

Whitcher Wildlife Ltd. Ecological Consultants.



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Company No. 4401613.

CLAYTON FIELDS, EDGERTON.

JAPANESE KNOTWEED REPORT.

Ref No: 250440

Date: 15th April 2025.

1. Introduction.

1.1. Jones Homes Ltd are building a new residential housing development comprising c.41 houses on a site known as 'Clayton Fields', in the Huddersfield suburb of Edgerton. The approximate location of the site is shown in the aerial imagery below.



1.2. Japanese knotweed has been known to be present on site for a while but has been mostly eradicated, however, some small sections of the plant remain and therefore, Jones Homes requested a repeat visit to identify the locations of the remnant populations and to advise on suitable methods of eradication.

1.3. The site is mostly cleared now, as shown below, with only the areas marked as having knotweed present being left uncleared.



1.4. The inspection was undertaken by Mitchel Greenhalgh, Managing Director of Whitcher Wildlife, and an Ecological Consultant with an array of experience in conducting surveys on a variety of flora and fauna in a professional capacity. Mitchel is FISC level 4 and holds a level two Natural England survey licence in respect of both bats and great crested newts, a NatureScot licence in respect of bats and Natural England class licences for various invertebrates. He is also working towards gaining further survey licences. He has attended courses run by CIEEM and the FSC and also holds a BSc in environmental science attained from the University of Leeds. He is an Associate member of CIEEM and he is therefore committed to continuous professional development..

2. Site Findings.

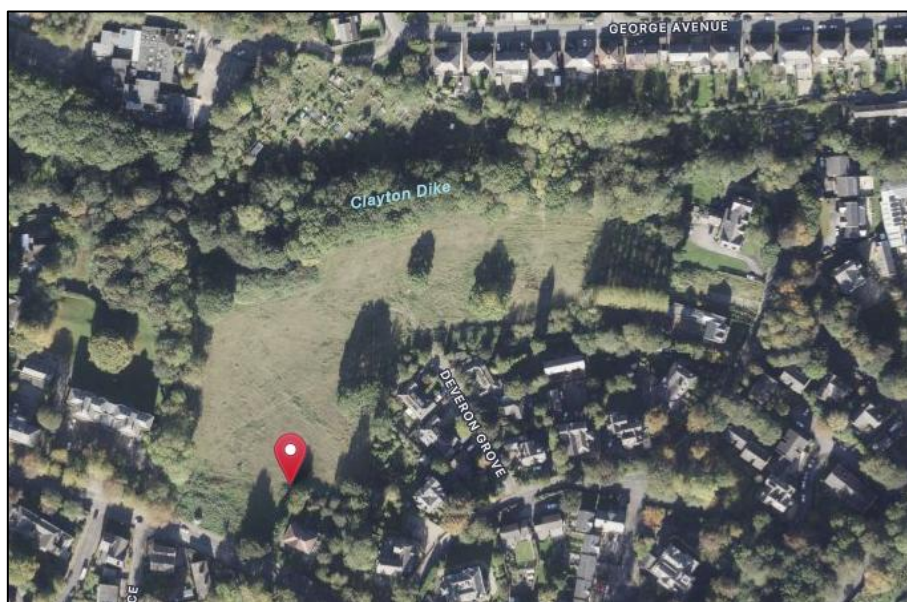
2.1. Japanese knotweed was identified in two locations within the site, both confined to the perimeters in well-marked areas and both atop raised mounds. These are described further below.

2.2. Plant location 1 – w3w: cage.rinse.harp

2.2.1. One individual young stem was identified within a raised mound of soils towards the very southwest of the corner. No other stems could be seen within the mound. A photograph of this plant is shown in the image below.



2.2.2. The location of this plant is shown in the aerial imagery below.



2.3. Plant location 2 – w3w: less.lime.type

2.3.1. A second, more established but still relatively small clump, was identified further east on the site. This clump is very restricted and compact in its nature and again, is formed on a bund. No plant stems were identified outside of the bund. A photograph of this plant is shown in the image below.



2.3.2. The location of this plant is shown in the aerial imagery below.



2.4. The remainder of the site was walked and checked for any other plants. This included within both any areas of remaining natural vegetation and within any soil bunds on site. No other plants were identified.

2.5. Both plants have been well isolated and appear to be located in transposed soils in raised mounds as opposed to growing from the ground. These are small clumps and are therefore hopefully easily treated if final remedial works are carried out quickly before they become more established.

3. Evaluation and Recommendations.

3.1. Two areas of Japanese knotweed were identified on site, both of which are small isolated clumps which have been separated from the remainder of the works area.

3.2. Previous remediation works have been undertaken in the past and eradicated much of what was previously known to be on site, but two isolated areas remain and therefore, it is recommended that final remedial works be carried out to ensure these remaining sections are eradicated completely. These should be carried out as soon as possible to avoid the plants spreading from their current locations.

3.3. Due to the small size of the remaining areas, and the fact that they are both located on raised mounds, the best way is likely to excavate the plants to ensure complete eradication. To do this, the plants and all soils within a 7m radius should be excavated to a depth of 2m. The waste should then be transported by a licenced waste carrier to a waste disposal site with appropriate permits in place.

3.4. It is recommended that a repeat check of the site be completed in July at the peak of the Japanese knotweed growing season to confirm whether any plants remain or whether these remnant populations are perceived to be eradicated.

Prepared by:	
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Checked by:	
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MAP SHOWING LOCATIONS OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED.

