



# **Melton Neighbourhood Plan**

**Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report  
incorporating Strategic Environmental  
Assessment**

**Draft Scoping Report for Consultation**

**May 2016**



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# 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report represents the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report which incorporates the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the emerging Melton Neighbourhood Plan. It is for consultation with the relevant statutory authorities and other interested stakeholders.

1.2 SEA is a requirement of the EC Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the impacts of certain plans and programmes on the environment. It is implemented in England through the 'Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004'.

1.3 The objective of the 'SEA Directive' is:

*'To provide for a high level of protection to the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of the plans...with a view to promoting sustainable development'* (Article 1, Appendix 1)

1.4 The requirement for an SEA emerges from Schedule 10, paragraph 8(2)(f) of the Localism Act which states that a draft Neighbourhood Development Order (or Plan) "meets the basic conditions if the making of the order does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations". In this case, the relevant EU obligations are represented by the SEA Directive.

1.5 This SEA is in accordance with Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations.

## The Scoping Report

1.6 The Scoping Report has been developed in accordance with government guidance for undertaking SEA in compliance with the SEA Directive.

1.7 According to the guidance, the complete process has five stages resulting in the Environmental Report, which should be implemented in turn. Each stage comprises a number of subsidiary tasks, some of which should be implemented alongside each other and lead to the development of a specific output. The Scoping Report is the first stage of the SEA of the Melton Neighbourhood Plan associated with it. Stage A explains the process used in this Scoping Report and is presented below in Table 1.1. While the table may infer a sequential process, in practice, stages A1 to A4 inform each other, e.g. one has to have an understanding of the environmental issues (A3) to assess the relevant plans, programmes (A1) and requirements for baseline data collection (A2).

1.8 Consultation on the scope of the SEA is required under the SEA Directive and the Scoping Report guidance detailed above. It is a requirement that the Scoping Report is sent to three statutory Consultation Bodies with environmental responsibilities, as listed:

- The Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Natural England

1.9 The consultation will seek to:

- ensure the methodology for the proposed SEA/SA is comprehensive to support the Melton Neighbourhood Plan;
- provide an opinion on the suitability of the SEA/SA objectives;
- advise on the key sustainability issues as far as they relate to SEA/SA; and

- provide advice to ensure the baseline data is appropriate and sufficient.

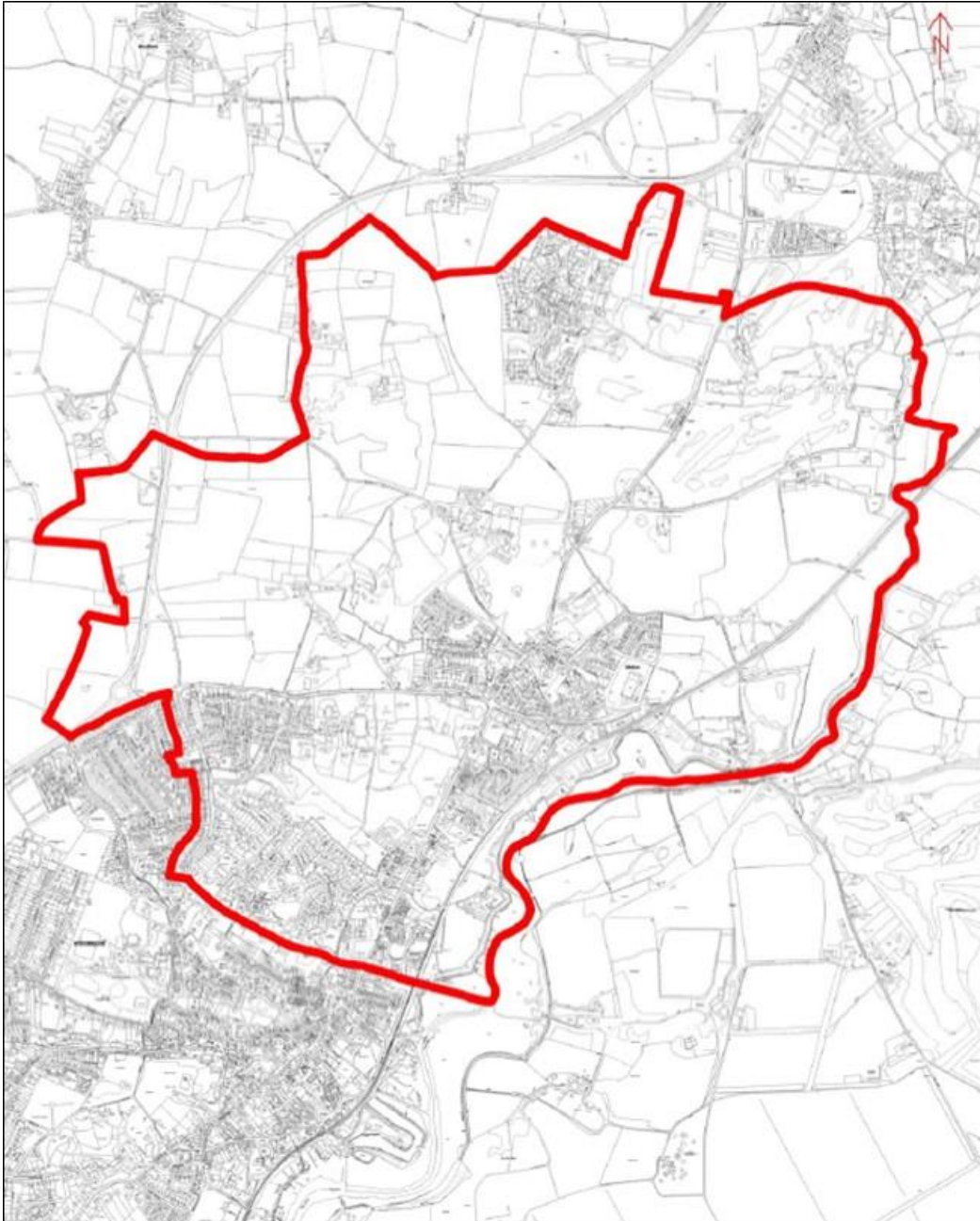
**Table 1.1: Work Requirements for the Scoping Report**

<b>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</b>			
<b>Sub-Stage</b>		<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Key Outputs</b>
A1	Identify links to other relevant plans, programmes and sustainability objectives	Defines how the plan is affected by outside factors and suggests ideas for how any constraints can be addressed	Assessment of requirements of SEA/ Collection and evaluation of key datasets
A2	Collect baseline/ environmental data	Provision of an evidence base for sustainability issues, effects prediction and monitoring	
A3	Identify sustainability issues/problems	Used to focus the SEA and streamline the subsequent phases, including baseline information analysis, setting of the SEA Framework, prediction of effects and monitoring	Assessment of requirements of SEA
A4	Developing the SEA framework	A process to enable the sustainability of plan to be appraised	SEA/SA framework consisting of Sustainability Objectives (Table 5.1) based upon National, Regional and Local issues.
A5	Consulting on the scope of the SEA	Carried out with statutory bodies and other relevant organisations with social, environmental or economic responsibilities to ensure the appraisal covers the key sustainability issues	Revisions to Sustainability framework

## Melton Neighbourhood Plan

- 1.10 The Melton Neighbourhood Plan area is shown in Figure 1.1 and is contiguous with the parish boundary.

**Figure 1.1: Melton Neighbourhood Plan designated area**



- 1.11 The Melton Neighbourhood Plan is being developed through an extensive programme of engagement with the local community. The population is focused in two areas, firstly the historical village of Melton and secondly in the built-up area of northeast Woodbridge that is within the parish boundary. Therefore the focus of the plan has been on addressing the needs of the community that live within these two areas.

- 1.12 The Neighbourhood Plan has been produced by local residents, with the support of Melton Parish Council although an independent Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has driven the Plan forward. The Plan provides a vision for the development of the parish up to 20329:

*'In 2029, the parish of Melton remains a unique place, with its village and important historical and community assets sitting within a sensitive but well protected natural environment. There continues to be a clear separation of the village from Greater Woodbridge. The character of each of the distinct parts of Melton's built-up area has been retained.*

*Infrastructure and traffic issues, particularly along the A1152 and Woods Lane, have been managed in conjunction with new development so that no further pressure is put on already very busy key roads and densely built areas. Improvements have been made to pedestrian and cyclepaths so that there are genuine alternatives to the private car for getting around Melton.*

*Small and sensitive development of local commercial and retail businesses have been encouraged, which sit appropriately in the context of Melton's village environment. Employment areas at Wilford Bridge, Deben Mill and off Melton Hill are thriving.*

*The community facilities serving Melton have been protected and improved, particularly at the Playing Fields on Melton Road. In addition, new allotments, a community orchard and a community farm have provided a range of quality green spaces that have supported the growing population and galvanised Melton's community spirit. Now a large number of groups and events are able to draw the community together and provide activities for both young and old.'*

- 1.13 In order to deliver the vision, the Plan sets out to meet a series of objectives:

- Objective One: Ensure that development does not worsen the detrimental impacts of traffic congestion (including air quality and safety) along the main routes in Melton, whilst encouraging safe movement on foot and by bicycle.
- Objective Two: Ensure that development provides for the infrastructure needs of Melton and does not breach the capacity of the parish's infrastructure to properly support the population.
- Objective Three: Protect and enhance the unique environment and heritage, particularly the rural, riverside and historical assets of Melton and its streetscape.
- Objective Four: Preserve the respective roles and identities of the different built-up areas within the parish, specifically Melton village (including its shops and services) and the northern part of the 'Greater Woodbridge'.
- Objective Five: Protect and enhance the strengths of Melton as a community, in particular through the retention and provision of community infrastructure.
- Objective Six: Protect Melton's business base and seek to ensure that it can grow and thrive.

- 1.14 Each of the objectives is presented in Table 1.2 below and is assessed against the strategic objectives of the Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan to establish whether there are any conflicts.



**Table 1.2: Objectives of the Melton Neighbourhood Plan compared to the strategic objectives of the Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan**

Neighbourhood Plan Objectives	District Local Plan Strategic Objectives
<p>Ensure that development does not worsen the detrimental impacts of traffic congestion (including air quality and safety) along the main routes in Melton, whilst encouraging safe movement on foot and by bicycle.</p>	<p>To deliver sustainable communities through better integrated and sustainable patterns of land use, movement, activity and development.</p> <p>To sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of Felixstowe and the market towns (Aldeburgh, Framlingham, Leiston, Saxmundham and Woodbridge) as retail, service, and employment centres serving their local populations and that of their neighbouring rural communities.</p> <p>To promote better access to, housing, employment, services and facilities for every member of the community.</p> <p>To encourage and enable the community to live and enjoy a healthy lifestyle; to promote urban cooling (e.g. shading from trees, canopies on buildings to cool down areas and buildings in urban settings) in major settlements as well as support biodiversity and geodiversity.</p> <p>To adapt to and mitigate against, the potential effects of climate change, and minimise the factors which contribute towards the problem.</p> <p>To enhance the transport network across the district</p>
<p>Ensure that development provides for the infrastructure needs of Melton and does not breach the capacity of the parish's infrastructure to properly support the population.</p>	<p>To promote better access to, housing, employment, services and facilities for every member of the community.</p> <p>To ensure that, as a priority, adequate infrastructure such as transport, utilities or community facilities are provided at an appropriate time, in order to address current deficiencies and meet the needs of new development.</p>
<p>Protect and enhance the unique environment and heritage, particularly the rural, riverside and historical assets of Melton and its streetscape.</p>	<p>To conserve and enhance the quality of the distinctive natural, historic and built environments including ensuring that new development does not give rise to issues of coalescence.</p> <p>To secure the continuing prosperity and qualities of coastal areas and communities, whilst responding to climate change and the natural processes that occur along the coast.</p>

<p>Preserve the respective roles and identities of the different built-up areas within the parish, specifically Melton village (including its shops and services) and the northern part of the 'Greater Woodbridge'</p>	<p>To deliver sustainable communities through better integrated and sustainable patterns of land use, movement, activity and development.</p> <p>To sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of Felixstowe and the market towns (Aldeburgh, Framlingham, Leiston, Saxmundham and Woodbridge) as retail, service, and employment centres serving their local populations and that of their neighbouring rural communities.</p> <p>To conserve and enhance the quality of the distinctive natural, historic and built environments including ensuring that new development does not give rise to issues of coalescence.</p>
<p>Protect and enhance the strengths of Melton as a community, in particular through the retention and provision of community infrastructure.</p>	<p>To promote better access to, housing, employment, services and facilities for every member of the community.</p> <p>To ensure that, as a priority, adequate infrastructure such as transport, utilities or community facilities are provided at an appropriate time, in order to address current deficiencies and meet the needs of new development.</p>
<p>Protect Melton's business base and seek to ensure that it can grow and thrive.</p>	<p>To support the growth and regeneration of the local economy and to build on those elements of its unique economic profile that are identified as being of sub-regional, regional and national significance.</p> <p>To sustain, strengthen and diversify the rural economy.</p>
<p><i>Matters not directly addressed by the Neighbourhood Plan objectives</i></p>	<p><i>To deliver high quality developments based on the principles of good, sustainable and inclusive design.</i></p>

1.15 The assessment in Table 1.2 is also relevant information informing Stage A1 of the SA Scoping process.

### **Approach to engagement**

- 1.16 It is recognised that the approach to engagement is vital to a successful plan. The community of Melton parish – including its residents and businesses – must be able to properly input into the ongoing process of developing the vision and objectives, considering options and then establishing the preferred set of options that make up the draft Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.17 In order to develop the Neighbourhood Plan, Melton Parish Council set up a Neighbourhood Plan team which comprises Parish Councillors and a number of local volunteers. This team has put together a programme of engagement activities which has ensured that the community has the opportunity to input at every stage. This it has done using a range of methods:

- Using a Melton Neighbourhood Plan website (<http://www.meltonneighbourhoodplan.co.uk/>) as a central hub for information.
  - Using local newsletters and newspapers to notify people of upcoming events.
  - Running engagement events, both as drop-in events and specific workshops.
  - Regularly engaging with key stakeholders, including landowners.
  - Reporting back on the outcomes of key activities so that the community is able to understand the progress being made.
- 1.18 All policies and site allocations will be consulted on with the community and, subject to the assessments undertaken in the SA, ultimately it is their views which will shape the decisions made on the final wording of policies and the sites that are allocated, demonstrating that reasonable alternatives have been taken into consideration. In doing so, it is vital that the community understands that the Neighbourhood Plan must comply with the Basic Conditions and therefore there are certain factors which need to be taken into consideration when given their views on policies and sites. The Neighbourhood Plan team is using consultant support to advise on the best approach which ensures that the community is fully informed when being asked to engage on a particular matter and shape its outcome.

## 2 RELEVANT PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES (STAGE A1)

2.1 This section provides a summary review of the policy context relevant for the Neighbourhood Plan. Starting at the international level and working down in scale this covers the key policies that the Neighbourhood Plan should adhere to or consider. While it is common sense to ensure the Plan and SEA/SA reviews these requirements, it is also a requirement of the SEA Directive which states that the Environmental Report should include:

*"an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes"*

*"the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation"*

[Annex 1(a) and (e)]

2.2 Within this context it is stated in the NPPF that work for Neighbourhood Planning is proportionate with the scale and ambitions of the plan. We have therefore considered a range of relevant policies and plans for this assessment considering international, national, regional (East of England), and local (County and District) plans and policies.

### International context

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for NP and SEA
<b>EU Habitats and Conservation of Wild Birds Directives (92/43/EEC and 79/409/EEC)</b>		
To conserve fauna and flora and natural habitats of EU importance by the establishment of a network of protected areas throughout the European Community. This was designed to maintain both the distribution and abundance of threatened species and habitats.	Identifies endangered habitats and species requiring protection and need for re-establishment of denuded biotopes. Protected areas should be created, maintained and managed.	Plans should take account relevant SPA and SAC sites. If negative impacts are anticipated appropriate assessments should be undertaken. Above protecting the integrity and interest of European sites, the NP should consider objectives to protect and if possible, enhance biodiversity.
<b>EU Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)</b>		
To expand the scope of water protection to all waters, surface waters and groundwater. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve 'good status' for all waters by 2015.</li> <li>• Water management should be based on river basins and a 'combined approach' of</li> </ul>	Prevent deterioration in the status of aquatic ecosystems, provide protection and improve ecological condition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• achieve at least good status for all water bodies by 2015 (or later subject to specific criteria).</li> </ul>	Plan should consider any significant hydrological / hydrogeological factors and ensure integration with existing catchment management plans. Plan should consider including objectives to

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for NP and SEA
<p>emission limit values and quality standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water management should include the closer involvement of community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>meet the requirements of WFD protected areas</li> <li>promote sustainable use of water</li> <li>conserve habitats and species that depend directly on water</li> <li>progressively reduce or phase out pollutants that pose significant threats to the aquatic environment / groundwater</li> <li>help mitigate the impacts of floods and droughts.</li> </ul>	<p>protect and enhance water resources, quality and ecological function.</p>
<b>EU Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)</b>		
<p>Establishes limit values and alert thresholds for concentrations of key pollutants in ambient air including sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide / oxides of nitrogen, particulates. Maintain ambient air quality in areas where it is good and improve it in others.</p>	<p>Sets limit values and alert thresholds for concentrations of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead.</p>	<p>Plan should consider (where relevant) the levels of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead in ambient air. Plan should consider maintaining ambient air quality and including objectives with the aim of reducing air pollution and, where possible, enhancing air quality in respect of key pollutants.</p>

## National and regional context

- 2.3 In this section we summarise the most relevant regional and local plans and policies making the assumption that these include the relevant international and national sustainability objectives.
- 2.4 The Planning system is undergoing a period of change following the introduction of the Localism Act 2011 and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in 2012.
- 2.5 This has heralded significant changes including to the planning and provides a greater emphasis on localism. European Regulations still apply as does much of the legacy planning guidance – until it is revised for the NPPF.
- 2.6 The NPPF stresses the importance of sustainability running as a 'golden thread' throughout plans and policies.

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for NP and SEA
<b>National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012)</b>		
<p>Planning should drive and support sustainable economic development. It should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• secure high quality design and good standard of amenity</li> <li>• take account of the different roles of areas, recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside</li> <li>• support transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate, taking account of flood risk and encourage the reuse of existing resources and encouraging the use of renewable resources.</li> <li>• contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution.</li> <li>• encourage the effective use of land by reusing land that has been previously developed.</li> <li>• conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance.</li> <li>• focus significant development in locations which are, or can be made sustainable.</li> </ul> <p>Paragraph 9: "Pursuing sustainable development involves seeking positive improvements in the quality of the built, natural and historic environment"</p> <p>Paragraphs 115 and 116: "Great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. The conservation of wildlife and cultural heritage are important considerations in all these areas, and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads.</p> <p>Planning permission should be refused for major developments in these designated areas except in exceptional circumstances and where it can be demonstrated they are</p>	<p>Supports local and national targets with regard to biodiversity and geodiversity.</p>	<p>Plan should contribute to the objective of achieving sustainable development (social, economic and environmental). SA Objectives should reflect the core planning principles and policies set out in the NPPF. The Plan should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contribute to minimising impacts and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible</li> <li>• contribute to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity – including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.</li> </ul> <p>The Plan should ensure that development in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty is fully justified.</p>

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for NP and SEA
<p>in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;</li> <li>the cost of, and scope for, developing elsewhere outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and</li> </ul> <p>any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.”</p> <p>Paragraph 118: Special Protection Areas and possible Special Areas of Conservation and listed or proposed Ramsar sites should be given the same protection as European sites. Proposed development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest likely to have an adverse effect on a Site of Special Scientific Interest (either individually or in combination with other developments) should not normally be permitted.</p> <p>Paragraph 132: “When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings,</p>		<p>The Plan should ensure that the Ramsar/SSSI site along the Deben Estuary is protected.</p> <p>The Plan should ensure that development does not have a detrimental impact on any heritage assets and should seek to ensure that development actively conserves the asset.</p>

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for NP and SEA
grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.		
<b>The Waste (England &amp; Wales) Regulations 2011</b>		
To encourage/ensure waste arises/is dealt with further up the waste hierarchy. Divert waste disposal away from landfill.	Target of 50% of household waste to be recycled.	Plan must have regard to the amended waste hierarchy. Policies and objectives should where possible encourage waste to be re-used, recycled or have value / energy recovery. If possible the Plan should discourage landfilling of waste.
<b>UK Climate Change Act 2008</b>		
The Act introduced a statutory target for reducing carbon emissions.	Target of reducing carbon emissions by 80 per cent below 1990 levels by 2050, with an interim target of 34% by 2020.	Planning can make a contribution to mitigating and adapting to climate change by influencing the location, scale and character of development. The plan should include policies / objectives that contribute towards achieving lower carbon emissions and greater resilience to the impacts of climate change.
<b>Flood and Water Management Act 2010</b>		
Improve the management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses. To protect water supplies.	Local Authorities to prepare flood risk assessments, flood maps and plans. EA to prepare Local flood risk management strategies.	Plan should take account of flooding and water management issues and strategies and consider the inclusion of policies / objectives to reduce flood risks and other impacts on the water environment.
<b>Carbon Plan: Delivering our low carbon future 2011</b>		
Government-wide plan for action on climate change at domestic and international levels.	Includes a range of sector-based plans and targets for low carbon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• building</li> <li>• transport</li> <li>• industry</li> <li>• electricity</li> <li>• agriculture, land use, forestry and waste</li> </ul>	The Plan should include policies / objectives that contribute towards achieving lower carbon emissions.
<b>Mainstreaming sustainable development 2011</b>		



Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for NP and SEA
<p>This refreshed vision builds upon the principles that underpinned the UK's 2005 SD strategy, recognising the needs of the economy, society and the natural environment, alongside the use of good governance and sound science.</p>	<p>Promises a new set of indicators from DEFRA that link initiatives and include wellbeing.</p>	<p>Plan should take account of climate change and promote sustainability through sustainable, low carbon and green economic growth.</p>
<p><b>The East of England Biodiversity Delivery Plan (East of England Biodiversity Forum)</b></p>		
<p>Provides a coherent vision to safeguard and enhance the regions biodiversity and wildlife. Embed a landscape scale approach to restoring whole ecosystems in the working practices and policies of all partners. Create the space needed for wildlife to respond to climate change. Enable all organisations in the East of England to support and improve biodiversity.</p>	<p>Provides a framework for the delivery of biodiversity targets through biodiversity opportunity areas and habitat and species targets.</p>	<p>The NP should consider objectives to protect and where possible, enhance biodiversity.</p>
<p><b>Anglian River Basin Management Plan</b></p>		
<p>Prepared under the Water Framework Directive, the plan is about the pressures facing the water environment in the Anglian River Basin District and the actions that will address them.</p>	<p>By 2015, 18% of surface waters (rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters) are going to improve for at least one biological, chemical or physical element. By 2015, 23% of surface waters will be at good or better ecological status/potential and 33% of groundwater bodies will be at good status. In combination 23% of all water bodies will be at good status by 2015. At least 47% of assessed surface waters will be at good or better biological status by 2015.</p>	<p>The NP needs to consider the impact of proposed development on water quality.</p>

## County/local context

- 2.7 Suffolk County Council prepares statutory land use plans for waste and minerals policy. In March 2011, Suffolk County Council adopted a Waste Core Strategy which covers the period to 2026 and is the most up-to-date statement of the Authority's land-use planning policy for waste.
- 2.8 A key element of the plan is the aspiration to have ended the landfilling of untreated municipal, commercial and industrial wastes.

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for Neighbourhood Plan and Sustainability Appraisal
<b>Suffolk Local Transport Plan 2011-2031</b>		
To ensure that transport investment supports the economic and business growth strategies in the county.	Indicators include: congestion, mode of travel to work and school, cycling trips, accessibility, road traffic accidents, road and footway maintenance, street lighting, highway structures, road flooding, air quality and transport emissions.	The Plan should consider policies / objectives which contribute to transport sustainability. This should go beyond reducing carbon emissions to include economic growth, safety, pollution, traffic reduction and access to services.
<b>Suffolk Waste Core Strategy 2011</b>		
By 2026, the landfilling of untreated municipal, commercial & industrial wastes will have ceased and residual waste management processes will be fully operational, recovering value from wastes that cannot practicably be recycled or composted.	To only make provision for a declining amount of landfill over the plan period with 'zero waste to landfill' by 2026.	The Plan should consider how, within the context of a growing population in Leiston, waste generation can be minimised and it can be ensured that Melton contributes towards the target of zero waste to landfill.
<b>Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan</b>		
<p>Maintain and, where practicable, enhance the wildlife and habitats that provide the natural character and diversity of Suffolk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure lawful compliance towards biodiversity in planning decisions.</li> <li>• To promote best practice and provide support to planners on biodiversity issues.</li> <li>• To ensure the planning system contributes to the Natural Environment White Paper 2011 objective of no net loss of biodiversity as part of sustainable development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure development avoids adverse impacts on biodiversity</li> <li>• Where avoidance is not possible, mitigate residual impacts of developments.</li> <li>• Where mitigation is not possible, compensate for losses incurred during development.</li> <li>• Enhance developments for biodiversity.</li> <li>• Ensure biodiversity is taken into consideration during, and after, the construction phase of development.</li> </ul>	Plan should include consider including policies / objectives to: enhance (where possible) the wildlife and habitats that give rise to Suffolk's natural character and diversity.
<b>Suffolk Coastal and Waveney Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2009)</b>		
Identifies all areas of flood risk within the district as well as what the level of risk is	Flood zone	The Plan needs to ensure that new development avoids areas identified at risk of flooding and that the existing level of flood risk within and outside Melton is not exacerbated and, where possible, reduced.

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for Neighbourhood Plan and Sustainability Appraisal
<b>Suffolk County Council Landscape Typology Mapping</b>		
To map and record the value and variety of the Suffolk landscape.	No targets	Plan should ensure that the development strategy is in keeping with the local landscape typologies
<b>Suffolk Coast &amp; Heaths AONB Management Plan, 2013-18</b>		
<p>The 2013–2033 Vision can be summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special wildlife, landscape, seascape and heritage qualities are conserved and meet the needs of people who live, work in and visit the AONB</li> <li>• Local communities are fully engaged in the care of the area</li> <li>• A high-quality landscape and infrastructure exists to support sustainable access, tourism and business</li> </ul>	<p>A series of objectives under four themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coast and estuaries</li> <li>• Land use and wildlife</li> <li>• Enjoying the area</li> <li>• Working together</li> </ul>	Plan should be consistent and take into account impact on the AONB
<b>Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation – Suffolk County Council, 2009</b>		
To identify areas or units of land based on their key historic landscape attributes.		The Plan should ensure that areas of historic landscape character are preserved and enhanced.
<b>Melton Conservation Area Appraisal – Supplementary Planning Document, Suffolk Coastal District Council, June 2010</b>		
To assess the key features of the Conservation Area and to provide a Conservation Area Management Plan	No targets	The Plan should ensure that policies which relate to planning applications that will come forward within the Conservation Area reflect the key issues in the Conservation Area Management Plan.
<b>Deben Estuary Plan – Deben Estuary Partnership, 2015</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a sustainable, strategic approach to manage flood risk to property, agricultural land and other assets around the estuary up to 2100.</li> <li>• Recognise and consider the social, economic and environmental implications of climate change for the Deben Estuary.</li> <li>• Conserve the landscape, natural environment, and heritage in the Deben</li> </ul>	To be determined	The Plan should ensure that where relevant, it support and contributes towards achieving the objectives of the Deben Estuary Plan. In particular this relates to site allocations and policies relevant to the landscape and wildlife.

Key objectives	Key targets/indicators	Key implications for Neighbourhood Plan and Sustainability Appraisal
<p>Estuary, and take opportunities to enhance them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance the benefits derived from quiet and tranquil areas of the estuary with the growing requirement for recreation, visitor enjoyment and an inclusive, sustainable visitor economy.</li> <li>• Ensure compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation, including the Habitats and Wild Bird Directives and Water Framework Directive.</li> <li>• Underpin business, with particular reference to agricultural, marine and leisure industries.</li> <li>• Promote the beneficial use of dredging spoil, particularly for the recharge of saltmarsh in the Deben Estuary.</li> <li>• Ensure there is adequate fresh water to meet human needs, secure a healthy environment and deliver a sustainable local agricultural economy.</li> <li>• Take opportunities to improve water quality within the Estuary or reverse any decline.</li> <li>• Manage responsible access to the estuary enhancing the quality of people's enjoyment of the area while averting harm to, and mitigating against, degradation of the estuary environment.</li> <li>• Develop emergency planning that safeguards communities at risk from flooding.</li> <li>• Encourage and support communities to deliver projects that take the objectives of the Deben Estuary Plan forward.</li> </ul>		

## **District policy context**

- 2.9 Melton is within Suffolk Coastal district for planning purposes. Suffolk Coastal District Council's (SCDC) District Local Plan and Suffolk County Council's (SCC) Waste Core Strategy make up the Development Plan.
- 2.10 The weight given to policies from the plans above will depend upon the degree to which they conform to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which in the event of any conflict will take precedence.
- 2.11 The SCDC District Local Plan was adopted in 2013 and was accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating SEA) and a Habitats Regulation Assessment. Table 1.2 of this Scoping Report considers the relationship between the objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan and those of the District Local Plan and demonstrates that there is general conformity.
- 2.12 In April and May 2016, SCDC consulted on the Proposed Submission Version of its Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies document. The site allocations in question exclude areas where a neighbourhood plan is in preparation, including Melton. The document does highlight the need to, "...maintain a clear overview of the cumulative impact of individual developments on the local road network from Rendlesham through to Melton and the A12" (paragraph 2.92). In addition, the proposed allocation of 100 dwellings in Rendlesham (Policy SSP12) includes the need to investigate the air quality impacts of traffic from cumulative development at Melton crossroads.
- 2.13 The Proposed Submission Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies document is also accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating SEA) and a Habitats Regulation Assessment. The objectives in the Sustainability Appraisal reflect those in the adopted District Local Plan.
- 2.14 It should be noted that, at the present time, there are two parishes in close proximity to Melton – Woodbridge and Martlesham – that are in the process of preparing neighbourhood plans. Both of these neighbourhood plans are still in the evidence gathering stage, so it is not possible to ascertain whether they could potentially have a residual effect on Melton parish.

### 3 BASELINE DATA AND KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES (STAGES A2 & A3)

- 3.1 The SEA Regulations require that certain environmental topics are included within the environmental baseline collected to inform the SEA. The topics required by the SEA Regulations are shown in Table 3.1.
- 3.2 The SEA Scoping Report summarises the current state of the environment and also identifies key trends and pressures for the future. The information is categorised under topics, although it must be recognised that many of the topics are interlinked.

**Table 3.1: Topics and their relevance to the Melton Neighbourhood Plan**

Topic	Relevance to the Melton NP
Nature conservation	Potential for new site allocations to impact on the habitats of species within areas of nature conservation value
Landscape	Potential for new site allocations to impact on the landscape, including in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Water	Risk of flooding impacts on where people live and can impact on the economic prosperity of an area.  The way in which water is drained off of land, including road and other hard surfaces, can be important to the level of flood risk experienced in an area.
Soils	Potential for site allocations and development to impact on best agricultural soils or important geological sites.
Heritage	Historic environment features can be vulnerable to damage and other impacts from neglect, decay or development pressures.
Air and Climate	Potential for new site allocations to create pollution through additional congestion.
Human characteristics	Potential for the plan to impact on human health, particularly positively through improvements to walking, cycling routes, etc
Roads and transport	Development could impact on congestion on the road network and create pedestrian safety problems, particularly at key junctions in Melton village
Infrastructure	Development could have an impact on the infrastructure necessary to keep society running smoothly
Economic characteristics	Development could impact on the ability of communities to function effectively (in their interaction with services) and on the economic prosperity of an area.

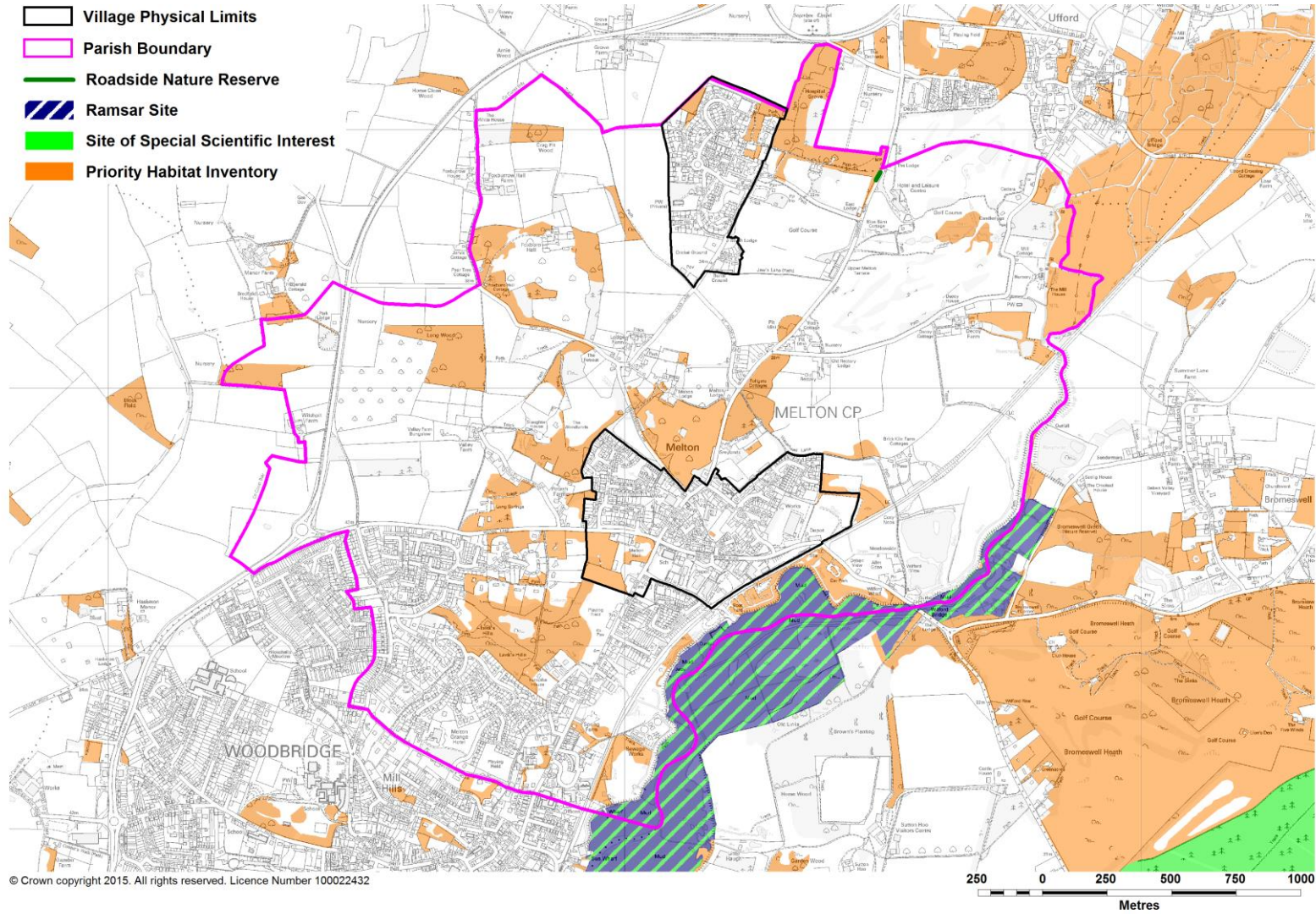
- 3.3 The information was compiled from a wide range of information sources. Firstly information came from the draft Neighbourhood Plan and associated work conducted to support it. As part of the widespread consultation work to support the plan this has included feedback from a range of consultees. There are also a number of key reports relevant to the environment of the area and some of their key findings have been summarised here – they are referenced through the text, as are various data sources used to provide maps and statistics. This section presents topics relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan and while it seeks to be comprehensive only the key issues are included to keep the document manageable.

### **Nature conservation**

- 3.4 The rural and relatively unspoilt landscape and the presence of a significant amount of ancient woodland provides the area with a rich conservation and biodiversity resource.
- 3.5 Figure 3.1 provides a map of the environmental features of the area.
- 3.6 This shows that the parish has a Ramsar/Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) along the Deben Estuary. This is a designation that the NPPF states at paragraph 118 should be given the same protection as European sites. As such, it has a significant level of protection from activity that would cause harm to the biodiversity of the area.
- 3.7 The location of the SSSI on the Deben Estuary is quite close to the built up area of Melton therefore there could be impacts relating to the activities of ramblers and dog walkers.
- 3.8 The parish also has a number of areas of priority habitat, some of which extent into the built-up area.



**Figure 3.1: Key environmental features**





## **Species**

- 3.9 Various parts of the parish are breeding areas for lapwings and turtle doves.
- 3.10 Information from the Suffolk Biological Records Centre shows sightings of numerous species since 2006. These are detailed in Appendix A.
- 3.11 In total there are nearly 3,300 records over the period since 2006. The majority of these were in the Deben Estuary.

## **Landscape**

- 3.12 Melton is a rural parish in the very eastern part of Suffolk Coastal district. As shown on Figure 3.2, the south-eastern part of the parish which is closest to the coast is covered by the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This is close to the settlement boundary of Melton village.
- 3.13 The north-eastern part of the parish is a Special Landscape Area, a designation of county importance.
- 3.14 The land between the edge of Greater Woodbridge and Melton village is designated as an Area to be Protected from Development.
- 3.15 The land to the east of the St Audrys Hospital area is designated as land where its open character must be protected.
- 3.16 Melton parish contains the following landscape capacity areas:
- Ancient rolling farmlands – covers most of the heart of the parish. A rolling arable landscape of chalky clays and loams.
  - Rolling estate sandlands – covers the areas close to the river in the east of the parish. Rolling river terraces and coastal slopes.
- 3.17 The eastern part of the parish is within the Suffolk Heritage Coast.

## **Water**

- 3.18 Sections of the eastern part of the parish, closest to the River Deben, are classified as Flood Zone 3. This includes parts of the built-up area that are in Greater Woodbridge and Melton village. This is shown in Figure 3.3.
- 3.19 In addition, there is also a high risk of surface water flooding in parts of the Greater Woodbridge Area and through the middle of Melton Village. This is shown in Figure 3.4 below.

**Figure 3.2: Landscape areas**

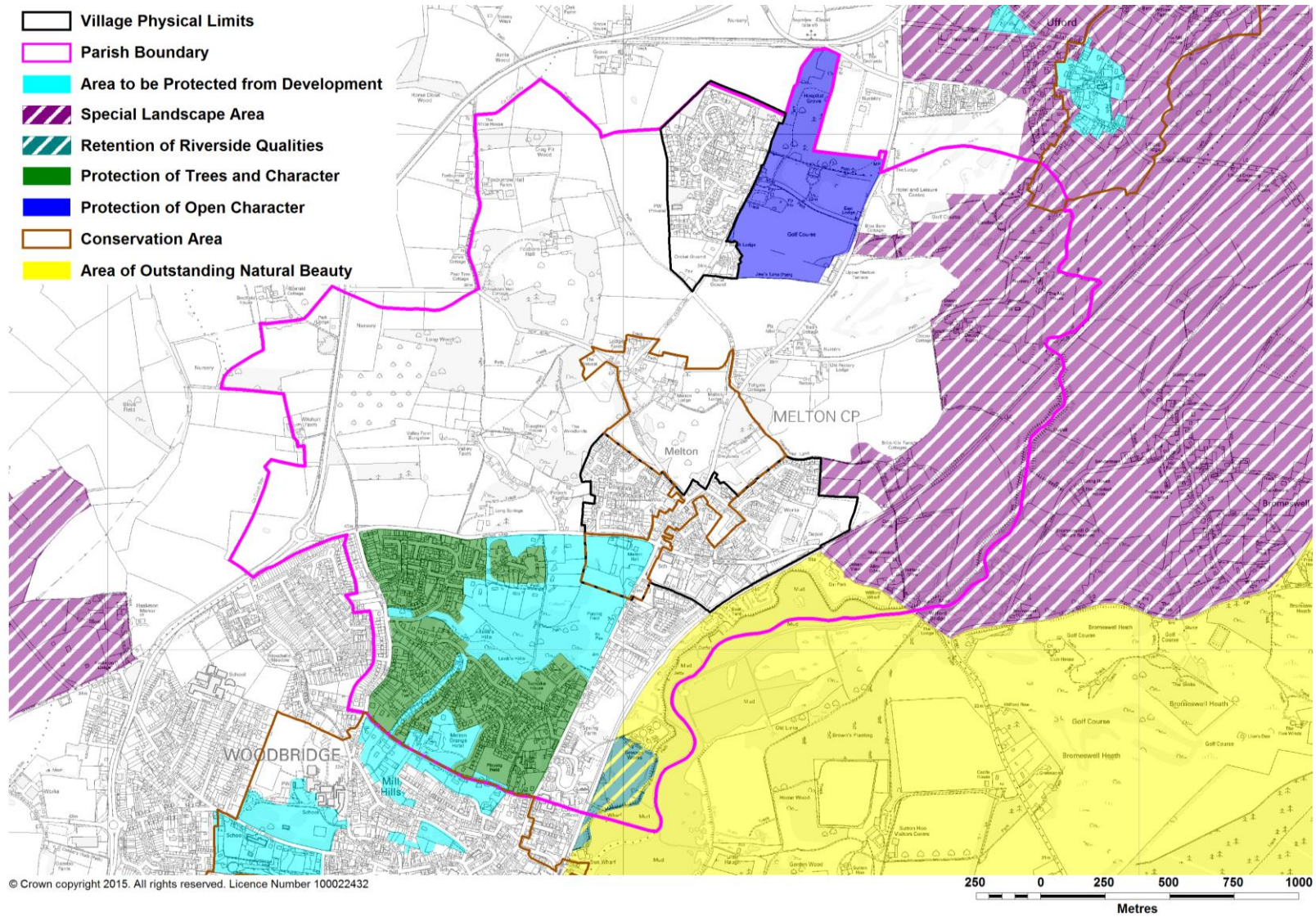
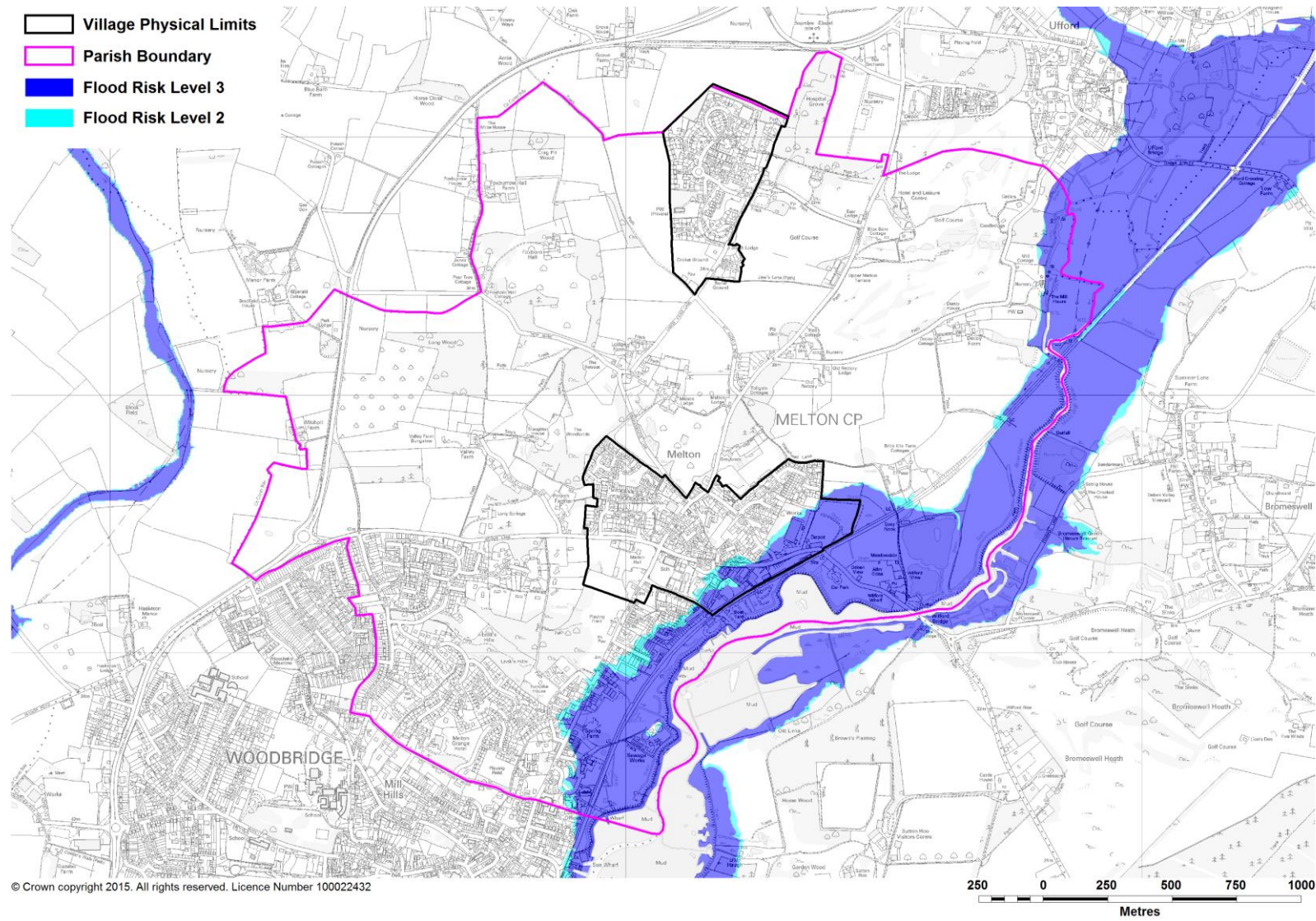




Figure 3.3: High flood risk areas



**Figure 3.4: Risk of surface water flooding**



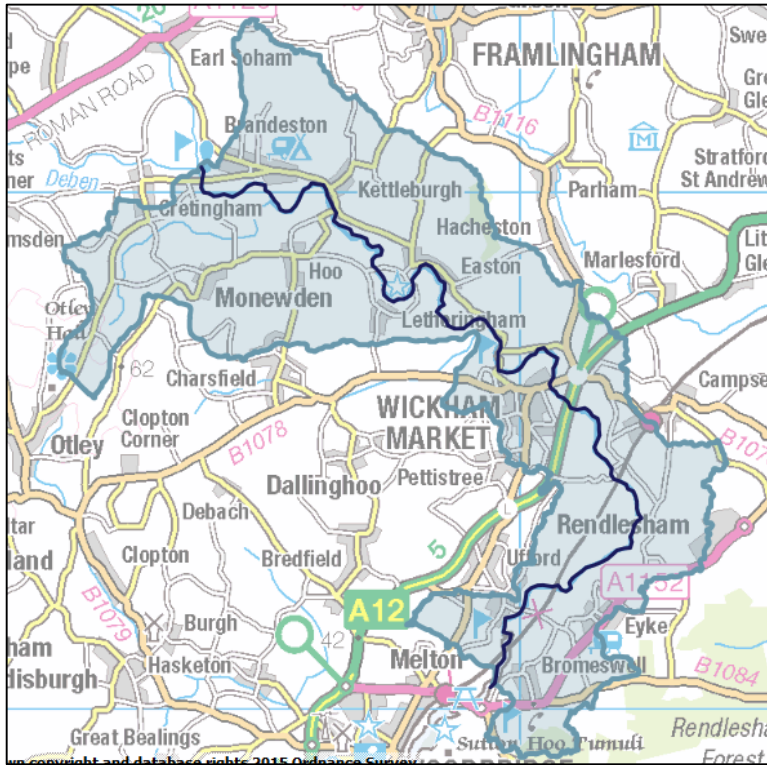
Source: Environment Agency



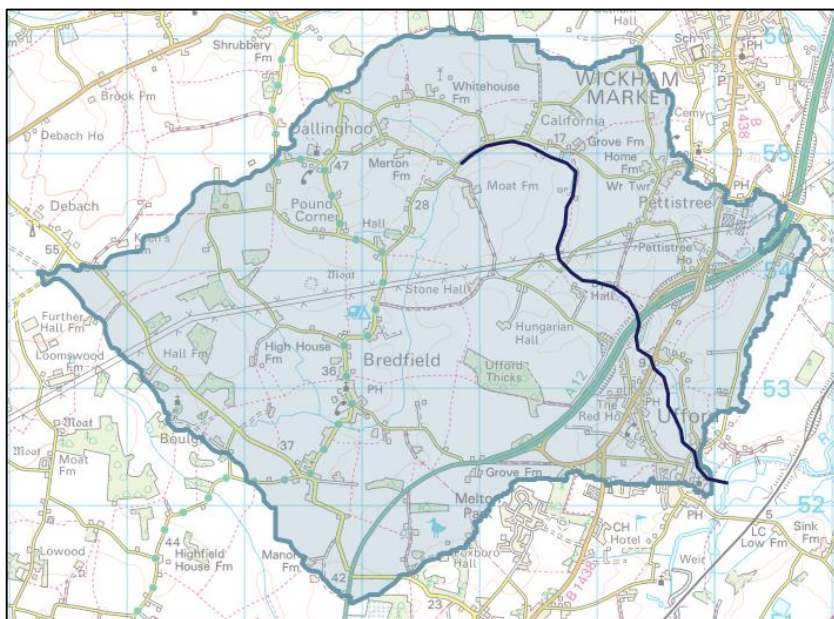
3.20 The Neighbourhood Plan area contains two waterbodies:

- Deben (Brandesten Bridge-Melton), waterbody number GB105035046310, of moderate ecological status 2014; and
- Byng Brook, waterbody number GB105035040340, of moderate ecological status 2014.

**Deben (Brandesten Bridge-Melton)**



**Byng Brook**



Source: Environment Agency

3.21 There is water resource availability within these catchments.

3.22 Neither of these waterbodies is close to the built-up area of Melton.

## **Soil and Geology**

3.23 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland to enable informed choices to be made about its future use within the planning system. The scale ranges from 1 (high quality) to 5 – poorest. Figure 3.5 shows that many parts of the north and west of the parish are classified as Grade 2 which is considered to be the 'best and most versatile' agricultural land'. Parts of the centre of the parish are classed as Grade 3 which means they could be 'best and most versatile' agricultural land'.

## **Heritage**

3.24 The parish includes 31 listed buildings, of which 30 are grade II and one is grade II\*. Of this total, 19 are in or adjacent to the main built-up areas of Greater Woodbridge and Melton Village. This is shown in Figure 3.6.

3.25 The Conservation Area in Melton was designated by SCDC in 1990.

3.26 The overall character of Melton remains that of a typical old Suffolk village which still retains much of its traditional form and appearance. Despite some intrusive 20th Century development and small-scale incremental change having taken place, the village continues to retain many of the special characteristics which justify its Conservation Area designation.

3.27 These special characteristics include, amongst other things, the number and quality of its traditional buildings, the relatively unique shape, form and layout of the settlement itself and the attractive relationship which exists between the older buildings, the spaces between and around them, and the wider landscape. Important natural features such as trees and hedgerows also make a major contribution.

Figure 3.5: Agricultural Land Classification

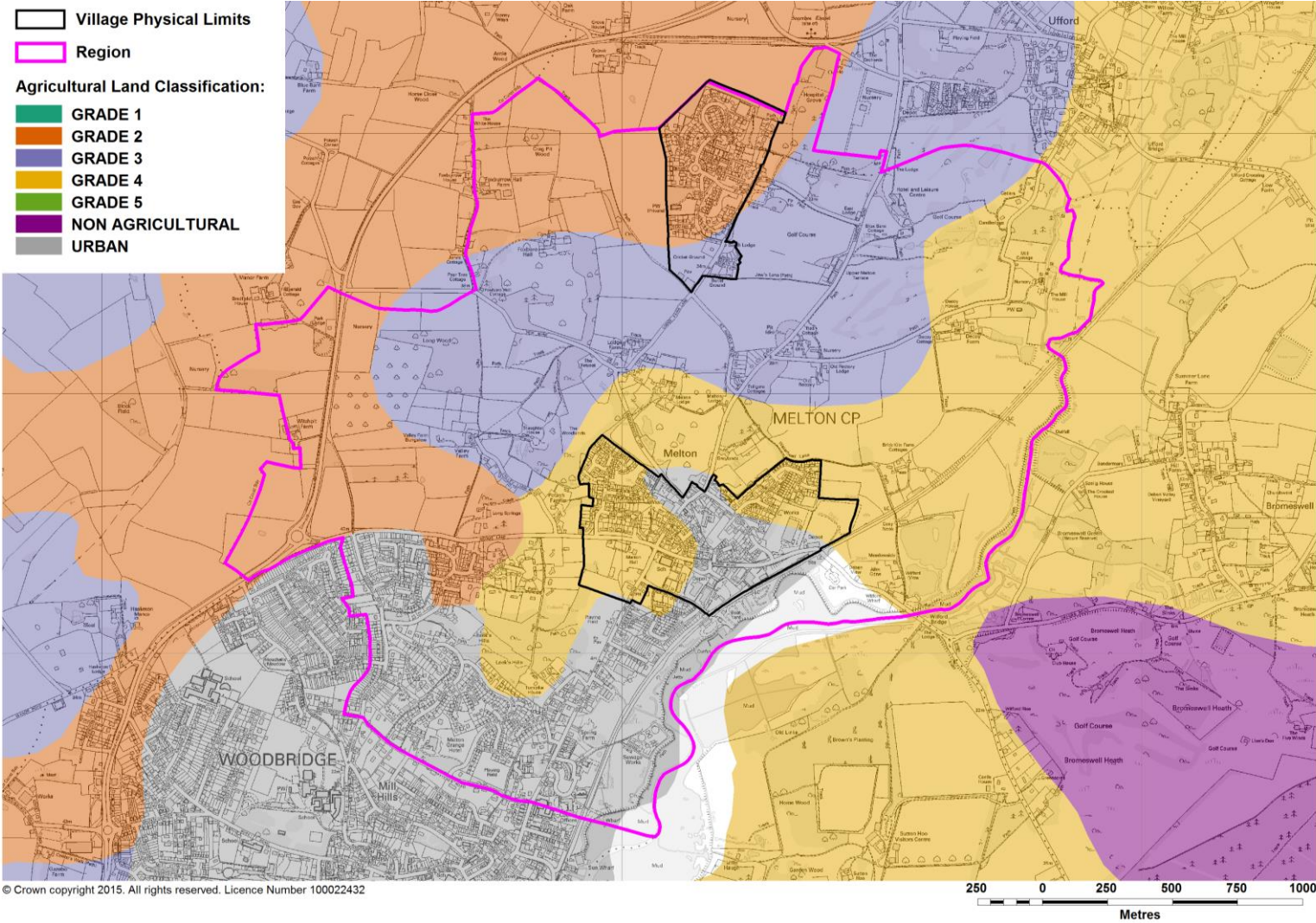
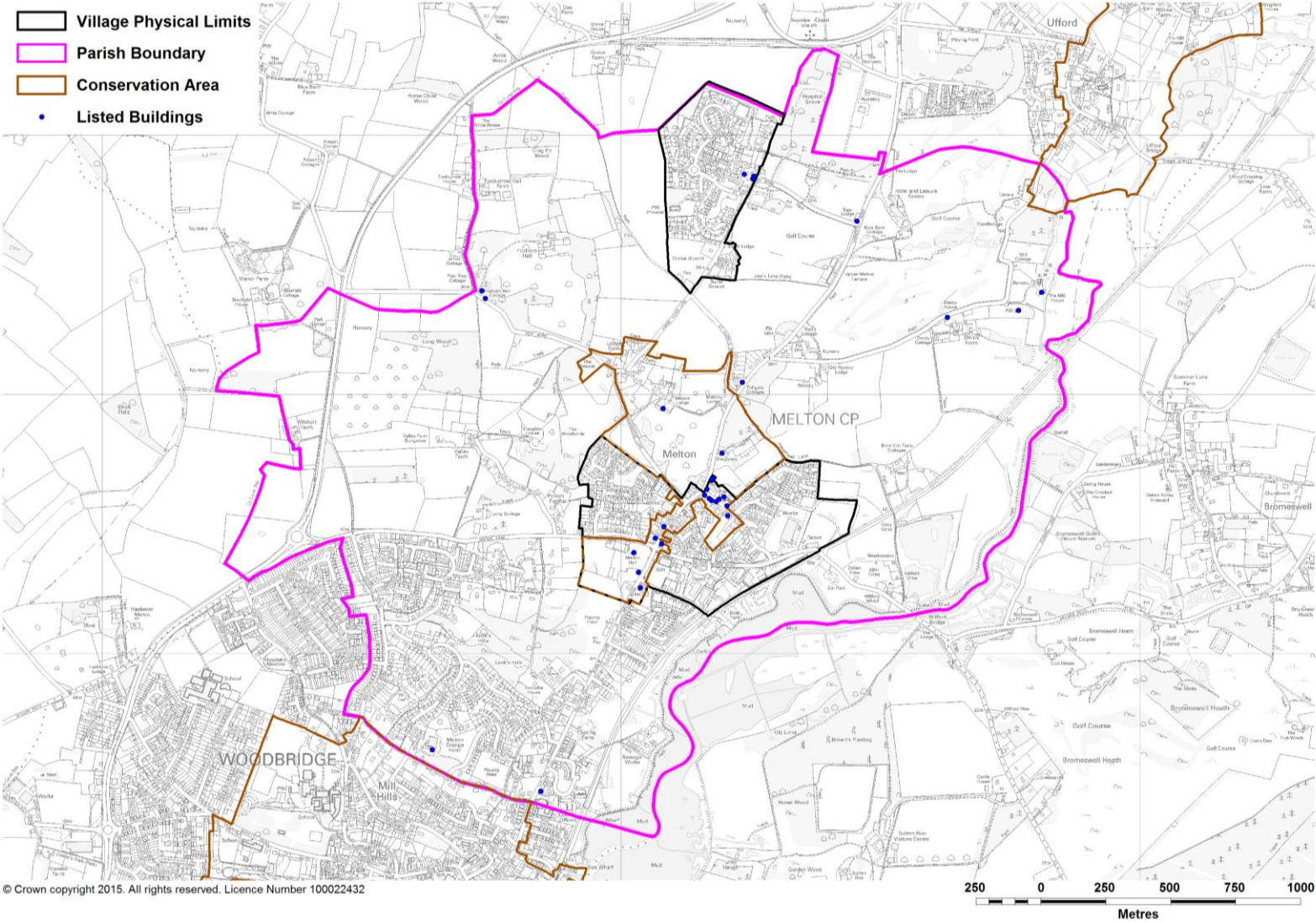




Figure 3.6: Listed buildings and Conservation Area in Melton parish





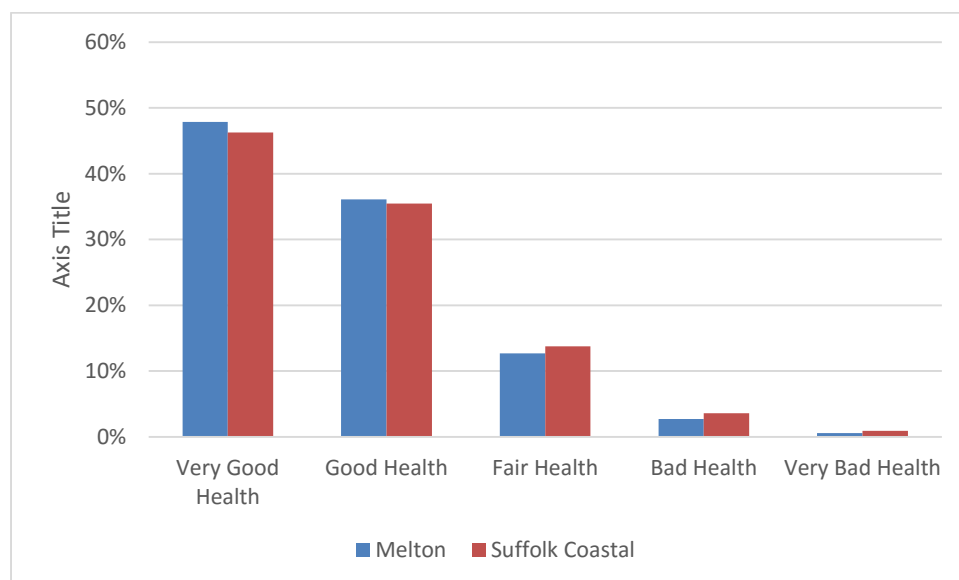
## Air and Climate

3.28 Generally air pollution is low and most emissions are generated by traffic passing through Melton Parish. This does increase during peak periods along the A1152 but has not been sufficient to justify designation of an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). There is an AQMA at the Woodbridge junction, a short distance to the south-west of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

## Human characteristics

3.29 Figure 3.7 shows that the general health of Melton residents is good. Those with 'very good' or 'good' health are slightly above the district average. Also, those with 'fair', 'bad' or 'very bad' health are below the district average. Those in bad or very bad health represent 5% of the population.

**Figure 3.7: General health, 2011**



Source: 2011 Census

## Roads and transport

3.30 The local roads serving Melton Parish are generally small, rural roads that are inappropriate for carrying significant volumes of traffic. The main route through the parish is the A1152 which does carry significant levels of traffic, being the main road from the Deben Peninsular to the A12. This suffers from considerable congestion, particularly at peak periods.

## Infrastructure

3.31 Melton has the following community infrastructure assets focused in Melton Parish:

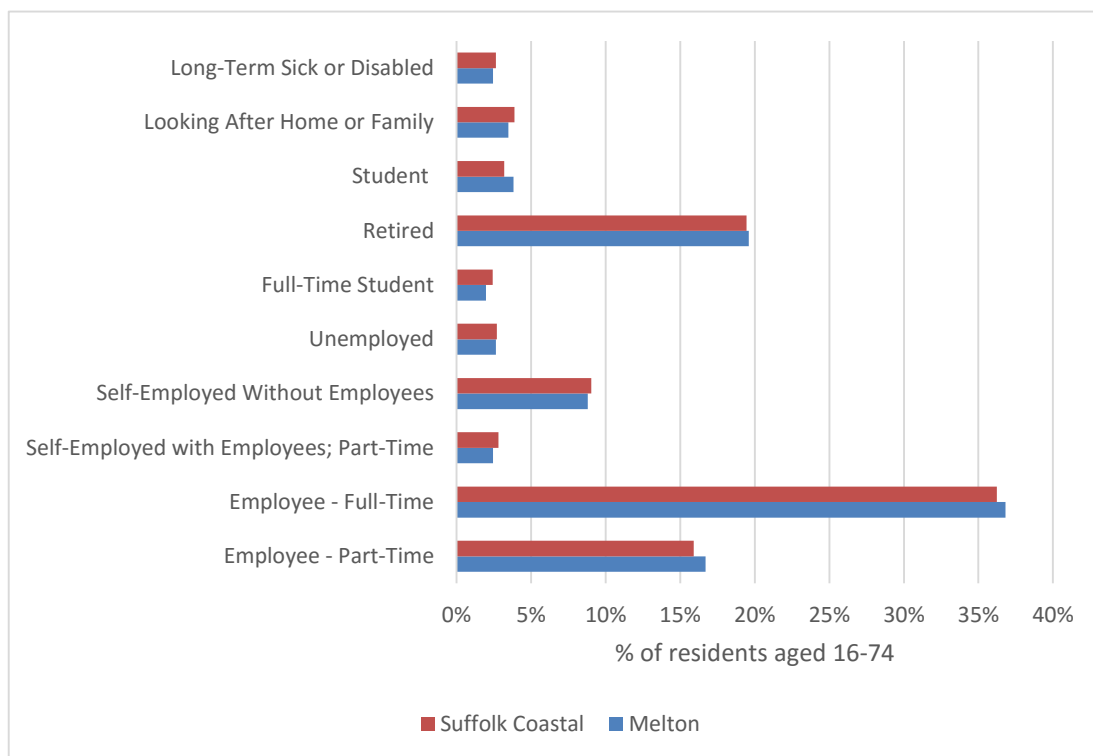
- A primary school
- Various places of worship
- A community centre
- Various recreational spaces used for formal and informal recreation, including play areas
- Two pubs

- A limited number of convenience shops

## Economic characteristics

- 3.32 The 2011 Census recorded that the population of the Melton parish was 3,741 persons, living in 1,689 households. Since 2001, the population has grown by just 25 persons, or 0.7%. Comparatively, the Suffolk Coastal district population grew by 9.6%. Over the same period, the number of households grew by 123 (7.9%) in Melton and by 9.2% in Suffolk Coastal district. This number will reflect the number of new houses built over the decade and also possibly the sub-division of existing properties into multiple households.
- 3.33 There has been a broad trend in the increase in population and number of households across the wider district but the rate of increase appears to be lower in Melton.
- 3.34 Melton's levels of economic activity are broadly in line with the district and county figures. This is shown in Figure 3.8.

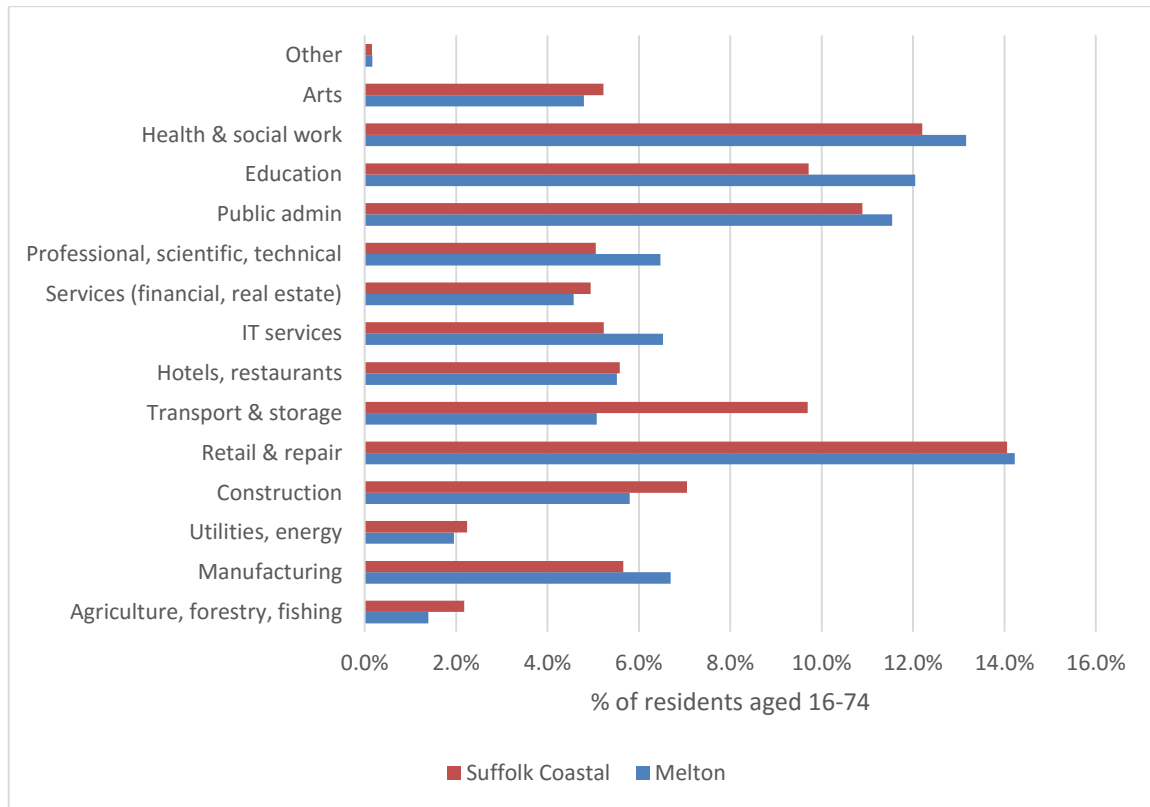
**Figure 3.8: Economic activity, 2011**



Source: 2011 Census

- 3.35 Melton is comparatively strongly represented in public administration, education and health and social work. This is accounted for by the presence of the District Council offices in the parish. Melton is also well represented in some higher skilled sectors, including professional, scientific and technical industries and IT services.
- 3.36 This is shown in Figure 3.9.

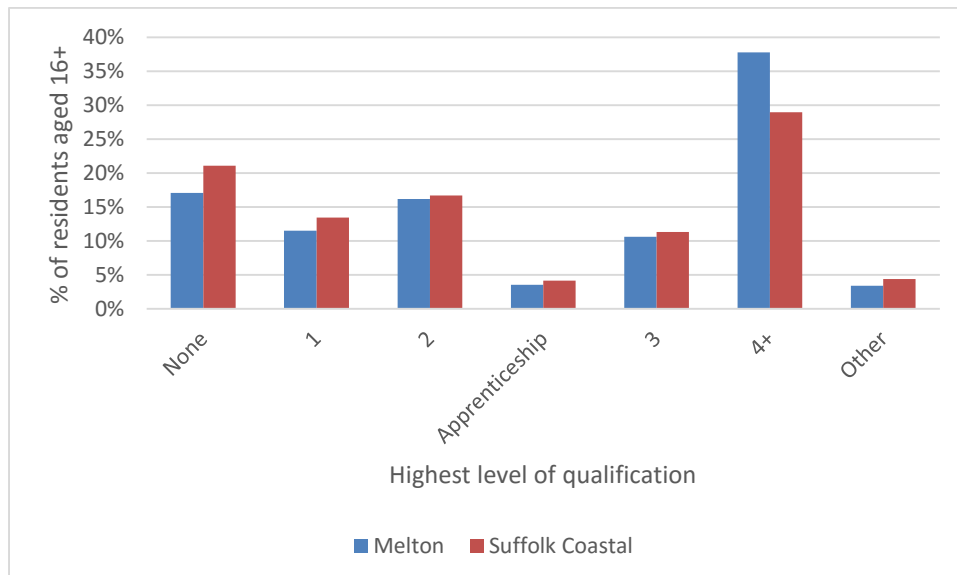
**Figure 3.9: Type of industry, 2011**



Source: 2011 Census

3.37 Figure 3.10 reinforces this, showing that nearly 40% of the population have been educated to Level 4 or above, i.e. degree level, well above the district average.

**Figure 3.10: Qualifications of residents aged 16 and over**



Source: 2011 Census

## 4 KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

### SWOT analysis

- 4.1 Table 4.1 has been informed by the issues identified in the Neighbourhood Plan public workshops and consultation, and the baseline information collected in Section 3.

**Table 4.1: SWOT analysis of issues facing Melton parish**

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <p>Community Spirit, Urban/Rural Balance, Good range of facilities, Close to Woodbridge, Close to the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, River Deben, Recreation Fields, Woods, 2 Pubs, 4 local shops, Railway station, Bus service, Good mix of local businesses, Primary school in middle of the village</p>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <p>Traffic (A1152 and Melton streets), Parking, Lack of connecting footpaths, No Cycle Path, Lack of youth provision, Lack of skilled labour, Poor bus services, Lack of facilities for older people, Lack of business 'community', Poor mobile signal, Shabby Pavilion</p>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <p>More allotments, Better bus services, Housing that meets local needs (low cost), available brownfield sites for development, More affordable homes, Provide Community orchards, Take advantage of location close to Woodbridge on a major transit route, Rebuild pavilion</p>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <p>Ageing population and lack of affordability for young people, Being absorbed by Woodbridge, Over-development, Pressure on infrastructure, Loss of identity, Loss of green fields and valued countryside, Future development being dictated by developers.</p>

### Key issues

- 4.2 There are a number of sustainability issues and challenges facing the parish. While Melton parish offers a high quality environment to residents and local businesses, the Neighbourhood Plan will need to manage and seek to resolve a series of issues over its lifetime if the parish is to continue to be successful while respecting its outstanding landscape setting.
- 4.3 In the absence of a Neighbourhood Plan (and as a consequence a lack of vision and strategy for Melton), there will be fewer opportunities to address the issues and challenges facing the parish, as well as contributing to a reduction in the potential benefit to the community.

**Table 4.2: Challenges and impacts of not having a neighbourhood plan**

Challenges facing Melton Parish	Effect of not having a neighbourhood plan
Problem of traffic speed, volume and weight and lack of pedestrian/cyclist safety along the A1152	Residents lives will be further blighted and safety will be worsened by traffic movements
Scale of housing growth	District Plan policies are strategic in nature but do require growth of market towns (with Melton contributing towards growth of Woodbridge), therefore Melton could be exposed to speculative applications for major housing
Lack of affordable housing for parish residents	No suitable sites for housing for local people would be delivered
Supporting an ageing population	Potential issues of care/support/transport and a lack of local homes suitable for the needs of older people
Inadequate and potentially reducing public transport options	Increased dependence on the private car and increasing isolation for those unable to afford a car
Support and flexibility for local businesses	The needs of businesses to grow and change may be restricted by current policies
Infrastructure improvements such as roads, crossings, parking, community facilities	Funding for infrastructure requirements may not arise
Pressures for development in countryside	District Plan policies are strategic in nature but do require growth of market towns which could therefore be ad-hoc and unplanned
Loss of agricultural land to development	Could result in unnecessary loss of agricultural land due to unplanned development coming forward through speculative applications
Poor access to services and facilities	Increased dependence on the private car to access services and inability to do so for those unable to afford a car.
Need to maintain and enhance the high quality natural environment, wildlife networks and biodiversity of the parish	Could result in unnecessary impacts on biodiversity due to unplanned development coming forward through speculative applications
Need to protect and enhance the historic buildings and environment of the parish	Could result in unnecessary impacts on heritage assets due to unplanned development coming forward through speculative applications

## 5 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL FRAMEWORK (STAGE A4)

5.1 In order to undertake the Sustainability Appraisal process for the Neighbourhood Plan, it is necessary to identify sustainability objectives and indicators to enable an assessment to be made of the emerging options and allow for recommendations and mitigation measures to be proposed. The sustainability objectives have emerged through the following considerations:

- through the review of documents listed in Section 2
- as identified in the baseline section (Section 3)
- to help address sustainability issues known locally
- to help address the 'weaknesses' and mitigate the 'threats' outlined in the SWOT analysis (Section 4)

5.2 The proposed sustainability objectives and indicators (Sustainability Framework) for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Neighbourhood Plan are as shown in Table 5.1 below:

**Table 5.1: Sustainability objectives and criteria for the Melton Neighbourhood Plan**

Sustainability theme	Objectives	Criteria
1/Env	To preserve and enhance the natural beauty of Melton in terms of its geology, landform, soils, biodiversity, water systems and climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Area of SSSIs/SPAs/SACs/Ramsar sites within the parish.</li> <li>- Area of County Wildlife Sites within the parish</li> <li>- Area of ancient woodland in parish</li> <li>- Area of priority habitats within the parish (data from Suffolk Biological Records Office)</li> <li>- Area/grade of agricultural land classification (ALC) land lost.</li> <li>- Number of developments in 'highly vulnerable' or 'more vulnerable' flood risk areas.</li> <li>- Loss of any of these features through grant of planning consent</li> </ul>
2/Env	To protect the landscape setting of Melton Parish through use of land with a low landscape impact and by focusing development on previously developed land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.</li> <li>- Loss of views of value.</li> <li>- Loss of tranquillity.</li> <li>- Number of planning applications granted in areas with low landscape capacity.</li> <li>- Development on previously developed land.</li> </ul>
3/Soc	To ensure that housing addresses the needs of the existing community of Melton before addressing wider needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mix of housing built by dwelling size.</li> <li>- Number of people with a local connection on the Housing Register that are newly housed.</li> </ul>

Sustainability theme	Objectives	Criteria
		- Number of affordable homes completed.
4/Econ	To maximise the potential of existing employment and support the needs of local employers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of existing businesses retained.</li> <li>- Number of new businesses in the parish.</li> <li>- Number of local start-ups.</li> <li>- Data on employment levels.</li> <li>- Number of businesses and dwellings (for home workers) with access to superfast broadband.</li> </ul>
5/Env	To protect the identity and local distinctiveness of Melton as a rural settlement and to enhance the village streetscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of listed buildings in built-up area.</li> <li>- Number of applications for listed building consent.</li> <li>- Number of developments within or adjacent to a Conservation Area.</li> <li>- Number of trees with TPOs.</li> </ul>
6/Soc	To ensure that the community has a high quality and healthy lifestyle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Census figures on long term illness and general health.</li> <li>- Number/area of green spaces within walking distance of homes.</li> <li>- Amount of Open Access land.</li> <li>- Usage of formal green spaces within the parish.</li> <li>- Number of formal recreation facilities within walking distance of homes.</li> <li>- Number of homes experiencing unacceptable levels of noise.</li> </ul>
7/Soc	To ensure the provision of a range of community facilities that provide for the needs of the community	- Number of community facilities within the parish.
8/Soc	To improve safe movement around the parish and to key service centres outside the parish by a range of modes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Levels of traffic at key junctions in the town centre.</li> <li>- Number and distance of new footpaths/cyclepaths.</li> <li>- Speed data from police.</li> <li>- Accident data from police.</li> <li>- Number of safe crossing points serving the town centre.</li> </ul>
9/Soc	To ensure that the community has adequate access to the key services it needs, including health facilities, convenience shops, and schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distance the population of the parish live from key services.</li> <li>- Availability of regular public transport.</li> <li>- Number of shops in the village centre.</li> </ul>

<b>Sustainability theme</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
		- Speed of broadband services.



## **6 ASSESSMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY OF PLAN POLICIES AND SITE OPTIONS**

- 6.1 The sustainability appraisal objectives shown in Table 5.1 will be used to assess the sustainability of the plan policy options and of the site options. In respect of the sites, this appraisal will be undertaken on all of the sites submitted and the information presented to the community as part of the ongoing engagement process in order to understand which sites are the most sustainable and are best able to deliver against the objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 6.2 In order to ensure a comprehensive approach, possible sites for development were gleaned from two sources:
- The SCDC Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) process
  - A separate Call for Sites process undertaken by the Neighbourhood Plan
- 6.3 For each sustainability objective, the assessment will give a score in respect of the relevant criterion. The score will be made on the following scale:
- Strongly positive
  - Slightly positive
  - Neutral
  - Slightly negative
  - Strongly negative
- 6.4 A commentary will also be provided for each criterion on each site in order to provide more context to the 'five-point' assessment.
- 6.5 The same assessment will be used to address the plan policies against alternatives.
- 6.6 Table 6.1 below relate the sustainability objectives back the key concerns and valued aspects of the parish that were raised by the community. These were identified by the community through the engagement process on the neighbourhood plan and informed the SWOT analysis in Section 4.

**Table 6.1: Comparison of sustainability objectives with valued aspects and concerns raised by the community of Melton**

	1/Env – Countryside/Biodiversity	2/Env – Landscape/Views	3/Soc - Housing	4/Econ - Commercial	5/Env - Heritage	6/Soc - Health	7/Soc - Community	8/Soc – Transport & Movement	9/Soc - Services
<b>VALUED ASPECTS</b>									
Countryside and landscape	√	√							
Heritage of village					√				
Range of community facilities						√	√		
Shops and pubs in village				√					√
<b>CONCERNS</b>									
Traffic speed/volume								√	
Public transport								√	√
Cycling/walking						√		√	
Vulnerability of services				√					√
Lack of affordable housing			√						
Housing mix not suitable for local needs			√						
Loss of rural character	√	√							
Local employment opportunities				√					

## **7 NEXT STEPS (STAGE A5)**

- 7.1 This Scoping Report will be subject to consultation for a 5-week period. Following the close of consultation, all comments will be considered and will help influence the draft SEA/SA Report.
- 7.2 As the Neighbourhood Plan is developed, the strategy, policies and site options will be tested against these sustainability objectives, to identify appropriate policies for inclusion in the Plan. All realistic policy options will be appraised against the Sustainability Framework set out in Section 5 of this report, in order to ensure that the policies chosen for the Melton Neighbourhood Plan are the most sustainable, given all realistic alternatives.

## **Appendix A      Sitings of species**

<b>Taxon group</b>	<b>Recommended Common Name</b>	<b>Taxon group</b>	<b>Recommended Common Name</b>
acarine (Acari)	Water mites	flowering plant	Butterbur
amphibian	Smooth Newt	flowering plant	Hemp-agrimony
amphibian	Great Crested Newt	flowering plant	Elder
amphibian	Common Toad	flowering plant	Wild Teasel
amphibian	Common Frog	flowering plant	Ivy
annelid	Leech	flowering plant	Rough Chervil
bird	Mute Swan	flowering plant	Cow Parsley
bird	Canada Goose	flowering plant	Ground-elder
bird	Dark-bellied Brent Goose	flowering plant	Hemlock
bird	Egyptian Goose	flowering plant	Wild Celery
bird	Shelduck	flowering plant	Giant Hogweed
bird	Wigeon	flowering plant	Hogweed
bird	Gadwall	flowering plant	Common Gromwell
bird	Teal	flowering plant	Green Alkanet
bird	Mallard	flowering plant	Abraham-Isaac-Jacob
bird	White-cheeked Pintail	flowering plant	Common Fiddleneck
bird	Tufted Duck	fungus	Field Mushroom
bird	Scaup	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Whirligig beetles
bird	Goldeneye	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Screech Beetle
bird	Smew	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Acilius sulcatus
bird	Goosander	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Hyphydrus ovatus
bird	Muscovy Duck	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Common Sexton Beetle
bird	Grey Heron	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Stag Beetle
bird	Bittern	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Common Red Soldier Beetle
bird	Little Egret	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	7-spot Ladybird
bird	Partridges, quails, pheasants	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Harlequin Ladybird
bird	Pheasant	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Rutpela maculata
bird	Little Grebe	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Agapanthia villosoviridescens
bird	Great Crested Grebe	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Rosemary Beetle
bird	Cormorant	insect - butterfly	Small Skipper
bird	Red Kite	insect - butterfly	Essex Skipper
bird	Sparrowhawk	insect - butterfly	Large Skipper
bird	Buzzard	insect - butterfly	Clouded Yellow
bird	Kestrel	insect - butterfly	Brimstone
bird	Hobby	insect - butterfly	Large White
bird	Peregrine	insect - butterfly	Small White

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bird	Water Rail	insect - butterfly	Green-veined White
bird	Coot	insect - butterfly	Orange-tip
bird	Oystercatcher	insect - butterfly	Green Hairstreak
bird	Ringed Plover	insect - butterfly	Small Copper
bird	Grey Plover	insect - butterfly	Brown Argus
bird	Lapwing	insect - butterfly	Common Blue
bird	Little Stint	insect - butterfly	Holly Blue
bird	Curlew Sandpiper	insect - butterfly	Red Admiral
bird	Black-tailed Godwit	insect - butterfly	Painted Lady
bird	Bar-tailed Godwit	insect - butterfly	Small Tortoiseshell
bird	Whimbrel	insect - butterfly	Peacock
bird	Curlew	insect - butterfly	Comma
bird	Redshank	insect - butterfly	Speckled Wood
bird	Greenshank	insect - butterfly	Wall
bird	Green Sandpiper	insect - butterfly	Grayling
bird	Common Sandpiper	insect - butterfly	Hedge Brown
bird	Turnstone	insect - butterfly	Meadow Brown
bird	Great Skua	insect - butterfly	Small Heath
bird	Mediterranean Gull	insect - butterfly	Ringlet
bird	Lesser Black-backed Gull	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Southern Hawker
bird	Herring Gull	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Brown Hawker
bird	Black-headed Gull	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Migrant Hawker
bird	Common Tern	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Emperor Dragonfly
bird	Stock Dove	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Hairy Dragonfly
bird	Woodpigeon	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Banded Demoiselle
bird	Cuckoo	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Azure Damselfly
bird	Little Owl	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Common Blue Damselfly
bird	Tawny Owl	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Red-eyed Damselfly
bird	Swift	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Small Red-eyed Damselfly
bird	Kingfisher	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Blue-tailed Damselfly
bird	Green Woodpecker	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Large Red Damselfly
bird	Great Spotted Woodpecker	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Willow Emerald Damselfly
bird	Sedge Warbler	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Emerald Damselfly
bird	Cetti's Warbler	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Broad-bodied Chaser
bird	Grasshopper Warbler	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Four-spotted Chaser



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bird	Chiffchaff	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Black-tailed Skimmer
bird	Willow Warbler	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Ruddy Darter
bird	Sand Martin	insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Common Darter
bird	Swallow	insect - hymenopteran	Common Wasp
bird	House Martin	insect - hymenopteran	Heriades truncorum
bird	Rock Pipit	insect - hymenopteran	White-Tailed Bumble Bee
bird	Scandinavian Rock Pipit	insect - hymenopteran	Buff-Tailed Bumble Bee
bird	Grey Wagtail	insect - hymenopteran	Small Garden Bumble Bee
bird	Pied Wagtail	insect - hymenopteran	Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee
bird	Waxwing	insect - hymenopteran	Four Coloured Cuckoo Bee
bird	Dunnock	insect - hymenopteran	Vestal Cuckoo Bee
bird	Robin	insect - hymenopteran	Tree Bumblebee
bird	Nightingale	insect - hymenopteran	Early Bumble Bee
bird	Blackbird	insect - hymenopteran	Common Carder Bee
bird	Fieldfare	insect - hymenopteran	Gasteruption jaculator
bird	Song Thrush	insect - mayfly (Ephemeroptera)	Cloeon dipterum
bird	Redwing	insect - moth	Leopard Moth
bird	Spotted Flycatcher	insect - moth	Six-spot Burnet
bird	Blackcap	insect - moth	Diamond-back Moth
bird	Lesser Whitethroat	insect - moth	Brown-spot Flat-body
bird	Long-tailed Tit	insect - moth	Long-horned Flat-body
bird	Blue Tit	insect - moth	Dingy Dowd
bird	Great Tit	insect - moth	Common Yellow Conch
bird	Coal Tit	insect - moth	Black-headed Conch
bird	Marsh Tit	insect - moth	Large Fruit-tree Tortrix
bird	Nuthatch	insect - moth	Light Brown Apple Moth
bird	Jay	insect - moth	Dark-triangle Button
bird	Magpie	insect - moth	Garden Rose Tortrix
bird	Jackdaw	insect - moth	Hoary Belle
bird	Carrion Crow	insect - moth	Reed Veneer
bird	Raven	insect - moth	Garden Grass-veneer
bird	Greenfinch	insect - moth	Inlaid Grass-veneer
bird	Linnet	insect - moth	Pale-streak Grass-veneer
bird	Siskin	insect - moth	Common Grass-veneer
bird	Chaffinch	insect - moth	Elbow-stripe Grass-veneer

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bird	Brambling	insect - moth	Chequered Grass-veneer
bird	Goldfinch	insect - moth	Waste Grass-veneer
bird	Common Crossbill	insect - moth	Meadow Grey
bird	Bullfinch	insect - moth	Ringed China-mark
bird	Hawfinch	insect - moth	Garden Pebble
bird	Reed Bunting	insect - moth	Small Magpie
conifer	Corsican Pine	insect - moth	Rush Veneer
conifer	Scots Pine	insect - moth	Mother of Pearl
crustacean	Daphnia (Daphnia) longispina	insect - moth	Gold Triangle
crustacean	Freshwater Shrimp (Gammarus)	insect - moth	Bee Moth
crustacean	Water hog lice/slaters	insect - moth	Grey Knot-horn
fern	Bracken	insect - moth	Willow Knot-horn
fern	Male Fern	insect - moth	Thistle Ermine
flowering plant	American Skunk-cabbage	insect - moth	Beautiful Plume
flowering plant	Lords-and-Ladies	insect - moth	Common Plume
flowering plant	Sea Arrowgrass	insect - moth	Oak Eggar
flowering plant	Amphibious Bistort	insect - moth	Oak Hook-tip
flowering plant	Curled Dock	insect - moth	Common Emerald
flowering plant	Broad-leaved Dock	insect - moth	Maiden's Blush
flowering plant	Wood Dock	insect - moth	Small Blood-vein
flowering plant	Common Chickweed	insect - moth	Small Fan-footed Wave
flowering plant	Common Mouse-ear	insect - moth	Dwarf Cream Wave
flowering plant	Annual Pearlwort	insect - moth	Single-dotted Wave
flowering plant	Sea Pearlwort	insect - moth	Treble Brown Spot
flowering plant	Greater Sea-spurrey	insect - moth	Riband Wave
flowering plant	Red Campion	insect - moth	Red Twin-spot Carpet
flowering plant	Ragged-Robin	insect - moth	Common Carpet
flowering plant	White Campion	insect - moth	Purple Bar
flowering plant	Sea-purslane	insect - moth	Common Marbled Carpet
flowering plant	Spear-leaved Orache	insect - moth	Spruce Carpet
flowering plant	Beet	insect - moth	Small Waved Umber
flowering plant	Sea Beet	insect - moth	Lime-speck Pug
flowering plant	Long-spiked Glasswort	insect - moth	Bordered Pug
flowering plant	Common Glasswort	insect - moth	Clouded Border
flowering plant	Purple Glasswort	insect - moth	Sharp-angled Peacock
flowering plant	Annual Sea-blite	insect - moth	Brimstone Moth
flowering plant	Sea-milkwort	insect - moth	Early Thorn
flowering plant	Creeping-Jenny	insect - moth	Scalloped Oak
flowering plant	Scarlet Pimpernel	insect - moth	Swallow-tailed Moth
flowering plant	Ash	insect - moth	Willow Beauty
flowering plant	Plantago	insect - moth	Mottled Beauty
flowering plant	Buck's-horn Plantain	insect - moth	Light Emerald
flowering plant	Ribwort Plantain	insect - moth	Barred Red
flowering plant	Greater Plantain	insect - moth	Poplar Hawk-moth
flowering plant	Brooklime	insect - moth	Humming-bird Hawk-moth
flowering plant	Germander Speedwell	insect - moth	Elephant Hawk-moth
flowering plant	Common Toadflax	insect - moth	Iron Prominent
flowering plant	Great Mullein	insect - moth	Lesser Swallow Prominent
flowering plant	Water Figwort	insect - moth	Swallow Prominent

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flowering plant	Hedge Woundwort	insect - moth	Maple Prominent
flowering plant	Black Horehound	insect - moth	Heart & Club
flowering plant	White Dead-nettle	insect - moth	Heart & Dart
flowering plant	Ground-ivy	insect - moth	Shuttle-shaped Dart
flowering plant	Selfheal	insect - moth	Flame
flowering plant	Gypsywort	insect - moth	Flame Shoulder
flowering plant	Water Mint	insect - moth	Large Yellow Underwing
flowering plant	Yellow-rattle	insect - moth	Lesser Yellow Underwing
flowering plant	Hoary Cinquefoil	insect - moth	Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing
flowering plant	Creeping Cinquefoil	insect - moth	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing
flowering plant	Wild Cherry	insect - moth	Least Yellow Underwing
flowering plant	Wild Plum	insect - moth	Autumnal Rustic
flowering plant	Blackthorn	insect - moth	Pearly Underwing
flowering plant	Hawthorn	insect - moth	Small Square-spot
flowering plant	Bramble	insect - moth	Setaceous Hebrew Character
flowering plant	Dewberry	insect - moth	Double-square Spot
flowering plant	Wood Avens	insect - moth	Six-striped Rustic
flowering plant	Agrimony	insect - moth	Square-spot Rustic
flowering plant	Hop	insect - moth	Great Brocade
flowering plant	Common Nettle	insect - moth	Dot Moth
flowering plant	Bulrush	insect - moth	Bright-Line Brown-Eye
flowering plant	Soft-rush	insect - moth	Varied Coronet
flowering plant	Hard Rush	insect - moth	Hebrew Character
flowering plant	Sea Rush	insect - moth	White-point
flowering plant	Sedge	insect - moth	Common Wainscot
flowering plant	False Fox-sedge	insect - moth	L-album Wainscot
flowering plant	Carnation Sedge	insect - moth	Black Rustic
flowering plant	Greater Pond-sedge	insect - moth	Blair's Shoulder-knot
flowering plant	Perennial Rye-grass	insect - moth	Brindled Green
flowering plant	Red Fescue	insect - moth	Feathered Ranunculus
flowering plant	Common Saltmarsh-grass	insect - moth	Beaded Chestnut
flowering plant	Annual Meadow-grass	insect - moth	Centre-barred Sallow
flowering plant	Rough Meadow-grass	insect - moth	Lunar Underwing
flowering plant	Cock's-foot	insect - moth	Sallow
flowering plant	False Oat-grass	insect - moth	Poplar Grey
flowering plant	Trisetum flavescens subsp. purpurascens	insect - moth	Grey Dagger
flowering plant	Yorkshire-fog	insect - moth	Copper Underwing
flowering plant	Creeping Soft-grass	insect - moth	Svensson's Copper Underwing
flowering plant	Creeping Bent	insect - moth	Mouse Moth
flowering plant	Annual Beard-grass	insect - moth	Bird's Wing
flowering plant	Meadow Foxtail	insect - moth	Straw Underwing
flowering plant	Barren Brome	insect - moth	Angle Shades
flowering plant	Sea Couch	insect - moth	Dun-bar
flowering plant	Common Couch	insect - moth	Dark Arches
flowering plant	Common Reed	insect - moth	Light Arches

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flowering plant	Common Cord-grass	insect - moth	Tawny Marbled Minor
flowering plant	Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage	insect - moth	Cloaked Minor
flowering plant	Wild Mignonette	insect - moth	Mesapamea
flowering plant	Water Cress	insect - moth	Treble Lines
flowering plant	Horse-radish	insect - moth	Uncertain
flowering plant	Swine-cress	insect - moth	Vine's Rustic
flowering plant	Dittander	insect - moth	Mottled Rustic
flowering plant	Hoary Whitlowgrass	insect - moth	Burnished Brass
flowering plant	White Mustard	insect - moth	Silver Y
flowering plant	Hedge Mustard	insect - moth	Dark Spectacle
flowering plant	Common Twayblade	insect - moth	Spectacle
flowering plant	Common Spotted-orchid	insect - moth	Yellow-tail
flowering plant	Southern Marsh-orchid	insect - moth	Black Arches
flowering plant	Bee Orchid	insect - moth	Straw Dot
flowering plant	Yellow Iris	insect - moth	Snout
flowering plant	Snowdrop	insect - moth	Dingy Footman
flowering plant	daffodils	insect - moth	Scarce Footman
flowering plant	Bluebell	insect - moth	Common Footman
flowering plant	Garden Asparagus	insect - moth	Ruby Tiger
flowering plant	Poppy	insect - moth	Green Silver-lines
flowering plant	Opium Poppy	insect - orthopteran	Lesser Marsh Grasshopper
flowering plant	Water Crowfoot	insect - orthopteran	Field Grasshopper
flowering plant	Meadow Buttercup	insect - orthopteran	Short-winged Cone-head
flowering plant	Creeping Buttercup	insect - orthopteran	Long-winged Cone-head
flowering plant	Tufted Vetch	insect - orthopteran	Roesel's Bush-cricket
flowering plant	Hairy Tare	insect - orthopteran	Dark Bush-cricket
flowering plant	Common Vetch	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Neophilaenus lineatus
flowering plant	Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Cuckoo-Spit Insect
flowering plant	Lesser Trefoil	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Anaceratagallia venosa
flowering plant	White Clover	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Anoscopus serratulae
flowering plant	Broom	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Arthaldeus pascuellus
flowering plant	Gorse	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Athysanus argentarius
flowering plant	Beech	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Balclutha punctata
flowering plant	Sweet Chestnut	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Eupteryx urticae
flowering plant	Pedunculate Oak	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Euscelis incisus
flowering plant	Red Oak	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Graphocraerus ventralis
flowering plant	Silver Birch	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Lesser Water-Boatman
flowering plant	Alder	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Javesella pellucida

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flowering plant	Hornbeam	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Xanthodelphax straminea
flowering plant	Hazel	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Pondskaters
flowering plant	Procumbent Yellow-sorrel	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Water Measurer
flowering plant	White Poplar	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Saucer Bug
flowering plant	Grey Poplar	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Water Scorpion
flowering plant	White Willow	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Water boatmen
flowering plant	Perforate St John's-wort	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Forest Bug
flowering plant	Square-stalked St John's-wort	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Plea minutissima
flowering plant	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Water crickets
flowering plant	Meadow Crane's-bill	insect - true fly (Diptera)	flies
flowering plant	Herb-Robert	insect - true fly (Diptera)	Non-biting midges
flowering plant	American Willowherb	insect - true fly (Diptera)	Volucella zonaria
flowering plant	Great Willowherb	insect - true fly (Diptera)	Tachinidae
flowering plant	Broad-leaved Willowherb	mollusc	Mouse-eared Snail
flowering plant	Large-flowered Evening-primrose	mollusc	Pond snails
flowering plant	Horse-chestnut	mollusc	Great Pond Snail
flowering plant	Field Maple	mollusc	Lymnaea (Stagnicola) fuscus
flowering plant	Norway Maple	mollusc	Wandering Snail
flowering plant	Sycamore	mollusc	Whirlpool Ramshorn
flowering plant	Tree-mallow	mollusc	Keeled Ramshorn
flowering plant	Musk-mallow	mollusc	Great Ramshorn Snail
flowering plant	Dwarf Mallow	mollusc	Dun Sentinel
flowering plant	Common Mallow	mollusc	Brown-lipped Snail
flowering plant	Lime	mollusc	White Lipped Snail
flowering plant	Small-leaved Lime	mollusc	Common Garden Snail
flowering plant	Dogwood	mollusc	Carthusian Snail
flowering plant	Cleavers	mollusc	Large Amber Snail
flowering plant	Lady's Bedstraw	mollusc	Lake Orb Mussel
flowering plant	Field Bindweed	moss	Common Cord-moss
flowering plant	Hedge Bindweed	moss	Compact Grimmia
flowering plant	Large Bindweed	moss	Grey-cushioned Grimmia
flowering plant	Thorn-apple	moss	Redshank
flowering plant	Bittersweet	moss	Broom Fork-moss
flowering plant	Black Nightshade	moss	Rigid Beard-moss
flowering plant	Holly	moss	Soft-tufted Beard-moss
flowering plant	Bogbean	moss	Wall Screw-moss
flowering plant	Autumn Hawkbit	moss	Intermediate Screw-moss

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flowering plant	Greater Burdock	moss	White-tipped Bristle-moss
flowering plant	Thistle	moss	Silver-moss
flowering plant	Creeping Thistle	moss	Capillary Thread-moss
flowering plant	Marsh Thistle	moss	Creeping Feather-moss
flowering plant	Spear Thistle	moss	Common Feather-moss
flowering plant	Common Knapweed	moss	Tender Feather-moss
flowering plant	Chicory	moss	Rough-stalked Feather-moss
flowering plant	Cat's-ear	moss	Neat Feather-moss
flowering plant	Bristly Oxtongue	moss	Silky Wall Feather-moss
flowering plant	Perennial Sow-thistle	moss	Hypnum cupressiforme
flowering plant	Prickly Sow-thistle	moss	Springy Turf-moss
flowering plant	Smooth Sow-thistle	reptile	Slow-worm
flowering plant	Prickly Lettuce	reptile	Grass Snake
flowering plant	Dandelion	slime mould	Mucilago crustacea
flowering plant	Hawkweed	spider (Araneae)	Metellina segmentata
flowering plant	Common Cudweed	spider (Araneae)	Wasp Spider
flowering plant	Ploughman's-spikenard	terrestrial mammal	European Otter
flowering plant	Common Fleabane	terrestrial mammal	Eurasian Badger
flowering plant	Sea Aster	terrestrial mammal	West European Hedgehog
flowering plant	Guernsey Fleabane	terrestrial mammal	European Mole
flowering plant	Daisy	terrestrial mammal	Serotine
flowering plant	Tansy	terrestrial mammal	Pipistrelle
flowering plant	Yarrow	terrestrial mammal	Brown Long-eared Bat
flowering plant	Oxeye Daisy	terrestrial mammal	Chinese Muntjac
flowering plant	Pineappleweed	terrestrial mammal	Eastern Grey Squirrel
flowering plant	Common Ragwort	terrestrial mammal	European Rabbit
flowering plant	Colt's-foot		

Source: Suffolk Biological Records Centre



