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What is a Village Design Statement?

A Village Design Statement is an advisory document describing the visual features and physical qualities of the village that are valued by residents. It is produced by local people, aiming to promote good design and to ensure that new developments (including extensions to existing property) are designed in harmony with the character of the village.

What does it mean for our village?

The document 'Charnwood - Leading In Design' produced by Charnwood Borough Council in July 2005 states that 'The natural environment, landscape quality and historic character of Charnwood are precious assets that should be preserved and enhanced for the benefit of current and future generations'. This Village Design Statement has been produced to make everyone aware of the precious assets of Woodhouse Eaves. Change is inevitable and necessary, and it is the responsibility of the whole community to ensure that Woodhouse Eaves develops in an appropriate way while maintaining its individuality.

How will it be used?

The Village Design Statement (VDS) will be available to everyone proposing change, from major new developments to alterations to existing properties.

Adopted by the Borough Council as Supplementary Planning Guidance, it strengthens and supports the Parish Council's role and provides a reference document with clear design guidelines. It enables future development to be planned positively and appropriately while allowing councillors and individuals to give more effective and informed responses to planning applications.

In Charnwood's Planning Department, it will be a useful tool in the field of development control.

Introduction

Woodhouse Eaves has given pleasure to countless generations of visitors. This has ranged from the exclusive presence of a mediaeval aristocracy hunting in the park at Beaumanor, to those in the nineteenth century drawn from northern and midland towns to hunt, take the air or enjoy a holiday, escaping from smoky towns to hills with rocky outcrops and ancient oaks. Current generations enjoy the public areas of the Beacon Hill Country Park, Broombriggs Farm Trail and Windmill Hill as well as walking, running, cycling and riding through the village and along its footpaths and bridleways. We cannot be certain that the inhabitants always shared these delights, but at least they lived out their lives above the low lying areas of the Soar valley in an area of upland which has been described as the most romantic district in Leicestershire.

The growth from a tiny mediaeval hamlet under the eaves of the forest to a thriving community of some seventeen hundred inhabitants has seen an underlying loyalty to local building materials. Charnwood granite was used for walls, Swithland slate for both walls and roofs, augmented with other materials, retaining a small-scale character - perhaps sometimes more by luck than judgement. The special character of the core of the village is already protected by the designation of a Conservation Area and this design statement hopes to ensure that the future character of the village is similarly maintained, now with decisions being informed more by good judgement than by luck, so that future generations of both inhabitants and visitors will continue to enjoy an environment valued by past and present generations.

Woodhouse Eaves from Church Hill

The Historical Background

Woodhouse Eaves is not an ancient settlement. Although Long Close, the oldest house in the village, is said to incorporate elements from a mediaeval hunting lodge, Woodhouse Eaves only really developed into more than a tiny rural hamlet during the late 18th and 19th centuries, at the time of the Industrial Revolution. Several buildings on Main Street date from this period including Long Close Cottage (dated 1817) and the "corner shop" on Main Street (dated 1856).

Long Close Cottage on Main Street

As the city of Leicester and the other towns of north-west Leicestershire were industrialised during the 19th century, and their air became polluted or 'unwholesome' in the terminology of the time, people felt a need to escape to the country, even for the briefest of periods. At the same time rising prosperity meant that larger numbers of people were able to have short holidays. The advent of the railways also made it easier for ordinary working people as well as members of the more prosperous middle class to reach outlying villages such as Woodhouse Eaves. With its already varied natural attractions and rural, almost upland setting, Woodhouse Eaves thus became an early tourist destination. Numerous tea-rooms, bed-and-breakfast establishments, shops and other services came into existence during the late Victorian period. Several of the most architecturally interesting houses in the village were just such commercial premises during Woodhouse Eaves' period as a significant tourist venue.

Fountain Cottage on Beacon Road used to be the Fountain Public house and latterly the Fountain café.

These years similarly saw the opening of a remarkable number of recovery and convalescent homes, these being established to take advantage of the relatively high altitude and fresh breezes during the late Victorian, Edwardian and post-First World War years. These large new buildings were, however, on or beyond the outskirts of the main village itself. One such establishment proclaimed that 'our country residence with beautiful grounds, an abundance of fresh air untainted by obnoxious fumes of city traffic, helps to restore health together with a high standard of nursing care'. These were the decades when the Charnwood Forest, including Woodhouse Eaves, became known as 'the playground and the sanatorium of the Leicestershire towns'.

Charnwood House

Meanwhile agriculture had become notably less important to the local economy, though there are still a number of large farms on or near the edges of the village. Some of these again include buildings which partially date from the 19th century if not earlier. Before the enclosures of the 18th and early 19th centuries, most residents of Woodhouse Eaves, like those of neighbouring villages, had been small-scale farmers whose animals grazed freely in the common 'wastes' and open fields. Now agricultural improvement and mechanisation forced large numbers of country people to find other employment. In much of England the large houses of the wealthy provided considerable domestic work. This was also seen in north-west Leicestershire. For example Beaumanor Hall, next to the village of Woodhouse, employed many of the inhabitants of both "old" Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves. Nevertheless, such employment did not become the main feature of life in 19th century Woodhouse Eaves. Instead our village was characterised more by the homes of artisans than by those of domestic workers from large local houses. A large number of such dwellings, often incorrectly referred to as "framework knitters'" cottages, still exist within the Woodhouse Eaves, most notably on Main Street and Maplewell Road. Some have their frontages directly on these roads while others have very small "front gardens" or paved areas between their windows and the pavement.

Maplewell Road cottages

Another significant source of local employment was found in neighbouring slate quarries. This attracted professional people to manage such enterprises, resulting in the building of both cottages for the quarrymen's families and rather larger houses for their managers. Once again Woodhouse Eaves was fortunate because a significant variety of domestic premises was constructed within the village at around the same time which often had architectural or decorative features in common. This has given a notable coherence to some of the side-streets dating from late Victorian and Edwardian years.

Shops as well as public houses increased in number during this period, largely as a result of the demands of visitors from the local towns and cities, but also as a result of an influx of new inhabitants and a generally rising standard of living. Woodhouse Eaves is, in fact, fortunate in retaining an unusual number of retail outlets, including public houses and high quality restaurants. The latter once again reflect the fact that the village remains an attraction for visitors, as it has done for well over a century. Nevertheless others, including two butchers shops, have been converted into residential properties since the Second World war.

The Pear Tree Inn, Church Hill

The 20th century saw further, sometimes significant and even dramatic changes in the population of Woodhouse Eaves. These resulted in a number of relatively small-scale developments, including cul-de-sac roads off the village's main thoroughfares. The houses built on such new roads tended to be typical of the inter-war period but were, by and large, faithful to the existing character and building materials of the village. They also tended to be set back, so that their impact was unobtrusive. The building of Council Housing as infill along Beacon Road was more visible, but again front gardens and sympathetic design softened the

impact of what was otherwise a dramatic alteration to the northern edge of the village. During and immediately after World War II many Civil Service employees settled here, as did military personnel. This was associated with the development of Bird Hill, Tuckett Road and Herrick Road. This time the housing along Bird Hill itself was highly visible and brought a new style of architecture to the village. Over subsequent decades, however, the Bird Hill development has become very much part of Woodhouse Eaves, strengthening the socially and economically mixed character which has always been a healthy feature of this village. One might almost say that the Bird Hill estate saved Woodhouse Eaves from degenerating into a mere dormitory village for the nearby towns.

Herrick Road seen across the green from Bird Hill road

Nevertheless, a more recent phenomenon has been the high proportion of residents who commute to work, often far from Woodhouse Eaves and the advent of mass car ownership has led to problems in many streets where the older houses lack garages. This is particularly apparent along the original village thoroughfares of Beacon Road, Main Street and Maplewell Road.

Being such a sought after location, house prices in Woodhouse Eaves have remained at a premium and in recent decades many have risen significantly, often putting them out of the reach of younger people. On the other hand, many properties are currently rented, which could be seen as a return to the past when most houses in both Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves were owned by the Beaumanor Estate. Further changes may occur following the opening of the Defence Sixth Form College between Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves. This will hopefully bring added vitality to an already vital village. During the workshop days preparatory to producing this design statement, many villagers said how greatly they value the green space provided by the already short stretch of undeveloped country road that separates our two very different settlements.

Landscape

The landscape around Woodhouse Eaves is composed of a beautiful mixture of woodland and agricultural land with occasional granite outcrops and remnant heathland. On the approach from Old Woodhouse the land rises gently towards Woodhouse Eaves which nestles on the slopes of Windmill Hill and under Broombriggs and Beacon Hill. This backdrop of hills and woodland is an important feature in the character of the village. There are many veteran trees within the parish.

Woodhouse Eaves from Old Woodhouse

and from Brand Lane

The parish contains several important Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), the most notable of which includes the lowland heath on the top of Beacon Hill and the native oak and birch plantation on its lower slopes. Beacon Hill is also an important historical location, being the site of an ancient bronze age hill fort and later being part of the Beaumanor Estate with some ornamental Victorian planting. It is also an important country park enjoyed by local residents and outside visitors. This country park, together with permissive access to trails around Broombriggs Farm and other important footpaths and bridle paths, make the varied and beautiful landscape easily accessible.

Broombriggs from Windmill bridlepath

Views within the village are all equally important, varied and attractive. Many of the houses back onto the wooded slopes of Windmill Hill and Church Hill, while the mature trees and new planting within and without the village remain an important feature. Looking northeast from the village and from higher slopes, the landscape opens into the Soar valley. Other vistas open up between buildings in the village and there is always a sense of space and of the surrounding natural environment. Inside the village open areas such as the playing fields, the allotments and The Green between Bird Hill Road, Tuckett Road and Herrick Road create green corridors into the village itself.

Looking towards the Soar valley from The Green

All approaches to the village are visually pleasing, particularly coming in from Brand Hill to Church Hill and the open sweep down into the centre of the village. Low stone walls and foliage allow the surrounding countryside and nature to percolate into the village itself.

Entering the village from Church Hill

……. and from Beacon Road

Vistas opening out from the village are equally important, particularly the broad open space between Woodhouse Eaves and Woodhouse.

Leaving the village from Maplewell Road

and along Brand Hill.

Landscape Guidelines

1 **In any new development care should be taken to retain views of the countryside that emphasise the sense of landscape, space and openness. For example, at the heart of the village the currently derelict Chinese Restaurant site if developed over a certain height would obstruct the vistas towards the Soar Valley. Please refer to section 4.4 of 'Charnwood – Leading In Design'.**

2. **Existing vistas within and without the village should be respected. For example, the Green between Bird Hill Road, Tuckett Road and Herrick Road is just one part of the village which provides a remarkable variety of views and vistas.**

3. **Materials used for walls, fences, stiles, gates, etc., should be suitable for a development in this parish.**

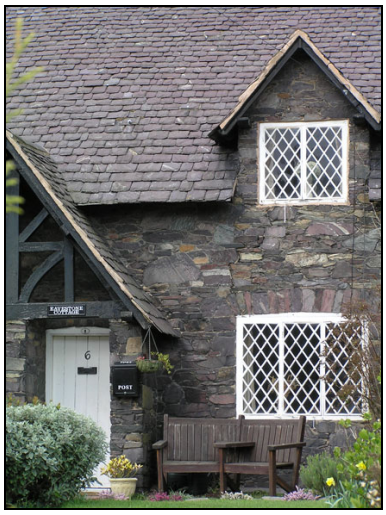
4. **Where possible, new developments should include the planting of trees native to Charnwood Forest, and the preservation of existing mature trees. Refer to Appendix 1 for a list of locally native trees and shrubs.**

The Settlement Pattern

The survival of older buildings suggests that Woodhouse Eaves grew along the main thoroughfare of Main Street, Church Hill and Brand Hill with other occasional cottages along what was once the edge of Beaumanor Park in Brook Road and up Maplewell Road. The growth appears to have been sporadic and piecemeal with the pleasing result that small-scale cottages have side alleys with other cottages behind, while some houses face the road and others are placed side-on. Some are on the pavement edge and others are set back. This projection and recession, with the resulting open and closed views, gives variety to these streets and is an essential aspect of the character of the central village. This area now forms the Conservation Area.

Main St - projection and recession

The cottages and houses are widely dated, ranging from at least the 18th century to the present day, but are almost always two-storey buildings with Swithland slate or tile roofs exclusively in dull grey, purple or brown tones. Flat roofs are almost non-existent.



Slate cottage on Maplewell Road

Walling materials again derive from locally available stone, with the addition of brick in the 19th century and/or light (normally white) rendered walls. This provided a protective or fashionable finish to rough walling or hid a lack of stone beneath. The characteristic grey/purple walls with brick dressings or ornaments and brick chimneys provide a particular building symbol of the village.

Recently renovated stone terrace on Church Hill

The Curzon Arms

The attention to detail given by the architects and craftsmen who rebuilt the Baptist Church within the Conservation Area in 1981 has provided the village with much for which to be thankful. Its bricks, slates, and detailing follow local tradition whereas the overall form of the building is a statement of its own late 20th century period.

Although first impressions on entering the village from the Bulls Head or Church Hill are of cottage scale buildings with a predominance of granite, slate and render, there are other important sectors of the village, each with their own unifying character, which lead off the Conservation Area.

Further up Maplewell Road and all roads off, late Victorian / Edwardian red brick villas and terraces, featuring gables and architectural ornamentation, intermix with older stone cottages and more recent 20th century houses.

Turn of the century villa on Post Office Drive

Liberty Hall, Maplewell Road

These roads have a similar mixture of buildings set close to the kerb or further back, though in a perhaps less picturesque manner. This is, however, still important in achieving the characteristic open and closed feeling. The contrast between built structures and their gardens is important as one moves along Maplewell Road. Where buildings are set close to the village pavements, architectural details are even more significant.

Behind Main Street and leading up to Windmill Hill, there are small estate roads, each with their own style. Bird Hill Road, Herrick Road and Tuckett Road surrounding the Green were developed as War Office and Council housing in the 1940s and 50s and at the time they won awards for their design.

Post-war development on Bird Hill Road

More recent developments in the village are small, usually consisting of single road developments which are laid out more uniformly than the older parts of the village. These more suburban settlements, such as Paterson Drive and Rawlins Close, tend to be hidden from the main access roads and are screened by trees or cottages.

Patterson Drive

The charm of the village derives partly from the wide range of buildings of different scales, which with a few exceptions blend harmoniously together, and partly from the trees, plants, creepers, gardens and open spaces that enhance the setting of the buildings.

Maplewell Road

Some ancient trees, and more recent planting, add different shapes and colours. For example, a white cherry tree and a daphne enhance Main street whilst the last cottages on Beacon Road stand next to magnificent, well established oaks.

Beacon Road oak trees

Tall trees such as pines, which were part of the Victorian planting scheme, form part of the settlement pattern. They create a broken skyline of roofs and trees.

Tall pines at the top of Maplewell Road

A major characteristic of all approaches to the village is the gradual increase in building density which helps blend the village into its surrounding landscape. This landscape is happily still an important working environment of farms and livery stables. Their continuing existence enhances the richness and diversity of the village's environment.

Settlement Guidelines

5. **New development should respect the diverse origins of the village, giving variety rather than uniformity but being of a scale that fits in with existing character and also being appropriate to its location within the village.**

6. **Any large development should provide a mix of housing size, type and affordability to provide for the diverse cultural, social and physical needs of people. Refer to section 2.2 in 'Charnwood – Leading In Design' July 2005.**

7. **The mix of closed and open spaces should be maintained – providing 'punctuation' within the village.**

8. **The allotments, The Green and the Playing Fields (indicated on the map) are valuable open spaces and should be protected from commercial or residential development. Although the allotments could currently be described as a hidden area, their high ground level means that any building on this site would entirely alter the existing character of the centre of the village.**

9. **The gradual increase in building density at the approaches to the village should be maintained.**

Buildings

The previous sections which describe the character and settlement patterns of Woodhouse Eaves set the context for the following guidelines. Please note that the examples cited here or elsewhere in the design statement are not intended to be comprehensive and the omission of any particular building, feature or space should not be taken to imply that it is of no importance. Please also refer to checklist 6 in 'Charnwood – Leading In Design'.

Building Guidelines – Scale, Setting and Design

10. **The roof height within the village varies. Any development with uniform roof heights or with significantly higher roof lines than the adjacent street scene would be inappropriate.**

11. **The general tenor of these guidelines is towards carefully considered and unobtrusive additions. Nevertheless, high quality and courageous contemporary design would be welcomed within the village. The Baptist Church is a fine example of this.**

12. **Breaks in the line of buildings should be preserved as they retain an open feeling and break up the continuity along major thoroughfares, e.g. Main Street and Maplewell Road.**

13. **The character of the village would suffer from insensitive infilling and extensions which destroy the sense of openness and erode space and variety. This is particularly evident where infilling occurs on the major thoroughfares.**

14. **The variety of building styles in the village allows extensions to be more easily encompassed. However, significant attention must be paid to detailing in relation to adjacent buildings so that the integral nature of the original building is not lost.**

15. **On-street parking is an issue due to the size of the village, number of cars and the increasing use of major roads as thoroughfares by commuters. Off-street parking for new developments must be made as unobtrusive as possible. Refer to section 3.7 in 'Charnwood – Leading In Design'.**

16. **New development should be customised to the character of the village. If a large site is developed, the following must be encouraged:**

16.1 **Variety within an overall character of the development whilst respecting the context of the existing surroundings.**

16.2 **Village domestic scale architecture rather than suburban 'executive style' housing.**

16.3 **Landscaping of the site to reflect the local topography and the use of native trees and plants. Please refer to Appendix 1 for a list of locally native trees and shrubs.**

Building Guidelines – Materials

17. **Stone walls with brick dressings are a particular aspect of the village and should be encouraged in new developments. It should be used positively and reflect local building traditions, not be included merely as a decorative device.**

18. **Modern building methods and materials are generally less expensive than the traditional stone and slate, but nevertheless with carefully chosen materials and well considered detailing and design, they can still be used to enhance the village.**

19. **Large-sized Swithland slate is a desirable characteristic and should be retained. For new developments reclaimed slate may not be the most economical or aesthetic material. An acceptable alternative would be Welsh slate, tiles in subtle hues or suitable synthetic alternatives to maintain the existing roofscape colouring of the village.**

20. **As well as stone and slate, brick is one of the defining materials used in the village. The stone, slate and brick used in any alteration, extension or development must be chosen to enhance and compliment adjacent buildings.**

21. **Care must be taken when designing even the smallest extension to harmonise with the original so as not to detract from the existing building.**



Traditional stone and slate building materials


Recent sympathetic extensions

Building Guidelines – Chimneys, roofs and gables

22.1 **The chimney skyline is a distinctive feature of Woodhouse Eaves and the inclusion of stacks in any new residential development is essential.**

22.2 **The relationship between roofs, gables, dormers and chimneys should be considered as a whole in all developments and should respect existing architectural and historical features within the village.**

22.3 **Gables and dormers should be used to lower the level of the eaves and emphasise the cottage character of a building.**








Building Guidelines – Windows

23.1 **Development in the older parts of the village should respect the existing characteristics of (i) the small casement window and (ii) the detailing of frame and glazing bars, preferably in wood.**

23.2 **Windows and surrounds in extensions should, wherever possible, maintain the same proportions and type of materials as those in the original structure**.

Building Guidelines - Planning Application

24. **All planning applications must adhere rigorously to checklist 1 in 'Charnwood – Leading In Design' and particularly:**

24.1 **Illustrate how the proposed work will appear in relation to its immediate surroundings, whether existing buildings or open land, in order to demonstrate the integration of the proposals.**

24.2 **Provide accurate elevations in respect to existing properties preferably by an axonometric diagram as detailed in Appendix 1 step 4 of 'Charnwood – Leading In Design'.**

24.3 **The submission of details of all materials including mortar joints and mixes at the time of the application is to be encouraged. Details provided at an early stage of the planning process may facilitate the decision making process.**

Commercial Outlets & Businesses

The Parish enjoys the existence of a number of working farms, and is fortunate in having a wide variety of retail outlets and businesses which are vital to the life of the community as well as providing employment opportunities. Some businesses are operated from home; others like shops, public houses and restaurants significantly affect the appearance and character of the village and it is important to ensure their sympathetic integration into the fabric of the village.

Commercial Outlets and Businesses Guidelines

25. Shop fronts:

25.1 Signage, security measures and all other aspects of commercial operations should be in harmony with, and designed to enhance, the character of the village. Rigid bolt-on blinds or canopies, particularly those made of glossy materials, are inappropriate in a traditional setting. Internal security grills are generally less intrusive than outside shutters and should be encouraged.

25.2 Fascia panels should respect the character and proportions of commercial premises. Where they are required, individual and professionally executed hand painted signs should be encouraged, whereas 'sponsored' plastic signs should be resisted. In all cases the style and size of lettering requires careful consideration.

25.3 Internally illuminated box signs and fascias are inappropriate within a traditional village setting. Where lighting is required, a discrete external light source should be used.

26. New business premises should follow the building guidelines outlined in this document.

27. Businesses also attract litter. There should be generous provision of waste bins, particularly adjacent to shops.

NB Please also refer to the Charnwood Development Framework document 'Leading In Design: Shopfronts & Signs'

Bridleways, footpaths and roads

The most frequent comment in praise of the village from residents of Woodhouse Eaves is the ease of access into open countryside. Footpaths and bridleways lead directly from the village to Windmill Hill, Broombriggs, Beacon Hill, Woodhouse, Rushey Fields, Swithland Woods and Bradgate Park. They are a much valued feature of the village and rate highly among the reasons quoted by many residents for choosing to live in Woodhouse Eaves.

There are several footpaths that weave through different sections of the village, providing pedestrian access between these sections. They are not only characteristic but form a safe network of pedestrian routes.

Roads, bridleways and footpaths guidelines

28. **The network of footpaths through and around the village (indicated on the centrefold map) should be maintained.**

29. **Any sizeable development should include new footpaths and cycleways as recommended in section 3.1 'Charnwood – Leading In Design' with the presumption in favour of walking, cycling and public transport.**

30. **Existing bridleways (indicated on the centrefold map) should be maintained and the provision of new bridleways should be encouraged to ease traffic problems and increase road safety.**

31. **Granite kerb stones should be retained where possible, although alternative materials such as distressed concrete offer an acceptable alternative.**

The Consultation Process

The Woodhouse Eaves Village Design Statement reflects the views of local residents whose opinions were gathered through extensive public consultation. All residents were invited to comment and responses carefully recorded.

The consultation process included:

- Extracting responses from the Parish Plan Survey, elements of which relate directly to VDS issues, for example, the section on Local Buildings and Architecture.
- Articles within local papers and the village magazine to explain the purpose of the Village Design Statement, publicise related events and invite participation.
- Leaflet drop to all households to reinforce media publicity.
- Architectural & Landscape 'walkabout' Days held on 9th and 23rd April 2005. Digital and disposable cameras were provided to allow groups of residents to photograph desirable features within the village. Many of the photographs in this document were taken on these days.
- An Exhibition Day was held at the Village Hall on May 14th to display the resulting photographs. Entries for a children's painting competition featuring illustrations of the village were displayed at the same time. Visitors were invited to record their observations on comment sheets which were collected for analysis. A local knowledge quiz was also staged.
- A VDS website has been established to provide and update information and allow feedback. This statement is available on the web site.

A team of local residents has assembled the data gathered and prepared this Statement after consultation with representatives from the Parish Council and Charnwood Borough Council. Specific guidelines are informed by the Charnwood Development Framework document – 'Leading in Design'.

The aim of this Statement is to help secure sympathetic, high quality design for all new developments within the village. The Borough Council supports the production of Village Design Statements prepared by local people and their adoption as supplementary planning guidance to be considered in the assessment of future developments

Thanks are due to:
The people of Woodhouse Eaves
Woodhouse Eaves Parish Council
Charnwood Borough Council
Leicestershire County Council
Leicestershire & Rutland Rural Community Council

Appendix 1 - Locally native species for Woodhouse Eaves

Field maple *Acer campestre*	M	Generally characteristic of neutral soils and associated with ash woodland, not on acid soils.
Alder *Alnus glutinosa*	H	This species is distributed widely throughout the Charnwood Forest Character Area and is characteristic of riverbanks and wet or waterlogged soils. Precautions should be taken to avoid the transmission of the alder *Phytophtora* amongst riparian trees when planting alder.
Silver birch *Betula pendula*	H	Widespread and common. Can be planted throughout the Charnwood Forest Character Area, but may colonise readily.
Downy birch *Betula pubescens*	H	Generally, should not be widely planted as species has a local and restricted range in the Charnwood Forest Character Area. This species must only be planted in specific sites where it is appropriate (please seek advice from Charnwood Borough Council) and only local provenance stock sourced from the Charnwood Forest Character Area should be used.
Hazel *Corylus avellana*	S	Generally associated with less acidic or neutral soils and is often associated with pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*.
Common hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*	S	Generally not found in mature woodland stands, but is an important component of scrub/hedgerow habitats which are characteristic of young woodlands and edges of mature woodland stands.
Broom *Cytisus scoparius*		Planting of this species is not recommended, as it will colonise by itself in appropriate areas.
Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*	H	Common but generally associated with less acidic or neutral soils.
Holly *Ilex aquifolium*	M	Widespread and common. Can be planted throughout the Charnwood Forest Character Area.
Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*		Generally not planted but is a component woodland species in dry areas.
Crab apple *Malus sylvestris*	M	Very local but widespread species. Can be included in re-stocking schemes but should only be planted at very low densities to establish no more than 1 tree/ha.
Aspen *Populus tremula*	M	Generally, should not be planted as species has a very local and restricted range. It is possibly a historic introduction to the Charnwood Forest Character Area where it occurs in wet woodland.
Wild cherry/gean *Prunus avium*	M	Local and associated with neutral clay soils.

Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*	S	Generally not found in mature woodland stands but is an important component of scrub/hedgerow habitats which are characteristic of young woodland and edges of mature woodland stands.
Sessile oak *Quercus petraea*	H	Generally, should not be widely planted as species has a local and restricted range in the Charnwood Forest Character Area. This species must only be planted in specific sites where it is appropriate (please seek advice from Charnwood Borough Council) and only local provenance stock sourced from the Charnwood Forest Character Area should be used.
Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*	H	Widespread and common. Can be planted throughout the Charnwood Forest Character Area.
Field rose *Rosa arvensis*	S	Generally not planted but is a component woodland species on less acidic or neutral soils.
Dog rose *Rosa canina*	S	Generally not planted but is a component woodland species on less acidic or neutral soils.
White willow *Salix alba*	H	Generally, should not be planted as this species has a local and restricted natural range in the Charnwood Forest Character Area. In most cases, alder *Alnus glutinosa* is the more appropriate species to use in planting schemes on wet or waterlogged soils.
Goat willow *Salix caprea*	M	This species is distributed widely throughout the Charnwood Forest Character Area and is characteristic of riverbanks and wet or waterlogged soils.
Grey willow *Salix cinerea*	S	This species is distributed widely throughout the Charnwood Forest Character Area and is characteristic of riverbanks and wet or waterlogged soils.
Crack willow *Salix fragilis*	H	Generally, should not be planted as this species has a local and restricted natural range in the Charnwood Forest Character Area. In most cases, alder *Alnus glutinosa* is the more appropriate species to use in planting schemes on wet or waterlogged soils.
Elder *Sambucus nigra*	S	Planting of this species is not recommended, as it will readily colonise by itself in appropriate areas.
Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*	M	Common and widespread. Can be planted throughout the Charnwood Forest Character Area.
Gorse *Ulex europaeus*	S	Planting of this species is not recommended, as it will readily colonise by itself in appropriate areas.
Guelder rose *Viburnum opulus*	S	Generally, only appropriate for planting on wet soils.