4.14 Landscape Setting of Danehill

Settlement Profile

4.14.1 Danehill is situated approximately five miles to the north east of Haywards Heath on the edge of the Ashdown Forest, within The High Weald AONB.

4.14.2 Danehill is a medium sized predominantly residential, linear village, which has developed around a pattern of six ribbon roads which lead to the historic core.

Landscape Character

4.14.3 The landscape surrounding the settlement falls within the following County Landscape Character Area(s):

- Upper Ouse Valley (3) – see Section 4.3 for details

4.14.4 At the more local scale, the landscape surrounding the settlement lies on a ridge with long views over undulating small-scale, predominantly enclosed fields with thick mature tree hedges.

4.14.5 The key features and characteristics of the landscape around Danehill are illustrated on Figure 4.9 and summarised below:

- **Remnant Historic Landscapes**: The settlement setting to Danehill is predominantly comprised of a mosaic of small-scale ancient fieldscapes. To the east, this consists of aggregate assarts, with some regular piecemeal enclosure and cohesive assarts, whilst to the west, the predominant field type present is regular piecemeal enclosure with some significant tracts of cohesive assarts further away from the settlement edge. Medium to large blocks of Ancient Woodland are scattered across the landscape, particularly to the west and south of the settlement.

- **Landscape Detractors**: The fast road that runs through the village is a detractor from the overall sense of tranquility.

- **Watercourses/Waterbodies**: Danehill Brook runs through the woods to the west and there are small ponds south of Tanyard Farm to the south.

- **Urban Edges**: The edges of the settlement are predominantly sensitive as a result of mature vegetation within gardens. Around North Northlands Farm there is a prominent edge.

- **Footpaths/Bridleways**: Danehill is reasonably well connected to the surrounding countryside with footpaths.

4.14.6 Areas of distinctive landscape that have been identified around the settlement are shown on Figure 4.9 as ‘Landscape Setting Areas’. The distinctive characteristics that define each Landscape Setting Area are highlighted within the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landscape Setting Area</th>
<th>Distinctive Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1                      | • A patchwork of small to medium-scale undulating pastoral fields;  
                          | • Network of minor rural roads, which are often line with verges and mature trees;  
                          | • Strong sense of remoteness and tranquility throughout;  
                          | • Views to tree skylines. |
| 2                      | • Danehill Brook, which runs through Ancient Woodlands, to the west of the village;  
                          | • Small ponds at Tanyard Farm, to the south;  
                          | • Views to wooded skylines  
                          | • A mature, predominantly ancient landscape of Ancient Woodland, pastoral fields and narrow, tree-lined rural lanes. |
**WEALDEN LANDSCAPE & SETTLEMENT**

**CHARACTER ASSESSMENT**

**WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**FIGURE 4.9**

**LANDSCAPE SETTING OF DANEHILL**

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**Landscape Setting Areas**

**Landscape Sensitivity (n/b see Methodology):**

- Very High
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Very Low

**Landscape Features and Characteristics:**

- Remnant Historic Landscape - Historic
- Remnant Historic Landscape - Ancient
- Culturally Important Landmarks
- Landscape Detractors
- Sensitive Urban Edge
- Prominent Urban Edge
- Watercourses/Waterbodies
- Significant Views
- Key Ridgelines
- Footpaths/Bridleways

**Conservation Designations:**

- Conservation Areas
- Listed Buildings
- Locally Listed Buildings
- Historic Parks and Gardens
- Scheduled Monuments
- Statutory Wildlife Designations/Local Wildlife Sites
- Ancient Woodlands
- Tree Preservation Orders
- High Weald
- South Downs National Park
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
The inherent Landscape Sensitivity of each Landscape Setting Area, evaluated in line with the methodology set out within Section 2.4, is shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Landscape Setting Area</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinctiveness</td>
<td></td>
<td>Unique/Rare</td>
<td>Unique/Rare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ancient</td>
<td>Ancient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength of Place</td>
<td></td>
<td>Very Strong</td>
<td>Very Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visibility</td>
<td></td>
<td>Landform: Apparent</td>
<td>Landform: Apparent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tree Cover: Intermittent</td>
<td>Tree Cover: Intermittent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Visibility: Moderate</td>
<td>Visibility: Moderate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The inherent Landscape Value of each Landscape Setting Area, evaluated in line with the methodology set out within Section 2.4, is shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Landscape Setting Area</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Value</td>
<td></td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Danehill has an existing Conservation Area.

The Contribution of each Landscape Setting Area, evaluated in line with the methodology set out within Section 2.4, is shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Landscape Setting Area</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contribution to Landscape Setting</td>
<td></td>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Major</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Landscape Setting Area 1 is considered to make a Major contribution to the Landscape Setting of the settlement. The narrow, tree-lined lanes and long views across small fields, with thick hedgerows, to wooded skylines, results in a very strong strength of place. There are views to historic buildings within the historic core of the village from locations in close proximity to the settlement edge.

Landscape Setting Area 2 is considered to make a Major contribution to the Landscape Setting of the settlement. The large areas of Ancient Woodland and views to wooded skylines, contribute to a very strong strength of place. The woodland frames views from the village, providing a wooded backdrop/skyline. There are views to historic buildings within the historic core of the village from locations in close proximity to the settlement edge.