



## Noise Impact Assessment

Report: 4950-R1 – Dogs Unleashed, Moor House Farm, Soureby Cross Way, East Bierley, West Yorkshire, BD4 6PZ

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## 1. Introduction

Clover Acoustics Ltd has been appointed by Patrick Townsend on behalf of Robert Light to carry out a noise survey and assessment in support of a retrospective planning application for a secure dog exercise area. The site is at Moor House Farm, Soureby Cross Way, East Bierley, West Yorkshire, BD4 6PZ.

The purpose of this report is to conduct an assessment regarding the potential impact of noise from the proposed exercise area and its effect on the nearest neighbouring property.

## 2. Scope

This report will consider:

- a) A description of the sources of noise which the development site is likely to produce i.e. the operational noise of the exercise area as the specific source under investigation.
- b) An assessment of the impact which these sources have on noise sensitive premises in the locality, having regard to the following sources of guidance and assessment methodologies, where appropriate:
  - BS4142:2014 Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound.
  - World Health Organisation – Guidelines for Community Noise 1999.
- c) Details of any proposed mitigation measures that would be appropriate and necessary to control the noise impact, including detail on the level of sound reduction provided by the mitigation method.
- d) All noise measurements shall be carried out in accordance with current British Standard 7445, Parts 1 to 3.

### 3. Site Description

The external exercise area is situated on enclosed land with the entrance at the end of Soureby Cross Way. The secure dog walking facility is proposed to operate in daylight hours only from 08:00 in the morning and no later than 18:00. The facility is open 7 days per week. Operationally the facility is generally booked out for sessions with no more than 3-dogs per dog owner.

The facility is situated in a predominantly mixed farming and residential area. It is understood there is an historic planning application for residential dwellings to the northern boundary of site which is currently stalled.

The exercise area is bounded to the north by Soureby Cross Way with the nearest existing residential dwelling to the northeast. The southern aspect is open fields toward a sports field, and to the west open aspect toward residential on Hunsworth Lane with Moor House Farm to the east. The M62 is approximately 1km to the south and the existing noise climate reflects this. The nearest residential receivers are to the north-eastern boundary approximately 30 meters from the eastern edge of the exercise area. It is noted that the stalled planning application for residential dwellings would bring garden areas on some dwellings to the site boundary.

Figure 1 shows the site location and background monitoring location.

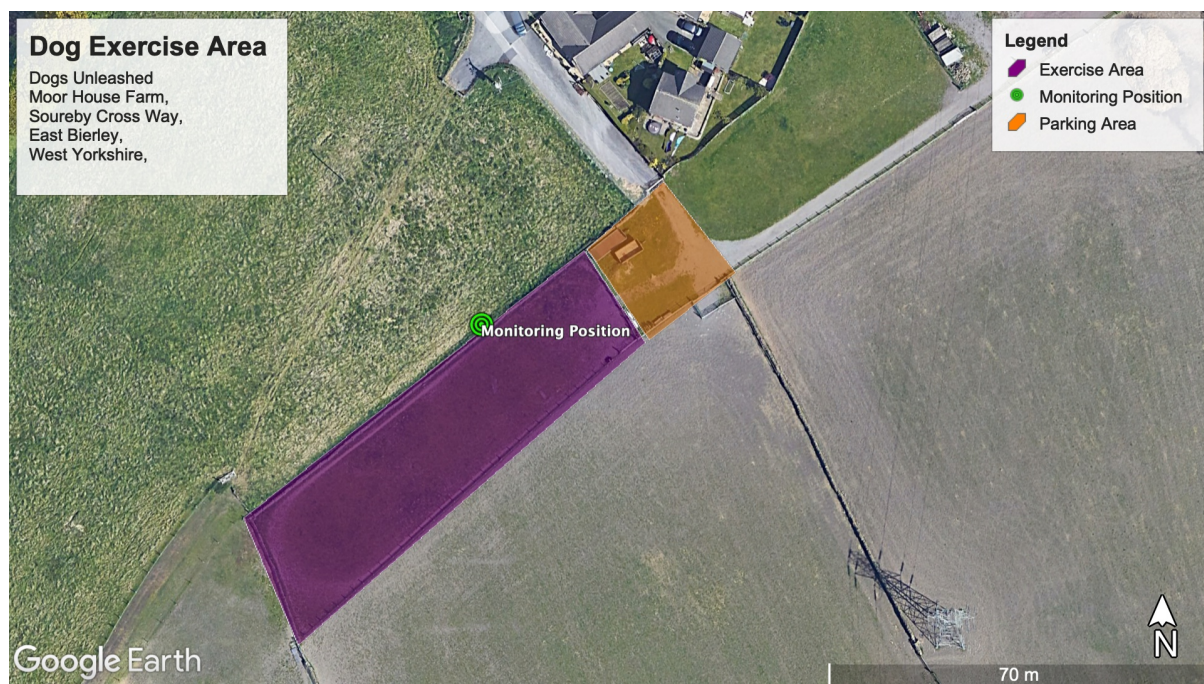


Figure 1 – Site location with background monitoring location

## 4. Noise Sources

The dog exercise area has been in situ and operational for a period of up to three years without complaint. Typically, the secure area will be hired out to an individual owner with no more than 3 dogs at a time. During the measurement period the facility was in operation on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 as identified in Table 1A.

## 5. Assessment Methodology

### **BS4142:2014 Methods for rating and assessing industrial and commercial sound.**

BS4142 gives a method for rating sound from industrial and commercial sources affecting people inside or outside dwellings or premises used for residential purposes.

However, BS4142 excludes itself from the assessment of dogs and other domestic animals in section 1.3 *“The standard is not intended to be applied to the rating and assessment of sound from: e) domestic animals”*.

### **World Health Organisation – Guidelines for Community Noise 1999.**

The World Health Organisation gives guidance for maximum recommended noise levels outside residential properties as follows:

| Specific Environment | Critical health effect                          | dB<br>L <sub>Aeq</sub> | Time<br>(hr) | dB<br>L <sub>Amax</sub> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Outdoor living area  | Serious annoyance, daytime and evening          | 55                     | 16           | -                       |
|                      | Moderate annoyance, daytime and evening         | 50                     | 16           | -                       |
| Outside bedrooms     | Sleep disturbance, window open (outdoor values) | 45                     | 8            | 60                      |

In external areas that are used for amenity space, such as gardens and patios, it is desirable that the external noise level does not exceed 50dB L<sub>Aeq,T</sub> with an upper guideline value of 55dB L<sub>Aeq,T</sub> which would be acceptable in noisier environments. It is also recognised that these guideline values may not be achievable in all circumstances. In such cases, the lowest practicable levels should be achieved in external amenity areas, but the development should not be prohibited.

## 6. Survey Information

### Measurement Instrumentation

The measurement instrumentation used on the survey was as follows:

| Equipment           | Manufacturer & Type | Serial Number | Calibration Certificate |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Sound Level Meter   | Norsonic 139        | 1392706       | 22/1652                 |
| Acoustic Calibrator | Norsonic 1251       | 32856         | 24/1333                 |

The equipment was calibrated to comply with section 4.2 of BS7445:1-2003 before and after the surveys. The calibration was as follows:

| Meter        | Serial  | Before |       | After |       |
|--------------|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Norsonic 139 | 1392706 | 114.1  | -27.2 | 114.1 | -27.2 |

### Measurements & Timescales

During the background survey 5-minute measurements were made during a typical operational period at the northern boundary of site commencing on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024. The client provided a log of the usage for the days in question as below:

|                                                                           |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>RC &amp; SJ Light</b>                                                  |  |
| <b>Moorhouse Farm, Moorhouse Lane <u>Birkenshaw</u> Bradford BD11 2AY</b> |  |
| <b>Dogs Unleashed</b>                                                     |  |
| <b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>                                        |  |
| 10.05 to 10.50                                                            |  |
| 11.05 to 11.50                                                            |  |
| 12.05 to 12.50                                                            |  |
| 13.05 to 13.50                                                            |  |
| 14.05 to 14.50                                                            |  |
| 15.05 to 15.50                                                            |  |
| 16.05 to 16.50                                                            |  |
| 18.05 to 18.50                                                            |  |
| 19.05 to 19.50                                                            |  |
| <b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>                                      |  |
| No usage                                                                  |  |

Measurements of the background climate with the facility closed for the purpose were taken during Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

The following measurements are reported:  $L_{Aeq,T}$ ,  $L_{A90,T}$ ,  $L_{Amax,T}$

The measurements and their interpretation shall be in accordance with BS 7445: Parts 1 and 2. All sound pressure levels are in dB (re 20µPa).

**Meteorology**

Wind speed measurements were recorded during the background survey close to the noise monitoring location. Throughout the measurement period average wind speed measurements were below 5m/s. Temperature was recorded at 8-13°C with slight precipitation during the measurement period.

**Position of Monitoring Equipment**

The equipment was mounted free field. Figure 1 shows the site area with the location of the installation.

## 7. Survey Results

### Noise Summary

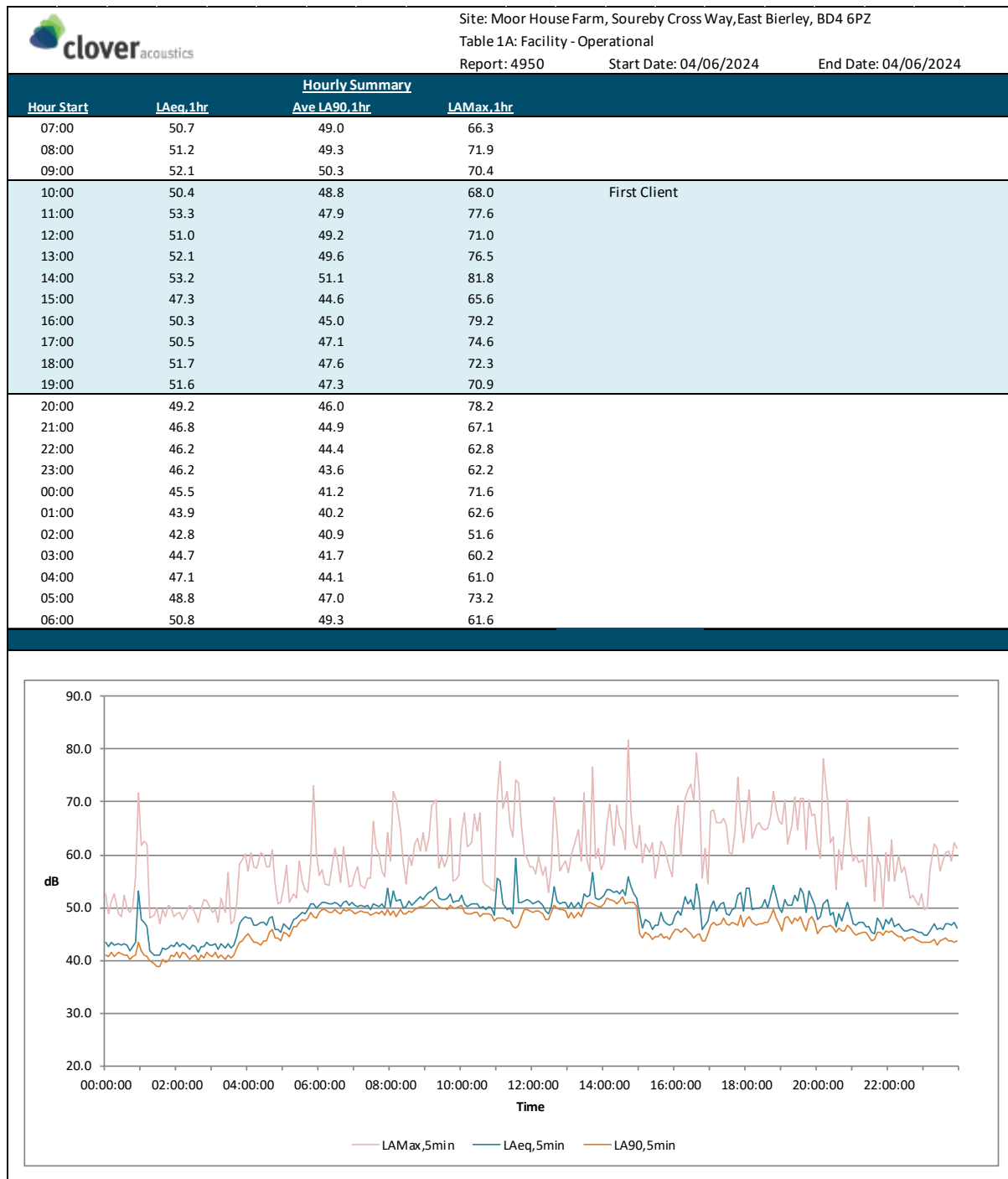


Table 1A – Monitoring Position 1 – Facility in operation

| Monitoring Position 1: Summary Facility Operational |         |                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| Measurement                                         | Daytime | Hour Ending/<br>Period |
| Minimum dB LAeq,1hr                                 | 46      | 22:00                  |
| Maximum dB LAeq,1hr                                 | 53      | 11:00                  |
| Average dB LAeq,16hr/LAeq,8hr                       | 51      | 07:00 – 23:00          |

| Hourly Summary |          |              |           |
|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| Hour Start     | LAeq,1hr | Ave LA90,1hr | LAMax,1hr |
| 07:00          | 51.2     | 47.4         | 70.6      |
| 08:00          | 49.6     | 47.2         | 73.1      |
| 09:00          | 51.4     | 48.5         | 76.1      |
| 10:00          | 51.6     | 48.7         | 68.4      |
| 11:00          | 53.6     | 50.1         | 77.1      |
| 12:00          | 52.2     | 49.2         | 70.9      |
| 13:00          | 54.0     | 49.7         | 73.9      |
| 14:00          | 54.8     | 49.1         | 80.5      |
| 15:00          | 52.5     | 47.8         | 71.1      |
| 16:00          | 52.9     | 49.5         | 71.2      |
| 17:00          | 53.2     | 49.7         | 68.8      |
| 18:00          | 52.7     | 49.5         | 71.8      |
| 19:00          | 52.0     | 47.9         | 79.9      |
| 20:00          | 49.1     | 46.4         | 74.1      |
| 21:00          | 48.3     | 45.6         | 68.3      |
| 22:00          | 47.3     | 45.5         | 65.3      |
| 23:00          | 45.0     | 43.4         | 56.7      |
| 00:00          | 45.4     | 42.9         | 62.6      |
| 01:00          | 44.4     | 42.0         | 61.0      |
| 02:00          | 43.7     | 41.5         | 62.3      |
| 03:00          | 43.7     | 41.1         | 56.0      |
| 04:00          | 48.3     | 45.9         | 71.4      |
| 05:00          | 50.1     | 48.5         | 63.3      |
| 06:00          | 51.7     | 49.9         | 74.5      |

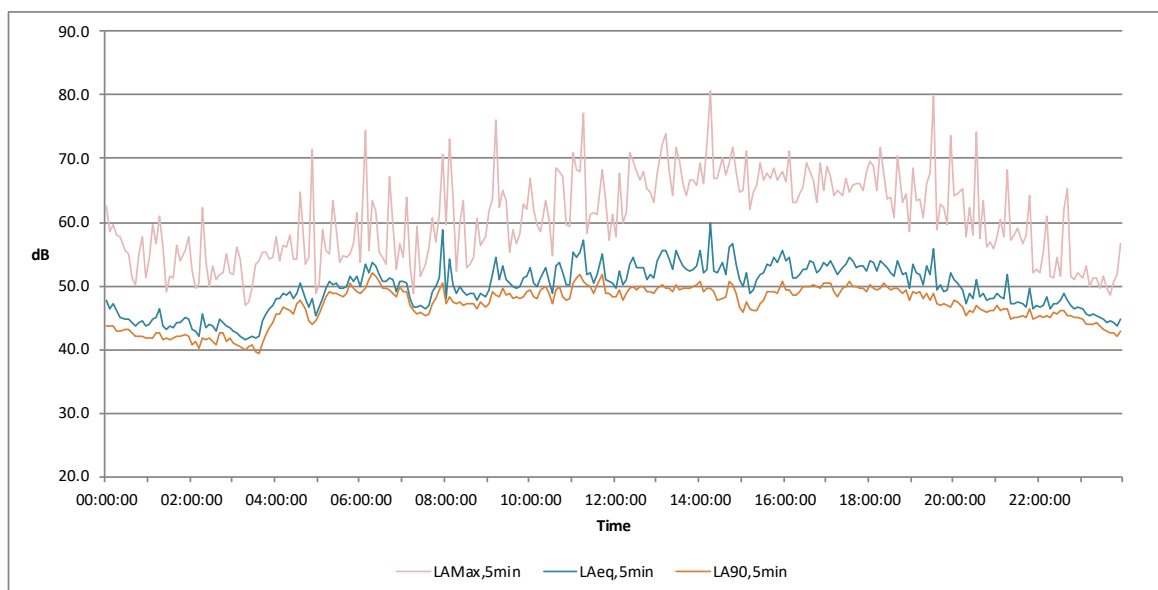


Table 2A – Monitoring Position 1 Background

| Monitoring Position 1: Background Summary |         |                        |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| Measurement                               | Daytime | Hour Ending/<br>Period |
| Minimum dB LAeq,1hr                       | 47      | 22:00                  |
| Maximum dB LAeq,1hr                       | 55      | 14:00                  |
| Average dB LAeq,16hr/LAeq,8hr             | 52      | 07:00 – 23:00          |

## 8. Discussion

BS4142 excludes itself from the assessment of dogs and other domestic animals in section 1.3 “*The standard is not intended to be applied to the rating and assessment of sound from: e) domestic animals*” and as such an assessment under the standard would not be appropriate.

Table 1A & Table 2A demonstrate noise levels broadly equal over the period in question which suggests that noise from the exercise area is equal to the ambient background noise. WHO Guidance identifies acceptable noise levels in respect of outdoor living areas of between 50 – 55dB  $L_{Aeq,16hr}$ . This is achieved in both scenarios.

It would be good practice to ensure a sensitive noise management policy is in place to enable good practice in quietly off loading and re loading dogs into cars and throughout their stay at the facility. Appropriate signage should be displayed.

It is understood that the site has operated for a period of up to three years with no complaints from the existing surrounding residential dwellings.

## 9. Conclusion

A noise survey has been carried out at the site of a proposed secure dog exercise area at Moor House Farm, Soureby Cross Way, East Bierley, West Yorkshire, BD4 6PZ to consider the impact of the current use on the nearest sensitive receivers. A background noise survey was conducted commencing on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024 with background noise being considered on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024, with operations suspended for the day.

The survey has demonstrated that there is no significant difference to noise levels with the facility operational or when operations were suspended as measured at the northern boundary. Noise levels were also shown to be in line WHO guideline values for outdoor living areas.

**Steve Clow** MIOA  
Acoustic Consultant

## 10. Appendix

### Glossary of Terms

#### ***Specific Noise Source***

The noise source under investigation for assessing the likelihood of complaints.

#### ***Specific Noise Level, $L_{Aeq,T}$***

The equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level at the assessment position produced by the specific noise source over a given reference time interval.

#### ***Rating Level, $L_{A,T}$***

The specific noise level plus any adjustment for the characteristic features of the noise.

#### ***Background Noise Level, $L_{A90,T}$***

The A-weighted sound pressure level of the residual noise at the assessment position that is exceeded for 90 % of a given time interval, T.

#### ***Residual Noise***

The ambient noise remaining at a given position in a given situation when the specific noise source is suppressed to a degree such that it does not contribute to the ambient noise.

#### ***Ambient Noise***

Totally encompassing sound in a given situation at a given time usually composed of sound from many sources near and far.

#### ***Reference Time Interval, T***

The specified interval over which an equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level is determined.

#### ***$L_{Aeq,T}$***

The A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level – the sound level of a notionally steady sound having the same energy as the fluctuating sound over a specified measurement period, T.

#### ***$L_{A10,T}$***

The A-weighted sound level exceeded for 10% of the specified measurement period, T.

#### ***$L_{Amax}$***

The highest short duration A-weighted sound level recorded during a noise event.

#### ***A-Weighting***

The 'A' weighting is a correction term applied to the frequency range in order to approximate to the sensitivity of the human ear to noise. It is generally used to obtain an overall noise level from octave or third octave band frequencies.

#### ***Octave Band***

A frequency band in which the upper limit of the band is twice the frequency of the lower limit.

#### ***One-third-octave Band***

A frequency band in which the upper limit of the band is 1/3 times the frequency of the lower limit.

## Photo Appendix



Photo 1 – Toward Exercise Field



Photo 2 – Toward Nearest Receiver



Photo 3 – Toward Northern Boundary

Site Plans

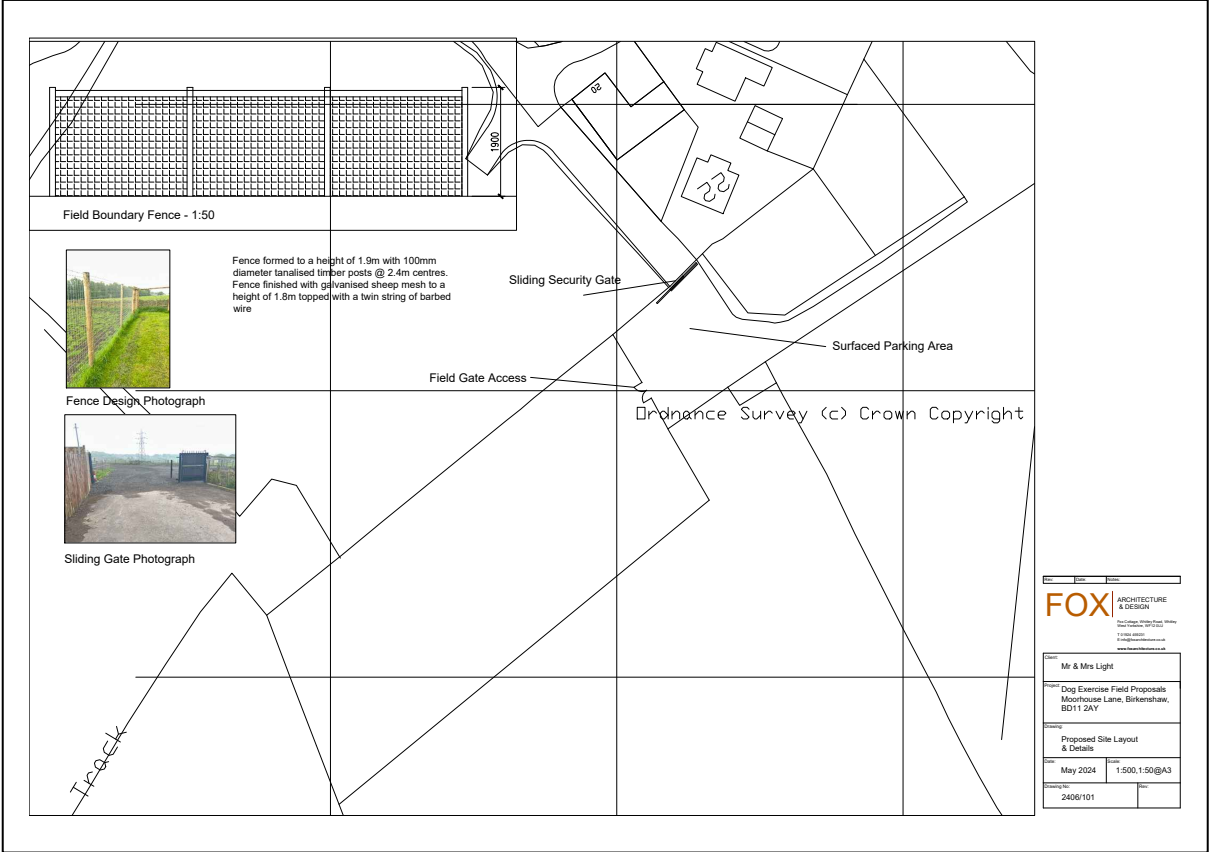


Figure 2 – Site Plan

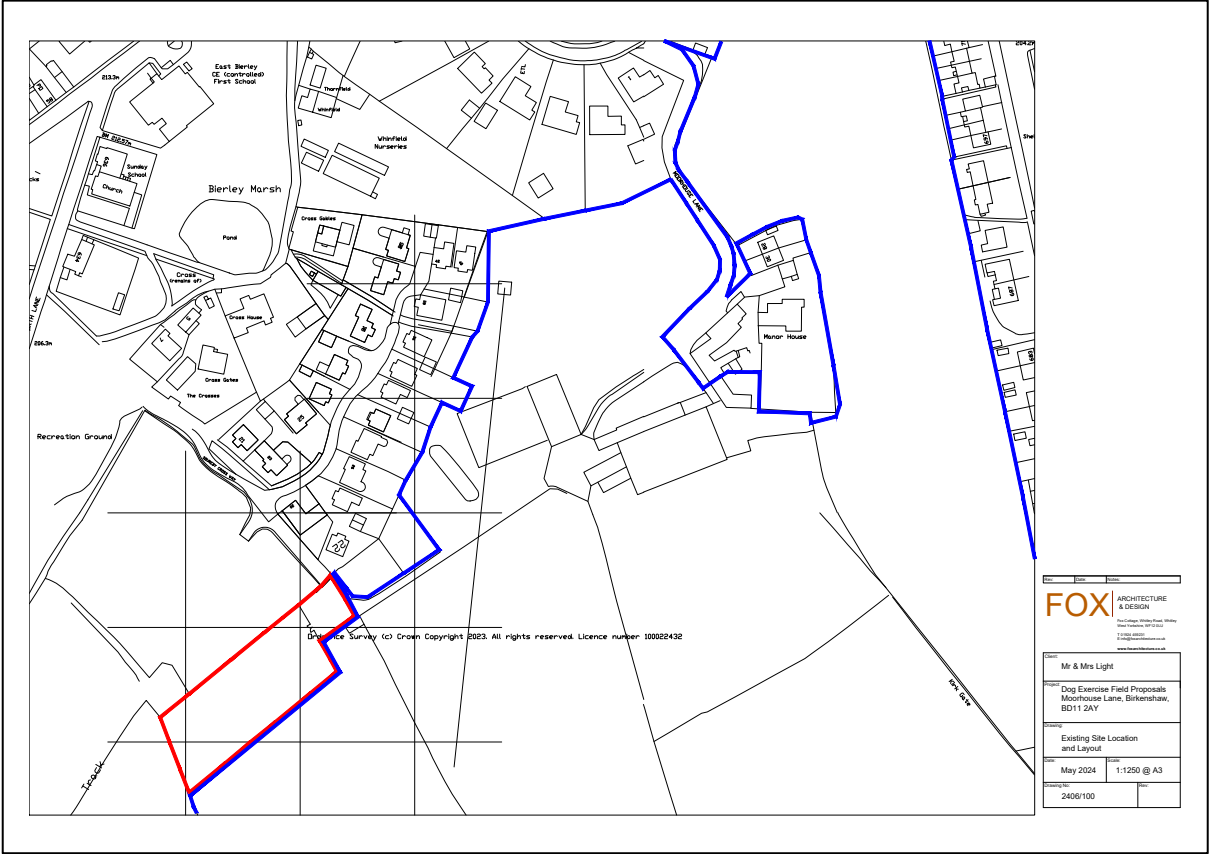


Figure 3 – Site Location



Figure 4 – Plan of stalled proposed residential application to the northern boundary of the existing dog exercise field.