LANDSCAPE SETTING SURVEY

The Landscape Character Area being surveyed is:

The survey team includes:

Date:

- This survey is designed to help you examine and record key aspects of the character of the landscape that surrounds Sonning Common.
- The evidence and understanding provided by your work will enable appropriate choices to be made about possible development sites and about the form and nature of any development that might then take place.
- The Landscape Character Areas we are suggesting you look at are all very much 'first stab', done simply to make the task manageable and to give varying results.
- Each basic Area may be broadly right but that doesn't mean they are all different. Nor does it mean that the boundaries are right.
- Live with all that for now and we'll discuss (and possibly change) things later.

We are giving you:
- *This introduction and form.*
- *A map of the initial Landscape Character Areas, including 'yours'.*
- *A map of the village and surroundings to scribble on.*
- *Just for information:*
    - *A map showing the old field boundaries underlying the current village – they helped to shape what development happened when.*
    - *A map showing the currently suggested development sites.*

Getting the survey done:
- *If there is anything you are unsure of in the form, just go on to the next part.*
- *If you wish, put in 'not sure/don't know' or note anything that is important to you.*
- *Take photographs to illustrate and explain any comments you make on the survey sheet.*
- *It is good to note the position and direction of photographs on the map as you take them (just use a dot and small arrow).*
- *Making notes on the map is also a useful way to explain certain features, e.g. direction of views, location of key buildings, spaces, etc.*
- *There is space at the end of the form to add notes suggesting different areas/boundaries if you wish to.*

When you have finished:
- *Place the form and annotated map back in the envelope (keep anything else if you wish).*
- *We also need your photos so please either:*
    - *call in to the Parish Office with your camera or memory card and we can download them on the spot, or*
    - *put the photos on a CD and drop that into the office at any time.*
- *Once you've sorted how to get us the photos, make sure you also get us the envelope.*

Description

Place a tick against the suggested words that apply, use your own words if you wish - these are just hints - and add in the boxes any other observations you have.

1. Landform	
Flat…………………. Gently sloping…… Strongly sloping…. Steep……………… Mixture …..	*Any other observations?*

2. Landcover	
Open farmland………. Farmland with trees…. Farmland with woods… Woodland…………….. Farm buildings ………. Varied …….	

3. Field Boundaries - type	
Hedgerows (shrubs)…………… Hedgerows (trees & shrubs)…. Trees……………………………. Walls……………………………. Fences…………………………. Mixture ……	

4. Field Boundaries - form	
Straight boundaries……. Curving boundaries……. Mixture ………….	

5. **Field Size**	
Small………. Medium…… Large……… Mixture ….	*Any other observations?*

6. **Water and drainage**	
Dry……………………… Wet ditches and ponds… Streams……………....... Occasional streams ………. Areas liable to flood ………	

7. **Views across the landscape**	
Long……….. Medium….. Short……….	*Any other observations (eg. key features)?*

8. **Sense of enclosure**	
Exposed……………. Open………………. Enclosed ……….	
Enclosed by: Landform…………. Woodland………… Buildings…………… Field boundaries….	

9. **Transport pattern - type**	
Main road………………… Minor road………………….. Private roads/tracks ……	

10. Transport pattern - form	
Straight…… Winding….. Sunken…… Elevated….	

11. Other Access	
Public Footpath… Bridleway……… No Access………	

12. Views towards/into the village	
Long ……. Medium... Short……. None …….	

13. Built Settlement Edge - type	
Hedgerows (shrubs) ……….. Hedgerows (trees & shrubs) …. Trees ………….. Walls …………… Fences ………………. Mixture …..	

14. Built Settlement Edge - character	
Continuous …………… Interrupted ………….. Blunt ………….. Gentle ………….	

Now some Broader Judgements!

Scenic quality – sounds, smells, colours?
Sense of place – associations for you now or over time?
Any heritage values – archaeological or cultural features? …… whatever …..

If you had to pick just one or a few of all the aspects above that most helps to shape the character of the area, what would it/they be?

Other comments?

Is this a distinct area? Are the boundaries sensible? Should it be combined with others? Should it be sub-divided?