

HOYLE COPSE Status, Vision, and Management Plan 2019 - 2029

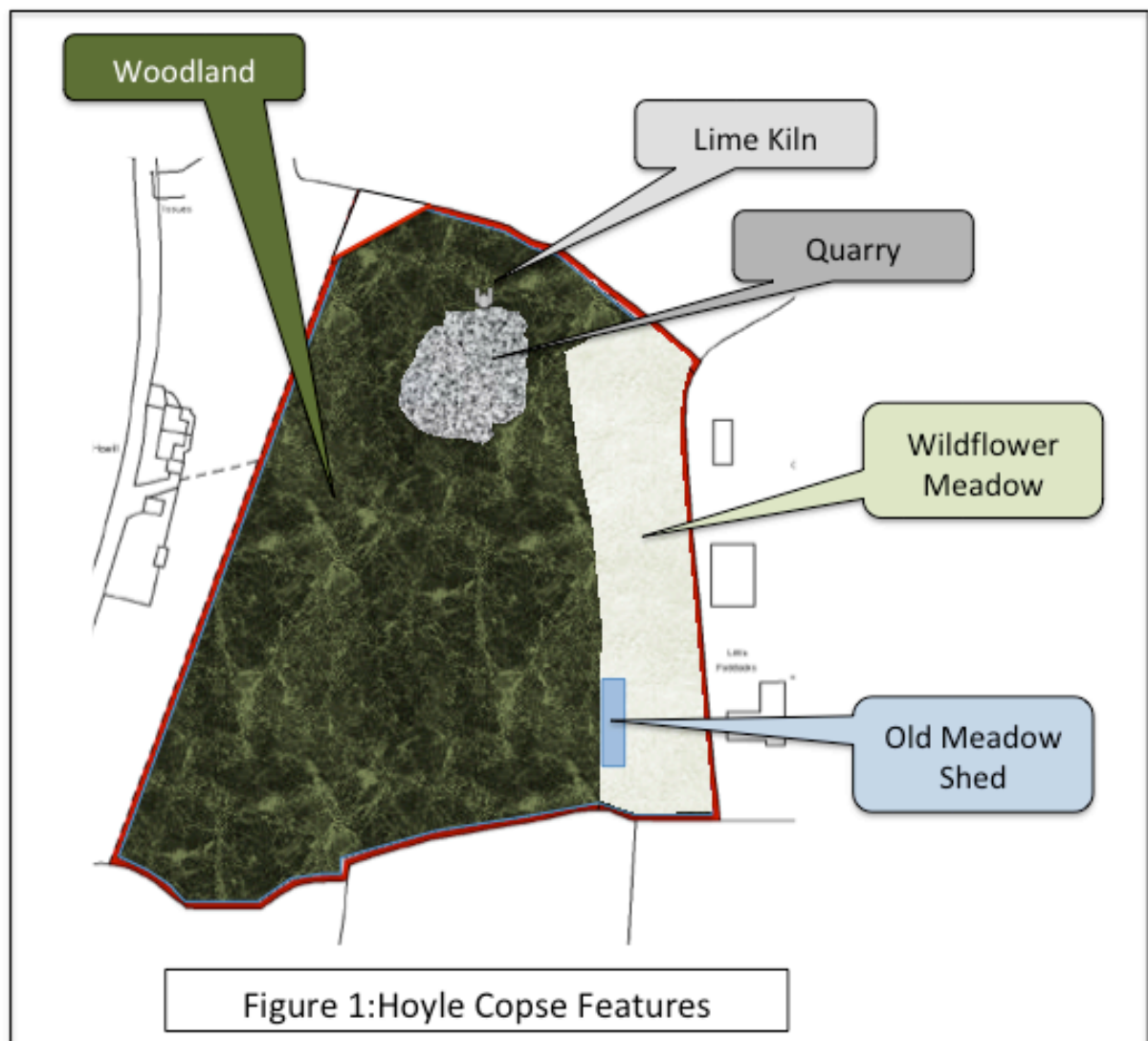
***A woodland bequeathed to the village
“for the quiet recreation and enjoyment by the inhabitants of Stoke Gabriel”***

(To be read in conjunction with accompanying paper, 'Baker Report April 2019.pdf')

PART ONE – DESCRIPTION

1. This report describes Hoyle Copse, and addresses how it should be maintained and managed over the years 2019 to 2029. The Copse, 2.7ha (6.6 acres) in area, is located on the northern edge of the village and within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Within the Copse there are three distinct three elements as shown in Figure 1 and described below. These are:

- The woodlands, consisting of the heritage hawthorn wood, the heritage hazel and ash coppice and the natural woodland
- The heritage limestone workings, consisting of the kiln, the quarry and its access track
- The wildflower meadow including the old meadow shed.



History and Background

2. The name Hoyle may have come from old English and Welsh “holh” that means a pit, round hollow or hole, or more likely a derivative of “Holy Well” as local maps show a “Holy Well” in the adjoining Great Hoyle Field. Hoyle Copse was probably established on the limestone escarpment in the 19th Century or earlier for the purpose to fuelling the limekiln. The types of trees planted were particularly chosen to meet the requirements of the kiln's furnace. Hawthorn was planted on the east side of the quarry as this timber burns at a very high temperature and is ideal for starting the furnace fire. Ash and hazel surround the kiln on the south, west and north sides. The ash burns readily, even when green, and hazel regenerates quickly when coppiced.

3. Quarrying in the copse was for building stone and the manufacture of lime. There are lots of examples of the early quarrying workings, which were shallow and scattered pits, with the lime also being burnt in the shallow pits. At a later date mechanical means were employed for excavating the limestone and the main quarry was formed. From this time stone would also have been used for walls, buildings and roads around Stoke Gabriel as well as lime production. Quarrying ceased in the 1880's.

4. The top of the scarp on the eastern edge of the wood was kept clear of trees and probably used to provide grazing for ponies and horses for use in timber extraction and deliveries of stone, lime and timber. There are remains of old buildings in this area that were no doubt used for stabling and storage. The cottages in Hoyle Lane were probably associated with the quarry and limekiln.

5. In more recent times, the Copse was owned by Miss Birch who resided in Hoyle Cottage. She did excellent restoration work on the limekiln, maintained pathways through the wood and arranged for the meadow to be cut once or twice a year. Upon Miss Birch's death, she bequeathed the Copse to the Parish for *“the quiet recreation and enjoyment by the inhabitants of the Parish of Stoke Gabriel”*. She explicitly prohibited the *“the use for shooting or bicycles [and] the erection of dwellings or any other buildings”*. [Clause 7 of Miss Birch's Will. It is of interest that in this clause she makes no mention of Wildlife; nonetheless work done to date has given the Copse's Fauna due regard.]

6. In 2002 and 2003 a series of meetings were held with Devon Wildlife Trust, the Parish Tree Warden, Dartington Trust's Woodland and Nature Office, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, Countryside Matters, Silvanus Services, Sylvia Bevis of the Devon Bat Group, SHDC Tree Officer, DCC Ecologist, DBRC, Parish Councillors Ian Jones and Ray Etheridge and various parishioners including David Simpson and Edward Lovesey. A report was subsequently produced for the Parish Council laying out the vision for the Copse, from which the vision statement below (at para 17) has now been developed. Cllr Jones lead a group of volunteers that achieved this award winning vision; he continued until recently to lead the team of volunteers in maintaining this desirable village asset.

The Component Parts of the Copse, in Detail.

7. Readers are referred to Figure 1 that shows the woodlands, limestone workings and meadow.

8. The Woodlands. These can be divided into four distinct areas as shown in Figure 2 at Annex A: the Natural Woodland, the Heritage Hawthorn Woodland, the Heritage Ash and Hazel Coppice and within the Natural Woodland the “owl box glade” and “large ash tree” clearings.

9. The Meadow and Old Meadow Shed. The meadow at the eastern margin of the copse occupies about 20% of the total acreage. It is believed it was maintained as open space in

order to grow fodder for the horses and ponies that worked in the quarry and transported its output. More information on this will be found at Annex B. The meadow supports an enormous variety of wildflowers and other botanicals – a number of which are in a list will be found at Appendix 1 to Annex B, compiled over 2005 to 2013 by local horticulturalist David Simpson¹.

10. Heritage Limestone Workings. These are the very reason why the Copse was established in the first place - to provide fuel for the limekilns in the limestone quarry which it surrounded. Much of the quarrying activity remains evident, as covered in Annex C.

Flora and Fauna

11. The Copse has rich and varied flora and fauna that can be associated to the rich and varied environments within the Copse, as described above.

12. **Flora** As described above, there are three distinct woodland areas. In addition, there are three main flora areas of special interest. These are the meadow with its wildflowers including spotted, early purple and pyramid orchids, the quarry floor with its unique small plants thriving on thin soil and strong sunlight and the floor of the hawthorn wood that is rich with mosses and lichens. This is complemented by the understorey within the other woodlands and ground cover flora in the clearings.

13. **Fauna** There are many good nesting sites in the different ecological areas. However, there is the well-documented nationwide decline in bird and insect population, which locally may have been further exacerbated by the recent new housing development adjacent to the copse and the large amount of on-going building work in the village. As discussed in Annex B, to help combat this there is a proposal to turn the old meadow shed into a wildlife haven that will include bat and bird nesting areas and a barn owl nest box. Also new hedgerows have been planted along the Aish Road entrance and the new adjoining community field. In coming years as these hedgerows mature and thicken they will provide more nesting sites and sources of food. Furthermore, over 100 saplings have been recently planted in the copse. Also of importance is the coppiced hazel area of the woodland that plays a special part in providing an essential habit for the endangered Hazel Dormouse. Devon Wildlife Trust has recommended in a recent visit, 5 July 2019, that a Dormouse survey be carried out in the coppiced area, possible leading to the placing of dormouse nesting boxes. The Copse has the status of an 'Unconfirmed County Wildlife Site' (UCWS) on the Devon Wildlife Trust (DWT) register. There is an aspiration that, in time, this designation be upgraded to a Confirmed site (CWS); however, the actions required to achieve this are beyond the resources of the Parish Council. It is therefore recommended that suitably enthusiastic residents (maybe the Parish Wildlife Group) take this on.

14. Considering the close proximity of houses to the Copse, it is good to see numerous animal tracks running through the woodland. The size of the tracks indicates larger animals like foxes and badgers make them. A number of animals have been sighted in the Copse including the occasional deer – albeit not in the recent past. There are many suitable places for bats to roost and hibernate such as the limekiln and quarry walls. The quarry floor is an excellent habitat for reptiles and slow worms, where many have been observed.

15. Many bird and bat boxes have been deployed in the woods. It is not known if these are being monitored. If not, a knowledgeable volunteer should be sought to undertake this.

Access and Footpaths

¹ It would be excellent if someone in the parish with suitable knowledge would volunteer to take over this role, and continue the logs maintained by Mr Simpson.

16. When first acquired, Hoyle Copse could be entered only via a single public access route, namely a footpath across Hoyle Cottage's land adjacent to the cottage. In the early years of ownership a main focus of activity was creating more, and easier, access routes and footpaths. Details are to be found at Annex D.

PART TWO - The Management Plan 2019 - 2029

Vision Statement

17. Hoyle Copse, the property of Stoke Gabriel Parish Council (SGPC), will be managed paying due regard to maintaining a synergistic balance between the recreational activities and enjoyment of the residents of the parish (as per Miss Birch's bequest), the natural environment and wildlife, the vestiges of the historic quarrying activity, and affordability. High standards of safety and best practice, based on expert advice, will be applied.

The Management Plan Stakeholders

18. There are five principal stakeholders in the Copse:
- Stoke Gabriel Parish Council, the owners of the Copse
 - The Parishioners of Stoke Gabriel
 - The volunteers whose labour maintains the copse ("The Hoyle Copse Gang")(HCG)
 - The Flora and Fauna of the Copse.
 - The Executors of Miss Birch's Will.

Execution of The Parish Council's Duty of Care

19. SGPC acknowledges its responsibility to maintain the Copse in a safe state. A report giving the vision for the copse and its maintenance was produced soon after the bequest to the parish. Volunteer labour, guided by Cllr. Jones and supported by the parish's Tree Warden, worked enthusiastically over the following years to reduce risks in the copse, by improving the safety of several paths (leveling gradients and/or building steps in the steepest parts) and by felling those few trees which posed threats to life or property. They also followed good practice in carrying out progressive coppicing of the hazel and ash areas of the copse, and in the care of the meadow.

20. The work of the HCG has continued since and is expected to continue over the term of this Management Plan, subject to provision of sufficient volunteers and due consideration of succession planning for its leadership. To ensure adequate capability, to build experience and grow skills, an appropriate target size of the Gang is set at ten people. A comprehensive Risk Assessment has been developed, to be applied in order to minimize risk to all workers. This is at Annex F. Although members of the public who visit the Copse are at lower risk, a second Risk Assessment has been prepared to cover them: this is at Annex G.

21. April 2019 Tree Survey. Concerned by the safety of the public from falling trees and the evidently pending impact of Ash Dieback Disease (ADB), and other considerations, the Council commissioned a survey in April 2019 by an experienced and qualified arboriculturalist, Mr. Rupert Baker. His report was received on 20 June 2019 and now accompanies this paper. The Council accepted his recommendations, and has already taken action on most of them, as summarized in Annex H. Whilst it seems that most ash trees in the copse will become diseased within the next three years, that does not mean that they will then be at immediate risk of falling. The extent to which trees should be deliberately felled will be for progressive consideration taking account of: periodic further advice from Mr. Baker, the proximity of diseased trees to areas accessible by the general public, ease of access for felling operations, and the potential impact of these on the fauna and non-tree flora.

22. July 2019 Wildlife Survey. Invited to assist in the preparation of this Strategy for Hoyle Copse, Lynne Kenderdine of Devon Wildlife Trust made an extensive visit on 5 July 2019. She was very complementary about the management of the Copse thus far and in particular its regard for the fauna found there. Her recommendations have been incorporated in this paper.

Ongoing Maintenance, and Planned Specific Projects

23. **Overview.** In the Woodland, the heritage hazel copse will be divided into ten “coups” and each coup will be coppiced on a rotating ten yearly cycle. For more details see Annex A. In addition, the glades and quarry floor will be regularly cleared of brash and scrub, as will areas around newly planted trees. Also there will be ad hoc maintenance due to fallen or dangerous trees, path wear and tear etc. The hedge between the north side of the Copse and the field will require to be hand laid approximately every six to eight years. Finally, there is the annual maintenance of the meadow. More detail on maintenance is contained in the annexes, and presented in tabular form in the ten-year summary at Annex I.

24. The HCG plans a number of one-off projects, which have also been aired in some detail in the annexes. They are:

- The renovation and conversion of the old meadow shed to a wildlife haven
- Extending the quarry floor micro-environment by removing spoil adjacent to the entrance bank
- Improving access to the meadow for people with disabilities and access of modern grass cutting and collecting machinery.
- Create alternating thin “scallop” shaped clearings on either side of the woodland paths.

Funding requirements for these will be addressed as detailed at paragraph 28 below. The meadow

shed conversion project, now on the point of approval, sets the template for such instances (a sequence comprising Council’s approval in principle, detailed costs obtained, Council’s further deliberation, approval).

Implementation of this Management Plan

25. [Paragraph deleted – overtaken by events]

26. SGPC should ensure appropriate financial provision is made in the 2020 – 22 budget-setting process (done over the months November 2019 – January 2020), having taken due account of the responses arising from Consultation, some of which are now reflected in this Paper. It is considered unrealistic to assume in the exercise any revenue from sales of wood from felled trees. Due consideration should follow in subsequent annual budget rounds.

27. The Copse is more than just the trees it contains: other flora, and the wood’s fauna and the interactions between them must also be catered for. This demands that SGPC seeks appropriate advice, not only from Mr Baker (who should be retained for further work as the Council considers necessary) but also from the Woodland Trust and from the Devon Wildlife Trust. Useful relationships with these two Trusts would be best achieved if SGPC were to become a subscribing member of each of them.

28. As with every other instance of expenditure of SGPC funds, the commitment of financial resources to Hoyle Copse will be subject to the availability of funds and to the Council’s Financial Regulations, including making provision in the annual budget exercise and considering specific proposals for expenditure when so required.

29. The residents of the Parish will from time to time have suggestions on how the Copse should be managed. Such suggestions will be received and acted on in accordance with the Council’s usual practice for engagement with the general public. This Plan will be subject to review after five years.

30. All maintenance work in the Copse is to be conducted in compliance with relevant conditions imposed by SGPC's insurers and with Health and Safety regulations and guidance as appropriate.

PART THREE – CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

31. Conclusions

- The gift of the Copse to the villagers of Stoke Gabriel is highly appreciated and is a wonderful legacy for future generations. Mrs Birch's emphasis on Recreation is to be noted;
- The vision for the Copse and subsequent work undertaken by Ian Jones and the HCG volunteers has transformed the Copse into a valuable asset for all villagers;
- The management plan for the Copse aims to maintain a vision with a synergistic balance between the recreational activities and enjoyment of the residents of the parish, the natural environment and its wildlife, and the vestiges of the historic quarrying activity. This requires a pragmatic approach such that each aspect has to some extent compromise to ensure a balance between all aspects;
- Mr Baker's report is a watershed in the management of the Copse, and, given the impact of ADB it demands significant resourcing and management effort;
- SGPC would benefit from ongoing expert advice from woodland and wildlife professionals;
- Maintenance of the Copse needs the full support of SGPC and the community, not least through adequate funding and volunteer resources.

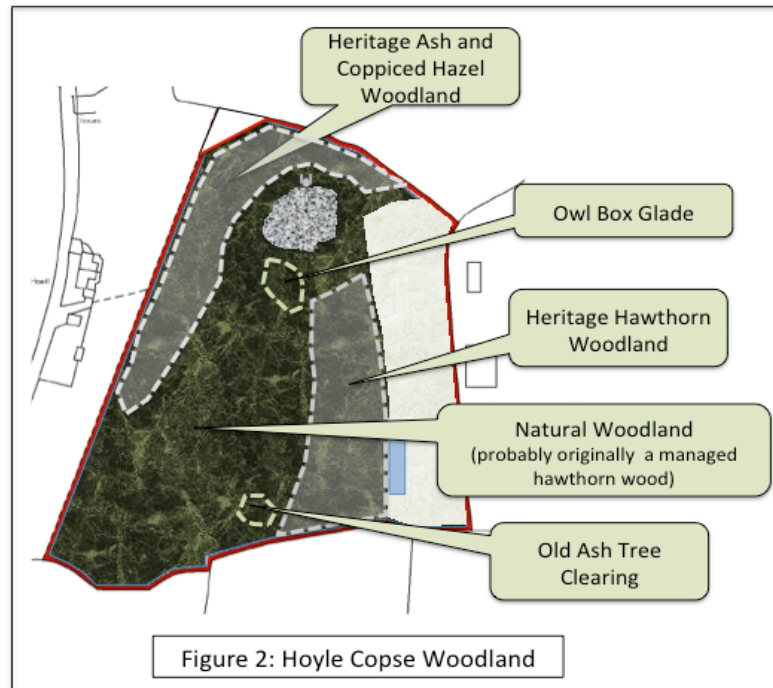
32. Recommendations It is recommended that Stoke Gabriel Parish Council:

- Agrees the above Conclusions;
- Approves continuing financial support for Hoyle Copse in principle, and makes appropriate provision in its annual budgeting rounds;
- Invites the Parish Wildlife Group to take the lead on seeking County Wildlife Site status for the Copse;
- Takes note of the Risk Assessments in this paper and incorporates them in the Council's overall risk assessment exercise;
- Notes the action already taken on Mr Baker's report, and that yet to be done;
- Notes the significance of the ADB issue, but appreciates it does not represent a *catastrophic* scenario: adequate measures can be taken, phased with regard to the risks identified, without the need for drastic measures such as complete closure of the Copse. Professional advice will continue to be sought as necessary, and from the Council's insurers;
- Noting ADB, approves the commissioning of an annual safety audit of the trees in the Copse;
- Agrees to consider membership of the Devon Wildlife Trust and the Woodland Trust, so long as total annual subscriptions for the two are affordable;
- Agrees to consider a Dormouse Survey as recommended by Devon Wildlife Trust - subject to affordability.
- Commissions an interim review of this plan in 2024.

Annexes:

- A. The Woodlands
- B. The Meadow and Old Meadow Shed
- C. The Heritage Limestone Workings
- D. Access and Footpaths
- E. Risk Assessments - Methodology
- F. Risk Assessment – Hoyle Copse Gang
- G. Risk Assessment – General Public
- H. Rupert Baker's Report - Proposed Implementation Plan (the accompanying paper)
- I . Ten Year Tabular Management Plan

ANNEX A: THE WOODLAND



The Natural Woodland

1. The Natural Woodland makes up the vast majority of the woodlands. Originally this was probably managed as a hawthorn area but has been left to grow wild for a very long time. One can still see a significant amount of hawthorn growing but it now includes large mature beech, ash and oak trees particularly on its southern side. It is deliberately left unmanaged and is very much a “wild wood”. In most places it is impenetrable due to large thickets of brambles, ivy and wild clematis and there are no maintained footpaths running through it. Thanks to this fact, potential risks to people (e.g. from falling boughs or trees), are negligible in this part of the Copse.

The Heritage Hawthorn Woodland

2. The Hawthorn Woodland provides a unique environment for flora and fauna that needs to be preserved and valued. The trees here are left unmanaged with the exception of clearing fallen trees that are damaging others. Naturally seeded hawthorn saplings are checked to ensure they have sufficient space to allow them to flourish and if necessary are re-sited. Naturally seeded saplings of other species are left to grow unless too many occur that may change the character of this area. In this case they are re-sited to a more appropriate location. Where “bald spots” in the wood occur only hawthorn will be planted. The thick canopy in this wood results in a sparse groundcover understory that again is left unmanaged. Due to the modest size of a mature hawthorn, climbing understory (ivy and clematis) is managed as described later.

The Heritage Ash and Hazel Coppice

3. The Coppice, as its name implies, is the only part of the woodlands where regular management is required (leaving aside dealing with ADB). The Coppice is very important for two reasons. Firstly, to maintain the heritage aspect of the coppice in relation to the limestone workings. The 1887 OS map shows a plantation at this location adjacent to the limekiln. Secondly, the hazel coppice is an essential habitat for the endangered Hazel Dormouse. It is recommended that a Dormouse survey be undertaken. Originally, the coppice was mainly hazel based with some ash. However, in some areas the ash has become the dominant tree. The hazel requires coppicing approximately once every ten years. To quote the Forestry Commission: “Coppicing creates ideal conditions for some wild flowers in the first few years

after cutting – the sudden influx of sunlight can stimulate a wonderful display. As the coppice grows and becomes denser, good conditions for nesting birds are created.” If left un-coppiced for a longer period of time, the multiple hazel trunks will spread outwards as they thicken and eventually its stool (the base of the coppiced hazel trunk) may split which in some cases destroys the tree. The Coppice makes up less than 20% of the total woodland. Managed in blocks (‘coups’) on a ten year rotating cycle means that less than 2% of the total woodland is actually coppiced each year. The sequence in which coups are selected for coppicing should be selected based on a localised dormouse survey as referred to above. Also the selection should be to try and avoid adjacent coups being coppiced in subsequent years. This will enable glades / oases of light to form in the overall coppice to the benefit of flora and fauna. Some mature hazel will be left to stand in a coup for the benefit of wildlife and also to potentially form standing deadwood in the future.

4. With ash trees seeding prolifically relative to the hazel’s slower propagation, which is being further reduced in the Copse by squirrels, ash has become dominant especially in the lower and more southern area. Even with the advent of ADB, which has now entered the Copse, the ash in the Coppice area needs to be thinned. This will aid hazel growth and also assist the taller remaining ash to reach maturity quicker. This is important as there is evidence that ADB is less likely to attack mature ash trees once their bark goes from the smooth “juvenile” bark to the gnarled “mature” bark.

5. With 90% to 95% of ash expected to be lost to dieback, the HCG has been professionally advised to initiate a pre-emptive replanting scheme. Advice has also been received that in the areas with significant ash, i.e. the Coppice woodland, major thinning will be required to let in light otherwise the newly planted trees will either not survive or their growth will be stalled. The coppice has traditionally been an “understorey coppice” with ash forming the overstorey. As recommended by DWT, the plan is to maintain the understorey / overstorey nature of the coppice woodland but migrate it from hazel / ash to hazel / oak. This will involve recovering the hazel that has been lost due to the overrun by ash by layering existing hazel or planting new hazel saplings. A small number were planted this year. The oak will be introduced by planting saplings at the rate of approximately 1 oak to every 10 hazel. Confirmation of the exact ratio has been requested from the Woodland Trust.

6. No ground cover understorey maintenance takes place in the Coppice area except around recently coppiced hazel or new saplings. Climbing understorey will be managed as described later, especially the “overspill” growth from the Natural Woodland above the Coppice area.

Woodland Clearings / Glades

7. The woodland clearings consist of the small area under the large ash tree by the southern path and the owl box glade close by the western escarpment. The Devon Wildlife Trust and Forestry Commission both recommend clearings for letting in light to the woodland floor, which enhances biodiversity of the understorey and benefits wildlife. However, to enable this increase in flora biodiversity, the brambles in the adjoining Natural Woodland need to be kept in check and prevented from spreading into the clearing where they have previously grown rapidly with the increase sunlight. Therefore, any bramble or similar ground cover understorey adjacent to and within the glade should be cut once a year. The glades could be further enhanced for wildlife if patches are cut and raked clear permanently with a view of allowing flora / ground layer to regenerate.

8. Adjacent to the owl box glade, a number of trees have fallen in the native woodland area. A number of saplings have recently been planted here to stop the glade effectively expanding. Until such time that these saplings have grown and started to form their own canopy, ground cover understorey will need to be annually kept in check.

9. In addition to the glades, it is proposed to open up a series of alternating thin “scallop” shaped clearings adjacent to the paths for birds and bats flight paths. This widening of the “corridor” has been proposed by DWT on three separate visits. The purpose is to let light into the woodland floor so as to encourage flowering understorey, which in turn encourages flying insects. The corridors then provide flight paths for birds and bats that feed on the wing.

Woodland Understorey

10. Management of **ground cover** understorey has been described in the sections above. It is proposed that **climbing** understorey, i.e. ivy and clematis, should be managed as follows. Note, this only applies to the Heritage Woodlands unless stated otherwise.

- No ivy or clematis: Saplings, small mature trees (e.g. Spindle), newly coppiced hazel and large trees on the very edge of woodland in exposed positions where the ivy may make the tree top heavy and at risk of collapse in a storm. Note, the Tree Wardens Association suggests if ivy is to be allowed to grow on the large exposed trees, then it should be contained to the height of the first major bough (not really practical due to ladders being required) or allow growth on one tree in three and then periodically rotate. An alternative is to allow ivy to grow and then cut every five years or so.
- Ivy kept managed to light growth: “Juvenile” trees, specifically smoothed bark ash with a typical trunk diameter of circa 0.2m dbh and height of 8m+, and hence prone to wind damage
- Contained ivy growth (ivy allowed to grow freely but then cut back and allowed to regrow): Medium sized trees, particularly hawthorn. Ivy to be cut when tree becomes overwhelmed or distressed.
- Unrestricted ivy growth: All trees in the Natural Woodland and large mature trees elsewhere and not covered above.

ANNEX B: THE MEADOW

The Meadow

1. The meadow provides an excellent contrast to the woodlands of the Copse. The wildflower population has increased since the introduction of yellow rattle to help suppress grass growth. Maintenance consists of a “harvesting” cut in late summer / early autumn once the flowers have dropped their seed. (“Harvesting” means that the cuttings must be removed from the meadow and not left to enrich the ground and so encourage grass growth). The actual timing of the cut will vary depending on a particular year’s weather conditions. Additional ad-hoc maintenance may also be required from time to time to cut back any intrusive growth into the meadow that may occur.

2. Whilst desirable, hand cutting, gathering and removing of the meadow hay is beyond the capability of the HCG. It is impractical unless the HGC person-power increases by a factor of five, which is considered most unlikely. Therefore there is no alternative but to use mechanical means. In the last two years no contractor could be found who could both cut and remove the cuttings. This is mainly due to the narrow and badly cambered entrance into the meadow and the size of modern tractors and associated machinery. A contractor with small machinery needs to be identified or access to the meadow improved – as discussed later. It has been advised that an early spring and late autumn light cut would also benefit the wildflowers.

3. Professional assessment of the meadow shows that it has an excellent mature seed bank. The wildflowers will flourish with the “cut and remove” operation above and can be furthered enhanced by the scattering of a suitable seed mix.

4. A stand of trees has been planted on the perimeter of the meadow parallel to the community field entrance track to provide a natural screen to the adjoining housing development. However, no new trees should be allowed to grow within the meadow. Apart from the footpath openings from the meadow into the wood, the boundary between the two should be maintained as a buffer zone of low scrub.

The Old Meadow Shed

5. The shed is in very poor condition and apart from the ivy growing on it offers nothing for the wildlife in the Copse due to the large opening at its northern end, giving access to people. Also, the Parish Council needs a secure storage area for their equipment area that is used by the HCG. A plan has been developed in consultation with Devon Wildlife Trust to convert the shed into three areas: A storage area, an insulated and non-insulated bat roost specifically design for the greater horseshoe bat and the main area which will have ground level access for small animals such as hedgehogs, voles and toads (to exclude badgers and foxes) and a large flight entrance for birds and or bats. Included in latter area will be a barn owl box. Funding for the creation of the storage area is being provided by the Parish Council, but this will not be sufficient for the employment of tradesmen – 100% volunteer labour will be needed. A promise of funding for the bat roost has been obtained from the Devon Wildlife Trust Greater Horseshoe Bat Project. The latter element of the project will also rely on volunteer effort, to construct the bat roost and support the roof timbers that are in poor repair.

Attached:

Appendix 1 to Annex B: Observed Flora of Hoyle Copse, 2005 – 2013.

Appendix 1 to Annex B: Observed Flora of Hoyle Copse 2005 to 2013

Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Milkwort, Common	<i>Polygala vulgaris</i>
Alkanet, Green	<i>Pentaglottis sempervivens</i>	Mouse-ear, Common	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Archangel, Yellow	<i>Lamiasstrum galeobdolon</i>	Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>
Balm, Bastard	<i>Melittis melissophyllum</i>	Mullein, Great	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>
Basil, Wild	<i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	Mustard, Black	<i>Brassica nigra</i>
Bedstraw, Hedge	<i>Galium mollugo</i>	Mustard, Garlic	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
Betony	<i>Stachys officinalis</i>	Nipplewort	<i>Lapsana communis</i>
Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Orchid, Com'n Sp'd (int 07)	<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>
Bindweed, Greater	<i>Calystegia sylvatica</i>	Orchid, Early-purple	<i>Orchis mascula</i>
Bittercress, Hairy	<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Orchid, Southern Marsh	<i>Dactylorhiza praetermissa</i>
Bittersweet	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	Orchid, Pyramidal	<i>Anacamptispyramidalis</i>
Bluebell (ignoring Spanish)	<i>Scilla non-scripta</i>	Oxtongue, Bristly	<i>Picris echioides</i>
Broomrape, Common	<i>Orobanche minor</i>	Parsley, Cow	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
Bryony, Black	<i>Tamus communis</i>	Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>
Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Pimpernel, Scarlet	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>
Burdock, Lesser	<i>Arctium minus</i>	Ploughman's-spikenard	<i>Inula conyza</i>
Buttercup, Creeping	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Poppy, Common	<i>Papaver rhoeas</i>
Buttercup, Meadow	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
Buttercup, Small-flowered	<i>Ranunculus parviflorus</i>	Ragwort, Common	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Calamint, Wood	<i>Calaminta sylvatica</i>	Rattle, Yellow (intro 07)	<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>
Campion, Bladder	<i>Silene vulgaris</i>	Rockcress, Hairy	<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>
Campion, Red	<i>Silene dioica</i>	St John's Wort, Hairy	<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>
Carrot, Wild (intro 09)	<i>Daucus carota</i>	St John's Wort, Mountain	<i>Hypericum, montanum</i>
Cat's-ear	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	St John's Wort, Perforate	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>
Celendine, Lesser	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>	Salad burnet	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>
Centaury Common	<i>Centaurium erythraea</i>	Sandwort, Three-veined	<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>
Centaury, Lesser	<i>Centaurium pulchellum</i>	Saxifrage, Burnet	<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>
Chickweed, Common	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Saxifrage, Rue-leaved	<i>Saxifraga tridactylites</i>
Cinquefoil, Creeping	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Self-heal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Shepherd's Purse	<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>

Clover, Red	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Snowdrop (intro 07)	<i>Galanthus nivalis</i>
Clover, White	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Sow-thistle, Blue (intro 08)	<i>Cicerbita macrophylla</i>
Corn Salad, Common	<i>Valerianella locusta</i>	Sow-thistle, Perennial	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>
Crane's bill, Cut-leaved (N)	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Sow-thistle, Prickly	<i>Sonchus asper</i>
Crane's-bill, Dove's-foot (N)	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Sow-thistle, Smooth	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
Crane's-bill, Hedgerow	<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Speedwell, Common	<i>Veronica persica</i>
Crane's-bill, Long-stalked	<i>Igeranium columbinum</i>	Speedwell, Germander	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Crane's-bill, Shiny	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>	Speedwell, Ivy-leaved	<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>
Crosswort (2)	<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>	Speedwell, Thyme-leaved	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>
Daisey, Ox-eye (intro 10)	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Speedwell, Wall	<i>Veronica arvensis</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Spurge, Wood (1)	<i>Euphorbia amygdaloides</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinalis</i>	Stonecrop, White	<i>Sedum album</i>
Dead-nettle, Red	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Stork's-bill, Common	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>
Dog's Mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Strawberry, Barren (N)	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>
Enchanter's Nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Strawberry, Wild	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>
Figwort, Common	<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Swinecress, Lesser	<i>Coronopus didymus</i>
Figwort, Water	<i>Scrophularia auriculata</i>	Tare, Smooth	<i>Vicia tetrasperma</i>
Flax, Fairy	<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Teasel, Wild	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>
Fleabane, Common	<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Thistle, Creeping	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Forget-me-not, Field	<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	Thistle, Musk	<i>Carduus nutans</i>
Fumitory, Common	<i>Fumaria officinalis</i>	Thistle, Slender	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i>
Gromwell, Common	<i>Lithospermum officinale</i>	Thistle, Spear	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>
Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Toadflax, Ivy-leaved	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>
Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Traveller's Joy	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
Hawksbeard, Beaked	<i>Crepis versicaria</i>	Trefoil, Com'n Bird's-foot	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Hawksbeard, Smooth	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Tutsan	<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>
Hawkweed, Mouse-ear	<i>Hieracium pilosella</i>	Twayblade, Common	<i>Listera ovata</i>
Hedge Mustard	<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Vervain	<i>Verbena officinalis</i>
Hedge-parsley, Upright	<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Vetch, Bush	<i>Vicia sepium</i>
Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Vetch, Common	<i>Vicia sativa</i>
Hemp-agrimony	<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Vetch, Tufted	<i>Vicia cracca</i>
Herb, Bennet	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Violet, Common Dog	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
Herb, Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Violet, Sweet	<i>Viola odorata</i>

Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Viper's Bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i>
Horehound, Black	<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Whitlow Grass	<i>Erophila verna</i>
Iris, Stinking	<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Willowherb, Broad-leaved	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>
Knapweed, Common	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Willowherb, Great	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>
Knapweed, Greater	<i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	Willowherb, Hoary	<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>
Leek, Three-cornered	<i>Alium triquetrum</i>	Wintercress, Common	<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>
Lords & Ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>
Madder, Wild	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>	Woodruff, Western	<i>Asperula occidentalis</i>
Marjoram	<i>Origanum vulgare</i>	Woundwort, Hedge	<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>
Mayweed, Pineapple	<i>Chamomilla suaveolens</i>	Woundwort, Marsh	<i>Stachys palustris</i>
Medick, Black	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Medick, Spotted	<i>Medicago arabica</i>		

ANNEX C: THE HERITAGE LIMESTONE WORKINGS

1. The limestone workings consists of the limekiln, the quarry and its access track that runs from the base of the quarry, up past the top of the kiln and then both up to the Aish Road entrance and down to the Hoyle Cottages entrance. From a heritage viewpoint it is important that the workings are easily recognised for what they were and one could imagine workers in the quarry, the kiln burning and a horse and cart carrying out stones or lime. Yet at the same time the workings need to also be as environmentally natural as possible offering excellent benefit to both flora and fauna. A careful balanced approach is essential in their management.

The Limekiln

2. As mentioned earlier the limekiln is in good order thanks to Miss Birch's efforts and has recently had the top of its walls renovated after small trees had rooted in the mortar joints and dislodged stones. The mosses and lichen on the kiln provides an excellent habitat for insects and adds to its bygone appearance. It is an excellent example of many similar kilns that existed in the area. The Devon County Archaeology Officer recommended that it is kept clear of ivy and any new growth on the structure needs to be cut at the base and only removed with care to prevent damage to the mortar. The scrub growth around the kiln needs to be kept clear for several metres to maximise its visibility and prevent damage from roots and branches.

The Quarry

3. The main quarry provides a very special ecological area and microclimate. The quarry floor needs to be kept clear of scrub to allow the small alpine like flora to flourish on the thin soil and leave glimpses of the bedrock visible. This is to include removing and if possible re-siting saplings. Directly below the higher entrance ledge (where the seat is located), there is a 5m section of the quarry floor where at sometime in the past earth and spoil have been tipped. This has resulted in a growth of scrub that has to be cut back annually. A project for future consideration, and approved by DWT, is to remove this spoil up to the entrance ledge bank and thus expose more of the quarry floor to allow re-colonisation of limestone loving plants. The spoil could be used to improve the Aish Road access track; see Annex D.

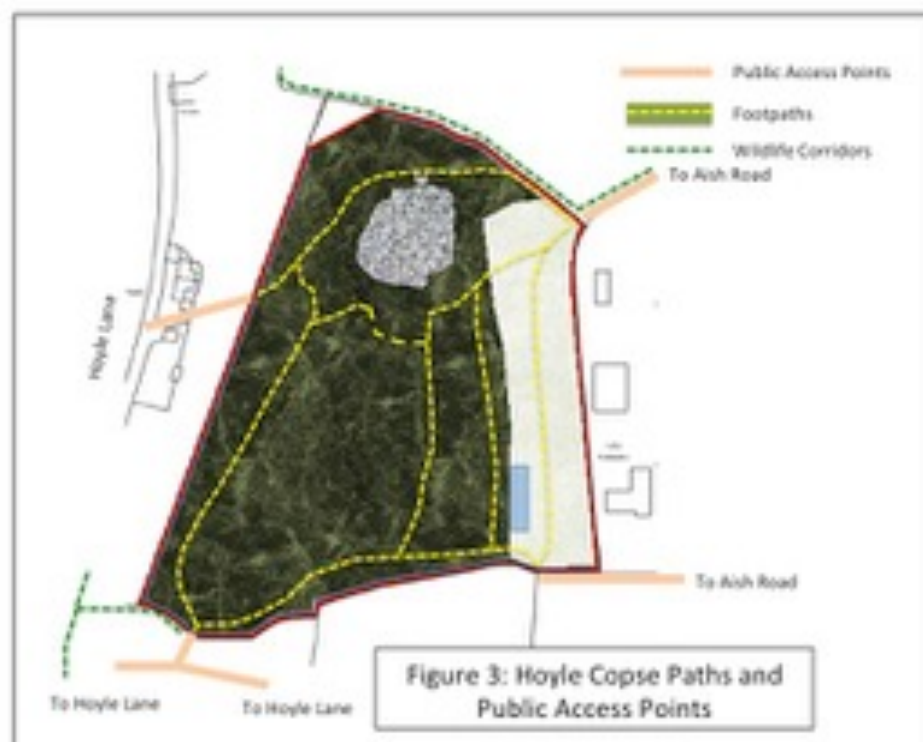
4. The quarry walls are well covered in flora with glimpses of the underlying limestone. The only maintenance of the quarry walls is a recommendation from Devon Wildlife Trust to remove the alien cotoneaster that has seeded there (if it can be done safely).

The Old Access Track

5. The only maintenance of the old access track, which runs from Hoyle Lane up into the Copse, should be to ensure that the sides are kept cut back and not allowed to shrink it to a single person width footpath. This again will make it a link to the past, where one can imagine a horse and cart passing along to service the kiln and quarry.

ANNEX D: ACCESS AND FOOTPATHS

1. Much has been done since the beginning of the project to open up more than the initial solitary access route. There are now five access points as shown in Figure 3, below, along with the main footpaths. The map also shows, as red lines, the delineated boundaries of the Copse.
2. Most footpaths have been made safer on the steeper slopes by building rustic log steps, similar to the steps used on other village footpaths and by the National Trust. The western path was very narrow and had a severe camber along most of its length. The HCG has improved the path by digging into the upward slope and shoring up the downward side using logs obtained from the woodland, thereby creating a level camber path. Maintenance consists of annually cutting back intrusive growth along the path, especially that which could cause an eye injury. Additionally, steps / shores will need to be replaced as logs rot over time. See also the section on woodland glades which proposes to make a series of alternating thin scalloped shaped glades along the path sides (at Annex A, para 9).
3. The access track from Aish Road, created some years ago, has a significant side camber making it difficult for pedestrians to use in wet weather. A future project would be to raise the lower side of the path with chippings to create a better and safer footpath (this could be as part of paragraph 4 below.). This should be made wide enough to allow mobility scooter access to the meadow. Similarly, the path that runs through the woods parallel to the meadow could also be improved to allow mobility scooter access. Thereby more villagers will be able to enjoy both the Copse's meadow and woodlands.
4. As already stated, recently it has become difficult to identify a contractor to cut and remove the hay from the meadow due to the size of modern machinery. It may be necessary to either improve the access from the Aish road entrance or create a ramp from the adjoining burial ground entrance to permit heavier machinery to access the meadow.



ANNEX E: RISK ASSESSMENTS - METHODOLOGY

Risk Assessment Procedures

There are two risk assessments covered in this annex; risk assessment of volunteers working in the copse and risk assessment of public accessing the copse. The purpose of a Risk Assessments is to:

- Identify potential sources of harm, injury including hygiene and long term health problems
- Identify who is at Risk
- To quantify the likelihood and severity of harm, should it occur and using this information determine the Risk
- Identify the means to reduce the likelihood of harm occurring, the severity of harm should it occur, or both.
- A volunteer should be identified who is responsible for ensuring that the controls are implemented properly, though every worker has a responsibility for this

Quantifying Likelihood and Severity of Risks

This is not a precise process, but with thought and familiarity with the task, it is straightforward to assign a broad classification to both likelihood and severity. In all cases, consider what the reasonably expected outcome would be rather than a worse case scenario. For example, it is clearly possible to suffer a broken bone or head injury when tripping over, but in the vast majority of cases it is more reasonable to expect a cut, bruise or sprain. Also consider that all members of the work party will have a reasonable level of physical fitness. For those with lower levels of fitness (e.g. back problems) assign tasks according to the identified hazards.

Likelihood: Consider how often you would reasonably expect a hazard to occur or be present

LOW: Expected to occur less than monthly **MED:** Expected to occur monthly **HIGH:** Expected to occur daily

Severity: Consider how severe an injury would reasonably be expected to be.

LOW: Small injuries (general dealt with First Aid and rest) – cuts, bruises, sprains

MED: Medium injuries (would likely require hospital treatment) - Broken bone, deep cuts and lacerations, multiple small injuries

HIGH: Severe injuries (would likely require ambulance) - Potential to cause death, multiple medium injuries or any injury to the head

Cross referencing the likelihood with the severity determines the Risk

RISK	Likelihood		
Severity	LOW	MED	HIGH
	MED	MED	HIGH
	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH

In all cases, controls are needed to reduce the Risk into a green or yellow box. For example, since any head injury is considered a HIGH severity, simply wearing a hard hat immediately reduces the severity to MED. Likewise, checking a woodland site for hanging branches before starting work reduces the likelihood of one falling and so causing harm to LOW. With these two simple controls, a Risk assessed as HIGH (Red box) has been reduced to MED (Green box). Note that a MED risk can be either green or yellow and HIGH risk can be either yellow or red – in all cases it is the colour of the box that is most important.

Any risk that remains in a red box after controls should not be undertaken by volunteers unless further training/controls can be implemented.

ANNEX F: RISK ASSESSMENT – HOYLE COPSE GANG

Ensuring Health and Safety of the work party

Ensuring that the work can be carried out safely is the primary objective of any workday. All other considerations are secondary to ensuring both the work party and members of the public are not injured when carrying out work. Woodland and countryside work is an inherently dangerous. By following the General Safety Procedures and the controls identified in Risk Assessments the chances of injuries occurring is significantly reduced and while it is impossible to completely eliminate accidents, the controls also aim to limit the severity of injuries, should they occur.

GENERAL SAFETY PROCEDURES:

- In case of an accident, names of all HCG volunteers in attendance will be recorded in the accident book in case of need for later follow-up.
- All volunteers should only undertake tasks they are competent at
- If group is spread out across worksite, ensure communication between members
- If trees or large boughs are to be felled, an additional volunteer is to maintain look out and keep back other volunteers or members of public to a safe distance. **CHAIN SAW WORK ABOVE HEAD HEIGHT IS EXPRESSLY NOT TO BE CARRIED OUT BY THE HCG.**
- A first aid kit must be on site. At least 1 mobile phone (ideally 2 of different networks) to be with the group and check for signal
- If an incident occurs, stop all work and bring group together
- Supervisor to check weather conditions – for woodland tasks, if there is high wind and/or heavy rain operations should be cancelled
- Volunteers to bring suitable clothing depending on weather plus if necessary sun block and refreshments
- Volunteers to bring safety clothing (PPE) suitable for the tools they bring
- Hygiene – all to be aware of the hazards from dog mess, Lyme and Weils disease
- Make written record any medium or significant injuries
- Perform continuous Risk Assessment of site and weather conditions while working
- If additional hazards are identified, ensure that Risk Assessment is amended

When calling Emergency services, give clear information of location, access, number of casualties, nature of injury.

ACTIVITY: Hoyle Copse and Village Orchard Maintenance

WHAT IS COVERED? Mowing meadow. Laying hedges. Clearing bramble and brash. Tree felling, pruning, stacking and moving timber.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLS: All work party members

What is the Hazard	Who would be injured?	Nature and method of injuries	Frequency of hazard?	Severity of hazard?	ASSESSED RISK	Controls	Risk After Control
Hanging trees / branches	Work party	Branches falling to cause head and other body injuries;	MED	HIGH	HIGH	Check site before work for hanging branches; Clear hanging branches before other tasks; If unable to clear, mark hazard or make known to all; Hard hats and safety visors worn at all times in work area;	MED
Fallen trees, branches and stumps	Work party	Trip and falls causing sprains, bruises, cuts;	HIGH	LOW	MED	Check site before work and clear fallen branches from access routes; Clear felled trees immediately; Ensure stumps are cut off low to ground; Only work during daylight;	LOW
Uneven, steep or slippery ground	Work Party	Trips and falls causing sprains, bruises, cuts;	HIGH	LOW	MED	Ensure extra care on slopes, especially when operating chainsaws and trimmers; Be aware that frequently used routes can become more slippery; Take extra care in the wet; All volunteers to wear suitable, sturdy footwear;	LOW

<p>Tree felling Clearing hung and windblown trees</p>	<p>Work party Public</p>	<p>Trees felled onto people; Butt end kicking up when felled; Debris falling from crown during felling;</p>	<p>MED</p>	<p>HIGH</p>	<p>HIGH</p>	<p>Only volunteers that are competent should operate chainsaws. Volunteers are to only use their own chainsaws and provide their own safety equipment; hard hats and safety glasses to be worn Chainsaws are to be maintained Felling performed by pairs of people, one person keeping lookout for other volunteers or public in the area; Keep at least 2x tree height distance from others when felling; Ensure safe routes to escape from tree and move away from tree as it falls; Do not tackle trees beyond 38cm (15in) width; Be aware of wind conditions; Check tree crown for hanging debris before felling; Be aware of rot and damage causing trees to fall prematurely; Chainsaw operators to work away from other members of work party; Work party briefed to be aware of chainsaw user and keep 2x tree height distance; Do not approach chainsaw user from behind; Do not distract chainsaw user; Wait until tree is felled or cross cutting completed before approaching chainsaw user; Work party to be aware that chainsaw user may not see or hear others approaching or working in proximity.</p>	<p>MED</p>
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Shifting and stacking timber Extracting timber from worksite	Work party Public	Heavy log causing back problems when lifting and foot/leg injuries when dropped, rolled or incorrectly stacked; Increased likelihood or severity from trips, falls and slippery/steep ground;	MED	LOW	LOW	Plan access routes for carrying timber to minimise slopes and other hazards; Ensure access paths are clear of debris / fallen branches; Ensure proper lifting procedures are followed; Carry larger sections in pairs; Timber stacks secured by posts or retained trees; Stacks should be no higher than 1m; Stacks on flat ground only;	LOW
De-limbing, crown lifting and pruning	Work party	Saw injuries; Injury from falling or springing branches;	LOW	HIGH	MED	Ensure hard hats and safety glasses are worn; Check branch for tension before cutting;	LOW
Strimmers'	Work party and public	Injury from cutting blade or flying debris	MED	MED	MED	Ensure operator keeps 15m clear of other working party or public. Likewise, working party to keep clear of operator by 25m and maintain lookout for members of public who may approach. Operator to wear eye protection and ear defenders	MED

Bowsaws	Work party	Cut hands when using; Cut hands when carrying or putting/taking from storage; Cut hands during blade replacement;	MED	LOW	MED	Wear glove on other hand to prevent injuries from saw jumping out of cut; Carry down by side or in tool bag; Check condition of blade and security of fixing before use; Replace blade immediately when blunted; Check condition of hand guard (if fitted) Replace hand guard if broken; Preferentially choose to buy bowsaws with hand guards; Use correct size bowsaw or use pruning saw as required by the task; Keep all bowsaw guards and replace when stored and carrying; To replace blade: Use gloves and lever open under toe, replace blade and lever shut using the ground;	LOW
Billhooks and slashers	Work party	Cuts from mis-swings; Cut from bounced blade; Cut from carrying, storing and picking up and sharpening; Splinters from handle; Injury from handle leaving blade on swing;	MED	MED	MED	Check condition of blade and security of fixing before use; Use proper technique when sharpening using stone;	MED

Loppers	Work party	Injury from carrying; Splinters from handles;	LOW	LOW	LOW	Check to ensure that the pivot nut is secure; Check handles for splintering and damage; Do not twist when cutting; Do not over reach up high; Do not attempt to cut wood thicker than a thumb; Carry down by side (not over shoulder) and by lower handle;	LOW
Pruning saw	Work party	Cut hands when using; Cut hands when carrying or putting/taking from storage; Cut hands during blade replacement;	LOW	LOW	LOW	Check condition and security of blade; Check condition of handles for splits; Carry down by side or in tool bag; Store stacked neatly with handles easy to reach;	LOW
Long reach pruning saw	Work party	Cut hands when using; Cut hands when carrying or putting/taking from storage; Cut hands during blade replacement; Impact with others while carrying;	LOW	LOW	LOW	Check condition and security of blade; Check condition of handles for splits; Carry upright, down by side never over shoulder;	LOW
Spade	Work party	Injury to arch of foot when using; Injury to calf when using; Back injury when using; Splinters from handles;	LOW	LOW	LOW	Carry down by side, never over shoulder; Use toe to press down rather than arch or heel of foot; Check condition of handle; Do not use for heavy work with back problems; Do not continue to use if back starts to ache; Do not attempt to use as a lever, or dig out large stones;	LOW

Mattock, mell	Work party	Injury while carrying; Vibration/ jarring to arms during use; Splinters from handle; Injury due to head leaving handle;	LOW	MED	MED	Check condition of handles for splits; Check condition and security of head; Use without gloves; Ensure work area clear around; Ensure sound footing; If banging in a post, to keep it straight have another person use a spade or length of wood to hold upright and in position; Wear safety glasses if risk of shattering; Change user or rest after repeated use;	LOW
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ANNEX G: RISK ASSESSMENT - PUBLIC ACCESS

ACTIVITY: Public using the Copse

WHAT IS COVERED? Walking in the Copse; specifically in the meadow and the footpaths defined in this document. Access to all other areas is at the public's own risk. Also not covered are activities such as climbing in the quarry or of trees and the use of swings etc. deployed by members of the public.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTROLS: Parish Council

What is the Hazard	Who would be injured?	Nature and method of injuries	Frequency of hazard?	Severity of hazard?	ASSESSED RISK	Controls	Risk After Control
Hanging trees / branches and eye level understory (brambles) across paths	Members of the public	Hitting head on low branches or eye injury from brambles	LOW	MED	MED	Volunteer team to remove hazard when observed or on receiving an alert from the public	LOW
Fallen trees, branches and stumps	Members of the public	Trip and falls causing sprains, bruises, cuts;	LOW	MED	MED	Volunteer team to remove hazard when observed or on receiving an alert from the public	LOW
Falling trees whilst public present	Members of the public	Tree falls on person causing significant injury	LOW	HIGH	MED	Periodic assessment of trees adjacent to footpaths and in the meadow by professional. All trees considered dangerous to be felled with public excluded from area. See Annex A	LOW
Uneven, steep or slippery paths	Members of the public	Trips and falls causing sprains, bruises, cuts;	LOW	MED	MED	Indemnity notices to be sited at Copse entrances stating footpaths are of a "rustic" nature and to take care. Steps to be constructed using logs on steeper sections of footpaths	LOW

ANNEX H - IMPLEMENTATION OF RUPERT BAKER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Rupert Baker Recommendation	Reference in Rupert Baker's Report	Timing	HCG Comment	Recommendation in this Management Plan	Likely Cost To SGPC
Fell trees as identified by safety assessments	Para 5.2	Completed by mid November 2019.	a. Responsibility to fell five trees has been accepted by Western Power Distribution (WPD). b. HCG can fell the remaining ones (max ten trees)	a. Monitor WPD's execution of its intention, stated at a site visit on 9 July 2019, to fell eleven (not five) trees during Sept 2019. b. HCG to carry out autumn 2019.	Nil Nil
Cut back ivy on trunks of five trees	Para 5.2	Completed by mid November 2019.	Within HCG capability	HCG proceed with this.	Nil
Re-inspect in three years' time	Para 5.3 and 5.4	Late spring or early summer 2022.	Mr Baker to be retained for this.	<i>Annual</i> inspections preferred	£400 p.a.

