

# The Beeleigh Abbey Estate

Beeleigh, Maldon, Essex

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## A Thirteenth century Abbey with magnificent grounds and farmland close to the Essex coast

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Beeleigh Abbey, Beeleigh Turning, Beeleigh, Maldon, Essex, CM9 3LL

Maldon 1 mile, Chelmsford 8 miles (London Liverpool Street Station 30 minutes), Central London 38 miles



### *Features:*

Grade I listed Abbey with five main reception rooms, Aga kitchen/breakfast room, six bedrooms, six bathrooms and large attic playroom

Formal gardens, woodland and frontage to the River Chelmer

Cottage and traditional outbuildings

Farm buildings, arable land, meadows and woodland

About 366 acres (148 ha)

Available as a whole or in 4 lots

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### *Situation*

The Beeleigh Abbey Estate is situated in the quiet hamlet of Beeleigh. The market town of Maldon is 1 mile away and offers a range of facilities, and the city of Chelmsford is 8 miles away and offers a wide range of schooling, facilities and a high speed rail link to London Liverpool Street Station with a journey time of about 30 minutes.

### *History*

Beeleigh Abbey is believed to have been founded in about 1170 by Robert Mantell, Lord of the Manor of Little Maldon. In 1189 Richard 1st granted the Abbey a charter which was confirmed in 1364 by Edward III, with income derived from its landed estate within many parishes around Maldon as well as in south and west Essex. The importance of the Abbey and its estate grew over the following two centuries and by the mid 1500's the Abbey was within the patronage of Henry Bouchier second Earl of Essex. The Abbey comprised a comprehensive settlement around the present Abbey including a magnificent church, Chapter House, dormitory, refectory and vestry.

Upon the orders of Henry VIII in his dissolution of the monasteries, many of the buildings were pulled down and the Abbey was granted to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. During the 1700's the Abbey was used as a public house and by the late 1800's the Abbey was in a poor state, but in 1912 restoration was started by a Captain Grantham and thence a Richard Thomas. Subsequently the Abbey was acquired in 1943 by William Foyle, owner of Foyles bookshop in London after he had happened upon it on a day's boating on the River Chelmer. Immediately captivated by the Abbey and the setting, he made

a private acquisition and enjoyed a spirited life at Beeleigh. In 1976, The Abbey was inherited by his daughter Christina and in 2000 the Abbey was acquired by a further family member Christopher Foyle, who, with his wife Catherine embarked on a full restoration of the Abbey, its gardens and grounds. Today, Beeleigh Abbey is in wonderful condition but nevertheless remains true to its majestic history.

### *Restoration*

The restoration commenced in 2000 and included a complete renovation of the Abbey. A specialist team of builders, craftsmen, joiners and engineers embarked on a four-year programme of sensitive repairs to all aspects of the structure of the Abbey and also to the gardens and grounds. The project won the Maldon District Council Building Conservation Award in 2007, followed by the RICS East of England Award in 2008 as well as the coveted RICS National Award for the best restored and conserved historical building in the whole of the United Kingdom. Such was the attention to detail that materials were sourced from far and wide including overseas. Aged limestone flags were sourced from a French château and were laid throughout the majority of the ground floor and correct broad width oak flooring was laid on the first and second floors. Modern heating and electrical systems were installed as were a new Aga kitchen and period correct bathrooms. The gardens were rejuvenated with the addition of a large heated Alitex aluminium greenhouse and plentiful planting of trees, shrubs and borders which give a wonderful backdrop. Beeleigh Abbey is now a fully functioning country house of outstanding character.



*Lot 1: Beeleigh Abbey, gardens and grounds 35.38 acres (14.34 ha)*  
Beeleigh Abbey is listed Grade I and is one of the most important properties in Essex, dating back to 1170. The magnificent Abbey boasts centuries of history, having been established as a monastery then passing through several owners, latterly owned by the same family for over eighty years. Following a recent full restoration which won a nationally important award, the Abbey is now in fine condition and offers wonderful family accommodation. The principal reception rooms are extremely rare in their character and these are balanced by an element of new build (albeit in traditional form) to the western elevation where there is a sizeable family kitchen/breakfast room. The bedrooms are well appointed with sufficient bathrooms and the large attic offers an extensive play/hobby room.



### *The Abbey*

From the drive, a front door opens to a vestibule which leads into the magnificent Calefactory used as a drawing room. With fan vaulted ceiling, stone columns and a large fireplace with stone surround, there are superb views over the garden. To one side there is a study with double doors to a secret terrace and garden beyond as well as a lobby with stairs to the first floor and a door to a cloakroom. At the opposite end of the Calefactory there is an opening to the Inner Parlour used as a dining room with a fine barrel vaulted ceiling. The Chapter House is a further room offering spacious accommodation with its fan faulted ceiling and stone columns, to one end of which there are double doors to the outside. The recent addition to the Abbey comprises a double height hall with stairs to the first floor and an opening to the kitchen/breakfast room with electric Aga, a full range of units and island with larder and store beyond.

The first floor is reached by two staircases. The staircase from the lobby reaches a landing with two bedrooms and two bathrooms as well as to the superb library offering an exceptional extra reception room. Also from this landing there is a staircase to the second floor with two bedrooms and two bathrooms. The staircase from the hall near the kitchen leads to three bedrooms and two bathrooms (as well as a second access to the library) and also to a staircase to the large second floor playroom/hobby room.

### *The Cottage*

The cottage is listed Grade II and offers secondary accommodation with a utility leading to a galley kitchen, dining area and cloakroom. There is a central hall with two reception rooms and at first floor there are three bedrooms and a bathroom.

### *Barn and outbuildings*

The timber barn has a first floor and is attached to a series of former stables and stores now offering a tank store, log shed, garage and garden machinery shed with two WC's. The range are listed Grade II. There are three further modern timber buildings which have been used as a tearoom, a visitor reception and a store room.

### *Gardens and grounds*

The grounds extend to 35.38 acres and are a mix of gardens, grazing, woodland and wetland adjoining the River Chelmer. Standing in a commanding position well above the river, Beeleigh Abbey's gardens are secured by a double timber gate from which there is a gravel sweep adjacent to the outbuildings. A gravel path leads on to a bench overlooking the river and to the north of the Abbey is a pond and a walkway to the main garden which has a large lawn with extensive flower beds, paths and shrubs. Flanking the garden there are brick walls and high hedges giving privacy and to the farm eastern end there is a wooded area which falls to the river. Two grass fields provide about 14 acres of grazing.

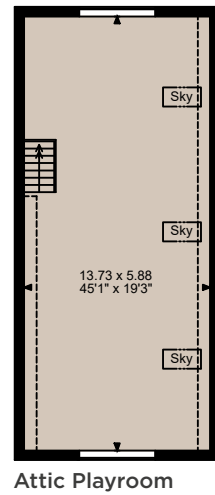
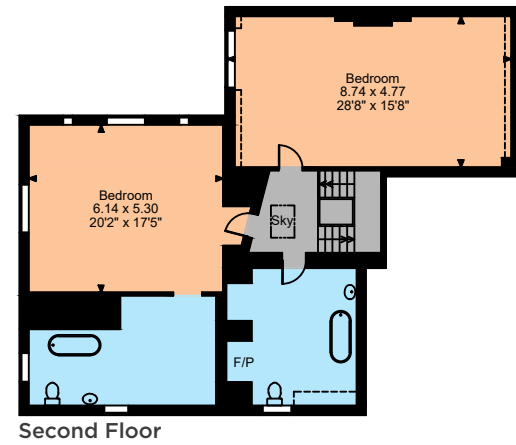
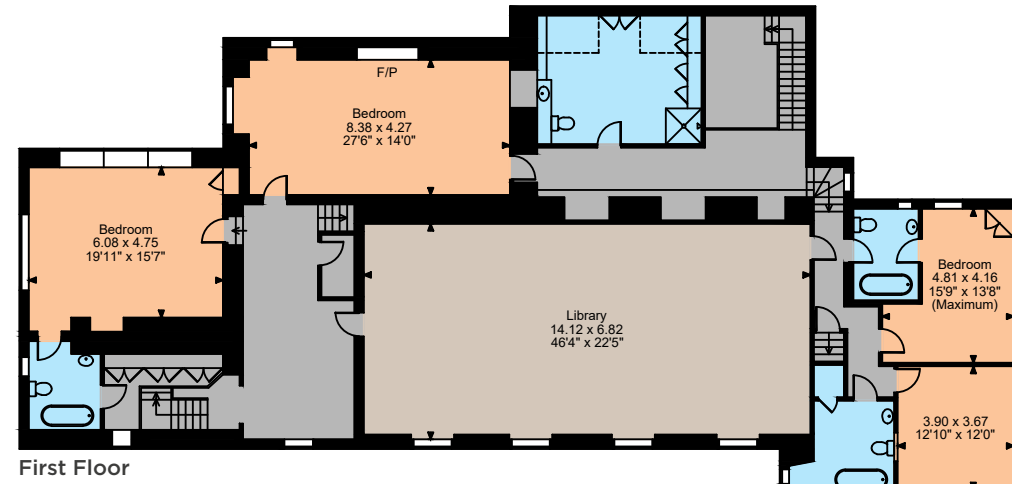
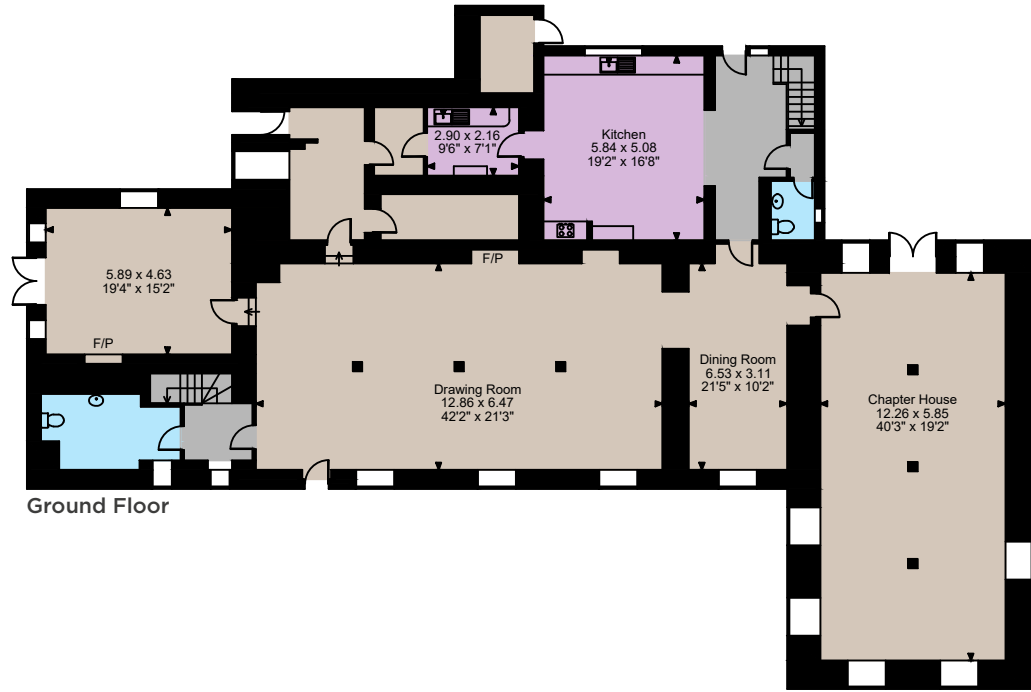






Floor plans for Beeleigh Abbey

Approximate Gross Internal Area\*:  
 House: 9,743 sq ft / 905 sq m  
 Garage: 2,429 sq ft / 226 sq m  
 Outbuildings: 1,055 sq ft / 98 sq m  
 Cottage: 1,298 sq ft / 121 sq m



Denotes restricted head height

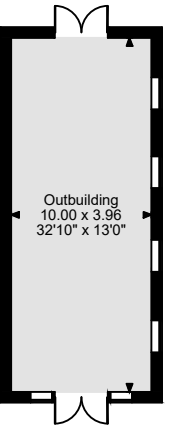
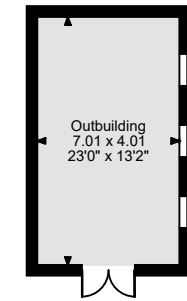
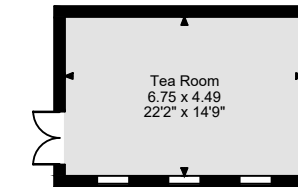
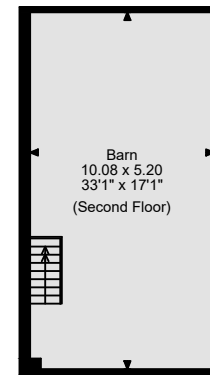
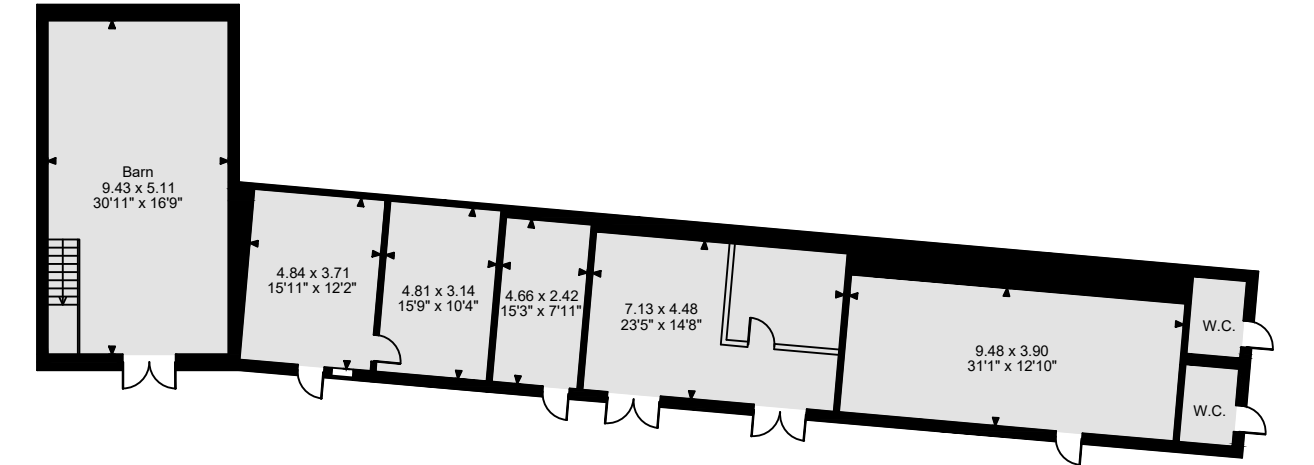
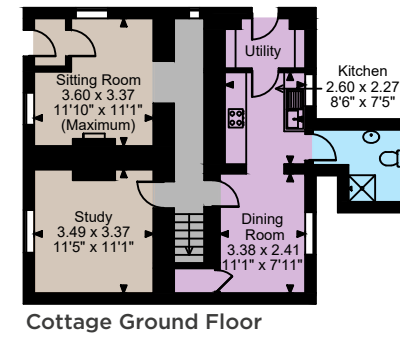
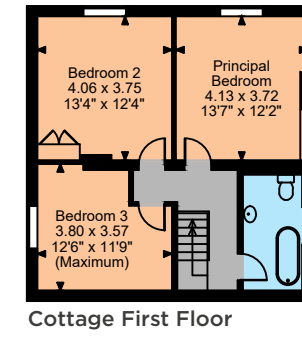


Illustration for identification purposes only.  
 Not to scale.

\*As defined by RICS - Code of Measuring Practice.



**Lot 2: Land at Great Beeleigh Farm  
318.97 acres (129.10 ha)**

The land at Great Beeleigh Farm is situated immediately to the west of Beeleigh Abbey and has frontage to two minor roads from which there is access. The majority is to arable cropping, but with an area of permanent grass and woodland to the north adjoining the River Chelmer. The soils are Grade 2 to the far south and Grade 3 elsewhere, with the majority being a clay loam over gravel apart from where they front the river which are river terrace gravels.

Arable cropping	235.84 acres (95.44 ha)
Grassland	55.13 acres (22.31 ha)
Woodland	25.43 acres (10.29 ha)
Water & misc	2.57 acres (1.04 ha)



*Lot 3: Buildings at Great Beeleigh Farm 1.76 acres (0.71 ha)*  
This is a set of buildings with an area of 1.76 acres of land situated at the head of a track:

Grainstore: (18.50m x 18.50m)  
a portal frame with corrugated cladding.

Open fronted barn: (18.50m x 10m)  
a four bay timber frame building.

Open fronted barn: (18.50m x 10m)  
a three bay steel portal frame.

Stables/stores: (circa 385 sq m)  
a U shape range of timber buildings.

Services: Mains electricity  
(single & three phase but currently disconnected at the buildings)  
and water (unmetered).

Overage: See under General (below).



*Lot 4: Building and land at Great Beeleigh Farm 10.24 acres (4.15 ha)*  
This comprises a former poultry building with an area of 10.24 acres of arable land and woodland/grassland.

Former poultry building:  
(54m x 10.50m) of timber frame and cladding.

Of the total area, about 7.50 acres are in arable cultivation and 2.74 acres are to woodland and grass. Access is from a private track leading to London Road (the track being within the ownership of an adjoining property).

Services: Mains electricity and water are believed to be connected but cannot be guaranteed.

Overage: See under General (below).



### General

Method of sale: The Beeleigh Abbey Estate is offered for sale by private treaty.

Tenure: Freehold with vacant possession.

### Services:

Lot 1: Mains electricity and water. Private drainage to a Klargester deemed compliant with the relevant regulations. Electric Aga. Oil fired central heating.

Lot 3: Mains electricity (single & three phase but currently disconnected at the buildings) and water (unmetered).

Lot 4: Mains electricity and water are believed to be connected but cannot be guaranteed.

Wayleaves, easements and rights of way: The property is being sold subject to and with the benefit of all rights, including: rights of way, whether public or private, light, support, drainage, water and electricity supplies and any other rights and obligations, easement and quasi-easements and restrictive covenants and all existing and proposed wayleaves for masts, pylons, stays, cables, drains, water and gas and other pipes, whether referred to in these particulars or not.

Basic Payment: Entitlements to the Basic Payment relevant to the land offered for sale are excluded from the sale.

Environmental Stewardship: There is none.

Holdover: Following the date of completion of the sale, the vendor may require the right of Holdover over some of the outbuildings for short term storage purposes.

Overage: Lot 3 and Lot 4 will be sold subject to an Overage. The Vendor and their beneficiaries/successors will reserve a 25% share of the net uplift in value of the property due to any planning permission for residential use for a period of 25 years following the date of completion of sale.

Sporting, Timber and Mineral Rights: All sporting and timber rights are included in the freehold sale, insofar as they are owned.

Fixtures and Fittings: All items usually regarded as tenant's fixtures and fittings and equipment are specifically reserved from the sale.

Local Authority: Maldon District Council, Princes Road, Maldon, Essex, CM9 5DL

Council Tax: Beeleigh Abbey: Band H The Cottage: Band F

### Guide Prices:

Lot 1: £2,500,000  
Lot 2: £2,600,000  
Lot 3: £200,000  
Lot 4: £150,000  
Whole: £5,450,000

VAT: Any guide price quoted or discussed is exclusive of VAT. In the event that a sale of the property or any part of it or any right attached to

it becomes a chargeable supply for the purposes of VAT such tax will be payable in addition.

Health & Safety: Given the potential hazards of a working estate, we ask you to be as vigilant as possible when making your inspection, for your own personal safety. All viewings and appointments are strictly by prior appointment with the vendor's agent.

Solicitors: Tolhurst Fisher, Trafalgar House, Nelson Street, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 1EF. Attn: Mark Francis.

### Directions

By road: Please see the plan within this brochure. Beeleigh Abbey is situated off Beeleigh Turning, a minor dead-end lane which in turn leads from London Road, a minor road linking the town of Maldon to the village of Woodham Walter.

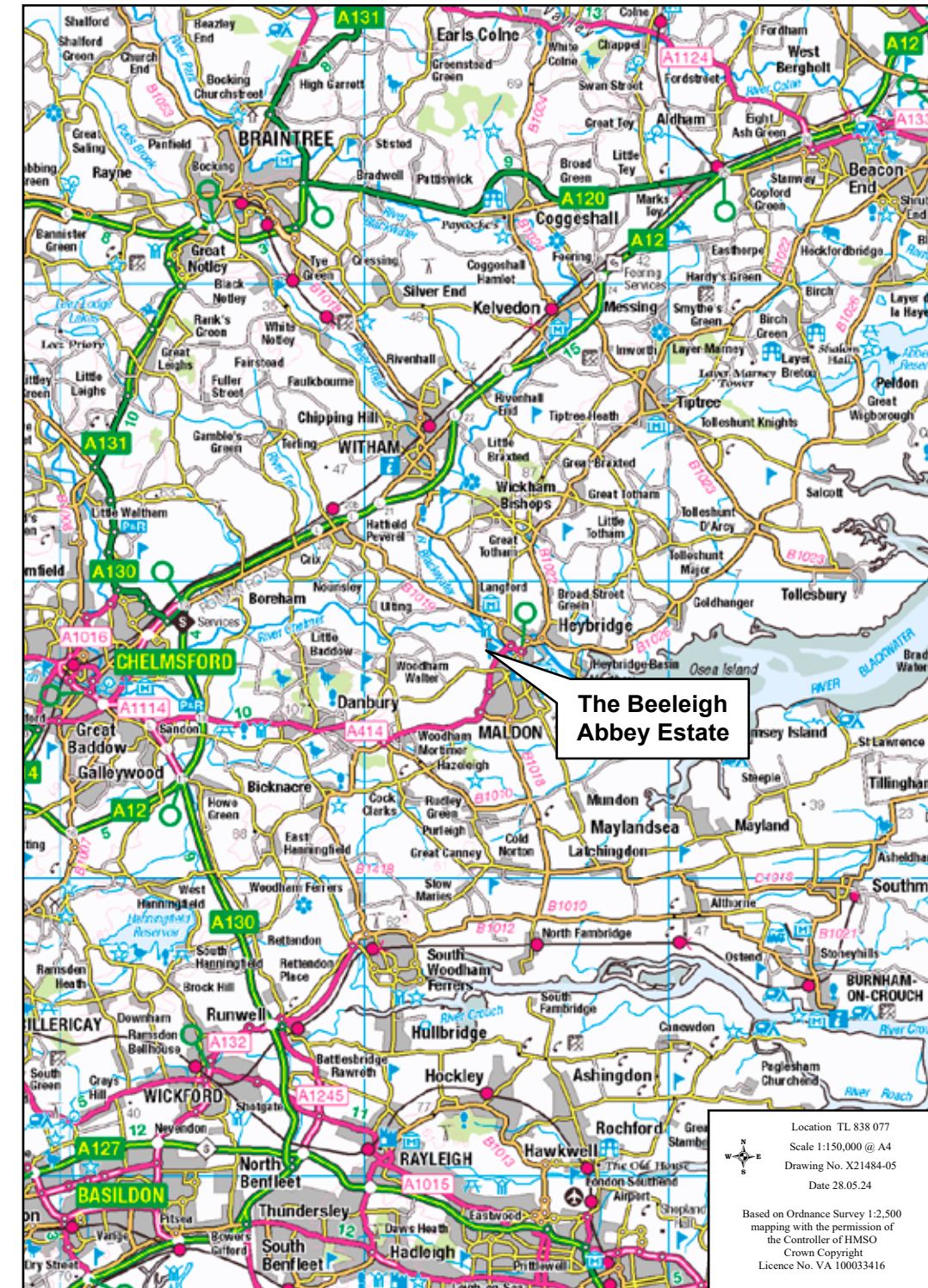
What 3 Words: today.assist.expectant (which is the gravel parking area at Beeleigh Abbey).

### Post Code

CM9 6LL

### Viewings

Strictly by confirmed appointment with the vendor's agents.



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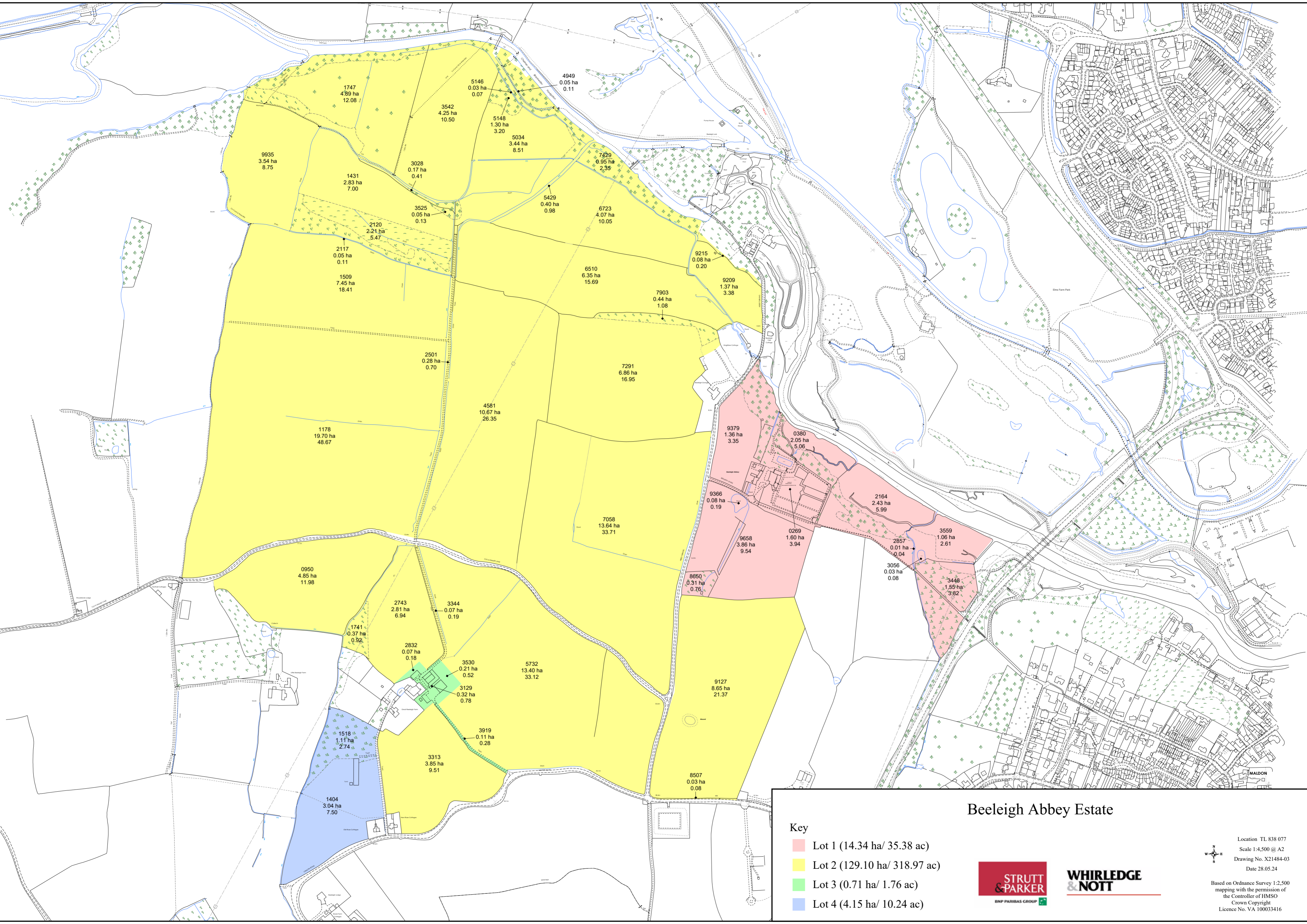
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Land • Property • Development



### Beeleigh Abbey Estate

<p><b>Key</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #f08080; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Lot 1 (14.34 ha/ 35.38 ac)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Lot 2 (129.10 ha/ 318.97 ac)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90ee90; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Lot 3 (0.71 ha/ 1.76 ac)</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #add8e6; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Lot 4 (4.15 ha/ 10.24 ac)</li> </ul>	<p>Location TL 838 077          Scale 1:4,500 @ A2          Drawing No. X21484-03          Date 28.05.24</p> <p>Based on Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 mapping with the permission of the Controller of HMSO          Crown Copyright          Licence No. VA 100033416</p>
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