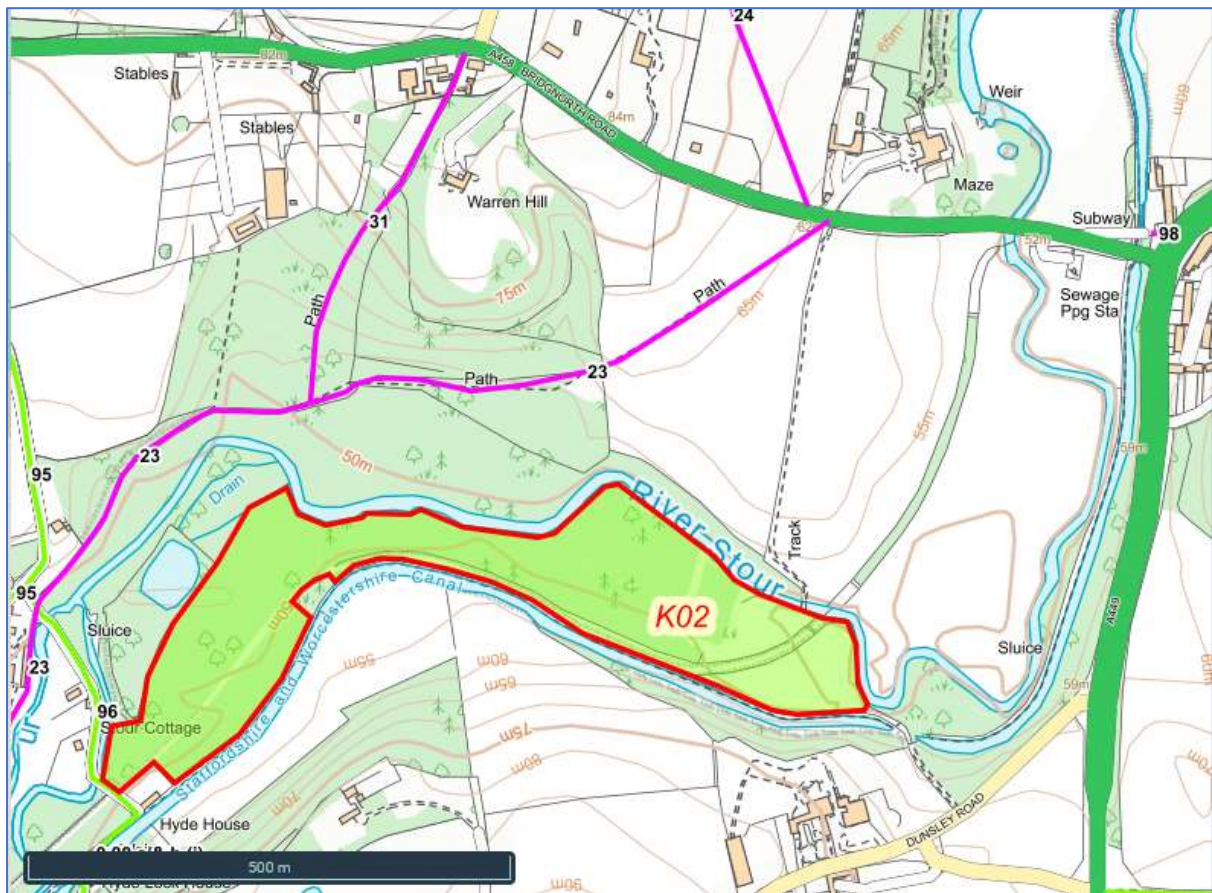


Name of Space	K02 Tramway Wood
Street/Location	N of The Hyde, Kinver (along Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal)
Post Code	DY7 6LS
Grid ref	SO8520084450
Brief Description	Woods alongside the canal, course of former Kinver Light Railway and depot, and site of former Hyde Ironworks

Plan



Suitability for LGS Designation (Add detail as appropriate. Tick indicates satisfies criterion ✓)

Location: In reasonably close proximity to the community, it serves	✓	Yes	Lying alongside Staffordshire & Worcester Canal at The Hyde. Short stroll (<1 km) from Dunsley and Kinver. Bounded by much-used towpath and the track to The Hyde and Hyde Lock.
Local Significance/ Special Community Value: Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value	✓	Recreation, sport, events, paths	The adjacent towpath and the track to The Hyde are both well used by locals and visitors, walkers and cyclists, and form part of a much-used Kinver village circular walk from the High Street. Popular cycle route using the canals as links to nearby towns. Several other footpaths meet here linking this site to other parts of the parish.
		Wildlife, ecology	The seasonally marshy woodland area between river and canal has an abundance of flora and fauna, a good mixture of trees some of which are very old, including mature beech trees

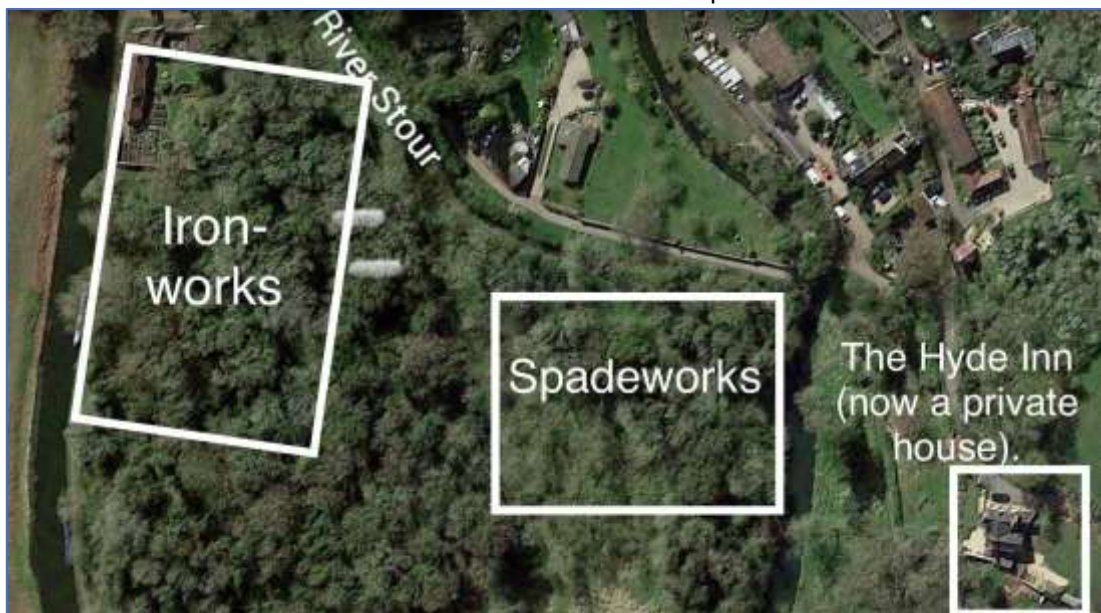
(including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife.	✓		overhanging the towpath. Owls, herons, bats, deer are common here, and otters frequent the river. Partly in The Hyde Biodiversity Alert Site, and part of the Wooded Waterways Nature Recovery Area identified by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. Part of the canal and river wildlife corridor through the parish, and connects adjacent woodlands.
	✓	Heritage	Kinver Light Railway (opened 1901 to bring folk from the Black Country out to visit Kinver) used to run through this area, and there are remains of depot and sidings. The pits for working on the underside of the trams are still visible today. The railway history is important to local people, as shown by responses to the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire 2021. The former Hyde ironworks and spade works, relics of the industrial revolution, cover much of the site, along with earlier industrial activity stretching back hundreds of years. The area adjoins the weir, with remains of water mill. This site is an important part of Kinver's heritage.
	✓	Beauty, setting, tranquillity, green lung	Beautiful area, tranquil setting. Most of the site has returned to nature and the area is traffic-free. The woodland creates a secluded feel for the adjacent canal and a green setting for the lovely historic hamlet of The Hyde.
	✓	Other incl flood mitigation, local food	Part of the area floods when the river Stour is high, providing flood resilience downstream
Size, Scale Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	✓	Area (ha):	8.6
	✓	Local character	Yes, on popular walking routes from village and much valued
Planning permissions or site allocations	None.		
Other Designations Formal designations or recognised in Local Plan, etc e.g. nature reserve	Green Belt Part of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust identified Nature Conservation Site 'The Hyde' Part of Wooded Waterways Nature recovery Area identified by SWT Adjacent Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area		
Recommendation	✓		Suitable for Local Green Space Designation



Kinver Light Railway



The site borders the canal towpath



Historic features of the site (south at top)



Former light railway course, here seen from the Hyde access track, near the canal