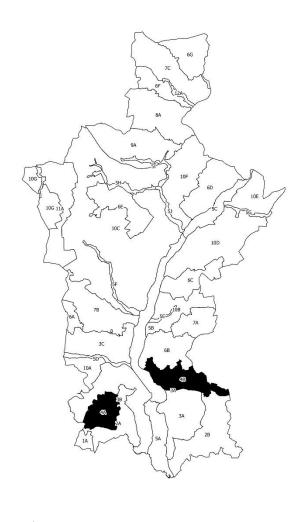
# LCT4 Mixed Farmland and Woodland - Small Scale

# **General Description**

4.1 The Mixed Farmland and Woodland - Small Scale landscape character type comprises a smallscale and intimate mosaic of grazing land and arable land with some woodland associated with farmsteads and areas of uncultivated land, as seen on the steeper slopes and around older disused pits. The character type is very similar to LCT3, but



has predominantly smaller scale fields.

4.2 Scattered settlements provide a sense of the area being densely populated, however the majority of this development is linear, with areas of open countryside set behind. Small winding leafy lanes with thick hedgerows contrast with larger open areas. Open areas of mineral extraction are features of this landscape.

#### Location

4.3 The type forms a part of the more complex and varied landscapes (which include LCT3) that separate the heathlands (LCT1) and pasture and woodlands associated with heathlands (LCT2) to the south and the chalk and

clay wooded farmland (LCT6 and 7) and chalk downlands (LCT10) to the north.

- There are two areas of this landscape character type found within the Borough. They are as follows:
  - LCA4A Sherfield English
  - LCA4B Michelmersh to Ampfield Wooded Farmland

# **Physical Influences**

4.5 Geology and Soils: Predominantly London Clay with Lambeth Group.
Landform: An undulating landscape of small valleys, smooth ridges and local knolls.

**Drainage:** The type lies within the River Test catchment area and is characterised by a mix of streams, small lakes and boggy areas.

## **Biodiversity and Vegetation Pattern**

4.6 Mixed Farmland and Woodland – Small Scale has a distinctly wooded character and with extensive, ancient semi-natural broadleaved woodland, some managed as active coppice. There is a wide range of habitat features associated with this type including hedgerows with banks, large standard trees, streams, meadows and occasional pockets of heathland. The majority of species found are typical of neutral to calcareous soils and include Oak, Ash and Field Maple. Pastoral farmland is the dominant land use, with abundant arable and rotational grassland. Arable is often found on the higher, drier areas and pasture on the moister clay hollows.

#### **Notable habitats**

- Heathland
- Mire

#### **Historical Influences**

4.7 The landscape is characterised by woodland clearance for generally small and medium scale assarted field systems. An area of large assarting is present around the farm at Woodington which may represent the later

development and opening out of assarted fields. Also visible associated with river valleys are areas of small regular fields and regular fields with wavy boundaries and of parliamentary enclosure. The regular fields with wavy boundaries appear to be a development specifically associated with the patchwork of assarted field systems closer to the New Forest. The parliamentary field systems along the River Test represent a more concerted attempt to improve the comparatively more fertile landscape closer to the valley floor.

#### **Settlement Pattern**

4.8 Settlements within the character type tend to be either of small or medium size and display essentially linear characteristics but focused around an early post-medieval settlement or farmstead core. The areas where small and medium assarted fields survive close to the New Forest retain a reasonably dense scattering of farmsteads each within a relatively limited 'territory'. The farmsteads, even within the larger assarted areas, continue to display a quite dense scattering while within the area of extensive parliamentary enclosure on the valley sides only two farms remain located some distance from each other.

#### **Communication Network**

4.9 Throughout this landscape type winding droves and roads are visible, aiding animal movement from the uplands down to the water's edge, at the bottom of the Test valley. Interestingly the later field enclosures appear to have adhered to these drove ways, e.g. Bunny Lane (LCA 4B), and as such are shaped around them. These droves appear to connect the upland assarted areas via the valley slope parliamentary field systems to the extensive bedwork water meadows located within the valley floor. These functioned to move stock between the upland grazing areas and the fertile water meadows at appropriate times in the farming calendar.

# **Key Natural and Cultural Landscape Issues**

- 4.10 Key natural and cultural landscape issues as follows:
  - Infill development

- Poorly restored areas of mineral extraction
- Hedgerow fragmentation and loss
- Loss of unimproved mesotrophic grassland to arable or through application of fertilisers
- Declining farmland bird populations
- Enrichment of water bodies through fertiliser run off
- Loss of woodlands to development or to arable or pasture
- Decline in coppice management leading to a reduction of specialised species such as butterflies

# **Land Management Guidelines**

4.11 All of the Borough wide land management guidelines in the introduction apply to this Landscape Character Type. Specific to this Landscape Character Type are:

### 4.12 Landscape Distinctiveness

- Reinforce existing local valued features and add to woodland and hedgerow structure
- Protect existing levels of tranquillity

#### 4.13 **Agriculture**

- Encourage reversion of arable fields to pasture
- Manage the agricultural landscapes for biodiversity such as incorporating hedgerows or grass field margins
- Encourage replanting of hedgerows and hedgerow trees
- Ensure the careful siting of new agricultural buildings

#### 4.14 **Hedgerows**

 Encourage the replanting of former hedgerow boundaries and the better management of existing hedgerows and ensure oak standards grow up to form hedgerow trees where appropriate

#### 4.15 Woodland and Trees

Encourage the regeneration of young hedgerow trees

#### 4.16 **Biodiversity**

Protect watercourses and associated mires and ponds

• Conserve and enhance remnant heathland and unimproved grassland

# **Land Use and Development Guidelines**

4.17 All of the Borough wide land use and development guidelines in the introduction apply to this Landscape Character Type. Specific to this Landscape Character Type are:

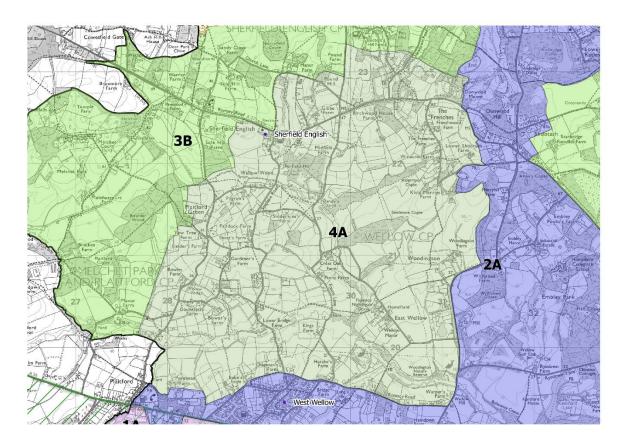
## 4.18 **Built Development**

 Proposals for new solar development should consider the cumulative impacts on the valued predominantly rural character with mixed farmland

#### 4.19 Infrastructure

- Avoid suburbanisation arising from introduction of inappropriate highway measures
- Reduce the landscape and visual impact of existing pylons and cumulative impacts with other intrusive features

# **LCA4A Sherfield English**



New Forest National Park area indicated with green line hatch.

# **General Description**

- 4A.1. Sherfield English is an area of low lying land which carries a network of meandering water courses flowing into the River Blackwater, which then flow on into the River Test. It has a covering of scattered small woodlands, with some aligning in a linear fashion to the water courses, for example Aldermoor Copse.
- 4A.2. Areas of small scale fields with good hedgerows dominate this character area, as seen to the west around Bower's Farm and Gardiner's Farm. However there are also larger areas of open arable fields with poor gappy hedgerows, as seen to the north east of West Wellow. Other open areas are also seen north east of West Wellow, where an area of market gardening provides a patchwork of texture. Polytunnels are also visible within this area.

4A.3. Small knolls rising to around 50m AOD provide local elevated areas, with some allowing long views across to the New Forest National Park.

#### Location

4A.4. Sherfield English lies north of West Wellow and extends northwards to include Plaitford Green, Sherfield English and Woodington. The boundary for this area is not clearly defined by features on the ground, as there is a subtle transition into the adjacent character areas.

# **Local Physical Influences**

4A.5. **Geology and Soils:** The area is predominantly London Clay with River Terrace Deposits and Alluvium along the River Blackwater.

**Landform:** Undulating landform sloping southwards to the River Blackwater.

Shallow valleys and rounded knolls broaden out in the north of the area.

**Drainage:** The area forms part of the northern catchment area to the River Blackwater which runs through the southern part of the area. Small tributaries which run into the River Blackwater and numerous small lakes and ponds are a characteristic feature.

# **Local Biodiversity and Vegetation Pattern**

- 4A.6. This area is predominantly improved pasture, together with some arable farmland, with fields divided by hedgerows. Several areas of broadleaved woodland are found in this area, including larger woodlands at Smidmore Copse, Bushymoor Copse and Shootash Copse.
- 4A.7. There are extensive areas of neutral grassland and wet meadows / fens associated with the river valleys that cut through this LCA. Some of these such as Sherfield English Fen, Buckhill Meadow and Winacres Farm Meadow are designated as SINCs.
- 4A.8. The table below identifies the broad habitat types for LCA4A.

Broad habitat type	Area of habitat (Hectares)	Percentage of the LCA (%)
Arable and horticulture	292.85	27.81
Boundary and linear features	19.32	1.83
Bracken	0.15	0.01

Broadleaved, mixed, and yew woodland	91.65	8.70
Built-up areas and gardens	79.56	7.55
Coniferous woodland	1.05	0.10
Fen, marsh and swamp	17.12	1.63
Improved grassland	488.62	46.40
Inland rock	2.67	0.25
Neutral grassland	19.82	1.88
Standing open water and canals	0.88	0.08
Unidentified habitat	22.75	2.16
Unidentified water	16.69	1.58
Total	1053.14	

#### **Local Historical Influences**

- 4A.9. The majority of this area is comprised of large irregular assarts with wavy boundaries interspersed with stands of pre-1810 woodland. Within the north-eastern and south western portion of the LCA is a band of more recent regular assarted fields. Medium irregular asserted fields are situated to the west. To the south and southwest there is an extensive area of small regular fields with wavy boundaries. All these field types indicate a period of woodland clearance for the purpose of developing and increasing the amount of available land for growing crops. The presence of small and medium sized assarts with wavy boundaries suggests a period of woodland clearance dating between the midmedieval to early post medieval periods. The larger and more regular assarts are likely to be of a later date (18th and 19th century) with the deliberate retention of stands of pre 1810 woodland.
- 4A.10. Some limited informal enclosure indicated by the presence of small fields and regular fields with wavy boundaries and limited parliamentary enclosure at the southern end of this character area may suggest the activity of one or more small landholders attempting farm rationalisation during the 17th/18th and 19th centuries.

## **Designations**

- 4A.11. Designations that lie wholly or in part within this Landscape Character Area comprise.
- 4A.12. Nature Conservation

SINC

 32 SINCs, mainly ancient semi-natural woodlands, agriculturally unimproved grassland and other grasslands; also wetlands and sites which support notable species

#### 4A.13. Historic

Listed buildings

 A significant number of listed building are scattered across this LCA, including the Grade I listed Church of St Margaret

#### Settlement Pattern

- 4A.14. The principal village within this character area is Sherfield English. This is a dispersed settlement formed around two distinct nuclei strung out along Romsey Road (A27). The settlement is divided between a historic core with limited 19th century development which extends south away from the A27 along what appears to be a drove road (Steplake Road) and a largely 20th century development to the west.
- 4A.15. Other settlements include part of East Wellow which is a small nucleated settlement. Further to this there are small clusters of dwellings as seen south of Wellow Wood where a line of two storey dwellings can be found.
- 4A.16. The smaller assarted fields maintain a relatively densely concentrated pattern of farmsteads. Where these fields have been replaced by large irregular assarts and parliamentary field enclosures, this changes to a dispersed pattern of farmsteads within much larger territories.
- 4A.17. Early buildings are frequently timber-framed with thatch but brick with clay and concrete tiles predominate.

#### **Local Settlements**

- 4A.18. Local Settlements and their corresponding Settlement Type (see Appendix 2 for more information):
  - East Wellow: Common Edge Settlement Type
  - Sherfield English: Scattered Clay Lowland Settlement Type

# **Remoteness and Tranquillity**

4A.19. Some of the lanes offer areas of tranquillity, however the high density of the scattered settlement character provides few areas with a remote quality.

## **Key Valued Characteristics**

- 4A.20. Key valued characteristics of LCA4A are as follows:
  - Small winding leafy lanes
  - Meandering streams with low-lying areas of boggy ground, often covered with woodland
  - Small areas of heathland
  - Good sense of tranquillity
  - Extensive views from small knolls
  - Fields in use as back-up grazing
  - Historic assarted landscape with small amounts of informal enclosure along the western and southern borders of this character area
  - Elements of pre-1810 assarted woodland survive in pockets along the western border of this character area
  - Early buildings are frequently timber-framed with thatch
  - Wooded setting to some settlements (i.e. Sherfield English)
  - The scattered settlement pattern

## **Key Detractors**

- 4A.21. Key detractors of LCA4A are as follows:
  - Overhead pylons are intrusive particularly in more open areas
  - Visually prominent poly tunnels and associated development (including mobile homes) and their cumulative impact
  - Large-scale pig farming
  - Infrastructure connected with fisheries
  - Some areas of poor quality landscape and weak hedgerows
  - Small areas of former mineral extraction.

# **Local Natural and Cultural Landscape Issues**

4A.22. Local natural and cultural landscape issues for LCA4A are as follows:

- Impact of visitors as an area of recreation
- Restoration of minerals and waste sites
- Decline in commoning and back-up grazing by local commoners.

# **Landscape Strategy and Guidelines**

- 4A.23. Landscape Strategy and Guidelines for LCA4A Sherfield English are as follows:
  - The characteristic intimate scale of the landscape of much of this area comes
    from the small woodlands and tree belts. Around Woodington this has been
    lost for some time but further loss would significantly erode the landscape
    character. The overall strategy is therefore to enhance the wooded seclusion
    of Sherfield English and protect and enhance the key valued characteristics.

## **Land Management**

4A.24. All of the Borough wide and Landscape Character Type land management guidelines apply to this Landscape Character Area. Specific to this Landscape Character Area are as follows:

## 4A.25. Landscape Distinctiveness

 Encourage restoration of small-scale landscape features in the area around Woodington

#### 4A.26. Agriculture

- Encourage restoration of small-scale fields
- Maintain system of back-up grazing

#### 4A.27. Woodland and Trees

 Maintain existing woodland pattern and encourage the planting of new copses on open farmland

#### 4A.28. Biodiversity

- Encourage measures to conserve, enhance and extend the network of wet meadows and woodlands along the river corridors in the LCA
- Encourage work to link up existing fragments of priority habitat woodland and grassland

#### 4A.29. Historic Landscapes

 Maintain the historic practice of commoning and continue to manage this intimate assarted landscape so that it maintains its connection with the New Forest environment

## **Land Use and Development**

4A.30. All of the Borough wide and Landscape Character Type land use and development guidelines apply to this Landscape Character Area. Specific to this Landscape Character Area are:

### 4A.31. Built Development

- Maintain enclosure of settlements within a wooded setting
- Built form to reflect local pattern and materials
- Control linear development along the A27
- Ensure that the introduction of any modern farming or horticultural practices (eg. polytunnels) do not undermine the enhancement of the local landscape qualities
- Proposals for new solar development should consider the cumulative impacts on the valued predominantly rural character

#### 4A.32. Infrastructure

- Maintain existing landscape character of shady, leafy lanes
- Seek opportunity to place overhead power lines underground

#### 4A.33. Recreation, Tourism and Access

- Seek opportunities to improve facilities for quiet recreation
- Encourage ecological enhancements at fisheries and ensure infrastructure is effectively integrated into the landscape setting

#### 4A.34. Minerals and Waste

 Ensure that the restoration of minerals and waste sites is in keeping with local landscape character requirements



Large-scale pig-farming and intrusive pylons



Intrusive poly-tunnels and pylons



Rural roads with thick hedges

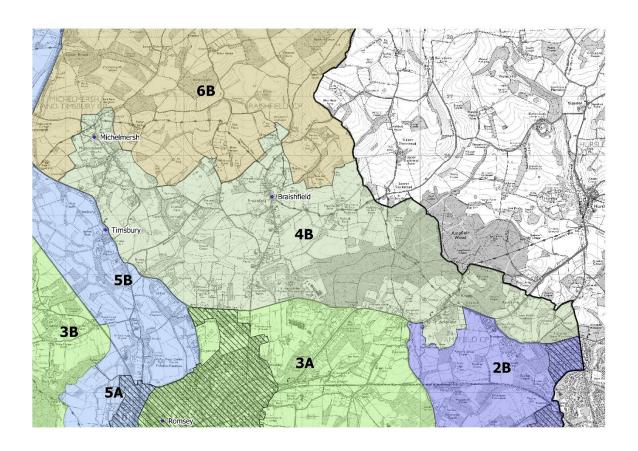


Meandering stream with low-lying area of boggy ground



Fishery with opportunities for ecological enhancements

# LCA4B Michelmersh to Ampfield Wooded Farmland



# **General Description**

- 4B.1. The Michelmersh to Ampfield Wooded Farmland character area is dominated by an intimate pattern of small fields (a mix of arable and pasture) including the settlements of Michelmersh, Ampfield and Braishfield. In between these settlements the field sizes are larger, hedge-less and predominantly arable. A spring line crosses this area as the underlying geology changes to the porous underlying chalk, with a spring as seen at Braishfield. Casbrook Common forms a large area of open grassland.
- 4B.2. A number of small disused pits have regenerated as small woodlands which create local focal points. The newer larger pits as seen east of Casbrook Common are yet to be restored.

#### Location

4B.3. The northern boundary of Michelmersh to Ampfield Wooded Farmland follows the north side of Michelmersh and Braishfield. The eastern boundary is bounded by the Borough boundary. The southern boundary includes Sir Harold Hillier's Garden and Arboretum, Ampfield Wood, Ampfield and Ratlake with the western boundary following the A3057.

## **Local Physical Influences**

4B.4. **Geology and Soils**: Mainly a mix of London Clay and Lambeth Group. **Landform**: An undulating landform with slopes descending westwards to the Test valley.

**Drainage**: The area drains centrally into a tributary of the River Test which flows into Timsbury Lake. The area is better drained than LCA3A but has a number of lakes including Timsbury Lake and Fairbourne Lake and open areas of water in former mineral workings.

# **Local Biodiversity and Vegetation Pattern**

- 4B.5. There are a range of habitats in this LCA; there are large areas of improved grassland pasture and agricultural land, with extensive woodlands to the east around Ampfield Woods. There are smaller woodlands throughout the LCA. Woodlands are a mixture of broadleaved semi-natural and secondary woodland, and conifer plantation. Some of the woodlands including the extensive Ampfield Woods to the east are designated Ancient Woodland.
- 4B.6. There are large areas of neutral and acid grassland (including Ratlake Meadows SSSI).
- 4B.7. The area of mineral workings and landfill to the west of the LCA and surrounding areas are important for great crested newts and bird species such as nightingale.

4B.8. The table below identifies the broad habitat types for LCA4B.

Broad habitat type	Area of habitat (Hectares)	Percentage of the LCA (%)
Acid grassland	5.62	0.38
Arable and horticulture	358.94	24.13
Boundary and linear features	28.50	1.92
Bracken	0.90	0.06
Broadleaved, mixed, and yew woodland	315.88	21.23
Built-up areas and gardens	126.88	8.53
Coniferous woodland	55.73	3.75
Fen, marsh and swamp	9.72	0.65
Improved grassland	416.18	27.97
Inland rock	6.72	0.45
Neutral grassland	34.58	2.32
Standing open water and canals	1.81	0.12
Unidentified habitat	115.47	7.76
Unidentified water	10.83	0.73
Total	1487.77	

#### **Local Historical Influences**

- 4B.9. Assarted fields occupy all of the upland located in the north east of the area along a line which follows the valley of the River Test to the west and which swings around to the east south of Fairburn's Farm. Up until the early 19th century this area was relatively forested and the surviving landscape of large irregular assarts probably represents a considerable clearance episode during this time. The presence of pre-1810 woodland on the south facing slopes suggests a possible medieval wooded environment in this area and as such, the large irregular assarts may represent the final stages in the forest clearance process with smaller assarts being expanded to create larger though still informal field systems during the 19th century.
- 4B.10. The gently sloping valley sides of the River Test and the south facing slope below Fairburn's Farm offered excellent opportunities for formal enclosure and this was carried out by Act of Parliament during the 19th century. At the southern end of the area lie the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens and Arboretum which date from 1953.

# **Designations**

4B.11. Designations that lie wholly or in part within this Landscape Character Area comprise:

#### 4B.12. Nature Conservation

SSSI

- Ratlake Meadows Unimproved grassland, surrounded by mixed plantation woodland and broadleaved semi-natural woodland
   SINC
- 31 SINCs, mainly ancient semi-natural woodlands, other woodland and agriculturally unimproved grassland; also other grasslands, wetlands and sites which support notable species

#### 4B.13. Historic

**Conservation Areas** 

- Michelmersh
- Braishfield
- Ampfield

**Scheduled Monument** 

- A park pale lies on the eastern edge of this LCA Listed buildings
- There are several clusters of listed buildings within this LCA mostly in the northern part or grouped within the three conservation areas, including Ampfield House: Grade II\* listed building Registered Parks and Gardens
- Sir Harold Hillier Gardens and Arboretum: Listed as Grade II on the Historic England Register of Historic Parks and Gardens

#### Settlement Pattern

4B.14. Braishfield is the principal settlement within this character area and sits within a largely assarted landscape. The historic core is centred around the church and has subsequently developed extensions along other roads during the 19th century. This settlement has no direct road linking it with Michelmersh to the north-west. Instead the main settlement to be linked with Braishfield is Romsey to the south. Surrounding Braishfield but within the assarted

- landscape are a cluster of farmsteads which are generally grouped quite closely together. On the down slopes within this area the farms are fewer but are located on opposite sides of the Romsey to Braishfield road.
- 4B.15. Michelmersh retains several historic cores which tend to sit either upon the scarp ridge or to the east upon the higher land. This places the settlement some distance away from the ready water supply of the River Test but Michelmersh is supplied by numerous small springs. Later development has connected the historic cores and extended downslope towards the valley floor.
- 4B.16. Located on the Romsey to Winchester road (A3090), Ampfield is a heath associated settlement type which is actually focused upon a minor road which heads north from the A3090. This settlement is linear in form extending largely along the length of the minor road although its church (which appears to be wholly a nineteenth century construction) is located away from the main settlement centre and on the main A3090.
- 4B.17. The road network tends to lead down from the upland assarted field systems down slope towards the parliamentary enclosures and the valley floor of the River Test. Where these roads meet with the areas of parliamentary enclosure they tend to become straightened while within the upland the road networks is much more governed by the surrounding contours indicating an earlier and probably medieval date.
- 4B.18. The group of farmsteads associated with the large irregular assarted fields appear to be generally located around the village of Braishfield but appear to sit within extensive agricultural landholdings extending away from the village. The farmsteads which lie within the parliamentary field systems occupying the slopes are more spaced apart.
- 4B.19. The three settlements of Michelmersh, Ampfield and Braishfield dominate this landscape and have a distinctive settlement pattern. These settlements have evolved around converging roads giving them a star-like form, with

development scattered along the roads in a linear fashion. Due to the linear development of these settlements open fields still exist near the centres providing the settlements with a rural quality. Farmsteads can also be found on the edge of these settlements.

4B.20. A small number of Public Rights of Way, including part of the Monarchs Way, exist within this LCA.

#### **Local Settlements**

- 4B.21. Local Settlements and their corresponding Settlement Type (see Appendix 2 for more information):
  - Ampfield: Heath Associated Settlement Type
  - Braishfield: Chalk-Clay Spring Line Settlement Type
  - Michelmersh: Chalk-Clay Spring Line Settlement Type
  - Timsbury: Chalk River Valley Settlement Type

# Remoteness and Tranquillity

4B.22. Due to the high density of roads throughout this area there are few areas of quiet seclusion. The linear development of the settlements also gives a misleading impression that the area is highly populated. However, away from these converging developed roads, there are areas of open land, which offer better levels of tranquillity.

# **Key Valued Characteristics**

- 4B.23. Key valued characteristics of LCA4B are as follows:
  - Small fields located close to the village centres providing a rural quality
  - Hedgerows surrounding the settlements providing screening and integration of the settlement into the landscape
  - Parkland, parkland features, gardens and arboretum at Sir Harold Hillier
     Gardens and Arboretum Registered Park and Garden at Ampfield
  - Pattern of fields separating Ampfield and Chandler's Ford / Valley Park / North Baddesley
  - Agricultural character of Michelmersh and Timsbury
  - Pockets of remnant heathland and ancient meadows

- Upland environment is heavily assarted and may represent only the latest phase of assarting
- The down slopes are predominantly covered by parliamentary enclosures
- Quiet lanes giving a feeling of remoteness, particularly around Pucknall
- Traditional buildings are often timber-framed and thatched, with brick and flint a common feature in many other buildings. Clay roof tiles are common from the local clay pits
- Views of open countryside from villages (e.g. from Ampfield and Braishfield)

## **Key Detractors**

- 4B.24. Key detractors of LCA4B are as follows:
  - Poor quality but locally important hedgerows away from the settlements providing a weak sense of enclosure to large open areas
  - Poorly restored areas of mineral extraction, enclosed by regenerating hedgerow and woodland belts
  - The east section of LCA 4B is largely replanted asserted pre-1810 woodland which is recent in date
  - Suburbanising influences including over-sized gates and inappropriate boundary planting eroding the rural character.
  - Visually intrusive pylons

# **Local Natural and Cultural Landscape Issues**

- 4B.25. Local natural and cultural landscape issues for LCA4B are as follows:
  - Impact of further development and agricultural change affecting the surrounding assarted environment
  - Further erosion of locally distinctive landscape character through inappropriate landscaping and visually intrusive development.

# **Landscape Strategy and Guidelines**

- 4B.26. Landscape Strategy and Guidelines for LCA4B Michelmersh to Ampfield Wooded Farmland are as follows:
  - There is a delicate balance between the existing settlement pattern and the surrounding landscape, which is much valued at present. The overall strategy is therefore to conserve the existing settlement and landscape pattern of

Michelmersh to Ampfield Wooded Farmland and protect and enhance the key valued characteristics.

## **Land Management**

4B.27. All of the Borough wide and Landscape Character Type land management guidelines apply to this Landscape Character Area. Specific to this Landscape Character Area are as follows:

## 4B.28. Landscape Distinctiveness

 Maintain the distinctive character of each settlement and its surrounding field pattern

#### 4B.29. Agriculture

Maintain existing field pattern and hedgerows

#### 4B.30. Woodland and Trees

- Encourage appropriate woodland planting, especially along the southern boundary to link in with Sir Harold Hillier Gardens and Arboretum and Ampfield Wood
- Maintain and restore the existing historic woodland pattern and composition
- Where removing coniferous plantation replace with native broad-leaved species

#### 4B.31. **Biodiversity**

- Conserve and enhance unimproved meadow
- Maintain and enhance valued habitats on disturbed ground as at Casbrook Common
- Encourage the restoration and creation of ponds to conserve and enhance the local population of great crested newts
- Maintain and enhance habitats for nightingale to the western part of the LCA

#### 4B.32. Historic Landscapes

 Respect the landscape setting to Sir Harold Hillier Garden and Arboretum and conserve its parkland, parkland features, gardens and arboretum

#### 4B.33. Urban Fringe

 Protect the area from intrusive elements in association with the urban fringe of Romsey

# **Land Use and Development**

4B.34. All of the Borough wide and Landscape Character Type land use and development guidelines apply to this Landscape Character Area. Specific to this Landscape Character Area are:

#### 4B.35. Built Development

- Maintain and enhance the existing quality of the landscape buffers between the existing settlements
- Protect the area from suburbanising influences and inappropriate landscaping including over-sized gates and non-native boundary planting and from inappropriate infrastructure design
- Seek opportunities to mitigate intrusive elements in the landscape through appropriate landscape treatment

### 4B.36. Recreation, Tourism and Access

- Encourage management of woodlands to enable greater public access
- Ensure fisheries are sensitively managed and include native planting and ecological enhancements

#### 4B.37. Minerals and Waste

 Encourage replanting of existing minerals sites to create new woodland in keeping with the local landscape pattern



Farmland with the wooded backdrop of Ampfield Wood.



Sir Harold Hillier Garden and Arboretum



Intimate landscape with good hedgerow structure at Pucknall



Undulating farmland contained by woods