

EYNHAM FISH PONDS – LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL ASSESSMENT

The fish ponds are an important and well-used area of public open space on the southern edge of Eynsham. The mixture of trees, grassland and wetland has a distinctive semi-natural character. This is complemented by the historic character of the meadow and farm buildings to the north and the other wetland along the Chil Brook to the west of Station Road.

Groups of trees around the edge and at the western end limit views out to a few key points and contribute to the secluded character of the site. There are occasional glimpses of more modern buildings that detract from the overall experience.

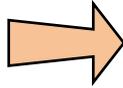
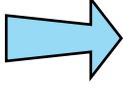
A band of planted trees in the north-east of the site provide an important screen to an otherwise unsightly concrete block wall. However, the condition of some of these trees gives cause for concern. Retaining a screen of appropriate trees in this location is felt to be important.

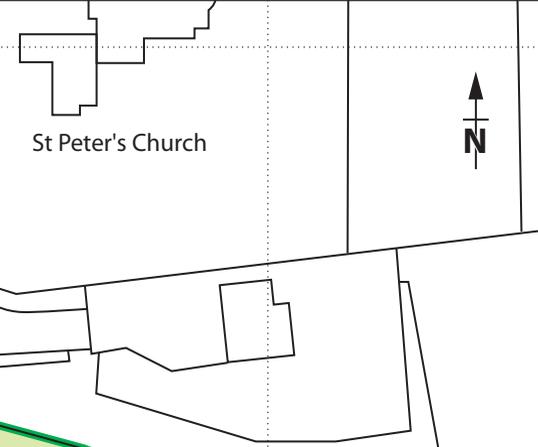
Willows and poplars are currently the dominant trees though more recent planting of a range of ornamental and non-native species could result in a change of character over time. The older trees will need some maintenance work if they are to be retained in a safe condition. Some groups of young trees could block views out of the site as they grow.

The open views across the fish ponds are an important element of the overall character of the site. Dense vegetation makes it difficult to tell where the edges of the fish ponds and the main water-supply channels are. Cutting back the plant growth in selected places will help make the outline of the fish ponds more prominent, particularly in the summer.

Nick Mottram
Wychwood Project

Eynsham Fishponds Proposed Management Strategy Visual assessment

-  Key positive view
-  Minor positive view
-  Negative view
-  Public footpath
-  Heritage footpath



Spring

63.00m OD

BA044

Station Road

Chilbrook Stream

Harvey's House

Monkwood Close Farm

Young trees will eventually block glimpsed view

view to meadow

attractive rushes

important tree screen

retain bankside trees to maintain screen



Based on 1:10000 Ordnance Survey mapping and Royal Commission survey