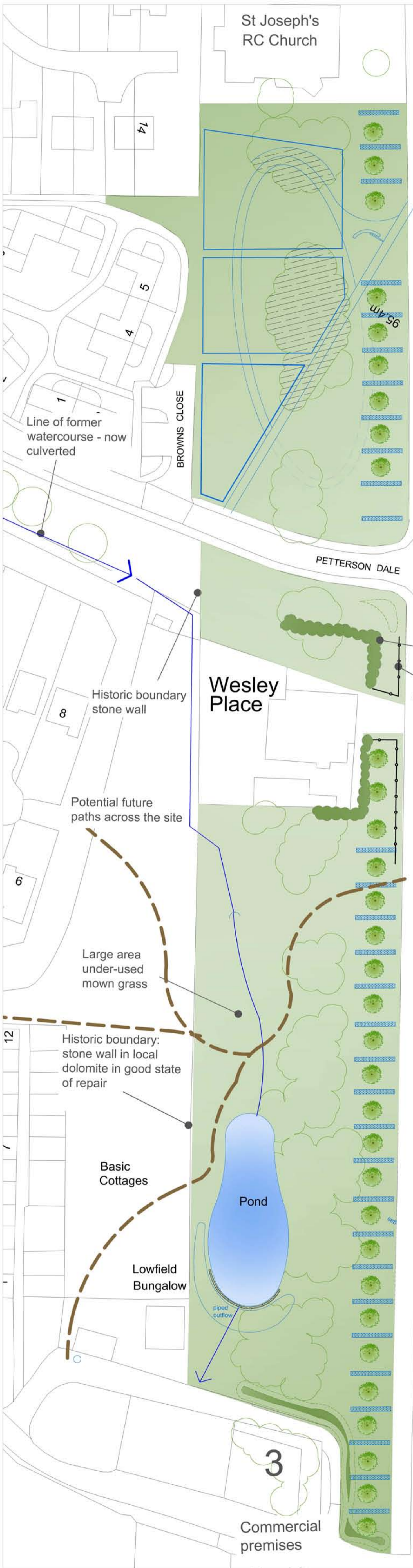


Coxhoe Village Greens

Groundwork North East 1:500 @A2



Many village greens follow the traditional pattern of a central communal area bounded by housing with a long history of social and commercial uses. By contrast, Coxhoe's greens are relatively recent in origin, arising from the demolition of sub-standard colliery housing, called the 'Long Row'. These large areas of open space along Front Street, are under-utilised. The trees although well established, are set back too far to contribute effectively to the streetscape.

The greens offer an opportunity to create more interesting spaces that draw people in to use them and walk through. The upper green might tell the story of Coxhoe's long history while the lower green, low-lying and flooding prone could be developed into a diverse species-rich natural grassland mosaic of habitat types - wetlands and meadowland - representing the local diverse natural heritage.

Upper Green - Coxhoe's Cultural Heritage



- Proposals include:**
- Large trees to provide a strong continuity along the street. Planting linear strips of bulbs to echo the former house plot divisions of the demolished 'Long Row'
 - Main access route (shared cycle / footpath)
 - Secondary route to encourage exploration and greater use of the green.
 - The three main epochs of Coxhoe's long history could be characterised:
 - A - Medieval agriculture
 - B - Romantic Period (English Landscape, poetry)
 - C - Industrial - including the siting of a Colliery Pit wheel to reflect Coxhoe's mining past

Lower Green - Coxhoe's Local Natural Heritage



The Lower Green between Wesley Place and the garage is a deceptively large open area of mown grassland. This could be developed to encourage wildlife and create a more diverse and interesting landscape for public enjoyment.

- The site could accommodate:
- Continue the line of large trees from the Upper Green
 - A large village pond with associated reedbeds and wetland habitat.
 - Wildflower meadow created through re-seeding and less intensive mowing.
 - Mown paths for access
 - Habitat creation - log piles, dry stone walling, and bug houses
 - Seating areas
 - Woodcarving sculptures

A more natural setting would be created by strategic planting of shrubs to screen out the adjacent business activities. This would also enhance the street views.



Native tree planting is planned for this winter on this village entrance site north of Bower Court, through the BIG TREE PLANT scheme.



Coxhoe sits within the 'Limestone Landscapes' - the belt of Magnesian Limestone Plateau stretching almost from Tyne to Tees and from the coast to central Durham. The area is unique, with common themes and patterns in the landscape and strong links between natural and cultural heritage.