Prospect Village

Character Description: A residential village of interwar and modern housing with associated modern community centre within a Green Belt setting of open countryside.

Key features are:

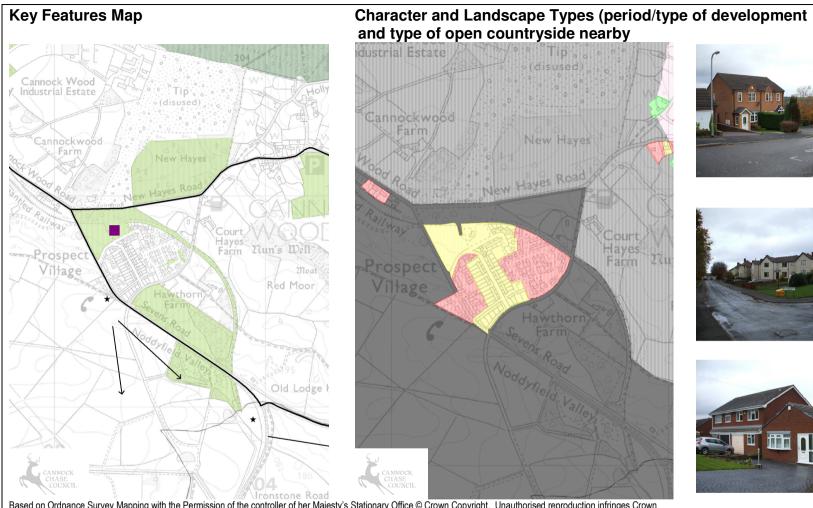
- Historically area comprised farmland, settlement largely developed during 1930's by Coal Board to cater for workers in nearby collieries e.g. at Cannock Wood Some farms still remain within the vicinity of the village.
- Well-defined boundaries to village surrounded by Green Belt countryside which here has a Planned Coalfield Farmland landscape character arising from its largely restored nature from former mining activities. Although located on high ground, the village is set within a 'dip' in the landscape so is largely sheltered from view.
- Two separate estates of inter-war and post-war residential developments combine to create the village, with some more modern infill. Regular two storey semi-detached houses are a feature, and development is generally two storey with fairly limited variety of styles and materials; predominantly brick (red/yellow) for post-war developments and cream render with red-brown tile for inter-war developments- chimneys are a key roofscape feature of the earlier properties. Fences/walls/hedges to front boundaries. Medium-low density overall.
- Key views from edge of village along Ironstone Road and Severns Road, looking north towards the AONB and south towards Gentleshaw Common/Cuckoo Bank.
- Modern community centre within public open space and park facilities on north side of village.
- Access to nature site adjacent to park. Mature tree planting in some front gardens helps contribute to the character of the area within its rural setting. Disused mineral railway line bounds village to north-east providing green link for walking/cycling.

Key Local Design Principles or 'New developments should':

- Respect existing fairly homogenous density and plot sizes to retain character of village.
- In older streets reflect regularity of layout, form and materials of existing buildings.
- More scope for variety of design and materials in post war streets whilst respecting scale of existing development.
- Preserve and enhance 'green' aspect of village with protection of existing mature tree and hedge planting, inclusion of new planting where appropriate, enhancement of public open space and appropriate buffering of urban edge.
- Support opportunities for enhancement of pedestrian links to surrounding rural areas.
- Support opportunities for enhancement of small-scale community-related facilities within village.
- Respect and enhance the forms of historic farmsteads in their landscape context.

Further information:

- See character types descriptions for further information on the built character and detailing.
- Landscape Character Assessment (2008)- Planned Coalfield Farmlands
- Cannock Chase Local List









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