

AN ECOLOGICAL SURVEY
of
LAND SOUTH OF BRADFORD ROAD,
SHERBORNE
[SHER06]

for
Dorset Council
December 2021

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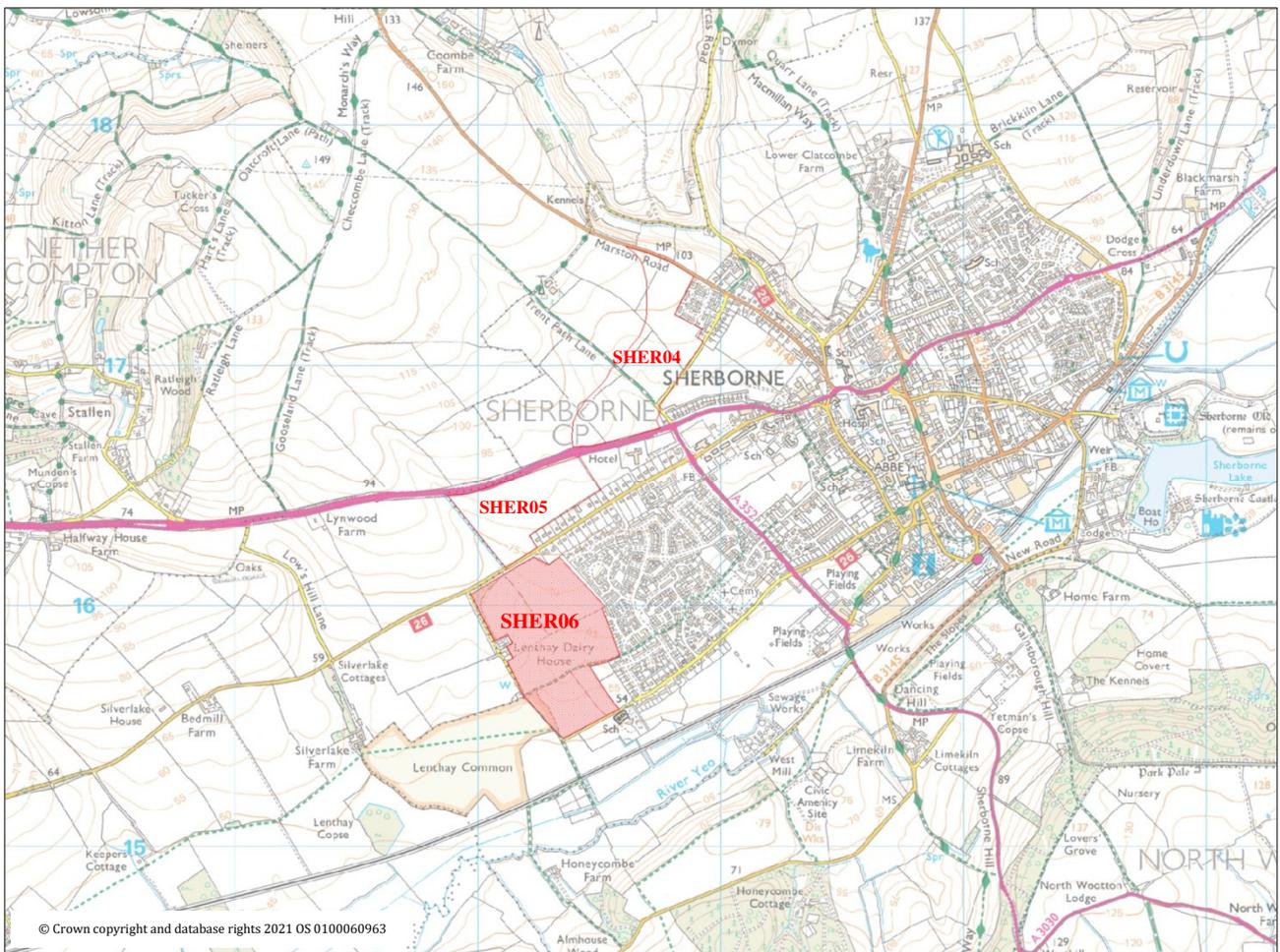
SUMMARY

- This report forms part of a suite of ecological surveys commissioned by Dorset Council's Strategic Planning and Natural Environment Teams. Together the survey reports form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan, containing extended Phase 1 survey information for the potential allocated sites, highlighting important habitats and the likelihood of protected species being present.
- The arable fields are currently of **Low Ecological Interest**.
- The grassland areas are semi-improved and species-poor and currently of **Low Ecological Interest**.
- There are **1,892 metres** of hedgerow that have a diverse range of woody shrubs and qualify Hedgerows **Priority Habitat** and **Section 41 (NERC Act, 2006) Habitat of Principal Importance**.
- The woodland north of Lenthay Dairy House (now Silverlake Farm) dates from the 19th Century and has a flora typical of secondary woodland with no Ancient Woodland Indicator plants noted. Some of the older trees, especially the Beech are beginning to gain features of veteran trees such as trunk hollowing, holes and sap runs. This area is of **Moderate Ecological Interest**.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report forms part of a suite of ecological surveys commissioned by Dorset Council's Strategic Planning and Natural Environment Teams. Together the survey reports form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan, containing extended Phase 1 survey information for the potential allocated sites, highlighting important habitats and the likelihood of protected species being present. The surveys have been carried out by Dorset Environmental Records Centre who are working with Dorset Council to ensure that ecological data for the Local Plan process is as up-to-date as possible.

MAP 1. Site location



2.0 METHODS

The survey was undertaken on the 2nd September 2021 in dry overcast weather. The area was walked and a plant species list compiled with frequencies assigned to each species using the DAFOR scale¹. Particular attention was paid to the presence of any Section 41 or Red Listed species, and any that are on the Dorset Environmental Records Centre (DERC) lists of Dorset Notable species (DERC, 2012). Habitats present were assessed for their potential to support protected species (see Section 6.1), and visible signs for Badger such as setts, latrines and paths were looked for. Each habitat type present and any species or features of particular note were described using target notes (see Section 5.2.2).

A habitat map was produced in the field by drawing boundaries of the different vegetation types over a print out of the latest aerial photograph. This was then digitized using DERCs Integrated Habitat System (IHS) mapping process.

The sites are assessed for their ecological interest at the time of the survey (see Section 6.0). Those sites assessed as being of **Low Ecological Interest** have very little interest and are generally improved grasslands or arable fields. Those of **Moderate Ecological Interest** may support some interest such as one or more Dorset Notable plant species, but do not qualify as a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI). Those of **High Ecological Interest** are of SNCI quality and are therefore an important wildlife site within a county context.

Nomenclature for plants follows Stace (2019).

The DAFOR scale records species according their abundance as follows:

D = Dominant; **A** = Abundant; **F** = Frequent; **O** = Occasional; **R** = Rare; **L** = Local (e.g. **LF** = Locally Frequent)

3.0 LEGISLATION & POLICY

3.1 LEGISLATION

The following legislation may be of relevance to the proposed works. Full details of statutory obligations with respect to biodiversity and the planning system can be found in DCLG Circular 06/2005.

- **The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendments) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019:**

This transposes the EU Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) into domestic law and ensures that the habitat and species protection and standards will continue to apply upon the UK's exit from the EU. The Regulations provide protection for a number of species including:

- All species of bat
- Dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*)
- Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*).

This legislation makes it an offence to deliberately capture, kill or injure individuals of these species listed on Schedule 2 and damage or destroy their breeding site or place of shelter. It is also illegal to deliberately disturb these species in such a way as to be likely to significantly affect: (i) the ability of any significant group of the species to survive, breed or rear or nurture their young; or (ii) the local distribution or abundance of the species.

This legal protection means that where development has the potential to impact on bats, or other species of national interest, the results of a protected species survey must be submitted with a planning application.

Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are also protected under this legislation. These are a network of sites designated for supporting habitats or species of high nature conservation importance in the European context. Any activity that has a detrimental effect on these European sites³ is made an offence under the Regulations. Where a development is likely to have a significant impact on a European site, the Regulations require a rigorous assessment of the impacts, known as an Appropriate Assessment.

- **The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (and amendments):**

Protected fauna and flora are listed under Schedules 1, 5 & 8 of the Act. Species likely to be of relevance include:

- All species of **bat**. It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb any bat whilst it is occupying a roost or to intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost
- All species of **British reptile** (in particular grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*), common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*), adder (*Vipera berus*) and slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*)). It is illegal to kill or injure these species
- **Great crested newt**. It is illegal to obstruct access to any structure or place which great crested newts use for shelter or protection or to disturb any great crested newt while it is using such a place.

This Act also makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or to take, damage or destroy their eggs and nests (whilst in use or being built). In addition, it is an offence to disturb any nesting bird listed on Schedule 1 or their young.

Schedule 9 of the Act lists those species for which it is an offence to plant or cause their spread. Species listed under Schedule 9 that are most likely to be encountered are Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) and giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are also protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. These are a network of sites identified as being of national nature conservation importance and hence afforded legal protection.

National Nature Reserves (NNRs) are also protected under the Act (section 35 (1)) and established under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. These are nature reserves which are considered to be of national importance by the relevant statutory bodies i.e. Natural England, Natural resource Wales.

- **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006:**

This Act enforces a duty on the planning authority and local council to conserve biodiversity (section 40). Additionally, section 41 encourages the local councils to be aware of the species and habitats of 'principal importance' and to act accordingly to protect and manage these habitats and species.

- **The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000:**

This Act strengthens nature conservation and wildlife protection through a number of mechanisms. It places a duty on Government Ministers and Departments to conserve biological diversity, provides police with stronger powers relating to wildlife crimes, and improves protection and management of SSSIs.

- **The Protection of Badgers Act 1992:**

This Act makes it an offence to wilfully take, injure or kill a badger (*Meles meles*); cruelly mistreat a badger; interfere with badger setts, sell or possess a live badger; mark or ring a badger. A licence is required for work affecting badgers and their setts.

- **Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996:**

This Act provides protection for all wild animals from intentional acts of cruelty.

- **Hedgerow Regulations 1997:**

These Regulations establish a set of criteria for assessing the importance of hedgerows. Where a hedgerow is deemed to be 'important' its removal is prohibited without consent from the local Planning Authority.

3.2 POLICY

The following policy is of relevance to this report:

- **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF):**

This sets out the Government's vision for biodiversity in England with the broad aim that planning, construction, development and regeneration should maintain and enhance, restore or add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests. NPPF (2018) includes sections on legally protected species and sites (see Section 2.1).

- **Local Sites (including Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI), Local Nature Reserves (LNR), and Biological Notification Sites (BNSs)/County Wildlife Sites (CWSs)):**

These are a network of sites designated for their nature conservation importance in a local context. Although they are not afforded legal protection they contribute towards local and national biodiversity.

- **Natural England Protected Species Standing Advice:**

The standing advice is used by local authorities as a fall-back position when in pre-application consultation or during the determination period to define habitat and species survey efforts and mitigation proposals.

4.0 EXISTING DATA

The following summary is based on the desk study carried out by DERC for Dorset Council covering the Local Plan Emerging Site Allocations (DERC 2020). The species records are based on post-2010 data.

4.1 PROTECTED SPECIES

Species	Status	Distance from site
Badger	WCA	-
Bats	EPS; WCA	Within 1-km radius
Dormouse	S41; EPS; WCA	Within 1-km radius
Otter	EPS; WCA	Within 1-km radius
Water Vole	S41; WCA	-
Brown Hare	S41	-
Hedgehog	S41	-
Great Crested Newt	EPS; S41	-
Reptiles	S41; WCA	-

4.2 PROTECTED HABITATS

None adjacent to the site.

Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland – Section 41; UK Priority Habitat	643 metres to the south
Lowland Calcareous Grassland – Section 41; UK Priority Habitat	1,105 metres to the east
Lowland Meadows – Section 41; UK Priority Habitat	1,400 metres to the north

4.3 PROTECTED SITES

None adjacent to the site.

Low's Hill Quarry Site of Special Scientific Interest	825 metres to the west
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5.0 RESULTS

5.1 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site lies on the western edge of Sherborne with Lenthay Common to the southwest. The five fields overlie the Inferior Oolite with a small part in the southwest corner over the Fuller's Earth, the soils are a slightly calcareous clay. At the time of the survey the four larger fields were used for arable with the smallest in the southeast corner grassland and grazed by cattle. The fields are divided by neatly trimmed hedgerows and there is band of planted woodland in the northwest corner.

5.2 HABITAT DESCRIPTION

Arable fields

The arable fields had cereal crops which had been harvested at the time of the survey, several of the fields have grass margins. The edges of the cultivated areas have several arable plants including Field Bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis*, Black Bindweed *Fallopia convolvulus*, Pale Persicaria *Persicaria lapathifolia*, Cut-leaved Crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum*, Common Field Speedwell *Veronica persica* and, most notably, Round-leaved Fluellen *Kickxia spuria*.

The grass margins are dominated by Creeping Bent *Agrostis stolonifera*, Perennial Rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, Cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and False Oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, with smaller quantities of Red Fescue *Festuca rubra*, Tall Fescue *Schedonorus arundinacea* and Black-grass *Alopecurus myosuroides*. Herbs are few apart from White Clover *Trifolium repens*, Cut-leaved Crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum*, Dove's-foot Crane's-bill *Geranium molle*, Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Autumn Hawkbit *Scorzoneroides autumnalis*, Perennial Sow-thistle *Sonchus arvensis* and Dandelion *Taraxacum officinale* agg., plus occasional weed species such as Stinging Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Creeping Thistle *Cirsium arvensis* and Spear Thistle *Cirsium vulgare*.

Grassland

The two areas of grassland are semi-improved and species-poor. The fenced area in the east of Lenthay Common is ungrazed and rank with invading scrub. Adjoining the allotments in the southeast of the site is a narrow field which is sometimes grazed by cattle. The sward has Perennial Rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, Cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus*, and there are few herbs apart from Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, White Clover *Trifolium repens* and Dandelion *Taraxacum officinale* agg.

Hedgerows

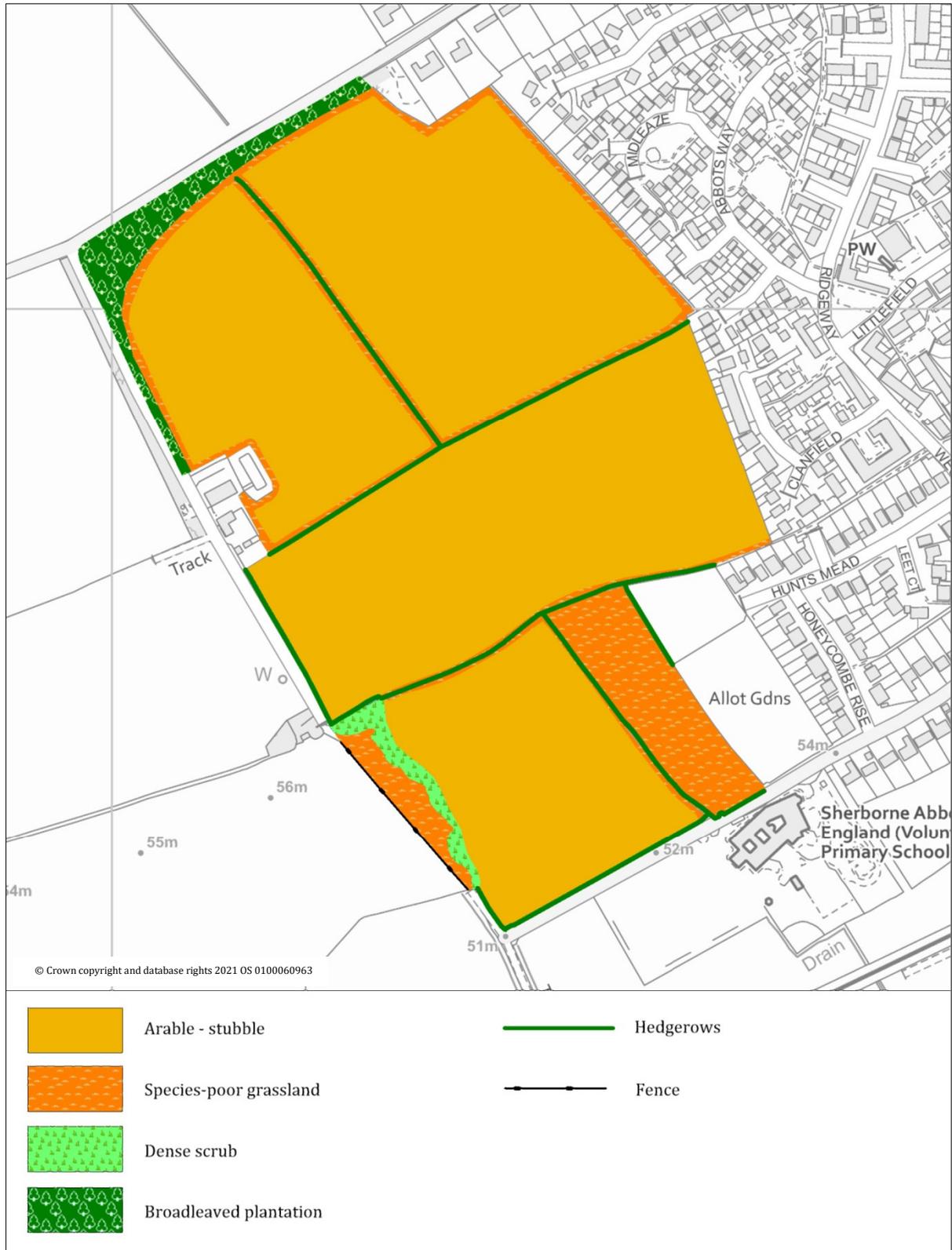
The hedgerows are very diverse with a good number of woody species present. Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* and Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* are generally the most frequent species with Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, Hazel *Corylus avellana*, Dog Rose *Rosa canina*, Elder *Sambucus nigra* and English Elm *Ulmus procera* all locally prominent. Other species present in smaller quantity include Field Maple *Acer campestre*, Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, Wild Privet *Ligustrum vulgare*, Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*, Wayfaring Tree *Viburnum lantana* and Common Buckthorn *Rhamnus cathartica*. Climbers include frequent Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., plus occasional Black Bryony *Tamus communis*, Hedge Bindweed *Calystegia sepium* and Traveller's Joy *Clematis vitalba*.

The understorey of the hedges is dominated by Ivy *Hedera helix* with few other species present apart from Cuckoo Pint *Arum maculatum*. The margins reflect the management of the adjacent fields with species of nutrient-rich soils most abundant including Cow Parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*, Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, Cleavers *Galium aparine*, Stinging Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and False Oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*. Other species noted include Black Horehound *Ballota nigra*, Wood Dock *Rumex sanguineus* and False Brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*.

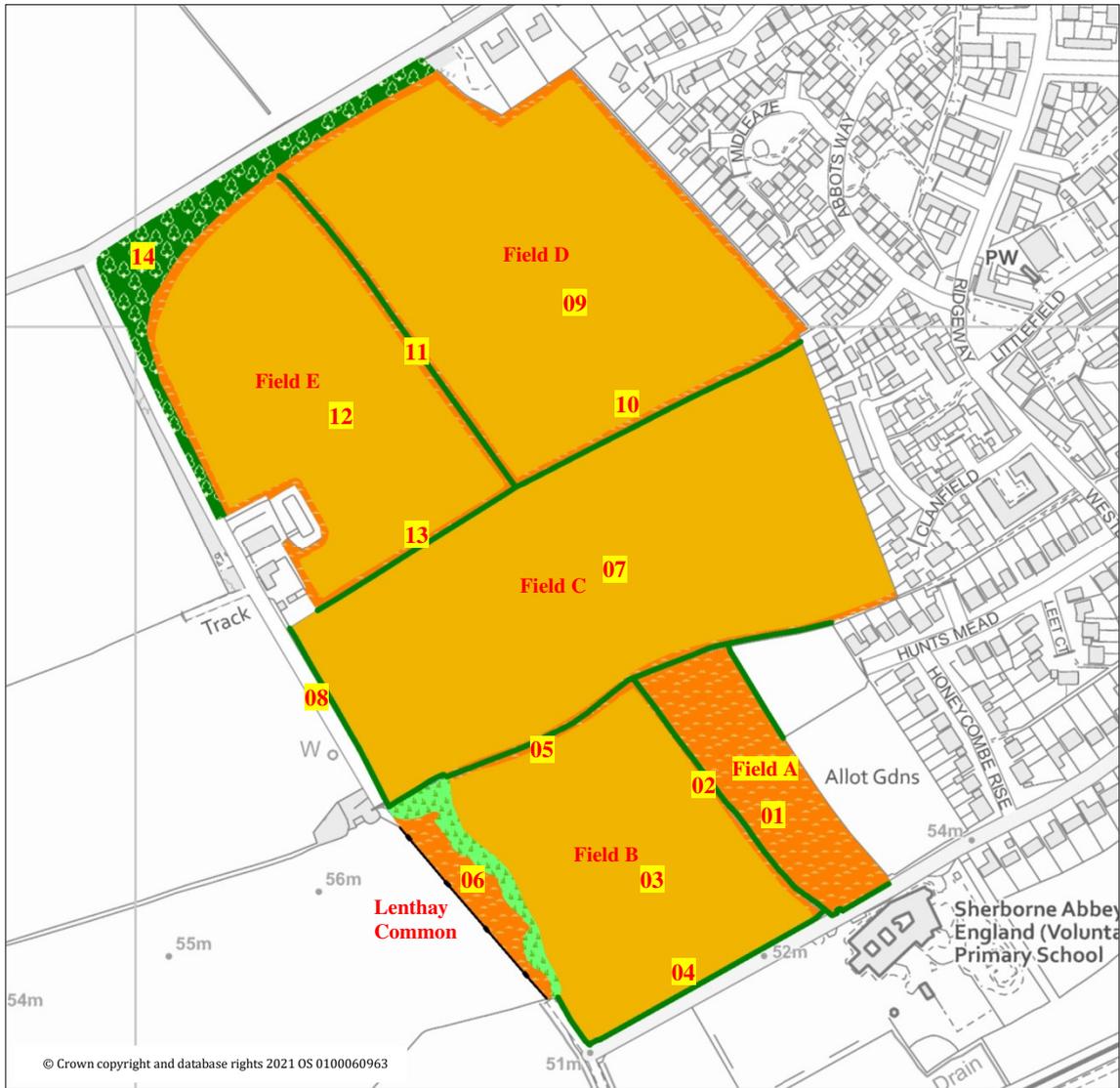
Woodland

In the northwest of the site is a deciduous plantation which forms a shelter belt. Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and Beech *Fagus sylvatica* dominate with small quantities of Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. There is no distinctive understorey apart from Sycamore saplings plus scattered Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Wild Privet *Ligustrum vulgare* and Elder *Sambucus nigra*. The ground flora is typical of recent plantations and secondary woodland with a carpet of Ivy *Hedera helix* and patchy Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., plus scattered Cow Parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*, Stinging Nettle *Urtica dioica*, Cleavers *Galium aparine*, Wood Dock *Rumex sanguineus* and in one area Ground Elder *Aegopodium podagraria*. Other species present in small quantity include Sweet Violet *Viola odorata*, Garlic Mustard *Alliaria petiolata*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*, Enchanter's Nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, Hedge Woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, Cuckoo Pint *Arum maculatum*, Stinking Iris *Iris foetidissima* and False Brome *Brachypodium sylvaticum*.

5.2.1 Habitat map



5.2.2 Target notes



No.	Grid Ref	Target Note
01	ST6248 1564	Field A. A narrow field of species-poor neutral grassland with Perennial Rye-grass, Cock's-foot, Yorkshire Fog, herbs are largely restricted to Creeping Buttercup, White Clover and Dandelion. There is a neatly trimmed hedge along the eastern edge bordering the allotments and taller untrimmed hedges in the north and south.
02	ST6245 1562	Hedge between Fields A & B with abundant Blackthorn, with occasional Hazel, Dogwood, and Field Maple, plus small quantities of Ash, Hawthorn and Dog Rose. Nine woody species present in total. The shaded ground layer is dominated by Ivy, and the margins have abundant Bramble and locally abundant Cow Parsley, plus Field Bindweed, Hogweed and False Oat-grass.

No.	Grid Ref	Target Note
03	ST6238 1558	Field B. Arable field, stubble at the time of the survey. The grass margins are dominated by Creeping Bent with Yorkshire Fog, Red Fescue, Cock's-foot and False Oat-grass with very few herbs apart from scattered White Clover, Cut-leaved Crane's-bill, Field Bindweed and Hogweed.
04	ST6243 1548	Field B. Roadside hedge with abundant Hawthorn, locally abundant Dogwood and frequent Elder, plus smaller quantities of Wild Privet, Spindle, Dog Rose and Hazel. Eight woody species present in total. The margin and ditch has a mixture of species with those of enriched soil such as Cock's-foot, False Oat-grass, Stinging Nettle and Hogweed, plus several that require damp ground including Great Willowherb and Meadowsweet.
05	ST6231 1567	Field B. Northern hedge. Locally abundant suckering Elm and Blackthorn, with frequent Elder and Hawthorn, plus Wild Privet, Dog Rose, Spindle and Field Maple; Bramble is abundant on the margins. The edges have abundant Stinging Nettle with frequent Hogweed, Cow Parsley, Cleavers, Cock's-foot and False Oat-grass.
06	ST6228 1557	Lenthay Common , the eastern end of the Common is fenced with a footpath running through it. It has rank species-poor grassland dominated by Cock's-foot and False Oat-grass with scattered robust herbs such as Hogweed and Creeping Thistle. Towards the eastern edge is a wide band of scrub some of which has recently been cut. There are patches of dense Bramble, grading into Blackthorn with some more mature Hawthorn.
07	ST6234 1580	Field C. An arable field, stubble at the time of the survey. There is a narrow grassy margin along the southern edge where there is a footpath. Ryegrass is abundant with few other species present.
08	ST5215 1569	Field C. Roadside hedge is dominated by Blackthorn with frequent Elder, plus Hawthorn, Dogwood, Dog Rose and Spindle. The margins have abundant Stinging Nettle, Field Bindweed, Hogweed, False Oat-grass and frequent Common Couch.
09	ST6231 1604	Field D. Arable field, stubble at the time of the survey. There are narrow grass margins on all sides dominated by Creeping Bent, with Black Grass, Perennial Rye-grass, Cock's-foot and False Oat-grass. There are few herbs apart from White Clover, Field Bindweed, Dandelion, Perennial Sow-thistle and Prickly Sow-thistle.
10	ST6239 1592	Hedge between Fields C & D , abundant Blackthorn with suckering Elm locally abundant and Dogwood locally frequent. Other species include Wild Privet, Dog Rose, Hazel, Ash, Spindle, Wayfaring Tree and Field Maple. Bramble is frequent on the margins and Ivy dominates the ground layer. The field edges have abundant False Oat-grass, Stinging Nettle, Field Bindweed and Cleavers, plus

No.	Grid Ref	Target Note
		Hogweed.
11	ST6220 1599	Hedge between Fields D & E. Abundant Blackthorn and frequent Hawthorn, with Dog Rose, Ash, Wild Privet, Field Maple, Elder, Spindle and Wayfaring Tree. Common Buckthorn is occasional with one large mature bush. The margins have Cow Parsley, Cleavers, Stinging Nettle, Cleavers and False Oat-grass, with rare Black Horehound and False Brome.
12	ST6215 1596	Field E. Arable field, stubble at the time of the survey. There are grass margins around the edges dominated by Creeping Bent with Cock's-foot, Perennial Rye-grass and Red Fescue, but very few herbs apart from Dandelion and White Clover.
13	ST6222 1582	Hedge between Fields E & C. Blackthorn is the most prominent shrub with Dogwood and Hazel both locally abundant, plus Field Maple, Wild Privet, Elder, Dog Rose, Spindle and Ash. Traveller's Joy is present locally as a climber. The field edges have Stinging Nettle, Cleavers, Hogweed, Cow Parsley and False Oat-grass.
14	ST6200 1604	Plantation woodland, a 19 th Century amenity planting or shelter belt. Sycamore and Beech dominate with rare Ash, over a sparse understorey of Sycamore saplings plus scattered Hawthorn, Holly, Wild Privet and Elder. The ground flora is dominated by a carpet of Ivy and patchy Bramble, plus scattered Cow Parsley, Stinging Nettle, Cleavers, Wood Dock and in one area Ground Elder.

6.0 ASSESSMENT

The arable fields are regularly cultivated and are currently of **Low Ecological Interest** as is the one grassland field which is semi-improved with species-poor grassland. The hedges (totalling 1,892.8 metres) are all diverse with a good range of woody species and qualify as hedgerows **Priority Habitat** and **Section 41 NERC Act (2006) Habitat of Principal Importance**. The woodland is planted and has a limited ground flora but has several trees which are beginning to develop features of veteran trees and has potential habitat for bats and breeding birds and is of **Moderate Ecological Interest**.

6.1 PROTECTED SPECIES ASSESSMENT

Species	Status	Habitat Potential	Future surveys
Badger	WCA	No latrines noted, several mammal tracks though hedges. One recent hole in the eastern hedgerow of Field E. Not known whether Badger or Fox. There are several old holes in the southern edge of the woodland area.	
Bats	EPS; WCA	The species-rich hedges and woodland edge provide potential foraging habitat and flight-lines for Bats. Several of the old Beech trees in the woodland have splits and holes which could be potential roost sites.	Survey required.
Dormouse	S41; EPS; WCA	The hedges are species-rich and could support this species.	
Otter	EPS; WCA	No permanent water on site.	
Water Vole	S41; WCA	No permanent water on site.	
Brown Hare	S41	Suitable habitat present.	
Hedgehog	S41	Suitable habitat present along the field margins and in the hedgerows.	
Great Crested Newt	EPS; S41	No permanent water on site.	
Reptiles	S41; WCA	Suitable habitat for Slow Worm and possibly Common Lizard in margins and hedgebanks especially those with a southerly aspect.	
Breeding birds	WCA	The broadleaved plantation is likely to support a range of breeding birds	

REFERENCES

DERC 2012 *Dorset Notable Species Lists*. Dorset Environmental Records Centre, Dorchester

DERC 2020 *Local Plan Emerging Site Allocations: Ecological Data*. [Unpublished report for Dorset Council]

Stace, C.A. 2019 *New Flora of the British Isles* (4th Ed). C & M Floristics, Suffolk.

APPENDIX I: Plant species recorded September 2021

Species	Common Name	Frequency ¹
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	R
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	R-LF
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Ground Elder	R
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	O-LA
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard	R
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	O-LF
<i>Arctium sp.</i>	Burdock species	R
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	F-LA
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Cuckoo Pint	R
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound	R
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False Brome	R
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	O-LF
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i>	Wetted Thistle	R
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	R
<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>	Rough Chervil	R
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	O
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	O
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Hemlock	R
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	F-LA
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	O-LF
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	O-LF.
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	F
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Teasel	O
<i>Elytrigia repens</i>	Common Couch	O-LF
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	R
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	O
<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i>	Sun Spurge	R
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	R-LA
<i>Fallopia convolvulus</i>	Black-bindweed	O
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	Tall Fescue	O
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	O
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	O
<i>Galium album</i>	Hedge Bedstraw	R
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	F-LA
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	O-LF
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	O
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	R
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	F-LA
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	F
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	R
<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Stinking Iris	R

Species	Common Name	Frequency ¹
<i>Jacobaea vulgare</i>	Ragwort	R
<i>Kickxia spuria</i>	Round-leaved Fluellen	R
<i>Lamium album</i>	White Dead-nettle	R
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawkbit	O
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	O-LF
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	O-LA
<i>Picris echioides</i>	Bristly Oxtongue	R
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	O
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	O
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass	O
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	F
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	R
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	O
<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>	Common Buckthorn	R
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	O
<i>Rubus caesius</i>	Dewberry	O
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	F-LA
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	O
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock	R
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	O
<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Perennial Sow-thistle	R
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle	O
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	R
<i>Tamus communis</i>	Black Bryony	O
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	Dandelion	O
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	R
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop Trefoil	R
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	O-LF
<i>Ulmus procera</i>	English Elm	O-LA
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	F-LA
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common Field Speedwell	O-LF
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Wayfaring-tree	R
<i>Viola odorata</i>	Sweet Violet	R

¹ **D** = Dominant; **A** = Abundant; **F** = Frequent; **O** = Occasional; **R** = Rare; **L** = Local (e.g. **LF** = Locally Frequent)

APPENDIX II: Photographs



FIG 1. Typical view of the site looking west across **Field C** to Silverlake Farm.



FIG 2. **Field D**, northern edge bordering the plantation.