BRUNDALL PARISH COUNCIL BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

REPORT ON BIODIVERSITY AT CHURCH FEN, CREMERS MEADOW, LOW FARM WOOD AND COUNTRYSIDE PARK

Prepared by:

Brundall Parish Council Biodiversity Working Group

DECEMBER 2023

CONTENTS

		PAGE
1.	Executive Summary	1
2.	Introduction	2
3.	Background	4
4.	Methodology	7
5.	Phase 1 Habitat Survey – Results	8
	a. Church Fen	8
	b. Cremer's Meadow	9
	c. Low Farm Wood	10
	d. Countryside Park	11
6.	Assessment of Current Biodiversity	13
	a. Church Fen	13
	b. Cremer's Meadow	14
	c. Low Farm Wood	15
	d. Countryside Park	15
7.	Opportunities for Biodiversity Enhancement	17
	a. Church Fen	17
	b. Cremer's Meadow	17
	c. Low Farm Wood	18
	d. Countryside Park	18
Refere	ences	20
APPEN	NDICES	
	A: BPC Biodiversity Vision	22
	B: BPC Biodiversity Action Plan	24
	C: Species Lists	26
D: Recommended Biodiversity Action Plans		42

Prepared By	Date	Status
BWG	16.10.23	Draft Rev.0
BWG	17.10.23	Draft Rev.1
BWG	7.12.23	Draft Rev.2
BWG	13.11.23	Draft Rev.3
BWG	28.11.23	FINAL
BWG	19.12.23	FINAL.Rev.01

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Brundall Parish Council (BPC) owns/leases four sites in the parish: Church Fen, Cremers Meadow, Low Farm Wood and Countryside Park. The sites are important community assets for the residents of Brundall and others who visit the village. Each site comprises different types of natural habitat and ecological composition.

An ecological survey (Phase 1 Habitat Survey) of the sites was carried out by consultants appointed by BPC in 2015. This survey identified and mapped the habitats and ecological condition of each site at that time and the species of vegetation present (*Phase 1 Habitat Survey of Brundall Rural Landholdings, The Landscape Partnership*). The 2015 study also included recommended individual management plans for the sites.

Since 2015, the four sites have been managed by teams of volunteers appointed by BPC and the Broadland Tree Warden Network. Management plans for each site are developed by the individual groups looking after the sites and these are submitted to BPC for approval, typically on an annual basis.

Changes have occurred to the habitats of the sites over the years, some due to natural ecological succession and some due to management activities. The biodiversity of the four sites was not assessed during the previous 2015 studies and hence there is no baseline information on this important issue.

In 2023, BPC established a dedicated Biodiversity Working Group (BWG) to advise the Council on biodiversity matters in the parish and to facilitate bringing forward the Council's Wildlife and Diversity Vision (*Brundall Parish Council, Wildlife and Diversity Vision*, 2021). During 2023, the BWG carried out new Phase 1 Habitat surveys at each site in order to provide up to date information on the changes that had occurred since the original 2015 studies and to establish their biodiversity status. These surveys will form a baseline from which future biodiversity assessments of the four sites can be measured.

This report presents the findings of the updated surveys.

The study has shown that each of the sites has its own intrinsic ecological value and contribution to the biodiversity of the parish. This report includes a review of the biodiversity status of each site and presents options for how this might be enhanced in the future through specific management approaches.

2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Biodiversity (biological diversity) is the term used to describe all the organisms, species and populations on planet Earth, including their genetic composition, variations and interactions within ecosystems. Maintaining and enhancing biodiversity is recognised as an essential requirement for sustaining life on earth for all living things, including humans.
- 2.2 Brundall Parish Council (BPC) owns/leases four sites in the parish: Church Fen, Cremers Meadow, Low Farm Wood and Countryside Park. The sites are important community assets for the residents of Brundall and others who visit the village. They are located in different parts of the parish and were acquired over a period of several years. Their locations are shown in Figure 2.1.
- 2.3 Management of these sites is carried out by volunteers who conduct maintenance and other activities according to plans agreed with BPC, typically on an annual basis.
- 2.4 In 2015, a consultancy study was conducted by The Landscape Partnership which assessed the (then) condition of these sites in terms of their ecological status and provided a series of recommendations on how the management of the sites should be carried out in the future. The report on this work was presented to BPC and has formed the basis of how these four sites have been maintained/managed since 2015 [*The Landscape Partnership, 2015*].
- 2.5 Since 2015, there has been no systematic review of the implementation of the consultant's recommendations or of the progress of the management of the four sites.
- 2.6 In 2023, BPC established a dedicated Biodiversity Working Group (BWG) to advise the Council on biodiversity matters in the parish and to facilitate bringing forward the Council's Wildlife and Diversity Vision [Brundall Parish Council, Wildlife and Diversity Vision Appendix A]. A Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) was subsequently developed by the BWG to provide a framework for implementation of this Vision and to support future biodiversity activities within Brundall [Appendix B].
- 2.7 One of the first tasks of the BWG was to review the current biodiversity status of the four BPC owned/leased sites and to assess the changes that had occurred since the original 2015 Landscape Partnership study. It was also charged with advising BPC on future management of the sites including options for how biodiversity could be enhanced.
- 2.8 This report presents the findings of the first phase of the work carried out by the BWG during 2023. It includes an assessment of the current biodiversity status of each of the four sites and presents recommendations on possible management strategies for enhancing this at each site.

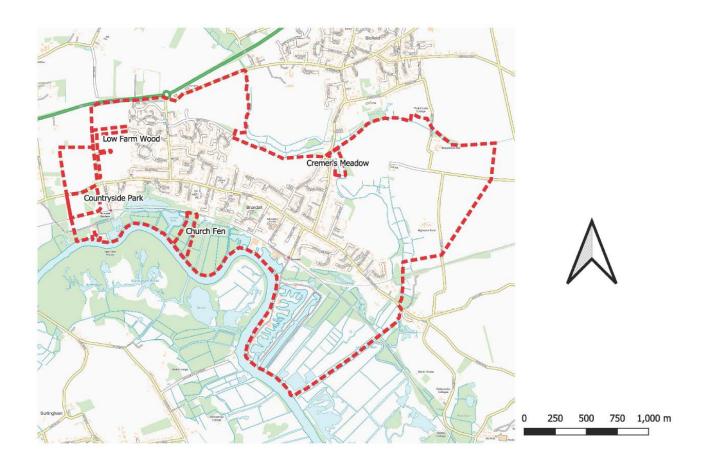


FIG.2.1 LOCATION OF STUDY SITES

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 The four sites are different in character and in terms of habitat type and how they are used and managed.

Church Fen

- 3.2 Church Fen is designated as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR). It occupies an area of approximately 3.2 ha and was purchased by BPC in 1980. It was originally an area of salt grazing by sheep, but with the decline in this activity since the early 20th century, the area has undergone natural succession to mixed woodland fen. In 1998, BPC designated the site as a conservation area and it subsequently achieved the status of Local Nature Reserve in 2003. The site abuts the River Yare and is subject to tidal inflows and outflows from the river. Dikes are present along the boundaries of the site which channel the water.
- 3.3 The River Yare forms the southern boundary of the site and the Norwich to Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft railway line forms the northern boundary. To the West of the site is Brundall Broad, which comprises carr woodland, scrub and ditches. To the East is further carr woodland, scrub, ditches and reed bed. Brundall Dyke, with moorings, lies further to the east of the site. The site is accessed via Church Lane, and a crossing over the railway line.
- 3.4 The woodland is dominated by alder, willow and ash, with sycamore on the drier ground, and an understorey of sallow, dogwood and many other species, including those that have been planted. These include a large number on non-native tree and shrub species. The trees have a good age structure, a well-developed shrub layer and plenty of standing deadwood. The fen is nutrient-enriched, and therefore species-poor, but includes gypsywort, water avens, large bitter-cress, hemp-agrimony, greater tussock-sedge, common valerian and skullcap. Himalayan Balsam and other invasive non-native species are locally abundant and possibly increasing. There is limited information on the fauna present, but birdlife includes breeding Cetti's warbler and most common woodland species, and otter, water vole and Chinese water deer have been recorded. Public access is low key, the circular walk being used mainly by dog walkers and less frequently for family walks. It provides the only public access to the riverbank from the village, and is popular with anglers, and also has the only public moorings at Brundall.
- 3.5 There is a dedicated footpath around the site, which allows walkers to enjoy the site safely and without disturbance to the majority of the reserve habitats and wildlife occupying it. Over the years this footpath has become eroded leaving some tree roots exposed. Options are now being considered by BPC for improving the footpath.
- 3.6 Important animal species known to inhabit the reserve include Water Vole and Otter.

Cremers Meadow

- 3.7 Cremer's Meadow covers an area of approximately 1.8 ha comprising grassland, fen vegetation, ditches, woodland, trees and scrub. There is also a large pond in the central area of the site that is fed by Run Dike. There are a number of mature trees on the site including native and non-native species. Some of these trees border the pond and will shed leaves into the pond every year, contributing to eutrophication of the water body. Over the years there has been a steady inflow of nutrients and sediment into the pond which has led to a significant build-up of sediment at the bottom.
- 3.8 Cremers Meadow is notable for its species rich low lying wet meadow on the east of the site which was originally grazed, but is now subject to periodic mowing.
- 3.9 Originally in private ownership, the site was acquired by BPC in 2015 and is designated as County Wildlife site by Norfolk Wildlife Trust.
- 3.10 At the time of the original Landscape Partnership Study in 2015, there were several buildings and structures on the site. There were also various materials and debris dumped during its former ownership. Extensive work by volunteers (*Friends of Cremers Meadow*) since 2015 have cleared much of the debris and restored the natural habitat. Unsafe buildings and structures have also been removed.
- 3.11 Run Dike flows along part of the north boundary of the site and then along the eastern boundary. This watercourse originates near to Plumstead Green in Great and Little Plumstead CP, where it is called Witton Run. Flowing south past the County Wildlife Sites, adjacent to Witton Lane and Birch Grove, Witton Run becomes Run Dike as it enters Brundall. From the point at which Run Dike flows past Cremer's Meadow, it continues to flow south past High Noon Farm County Wildlife Site. As the watercourse passes under the railway line it becomes the Lackford Run where it flows between Bradeston Marsh to the west and Strumpshaw Fen RSPB reserve to the east.

Low Farm Wood

3.12 Low Farm Wood is an 'F' shaped parcel of land located to the north of Postwick Lane. It comprises an area of deciduous woodland that was planted around 20 years ago, together with smaller areas of older mixed deciduous and coniferous woodland. The majority of the site is surrounded by arable farm land and is accessed by a footpath from Postwick Lane. Since BPC took over management of the site, under an informal arrangement with Norfolk County Council, it has been managed by the Broadland Tree Warden network. Management of the woodland has included significant thinning of trees, creation of new paths and some additional planting.

Countryside Park

- 3.13 Brundall Countryside Park was created in 2014 on a former agricultural site. It is approximately 5 ha in area and is divided into two distinct areas: a western half which is allocated to allotments for Brundall residents and an eastern half comprising managed grassland, shrubs and trees. There are wide circular pathways created by mowing that allow easy access to the site for walkers.
- 3.14 Since BPC took over the site, there have been many significant changes in the use of the land. These changes include the creation of 50+ allotments, planting of native broadleaved woodland and shrub, creation of a community orchard, a wildflower area and pathways. A hedgerow of native species has also been planted around the allotment area.
- 3.15 The site is used for recreation including a parkrun every Saturday and is also used by dog walkers.
- 3.16 Within the allotment area there are five mature oak trees.
- 3.17 The original community orchard suffered from lack of management and many of the original trees did not survive. Recently (2023), a new orchard has been planted and is now being managed exclusively by the Broadland Tree Warden Network. There is a rectangular shaped basin located near the north east boundary of the site which does contain water at certain times of the year. This receives run-off from Postwick Lane during periods of rainfall. There is also a small excavation in the south west corner which was originally designed to take excess water from the adjacent pathway, which tends to flood in wet weather. However, at the time of production of this report, there are no connections between the pathway and the excavation so the basin does not currently perform its intended function.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 A survey of the habitats and species at each site was completed by BWG over the period May to August 2023. The surveys were conducted according to the protocol detailed in JNCC Phase 1 Habitat Surveys [JNCC 2010, 2016]. A Phase 1 habitat survey is a standardised system for surveying, classifying and mapping wildlife habitats. Any habitats present and areas or features of ecological interest within such habitats are recorded and mapped by the surveyors. In addition to the habitat surveys, vegetation species at each site were recorded.
- 4.2 The JNCC method prescribed for a Phase 1 survey is as follows: each parcel of land in the survey area is visited by a trained surveyor and the vegetation is mapped on to digitised Ordnance Survey maps, usually at a scale of 1:10,000, in terms of some ninety specified habitat types, using standard colour codes. The use of colour codes on the habitat maps allows rapid visual assessment of the extent and distribution of different habitat types. Further information is gained from the use of dominant species codes within many habitat types and from descriptive 'target notes' which give a brief account of particular areas of interest. The target notes are an essential part of Phase 1 survey and provide the basis for selection of sites for Phase 2 survey and for decision-making in relation to conservation. It is planned to add Target Notes during subsequent stages of the work in 2024.
- 4.3 Once mapped, the habitat areas are measured on the maps and statistics compiled on the extent and distribution of each habitat type. The end products of a Phase 1 survey are (a) habitat maps, (b) target notes and (c) statistics.
- 4.4 The above methodology was used to compile updated habitat maps for each of the four sites in this study.
- 4.5 Species lists compiled during the surveys are provided in Appendix C.
- 4.6 In addition to the field surveys described above, the BWG also carried out a breeding birds survey and commenced a wide ranging Biodiversity Audit of the whole of Brundall. Information from these studies is included in this report where appropriate. These additional studies are ongoing and will be reported separately.

Limitations of the Surveys

4.7 There are certain limitations that apply to the species lists compiled during Phase 1 surveys which are due to the seasonality of vegetation and their presence or absence during the survey period. Some gaps in the latest species lists may therefore be present. This will be addressed by repeat surveys to be carried out in 2024 at different times of the year. Work planned for 2024 on breeding birds and compiling the Biodiversity Audit will add to the initial information gathered in 2023 and will be used to refine the results reported here.

5 PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEYS-RESULTS

5.1 The results of the habitat surveys at Church Fen, Cremers Meadow, Low Farm Wood and Brundall Countryside Park are shown in Figures 5.1 to 5.4.

Church Fen

5.2 The habitats within Church Fen remain broadly the same as those recorded during the previous (2015) surveys i.e. mixed woodland fen dominated by alder and willow. There are large areas of the site which are under water at various times of the year due to seasonal flooding from the River Yare. The main habitats comprise semi natural broadleaved woodland, swamp and running open water (eutrophic) —see figure 5.1.

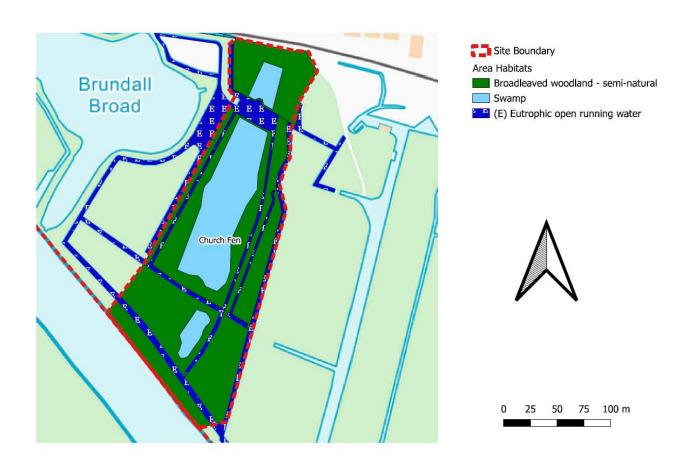


FIGURE 5.1: PHASE1 HABITAT MAP-CHURCH FEN 2023

Cremers Meadow

- 5.3 The habitat of Cremers Meadow has undergone significant change since 2015. The Phase 1 habitat survey in 2015 recorded several habitats including semi-improved grassland, ephemeral/short perennial and tall ruderal vegetation, running water, species-rich fen, scattered trees, scrub and plantation woodland. In addition there were several areas of rubbish tip and numerous structures. The botanical surveys carried out in early spring and late summer 2015 recorded numerous species. In excess of 250 native and non-native vascular species and 25 non-vascular (bryophyte) species were recorded within Cremer's Meadow. The activities of the Friends of Cremers Meadow have transformed the site into what is now an important County Wildlife site (Norfolk Wildlife Trust no.2277) as well as a recreation area hosting many visitors.
- 5.4 The results of the 2023 habitat survey are shown in Figure 5.2. Although the main components of the habitat remain essentially the same as that found in 2015, there have been some changes to the areas covered by certain habitat types and the vegetation that they support. In addition, various items of construction and other waste have been removed from the site, leading to an overall more natural environment.

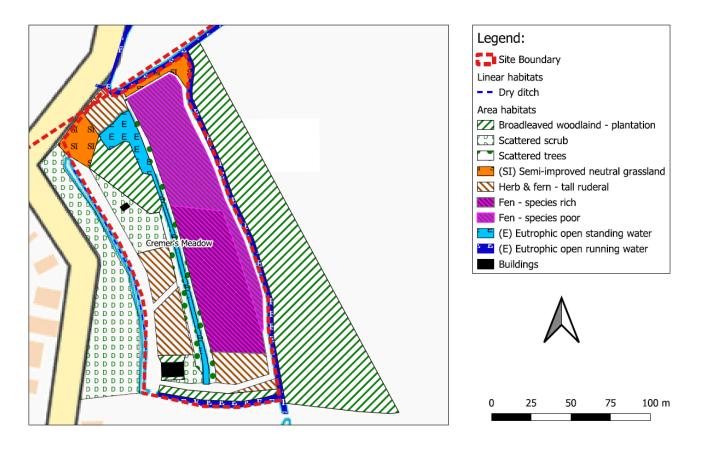


FIGURE 5.2 PHASE 1 HABITAT MAP-CREMERS MEADOW 2023

Low Farm Wood

- 5.6 Low Farm Wood is managed by the Broadland Tree Warden Network on behalf of BPC. Since taking over the management of the site, the Broadland Tree Warden Network have carried out extensive thinning of the overcrowded tree and shrub vegetation and constructed a circular walkway to allow visitors to access the site. Some planting of native trees and woodland bulbs has also been carried out.
- 5.7 The habitat map resulting from the 2023 Phase 1 survey is shown in Figure 5.3. The bulk of the site is covered by plantation woodland with a small area of semi natural mixed woodland on the western boundary. There are also species rich hedges along some of the site boundaries.
- 5.8 The work of the Broadland Tree Warden Network in clearing overgrown vegetation, thinning of trees and path construction has transformed a largely inaccessible area of woodland with limited amenity value into a valuable and useable community resource.

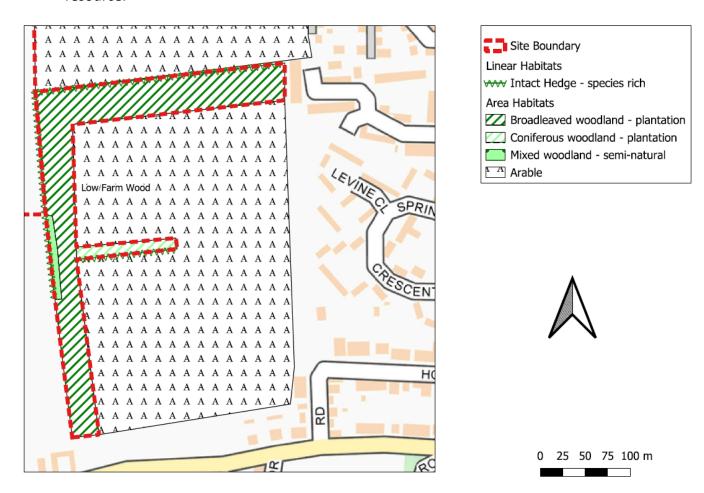


FIGURE 5.3: PHASE 1 HABITAT MAP LOW FARM WOOD 2023

Countryside Park

- 5.9 Brundall Countryside Park has undergone dramatic change since it was acquired by BPC in 2014. Originally used for agriculture, the site has been transformed into mixed use recreational, woodland, grassland and shrub. The western half of the site comprises allotments for Brundall residents. There has been extensive hedgerow planting around the allotment area and a car park and a community orchard facility have also been provided. The original native tree planting has developed over the years through self-seeding. There are also small areas of wildflower meadow which provide important habitat for a range of species. Pathways within the main park area are maintained by periodic mowing.
- 5.10 There is a sand covered track which runs around the allotment area and is used by runners every Saturday of the year. The track degrades during the winter months due to this usage, but appears to recover during other times of the year.
- 5.11 Figure 5.4 shows the results of the 2023 habitat surveys.

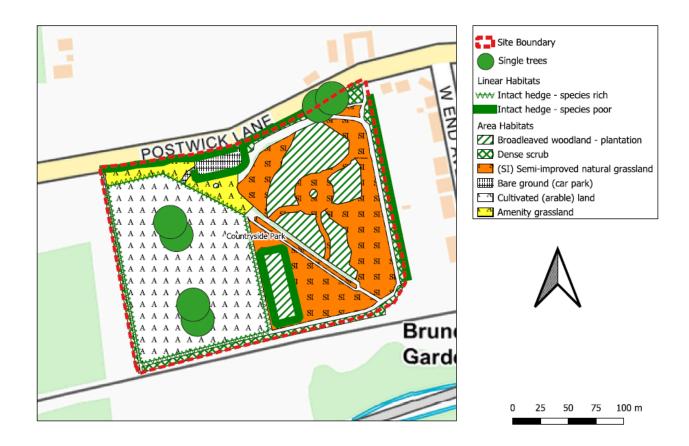


FIG 5.4 PHASE 1 HABITAT MAP COUNTRYSIDE PARK 2023

5.11 There is a small semi–natural depression located in the north east corner of the site which forms a small pond during wetter times of the year. It was dry at the time the Phase 1 habitat survey was conducted. There is also a small excavation in the south

west corner which was constructed to alleviate surface water accumulation on the designated parkrun track. This was also dry at the time of the surveys.

6 ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT BIODIVERSITY STATUS

6.1 The following summaries of biodiversity status are based on the data available. This comes from a combination of a desk study to collate species data from multiple sources, the Phase 1 surveys during 2023 and some anecdotal records. The data are consistently good for plant species but very patchy for all animal groups. More data is required for all sites before a comprehensive biodiversity assessment can be made, and these accounts should be treated as a provisional assessment.

Church Fen

- 6.2 The desk study located 331 species records for Church Fen involving 184 plant, 6 fungi and 19 animal species.
- 6.3 The woodland habitat which covers most of the site has developed mainly during the past 150 years, and the site has been assessed as Wet Woodland priority habitat. Much of the southern half of the site is dominated by alder, ash and willow, with a diverse ground flora including Marsh Marigold, Water Avens, Creeping Jenny and Large Bittercress. However, the northern parts of the site have a much higher frequency of non-native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, some of which date from the time it was managed as a garden, and others are more recent invaders. In places, the site is dominated by the invasive Himalayan Balsam. Breeding birds have not yet been surveyed, but Cetti's Warbler, Bullfinch and Marsh Tit, which are more or less confined to wet woodland habitat locally, are present and may breed, and wintering species include Lesser Redpoll and Siskin, which are specialist feeders on alder seeds.
- 6.4 The remnant area of reedbed/tall fen vegetation is rather species poor and dominated by common reed, but there are a few less common species including Purple Small-reed and Stingless Nettle. This habitat has not been surveyed for invertebrates, but there are some interesting casual records of nationally scarce or localised flies (Oxycera nigricornis) and beetles (Crudosilis ruficollis, Demetrias imperialis) from the site that suggest this habitat may support an important invertebrate assemblage, typical of similar habitat nearby.
- 6.5 The ditches have a very low abundance and diversity of aquatic plants and provide poor quality aquatic habitat as a result of heavy shading and the strongly tidal water regime which will occasionally be saline.
- 6.6 The richest parts of the site are certainly of equivalent habitat quality to parts of the Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI directly across the River Yare, and it is likely that further invertebrate recording would find many more important invertebrate species associated with the native trees and swamp vegetation.

Cremers Meadow

- 6.7 The desk study located 497 species records for Cremer's Meadow involving 287 plant and 65 animal species.
- The "meadow" is more accurately described as a transition between fen meadow and tall fen habitat. It is of very high biodiversity value and likely to qualify as Lowland Fen priority habitat. This part of the site habitat was heavily grazed in the past and is now reasserting its natural vegetation form and improving in biodiversity potential. It is species-rich, with many notable plant species including Star Sedge, Oval Sedge and Southern Marsh Orchid. This type of vegetation typically supports a very rich assemblage of moths, flies, beetles and other invertebrates, and the presence of two notable specialist bees, Yellow Loosestrife Bee and Red Bartsia Bee, and a scarce wasp, *Gymnomerus laevipes*, suggest this habitat deserves formal invertebrate surveys.
- 6.9 This site has two significant water bodies, the central watercourse which is managed as a pond and the Run Dike stream, though there is little information available for aquatic species at this site. The central pond appears to be of rather poor ecological quality, with an abundance of duckweed, indicative of nutrient enrichment, and a deep bed of sediment. A high proportion of the pond margins and more than 50% of the open water is overhung by trees and shrubs, which are shading out emergent plants and the fallen leaves will be depleting oxygen in the water. While the stream attracts a few waterbirds and dragonflies, it has trapezoidal channel which has been over-deepened to aid land drainage, a uniform bed of fine sediment, low oxygen levels (EA classification), high Nitrogen levels (Natural England data), and does not appear to be of high ecological potential. The weir at the Northern end of the site is a barrier to fish and invertebrate movements.
- 6.10 The position of these wetland habitats within the ecological corridor along the Run Dike stream which link with the high-quality wetland habitats of the Yare valley, adds to their biodiversity value and potential.
- 6.11 The dry habitats at the site comprise a structurally diverse and plant species-rich mosaic of woodland, scrub, dry grassland and ruderal vegetation. Within these dry habitats, there is a high frequency of planted, ornamental non-native species including some potentially invasive species, which are of little biodiversity value. More than a quarter of plant species recorded are non-native. Native trees and shrubs, including Alder, Grey Willow, Silver Birch, Bramble, Elder and Dog Rose are also present, and there is a high diversity of native plant species in places. Some unshaded grassy areas support a high diversity of nectar plants, including Wild Basil, Viper's-bugloss and Wild Carrot. These areas are likely to support a notable invertebrate assemblage, and the S.41-listed wasp Cerceris quinquefasciata is among the species recorded (Section 41 Priority Species List, Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006).

Low Farm Wood

- 6.12 The desk study located 245 species records for Low Farm Wood including 140 plant and 23 animal species.
- 6.13 This woodland is a mix of young woodland planted in 2006, some mature shelterbelts and old hedgerows with mature trees. The mature trees are a mix of Corsican Pine, Pedunculate Oak and Ash, and the trees planted in 2006 are mainly native species. Since 2015 there has been some additional under-planting in the young woodland which has added several non-native species. Twelve species of native shrub have been recorded at the site but only 9 of 23 tree species recorded are native species.
- 6.14 The old hedgerow and mature trees contribute significantly to the biodiversity value of the woodland as a whole. The breeding birds survey in 2023 recorded 24 potential breeding species using the site. Of these, at least 26 pairs of 13 species nested, which included 1 red-listed and 3 amber-listed species. Territories were very much clustered near to mature trees and old hedgerows. The mature trees provide nest holes for birds and have potential to support bat roosts.
- 6.15 The structure of the young woodland is very uniform, with a high frequency of self-sown willows (3-4 species) creating a high stem density and with little shrub layer. Some recent thinning has created a few gaps in the canopy, but overall canopy cover is >90%, and there is little potential to support most woodland butterfly species and many woodland birds, which need open glades. The ground flora is typical of woodland that has been recently planted on arable land, being rather uniform and dominated by ruderal and grassland species and includes relatively few non-native species. A few woodland species are present, including bluebell and snowdrop, which are understood to have been planted.
- 6.16 The wood functions well as a wildlife corridor for woodland/hedgerow species, connecting with Countryside Park and the continuous belt of valley side woodland on the North side of the River Yare, but its biodiversity value will be constrained by the narrowness of the site. This will limit its value to woodland specialist species which need more extensive woodland areas or cannot tolerate the proximity to people using the paths, and the adjacent intensive arable cultivation, which will damage roots and potentially cause fertiliser and pesticides drift.

Countryside Park

- 6.17 The desk study located 2144 species records for the Countryside Park involving 191 plant and 248 animal species.
- 6.18 Since its creation from an arable field in 2014-15, most of the grassland habitat has been established through natural colonisation, but a small area of species-rich grassland was sown and this is the most diverse area, with species including Field Scabious, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Tufted Vetch and Wild Marjoram. These species are

slowly spreading around the site. Bees and wasps have been subject to a study at this site since 2015 and this has demonstrated the high biodiversity value of the grassland, with 90 species of bees, including the rare Large Scabious Mining Bee *Andrena hattorfiana*, and the rare wasps *Nysson interruptus*, *Argogorytes fargeii* and *Chrysis gracillima*. The Wasp Spider *Argiope bruennichi* and many butterfly and dragonfly species have also been recorded.

- 6.19 The young, planted woodland of mainly native species is slowly developing and starting to attract nesting birds. This has been planted with clumps of shrubs which will create a diverse structure as it matures. Several hedges, the orchard, allotments, and the scrubby margins of the site all add to the habitat diversity at the park. A breeding bird survey in 2023 recorded 39 potential breeding species using the site. Of these, at least 29 pairs of 13 species nested, which included 3 red-listed and 4 amber-listed species. These were concentrated around the mature trees within and around the margins of the park.
- 6.20 Throughout the grassland, self-sown shrubs and trees have created a nice ecotone between grassland and woodland, though in places these are now threatening to overtake the grassland habitat and cover the whole site in a willow and sycamore forest.
- 6.21 This rich mosaic of grassland, scrub and woodland habitats already forms an important stepping stone in the local ecological network that is helping the recovery or spread of many species such as those mentioned above.

7 OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT

- 7.1 Various measures can be taken to improve biodiversity at a particular site. The approach taken depends on the site itself, its functions and uses, the overall aims and objectives for the site and the resources available. It is important to decide from the outset what the objectives are for a given site, and how these objectives can be achieved whilst ensuring biodiversity is not only maintained but also, wherever possible, enhanced.
- 7.2 Sites may be managed for a particular species or group of species. But managing for one group may conflict with another. As a general rule, increasing biodiversity can often be achieved by diversifying the range of habitats or vegetation available at a site. This can be achieved by, for example, varying mowing regimes, planting or seeding with native tree and shrub species, or occasional soil disturbance. Animal diversity may be increased by providing a range of fruit sources, for example by not clipping berry-bearing shrubs until January, and by allowing wildflowers to flower for nectar provision and to bear seed as food for birds. Site drainage can also have an important impact.
- 7.3 Following the results of the updated Phase 1 habitat surveys, the BWG reviewed possible opportunities for biodiversity enhancement at each of the four sites. The following sections describe the options that might be considered. Further details and recommendations are provided in Appendix D.

Church Fen

- 7.4 Options for biodiversity enhancement at Church Fen are limited due its essential natural condition. The site already provides a range of natural habitats which have developed over a considerable period of time. However, if the site is not actively managed it will gradually decline in terms of biodiversity value as incremental changes to the habitat through natural succession and the advance of invasive species reduces its importance to a wide range of species.
- 7.5 Active management of the site will arrest the process of natural succession and prevent these losses. This will require a long term woodland management plan to be developed and implemented for the site. This plan should include maintaining the open fen/reed habitat and restoring the water balance in the aquatic areas as far as possible.
- 7.6 It is equally important that vigorous control of invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam is practiced to prevent their spread throughout the fen.

Cremers Meadow

7.7 Cremers Meadow is a high value site in terms of habitat type and biodiversity.

Much has been achieved on the site by the volunteers who manage it (Friends of

- Cremers Meadow) and work now needs to focus on how best to maintain and if possible enhance its biodiversity status.
- 7.8 The management of the pond is a considerable challenge due to its overall size, nutrient status and historical sediment build up. However, restoring the pond would provide Cremers Meadow with a significant opportunity to enhance the biodiversity of the site in terms of aquatic ecology/diversity. This is therefore seen as a priority issue with respect to biodiversity enhancement.
- 7.9 The species rich fen area is also of high value in terms of its habitat/biodiversity. However, it is gradually undergoing natural succession in terms of vegetation spread and its nature is changing.

Low Farm Wood

7.10 Low Farm Wood provides important habitat for birds as well as a wide range of insects, and other invertebrates. It probably also supports small mammals and other species. Its biodiversity could be enhanced through a long term woodland management plan that encourages birds to visit and breed on the site, as well as encouraging the preservation, growth and development of hedgerows. Planting of an appropriate mix of native trees/shrubs will also provide improvement of the site in terms of biodiversity.

Countryside Park

- 7.11 Countryside Park is at a relatively early stage in terms of its change from agricultural land of limited biodiversity value to a rich mosaic of habitats which provide food and shelter to a wide range of species. To build on what has been achieved in the past few years will require a long term plan that recognises the importance of the site's specific characteristics and habitats and potential for future biodiversity enhancement.
- 7.12 The newly planted woodland areas are developing well, but they will require managing through thinning and removal where appropriate of self-seeded trees and shrubs. Decisions are needed on how much woodland/shrub is wanted on the site relative to amenity grassland/semi-improved grassland and this needs to be incorporated into the long term woodland management plan. The outcome of these decisions and relative distribution of woodland and other areas will determine what is possible in terms of enhancing the biodiversity of the Countryside Park.
- 7.13 Providing a wildlife pond on the site presents a significant opportunity for a substantial enhancement to its overall biodiversity and should be seriously considered. Countryside Park occupies a large area and could accommodate a reasonably large wildlife pond which would provide a home to a wide range of aquatic species. If developed and appropriately managed, such a pond would

- provide not only biodiversity improvements, but benefits to the community in terms of interest to those visiting the park and educational visits.
- 7.14 The allotment area represents a specific part of the site which has been developed for use by Brundall residents to grow food/plants.
- 7.15 Whilst the primary objective of allotments is to grow food, they provide important habitats for a range of animals and birds. They form useful habitat mosaics and wildlife corridors, often linking up with parks, tracks, hedgerows, churchyards and rivers; providing food, shelter and breeding sites for insects, birds, mammals and amphibians.
- 7.16 The presence of the allotment area provides a range of opportunities for enhancing the biodiversity of Brundall Countryside Park. By managing individual plots, or collectively managing the allotment area, plot holders can help to promote a balanced ecosystem that contributes to local biodiversity; it will also increase the productivity of their plots and help to deter pests. Specific activities that plot holders can do that promote biodiversity include:
 - Use of compost on plots in the spring. This helps promote earthworm activity which promotes soil aeration and plant growth
 - Crop rotation. Not planting the same crop in the same place every year restricts the ability of pests to develop.
 - Grow a range of fruit vegetables and herbs. This provides food for bees and other insects at different times of the year.
 - Plant native flowers and berried bushes. These provide food for birds.
 - Provide a source of water. A shallow dish with some pebbles will allow a range of birds and insects to drink.
 - Provide shelter in the form of leaf piles and other plant debris which will provide cover and food for a wide range of animals including frogs, toads, hedgehogs and field mice.
- 7.17 The key to achieving the potential biodiversity improvements discussed above lies in developing and implementing appropriate biodiversity action plans for each site.

 Recommended action plans are summarised in Appendix D.

REFERENCES

- 1. The Landscape Partnership, 2015: Survey of Brundall Rural Land Holdings
- 2. JNCC Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey 2016
- 3. Broadland Tree Warden Network Church Fen Local Nature Reserve Management Plan Draft February 2021
- 4. Broadland Tree Warden Network Low Farm Wood Management Plan February 2020

APPENDICES

- A. Brundall Parish Council Wildlife and Biodiversity Vision, July 2021
- B. Brundall Parish Council Biodiversity Action Plan 2023
- C. Species Lists (2023)
- D. Recommended Biodiversity Action Plans: Church Fen, Cremer's Meadow, Low Farm Wood, Countryside Park

APPENDIX A

BPC Wildlife and Biodiversity Vision

Brundall Parish Council Wildlife and Bio-diversity Vision



This policy has been created to provide an overview document which aims to make Brundall a better place to live for both people and wildlife.

Brundall Parish Council aims to provide the following to enhance the natural surroundings which will bring greater bio-diversity, a greater feeling of well-being and a natural environment to benefit all.

The Council aims to:

- Appoint a specialist expert group from within the Parish Council and the Community which will take a lead on wildlife and bio-diversity
- Carry out a bio-diversity and wildlife audit which would inform future priorities.
- Ensure that there is a high-quality management plan for all areas of land owned by the PC which has input from the specialist group. These plans will be reviewed regularly.
- Communicate with the village community to ensure that they have access to factual information about the land owned and understand the aspirations for that land
- Undertake dialogue with firms who are building in the village to explore ways to increase wildlife and bio-diversity within any new sites
- Identify other areas of land not owned by the Parish and explore possibilities with the landowners for natural improvement
- Take opportunities to provide education about the benefits of improved bio-diversity.
- 8. Create and enhance green spaces within the village



Photo courtesy of Greg Chandler

Draft Wildlife and Bio-diversity Policy 5-7-2021

APPENDIX B

BPC Biodiversity Action Plan

BRUNDALL PARISH COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN (BAP)

Biodiversity (biological diversity) is the term used to describe all the organisms, species and populations on planet Earth, including their genetic composition, variations and interactions within ecosystems. Maintaining and enhancing biodiversity is recognised as an essential requirement for sustaining life on earth for all living things, including humans.

Following on from Brundall Parish Council's 'Wildlife and Biodiversity Vision', this document establishes the Council's framework Biodiversity Action Plan for Brundall, covering the period 2023 to 2028. Its purpose is to provide the overarching framework which will guide and inform the implementation of the strategy for conserving and, where possible, enhancing the biological diversity of Brundall for the benefit of the natural environment, the wildlife, plants and other species that inhabit the area, including the human population.

The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) shall:

- 1. Carry out Biodiversity Audits of those sites owned or leased by the Council to establish their present status with respect to biodiversity and to identify opportunities for biodiversity enhancement.
- 2. Establish appropriate guidelines and actions for those sites so that they are managed in a sustainable way, consistent with Brundall Parish Council's biodiversity Vision and this BAP.
- 3. Identify opportunities for biodiversity enhancement at other sites within the parish boundaries through investigation of land uses in the area and identification of sites/areas where the Council's Vision and this BAP could be implemented. This includes reviewing opportunities that may arise from planned future developments and on land that Brundall Parish Council may seek to acquire.
- 4. Identify potential threats to biodiversity that could arise as a result of:
 - a. Future development proposals
 - b. Existing or inappropriate land management practices
 - c. Habitat loss or degradation
 - d. Loss of species
 - e. Impacts of pollution
- 5. Promote awareness of biodiversity within the local community through appropriate community engagement initiatives such as providing information on results of biodiversity audits on the Council's website, display boards and at public meetings. Engagement with local schools will also form part of the campaign of awareness.
- 6. Identify further opportunities to preserve or enhance biodiversity on land occupied by local businesses and to enlist the support of local businesses in implementing this BAP for the benefit of all who live and work here.

This BAP will be reviewed every 5 years to ensure its appropriateness and effectiveness in achieving Brundall Parish Council's Vision and Objectives for biodiversity.

APPENDIX C

Species Lists (2023)

Scientific name Common name Date Acer platanoides May/June Norway Maple Acer pseudoplatanus Sycamore May/June Aegopodium podagraria Ground-elder May/June Aesculus hippocastanum Horse-chestnut May/June Agrostis stolonifera Creeping Bent May/June Alliaria petiolata Garlic Mustard May/June Allium paradoxum Few-flowered Garlic May/June Alnus glutinosa Alder May/June Angelica sylvestris Wild Angelica May/June Anthriscus sylvestris Cow Parsley May/June Apium nodiflorum Fool's-water-cress May/June Arctium minus Lesser Burdock May/June Arrhenatherum elatius False Oat-Grass May/June Lords-and-Ladies Arum maculatum May/June Bellis perennis Daisv Mav/June Berula erecta Lesser Water-parsnip May/June Brachypodium sylvaticum False-brome May/June Bryonia dioica White Bryony May/June May/June Buxus sempervirens Rox Purple Small-reed Calamagrostis canescens May/June Callitriche agg. Water-starwort May/June Caltha palustris Marsh-marigold May/June May/June Calystegia sepium Hedge Bindweed Cardamine hirsuta Hairy Bitter-cress May/June Cardamine pratensis Cuckooflower May/June Carex acutiformis Lesser Pond-sedge May/June Carex elata Tufted-sedge May/June Carex paniculata Greater Tussock-sedge May/June Carex pendula Pendulous Sedge May/June Carex remota Remote Sedge May/June Carex riparia Greater Pond-sedge May/June Circaea lutetiana Enchanter's-nightshade May/June Cirsium vulgare Spear Thistle May/June Cornus sericea Red-osier Dogwood May/June Corylus avellana Hazel May/June Crataegus monogyna Hawthorn Mav/June Dactylis glomerata Cock's-foot May/June Male-fern May/June Dryopteris filix-mas Epilobium hirsutum Great Willowherb May/June Field Horsetail May/June Equisetum arvense Equisetum palustre Marsh Horsetail May/June Eupatorium cannabinum Hemp-agrimony May/June Festuca rubra agg. Red Fescue May/June Meadowsweet May/June Filipendula ulmaria Fraxinus excelsior Ash May/June Galium aparine Cleavers May/June Galium palustre Marsh Bedstraw May/June Geranium molle Dove's-foot Crane's-bill May/June Geranium robertianum Herb-Robert May/June Geum rivale Water Avens May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	May/June
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	May/June
Glyceria maxima	Reed Sweet-grass	May/June
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivv	May/June
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant Hogweed	May/June
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	May/June
Humulus lupulus	Hop	May/June
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan	May/June
llex aquifolium	Holly	May/June
Impatiens capensis	Orange Balsam	May/June
Impatiens glandulifera	Indian Balsam	May/June
Iris foetidissima	Stinking Iris	May/June
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Iris	May/June
Juncus effusus	Soft-rush	May/June
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	May/June
Lamium purpureum	Red Dead-nettle	May/June
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	May/June
Ligustrum sinense	Chinese Privet	May/June
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild Privet	May/June
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass	May/June
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	May/June
Lycopus europaeus	Gipsywort	May/June
Lysimachia nemorum	Yellow Pimpernel	May/June
Lythrum salicaria	Purple-loosestrife	May/June
Malva sylvestris	Common Mallow	May/June
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	May/June
Mentha aquatica	Water Mint	May/June
Myosotis scorpioides	Water Forget-me-not	May/June
Nicandra physalodes	Apple-of-Peru	May/June
Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green Alkanet	May/June
Persicaria hydropiper	Water-pepper	May/June
Petasites fragrans	Winter Heliotrope	May/June
Phragmites australis	Common Reed	May/June
Phyllitis scolopendrium	Hart's-tongue	May/June
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	May/June
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	May/June
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass	May/June
Prunella vulgaris	Self-heal	May/June
Prunus avium	Wild Cherry	May/June
Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry Laurel	May/June
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	May/June
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	May/June
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	May/June
Ranunculus ficaria	Lesser Celandine	May/June
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	May/June
Rhamnus cathartica	Buckthorn	May/June
Rhododendron ponticum	Rhododendron	May/June
Ribes rubrum	Red Currant	May/June
Rosa canina agg.	Dog-rose	May/June
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	May/June

Church Fen - plant species recorded

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Rudbeckia laciniata	Coneflower	May/June
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	May/June
Salix cinerea	Grey Willow	May/June
Salix fragilis	Crack-willow	May/June
Sambucus nigra	Elder	May/June
Scrophularia auriculata	Water Figwort	May/June
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort	May/June
Silene dioica	Red Campion	May/June
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet	May/June
Sonchus asper	Prickly Sow-thistle	May/June
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	May/June
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	May/June
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry	May/June
Taraxacum agg.	Dandelion	May/June
Taxus baccata	Yew	May/June
Tilia x europaea	Lime	May/June
Torilis japonica	Upright Hedge-parsley	May/June
Trifolium repens	White Clover	May/June
Typha latifolia	Bulrush	May/June
Ulmus glabra x minor sensu Stac	Elm sp.	May/June
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	May/June
Urtica dioica intermediate ssp.	Stingless Nettle	May/June
Valeriana officinalis	Common Valerian	May/June
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose	May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Acer campester	Field Maple	May/June
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	May/June
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	May/June
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground-elder	May/June
Agrostis capillaris	Common Bent	May/June
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent	May/June
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	May/June
Alnus glutinosa	Alder	May/June
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	May/June
Angelica sylvestris	Wild Angelica	May/June
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	May/June
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	May/June
Apium nodiflorum	Fool's-water-cress	May/June
Araucaria araucana	Monkey Puzzle	May/June
Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	May/June
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-Grass	May/June
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	May/June
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies	May/June
Ballota nigra	Black Horehound	May/June
Barbarea vulgaris	Winter-cress	May/June
Bellis perennis	Daisy	May/June
Berberis darwinii	Darwin's Barberry	May/June
Berberis gagnepainii	Gagnepain's Barberry	May/June
Berberis jamesiana	James Barberry	October
Berberis thunbergii	Thunberg's Barberry	May/June
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	May/June
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch	May/June
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony	May/June
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly-bush	May/June
Calamintha nepeta	Calamint	May/June
Callitriche agg.	Water-starwort	May/June
Caltha palustris	Marsh-marigold	May/June
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed	May/June
Cardamine flexuosa	Wavy Bitter-cress	May/June
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy Bitter-cress	May/June
Cardamine pratensis	Cuckooflower	May/June
Carex buchananii	Silver-spiked Sedge	May/June
Carex disticha	Brown Sedge	May/June
Carex echinata	Star Sedge	May/June
Carex hirta	Hairy Sedge	May/June
Carex nigra	Common Sedge	May/June
Carex ovalis	Oval Sedge	May/June
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge	May/June
Carpinus betulus	Hombeam	May/June
Centaurea nigra agg.	Black/Brown Knapweed	May/June
Centranthus ruber	Red Valerian	May/June
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	May/June
Cerastium glomeratum	Sticky Mouse-ear	May/June
Chaerophyllum temulum	Rough Chervil	May/June
Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	Lawson's Cypress	May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Chamaenerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willow-herb	May/June
Chelidonium majus	Greater Celandine	May/June
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	May/June
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	May/June
Cirsium palustre	Marsh Thistle	May/June
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	May/June
Clematis montana	Himalayan Clematis	May/June
Clinopodium vulgare	Wild Basil	May/June
Conyza canadensis	Canadian Fleabane	May/June
Conyza sumatrensis	Guernsey Fleabane	May/June
Cornus sericea	Red-osier Dogwood	May/June
Coronopus didymus	Lesser Swine-cress	May/June
Corylus avellana	Hazel	May/June
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	May/June
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawksbeard	May/June
Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora	Montbretia (C. aurea x pottsii)	May/June
Crocus vernus	Spring Crocus	May/June
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	May/June
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	May/June
Dactylorhiza praetermissa	Southern Marsh-orchid	May/June
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove	May/June
Dipsacus fullonum	Wild Teasel	May/June
Dryopteris dilatata	Broad Buckler-fern	May/June
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern	May/June
Echium vulgare	Viper's-bugloss	May/June
Eleocharis palustris	Common Spike-rush	May/June
Elytrigia repens	Common Couch	May/June
Epilobium ciliatum	American Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium tetragonum	Square-stalked Willowherb	May/June
Eranthis hyemalis	Winter Aconite	May/June
Eryngium planum	Blue Eryngo	May/June
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	May/June
Euonymus japonicus	Evergreen Spindle	May/June
Eupatorium cannabinum	Hemp-agrimony	May/June
Euphorbia amygdaloides subsp		May/June
Euphorbia lathyris	Caper Spurge	May/June
Euphorbia peplus	Petty Spurge	May/June
Fallopia japonica	Japanese Knotweed	May/June
Festuca arundinacea	Tall Fescue	May/June
Festuca rubra agg.	Red Fescue	May/June
Filago vulgaris	Common Cudweed	May/June
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	May/June
Forsythia x intermedia	Forsythia	May/June
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	May/June
Galanthus nivalis	Snowdrop	May/June
Galanthus plicatus	Pleated Snowdrop	May/June
Galium aparine	Cleavers	May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Galium mollugo	Hedge Bedstraw	May/June
Galium palustre	Marsh-bedstraw	May/June
Galium uliginosum	Fen Bedstraw	May/June
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	May/June
Geranium endressii	French Crane's-bill	May/June
Geranium lucidum	Shining Crane's-bill	May/June
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	May/June
Geranium pusillum	Small-flowered Crane's-bill	May/June
Geranium pratense	Meadow Crane's-bill	May/June
Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert	May/June
Geranium x oxonianum	Druce's Crane's-bill	May/June
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	May/June
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	May/June
Glyceria fluitans	Floating Sweet-grass	May/June
Glyceria maxima	Reed Sweet-grass	May/June
Gnaphalium uliginosum	Marsh Cudweed	May/June
Gunnera manicata	Brazilian Giant-rhubarb	May/June
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy	May/June
Helleborus foetidus	Stinking Hellebore	May/June
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	May/June
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	May/June
Holcus mollis	Creeping Soft-grass	May/June
Hordeum murinum	Wall Barley	May/June
Hordeum secalinum	Meadow Barley	May/June
Hyacinthus orientalis	Hyacinth	May/June
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan	May/June
Hypericum humifusum	Trailing St.John's-wort	October
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	May/June
Hypericum tetrapterum	Square-stalked St John's-wort	May/June
Hypochaeris radicata	Common Cat's-ear	May/June
llex aquifolium	Holly	May/June
Impatiens glandulifera	Indian Balsam	May/June
Iris foetidissima	Stinking Iris	May/June
Iris pseudacorus	Yellow Iris	May/June
Isolepis setacea	Bristle Club-rush	May/June
Juncus acutiflorus	Sharp-flowered Rush	May/June
Juncus articulatus	Jointed Rush	May/June
Juncus bufonius	Toad Rush	May/June
Juncus effusus	Soft-rush	May/June
Kerria japonica	Kerria	May/June
Kniphofia spp.	Red-hot Poker	May/June
Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	May/June
Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp		May/June
Lamium maculatum	Spotted Dead-nettle	May/June
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	May/June
Lathyrus latifolius	Broad-leaved Everlasting-pea	May/June
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling	May/June
Lemna gibba	Fat Duckweed	May/June
Lemna minor	Common Duckweed	May/June
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Leucanthemum x superbum	Shasta Daisy	May/June
Leucojum aestivum	Summer Snowflake	May/June
Linaria purpurea	Purple Toadflax	May/June
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle	May/June
Lotus comiculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	May/June
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	May/June
Lunaria annua	Honesty	May/June
Lychnis coronaria	Rose Campion	May/June
Lychnis flos-cuculi	Ragged-Robin	May/June
Lycopus europaeus	Gypsywort	May/June
Lysimachia punctata	Dotted Loosestrife	May/June
Lythrum salicaria	Purple-loosestrife	May/June
Mahonia aquifolium	Oregon-grape	May/June
Malus domestica	Apple	May/June
Malus sylvestris	Crab Apple	October
Malva moschata	Musk-mallow	May/June
Malva sylvestris	Common Mallow	May/June
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	May/June
Melissa officinalis	Lemon Balm	May/June
Mentha aquatica	Water Mint	May/June
Mentha spicata	Spearmint	October
Mimulus guttatus	Monkeyflower	May/June
Myosotis arvensis	Field Forget-me-not	May/June
Myosotis laxa	Tufted Forget-me-not	May/June
Myosotis scorpioides	Water Forget-me-not	May/June
Myosotis sylvatica	Wood Forget-me-not	May/June
Narcissus agg.	Cultivated Daffodil	May/June
Nigella damascena	Love-in-a-mist	May/June
Nymphaea alba	White Water-lily	May/June
Odontites vernus	Red Bartsia	May/June
Oenothera biennis	Common Evening-primrose	May/June
Oenothera glazioviana	Large-flowered Evening-primrose	May/June
Papaver rhoeas	Common Poppy	May/June
Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green Alkanet	May/June
Persicaria amphibia	Amphibious Bistort	May/June
Persicaria hydropiper	Water-pepper	May/June
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	May/June
Petasites fragrans	Winter Heliotrope	May/June
Phleum pratense	Timothy	May/June
Phragmites australis	Common Reed	May/June
Physalis alkekengi	Japanese-lantern	May/June
Picea abies	Norway Spruce	May/June
Picris echioides	Bristly Oxtongue	May/June
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn Plantain	May/June
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	May/June
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	May/June
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass	May/June
Poa trivialis	Rough Meadow-grass	May/June
Polygonatum x hybridum	Garden Solomon's-seal	May/June
Polygonum aviculare agg.	Knotgrass	May/June

Scientific name Common name Date Polypogon monspeliensis Annual Beard-grass May/June Populus x canadensis Hybrid Black-poplar May/June Potentilla anserina Silverweed May/June Potentilla reptans Creeping Cinquefoil May/June Primula vulgaris Primrose May/June Cultivated Primrose Primula x polyantha cultivar May/June Prunella vulgaris Selfheal May/June Wild Cherry Prunus avium May/June Prunus laurocerasus Cherry Laurel May/June Prunus Iusitanica Portugal Laurel May/June Pyracantha spp. Firethorn October Quercus robur Pedunculate Oak October Quercus rubra Red Oak May/June Ranunculus acris Meadow Buttercup May/June Ranunculus ficaria Lesser Celandine May/June Ranunculus flammula Lesser Spearwort May/June Ranunculus repens Creeping Buttercup May/June Ranunculus sceleratus Celery-leaved Buttercup May/June Reseda luteola Weld May/June Yellow Rattle May/June Rhinanthus minor Rhododendron spp. Rhododendron May/June Stag's-horn Sumach May/June Rhus typhina Robinia pseudoacacia False-acacia May/June Rorippa sylvestris Creeping Yellow-cress May/June Rosa canina agg. Dog-rose May/June Rubus armeniacus Blackberry May/June Bramble May/June Rubus fruticosus agg. Rubus idaeus May/June Raspberry Rubus ulmifolius Elm-leaved Bramble May/June Rumex acetosa Common Sorrel May/June Rumex conglomeratus Clustered Dock May/June Rumex obtusifolius Broad-leaved Dock May/June Rumex sanguineus Wood Dock May/June Sagina apetala subsp. erecta Upright Pearlwort May/June Procumbent Pearlwort Sagina procumbens May/June White Willow May/June Salix alba Salix caprea Goat Willow May/June Salix cinerea Grey Willow May/June Salix fragilis Crack-willow May/June Salix matsudana Corkscrew/Twisted Willow October Salix x sepulcralis S. alba x babylonica May/June Sambucus nigra Flder May/June Scorzoneroides autumnalis Autumn Hawkbit May/June Scrophularia auriculata Water Figwort May/June Senecio jacobaea Common Ragwort May/June Silene dioica Red Campion May/June Silene latifolia White Campion May/June Silene vulgaris Bladder Campion May/June Sisymbrium officinale Hedge Mustard May/June Sisyrinchium striatum Pale Yellow-eyed-grass May/June

Cremer's Meadow - plant species recorded

Colombific manne	6	Dete
Scientific name	Common name	Date
Smyrnium olusatrum Solanum dulcamara	Alexanders Bittersweet	May/June
Solidago canadensis	Canadian Goldenrod	May/June
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial Sow-thistle	May/June
		May/June
Sonchus asper	Prickly Sow-thistle Whitebeam	May/June
Sorbus aria agg.	Rowan	May/June May/June
Sorbus aucuparia	Branched Bur-reed	May/June
Sparganium erectum Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	May/June
Stellaria graminea	Lesser Stitchwort	May/June
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	May/June
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry	May/June
Symphytum 'Hidcote Blue'	Hidcote Comfrey	May/June
Symphytum orientale	White Comfrey	May/June
Syringa vulgaris	Lilac	May/June
Tanacetum parthenium	Feverfew	May/June
Tanacetum vulgare	Tansy	May/June
Taraxacum agg.	Dandelion	May/June
Torilis japonica	Upright Hedge-parsley	May/June
Trifolium dubium	Lesser Trefoil	May/June
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	May/June
Trifolium repens	White Clover	May/June
Tristagma uniflorum	Spring Starflower	May/June
Tulipa gesneriana	Garden Tulip	May/June
Typha latifolia	Broadleaf Cattail (bulrush)	May/June
Ulmus minor	Small-leaved Elm (sensu Stace)	May/June
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	May/June
Urtica dioica galeopsipfolia	Stingless Nettle	October
Valeriana dioica	Marsh Valerian	May/June
Valeriana officinalis	Common Valerian	May/June
Verbascum nigrum	Dark Mullein	May/June
Verbascum thapsus	Great Mullein	May/June
Veronica arvensis	Wall Speedwell	May/June
Veronica beccabunga	Brooklime	May/June
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	May/June
Veronica serpyllifolia	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	May/June
Viburnum tinus	Laurustinus	October
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose	May/June
Viburnum plicatum	Japanese Snowball-bush	May/June
Vicia hirsuta	Hairy Tare	May/June
Vicia sativa subsp. nigra	Narrow-leaved Vetch	May/June
Vicia sativa subsp. segetalis	Common Vetch	May/June
Vinca major	Greater Periwinkle	May/June
Viola canina	Heath Dog-violet	May/June
Viola odorata	Sweet Violet	May/June
Viola x wittrockiana	Garden Pansy	May/June

	_	
Scientific name	Common name	Date
Acer campestre	Field Maple	May/June
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	May/June
Aethusa cynapium	Fool's Parsley	May/June
Agrostis gigantea	Black Bent	May/June
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent	May/June
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	May/June
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow Foxtail	May/June
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	May/June
Anisantha sterilis	Barren Brome	May/June
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	May/June
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-Grass	May/June
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	May/June
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies	May/June
Avena fatua	Wild-oat	May/June
Ballota nigra	Black Horehound	May/June
Bellis perennis	Daisy	May/June
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	May/June
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft-brome	May/June
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony	May/June
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly Bush	May/June
Calamagrostis epigejos	Wood Small-reed	May/June
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge	May/June
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	May/June
Castanea sativa	Sweet Chestnut	May/June
Centaurea nigra agg.	Black/Brown Knapweed	May/June
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	May/June
Chaerophyllum temulum	Rough Chervil	May/June
Chamerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willowherb	May/June
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	May/June
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	May/June
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	May/June
Clematis vitalba	Traveller's-joy	May/June
Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	May/June
Conyza canadensis	Canadian Fleabane	May/June
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	May/June
Coronopus squamatus	Swine-cress	May/June
Corylus avellana	Hazel	May/June
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	May/June
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawk's-beard	May/June
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	May/June
Daphne laureola	Spurge-laurel	May/June
Duchesnea indica	Yellow-flowered Strawberry	May/June
Elytrigia repens	Common Couch	May/June
Epilobium ciliatum	American Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium parviflorum	Hoary Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium tetragonum	Square-stalked Willowherb	May/June
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail	May/June
Erigeron sumatrensis	Guernsey Fleabane	May/June
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Data
	Common name	Date
Euphorbia helioscopia	Sun Spurge Red Fescue	May/June
Festuca rubra agg.	Common Cudweed	May/June
Filago vulgaris		May/June
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	May/June
Galanthus nivalis	Snowdrop	May/June
Galium aparine	Cleavers	May/June
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	May/June
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	May/June
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	May/June
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	May/June
Hedera helix	Common Ivy	May/June
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	May/June
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	May/June
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell	May/June
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan	May/June
Hypericum perforatum	Perforate St John's-wort	May/June
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear	May/June
Iris foetidissima	Stinking Iris	May/June
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut	May/June
Juglans regia	English Walnut	May/June
Laburnum anagyroides	Laburnum	May/June
Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	May/June
Lactuca virosa	Great Lettuce	May/June
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	May/June
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	May/June
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	May/June
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild Privet	May/June
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass	May/June
Malus domestica	Apple	May/June
Malva sylvestris	Common Mallow	May/June
Matricaria discoidea	Pineappleweed	May/June
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	May/June
Mentha arvensis	Com Mint	May/June
Myosotis arvensis	Field Forget-me-not	May/June
Narcissus pseudonarcissus	Wild Daffodil	May/June
Odontites vernus	Red Bartsia	May/June
Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green Alkanet	May/June
Picia abies	Norway Spruce	May/June
Picris echioides	Bristly Oxtongue	May/June
Pilosella aurantiaca	Fox-and-cubs	May/June
Pinus nigra	Austrian Pine / Corsican Pine	May/June
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	May/June
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	May/June
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass	May/June
Poa trivialis	Rough Meadow-grass	May/June
Polygonum aviculare agg.	Knotgrass	May/June
Populus alba	White Poplar	May/June
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	May/June
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common Fleabane	May/June
Pyrus communis	Wild Pear	May/June

	_	
Scientific name	Common name	Date
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	May/June
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	May/June
Raphanus raphanistrum subsp. raphar		May/June
Rhamnus cathartica	Buckthorn	May/June
Rosa canina agg.	Dog-rose	May/June
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	May/June
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	May/June
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	May/June
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	May/June
Salix alba	White Willow	May/June
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	May/June
Salix cinerea	Grey Willow	May/June
Salix x.fragilis	Crack Willow	May/June
Sambucus nigra	Elder	May/June
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort	May/June
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	May/June
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard	May/June
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial Sow-thistle	May/June
Sonchus asper	Prickly Sow-thistle	May/June
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sow-thistle	May/June
Sorbus aria	Whitebeam	May/June
Sorbus torminalis	Wild Service-tree	May/June
Tamus communis	Black Bryony	May/June
Taraxacum agg.	Dandelion	May/June
Taxus baccata	Yew	May/June
Tilia cordata	Small-leaved Lime	May/June
Trifolium repens	White Clover	May/June
Tripleurospermum inodorum	Scentless Mayweed	May/June
Tussilago farfara	Colt's-foot	May/June
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	May/June
Veronica arvensis	Wall Speedwell	May/June
Veronica hederifolia	Ivy-leaved Speedwell	May/June
Veronica persica	Common Field-speedwell	May/June
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaring Tree	May/June
Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose	May/June
Vulpia myuros	Rat's-tail Fescue	May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	May/June
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	May/June
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground-elder	May/June
Agrostis stolonifera	Creeping Bent	May/June
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard	May/June
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet Pimpernel	May/June
Anchusa arvensis	Bugloss	May/June
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parslev	May/June
Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	May/June
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort	May/June
Arum maculatum	Lords-and-Ladies	May/June
Ballota nigra	Black Horehound	May/June
Bellis perennis	Common Daisy	May/June
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	May/June
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly Bush	May/June
Calamagrostis epigejos	Wood small-reed	May/June
Calystegia sepium	Hedge Bindweed	May/June
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed	May/June
Capsella bursa-pastoris	Shepherd's-purse	May/June
Cardamine hirsuta	Hairy Bitter-cress	May/June
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge	May/June
Castanea sativa	Sweet Chestnut	May/June
Centaurea nigra agg.	Black/Brown Knapweed	May/June
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouse-ear	May/June
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	May/June
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle	May/June
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	May/June
Clematis vitalba	Traveller's Joy	May/June
Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	May/June
Conyza canadensis	Canadian Fleabane	May/June
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	May/June
Corylus avellana	Hazel	May/June
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	May/June
Crepis capillaris	Smooth Hawk's-beard	May/June
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	May/June
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	May/June
Daucus carota	Wild carrot	May/June
Dipsacus fullonum	Wild Teasel	May/June
Dryopteris filis	Male Fern	May/June
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb	May/June
Epilobium tetragonum	Square-stalked Willowherb	May/June
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	May/June
Eupatorium cannabinum	Hemp Agrimony	May/June
Euphorbia helioscopia	Sun Spurge	May/June
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	May/June
Festuca rubra agg.	Red Fescue	May/June
Fragaria vesca	Wild Strawberry	May/June
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	May/June
Galium aparine	Cleavers	May/June
Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw	May/June

Countryside Park - plant species recorded

C-itifi	6	Dete
Scientific name	Common name	Date
Geranium dissectum Geum urbanum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill Wood Avens	May/June
Glechoma hederacea		May/June
	Ground-ivy	May/June
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy	May/June
Heracleum sphondylium Holcus lanatus	Hogweed Verkeling for	May/June
	Yorkshire-fog	May/June
Hyacinthoides x massartiana	Hybrid Bluebell (H. non-scripta	May/June
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan Perforate St John's-wort	May/June
Hypericum perforatum	i chichato ot conino mort	May/June
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear	May/June
Juglans regia	Walnut	May/June
Knautia arvensis	Field Scabious	May/June
Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	May/June
Lactuca virosa	Great Lettuce	May/June
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle	May/June
Lamium purpureum	Red Dead-nettle	May/June
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	May/June
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow Vetchling	May/June
Leontodon hispidus	Rough Hawkbit	May/June
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	May/June
Linaria repens	Pale Toadflax	May/June
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass	May/June
Lotus corniculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	May/June
Malva sylvestris	Common Mallow	May/June
Montbretia spp.	Montbretia	May/June
Origanum vulgare	Wild Marjoram	May/June
Papaver rhoeas	Common Poppy	May/June
Pentaglottis sempervirens	Green Alkanet	May/June
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank	May/June
Petasites fragrans	Winter Heliotrope	May/June
Phleum pratense	Timothy Grass	May/June
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn Plantain	May/June
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	May/June
Plantago major	Greater Plantain	May/June
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass	May/June
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil	May/June
Prunella vulgaris	Self-heal	May/June
Prunus avium	Wild Cherry	May/June
Prunus cerasifera	Cherry Plum	May/June
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	May/June
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common Fleabane	May/June
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	May/June
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	May/June
Ranunculus ficaria	Lesser Celandine	May/June
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	May/June
Rosa canina agg.	Dog-rose	May/June
Rosa pimpinellifolia	Burnet Rose	May/June
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	May/June
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry	May/June
Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	May/June

Scientific name	Common name	Date
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	May/June
Salix caprea	Goat Willow	May/June
Salix cinerea	Grey Willow	May/June
Sambucus nigra	Elder	May/June
Sanguisorba minor	Salad Burnet	May/June
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort	May/June
Senecio vulgaris	Groundsel	May/June
Silene dioica	Red Campion	May/June
Silene latifolia	White Campion	May/June
Sinapis arvensis	Charlock	May/June
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard	May/June
Smyrnium olusatrum	Alexanders	May/June
Solanum nigrum	Black Nightshade	May/June
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial Sow-thistle	May/June
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	May/June
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed	May/June
Symphytum x uplandicum	Russian Comfrey (S. asperum	May/June
Taraxacum agg.	Dandelion	May/June
Tilia cordata	Small-leaved Lime	May/June
Trifolium campestre	Hop Trefoil	May/June
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	May/June
Trifolium repens	White Clover	May/June
Tripleurospermum inodorum	Scentless Mayweed	May/June
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	May/June
Veronica persica	Common Field-speedwell	May/June
Viburnum opulus	Guelder Rose	May/June
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	May/June
Vinca major	Greater Periwinkle	May/June
Vulpia bromoides	Squirreltail Fescue	May/June

APPENDIX D

Recommended Biodiversity Action Plans

RECOMMENDED BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN-CHURCH FEN

Note: The Management Plan for Church Fen produced by the Broadland Tree Warden Network (*Broadland Tree Warden Network Church Fen Local Nature Reserve Management Plan 2021*) remains extant. The following recommendations are consistent with the current management plan, with additional recommendations to enhance biodiversity where appropriate.

ACTIVITY/TASK	MANAGEMENT ACTION	TIMING
Control of invasive and exotic	There are a number of non-native and invasive species on the site	Ongoing
species.	including Red-osier Dogwood (Cornus sericea); Himalayan Balsam	
	(Impatiens glandulifera); Japanese Knotweed (Reynoutria	
	japonica) and Giant Hogweed (Heracleum mantegazzianum);	
	Rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>) and Snowberry	
	(Symphoricarpos albus). Examples of all of these species were	
	found during previous surveys of the site in 2015 and it is	
	therefore clear that further/ongoing control is needed. It is	
	important to control these species to prevent them becoming	
	dominant in the habitat. In addition, some of these species are	
	required to be controlled for legal reasons including risks to health	
	and safety. Methods of control depend on the species concerned	
	and whether special precautions are required. Personnel	
	responsible for control of these plants need to be adequately	
	trained and aware of any potential risks.	
Standing dead trees/dead	Dead trees/wood provide important habitat for a range of insects	Ongoing/periodic
wood.	and can also provide nesting sites for birds where hollows exist.	
	Such trees should therefore be left to decay naturally, except	
	where there may be a risk to the public. Occasional inspection of	
	dead trees should be carried out to check there are no safety risks.	
Maintenance open fen/reed	This habitat is important for a wide range of invertebrates and	Ongoing
bed habitat.	other species and it is gradually disappearing as tree and shrub	
	growth encroaches. Action is required to trim fringing trees and	

	remove new self -seeding trees/shrubs.	
Reed bed management.	Rotation cutting of reeds to be carried out as per Broadland Tree	As per Church Fen
	Warden Network Church Fen Management Plan.	LNR Management
		Plan 2021
Water flow management.	Consider options for improving flow of water into Fen and	N/A
	minimise stagnant water in ditches.	
Coppicing of Alder and	Alder and Willow to be coppiced to control growth and maintain	As per Church Fen
Willow.	the open fen habitat, as well as increase the amount of light to	LNR Management
	surface waters.	Plan 2021

RECOMMENDED BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN-CREMERS MEADOW

ACTIVITY/TASK	MANAGEMENT ACTION	TIMING
Pond and water course	The aquatic habitats are an important feature of the Cremers	12 -18 months for
management.	Meadow site, both from a biodiversity perspective and for	data collection
	visitors to the site. Although the pond appears to support a	and analysis; long
	certain number of invertebrate species its overall biological	term plan
	status is unclear. It also contains a substantial quantity of	including
	silt. Recent and ongoing work to determine the nutrient	dredging of silt,
	concentrations in the pond show these are probably	within 5 years
	influenced by inflows from Run Dike but further data needs	
	to be collected. Before establishing the most appropriate	
	management plan for the pond, a systematic collection of	
	water and sediment quality data should be carried out,	
	probably over a period of at least 12 months. A water quality	
	and sediment plan should also be developed to inform the	
	next stages.	
Trimming/removal of	Some of the trees overhanging the pond/water course are	Within the next
overhanging trees near	preventing light getting to the water which in turn restricts	12 months
pond/watercourse.	development of pond vegetation. Debris from leaf fall also	
	enters the pond annually and contributes to nutrient levels	
	and eutrophication. A review of the trees surrounding the	
	pond and central watercourse should be carried out and	
	action taken to trim/remove some of these to allow greater	
	light penetration.	
Control/removal of invasive	There are a number of non-native and invasive species on	Within 12-24
plant species.	the site including Red-osier Dogwood (<i>Cornus sericea</i>);	months
	Himalayan Balsam (Impatiens glandulifera), Stag's- horn	
	Sumach (Rhus typhina) and Bamboo; as well as various	
	trees/shrubs that have been planted on the site such as	

	Apple (<i>Malus domestica</i>), Rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>) and CherryLaurel (<i>Prunus</i> laurocerasus) Examples of some of these species were found during previous surveys of the site in 2015 and it is therefore clear that further/ongoing control/management is needed. It is important to control those species that are invasive to prevent them becoming dominant in the habitat.	
Mature trees on perimeter of site.	The mature trees at the edges of the site can be left largely unmanaged but with regular checks being made to ensure loose or damaged branches are removed where they are at risk of falling.	Ongoing
Maintenance of semi- improved grassland habitat.	These areas should be mowed annually. However, some of these areas can be left to be colonised by wildflowers to attract butterflies and other insects.	Annual
Management of the species rich and species poor fen areas	Various methods have been used to manage these areas over the years including sheep/cattle grazing and periodic cutting back. Currently the Friends of Cremers Meadow are experimenting with different cutting regimes in this area. The method of management will determine how this area develops in the coming years; regular cutting during the year should prevent invasion of the species from the poorer areas migrating into the species rich areas – as is currently happening. A management plan needs to be developed that achieves the optimum outcome for this part of the site in terms of what the long term objectives are and for maintaining/enhancing biodiversity.	Develop long term management strategy within 12 months
Tree planting/management.	The woodland areas within the site should be managed on an ongoing basis so as to maintain their health and maximise opportunities for biodiversity. A long term woodland management plan should be drawn up to achieve these	Ongoing

	objectives. At the same time, ad –hoc planting of trees on the site, particularly non-native species, should be discouraged.	
Ruderal vegetation (nettles, thistles, burdock etc).	These species provide valuable habitat and food resources for a range of invertebrate species and should generally be left unmanaged unless they become a problem with over growing near paths etc.	N/A
Scrub vegetation.	Periodic cutting back of scrub vegetation is required to control spread. Areas where such control is needed include along the central watercourse and on the edges of the fen. However, care is needed to maintain at least some of this scrub as it provides habitat for a range of species.	Annual

RECOMMENDED BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN-LOW FARM WOOD

Note: The Management Plan for Low Farm Wood produced by the Broadland Tree Warden Network (*Broadland Tree Warden Network Management Plan for Low Farm Wood 2020*) remains extant. The following recommendations are consistent with the current management plan, with additional recommendations to enhance biodiversity where appropriate.

ACTIVITY/TASK	MANAGEMENT ACTION	TIMING
Thinning of the planted	Broadland Tree Warden Network (BTWN) has already carried	N/A
woodland to allow greater	out extensive thinning work, including removal of goat willow.	
penetration of light	This has been very successful.	
Provide breeding habitat	Develop a long-term management plan for the wood including	Within 12 months
for rural bird species	ongoing management of trees and hedges, creating	
including bullfinch,	permanent clearings (15-20%) and coppice zones (10-20%)	
yellowhammer, marsh tit,	and planting under-represented species to accelerate	
spotted flycatcher etc.	development of high quality woodland.	
Install bird boxes.	Identify suitable sites for bird boxes and install.	Within 6 months
Install bat boxes.	Identify suitable sites for bat boxes and install.	Within 6 months
Buffer zone around site.	The proximity of agricultural activities to Low Farm Wood is a	Within 12 months;
	potential threat to use of edge vegetation/trees/hedges as	seeding/planting
	habitat and feeding resource for birds and other species.	in buffer zone if
	Ideally, a buffer zone of 10-20m should be established on	consent is
	agricultural land around the site where no agricultural work is	achieved within 24
	permitted. This buffer zone could be sown with wildflower	months
	mixes and new hedging planted where appropriate. This will	
	attract butterflies and other insects to the woodland edges	
	and enhance its biodiversity. This option will need to be	
	explored with NCC and the farmer who owns land to the	
	north of the site.	

RECOMMENDED BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN-COUNTRYSIDE PARK

ACTIVITY/TASK	MANAGEMENT ACTION	TIMING
Control the expansion of the	The initial woodland planting scheme for the Countryside Park has	
planted woodland and shrub	been largely successful in the establishment of new woodland areas.	
areas by self-seeding.	Action is needed urgently to control undesirable/over abundant self-	
	seeding trees/shrubs including willows and sycamores.	
Develop woodland and scrub	A long term spatial development plan for the woodland and shrub	Plan development
habitats to provide suitable	areas is needed to ensure that unplanned natural succession is	with 12 months
breeding habitat for rural bird	controlled and opportunities for enhancing the biodiversity of the	
species including bullfinch,	site are provided. Management/intervention measures will be	
yellowhammer, marsh tit,	required to achieve controlled development in accordance with such	
spotted flycatcher etc.; and to	a plan.	
maximise biodiversity		
opportunities.		
Woodland management	Consideration now needs to be given to how best to manage the	Ongoing
	development of the woodland to maximise biodiversity potential.	
	Management of the woodland areas will require periodic felling and	
	coppicing. These activities are necessary to ensure the desired	
	structure of woodland/shrub areas is achieved. These activities	
	should be identified and included in the development plan referred	
	to above.	
Install nest boxes	Identify suitable sites for locating bird boxes and install.	Within 6 months
Enhance grassland	The biodiversity of the grassed areas can be enhanced by creating	Suitable sites to be
biodiversity.	wildflower meadows which are left unmanaged. Such areas attract a	identified within 6
	wide range of butterflies and other insects and invertebrates. A	months, seeding in
	wildflower meadow has already been successfully created on one	spring/summer of

	part of the site. A decision on where best to create additional meadows should be taken in consultation with specialist ecologists.	2024
Provision of a wildlife pond.	Providing a reasonable sized pond within the Countryside Park will have significant benefits for the biodiversity of the site. Ponds are known to attract a wide range of species including frogs, newts, insects and birds. Aquatic vegetation also provides habitat and food for a wide range of species. Provision of a pond is potentially the single most important action that could be taken to enhance biodiversity at this site. The optimum location of a pond together with consideration of size, method of construction, maintenance and costs need to be evaluated.	Feasibility review within 12 months
Provision of dead wood/log piles for insects and invertebrates.	Piles of dead wood or logs from woodland management form excellent habitats for small mammals, insects and invertebrates. Where this type of material arises from woodland activities, it should be used to create such habitat wherever practical/possible.	Ongoing