

WEST DORSET LOCAL PLAN: EASTERN AREA CONSULTATION, WINTERBOURNE ABBAS  
SOIL PIT DESCRIPTIONS

**Soil Pit No 1**

Location: Exposed crest site close to ASP No 7 (see ASP Map)

Topsoil: 0-20  
Medium Silty Clay Loam  
10YR32; very dark greyish brown  
7% stones, 2-6 cm, flint and chalk (Stoniness Assessment:  
weight of stones = 5.7 kg; volume of pit = 29,373 cm<sup>3</sup>)  
No evidence of wetness  
Structure: Weakly developed  
Fine Subangular blocky  
Friable

Subsoil: 20-33 cm  
Heavy Silty Clay Loam  
10YR54; yellowish brown  
Approximately 50% chalk; weathered to a degree that is  
easily penetrable by both roots and cultivation implements;  
visual assessment

Chalk: 33-50 cm  
70% Chalk; cracked and soil stained to at least this  
depth.

ALC Grade: 3A

Limiting Factor: Exposure, Depth, Droughtiness

**Pit No 2**

This pit examination took the form of an assessment of topsoil stone content  
in a 30 x 30 x 25 cm deep pit.

Location: between ASPs Nos 4 and 5; on the floor of a dry valley  
feature (through which the A35 runs); at the base of  
a stony 3B slope

Stone type: flint (2.66g cm<sup>-2</sup>)

Weight of stone in the top 25 cm: 9.9 kg (for all stone >2 cm)

Volum of soil pit: 21,380 cm<sup>3</sup>

(9,800 ÷ 2.60 = 3,684; 3,684 ÷ 21,380 = 0.17)

Percentage topsoil stone content (stones >2 cm) = 17%  
= Sub-grade 3B

For stones >6 cm:-

Weight of stone in the top 25 cm : 7.0 kg

$(7,000 \div 2.66 = 2,632; 2,632 + 21,380 = 0.12)$

Percentage topsoil stone content (stones >6cm) = 12%  
= Sub-grade 3B