

Name of Space	K19 Riverside fields near Anchor Cottages
Street/Location	Between river and canal, below Anchor Cottages, Dark Lane, Kinver
Post Code	DY7 6NU
Grid ref	SO8534383006
Brief Description	A beautiful stretch of canal and river, which is bordered by fields, thick hedgerow and trees, with outcrops of red Kinver sandstone.

Plan



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

Location: In reasonably close proximity to the community, it serves	✓	Yes	Immediately behind Dark Lane housing at edge of village, accessible by road, bridleway, towpath, cycle route.
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 (including as a playing	✓ ✓ ✓	Recreation, sport, events, paths	Bridleway (Footpath 97) and connecting towpath are in continual use by ramblers, dog walkers, cyclists, runners, fishermen, holiday makers using the canal narrowboats and families. The track alongside this site leads to the historic Whittington Packhorse Bridge over the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal, and provides a popular, low-traffic cycle route from Kinver to Stourbridge, along a planned section of Sustrans Route 45.

field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife.	✓	Wildlife, ecology	Haven for Kingfishers, Herons, Mallards, Swans, Water voles, Snakes, Moorhens, Amphibians, Damsel/Dragon flies, Otters and barn owls have been sighted. Part of the area is in the wildlife site BAS Staffs and Worcs Canal, Kinver. The area is within the Wooded Waterways Nature Recovery Area defined by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust in their Kinver Nature Recovery Report 2021.
		Heritage	The canal was built in c1770. The canal has a 250 year history and was seen as an important canal transport centre with links to major Midlands canal networks which is still used today by long term residents and holidaymakers. The old track past the former Anchor public house leads to Whittington Packhorse Bridge which was built to carry a pack-horse trail over the canal, heading for the Black Country.
		Beauty, setting, tranquillity, green lung	A setting of tranquillity, providing green space along the canal and river, that is bordered by fields, thick hedgerow and trees. The canal is a green transit route out of the conurbation, and brings high local and tourist footfall.
		Other incl flood mitigation, local food	The fields are used as paddocks but are often flooded by the river Stour, providing protection against flooding downstream
Size, Scale Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.		Area (ha):	2.5
		Local character	Yes
Planning permissions or site allocations	None.		
Other Designations Formal designations or recognised in Local Plan, etc e.g. nature reserve	Green Belt Adjacent Staffs and Worcs Canal Conservation Area BAS Staffs and Worcs Canal, Kinver Wooded Waterways Nature Recovery Area		
Recommendation	✓		Suitable for Local Green Space Designation

