



The parcel is predominantly comprised of an agricultural field network delineated by hedgerows, trees and fencing. These dominant landscape features give this parcel a rural character. Views across the landscape are achieved from public footpaths and are filtered by the aforementioned vegetated field boundaries.

Development away from the A40 is generally limited to scattered farmsteads that occupy positions amongst the field networks that they serve. Isolated single or small clusters of dwellings, are also present along the minor roads within the area.

To the north and north east of the parcel is elevated land form that in combination with woodland provides a backdrop to the parcel in views from the south and south west. The topography and vegetation screen views from the north and north east. It also provides an important landscape feature that ties this outlying area to the Forest of Dean to the west, which is also visible upon elevated land form.

Topography changes create local variations in elevation. This creates areas of rolling landscape that provide long views across the area. Character wise this creates a varied rural landscape. These elevated areas would be subject to heightened landscape sensitivity.

Flood Zone 2 and 3 areas are present within the parcel. This is confined to an area of the low lying south of the parcel. Flood Zone areas are far more prevalent in the other parcels. These areas play an important role in flood management and form part of the local Green Infrastructure network.

Views from the high ground look across the surrounding agricultural landscape and beyond to the elevated land form of the Forest of Dean to the west and the Severn Estuary to the south. Where the topography is level the intervening hedgerow boundary vegetation filters views and can limit them to the local area.

The A40 is the primary transport corridor within the parcel. Historically settlement has evolved along this main route between Gloucester and the Forest of Dean. Linear settlement patterns are present at Churcham and Birdwood. The minor road network that accesses the rest of the parcel is single track and rural in character. Any major development would require new roads to support it.

Base map from Google Earth, Copyright Google.

- Parcel Boundary. This takes account of historic field boundaries, infrastructure corridors and watercourses.
- Contours. These highlight a characteristically low lying landscape as the topography gently falls towards the River Severn to the south east. This gently sloping character is punctuated by small elevated land forms.
- Public Rights of Way (PRoW). The area within the parcel and beyond is well served by footpaths. These are valuable features within the area that promote activity and tourism. They also provide important Green Infrastructure corridors.
- Flood Zone 2 and 3 areas are present within the parcel. This is confined to an area of the low lying south of the parcel. Flood Zone areas are far more prevalent in the other parcels. These areas play an important role in flood management and form part of the local Green Infrastructure network.
- Grade 1 listed Church of St Michael to the north of Bulley Farm.
- Approximate area of designated Flood Zone. This occupies the lowest lying area of the parcel.
- The A40 road is the primary transport corridor within the parcel and is present along the southern boundary. All other roads within the parcel are single lane.
- Idyllic rural views are achieved from public footpaths within the parcel. Some distant views are also achieved depending on elevation and intervening features.
- Grade 2 listed structure within or adjacent to the boundary of the parcel. If numbered it represents a number of listed structures near to each other.

Landscape Features:

- Mixed agricultural field network comprised of arable and pastoral farming;
- Hedgerow field boundaries, individual field trees, small copses and some remnant orchard planting;
- Low lying landscape with elevated land forms punctuating an otherwise relatively flat landscape;
- Minor watercourses and areas of flood meadow;
- Numerous public footpaths cross the area;
- Limited historical built environment. The setting of grade 1 listed St Michael's Church requires additional assessment; and
- A40 transport corridor and minor roads.

Visual Receptors:

- Residents along the A40;
- Residents in more isolated dwellings;
- Public footpath users;
- Farm workers; and
- Road users.

