

Slitting Mill

Character Description: Whilst the village is now dominated by post war residential character types, its name has its origins in its long history as an early iron workings settlement along the Rising Brook. There are some relics of this past but only a few historic buildings from later periods remain.

Key features are:

- Origins in 16th/17th century as an early iron working settlement- see Stone House Grade 2 Listed Building (possible home of local iron masters) and surviving earthworks/archaeological remains. Chase Heritage Trail passes via area highlighting importance of area to the Districts' historical development
- Character dominated by surrounding landscape of Wooded Estatelands. The village is also within the AONB and buffered by Green Belt all around, demonstrating the sensitivity of this landscape to change and development. Some agricultural use around the village contributes to the rural character.
- The village is well screened by virtue of the woodlands and topography that falls away from high points of AONB towards the River Trent Valley in the north. Village feels fairly 'secluded'
- Historic plots overlaid by 20th century development with scattered 18th/19th century remaining buildings. The main historic street pattern remains e.g. Slitting Mill Road and Post Office Lane
- Residential developments are fairly low density ranging from short 19th century terraces and cottages along Slitting Mill Road to substantial modern detached houses on large plots and a mix of modern houses and bungalows on culs de sac. Main materials are brick, render and pebbledash, with the Stone House built of sandstone.
- Many houses have frontage brick walls/hedges and mature trees in front gardens and along rural edges are predominant.
- The 'minor route' is an historic road that connects the village to the surrounding areas. Apart from in centre of village there is often one or no footway but just grass verges, adding to rural character.
- The Horns Inn stands in village centre, and nearby the Victory Hall and a red telephone box.
- A number of 18th century boundary stones in fields east of the village mark the boundary with Rugeley.

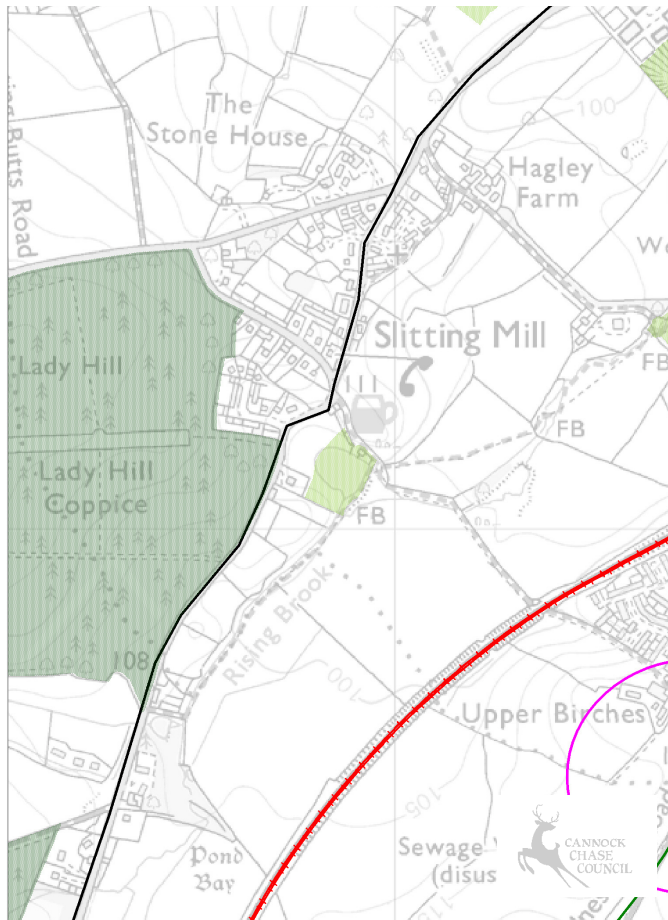
Key Local Design Principles or 'New development should':

- Ensure links to the unique history and local distinctiveness of the village are retained via preservation of the historic street pattern and key buildings and structures, with surviving landmark features on the outskirts of the built-up area protected e.g. the remains of former mill works along the Rising Brook.
- Preserve and enhance strong character and sensitivity of surrounding landscape with AONB, Green Belt and the Wooded Estatelands character all combining to create a unique rural setting.
- Scope for a variety of good quality design and materials for new development within village envelope whilst respecting scale and layout of existing development.
- Respect and enhance the forms of historic farmsteads in their landscape context.

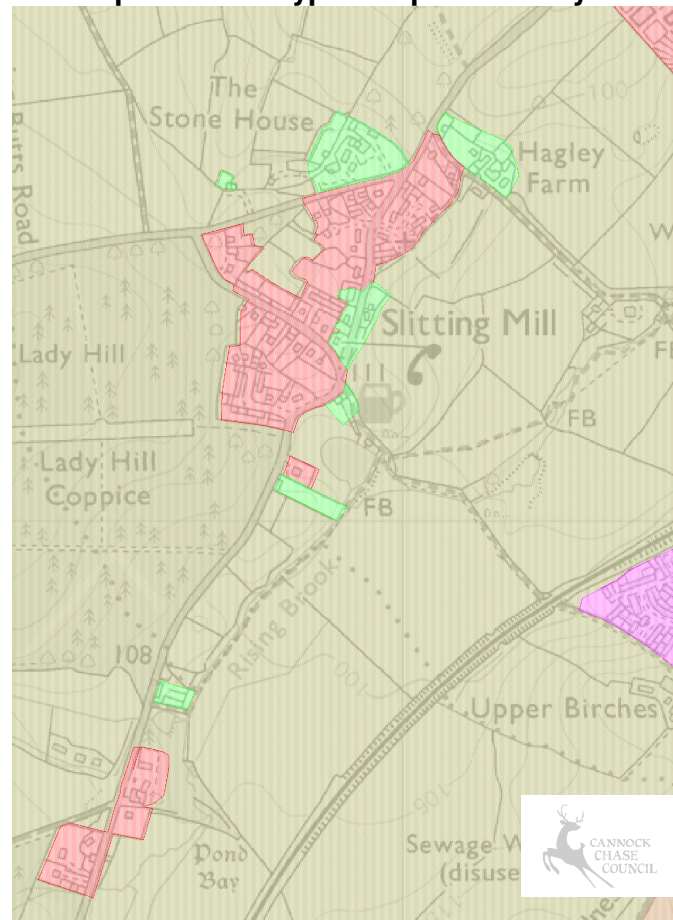
Further information:

- See character types descriptions for further information on the built character and detailing.
- Landscape Character Assessment (2008)- Wooded Estatelands
- Historic Environment Assessment (2009)- RHECZ 3
- English Heritage Historic Farmstead Survey (2010)
- Cannock Chase Local List

Key Features Map



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



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