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EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS

Monday 16 January 2023 at 6.00 pm

Place: Council Chamber, Epsom Town Hall

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The members listed below are summoned to attend the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators meeting, on the day and at the time and place stated, to consider the business set out in this agenda.

Committee Members
Councillor Liz Frost, the Council (Chair)
Simon Durrant, Jockey Club Racecourses (the Company) (Vice-Chair)
Andrew Cooper, Jockey Club Racecourses (the Company)
Simon Dow, Horserace Betting Levy Board (the Levy Board)
Councillor Bernice Froud, the Council
Councillor Jan Mason, the Council
Councillor Steven McCormick, the Council
Councillor Lucie McIntyre, the Council
Stephen Wallis, Jockey Club Racecourses (the Company)
Councillor Clive Woodbridge, the Council

Yours sincerely

Clerk to the Conservators

For further information, please contact Democratic Services, email: democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk or tel: 01372 732000

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- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;

- Do not stop to collect personal belongings;
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move to the assembly point at Dullshot Green and await further instructions; and
- Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so.

Public information

Please note that this meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Epsom and will be available to observe live on the internet

This meeting will be open to the press and public to attend as an observer using free GoToWebinar software, or by telephone.

A link to the online address for this meeting is provided on the first page of this agenda and on the Council's website. A limited number of seats will also be available in the public gallery at the Town Hall. For further information please contact Democratic Services, email: democraticservices@epsom-ewell.gov.uk, telephone: 01372 732000.

Information about the terms of reference and membership of this Committee are available on the Council's website. The website also provides copies of agendas, reports and minutes.

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Exclusion of the Press and the Public

There are matters scheduled to be discussed at this meeting that would appear to disclose confidential information under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. The Conservators are likely to resolve to exclude the press and public during discussion of these matters by virtue of the private nature of the business to be transacted.

Questions from the Public

Questions from the public are not permitted at meetings of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators.

AGENDA

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 7 - 10)

The Conservators are asked to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Conservators' Meeting held on 7 November 2022 attached) and to authorise the Chair to sign them.

2. EAFRD UPDATE (Pages 11 - 22)

To provide the Conservators with an update report on EAFRD infrastructure installation which provides improvements to information and signage on Epsom and Walton Downs.

3. BUDGET 2023/24 (Pages 23 - 30)

This report seeks approval for the 2023/24 budget and the recommended precepts on the constituent bodies.

4. EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2023-2028 (Pages 31 - 216)

To present the Conservators with the Habitat Management Plans 2023-2028 for Epsom and Walton Downs and Epsom Golf Course.

5. EPSOM DOWNS RACING SEASON 2023 (Pages 217 - 222)

This report informs the Conservators of dates for race meetings in 2023 and presents a request from Jockey Club Racecourses for consent for race meetings and extensions to the periods permitted for fencing, as required by the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 and Epsom and Walton Downs Byelaws.

6. REVIEW OF USE OF THE OWNERS AND TRAINERS AND DERBY ARMS CAR PARKS BY THE RACECOURSE (Pages 223 - 226)

To update the Conservators on the use of the Owners and Trainers and Derby Arm Car Parks by the Racecourse during 2022 and to formally request permission for ad-hoc use in 2023.

7. RACEDAY HORSE WALK APPLICATION FROM JOCKEY CLUB RACECOURSES (Pages 227 - 236)

This report accompanies a proposal from the Jockey Club, seeking the approval of the Conservators for the installation of running rails alongside key gallops and horse-walks on Epsom and Walton Downs.

8. SCHEME FOR BBQS AT THE RACECOURSE REVIEW (Pages 237 - 240)

To review the use of barbecues during 2022 race meetings and receive an application from Epsom Downs Racecourse for the use of barbecues at next year's events.

9. MINUTES OF THE EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, 14 DECEMBER 2023 (Pages 241 - 248)

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 14 December 2022.

10. EVENTS ON THE DOWNS (Pages 249 - 254)

To approve a request from Cancer Research UK to hold the annual Race for Life Event on the Downs in 2023.

11. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (Pages 255 - 256)

Under Section 1 Paragraph (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Conservators may pass a resolution to exclude the public from the Meeting for Part Two of the Agenda on the grounds that publicity of the business would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings. This Section of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 applies to meetings of the Conservators by virtue of section 8(7) of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984.

12. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON EPSOM DOWNS GOLFCOURSE (To Follow)

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Minutes of the Meeting of the EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS held on 7 November 2022

PRESENT -

Councillor Liz Frost (the Council) (Chair); Simon Durrant (Jockey Club Racecourses (the Company)) (Vice-Chair); Andrew Cooper (Jockey Club Racecourses (the Company)) (items 13-16 only), Simon Dow (Horserace Betting Levy Board (the Levy Board)), Councillor Bernice Froud (the Council), Councillor Jan Mason (the Council), Stephen Wallis (Jockey Club Racecourses (the Company)) (items 13-16 only) and Councillor Clive Woodbridge (the Council).

In Attendance:

Absent: Councillor Steven McCormick (the Council) and Councillor Lucie McIntyre (the Council)

Officers present: Jackie King (Clerk to the Conservators), Brendan Bradley (Head of Finance), Andrew Bircher (Head of Policy and Corporate Resources), Mark Shephard (Head of Property and Regeneration), Samantha Whitehead (Streetcare Manager) (items 13-16 only) and Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Manager)

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12 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators held on 20 June 2022 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

13 MID-YEAR BUDGET MONITORING

The Conservators received a report setting out the income and expenditure position as at 31 August 2022 and seeking guidance on the preparation of the budget and precept for 2023/24.

The following matters were considered:

a) **Update on EAFRD funding.** In response to a question from a Member, the Conservators were informed that the claim had now been submitted to the Rural Development Programme for England and the award of funding from the grant body was awaited.

b) **Tree works**. The Conservators noted that funding for low and medium priority tree works were included in the budget for 2023/24. Funding for high priority works was included in the forecast for current financial year. Officers recommended that if any works required a spend over the existing budget, a separate report should be presented to the Conservators for consideration.

c) **Precept contributions**. The Conservators noted that it was forecast that a 6% increase to precept contributions would be required to achieve a balanced budget in 2023-24. It was noted that this was lower than general inflation due to existing agreements with regard to increases to staffing costs and a limited exposure to utility bills.

Following consideration, the Conservators unanimously resolved to:

(1) Note the mid-year income and expenditure position.

(2) Provide guidance on the preparation of the budget for 2023/24.

(3) Note the conclusion of the 2021/22 external audit of the accounts.

14 EVENTS ON THE DOWNS

The Conservators received a report informing them of events on the Downs that have been approved during 2022.

The following matters were considered:

a) **Cloud Tramp**. The Conservators noted a correction to the date of the Cloud Tramp event. The event had been held on 6 August 2022.

b) **Cycling event on the Downs.** The Conservators noted the difficulty in controlling cycling events in the vicinity of Downs, and the efforts made by Officers to address this issue.

Following consideration, the Conservators unanimously resolved to:

(1) Note the contents of the report.

15 QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY TREE PLANTING

The Conservators received a report requesting permission plant an English Oak tree on Epsom & Walton Downs in memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The following matters were considered:

a) **Watering and maintenance.** The Conservators noted that the maintenance and watering of the tree could be accommodated within existing budgets.

b) **Memorial Plaque.** The Conservators considered that a memorial plaque should be provided to mark the tree and requested officers to investigate this possibility. It was requested that information be emailed to Members of the Conservators following investigation, to enable a decision regarding installation to be confirmed.

Following consideration, the Conservators unanimously resolved to:

(1) Grant permission for the procurement of a large specimen English Oak tree to be procured and planted on The Hill, Epsom Downs in memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and to investigate the procurement and installation of a memorial plaque.

(2) Grant permission for Officers to organise a small tree planting ceremony in honour of the occasion.

16 WORKPLAN ITEMS 2022

The Conservators received an update on the work plan.

Following consideration, the Conservators unanimously resolved to:

(1) Note the progress on the Work plan items and not to recommend any changes.

17 DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2023

The Conservators received a report proposing the dates of their normal meetings to be held in 2023.

The following matter was considered:

a) **Dates of meetings.** Members of the Conservators commented on the schedule of meetings for 2023 and requested Officers to consider whether the date of the January meeting could be altered. A Member also queried whether an additional fourth meeting could be included in the schedule to space meetings more evenly throughout the year.

Following consideration, the Conservators unanimously resolved to:

(1) agree to hold their normal meetings in 2023 on the following dates:

a) Monday 23 January 2023 at 18.00 hours

b) Monday 19 June 2023 18.00 hours

c) Monday 6 November 2023 18.00 hours

The meeting began at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.33 pm

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIR)

EAFRD UPDATE

Head of Service:	Mark Shephard, Head of Property and Regeneration
Wards affected:	College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 – Images of completed signs

Summary

To provide the Conservators with an update report on EAFRD infrastructure installation which provides improvements to information and signage on Epsom and Walton Downs.

Recommendation (s)

(1) That the Conservators note the progress made on improvements to signs on the Downs.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 This report provides the Conservators with an update on the improvements to signs and information on the Downs, enabled by the Conservators' successful bid for European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development which secured over £132,082.60 in funding for the project.

2 Background

2.1 At its meeting on 8 November 2021, the Conservators received an update on the successful bid and progress to date.

2.2 In addition to the EAFRD bid, the Conservators previously approved a match funding contribution of £20,000 and the Jockey Club committed £7,500 and agreed to provide the general design to be used for the project. The securing of written partner support and "match funding" was a pre-requisite for being considered eligible to apply for EAFRD grant funding.

2.3 The overarching aim of the project is to: "*Celebrate the rural nature and equestrian heritage of the Epsom & Walton Downs, promoting the area as an all-year visitor destination through innovate signage, landmark gateways, visual interpretation and branding. Stimulating economic activity both up on the Downs and linking to nearby Epsom town*".

2.4 Originally, the Regional Payments Agency placed a deadline of 10th May 2022 to complete the works. This deadline has been extended to 31 January 2023 to take account of delays caused through Covid and the short supply of materials.

3 Update

3.1 The majority of the infrastructure is now installed which includes;

150 x Waymarking Posts.
25 x Finger Posts with over 80 ‘direction fingers’.
24 x ‘A0’ size Information boards.
8 x ‘A1’ size Lectern boards.
As well as
15 x Oak litter bins.
4 x Picnic tables with 8 benches in front of the tea hut,
with an additional 4 x Bench seats around the tea hut car park and
5 x Interpretive benches across the downs (1 by the shop crossing point at the Derby Arms, 2 by the poly track and 2 in the bushy alcoves inside the course near the SevenFurlong car park).

3.2 The discs for the way marker posts that were initially proposed were not as visible as first hoped so new, more visible designs have been produced and are now being installed.

3.3 Chambers Electronics have installed 2 sets of ‘counter posts’, one at The Mile Crossing and the other at The Rubbing House. Each set has 3 internal electronic counters, which are able to separately record the numbers of pedestrians, cyclists and horses that pass through.

3.4 We are waiting on the Information inserts for the notice boards and lecterns. The 48 Holwood Style signs are in production and expected to be delivered w/c 9/1/2023 with the information inserts for the lecterns and upright notice boards following 1-2 weeks later.

3.5 Unfortunately, supply issues and illnesses at our suppliers have pushed back the final delivery date.

3.6 In the last 12 months, oak supplies have experienced high demand and rising prices. Current supplies have been unable to keep up with this demand.

3.7 Despite the rise in costs, the supplier, Fitzpatrick Woolmer, have absorbed the increases and the project will be delivered on budget with no compromises on specification or quality.

The funding application has been submitted to the RPA To date we have received £89,491.48, which covers the delivery and installation of the counter posts by Chambers Electronics and the first two, of three instalments, agreed with Fitzpatrick Woolmer. The last instalment will be paid once the final pieces of infrastructure and signage have been received.Fitzpatrick Woolmer have supplied a maintenance plan for the signs and benches which will be implemented.

4 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

4.1 Equality Impact Assessment

4.1.1 None for the purpose of this report

4.2 Crime & Disorder

4.2.1 None for the purpose of this report

4.3 Safeguarding

4.3.1 None for the purpose of this report

4.4 Dependencies

4.4.1 None for the purpose of this report

4.5 Other

4.5.1 None for the purpose of this report

5 Financial Implications

5.1 Financial implications are set-out in section 2 of this report.

5.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None for the purposes of this report.

6 Legal Implications

6.1 None

6.2 **Legal Officer's comments**: None for the purposes of this report.

7 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

7.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: Not relevant for this report.

7.2 **Service Plans**: Not relevant for this report.

7.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: Not relevant for this report.

7.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: Not relevant for this report.

7.5 **Partnerships**: Not relevant for this report.

8 Background papers

8.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- Report to Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators, 8 November 2021

Other papers:

- None.

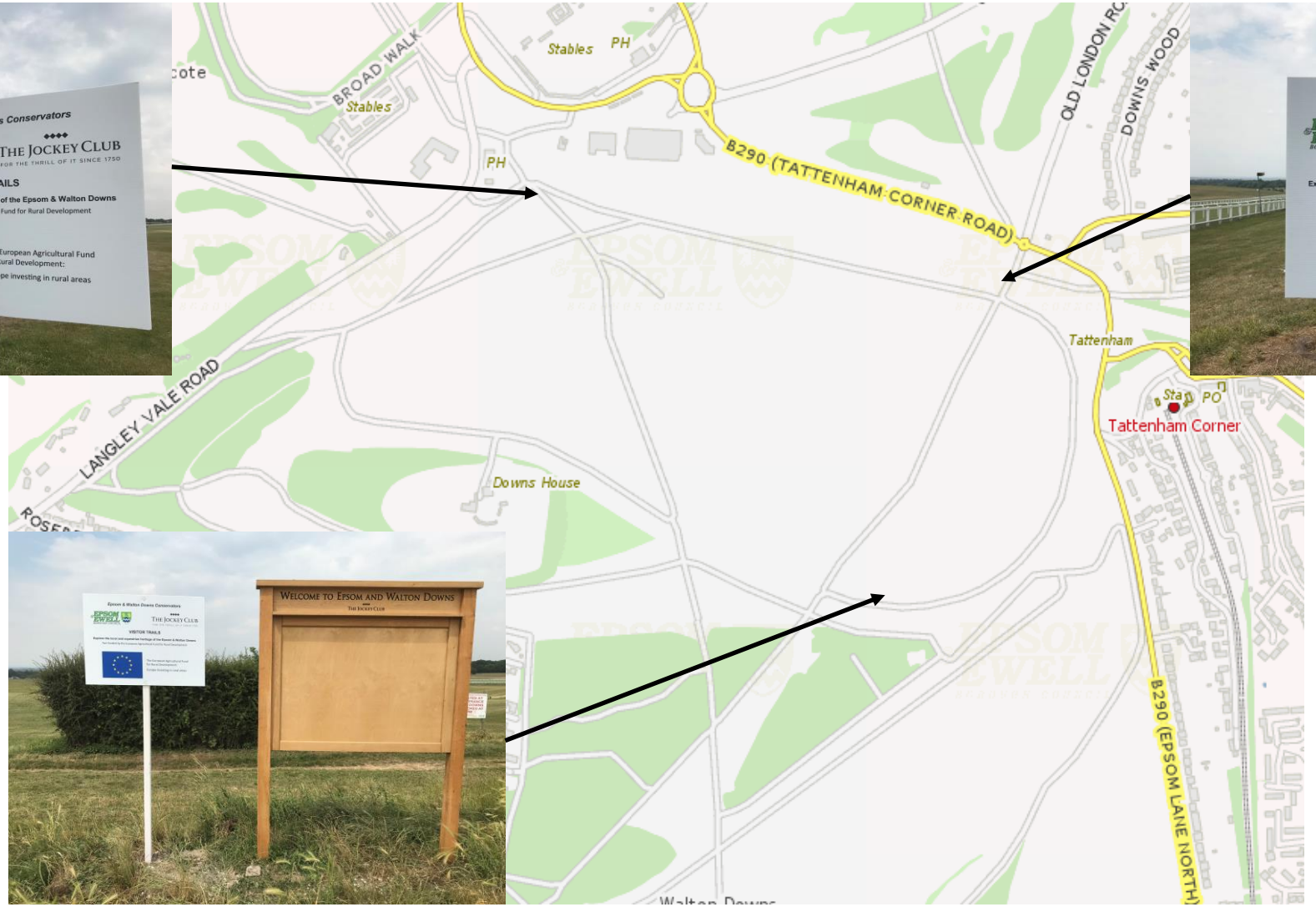
Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Evidence for Project Reference 115452 (1 of 8)

The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development
Europe investing in rural areas

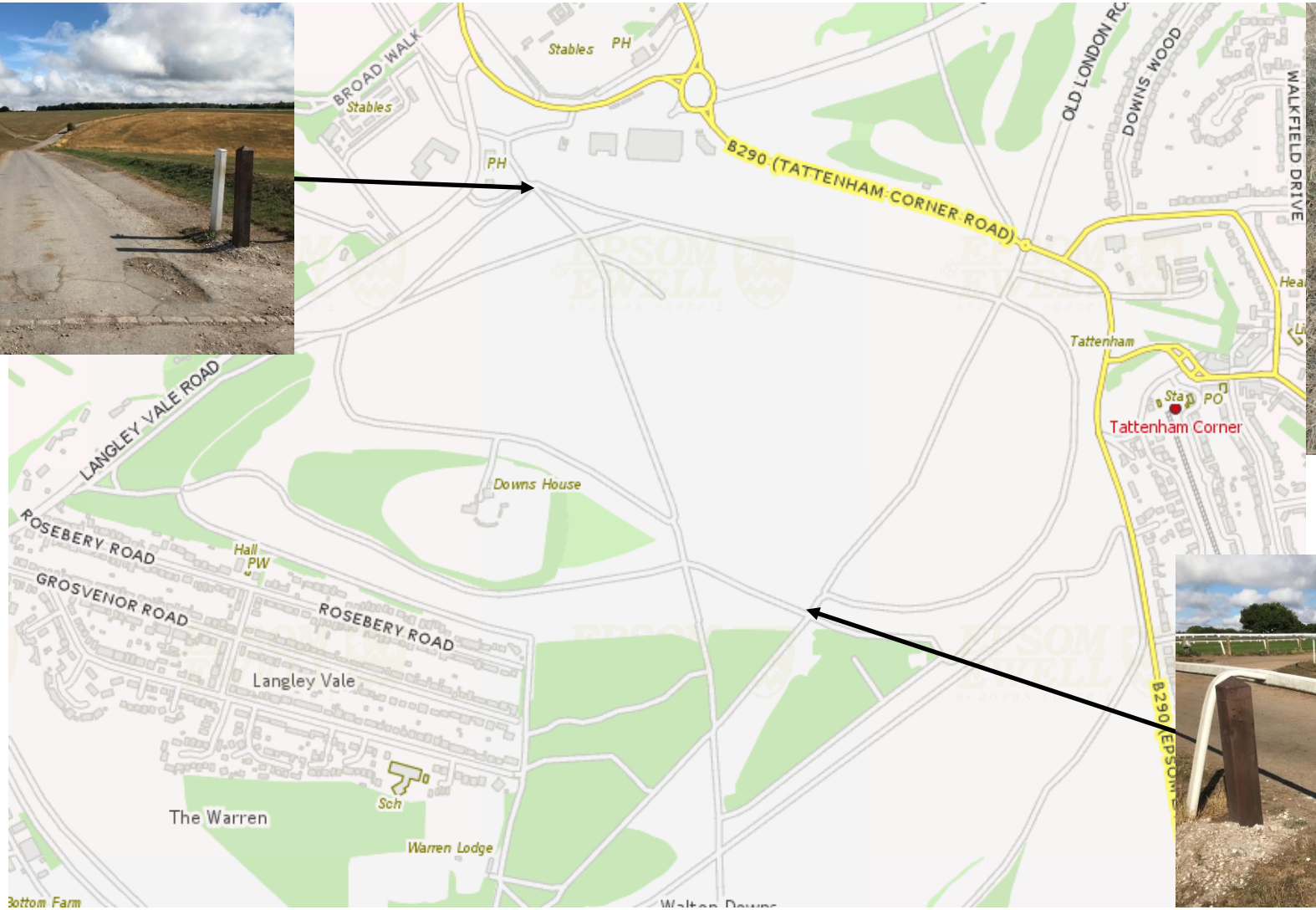
EAFRD Notification Signs – Supplied and funded by EEBC (no reference no required)

The double sided signs (813mm x 610mm) have been located at three of the main entry points to Epsom and Walton Downs;
The Rubbing House, The Downs Keepers Hut Car Park and the Mile Car Park



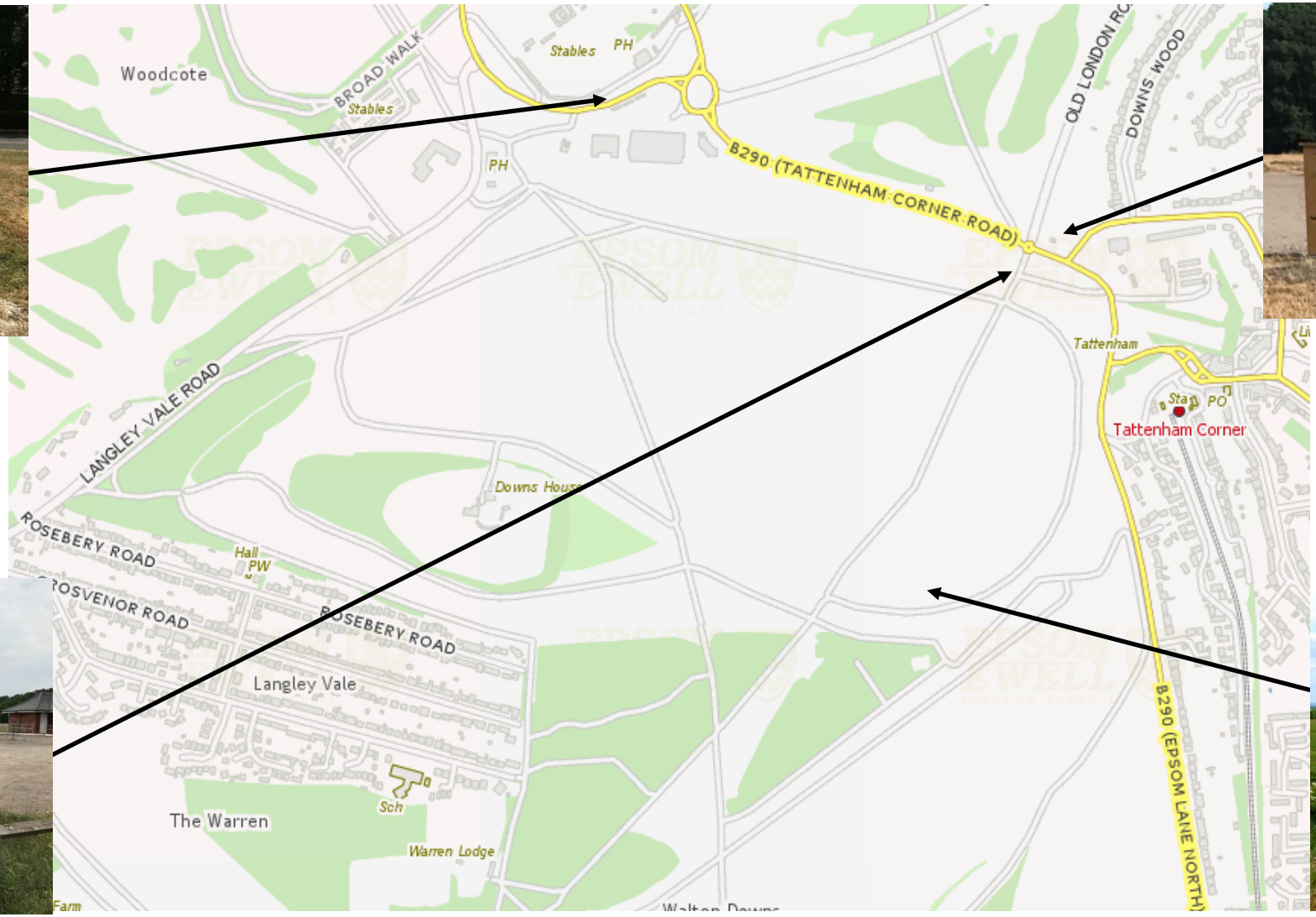
Evidence Reference No: B4 - Counter Posts

Counter Posts - Rubbing House and Mile Crossing
Supplied and installed by A & P Chambers Ltd



Evidence Reference No: A1

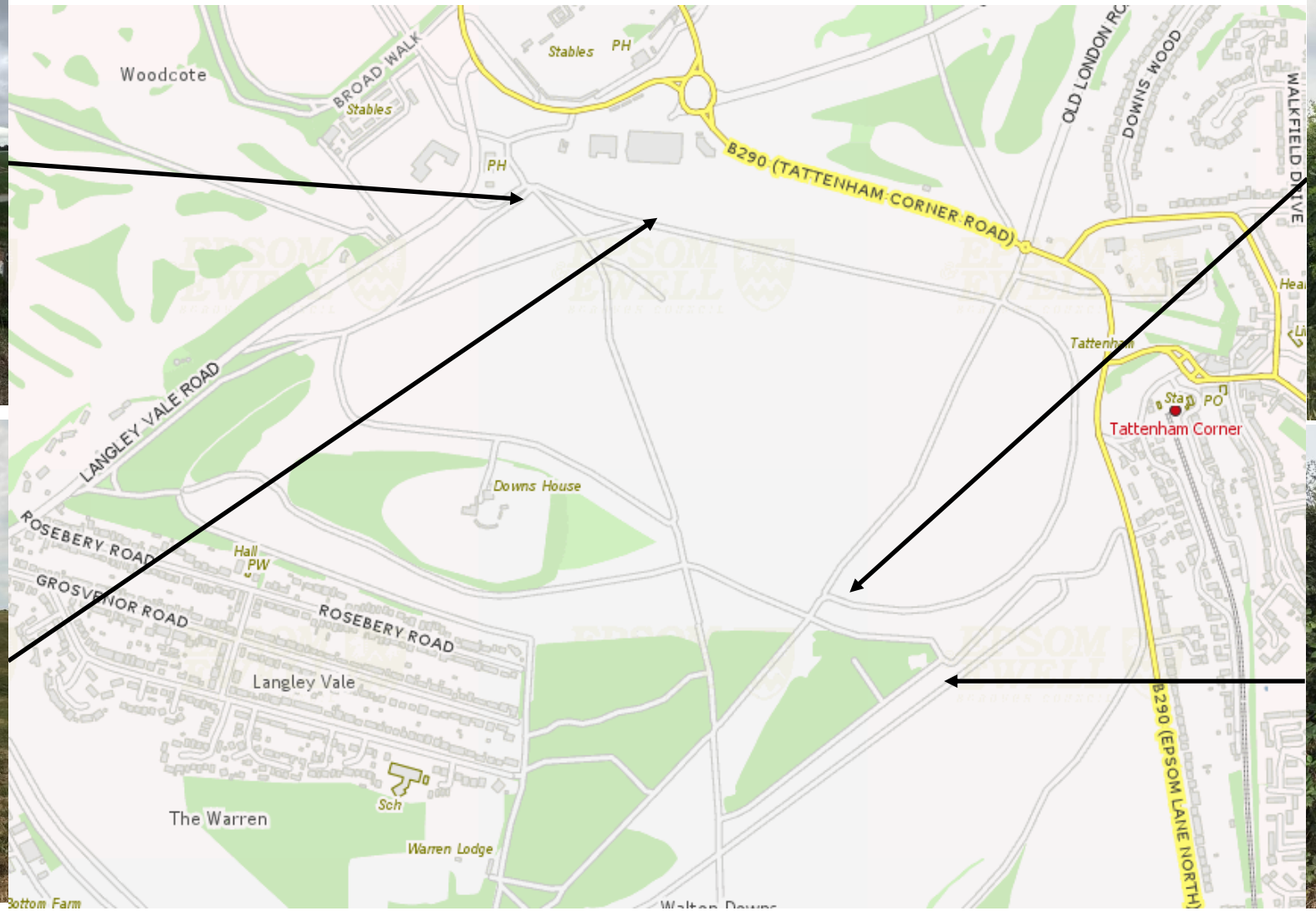
Information Boards & Lecterns (various locations)
Supplied by Fitzpatrick Woolmer and installed by EEBC



Evidence Reference No: A1

Finger Posts (various locations)

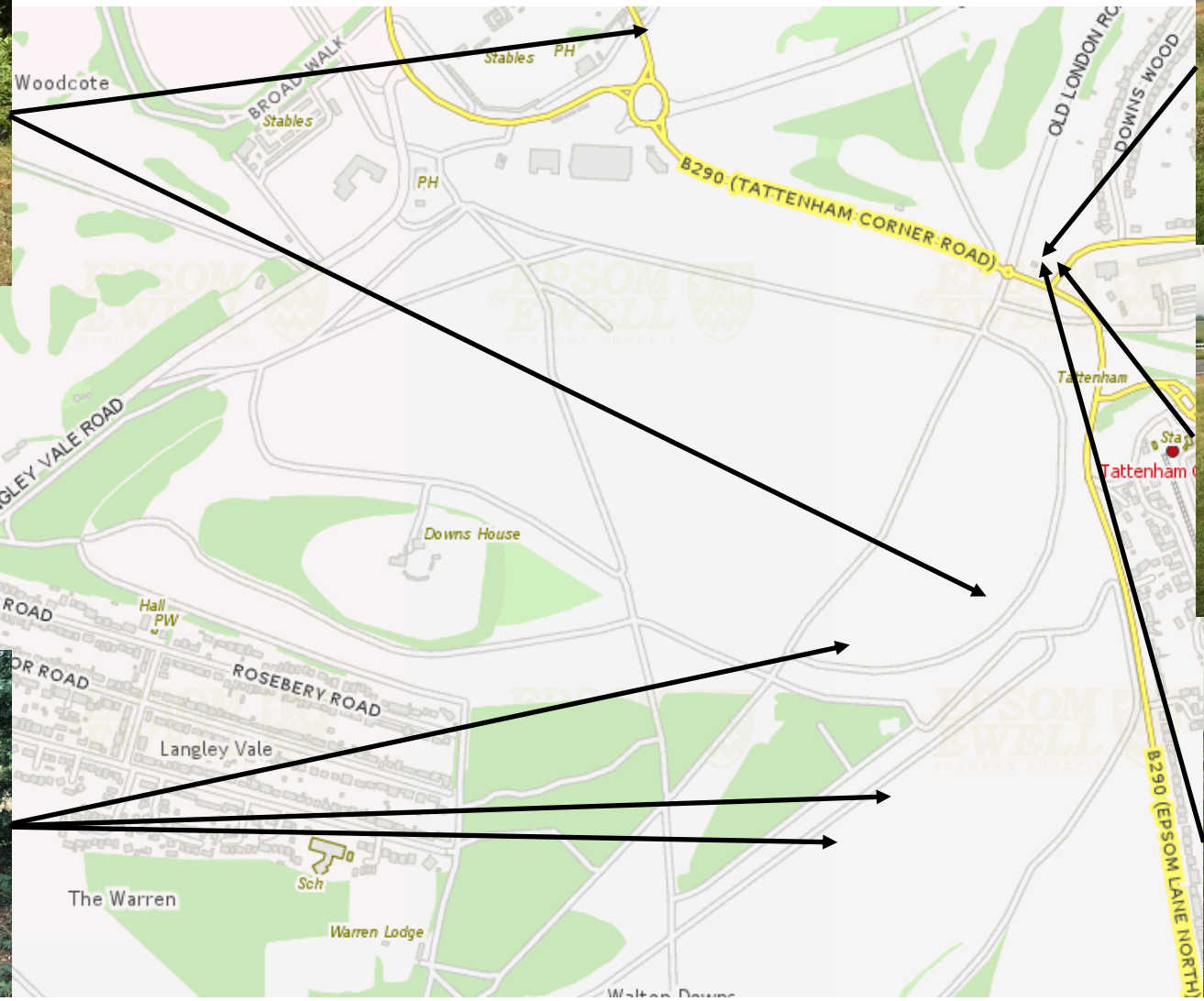
Supplied by Fitzpatrick Woolmer and installed by EEBC



Evidence Reference No: A2

Benches and Picnic Tables

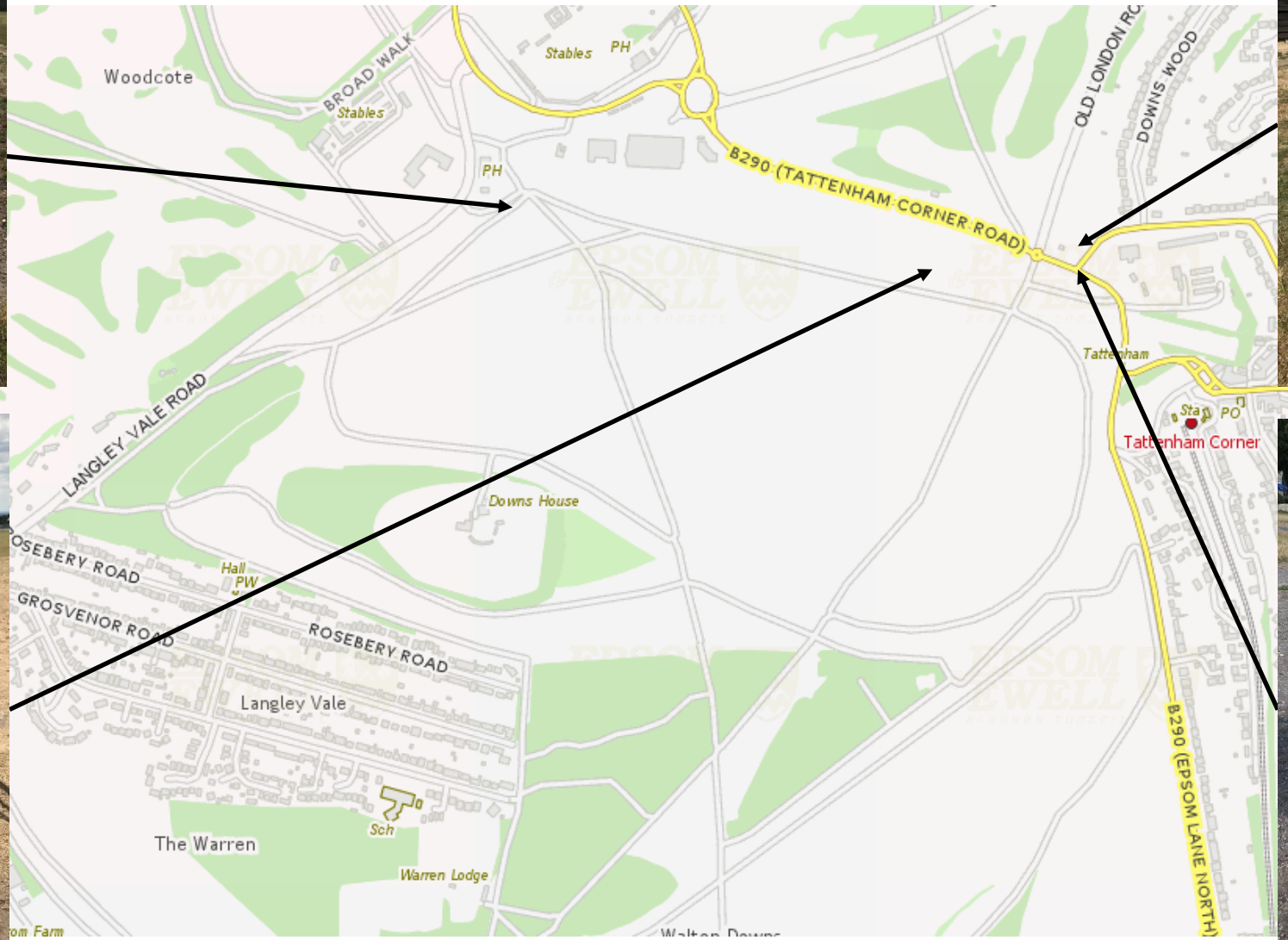
Supplied by Fitzpatrick Woolmer and installed by EEBC



Evidence Reference No: A2

Bins (various locations)

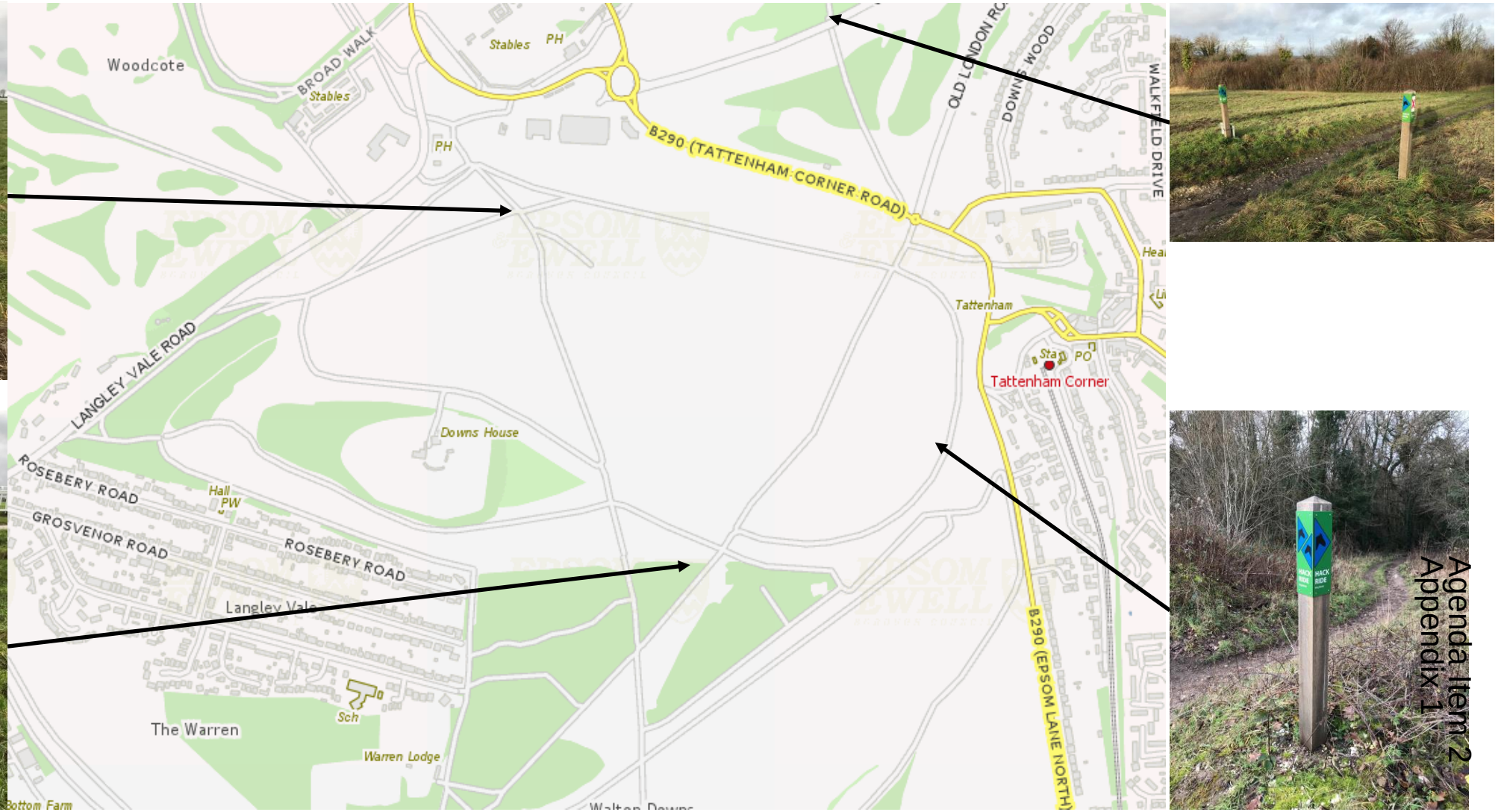
Supplied by Fitzpatrick Woolmer and installed by EEBC



Evidence Reference No: A2

Way Marking Posts (various locations)

Supplied by Fitzpatrick Woolmer and installed by EEBC



BUDGET 2023/24

Head of Service:	Brendan Bradley, Head of Finance
Wards affected:	College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 – Recommended Budget for 2023/24

Summary

This report seeks approval for the 2023/24 budget and the recommended precepts on the constituent bodies.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Note the latest income and expenditure position for 2022/23;

(2) Approve the 2023/24 budget and the requested precepts, as set out in section 5 and Appendix 1 to this report.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 To inform the Conservators of the forecast outturn for 2022/23 and seek approval for the 2023/24 budget.

2 Background

2.1 As a basis for agreeing a budget and contribution levels for 2023/24, this report:

2.1.1 Informs the Conservators of the current year income and expenditure position and forecast outturn as at 31 March 2023;

2.1.2 Seeks approval of the recommended budget for 2023/24 as set out in Appendix 1.

3 Forecast for 2022/23

3.1 The Conservators received a mid-year monitoring report at the meeting on 7 November 2022. A detailed update of forecast income and expenditure for 2022/23 is included in Appendix 1.

3.2 Net expenditure for 2022/23 remains forecast at £441,228 which would result in a deficit of £8,559 against a budget of £432,700.

3.3 This is largely unchanged from November 2022 position, with the net deficit, mainly due to anticipated increased in energy costs, and the increased costs of the new tree maintenance contract.

3.4 The working balance stood at £60,659 at 31 March 2022. The projected £8,559 deficit, partially offset by a £1,400 contribution to reserves would reduce the working balance to £53,500. In addition, a further £8,861 of the working balance is committed as funding for the EAFRD project, which reduces the projected, uncommitted balance to £44,639.

4 Tattenham Corner Conveniences

4.1 The majority of the demolition of Tattenham Corner Conveniences has now taken place, incurring costs of £18,000. Some additional costs are anticipated for the disconnection of water supply to the site, however, the final total is not expected to exceed £22,000. The Projects Team will advise once this outstanding work has been completed.

5 EAFRD Project

5.1 The Visitor Trails project is close to completion, and the grant claim for £132,000 has been submitted to the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). An update on the project is expected to be taken to a forthcoming meeting.

6 Budget Estimates 2023/24

6.1 The recommended budget estimates for 2023/24 are attached at Appendix 1.

6.2 An initial draft budget was presented to Conservators at the November 2022 meeting, which showed an indicative increase in precepts of 6%.

6.3 The proposed budget position for 2023/24 is unchanged since November, as summarised in the following table:

	£'000
Grounds Maintenance	65
Keepers Hut	12
Central and staffing expenses	374
Contribution to reserves	10
Derby Traveller Caravan Site	4

Events and Other Income	(6)
Net Expenditure	**459**
Contribution from EEBC/EDR/TB	(459)
Budget Surplus	**0**

6.4 Net expenditure is estimated at £458,650, which is a 6% increase compared to the current year's budget.

6.5 Within management recharges, the budget does not include provision for one-off workstreams that are over and above the standard support provided to Conservators. Should any additional workstreams be agreed in future, the budget implication will need to be considered at the time.

6.6 To fund the £458,650 budget, the following precepts are requested from constituent bodies:

6.6.1 Epsom & Ewell Borough Council - £275,190

6.6.2 Epsom Racecourse - £137,595

6.6.3 Training Board - £45,865

7 Repairs and Renewals Fund

7.1 The repairs and renewals fund balance will hold a projected £24,503 at 31 March 2023. This balance takes account of a net contribution from the reserve of £18,000; £22,000 to fund the demolition of Tattenham Corner Conveniences, partially offset by a budgeted contribution of £4,000 to the reserve for 2022/23.

8 Appointment of External Auditor 2022/23

8.1 At the Conservator's meeting in November 2022, it was reported that the SAAA (Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments) had commenced the central procurement exercise for the appointment of a new external auditor. It has recently been announced that PKF Littlejohn LLP (the current external auditor) has been re-appointed for the next five-year period from 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2027.

9 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

9.1 Equality Impact Assessment

9.1.1 The estimated uncommitted working balance of £44,639 for 2023/24 is approximately 10% of net expenditure, which, along with the Repairs and Renewals fund, provides cover for unexpected expenditure. Any withdrawals from the working balance will need to be carefully assessed, to ensure sufficient funds are retained in reserves to cover unexpected expenditure and maintain a stable level of contribution from preceptors.

9.2 Crime & Disorder

9.2.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

9.3 Safeguarding

9.3.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

9.4 Dependencies

9.4.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

9.5 Other

9.5.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

10 Financial Implications

10.1 Precept contributions totalling £458,650 in 2023/24 are met by the Borough Council (60%), Epsom Racecourse (30%), and the Training Board (10%).

10.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: Finance implications are contained within the body of the report.

11 Legal Implications

11.1 There are no legal implications arising from the contents of this report.

11.2 **Legal Officer's comments**: None for the purposes of this report.

12 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

12.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: The following Key Priorities are engaged: Effective Council, Green & Vibrant.

12.2 **Service Plans**: The matter is included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

12.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: None arising from the contents of this report.

12.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: None.

12.5 **Partnerships**: The Jockey Club, Training Board and Epsom and Ewell Borough Council are represented by Members on the Conservators Committee.

13 Background papers

13.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- Mid-Year Budget Monitoring Report, 7 November 2022

Other papers:

- None.

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EWDC Budget Position 2022/23 & 2023/24

2021/22 Outturn		2022/23 Current Approved Budget	Actuals to 30.11.2022	2022/23 Forecast	2022/23 Forecast Variance	2023/24 Budget Estimates
£		£	£	£	£	£
	Grounds Maintenance					
0	Maintenance of Grounds	210	0	210	0	220
0	Car Park Repairs	3,150	3,456	3,456	306	3,245
3,380	Tree Maintenance Schedule	3,480	0	9,890	6,410	7,300
5,885	Fuel	10,510	3,326	10,510	0	10,825
0	Spot hire of vehicles	910	0	910	0	940
3,174	Transport Insurance recharge	2,760	2,791	2,791	31	2,845
0	Chemicals for weed control	430	0	430	0	445
0	Disposal of Waste	3,080	0	3,080	0	3,270
30,010	Transport fleet SLA NJMC	30,910	0	30,910	0	32,530
3,430	Internal trade waste fees	3,530	0	3,530	0	3,740
45,879	**Sub-Total**	**58,970**	**9,572**	**65,717**	**6,747**	**65,360**
	Keepers Hut					
2,639	Engineering and fabric recharges	2,820	1,553	2,820	0	3,105
765	Building and M&E maintenance	1,090	0	1,090	0	1,120
1,041	Electricity	1,580	301	2,940	1,360	5,530
786	Rates	830	786	786	-44	810
106	Water dispenser costs	210	123	210	0	220
159	TV Licence	170	0	170	0	175
90	General office expenses	100	0	100	0	100
775	Insurance recharges	810	0	810	0	835
6,362	**Sub-Total**	**7,610**	**2,763**	**8,926**	**1,316**	**11,895**
	Central Expenses					
28,000	Additional pension contribution	28,000	0	28,000	0	28,000
462	Contribution to Repairs & Renewals Fund	4,000	0	-18,000	-22,000	4,000
415	Clothing & uniforms	640	414	640	0	660
390	Contribution to/from Working Balance	6,000	0	1,400	-4,600	6,000
1,200	External Audit	1,200	1,200	1,200	0	1,240
2,112	Miscellaneous expenses	1,070	163	1,070	0	1,100
109	General office expenses	1,030	83	1,030	0	1,060
24,876	VAT payments	20,370	0	20,370	0	20,980
274,540	OS SLA recovery EWDC	282,780	0	282,780	0	296,920
41,385	Management costs SLA rec	21,140	0	21,140	0	22,200
1,006	Insurance	1,060	0	1,060	0	1,090
520	Internal audit	540	0	540	0	555

378,016	**Sub-Total**	**367,830**	**1,860**	**341,230**	**-26,600**	**383,805**
	Derby Travellers Caravan Site					
5,000	Contract Payments	4,120	4,230	4,230	110	4,250
5,000	**Sub-Total**	**4,120**	**4,230**	**4,230**	**110**	**4,250**
	Tattenham Corner conveniences					
1,640	Demolition Project Costs	0	16,255	22,000	22,000	0
2,976	Engineering and fabric recharges	0	0	0	0	0
333	Building and M&E maintenance	0	0	0	0	0
663	Electricity	0	170	629	629	0
-3,194	Business Rates	0	0	0	0	0
507	Water Charges	0	218	297	297	0
1,457	Insurance recharges	0	0	0	0	0
4,382	**Sub-Total**	**0**	**16,642**	**22,926**	**22,926**	**0**
	EWDC EAFRD Funding					
47,922	EAFRD Project Costs	0	61,034	133,917	0	**0**
0	Spot hire of vehicles	0	5,583	5,583	0	**0**
-40,422	EAFRD Grant Income	0	40,422	-132,000	0	**0**
-7,500	Contribution from other organisation	0	-2,900	-2,900	0	**0**
0	**Sub-Total**	**0**	**104,139**	**4,600**	**0**	**0**
439,639	**Gross Expenditure**	**438,530**	**139,207**	**447,629**	**4,499**	**465,310**
	Income:					
0	Hire charges	-3,560	-1,725	-3,560	0	-3,775
-990	Interest on Balances	-960	0	-1,500	-540	-1,500
-920	Misc. income	-1,310	0	-1,310	0	-1,385
-1,910	**Gross Income**	**-5,830**	**-1,725**	**-6,370**	**-540**	**-6,660**
437,728	**Net Expenditure**	**432,700**	**137,482**	**441,259**	**3,959**	**458,650**
	Precepts:					
-260,140	Borough Council	-259,620	-259,620	-259,620	0	-275,190
-43,360	Training Board	-43,270	-43,270	-43,270	0	-45,865
-130,070	Epsom Racecourse	-129,810	-129,810	-129,810	0	-137,595
-433,570	**Funded By**	**-432,700**	**-432,700**	**-432,700**	**0**	**-458,650**
4,158	**Surplus (-) / Deficit in Year**	**0**	**-295,218**	**8,559**	**3,959**	**0**

61,817	**Working Balance brought forward 1 April**	**60,659**
3,000	Add budgeted in year contribution to working balance	**1,400**
-4,158	Surplus/deficit for the year	**-8,559**
60,659	**Working Balance carried forward 31 March**	**53,500**

EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2023-2028

Head of Service:	Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services
Wards affected:	All Wards
Appendices (attached):	Appendix One – Epsom and Walton Downs Habitat Management Plan 2023-2028 Appendix Two – Epsom Golf Course Habitat Management Plan 2023-2028

Summary

To present the Conservators with the Habitat Management Plans 2023-2028 for Epsom and Walton Downs and Epsom Golf Course.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Approve the contents of the Habitat Management Plans and the prescription table, which sets out the ideal actions for future management of the Downs and Golf Course.

(2) Agree that officers work towards the three main objectives of this five-year plan as set out in 2.5 of this report.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 The Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 Section 10, paragraph one states:

10.-(1) *It shall be the duty of the conservators to preserve the Downs so far as possible in their natural state of beauty and to have regard to the rules of good forestry and the desirability of conserving flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features of special interest and subject there to they may-*

(a) do any works necessary for preserving, restoring, planting and maintaining the turf, trees, shrubs, plants and grass and for landscaping and temporarily fence off such parts of the Downs as they may think necessary;

1.2 The Habitat Management Plans provide the Conservators with a guide of best management practices and sets out in its prescription table the actions required to preserve the Downs in its natural state of beauty which will help the Conservators fulfil their obligations under the Act.

2 Background

2.1 The current editions of the Epsom and Walton Downs and Epsom Golf Course Habitat Management Plans have been revised and updated to assess the current state of the habitat and highlight areas which are well managed and those areas which are in decline and would benefit from further investment. Both Plans can be viewed in Appendix One and Appendix Two of this report.

2.2 These updated plans have been authored by Sarah Clift, Senior Countryside Officer from Epsom & Ewell Borough Council's Countryside Team.

2.3 The Senior Countryside Officer spent many hours conducting on-site surveys and reviewing previous recommendations and actions to assess future requirements to prevent deterioration of this important site.

2.4 It was decided that for ease of use, the Epsom and Walton Downs Habitat Management Plan and the Golf Course Habitat Management Plan should form two separate documents so that a copy of the Golf Course Plan could be given to Epsom Golf Club as they have responsibility for carrying out some of the work prescribed.

2.5 For simplicity both Plans suggests three main areas to focus on over the next five years:

Epsom and Walton Downs Management Plan:

- Draw up a project plan to reintroduce grazing on Juniper Hill.
- Cut and collect arisings from key chalk grassland areas using cut and collect mowing equipment
- Actively try and set up an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group to compliment the volunteer work provided by Epsom & Ewell's Countryside Volunteers, the Lower Mole Partnership, and the Butterfly Conservation Volunteers.

Epsom Golf Course Management Plan:

- Cut and collect arisings from grassland areas outside of the Fairways (as above).
- Clear and subsequently manage scrub in key Chalk Grassland areas.
- Actively try and set up a dedicated site-based volunteer group to compliment the volunteer work already happening on site (as above).

2.6 Of the three objectives Officers believe that acquiring a cut and collect machine would provide the biggest impact on the overall management of the Downs and the Golf Course. Cutting and collecting the grass takes away the nutrients allowing the wildflowers the opportunity to flourish.

2.7 The ideal time to cut and collect is late summer to early autumn each year and therefore to commit to the prescriptions in this plan it is proposed that Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Grounds Maintenance service acquire a cut and collect machine which will be used on the Downs as well as other areas of the Borough which benefit from the same maintenance regime.

2.8 Grounds Maintenance on the Downs is provided by the Council and is paid for via an annual recharge to the Conservators, therefore the purchase of a cut and collect machine will not have a direct on the Conservators budgets and will be included in the current recharge.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

- None for the purpose of this report

3.2 Crime & Disorder

- None for the purpose of this report

3.3 Safeguarding

- None for the purpose of this report

3.4 Dependencies

- The success of this Habitat Management Plan will be dependent on remaining focussed on the key objectives set out in paragraph 2.2

3.5 Other

- None

4 Financial Implications

4.1 To fulfil the main objectives of this five-year plan, there may be requirement for additional budget to implement the prescriptions particularly in the case of the reintroduction of grazing. However, the funding implications for any new measures will be fully explored and reported to the Conservators before they are introduced.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: Funding will need to be identified to progress any new initiatives in the Habitat Management Plan.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 As set out in paragraph 1.1 the Conservators have a legal duty under the Epsom and Waltons Downs Regulation Act 1984 to preserve the Downs in its natural state of beauty and these management plans if implemented will help to fulfil this duty.

5.2 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 currently includes a duty on public authorities to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity. The new Environment Act 2021 has amended this duty so that there is an expectation on public authorities to look strategically at their policies and operations from time to time (at least every 5 years) and assess what action they can take 'to further' the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. They must also have regard to the relevant Local Nature Recovery Strategies, Species Conservation Strategies and Protected Sites Strategies, as part of the consideration. The production and implementation of a management plan will be a key part of adhering to this duty.

5.3 **Legal Officer's comments**: None other than those set out above

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: The following Key Priorities are engaged:

- Green and Vibrant
- Safe and Well

6.2 **Service Plans**: The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: Well managed eco systems is key to ensuring climate stability.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: None for the purpose of this report.

6.5 **Partnerships**: The successful delivery of the Habitat Management Plan relies on sustaining relationships with a number of stakeholders such as the Borough Council, Jockey Club, Training Grounds Management Board, the public and volunteers.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports: 17 April 2017 – Revision of the Habitat Management Plan to include Golf Club site.

Other papers: none

EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Epsom and Walton Downs Habitat Management Plan

2023 – 2028

WRITTEN BY SARAH CLIFT

COUNTRYSIDE TEAM
EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There have been a number of people who have been involved in the writing of this management plan. Thanks go to the following individuals:

Peter Howarth - Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Stewart Cocker - Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Sam Whitehead - Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Ashlie Williams - Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Peter Murray - Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Trevor Gray – Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
Simon Durrant – Jockey Club
Nigel Whybrow – Jockey Club
Conor Morrow – Lower Mole Partnership
Helen Cocker – Lower Mole Partnership
Sean Grufferty – Downlands Partnership
Bill Downey – Butterfly Conservation
Ann Sankey – Surrey Botanical Society

Chalk Hill Blue - *Polyommatus coridon*

Small Blue - *Cupido minimus*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Epsom and Walton Downs is an extremely important site for wildlife and contributes hugely to the biodiversity value of Epsom and Ewell and beyond. It contains the nationally and internationally important habitat of chalk grassland and is home to rare plants and animals such as Round-headed Rampion, Chalk Eyebright, Bastard Toadflax, Juniper, Small Blue Butterfly and Skylarks to name a few. It is vital to actively manage the chalk grassland to ensure this special habitat is not lost, as so much has already across the country through lack of management, scrub encroachment and habitat fragmentation. Such fragments of plants and animal communities that were once common throughout the Downs are now extremely rare and threatened by a range of land use changes. Its rarity gives this habitat a special value. The combination of plants and animals found here are effectively irreplaceable if damaged.

Over the last 5 yrs, of the previous management plan, work has focused on continuing the restoration and maintenance of chalk grassland in the area known as Juniper Hill and over the years, scrapes have been created within this grassland along with Sherwood Grassland, with the aim of enhancing chalk grassland species and the fauna that relies on these plants. However, there is so much potential to do more if resources could be found. There are areas of chalk grassland being lost to scrub, which will be lost if not managed. Managing the chalk grassland needs to move from being something the that is fitted in if possible, to becoming a priority job with time directly allocated for it. Management of the Downs has to be more proactive towards habitat management and the special Biodiversity found within. A key focus of this management plan is to try to find practical ways to ensure the successful management of chalk grassland across the whole site and ensure its conservation.

There are three main objectives which should be achieved within the 5 years of this management plan

- Draw up a project plan to reintroduce grazing on Juniper Hill.
- Cut and collect arisings from key chalk grassland areas.
- Actively try and set up an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group to compliment the volunteer work already happening on site.

Juniper – *Juniperis communis*

Chalk Eyebright - *Euphrasia pseudokerneri*

INTRODUCTION

The Countryside Team were asked to update the Epsom and Walton Downs Five Year Management Plan. The past management plans were reviewed and numerous meetings and discussions were had with the Downskeepers and site managers to come up with the prescriptions outlined within this management plan. The site was surveyed during the months of June and July 2020 to assess the habitats' current status and potential. This management plan focuses on the site's habitat management and the enhancement of its biodiversity value particularly its habitats and species of principal importance as outlined in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act.

STAGE ONE – DESCRIPTION

1.1 Introduction

Epsom & Walton Downs has been made famous by The Derby, considered to be the greatest flat race in the world. The racetrack, associated gallops for training the racehorses and hack riding areas make up a large part of Epsom Downs. To the north, Epsom Downs Golf Course makes up another large section (the management of which is not discussed in this plan but sits alongside it). Although these two organisations take up a large part of Epsom & Walton Downs, there is still a significant area that is publicly accessible and allows people access to wide-open vistas across Epsom & Walton Downs including woodland, meadows, chalk grassland, hedgerows and extensive views across London. These important habitats are managed for wildlife and public access and make up an important part of the biodiversity resource for Epsom & Ewell.

1.2 Location

Epsom & Walton Downs are situated on the dip slope of the North Downs just south of Epsom town on the southern boundary of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell in Surrey. The grid reference for Epsom Downs is TQ 218582 and Walton Downs is TQ 220574. It is included in the OS Explorer 146 covering Dorking, Box Hill and Reigate.

1.3 Land Tenure and Associated Statutory Requirements

The Downs are private land owned by Epsom Downs Racecourse and managed by the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators through an Act of Parliament. The Conservators' principal obligations are to enable the training of the 160 racehorses (this may increase by 50-70 after the development of Downs House) and associated staff that currently use the gallops up until noon every day, to preserve the Downs in their natural state of beauty, to maintain the public's right of access and to ensure that the various users respect each other's rights and the Downs environment. Membership of the Conservators is prescribed by the Epsom & Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984. Their membership is formed of Epsom and Ewell Borough Councillors (6 Members), Jockey Club Racecourses (3 Members) and the Horserace Betting Levy Board (1 Member). It is supported by officers of the Borough Council, and its Clerk is the Chief Executive of the Borough Council.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 currently includes a duty on public authorities to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity. The new Environment Act has amended this duty so that there is an expectation on public authorities to look strategically at their policies and operations from time to time (at least every 5 years) and assess what action they can take 'to further' the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. They must also have regard to the relevant Local Nature Recovery Strategies, Species Conservation Strategies and Protected Sites Strategies, as part of the consideration. The production and implementation of a management plan will be a key part of adhering to this duty.

1.4 Local Designations

A borough wide review of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) was carried out in 2013. As a result of this review, the whole of the Epsom and Walton Downs was assessed as being SNCI quality. This was confirmed by the local sites partnership and adopted by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council. SNCIs are considered material considerations in planning decisions.

It is also within the North Downs Natural Area (more information available from Natural England) and is within the greenbelt. The site is also included in the Surrey Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA) ND04: North Downs; Epsom Downs to Nonsuch Park. The aim of the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) is to establish a strategic framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity at a landscape scale. BOAs identify the most important areas for wildlife conservation in Surrey and each include a variety of habitats, providing for an 'ecosystem approach' to nature conservation across and beyond the county. Therefore, the management work detailed in this report could be seen to provide a landscape link within the overall BOA network. Although not a statutory designation, BOAs are protected under Epsom and Ewell's Local Plan and are material considerations in planning applications.

The southern half of the site (Walton Downs) is also designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value, which is considered to be of high landscape quality with strong distinctive characteristics. It makes it particularly sensitive to development. The primary objective of this designation is conservation and enhancement of the landscape quality and individual character.

1.5 Reasons for SNCI selection

The whole of Epsom and Walton Downs was designated a SNCI in 2013, due to the presence of species rich chalk grassland. The National Vegetation Classification communities found are CG3 *Bromus erectus* grassland, CG4 *Bryachypodium pinnatum* grassland, CG2a *Festuca ovina-Avenula pratensis* grassland. There is an area of ancient woodland as outlined in the review of ancient woodland inventory for Surrey. Juniper is found in the area of Juniper Hill Grassland. The site also has a population of the Small Blue butterfly, which is on list A of butterflies of importance in Surrey. The full SNCI report can be found in Appendix 1.

1.6 Photographic Coverage

Aerial photographs taken in 2003, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2016 and 2019 are held by EEBC. More recent aerial photographs of the site are available online from Google Maps, Apple Maps and Bing Maps.

1.7 Summary Description

1.7.1 Physical

1.7.1.1 Geology

The geological map relevant for this area is Sheet 286 Reigate printed in 1978. The entire area is Upper Chalk. The 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales 'Soils of England and Wales Sheet 6 – South East England soil map', published 1983, describes the resulting soil type as a brown rendzina called Andover 1. This is a shallow well-drained calcareous silty soil over chalk and found on slopes and crests.

1.7.1.2 Topography

The lowest point on Epsom & Walton Downs is approximately 85m in the south-west rising to 150m in the north-east. This gives a gentle to moderate west facing slope. There is a moderate to steep south-east facing slope over Walton Downs.

1.7.2 Biological

1.7.2.1 Priority Habitats

The importance of the site is indicated by the fact the site includes Hedgerows, Lowland Calcareous Grassland and Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, which are Habitats of Principal Importance in England under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act. See Map 3. Full habitat classifications can be found at https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/uk-bap-priority-habitats/

Hedgerows

There are three hedgerows found on Epsom Downs one of which is a species-rich hedgerow running between Langley Vale Copse and The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland). It is a mix of at least 16 different species including, shrubs, climbers, and canopy trees of Oak and Ash spaced along the length. The other two are mainly regularly clipped hedgerows but provide good linear habitat.

Lowland Calcareous Grassland

There are extensive areas that remain as Chalk Grassland. Working from north to south they include the Derby Stables Grassland, Langley Vale Road Grassland, part of the Traveller Grassland, Epsom Downs West Grassland leading round in to Pony Hill Grassland, Sherwood Grassland, Walton Downs Grassland, Southern Boundary Strip and Juniper Hill.

The grassland of Juniper Hill is of particular importance. This grassland is considered to be one of the best of its type in Surrey in terms of its species diversity, including several rarities, in a relatively small area. Only its small size prevented it from being a Site of Special Scientific interest (SSSI). It is regarded by the Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan working group as a top priority to conserve and enhance. The comparison of aerial photographs from 1949 and 2013 shows the large extent of the loss of the grassland and encroachment by scrub and surrounding woodland.

Walton Downs Grassland is also very important with species such as Chalk Eyebright, and Round Headed Rampion. Derby Stables grassland contains orchids such as the Bee Orchid and Autumn Ladies Tresses. The rest are rich with interesting species and extremely valuable. The management recommendations for these areas are essential for the maintenance and restoration of this internationally important habitat.

Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

There are 7 woodlands found on the Downs, The Warren Woodland being designated Ancient Woodland. The main canopy species are Oak and Ash and all generally contain a mix including Field Maple, Sycamore, Hazel, Beech, Birch, Cherry, Hawthorn Blackthorn, Buckthorn and Holly with field layers of varying species diversity, often including large areas of Bramble and Ivy. The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland) contains a significant area of diverse ground flora associated with Ancient Woodland

1.7.2.2 Other important habitats

Veteran/mature trees

Large trees were noted within Beech Wood and The Warren Woods. It should be a priority to map veteran or near veteran trees across the site and ensure they have specific management plans to maintain and increase their longevity.

Grassland

The majority of the Downs is made up of grassland, which is publicly accessible and also consists of gallops and rides for horses. Given that the geology is chalk, all of it has the potential to be chalk grassland if not already. Within the site are the floristically interesting and varied areas of grassland such as the Warren Meadows East and West, The Triangle, and Gorse area leading in to the

Tattenham Corner Gallop/Hack ride margin. Also within Middle Hill and The D, there are areas of upright brome, indicative of chalk grassland. If these areas were managed differently, their biodiversity value will increase along with the diversity of species within the sward.

Scrub

Scrub is a very important habitat for birds, small mammals, reptiles and invertebrates and is found in linear patches running between Beech wood to Walton Rd, along Mitchell's Hack (AKA Pony Hill), to the north of Sherwood grassland, and amongst Walton Downs Grassland. It is made up of hawthorn, blackthorn and buckthorn in the main.

1.7.2.2 Species groups

These important habitats within Epsom and Walton Downs support a wide variety of plant and animal species, including a wide range of plants including some rare chalk grassland species, fungi, lichens, bryophytes, birds, mammals, a wide range of invertebrates, and reptiles, including 25 priority species as identified in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act.

1.7.3 Cultural

*1.7.*3.1 History and Archaeology

The following is taken from 'The Epsom and Walton Downs – A strategy for their management and use' by D Smith (1993): 'The Epsom Grandstand Association was founded in 1828 when it obtained a 90 -year lease of an acre of the Downs for the purpose of building a stand from the then Lord of the Manor. In the 1960s the Association became a subsidiary of United Racecourse Limited and in 1969 the Horserace Betting Levy Board, through its wholly owned subsidiary Metropolitan and Country Racecourse Management and Holdings Limited, acquired the freehold interest of Epsom Downs.'

Mr Stanley Wootton purchased Walton Downs from the Epsom Grandstand Association on 5th July 1926 and also acquired a lease of part of Epsom Downs as winter training gallops. The 1936 Act empowered Mr Wootton to train racehorses on Walton Downs and to grant leases or licences to train horses there. In 1969, Mr Wootton granted a lease of Walton Downs to the Horserace Betting Levy Board for the Period of 999 years at a peppercorn rent in order to secure the future of the Downs for the purpose of training racehorses in Epsom. In 1970 a Management Trust was formed to administer these training gallops, known as the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Ground Board (TGMB) which comprises representatives from the Betting Levy Board, Epsom Racecourse Trainers Association, the Borough Council and the County Council. The area is managed by the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators, whose primary duty is 'to maintain the natural beauty and diversity of the Downs… and the relationship between the various users .'

Common Rights no longer exist, but subject to the 1984 Act, the public are entitled to access for air and exercise on foot over the Downs – subject to this not interfering with racehorse training. Racehorses use the site and local public can ride out on the Downs. The Downs are very popular with the public for walks. Dog walking, kite flying, model aircraft flying are amongst the many activities permitted by the Bylaws.

Cultural significance is provided through archaeological features on the Downs. Documentation from Dr D Bird, Principal Archaeologist at Surrey County Council reveals that several Roman artefacts have been found. For example pottery found during WWII close to Downs House and a Roman coin from 3rd Century, Constantine period found in 1925. South of Tattenham Corner a Roman coin from the 4th Century, Claudius II was found in 1937. Around Buckles Gap and to the east, 11 round barrows from the Bronze Age or Saxon burial mound were shown on a 17th Century map and Early Iron Age pottery has been found. 19th Century coal tax posts are found along the boundaries. These are points where tax was paid on coal being brought into London. Dr Bird summaries by saying

'There is enough evidence here from finds to show that there will have been prehistoric and Roman Period settlement in this area, and I expect that there will be surviving earthworks.'

1.7.3.2 Public Access and Recreation

There are numerous activities for people to get involved in on the downs. Horse riding, dog walking, kite flying, flying model aeroplanes (coordinated by Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club www.edmac.org.uk), walking, cycling, jogging, and looking for wildlife to name a few.
There are a number of on-site car parks present. One is located just south of The Hill, two at Tattenham Corner and others along Grandstand Road. The nearest railway station is at Tattenham Corner Station. The Rights of Way comprise of several footpaths and bridleways. There are also numerous desire lines through the woodlands and grasslands. See map 2.

A view across Epsom Downs towards the Grandstand

STAGE TWO – EVALUATION AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Criteria for Evaluation

Size

The total area covered by Epsom & Walton Downs covers 177 hectares (437 acres). This represents a substantial area of open space within a predominately urban context and represents a significant proportion of the County's chalk grassland resource.

Naturalness

In parts areas have been reseeded, fertilisers used and development taken place. Car parks have been built as well as roads and buildings associated with the racecourse. Due to the close proximity of residential houses, there are a number of garden escapees, non-native species and invasive plants However, other areas such as Juniper Hill are excellent examples of unimproved chalk grassland that have remained in this state for hundreds of years. There are several species of plants researched by Terry Wells and Francis Rose which were thought to be restricted to turf, undisturbed for at least 130 years. These include Squinancywort, Dropwort, Burnet-saxifrage, Horseshoe Vetch, Chalk Milkwort and Bastard-toadflax, all of which are found here.

Diversity and Rarity

Over 300 plant species have been recorded and a similar number of fauna. Whilst a great deal of the site is devoted to gallops and hacks on the racecourse, it also includes a variety of habitats such as unimproved calcareous grassland, rough semi-improved calcareous grassland, secondary woodland with associated scrub and hedgerows.

Over the years, surveying has been carried out across the site, a summary of which is below. A full species list can be found in Appendix 2. However, aside from the butterfly recording at Juniper Hill as part of the Butterfly Conservation Monitoring Scheme and botanical recording as part of writing the management plans, all records are quite old.

Bryophytes (Mosses and Liverworts)

A total of 26 species have been recorded at present, which were spotted whilst surveying plants as part of writing the management plans. This is an area of wildlife surveying that could be improved.

Vascular plants

388 species have been recorded in total. (Many thanks to Ann Sankey for sharing records held by Surrey Botanical Society.) This is a lower number than other sites in Epsom and Ewell but is probably due to lower recording effort. 350 species are recorded in Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserve, 455 at Nonsuch Park and around 500 at Epsom Common Local Nature Reserve.

Juniper found on Juniper Hill is a NERC priority species. In Southern counties, Juniper is in a critical state of decline with evidence of habitat fragmentation. There are only 5 known sites in Surrey, these declines and losses can be attributed to the cessation of appropriate management, scrub encroachment and increased habitat fragmentation.

Within Juniper Hill Grassland and Walton Downs Grassland, three Nationally Scarce plant species reside. They are Bastard-toadflax, Chalk Eyebright (also a NERC species) and Round-headed Rampion.

Native English Bluebells are found in good numbers carpeting the ground in spring, within The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland) in particular. The British Isles and especially Southern England is a strong hold for bluebells, compared to other countries in Europe. Confined to chalk grassland is the Fragrant Orchid found on Juniper Hill and last recorded in 2013.

Invertebrates

The Invertebrate survey carried out in 2007 focused on surveying different habitat types within Juniper Hill, Walton Downs Grassland, The Triangle and Sherwood Grassland. At Juniper Hill surveying efforts were focused on the herb-rich chalk downland, scrub/woodland edge habitat, woodland rides, decaying wood and bare earth scrapes. Within Walton Downs Grassland, the survey focused on the tall vegetation (esp. *Pastinaca sativa*), scrubby chalk grassland and track-edge erosion. Lastly it also looked at the rank grassland and scrub where The Warren Woods and The Triangle meet and also within Sherwood Grassland.

118 species of which 7 are classed as rare or notable species including one beetle, one fly, four bees/wasps and one grasshopper were recorded. In addition, there were 13 local species found, whose distribution is restricted to chalk grassland. Of the invertebrate species that have been recorded here over the years, not just in 2007, two are Notable Na species, 18 are Notable Nb species, one is a Red Data Book (RDB) 3 and a further 6 are in other RDB categories. Other records associated with chalk grassland are the Rufous Grasshopper, Roman Snail and Orange-tailed Clearwing as well as some hoverflies and bees.

In addition, Juniper Hill is on the Invertebrate Site Register as grade B (for the Juniper) and grade C. This register was developed to raise the profile of invertebrate conservation. They can be site based or taxon based. Grade B is given when a site is judged to be regionally important and a possible candidate for SSSI. Grade C sites are potentially important sites but have insufficient information on which to judge.

Molluscs and Oligochaetes (Slugs, Snails and Earthworms)

14 different species have been recorded so far but there has been no survey carried out which has particularly focused on these groups of animals. Further surveying would likely reveal more species found on site.

Arachnids (Spiders, Harvestmen, Mites and Ticks)

7 species have been found during the invertebrate survey carried out in 2007 but the survey was not focused on this group of animals.

Lepidoptera

- Butterflies - this is probably the best recorded animal across Epsom and Walton Downs. A butterfly transect route is walked annually, once a week from April to September and is part of Butterfly Conservation's Butterfly Monitoring Scheme. There have been recent records of 35 different species and there are 2 historical records of Purple Hairstreak and Wall Brown dating back to 1905. Of the 35, 7 are NERC priority species. Of particular concern are Small Blue and Chalkhill Blue. Due to its rapid local decline at the end of the twentieth century, the Small Blue is given High Priority in Butterfly Conservation's Regional Action Plan. This butterfly is declining nationally and by 2000 only about 15 populations remained in Surrey. At Epsom and Ewell, it survives in 5 or 6 small areas where the larval food plant Kidney Vetch is found. Since 2002, conservation work on Epsom Downs has created patches of more suitable habitat and the butterfly has responded by colonising these. Further information on the conservation that has taken place on site, is included in the respective management compartment information, found later in this management plan.
- Moths – 27 species have been recorded but most date back to the 60s, 80s and 90s. 4 of these are NERC priority species. A few date from the more recent 2007 invertebrate survey but this would definitely be a group of animals to focus further surveying on.

Coleoptera (Beetles)
A total of 205 species have been recorded, most of which date back to the 90s. As with moths, this would be a priority group to focus on for further surveying work.

Diptera (True flies)
50 species recorded with records dating back to 2007 and 80s and 90s.

Hemiptera (True bugs)
15 species recorded all from the 2007 survey.

Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps and Ants)
55 species recorded, mainly from 2007 and some from the late 90s.

Orthoptera (Grasshoppers and Crickets)
7 species have been recorded mainly from 2007 and some from 1998 and 2002.

Odonata (Dragonflies and Damselflies)
6 species have been recorded but these are mainly very old records dating from 1905. Only one was noted in the 2007 survey, the Common Darter.

Other invertebrates
1 Dermaptera (Common earwig) 2007, 2 Isopods (woodlice) 2007, 2 Mecoptera (Scorpion flies) 98 and 07, and 3 Neuroptera (Lacewings) 1998.

Herptiles

- Reptiles – Common Lizard has been recorded which is a NERC priority species and is protected under UK law.
- Amphibians – None have been recorded and as there are no water bodies on site, it is not a priority group to survey. However, there may well be some on the margins of the site where residential roads back on to the Downs and garden ponds may support a population.

Birds
In total, 50 species have been recorded. 11 are considered NERC priority species, 11 are on the RSPB red list of conservation concern and 8 are on the amber list. These records date mainly from the early 2000s from the Downskeeper's general bird surveying which they aimed to undertake every 5 years. The Downs were separated in to recording compartments, which were then walked every 3 weeks throughout the year. Birds seen were noted with comments as to whether they were seen on site, just heard or flying over.

The mosaic of habitats provides breeding and feeding habitat for a number of declining bird species such as Skylark. A transect used to be walked annually to record Skylark locations. The route was walked once a month between April and July and behaviour marked on a map to indicate whether the birds were seen in flight, on the ground or circling. The last records date back to 2006. Due to Skylarks being ground nesting birds, it is very important to ensure the grass cutting regime is carried out very carefully and in accordance with their needs.

Bird box surveys were also carried out. There were 5 types being used, Standard Tit, Great Tit, Treecreeper, Kestrel and open fronted boxes often used by Robins. More recently a Barn Owl box was installed. Records date back to 2006 as to whether the nest boxes were being used and by what species. It is likely that some of these boxes will now be in a state of disrepair.

Mammals

There are 8 records of relatively common mammal species such as fox, rabbit and squirrel, dating back to 2002. There are also anecdotal reports mentioning seeing Common Pipistrelle bats.
The Surrey Dormouse Group, in 2018, positioned 50 Dormice boxes within the Warren Woodland due to the fact it looked like perfect habitat for them. The boxes were last checked earlier in 2021 and still found no signs of dormice. As the boxes have been up for two and a half years, Surrey Dormouse Group has decided to cease checks.
Dormice boxes and tubes were also positioned in Southern Boundary Strip, which are monitored by The Epsom and Ewell BC Countryside Team. No evidence of Dormice has been found but the boxes were used by wood mice.
There are also records of Bank Vole and Weasel, seen by the Downskeepers during their duties.

Fragility

When the grassland of the downs was assessed in the summer of 2014 it was found that they were not in a favourable condition. The main grass areas of the site failed due to the herb:grass ratio being too low, too few positive indicator species and too frequent occurrence of negative indicator species. Some of the areas failed due to too high a frequency of scrub, which results from lack of habitat management.

Without some degree of conservation management, habitats will eventually lose their biodiversity. The woodlands by their very nature do not require such regular management to maintain and enhance their biodiversity. Grassland on the other hand does require regular management or it will soon be invaded by undesirable species such as coarse grasses that will out-compete finer grasses. Then scrub species such as Hawthorn and Blackthorn will begin to arrive and eventually it turns into woodland (Natural Succession). Whilst a mosaic of habitats is desirable and scrub is extremely important, this should not be to the detriment of valuable unimproved calcareous grassland so very rare in this County. The priority for management should be for the areas with most potential, namely Juniper Hill and Walton Downs Grassland.

Visitor pressure can also affect the habitats, either through trampling, disturbing wildlife, fires, litter and other anti-social behaviour. It is very important that paths are maintained to encourage people to stay on the tracks and keep them away from sensitive areas.

Invasive species such as Canadian Goldenrod could pose a threat to grassland habitats and Turkey Oak to the woodlands. Where invasive species are found it is important to eradicate them as soon as possible.

Light pollution will affect the site from the nearby roads and street lights. This will affect night flying moths and other invertebrates. In addition, noise and air pollution from the roads will have an influence. Atmospheric pollution may also be contributing to changes in species composition with particular regard to the spread of Tor grass on Juniper Hill and on Walton Downs. There has been some research that indicated nitrogen oxide from the burning of fossil fuels is a contributing factor in the increase.

The climate is predicted to change dramatically over the next 50 - 100 years. It is thought that South East England will see warmer weather, with hotter summers and winters less severe. These changes and change in precipitation will mean the loss of cold loving species and a gradual shift in habitat north. Monitoring systems will help to recognise these changes and enable changes in management techniques.

Typicalness
The rough semi-improved calcareous grassland, secondary woodland and associated scrub is typical of the Upper Chalk in this region. However, the areas of exceptional species rich calcareous grassland, the open nature and large size of the site is less usual and offers more potential for nature conservation than is usual.

History of Biological recording
There have been a number of ecologists employed by the Conservators in the past, including Barry Goldsmith who was the Botanical Recorder on behalf of the Conservators and prior to this it was Peter Moore.

The Nature Conservancy Council (NCC) surveyed the site in 1988 as part of the 'Chalk grassland survey'. Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT) surveyed the site for the Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) project during 1998, of which 3 SNCIs were selected on Epsom & Walton Downs and all of Epsom Golf Course was designated as a SNCI. More recently in 2013 the whole of Epsom and Walton Downs was designated by the Surrey Local Sites Partnership as SNCI, following a review of the Borough's SNCI carried out by Peter Howarth (EEBC Countryside Officer (Ecologist)), the report of which can be seen in Appendix 1. Further botanical recording has taken place as part of writing the site management plans and Surrey Botanical Society has spent time on site over the years.

Martin Ellis and other members from Surrey & SW London Butterfly Conservation collected transect records for many years. Graham Collins an invertebrate specialist has also recorded in the area for several years. More recently, the regular Butterfly Conservation Transect was resurrected in 2016 and is walked by Peter Brown. The transect takes in Walton Downs Grassland, Juniper Hill and Juniper Hill Glade (the little glade to the South of Juniper Hill, which borders the farmland to the south) once a week from April to September every year and has built up a good picture of the butterflies using this area.

An invertebrate survey was carried out in 2007, which focused on the major groups of British insects: Coleoptera (beetles), Diptera (flies), Hemiptera (bugs and leaf hoppers), Hymenoptera (bees, wasps, ants etc), and Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths), but other groups were noted if seen. It was undertaken between July and early September 2007 and focused predominantly on open habitats, including Juniper Hill, Walton Downs Grassland, the Triangle and Sherwood Grassland. In addition, beetles were studied over a three-year period on a grass compost heap on the racecourse during 1993 -1995 inclusive. Ian Menzies has also provided further beetle records.

Apart from the butterfly recording, all surveys are very old and worthy of repeating if resources can be found. Information on Fungi and Lichen is missing completely.

Position in an Ecological Unit
In a local context the site is set in a large open area. Nationally it is within the North Downs Natural Character Area, which supports nationally significant calcareous grassland. It also forms part of Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area, which links Epsom and Walton Downs to the South and Nonsuch Park in the North via Epsom Downs Golf Course, farmland and Priest Hill and Howell Hill Surrey Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves. Links should be sought to connect these important areas to deliver landscape scale protection of biodiversity. Epsom and Walton Downs are situated on the edge of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and within the Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV). Natural England is currently (2021) reviewing the boundary of all AONBs.

Any opportunities for all or part of Epsom and Walton Downs to be considered for inclusion should be taken. Locally it forms an important part or the Borough's Green Infrastructure.

Potential Value

There have been declines and losses of important Chalk Grassland areas, which can be attributed to the cut back of appropriate management, scrub encroachment and increased habitat fragmentation. In addition, changing priorities and difficulties in funding are to blame. However, there is great potential for restoring this area for nature conservation and enhancing its value for landscape, public access and heritage.

Chalk grassland is one of the richest habitat in terms of diversity, but it is being lost at an alarming rate nationally and is also become highly fragmented. Today, areas of chalk downland that survive in Surrey are scattered across the Downs.

There are 12 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the Downs Natural Area of Surrey, 9 of which have a chalk grassland component which go some way to protecting the chalk grassland resource of Surrey. However, important areas exist outside the SSSI's, which have potential for enhancement, including Epsom Golf Course, Juniper Hill and Walton Downs Grassland. In past management plans, it has been noted that Juniper Hill is worthy of SSSI status but its size and fragmentation would prevent it from becoming one. There is potential to look at the Woodland and Grassland component of Epsom and Walton Downs along with Epsom Downs Golf Course and potentially combined, they could be put forward to be considered for SSSI status.

Careful management of the unimproved calcareous grassland, taking further control of the encroaching scrub and Tor grass and suitable management of the woodland, would enhance the site. This would enhance the biodiversity, helping to safeguard important species such as the Small Blue butterfly population.

Intrinsic Appeal

The site is highly valued as an important and well-used recreational facility where people can take part in a range of activities such as walking, dog walking, horse riding, fly kites and model aeroplanes or just sit and enjoy the magnificent views.

Factors Affecting Management

Under-resourced nature conservation management is the major factor influencing the vegetation changes over Epsom & Walton Downs, allowing scrub encroachment onto internationally important unimproved calcareous grassland. Generally, there has been a lack of livestock grazing as a result of changing agricultural practices and economic pressures have had a significant effect on the chalk grass resource of the North Downs.

Financial resources will also affect any management, as the proposed habitat management will incur costs. The continued work on Juniper Hill is essential and therefore continued annual financial support for the Lower Mole Partnership and its volunteers by EEBC is essential. Better use of volunteers could offer a way of managing the site generally. Nearby sites such as Epsom Common and Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserves use regular volunteer input, which is a vital tool in managing their habitats. It is suggested to consult with Lower Mole Countryside Partnership, Epsom and Ewell Countryside Team, Butterfly Conservation and Woodland Trust to see if they can offer help in setting up an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group. Using outside contractors for larger parts of the management must also be considered.

2.2 Identification/Confirmation of Important Features

Site Features	National Importance	Regional Importance	Local Importance
1. Habitats			
Hedgerows			*
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland			*
Veteran/mature trees			*
Grasslands		*	
Scrub			*
2. Species groups			
Plants – Chalk Eyebright and Juniper are NERC species. Bastard Toadflax, Round Headed Rampion and Chalk Eyebright are nationally scarce. Kidney vetch is the foodplant for the Small Blue Butterfly.	*		
Bird assemblage 11 NERC species 11 Red List 8 Amber Listed		*	
Invertebrates **Butterflies -** 7 NERC priority species including Small Blue		*	
General assemblage – notable, Red Data Book species and chalk specialists. Assemblage found on Juniper Hill is regionally important.		*	
3. Culture and amenity			
Public recreation		*	
Educational opportunities			*
Historical, landscape and cultural features	*		

2.3 Ideal Long-term Management Objectives for Nature Conservation

- Enhance the biodiversity of the site as a whole, including better links between habitats.
- Manage grassland for nature conservation and to encourage diversity associated with the chalk grassland.
- Manage the woodland and hedges for both nature conservation and access (where not harmful to wildlife), enhancing biodiversity where possible by creating a diverse age and structure.
- Retain where possible a variety of decaying wood in the woodlands and encourage wood decay to enhance overall biodiversity.
- Manage the scrub for nature conservation by creating age structure and controlling dominance over other habitats.
- Control undesirable species of plants to maintain and enhance biodiversity of site.
- Continue the collection of records for the site by commissioning a variety of ecological surveys. Share information with local record centre.
- Encourage grounds maintenance contractors to undertake good management practice to assist nature conservation. Increase awareness of the biodiversity value of the site.
- Encourage and support local wildlife groups and conservation volunteers. Identify and prioritise staff time to support a regular group.
- Promote and support the work carried out by volunteers, particularly the Lower Mole Partnership.
- Protect the historic landscape in accordance with the Area of Great Landscape Value requirements.
- Interpret the site's biodiversity and historical importance to the public.
- Continue to work with all stakeholders
- Investigate possibilities for further designations such as Local Nature Reserve or Site of Special Scientific Interest or inclusion within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

2.4 Rationale

The tables below contain information on all the habitat management compartments, with a description of the current habitat status, current management regime, and future management prescriptions. The compartment numbers correspond to those found on Map 1, the Habitat and Compartment map. Some of the descriptions have not changed since the last management plan written by Peter Howarth, c2014 which were very thorough and remain accurate, so these have been used again. The species listed use scientific and common names, along with the abundance in some circumstances, using the DAFOR system. This is a way of describing the abundance of a plant and uses the following key: Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional, Rare.

2.4.1 Hedgerows

General principles:

- Hedges provide shelter and create microhabitats and the longer, larger and denser it is, the more benefits it provides for wildlife such as birds, bats and other mammals. Connectivity is very important and in managing hedgerows, gaps should be avoided where possible.
- Regular annual trimming prevents flowering and berry production, reducing valuable food for birds and mammals.
- If cutting with a tractor and side arm, ideally a maximum of one third of the length of any given hedge should be managed in a single year. The hedge should be cut on rotation over three to five years depending on the size of the hedge. However, when alongside paths, there may be a need to cut more regularly.
- If the hedgerows become larger lines of scrub banks, they should be scalloped into the centre, in sections. Preferably this should be done by hand using volunteers rather than machinery. Each section should be roughly 20m or so and then 20m should be left before another scalloped section begins. This way you create age structure but retain the length of the hedge. On the opposite side, the scalloped section should be opposite a section that is not cut. This results in a zig-zag shape if viewed from above.
- Cutting and trimming should take place preferably in winter, ideally January, and never during the main nesting season of March to August. This minimises the risks of nests being destroyed and food supplies being reduced. Autumn trimming removes valuable seeds and berries. Most of the berries of Hawthorn and Blackthorn, for example, tend to be on the outermost twigs and cutting these before they are eaten means depriving birds of an important food source.
- Ground cover at the base of a hedge should be retained over winter for ground-nesting birds.
- Planting in hedge gaps should be undertaken during the winter, when the ground is not frozen and some moisture is available. It is suggested that the species used include Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Buckthorn, Holly, Dogwood, Guelder Rose, Field Maple and Hazel. Fencing and protection may be required. If vandalism is a problem then use less conspicuous spiral guards.
- Mature trees in hedgerows, including dead ones, should be left in-situ (wherever public safety constraints permit) as potential nest sites, with consideration being given to erecting nest-boxes in suitable trees lacking large enough holes.
- It is always worthwhile considering planting native broad-leaved trees to become standard trees and fill suitable gaps in hedgerows. These should ideally be unevenly spaced. It is suggested that distances between them should exceed 8m to 9m. Even when trees stretch just a few metres above the main body of a hedge they are used by birds as song-posts.

Epsom Lane North Hedge (1)
Description – This hedge is mainly composed of Hawthorn, with some Dog Rose, Ivy, Blackthorn and Sycamore. There are extensive areas where the main hedge trees have died and the dead branches are just covered in Ivy. There is also the odd gap along the hedge line. At the Southern end, there have been flooding issues.

Comments on past management – It has been regularly trimmed. The flooding issue was dealt with by mounding up the ground to block water running in off the road and the vegetation has grown back and filled the gap. This should be monitored regularly to ensure water does not flood in again as it was causing erosion of the adjacent footpath.
Future management – The northern half of this hedge is the responsibility of EEBC and the southern half is the responsibility of the Training Board. The entire length of the hedge should continue to be rotationally trimmed over 2-3 yrs in winter, to ensure it does not encroach on to the path, following the general principles outlined above. Plant up gaps with local/UK provenance trees (to help ensure biosecurity).

Hedge north of Juniper Hill (2)
Description – This hedge extends northwards from the top of Juniper Hill Woodland and is composed of mainly Blackthorn, Hawthorn and Ivy.
Comments on past management – This has been trimmed regularly to prevent encroachment on to the path.
Future management – The hedge needs to be rotationally trimmed over 2-3 yrs, in winter, to ensure it does not encroach on to the path, following the general principles outlined above.

Langley Vale to Warren Hedge (3)
Description – This hedge links Langley Vale Copse and Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland) and is a small stretch of species rich hedge. It is composed of abundant hawthorn, occasional Buckthorn, rare Bramble, Dog Rose, Wild Privet, Spindle, Holly, Wayfaring Tree, Dogwood, Hazel, Blackthorn, Yew, Sycamore. There was also the occasional larger tree mainly Oak and Ash. Also covering some of the trees and scrub were the climber Ivy and Clematis.
Comments on past management – This is cut back when necessary, to ensure the path is not encroached upon.
Future management – It should be divided in half and only one half cut each time. Each half should be cut every 2-3 yrs, to allow for flower and berry production. Standard trees should be replaced by natural succession or planting with local/UK provenance trees. The Ash trees need to be monitored for presence of Ash Dieback and removed if necessary on a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations.

Create new hedge

Along the path between Epsom Lane North Hedge and the Hedge north of juniper Hill, there are bushes periodically spaced along the track including Hawthorn, Dogwood and Elder. It would be advisable to plant up between these bushes, either along the farmland boundary edge (advisable as this would then remove the need for the barbed wire fence, which has caused damage to horses in the past) and create a new hedge. Not only would this be good for wildlife but it would also provide a sight barrier for horses and ensure they do not gallop in to the farmland. It could be possible to approach the Tree Advisory Board for assistance with this project. Permission from the farmer would need to be sought if planting along their boundary. Liaison with the Training Board and Epsom Downs Racecourse will also be needed as this section lies within their area of responsibility.

2.4.3 Mixed deciduous woodland

General principles

- The overall aim is to create a more diverse woodland structure both in terms of its vertical structure and in terms of age. A woodland should have a canopy (taller trees), understorey (smaller trees/shrubs, which can grow in shadier conditions), field layer (flowers, grasses) and ground layer (mostly mosses). It should also contain plants of different ages, as animals need woodland in all its successional stages. Management should seek to maintain a continuous supply of young growth and protect and enhance mature features such as veteran trees and decaying wood. This can be achieved by opening up the woodland in targeted locations by coppicing or thinning, creating glades, creating rides, managing ride edges and the perimeter edge of the woodland, or by halo releasing mature specimens.
- Suitable trees should be selected to become the next veterans.
- Ivy growing on trees is a very important part of the woodland ecosystem. The foliage and flowers provide food, the stems and evergreen foliage are used for hibernating insects as well as bats and other wildlife and this outweighs any damage it may do to the tree.
- Avoid damage to wood banks & other historical features.
- Woodland operations should adhere to the UK Forestry Standard and only $5m^3$ can be felled in any one calendar quarter unless a felling license is agreed with the Forestry Commission.

Decaying Wood

- Decaying wood is an extremely important habitat type within a woodland ecosystem, and yet is often the most overlooked. It allows much-needed nutrients back into the soil through decomposition. Lying wood decomposes from the outside in and dead standing wood decays from the inside out and both provide considerable opportunities for saproxylic (deadwood) invertebrate specialists and other wildlife. A combination of lying and standing decaying wood should be retained. Public safety needs to be considered of course so standing dead wood should be kept away from footpaths.
- During thinning operations, dangerous trees posing health and safety risks will have to be cut down. However, if safe to do so, tree surgeons should be asked to monolith some trees in the thinning programme by cutting off the branches and leaving the trunk upright. Ideally, they should be broken or cut jaggedly to mimic a natural break. Artificial bat hibernaculums could be cut into the trunk as well. If this is not possible then the trunk should be cut down and left on the ground in situ. The bigger the better as the trunks are buffered from drying out and the greater the number of organisms it will support. If this proves impracticable then the branches and trunk should be cut and stacked into habitat piles to rot down.
- Tree protection zones should be considered to keep the public away from an area where a tree might fall to allow it to die naturally.
- Tight as well as loose habitat piles provide different conditions. Leave the logs as large as possible to deter vandals moving them or setting fire to them or wire them together with steel wire. If possible, some of the log habitat piles should be put just under the ground and the turf replaced, which will provide habitat for invertebrates such as stag beetles. Covering log piles with woodchip resulting from woodland work can also create this habitat.
- Ring barking (deep and wide) can be considered as part of thinning works, to provide additional decaying wood. Any actions should first be fully assessed for health and safety implications. Tree surgeons could also be asked to make holes in live standing trees to initiate rot and drill holes in forks and crowns to increase water retention.
- Root plate and stumps from fallen trees should be retained for solitary bees and wasps and other invertebrates, unless it constitutes a safety hazard.

Woodland edge creation/management

- Woodland edge is an extremely important part of a woodland ecosystem. A gradation of habitat between short to longer grass, to scrub, to woodland is very important, particularly for birds and invertebrates.
- This can be achieved on Epsom Downs by pushing back the edge of a woodland by 10-20 metres (either from the outer perimeter of the woodland or along paths and tracks within the woodland) and managing the regrowth on rotation. Do not allow it to grow back to the height it was and encourage/plant species such as Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Dogwood, Guelder Rose, Field Maple, Privet etc.
- Woodland edge should be managed by scalloping to create a wavy, longer edge, in roughly 10-20 m sections, up to 10m deep. Alternate sections should be cut. Once these sections have grown back (5-10yrs), the adjacent, non-cut sections can then be cut. This ensures a good age structure.
- Having a variety of age classes will result in supporting the greatest variety of wildlife.
- Habitat piles should be created as mentioned above or should be disposed of by burning or chipping. Due to the urban nature of the site, any fires used to dispose of vegetation should be taped off clearly to warn members of the public.

Minimum Intervention

- Allowing a woodland to develop naturally and be subject to natural processes is also important to allow within a site. Having a variety of management adds to the variety of habitats a site can support and in turn, the variety of wildlife. For example, some of the rare woodland bats prefer a woodland that is dense with less glades/rides etc.
- Minimum intervention concentrates on tree safety works and removal of non-natives.

Non-native/Invasive species

- Non-native species should be removed and treated to prevent them growing back. Sycamore should be kept as part of the woodland composition, particularly due to the threat Ash Die Back poses to the composition of our woodland (see Threats below).

Timing of work

- Woodland work is best carried out during November to February, when the trees are dormant and to avoid the bird-nesting season (March to August) and unsuitable times for bats and other important wildlife. If ground conditions are an issue and would result in damage to paths, woodland work can start in September but no earlier to avoid disturbance to birds.

Threats

- Ash die back/ Chalara fraxinea is a fungal disease, which kills Ash trees. There is Ash within the woodland on the Downs, so the trees may be impacted. It is recognised that it is not financially viable to deliver a robust plan to manage the effects of Ash Dieback but a risk-based approach to managing trees affected will be taken. There are areas that are of high and medium priority are either along roadsides, next to adjacent housing or along main footpaths. Where trees are lost to Ash Dieback, replanting in these locations, where appropriate, will be prioritised as part of the tree planting plans
- Oak Processionary Moth also poses an issue for the management of the woodland within the site. If large infestations occur, it can pose a threat to the tree itself through defoliation. However, currently the main concern is for human health, due to the toxic nature of the hairs of the caterpillars, resulting in rashes if they come in to contact with skin, or breathing problems if inhaled. The current policy is to survey the oak trees during the nest building season (June and July) and remove those which are head height (2m) or below, or are in a dangerous location e.g.

above a bench. The cost implications of nest removal and or preventative spraying will need to be planned for.

- Other tree diseases have not been discovered as yet but care should be taken to look out for them e.g. sudden oak death.

Beech Wood (4)

Description - This area is a mosaic of woodland and scrub, with canopy trees concentrated within the centre of the woodland with mature scrub surrounding them. The scrub areas include areas of dense Blackthorn with a herb layer consisting of Bluebell and Wood Anemone in the spring and also Dogs Mercury, Ivy, Bramble, Bracken Honeysuckle and Ground Elder. It also has areas of mixed scrub made up of Hazel, Blackthorn, Crab Apple, Elder, Buckthorn Field Maple, Cherry, Spindle, Dogwood, Wayfaring tree and local dominant Holly and Privet. The herb layer here was also dominated by Dogs Mercury and Ivy with rare Lords and Ladies. Also within the wood, near where the hack rides meet and the south west corner was an open area with abundant Common Nettle, Bramble, Willowherb sp, goats beard, thistle sp Wood Mellick and Large Bindweed.
The more central woodland swathes include English and Turkey Oak, Beech, Sycamore, and some Ash. In some areas there is a good Hazel understorey.
Alongside the path was a grassy margin made up of Chalk False Brome, Cocksfoot and False Oat Grass with Burnet Saxifrage, Wild Basil, Rest Harrow, Common Field Scabious, Yarrow, Wood False Brome, Hoary Ragwort Black Knapweed, Hogweed. Whilst surveying there was an abundance of butterflies due to the good woodland edge habitat.
There are some large veteran or near veteran Oaks and Beech trees in the woodland.
The Elders support abundant epiphytic bryophytes including *Orthotrichum affine*, *Zygodon Conoides, Cryphaea heteromalla* and uncommon *Metzgeria temperata*.

Comments on past management – Tree safety works and ride side management to allow good access for horses and walkers.

Future management – Maintain good woodland edge and create more by scalloping sections of vegetation along the paths on rotation. Push back 10 m in places and manage the regrowth on rotation. Where suitable, coppice the areas of hazel to create glades and age structure. If using a tractor flail to push back vegetation from the rides, follow up with a chainsaw to neaten edges. Sharp stems cannot be left due to the potential danger to horses. The veteran or near veteran trees should be mapped and individual management plans drawn up to ensure their longevity. It is important to note there is concern for Beech due to climate change. They are shallow rooted and not very drought resistant and on the chalk are unfortunately more at risk.

Sherwood Woodland (5)

Description - The woodland surrounds Downs House and is composed of a fairly open canopy of frequent English Oak, Ash and Wild Cherry. The Wild Cherry is generally found together in one stand. There is the odd Yew, Birch, Holly and Scots Pine. On the edge of the wood is some Turkey Oak. The shrub layer overall is sparse composed of rare Hawthorn and Hazel particularly in the western edge and rare Holly, which in places occurs in dense patches. The herb layer is generally poor, dominated by Ivy with rare Wood Anemone, Violets and Wood False Brome. Where trees have collapsed and created open areas, bramble is common. Along the southern edge where the woodland narrows to a thin strip around the land of Downs House, there is a Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Beech and Buckthorn creating more of a hedgerow habitat. The grass margin between the woodland and the path running along the south of the wood is flower rich.

Comments on past management – Minimal other than ensuring the vegetation stays off the path and racecourse. Currently there is development occurring within the grounds of Downs House and some woodland has been cleared along the southern edge of the grounds.

Future management – There is potential to push back the western and southern edge of the woodland to create woodland edge. The flower rich margin along the southern edge is important to manage as it provides a grassland habitat link between Sherwood Grassland and Downs West Grassland. Ideally this margin would be cut and cleared but at the very least, cut to ensure the scrub does not take over.

The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland) (6)

Description – The North East Corner of the woodland is owned by EEBC. The woodland here is semi-natural broad-leaved woodland. The canopy layer is very open and made up of abundant Pedunculate Oak, with frequent Ash, rare Sycamore, rare Whitebeam and rare Beech. The scrub layer is composed of abundant Hazel including old and recent coppice stools, Holly, Buckthorn, Privet, Dogwood and frequent Bramble. The field layer is made up of Hogweed, Cow Parsley, Hairy St John's Wort, Nettle, Wood false brome, Wood sedge, Dog's Mercury, Wood Avens, Bearded Couch, Violets and Sanicle. In the spring it is a carpet of Bluebells. The ground layer was sparse dominated by *Kindbergia praelonga* and *Brachythecium rutabulum*, *Atrichum undulatum* and *Fissidens bryoides*. The epiphytic bryophytes were generally poor mostly just *Rhynchostegium confertum*. There was a good amount of fallen dead wood found in this area. There is a veteran Beech tree at the south west corner of Warren Flower Meadow West.
In the updated inventory of ancient woodland (2011) in Surrey this woodland is included as an 'ancient' woodland.
There are large numbers of large hazel stools with large numbers of small stems per stool. Spacing between stools is fairly close on average and numbers of canopy trees are fairly low. These are two key requirements for high quality regrowth necessary for efficient/economically usable material of potential interest to coppice workers.
The size and density of the stools suggest that there will be strong regrowth and only minimal gapping-up or layering required. The presence of Roe Deer means that to ensure regrowth from coppicing means deer fencing is essential.

Comments on past management – The SW corner of the woodland was chosen to restart coppice management, as it shows abundant signs of having been worked as hazel coppice in the not too distant past. c2010 work to bring this area back in to coppice rotation was carried out under the guidance of the Lower Mole Partnership as part of the 'Living Woodlands' scheme. Access was improved by the construction of a hard surface track and a charcoal kiln was installed. Coppicing by a local coppice worker assisted at times by the Lower Mole Volunteers began in 2012. The area was divided in to seven coupes with the aim of cutting one coupe a year and the ash within the woodland on either a 14 or 21 year rotation.
Unfortunately, only two coupes were ever coppiced and the coppice worker can no longer carry out the work. In addition management of Ash is now dictated by having to deal with Ash Dieback and the attendant safety concerns.

Future management – The south-western section should be returned to coppice management if resources can be found. The main path inside the woodland should be maintained to allow good access ensuring vegetation does not encroach. If coppicing cannot be reintroduced, a compromise would be to create woodland edge along the path and subsequently manage on rotation. Removal of non-native invasive species should also be a priority.
The veteran or near veteran trees should be mapped and individual management plans drawn up to ensure their longevity.
The Ash present will be managed on a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations.

The Warren Woods (7)

Description - Semi-natural broadleaved woodland. This is one of the larger blocks of woodland on the site. The woodland mostly has an open canopy composed of frequent Ash (unfortunately suffering from Ash Die-Back), frequent English Oak, occasional Sycamore, rare Silver Birch and rare Beech. In places, the shrub layer is dominated by Hazel (western side of the woodland) and in other Yew and Holly. In addition, there is Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Buckthorn, Spindle and frequent Bramble. The herb layer was made up mainly of Ivy, with occasional Dogs Mercury. In addition to the Ivy on the ground, some of the trees had dense coverage of Ivy as a climber. There are areas, which were dominated by young Ash, particularly the north eastern corner. There was a good amount of fallen dead wood found throughout the wood. There is also a small amount of non-native trees in the wood including Cherry Laurel and a Spirarer. Also near to the path was a small area dominated by Rose-bay Willowherb. Where vegetation has been pushed back from the paths, there is an interesting grassy mix with flowers including Pale St John's Wort, Wild Raspberry, Hedge Woundwort and Wall Lettuce. Dogs Mercury can be found along the path edges. Bluebells become more dominant towards the southern end of the woodland, as does the quantity of Hazel. Within the woodland are some veteran oak trees.

Comments on past management – Along the path running horizontally through the woodland towards the northern end, woodland edge was created by pushing the woodland back about 10m and large scallops were created.

Future management – There are areas within this woodland that are given medium priority to manage for Ash Die Back and these will be monitored. These areas are generally along paths and Sherwood Gallop.
Continue to push back woodland along the three main paths, 10 m either side and manage the regrowth by scalloping to create sheltered bays. Where opportunities allow, create glades. There is a coal tax post in the north west corner, where there is naturally a glade. This could perhaps be enlarged. Hazel dominates the southern section, so this area could potentially be coppiced in the future. Thinning out of the woodland should be prioritised around veteran trees. Halo release of the more mature trees will help with their management and have the effect of opening up the woodland to allow in more light to the woodland floor.
The veteran or near veteran trees should be mapped and individual management plans drawn up to ensure their longevity.

Top Woods (8)

Description - This is a small triangle of semi-natural broadleaved woodland. The canopy was composed of abundant English Oak, abundant Ash, rare Silver birch, concentrated along the northern edge and rare Wild Cherry. The canopy was mostly quite open, with the trees even aged. There are scattered larger trees which are =mostly English Oak. The shrub layer is generally sparse composed of rare Elder, occasional Hawthorn, rare English Elm, Holly, Yew and some coppiced Hazel and some dense areas of Bramble. In some places the vegetation was dominated by young Ash regeneration. There was a small amount of fallen and standing dead wood present. The epiphytic bryophytes were sparse, dominated by *Rhynchostegium confertum*. The herb was composed of Lords and Ladies, Hogweed, Herb Robert, Wall Lettuce, Hedge Woundwort, Dog Mercury, Ground Ivy, areas of Bluebells and extensive patches of Ivy. The ground layer is patchy with some areas of *Atrichum undulatum*, *Eurhynchium striatum*, *Fissidens taxifolius, Barbula unguiculata* and *Dicranella varia*. On the edge of the woodland was a dense patch of the non-native shrub, Snowberry.

Comments on past management – Woodland edge has been created by pushing back the woodland from the meadow adjacent called The Triangle, in the north west corner. The developing grassland is herb rich.

Future management – There are some more open areas, which could be prioritised to open up further to create glades. The mature trees can also be halo released, which will also create more

open areas to diversify the vegetation on the woodland floor and create age structure within the woodland canopy and understorey. Woodland edge can continue to be created along the western edge of the woodland and manage the regrowth by scalloping. The vegetation along the paths running within the woodland should be pushed back up to 10m and regrowth managed as woodland edge by scalloping on rotation.
The Ash present will be managed on a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations. The veteran or near veteran trees should be mapped and individual management plans drawn up to ensure their longevity.

Langley Vale Copse (9)

Description - This is semi-natural broadleaved woodland. The canopy is composed of abundant Ash, frequent English Oak and rare Beech. The shrub layer is reasonably well developed, with abundant coppiced Hazel, occasional Hawthorn, rare Holly, rare yew and rare Wild Privet. Abundant Ivy with rare Herb Bennet, Sanicle, Dogs Mercury, Bugle, Ground Ivy, Rough Meadow Grass and Primrose dominated the herb layer. The ground layer was very sparse with lots of bare ground; there was a patch of the moss *Barbula sardoa*. Generally, the coverage of epiphytes was low. The amount of fallen dead wood was good. In some areas, the canopy is very open with dense coppiced Hazel. In other areas, there were patches of saplings. Most of the canopy trees are the same age and size, with the exception on number of larger more mature Beech trees, some of which were multi-stemmed.
Along the Eastern half of the southern edge, there was a flower rich margin between the wood and the track, including species such as Black Horehound, Upright Hedge Parsley, and White Campion.

Comments on past management – Areas towards the west of the woodland were coppiced during the 1990s and early 2000s. Otherwise maintenance has been limited to ride surfaces and cutting back of vegetation encroaching on rides.

Future management – The wood could be put into a coppice rotation. However, it is unlikely resources will allow this. A compromise would be to push back the woodland up to 10m either side of the paths and manage the regrowth as woodland edge by scalloping on rotation. Halo release more mature trees.
The veteran or near veteran trees should be mapped and individual management plans drawn up to ensure their longevity.
The Ash present will be managed on a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations.

Juniper Hill Woodland (10)

Description - This is a mixed area of semi-natural broadleaved woodland with areas where the canopy is dominated by Ash, and some Pedunculate Oak. The scrub layer is dominated locally by Hawthorn, some of which are very mature and Blackthorn. There is an area of older woodland with larger Beech and Oak and a shrub layer composed of coppiced Hazel and Hawthorn, some very mature. There is also an area of developing woodland with abundant Whitebeam present. Some of the trees and shrubs had *Orthotrichum affine*, *Zygodon conoides*, *Cryphaea heteromalla*, *Neckera complanata* and uncommon *Metzgeria temperate* on them. The herb layer is composed of abundant Ivy. Areas of ground flora are dominated by the moss *Eurhynchium striatum*. As the grassland is approached there is a large area of scrub dominated by Hawthorn. Along an open path through this area herbs such as Violets, Wild Marjoram and Basil are found. If the 1950's aerial photograph is examined this area along with most of the rest of the now wooded area was open grassland.

Comments on past management – Where the grassland of Juniper Hill meets the woodland, extensive clearance has happened along the woodland edge. Initially the larger trees were cleared

by the Lower Mole Partnership (LMP) Volunteers and these areas have subsequently been managed annually to prevent regrowth of the woodland, both by LMP and Countryside Team (CT) volunteers. The cleared areas have been cut and cleared and the grassland vegetation is returning, with the woodier vegetation becoming much less dominant.
Future management – The woodland must be prevented from encroaching any further into Juniper Hill on all sides. Where paths run through the woodland, push back 10m either side to create woodland edge and identify an area in the northern section for a glade to be created. Along the northern boundary edge of Juniper Hill woodland overlooking Walton Downs grassland, it is recommended here that the edges are scalloped in 20 -30m stretches. This would help to open up some of the woodland, encourage scrub growth and create an important ecotone between the woodland and the grassland which does not exist at the moment. The woodland is relatively even aged so would benefit from thinning, prioritising halo release around any mature specimens. The veteran or near veteran trees should be mapped and individual management plans drawn up to ensure their longevity. In the long-term, consideration should be given to clearing the woodland further back from Juniper Hill, in line with the extent visible from the aerial photograph taken in 1950 and restoring back to chalk grassland. If the recent clearance proves successful with chalk grassland being restored, this would be a priority to find funding for. The Ash present will be managed on a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations.

2.4.4 Veteran and Mature Trees

A survey should be carried out to map all veteran trees on site and create a management plan for them. The distinctive features that the mature and over mature trees create should be recognised and sensitive management should be adhered to, to ensure their longevity. A gradual programme of clearing a space or 'halo' around them of competing species should be put in place to ensure a healthy crown. Aim to achieve a clearance of at least the circumference of the existing crown area per tree. This to be done during routine thinning programme as suggested above in the management suggestions for each woodland. Crown or end-weight reduction may also be necessary to ensure longevity.

2.4.5 Grasslands

General principles:

- The overall aim is to create a structured, diverse and spatially varied mosaic of habitats. Whilst a mosaic of different grassland types is important with some being allowed to be encroached by scrub, this should not be the general practice as the chalk grassland found on Epsom Downs is an important habitat in Surrey and supports important assemblages of invertebrates and birds. Where scrub has established it is very difficult to restore it back to good quality grassland. The scrub enriches the soil and once it has been cleared again it often leaves bare patches of ground ready to be colonised by coarse grassland species and weed species such as Common Nettle.
- Grazing is often the best management option for grasslands and consideration should be made as to the possibilities of this, even if only in a small area to begin with. Grazing enables low growing and less competitive plants to compete with coarse vigorous species, such as the Tor grass. In addition the trampling action of hooves breaks up litter and opens up the sward to allow species in to recolonise, such as Kidney Vetch, which is used by the Small Blue butterfly.
- Possible constraints to grazing could be installation of a water source for the animals and its urban fringe location. For Chalk Grassland, winter and early spring grazing would be ideal to avoid any loss of flowering plants, or grazing at a very low density year round. It is highly recommended to get in touch with the Downlands Partnership to gain advice on the potential for grazing Juniper Hill.

- Another option is to cut the grasslands mechanically but crucially, the grasslands should be cut and the arisings cleared. The build-up of thatch adds unwanted nutrients to the soil, resulting in the reduction of wildflowers and finer grasses and promotes coarser grasses and scrub. The build-up of thatch also damages the structure of the grassland. Seeds fail to reach the soil and germinate. Opportunities for the creation of patches of bare earth, beneficial for seed germination and burrowing invertebrates, is reduced. NB, if cutting mechanically with a tractor and flail, care needs to be taken not to cause too much compaction or damage anthills.
- Removing the arisings can be done by cutting the grass using a flail collector and the arisings taken away off site, or piles created at the margins of the grassland, importantly not underneath the base of veteran trees. This can cause a build-up of nitrogen as the grass rots and could cause issues for older trees.
- Alternatively and particularly in areas which have anthills and are more sensitive to heavy machinery, grassland can be cut and cleared using a brushcutter and raked off by hand, as is currently the case at Juniper Hill. This is done by a combination of volunteer groups and staff.
- For optimal biodiversity benefit, grasslands that are being cut should be done so during late summer/early autumn. It is important for the continuity of the flora that the cut is at the same time each year.
- Not all the grassland should be cut every year. Invertebrates that lay their eggs on grass, for example the Marbled White and Meadow Brown butterflies, need to complete their life cycle. Once the grass is cut, their eggs are lost. Small mammals also need longer grass for food and for cover and protection from predators. The invertebrates and mammals then provide a food source for birds and so on.
- A good way of managing a meadow on rotation is to cut one half each year. The halves should be rotated around the face of a clock. For example, if the left vertical half is cut one year, the next year the top horizontal half should be cut, then the right vertical and then the lower horizontal and so on.
- By managing the grassland in this way, any invertebrates and mammals will be able to retreat into the uncut half and recolonise the cut area when suitable.
- The pattern of cut should avoid a spiral into the centre of the field as this drives mammals and birds into the middle. Instead cut in an up and down pattern to ensure their escape.
- Tor Grass is a problem in some areas of the grassland. It is a rougher, more vigorous grass and can take over an area, smothering out other plants. Ideally the grassland would be grazed, which is the best method of keeping it under control. If this is not possible, the Tor Grass patches should be cut regularly, with arisings removed, to mimic grazing pressure. If the Tor Grass is kept at 7cm, this will make it more palatable to rabbits as well. Planting of Yellow Rattle within Tor Grass dominated areas could also help. Continued management should weaken the grass and enable other plants to compete.
- The management for the main area of grassland used for the Derby and horse training has been designed with this in mind and is cut regularly but it also provides a successful breeding territory for Skylarks. To this end the first grass cut should continue to be delayed as long as possible before it has to be cut in preparation of the Derby (mid May), cutting centre out to allow wildlife time to escape. This then allows the first brood of Skylarks to fledge. Successive cuts should then be left as far apart as possible and consist of a topping.
- Avoid mowing under the tree canopy of any parkland trees, as it can be counterproductive. It removes valuable cover, increases surface vegetation transpiration rates, thus depriving trees of moisture and often results in bark damage to trees. It is also important to avoid damaging the base of tree trunks as this may encourage fungal infections.
- Aim to leave 2-5m wide circumference around individual trees and 2-5m wide margin around copses and woodland edges. Scrub will need to be controlled within these margins.
- Invasive non-native plants should be removed. Canadian Goldenrod has popped up in Beech Wood Grassland and The Gorse Area and will become a problem if not dealt with. Hand pulling is

the best way to get rid of it, particularly as it is currently in low numbers. Cutting does weaken the plant but it tends to come back stronger the next year.

Grassland Surveys

During the summer of 2020 as part of writing this updated management plan, Juniper Hill and Walton Downs Grassland were surveyed to assess their condition. At Juniper Hill, five random 1m square quadrats were surveyed and species noted whilst walking between. On Walton Downs Grassland, only 2 quadrats were surveyed and species noted in general whilst walking across the area.

Results

NB 15-20 species per quadrat (not including rougher grasses and scrub) would be considered species-rich and favourable condition.

Grassland	**Average of species per 1m quadrat**
Juniper Hill	20
Walton Downs Grassland	11

Regular surveying of the vegetation in these grasslands is recommended, particularly due to their active management regimes. The Walton Downs Grassland survey can act as a baseline and result should improve as more of the area is cut and crucially cleared as well.

Although only 2 quadrats were surveyed and more would show a better representation of the whole area, they were placed in the area which had most diversity. So, the likely average score will be lower, indicating that this area has reduced in quality and is in urgent need of being cut and cleared, not just cut.

The management of Juniper Hill is different in that more of the area has been cut and cleared and the scrub component has been kept at bay through the work of volunteers and staff. It has also benefitted from being grazed by sheep in the recent past.

Derby Stables Grassland (11)
Description - Short mown calcareous grassland areas near the Grandstand with Sheep's Fescue, Upright Brome, Wild Thyme, Small Scabious, Salad Burnet, Burnet Saxifrage, Fairy Flax, Bird's Foot Trefoil, Lady's Bedstraw, Mouse-Eared Hawkweed, Self-Heal, Greater Knapweed, Stemless Thistle, Squinancywort, Goat's Beard, Restharrow, Glaucous Sedge and Autumn Lady's Tresses. Although the Autumn Lady's Tresses is rare as described by the DAFOR index. It is in fact there in great numbers. In some years there are 1000 plants. This plant is classed as near threatened in the draft Surrey rare plant register. Bee Orchids were also seen whilst surveying as part of writing the current management plans on 22nd May 2020.
Comments on past management – Cut regularly up until the Derby and then left to ensure the Autumn Lady's Tresses are not mown.
Future Management – The grassland here seems to be doing well under the current regime. Two sections are used for car parking for the Derby so do need to be kept short for the event. After the Derby, the areas should not be cut until after the Autumn Lady's Tresses have finished flowering (late October although flowering times can vary from year to year.) The area immediately adjacent to Derby Stable slip road is not used for parking however so perhaps could be left unmown slightly earlier to allow for the Bee Orchids to flower (from May onwards). Ideally the grassland will be cut and cleared.

Butterfly Field (12)
Description - This is an area of calcareous grassland forming a tall sward, with frequent Upright Brome and occasional Quaking Grass and patches of locally abundant Chalk False Brome. Herbs include Lady's Bedstraw, Salad Burnet, Burnet Saxifrage, Wild Basil, Marjoram, Bush Vetch, Greater Knapweed, Black Knapweed, Teasel, Agrimony, Wild Carrot, Wild Parsnip, Hogweed, Rock rose, Milkwort, Dropwort, Creeping Thistle and Cowslip. It provides a haven for birds and small mammals disturbed and deprived of habitat during the major race meetings. Unfortunately, Canadian Goldenrod and Tor Grass are also found here. There is also a build-up of thatch from not clearing arisings in the past.
Comments on past management – This area of grassland is cut once in October. In 2020 it was not cut.
Future management – Due to its invasive nature, pull the Canadian Goldenrod and eradicate. Divide into half and cut and clear one half annually. Rotate the halves around the face of a clock. Regular monitoring of the success of the cutting will be needed. If some areas scrub up more than others, then these areas should be prioritised for cutting and clearing. Strim areas of Tor Grass regularly and remove arisings.

Traveller grassland and overflow (13)
Description – Very similar to Beech Wood Grassland, with a mix of chalk grasses and herbs. Due to more regular cutting, not quite as species-rich.
Comments on past management – Cut short for the Derby and then left and cut in September
Future management – Due to this area being needed for the Derby, the current management will have to continue. However, ideally the grassland would be cut and cleared. Care needs to be taken not to disturb nesting Skylarks.

Skylark nesting triangle/overflow (14)
Description – Again, very similar to Beech Wood Grassland, with a mix of chalk grasses and herbs. It is in this area that sky larks often nest. This is an overflow area for traveller parking during the Derby, although rarely used. The grass is cut and cleared from here for use on the racecourse crossings during the Derby, therefore is reasonably species-rich with species such as Lady's Bedstraw, Greater Knapweed, and Upright Brome.
Comments on past management – Dependant on nesting skylarks, this is cut just before the Derby and then cut regularly along with the rest of The Hill.
Future management – Continue to cut and clear, ideally in September outside of the breeding bird season. If this area does need to be cut earlier, care must be taken not to disturb any nesting Skylarks.

Epsom Downs West Grassland (15)
Description - To the north and west of Sherwood Woodland this is an area of calcareous grassland forming a tall sward, with frequent Upright Brome and occasional Quaking Grass and patches of locally abundant Chalk False Brome. Herbs include Lady's bedstraw, Salad burnet and Dropwort
Comments on past management – This is the responsibility of the Racecourse/training Board to cut. The Racecourse cut and clear the long grass for race days. EEBC cut one third of the remaining grass at the end of the racing season in early October.
Future management –The portion the Racecourse use is assisting with maintaining the floristic diversity within the sward. The third EEBC cuts each year should have the arisings removed as well.

Mitchell's Grassland (AKA Pony Hill Grassland)(16)

Description – The Southern and Western side of this area is calcareous grassland, which extends round from Epsom Downs West Grassland.

Comments on past management – Cut regularly until the Derby and then left and cut in September.

Future management – Ideally this would be divided in to two halves and cut and cleared in alternate years in September.

Mitchell's Hack (AKA Pony Hill) (17)

Description – Large swathes across the entire area of The Hill has the potential to be good chalk grassland. However, it is used as a combination of public hack rides and training gallops and so must be kept reasonably short for the horses, so the plants don't get the chance to flower. There is a section between Mitchell's and the Traveller overflow that is used for the start of the Winter Middle Hill gallop. The margins left to delineate the hack rides and gallops have the potential to be wider and create interest floristically and potentially help with connecting the areas of longer grass across the Downs.

Comments on past management – The Area which is used as part of middle hill gallop can be cut in the same way as the rest of Middle Hill and the D (by GM) between the Beginning of May and the start of September. The rest of the year it will be cut by the Gallops staff.

Future management – Grass should be cut in different directions, to prevent "leaning" of the grass blades, as grass tends to grow in the direction it's mowed. It can also help to prevent thatch build up. Straight blades make for healthier coverage. Leave wider margins (2-5m) to delineate along the hack rides and gallops, taking care not to encroach on to the gallop side. Margins ideally should be cut and cleared when necessary. Care must be taken not to disturb nesting Skylarks.

Middle Hill (18)

Description – Again, of course these areas are kept short for use by horses and it is also used for spectator areas during the Derby. These large areas of grassland across Epsom Downs are improved grassland with, in places, abundant Perennial rye grass. However, there are also numerous areas across the site, with extensive areas of Upright Brome, which can be seen both on the ground and in aerial photographs as pale whitish patches. Although these areas are dominated by the grasses, there are rare but widely scattered herbs including Salad burnet, Burnet Saxifrage, Sainfoin, Lady's Bedstraw, Agrimony, Small Scabious, Bird's foot trefoil and Quaking Grass. This is also true of Walton Downs with areas scattered with Upright Brome and a large area towards the lower half of the sloping site dominated by Upright Brome with scattered herbs including Lady's Bedstraw, Common Field Scabious, Bird's foot trefoil, Black Knapweed, isolated but extensive patches of Common Rock Rose and Salad Burnet.

Comments on past management – The grass is cut regularly. The southern section to the east of Walton Rd is reserved for the Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club.

Future management – Grass should be cut in different directions, to prevent "leaning" of the grass blades, as grass tends to grow in the direction it's mowed. It can also help to prevent thatch build up. Straight blades make for healthier coverage. Leave wider margins (2-5m) to delineate along the hack rides and gallops, taking care not to encroach on to the gallop side. Margins ideally should be cut and cleared. Care must be taken not to disturb nesting Skylarks.

The D (19)

Description – This area is also regularly mown as it contains training gallops and a hack ride bordering the Gorse Area. However, as with much of The Hill, there are calcareous grassland species within the sward. The verge opposite Tattenham Corner is a species rich verge with Wild Mignonette , Common Vetch, Field Wood-rush, Sweet Vernal-grass, Burnet Saxifrage, Creeping

Cinquefoil, Greater Knapweed, Dove's-foot Crane's-bill, Common Toadflax, Small Flowered Crane's-bill, Sticky Mouse-ear, Cow Parsley, White Dead-nettle and Bulbous Buttercup.

Comments on past management – Regularly mown. Kite flying is allowed in this area.

Future management - Grass should be cut in different directions, to prevent "leaning" of the grass blades, as grass tends to grow in the direction it's mowed. It can also help to prevent thatch build up. Straight blades make for healthier coverage. Leave a wider margin (2-5m) from Tattenham Corner around to the Gorse Area delineating between the hack ride and gallop, taking care not to encroach on to the gallop side. Margins ideally should be cut and cleared when necessary. Care must be taken not to disturb nesting Skylarks.

The Gorse Area (20)

Description - Semi-improved mesotrophic grassland. This grassland contains a diverse mix of plants including the county rarity and nationally scarce, Rounded Headed Rampion. Other herbs included Agrimony, Black knapweed, Common Sorrel, Lady's Bedstraw, Hedge Bedstraw, abundant False Oat grass, Gorse, Perennial Rye Grass, Salad Burnet, locally abundant Upright Brome, Restharrow, occasional Dropwort, Burnet Saxifrage, Wild Basil, Marjoram, Common Rock Rose, Chalk False Brome, Cypress Spurge. This list of plants shows an interesting flora that has developed on the chalk soil but plants such as Perennial Rye Grass show a degree of disturbance and 'improvement'. A small area of Canadian Goldenrod was also found.

Comments on past management –This area has been encouraged to regrow as it is trying to be chalk heath, a rare habitat in Surrey. Old photographs of the Downs show dense gorse here and there is a poem written about it in 1857, which refers to the beauty of the gorse.
As there is a good population of Dropwort here and as this does not like regular mowing, it has been cut on rotation, alternating which half is cut each year.

Future management – The grassland should remain cut on rotation but some of the larger scrub islands will need management in due course. The more mature stands should be scalloped in to from the northern edge to limit the damage of reptile basking areas. Prioritise cutting in to stands that are a monoculture. By doing this, age structure will be created providing a greater variety of habitat conditions, thereby supporting a greater variety of wildlife. The Canadian Goldenrod is invasive and needs to be pulled and eradicated. Access into this area needs to be managed to discourage people entering with dogs and disturbing breeding birds.

Sherwood Grassland (21)

Description - This is an area of calcareous grassland forming a tall sward, with frequent Upright Brome and occasional Quaking Grass. Also found here is Salad Burnet, Agrimony, Small Scabious, Lady's Bedstraw, Black Knapweed, Rest Harrow, and the Small Blue's larval food plant Kidney Vetch. This area is similar in composition to a lot of the grassland of the site, it has a more developed flora simply due to the more appropriate cutting regime. Unfortunately, Tor Grass has started to develop, which needs to be kept under control.

Comments on past management – This area of grassland always had a good population of Kidney Vetch, which is the foodplant of the Small Blue butterfly, a priority species. Kidney Vetch occurred particularly along a desire line where the disturbance had caused some erosion and opportunities for the plant to self-seed. It was decided under guidance from Gail Jeffcoate (Butterfly Conservation) and the Lower Mole Partnership, that scrapes should be created, initially in the vicinity of the desire line. In 2005, two scrapes were created by the Lower Mole Partnership Volunteers, which were subsequently seeded with Kidney Vetch Seeds. In creating the scrapes, Tor Grass which is invasive, was also removed. Four more scrapes were created in 2010. All have been very successful, the plants are flourishing, and the Small Blue butterflies are doing well.

In 2015, as part of the Small Blue Project, coordinated by Butterfly Conservation, the Lower Mole Volunteers created a further three scrapes. In creating them 5 years apart, there is a good age range of succession within the grassland.
Since around 2001, 50% of the grass has been cut once a year in October with arisings left in situ. In 2020, only half the area was cut, prioritising the western half due to the amount of scrub encroaching into the grassland and unfortunately, arising still left in situ, adding unwanted nutrients to the soil. This only encourages coarser grasses such as the Tor Grass to dominate.

Future management – Continue to divide into half and cut and clear one half annually. Rotate the halves around the face of a clock. Regular monitoring of the success of the cutting will be needed. If some areas scrub up more than others, then these areas should be prioritised for cutting and clearing. Strim areas of Tor Grass regularly and remove arisings. The scrub should not be allowed to encroach any further into the grassland. Scrapes should be monitored and as and when necessary, new scrapes should be created or re-created either by machine or hand. These should be located near to current scrapes or near areas of Kidney Vetch. If they can be used to dig out Tor Grass as well, this would be ideal.

The Warren Flower Meadow West (22)

Description - This meadow is owned by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council. Semi-improved mesotrophic grassland with a rich diversity of robust grass species and tall herbaceous plants here and although the majority are relatively common, the diversity of species present is good. Grasses include frequent Perennial Rye-grass, Rough Meadow-grass, Yorkshire-fog, False Oat-grass, Upright Brome and occasional Red Fescue and Soft-brome. Herbs are occasional to frequent with Agrimony, Meadow Vetchling, Common Vetch, Cat's-ear, Red Bartsia, Red Clover, Ribwort Plantain, Common Birds's-foot Trefoil, Wild Carrot, Silverweed, Yarrow, Lesser Stitchwort, Creeping Buttercup, Creeping Thistle, Dandelion, Common Sorrel and Broad-leaved Dock. Its secluded nature reduces the wind so that it is warmer here and attracts more insects.

Comments on past management – Since the last management plan, the meadow has been cut on rotation in two halves. Unfortunately, the northern half has scrubbed up quite considerably, so the entire meadow was cut this in 2020. Half was cleared and the scrubby part cut with the flail mower as the cut and clear machine could not cope with the woodier material.

Future management – As this meadow has scrubbed up so much, cut and clear all of it annually until the scrub reduced, then continue to manage in halves and cut and clear one half annually in the autumn (Sept/Oct). Rotate the halves around the face of a clock. Regular monitoring of the success of the cutting will be needed. If some areas scrub up more than others, then these areas should be prioritised for cutting and clearing. If the scrub does not respond well to this management, attempts could be made to clear it by digging/pulling up or using targeted chemical treatment.
The surrounding scrub should be cut back by 2-3 m creating a wavy edge and managed on rotation.

The Warren Flower Meadow East (23)

Description – This meadow is owned by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council. Similar to above although with fewer herbs in the sward, probably because of past improvement and use as a paddock. There is much potential to increase the number of species and encourage calcareous loving species too. It becomes much more diverse in the North-West corner with good populations of Selfheal and Common Knapweed. The western field tends to be a little more species rich with frequent Common Knapweed, Perforate St John's-wort, Yarrow and occasional Germander Speedwell, Ladies Bedstraw, Meadow Vetchling, Oxeye Daisy and locally frequent patches of Tufted Vetch and Field Scabious. There is a rich hedgerow scrub edge around both West and East meadows, with a mature mix of Traveller's Joy, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Ash, Hazel, Sycamore and Pedunculate Oak.

Comments on past management – This meadow is cut quite regularly, often done when the playground is cut.
Future management – Manage in halves and cut and clear one half annually in the autumn (Sept/Oct). Rotate the halves around the face of a clock. Regular monitoring of the success of the cutting will be needed. If some areas scrub up more than others, then these areas should be prioritised for cutting and clearing. The surrounding scrub should be cut back by 2-3 m creating a wavy edge and managed on rotation.

The Triangle (24)
Description - Mesotrophic grassland, with abundant False Oat grass, rare Upright Brome, Cocksfoot, Creeping Bent and herbs including Hogweed, Agrimony, Black Knapweed, Lady's Bedstraw, Greater Knapweed and Birds foot Trefoil. There is a particularly herb-rich area at the very North East of the grassland along the margin with Top Woods.
Comments on past management – This grassland is cut once a year in early autumn. Pathways are cut regularly through the area to act as firebreaks and for visibility purposes. Arisings have never been cleared. Although it cannot technically be termed calcareous grassland, it has huge potential. It does have a good mix of herbs to grasses and if cut and cleared, will become more species-rich.
Future management – Continue current management but clear the arisings. A 2-3m edge to the woodland should be left and cut less regularly to allow a refuge area for small mammal and invertebrates. This margin should be cut on rotation however to ensure it does not scrub up too much.

Sherwood Gallop, Summer Gallops and Six Mile Hill (25)
Description – These grassland areas are mainly managed for training horses.
Comments on past management - Linear buffer zones are left long during the summer, to discourage access. These are then cut and used as green hay. Cutting late summer/early autumn i.e. late August to September would be most beneficial to the flora here.
Future management – Due to the gallops needing to be a certain width for the number of horses, there is limited potential to widen the buffer zones but if any possibility arises, ensure that buffer zone margins are as wide as possible (2-5 metres). The wider the better for wildlife. Care must be taken not to disturb nesting Skylarks.

Walton Downs Grassland (26)
Description - Area of sloping calcareous grassland forming a tall sward with rare but extensively distributed Hawthorn scrub encroachment. The western end, which has been cut more frequently, was very diverse. The sward was composed of frequent Upright Brome, False Oat Grass, Tor Grass, patches of Chalk False Brome occasional Cocksfoot, and Quaking Grass. Also found are Round Headed Rampion a nationally scarce plant, Squinancywort, Fairy Flax, Burnet Saxifrage, Eye Bright, Lady's Bedstraw, Dropwort, Pyramidal Orchids, Agrimony, rare Salad burnet. The bryophytes were limited to small amounts of Kindbergia praelonga and Brachythecium rutabulum. Cowslips and Violets were present in the spring.
Comments on past management – The area seems to have been divided in to three sections. The western end has been cut twice a year and the middle and eastern section less often and has resulted in a great deal of hawthorn encroachment, worse at the eastern end. During October 2020, the eastern section was cut with the Browns flail mower but arisings not removed. There is an area to the south called the visibility triangle which needs to be cut twice a year, once in March/April and again in Sept/Oct. Ideally this area would be cut and cleared as well.

Future management – The middle and eastern section needs cutting and clearing annually for 2 years or so and then can be managed in three sections. Half of each third needs cutting and clearing annually. Rotate the halves around the face of a clock. Regular monitoring of the success of the cutting will be needed. If some areas scrub up more than others, then these areas should be prioritised for cutting and clearing. If resources allow, strim areas of Tor Grass regularly and remove arisings.
Scrapes could be beneficial to create within this grassland. It has been suggested in past management plans but unfortunately has not happened so far. These should be located near to Kidney Vetch as it should help in the distribution of this important plant. Scrapes should be seeded with Kidney Vetch seed taken from plants locally.

Juniper Hill (27)

Description - The grassland of Juniper Hill as mentioned already within this plan, bears special attention as it is considered to be the best of its type in Surrey. It is regarded by the Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan working group as a top priority to conserve and enhance. The comparison of aerial photographs from 1949 and 2013 shows the extent of the loss of the grassland. The management recommendations for this area are essential for the maintenance and restoration of this nationally scarce and important habitat.
Juniper Hill contains an area of very diverse calcareous grassland with a low rabbit grazed sward. Grasses include Sheep's fescue, Crested Hair-grass, Chalk False Brome, Upright Brome, Hairy Oat Grass, Meadow Oat Grass and Glaucous Sedge. Herbs include Harebell, the nationally scarce Bastard Toadflax, Round headed Rampion (a nationally scarce plant), Autumn Gentian, Clustered Bellflower, Squinancywort, Fairy Flax, Eyebright, Marjoram, Wild Basil, Horseshoe Vetch, Kidney Vetch, Wild Thyme, Salad Burnet, Burnet Saxifrage and Carline Thistle. In amongst the turf can be found the mosses *Psuedoscleropodium purum, Calliergonella cuspidata* and in the scrapes are found chalk specialist bryophytes including *Fissedens dubious, Trichostomum crispulum, Wessia brachycarpa, Wessia longifolia, Microbryum curvicolle* and *Ctenidium molluscum*. In some areas the grassland is coarser with a taller sward. In these areas the overall abundance of the herbs is less and grasses are more dominant especially Chalk False Brome. In areas there is scattered scrub encroachment, including Dogwood, Hawthorn and Blackthorn which in some areas becomes extensive.
In the grassland and the surrounding woodland, there are a number of young Juniper bushes. Juniper supports a range of rare insects that only feed on Juniper like the Juniper Pug moth, recorded here in 1998. It also provides ideal nesting sites for small birds like Linnet and Yellowhammer.
Along the path as you enter the area from the Gallop, there is a scattering of the robust plant Ploughman's Spikenard. Violets were present in the spring.

Comments on past management – The Lower Mole Partnership (LMP) have been helping to tackle scrub encroachment and manage the grassland on Juniper Hill since the 1980s. Scrub clearance began where the objective was to create an open sward on the Downs, with a mosaic of sufficient diversity to support species of both short and tall grassland communities, as well as to encourage Juniper. When they started the areas was heavily dominated by scrub and the grassland areas divided. Over the years they have created one single area of grassland and the species have flourished. Trees and scrub have been cleared using manual tools and chainsaws. Dogwood has been repeatedly cut back using a brushcutter on Juniper Hill by LMP volunteers and also on occasion spot treated with herbicide with much success.
The Juniper bushes have been cleared of shade and staked and fenced to protect them from damage by deer.
Sheep grazing was re-introduced to Juniper Hill in 1994 to check the regrowth of the scrub once it was cleared, initially on a trial basis to gauge the public reaction. Temporary wooden

fencing with electric fencing inside was installed. The grazing area contained bare ground, short turf, areas of Tor grass and young scrub regeneration, as well as more mature scrub around the perimeter. There were no Juniper bushes in the grazing compartment. The sheep used were a mixture of hardy upland breeds, which are better equipped to survive on poor grazing in exposed sites. This also removed the need to supply supplementary feeds, which can enrich the soil. A high stocking rate was recommended initially, as the site had not been grazed since the scrub was cleared (Morrow, 1998). Unfortunately, it was stopped in 1998 leading to degradation of the quality of the grassland and then started again in 2002/3. Originally 20 sheep were used, then by 2008, 12-14 sheep were put on for 8 weeks in September and again in spring, then taken off prior to the Derby in May. The staff at the Lower Mole Partnership/graziers judged when the sheep should come off in the winter. Chestnut pale fencing was used, which was then reused for the Derby.

Scrapes going down to the chalk base using mechanical excavators where created, based on 4m x 4m, in 2001/2. Part of the original intention was to encourage the growth of Kidney Vetch, which likes soil disturbance on open bare ground and is a key food source for the rare Small Blue butterfly. Many seeds, seedlings, and rosettes as well as eggs from the Small Blue have been observed in these scrapes and are also proving very popular with solitary bees and wasps. Conor from the LMP visited some of the scrapes during 2007 with Gail Jeffcoate, a representative from Butterfly Conservation. They concluded that the scrapes had been a success.

In 2015 as part of Butterfly Conservation's Small Blue Project, the original scrapes were enlarged and more created by the Lower Mole Partnership Volunteers (LMP Vols), which are developing nicely.

The woodland to the north of Juniper Hill, in 2013/14 began to be pushed back. First the section to the left hand side of the main path was cleared. In 2015, 2016 and 2017 the understorey on right hand side was cleared by the Countryside Team Volunteers (CT Vols). In 2018, a joint task with the Downskeepers, CT vols and LMP vols resulted in clearing the larger remaining trees and further scrub and the woodland was pushed back as far as the footpath.

The Countryside Team have had an annual task in September since 2014 to cut and clear sections within the grassland, particularly focussing on cutting and clearing any woody regrowth from the woodland margin which was cleared. This has been very successful and the woody vegetation is gradually being replaced with wildflowers and grasses. The Downskeepers for many years, in particular Pete Murray, also cut and clear sections within the grassland annually to keep the sward open. Areas which are at risk of scrubbing up are focused on. However, managing the scrub is a struggle and currently the scrub is tending to win and more effort is needed to ensure progress.

Future management – Grazing has always been and is likely to remain, the preferred management option on Juniper Hill as it has been responsible for creating and maintaining the biological interest. Winter and early spring grazing should be considered or grazing for a longer period but at a very low stocking density. It is recommended to get advice from the Downlands Partnership as to the potential for this. Ideally all the open area of grassland would be fenced and grazed. Research into the legalities of permanently fencing Juniper Hill needs to happen first. If not allowed, temporary electric fencing could be used. Access for walkers and horses should be maintained through provision of horse gates and squeezes, similar to that used on nearby Epsom Common Local Nature Reserve (If grazing were to be reintroduced, a survey should be carried out to find out whether the Early Purple Orchids and Twayblades still flower. These should be protected from grazing animals.)

If grazing does not happen, more of the grassland should be cut and cleared annually, once flowers have set seed, than is currently possible with the amount of volunteer resource. October/November would be best. The Countryside Team can continue to cut the scrubbier woodland margins and dogwood dominated sections in September but the more flower rich areas should be left until later if at all possible and certainly cut in rotation. The Tor grass is an issue

here and it would benefit from being grazed or cut regularly. Arisings should be deposited somewhere other than within the grassland areas of Juniper Hill, where it is less interesting botanically. Planting of Yellow Rattle within Tor Grass dominated areas could also help.
The scrub within the main area should be controlled, ideally by pulling/digging up and the margins should not be allowed to encroach further in the grassland, whilst retaining scrubby edge habitat, particularly with Bramble and Dog Rose, as an ecotone, solitary clumps etc. It is important to achieve a balance between maintaining open sunny areas whilst retaining scattered scrub and scrub margins. Some scrub is very beneficial for bird and invertebrate life, but care should be taken that it does not take over and age structure is maintained.
The small area on the south west side of Juniper Hill requires special consideration as it is exceptionally rich in calcareous plant species and the only area with the rare Bastard Toadflax. The advantage of its small, sheltered nature is that it is continuously and steadily grazed by rabbits. (If grazing were to return to the rest of Juniper Hill, this area should remain outside of the grazing area and continue to be solely grazed by the natural rabbit population.) The surrounding scrub is beginning to encroach and some slow gradual cutting back of the scrub edge should be carried out. But as it is a small open area this should be done gradually. In addition, some of the marginal edges are not rabbit grazed as they are heavily infested with Tor grass. In this area the Tor grass should be strimmed regularly and arisings removed.
The scrub could be controlled by very targeted application of pesticide or use of tree poppers. The scrub will eventually weaken by being cut and cleared regularly, if arisings are removed, but this will take longer.
The Juniper Trees that have been fenced off need attention. The enclosures are being invaded by scrub and this needs to be cleared away and the trees opened up. It is a particular problem with the Juniper Trees on the north western edge. Clearance should be monitored and maintained.
Along the southern ride, take out trees and scrub along the edge on one side only. The south facing edge already naturally has scallops which could be enhanced and managed to maintain a scrub/grassland margin along the path. At the south west end along this path, some of the younger scrub should be thinned, principally the Bramble cut back up to 1-2m but leave Elder.

Juniper Hill Glade (28)

Description – This is a glade to the south of Juniper Hill on the south side of the track, bordering the farmland. It is very overgrown and dominated by Dogwood scrub. However, the herb layer is flower rich with important species such as Kidney Vetch and Chalk Eyebright still present within the sward. It is on the route of the Butterfly Transect and Grizzled Skipper has been seen here, another Chalk Grassland specialist and priority species.

Comments on past management – In January 2004, the area was cleared by the Lower Mole Partnership volunteers. Two scrapes were also created at the eastern end. These were trial scrapes one being 10x10m and scraped down to the soil/chalk interface. The other was 8x3m, scraped down to bare chalk. It was discovered that scraping to bare chalk is preferable. The Downskeepers used to cut this area annually but resources have not allowed this in the last few years.
The scrapes are still evident and still have Kidney Vetch present and a better species mix than the surrounding area. It is an important area for Kidney Vetch and the Small Blue Butterfly.

Future management – The scrub needs to be controlled. Ideally it would be cut and cleared in early spring and in October for a few years. Once the scrub is under control, an annual cut and clear in October would be needed. It is possible that Dogwood stumps may need to be chemically treated to get it under control.
Further scrapes would be beneficial. The current scrapes could be extended towards the adjacent farmland. Scrapes within the Dogwood could also be useful in digging out and removing the roots to attempt to reduce its dominance.
Scrub margins and woodland margins should be left to create shelter and an ecotone into the

surrounding woodland habitat, but it should be prevented from encroaching any further into the glade. It should be held back by scalloping the margins.

Southern Bridleway (29)
Description – This is a linear strip of rough unmown grassland along the southern boundary following a pathway and gallop. The bank closest to Southern Boundary Strip has a good range of flowers and whilst it is in the most part shaded by this, it is in a south facing location. Therefore, where the sun does come in, it creates a hotspot for invertebrates. It is composed of mesotrophic and ruderal species such as Hedgerow Cranesbill, Yarrow, Ribwort Plantain, Common Nettle, Silverweed, Cocksfoot, White Nettle. Less commonly found are plants more indicative of calcareous grassland including Upright Brome, Salad Burnet, Restharrow, Wild Parsnip, Wild Basil, Meadow Cranesbill, Greater Knapweed, Perforate St John's Wort, Bush Vetch, Nettle-Leaved Bellflower, Goat's Beard, Chicory, Lady's Bedstraw, Wild Mignonette, Bladder Campion and Wild Marjoram. In addition, there is some scrub encroachment including, Hawthorn, Buckthorn, Hazel, Ash and Oak.
Comments on past management – Both sides of the wax gallop are cut twice a year in Mar/Apr and Sept/Oct. The banks along the hack ride are cut with a side arm as they are quite steep, again twice a year.
Future management – Both sides of the wax gallop need to be cut for visibility purposes. However, the edges of the hack ride could be cut on rotation. Cut one side and alternate each year. Again, the clippings should be removed to check nutrient enrichment and allow a diverse range of species to flourish.

2.4.6 Scrub

General principles:

- Scrub is an extremely important habitat, one that many animals depend on for their survival.
- It is a habitat in its own right but also can be a component of other habitats such as grassland and woodland.
- It is also successional and is the stage between grassland and woodland. It is valuable to a variety of wildlife in all its successional stages. For example, the Brown Hairstreak Butterfly lays its eggs on relatively young blackthorn. As scrub develops, it provides a nectar and food source for mammals, and birds. Once it is more mature and dense, it is attractive to birds to nest in.
- It is important to retain a scrub mosaic with different species and age classes to be of most benefit.
- It is often in the scrub ecotone between grassland and woodland where most diversity lies.
- Scrub can also be useful to deter human access to sensitive areas.
- Enhancement of the existing scrub mosaics can be achieved by managing existing stands on rotation to ensure age structure. It is vital that scrub is managed and not allowed to take over.
- Due to the relatively small areas of grassland which can be managed for wildlife, if more scrub is to be created it should be done so by pushing back the woodland edge, by felling a 10m strip for example, then managing the regrowth. Interplanting with more suitable species if necessary. It is very important that scrub does not encroach any further into the grasslands.
- Cut scrub can either be disposed of at the site it is cut from by creating brash habitat piles or either burnt or chipped. NB, due to the urban nature of the site, any fires used to manage vegetation should be taped off clearly to warn members of the public.

Beech Wood to Walton Rd linear scrub (30)

Description - It is composed of dominant Hawthorn occasional Blackthorn and Buckthorn, rare Spindle, Elder, Cherry and one large Field Maple. Clematis is found climbing through the scrub. Also found here are the invasive species Snowberry and Turkey Oak. Where the scrub is dense, the herb layer is ivy dominated. Where it is more open there are grassy areas which have a good mix of flowers such as Black Knapweed.

Comments on past management – The grass areas bordering this are cut regularly until the Derby and then left. This enables better management of this area due to the inevitable littering the Derby event brings.

Future management – Scallop alternate sections to maintain age structure. There is a path that leads through the scrub, which is closing up and needs widening.

Mitchell's Scrub (AKA Pony Hill Scrub) (31)

Description – This is a line of trees, which run along the northern edge of an area known as Pony Hill. Trees include English and Turkey Oaks, Sycamore, Field Maple, and Ash, with an understorey of Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Elder and Buckthorn. There is also a margin of Bramble, Burdock, Alkonet, Willow herb and Thistles.

Comments on past management – This has been developing naturally.

Future management - It is important that the trees do not obscure the view from the Grandstand to the start line of the racecourse. The mix of trees and scrub is valuable and can be scalloped in to when mature to create age structure.

Sherwood Scrub (32)

Description – This is a scrub edge extending out from Sherwood Woodland which surrounds Downs House. The scrub edge runs along the western and northern edges of Sherwood grassland and currently is an interesting mix of scrub and grassland. Species include Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Dogwood. It is a dense ecotone between the grassland and woodland and makes an attractive habitat for a variety of wildlife including nesting birds.

Comments on past management – The scrub itself has not yet been managed, just the grassland. It is time to cut back this scrub to prevent it from taking over the grassland. In 2020 the worst bit was cut back using a tractor mounted flail but arisings were not removed.

Future management – The scrub component is a very valuable one but the extent does not want to encroach in to the grassland any further. Retain at current extent and create age structure going forwards. The scrub edge should be cut back into shallow scallops of about 5m wide every 10m.

Walton Downs Scrub A (33)

Description - This is a thin strip of trees with a dense scrub layer along the edge closest to the path. The canopy is composed of dominant English Oak, with rare Ash, Silver Birch and Scots pine. The scrub is composed of abundant Hawthorn, frequent Wild privet and rare English Elm, Dog rose, Buckthorn, Dogwood and Blackthorn. The trees and the dense scrub cast a dense shade with little growing underneath with mainly Ivy found.

Comments on past management – The scrub has been developing naturally.

Future management – Either scallop the edges of the scrub to prevent encroachment into the surrounding grassland and to create age structure within the scrub. Or, the scrub could be managed by punching through and clearing all vegetation in sections, with a view to letting it grow back as young scrub and then manage regrowth on rotation. This ultimately will reduce the number of large trees here. This would not only help reduce the number of rabbits that hole up here, it would also create a valuable scrub interface and shelter for the grassland.

Walton Downs Scrub B (34)
Description - This is an area of broadleaved semi-natural woodland and dense scrub. This area was composed of frequent Hawthorn, occasional Buckthorn, occasional Wild Privet, rare Ash, rare Yew, rare Elder and rare Spindle. The ground flora was more developed than in other areas with patches of *Oxyrrhynchium hians* and *Eurhynchium striatum*. The epiphytes was also good with *Metzgeria furcata, Frullania dilatata*, *Radula complanata*, *Zygodon conoideus*, *Cryphaea heteromalla* amongst those found. An active Rabbit warren was found in this area.
Comments on past management – This has been developing naturally.
Future management – As above, either scallop the edges of the scrub to prevent encroachment into the surrounding grassland and to create age structure within the scrub. Or, the scrub could be managed by punching through and clearing all vegetation in sections, with a view to letting it grow back as young scrub and then manage regrowth on rotation. This ultimately will reduce the number of large trees here. This would not only help reduce the number of rabbits that hole up here, it would also create a valuable scrub interface and shelter for the grassland.

Southern Boundary Strip (35)
Description - This is linear strip of woodland of various widths along its length. It contains a large number of woody species. These include Hazel, Buckthorn, Blackthorn, Elder, Field Maple, Whitebeam, Holly, Dogwood, Dog-rose, Hawthorn, Oak and Spindle. There were also the climbers White Bryony, Black Bryony, Clematis and Ivy. Along the base of this wood strip are herbs including Upright Hedge Parsley, Creeping Thistle, Dogs Mercury, Agrimony, Hedge Woundwort (along with the Woundwort bug), Common Couch and Cocksfoot.
Comments on past management – The scrub is flailed with a side-arm to prevent it encroaching on the path. Dormice boxes and tubes have been placed within this scrub/woodland strip, which are monitored annually. So far, no Dormice have been found but the boxes and tubes have been used by nesting birds, insects and wood mice.
Future management – This scrub line could also benefit from scalloping along its length, on rotation, to create age structure and diversity.

2.4.7 Ponds

There are no ponds or any other form or water feature on this site. However, a dew pond was constructed several years ago adjacent to Juniper Hill. It survived for a number of years before developing a leak. A pond would help to enhance the site by introducing a new habitat type and increasing the biodiversity to the area. It has been estimated that the creation of a dew pond would take between one and two weeks with an excavator and dumper truck. The costs would be for the liner, machinery and material and potentially could be created by The Lower Mole Partnership Volunteers. It is recommended to get their advice on the possibility and research the exact location of the previous dew pond.

2.4.8 Surveying and Monitoring

Surveying effort should be increased with the help of volunteers and specialist ecologists. All records aside from those associated with the writing of the management plans and the Butterfly Transect recording are historic. Up to date or in some cases baseline surveys need to be carried out.

2.4.8.1 Bryophytes

Some species have been noted and only as part of a wider botanical survey. A focused baseline survey is recommended and best carried out in the autumn months. The Surrey Bryophyte Recorder (Pete Howarth) could be contacted to gather further records for the site.

2.4.8.2 Vascular Plants

Plants are one of the better groups that have been surveyed over the years, mainly as part of writing the management plans. Groups like Surrey Botanical Society should be contacted to see if they have further recent records of the area. (Thanks goes to Ann Sankey (Surrey Botanical Society) for sharing their records for this management plan.)

The most useful surveys to focus on now would be the vegetation successions within the scrapes and carrying out a condition assessment of the grassland, particularly in those where the management regime is to change. The change in vegetation should be seen over the years if cutting and clearing is maintained as a management tool. Each area should be surveyed using quadrats evenly spaced across the fields, roughly 6-8 areas depending on the size of the grassland. The quadrats should be randomly placed so as not to encourage bias of recording the nicer areas to get a true reflection of condition. Number of different species per quadrat should be counted. Ideally the species should be noted, but the number of different species is indicative of quality, so it is possible to use volunteers who are not botanical experts to do this as well and cover more ground. Volunteers could be trained to look for key quality indicator plants to as well as negative indicators. These species are shown in table 1 on the following page.

The grassland should also be monitored as a whole to complete their condition assessment. The categories are as follows:

- **Extent.** This attribute is one that is measured as the condition monitoring continues. The first time an area is monitored sets a base line. Aerial photographs are a good way to assess this and ensure the grasslands are not encroached upon by scrub/trees.
- **Sward composition**
  – Grass/herb ratio. In general, semi-natural swards that are in good condition have a much greater broad-leaved herb component than agricultural grassland. It is thought that for neutral and calcareous grassland the broadleaved herb component should fall within the range 40-90%. It should be borne in mind that some of the broadleaved plants such as creeping thistle that may be present are not a good indicator of positive condition.
- **Sward composition (using information from quadrat sampling)**
  – Frequency of positive indicators. There is a list of species that are regarded as positive indicators. The site is traversed and these species are recorded. It is recommended that 2 to 6 of these species should be frequent, found 41-60% of the time.
  – Frequency of negative indicators. These should not make up more than 10% of an area individually and combined not more than 20% of the area.
  – Frequency of shrub/trees. To be favourable, there should be no more than 5% cover of woody species
- **Sward Structure**
  - Height. Average height should be noted and for chalk grassland should be somewhere between 2 and 25 cm.
  - Litter. Build up of thatch should not cover more than 25% of the sward.
  - Bare ground. This should not cover more than 10% within the sward.
  - Disturbance. Evidence of overgrazing or rabbit warrens should be noted and not affect more than 0.05%.

CG2 positive Indicator species	
Anthyllis vulneraria – Kidney Vetch	Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot Trefoil
Asperula cynanchica – Squinancywort	Pilosella officinarum – Common Mouse-ear
Campanula glomerata – Clustered Bellflower	Polygala spp – Milkwort spp
Carex spp – Sedge species	Potentilla erecta – Tormentil
Centaurea nigra – Common Knapweed	Primula veris – Primrose
Cirsium acaule – Dwarf Thistle	Sanguisorba minor – Salad Burnet

Filipendula vulgaris – Dropwort	Scabiosa columbaria – Small Scabious
Helianthemum spp – Rock-rose spp	Serratula tinctoria – Saw-wort
Hippocrepis comosa – Horseshoe Vetch	Stachys officinalis – Hedge Woundwort
Leontodon hispidus – Rough Hawkbit	Succisa pratensis – Devil's-bit Scabious
Leontodon saxatilis – Lesser Hawkbit	Thymus spp – Thyme spp

CG3/4positive Indicator species	
Anthyllis vulneraria – Kidney Vetch	Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot Trefoil
Asperula cynanchica – Squinancywort	Pilosella officinarum – Common Mouse-ear
Campanula glomerata – Clustered Bellflower	Polygala spp – Milkwort spp
Carex flacca – Glaucous Sedge	Primula veris – Primrose
Cirsium acaule – Dwarf Thistle	Sanguisorba minor – Salad Burnet
Filipendula vulgaris – Dropwort	Scabiosa columbaria – Small Scabious
Galium verum – Lady's Bedstraw	Serratula tinctoria – Saw-wort
Helianthemum nummularium – Common Rock-rose	Stachys officinalis – Hedge Woundwort
Hippocrepis comosa – Horseshoe Vetch	Succisa pratensis – Devil's-bit Scabious
Leontodon hispidus – Rough Hawkbit	Thymus spp – Thyme spp
Leontodon saxatilis – Lesser Hawkbit	Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot Trefoil

Negative indicator species	
Anthriscu sylvestris – Cow parsley	Senecio jacobaea – Common Ragwort
Bellis perennis – Daisy	Sonchus spp – Sow Thistles
Cirsium arvense – Creeping Thistle	Urtica dioica – Common Nettle
Cirsium vulgare – Spear Thistle	Lolium perenne – Perrienal Rye-grass
Carduus spp – Thistles spp	Holcus lanatus - Yorkshire Fog
Chamerion angustifolium – Rosebay Willowherb	Cynosurus cristatus – Crested Dogs-tail
Galium aparine – Cleavers	Trisetum flavescens – Yellow Oat-grass
Plantago major – Greater Plantain	Arrhenatherum elatius – False Oat-grass
Rumes crispus – Curled Dock	Dactylis glomerata – Cocks-foot
Rumex obtusifolius – Broad-leaved Dock	

Another area which should be carefully monitored is within Juniper Hill where the woodland has been cleared to the north of the grassland and vegetation is being managed annually, to restore it back to chalk grassland. If the management here is successful, it would indicate that there would be further gains to be had in continuing to clear back the edge of Juniper Woodland.

Within the woodlands, priority should be given to the woodland areas that are to be managed, ideally before and after to see the difference the management regime is having. Key categories to focus on to assess the condition of the woodlands are:

- **Extent** – Area of woodland
- **Structure and natural processes**
  - Canopy Cover – canopy trees should cover 30-75% (unless put into coppice management and then should be 25-50%)
  - Understory composition – a good mix of shrub species present.
  - Ground flora composition – are there woodland flowers or merely ivy and brambles.
  - Age structure – there should be at last three different age classes.
  - Percentage of decaying wood.

  - Open spaces for example glades and rides, should cover at least 10%.
- **Regeneration Potential** – Are there young trees growing up to become the next canopy trees.
- **Composition** – 95% should be native plants.
- **Indicators of local distinctiveness**, for example bluebell cover in The Warren Ancient Woodland.

Fixed photographic points should be established over both Epsom & Walton Downs and to be repeated on a yearly basis. Also, photo monitoring of before and after management can be used for a visual comparison of achievements, also useful for historical and educational purposes and talks.

2.4.8.3 Invertebrates

An invertebrate survey similar to the one carried out in 2007 could be repeated. Focus should remain on the Chalk Grassland areas, but the woodlands should also be covered this time.

Specific surveys of particular groups of insects is also recommended.

- Butterflies - The volunteer/s that walk the butterfly transect as part of the Butterfly Monitoring Scheme should be supported.
- Moths - A night-time moth trapping session should be carried out. Surrey's Butterfly Conservation's moth recorder could be contacted to provide advice and assistance.
- Coleoptera (Beetles), Diptera (Flies), Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps and Ants), Hemiptera (True Bugs), Molluscs and Oligochaetes (Slugs, Snails and Earthworms) Arachnids (Spiders, Harvestmen, Mites and Ticks) and the other invertebrates (Dermaptera/Earwigs, Isopods/Woodlice, Mecoptera/Scorpion Flies, Neuroptera/Lacewings) will require an ecologist to be employed to carry out a survey.
- Orthoptera (Grasshoppers and Crickets) and Odonata (Dragonflies and Damselflies) are reasonably easy to survey as there are limited potential species. Try and encourage local experts or volunteers together with staff to survey these animals.

2.4.8.4 Herptiles

Common lizard is the only reptile record on site but there is potential for other species to be present. It is recommended that the scrub/grassland mosaic is surveyed using felt mats or onduline or metal corrugated tins.

2.4.8.5 Birds

A full BTO bird survey to enable mapping of the breeding territories and provide further information on how management is affecting the bird populations is recommended. Importantly the standard methodology used would provide scientifically valid comparisons to be made in the future. A full BTO breeding bird survey has not been carried out at before. Winter visitor surveys would also be very useful to carry out to enable a thorough assessment of the importance the site has for bird life.

The Skylark Transect would be advisable to resurrect as the public nature of the site and use by dogs can leave them vulnerable. It is very important to ensure no grass cutting occurs in the areas they are breeding.

The bird boxes that have been erected over the years should be mapped and surveyed as to their condition and be replaced if needed.

Due to birds being particularly popular with local enthusiasts, it may be possible to encourage volunteers to help with bird surveying. Local groups may also be able to help with sourcing Bird Boxes and further surveying assistance e.g. Woodland Trust who manage neighbouring Langley Vale Memorial Woodland.

2.4.8.6 Mammals

A full bat survey should be carried out at the appropriate time of year, to assess what species are using the site and the importance of the Downs for these animals. It is recommended that prior to any tree work, a bat survey is conducted to grade for their potential for bat roosts. Installing bat boxes in the woodlands may also help with any roost deficiencies.

Small mammal surveys have not been carried out before, so a system of small mammal trapping using longworth traps or footprint tunnels is recommended to help bring together a more detailed picture of the types of mammals using the site. Focus should be made in the grassland areas rotationally managed to help prove whether this form of management is beneficial. It should also be indicative as to whether the woodland management is beneficial as well by focusing on those areas to be managed.

Dormice tubes/boxes could be positioned in other woodlands on site. The boxes within The Warren Woodland should be checked periodically. All checks would need to be carried out by a licensed ecologist.

2.4.8.7 Invasive Species

Invasive species should be mapped and management controls put in place. For example, the Cotoneaster at Juniper Hill should be eradicated along with Canadian Goldenrod found in The Butterfly Field and the Gorse Area. Tor Grass should be actively managed to reduce its dominance in some of the grasslands by strimming regularly to a height of 7cm, with arisings removed. Turkey Oak should be controlled and selectively thinned within the woodlands.

2.4.8.8 Fungi and Lichen

A baseline survey should be carried out by a specialist ecologist.

2.4.8.9 Archaeology

In previous management plans it was noted that Dr D Bird, who was the Principal Archaeologist at Surrey County Council, states that in his opinion, 'It seems to me that this area is of sufficient interest to warrant a proper historic landscape survey by someone suitably qualified.' He goes on to say 'It will not be possible to take proper account of the historic landscape issues in any management plan unless a proper survey has been undertaken.'

2.4.9 Biodiversity and Landscape

Any benefits resulting from Epsom and Walton Downs' inclusion in Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area should be maximised. If developments happen locally and mitigation is needed, opportunities to enhance the site should be considered using the management plan as a guide on how best to use the funding. Any adverse impacts a development may have (e.g. increased visitor pressure, lighting issues) should be considered when deciding planning applications to begin with. Opportunities to create a better link to the wider countryside will benefit the wildlife within.

Natural England is currently (2021) reviewing the boundary of all Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Walton downs is designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value and with the whole site designated as SNCI, along with the fact that Juniper Hill is considered of SSSI quality, it a good case to be included within the Surrey Hills AONB. Any opportunities for all or part of Epsom and Walton Downs to be considered for inclusion should be taken.

The importance of Epsom and Walton Downs' value as a mosaic of habitats to support a vast range of wildlife, some of which is very rare, should be highlighted. It should be valued for its Biodiversity just as much as it's valued for its horse racing and public amenity. One way of achieving this would

be to investigate the possibility of designating the site as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or Local Nature Reserve (LNR).

2.4.10 Site intepretation

Interpreting the site to the public is really important. A recent grant application to upgrade the notice boards at main entrances was successful, so there is potential for these to not only give visitors useful access information, but also information on the wildlife and perhaps history of the site.

One of the best ways to interpret a site is to provide guided walks. Topics could include the history of the site, horse racing, wildlife themes such as wildflowers, birds or butterflies for example.

It is important to have a good web presence to ensure key messages or events are communicated as widely as possible. This can be done via the EEBC website, Facebook and Instagram pages. Perhaps create links to Butterfly Conservation or Surrey Botanical Society.

The importance of the site for ground nesting birds must be highlighted to visitors and continue the good work being carried out on controlling dogs. If signs are used to alert people of the breeding bird season, it is important to make sure these signs are taken down at the end. They should then be repositioned each season to avoid 'sign blindness'. Signs should be positive and ask visitors for their help, rather than start 'Do Not…'

Encouraging visitors to help report any issues they come across is a very useful management tool. The Downskeepers have good relationship with their regular visitors and this should continue.

2.4.11 Volunteering Opportunities

Better use of volunteers could offer opportunities for good habitat management. The Woodland Trust, who manage the adjacent Langley Vale Memorial Woodland, have a good band of volunteers and it is very likely that some of these individuals may be keen to volunteer on Epsom and Walton Downs as well. Nearby sites such as Epsom Common and Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserves use regular volunteer input from the Countryside Team Volunteers, Lower Mole Partnership Volunteers and in the case of Epsom Common, the EcoVols as well, which is seen as a vital tool in managing their habitats.

Current volunteer input on the Downs includes tasks carried out by the Lower Mole Partnership volunteers and tasks and surveying by Butterfly Conservation and the annual task from the EEBC Countryside Team. It is suggested to consult with all these groups to see if they can increase their input but also offer help in setting up/advertising an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group. It would also be advisable to investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.

2.5 Identification of Operational Objectives and Outline Prescriptions

Habitat/Species	Prescriptions
Hedgerows	- Rotationally trim. - Plant up any gaps with local/UK provenance trees. - Allow some standard trees to grow up to full height. - Plant new hedge.
Mixed deciduous woodland	- Manage Ash Die-Back on a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations. - Create woodland edge and manage on rotation along existing footpaths, up to 10m either side. - Continue coppice rotation in The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland) - Thin out woodland to create age structure. Methods can include coppicing, halo release of retained standards/veterans, 30% thin or glade creation. - Prevent woodland encroaching into grassland areas.
Grassland	- In compartments 11, 13, and 14, cut regularly until the Derby and then leave uncut until October. - In compartments 17, 18, 19 and 25, cut regularly but leave wider margins which mark out the hack rides and gallops. Cut and clear margins. - Cut all other grasslands on rotation and remove arisings. - Control Tor Grass by cutting and clearing regularly to a height of 7cm. - Remove Canadian Goldenrod. - Manage scrub to prevent dominance and create age structure. - Ensure nesting Skylarks are not disturbed. - Manage existing scrapes where this will help to spread Kidney Vetch and remove scrub and Tor Grass. (Avoid flight period of the Small Blue, May-July) - Mow paths to control access. - Investigate the possibility of reintroducing grazing to Juniper Hill. - Manage the Juniper Trees and maintain them in an open location. - Manage scrub edges on the perimeter and along rides by scalloping on rotation.
Scrub	- Create age structure by scalloping - Do not allow encroachment on to adjacent grassland or paths.
Ponds	- Create a Dew Pond on or near Juniper Hill
Surveying and Monitoring	- Baseline survey of Bryophytes, Fungi and Lichens. - Monitor success of grassland management by carrying out a condition assessment. - Monitor vegetation succession within the scrapes. - Monitor success of restoration of chalk grassland at Juniper Hill. - Carry out a condition assessment of the woodlands. - Establish fixed photographic points. - Continue to support Butterfly Conservation Volunteers carrying out the annual butterfly transect. - Organise a night-time moth trapping session. - Organise a programme of invertebrate surveys to be carried out by a specialist ecologist. - Encourage volunteers and local experts to carry out invertebrate and bird surveys. - Survey the scrub/grassland mosaic for reptiles.

	- Employ an ecologist to carry out a full BTO breeding bird survey. - Re-establish annual Skylark nest monitoring. - Employ and ecologist to carry out a full bat survey. - Investigate the possibility of small mammal trapping. - Map and control invasive species. - Employ a specialist to carry out a historic landscape survey.
Biodiversity and Landscape	- Maximize opportunities resulting from being part of Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area. - Value the Downs just as much for its Biodiversity as its public amenity value. - Keep up to date with any opportunities to become part of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. - Look at the Woodland and Grassland component of Epsom and Walton Downs along with Epsom Downs Golf Course and potentially combined, they could be put forward to be considered for SSSI status. - Investigate possibility of designating the site as a LNR.
Site interpretation	- Upgrade notice boards in line with recent grant application. - Provide guided walks. - Maintain a good web presence via EEBC website Facebook and Instagram pages. - Highlight to visitors the importance of the site to ground nesting birds and encourage good dog control
Volunteering Opportunities	- Liaise with local volunteer groups to ask advice and advertise an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group. - Talk to regular visitors to gauge interest. - Investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.

STAGE THREE – PRESCRIPTION

It is recommended that for each year, an individual Annual Work Plan should be drafted including an outline of costs and personnel to be used.

Recommendations not covered by this report, but which must also be considered for each Annual Work Plan includes a health and safety review. All management tasks need to be the subject of a health and safety risk assessment.

Financial, labour and equipment contraints

Proposals have not been budgeted in terms of labour and financial inputs, largely because these are unknown. However, formulation of the proposals has taken into account what are likely to be limited resources and most tasks should readily be achievable by conservation volunteer teams. It is hoped that prescriptions requiring greater inputs of resources can be undertaken as part of the programme of contractual work that already exists and outside contractors, without the need for unduly increasing costs. Priorities have been attributed to the suggested management tasks.

A rough idea of cost would be:

Contractors	£175/person/day
Volunteers	£7/person/day
Ecological Consultants	£275/person/day
Arboricultural Contractors	£275/person/day

Notes:

-The outline costs are estimation for guide/planning purposes and may vary significantly from the actual costs.

-Volunteers: In addition, use of volunteer machinery (e.g. chainsaw/brush cutters) is £50/day and the hire of heavier equipment (e.g. mini excavator/dumper) is approx. £100/day.

-Where the term volunteer/contractors is used, the deciding factor will be availability of volunteers, who would normally be the first choice. It should be noted that a significant amount of the crucial volunteer input to site management would be at no direct cost to the Council.

Sustainable Management

The work detailed in this document tries to find a balance between meeting the needs of our current generation while conserving natural resources and protecting the environment for the benefit of future generations. These new opportunities for sustainable management include protecting the wildlife through a variety of methods such as further enhancing the grasslsnd as well as the woodland, scrub and hedgerows. Increasing the public knowledge about the ecology of the Downs will also help them to understand why it is necessary to carry out essential management work.

Volunteering Opportunities

The management recommendations table below contains much that is suitable for volunteers to carry out. This gives the opportunity for new members of the public and existing volunteers to carry out a variety of tasks on the Downs. This then enables the Downskeepers to commit to a variety of work they would not be able to complete on their own and gives opportunities to create links with local visitors to the Downs who can help with 'policing' if any trouble occurs and assist with wildlife recording. The table will note which tasks are appropriate for volunteers and which will need outside contractors.

Prescription Table

For compartments see map 1

Code to workforce – EEBC Grounds Maintenance staff (GM), Downskeepers (DK), Training Board (TB), Racecource (R), Volunteers (Vols), Contractor (C)

HEDGEROWS							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Rotationally trim.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/ TB
All	Plant up any gaps with local/UK provenance trees.		x		x		DK/Vols
All	Allow some standard trees to grow up to full height.	x	x	x	x	x	DK
Between 1 and 2	Investigate possibility of planting a new hedge.	x			x	x	DK/Vols

MIXED DECIDUOUS WOODLAND							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Manage Ash Die-Back based on risk to public safety	x	x	x	x	x	C
4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Create woodland edge and manage on rotation along existing footpaths, up to 10m either side.	4	6 and 7	x	x	x	DK/Vols/C
5, 8, 10	Create woodland edge by pushing back the perimeter of the woodland.	5		x	x	x	DK/Vols/C
6	Continue coppice rotation in The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland).	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols/C oppice worker
All	Thin out woodland to create age structure. Methods can include coppicing, halo release of retained	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols/C

	standards/veterans, 30% thin or glade creation						
4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10	Prevent woodland encroaching into grassland areas.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols/

GRASSLAND							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29	Cut on rotation and remove arisings from the grasslands.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/Vols
17,18, 19, 25	Cut main grass areas regularly but leave wider margins (2-5m) which mark out the hack rides and gallops. Cut and clear margins in October.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/R
11, 13, 14	Cut regularly until the Derby and then leave uncut until October. Clear arisings.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/R
12, 21, 26, 27	Control Tor Grass by cutting and clearing regularly.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/DK/Vols
12, 20	Remove Canadian Goldenrod.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
All	Manage scrub within the sward and along the perimeter, to prevent dominance and create age structure.	x	x	x	x	X	DK/Vols
All	Ensure nesting Skylarks are not disturbed.	x	x	x	x	x	DK
21, 26, 27, 28	Create/restore scrapes where this will help to spread Kidney Vetch and remove scrub and Tor Grass. (Avoid flight period of the		x		x		DK/Vols

	Small Blue, May-July)						
24, 27	Mow paths to control access.	x	x	x	x	x	GM
27	Investigate the possibility of reintroducing grazing to Juniper Hill.	x	x			x	DK/Vols
27	Manage the Juniper Trees and maintain them in an open location.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols

SCRUB							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Create age structure by scalloping	x		x		x	DK/Vols
30	Do not allow encroachment on to adjacent grassland or paths.	x				x	DK

PONDS							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		22/23	**23/24**	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	
27	Create a Dew Pond on or near Juniper Hill				x		Vols/C

SURVEYING AND MONITORING							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Baseline survey of Bryophytes, Fungi and Lichens.		x				Ecologist
12, 15, 16, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28	Monitor success of grassland management by carrying out a condition assessment.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols/ Ecologist

21, 27, 28, (Comp 26 as well if scrapes are created.)	Monitor vegetation succession within the scrapes.		x		x		DK/Vols/ Ecologist
27	Monitor success of restoration of chalk grassland at Juniper Hill.	x		x		x	DK/Vols/ Ecologist
4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10	Carry out a condition assessment of the woodlands.			x			DK/Vols/ Ecologist
All	Establish fixed photographic points.	x					DK/Vols
26, 27	Continue to support Butterfly Conservation Volunteers carrying out the annual butterfly transect.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
27	Organise a night-time moth trapping session.	x					Ecologist/ Vols
All	Organise a programme of invertebrate surveys to be carried out by a specialist ecologist.	x		x		x	Ecologist
All	Encourage volunteers and local experts to carry out invertebrate and bird surveys.	x	x	x	x	x	Ecologist/ Vols
27	Survey the scrub/grassland mosaic for reptiles.		x				DK/Vols
All	Employ an ecologist to carry out a full BTO breeding bird survey.	x					Ecologist/Vols
All	Re-establish annual Skylark nest monitoring.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
All	Employ and ecologist to carry out a full bat survey.		x				Ecologist/Vols

27	Investigate the possibility of small mammal trapping.				x		DK/Vols
All	Map and control invasive species.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/ Vols
All	Employ a specialist to carry out a historic landscape survey.					x	Specialist

BIODIVERSITY AND LANDSCAPE							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Maximize opportunities resulting from being part of Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Planning Dept
All	Value the Downs just as much for its Biodiversity as its public amenity value.	x	x	x	x	X	DK/ Comms team
All	Keep up to date with any opportunities to become part of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Managers
All	Look at the Woodland and Grassland component of Epsom and Walton Downs along with Epsom Downs Golf Course and potentially combined, they could be put forward to be considered for SSSI status.			x			DK/Managers
All	Investigate possibility of			x			DK/Managers

	designating the site as a LNR.						

SITE INTERPRETATION							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
At entrances	Upgrade notice boards in line with recent grant application.	x	x				DK
All	Provide guided walks.			x	x	x	DK/Vols
All	Maintain a good web presence via EEBC website Facebook and Instagram pages.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/ Comms team
All	Highlight to visitors the importance of the site to ground nesting birds and encourage good dog control	x	x	x	x	x	DK
All	Investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Managers/ Finance Dept

Volunteering Opportunities							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Liaise with local volunteer groups to ask advice and advertise an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group.	x					DK

All	Talk to regular visitors to gauge interest.	x	x	x	x	x	DK
All	Investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Managers/ Finance Dept

MAPS

Map 1 – Habitat and Compartment Numbers
Map 2 – Footpaths and Bridleways
Map 3 – Priority Habitats based on previous NVC survey
Map 4 – Scrapes with Sherwood Grassland
Map 5 – Scrapes within Juniper Hill and Juniper Hill Glade
Map 6 – Coppice cants within The Warren Ancient Woodland

Map 1

Epsom and Walton Downs Habitat Map

Created by: Sarah Clift

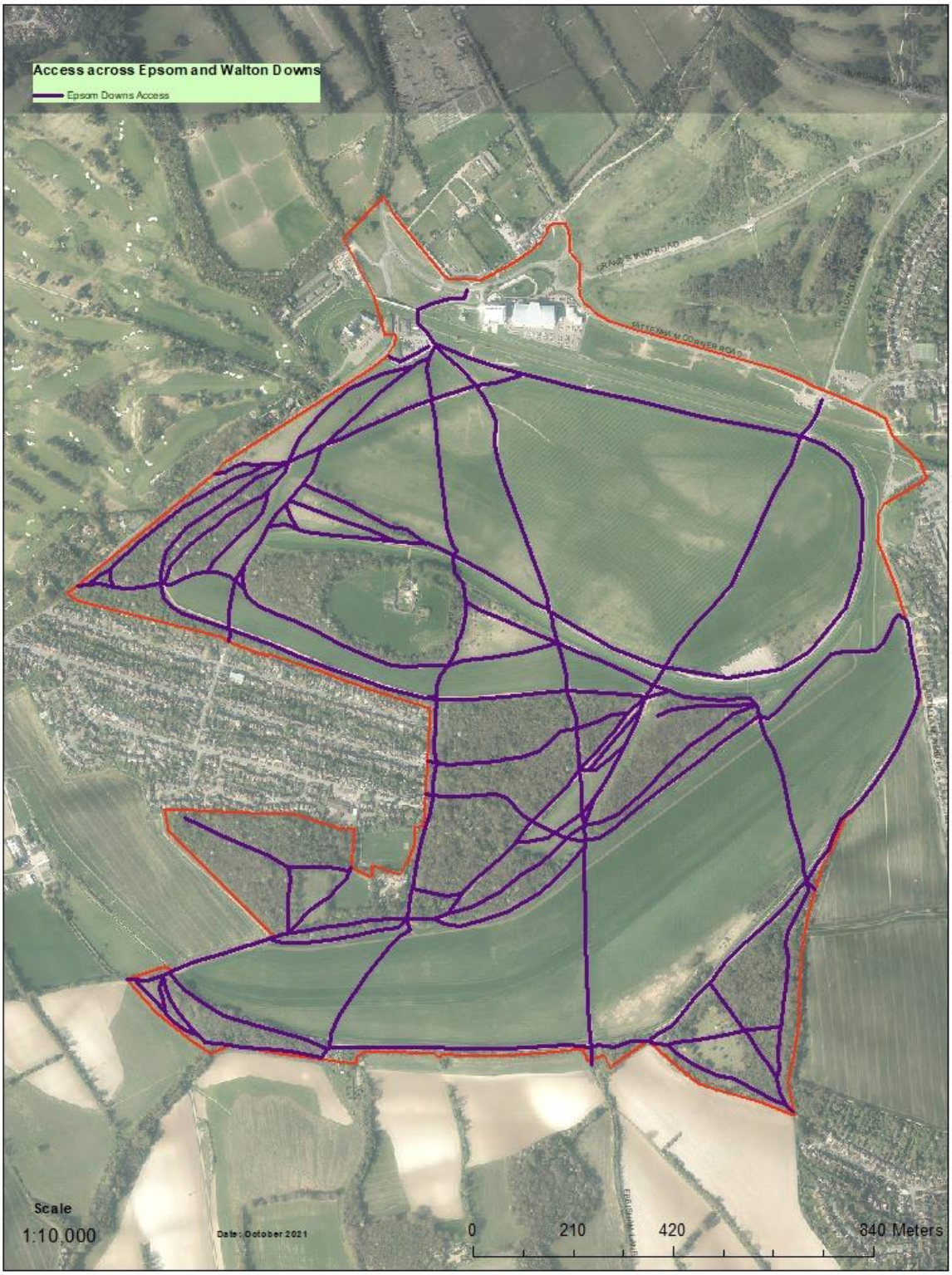
Habitat map with management compartments

Compartments

Number	Name
1	Epsom Lane North Hedge
2	Juniper Hill North Hedge
3	Langley Vale to Warren Hedge
4	Beech Wood
5	Sherwood Woodland
6	The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland)
7	The Warren Woods
8	Top Woods
9	Langley Bottom Copse
10	Juniper Hill Woodland
11	Derby Stables Grassland
12	Butterfly Field
13	Traveller Grassland
14	Skylark Nesting Area/Traveller Overflow
15	Epsom Downs West Grassland
16	Mitchell's Grassland (AKA Pony Hill Grassland)
17	Mitchell's Hack (AKA Pony Hill)
18	Middle Hill
19	The D
20	Gorse Area
21	Sherwood Grassland
22	The Warren Flower Meadow West (EEBC Owned)
23	The Warren Flower Meadow East (EEBC owned)
24	The Triangle
25 a, b, c	Sherwood Gallop, Summer Gallops, Six Mile Hill
26	Walton Downs Grassland
27	Juniper Hill
28	Juniper Hill Glade
29	Southern Bridleway
30	Beech Wood to Walton Rd Linear Scrub
31	Mitchell's Scrub (AKA Pony Hill Scrub)
32	Sherwood Scrub
33	Walton Downs Scrub A
34	Walton Downs Scrub B
35	Southern Boundary Strip

Map 2

Epsom Downs Access Map



Created by: Sarah Clift

Access Map

Map 3

Priority Habitats on Epsom and Walton Downs

Created by: Sarah Clift

Priority Habitats

Map 4

Sherwood Grassland

Created by: Sarah Clift

Scrapes to encourage Kidney Vetch

Map 5

Juniper Hill and Juniper Hill Glade

Created by: Sarah Clift

Scrapes to encourage Kidney Vetch

Map 6

The Warren Woodland (Ancient Woodland)

Created by: Sarah Clift

Coppice Cants

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SNCI Report 2013 – Pete Howarth
Monitoring the condition of lowland grassland SSSIs: Pt 1 English Nature's rapid assessment method (ENRR315)

APPENDICES

1. SNCI report
2. Species Records

1). SNCI Report

Site name: Epsom Downs
Current status: SNCI (three areas, Walton Downs A, Walton Downs B and Epsom Downs West)
Grid ref: Epsom Downs- TQ218582, Walton Downs- TQ220574
Area: 177ha
Date of previous survey: 22/07/1998
Date of current survey: 23/08/2013
Surveyor: P Howarth

Site description
Epsom & Walton Downs are situated on the dip slope of the North Downs just south of Epsom town on the southern boundary of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell in Surrey. It is included in the OS Explorer 146 covering Dorking, Box Hill and Reigate. The site is managed by the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators. The geological map relevant for this area is Sheet 286 Reigate, printed in 1978. The entire area is Upper Chalk. The 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales 'Soils of England and Wales Sheet 6 – South East England soil map', published 1983, describes the resulting soil type as a brown rendzina called Andover 1. This is a shallow well drained calcareous silty soil over chalk and found on slopes and crests.
Previous reason for selection
Walton Downs A, Good remnant of unimproved calcareous grassland. Supports a Nationally Scarce species. Walton Downs B also a good remnant of unimproved calcareous grassland and supports a County rarity Epsom Downs West, Northern part selected because of valuable unimproved calcareous grassland habitat of three hectares. Southern area not included because scrubbed over, but with sympathetic management could be considered,
Reason for selection:
Presence of species rich chalk grassland CG3 Bromus erectus grassland, CG4 bryachypodium pinnatum grassland, CG2a Festuca ovina-Avenula pratensis grassland. Ancient woodland, there is an area of ancient woodland as outlined the review of ancient woodland inventory for Surrey. Juniper, this is found in the area of Juniper Hill Grassland. Butterflies, the site has a population of the Small Blue which is on list A of butterflies of importance in Surrey. The existing three SNCI covered only a small amount of the site, due to the more extensive areas of calcareous grassland found, it is suggested that the whole of the site be included within the SNCI.
Habitat description:
Abundance is based on the DAFOR scale and refers to the specific section of the site. The overall abundance across the site is provided in the Species List
DAFOR ratings for certain species, notably annual, can change throughout the year.
The DAFOR scale uses the following key:- **D**ominant; **A**bundant; **F**requent; **O**ccasional; **R**are : Nomenclature follows Stace (2010) for vascular plants.
Target note 1:- Grassland nr car park, contains a diverse mix of plants including the county rarity, Rounded Headed Rampion, Agrimony, Black knapweed, Common Sorrel, Lady's Bedstraw, abundant False Oat grass, Gorse, Perennial Rye Grass, Salad Burnet, locally

abundant Upright Brome, Restharrow, occasional Dropwort, Burnet Saxifrage, Wild Basil, Marjoram, Common Rock Rose, Chalk False Brome, Cypress Spurge,
Target note 2:- Walton Downs B grassland, Area of sloping calcareous grassland forming a tall sward with rare hawthorn scrub encroachment. The sward was composed of frequent Upright Brome, False Oat Grass, occasional Cocksfoot, and Quaking Grass. Also found are Round Headed Rampion, Lady's Bedstraw, Agrimony, rare Salad burnet.
Target note3:- Juniper Hill grassland. This is an area of very diverse calcareous grassland with a low rabbit grazed sward. Grasses include Sheep's fescue, Crested Hairgrass, and some areas of locally dominant Chalk False Brome. Herbs include Harebell, Bastard Toadflax, Round headed Rampion, Autumn Gentian, Clustered Bellflower, Squinancywort, Eyebright, Marjoram, Wild Basil. In amongst the turf and in the scrapes are found chalk specialist bryophytes including Fissedens dubious, Trichostomum crispulum, Wessia brachycarpa, Wessia longifolia, Microbryum curvicolle and Ctenidium molluscum. In areas there is scattered scrub encroachment including Dogwood, Hawthorn, Blackthorn. In the grassland and the surrounding woodland there are a number of young Juniper bushes
Target note 4:- Juniper Hill Woodland. This is a mixed area of woodland with areas dominated by Beech, Ash, and Pedunculate Oak with some Whitebeam. The scrub layer is dominated locally by Hawthorn and Blackthorn. Some of the trees and shrubs had Orthotrichum affine, Zygodon Conoides, Cryphaea heteromalla and uncommon Metzeria temperate on them. The herb layer is composed of abundant Ivy. Areas of ground flora are dominated by the moss Eurhynchium striatum.
Target note 5:- Small blue scrape grassland. This is an area of calcareous grassland forming a tall sward, with frequent Upright Brome and occasional Quaking Grass. Also found here is Salad Burnet, Agrimony and the Small Blue's larval food plant Kidney Vetch.
Target note 6:- Epsom Downs West grassland. This is an area of calcareous grassland forming a tall sward, with frequent Upright Brome and occasional Quaking Grass and patches of locally abundant Chalk False Brome. Herbs include Lady's bedstraw, Salad burnet and Dropwort
Target note7:- Epsom Downs West scrub. This area is a mosaic of woodland and scrub. The scrub areas include areas of dense Blackthorn with a herb layer dominated by Dogs Mercury, Ivy and Ground Elder. Mixed scrub made up of Hazel, Blackthorn, Crab Apple, Dogwood, Elder, Buckthorn and Wayfaring tree. The herb layer was also dominated by Dogs Mercury and Ivy with rare Lords and Ladies. Throughout the areas of scrub were scattered taller trees including Ash and Turkey Oak. Also within the scrub were open areas with abundant Common Nettle, Bramble and Large Bindweed. Alongside the path was a grassy margin made up of Chalk False Brome, Cocksfoot and False Oat Grass with Burnet Saxifrage, Wild Basil, Rest Harrow, Common Field Scaboius, Yarrow, Wood False Brome, Hoary Ragwort. There are areas of more developed woodland with large Oaks, Ash and Beech. The scrub layer is made up of Elder, Spindle, Dogwood and local dominant Holly and Privet. The Elders support abundant epiphytic bryophytes including Orthotrichum affine, Zygodon Conoides, Cryphaea heteromalla and uncommon Metzeria temperata. The herb layer is made up abundant Dogs Mercury and Ivy with occasional Wood Melick.
Target note 8:- Calcareous grassland, nr above, This is an area of calcareous grassland forming a tall sward, with frequent Upright Brome and occasional Quaking Grass and patches of locally abundant Chalk False Brome. Herbs include Lady's bedstraw, Salad burnet and Dropwort
Target note 9:- Warren woodland. The woodland here is secondary broad-leaved woodland. The canopy layer is made up of Pedunculate Oak, with Ash, Sycamore, Whitebeam and Beech. The scrub layer is composed of Hazel including old and recent coppice stools, Holly, Buckthorn, Privet, Dogwood and Bramble. The field layer is made up of Hogweed, Cow Parsley, Hairy St John's Wort, Nettle, Wood false brome, Wood sedge, Dog's Mercury, Wood Avens, Bearded Couch and Sanicle. The ground layer was sparse dominated by Kindbergia praelonga. In the updated inventory of ancient woodland in Surrey this woodland is included as an 'ancient' woodland.

Target note10:- Warren grassland. Mesothrophic grassland, with abundant False Oat grass, Cocksfoot, Creeping Bent and herbs including Hogweed, Agrimony, Black Knapweed and Birds foot Trefoil.
Target note 11:- Short mown grass areas nr Grandstand, calcareous grassland, with Sheep's Fescue, Upright Brome, Wild Thyme, Small Scaboius, Salad Burnet, Burnet Saxifrage, rare Autumn Lady's Tresses.
Target note 12:- Grassland general. The large areas of the grassland across Epsom Downs is improved grassland with in places abundant Perennial rye grass. However, there are also numerous areas across the site,, some extensive of Upright Brome. Although these area are dominated by the grasses there are rare herbs including Salad burnet, Burnet Saxifrage, Sainfoin, Lady's Bedstraw, Agrimony, Small Scaboius, Birdsfoot trefoil and Quaking Grass. This is also true of Walton Downs with areas scattered with Upright Brome and a large area towards the lower half of the sloping site dominated by Upright Brome with scattered herbs including Lady's Bedstraw, Common Field Scabious, Bird's foot trefoil, Black Knapweed isolated but extensive patches of Common Rock Rose, Salad Burnet.

NVC types

CG2a Festuca ovina-Avenula pratensis grassland, Cirsium acaule-Asperula cynachica
CG3 Bromus erectus grassland
CG4 Brachypodium pinnatum grassland
MG1a Arrhenatheretum elatioris grassland, Festuca rubra sub-community
W22 Prunus spinosa-Rubus fruticosus scrub
W21 Crataegus monogyna-Hedera helix
W10c Quercus robur-Pteridium aquilinum-Rubus fruticosus, Hedera helix sub-community
W8a/W8d Fraxinus excelsior-Acer campestre-Mercurialis perennis woodland, Primula vulgaris-Glechoma hederacea sub community/Hedera helix sub-community
W8a Fraxinus excelsior-Acer campestre-Mercurialis perennis woodland, Primula vulgaris-Glechoma hederacea sub community

Current management:

The grassland areas are cut on different rotations depending on their location and use. Some are left long, and other frequently mown. There is evidence of the creation of scrapes

Management advice:

Some of the highest value grassland at Juniper Hill suffers from scrub encroachment. This needs to be cleared and the area managed to prevent further encroachment. The enclosed nature of this site would be make it an ideal site for grazing. In addition some of the areas that are left long are not cleared when they are cut, this is detrimental to the long term health of the grasslands and cut material should be removed.

Photographs:

Autumn Ladies Tresses

General view of calcareous grassland September 2013

Species lists:

Common name	Scientific name	Abundance
Agrimony	Agrimonia eupatoria	r
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	r
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	r
Autumn Gentian	Gentianella amarella	r
Autumn hawkbit	Scorzoneroides autumnalis	r
Autumn Lady's-tresses	Spiranthes spiralis	r
Barren Brome	Anisantha sterilis	r
Bastard toadflax	Thesium humifusum	r
Beech	Faggus sylvatica	r
Black bryony	Tamus communis	r
Black horehound	Ballota nigra	r
Black medick	Medicago lupulina	r
Blackthorn	Prunus spinosa	o
Bramble	Rubus spp	r
Broad leaved dock	Rumex obtusifolius	r
Buckthorn	Rhamnus cathartica	r
Bugle	Ajuga reptans	r
Bulbous buttercup	Ranunculus bulbosus	r
Burnet saxifrage	Pimpinella saxifraga	r
Butterfly-bush	Buddleja davidii	r
Cats-ear	Hypochaeris radicata	r
Cleavers	Galium aparine	r
Clustered Bellflower	Campanula glomerata	r
Clustered Dock	Rumex conglomeratus	r
Cock's-foot	Dactylis glomerata	o
Common Bent	Agrostis capillaris	r
Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	Lotus corniculatus	r
Common Chickweed	Stellaria media	r
Common Couch	Elytrigia repens	r
Common Eyebright	Euphrasia nemorosa	r
Common Figwort	Scrophularia nodosa	r
Common Knapweed	Centaurea nigra	r
Common Mallow	Malva sylvestris	r
Common Mouse-ear	Cerastium fontanum	r
Common Nettle	Urtica dioica	r

Common Ragwort	Senecio jacobaea	r
Common Restharrow	Ononis repens	r
Common Rockrose	Helianthemum nummularium	r
Common Sorrel	Rumex acetosa	r
Common Spotted Orchid	Dactylorhiza fushsii	r
Common Toadflax	Linaria vulgaris	r
Common Twayblade	Listera cordata	r
Common Vetch	Vicia sativa	r
Cow Parsley	Anthriscus sylvestris	r
Crab Apple	Malus sylvestris	r
Creeping Bent	Agrostis stolonifera	r
Creeping Buttercup	Ranunculus reptans	r
Creeping Thistle	Cirsium arvense	r
Crested Dog's-tail	Cynosurus cristatus	r
Crested Hairgrass	Koeleria macrantha	r
Curled Dock	Rumex crispus	r
Cypress Spurge	Euphorbia cyparissias	r
Daisy	Bellis perennis	r
Dandelion	Taraxacum spp	r
Dog-rose	Rosa canina	r
Dog's Mercury	Mercurialis perennis	r
Dogwood	Cornus sanguinea	r
Downy Oat-grass	Avenula pubescens	r
Dropwort	Filipendula vulgaris	r
Elder	Sambucus nigra	r
Enchanter's-nightshade	Circaea lutetiana	r
English Elm	Ulmus procera	r
English oak	Quercus robur	o
Fairy Flax	Linum catharticum	r
False Brome	Brachypodium sylvaticum	r
False Oat-grass	Arrhenatherum elatius	o
Field Maple	Acer campestre	r
Field Scabious	Knautia arvensis	r
Field-rose	Rosa arvensis	r
Fragrant Orchid	Gymnadenia conopsea	r
Garlic Mustard	Alliaria petiolata	r
Germander Speedwell	Veronica chamaedrys	r

Giant Fescue	Schedonorus giganteus	r
Glaucous Sedge	Carex flacca	r
Goatsbeard	Tragopogon pratensis	r
Gorse	Ulex europaeus	o
Greater Burdock	Arctium lappa	r
Greater Knapweed	Centaurea scabiosa	r
Greater Plantain	Plantago major	r
Greater Stitchwort	Stellaria holostea	r
Green Alkanet	Pentaglottis sempervirens	r
Ground Elder	Aegopodium podagraria	r
Ground Ivy	Glechoma hederacea	r
Hairbell	Campanula rotundifolia	r
Hairy-brome	Bromopsis ramosa	r
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna	o
Hazel	Corylus avellana	o
Hedge Mustard	Sisymbrium officinale	r
Hemlock	Conium maculatum	r
Hoary Mustard	Hirschfeldia incana	r
Hoary Ragwort	Senecio erucifolius	r
Honeysuckle	Lonicera periclymemum	r
Hop Trefoil	Trifolium campestre	r
Horse Chestnut	Aesculus hippocastanum	r
Horseshoe Vetch	Hippocrepis comosa	r
Juniper	Jupiperus communis	r
Kidney Vetch	Anthyllis vulneraria	r
Lady's Bedstraw	Galium verum	r
Lesser Hawkbit	Leontodon saxatilis	r
Lesser Trefoil	Trifolium dubium	r
Meadow Foxtail	Alopecurus pratensis	r
Meadow Oat-grass	Avenula pratense	r
Meadow vetchling	Lathyrus pratensis	r
Mouse-ear-hawkweed	Pilosella officinarum	r
Oxeye daisy	Leucanthemum vulgare	r
Perennial Rye-grass	Lolium perenne	o
Quaking grass	Brizia media	r
Red Bartsia	Odontites vernus	r
Red clover	Trifolium pratense	o

Red Dead-nettle	Lamium purpureum	r
Red fescue	Festuca rubra	r
Ribwort plantain	Plantago lanceolata	r
Round headed rampion	Phyteuma orbiculare	r
Sainfoin	Onobrychis viciifolia	r
Salad burnet	Sanguisorba minor	r
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvensis	r
Sheeps Fescue	Festuca ovina	o
Shepherd's-purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	r
Silver Birch	Betula pendula	o
Silverweed	Potentilla anserina	r
Small scabious	Scabiosa columbaria	r
Smaller Cat's-tail	Phleum bertolonii	r
Smooth Hawk's-beard	Crepis cappillaris	r
Smooth stalked meadow grass	Poa pratensis	r
Soft brome	Bromus hordeaceus	r
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	r
Spindle	Euonymus europaeus	r
Squinancywort	Asperula cynanchica	r
Sweet vernal grass	Anthoxanthum odoratum	r
Sweet-briar	Rosa rubiginosa	r
Tor-grass	Brachypodium pinnatum	o
Tormentil	Potentilla erecta	r
Traveller's-joy	Clematis vitalba	r
Upight hedge parsley	Torilis japonica	r
Upright Brome	Bromopsis erecta	f
Wall Barley	Hordeum murinum	r
White Clover	Trifolium repens	r
White Dead-nettle	Lamium album	r
Whitebeam	Sorbus aria	r
Wild Basil	Clipopodium vulgare	r
Wild Carrot	Daucus carota	r
Wild Cherry	Prunus avium	r
Wild Marjoram	Origanum vulgare	r
Wild Mignonette	Resda luteola	r
Wild Privet	Ligustrum vulgare	r
Wild Service Tree	Sorbus torminalis	r

Wood Dock	Rumex sanguineus	r
Wych Elm	Ulmus glabra	r
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	r
Yellow Oatgrass	Trisetum flavescens	r
Yew	Taxus baccata	r
Yorkshire-fog	Holcus lanatus	o

2). Species list

Species highlighted in red indicate priority species as defined in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC).

Bryophyte records

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date Last Recorded
Atrichum undulatum	a moss	2014
Barbula sardoa	a moss	2014
Barbula unguiculata	a moss	2014
Brachythecium rutabulum	a moss	2014
Calliergonella cuspidata	a moss	2014
Cryphaea heteromalla	a moss	2014
Ctenidium molluscum	a moss	2014
Dicranella varia	a moss	2014
Eurhynchium praelongum	a moss	2014
Eurhynchium striatum	a moss	2014
Fissidens bryoides	a moss	2014
Frullania dilatata	a moss	2014
Hypnum cupressiforme sens. lat.	a moss	2014
Kindbergia praelonga	a moss	2014
Metzgeria temperata	a moss	2014
Microbryum curvicolle	a moss	2014
Neckera complanata	a moss	2014
Orthotrichum affine	a moss	2014
Oxyrrhynchium hians	Swartz's Feather-moss	2020
Pseudoscleropodium purum	Neat Feather-moss	2020
Radula complanata	a moss	2014
Rhynchostegium confertum	a moss	2014
Trichostomum crispulum	a moss	2014
Wessia brachycarpa	a moss	2014
Wessia longifolia	a moss	2014
Zygodon conoides	a moss	2014

Vascular plant records

Species in **Bold** are characteristic of unimproved grassland in Surrey.

Acer campestre	Field Maple	2014
Acer cappadocicum	Cappadocian Maple	1998
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	2014
Acer pseudoplantanus	Sycamore	2014
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	2020
Adoxa moschatellina	Moschatel	2002
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground-elder	2014
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	2014
Agrimonia eupatoria	Common Agrimony	2020

Agrostis capillaris	Common Bent	2014
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent	2014
Agrostis vinealis	**Brown Bent**	**1986**
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	2014
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	2014
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow Foxtail	2013
Anacamptis pyramidalis	**Pyramidal Orchid**	**2020**
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	2013
Anemone nemorosa	Wood Anemone	2014
Anisantha sterilis	Barren Brome	2014
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal Grass	2014
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	2014
Anthyllis vulneraria	**Kidney Vetch**	**2020**
Antirrhinum majus	Snapdragon	1998
Aquilegia vulgaris	Columbine	2007
Arabis hirsuta	**Hairy Rock-cress**	**1968**
Arctium lappa	Greater Burdock	2013
Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	2014
Arenaria serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	2007
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass	2014
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	2014
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-ladies	2014
Asperula cynanchica	**Squinancywort**	**2020**
Asplenium scolopendrium	Hart's-tongue	2014
Avenula pratense	Meadow Oat-grass	2013
Avenula pubescens	Downy Oat-grass	2013
Ballota nigra	Black Horehound	2014
Barbarea vulgaris	Winter-cress	2004
Bellis perennis	Daisy	2014
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	2014
Blackstonia perfoliata	Yellow-wort	1998
Brachypodium pinnatum	Tor-grass	2020
Brachypodium sylvaticum	Wood False-Brome	2020
Brassica napus	Rape	2002
Brassica rapa	Turnip	2021
Briza media	**Quaking Grass**	**2020**
Bromopsis erecta	**Upright Brome**	**2020**
Bromopsis ramosa	Hairy-brome	2013
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft-brome	2014
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony	2014
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly Bush`	2014
Buxus sempervirens	Box	2014
Calystegia sepium	Hedge Bindweed	2014
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed	2021

Campanula glomerata	**Clustered Bellflower**	**2020**
Campanula rotundifolia	**Harebell**	**2020**
Campanula trachelium	Nettle-leaved Bellflower	1998
Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's-purse	2020
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy Bitter-cress	2004
Carex caryophllyea	**Spring-sedge**	**2007**
Carex flacca	**Glaucous Sedge**	**2020**
Carex hirta	Hairy Sedge	2014
Carex sylvatica	Wood-sedge	2014
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	1998
Castanea sativa	Sweet Chestnut	2014
Centaurea nigra	Common Knapweed	2020
Centaurea scabiosa	Greater Knapweed	2020
Cephalanthera damasonium	**White Helleborine**	2006
Cerastium arvense	**Field Mouse-ear**	2018
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	2014
Cerastium glomeratum	Sticky Mouse-ear	2004
Cerastium x maueri	C. arvense x tomentosum	1985
Chaerophyllum temulum	Rough Chervil	2014
Chamerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willowherb	2014
Chelidonium majus	Greater Celandine	2004
Chenopodium album agg.	Fat Hen	1998
Cichorium intybus	Chicory	2014
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade	2013
Cirsium acaule	Dwarf Thistle	2020
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	2020
Cirsium palustre	Marsh Thistle	2007
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	2020
Clematis vitalba	Traveller's Joy	2020
Clinopodium vulgare	**Wild Basil**	**2020**
Cochlearia danica	Danish Scurvygrass	2015
Comandra umbellata	Bastard Toadflax	2020
Conium maculatum	Hemlock	2013
Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	2014
Conyza canadensis	Canadian Fleabane	2014
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	2020
Corylus avellana	Hazel	2014
Cotoneaster frigidus	Tree Cotoneaster	1997
Cotoneaster lacteus	Late Cotoneaster	2007
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	2020
Crepis biennis	**Rough Hawk's-beard**	**2016**
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawksbeard	2020
Crepis vesicaria	Beaked Hawk's-beard	2004
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	2014

Cytisus scoparius	Broom	2004
Dactylis glomerata	Cock' s-foot	2014
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted-orchid	2014
Dactylorhiza praetermissa	**Southern Marsh-orchid**	**2004**
Daucus carota	**Wild Carrot**	**2014**
Deschampsia caespitosa	Tufted Hair-grass	1998
Diplotaxis muralis	Annual Wall-rocket	2004
Dryopteris dilatata	Broad Buckler-fern	2014
Dryopteris filix-mas agg.	Male Fern	1998
Echinops bannaticus	Blue Globe-thistle	2018
Elymus caninus	Bearded Couch	2014
Elytrigia repens	Common Couch	2015
Epilobium ciliatum	American Willowherb	2020
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	2014
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved Willowherb	2007
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary Willowherb	2007
Epipactis purpurata	**Violet Helleborine**	**1993**
Erodium cicutarium	**Common Stork's-bill**	**2004**
Erophila verna	Common Whitlowgrass	2004
Euonymus europaeu	Spindle	2014
Eupatorium cannabinum	Hemp-agrimony	1914
Euphorbia cyparissias	Cypress Spurge	2014
Euphorbia helioscopia	Sun Spurge	2021
Euphorbia x pseudovirgata	Twiggy Spurge	2013
Euphrasia nemorosa	**Common eyebright**	**2014**
Euphrasia pseudokerneri	**Chalk Eyebright**	**2020**
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	2014
Fallopia baldschuanica	Russian-vine	2004
Festuca arundinacea	Tall Fescue	2002
Festuca gigantea	Giant Fescue	2014
Festuca ovina	Sheep's Fescue	2020
Festuca rubra	Red Fescue	2014
Ficaria verna	Lesser Celandine	2014
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	1905
Filipendula vulgaris	**Dropwort**	**2020**
Fragaria vesca	Wild Strawberry	2014
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	2020
Fumaria officinalis	Common Fumitory	2004
Galega officinalis	Goat's-rue	2004
Galium aparine	Cleavers	2014
Galium mollugo	Hedge Bedstraw	2020
Galium odoratum	Woodruff	2014
Galium verum	**Lady's Bedstraw**	**2020**
Gentianella amarelle	**Autumn Gentian**	**2014**

Gentianella anglica	**Early Gentian**	**1976**
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bil	2014
Geranium lucidum	Shining Crane's-bill	2004
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	2014
Geranium pratense	**Meadow Crane's-bill**	**2006**
Geranium pusillum	Small-flowered Crane's-bill	2004
Geranium pyrenaicum	Hedgerow Crane's-bill	2021
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	2014
Geranium rotundifolium	Round-leaved Crane's-bill	2004
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	2014
Glechoma hederacea	Ground Ivy	2014
Gymnadenia conopsea	Fragrant Orchid	2013
Hedera helix	Ivy	2021
Helianthemum nummularium	**Common Rock Rose**	**2020**
Helictotrichon pratense	Meadow Oat-grass	2014
Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly Oxtongue	2008
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant Hogweed	2002
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	2020
Hesperis matronalis	Dame's Violet	2002
Hippocrepis comosa	**Horseshoe Vetch**	**2020**
Hirschfeldia incana	Hoary Mustard	2013
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	2020
Hordeum murinum	Wall Barley	2014
Hyacinthoides hispanica x non-scripta	a bluebell	2002
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell	2014
Hyacinthoides x massartiana	Hybrid Bluebell (H. non-scripta x hispanica)	2014
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan	2007
Hypericum hirsutum	**Hairy St John's-wort**	**2014**
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	2020
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear	2013
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	2014
Inula conyzae	**Ploughman's-spikenard**	**2020**
Iris foetidissima	Stinking Iris	2002
Jacobaea erucifolia	Hoary Ragwort	2013
Jacobaea vulgaris	Common Ragwort	2020
Juglans regia	Walnut	2021
Juniperus communis	**Juniper**	**2021**
Kerria japonica	Kerria	1999
Kickxia elatine	Sharp-leaved Fluellen	2009
Knautia arvensis	**Common Field Scabious**	**2020**
Koeleria macrantha	**Crested Hairgrass**	**2020**
Laburnum anagyroides	Laburnum	2004
Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	2007
Lactuca virosa	Greater Prickly Lettuce	2007

Lamiastrum galeobdolon	Yellow Archangel	2014
Lamium album	White dead nettle	2014
Lamium purpureum	Red Dead-nettle	2014
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	2014
Lathyrus nissolia	Grass Vetchling	2014
Lathyrus pratensis	**Meadow Vetchling**	**2014**
Leontodon autumnalis	Autumn Hawkbit	2014
Leontodon hispidus	**Rough Hawkbit**	**2020**
Leontodon saxatilis	**Lesser Hawkbit**	**2020**
Lepidium draba	Hoary Cress	2004
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye Daisy	2013
Ligustrum ovalifolium	Garden Privet	2002
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild Privet	2014
Linaria vulgaris	Common Toadflax	2020
Linum catharticum	**Fairy Flax**	**2020**
Listera cordata	**Common Twayblade**	**2013**
Listera ovata	Twayblade	2007
Lolium perenne	Perennial Ryegrass	2020
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	2014
Lotus corniculatus	Common Bird's-foot Trefoil	2020
Lunaria annua	Honesty	2020
Luzula campestris	**Field Wood-rush**	**2014**
Mahonia aquifolium	Oregon- grape	2007
Malus domestica	Apple	2014
Malus pumila	Apple	2014
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple	2014
Malva sylvestris	Common Mallow	2014
Matricaria discoidea	Pineapple Weed	2014
Meconopsis cambrica	Welsh Poppy	2014
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	2020
Medicago sativa nothosubsp. varia	**Sand Lucerne**	**2018**
Medicago sativa subsp. falcata	**Sickle Medick**	**2021**
Medicago sativa ssp. sativa	Lucerne	2014
Melica uniflora	Wood Melick	2014
Melilotus officinalis	Ribbed Melilot	2014
Mentha arvensis	**Corn Mint**	**2007**
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's Mercury	2014
Moehringia trinervia	Three-nerved Sandwort	2014
Myosotis arvensis	Field Forget-me-not	2007
Myosotis laxa	Tufted Forget-me-not	1998
Myosotis sylvatica	Wood Forget-me-not	2014
Narcissus agg.	a garden daffodil	2004
Neotinea ustulata	**Burnt Orchid**	**1966**
Nepeta cataria	**Cat-mint**	**1958**

Odontites vernus	Red Bartsia	2020
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	**Corky-fruited Water-dropwort**	**2009**
Onobrychis viciifolia	**Sainfoin**	**2021**
Ononis repens	**Common Rest Harrow**	**2020**
Orchis mascula	Early Purple Orchid	2018
Origanum vulgare	**Majoram**	**2020**
Origanum vulgare	Wild Marjoram	2020
Papaver argemone	Prickly Poppy	1998
Papaver dubium	Long-headed Poppy	2021
Papaver hybridum	**Rough Poppy**	**1990**
Papaver rhoeas	Corn/common Poppy	2007
Papaver somniferum	Opium Poppy	1998
Pastinaca sativa	Wild Parsnip	2014
Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green Alkanet	2013
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	2004
Petasites fragrans	Winter Heliotrope	2014
Phleum bertolonii	Smaller Cat's-tail	2014
Phleum pratense	Timothy	2007
Phyllitis scolopendrium	Hart's-tongue	2002
Phyteuma orbiculare	**Round-headed Rampion**	**2020**
Picris echioides	Bristly Ox-tongue	2014
Pilosella officinarum	**Mouse-ear-hawkweed**	**2014**
Pimpinella saxifraga	**Burnet Saxifrage**	**2020**
Pinus sylvestris	Scots Pine	2002
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn Plantain	2008
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	2020
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	2015
Plantago media	**Hoary Plantain**	**2008**
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass	2014
Poa nemoralis	Wood Meadow-grass	2002
Poa pratensis	**Smooth Meadow-grass**	**2014**
Poa trivialis	Rough Meadow-grass	2014
Polygala calcarea	**Chalk Milkwort**	**2014**
Polygala vulgaris	**Common Milkwort**	**2020**
Polygonum aviculare	Knotgrass	**2014**
Populus alba	White Poplar	2002
Populus tremula	Aspen	2014
Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	2014
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil	2013
Potentilla reptans	Creeping Cinquefoil	2014
Potentilla sterilis	Barren	2002
Primula veris	**Cowslip**	**2021**
Primula vulgaris	Primrose	2014
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	2020

Prunus avium	Wild Cherry	2014
Prunus cerasifera	Cherry Plum	2014
Prunus cerasus var. pisardii	Cherry Plum	2007
Prunus domestica	Wild Plum	2002
Prunus domestica ssp. domestica	Plum	2002
Prunus domestica x spinosa (	P. x a cherry	2002
Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry Laurel	2014
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	2020
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	2014
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common Fleabane	2007
Quercus cerris	Turkey Oak	2014
Quercus ilex	Evergreen Oak	2015
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	2020
Ranunculus acris	Meadow buttercup	2014
Ranunculus auricomus	Goldilocks Buttercup	2004
Ranunculus bulbosus	**Bulbous Buttercup**	**2014**
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	2014
Reseda lutea	Wild Mignonette	2020
Reseda luteola	Weld	2004
Rhamnus cathartica	Buckthorn	2014
Ribes rubrum	Red Currant	2007
Ribes uva-crispa	Gooseberry	2002
Rosa arvensis	Field Rose	2013
Rosa canina	Dog Rose	2014
Rosa rubiginosa	Sweet-briar	2013
Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary	2007
Rubus caesius	Dewberry	2007
Rubus fructicosus spp.	Bramble	2020
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	2007
Rumex acetosa	**Common Sorrel**	**2014**
Rumex conglomeratus	Clustered Dock	2013
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	2014
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	2014
Rumex sanguineus	Wood Dock	2014
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	2007
Sambucus nigra	Common Elder	2014
Sanguisorba minor	**Salad Burnet**	**2020**
Sanicula europaea	Sanicle	2014
Saponaria officinalis	Soapwort	2021
Sasa sp.	a bamboo	2002
Saxifraga tridactylites	Rue-leaved Saxifrage	2006
Scabiosa columbaria	**Small Scabious**	**2014**
Schedonorus giganteus	Giant Fescue	2014
Scorzoneroides autumnalis	Autumn hawkbit	2021

Scrophularia nodosa	Common Figwort	2014
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	2014
Silene dioica	Red Campion	2004
Silene latifolia	White Campion	2014
Silene vulgaris	Bladder Campion	2014
Sinapis arvensis	Hoary Mustard	2020
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard	2014
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet	2007
Solanum nigrum	Black Nightshade	2014
Solidago canadensis	Canadian Goldenrod	2007
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial Sow-thistle	1986
Sonchus asper	Prickly Sow-thistle	2014
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sow-thistle	2014
Sorbus aria	Whitebeam	2014
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	2014
Sorbus intermedia	Swedish Whitebeam	1985
Sorbus x thuringiaca	S. aria x aucuparia	1997
Sorbus torminalis	Wild Service Tree	2013
Spiranthes spiralis	**Autumn Lady's-tresses**	**2020**
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	2014
Stellaria graminea	Lesser Stitchwort	2014
Stellaria holostea	Greater Stitchwort	2013
Stellaria media agg.	Chickweed	2014
Symphororicarpos albus	Snowberry	2014
Symphytum x uplandicum	Russian Comfrey (S. asperum x officinale)	2004
Tamus communis	Black Bryony	2014
Tanacetum vulgare	Tansy	2014
Taraxacum officinale	Dandelion	2014
Taxus baccata	Yew	2014
Teucrium scorodonia	Wood Sage	2014
Thesium humifusum	**Bastard-toadflax**	**2015**
Thymus polytrichus	**Wild Thyme**	**2020**
Tilia cordata x platyphyllos	(T. x Lime	2002
Tilia x europaea	Lime	2014
Torilis japonica	Upright Hedge-parsley	2013
Tragopogon pratensis	Goat's-beard	2014
Trifolium campestre	Hop Trefoil	2013
Trifolium dubium	Lesser Trefoil	2014
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	2021
Trifolium repens	White Clover	2014
Tripleurospermum inodorum	Scentless Mayweed	2004
Trisetum flavescens	Yellow Oatgrass	2013
Tussilago farfara	Colt's-foot	2014
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	2014

Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm	2014
Ulmus procera	English Elm	2013
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	2021
Valeriana officinalis	Common Valerian	2014
Verbascum nigrum	Dark Mullein	2014
Verbascum thapsus	Great Mullein	2020
Verbena officinalis	Common Verbena	2014
Veronica arvensis	Wall Speedwell	2014
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	2014
Veronica filiformis	Slender Speedwell	2004
Veronica hederifolia	Ivy-leaved Speedwell	2014
Veronica officinalis	**Heath Speedwell**	**2014**
Veronica persica	Common Field-speedwell	2014
Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	2002
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring Tree	2020
Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose	2014
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	2014
Vicia sativa	Common Vetch	2014
Vicia sepium	Bush Vetch	2014
Vinca major	Greater Periwinkle	2014
Viola arvensis	Field Pansy	2004
Viola hirta	**Hairy Violet**	**2020**
Viola odorata	Sweet Violet	2014
Viola odorata var. dumetorum	Sweet Violet	1992
Viola odorata var. praecox	Sweet Violet	1992
Viola reichenbachiana	Early Dog-violet	2014
Viola riviniana	Common Dog-violet	2014

Invertebrate records

Molluscs and Oligochates (Slugs, Snails and Earthworms)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Arion intermedius	Hedgehog Slug	2002
Candidula intersecta	a snail	2002
Ceciliodes acicula	a blind snail	2002
Cepaea hortensis	a snail	2002
Cepaea nemoralis	Brown Lipped Snail	2007
Cochlicopa lubricella	a moss snail	2002
Cochlodina laminata	Plaited Door Snail	2007
Discus rotundatus	a discus snail	2007
Ena obscura	a bulin snail	2002
Helix aspersa	Garden Snail	2007
Limax maximus	Great Grey Slug	2002
Lumbricus terrestris	Common Earthworm	2002
Monacha cantiana	Kentish Snail	2007

Pomatias elegans	Round-mouthed snail	2007

Arachnids (Spiders, Mites and Ticks)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date Last Recorded
Aceria macrochelus	a mite	2007
Aceria origani	a mite	2007
Eriophyes (=Phytopus) prunispinosae	a mite	2007
Eriophyes convolvens	a mite	2007
Eriophyes viburni	a mite	2007
Pisaura miribalis	Nursery-web Spider	2007
Tibellus oblongus	a spider	2007

Lepidoptera - Butterflies

Scientific name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Aglais urticae	Small Tortoiseshell	2021
Anthocharis cardamines	Orange Tip	2021
Aphantopus hyperantus	Ringlet	2021
Argynnis aglaja	Dark Green Fritillary	2021
Argynnis paphia	Silver-washed Fritillary	2021
Aricia agestis	Brown Argus	2021
Callophrys rubi	Green Hairstreak	2021
Celastrina argiolus	Holly Blue	2021
Coenonympha pamphilus	Small Heath	2021
Colias croceus	Clouded Yellow	2021
Cupido minimus	Small Blue	2021
Erynnis tages	Dingy Skipper	2021
Gonepteryx rhamni	Brimstone	2021
Hesperia comma	Silver-spotted Skipper	2019
Inachis io	Peacock	2021
Lasiommata megera	Wall Brown	1905
Lycaena phlaeas	Small Copper	2021
Maniola jurtina	Meadow Brown	2021
Melanargia galathea	Marbled White	2021
Ochlodes sylvanus	Large Skipper	2021
Pararge aegeria	Speckled Wood	2021
Pieris brassicae	Large White	2021
Pieris napi	Green-veined White	2021
Pieris rapae	Small White	2021
Polygonia c-album	Comma	2021
Polyommatus bellargus	Adonis Blue	2020
Polyommatus coridon	Chalkhill Blue	2021
Polyommatus icarus	Common Blue	2021
Pyrgus malvae	Grizzled Skipper	2021

Pyronia tithonus	Gatekeeper	2021
Quercusia quercus	Purple Hairstreak	1905
Satyrium w-album	White-letter Hairstreak	2020
Thecla betulae	Brown Hairstreak	2019
Thymelicus lineola	Essex Skipper	2021
Thymelicus sylvestris	Small Skipper	2021
Vanessa atalanta	Red Admiral	2021
Vanessa (Cynthia) cardui	Painted Lady	2021

Lepidoptera – Moths

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date Last Recorded
Adela fibulella	a longhorn moth	1962
Allophyes oxyacanthae	Green-brindled Crescent	1986
Callistege mi	Mother Shipton	1998
Camptogramma bilineata	Yellow Shell	1994
Cucullia absinthii	Wormwood	1994
Deilephila elpenor	Elephant Hawk-moth	2002
Eilema lurideola	Common Footman	1998
Ematurga atomaria	Common Heath	1997
Euclidea glyphica	Burnet Companion	2002
Eupithecia pusillata pusillata	Juniper Pug	1998
Gastropacha quercifolia	Lappet	1961
Hadena bicruris	Lychnis	1905
Hemistola chrysoprasaria	Small Emerald	1994
Ligdia adustata	Scorched Carpet	1998
Lygephila pastinum	Blackneck	1965
Panemeria tenebrata	Small Yellow Underwing	1998
Philereme transversata	Dark Umber	1994
Phytometra viridaria	Small Purple-barred	1967
Pyrausta aurata	a micro moth	2007
Scotopteryx bipunctaria cretata	Chalk Carpet	1953
Scotopteryx chenopodiata	Shaded Broad-bar	1997
Scotopteryx luridata plumbaria	July Belle	1964
Stigmella aurella	a leaf-mining moth	2007
Synanthedon andrenaeformis	Orange-tailed Clearwing	1988
Triphosa dubitata	Tissue	1905
Tyria jacobaeae	Cinnabar moth	2007
Zygaena filipendulae stephensi	Six-spot Burnet	1999

Coleoptera (Beetles)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date Last Recorded
Abraeus globosus	a carrion beetle	1995
Acritus homoeopathicus	a carrion beetle	1995

Acritus nigricornis	a carrion beetle	1995
Acrotrichis atomaria	a featherwing beetle	1995
Acrotrichis cognata	a featherwing beetle	1995
Acrotrichis fascicularis	a featherwing beetle	1995
Acrotrichis grandicollis	a featherwing beetle	1995
Acrotrichis insularis	a featherwing beetle	1995
Acrotrichis montandoni	a featherwing beetle	1995
Acrotrichis sericans	a featherwing beetle	1995
Adalia decimpunctata	Ten-spot ladybird	2007
Agonum fuliginosum	a ground beetle	1995
Ahasverus advena	Foreign Grain Beetle	1995
Aleochara lanuginosa	a rove beetle	1995
Amara familiaris	a ground beetle	1995
Amischa analis	a rove beetle	1995
Amischa forcipata	a rove beetle	1995
Anaspis frontalis	a tumbling flower beetle	1993 - 1995
Anommatus duodecimstriatus	a cerylonid beetle	1995
Anotylus sculpturatus	a rove beetle	1995
Anotylus tetracarinatus	a rove beetle	1995
Anthicus bifasciatus	an antlike beetle	1993 - 1995
Anthicus floralis	an antlike beetle	1993 - 1995
Anthicus formicarius	an antlike beetle	1993 - 1995
Aphodius fimetarius	a dung beetle or chafer	1995
Aphodius granarius	a dung beetle or chafer	1995
Aphodius lividus	a dung beetle or chafer	1995
Aridius bifasciatus	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Aridius nodifer	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Astenus pulchellus	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta aterrima	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta atramentaria	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta benicki	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta celata	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta coriaria	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta fungi	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta harwoodi	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta laticollis	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta longicornis	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta luridipennis	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta nigra	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta nigricornis	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta sordidula	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta subsinuata	a rove beetle	1995
Atheta trinotata	a rove beetle	1995
Atholus duodecimstriatus	a carrion beetle	1995

Athous haemorrhoidalis	a click beetle	1995
Atomaria atricapilla	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Atomaria lewisi	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Atomaria scutellaris	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Atomaria testacea	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Autalia rivularis	a rove beetle	1995
Bembidion gilvipes	a ground beetle	1995
Bembidion properans	a ground beetle	1995
Bruchela rufipes	a weevil	2007
Bruchus rufimanus	Bean Beetle	1993 - 1995
Bryaxis puncticollis	a short-winged mould beetle	1995
Calathus melanocephalus sens.str.	a ground beetle	1995
Calvia 14-guttata	Cream-spot ladybird	2007
Calyptomerus dubius	an armadillo beetle	1995
Carabus problematicus	a ground beetle	1995
Carcinops pumilio	a carrion beetle	1995
Carpelimus bilineatus	a rove beetle	1995
Carpelimus fuliginosus	a rove beetle	1995
Carpelimus pusillus	a rove beetle	1995
Cassida flaveola	Pale Tortoise Beetle	1993 - 1995
Cassida viridis	Green Tortoise Beetle	1993 - 1995
Cephennium gallicum	a small antlike beetle	1995
Cercyon analis	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon atomarius	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon atricapillus	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon haemorrhoidalis	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon lateralis	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon melanocephalus	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon pygmaeus	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon quisquilius	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon terminatus	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon unipunctatus	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cercyon ustulatus	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Chilocorus bipustulatues	Heather ladybird	2007
Chilocorus renipustulatus	Kidney-spot ladybird	2007
Cilea siphoides	a rove beetle	1995
Clambus armadillo	an armadillo beetle	1995
Coccinella septempunctata	7-spot Ladybird	2007
Cordalia obscura	a rove beetle	1995
Corticaria elongata	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Cryptocephalus moraei	Pot Beetle	2007
Cryptophagus distinguendus	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Cryptophagus pilosus	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Cryptophagus scanicus	a silken fungus beetle	1995

Cryptophagus scutellatus	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Cryptopleurum minutum	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Cryptopleurum subtile	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Curtonotos (=Amara) aulica	a ground beetle	2007
Dienerella elongata	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Dinaraea aequata	a rove beetle	1995
Enicmus histrio	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Enicmus transversus	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Ephistemus globulus	a silken fungus beetle	1995
Epilachna argus	Bryony ladybird	2007
Euplectus karsteni	a short-winged mould beetle	1995
Euplectus sanguineus	a short-winged mould beetle	1995
Exochomus quadripustulatus	Pine Ladybird	2007
Falagria concinna	a rove beetle	1995
Gabronthus thermarum	a rove beetle	1995
Gauropterus fulgidus	a rove beetle	1995
Gyrohypnus fracticornis	a rove beetle	1995
Halyzia 16-guttata	Orange ladybird	2007
Harmonia axiridis	Harlequin ladybird	2007
Holoparamecus caularum	a merophysid beetle	1993 - 1995
Kissister minimus	a carrion beetle	1995
Lathridius anthracinus	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Leptacinus intermedius	a rove beetle	1995
Leptacinus pusillus	a rove beetle	1995
Lithocharis nigriceps	a rove beetle	1995
Lithocharis ochracea	a rove beetle	1995
Lithostygnus serripennis	a mould beetle	1993 - 1995
Longitarsus luridus	a leaf beetle	1993 - 1995
Megarthrus affinis	a rove beetle	1995
Megarthrus denticollis	a rove beetle	1995
Megarthrus sinuatocollis	a rove beetle	1995
Megasternum obscurum	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Meligethes aeneus	Common Pollen Beetle	1995
Metopsia retusa	a rove beetle	1995
Micropeplus fulvus	a rove beetle	1995
Monotoma bicolor	a narrow bark beetle	1995
Monotoma longicollis	a narrow bark beetle	1995
Monotoma picipes	a narrow bark beetle	1995
Monotoma spinicollis	a narrow bark beetle	1995
Myrmechixenus vaporariorum	a narrow timber beetle	1993 - 1995
Nebria brevicollis	a ground beetle	1995
Nehemitropia sordida	a rove beetle	1995
Nephanes titan	a featherwing beetle	1995
Nephus quadrimaculatus	a ladybird	2007

Ocypus olens	Devil's Coach Horse Beetle	2007
Oedomera lurida	a beetle	2007
Olibrus aeneus	a smut beetle	2007
Olibrus coricalis	a beetle	2006
Olibrus liquidus	a beetle	2007
Oligota parva	a rove beetle	1995
Oligota pumilio	a rove beetle	1995
Omalium caesum	a rove beetle	1995
Omalium italicum	a rove beetle	1995
Omalium rugatum	a rove beetle	1995
Onthophilus striatus	a carrion beetle	1995
Oomorphus concolor	a beetle	2007
Oulema sp. (melanopus/rufocyanea)	a leaf beetle	2007
Oxyomus sylvestris	a dung beetle or chafer	1995
Oxypoda haemorrhoa	a rove beetle	1995
Oxypoda opaca	a rove beetle	1995
Oxypoda sericea	a rove beetle	1995
Oxytelus sculptus	a rove beetle	1995
Peranus bimaculatus	a carrion beetle	1995
Perigona nigriceps	a ground beetle	1995
Phacophallus parumpunctatus	a rove beetle	1995
Philonthus albipes	a rove beetle	1995
Philonthus debilis	a rove beetle	1995
Philonthus discoideus	a rove beetle	1995
Philonthus fimetarius	a rove beetle	1995
Philonthus longicornis	a rove beetle	1995
Phyllobius pyri	Common Leaf Weevil	1993 - 1995
Phyllobius viridiaeris	Green Nettle Weevil	2002
Platystethus nitens	a rove beetle	1995
Propylea 14-punctata	14-spot ladybird	2007
Proteinus ovalis	a rove beetle	1995
Psyllobora 22-punctata	22-spot ladybird	2007
Ptenidium laevigatum	a featherwing beetle	1995
Ptenidium pusillum	a featherwing beetle	1995
Pterostichus diligens	a ground beetle	1995
Pterostichus madidus	Black Clock Ground Beetle	2007
Ptiliola kunzei	a featherwing beetle	1995
Ptiliolum marginatum	a featherwing beetle	1995
Pyrrhalta viburni	a leaf beetle	2007
Quedius cinctus	a rove beetle	1995
Quedius cruentus	a rove beetle	1995
Quedius humeralis	a rove beetle	1995
Quedius mesomelinus	a rove beetle	1995
Rhagonycha fulva	a soldier beetle	2007

Rhyzobius chrysomeloides	a ladybird	2007
Rhyzobius lopanthae	a ladybird	2007
Rhizophagus bipustulatus	a narrow bark beetle	1995
Rugilus orbiculatus	a rove beetle	1995
Rugilus similis	a rove beetle	1995
Sciaphilus asperatus	Strawberry Root Weevil	1995
Scydmaenus rufus	a small antlike beetle	1995
Scydmaenus tarsatus	a small antlike beetle	1995
Silvanus unidentatus	a beetle	1995
Sitona lineatus	Pea and Bean Weevil	1995
Sphaeridium scarabaeoides	a scavenger water beetle	1995
Stenus crassus	a rove beetle	1995
Stenus fuscipes	a rove beetle	1995
Tachyporus hypnorum	a rove beetle	2007
Tachyporus nitidulus	a rove beetle	1995
Tachyporus pusillus	a rove beetle	1995
Tachyporus solutus	a rove beetle	1995
Trechus quadristriatus	a ground beetle	1995
Trichiusa immigrata	a rove beetle	1995
Tychius picirostris	a weevil	1995
Typhaea stercorea	Hairy Fungus Beetle	1993 - 1995
Tytthaspis sedecimpunctata	16-spot Ladybird	1995
Variimorda villosa	a tumbling flower beetle	2007
Xantholinus glabratus	a rove beetle	1995
Xantholinus linearis	a rove beetle	1995
Xantholinus longiventris	a rove beetle	1995
Xylodromus concinnus	a rove beetle	1995

Diptera (True Flies)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Chaetostomella cylindrica	a picture-winged fly	2007
Cheilosia illustrata	a hoverfly	1988
Cheilosia soror	a hoverfly	1985
Cheilosia vernalis	a hoverfly	2007
Chirosia albitarsis	a fly	1988
Chromatomyia aprilina	a leaf mining fly	2007
Chrysotoxum bicinctum	a hoverfly	2007
Coremacera marginata	a snail-killing fly	2007
Dasineura urticae	a gall midge	2007
Dasysyrphus venustus	a hoverfly	1999
Dioctria rufipes	a robber fly	1998
Epistrophe eligans	a hoverfly	1999
Epistrophe grossulariae	a hoverfly	1988
Episyrphus balteatus	Marmalade Hoverfly	2007

Eristalis arbustorum	a hoverfly	1988
Eristalis intricarius	a hoverfly	1988
Eristalis pertinax	a hoverfly	1999
Eristalis tenax	a hoverfly	1985
Eristalis tenax	a hoverfly	1998
Helophilus pendulus	a hoverfly	2007
Jaapiella veronicae	a gall midge	2007
Leptarthrus brevirostris	a robber fly	1997
Limnia unguicornis	a snail-killing fly	2007
Machimus atricapillus	Kite-tailed Robberfly	2007
Melanastoma mellinum	a hoverfly	2007
Melangyna cincta	a hoverfly	1999
Melangyna labiatarum	a hoverfly	1999
Melanostoma scalare	a hoverfly	2007
Merodon equestris	Greater Bulb-fly	1998
Myathropa florea	a hoverfly	2007
Myopa tessellatipennis	a fly	1998
Neocnemodon latitarsis	a hoverfly	1999
Nowickia ferox	a parasitic fly	2007
Phytomyza agromyzina	a leaf mining fly	2007
Phytomyza angelicastri	a leaf mining fly	2007
Phytomyza ilicis	a leaf mining fly	2007
Phytomyza sphondylii	a leaf mining fly	2007
Phytomyza vitalbae	a leaf mining fly	2007
Platycheirus albimanus	a hoverfly	1988
Sarcophaga sp.	a flesh fly	2007
Scaeva pyrastri	a hoverfly	1988
Sicus ferrugineus	a parasitic fly	2007
Sphaerphoria scripta	a hoverfly	2007
Syritta pipiens	a hoverfly	1988
Syrphus ribesii	a hoverfly	1988
Taxomyia taxi	Yew Artichoke Gall	2007
Urophora stylata	a picture-winged fly	2007
Volucella bombylans	a hoverfly	1988
Volucella zonaria	a hoverfly	2007
Xanthogramma pedissequum	a hoverfly	2007

Hemiptera (True Bugs)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Aphrophora alni	a leaf-hopper	2007
Neophilaneus lineatus	a leaf-hopper	2007
Philaenus spumarius	Cuckoo-spit Insect	2007
Cyphostethus (=Elasmosthesus) tristriatus	Juniper Shieldbug	2007

Closterotomus norwegicus [=Calocoris norvegicus]	a mirid bug	2007
Lygus rugulipennis	Tarnished Plant Bug	2007
Phytocoris varipes	a mirid bug	2007
Notostira elongata	a grass bug	2007
Himacerus apterus	Tree Damsel Bug	2007
Himacerus mirmicoides	Ant Damsel Bug	2007
Nabis rugosus	a damsel bug	2007
Palomena prasina	Green Shieldbug	2007
Pentatoma rufipes	Forest Shieldbug	2007
Rhopalus subrufus	a bug	2007
Trichochermes (=Trichopsylla) walkeri	a jumping plant louse (bug)	2007

Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps and Ants)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Ancistrocerus trifasciatus	a potter wasp or mason wasp	1999
Andrena bicolor	Gwynne's Mining Bee	1999
Andrena dorsata	a mining bee	2007
Andrena haemorrhoa	Early Mining Bee	1999
Andrena minutuloides	a mining bee	2007
Andrena scotica	a solitary bee	1999
Andrena subopaca	a solitary bee	1999
Andricus quercuscalicis	Knopper Gall	2007
Anoplius nigerrimus	a spider-hunting wasp	2007
Apis mellifera	Honey Bee	2007
Arge ustulata	a sawfly	2007
Bombus hortorum	Small Garden Bumble Bee	2002
Bombus lapidarius	Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee	1999
Bombus lapidarius	a bumblebee	2007
Bombus lucorum	White-tailed Bumble Bee	1999
Bombus pascuorum	Common Carder Bee	2007
Bombus terrestris	Buff-tailed Bumble Bee	1999
Cerceris rybyensis	Ornate Tailed Digger Wasp	2007
Chelostoma campanularum	Harebell Carpenter Bee	2002
Chelostoma campanularum	Bellflower Bee	2007
Crossocerus annulipes	a digger wasp	2007
Diplolepis rosae	Bedeguar Gall	2007
Ectemnius continuus	a solitary digger wasp	2007
Ectemnius lituratus	a solitary digger wasp	2007
Entomognathus brevis	a solitary wasp	2007
Halictus tumulorum	a mining bee	2007
Hoplitus spinulosa	a solitary bee	2007

Hylaeus annularis	a solitary bee	2007
Hylaeus communis	a solitary bee	2007
Hylaeus confusus	a solitary bee	2007
Hylaeus signatus	Large Yellow-faced Bee	2007
Lasioglossum morio	a mining bee	2007
Lasioglossum pauxillum	a mining bee	2007
Lasioglossum albipes	a solitary bee	1999
Lasioglossum fulvicorne	a solitary mining bee	2007
Lasioglossum leucozonium	a solitary bee	1998
Lasius flavus	Yellow Meadow Ant	2007
Megachile ligniseca	Wood-carving Leaf-cutter Bee	2007
Melitta haemorrhoidalis	a solitary bee	1999
Melitta tricincta	a solitary bee	2007
Myrmica ruginodis	an ant	2007
Nomada flavoguttata	a cleptoprasitic bee	2007
Nomada fucata	a nomad or mason bee	1999
Nomada ruficornis	Red-horned Nomad Bee	1998
Osmia bicolor	Two Coloured Mason Bee	1998
Osmia rufa	Red Mason Bee	1999
Pachyprotasis variegata	a sawfly	1994
Pemphredon lugubris	Mournful Wasp	1999
Psithyrus rupestris	Hill Cuckoo Bee	1999
Psithyrus sylvestris	Four Coloured Cuckoo Bee	1999
Sphecodes geoffrellus	a cleptoprasitic bee	2007
Tenthredo schaefferi	a sawfly	1997
Tenthredo thomsonii	a sawfly	2007
Tiphia femorata	a parasitic wasp	2007
Vespula vulgaris	Common Wasp	2007

Orthoptera (Grasshoppers and Crickets)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Chorthippus brunneus	Common Field Grasshopper	2007
Chorthippus parallelus	Meadow Grasshopper (Purple form)	2007
*Chorthippus parallelus*f.*explicatus*	Meadow Grasshopper (Long-winged form)	2007
Conocephalus discolor	Long-winged Conehead	2002
Leptophyes punctatissima	Speckled Bush Cricket	1998
Metrioptera roeselii	Roesel's Bush Cricket	2007
Omocestus viridulus	Common Green Grasshopper	2002

Odonata (Dragonflies and Damselflies)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Aeshna cyanea	Southern Hawker	1905

Aeshna mixta	Migrant Hawker	1905
Coenagrion puella	Azure Damselfly	1905
Erythromma najas	Red-eyed Damselfly	1905
Ischnura elegans	Blue-tailed Damselfly	1905
Sympetrum striolatum	Common Darter	2007

Other Invertebrates

Dermaptera (Earwigs)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Dermaptera (Earwigs)		
Forficula auricularia	Common Earwig	2007
Isopods (Woodlice)		
Armadillidium vulgare	Common Pill Woodlouse	2007
Platyarthrus hoffmannseggi	Ant Woodlouse	2007
Mecoptera (Scorpion Flies)		
Panorpa cognata	a scorpion fly	1998
Panorpa germanica	a scorpion fly	2007
Neuroptera (Lacewings)		
Chrysopa carnea	a green lacewing	1998
Hemerobius humulinus	a brown lacewing	1998
Hemerobius stigma	a brown lacewing	1998

Reptiles

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date Last Recorded
Lacerta vivipara	Viviparous Lizard	2002

Birds

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Aegithalos caudatus	Long-tailed Tit	2002
Alauda arvensis	Skylark	2002
Anthus pratensis	Meadow Pipit	2002
Apus apus	Swift	2000
Athene noctua	Little Owl	2002
Carduelis cannabina	Linnet	2002
Carduelis carduelis	Goldfinch	2002
Carduelis chloris	Greenfinch	2002
Columba livia (feral)	Feral Pigeon	2002
Columba palumbus	Woodpigeon	2002
Corvus corone corone	Carrion crow	2002
Corvus frugilegus	Rook	2002
Corvus monedula	Jackdaw	2002
Cuculus canorus	Cuckoo	2000
Dendrocopos major	Great Spotted Woodpecker	2002
Emberiza citrinella	Yellowhammer	2000
Erithacus rubecula	Robin	2002

Falco tinnunculus	Kestrel	2002
Fringilla coelebs	Chaffinch	2002
Garrulus glandarius	Jay	2002
Hirundo rustica	Swallow	2000
Larus argentatus	Herring Gull	2002
Larus ridibundus	Black-headed Gull	2002
Motacilla alba	White/Pied Wagtail	2002
Motacilla alba yarrellii	Pied Wagtail	2002
Oenanthe oenanthe	Wheatear	2002
Parus caeruleus	Blue Tit	2002
Parus major	Great Tit	2002
Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	2002
Passer montanus	Tree Sparrow	2002
Phasianus colchicus	Pheasant	2002
Phylloscopus collybita	Chiffchaff	2002
Phylloscopus trochilus	Willow Warbler	2002
Pica pica	Magpie	2002
Picus viridis	Green Woodpecker	2002
Prunella modularis	Dunnock	2002
Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	2002
Saxicola torquata	Stonechat	2002
Sitta europaea	Nuthatch	2000
Streptopelia decaocto	Collared Dove	2002
Sturnus vulgaris	Starling	2002
Sylvia atricapilla	Blackcap	2002
Sylvia borin	Garden Warbler	2002
Sylvia communis	Whitethroat	2000
Tringa totanus	Redshank	1998
Troglodytes troglodytes	Wren	2002
Turdus merula	Blackbird	2002
Turdus philomelos	Song Thrush	2002
Turdus viHscivorus	Mistle Thrush	2002
Vanellus vanellus	Lapwing	2002

Mammals

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date Last Recorded**
Apodemus sylvaticus	Wood mouse	2020
Microtus agrestis	Field Vole	2002
Mustela nivalis	Weasel	2015
Myodes glareolus	Bank Vole	2015
Oryctolagus cuniculus	Rabbit	2002
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey Squirrel	2002
Sorex araneus	Common Shrew	2002
Talpa europaea	Mole	2002

Vulpes vulpes	Fox	2002

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Epsom Downs Golf Course Habitat Management Plan

2023-2028

WRITTEN BY SARAH CLIFT

COUNTRYSIDE TEAM
EPSOM AND EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Contents

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Small Blue on Kidney Vetch

Common Blue on Greater Knapweed

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Epsom Downs Golf Course is an extremely important site for wildlife and contributes hugely to the Biodiversity value of Epsom and Ewell and beyond. It contains the nationally and internationally important habitat of chalk grassland and is home to rare plants and animals such as Round-headed Rampion, Chalkhill Eyebright, and the Small Blue Butterfly to name a few. The management of the chalk grassland is vital to ensure this special habitat is not lost, as so much has already across the country through lack of management, scrub encroachment and habitat fragmentation. Such fragments of plants and animal communities that were once common throughout the Downs are now extremely rare and threatened by a range of land use changes. Its rarity gives this habitat a special value. The combination of plants and animals found here are effectively irreplaceable if damaged.

Over the last few years, work has continued to restore and maintain chalk grassland in the area around the 7th and 15th Tees, scrapes have been created to encourage chalk grassland species and the fauna that relies on these plants, along with scrub management and planting of Juniper trees. Work has also been carried out in the area of the World War 2 bunker near the 17th and 18th Tees to remove scrub from the Chalk Grassland habitat.

However, there is so much potential to do more if resources could be found. There are areas of chalk grassland being lost to scrub and if not dealt with, will be lost forever. Managing the chalk grassland needs to move from being something the that is fitted in if possible, to becoming a priority job with time directly allocated for it. Management must be more proactive towards habitat management and the special Biodiversity found within. A key focus of this management plan is to try to find practical ways to ensure the successful management of chalk grassland across the whole site and ensure its conservation.

There are three main objectives which should be achieved within the 5 years of this management plan

- Cut and collect arisings from grassland areas outside of the Fairways.
- Clear and subsequently manage scrub in key Chalk Grassland areas.
- Actively try and set up a dedicated site based volunteer group to compliment the volunteer work already happening on site.

Juniper – *Juniperis communis*

Chalk Eyebright - *Euphrasia pseudokerneri*

INTRODUCTION

The Countryside Team were asked to update the Epsom Downs Golf Course Five Year Management Plan. The past management plans were reviewed and meetings and discussions were had with the Downskeepers and Golf Course site managers, to come up with the prescriptions outlined within this management plan. The site was surveyed during the months of June and July 2020 and April 2021, to assess the habitats' current status and potential. This management plan focuses on the site's habitat management and the enhancement of its biodiversity value, particularly its habitats of principal importance, as outlined in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act.

STAGE ONE – DESCRIPTION

1.1 Introduction

The Northern area of Epsom Downs is home to Epsom Downs Golf Course. Although it covers a large part of Epsom Downs, there is still a significant area that is publicly accessible. People have access to wide-open vistas across the golf course with views to the north of the skyline of London and to the south the Countryside. Habitats include chalk grassland, scrub/grassland and woodland. These important habitats that surround the fairways are managed for wildlife and public access and make up an important part of the biodiversity resource for Epsom & Ewell.

1.2 Location

Epsom & Walton Downs are situated on the dip slope of the North Downs just south of Epsom town on the southern boundary of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell in Surrey. The grid reference for the centre of the Golf Course is TQ 222 589. It is included in the OS Explorer 146 covering Dorking, Box Hill and Reigate. There is one Right of Way that goes through the site from the south east corner of the site towards Burgh Heath Road. All public rights of way information can be seen via the Surrey County Council Interactive map. There are several other informal paths that cross the site.

1.3 Land Tenure and Associated Statutory Requirements

The Downs are private land owned by Epsom Downs Racecourse and managed by the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators through an Act of Parliament. Epsom Golf Club leases the land from the Racecourse.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 currently includes a duty on public authorities to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity. The new Environment Act has amended this duty so that there is an expectation on public authorities to look strategically at their policies and operations from time to time (at least every 5 years) and assess what action they can take 'to further' the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. They must also have regard to the relevant Local Nature Recovery Strategies, Species Conservation Strategies and Protected Sites Strategies, as part of the consideration. The production and implementation of a management plan will be a key part of adhering to this duty.

1.4 Local Designations

A borough wide review of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) was carried out in 2013. As a result of this review, the whole of the Epsom and Walton Downs was assessed as being SNCI quality. This was confirmed by the local sites partnership and adopted by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council. More detail can be found in the section below.

It is also within the North Downs Natural Area (more information available from Natural England) and is within the greenbelt. The site is also included in the Surrey Biodiversity Opportunity Area

(BOA) ND04: North Downs; Epsom Downs to Nonsuch Park. The aim of the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs) is to establish a strategic framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity at a landscape scale. BOAs identify the most important areas for wildlife conservation in Surrey and each include a variety of habitats, providing for an 'ecosystem approach' to nature conservation across and beyond the county. Therefore, the management work detailed in this report could be seen to provide a landscape link within the overall BOA network. Although not a statutory designation, BOAs are protected under Epsom and Ewell's Local Plan and are material considerations in planning applications.

1.5 Reasons for SNCI Selection

Epsom Downs Golf Course was designated a SNCI in 2013 due to the presence of species rich chalk grassland designated as National Vegetation Community (NVC) category - Bromus erectus grassland CG3.
It was also designated a SNCI due to the presence of the Small Blue butterfly, which is on list A of butterflies of importance in Surrey. The full report can be found in Appendix 1.

1.6 Photographic Coverage

Aerial photographs taken in 2003, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2016 and 2019 are held by EEBC. More recent aerial photographs of the site are available online from Google Maps, Apple Maps and Bing Maps.

1.7 Summary Description

1.7.1 Physical

1.7.1.1 Geology

The geological map relevant for this area is Sheet 286 Reigate printed in 1978. The entire area is Upper Chalk. The 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales 'Soils of England and Wales Sheet 6 – South East England soil map' describes the resulting soil type as a brown redzina called Andover 1. This is a shallow well drained calcareous silty soil over chalk and found on slopes.

1.7.1.2 Topography

The Golf Course's lowest point is at the north of the site at about 100m and gradually slopes higher as you go south and east, with the highest point being about 150m.

1.7.2 Biological

1.7.2.1 Priority Habitats

The importance of the site is indicated by the fact the site includes Lowland Calcareous Grassland and Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, which are Habitats of Principal Importance in England under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act. See Map 3. Full habitat classifications can be found at https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/uk-bap-priority-habitats/

Lowland Calcareous Grassland

There are extensive areas that remain as Chalk Grassland. Working from north to south they include the old World War II bunker and WW2 woodland/grass margin, 15th Fairway Tee Rough, Burgh Heath Road Margin, 15th Fairway Rough, 14th Fairway Rough South, 6th Fairway Rough 5th Fairway Rough, Downs Road Scrub margin, Downs Road Grassland, 5th Hole Rough, Grandstand Road North Margin a, Grandstand Road South Margin, Old London Road West, and 10th Fairway Rough.

Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

There are 11 areas of woodland within the Golf Course. The main canopy species are Oak and Ash and all generally contain a mix including Field Maple, Sycamore, Hazel, Beech, Birch, Cherry,

Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Dogwood, Buckthorn, Privet, Yew and Holly with field layers of varying species diversity, often including large areas of Bramble and Ivy.

1.7.2.2 Other important habitats

Veteran/mature trees

It should be a priority to map veteran or near veteran trees across the site and ensure they have specific management plans to maintain and increase their longevity.

Grassland

The majority of the Golf Course is made up of grassland, much of which is publicly accessible and also contains hack rides for horses. The Fairways are clearly managed for golf and are not particularly interesting from a biodiversity point of view, but the rough areas, given that the geology is chalk, all have potential to be chalk grassland, if managed in the right way.

Scrub

Scrub is a very important habitat for birds, small mammals, reptiles and invertebrates and is found along the edge of Longdown Lane South, between Downs Road and Burgh Heath Road, and a large area in the centre of the course near Grandstand Road. It is also present in the scrub/grassland mosaic near the 16th Fairway, around the small blue scrapes and Buckles Gap Roundabout. It is made up of hawthorn in the main and some blackthorn and buckthorn.

1.7.2.2 Species groups

These important habitats within Epsom and Walton Downs support a wide variety of plant and animal species, including a wide range of plants including some rare chalk grassland species, fungi, lichens, bryophytes, birds, mammals, a wide range of invertebrates, and reptiles, including 5 priority species as identified in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act. (The number is very likely to be much higher than this due to a lack of surveying for butterflies and birds.)

1.7.3 Cultural

*1.7.*3.1 History and Archaeology

The following is taken from the Epsom Golf Club website:

'It is known that well before the formation of the Club, Dr Laidlaw Purves of the Royal Wimbledon Golf Club and Mr Richardson of Sutton 'knocked a ball about' upon the Downs. A Mr T.W. Lang lived close by and made the most of the rough and ready natural greens between the racing grandstand and the rifle butts playing with other 'Wimbledonians'. The number of other local notaries joining them rapidly grew.

Further north another course was mapped out by the masters of Epsom College, which adjoins the Club, and began its life as the Royal Medical Benevolent College in 1851.

Towards the end of 1888, encouraged by Mr Mackey, residents started to take up the game paying a small subscription to pay for the rolling and sweeping of the first proper greens. A preliminary meeting was held at Bromley Hurst in Church Road, the home of Mr G.F. Burgess on 25 January 1889, which happens to be Burn's Night, and perhaps nods to the influence of the founding Scottish members. It was resolved that a club be formed with an annual subscription of 10 shillings and 6 pence.

The Lord of the Manor, Mr J.S. Strange granted permission and Mr Alexander Patrick of Wimbledon was employed to lay out a course roughly combining the Master's course and the one which had become known as 'Lang's' course.'

1.7.3.2 Public Access and Recreation

There are several on-site car parks present. There are two at Tattenham Corner and five along Grandstand Road, the largest one having a view point in to London. The nearest railway stations are

Epsom Downs Station and Tattenham Corner Station. There are no Rights of Way across the golf course, however there are hack rides and footpaths, which go around the perimeter of the three golf course areas and one which runs diagonally through the centre from where Old London Road and Tattenham Corner Road meet, to Burgh Heath Road and tee 15. (See map 2).
Obviously, the main recreation activity is playing golf but walking and horse riding is allowed on the designated paths. These paths offer spectacular views across to London and offer an opportunity to see a great diversity of chalk grassland plants.

View across the Golf Course to London

STAGE TWO – EVALUATION AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Criteria for Evaluation

Size

The Golf Course covers approximately 56 hectares and is set in a relatively rural location on Epsom Downs, with Epsom Racecourse to the south and west, open fields to the west and northwest and residential housing to the east.

Naturalness

The fairway areas of the golf course are clearly improved and highly managed. In parts areas have been reseeded and fertilisers used. Car parks have been built as well as roads and the clubhouse associated with the golf course. Due to the close proximity of residential houses, there are a number of garden escapees, non-native species and invasive plants. Of the 250 plants recorded, only 10 are introduced, non-native and in some cases invasive, the rest are native species in Britain (Preston et al 2002). All of the non-native species were assigned 'rare' in abundance. Turkey Oak is proving to be invasive and whilst the number of larger trees is small, there are areas with lots of seedlings. The rest are at the moment not proving to be greatly invasive, although they should be monitored and ideally managed towards eradication. Particularly Canadian Goldenrod, Butterfly-bush and Michaelmas Daisy.
However, the areas of rough are excellent examples of unimproved chalk grassland and are home to some rare plants such as Round headed Rampion and also home to Kidney vetch, the foodplant of the Small Blue Butterfly which is a priority species.

Diversity and Rarity

366 vascular plants have been recorded, which represents a high number of species. Thanks must be given to Surrey Botanical Society for sharing their records as the species list has now increased by over 100 species.
Less surveying has been carried out of the Fauna found on site but the total is 215 species, mainly made up of invertebrates.

Bryophytes (Mosses and Liverworts)

No survey has been carried out, however as part of surveying for the habitats as part of the management plan, 9 were noted by Pete Howarth within the WW2 bunker area and small blue scrapes scrub/grassland.

Vascular plants

Of the 366 species recorded, 2 are NERC Priority species, Juniper and Chalk Eyebright. The Golf Course is also home to 5 species which are listed in the Surrey Rare Plant Register (updated October 2010). Sainfoin – Nationally Threatened, Round-headed Rampion – Nationally Scarce, Bastard Toadflax - Nationally Scarce, Rue-leaved Saxifrage – Surrey Scarce and Flattened Meadow-grass - Surrey Scarce.
Recorded on the site in the past but not seen for some time is Early Gentian. As well as being a priority species, it is considered a Surrey Rare species.
Additional species of note include, Kidney Vetch – uncommon in Surrey, and the only food plant for the uncommon NERC priority species Small Blue butterfly, Mistletoe – uncommon and unusually found in Hawthorn over the course and Small Toadflax – uncommon.

Invertebrates:

An invertebrate survey was carried out in 2009 and revealed the site to be important for invertebrates. Taken from the report '' the species recorded, clearly show that the non-amenity/sports areas of the Golf Course support locally important assemblages of invertebrates, notably the rich flower resource – largely associated with the roughs and regenerating bare chalk

scrapes – was found to be in favourable condition by Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) standards, despite the site not being designated as such. In general, the mosaic of habitats ranging from bare chalk and flower-rich grassland through to mixed scrub and sheltered woodland edges/glades, provides a useful balance of habitat resources for invertebrates.''
A total of 210 species were recorded of which a total of 10 species have Red Data Book or Nationally Scarce status (4% of all species recorded) whilst a further 30 species are regarded as nationally Local (12% of all species recorded). In total 40 species (16% of the species recorded) are of conservation significance (i.e. RDB, Nationally Scarce, Local).

Molluscs and Oligochaetes (Slugs, Snails and Earthworms)
5 species of snail were recorded during the 2009 survey. There has been no survey carried out which has particularly focused on these groups of animals. Further surveying would likely reveal more species found on site.

Arachnids (Spiders, Harvestmen, Mites and Ticks)
31 species were found during the 2009 survey. A focused survey on this group of animals would no doubt reveal further species.

Lepidoptera

- Butterflies – A total of only 13 species have been officially recorded including the Small Blue and green Hairstreak, which are NERC Priority Species. Focused surveying would reveal further species using the site. The transect walked on Juniper Hill and Walton Downs regularly records around 30 species using the site.
- Moths – 7 species were recorded during the 2009 survey, including one nationally scarce (Nb) moth, *Recurvaria leucatella*. A focused survey would reveal further species using the site.

Coleoptera (Beetles)
60 species were recorded during the 2009 survey including *Anapsis thoracica*, which is Nationally Scarce (Nb), *Nephus quadrimaculatus*, the 4-spot Ivy Ladybird, which is on the Red Data Book list as RDB2, and *Taeniapion urticarium* which is rare in Surrey.

Diptera (True flies)
38 species were recorded during the 2009 survey including *Cheilosia soror*, which is Nationally Scarce and *Oswaldia muscaria*, which is uncommon.

Hemiptera (True bugs)
30 species were recorded in 2009 including a Hopper Bug called *Athysanus argentarius* which is Nationally Scarce (Nb) and a Mirid Bug called *Lygus pratensis*, which is on the Red Data Book list as RDB3.

Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps and Ants)
A total of 20 species were recorded in 2009 including the solitary bee *Andrena minutuloides,* which is Nationally Scarce (Na) and Osmia bicolor - Two Coloured Mining Bee which is Nationally Scarce (Nb)

Orthoptera (Grasshoppers and Crickets)
4 species were recorded including *Metrioptera roeselii* - Roesel's Bush-cricket, which although is stated to be Nationally Scarce (Nb), it has expanded its range considerably since and is now quite common.

Other invertebrates
4 booklice, an earwig and a millipede were recorded including the booklouse *Psococerastis gibbose*, which is uncommon.

Herptiles
Common lizards have seen along Old London Road which are NERC priprity species and protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. No formal survey has been carried out. It is possible grass snakes and slow worm could use the roughs and scrub/grassland areas. With no water bodies on site it is unlikely there will be a great population of amphibians, however, if garden ponds are nearby, frogs, toads and newts may be present. No survey has been carried out.

Birds
No formal survey has been carried out but with 50 species having been recorded around the racecourse area of the Downs, and the habitats found on site, it is likely that the golf course will support a good variety of species.

Mammals
No formal surveying for bats has been carried out, however while surveying for the management plan, Noctule and Common Pipistrelle were recorded. Noctule is a NERC Priority Species and all bats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. The areas of mature woodland and trees had some potential for roosting bats and therefore any major trees work should have a further bat survey of the area effected. There are no buildings on site to support any roosts.
It is considered that any woodland in the South East of England has the potential to support Dormice. Therefore, this site with its areas of woodland could have Dormice. The areas of greatest potential are the scrub and woodland along the edge of the site leading to Rifle Butts Alley. These areas have a mix of dense scrub, more mature trees and connectivity to the wider landscape.

History of Biological Recording
The surveys that are known of are associated with the writing of past management plans, surveying for Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) status and the 2009 invertebrate survey carried out by Surrey Wildlife Trust. Members of the Surrey Botanical Society also record across the site and have kindly passed on all their records to date. All known records are compiled in Appendix 2.
Due to the site being so important for the Small Blue butterfly, Butterfly Conservation are involved in monitoring the population along with the population of Kidney Vetch, which is the foodplant of the Small Blue. They also keep an eye on how the scrapes are developing.

Fragility
Without some degree of conservation management, habitats will eventually lose their biodiversity. The woodlands by their very nature do not require such regular management to maintain and enhance their biodiversity. Grassland on the other hand does require regular management or it will soon be invaded by undesirable species such as coarse grasses that will out-compete finer grasses. Then scrub species such as Hawthorn and Blackthorn will begin to arrive and eventually it turns into woodland (Natural Succession). Whilst a mosaic of habitats is desirable and scrub is extremely important, this should not be to the detriment of valuable unimproved calcareous grassland so very rare in this County. The priority for management should be for the areas with most potential, which include all the rough areas surrounding the fairways.

Visitor pressure can also affect the habitats, either through trampling, disturbing wildlife, fires, litter and other anti-social behaviour. It is very important that paths are maintained to encourage people to stay on the tracks and keep them away from sensitive areas.

Invasive species such as Canadian Goldenrod could pose a threat to grassland habitats and Turkey Oak to the woodlands. Where invasive species are found it is important to eradicate them as soon as possible.

Light pollution will affect the site from the nearby roads and street lights. This will affect night flying moths and other invertebrates. In addition, noise and air pollution from the roads will have an influence. Atmospheric pollution may also be contributing to changes in species composition with particular regard to the spread of Tor grass. There has been some research that indicated nitrogen oxide from the burning of fossil fuels is a contributing factor in the increase.

The climate is predicted to change dramatically over the next 50 - 100 years. It is thought that South East England will see warmer weather, with hotter summers and winters less severe. These changes and change in precipitation will mean the loss of cold loving species and a gradual shift in habitat north. Monitoring systems will help to recognise these changes and enable changes in management techniques.

Typicalness

The rough semi-improved calcareous grassland, secondary woodland and associated scrub is typical of the Upper Chalk in this region. However, for a Golf Course, the importance of the rough areas are not. The presence of rare chalk plants and the SSSI quality of the grassland for invertebrates is very special.

Position in an Ecological Unit

In a local context the site is set in a large open area. Nationally it is within the North Downs Natural Character Area, which supports nationally significant calcareous grassland. It also forms part of Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area, which links Epsom and Walton Downs to the South and Nonsuch Park in the North via Epsom Downs Golf Course, farmland and Priest Hill and Howell Hill Surrey Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves. Links should be sought to connect these important areas to deliver landscape scale protection of biodiversity. The Golf Course is situated on the edge of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Natural England is currently (2021) reviewing the boundary of all AONBs. Any opportunities for all or part of the Epsom and Walton Downs, including the Golf Course to be considered for inclusion should be taken. Locally it forms an important part or the Borough's Green Infrastructure.

Potential Value

Epsom Downs Golf Course is still an important and valuable site for biodiversity. There are extensive areas of good quality chalk grassland with associated plants. However, the value of the site is reduced due to a number of factors. One is the change of species rich chalk grassland to species poor neutral grassland due nutrient enrichment. Another is the loss of areas of grassland to scrub and woodland encroachment. The previous management plan set a number of management recommendation aimed at preventing this loss. However, not all have been carried out. A very important recommendation relates to the method of grass cutting. This is the need for the removal of the arisings produced by the cutting of grasslands, this is vital for the long-term maintenance of the chalk grassland. There are a number of areas of encroachment on to the grassland. One of the most important areas is the clearance of scrub around the former Second World War bunker. This area was one of the most valuable areas of chalk grassland and has gradually been reduced to the point that almost none of the grassland remains.

There are 12 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the Downs Natural Area of Surrey, 9 of which have a chalk grassland component which go some way to protecting the chalk grassland resource of Surrey. However, important areas exist outside the SSSI's, which have potential for

enhancement, including Epsom Golf Course, Juniper Hill and Walton Downs Grassland. In past management plans, it has been noted that Juniper Hill is worthy of SSSI status but its size and fragmentation would prevent it from becoming one. There is potential to look at the Woodland and Grassland component of Epsom and Walton Downs along with Epsom Downs Golf Course and potentially combined, they could be put forward to be considered for SSSI status.

Intrinsic Appeal

The site is highly valued as an important and well-used recreational facility where people can take part in a range of activities such as playing golf, walking, dog walking, horse riding or just sit and enjoy the magnificent views.

Factors Affecting Management

Under-resourced nature conservation management is the major factor influencing the vegetation changes over the Golf Course and Epsom & Walton Downs, allowing scrub encroachment onto important unimproved calcareous grassland.

Financial resources will also affect any management, as the proposed habitat management will incur costs. The continued work on the scrapes and Small Blue habitat within the WW2 Bunker area and between tee 7 and 15 is essential and therefore continued annual financial support for the Lower Mole Partnership and its volunteers by EEBC is essential. Using outside contractors for larger parts of the management must also be considered. Better use of volunteers could offer a way of managing the site generally. Nearby sites such as Epsom Common and Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserves use regular volunteer input, which is a vital tool in managing their habitats. It is suggested to consult with Lower Mole Countryside Partnership, Epsom and Ewell Countryside Team, Butterfly Conservation and Woodland Trust to see if they can offer help in setting up an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group. Current members of the Golf Club could be interested in becoming part of a new volunteer team. Using outside contractors for larger parts of the management must also be considered.

2.2 Identification/Confirmation of Important Features

Site Features	National Importance	Regional Importance	Local Importance
1. Habitats			
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland			*
Veteran/mature trees			*
Grasslands		*	
Scrub			*

Site Features	National Importance	Regional Importance	Local Importance
2. Species groups **Plants –** Chalk Eyebright and Juniper are NERC species. Bastard Toadflax, Round Headed Rampion and Chalk Eyebright are nationally scarce. Kidney vetch is the foodplant for the Small Blue Butterfly. **Invertebrate general assemblage** – includes notable species, Red Data Book species, chalk specialists and two NERC butterfly species (Small Blue and	 *		 *
3. Culture and amenity Public recreation Educational opportunities Historical, landscape and cultural features	 *	 *	 *

2.3 Ideal Long-term Management Objectives for Nature Conservation

- Enhance the biodiversity of the site as a whole, including better links between habitats.
- Manage grassland outside the fairways for nature conservation and to encourage diversity associated with the chalk grassland.
- Manage the woodlands for both nature conservation and access (where not harmful to wildlife), enhancing biodiversity where possible by creating a diverse age and structure.
- Retain where possible a variety of decaying wood in the woodlands and encourage wood decay to enhance overall biodiversity.
- Manage the scrub for nature conservation by creating age structure and controlling dominance over other habitats.
- Control undesirable species of plants to maintain and enhance biodiversity of site.
- Continue the collection of records for the site by commissioning a variety of ecological surveys. Share information with local record centre.
- Encourage grounds maintenance contractors to undertake good management practice to assist nature conservation. Increase awareness of the biodiversity value of the site.
- Encourage and support local wildlife groups and conservation volunteers. Identify and prioritise staff time to support a regular group.
- Promote and support the work carried out by volunteers, particularly the Lower Mole Partnership.
- Interpret the site's biodiversity and historical importance to the public.
- Continue to work with all stakeholders
- Investigate possibilities for further designations such as Local Nature Reserve or Site of Special Scientific Interest or inclusion within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Cowslips along Grandstand Road

2.4 Rationale

The tables below contain information on all the habitat management compartments, with a description of the current habitat status, current management regime, and future management prescriptions. The compartment numbers correspond to those found on Map 1, the Habitat and Compartment map. Some of the descriptions have not changed since the last management plan written by Peter Howarth, c2014 which were very thorough and remain accurate, so these have been used again and added to where appropriate. The species listed use scientific and common names, along with the abundance in some circumstances, using the DAFOR system. This is a way of describing the abundance of a plant and uses the following key: Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional, Rare.

2.4.1 Grassland

General principles:

- The following principles relate to the 'rough' grassland only, not the fairways, which are managed for playing golf. Although it should be noted that although large areas of the close mown grassland of green and fairways show the influence of improvement due to fertilizer and herbicide, some areas still contain interesting plants including Wild Thyme, Crested Hair-grass, and Squinancywort.
- The overall aim is to create a structured, diverse and spatially varied mosaic of habitats. Whilst a mosaic of different grassland types is important with some being allowed to be encroached by scrub, this should not be the general practice as the chalk grassland found on Epsom Downs is an important habitat in Surrey and supports important assemblages of invertebrates and birds. Where scrub has established it is very difficult to restore it back to good quality grassland. The scrub enriches the soil and once it has been cleared again it often leaves bare patches of ground ready to be colonised by coarse grassland species and weed species such as Common Nettle.
- Grazing is often the best management option and potentially could be considered in the area around the scrapes near the 7th Tee, in years to come. Another option is to cut the grasslands mechanically but crucially, the grasslands should be cut and the arisings cleared. The build-up of thatch adds unwanted nutrients to the soil, resulting in the reduction of wildflowers and finer grasses and promotes coarser grasses and scrub. The build-up of thatch also damages the structure of the grassland. Seeds fail to reach the soil and germinate. Opportunities for the creation of patches of bare earth, beneficial for seed germination and burrowing invertebrates, is reduced.
- Removing the arisings can be done by cutting the grass using a flail collector and the arisings taken away off site, or piles created at the margins of the grassland, importantly not underneath the base of veteran trees. This can cause a build-up of nitrogen as the grass rots and could cause issues for older trees.
- Alternatively and particularly in smaller areas, those which may have anthills and are more sensitive to heavy machinery, grassland can be cut and cleared using a brushcutter and raked off by hand. This can be done by a combination of volunteer groups and staff.
- For optimal biodiversity benefit, grasslands that are being cut should be done so during late summer/early autumn. It is important for the continuity of the flora that the cut is at the same time each year.
- Not all the grassland should be cut every year. Invertebrates that lay their eggs on grass, for example the Marbled White and Meadow Brown butterflies, need to complete their life cycle. Once the grass is cut, their eggs are lost. Small mammals also need longer grass for food and for cover and protection from predators. The invertebrates and mammals then provide a food source for birds and so on.
- A good way of managing an area of grassland on rotation is to cut one half each year. The halves should be rotated around the face of a clock. For example, if the left vertical half is cut one year,

the next year the top horizontal half should be cut, then the right vertical and then the lower horizontal and so on.

- By managing the grassland in this way, any invertebrates and mammals will be able to retreat into the uncut half and recolonise the cut area when suitable.
- The pattern of cut should avoid a spiral into the centre of the field as this drives mammals and birds into the middle. Instead cut in an up and down pattern to ensure their escape.
- Tor Grass is a problem in some areas of the grassland. It is a rougher, more vigorous grass and can take over an area, smothering out other plants. The Tor Grass patches should be cut regularly, with arisings removed, to mimic grazing pressure. If the Tor Grass is kept at 7cm, this will make it more palatable to rabbits as well. Planting of Yellow Rattle within Tor Grass dominated areas could also help. Continued management should weaken the grass and enable other plants to compete.
- Avoid mowing under the tree canopy of any parkland trees, as it can be counterproductive. It removes valuable cover, increases surface vegetation transpiration rates, thus depriving trees of moisture and often results in bark damage to trees. It is also important to avoid damaging the base of tree trunks as this may encourage fungal infections.
- Aim to leave 2-5m wide circumference around individual trees and 2-5m wide margin around copses and woodland edges. Scrub will need to be controlled within these margins.
- Invasive non-native plants should be removed. Canadian Goldenrod needs to be controlled while it is still in manageable quantities. Hand pulling is the best way to get rid of it, particularly as it is currently in low numbers. Cutting does weaken the plant but it tends to come back stronger the next year.
- If any areas of the rough within the Golf Course needs to be reseeded and it is not appropriate to wait for vegetation to develop naturally, only native(ideally locally sourced) chalk grassland seed mixes should be used.

Chalk Grassland

WW2 Bunker (1)

Description –

Top of Bunker

This area has been managed in the past as open chalk grassland and scrub mosaic. However, it is now very scrubbed over with frequent Dogwood, Hawthorn, Silver Birch, Bramble and occasional Wild Privet, young Ash with rare Sycamore. Holly is locally frequent on the North West edge and Dog Rose becomes locally abundant further north in this area. The remnant chalk grassland is very overgrown and shaded although Red Fescue and Quaking Grass are occasional along with herbs such as Common Knapweed, Common Rockrose, Agrimony, Dropwort, Wild Basil, Wild Raspberry, Bryony, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Bladder Campion, Salad Burnet and rare Rough Hawkbit and Common Spotted Orchid.

Hollow of Bunker

This is the site of an old bunker dating from World War 2. It has in the past been successfully managed by the Lower Mole Countryside Project. However, with the lack of on-going management (and lack of funding/labour), the open chalk grassland has become very overgrown with scrub; only a very small area of remnant chalk grassland remains. Hawthorn has overgrown the path from the fairway into the bunker and it is easily missed. Also encroaching is Silver Birch, young Ash, Wayfaring tree and Wild Privet. Bramble is abundant and there is also the non-native cotoneaster present. However, where it is still open enough for some chalk grassland it does give an idea of how diverse it could be with some appropriate management. Taller vegetation includes occasional Red Fescue, Common Ragwort, Common Knapweed, Dropwort, Wild Mignonette and Greater Knapweed. Shorter vegetation includes rare Common Restharrow, Salad Burnet, Kidney Vetch, Small Scabious, Perforate St John's-wort, Red Clover, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Quaking

grass, Fairy Flax, Common Rockrose, Squinancywort, Glaucous Sedge, Yellow-wort, Round Headed Rampion, Burnet Saxifrage, Eyebright, Common Spotted Orchid, Chalk Milkwort and Dwarf Thistle. Canadian Goldenrod is also present in low quantities. The bryophytes included *Homalothecium sericeum*, Comb-moss (*Ctenidium molluscum*), Endive Pellia (*Pellia endiviifolia*), Top Notchwort (*Leiocolea turbinata*), Curly Crisp-moss (*Trichostomum crispulum*) and Variable Forklet-moss (*Dicranella varia*). Canadian Goldenrod is present which needs to be removed.

Comments on past management - In the late 90s/early 00s LMP cleared the scrub from this south east facing chalk slope to encourage the chalk downland flora, which included orchid species. With the support of Butterfly Conservation, LMP also created a butterfly flight path through to the 1st fairway where a chalk bank supported downland flora. Despite stump treatment and follow up cutting of scrub regeneration, there was little annual maintenance and the area had scrubbed up again.

In March 2017 and 2018, LMP volunteers returned and cleared a central glade initially, where a past fire site had been located. All the scrub and trees – hawthorn/privet/rose scrub and sycamore/birch standards with some ash and willow were felled to open up the whole slope. The regenerated scrub on the top of the slope was brushcut and the stumps treated. All the stumps were taken down by chainsaw and many of these were also treated. The butterfly flight path through to the 1st fairway was opened up again.

Future management – Inevitably this area has scrubbed over again as no regular maintenance is happening in this area. The area needs to be cleared of scrub and trees once more, along with a 2-3m wide ride linking it to the 1st Fairway and an annual task implemented to keep it open. The scrub/grass arisings will need to be burnt or piled up around the edges. Once the scrub is under control, the amount of arisings will be much reduced and hopefully the need for fires will be limited. Canadian Goldenrod should be removed by hand pulling. Ask advice from local volunteer groups how to set up a new group which could focus on keeping these areas open and free of scrub.

Once the area is under control and regularly maintained, scrapes could be created to aid in the establishment of Kidney Vetch and support for another meta population of the Small Blue butterfly. The shelter provide in this area would provide a microclimate not present anywhere else on the course.

WW2 Bunker grass margin (2)

Description - Close mown sloping calcareous grassland, rare Round Headed Rampion, occasional Common Rock Rose, occasional Wild Thyme and occasional Quaking Grass, Salad Burnet Rough Hawkbit, rare Fairy Flax, Burnet Saxifrage, Crested Hairgrass, Small Scabious and Squinancywort, locally abundant Sheep's Fescue. This area was previously described as wide rough is on a slight bank east of the bunker area and denoted by a fine population of Round-headed Rampion (30+) as well as occasional Small Scabious, Burnet Saxifrage, Salad Burnet, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Red Clover, Common Knapweed, Glaucous Sedge, rare Harebell, Common Rockrose and Dwarf Thistle. The change has occurred due to the realigning of the tee for the eighteenth hole and the area is no longer being managed as a rough.

Comments on past management – This area is cut as and when necessary by the Golf Club to maintain it as part of the rough margin to the 18th Fairway.

Future management – This area of rough should be cut and cleared once a year in late September/October. This will ensure scrub does not encroach into the grassland.

Burgh Heath Road Margin South and North (3 and 4)

Description - The grassland margin along the road and the fifteenth hole is a diverse grassland, particularly in the south, with a good population of the Round-headed Rampion. In the 2014 survey a large population of the national scarce Bastard Toadflax has been found. This occurs in

one small area at Juniper Hill but has never been recorded on the Golf Course before. In addition, there is occasional/rare Ladies Bedstraw, Common Knapweed, Wild Parsnip, Yarrow, Harebell, Burnet Saxifrage, Sainfoin, Dwarf Thistle, Fairy Flax, Wild Thyme, Common Milkwort, Horseshoe Vetch, Eyebright, Quaking grass, Small Scabious, Autumn Gentian, Round Headed Rampion, Rest Harrow, Squinanacywort, Salad Burnet, Upright Brome, Quaking Grass and Kidney Vetch. Common Spotted Orchid has also been recorded here. The western end of this area is the most diverse. As you move west, there are trees/bushes dotted within.
Comments on past management – The area is cut annually in September and may receive an early spring cut as well. The road bank is cut with a side arm every 6 weeks to ensure good visibility for road users.
Future management – From a biodiversity point of view, this area only needs to be cut and cleared once a year in late September/October. If it is to have an early cut in spring, arisings should also be cleared. Care needs to be taken that the trees/bushes do not take over this area. Half should be removed and allowed to grown back, then remove the other half, subsequently managing on rotation. The road bank management should continue.

15th Tee Rough (5)
Description - Semi-improved calcareous grassland. The central area of this grassland has a lower sward height which becomes more rank and scrub encroached at the edges. The species found here include occasional Upright Brome, Red Fescue, Quaking Grass, Lady's Bedstraw, small patch of Horseshoe Vetch, Salad Burnet, rare Greater Knapweed, extensive patches of Restharrow, Kidney Vetch, Common Rockrose, Crested Hair-grass, Ox-eye Daisy, Bladder Campion. There is some encroachment of Hawthorn, Ivy and non-native Cotoneaster and Canadian Goldenrod. The butterflies seen here are include Marbled White, Green Hairstreak and Small Blue.
Comments on past management – The grass is cut either side of the paths.
Future management – Control scrub encroachment and remove Cotoneaster and Canadian Goldenrod. There is a large patch of bramble to the south of the raised tee which needs to be removed. Prevent encroachment from the trees/scrub which run along the edge of Burgh Heath Road. The grass in this area should be cut and cleared annually in late September/October.

15th Fairway Rough (6)
Description - Rough grassland area next to a fairway similar to Burgh Heath Road Margin South described above, although no Bastard Toadflax here but large amount Round Headed Rampion and there are some scattered Pedunculate Oaks and old Hawthorns.
Comments on past management – The Golf Course manages this area as and when necessary to maintain it as a rough margin to the 15th and 14th Fairways. Due to the nature of Chalk Grassland, little management is needed for this aim.
Future management – Care needs to be taken that scrub does not encroach. This rough margin should be cut and cleared annually, in late September/October.

14th Tee Rough (7)
Description – This area is considered chalk grassland and is similar to that found within 15th Fairway Rough.
Comments on past management - The Golf Course manages this area as and when necessary to maintain it as a rough margin to the 14th Fairway. Due to the nature of Chalk Grassland, little management is needed for this aim.
Future management - This rough margin should be cut and cleared annually, in late September/October. Remove all scrub and restore to chalk grassland.

5th and 6th Fairway Rough (8 and 9)
Description - Similar to species described in the 15th but less diverse. False-oat grass is abundant with Red Fescue. Both Greater and Common Knapweeds are present with occasional Dropwort, Dandelion, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Kidney Vetch, Small Scabious and rare Common Restharrow.
Comments on past management – Again, the Golf Course manages this area as and when necessary to maintain it as a rough margin to the Fairways. Due to the nature of Chalk Grassland, little management is needed for this aim.
Future management - Care needs to be taken that scrub does not encroach. These rough margins should be cut and cleared annually, in late September/October. These areas are used for car parking for the Derby. Investigate the possibility of limiting or stopping their use for this purpose.

Downs Road Grassland (10)
Description – A bund has been created along the edge of the track to prevent unauthorised access to vehicles on to the golf club. This has exposed bare chalk and has effectively created a linear scrape which will develop naturally. The rest of the grassland area has an interesting mix of chalk grassland species including Kidney Vetch and the rare Knapweed Broomrape.
Comments on past management – This area is managed by the Golf course as and when necessary to maintain it as a rough margin to the Fairways. Due to the nature of Chalk Grassland, little management is needed for this aim.
Future management – The grassland should be cut and cleared annually, in late September/October. Care should be taken to prevent any scrub encroachment.

Downs Road Grassland Margin (11)
Description – This margin is species rich with chalk grassland plants and is very good for Kidney Vetch. Other herbs present include Wild Marjoram and Wild Basil. The small area of grassland nearest the road has a number of pyramidal orchids. Bee orchids have also been seen to grow along this margin.
Comments on past management – The grass immediately adjacent to the track is mown regularly to maintain access.
Future management – The scrub encroachment needs to be halted and pushed back by at least 10m. The grassland itself should be cut and cleared annually, in late September/October.

5th Hole Rough (12)
Description – The grassland becomes more diverse and interesting further away from the car park edge to the west, where occasional Upright Brome and Soft Brome join Red Fescue Dropwort is frequent along with occasional Wild Parsnip, Greater Knapweed and locally abundant Ladies Bedstraw and Red Clover. On the bund by Grandstand Road edge, it is slightly longer with similar species mentioned above as well as Common Ragwort, Creeping Thistle, Wild Carrot, Mouse-ear Hawkweed, Wild Mignonette, Lucerne, Greater Knapweed, and Small Scabious. Common Restharrow and Kidney Vetch were also present.
Comments on past management – Generally this area is managed as a rough margin to the 5th Fairway but due to the pandemic and in an attempt to control visitors not to wander across the fairways, a large wide path has been mown from the view point car park towards Downs Road.
Future management – Due to the importance of the flora here, this path should either stop being mowed or narrowed considerably to just 1-2m. The remaining grassland should be cut and cleared annually in late September/October.

Grandstand Road South Margin (13)
Description – This Grassland rough area is very variable with some areas of mesotrophic grassland with dominated by Red Fescue as well as occasional Common Bent, Timothy and Perennial Rye grass with Common Knapweed, Ladies Bedstraw and rare Harebell, Burnet Saxifrage, Wild Mignonette, Small Scabious, Greater Knapweed and Dwarf Thistle. In some areas there is greater calcareous influence with areas of more frequent Upright Brome and Kidney vetch and smaller areas with Crested Hair-grass and Pyramidal Orchid occurring. During April/May there is a very good population of Cowslips all along this margin.
Comments on past management – This area is managed by EEBC. The road bank is cut with a side arm every 6 weeks along with the edges to the car parks to ensure good visibility for road users and when exiting the car parks along Grandstand Road. The top of the bank between the road and the footpath/hack ride is cut once in late September/October.
Future management – The above should continue but crucially, the grassland on the top of the bank should be cut and cleared and any scrub controlled.

11th Hole and Fairway Rough (14 and 15)
Description – This Grassland rough area is very variable with some areas of mesotrophic grassland dominated by Red Fescue as well as occasional Common Bent, Timothy and Perennial Rye grass with Common Knapweed, Ladies Bedstraw and rare Harebell, Burnet Saxifrage, Wild Mignonette, Small Scabious, Greater Knapweed and Dwarf Thistle. In some areas there is greater calcareous influence with areas of more frequent Upright Brome and Kidney vetch and smaller areas with Crested Hair-grass and Pyramidal Orchid occurring.
Comments on past management – The Golf Course manage this as and when necessary to maintain it as a rough margin to the fairway.
Future management – This should be cut and cleared in late September/October. Care should be taken to prevent any scrub encroachment.

10th Fairway Rough (16)
Description – There is frequent False Oat-grass, Rough Meadow grass and rare Meadow Foxtail with occasional Common Ragwort, Common Knapweed, Ribwort Plantain, Perforate St John's-wort, Wild Carrot, Quaking grass, Ladies Bedstraw, Salad Burnet, Field Wood-rush, Small Scabious and Kidney Vetch.
Comments on past management – The Golf Course manage this as and when necessary to maintain it as a rough margin to the fairway.
Future management – This should be cut and cleared in late September/October. Care should be taken to prevent any scrub encroachment.

Old London Road West (17)
Description – Although not technically Chalk Grassland it is such a flower rich margin and full of Kidney Vetch, it is included in the chalk grassland section as it should be managed as such. There is a mixture of grasses present along with Common Restharrow, Common Knapweed, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Dropwort and Small Scabious.
Comments on past management –This area is managed by EEBC and is cut every 3 weeks until the end of April. It is then left uncut until the end of September. The road bank is cut with a side arm every 6 weeks to ensure good visibility for road users.
Future management – The current management should continue with the addition of clearing away the arisings.

The 'Rough' Grassland Surrounding the Fairways

Description - The remaining areas of Rough surrounding the Fairways are not technically Chalk Grassland but they still contain a good mix of chalk grassland plants creating an important habitat which provides a good diverse grass and flower resource. These areas are the responsibility of the Golf Course and they all have the potential to reach the criteria needed to be designated as Chalk Grassland.

Comments on past management – The Golf Course manage them as and when necessary to maintain them as a rough margin to the fairways.

Future management - As with all the Chalk Grassland above, the roughs need to be managed by cutting and clearing in late September/October with any scrub encroachment controlled. In the last management plan, it makes reference to an agronomist report, which highlights the problem of thatch build up which had led to a decrease in diversity and creating a potential fire risk. It states a key aim for there to be an annual cut/scarify of the rough which would prevent it becoming too dense and enhance the wildflower diversity. Due to chalk soil naturally being quite nutrient poor, scrub encroachment is not quite the threat it could be. It would be possible to cut and clear half a Fairway's rough in alternate years. For example, if standing at the tee and looking towards the hole, all the rough on the right-hand side up to and behind the hole could be cut in even years and the left side in odd years. This will allow longer grass to remain around the golf course providing another important habitat but also controlling any scrub problems.

However, as this form of management is long overdue, it may be necessary to cut and clear all the rough for the first few years and once scrub/thatch is under control, then start managing on rotation.

The compartment numbers for these areas working from North to South, are as follows:

Compartment Number	Compartment Name	Comments/Key species to note
18	18th Fairway Rough	
19	17th Fairway Rough	
20	16th Fairway Rough	Scrub is already an issue here and needs to be controlled.
21	1st Fairway Rough	
22	2nd Fairway Rough	This rough is particularly species rich. The shorter grassland to the north of the 2nd fairway is represented by occasional Salad Burnet, Yellow Rockrose, Small Scabious, Red Clover and rare Round-headed Rampion, Fairy Flax, Burnet Saxifrage, Dwarf Thistle, Squinancywort and Kidney Vetch.
23	4th Fairway Rough	
24	Longdown Lane South Margin	Primroses seen in April. Young trees are developing in this area and need to be removed.
25	3rd Fairway Rough	
26	14th Fairway Rough	
27	7th Fairway Rough	
28	12th Fairway Rough	
29	10/11th Fairway Rough	
30	10th Hole Rough	
31	9th Fairway Rough	This grassland has obvious calcareous influences and has a low sward height. There is a good mix of flowers and finer grasses such as

		Common Bent, Common Knapweed, Yarrow and Smaller Cat's Tail. There is good potential with this area.
32	Tattenham Corner Road Golf Course Margin	Cowslips are found at the Grandstand end.

Remaining grassland managed by Epsom & Ewell Borough Council (EEBC)

Longdown Lane South Hack Ride (33)

Description – There is a good population of Kidney Vetch along this path. It seems to like a little bit of disturbance. NB there is a patch of Canadian Goldenrod opposite Bunbury Way which needs to be removed while still a relatively small patch.

Comments on past management – The path edges are cut if needed but usually kept open by footfall.

Future management – If cutting the margins is needed it should happen before June and then only after the Kidney Vetch has finished flowering in September.

Rifle Butts Alley Grassland (34)

Description – This is an area of grassland with a tall sward and calcareous influence, which declines towards the road. False Oat-grass, Red Fescue, Cocksfoot, Yorkshire Fog, Sterile Brome and Smaller Cat's-tail, Common Clover, Hogweed, Creeping Thistle, Ribwort Plantain and Horseradish, Salad Burnet, Restharrow, Agrimony, Quaking Grass, Majoram, Wild Carrot, Common Knapweed, Flattened Meadow Grass and Upright Brome. Michaelmas Daisy and Early Goldenrod have been recorded here.

Comments on past management – The grassland here is cut once a year in late September/October.

Future management – This grassland is dissected by the main path. Depending on scrub regrowth, it would be possible to cut one side of the path one year and the other side the next and alternate each year. Crucially, the arisings must be cleared. If this is not possible, continue to cut annually. The timing of the cut should continue to be late September/October. Remove Michaelmas Daisy and Early Goldenrod.

Grandstand Road North Margin (35)

Description – The grassland here is coarser tending to more neutral either as a result of slightly different soils or long term improvement from nutrient enrichment. In amongst the tall Upright Brome, Yorkshire-fog, Timothy, Tor grass and False-oat grass are Creeping Thistle, Common Ragwort, Common Knapweed, White Clover, Upright Hedge Parsley, Wild Carrot, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Wild Parsnip and Greater Knapweed. It has more calcareous influence the further you go towards margin d and Buckles Gap Roundabout. Red Fescue and Soft Brome are frequent with occasional Timothy, Yorkshire-fog, and rare Upright Brome. The herbaceous cover is variable with frequent Red Clover and Salad Burnet and occasional Common Knapweed, Red Bartsia, Ladies Bedstraw, Yarrow, Ribwort Plantain, Salad Burnet, Wild Mignonette, Small Scabious, Kidney Vetch, Perforate St John's-wort, Wild Carrot, and Common Ragwort. Yellow Toadflax is locally frequent. In April/May there is a fantastic display of Cowslips all along these margins.

Comments on past management – The road bank is cut with a side arm every 6 weeks along with the edges to the car parks to ensure good visibility for road users and when exiting the car parks along Grandstand Road. The top of the bank between the road and the footpath/hack ride is cut once in late September/October.

Future management – Current management should continue but crucially the grassland between the road and the path/hack ride should be cut and cleared. The timing of cutting should continue to take place in late September/October.

Grandstand Road North Car Park Grassland (36)

Description – This is an area of close grass which is regularly cut.

Comments on past management – This grassland used to be kept long but to manage visitors it is not cut regularly as an area people can use to picnic.

Future management – Continue to cut regularly, every 4-6 weeks. Ensure a margin is left between this grassland and the 14th Fairway to maintain the rough. The rough in this area is floristically very interesting so must be maintained. Maintain the bund around the car park to restrict unauthorised vehicular access.

Grandstand Road Grassland (37)

Description – The tall grassland comprises abundant False-oat grass, occasional Rough Meadow-grass, Cock's-foot, Yorkshire-fog, Timothy, Upright Brome with common herbs such as Cleavers, Hogweed, Herb Bennett, Creeping Thistle, Herb Robert, Common Knapweed, Rosebay Willowherb, Wild Carrot, Common Nettle, and rare Salad Burnet, Wild Basil, Lucerne, Black Medick, Perforate St John's-wort, Bladder Campion, Goat's Beard, Small Scabious and Wild Mignonette. Ground-elder and Wild Parsnip are locally abundant. Kidney Vetch and Wild Marjoram are present in locally abundant patches. Along the track there is shorter vegetation such as Silverweed, Common Restharrow, Yarrow, Common Bird's-foot and Common Vetch. Due to this area being more undisturbed, when assessing the habitat as part of writing the management plan, it was full of invertebrate life, such as Grasshoppers, Crickets and Butterflies.

Comments on past management – This area is cut once a year in late Sept/October.

Future management – The grassland here is very important as a refuge for invertebrates to complete their lifecycle and for small mammals and reptiles. The grassland here should be managed with this in mind. It is important the grassland here remains and does not get overtaken by the surrounding scrub. The grassland should be cut and cleared on rotation with 50% cut each year in late September/October.

Viewpoint Grassland (38)

Description – The grassland around the car park area here predominantly contains common grassland species and is less diverse than other rough areas. This will be because of the nutrient enrichment from visitors and dogs. However there are some chalk grassland species that are present in small quantities. Perennial Rye-grass is co-dominant with Red Fescue, frequent Cock's-foot and occasional Timothy. Herbs include frequent Yarrow, White Clover, occasional Wild Mignonette, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Common Knapweed and locally frequently Small Scabious.

Comments on past management – This area is cut regularly every 4-6 weeks.

Future management – Current management should continue, which will assist in keeping visitors from straying on to the golf course. The Rough margin to the 5th Fairway must be maintained.

Downs Road Margin (39)

Description – This area is tucked behind the 6th tee and the grassland here is left longer. It is not as diverse as other areas, but does have a good potential for invertebrates, particularly because there is a small amount of Hawthorn scrub here as well. The grasses here include abundant Yorkshire-fog, frequent False-oat grass, Soft Brome, Cock's-foot and occasional Rough Meadow-grass. There is a distinct lack range of herbs here except for occasional Common Knapweed, Ladies Bedstraw, Broad-leaved Dock and Perforate St Johns's-wort

Comments on past management – This margin is cut annually in Late September/October. The road bank is cut with a side arm every 6 weeks to ensure good visibility for road users.
Future management – Current management should continue but ideally the grass arisings should be cleared. Scrub encroachment need to be kept under control.

Tattenham Corner Road Margin (40)
Description – This area of grassland is kept short and mown regularly. Cowslips are present at the Grandstand end.
Comments on past management – The grass is cut ideally every 3 weeks, dependant on weather conditions and events, ensuring the rough margins are left around the Fairways.
Future management – Current management should continue.

Police car park for Derby (41)
Description – This area of grassland contains a good mix of finer grasses and shows some calcareous influences much like the 9th Fairway rough. However, it is less diverse due to the management needed for car parking during Derby week.
Comments on past management – This area of grassland is cut every 3 weeks until the end of April and again before the Derby. It is then left uncut until late September/October.
Future management – Current management should continue but ideally cut and cleared.

Old London Road Margin (42)
Description – This area of grassland contains a good mix of finer grasses and shows some calcareous influences , particularly as you make your way north. The frequency of Kidney Vetch and other chalk grassland flowers continues to increase.
Comments on past management – This area of grassland is cut every 3 weeks until the end of April and then left uncut until late September/October.
Future management – Current management should continue but ideally cut and cleared, particularly towards the northern end as this is far more diverse.

Old London Road East Grassland North (43) **Old London Road East Grassland South (44)** **Tea Hut Grassland (45)**
Description – These areas of grassland are used for public amenity.
Comments on past management – The grassland is cut every 3 weeks dependant on weather conditions. The road bank is cut with a side arm every 6 weeks to ensure good visibility for road users.
Future management – Current management should continue.

Considerations needed to set up cutting and clearing regime

- Machinery – Currently the Golf Course and Epsom & Ewell Borough Council (EEBC) do not own a cut and clear machine. EEBC are currently investigating the possibility of purchasing one which will solve this issue. If this does not happen however, it advised that research goes in to whether grants are available to purchase essential equipment. The Racecourse do own a cut and clear machine, who could be asked if they would consider lending it out when they do not need it for race days.
  Smaller areas of grassland could be cut by volunteers using brushcutters and raked away by hand.
- Space for arisings – Areas close to scrub and woodland can use these margins to pile the grass arisings. The grass breaks down quite quickly and provides good habitat for invertebrates,

mammals and reptiles. There may be areas however where this is not possible or there is just too much grass to hide. In these instances, ideally the grass would be collected and taken off site. If this is not possible, then the grassland should still be cut to ensure scrub does not encroach. It may be that the grassland compartments will have to take it in turn to be cut and cleared.

2.4.2 Mixed Deciduous Woodland

General principles

- The overall aim is to create a more diverse woodland structure both in terms of its vertical structure and in terms of age. A woodland should have a canopy (taller trees), understorey (smaller trees/shrubs, which can grow in shadier conditions), field layer (flowers, grasses) and ground layer (mostly mosses). It should also contain plants of different ages, as animals need woodland in all its successional stages. Management should seek to maintain a continuous supply of young growth and protect and enhance mature features such as veteran trees and decaying wood. This can be achieved by opening up the woodland in targeted locations by coppicing or thinning, creating glades, creating rides, managing ride edges and the perimeter edge of the woodland, or by halo releasing mature specimens.
- Suitable trees should be selected to become the next veterans.
- Ivy growing on trees is a very important part of the woodland ecosystem. The foliage, flowers and berries provide food, the stems and evergreen foliage are used for hibernating insects as well as bats and other wildlife and this outweighs any damage it may do to the tree.
- Avoid damage to wood banks & other historical features.
- Woodland operations should adhere to the UK Forestry Standard and only $5m^3$ can be felled in any one calendar quarter unless a felling license is agreed with the Forestry Commission.

Decaying Wood

- Decaying wood is an extremely important habitat type within a woodland ecosystem, and yet is often the most overlooked. It allows much-needed nutrients back into the soil through decomposition. Lying wood decomposes from the outside in and dead standing wood decays from the inside out and both provide considerable opportunities for saproxylic (deadwood) invertebrate specialists and other wildlife. A combination of lying and standing decaying wood should be retained. Public safety needs to be considered of course so standing dead wood should be kept away from footpaths.
- During thinning operations, dangerous trees posing health and safety risks will have to be cut down. However, if safe to do so, tree surgeons should be asked to monolith some trees in the thinning programme by cutting off the branches and leaving the trunk upright. Ideally, they should be broken or cut jaggedly to mimic a natural break. Artificial bat hibernaculums could be cut into the trunk as well. If this is not possible then the trunk should be cut down and left on the ground in situ. The bigger the better as the trunks are buffered from drying out and the greater the number of organisms it will support. If this proves impracticable then the branches and trunk should be cut and stacked into habitat piles to rot down.
- Tree protection zones should be considered to keep the public away from an area where a tree might fall to allow it to die naturally.
- Tight as well as loose habitat piles provide different conditions. Leave the logs as large as possible to deter vandals moving them or setting fire to them or wire them together with steel wire. If possible, some of the log habitat piles should be put just under the ground and the turf replaced, which will provide habitat for invertebrates such as stag beetles. Covering log piles with woodchip resulting from woodland work can also create this habitat.
- Ring barking (deep and wide) can be considered as part of thinning works, to provide additional decaying wood. Any actions should first be fully assessed for health and safety implications. Tree

surgeons could also be asked to make holes in live standing trees to initiate rot and drill holes in forks and crowns to increase water retention.
- Root plate and stumps from fallen trees should be retained for solitary bees and wasps and other invertebrates, unless it constitutes a safety hazard.

Woodland edge creation/management
- Woodland edge is an extremely important part of a woodland ecosystem. A gradation of habitat between short to longer grass, to scrub, to woodland is very important, particularly for birds and invertebrates.
- This can be achieved on Epsom Downs Golf Course by pushing back the edge of a woodland by 10-20 metres (either from the outer perimeter of the woodland or along paths and tracks within the woodland) and managing the regrowth on rotation. Do not allow it to grow back to the height it was and encourage/plant species such as Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Dogwood, Guelder Rose, Field Maple, Privet etc.
- Woodland edge should be managed by scalloping to create a wavy, longer edge, in roughly 10-20 m sections, up to 10m deep. Alternate sections should be cut. Once these sections have grown back (5-10yrs), the adjacent, non-cut sections can then be cut. This ensures a good age structure.
- Having a variety of age classes will result in supporting the greatest variety of wildlife.
- Habitat piles should be created as mentioned above or should be disposed of by burning or chipping. Due to the urban nature of the site, any fires used to dispose of vegetation should be taped off clearly to warn members of the public.

Minimum Intervention
- Allowing a woodland to develop naturally and be subject to natural processes is also important to allow within a site. Having a variety of management adds to the variety of habitats a site can support and in turn, the variety of wildlife. For example, some of the rare woodland bats prefer a woodland that is dense with less glades/rides etc.
- Minimum intervention concentrates on tree safety works and removal of non-natives.

Non-native/Invasive species
- Non-native species should be removed and treated to prevent them growing back. Sycamore should be kept as part of the woodland composition, particularly due to the threat Ash Die Back poses to the composition of our woodland (see Threats below).

Timing of work
- Woodland work is best carried out during November to February, when the trees are dormant and to avoid the bird-nesting season (March to August) and unsuitable times for bats and other important wildlife. If ground conditions are an issue and would result in damage to paths, woodland work can start in September but no earlier to avoid disturbance to birds.

Threats
- Ash die back/ Chalara fraxinea is a fungal disease, which kills Ash trees. There is Ash within the woodland on the Downs, so they will be impacted. It is recognised that it is not financially viable to deliver a robust plan to manage the effects of Ash Dieback but a risk-based approach to managing trees affected will be taken. There are areas that are of high and medium priority are either along roadsides, next to adjacent housing or along main footpaths.

Where trees are lost to Ash Dieback, replanting in these locations, where appropriate, will be prioritised as part of the tree planting plans

- Oak Processionary Moth also poses an issue for the management of the woodland within the site. If large infestations occur, it can pose a threat to the tree itself through defoliation. However, currently the main concern is for human health, due to the toxic nature of the hairs of the caterpillars, resulting in rashes if they come in to contact with skin, or breathing problems if inhaled. The current policy is to survey the oak trees during the nest building season (June and July) and remove those which are head height (2m) or below, or are in a dangerous location e.g. above a bench. The cost implications of nest removal and or preventative spraying will need to be planned for.
- Other tree diseases have not been discovered as yet but care should be taken to look out for them e.g. sudden oak death.

Descriptions

1st Fairway Woodland (46)

This is a line of mature trees such as Ash, Pedunculate Oak, Sycamore, Horse chestnut and some shrubs, along the western boundary. This area has a dense canopy with an ivy dominated ground flora. In the more open areas some Ground Elder, Cow Parsley, Common Nettle, Ground Ivy, Burdock and Green Alkanet.

WW2 Bunker Woodland (47)

This is a broadly triangular shaped piece of woodland covering the majority of the central area in this northern section of the golf course. It comprises a very dense canopy, which is even aged and often there is little growing on the woodland floor apart from occasional Ivy and some Ash saplings. The tall canopy contains frequent Sycamore, Pedunculate Oak and Ash with occasional Wild Cherry, Silver Birch and rare Norway Maple, Horse Chestnut and Yew. Where there are gaps and old open paths that have become decidedly overgrown there is an added scrub mosaic diversity with abundant Hawthorn, frequent Elder, Clematis, Holly, Hazel, occasional Wild Privet and Dog-rose. In amongst this are patches of grassland with frequent False-oat grass, Timothy, Common Nettle, Bramble, Herb Bennet, Creeping Thistle, Agrimony, Common Knapweed, Wild Raspberry, Bryony, Upright Hedge Parsley and Ground-elder. Occasionally there are glimpses of small areas of a more diverse chalk grassland with Salad Burnet, Dropwort, Wild Basil and Quaking grass.

There is a tee on the eastern edge of the main body of woodland, and there is a dense area of scrub around the tee edge. The scrub includes abundant Hawthorn, Silver Birch and Dogwood merging into Ash woodland with rare Wayfaring tree and Clematis. On the edge of the tee here is rough chalk vegetation comprising grasses such as abundant Red Fescue, Yorkshire-fog and frequent Soft Brome with rare Quaking grass. Herbs include Common Knapweed. Agrimony, Red Clover, Common Restharrow, Common Bird's-foot, Yarrow, Kidney Vetch, Field Scabious, Black Medick, Dropwort, Dwarf Thistle, Creeping Cinquefoil and Glaucous Sedge.

Burgh Heath Road Woodland West (48)

This small western corner of woodland is divided from the main part of the woodland in this section by a wide fairway. It comprises tall dense and even-aged trees such as frequent Ash, Pedunculate Oak, Turkey Oak, Common Lime, Wild Cherry, Silver Birch and a scrub layer of Hawthorn and Dogwood. Ivy is frequent as a climber. The scrub edge is also accompanied by frequent Bramble and occasional Gorse. As well as a mix of tall vegetation along the rough including abundant Red Fescue, Rose-bay Willowherb, Creeping Thistle, Common Knapweed, occasional Bladder Campion, Upright Hedge Parsley, Dropwort, Salad Burnet, Common Toadflax,

Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Ground-ivy and locally abundant Ground-elder and locally frequent Wild Parsnip. Tansy and Hedge Woundwort are rare.

Burgh Heath Road Woodland East (49)

A small area of woodland on the corner of Burgh Heath Road and Longdown Lane South with frequent Sycamore, occasional Pedunculate Oak. Hawthorn and Dogwood shrubs are frequent. Ivy is common. Under this and around the edges are abundant Red Fescue, occasional Timothy with Common Knapweed, Salad Burnet, Field Scabious and Red Clover. The eastern edge has a rough grassland margin before the fairway, which shows calcareous influences.

4th Fairway Treeline and Longdown Lane Copses (50 and 51)

This is a thin line of trees, mainly silver Birch and some Pendunculate Oak.
The copses are small group of trees, mainly Pedunculate Oak and Sycamore with some Ash, Hawthorn and Yew. One has a very old Hawthorn which unusually, has the uncommon Mistletoe on it and should therefore be preferentially kept on the course.

3rd Fairway Woodland (52)

The secondary woodland to the east of Longdown Lane South is dense with abundant Sycamore and Pedunculate Oak, of which some are very large specimens. Also present are some Lime and Ash. Shrub layer consists of locally dominant Blackthorn with some Holly, Hazel and Elder. There is a lot of Bramble scrub on the edges to the rough and fairway and the ground layer is predominantly covered in Ivy. Non-native Cotoneaster is present along with Cherry Laurel.
NB there is an Oak within the 3rd Fairway which is right in the line of play. It is suggested to fell this tree and replace with three oaks running around the edge of the woodland.

15th Fairway Woodland (53)

The margin with the Small Blue Scrapes Scrub/Grassland is dominated by Blackthorn and Hawthorn Scrub. It merges in to more mature woodland with Beech, Oak and also Turkey Oak. The shrub layer consists of Holly, Blackthorn and Hawthorn and the ground layer is dominated by Ivy.

5th Fairway Woodland (54)

This is a small woodland, very similar in make up to that of 15th Fairway Woodland. Main canopy tree is Pedunculate Oak with an understory of Hawthorn and Ivy is covering the ground.

Rifle Butts Alley Woodland (55)

Along the North West boundary this an area where the scrub/trees are older and has developed in to woodland. It is dominated in places by Hazel, Hawthorn and Dogwood along with frequent Wild Privet, Holly and locally dominant Blackthorn. Trees include occasional Sycamore, Ash and rare Common Lime, Beech, Apple and Turkey Oak.

11th Fairway Woodland (56)

The main body of this secondary broad-leaved woodland comprises abundant Pedunculate Oak with Sycamore and some Turkey Oak in the dense canopy. There is also a sub-canopy of younger Sycamore and Wild Cherry along with a shrub layer of abundant Hawthorn, frequent Elder, Yew, Blackthorn, rare Dog-rose and locally frequent Holly in the central section of the woodland. Hazel is locally abundant towards the northern corner, along with locally abundant Blackthorn and Snowberry on the northern edge. There is a dense section of Blackthorn scrub on the southern edge of the woodland and Hawthorn scrub along the eastern edge. Bramble dominates the central woodland area with abundant Ivy, frequent Hawthorn saplings and Herb Robert. Bluebell

is rare. On the edges and paths Hogweed is frequent with occasional Ground-ivy, Dandelion, White Dead-nettle, Rough Meadow grass, Ribwort Plantain, Common Nettle and Herb Robert. The field layer contains a scattering of common woodland species such as Bluebell, Common Nettle, Bramble, Cow Parsley, Sycamore saplings, Herb Bennet, Cleavers and Wood Dock, particularly on the more open areas and edges. Dog's Mercury is locally frequent towards the northern tip and eastern side of the woodland. Spanish Bluebell and the hybrid is present along the northern tip, along with Michaelmas Daisy and Snowberry, which are invasive species. Three-nerved Sandwort is present in small quantities on the southern end of the tee. The woodland along the southern edge seems to have been more disturbed and is a more open, with less shrub structure. The field layer contains abundant Bramble, frequent Ground-ivy, Cow Parsley, Ivy, Cleavers, White Dead-nettle, Hawthorn saplings. Herb Robert, Creeping Thistle, Lords and Ladies are occasional and Common Mouse-ear is rare. A Viola sp is locally frequent.

8th Fairway Woodland (57)

This is very similar to 11th Fairway Woodland. Pendunculate Oak is the main canopy tree, very little understory. The ground layer is mainly Bramble and Ivy. There is Cherry Laurel present. Canadian Goldenrod has been recorded just south of the 8th Hole.

Tattenham Corner Road Woodland (58)

Along the southern edge where there is a very open canopy the field layer tends towards a more conventional grassland sward with Yorkshire-fog as well as occasional Daisy, Germander Speedwell, Greater Plantain, White Clover, Cow Parsley, Dandelion, Common Nettle, Creeping Buttercup, Common Mouse-ear, Bluebell and White Dead-nettle. There is a scattering of Hawthorn trees leading from the main body of the woodland and running east towards the roundabout. On the northern edge of this area, by Grandstand Road, is a scattered line of trees such as Pedunculate Oak, Hawthorn, Silver Birch and Rowan. There are small patches of Bonfire-moss, close to the toilet blocks and road.
NB golf course want to push back away from 9th hole as it is shading it out. Make sure any grass reseeding uses native chalk grassland seed mix.

Old London Road East Woodland (59)

This area is really a group of trees along the footpath, mainly made up of Pedunculate Oak, with the odd Silver Birch, Hawthorn and Hazel. There is Bramble around the base of the trees and some Cherry Laurel present. There is a large Scot's Pine on the southern tip.

All woodlands – Have a large amount of Ivy clad trees which is very valuable for invertebrates, birds and bats.

Comments on past management

The woodlands have not been actively managed. The main paths running through 11th Fairway and 15th Fairway Woodlands are cut using a side arm when necessary.

Future Management

All woodland areas should be managed according to the general principles above. Due to lack of resources, the woodland management will inevitably be a lower priority than managing the grassland and scrub/grassland mosaic. However, the Biodiversity value of the site could be greatly enhanced if the woodlands were actively managed and all efforts should be made to carry out key management techniques. See prescription table for more detail.

2.4.3 Veteran and Mature Trees

A survey should be carried out to map all veteran trees on site and create a management plan for them. The distinctive features that the mature and over mature trees create should be recognised and sensitive management should be adhered to, to ensure their longevity. A gradual programme of clearing a space or 'halo' around them of competing species should be put in place to ensure a healthy crown. Aim to achieve a clearance of at least the circumference of the existing crown area per tree. This to be done during routine thinning programme as suggested above in the management suggestions for each woodland. Crown or end-weight reduction may also be necessary to ensure longevity.

2.4.4 Scrub

General principles:

- Scrub is an extremely important habitat, one that many animals depend on for their survival.
- It is a habitat in its own right but also can be a component of other habitats such as grassland and woodland.
- It is also successional and is the stage between grassland and woodland. It is valuable to a variety of wildlife in all its successional stages. For example, the Brown Hairstreak Butterfly lays its eggs on relatively young blackthorn. As scrub develops, it provides a nectar and food source for mammals, and birds. Once it is more mature and dense, it is attractive to birds to nest in.
- It is important to retain a scrub mosaic with different species and age classes to be of most benefit.
- It is often in the scrub ecotone between grassland and woodland where most diversity lies.
- Scrub can also be useful to deter human access to sensitive areas.
- Enhancement of the existing scrub mosaics can be achieved by managing existing stands on rotation to ensure age structure. It is vital that scrub is managed and not allowed to take over.
- Due to the relatively small areas of grassland which can be managed for wildlife, if more scrub is to be created it should be done so by pushing back the woodland edge, by felling a 10m strip for example, then managing the regrowth. Interplanting with more suitable species if necessary. It is very important that scrub does not encroach any further into the grasslands.
- Cut scrub can either be disposed of at the site it is cut from by creating brash habitat piles or either burnt or chipped. NB, due to the urban nature of the site, any fires used to manage vegetation should be taped off clearly to warn members of the public.
- Scrub should only be managed outside of bird nesting season.

Scrub/Grassland

16th Fairway Scrub/Grassland (60)
Description - A long wide area of rough running north/south down the eastern side of this area. The calcareous influence of the underlying soil is still evident, as it is over most of this northern section of the golf course. However, since the original management plan, this area has been subject to considerable scrub encroachment including Bramble and Hawthorn and tree species such as Cherry, Sycamore and Ash. Red Fescue grass is the most common grass with rare Quaking grass. Herbs include rare but widely distributed Common Knapweed, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Ladies Bedstraw and Wild Carrot with rare Harebell, Small Scabious and Dwarf Thistle.
Comments on past management – This area has not been managed and is succeeding to scrub.
Future management – The scrub needs to be cut back and surrounding grassland needs to be cut and cleared. This would be a good task for a team of volunteers/staff working with brushcutters rather than using a tractor mounted flail.

The large patch of bramble on the southern corner should be pushed back by half. The cleared area of bramble should then be cut and cleared annually to keep it from coming back. Up a third of the woodier scrub should be cleared and then allowed to grow back to provide a good age class of scrub. Once this has grown back, the older scrub can then be tackled. The scrub should continue to be managed on rotation.
The grassland that remains should be cut and cleared on rotation, half one year, the other half the next.

3rd Fairway Rough South (61)

Description - On the southern edge of the 3rd Fairway there is a rough area of grassland with a diverse range of herbs such as frequent Ladies Bedstraw, Perforate St John's-wort, Common Knapweed, Yarrow, Agrimony, Creeping Thistle, White Clover, Red Clover, Mouse-ear Hawkweed, Oxeye Daisy, occasional Wild Carrot, Wild Parsnip, Dwarf Thistle, Wild Mignonette, Ribwort Plantain, Red Bartsia and rare Harebell. The area is becoming encroached upon by bramble, Buckthorn, Buddleia and Hawthorn.

Comments on past management – This area has not been managed and is succeeding to scrub.

Future management – The scrub needs to be cut back and surrounding grassland needs to be cut and cleared. As above, this would be a good task for a team of volunteers/staff working with brushcutters rather than using a tractor mounted flail.
50% or the scrub should be removed with the remaining scrub managed in thirds, on rotation. Once the first area has grown back, the next third can be cleared and so on, to provide a good age class of scrub. The initial 50% clearance could be carried out by a contractor.
The grassland that remains should be cut and cleared on rotation, 50% each year.

Small Blue Scrapes Scrub/Grassland (62)

Description - This is a mixed area of scrub and diverse chalk grassland. The scrub is mostly Hawthorn, Privet and Bramble. The grassland is composed of occasional Upright Brome, rare Cocksfoot, Red Fescue, Chalk False Brome, Smaller Cats-tail, Meadow Oat-grass, Quaking Grass and Crested Hair-grass. Herbs include Kidney Vetch, Rest Harrow, Ox-eye Daisy, Horseshoe Vetch, Marjoram, Wild Thyme, Common Rock-rose, Lady's Bedstraw, Salad Burnet, Fairy Flax, Glaucous Sedge and Dropwort. A couple of Pyramidal Orchids were see here in 2014 as well. A number of scrapes have been successfully created to enhance habitat for the germination of Kidney Vetch. These scrapes had a high percentage of Kidney Vetch and Common Rock Rose. On the bare ground the following mosses were found, *Ctenidium molluscum, Hypnum lacunosum, Homalothecium lutescens* and *Pseudosceropodium purum*.

Comments on past management –
A lot of good work has been carried by the volunteers of the Lower Mole Partnership, mostly concentrating on work to enhance the site for the Small Blue butterfly
2006 – 3 scrapes were created to enhance the extent of Kidney Vetch and support the population of Small Blue. These were left to vegetate naturally. For scrape locations see map 3.
2008 – 2 further scrapes were created, also left to vegetate naturally.
2009 – 2 further scrapes were created and these were seeded with Kidney Vetch seeds.
2011 - Volunteers cut young scrub (mainly hawthorn) in grassland area by 7th tee, leaving some buckthorn and scattered hawthorn habitat for overwintering invertebrates. Brushcutter was used on young bramble and tor grass. Some denser clumps of scrub with Sycamore and Turkey Oak were felled. A scrub screen was retained next to the tees. Brash was burnt on controlled bonfires sited on area dominated by tor grass and off the rich grassland area. The Downskeepers uprooted scrub along the boundary path by the stables as well.
2012 - Scrub clearance was carried out in the area in the around the scrapes adjacent to the 7th tee opening up an area of grassland totalling 0.1 ha. 10 Juniper trees were also planted in this area and the construction of 2m x2m enclosures were erected around them to protect against

grazing and other damage. The Junipers had been given to the project by a member of the public who had grown them on from seed collected on Epsom Downs.
2014 - The area around the 7th tee was worked on again. The Junipers enclosures were weeded, scrub cleared and tor grass removed.
2015 – In the area around the 7th tee, four new scrapes were created and Kidney Vetch seed broadcast into them. This work was funded as part of a SITA grant application which included management work on a number of sites on Epsom and Walton Downs
April 2017 - To prevent young regrowth maturing and scrub pockets linking up, two half days were spent cutting back the young scrub regen. No dense areas likely to be used for nesting were targeted, nor any mature scrub. The Juniper enclosures were weeded, with surrounding scrub cut back to prevent them being smothered.
2020 – Feb: Butterfly Conservation Small Blue legacy volunteer task was held on 21 Feb, supported by LMP staff member. Regrowth had been exceptional as little maintenance had been carried out since 2017. Volunteers weeded the Kidney Vetch scrapes previously excavated by LMP and popped small scrub around the scrapes. LMP staff member carried out some brush-cutting.
2020 – March: full team for three days clearing all encroaching scrub from around the scrapes and Juniper trees. All arising's were burnt on small, controlled bonfires. Volunteers used brush-cutters to clear very dense dogwood, birch and hawthorn stems. All stumps were cut low and treated.

Future management –
It is vital to maintain this area. The grassland needs to be cut and cleared annually, on rotation, along with the scrub being kept under control and managed on rotation. This area is quite large so realistically, perhaps a 5th of the total scrub could be cleared each time.
Half of the grassland can be cut and cleared one year, the other half the next. Areas where Tor grass is a problem may need to be cut and cleared more regularly. Some scrub in this area is beneficial but it must not dominate the area or swamp the scrapes or Juniper trees. By regularly cutting and clearing the grassland, the scrub will be kept under better control.
As there is a good age range of scrapes already created, once one scrape becomes overgrown, it is possible to re-scrape the vegetation back to bare chalk. This would only need doing every 10 years or so. Any fires should be positioned over Tor Grass or on previous fire sites if possible. In the future, it would be possible to graze this area, which would ultimately be the best management tool.

6th Fairway Scrub/Grassland (63)

Description - This area of scrub is mainly made up of scattered Hawthorn with the odd Hazel, young Oak and Ash. There is bramble amongst the grassland as well.

Comments on past management –
2011 - A 3 ton tracked excavator was hired to dig further scrapes along the 6th Fairway. 3 scrapes were dug, with the spoil landscaped behind the scrapes to suppress the scrub. Kidney vetch seed collected from the site in 2010 was broadcast in the scrapes.
2012 - Four scrapes were created alongside the 6th fairway. In addition, Kidney Vetch seeds collected from the Golf Course in 2011 were broadcast into the scrapes.
Unfortunately, the scrapes along the 6th Fairway were not successful. They had not managed to get right down to bare chalk, so the chalk grassland plants did not succeed in colonising the area before the scrub invaded.

Future management – The scrub/grassland mosaic needs to be maintained to ensure the scrub does not take over. Half the area should be cut and cleared each year. The scrub adjacent to the track should be pushed back by 2 m, as the chalk flora here is very interesting. The track margin should be cut and cleared annually. The scrub itself can also be managed on rotation in thirds.

Grandstand Road Scrub/Grassland (64)
Description - On the edges the tall grassland comprises abundant False-oat grass, occasional Rough Meadow-grass, Cock's-foot, Yorkshire-fog, Timothy, Upright Brome with common herbs such as Cleavers, Hogweed, Herb Bennett, Creeping Thistle, Herb Robert, Common and Greater Knapweed, Rosebay Willowherb, Wild Carrot, Common Nettle, and rare Salad Burnet, Wild Basil, Lucerne, Black Medick, Perforate St John's-wort, Bladder Campion, Goat's Beard, Small Scabious and Wild Mignonette. Ground-elder and Wild Parsnip are locally abundant. Kidney Vetch and Wild Marjoram are present in locally abundant patches. Along the track there is shorter vegetation such as Silverweed, Common Restharrow, Yarrow, Common Bird's-foot and Common Vetch. This area is scrubbing up more than other areas and contains Hawthorn and Apple trees.
Comments on past management – The grass around the scrub is cut annually in late September/October
Future management – This area must not scrub up any further and the mosaic should remain. The grassland needs to be cut and cleared annually with up to a third of the scrub removed and then allowed to grown back to create age structure. The scrub subsequently managed on rotation.

Old London Road Scrub/Grassland (65)
Description - Hawthorn and Dogwood are abundant with occasional Ash, Pedunculate Oak, Beech, Aspen, Grey Poplar, Rowan and Silver Birch trees. Bramble is also an important component and Wild Cherry is rare. The edges contain rough tall grassland. There is generally a high percentage of grasses such as occasional Tall Fescue, Perennial Rye-grass, Cock's-foot, Timothy, Tor grass, Red Fescue, Rough Meadow-grass. Herbs that are present are frequent to occasional such as Common Knapweed, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Wild Carrot, Kidney Vetch, Red Bartsia, Red Clover, Dove's-foot Crane's-bill, Burnet Saxifrage, Agrimony, Dwarf Thistle, Ladies Bedstraw, Common Ragwort, Small Scabious, Salad Burnet, Wild Basil and Glaucous Sedge. There is locally dominant stand of Wild Radish on the northern edge of this area.
Comments on past management – The grass and low level scrub is cut every so often, when felt necessary
Future management – The scrub/grassland mosaic needs to be maintained to ensure the scrub does not take over. 50% of the scrub should be removed with the remaining scrub managed in thirds, on rotation. Once the first area has grown back, the next third can be cleared and so on, to provide a good age class of scrub. The initial 50% clearance could be carried out by a contractor.

Scrub

Longdown Lane Road Margin (66)
Description - Along the edge of Longdown Lane South there is a thin section of woodland/scrub mosaic comprising of abundant Sycamore, Hawthorn, Dogwood, occasional Wild Cherry and rare Apple. Ivy is locally frequent, as is Bramble. On the edges is a tall vegetation habitat with frequent Cow Parsley, Cleavers, Common Nettle and occasional Germander Speedwell, Ground-ivy, Lords & Ladies and Ground-elder.
Comments on past management – The track and roadside edges are cut as and when necessary to maintain access.
Future management – Access should continue to be maintained with edges cut back when necessary. This scrub line should be maintained as a barrier to the road.

Longdown Lane Hack Ride Scrub (67) and 17th Fairway Scrub (68)
Description - These two small areas of scrub are mainly made up of Hawthorn and Bramble. It is similar to that found to the adjacent scrub developing within the 16th Fairway Scrub/Grassland.
Comments on past management – No recent management has taken place.

Future management – These small scrub islands should be maintained at their current extent and not allowed to encroach in to the rough. By managing the rough grassland as suggested with half cut and cleared each year, this should result in the scrub edge being maintained.
Scallop edges to create a wavy edge to create age structure.

Burgh Heath Road Scrub Line (69)

Description - Predominantly Hawthorn scrub running along the edge of Burgh Heath Road. Also found here in 2014 was a male Juniper. Unfortunately, this could not be found in 2020. In 2014 it was still in reasonable condition but was still suffering from competition from the surrounding vegetation.

Comments on past management – The track and roadside edges are cut as and when necessary to maintain access.

Future management – Access should continue to be maintained with edges cut back when necessary. This scrub line should be kept maintain a barrier to the road. At the western end, the scrub is encroaching into the grassland and needs to be pushed back. There is Horseshoe Vetch found here and other interesting chalk flora and the scrub line needs to be maintained and not allowed to encroach into the 15th Tee Rough.

Rifle Butts Alley Hedge (70)

Description - This hedge is made up of Sycamore, Ash, Hawthorn, Hazel and there is fringe of Dogwood developing along the front. The hedge is covered in Ivy. There is the odd Oak standard along the hedge line.

Comments on past management – No recent management.

Future management – Currently the dogwood is marching out from the hedge line into the grass margin between the hedge and the track. This margin should be cut and cleared annually to ensure the hedge does not extend out. The hedge itself should be cut in winter, outside of the breeding bird season and when the trees are dormant. Ideally, only one third of the length of the hedge should be managed in a single year. The hedge should be cut on rotation over three years.

Rifle Butts Alley Scrub (71)

Description - Scrub with grassy areas alongside the paths and in clearings. It is divided by the paths, creating 4 sections. The northern and largest section still has grassy clearings within it. The scrub is composed of frequent Hawthorn, frequent Privet, rare Buckthorn, rare Holly, rare Dog Rose, and rare Ash. Grass found included False Oat-grass, Cocksfoot, Perennial Rye-grass, Smaller Cat's-tail, the Surrey scarce Flattened Meadow-grass along with the herbs Bird's-foot trefoil, Perforate St John's-wort, Salad Burnet, Marjoram, White Clover, Red Clover and Bladder Campion.

Comments on past management – No recent management.

Future management – Where there are grassy areas within the scrub, for example in the northern section, these should be kept open by cutting and clearing. The edges of all four of these scrub islands should be pushed back away from the track edge and grassy margin maintained by cutting and clearing. This should be done annually and in late September/October.

Downs Road Scrub (72)

Description - This is a scrub/grassland mosaic with frequent Hawthorn, occasional Dog rose, Gorse, Wild Privet and Blackthorn are locally frequent and Hazel, Elder and Apple are rare. There are Ash trees dotted all along the length, many of which ae suffering from Ash Die-Back. Under this, Bramble is frequent as is Clematis as a climber. Herb include Wild Marjoram, Wild Basil. Canadian Goldenrod and Tor Grass has been recorded in the margins here.

Comments on past management – No recent management. A task to be carried out by the Lower mole Partnership Volunteers was planned for winter 2020/21 but this was postponed due to the pandemic.

Future management – This scrub line needs to be pushed back towards the adjacent farmland and away from the track, to increase the grass margin. It is encroaching in to the grassland which is rich in interesting chalk grassland plants. Once the scrub is pushed back, the grassland margin along the track should be cut and cleared annually. The scrub edge should be maintained further back and not allowed to encroach back in to the grassland, which if the grass margin is cut and cleared annually, should happen naturally.
The Ash present will be managedon a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations.
The scrub line can be scalloped in to, on rotation, every few years to create age structure.

14th Fairway Scrub (73)

Description - Linear length of scrub between two fairways with abundant Hawthorn, and more rarely Yew, Holly, North Maple, Wild Cherry, Wayfaring and Blackthorn on the edge. On the southern edge at a grid reference of TQ2230 5895 are two Juniper bushes, both of these are in a poor condition being heavily shaded by trees and encroached by scrub. Towards the south of this area by Grandstand Road small Elder trees are occasional with abundant Sycamore, Dog Rose, Dogwood and rare Wild Privet. On the edges are locally abundant patches of Tor grass, dotted with Ivy, Bramble and Creeping Cinquefoil. It is on this southern edge, where the scrub has in the past been cut back to produce a shallow bay of sheltered scrub and tall grass.

Comments on past management – No recent management

Future management – The edges should not encroach any further in to the surrounding rough and chalk grassland. Age structure should be created by clearing sections (up to a fifth) on rotation and allowing them to grow back. Once these areas have grown back, the next sections can be cleared and so on. It will be easiest to cut scallops in around the edges of the scrub island or make use of any naturally more open areas/desire lines through the scrub.
The small block of scrub within the 14th Tee Rough should be completely removed and restored to chalk grassland.

Grandstand Road Scrub (74)

Description - This is the main core of scrub in the middle section of the golf course, with maturing abundant Hawthorn scrub, locally dominant in placed as is Dogwood, occasional Elder, with rare Dog Rose and Wild Privet. Gorse is rare on the edges. Bramble and Ivy are locally abundant. On the edges there is abundant Tor grass, with occasional Creeping Cinquefoil, Wild Parsnip, Perforate St John's-wort, Wood False-brome, Creeping Thistle and Hedge Woundwort. Away from edges and into the central core are frequent Pedunculate Oak and Ash, with occasional Sycamore. Kidney Vetch grows along the centre path edges and Cowslips are present in more open areas.

Comments on past management – The centre path through the scrub is cut by a side arm when necessary to maintain access.

Future management – This is the main area of scrub within the whole of the Golf Course and is very valuable. It is divided down the centre by a main path linking a car park and Burgh Heath Rd. The western side is far more dense than the scrub grassland mosaic seen on the eastern side. 50% of the western side should be removed and restored to chalk grassland. This would need to be carried out by contractor.
The remaining scrub can be managed by staff/volunteers in thirds on rotation, to create age structure. Areas should be cleared and allowed to regrow. Once this occurs, the next sections can be cleared. Make the most of naturally more open areas and push back from there, or scallop around the edges of the scrub blocks.

NB There has been mention of common lizards and slow worms being seen in this area so clearance must be done sensitively after reptile surveying has been carried out to assess the population. The centre path should continue to be cut back regularly by a side-arm.

13th and 5th Scrub Islands (75 and 76)
Description - This is a small island of scrub which is mainly Hawthorn with the odd young Oak and Dogwood, fringed by Bramble.
Comments on past management – No recent management.
Future management – It is important the scrub does not encroach on the chalk grassland or on the 13th Fairway. The regular cutting of the fairway and annual cutting and clearing of the chalk grassland should prevent scrub developing further. It would be advantageous to scallop the edges of these islands to create age structure.

2.4.5. Surveying and Monitoring

Surveying effort should be increased with the help of volunteers and specialist ecologists. All records aside from those associated with the writing of the management plans and the monitoring of scrapes by Butterfly Conservation are historic. Up to date or in some cases baseline surveys need to be carried out.

2.4.8.2 Vascular Plants

Plants are one of the better groups that have been surveyed over the years, mainly as part of writing the management plans. Surrey Botanical Society have also passed on all their records, which has greatly increased the plant list. Many thanks go to Ann Sankey for providing them.
The most useful surveys to focus on now would be the vegetation successions within the scrapes and carrying out a condition assessment of the grassland, particularly in those where the management regime is to change. The change in vegetation should be seen over the years if cutting and clearing is maintained as a management tool. Each area should be surveyed using quadrats evenly spaced across the fields, roughly 6-8 areas depending on the size of the grassland. The quadrats should be randomly placed so as not to encourage bias of recording the nicer areas to get a true reflection of condition. Number of different species per quadrat should be counted. Ideally the species should be noted, but the number of different species is indicative of quality, so it is possible to use volunteers who are not botanical experts to do this as well and cover more ground. Volunteers could be trained to look for key quality indicator plants to as well as negative indicators. These species are shown in table 1 on the following page.

The grassland should also be monitored as a whole to complete their condition assessment. The categories are as follows:

- **Extent.** This attribute is one that is measured as the condition monitoring continues. The first time an area is monitored sets a base line. Aerial photographs are a good way to assess this and ensure the grasslands are not encroached upon by scrub/trees.
- **Sward composition**
  – Grass/herb ratio. In general, semi-natural swards that are in good condition have a much greater broad-leaved herb component than agricultural grassland. It is thought that for neutral and calcareous grassland the broadleaved herb component should fall within the range 40-90%. It should be borne in mind that some of the broadleaved plants such as creeping thistle that may be present are not a good indicator of positive condition.
- **Sward composition (using information from quadrat sampling)**

– Frequency of positive indicators. There is a list of species that are regarded as positive indicators. The site is traversed and these species are recorded. It is recommended that 2 to 6 of these species should be frequent, found 41-60% of the time.
– Frequency of negative indicators. These should not make up more than 10% of an area individually and combined not more than 20% of the area.
– Frequency of shrub/trees. To be favourable, there should be no more than 5% cover of woody species

- **Sward Structure**
  - Height. Average height should be noted and for chalk grassland should be somewhere between 2 and 25 cm.
  - Litter. Build up of thatch should not cover more than 25% of the sward.
  - Bare ground. This should not cover more than 10% within the sward.
  - Disturbance. Evidence of overgrazing or rabbit warrens should be noted and not affect more than 0.05%.

CG2 positive Indicator species	
Anthyllis vulneraria – Kidney Vetch	Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot Trefoil
Asperula cynanchica – Squinancywort	Pilosella officinarum – Common Mouse-ear
Campanula glomerata – Clustered Bellflower	Polygala spp – Milkwort spp
Carex spp – Sedge species	Potentilla erecta – Tormentil
Centaurea nigra – Common Knapweed	Primula veris – Primrose
Cirsium acaule – Dwarf Thistle	Sanguisorba minor – Salad Burnet
Filipendula vulgaris – Dropwort	Scabiosa columbaria – Small Scabious
Helianthemum spp – Rock-rose spp	Serratula tinctoria – Saw-wort
Hippocrepis comosa – Horseshoe Vetch	Stachys officinalis – Hedge Woundwort
Leontodon hispidus – Rough Hawkbit	Succisa pratensis – Devil's-bit Scabious
Leontodon saxatilis – Lesser Hawkbit	Thymus spp – Thyme spp

CG3/4positive Indicator species	
Anthyllis vulneraria – Kidney Vetch	Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot Trefoil
Asperula cynanchica – Squinancywort	Pilosella officinarum – Common Mouse-ear
Campanula glomerata – Clustered Bellflower	Polygala spp – Milkwort spp
Carex flacca – Glaucous Sedge	Primula veris – Primrose
Cirsium acaule – Dwarf Thistle	Sanguisorba minor – Salad Burnet
Filipendula vulgaris – Dropwort	Scabiosa columbaria – Small Scabious
Galium verum – Lady's Bedstraw	Serratula tinctoria – Saw-wort
Helianthemum nummularium – Common Rock-rose	Stachys officinalis – Hedge Woundwort
Hippocrepis comosa – Horseshoe Vetch	Succisa pratensis – Devil's-bit Scabious
Leontodon hispidus – Rough Hawkbit	Thymus spp – Thyme spp
Leontodon saxatilis – Lesser Hawkbit	Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot Trefoil

Negative indicator species	
Anthriscu sylvestris – Cow parsley	Senecio jacobaea – Common Ragwort
Bellis perennis – Daisy	Sonchus spp – Sow Thistles
Cirsium arvense – Creeping Thistle	Urtica dioica – Common Nettle
Cirsium vulgare – Spear Thistle	Lolium perenne – Perrienal Rye-grass

Carduus spp – Thistles spp	Holcus lanatus - Yorkshire Fog
Chamerion angustifolium – Rosebay Willowherb	Cynosurus cristatus – Crested Dogs-tail
Galium aparine – Cleavers	Trisetum flavescens – Yellow Oat-grass
Plantago major – Greater Plantain	Arrhenatherum elatius – False Oat-grass
Rumes crispus – Curled Dock	Dactylis glomerata – Cocks-foot
Rumex obtusifolius – Broad-leaved Dock	

Within the woodlands, priority should be given to the woodland areas that are to be managed, ideally before and after to see the difference the management regime is having. Key categories to focus on to assess the condition of the woodlands are:

- Extent – Area of woodland
- Structure and natural processes
  - Canopy Cover – canopy trees should cover 30-75% (unless put into coppice management and then should be 25-50%)
  - Understory composition – a good mix of shrub species present.
  - Ground flora composition – are there woodland flowers or merely ivy and brambles.
  - Age structure – there should be at last three different age classes.
  - Percentage of decaying wood.
  - Open spaces for example glades and rides, should cover at least 10%.
- Regeneration Potential – Are there young trees growing up to become the next canopy trees.
- Composition – 95% should be native plants.
- Indicators of local distinctiveness, for example bluebell cover in The Warren Ancient Woodland.

Using the comprehensive survey information from Surrey Botanical Society, key species should be mapped e.g. rarities and those needed control (Tor Grass and Canadian Goldenrod) to assist in managing these species.

Fixed photographic points should be established over both Epsom & Walton Downs and to be repeated on a yearly basis. Also, photo monitoring of before and after management can be used for a visual comparison of achievements, also useful for historical and educational purposes and talks.

2.4.8.3 Invertebrates

An invertebrate survey similar to the one carried out in 2009 should be repeated. Comments made by the surveyor regarding the 2009 survey were that poor weather conditions made sampling more difficult and reduced the activity of highly mobile 'fair-weather' invertebrates, such as Butterflies, Bees, Wasps and Hoverflies. These groups are well reviewed with regards to their national status and undoubtedly more species characteristic of calcareous habitats await discovery at the site. Focus should remain on the Chalk Grassland areas, but the woodlands should also be covered this time.

Specific surveys of particular groups of insects is also recommended.

- Butterflies – These insects will be highly under recorded. Perhaps a new transect could be set up in coordination with Butterfly Conservation. Considering the nearby transect walked across Juniper Hill regularly sees 30 butterflies each year, the Golf Course will be home to many more than the 11 species recorded so far.
- Moths - A night-time moth trapping session should be carried out. Surrey's Butterfly Conservation's moth recorder could be contacted to provide advice and assistance.
- Coleoptera (Beetles), Diptera (Flies), Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps and Ants), Hemiptera (True Bugs), Molluscs and Oligochaetes (Slugs, Snails and Earthworms) Arachnids (Spiders, Harvestmen, Mites and Ticks) and the other invertebrates (Dermaptera/Earwigs,

Isopods/Woodlice, Mecoptera/Scorpion Flies, Neuroptera/Lacewings) will require an ecologist to be employed to carry out a survey.

- Orthoptera (Grasshoppers and Crickets) are reasonably easy to survey as there are limited potential species. Try and encourage local experts or volunteers together with staff to survey these animals.

2.4.8.4 Herptiles

Common lizard is the only reptile record on site but there is potential for other species to be present. Slow worms have possibly been seen but no formal records. It is recommended that the scrub/grassland mosaic is surveyed using felt mats or onduline or metal corrugated tins. Ideally a survey should be carried out before any clearance work within Grandstand Road Scrub and Scrub/Grassland.

2.4.8.5 Birds

A full BTO bird survey to enable mapping of the breeding territories and provide further information on how management is affecting the bird populations is recommended. Importantly the standard methodology used would provide scientifically valid comparisons to be made in the future. A full BTO breeding bird survey has not been carried out at before. Winter visitor surveys would also be very useful to carry out to enable a thorough assessment of the importance the site has for bird life. Due to birds being particularly popular with local enthusiasts, it may be possible to encourage volunteers to help with bird surveying. Local groups may also be able to help with sourcing Bird Boxes and further surveying assistance e.g. Woodland Trust who manage neighbouring Langley Vale Memorial Woodland.

2.4.8.6 Mammals

A full bat survey should be carried out at the appropriate time of year, to assess what species are using the site and the importance of the Downs for these animals. It is recommended that prior to any tree work, a bat survey is conducted to grade for their potential for bat roosts. Installing bat boxes in the woodlands may also help with any roost deficiencies.
Small mammal surveys have not been carried out before, so a system of small mammal trapping using longworth traps or footprint tunnels is recommended to help bring together a more detailed picture of the types of mammals using the site. Focus should be made in the grassland areas rotationally managed to help prove whether this form of management is beneficial. It should also be indicative as to whether the woodland management is beneficial as well by focusing on those areas to be managed.

2.4.8.7 Invasive Species

Invasive species should be mapped and management controls put in place. Canadian Goldenrod noted in the WW2 Bunker, opposite Bunbury Way and in 15th tee rough needs to be eradicated. Tor Grass should be actively managed to prevent dominance in some of the grasslands by strimming regularly to a height of 7cm, with arisings removed. Turkey Oak should be controlled and selectively thinned within the woodlands.

2.4.8.8 Fungi, Lichen and Bryophytes

A baseline survey of these three groups should be carried out by a specialist ecologist and would be best carried out in the autumn months. The Surrey Recorders could be contacted to gather further records for the site.

2.4.12 Biodiversity and Landscape

Any benefits resulting from Epsom and Walton Downs' inclusion in Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area should be maximised. If developments happen locally and mitigation

is needed, opportunities to enhance the site should be considered using the management plan as a guide on how best to use the funding. Any adverse impacts a development may have (e.g. increased visitor pressure, lighting issues) should be considered when deciding planning applications to begin with. Opportunities to create a better link to the wider countryside will benefit the wildlife within.

Natural England is currently (2021) reviewing the boundary of all Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Walton downs is designated as an Area of Great Landscape Value and with the whole site designated as SNCI, along with the fact that Juniper Hill is considered of SSSI quality, it a good case to be included within the Surrey Hills AONB. Any opportunities for all or part of Epsom and Walton Downs to be considered for inclusion should be taken.

The importance of Epsom and Walton Downs' value as a mosaic of habitats to support a vast range of wildlife, some of which is very rare, should be highlighted. It should be valued for its Biodiversity just as much as it's valued for its horse racing and public amenity. One way of achieving this would be to investigate the possibility of designating the site as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or Local Nature Reserve (LNR).

2.4.13 Site Interpretation

Interpreting the site to the public is really important. A recent grant application to upgrade the notice boards at main entrances was successful, so there is potential for these to not only give visitors useful access information, but also information on the wildlife and perhaps history of the site.
One of the best ways to interpret a site is to provide guided walks. Topics could include the history of the site, golfing history, wildlife themes such as wildflowers, birds or butterflies for example.
It is important to have a good web presence to ensure key messages or events are communicated as widely as possible. This can be done via the EEBC website, Facebook and Instagram pages. Perhaps create links to Butterfly Conservation or Surrey Botanical Society.
Signs aimed at modifying visitors' behaviour should be positive and ask visitors for their help, rather than start 'Do Not…'. If signs are used to alert people of the breeding bird season for example, it is important to make sure these signs are taken down at the end. They should then be repositioned each season to avoid 'sign blindness'
Encouraging visitors to help report any issues they come across is a very useful management tool. The Downskeepers and Golf Course staff have good relationship with their regular visitors and this should continue.

2.4.11 Volunteering Opportunities

Better use of volunteers could offer opportunities for good habitat management. The Woodland Trust, who manage the adjacent Langley Vale Memorial Woodland, have a good band of volunteers and it is very likely that some of these individuals may be keen to volunteer on the Golf Course as well. Nearby sites such as Epsom Common and Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserves use regular volunteer input from the Countryside Team Volunteers, Lower Mole Partnership Volunteers and in the case of Epsom Common, the EcoVols as well, which is seen as a vital tool in managing their habitats. The members of the Golf Course would be an obvious port of call to ask if any of them would be interested in joining a habitat management group.
Current volunteer input on the Golf Course includes tasks carried out by the Lower Mole Partnership volunteers and tasks and surveying by Butterfly Conservation in and around the scrapes. It is suggested to consult with all these groups to see if they can increase their input but also offer help in setting up/advertising an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group. It would also be advisable to investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.

2.5 Identification of Operational Objectives and Outline Prescriptions

Habitat/Species	Prescriptions
Grassland	- Cut all rough areas of grassland on rotation and remove arisings. - Control Tor Grass by cutting and clearing regularly to a height of 7cm. - Remove Canadian Goldenrod. - Manage scrub to prevent dominance and create age structure. - Manage existing scrapes where this will help to spread Kidney Vetch and remove scrub and Tor Grass. (Avoid flight period of the Small Blue, May-July) - Mow paths to control access. - Manage the Juniper Trees and maintain them in an open location. - Manage scrub edges on the perimeter and along rides by scalloping on rotation.
Mixed deciduous woodland	- Manage Ash Die-Back on a risk-based approach based on public safety considerations. - Create woodland edge and manage on rotation along existing footpaths, up to 10m either side. - Thin out woodland to create age structure. Methods can include coppicing, halo release of retained standards/veterans, 30% thin, coppicing or glade creation. - Prevent woodland encroaching into grassland areas.
Scrub	- Create age structure by scalloping - Do not allow encroachment on to adjacent grassland or paths.
Surveying and Monitoring	- Baseline survey of Bryophytes, Fungi and Lichens. - Monitor success of grassland management by carrying out a condition assessment. - Monitor vegetation succession within the scrapes. - Carry out a condition assessment of the woodlands. - Establish fixed photographic points. - Continue to support Butterfly Conservation Volunteers managing and monitoring scrapes created for the Small Blue and Kidney Vetch. - Organise a night-time moth trapping session. - Organise a programme of invertebrate surveys to be carried out by a specialist ecologist. - Encourage volunteers and local experts to carry out invertebrate and bird surveys. - Survey the scrub/grassland mosaic for reptiles. - Employ an ecologist to carry out a full BTO breeding bird survey. - Employ and ecologist to carry out a full bat survey. - Investigate the possibility of small mammal trapping. - Map and control invasive species.
Biodiversity and Landscape	- Maximize opportunities resulting from being part of Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area. - Value the Downs just as much for its Biodiversity as its public amenity value. - Keep up to date with any opportunities to become part of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. - Look at the Woodland and Grassland component of Epsom and Walton Downs along with Epsom Downs Golf Course and potentially combined, they could be put forward to be considered for SSSI status. - Investigate possibility of designating the site as a LNR.

Site interpretation	- Upgrade notice boards in line with recent grant application. - Provide guided walks. - Maintain a good web presence via EEBC website Facebook and Instagram pages. - Investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs. - Interpret the site's biodiversity value. - Use positive signage.
Volunteering Opportunities	- Liaise with local volunteer groups to ask advice and advertise an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group. - Talk to regular visitors to gauge interest. - Investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the introduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.

STAGE THREE – PRESCRIPTION

It is recommended that for each year, an individual Annual Work Plan should be drafted including an outline of costs and personnel to be used.

Recommendations not covered by this report, but which must also be considered for each Annual Work Plan includes a health and safety review. All management tasks need to be the subject of a health and safety risk assessment.

Financial, labour and equipment contraints

Proposals have not been budgeted in terms of labour and financial inputs, largely because these are unknown. However, formulation of the proposals has taken into account what are likely to be limited resources and most tasks should readily be achievable by conservation volunteer teams. It is hoped that prescriptions requiring greater inputs of resources can be undertaken as part of the programme of contractual work that already exists and outside contractors, without the need for unduly increasing costs. Priorities have been attributed to the suggested management tasks.

A rough idea of cost would be:

Contractors	£175/person/day
Volunteers	£7/person/day
Ecological Consultants	£275/person/day
Arboricultural Contractors	£275/person/day

Notes:

-The outline costs are estimation for guide/planning purposes and may vary significantly from the actual costs.

-Volunteers: In addition, use of volunteer machinery (e.g. chainsaw/brush cutters) is £50/day and the hire of heavier equipment (e.g. mini excavator/dumper) is approx. £100/day.

-Where the term volunteer/contractors is used, the deciding factor will be availability of volunteers, who would normally be the first choice. It should be noted that a significant amount of the crucial volunteer input to site management would be at no direct cost to the Council.

Sustainable Management

The work detailed in this document tries to find a balance between meeting the needs of our current generation while conserving natural resources and protecting the environment for the benefit of future generations. These new opportunities for sustainable management include protecting the wildlife through a variety of methods such as further enhancing the grassland as well as the woodland, scrub and hedgerows. Increasing the public knowledge about the ecology of the Downs will also help them to understand why it is necessary to carry out essential management work.

Volunteering Opportunities

The management recommendations table below contains much that is suitable for volunteers to carry out. This gives the opportunity for new members of the public and existing volunteers to carry out a variety of tasks on the Downs. This then enables the Downskeepers to commit to a variety of work they would not be able to complete on their own and gives opportunities to create links with local visitors to the Downs who can help with 'policing' if any trouble occurs and assist with wildlife recording. The table will note which tasks are appropriate for volunteers and which will need outside contractors.

Prescription Table

For compartments see map 1
Code to workforce – EEBC Grounds Maintenance staff (GM), Downskeepers (DK), Golf Course (GC), Volunteers (Vols), Contractor (C)

CHALK GRASSLAND (Compartment numbers highlighted in green are rough margins to fairways)							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
1, 7, 11	Clear scrub and trees from the grassland.	x					GC/ Vols/ C DK
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17	Cut and clear grassland annually in late September/October	x	x	x	x	x	GC/GM
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17	Control scrub encroachment	x	x	x	x	x	GC/GM
1, 5,	Remove Canadian Goldenrod	x	x				
12	Limit access	x					GC/GM
13	Cut road and car park banks with side arm to ensure good visibility every 6 weeks	x	x	x	x	x	GM

ROUGH GRASSLAND SURROUNDING THE FAIRWAYS							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
18-31	Cut and clear the rough on the right hand side of the fairways in late September	x		x		x	GC
18-31	Cut and clear the rough on the left hand side of the fairways in late September		x		x		GC
24	Remove tree saplings	x	x				GC/Vols
20	Control encroaching scrub	x	x	x	x	x	GC/Vols

REMAINING GRASSLAND AREAS, MANAGED BY EPSOM & EWELL BOROUGH COUNCIL							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
35, 39,	Cut and clear whole area annually in late September/October	x	x	x	x	x	GM
34, 37,	Cut and clear 50% of the area annually in late September/October	x	x	x	x	x	GM
36, 38, 40,	Cut area regularly to maintain as amenity grassland and control visitor access	x	x	x	x	x	GM
41, 42, 43, 44, 45	Cut regularly until late April and then left until cutting and clearing in late September/October	x	x	x	x	x	GM
33	Remove Canadian Goldenrod	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
34	Remove Early Goldenrod and Michaelmas Daisy.						
33	Mow paths/hack rides	x	x	x	x	x	GM

WOODLAND							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
47, 53, 56	Create woodland edge along footpaths and desire lines	x		x		x	GC/DK/ Vols
47, 49, 53, 56, 57, 58	Create woodland edge around perimeter of woodland. NB: In cpt 47, start woodland edge creation to the north of 17th tee as there is a good floral diversity here. In cpt 49, focus on creating woodland edge on the eastern	x		x		x	GC/DK/ Vols

	edge near the 16th tee. In cpt 52, push back along southern edge, creating wavy bays. When pushing back woodland (58) from the 9th Hole, reseed using native chalk grassland seed mix.						
All	Remove non-native species	x	x	x	x	x	GC/GM/ DK
47, 53, 56, 57	Thin out woodland up to 30% to create age structure.						Contractor
55	Coppice Hazel and open up this small area of woodland.	x					DK/Vols
47, 56, 57	Create glades focusing on enlarging already more open areas						Contractor Vols
52	If tree is removed from 3rd Fairway, replace with at least 3 oak trees , planted around the edge of the fairway. Ideally, leave the trunk and standing deadwood and pile any other remains within the edges of 3rd Fairway woodland.						GC
56	Allow vegetation (herb layer and understory) to develop between the 12th and 8th Fairway.						
46, 48, 50, 51, 54, 59	Minimum intervention						DK/GM/ GC
All	Leave as much standing/lying decaying wood as is safe to do so.						DK/GM/ GC

VETERAN TREES							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All woodlands	Survey and map any veteran trees.		x				DK
If trees found	Assess and write individual management plans for the trees.				x		Ecologist
All woodlands	Identify trees to become veteran.			x			DK

SCRUB/GRASSLAND							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
61, 65	Clear an initial 50% of the scrub	x					Contractor
60, 61, 63, 64	Clear up to a third of the scrub and subsequently manage on rotation. (In Cpt 60, clear bramble patch by half).	x	x	x	x	x	DK/GM Vols
62, 65	Clear up to a fifth of the scrub and subsequently manage on rotation.	x	x	x	x	x	DK.GM Vols
64	Cut and clear all grassland amongst the scrub annually in late September/October.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/Vols
60, 61, 62, 63, 65	Cut and clear 50% of the grassland amongst the scrub annually in late September/October.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/Vols
62	Manage the Juniper Trees and maintain them in an open location.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
62	Control Tor Grass	x	x	x	x	x	GM/DK/ Vols
62	Manage scrapes by weeding saplings etc if possible. Once they have vegetated too much, re-scrape.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
63	Push scrub back from trackside by 2m	x	x	x	x	x	GM/DK/ Vols

SCRUB							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
66, 69	Trim edges to maintain access and prevent encroachment on to paths/chalk grassland.	x	x	x	x	x	GM/DK Vols
67, 68, 71, 72, 73, 75	Scallop edges on rotation, to create a wavy edge, maintaining age structure and preventing encroachment.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
71, 74	Cut and clear grassy glades within scrub island	x	x	x	x	x	GM/Vols
74	Remove 50% of scrub and restore to chalk grassland. Manage remaining scrub in thirds, on rotation.		x	x	x	x	DK/Vols Contractor
71	Push back from track edge by 1m. Subsequently cut and clear track margin annually in late September/October.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols GM
69, 73	Manage the Juniper Trees and maintain them in an open location.	x		x		x	DK/Vols
73	Remove small scrub area within 14th Tee Rough completely and restore to chalk grassland.						
72, 73, 74	Control Tor Grass	x	x	x	x	x	DK/GM Vols
72	Remove Canadian Goldenrod	x	x	x	x	x	DK/ Vols
70	Trim one third of the hedge each year and clear encroachment into adjacent grass margin.	x	x	x	x	x	GM

SURVEYING AND MONITORING							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Baseline survey of Bryophytes, Fungi and Lichens.		x				Ecologist
All where management takes place	Monitor success of grassland management by carrying out a condition assessment.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols/ Ecologist
62	Monitor vegetation succession within the scrapes.		x		x		DK/Vols/ Ecologist
All woodland cpts	Carry out a condition assessment of the woodlands.			x			DK/Vols/ Ecologist
All	Establish fixed photographic points.	x					DK/Vols
TBC	Set up new butterfly transect in conjunction with Butterfly Conservation.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Vols
62	Organise a night-time moth trapping session.	x					Ecologist/ Vols
All	Organise a programme of invertebrate surveys to be carried out by a specialist ecologist.	x		x		x	Ecologist
All	Encourage volunteers and local experts to carry out invertebrate and bird surveys.	x	x	x	x	x	Ecologist/ Vols
62, 37, 64, 74	Survey the scrub/grassland mosaic for reptiles.	x					DK/Vols
All	Employ an ecologist to carry out a full BTO breeding bird survey.	x					Ecologist/Vols

All	Employ and ecologist to carry out a full bat survey.		x				Ecologist/Vols
62, 37, 64, 74	Investigate the possibility of small mammal trapping.				x		DK/Vols
All	Map and control invasive species.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/ Vols

BIODIVERSITY AND LANDSCAPE							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Maximize opportunities resulting from being part of Surrey's North Downs Biodiversity Opportunity Area.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Planning Dept
All	Value the Downs just as much for its Biodiversity as its public amenity value.	x	x	x	x	X	DK/ Comms team
All	Keep up to date with any opportunities to become part of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Managers
All	Look at the Woodland and Grassland component of Epsom and Walton Downs along with Epsom Downs Golf Course and potentially combined, they could be put forward to be considered for SSSI status.			x			DK/Managers
All	Investigate possibility of			x			DK/Managers

	designating the site as a LNR.						

SITE INTERPRETATION							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
At entrances	Upgrade notice boards in line with recent grant application.	x	x				DK
All	Provide guided walks.			x	x	x	DK/Vols
All	Maintain a good web presence via EEBC website Facebook and Instagram pages.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/ Comms team
All	Highlight to visitors the importance of the Biodiversity of the site.	x	x	x	x	x	DK
All	Investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Managers/ Finance Dept

Volunteering Opportunities							
Compartment	**Management Prescriptions**	**Year**					**Workforce**
		23/24	**24/25**	**25/26**	**26/27**	**27/28**	
All	Liaise with local volunteer groups to ask advice and advertise an Epsom and Walton Downs Volunteer Group.	x					DK
All	Talk to Golf Club members/regular visitors to gauge interest.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/ GC

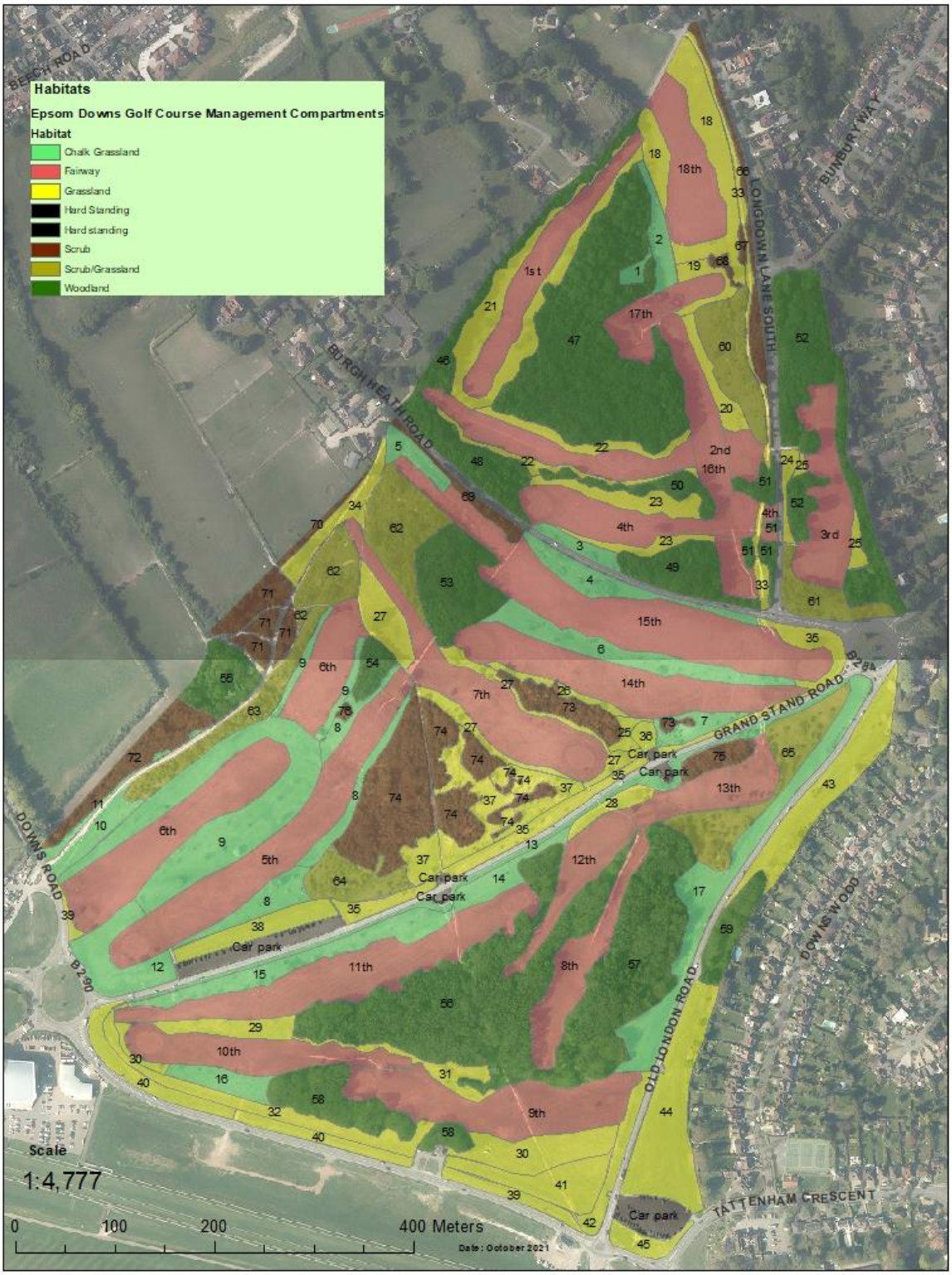
All	Investigate the possibility of increasing staff resource to support the reintroduction of a volunteer group to assist with the habitat management of the Downs.	x	x	x	x	x	DK/Managers/ Finance Dept

MAPS

- Map 1 – Habitat and compartment numbers
- Table with Compartment numbers and names
- Map 2 – Access
- Map 3 – Scrape locations
- Map 4 – Kidney Vetch locations

Map 1

Epsom Downs Golf Course



Created by: Sarah Clift **Habitats with management compartment numbers**

Compartment Number	Compartment Name	Compartment Number	Compartment Name
1	WW2 Bunker	45	Tea Hut Grassland
2	WW2 Bunker grass margin	46	1st Fairway Woodland
3	Burgh Heath Road Margin South	47	WW2 Bunker Woodland
4	Burgh Heath Road Margin North	48	Burgh Heath Road Woodland West
5	15th Tee Rough	49	Burgh Heath Road Woodland East
6	15th Fairway Rough	50	4th Fairway Treeline
7	14th Tee Rough	51	Longdown Lane Copses
8	5th Fairway Rough	52	3rd Fairway Woodland
9	6th Fairway Rough	53	15th Fairway Woodland
10	Downs Road Grassland	54	5th Fairway Woodland
11	Downs Road Grassland Margin	55	Rifle Butts Alley Woodland
12	5th Hole Rough	56	11th Fairway Woodland
13	Grandstand Rd South Margin	57	8th Fairway Woodland
14	11th Hole Rough	58	Tattenham Corner Road Woodland
15	11th Fairway Rough	59	Old London Road East Woodland
16	10th Fairway Rough	60	16th Fairway Scrub/Grassland
17	Old London Rd West	61	3rd Fairway Rough South
18	18th Fairway Rough	62	Small Blue Scrapes Scrub/Grassland
19	17th Fairway Rough	63	6th Fairway Scrub/Grassland
20	16th Fairway Rough	64	Grandstand Road Scrub/Grassland
21	1st Fairway Rough	65	Old London Road Scrub/Grassland
22	2nd Fairway Rough	66	Longdown Lane Road Margin
23	4th Fairway Rough	67	Longdown Lane Hack Ride Scrub
24	Longdown Lane South Margin	68	17th Fairway Scrub
25	3rd Fairway Rough	69	Burgh Heath Road Scrub Line
26	14th Fairway Rough	70	Rifle butts Alley Hedge
27	7th Fairway Rough	71	Rifle Butts Alley Scrub
28	12th Fairway Rough	72	Downs Road Scrub
29	10/11th Fairway Rough	73	14th Fairway Scrub
30	10th Hole Rough	74	Grandstand Road Scrub
31	9th Fairway Rough	75	13th Scrub Island
32	Tattenham Corner Rd Golf Course Margin	76	5th Scrub Island
33	Longdown Lane South Hack Ride		
34	Rifle Butts Alley Grassland		
35	Grandstand Road North Margin		
36	Grandstand Road North Car Park Grassland		
37	Grandstand Road Grassland		
38	Viewpoint Grassland		
39	Downs Road Margin		
40	Tattenham Corner Road Margin		
41	Police car park for Derby		
42	Old London Road Margin		
43	Old London Road East Grassland North		
44	Old London Road East Grassland South		

Map 2

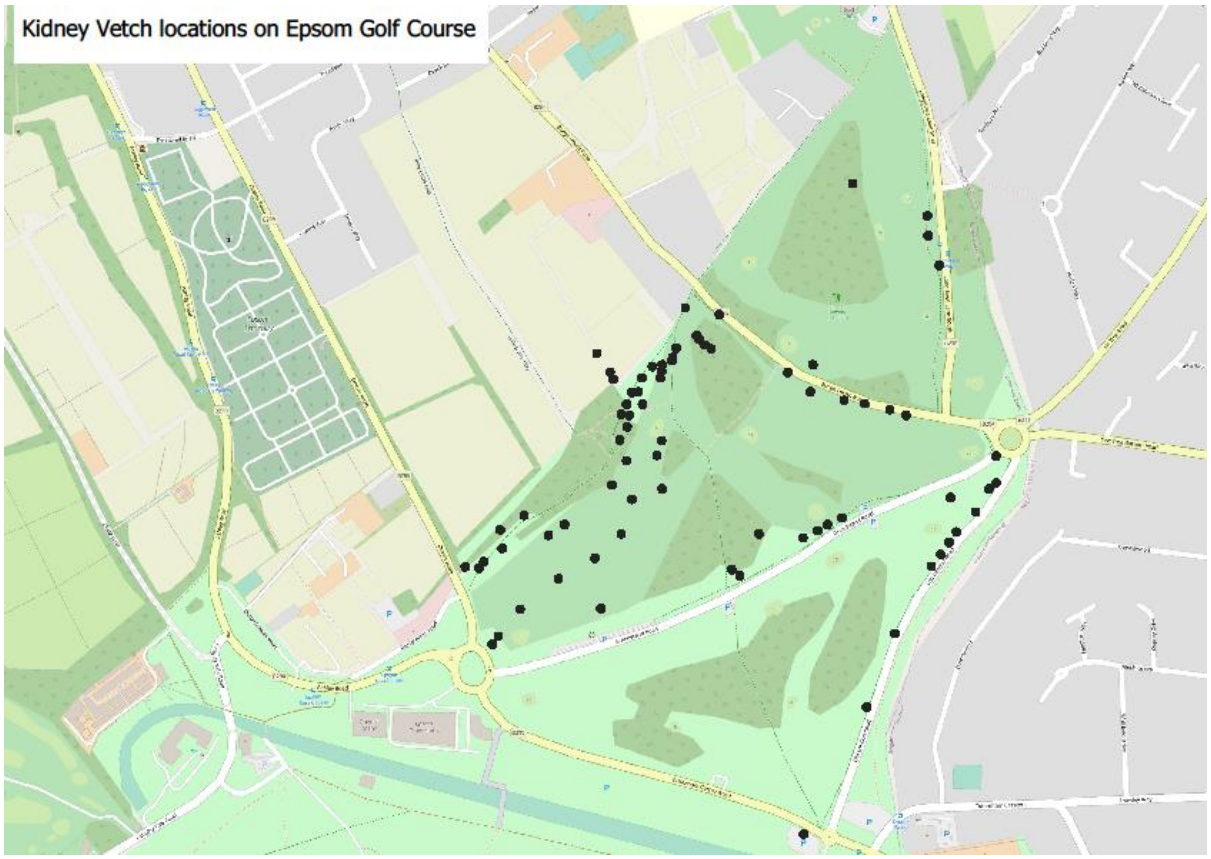
Epsom Downs Golf Course

Created by: Sarah Clift

Access including footpaths and hack rides

Map 3 – Location of Scrapes created to encourage Kidney Vetch.

Map 4



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Epsom Downs Golf Course Management Plan 2015-20 – Peter Howarth, Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
Epsom and Ewell Biodiversity Action Plan 2020-30 – Sarah Clift, Epsom and Ewell Borough Council
SNP
The State of Surrey's Nature - Surrey Wildlife Trust
SNCI Report 2013 – Pete Howarth
Monitoring the condition of lowland grassland SSSIs: Pt 1 English Nature's rapid assessment method (ENRR315)

APPENDICES

1. Site of Nature Conservation Interest report

SNCI Report

Site name: Epsom Downs Golf Course
Current status: SNCI
Grid ref: TQ222589
Area: 56ha
Date of previous survey: 05/08/1998
Date of current survey: 10/07/2013
Surveyor: P Howarth

Site description
Epsom Golf Course is located on the dip slope of the North Downs just south of Epsom town on the southern boundary of the Borough of Epsom and Ewell in Surrey. The central grid reference is TQ 222589, and covers approximately 56 hectares. The site is set in a relatively rural location with Epsom Racecourse to the south and west, open fields to the west and north west and residential housing to the east. There is one Right of Way that goes through the site from the south east corner of the site towards Burgh Heath Road. All of the public rights of way information can be seen via the Surrey County Council Interactive map (see References for address). There are several other local paths that cross the site. The geological map relevant for this area is Sheet 286 Reigate printed in 1978. The entire area is Upper Chalk. The 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales '*Soils of England and Wales Sheet 6 – South East England soil map*' describes the resulting soil type as a brown redzina called Andover 1. This is a shallow well drained calcareous silty soil over chalk and found on slopes.

Previous reasons for selection
Selected for areas of unimproved calcareous grassland. Rare and valuable in both county and national terms. Approximately 46 hectares of unimproved and semi-improved calcareous grassland and 12 hectares of species rich semi-natural woodland.

Reason for selection:
Presence of species rich chalk grassland Bromus erectus grassland CG3.
Butterflies, Small Blue the site support a population of this butterfly which is on the list A of butterflies of importance in Surrey.

Habitat description:
Abundance is based on the DAFOR scale and refers to the specific section of the site.The overall abundance across the site is provided in the Species List
DAFOR ratings for certain species, notably annual, can change throughout the year.
The DAFOR scale uses the following key:- **D**ominant; **A**bundant; **F**requent; **O**ccasional; **R**are:
Nomenclature follows Stace (2010) for vascular plants.

Target note 1:- Grassland area car park common species are found here such as Perennial Rye Grass, Rough Stalked Meadow Grass, Red Fescue, Cocksfoot and Timothy. Along with herbs such as Yarrow, White Clover, Common Birds Foot Trefoil and Perennial Sow Thistle. This area shows signs of disturbance due to nutrient enrichment.

Target note 2:- Short un mown grassland with Sainfoin, Quaking Grass, Small Scaboius, Crested Hair Grass.

Target note 3:- Some of the grassland areas are dominated by False Oat Grass. They do contain some calcareous species including Upright Brome.

Target note 4:- Low grassy sward Yorkshire Fog, Kidney Vetch areas, alongside old London Road.

Target note 5:-Long grass calcareous grassland composed of Birds Foot Trefoil, Black Knapweed, Chalk False Brome, Cocksfoot, Common Mouse-ear, Common Ragwort, Creeping Thistle, Lady's Bedstraw, Daisy, Dandelion, Dropwort, Fairy flax, False Oat Grass, Glaucous Sedge, Greater Knapweed, Kidney Vetch, Lesser Trefoil, Perforate St. John's Wort, Perennial Rye Grass, Quaking Grass, Restharrow, Rough Hawkbit, Salad Burnet, Sheep's Fescue, Wild Carrot, Wild Parsnip, Wild Mignotte, Sainfoin, Small Scaboius and Upright Brome.

Target note 6:- Close mown sloping calcareous grassland, rare Round Headed Rampion, occasional Common Rock Rose, occasional Wild Thyme and occasional Quaking Grass, Salad Burnet Rough Hawkbit, rare Fairy Flax, Burnet Saxifrage, Crested Hairgrass, Small Scaboius and Squincywort, locally abundant Sheep's Fescue.

Target note 7:- Scrapes, areas have had the surface vegetation removed to reveal bare chalk to encourage the growth of Kidney Vetch to support the Small Blue butterfly. The current state is a mix of bare ground and herbs such as Common Toadflax, Kidney Vetch, Marjoram, Rough Hawkbit, abundant Salad Burnet, Smaller Cat's tail, Wild mignotte and Common Field Scaboius.

Target note 8:- Scrub. This is scattered over the site and is composed of Ash, Black Horehound, Bramble, Buddleia, Cocksfoot, Common Couch, Cow Parsley, Crab apple, Creeping Thistle, Dogwood, Elder, False Oat Grass, Ground Elder, Hawthorn, Hedgerow Cranesbill, Hogweed, Ivy, Large Bindweed, Marjoram, Nettle, Privet, Rough Chervil, Sterile brome, Wild Cherry, Blackthorn.

Target note 9:- Northern woodland. This is a semi natural broadleaved woodland with a closed canopy comprised of frequent Ash, Sycamore, Pedunculate Oak with some Wild Cherry and Silver birch. The shrub layer is composed of Hawthorn, Elder, Hazel, Wild Privet and Dog rose and Clematis. The herb layer Cocksfoot, Dog Rose, Herb Robert, Lesser Burdock, Nettle, Prickly Sow Thistle, Rough Chervil, Upright Hedge Parsley and Sanicle. Along some of the path chalk flowers were found including occasional Agrimony, Common Rock Rose, rare Dropwort and Salad Burnet.

Target note 10:- Southern woodland. This is a semi natural broadleaved woodland. It has a dense canopy composed of Pedunculate Oak and Sycamore. The scrub layer is made up of Hawthorn, Elder, Hazel and Blackthorn.

Target note 11:- TQ22208 58793. Mesothrophic grassland. The grassland here was short and includes a low bank around the car park area. The plant species included frequent Annual Meadow Grass, occasional Black Knapweed, rare bramble, occasional Burnett Saxifrage, frequent Cocksfoot, rare Common Ragwort, frequent Dandelion, rare False Oat Grass, rare Hedgerow Cranesbill, abundant Perrenial Rye Grass, occasional Red Bartsia, Ribwort Plantain and rare Yorkshire Fog.

Target note 12:- TQ2221958818 Calcareous grassland. This grassland had a tall sward and rare Hawthorn scrub encroachment. It is locally dominated by False Oat Grass, Upright Brome and Chalk False Brome. Along with occasional Black Knapweed, Cocksfoot, Lady's Bedstraw, rare Kidney Vetch, Salad Burnet, Wild Parsnip.

Target note 13:- TQ2221758845 Dense scrub with dominant Hawthorn, occasional Ash, rare Bramble, Buckthorn, Crab Apple, Dog Rose, Pedunculate Oak, Privet and Spindle. The herb layer was locally dominated by Ivy with occasional Ground Elder. Scattered through the scrub were open glades with rare Agrimony, occasional Black Knapweed, abundant Chalk False Brome, occasional Cocksfoot, False Oat Grass, Upright Brome and rare Smaller Cat's Tail. Also in this area were occasional larger trees including Ash and Sycamore.

Target Note 14:- TQ2240259402, calcareous grassland. This area is steeply sloping herb rich area, with scrub encroachment, patches of bare soil and a rich bryophyte layer. It contained occasional Black Knapweed and Eyebright, rare Burnet Saxifrage, Chalk False Brome, Greater Knapweed, Harebell, Autumn Gentian, Wild Carrot, abundant Salad Burnet. The bryophytes included Comb-moss (Ctenidium molluscum), Endive Pellia (Pellia endiviifolia), Top Notchwort (Leiocolea turbinata), Curly Crisp-moss (Trichostomum crispulum) and Variable Forklet-moss (Dicranella varia).

Target Note 15:- Grassland area between close mown fairway and scrub alongside path, composed of mostly rough grassland with Perrenial Rye grass, Cocksfoot, Ribwort Plantain, Red Bartsia and Black knapweed with occasional chalk flowers including local abundant Restharrow.

Target Note 16:- A thin strip of woodland composed of a canopy of Ash and Scyamore producing dense shade. An understory of occasional Hawthorn and locally dominant Dogwood and Privet. The ground layer is dominated by Ivy with occasional Holly seedlings. There are occasional more open areas with Black Knapweed, Nettle, False Oat Grass and Cocksfoot present.

NVC types present
CG2 Festuca ovina-Avenula pratensis grassland
CG3 Bromus erectus grassland
MG1a Arrhenatheretum elatioris grassland, Festuca rubra sub-community
MG1e Arrhenatheretum elatioris grassland, Centaurea nigra sub-community
W8 Fraxinus excelsior-Acer cmapestre-mercurialis perennis woodland
W10 Quercus robur-Pteridium aquilinum-Rubus fruticosus woodland
W21 Crataegus monogyna-Hedera helix scrub
W22 Prunus spinosa-Rubus fruticosus scrub
W24 Rubus fruticosus-Holcus lanatus underscrub

Current management:
Areas of grassland are cut on various timings depending on the use of the area, greens, fairways and roughs, the current regime seems quite successful at maintaining a good range of plants, the creation of scrapes to encouraging the growth of Kidney Vetch to attract the Small Blue butterfly has taken place in recent years.

Management advice:
A priority for the management is the control of scrub, this is both to prevent the development of scrub in the grassland and the encroachment of existing scrub areas in to the grassland. There are areas of the good quality chalk grassland which are in danger of being lost, if major scrub clearance is not carried out.
As mentioned above the current grass management is quite successful, however it could be improved by clearing more of the arisings from the cut area.

Photographs:

Calcareous grassland on Epsom Downs Golf course

Species lists:

Plant list

Common name	Scientific name	Abundance
Agrimony	Agrimonia eupatoria	r
Annual meadow grass	Poa annua	r
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	r
Autumn Gentian	Gentianella amarella	r
Beech	Faggus sylvatica	r
Black bryony	Tamus communis	r
Black horehound	Ballota nigra	r
Black medick	Medicago lupulina	r
Bladder campion	Silene vulgaris	r
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	r
Broad leaved dock	Rumex obtusifolius	r
Buckthorn	Rhamnus cathartica	r
Bugle	Ajuga reptans	r
Burnet saxifrage	Pimpinella saxifraga	r
Butterfly-bush	Buddleja davidii	r
Canadian Goldenrod	Solidago canadensis	r
Cock's-foot	Dactylis glomerata	o
Common Bent	Agrostis capillaris	o
Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	Lotus corniculatus	r
Common Chickweed	Stellaria media	r
Common Couch	Elytrigia repens	r
Common Eyebright	Euphrasia nemorosa	r
Common Knapweed	Centaurea nigra	r
Common Mallow	Malva sylvestris	r
Common Milkwort	Polygala vulgaris	r
Common Nettle	Urtica dioica	r
Common Ragwort	Senecio jacobaea	r
Common Restharrow	Ononis repens	r
Common Rockrose	Helianthemum nummularium	r
Common Toadflax	Linaria vulgaris	r
Common Vetch	Vicia sativa	r
Cow Parsley	Anthriscus sylvestris	r
Crab Apple	Malus sylvestris	r
Creeping Bent	Agrostis stolonifera	r
Creeping Thistle	Cirsium arvense	r
Crested Dog's-tail	Cynosurus cristatus	r
Crested Hairgrass	Koeleria macrantha	r
Daisy	Bellis perennis	r
Dandelion	Taraxacum spp	r
Dog-rose	Rosa canina	r
Dog's Mercury	Mercurialis perennis	r
Dogwood	Cornus sanguinea	r

Downy Oat-grass	Avenula pubescens	r
Dropwort	Filipendula vulgaris	r
Elder	Sambucus nigra	r
Enchanter's-nightshade	Circaea lutetiana	r
English Elm	Ulmus procera	r
English oak	Quercus robur	o
Evergreen oak	Quercus ilex	r
Fairy Flax	Linum catharticum	r
False Brome	Brachypodium sylvaticum	r
False Oat-grass	Arrhenatherum elatius	o
Field Bindweed	Convolvulus arvensis	r
Field Maple	Acer campestre	r
Field Scabious	Knautia arvensis	r
Garlic Mustard	Alliaria petiolata	r
Germander Speedwell	Veronica chamaedrys	r
Giant Fescue	Schedonorus giganteus	r
Glaucous Sedge	Carex flacca	r
Goatsbeard	Tragopogon pratensis	r
Gorse	Ulex europaeus	r
Greater Burdock	Arctium lappa	r
Greater Knapweed	Centaurea scabiosa	r
Greater Plantain	Plantago major	r
Greater Stitchwort	Stellaria holostea	r
Ground Elder	Aegopodium podagraria	r
Ground Ivy	Glechoma hederacea	r
Hairbell	Campanula rotundifolia	r
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna	r
Hazel	Corylus avellana	r
Hedge Bedstraw	Galium mollugo	r
Hedge Woundwort	Stachys sylvatica	r
Hedgerow Cranesbill	Geranium pyrenaicum	r
Herb Robert	Geranium robertianum	r
Hogweed	Heracleum sphondylium	r
Holly	Ilex aquifolium	r
Honeysuckle	Lonicera periclymemum	r
Hop Trefoil	Trifolium campestre	r
Horse Chestnut	Aesculus hippocastanum	r
Ivy	Hedera helix	r
Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Cymbalaria muralis	r
Juniper	Jupiperus communis	r
Kidney Vetch	Anthyllis vulneraria	r
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare	r
Large-leaved Lime	Tilia platyphyllos	r
Lords-and-Ladies	Arum maculatum	r

Meadow Foxtail	Alopecurus pratensis	r
Meadow Oat-grass	Avenula pratense	r
Meadow vetchling	Lathyrus pratensis	r
Mugwort	Artemisia vulgaris	r
Nipplewort	Lapsana communis	r
Perennial Rye-grass	Lolium perenne	o
Perennial Sowthistle	Sonchus arvensis	r
Perforate St John's-wort	Hypericum perforatum	r
Pineappleweed	Matricaria discoidea	r
Quaking grass	Brizia media	r
Red Bartsia	Odontites vernus	r
Red Campion	Silene dioica	r
Red clover	Trifolium pratense	r
Red fescue	Festuca rubra	f
Ribwort plantain	Plantago lanceolata	r
Rosebay Willowherb	Chamerion angustifolium	r
Rough chervil	Chaerophyllum temulum	r
Rough hawkbit	Leontodon hispidus	r
Sainfoin	Onobrychis viciifolia	r
Salad burnet	Sanguisorba minor	r
Scyamore	Acer pseudoplatanus	r
Self heal	Prunella vulgaris	r
Sheeps Fescue	Festuca ovina	r
Shepherd's-purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	r
Silver Birch	Betula pendula	r
Small scabious	Scabiosa columbaria	r
Smaller Cat's-tail	Phleum bertolonii	r
Smooth Sowthistle	Sonchus oleraceus	r
Smooth stalked meadow grass	Poa pratensis	r
Snowberry	Symphoricarpos albus	r
Soft brome	Bromus hordeaceus	r
Spear thistle	Cirsium vulgare	r
Spindle	Euonymus europaeus	r
Squinancywort	Asperula cynanchica	r
Sweet Chestnut	Castanea sativa	r
Sweet vernal grass	Anthoxanthum odoratum	r
Sweet-briar	Rosa rubiginosa	r
Teasel	Dipsacus fullonum	r
Timothy	Phleum pratense	r
Tor-grass	Brachypodium pinnatum	o
Traveller's-joy	Clematis vitalba	r
Turkey Oak	Quercus cerris	r
Upight hedge parsley	Torilis japonica	r
Upright Brome	Bromopsis erecta	f

Wall Barley	Hordeum murinum	r
Wayfaring-tree	Viburnum lantana	r
White campion	Silene latifolia	r
White Dead-nettle	Lamium album	r
Wild Basil	Clipopodium vulgare	r
Wild Carrot	Daucus carota	r
Wild Cherry	Prunus avium	r
Wild Marjoram	Origanum vulgare	r
Wild Parsnip	Pastinaca sativa	r
Wild Privet	Ligustrum vulgare	r
Wild Thyme	Thymus polytrichus	r
Wood Avens	Geum urbanum	r
Wood Dock	Rumex sanguineus	r
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	r
Yellow Oatgrass	Trisetum flavescens	r
Yew	Taxus baccata	r
Yorkshire-fog	Holcus lanatus	o
Rough stalked meadowgrass	Poa trivialis	r

2. Species Records

Species highlighted in red indicate priority species as defined in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC).

Bryophytes (Mosses and Liverworts)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date last recorded**
Ctenidium molluscum	Comb-moss	2014
Dicranella varia	Variable Forklet-moss	2014
Homalothecium lutescens		2014
Homalothecium sericeum		2020
Hypnum lacunosum		2014
Leiocolea turbinata	Top Notchwort	2014
Pellia endiviifolia	Endive Pellia	2014
Pseudosceropodium purum		2014
Trichostomum crispulum	Curly Crisp-moss	2014

Vascular Plants

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last seen
Acer campestre	Field Maple	2020
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	2021
Acer pseudoplatanus	Scyamore	2021
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	2021
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground-elder	2021
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	2021
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony	2021
Agrostis capillaris	Common Bent	2021
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent	2021
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	2014
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	2021
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow Foxtail	2014
Anacamptis pyramidalis	Pyramidal Orchid	2021
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	2021
Anisantha sterilis	Barren Brome	2021
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet vernal grass	2014
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	2021
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	2021
Aquilegia vulgaris	Columbine	2015
Arabidopsis thaliana	Thale Cress	2015
Arctium lappa	Greater Burdock	2014
Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	2015
Armoracia rusticana	Horse-radish	2021
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass	2021
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	2021

Arum maculatum	Lords-and-ladies	2015
Asperula cynanchica	Squinancywort	2021
Aster lanceolatus	Narrow-leaved Michaelmas-daisy	2001
Aster novi-belgii	Confused Michaelmas-daisy	2001
Aster sp.	A michaelmas-daisy	2014
Aster x salignus	Michaelmas Daisy (A. lanceolatus x novi-belgii)	2021
Atriplex prostrata	Spear-leaved Orache	2014
Avenula pratense	Meadow Oat-grass	2014
Avenula pubescens	Downy Oat-grass	2014
Ballota nigra	Black Horehound	2021
Bellis perennis	Daisy	2021
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	2021
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch	2015
Blackstonia perfoliata	Yellow-wort	2014
Brachypodium pinnatum	Tor-grass	2021
Brachypodium sylvaticum	False-brome	2021
Brassica juncea	Chinese Mustard	2015
Briza media	Quaking-grass	2021
Bromopsis erecta	Upright Brome	2021
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft-brome	2021
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony	2021
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly-bush	2021
Calystegia sepium	Hedge Bindweed	2021
Campanula glomerata	Clustered Bellflower	1989
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell	2021
Campanula trachelium	Nettle-leaved Bellflower	2021
Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's-purse	2021
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy Bitter-cress	2015
Carex flacca	Glaucous Sedge	2021
Carex hirta	Hairy Sedge	2021
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge	2014
Carlina vulgaris	Carline Thistle	2021
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	2021
Castanea sativa	Sweet Chestnut	2021
Centaurea debeauxii	Chalk Knapweed	2014
Centaurea nigra	Common Knapweed	2020
Centaurea scabiosa	Greater Knapweed	2021
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	2021
Chaenorhinum minus	Small Toadflax	2014
Chaerophyllum temulum	Rough chervil	2021
Chamerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willowherb	2021
Chenopodium album agg.	Fat Hen	2021
Chenopodium polyspermum	Many-seeded Goosefoot	2021
Cichorium intybus	Chicory	2021

Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade	2014
Cirsium acaule	Dwarf Thistle	2021
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	2021
Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	2021
Clematis vitalba	Traveller’s Joy	2021
Clinopodium vulgare	Wild Basil	2021
Cochlearia danica	Danish Scurvygrass	2015
Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	2021
Conyza canadensis	Canadian Fleabane	2021
Conyza floribunda	Bilbao's Fleabane	2021
Conyza sumatrensis	Guernsey Fleabane	2021
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	2021
Corylus avellana	Hazel	2021
Cotoneaster franchetii	Franchet's Cotoneaster	2021
Cotoneaster frigidus	Tree Cotoneaster	1997
Cotoneaster horizontalis	Wallspray	2021
Cotoneaster lacteus	Late Cotoneaster	2021
Cotoneaster marginatus	Fringed Cotoneaster	2021
Cotoneaster salicifolius	Willow-leaved Cotoneaster	1981
Cotoneaster sp.	A cotoneaster	2014
Cotoneaster sternianus	Stern's Cotoneaster	1999
Cotoneaster x watereri	Waterer's Cotoneaster	2015
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	2021
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawk's-beard	2021
Cymbalaria muralis	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	2014
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	2014
Cytisus scoparius	Broom	2021
Dactylis glomerata	Cock’s-foot	2021
Dactylorhiza fuchsii	Common Spotted-orchid	2014
Daucus carota	Wild Carrot	2021
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	2014
Diplotaxis muralis	Annual Wall-rocket	2021
Dipsacus fullonum	Teasel	2014
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	2021
Elytrigia repens	Common Couch	2021
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	2014
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved Willowherb	2014
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary Willowherb	2014
Epipactis helleborine	Broad-leaved Helleborine	2010
Erigeron acris	Blue Fleabane	2015
Erodium moschatum	Musk Stork's-bill	2015
Erophila verna	Common Whitlowgrass	2015
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	2015
Eupatorium cannabinum	Hemp-agrimony	2021

Euphorbia cyparissias	Cypress Spurge	2021
Euphorbia helioscopia	Sun Spurge	2015
Euphorbia peplus	Petty Spurge	2014
Euphorbia x pseudovirgata	Twiggy Spurge	2014
Euphrasia nemorosa	Common Eyebright	2014
Euphrasia officinalis agg.	Eyebright	2014
Euphrasia psuedokerneri	Chalk eyebright	2014
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	2021
Fallopia baldschuanica	Russian Vine	2014
Fallopia convolvulus	Black Bindweed	2014
Festuca ovina	Sheeps Fescue	2013
Festuca ovina agg.	Sheep's Fescue [agg.]	2014
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	2013
Festuca rubra agg.	Red Fescue	2014
Filipendula vulgaris	Dropwort	2021
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	2021
Fumaria officinalis subsp. officinalis	Common Fumitory	2021
Galega officinalis	Goat's-rue	2014
Galium aparine	Cleavers	2014
Galium album (or Galium mollugo)	Hedge Bedstraw	2021
Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw	2021
Gentianella amarella	Autumn Gentian	2020
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	2014
Geranium phaeum	Dusky Crane's-bill	1991
Geranium pratense	Meadow Crane's-bill	1980
Geranium pusillum	Small-flowered Crane's-bill	2014
Geranium pyrenaicum	Hedgerow Cranesbill	2021
Geranium robertianum	Herb-robert	2014
Geranium x magnificum	Purple Crane's-bill	1977
Geum urbanum	Herb Bennet	2021
Glechoma hederacea	Ground Ivy	2021
Gymnadenia conopsea	Chalk Fragrant-orchid	2010
Hedera helix	Ivy	2020
Helianthemum nummularium	Common Rock-rose	2021
Helleborus foetidus	Stinking Hellebore	2010
Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly Oxtongue	2021
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	2014
Hieracium sabaudum	Autumn Hawkweed	2015
Hippocrepis comosa	Horseshoe Vetch	2006
Hirschfeldia incana	Hoary Mustard	2021
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	2021
Hordeum murinum	Wall Barley	2021
Hyacinthoides hispanica	Spanish Bluebell	2014
Hyacinthoides x massartiana	Hybrid Bluebell (H. non-scripta x hispanica)	2015

Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell	2014
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan	2021
Hypericum calycinum	Rose-of-Sharon	2015
Hypericum hirsutum	Hairy St. John's-wort	2021
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	2021
Hypericum x inodorum	Tall Tutsan (H. androsaemum x hircinum)	1977
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear	2021
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	2021
Juniperus communis	Juniper	2021
Knautia arvensis	Field Scabious	2020
Koeleria macrantha	Crested Hairgrass	2014
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	2014
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	2014
Lathyrus nissolia	Grass Vetchling	2014
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	2014
Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	2015
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	2021
Lamium maculatum	Spotted Dead-nettle	2012
Lamium purpureum	Red Dead-nettle	2015
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	2021
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling	2021
Leontodon hispidus	Rough Hawkbit	2021
Leontodon saxatilis	Lesser Hawkbit	2014
Lepidium campestre	Field Pepperwort	2014
Lepidium didymum	Lesser Swine-cress	2014
Lepidium draba	Hoary Cress	2021
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	2014
Leucanthemum x superbum	Shasta Daisy	2021
Ligustrum ovalifolium	Garden Privet	2021
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild Privet	2014
Linaria purpurea	Purple Toadflax	2021
Linaria vulgaris	Common Toadflax	2021
Linum catharticum	Fairy Flax	2021
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass	2021
Lonicera caprifolium	Perfoliate Honeysuckle	2020
Lonicera periclymemum	Honeysuckle	2015
Lonicera x italica	L. caprifolium x etrusca	2021
Lotus corniculatus	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	2021
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil	2021
Luzula campestris	Field Wood-rush	2014
Mahonia aquifolium	Oregon-grape	2021
Malus domestica	Apple	2014
Malus pumila	Apple	2021
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple	2014

Malva neglecta	Dwarf Mallow	2021
Malva sylvestris	Common Mallow	2021
Matricaria chamomilla	Scented Mayweed	1997
Matricaria discoidea	Pineapple Weed	2021
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	2021
Medicago sativa ssp. Sativa	Lucerne	2014
Melilotus albus	White Melilot	2021
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's Mercury	2021
Moehringia trinervia	Three-nerved Sandwort	2014
Muscari armeniacum	Garden Grape-hyacinth	2015
Muscari comosum	Tassel Hyacinth	1995
Mycelis muralis	Wall Lettuce	2021
Odontites vernus	Red Bartsia	2021
Onobrychis viciifolia	Sainfoin	2014
Ononis repens	Common Restharrow	2021
Ophrys apifera	Bee Orchid	2010
Origanum vulgare	Wild Marjoram	2021
Orobanche elatior	Knapweed Broomrape	2020
Orobanche minor	Common Broomrape	1997
Papaver dubium	Long-headed Poppy	2021
Pastinaca sativa ssp. Sativa	Wild Parsnip	2021
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	2021
Phleum bertolonii	Smaller Cat's-tail	2021
Phleum pratense	Timothy	2021
Phyteuma orbiculare	Round-headed Rampion	2014
Picris echioides	Bristly Oxtongue	2014
Picris hieracioides	Hawkweed Oxtongue	2021
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear-hawkweed	2014
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage	2021
Pinus sylvestris	Scots Pine	2014
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn Plantain	2021
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	2021
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	2021
Plantago media	Hoary Plantain	2021
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass	2021
Poa compressa	Flattened Meadow-grass	2014
Poa pratensis	Smooth stalked meadow grass	2014
Poa trivialis	Rough stalked meadowgrass	2014
Polygala calcarea	Chalk Milkwort	2014
Polygala vulgaris	Common Milkwort	2014
Polygonum aviculare	Knotgrass	2021
Populus alba x tremula	Grey Poplar	2014
Populus tremula	Aspen	2014
Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	2021

Potentilla reptans	Creeping Cinquefoil	2021
Primula veris	Cowslip	2010
Prunella vulgaris	Self heal	2014
Prunus avium	Wild Cherry	2021
Prunus cerasifera var. pissardii		2015
Prunus domestica ssp.	Domestic Plum	2021
Prunus domestica subsp. insititia	Damson / Bullace	2014
Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry Laurel	2021
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	2021
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common Fleabane	2021
Pyracantha sp.	Firethorn sp.	2014
Pyrus communis	Pear	2014
Quercus cerris	Turkey Oak	2021
Quercus ilex	Evergreen Oak	2021
Quercus petraea	Sessile Oak	2021
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	2021
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	2014
Ranunculus bulbosus	Bulbous Buttercup	2015
Ranunculus ficaria	Lesser Celandine	2014
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	2014
Reseda lutea	Wild Mignonette	2021
Reseda luteola	Weld	2015
Rhamnus cathartica	Buckthorn	2021
Rosa canina	Dog-rose	2014
Rosa canina agg.	Dog Rose	2014
Rosa canina group Dumales	Dog-rose	2021
Rosa canina group Lutetianae	Dog-rose	2015
Rosa obtusifolia	Round-leaved Dog-rose	2021
Rosa rubiginosa	Sweet-briar	2014
Rosa stylosa	Short-styled Field-rose	1981
Rosa stylosa x canina	Rosa x andegavensis (f x m)	1981
Rosa tomentosa	Harsh Downy-rose	1996
Rosa x andegavensis	Rosa x andegavensis (fxm or mxf)	2021
Rubus armeniacus		2021
Rubus caesius	Dewberry	2014
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	2020
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	2021
Rubus neomalacus		1999
Rubus ulmifolius	Elm-leaved Bramble	2021
Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	2021
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	2021
Rumex cristatus	Greek Dock	1999
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	2021
Rumex sanguineus	Wood Dock	2014

Sagina apetala ssp. Apetala	Annual Pearlwort	2014
Sagina nodosa	Knotted Pearlwort	1981
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	2014
Salvia pratensis	Meadow Clary	1987
Sambucus nigra	Elder	2021
Sanguisorba minor	Salad Burnet	2021
Saponaria officinalis	Soapwort	2014
Saxifraga tridactylites	Rue-leaved Saxifrage	2014
Scabiosa columbaria	Small Scabious	2021
Schedonorus arundinaceus	Tall Fescue	2014
Schedonorus giganteus	Giant Fescue	2014
Schedonorus pratensis	Meadow Fescue	2014
Schedonorus pratensis x Lolium perenne	Schedonorus pratensis x Lolium perenne	2014
Scorzoneroides autumnalis	Autumn Hawkbit	2021
Senecio erucifolius	Hoary Ragwort	2021
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort	2021
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	2021
Sherardia arvensis	Field Madder	2014
Silene dioica	Red Campion	2014
Silene latifolia	White campion	2014
Silene vulgaris ssp. Vulgaris	Bladder Campion	2021
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard	2021
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet	2014
Solidago canadensis	Canadian Goldenrod	2021
Solidago gigantean	Early Goldenrod	2021
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial Sowthistle	2021
Sonchus asper	Prickly Sow-thistle	2021
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sowthistle	2021
Sorbus aria	Common Whitebeam	2015
Sorbus aria agg.	Whitebeam	2021
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	2014
Sorbus latifolia	Broad-leaved Whitebeam	1991
Sorbus x thuringiaca	S. aria x aucuparia	1965
Spergula arvensis	Corn Spurrey	2014
Spiranthes spiralis	Autumn Lady's-tresses	2015
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	2021
Stellaria holostea	Greater Stitchwort	2014
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	2021
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry	2014
Symphoricarpos x chenaultii	Pink Snowberry	1997
Symphytum orientale	White Comfrey	2014
Tamus communis	Black bryony	2021
Tanacetum vulgare	Tansy	2014
Taraxacum officinale agg.	Dandelion	2021

Taxus baccata	Yew	2021
Thalictrum minus	Lesser Meadow-rue	2014
Thesium humifusum	Bastard-toadflax	2014
Thymus polytrichus	Wild Thyme	2020
Tilia cordata x platyphyllos	Lime	2014
Tilia x europaea	Lime	2015
Tilia platyphyllos	Large-leaved Lime	2021
Torilis japonica	Upright Hedge-parsley	2014
Tragopogon pratensis	Goat's-beard	2014
Trifolium campestre	Hop Trefoil	2021
Trifolium dubium	Lesser Trefoil	2014
Trifolium fragiferum	Strawberry Clover	2014
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	2014
Trifolium repens	White Clover	2021
Trisetum flavescens	Yellow Oatgrass	2014
Tussilago farfara	Colt's-foot	2021
Ulex europaeus	Gorse	2021
Ulmus procera	English Elm	2014
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	2021
Veronica arvensis	Wall Speedwell	2014
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	2014
Veronica filiformis	Slender Speedwell	2015
Veronica hederifolia	Ivy-leaved Speedwell	2015
Veronica polita	Grey Field-speedwell	2014
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring-tree	2021
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	2021
Vicia sativa	Common Vetch	2014
Vicia sepium	Bush Vetch	2014
Vinca major	Greater Periwinkle	2015
Viola hirta	Hairy Violet	2021
Viola reichenbachiana	Early Dog-violet	2015
Viola sp.	A violet	2014
Viscum album	Mistletoe	2014

Molluscs (Slugs, Snails and Oligochaetes)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date last recorded**
Cochlicopa cf. lubricella	Least Slippery Snail	2009
Discus (Gonyodiscus) rotundatus	Rounded Snail	2009
Monacha (Monacha) cantiana	Kentish Snail	2009
Cornu aspersum	Common Garden Snail	2009
Aegopinella nitidula	Smooth Glass Snail	2009

Arachnids (Spiders, Harvestmen, Mites and Ticks)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Amaurobius fenestralis	Amaurobius fenestralis	2009
Anelosimus vittatus	Anelosimus vittatus	2009
Anyphaena accentuata	Buzzing Spider	2009
Araneus diadematus	Garden Orb-Web Spider	2009
Araniella cucurbitina	Araniella cucurbitina	2009
Clubiona brevipes	Clubiona brevipes	2009
Clubiona comta	Clubiona comta	2009
Dictyna arundinacea	Dictyna arundinacea	2009
Dysdera erythrina	Woodlouse Spider	2009
Enoplognatha latimana	Enoplognatha latimana	2009
Heliophanus flavipes	Heliophanus flavipes	2009
Labulla thoracica	Labulla thoracica	2009
Leiobunum rotundum	Leiobunum rotundum	2009
Linyphia triangularis	Linyphia triangularis	2009
Mangora acalypha	Mangora acalypha	2009
Metellina mengei	Metellina mengei	2009
Microlinyphia pusilla	Microlinyphia pusilla	2009
Misumena vatia	Misumena vatia	2009
Mitopus morio	Mitopus morio	2009
Neriene peltata	Neriene peltata	2009
Nuctenea umbratica	Walnut Orb-Weaver Spider	2009
Paidiscura pallens	Paidiscura pallens	2009
Philodromus albidus	Philodromus albidus	2009
Philodromus cespitum	Philodromus cespitum	2009
Pisaura mirabilis	Nursery-Web Spider	2009
Tetragnatha montana	Tetragnatha montana	2009
Theridion mystaceum	Theridion mystaceum	2009
Theridion sisyphium	Theridion sisyphium	2009
Theridion varians	Theridion varians	2009
Xysticus cristatus	Xysticus cristatus	2009
Zygiella atrica	Zygiella atrica	2009

Lepidoptera (Butterflies)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Anthocharis cardamines	Orange-tip	2009
Callophrys rubi	Green Hairstreak	2014
Cupido minimus	Small Blue	2020
Gonepteryx rhamni	Brimstone	2009
Inachis io	Peacock	2009
Lycaena phlaeas	Small Copper	2009

Maniola jurtina	Meadow Brown	2009
Melanargia galathea	Marbled White	2014
Pararge aegeria	Speckled Wood	2009
Pieris brassicae	Large White	2009
Pieris rapae	Small White	2009
Polygonia c-album	Comma	2009
Vanessa atalanta	Red Admiral	2009

Lepidoptera (Moths)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Colotois pennaria	Feathered Thorn	2009
Mesoligia furuncula	Cloaked Minor	2009
Noctua janthe	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing	2009
Phalera bucephala	Buff-tip	2009
Phragmatobia fuliginosa	Ruby Tiger	2009
Recurvaria leucatella	A micro moth	2009
Zygaena filipendulae	Six-spot Burnet	2009

Coleoptera (Beetles)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Acalles misellus	Acalles misellus	2009
Agriotes sputator	Agriotes sputator	2009
Anaspis (Anaspis) humeralis	Anaspis (Anaspis) humeralis	2009
Anaspis (Anaspis) maculata	Anaspis (Anaspis) maculata	2009
Anapsis thoracica	A beetle	2009
Anobium punctatum	Common Furniture Beetle	2009
Aphthona nonstriata	Iris Flea Beetle	2009
Archarius pyrrhoceras	Archarius pyrrhoceras	2009
Athous (Athous) haemorrhoidalis	Athous (Athous) haemorrhoidalis	2009
Barypeithes (Exomias) pellucidus	Hairy Spider Weevil	2009
Bembidion (Metallina) lampros	Bembidion (Metallina) lampros	2009
Brachypterus glaber	Brachypterus glaber	2009
Brachypterus urticae	Nettle Pollen Beetle	2009
Byturus ochraceus	Byturus ochraceus	2009
Cantharis decipiens	Cantharis decipiens	2009
Cantharis rustica	Cantharis rustica	2009
Cassida rubiginosa	Thistle Tortoise Beetle	2009
Coccinella septempunctata	7-spot Ladybird	2009
Cryptocephalus hypochaeridis	Cryptocephalus hypochaeridis	2009
Dromius quadrimaculatus	Dromius quadrimaculatus	2009
Drusilla canaliculata	Drusilla canaliculata	2009
Euophryum confine	Wood-Boring Weevil	2009

Eutrichapion (Eutrichapion) ervi	Eutrichapion (Eutrichapion) ervi	2009
Exapion (Ulapion) ulicis	Gorse Weevil	2009
Exochomus quadripustulatus	Pine Ladybird	2009
Gonodera luperus	Gonodera luperus	2009
Halyzia sedecimguttata	Orange Ladybird	2009
Harmonia axyridis	Harlequin Ladybird	2009
Holotrichapion (Holotrichapion) ononis	Holotrichapion (Holotrichapion) ononis	2009
Lochmaea crataegi	Hawthorn Leaf Beetle	2009
Longitarsus luridus	Longitarsus luridus	2009
Mecinus pascuorum	Mecinus pascuorum	2009
Mecinus pyraster	Mecinus pyraster	2009
Meligethes aeneus	Common Pollen Beetle	2009
Nedyus quadrimaculatus	Small Nettle Weevil	2009
Neocoenorrhinus aequatus	Apple Fruit Rhynchites	2009
Nephus quadrimaculatus	4 spot Ivy Ladybird	2009
Ochina ptinoides	Ivy Boring Beetle	2009
Oedemera (Oedemera) lurida	Oedemera (Oedemera) lurida	2009
Phyllobius (Parnemoicus) roboretanus	Small Green Nettle Weevil	2009
Phyllobius (Phyllobius) pyri	Common Leaf Weevil	2009
Phyllopertha horticola	Garden Chafer	2009
Phyllotreta nigripes	Turnip Flea Beetle	2009
Phyllotreta nodicornis	Phyllotreta nodicornis	2009
Polydrusus (Neoeustolus) cervinus	Polydrusus (Neoeustolus) cervinus	2009
Protapion assimile	Clover Seed Weevil	2009
Protapion trifolii	Clover Seed Weevil	2009
Psyllobora vigintiduopunctata	22-spot Ladybird	2009
Rhagonycha fulva	Common Red Soldier Beetle	2009
Rhagonycha lignosa	Rhagonycha lignosa	2009
Rhagonycha limbata	Rhagonycha limbata	2009
Rhyzobius chrysomeloides	Rhyzobius chrysomeloides	2009
Sermylassa halensis	Sermylassa halensis	2009
Silpha laevigata	Silpha laevigata	2009
Sitona (Sitona) lineatus	Pea-leaf Weevil	2009
Sitona (Sitona) sulcifrons	Clover Weevil	2009
Stenus (Metatesnus) flavipes	Stenus (Metatesnus) flavipes	2009
Taeniapion urticarium	Taeniapion urticarium	2009
Trichosirocalus troglodytes	Trichosirocalus troglodytes	2009
Xantholinus (Xantholinus) linearis	Xantholinus (Xantholinus) linearis	2009

Diptera (True Flies)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date last recorded**
Bibio anglicus	Bibio anglicus	2009
Bibio johannis	Bibio johannis	2009

Bibio marci	St Marks Fly	2009
Cheilosia soror	Cheilosia soror	2009
Chloromyia formosa	Broad Centurion	2009
Dioctria linearis	Small Yellow-legged Robberfly	2009
Dolichopus ungulatus	Dolichopus ungulatus	2009
Empis tessellata	Empis tessellata	2009
Epistrophe eligans	Epistrophe eligans	2009
Episyrphus balteatus	Marmalade Hoverfly	2009
Eriothrix rufomaculata	Eriothrix rufomaculata	2009
Eupeodes corollae	Eupeodes corollae	2009
Fannia lustrator	Fannia lustrator	2009
Hartigiola annulipes	Hartigiola annulipes	2009
Hercostomus chetifer	Hercostomus chetifer	2009
Leptarthrus brevirostris	Slender-footed Robberfly	2009
Limonia phragmitidis	Limonia phragmitidis	2009
Melanostoma mellinum	Melanostoma mellinum	2009
Melanostoma scalare	Melanostoma scalare	2009
Myathropa florea	Myathropa florea	2009
Nephrotoma appendiculata	Nephrotoma appendiculata	2009
Nowickia ferox	Nowickia ferox	2009
Opomyza germinationis	Opomyza germinationis	2009
Oswaldia muscaria	Oswaldia muscaria	2009
Pachygaster atra	Dark-winged Black	2009
Phytomyza fulgens	Phytomyza fulgens	2009
Phytomyza ilicis	Holly Leaf Gall Fly	2009
Platycheirus albimanus	Platycheirus albimanus	2009
Prosena siberita	Prosena siberita	2009
Scaeva pyrastri	Scaeva pyrastri	2009
Schizomyia galiorum	Schizomyia galiorum	2009
Sciapus longulus	Sciapus longulus	2009
Sicus ferrugineus	Sicus ferrugineus	2009
Sphaerophoria scripta	Sphaerophoria scripta	2009
Syrphus ribesii	Syrphus ribesii	2009
Tachina fera	Tachina fera	2009
Urophora jaceana	Urophora jaceana	2009
Urophora quadrifasciata	Urophora quadrifasciata	2009

Hemiptera (True Bugs)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date last recorded**
Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale	Hawthorn Shieldbug	2009
Acompocoris alpinus	Acompocoris alpinus	2009
Adelphocoris lineolatus	Lucerne Bug	2009

Anthocoris confusus	Anthocoris confusus	2009
Anthocoris nemoralis	Anthocoris nemoralis	2009
Athysanus argentarius	A Hopper bug	2009
Calocoris (Grypocoris) stysi	Calocoris (Grypocoris) stysi	2009
Calocoris (Rhabdomiris) striatellus	Calocoris (Rhabdomiris) striatellus	2009
Capsus ater	Capsus ater	2009
Coreus marginatus	Dock Bug	2009
Cyllecoris histrionius	Cyllecoris histrionius	2009
Cymus melanocephalus	Cymus melanocephalus	2009
Dolycoris baccarum	Sloe Shieldbug	2009
Harpocera thoracica	Harpocera thoracica	2009
Heterotoma planicornis	Heterotoma planicornis	2009
Liocoris tripustulatus	Liocoris tripustulatus	2009
Lygus pratensis	Lygus pratensis	2009
Miris striatus	Fine Streaked Bugkin	2009
Oncotylus (Oncotylus) viridiflavus	Oncotylus (Oncotylus) viridiflavus	2009
Pentatoma rufipes	Forest Bug	2009
Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) ulmi	Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) ulmi	2009
Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) varipes	Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) varipes	2009
Pilophorus perplexus	Pilophorus perplexus	2009
Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) arbustorum	Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) arbustorum	2009
Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) chrysanthemi	Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) chrysanthemi	2009
Psallus (Hylopsallus) perrisi	Psallus (Hylopsallus) perrisi	2009
Psallus (Psallus) varians	Psallus (Psallus) varians	2009
Stenodema (Brachystira) calcarata	Stenodema (Brachystira) calcarata	2009
Stenodema (Stenodema) laevigata	Stenodema (Stenodema) laevigata	2009
Tritomegas bicolor	Pied Shieldbug	2009

Hymenoptera (Bees, Wasps and Ants)

Scientific Name	**Common Name**	**Date last recorded**
Amblyteles armatorius	Amblyteles armatorius	2009
Andrena (Euandrena) bicolor	Gwynne's Mining Bee	2009
Andrena (Hoplandrena) scotica	Andrena (Hoplandrena) scotica	2009
Andrena (Micrandrena) minutula	Andrena (Micrandrena) minutula	2009
Andrena (Micrandrena) minutuloides	A solitary Bee	2009
Apis mellifera	Honey Bee	2009
Athalia rosae	Athalia rosae	2009
Bombus (Bombus) terrestris	Buff-Tailed Bumble Bee	2009
Bombus (Melanobombus) lapidarius	Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee	2009
Bombus (Pyrobombus) pratorum	Early Bumble Bee	2009
Bombus (Thoracombus) pascuorum	Common Carder Bee	2009
Empria liturata	Empria liturata	2009

Halictus (Seladonia) tumulorum	Halictus (Seladonia) tumulorum	2009
Lasioglossum (Evylaeus) calceatum	Slender Mining Bee	2009
Megachile (Megachile) ligniseca	Wood-Carving Leaf-Cutter Bee	2009
Myrmica ruginodis	Myrmica ruginodis	2009
Myrmica scabrinodis	Myrmica scabrinodis	2009
Nomada leucophthalma	Nomada leucophthalma	2009
Osmia (Neosmia) bicolor	Two-coloured Mason Bee	2009
Tiphia femorata	Tiphia femorata	2009

Orthoptera (Grasshoppers and Crickets)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Chorthippus brunneus	Field Grasshopper	2009
Meconema thalassinum	Oak Bush-cricket	2009
Metrioptera roeselii	Roesel's Bush-cricket	2009
Omocestus viridulus	Common Green Grasshopper	2009

Other invertebrates

Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
insect - booklouse (Psocoptera)	Mesopsocus immunis	Mesopsocus immunis	2009
insect - booklouse (Psocoptera)	Psococerastis gibbosa	Psococerastis gibbosa	2009
insect - booklouse (Psocoptera)	Loensia fasciata	Loensia fasciata	2009
insect - booklouse (Psocoptera)	Graphopsocus cruciatus	Graphopsocus cruciatus	2009
insect - earwig (Dermaptera)	Forficula auricularia	Common Earwig	2009
millipede	Tachypodoiulus niger	White-legged Snake Millipede	2009

Herptiles (Reptiles and Amphibians)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded
Zootoca vivipara	Common Lizard	2020

Mammals

Scientific name	Common name	Date last recorded
Nyctalus noctula	Noctule	2013
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	2013

3. Kidney Vetch Locations

Taxon	Common Name	Site	Grid Ref	Large patch	Comments
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Entrance to track into woodland	TQQ2220 958833	ü	in vehicle ruts
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Entrance to track into woodland	TQ22220 58813		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Glade	TQ22261 58867	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Grandstand Road	TQ22232 58804		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Grandstand Road	TQ22328 58861		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Grandstand Road	TQ22350 58872		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Grandstand Road	TQ22365 58881		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Grandstand Road	TQ22387 58891		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Glade near Old London Road	TQ22551 58922	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Car Park - Tattenham Corner	TQ22329 58413		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22424 58605		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22467 58716	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22522 58818	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22536 58836	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22549 58854	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22560 58870	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22589 58900	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22609 58935		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22620 58944		by traffic sign
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge alongside Old London Road	TQ22620 58985		close to Buckle's Gap roundabout
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on south side of Burgh Heath Rd	TQ22484 59046	ü	in short rough by side of fairway
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on south side of Burgh Heath Rd	TQ22459 59055		in short rough by side of fairway
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on south side of Burgh Heath Rd	TQ22421 59064	ü	in short rough by side of fairway
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on south side of Burgh Heath Rd	TQ22390 59069	ü	in short rough by side of fairway
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on south side of Burgh Heath Rd	TQ22339 59082	ü	in short rough by side of fairway
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on south side of Burgh Heath Rd	TQ22305 59111	ü	footpath by side of fairway

Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on south side of Burgh Heath Rd	TQ22201 59199		by side of hedge
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Verge on north side of Burgh Heath Rdd	TQ22343 59123		in short rough by side of fairway
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Steep chalk bank in woodland	TQ22403 59397		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Path alongside Longdown Lane South	TQ22517 59318		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Path alongside Longdown Lane South	TQ22534 59273		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Path alongside Longdown Lane South	TQ22516 59348	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22136 59148	ü	Three scrapes on path by tee
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22131 59134		Three scrapes on path by tee
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22130 59129		Three scrapes on path by tee
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22167 59167		Scrapes in scrub area
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22171 59161		Scrapes in scrub area
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22179 59153		Scrapes in scrub area
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22189 59147		Scrapes in scrub area
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22115 59123		Scrapes alongside two tracks
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22112 59103		Scrapes alongside two tracks
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22084 59103		Scrapes alongside two tracks
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Scrapes	TQ22079 59082		Scrapes alongside two tracks
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Upper track	TQ22062 59029		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Upper track	TQ22065 59046	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Upper track	TQ22051 59009		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Upper track	TQ22085 59063		in vehicle ruts
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Upper track	TQ22100 59120		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Upper track	TQ22114 59113		in natural close to scrape
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Field adjacent to Lower Track - private?	TQ22036 59112	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Field adjacent to Lower Track - private?	TQ22016 59140	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Field adjacent to Lower Track - private?	TQ22041 59101		by gate
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ22150 59209		

Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ22069 59081		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ22061 59063		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ22053 59048		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ21906 58895	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ21870 58873		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ21845 58825		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ21817 58817		near entrance to track from Downs Road
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ21873 58845	ü	large patch over wide area in meadow
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Lower Track	TQ21838 58815		seeded ditch
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ21943 58865	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ21967 58881		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22039 58941		in hollow crossing fairway
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22061 58978		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22114 59008		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22107 58986		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22115 58935		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22069 58919		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22053 58867		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ22013 58830		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ21958 58799		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	By side of 6th fairway	TQ21900 58753	ü	
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Grandstand Road roundabout	TQ21867 58712		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Grandstand Road roundabout	TQ21858 58700		
Anthyllis vulneraria	Kidney Vetch	Granstand road Car park	TQ22022 58754		

EPSOM DOWNS RACING SEASON 2023

Head of Service:	Andrew Bircher, Head of Policy and Corporate Resources
Wards affected:	College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;
Appendices (attached):	None

Summary

This report informs the Conservators of dates for race meetings in 2023 and presents a request from Jockey Club Racecourses for consent for race meetings and extensions to the periods permitted for fencing, as required by the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 and Epsom and Walton Downs Byelaws.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Note the dates of the 2023 racing season for Epsom Downs detailed in paragraph 2.1 of this report, and grant their consent to the following meetings in accordance with section 14 of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984:

- **Wednesday 5 July (Evening)**
- **Thursday 13 July (Evening)**
- **Thursday 20 July (Evening)**
- **Thursday 3 August (Evening)**
- **Sunday 1 October**

(2) Note that Jockey Club Racecourses has applied to Surrey County Council for the temporary suspension of Footpath 50 as detailed in section 4 of this report.

(3) Consider and determine an application from Jockey Club Racecourses for consent under the Byelaw 2 (i) (a) to extend the fencing period for the Upper Tattenham Enclosure and Lonsdale Enclosure for 4 days to cover the period 15 May - 18 May 2023.

(4) Consider and determine an application from Jockey Club Racecourses for consent under the Byelaw 2 (i) (a) to extend the fencing period for the

Lonsdale Enclosure to enable fencing to remain in place between the dates of 14 – 20 June 2023.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 Jockey Club Racecourses is required by the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 and Epsom and Walton Downs Byelaws to seek the consent of the Conservators for race meetings held at certain times and extensions to the periods permitted for fencing.

1.2 The recommendations of this report present Jockey Club Racecourses' requests for consent for the 2023 race season for the Conservators consideration.

2 Background

2.1 Jockey Club Racecourses has informed the Clerk of the planned dates of its race meetings in 2023. These are as follows:

- Tuesday 25 April
- Friday 2 June (Ladies' Day)
- Saturday 3 June (Derby Day)
- Wednesday 5 July (Evening)
- Thursday 13 July (Evening)
- Thursday 20 July (Evening)
- Thursday 3 August (Evening)
- Friday 18 August
- Monday 28 August (Bank Holiday)
- Thursday 14 September
- Sunday 1 October

3 Applications for Evening and Sunday race meetings

3.1 Section 14 of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 (the Act) requires the consent of the Conservators for any race meeting to commence or continue after 7pm on any day, or at any time on a Sunday.

3.2 Jockey Club Racecourses requests the consent of the Conservators to the following race meetings (also listed above):

- Wednesday 5 July (Evening)
- Thursday 13 July (Evening)
- Thursday 20 July (Evening)
- Thursday 3 August (Evening)
- Sunday 1 October

4 Application for temporary suspension of Footpath 50

4.1 Jockey Club Racecourses has applied to Surrey County Council for the temporary suspension of Footpath 50 on 2 and 3 June, over the Derby period. This Footpath crosses the Racecourse Track near to the Princes Stand/Lonsdale Enclosure, and a similar suspension has been granted by the County Council for the past 7 years. Whilst this is a matter for consideration by the County Council, the Conservators are notified for their information.

5 Applications for racing-related fencing

5.1 Specific elements of the racing-related fencing applications submitted by Jockey Club Racecourses require the Conservators' consideration: an application for the extension of the fencing period for the Upper Tattenham Enclosure for the Derby weekend, and applications for the extension of the fencing period for the Lonsdale Enclosure. The details of these applications are set out in sections 6 and 7 below.

5.2 Paragraph (4) (d) (i) of section 17 of the Act permits the Racecourse to erect fencing for the Upper Tattenham Enclosure, Lonsdale Enclosure (and other enclosures) 14 days prior to each race event, and requires its removal within 10 days after each race event, unless there is an overlap with the preparatory period for the next event. Fencing erected for the Enclosures outside these periods requires the consent of the Conservators under Byelaw 2 (i) (a).

6 Application for extension of the Upper Tattenham Enclosure fencing period

6.1 Jockey Club Racecourses has requested permission for one extension to the fencing period for the Upper Tattenham Enclosure during the 2023 racing season. The requested extension is as follows:

6.1.1 A 4-day extension to the set-up period for steel security fencing and turnstile blocks for the Upper Tattenham Enclosure between Monday 15 May – Thursday 18 May 2023. Under paragraph (4) (d) (i) of section 17 of the Act, Epsom Downs Racecourse is permitted to install this fencing from Friday 19 May 2023.

6.1 A similar extension to this has been approved by the Conservators for a number of years.

7 Application for extension of the Lonsdale Enclosure fencing period

7.1 Jockey Club Racecourses has requested permission for two extensions to the fencing period for the Lonsdale Enclosure during the 2023 racing season. The requested extensions are as follows:

7.1.1 A 4-day extension to the set-up period for steel security fencing and turnstile blocks for the Lonsdale between Monday 15 May – Thursday 18 May 2023.

7.1.2 A 7-day extension from Wednesday 14 June to Tuesday 20 June 2023.

7.2 Similar extensions to these have been approved by the Conservators for a number of years, but specific dates have varied depending on the racing calendar.

8 Summary and calendar

8.1 A summary of the fencing extensions requested is included in the table below.

Fencing location	Fencing extension requested (2023)	No. of days requested	Requested/granted last year?
Upper Tattenham Enc.	**15 – 18 May**	**4 days**	**Yes. Granted.**
Lonsdale Enc.	**15 – 18 May**	**4 days**	**Yes. Granted.**
Lonsdale Enc.	**14 – 20 June**	**7 days**	**Yes. Granted.**

9 Previous decisions

9.1 A fencing-period extension in advance of the Derby Festival has been requested by the Racecourse and granted by the Conservators for the past 21 years, following an initial application by the Racecourse in advance of the 2002 Derby Festival. This initial decision was made by the Conservators following advice from the Clerk that whilst the Act did not specifically empower them to vary the fencing period, as long as they acted within their general duty to protect the Downs and did not authorise any activity which would prevent the public from exercising their rights of access, they were not prohibited from considering it.

9.2 The Conservators have subsequently considered and approved similar extensions in each year they have been requested.

10 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

10.1 Equality Impact Assessment

10.1.1 To mitigate potential impact upon Downs users Jockey Club Racecourses has undertaken to provide a work schedule for all fencing to the Clerk prior to its installation.

10.1.2 To mitigate the impact of the requested extension to the fencing period for the Lonsdale Enclosure, Jockey Club Racecourses has undertaken to fasten open gates at both ends of the Enclosure between race meeting dates, to enable free access of the area by all Downs visitors.

10.2 Crime & Disorder

10.2.1 None.

10.3 Safeguarding

10.3.1 None.

10.4 Dependencies

10.4.1 None.

10.5 Other

10.5.1 The Conservators have considered and approved similar fencing-period related extensions for the past 21 years. No issues relating directly to the extensions have been encountered during this time, and it is therefore considered that the risks relating to granting them are low.

11 Financial Implications

11.1 None.

11.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None arising from the contents of this report.

12 Legal Implications

12.1 Landowners generally would normally be permitted to erect temporary fences without consent. However, the erection of such structures on the Downs is prohibited by virtue of the byelaws made under the 1984 Act. Specifically, byelaw 2(i) provides that:

"A person shall not, without the consent of the Conservators, on the Downs:

(a) enclose any part of the Downs or erect any building shed or other structure thereon or construct any roads or parking places,

(b) place any tent stall show exhibition swing roundabout or other like thing…"

12.2 The above restriction is subject to Section 17, which, notwithstanding the byelaws, grants rights to the racecourse to erect fencing in the preparatory period/racing period.

12.3 The proposal in this case is beyond the rights granted under section 17 and therefore requires the consent of the Conservators under the Byelaws. In deciding whether to grant consent, the Conservators will need to have regard to their primary duty under Section 10 of the 1984 Act to preserve the Downs, noting the company's rights under section 17, and consider what impact granting consent would have on the preservation of the Downs, and on the rights of the public over the Downs.

12.4 **Legal Officer's comments**: The legal implications are contained in this report.

13 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

13.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: Not relevant to this report.

13.2 **Service Plans**: Not relevant to this report.

13.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: None.

13.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: None.

13.5 **Partnerships**: None.

14 Background papers

14.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- Epsom Downs Racing Season 2022 report and Minutes – meeting of the Conservators held 24 January 2022

Other papers:

- Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984.
- Epsom and Walton Downs Byelaws

REVIEW OF USE OF THE OWNERS AND TRAINERS AND DERBY ARMS CAR PARKS BY THE RACECOURSE

Head of Service: Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services

Wards affected: College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;

Appendices (attached):

Summary

To update the Conservators on the use of the Owners and Trainers and Derby Arm Car Parks by the Racecourse during 2022 and to formally request permission for ad-hoc use in 2023.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Note the level use by the Jockey Club of car parks 2 and 6 during 2022

(2) To approve an application by the Jockey Club to use these car parks during 2023 for ad-hoc events, subject to the production of a Management Plan to be approved by senior officers in consultation with the Chair of the Conservators.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 Due to the minimal use of Car Park 2 (Owners and Trainers) and Car Park 6 (Derby Arms) for ad-hoc hospitality events during 2022 and a proposal for a similar number of uses in 2023, it is recommended that permission is granted to continue this arrangement subject to the production of a Management Plan which will be approved by senior officers in consultation with the Chair of the Conservators and a monitoring and an annual review mechanism in place.

2 Background

2.1 Following a comprehensive report to the Conservators in April 2018 outlining an application from the Jockey Club to use Car Park 2 (Owners and Trainers) and Car Park 6 (Derby Arms) for ad-hoc hospitality events, approval was granted with conditions set by the Conservators for the use of these areas for up to 40 days per year.

2.2 In line with the conditions attached to the approval, a review of the previous year's usage has been conducted and Officers can report that Car Parks 2 and 6 were only used on eight days during 2022, which is well below the limit set by the Conservators.

2.3 The Jockey Club have formally approached the Conservators to request that similar permission is granted for the ad-hoc use of car parks 2 and 6 for 2023 and predict that the areas will only be required for a maximum of ten days during the year.

2.4 No concerns were raised by the Downskeepers, public or racing community during 2022 and therefore the recommendation is to support this request for next year.

2.5 The Jockey Club have committed to the production of a Management Plan which will include safety measures to ensure safe transit of visitors and Downs users. It is proposed that this plan is approved by senior officers in consultation with the Chair of the Conservators.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 n/a

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 n/a

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 n/a

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 n/a

3.5 Other

3.5.1 n/a

4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications relating to this report

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None arising from the contents of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 Parking can currently take place in the identified areas at specific times, as provided in the Act;

under the consent granted by the Conservators on 23 January 2014 for events approved by the Conservators. This consent was as follows: “Applications for event parking for approved events on areas designated as ‘1,2,5,6 and 15’ on the map attached as Annex 1 to the report will be considered as falling on racecourse land and within the Racecourse’s ability to approve if it wishes. The Racecourse will be solely responsible for the reinstatement of any of these areas for which it has granted access, in the event of any damage as a result of their use for such parking”; pursuant to the consent granted in principle on 17 January 2017.

5.2 **Legal Officer’s comments** The legal implications are contained in the report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council’s Key Priorities**: The following Key Priorities are engaged:

Opportunity and Prosperity – supporting local businesses

6.2 **Service Plans**: The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: n/a

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: n/a

6.5 **Partnerships**: This proposal supports partnership working with the Jockey Club to help ensure economic viability of the Racecourse outside of racing periods.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- 16 April 2018 – Update Parking on Land in Front of Derby Arms

Other papers:

- none

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RACEDAY HORSE WALK APPLICATION FROM JOCKEY CLUB RACECOURSES

Head of Service:	Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services
Wards affected:	College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;
Appendices (attached):	Appendix One – Horsewalk Application from the Jockey Club Appendix Two – Map of Horsewalk Proposal Appendix Three – Example of Illuminated Rail

Summary

This report accompanies a proposal from the Jockey Club, seeking the approval of the Conservators for the installation of running rails alongside key gallops and horse-walks on Epsom and Walton Downs.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Approve the proposals set out in the attached application by the Jockey Club, subject to planning permission being obtained

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 The proposal attached at appendix one is designed to ensure safe transit of equine and pedestrians and optimal use of land space during future Derby Festivals.

2 Background

2.1 Further to the Conservators meeting of 8 November 2021, where the Conservators approved a proposal from the Jockey Club to install running rails alongside key gallops and horsewalks on Epsom and Walton Downs subject to relevant planning and highway permissions, this report serves to update the Conservators on the current planning application and a proposal for a Horsewalk between the QEII stand and Rubbing House as set out in appendix one and two. Appendix three shows an example of an illuminated rail, which is proposed to ensure maximum visibility and safety.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None arising from the contents of this report.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications resulting from the contents of this report.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None arising from the contents of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 The Jockey Club have taken steps to ensure that the relevant consents and permissions have been obtained before implementing the scheme of works proposed and it is noted that a planning application has been submitted and is pending approval.

5.2 **Legal Officer's comments**: There are no legal implications arising from the contents of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: The following Key Priorities are engaged: n/a

6.2 **Service Plans**: The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: n/a

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: n/a

6.5 **Partnerships**: n/a

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- 8 November 2021 - Proposal to Install Running Rail Alongside Key Gallops and Horsewalks on Epsom And Walton Downs

Other papers:

- 'A REPORT INTO ACCESS ON THE EPSOM DOWNS AND THE HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH TRAINING RACEHORSES' Jockey Club, November 2020

The above report remains the intellectual property of the Jockey Club and will not be shared without their express written consent.

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EPSOM DOWNS HORSEWALK BETWEEN QEII STAND AND RUBBING HOUSE

The arrangements at ground level for equine and human movements between the QEII Stand and Rubbing House Crossing have since 1995 comprised a dedicated and railed grass walkway for raceday usage, including a chute out on to the course itself behind Prince's Stand, plus an unrailed (on one side) rubber-tiled and tarmac path for use year-round by other Downs users, including Epsom-trained racehorses accessing the gallops.

The rubber-tiled section of the outer walkway has deteriorated in recent years and now represents a trip hazard in places. It has also been a concern for some time that the horses in training are not protected by an outer rail on the route should a horse lose its rider - at a place where a busy road is adjacent.

In addition, for the first time the 2022 Derby Festival saw the use of the triangle of land between the grass walkway and chute to the course used, successfully, for hospitality purposes within temporary structures. Ideally the footprint available for such use would be greater.

Taking account of the above factors, the attached proposal for the future development of this area, which is all within the Downs boundary, has been worked up by the Racecourse. This involves :

- The creation of a 4m wide rubberised and white plastic railed Horsewalk for raceday equine and Epsom-trained horse access (to 12 noon) to and from the Rubbing House and Stands. This would predominantly follow the route of the existing rubber-tiled/tarmac walkway. The surface would be a 'wetpour' rubber, common in modern equine areas, creating a solid and seamless surface.

- The creation on the outer of this new walkway of a separate 1.5m wide route, possibly in the same material, for use by walkers, cyclists and hack riders. This would be railed on the Downs side by the new outer rail of the equine horse walk, but open, as at present, on the Ashley Road side. The Ashley Road side section of rail would be illuminated along its length, an example the railing is attached in appendix three of this report.

- The chute out on to the course itself would be moved to a new location, closer to the Rubbing House, and the existing rail and chute on the inside of the new Horsewalk would be removed, thereby creating a greater area for temporary structures at the Derby Festival.

It is considered that the proposed arrangements would provide a safer route to the gallops for Epsom-trained horses in the mornings, by being given greater protection via plastic railings, and on a safer and more consistent surface. Pedestrians and other Down users would still have a dedicated route, and would not come into the same degree of direct contact with racehorses as at present. The Racecourse will benefit from having a larger area for use at the Derby Festival.

A Planning Application will be submitted to Epsom & Ewell Borough Council Planning Department subject to this proposal first being agreed by the Conservators.

Andrew Cooper
Head of Racing - Epsom Downs Racecourse
December 2022

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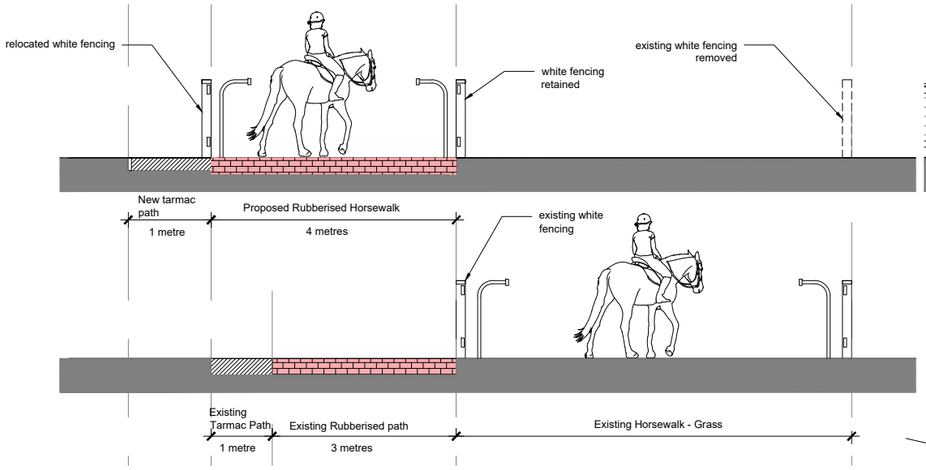

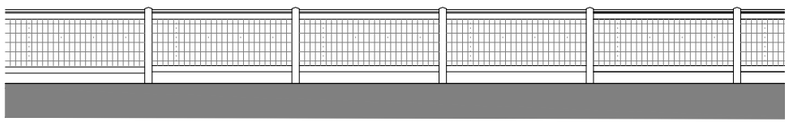

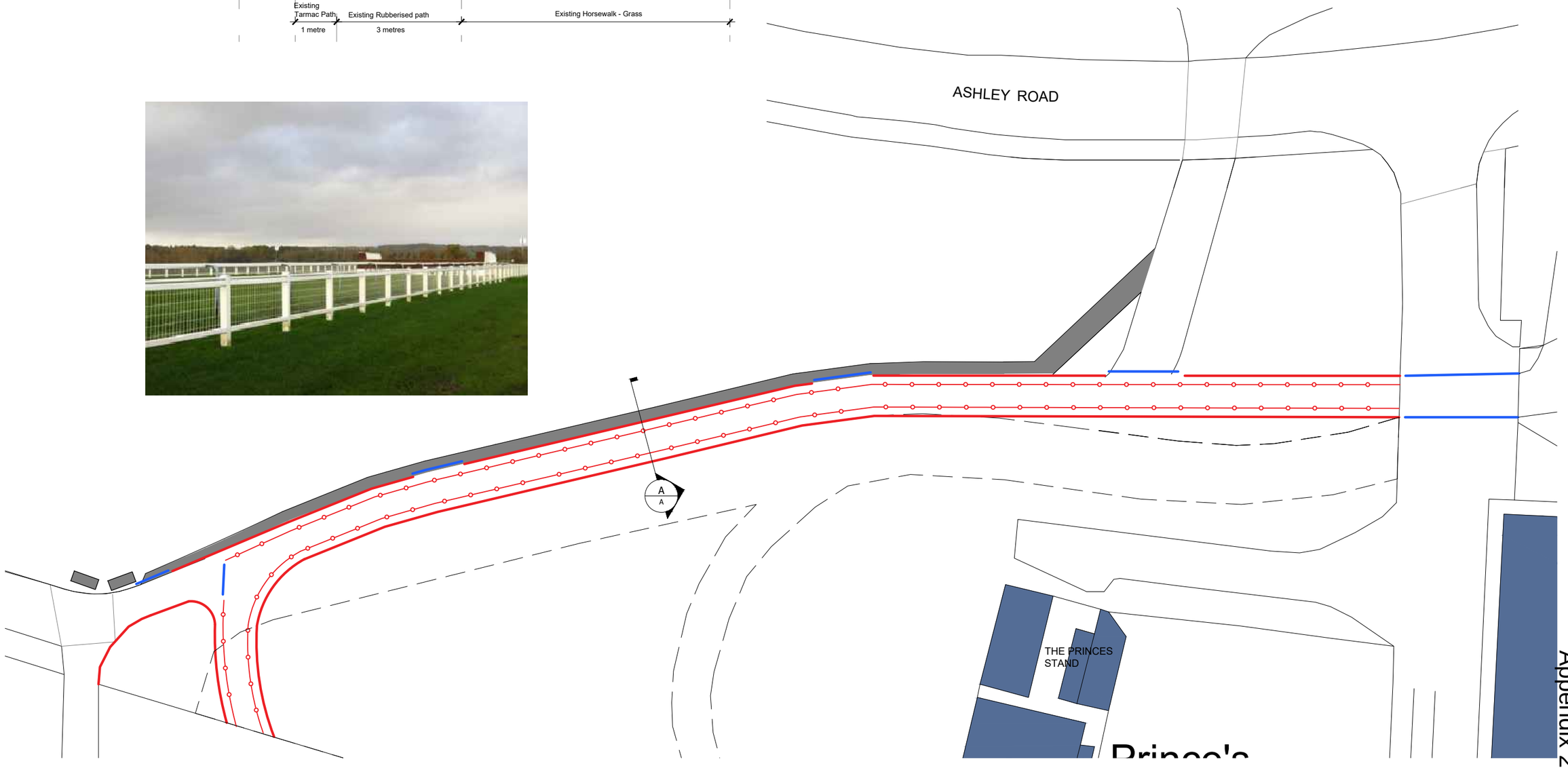

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Agenda Item 7
Appendix 2

Tel: 01242 325511 E: mail@limbrickstudio.com
Wayside, 109 Church Road, Leckhampton, Cheltenham, GL53 0PE

Proposed Horsewalk Relocation Plan
Epsom Downs Racecourse - Masterplan 2022

Date: Nov 2022 Scale: 1:200 @ A1 Drwg No: 9065 MP22 SK022 Rev:

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Example of Illuminated Rail

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SCHEME FOR BBQS AT THE RACECOURSE REVIEW

Head of Service: Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services

Wards affected: College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;

Appendices (attached):

Summary

To review the use of barbecues during 2022 race meetings and receive an application from Epsom Downs Racecourse for the use of barbecues at next year's events.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Note the success of the Barbecue Scheme during 2022 race meetings

(2) To grant Epsom Downs Racecourse permission to use barbeques at race meetings throughout 2023, namely Ladies Day, The Derby and the August Bank Holiday.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 Following the successful execution of the barbecue scheme during 2022, it is proposed to grant permission to Epsom Downs Racecourse to follow the same protocol for 2023 race meetings.

2 Background

2.1 At the March 2020 meeting of the Epsom and Walton Conservators, members agreed to a scheme for the use of barbecues at Ladies Day, The Derby and the August Bank Holiday race meetings.

2.2 However, due to Covid-19 restrictions during 2020 and 2021, implementation of the scheme was delayed until 2022.

2.3 As racing returned to normal during 2022, the barbecue scheme was introduced, and dedicated barbecue areas were set-up in line with the maps provided in the 2020 report.

2.4 Both the Jockey Club and the Downskeepers monitored these areas during the race meeting with no concerns raised by either party.

2.5 Further to the success of last year's events, the Jockey Club would like to formally request permission from the Conservators to continue the scheme for the same race meetings in 2023, namely Ladies Day, The Derby and the August Bank Holiday.

2.6 There are no proposed amendments to the scheme outlined in 2020, the area will be kept in the same position and the same safety protocols will be followed.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 None for this report

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 None for this report

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None for this report

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None for this report

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None for this report

4 Financial Implications

4.1 As in the previous year, the proposed scheme will require compliance checks to be undertaken by the Council to ensure the conditions of any permission are being met.

4.2 The Downskeepers have confirmed that minimal resources were necessary to carry out the compliance checks last year, and the team are adequately resourced to conduct the checks again next year, should permission be granted.

4.3 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None arising from the contents of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 The Downs are regulated by the Epsom & Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984. The purpose of the Act is to protect the Downs and put in place arrangements for its management.

5.2 Section 11 of the Act allows for the making of byelaws. The Conservators have made such byelaws and the current set of byelaws were approved in accordance with the statutory process on the 24 September 2013.

5.3 The current byelaws, provide at byelaw 2(i) (g) the ability of the Conservators to grant consent to the lighting of fires on the Downs,

> "2. (i) A person shall not, without the consent of the Conservators, on the Downs:
>
> (g) camp or light fires"

5.4 If the Conservators agree to grant permission, subject to conditions. This permission is not to allow camp or light fires, but to allow the use of barbecues. The proposed conditions along with the operating procedures of the Applicant provide the necessary reassurance that the impact of such activity on the grassland habitat will be managed.

5.5 The granting of any conditional permission does not set a precedent for other applications at the Racecourse. It does not permit any applications to be made anywhere else on the Downs.

5.6 **Legal Officer's comments**: The legal implications are contained in the body of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: The following Key Priorities are engaged:

Opportunity and Prosperity – supporting local business

6.2 **Service Plans**: The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**:

There has been a global debate over the impact of charcoal barbecues on air pollution, however, the general feeling appears to be that if the charcoal being burnt is sustainably produced there is a carbon neutral impact on the environment.

The Jockey Club may want to consider this research in it's code of conduct for use of the barbecue area and encourage visitors to purchase sustainably produced charcoal from coppiced English woodlands or made from other sustainable materials such as coconut shells, seed/crop husks or bamboo.

Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications:

The protocols set out in the March 2020 Barbecue Scheme ensures the barbecue area is professionally managed with an emphasis on community safety.

6.4 **Partnerships**:

This item supports the partnership between the Conservators and the Jockey Club.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- March 2020 – Scheme for Barbecues at the Racecourse

Other papers:

-

MINUTES OF THE EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, 14 DECEMBER 2022

Head of Service:	Jackie King, Director of Corporate Services
Wards affected:	College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;
Appendices (attached):	Appendix 1 – Minutes of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 14 December 2022

Summary

To receive the Minutes of the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 14 December 2022.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Receive and note the Minutes of the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 14 December 2022.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 The Minutes of meetings of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee are presented to the Conservators for information and consideration. This report presents the Minutes from the meeting of the Committee held on 14 December 2022.

2 Background

2.1 The Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee was created following an undertaking made to the Select Committee of the House of Lords during the passing of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984.

2.2 The Committee's Constitution was ratified by the Conservators on 24 April 2014, and sets its terms of reference as follows:

"To provide a means of regular consultation:

- on the future management and control of the tracks, rides, paths and areas for hack riding;

- on the rights of horse riders on Epsom and Walton Downs pursuant to Section 15 of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 and the byelaws made under the Act; and

- on any other matters affecting the use and enjoyment of the Downs by the public.

2.3 The Constitution of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee sets out that the Minutes of Committee's meetings will be given to the Conservators for consideration.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 None.

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 None.

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 None.

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None.

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None.

4 Financial Implications

4.1 None for the purposes of this report.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None for the purposes of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 None for the purposes of this report.

5.2 **Legal Officer's comments**: None for the purposes of this report.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: Not relevant to this report.

6.2 **Service Plans**: Not relevant to this report.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: None.

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: None.

6.5 **Partnerships**: None.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- None

Other papers:

- Constitution of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee, ratified by the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators

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Minutes of the Meeting of the EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE held at the Council Chamber, Epsom Town Hall on 14 December 2022

PRESENT -

Councillor Liz Frost (Chair); Simon Durrant (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Councillor Bernice Froud, Sarah Rayfield (British Horse Society), Alex Stewart (Epsom Downs Riders Protection Society) and Nigel Whybrow (Training Grounds Management Board).

In Attendance: Caroline Baldock (Epsom Equestrian Conservation Team), Richard Balsdon (College Ward Residents' Association), Nick Lock (Epsom Civic Society) and James Vincenti (Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club)

Absent: Andrew Cooper (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Bob Eberhard (Epsom and Ewell Cycle Action Group), Nick Harrison (Tattenhams Residents' Association), Steven McCormick (Woodcote Residents' Association), Conor Morrow (Lower Mole Countryside Management Service), Stuart Walker (Epsom Golf Club) and Samantha Whitehead

Officers present: Jackie King (Interim Chief Executive), Ian Dyer (Head of Operational Services), Mark Shephard (Head of Property and Regeneration), John Samuel (Interim Property and Regeneration Manager) and Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Manager)

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1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 12 January 2022 were agreed as a true record and the Chairman was authorised to sign them.

2 EAFRD UPDATE

The Committee received an update report on European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) infrastructure installation which provides improvements to information and signage on Epsom and Walton Downs.

The following matters were considered:

a) **EAFRD funding.** The Committee noted that the Conservators had been awarded over £132,000 in grant funding from the European Agricultural

Fund for Rural Development for improvements to signs and information on the Downs.

b) **Works.** The Interim Property Development and Regeneration Manager informed the Committee that the following works had been completed or were in progress:

- 150 way marking posts.
- 25 finger posts with over 80 direction fingers.
- 40 A0 size information boards.
- 8 A1 size lectern information boards.
- 15 oak litter bins.
- 4 tables and 8 benches around the Tea Hut area.
- 5 interpretive benches located across the Downs.
- 2 sets of electronic posts at the mile crossing and Rubbing House crossing, which are able to separately record pedestrians, cyclists and horses passing through.
- 48 warning signs and information inserts were anticipated to be installed by the end of January 2023.
- In addition, the Jockey Club was funding an educational rubbing trail consisting of 12 rubbing plates depicting historic events on the Racecourse and Downs.

c) **Repairs to damage / vandalism.** The Committee noted that damage to the signs was repaired by the Council's operational services staff.

d) **Bins.** The Committee noted that the full quota of bins had been received and installed on the Downs. Officers would consider whether any further bins were required.

Following consideration, the Committee unanimously resolved:

(1) To note the progress made on improvements to signs on the Downs.

3 MATTERS RAISED BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Committee considered matters raised by Members.

The following matters raised by the Epsom Downs Riders' Protection Association Member were considered:

a) **Replacement of Hack Sand Track with Hack grass canter.** The Training Grounds Management Board Member informed the Committee that the new grass canter opened in October 2022 and had proved very popular with hack riders.

The Committee received a comment from an invited representative that the start of the track had become very wet and rough following the recent exceptional levels of rain, which had led to a fall from a horse. The Training Grounds Management Board Member informed the Committee that the area was rolled on a weekly basis to maintain its condition, and that he had not received any complaints regarding it. The Epsom Downs Riders' Protection Association Member informed the Committee that hack riders were delighted with the new canter.

b) **Condition of hack canter at top of Six Mile.** It was noted that the Council's Streetcare Manager and the Epsom Downs Riders' Protection Association Member of the Committee would meet on 20 December to discuss this matter.

c) **Marking of hack ride across The Hill and hack post renewal on the Downs.** The Committee was informed that the replacement of hack post signs was underway.

d) **Water logging of track at top of Rifle Butts Alley.** The Committee was informed that scrub clearance work in this area had been undertaken.

e) **Update on Downskeepers' winter work programme.** It was noted that the Council's Streetcare Manager and the Epsom Downs Riders' Protection Association Member of the Committee would meet on 20 December to discuss this matter.

f) **Traffic light phasing for pedestrians and racehorses crossing by bus shelter.** The Committee was informed by the Head of Operational Services that no issues had been reported with regard to the traffic light phasing in the past 3 months.

Following consideration, the Committee resolved:

(1) That it had considered the matters raised by members of the Committee as set out in the report.

4 MATTERS RAISED FOR CONSIDERATION BY INVITED REPRESENTATIVES

The Committee considered issues raised by representatives invited to attend the meeting.

The following issues raised by the Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club (EDMAC) Representative were considered:

a) **Signage.** The EDMAC Representative asked whether it would be possible for the Club to be referenced on relevant signs on the Downs. The Head of Operational Services informed the Committee that some signs would feature a map of the Downs including the model aircraft area.

b) **Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club (EDMAC) mobility impaired parking.** The EDMAC Representative asked whether it would be possible for alterative parking arrangements for to be provided for Club Members with mobility issues. Some members were having difficulties with the present arrangements. The Chair informed the Committee that this matter would be considered at a future meeting of the Conservators.

Following consideration, the Committee resolved:

(1) That it had considered the matters raised by invited representatives as set out in this report.

5 ITEMS FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CONSERVATORS

The Committee did not identify any items from the meeting which would require verbal representation to the Conservators.

The meeting began at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.30 pm

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIR)

EVENTS ON THE DOWNS

Head of Service: Ian Dyer, Head of Operational Services

Wards affected: College Ward; Town Ward; Woodcote Ward;

Appendices (attached):

Summary

To approve a request from Cancer Research UK to hold the annual Race for Life Event on the Downs in 2023.

Recommendation (s)

The Conservators are asked to:

(1) Approve the application from Cancer Research UK to hold the 2023 Race for Life Event on the Downs.

1 Reason for Recommendation

1.1 The Cancer Research Race for Life event has been successfully held on the Downs for over ten years and the event team are experts in their field, ensuring a professional and safe event.

2 Background

2.1 An application has been received from the Cancer Research Race for Life event team requesting their annual event to be held on the Downs on Sunday 18 June 2023.

2.2 The event organisers are planning for an event of around 1600 participants and spectators, which is lower than previous years.

2.3 As usual, the event organisers have made a preliminary booking with the Racecourse for the event, which will be confirmed if Conservators grant permission.

2.4 In 2020, the event organisers launched a 3km course in addition to the usual 5km course to encourage more people to take part. The map attached in Appendix one of this report, shows both the 3km and 5km courses for the Downs.

3 Risk Assessment

Legal or other duties

3.1 Equality Impact Assessment

3.1.1 Events on the Downs have the capacity to impact on other users and the horse race training community. The presence of the Events Strategy and the proposed approval mechanism limits the risk of too many events being held and ensures minimal disruption to all Downs users.

3.2 Crime & Disorder

3.2.1 All events organisers must carry out the necessary risk assessments to ensure they have considered how they will deal with crime and disorder associated with their event. If appropriate, events applications will be referred to the Council's Safety Advisory Group (SAG) so that advice can be given.

3.3 Safeguarding

3.3.1 Event risk assessments must include details of how the organisers will ensure safeguarding throughout their event.

3.4 Dependencies

3.4.1 None for the purpose of this report.

3.5 Other

3.5.1 None

4 Financial Implications

4.1 Events on the Downs generate an income stream for the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators.

4.2 **Section 151 Officer's comments**: None arising from the contents of this report.

5 Legal Implications

5.1 Under section 14 of the Epsom & Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984 provision was made for 16 racing days and under section 10 (2) large scale events. The actual wording of Section 10 (2) is as follows:

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, or in any byelaws made under this Act the Conservators may, with the consent of the Council and the Company or the Owner or the Levy Board, as the case may require, permit the Downs to be used for the holding of such events other than horse races as they think fit:

Provided that in the case of such events which, in the opinion of the Conservators involve a significant degree of interference with the rights of the public of access for air and exercise under section 4 (Rights of public over Downs) or section 15 (Rights of horse riders on Downs) of this Act-

(a) the Downs shall not be so used for such events for more than five days in any one year; and

(b) not more than 25 hectares of the Downs shall be set apart for the holding of any such event.

5.2 **Legal Officer's comments**: The legal implications are contained within this report. The Conservators have the power to approve the request for the Race for Life event to take place.

6 Policies, Plans & Partnerships

6.1 **Council's Key Priorities**: The following Key Priorities are engaged: As all the events on the Downs contribute to the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors, the key priority of Safe and Well is engaged.

6.2 **Service Plans**: The matter is not included within the current Service Delivery Plan.

6.3 **Climate & Environmental Impact of recommendations**: none

6.4 **Sustainability Policy & Community Safety Implications**: Event organisers have bespoke risk assessments in place to minimise community safety implications.

6.5 **Partnerships**: Event organisers, the Jockey Club and the TGMB work in partnership to ensure events run safely and with minimum disruption.

7 Background papers

7.1 The documents referred to in compiling this report are as follows:

Previous reports:

- Events on the Downs agreed on 24 January 2022:
- Review of Events on the Downs agreed on 23 January 2014
- Event Management Strategy agreed on 27 June 2011

Other papers:

- None

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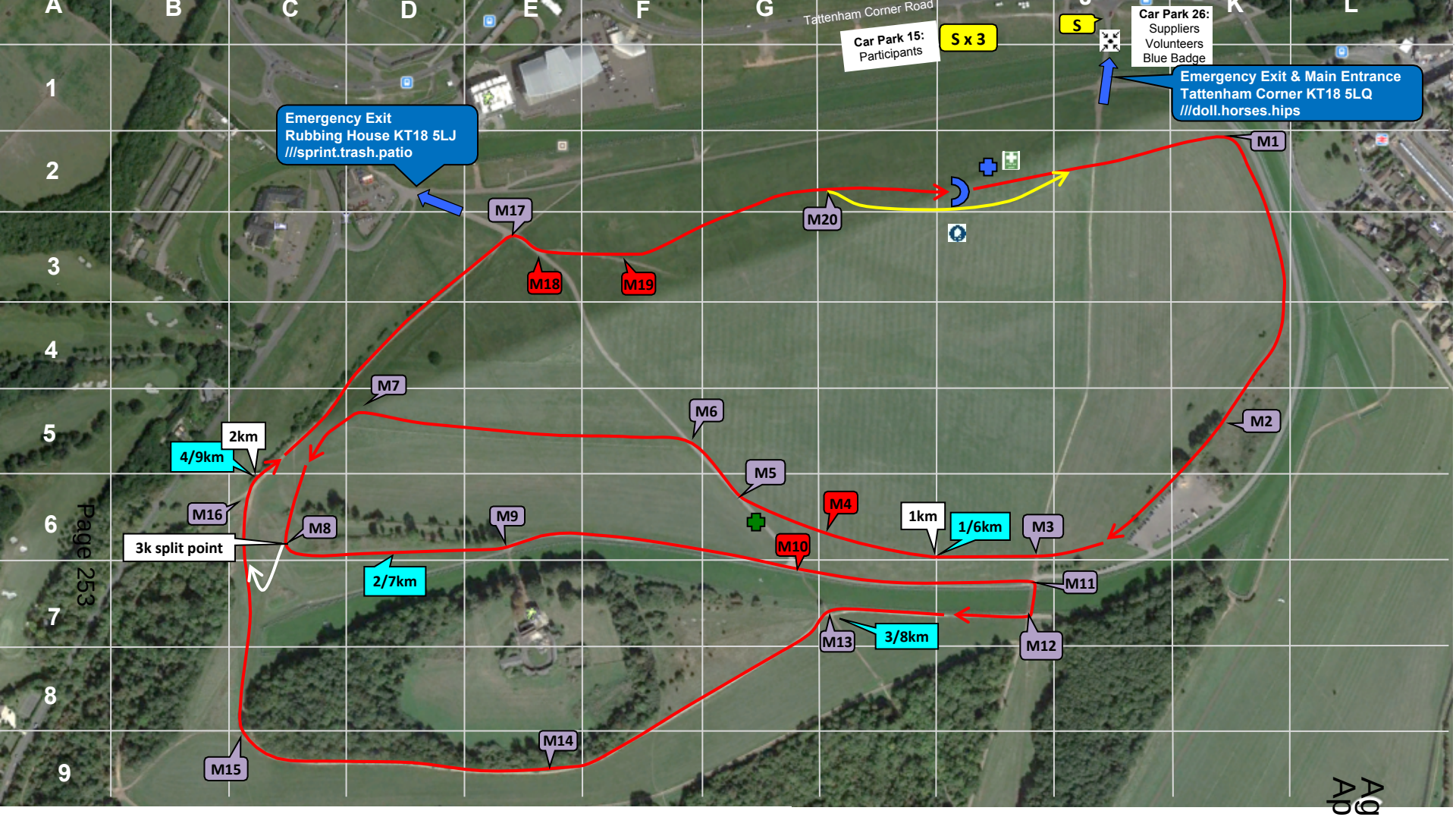

Epsom Race for Life – Course Map

Sunday 18th June 2023 – 11:30am
Courtney Culverhouse – 07876 390297

Start Gantry

Route 3k/5k/10k

Steward S

Medical RRV

Ambulance

Water Station

Emergency Route

Distance Signage KM

Emergency Rendezvous Point

3k signage

Marshal M

Marshal with Radio M

First Aid Point

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EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Under Section 1 Paragraph (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Conservators may pass a resolution to exclude the public from the Meeting for Part Two of the Agenda on the grounds that publicity of the business would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings. This Section of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 applies to meetings of the Conservators by virtue of section 8(7) of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984.

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