



Chasewater Supplementary Planning Document

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1 Introduction

1.1 Lichfield District Council has prepared a draft Supplementary Planning Document for the area designated for use as a CountryPark within the adopted Local Plan for the area. The purpose of the document is to provide further planning advice on land use within the area to support more general planning policies that apply within it. Although largely land use based the SPD will also impact upon the management of the area.

1.2 Chasewater is considered to be an area of great potential: for improvement to meet many of the recreational needs of the local communities that surround it; as a biodiversity resource of regional significance that can be enhanced and managed as a natural environmental asset; as a tourism resource that can benefit the local economy; as a land resource that can contribute locally to meeting the challenges presented by climate change.

1.3 The SPD therefore seeks to address all of these facets of the potential seen for the Chasewater area. Whilst it cannot precisely identify all of the specific proposals that may contribute to the vision and aspirations development in the document it provides a framework to direct change in the area and within which decisions on future uses may be made.

1.4 Chasewater is one of the few areas within Lichfield District where the District Council has a substantial land ownership. As landowner and manager of a large part of the area covered by this guidance, the authority is able to both consider its needs from a planning perspective and also take the major role in delivering change in the area. It intends to do the latter by being proactive in instituting new uses consistent with a vision for the area, by partnerships with landowners and users and through the management of its own land resources.



1 Introduction



1 Background

1.1 The Chasewater area covered by this SPD is approximately 310 hectares in extent, including approximately 100 hectares of water body. The main body of water is a feeder reservoir for the Anglesey Branch of the Wyrley and Essington Canal. The area is mostly managed as a country park for nature conservation, recreation and leisure uses, although part is currently farmland. It is a sub-regional attraction that and currently receives over 100,000 visits a year. There are over 3 million people within a 20-mile radius and so it is considered to have great potential to increase visitor numbers from current levels if desirable. It lies at the western edge of Burntwood, but is also within walking distance of parts of Norton Canes and the northern edge of Brownhills.

1.2 The area is owned principally by Lichfield District Council and Staffordshire County Council, but British Waterways and the former Coal Authority also own significant areas. Within the Country Park area there are a number of visitor attractions that include water sports and the Chasewater Railway, Chase Sailing Club, Chasewater Powerboat Club and Burntwood Rugby Club. It is used as an outdoor education facility and is also the base for the Forest of Mercia, housed at the Innovations Centre. There are some private residences within the site, accessed from Pool Road.

1.3 Lichfield District Council provides a permanent rangers service and associated office, the only other public facility open daily is the Forest of Mercia Innovations Centre. The District Council manages its land to provide informal recreation and to protect and enhance nature conservation value, but also leases land to specific users within the area.

1.4 Chasewater is nationally significant for its heathland habitat. This forms part of a much larger extent of lowland heathland, extending from Cannock Chase to Sutton Park, which has suffered from decline and fragmentation. It requires management and restoration through heathland creation. The reservoir is a large water body, which in itself is a significant draw to the public, either for informal recreation or for water sports, but is also of biodiversity value in itself, particularly for birds. The site is host to many European and nationally protected species.

1.5 The area is therefore nationally important for nature conservation. It has a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the designated area is proposed to have a major extension, which will include the water body and shoreline. This will eventually result in approximately three quarters of the country park being designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Further areas are identified as of nature conservation importance within Staffordshire and are locally designated as Sites of Biological Importance (SBI).

1.6 The attractions of Chasewater are in the main relatively 'low key' and there are no major incomes to the site that are currently available to the District Council to re-invest in maintaining and improving facilities. This has been considered an issue for some time and whilst the District Council has made significant improvements to the area with the assistance of external funding, the long-term viability of the area remains an issue. Visitors to the site currently find there is little for them in terms of facilities and therefore most visits are relatively short in length and low spend. The majority of visitors are very local to the site and it provides significant potential health benefits for the local population and is used frequently for recreation – mainly walking, cycling and opportunities for accessing sport including rugby and nearby football. A Heart of England Tourist Board survey found that whilst 65% of visitors (to the region?) had heard of Chasewater, only 1% intended to visit it. This shows a poor public perception of the site and lack of knowledge of facilities.

1.7 Many of the issues Chasewater has faced in the past, with regard to derelict land, uncertainty over the impact of the M6 Toll construction and the impact of nature conservation across the site are becoming generally clearer. The Council's investments in the site have improved facilities on the south shore, increasing sustainable access and recreational opportunities for walking, cycling, nature conservation and play. Other bodies occupying parts of the site have also invested, including extensions and new facilities for the Chasewater Railway, Staffordshire County Council and the Forest of Mercia in the site.



1.8 The issues around securing a long term future for the Chasewater area, including a need to fund its management have led to a number of studies which have considered potential futures and projects that could secure new investment into the area.

1.9 Three of the most recent reports were prepared by Humbert's Leisure, DTZ Pidea Consulting and Staffordshire University respectively, although none of these were formally adopted by the District Council. Each of the reports generated ideas for possible uses for or within the site and ways of increasing its attractiveness as a visitor destination. These have in the main suggested proposals for new visitor attractions and facilities aimed at raising the quality and attraction of the area as a sub-regional or regional recreation and tourist facility.



2 Current Policy Context

2.1 The Supplementary Planning Document has been prepared specifically to promote and assist in the implementation of policies within the Lichfield District Local Plan and the Staffordshire Structure Plan. However a number of national and regional planning policies impact upon, or potentially provide opportunities for, the future of the area and practical proposals to achieve any defined vision.

Lichfield District Local Plan and the Staffordshire Structure Plan

2.2 The 1998 adopted Lichfield District Local Plan includes a specific policy for Chasewater related to a policy boundary. Policy B24 promotes the development of a country park, the retention and management of the nature conservation value of the area and measures to fulfil the recreation and leisure potential of the area. This policy has recently been retained in the Local Plan by the Secretary of State as a saved policy, which means that it remains part of the statutory development plan until it is replaced within a Local Development Framework document.

2.3 Policy R2B of the Staffordshire Structure Plan, adopted 2001, is also specific to Chasewater. Policy R2B envisages that Chasewater serves as a strategic recreation and leisure location of sub-regional significance to incorporate a country park, forest related facilities and intensive outdoor recreation facilities. This policy has also recently been saved by the Secretary of State as part of the development plan.

2.4 Other saved Local Plan and Structure Plan policies may be relevant to future development of the site, in particular those relating to nature conservation, green belt, countryside policies, transport in new developments, Community Provision arising from Development (Soc.2) and development control policies.

National Policy

2.5 Both the Local Plan and Structure Plan policies set a general policy framework for the future of Chasewater, but are framed in the context of its location within the Green Belt. No change is proposed in this respect and so future proposals must have regard to the national policy in relation to green belt development. Both of the policies also sit within the context of biodiversity and habitat protection and national and regional policy in relation to these aspects is also particularly important.

2.6 National Green Belt policy is sets out in Planning Policy Guidance Note 2, which identifies the following objectives for the use of Green Belts:

- to provide opportunities for access to the open countryside for the urban population.
- to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near urban areas.
- to retain attractive landscapes, and enhance landscapes, near to where people live.
- to improve damaged and derelict land around towns.
- to secure nature conservation interest.
- to retain land in agricultural, forestry and related uses.

2.7 Many of these objectives are relevant to the future use and development of Chasewater.

2.8 Habitat protection policies that relate to the site range from international level through to local level. Although areas of land of nature conservation value are protected by national (SSSI) or local (SBI) area designations, species and habitats present within the site both within and outside currently designated area, also have protection. Certain species and their habitat are protected by European Directives and other plant and animal species are recognised as regionally or locally important.



Through all tiers of national, regional, and local policy therefore there are policies which protect the nature conservation of the site, the degree of protection afforded each area/species cascades down with the internationally important species having the greatest degree of protection, which also implies the greatest amount of enhancement and/or mitigation, where this might be acceptable in principle, to permit new development.

Regional Policy

2.9 At a regional level, the Regional Spatial Strategy contains policies relevant to the nature conservation interest of the area and in particular places the site within the Cannock Chase to Sutton Coldfield Area for Concentrated Biodiversity Enhancement (policy QE7) and within the Forest of Mercia. The Area for Concentrated Biodiversity Enhancement is based upon the former extent of heathland and has been identified as offering some of the best prospects for retaining, buffering and linking environments with this rich and resilient biodiversity resource. Within the biodiversity enhancement area 'ecological integrity' should be reinforced by:

- supporting existing biodiversity and landscape enhancement projects;
- buffering habitat units from adverse impacts;
- restoring and re-creating locally characteristic habitats;
- expanding and linking isolated habitat units; and
- promoting social and economic benefits by investing in linked facilities for sustainable access, enjoyment and education, and in businesses that contribute to and capitalise on a high quality natural environment.

2.10 This policy is specifically applicable to the Chasewater area because of its heathland habitats and because social and economic benefits form part of the remit of the Forest of Mercia, located on the site. The Forest of Mercia is a community forest, which seeks to regenerate areas and recognises the urban fringe as a highly valuable resource for leisure and recreational opportunities as well as nature. Whilst the forest covers a much larger area, the south shore of Chasewater contains not only the Innovations Centre but also small business units whose aim is to contribute to sustainable regeneration.

2.11 The RSS, through its policies on Urban Greenspace, includes targets for accessibility standards for communities to urban green space, parks, etc. Policies for the development of Chasewater as a recreation and open space resource have a significant potential to increase the contribution it currently makes to these objectives.

2.12 The current RSS does not address policies to address climate change in an holistic way, although the Government has indicated that this issue needs to be included in the Phase 2 revision of the RSS. It does however include policies on energy generation (EN1) and energy conservation (EN2) that are relevant to the direction that future proposals for Chasewater should take.

2.13 Policy EN1 includes provision for Local authorities, through their development plans to encourage proposals for the use of renewable energy resources, including biomass, onshore wind power, active solar systems, small scale hydro-electricity schemes and energy from waste combustion and landfill gas, subject to an assessment of their impact. Specific policies should be included for technologies most appropriate to the particular area. Whilst this policy is specifically aimed at development plans, similar considerations should be taken account of in area based policy documents such as this supplementary guidance.



2.14 Policy EN2 in relation to energy conservation provides for development plans to include measures to minimise energy demands from development, redevelopment and improvement by encouraging the use of sustainable construction techniques, best practice in energy efficient design, and orientation of all building types to maximise passive solar gain.



3 Key Influences on Shaping the Guidance

3.1 Whilst there is a significant amount of planning policy relevant to the Chasewater area through the development plan and national policy, these act to provide context to its future, rather than to wholly determine it. In other words there is a need to consider the future potential of the area and the opportunities that it could offer and subsequently to develop guidance that can allow for opportunities to be met within the overall policy context. Various parts of the Chasewater area have different characteristics and constraints and some types of opportunity may be limited to particular parts of the area.

A Recreation Resource for Local Communities

3.2 Chasewater already provides a significant leisure site, especially for informal outdoor recreation involving walking and cycling, for water skiing, powerboats, windsurfing, sailing and limited angling. It also provides an outdoor education facility for Staffordshire County Council.

3.3 Consultations have been carried out with these users to help to prepare this supplementary guidance, many of which also lease land in the District Council's ownership. These consultations show a desire among existing users for a permanent presence on the site and to continue to improve their facilities. Such improvements would contribute to increasing the overall attraction of Chasewater.

3.4 The same consultations revealed some concerns about the site in terms of the need to improve visitor facilities, access and attractiveness. These concerns are shared by the District Council as managers of much of the Chasewater area and need to be addressed as part of its long-term future.

3.5 Chasewater lies at the edge of Burntwood and is close to a number of other settlements. It is considered essential that its current role of providing both informal and formal recreation opportunities for those communities is continued, with improvements made in their quality and range in appropriate locations within the site, taking account of the broader site objectives for nature conservation and the protection of wildlife.

3.6 A Playing Pitch Strategy for Lichfield District- PMP Consultants 2006 has identified that there are gaps in good accessibility to playing pitches in parts of the District, that qualitative improvements should be the priority and that there is a need to protect existing pitches. In addition it is recommended that the Council should evaluate the long-term potential of providing a SportsVillage within the District especially Lichfield or at Burntwood. There are progressive sports clubs within and on the edge of the Chasewater site that provide facilities for local people. The guidance should consider if there are any long-term needs arising from these clubs that may need to be met within the Chasewater area.

3.7 The facilities and uses at Chasewater also have a wider attraction, effectively providing a limited 'tourist' facility and a Heart of England Tourist Board Study in 2000 identified Chasewater as an opportunity for tourism growth. The SPD should also consider therefore whether it can provide for an increase in the number and range of facilities within the site that would perform a similar tourist function and contribute income that could assist in funding the management of the country park. An example of such a facility might be a caravan site.

Biodiversity

3.8 A dominant characteristic of the Chasewater area is the extent of open land that is of nature conservation importance, particularly for its heathland habitat. The existing area with SSSI status is to be significantly extended and this brings with it an extended responsibility to the District Council for appropriate sustainable management, and a need to have particular regard to the effect of any potential new development upon the designated area. Beyond the SSSI areas the areas of local biodiversity interest will also need to be taken account of by new development.

3.9 Within the context of biodiversity objectives however there is also an opportunity to use the rare natural environment to help set themes for the area, in conservation, management and education. Chasewater can contribute to many of the targets for habitats and species included within the Lichfield



District Biodiversity Strategy in the way that it is managed. The District Council took the decision some time ago to declare a Local Nature Reserve at Chasewater to incorporate areas of biodiversity value and has recently introduced a pilot grazing management scheme within part of the heathland area as one element of working towards sustainable heathland management.

3.10 The extensive biodiversity interest and statutory responsibilities are therefore key factors to the future direction of policy and management. They determine the physical nature and the ambience of large parts of the Chasewater area. They physically limit the opportunity areas within the site and the nature of uses that can operate both within and in proximity to both the Site of Special Scientific Interest and Sites of Biological importance.

Forest of Mercia

3.11 The Forest of Mercia Community Forest has been working towards a forest strategy for some 15 years, with objectives to create a patchwork landscape that recognises the value of agriculture, forestry and landscapes of biodiversity importance and seeks to develop forest related business and economic activity. The Chasewater Innovations Centre on the south shore of Chasewater seeks to develop links to sustainable development and construction and increasingly, to climate change. As the major visitor building nearest the entrance and the main parking facilities it potentially has a major role to play in developing a better visitor facility. Chasewater's location within the Forest of Mercia and the Chasewater Innovations Centre therefore also has the potential to set themes for the area.

Climate Change

3.12 Local Planning Authorities have increasing responsibilities to address climate change issues, particularly in considering the potential effects of development proposals on climate change, but also to be pro-active in terms of mitigating its effects. As one of the District Council's few major landholdings the Council has an opportunity within the Chasewater area to consider if new proposals can make a significant contribution in response to climate change issues. As a major manager of land it also has the opportunity to consider whether the management of land and buildings can similarly make a contribution, on approach to this being agreement on an approach to energy use with its partners within the Chasewater area.

3.13 Areas of potential are considered to be building upon the existing sustainable energy use of the site through the gradual introduction of further sustainable measures, but more significantly the possibility of whether the Chasewater area can make a contribution of wider significance, for example through possible facilities for research and education in relation to implementing low carbon technologies, or potentially through the use of land to generate sustainable forms of energy.

Land Availability

3.14 The limitations of the extensive areas of biodiversity value effectively mean that potential new extensive land users, for example in relation to climate change themes, will be largely limited to land south of M6 toll. However because of the recent changes in the management arrangements for much of this area, the time is right to consider uses that may be appropriate, whilst also recognising its green belt status.

3.15 Other areas within Chasewater may also have opportunities for recreation uses in particular, for example west of Chasewater lake, but such areas are more limited in extent.



4 A vision for the Country Park

4.1 Taking account of the key influences on the future of the area and its overall context it is possible to consider a vision for the Chasewater area and objectives that would contribute to the vision. Consultations carried out within organisations within the area have helped to shape a draft vision to provide direction for the guidance. This is set out below as a number of aspirations that would guide appropriate land use and management.

- To advance the regional and local perception and experience of Chasewater as a vibrant Country Park by retaining existing visitor attractions and allowing for them to be enhanced and providing new recreation facilities, attractions and visitor facilities
- To take opportunities to assist in the understanding and development of low carbon technologies and to apply them to the benefit of Chasewater Country Park and the wider area.
- To protect and enhance its habitat and conservation value and to take opportunities for sustainable management and link fragmented habitats
- To improve the site's economic self sufficiency by increasing visitor numbers and extending the range of recreational, leisure and educational opportunities
- Building upon the opportunity to contribute to the development to the Forest of Mercia including its economic opportunities linked to forest related enterprises

4.2 There is potential to start altering the perception of Chasewater as a visitor destination in the short term, perhaps in advance of more ambitious proposals for Chasewater South shore or Chasewater South. The approach should however be to consider Chasewater as a whole.

4.3 Chasewater visioning work by District Council officers recognised a need to develop a more integrated management and development approach. This thinking is not new as in the past the drawing up of a management plan and its implementation by dedicated management was seen as a way forward. Co-ordinated management of the site will therefore address the issue of competing interests and in doing so identify the scope for synergies and overall benefits.

4.4 A short term management plan could address some identified existing weaknesses, which included orientation, interpretation, access, infrastructure, gateways, the visitor offer – a day/event destination, programming and events as well as longer term joint-working opportunities and partnership.

4.5 Within this overall context the management of each facility and the country park as a whole should take progressive steps to maximise its contribution to a low carbon future for the park and its natural environment should increasingly be managed through sustainable practices. Its future development should be directed towards ensuring that Chasewater's role develops, to become a focus for best and emerging practices in sustainable energy use, generation and management whilst increasing its attractions as a Country Park.



5 Objectives

5.1 Within the overall context of the elements of the long-term vision a number of objectives for the area have been identified related to particular parts of the Chasewater area, identified as individual 'compartments', which are shown on the plan at Appendix 1.

Chasewater South

5.2 This is the area south of the M6 Toll, not proposed for SSSI extension, which potentially offers the greatest scope for change and influence over the rest of the site. A Chasewater in-house study concluded that Chasewater South could be a key area for generating income streams. The area is the principal access to the Chasewater site and the gateway to the country park.

- Use the land assets to develop long-term income.
- Promote development that is sympathetic and adds value to the park, or supports the park's facilities.
- Create a more recognisable gateway to the park.
- Enhance the quality of the offer to the visitor.
- Enhance and protect the natural assets of the park, including heathland linkages, habitat protection, species protection.
- Reduce the amount of derelict land.

South Shore

5.3 This is the area containing the main visitor reception and car parking facilities, the Forest of Mercia Innovations Centre, the District Council's ranger service and small business units.

5.4 There is a need to encourage greater visitor focus utilising the Chasewater Innovations Centre and enhanced facilities to create an enhanced visitor centre to promote the rest of the site.

- Tourism growth - better signage to encourage wider use, more marketing, sale of duck food, bird watching etc.
- Improve health - regular guided walks, liaison with local health centres.
- Improve education- better interpretation to promote awareness.
- Biodiversity Enhancement Area-key location.
- Increase connectivity between heathland north-south and east-west.
- Monitoring of the health of SSSI's is an indicator of the RSS and AMR.
- Change management to encourage full heathland potential - biodiversity strategy.
- Linking habitats - RSS objective / Climate change.

Water and shoreline

5.5 This entire area is proposed to be SSSI however there may be potential here for increased tourism. The use of the water at present is restricted to the Sailing Club and Power Boat Club and the environmental capacity of the water is unknown and will require investigation with Natural England.



The water body is of European significance for its large over wintering bird population which is itself a visitor attraction. The shoreline is generally a fragile habitat and would be sensitive to increased visitor numbers.

- Investigate potential of water body for increased recreational resource - including board walk, fishing, boat hire, events such as dragon boat racing/triathlon
- Increase education and tourism - duck feeding/bird watching
- Gateway/ transition area for interpretation of wider area / vistas
- Safeguard water quality - encourage sustainable drainage within country park and surrounding areas/education - littering etc
- Safeguard internationally protected species etc - provide interpretation and education
- Continue to support objectives of Forest of Mercia - RSS target
- Increase recreational activity within the environmental capacity of the area/zone
- Prepare SPD to require sustainable drainage

West of Chasewater lake

5.6 This area does have the potential to increase tourism appeal of Chasewater. It was identified in the preferred options for the West Burntwood Area Action Plan (WBAAP) as the area to investigate the potential for seasonal camping and caravanning. There may be potential for festivals but this area has the least up to date nature conservation information and this would have to be addressed before any specific plans were drawn up.

- Possible potential for overnight stays
- Maintain as vital link between Heathlands - RSS objective/climate change.
- Encourage species rich grassland

Canal Basin/north/Norton bog

5.7 This contains the areas covered by the SSSI designation, and could also include Norton Bog, which is currently owned by SCC. It is a key resource of the site. It should be principally maintained for nature conservation and associated low impact tourism, such as walking, bird watching and cycling. Monitoring of the site would be required to ensure the management of visitors is appropriate and that increased use is not damaging the biodiversity of the area.

- Maintain and extend sustainable heathland management.
- Manage pedestrian/cycle accessibility through provision of formal paths -and interpretation both within the site and links to neighbouring areas.
- Look to increase and improve (?) pedestrian linkages within the site.
- Investigate potential of canal basin with British Waterways (e.g mooring facilities).
- Liaise with users within the area to identify areas to be excluded from overall nature conservation objective (rugby pitches, outdoor education centre etc).
- Promote health through provision of accessible greenspace - Natural England target.



- Safeguard internationally protected species etc - provide interpretation and education.
- Consider potential for bird hides (could include SCC land).
- Sculpture Trail (potential to link to Sankey's Corner).
- Enhance links through Biodiversity Enhancement Zone, SBAP targets.
- Increase recreational activity within the environmental capacity of the area/zone.



6 Spatial Guidance

6.1 The following guidance seeks to identify the types of land uses that would be considered appropriate and generally acceptable in planning terms within the defined compartments at Chasewater. The greatest opportunity for significant land use change lies in the area south of the M6 Toll and because there remains a range of potential new uses that could be brought forward the guidance is not over-prescriptive for this area in particular. The acceptability of specific proposals in planning terms would need to be judged against the guidance but also against the range of other policies relevant to the area as a whole.

The South Shore

6.2 There is a need to encourage greater visitor focus utilising the Forest of Mercia Innovation Centre (FOMIC) and enhanced facilities to create an enhanced visitor centre to promote the rest of the site. This could be the area for an adventure playground, location for forest flier (local bus service) drop off point. This could be the area for increased compatible retail, beverage and food provision, entertainment events and festivals. The area has been improved using European monies and there may be a requirement to pay back financial contributions should further physical works be required. Part of the area would be the most appropriate location within the site to fulfil the obligations of the RSS to encourage heathland linkages where there is a need to minimise the severance effect caused by the M6 Toll. This area also provides an opportunity for linking the railway activity to the visitor centre. The area has potential for viewing the huge populations of over wintering birds to increase the all year round appeal of the site.

6.3 The area needs to look at management regimes as well as physical changes and marketing to fulfil its potential.

6.4 The area is also on the edge of the SSSI and the use of the shore line will need liaison with Natural England to identify if there is potential for greater public access to it.

West of Chasewater Lake

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Chasewater Lake and the Shoreline

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The SSSI's and Norton Bog

6.7 This contains the areas covered by the SSSI designation, and could also include Norton Bog, which is currently owned by SCC. It is a key resource of the site. It should be principally maintained for nature conservation and associated low impact tourism, such as walking, bird watching and cycling. Monitoring of the site would be required to ensure the management of visitors is appropriate and that increased use is not damaging the biodiversity of the area.



Chasewater South

6.8 This is the area south of the M6 Toll, not proposed for SSSI extension, which potentially offers the greatest scope for change and influence over the rest of the site. The Chasewater in-house study concluded that Chasewater South could be a key area for generating income streams. The area is the principal access to the Chasewater site, the gateway to the park.

6.9 The total size of the area is 29 hectares and the area with potential for significant change is restricted to about 10 hectares, including the built area of the current Highfields Farm. There is nature conservation interest within the wider area, recognised through its SBI designation. Proposals should retain and improve connectivity by providing habitat links north to south and east to west and any plans should encompass this whole area to secure funding for this and its maintenance.

6.10 Conversion and extension of Highfields Farm could be part of any proposals. Use of this for residential whilst being in conformity with planning policy would not provide the gateway approach to the country park required from this area. Commercial use on the footprint of the building for farm or a base for a commercial enterprise which was themed to sustainability or to the country park use to the north of the M6 Toll would be most appropriate. The buildings do however need extensive refurbishment and extension, which would need to adhere to green belt policy and would need to provide a quality facility.

6.11 It may be useful to consider this as an overflow area for the south shore and as an area where uses which would be of benefit to the country park and which cannot be accommodated on the south shore could be sited. Under green belt policy such uses which may be permitted would include small ancillary buildings for facilities such as changing rooms/ limited refreshments. Uses would depend upon marketing the site but could include rare breed's farm (which could provide information to the public and to support the sustainable management of the heathland), restaurant, and facilities to support sporting activities. It is important to note that due to its green belt location conversion of Highfields Farm would be the option, demolition and rebuild would not be permissible.



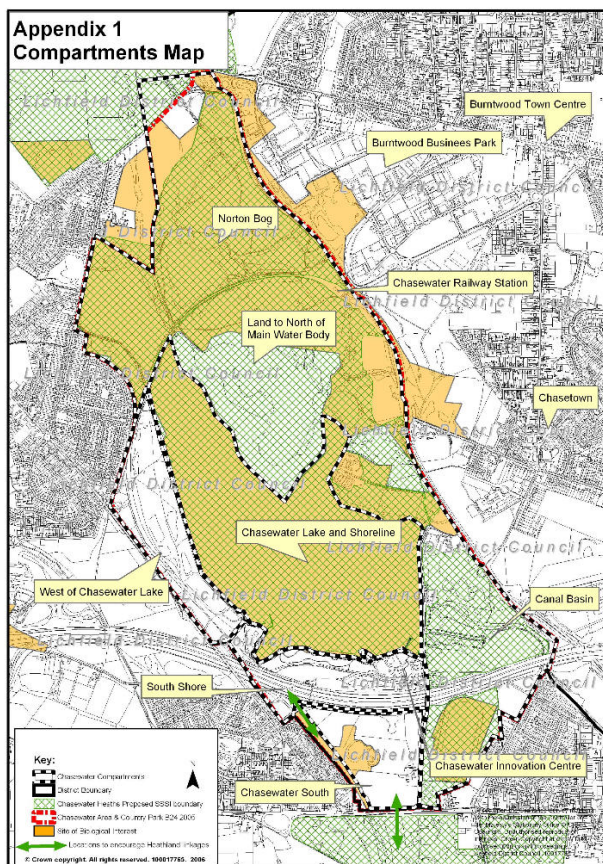
7 Implementing the Vision

Promoting New Uses

Managing the Country Park

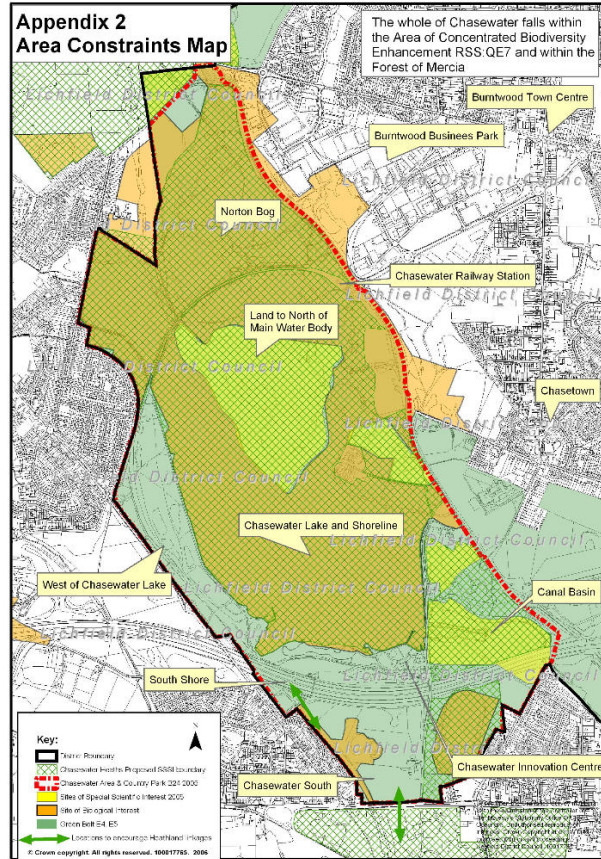


1 Country Park Components Map





2 Area Constraints Map





3 Protected Species and their Designation

European Protected Species

Binomial	CommonName	EU Status
Bufo bufo	Common Toad	Bern App III
Cervus elaphus	Red Deer	Bern App III
Lacerta vivipara	Viviparous Lizard	Bern App III
Austropotamobius pallipes	Freshwater Crayfish	Bern III. EC IIa,
Luronium natans	Floating Water-plantain	EC Annex IIb, IVb; Bern App I
Nyctalus noctula	Noctule	EC Annex IVa; Bern App II
Pipistrellus pipistrellus (s.l.)	Pipistrelle Bat	EC Annex IVa; Bern App III
Rana temporaria	Common Frog	EC Annex Va; Bern App III
Sterna paradisaea	Arctic Tern	Birds Directive Annex I
Branta leucopsis	Barnacle Goose	Birds Directive Annex I
Limosa lapponica	Bar-tailed Godwit	Birds Directive Annex I
Cygnus columbianus	Bewick's Swan	Birds Directive Annex I
Botaurus stellaris	Bittern	Birds Directive Annex I
Chlidonias niger	Black Tern	Birds Directive Annex I
Gavia arctica	Black-throated Diver	Birds Directive Annex I
Sterna hirundo	Common Tern	Birds Directive Annex I
Sylvia undata	Dartford Warbler	Birds Directive Annex I
Aythya nyroca	Ferruginous Duck	Birds Directive Annex I
Pluvialis apricaria	Golden Plover	Birds Directive Annex I
Gavia immer	Great Northern Diver	Birds Directive Annex I
Uria aalge	Guillemot	Birds Directive Annex I
Pernis apivorus	Honey Buzzard	Birds Directive Annex I
Alcedo atthis	Kingfisher	Birds Directive Annex I
Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	Birds Directive Annex I
Larus minutus	Little Gull	Birds Directive Annex I
Sterna albifrons	Little Tern	Birds Directive Annex I
Circus aeruginosus	Marsh Harrier	Birds Directive Annex I
Larus melanocephalus	Mediterranean Gull	Birds Directive Annex I
Falco columbarius	Merlin	Birds Directive Annex I
Caprimulgus europaeus	Nightjar	Birds Directive Annex I
Pandion haliaetus	Osprey	Birds Directive Annex I



Binomial	CommonName	EU Status
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine	Birds Directive Annex I
Milvus milvus	Red Kite	Birds Directive Annex I
Gavia stellata	Red-throated Diver	Birds Directive Annex I
Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	Birds Directive Annex I
Sterna sandvicensis	Sandwich Tern	Birds Directive Annex I
Asio flammeus	Short-eared Owl	Birds Directive Annex I
Podiceps auritus	Slavonian Grebe	Birds Directive Annex I
Ciconia ciconia	White Stork	Birds Directive Annex I
Cygnus cygnus	Whooper Swan	Birds Directive Annex I

National Status

Binomial	CommonName	GBStatus
Pipistrellus pipistrellus (s.l.)	Pipistrelle Bat	Common
Andrena clarkella	a solitary bee	Common
Andrena haemorrhoa	Early Mining Bee	Common
Arvicola terrestris	Water Vole	Common
Cupido minimus	Small Blue	Local
Luronium natans	Floating Water-plantain	Nationally Scarce
Galeopsis angustifolia	Red Hemp-nettle	Nationally Scarce
Bombus rudereus	Large Garden Bumble Bee	Notable/Nb
Populus nigra ssp. betulifolia	Black Poplar	Vulnerable
Austropotamobius pallipes	Freshwater Crayfish	Local *

3.1 *Va. Vulnerable (Collins & Wells 1987, Invertebrates in need of special protection in Europe)

UK BAP

Binomial	CommonName	UKBAP
Botaurus stellaris	Bittern	BAP1
Pipistrellus pipistrellus (s.l.)	Pipistrelle Bat	BAP1
Luronium natans	Floating Water-plantain	BAP1
Arvicola terrestris	Water Vole	BAP1
Alauda arvensis	Skylark	BAP1
Perdix perdix	Grey Partridge	BAP1
Turdus philomelos	Song Thrush	BAP1
Austropotamobius pallipes	Freshwater Crayfish	BAP1



Binomial	CommonName	UKBAP
Caprimulgus europaeus	Nightjar	BAP2, BAP2+
Carduelis cannabina	Linnet	BAP2, BAP2+
Bombus ruderratus	Large Garden Bumble Bee	BAP2, BAP2+
Melanitta nigra	Common Scoter	BAP2+, BAP2
Emberiza schoeniclus	Reed Bunting	BAP2+, BAP2
Miliaria calandra	Corn Bunting	BAP2+, BAP2
Passer montanus	Tree Sparrow	BAP2+, BAP2
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	BAP2+, BAP2
Galeopsis angustifolia	Red Hemp-nettle	BAP2+, BAP2
Muscicapa striata	Spotted Flycatcher	BAP2+, BAP2
Tyto alba	Barn Owl	BAP3
Alcedo atthis	Kingfisher	BAP3
Chlidonias niger	Black Tern	BAP3
Circus aeruginosus	Marsh Harrier	BAP3
Cygnus columbianus	Bewick's Swan	BAP3
Cygnus cygnus	Whooper Swan	BAP3
Falco columbarius	Merlin	BAP3
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine	BAP3
Gavia arctica	Black-throated Diver	BAP3
Gavia immer	Great Northern Diver	BAP3
Gavia stellata	Red-throated Diver	BAP3
Larus melanocephalus	Mediterranean Gull	BAP3
Larus minutus	Little Gull	BAP3
Milvus milvus	Red Kite	BAP3
Pandion haliaetus	Osprey	BAP3
Pernis apivorus	Honey Buzzard	BAP3
Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	BAP3
Podiceps auritus	Slavonian Grebe	BAP3
Sterna albifrons	Little Tern	BAP3
Sylvia undata	Dartford Warbler	BAP3
Anas querquedula	Garganey	BAP3
Aythya marila	Scaup	BAP3
Charadrius dubius	Little Ringed Plover	BAP3
Clangula hyemalis	Long-tailed Duck	BAP3
Eremophila alpestris	Shore Lark	BAP3
Falco subbuteo	Hobby	BAP3
Fringilla montifringilla	Brambling	BAP3



Binomial	CommonName	UKBAP
<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	BAP3
<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Crossbill	BAP3
<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Velvet Scoter	BAP3
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel	BAP3
<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	Bearded Tit	BAP3
<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Black-necked Grebe	BAP3
<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	Firecrest	BAP3
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Greenshank	BAP3
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	Green Sandpiper	BAP3
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Redwing	BAP3
<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Fieldfare	BAP3
<i>Bufo bufo</i>	Common Toad	BAP3
<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Common Frog	BAP3
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Snipe	BAP3
<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	Lapwing	BAP3
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer	BAP3
<i>Cupido minimus</i>	Small Blue	BAP3
<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared Owl	BAP3
<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Barnacle Goose	BAP3
<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret	BAP3
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit	BAP3
<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Golden Plover	BAP3
<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Common Tern	BAP3
<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Arctic Tern	BAP3
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	Sandwich Tern	BAP3
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	BAP3
<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Greenfinch	BAP3
<i>Cygnus olor</i>	Mute Swan	BAP3
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Herring Gull	BAP3
<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	Pied Wagtail	BAP3
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail	BAP3
<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit	BAP3
<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	Shag	BAP3
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Cormorant	BAP3
<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	Water Rail	BAP3
<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Shelduck	BAP3
<i>Ulex gallii</i>	Western Gorse	BAP3



Binomial	CommonName	UKBAP
Valerianella dentata	Narrow-fruited Cornsalad	BAP3

Wildlife and Countryside Act

Binomial	Common Name	Wildlife and Countryside Act
Tyto alba	Barn Owl	1
Alcedo atthis	Kingfisher	1
Botaurus stellaris	Bittern	1
Chlidonias niger	Black Tern	1
Circus aeruginosus	Marsh Harrier	1
Cygnus columbianus	Bewick's Swan	1
Cygnus cygnus	Whooper Swan	1
Falco columbarius	Merlin	1
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine	1
Gavia arctica	Black-throated Diver	1
Gavia immer	Great Northern Diver	1
Gavia stellata	Red-throated Diver	1
Larus melanocephalus	Mediterranean Gull	1
Larus minutus	Little Gull	1
Milvus milvus	Red Kite	1
Pandion haliaetus	Osprey	1
Pernis apivorus	Honey Buzzard	1
Philomachus pugnax	Ruff	1
Podiceps auritus	Slavonian Grebe	1
Sterna albifrons	Little Tern	1
Sylvia undata	Dartford Warbler	1
Anas querquedula	Garganey	1
Aythya marila	Scaup	1
Charadrius dubius	Little Ringed Plover	1
Clangula hyemalis	Long-tailed Duck	1
Eremophila alpestris	Shore Lark	1
Falco subbuteo	Hobby	1
Fringilla montifringilla	Brambling	1



Binomial	Common Name	Wildlife and Countryside Act
	Black-tailed	
<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Godwit	1
<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	Crossbill	1
<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Velvet Scoter	1
<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Common Scoter	1
<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel	1
<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	Bearded Tit	1
	Black-necked	
<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Grebe	1
<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	Firecrest	1
<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Greenshank	1
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	Green Sandpiper	1
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Redwing	1
<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Fieldfare	1
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (s.l.)	Pipistrelle Bat	5
<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Noctule	5
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Common Pipistrelle	5
	Floating	
<i>Luronium natans</i>	Water-plantain	8
<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	Viviparous Lizard	5 (Killing, injuring, sale only)
<i>Bufo bufo</i>	Common Toad	5 (Sale only)
<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Common Frog	5 (Sale only)
		5 Damage/destruction of place of shelter/protection
<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	Water Vole	
<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>	Freshwater Crayfish	5 (Taking and sale only)

SBAP Species

Binomial	CommonName	Local Status
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	SBAP Ed.1
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> (s.l.)	Pipistrelle Bat	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
<i>Andrena clarkella</i>	a solitary bee	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
<i>Andrena haemorrhoa</i>	Early Mining Bee	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	Water Vole	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
	Floating	
<i>Luronium natans</i>	Water-plantain	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
<i>Populus nigra</i> ssp. <i>betulifolia</i>	Black Poplar	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2



Binomial	CommonName	Local Status
Caprimulgus europaeus	Nightjar	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
Nyctalus noctula	Noctule	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
Alauda arvensis	Skylark	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
Gallinago gallinago	Snipe	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
Perdix perdix	Grey Partridge	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
Vanellus vanellus	Lapwing	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
Austropotamobius pallipes	Freshwater Crayfish	SBAP Ed.1/SBAP Ed.2
Carduelis cannabina	Linnet	SBAP Ed.2
Emberiza citrinella	Yellowhammer	SBAP Ed.2
Emberiza schoeniclus	Reed Bunting	SBAP Ed.2
Miliaria calandra	Corn Bunting	SBAP Ed.2
Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	SBAP Ed.2
Passer montanus	Tree Sparrow	SBAP Ed.2
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	SBAP Ed.2
Tyto alba	Barn Owl	SBAP Ed.2
Vaccinium myrtillus x vitis-idaea (V. x intermedium)	Hybrid Bilberry	SBAP Ed.2