

## ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS VISION 2031 SITE ALLOCATIONS

<i>Project no.</i>	<i>Report</i>	<i>Date</i>
16/12	Final	13/06/2012
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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

SWT Trading Ltd: Ecological Consultants, the trading company of Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) was commissioned by St Edmundsbury Borough Council to carry out ecological assessments for proposed development sites within their Vision 2031 plan. A short list of sites was drawn up by the Council.

As part of the assessment of the sites, SWT were asked to assess the wildlife value of each site and highlight issues associated with Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and species and also protected species. Information was provided regarding structural diversity and also the connectivity of sites, particularly where wildlife corridors could be identified.

Following surveys of 33 sites in 2010, these surveys of 16 additional sites took place in May and June 2012.

## 2.0 OBJECTIVES

The aim of the surveys was to provide:

- information and a description of the wildlife interest of each site
- highlight issues associated with the presence of BAP habitats and BAP & protected species if the site were to be developed
- a relative ranking of the current ecological value of the sites to wildlife
- identification of links between the survey site and adjacent sites of wildlife interest, highlighting important wildlife corridors

## 3.0 METHODOLOGY

In order to achieve the overall aims of the project the following tasks were undertaken:

- existing digital information for each site was collated using data provided by Suffolk Biological Records Centre and from 1:10,000 maps and aerial photographs
- every site was surveyed and a record made of its conservation value
- photographs were taken of the relevant sites
- criteria and a ranking system was used to evaluate sites
- comments were made on habitats/species of wildlife interest
- ecological issues were highlighted

### 3.1 Criteria for site evaluation

At each site the following was recorded:

- **Habitat type:** distinct, dominant habitat types were briefly detailed
- **Subsidiary habitat:** this included additional habitats of particular note such as dead wood
- **Site description:** a detailed account of the site
- **Size:** the size was noted in hectares (ha)
- **Connectivity:** if a site linked to other green corridors, this was noted and described in detail where relevant

- **Structural diversity:** the differing vegetation structure (height) providing a variation in niche potential for a wide range of taxa was described for each site if relevant
- **Protected species:** these were noted if recorded, or if previously recorded
- **Protected species potential:** this was noted if the habitat was deemed suitable for named protected species
- **BAP species:** these were noted if seen, or if previously recorded
- **BAP habitats:** these were noted if present
- **BAP species potential:** this was noted if the habitat was deemed suitable for BAP species
- **Flora, avifauna, herpetofauna, mammals, invertebrates etc:** species seen or recorded were noted and habitat which offered potential for specific taxa was noted
- **Comments and recommendations:** overall impressions of each site were noted and although detailed management recommendations were not part of the remit, these were in some instances offered and further survey work was recommended where relevant

**BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) species and habitats:** priority species or habitats (usually those that are threatened, rare or declining in a UK or European context) that have been identified by the UK government in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (DoE 1995) amended August 2007. Local plans have also been produced for those priority species and habitats occurring in Suffolk (Suffolk Local Biodiversity Action Plans). In addition, habitats and species special to Suffolk have been identified and termed ‘Suffolk Character Plans’.

**Protected species:** species protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended, The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.

### 3.2 System of site ranking

A system of ranking each site from the information gathered during surveys was established, using a simple numbering method. Numbers 1-6 were used (1 = high, 6 = low).

- 1 Statutory designation e.g. SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) scheduled under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- 2 Non-statutory designation e.g. County Wildlife Site (CWS). CWSs are sites regarded as important in a county/regional context.
- 3 Non-statutory designation e.g. Local Wildlife Site (LWS), Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species and habitats (except those that are locally common e.g. song thrush) and/or species protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981).
- 4 No designation but clearly of value due to size, connectivity, species diversity, potential for BAP and protected species and locally common BAP and protected species.
- 5 No designation but has some natural capital: is in character with the area (e.g. woodland), provides limited connectivity.
- 6 No designation and of no conservation value.

**Site Ranking 1: Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs):** the most important sites for wildlife within a national context. The criterion used to assess such sites has been developed by English Nature.

**Site Ranking 2: County Wildlife Sites (CWSs):** these sites have a high priority for protection. Although there is currently no statutory protection, all of Suffolk's local authorities have included a policy in their local plans to protect CWSs from development. The criteria used to assess CWSs have been developed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Biological Records Centre (SBRC) (The County Wildlife Site panel).

**Site Ranking 3: (including Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs)):** sites which do not fulfil the criteria for SSSI or CWS status but have a high conservation value. These sites comprise the best examples of different habitats or are important for a particular species.

**Site Ranking 4 and 5: Other Sites of Nature Conservation Interest:** sites which are less important for wildlife but still retain a degree of naturalness. Locally common BAP species such as song thrush may be present and also locally common protected species such as reptiles. However, this ranking applies only in cases of low numbers of a single species and not significant populations of one or more species. (See LWS and CWSs).  
In addition, these sites often provide valuable stepping stones and wildlife corridors along which species can travel between sites.

**Site Ranking 6: Areas that are of limited or no value for wildlife:** These may include built areas, large arable fields or regularly mown amenity grassland with no other semi-natural features.

### **3.3 Conservation value**

Linked to the ranking system is the method of establishing whether a site was of high, medium or low conservation value:

- 1-2 High conservation value
- 3-4 Medium conservation value
- 5-6 Low conservation value

## **4 CATALOGUE OF SITES**

### **Bury St Edmunds Sites**

BV10a	Garden Centre, Rougham Hill/Vale
BV10g	Almoners Barn, Cullum Road
BV10j/BV11	Land at Ram Meadow (also see earlier survey report)
BV10k	Garages and bus depot, Cotton Lane
BV21	West of Rougham Hill

### **Haverhill Sites**

HV4a	Land south of Chapelwent Road
HV6a (part)	Wisdom Factory, Duddery Hill
HV7b	Chivers Road/Chimswell Way
HV17	Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College
HV18	Hollands Road/Duddery Hill

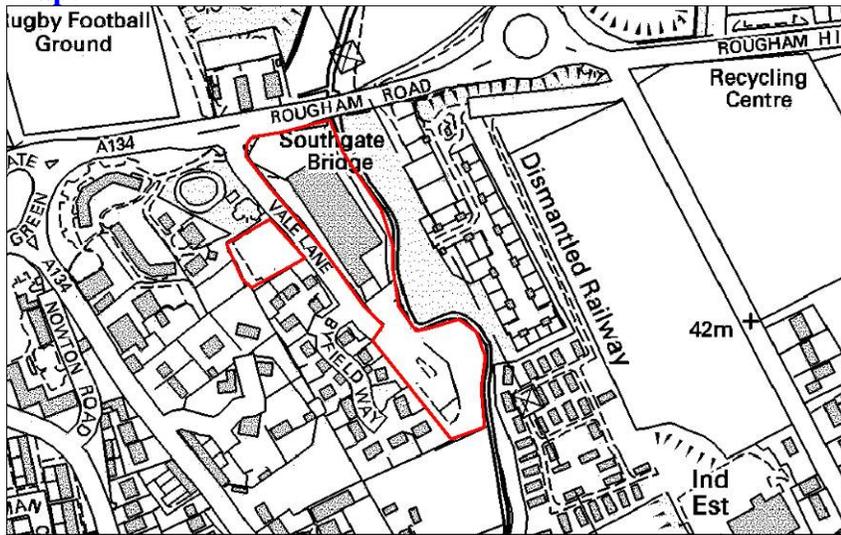
### **Rural Sites**

RV6 b	Land east of Barrow Hill, Barrow
RV9 b	Land at the Limes Cottage, Kedington
RV14 a & b	Land at School Road, Risby
RV17 a	Land at the Gable, Ingham
RV19 a	South of Kingshall Street, Rougham
RV20 a	Land at Nunnery Green, Wickhambrook

**Site name**                    **Bury St Edmunds BV10a**  
**Garden Centre, Vale Lane**

**Site status:**                    No designation  
**Grid ref:**                      TL 8646 6322  
**Area:**                          1.75 Hectares  
**Date:**                          20 April 2012  
**Recorder:**                    T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:**        Sunny, moderate breeze 10°C  
**Ranking:**                      5  
**Biodiversity value:**         Low

**Map:**



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**Photos:**



Front of the garden centre



Main car park



Overflow car park and loading bay



River bank adjacent to loading bay

**Habitat type(s):**

Garden centre buildings and car parking

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Grass verges, borders of shrubs and river bank with mature trees

**Site description:**

Garden centre and associated car parks and loading bay next to the river Lark, south of A134 Rougham Road. This is a long, thin site running roughly north to south along the river bank. Apart from a few planted borders and the area round the main car park most of the site is modern commercial buildings and hard standing. There is housing to the west. Currently there is some open space and allotments to the south and open, but arable, land north of the A134. The opposite side of the river is developed.

**Protected species:**

None on site but otter are known to use the Lark

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Song thrush.

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

White letter hairstreak butterfly

### **Connectivity:**

Restricted. The river acts as a wildlife corridor and there is semi natural habitat to the south but the long boundaries both have development along them.

### **Structural diversity:**

Low. The main car park is fringed by trees and native and planted with shrubs which provides some diversity. There are also mature trees along the river bank but the understory is dominated by coarse vegetation such as nettle. There are two verge areas, one of short mown grass with small specimen trees and the other, next to the overflow car park and loading bay, or large shrubs and small trees which help screen the area from adjacent houses.

### **Flora:**

The main car park is fringed by large trees and a mixture of natural and non-native shrubs. Tree species include sycamore, horse chestnut and elm. Some of these are clad in ivy. The shrub layer was made up of ornamentals including buddleia and cotoneaster and natives such as bramble. Common species such as cleavers and garlic mustard are present in the herb layer.

There were several small areas of close cut grass verge on site with common species such as daisy, creeping cinquefoil and dandelion. The verge opposite the garden centre had small planted in trees of hawthorn, birch and beech.

The screen planting next to the overflow car park was predominantly thick ornamental shrubs such as cotoneaster and small trees including flowering cherry. To the south of the site, behind some waste/recycling bins, this formal planting gives way to native scrub with a lot of bramble and a few small silver birch.

Tree species on the river corridor were predominantly willow with many large, mature specimens, sycamore and horse chestnut. The sparse scrub layer comprised blackthorn and hawthorn. Teasel and small teasel were growing on the banks behind the loading bay but the dominant species was nettle.

### **Avifauna:**

The manager of the garden centre said that robins and blue tits had both nested in the centre itself this year. In the area round the main car park chaffinch, blackcap, greenfinch, goldfinch, wood pigeon and magpie were noted. Song thrush was also noted on the verges and the overflow car park. The berry producing ornamental shrubs will provide a good winter food source for birds.

### **Invertebrates:**

A male orange tip butterfly was seen in the main car park. There is a variety of nectar sources on the site but habitat for most invertebrates is limited to the small areas of unmanaged border round the car park and to the river banks.

There is a nearby and relatively recent record of white letter hairstreak butterfly. This species is reliant on elm. Careful management of elm on the site could benefit this species.

### **Herpetofauna:**

The site is largely unsuitable for this group, although grass snake may be present along the river corridor.

**Mammals:**

There are mole hills present. Small mammals such as mice and voles will use the river bank and otter are known on the Lark. It is possible that bats use the river corridor as a feeding and commuting route.

**Comments and recommendations:**

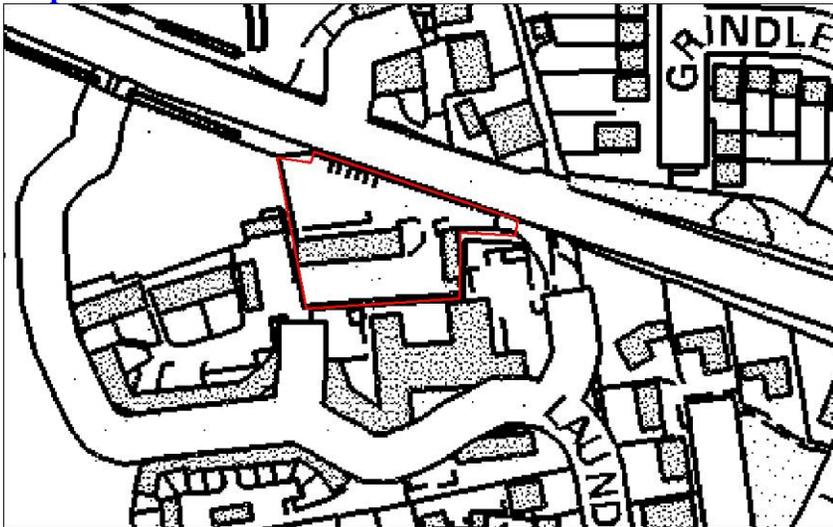
At the moment the garden centre and associated areas are providing a buffer that shields the river corridor along its length. If the area is to be developed for residential use this protection should be continued. A survey of the river corridor for use by otter and bats should be undertaken. Large riverside trees should be retained, particularly the willows, which will mean leaving a large enough buffer to leave the trees intact and satisfy health and safety issues. Consideration should be given to preventing light spillage into the river corridor.

There is a high probability of nesting birds in all suitable areas of vegetation so any clearance must be done outside the nesting season. As birds are also utilising the garden centre this should be treated in the same manner as the natural vegetation.

**Site name**                    **Bury St Edmunds BV10g**  
**Almoners Barn, Cullum Road**

**Site status:**                    No designation  
**Grid ref:**                      TL 8582 6318  
**Area:**                          0.24 Hectares  
**Date:**                         20 April 2012  
**Recorder:**                    T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:**       Variable with showers, light wind, 14°C  
**Ranking:**                      5  
**Biodiversity value:**         Low

**Map:**



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**Photos:**



Site north of barns



Site south of barns, pan tiles building in distance

**Habitat type(s):**

Hard standing some of which is overgrown, derelict buildings, rough vegetation.

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Mature trees, limited scrub and ivy on buildings

**Site description:**

This is a yard south of Cullum Road which appears to be little used although both sets of gates are padlocked and have signs stating they are in use. Site appears to have been used for storing/dumping various waste including several piles of what appears to be concrete asbestos tiles. Most of the buildings are of a lean to construction and in a dangerous state. Roof timbers are rotten and two areas have already collapsed. One small building with a pan tile roof at the east end of the site is in a better state of repair but still derelict.

The open fronted buildings were in a bad state of repair, with rotten roof beams. Therefore, for health and safety reasons, those facing north were not given a close internal inspection.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Song thrush

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

-

**Connectivity:**

Low. The site is now surrounded by development and roads.

**Structural diversity:**

Low. The majority of the site is species poor grass or grassed over hard standing

**Flora:**

The path to the site from Laundry Lane has some substantial hawthorns with a covering of ivy. From the size these are veteran hawthorn and should be retained. On the site proper the tree species are sycamore, behind the pan-tiled building to the east and also with ivy and willow along the south wall at the west end.

The north-west end of the site has what appears to be heaps of spoil covered in rough grass. Much of the hard standing on this side of the site is covered in low bramble. Other plants present include hawthorn and sycamore seedlings and buddleia. Grass areas also supported common plants such as dock, ribwort plantain, nettle, red and white dead nettle, spear thistle, ground ivy, dove's foot cranes-bill and scattered plants of St John's-wort, hoary ragwort and early forget-me-not.

**Avifauna:**

Several blackbirds were noted during the visit and at least two barns had nests on the top of walls. Song thrush was also seen foraging close to the east gate. A wren was seen carrying food in to the ivy on the pan tiles building.

Other species seen included great tit and collared dove.

**Invertebrates:**

The majority of the invertebrates seen were ground dwelling spiders or flies. One red tailed bumble bee was seen emerging from a probably nest hole. There are nectar sources on the site and willow provides a good early source for many species.

**Herpetofauna:**

As the site is now very much encapsulated by development it is considered unlikely that reptiles will be found here. The site has no standing water so could not support an amphibian population.

**Mammals:**

The site probably supports small mammals such as mice and rats. The pan-tiled roof was not lined and was covered in cobwebs which would indicate it has not been used by bats recently. The timbers in the other barns inspected were either modern or very rotten. The central walls of the lean too barns are of flint construction with some brick in places. These were inspected on the southern aspect, where it was considered safe and found to be in good condition with limited crevices suitable for roosting bats.

**Comments and recommendations:**

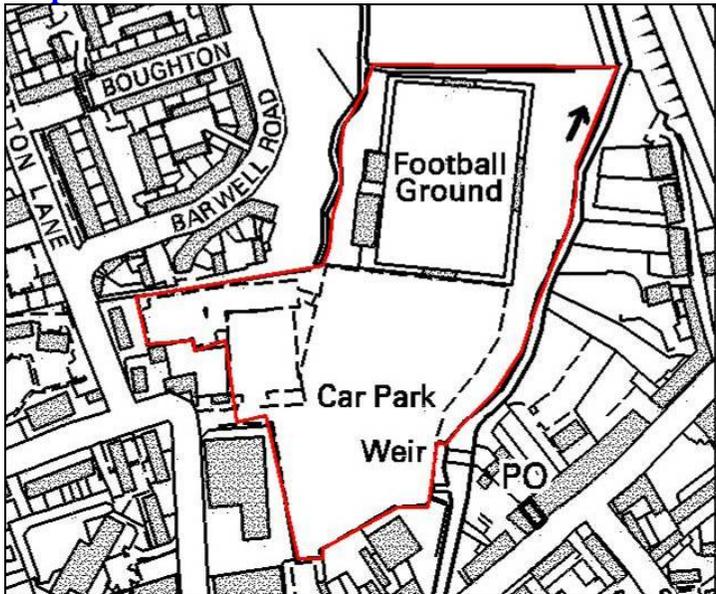
Some of the materials on site may be a health and safety risk.

Any clearance of vegetation or buildings must be done outside the nesting season of March to end July. As a relatively undisturbed corner of an otherwise developed area this site is very attractive to birds seeking nest sites.

**Site name**                    **Bury St Edmunds BV10j and south part of BV11**  
**Land at Ram Meadow (Excluding proposed road route)**

**Site status:**                    No designation  
**Grid ref:**                      TL 8582 6460  
**Area:**                          3.84 hectares  
**Date:**                          20 April 2012  
**Recorder:**                    T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:**      Sunny intervals, moderate breeze 12°C  
**Ranking:**                      5  
**Biodiversity value:**        Low for the majority of the site but the river corridor is important.

**Map:**



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**Photos:**



Looking across car park to football stadium



Pitch, clubhouse and one of the stands inside the grounds



Path along riverside beside stadium



Riverside in car park area

**Habitat type(s):**

Car park, football pitch and associated buildings.

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Wide grass verge along riverside with trees and some scrub. Specimen trees and planted ‘island’ in car park.

**Site description:**

The majority of this large site, adjacent to the River Lark, is comprised of a long term car park. This has specimen trees at intervals throughout and an occasional ‘island’ bed arrangement with trees and shrubs. Bury Town Football Club’s grounds take up the northern portion of the area. There is one large tree within the grounds but the majority of this area is made up of the amenity grass pitch. There is a rough area behind the club house and main stand that is used for car parking. The west boundary of this area is formed by the major north south drain that runs across Ram Meadow. A corridor of grass and trees runs down the eastern edge of the whole site between the development and the river. This green area, particularly next to the football ground, is used for dog walking.

**Protected species:**

Otter have been recorded on the Lark above and below this site, with two sighting immediately adjacent to it. Water voles are present in the water meadows to the north.

**Protected species potential:**

Bats may also be using the river corridor for feeding and commuting.

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

-

**BAP species known:**

Otter and water vole as above.

**BAP species potential:**

Bats in river corridor and large trees.

**Connectivity:**

Moderate. The river corridor provides a degree of connectivity but it is canalized with a weir toward the south of the site, restricting movement for less mobile species. There is open space immediately to the north of the site and it does sit in a 'green corridor' through Bury, although the corridor is bisected by roads, decreasing its effectiveness.

**Structural diversity:**

Across the bulk of the site the structure is poor, being hard standing, buildings and short mown grass. The area adjacent to the river improves this by providing trees and some shrubby areas but the grass on the car park verge is still short mown with a limited number of common species.

**Flora:**

Daisy, pineappleweed, groundsel and small nettle are growing round the edge of the football pitch and in the un-trampled corners of the site. The only other vegetation, apart from the sycamore in the south east corner of the stadium is brambles and rough vegetation in the car parking area along the western edge of the grounds.

There are a variety of ornamental shrubs and trees positioned around the car park. These include single trees, shrubs in borders near the housing in the west corner and an island with ivy covered trees.

Adjacent to the car park the grass of the verge next to the river is close cut with limited species notable at the time of the visit. There were a few lesser celandine, some black horehound and dandelions. There are substantial white poplars in the verge next to the weir. Further north there is a substantial stand of wild garlic along the riverbank. Vegetation is still coarse with cleavers, garlic mustard and a large stand of nettles in the area next to the football stadium. Trees here include field maple and willow.

**Avifauna:**

Common birds such as great and blue tit were seen using trees and shrubbery in the car park. Blackcap were heard in the riverside scrub and a pied wagtail was seen in this area. A grey wagtail was also seen on the river just south of the site.

**Invertebrates:**

Some bumble bees were seen on the verges near the river. Plants on site will provide nectar sources for invertebrates and willow is a particularly good early source. Suitable breeding habitat is limited to the river bank.

**Herpetofauna:**

The majority of the site is not suitable for this group, but the river corridor may be suitable for grass snake.

**Mammals:**

Otter use the river Lark and water voles are known from the water meadows to the north. At the moment the site is most suitable for small, common species such as mice and rats and these will be restricted to the river bank and quieter area behind the buildings of the football ground.

**Comments and recommendations:**

There are a number of specimen trees on the site and these should be incorporated in to future plans, particularly examples such as the large ash tree immediately to the north of the football stadium. The impacts of increased disturbance and light pollution on the river corridor from future developments need to be considered. Otter use the river as well as bats and appropriate surveys need to be carried out to determine the extent of this use. If any large trees are to be taken out they should be assessed or surveyed for the likely presence of bats and all vegetation either needs to be cleared outside the nesting season of March to end July or checked for nests.

Just north of the survey area there is a stand of white poplar seedlings that appear to be self set. Care should be taken that this species does not spread to dominate areas to the detriment of other vegetation and the habitat as a whole. A regime of cutting the vegetation and removing the arisings from the riverside paths might help to reduce the nettles and promote other plants species. Grass cuttings could be used to create habitat piles for grass snake which may be present on the meadows.

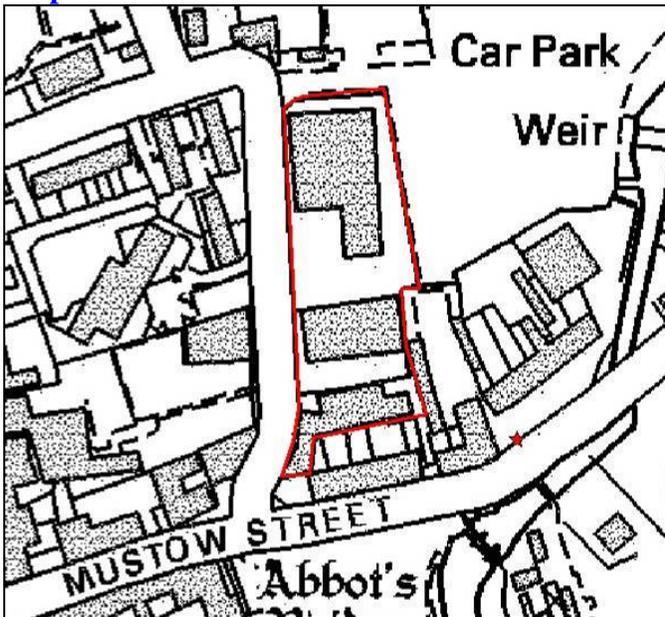
Although not part of this particular survey it was noted that the proposed route of the new access road from Compiegne Way appears to run the entire length of the north south ditch across the meadow. This will sever a section of Ram Meadow, further restricting the site and has the potential to greatly increase disturbance as well as involving loss of habitat.

See separate Ram Meadow report.

**Site name**                    **Bury St Edmunds BV10k**  
**Garages and bus depot, Cotton Lane**

**Site status:**                    No designation  
**Grid ref:**                      TL 8573 6446  
**Area:**                          0.7 Hectares  
**Date:**                          20 April 2012  
**Recorder:**                    T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:**        Sunny interludes, moderate breeze 11°C  
**Ranking:**                      5  
**Biodiversity value:**         Low

**Map:**



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**Photos:**



Vauxhall garage at north of site



Bus depot in centre of site

**Habitat type(s):**

Buildings and hard standing

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Vegetated wall

**Site description:**

At the corner of Mustow Street and Cotton Lane close to the centre of Bury St Edmunds this site is comprised entirely of buildings surrounded by hard standing/parking areas.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

-

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

-

**Connectivity:**

None

**Structural diversity:**

None

**Flora:**

Plants common to waste land exist round the edges of the site such as stinging nettle, buddleja and elder. There is a thick growth of ivy over the rear of the bus depot which might support nesting birds.

A flint wall to the south of the bus depot has some plants growing out of it but these are all common species such as dandelion.

**Avifauna:**

The habitat on site is very limited but as mentioned above, ivy growing on the bus depot might support small nesting birds such as blackbird and wren. The bus depot is currently unused and for sale. It was not inspected internally but it is highly possible that species like blackbird (seen on site) and pigeon could gain access and build nests in the interior. Area of flat roof also offer nesting opportunities.

**Invertebrates:**

There is very limited habitat for invertebrates on the site. The ruderal plants provide some nectaring opportunities, but there is insufficient vegetation on site to make a notable contribution to local insect populations.

**Herpetofauna:**

The site is unsuitable for this group.

**Mammals:**

The site is generally unsuitable for this group although rats might be expected in the empty bus depot, especially as there is a potential food source from rubbish from the next door car park and football ground.

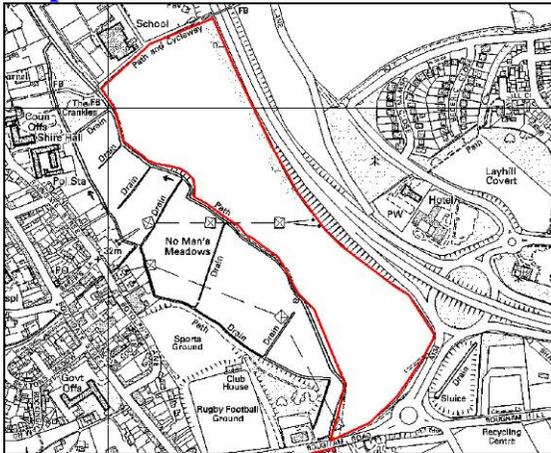
**Comments and recommendations:**

Vegetation removal and demolition of areas that might potentially be used by nesting birds should be conducted outside the nesting season of March to July inclusive.

**Site name**                    **Bury St Edmunds BV21**  
**Land west of Rougham Hill (A14)**

**Site status:**                    No designation  
**Grid ref:**                      TL 8631 6378  
**Area:**                            15 Hectares  
**Date:**                            20 April 2012  
**Recorder:**                    T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:**        Sunny spells, light to moderate breeze, 12°C  
**Ranking:**                        5  
**Biodiversity value:**         Low

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



Looking north across site



Wider margin adjacent A14 bank, trees on site in distance

**Habitat type(s):**

Arable field and margins

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Planted woodland strips to north and east. Short length of planted hedge along north west boundary.

**Site description:**

A large, linear arable field adjacent to the A14 where it runs through Bury St Edmunds. The west of the site is bounded by the river lark and the east the A14. There are narrow field margins along the west side with a planted native hedge where the field is banked above the footpath and the river. The northern and eastern boundaries have been planted with native trees which are now reasonably mature. There are tracks which look to be the result of human use, through other areas of trees with rubbish present. This appears to be dumping in the northern tree belt but is more likely to be road rubbish in the east. Not all of the eastern boundary has been planted with trees and there is an area to the south, of close cropped grass.

**Protected species:**

Water vole and grass snake on adjacent meadows.

**Protected species potential:**

Grass snake.

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

-

**BAP species known:**

Water vole and grass snake on adjacent meadows. Tower mustard, a plant which is considered to be at risk of becoming extinct in the wild, was recorded in the vicinity in 2004.

**BAP species potential:**

Grass snake. This wide ranging species is more likely to use the wider habitat than the specialist water vole.

**Connectivity:**

Reasonable but bounded by major roads on two sides. Verges and banks of major roads, such as the A14 at this site, can act as wildlife corridors.

**Structural diversity:**

Low. The vast majority of the site is arable field. Two tree belts have been planted in and both are maturing but there are only one or two large trees on the site. The hedge with field maples along the eastern boundary is being damaged by ploughing right up to the edge of the hedge with severed roots clearly visible in the soil.

**Flora:**

Westerly margins, which are very narrow in places, are rough grass such as false oat and cock's foot with common plants such as mugwort and hogweed. There is a section of planted but relatively mature native hedge. There is dogwood in the north-west hedge along with mature ash and hawthorn.

Other tree planting includes beech with an avenue of these trees on the eastern margin, silver birch and field maple and sycamore is present although this is probably self sown. There is a single mature weeping willow on the A14 boundary toward the south of the site and one large holly tree. The latter has a few violet plants growing under its canopy. These trees are on the edge of the wider, short grass margin. This has a greater variety of plants including perforate St John's-wort, weld, teasel, ground ivy and ribwort plantain but still of fairly common species. The southern boundary vegetation is dominated by nettle.

#### **Avifauna:**

Rooks, jackdaw and woodpigeon were seen foraging on the field itself. A pied wagtail was observed flying over. The trees belts had long tailed tit, blue tit, great tit and robin. In the vegetation along the bank of the Lark, particularly the larger trees and scrub, black cap, chiffchaff, tree creeper and dunnoek were noted. Magpies and wren were also seen during the visit.

#### **Invertebrates:**

Although narrow in places a number of invertebrates were seen in the margins. These included bee flies, a single female hairy footed flower bee, 7 spot ladybirds, red tailed, white tailed and carder bumblebees as well as a number of unidentified fly species. Speckled wood butterfly were seen in the north west corner of the site where the boundaries more resemble woodland.

#### **Herpetofauna:**

Grass snakes have been recorded from the adjacent meadows. Whilst there is little suitable habitat on the site this is a wide ranging species that could well travel across the field margins. Other species of reptile are not known from this area and with no standing water it is unlikely that amphibians are present.

#### **Mammals:**

Water voles are known to be in the adjacent water meadows. There were signs of small mammals in the longer margins and also rabbit signs around the site, including burrows in the banks of the A14. Two muntjac deer were seen on the adjacent meadows and footprints were found on the site. There were a number of tracks worn in the riverside vegetation caused by mammals. Otter have been recorded nearby on the Lark so a search was made for spraint but none was found. It is possible some signs may have been removed by the recent works to the footpath.

#### **Comments and recommendations:**

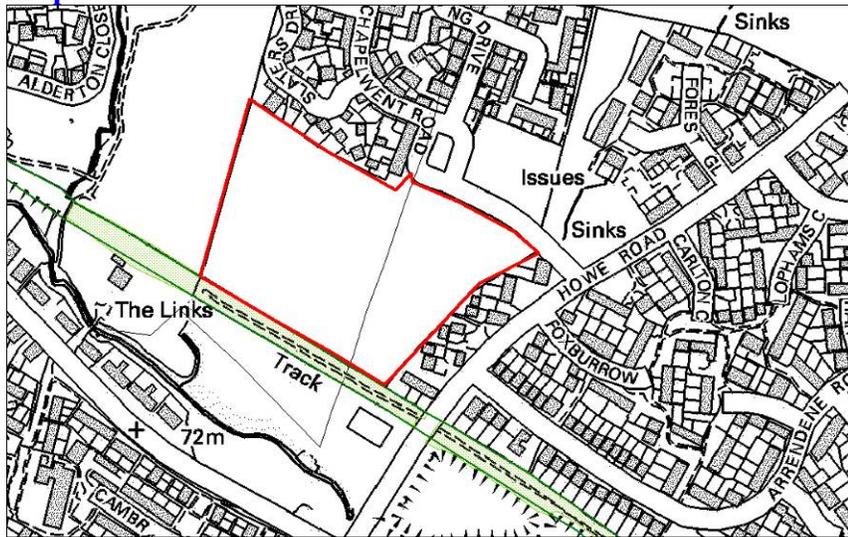
The western boundary of the site is demarked by the river Lark. During the visit the existing footpath along the river was being refurbished and resurfaced. Increasing recreational use of this area will increase disturbance pressure habitats associated with the river banks and small areas of habitat adjacent to the site boundaries. Careful consideration should therefore be given to buffering at least part of the river and building up scrubby habitat which shelters a variety of creatures including warblers noted during this visit. There is a strong possibility that otter may pass along the river and this also needs to be taken in to consideration.

The A14 boundary is also an area that might benefit from having an understory introduced to parts of the tree belt, including blackthorn and bramble. The mature trees on site should be retained. Creation of grassland with native nectar sources would benefit the invertebrate population.

**Site name** Land south of Chapelwent Road, HV4 a

**Site status:** No designation, north of Haverhill Disused Railway Line CWS & LNR  
**Grid ref:** TL 6643 4653  
**Area:** 2.8 hectares  
**Date:** 27 April 2012  
**Recorder:** T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:** Overcast, rain 14°C  
**Ranking:** 4  
**Biodiversity value:** Moderate

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



Looking south towards Disused Railway Line CWS



Looking north across young hawthorn growth



Hedgerow on western boundary



Young self sown shrubs including hawthorn and bramble

**Habitat type(s):**

Rough grass with young scrub

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Blackthorn and hawthorn hedgerow.

**Site description:**

Rough grassland immediately north of railway CWS with which it shares a boundary. The area appears well used by local people as there are some well worn paths across the site. Some rubbish is also present.

**Protected species:**

Common lizard, slow-worm on the Disused Railway Line County Wildlife Site.

**Protected species potential:**

Common lizard, slow-worm on site

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Linnet, house sparrow, starling

**BAP species known:**

Common lizard, slow-worm as above

**BAP species potential:**

-

**Connectivity:**

Good - The southern boundary of this site is the Haverhill Disused Railway Line County Wildlife site which provides an excellent wildlife corridor. The area to the north-west is currently of similar habitat. There is a slender corridor between blocks of housing to the north east of the site but this would be insufficient to maintain connectivity should the west of the site be developed.

**Structural diversity:**

Low but developing. The majority of the site is rough grassland with hawthorn and bramble with one mature hedge.

**Flora:**

Grass species include false oat grass and cock's foot. There is a mixed herbaceous flora with greater and ribwort plantain, wild carrot, hogweed, teasel, mugwort, dandelion, goat's-beard, clovers, common vetch and bird's-foot trefoil, geranium sp and speedwell. Towards the south of the site more nettle, white dead nettle and cow parsley were present. Being early in the season during a cold, wet period some plants were still in a vegetative state and not sufficiently advanced to make a full identification.

Hedges and woody plants included dogwood along the eastern edge of the site, blackthorn, hawthorn, bramble, wild rose sp, field maple and some willow and self sown apple. The boundary hedge with the CWS is very thick as is the lower part of the hedge along the west of the site where it is mainly blackthorn.

There is one patch of new mixed scrub with hawthorn developing towards the north west of the site.

**Avifauna:**

Several linnet were seen on the site feeding and they could be using suitable areas of the hedges and mature bramble for nesting. Other species noted were house sparrow, starling, chiffchaff, blackbird, wood pigeon, collared dove and magpie.

**Invertebrates:**

Weather conditions were not ideal for observing this group but red tailed bumble bee, small white butterfly and a number of unidentified probably solitary wasps or bees were noted. Common invertebrates such as snails and slugs are present.

**Herpetofauna:**

There are records of slow worm and common lizard from the CWS in this area and there is suitable habitat for reptiles on the site. As there are no ponds it is considered unlikely that amphibians will be present.

**Mammals:**

Small mammals such as voles and mice will use the hedgerows and areas of thicker vegetation on the site.

Two domestic cats were seen hunting on the site during the visit.

**Comments and recommendations:**

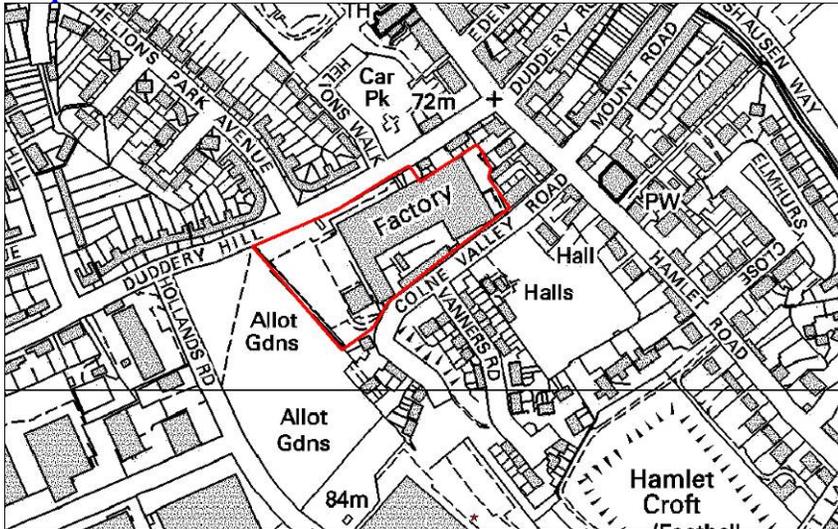
A reptile survey will be required prior to any vegetation removal on this site and subject to the findings of the survey, a mitigation scheme for reptiles must be implemented.

A substantial buffer needs to be left to protect the CWS and the hedges if this site is to be developed. Housing on this site will increase recreational pressure and predation by domestic cats on vulnerable reptile populations within the CWS but these impacts can be reduced by appropriately buffering the CWS. Consideration should also be given to leaving other rough areas around the site to provide habitat for species such as linnet which will be displaced by development to nest and forage. These areas need to be large enough to support viable breeding populations.

**Site name** **Wisdom Factory, Duddery Hill, HV6 a (part)**

**Site status:** No designation  
**Grid ref:** TL 6735 4514  
**Area:** 1.5 hectares  
**Date:** 27 April 2012  
**Recorder:** T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:** Intermittent rain, strong wind, 10°C  
**Ranking:** 5  
**Biodiversity value:** Low

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



Car park adjacent to allotments at HV18



Building frontage on Colne Valley Road



West end of factory building



Yard and north portion of factory

**Habitat type(s):**

Factory now used as a warehouse. Office and other buildings. Hard standing used as car park.

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Short trimmed grass round car park, line of trees running along Duddery Hill boundary and open area of small trees/shrubs/grass in between commercial buildings and houses at the east end of the site.

**Site description:**

Commercial site towards the south of Haverhill, on the edge of the industrial estates. There is one large red brick office block fronting Colne Valley Road with what appears to be a dwelling at its west end. The old factory, now used as warehousing, sits behind this, backing on to Duddery Hill. There is an area of hard standing at the west end of the site which is used as a car park. This is fringed by short mown grass. There is a line of trees along most of the Duddery Hill boundary which is unmanaged to the west end but becomes a line of heavily pruned planted in trees and ornamentals to the east. There also appears to be an area of trees and shrubs at the east end of the site between the factory and the housing to the east of the site boundary. This was not accessed during this visit.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

There are no bat records in the close vicinity, but the older factory building fronting Colne Valley Road could potentially provide roosting opportunities for bats.

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

-

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

Possibly house sparrow or dunnock. Swift and spotted flycatcher are known from the 1 kilometre square this site is situated in.

**Connectivity:**

Low. The site is mainly surrounded by development with any green areas around being cultivated or heavily managed. A large part of the adjacent allotment gardens have been cleared (see HV18), reducing vegetated habitat around the site.

**Structural diversity:**

Low. The vast majority of the site is building. Most of the trees on Duddery Hill are too heavily pruned to provide much in the way of habitat.

**Flora:**

The amenity grass on site has a mix of common plants such as daisy and dandelion. Trees include elm adjacent to the car park area on the Duddery Hill boundary, sycamore with an understory of shrubs such as blackthorn. There are a number of ornamental trees further east on the Duddery Hill boundary. The area between the factory and the housing to the east was not inspected.

**Avifauna:**

No birds were seen during the course of this visit but weather conditions were unsuitable at the time. Larger trees on the Duddery Hill will support common species such as wood pigeon and, if suitable cavities are available, blue and great tits. It is possible that pigeons and blackbird may nest around the factory sites itself. Depending on the vegetation between the factory and the houses that could support house sparrow, dunnock, black bird and tits.

It was too early in the season for swift or spotted flycatcher to be present.

**Invertebrates:**

Although the trees will support some invertebrates the site is generally not suitable for this group.

**Herpetofauna:**

The site is not suitable for this group

**Mammals:**

The site is not suitable for this group

**Comments and recommendations:**

Weather conditions during this visit were unsuitable for surveying animal groups due to heavy rain and strong wind.

If the older building fronting Colne Valley Road is to be demolished a bat survey should be undertaken.

Elm in the Duddery Hill tree line should be managed by cutting to reduce the effects of Dutch elm disease and encouraged to form a hedge. It was not possible to inspect the small green area between the factory and the housing to the east but it should be assumed that it will support nesting birds unless inspection proves otherwise. Any vegetation including ivy should be cleared outside the nesting season of March to end July. All buildings scheduled for demolition in this period should be inspected for nests prior to doing so. A check should be made once swifts have returned to ensure they are not using any of the buildings and any ivy on buildings checked for spotted flycatcher.

**Site name** **Chivers Road/Chimswell Way, HV7 b**

**Site status:** No designation  
**Grid ref:** TL 6556 4565  
**Area:** 1.5 hectares  
**Date:** 27 April 2012  
**Recorder:** T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:** Sunny spells, strong breeze, 14°C  
**Ranking:** 5  
**Biodiversity value:** Low

**Map:**

No map available

**Photos:**



Site



Small area of trees and hedge adjacent to site

**Habitat type(s):**

Short grass

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Planted hedge and small group of trees.

**Site description:**

Part of an open area east of Chimswell Way towards the western outskirts of Haverhill. The site is flat, short cut grass with a planted, native species hedge along the road border. There is a small triangle of planted trees and hedge at its southerly tip. The southern boundary proper is marked by a footpath and narrow grass strip next to housing.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Linnet, starling, house sparrow

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

-

**Connectivity:**

Fair. Although the roundabout at the junction of Chimswell Way/Chivers Road bisects a green corridor there is open land to the east and west of this site. To the east this is predominately playing fields, which are not particularly wildlife friendly, but there are planted tree belts and established hedges which aid connectivity. To the west, again there appears to be new planting and established hedge/tree lines which will aid connectivity although west of the A1017 is a large arable field with little in the way of hedges or trees.

**Structural diversity:**

Low. Although the grass has a reasonable mix of plants it is kept mown short. The hedges and trees are all relatively new plantings which need time to develop.

**Flora:**

The site is rough grass with a mix of nectar providing species such as dandelion, mouse ear, ribwort plantain, daisy, vetches and clover, sow thistle and hawkbits.

Species in the roadside hedge were hawthorn, beech and field maple. The hedge surrounding the small group of trees included dogwood, blackthorn, wild privet and rose. The young trees this hedge surrounded were cherry, alder and ash. The ground layer of this area had similar plants to the surrounding field but also a quantity of moss.

**Avifauna:**

Upward of fifty starlings were foraging on the field. House sparrows were using the road side hedge as well as the field and adjacent gardens. Small numbers of linnet were seen including one male singing in the trees. Other species noted were crow and magpie.

**Invertebrates:**

There are insufficient rough or undisturbed areas on the site to provide much nesting habitat for invertebrates but where there are small patches, such as in the trees, bumble bees were seen. The moss under the trees had a number of holes in it which might have been caused by emerging insects or by birds such as starling or green woodpecker, searching for insects.

**Herpetofauna:**

The site is unsuitable for this group.

**Mammals:**

There is insufficient cover on the site for this group to make much use of it.

**Comments and recommendations:**

Taken in isolation the site is of low ecological value but it is part of an open area that provides foraging for three BAP bird species with adjacent nesting opportunities. The rest of the site needs to be preserved and enhanced where necessary. For linnet this would include retaining and encouraging scrub including bramble.

**Site name** Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College, HV17

**Site status:** No designation  
**Grid ref:** TL 6624 4595  
**Area:** 15 hectares  
**Date:** 27 April 2012  
**Recorder:** T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:** Overcast, moderate breeze, 12°C  
**Ranking:** 5  
**Biodiversity value:** Low

**Map:**

No map available

Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



Main block of "old" school from grass by car park



Area west of playing fields, looking north



One area of noted sparrow activity at school buildings.



Orchard area

**Habitat type(s):**

Buildings of various ages, playing field and other short mown grass areas.

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Small orchard with bank of native flowers, beds of shrubs and ornamental planting, mature poplars and specimen trees. A footpath with dense scrub divides the two halves of the site.

**Site description:**

Two schools sites towards the north of Haverhill. Both have extensive playing fields/grounds attached. The buildings at Castle Manor have been added to over a number of years and now range from 1950s brick to 1970s concrete structures. The former Parkway Middle School building is a single storey, wooden clad structure.

After discussion with Castle Manor's business manager about the college's future plans, the survey was concentrated on the buildings and the grass area to the west of the playing fields proper at the Eastern Avenue location.

**Protected species:**

There is a record from 2000 of Daubenton's bat from the at Parkway Middle School bungalow.

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Starling, linnet, house sparrow, song thrush, dunnock

**BAP species known:**

Daubenton's bat

**BAP species potential:**

-

**Connectivity:**

Poor. The Castle Manor site is almost surrounded by development apart from where the fields of the two schools abutt. Parkway is better connected with a restricted corridor to the south west to open farmland.

**Structural diversity:**

Low. The site is dominated by sort mown grass with only a small section under the trees in the north-west corner allowed to grow longer and one small area of rougher vegetation near the path to Parkway School. There are trees across the site with an orchard area near and planted shrubs around the college buildings. The footpath between the two sites has dense blackthorn scrub and there is scrub on the southerly bank of the site but is only a small area in relation to the whole.

**Flora:**

At the front entrance to the college there is a small car parking area with short mown amenity grass with specimen trees. The sward includes common plants such as dandelion and daisy. The adjacent housing is divided from this area by a planted hedge of ornamentals and leylandii.

There are a variety of ornamentals around the buildings in borders and beds and some large specimen trees. An orchard area south of the college buildings appears to be of mainly apple trees with a ground layer of common grasses, hogweed, cow parsley. The bank has cowslips, which appear to have spread to beds near the classrooms and primroses including some red/brown variants. Thick ivy was noted on at least one building.

Grass areas not being used as playing field have a mix of flowering plants in the sward including dandelion, daisy and trefoil sp. The steep bank immediately south of the playing field behind the college buildings supported a stand of colt's foot. The most southerly bank on the site, next to the housing to the south has a line of trees, including poplar and scrub.

West of the footpath that bisects the college side of the site, the grass also included thyme leaved and other speedwell species, ribwort plantain and clovers. The footpath has a ditch adjacent to it and a single line of tall, poplar. Near the hedges and under the trees that are dotted the north-west boundary of the site, where the grass grows slightly longer, ox-eye daisy, sow thistle, occasional ragwort and cut leaf geranium were also noted. The trees along this boundary are a mix of oak, hornbeam beech, larch and maple sp.

In the north-west corner there is a small group of silver birch, ash and white poplar with single alder and hornbeam trees. The vegetation under these trees has been left longer and contains cow parsley and cleavers. There is another line of trees running along the north east boundary which also has a slope down to adjacent housing. These trees included two large sycamore, a field maple and what appeared to be a number of hornbeam.

Just south of this tree line and next to the poplars is an area of rougher land with a slightly different vegetation with sparser grass and more herbs including mugwort, knapweed, yarrow, horsetail as well as cleavers and creeping buttercup.

#### **Avifauna:**

A number of house sparrows were noted around the college buildings, particularly near some of the thicker shrubs in which they may be nesting. Some of the brick buildings showed signs of what may have been old house martin nests in the eaves and possible bird droppings below the soffits where it is possible that species such as blue tit, which were seen on site, might nest if there were suitable holes in the wood.

The open grass of the playing field and adjacent area supported foraging rook, crow, jackdaw, wood pigeon and starling. Other birds seen feeding around the site included green woodpecker, blackbird, song thrush, great tit and collared dove. Goldfinch and linnet were also seen in the grass and small trees in the south west of the college grounds. Blackcap were heard in all areas of scrub around the site.

Blue tits and great tits were seen in the trees on site and in the vegetation round the college buildings which also supported a number of house sparrows and dunnock.

#### **Invertebrates:**

Although there is a good nectar source present with a number of flowering species in the grass there is limited suitable nesting sites because vegetation is kept short, preventing thatch building up and tussock formation. Weather conditions were not ideal for surveying for this group and none were noted during the visit.

**Herpetofauna:**

The site is considered to be unsuitable for this group.

**Mammals:**

There is very little cover for this group on the site. Common species such as mice and rat may be present near the buildings. There is a bat record from the Parkway site and there may be suitable roosting opportunities within buildings at either site.

**Comments and recommendations:**

The overall biodiversity value of this site is low in comparison to its size but it does support a number of biodiversity action plan birds. Specimen trees on site should be incorporated in to new plans or subjected to close inspection prior to soft felling. Features such as the orchard should be retained. As it is a large site there is an opportunity to allow areas to develop a more natural flora and possibly allow some of the blackthorn to develop on banks.

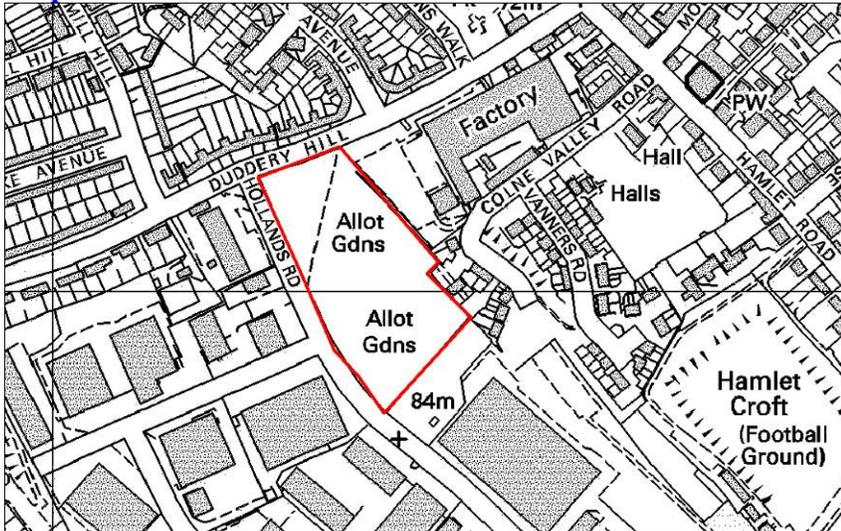
No vegetation, including ivy on buildings should be cleared in the nesting season of March to end July. If buildings are to be demolished they should be secured against nesting birds ahead of the season. Compensatory habitat for nesting species should be provided on site. Some species, such as sparrows, will use nest boxes built in to the fabric of new buildings.

In addition, if work is to be carried out at Parkway School the buildings need to be inspected for likely use by bats.

**Site name** **Hollands Road/Duddery Hill, HV18**

**Site status:** No designation  
**Grid ref:** TL 6735 4514  
**Area:** 1.8 hectares  
**Date:** 27 April 2012  
**Recorder:** T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:** Heavy rain, strong wind, 10°C  
**Ranking:** 4  
**Biodiversity value:** Low to moderate

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



North west corner of site



Allotment area looking south



Area to the south which has been cleared



Area between allotments and new Wisdom premises

**Habitat type(s):**

Allotments, tended and overgrown, hard standing, cleared area from which scrub and small trees have been removed.

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Bramble and scrub with small trees, rough vegetation.

**Site description:**

A site being used for allotments at the corner of Holland Road and Duddery Hill in Haverhill. The north area, bounded by Duddery Hill, has blackthorn and bramble and honeysuckle scrub and trees such as cherry and self sown apple. Below this is an area of allotments, some of which appeared somewhat overgrown at the time of the visit those. Moving south the plots became better tended and the southerly half of the site appeared to have been bulldozed with piles of wood chip indicating where trees had been felled and destroyed. This area is developing vegetation again, but of a herbaceous nature.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

Slow worm

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Dunnock

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

Slow worm

**Connectivity:**

Low – The site has roads on two sides, industrial development and housing all around. However, a spur of the disused railway line runs close to the SE corner provided interrupted connectivity.

**Structural diversity:**

Moderate. Clearance of the scrub at the south end of the site has reduced the diversity of habitats available but there is still some bramble and blackthorn at the north of the site, with less tended areas throughout the allotments.

**Flora:**

Scrub at the Duddery Hill end of the site includes blackthorn, bramble with honeysuckle and small trees such as cherry and elder. A wet period has produced a lot of lush growth round several of the more northerly plots and the Holland Road boundary. Plants showing nutrification, such as nettle were present, along with mallow, cow parsley and common grasses such as cock's foot and false oat grass. There was one stand of the nationally scarce but locally common plant dittander on the Holland Road border.

**Avifauna:**

The bramble scrub makes ideal nesting habitat for species such as dunnock and they were present on the site. Blackbird, greenfinch and a number of goldfinch were also seen as well as green woodpecker.

**Invertebrates:**

Weather conditions at the time of survey were unsuitable for this group and none were seen.

**Herpetofauna:**

Weather conditions at the time of survey were not suited to search for this group. The absence of open water means it is unlikely to support amphibians but there did appear to be good habitat for slow worm.

**Mammals:**

There was a strong smell of fox in the north east corner of the site and it is highly possible that an animal might have a den in the bramble. The less well tended areas of the site will support small mammals such as voles, mice and shrews.

**Comments and recommendations:**

Before any further clearance or work on this site is carried out it must have a reptile survey to determine if any protected species such as slow worm are present. A mitigation strategy will be required if reptiles are found to be present.

Subject to the reptile survey, any clearance must be done outside the bird nesting season of March to mid July. Developing this site will remove that last area of uncultivated or undeveloped land in this area and consideration should be given to providing suitable compensatory habitat, appropriate for the species on site, elsewhere. This is particularly true if reptiles are found to be present.

**Site name**                    **Barrow RV6b**  
**Land east of Barrow Hill, Barrow**

**Site status:**                    No designation  
**Grid ref:**                      TL 8631 6378  
**Area:**                            4.2 Hectares  
**Date:**                            12 April 2012  
**Recorder:**                      S Bullion  
**Weather conditions:**        Sunny spells interspersed by showers 15°C  
**Ranking:**                        5  
**Biodiversity value:**         Low

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



View eastwards along central hedgerow, southern field



View westwards within northern field

**Habitat type(s):**

Arable fields and margins

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Hedgerow and water-filled ditch bisecting site. Hedgerow along road frontage.

**Site description:**

The site lies to the south-east of Barrow and represents two areas of arable fields, subdivided by an east-west running tall, thick hedgerow. Adjacent to the hedgerow is a water-filled ditch which is heavily shaded for most of its length, apart from where it borders gardens on the western edge of the site. The arable fields have broad field-margins and a public footpath runs along the southern edge of the central hedgerow. There is much evidence of dog-walking along the footpath and also along the field margins directly behind the houses.

**Protected species:**

.-

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

Ancient species-rich hedgerow

**BAP species seen:**

Skylark

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

Brown hare

**Connectivity:**

The hedgerow running east-west provides some connectivity in an otherwise largely arable landscape. It links to Wilsummer Wood County Wildlife Site (CWS) 450 metres to the east.

**Structural diversity:**

The majority of the site is arable field, so here structural diversity is poor. The central hedgerow provides the only structural diversity within this landscape. The roadside hedge had recently been closely flailed.

**Flora:**

The central hedgerow has the appearance of being ancient in origin, with old stumps and evidence of former coppicing. Within the stretch highlighted as RV6b, there are ash, willow, elder, elm and bramble with additional species further east including field maple and dogwood. Dogs mercury was abundant at the base of the hedge and there was a small patch of lesser celandine. The field margin on the southern side of the central hedge was surprisingly diverse, including wild carrot, greater and ribwort plantain, cow parsley, germander speedwell, prickly ox-tongue, black knapweed, goat's beard, with yarrow, white bryony, perforate St John's wort and hedge bedstraw further east.

Other field margins were less species rich and more tussocky with a dominance of cock's foot and false oat grasses, dandelion and dock. The roadside hedge included hawthorn, blackthorn, ash, elm and rose but had been recently flailed at the time of the survey.

**Avifauna:**

Skylark were singing over the arable fields. Chiffchaff and blackbird were observed in the central hedge which provides excellent foraging, roosting and nesting opportunities.

**Invertebrates:**

The time of year meant it was sub-optimal for recording this group, but they are likely to be concentrated at the hedgerow and field margins. A bee-fly was recorded on the western edge.

**Herpetofauna:**

This site was not thought to be suitable for this group.

**Mammals:**

Common species of mammal are likely to be present, such as fox, rabbit and muntjac deer. Brown hares may also be here, but this is a highly mobile species. Small mammals such as mice, voles and shrews are likely to be present in small numbers along the hedgerows. The hedgerow may represent an important commuting route for bats.

**Comments and recommendations:**

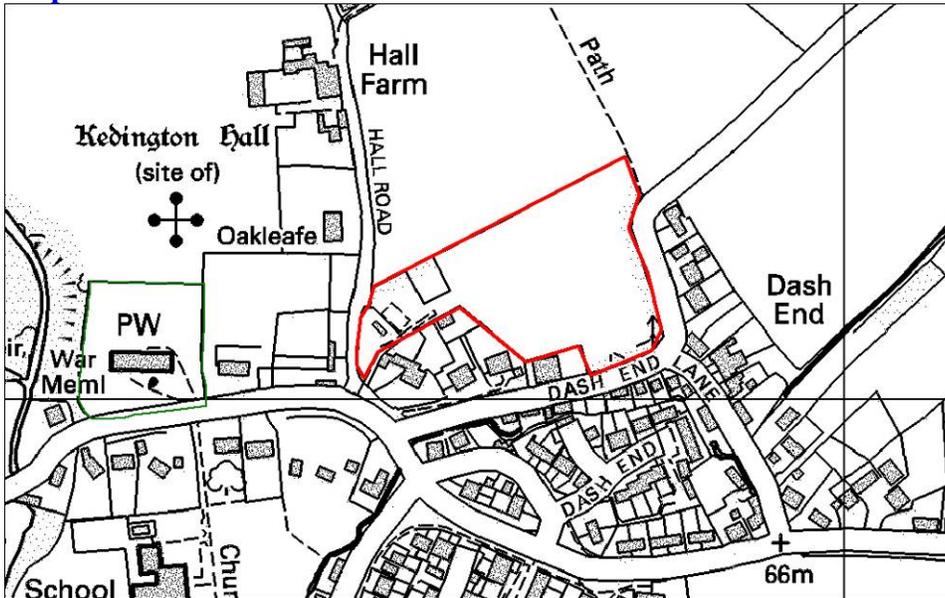
The hedge represents a valuable feature and this is complemented by the adjacent broad field margins. Any future development of this area should ensure that this feature is retained and buffered and connectivity retained with the ancient woodland CWS to the east. The hedge should not form the natural boundary of gardens as it is likely to be cut back or cleared, as is the current situation where it borders a garden on the western edge of the site. Lighting should be restricted close to the hedge so that any bat interest is retained.

The roadside hedge should be allowed to grow up and be managed on a less intensive regime.

**Site name**                    **Kedington RV9b**  
**Land at Limes Cottage**

**Site status:**                    No designation  
**Grid ref:**                      TL 708 471  
**Area:**                            1.8 hectares  
**Date:**                            8 May 2012  
**Recorder:**                      S Bullion  
**Weather conditions:**        Rising temperature after shower 15°C  
**Ranking:**                        4  
**Biodiversity value:**         Medium

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



Looking east across site



View west across the site

**Habitat type(s):**

Semi-improved grassland

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Tree belts on north, west and eastern boundaries.

**Site description:**

The site lies on the north-eastern edge of Kedington. Land to the north is arable, but 120 metres to the west is the County Wildlife Site at Kedington Churchyard. The site lies to the rear of domestic properties and represents continuous rough grassland. There is a loosely defined subdivision marked by a line of maples and other scrub between the western and larger eastern sections. A well marked track runs between the south-east and the north-west corners.

**Protected species:**

.-

**Protected species potential:**

Common lizard and slow worm

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

Common lizard and slow worm. Hedgehog.

**Connectivity:**

The site lies on the north-eastern edge of Kedington, with arable fields to the north and residential properties on the eastern and southern boundaries. A track marks the western boundary, with scattered houses to the west. The site therefore has moderate connectivity to the wider countryside.

**Structural diversity:**

The site has reasonable structural diversity with areas of tall grass sward, shorter grasses, bramble patches, scrub and trees. The lack of scrub invasion into the larger area to the east suggests that the grassland is cut from time to time.

**Flora:**

A range of common species was present within the grassland, including meadow foxtail, false oat, red fescue and barren brome grasses, yarrow, ground ivy, germander speedwell, common sorrel, groundsel, ox-eye daisy, ribwort plantain, greater plantain, creeping cinquefoil, creeping thistle, white deadnettle, bristly ox-tongue, nettle, cleavers, cow parsley, daisy, ragwort, hemlock and occasional cowslips. Various garden escapes were present including buddleia and caper spurge.

The northern tree belt was dominated by non-native species including larch, firs and beech. The eastern edge was formed by an irregular band of suckering elm, with Scot's pine beyond. The western edge bordering the track was sycamore and hawthorn, some ivy-covered.

**Avifauna:**

The boundaries of the site will be used for bird nesting and roosting, with the grassland providing good foraging areas. Blackbird, chaffinch, wood pigeon and jackdaw were noted during the survey.

**Invertebrates:**

Sheltered, rough grassland sites such as these usually support a range of invertebrates. The site provides suitable habitat for a number of butterflies, with an orange tip butterfly seen on a garlic mustard flower. White and red tailed bumblebees were noted and a species of banded snail.

**Herpetofauna:**

The rough grassland could support common lizard and slow worm and a pile of discarded corrugated iron and another mound of soil provides excellent basking opportunities.

**Mammals:**

Common species of mammal are likely to be present, such as rabbit and muntjac deer and evidence of fox was noted in the form of scats and tracks. Small mammals such as mice, voles and shrews are likely to be present in small numbers. Bats may use the boundaries of the site for foraging and commuting.

**Comments and recommendations:**

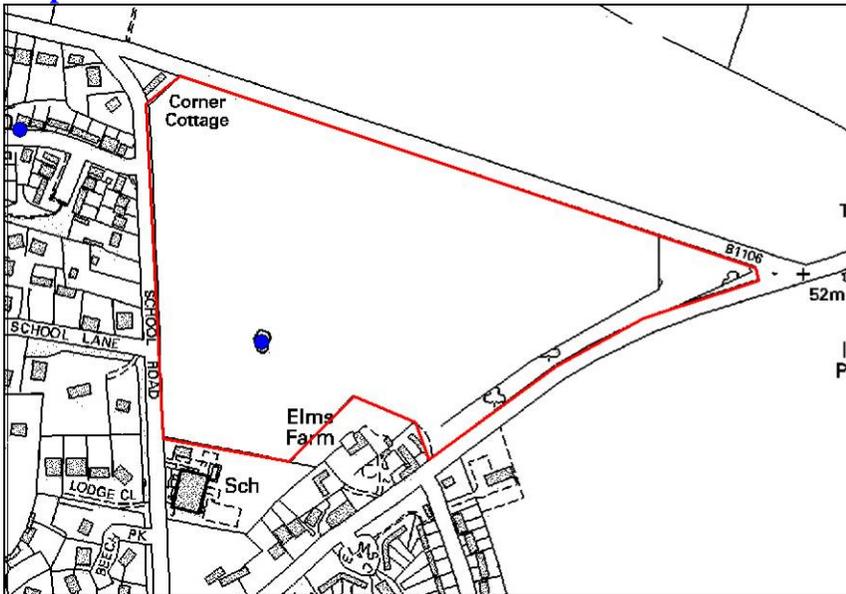
If the site is to be developed, we recommend that a reptile survey is undertaken prior to any vegetation removal or any machinery entering the site. Native planting of trees and scrub on the northern boundary could eventually replace the non-native species currently present (beech, firs and larch).

Consideration needs to be given to preventing light spillage into previously dark areas, which may be used by bats.

**Site name** Great Barton RV14 a & b and adjacent field

**Site status:** No designation  
**Grid ref:** TL 8935 6740  
**Area:** 12.6 hectares  
**Date:** 20 April 2012  
**Recorder:** T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:** Light rain, moderate breeze, 11oC  
**Ranking:** 5  
**Biodiversity value:** Low

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



Looking east from School Road with pond in field



Elms Wood on east boundary, managed by Great Barton Community Woodland.

**Habitat type(s):**

Arable field and margins,

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Dry pond and surrounding vegetation, thin strip of planted community woodland adjacent to A143.

**Site description:**

A truncated triangle of land on the north east edge of Great Barton bounded by the A143, Mill Road and School Road. The majority of the site is in arable field with narrow margins. Part of the School Road boundary has an overgrown hedge that has gone up to trees. The northern boundary along Mill Road is a narrow grass covered bank with two small trees. The margin of the A143 has been planted with a narrow strip of hedge managed by the parish community woodland project and a hedgerow. There is a pond with surrounding trees and scrub in the field which was dry at the time of the visit.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Skylark (heard)

**BAP species known:**

Brown Hare, Hedgehog

**BAP species potential:**

-

**Connectivity:**

Low. There is development to the west and south. Although there is a woodland at the A143/Mill Road corner the north and east boundaries mainly connect to large arable fields with poor or no hedge lines.

**Structural diversity:**

Low. The community woodland is very close planted with all the lower branches removed from the trees. Hedgerows are either relatively new or unmanaged. There is scrub around the pond but this is a relatively small area in relation to the field as a whole.

**Flora:**

The northern part of the School Road boundary does have an overgrown hedge which includes elm and sycamore. Climbers include wild clematis and bramble. The herb layer is predominately of common species such as ground ivy, dead nettle and cow parsley, although there was a small patch of cowslips on the wider margin near the woodland strip. The planted woodland had a mix of species including silver birch and cherry which have been planted in close proximity. The trees are also surrounded by a short, trimmed hedge.

The property in the south east corner (Elms Farm) of the site is surrounded by a relatively new hedge of mixed native species, the blackthorn sections of which are already suckering in to the field margin. The southern boundary also has mature trees but these are in the adjacent property not on this site.

The area round the dry pond has elder, sycamore, some small oaks, hawthorn and willow with an understory dominated by nettle with some hemlock round the periphery.

**Avifauna:**

Wood pigeon, crow, rook and red-legged partridge were seen on the field. Skylark were heard but not seen. Long tailed-tit were using the hedgerows and blackbirds were noted round the school area. Nest boxes have been erected in the community woodland but it is not known if they are currently in use.

**Invertebrates:**

Although much of the field has little in the way of margin bumble bees were still noted with white tailed, red tailed and common carder bees being recorded during the visit. A number of 7-spot ladybirds were also seen.

**Herpetofauna:**

This site is unsuitable for this group.

**Mammals:**

There were a series of traps baited with carrots positioned at gaps in the fence round the dry pond and some signs of rabbit activity were noted in the crop on the field. Muntjac deer slot were seen in the south east corner of the site where there is slightly more cover. The wider field margin in this area also had small mammal runs indicating the presence of, probably, voles.

**Comments and recommendations:**

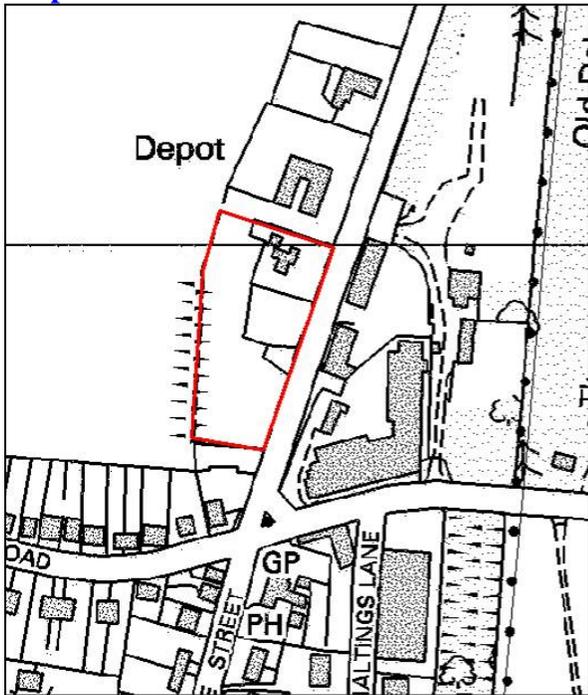
The hedge adjacent to Elms Farm could be allowed to thicken out to provide areas of scrub which are valuable for a variety of wildlife. Where hedges contain elm this should be managed by cutting to reduce the impacts of Dutch elm disease.

In a previous report on the site (May 2010) suggestions were made for the improvement of the pond. This was dry during that visit and still is. The area is currently in a drought but the pond should be monitored to see if it still holds water before any action is taken regarding restoration.

**Site name** **Ingham land at the Gable. RV17a**

**Site status:** No designation  
**Grid ref:** TL 8554 7095  
**Area:** 0.8 Hectares  
**Date:** 20 April 2012  
**Recorder:** T Seagon  
**Weather conditions:** Overcast, occasional rain 10°C  
**Ranking:** 5  
**Biodiversity value:** Low

**Map:**



Crown Copyright Licence Number 10016410

**Photos:**



Looking south



Looking north, trees in the background are in the bungalow garden

**Habitat type(s):**

Hard standing used as lorry park and car park, shingle area used for storage with containers.

**Subsidiary habitats:**

Sparsely vegetated earth bank, bungalow and garden

**Site description:**

Lorry and car parks with storage area, bungalow and garden west of the A134 through Ingham. The road frontage of the parking areas has a well trimmed, planted native hedge. The bungalow is surrounded by a close boarded wooden fence. The garden has a number of medium sized trees including fruit trees and a few shrubs. The grass is mown short.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

-

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

Hedgehog in the bungalow garden.

**Connectivity:**

Poor. The A134 is immediately to the east and there is development and bare sites to the south and north. There are open fields to the west but these are large with little in the way of hedges to provide connectivity to the wider countryside.

**Structural diversity:**

Poor.

**Flora:**

The earth bank at the back of the lorry park had little in the way of vegetation and might have been sprayed. Apart from some moss and very sparse grass in the shingle covered storage area to the north west of the site, all vegetation is restricted to the garden of the bungalow. This was not inspected closely but various trees were visible over the fence including fruit trees, silver birch, copper beech and holm (evergreen) oak.

The planted hedge along the road is made up of native species such as hazel and hawthorn and has been kept well trimmed. Although dense it is not particularly deep and therefore of limited wildlife value. There is some ivy at the north end of the hedge/fence.

**Avifauna:**

No birds were seen during the course of this visit. One nest, which looked very like a wood pigeon nest, was found in ivy over a post at the end of the hedge behind the car parking area. Birds will probably be using the bungalow garden but the rest of the site offers little in the way of feeding or

nesting sites.

**Invertebrates:**

Weather conditions were unsuitable to survey for this group at the time of the visit but other than the garden the site is considered unsuitable for invertebrates.

**Herpetofauna:**

This site is unsuitable for this group.

**Mammals:**

A dead shrew was found in the middle of the lorry park (possibly deposited by a domestic cat) but the site is generally unsuitable for mammals. The bungalow garden may provide some shelter for groups such as mice and hedgehog have been recorded in the area and may use the shrubs present. There are also records of bats close to the site. If the bungalow has a suitable loft space bats may be present.

**Comments and recommendations:**

No close inspection was made of the bungalow and its garden. Should development incorporate this plot all vegetation should be cleared outside the nesting season of March to end July.



**Subsidiary habitats:**

Linear pond in boundary hedge

**Site description:**

Part of an arable field at the south end of the development along Kingshall Street, Rougham. The street is narrow and quite rural at this point, there are agricultural buildings and hard standing to the south. Properties with large gardens to the east and open field to the west. A long thin pond runs along the east boundary of this site and the adjacent agricultural buildings. It is very shaded along the site boundary but open to the south, with considerable aquatic vegetation.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

Great crested newt

**BAP habitats present:**

-

**BAP species seen:**

Skylark (heard), song thrush, yellowhammer, dunnock.

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

Great crested newt

**Connectivity:**

Reasonable. Although there is arable field to the west the fields in this area are relatively small and have hedgerows. The properties on the opposite side of Kingshall Street have sizeable gardens which also join to a network of hedges. Although the pond density is greater elsewhere in the parish there is still a good scattering of ponds which, if in reasonable condition, could aid dispersal of species like great crested newt.

**Structural diversity:**

Low. The majority of the site is arable field with narrow margins. The hedgerow at the back of the houses the site wraps round is patchy.

**Flora:**

The field margins are narrow with coarse vegetation, mainly common grass species with groundsel and horsetail. To the rear of the houses a wider margin has been left and this has cow parsley, nettle and dead nettle as well as a large stand of mixed bramble and honeysuckle.

The hedge over the pond still retains traces of its probable woodland origins with one large specimen each of holly and hazel and dog's mercury in the herb layer. Other woody species include ash, field maple, blackthorn and elm which appears to be doing well. This hedge also has bramble in it.

**Avifauna:**

Pheasant, wood pigeon and skylark were seen on or over the field that the site is part of. Much of the other bird life appears to be concentrated in the large gardens over the road but these animals will use the hedgerows, margins and field edges of this site as well. Species heard and seen included song

thrush, yellowhammer, dunnoek, robin, goldfinch, greenfinch and chiff chaff.

**Invertebrates:**

The temperature at the time of the visit was low and it was early in the day for many invertebrates to be flying. Although none were seen it is likely that bumble bees will be using the margins and plants like honeysuckle will provide a good nectar source later in the year.

**Herpetofauna:**

At the moment the ponds are probably too shallow and/or over shaded to support amphibians but could be improved with appropriate management.

**Mammals:**

Muntjac slot were seen in the field and the wider margins may support small mammals such as voles.

**Comments and recommendations:**

The pond would benefit from having some of the vegetation being cut back to reduce shading and possibly clearing out. The need for this would be more apparent once the overhanging vegetation has been cleared. Elm in the hedge should be managed by cutting to reduce the impact of Dutch elm disease. Should the site be developed it is recommended that the hedge, although small, is retained and the species found in it used for planting on site.

If margins, such as the one behind the houses, and hedge areas are cleared this should be done outside the bird nesting season of March to end July.





Eastern meadow 2012



Western meadow 2012 (area of oxlips)

**Habitat type(s):**

Meadow, hedgerows

**Subsidiary habitats:**

**Site description:**

The site is located on the eastern edge of Wickhambrook. The site represents two meadows, subdivided by a thick, tall hedge. The meadow to the east, bordering the road is more species-rich, with the western meadow exhibiting signs of past disturbance. Both meadows are well defined within mature, ancient hedgerows. Residential land lies to the north, west and southern boundaries with a church and cemetery to the east. No information is available about the past land use of the western meadow, but the owners of the eastern meadow have advised us that this was farmed as arable until 1984.

**Protected species:**

-

**Protected species potential:**

-

**BAP habitats present:**

Ancient species-rich hedgerows

**BAP species seen:**

Starling

**BAP species known:**

-

**BAP species potential:**

-

**Connectivity:**

The site's location on the edge of Wickhambrook means that it is well connected to the wider countryside. The cemetery to the east contains a good mix of semi-natural grassland.

**Structural diversity:**

Structural diversity is good, with a combination of tall herbs and grasses surrounded by hedgerows.

**Flora:**

Visit 1: 2010

The flora of the eastern meadow contained a wide variety of species and the following species were common: meadow buttercup, meadow vetchling, ox-eye daisy, common sorrel, red clover, ribwort plantain, dandelion, hogweed, white dead-nettle, cleavers, common mouse ear, black medick, germander speedwell and tansy. Of the grasses, the following were recorded: perennial rye grass, cock's-foot, annual meadow grass, soft brome and Yorkshire fog. Bordering the roadside hedge the diversity improved with false brome, hedge bedstraw, dog's mercury, cowslip, herb-Robert, goat's-beard, tufted vetch, meadowsweet, primrose and yarrow.

The thick hedge subdividing the two meadows was a mixture of rose, elm, blackthorn, willow, ash and oak, Midland hawthorn and bramble. The roadside hedge included a large spindle, ash, Midland hawthorn, dogwood and hazel, with honeysuckle. Midland hawthorn is a strong indicator of ancient woodlands on heavy soils.

The western meadow displayed evidence of disturbance and scrub clearance, with a bare patch near the centre. However, despite an increased dominance of creeping thistle, cow parsley and broad-leaf dock, most of the above species were still present.

Visit 2: 2012

The purpose of this visit was to further assess the floristic value of this site and the visit was intentionally earlier in the season to be able to locate any early growing/flowering species. A full plant list is included at the end of the report.

The majority of the above species were recorded, but also some unusual additions, including goldilocks buttercup and notably, the frequent occurrence of adders tongue fern.



Goldilocks buttercup



Adders tongue fern

Adders tongue is a native fern of damp soils, found mainly in meadows and pastures, usually on older undisturbed sites. Occasional in old commons, greens meadows and pastures, especially on ancient sites on the boulder clay. Goldilocks buttercup is a native perennial of neutral to chalky soils, found in old meadows, hedgerows, verges and churchyards. It is widespread but rarely abundant throughout the boulder clay soils and often associated with old undisturbed habitats. Given the history of the site, it is likely that both these species have always been on site, but may have been confined to the hedgerows and their margins.

In the western meadow, a most surprising discovery was a large patch of oxlips on the eastern edge close to the hedgerow. This Nationally Scarce plant, with its restricted British distribution, is a very unusual find on this site. Sanford & Fisk 2010 describes this plant as ‘a native perennial of damp boulder clay soils, found almost exclusively in ancient woodland or hedgerows marking the boundaries of former woods’. It is a poor colonist, so it must be assumed that there has been a long presence of this species bordering the hedgerow and meadow edges.



Oxlip plant on the western meadow

#### **Avifauna:**

Jackdaws, blackbirds and woodpigeons were active within the site at the time of the first visit. Twelve starlings were observed foraging over the western meadow. Blackbird and blackcap were recorded during the second visit.

#### **Invertebrates:**

The site is likely to support a range of invertebrate species within the meadows and hedgerows. The weather conditions during both visits were not conducive to recording this group.

#### **Herpetofauna:**

There are no records for reptiles in this area but the site provides suitable habitat for species such as slow worm and common lizard. Toads may also be present.

**Mammals:**

The site will also support a range of small mammal species.

**Comments and recommendations:**

The hedgerows have ancient features and this is confirmed by the presence of Midland hawthorn.

This is an unusual site floristically. The owners of the eastern meadow have indicated that it was arable up until 1984. In the intervening 28 years an interesting mix of species has developed and it is likely that this is derived from a local reservoir, such as species-rich field margins and from the base of the ancient hedges. The frequent occurrence of adders tongue fern in the eastern meadow is notable and is normally associated with old meadows and pastures.

The western meadow appears far more disturbed and may well have scrubbed up to then have been cleared. However, the presence of good population of the Nationally Scarce oxlip is a notable find, probably stemming from a local seed source associated with the central hedge and its margins.

Development on these two meadows will lead to a loss of local species, including the Nationally Scarce Oxlip. The woody species in the hedges can be retained and continue to be managed to maximize their wildlife value, but it is likely that the remaining ground flora would decline in species diversity due to shading and disturbance.

Given the finding of oxlip we recommend that the whole site is put before the County Willdife Site panel as soon as possible to assess whether it meets the criteria for designation of County Wildlife Site.

**Flowering plants Eastern Meadow: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

	<b>DAFOR score</b>
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> (Yarrow)	F
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> (Agrimony)	R
<i>Ajuga reptans</i> (Bugle)	R
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> (Hedge mustard)	O
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> (Cow parsley)	O
<i>Centaurea nigra</i> (Knapweed)	R
<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (Creeping thistle)	R
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Spear thistle)	R
<i>Galium mollugo</i> (Hedge bedstraw)	R
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i> (Ground ivy)	R
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> (Hogweed)	F
<i>Hyacinthoides x massartiana</i> (hybrid bluebell)	R
<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i> (Hairy St Johns-wort)	R
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i> (Meadow vetchling)	R
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> (Ox-eye daisy)	O
<i>Medicago lupulina</i> (Black medick)	R
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i> (Dog's mercury)	R
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i> (Mouse-ear hawkweed)	R
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i> (Ribwort plantain)	F
<i>Primula veris</i> (Cowslip)	R
<i>Primula vulgaris</i> (Primrose)	R
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> (Self-heal)	R
<i>Ranunculus acris</i> (Meadow buttercup)	F
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i> (Bulbous buttercup)	R
<i>Ranunculus auricomus</i> (Goldilocks buttercup)	R
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i> (Lesser celandine)	R
<i>Rumex acetosa</i> (Common sorrel)	O
<i>Rumex crispus</i> (Curled dock)	R
<i>Stellaria holostea</i> (Greater stitchwort)	R
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> (Dandelion)	F
<i>Trifolium pratense</i> (Red clover)	O
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i> (Germander speedwell)	O
<i>Vicia cracca</i> (Tufted vetch)	R
<i>Viola odorata</i> (Sweet violet)	R

**Grasses and rushes**

<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> (Meadow foxtail)	O
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i> (Soft Brome)	O
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> (Sweet vernal grass)	O
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> (False oat-grass)	F
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i> (Cock's-foot)	F
<i>Festuca rubra</i> (Red fescue)	F
<i>Holcus lanatus</i> (Yorkshire fog)	R
<i>Poa pratensis</i> (Smooth meadow grass)	O
<i>Poa trivialis</i> (Rough meadow grass)	R
<i>Carex flacca</i> (Glaucus sedge)	O
<i>Juncus inflexus</i> (Hard rush)	R

**Ferns**

***Ophioglossum vulgatum* (Adders tongue) F (can be an ancient woodland/old meadow indicator)**

**Flowering plants Western Meadow: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

	<b>DAFOR score</b>
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> (Yarrow)	F
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> (Agrimony)	R
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> (Cow parsley)	O
<i>Arum maculatum</i> (Lords and ladies)	R
<i>Castystegia sepium</i> (hedge bindweed)	O
<i>Centaurea nigra</i> (Knapweed)	R
<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (Creeping thistle)	R
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Spear thistle)	R
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i> (Rosebay willowherb)	R
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> (Field bindweed)	O
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i> (Teasel)	R
<i>Galium aparine</i> (Cleavers)	O
<i>Galium mollugo</i> (Hedge bedstraw)	R
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i> (Ground ivy)	R
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> (Hogweed)	F
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i> (Meadow vetchling)	R
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i> (Dog's mercury)	R
<i>Potentilla reptans</i> (Creeping cinquefoil)	O
<b><i>Primula elatior</i> (Oxlip)</b>	<b>O Nationally scarce and strong ancient woodland indicator species</b>
<i>Primula veris</i> (Cowslip)	R
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i> (Self-heal)	R
<i>Ranunculus acris</i> (Meadow buttercup)	F
<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i> (Lesser celandine)	R
<i>Ranunculus repens</i> (Creeping buttercup)	O
<i>Rumex acetosa</i> (Common sorrel)	O
<i>Rumex crispus</i> (Curled dock)	R
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> (Broad-leaved dock)	O
<i>Senecio erucifolius</i> (Hoary ragwort)	R
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i> (Hedge woundwort)	O
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> (Dandelion)	F
<i>Trifolium pratense</i> (Red clover)	O
<i>Urtica dioica</i> (Nettle)	F
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i> (Germander speedwell)	O
<i>Vicia cracca</i> (Tufted vetch)	R
<i>Viola canina</i> (dog violet)	R
 <b>Grasses and rushes</b>	
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i> (Meadow foxtail)	O
<i>Anisantha sterilis</i> (Barren brome)	F
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> (Creeping bent)	F
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> (False oat-grass)	F
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i> (Cock's-foot)	F
<i>Festuca rubra</i> (Red fescue)	F
<i>Poa trivialis</i> (Rough meadow grass)	R
<i>Juncus inflexus</i> (Hard rush)	R

**Trees and shrubs**

*Cornus sanguinea* (Dogwood)

*Corylus avellana* (Hazel)

***Crataegus laevigata* (Midland hawthorn) Strong ancient woodland indicator species**

*Crataegus monogyna* (Hawthorn)

*Euonymus europaeus* (Spindle)

*Fraxinus excelsior* (Ash)

*Hedera helix* (Ivy)

*Lonicera periclymenum* (honeysuckle)

*Rubus fruticosus* agg. (Bramble)

*Quercus robur* (Pedunculate oak)

*Salix* Spp Willow

*Ulmus* Spp (Elm)