

Redevelopment of the Former Grange School, Warmley

Landscape, ecology and trees

The site is predominantly former amenity grassland with woodland, scrub and hardstanding. Warmley Brook runs alongside the eastern boundary but is outside of the application boundary.

Habitat and ecology surveys for bats, birds, reptiles and badger were carried out between April – December 2024. A tree survey was also undertaken to categorise existing trees.

The landscape masterplan provides new publicly accessible green spaces, allotments, play spaces, ecological improvements and sustainable drainage features. It will retain important trees and provide more tree planting as well as providing biodiversity net gain.



Access and Transport

The main site access to the residential and sports facilities will be from Tower Road North, past Warmley Park School. This will include access for cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles. There will also be an exit-only junction from the site onto Baden Road for cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles.

95 parking spaces within the existing car park will be retained for the sports facilities. The car parking for the houses and flats will be confirmed in a future reserved matters application. The current illustrative masterplan includes for between 1-2 spaces per dwelling.

New active travel connections for cyclists and pedestrians are proposed across the site from the shared path beside the Ring Road to Tower Road North. A new pedestrian connection is proposed to the footpath beside Warmley Brook to the south of the netball courts.

The masterplan will include other pedestrian connections and recreational routes to maximise access and opportunities for an active lifestyle across the site.

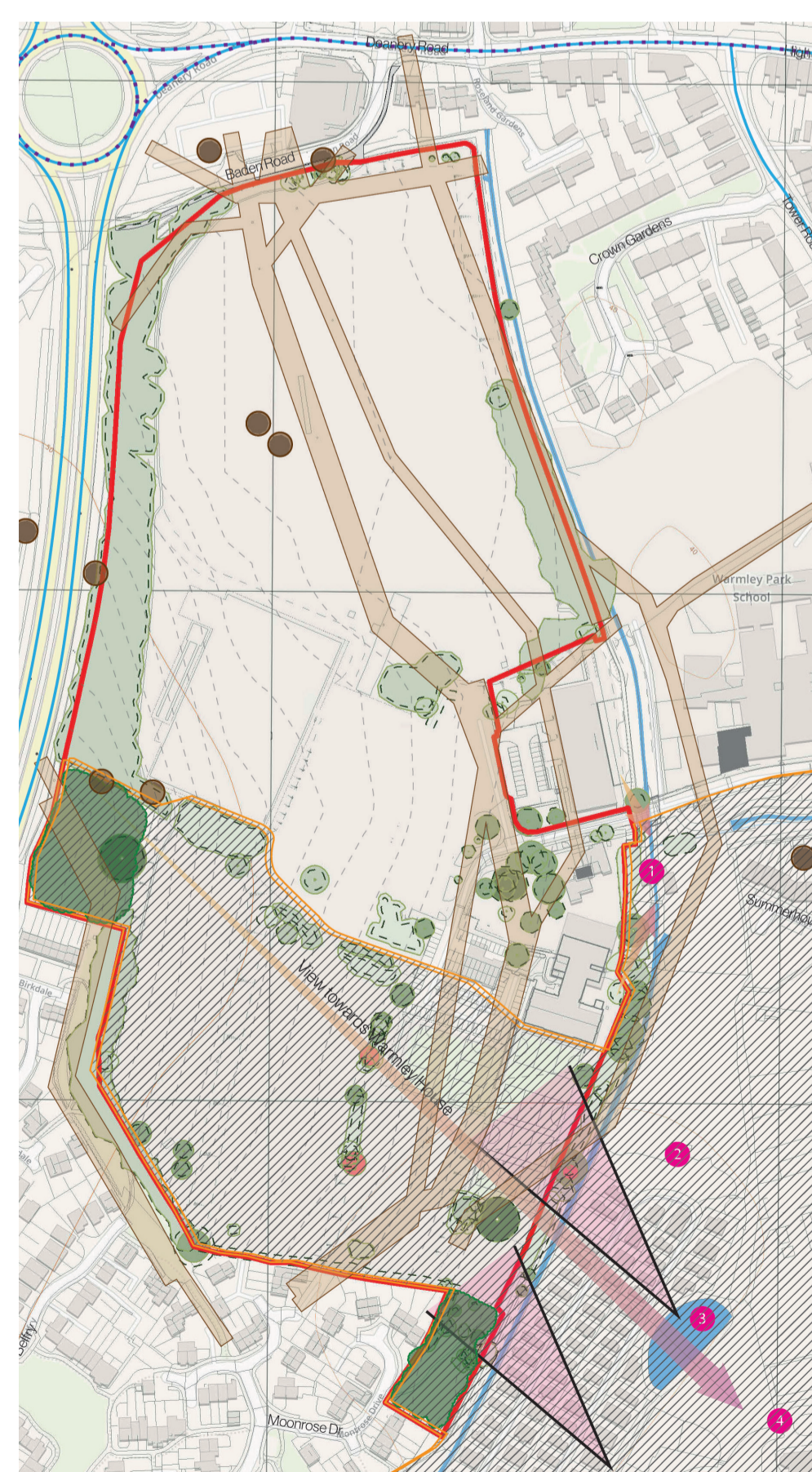


Conservation

The site is partially within the Warmley Conservation Area, which was designated in 1995 for its connections with the prominent quaker, industrialist and innovator, William Champion (1709 – 89). Champion was responsible for being the first to pioneer the commercial production of zinc in Europe. The core of the conservation area is focussed on Warmley House, its gardens and the area to the south.

There are no listed buildings within the site boundary but there are listed buildings nearby that have been considered including Warmley House (Grade II*) and the Summer House (Grade II).

The masterplan will keep land within the conservation area largely open to keep important views across the southern part of the site. It is also intended to provide interpretation panels to explain the site history from certain locations in the masterplan.



Sustainability

The residential development is proposed in outline and there will be sustainability targets to achieve that will be set through the planning application.

This includes:

- The use of low-carbon and renewable energy technologies such as solar PV and air source heat pumps.
- A fabric-first approach to maximise the energy performance of the proposed houses and flats such as double-glazing, good air-tightness and insulation.
- Designing to consider solar gain and overheating so that less energy is required to heat or cool the dwellings.
- Considering infrastructure for electric vehicle charging.

