

Hardwicke Estate, Gloucestershire Landscape Character Appraisal

Teasdale
Environmental Design

Client: The Hardwicke Estate
Planning Consultant: The Buchanan Partnership
Project dates: 1997—2003

In 1997, the Hardwicke Estate commissioned a team to examine the feasibility of creating a sustainably-designed village on a site adjoining the southern suburbs of Gloucester and to the north of Hardwicke village.

Teasdale Environmental Design was commissioned to prepare a landscape character appraisal of the site. This identified areas where the historic character of the landscape remained distinctive, due to surviving hedgerows, small field sizes and neighbouring villages and hamlets. In other parts of the site the landscape character was strongly influenced by nearby suburban housing, roads and much larger fields where the historic field patterns had been eroded. In these areas the landscape character and wildlife habitats were poorer. Any future development proposals should conserve the old hedgerows but also seek to strengthen the green structure of the site. 'Green ways' could provide strong visual buffers between different areas, act as corridors for the movement of wildlife and could be used as communication routes for paths and cycle ways.

Judith Teasdale gave evidence on the settings of listed buildings and the landscape character of the site at the Stroud District Local Plan Inquiry held in 2003 site .



Housing and allotments neighbouring the site



Concept sketch of 'Green way' through the development



Hardwicke village, viewed from within the site