

THE SCREENING CHECKLIST		
Questions to be Considered. For further guidance on factors to be considered see the more detailed questions listed in the Scoping Guidance	Yes / No / ? . Briefly describe	Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No/? – Why?
Brief Project Description: Creation of 128.58 ha of new woodland to adhere to UKFS and follow practice guide managing ancient and native woodland in engand, leaving up to 40% open ground and creating significant areas of shrub cover as well. The project is based on series of grouped and individual fields all in intensive arable landuse. The local Landscape Description Unit (LDU) identifies that woodland creation opportunites should be limited on the two landscape types; village claylands and principal village farmlands.		
1. Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies, etc)?	Yes - Conversion of intensive arable landuse into native woodland with significant areas of open ground	No - In the short term the change from arable agriculture to non arable landuse will have an impact on the seasonal working of the landscape. In the long term the onset of a growing woodland will result in permanent change (under current policies) to open and accessible woodland. However, the scale of this woodland in the context of the area of the LDU changing is not significant.
2. Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply?	Yes - Landuse change from intensive arable to woodland will occur	No
3. Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?	Yes - The project will use herbicides for the control of weeds around individual trees, and will use treated timber tree stakes.	No
4. Will the Project produce solid wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes - Planting bags and other plastic residues	No - All recyclable items
5. Will the Project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air?	No	
6. Will the Project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?	No	
7. Will the Project lead to risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto the ground or into surface waters, groundwater, coastal wasters or the sea?	No	
8. Will there be any risk of accidents during construction or operation of the Project which could affect human health or the environment?	Yes - Minor non life threatening injuries to those contracted to plant and manage the woodlands may occur	No
9. Will the Project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?	No	
10. Are there any other factors which should be considered such as consequential development which could lead to environmental effects or the potential for cumulative impacts with other existing or planned activities in the locality?	No	
11. Are there any areas on or around the location which are protected under international or national or local legislation for their ecological, landscape, cultural or other value, which could be affected by the project?	No	
12. Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology e.g. wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies, the coastal zone, mountains, forests or woodlands, which could be affected by the project?	Yes - Watercourses, ponds, ancient hedgerows and veteran field and hedge trees. Habitat developed within NE HLS scheme for benefit of farmland birds.	No - These features will be accommodated into the design of the woodlands by use of best forestry practice and enhanced through connectivity and buffering and the general reduction in pesticide use from landuse change.
13. Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora e.g. for breeding, nesting, foraging, resting, overwintering, migration, which could be affected by the project?	Yes - Badgers, and potentially bats, dormouse, otter, amongst others.	No - EPS and Habitats Regulations guidance notes will be followed to ensure protected species are left undisturbed and able to maintain their colonies.
14. Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	

15. Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No - although it could be argued that there are distant features which are viewed from some points within the project area from a distance.	No. Views to and from the site at strategic points have been considered and designed within the planting.
16. Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	No - All existing routes are legally protected.	All existing routes will remain open and become incorporated into the woodland design as part of the open ground
17. Are there any transport routes on or around the location which are susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?	No	
18. Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	No	
19. Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No - The woodland design excludes areas of historic value.	
20. Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	No	
21. Are there existing land uses on or around the location e.g. homes, gardens, other private property, industry, commerce, recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining or quarrying which could be affected by the project?	Yes - Local private properties will have their setting changes in the long term	No - Design of the woodland to remove and move planting areas and significant open ground buffer zones between residential property boundaries and the woodland edge to ensure issues as light, subsidence, shading etc are mitigated against.
22. Are there any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	No	
23. Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?	No	
24. Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected by the project?	No	
25. Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, which could be affected by the project?	No	
26. Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	No	
27. Is the project location susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions e.g. temperature inversions, fogs, severe winds, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	No	

See summary of reasons document for detailed rationale.