

Table 2: Appraisal of Green Belt functions and the wider parcel area relating to Land to the south-east of Cambridge Road, Foxton (Ref: 40408)

Green Belt Purpose	Assessment
<p>To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The landform rises to the east, associated with Rowley’s Hill, which forms a degree of physical and visual containment between the site and the northern part of Foxton with the wider landscape; • Defining features and mature riparian vegetation of the Hoffer Brook to the east also provides a robust boundary that prevents sprawl in terms of physical spread as well as perception; • The area of landscaping proposed on the eastern edge of the site would form a defined physical boundary of the settlement and provide a degree of containment from the wider landscape to the east; and • The railway line immediately to the south of the site also provides a defined physical boundary.
<p>To prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable physical distance between the northern part of Foxton and the site from the nearby settlements including Harston and Newton; • The northern part of the settlement of Foxton is defined to the north, east and west by the strong physical boundary of the River Rhee and Hoffer Brook; and • The development of the site would not extend the settlement of Foxton further than it is already existing in any direction.
<p>To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship with the existing settlement edge is strong within the western parts of the site; • Transport infrastructure has a strong influence on the site due to its proximity visually and aurally to the A10 and railway corridors; and • Notwithstanding these influences, the wider parcel context remains ‘countryside’ but this is considered to be relatively ‘ordinary’ in landscape and visual terms.
<p>To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This purpose is referred to above in published guidance and the opportunity to enhance the ‘Village gateway’ along the A10 corridor and ‘Key views’ to and from Foxton with native landscape planting is considered to meet the requirement of this purpose; and • There is a retained view corridor proposed through the southern part of the site to St. Laurence’s Church on the approach to Foxton along the A10 which is noted in published guidance as a key characteristic.

To assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land

- This purpose, and the principles behind it, are applicable to all sites within the Green Belt.