

CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Character Area: Busbridge and Holloway Hill

Topography	Land Uses	Layout	Roads, streets, routes
<p>Landscape setting/gradient of the local area (flat, sloping, valley, plateau, hilltop, etc)</p>	<p>Residential, Retail, Leisure and Recreation, Commercial, Employment, Community, etc</p>	<p>Relationship between buildings, spaces and routes, and how these elements are arranged in relation to each other. Building plots (wide narrow, long, short, etc)</p>	<p>Vehicular routes, pedestrian pathways, cycle paths, shared surfaces, rights of way, bridleways, alleyways, etc</p>
<p>Busbridge lies on a flat area overlooking Godalming. It is a large residential area with a steep drop into the town via Crownpits Lane and Brighton Road to the east and Holloway Hill and Shackstead Lane to the west. Brighton Road being the main artery road entering the town from the south.</p>	<p>Busbridge is a residential area. Within which it has two Infant Schools, Junior School and a Sixth Form College. There is a large recreation field encompassing football pitches, cricket, tennis and children’s play area. Busbridge also has a church and vicarage</p>	<p>The appearance is of open spaces, houses well-spaced having a mix of Victorian/ Edwardian to the present day. An area off Home Farm Road was developed in the 1970s and Bargate Wood in the 1980s. More recently houses (ca 100 in all) have been built in land sold off by the Sixth Form College.</p>	<p>Cut throughs and alleys lead through the residential areas. Some of the roads have restricted pathways for pedestrian access.</p>

Spaces	Buildings	Landmarks	Green and natural features
<p>Parks, playing fields, allotments, cemeteries, village greens, car parks, market squares, etc</p>	<p>Building heights, arrangement (detached, semi-detached, terraced or apartments), materials, construction era, roof types, distinct/predominant architectural features, window types, condition, etc</p>	<p>Distinct and instantly recognisable local features (including buildings, statues and monuments, and other locally significant features of the local area, both built and natural)</p>	<p>Trees, hedgerows, streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, woodland, landscaped areas etc.</p>
<p>Holloway Hill Recreation Area is an open space containing football pitches, bowling green, cricket pitch and children's play area.</p>	<p>Buildings are a mix of Victorian/Edwardian through to modern. Modern flats overlook the playing fields. Two, three or occasionally four storeys high predominantly built in brick and tile. The Victorian/Edwardian have a range of styles influenced at times by the Arts and Crafts movement. Some of these were also built of the local Bargate Stone. Some of the larger older houses have been converted into flats. A general mix of older larger detached properties and new smaller residences. Most properties are well maintained</p>	<p>Busbridge First School and St Edmunds are modern with Busbridge Middle being extended from a Victorian Church School. Godalming College was founded in 1975 on the campus of Godalming Grammar School. The Catholic Ladywell convent to the south of the town designed by Sir Guy Dawber. The Ladywell shrine in Minster Field is at the site of the 7th Century chapel the first church established in Godalming. Busbridge Hall to the South of the area and was the home of the Gosling family who owned the land on which the majority of the housing is built and the naming of both Duncombe and Ramsden Roads refer to connections with the family.</p>	<p>The slope from the playing fields to the town is wooded. During the winter there are views over the Lammas Lands and Prime Place. There is a strong element of wooded slopes, with gardens adding to the general 'greening' of the neighbourhood.</p>

Streetscape	Views	Summary of Key defining characteristics/other observations
Lamp posts, benches and seating, street surfacing materials, signage, boundary treatments, etc	Important views in and out of the character area (record location of viewpoint, and direction and extent of view)	
Street surfaces are tarmac. Some of the pathways have restricted pedestrian access.	From the Holloway Hill Recreation Ground and glimpses from the steep footpaths around the area into the town centre.	The original layout of some of the roads is still evident even where infilling has taken place this leads to a sense of spaciousness and the hedges, trees and shrubs to the rural feel of the area.

Busbridge and Holloway Hill Photos







