



**GILLESPIES**

**SHROPSHIRE LANDSCAPE & VISUAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT**

**KNOCKIN**  
**[61KNK]**

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# 61. KNOCKIN [61KNK]



## LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Knockin is a village and civil parish lying on the B4396. It is some 8km south-east of the town of Oswestry in north-west Shropshire. The village comprises mainly historic detached building within its rural setting. Knockin has a population of 180. This settlement has been divided into 2 parcels for the purpose of this study.



# KNOCKIN A [61KNK-A]

## LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Parcel A is located to the north and north east of Knockin. The southern boundary is defined by B4396 and there are a number of PRoW. The landform is undulating with a high point in the east and land rising to another high point in the west. Intensive arable production has altered much of the areas cultural pattern with loss of hedgerows and hedgerow trees. There is a Conservation Area and Motte and Bailey Castle Scheduled Monument within the parcel. The settlement pattern is defined by nucleated village of Knockin and several isolated properties in the east along the B4396.



1. VIEW NORTH OF PASTORAL FIELDS FROM PROW



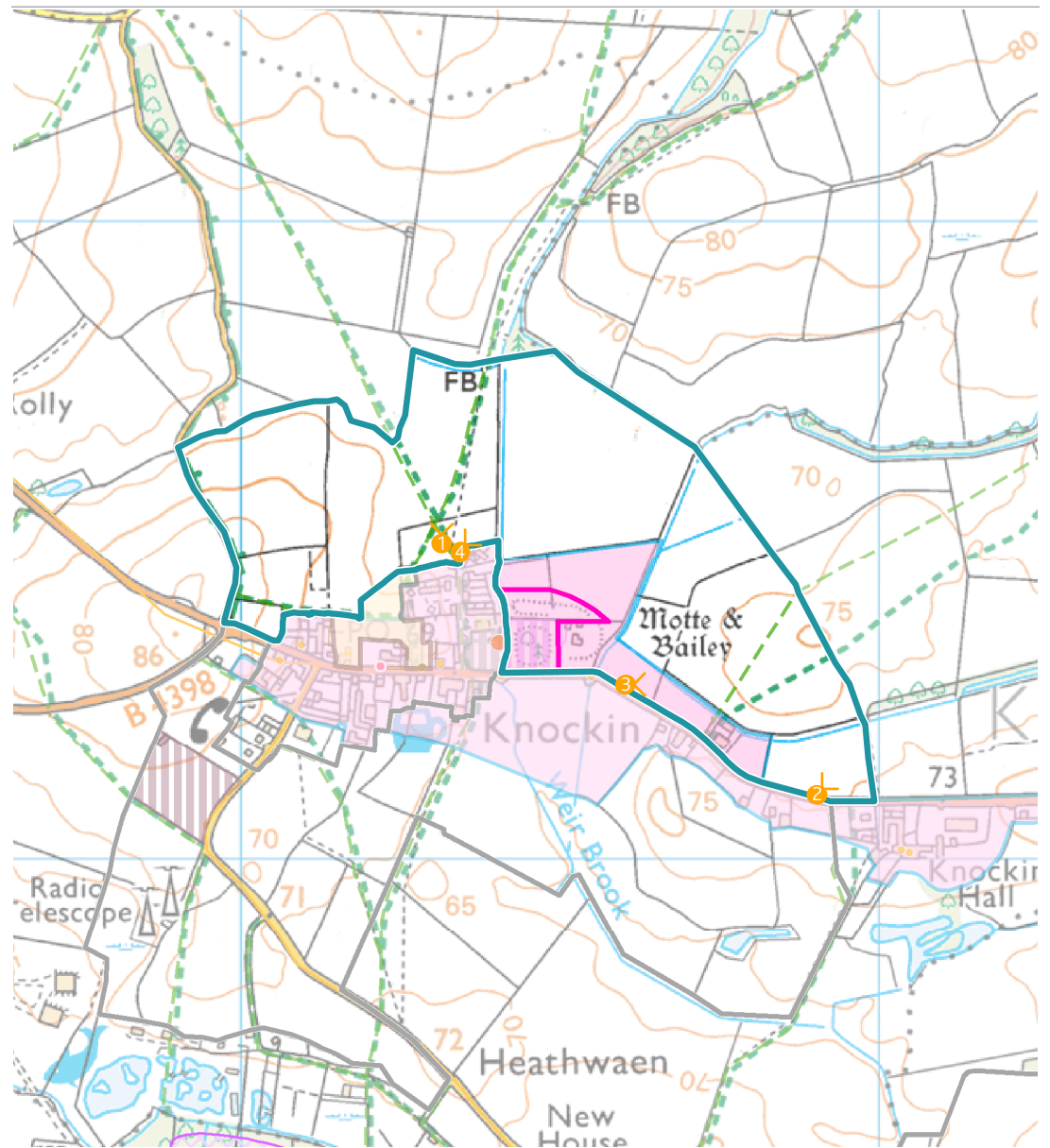
2. FROM B4396, VIEW NORTH EAST OF PASTORAL LANDSCAPE



3. VIEW EAST FROM B4396



4. FROM PROW, VIEW NORTH EAST



# LANDSCAPE

## LANDSCAPE VALUE

This is a landscape of small and medium scale fields of mixed use. The Conservation Area extends east of the settlement edge along B4396 and adds to the historic value of the area. Immediately to the east of St Mary’s Church, at the settlement edge, is Knockin Castle, a Motte and Bailey Castle designated as a Scheduled Monument. There are a series of connected brooks in the east of the parcel that add to nature conservation value. There is a number of PRoW which contribute to the informal recreation of the area.

## LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

This is a small and medium scale landscape of mixed use fields. The landform is undulating with a high point in the east and land rising to another high point in the west. The Conservation Area and Motte and Bailey Castle contribute to a strong sense of place, the setting of which would be vulnerable to loss of features and quality as a result of development. There is an area designated as housing allocation, as an infill to the settlement edge, within the Conservation Area. There is a higher sense of tranquility away from the settlement edge and a sense of remoteness which is vulnerable to change from development. Woodland enclosing the Motte and Bailey Castle and hedgerow trees and copses form strong elements in the landscape that would be susceptible loss. The existing settlement edge wholly comprises the Conservation Area and is partly integrated.

## LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

This is a typical rural landscape of agricultural use with significant features including Knockin Conservation Area and a Mott and Bailey Castle. Overall, the sensitivity of the landscape to change arising from new housing is medium-high and to employment is high.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
-----	------------	--------	-------------	------	-----------

# VISUAL

## VISUAL VALUE

Views within this parcel have no association with the Shropshire Hills AONB as it is approximately 18km away. Views within this parcel are visually contained to field boundaries due to screening hedgerow trees. There is no intervisibility to the Motte and Bailey Castle as it is screened by dense planting. There is intervisibility with the Conservation Area. The landscape is intact with the main detracting element being overhead lines.

## VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

Views from within this parcel are relatively contained to field boundaries. However, there are some long distance views north, from receptors in the west of the parcel. There are glimpsed views to parcel B across the B4396 between hedgerow trees. The Conservation Area is visually well integrated with the rest of the parcel and the quality of the setting should be retained as part of any development. The landscape is widely designated as part of the Conservation Area within the east of the parcel. The level of access is frequent and is concentrated to the south of the parcel along the B4396 and at the settlement edge. Receptors include road users, residents at the settlement edge and users of the PRoW. Residential receptors at the settlement edge are typically more susceptible to changes in their surroundings.

## VISUAL SENSITIVITY

This is a typical rural landscape of undulating landform with intervisibility to the Conservation Area, however with no intervisibility to the Scheduled Monument. Overall, the views experienced are of medium sensitivity to change arising from housing and medium-high from employment.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
-----	------------	--------	-------------	------	-----------



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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# KNOCKIN B [61KNK-B]

## LOCATION AND CHARACTER

Parcel B is located to the south and west of the settlement of Knockin. A well connected PRoW network extends from the settlement edge. The landform is undulating and is overlain by an intensive mixed use farming system which has altered much of the areas cultural pattern due to the loss of hedgerows and hedgerow trees. The settlement pattern is defined by the nucleated village of Knockin and the radio telescope to the south west is a distinctive feature in the landscape.



1. FROM B4396, VIEW SOUTH EAST OF BROOK



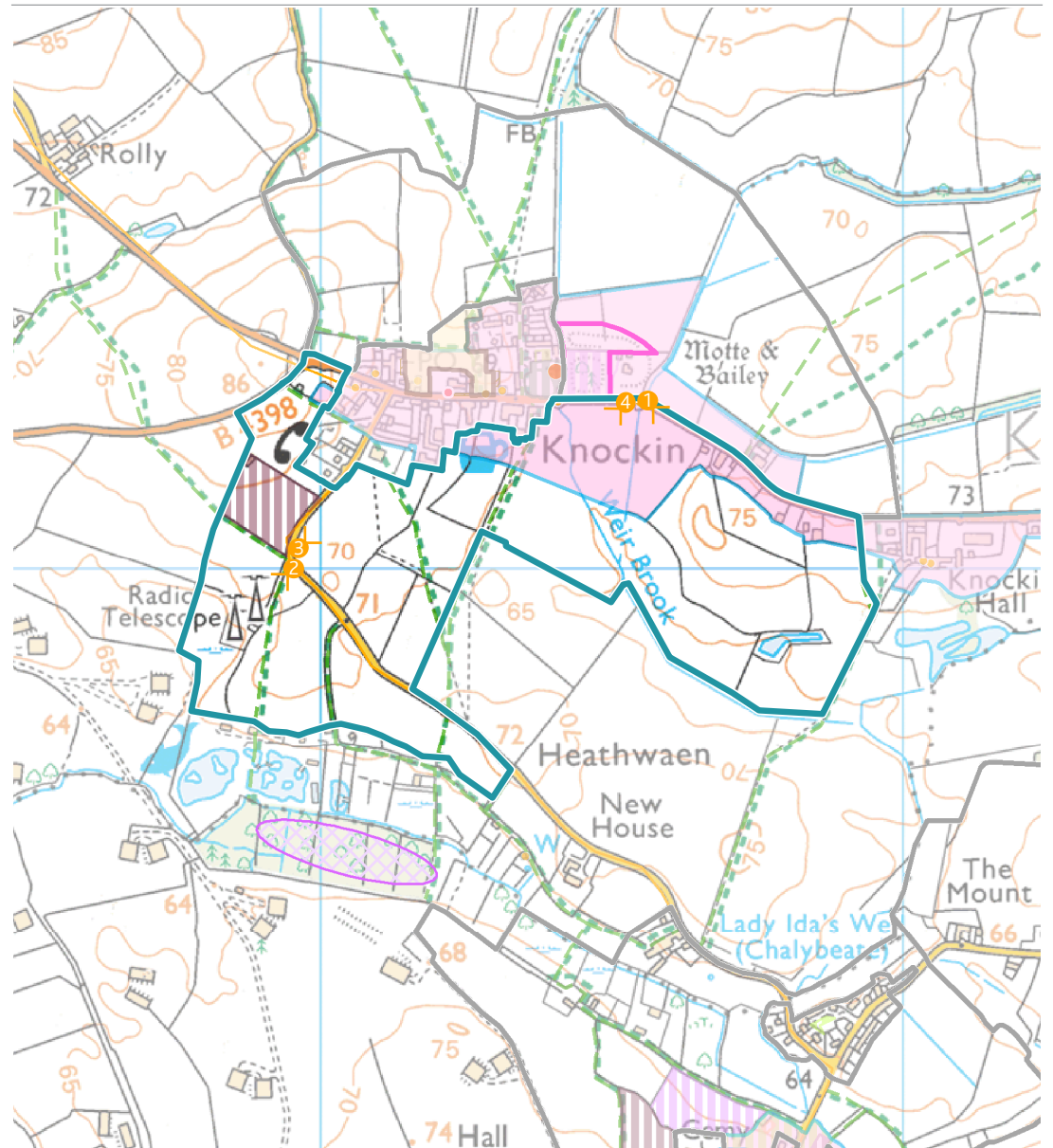
2. LONG DISTANCE VIEW SOUTH WEST OF A RADIO TELESCOPE FROM UNNAMED ROAD



3. VIEW NORTH EAST FROM UNNAMED ROAD



4. VIEW SOUTH WEST FROM B4396



# LANDSCAPE

## LANDSCAPE VALUE

This is a landscape of small and medium scale fields of mixed use. The Conservation Area extends east of the settlement edge along the B4396 in the north of the parcel. There are a series of connected brooks, including Weir Brook, in the east of the parcel. Knockin and Kinnerley Cricket Club is located in the east of the parcel which contributes to enjoyment of the area. There are a number of PRoW in the west of the parcel which contribute to the informal recreation of the area. A large radio telescope stands as a strong physical feature in the south west of the parcel.

## LANDSCAPE SUSCEPTIBILITY

This is a small and medium scale landscape of mixed use fields. The landform is undulating and would be vulnerable to change in profile as a result of development. The Conservation Area contributes to a strong sense of place and would be susceptible to changes to its setting. It extends from the southern part of the settlement of Knockin, along the B4396 and includes several properties and the associated landscape. The sense of tranquility is reduced at the settlement edge and is influenced by a large radio telescope in the south west. Hedgerows, hedgerow trees and copses form strong elements in the landscape and would be vulnerable to loss as a result of development as they are irreplaceable in the short to medium term. The settlement edge is fairly abrupt and could be improved to enhance the setting of the Conservation Area.

## LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

This is a typical rural landscape of agricultural use with significant features including Knockin Conservation Area. Overall, the sensitivity of the landscape to change arising from new housing is medium-high and employment is high.



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
-----	------------	--------	-------------	------	-----------



LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
-----	------------	--------	-------------	------	-----------

# VISUAL

## VISUAL VALUE

Views within this parcel have no association with the Shropshire Hills AONB as it is approximately 18km away. Views within this parcel are visually contained to field boundaries due to screening hedgerow trees. There is no intervisibility to the Motte and Bailey Castle to the north in parcel A as it is screened by dense planting. There is intervisibility with the Conservation Area. The landscape is intact.

## VISUAL SUSCEPTIBILITY

Views from within this parcel are relatively contained to field boundaries. However, there are some long distance views north, from receptors in the west of the parcel. There are glimpsed views to parcel A across the B4396 between hedgerow trees. The Conservation Area is visually well integrated with the rest of the parcel. The landscape is widely designated as part of the Conservation Area within the east of the parcel. The level of access is frequent and is concentrated to the south of the parcel along the B4396 and at the settlement edge. The radio telescope is a prominent feature in the view. Receptors include road users, residents at the settlement edge and users of the PRoW. Residential receptors at the settlement edge are typically more susceptible to changes in their surroundings.

## VISUAL SENSITIVITY

This is a typical rural landscape of undulating landform with intervisibility to the Conservation Area, however with no intervisibility to the Scheduled Monument. Overall, the views experienced are of medium sensitivity to change arising from housing and medium-high from employment.



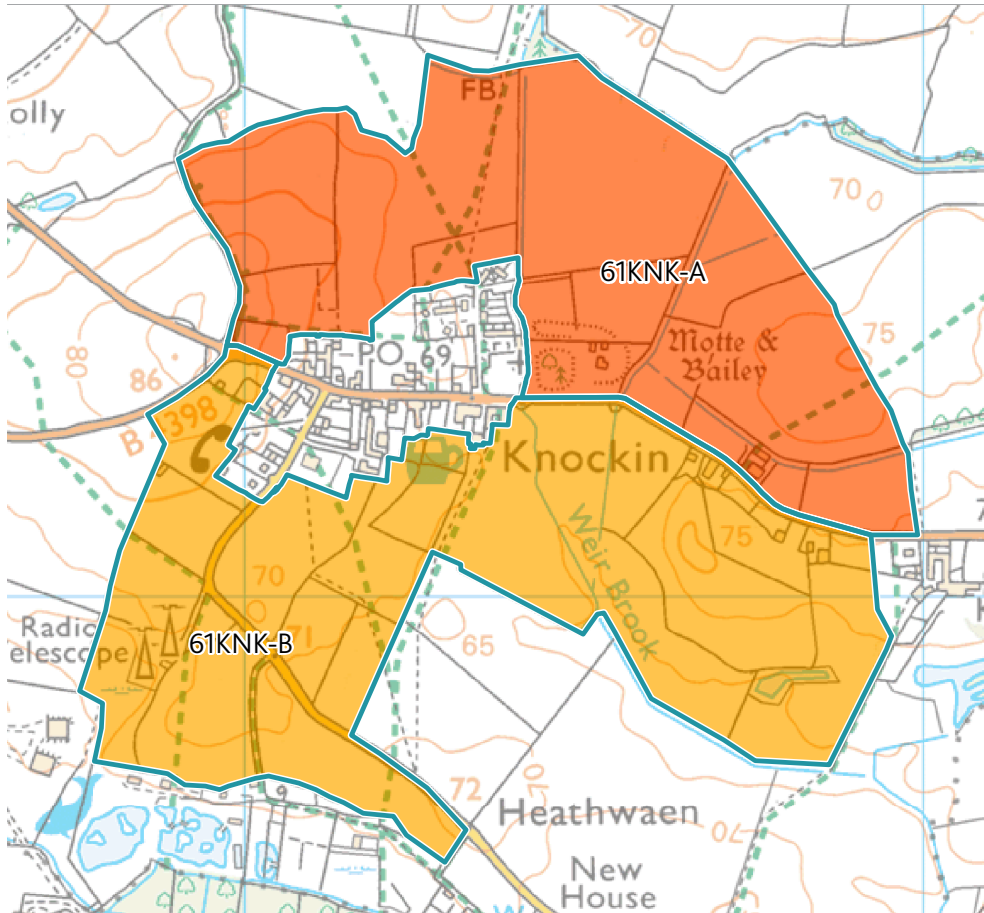
LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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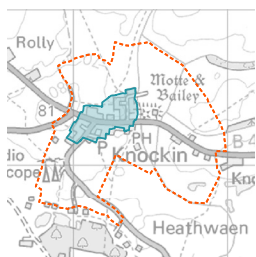
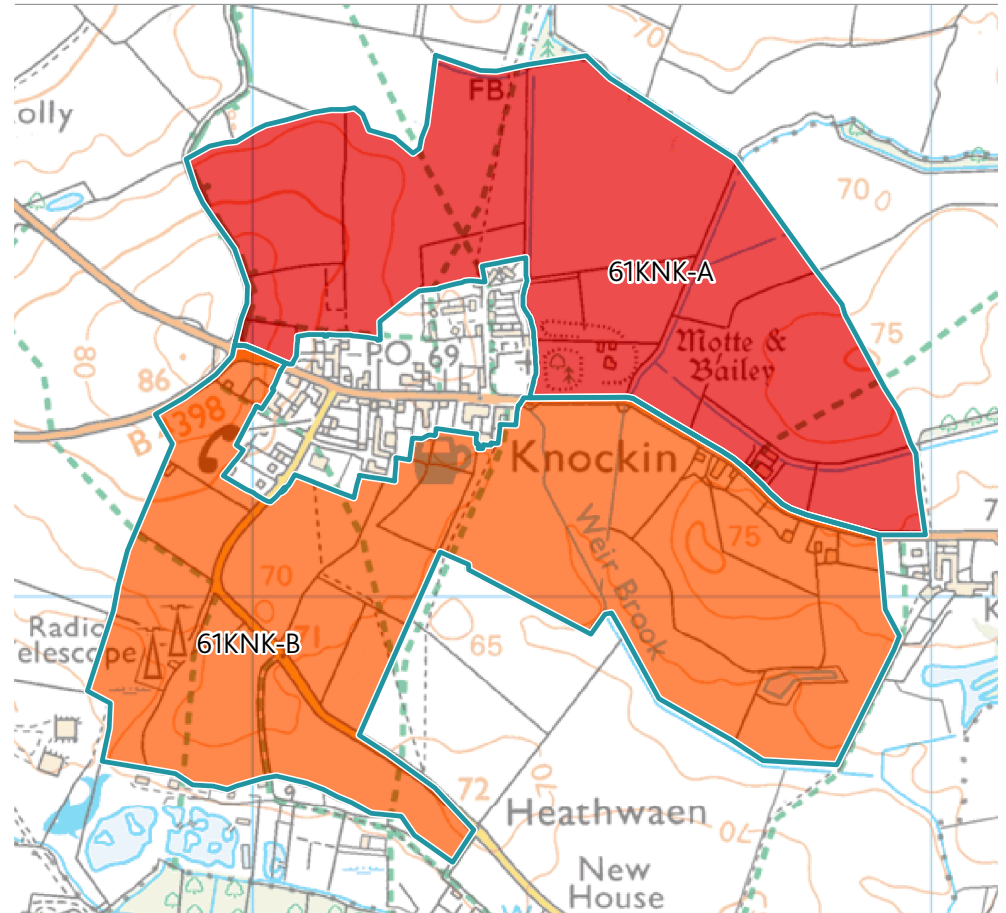
LOW	MEDIUM-LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM-HIGH	HIGH	VERY HIGH
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# KNOCKIN LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY

## HOUSING



## EMPLOYMENT



**KEY:**

 SENSITIVITY PARCEL

**LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY:**

 VERY HIGH

 MEDIUM-HIGH

 MEDIUM-LOW

 HIGH

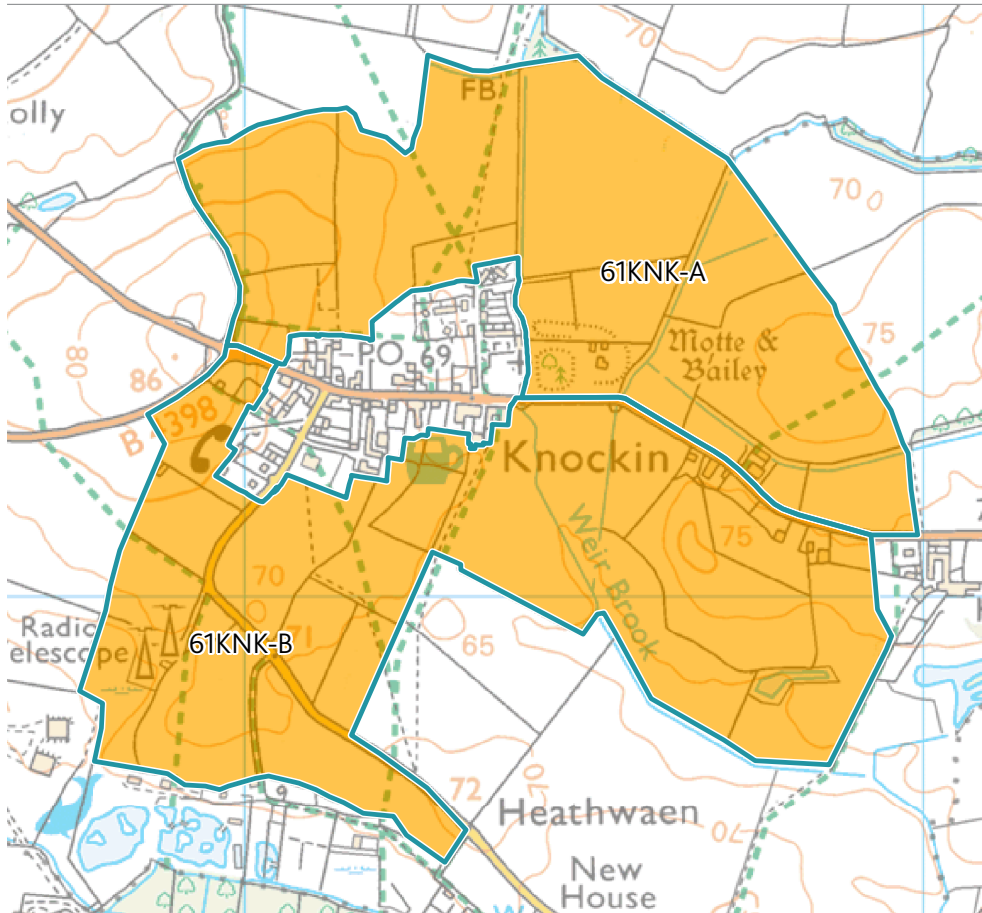
 MEDIUM

 LOW

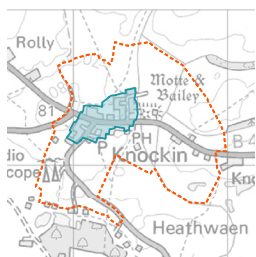
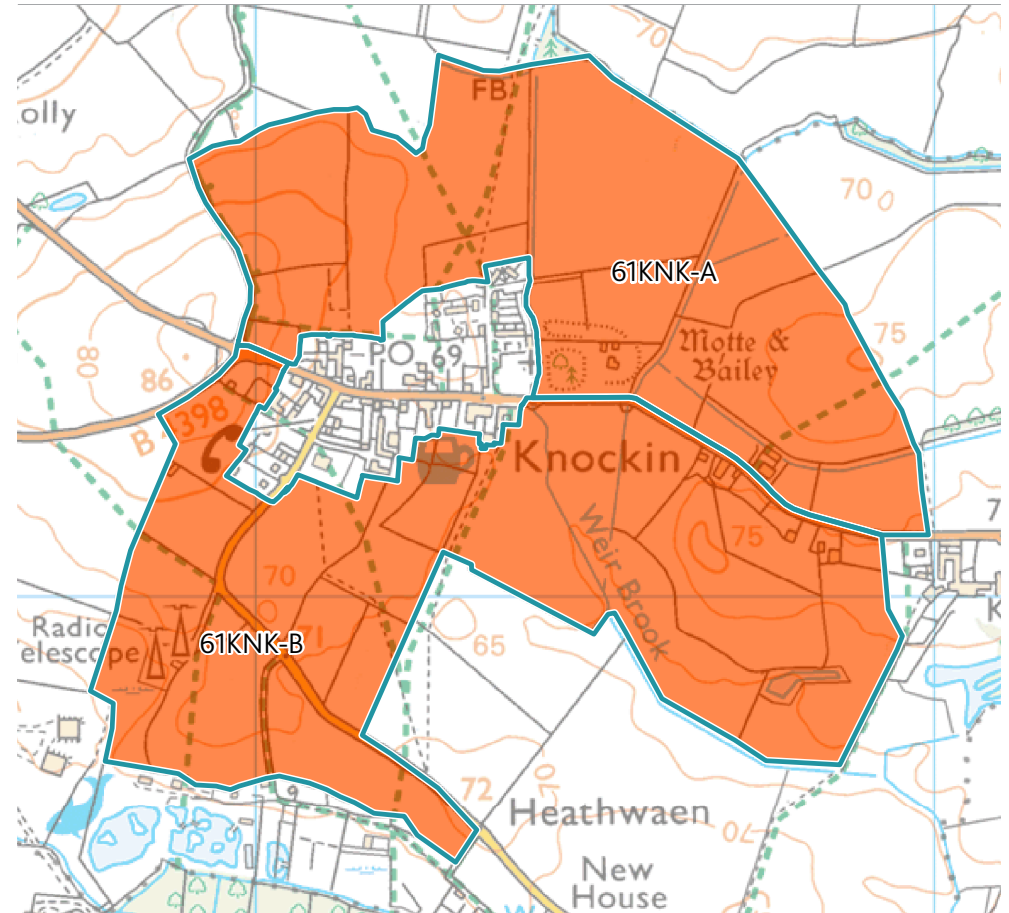


# KNOCKIN VISUAL SENSITIVITY

## HOUSING



## EMPLOYMENT



### KEY:

SENSITIVITY PARCEL

### VISUAL SENSITIVITY:

VERY HIGH

HIGH

MEDIUM-HIGH

MEDIUM

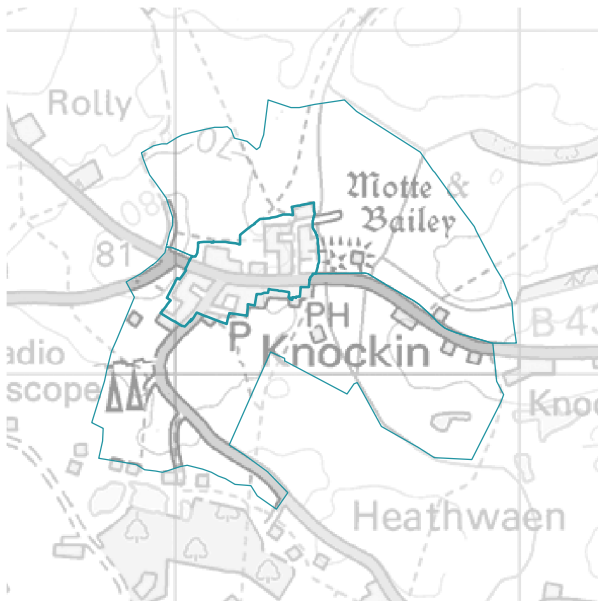
MEDIUM-LOW

LOW









# DESIGN GUIDANCE FOR KNOCKIN

[61KNK]

2 SENSITIVITY PARCELS



KEY

-  PARCEL BOUNDARY
-  SETTLEMENT
-  HIGHER LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY TO DEVELOPMENT
-  HIGHER VISUAL SENSITIVITY TO DEVELOPMENT
-  VIEWS TO BE PROTECTED
-  DESIGNATED FEATURES WHERE THE SETTING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
-  VISITOR DESTINATION WHERE THE SETTING SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
-  IMPORTANT LANDSCAPE FEATURE WHICH SHOULD BE RETAINED

