees (**Plate 1 & 6**); and to the west and the east (**Plate 2**) by field boundaries infilled by trees, which obscure eastward and westward views from the Site. A soil bund was observed in the north edge of Field B at the time of the survey.
- 5.9.4. The ground in in both fields is uneven and undulating. Field A to the west and Field B is to the east. The relatively flat northern part of Field B (**Plate 23**) gives way to a gentle south facing slope towards Merrylees Road (**Plates 1**), although the slope is steeper in the eastern side of the field. The land continues to slope downwards to the south to eventually gently rise towards Newbold Verdon. The southern part of Field B has a moderate upwards slope from east to west. The visit confirmed that identified by LiDAR imagery and magnetometry (Magnitude Survey 2018, 8b; AOC Archaeology Group 2024, B1) is a natural feature which follows the contour of the ground. It entails a U-shaped returning linear which follows a northeast-southeast route along the east side of the western field (**Plate 2**) and continues into the field to the south of the Site where it turns to follow a northeast-southwest route along the south boundary of the Site until it turns to follow a southeast-northwest route along the west side of the western field where it is almost imperceptible. South-westward views from the Field B towards Newbold Verdon Conservation Area (**Asset 14**) are somewhat obscured by vegetation, buildings and topography, although unidentified buildings can be seen the far distance (**Plates 5-6**).
- 5.9.5. Field A is undulating) with a gentle downward slope from north to south. The western edge of Field A in has a steep slope from east to west. There are two wind turbines, industrial buildings and a small solar farm immediately to the north of the Field A. Eastward and south-eastward views are obscured by vegetation and topography (**Plate 3**). While the field offers longer views, topography, vegetation and buildings block the visibility of Newbold Verdon Conservation Area (**Plate 6**).
- 5.9.6. Field C (**Plates 19-20**) entails one sub-rectangular field with uneven and undulating ground. This field was under crop stubble at the time of the visit. This field is adjacent to the access track to the east and the south, to Heath Road to the north and to further agricultural fields to the west. This field is bounded by hedgerows with scattered trees. Views to the north and the west are well screened by vegetation and topography. There are some longer views towards the south and the northeast, although no buildings are identifiable. Due to topography visibility towards Newbold Vernon is more reduced from Field C than from Fields A and B (**Plate 19**). A pond measuring c. 30m by 30m shown on historic maps was recorded during the walkover survey on the western edge of the Field C (**Asset 51; Plate 21**). Telegraph poles with electric cables cross the north portion of Field C (**Plate 19**).
- 5.9.7. While the Cable Route is mostly located along Heath Road, a small section of it is located within a third-party field to the west of the Site, which was not publicly accessible during the visit, although photos were taken from the field boundary and no archaeological features were noted (**Plate 22**). Telegraph poles with electric cables cross this section of the cable route, which are likely to have caused localised adverse impact any buried archaeological remains that *may* survive. The construction of the road is likely to have adversely impacted on any hitherto unknown buried archaeological remains which may survive along the Cable Route.
- 5.9.8. There is one wind Turbine located immediately North of Fields A and B, and south of Field C, one c. 350m to the west of the Site, and a further three to the southeast of the Site. There are electricity transmission towers to the

west of the Site. The anticipated impacts of the Proposed Development upon the settings of designated heritage assets in the surrounding area are discussed in Section 6.2 below.

5.10 Geophysical Survey

- 5.10.1. AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by DWD to undertake an archaeological survey using magnetic gradiometry of the Site. The survey was undertaken over two survey sessions, the first was carried out in August 2023, and the second was carried out in December 2023 following the changing of the Site boundary. The full results of the survey will be reported in the accompanying Geophysical Survey report (AOC Archaeology Group 2024) which will be submitted as part of the planning application package. The following is a brief overview of the results.
- 5.10.2. No definite or probable archaeological anomalies were identified within Fields A-C.
- 5.10.3. A sinuous area of slightly elevated responses (AOC Archaeology Group 2024, reference B1, Figure 6.2) was identified within Field B and interpreted to most likely have a natural origin, although a modern origin cannot be discounted. This feature was interpreted by Magnitude Survey (2018, anomaly 8b) as a paleochannel.
- 5.10.4. The weak natural of linear trends (AOC Archaeology Group 2024, reference A1, B2 & C1, Figures 6.1-6.3) detected in all three fields suggest most likely agricultural activity, although an archaeological origin cannot be excluded.
- 5.10.5. Discrete areas of enhanced magnetism (AOC Archaeology Group 2024, reference A2, B3 & C2, Figures 6.1-6.3) were detected throughout Field A-C. These anomalies are likely to be natural variations or more deeply buried modern fired or ferrous material, although an archaeological origin cannot be discounted. Linear anomalies in Field C are consistent with the presence of ceramic drainpipes.
- 5.10.6. Two area of dipolar magnetic signatures (AOC Archaeology Group 2024, reference C3, Figure 6.3) in Field C have been described as possible debris, ceramic drains damaged by ploughing or superficial geological deposits.
- 5.10.7. Linear trends (AOC Archaeology Group 2024, reference A3, B4 and C4, Figures 6.1-6.3) in all three fields correlate to field boundaries recorded on historic maps (Figures 4-6).
- 5.10.8. Zones of magnetic disturbance along the edges of the fields and isolated magnetic responses throughout the survey area are likely due to modern ferrous/fired material within and adjacent to the field boundaries as well as in the topsoil.
- 5.10.9. Like the geophysical survey carried out by Magnitude Survey in 2018, the geophysical survey carried out by AOC Archaeology Group in 2023 identified a range of anomalies interpreted as being of either natural or agricultural origin, including historic field boundaries and a paleochannel.

6 CONCLUSION AND MITIGATION

6.1 Direct impacts

- 6.1.1. Potential impacts on known or unknown buried archaeological remains which may survive within the Site relate to the possibility of disturbing, removing or destroying in situ remains and artefacts during ground-breaking works (including excavation, construction, and other works) associated with the Proposed Development.
- 6.1.2. The National planning policies and planning guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (DLUHC 2023) and its accompanying Planning Practice Guide (DLUHC & MHCLG, Live Document, Historic

Environment Section), as well as local planning policies referred to within Section 2.5 of this report, require a mitigation response that is designed to take cognisance of the possible impacts upon heritage assets by a development proposal and avoid, minimise, or offset any such impacts as appropriate.

- 6.1.3. This assessment has established that the Site and the westernmost portion of the Cable Route was predominantly used for agricultural purposes from at least the post-medieval to the modern period. There is considered to be a Low potential for finds or remains from the prehistoric, Roman, Early Historic and medieval periods to be within the Site. The potential for non-agricultural post-medieval remains or artefacts being present is also low, although agricultural remains particularly those associated with cultivation, field boundaries or drainage are likely to be present. Any such agricultural remains would be of Negligible cultural heritage value. These conclusions are supported by the findings of two geophysical surveys, one previously undertaken on the Site on behalf of a previous developer (Magnitude Survey 2018), and another completed by AOC in 2023 on behalf of Renewable Connections Developments (AOC Archaeology Group 2024). However, the potential for previously unrecorded buried remains to be present on the Site cannot be entirely discounted particularly as the evidence suggests that the Site is unlikely to have seen intensive occupation since at least the Conquest.
- 6.1.4. Overall, the geophysical surveys undertaken in 2018 (Magnitude Survey 2018) and 2023 (AOC Archaeology 2024) within the Site identified anomalies related to agricultural activity, historic field boundaries, geological features and field drains. Historic ploughing remains one of the greatest threats to archaeological sites and deposits (Noble et al. 2019) and may have had a detrimental impact upon any hitherto unknown buried archaeological remains which may survive.
- 6.1.5. Historic maps record the section of the Cable Route located along Heath Road has been a main road/track since at least the late 19th century. The construction of the modern road has likely had a severe adverse impact on any below ground remains which may have survived. As such there is judged to be a Negligible potential for remains of any periods to survive along the Heath Road section of the Cable Route.

6.2 Setting Impact

- 6.2.1 NPPF (DLUHC 2023), PPG (DLUHC & MHCLG, Live Document, Historic Environment Section) and HE guidance on setting (2017- Updated 2020) are clear that the setting of an asset can contribute to its significance. Section 2.5 of this report outlines the planning policy with regard to the setting of designated assets. Details of all designated assets within 2 km of the Site and selected designated heritage assets considered to be of high importance are contained within the Site Gazetteer at the end of this report (Appendix 2).
- 6.2.2 The NHLE records the following designated assets within 2km of the Site:
- The Newbold Conservation Area (**Asset 14**) and its associated designated assets (**Assets 1, 3-9 & 11-13**) c. 1.9km to the southwest of the Site;
 - The Grade II Listed Ivy Cottage (**Asset 10**) c.1.8km to the southwest of the Site;
 - The Scheduled Moated Site (**Asset 2**) 440m southwest of Lindridge Fields Farm c.1.6km to the southeast of the Site;
 - The Scheduled moated site with ponds at Bagworth (**Asset 36**) c. 1.8km to the south of the Site;
 - The Grade I Listed Church of St Peter (**Asset 37**) c. 1.8km to the northeast of the Site;
 - The Grade II Listed corner cottage (**Asset 39**) c. 1.9km to the northeast of the Site;
 - The Grade II Listed Bagworth War Memorial (**Asset 43**) c. 1.3 km to the north of the Site; and
 - Four Grade II Listed Buildings within the village and civil parish of Barlestone to the west of the Site, THAT include Church Farmhouse (**Asset 38**), the Manor House (**Asset 40**), the White House (**Asset 41**) and the Church of St Giles (**Asset 42**).

6.2.3 Visits to the designated heritage assets undertaken on the 24th of April 2023 and 18th January 2024 found Bagworth Grade II Listed War Memorial (**Asset 43**) and the Grade II Listed cottage and attached wall and railings in Station Lane and Bagworth Lane in Thornton (**Asset 39**) to potentially have intervisibility with the Site. The remaining designated assets were found to have no intervisibility with the Site due to intervening topography, vegetation or built structures (**Table 2**). The Site Survey established that there was no visibility towards the aforementioned designated assets due to intervening vegetation, topography, or built structures.

Table 2: Designated Heritage Assets within the 2km Study Area but with no potential intervisibility suggested by site visits			
Site No.	Name	Designation	Comments
1	Moated Site south of the Hall	Scheduled Monument	No visibility towards the Site due to intervening farm buildings and vegetation.
2	Moated Site 440m southwest of Lindridge Fields Farm	Scheduled Monument	The Scheduled Monument is buried under vegetation and outward views towards the Site are blocked by intervening topography and vegetation (Plate 7).
3	Newbold Verdon Hall	Grade I Listed Building	Vegetation and buildings to the north-eastward views of the Site (Plate 17-18 & Google Imagery 2023).
4	Church Farmhouse and Fence	Grade II Listed Building	Houses on the north side of Main Street precludes outward views towards the Site.
5	K6 Telephone Kiosk adjoining number 49, Main Street	Grade II Listed Building	The walls flanking the Old Rectory (Asset 9) and vegetation to the north preclude north-eastward views towards the Site (Plate 8).
6	Pavilion at South East Corner of Forecourt at Newbold Verdon Hall	Grade II Listed Building	Vegetation to the north precludes any potential views towards the Site (Plates 9 & 17-18 & Google Imagery 2023).
7	Gates and Side Screens to the Old Rectory	Grade II Listed Building	The Old Rectory (Asset 9) and vegetation preclude any views of the Site (Plate 13)
8	Church of St. James	Grade II Listed Building	Vegetation precludes any potential visibility towards the Site (Plates 10-11 & 18)
9	The Old Rectory	Grade II Listed Building	The Old Rectory is immediately north of houses and a park flanked to the north by vegetation and houses. North-

			eastward from the Old Rectory (Asset 9) towards the Site are precluded by vegetation and houses (Plates 12-14).
10	Ivy Cottage	Grade II Listed Building	Houses to the north of the Main Street preclude any north-eastward views towards the Site.
11	Pavilion at northwest corner of forecourt at Newbold Hall	Grade II Listed Building	Vegetation and buildings to the northeast preclude visibility of the Site (Plates 17-18 & Google Imagery 2023).
12	Pavilion at southwest corner of forecourt at Newbold Hall	Grade II Listed Building	Vegetation and buildings to the northeast preclude visibility of the Site (Plate 17-18 & Google Imagery 2023).
13	Cob Cottage	Grade II Listed Building	Houses to the north of the Main Street preclude any north-eastward views towards the Site.
14	Newbold Verdon Conservation Area	Conservation Area	The Conservation is centred on the Main Street at Newbold Vernon which is flanked by buildings and vegetation at each side (Plates 8 & 10-11). The Main Street is located c. 440m to the south of Barlestone road which is flanked by houses to the south which block views towards the Conservation Area. North-westward views from Barlestone Road towards the Site are somewhat obscured by intervening topography, vegetation and distance (Plates 15-16). Furthermore, buildings and vegetation preclude visibility of the Site from the Newbold Verdon Conservation Area.
36	Moat with fishponds at Bagworth	Scheduled Monument	This Scheduled Monument is located within private land belonging to Bagworth Park farmhouse, which is situated c. 1.8km to the north of Field C. The moated site is flanked to the south by the railway line which is built on a bank bounded by vegetation. Also, Bagworth Park and Bagworth Heath Woods are located between the railway line and the Site. As such, outward views are obscured by topography and vegetation (Plate 24)
37	Church of St Peter	Grade I Listed Building	This Grade I Listed Building is located c. 1.8km northeast of the Site, in the village of Thornton to the north of Main Street. Bagworth Heath Woods, Desford Brickworks Wood and Forterra Brickworks are located to the south of Thornton and to the north of the Site. Outward views are immediately screened by buildings at each side of Main Street (Plate 25),

			and longer views are screened by vegetation and Forterra Brickworks.
38	Church Farmhouse, 11, Washpit Lane	Grade II Listed Building	This asset is located on the eastern edge of the built-up village of Barlestone which is located over 2km to the west of Fields A-C. Agricultural fields, trees, vegetation and the B585 are located between Barlestone and the Site. Westward views towards the Site are precluded by vegetation and houses (Plate 23).
40	The Manor House, 15, Bosworth, Road	Grade II Listed Building	This asset is located in the centre of the built-up village of Barlestone which is located over 2km to the west of Fields A-C. Agricultural fields, trees, vegetation and the B85 are located between Barlestone and the Site. Westward views towards the Site are precluded by vegetation and houses.
41	The White House, Barton Road	Grade II Listed Building	This asset is located in the centre of the built-up village of Barlestone which is located over 2km to the west of Fields A-C. Agricultural fields, trees, vegetation and the B85 are located between Barlestone and the Site. Westward views towards the Site are precluded by vegetation and houses.
42	Church of St Giles, Church Road	Grade II Listed Building	This asset is located on the eastern edge of the built-up village of Barlestone which is located over 2km to the west of Fields A-C. Agricultural fields, trees, vegetation and the B585 are located between Barlestone and the Site. Westward views towards the Site are precluded by vegetation and houses (Plate 23).

6.2.4 Where no potential impacts upon the settings of the assets is anticipated, there will be no harm to their settings.

Bagworth War Memorial

6.2.5 Bagworth Grade II Listed War Memorial (**Asset 43**) is located in the village of Bagworth c. 1.3 km to the north of the Site. The monument entails a First World War memorial dating from around 1920 that was altered following the Second World War. The memorial comprises a plain Latin cross in stone, with chamfered edges throughout and a relief-carved shield of St. George to the centre of the tapering shaft.

6.2.6 The Grade II Listed memorial derives its importance from its architectural interest as a dignified stone cross, as well as from its historic and communal values as a reminder of the tragic impact that the events of the World wars had on the local community. The memorial was originally built in the churchyard of the Holy Rood Church, which was demolished in 1968 due to its subsidence, and was in turn replaced with a new building, also since demolished. Therefore, the immediate setting of the Grade II has been altered, although it still remains legible as a monument in memory of the noble dead in both World wars.

6.2.7 Outward views from the monument's associated grounds to the south include telegraph poles with electric cables and distant views the Wind Turbines surrounding the Site, although views are somewhat screened by the

undulating topography and vegetation (**Plate 26**). While it is unlikely that the Site is visible from the Listed Building, it cannot be ruled out. Even if proposed low-lying solar panels were to be visible it would be limited to a glimpse and it would not interrupt the skyline. As such it would be a minor intrusion in a wider landscape that has been changed by modern infrastructure. In addition, it can be reasonably argued that the War Memorial was designed to be viewed in the intimate setting of a churchyard and that outward views were not key to its original placement. Since a minor intrusion would not diminish the ability to appreciate the architectural, historic and community significance of Bagworth War Memorial, the assessed impact upon its setting is predicted to be Neutral at worst and would therefore not adversely affect the setting of the monument.

Corner cottage and attached wall and railings, Station Lane

- 6.2.8 The Grade II Listed cottage and attached wall and railings in Station Lane and Bagworth Lane in Thornton (**Asset 39**) is located c. 1.9km to the northeast of the Site. The Listed Building is a 18th century farmhouse with later alterations. The main southeast elevation is designed with red brick in a Flemish bond. The 2 storey- building plus attic has a slate roof with overhanging eaves. The farmhouse derives its importance from its architectural and historic values as an example of an 18th Century farmhouse. While the main elevation of the farmhouse is looking towards the southeast away from the Site, south-westward views at ground level include distant views of a wind turbine (**Plate 27**), which is likely near the Site although intervening vegetation and buildings likely obscure views of the Site. It is unlikely that the low-lying proposed development would be visible at such a distance and even if it were to be visible it would be a minor intrusion in a wider landscape what has been changed by modern infrastructure, and it would not challenge the skyline. Also, given that the Proposed Development would not obstruct the key view from the farmhouse and that it would not affect the ability to appreciate the historic and architectural value of the farmhouse, a Neutral impact is anticipated at worst and consequently would not adversely affect the asset's setting.

6.3 Mitigation

- 6.3.1. The NPPF states that a local planning authority should require developers to '*record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact*' (MCHCLG 2021, Para 205). As such, it is advised that mitigation measures should take into account the nature of the Proposed Development. The proposed solar farm development would spread the weight of the panels evenly across the array's footprint. The predicted impacts on archaeological remains resulting from the Proposed Development therefore stands in marked contrast to other forms of greenfield development, such as mineral extraction, which is wholly destructive, and housing developments, which are largely, if not wholly, destructive.
- 6.3.2. Although the results of both geophysical surveys suggest that the Site's archaeological potential may be limited, the possibility that previously unrecorded buried archaeological remains may survive cannot be discounted. Consultation between the Applicant, AOC and the Historic and Natural Environment Team (HNET) at Leicestershire County Council who provide archaeological advice to Hinkley and Bosworth Borough Council established that although further archaeological work will be required this can be secured by means of a planning condition and undertaken post-determination. HNET indicated that they will recommend trial trenching based on an initial 2% sample, but with an additional 1% sample available as a contingency in the event of additional clarification of features being required. Any mitigation would be carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which would be approved by HNET prior to any work being undertaken. The WSI should also include provision

for further phases of monitoring or investigations should this be required, as well as reporting for post-excavation analysis, reporting and dissemination.

- 6.3.3. The site visits to designated heritage assets within the 2km Study Area found that the Proposed Development would potentially be visible from Bagworth War Memorial (**Asset 43**) and the corner cottage in Station Lane (**Asset 39**). The remaining designated assets have no intervisibility with the Site due to intervening topography, vegetation or built structures. Where no potential impacts upon the settings of the assets is anticipated, there will be no harm to their settings. Where potential intervisibility has been identified it is generally very limited and distant and, consequently, the assessed levels of impact upon the character of Bagworth War Memorial (**Asset 43**) and the corner cottage in Station Lane (**Asset 39**) are judged to be Neutral.
- 6.3.4. For all of the designated assets considered by this assessment the potential impact upon their setting has been judged to be none or Neutral. Consequently, no harm to these assets is predicted, and the policy tests as set out in NPPF are not invoked.

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7.2 Cartographic References

- 7.2.1 Historic maps were consulted via Old Maps online (<https://www.oldmapsonline.org/>); Old maps (<https://www.old-maps.co.uk/#/>); the National Library of Scotland (NLS) Map viewer (<https://maps.nls.uk/>), the British Library map library (<https://www.bl.uk/subjects/maps>) last accessed 10/01/2024.

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Leicestershire XXX.5, Revised: 1928, Published: 1930

43/40 - A, Published: ca. 1949

SK40NE – A, Surveyed / Revised: 1958 to 1967, Published: 1968

SK40NE – A, Surveyed / Revised: 1957 to 1964, Published: 1966

- 7.2.2 The following items were identified in the catalogue of South Gloucestershire Archives and consulted in person on the 25th April 2023.

Ref No: DE380/45

Description: Plan marked 'Old Tithe Plan of Hugglescote, Bardon, Bagworth' (probably made for tithe redemption purposes on lands through which colliery railways pass)

Date: 1838

Notes: Not the Site

Ref No: DE173/13

Description: Bagworth Estate Maps

Date: 19th century

Notes: Not the Site

Ref No: DE8114

Description: BAGWORTH AND THORNTON SALES PARTICULARS

Date: 1919

Notes: The sale of 2,934 acres of freehold agricultural property in Bagworth, Thornton, Ratby, Desford, Nailstone, Barlestone, and Stanton under Bardon by direction of the Countess of Warwick. With prices realised pencilled-in. Including maps of the areas sold. NOT THE SITE

REF No: QS. 47/1/52

Description: Copy of Newbold Verdon Enclosure Award

Date: 1820

Notes: Not the Site.

Ref No: DE. 1280

Description: Sale particulars, Newbold Verdon Estate (farms, houses and lands) 1917

Date: 1917

Notes: Not the Site:

Ref No.: DE56/32

Description: Plan of Barlestone Lodge Estates with acreages

Date: c. 1870s

Notes: Not the Site. It shows how Barlestone Estate was within the Parishes of Bagworth and Newbold Verdon. The estate also entailed fields immediately to the west of the, the current B585.

REF No: DE56/40

Description: Plan of Barlestone Lodge Estate showing area of working in the Lower Main Coal Seam and the position of Desford Colliery

Date: 1919

Notes: It depicts the workings probably within the Site

REF No: DE56/43/1-4

Description: Plan of Barlestone Estate showing area of workings of Upper Main Coal Sema by Desford Colliery

Date: 1926

Notes: Does not show site, but a letter mentions agreement with Barlestone Estate to work the ground. It mentions the possibility of putting shafts into the ground in the lower main coal seam, but not likely.

REF No: DE56/36

Description: Barlestone Lodge Estate Agreement for mining lease. Agreement and plan

Date: 1913

Notes: Parishes of Barlestone and Newbold Verdon

REF No: DE56/46

Description: Receipt bill concerning Desford Coal Company's application for extension of mining lease/

Date: 1938

Notes: Did not see.

Ref No: DE3663/30/4

Description: Documents relating to a tenant right valuation of Saltby Village Farm from Duke of Rutland to T.A. Mount and W. Stubbs, and another on Heath Farm, Saltby from R. Annis to C.H. Bartram, with a plan

Date: 1919 - 1921

Notes: no map. Paying amount on quitting Heath Farm. Payment from D. N. Royce Esq. to Mr Robert Annis.

Ref No: DE1982/292

Description: Plan of lands belonging to Ellistown Collieries, Desford Coal Co. Ltd., New Bagworth Coal Co. Ltd., South Leicestershire Colliery and Nailstone Colliery Co. Ltd. Marked on 1930/31 ed. 6" O.S. sheets of W Leicestershire.

Date: c.1931

Notes: The Site belonged to Desford Colliery in c. 1931.

Ref No: L.622.182

Description: NCB South Midlands Area. Desford Colliery 1900-1984

Date: Unknown

Notes: Desford Colliery was active between 1900-1984.

7.3 Aerial Photographic References

- 7.3.1 Aerial photography held by Historic England was consulted online via Air Photo Explorer (<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/>).

Sortie	Frame Number	Date	Link
raf_541_212	rp_3075	08/12/1948	https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/raf_541_212_rp_3075

7.3.2 The below aerial photographs have been identified via a standard search from Archive Services at Historic England, Swindon. The photographs closest to the Site were selected for further assessment. Digital copies of the highlighted vertical photographs were purchased and consulted as part of this assessment. The oblique photographs were generally taken far from the Site and nearest ones are associated with assets recorded by the HER. For example, Desford Colliery (Asset 18) and Heath Farm (Asset 19).

Oblique Photographs				
Photo reference (NGR and Index number)	Film	Frame Number	Date	Map Reference (6 figure grid ref)
SK 4303 / 5	FXH 5794	/ 31	24-Jun-89	SK 439038
SK 4403 / 6	NMR 21756	/ 04	24-Oct-02	SK 442038
SK 4403 / 13	NMR 21877	/ 01	24-Oct-02	SK 442038
SK 4403 / 14	NMR 21877	/ 02	24-Oct-02	SK 442038
SK 4408 / 1	JAP 2205	/ 24	12-Jul-80	SK 445080
SK 4408 / 2	JAP 2205	/ 25	12-Jul-80	SK 445080
SK 4408 / 3	JAP 2205	/ 26	12-Jul-80	SK 445080
SK 4503 / 1	JAP 1889	/ 12A	04-Jul-76	SK 457035
SK 4503 / 7	JAP 1801	/ 25	27-Jul-78	SK 459037
SK 4504 / 1	JAP 2212	/ 26	04-Aug-81	SK 458045
SK 4504 / 2	JAP 2212	/ 27	04-Aug-81	SK 458045
SK 4504 / 3	JAP 2212	/ 28	04-Aug-81	SK 458045
SK 4506 / 1	NMR 4741	/ 28	12-Jun-92	SK 459069
SK 4506 / 2	NMR 4741	/ 29	12-Jun-92	SK 459069
SK 4506 / 3	NMR 4746	/ 53	12-Jun-92	SK 458068
SK 4506 / 4	NMR 4746	/ 54	12-Jun-92	SK 458068
SK 4506 / 5	NMR 4746	/ 55	12-Jun-92	SK 458068
SK 4506 / 6	NMR 4746	/ 56	12-Jun-92	SK 458068
SK 4506 / 7	NMR 4746	/ 57	12-Jun-92	SK 458068
SK 4507 / 1	NMR 4746	/ 58	12-Jun-92	SK 457071
SK 4507 / 2	NMR 4746	/ 59	12-Jun-92	SK 457071
SK 4507 / 3	NMR 4746	/ 60	12-Jun-92	SK 457071
SK 4507 / 4	NMR 4746	/ 61	12-Jun-92	SK 457071
SK 4508 / 25	NMR 26500	/ 11	12-Oct-09	SK 451080
SK 4508 / 26	NMR 26500	/ 12	12-Oct-09	SK 451080
SK 4603 / 1	JAP 1318	/ 29	04-Jul-76	SK 460036
SK 4603 / 2	JAP 1318	/ 30	07-Jul-76	SK 460036
SK 4603 / 3	JAP 1318	/ 31	07-Jul-76	SK 460036
SK 4603 / 4	JAP 1318	/ 32	07-Jul-76	SK 460036
SK 4603 / 5	JAP 1318	/ 42	04-Jul-76	SK 460036
SK 4604 / 1	JAP 2212	/ 29	04-Aug-81	SK 461049
SK 4606 / 1	NMR 4741	/ 30	12-Jun-92	SK 460069
SK 4607 / 1	NMR 4741	/ 31	12-Jun-92	SK 460070
SK 4704 / 3	JAP 2212	/ 30	04-Aug-81	SK 470047
SK 4704 / 4	JAP 2212	/ 31	04-Aug-81	SK 471047

SK 4704 / 5	JAP 2212	/ 32	04-Aug-81	SK 470047
SK 4704 / 6	NMR 21876	/ 21	24-Oct-02	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 7	NMR 21876	/ 22	24-Oct-02	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 8	NMR 21876	/ 23	24-Oct-02	SK 471046
SK 4704 / 9	NMR 21876	/ 24	24-Oct-02	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 10	NMR 21756	/ 03	24-Oct-02	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 11	NMR 26499	/ 49	12-Oct-09	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 12	NMR 26499	/ 42	12-Oct-09	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 13	NMR 26499	/ 43	12-Oct-09	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 14	NMR 26499	/ 44	12-Oct-09	SK 471047
SK 4704 / 15	NMR 26499	/ 45	12-Oct-09	SK 471046
SK 4704 / 16	NMR 26499	/ 46	12-Oct-09	SK 471046
SK 4704 / 17	NMR 26499	/ 47	12-Oct-09	SK 470047
SK 4704 / 18	NMR 26499	/ 48	12-Oct-09	SK 470047
SK 4707 / 1	AFL 60878	/ EPW048920	Aug-35	SK 471072

Vertical Photographs			
Sortie number	Frame number	Centre point	Date
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	3156	SK 443 070	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	3157	SK 449 074	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	3158	SK 455 078	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	3159	SK 461 078	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4155	SK 436 057	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4156	SK 443 053	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4157	SK 449 056	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4158	SK 455 060	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4159	SK 461 061	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4160	SK 467 061	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4341	SK 434 061	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4342	SK 441 061	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4343	SK 447 062	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4344	SK 453 062	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4345	SK 460 063	27-Mar-48
RAF/CPE/UK/2555	4346	SK 467 062	27-Mar-48
RAF/541/212	3071	SK 468 051	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	3072	SK 462 051	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	3073	SK 455 051	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	3074	SK 449 050	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	3075	SK 442 050	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	3076	SK 436 049	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4021	SK 465 032	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4022	SK 458 032	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4023	SK 452 031	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4024	SK 445 031	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4070	SK 471 069	08-Dec-48

RAF/541/212	4071	SK 465 069	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4072	SK 459 068	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4073	SK 452 068	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4074	SK 446 068	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4075	SK 439 067	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/212	4076	SK 433 067	08-Dec-48
RAF/541/235	3037	SK 452 031	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4033	SK 471 049	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4034	SK 465 048	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4035	SK 459 047	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4036	SK 455 046	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4037	SK 452 046	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4038	SK 447 046	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4039	SK 442 046	03-Mar-49
RAF/541/235	4040	SK 436 046	03-Mar-49
RAF/106G/LA/150	1018	SK 454 062	27-Feb-45
RAF/106G/LA/150	1019	SK 459 065	27-Feb-45
RAF/106G/LA/150	1020	SK 463 069	27-Feb-45
RAF/106G/LA/150	1021	SK 468 073	27-Feb-45
RAF/106G/LA/150	2018	SK 458 056	27-Feb-45
RAF/106G/LA/150	2019	SK 462 060	27-Feb-45
RAF/106G/LA/150	2020	SK 467 063	27-Feb-45
RAF/106G/LA/150	2021	SK 471 067	27-Feb-45
MAL/74033	238	SK 444 080	14-Jun-74
MAL/74033	239	SK 451 075	14-Jun-74
MAL/74033	240	SK 458 071	14-Jun-74
MAL/74033	241	SK 465 067	14-Jun-74
OS/77007	16	SK 466 043	08-Apr-77
OS/78062	62	SK 448 083	27-May-78
OS/78062	81	SK 467 070	27-May-78
OS/78062	82	SK 461 069	27-May-78
OS/78062	83	SK 454 069	27-May-78
OS/78062	84	SK 448 069	27-May-78
OS/78062	85	SK 442 069	27-May-78
OS/78062	86	SK 436 069	27-May-78
OS/78062	135	SK 436 056	27-May-78
OS/78062	136	SK 443 056	27-May-78
OS/78062	137	SK 449 056	27-May-78
OS/78062	138	SK 455 056	27-May-78
OS/78062	139	SK 461 056	27-May-78
OS/78062	140	SK 467 056	27-May-78
OS/78128	155	SK 468 043	19-Aug-78
OS/78128	156	SK 462 043	19-Aug-78
OS/78128	157	SK 457 043	19-Aug-78
OS/78128	158	SK 451 043	19-Aug-78
OS/78128	159	SK 445 043	19-Aug-78

OS/78128	160	SK 439 043	19-Aug-78
OS/96139	69	SK 472 056	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	70	SK 465 056	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	71	SK 458 056	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	72	SK 451 056	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	73	SK 444 056	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	74	SK 437 056	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	116	SK 444 081	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	117	SK 451 081	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	159	SK 472 043	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	160	SK 465 043	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	161	SK 458 043	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	162	SK 451 043	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	163	SK 444 043	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	164	SK 437 043	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	205	SK 438 068	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	206	SK 444 068	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	207	SK 451 068	08-Jun-96
OS/96139	208	SK 458 068	08-Jun-96
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OS/94200	15	SK 456 078	23-Jun-94
OS/94200	23	SK 472 067	23-Jun-94
OS/94200	24	SK 467 067	23-Jun-94
OS/94200	25	SK 461 068	23-Jun-94
OS/94200	26	SK 455 067	23-Jun-94
OS/94200	27	SK 450 068	23-Jun-94
OS/94200	28	SK 444 067	23-Jun-94
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OS/94200	40	SK 438 056	23-Jun-94
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OS/011022A	1072	SK 454 043	16-Feb-01
OS/011022A	1073	SK 447 043	16-Feb-01
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OS/06051	46	SK 446 076	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	47	SK 455 076	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	48	SK 465 076	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	113	SK 464 041	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	114	SK 455 041	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	115	SK 445 041	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	116	SK 436 041	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	166	SK 474 058	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	167	SK 465 058	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	168	SK 455 059	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	169	SK 446 058	17-Jul-06
OS/06051	170	SK 437 059	17-Jul-06
OS/06938	133	SK 466 035	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	134	SK 457 035	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	135	SK 448 035	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	136	SK 439 035	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	207	SK 466 053	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	208	SK 457 053	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	209	SK 448 053	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	210	SK 439 053	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	303	SK 467 070	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	304	SK 457 070	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	305	SK 448 070	18-Jul-06
OS/06938	306	SK 439 070	18-Jul-06
EA/AF/94C/709	680	SK 466 042	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	681	SK 468 043	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	682	SK 470 044	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	699	SK 474 069	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	700	SK 475 067	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	701	SK 475 065	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	702	SK 476 062	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	703	SK 476 060	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	704	SK 476 057	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	705	SK 477 055	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	706	SK 477 053	02-Feb-94

EA/AF/94C/709	723	SK 473 048	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	724	SK 472 051	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	725	SK 472 053	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	726	SK 471 056	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	727	SK 471 058	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	728	SK 470 061	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	729	SK 470 063	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	730	SK 469 066	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	731	SK 469 068	02-Feb-94
EA/AF/94C/709	732	SK 468 071	02-Feb-94

Bagworth Solar Farm, Leicestershire: Cultural Heritage Assessment

Appendix 1: Figures

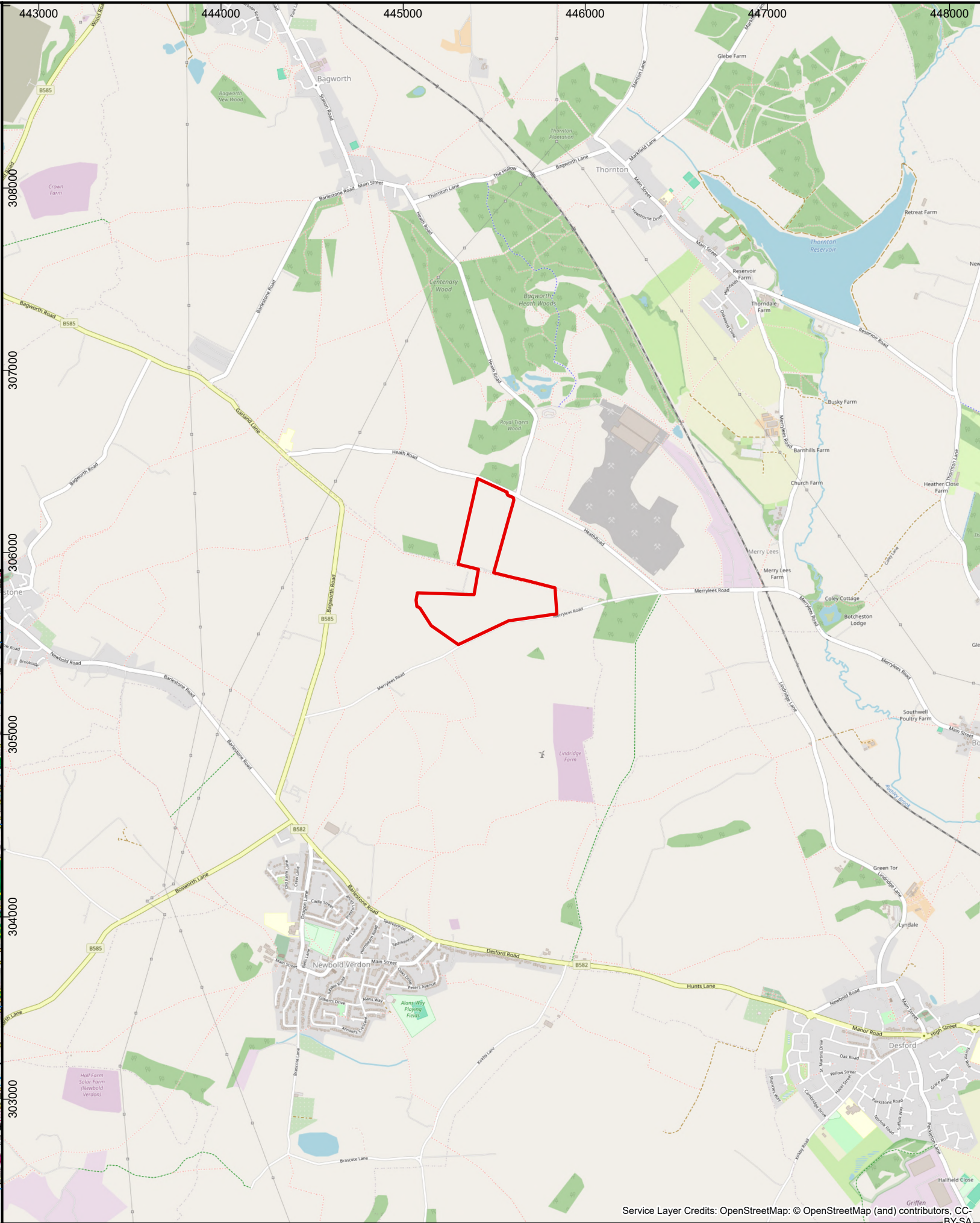
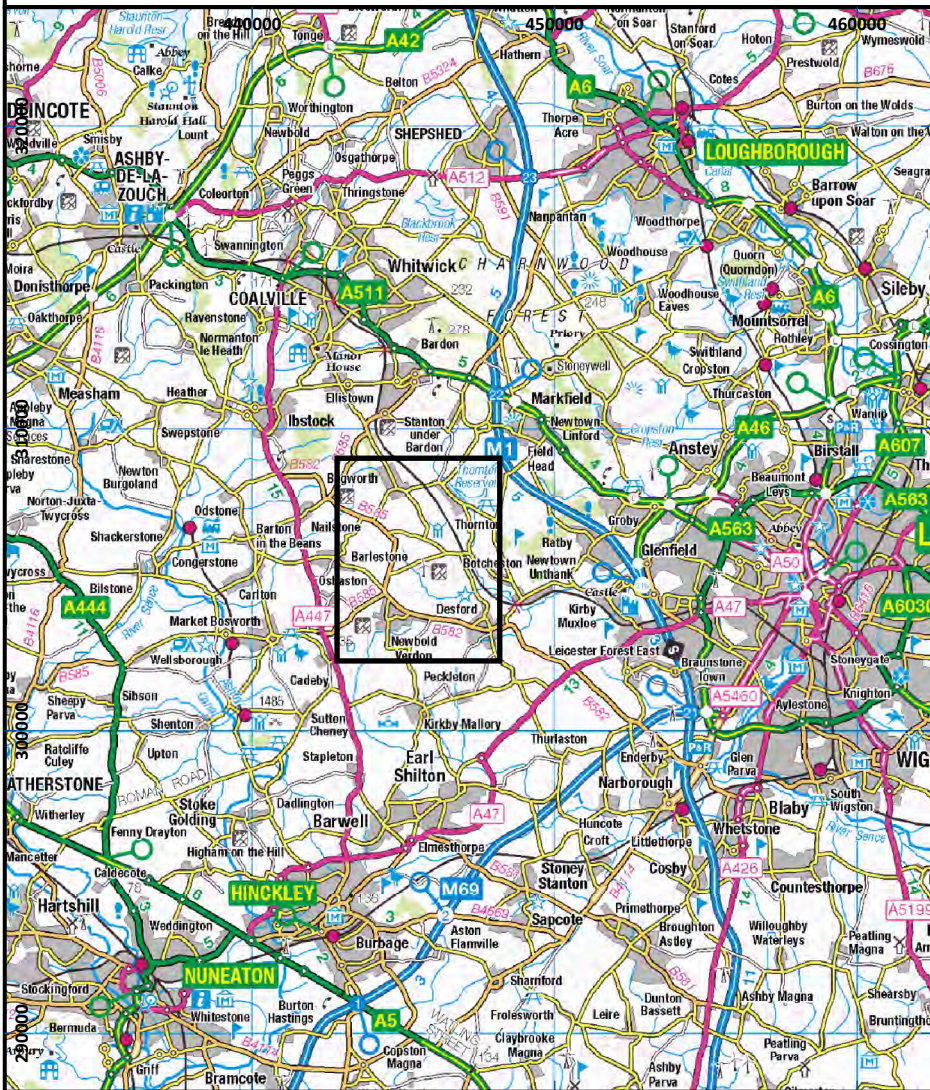
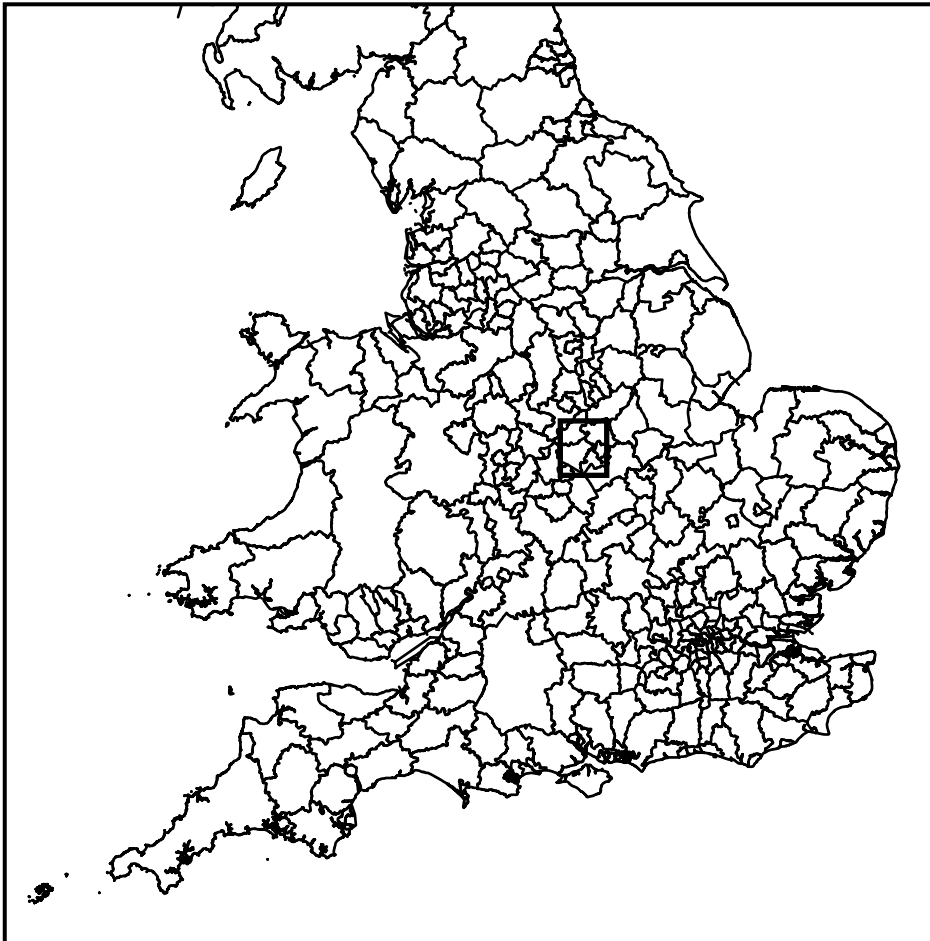
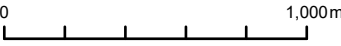


Figure		1
Site Location Plan		
Legend ■ Site Boundary		
FOR Renewable Connections Developments Ltd.		
Drawn/checked:	CH/SO	
DWG no:	01/26242/CHA/01/02	
AOC Project No.:	26242	
 (C) AOC Archaeology Group 2025		
		
SYSTEM Coordinate System: British National Grid Projection: Transverse Mercator Datum: OSGB 1936		
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3		
		
Service Layer Credits: OpenStreetMap: © OpenStreetMap (and) contributors, CC-BY-SA		

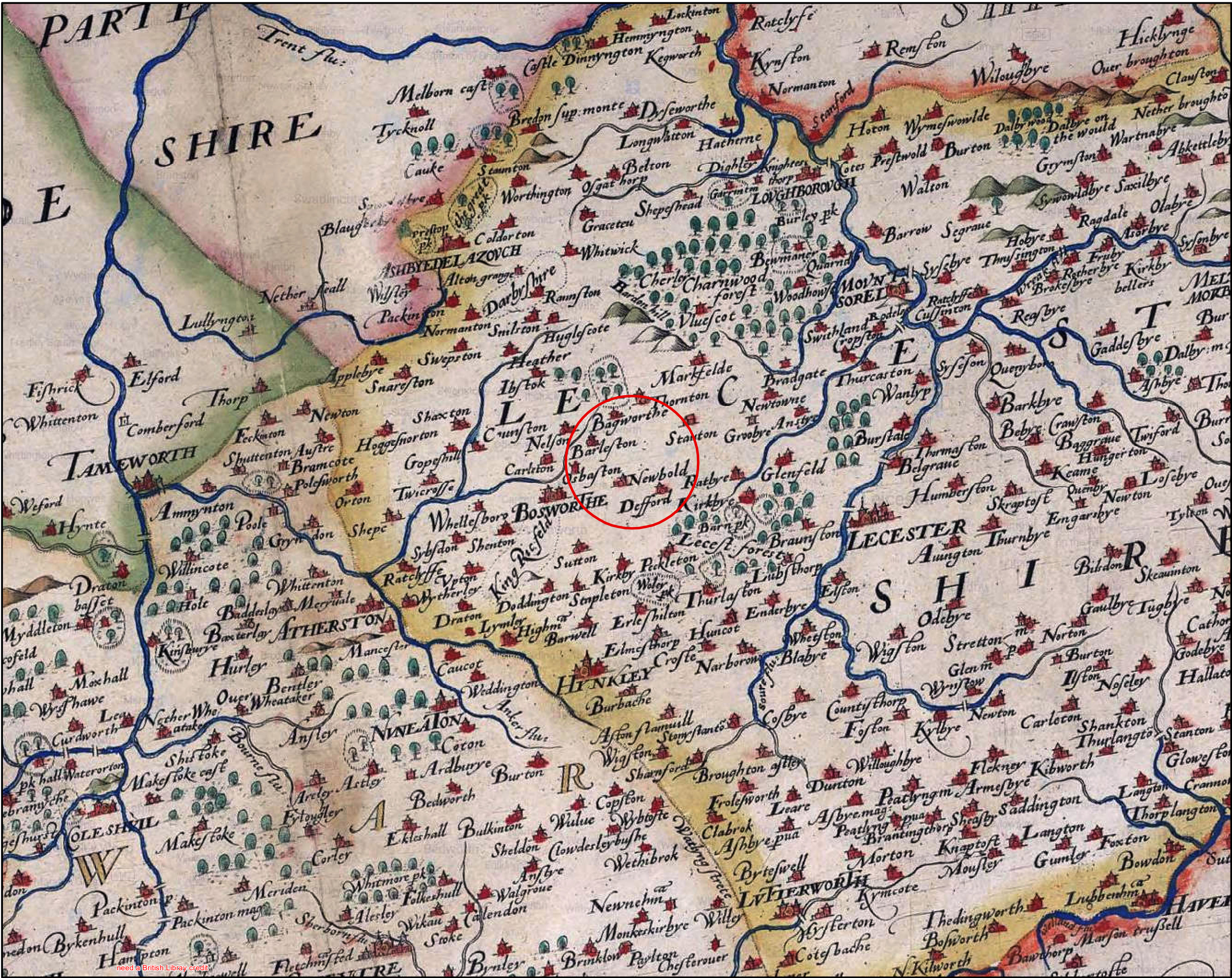


Figure 3

Extract from a map by Saxton, 1583

Legend
Approximate Site Location

Renewable Connections Developments Ltd.

Drawn/checked:	JC/SO
DWG no:	01/26242/CHA/03/01
AOC Project No.:	26242

AOC
Archaeology
Group
(C) AOC Archaeology Group 2023

Coordinate System: British National Grid
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: OSGB 1936

NOT TO SCALE