

Gawsworth Parish Council

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COMMENTARY ON THE MAIN ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE PEAK CLUSTER LTD CCS PROPOSAL WITH REFERENCE TO GAWSWORTH PARISH

1 GENERAL COMMENTARY

- 1.1 This paper serves as a record of environmental and related concerns affecting Gawsworth which have been raised with Gawsworth Parish Council in the light of the preliminary public information provided by Peak Cluster Ltd in connection with their carbon capture CO₂ pipeline proposal. These are in addition to the harms that apply across the pipeline route as a whole and in the vicinity of all AGIs and other installations.
- 1.2 This Gawsworth record is also made in the absence of any independent analysis of the environmental benefits and harms which this, or indeed other, carbon capture schemes bring. The Peak Cluster Ltd proposal is driven by commercial, investment and political (e.g. job security and creation) considerations which inevitably makes an objective and comprehensive environmental impact analysis difficult.
- 1.3 Gawsworth Parish Council (GPC) was pleased to note that Cheshire Wildlife Trust (CWT), Natural England, The Campaign to Protect Rural England, Cheshire East Council and other bodies are in the process of assessing the potential ecological and environmental impacts of the proposed Peak Cluster Ltd carbon capture pipeline proposal. We share their concerns that infrastructure projects such as Peak Cluster could cause further damage to habitats, rivers and wildlife in the area.
- 1.4 Gawsworth Parish stands to be one of the most affected parishes in Cheshire with section 4 of the pipeline from the Holcim Caudon capture facility running the entire length of the parish through Green Belt land to meet sections 3 and 5 of the pipeline at the central feeder Above Ground Installation (AGI), also proposed in Gawsworth Green Belt land.
- 1.5 The Gawsworth Neighbourhood Plan places great value on the preservation and retention of trees and hedgerows. The Peak Cluster Ltd proposals, by cutting through rural land, are likely to have a significant detrimental effect on many established hedgerows and veteran trees contrary to planning policy and the clearly expressed wishes of the community.

- 1.6 Gawsworth village and the surrounding countryside is increasingly important as a venue for access to the countryside for residents of the expanding Macclesfield and Congleton towns which the parish sits between.
- 1.7 We echo the calls for reduction of emissions at source, meaningful comparisons with alternatives to a pipeline scheme and further investment in technologies that would avoid the need to pump across Cheshire. Hope Valley Climate Action¹ highlights that significant investment in CCS infrastructure could create commercial pressure to sustain or increase cement production in a way that is 'not compatible with the urgent systemic change the climate emergency demands'. The Peak Cluster proposals have not been shown to represent the best way to achieve decarbonisation.
- 1.8 Our community shares the concerns over the unanswered questions concerning the definite, but unquantified, risk to human and wildlife safety associated with the proposals. The route through Gawsworth and the AGI are very near to existing settlements and farms. Many are at a lower elevation which exacerbates the risk to life because of escaping CO₂ pooling and causing suffocation. Alternative routes exist that do not carry the same level of risk because they pass through open countryside. We are concerned that commercial considerations may have outweighed human and animal safety considerations in the choice of preferred route corridor and AGI siting.
- 1.9 The proposed route crosses what was once the park associated with Gawsworth Hall, cuts across fishing ponds, encroaches the Gawsworth Conservation Area interfering with multiple watercourses feeding the iconic Gawsworth pools, runs adjacent to Gawsworth village settlement with its Primary School, heads near to CWT's Danes Moss SSSI and cuts across peat deposits. The route in Gawsworth disturbs several popular Public Rights of Way and the Cheshire Cycleway inhibiting access to the countryside. The proposed AGI is planned where there is poor road access for construction traffic.
- 1.10 Extremely limited information has been provided on the factors that have affected route choice and Peak Cluster has not provided any explanation for why the bizarre Gawsworth route and site for the AGI in Gawsworth is being proposed when several more obvious routes to the south of Gawsworth village (north and south of Congleton) would cause significantly fewer environmental harms and which would avoid close encounters with settlements. We echo CWT's comments on route selection set out in their initial statement and call for rigorous assessments to identify a route that avoids the harms in Gawsworth.
- 1.11 Additionally, the ecological and environmental harms in Gawsworth Parish, and areas to the south of Gawsworth, occur wholly because of the inclusion of the Holcim Caudon 'Section 4' spur serving one cement works in Staffordshire. If only the 3 Peak District capture facilities were included in the scheme these harms would be avoided. There would be no need for an

¹ [HVCA Response to Peak Cluster Consultation](#)

AGI to the south of Macclesfield and the main pipeline could be routed further west from Macclesfield away from the centres of population and taking a less environmentally harmful route westwards towards the Wirral. We are therefore calling for environmental benefit v harm assessments to be undertaken with and without the Section 4 pipeline spur.

- 1.12 Cheshire Wildlife Trust is very familiar with Gawsworth through their management of the Danes Moss SSSI and their valuable commentary on plans to develop the North Danes Moss area. They will no doubt already have many environmental assessments to hand which could be relevant to the Peak Cluster plans to run the pipeline and situate an AGI close to Danes Moss.
- 1.13 Gawsworth Parish includes perhaps the greatest acreage of Cheshire East Council owned farmland in the borough, managed by Cheshire Farms. The pipeline's proposed route passes through several Council-owned farms in Gawsworth and the AGI search area includes a large proportion of Council owned land. The tenancies on a number of the farms, including land in the AGI search area, are ending within two or three years' when use of the land and farm buildings will be reviewed. We note that Cheshire East Council is currently revising its Cheshire Farms policy and that the policy includes welcome statements concerning continued improvement in environmental practice and stewardship. It also includes the following passage which could be compatible with Cheshire Farms Land being offered in connection with the Peak Cluster project. *"Some farms may be subject to consideration for all or part of the land to be used for alternative or complementary uses. The opportunity for appropriate uses secondary to the principal use, or as a principal use where retention of a specific property is essential to estate integrity and value and/or to support wider council objectives e.g. Biodiversity NetGain (BNG) or decarbonisation, will be assessed when required."* (Direction and Principles section 9). The commercial interests of Cheshire East Council should not be set against the additional environmental burden of the pipeline being routed through Gawsworth. Also Cheshire East Council should put the safety and wellbeing of the residents it represents before its own political or pecuniary interests
- 1.14 Local mineral extraction plans identify areas south-west of Macclesfield as important sites for potential sand and gravel quarrying. Tarmac, one of the partners in Peak Cluster Ltd, may have interests in future quarrying in this area. Avoiding potential quarrying areas by routing the Peak Cluster Ltd pipeline through the Gawsworth Green Belt could be associated with allowing for future quarrying. The commercial benefits to the Peak Cluster Ltd partners should be weighed carefully against the additional environmental damage caused.

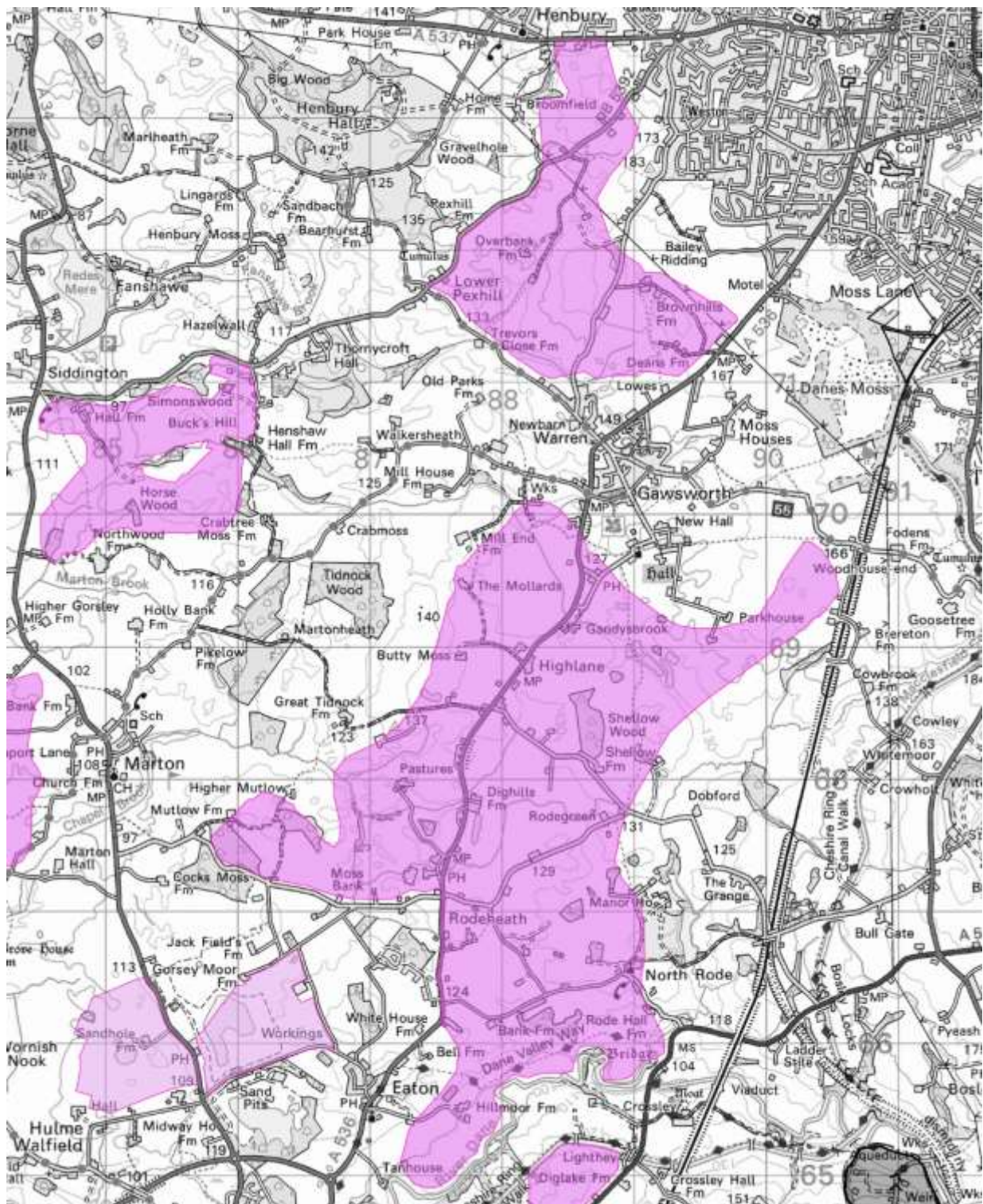


Figure 1 Mineral Extraction in Gawsworth Area

2. SPECIFIC SITES OF CONCERN IN GAWSWORTH

Gawsworth Parish Council welcomes Cheshire Wildlife Trust's position that "route selection should prioritise avoidance of local and nationally designated sites, priority and irreplaceable habitats, priority species assemblages and ecological corridors." The following especially sensitive sites and areas in Gawsworth parish have been highlighted to us by residents. We ask that environmental bodies should include them in their expert assessments.

2.1 Green Belt

- 2.1.1 The proposed pipeline route and AGI are entirely within Green Belt land in Gawsworth whereas alternative routes south of Gawsworth Parish would avoid green belt altogether. This bizarre proposed routing is contrary to a stated objective of Peak Cluster Ltd of avoiding Green Belt where possible and cannot be explained by other stated route choice influences. Peak Cluster Ltd has so far declined to explain why the Gawsworth green belt route and AGI site has been chosen over other less environmentally damaging alternatives across open countryside.

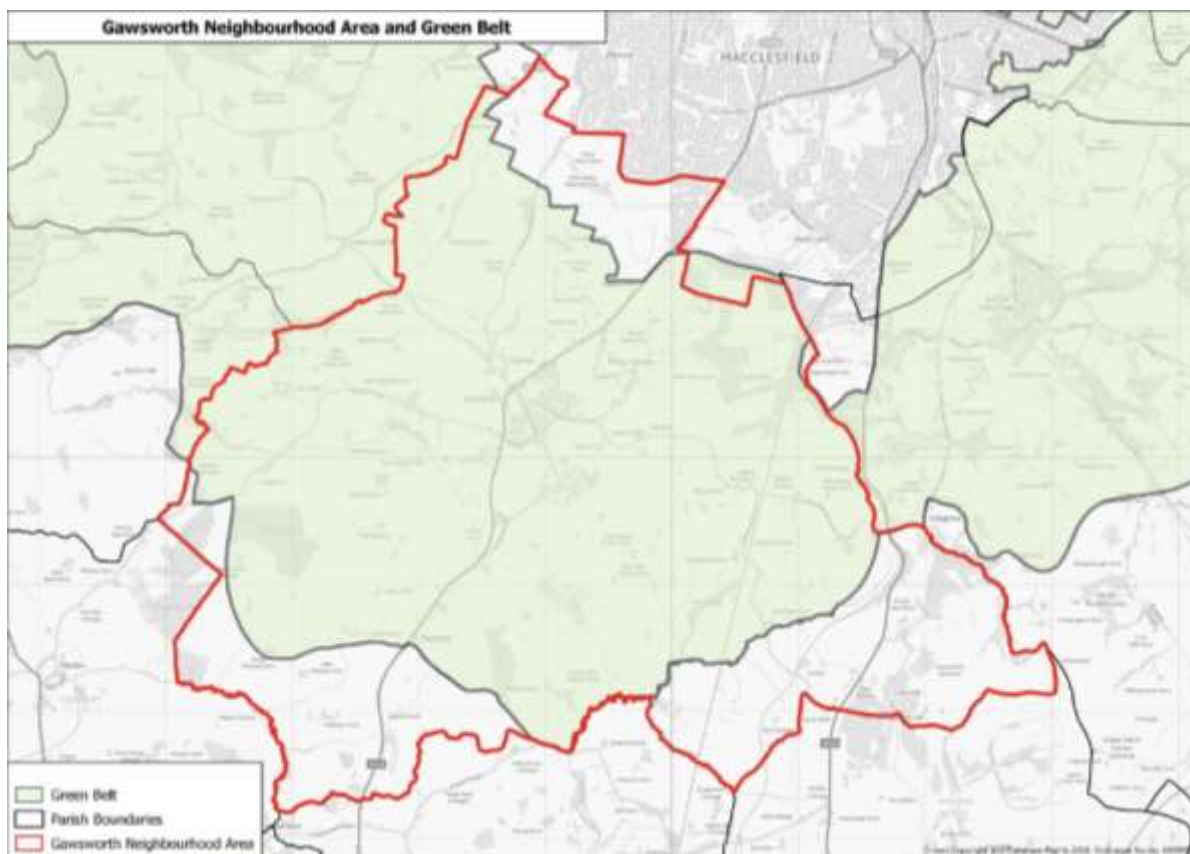


Figure 2 Green Belt and Gawsworth Parish

2.2 Southern Gawsworth



Figure 3 Pipeline Proposed Route - Southern Gawsworth Parish

- 2.2.1 From its entry to Gawsworth Parish and the green belt at Mile Corner Cottage on Shellow Lane (SJ 88936 67762) the pipeline corridor covers (rather than simply crosses) Gawsworth Footpath 10 northwards to beyond Cloverbank Organic Farm. This is a particularly important PROW and forms part of a popular circular walk identified in several guides, which starts at the Gawsworth Conservation Area, heads south to North Rode via North Rode FP 5 (also covered by the pipeline corridor) returning by Macclesfield canal (Gawsworth FP31), and through Danes Moss SSSI (Gawsworth FP5). Access to the countryside is increasingly important with the extensive housing developments undertaken and planned south of Macclesfield and north of Congleton and the affected footpath route is of increasing importance to residents of both towns accessing the countryside. The temporary and permanent harm which will be done by the pipeline to access to the countryside should be fully evaluated and avoided.
- 2.2.2 The pipeline corridor runs alongside Shellow Wood (SJ 88731 68315). This has been identified as site of biological interest by CWT. The effects of the construction on Shellow Wood be considered.
- 2.2.3 The pipeline corridor passes over Cloverbank Organic Farm. (SJ 89204 68132). This area includes wooded and pond areas and will be particularly sensitive to damage from the pipeline construction.
- 2.2.4 The pipeline route runs over Gawsworth Fishing ponds (SJ 89231 68759 - marked as 'Lodge Plantation' on the Peak Cluster Ltd interactive map). These well-managed Fishing Ponds have pleasant planted and woodland areas with Gawsworth FP 10 passing through. Any major construction in this area would have a devastating effect on the ecology of the area and the hydrology that is essential to the maintenance of the ponds. This is likely to affect the viability of the fishing ponds business and the amenity for wildlife, anglers and walkers alike. It is difficult to see how any mitigation could have an appreciable effect so this area should be avoided completely.

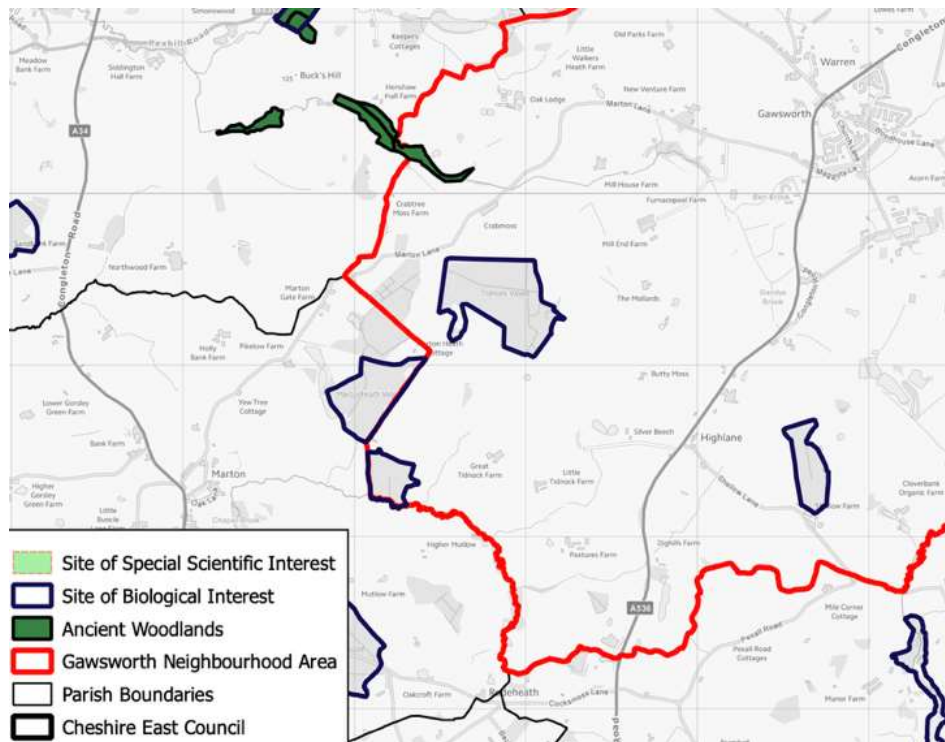


Figure 4 Sites of Biological and Scientific Interest in Southern Gawsworth
Source Cheshire Wildlife Trust



Figure 5 Proposed pipeline route through Gawsworth Conservation Area (south area) and Gawsworth village settlement (north area) and school (starred)

2.3 Central Gawsworth

- 2.3.1 North of Cloverbank Organic Farm the pipeline route enters the extensive former Gawsworth Hall parkland and remains within its 600-acre area until it reaches the AGI search area. The park and pleasure gardens were developed from the 16th century but are now given over mainly to farmland. A number of farm names (e.g. Park House, Old Parks Farm) indicate that there are likely lost ancient buildings etc. across the extent of the old park. The pipeline construction runs the risk of destroying archaeological remains and ancient trees scattered over the area. The ancient Gawsworth Hall parkland is largely un-investigated for heritage remains. A detailed archaeological and environmental impact study is needed to assess the parkland area. The ancient Gawsworth Hall parkland is best avoided altogether by choosing one of several alternative routes that avoid Gawsworth Parish.

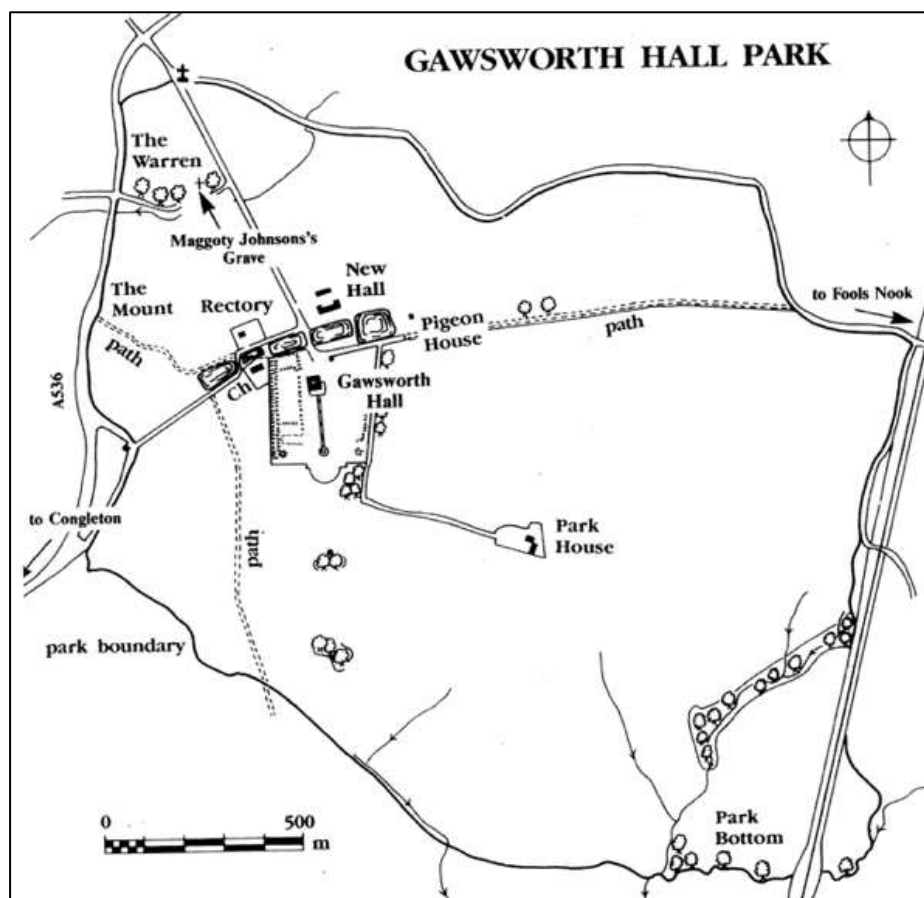


Figure 6 Gawsworth Hall Ancient Parkland

- 2.3.2 The pipeline route corridor approaches Gawsworth conservation area² with its three Grade I listed buildings, (Gawsworth Hall, Gawsworth Old Rectory and St James Church) and seven Grade II listings. The pipeline route encroaches on the eastern flank of the conservation area alongside the 16th century wall (Grade II listed) (SJ 89287 69465). The proposed route of the pipeline close to, and across the conservation area will cause significant harm.

² [Gawsworth Conservation Area Appraisal](#)

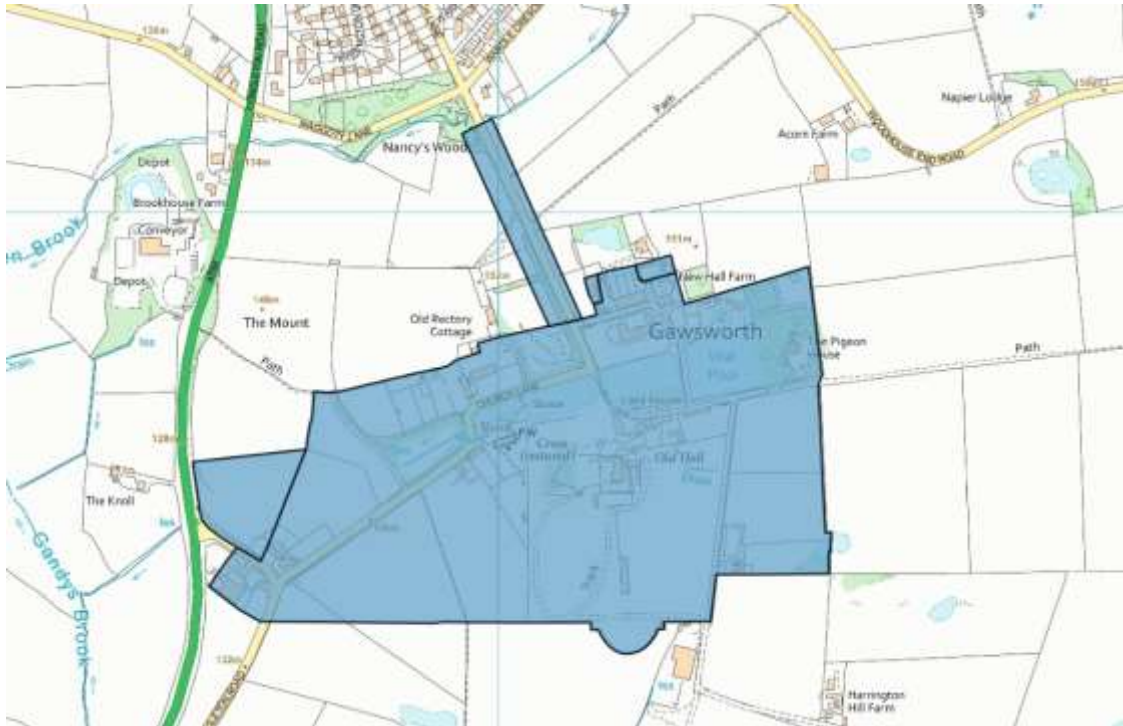


Figure 7 Gawsworth Conservation Area

- 2.3.3 The field to the east of the Hall perimeter wall (SJ 89340 69556) which the corridor crosses, is included in the Gawsworth Conservation Area and includes several significant trees. It is described in the conservation area assessment as having an important role in preserving the setting of the core areas as well as being important in allowing access to view the ancient wall, the view through a gate to the 'Tilting field' and across open countryside.
- 2.3.4 The setting of the Gawsworth Conservation Area within the surrounding farmland, which previously formed the ancient parkland, will be significantly disturbed by the construction of the pipeline. While acknowledging that Peak Cluster Limited claim that the land will be returned to agricultural use it must be noted that ancient hedgerows and trees that contribute to the setting will be permanently erased.
- 2.3.5 The conservation area is an important amenity site. Over many months/years there will be significant harm to Gawsworth, Macclesfield and Congleton residents' access to the countryside as the conservation area is the base for several popular countryside walks which will be ruined for a significant period of time. Gawsworth is a major tourist attraction in Cheshire East which will be blighted for a period of time. The summer theatre at Gawsworth Hall will become much less attractive, possibly resulting in an existential threat to the business and this well-loved Cheshire amenity.
- 2.3.6 The eastern flank of the conservation area, where the pipeline corridor passes, also includes the Pigeon House (Watch Tower Grade II listed) (SJ 89418 69814) which is an important listed historic building and the Wall Pond which is an important historical feature.

- 2.3.7 The pipeline construction presents a major threat to the water flow into the ancient fishponds in the conservation area and the fields to the east which the pipeline is proposed to pass through (SJ 89621 69879). The pipeline route cuts across complex natural springs that feed the ancient Gawsworth fishponds. Any disruption to these subsurface inflows could cause irreparable damage to Cheshire's most iconic historical water feature. The supply to these ancient pools is critical and the inflows are complex with no single inflow source. Major construction work, such as pipeline construction would have an unpredictable and quite possibly devastating effect on the ancient fishponds. The area to the east of the conservation area which the pipeline is currently charted to cross must be avoided.
- 2.3.8 Local knowledge informs us that the area to the east of conservation area was considered in the 1980s for use as a golf course and the renowned scholar and consultant in historic landscapes Dr David Jacques OBE considered the disturbance of this historic landscape in this area to be extremely undesirable. Formal consultation with Dr Jacques, or a similarly qualified person, will be essential if the proposal to disturb this important historical area of Gawsworth persists.
- 2.3.9 During a recent visit by an archaeologist to the area east of the conservation area the following observations were made concerning the land east of the conservation area which the pipeline route crosses.
- 2.3.10 The original avenue of lime trees (see below) probably enclosed a track which was one of the main routes from the Gawsworth Hall with panoramic views towards the hills of the peak district beyond.
- 2.3.11 The undulating land which the pipeline is proposed to cross and disturb could be medieval earthworks. The hilly nature of the land and soil movements could be associated with moss rooms at the edge of nearby Danes Moss (possibly late 16th century).
- 2.3.12 Gawsworth Henge³ is in the direction followed by the track across the field as is an early bronze age barrow where the important 'Gawsworth beaker' was found in the 1970s⁴. This raises interesting possibilities of a settlement in the area to be traversed by the pipeline which precedes Gawsworth Hall. Further investigation is necessary before any possible artefacts are destroyed by major works such as pipeline construction.
- 2.3.13 The pipeline crosses Gawsworth FP9 which leads from Gawsworth Hall to Woodhouse End Road, a very popular footpath for residents and visitors to Gawsworth. The route of the footpath used to form the eastern approach to Gawsworth Hall and was probably, like the western approach, lined with lime trees. Only two limes remain, magnificent specimens, which are a prominent feature of the local landscape. It would be tragic if these trees, or other mature trees in the hedgerow were to be lost because of the construction. Work is

Figure 9 Two remaining Lime trees from the eastern avenue approach to Gawsworth Hall

Figure 8 Eastern Approach to Gawsworth Hall by the Pigeon House

³ [Gawsworth Henge](#)

⁴ [Gawsworth beaker article](#)

planned to restore the ancient avenue of trees for future generations but this would be irrevocably harmed because of the planting prohibition which will be placed on land over the pipeline.



Figure 10 Two remaining Lime trees from the eastern avenue approach to Gawsworth Hall



Figure 11 Eastern Approach to Gawsworth Hall by the Pigeon House

- 2.3.14 The Historic England entry⁵ for Gawsworth Hall gardens scheduled monument should be consulted. This makes it clear inter alia that the historic importance of the gardens extends beyond the walls surrounding the formal gardens. This includes the water system to feed the Elizabethan water features which pipeline construction threatens to destroy. The garden features include a watch tower on a prospect mound (now known

⁵ [Historic England Gawsworth Hall Gardens](#)

as the Pigeon House) built to survey views to the Peak and Welsh hills across the field where the pipeline is proposed to run. The pipeline will potentially destroy important features of the early gardens.

- 2.3.15 The pipeline route travels north into an area of meadowland and natural pools, some seasonal and mostly not marked on maps, which are abundant with wildlife. It crosses Woodhouse End Road which carries the Cheshire cycleway. On this stretch the Danes Moss SSSI is around 1km to the east. The farmland in this area is rough pasture with boggy areas and ponds which appear or expand during winter. This area has rich fen and raised bog within or near to the proposed pipeline route. See Peatlands of Cheshire East⁶.

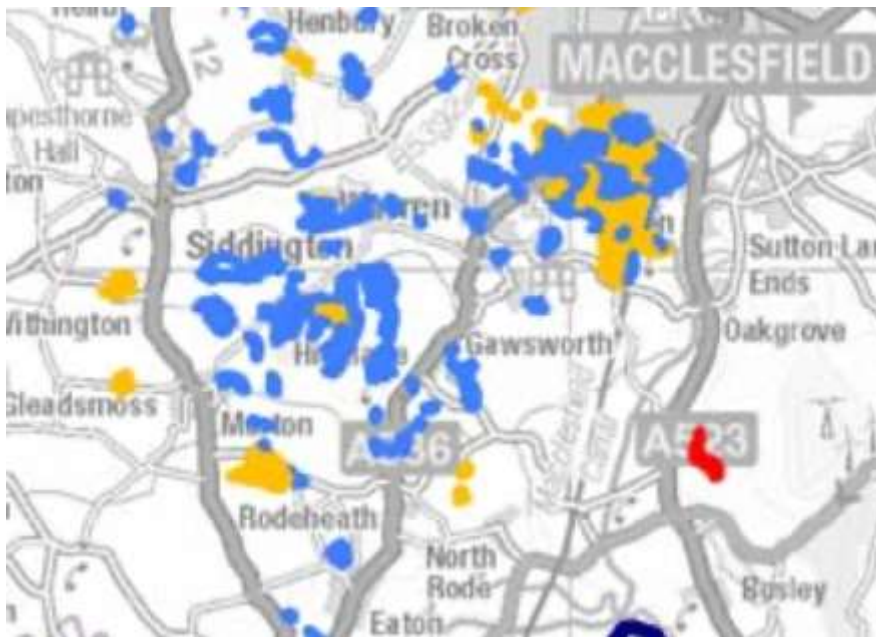


Figure 12 Peatland in Gawsworth Parish which the pipeline crosses

- 2.3.16 The route sits within the functional impact zone of the Danes Moss lowland peat area. The pipeline route and AGI should avoid peat deposits and any potential detrimental impact on peat deposits from works.
- 2.3.17 The ecology of the SSSI, including several rare species, is affected and dependent on the surrounding environment outside the borders of the nature reserve. The pipeline construction and the AGI have the potential to adversely affect a wide area in Gawsworth, and this must be fully evaluated.
- 2.3.18 The proposed pipeline route then crosses Woodhouse End Road and Lowes Lane. This area, particularly Lowes Lane, is prone to flooding. This is understood to be linked to natural springs and old and broken drainage systems that empty into the Ben Brook, which the pipeline also crosses. This area of springs with complex drainage issues is exactly where the pipeline route is proposed and it seems likely that major excavation works could exacerbate the problems and probably cause damage to nearby properties.

⁶ [Peatlands of Cheshire East An assessment of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Biodiversity June 2021. Cheshire Wildlife Trust and Cheshire East Council](#)

- 2.3.19 The route crosses the Ben Brook, one of several streams that take outflow from the Danes Moss area. Investigation of the effects of disturbing the complex water systems should be undertaken.
 - 2.3.20 Run off from the council refuse site may also reach the stream and analysis should be undertaken. The potential for the run off to have detrimental effects on the structure of the pipeline should be assessed
 - 2.3.21 The Ben Brook flows onwards to a nearby community woodland 'Nancy's Wood' which is in the care of the Parish Council and managed to promote native species and is a leisure venue for local people. Children play in the Ben Brook and contamination or flow alteration by major construction works upstream must be avoided.
 - 2.3.22 The pipeline route then touches Gawsworth Village settlement, running adjacent to many houses and within 150m of the primary school. The homes and school are at a slightly lower elevation from the pipeline route causing particular concern of risk to life in the event of a CO2 leakage in the area.
 - 2.3.23 The proposed pipeline route cuts across Gawsworth Footpath 1, an essential link between Lowes Lane and Benbrook Way and village amenities. It is in daily use by dozens of residents for taking children to school, dog walking, access to Danes Moss SSSI. Any disruption, even temporary, would have a major negative impact on the life of Gawsworth residents. It is also an essential link for residents and visitors allowing access to the countryside from the village settlement.
 - 2.3.24 Gawsworth FP1 is bordered by a number of trees of varying age. The field is known locally as 'Three Trees Field' because of three adjacent mature lime trees which stand in the path of the pipeline corridor.
 - 2.3.25 The pipeline route then goes north to meet the AGI search area south of the A536.
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2.4 North Gawsworth and the AGI Search Area

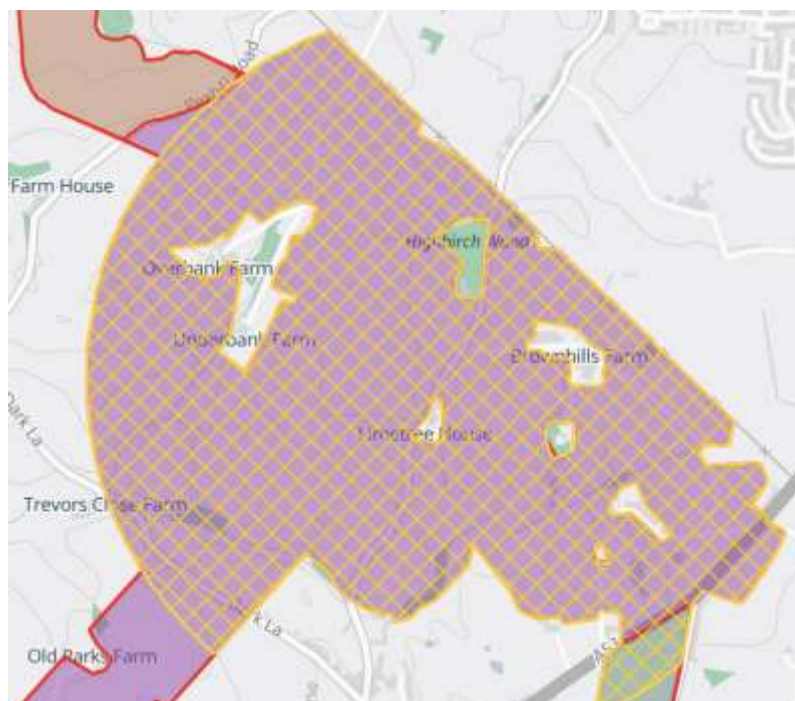


Figure 13 AGI search area

- 2.4.1 The AGI search area is entirely within Green Belt land. The area is just south of an area allocated for current and future housing development which was taken out of green belt in recent years. The area of green belt where the AGI search area has been set is particularly important to the fundamental purpose of the green belt, i.e. to prevent urban spread; in this case maintaining the separation of the Macclesfield and Gawsworth settlements.
- a. Placing the AGI near to the A536 would have a highly detrimental visual impact on the countryside as travellers leave Macclesfield effectively destroying the change from urban development to countryside. A similar detrimental effect would result on the Pexhill Road and Gawsworth Road exits from urban Macclesfield. This negative effect on the fundamental purpose of green belt is an inevitable result of the seemingly unnecessary placing of the AGI search area in Gawsworth green belt.
 - b. Gawsworth Road and Dark Lane would be totally unsuitable for access for construction traffic to build an AGI or other construction in this area. Both are small country lanes which carry a weight limit with blind bends are insufficient room in places for two cars, let alone trucks, to pass. Both are busy with school traffic at peak times and as a rat run linking the A537 and west Macclesfield with the A536 and Congleton.
 - c. No explanation has been offered as to what special circumstances require the junction of the three pipelines to be in Gawsworth Green Belt Land when any number of alternative routes could avoid the green belt altogether and provide a lesser impact

on the countryside and the public's access and enjoyment of areas bordering large and small settlements.

- 2.4.2 The pipeline routes leading to the AGI are near existing settlements in North Gawsworth and south and west Macclesfield. The current local plan site LPS15, to the north of the AGI search area, is earmarked for a large housing developing and current safeguarded land is likely to be included for mixed use in the next local plan. Hundreds of new homes could be built just a short distance from the site of the AGI.
- 2.4.3 Cheshire East Council owns significant areas of farmland in Gawsworth through Cheshire Farms. The pipeline route passes through some of these and a significant proportion of the search area for the AGI is Cheshire East Council owned land. CEC would derive, as an organisation, significant economic reward if their land is chosen as the site for the AGI and compensation for their land which the pipeline crosses. This would be consistent with their agreed strategy for their land (see introduction). It might however conflict with the optimal environmental solution of choosing an alternative route and site for the AGI and with the interests of the people who they represent.
- 2.4.4 There is speculation that there could be aspirations to use all or part of the safeguarded land south of Macclesfield for industrial development and that the proximity of the proposed AGI might be a benefit for CO2 capture. Again, transparency is important. If the speculation turns out to have some basis, then the balance between the pecuniary benefit to the developers should be counterpoised with the environmental harm and damage to the green belt caused by the proposed AGI search area positioning.
- 2.4.5 The AGI search area is set in an area crossed by public footpaths with several in the east where the southern pipeline enters the search area and a north/south footpath through Cheshire East owned land passing Overbank Farm and Underbank Farm land. These footpaths are currently well used by residents of Macclesfield and Gawsworth providing important access to the countryside. They will become even more important if and when houses are built on site LPS15 and the safeguarded just north of the AGI search area.



Figure 14 Gawsworth footpaths in the AGI search area

- 2.4.6 Underbank Farmhouse sits to the west of the AGI search area in land that forms part of Cheshire East's farm estate. It is a Grade II listed early 19th century farmhouse in red Flemish bond brickwork with a slate roof. The setting of the building is integral to its heritage value and is threatened by the positioning of the AGI in the vicinity.
- 2.4.7 The AGI search area includes a number of mature, traditional farmhouses, outbuildings and surrounding fields. Building the AGI in the proposed area would have irrevocable negative effects on the character of this area.
- 2.4.8 The pipeline / AGI will impact greatly on the pasture land associated with Dale House Farm. The farmer has extremely valuable livestock which have been home bred since 1974 and pipeline construction will have a huge negative effect on the business viability. There are complex land drains in the area, first installed in the Victorian period. There are also large peat deposits in the area of Gawsworth. One field in the area was previously used for landfill.
- 2.4.9 It has been suggested that Peak Cluster plan two, rather than one, AGIs in the area southwest of Highbirch Wood, with access from Gawsworth Road. This is relatively flat and high (160m) land where any leak of CO₂ would cascade towards Gawsworth Village settlement and down to Trevors Close Farm (Newtons Dairy). The access along Gawsworth Road is totally unsuitable for construction traffic as mentioned above. Highbirch Wood is an important area of mature woodland. Building an industrial site in this area of countryside would have a major. Permanent detrimental effect on the countryside.
- 2.4.10 The AGI search area sits at a relatively high altitude (155m – 165m) on the Cheshire plain. There are safety concerns because in the event of leakage CO₂, which is heavier than air, would roll towards Gawsworth Village settlement (approx. 140m elevation). Trevors Close Farm is set in low ground at the edge of the AGI search area and would be liable to be engulfed by a leak of CO₂ from the AGI. The relatively high ground in the AGI search area indicates that building an AGI in this area will have a disproportionate effect on vistas in the surrounding countryside.
- 2.4.11 The AGI site is within the Jodrell Bank Consultation Zone. There is a direct line of sight between the AGI site and the Jodrell Bank Telescope World Heritage site. The operation of the telescope is especially affected by structures (such as an AGI) which interrupt the skyline or which are in a direct line of sight. Electrical activity (such as in an AGI) also adversely affects the operation of the telescope. Under Cheshire East planning policies development will not be permitted if it impairs the efficiency of the telescopes. It should be noted that planning policy relating to the Jodrell Bank consultation zone has been in disarray for many years and the difficulties in creating a legally sound solution have not yet been resolved.
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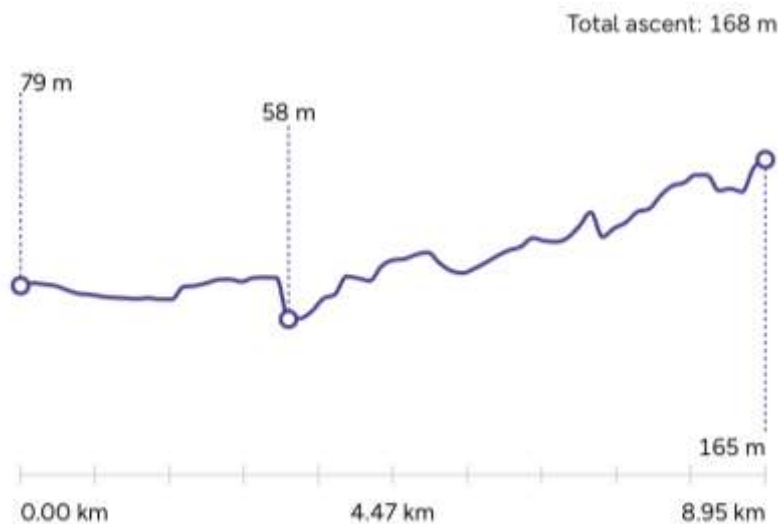


Figure 15 Elevation profile from Jodrell Bank (left) to Gawsworth AGI search area (right)

- 2.4.12 Dropping the proposal for the section 4 pipeline from the single plant at Caudon (which has not been justified separately) or choosing a pipeline route for the southern stretch which runs south of Congleton and appears feasible would avoid placing an AGI in the Jodrell Bank consultation zone or placing it where it impacts less on the operation of the telescope e.g below the telescope horizon. If evidence is presented which supports that the AGI must be in the Jodrell Bank Consultation Zone a site on low ground and shielded from view should be chosen.
- 2.4.13 Trevors Close Farm is in the south-west corner of the AGI search area with the path of section 5 of the pipeline immediately adjacent to the farm. This farm hosts a milking herd and locally important local dairy business which bottles and supplies milk and dairy products direct to Gawsworth and Macclesfield. Any disruption to the farm, surrounding fields or on Dark Lane could be catastrophic to the operation of the farm and dairy business and must be avoided. The farm lies in a dip in the landscape and the inhabitants and animals would be particularly susceptible to death or harm from any leakage from an AGI on nearby higher ground (which we understand is proposed)
- 2.4.14 The northwest side of the AGI search area largely coincides with the Gawsworth Parish border.

2.5 West Gawsworth boundary – Section 5 of the pipeline

- 2.5.1 Section 5 of the pipeline leaves the AGI search area near to Trevors Close Farm and immediately encounters Old Parks Farm where it wraps around the farm house and buildings, cutting across access to the farm and across land used for grazing sheep.

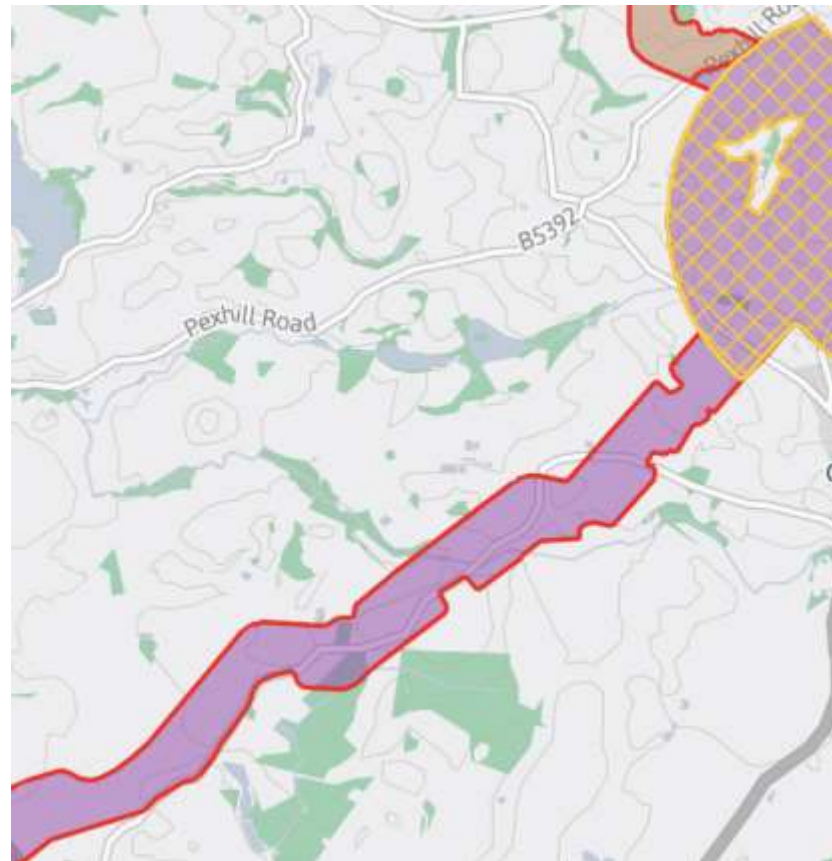


Figure 16 Pipeline route along the west of Gawsworth Parish

- 2.5.2 The route then traverses extensive areas in the southwest of Gawsworth Parish recorded as having peat deposits. It seems that it would be impossible to avoid the peat deposits if the proposed pipeline route persists (see figure 10).
- 2.5.3 The route then straddles Marton Lane threatening this essential link between the neighbouring Gawsworth and Marton settlements, each with primary schools.
- 2.5.4 The route then skirts the edge of Hammerpool Wood, and ancient woodland recorded by Cheshire Wildlife Trust.
- 2.5.5 The route then meets Tidnock Wood, a recorded site of biological interest.
- 2.5.6 The pipeline leaves Gawsworth Parish at Dryheath Wood to enter Marton Parish.