

## Brereton and Ravenhill

**Character Description:** Post-war development predominates, housing with associated churches, chapels and former schools. Historic local centre at core demonstrating legacy of the area. Industrial/Victorian housing at north end of area along Main Road/Brereton Road, mixture of interwar and modern housing with modern industrial estates on former colliery land to south-west.

### Key features are:

- Historically collieries, gravel pits and brickworks on edge of Cannock Chase; farmland on lower ground surrounding village centre with its diverse range of buildings including grand houses and workers cottages. Industrial landscape included railways and tramway leading down to Trent and Mersey Canal wharf. Historic coaching inns e.g. Red Lion.
- Landscaped setting of Chase and rising ground to south and west form green backdrop of Heathland and Settled farmlands landscape character, with significant mature trees along road frontages of urban area, some protected by Tree Preservation Order.
- Historic village centre and Canal designated Conservation Areas. Range of significant listed buildings dating from 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century including large detached 3 storey buildings on Main Road in Georgian and Regency styles. Parish Plan highlights buildings/features of local architectural/historic interest valued by community.
- 19<sup>th</sup> century housing on Main Rd/Brereton Rd includes cottage rows running back from frontage and on Armitage Road includes canal cottages. 1930's 'Coal Board' housing e.g. Springfield Terrace has distinctive 'dormer' design detail. Regular post-war housing layouts of semi-detached and short terraces, mostly 2 storey, some bungalows.
- Recent buildings include some innovative contemporary designs e.g. housing (Coulthwaite Way) and school (Redbrook Hayes Primary). Good examples of historic buildings converted to new uses e.g. former community centre converted to housing.
- Red brick predominates with some render; St Michael's Church and former barn rear of Brereton Hall in sandstone. Retention of front boundary walls help define streetscene.
- Petrol station, pubs, hotel and groups of shops on Main Road and Redbrook Lane. Ravenhill Park is key greenspace for local recreation.
- Topography creates key views e.g. to and from Stile Cop to the south-west, views of Brereton Hall and House from public footpath off Coalpit Lane, views in and out of area dominated by Power Station cooling towers. Wide ranging views from Stile Cop trig point being reduced by tree encroachment. Southern gateway to District on Main Road and to Chase on Colliery Road. Key landmarks are Cedar Tree Hotel (9); St Michaels Church (10); Brereton House (14); and Brereton Hall (15).

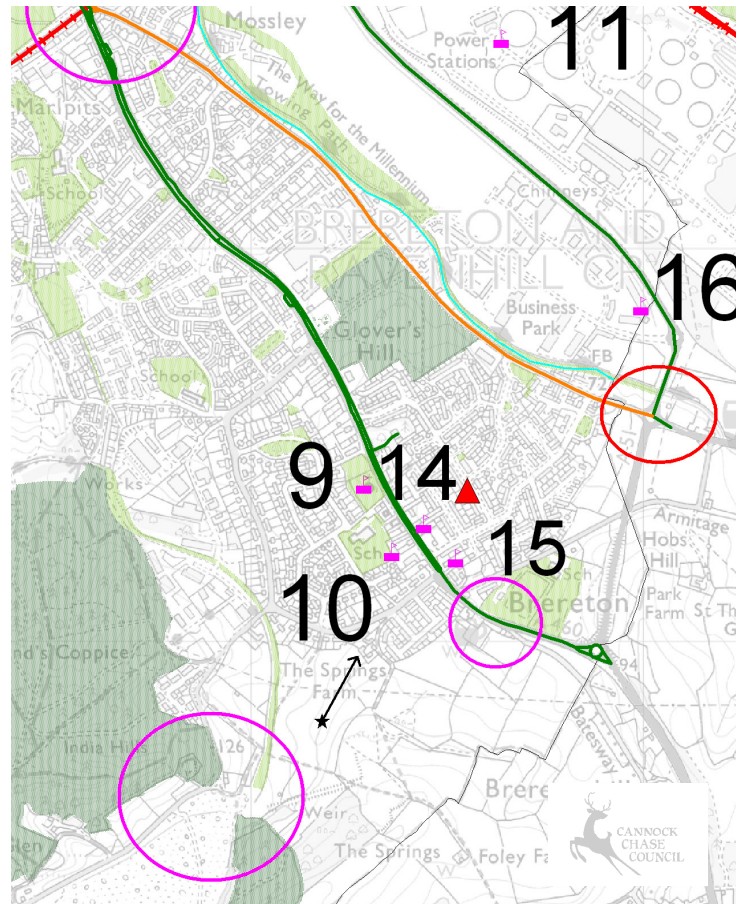
### Key Local Design Principles or 'New development should'...:

- Preserve/enhance locally distinctive features and characteristic building lines, particularly in unique village of Brereton.
- Respect significance of 'green backdrop' with mature trees on road frontages and supplement where appropriate with new long-lived tree planting.
- In appropriate locations e.g. in/close to Brereton Conservation Area well designed 3 storey buildings may be acceptable, elsewhere generally 2 storey appropriate.
- Recognise scope for variety of good quality design and materials in modern areas with preference for red brick and red/blue tiles/slate in historic areas, using render sparingly/where appropriate.
- Support downgrading of Main Road A460 through Brereton village with environmental enhancements following completion of Rugeley By-pass.
- Respect and enhance the forms of historic farmsteads in their landscape context.
- Consider impact on key views and potential enhancement of 'gateways'.

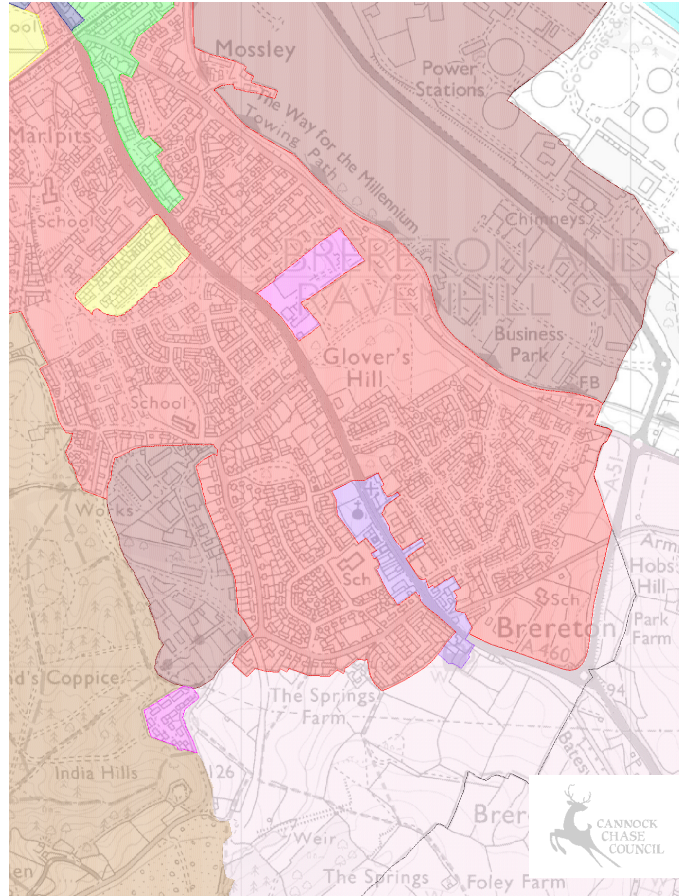
### Further information:

- See character types descriptions for further information on the built character and detailing.
- Main Road, Brereton Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan
- Landscape Character Assessment (2008)- Heathland and Settled Farmlands
- Cannock Chase Local List
- Brereton and Ravenhill Parish Plan

## Key Features Map



## Character and Landscape Types (period/type of development and type of open countryside nearby)



Landmark 9- Cedar Tree Hotel



Landmark 10- St Michael's



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Landmark 14- Brereton House

