

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Cultural Services : Landscape Comments

Memorandum to:

To: Neil Thompson

From: Julie Hardcastle

cc:

Date: 10th December 2021

App No: DMPA/2021/1698 – Land Off Mount Road

SITE :

Land off Mount Road Castle Gresley South Derbyshire.

PROPOSAL :

An energy storage facility together with associated equipment, intra structure and ancillary works.

1.0: Context and Site Plan

The proposed site is within the National Forest and close to local wildlife sites and listed buildings within the wider landscape.

Location Plan PL-GRE-01 Rev.A

Site Plan PL-GRE-02 Rev.C

Preliminary Ecology Appraisal Report: November 2021

Landscape And Visual Impact Assessment: November 2021

2.0 Policy Context and Guidance

For the landscape comment, we have relied on the following policies:

NPPF :-

- **Section 15 – Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment**

170: Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural environment by-

b) recognizing the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services, including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland.

South Derbyshire Local Plan (Adopted June 2016)

- **S1: Sustainable Growth Strategy**

(iv) Ensure the districts heritage assets, landscape and rural character, are protected conserved and enhanced.

- **Policy BNE 3: Biodiversity**

- **Policy BNE 4 : Landscape Character and Local Distinctiveness**

A The character and local distinctiveness, and quality of South Derbyshire's landscape and soil scape, will be protected and enhanced through the careful design and sensitive implementation of new development.

C In bringing forward proposals, developers will be expected to demonstrate that close regard has been paid to the landscape types and landscape character areas identified in The Landscape Character of Derbyshire. Proposals should have regard to the woodland and tree planting, landscape management and habitat guidance set out in this document and demonstrate that mitigation proposals are appropriate to the character of the landscape.

- **Policy BNE 5: Development in Rural Areas**

- **Policy INF 7: Green Infrastructure**

- **Policy INF 8 : National Forest**

National Landscape Character

The Landscape Character of Derbyshire

3.0: Planning Policy Conclusion:

Where new development takes place, it should be well related to the existing landscape infrastructure that integrates the proposal with the wider landscape.

NPPF advises that all development should be seeking at Biodiversity Net Gain.

With consideration to the submitted documents and the proposed site context, we have the following comments.

To provide a Planting plan to include a plant schedule, planting specification and the following:

- A. Native species tree belt screening to the east and southeast of the proposed location of the site. (Planting to be of various size.)
- B. The location and mix of the wildflower area.

We require enhancement of the biodiversity, that will mitigate for the increased development of the site, by the planting of trees, shrubs and wild flower meadows.

With the use of native species, with consideration to improving local biodiversity including hedgehogs, birds, bats, and bees etc.

The applicant is advised to use the services of a Landscape Architect.

Julie Hardcastle

Landscape Architect

Cultural Services. South Derbyshire District Council