

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
(REVISION)

PROPOSED GLANFORD BUSINESS PARK
SCUNTHORPE, HUMBERSIDE

MAFF
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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GLANFORD
BUSINESS PARK, SCUNTHORPE, HUMBERSIDE.**

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

This report is a revision to that produced in March 1990. As a result of the planning application being subject to a local inquiry further survey work was carried out in September 1990 at the invitation of the landowner. In the light of this work the land grade in some small areas of the site has been changed. A revised agricultural land classification map is appended to this report.

1.1 LOCATION

The site is located around national grid reference SE 868136, approximately 3 km north west of Scunthorpe Town centre. It covers 163.6 hectares, 93 per cent of which is in agricultural use.

1.2 SURVEY METHOD

Survey work was carried out in February 1990 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 metre intervals pre-determined by the National Grid. Soil profile pits were also dug where necessary to assess stoniness, soil structural characteristics and gley morphology. In September 1990 a further 20 soil pits were examined together with a number of intermediate soil auger borings to refine grade boundaries.

All land quality assessments were made using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales: Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Grading the Quality of Agricultural Land" (MAFF 1988).

1.3 LAND USE

All agricultural land on the site is in an arable use. At the time of survey winter cereals were the main arable crop. Sugar beet, potatoes, vining peas and field beans are also grown.

1.4 CLIMATE

Average annual rainfall in the area is approximately 617 mm. Accumulated temperature above 0°, between January and June, is 1412 day °C and the land is at field capacity for about 134 days a year. There is thus no overall climatic restriction on ALC grade. Soil moisture deficits of 111 mm for winter wheat and 103 mm for potatoes indicate a moderate drought limitation for the sandy to very coarse loamy profiles that occur in isolated patches across the site and in the extreme north. The fine silty to clayey soils which predominate on the site are not significantly limited by drought.

1.5 RELIEF

The majority of the site is virtually level at a mean altitude of 2 metres above ordnance datum. It gently rises to 8 metres aod in the north east.

1.6 DRAINAGE

Ground water tables are kept low, even in winter, by a network of ditches feeding Lysaght's Drain. This runs east-west to a point north of Neap House (NGR SE 862134) where water is pumped to the River Trent.

Soil wetness problems on the site are chiefly influenced by slowly permeable subsoil horizons. Where present these create a slight to moderate wetness limitation which, depending on topsoil workability characteristics, can restrict ALC grade.

1.7 SOILS AND GEOLOGY

Most soils have developed over artificially deposited river alluvium (warp) which forms a variable cover over underlying peat and sand.

Soils typically consist of stoneless fine silty topsoils over a clayey subsoil that passes into peaty textures at depth. Topsoils are slightly calcareous except in the north eastern quarter of the site where non-calcareous topsoils are the norm.

Where the alluvium is thin or absent, sand patches occur close to the surface. Soils developing over these deposits mainly consist of non calcareous coarse loamy to medium sandy topsoils over sand to depth. They tend to be stoneless, except near Stather Road where gravelly outwash gives rise to a small area of moderately stony subsoils.

SECTION 2: AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows.

Grade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Site Area
1	10.9	6.5
2	94.2	57.5
3a	38.3	23.5
3b	17.6	11.0
Farm Woodland	1.9	1
<u>Farm Buildings</u>	<u>0.7</u>	<u>0.5</u>
TOTAL	163.6	100%

Grade 1

Grade 1 land occurs in three areas: the extreme east near Lysaght's Drain, around Neap House and to the south east of Neap House.

Soils in the extreme east have developed over thin calcareous warp and consist of medium silty clay loam topsoils and upper subsoils that pass into loamy peat and peat below about 60 cm depth.

The soils around Neap House have developed over thicker deposits and consist of non-calcareous medium silty clay loam or silty loam topsoils over similar subsoils to depth.

The small area to the south east of Neap House has silt loam or medium silty loam topsoil giving way to peat at 30-40 cm depth.

All of these soils fall within wetness class I. They are light to medium in texture, are easily worked for most of the year and have adequate reserves of available water during summer months. There are thus, no significant restrictions on ALC grade.

Grade 2

Grade 2 land is widespread throughout the site.

Soils adjacent to the River Trent consist of non-calcareous medium silty clay loam topsoils over heavy silty clay loam and silty clay which becomes gleyed and slowly permeable below 50 to 70 cm depth. Here, soil wetness and workability problems are the overriding restriction to ALC grade.

Elsewhere, profiles typically consist of calcareous heavy silty clay loam topsoils over heavy silty clay loam and silty clay which often pass into peat below 80 cm. These also fall within wetness class II and are similarly restricted by wetness and topsoil workability problems.

Subgrade 3A

The main area of subgrade 3a occurs in the west near Flixborough Parkings. Soils fall within wetness class II and consist of non-calcareous heavy silty clay loam topsoils over silty clay. Workability problems are more restricting than on the adjacent grade 2 land and thus forms the overriding restriction on ALC grade. The isolated area of subgrade 3A east of the centre of the site has calcareous heavy silty clay loams that just fall into wetness class III and therefore causes a workability limitation.

Remaining soils in this subgrade have a patchy distribution along the eastern and southern site boundaries where the warp tends to be superficial or absent. They chiefly consist of medium silty clay loam to sandy loam topsoils, about 30-40 cm thick over medium sand. These fall within wetness class I and are restricted to subgrade 3a by a moderate summer drought risk.

Subgrade 3B

Along the north eastern edge of the site and along a very slight ridge south of Lysaght's Drain soils consist of stoneless to slightly stony

loamy medium sand passing into similar or slightly lighter textured subsoils. Soil droughtiness is moderately to severely limiting and forms the overriding restriction on ALC grade.

Remaining areas falling within this subgrade consist of silty clay topsoils over gleyed and slowly permeable silty clay. They fall within wetness classes III or IV and are limited by a combination of soil wetness and workability problems more severe than on adjacent 3a quality land.

Farm Woodland

Approximately 1.9 hectares of farm woodland occurs at Willow Holt in the north east of the site.

Farm Buildings

This consists of general farm buildings at Flixborough Parkings.

Resource Planning Group
Leeds Regional Office
March 1990

SAMPLE	ALC	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	---MOTTLES---			PACK.		CaCO3	PSD POROSITY	pH	ORG. MATTER
					COL	ABUND	CONT	STONY	DENSITY				
001	3B	0-25 25-100	msl ms	10YR43 75YR46						C			
002	3B	0-35 35-100	lms lms	10YR43 75YR46						N			
003	3A	0-25 25-50 50-120	sc1 sc1 lmstone	10YR44 75YR56 0						C C			
004	3A	0-30 30-50	mzcl fs1	10YR42 10YR43						C C			
005	3B	0-35 35-100	lms ms	10YR43 75YR46						N			
006	3B	0-35 35-100	zc zc	10YR42 75YR42	G	C	D		H	N			
007	3B	0-25 25-90 90-100	hc1 c ms	10YR42 10YR52 10YR62		C	D		H	N			
008	3B	0-30 30-60 60-100	lms lms ms	10YR43 75YR46 10YR62						C			
009	3A	0-30 30-35 35-100	ms1 lms ms	10YR43 10YR43 75YR46						C			
010	3B	0-25 25-100	hc1 c	10YR42 10YR52	O OG	F C	F D		H	C			
011	3A	0-40 40-60 60-100	hzc1 c peat	10YR42 10YR52 5YR32	OG	C	D		H	C			
012	2	0-40 40-60	hzc1 hzc1	10YR42 10YR42	OC	D	D			C C			
014	3B	0-40 40-100	zc zc	10YR42 10YR52	OF OG	F C	F D		H	N			
015	3B	0-40 40-100	zc zc	10YR42 10YR52	OG	M	P		H	N			
016	2	0-55 55-100	hzc1 zc	10YR42 N5	O	M	P			C			

SAMPLE	ALC	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	----MOTTLES----			PACK.			CaCO3	PSD POROSITY	pH	ORG. MATTER
					COL	ABUND	CONT	STONY	DENSITY	COMPACTED				
017	2	0-40	hzc1	10YR42										C
		40-120	hzc1	10YR41	O	F	D							C
018	2	0-45	hzc1	10YR41										C
		45-120	hzc1	10YR43	O	F	D							C
019	2	0-45	hzc1	10YR42										C
		45-65	zc	10YR52										C
		65-120	zc	10YR51	O	F	D							C
020	2	0-45	hzc1	10YR43										C
		45-60	hzc1	10YR32										
		60-120	zc	10YR51	O	F	F							
021	NA	0-0	na	0										C
022	NA	0-0	non.agri	0										C
023	3B	0-30	lms	10YR43										
		30-120	ms	10YR68										
024	2	0-40	mzc1	10YR32										C
		40-60	mzc1	10YR33										
		60-100	zc	10YR52	OG	C	D							
025	3B	0-40	hzc1	10YR32										N
		40-60	zc	10YR51	O	C	D							
026	3A	0-35	hzc1	10YR32										N
		35-50	hzc1	10YR33	O	F	F							
		50-70	zc	10YR61	OG	M	P							
027	3B	0-30	hzc1	10YR32										N
		30-45	zc	10YR51	O	C	P							
		45-80	zc	10YR52	OG	C	P							
028	2	0-35	mzc1	10YR32										
		35-40	hzc1	10YR33										
		40-80	zc	10YR52	OG	M	P							
029	3A	0-45	hzc1	10YR32										C
		45-120	hzc1	10YR41										C
030	2	0-55	hzc1	10YR42										C
		55-100	hzc1	10YR52	O	F	F							C
031	2	0-40	hzc1	10YR43										C
		40-100	vfsz1	10YR52	O	F	F							

SAMPLE	ALC	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	----MOTTLES----			PACK.		CaCO3	PSD	POROSITY	pH	ORG. MATTER
					COL	ABUND	CONT	STONY	DENSITY					
146	1	0-40 40-100	mzc1 1p	10YR33 5YR251						N				
147	2	0-45 45-100	hzc1 1p	10YR33 5YR251						N				
148	2	0-55 55-75 75-120	hzc1 1p ms	10YR33 5YR251 10YR63						N				
149	3A	0-45 45-80 80-120	ms1 ms ms	10YR33 10YR46 10YR64	O	F	D			N				
150	2	0-40 40-65 65-100	mzc1 hzc1 p	10YR42 10YR52 2.5Y40	O	F	F			C				
151	3A	0-40 40-55 55-100	hzc1 hzc1 p	10YR43 10YR52 2.5Y50	O	F	F			C				
153	3A	0-40 40-50 50-100	zc zc pt	10YR32 10YR52 75YR20	ZG	C	D			C				
154	2	0-40 40-60 60-100	hzc1 zc pt	10YR32 10YR52 75YR20	O	C				C				
155	3A	0-38 38-50 50-70 70-100	ms1 ms1 lms ms	10YR32 10YR33 10YR51 10YR52	O	C	D			C				
156	3A	0-35 35-55 55-100	hzc1 zc p	10YR33 10YR42 5YR251	OG	C	D			N				
157	1	0-60 60-80 80-95 95-100	mzc1 msz1 ms ms	10YR33 10YR33 75YR44 10YR64	R	F	D			N				
158	3A	0-40 40-120	ms1 fs	10RY42 10YR68						N				
159	2	0-60 60-100	hzc1 hzc1	10YR43 10YR41	O	F	F			C				

SAMPLE	ALC	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	---MOTTLES---			PACK.		CaCO3	PSD POROSITY	PH	ORG. MATTER	
					COL	ABUND	CONT	STONY	DENSITY					COMPACTED
160	3A	0-33	mzc1	10YR42						C				
		33-120	ms	10YR68										
161	3A	0-40	ms1	10YR32						N				
		40-80	ms	10YR62										
		80-100	ms	75YR66										
162	3A	0-30	mzc1	10YR42						C N N N				
		30-45	mzc1	10YR33										
		45-60	peat	5YR251										
		60-100	ms	5YR251										
		100-120	ms	10YR22										
163	1	0-30	mzc1	10YR33						S				
		30-45	hzc1	10YR33										
		45-55	lp	5YR251										
		55-100	ms	10YR64										
164	2	0-40	mzc1	10YR32						C				
		40-100	hzc1	10YR52										
165	3A	0-33	ms1	10YR43						N				
		33-120	ms	10YR68										
166	3B	0-35	hc1	10YR33						N				
		35-40	zc	10YR53	O	F	D							
		40-100	zc	5GY51	O	C	P							
167	3B	0-32	zc	10YR33						N				
		32-70	zc	75YR52	OG	M	P							
168	3B	0-32	c	10YR32						N				
		32-40	c	10YR52	O	C								
		40-60	c	75YR52	OG	M	P							
169	3B	0-35	hzc1	10YR33						N				
		35-48	zc	10YR51	O	C	P							
		48-80	zc	25Y50	O	C	P							
170	3B	0-33	zc	10YR32						N				
		33-80	zc	25Y50	O	C	P							
171	3B	0-35	hzc1	10YR33						N				
		35-60	zc	10YR52	O	C	D							
172	3B	0-35	hzc1	10YR33						C				
		35-80	zc	25Y50	O	C	P							

SAMPLE	ALC	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	---MOTTLES---			PACK.			CaCO3	PSD POROSITY	pH	ORG. MATTER
					COL	ABUND	CONT	STONY	DENSITY	COMPACTED				
173	1	0-40	mzc1	10YR33										
		40-60	z1	10YR43	0	F	F							
		60-120	hzc1	10YR33	0	C	D							
174	3B	0-35	hzc1	10YR33										
		35-100	zc	25Y50	0	C	P							