

EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS

Wednesday 19 April 2017 at 6.00 pm

Council Chamber - Epsom Town Hall

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 (Chairman)

Andrew Cooper, Epsom Downs Racecourse (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Rekha Bansil

Councillor Lucie Dallen

Simon Dow, Horserace Betting Levy Board

Simon Durrant, Epsom Downs Racecourse

Councillor Robert Foote

Councillor Jan Mason

Nigel Whybrow, Epsom Downs Racecourse

Councillor Clive Woodbridge

Yours sincerely



Clerk to the Conservators

For further information, please contact Tim Richardson, 01372 732122 or trichardson@epsom-ewell.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. CLERK TO THE CONSERVATORS

Following the recent resignation of Mrs Frances Rutter, Chief Executive of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, the Conservators are informed that the Council has appointed Mrs Kathryn Beldon as Chief Executive, and (pursuant to Section 9 (1) of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984) Clerk of the Conservators.

2. TREASURER TO THE CONSERVATORS

Following the recent appointment of Mrs Kathryn Beldon as Chief Executive of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council and Clerk to the Conservators, the Conservators are informed that the Council has appointed Mr Lee Duffy as interim Treasurer to the Conservators.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 5 - 10)

The Conservators are asked to confirm as a true record the Minutes of the Conservators' Meeting held on 18 January 2017 (attached) and to authorise the Chairman to sign them.

4. ITEMS OF INTEREST DISCUSSED BY THE TRAINING GROUNDS MANAGEMENT BOARD (TGMB) (Pages 11 - 12)

To consider any items of interest to the Conservators discussed at recent meetings of the Training Grounds Management Board (TGMB). The Conservators will receive a verbal report informing them of relevant recent business discussed by the TGMB.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST (Pages 13 - 14)

The Conservators are asked to note the current situation on issues raised previously and other items of interest.

6. REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER (Pages 15 - 16)

To receive the report of the Head Downskeeper.

7. POLICY TO REGULATE SMALL GROUP SESSIONS ON THE DOWNS (Pages 17 - 20)

This report introduces a new policy to regulate the use of the Downs by small groups.

8. PROPOSED EVENTS ON EPSOM DOWNS (Pages 21 - 42)

This report provides details of event requests for consideration by the Conservators.

9. SIGNS ON THE DOWNS AUDIT (Pages 43 - 76)

This report presents the Conservators with an audit of signs on the Downs.

10. REVISION OF THE HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN TO INCLUDE EPSOM GOLF CLUB SITE (Pages 77 - 248)

To present the Conservators with the final version of the Habitat Management Plan for Epsom & Walton Downs and Downs Golf Club 2015-2020.

11. MINUTES OF THE EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (Pages 249 - 256)

To consider any issues arising from the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 13 March 2017.

12. OUTSTANDING REFERENCES (Pages 257 - 260)

This report lists references to Officers outstanding as at 19 April 2017.

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS
held on 18 January 2017**

PRESENT -

Councillor Liz Frost (Chairman); Andrew Cooper (Epsom Downs Racecourse) (Vice-Chairman); Councillor Rekha Bansil, Simon Durrant (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Councillor Robert Foote (Items 24 - 30 only), Councillor Jan Mason, Nigel Whybrow (Epsom Downs Racecourse) and Councillor Clive Woodbridge.

In Attendance: Conor Morrow (Lower Mole Countryside Management Service)

Absent: Councillor Lucie Dallen and Simon Dow (Horserace Betting Levy Board)

Officers present: Frances Rutter (Clerk to the Conservators), Kathryn Beldon (Treasurer to the Conservators), Simon Young (Head of Legal and Democratic Services), Sam Beak (Downs Manager), Bob Harding (Head Downskeeper), Samantha Whitehead (Streetcare Manager) and Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Officer)

22 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators held on 5 October 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

23 ITEMS OF INTEREST DISCUSSED BY THE TRAINING GROUNDS MANAGEMENT BOARD (TGMB)

The Conservators received a report providing updates on items considered by the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board (TGMB). It was noted that the most recent meeting of the TGMB had been held on 17 January 2017. The following matters were considered by the Conservators:

- a) Hatched area, foot of Walton Downs. The Conservators noted that the TGMB had agreed that signs for this area would be amended to show either "open" or "closed". The TGMB had also agreed to open a marked route within the area for hack ride use when ground conditions permitted, but would not tolerate any misuse by hack riders.
- b) Downskeeper staffing levels. The TGMB had expressed concern that due to the staffing challenges currently being faced by the Downskeepers, patrols of the gallops during training hours had reduced.

Note: Further consideration of this issue is contained within Minute 25 of this meeting, below.

- c) Horse margin, Langley Vale farm to Shepherds Walk. Nigel Whybrow informed the Conservators that resurfacing works were due to be completed on 19 January 2017.

24 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

The following matter was considered:

- a) Hack Sand Track, foot of Walton Downs. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services corrected the information contained within the Agenda papers. The Conservators were informed that a letter had not yet been sent to the Horse Race Betting Levy Board via recorded delivery. This would be done as a priority following this meeting.

25 REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER

The Conservators received and noted a report from the Head Downskeeper. The following matters were considered:

- a) Staffing issues. The Conservators were informed that 1 member of the Downskeeper team was presently on long term sick leave, 1 member was on paternity leave, and a further member was due to resign, as they were emigrating from the country. To address concerns that this would leave the team short-handed, a recruitment process had been initiated to replace the team member who would resign, and a member of the Council's Ranger Service would be seconded to assist with duties in the interim period.

The Conservators noted the action being taken to address the pressure on the capacity of the Downskeeper team, but expressed concern that any staff seconded or appointed to the Downskeepers team would also need to be aware of the specific issues affecting the Downs, and be competent to assist in issues involving horses. The Conservators were informed that the member of staff seconded to the Downskeepers had assisted them previously, and had received appropriate training.

The concerns expressed by the TGMB with regard to patrols of the racehorse training gallops (see Minute 23 b, above) had been noted by officers, and the Streetcare Manager would meet the Chairman of the local Trainers Association (Mr Roger Ingram) to discuss the matter. The Head Downskeeper had also instructed the Downskeeper team to increase the number of gallops patrols undertaken, but this had to be balanced with their other high priority duties on the Downs. The Downskeepers would keep a record of the number and time of patrols undertaken.

The Conservators were also informed of a recent post on Facebook in which an individual had encouraged hack riders to participate in use of the racehorse training Polytrack. It was noted that such incidents could potentially be best managed by directly approaching the parties involved and informing them that such activity was not permitted.

26 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR EVENTS ON THE DOWNS

The Conservators received a report providing a review of the Fees and Charges for events on the Downs. Following consideration, the Conservators agreed the proposed changes to the Fees and Charges Policy, detailed in Annexe 1 to the report.

27 BUDGET 2017-18

The Conservators received a report seeking approval to the 2017/18 budget and to the amounts to be recovered from the constituent bodies. The following matters were considered:

- a) Pension fund contribution. The Treasurer informed the Conservators that the estimated pension fund contribution within the budget had been increased from £28,000 to £30,000, but that it was uncertain whether this increase would actually be required.
- b) Fuel costs. The Conservators were informed that the budgeted amount of £9,000 for fuel costs included a buffer which would absorb an increase in fuel prices if they occurred.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Agreed the budget as set out in Annexe 1 to the report, including a request for a 2.3% increase in precept from the constituent bodies as follows:
 - Epsom and Ewell Borough Council: £227,890
 - Epsom Downs Racecourse: £113,940
 - Epsom and Walton Downs Training Board: £37,980

28 PARKING ON LAND IN FRONT OF DERBY ARMS

The Conservators received a report presenting a request from Epsom Downs Racecourse for permission to park cars on land in front of the Derby Arms public house at times when events were being held at the Racecourse. The following matters were considered:

- a) Ecological matters. The Lower Mole Countryside Management Service representative informed the Conservators that he did not have any ecological concerns with regard to the proposal.

- b) Purpose of request. Simon Durrant informed the Conservators that the area identified in the proposal had been used for overflow car parking for events held at Epsom Downs Racecourse for a number of years, but that direct consent had not been sought from the Conservators. This application had been submitted to the Conservators to seek such consent, and regularise the arrangements.
- c) Level of usage of area. Simon Durrant informed the Conservators that the number of occasions on which the area had been used for parking had increased in 2016, as it had been used whilst roofing works to the Duchesses' Stand were underway. Following completion of those works, it had returned to its previous level of use. Simon Durrant informed the Conservators that he could not confirm on how many occasions the area was used for parking each year, but that this could be recorded in future.

The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed the Conservators that if they wished to grant consent for use of the area for parking, they could also place restrictions on this consent, including a limit on the number of occasions per year.

- d) Use of alternative areas. Following questions from the Chairman and other members of the Conservators, Simon Durrant informed the meeting that Epsom Downs Racecourse utilised the area instead of alternatives (including the piece of land adjacent to Tattenham Corner Road & the race track which was referred to as car park 15 during racedays), as it had better drainage and provided a more pleasant customer experience.
- e) Visual impact. Concerns were expressed by members of the Conservators that use of the area for parking could adversely impact on the visual appearance of the area and landscape. Simon Durrant informed the Conservators that the Racecourse had no intention of turning the area into a permanent car park, but wished to continue to use it when necessary for event overflow parking.
- f) Access to the area for vehicles. Simon Durrant informed the Conservators that a barrier was located at the entrance to the area, which restricted access by vehicles. This was opened and manned during times at which parking on the area took place. The barrier did not impede access for pedestrians or horse riders.
- g) Designation as a Hack Area and Hack Ride. The area was designated as an area for hack riding by the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984, and the Conservators noted that consultation with Hack Rider representatives should be included within any consultations undertaken with regard to the proposal.
- h) Public Consultation. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services advised the Conservators that public consultation on the proposal should be undertaken prior to consent being granted, should the Conservators be minded to approve it. It was suggested that this could include writing

directly to the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee (including Hack Rider Representatives), Local Residents' Associations and Ward Councillors, and placing information on the Borough Council's website and e-Borough Insight magazine.

Following consideration, the Conservators:

- (1) Agreed in principle to the request from Epsom Downs Racecourse for consent to use the area identified within the report for parking at times in addition to those already permitted.
- (2) Agreed that public consultation on the request submitted by Epsom Downs Racecourse should be undertaken prior to a full decision being taken upon it, and that the wording and scope of this consultation would be circulated to all Members of the Conservators by the Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services prior to its publication.

29 EPSOM DOWNS RACING SEASON 2017

The Conservators received a report informing them of the dates of race meetings in 2017 and presenting a request from Epsom Downs Racecourse for extensions to the periods permitted for fencing. The following matter was noted:

- a) Access to Lonsdale Enclosure for hack riding. Simon Durrant informed the Conservators that fencing of the Lonsdale Enclosure would include gates to enable access for hack riders wishing to use the hack area located within it.

Following consideration of the report, the Conservators:

- (1) Noted the dates of the 2017 racing season for Epsom Downs, and granted their consent to the following meetings in accordance with section 14 of the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984:
 - Thursday 6 July (Evening)
 - Thursday 13 July (Evening)
 - Thursday 20 July (Evening)
 - Thursday 3 August (Evening)
 - Sunday 1 October
- (2) Noted that Epsom Downs Racecourse had applied to Surrey County Council for the temporary suspension of Footpath 50 as detailed in section 3 of the report.

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- (3) Agreed to grant consent under Byelaw 2 (i) (a) to bring forward the start of the fencing period for the Upper Tattenham Enclosure and Lonsdale Enclosure for the Derby festival to 15 May 2017.
 - (4) Agreed to grant consent under 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 – 21 June 2017.

30 OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

The Conservators received and noted the position of their outstanding references. The following matter was noted:

- a) Signposting of the Downs. The Conservators were informed that an audit of signs on the Downs had been completed by the Downkeepers, and that a report regarding it would be presented to a future meeting.

The meeting began at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.55 pm

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIRMAN)

**ITEMS OF INTEREST DISCUSSED BY THE TRAINING GROUNDS
MANAGEMENT BOARD (TGMB)**

Report of the: Chairman of the Conservators
Contact: Tim Richardson
Annexes/Appendices (attached): None
Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides the Conservators with an update on items considered by the Epsom and Walton Downs Training Grounds Management Board.

1 Items considered by the Training Grounds Management Board (TGMB)

- 1.1 The TGMB last met on 3 April 2017. The Chairman of the Conservators and Training Grounds Manager (Mr Nigel Whybrow) have provided the following report on items considered by the Board, for the Conservators' information.
- 1.1.1 **Horses in Training.** The Board discussed the positive number of horses using the training grounds in the first few months of this year and hoped that this would continue.
- 1.1.2 **Downskeeper recruitment and Hack Rider encroachment.** The TGMB was pleased to hear that interviews were due to start shortly to fill the current Downskeeper vacancy, as encroachment on the training gallops by hack riders continues to be a real problem on the training grounds.
- 1.1.3 **Kempton Park Racecourse.** The possible closure of Kempton Park racecourse was discussed including the impact this could have on local trainers, as 25% of Epsom trained horses run at Kempton.
- 1.1.4 **Hatched Area.** The TGMB noted that the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee had welcomed its proposed plans regarding the hatched area, and the TGMB has the necessary work to repair the ground in their work plan.
- 1.1.5 **Vision for Epsom and Walton Downs.** The TGMB is now actively promoting its Vision for Epsom and Walton Downs.

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MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS & OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

<u>Report of the:</u>	Clerk to the Conservators
<u>Contact:</u>	Tim Richardson
<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached):	None
<u>Other available papers</u> (not attached):	None

REPORT SUMMARY

The Conservators are asked to note the current situation on issues raised previously and other items of interest.

1 Hack sand track, foot of Walton Downs – Minute 24 a)

- 1.1 The Council's Head of Legal and Democratic Services has written to the Horserace Betting Levy Board, as agreed at the last meeting. No response to this has yet been received.

2 Public consultation on proposal for parking on land in front of the Derby Arms Public House – Minute 28

- 2.1 Officers are considering all the issues surrounding the car parking proposal, and will take the consultation forward in light of the outcome of further enquiries.

3 Derby 2017 – Public information meeting in Langley Vale, 22 March 2017

- 3.1 A public information meeting about the 2017 Derby Festival was successfully held for residents of Langley Vale on 22 March 2017. The Chairman of the Conservators, Simon Durrant, Chief Inspector Chris Colley, Inspector Jackie Elkins and Council Officers presented information about the history of the Downs and details of this year's arrangements, including: key dates and times, traffic management, the Gypsy site, site clean-up and policing arrangements.
- 3.2 Public questions followed the presentations, and these related to parking arrangements and policing resources over the Derby period. A suggestion made by a resident that street lighting be left on overnight during the Derby period (rather than being switched off between midnight and 5am, as is now Surrey County Council policy) was supported by all parties and passed to Surrey County Council for consideration. It has subsequently been confirmed by the County Council that this will be implemented, and that streetlights in Langley Vale village will remain on during the night from 24 May – 3 June 2017.

- 3.3 In addition to the information provided during the presentation, a leaflet providing contact numbers for all relevant agencies was also provided to attendees.

REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER

Report of the: Head Downskeeper
Contact: Robert Harding
Annexes/Appendices (attached): None
Other available papers (not attached): N/A

REPORT SUMMARY

To receive the report of the Head Downskeeper

RECOMMENDATION (S)

Notes

- (1) That the Conservators note the report of the Head Downskeeper.**

1 Staffing

- 1.1 We currently have one Downskeeper on long term sick and one member of staff has left the team. An agency member of staff who has worked on the Downs previously is covering one of these posts and the recruitment process to fill the vacant position has begun with interviews scheduled to take place imminently. In the interim, the Parks Patrol team will be assisting with any staffing needs.

2 Training

- 2.1 First aid refresher training is being organised for all Downskeepers, to ensure that their skills are up to date.
- 2.2 The Parks Patrol Rangers who are assisting the Downskeepers attended The British Racing School in Newmarket on Monday 27 March 2017 to undertake a horse-handling course, which will assist them with dealing with horses on the Downs and in the wider borough. Once this training has been completed they will also attend further training with a local trainer to familiarise themselves with the Training community in Epsom.

3 Afternoon Patrols

- 3.1 After discussions with the Trainers' representative we have agreed to carry out additional afternoon patrols to primarily monitor and control the use of the Gallops by Hack Riders. Downskeepers will conduct these patrols with the assistance of the Parks patrol team if required.

4 Hack Riding Maps

- 4.1 The Downskeepers have carried out an audit of hack posts and are currently devising a replacement programme. We are also in the process of upgrading the current Hack Riding Map, which is available for the public. Once the map is complete, the Downskeepers will publish it on the website, have printed copies available at the Downskeepers' hut and circulate copies to local livery stables.
- 4.2 This item was discussed at the last meeting of the Consultative Committee and the Head Downskeeper was delighted to be offered help and assistance with this project from the Hack Rider's Representatives, Hugh Craddock and Alex Stewart.

5 Events

- 5.1 The annual Pioneer Run took place on 19 March 2017 and the Downskeepers are pleased to report that the event was well-organised and passed without incident.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;

POLICY TO REGULATE SMALL GROUP SESSIONS ON THE DOWNS

<u>Report of the:</u>	Downs Manager
<u>Contact:</u>	Sam Beak
<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached):	None
<u>Other available papers</u> (not attached):	Event Management Strategy agreed on 27 June 2011 Charging Policy for Events agreed on 28 June 2012 Review of Events on the Downs agreed on 23 January 2014 Review of Fees and Charges for Events on the Downs January 2016

REPORT SUMMARY

This report introduces a new policy to regulate the use of the Downs by small groups.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

Notes

- (1) To approve a new policy as stated in paragraphs 2.1-2.8 of this report, to address the issue of small groups and exercise classes using the Downs.**

1 Background

- 1.1 The Conservators have a policy which considers events on Epsom & Walton Downs. This policy is for events that cater for groups in excess of 30 people.
- 1.2 Over the past six months The Downs Manager has received a number of requests from Personal Fitness Instructors asking if they can set up regular commercial exercise classes on Epsom & Walton Downs. These classes involve up to 20 participants and would run on a weekly basis.
- 1.3 The existing events policy does not specifically cover commercial fitness instructors or small groups wishing to use the Downs on a regular basis.
- 1.4 This report proposes the introduction of a new specific policy that will manage applications submitted by fitness instructors, exercise classes and small groups wishing to regularly use the Downs.

2 Proposals

- 2.1 The Downs Manager has received requests from personal fitness instructors wishing to use the Downs for paid exercise classes. In addition there has been interest from other users wishing to offer alternative sessions such as guided walks and post-natal classes.
- 2.2 Officers are concerned that if the above groups were given permission to use the Downs in this way, it could lead to a plethora of users on the Downs at all hours which could lead to significant conflict with the trainers as well as other users.
- 2.3 It is suggested that a policy be introduced whereby only applications for events and scheduled sessions that state specific dates and times will be considered by the Conservators as part of the Events Process.
- 2.4 It is further proposed that the number of sessions any one provider can request is capped at six in any one calendar year.
- 2.5 No session will be allowed during training times.
- 2.6 In line with category A and U in the Events Policy, it is proposed that each session that involves less than 30 people is charged at a minimum of £25 per session.
- 2.7 All users must complete the events application form and submit along with the route/area for use, public liability certificates and risk assessment. The Downs Manager in consultation with the Clerk to the Conservators may then access the application and decide if approval should be granted. Applications can be received at any time throughout the year and would sit outside of the normal events application procedure.
- 2.8 A maximum of five providers in any calendar year will be given approval to use the Downs in this way.

3 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 3.1 There is the potential for additional income to be generated through this process although this is not expected to be significant.
- 3.2 There will be additional work involved in processing any applications received.
- 3.3 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** Minor amounts of income generated would be held in the Council's general fund, fees and charges schedules would be updated for any charge agreed from this report.

4 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 4.1 None for the purposes of this report.
- 4.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

5 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

5.1 None for the purposes of this report

6 Partnerships

6.1 None for the purposes of this report.

7 Risk Assessment

7.1 Participants of the sessions would be taking part at their own risk. The Conservators would not be endorsing any of the providers or their sessions and would expect the providers to mitigate any liability towards the Conservators.

8 Conclusion and Recommendations

8.1 It is recommended that Conservators approve the policy as stated in 2.1 – 2.8.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;

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PROPOSED EVENTS ON EPSOM DOWNS

<u>Report of the:</u>	Downs Manager
<u>Contact:</u>	Sam Beak
<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached):	<u>Annexe 1</u> – Event route maps <u>Annexe 2</u> - Calendar of events
<u>Other available papers</u> (not attached):	Event Management Strategy agreed on 27 June 2011 Charging Policy for Events agreed on 28 June 2012 Review of Events on the Downs agreed on 23 January 2014 Review of Fees and Charges for Events on the Downs January 2016

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides details of event requests for consideration by the Conservators.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

(1) That the Conservators consider the following proposals to hold events on the Downs:

- Royal Pigeon Racing Association: Pigeon Racing Liberations (Various Saturdays between May – September 2017)
- First Stride Events Ltd: 5km & 10km running races (Sundays 18 June, 20 August and 29 October 2017)
- Guided Walking Tours (Sundays from 2 July – 13 August 2017)
- EDMAC Cloud Tramp (Saturday 5 August 2017)
- Omni Terrier Derby (Sunday 27 August 2017)
- The Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk (Sunday 24 September 2017)

Notes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tadworth Athletics Club: Tadworth Ten (Sunday 7 January 2018) • The 79th Pioneer Run for Veteran Motorcycles (Sunday 18 March 2018) • The Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk (Sunday 23 September 2018) <p>and decide whether they wish to grant approval for these events.</p> <p>(2) That the Conservators note the Calendar of Events for 2017/18.</p> <p>(3) That the Conservators note the fees and charges to be applied to each event subject to the event being approved.</p>	
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1 Event Applications

- 1.1 There have been event applications received from eight groups/organisations for forthcoming events on the Downs. Route maps for each of these events are included at Annexe 1, and an event calendar is included at Annexe 2.
- 1.2 Five applications have been made by organisations which have run the same or similar events in previous years. Three applications are from organisations/individuals that have not previously run events on the Downs. The table below details all of the above events.

Event	Organiser	Date	Time	No. of participants	Category of event	No. of years held on the Downs
Pigeon Racing Liberations	Royal Pigeon Racing Association	Various from May – Sept 2017	06.00 – 16.00	20	U	10+
5km and 10km Running Races	First Stride Events LTD	Sunday 18 June 2017	09.30 – 13.00	400	B	0

Guided Walking Tours	Natalie Gomez	Sunday 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 July, 6 and 13 Aug 2017	11.45 – 14.00	20	U	0
EDMAC Cloud Tramp Event	Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club	Saturday 5 Aug 2017	16.00 – 18.00	30	U	18
5km and 10km Running Races	First Stride Events LTD	Sunday 20 Aug 2017	09.30 – 13.00	400	B	0
OMNI Terrier Derby	OMNI Colour Presentations Ltd	Sunday 27 Aug 2017	09.00 – 16.00	100	B	13
Memory Walk	Alzheimer's Society	Sunday 24 Sept 2017	07.00 – 17.00	3000	D	0
5km and 10km Running Races	First Stride Events LTD	Sunday 29 Oct 2017	09.30 – 13.00	400	B	0
Tadworth 10	Tadworth Athletic Club	Sunday 7 Jan 2018	10.00 – 15.00	700	C	23
79 th Pioneer Run	Sunbeam MCC	Sunday 18 Mar 2018	06.00 – 11.00	500	S	78
Memory Walk	Alzheimer's Society	Sunday 23 Sept 2018	07.00 – 17.00	6000	D	0

- 1.3 The EDMAC Cloud Tramp event takes place on land designated for the club's activities and within the allocated times permitted for the club. The numbers are so low that little disruption is expected and so the event has been rated as category U. The event has previously taken place on the Downs over the past 18 years.

- 1.4 The Pigeon Racing Liberations and the Guided Walks involve very few participants and are expected to cause little disruption. For these reasons both events have been rated as category U.
- 1.5 The OMNI Terrier Derby event is expected to have very little if any impact on the Downs and other users of the Downs. Although the number of participants is relatively low the event itself does attract a much larger number of spectators and so has been rated as category B. This event has previously taken place on the Downs over the past 13 years.
- 1.6 First Stride Events organises commercial 5km and 10km running races and is a new organisation to running events on the Downs. The numbers proposed suggest that there is unlikely to be any impact on the Downs and so the event has been rated as category B.
- 1.7 Tadworth 10 attracts a higher number of participants and has been rated as category C. The event has run smoothly on the Downs for the past 23 years and the organisers are very proactive to ensure minimal disruption to other users on the Downs.
- 1.8 The Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk is the largest of these events. It has been given a rating of category D. It has never been held on Epsom & Walton Downs before but the Society are working with Epsom Racecourse to provide the necessary infrastructure to support the event both in 2017 and 2018. The organisers are willing to cap the number of participants if necessary.
- 1.9 The Pioneer Run has been rated as category S as it takes place on land which does not fall under the jurisdiction of the Epsom & Walton Downs Conservators. The event does however use car parks on the Downs and is subject to a hire charge.
- 1.10 Any event that is given approval by the Conservators will have the important matter of staying on designated paths and not straying onto Training Grounds stressed to all organisers.
- 1.11 All organisations have sent through the necessary paperwork, which includes copies of their public liability insurance and risk assessments. Maps of each route for the events are attached at Annexe 1.

2 Calendar of events

- 2.1 The calendar of forthcoming events is attached at Annexe 2. The events shown in **bold and underline** are for consideration by the Conservators at this meeting.
- 2.2 The Event Management Strategy sets out suggested limits on the number of events to be held on the Downs each year, and these are detailed in the tables below, alongside the number of events currently approved and those waiting to be approved:

Category	No of Events currently approved April 2017 – March 2018	No of Events waiting to be approved April 2017 – March 2018	Total no. of events if approved	Suggested Limit
A	2	0	2	10
B	1	4	5	10
C	0	1	1	5
D	1	1	2	On Application
S	0	1	1	On Application
U	1	13	14	On Application

3 Future Events

- 3.1 At the meeting on 18 January 2017, the Conservators reviewed and updated the charging policy for events on the Downs.
- 3.2 For the purposes of this report, seven of the nine applications received would be subject to a hire charge and refundable reinstatement bond for the events detailed in the applications. The Pigeon Liberation and the Cloud Tramp events will not be subject to any charge.
- 3.3 Following the fees and charges policy, the table below illustrates how the charges will be applied to each of the applicants received:

Event	Date	No. of participants	Category of event	Hire Charge £	Refundable Reinstatement Bond £
Pigeon Racing Liberations	Various from May – Sept 2017	20	U	0	0
5km and 10km Running Races	Sunday 18 June 2017	400	B	600	60

Event	Date	No. of participants	Category of event	Hire Charge £	Refundable Reinstatement Bond £
Guided Walking Tours	Sunday 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 July, 6 and 13 Aug 2017	20	U	30 per walking tour	0
EDMAC Cloud Tramp Event	Saturday 5 Aug 2017	30	U	0	0
5km and 10km Running Races	Sunday 20 Aug 2017	400	B	600	60
OMNI Terrier Derby	Sunday 27 Aug 2017	100	B	75	25
Memory Walk	Sunday 24 Sept 2017	3000	D	2250	225
5km and 10km Running Races	Sunday 29 Oct 2017	400	B	600	60
Tadworth 10	Sunday 7 Jan 2018	700	C	525	52.50
79 th Pioneer Run	Sunday 18 Mar 2018	500	S	150	25
Memory Walk	Sunday 23 September 2018	6000	D	4500	450

4 Financial and Manpower Implications

4.1 None for the purposes of this report.

- 4.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** Hire charges as detailed above once realised will be accounted for as planned within the overall budget.

5 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 5.1 None for the purposes of this report.

- 5.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

- 6.1 None for the purposes of this report.

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 None for the purposes of this report.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 Each event on Epsom & Walton Downs is requested to submit a risk assessment and public liability documents when applying.

- 8.2 With every event there is a risk of damage to the Downs. All event organisers are made aware of the restrictions to their event routes and are informed not to stray from the paths. A reinstatement bond is collected to cover the cost of damage caused by the event.

9 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 The Conservators are asked to consider the full event applications that have been received and to note the 2017/2018 Calendar of Events.

- 9.2 The Conservators are also asked to note the charges to be applied to each event subject to approval being granted.

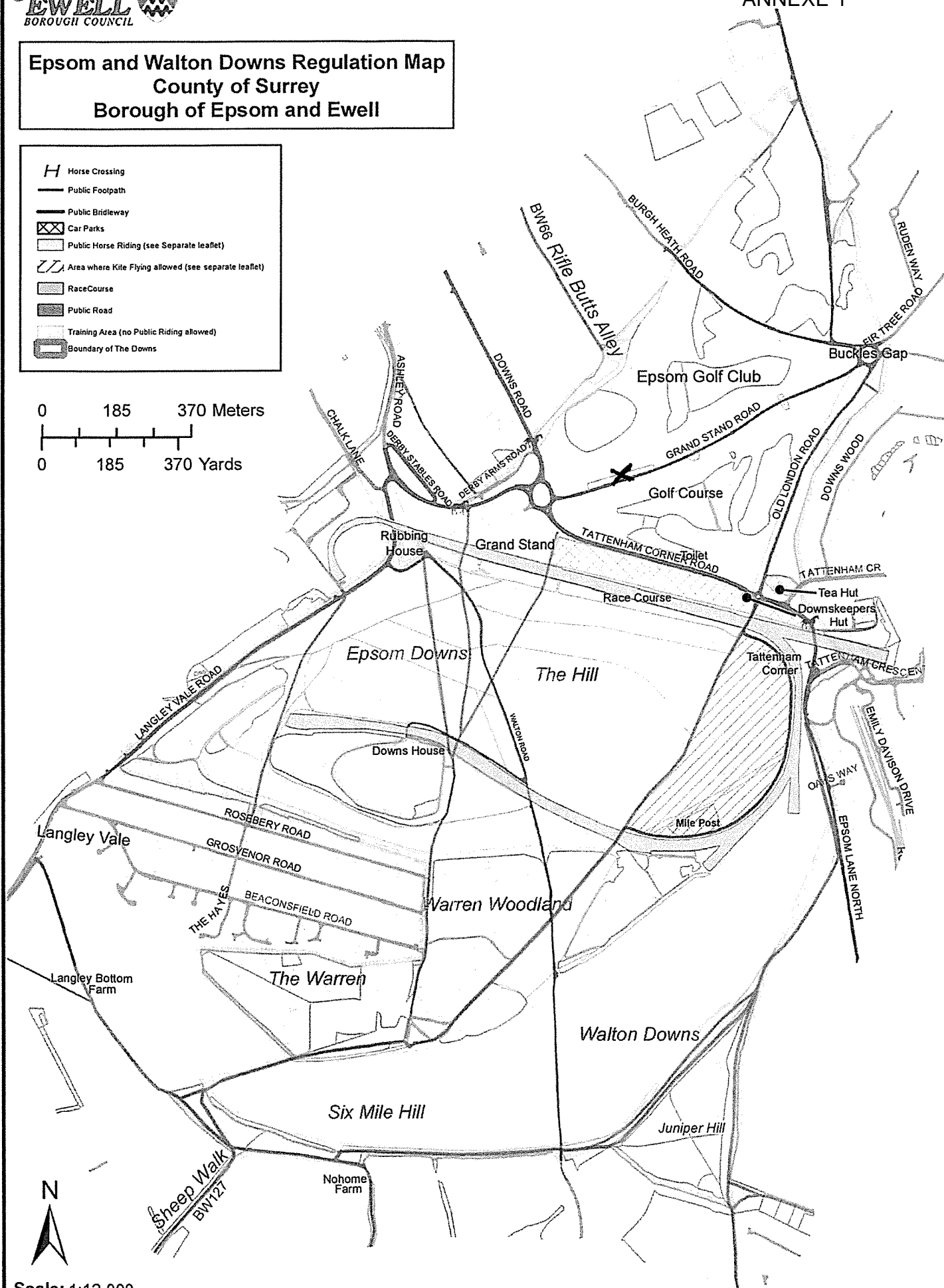
WARD(S) AFFECTED: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;

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Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Map County of Surrey Borough of Epsom and Ewell

- Horse Crossing
- Public Footpath
- Public Bridleway
- Car Parks
- Public Horse Riding (see Separate leaflet)
- Area where Kite Flying allowed (see separate leaflet)
- Race Course
- Public Road
- Training Area (no Public Riding allowed)
- Boundary of The Downs

0 185 370 Meters
0 185 370 Yards



Scale: 1:12,000

Date Printed: 08-Dec-09

First Stride Events : 5km & 10km Running Races 2024

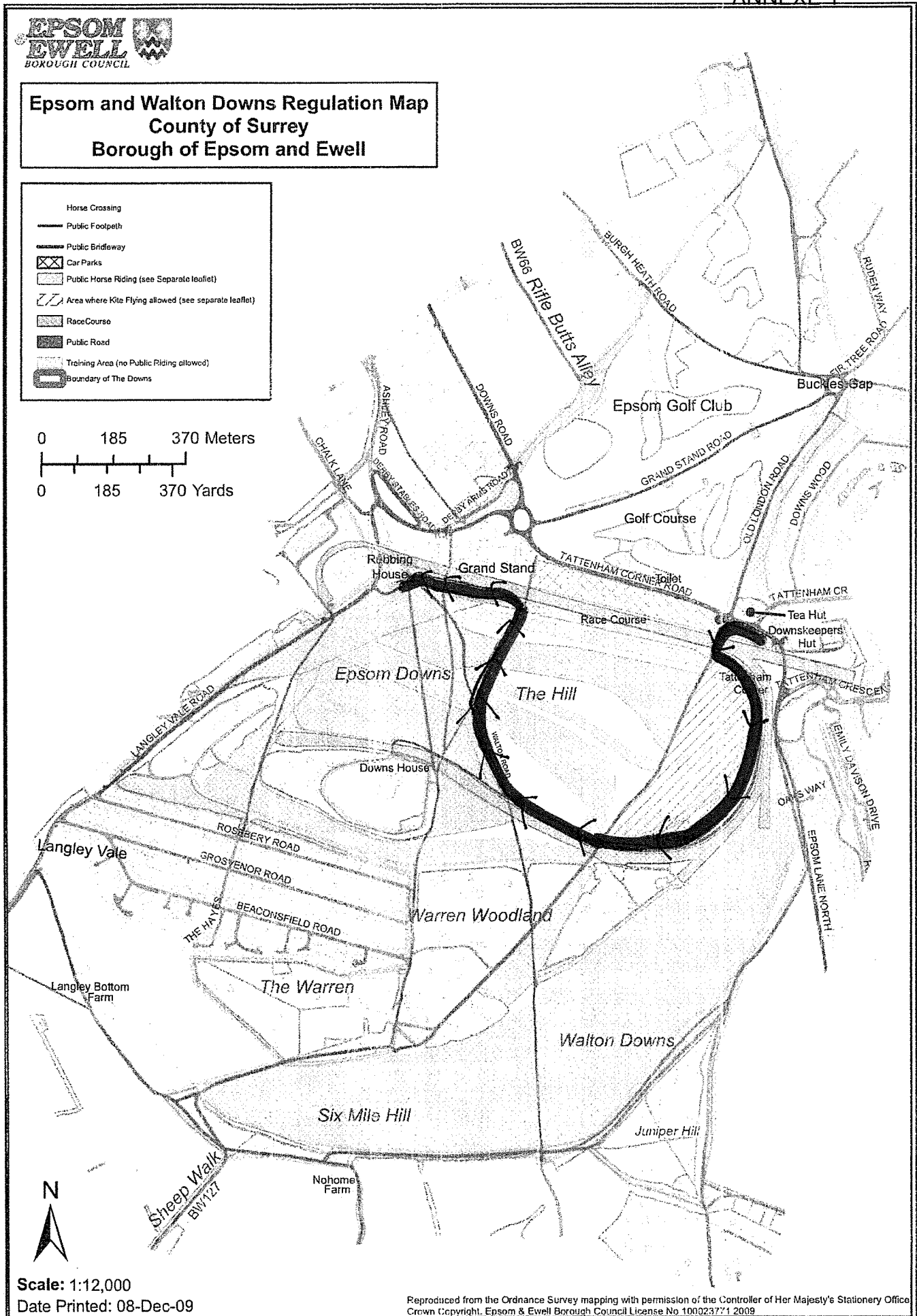
AGENDA ITEM 8

ANNEXE 1

Epsom Downs 5K Route

We would look to have the start and finish point/race HQ along the stretch from Tattenham Corner to the Grand Stand if this is an acceptable location.

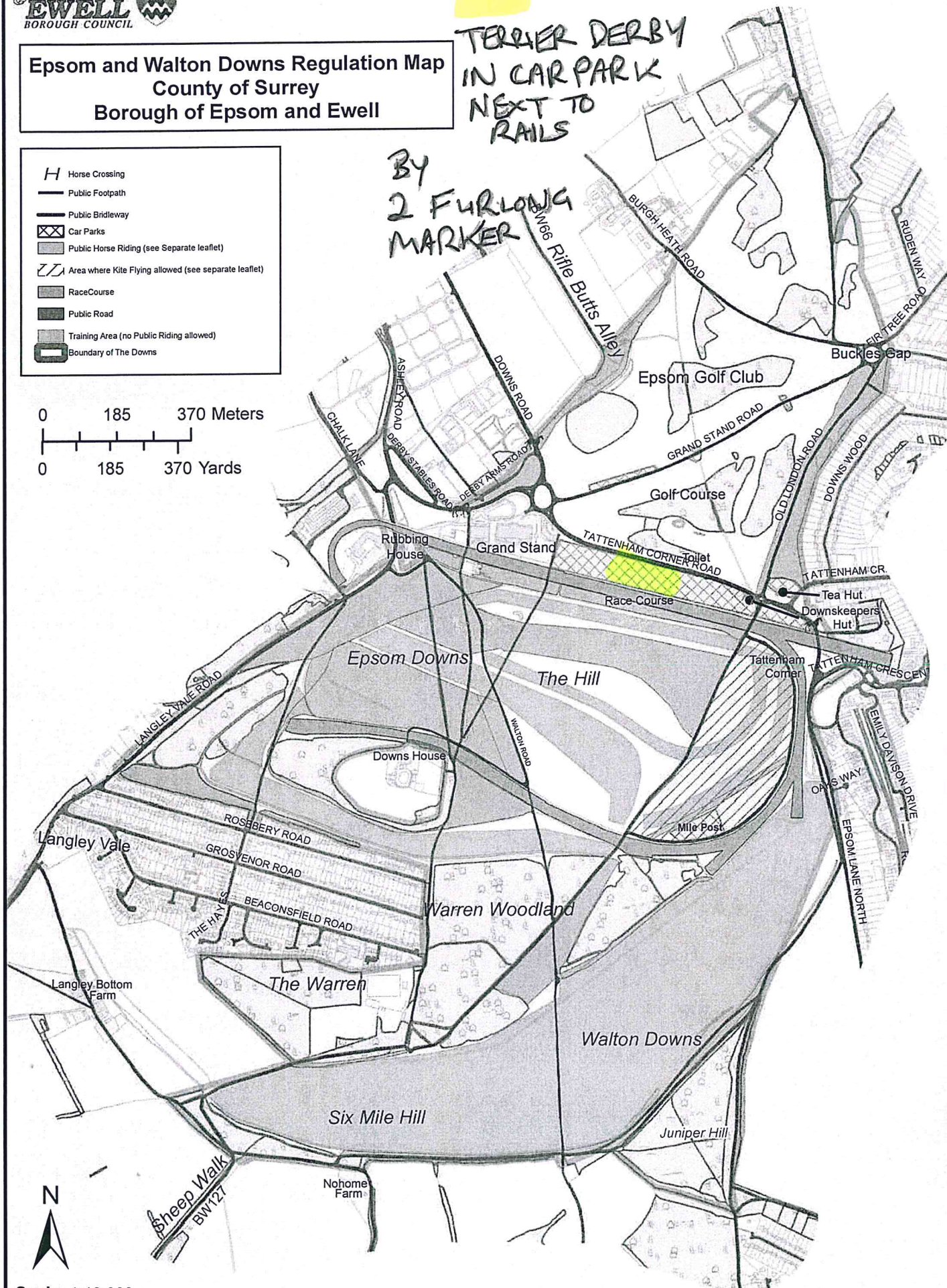
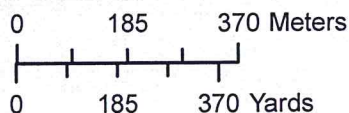
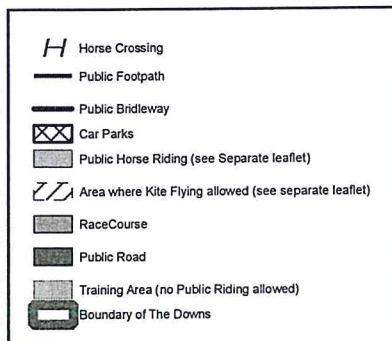




Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Map
County of Surrey
Borough of Epsom and Ewell

**TERRIER DERBY
IN CAR PARK
NEXT TO
RAILS**

**BY
2 FURLONG
MARKER**



Scale: 1:12,000

Date Printed: 08-Dec-09

Memory Walk 2017 Option 1

AGENDA ITEM 8
ANNEXE 1

Memory Walk 2017 & 2018—Epsom—Route option one

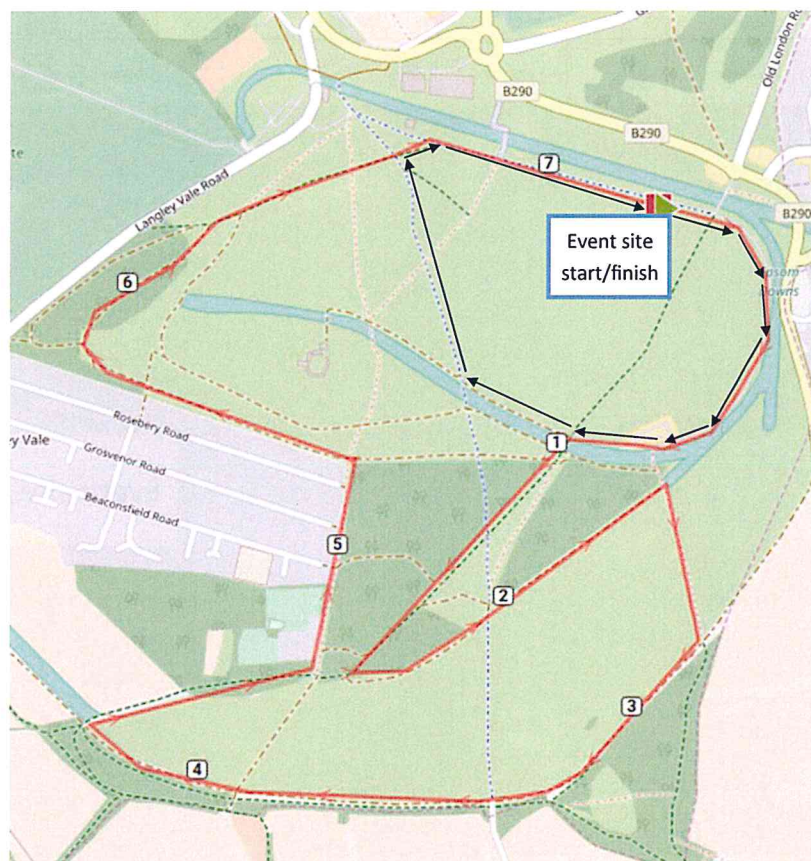
Short route—2.5km (black line)

Long route—7km (red line)

We hope to use the Walton Downs, Six Mile Hill and Warren Woodland to give a longer, non-looping route. This would be dependant on the ground condition.

The short route would remain inside the track as indicated by the black line.

Routes would subject to change on the day if ground conditions made areas unusable.



Memory Walk 2017 Option 2

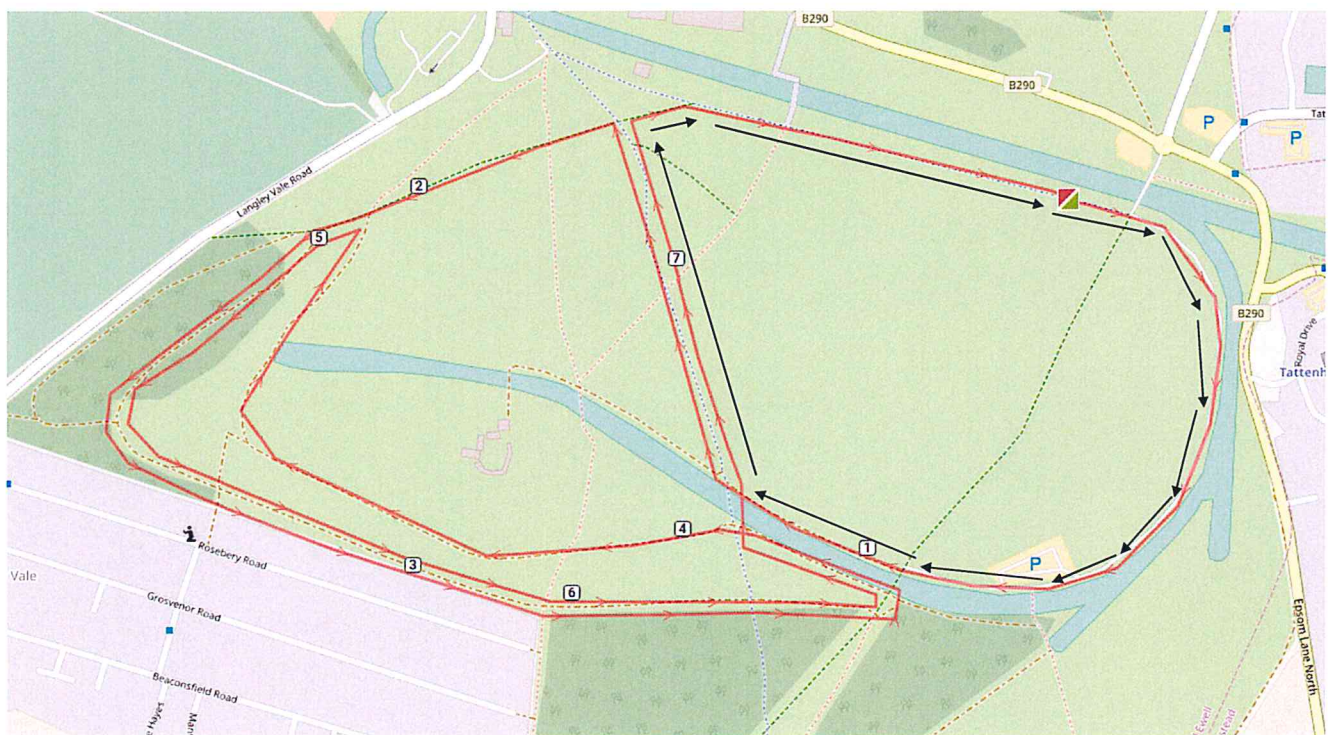
Memory Walk 2017 & 2018—Epsom—Route option two

Short route—2.5km (black line)

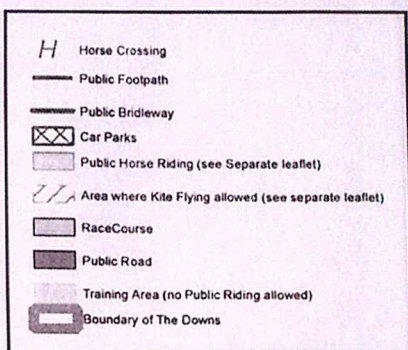
Long route—7.5km (red line)

If the south area of the Downs isn't an option, we would use a route within the north area as shown, with a loop built into half the route (just before 5km).

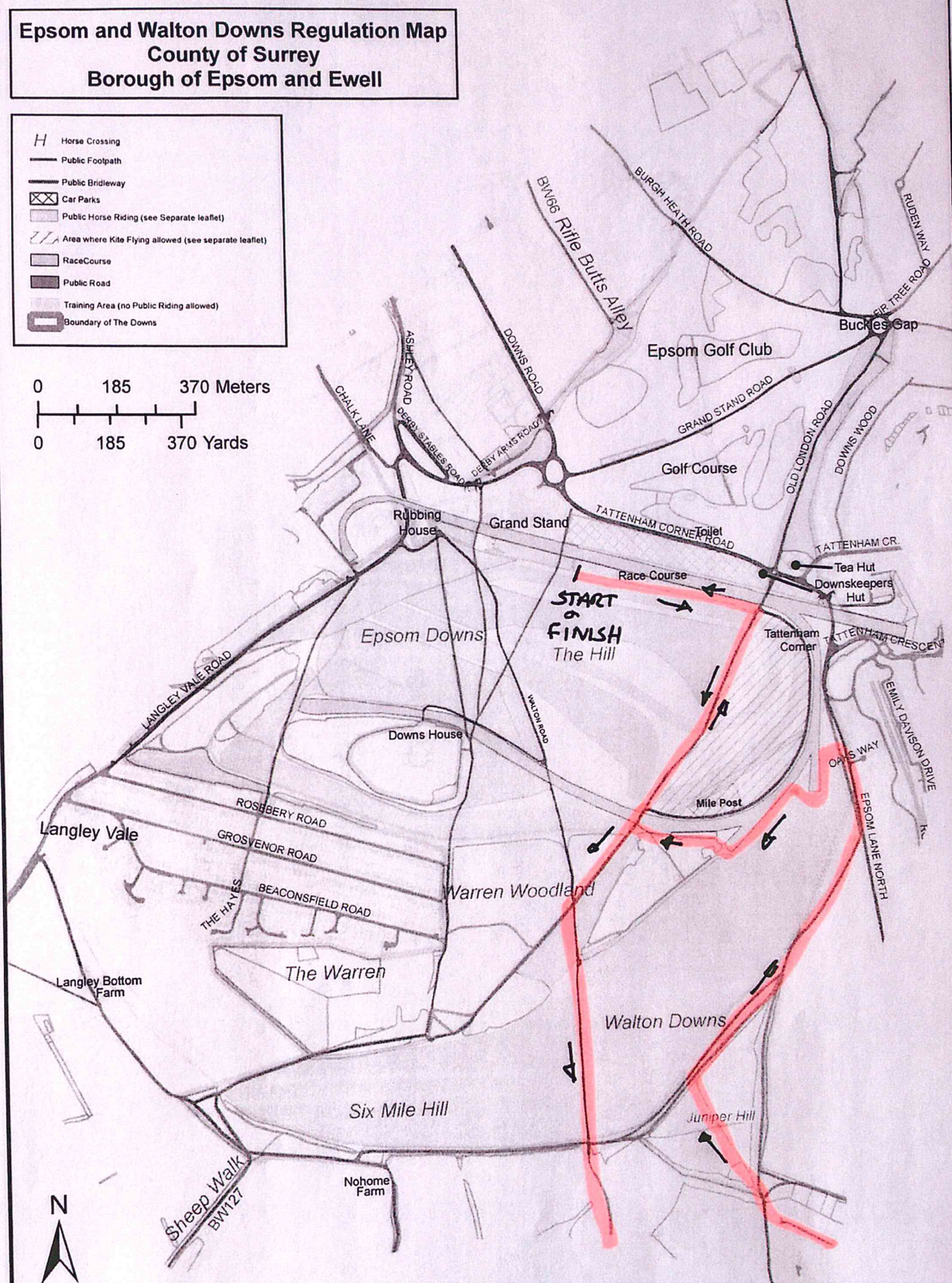
The short route would remain inside the track as indicated by the black line.



Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Map
County of Surrey
Borough of Epsom and Ewell



0 185 370 Meters
0 185 370 Yards



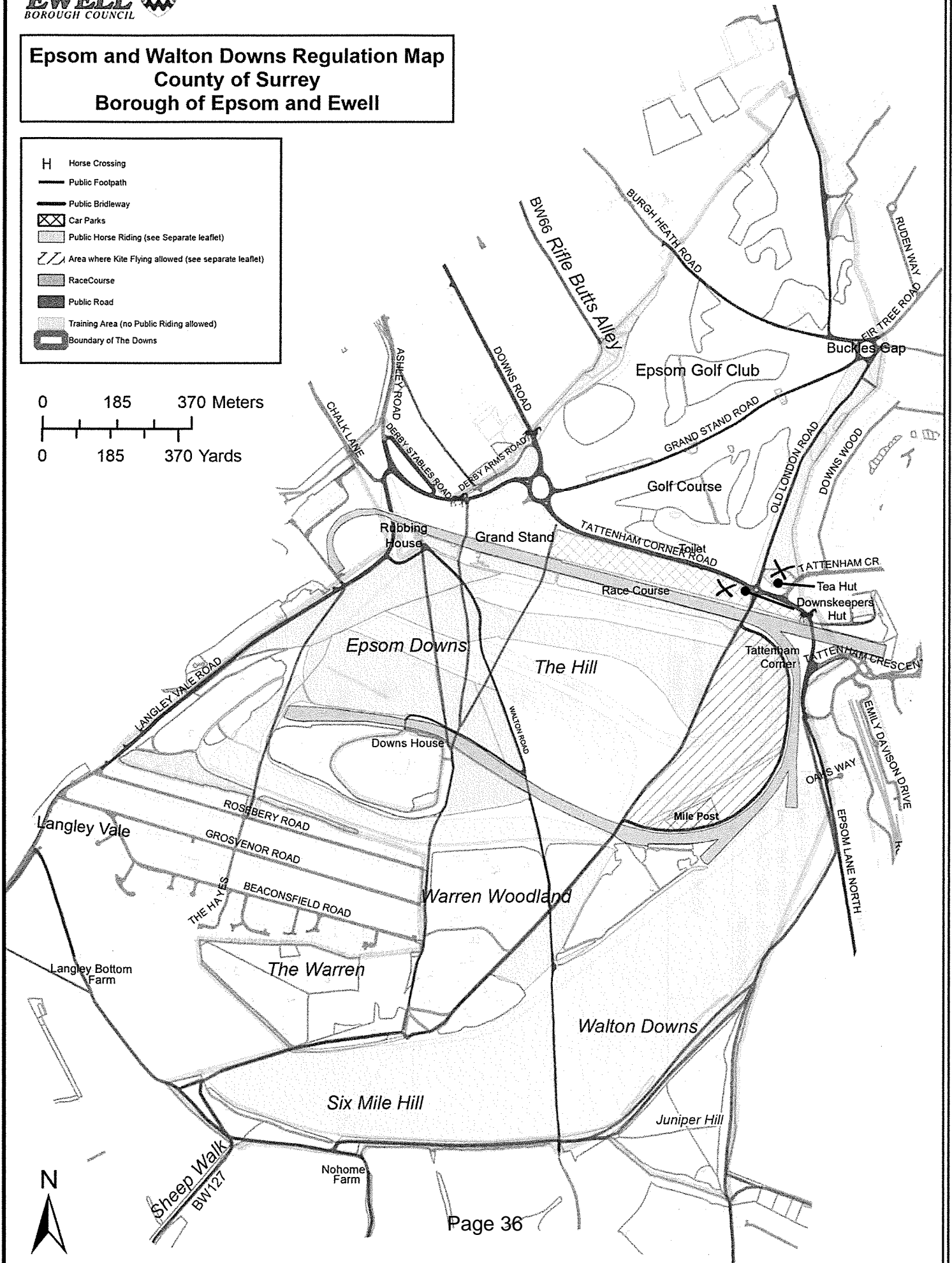
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Date Printed: 08-Dec-09



Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Map
County of Surrey
Borough of Epsom and Ewell

- H Horse Crossing
- Public Footpath
- Public Bridleway
- ⊗ Car Parks
- ▨ Public Horse Riding (see Separate leaflet)
- /// Area where Kite Flying allowed (see separate leaflet)
- ▨ Race Course
- Public Road
- ▨ Training Area (no Public Riding allowed)
- Boundary of The Downs

0 185 370 Meters
0 185 370 Yards



Memory Walk 2018 Option 1

AGENDA ITEM 8
ANNEXE 1

Memory Walk 2018—Epsom—Route option one

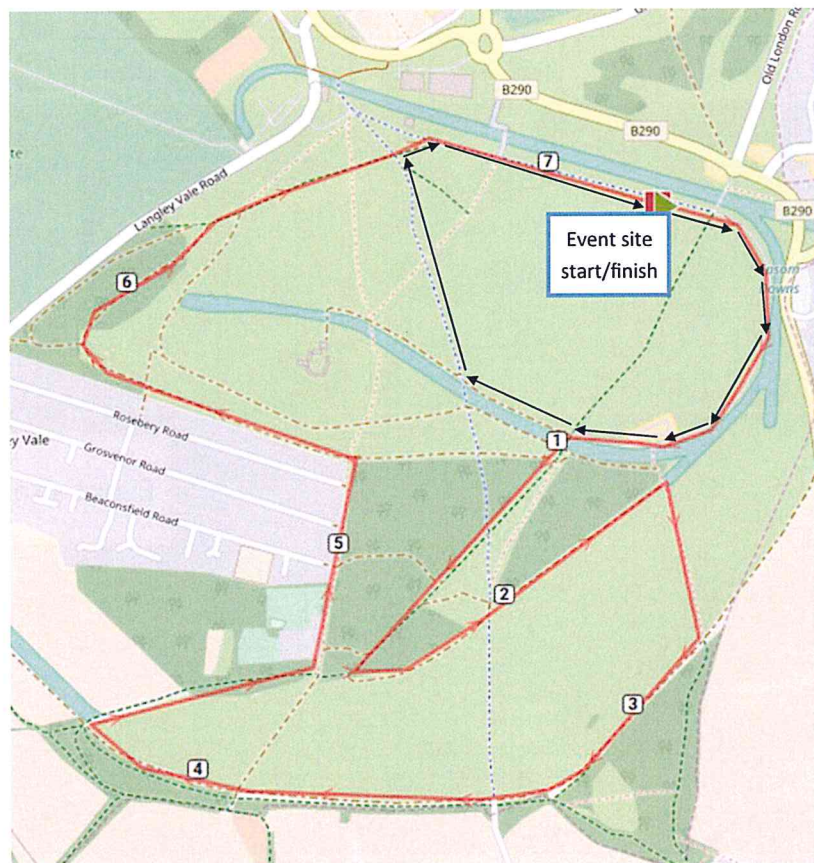
Short route—2.5km (black line)

Long route—7km (red line)

We hope to use the Walton Downs, Six Mile Hill and Warren Woodland to give a longer, non-looping route. This would be dependant on the ground condition.

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Routes would subject to change on the day if ground conditions made areas unusable.



Memory Walk 2018 Option 2

AGENDA ITEM 8
ANNEXE 1

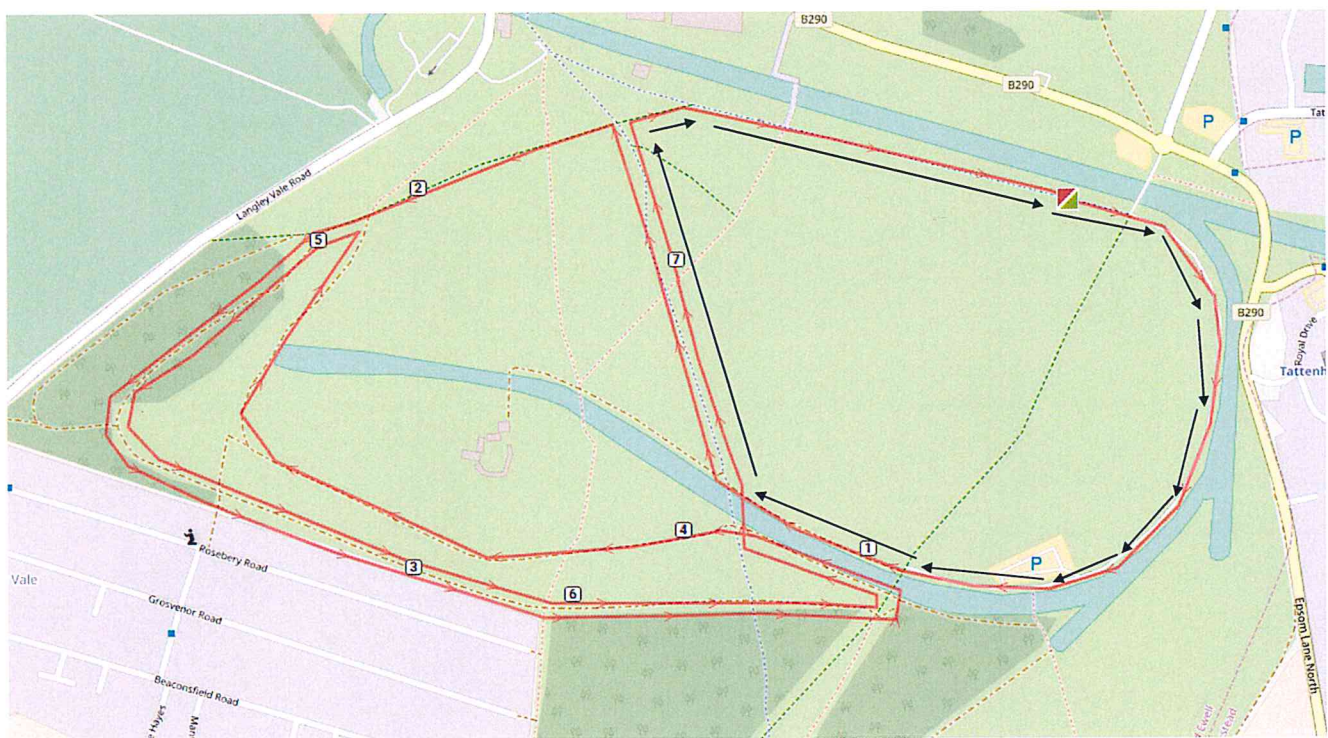
Memory Walk 2018—Epsom—Route option two

Short route—2.5km (black line)

Long route—7.5km (red line)

If the south area of the Downs isn't an option, we would use a route within the north area as shown, with a loop built into half the route (just before 5km).

The short route would remain inside the track as indicated by the black line.



2017/18 Events Calendar for Epsom & Walton Downs

Name of Event	Organiser	Date of Event	Time of Event	No of Participants	No of Organisers/ Spectators	Category of Event	Area affected (Maps provided below)
Easter Sunday Service	North Cheam Baptist Church	Sunday 16 April 2017	06.45 – 07.45	150	4	U	Grandstand Road Car Park
<u>Pigeon Liberation</u>	<u>Royal Pigeon Racing Association</u>	<u>Saturday 6 May 2017</u>	<u>08.30</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Grandstand Road Car Park</u>
Sponsored Walk	Rotary Club of Banstead	Sunday 7 May 2017	08.00 – 16.00	60	20	A	London Road, 6 Mile Hill, paths alongside Warren Woodland
<u>Pigeon Liberation</u>	<u>Royal Pigeon Racing Association</u>	<u>Saturday 13 May 2017</u>	<u>07.00</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Grandstand Road Car Park</u>
Round the Borough Bike	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	Sunday 14 May /2017	10.00 – 14.00	100-200	3	B	Cycle paths and bridleways. The majority of this event takes place elsewhere.
<u>5km and 10km Running Race</u>	<u>First Stride Events Ltd</u>	<u>Sunday 18 June 2017</u>	<u>09.30 -13.00</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>Epsom Downs, The Hill and Warren Woodland</u>
Race For Life	Cancer Research UK	Sunday 25 June 2017	05.00 – 16.00	2500	1500	D	Grass/foot paths inside the racecourse and South of Downs House creating a loop
<u>Guided Walks</u>	<u>Natalie Gomez</u>	<u>Sunday 2 July 2017</u>	<u>11.45 – 14.00</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Old London Road and Walton Road</u>

Name of Event	Organiser	Date of Event	Time of Event	No of Participants	No of Organisers/ Spectators	Category of Event	Area affected (Maps provided below)
<u>Guided Walks</u>	<u>Natalie Gomez</u>	<u>Sunday 9 July 2017</u>	<u>11.45 – 14.00</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Old London Road and Walton Road</u>
<u>Guided Walks</u>	<u>Natalie Gomez</u>	<u>Sunday 16 July 2017</u>	<u>11.45 – 14.00</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Old London Road and Walton Road</u>
<u>Guided Walks</u>	<u>Natalie Gomez</u>	<u>Sunday 23 July 2017</u>	<u>11.45 – 14.00</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Old London Road and Walton Road</u>
<u>Pigeon Liberation</u>	<u>Royal Pigeon Racing Association</u>	<u>Saturday 29 July 2017</u>	<u>07.00</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Grandstand Road Car Park</u>
<u>Guided Walks</u>	<u>Natalie Gomez</u>	<u>Sunday 30 July 2017</u>	<u>11.45 – 14.00</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Old London Road and Walton Road</u>
<u>Cloud Tramp</u>	<u>EDMAC</u>	<u>Saturday 5 August 2017</u>	<u>16.00 – 18.00</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Epsom Downs within permitted model aircraft flying boundaries</u>
<u>Guided Walks</u>	<u>Natalie Gomez</u>	<u>Sunday 6 August 2017</u>	<u>11.45 – 14.00</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Old London Road and Walton Road</u>
<u>Guided Walks</u>	<u>Natalie Gomez</u>	<u>Sunday 13 August 2017</u>	<u>11.45 – 14.00</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Old London Road and Walton Road</u>

Name of Event	Organiser	Date of Event	Time of Event	No of Participants	No of Organisers/ Spectators	Category of Event	Area affected (Maps provided below)
<u>5km and 10km Running Race</u>	<u>First Stride Events Ltd</u>	<u>Sunday 20 August 2017</u>	<u>09.30 -13.00</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>Epsom Downs, The Hill and Warren Woodland</u>
<u>Pigeon Liberation</u>	<u>Royal Pigeon Racing Association</u>	<u>Saturday 12 August 2017</u>	<u>07.00</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Grandstand Road Car Park</u>
<u>Pigeon Liberation</u>	<u>Royal Pigeon Racing Association</u>	<u>Saturday 26 August 2017</u>	<u>07.30</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>Grandstand Road Car Park</u>
<u>Omni Terrier Derby</u>	<u>Omni Colour</u>	<u>Sunday 27 August 2017</u>	<u>09.00 – 16.00</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>In car parking area close to 2 furlong marker</u>
Round the Borough Hike	Epsom & Ewell Borough Council	Saturday 2 September 2017	12.00 – 14.00	Up to 100	3	A	Public footpaths and bridleways. The majority of this event takes place elsewhere.
<u>Memory Walk</u>	<u>Alzheimer's Society</u>	<u>Sunday 24 September 2017</u>	<u>07.00 – 17.00</u>	<u>3000</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>Epsom and Walton Downs, Six Mile Hill, Warren Woodland</u>
<u>5km and 10km Running Race</u>	<u>First Stride Events Ltd</u>	<u>Sunday 29 October 2017</u>	<u>09.30 -13.00</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>Epsom Downs, The Hill and Warren Woodland</u>

Name of Event	Organiser	Date of Event	Time of Event	No of Participants	No of Organisers/ Spectators	Category of Event	Area affected (Maps provided below)
<u>Tadworth 10</u>	<u>Tadworth Athletic Club</u>	<u>Sunday 07/01/2018</u>	<u>10.00 – 15.00</u>	<u>700</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>Old London Road, Walton Road crossing Six Mile Hill, Walton Downs leading up to Epsom Lane North</u>
<u>79th Pioneer Run</u>	<u>Sunbeam MCC</u>	<u>Sunday 18/03/2018</u>	<u>06.00 – 11.00</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>Car Parks near to Downskeepers Hut and Tattenham Corner Road</u>
<u>Memory Walk</u>	<u>Alzheimer's Society</u>	<u>Sunday 23 September 2017</u>	<u>07.00 – 17.00</u>	<u>3500</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>Epsom and Walton Downs, Six Mile Hill, Warren Woodland</u>

Events in bold and underline are subject to approval from the Epsom & Walton Downs Conservators.

SIGNS ON THE DOWNS AUDIT

Report of the: Clerk to the Conservators
Contact: Samantha Whitehead
Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 – Signs Audit 2017
Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

This report presents the Conservators with an audit of signs on the Downs.

<u>RECOMMENDATION (S)</u>	<i>Notes</i>
(1) To note the audit of signs on the Downs, which will be used to inform a signs replacement programme.	

1 Background

- 1.1 There are over 200 signs on Epsom and Walton Downs, which include hack ride markers, warning and information signs.
- 1.2 Although there has been piecemeal replacement of signs, there has not been a comprehensive audit and planned approach to maintenance and replacement.
- 1.3 In order to address this the Downskeepers have recently completed a comprehensive study of all signs on the Downs, including hack post markers. This is attached at Annexe 1.

2 Proposals

- 2.1 The information from the audit has been categorised into groups by type, current condition and action required. This information allows the team to prepare a planned approach to maintenance and replacement of signs.
- 2.2 In summary, the findings of the audit have identified that of the general signs on the Downs, 37 need no action, 7 need replacement posts, 10 need replacement posts and signs, 12 need replacement signs only and one needs repositioning.

- 2.3 The findings of the hack marker element of the audit has revealed that 47 require no action, 1 needs cleaning, 3 need replacement posts, 30 need replacement signs and posts and 20 need replacement signs only. The audit of hack marker posts has been provided to the Hack Rider Representatives to the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee, and a meeting will be arranged with the representatives to discuss possible improvements for posts which are ambiguous or unclear.

3 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 3.1 Obviously, there are cost implications to all of the required work and the next step will be to cost out and prioritise the works in accordance with the available budget and resources.
- 3.2 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** Costs for works will be considered in view of the available budget and resources in the relevant financial year.

4 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

- 4.1 There are no legal implications for the purposes of this report.
- 4.2 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** None for the purposes of this report.

5 Partnerships

- 5.1 We will work closely with the Racecourse regarding planned works and will share the proposed replacement/maintenance programme with them once completed.

6 Risk Assessment

- 6.1 Some of the signs are not in ideal locations for health & safety reasons and we will address this in the next phase of works.

7 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 7.1 This is a very useful piece of work which, in time, improve the not only the visual appearance of the Downs but the enjoyment and safety of all Downs users.
- 7.2 It is recommended that the conservators note the Signs on the Downs Audit 2017 and that the next phase of work which will cost, prioritise and plan the maintenance and replacement of signs on the Downs.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;

Signs on the Downs Audit 2017

Type of Sign	no action	replace post	replace post/sign	replace sign	reposition
Be Aware Flying Takes Place	1	1			
Beware Horses Galloping	3				
Beware Racehorses Training Ahead			1		
Beware Ramps				1	
Byelaws/Map board	6		4	2	
Car Park Clousure Signs	2		1	2	
Caution Horses using this area	2				
Dogs on Leads Sign	6	6			
EDMAC Board	1				
Gallop	2		2	1	1
New A Frame style board. Also Positioned at Sherwood's gallop crossing	1				
New A Frame style board. Positioned at both sides of the valley gallop crossing	1				
New A Frame style board. Positioned at Sherwood's gallop crossing	1				
New A Frame style board. Positioned on Walton Road at the Middle Hill Gallop crossing	1				
No BBQs sign	3				
No Horses			1		
No Horses before 12 Noon	3			1	
No Unauthorised Vehicles				2	
Racehorses Only				1	
Removable A Frame style signs, situated on the two winter gallops on Middle Hill (Displayed and removed according to opening times).	2				
STOP Give Way To Racehorse			1	2	
The Warren Interpretation Board	1				
Track Unsuitable For Galloping or Cantering	1				
Grand Total	37	7	10	12	1

Map No	Map reference	Colour code	Type of Sign	Condition of Sign	Condition of Post	Action Required	Notes
1	1	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	
1	2	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	
1	3	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	
1	4	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Damaged/unreadable	fair	replace sign	
1	5	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Good	good	no action	
1	6	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Good	good	no action	
1	7	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Good	good	no action	
1	8	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Fair	fair	no action	
1	9	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Good	good	no action	
1	10	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Good	good	no action	
1	11	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	
1	12	Black	Byelaws/Map board	Damaged/unreadable	good	replace sign	
1	1	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	fair	no action	
1	2	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	fair	no action	
1	3	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	replace	replace post	
1	4	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	replace	replace post	
1	5	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	fair	no action	

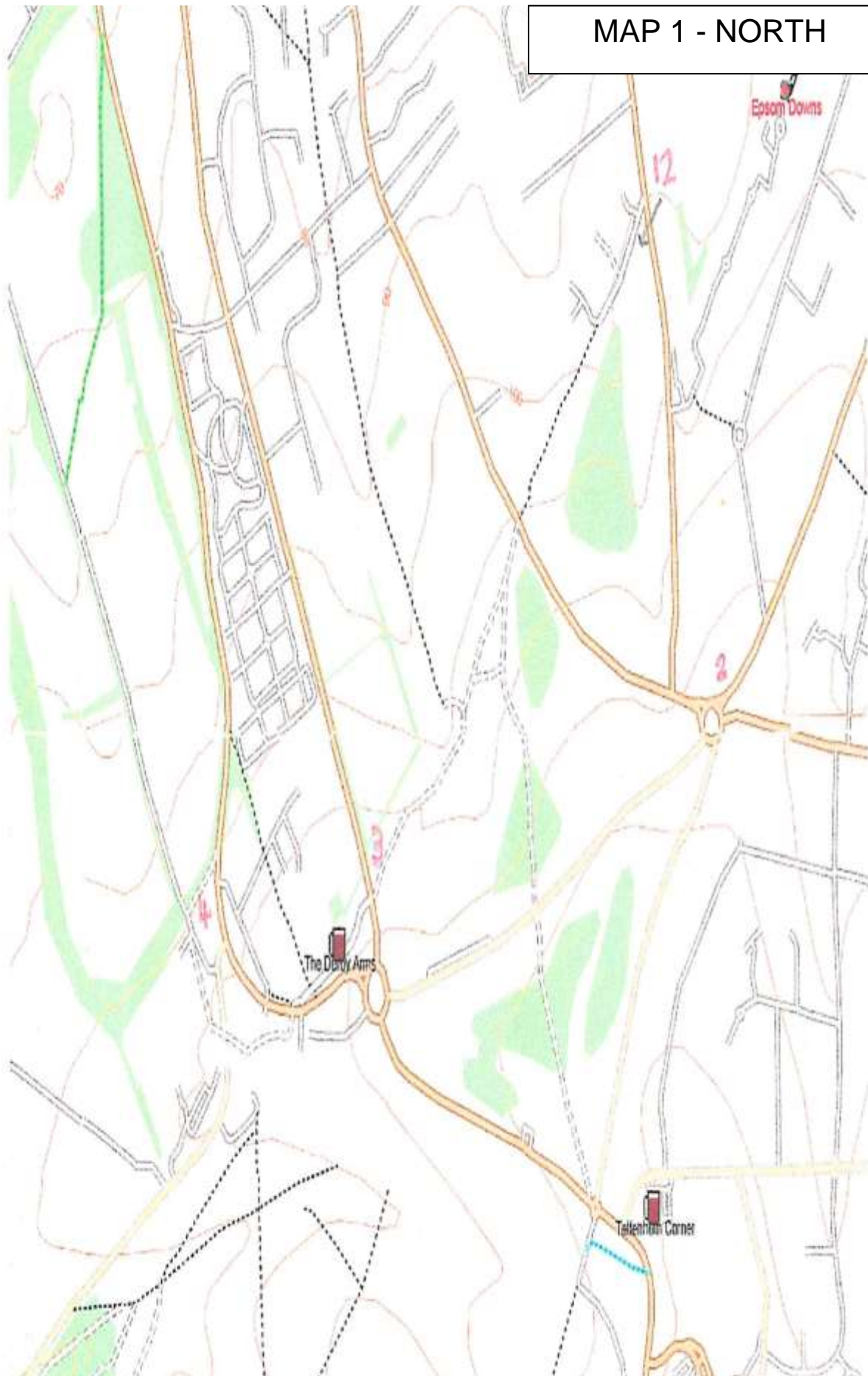
1	6	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	fair	no action	
1	7	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	replace	replace post	
1	8	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	replace	replace post	
1	9	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	fair	no action	
1	10	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Fair	good	no action	
1	11	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Good	replace	replace post	
1	12	Green	Dogs on Leads Sign	Missing	replace	replace post	
1	1	Blue	Car Park Clousure Signs	Fair	fair	no action	
1	2	Blue	Car Park Clousure Signs	Fair	fair	no action	
1	3	Blue	Car Park Clousure Signs	Damaged/unreadable	fair	replace sign	
1	4	Blue	Car Park Clousure Signs	Damaged/unreadable	good	replace sign	
1	5	Blue	Car Park Clousure Signs	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	
1	1	Brown	No BBQs sign	Good	good	no action	
1	2	Brown	No BBQs sign	Good	fair	no action	
1	3	Brown	No BBQs sign	Good	fair	no action	
2	1	Brown	Beware Horses Galloping	Fair	no info	no action	backboard rotten
2	2	Brown	Beware Horses Galloping	Good	fair	no action	post inconsistent with others
2	3	Brown	Beware Horses Galloping	Fair	n/a	no action	back of byelaw board

2	1N + 2N.	Brown	New A Frame style board. Positioned at both sides of the valley gallop crossing	Good	n/a	no action	Removable A Frame style boards situated around middle hill and Sherwood's gallops. These are generally left in place as the cover busy pathways
2	3N	Brown	New A Frame style board. Positioned at Sherwood's gallop crossing	Good	n/a	no action	Removable A Frame style boards situated around middle hill and Sherwood's gallops. These are generally left in place as the cover busy pathways
2	4N	Brown	New A Frame style board. Also Positioned at Sherwood's gallop crossing	Good	n/a	no action	Removable A Frame style boards situated around middle hill and Sherwood's gallops. These are generally left in place as the cover busy pathways
2	5N + 6N	Brown	New A Frame style board. Positioned on Walton Road at the Middle Hill Gallop crossing	Good	n/a	no action	Removable A Frame style boards situated around middle hill and Sherwood's gallops. These are generally left in place as the cover busy pathways
2	1	red	Caution Horses using this area	Fair	fair	no action	
2	2	red	Caution Horses using this area	Good	good	no action	Situated at the derby start. Situated on sand track crossing.
2	1	Black	Gallop	Fair	good	no action	
2	2	Black	Gallop	Fair	fair	no action	Shares d2 (STOP) post
2	3	Black	Gallop	Fair	fair	reposition	Far from path, small post in ok condition. Reposition? Needed?
2	4	Black	Gallop	Damaged/unreadable	n/a	replace sign	Post shared with d3 (STOP)
2	5	Black	Gallop	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	facing wrong way?

2	6	Black	Gallop	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	Reposition?
2	1		Removable A Frame style signs, situated on the two winter gallops on Middle Hill. Displayed and removed according to opening times.	Good	n/a	no action	New sturdy sign positioned on the start of the Middle Hill gallop.
2	2		Removable A Frame style signs, situated on the two winter gallops on Middle Hill. Displayed and removed according to opening times.	Good	n/a	no action	New Sturdy sign positioned at the start of the Valley gallop
2	1	blue	No Horses before 12 Noon	Good	good	no action	
2	2	blue	No Horses before 12 Noon	Damaged/unreadable	fair	replace sign	
2	3	blue	No Horses before 12 Noon	Fair	fair	no action	
2	4	blue	No Horses before 12 Noon	Fair	fair	no action	3. +4. Both signs using the same hack marker post but on opposite sides
3	1	black	Be Aware Flying Takes Place	Good	replace	replace post	
3	2	black	Be Aware Flying Takes Place	Good	good	no action	Shares dogs on leads post.
3			No Unauthorised Vehicles	Damaged/unreadable	fair	replace sign	

3			No Unauthorised Vehicles	Damaged/unreadable	fair	replace sign	
3	A		Racehorses Only	Damaged/unreadable	good	replace sign	
3	B		Beware Racehorses Training Ahead	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	wrong info on sign/outdated
3	C		EDMAC Board	Good	good	no action	
3	D		STOP Give Way To Racehorse	Damaged/unreadable	n/a	replace sign	
3	D2/D3		STOP Give Way To Racehorse	Damaged/unreadable	good	replace sign	
3	D4		STOP Give Way To Racehorse	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	
3	E		Track Unsuitable For Galloping or Cantering	Good	good	no action	clear vegetation/straighten
3	F		No Horses	Damaged/unreadable	replace	replace post/sign	being done by Rangers as at entrance to Warren Rec.
3	G		The Warren Interpretation Board	good	good	no action	
3	H		Beware Ramps	n/a	n/a	replace sign	Beware Ramps. Our sign? Very low to ground, marks a low ramp with very little striped paint remaining. Difficult to see.

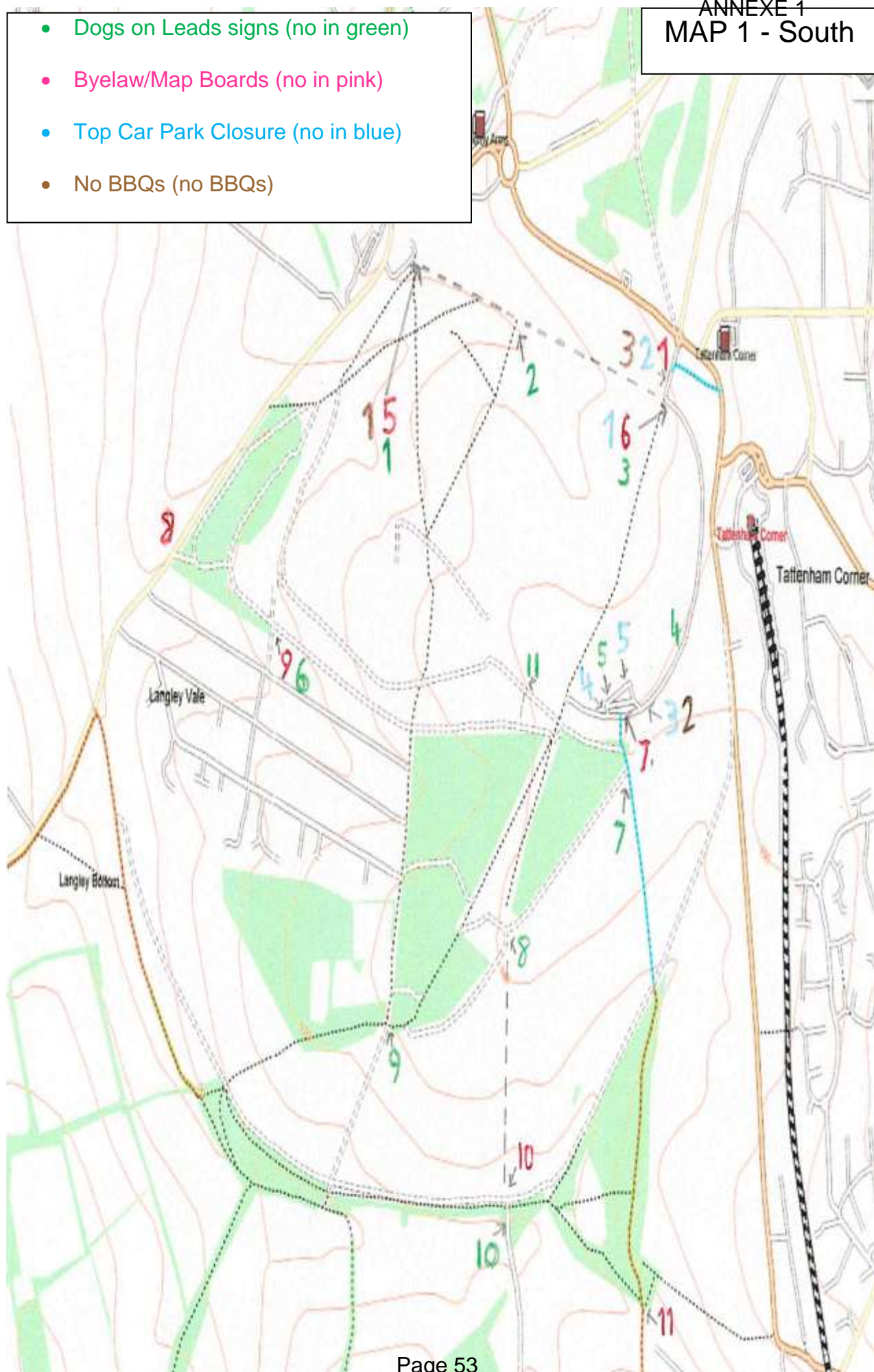
MAP 1 - NORTH



MAP 1 – Byelaws/Map Boards



- Dogs on Leads signs (no in green)
- Byelaw/Map Boards (no in pink)
- Top Car Park Closure (no in blue)
- No BBQs (no in brown)



MAP 1 – Dogs on Leads signs



MAP 1 – Dogs on Leads signs



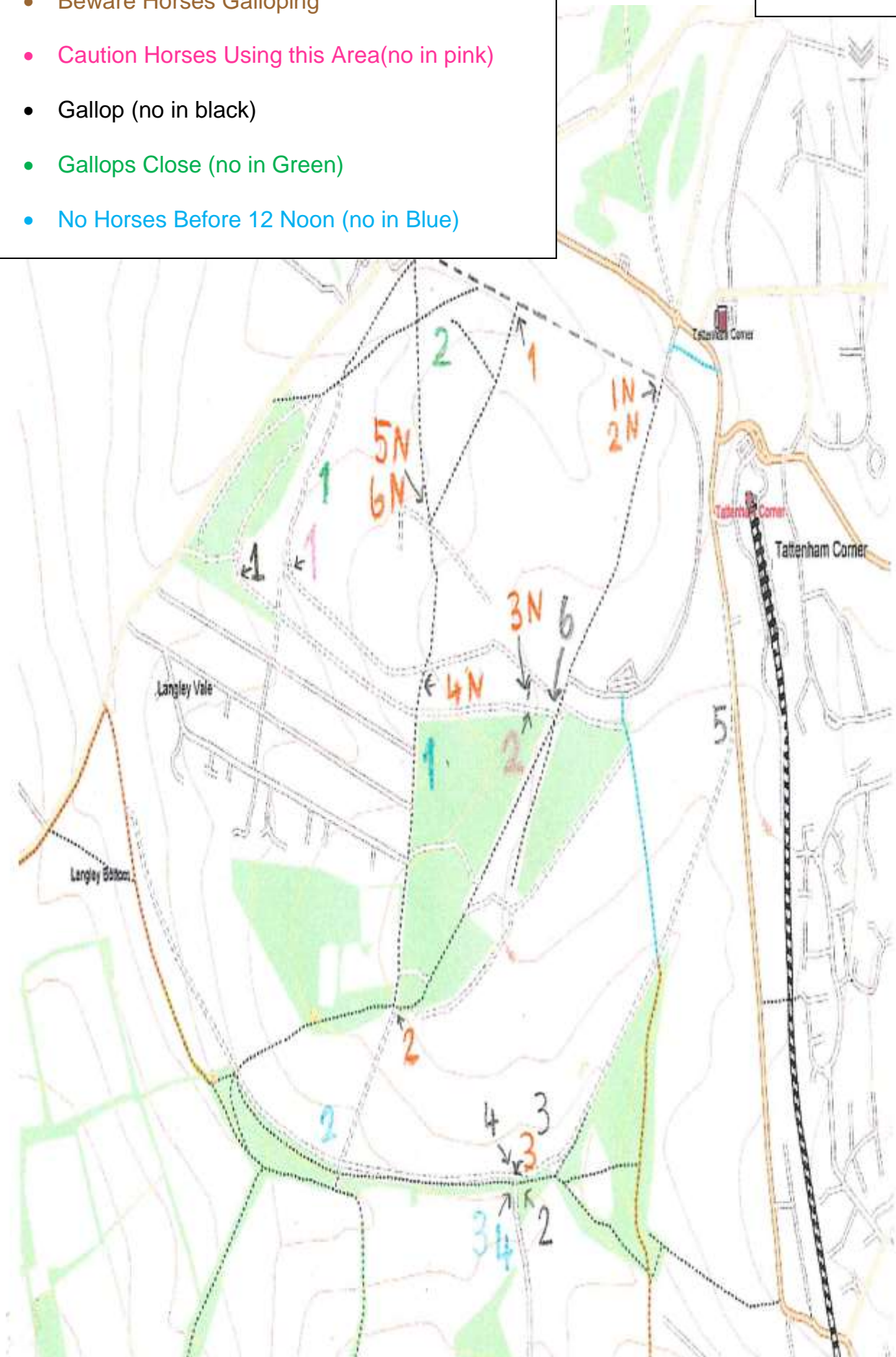
MAP 1 – Top Car Park Closure boards



MAP 1 – Top Car Park Closure boards



- Beware Horses Galloping
- Caution Horses Using this Area(no in pink)
- Gallop (no in black)
- Gallops Close (no in Green)
- No Horses Before 12 Noon (no in Blue)



MAP 2 – Beware Horses Galloping



MAP 2 – Gallop signs

Gallop Signs



Map 2

MAP 2 – Caution Horses Using Area signs



MAP 2 – Gallop Closed signs

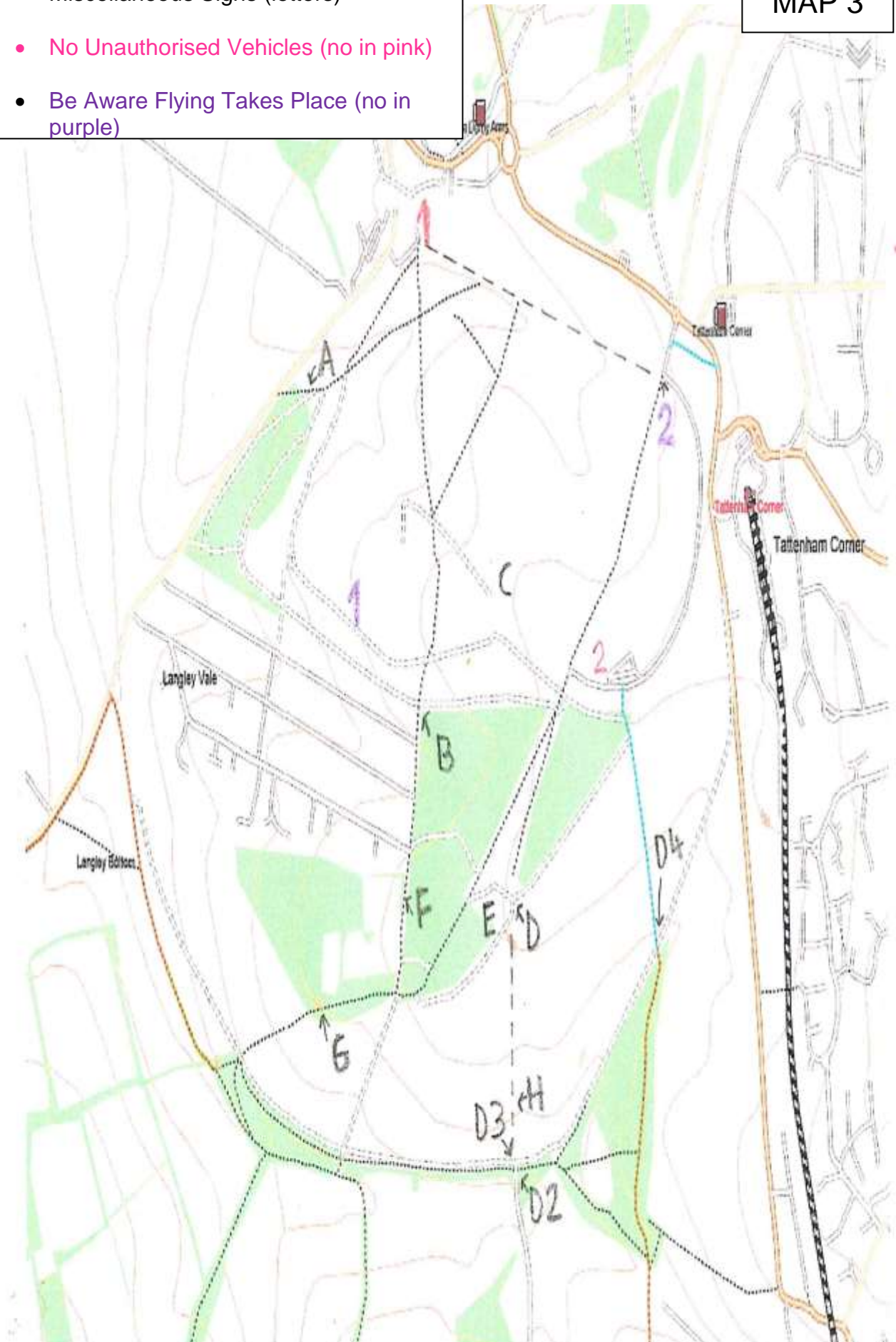


MAP 2 – No Horses Before 12 Noon signs



MAP 3

- Miscellaneous Signs (letters)
- No Unauthorised Vehicles (no in pink)
- Be Aware Flying Takes Place (no in purple)



MAP 3 – Miscellaneous Signs

Letters / (1/2)
Miscellaneous



A



B

Map 3



D



D2



D3



D4



E



F



H



MAP 3 – Beware Flying Takes Place signs



1



2

MAP 3 – No Unauthorised Vehicles signs



2



1

Hack Posts Audit

	Clean sign	No action	Replace Post	Replace Post/Sign	Replace Sign
summary	1	47	3	30	20

Map Area	Map Ref	Location	Post Condition	Sign Condition	Action
Downs	1				
Downs	2	Wootons Car Park	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	3	Hack Sand/Bridleway 65	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	4	Hack Sand/Bridleway 65	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	5	Juniper Hill 65 Entrance	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	6	Juniper Hill 65	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	7	Juniper Hill 65	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	8	Juniper Hill far corner	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	9	Field Track Juniper Hill	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	10	Field Track Juniper Hill	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	11	Crossroads Juniper Hill	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	12	Crossroads Juniper Hill	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	13	Entrance Juniper/Central track	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	14	Entrance Juniper/Bottom Track	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	15	Ebbisham Lane Sand Track	Good	Good	No action
Downs	16	Ebbisham Lane Sand Track	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	17	Bottom Track Wood Entrance	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	18	Bottom Track Wood Entrance	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	19	Poly Track start	Good	Good	No action
Downs	20	Old Poly Start	Good	Good	No action
Downs	21	Poly Walton Rd Crossing	Good	Good	No action
Downs	22	Poly Walton Rd Crossing	Good	Good	No action
Downs	23	Poly Walton Rd Crossing	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	24	Top Wood (Pat Track)	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	25	Top Wood Bag Bin	Tree Trunk	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	26	Top Wood Treeline Six Mile	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	27	Top Wood Treeline Six Mile	Good	Good	No action
Downs	28	Top Wood Treeline Six Mile	Poor	Good	Replace Post

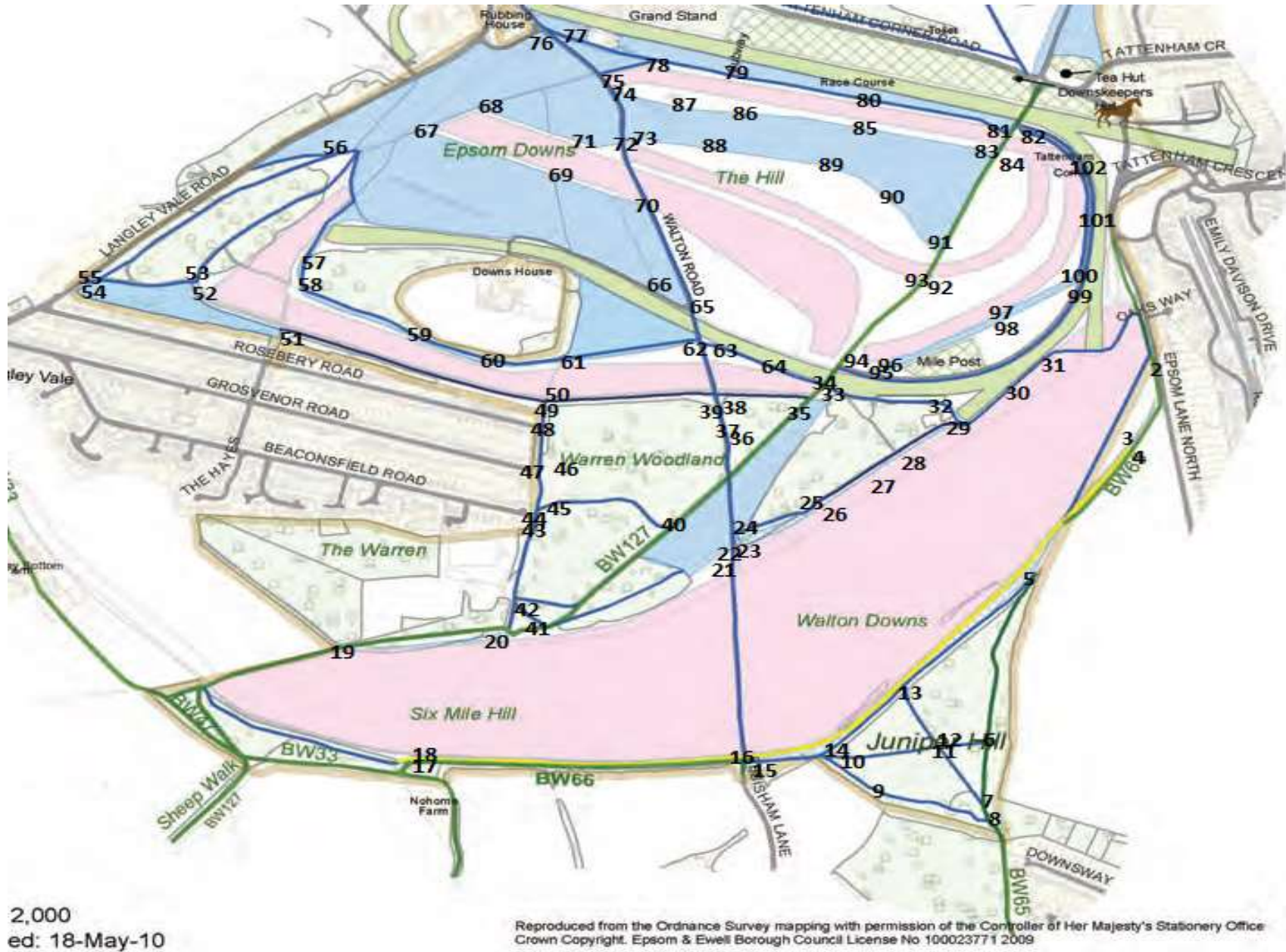
Downs	29	Top Wood Treeline Six Mile	Good	Good	No action
Downs	30	Between 6 and 7 Furlong	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	31	Between 6 and 7 Furlong	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	32	Track Between Mile/6 Mile Hill	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	33	Mile Post Patrol Position	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	34	Mile Post Patrol Position	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	35	Between Milepost and Warren	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	36	Cut through to the Glades	Tree Trunk	Missing	Replace Sign
Downs	37	Cut through to the Glades	Tree Trunk	Good	No action
Downs	38	Sand Gallop Crossing Walton Rd	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	39	Sand Gallop Crossing Walton Rd	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	40	Warren Woodland Track	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	41	Warren Entrance	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	42	Warren Entrance	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	43	Beaconsfield Road Entrance	Good	Good	No action
Downs	44	Beaconsfield Road Entrance	Good	Good	No action
Downs	45	Warren Wood Track Beaconsfield	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	46	Warren Wood Track Grosvenor	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	47	Grosvenor Rd Entrance	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	48	Rosebury Rd Entrance	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	49	Fibresand Police Crossing	Good	Good	No action
Downs	50	Fibresand Police Crossing	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	51	Fibresand Church Crossing	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	52	Fibersand Wood Entrance	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	53	Fibre Sand Start	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	54	Langley Vale Rd Offlicence	Good	Good	No action

Downs	55	Langley Vale Rd Offlicence	Good	Missing	Replace Sign
Downs	56	Entrance to Beech Wood	Good	Missing	Replace Sign
Downs	57	Derby Start Sherwoods	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	58	Sherwoods Sand Hack Walk	Fair	Muddy	Clean sign
Downs	59	Sherwoods Sand Hack Walk	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	60	Sherwoods Sand Hack Walk	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	61	Sherwoods Long Grass	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	62	Walton Rd Crossing Sherwoods	Good	Good	No action
Downs	63	Walton Rd Crossing Sherwoods	Good	Good	No action
Downs	64	Sherwoods Sand Hack Walk	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	65	Walton Rd Crossing Middle Hill	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	66	Bottom Mitchels Hack Area	Good	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	67	Bottom Mitchels Hack Area	Good	Good	No action
Downs	68	Bottom Gypsy Overflow	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	69	Mitchels Hack Area Rosebury Path	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	70	Mitchels Hack Area Walton Rd	Good	Good	No action
Downs	71	Gypsy Overflow Top	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	72	Walton Rd Gypsy Gate	Poor	Good	Replace Post
Downs	73	Walton Rd Gypsy Gate	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	74	Wal Rd /Betting Area Slip Road	Good	Good	No action
Downs	75	Walton Rd Raceday Parking	Good	Good	No action
Downs	76	Rubbing Hse Bar	Good	Good	No action
Downs	77	Rubbing Hse Gate	Good	Good	No action
Downs	78	Cinder Track Below Lonsdale	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	79	Tunnel	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	80	Cinder Track (BT Box)	Poor	Good	Replace Post
Downs	81	Lower Old London Rd Crossing	Good	Good	No action
Downs	82	Lower Old London Rd Crossing	Good	Good	No action
Downs	83	Bridleway 127 Middlehill	Poor	Replace	Replace Post/Sign

Downs	84	Bridleway 127 Middle Hill	Poor	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	85	Valley/Middle Hill Border	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	86	Valley/Middle Hill Border	Good	Good	No action
Downs	87	Numbers Board	Good	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	88	Army Camp Enclosure	Poor	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	89	Middle Hill Gallop/Middle Hill Hack	Poor	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	90	Middle Hill Gallop/Middle Hill Hack	Good	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	91	Bridleway 127 Mile post	Poor	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	92	Bridleway 127 Mile post	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Downs	93	Bridleway 127 Mile post	Fair	Replace	Replace sign
Downs	94	Mile Post Salt Bin Area	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Downs	95	Old London Rd Entrance to the D	Good	Good	No action
Downs	96	Old London Rd Entrance to the D	Good	Good	No action
Downs	97	D area next to the gorse	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	98	D area next to the gorse	Fair	Good	No action
Downs	99	D Hack Route	Good	Good	No action
Downs	100	D Hack Route	Good	Good	No action
Downs	101	D Hack Route	Good	Good	No action
Downs	102	D Hack Route	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	1	Horse Crossing Downs Road	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Golf Course	2	Horse Crossing Downs Road	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Golf Course	3	Downs Road 6th tee	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	4	Triangle Derby Arms Road	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Golf Course	5	Downs Road Roundabout	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	6	Downs Road to B Heath rd track	Fair	Good	No action
Golf Course	7	Downs Road to B Heath rd track	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	8	Downs Road to B Heath rd track	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	9	Near to R I Yard	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	10	Near to R I Yard	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	11	Near to R I Yard	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign

Golf Course	12	Near to R I Yard	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	13	91 Burgh House Rd	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	14	91 Burgh House Rd	replace	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Golf Course	15	Burgh H Rd oppisite Longdown Ln	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	16	Burgh Hth RD and GSR Round	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	17	Central car park GSR	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	18	Central car park GSR	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	19	Track leading from central car Pk	Fair	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	20	6th Green	Missing	Missing	Replace Post/Sign
Golf Course	21	B Hth RD Track to Clubhouse	Fair	Good	No action
Golf Course	22	B Hth RD Track to Clubhouse	Fair	Goof	No action
Golf Course	23	B Hth RD Track to Clubhouse	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	24	B Hth RD Track to Clubhouse	Fair	Good	No action
Golf Course	25	B Hth RD Track to Clubhouse	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	26	Club House	replace	Replace	Replace Post/Sign
Golf Course	27	Clubhouse to Burgh Heath Rd	Good	Replace	Replace sign
Golf Course	28	Old London Rd Large Roundabout	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	29	Café Car Park	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	30	Café car park Beefeater side	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	31	Bar post Tat Cnr Road Nr Hut	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	32	Old London Rd bar post	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	33	Old London Rd Middle	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	34	Old London Rd Rounabout	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	35	Old London Rd Rounabout	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	36	Little Car Park GSR /Hill side	Good	Good	No action

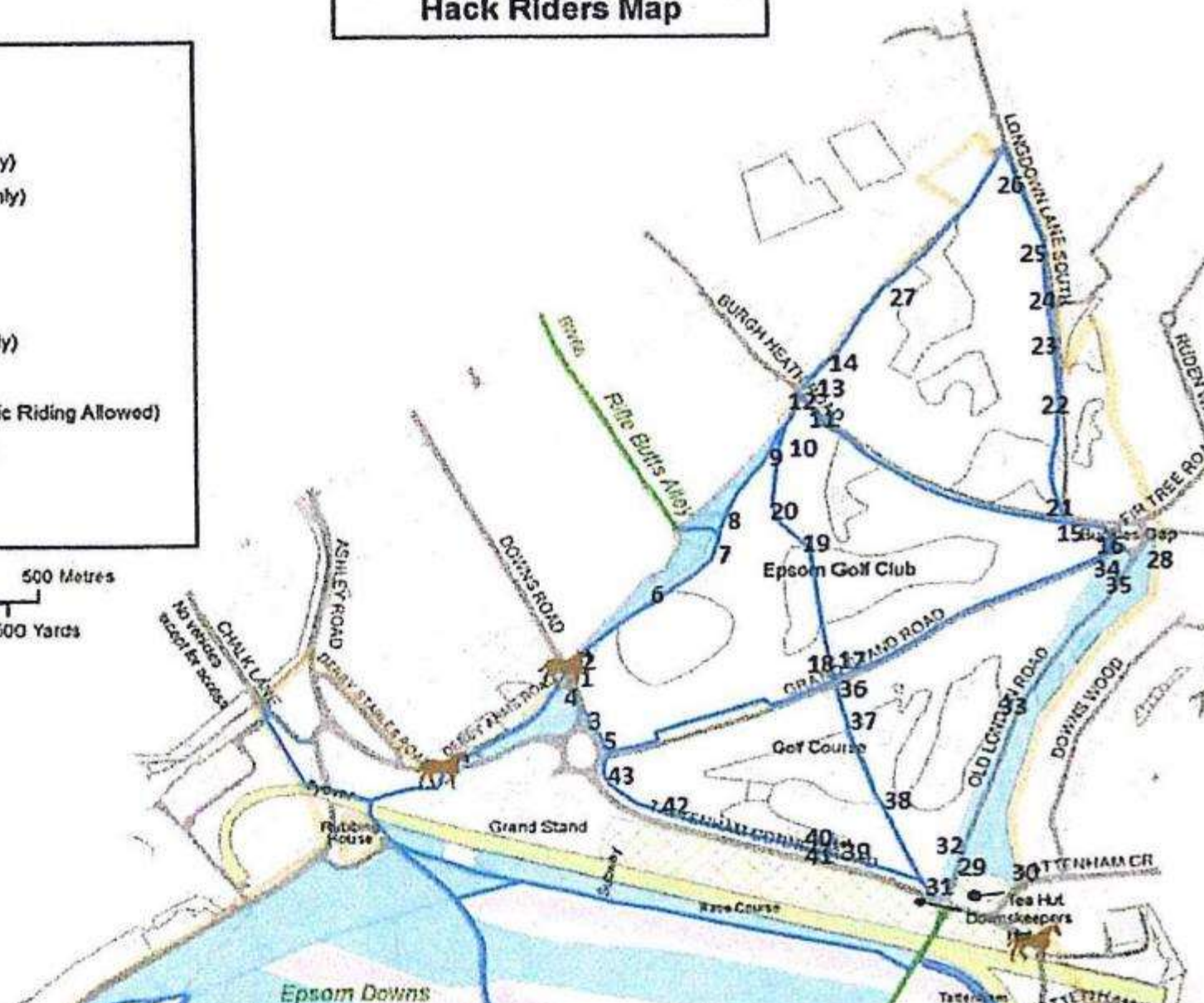
Golf Course	37	Golf Course to Hut through woods	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	38	Golf Course to Hut through woods	Good	Good	No action
Golf Course	39	Ladies Toilet	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	40	Gents Toilet	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	41	Gents Toilet	Good	Replace	Replace Sign
Golf Course	42	Tat Cnr Rd Near Green	worn	Good	Replace Post
Golf Course	43	Tat Cnr Nr rounabout	Fair	Good	No action



Epsom and Walton Downs Hack Riders Map

- Public Bridleway
- Hack Ride
- Hack Ride (Afternoon only)
- Sand Track (Afternoon only)
- Car Parks
- Public Roads
- Hack Area
- Hack Area (Afternoon only)
- Racecourse (No Riding)
- Training Gallop (No Public Riding Allowed)
- Boundary of The Downs
- Horse Crossing

0 250 500 Metres
0 250 500 Yards



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REVISION OF THE HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN TO INCLUDE EPSOM GOLF CLUB SITE

Report of the: Head of Operational Services
Contact: Samantha Whitehead
Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 – Epsom & Walton Downs and Epsom Golf Club Habitat Management Plan 2015-20
Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

To present the Conservators with the final version of the Habitat Management Plan for Epsom & Walton Downs and Downs Golf Club 2015-2020.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

That the Conservators:

- (1) note the amendments made to Habitat Management Plan, which now includes an updated version of the Epsom Golf Club Plan.**
- (2) That the Conservators approves the final version of the Plan and adopts the Management Recommendations set out for the next 3 years.**

Notes

1 Background

- 1.1 The Epsom & Walton Downs Habitat Management Plan was updated by Epsom & Ewell's Ecologist, Peter Howarth and presented to the Conservators over the course of 2015.
- 1.2 As the Epsom Golf Habitat Management Plan was due to be updated at the end of 2015 the Conservators requested that at this point the two documents were merged and aligned to provide one complete plan for the entire site which ran for the same period.

2 The Revised Plan

- 2.1 After agreement to merge and align the plans, Peter Howarth set about updating the Golf Club plan and conducting the necessary surveys over the course of 2016.
- 2.2 During this period Peter consulted with various stakeholders and also with Surrey County Council's Ecologist. Due to the differences between the main parts of Epsom and Walton Downs and the Golf Course, it was suggested that the plans should stay relatively independent from each other but form a two part document which ran for the same duration.
- 2.3 The Epsom & Walton Downs and Epsom Golf Club Habitat Management Plan is attached at Annexe 1.
- 2.4 The Epsom Golf Club element of the plan can be found in Part Two and follows the same structure as Part One of the plan. Both plans discuss geology of the site, botanical surveys, wildlife surveys, review of management and recommendations for future management of the sites.
- 2.5 The Streetcare Manager would like to thank Angela and Philip Clifford and Martin Ellis for their addition of first hand bird and butterfly observations which has now been included in Part One of the plan.
- 2.6 Now this work is complete the next step is to copy the maps and management recommendations for both sites out of the main body of the plan and form a separate document. This smaller document will be easier for the Downskeepers and Grounds Maintenance staff to navigate and work with on a day-to-day basis.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 That the Conservators note the amendments made to Habitat Management Plan, which now includes an updated version of the Epsom Golf Club plan.
- 3.2 That the Conservators approve the final version of the Plan and adopts the Management Recommendations set out for the period 2015-2020.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;

Epsom & Walton Downs & Epsom Golf Club

Habitat Management Plan 2015-2020



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PART ONE – EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 2015-2020 MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Countryside Team of Epsom and Ewell Borough Council has been commissioned to review and update the previous management plan 2008-12. Since the previous plan a borough wide review of Site 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. The need to have a management plan for an SNCI is set out in the Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2010. In addition Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC) places a requirement in law on all public bodies to take reasonable measures to enhance the aesthetic, cultural, historical and biological interest of its open spaces, which could include the production and implementation of a management plan.

The importance of the site is indicated by the fact the site includes two habitats chalk grassland and woodland that are both habitats of principal importance as set out in NERC 2006 and the Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Action Plan 2010.

1.2 BACKGROUND TO PREVIOUS PLAN

Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators commissioned Surrey Wildlife Trust Consultancies to write a habitat management plan for Epsom and Walton Downs in 2003. This document featured conservation and management objectives for the site and set out an annual work programme detailing what management should take place, where and when over 5 years. This came to an end in 2008. Therefore the Conservators asked Surrey Wildlife Trust Consultancies to review the document. In order to gather more information on specific management requirements for a variety of wildlife a number of specialist surveys were recommended. It was decided that a rolling future programme of surveys would be considered including birds and bats. During 2007 an invertebrate survey was carried out to gain baseline data for terrestrial invertebrates over the site. As a result of these surveys a new 5 year plan was written 2008- 2012.

1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There have been a number of people who have assisted with the writing of this plan, including EEBC Countryside Manager Stewart Cocker, Downkeeper Pete Murray and Surrey County Ecologist John Edwards. In addition there are a variety of experts and specialists who have invested time in managing and recording on the site and were asked for their management advice and species records. Conor Morrow has also worked the site for many years. He commented on the proposals and has taken time to attend meetings. The site has in the past been important for a rare and beautiful butterfly called the Small Blue and Gail Jeffcoate from Surrey & SW London Branch of Butterfly Conservation has written a Species Action Plan for the species. Some of this information has been incorporated into this report. Information from a local coppice worker, John Sinclair, has also been included in the report

1.4 REPORT LAYOUT

The overall report and habitat section was previously completed by Isobel Girvan BSc (Hons) MIEEM, Consultancy Manager at Surrey Wildlife Trust Consultancy. Much of what was written in the previous report remains relevant and consequently is retained in the 2015-20 Habitat Management Plan.

Section 2 provides an overall picture of the ecological importance of Epsom and Walton Downs.

Section 3 gives a general description of the site.

Section 4 contains the botanical survey with detailed target notes on vegetation habitats and information on the National Vegetation Classification (NVC) communities.

Section 5 presents the invertebrate survey report, which provides a baseline of the invertebrate species found over the site.

Section 6 evaluates the site using the Radcliffe criteria, looking at a variety of different aspects of the site.

Section 7 details the factors that could affect conservation management, either directly or indirectly such as climate, funding and labour.

Section 8 supplies the management recommendations in practical terms with explanation as to why it is important to carry them out for the wildlife and habitats involved. This takes into account the information provided in the above sections. This is then summarised in a table.

Maps referred to in the text are then presented in the back of the document as Figures 1-8. Appendices 1-7 provide additional information.

1.5 DESK TOP RESEARCH

- Copies of the soils and geology sheets were examined for information.
- Previous survey work undertaken by the Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) Surveyors was evaluated prior to the field site visits in 2014. The SNCI information is included in the Site Evaluation section under Position in an Ecological Unit.

- The Surrey Inventory of Ancient Woodland 2011 was checked for information on the woodlands present.
- A review of the records held by Surrey Wildlife Trust was also made in 2008 to identify any habitats of importance within the vicinity of Epsom & Walton Downs and any previous species records. Information was included in the overall species list in Appendix 3.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 MANAGEMENT REVIEW

The management of the majority of the site is mainly focused on the amenity and racing uses of the site. This has been both positive and negative for maintenance of the valuable chalk grassland habitat. The positive is that the regular mowing of the grasslands has prevented shrub encroachment which is a great threat to chalk grassland and has led to the complete loss of large areas of chalk grassland in other places. In some areas such as the grassland opposite the Derby stables frequent mowing prevented the dominance of rank grasses and allowed orchid species such as Autumn Lady's Tresses to thrive. The negative is the too frequent mowing and grassland improvement has led to the decline in the quality of the grassland in the main areas of the site. In some areas there is not enough cutting which has led to scrub encroachment, which has detrimental effects, such as butterflies declining including the loss of the Small Blue from Juniper Hill.

As part of the management plan review a condition assessment of the grasslands was carried out. Overall the grasslands were found not be in favourable condition(see details below)The best solution to improve this would be to introduce grazing, however as an alternative the next best solution to this problem is for the cutting to be carried out to the specification as set out in the management plan with special attention being paid to the collection and removal of the arisings.

The grassland of Juniper Hill bears special attention as is mentioned in the previous plan this grassland is considered to be the best of its type in Surrey. It is regarded by the Epsom and Ewell Local Biodiversity Plan working group as top priority to conserve and enhance. The comparison of aerial photographs from 1949 and 2013 show the extent of the loss of the grassland. The management recommendations for this area if carried out should ensure the maintenance and restoration of this nationally scarce and important habitat.

2.2 CHALK GRASSLAND RARITY

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 Counties chalk grassland resource. Nationally it is within the North Downs Natural Area. Written in the Chalk Biodiversity Action Plan for Surrey it states that both Epsom & Walton Downs and the Golf Course 'have actually contributed to helping conserve large areas of chalk grassland and scrub'.

Following a survey by Surrey Wildlife Trust, it was noted that during the ten year period between 1975 and 1985, 212.2 hectares of unimproved grassland in the chalk region of the county were lost. Today, areas of chalk downland that survive in Surrey are scattered across the Downs. There are approximately 9,500 hectares of chalk grassland in south east England that is approximately 21% of the UK resource. Only around 323.9 hectares of chalk grassland remain in Surrey (NCC, 1980). Such fragments of plants and animal communities that were once common through 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. The habitat cannot be recreated if lost. Chalk grasslands are undoubtedly a nationally and internationally rare habitat.

There are 12 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the Downs Natural Area of Surrey. 9 have a chalk grassland component. The series goes some way to protecting the chalk grassland resource of Surrey. However, important areas exist outside the SSSI's, which have potential for enhancement (Chalk BAP, 1999) including Epsom Golf Course and Juniper Hill.

Hedley (1998) Chalk Grassland NCC report referred to Juniper Hill when he commented that 'the site is clearly important with only its size and fragmented nature preventing its recommendation as SSSI. An appraisal of the surrounding scrub and woodland may be worthwhile if the site be deemed worthy on inclusion within a proposed Epsom golf course SSSI.' In addition Joyce Smith from the Surrey Flora Committee commented after a visit in 1986 to Juniper Hill and Walton Downs that 'we do not know of another site in the County where so many Round-headed Rampion are contained in so small an area.'

2.3 RARE PLANTS

Confined to chalk grassland are the Fragrant Orchid and Pyramidal Orchid (Chalk BAP, 1999), both have been recorded on Juniper Hill, the latter has not been seen for some time. Currently in Surrey Pyramidal Orchid is only recorded in 20 sites and Fragrant Orchid even less at 11.

Juniper found on Juniper Hill is on the BAP2/3 Conservation Concern list (see Appendix 6 for definition). In Southern counties Juniper is in a critical state of decline with evidence of habitat fragmentation. There are only 5 known sites in Surrey, see Appendix 5 for the National Distribution of this plant.

On Juniper Hill three Nationally Scarce plant species reside (see Appendix 6 for definition and Appendices 2,3,4 & 5 for National Distributions). They are Bastard-toadflax, Chalkhill Eyebright and Round-headed Rampion (also found in excellent quantities on Walton Downs).

2.4 UNUSUAL BIRDS

The mosaic of habitats provides breeding and feeding habitat for a number of declining bird species such as Skylark, a BAP 1 Species of Conservation Concern and RSPB Red list bird (see **Appendix 6** for definitions) and when RSPB surveyed the area some years ago they commented that '*the Skylark population was one of the best in the County.*' Peter Murray is a Groundsman on the Racecourse staff and a keen birder. He has been monitoring the bird populations for many years and provided some interesting information on Skylarks and an overall bird species list. These have been appended as **Appendix 8**. Further breeding birds survey work is recommended to evaluate the species using the site,

where they are and providing management suggestions. In order to highlight the decline in populations the RSPB have come up with a Red and Amber list of birds, definitions are in **Appendix 6**. In addition the Biodiversity Action Plan series have highlighted many birds as either BAP 1 or BAP2/3, again see the appendix for definitions. The birds found on the site which qualify have been put in a table below.

Bird Name	BAP 1	BAP2/3	RSPB Red	RSPB Amber
Skylark	10		10	
Meadow Pipit		10		10
Linnet	10		10	
Goldfinch		10		
Greenfinch		10		
Cuckoo				10
Great Spotted Woodpecker			10	
Yellowhammer		10	10	
Kestrel		10		10
Swallow		10		10
Herring Gull		10		10
Black-headed Gull		10		
Pied Wagtail		10		
Wheatear		10		
Blue Tit		10		
Great Tit		10		
House Sparrow			10	
Tree Sparrow	10		10	
Chiffchaff		10		
Willow Warbler		10		10
Green Woodpecker		10		10
Duncock		10		10
Bullfinch	10		10	

2.5 DECLINING BUTTERFLIES

Since 1990, 28 species of butterfly have been recorded at Epsom & Walton Downs and Golf Course. Of particular concern are Small Blue and Chalkhill Blue and other butterflies confined only to chalk grassland including Green Hairstreak, Brown Argus, Marble White and Dark Green Fritillary. 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 2005, conservation work on Epsom Downs has created patches of more suitable habitat and the butterfly has responded by colonising these. A Species Action Plan (SAP) for the Small Blue has been written by Gail Jeffcoate and information from that is included in this report.

2.6 RARE INVERTEBRATES

The 2007 invertebrate survey recorded 118 species of which 7 are classed as rare or notable species including one beetle, one fly, four bees/wasps and one grasshopper. In addition there were 13 local species found, whose distribution is restricted to chalk grassland.

2.7 REASONS FOR DECLINE

These declines and losses can be attributed to the cut back of appropriate management, scrub encroachment and increased habitat fragmentation. Also changing priorities and difficulties in funding are to blame. However there is a great potential for restoring this area for nature conservation and enhancing its value for landscape, public access and heritage. The open nature and large size of the site is unusual and offers more potential for nature conservation than normally found.

2.8 ENORMOUS POTENTIAL

As Nick Owen formerly from LMCP states *'My own view as a Countryside Manager is that, as one of the few truly large areas of open grassland remaining on the North Downs, the possible nature conservation potential of Epsom & Walton Downs is enormous.'*

2.9 GRASSLAND CONDITION ASSESSMENT

When the grassland of the downs were 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 ratio being too low, too few positive indicator species and too frequent occurrence of negative indicator species. Some the areas managed for nature conservation failed due to too high a frequency of scrub.

Extent. This attribute is on that is measured as the condition monitoring continues. The first time an area is monitored sets a base line

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 – frequency of positive indicators. There are for the type of grassland examined 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.

Sward composition – 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.

Sward composition – frequency of shrub/trees. This attribute is set at there should be no more than 5% cover of woody species

CG2 positive Indicator species

Anthyllis vulneraria – Kidney Vetch

Asperula cynanchica – Squinancywort

Campanula glomerata – Clustered Bellflower

Carex spp – Sedge species

Centaurea nigra – Common Knapweed

Cirsium acaule – Dwarf Thistle

Filipendula vulgaris – Dropwort

Helianthemum spp – Rock-rose spp

Hippocrepis comosa – Horseshoe Vetch

Leontodon hispidus – Rough Hawkbit

Leontodon saxatilis – Lesser Hawkbit

Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot
Trefoil

Pilosella officinarum – Common Mouse-ear

Polygala spp – Milkwort spp

Potentilla erecta – Tormentil

Primula veris – Primrose

Sanguisorba minor – Salad Burnet

Scabiosa columbaria – Small Scabious

Serratula tinctoria – Saw-wort

Stachys officinalis – Hedge Woundwort

Succisa pratensis – Devil's-bit Scabious

Thymus spp – Thyme spp

CG3/4positive Indicator species

Anthyllis vulneraria – Kidney Vetch

Asperula cynanchica – Squinancywort

Campanula glomerata – Clustered Bellflower

Carex flacca – Glaucous Sedge

Cirsium acaule – Dwarf Thistle

Filipendula vulgaris – Dropwort

Galium verum – Lady's Bedstraw

Leontodon saxatilis – Lesser Hawkbit

Lotus corniculatus – Common Bird's-foot
Trefoil

Pilosella officinarum – Common Mouse-ear

Polygala spp – Milkwort spp

Primula veris – Primrose

Sanguisorba minor – Salad Burnet

Scabiosa columbaria – Small Scabious

Serratula tinctoria – Saw-wort

Stachys officinalis – Hedge Woundwort

Helianthemum nummularium – Common
Rock-rose

Hippocrepis comosa – Horseshoe Vetch
Negative indicator species

Leontodon hispidus – Rough Hawkbit
Anthriscu sylvestris – Cow parsley

Bellis perennis – Daisy

Cirsium arvense – Creeping Thistle

Cirsium vulgare – Spear Thistle

Carduus spp – Thistles spp

Chamerion angustifolium – Rosebay
Willowherb

Galium aparine – Cleavers

Plantago major – Greater Plantain

Rumex crispus – Curled Dock

Rumex obtusifolius – Broad-leaved Dock

Senecio jacobaea – Common Ragwort

Sonchus spp – Sow Thistles

Urtica dioica – Common Nettle

Succisa pratensis – Devil's-bit Scabious

Thymus spp – Thyme spp

Lolium perenne – Perriental Rye-grass

Holcus lanatus - Yorkshire Fog

Cynosurus cristatus – Crested Dogs-tail

Trisetum flavescens – Yellow Oat-grass

Arrhenatherum elatius – False Oat-grass

Dactylis glomerata – Cocks-foot

3 SITE DESCRIPTION

3.1 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, see **Figure 1 -Location**.

3.2 ALTITUDE

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.

3.3 LAND TENURE

Walton Downs is owned by the estate of the late Mr Stanley Wootton and is leased to the Horserace Betting Levy Board. Epsom Downs and Racecourse are owned by United Racecourse Limited (URL). Both are managed by the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators.

3.4 RIGHTS OF WAY/ACCESS

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, numbers are indicated on **Figure 2 – Rights of Way**.

3.5 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.

4 BOTANICAL SURVEY

4.1 METHODOLOGY

4.1.1 COLLECTION OF FIELD DATA

A review of the original Phase II vegetation survey was conducted during the summer 2014. It adopts the national standard for surveying vascular plants, by identifying and characterising the principal wildlife habitats.

Those vascular plant species that were recorded (see **Appendix 1** for the overall species list including historical records), were given an abundance rating using the DAFOR scale, and is used to describe how often a plant was seen over the site and is employed in the Target Note description stage. It used the following key as a guide:

(Locally) **D**ominant, **A**bundant, **F**requent, **O**ccasional, **R**are

Target Notes were used to highlight any differences in communities and habitats and other habitat features of interest were noted and refer to named areas and habitats on the site, see **Figure 3 – Location References**. The target note numbers are detailed on the associated map, **Figure 4**. Plants ranked as 'rare' means that they were not found often over this site and does not necessarily indicate that they are a County Rarity.

4.1.2 NATIONAL VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION (NVC) 2008

During the summer visits the NVC classifications were checked and reviewed. NVC classifications were made by –

- Field data obtained from walkover survey was analysed using MAVIS plot analyser software as a tool in the analysis and categorisation of NVC plant communities. This software enabled NVC communities (including sub-communities where possible) to be identified to a best fit from the data.
- The data was also compared against the field data against the characterisation published in the NVC descriptions (source: "*British Plant Communities*" Rodwell 1991.) making particular use of target notes made in the field.
- The expertise and knowledge of the surveyors.

4.2 RESULTS 2014

Target Note 1: Area nr car park, 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, 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 show an interesting flora that has developed on the chalk soil but plants such as Perennial Rye Grass show a degree of disturbance and 'improvement'.

Target Note 2: 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 to be found 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 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.

Target Note 3: Warren grassland. Mesotrophic grassland, with abundant False Oat grass, rare Upright Brome, Cocksfoot, Creeping Bent and herbs including Hogweed, Agrimony, Black Knapweed and Birds foot Trefoil.

Target Note 4: 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.

Target Note 5: Juniper Hill Woodland. 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 and Blackthorn. There is an area of older woodland with larger Beech and Oak and a shrub layer composed of coppiced Hazel and Hawthorn. 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 *Metzeria temperata* 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 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.

Target Note 6: Juniper Hill grassland. This 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 national scarce Bastard Toadflax, Round headed Rampion, 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 *Fissidens dubius*, *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. Along the path as you enter the area from the Gallop, there is a scattering of the robust plant Ploughman's Spikenard.

Target Note 7: 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.

Target Note 8: Walton Downs B grassland, Area of sloping calcareous grassland forming a tall sward with rare but extensively distributed Hawthorn scrub encroachment. The sward was composed of frequent Upright Brome, False Oat Grass, patches of Chalk False Brome occasional Cocksfoot, and Quaking Grass. Also found are Round Headed Rampion a national scarce plant, Lady's Bedstraw, Agrimony, rare Salad burnet. The ground flora is limited to small amounts of *Kindbergia praelonga* and *Brachythecium rutabulum*.

Target Note 9: Southern boundary woodland strip. 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, 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.

Target Note 10: Southern bridleway: a linear strip of rough unmown grassland along the southern boundary following a pathway and gallop. 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 and Wild Marjoram. In addition there is some scrub encroachment including, Hawthorn, Buckthorn, Hazel, Ash and Oak.

Target Note 11: Langley Vale Copse: 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. The herb layer was dominated by abundant Ivy with rare Herb Bennet and rare Dogs Mercury. 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. On other areas there were patches of young age regrowth. 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. In this area there is an active badger sett.

Target Note 12: A small stretch of species rich hedge, the hedge 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 found the occasional larger tree mainly Oak and Ash. Also covering some of the trees and scrub were the climber Ivy and Clematis.

Target Note 13: Warren woodland. The woodland here is semi-natural broad-leaved woodland. The canopy layer is 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 and Sanicle. 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. In the updated inventory of ancient woodland (2011) in Surrey this woodland is included as an 'ancient' woodland.

Target Note 14: The Warren Meadow West Semi-improved mesotrophic grassland which is regularly mown and tends to be more herb rich closer to the woodland, where the management is not as intense. Grasses present 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, 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 and Broad-leaved Dock.

Target Note 15: The Warren Meadow East. 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 of the fields with a mature mix of Traveller's Joy, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Ash, Hazel, Sycamore and Pedunculate Oak.

Target Note 16: 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, frequent English Oak, occasional Sycamore, rare Silver Birch and rare Beech. In places the shrub layer is dominated by Hazel and in other Yew and Holly. In addition was found rare Blackthorn, Hawthorn, Buckthorn, Spindle and frequent Bramble. The herb layer was made up of mainly 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. There was a good amount of fallen dead wood found throughout the wood. There was found 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.

Target Note 17: Downshouse (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. 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.

Target Note 18: Downs House Woodland. The woodland is composed of a fairly open canopy of frequent English Oak, Ash and Wild Cherry. The Wild Cherry was generally found together in one stand. On the edge of the wood was found some Turkey Oak. The shrub layer overall is sparse composed of rare Hawthorn and Hazel and rare Holly which in places occurs in dense patches. The herb layer is poor dominated by Ivy with rare Wood False Brome

Target Note 19: 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 20: 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 Scabious, 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 of abundant Dogs Mercury and Ivy with occasional Wood Melick.

Target Note 21: 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 Note 22: This is a thin strip of scrub running alongside a path. It is composed of dominant Blackthorn, occasional Buckthorn, rare Spindle, Elder, Hawthorn, one large Field Maple. Also found were the invasive species the shrub Snowberry and Turkey Oak. The strip had a dense ivy dominated herb layer and the climber Clematis.

Target Note 23: Short mown grass areas nr Grandstand, calcareous grassland, with Sheep's Fescue, Upright Brome, Wild Thyme, Small Scabious, Salad Burnet, Burnet Saxifrage, rare 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 with on some years there are 1000 plants. This plant is classed as near threatened in the draft Surrey rare plant register

Target Note 24: The Hill -Tattenham Corner Roadside Verge . 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.

Target Note 25: Grassland general. There are large areas of the grassland across Epsom Downs that is improved grassland with in places abundant Perennial rye grass. However, there are also numerous areas across the site, some extensive of Upright Brome these can be seen both on the ground and in aerial photographs as pale whitish patches. Although these area are dominated by the grasses there are rare but widely scattered herbs including Salad burnet, Burnet Saxifrage, Sainfoin, Lady's Bedstraw, Agrimony, Small Scabious, 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.

4.2.1 NATIONAL VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION (NVC)

The following information has also been translated into map form, see **Figure 5 – NVC Habitats**.

National Vegetation Classification System (NVC)

NVC has become the standard classification used for describing vegetation in Britain. The NVC aims to describe all the vegetation of Great Britain. Successional or treatment related changes from conservation management in the vegetation, for example between open glades, shaded rides and the vegetation of clear fells can be more easily described that is possible using other classifications.

NVC breaks down each broad vegetation type eg woodland into communities, designated by a number and a name, some then also contain several sub -communities, designated by a letter.

Woodland NVC

W8 *Fraxinus excelsior* – *Acer campestre* – *Mercurialis perennis* woodland (Ash – Field Maple – Dog's Mercury)

- The Warren Woodland (Target Note 2)
- Juniper Hill Woodland (Target Note 5)
- Downs House Woodland (Target Note 18)

This is abundant in the warm, dry, lowlands of southern Britain. Ash, field maple and hazel are characteristic of W8, with hawthorn and also sycamore in disturbed or secondary stands. The sub communities are based chiefly on the dominant field layer species.

W8d *Hedera helix* sub-community (Ivy)

- The Warren Woodland (Target Note 16)
- Downs House Woodland (Target Note 18)

In this community the field layer contains an abundance of Ivy and often False Wood Brome and is overall species poor.

There is a distinct relationship the W8d sub-community and W10c which is also relatively species poor and characterised by abundant Ivy.

W8a *Primula vulgaris* – *Glechoma hederacea* sub-community (Primrose – Ground-ivy)

This sub-community is particularly common woodland which has been managed as coppice with standards and is the most common. Hazel tends to be the more prevalent shrub, although hawthorn is common. The field layer contains frequent Dog's Mercury with some Bugle, Ground-ivy, Rough Meadow Grass and Primrose.

W8a/d transition

☐☐The Warren Woodland (Target Note 2) Areas that have been hard to distinguish between W8a and W8d have been concluded as a transition between the two and marked as W8a/W8d. Most often found with a fairly closed canopy giving a dense and gloomy appearance. Signs of past coppicing are frequent, but as is the case most places coppicing is now neglected with resulting overstood Hazel stands. Ivy is dominant as ground carpet with Dog's Mercury. The undisturbed period of canopy closure seems to be important for the spread of Ivy. Distinct areas of Ground-ivy can be attributed to the *Primula vulgaris*-*Glechoma hederacea* sub-community.

W10 *Quercus robur* – *Pteridium aquilinum* – *Rubus fruticosus* woodland (Pedunculate Oak – Bracken – Bramble)

Epsom Downs West Woodland (Target Note 20)

Oak is the most common tree with Silver Birch abundant. Ash is not so common here, but Sycamore is often common. Hazel is generally the most abundant shrub with Hawthorn.

The field layer lacks Dog's Mercury and instead Bluebell and Wood Anemone are often spring dominants with Bramble, Bracken and Honeysuckle.

W10c *Hedera helix* sub-community

The most distinctive feature is the carpet of Ivy, Bracken, Bramble and Honeysuckle, but Bluebell is less common and therefore can be difficult to distinguish between this sub community and W8.

W10c/W8a/W8d

The Warren Woodland (Target Note 3)

An area woodland which shows characteristics of both W10 and W8.

Scrub Communities

W21 *Crataegus monogyna* – *Hedera helix* scrub

- The Warren Hedgerow (Target Note 12)

- Walton Downs Scrub (Target Note 7)

This is a large community encompassing mostly of the seral thorn scrub and many hedges. The vegetation is always dominated by various mixtures of smaller trees and shrubs with woody climbers and sprawlers. It is a varied and species diverse community. Hawthorn is generally the most frequent shrub present, as it tends to be the first invader on grassland. The other common thorny tree is Blackthorn, which in places can be the dominant component through suckering. Bramble is also common, with a sparse field layer because of the dense canopy, although Ivy can be abundant.

W22 *Prunus spinosa* – *Rubus fruticosus* scrub

Downs House Woodland/scrub (Target Note 20)

Whilst Blackthorn is frequent in W21 scrub here is the sole woody constant and mostly overwhelmingly so.

Grassland Communities

MG1a *Arrhenatherum elatius* grassland *Festuca rubra* sub-community

- The Warren Grassland (Target Note 3)
- The Warren Meadow (Target Note 14)
- Tattenham corner roadside Verge (Target Note 24)

This grassland type is a community in which coarse-leaved tussock grasses such as False Oat grass with Cock's-foot and Yorkshire-fog are always conspicuous and generally dominant. Umbel lifers are often present with Creeping Thistle, Common Knapweed and Common Nettle although in MG1a Nettle is less common. Finer grasses are underneath especially Red Fescue along with Rough Meadow grass and Perennial Rye-grass along with Red Clover, White Clover, Yarrow and Dandelion.

MG1a/CG3

The Hill, East of Car Park (Target Note 1)

This sward represents a community which shows a strong correlation with an MG1a sward, but is transitional with a more calcareous sward. This calcareous grassland community is called ***Bromus erectus* grassland**, where Upright Brome is dominant with other grasses such as Tor grass not being represented. It is often associated with ungrazed or only lightly grazed swards.

CG2a *Festuca ovina* – *Avenula pratensis* grassland, *Cirsium acaule* – *Asperula cynanchica* sub community

Juniper Hill (Target Note 6)

This tends to be a short close cropped grassland rich in species. The grasses are mostly fine grasses such as the Sheep's Fescue. Herbs found here can include Ribwort Plantain, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Ladies Trefoil as well as others more commonly associated with calcareous grasslands such as Thyme, Fairy Flax and Eyebright.

CG2/3

- Walton Downs Grassland (Target Note 8)
- Southern Bridleway (Target Note 10)

This community type is a transition between the two swards mentioned above.

CG2a/3/4

- Downs House Grassland (Target Note 17)
- Epsom Downs West Grassland (Target Note 21)

A transition between three different types including **CG4 *Brachypodium pinnatum* grassland**. Upright Brome is dominant in the sward and is often a bulky tussocky sward associated with relaxed grazing. Sheep's Fescue is also consistent here with few herbs present.

5 TERRESTRIAL INVERTEBRATE SURVEY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Lowland calcareous grassland supports a large number of scarce and highly local invertebrate species. A high proportion of these are species with pronouncedly southern distributions in Britain, many of which at British latitudes appear to require sunny situations on well-drained soils. These conditions are often particularly well met on lowland calcareous grassland. The principal threat to most specialist invertebrate species is likely to be from encroachment of scrub and the development of rank vegetation that may result from a lack of grazing. Maintenance of grazing regimes, by rabbits or by livestock, and holding back or setting back succession by other means are probably the main management tools to be used to benefit invertebrates. However, whilst botanists have tended to put priority on short turf, important invertebrate faunas also occur in intermediate or long sward, and calcareous scrub. Many invertebrates require a mosaic of vegetation structure and composition so are very vulnerable to a management strategy that results in uniformity, as can happen with single objective grazing or mowing.

Management should aim to achieve a good mosaic of sub-habitats, including areas of short turf, bare ground, long grass and a limited amount of scrub. The more open areas attain high temperatures in summer and support many species restricted to the south of England. Small patches of bare soil can be enough for these species, but the adjacent plants may need to be a few centimetres in growth or longer. The richest invertebrate faunas are in intermediate length turf with a reasonably open structure and floristic diversity (such as *Bromus erectus* grassland). A few invertebrate communities are restricted to the longer turf. Over-wintering invertebrates will require the protection of tussocky vegetation in which to shelter at this stage.

Sward height is of crucial importance to many of the rarest species of chalkland butterfly, which require very specific conditions. Some calypterate fly species are also very choosy about sward height - a

knowledge of the species present on a site will allow land managers to formulate an appropriate management plan.

Since 1990, 28 species of butterfly have been recorded at Epsom & Walton Downs and Golf Course. Since 1998, Martin Ellis and other members of Surrey and SW London Branch of Butterfly Conservation has been monitoring butterfly numbers at Juniper Hill on a regular weekly basis during the summer months, using a widely recognised standard method. About half of the species recorded are butterflies that are common and widespread and likely to be encountered in many places, including urban parks and gardens. The others are grassland butterflies that live in discrete colonies. A few of these are specialist of chalk grassland and are scarce and declining in Surrey and in other parts of Britain. Species of particular importance at Epsom are:

The Small Blue is a UK BAP Priority Species. Due to its rapid local decline it is given High Priority in Butterfly Conservation's Regional Action Plan. This small, inconspicuous butterfly, which flies in June, is declining nationally and in Surrey it declined at the end of the twentieth century until only about 15 populations remained in the county. At Epsom and Ewell it survives in 5 or 6 small areas where the larval foodplant, Kidney Vetch is found. The plant is in decline here, especially at Juniper Hill. The entire Epsom Downs area is of great importance because adults are still able to move regularly between patches of Kidney Vetch here. Populations in many other areas are more isolated. Monitoring of this species involves searching for eggs in the flowers of Kidney Vetch during the flight period in June, as well as recording numbers of adults seen. Monitoring of Kidney Vetch, especially the presence and number of young seedlings, is also important. Eggs are laid, and larvae develop, only in the flowers of Kidney Vetch. Conservation measures are aimed at increasing the amount of Kidney Vetch and involve small-scale ground disturbance in carefully chosen spots.

Since 2005 conservation work carried out at Epsom Downs and at other sites in Surrey has improved the status of the Small Blue in the county. There have been two or three colonisations by the butterfly of newly created habitat, notably in the Guildford area, and the Small Blue now occurs at about 20 sites in Surrey.

At Epsom Downs, work has been carried out by the Lower Mole Countryside Partnership, working in partnership with local staff, on the Golf Course, Racecourse and at Juniper Hill. On the Golf Course, since 2006, habitat has been created and maintained by management of scrub and creation of patches of bare chalk (scrapes) in the area around TQ22165914. These have been seeded with Kidney Vetch from nearby. This has been successful, with the population of Small Blue now being able to breed in habitat patches that were previously dense scrub. On the Racecourse, scrapes were created in 2005 and 2010 at TQ21695792. The older scrapes continued to provide Kidney Vetch after ten years, though Tor-grass growth was reducing their effectiveness. The population at Juniper Hill died out in about 2002, as a result of scrubbing over of the grassland. Work carried out by local staff and the Lower Mole Countryside Partnership has included creation of scrapes as well as scrub removal, and Kidney Vetch has grown from seed here, but rabbits find Kidney Vetch palatable, and by 2014 there was not enough suitable habitat with flowering Kidney Vetch to enable the Small Blue to return. Monitoring of the Small Blue by using egg counts has the advantage that the counts can be carried out in dull weather or in the

evening when the adults are not active. Those site managers who are interested in learning can be shown on request. This exercise only has to be carried out once a year and it is not time consuming.

The Chalkhill Blue is on the wing in July and August and is more conspicuous than the Small Blue. Its larval foodplant is Horseshoe Vetch and at Epsom the Chalkhill Blue is restricted to the few small areas where this plant still grows. Both plant and butterfly declined as coarse grass and overgrown scrub spread, especially at Juniper Hill. Although Horseshoe Vetch persists in an overgrown sward for longer than Kidney Vetch, once it is lost it does not return, and cannot be grown from seed as easily as Kidney Vetch, and conservation measures to improve the habitat for both plant and butterfly are needed. Scrub work at Juniper Hill from 2011 has led to the partial recovery of grassland, along with cutting and removal of Tor-grass. In 2013 Horseshoe Vetch could be seen in several places in the sward.

Other butterflies found at Epsom & Walton Downs that in Surrey are confined mainly to chalk grassland are the Green Hairstreak, Brown Argus, Marble White and Dark Green Fritillary. Only a single specimen of the last of these has been recorded at Epsom in recent years and this was probably a vagrant from one of the few remaining populations in Surrey, although it is possible that it breeds in low numbers at the site in some years. In 2012-14 damper conditions encouraged the strong growth of Hairy Violet, the larval food plant of the Dark Green Fritillary, and it is more likely that breeding occurred on Epsom Downs then. Provision of good quantities of Hairy Violet, by an appropriate cutting regime on the grassland across the Downs should encourage this nationally declining species.

The grassland at Epsom supports a good range of butterflies (nearly half the British list has been seen here in recent years). Juniper Hill is especially valuable as a habitat for chalk grassland specialist, but populations have fallen here due to encroachment of scrub and Tor grass. Scrub control and especially grazing would halt the decline and benefit the butterflies and many plants. Where mowing is carried out few butterflies will be found, although this form of management is better than none. It is important that headlands are left around edges of grassy areas and that not all mowing is carried out at once. Some areas should be left uncut all year and cut on rotation. Work carried out since 2011 by local staff and the Lower Mole Countryside Partnership has helped to reverse the decline, and it is important that this input continues.

General Invertebrates

Valuable features for invertebrates have been summarised by Kirby (2001) as *'complete succession from bare ground to patchy scrub; topographical variation; some south-facing slopes; structural variation maintained by limited grazing; a large proportion of plants able to flower and set seed; additional habitats at the margins and within the grassland to provide shelter, hibernation sites and structural variation.'*

South-facing slopes are especially important because they warm up quickly in the sun and rarer species are more likely to use them. Bare ground is also important for the same reason and some solitary wasps and bees dig their burrow in or use it for hunting and egg laying. In general the rarer invertebrate species will be found in the shorter turf. More common invertebrates will be found in the longer grass; therefore priority should be given to the shorter turf.

5.2 METHODOLOGY

A total of five visits to the survey site were undertaken between July and early September 2007. These visits took place on; 25 July 2007; 08 August 2007; 29 August 2007; 10 September 2007. On the 08 August 2007 David Baldock was also employed. He is an expert in aculeate hymenoptera (bees, ants & wasps) from BWARS (Bees Wasps and Ants Recording Society).

The majority of the visits were general assessments to give a broad overview of the range of invertebrates present in the open habitats. The visit on 08 August 2007 targeted bees and wasps that fly at that time of year and in some cases are strongly linked to the habitat and its flora.

Entomological work was focused predominantly on open habitats, including:

- Herb-rich chalk downland, scrub/woodland edge habitat, woodland rides, dead -wood and bare earth scrapes at Juniper Hill (TQ223572).
- Tall vegetation (esp. *Pastinaca sativa*), scrubby chalk grassland and track-edge erosion at Walton Downs (TQ220572).
- Rank grassland and scrub around The Warren and Downs House area (TQ220576 & TQ217578). Standard entomological techniques were used during the visits. These include:
- Manual and visual searching of vegetation.
- Investigation of dead wood using a stout knife.
- Beating of tree branches, shrubs and tall vegetation over a beating tray.
- Sweeping of vegetation and targeted plants with a calico-bag sweep net.
- Netting of individuals in flight or feeding at flowers with a fine mesh net.

Once secured in a clear tube the individuals were either identified in the field and subsequently released or dispatched in an ethyl acetate killing jar for later microscopic examination. Field notes were taken wherever possible to describe where an individual was found and what it was doing. Voucher specimens of notable species have been retained.

5.3 TAXONOMIC COVERAGE

The survey 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.

5.4 CONSTRAINTS

In order to present a more complete picture of the sites invertebrate fauna visits should be scheduled to coincide with periods of peak invertebrate activity throughout the year from early spring to late summer. As this survey was commissioned more than half way through the recording season I can only give an overview of the late summer invertebrate species encountered.

Weather is an important factor in invertebrate recording success. Although I endeavoured to visit the site during favourable weather optimum recording conditions were sporadic. Most insects do not fly readily when the weather is overcast and breezy. During these less favourable periods time was spent manually searching (grubbing), investigating dead wood and searching flowers and foliage for sheltering individuals.

5.5 STATUS CATEGORIES FOR UNCOMMON SPECIES

Criteria for allocation of Red Data Book (nationally rare) and Nationally Scarce (notable) statuses are varied and complex. I have followed the British Red Data Book for insects (Shirt, 1987) with reference to the revised JNCC reviews which also include notable species. The Red Data Book and its subsequent reviews are already in need of updating and I have made reference to this in the text for individual species where it is applicable as many species have had range expansions or contractions in recent years.

- **RDB1** (Endangered). In danger of extinction in Great Britain; species with very few recorded localities or living in especially vulnerable habitats.
- **RDB2** (Vulnerable). Likely to move into the RDB1 category if causal factors continue; species declining in their range.
- **RDB3** (Rare). Species estimated to occur in 15 or fewer of the 10km squares in the national Ordnance Survey grid since 1970.
- **RDBK** (Insufficiently known). Species thought to be very rare in Britain, recorded from less than 15 of the 10km squares of the national Ordnance Survey grid since 1970, and which warrant RDB classification of some sort, but for which there is a recognized lack of accurate information.
- **Nationally Scarce A** (Notable A). Very local species, thought to occur in 16 to 30 of the 10km squares of the national Ordnance Survey grid since 1970.
- **Nationally Scarce B** (Notable B). Very local species, thought to occur in 31 to 100 of the 10km squares of the national Ordnance Survey grid since 1970.
- **Local**. Species which are restricted in distribution. e.g. restricted to chalk downland.

5.6 RESULTS

5.6.1 SUMMARY TABLE

Order	Total Number of Species Recorded	Rare or Notable species	Local Species
Hemiptera:Heteroptera (True Bugs)	11	-	2
Hymenoptera (Aculeate)	29	4	4
Hymenoptera:Symphyta (Sawflies)	2	-	1
Hymenoptera (Parasitica)	2	-	-
Lepidoptera (Butterflies)	5	-	1
Lepidoptera (Moths)	3	-	-
Mecoptera (Scorpion-flies)	1	-	-
Odonata (Dragonflies)	1	-	-
Orthoptera and allies (Grasshoppers, Bushcrickets, Earwigs etc)	5	1	-
Acarina (Mites)	5	-	2
Arachnida (Spiders)	2	-	-
Isopoda (Woodlouse)	2	-	-
Pulmonata (Snails)	6	-	-
Total	118	7	13

Order	Total Number of Species Recorded	Rare or Notable species	Local Species
Coleoptera (Beetles)	13	1	2
Diptera (2-winged Flies)	26	1	-
Hemiptera (Leaf-hoppers, Plant Lice etc)	4	-	1

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Nationally Scarce & Local species

Species are listed in capitals by taxonomic ORDER. The text in brackets refers to the Family group. The text in *italics* is the scientific name of the species. The following name and date refers to the author who originally described the species. A common name, if applicable, is given at the end.

COLEOPTERA

(Mordellidae) *Variimords villosa* (Schrank, 1781) A Tumbling Flower Beetle [Formerly Known as *Mordella villosa* (Schrank); *M. fasciata* F.,1775] *Status:* Nationally Scarce B. Mainly southern distribution.

Habitat and ecology: Saproxyllic. Larvae develop in either dead wood or plant stems (Hyman, 1992). Females observed egg-laying on stumps of Beech and Pine (Denton, 1999) Adults attracted to flowers, particularly umbellifers. Woodland, parkland and open, flower -rich grassland. *Management and conservation:* Control of excessive scrub in flower rich grassland to maintain open structure of site. Maintain scrub-edge habitat. Retention of dead-wood habitat in all its forms; standing, elevated, log piles, stumps etc. Ensure continuity of dead wood habitat.

(Chrysomelidae) *Cryptocephalus moraei* (Linnaeus, 1758) A Pot Beetle *Status:* Local. *Habitat and ecology:* A leaf beetle which feeds solely on species of St Johns Wort *Hypericum* spp. Restricted to chalky and sandy sites. Larvae feed in leaf litter on the ground and develop

in a ‘pot’ provided by the mother from her own dung. Adults can be locally frequent on their food-plant. *Management and conservation:* Many of the *Cryptocephalus* beetles are very rare and restricted. I have observed that these species seem to thrive in sheltered sites. Perhaps shelter from wind breaks prevents the larval food source, usually dead leaves from the host plant, from blowing away?

(Chrysomelidae) *Pyrrhalta viburni* (Paykull, 1799) Viburnum Leaf Beetle *Status:* Local. *Habitat and ecology:* Adults feed on the leaves of *Viburnum* spp. Particularly Wayfaring Tree *V.lantana*, and Guelder Rose *V.opulus*, on the chalk. *Management and conservation:* Retain *Viburnum* spp., as both scrub and mature bushes, within the site.

DIPTERA

(Syrphidae) *Volucella zonaria* (Poda, 1761) A Hoverfly *Status:* Nationally Scarce B. Increasing? First recorded in Britain during 1901. Fluctuating populations probably boosted by European migrants.

Habitat and ecology: Essentially a south-eastern species with a few outlying records in Devon etc. The larvae develop as commensals in the nests of social wasps, probably feeding on organic debris at the bottom of the nest. Adults bear a close resemblance to worker Hornets *Vespa crabro* and feed on a range of flowers. *Management and conservation:* Control of excessive scrub in flower rich grassland. Opening up of woodland rides and glades.

HEMIPTERA

(Heteroptera:Acanthosomatidae) *Cyphostethus tristriatus* (Fabricius, 1787) Juniper Shieldbug [Formerly known as *Elasmotherethus tristriatus*] *Status:* Local. Increasing?

Habitat and ecology: Formerly restricted to Juniper *Juniperus communis* but has now adapted to garden varieties of Lawson's Cypress and related conifers (Hawkins, 2003). *Management and conservation:* Maintain and enhance stands of Juniper *Juniperus communis*.

(Heteroptera:Rhopalidae) *Rhopalus subrufus* (Gmelin, 1788) A Rhopalid Bug *Status:* Local. *Habitat and ecology:* Fairly common in Surrey, esp. on flower rich chalk downland. Probably feeds on a range of plants but Marjoram *Origanum vulgare*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica* and Dog's Mercury *Mercurialis perennis* may play an important dietary role (Hawkins, 2003). *Management and conservation:* Maintain open areas of herb rich downland. Retain scrub edge habitat with rank herbage such as nettles etc. Open up woodland rides and glades for Dog's Mercury. Rotationally disturb areas of ground to promote pioneer plants, such as Marjoram.

(Sternorrhyncha:Psylloidea) *Trichoermes walkeri* Förster, 1848 A Jumping Plant Louse [Formerly known as *Trichopsylla walkeri*] *Status:* Local.

Habitat and ecology: Nymphs cause a gall on the leaves of Purging Buckthorn *Rhamnus cathartica*. Usually on downland in southern England. Scarce in the north (Redfern et al, 2002). *Management and conservation:* Retain Purging Buckthorn, as both scrub and mature bushes, within the site.

HYMENOPTERA

(Andreninae) *Andrena minutuloides* Perkins, R.C.L.,1914 A Mining Bee *Status:* Nationally Scarce A. *Habitat and ecology:* Grasslands on light soils, esp. downland. Ground nesting in warm, sunny situations with sparse vegetation (often rabbit grazed). Double brooded. Sources pollen and nectar from a range of plants, though the 2nd brood seems to favour white umbellifers such as Wild Carrot *Daucus carota*. *Management and conservation:* Maintain open structure of site. Rotationally disturb areas to create bare ground.

(Halictinae) *Lasioglossum pauxillum* (Schenck, 1853) A Mining Bee *Status:* Nationally Scarce A. (Became much commoner during the 1990s). *Habitat and ecology:* Locally common. Ground nesting in warm, sunny situations with sparse vegetation (often rabbit grazed), a marked preference for sandy clay soils and tracks. Pollen sources unknown though will visit a range of plants for nectar. Unsocial. *Management and conservation:* Maintain open structure of site. Rotationally disturb small areas to create bare ground.

(Collegian) *Hiatus signets* (Panzer, 1798) A Yellow-faced Bee *Status*: Nationally Scarce B. *Habitat and ecology*: Strongly associated with the flowers of *Reseda* spp. Nests in woody stems of *Rubus* and *Rosa* spp. Occasionally in banks and masonry. Single brooded. Pollen collected exclusively from *Reseda* spp., *R.lutea* on the chalk. *Management and conservation*: Prevent scrub from encroaching into open habitats whilst retaining scrubby edge habitat, particularly with Bramble and Dog Rose, as an ecotone, solitary clumps etc. Note the importance of bramble clumps. To prevent Bramble from encroaching it can be cut back periodically. However, this is best done with hand tools rather than a mechanized cutter. Mechanical cutters tend to smash up the stems and leave untidy ends which are thought not to be as attractive as a nesting site.

(Melittinae) *Melitta tricineta* (Kirby, 1802) A Mining Bee *Status*: Nationally Scarce B. Southern distribution. *Habitat and ecology*: Restricted to Red Bartsia *Odontites verna*. Southern distribution, esp. on chalk downland. Probably nests in compacted soils in warm, sunny situations with sparse vegetation. Single brooded with a late summer flight period timed to coincide with the flowering of *O.verna* from which it seems pollen is exclusively obtained. *Management and conservation*: Maintain good stands of *O.verna*, which favours some disturbance. Maintain open structure of site. Rotationally disturb small areas to create bare ground. Push back woodland rides to promote growth of forage plant and provide open structure.

(Megachilinae) *Hoplitis spinulosa* (Kirby, 1802) A Solitary Bee

Status: Local. *Habitat and ecology*: Mainly in SE England on chalk downland and open grasslands with Compositae flowers in the sward. Nesting in old snail shells. *Management and conservation*: Control of excessive scrub in flower rich grassland to maintain open structure of site.

(Megachilinae) *Chelostoma campanularum* (Kirby, 1802) Bellflower Bee *Status*: Local. *Habitat and ecology*: Commonly found on chalk downland, though may occur in other habitats with Bellflowers *Campanula* spp. present. Will utilise flowers from unrelated genera as nectar sources. Nests in small beetle holes in dead-wood. *Management and conservation*: Control of excessive scrub in flower rich grassland to maintain open structure of site. Retention of dead-wood habitat in all its forms; standing, elevated, log piles, stumps etc. Ensure continuity of dead wood habitat.

(Halictinae) *Lasioglossum fulvicorne* (Kirby, 1802) A Mining Bee *Status*: Local, almost restricted to chalk. Usually very common where present. Recent distribution maps produced by BWARS suggest that this species is more widespread and common than previously thought. *Habitat and ecology*: On more alkaline soils, esp. chalk downland visiting a wide range of flowers. Ground nesting in short turf. *Management and conservation*: Maintain open structure of site. Rotationally disturb small areas to create bare ground.

(Symphyta:Tenthredinidae) *Tenthredo thomsonii* (Curtis, 1839) A Sawfly [Formerly known as *Tenthredo marginella* Fabricius, 1793] *Status*: Local.

Habitat and ecology: Larvae develop on Marjoram *Origanum vulgare* on chalk downland. Also found on various plants in wetlands. *Management and conservation*: Rotationally disturb areas of ground to promote pioneer plants, such as Marjoram.

LEPIDOPTERA

(Lycaenidae) *Polyommatus coridon* (Poda, 1761) Chalkhill Blue Butterfly [Formerly known as *Lysandra coridon*] *Status*: Local. UK BAP Species of Conservation Concern (low priority). Declining in some areas of Britain. *Habitat and ecology*: Restricted to chalk downland with larval food plant Horseshoe Vetch *Hippocrepis comosa* in short turf, south or west facing. *Management and conservation*: Maintain open structure of site. Increase extent of food plant.

ORTHOPTERA

(Tettigoniidae) *Metrioptera roeselii* (Hagenbach, 1822) Roesel's Bush-cricket *Status*: Nationally Scarce B. First found in Surrey at Cheam, 1944 (I.Menzies). Range greatly expanded in recent years. No longer considered notable.

Habitat and ecology: Rough, rank grassland with tall herbs such as Ragwort and thistles from which the male calls (Baldock, 1999). A range of habitats, including roadside verges. Thought to have expanded range due to a series of hot summers. *Management and conservation*: Leave chunks of grassland untopped. Manage scrub to prevent succession.

ACERINA (Mites)

(Eriophyoidae) *Aceria macrochelus* (Nalepa, 1891) A Gall Mite *Status*: Local. *Habitat and ecology*: Mites cause rounded galls on the leaves of Field Maple *Acer campestre*. Often common where present but never numerous on an individual leaf. *Management and conservation*: Maintain diversity of scrub species.

(Eriophyoidae) *Aceria origani* (Nalepa, 1891) A Gall Mite *Status*: Local. *Habitat and ecology*: Restricted to chalk downland. Mites cause thickened galls on the leaves of shoot tips on Marjoram *Origanum vulgare*. Often common where present. *Management and conservation*: Maintain open areas of herb rich downland. Rotationally disturb small areas of ground to promote pioneer plants, such as Marjoram.

Other species of note:

[Coleoptera:Anthribidae (ex-Urodontidae)] *Bruchela rufipes* (Olivier, 1790) A Weevil *Status*: None. First recorded in Surrey, 1996. Naturalised. Formerly RDB3 in Shirt, 1987. De-notified in the JNCC review, 1992. *Habitat and ecology*: Rapid increase in range -recently recorded in Yorkshire! On Wild Mignonette *Reseda lutea*, downland and waste ground. *Management and conservation*: Maintain open areas of herb rich downland.

5.7 ENTOMOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT 2007

The main entomological interest of the site is the chalk downland of Juniper Hill and the adjacent grassland area of Walton Downs bordering the man-made substrate horse track. Nearly 30% of the species recorded in these areas were very strongly associated with open chalk downland. Around 20% of the species recorded were largely restricted to chalk downland in Surrey.

The areas of rank grassland around The Warren were of less value for invertebrates and produced mainly generalist species which had already been noted throughout the site. The woodland compartments were not surveyed.

The range of habitats present is fair but these would benefit from the provision of 'habitat corridors', as areas of good habitat are fairly isolated from each other and effectively cut-off by dense woodland or routinely mown amenity areas with little botanical or entomological interest.

The widening of tracks and bridleways through woodland compartments should be considered to improve the general structure for invertebrates. This would effectively increase the area of available woodland edge/scrub habitat, or the ecotone, between climax woodland and open habitat. Scalloped edges and glades should also be incorporated. Graduating vegetation is important and should not be close mown up to the scrub/woodland edge. Care should also be taken not to render the sheltered areas exposed to the wind.

This management would also benefit the remaining Juniper bushes that are currently being lost under the canopy.

Consideration should also be given to linking up areas of open grassland habitat dissected by large scale amenity mowing. Some of the scrub in the grassland areas of The Warren is becoming over-mature and an agreed percentage should be coppiced or removed to maintain the openness of the area. Some mature shrubs should also be retained.

The bare ground scrapes created to promote the growth of Kidney -vetch (*Anthyllis vulnerina*) for the population of Small Blue Butterfly (*Cupido minimus*), also provide excellent habitat for the ground nesting Hymenoptera. This occasional disturbance also creates the ideal situation for plant succession as many plants respond well to disturbance but gradually lose dominance as the sward matures. It is worth noting that several of the more notable species recorded are associated with plants that respond to occasional disturbance.

There is a stark paucity of dead-wood habitat in the open areas surveyed and consideration should be given to its creation. Standing dead-wood, log piles and stumps etc should be retained in a variety of situations.

The woodland compartments were outside the remit of this survey; however it has come to my attention that a team of expert Coleopterists (beetle specialists) have made a thorough survey of the site's beetle fauna, including saproxylic (dead-wood and fungus associates) species. This will be sent on to the site managers in the near future.

Ideally, future surveys would include data from spring and early summer. I would also recommend that a specialist in Lepidoptera be employed to survey nocturnal moths.

Please refer to the species accounts for information on management for individual species.

5.8 SPECIES LIST

See **Appendix 7** for full list.

6 SITE EVALUATION

6.1 INTRODUCTION

A *Nature Conservation Review* was written by Derek Ratcliffe of the Nature Conservancy Council in 1976. The publication includes a set of criteria for the assessment of sites with nature conservation importance. The criteria are still widely used for the nature conservation assessment of areas proposed for wildlife management to *‘get a proper appreciation of the site as a prerequisite to defining the objectives of management’*. The first five categories hold the most weight in the evaluation process.

6.2 SIZE

Generally the larger the site, the more potential there is for diversity. It is more likely to be self regenerating and also survive catastrophic events such as extreme weather conditions. 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 Counties chalk grassland resource.

6.3 DIVERSITY

Sites with the greatest diversity of habitats and species are generally of greater conservation value than uniform ones. Over 400 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 with habitats present including unimproved calcareous grassland, rough semi -improved calcareous grassland, secondary woodland with associated scrub.

Referring to Juniper Hill Hedley (1989) commented that, *‘what little grassland remains is of excellent quality’* and *‘was the most species rich stand of its type found in the County’*.

6.4 NATURALNESS

There are few, if any areas left in Great Britain, which can be described as entirely natural. 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. These small fragmented pockets of species rich grassland have remained in this state for hundreds of years. In fact Smith (1980) lists 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.

6.5 RARITY

A good assemblage of rare plant species still occur at Juniper Hill and Walton Downs grassland. Three National Scarcities present— Round-headed Rampion, Bastard-toadflax and Chalk Hill Eyebright. Joyce Smith from the Surrey Flora Committee commented after a visit in 1986 to Juniper Hill that ‘we do not know of another site in the County where so many Round headed Rampion *are contained in so small an area.*’

Bluebell and Meadow Clary (the latter thought to be lost to the site) are on the BAP 2/3 Conservation Concern list. The former may be surprising, but the British Isles and especially South England is the strong hold, compared to other countries in Europe. Meadow Clary, also listed as Vulnerable, had been recorded by Arthur Cook in the 1970s. Other losses from Juniper Hill include the Nationally Scarce Dwarf Mouse-ear.

Confined to chalk grassland are the Fragrant Orchid and Pyramidal Orchid (Chalk BAP, 1999), both have been recorded on Juniper Hill, the latter has not been seen for some time. Currently in Surrey Pyramidal Orchid is only recorded in 20 sites and Fragrant Orchid even less at 11.

Juniper found on Juniper Hill is on the BAP2/3 Conservation Concern list. 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.

The mosaic of habitats provides breeding and feeding habitat for a number of declining bird species such as Skylark and when RSPB surveyed the area they commented that ‘ *the Skylark population was one of the best in the County.*’

BAP 1 Priority bird species found on Epsom & Walton Downs are Skylark, Linnet, Bullfinch and Mistle Thrush. There are 19 BAP 2/3 species of Conservation Concern. Birds on the RSPB Red list are Linnet, Yellowhammer, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Bullfinch, Starling and Song Thrush. There are a further 13 listed on the Amber list.

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 an RDB3 and a further 6 are in other RDB categories. Five are also found in the BAP 1 Priority list and 24 on the BAP 2/3 Conservation Concern list. Important populations of BAP 1 Priority Small Blue butterfly and BAP2/3 Conservation Concern Chalk Hill Blue butterfly are present. In addition the moth Chalk Carpet, a BAP 1 Priority species and Notable Nb was recorded in 1953. Also associated with chalk grassland are such as 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 respectively. 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 possible candidates for SSSI. Grade C sites are potentially important sites, but have insufficient information on which to judge.

6.6 FRAGILITY

This section usually relates to how susceptible a habitat or species is to degradation or loss. Without some degree of conservation management, habitats would eventually lose their biodiversity. The woodlands by their very nature do not require such regular management to maintain and enhance the 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. Whilst a mosaic of habitats is desirable and scrub is extremely important, this should not to the detriment of valuable unimproved calcareous grassland so very rare in this County. The priority then should be for the areas with most potential, namely Juniper Hill.

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. The habitat cannot be recreated if lost.

6.7 TYPICALNESS

In contrast to rarity, this criterion is often used to assess the value of more common assemblages of habitats and species. Often the criterion is used to highlight “classic” examples of habitat-types or populations. The rough semi-improved calcareous grassland, secondary woodland and associated scrub is typical of the Upper Chalk and this region. However the 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.

6.8 RECORDED HISTORY

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 and the Management Board 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. 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, often in wine.

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.'*

6.9 ECOLOGICAL HISTORY

There have been a number of ecologists employed by the Conservators over the years including Barry Goldsmith who was the Botanical Recorder on behalf of the Conservators and prior to this was Peter Moore.

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 have been selected on Epsom & Walton Downs and all of Epsom Golf Course is an SNCI. Reasons for selection are given in the next criteria. (The previous reports are appended.)

Martin Ellis and other members from Surrey & SW London Butterfly Conservation collected transect records for many years. Graham Collins an invertebrate specialist has also been recording in the area for several years. In addition beetles were studied over a three year period on a grass compost heap on the racecourse during 1993 -1995 inclusive.

6.10 POSITION IN AN ECOLOGICAL UNIT

This criterion can be particularly important in sites that may be degraded and/or very small. In such cases the surrounding habitats can give great potential for species migrations and ecological buffering. In a local context the site is set in a large open area. Nationally it is within the North Downs Natural Area, which supports nationally significant calcareous grassland.

The reasons for selection of the Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) in 1998 on Epsom & Walton Downs and the Golf Course are listed below.

Epsom and Walton Downs SNCI

The first three SNCI below have been combined along with the rest of the semi natural areas of the site to form one SNCI. The reasons for the inclusion of the existing sites remains the same, with the addition of the recognition of further areas of chalk grassland across the site and an area of ancient woodland.

Walton Downs A SNCI (called 'Epsom & Walton Downs - Juniper Hill' in this report). (4 hectares) Good remnant of unimproved calcareous grassland next to Walton Downs B. Supports Nationally Scarce species.

Walton Downs SNCI. (3 hectares) Selected for good remnant of unimproved calcareous grassland next to Walton Downs

A. Supports a County Rarity.

Epsom Downs West SNCI. (3 hectares) The north part was selected because of the valuable unimproved calcareous grassland habitat.

There are several SNCIs and SSSI's within a radius of 1-5km of Epsom & Walton Downs.:

Epsom Golf Course SNCI & pSSSI. (63 hectares) 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. It is of such high quality that it is considered a potential Site of Special Scientific Interest (pSSSI)

Epsom Downs Covered Reservoir (candidate SNCI). This small site has a varied diverse calcicole flora, including Man Orchid and a colony of the Small Blue butterfly.

Nork Park SNCI. (52 hectares) Open grassland, parkland trees, mixed woodland and amenity grassland.

Banstead Downs SSSI. (124 hectares) It comprises of dense scrub, woodland and areas of open chalk grassland, which is nationally important for breeding and overwintering birds, several groups of invertebrates and locally rare plants.

Burgh Heath SNCI. (31 hectares) Semi-natural broad-leaved woodland with areas of scrub, grassland and four ponds.

Chipstead Downs SSSI. (152 hectares) Includes areas of steeply sloping chalk grassland with associated scrub and secondary woodland as well as large areas of ancient semi-natural woodland.

Banstead & Walton Heath SNCI. (404 hectares) Banstead Heath – Broad-leaved woodland, scrub, grassland, small areas of heather and ponds. Walton Heath – grassland with area of acid grass and woodland.

Sandhill Wood SNCI. (7 hectares) Ancient semi-natural woodland.

Great Hurst Wood & Little Hurst Wood SNCIs. (28 & 6 hectares) Ancient semi-natural woodland.

Downs View Wood SNCI. (10 hectares) Two semi-natural ancient woodland with some broadleaved replanting.

Addlestead Wood SNCI. (7 hectares) Ancient semi-natural woodland, formerly managed as Hazel coppice with Oak standards. Bluebell dominates the ground flora.

Epsom Common South SNCI. (45 hectares)

Selected as it is a large site with secondary native broad-leaved woodland, scrub, underscrub and unimproved rough mesotrophic & acid grassland as well as wet grass and ponds.

Epsom & Ashted Commons SSSI. (358 hectares)

Notified for its wide diversity of habitat types including four nationally rare invertebrates and several others, which are uncommon in Surrey. The range of habitats present promotes a rich community of breeding birds.

Epsom Cemetery SNCI (7 hectares)

Selected for its unimproved calcareous grassland with typical unimproved calcareous grassland species.

In conclusion both Epsom Racecourse are well placed within an ecological unit with several valuable sites within a short distance.

6.11 POTENTIAL VALUE

This can be used to describe how the conservation value of a site can be enhanced. Lowland calcareous grasslands probably occupy an area less than 30,000 hectares (Willems 1990). With concentrations in Wiltshire, Dorset and the South Downs. Fuller (1987) states that of the area of unimproved grassland in England and Wales in 1930, only 3% remained in 1984. Chalk grassland is the richest habitat in terms of species diversity, but it is still being lost at an alarming rate. Keymer and Leach (1990) estimated a decline nationally of 21% in area of chalk grassland between 1966 and 1980. Chalk grassland has also become highly fragmented, with Blackwood and Tubbs (1970) for example, finding that 83% of sites surveyed were less than 40 ha in area (Baxter & Farmer, 1994).

Following a survey by the Surrey Wildlife Trust, it was noted that during the ten year period between 1975 and 1985, 212.2 hectares of unimproved grassland in the chalk region of the county were lost. Today, areas of chalk downland that survive in Surrey are scattered across the Downs. There are approximately 9,500 hectares of chalk grassland in south east England that is approximately 21% of the UK resource. Only around 323.9 hectares of chalk grassland remain in Surrey (NCC, 1980). Such fragments of plants and animal communities that were once common through 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. The

habitat cannot be recreated if lost. Chalk grasslands are undoubtedly a nationally and internationally rare habitat.

There are 12 SSSI's within the Downs Natural Area of Surrey. 9 have a chalk grassland component. The series goes some way to protecting the chalk grassland resource of Surrey. However, important areas exist outside the SSSI's, which have potential for enhancement (Chalk BAP, 1999) including Epsom Golf Course and Juniper Hill.

Hedley (1998) referred to Juniper Hill when he commented *that 'the site is clearly important with only its size and fragmented nature preventing its recommendation as SSSI. An appraisal of the surrounding scrub and woodland may be worthwhile if the site be deemed worthy on inclusion within a proposed Epsom golf course SSSI.'*

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 Small Blue butterfly population. However, economics and reduced resources are limiting factors.

6.12 INTRINSIC APPEAL

This covers the evaluation of the site for wider visual appeal. The site is valued for its recreation and public open space where people can walk dogs, ride horses, fly kites and model aeroplanes or just sit and enjoy the magnificent views.

7 FACTORS AFFECTING MANAGEMENT

Under-resourced nature conservation management is the major factor influencing the vegetation changes over Epsom & Walton Downs, allowing scrub encroachment onto nationally 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. There is often a lack of graziers and suitable stock.

High rabbit populations have contributed to grazing problems by creating over grazed areas and erosion. They also eat flowering plants before they have had a chance to flower and set seed, in turn effecting butterfly species which are dependant on a single food source. However, in some situations rabbit grazing has been paramount in keeping areas of chalk grassland open (Chalk BAP, 1999).

Fragmentation is where areas of habitat have been destroyed often through development, agriculture and so on. This creates separate isolated habitats. Larger areas are better able to provide a variety of niches for a wide variety of species and able to cope better with natural disasters such as fire. The fragmented areas of habitat such as on Juniper Hill means that it is much more difficult for species to thrive. Smaller areas can also be more difficult to manage.

Light pollution will effect 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 is a contributing factor in the increase.

Climate change is also likely to have an influence in the next 50-100 years, with hotter summers and milder winters being predicted for the south east of England. Monitoring the site will help establish historical records.

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 support for the LMCP by way of funding is essential. Using outside contractors for larger part of the management must also be considered.

8 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Use in conjunction with Figures 7 & 8 Management Objectives

8.1 GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

8.1.1 SOIL SCRAPES

Create new hand made scrapes around existing scrapes and areas of Kidney Vetch

8.1.2 MOWING

Follow variety of conservation grassland management principals

8.1.3 INVASIVE GRASSES

Control of invasive grass species eg Tor grass

8.1.4 GRAZING

Consider grazing on Juniper Hill

Consider grazing on Warren Meadow

8.1.5 SCRUB CLEARANCE

A substantial scrub clearance programme to be established on Juniper Hill

8.1.6 JUNIPER MANAGEMENT

Ensure Junipers are open, not to encroached by scrub

8.2 WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

8.2.1 LANGLEY VALE COPSE & SOUTHERN SECTION OF THE WARREN WOODLAND

Coppice on 7 year rotation

8.2.2 REST OF WARREN WOODLAND

Preferentially thin Sycamore, create glades and rides

8.3 HEDGEROW MANAGEMENT

Continue to cut hedgerows on rotation

8.4 OPEN WATER

Investigate creation of Dew Pond

8.5 MONITORING

Organise breeding bird survey Commission bat survey work Consider further survey and monitoring work including veteran trees.

Consider the possibility of using fixed point photography to monitor vegetation change, especially at Juniper Hill

Objective 8.1 Grassland Management

Objective 8.1.1 Scrapes

On Juniper Hill scrapes using the mechanical excavators where created, based on 4m x 4m, were created in 2001/2. Scrapes have gone down to chalk base. Now Tor grass is coming back in abundance and generally it tends to be floristically poor. However part of the original intention was to encourage the growth of Kidney Vetch, which likes soils 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.

Connor Morrow from the LMCP visited some of the scrapes during 2007 with Gail Jeffcoate a representative from Butterfly Conservation. They concluded that the scrapes had been a success and that there was a good representation from the Small Blue food source Kidney Vetch. This has been supported by a dissertation carried out in 2011 by a student from the University of Greenwich, Alison Gilry. This study concluded that 'scrape creation is a successful tool for conserving Kidney Vetch and Small Blue, providing that Kidney Vetch seeds of local provenance are added to newly created scrapes'.

Hand scrapes are also be beneficial and contribute in the same was as small rabbit scrapes do. Areas for hand scraping should concentrate adjacent to the existing scrapes, by Juniper bushes on Juniper Hill and near known locations of Kidney Vetch on Juniper Hill, Walton Downs and Downs House.

Pete Murray has been trialling a number of methods for re-introduction Kidney Vetch including creating scrapes. Through this experimenting a successful method of establishing Kidney Vetch has been developed, involving the hand digging of a scrape 1.3m by 1.3m, the sowing of seed and the fencing of the area.

Four new scrapes were excavated in areas of Chalk False Brome at Down House Grassland in January 2010.

The recommendation is to carry on creating mechanical and handmade scrapes every two years, although avoiding the flight period of the Small Blue during May to July. There are plans for more scrapes to be created in 2015 by the LMCP funded by money from a SITA grant.

The existing scrapes on the southern edge of Juniper Hill, by the farmland should be opened up further from the ride down to close to the farmland edge. The spoil should be piled into the woodland edge by the farmland or permission sought to plough into the farmland. Scrub margins and woodland margins should be left to create shelter and an ecotone into the surrounding woodland habitat.

This would include cutting back some of the Dogwood shrubs. Dogwood stumps will need to be treated, particularly to the north of this farmland edge section, where Dogwood is quite abundant, spreading and out competing smaller plants. It would be interesting to do a deep scrape of Dogwood to include roots and another patch just to top soil and then treat dogwood roots. Then leave and monitor effectiveness of each treatment.

8.1.2 Mowing & 8.1.3 Invasive Grasses

Mowing is widely used on all grassland types, but with mixed effectiveness. It differs from grazing in four aspects: it is relatively unselective, it is sudden and does not return nutrients in the form of dung and urine and does not break up the sward in the way that trampling by hooves does (Duffey et al, 1974).

In general the height of the cut should be approximately 10-12 cm high with a wavy margin edge to increase microhabitats for invertebrates. The use of a forage harvester and small baler will help with the work. The pattern of cut should avoid a spiral as this drives mammals and birds into the centre and instead mow from the centre outwards.

It is essential that all the clippings are taken off site or they will cause enrichment, smother smaller plants and prevent seeds from reaching the soil surface and germinating. Failing to take the clippings off site will also produce a 'thatch' of material, which may make cutting difficult the following year and could also lead to excessive bare patches (Crofts et al. 1999). Having said that a small number of clippings should be left in piles in the rough grassland margins, next to hedges and woodlands to provide refugia for reptiles, small mammals and so on.

A wavy edge will increase the microhabitats for invertebrates and will help to encourage small mammals such as Field Voles and provide cover for reptiles and in turn food for carnivorous mammals and birds such as Kestrels and Owls. At the top of the gallops it is clearly less well used by the horses indicated by the diversity including several calcareous species such as Salad Burnet, Common Rock Rose and Small Scabious.

Getting the timing of the cut right is essential, too early and the plants will not be able to set their seeds and will have severe effects on the botanical composition. To illustrate this Well & Cox have produced an interesting report on 'The long term effects of cutting on the yield, floristic composition and soil nutrient status of chalk grassland'. This is based on a 23 year experiment at Knocking Hoe, National Nature Reserve in Bedfordshire.

In summary, using a variety of different management techniques for different areas of grassland will produce a variety of swards. It is therefore recommended that whilst important areas of species rich turf are managed primarily for its potential and actual botanical diversity i.e. at Juniper Hill. Other areas such as Downs House and The Warren Grassland can be treated differently.

Walton Downs Grassland (8)

The grassland at Walton Downs should be cut in a late summer 2 year rotation, i.e. one half cut in the first year, followed by another half and so on. It is recommended that there is some overlap between the section with an area cut every year, this will ensure the needed variation in the habitat. The cuttings should be collected and removed. Some of the Hawthorn and other scrub has been removed and should be kept down by regular cutting.

The linear scrub on Walton Downs grassland also needs some radical management. Either by scalloping the edges every 2-3 years, or punching through clearing all vegetation with a view to letting it grow back as young scrub and cut regularly. 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 and provide better views from Juniper Hill over to the top of the gallops.

It is in this area that hacker riders would like access. As this is valuable and species rich calcareous grassland that hosts many insects during the summer, access could be arranged for during the winter only. Although this is not ideal as some insects will be affected as they will over winter in the grassland nevertheless it provides a compromise.

Warren Meadow (14)

There is a rich diversity of robust grass species and tall herbaceous plants here and although the majority are relatively common, the diversity of species packed into a small area of grassland of this type is high (Moore, 1992). Its secluded nature reduces the wind so that it is warmer here and attracts more insects. It should be maintained as a tall grass meadow.

Mowing twice a year, once in early spring (April) and once in autumn (October) on two yearly rotation (i.e. cut the west area one year, and the east area the following year) to prevent scrub invasion but allow flowering, fruiting of grasses and herbs. It has been mentioned that Nettle leaved Bellflower occurs in the rough grassland margins here and this type of management will encourage its growth. This area is ideal as a holding pen for any stock should the Conservators decide to purchase any. The surrounding scrub should be cut back by 2-3 m and the paths should be regularly mown for visitors and general access. In addition a diagonal informal path has been created by dog walkers, thus creating some short vegetation, which adds to the variety here.

The Warren Grassland (3)

This area is to be cut twice a year in spring and late summer to maintain a tidy appearance whilst allowing flowers to set seed. 2-3m edge to woodland should be left or cut in the autumn.

Epsom Downs West Grassland (21)

Long grass habitat provides a haven for birds and small mammals disturbed and deprived of habitat during the major race meetings. Currently it is left to grow throughout the summer with a topping to length of about 20cm in late September. This ensures a good seed drop into the sward provide a food

source during winter for ground feeding birds and small mammals. Some rare butterflies also use this area.

Downs House Grassland (17)

This area of species rich short and rough grassland is present along both sides of the path. The grassland is cut with the arisings left on. This is having a detrimental effect on the floristic quality of the sward as the cuttings are adding unwanted nutrients to the soil and therefore the more coarse grasses are beginning to dominate. This is evident from the amount of Tor grass present. It is recommended that this area be cut on a 2 year rotation with one half cut each year. The areas should overlap resulting in an area being cut every year to give diversity to the grassland. As the Tor grass is a problem this will need an early spring and autumn cut. Given that grazing is only in the consideration stages, it is recommended that the Tor grass is strimmed and the rest is left overwinter on rotation. If the edges absolutely need to be cut during the summer then they should be cut to a height of 10-20cm. The scrub is a useful inclusion into the grassland sward, but should not be allowed to expand or encroach any further into the grassland. Additional hand scrapes close to the existing scrapes will ensure that there is suitable substrate for further Kidney Vetch and other seedlings to take hold.

The scrub here, leading into Downs House Woodland is extremely valuable. It is a dense ecotone between the grassland and woodland and makes an attractive habitat for a variety of wildlife including nesting birds. In order that there is new recruitment scrub and a diverse age range of scrub the edge should be cut back into shallow scallops of about 5m wide every 10m. The area would then be left for the scrub to regrow, in the meantime it would provide a sheltered hot spot for insects and so on.

Southern Bridleway (10)

Here there are various horse tracks and linear strips in-between. The bank closest to the woodland has a good range of flowers and whilst it is in the most part shaded by the woodland is in a south facing location, therefore where the sun does come in it creates a hotspot for invertebrates. These banks are left to grow and periodically topped in autumn on a rotational basis. The clippings must be taken off to encourage a diverse range of species. Further east Creeping Thistle and Common Nettle tend to dominate perhaps because of a combination of nutrient enrichment and shading. They will gradually spread if left unchecked, hence the recommendation of topping in rotation.

The Hill (main part of the northern section of the Racecourse)(25)

This is where the Derby is held each year. The management for this grassland over the years has been designed with this in mind and 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 are then left as far apart as possible and consist of a topping. The RSPB have stated that the Skylark population is one of the healthiest in South of England, but this was many years ago. Some areas have been left uncut, including an area near Epsom Downs West Grassland these should be as large as possible and cut with the arising collected and removed. A map of potential areas with the best remaining calcareous flora is included in the plan.

The Gallops (main grassland area to the south)

A linear buffer zone is left long during the summer, then cut and used as green hay. Cutting late summer i.e. mid to late August would be most beneficial to the flora here. Ensure that they are as wide as possible i.e. 2-5 metres. Currently it only seems to be half a metre, the wider the better for wildlife.

East of the car park (1)

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. There is a good population of Dropwort here and as this does not like regular mowing, it is recommended that this area is cut only once every two years. It is also suggested that the fencing is improved to discourage people entering with dogs and disturbing breeding birds. Perhaps an interpretation panel or simple sign would get the message across.

Derby Stables Road Grassland(23)

The regular close cutting currently being carried out is ideal in stopping coarser species from becoming dominant and crowding out the more delicate chalk grassland plants and Orchids. This applies to the Northern 3/4 of the strip between Ashley Road and Derby Stables Road, plus the banks leading down to Langley Vale Road on both East & West sides from the traffic lights at Ashley Road to the Racecourse underpass.

Ideally, close cutting should cease from start of July to the end of September in order not to cut the Autumn Lady's-tresses when they are starting send out a flower spike, & then in flower/seeding. The exact timing of this is a little variable from year to year, so the start of the no-cut period in some years could be later. A higher "tidying" cut (c100mm, but min 75mm) could probably be done safely during first two weeks of July, but certainly not after that in most years.

Juniper Hill (6) – Tor Grass

Tor-grass is recognised as a significant problem on chalk and limestone grasslands, where it can form dominant and low-diversity stands. There are a number of options available to manage and control it. The recently published second edition of *The Lowland Grassland Management Handbook* (Crofts, A, & Jefferson, R G, 1999) lists grazing, mowing with the removal of cuttings, burning and herbicide treatment.

Generally the option of herbicide application such as Round-up can be effective in the short term, however the rhizomes are difficult to locate, spraying damages other grasses in the sward and it is labour intensive on a large scale (Baxter & Farmer, 1994). And in this instance using herbicide is not allowed on the racecourse therefore an alternative method is required.

Encroachment of Tor grass is a major problem on Juniper Hill. Grazing is helping, but the use of brushcutters to mow the grass would also help to keep it in check and allow other species to come through. Spring cutting to about 7cm can be used as a pre-treatment to grazing and also enables rabbits to move in as they tend to graze vegetation less than 10cm high. Bobbink & Willems found in 1993 that cutting twice a year, once in early summer (May) before it has a chance to seed and again in autumn (September) was the optimum treatment for Tor grass. Winter cuts are effective in reducing the height of the Tor grass, but not the spreading of patches. Brushcutters and Allen scythes have been used to cut areas of Tor grass and scrub regrowth on Juniper Hill with success. However brushcutters may not be practical as there are stumps here. This needs to be assessed. Arisings should be deposited somewhere other than Juniper Hill, where it is less interesting botanically.

The small area of exceptionally rich is calcareous plant species on the south west side of Juniper Hill requires special consideration as it is the only area with the rare Bastard Toadflax. It is not grazed by the sheep, and indeed this is not recommended owing the delicate nature of the grassland components. The advantage of the small sheltered nature is that instead it is continuously and steadily grazed by rabbits. Having said that 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 small open area very slowly back the scrub edge back. 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.

Scrub clearance should continue with the clearance of dense scrub in the centre of Juniper Hill to link up the current grazing area with the short turf by the horseride. However, some retention of scrub in this area will help to protect the orchid populations from grazing. The LMCP have specifically left a ring of scrub around the main Early Purple Orchid colony. This has also had the cover of trees immediately above it thinned as they are aware that they do best in dappled shade. They have also retained tree cover over the majority of the Twayblade and orchid colony for the same reason. Neither area should be grazed.

8.1.4 Juniper Hill (6) – Grazing/cutting

Conservation 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. Grazing using either cows, sheep or goats 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 re-colonise, such as Kidney Vetch, which is used by the Small Blue butterfly. Ideally all of the open area of grassland would be fenced and grazed. However this is not possible because of the Enclosures Act, which prohibits permanent fencing.

However currently there are no plans to continue grazing on Juniper Hill. Therefore whilst the possibility grazing is investigated cutting should be carried out. The aim will to cut the grassland on juniper Hill on a two year rotation, with one half cut on alternate years. The cutting should be carried out in late summer early autumn and the arisings removed. As with most of the grassland areas a small cut and collecting machine such as a forage harvester could be used.

Rabbit populations have recovered to almost their pre-1954 levels and provide additional valuable grazing pressure. However, heavy rabbit grazing can be damaging to a site. Particularly if only small areas of short turf are available as on Juniper Hill and Walton Downs grassland. In amongst the short turf there are plenty of rabbit scrapes which encourage Kidney Vetch seedlings. However rabbits are viewed as a problem in the gallops. In order to maintain a good Kidney Vetch population small man-made scrapes should be created in late winter each year, to enhance the vetch population on Juniper Hill (11) and Downs House grassland (14).

8.2 Woodland Management

8.2 Woodland/Scrub Clearance Juniper Hill (5/6)

The 1987 hurricane took down several trees on Juniper Hill and it was not until 1989 that scrub clearance began here. 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. Work has been carried out by the LMCMP volunteers. The vast majority of the work

has been done using manual tools and chainsaws by cutting larger trees and stumps down to the ground. The clearance involved enlarging the remaining grass areas, creating bays alongside the horseride and opening up the south western slope once more. Dogwood has been repeatedly cut back using a brushcutter on Juniper Hill by LMCP and spot treated with herbicide with much success. Areas recently cleared should have the new growth topped in spring to suppress excessive undesirable 'weed' species.

Having spoken at great length with Nick Owen from the LMCP the following recommendations have been put together. To date a lot of the work carried out on this species rich grassland area has been small scale owing to the number of work parties and people volunteers involved. In order to make significant progress, with valuable results long term, some radical management is required to build upon the excellent work done so far and extend the amount of important, rare and species rich grassland.

It is strongly recommended that a large section of the woodland and scrub along the north edge of the existing grassland be cleared. Up to the path, with some areas on the path to be coppiced. Cutting back to the ride edge leave other side where it is over stood beech, little scrub underneath. Perhaps after 5 years next time cut back further into woodland

However, it is important to achieve a balance between maintaining open sunny areas whilst retaining scattered scrub on sites. Some rare invertebrates are associated with invading scrub species and some local crane flies on this habitat type are dependent on the leaf litter beneath scrub. Clearance of scrub from calcareous grassland may thus be detrimental to these species both by allowing the soil to be too exposed for larvae and by reducing shelter for adults. Therefore it will be very important to leave 'tongues' of scrub around the calcareous grassland.

Along edge ring bark some tree to die and take off crown, also known as 'halo release'. To be done on a small, gradual scale using volunteers not contractors. Leave moderate amount of log piles in shade on edge and in sun for bees and wasps. On southern ride, take out trees and scrub along the edge on one side only. Also scallop the edges and leave some Ivy. On the south west end along the path some of the younger scrub should be thinned principally the Bramble cut back up to 1-2m, but leave Elder. Prevent scrub from encroaching into open habitats whilst retaining scrubby edge habitat, particularly with Bramble and Dog Rose, as an eco-tone, solitary clumps etc. Note the importance of bramble clumps. To prevent Bramble from encroaching it can be cut back periodically. However, this is best done with hand tools rather than a mechanized cutter. Mechanical cutters tend to smash up the stems and leave untidy ends which are thought not to be as attractive as a nesting site.

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.

8.2 Juniper Management Juniper Hill (5/6)

Although its centre of distribution lies within the highlands of central and eastern Scotland. Juniper also occurs at scattered localities in parts of southern England, northern England and Wales (Rodwell, 1991). Nationally Juniper is not a scarce plant. In England, however, there is concern that it is becoming

increasingly scarce as a semi-natural vegetation type. In southern counties Juniper is in a critical state of decline with evidence of habitat fragmentation. There are only 5 known sites in Surrey.

Juniper supports a comparatively small, yet characteristic, native invertebrate fauna, including many species with specialised habitat requirements and a restricted distribution in the UK (Ward 1977). There are 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.

Juniper stands tend to be restricted by age structure. The inhibition of seedling establishment creates very evenly aged Juniper populations characterised by old and senescent bushes which eventually die. The even age Juniper populations have obvious implications for their long-term continuity. Juniper has male and female bushes and the production of viable berries in the female bushes is affected by age. Fruit capacity is diminished as bushes grow older and even then the seed requires a combination of frosts over winter to break the dormancy before it will germinate. Ward (1992) found that 80% of seed produced by young stands were viable, compared with just 5% from older populations. Knocking off some of the berries and placing some in more protected long vegetation may help with the regeneration. The resulting seedlings will need to be protected from nibbling rabbits and later on deer. Senescent bushes also become increasingly susceptible to disease. Nevertheless these old populations may well persist for a very long period of time. Junipers in northern stands can reach 200 years of age (Clifton et al, 1995).

The Juniper bushes have been cleared of shade and staked and fenced to protect them from damage by deer. Clearance should be monitored and maintained. More substantial fencing for smaller bushes would be more effective. Halo/scallop around large Juniper bushes.

The Warren Woodland / Downs House Woodland & Epsom West Woodlands (2, 13 ,16,18,20)

Generally these woodlands are overgrown with much regrowth following damage caused by winds. Ground flora is less badly damaged and trampled than at Langley Vale Woods. Some re-coppicing of the hazel is required and thinning the dense canopy (preferentially the Sycamore) in small manageable areas will allow more light in by providing glades.

Dead wood should also be retained wherever possible as it is a greatly under appreciated resource. It is gradually eaten or digested by a wide variety of invertebrates. Typical inhabitants of rotting wood include beetles, fungi, woodlice, millipedes, centipedes, harvestmen, spiders, false scorpions, earwigs, springtails, fly larvae, molluscs, mites and thrips (Steele, 1972).

When creating dead wood piles using lopped branches and logs (as large as possible) some should be in the shade, some in the sunlight and others randomly strewn on the ground. It may look a little untidy, but it provides a better habitat for a variety of fungi.

A couple of rides have been punched through this woodland by members of the Racecourse. Dead wood has also been left. This now provides a hot spot for butterflies and birds. Other rides could also be included in this woodland.

Langley Vale Copse (11)

This old linear Hazel coppice was until recently the subject of a 7 year coppicing cycle in 7-9 coups, but at the completion of the 4th year, work was suspended in order not to intrude upon and destroy the habitat of a badger sett. Dave Williams from West Surrey Badger Group has been contacted and agrees that coppicing can still carry on. The removal of vegetation cover is temporary and in the long term will create dense cover for the badgers. However, care must be taken that the work does not destroy the sett or that the brash and branches do not destroy or block any of the entrances.

The current situation is that there has been vigorous re-growth of underwood (mostly hazel) checked only by shading from canopy trees in places. Since completion of work, maintenance has been limited to ride surfaces and cutting back of vegetation encroaching on rides. This is mostly coppiced hazel, which seems to be cut back with bow saws leaving cut stems next to rides (safety hazard) and cut material dumped wherever convenient on ride edges (unsightly). Planted trees (in tubes) have not been maintained and are now mostly dead, due to overshadowing. Note that if re-coppicing had been carried out at five or seven years (as appropriate to growth rates and end-use of stems) work to clear encroaching vegetation would not now be necessary and more planted trees would have survived. Note also that possibilities for the efficient end-use of hazel has been compromised by deer damage in the first two or three growing seasons.

It was hoped that the coppicing could restart using local coppice workers. However due to a variety of reasons it was felt that this area would not be financially viable. Therefore it would be a task for the Downs keepers to restart the coppicing. This should be again done in a seven year rotation.

SW corner of the Warren Woodland(13)

This section of the much larger Warren Woodland has been chosen as it shows abundant signs of having been worked as hazel coppice in the not-too-far past. 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. As with any site deer fencing would be a must to protect the regrowth. There will need to be a certain amount of thinning and the removal of non -native invasive species with some stump treatment to eradicate the latter. Work to bring this area back in the coppice rotation started with LMCP as part of the 'living woodlands' scheme. Working with a local coppice worker access has been improved by the constructing a hard surface track and a kiln was installed. Coppicing began in 2012, with the area divide in to seven coups. The hazel is coppiced on a 7year rotation and the ash on either a 14 or 21 year rotation

8.3 Hedgerow Management Hedgerows

Hedgerows greatly add to the diversity of a site and provide homes for a number of birds, mammals, and bats and create suntraps for invertebrates. For example Blackthorn is tolerant of most soils and forms dense thickets providing excellent nesting cover. Hawthorn is often used in hedges and the flowers are much used by insects, the fruits by birds and mice in the winter. Hazel is also tolerant of most soil conditions; the nuts are eaten by small mammals including Yellow Necked Mouse and Bank Vole.

Trimming alternate sides and sections every third year between January and February would produce the best results, as most berries on Hawthorn and Blackthorn tend to be on the outer most twigs and cutting these before they are eaten deprives birds and mammals of a valuable food source. Trimming should be done in a way that limits the damage on the stems and therefore allows them to recover much quicker.

South of the car park Hedgerow

South of the car park are some hedgerows that have been left to grow. There is concern that they are obscuring the views of the Downs. They should be cut on a 3-4 year rotational basis.

Epsom Lane North Hedgerow

There have been some issues in the past with neighbours who would like to see the views the Downs affords, and would therefore like to keep the height of the hedgerow down. Rotational trimming every 2-3 years will help to keep the hedgerow in check, whilst allowing views onto the Racecourse.

8.4 Open Water Dew Pond

There are no ponds or any other form of 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 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. LMCP have got the relevant expertise and volunteers to hand to make this project possible.

General – Nutrient Enrichment

Avoid the application of artificial fertilisers, which will reduce the plant species diversity of a site and encourage denser foliage to over-shade the ground.

General -Bonfires

In one recently cleared patch Rosebay Willowherb dominates probably indicating where a previous bonfire has been. Whilst generally bonfires are not preferable and to be avoided, in this case the willowherb attracts butterflies such as the Elephant Hawk moth as well as other invertebrates. If bonfires are necessary to dispose of brash they should be carefully sited away from any rare species and positioned so that nutrient run-off is avoided into the species rich sward. Perhaps using corrugated iron sheets to prevent soil enrichment from the ash.

General -Signs

There are no interpretation signs explaining the nature conservation value of the site only bylaws. Options should be looked into for conservation interpretation panels to explain to the public what is going on and why the site is important.

Perhaps consideration should go into creating a summary leaflet to explain the management of the site and so on and could be given out to Derby visitors and so on to encourage support. In addition the EECB website could be used to raise awareness of the site

General -Grants

Chalk grassland is a priority habitat and it worth exploring the possibility of gaining grant money to help with management of the site

General – Fixed Point Photography

This section highlights some ideas on future monitoring. Further details can be provided on techniques or names of specialists for further advice. Fixed point monitoring should be established over both Epsom & Walton Downs and to be repeated on a yearly basis. Also photo monitoring of before and after management to be used for a visual comparison of achievements and also useful for historical and educational purposes and talks

General – Vegetation Monitoring

Suggestions for vegetation monitoring include regular surveys to monitor developing grasslands in different seasons, species comparison and relative abundance and so on to ascertain if management techniques are suitable. This will provide up to date information on how the habitats are progressing over the years and what types of wildlife are being drawn to the site. Whatever monitoring and research programmes are used they will help establish changes over time and provide a valuable historical record.

Other monitoring could include setting up permanent quadrats in the different vegetation (NVC) communities.

General – Breeding Bird Survey

Yearly surveys on the bird populations will also be of extreme importance and will help to build up a useful picture over time. This is best done by repeating the same bird census techniques and using the same transect routes year on year. Pete Murray, a Downkeeper has been monitoring birds since 2002. This list provides useful data as a baseline for further work. Kestrel, Tree Creeper and Nuthatch bird boxes will help to assess what species are using the various woodlands. Their location should be mapped exactly.

A presence/absence survey will record all species seen during the site visits. However a breeding survey walking a line transect will estimate populations in more detailed and beneficial technique that can be designed to be repeatable in future years to allow comparison of data, using a series of territory maps. This, then, would add to the valuable work started by Peter Murray, Groundsman at the Racecourse.

This type of survey estimates abundance and examines the distribution of birds in relation to habitat. A series of mapped registrations for a particular species, gathered over several visits, will usually show signs of clustering, indicating the location of territories (Hill, 2005). The scheme commonly used now is the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS). This is where each site is visited a minimum of 5 times during the breeding period and the information collected will enable the surveyor to map the distribution, relative abundance and give records of rarer species of conservation interest. Tables will also be provided to show which recorded birds are Red or Amber under the

RSPB Conservation Concern list and if they are a Priority Species under the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) list. All birds and their activities are recorded on a separate map for each visit and this is how the information on territories builds up. The transect line that the surveyor follows will also be mapped for future reference.

General – Bat Survey

Several site visits are required to check for bat emergence, identify any species present and to assess the overall importance of the site as a foraging habitat for bats. This will also be weather dependant. A Tranquility II ultrasonic time expansion bat box detector will be used to record their ultrasonic echolocation calls and to facilitate identification.

Survey methods include finding roosts by direct observation and locating dispersal routes and feeding habitats, often with the aid of bat detectors. Day searches would be used to look at structures including trees with potential for roosting and looking for field signs such as droppings. Dusk observations watch emergence of bats, also dispersal commuting routes and flight paths from roosts and indicates where foraging habitats are likely to be. Surveys are done between May and end of August and several visits, generally three counts approximately a week apart to include the birth period but before flight of juveniles. The weather is a key factor and should be warm and windless.

General – Other Surveys

Other future surveys to be considered are fungi, veteran trees, lichen and mammals (including small mammals, bats and badgers).

General – Archaeology

Dr D Bird, 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.'*

Area (Target Note)	Description of Work	Who	Timing	15	16	17	18	19
Juniper Hill Grassland - Main grass area	Cut and cleared on two year rotation	Downs keepers	Late Sept	*	*	*	*	*
Juniper Hill & Downs House grassland	Scrapes - Concentrating on areas adjacent to existing scrapes, by Juniper bushes and near known sites of Kidney Vetch • Hand (75 by 75cm) & excavator scrapes (1-2m), down to bare chalk & some soil.	Hand scrapes – Downs keepers LMCP volunteers. Machinery scrapes	Winter task, yearly, avoid May – July.	*			*	
Southern edge of Juniper Hill	• Open up existing large scale scrapes from the ride down to the farmland. • Spoil to be piled into the wood at farmland edge or permission sought to plough into farmland. • Scrub and woodland edges to be left. • Cut back Dogwood shrubs, concentrate to the north of this area. Treat stumps. Opportunity to experiment by doing a deep scrape to include roots and another just to top soil and then treat stumps.	LMCP volunteers.	Winter task, yearly, avoid May – July.	*			*	
Juniper Hill and Downs House Grassland	Tor grass • Spring (May) and Autumn (September) strimmed to 7cm. • Arisings not to be deposited on Juniper Hill. • Use brushcutters or scythes. • Include patches of Tor grass along the edges of small shaded species rich area of rabbit grazed grassland.	Downs keepers	Spring/Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
Juniper Hill	Scrub and woodland • Major cutting back of scrub and woodland from centre of Juniper Hill north towards the path. • Some areas along the path to be coppiced. • Up to 30% of scrub to be left in patches and linking 'tongues'. • Some trees to be ring barked, crown taken off and left, 'haloed'. • Leave 8-12 log piles in variety of conditions, shaded, sunny, under scrub or woodland. • Slow, gradual pushing back of scrub around small shaded species rich area of rabbit grazed grassland, but leave a band of scrub between this area and the current area of grazing grassland. • Continue leaving a ring of scrub and scattered trees around the orchid and twayblade colony. This area should not be included into the grazing regime. • On southern ride,	LMCP Downs keepers	Autumn/Winter	*	*	*	*	*

take out trees and scrub along the edge on one side only. Also scallop the edges and leave some Ivy. • On the north east end along the path some of the younger scrub to be thinned. Principally bramble cut back by 1-2m. Elder to be left. Use hand tools here. • Along northern edge overlooking Walton Downs edges 3-4 scalloped in 20-30m stretches. • Take out the non-native Cotoneaster bush north end, at bottom of slope in grazed open area. • Create more substantial fencing around smaller Juniper bushes. Halo/scallop around larger Juniper bushes.

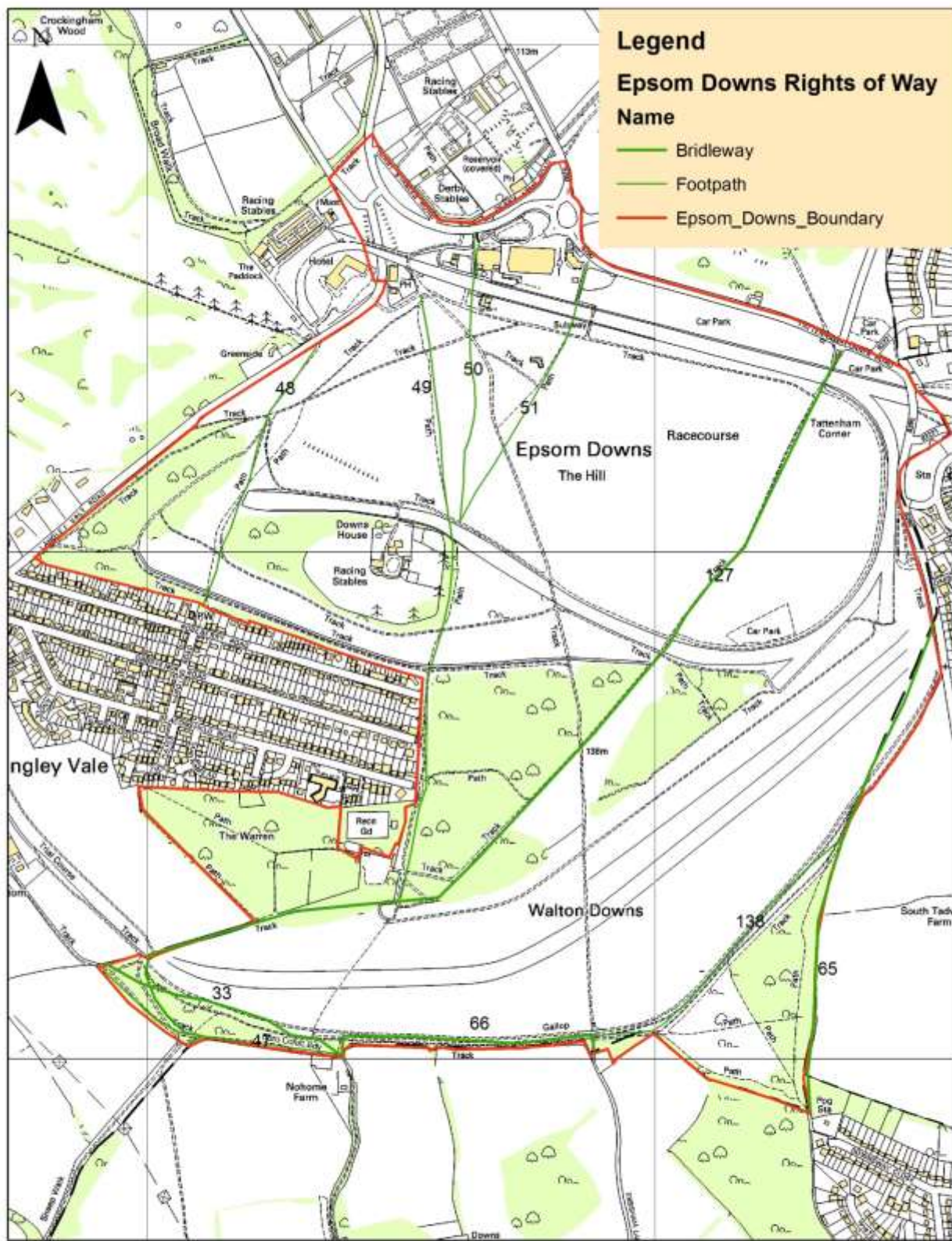
Walton Downs grassland (12)	Mowing • To be cut on a 2 year rotation ie one half cut in the first year, followed by another half and so on. • Continue removing Hawthorn bushes. • If hackers require access, arrange winter access only	Downs keepers	Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
Walton Downs scrub band (6)	Scrub • Scalloping the edges every 2-3 years OR ideally punching 3-5 'views' through scrub band and clearing all vegetation.	Downs keepers	Autumn/Winter	*	*	*	*	*
Warren Meadow (8)	Mowing • Cut twice a year, once in early spring and again in autumn on two yearly rotation ie cut the west area twice in one year and the east area twice in the following year. • Maintain paths regularly. Scrub • Cut surrounding scrub back by 2-3m.	Downs keepers	Spring/Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
Warren Grassland (7)	Mowing • Cut twice a year in spring and later summer. • Buffer zone of 2-3m edge around woodland left uncut in spring and cut with the rest in late summer.	Downs keepers	Spring/Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
Epsom Downs West Grassland (16)	Mowing • Topped late September to 20cm height.	Downs keepers	Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
Downs House Grassland (14)	Mowing • Should be cut on a 2 year rotation with one half cut each year. If edges have to be cut, then to a height of 10-20cm. • Ideally the whole area should be grazed, constraints such that winter grazing only. • Additional hand scrapes adjacent to existing scrapes. • Do not allow scrub to encroach past existing scrub line. Ideally edge should be cut back into shallow scallops of about 5m wide by 3m deep every 10m. • Should be cut more often (twice per year) for Racehorses and Hack Riders as it poses health & safety issues to leave long. • Recommend to cut more often, maintain short & slow removal of scrub.	Downs keepers	Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
Derby Stables Road Grassland(23)	Mowing. Continue regular short cutting until beginning of July. A higher cut (min10cm) could be carried out in first two weeks of July. Then cease cutting until late September.	Downs keepers	Spring/Summer	*	*	*	*	*

Southern Bridleway (9)	Mowing • For the safety of riders this should be cut back twice per year. Leave banks during summer and top in Autumn. Collect clippings.	Downs keepers	Summer/Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
General grassland	Mowing • Cut to height of 10-12cm with wavy margin. • Avoid spiral pattern. • All clippings to be taken off. • Small number of clippings to be left in piles in the rough grassland margins, next to hedges & in woodlands. • Use forage harvester & baler.	Downs keepers	Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
The Hill	Mowing • First cut to be delayed until just before Derby during mid May. • Successive cuts to be left as far apart as possible and topped only to 10-20cm	Downs keepers	Spring/Summer/Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
The Gallops	Mowing • Leave wide 2-5m buffer zone during summer, cut autumn for green hay. This is not possible as the Trainers need it cut weekly during growth	Downs keepers	Summer/Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
East of car park (18)	Mowing • Cut only once every two years, clippings taken off. Gorse needs to be kept down to avoid disturbance of racing views •	Downs keepers	Autumn	*	*	*	*	*
The Warren woodland/Downs House Woodland & Epsom West Woodland (1,2,3,13 &15)	Dead wood • To be retained where possible. • Create 2-3 east/west rides, link one with the glade to the north.	Downs keepers	Winter	*	*	*	*	*
Langley Vale Copse (pt 5)	Coppice • Continue with the 7 year coppicing regime, . • Care to be taken not to damage or destroy sett. Brash and branches are not to block any holes.	Downs keepers	Winter	*	*	*	*	*
South west corner of Warren Woodland (3)	Coppice • Coppice and woodland work using self employed coppice worker.	Coppice workers	Winter	*	*	*	*	*

Hedgerows	Hedgerows • Trim alternate sides and sections every three years between January and February.	Downs keepers	Winter	*	*
South of car park hedgerow	Hedgerows • Cut on a 3-4 year rotation, one side each time only.	Downs keepers	Winter		*
Epsom Lane North hedgerow	Hedgerows • Rotational trimming every 2-3 years to allow views onto Racecourse.	Downs keepers	Winter		*
Dew Pond north of Juniper Hill	Open Water • Consider creating a new dew pond to replace lost one. LMCP have relevant experience.	LMCMP	Winter	*	
General – Nutrient enrichment	Avoid application of artificial fertilisers.	All			
General – Bonfires	Avoid where possible.	All			
General – Signs	Consider some conservation based interpretation boards.	All			
General – Fixed point photography	Surveys & Monitoring • Fixed points established on Epsom & Walton Downs in key habitat areas. Also continue photo monitoring of areas before and after conservation management.	Volunteers	All year		
General – Vegetation monitoring	Surveys & Monitoring • Suggestions include – NVC vegetation surveys with possible inclusion of permanent quadrats, species comparison and relative abundance surveys,	Contractor	Spring/Summer		*
General – Breeding Bird survey	Surveys & Monitoring • Commission further bird survey work to build on the work done by Peter Murray, using BTO survey techniques to provide a	Contractor	Spring/Summer	*	*

picture on breeding territories and provide management recommendations. Peter Murray to be consulted.

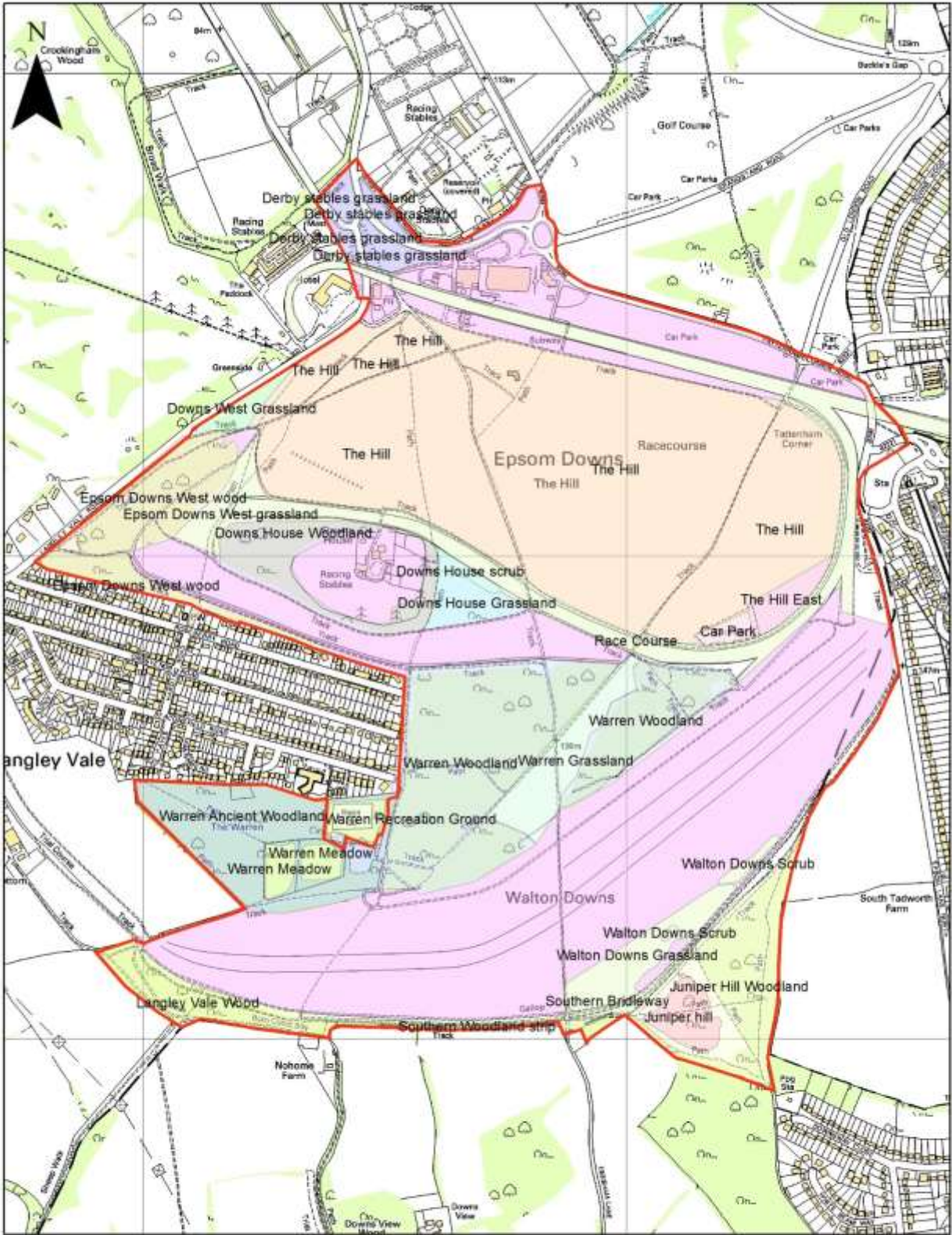
General – Bat survey	Surveys & Monitoring • Bat survey to check for presence, identify species and assess overall Importance of the site for foraging habitat with management recommendations.	Contractor	Spring/Summer	*
General – Further surveys	Surveys & Monitoring • Other surveys to be considered to build up a more comprehensive picture include additional invertebrate work with particular reference to spring and early summer work and a specialist survey in the nocturnal moths. • Fungi, veteran trees lichen and small mammals including badgers.	Contractor	As appropriate	
General – Archaeology	Surveys & Monitoring • Survey to take account the historic landscape, management recommendations would then be incorporated into the overall management of the site.	Contractor	As appropriate	



Epsom Downs Rights of Way

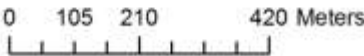
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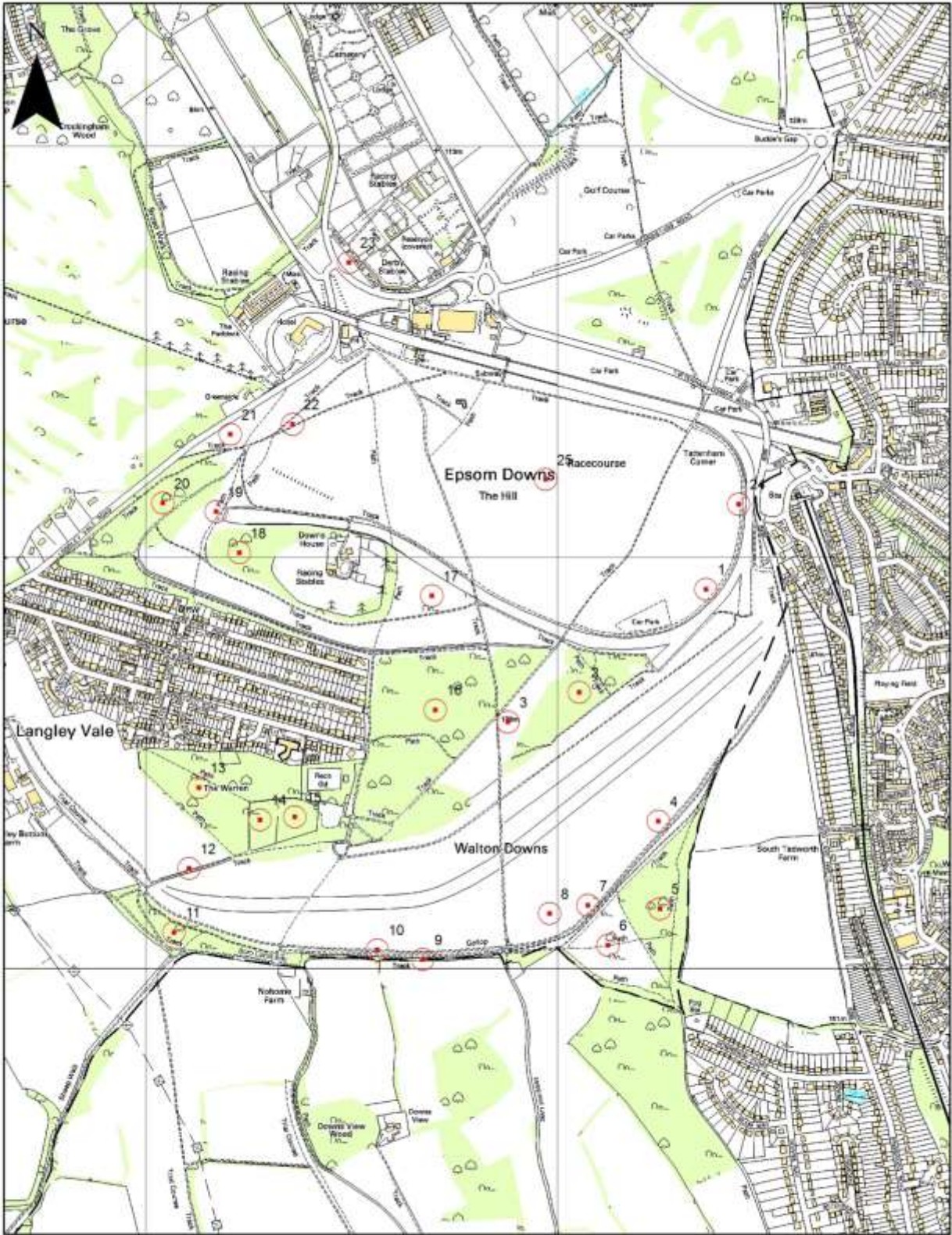
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Epsom Downs management compartments

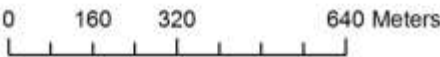
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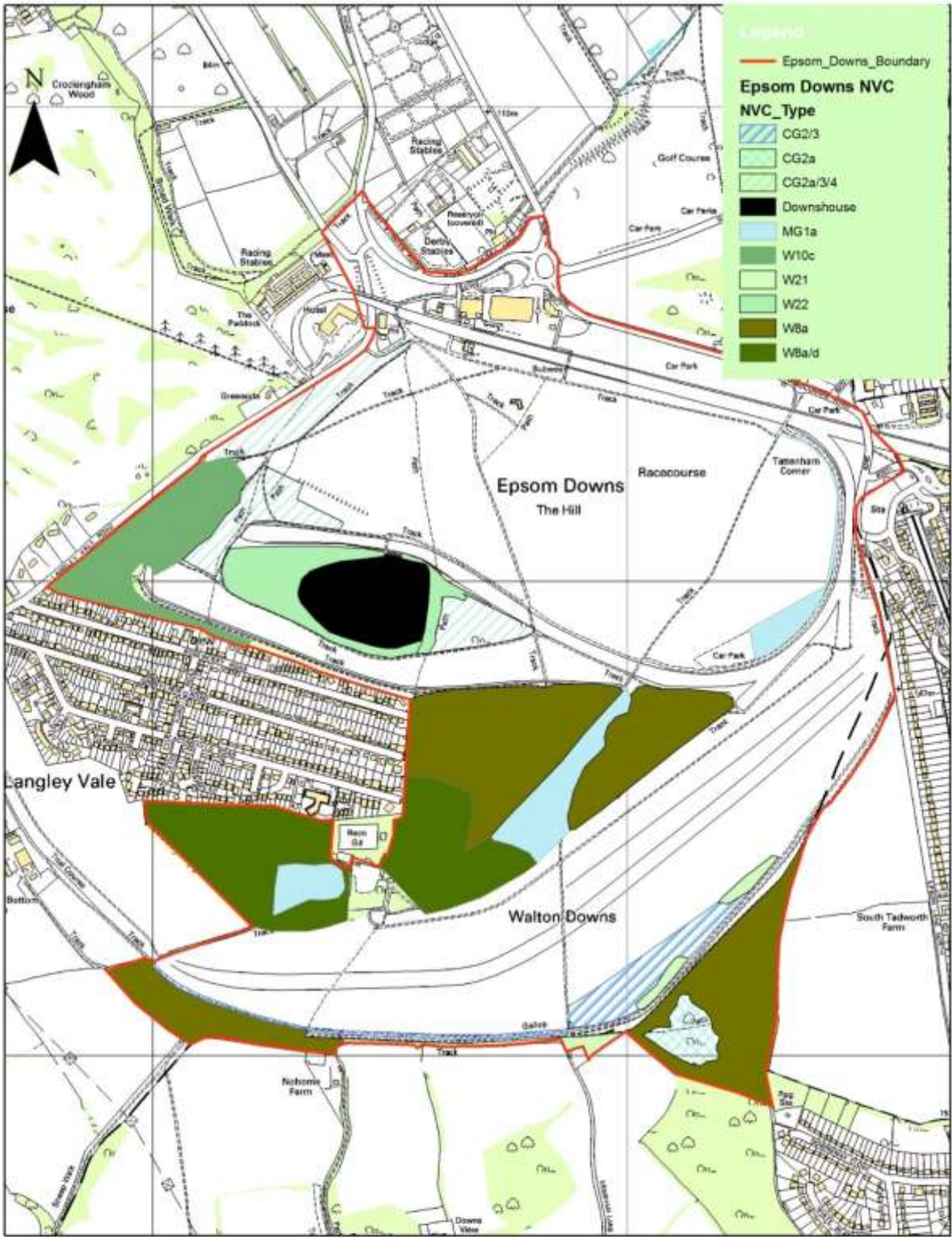




Epsom Downs Target Notes

Created by Pete Howarth, December 2014





Epsom Downs NVC Habitats

Created by Pete Howarth, December 2014

0 125 250 500 Meters

9 APPENDIX 1 – VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES LIST

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date Last Recorded
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	2014
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple	2014
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	2014
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	2014
<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>	Moschatel	2002
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Ground-elder	2014
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse-chestnut	2014
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Common Agrimony	2014
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	2014
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	2014
<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugle	2014
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard	2014
<i>Anacamptis pyramidalis</i>	Pyramidal Orchid	1905
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	2002
<i>Anisantha sterilis</i>	Barren Brome	2014
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal Grass	2014
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	2014
<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	Kidney Vetch	2014
<i>Antirrhinum majus</i>	Snapdragon	1998
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine	2007
<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser Burdock	2014
<i>Arenaria serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Sandwort	2007
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	2014
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort	2014
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords-and-ladies	2014
<i>Asperula cynanchica</i>	Squinancywort	2014
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound	2014
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	2014
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	2014
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	1998
<i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i>	Tor-grass	2014
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False Brome	2014
<i>Brachythecium rutabulum</i>	a moss	2014
<i>Brassica napus</i>	Rape	2002
<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking Grass	2014
<i>Bromopsis erecta</i>	Upright Brome	2014

Bromus hordeaceus	Soft-brome	2014
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony	2014
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly Bush`	2014
Buxus sempervirens	Box	2014
Calystegia sepium	Hedge Bindweed	2014
Campanula glomerata	Clustered Bellflower	2014
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell	2014
Campanula trachelium	Nettle-leaved Bellflower	1998
Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's-purse	2014
Carex caryophyllaea	Spring-sedge	
Carex flacca	Glaucous Sedge	2014
Carex hirta	Hairy Sedge	2014
Carex sylvatica	Wood-sedge	2002
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	1998
Castanea sativa	Sweet Chestnut	2014
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	2014
<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Greater Knapweed	2007
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	2007
<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>	Rough Chervil	2007
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb	2007
<i>Chenopodium album agg.</i>	Fat Hen	1998
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory	2014
<i>Cirsium acaule</i>	Dwarf Thistle	2014
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	2014
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	2007
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	2014
<i>Clematis vitalis</i>	Traveller's-joy	2014
<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Wild Basil	2014
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	2014
<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	Canadian Fleabane	2014
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	2014
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	2014
<i>Cotoneaster lacteus</i>	Late Cotoneaster	2007
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	2014
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawk's-beard	2014
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	2014
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom	1998
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock' s-foot	2014
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted-orchid	2014
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	2014
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair-grass	1998

<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i> agg.	Male Fern	1998
<i>Elymus caninus</i>	Bearded Couch	1998
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	Common Couch	2014
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	2014
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willowherb	2007
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willowherb	2007
<i>Euonymus europaeu</i> Spindle		2014
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp-agrimony	1914
<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge	2014
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge	1998
<i>Euphrasia nemorosa</i>	an eyebright	2014
<i>Euphrasia pseudokernerii</i>	an eyebright	2014
<i>Eurhynchium praelongum</i>	a moss	2014
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	2014
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	Tall Fescue	2002
<i>Festuca gigantea</i>	Giant Fescue	2014
<i>Festuca ovina</i> agg.	Sheep's Fescue [agg.]	2014
<i>Festuca rubra sens.str</i>	Red Fescue	2014
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	Meadowsweet	1905
<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>	Dropwort	2014
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	2014
<i>fruticans</i>) <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry Laurel	2002
<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Common Fumitory	1998
<i>Galega officinalis</i>	Goat's-rue	2002
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	2007
<i>Galium mollugo</i>	Hedge Bedstraw	2014
<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Woodruff	2002
<i>Galiurn verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	2014
<i>Gentianella amarella</i>	Autumn Gentian	2014
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bil	2002
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	2002
<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Hedgerow Crane's-bill	2014
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	2014
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	2014
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	2014
<i>Gymnadenia conopsea</i>	Fragrant Orchid	1905
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	2014
<i>Helianthemum nummulariun</i>	Common Rock-rose	2014
<i>Helictotrichon pratense</i>	Meadow Oat-grass	2014
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	Giant Hogweed	2002

<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	2014
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's Violet	2002
<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>	Horseshoe Vetch	2014
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	2014
<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	Wall Barley	2014
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i> x <i>non-scripta</i>	a bluebell	2002
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	2002
<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	Tutsan	2007
<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>	Hairy St John's-wort	2014
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-wort	2014
<i>Hypnum cupressiforme sens. lat.</i>	a moss	2014
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear	2002
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	2014
<i>Inula conyzae</i>	Ploughman's -spikenard	2014
<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Stinking Iris	2002
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Juniper	2014
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	2014
<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	Crested Hair-grass	2014
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	2007
<i>Lactuca virosa</i>	Greater Prickly Lettuce	2007
<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>	Yellow Archangel	2014
<i>Lamium album</i>	White dead nettle	2014
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red Dead-nettle	2014
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	2014
<i>Lathyrus nissolia</i>	Grass Vetchling	2014
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	2014
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawkbit	2014
<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	Rough Hawkbit	2014
<i>Leontodon saxatilis</i>	Lesser Hawkbit	2014
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	2007
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	Garden Privet	2002
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	2014
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax	2014
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax	2014
<i>Listera ovata</i> Common	Twayblade	2007
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye grass	2014
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	2014
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot Trefoil	2014
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Field Wood-rush	2002
<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Oregon- grape	2007

<i>Malus domestica</i>	Apple	2014
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab Apple	2014
<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	Common Mallow	2014
<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	Pineapple Weed	2014
<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick	2014
<i>Medicago sativa ssp. sativa</i>	Lucerne	2014
<i>Melica uniflora</i>	Wood Melick	2014
<i>Melilotus officinalis</i> Ribbed	Melilot	2014
<i>Mentha arvensis</i>	Corn Mint	2007
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury	2014
<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	Field Forget-me-not	2007
<i>Myosotis laxa</i>	Tufted Forget-me-not	1998
<i>Myosotis sylvatica</i>	Wood Forget-me-not	2007
<i>Narcissus agg.</i>	a garden daffodil	2002
<i>Odonites vernus</i>	Red Bartsia	2014
<i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i>	Sainfoin	1998
<i>Ononis repens</i>	Common Restharrow	2014
<i>Orchis mascula</i>	Early Purple Orchid	2014
<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Majoram	2014
<i>Papaver argemone</i>	Prickly Poppy	1998
<i>Papaver hybridum</i>	Rough Poppy	1990
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Common Poppy	1998
<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Corn Poppy	2007
<i>Papaver somniferum</i>	Opium Poppy	1998
<i>Pastinaca sativa</i>	Wild Parsnip	2014
<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>	Green Alkanet	2002
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i>	Smaller Cat's-tail	2014
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy	2007
<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue	2002
<i>Phyteuma orbiculare</i>	Round-headed Rampion	2014
<i>Picris echioides</i>	Bristly Ox-tongue	2014
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear-hawkweed	2014
<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>	Burnet Saxifrage	2014
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	Scots Pine	2002
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	2014
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	2014
<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary Plantain	2007
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	2014
<i>Poa nemoralis</i>	Wood Meadow-grass	2002
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Smooth Meadow-grass	2007

<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass	2014
<i>Polygala calcarea</i>	Chalk Milkwort	2014
<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>	Common Milkwort	2014
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar	2002
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	2014
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	2014
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	2002
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren	2002
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	2007
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	2014
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	2007
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild Cherry	2014
<i>Prunus cerasus</i> var. <i>pisardii</i>	Cherry Plum	2007
<i>Prunus domestica</i>	Wild Plum	2002
<i>Prunus domestica</i> ssp. <i>domestica</i>	Plum	2002
<i>Prunus domestica</i> x <i>spinosa</i> (<i>P. x a</i> cherry	2002
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	2014
<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Common Fleabane	2007
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak	2014
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak	2014
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup	2014
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	2014
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Lesser Celandine	2014
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	2014
<i>Reseda lutea</i>	Wild Mignonette	2014
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	Buckthorn	2014
<i>Ribes rubrum</i>	Red Currant	2007
<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i>	Gooseberry	2002
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	Field Rose	2002
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	2007
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary	2007
<i>Rubus caesius</i>	Dewberry	2007
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Bramble	2007
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry	2007
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's Sorrel [agg.]	2014
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	2014
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock	2014
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	2007
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Common Elder	2014
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	Salad Burnet	2007

<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	2014
<i>Sasa</i> sp.	a bamboo	2002
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	Small Scabious	2007
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common Ragwort	2014
<i>Silene latifolia</i>	White Campion	2014
<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Bladder Campion	2014
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge Mustard	2014
<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Bittersweet	2007
<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black Nightshade	2014
<i>Solidago canadensis</i>	Canadian Goldenrod	2007
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	2014
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	2014
<i>Sorbus aria</i>	Whitebeam	2014
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	2014
<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort	2014
<i>Stellaria media</i> agg.	Chickweed	2014
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry	2014
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony	2014
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy	2014
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelion	2014
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	2014
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage	2014
<i>Thesium humifusum</i>	Bastard-toadflax	2014
<i>Thymus polytrichus</i>	Wild Thyme	2014
<i>Tilia cordata</i> x <i>platyphyllos</i>	(<i>T.</i> x Lime	2002
<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Upright Hedge-parsley	2007
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goat's-beard	2014
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	2014
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	2014
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	2014
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	Scentless Mayweed	2002
<i>Tussilago farfara</i>	Colt's-foot	2014
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	2014
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm	2014
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	2014
<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	Common Valerian	2014
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great Mullein	2014
<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall Speedwell	2014
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	2014
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common Field-speedwell	2014
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	2002

<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Wayfaring Tree	2014
<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	Guelder Rose	2014
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	2002
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch	2014
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch	2002

10 APPENDIX 2 – NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF BASTARD TOADFLAX

New Atlas 10km Census Dataset Map

Dataset Title: Bastard-toadflax
Print date: Thu Aug 30 14:02:10 2007



11 APPENDIX 3 – NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF ROUND-HEADED RAMPION

New Atlas 10km Census Dataset Map

Dataset Title: Round-headed Rampion
Print date: Thu Aug 30 14:02:27 2007



12 APPENDIX 4 – NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHALKHILL EYEBRIGHT



13 APPENDIX 5 – NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF JUNIPER

New Atlas 10km Census Dataset Map

Dataset Title: Juniperus communis subsp. communis
Print date: Thu Aug 30 14:03:03 2007



14 APPENDIX 6 – SPECIES DEFINITIONS

Vascular Plants

Threatened – Critically Endangered; A taxon is Critically Endangered when it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future. For more information on the criteria used see Wigginton, M.J., (1999); British Red Data Books: 1 Vascular Plants, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Threatened – Endangered; a taxon is Endangered when it is not Critically Endangered but is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future. For more information on the criteria used see Wigginton, M.J., (1999); British Red Data Books: 1 Vascular Plants, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Threatened – Vulnerable; a taxon which is not Critically Endangered or Endangered but is facing high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium term future. For more information on the criteria used see Wigginton, M.J., (1999); British Red Data Books: 1 Vascular Plants, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Lower Risk – Near Threatened; Taxa which do not qualify for Lower Risk (conservation dependant) but which are close to qualifying for Vulnerable. For more information on the criteria used see Wigginton, M.J., (1999); British Red Data Books: 1 Vascular Plants, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Lower Risk – Conservation Dependant; Taxa which are the focus of a continuing taxon specific or habitat specific conservation programme targeted towards the taxon in question, the cessation of which would result in the taxon qualifying for one of the threatened categories above within a period of five years. For more information see Wigginton, M.J., (1999); British Red Data Books: 1 Vascular Plants, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Nationally Scarce; species estimated to occur within 16-100 10 kilometre squares of the National Grid system. For more information see Stewart, A., Pearman, D.A., & Preston, C.D., (1994); Scarce Plants in Britain, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Data Deficient – A taxon is Data Deficient when there is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution an/or population status. A taxon in this category in this category may be well studied, and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance an/or distribution are lacking. Data Deficient is therefore not a category of threat or Lower Risk. Listing of this taxa in this category indicates that more information is required and acknowledges the possibility that future research will show that a threatened category is appropriate. For more information see Wigginton, M.J., (1999); British Red Data Books: 1 Vascular Plants, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Birds

The Red and Amber lists have been drawn up RSPB. The Red list species are those that are Globally Threatened according to the IUCN criteria; those whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years and those that have declined historically and not shown a substantial recent recovery.

Amber list species are those with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe; those whose populations or range has declined moderately in recent years; those whose population has decline historically but made a substantial recent recovery; rare breeders and those with internationally important or localise populations.

Invertebrates

RDB 1 – Endangered; Taxa in danger of extinction and whose survival is unlikely if the causal factors continue operating. For more information on the criteria see Shirt, D.B., Ed., (1987); British Red Data Books: 2, Insects, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough or Bratton J.H. Ed., (1991); British Red Data Books: 3, Invertebrates Other Than Insects, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

RDB 2 – Vulnerable; Taxa believed likely to move into the Endangered (RDB 1) category in the near future if all the causal factors continue operating. For more information on the criteria see Shirt, D.B., Ed., (1987); British Red Data Books: 2, Insects, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough or Bratton J.H. Ed., (1991); British Red Data Books: 3, Invertebrates Other Than Insects, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough. This category also includes taxa which subsequent research has shown to be Vulnerable. This designation should be considered provisional until the publication of a fully revised and updated red data book (designated pRDB 2).

RDB 3 – Rare; Species which exist in only fifteen or fewer 10 Kilometre Squares of the National Grid system. These are Taxa with small populations that are not at present Endangered (RDB 1) or Vulnerable (RDB 2), but are at risk. For more information on the criteria see Shirt, D.B., Ed., (1987); British Red Data Books: 2, Insects, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough or Bratton J.H. Ed., (1991); British Red Data Books: 3, Invertebrates Other Than Insects, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough. This category also includes taxa which are believed to be rare but are too recently discovered or recognised to be certain of placing (designated pRDB 3).

RDB K – Insufficiently Known; Taxa suspected to fall within the RDB categories but with too little information to allow confident assignment to particular category. For more information on the criteria used see the published JNCC Review for each group e.g. Falk, S., (1991); A Review of the Scarce and Threatened Bees, Wasps and Ants of Great Britain, Research and Survey in Nature Conservation, No. 35, Nature Conservancy Council, Peterborough.

Nationally Notable/Na; species estimated to occur within 16-30 10-kilometre squares of the National Grid system. For more information on the criteria used see Eversham, B., (1983);

Defining Rare and Notable Species – a discussion document, Invertebrate Site Register Report No 49, Nature Conservancy Council and Ball, S.G. (1986); Terrestrial and Freshwater Habitats with Red Data Book, Notable or Habitat Indicator Status, Invertebrate Site Register Internal Report Number 66, Nature Conservancy Council.

Nationally Notable/Nb; species estimated to occur within 31-100 10 kilometre squares of the National Grid system. For more information on the criteria used see Eversham, B., (1983);

Defining Rare and Notable Species – a discussion document, Invertebrate Site Register Report No 49, Nature Conservancy Council and Ball, S.G. (1986); Terrestrial and Freshwater Habitats with Red Data Book, Notable or Habitat Indicator Status, Invertebrate Site Register Internal Report Number 66, Nature Conservancy Council.

Nationally Local; species estimated to occur within 101-700 10 kilometre squares of the National Grid system. For more information on the criteria used see Eversham, B., (1983);

Defining Rare and Notable Species – a discussion document, Invertebrate Site Register Report No 49, Nature Conservancy Council See Ball, S.G. (1986); Terrestrial and Freshwater Habitats with Red Data Book, Notable or Habitat Indicator Status, Invertebrate Site Register Internal Report Number 66, Nature Conservancy Council.

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) definitions

BAP1 – Priority Species; Species which are globally threatened; species which are rapidly declining in the UK, i.e. by more than 50% in the last 25 years.

BAP2&3 – Species of Conservation Concern; threatened endemic and other globally threatened species; species where the UK has more than 25% of the world population; species where numbers or range have declined by more than 25% in the last 25 years; where some species are found in fewer than 15 ten km squares in the UK; species which are listed in the EU Birds or Habitats Directives, the Bern, Bonn or CITES Conventions, or under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

15 APPENDIX 7- OTHER SPECIES LISTS

Historical Data				
Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded	Status	BAP status
<i>Arion intermedius</i> <i>Candidula intersecta</i>	Hedgehog Slug a snail	2002 2002	Common Local	
<i>Ceciliodes acicula</i>	a blind snail	2002	Local	
<i>Cepaea hortensis</i> <i>Cepaea nemoralis</i> <i>Cochlicopa lubricella</i> <i>Discus rotundatus</i>	a snail Brown Lipped Snail a moss snail a discus snail	2002 2002 2002 2002	Common Common Common Common	
<i>Ena obscura</i>	a bulin snail	2002	Common	
<i>Helix aspersa</i> <i>Limax maximus</i> <i>Pomatias elegans</i>	a snail Great Grey Slug a land winkle	2002 2002 2002	Common Common Local	
<i>Lumbricus terrestris</i>	Common Earthworm	2002	Common	
<i>Aeshna cyanea</i> <i>Aeshna mixta</i> <i>Coenagrion puella</i> <i>Erythromma najas</i> <i>Ischnura elegans</i> <i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	Southern Hawker Migrant Hawker Azure Damselfly Red-eyed Damselfly Blue-tailed Damselfly Common Darter	1905 1905 1905 1905 1905 1905	Common Local Common Local Common Common	
<i>Chorthippus brunneus</i> <i>Conocephalus discolor</i> <i>Leptophyes punctatissima</i> <i>Metrioptera roeselii</i> <i>Omocestus viridulus</i>	Common Field Grasshopper Long-winged Conehead Speckled Bush Cricket Roesel's Bush Cricket Common Green Grasshopper	2002 2002 1998 2002 2002	Common Notable/Na Common Notable/Nb Common	
<i>Chrysopa carnea</i> <i>Hemerobius humulinus</i> <i>Hemerobius stigma</i>	a green lacewing a brown lacewing a brown lacewing	1998 1998 1998	Common Common Common	
<i>Agonum fuliginosum</i> <i>Amara familiaris</i> <i>Bembidion gilvipes</i> <i>Bembidion properans</i> <i>Calathus melanocephalus sens. str.</i> <i>Carabus problematicus</i> <i>Nebria brevicollis</i> <i>Perigona nigriceps</i> <i>Pterostichus diligens</i> <i>Trechus quadristriatus</i>	a ground beetle a ground beetle a ground beetle a ground beetle a ground beetle a ground beetle a ground beetle a ground beetle	1995 1995 1995 1995 1995 1995 1995 1995 1995 1995	Common Common Notable/Nb Common Common Common Common Naturalised Common Common	

Scientific Name	Common Name		Date last	Status	BAP
			recorded		status
<i>Cercyon analis</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995		
<i>Cercyon atomarius</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Cercyon atricapillus</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Notable/Nb	
<i>Cercyon haemorrhoidalis</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Cercyon lateralis</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Cercyon melanocephalus</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Cercyon pygmaeus</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995		
<i>Cercyon quisquilius</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995		
<i>Cercyon terminatus</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Cercyon unipunctatus</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Cercyon ustulatus</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Notable/Nb	
<i>Cryptopleurum minutum</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Cryptopleurum subtile</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Megasternum obscurum</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Sphaeridium scarabaeoides</i>	a scavenger water beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Abraeus globosus</i>	a carrion beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Acritus homoeopathicus</i>	a carrion beetle		1995	RDB3	
<i>Acritus nigricornis</i>	a carrion beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Atholus duodecimstriatus</i>	a carrion beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Carcinops pumilio</i>	a carrion beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Kissister minimus</i>	a carrion beetle		1995		
<i>Onthophilus striatus</i>	a carrion beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Peranus bimaculatus</i>	a carrion beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Acrotrichis atomaria</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Acrotrichis cognata</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Naturalised	
<i>Acrotrichis fascicularis</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Common	

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<i>Acrotrichis grandicollis</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Acrotrichis insularis</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Naturalised	
<i>Acrotrichis montandoni</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Acrotrichis sericans</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Nephanes titan</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Ptenidium laevigatum</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Ptenidium pusillum</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Ptiliola kunzei</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Ptiliolum marginatum</i>	a featherwing beetle		1995	RDB K	
<i>Cephennium gallicum</i>	a small antlike beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Scydmaenus rufus</i>	a small antlike beetle		1995	pRDB2	
<i>Scydmaenus tarsatus</i>	a small antlike beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Aleochara lanuginosa</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Amischa analis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Amischa forcipata</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Anotylus sculpturatus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Anotylus tetracarinatus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Astenus pulchellus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Atheta aterrima</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Atheta atramentaria</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	

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Scientific Name	Common Name		Date last	Status	BAP
			recorded		status
<i>Atheta benicki</i>	a rove beetle		1995	pRDBK	
<i>Atheta celata</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Atheta coriaria</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Atheta fungi</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Atheta harwoodi</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Atheta laticollis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Atheta longicornis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Atheta luridipennis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Atheta nigra</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Atheta nigricornis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Atheta sordidula</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Atheta subsinuata</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Atheta trinotata</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Autalia rivularis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Carpelimus bilineatus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Carpelimus fuliginosus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Notable/Nb	
<i>Carpelimus pusillus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Cilea siphoides</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Cordalia obscura</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Dinaraea aequata</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Falagria concinna</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Vagrant	
<i>Gabronthus thermarum</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Gauropterus fulgidus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Naturalised	
<i>Gyrophypnus fracticornis</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Leptacinus intermedius</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Leptacinus pusillus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Lithocharis nigriceps</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Naturalised	

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<i>Lithocharis ochracea</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Megarthus affinis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Megarthus denticollis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Megarthus sinuatocollis</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Metopsia retusa</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Micropeplus fulvus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Nehemitropia sordida</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Oligota parva</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Oligota pumilio</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Omalius caesum</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Omalius italicum</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Omalius rugatum</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Notable/Nb	
<i>Oxypoda haemorrhoea</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Oxypoda opaca</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Oxypoda sericea</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Oxytelus sculptus</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Phacophallus parumpunctatus</i>	a rove beetle		1995		
<i>Philonthus albipes</i>	a rove beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Philonthus debilis</i>	a rove beetle		1995		

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded	Status	BAP status
<i>Philonthus discoideus</i>	a rove beetle	1995		
<i>Philonthus fimetarius</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Philonthus longicornis</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Platystethus nitens</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Proteinus ovalis</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Quedius cinctus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Quedius cruentus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Quedius humeralis</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Quedius mesomelinus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Rugilus orbiculatus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Rugilus similis</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Notable/Nb	
<i>Stenus crassus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Stenus fuscipes</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Tachyporus hypnorum</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Tachyporus nitidulus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Tachyporus pusillus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Tachyporus solutus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Trichiusa immigrata</i>	a rove beetle	1995		
<i>Xantholinus glabratus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Xantholinus linearis</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Xantholinus longiventris</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Xylodromus concinnus</i>	a rove beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Bryaxis puncticollis</i>	a short-winged mould beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Euplectus karsteni</i>	a short-winged mould beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Euplectus sanguineus</i>	a short-winged mould beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Aphodius fimetarius</i>	a dung beetle or chafer	1995	Common	
<i>Aphodius granarius</i>	a dung beetle or chafer	1995	Local	
<i>Aphodius lividus</i>	a dung beetle or chafer	1995	pRDB1	

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<i>Oxyomus sylvestris</i>	a dung beetle or chafer	1995	Local	
<i>Calymene dubius</i>	an armadillo beetle	1995		
<i>Clambus armadillo</i>	an armadillo beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Athous haemorrhoidalis</i>	a click beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Meligethes aeneus</i>	Common Pollen Beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Monotoma bicolor</i>	a narrow bark beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Monotoma longicollis</i>	a narrow bark beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Monotoma picipes</i>	a narrow bark beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Monotoma spinicollis</i>	a narrow bark beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Rhizophagus bipustulatus</i>	a narrow bark beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Ahasverus advena</i>	Foreign Grain Beetle	1995		
<i>Silvanus unidentatus</i>	a beetle	1995	Local	
<i>Atomaria atricapilla</i>	a silken fungus beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Atomaria lewisi</i>	a silken fungus beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Atomaria scutellaris</i>	a silken fungus beetle	1995	RDB K	
<i>Atomaria testacea</i>	a silken fungus beetle	1995	Common	
<i>Cryptophagus distinguendus</i>	a silken fungus beetle	1995		
<i>Cryptophagus pilosus</i>	a silken fungus beetle	1995		

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Scientific Name	Common Name		Date last recorded	Status	BAP status
<i>Cryptophagus scanicus</i>	a silken fungus beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Cryptophagus scutellatus</i>	a silken fungus beetle		1995	Local	
<i>Ephistemus globulus</i>	a silken fungus beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Olibrus aeneus</i>	a smut beetle		1995	Common	
<i>Anommatus duodecimstriatus</i>	a cerylonid beetle		1995	Notable/Na	
<i>Exochomus quadripustulatus</i>	Pine Ladybird		1994	Common	
<i>Tytthaspis sedecimpunctata</i>	16-spot Ladybird		1995	Local	
<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	Seven-spot Ladybird		1997	Common	
<i>Psyllobora vigintiduopunctata</i>	22-spot Ladybird		2002	Common	
<i>Holoparamesus caularum</i>	a merophysid beetle		1993 -1995	Synanthropic	
<i>Aridius bifasciatus</i>	a mould beetle		1993 -1995	Naturalised	
<i>Aridius nodifer</i>	a mould beetle		1993 -1995	Common	
<i>Corticaria elongata</i>	a mould beetle		1993 -1995	Common	
<i>Dienerella elongata</i>	a mould beetle		1993 -1995	Local	
<i>Enicmus histrio</i>	a mould beetle		1993 - 1995		
<i>Enicmus transversus</i>	a mould beetle		1993 -1995	Common	
<i>Lathridius anthracinus</i>	a mould beetle		1993 -1995	Local	
<i>Lithostygnus serripennis</i>	a mould beetle		1993 -1995		
<i>Typhaea stercorea</i>	Hairy Fungus Beetle		1993 -1995	Local	
<i>Myrmecixenus vaporariorum</i>	a narrow timber beetle		1993 -1995	pRDB3	
<i>Anaspis frontalis</i>	a tumbling flower beetle		1993 -1995	Common	
<i>Anthicus bifasciatus</i>	an antlike beetle		1993 -1995	Notable/Nb	
<i>Anthicus floralis</i>	an antlike beetle		1993 -1995	Common	
<i>Anthicus formicarius</i>	an antlike beetle		1993 -1995	Common	
<i>Bruchus rufimanus</i>	Bean Beetle		1993 -1995	Local	
<i>Longitarsus luridus</i>	a leaf beetle		1993 -1995	Common	
<i>Cassida flaveola</i>	Pale Tortoise Beetle		1993 -1995	Local	

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<i>Cassida viridis</i>	Green Tortoise Beetle		1993 -1995	Common
<i>Phyllobius pyri</i>	Common Leaf Weevil		1993 -1995	Common
<i>Phyllobius viridiaeris</i>	Green Nettle Weevil		2002	Local
<i>Sciaphilus asperatus</i>	Strawberry Root Weevil		1995	Common
<i>Sitona lineatus</i>	Pea and Bean Weevil		1995	Common
<i>Tychius picirostris</i>	a weevil		1995	Common
<i>Panorpa cognata</i>	a scorpion fly		1998	Local
<i>Adela fibulella</i>	a longhorn moth		1962	Local
<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Small Tortoiseshell		1905	Common
<i>Allophytes oxyacanthae</i>	Green-brindled Crescent		1986	Common
<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	Orange Tip		2002	Common
<i>Argynnis aglaja</i>	Dark Green Fritillary		1905	Local
<i>Aricia agestis</i>	Brown Argus		1905	Local
<i>Callistege mi</i>	Mother Shipton		1998	Common
<i>Callophrys rubi</i>	Green Hairstreak		1905	Local
<i>Campogramma bilineata bilineata</i>	Yellow Shell		1994	Common

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Scientific Name	Common Name		Date last recorded	Status	BAP status
<i>Celastrina argiolus britanna</i>	Holly Blue		1905	Local	
<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Small Heath		1905	Common	
<i>Colias croceus</i>	Clouded Yellow		1905	Migrant	
<i>Cucullia absinthii</i>	Wormwood		1994	Notable/Nb	
<i>Cupido minimus</i>	Small Blue		1905	Local	BAP 2/3
<i>Cynthia cardui</i>	Painted Lady		1905	Migrant	
<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth		2002	Common	
<i>Eilema lurideola</i>	Common Footman		1998	Common	
<i>Ematurga atomaria</i>	Common Heath		1997	Common	
<i>Erynnis tages</i>	Dingy Skipper		1905	Local	
<i>Euclidea glyphica</i>	Burnet Companion		2002	Local	
<i>Eupithecia pusillata pusillata</i>	Juniper Pug		1998	Local	
<i>Gastropacha quercifolia</i>	Lappet		1961	Common	
<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Brimstone		2002	Common	
<i>Hadena bicruris</i>	Lychnis		1905	Common	
<i>Hemistola chrysoprasaria</i>	Small Emerald		1994	Local	
<i>Inachis io</i>	Peacock		1905	Common	
<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Wall		1905	Common	
<i>Ligdia adustata</i>	Scorched Carpet		1998	Local	
<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Small Copper		2002	Common	
<i>Lygephila pastinum</i>	Blackneck		1965	Local	
<i>Lysandra coridon</i>	Chalk-hill Blue		1905	Local	BAP 2/3
<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Meadow Brown		2002	Common	
<i>Melanargia galathea serena</i>	Marbled White		1905	Local	
<i>Ochlodes venata faunus</i>	Large Skipper		1905	Common	
<i>Panemeria tenebrata</i>	Small Yellow Underwing		1998	Local	
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood		2002	Common	
<i>Philereme transversata</i>	Dark Umber		1994	Local	

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<i>Phytometra viridaria</i>	Small Purple-barred		1967	Local	
<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large White		1905	Common	
<i>Pieris napi</i>	Green-veined White		2002	Common	
<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Small White		1905	Common	
<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	Comma		1905	Common	
<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Common Blue		1905	Common	
<i>Pyronia tithonus britanniae</i>	Gatekeeper		1905	Common	
<i>Quercusia quercus</i>	Purple Hairstreak		1905	Local	
<i>Scotopteryx bipunctaria cretata</i>	Chalk Carpet		1953	Notable/Nb	BAP1
<i>Scotopteryx chenopodiata</i>	Shaded Broad-bar		1997	Common	
<i>Scotopteryx luridata plumbaria</i>	July Belle		1964	Common	
<i>Synanthedon andrenaeformis</i>	Orange-tailed Clearwing		1988	Notable/Nb	
<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	Essex Skipper		1905	Local	
<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	Small Skipper		1905	Common	
<i>Triphosa dubitata</i>	Tissue		1905	Local	
<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Red Admiral		1905	Migrant	
<i>Zygaena filipendulae stephensi</i>	Six-spot Burnet		1999	Common	

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded	Status	BAP status
<i>Cheilosia illustrata</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Cheilosia soror</i>	a hoverfly	1985	Notable/Nb	
<i>Cheilosia vernalis</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Dasysyrphus venustus</i>	a hoverfly	1999	Common	
<i>Dioctria rufipes</i>	a robber fly	1998	Local	
<i>Epistrophe eligans</i>	a hoverfly	1999	Common	
<i>Epistrophe grossulariae</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Local	
<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Eristalis arbustorum</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Eristalis intricarius</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Eristalis pertinax</i>	a hoverfly	1999	Common	
<i>Eristalis tenax</i>	a hoverfly	1985	Common	
<i>Eristalis tenax</i>	a hoverfly	1998	Common	
<i>Leptarthrus breviostris</i>	a robber fly	1997	Local	
<i>Machimus atricapillus</i>	a robber fly	1999	Common	
<i>Melangyna cincta</i>	a hoverfly	1999	Common	
<i>Melangyna labiatarum</i>	a hoverfly	1999	Common	
<i>Melanostoma scalare</i>	a hoverfly	1985	Common	
<i>Merodon equestris</i>	Greater Bulb-fly	1998	Common	
<i>Myathropa florea</i>	a hoverfly	1998	Common	
<i>Neocnemodon latitarsis</i>	a hoverfly	1999	Notable/Nb	
<i>Platycheirus albimanus</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Scaeva pyrastris</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Syritta pipiens</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Syrphus ribesii</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Volucella bombylans</i>	a hoverfly	1988	Common	
<i>Myopa tessellatipennis</i>	a fly	1998	Local	
<i>Chirosia albitarsis</i>	a fly	1988	Common	

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<i>Ancistrocerus trifasciatus</i>	a potter wasp or mason wasp	1999	Local	
<i>Andrena bicolor</i>	Gwynne's Mining Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Andrena dorsata</i>	a solitary bee	1999	Local	
<i>Andrena haemorrhoa</i>	Early Mining Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Andrena scotica</i>	a solitary bee	1999	Common	
<i>Andrena subopaca</i>	a solitary bee	1999	Common	
<i>Bombus hortorum</i>	Small Garden Bumble Bee	2002	Common	
<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>	Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Bombus lucorum</i>	White-tailed Bumble Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>	Common Carder Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Bombus terrestris</i>	Buff-tailed Bumble Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Cerceris rybyensis</i>	Ornate Tailed Digger Wasp	1999	Local	
<i>Chelostoma campanularum</i>	Harebell Carpenter Bee	2002	Local	
<i>Ectemnius continuus</i>	a solitary wasp	1998	Common	
<i>Ectemnius lituratus</i>	a solitary wasp	1999	Local	
<i>Hoplitis spinulosa</i>	a solitary bee	1998	Local	
<i>Hylaeus signatus</i>	Large Yellow-faced Bee	1999	Notable/Nb	

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded	Status	BAP status
<i>Lasioglossum albipes</i>	a solitary bee	1999	Common	
<i>Lasioglossum fulvicorne</i>	a solitary bee	1999	Local	
<i>Lasioglossum leucozonium</i>	a solitary bee	1998	Common	
<i>Megachile lignisecca</i>	Wood-carving Leaf-cutter Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Melitta haemorrhoidalis</i>	a solitary bee	1999	Local	
<i>Melitta tricincta</i>	a solitary bee	1999	Notable/Nb	
<i>Nomada flavoguttata</i>	a nomad or mason bee	1999	Common	
<i>Nomada fucata</i>	a nomad or mason bee	1999	Notable/Na	
<i>Nomada ruficornis</i>	Red-horned Nomad Bee	1998	Local	
<i>Osmia bicolor</i>	Two Coloured Mason Bee	1998	Notable/Nb	
<i>Osmia rufa</i>	Red Mason Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Pachyprotasis variegata</i>	a sawfly	1994		
<i>Pemphredon lugubris</i>	Mournful Wasp	1999	Common	
<i>Psithyrus rupestris</i>	Hill Cuckoo Bee	1999	Notable/Nb	BPA 2/3
<i>Psithyrus sylvestris</i>	Four Coloured Cuckoo Bee	1999	Common	
<i>Tenthredo schaefferi</i>	a sawfly	1997		
<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>	Common Wasp	1998	Common	
<i>Armadillidium vulgare</i>	Common Pill Woodlouse	2002	Common	
<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	Viviparous Lizard	2002		
<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Long-tailed Tit	2002		
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Skylark	2002	Red	BAP 1
<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	Meadow Pipit	2002	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Apus apus</i>	Swift	2000		
<i>Athene noctua</i>	Little Owl	2002		
<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Linnet	2002	Red	BAP 1
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Goldfinch	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Carduelis chloris</i>	Greenfinch	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Columba livia (feral)</i>	Feral Pigeon	2002		

AGENDA ITEM 10
ANNEXE 1

<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Woodpigeon	2002		
<i>Corvus corone corone</i>	Carrion crow	2002		
<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Rook	2002		
<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Jackdaw	2002		
<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Cuckoo	2000	Amber	
<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Great Spotted Woodpecker	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer	2000	Red	BAP 2/3
<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Robin	2002		
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Kestrel	2002	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Chaffinch	2002		
<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Jay	2002		
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Swallow	2000	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Herring Gull	2002	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Black-headed Gull	2002	Amber	
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	White/Pied Wagtail	2002		

AGENDA ITEM 10
ANNEXE 1

Scientific Name	Common Name	Date last recorded	Status	BAP status
<i>Motacilla alba yarrellii</i>	Pied Wagtail	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Wheatear	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Parus caeruleus</i>	Blue Tit	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow	2002	Red	
<i>Passer montanus</i>	Tree Sparrow	2002	Red	BAP 1
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Pheasant	2002		
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Chiffchaff	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Willow Warbler	2002	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Pica pica</i>	Magpie	2002		
<i>Picus viridis</i>	Green Woodpecker	2002	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Dunnock	2002	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Bullfinch	2002	Red	BAP 1
<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Stonechat	2002	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Nuthatch	2000		BAP 2/3
<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Collared Dove	2002		
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling	2002	Red	
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Blackcap	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Sylvia borin</i>	Garden Warbler	2002		BAP 2/3
<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Whitethroat	2000		BAP 2/3
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Redshank	1998	Amber	BAP 2/3
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Wren	2002		BAP 2/3

2007 Invertebrate Survey

Scientific Name Common Name Date last recorded

Bruchela rufipes (Olivier, 1790) a weevil 2007 *Rhagonycha fulva* (Scopoli, 1763) a soldier beetle

2007 a ground

Curtonotos (=Amara) *aulica* (Panzer, 1796)

2007

beetle *Pterostichus madidus* (Fabricius, 1775) Black Clock Ground Beetle 2007 *Cryptocephalus moraei* (Linnaeus, 1758) Pot Beetle 2007 *Oulema* sp. (*melanopus/rufocyanea*) a leaf beetle 2007 *Pyrrhalta viburni* (Paykull, 1799) a leaf beetle 2007 *Coccinella septempunctata* Linnaeus, 1758 7-spot Ladybird 2007 *Exochomus quadripustulatus* (Linnaeus, 1758) Pine Ladybird 2007 *Variimorda villosa* (Schrank, 1781) a tumbling flower beetle 2007 *Oedomera lurida* (Marsham, 1802) a beetle 2007 *Ocypus olens* (Müller, 1764) Devil's Coach Horse Beetle 2007 *Tachyporus hypnorum* (Fabricius, 1775) a rove beetle 2007 *Forficula auricularia* (Linnaeus, 1758) Common Earwig 2007 *Chromatomyia aprilina* (Goureau, 1851) a leaf mining fly 2007 *Phytomyza agromyzina* (Meigen, 1830) a leaf mining fly 2007 *Phytomyza angelicastris* (Hering, 1932) a leaf mining fly 2007 *Phytomyza ilicis* (Curtis, 1846) a leaf mining fly 2007 *Phytomyza sphondylii* (Goureau, 1851) a leaf mining fly 2007 *Phytomyza vitalbae* (Kaltenbach, 1872) a leaf mining fly 2007 *Machimus atricapillus* (Fallén, 1814) Kite-tailed Robberfly 2007 *Dasineura urticae* (Perris, 1840) a gall midge 2007 *Jaapiella veronicae* (Vallot, 1827) a gall midge 2007 *Taxomyia taxi* (Inchbald, 1861) Yew Artichoke Gall 2007 *Sicus ferrugineus* (Linnaeus, 1761) a parasitic fly 2007 *Sarcophaga* sp. (*depressifrons*?) a flesh fly 2007 *Coremacera marginata* (Fabricius, 1775) a snail-killing fly 2007 *Limnia unguicornis* (Scopoli, 1763) a snail-killing fly 2007 *Cheilosia vernalis* (Fallén, 1817) a hoverfly 2007 *Helophilus pendulus* (Linnaeus, 1758) a hoverfly 2007 *Myathropa florea* (Linnaeus, 1758) a hoverfly 2007 *Volucella zonaria* (Poda, 1761) a hoverfly 2007 *Melanastoma mellinum* (Linnaeus, 1758) a hoverfly 2007 *Melanastoma scalare* (Fabricius, 1794) a hoverfly

2007 *Chrysotoxum bicinctum* (Linnaeus, 1758) a hoverfly

2007 *Episyrphus balteatus* (De Geer, 1776) Marmalade Hoverfly

2007 *Sphaerophoria scripta* (Linnaeus, 1758) a hoverfly

2007 *Xanthogramma pedissequum* (Harris, 1776) a hoverfly

2007 *Nowickia ferox* (Panzer, 1809) a parasitic fly

2007 *Chaetostomella cylindrica* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830) a picture-winged fly

2007 *Urophora stylata* (Fabricius, 1775) a picture-winged fly

2007 *Aphrophoraalni* (Fallén, 1805) a leaf-hopper

2007 *Neophilaneus lineatus* (Linnaeus, 1758) a leaf-hopper

2007

Scientific Name Common Name Date last recorded

Philaenus spumarius (Linnaeus, 1758) Cuckoo-spit Insect 2007 *Cyphostethus* (=Elasmotherus)
tristriatus (Fabricius, 1787) Juniper Shieldbug

2007 *Closterotomus norvegicus* [=Calocoris norvegicus (Gmelin, 1788)] a mirid bug

2007 *Lygus rugulipennis* Poppius, 1911 Tarnished Plant Bug

2007 *Phytocoris varipes* Boheman, 1852 a mirid bug

2007 *Notostira elongata* (Geoffroy in. Fourcroy) a grass bug

2007 *Himacerus apterus* (Fabricius, 1798) Tree Damsel Bug 2007 *Himacerus mirmicoides* (Costa, 1834) Ant Damsel Bug 2007 *Nabis rugosus* (Linnaeus, 1758) a damsel bug 2007 *Palomena prasina* (Linnaeus, 1761) Green Shieldbug 2007 *Pentatoma rufipes* (Linnaeus, 1758) Forest Shieldbug 2007 *Rhopalus subrufus* (Gmelin, 1788) a bug 2007 *Trichochermes* (=Trichopsylla) *walkerii* Förster, 1848 a jumping plant louse (bug) 2007 *Andrena dorsata* (Kirby, 1802) a mining bee 2007 *Andrena minutuloides* Perkins, R.C.L.,1914 a mining bee 2007 *Nomada flavoguttata* (Kirby, 1802) a cleptoparasitic bee 2007 *Apis mellifera* Linnaeus, 1758 Honey Bee 2007 *Bombus lapidarius* (Linnaeus, 1758) a bumblebee 2007 *Bombus pascuorum* (Scopoli, 1763) a bumblebee 2007 *Hylaeus annularis* (Kirby, 1802) a solitary bee 2007 *Hylaeus communis* Nylander, 1852 a solitary bee 2007 *Hylaeus confusus* Nylander, 1852 a solitary bee 2007 *Hylaeus signatus* (Panzer, 1798) a solitary bee 2007 *Halictus tumulorum* (Linnaeus, 1758) a mining bee 2007 *Lasioglossum morio* (Fabricius, 1793) a mining bee 2007 *Lasioglossum pauxillum* (Schenck, 1853) a mining bee 2007 *Lasioglossum fulvicorne* (Kirby, 1802) a mining bee 2007 *Sphecodes geoffrellus* (Kirby, 1802) a cleptoparasitic bee 2007 *Chelostoma campanularum* (Kirby, 1802) Bellflower Bee 2007 *Hoplitis spinulosa* (Kirby, 1802) a solitary bee 2007 *Megachile ligniseca* (Kirby, 1802) a leaf-cutter bee 2007 *Melitta tricincta* (Kirby, 1802) a solitary bee 2007 *Crossocerus annulipes* (Lepeletier & Brulle, 1835) a digger wasp 2007 *Ectemnius continuus* (Fabricius, 1804) a digger wasp 2007 *Ectemnius lituratus* (Panzer, 1804) a digger wasp 2007 *Entomognathus brevis* (Vander Linden, 1829) a solitary wasp

2007 *Cerceris rybyensis* (Linnaeus, 1771) Ornate Tailed Digger Wasp

2007 *Andricus quercuscalicis* Burgsdorf, 1783 Knopper Gall

2007 *Diplolepis rosae* (Linnaeus, 1758) Bedeguar Gall

2007 *Lasius flavus* (Fabricius, 1782) Yellow Meadow Ant

2007 *Myrmica ruginodis* Nylander, 1846 an ant

2007 *Anoplius nigerrimus* (Scopoli, 1763) a spider-hunting wasp

2007 *Arge ustulata* (Linnaeus, 1758) a sawfly

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2007 *Tenthredo thomsonii* (Curtis, 1839) [=marginella Fabricius, 1793] a sawfly

2007 *Tiphia femorata* Fabricius, 1775 a parasitic wasp

2007 *Vespula vulgaris* (Linnaeus, 1758) Common Wasp

2007

Scientific Name Common Name Date last recorded

Polyommatus (=Lysandra) *coridon* (Poda, 1761) Chalkhill Blue Butterfly 2007 *Polyommatus icarus* (Rottemburg, 1775) Common Blue Butterfly

2007 *Maniola jurtina* (Linnaeus, 1758) Meadow Brown Butterfly

2007 *Pararge aegeria* (Linnaeus, 1758) Speckled Wood Butterfly

2007 *Pyronia tithonus* (Linnaeus, 1771) *britanniae* (Verity, 1914) Gatekeeper Butterfly

2007 *Tyria jacobaeae* (Linnaeus, 1758) Cinnabar Moth

2007 *Stigmella aurella* (Fabricius, 1775) a leaf mining moth 2007 *Pyrausta aurata* (Scopoli, 1763) a micro moth 2007 *Panorpa germanica* Linnaeus, 1758 a scorpion fly 2007 *Sympetrum striolatum* (Charpentier, 1840) Common Darter 2007 *Chorthippus brunneus* (Thunberg, 1815) Field Grasshopper 2007 *Chorthippus parallelus* (Zetterstedt, 1821) Meadow Grasshopper (Purple form) 2007 *Chorthippus parallelus* (Zetterstedt, 1821) *f.explicatus* (Sélys) Meadow Grasshopper (Long-winged form) 2007 *Metrioptera roeselii* (Hagenbach, 1822) Roesel's Bush-cricket 2007 *Aceria macrochelus* (Nalepa, 1891) a mite 2007 *Aceria origani* (Nalepa, 1891) a mite 2007 *Eriophyes* (=Phytopus) *prunispinosae* Nalepa, 1926 a mite 2007 *Eriophyes convolvens* (Nalepa, 1892) a mite 2007 *Eriophyes viburni* (Nalepa, 1889) a mite 2007 *Pisaura miribalis* (Clerck, 1757) Nursery-web Spider 2007 *Tibellus oblongus* (Walckenaer, 1802) a spider 2007 *Pomatias elegans* (Müller, 1774) Round-mouthed Snail 2007 *Monacha cantiana* (Montagu, 1803) Kentish Snail 2007 *Cochlodina laminata* (Montagu, 1803) Plaited Door Snail 2007 *Discus rotundatus* (Müller, 1774) Rounded Snail 2007 *Cepaea nemoralis* (Linnaeus, 1758) Brown-lipped Snail 2007 *Helix aspersa* (Müller, 1774) Garden Snail 2007 *Armadillium vulgare* (Latreille, 1804) Pill Woodlouse 2007 *Platyarthus hoffmannseggii* Brandt, 1833 Ant Woodlouse 2007

Additional Invertebrate Data from Ian Menzies 2006/7

Epilachna argus (Geoffroy) Bryony ladybird: 30.08.2006 one; 04.09.2006 two; and 18.09.2006 four feeding on white bryony by south side of path TQ222/573; also 16.05.2007 locally plentiful on white bryony growing amongst shrubs at south margin of small clearing TQ222/570 (ISM)

Chilocorus bipustulatus (Linn.) Heather ladybird: frequent by beating junipers, TQ223/571; 30.08.2006 (eight from a rather sickly juniper at north margin of main clearing); 18.09.2006 (14 on beating tray); 01.03.2007 (about six seen); also 02.05.2007, 16.05.2007 (12), 10.07.2007 and 13.09.2007 (about 6 seen) (ISM).

Chilocorus renipustulatus (Scriba) Kidney-spot ladybird: 01.03.2007 (one beaten from juniper); 01.04.2007 (two from juniper) TQ222/571 (ISM).

Exochomus quadripustulatus (Linn.) Pine ladybird. Plentiful by beating a range of shrubs, most numerous on the junipers; 22.08. 30.08, 18.09.2007 – as many as 40 on the beating tray! Also 01.03.2007, 02.05.2007, 16.05.2007, 10.07.2007 and 13.09.2007, but in diminishing numbers TQ222/571 (ISM).

Adalia decimpunctata (Linn.) Ten-spot ladybird: 01.03.2007 (one) and 23.04.2007 (four) by beating juniper TQ222.571 (ISM).

Coccinella septempunctata (Linn.) Seven-spot ladybird, frequent: 01.03.2007 (two), 23.04.2007 (one) and 18.09.2007 (one), mainly from the junipers TQ222/571 (ISM).

Harmonia axiridis Pallas. Harlequin ladybird: 01.03.2007 (two) and 23.04.2007 (five) by beating junipers, TQ222/571 (ISM).

Calvia 14-guttata (Linn.) Cream-spot ladybird: 30.08.2006 (one) and 23.04.2007 (two) by beating junipers TQ222/571 (ISM).

Propylea 14-punctata (Linn) 14-spot ladybird: 04.09.2006 (one) and 23.04.2007 (two) by beating junipers TQ222/571 (ISM)

Halyzia 16—guttata (Linn). Orange ladybird: 01.03.2007 (one) and 23.04.2007 (one) by beating junipers TQ222/571 (ISM).

Psyllobora 22-punctata (Linn). 22-spot ladybird: by beating TQ222/571 (ISM).

Rhyzobius chrysomeloides (Herbst): 01.02.2007 (three) 10.07.2007 (one) and 13.09.2007 (one) by beating junipers TQ222/571 (ISM).

Rhyzobius lophanthae (Blaisdell): 22.08.2006 (one) 30.08.2006 (two) 23.04.2007 (seven) 10.08.2007 (one), 13.09.2007 (five) by beating junipers along north margin of clearing TQ223/572 (ISM). *Nephus quadrimaculatus* Herbst: 13.09.2007 (one) by beating ivy by path TQ223/569 (ISM)

Olibrus corticalis (Panzer): 30.08.2006 (five) by beating junipers TQ222/571 (ISM).

Olibrus aeneus fab: 01.03.2007 (one) by beating juniper, TQ222/571 (ISM).

Olibrus liquidus Erichson: 01.03.2007 (one) by beating juniper (ISM).

Lamprosoma concolor (Sturm): 23.04.2007 (four), by beating ivy by path TQ223/569 (ISM).

Epsom and Walton Downs Continuation Plan

General Bird Survey

Aim

With Epsom and Walton Downs consisting of varying habitats, open grassland, flower meadows, woodlands etc it supplies an ideal habitat for numerous species of bird life. By surveying these species we can assist in projects such as the habitat management plan in supplying vital information which could effect future decisions in the management of the Downs.

Example 1) In the first survey which was undertaken on the downs Kestrels were regular sightings. In an attempt to support this species 2 Nesting boxes specifically designed for this species were placed on the downs to support nesting.

Example 2) Treecreepers have been a species which have been a noticeable rarity, 4 nest boxes have been placed in suitable areas to encourage their residence.

Example 3) Ring Necked Parakeets were not recorded during the first survey, but now can be heard or seen on a daily basis, potentially this may be problematic due to there use of natural nesting holes in trees , this may well introduce further pressure on suitable nesting and food areas on native species if a colony resides on the Downs.

Survey Method

The general Bird Survey is undertaken once every 5 years, but is undertaken over a period of a whole year. During that year to ensure coverage of all migratory species, it is advisable once every 3 weeks to walk the downs and note all species. Due to the nature of the job there is no reason observations can not be made at any other times. For example if the surveyor is on unrelated duties, as long as he/she is confident of a positive identification it should be recorded. Another senario is if a species for example a cuckoo has been heard, but has not been seen it would be recorded as a Call Only observation. Often the Downs has species which are not necessarily using the downs but are passing over, for example during the 2002/2003 survey a Red Kite was positively identified flying over the Downs. This would be classified as an in flight only sighting.

Alongside noting species which are found on the downs the location of the sighting should also be noted. By separating areas during surveys eg, Sherwoods Wood, 6Mile Hill etc we can establish if through general Downs's maintenance we have encouraged species to new areas, good examples of these would be making glades or bird boxes.

It is also of great importance to establish the regularity of sightings, this will come with a little experience as certain species will tend to flock together, e.g. Goldfinches whilst others are more solitary. The key is to relate it to previous walks and whether it has been seen often (every walk e.g. Woodpigeon) or perhaps it is the first sighting in six months (Lapwing)

Results

At the end of the year a table showing all the species recorded, the regularity of sightings and there locations should be compiled as shown on the following page.

EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSERVATORS
BIRD SURVEY OCTOBER TO APRIL 2002/3

SPECIES	RELEVANT INFORMATION	Regularity of Sightings	Junipers	6 Mile Hill	Sherwoods	Beeches	Golf Course	Mile Post Crossing	Middle Hill	Northern Car Park	Lower Taternams	Small Wood past Triangle	Small Wood Left Homeward of Mile Post Farm
Black Headed Gull	R	Very Common											
Blackbird		Very Common											
Blackcap		Rare											
Blue Tit		Very Common											
Brambling	0-2-2 R	Very rare											
Bullfinch		Occasional											
Buzzard		Very Rare											
Canadian Geese		Very Rare											
Canon Crow		Very Common											
Chaffinch		Common											
Chiff Chaff		Very Rare											
Collared Dove		Occasional											
Common Gull		Occasional											
Duncock		Occasional											
Feral Pigeon		Rare											
Fieldfare		Common											
Gold Crest		Occasional											
Goldfinch		Common											
Great Spotted Woodpecker		Occasional											
Great Tit		Very Rare											
Green Woodpecker		Common											
Greenfinch		Occasional											
Harling Gull	0-2-1-2 R	Occasional											
House Martin	0-2-1-2 R	Common											
House Sparrow	0-2-1-2 R	Very rare											
Jackdaw		Very rare											
Jay		Rare											
Kestrel		Common											
Linnet		Common											
Little Owl		Very Rare											
Long Tailed Tit		Occasional											
Magpie		Common											
Meadow Pipit	0-2-1-2 R	Very Common											
Mistle Thrush		Rare											
Pheasant		Very Rare											
Pied Wagtail		Very Common											
Red Wing	R	Occasional											
Robin		Rare											
Song Sparrow	0-2-1-2 R	Common											
Song Thrush		Common											
Sparrow Hawk		Rare											
Starling		Very Rare											
Stone Chat	0-2-1-2 R	Very Common											
Swallow		Very Rare											
Swift		Rare											
Tree Creeper		Rare											
Wood Pigeon		Very rare											
Wren		Very Common											
Yellow Warbler	0-2-1-2 R	Occasional											
Yellow Wagtail		Very Rare											

Epsom and Walton Downs Continuation Plan

Skylark Surveys

What is a Skylark

Most people's first initial introduction to the skylark is through its magnificent song, this may be slightly surprising as the bird itself is not brightly coloured but a combination of heavily streaked browns whites and blacks. The bird is approximately 17cm in length from the tip of its bill to the end of its tail.

Habitat

Skylarks can be found in a variety of different habitats but all of which will tend to have large open areas, e.g. grasslands, moors, heaths and farmland. The Downs provides a perfect habitat with areas of varying lengths of grass, occasional perches like chestnut fencing and course rails and good supplies of food either on the downs or the nearby fields.

Behaviour

Skylarks are an amazing species to watch, in their quieter moments they may well be seen weaving their way through grass on foot looking for insects or seeds, perhaps flying for a few yards landing and continuing their search. Or alternatively in early spring battles commence between the males when 4 or 5 can be seen chasing each other acrobatically across the downs. This can be seen in combination with one of nature's most awe inspiring sites. In an attempt to secure a territory and reinforce its boundaries the male skylark will lift from the ground with its splendid song and rise with a combination of hovering and circular flight sometimes to a height where the bird can no longer be seen but still can be heard. With a little bit of patience the performance has not quite finished. At some point silence will ensue and the skylark will fall from the sky only flying again once a few feet from the ground. It is suspected that the length of time and the height it fly's at are both strong indicators to a possible female skylark of a good healthy match.

Once a match has been found the pair will proceed to make a nest in a small divot or cup in the ground and will lay 3 to 4 greyish blotched brown eggs. These eggs will be incubated by the female whilst the male supplies food and reinforces the territory, for approximately 11 days. Once hatched the chicks will be fed a diet of insects for the first week and then gradually shoots and seeds are introduced. After around 8 days they will leave the nest but they will not fledge until approx 20 days, finally becoming independent after 25 days.

During winter months skylarks are seen a little less regularly on the Downs as they tend to flock together and feed on the nearby fields, but it is not uncommon to see flocks of 40 birds moving around the 6 mile hill area.

Conservation Status

The RSPB have classified the skylark as a red listed species. There are 3 classifications

Green....no current threat to population.

Amber.... (In brief) Moderate threat to population.

Red....Globally threatened and more than 50% decline in UK breeding population over the last 25 years.

The Skylark is also protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, which makes it an offence to kill, injure or take an adult skylark or to take damage or destroy an active nest or its contents.

Why do we survey the skylarks

As Downkeepers we have a responsibility to ensure the well being of all aspects of nature conservation on the downs. Currently the skylarks are under more pressure than ever with an ever increasing number of downs users and events effecting nesting conditions. The aim is to establish what exactly these factors are having on numbers of nesting pairs.

What factors affect the skylarks

Unfortunately there are numerous threats, with the skylarks being ground nesting birds and doing so during the spring and summer months you have a huge volume of foot fall, and the majority of those own dogs. There is no evidence to suggest that dogs would specifically sniff out the nests but in all honesty I believe we may lose many young due to this.

Grass cutting is another factor, whether it is due to preparation for race meetings or preparing gallops. The habitat management plan does request late cutting which is undertaken but if there is a cold spring nesting may be put back a couple of weeks leaving fledging during Derby preparation or even the Derby its self.

Natural threats are also a factor whether it would be inclement weather, or natural feeding by Kestrels and Crows.

How Do We Survey The Skylarks

In order to insure any kind of consistency, a particular method should be used; by looking at the skylarks' behaviour we can establish a link between the time of year in relation to the breeding season and related behaviour traits. For example, if we were to look at middle hill during April we would be looking for males in flight display and song reinforcing there territory, by marking this on the downs map we can establish a territory. Once a male breaks in to song it is quite normal for other males to compete so they will take to flight in there own territories, again these would be marked on to the map. In relation to these sightings we are also looking for the female bird, these would be a little harder to see as they may well be incubating or feeding on the ground, but by listening out for there distinctive chirrup call there location can be established. With this there locations would also be added to the map with a particular symbol for clarity.

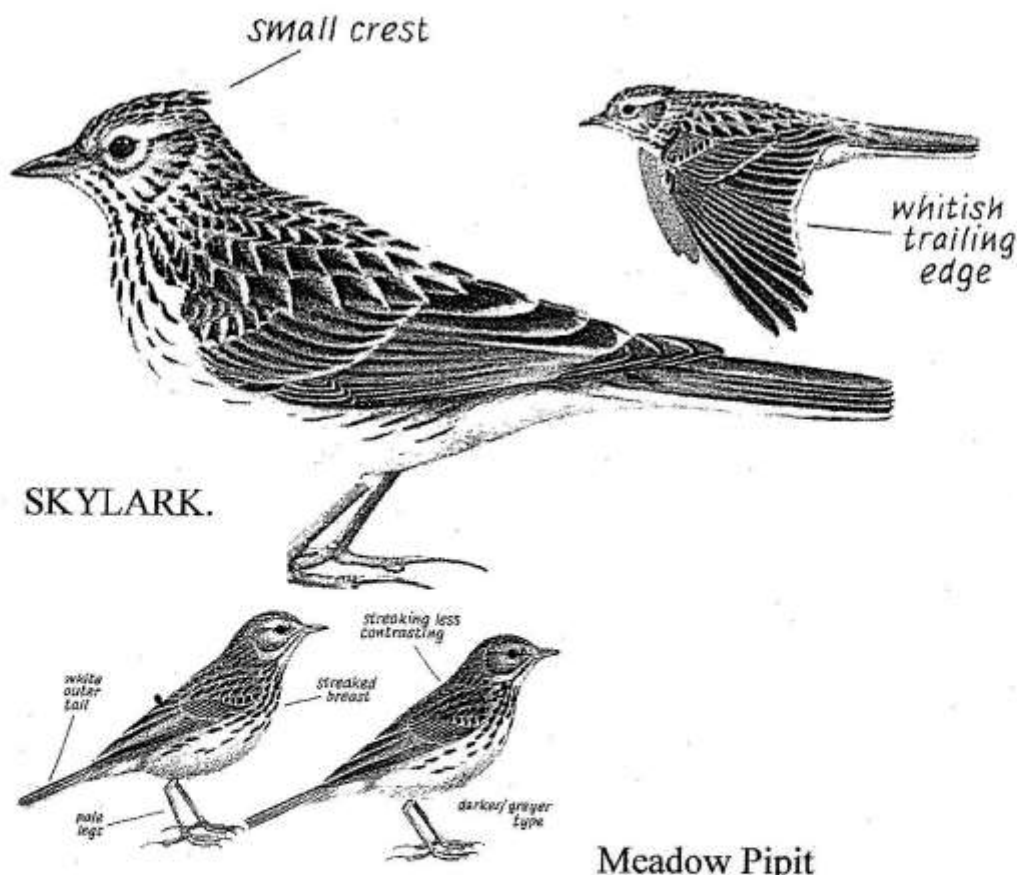
The three sighting categories would be,

1. (Circle) In flight, this can be a straight forward sighting of a bird moving around a territory this can be male or female.
2. (Square) In Song, this would specifically indicate a male's territory and would help to establish a nesting pair if related to a noted ground sighting.
3. (Triangle) Ground Sighting, we would perhaps be looking for pairs moving around the grass or perhaps individuals contacting partners.

To ensure a form of control is undertaken with the survey a particular route should be taken, by doing this we lower the risk of counting the birds on more than one occasion. Please see page 5 for the route.

The survey should ideally undertaken once a month between April and July in favourable weather conditions, damp wet cold mornings will not produce many sightings. It is also in an ideal world worth while starting at day brake; care must be taken to avoid gallops during training days so Sundays are advisable.

Caution should be taken with identification of Skylarks as the Downs also offers a species called Meadow Pipits, this species offers very similar colours but is very slightly smaller, taking time to familiarise yourself with this species is advisable.



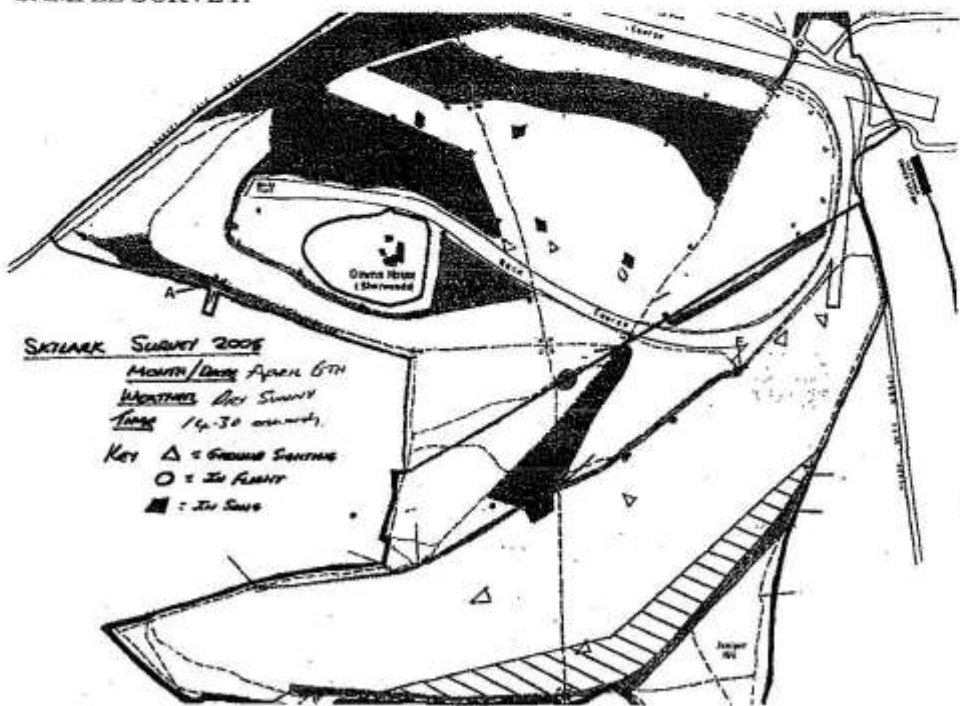
Conclusions

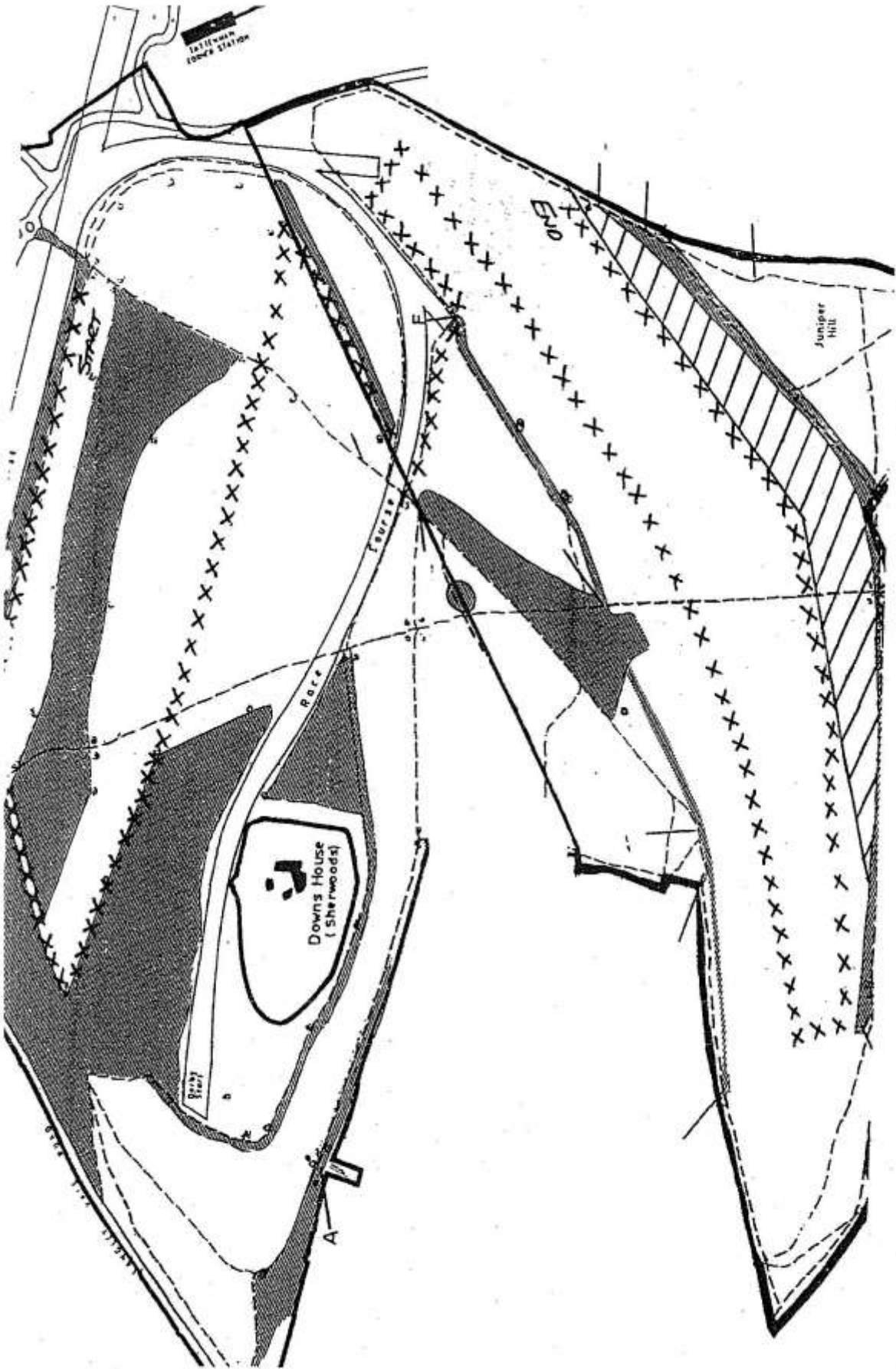
The skylark survey must be seen as a long term project as answers to questions relating to on going concerns about the species success on the Downs can only be seen by comparing year on year results. Previous surveys have assisted us in establishing areas of the Downs which are heavily used for nesting, for example the traveller site overflow. With this information we have changed our cutting regime to allow this area to be uncut through the whole summer allowing for good nesting and a safe fledging area.

Shown below is a simple comparison between 2005 and 2006 results, in time having many years of figures will help us to establish if we are fulfilling our responsibility to protect this species?

2006	Ground	Flight	Song
April	8	3	6
May	6 (2005 comp 13)	2 (2005 comp 11)	6 (2005 comp 19)
June	7	11	9
July	6 (2005 comp 13)	0 (2005 comp 15)	7 (2005 comp 13)

SAMPLE SURVEY.





EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONTINUATION PLAN

BIRDBOX OBSERVATIONS

Why do we have Bird Boxes?

The bird population of the Downs has to battle against numerous different factors throughout the year, whether it be the lack of food, icy cold weather or the daily fight for survival against their natural predators. In a small effort to help them regain some form of balance we have tried to assist certain species with artificial nest boxes. By trying to replicate natural nesting sites we can lessen the competition for natural nesting locations, for example a simple tit box which has a small entrance hole, approx the size of a two pence piece, could easily be adopted as a suitable nest place. By doing this we can ensure that if a pair of Blue Tits decide to nest in a particular box that the box is positioned in a manner which is not susceptible to cold north winds or extreme weather but also would have been disinfected at the beginning of the season.

What type of Bird Boxes?

Currently we are using 5 different types of bird boxes each of which are designed in a different manner to make them more suitable for a specific species.

- 1) Standard Tit Box, very common box which is found in many back gardens with a simple hole in the front. Most commonly used by Blue Tits.
- 2) Great Tit Box, very slightly larger than the standard box with a larger hole. Most commonly used by great Tits.
- 3) Tree creeper Boxes, Shaped like a wedge of cheese with two holes one either side. Most commonly used by Tree creepers.
- 4) Kestrel Boxes, very large box about the size of a large microwave with a large front opening, used by Kestrels but can be adopted by Tawny Owls, Jackdaws or Woodpigeons.
- 5) Open fronted, this box is the same design as the tit box but without the front panel allowing access without the hole. Most commonly used by Robins.

How do we Observe These Boxes

Each box is given a log sheet, this sheet can be found on the final page of this report. On this sheet a location is given, this must be given in a manner which allows the box to be easily located so not only the area i.e. Sherwood's Wood but also along which track. Also the type of box the height it has been placed and the type of tree. During the spring from approximately early April regular visits should be taken to each of the boxes (approximately every three weeks), care must be taken as with all species as they can easily be disturbed. In my experience it is worth placing the boxes in areas which are relatively close to path ways so there is no need to go crashing through trees and leaves to get to its location. Once located position yourself say 30

Bird Nesting Site Records				
Box Type: Tit Box	Tree Species: Oak	Tree Height & Baring: 3m	Exact Location: Oak Box 20 yards in on left hand side along path which crosses the Laurel Rd. Just above main road. Recently removed box. (small blood trail)	
Box Number: 0102				
Date of visit	Signs of occupancy		Weather conditions	Period of time @ location
4/05/03	No sign of any current occupation		Clear/Warm	Sunny
16/05/03	Definite occupation, one Blue Tit seen entering box & leaving with fecal sack.		Cloudy/occasional sun shine	Sunny
26/05/03	No longer any sign of any activity. Possibly no feeding and empty. Evidence by empty sack.		Hot Sunny	Sunny
24/06/03	No obvious signs of occupation. Box replaced with new box due to damage.		Warm/Sunny	Sunny
17/08/03	No obvious signs of occupation since again thrown over the fence. Parrot to box, which at times Definite occupation Blue tit seen entering box.		Warm Sunny	Sunny
22/05/04	Definite occupation Blue tit seen entering box.		Warm Cloudy	Sunny
28/05/05	Definite occupation by Blue tit.		Warm Sunny	Sunny
12/02/06	Box dismantled ready for new season.			

Observations from local residents

Thanks to Mr and Mrs Clifford and Mr Ellis who have provided the following observations of birds and butterflies on the Downs:

Butterflies seen Epsom Downs Nov.1973 to Apr.2015

Large white	Speckled wood
Small white	Small skipper
Green veined white	Large skipper
Small tortoiseshell	Comma
Peacock	Green hairstreak
Red admiral	
Gatekeeper	
Meadow brown	
Small heath	
Small blue	
Common blue	
Chalkhill blue	
Brown argus	
Ringlet	
Marbled white	
Clouded yellow	
Brimstone	
Orange tip	
Holly blue	
Silver washed fritillary	

Total : 25 species

Observer : Philip Clifford

Birds seen/heard Epsom Downs Nov. 1973 – Apr.2015

Tawny owl	Meadow pipit	Lesser redpoll
Reed bunting	Chaffinch	Wheatear
Jack ? snipe	Greenfinch	Green woodpecker
Corn bunting	Goldfinch	Great spotted woodpecker
Yellow wagtail	Pheasant	House martin
Pied wagtail	Grey partridge	Swallow
Marsh tit	Magpie	Long tailed tit
Blue tit	Jay	House sparrow
Coal tit	Goldcrest	Common gull
Great tit	Treecreeper	Black headed gull
Ring ouzel	Little owl	Lesser black backed gull
Blackbird	Lapwing	Herring gull
Song thrush	Dunnock	Common whitethroat
Redwing	Nuthatch	Lesser whitethroat
Fieldfare	Chiffchaff	Spotted flycatcher
Ring Necked Parakeet	Willow warbler	Yellowhammer
Carrion Crow	Kestrel	Skylark
Rook	Common buzzard	Cuckoo
Jackdaw	Bullfinch	Nightingale
Starling	Mistle thrush	Robin
Swift	Linnet	Stonechat
Blackcap	Wren	Wood Pigeon
Collared dove		

Total 62 species

Observer: Philip Clifford.

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PART TWO - EPSOM GOLF COURSE



1.0 GENERAL

Epsom Golf Course is located on the dipslope 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 northwest 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 informal paths that cross the site.

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.

1.2 SITE DESIGNATIONS

1.2.1 GENERAL

There are no statutory designations on the site. The site is 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, making our wildlife more robust to changing climate and socio-economic pressures. BOAs are those areas where targeted maintenance, restoration and creation of Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 'Habitats of Principal Importance' (Priority habitats) will have the greatest benefit towards achieving this aim.

Recognition of BOAs directly meets National Planning Policy Framework policy for the planning system to contribute to international commitment for halting the decline in biodiversity 'by establishing coherent ecological networks that are resilient to current and future pressures'. Designation of BOAs in local plans will also fulfil NPPF requirement to 'plan for diversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries and identify and map components of the local ecological networks'

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. By working with larger, more dynamic ecosystems, it will be

possible to create a wider range of habitats and their variants, which in turn increase the ability of the landscape to support the largest variety of species. Therefore the management work detailed in this report could be seen to provide a landscape link within the overall BOA network.

1.2.2 SNCI

Epsom Golf Course was selected as a non-statutory Site of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI) during the Epsom & Ewell District Council SNCI project in 1998, using the 1993 SNCI criteria and assessed by a panel of experts on the Sites of Nature Conservation Importance Liaison Group (SNCLG). This is a countywide project, linking with similar projects in other counties. Such projects provide an overview of the type and area of wide variety of semi-natural habitats. The reason for its selection is cited as... 'for its areas of unimproved calcareous grassland. Rare and valuable in both County and National terms'. A copy of the SNCI survey report is available from SWT. The selection of SNCIs in no way diminishes the importance of other areas of semi-natural habitats in Surrey and it is recognised that all semi-natural habitat is important for wildlife. The assessment for SNCIs is a continuous process and new sites are identified as scientific knowledge of sites becomes available. This designation was confirmed in the borough wide SNCI review carried out by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council in 2013

2.0 EXTENDED PHASE ONE SURVEY

2.1 METHODOLOGY

Phase 1 survey is a standardised system for classifying and mapping semi-natural vegetation and wildlife habitats in Great Britain. Vegetation is mapped in terms of standard habitat types as defined in the JNCC Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey (1990). This has been extended to include detailed target notes to describe particular habitats, features or species of note (also known as a Phase II survey). A combination of walk-over habitat information and aerial photographs were used to map the habitats.

During the field survey the entire site was covered, with the exception of stands of impenetrable woodland and associated under-scrub. In addition the site was assessed for the suitability of the habitats to support protected species.

The surveys were completed within the optimal time frame for conducting habitat surveys (i.e. between April and September), when most plants are in flower or the vegetative parts are evident and, mostly, readily identifiable. A single one-off survey is insufficient to record all the plants present in any given site and, for example, any strictly vernal species will have been missed. Therefore the May site visits concentrated survey effort on the woodland, whilst the June, July and August visits, concentrated on the rest of the site including semi-

improved and unimproved neutral and chalk grassland with associated scrub. The last visit at the end of August was principally used to record where Round Headed Rampion occurs; this is an uncommon plant in Surrey, qualifying as Nationally Scarce(Surrey Rare Plant Register 2010 draft).

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 (section 6.0). DAFOR ratings for certain species, notably annual, can change throughout the year.

The DAFOR scale uses the following key:-

(Locally) **D**ominant; **A**bundant; **F**requent; **O**ccasional; **R**are

Nomenclature follows Stace (1999) for vascular plants. Descriptions of each habitat found on the site are provided below, the approximate locations of which are identified on the attached map (Figure 1). Species are referred to in the text using the common names. The full list of vascular plants with common and scientific names and abundance recorded at the site visit are provided in section 6.0.

It was possible to record the overwhelming majority of species seen to specific and, where relevant, to sub-specific level. However, no sub-species of Dog Rose, Bramble or Dandelion have been separated.

2.2 BOTANICAL SURVEY RESULTS

See table 2

TN1 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 previous management plan this area has been subject to considerable scrub encroachment including Bramble and Hawthorn. 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.

TN2 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.

TN3 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.

TN4. This area of coarse grassland is diverse with frequent False-oat grass, Cock's-foot and Rough Meadow grass and some Common Knapweed.

TN5 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, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil, Bladder Campion, Salad Burnet and rare Rough Hawkbit and Common Spotted Orchid.

TN6 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, often with little growing in 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, Upright Hedge Parsley and Ground-elder. Occasionally there are glimpses of small areas of a more diverse chalk grassland with Salad Burnet and Quaking grass.

TN7 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 and scrub has become very overgrown; 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. 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 Comb-moss (*Ctenidium molluscum*), Endive Pellia (*Pellia endiviifolia*), Top Notchwort (*Leiocolea turbinata*), Curly Crisp-moss (*Trichostomum crispulum*) and Variable Forklet-moss (*Dicranella varia*).

TN8 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.

TN9 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

TN10 This rough is below the woodland and alongside the second hole. The taller vegetation is represented by frequent Cow Parsley, Hogweed, Common Nettle, Bramble and occasional Upright Hedge Parsley. The shorter grassland is represented by occasional Salad Burnet, Yellow Rockrose, Small Scabious, Red Clover and rare Round-headed Rampion, Fairy Flax, Burnet Saxifrage, Dwarf Thistle, Squinanywort and Kidney Vetch.

TN11 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.

TN12 This is a thin straggly line of Beech trees, some Silver Birch and very old Hawthorn. The Hawthorn, unusually, has the uncommon Mistletoe on it and should therefore be preferentially kept on the course.

TN13 This is a small group of trees, mainly Pedunculate Oak and Sycamore.

TN14 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.

TN15 On the scrub/woodland edge 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, Dwarf Thistle, Wild Mignonette, Ribwort Plantain, Red Bartsia and rare Harebell.

TN16 The secondary woodland to the east of Longdown Lane South is dense with abundant Sycamore and Pedunculate Oak, often with locally dominant Blackthorn and Bramble scrub on the edges to the rough and fairway.

TN17 An area of tall grassland rough found in the north corner of this section and a little way along Burgh Heath Road. 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, Kidney Vetch, Perforate St John's-wort, Wild Carrot, Ladies Bedstraw, Wild Mignonette, and Common Ragwort. Yellow Toadflax is locally frequent. Sycamore and Pedunculate Oak saplings are frequent.

TN18 The 3m wide rough of the fifteenth hole towards Buckle's Gap is well managed with two cuts a year and the result is a diverse grassland with a good population of the Round-headed Rampion. In the current 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 and Kidney Vetch. Common Spotted Orchid was also been recorded here

TN19 Predominantly Hawthorn scrub running along the edge of Burgh Heath Road. Also found here is a male Juniper which in is reasonable condition but it is still suffering from competition from the surrounding vegetation

TN20 This area has been managed in the past by the Lower Mole Countryside project. 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 and Crested Hair-grass. Herbs include Kidney Vetch, Rest Harrow. Horseshoe Vetch, Marjoram, Common Rock-rose, Salad Burnet, Fairy Flax, Glaucous Sedge and Dropwort. 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. Whilst carrying out the survey a large number of the priority species butterfly the Small Blue were recording flying in this area

TN21 Short mown grassland around the 7th tee, this is mostly species poor composed of White Clover, Daisy, Yarrow, Creeping Buttercup and Yorkshire Fog. The calcareous influence can still be seen by the presence of herbs such as Common Rock-rose, Salad Burnet, Upright Brome and Wild Thyme.

TN22 Scrapes these had a lot of bare ground along with Kidney Vetch, Common Rock-rose, Upright Brome, Salad Burnet, Quaking Grass and Ox-eye Daisy. Small Blue Butterfly was also found flying around these scrapes.

TN23 The area adjacent to these scrape is similar to TN22 but with more scrub

TN24 Mesotrophic grassland. This is an area of grassland with a tall sward, there is a 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.

TN25 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 and ivy. The butterflies seen here are include Marbled White, Green Hairstreak and Small Blue.

TN26 Calcareous grassland with shrub and scrapes. The grassland here is of good quality however away from the scrapes it is becoming scrub encroached. The scrapes have lots of bare ground and an almost 50:50 herb grass mix. Also in some area the grassland is ranker with more frequent Chalk False Brome. Plants found in this area include rare Kidney Vetch most abundant in the scrapes, rare Salad Burnet scattered throughout the area, rare Horseshoe Vetch in one location near the edge of the area, occasional Upright Brome, rare Lady's Bedstraw, Red Fescue, Lesser Sitchwort, Meadow Oat-grass, Fairy Flax, Pyramidal Orchid only a couple of plants, rare Quaking Grass scattered throughout the area, lots of small blues were seen flying in this area. On the bare ground were found the mosses, Ctenidium molluscum, Hypnum lacunosum, Homalothecium lutescens and Pseudosceropodium purum.

TN27 Rough grassland area next to a fairway similar to TN18 described above, although no Bastard Toadflax here but large amount Round Headed Rampion and there are some scattered Pedunculate Oaks and old Hawthorns.

TN28 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. This leads towards Buckle's Gap corner where in addition there are occasional Ladies Bedstraw, Yarrow, Ribwort Plantain, Salad Burnet, Wild Mignonette and Small Scabious.

TN29 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.

TN30 This is the main core of scrub in the middle section of the golf course, with maturing abundant Hawthorn scrub, locally dominant in places 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.

TN31 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 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

TN32 Northern fairway rough similar to species described in 15 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.

TN33 Along the North West boundary there is an overgrown line of trees and scrub, dominated in places by 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.

TN34 Scrub with grassy areas alongside the paths and in clearings. 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.

TN35 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. Under this Bramble is frequent as is Clematis as a climber. Herb include Wild Marjoram, Wild Basil

TN36 Small area of grassland near road with a number of pyramidal orchids and some kidney vetch

TN37 An old bund with track spoil from many years ago. The resulting vegetation is typical of this type of habitat with frequent False-oat grass, Cock's-foot grasses and Hedge Mustard, Creeping Thistle, Black Horehound and occasional Wall Lettuce, Dandelion, Groundsel, Curled Dock, Bladder Campion, Common Nettle and Yarrow.

TN38 This area is tucked behind a 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.

TN39 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 rare.

TN40 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.

TN41 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.

TN42 There is area of low vegetation behind the tee and between the road. It is composed of ruderal species including Lesser Trefoil, Small Flowered Cranesbill, Black Medick, Ribwort plantain, Smaller Cat's-tail, Perennial Rye-grass, Yarrow and Common Daisy

TN43 Scrub to the north east of the woodland in this area, leading up towards the Buckle's Gap roundabout. 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.

TN44 The main body of this secondary broad-leaved woodland comprises abundant Pedunculate Oak with Sycamore 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, 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, both of 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. There are small patches of Bonfire-moss, close to the toilet blocks and road.

TN45 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.

TN46 This is not a very wide boundary to the road that is cut regularly though the summer. It contains some Hawthorn/Bramble scrub as well as tall vegetation and remnant calcareous grassland, although this is not particularly diverse. 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.

TN47 A rough area of grassland with frequent Yorkshire-fog and Rough Meadow-grasses. Herbs include occasional Common Mouse-ear, Ground-ivy, Dandelion, Rough Hawkbit, Ribwort Plantain, White Dead-nettle and Yarrow.

TN48 In this rough grassland are common grasses with rare Common Restharrow, Common Knapweed, Common Bird's-foot Trefoil and Dropwort.

TN49 There is an old bank by the toilet block here with a range of ruderal vegetation such as occasional Germander Speedwell, Wall Speedwell, Grey Speedwell, Yarrow, Dandelion, Common Knapweed, Common Mallow, Wild Mignonette and Field Bindweed.

TN50 Close mown grassland of green and fairways. Although large areas show the influence of improvement due to fertilizer and herbicide, some areas show interesting plants including Wild Thyme, Crested Hair-grass, and Squinancywort

2.3 BATS

The site was assessed for bats including a preliminary roost assessment (PRA) and activity surveys. As part of the PRA a search of the bat records was carried out. The species of bat recorded within 2km of the site include

- Leislars Bat
- Common Pipistrelle
- Soprano Pipistrelle
- Nathusius Pipistrelle
- Noctule Bat
- Serotine
- Natterer Bat
- Brown Long-eared Bat

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 building on site to support any roosts.

The bat activity surveys recorded low levels of bat activity involving Common Pipistrelle and Noctule.

2.4 REPTILE AND AMPHIBIANS

There are no water bodies on site or nearby to support amphibians. There are no records of reptile on this site.

2.5 DORMICE

It is considered that any woodland in the South East of England has potential 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 Rifle Butts Alley. These areas have a mix of dense scrub, more mature trees and connectivity to the wider landscape

3.0 CONCLUSIONS

3.1 HABITAT EVALUATION

For the ease of recording and reporting five broad habitat types have been used during the field survey and are listed in Table 1 along with Epsom and Ewell Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Habitat types and the NERC habitats of principal importance UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) Priority Habitats used in the previous plan have been superseded by the Habitats of Principle Importance under The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 Section 41 (NERC S41). There are currently 56 such habitats included on the S41 list. The S41 list is intended to provide guidance to decision-makers, e.g. those representing public bodies and local/regional authorities, in implementing their duty under Section 40 of the NERC Act to ‘...have regard to the conservation of biodiversity in England when carrying out their normal functions’.

See table 1

Table 1 – Habitats recorded, their relationship to Epsom and Ewell BAP habitats and NERC priority habitats

Survey Habitats	EELBAP Habitats	NERC Priority Habitats
Calcareous grassland	Chalk Grassland	Lowland calcareous grassland
Woodland	Woodland	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Scrub	-	Hedgerows
Scrub/grass matrix	-	-
Neutral grassland	-	-

3.2 TOTAL PLANTS RECORDED

The plant record table lists the total number of vascular plant species found at Epsom Golf Course in 2010 and 2016. The total has increased from 185 to 250 vascular plants which represents a high number of species. More species would be found with further survey effort, especially at different times of the year.

3.3 NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Of the 250, 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.

- Butterfly-bush
- Turkey Oak
- Apple
- Michaelmas Daisy
- Snowberry
- Cotoneaster
- Spanish Bluebell
- Russian Vine
- Firethorn
- Goat's-rue

3.4 BAP PRIORITY SPECIES

UK BAP Priority Species have been superseded by the Species of Principle Importance (SPI) under NERC41. There are currently 943 such species (covering all taxonomic groups) included on the S41 list. The S41 list is intended to provide guidance to decision-makers, e.g. those representing public bodies and local/regional authorities, in implementing their duty under Section 40 of the NERC Act to '*...have regard to the conservation of biodiversity in England when carrying out their normal functions*'.

- Juniper – Three bushes grow on the site.
- Chalk Eyebright

3.5 SURREY RARE SPECIES RECORDED IN 2016

These are species which are listed in the Surrey Rare Plant Register (updated October 2010). According to this list, one species is considered Nationally Threatened, one is Nationally Scarce, two are Surrey Scarce species (those found between 4-10 sites in Surrey) and one has an Undecided status.

- Sainfoin – Nationally Threatened
- Round-headed Rampion – Nationally Scarce
- Bastard Toadflax- Nationally Scarce
- Rue-leaved Saxifrage – Surrey Scarce
- Flattened Meadow-grass - Surrey Scarce

3.6 SURREY RARE SPECIES RECORDED PRIOR TO 2016

The following species have been recorded on the site in the past, but were not seen during the 2010 survey.

Early Gentian – As well as being a UK BAP priority species, it is considered a Surrey Rare species.

3.7 ADDITIONAL SPECIES OF NOTE

- 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.
- Small Toadflax – uncommon

3.8 INVERTEBRATE EVALUATION

3.8.1 SPECIES RICHNESS AND RARITY FOR EPSOM GOLF COURSE, 2009

A total of 256 species were recorded of which 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).

ORTHOPTERA

(Tettigoniidae) *Metrioptera roeselii* (Hagenbach, 1822) [= *Roseseliana roeselii* Hagenbach]
Roesel's Bush-cricket.

Status: Nationally Scarce B (Nb). Until the 1940's this bush-cricket was only known in England from either side of the Thames estuary and up the east coast to the Humber (Baldock, 1999). This species range has increased dramatically since this time with records from Yorkshire, Lancashire and southern Ireland. First recorded in Surrey in 1944 (Menzies & Airy Shaw, 1947) and now widespread throughout the county in suitable habitats. Notable status in need of revision.

Habitat and ecology: Rough grasslands with tall, rank, herbaceous vegetation, such as common ragwort and thistles etc. Water meadows and the like are also used. Eggs are laid in plant stems with nymphs emerging in late May/early June. Omnivorous but largely vegetarian, feeding on grasses (Marshall & Haes, 1988). Baldock (1999) suggests that roads such as the M25 have benefited this species by creating linear corridors of south facing grassy slopes. *M. roeselii* was fairly common in rank vegetation throughout the site. Where adults could not be seen the distinctive high-pitched, continuous male song was audible.

Management and conservation:

- Control of excessive scrub to maintain open structure of site.
- Retention of areas of long, rank vegetation to be considered in any future mowing /grazing regime.

HEMIPTERA

(Auchenorrhyncha: Cicadellidae) *Athysanus argentarius* Metcalf, 1955 a hopper bug. Nationally Scarce B (Nb). Historically considered scarce and confined to coastal sites in the south-east of England. Recently established at inland sites across parts of southern and central England (<http://www.britishbugs.org.uk> – accessed November 2010). Local in Surrey and probably increasing, though known from the Epsom & Ewell area, where it was recorded by the surveyor in the adjacent hectad of TQ26 during 2009.

Habitat and ecology: Phytophagous. Associated with a variety of grasses in open situations. The cause of range expansion is not yet fully understood but is thought to be climate related. Swept from grasses in roughs at TQ221589 on 28.vii.

Management and conservation:

- Control of excessive scrub to maintain open structure of site.
- Retention of areas of rough grassland vegetation.

(Miridae) *Lygus pratensis* (Linnaeus, 1758) A Mirid Bug

Status: Red Data Book 3 [Rare] (RDB3). Once a rarity in the British Isles; confined largely to open areas within ancient woodland and records from heathland in the south (Kirby, 1992; www.britishbugs.org.uk – Accessed November 2010). This species appears to be rapidly increasing its range and is apparently fairly widespread in Surrey. The RDB3 status is likely to be down-graded in any forthcoming review. The true distribution is not yet fully understood

due to confusion with similar species. In my experience *L.pratensis* is amongst the most commonly encountered *Lygus* spp. Of open flower-rich habitats in Surrey. RDB status in need of revision.

Habitat and ecology: Phytophagous. This species is now increasingly common on a range of plants, esp. Asteraceae (Composite or Daisy family) in open areas, inc. downland and heathland, and woodland rides. Frequent across the site where herbaceous vegetation dominates.

Management and conservation:

- Control of excessive scrub to maintain open structure of site.

LEPIDOPTERA

(Gelechiidae) *Recurvaria leucatella* (Clerck, 1759) a micro moth. Nationally Scarce B (Nb). Widely scattered in England and North Wales (<http://ukmoths.org.uk/> - accessed November 2010). Widespread and locally common in Surrey (Palmer *et al.*, 2010).

Habitat and ecology: Phytophagous. A species of woodland edge, hedgerows and orchards etc. Larvae feed between spun leaves of Hawthorn *Crataegus* spp. Or Apple *Malus* spp. (and potentially other Rosaceous species). Adults on wing during June and July. Beaten from Hawthorns at woodland edge (TQ222586) on 28.vii.

Management and conservation:

- Maintain shrubby woodland edges.
- Maintain hedgerows, scattered scrub across site.

DIPTERA

(Syrphidae) *Cheilosia soror* (Zetterstedt, 1843) a hoverfly.

Status and distribution: Nationally Scarce (N). Southern restricted. Local in Surrey (Morris, 1998).

Habitat and ecology: Calcareous habitats and clay woodlands (Morris, 1998). Adults are associated with umbelliferous flowers. Larvae have been reportedly bred from truffles but the biology remains otherwise unknown (Stubbs & Falk, 2002). Swept from TQ221589 on 28.vii.

Management and conservation:

- Maintain a mosaic of open grassland and woodland rides / edges supporting umbelliferous flowers.

HYMENOPTERA

(Apidae: Andreninae) *Andrena minutuloides* Perkins, R.C.L., 1914. A Solitary Bee.

Status: Nationally Scarce A (Na). Southern restricted and generally rare. Locally common in Surrey, esp. along the North Downs (Baldock, 2008).

Habitat and ecology: Largely restricted to calcareous grasslands where it is found ground nesting in short turf or areas of bare ground. Double brooded. Fairly common across the site in open, flower-rich areas.

Management and conservation:

- Control of excessive scrub to maintain open structure of site.
- Maintain existing and create new open, bare patches – e.g. chalk scrapes – for nesting.

(Apidae: Megachilinae) *Osmia _vailabi* (Schrank, 1781) Two Coloured Mason Bee

Status and distribution: Nationally Scarce B (Nb). Southern restricted (Edwards [ed.], 1998). Locally common in Surrey (Baldock, 2008).

Habitat and ecology: The range is closely correlated with chalk and limestone soils (Edwards ed.], 1998) and in Surrey it is almost completely restricted to the North Downs area (Baldock, 2008). One of the earliest solitary species to appear in spring (e.g. April) and on the wing until July. Visits a range of flower-resources. Nesting in empty snail shells of medium to large size, such as *Cepaea* spp., *Helix* spp. And *Monacha cantiana*. Several nest cells are constructed inside the shell with a leaf-based mastic and the closing plug from chalk / soil particles, sealed with leaf mastic. Once sealed the female covers the shell with organic fragments, such as grass stems or leaf fragments, possibly as camouflage from would-be predators and parasites. Nesting aggregations may be found in grassland, scrub or open woodland. Several females observed foraging on Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederaceae* etc in sheltered scrubby glade area at TQ221589 on 06.v.

Management and conservation:

- Maintain areas of flower-rich grassland / scrub mosaic for foraging and nesting.
- Maintain open structured woodlands for nesting.

- Maintain hedgerows for nesting.

COLEOPTERA

(Coccinellidae) *Nephus quadrimaculatus* (Herbst, 1783) 4-spot Ivy Ladybird.

Status: Red Data Book 2 [RDB2] (Vulnerable). Very localised, mainly in southeast England (<http://data.nbn.org.uk/interactive/map> – accessed November 2010) Majerus (1995) does not map this species. Local in Surrey (Denton, 2005), probably increasing range (Hawkins, 2000).

Habitat and ecology: Predatory. Associated with Ivy *Hedera helix* on walls and tree trunks. Known to predate the coccid *Phenacoccus aceris* in continental Europe, though this particular species of mealybug is not known to occur on Ivy (Hawkins, 2000).

Management and conservation:

- Retain Ivy on tree trunks.

(Scraptiidae) *Anaspis thoracica* (Linnaeus, 1758) a beetle.

Status: Nationally Scarce B (Nb). Widely scattered in Britain and Ireland but infrequently found in numbers (Levey, 2009). Scarce in Surrey (Denton, 2005; Tenebrionoidea Recording Scheme dataset 2010).

Habitat and ecology: Saproxyllic. Larvae have been reared from the dead-wood of a wide range of broadleaved trees (Levey, 2009). Adults from May to September, peaking in June/July. Adults do frequent hedgerow blossom (as in other common related species) but are perhaps more readily collected by beating tree foliage. Several males (genitalia determination) beaten from foliage at TQ221586 on 10.vi.

Management and conservation:

- Retention of mature and semi-mature trees, woodland and hedgerows with evidence of decay in a range of situations.
- Fallen tree limbs etc should be left *in situ* where it is safe and practical to do so.
- Maintain sheltered scrub eco-tone into woodland and spring-flowering hedgerows.

ARACHNIDA

(Thomisidae: Philidrominae) *Philodromus albidus* Kulczynski, 1911 a crab spider.

Status and distribution: Nationally Scarce B (Nb). Southern restricted and may be numerous where found (Harvey *et al.* (eds.), 2002). Probably locally common in Surrey.

Habitat and ecology: Arboreal. Associated with broad-leaved and / or mixed woodland edges where adults can be found on the lower branches of trees and scrub, including hedges. A single female beaten from English Oak *Quercus robur* at woodland edge

(TQ222586) on 28.vii.

Management and conservation:

- Retain areas of semi-open woodland with open rides and glades to increase edge habitat.
- Maintain continuity of linear shrub features such as hedgerows. 3.2.7.

Other species of interest.

(Psocoptera: Psocidae) *Psococerastis gibbosa* (Sulzer, 1776) a barklouse. Local. Uncommon but widely scattered in Britain. The largest British psocid species. On branches of various deciduous and coniferous trees, where the species grazes micro-flora and/or general organic detritus. Beaten from English Oak *Quercus robur* in woodland at TQ222586 on 28.vii.

(Diptera: Tachinidae) *Oswaldia muscaria* (Fallén, 1810) a parasitic fly. Local. Scattered records from southern England and Wales (<http://tachinidae.org.uk/site/get-map> – accessed November 2010) and generally uncommon. The Surrey status is unclear. A parasite of various larger moth larvae. Swept from scrubby vegetation at TQ221589 on 10.vi. Provisional identification of a single adult voucher specimen. This has been sent to a specialist in the group for verification

(Coleoptera: Apionidae) *Taeniapion urticarium* (Herbst, 1784) a weevil. Local. Southern restricted, rather localized but may be common where found (Morris, 1990). Rare in Surrey (Denton, 2005). Associated with Nettles *Urtica* spp., where the larvae feed in the stems and nodes. Swept from Common Nettle *Urtica dioica* at TQ221586 on 10.vi.

(Arachnida: Dysderidae) *Dysdera erythrina* (Walckenaer, 1802) Woodlouse Spider. Local. Very localised in Surrey, with only a handful of historic records, the most recent record

being at Box Hill in 1989. A mainly southern species associated with old, undisturbed habitats. A predator of woodlice at ground level, usually under stones, logs etc. Male and female located under flints on or near scrapes in the vicinity of TQ221591 on 06.v.

16.1.1 GENERAL ASSESSMENT

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. However, 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 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. Specific management requirements for individual species of conservation importance are dealt with in section

Calcareous grassland

Calcareous grassland on thin soil is one of the richest habitats for invertebrates (Kirby, 2001). Thin, dry soil stresses plants, causing them to put more effort into flowering and thus increasing the foraging resources available. Calcareous grasslands provide a rich flower resource for foraging invertebrates requiring access to sources of pollen and nectar. A diversity of native forbs is also essential for phytophagous, or plant-eating, species, e.g. leaf beetles (external feeders) and leaf-mining larvae (internal feeders) and provides opportunities for parasite/host interaction. Analysis of the results for 'rich flower resource' generated by ISIS (2008) show that with 15 qualifying species, Epsom Golf Course was found to be in favourable condition by SSSI standards for this resource. In many cases vegetation structure is as important (or more important) than vegetative species composition. In order to support the greatest possible range of invertebrate species grasslands should provide a mosaic of successional stages and vegetation structures (Kirby, 2001); including bare-ground, short turf, tussocks and scrub. Intimate mosaics can provide for many requirements in a small area. The interface and connectivity of these habitats at Epsom Golf Course is generally good given the primary function of the site as a sporting facility. Herb rich grassland should be maintained with attention to the management of excessive scrub, which will eventually shade out the area to the detriment of the existing plant and invertebrate communities. It should be noted that existing areas with moderate densities of

native scrub and rough, tussock grasses etc are beneficial to invertebrates and should be maintained under a rotational management system.

Short turf

Short, open-structured turf on calcareous soil is a valuable feature that supports a characteristic fauna that is easily displaced through neglect (Kirby, 2001; Fry & Lonsdale [eds], 1991). Though a varied structure is optimal, maintaining areas of short turf should be a management priority. Rotationally stripping areas of vegetation back to bare mineral soil and allowing natural regeneration to occur can achieve this.

Bare ground in grassland

Open, unshaded areas of bare ground, particularly those with a southerly aspect, are an important and often undervalued resource as bare ground warms up quickly in sunshine, thus providing:

- Valuable basking areas.
- Nesting areas for burrowing and ground-nesting invertebrates.
- Suitable foraging areas for visual predators.

The continuation of bare ground habitat creation through localised or piece-meal disturbance/turf stripping in open areas is therefore a priority. Piece-meal disturbance is also beneficial to many calcicolous plant species (see above).

Tussocky grassland

In general, moderately tall grassland supports a greater range of invertebrates than short turf (Kirby, 2001) though these species are often less specialised. At Epsom Golf Course the BAT 'grassland & scrub matrix' proved to be the most species-rich (85 associated species), though few of these species can be regarded as highly specialised. Taller grassland offers opportunities for both endophagous species, which develop in stems (inc. dead-stems) and seed-pods etc (e.g. Tephritid flies in Knapweed heads), and species dependant on the actual structure, e.g. burnet moths, many spiders etc. Grass tussocks themselves provide a differing micro-climate from that of their surroundings; offering sheltered and comparatively humid conditions which harbour a characteristic community of invertebrates and suitable conditions for over-wintering. Overall management should aim to provide a

mosaic of grassland structures that interface with each other. At the time of survey the connectivity and interface with other habitats (e.g. scrub, bare ground etc) was found to be adequate.

Grassland scrub

Calcareous grassland supports a greater diversity of scrub species than other grassland types (Kirby, 2001), which in turn support a wealth of invertebrates. Areas of calcicolous scrub represent the next stage in succession to woodland from areas of rank, tussocky grassland and should be rotationally managed to prevent succession of large areas of the site to shaded scrubby woodland. Periodic scalloping and glading of existing blocks of grassland scrub/scrub-edge would provide a continuity of sheltered micro-climates and habitat niches whilst arresting scrub succession on a long-term basis. The soft-interface, where tussocky grassland meets scrub / hedgerow habitat, is to be encouraged.

Woodland, scrub-edge and hedgerows

As previously mentioned, calcareous habitats support a wealth of shrub species, many of which blossom and fruit heavily, providing important seasonal resources for invertebrates. Scrub-edge habitat also provides a soft eco-tone or interface habitat between open grassland and closed canopy woodland. Hedgerows and linear scrub features can aid connectivity between woodland habitats for less mobile species. These features, where they exist on the site, should be managed to ensure a continuity of habitat. The areas of woodland across the site require little management to maintain the *status quo*, although a programme of occasional coppicing, glading and/or widening of rides to allow more light in would be beneficial. Dead-wood should be retained in all situations, standing or fallen, where it is safe to do so. It should also be noted that fallen trees and branches are of greater benefit to invertebrates when left entire *in-situ*, as opposed to being tidied up into neat piles. Where larger trees are present within the woodland these should be gradually freed of competition using a technique widely known as 'haloing', whereby the encroaching vegetation is progressively thinned out, allowing more light and air to penetrate and encouraging robust open growth habits. It is stressed that this should be a gradual process over the course of several years at least.

3.9 REVIEW OF HABITAT MANAGEMENT

3.9.1 OVERALL REVIEW

The Epsom Downs Golf Course site 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 a number of important recommendations have not 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.

3.9.2 CONSERVATION WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE LOWER MOLE PARTNERSHIP SINCE 2010

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

2011 - Three scrapes created alongside the 6th fairway near to an existing area of kidney vetch. Also scrub clearance in the around the scrapes adjacent to the 7th tee amounting to a total area of .2ha was carried out. Some scattered Buckthorn and Hawthorn was left but some of the more dense stands of scrub, Sycamore and Turkey Oak were removed.

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. Scrub clearance was carried out in the area in the around the scrapes adjacent to the 7th tee opening up an area of grassland totally 0.1 ha. The planting of 10 of Juniper trees and the construction of 2m x2m enclosures 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

2013 - Scrub clearance was carried along the eastern edge of the 18th fairway with the aim of clearing 75-80% of the scrub including Oaks, Ash and Sycamore. An area of .35ha was cleared with some young Hawthorns retained.

2014 - The area around the 7th tee, Junipers weeded, scrub clearance and removal of tor grass

2015 - The area around the 7th tee four new scrapes 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

4.0 MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following lettered sections are marked on Figure 3

Woodland/scrub areas

A It is recommended here to open out the tee by preferentially clearing the Sycamore trees, occasional Pedunculate Oaks as well. The majority of the Hawthorns should be left to create a scrub edge. In the long term this will require sequential clearing to chalk grassland and then re-establishment allowed through seeding in order to maintain the scrub edge. The majority of the Dogwood should be cleared (ie cut down to the ground) and then left to regrow as a low level scrub layer.

B Another major project would be to take out all scrub down through the fairway from Buckle's Gap corner north towards the clubhouse. This would help to produce a wide vista with views towards London, whilst also helping to encourage a more diverse chalk grassland fairway rough.

C The woodland edge on this side should be pushed back to produce a better scrub edge. This will also have the added advantage of widening the grassland and producing better views. In addition the existing Hawthorn scrub should be cut back and continue to do so every 4/6 years to produce a variety of scrub ages.

D The woodland along the edges and to the north should be pushed back to encourage more of the rough chalk grassland and scrub edge. Do so in wavy bays, whilst using the remaining woodland along the road edge as a boundary habitat and shelter for the grassland.

E In general there is better structure on edges than the central component, where Pedunculate Oaks are thin and straggly and struggling for light and space thus casting too much shade and subduing the shrub and field layers. Therefore in the main, non-intervention is recommended, and management efforts should continue to focus on the edge and ride habitat. Winter work has already concentrated efforts into pushing some of the woodland around the tees to make wider fairways, but also eventually create a scrub edge. The existing main path through the centre of the southern woodland section should be widened to approximately 10m to 15m wide by gently scalloping the edges. This will

allow more light onto the woodland floor, and in turn help diversify the woodland structure. The edges will then gradually scrub over, again producing a valuable woodland habitat. This as with all of the woodland management work will need to be done over the long term with continued funding and labour.

F The rest of the woodland require a programme of thinning or group felling as to foster future timber value alongside the diversification of the stands by natural regeneration in the group fells. Then the future small scale harvesting of oak butts will allow the sale of firewood, a rapidly growing market. It is possible that some of the trees are of sufficient size and value which could realise some income and offset costs of contractors or fund other management work. Also the patch-coppicing of oaks on the woodland edge will help diversify the age structure of the woodland whilst still providing shelter. This could be carried out by a coppice worker.

G Remove the non-native Snowberry, Spanish Bluebell and Michaelmas Daisy found on the northern edge of the southern woodland section. This can be done by pulling, although the Michaelmas Daisy may also need some herbicide spraying to get it off the site completely.

H Remove this small area of woodland, this should be done to prevent any further encroachment onto the surrounding high quality chalk grassland.

Scrub/grassland areas

I As a matter of priority the scrub should be heavily cleared back in this area to create a 10-15m wide circular area around the former bunker. Then a circular edge of scrub can be allowed to grow back, whilst the rest of the bunker is left open. This should be managed then on an annual basis to keep up with the maintenance and monitored. The scrub at the back of the bunker should also be pushed back into the woodland and a 2m to 3m wide ride created down the very overgrown path towards the 18th tee. This project will then connect with the work proposed on the northern side of the woodland where some further scrub and woodland clearance would also help to encourage back the former species rich chalk grassland. This would also help to support to expansion of the Kidney Vetch into a larger population with the aim of the re-establishment of a meta-population of Small Blue butterfly in this area. They would be able to take advantage of a range of aspects and shelter in a small area not otherwise present elsewhere on the course and therefore would be of value for the future conservation of this BAP species. This will be done with the Lower Mole Countryside Management Partnership in spring 2017, the key factor will be to ensure that subsequent management is carried out as part of the ongoing annual management on the golf course. This area must be annually cleared back to ensure that it does not become overgrown again. In a couple of years time scrapes should be created to produce bare ground habitat for the Kidney Vetch as well as other species that require this type of

habitat. The spoil should be deposited into the woodland. The Canadian Goldenrod in the bunker area is of concern. Whilst there is very little there, it makes it an ideal time to get rid of it by pulling. Inevitably there will be a lot of seed in the soil bank and therefore it should be monitored on an annual basis, pulling frequently as soon as it comes up and regularly during the summer as and when is possible.

J The Juniper bushes are all males and in need of some management as they are becoming badly encroached and shaded. The ones at TQ2230 5895 require substantial work to allow them to survive including the removal of a lower branch from an overhanging Sycamore to allow the Juniper a little more room and light. In addition there is a Norway Maple sapling that should be removed before it too gets too big. The Cotoneaster in this area should also be removed as it is a non-native species and will start to spread. The other in the scrub alongside the Burgh Heath Road is in better condition but still would benefit from some clearance work to allow it more space and light.

K In this area there are two paths parallel to the boundary edge, that create two ride habitats. The one closest to the boundary is used more frequently by dog walkers and therefore naturally kept open. It is therefore suggested that this one be maintained as a wide ride by cutting the grass once a year with the arisings taken off. An alternative low maintenance option would be to only cut once every three years. In addition the scrub edges will need to be cut back periodically to ensure a variety of age ranges and so it doesn't encroach. The second less used path, should be less obviously or intensively managed. This will create a slightly different habitat type that is less well used by walkers. This can be achieved by cutting back 3-5m shallow bays of scrub on alternate sides of the path every 5 years. The associated grassland should be cut back at the same time.

L Go in behind present (2015) scrapes and create new ones, preferentially over any concentrations of Tor grass. This will ensure the expansion of the highly valuable Small Blue food plant, Kidney Vetch

M This patch of Michaelmas Daisy should be eradicated. This can be done by covering with a staked down tarpaulin. Also in this area is a small, but dense patch of Early Golden rod, this should be monitored and if it continues to spread, then it should be pulled.

N The management here it should be in the form of non-intervention for the woodland, the maintenance of a dense scrub around the outside, with wide and deep bays along the edge of the shorter, younger scrub/tall vegetation and rough chalk grassland. The scrub need to be controlled to prevent encroachment into the grassland. The grassland should also to be regularly cut and cleared in order to prevent the further development of scrub. However, the following approach has been suggested by Nick Owen (LMCMP) and should be regarded as the better more proactive approach that will increase the overall species rich chalk BAP grassland. Substantial areas of the scrub and woodland (up to 70%) should be cleared and

restored to chalk grassland. Away from the main block of the scrub isolated trees and small areas of scrub have developed in the areas of grassland. These should be removed especially any larger tree species such as Oak and Ash.

O On the site boundary side the scrub should be management by clearing bays away and perhaps scarifying the ground.

P Punch through the scrub edges to produce tongues of open grassland that will readily scrub over, to then be reopened in 8-10 years' time.

Q Remove all the isolated scrub from the area of grassland running alongside Grandstand Road

R Remove all scrub from this area, in order to restore the area to chalk grassland

S Remove up to 50% of the scrub in this area, this area has a good chalk flora which in order to thrive need the scrub to be controlled

T Remove up to 50% of the scrub in this area, this area has a good chalk flora which in order to thrive need the scrub to be controlled

All the grassland on the site need to be cut and cleared. Some areas are not be cut at all and are becoming invaded by scrub. The areas that are cut do not appear to have the clippings taken off (or at least they were left on at the time of the site visit) and is producing a thatch, which in turn will lead to a decrease in diversity. This problem is highlighted on the agronomist's report which states a key aim is to for there to be an annual cut/scarify of the rough which would prevent it becoming too dense and enhance the wildflower diversity. Therefore, a programme of cutting of the grasslands needs to be implemented and the arisings should be taken off the site. Although this a labour intensive job, due to the nature of the relatively sparse nature of the grassland and the small areas that are needed to be cleared this should not be too onerous. Alternatively it might be possibly to set the mower to a very fine cut, this would stop the thatch, although this method still adds unwanted nutrients back into the soil and therefore is not the ideal approach. Scarifying could also be employed to great effect, to gently open up some bare ground. Currently some areas are cut to be used as car parking for the race course and as hack rides. These area should be left uncut as long as possible, cut as required, then let to grow until the annual cut in the autumn.

The areas of grassland to be cut can be seen on map 4

Area	Summary of Work	Year	Workforce
A	Clearance of woodland	2020	
B	Clearance of scrub	2018	
C	Clearance of woodland	2019	
D	Clearance of woodland	2021	
E	Woodland thinning	2019	
F	Woodland thinning	2021	
G	Removal of non native species	2021	
H	Clearance of woodland	2019	
I	Clearance of scrub and creation of scrapes	2017	
J	Clearance of scrub around Junipers	2017	
K	Clearance of scrub	2021	
L	Creation of scrapes	2019	

M	Removal of Micklemas Daisy	2018	
N	Removal of scrub	2019	
O	Removal of scrub	2020	
P	Removal of scrub	2020	
Q	Removal of scrub	2018	
R	Removal of scrub	2018	
S	Removal of scrub	2020	
T	Removal of scrub	2019	

5.0 PLANT SPECIES LIST

Common Name	Scientific Name
A cotoneaster	Cotoneaster sp.
A michaelmas-daisy	Aster sp.
A violet	Viola sp.
Agrimony	Agrimonia eupatoria
Annual Meadow-grass	Poa annua
Annual Pearlwort	Sagina apetala ssp. Apetala
Apple	Malus domestica
Ash	Fraxinus excelsior
Aspen	Populus tremula
Autumn Gentian	Gentianella amarella
Barren Brome	Anisantha sterilis
Bastard Toadflax	Thesium humifusum
Beech	Fagus sylvatica
Bittersweet	Solanum dulcamara
Black Bindweed	Fallopia convolvulus
Black bryony	Tamus communis
Black Horehound	Ballota nigra
Black Medick	Medicago lupulina
Blackthorn	Prunus spinosa
Bladder Campion	Silene vulgaris ssp. Vulgaris
Bluebell	Hyacinthoides non-scripta
Bramble	Rubus fruticosus agg.
Bristly Oxtongue	Picris echioides
Broad-leaved Dock	Rumex obtusifolius

Buckthorn	Rhamnus cathartica
Bugle	Ajuga reptans
Burnet saxifrage	Pimpinella saxifraga
Bush Vetch	Vicia sepium
Butterfly-bush	Buddleja davidii
Canadian Goldenrod	Solidago Canadensis
Chalk Milkwort	Polygala calcarea
Cleavers	Galium aparine
Cock's-foot	Dactylis glomerata
Colt's-foot	Tussilago farfara
Common Bent	Agrostis capillaris
Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	Lotus corniculatus
Common Chickweed	Stellaria media
Common Couch	Elytrigia repens
Common Eyebright	Euphrasia nemorosa
Common Knapweed	Centaurea nigra
Common Mallow	Malva sylvestris
Common Milkwort	Polygala vulgaris
Common Mouse-ear	Cerastium fontanum
Common Nettle	Urtica dioica
Common Ragwort	Senecio jacobaea
Common Restharrow	Ononis repens
Common Rock-rose	Helianthemum nummularium
Common Spotted-orchid	Dactylorhiza fuchsii
Common Toadflax	Linaria vulgaris
Common Vetch	Vicia sativa
Common Whitlowgrass	Erophila verna

Corn Spurrey	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>
Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
Cowslip	<i>Primula veris</i>
Crab Apple	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>
Creeping Bent	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Creeping Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>
Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Crested Dog's-tail	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>
Crested Hairgrass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.
Danish Scurvygrass	<i>Cochlearia danica</i>
Dog Rose	<i>Rosa canina</i> agg.
Dog's Mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>
Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
Domestic Plum	<i>Prunus domestica</i> ssp.
Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium molle</i>
Downy Oat-grass	<i>Avenula pubescens</i>
Dropwort	<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>
Dwarf Thistle	<i>Cirsium acaule</i>
Early Goldenrod	<i>Solidago gigantea</i>
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Enchanter's-nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>
English Elm	<i>Ulmus procera</i>
English oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Evergreen Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>

Eyebright	<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i> agg.
Fairy Flax	<i>Linum catharticum</i>
False Brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
False Oat-grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>
False-brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Fat Hen	<i>Chenopodium album</i> agg.
Field Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>
Field Pepperwort	<i>Lepidium campestre</i>
Field Scabious	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>
Field Wood-rush	<i>Luzula campestris</i>
Firethorn sp.	<i>Pyracantha</i> sp.
Flattened Meadow-grass	<i>Poa compressa</i>
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Garlic Mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Giant Fescue	<i>Schedonorus giganteus</i>
Glaucous Sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>
Goat's-beard	<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>
Goat's-rue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Grass Vetchling	<i>Lathyrus nissolia</i>
Greater Burdock	<i>Arctium lappa</i>
Greater Knapweed	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>
Greater Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>
Greater Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>
Grey Field-speedwell	<i>Veronica polita</i>

Grey Poplar	<i>Populus alba x tremula</i>
Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Ground-elder	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>
Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>
Hairy St. John's-wort	<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>
Harebell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
Hedge Bedstraw	<i>Galium mollugo</i>
Hedge Bindweed	<i>Calystegia sepium</i>
Hedge Mustard	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>
Hedge Woundwort	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>
Hedgerow Cranesbill	<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>
Herb Bennet	<i>Geum urbanum</i>
Herb-robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
Hoary Willowherb	<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
Hop Trefoil	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>
Horse-chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>
Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Ivy-leaved Toadflax	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>
Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
Kidney Vetch	<i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>
Knotgrass	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>
Lady's Bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>

Large-leaved Lime	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>
Lesser Celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
Lesser Trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>
Lime	<i>Tilia cordata</i> x <i>platyphyllos</i>
Lords-and-ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>
Lucerne	<i>Medicago sativa</i> ssp. <i>Sativa</i>
Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>
Meadow Fescue	<i>Schedonorus pratensis</i>
Meadow Foxtail	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>
Meadow Oat-grass	<i>Avenula pratense</i>
Meadow vetchling	<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>
Mistletoe	<i>Viscum album</i>
Mouse-ear-hawkweed	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>
Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>
Nipplewort	<i>Lapsana communis</i>
Norway Maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
Oxeye Daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
Pedunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Pendulous Sedge	<i>Carex pendula</i>
Perennial Rye-grass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>
Perennial Sowthistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Perforate St John's-wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Perforate St. John's-wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Pineapple Weed	<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>
Purple Toadflax	<i>Linaria purpurea</i>
Quaking-grass	<i>Briza media</i>
Red Bartsia	<i>Odontites vernus</i>

Red Campion	Silene dioica
Red Clover	Trifolium pratense
Red Fescue	Festuca rubra agg.
Ribwort Plantain	Plantago lanceolata
Rosebay Willowherb	Chamerion angustifolium
Rough chervil	Chaerophyllum temulum
Rough Hawkbit	Leontodon hispidus
Rough stalked meadowgrass	Poa trivialis
Round-headed Rampion R	Phyteuma orbiculare
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia
Rue-leaved Saxifrage	Saxifraga tridactylites
Russian Vine	Fallopia baldschuanica
Sainfoin	Onobrychis viciifolia
Salad Burnet	Sanguisorba minor ssp. Minor
Schedonorus pratensis x Lolium perenne	Schedonorus pratensis x Lolium perenne
Scots Pine	Pinus sylvestris
Scyamore	Acer pseudoplatanus
Self heal	Prunella vulgaris
Sheep's Fescue [agg.]	Festuca ovina agg.
Shepherd's-purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris
Silver Birch	Betula pendula
Silverweed	Potentilla anserina
Slender Speedwell	Veronica filiformis
Small Scabious	Scabiosa columbaria
Small Toadflax	Chaenorhinum minus
Smaller Cat's-tail	Phleum bertolonii
Small-flowered Crane's-bill	Geranium pusillum

Smooth Sowthistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
Smooth stalked meadow grass	<i>Poa pratensis</i>
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Soft-brome	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>
Spanish Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>
Spear thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>
Squinancywort	<i>Asperula cynanchica</i>
Sweet Chestnut	<i>Castanea sativa</i>
Sweet vernal grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>
Sweet-briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>
Tall Fescue	<i>Schedonorus arundinaceus</i>
Tansy	<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>
Teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>
Three-nerved Sandwort	<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>
Timothy	<i>Phelum _retense sens.str</i>
Tor-grass	<i>Brachypodium pinnatum</i>
Traveller's Joy	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
Tufted Vetch	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
Turkey Oak	<i>Quercus cerris</i>
Upright Brome	<i>Bromopsis erecta</i>
Upright Hedge-parsley	<i>Torilis japonica</i>
Wall Barley	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>
Wall Lettuce	<i>Mycelis muralis</i>
Wall Speedwell	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>
Wayfaring-tree	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>
White Bryony	<i>Bryonia dioica</i>

White campion	Silene latifolia
White Clover	Trifolium repens
White Dead-nettle	Lamium album
Whitebeam	Sorbus aria agg.
Wild Basil	Clinopodium vulgare
Wild Carrot	Daucus carota ssp. Carota
Wild Cherry	Prunus avium
Wild Marjoram	Origanum vulgare
Wild Mignonette	Reseda lutea
Wild Parsnip	Pastinaca sativa ssp. Sativa
Wild Privet	Ligustrum vulgare
Wild Thyme	Thymus polytrichus
Wood Dock	Rumex sanguineus
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium
Yellow Oatgrass	Trisetum flavescens
Yew	Taxus baccata
Yorkshire-fog	Holcus lanatus

6.0 INVERTEBRATE SPECIES LIST

Group	Latin Name	Common Name
harvestman (Opiliones)	Leiobunum rotundum	Leiobunum rotundum
harvestman (Opiliones)	Mitopus morio	Mitopus morio
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Oedemera (Oedemera) lurida	Oedemera (Oedemera) lurida
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Neocoenorrhinus aequatus	Apple Fruit Rhynchites
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Phyllopertha horticola	Garden Chafer
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Anaspis (Anaspis) humeralis	Anaspis (Anaspis) humeralis
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Anaspis (Anaspis) maculata	Anaspis (Anaspis) maculata
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Silpha laevigata	Silpha laevigata
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Drusilla canaliculata	Drusilla canaliculata
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Stenus (Metatesnus) flavipes	Stenus (Metatesnus) flavipes
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Xantholinus (Xantholinus) linearis	Xantholinus (Xantholinus) linearis
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Gonodera luperus	Gonodera luperus
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Dromius quadrimaculatus	Dromius quadrimaculatus
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Cassida rubiginosa	Thistle Tortoise Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Lochmaea crataegi	Hawthorn Leaf Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Sermylassa halensis	Sermylassa halensis
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Phyllotreta nigripes	Turnip Flea Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Phyllotreta nodicornis	Phyllotreta nodicornis
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Aphthona nonstriata	Iris Flea Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Longitarsus luridus	Longitarsus luridus
insect - beetle	Cryptocephalus hypochaeridis	Cryptocephalus

(Coleoptera)		hypochaeridis
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Rhyzobius chrysomeloides	Rhyzobius chrysomeloides
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Nephus quadrimaculatus	Nephus quadrimaculatus
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Exochomus quadripustulatus	Pine Ladybird
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Halyzia sedecimguttata	Orange Ladybird
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Psyllobora vigintiduopunctata	22-spot Ladybird
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Harmonia axyridis	Harlequin Ladybird
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Coccinella septempunctata	7-spot Ladybird
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Phyllobius (Parnemoicus) roboretanus	Small Green Nettle Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Phyllobius (Phyllobius) pyri	Common Leaf Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Polydrusus (Neoeustolus) cervinus	Polydrusus (Neoeustolus) cervinus
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Barypeithes (Exomias) pellucidus	Hairy Spider Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Sitona (Sitona) lineatus	Pea-leaf Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Sitona (Sitona) sulcifrons	Clover Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Euophryum confine	Wood-Boring Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Acalles misellus	Acalles misellus
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Trichosirocalus troglodytes	Trichosirocalus troglodytes
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Nedys quadrimaculatus	Small Nettle Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Archarius pyrrhoceras	Archarius pyrrhoceras
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Mecinus pyraeter	Mecinus pyraeter
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Mecinus pascuorum	Mecinus pascuorum
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Athous (Athous) haemorrhoidalis	Athous (Athous) haemorrhoidalis
insect - beetle	Agriotes sputator	Agriotes sputator

(Coleoptera)		
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Brachypterus glaber	Brachypterus glaber
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Brachypterus urticae	Nettle Pollen Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Meligethes aeneus	Common Pollen Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Ochina ptinoides	Ivy Boring Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Anobium punctatum	Common Furniture Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Taeniapion urticarium	Taeniapion urticarium
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Exapion (Ulapion) ulicis	Gorse Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Protapion assimile	Clover Seed Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Protapion trifolii	Clover Seed Weevil
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Holotrichapion (Holotrichapion) ononis	Holotrichapion (Holotrichapion) ononis
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Eutrichapion (Eutrichapion) ervi	Eutrichapion (Eutrichapion) ervi
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Byturus ochraceus	Byturus ochraceus
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Cantharis decipiens	Cantharis decipiens
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Cantharis rustica	Cantharis rustica
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Rhagonycha limbata	Rhagonycha limbata
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Rhagonycha fulva	Common Red Soldier Beetle
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Rhagonycha lignosa	Rhagonycha lignosa
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Bembidion (Metallina) lampros	Bembidion (Metallina) lampros
insect - booklouse (Psocoptera)	Mesopsocus immunis	Mesopsocus immunis
insect - booklouse (Psocoptera)	Psococerastis gibbosa	Psococerastis gibbosa
insect - booklouse (Psocoptera)	Loensia fasciata	Loensia fasciata
insect - booklouse	Graphopsocus cruciatus	Graphopsocus

(Psocoptera)		cruciatus
insect - butterfly	Lycaena phlaeas	Small Copper
insect - butterfly	Cupido minimus	Small Blue
insect - butterfly	Vanessa atalanta	Red Admiral
insect - butterfly	Inachis io	Peacock
insect - butterfly	Polygonia c-album	Comma
insect - butterfly	Gonepteryx rhamni	Brimstone
insect - butterfly	Pieris brassicae	Large White
insect - butterfly	Pieris rapae	Small White
insect - butterfly	Anthocharis cardamines	Orange-tip
insect - butterfly	Pararge aegeria	Speckled Wood
insect - butterfly	Maniola jurtina	Meadow Brown
insect - earwig (Dermaptera)	Forficula auricularia	Common Earwig
insect - hymenopteran	Andrena (Euandrena) bicolor	Gwynne's Mining Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Andrena (Micrandrena) minutula	Andrena (Micrandrena) minutula
insect - hymenopteran	Andrena (Micrandrena) minutuloides	Andrena (Micrandrena) minutuloides
insect - hymenopteran	Andrena (Hoplandrena) scotica	Andrena (Hoplandrena) scotica
insect - hymenopteran	Nomada leucophthalma	Nomada leucophthalma
insect - hymenopteran	Apis mellifera	Honey Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Bombus (Melanobombus) lapidarius	Large Red Tailed Bumble Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Bombus (Thoracombus) pascuorum	Common Carder Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Bombus (Pyrobombus) pratorum	Early Bumble Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Bombus (Bombus) terrestris	Buff-Tailed Bumble Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Halictus (Seladonia) tumulorum	Halictus (Seladonia) tumulorum
insect - hymenopteran	Lasioglossum (Evylaeus) calceatum	Slender Mining Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Megachile (Megachile) ligniseca	Wood-Carving Leaf-Cutter Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Osmia (Neosmia) bicolor	Two-coloured Mason Bee
insect - hymenopteran	Amblyteles armatorius	Amblyteles armatorius
insect - hymenopteran	Athalia rosae	Athalia rosae
insect - hymenopteran	Empria liturata	Empria liturata

insect - hymenopteran	Myrmica ruginodis	Myrmica ruginodis
insect - hymenopteran	Myrmica scabrinodis	Myrmica scabrinodis
insect - hymenopteran	Tiphia femorata	Tiphia femorata
insect - moth	Phalera bucephala	Buff-tip
insect - moth	Zygaena filipendulae	Six-spot Burnet
insect - moth	Noctua janthe	Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing
insect - moth	Mesoligia furuncula	Cloaked Minor
insect - moth	Phragmatobia fuliginosa	Ruby Tiger
insect - moth	Colotois pennaria	Feathered Thorn
insect - orthopteran	Omocestus viridulus	Common Green Grasshopper
insect - orthopteran	Chorthippus brunneus	Field Grasshopper
insect - orthopteran	Meconema thalassinum	Oak Bush-cricket
insect - orthopteran	Metrioptera roeselii	Roesel's Bush-cricket
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale	Hawthorn Shieldbug
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Acompocoris alpinus	Acompocoris alpinus
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Anthocoris confusus	Anthocoris confusus
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Anthocoris nemoralis	Anthocoris nemoralis
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Coreus marginatus	Dock Bug
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Tritomegas bicolor	Pied Shieldbug
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Cymus melanocephalus	Cymus melanocephalus
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Adelphocoris lineolatus	Lucerne Bug
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Calocoris (Grypocoris) stysi	Calocoris (Grypocoris) stysi
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Calocoris (Rhabdomiris) striatellus	Calocoris (Rhabdomiris) striatellus
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Capsus ater	Capsus ater
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Liocoris tripustulatus	Liocoris tripustulatus
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Lygus pratensis	Lygus pratensis
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Miris striatus	Fine Streaked Bugkin

insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) ulmi	Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) ulmi
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) varipes	Phytocoris (Ktenocoris) varipes
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Stenodema (Brachystira) calcarata	Stenodema (Brachystira) calcarata
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Stenodema (Stenodema) laevigata	Stenodema (Stenodema) laevigata
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Cyllecoris histrionius	Cyllecoris histrionius
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Heterotoma planicornis	Heterotoma planicornis
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Pilophorus perplexus	Pilophorus perplexus
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Harpocera thoracica	Harpocera thoracica
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Oncotylus (Oncotylus) viridiflavus	Oncotylus (Oncotylus) viridiflavus
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) arbustorum	Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) arbustorum
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) chrysanthemi	Plagiognathus (Plagiognathus) chrysanthemi
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Psallus (Hylopsallus) perrisi	Psallus (Hylopsallus) perrisi
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Psallus (Psallus) varians	Psallus (Psallus) varians
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Dolycoris baccarum	Sloe Shieldbug
insect - true bug (Hemiptera)	Pentatoma rufipes	Forest Bug
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Phytomyza fulgens	Phytomyza fulgens
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Phytomyza ilicis	Holly Leaf Gall Fly
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Leptarthrus brevirostris	Slender-footed Robberfly
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Dioctria linearis	Small Yellow-legged Robberfly
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Bibio anglicus	Bibio anglicus
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Bibio johannis	Bibio johannis
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Bibio marci	St Marks Fly
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Schizomyia galiorum	Schizomyia galiorum

insect - true fly (Diptera)	Hartigiola annulipes	Hartigiola annulipes
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Sicus ferrugineus	Sicus ferrugineus
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Dolichopus unguatus	Dolichopus unguatus
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Hercostomus chetifer	Hercostomus chetifer
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Sciapus longulus	Sciapus longulus
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Empis tessellata	Empis tessellata
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Fannia lustrator	Fannia lustrator
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Limonia phragmitidis	Limonia phragmitidis
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Opomyza germinationis	Opomyza germinationis
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Pachygaster atra	Dark-winged Black
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Chloromyia formosa	Broad Centurion
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Melanostoma mellinum	Melanostoma mellinum
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Melanostoma scalare	Melanostoma scalare
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Platycheirus albimanus	Platycheirus albimanus
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Epistrophe eligans	Epistrophe eligans
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Episyrphus balteatus	Marmalade Hoverfly
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Eupeodes corollae	Eupeodes corollae
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Scaeva pyrastris	Scaeva pyrastris
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Sphaerophoria scripta	Sphaerophoria scripta
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Syrphus ribesii	Syrphus ribesii
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Cheilosia soror	Cheilosia soror
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Myathropa florea	Myathropa florea
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Prosenia siberita	Prosenia siberita
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Eriothrix rufomaculata	Eriothrix rufomaculata
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Oswaldia muscaria	Oswaldia muscaria
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Nowickia ferox	Nowickia ferox
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Tachina fera	Tachina fera
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Urophora jaceana	Urophora jaceana
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Urophora quadrifasciata	Urophora quadrifasciata
insect - true fly (Diptera)	Nephrotoma appendiculata	Nephrotoma appendiculata
millipede	Tachypodoiulus niger	White-legged Snake Millipede
mollusc	Cochlicopa cf. lubricella	Least Slippery Snail
mollusc	Discus (Gonyodiscus) rotundatus	Rounded Snail
mollusc	Monacha (Monacha) cantiana	Kentish Snail

mollusc	Cornu aspersum	Common Garden Snail
mollusc	Aegopinella nitidula	Smooth Glass Snail
spider (Araneae)	Amaurobius fenestralis	Amaurobius fenestralis
spider (Araneae)	Anyphaena accentuata	Buzzing Spider
spider (Araneae)	Araneus diadematus	Garden Orb-Web Spider
spider (Araneae)	Nuctenea umbratica	Walnut Orb-Weaver Spider
spider (Araneae)	Araniella cucurbitina	Araniella cucurbitina
spider (Araneae)	Zygiella atrica	Zygiella atrica
spider (Araneae)	Mangora acalypha	Mangora acalypha
spider (Araneae)	Clubiona comta	Clubiona comta
spider (Araneae)	Clubiona brevipes	Clubiona brevipes
spider (Araneae)	Dictyna arundinacea	Dictyna arundinacea
spider (Araneae)	Dysdera erythrina	Woodlouse Spider
spider (Araneae)	Labulla thoracica	Labulla thoracica
spider (Araneae)	Linyphia triangularis	Linyphia triangularis
spider (Araneae)	Neriere peltata	Neriere peltata
spider (Araneae)	Microlinyphia pusilla	Microlinyphia pusilla
spider (Araneae)	Philodromus cespitum	Philodromus cespitum
spider (Araneae)	Philodromus albidus	Philodromus albidus
spider (Araneae)	Pisaura mirabilis	Nursery-Web Spider
spider (Araneae)	Heliophanus flavipes	Heliophanus flavipes
spider (Araneae)	Tetragnatha montana	Tetragnatha montana
spider (Araneae)	Metellina mengei	Metellina mengei
spider (Araneae)	Anelosimus vittatus	Anelosimus vittatus
spider (Araneae)	Theridion sisypium	Theridion sisypium
spider (Araneae)	Theridion varians	Theridion varians
spider (Araneae)	Theridion mystaceum	Theridion mystaceum
spider (Araneae)	Paidiscura pallens	Paidiscura pallens
spider (Araneae)	Enoplognatha latimana	Enoplognatha latimana
spider (Araneae)	Misumena vatia	Misumena vatia
spider (Araneae)	Xysticus cristatus	Xysticus cristatus

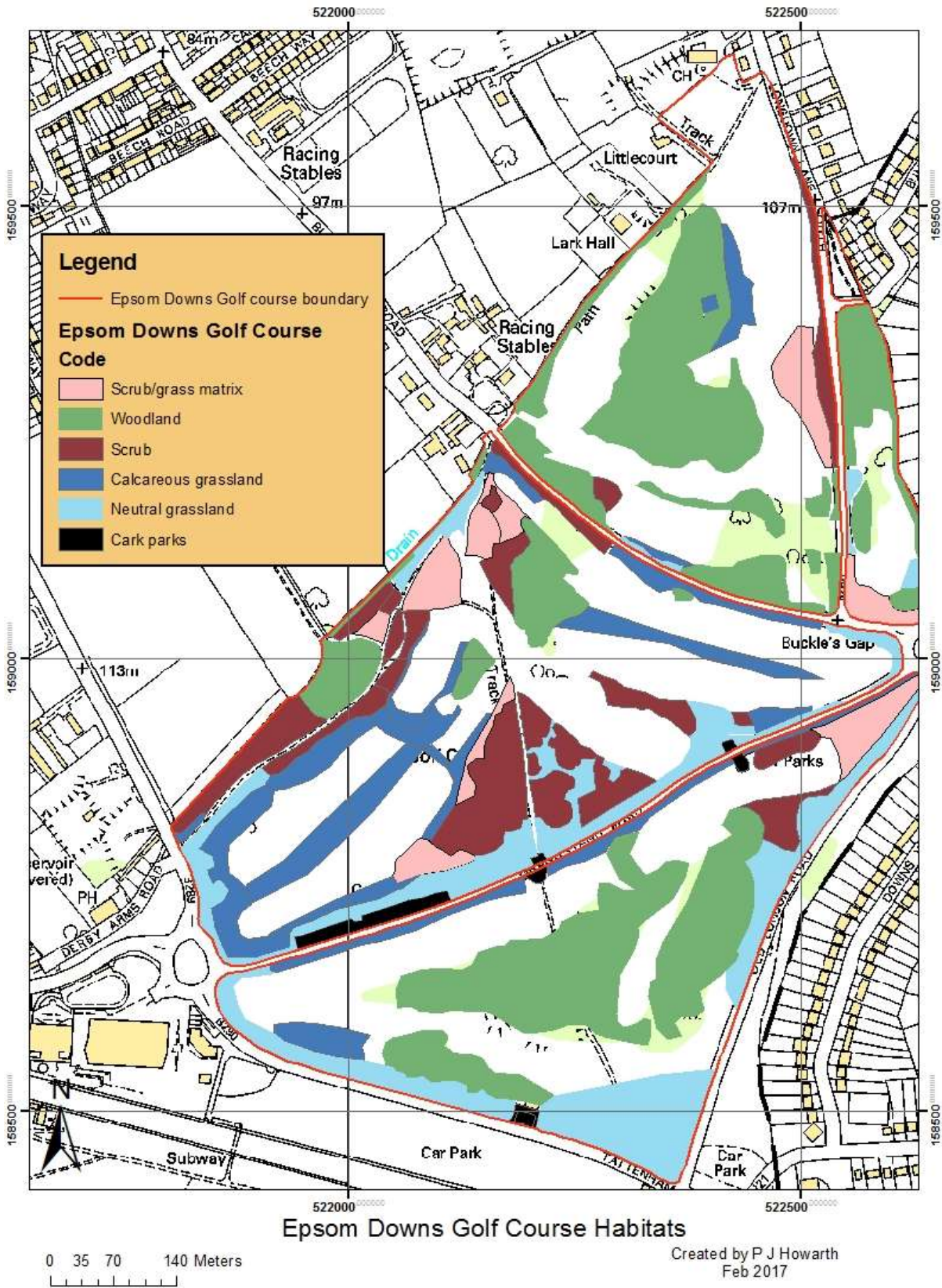
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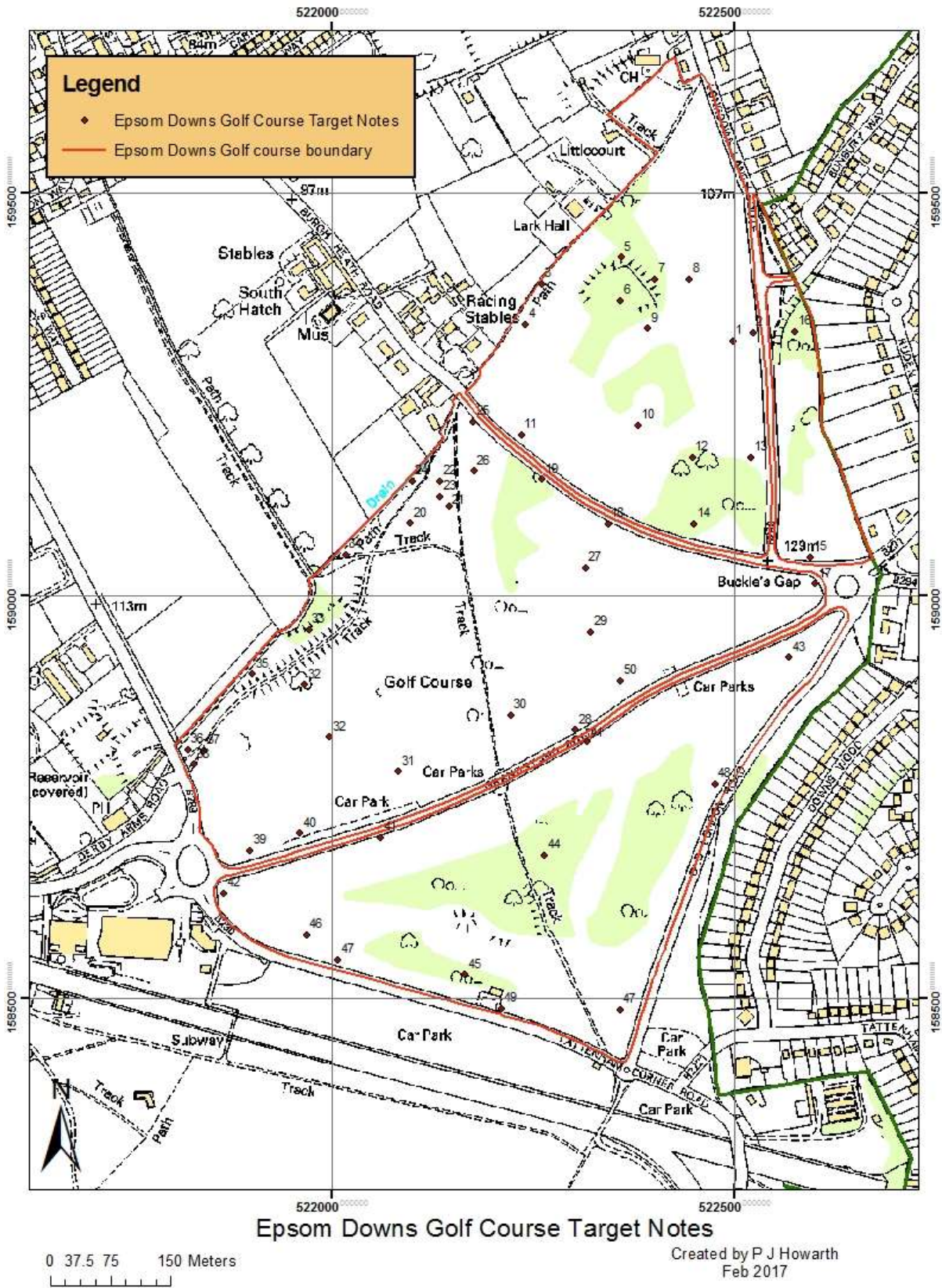
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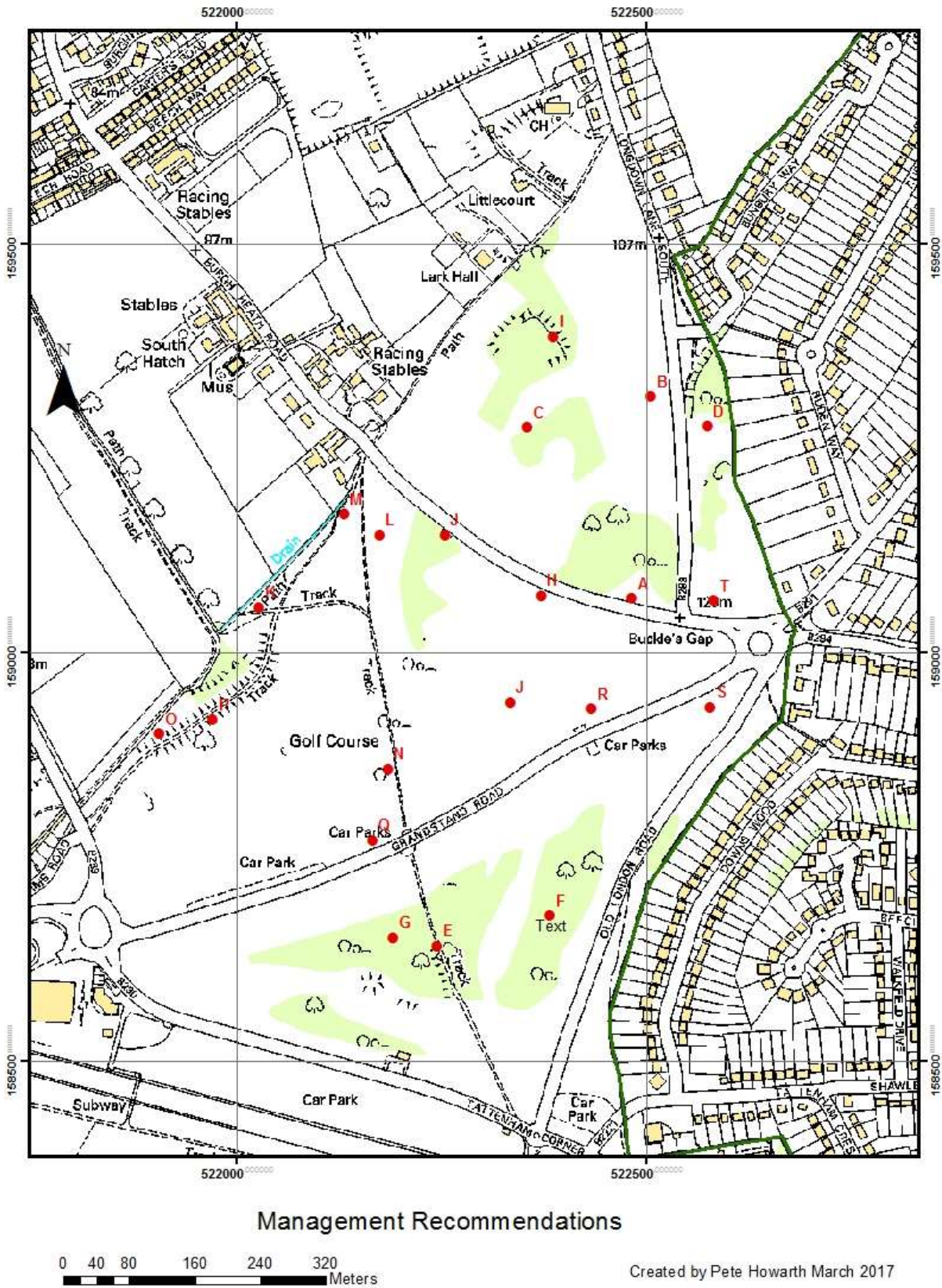
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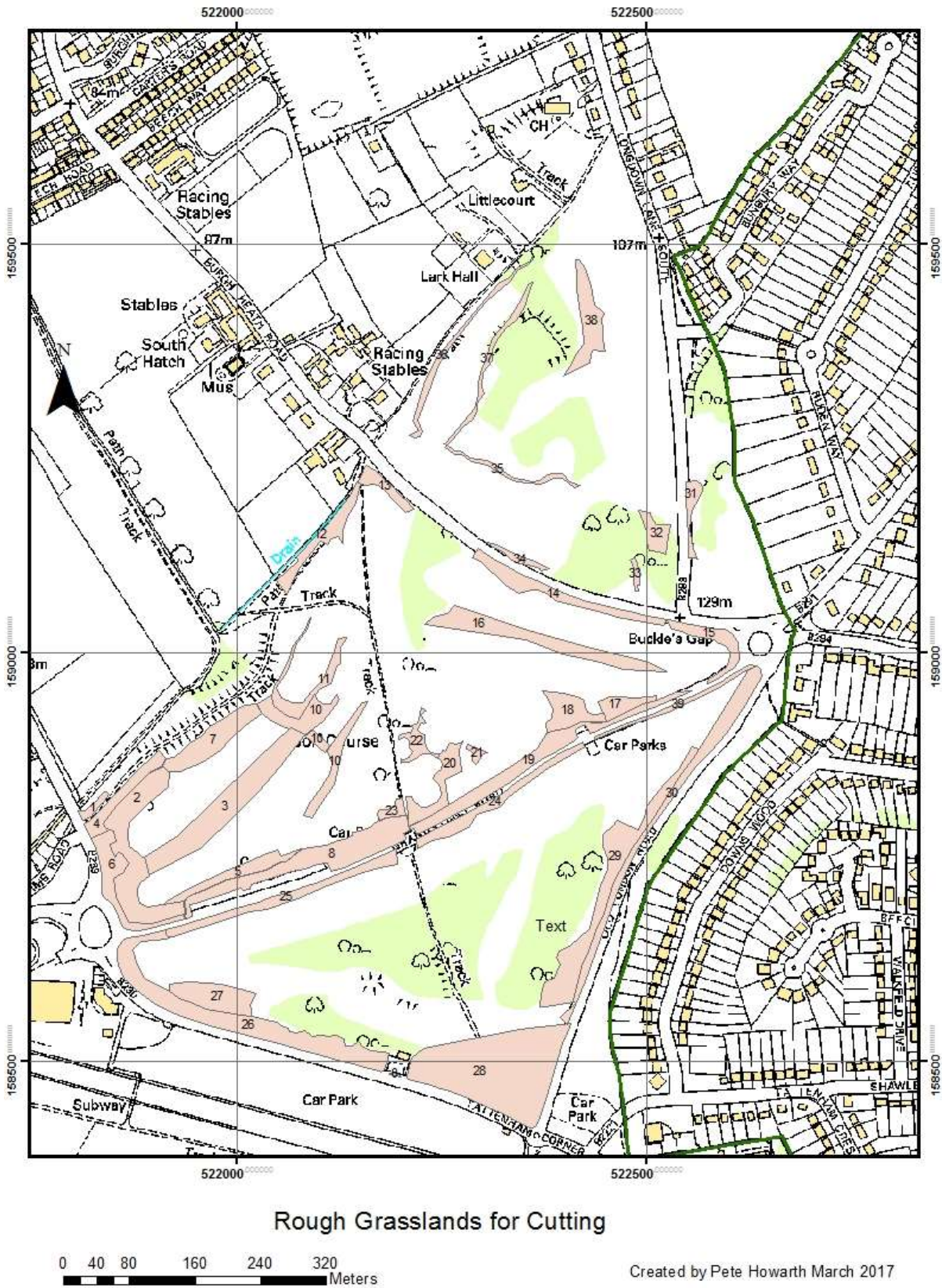
Map 1



Map2

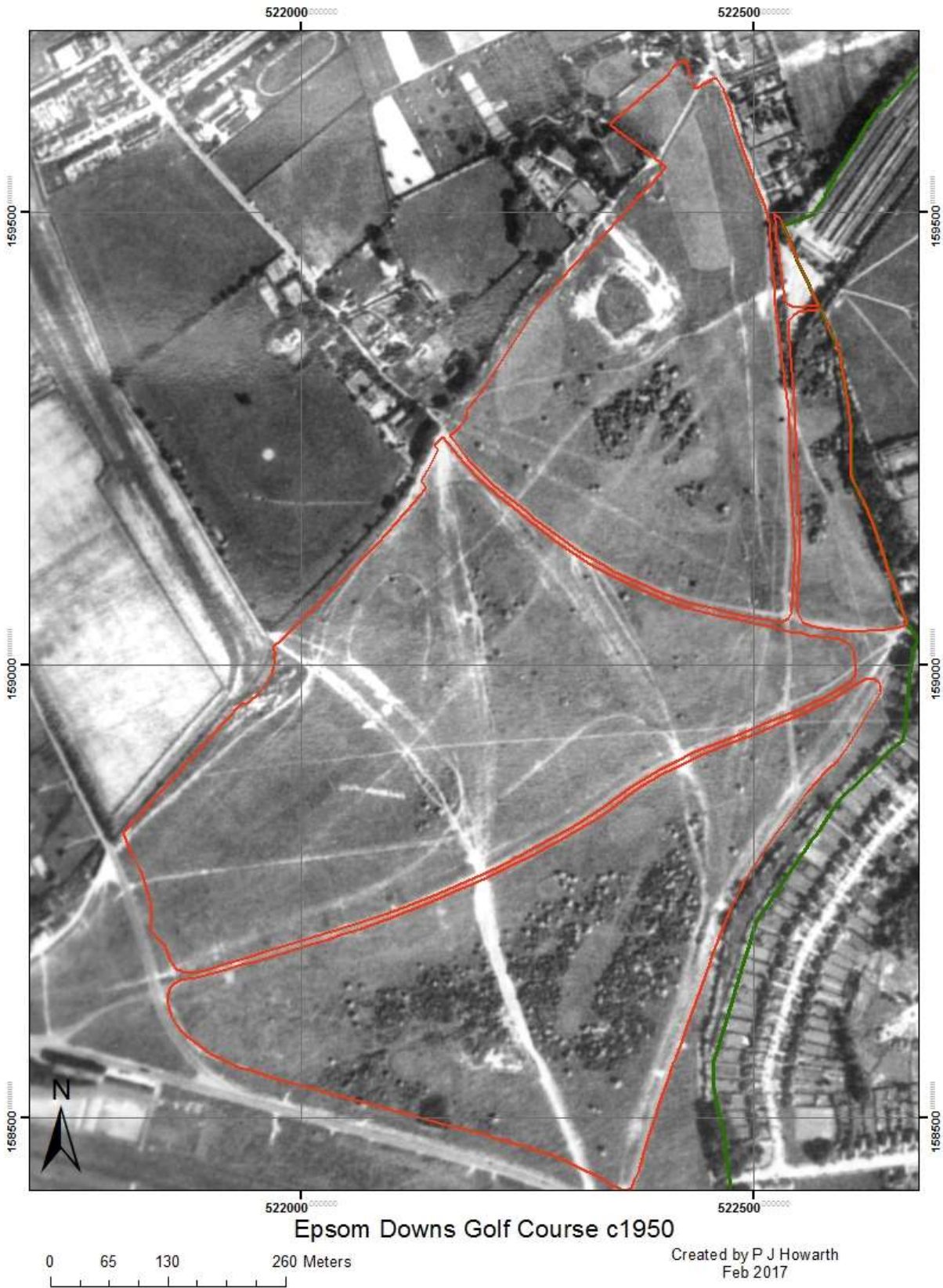


Map3



Map4

Map 5



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MINUTES OF THE EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Report of the: Clerk to the Conservators
Contact: Tim Richardson
Annexes/Appendices (attached): Annexe 1 - Minutes of the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 13 March 2017.
Other available papers (not attached):

REPORT SUMMARY

To consider any issues arising from the meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 13 March 2017.

1 Items for the attention of the Conservators

- 1.1 The Minutes from the meeting of Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 13 March 2017 are attached as the Annexe to this report. The following issues discussed by the Consultative Committee are highlighted for the attention of the Conservators:

Minute No. 13 b) – Information event for hack riders. The Committee noted that officers would look into the possibility of holding an information event for hack riders on the Downs.

Minute 14 g) – condition of hedge adjacent to horse margin. The Committee noted that the Chairman would speak to Surrey County Council with regard to the condition of the hedge adjacent to the horse margin running from Langley Vale farm to Shepherds Walk.

Minute 15 – Issues raised by the Hack Riders Representatives. The matters detailed were considered by the Committee.

Minute 16 – Condition of the Warren Wall. The Committee noted that officers would look into the matter.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: College Ward; Woodcote Ward;

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**Minutes of the Meeting of the EPSOM AND WALTON DOWNS CONSULTATIVE
COMMITTEE held on 13 March 2017**

PRESENT -

Councillor Liz Frost (Chairman); Councillor Jean Steer, Hugh Craddock (British Horse Society), Simon Durrant (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Alex Stewart (Epsom Downs Riders Protection Society) and Nigel Whybrow (Training Grounds Management Board).

In Attendance: Richard Balsdon (College Ward Residents' Association), Angela Clifford (Epsom Civic Society), Bob Eberhard (Epsom and Ewell Cycle Action Group), David Lambert (Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club) and Conor Morrow (Lower Mole Countryside Management Service)

Absent: Caroline Baldock (Epsom Equestrian Conservation Group), Andrew Cooper (Epsom Downs Racecourse), Nick Harrison (Tattenhams Residents' Association), Mark Harvey (Epsom Golf Club), Roger Marples (Epsom Downs Model Aircraft Club) and Steven McCormick (Woodcote Residents' Association)

Officers present: Kathryn Beldon (Director of Finance and Resources), Simon Young (Head of Legal and Democratic Services), Sam Beak (Leisure Development Manager), Bob Harding (Head Downskeeper), Samantha Whitehead (Streetcare Manager) and Tim Richardson (Democratic Services Officer)

10 CLERK TO THE CONSERVATORS

The Chairman informed the Committee that Frances Rutter, current Chief Executive and Clerk to the Conservators was leaving Epsom and Ewell Borough Council to take up a new post. Epsom and Ewell Borough Council had appointed Kathryn Beldon as its new Chief Executive, and Clerk to the Conservators. Kathryn would take up her position at the start of April 2017. The Committee welcomed Kathryn to the meeting.

11 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Epsom and Walton Downs Consultative Committee held on 26 September 2016 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman. The following matters were noted:

- a) Minute 4 b) Cars on the roadway outside the Rubbing House. The Committee noted that it would be consulted on improvements to the parking at the Rubbing House if the Racecourse wished to proceed with a proposal.

- b) Minute 6 c) – Access to Lonsdale Enclosure hack area on non-race days. The Hack Rider Representatives expressed their thanks to Epsom Downs Racecourse for its procurement of gates which would be installed in the Lonsdale Enclosure fencing from this year.

12 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

The Committee received and noted a report providing updates on matters raised previously. The following item was noted:

- a) Hack Sand Track, foot of Walton Downs. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed the Committee that a letter setting out the Conservator's position with regard to the track would be sent to the Horse Race Betting Levy Board again via recorded delivery in the near future.

Please note: further consideration of matters relating to this item are recorded within Minute 15 a) of this meeting.

13 REPORT OF THE HEAD DOWNSKEEPER

The Committee received and noted the report of the Head Downskeeper. The following matters were considered:

- a) Afternoon Patrols. The Committee noted that as the Downskeepers were now nearer a full complement of staff, additional patrols of the gallops would be undertaken in the afternoons and at weekends to address concerns expressed by racehorse trainers that hack riders were travelling outside of their designated areas. The Streetcare Manager informed the Committee that these would not be at the detriment to the other afternoon duties undertaken by the Downskeepers, such as bin emptying and the management of other users of the Downs, including kite flyers and dog walkers.
- b) Hack riding map and information event for Downs users. It was noted that the Head Downskeeper was in the process of producing a revised hack riding map which could be provided to local livery stables to inform Downs users of the areas available to them.

The Hack Rider Representatives suggested that a public information event could be held on the Downs for hack riders to show them where they were and were not permitted to ride. The Hack Rider Representatives offered to provide assistance in holding the event if it would be helpful. The Representatives were thanked for this suggestion and offer, and the Committee noted that the Streetcare Manager would look into arranging such an event. The Epsom Downs Racecourse Representative offered to host the event, if a venue was required.

14 ISSUES CONSIDERED BY THE CONSERVATORS

The Committee received and noted a report providing a summary of items of interest considered at the meetings of the Epsom and Walton Downs Conservators held on 5 October 2016 and 18 January 2017. The following matters were considered:

- a) Parking on land in front of the Derby Arms public house – public consultation. The Committee noted that the public consultation for the proposal submitted to the Conservators by Epsom Downs Racecourse (for permission to use the land in front of the Derby Arms public house for event overflow parking) had not yet started. There were several matters to be clarified prior to such a consultation being launched, but all representatives on the Consultative Committee would be informed once it was, and invited to submit their views on the proposal.

Please note: further consideration of matters relating to this item are recorded within Minute 15 b) of this meeting.

- b) Vision for Epsom and Walton Downs Training. The Epsom Downs Racecourse representative informed the Committee that the purpose of the vision document produced by the Training Grounds Management Board (TGMB) was to reaffirm the importance of the racehorse training community to the local area, and to build on the history and facilities already in place. The number of horses in training on Epsom and Walton Downs had reduced significantly over the past 10-15 years, and one of the objectives of the vision was to address this. Working groups had been formed by the TGMB to consider how best to take proposals forward, and the Committee was informed that involving the local community would be central to much of this work.
- c) Ice cream vending on the Downs. The Committee noted that the ice cream vendor using the Downs had now applied for, and received a licence.
- d) Closing time for car park gates. The Committee noted that the Streetcare Manager would look into the potential to alter the closing time of the car park gates on the Downs. If any significant amendments were proposed, it would be reported to the Conservators.
- e) Memorial plaques for benches. The Committee was informed that memorial plaques* were not permitted on benches under the Conservators' policy.

*Post script: following the meeting, officers confirmed that dedications inscribed directly onto the benches were also not permitted under the policy.

- f) Parking in Derby Stables Road. The British Horse Society Representative informed the Committee that he had chosen not to pursue stronger

waiting restrictions in Derby Stables Road, as it may have also inhibited the use of the area for parking horse boxes. It was noted the Surrey County Council Local Committee for Epsom and Ewell had recently approved minor changes to the area.

- g) Horse Margin, Langley Vale farm to Shepherds Walk – condition of hedge. The British Horse Society Representative informed the Committee that the condition of the hedge in this location was patchy and poor. It was noted that whilst this area was outside the Downs as defined by the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984, the Chairman would raise the matter with Surrey County Council.

15 ISSUES RAISED BY THE HACK RIDERS REPRESENTATIVES

The following matters were raised by the Hack Rider Representatives:

- a) Hack Sand Track, foot of Walton Downs. The Hack Riders Representatives informed the Committee that no maintenance work had been undertaken to the track in the past 18 months and enquired whether any could be undertaken whilst the matter was being considered by the Conservators and Horse Race Betting Levy Board. The Committee was informed that legal advice to the Conservators was that it was not their responsibility to maintain the track, and that by doing so they would be opening themselves to liability should an incident occur on it.

Please note: further consideration of matters relating to this item are recorded within Minute 12 a) of this meeting.

- b) Parking on land in front of Derby Arms public house. The Hack Riders Representatives informed the Committee that the perimeter of this area was marked as being open to pedestrian traffic on the Deposited Map for the Epsom and Walton Downs Regulation Act 1984, and asked whether it was intended to maintain this if the proposal to utilise it for event overflow parking (see Minute 13 a) above) was approved. The Head of Legal and Democratic Services informed the meeting that this was a matter for consideration during the public consultation.

Please note: further consideration of matters relating to this item are recorded within Minute 14 a) of this meeting.

- c) Use of hatched area for hack riding. The Committee was informed that the Training Grounds Management Board would consider at it's next meeting the likely timescale for opening the hatched area to hack riding use.
- d) Hack marker post update. The Committee was informed that the Downskeepers had completed an audit of hack marker posts on the Downs, to identify those which required maintenance or replacement during the winter work programme. This had been provided to the Hack Rider Representatives prior to the meeting, for their information. It was

noted that areas in which markings were ambiguous or unclear would be discussed with the Hack Rider Representatives to identify improvements.

- e) Scrub clearance along hack ride in vicinity of top of Rifle Butts Alley. The Committee noted that some clearance work had already been undertaken in this area, but that further would be done.
- f) Signs on the Downs. The Committee was informed that an audit of signs on the Downs had been completed by the Downskeepers and would be presented to the next meeting of the Conservators.
- g) Reinstatement of afternoon hack ride on Six Mile Hill. The Committee was informed that extensive scrub clearance had been undertaken in this area, and that a flail-mower would be used to complete the works once the weather permitted. The Hack Rider Representatives highlighted that railings adjacent to the polytrack at the up-hill end of the area had been removed during works to extend the polytrack. The representatives expressed that these railings had previously assisted in directing hack riders away from trespassing onto the gallops.
- h) Maintenance of triangular hack area east of Downs House – procurement of specialist cut and collect machinery. The Committee was informed that it had not been possible to procure specialist machinery to enable grass in this area to be cut and collected, due to its prohibitive cost.

16 ISSUES RAISED FOR CONSIDERATION

The following items were raised by representatives to the Committee:

- a) Condition of path near fibresand track. As the representative who had requested that this item be included on the agenda was not present, the Committee felt it had insufficient information to consider it.
- b) 'No Horses' notice at entrance to Warren Recreation Ground – damage to posts. It was noted that the condition of these signs would be looked into by the Downskeepers.
- c) Condition of the Warren Wall and surrounding woodland. The Epsom Civic Society Representative informed the Committee that it had been reported to her that the Warren Wall and its surrounding woodland was in poor condition and required maintenance. The Streetcare Manager informed the meeting that the Wall was owned by Epsom Downs Racecourse. The Maintenance Downskeeper had visited the location and only identified one area of concern. It was noted that the issue would be further looked into and reported back if appropriate.

17 ITEMS FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CONSERVATORS

The Committee felt that no items from the meeting would require verbal representation to the Conservators.

The meeting began at 6.00 pm and ended at 6.53 pm

COUNCILLOR LIZ FROST (CHAIRMAN)

OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

<u>Report of the:</u>	Clerk to the Conservators
<u>Contact:</u>	Tim Richardson
<u>Annexes/Appendices</u> (attached):	<u>Annexe 1</u> - Outstanding references
<u>Other available papers</u> (not attached):	

REPORT SUMMARY

This report lists references to officers outstanding as at 19 April 2017.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

(1) That this report be noted.

Notes

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OUTSTANDING REFERENCES

Ref. of Item (Min. no / meeting date)	Title and nature of issue	Position at last meeting	Current position
19/04/2006	Signposting of the Downs	5 Code of Conduct signs in position on the Downs.	See Item 09 .
19/04/2006	Additional hack riding area, foot of Walton Downs	Area to be opened for Hack Rider use by TGMB when conditions permit.	See Item 04 .
25/10/2010	Maintenance of sand track	The Conservators agreed to instruct the Downskeepers not to undertake any works of maintenance to the hack sand track and to ask the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to write to the Horserace Betting Levy Board to confirm that they did not accept that they are responsible for maintaining the track.	See Item 05 .
19/04/2012	Combined Habitat Management Plan for the Downs	The Epsom and Walton Downs Habitat Management Plan 2015-2020 was considered and approved at the meeting in April 2015. It was noted that this would be integrated with the Epsom Golf Course Habitat Management Plan once that had also been reviewed, to create a single Plan document. Peter Howarth (Countryside Officer for Epsom & Ewell Borough Council) has been commissioned to undertake a review of the Golf course Habitat Management Plan.	See Item 10 .
5/10/2016 Minute 17	Review of fee for metal detecting licenses	A review of the fee for metal detecting licences for use on the Downs during the 2018 calendar year will be undertaken at the October 2017 meeting of the Conservators.	Report not yet due.

5/10/2016 Minute 18	Review of Memorial Policy fees for the Downs	A review of the fees for items permitted under the Memorial Policy for the Downs will be undertaken at the October 2017 meeting of the Conservators.	Report not yet due.
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