

AN ECOLOGICAL SURVEY
of
LAND AT NORTHLEIGH LANE,
WIMBORNE
[WMC07]

for
Dorset Council
December 2021

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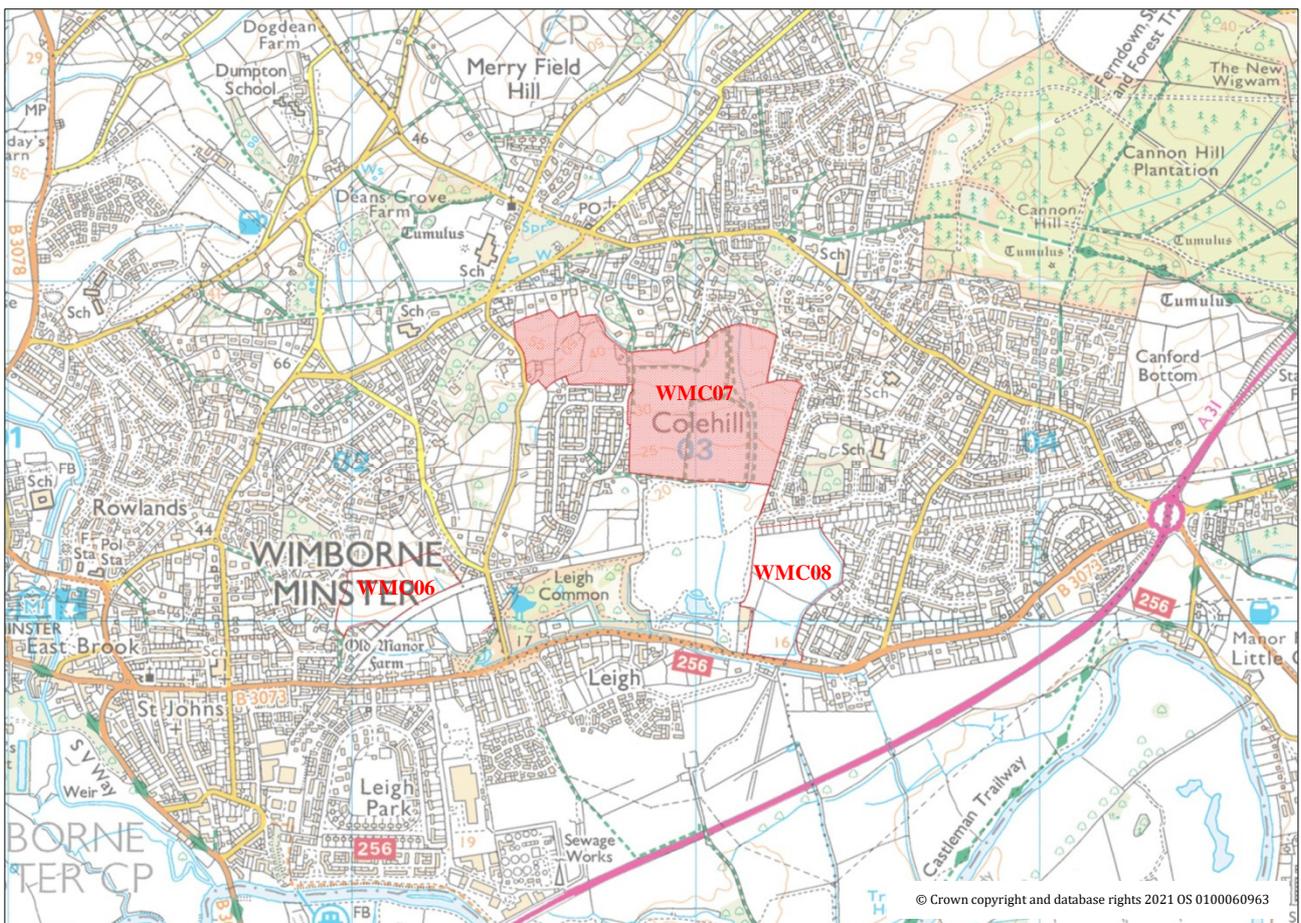
SUMMARY

- 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 grasslands are all semi-improved with Perennial Rye-grass found throughout but never dominant. However, there is a good range of herbs species which locally form c. 60% of the sward and include five Dorset Notable species, meeting the criteria for **Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI)** status, several of these are locally frequent. The local Yellow Bartsia is present in at least four fields. Currently the grasslands are considered to be of **Moderate Ecological Interest**.
- The small area (0.76 hectares) of semi-natural secondary woodland qualifies as **Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat** and **Section 41 habitat of Principal Importance**.
- The **1515.8 metres** of hedgerow does not have a diverse range of woody trees and shrubs, partly due to acid sandy soils, but do qualify as **Hedgerows Priority Habitat** and **Section 41 habitat of Principal Importance**.
- While no one habitat is exceptional, taken together they form a varied area which as a whole is at least of **Moderate Ecological Interest** and, sited together with Bytheway Field SANG and Leigh Common SNCI, form an important ecological corridor and greenspace within an otherwise largely built-up area.

R.1 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 Location of site



2.0 METHODS

The survey was undertaken on the 7th September and 10th December 2021 in fine 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).

¹ 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	Within 1-km radius
Bats	EPS; WCA	Within 100m radius
Dormouse	S41; EPS; WCA	-
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 Meadows – Section 41; UK Priority Habitat	140 metres to the southwest
Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland – Section 41; UK Priority Habitat	230 metres to the south
Wet Woodland – Section 41; UK Priority Habitat	290 metres to the southwest
Purple Moor-grass & Rush-pasture – Section 41; UK Priority Habitat	250 metres to the south

4.3 PROTECTED SITES

None adjacent to the site.

Dorset Heaths Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	3,050 metres to the east
Dorset Heathlands Special Protection Area (SPA)	3,050 metres to the east
Ferndown Common Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	3,050 metres to the east
Dorset Heathlands RAMSAR	3,060 metres to the northeast

5.0 RESULTS

5.1 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site lies to the east of Northleigh Lane at Colehill and north of the Bytheway Field SANG, occupying a south facing slope with existing housing to the north, east and west. The top of the slope overlies the acidic sands and clays of the Poole Formation sloping down to the London Clay Formation with superficial deposits of Head. There are several small springs at the junction of the geology. Several footpaths cross the site and at the time of the survey the fields were grazed by horses.

5.2 HABITAT DESCRIPTION

5.2.1 Grasslands

The fields all have a broadly similar flora and are best described as semi-improved, and neutral to slightly acidic in character, and at the time of the survey were grazed by horses and ponies. The majority of the sward is dry to seasonally damp and dominated by Common Bent *Agrostis capillaris* and Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus*, with smaller quantities of Sweet Vernal Grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, Cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, Red Fescue *Festuca rubra* and Perennial Rye-grass *Lolium perenne*. Creeping Bent *Agrostis stolonifera* is frequent in some of the damper areas and in disturbed areas around gates and pinch-points. Herbs are not particularly diverse, but they are found throughout and locally form 60-70% of the sward. Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, White Clover *Trifolium repens* and Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata* are the most widespread and prominent species. Locally Common Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*, Selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*, Yellow Bartsia *Parentucellia viscosa*, Autumn Hawkbit *Scorzoneroides autumnalis* and Common Cat's-ear *Hypochaeris radicata* are frequent to abundant. Other species present in smaller quantity include Red Clover *Trifolium pratense*, Common Centaury *Centaureum erythraea*, Oxeye Daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare*, Common Fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*, Smooth Hawk's-beard *Crepis capillaris*, Yarrow *Achillea millefolium* and Common Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*.

In the wetter areas of rush-pasture Soft Rush *Juncus effusus* and Sharp-flowered Rush *Juncus acutiflorus* are abundant with Lesser Spearwort *Ranunculus flammula* and Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus* the most prominent herbs with Common Fleabane also present, and several old flower spikes of a marsh-orchid *Dactylorhiza* species were noted in Field B.

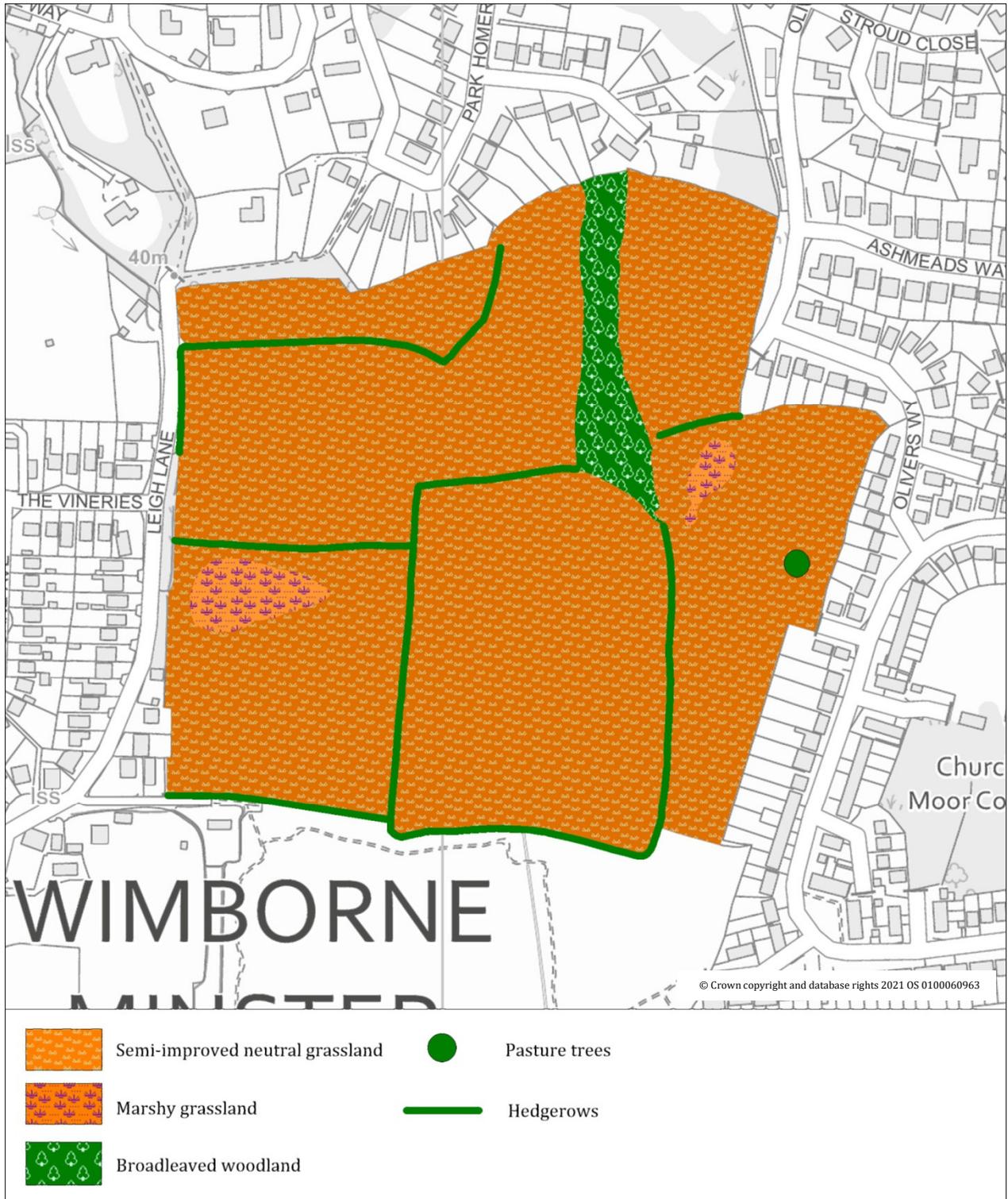
Hedgerows

There are numerous hedgerows most of which are mature with tall shrubs and some with mature trees. They are not trimmed but due to the lack of intact fences most are grazed to some degree and several have gaps in them. They are quite mixed with Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Grey Willow *Salix cinerea* and Hazel *Corylus avellana* the most frequent species with occasional Dog Rose *Rosa canina*, and rare Holly *Ilex aquifolium* and Elder *Sambucus nigra*. Trees include mature Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur*, several have features of veterans, and there is one definite veteran Ash. The ground layer is shaded and in places open to grazing, this plus the acid soils restrict the diversity. Species present include Greater Stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*, Red Campion *Silene dioica*, Wood Dock *Rumex sanguineus*, Foxglove *Digitalis purpurea*, Ground Ivy *Glechoma hederacea* and Wood Sage *Teucrium scorodonia*.

Woodland

The 0.76 hectares of semi-natural broadleaved woodland is secondary in origin and not marked on the 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey map and is therefore less 100 years old. The drier top section has Pedunculate Oak *Quercus robur* at the edges with the middle in-filled with Silver Birch *Betula pendula* and several young Pedunculate Oak over a Hazel *Corylus avellana* and Holly *Ilex aquifolium* undestorey, the latter becoming abundant further south. Due to the shade cast by the trees and the Holly, the field and ground layers are poorly developed. There are patches of Bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* and Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, with the ground flora including Greater Stitchwort *Stellaria holostea*, Cleavers *Galium aparine*, Wood Avens *Geum urbanum*, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum*, Wood Dock *Rumex sanguineus*, Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, Wood Speedwell *Veronica montana** and Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus*. A ditch runs south along the eastern edge of the wood, and the southern part has some very wet areas with Downy Birch *Betula pubescens* and Grey Willow *Salix cinerea*, and Hard Fern *Blechnum spicant*, Broad Buckler Fern *Dryopteris dilatata* and Remote Sedge *Carex remota* in the ground flora. Several of the Oak trees pre-date the woodland presumable being in former hedgerows and there is one very good specimen in the northwest corner of the area.

5.2.1 Habitat map



5.2.2 Target notes



No.	Grid Ref	Target Note
001	SU0320 0054	Field A. Semi-improved area closely grazed with Perennial Rye-grass, Common Bent and Yorkshire Fog all frequent to abundant and with Red Fescue locally frequent. Herbs include frequent to abundant Creeping Buttercup, Meadow Buttercup, White Clover, with in Bird's-foot-trefoil*, Ribwort Plantain, Common Cat's-ear, Yarrow and Smooth Hawk'-beard all locally prominent. Other species present include Red Clover, Common Centaury, Oxeye Daisy*, Common Knapweed* and Autumn Hawkbit. The damper areas have Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil, Silverweed, Common Fleabane and the local Yellow Bartsia*.

No.	Grid Ref	Target Note
002	SU0324 0059	Field A. Mature Oak tree.
003	SU0318 0066	Field A. Wet spring with abundant Sharp-flowered Rush, plus Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil, Lesser Spearwort and Common Fleabane.
004	SU0318 0069	Field A. Northern hedge and line of mature Hazel with Holly and Dog Rose. Ground layer has Ivy, Bramble and Wood Sage.
005	SU0317 0078	Field B. Another semi-improved field with Common Bent, Yorkshire Fog, Perennial Rye-grass and Cock's-foot. Herbs include frequent Creeping buttercup, Meadow Buttercup, White Clover and Ribwort Plantain, with Red Clover, Trailing Tormentil*, Selfheal, Yellow Bartsia*, Common Centaury, Oxeye Daisy*, Common Knapweed* and Common Cat's-ear. One small damp area has Lesser Stitchwort, Common Fleabane and a few old flower spikes of a marsh-orchid species.
006	SU0311 0076	Woodland. An area of mature secondary woodland not marked as woodland on the 2 nd Edition OS map so is less than 100 years old. The northern part is drier with Oak and Birch over a Hazel and Holly understorey and a patchy field layer of Bracken and Bramble. The sparse ground flora with Greater Stitchwort, Wood Avens, Ivy, Cleavers, Herb Robert and Wood Speedwell*. There is a ditch down the eastern edge and the southern part has some very wet areas with Downy Birch and Grey Willow.
007	SU0306 0053	Field C. The largest field, semi-improved but with a varied flora. The sward has abundant Common Bent and Yorkshire Fog, with Perennial Rye-grass, Red Fescue and Cock's-foot. Herbs are frequent and locally form c. 60% of the turf. Creeping Buttercup, Meadow Buttercup, White Clover, Ribwort Plantain and Dandelion are all frequent to abundant, with Red Clover, Bird's-foot-trefoil*, Selfheal, Yellow Bartsia* and Autumn Hawkbit all locally prominent. Small quantities of Common Centaury, Common Knapweed* and Oxeye Daisy* are also present. Damper area has Lesser Spearwort, Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil and Common Fleabane.
008	SU0316 0053	Field C. Eastern hedgerow overgrown with abundant Grey Willow and locally abundant Hazel, with Hawthorn, Dog Rose, Holly and Pedunculate Oak. Patchy Bramble and Bracken form an understory in places with Ivy, Greater Stitchwort, Foxglove and Wood Sage in the ground layer.
009	SU0305 0041	Field C. Southern hedgerow dominated by Hazel with Hawthorn, Dog Rose, Blackthorn, Holly, Grey Willow and Pedunculate Oak. The shaded ground flora has abundant Ivy, plus Ground Ivy, Wood Dock and Wood Sage.
010	SU0302 0065	Field C. Northern hedgerow with Ash, Blackthorn, Hazel, Pedunculate Oak, Dog Rose and Grey Willow, with Bramble locally abundant. The shaded ground flora is dominated by Ivy with scattered plants of Wood Dock, Red Campion and Wood Sage.

No.	Grid Ref	Target Note
011	SU0289 0051	Field D. Semi-improved grassland with frequent to abundant Common Bent, Yorkshire Fog and Perennial Rye-grass, with Creeping Bent in the damper areas. Herbs include abundant White Clover and Creeping Buttercup with Ribwort Plantain, Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil, Common Bird's-foot-trefoil*, Autumn Hawkbit and Common Cat's-ear all locally prominent.
012	SU0285 0057	Field D. Wet area with abundant Soft Rush, Sharp-flowered Rush and Yorkshire Fog, plus Floating Sweet-grass in the wettest areas. Associated species include Lesser Spearwort, Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil and Star Sedge.
013	SU0288 0042	Field D. Southern hedge with abundant Hazel, plus small quantities of Dog Rose, Blackthorn, Holly, Grey Willow and small Pedunculate Oak. The shaded ground layer is dominated by Ivy with Bramble and Wood Sage.
014	SU0297 0053	Field D. Eastern hedge with Blackthorn, Dog Rose, Hazel, Ash and Pedunculate Oak, with Bramble locally abundant at the margins. Ivy dominated the ground layer in places. There are two mature Ash tree, one a veteran.
015	SU0289 0061	Field D. Northern hedge with Grey Willow, Pedunculate Oak, Hazel, Blackthorn and Birch. The ground layer is dominated in places by Ivy with other species mainly present as scattered plants including Red Campion, Wood dock and Wood Sage.
016	SU0296 0069	Field E. Semi-improved grassland with frequent to abundant Common Bent, Yorkshire Fog, Crested Dog's-tail and Perennial Rye-grass. Herbs include frequent to locally abundant Creeping Buttercup, Meadow Buttercup, White Clover and Common Cat's-ear, plus Red Clover, Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil, Ribwort Plantain, Marsh Thistle, Daisy, Common Fleabane, Autumn Hawkbit and Yellow Bartsia*.
017	SU0294 0075	Field E. Northern hedgerow, a mature hedge and a large bank. Pedunculate Oak and Ash with Hazel, Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Dog Rose and Holly. The ground flora includes Greater Stitchwort, Red Campion, Ivy, Foxglove, Wood Sage and the ferns Western Polypody and Broad Buckler-fern.
018	SU0282 0071	Field E. Western boundary goes from a thin strip of secondary woodland to a short section of mature hedge on the eastern side of Leigh Lane. The wooded area has Pedunculate Oak, Ash and Grey Willow, over a sparse understorey of Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Holly. Ivy dominates the ground flora with patchy Bramble.
019	SU0291 0077	Field F. A narrow field at the top of the site, the least heavily grazed field with several large patches of Bramble. The sward comprises Yorkshire Fog and Common Bent, with Cock's-foot, Perennial Rye-grass and Crested Dog's-tail. Herbs include frequent to abundant Creeping Buttercup, Meadow Buttercup, White Clover and Ribwort Plantain, with Common Knapweed* abundant at the eastern end. Associated species include Red Clover, Trailing Tormentil*, Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil, Selfheal, Common Centaury, Marsh Thistle, Smooth Hawk's-beard, Yarrow and Common Cat's-ear.

6.0 ASSESSMENT

A varied site with a range of habitats including semi-improved neutral – acid grassland, marshy grassland, hedgerows and a small area of mature secondary woodland which, taken together, form an area of **at least Moderate Ecological Interest**. Although clearly semi-improved the fields as a whole have five Dorset Notable species meeting the criteria for **Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI)**. All six fields have at least one Dorset Notable grassland species, with Fields A, B & C all having four Notables; the local Yellow Bartsia is present in five fields. A very large Oak on edge of the wood in the northwest corner of the woodland area supports the notable lichen *Inoderma subabietinum*. The hedgerows and broadleaved woodland qualify as **Hedgerows** and **Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland Priority Habitat** respectively.

6.1 PROTECTED SPECIES ASSESSMENT

Species	Status	Habitat Potential	Future surveys
Badger	WCA	No setts or latrines seen. Several mammal tracks seen through hedgerows.	
Bats	EPS; WCA	The tall hedgerows, mature trees and woodland edge provide good potential foraging habitat and flight-lines for bats. Several of the mature and veteran trees have splits, hollows and holes which could be used by roosting bats.	Survey required.
Dormouse	S41; EPS; WCA	The mature hedgerows provide suitable habitat for Dormouse.	Survey in progress, Dormouse tubes seen across the site in the hedgerows.
Otter	EPS; WCA	No suitable habitat present on the site.	
Water Vole	S41; WCA	No suitable habitat present on the site.	
Brown Hare	S41	Suitable habitat present.	
Hedgehog	S41	Suitable habitat present in the hedgerows.	
Great Crested Newt	EPS; S41	No ponds, or significant permanent water present, several shaded wet ditches are found but are sub-optimal for this species.	
Reptiles	S41; WCA	The south facing hedgerows with banks are suitable for Slow Worm and Common Lizard.	

REFERENCES

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

DERC 2020 *Local Plan Greenbelt Sites: 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	Status
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	R	
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	A	
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	O-LA	
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	O	
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	O-LF	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Cuckoo Pint	R	
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	R	
<i>Betula pubescens</i>	Downy Birch	R	
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard Fern	R	
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False Brome	R	
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	O	
<i>Carex echinata</i>	Star Sedge	R	
<i>Carex leporina</i>	Oval Sedge	R	
<i>Carex pilulifera</i>	Pill Sedge	R	
<i>Carex remota</i>	Remote Sedge	R	
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	R	DN-NG
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	O	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	O	
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	O-LA	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	O	
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Smooth Hawk's-beard	O	
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	O-LF	
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove	R	
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler-fern	R	
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	O-LF	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	R	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	O-LA	
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	R-O	
<i>Glyceria fluitans</i>	Floating Sweet-grass	R	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	O-LA	
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	LA	
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	Creeping Soft-grass	O	
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Common Cat's-ear	F-LA	
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	R	
<i>Jacobaea vulgare</i>	Ragwort	R	
<i>Juncus acutiflorus</i>	Sharp-flowered Rush	R-LA	
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	O	
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawkbit	O	
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Oxeye Daisy	O	DN-NG
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	O-LF	
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	O-LA	DN-NG

Species	Common Name	Frequency	Status
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Marsh Bird's-foot-trefoil	F-LA	
<i>Parentucellia viscosa</i>	Yellow Bartsia	O-LF	DN-AG
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	F	
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	R-O	
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	O-LF	
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass	O	
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Knotgrass	R-O	
<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	Trailing Tormentil	R-O	DN-NG
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal	O-LA	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	R-LF	
<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Common Fleabane	O	
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak	R-LA	
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	F-LA	
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	O-LF	VU (Eng)
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	O-LA	
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	O	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	LF	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	R	
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock	O	
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	O	
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock	R	
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	O-LA	
<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	Greater Stitchwort	R	
<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	Wood Sage	O	
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	O	
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	F	
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle	R-O	
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	R-O	
<i>Veronica montana</i>	Wood Speedwell	R	DN-WO

APPENDIX II: Photographs



FIG 1. Field A, southern part looking north, grassland typical of the site with shorter, hard grazed patches and some areas with longer vegetation.



FIG 2. Field A, Spring in northwest of field with abundant Sharp-flowered Rush and Lesser Spearwort.



FIG 3. Field C, southeast corner, looking north.



FIG 4. Field E, eastern side, looking west – northwest.



FIG 5. Woodland area, northern part with Hazel and Holly and sparse field layer of Bracken and Bramble

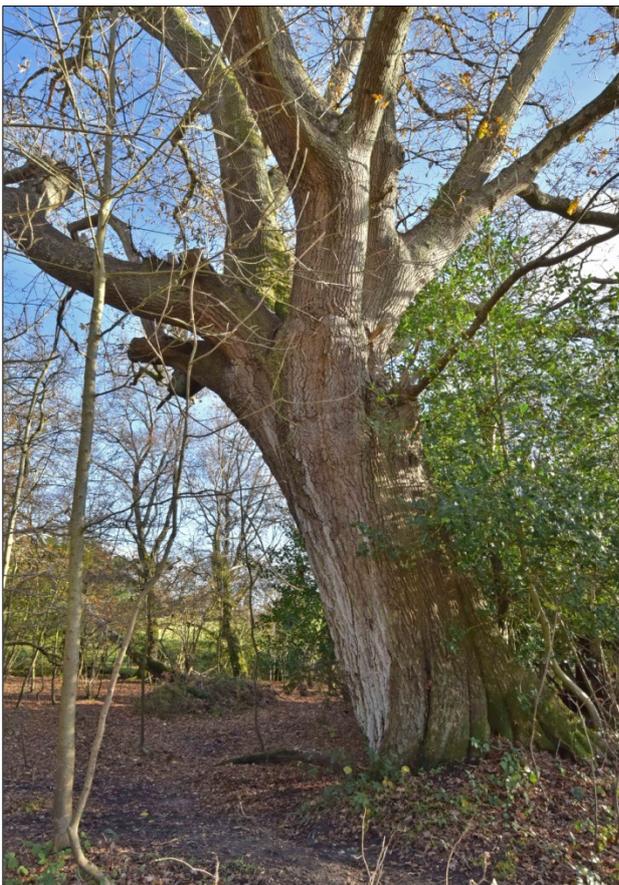


FIG 6. Woodland area, very large Oak on edge of the wood in the northwest corner. The pale streaks on the left-hand side of the lower trunk is the notable lichen *Inoderma subabietinum*.



FIG 7. Hedgerow between Fields E & F, very large Oak on the hedgebank.