

Environmental
Geotechnical
Specialists



COAL MINING RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT

job number	C4887/24/E/7466	date	29.01.2025
site address	10 Kirkfield Close, Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4DU		
written by			
checked by			
issued by			



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Report on a Coal Mining Risk Assessment

Location: **10 Kirkfield Close**
Cawthorne, Barnsley, S75 4DU

For: Bob Nutt & Diane Nutt

Report No. C4887/24/E/7466

Report date: January 2025

For and on behalf of **Rogers Geotechnical Services Ltd**

Steven Hale BSc FGS
Geo-environmental Technician

Rob Palmer MSc FGS ACIEH
Engineering Director

1. Introduction

It is understood that as part of the planning application at the site, a Coal Mining Risk Assessment has been requested by the planning authority. Consequently, a desktop study was commissioned in order to assess the risk to the development from coal mining. This report presents the findings of the study.

2. Geological Desk Study

The geological desk study has been undertaken using the following sources of information.

- British Geological Survey map sheet¹.
- British Geological Survey *Geoindex Onshore*².
- Coal Authority Consultants Coal Mining Report³.
- British Geological Survey *Borehole Records*⁴.

2.1 British Geological Survey Maps and Viewer

The appropriate map sheet for the site and the geology viewer has been examined and the following table presents the indicated geology:

¹ Sources: British Geological Survey (NERC) Map Sheet 87; Barnsley Solid and Drift Editions

² Sources: British Geological Survey (NERC) Geoindex Onshore [online resource from <https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html>]

³ Coal Authority Reference: 51003474124001 dated 20th January 2025.

⁴ Sources: British Geological Survey (NERC) Borehole Records [online resource from <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/>]

Table 1: Geological Data for the Site

Strata Type	Strata Name ⁵	Previous Name ⁶	Description ³
Superficial Geology	None recorded	-	-
Solid Geology	Parkgate Rock	-	Named sandstone unit of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation.

On the geological map, there is one dip indicator relevant to the site (i.e. within 500m of the site or within the same fault block) that suggests the solid geology beneath the site dips 3° to the east.

There is one local coal seam that is shown to outcrop within the local area. This seam is summarised as follows:

Table 2: Summary of Coal Seams Within the Vicinity of the Site.

Seam Name	Seam thickness ^{5*}	Outcrop distance from site ^{5*}	Anticipated depth below site
Middleton Little Coal (ML)	0.2m – 0.6m	170m NW	20m and 25m.

*All distances are given as approximations only. It should be noted that coal seam thicknesses vary over relatively short distances

In light of the above and taking into account the regional structural geology and the topography of the area, the Middleton Little Coal (ML) seam is anticipated to be present at depths of between 20m and 25m below the surface of the site.

2.2 Coal Authority Mines Report

As part of this study a Coal Authority Consultants Coal Mining Report has been obtained. The report is presented as Appendix 2 and for the purposes of discussion has been summarised below:

Table 3: Summary of the Consultant's Coal Mining Report

Has the report highlighted evidence or potential of:			
Ref	Mining Feature	Yes/No	Comments
1	Underground Coal Mining	No	No past mining recorded.
2	Probable Unrecorded Shallow Workings	Yes	No further information given.
3	Spine Roadways at Shallow Depth	No	No spine roadway recorded at shallow depth.
4	Mine Entries	Yes	One shaft is noted to be located approximately 45m north of the site. No further information is given.
5	Abandoned mine plans	Yes	Plans of abandoned mine workings below the site are suggested to be available by the Coal Authority.

⁵ Sources: British Geological Survey (NERC) Map Sheets 87; Barnsley; Solid and Drift Edition, and Geology of Britain Viewer [online resource from www.bgs.ac.uk]

⁶ Sources: British Geological Survey (NERC) Lexicon of Named Rock Units [online resource from www.bgs.ac.uk]

6	Outcrops	No	No outcrops recorded.
7	Geological Faults	No	No faults, fissures or breaklines recorded.
8	Opencast Mines	No	None recorded within 100 metres of the enquiry boundary.
9	Coal Authority Managed Tips	No	None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.
10	Site Investigations	No	None recorded within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary
11	Remediated Sites	No	None recorded within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary.
12	Coal Mining Subsidence	No	The Coal Authority has not received a damage notice or claim for the subject property, or any property within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary, since 31st October 1994. There is no current Stop Notice delaying the start of remedial works or repairs to the property. The Coal Authority is not aware of any request having been made to carry out preventive works before coal is worked under section 33 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991.
13	Mine Gas	No	None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.
14	Mine Water Treatment Schemes	No	None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.
15	Future underground mining	No	For further information please see section 3 of the Consultant's Coal Mining Report (ref 51003474124001).
16	Coal mining licensing	No	
17	Court orders	No	
18	Section 46 notices	No	
19	Withdrawal of support notices	Yes	
20	Payments to owners of former copyhold land	No	

2.3 Geological Survey Borehole Records

The British Geological Survey (NERC) keeps borehole records from across Britain which are available for public viewing through their website. As part of this study, the records in the area around the site have been reviewed. Unfortunately, in this instance, while there are borehole scans available within the vicinity of the site they are of poor value due to their shallow nature.

3. Risk Assessment

The risk to the stability of the proposed residential development has been evaluated from the data obtained and with reference to the following ratings and definitions:

- Low - The possibility of instability is unlikely therefore no further action is necessary.
- Moderate - The possibility of instability is likely and further investigation or remedial action may be required.
- High - The possibility of instability is highly likely and further investigation or remedial action will be necessary.

Table 4: Development Specific Risk Assessment			
Item	Risk attributed to	Coal Seam(s) Considered	Risk Rating
3.1	Shallow coal workings	Middleton Little Coal (ML)	Low
3.2	Coal workings at depth	The Coal Authority report indicates that the property is not within a surface area that could be affected by past underground mining.	Low
3.3	Mine gas	Shallow coal workings	Low
3.4	Mine shafts	Shaft Number 428407-014	Low

3.1 Risks Posed by Shallow Coal Workings

On the basis of all of the information provided above, one coal seam is anticipated to be present within 30m of the surface at the site. Whilst this seam may be of limited thickness, the possibility of this seam being worked below the site cannot be ruled out. Historic coal mining activity is evident in the nearby area, and therefore it is considered that if coal was known to be close to ground level it could have been removed illicitly via shallow mining methods with relative ease.

It may be noted that guidance available from both the NHBC and the CIRIA publication, SP32 - *construction over abandoned mine workings*, suggests that competent overburden thickness above a coal seam should be greater than 10 times the thickness of a seam plus seam thickness in order that the collapse of workings would pose a low risk to surface structures.

On this basis, assuming a maximum thickness of the coal seams, the table below suggests the thickness of competent overburden required above each seam to mitigate instability at the surface.

Table 5: Required Thickness of Competent Overburden			
Seam Name	Seam thickness	Anticipated depth below site	Required thickness of competent overburden.
Middleton Little Coal (ML)	0.2m – 0.6m	20m to 25m	6.6m

Based on the above information, it is considered that there will be a sufficient thickness of competent overburden above the shallowest seam in order to prevent the risk of instability posed by the presence of any illicit workings. Therefore, a low risk rating has been assigned to this seam and further investigation is not considered necessary.

3.2 Risks Posed by Coal Workings at Depth

In regard to deeper mining which could affect the site, the property is not within a surface area that could be affected by past underground mining.

3.3 Risks Posed by Mine Gas

This assessment has concluded that it is unlikely that shallow mine workings will be present beneath the site or within the wider site area. In addition, the Consultants Coal Mining Report has not reported any incidents of mine gas within the vicinity of the development. As such, the risks posed by the migration of mine gas can be considered low, such that no further action is required.

3.4 Risks Posed by Mine Shafts

The Consultants Mining Report makes reference to one shaft within close proximity to the site (ref: 428407-014); assumed to be located 45m north of the development.

In the context of the guidance given by CIRIA SP32 – *Construction over abandoned mine workings* it should be appreciated that the minimum distance for siting structures from open or poorly filled shafts depends primarily on the nature and thickness of the surface deposits. This would presumably be on the basis that a significant ground collapse within intact rock would be improbable, therefore the crater associated with a collapse shaft would be located within the soils above the rock.

It is reasoned that there is sufficient standoff distance between the development and the shaft, such that the risks posed by shaft collapse can be considered low.

4. Conclusions

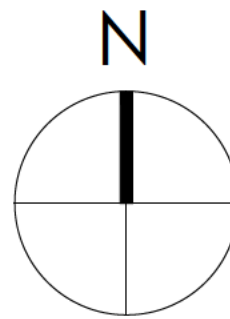
In conclusion, it is anticipated that no intrusive investigation will be required in order to determine the presence of any illicit workings as it is expected that should any be present then a sufficient thickness of competent overburden is present.

Appendix 1

Site Plan

Notes_

PLANNING



0 1.25 2.5 3.75 5.0 6.25m
SCALE 1:125

0 2 4 6 8 10m
SCALE 1:200

0 5 10 15 20 25m
SCALE 1:500

Note:
Surrounding contextual buildings and information are based on received ordinance survey drawings and are shown for illustrative purposes only. assumed site boundary is subject to confirmation to legal confirmation

Note:
Information is based on OS map and received information and is subject to full topographical survey.
Assumed site boundary and site constraints subject to legal confirmation.
All Legal easements and extent of existing underground services locations are subject to confirmation.

Rev_ Date_ Amendments_ By_ Apr'd_

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Drawing Status_

PLANNING

Client_

MR + MRS NUTT

Project_

10 KIRKFIELD CLOSE, CAWTHORNE, BARNSELY

Drawing Title_

AS EXISTING, SITE PLAN + SITE SECTION + LOCATION PLAN

Drawing Scale_

1:125 1:200 1:500

Drawn By_

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Checked By_

Jat

Paper Size_

A1

Drawn Date_

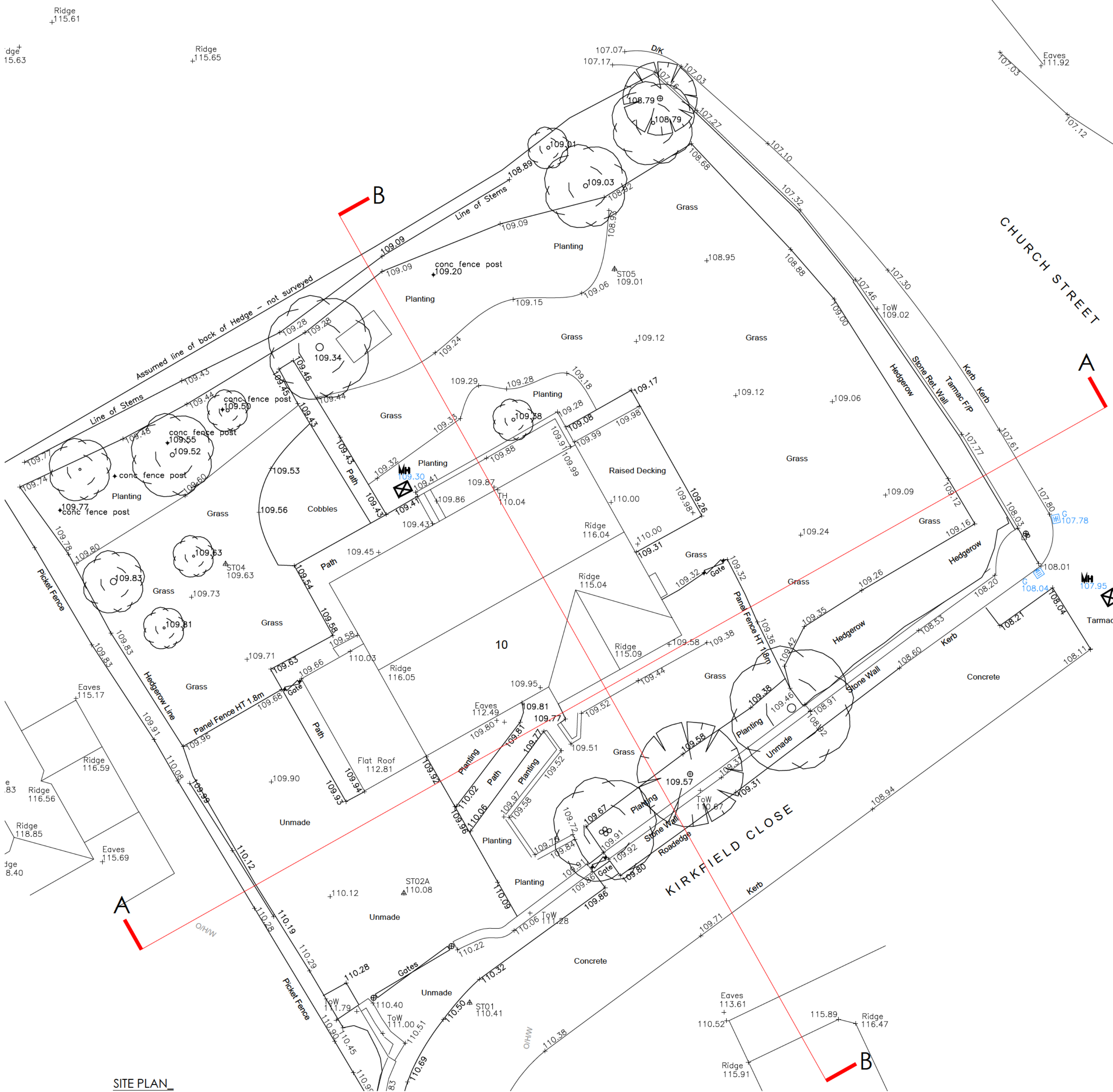
AUGUST 2024

Checked Date_

DECEMBER 2024

Drawing Number_

24_816 100



SITE PLAN_

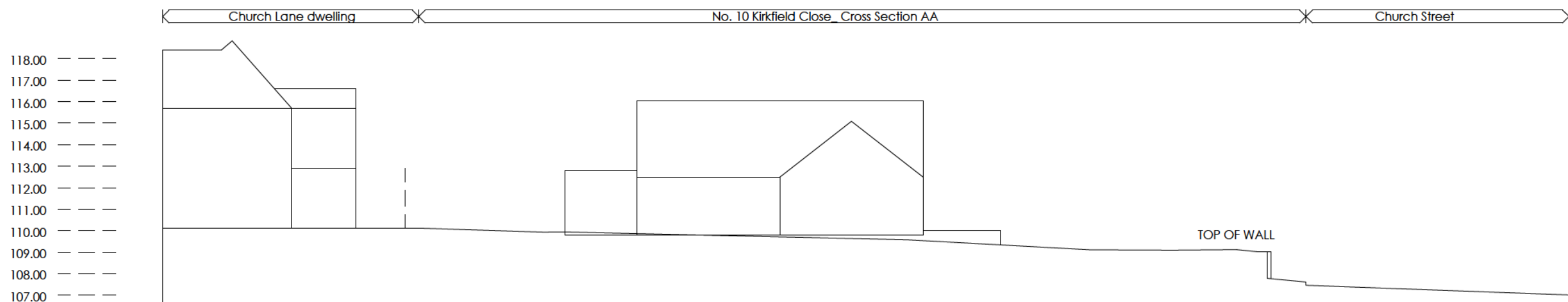
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LOCATION PLAN_

AS EXISTING_

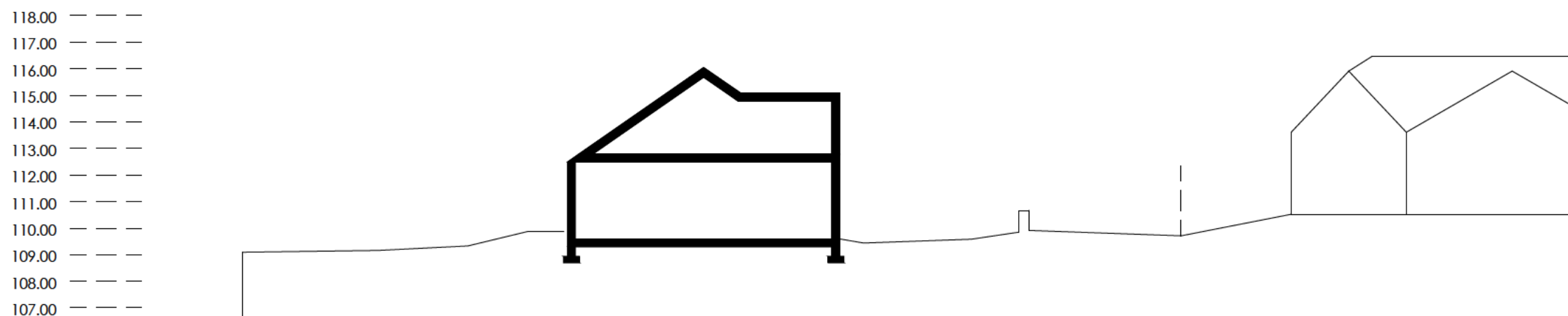
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CROSS SITE SECTION AA_

AS EXISTING_

Scale 1_200



CROSS SITE SECTION BB_

AS EXISTING_

Scale 1_200

Appendix 2

Coal Authority Report

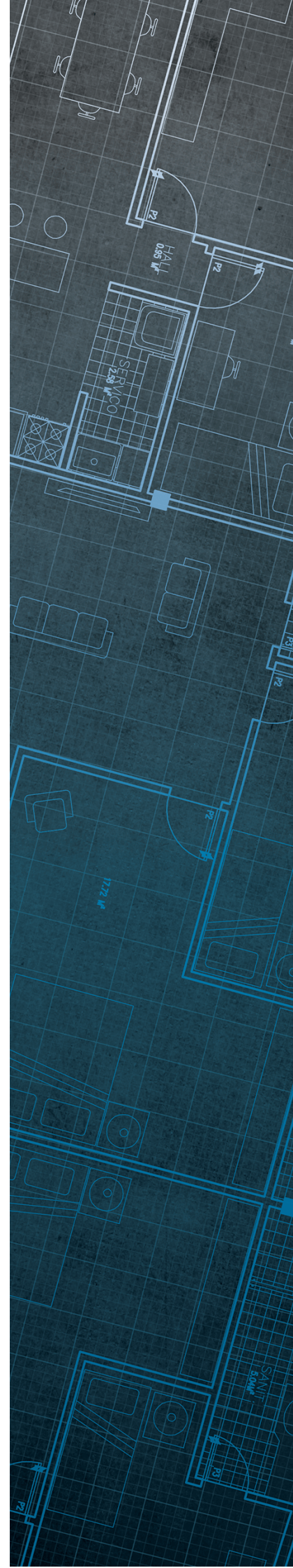


The Coal
Authority

Consultants Coal Mining Report

10 Kirkfield Close
Cawthorne
Barnsley
Barnsley
S75 4DU

Date of enquiry:	20 January 2025
Date enquiry received:	20 January 2025
Issue date:	20 January 2025
Our reference:	51003474124001
Your reference:	C/4887/24/E/7466



Consultants

Coal Mining Report

This report is based on and limited to the records held by the Coal Authority at the time the report was produced.

Client name

ROGERS GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES LTD

Enquiry address

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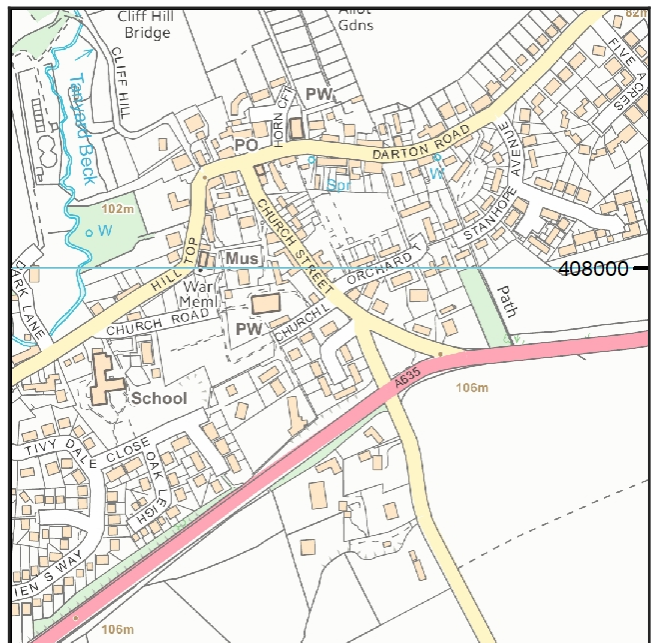
www.groundstability.com

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 /thecoalauthority



Approximate position of property



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Section 1 – Mining activity and geology

Past underground mining

No past mining recorded.

Probable unrecorded shallow workings

Yes.

Spine roadways at shallow depth

No spine roadway recorded at shallow depth.

Mine entries

Entry type	Reference	Grid reference	Treatment description	Mineral	Conveyancing details
Shaft	428407-014	428547 407997		Coal	

Abandoned mine plan catalogue numbers

The following abandoned mine plan catalogue numbers intersect with some, or all, of the enquiry boundary:

NE621	NE1034	
-------	--------	--

Please contact us on 0345 762 6848 to determine the exact abandoned mine plans you require based on your needs.

Outcrops

No outcrops recorded.

Geological faults, fissures and breaklines

No faults, fissures or breaklines recorded.

Opencast mines

Please refer to the “Summary of findings” map (on separate sheet) for details of any opencast areas within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Coal Authority managed tips

None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Section 2 – Investigative or remedial activity

Please refer to the 'Summary of findings' map (on separate sheet) for details of any activity within the area of the site boundary.

Site investigations

None recorded within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Remediated sites

None recorded within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Coal mining subsidence

The Coal Authority has not received a damage notice or claim for the subject property, or any property within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary, since 31 October 1994.

There is no current Stop Notice delaying the start of remedial works or repairs to the property.

The Coal Authority is not aware of any request having been made to carry out preventive works before coal is worked under section 33 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991.

Mine gas

None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Mine water treatment schemes

None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Section 3 – Licensing and future mining activity

Future underground mining

None recorded.

Coal mining licensing

None recorded within 200 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Court orders

None recorded.

Section 46 notices

No notices have been given, under section 46 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991, stating that the land is at risk of subsidence.

Withdrawal of support notices

The property is in an area where a notice to withdraw support was given in 1987.

The property is not in an area where a notice has been given under section 41 of the Coal Industry Act 1994, cancelling the entitlement to withdraw support.

Payments to owners of former copyhold land

The property is not in an area where a relevant notice has been published under the Coal Industry Act 1975/Coal Industry Act 1994.

Section 4 – Further information

Based on the responses in this report, no further information has been highlighted.

Future development

If development proposals are being considered, technical advice relating to both the investigation of coal and former coal mines and their treatment should be obtained before beginning work on site. All proposals should apply specialist engineering practice required for former mining areas. No development should be undertaken that intersects, disturbs or interferes with any coal or coal mines without first obtaining the permission of the Coal Authority.

MINE GAS: Please note, if there are no recorded instances of mine gas within 500m of the enquiry boundary, this does not mean that mine gas is not present within the vicinity. The Coal Authority Mine Gas data is limited to only those sites where a Mine Gas incident has been recorded. Developers should be aware that the investigation of coal seams, mine workings or mine entries may have the potential to generate and/or displace underground gases. Associated risks both to the development site and any neighbouring land or properties should be fully considered when undertaking any ground works. The need for effective measures to prevent gases migrating onto any land or into any properties, either during investigation or remediation work, or after development must also be assessed and properly addressed. In these instances, the Coal Authority recommends that a more detailed Gas Risk Assessment is undertaken by a competent assessor.

Section 5 – Data definitions

The datasets used in this report have limitations and assumptions within their results. For more guidance on the data and the results specific to the enquiry boundary, please **call us on 0345 762 6848** or **email us at groundstability@coal.gov.uk**.

Past underground coal mining

Details of all recorded underground mining relative to the enquiry boundary. Only past underground workings where the enquiry boundary is within 0.7 times the depth of the workings (zone of likely physical influence) allowing for seam inclination, will be included.

Probable unrecorded shallow workings

Areas where the Coal Authority believes there to be unrecorded coal workings that exist at or close to the surface (less than 30 metres deep).

Spine roadways at shallow depth

Connecting roadways either, working to working, or, surface to working, both in-seam and cross measures that exist at or close to the surface (less than 30 metres deep), either within or within 10 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Mine entries

Details of any shaft or adit either within, or within 100 metres of the enquiry boundary including approximate location, brief treatment details where known, the mineral worked from the mine entry and conveyance details where the mine entry has previously been sold by the Authority or its predecessors British Coal or the National Coal Board.

Abandoned mine plan catalogue numbers

Plan numbers extracted from the abandoned mines catalogue containing details of coal and other mineral abandonment plans deposited via the Mines Inspectorate in accordance with the Coal Mines Regulation Act and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act 1872. A maximum of 9 plan extents that intersect with the enquiry boundary will be included. This does not infer that the workings and/or mine entries shown on the abandonment plan will be relevant to the site/property boundary.

Outcrops

Details of seam outcrops will be included where the enquiry boundary intersects with a conjectured or actual seam outcrop location (derived by either the British Geological Survey or the Coal Authority) or intersects with a defined 50 metres buffer on the coal (dip) side of the outcrop. An indication of whether the Coal Authority believes the seam to be of sufficient thickness and/or quality to have been worked will also be included.

Geological faults, fissures and breaklines

Geological disturbances or fractures in the bedrock. Surface fault lines (British Geological Survey derived data) and fissures and breaklines (Coal Authority derived data) intersecting with the enquiry boundary will be included. In some circumstances faults, fissures or breaklines have been known to contribute to surface subsidence damage as a consequence of underground coal mining.

Opencast mines

Opencast coal sites from which coal has been removed in the past by opencast (surface) methods and where the enquiry boundary is within 500 metres of either the licence area, site boundary, excavation area (high wall) or coaling area.

Coal Authority managed tips

Locations of disused colliery tip sites owned and managed by the Coal Authority, located within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Site investigations

Details of site investigations within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary where the Coal Authority has received information relating to coal mining risk investigation and/or remediation by third parties.

Remediated sites

Sites where the Coal Authority has undertaken remedial works either within or within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary following report of a hazard relating to coal mining under the Coal Authority's Emergency Surface Hazard Call Out procedures.

Coal mining subsidence

Details of alleged coal mining subsidence claims made since 31 October 1994 either within or within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary. Where the claim relates to the enquiry boundary confirmation of whether the claim was accepted, rejected or whether liability is still being determined will be given. Where the claim has been discharged, whether this was by repair, payment of compensation or a combination of both, the value of the claim, where known, will also be given.

Details of any current 'Stop Notice' deferring remedial works or repairs affecting the property/site, and if so the date of the notice.

Details of any request made to execute preventative works before coal is worked under section 33 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991. If yes, whether any person withheld consent or failed to comply with any request to execute preventative works.

Mine gas

Reports of alleged mine gas emissions received by the Coal Authority, either within or within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary that subsequently required investigation and action by the Coal Authority to mitigate the effects of the mine gas emission. Please note, if there are no recorded instances of mine gas reported, this does not mean that mine gas is not present within the vicinity. The Coal Authority Mine Gas data is limited to only those sites where a Mine Gas incident has been recorded.

Mine water treatment schemes

Locations where the Coal Authority has constructed or operates assets that remove pollutants from mine water prior to the treated mine water being discharged into the receiving water body.

These schemes are part of the UK's strategy to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive. Schemes fall into 2 basic categories: Remedial – mitigating the impact of existing pollution or Preventative – preventing a future pollution incident.

Mine water treatment schemes generally consist of one or more primary settlement lagoons and one or more reed beds for secondary treatment. A small number are more specialised process treatment plants.

Future underground mining

Details of all planned underground mining relative to the enquiry boundary. Only those future workings where the enquiry boundary is within 0.7 times the depth of the workings (zone of likely physical influence) allowing for seam inclination will be included.

Coal mining licensing

Details of all licenses issued by the Coal Authority either within or within 200 metres of the enquiry boundary in relation to the under taking of surface coal mining, underground coal mining or underground coal gasification.

Court orders

Orders in respect of the working of coal under the Mines (Working Facilities and Support) Acts of 1923 and 1966 or any statutory modification or amendment thereof.

Section 46 notices

Notice of proposals relating to underground coal mining operations that have been given under section 46 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991.

Withdrawal of support notices

Published notices of entitlement to withdraw support and the date of the notice. Details of any revocation notice withdrawing the entitlement to withdraw support given under Section 41 of the Coal Industry Act 1994.

Payment to owners of former copyhold land

Relevant notices which may affect the property and any subsequent notice of retained interests in coal and coal mines, acceptance or rejection notices and whether any compensation has been paid to a claimant.

Key

- Approximate position of the enquiry boundary shown
- Disused mine shaft
- Unlicensed opencast site

How to contact us
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 +44 (0)1623 637 000 (International)
 www.groundstability.com