Warwick District Habitat Assessment

Habitat Biodiversity Audit
Partnership for
Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull

C/o Warwickshire Museum Field Services
The Butts, Warwick, CV34 4SS

August – October 2008

Project Partners
Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Warwickshire County Council, Coventry City Council, North Warwickshire District Council, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, Stratford-upon-Avon District Council, Natural England, Environment Agency

Title: Warwick District Habitat Assessment

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Signature(s):

Date: December 12th 2008

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1.0 Introduction

- The Habitat Biodiversity Audit Partnership[1] (HBA) was approached in June 2008 by Warwick District Council to undertake Habitat Surveys of thirty nine parcels of land within Warwick District. The work was commissioned on 11th July 2008.

- The District Council is currently preparing its Local Development Framework (LDF) Core Strategy in accordance with Government requirements and in parallel with the revision of WM RSS.

- The District Council has identified forty parcels of land to assess in relation to the LDF. The emerging RSS has stipulated a minimum requirement of 10,800 new homes for Warwick district.

1.1 Planning and Legal Context

National and legal framework:
There are a number of planning guidance, biodiversity strategies and policy statements which are key to the planning process. These include:

- Planning Policy Statement 1 (PPS1) "Delivering Sustainable Development", 2005, sets out the Government's overall approach to planning. It should be read in conjunction with other guidance.

- The core principle underpinning planning in the UK is the concept of sustainable development. The Government's four aims for sustainable development are:

    - social progress which recognises the needs of everyone;
    - effective protection of the environment;
    - the prudent use of natural resources; and
    - the maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.

- In preparing development plans local authorities should look to the long term, recognise the needs of the community to secure a better quality of life, and not impose disproportionate social, economic or environmental costs. The plans must be properly based on analysis and evidence.

- Planning Policy Statement 3 (PPS3) "Housing", 2006, gives guidance on identifying sustainable locations for housing development, and on

[1] The HBA partnership consists of representatives from all Local Authorities within Warwickshire Coventry and Solihull plus Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Natural England. It is tasked to produce and maintain a phase 1 and priority Biodiversity Action Plan habitat GIS audit of their area.

measuring performance of development plans in achieving housing supply and monitoring this.

- The UK Biodiversity Strategy: "Working with the Grain of Nature" (Defra, 2002) aims to ensure that construction, planning, development and regeneration have minimal adverse impacts on biodiversity[2] and enhance it where possible.

- Planning Policy Statement 9 (PPS9) "Biodiversity and Geological Conservation" (August 2005) has a key principle that "development plan policies and planning decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas. In reviewing environmental characteristics local authorities should assess the potential to sustain and enhance those resources". Local Authorities should take an integrated approach to planning for biodiversity and geodiversity when preparing local development documents.

- PPS9 under Network of Natural Habitats states that "Local authorities should aim to maintain networks by avoiding or repairing the fragmentation and isolation of natural habitats through policies in plans. Such networks should be protected from development, and, where possible, strengthened by or integrated within it. This may be done as part of a wider strategy for the protection and extension of open space and access routes such as canals and rivers, including those within urban areas". Biodiversity should not seen to be restricted to statutory and non-statutory ecological sites.

UK Biodiversity Action Plan

- The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity, signed by over 150 countries in 1992. The UK BAP (updated 2007) sets aims and targets to increase a number of species and habitats which are priorities for conservation action in the UK. Species Action Plans (SAPs) and Habitat Action Plans (HAPs) exist at a national level for threatened habitats and species, and at a local level the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) contributes to national targets wherever these are relevant to Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull.

- Warwick District Council has signed the Regional Biodiversity Partnership pledge (July 2008) showing commitment to the natural environment.

[2] Biodiversity encompasses the whole variety of life on Earth. It includes all species of plants and animals, but also their genetic variation, and the complex ecosystems of which they are a part. It covers the whole of the natural world, from the commonplace to the critically endangered.

There are local **SAPs** for 26 priority species which are declining or of locally threatened and therefore relevant to this assessment. These are:-

Mammals – otter, water vole, all bat species, common dormouse
Reptiles and amphibians – adder, great crested newt
Crustaceans - White-clawed crayfish
Birds – farmland birds, barn owl, bittern, lapwing, snipe, song thrush
Invertebrates - Bloody-Nosed Beetle, Chalk Carpet Moth, (A) Cuckoo Bee, Dingy Skipper, Dotted Bee-Fly, (A) Leaf-Rolling Weevil, Rare Bumblebees, small blue butterfly
Red Wood Ant, wood white butterfly
Flora – Black poplar, Scarce Arable Plants

There are 24 local **HAPs** for priority habitats which are of conservation concern, as follows:

(Lowland) Acid Grassland
(Lowland) Calcareous Grassland
Field Margins
(Lowland) Heathland
Hedgerows
(Lowland) Neutral Grassland
Scrub & Carr
Traditional Orchards
Woodlands
Wood-Pasture, Old Parkland & Veteran Trees
Allotments
(The) Built Environment
Canals
Churchyards & Cemeteries
Disused Industrial & Railway Land
Ponds, Lakes & Reservoirs
Fen & Swamp
Gardens
Parks & Public Open Spaces
Quarries & Gravel Pits
Reedbeds
Rivers & Streams
Roadside Verges
School Grounds

- Many of these habitats and species are relevant to Warwick district and to the areas surveyed. The action plans for safeguarding and restoring the status of habitats and species need to be used in the forward planning for the district. There are opportunities to significantly contribute to implementation of the LBAP and to restore some habitats which have been lost in previous years. It should be noted that whilst positive action is enhancing and restoring the condition of some species and habitats, there are more situations where the reverse is true and overall loss is greater than gains.

- The main act of law for protection of wildlife in the UK is The Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) (1981) ('WCA'). The act was amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) in 2000 which strengthened the protection of threatened species.

Trees and Hedgerows

- Retained trees and hedgerows should be protected during any development in accordance with British Standard BS5837: 1991, 'A Guide for Trees in Relation to Construction'. New areas of tree planting should compensate for the loss of the scattered trees within the parcel. All planting should be native and sourced locally.

- The Hedgerows Regulations 1997 makes it unlawful to remove a rural hedgerow without obtaining permission from the local planning authority (through submitting a hedgerow removal notice). Mature trees within hedgerows can be protected by Tree Preservation Orders and may require a felling licence. Some species associated with hedges (nesting birds, badgers, bats and great crested newts receive legal protection under the Wildlife & Countryside At 1981 (as amended).

The 'Hedgerow Regulations 1997' (HMSO, 1997) specify that a hedgerow is deemed 'important' if it, or the hedgerow of which it is a stretch:

(a) has existed for 30 years or more; and,
(b) satisfies at least one of the criteria in Part II of Schedule 1.

The criteria listed in Part II of Schedule 1 consists of the following:

(i) Historic hedgerow existing before 1850.
(ii) The hedgerow incorporates an archaeological feature.
(iii) The hedgerow contains at least seven woody species, on average, in a 30m length or six woody species plus three associated features (these features include a ditch, bank, three woodland species on the outermost metre of the hedgerow, etc), on average, in a 30m length or at least five woody species and at least four associated features, on average, in a 30m length.

2.0 Methodology

In order to assess the existing ecological interest within the areas for survey, an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was undertaken. Habitat surveys were undertaken between 11th August 2008 and 17th October 2008. It should be noted that September and October are not the optimum time of year to carry out comprehensive ecological assessments, however the studies undertaken are sufficiently robust for the purposes of this exercise.

Three members of staff surveyed a total area of 1872.8 hectares over 39 different parcels of land. Each parcel was assessed on its habitat quality and recommendations for further surveys. Although a full species survey was not commissioned as it is not necessary at this strategic level, habitats have been assessed on their potential to support protected species and non protected species.

2.1 Pre Survey Desk Top Analysis

A pre-survey desktop study involved producing a map for each parcel with the 2007 HBA habitat data to illustrate the current habitat status for each parcel (figure i).

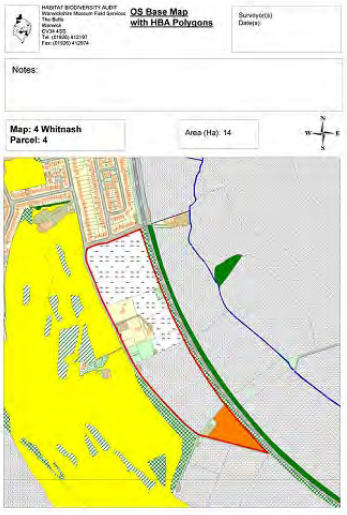

Figure (i)

This was to identify which areas needed to be surveyed in more detail due to the possibility of these areas having a high biodiversity value. A map for each parcel was created to illustrate the location of the existing target notes (Figure ii) with a sheet detailing these existing target notes.

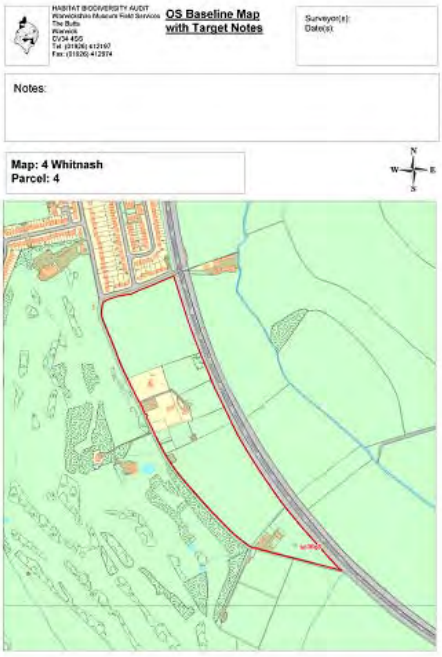

Figure (ii)

These maps were accompanied by a map illustrating the boundaries of pLWS/SINCs and LWS/SINCs that are within the vicinity of the parcel boundary (Figure iii). These maps were used for annotation and illustration in the field and for a final write up (Figure iv). A full set of maps for each relevant parcel was distributed to the surveyors.

Figure (iii)

Figure (iv)

The scale of each map is different to allow for each full parcel to fit on A4 paper and still allow a level of detail required for these surveys.

2.2 Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

To assess the ecological interest within the areas of survey, an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was conducted (JNCC, 1993) between 11th August 2008 and 17th October 2008. A total of 39 parcels of land were surveyed with a total area of 1872.8 hectares. The habitat of each parcel was assessed and classified using Phase 1 habitat codes. This is a standard technique for classifying and mapping British habitats. The aim was to provide a record of habitats that are likely to be ecologically important. The time of year during which the surveys were conducted was not optimum for executing an extended Phase 1 habitat survey. The grasslands should be surveyed during June or July to fully assess the quality and diversity of the habitat. Woodlands should be surveyed between April and June to ascertain the full biodiversity value of the habitat, however the studies are sufficiently robust for the purposes of this exercise.

The surveys provided a level of detail that more closely resembled a Phase 2 habitat survey. Numerous target notes enabled the habitats to be described fully with associated species lists. Botanical species were given a DAFOR (D = Dominant, A = Abundant, F = Frequent, O = Occasional and R = Rare) code to represent the specimens frequency within the habitats. For each parcel, a map was given the representative colour codes for the Phase 1 habitat codes and therefore updating the current HBA data for that parcel. A full set of target note annotations represented by numbers on the map was produced for each parcel. A full species list broken down into habitat types or areas of the parcel was produced to accompany the annotations. The full annotations and species lists can be found within the appendices. Each parcel was then analysed looking at its potential to support protected and non protected species, its ecological value, connectivity and linkage potential, LBAP habitats and proximity to potential Local Wildlife Sites/pSINCs and designated Local Wildlife Sites/SINCs.

During the Phase 1 Habitat Survey, the presence, or potential presence of protected species was also recorded as well as suitability for a range of wildlife. Watercourses were considered for their potential for water vole and otter habitat, however, tracks and signs were not specifically surveyed. Badger activity ranging from tracks to active badger setts were noted during surveys but this does not constitute a definitive survey. Trees and some buildings were visually assessed (mainly from a distance) for their potential to support bats and nesting birds. However all buildings, woodlands and mature trees have the potential to support bats and a full survey is recommended before any development occurs. Full details on the presence of any protected species would need to be obtained from the Warwickshire Biological Records Office and any data on badgers will only be supplied for a 1km radius unless specifically negotiated.

Recommendations for further surveys were suggested as well as suggested mitigation and protection. Any buffer zones put in place for trees and woodlands are primarily for the protection of the habitat however this is also a

protection for Health & Safety reasons. Buffer zones will vary depending on the quality of the habitat, the sensitivity to disturbance or pollution and whether the habitat supports any protected species.

Hedgerows were surveyed with particular emphasis on whether they were species rich or of ecological importance. Due to the time restrictions and the number of hedgerows per parcel the full ancient hedgerow criteria was not applied for each hedgerow. Hedgerows that appeared to have some qualities that are within those criteria were noted as species rich and should be considered to have a high biodiversity value.

The full citations for these eight pLWS/SINCs will be available after the LWS/SINC panel meetings to ascertain the designation of these sites. Six of the eight pLWS/SINCs are either adjacent or within a parcel boundary while the remaining two were surveyed before the commission of this project in August 2008.

A total of eight pLWS/SINCs were surveyed in addition to the forty parcels between July and October 2008:

1. Woodloes Farm SP26Y2
2. Black Waste Wood SP27S2
3. The Pools Wood SP27X2
4. The Runghills SP36N1
5. Oakley and Wiggerland Wood SP35E1
6. Harbury Lane Verge SP36F2
7. Baginton Castle Fields SP37H1
8. Thickthorn Wood SP37A3

Watercourses:
It should be noted that a specific set of criteria has been developed by the HBA Wildlife Sites Partnership Linear Sites Group for linear pLWS/SINC sites that are watercourses, which is being tested against rivers currently (2008). Initial tests against survey data suggest that these criteria identify the key elements required, and that pLWS/SINC watercourses are likely to meet the criteria and be approved as LWS/SINC sites.

3.0 Maps and Parcels of Land

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 19/09/08

Notes:

Map: 1 Woodside Farm, Whitnash

Area (ha): 12

3.1 Map 1 Woodside Farm, Whitnash

Area: 12ha

Overview
This small parcel of land contains three arable fields with intact and defunct hedgerows, buildings, hard standing and mature trees. There is a small section of semi natural broad leaved woodland in the South West corner.

Key Features
Semi-natural broad leaved woodland
Mature hedgerows
Mature oaks

Habitat Description
The parcel of land is dominated by arable with two dividing hedgerow boundaries and surrounding hedgerows. A large proportion of the hedgerows are defunct residential boundaries, many of which contain non native species. The intact hedgerows range from hawthorn dominant to mature species rich (ID#1,4), which are valuable for a range of wildlife particularly nesting farmland birds and also act as green corridors for many animals. Wildlife corridors are important as they act as a link for wildlife moving to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats.

The mature oaks within the parcel provide suitable habitat for many species and have the potential to support roosting bats. To the South West there is a small area of oak and ash dominated semi natural broadleaved woodland (ID#6) with woodland associated ground flora. The woodland, although small, is still valuable for many animals such as birds, invertebrates, bats and badgers.

Recommendations for Further Survey
A further survey will be required for the small section of woodland in April – June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

It is recommended that the potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#1,4) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

A desktop study and survey should be completed to determine the presence of badgers within the parcel. Necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found to be present within the parcel.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. There are several mature trees within this parcel that are suitable for bat roost sites. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter deems them a European

Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The small section of woodland is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 metres around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. New areas of tree planting should compensate for the loss of the scattered trees within the parcel. All planting should be native and sourced locally. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel would need to consider the area of woodland and have suitable mitigation for any hedgerow losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 10 + 16/10/08

Notes:

Map: 2 Land West of Radford Semele

Area (ha): 52.1

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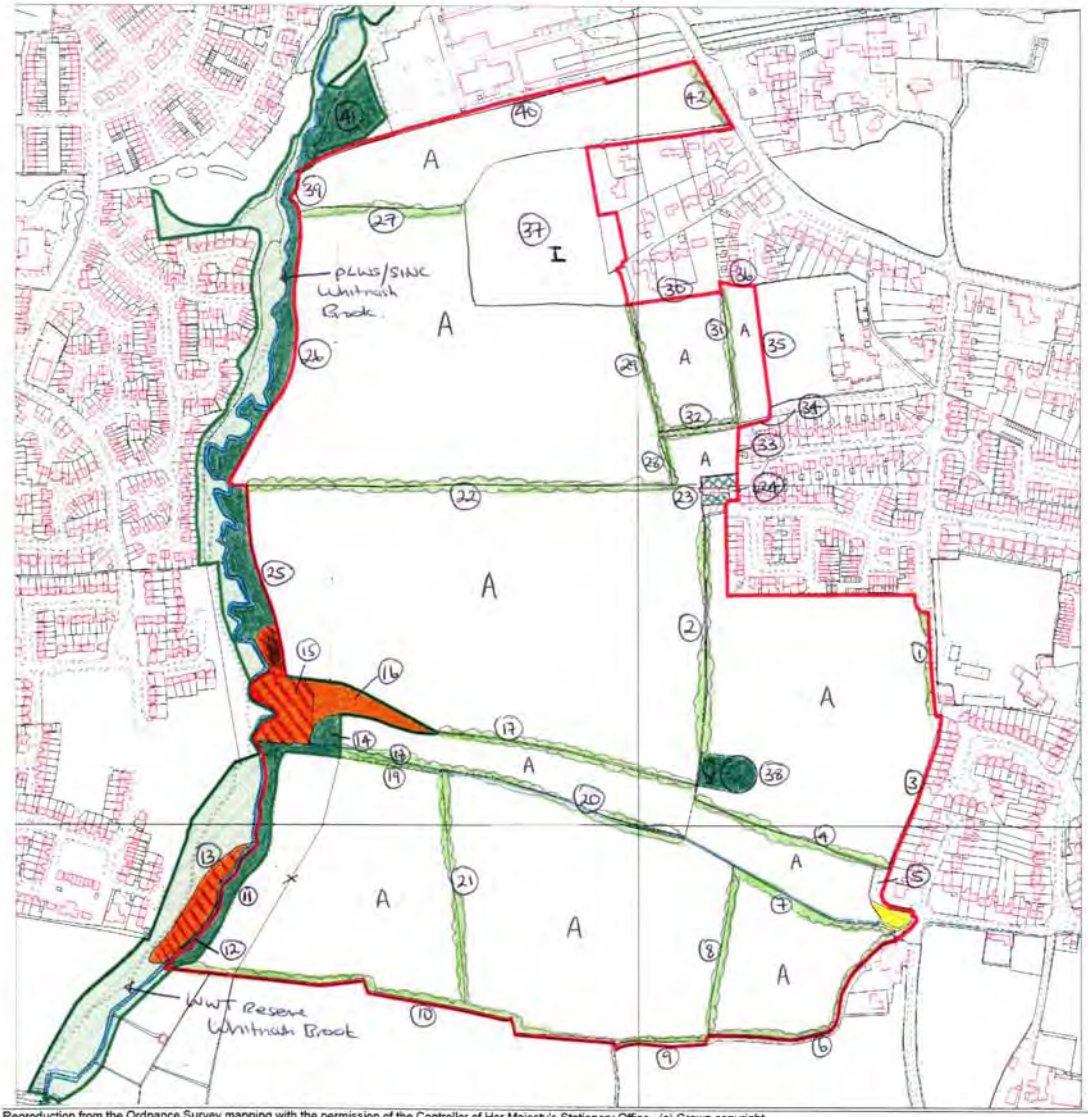

3.2 Map 2 Land West of Radford Semele

Area: 52.1ha

Overview
This parcel of land is dominated by arable with a mix of species poor and species rich hedgerows and associated mature trees. The Western edge of the parcel contains the most ecologically interesting areas that contained within the linear pLWS (Whitnash Brook SP36G1). The areas within Whitnash Brook SP36G1 include woodland and marshy grassland with a range of interesting wetland species.

Key Features
Marshy grassland and associated swamp
Mature species rich hedgerows
Whitnash Brook with good aquatic vegetation
Semi natural broadleaved woodland (within pLWS/SINC)
Mature trees with bat potential
Badger activity

Habitat description
The majority of map 2 is dominated by arable with boundary hedgerows. Some of the hedgerows are mature and species rich (ID#2,7,10,17,20,22,27,29,42) which are of most ecological significance. However all the hedgerows should be perceived as valuable habitat for wildlife as they create a network of wildlife corridors, through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other important habitats such as the woods, grasslands and wetlands. The mature trees are suitable habitat for a range of wildlife and many have potential for roosting bats. A small area of isolated woodland (ID#38) with a mix of native and non native trees species provides habitat for birds, bats and badgers, however due to its size and isolation the number of species and populations it can support may be limited.

The areas of marshy grassland and semi improved grassland within the Whitnash Brook SP36G1 (ID#15,16,13) are of ecological value as they are important habitats for a number of bird species and invertebrates especially butterflies. Characteristic butterflies include common blue, orange tip and meadow brown. Many species of bees, flies, wasps, beetles, bugs and moths will also use these grassland habitats.

Whitnash Brook has some interesting aquatic vegetation (ID#12) and these habitats are sensitive to any disturbance or changes in hydrology. Whitnash Brook is an important corridor for many species of flora and fauna and also has potential to support protected species such as water voles. The scrubby woodland lining the brook (ID#11,26) contains a range of native tree species with a typical ground flora for this habitat and provides good habitat for a range of wildlife. Evidence of badger activity was noted during the survey.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The Linear pLWS/SINC Whitnash Brook SP36G1 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria preferably between June and July.

The areas of semi improved grassland and marshy grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the sites. A study of the hydrology for these areas of grassland will need to be completed to analyse the potential effects of development on the biodiversity of this sensitive habitat. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

Whitnash Brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

A further survey will be required for the areas of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#2,7,10,17,20,22,27,29,42) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

A desktop study and survey should be completed to determine the presence of badgers within the parcel. Necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found to be present within the parcel.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. There are several mature trees within the parcel that have potential to support bat roosts. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The Linear pLWS/SINC should be retained and a buffer zone implemented either side of the watercourse and around the areas of grassland to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site. Whitnash Brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected. The buffer zone for this habitat is therefore dependent on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The woodland strip lining the Whitnash Brook is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from

development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Development within this parcel has potential to limit the effectiveness of Whitnash Brook acting as a green corridor for wildlife moving around the perimeter of the urban area. Development within this parcel could prevent further migration from the South into and out of the high biodiversity area to the North of the parcel contained within the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve (Leam Valley).

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OS Base Survey Map

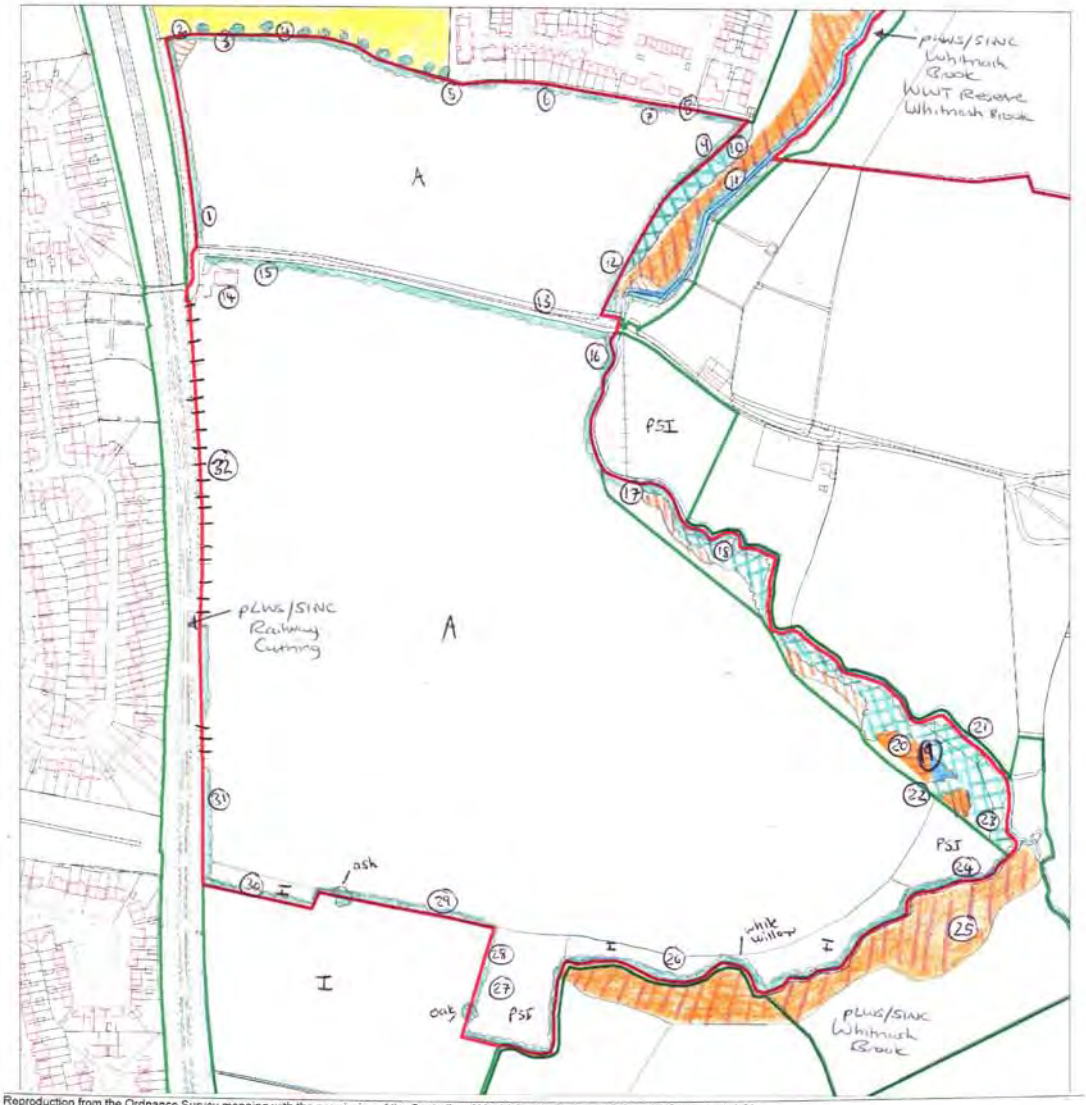
Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 22/09/08

Notes:

Map: 3 Land South of Sydenham

Area (ha): 33.1

N W E S



3.3 Map 3 Land South of Sydenham

Area: 33.1ha

Overview
Map 3 consists of two arable fields bordered by Whitnash Brook and continuous scrub to the East with defunct and intact hedgerows. The adjacent fields contain areas of good quality marshy grassland that are included in the linear pLWS/SINC Whitnash Brook SP36G1. Adjoining the North of the parcel there is a Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve Whitnash Brook LNR.

Key Features
Adjoining Wildlife Trust Reserve Whitnash Brook LNR (2km stretch)
Linear potential Local Wildlife Site/SINC Whitnash Brook SP36G1
Marshy grassland
Hedgerows
Mature oaks
Reed bed
Scrub and trees

Habitat description
The parcel of land is dominated by arable with intact and defunct hedgerows of which the majority are hawthorn dominant. The hedgerows act as important corridors for wildlife moving to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats. The continuous scrub lining the stream (ID#11,16,18,26) provides suitable habitat for a range of birds and invertebrates. Whitnash brook has a high biodiversity value as it provides connectivity between the green spaces in an urban area for many species and has the potential to support protected species such as water voles.

Areas of marshy grassland towards the South of the parcel (ID#20) are of significant ecological value and the associated reed-bed provides good habitat for birds. Mature trees within the parcel are valuable for biodiversity and provide suitable habitat for roosting bats. To the North East of the parcel adjoins a Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve Whitnash Brook LNR (ID#10) and a linear potential Local Wildlife Site Whitnash Brook SP36G1 and these areas are of significant ecological value. The reserve is noted for its invertebrates found in decaying wood within the brook. The marshy grassland within these areas has a good floristic diversity which is sensitive to any disturbance and changes in hydrology. The areas of marshy grassland outside the boundary of the Southern half of the parcel (ID#25) are also species rich and provide good habitat for wildlife particularly invertebrates.

Towards the Southern section of the parcel there are very wide field margins (ID#22,27) which provide an important refuge for any wildflowers. The field margins provide buffer strips between agricultural operations and the sensitive riparian and marshy habitats. The margins provide valuable wildlife corridors for a range of species including invertebrates, birds, small mammals, reptiles

and amphibians. Invertebrate species including butterflies, grasshoppers, solitary wasps, and bees are also attracted to field margins.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The Linear pLWS/SINC Whitnash Brook SP36G1 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria preferably between June and July.

Whitnash Brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of semi improved grassland and marshy grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. It is recommended that they hydrology of the marshy grassland and watercourse are assessed in order to analyse the effects that any development may have on the biodiversity of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the scrubby woodland lining the brook and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
It is essential that Whitnash Brook LNR is retained and a considerable buffer zone is designated and implemented, with appropriate management of the buffer zone to meet objectives of the reserve.

The Linear pLWS/SINC Whitnash Brook SP36G1 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site. The brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat therefore depends on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

It is recommended that hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Development within this parcel would need to consider the sensitivity of the riparian and wetland habitats. Considerable buffer zones would need to be implemented and managed to reduce any major biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

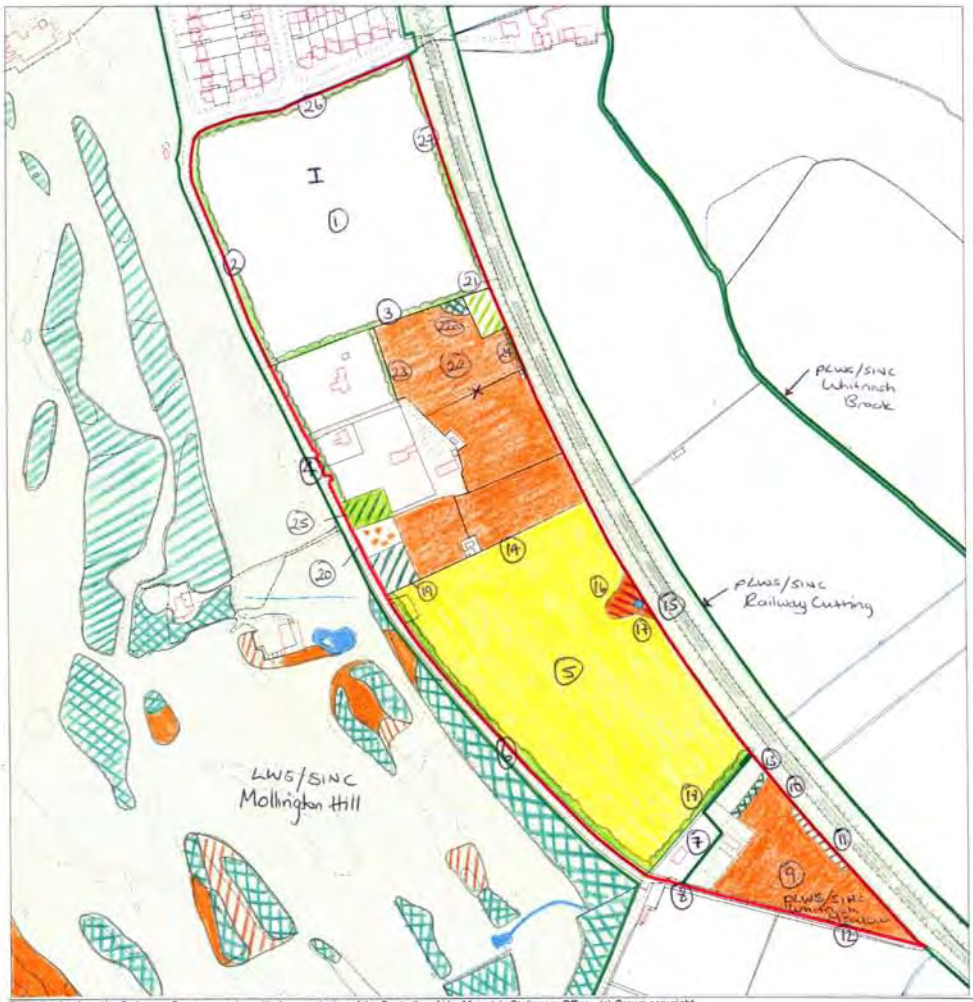
Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 29/09/08

Notes:

Map: 4 Golf Lane/Fieldgate Lane, Whitnash

Area (ha): 14

N W E S



3.4 Map 4 Golf Lane/Fieldgate Lane, Whitnash

Area: 14ha

Overview
Map 4 is comprised of a grassland mosaic ranging from amenity to species rich calcareous semi improved. There are mature species rich hedgerows as well as less diverse hedgerows. Small blocks of mixed, broad leaved and coniferous plantations are found within the middle section of the parcel. The parcel contains a potential Local Wildlife Site/SINC that is of Local Wildlife Site/SINC standard, a Local Wildlife Site/SINC adjoining the Western boundary and a Linear pLWS/SINC adjoining the Eastern boundary.

Key features
Calcareous species rich semi improved grassland
Potential Local Wildlife Site within parcel (Whitnash Meadow SP36G2)
Linear potential Local Wildlife Site adjoining Eastern boundary (Railway Cutting SP36K1)
Local Wildlife Site adjoining Western boundary (Mollington Hill SP36G3)
Semi improved grassland
Species rich mature hedgerows
Ridge and furrow
Badger activity
Small pond and marshy grassland
Broad leaved plantation

Habitat description
The North section of Map 4 is improved grassland currently used for sheep grazing with evidence of ridge and furrow which is a characteristic of old pasture. The West boundary of this field is a mature species rich hedgerow (ID#2,4,6) which provides good habitat for nesting birds and as a corridor for wildlife which acts as a link to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats. There is a mature species rich hedgerow to the North of the pLWS/SINC Whitnash Meadow SP36G2 (ID#18) that is of ecological value.

The semi improved grassland (ID#22,9) within the site is fairly species rich, especially the area within the pLWS/SINC Whitnash Meadow SP36G2 as this contains calcareous species and is of Local Wildlife Site quality and would therefore need surveying between June and July to compile a full species list. Calcareous semi-improved grassland typically support a very rich flora and is extremely important for invertebrates particularly butterflies, moths, bees and beetles. Nationally, the cover of calcareous grassland has suffered a sharp decline over the last 50 years and any remaining areas are therefore very ecologically significant. Such grasslands are also highly susceptible to changes in, or cessation of, management. The other areas of species rich semi improved grassland are an important habitat for a range of wildlife particularly invertebrates. Characteristic butterflies include common blue,

orange tip and meadow brown. Many species of bees, flies, wasps, beetles, bugs and moths also need species rich grassland.

The broad leaved plantation (ID#19) contains a good range of native trees but with minimal ground flora, however this provides habitat for nesting birds and foraging mammals. The mixed plantation (ID#25) and coniferous plantation (ID#21) are of lower value due to the number of non-native trees. The water body and surrounding marshy grassland (ID#16,17) within the amenity grassland provide habitat for breeding amphibians and therefore would require a full amphibian survey at the appropriate time of year.

The Local Wildlife Site Mollington Hill SP36G3 to the West of the parcel has areas of species rich calcareous grassland, a water body with rare aquatic flora, plantations and scrub. Although the site is a golf course the habitat still supports a varied flora and also has potential for a diverse invertebrate population.

Recommendations for Further Survey

The pLWS/SINC Whitnash Meadow SP36G2 and the Linear pLWS/SINC Railway Cutting SP36K1 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between June and July.

All the areas of semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

It is recommended that the potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#2,4,6) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

The pond within the parcel (ID#16,17) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the pond will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development will not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality or affect the surrounding marshy grassland.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, plantation woodlands and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The pLWS/SINC Whitnash Meadow SP36G2 and Linear pLWS/SINC Railway Cutting SP36K1 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites. The relatively rare calcareous grassland within the pLWS/SINC Whitnash Meadow and the other areas of

semi improved grassland should be retained and buffered to prevent impact from run off and changes to hydrology affecting the site. A management plan should be written and implemented for these grasslands to maintain their biodiversity value.

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The pond (ID#16,17) within the amenity grassland is a valuable habitat and therefore should be retained with a buffer zone that will suitably protect its biodiversity value.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

This parcel of land has a high biodiversity value and the loss of this biodiversity through development would be a great loss. The majority of this parcel is unfavourable for development due to the proportion of ecologically significant habitats.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 16 + 18/09/08

Notes:

Map: 5 Lower Heathcote Farm and Adjoining Land

Area (ha): 143.9

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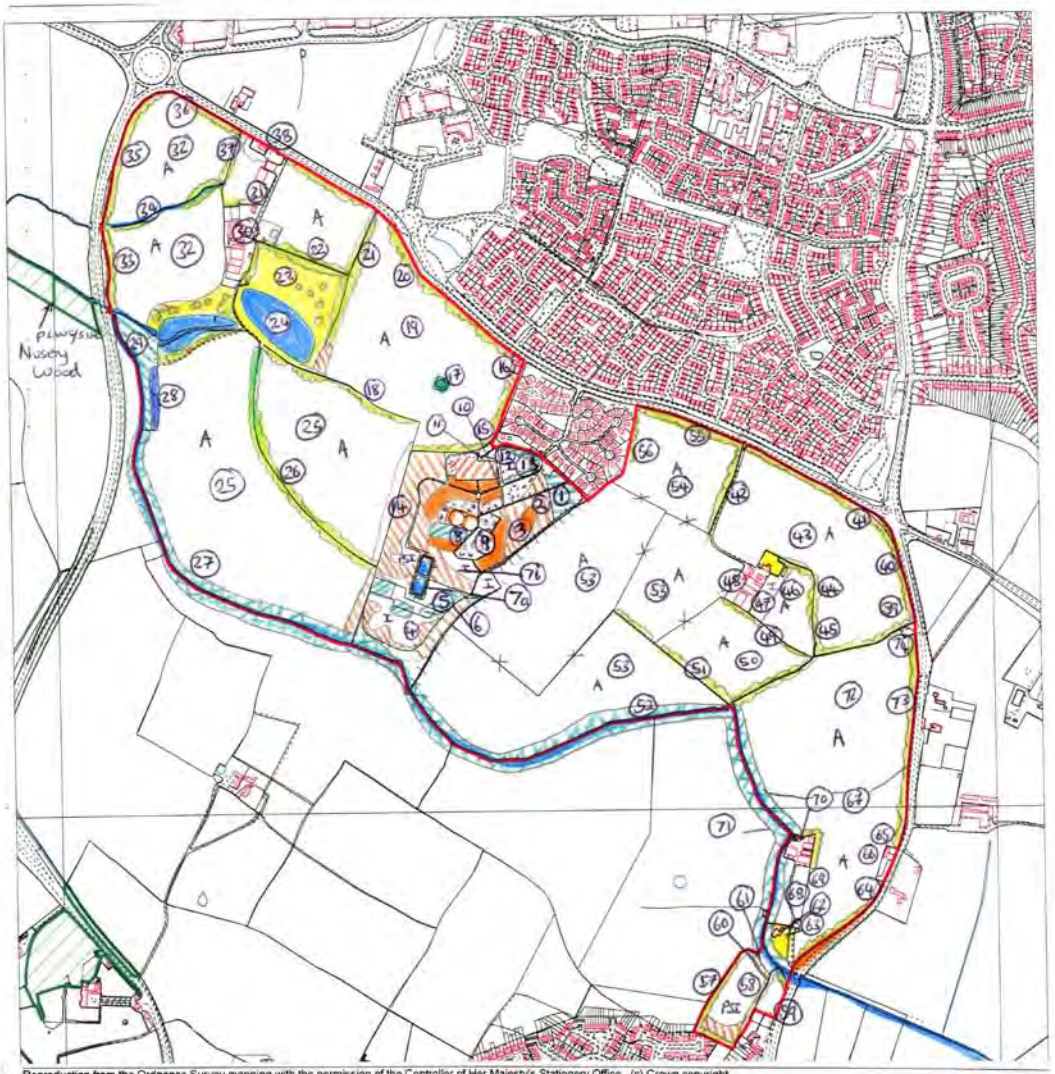

3.5 Map 5 Lower Heathcote Farm and Adjoining Land

Area: 143.9ha

Overview
Map 5 contains a large proportion of arable and hedgerows with a small watercourse (Tach Brook) running along the Southern boundary. The middle section of the parcel is a disused water treatment site that is an undisturbed mosaic of tall ruderal, semi improved grassland and broadleaved plantation. Two large fishing lakes are situated within amenity grassland in the Northern section.

Key Features
Tach Brook with continuous scrub
Poor semi improved grassland and semi improved grassland
Undisturbed areas on disused Severn Trent site
Hedgerows
Large ponds
Mature trees

Habitat description
The majority of Map 5 is arable with a number of boundary hedgerows. The hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors, through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link other the important habitats such as the ponds, grasslands and watercourse. The hedgerows are fairly species rich (ID#15,18,20,21,22,26,34,36,37,40,42,45,49,55,57,73) and provide suitable habitat for a range of wildlife for nesting or foraging purposes.

One of the most significant aspects of this site is the scrub and tree lined watercourse (Tach Brook) that runs along the entire length of the Southern boundary. This watercourse provides good habitat for many species and has the potential to support protected species such as water vole or otter. The two large fishing lakes (ID#24) are situated very close to the watercourse and could therefore be used by foraging otters. The lakes also provide habitat for invertebrates and amphibians although due to the presence and population of fish this may be limited.

At the very Southern tip of the parcel there is a small field of unmanaged poor semi improved grassland (ID#58) surrounded by unmanaged hedgerows. This grassland provides suitable habitat for small mammals and reptiles. The disused water treatment site within the centre of the parcel (ID#1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9) is a mosaic of undisturbed habitats providing suitable habitat for a range of wildlife particularly reptiles, small mammals and birds. There are numerous mature trees within the parcel that are valuable for many species and have the potential to support roosting bats.

Recommendations for Further Survey
Tach Brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#15,18,20,21,22,26,34,36,37,40,42,45,49,55,57,73) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

The fishing lakes within the parcel (ID#24) will need to be surveyed for invertebrates and amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the two lakes will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the lakes water levels or water quality.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

Tach Brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The lakes should be retained and a buffer zone be implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the lakes and the size of the buffer will affected depending on the presence or absence of otters.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

This parcel of land contains multiple areas with high biodiversity and these areas (Lakes, grassland, scrub, watercourse) should be retained to prevent any major biodiversity losses. The linkage provided by Tach Brook should be retained with large buffer zones in order to prevent any restriction of connectivity with the surrounding landscape.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 30/09/08

Notes:

Map: 6 Bishops Tachbrook

Area (ha): 115.7

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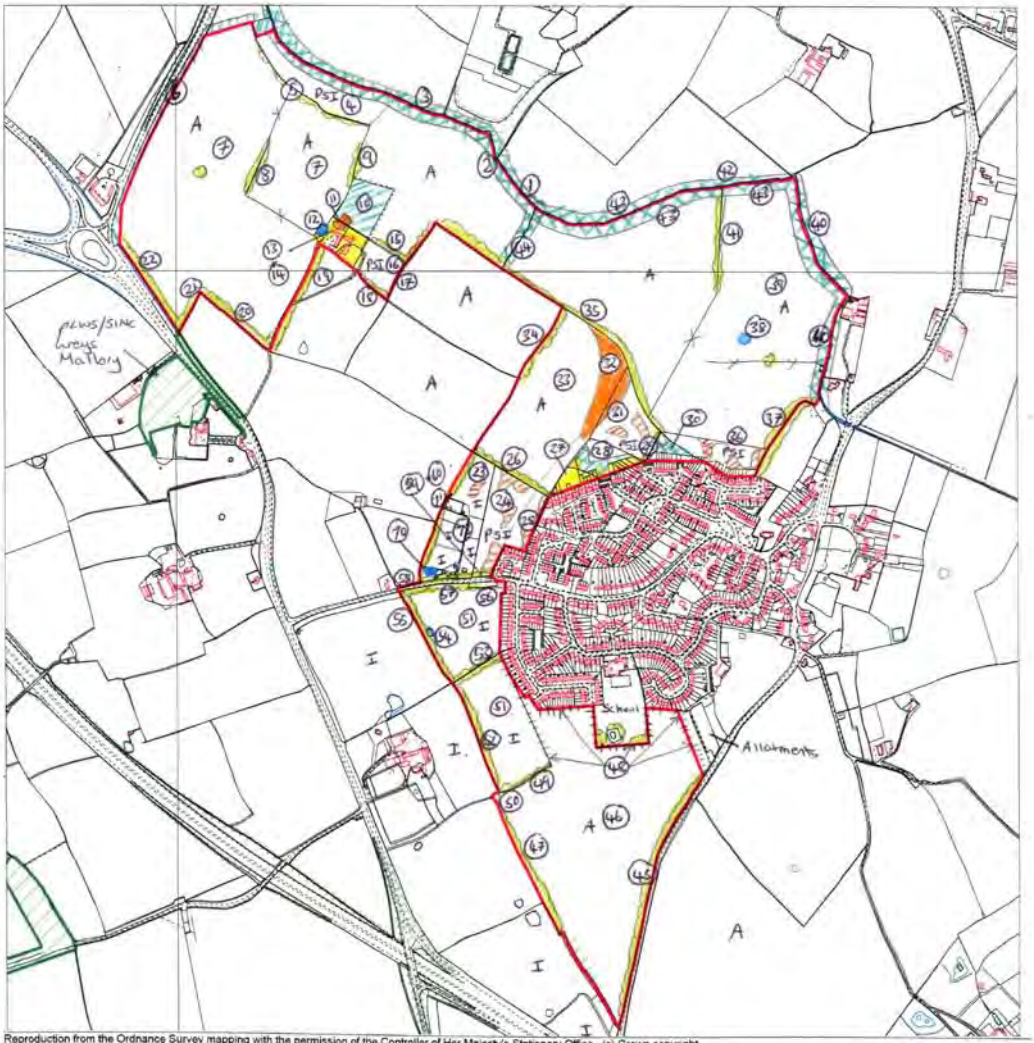

3.6 Map 6 Bishops Tachbrook

Area: 115.7ha

Overview
Map 6 is predominately arable with hedgerows, improved grassland and small areas of poor semi improved and semi improved grassland. The same watercourse (Tach Brook) that forms the Southern boundary of parcel 5 forms the Northern boundary for parcel 6. There two ponds and remains of old ponds that have been colonised by vegetation.

Key Features
Scrub and tree lined watercourse (Tach Brook)
Semi improved grassland and poor semi improved grassland with tall ruderal
Ponds
Hedgerows
Mature trees
Broad leaved plantation

Habitat description
This parcel of land is dominated by arable, improved grassland and hedgerows. The hedgerows are more diverse in the Southern end of the parcel (ID#29,35,37) compared to the northern section. However all hedgerows are valuable to wildlife by providing suitable nesting habitat for farmland birds and corridors for a range of wildlife. There are numerous mature trees within the parcel that offer suitable habitat for many species including potential for roosting bats.

Tach Brook forms the Northern boundary of the parcel and provides a good corridor for wildlife and also has the potential to support protected species such as water voles. The ponds within the parcel (ID#12,38,70) offer suitable habitat for breeding amphibians however two ponds have become overgrown with vegetation or leaf litter which may lower their potential.

The small parcel of broadleaved plantation (ID#10) is still very immature therefore it has a medium to low biodiversity value. When mature it will provide suitable habitat for a range of wildlife. However due to its size and relative isolation its suitability may be limited to only small populations and a lower species diversity due to the edge effect. The areas of poor semi improved and semi improved grassland are not intensively managed and therefore provide suitable habitat for small mammals, reptiles and invertebrates.

Recommendations for Further Survey
Tach Brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of semi improved grassland and poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical

interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

All the ponds within the parcel (ID#12,38,70) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#29,35,37) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

Tach Brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The ponds within the parcel should be retained with a suitable buffer zone implemented to protect the ponds biodiversity value.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. The size of these buffer zones will depend upon the presence or absence of protected species. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

There are multiple areas of ecological interest within this parcel and these areas should be retained to maximise the biodiversity interest within this area of land. Any development within this parcel should not impact on the effectiveness of the brook acting as a green corridor.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): M E
Date(s): 22/9/08

Notes:

Map: 7 Gallows Hill/Europa Way

Area (ha): 110.9

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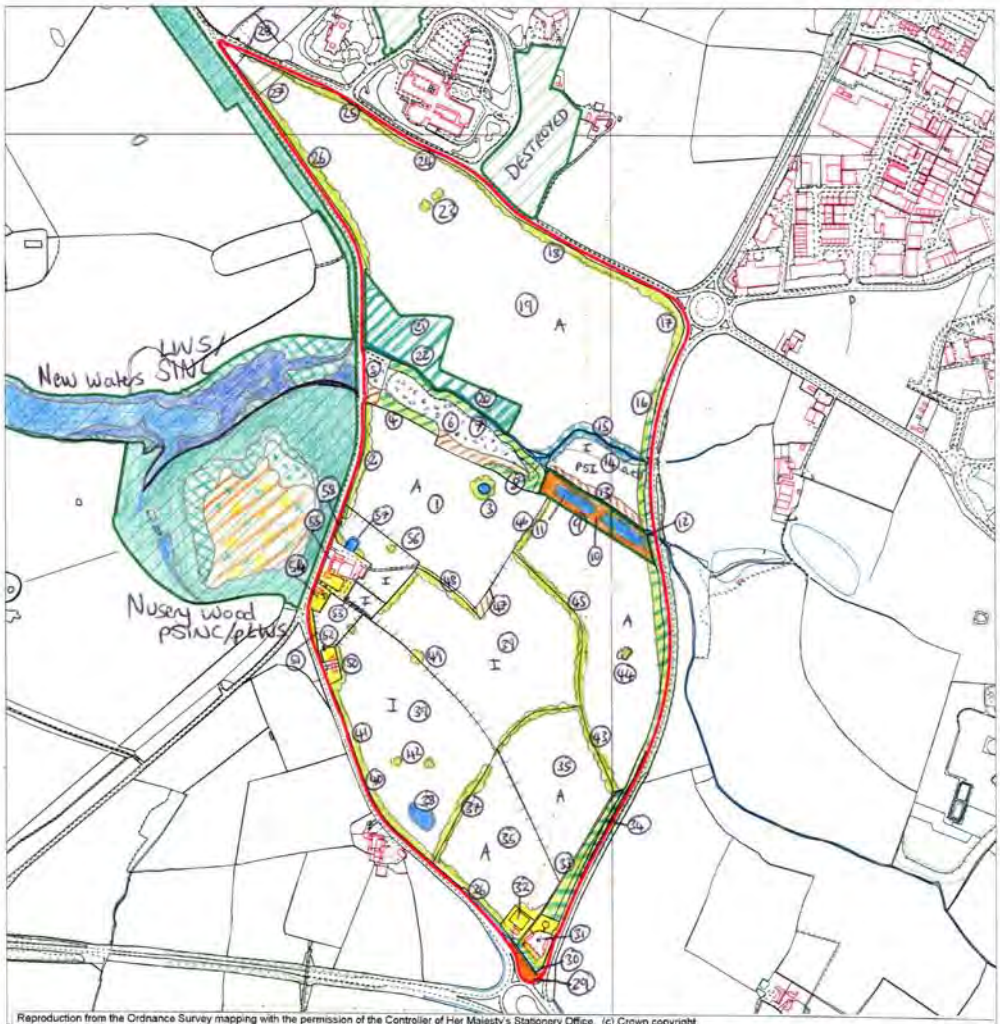

3.7 Map 7 Gallows Hill/Europa Way

Area: 110.9ha

Overview
Map 7 is comprised of arable, improved grassland, hedgerows, linear scrub and mature trees. The Northern section is separated by a scrub and tree lined watercourse (Tach Brook) and a section of plantation, waste ground, semi improved grassland and two water bodies. The parcel contains a pLWS/SINC Nursery Wood SP26W1 which extends outside the parcel boundary and LWS/SINC New Waters SP26W1 adjacent to the parcel on the Western boundary.

Key Features
Adjacent LWS/SINC New Waters SP26W1
pLWS/SINC Nursery Wood SP26W1 within and adjacent to the parcel
Semi improved grassland
Tach Brook with scrub and trees
Waste ground suitable for reptiles
Ponds
Hedgerows
Mature trees

Habitat description
The majority of this parcel of land is arable and improved grassland. The hedgerows and mature trees provide good habitat for wildlife especially nesting birds and potential for roosting bats. The hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors, through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link other the important habitats such as the woods, ponds, grasslands and neighbouring wetlands.

The ponds within the parcel (ID#38,57,11) provide suitable habitat for breeding amphibians. The section of plantation that is part of the larger pLWS/SINC Nursery Wood SP26W1 (ID#21,22,20) provides good habitat for a range of wildlife. Evidence of badger activity within the parcel was noted during the survey. Tach Brook (ID#15) is an important corridor for wildlife as well as having the potential to support protected species such as water voles and otters.

The areas of waste ground and semi improved grassland provide suitable habitat for many species such as reptiles, small mammals and invertebrates. The adjacent LWS is a large water body and reed bed that would be sensitive to any disturbance or changes in hydrology. The pLWS (Nursery wood) has the potential to support protected species such as bats and badgers that may use the parcel for foraging. New Waters SP26W1 LWS/SINC and Nursery Wood SP26W1 pLWS/SINC were surveyed on 15th November 2007. New Waters SP26W1 was selected as a LWS/SINC on 18th March 2008 and Nursery Wood SP29W1 was deferred until further sections of the pLWS/SINC could be surveyed in conjunction (the section of pLWS/SINC within the parcel

was not surveyed on 15th November 2007 due a problem with access permission).

Recommendations for Further Survey

The pLWS/SINC Nursery Wood SP26W1 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between April and July. The LWS/SINC New Waters SP26W1 should have a full hydrology survey to establish the effects of development upon the reed bed and water body.

The areas of semi improved grassland and poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

Tach Brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The pLWS/SINC Nursery Wood SP26W1 and LWS/SINC New Waters SP26W1 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites.

Tach Brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The woodlands are of biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around the sites. This is to prevent damage to the woodland sites from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

All the ponds within the parcel (ID#38,57,11) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

It is recommended that hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on protecting the section of most ecological significance within the pLWS/SINC and surrounding grasslands and ponds. Tach brook is an important linkage with the surrounding landscape and should therefore be retained with suitable buffer zones to minimise disturbance. Development within this parcel could cut off the area of green space North of the parcel from the surrounding landscape, which would reduce the areas potential for biodiversity.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 08/09/08 + 10/09/08

Notes:

Map: 8 Land West of Europa Way

Area (ha): 67.6

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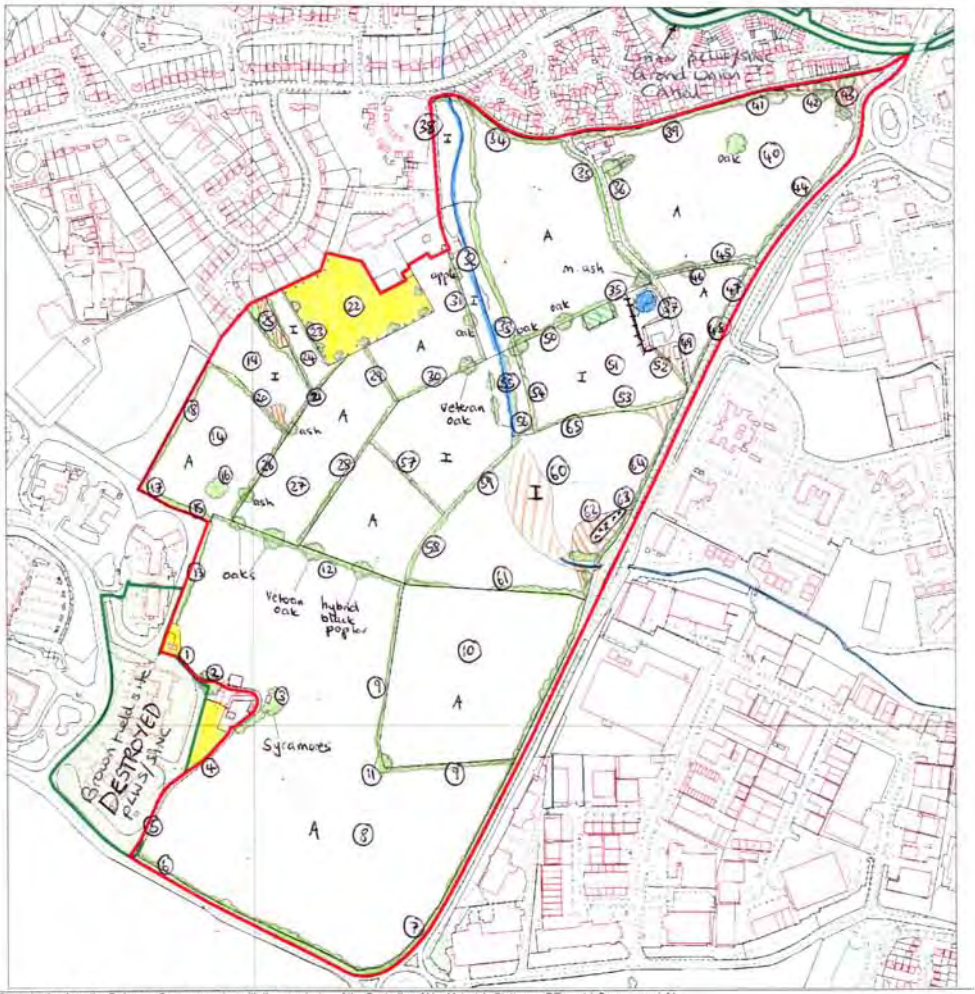

3.8 Map 8 Land West of Europa Way

Area: 67.6ha

Overview
This is an arable dominated parcel of land with a mix of species rich and species poor hedgerows. Mature trees with good bat potential are found throughout. There is a brook running from North to South with diverse and interesting flora. There are five fields containing floristically poor improved grassland and two with prominent ridge and furrow. There is a large pond with good great crested newt potential. The neighbouring pLWS/SINC Brownfield Site SP26W2 has been developed.

Key Features
Brook with diverse aquatic vegetation
Large amphibian breeding pond with diverse aquatic vegetation
Veteran oak
Mature trees with bat potential
Old overgrown orchard
Ridge and furrow
Species rich hedgerows
pLWS/SINC Brownfield Site SP26W2 that has been developed on

Habitat description
The majority of Map 8 is arable with boundary hedgerows. Some of the hedgerows are mature and species rich (ID#6,7,26,28,36,57,58) which are of ecological value, however all the hedgerows should be perceived as valuable habitat for wildlife. The hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors, through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other important habitats such as the watercourse, pond and grasslands. There are many mature trees and a couple of veteran trees (ID#30,12) which are valuable for wildlife and have the potential to support roosting bats. Veteran trees are significant in the range of other species they support and in their level of oxygen production compared to younger trees.

The areas of improved grassland are floristically poor, however two fields (ID#51,56) have prominent ridge and furrow which is a characteristic feature of old pasture. The linear scrub within the parcel provides good habitat for nesting birds and a range of bird species were noted using this habitat.

The most significant area of ecological interest is the brook (ID#32) and large pond (ID#37) and the associated aquatic vegetation. The species lining the stream are diverse and represent a natural habitat with little disturbance. The pond is large and has mostly native aquatic vegetation. The pond is suitable for breeding amphibians including great crested newts, it also supports a range of invertebrates. The adjacent pLWS/SINC Brownfield Site SP26W2 has been destroyed by development therefore no longer supports the ecological interest it once had.

Recommendations for Further Survey
It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#6,7,26,28,36,57,58) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the extent of their biodiversity value.

The pond within the parcel (ID#37) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the pond will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the water levels or water quality.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

The areas of rank improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within this grassland.

Recommendations
The brook has a high biodiversity value and should have a buffer zone implemented of approx ten metres on each side. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

It is recommended that all the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone and that the less biodiverse hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The pond should be retained with a suitable buffer zone implemented to ensure it retains its biodiversity value. Any buffer zone may need to be extended if great crested newts are found to breeding in the pond.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Some trees may be specifically protected if covered by a local authority Tree Preservation Order or if found to be housing species protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (e.g. all bats and some nesting birds). Section 91 of Planning Policy Statement 9 (ODPM, 2005) states that veteran and other

substantial trees can be important for biodiversity conservation and local planning authorities should consider their nature conservation value and the use of TPOs to protect them, in land use change decisions. The veteran oaks within this parcel (ID#12,30) should therefore be retained with a considerable buffer zone implemented to prevent damage to the tree and for Health & Safety reasons.

The primary areas to focus on retaining within this parcel of land are the water bodies (stream and pond), species rich hedgerows, mature and veteran trees and ridge and furrow.

HABITAT BIODIVERSITY AUDIT
Warwickshire Museum Field Services
The Butts
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OS Baseline Map with Target Notes

Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 18+19/09/08

Notes:

Map: 9 Stratford Road/Longbridge

Area (ha): 56.6

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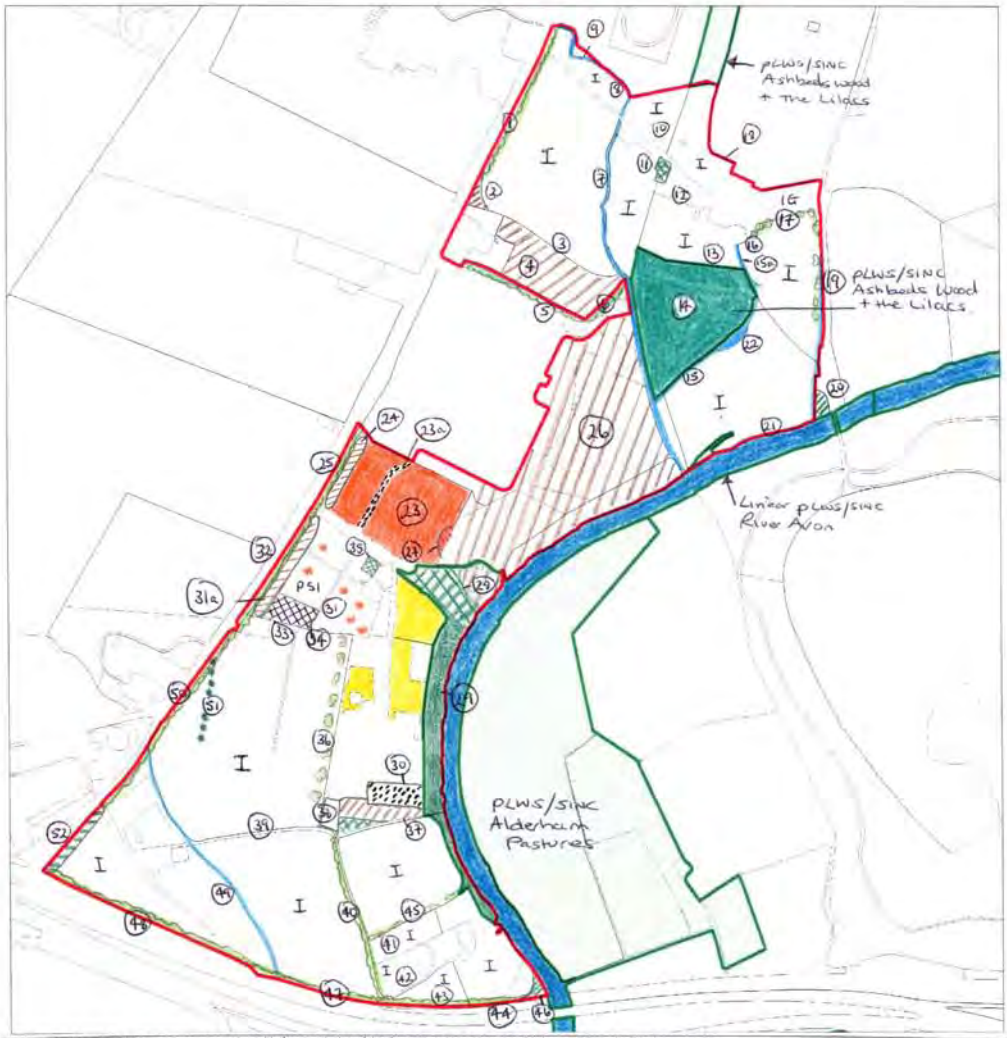

3.9 Map 9 Stratford Road/Longbridge

Area: 56.6ha

Overview
This parcel contains varied habitats however the majority is improved grassland. Large areas are neglected and relatively undisturbed leading to the development of scrub and tall ruderal habitats. Gog Brook dissects the Northern section. The River Avon lies along the Eastern boundary. A section of a pLWS/SINC Alderham Pastures SP26R1 lies within the parcel boundary. The pLWS/SINC Ashbeds Wood and the Lilacs SP26R2 in the North section is of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality. The parcel also contains an area of species rich semi improved grassland.

Key features
pLWS/SINC Ashbeds Wood and the Lilacs SP26R2 semi natural broadleaved woodland with ancient woodland indicators
pLWS/SINC Alderham Pastures SP26R1 partially contained within parcel boundary
River Avon Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li8r
Gog Brook with interesting aquatic vegetation
Good quality semi improved neutral grassland
Neglected areas possible reptile habitat
Mature hedgerows

Habitat description
The majority of Map 9 is improved grassland with relatively few hedgerow boundaries. Some hedgerows are mature and potentially interesting (ID#1,40) while others are species poor and mixed with non native species. The brook (ID#7) provides important linkage for wildlife to the River Avon. The large areas of tall ruderal and scrub (ID#26,28,4) that appear neglected provide suitable habitats for reptiles and birds.

The isolated section of semi natural broadleaved woodland (ID#14) in the North is pLWS/SINC Ashbeds Wood and the Lilacs SP26R2 and appears to be of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality. The woodland is typical woodland type for this area and contains some ancient woodland indicators within the diverse ground flora. This habitat is ecologically important and will support varied wildlife. There is a section of the pLWS/SINC Alderham Pastures SP26R1 within the parcel boundary that consists of semi natural woodland and scrub which have a high biodiversity value. The River Avon along the Eastern boundary is a Linear pLWS/SINC and is an important wildlife corridor and has potential for protected species such as water vole and otter. It is known that otters are active along the length of the River Avon.

The semi improved grassland (ID#23,27) is of good quality and is an important habitat for a range of wildlife particularly invertebrates. Characteristic butterflies include common blue, orange tip and meadow brown. Many sorts of bees, flies, wasps, beetles, bugs and moths also use

species rich grassland such as this. The mature trees within the parcel are valuable for wildlife and have the potential to support roosting bats. The strip of semi natural woodland has diverse species and provides good habitat for wildlife.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The pLWS/SINC Ashbeds Wood and the Lilacs SP26R2, pLWS/SINC Alderham Pastures SP26R1 and Linear pLWS/SINC River Avon SP26Li8r should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between April and July. This will also be a more suitable time of year to establish these sites full biodiversity value.

The sections of the River Avon and Gog Brook will need to be surveyed for water voles and otters, both desk top study for existing records and site surveys to establish current status.

The areas of semi improved grassland and marshy grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within this grassland.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#1,40) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC Ashbeds Wood and the Lilacs SP26R2, pLWS/SINC Alderham Pastures SP26R1 and Linear pLWS/SINC River Avon SP26Li8r should be retained and buffer zones implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites.

The woodland (Ashbeds Wood and the Lilacs) is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The River Avon and Gog Brook are potential water vole and otter habitats and need to be protected by suitable buffer zones. The size of the buffer zones for these linear habitats will depend on the presence or absence of water voles or otters. A management plan for the sections of river and brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of these habitats.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

This parcel of land contains significant areas of ecological value (grasslands and woodland) and is connected to the wider landscape via two watercourses. The River Avon provides excellent opportunities for the declining protected species water voles as well as otters and is therefore a very valuable habitat nationally and locally. In conclusion this parcel has a high level of biodiversity and is therefore unfavourable for development.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 04/10/08

Notes:

Map: 10 Land South of Westham Lane, Barford

Area (ha): 5.2

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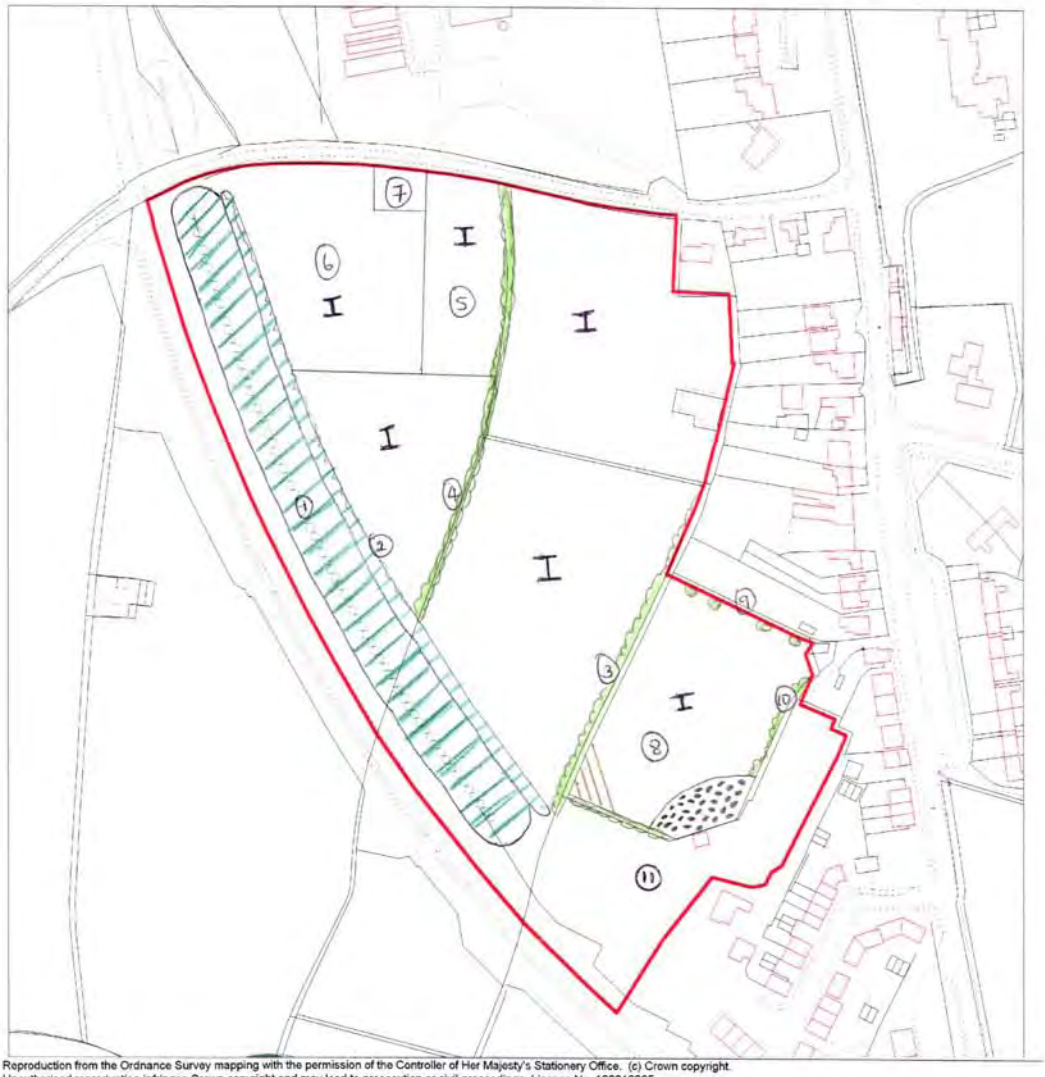

3.10 Map 10 Land South of Westham Lane, Barford

Area: 5.2ha

Overview
This small parcel of land is dominated by improved grassland some of which is intensively managed by grazing, other areas are neglected and overgrown. There are two unmanaged hedgerows and a raised bank comprised of native broad leaf plantation.

Key features
Rank grassland with reptile potential
Hedgerows
Native broad leaved plantation

Habitat description
The majority of Map 10 is grassland that has been improved and is intensively grazed therefore providing minimal ecological value. However there are two areas of unmanaged rank grassland (ID#6,8) that provide suitable habitat for reptiles. There are only a few hedgerows most of which appear unmanaged. One hedgerow contains a diverse number of woody species (ID#3) and is therefore of more significant value. The long strip of native broad leaved plantation when mature will provide habitat for a range of wildlife.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The areas of improved grassland that are not intensively grazed and are overgrown should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerow (ID#3) is subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of its biodiversity value.

A further survey will be required for the plantation woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native

species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development would need to take in to consideration the hedgerows and mature trees. The retention of the broad leaved plantation would minimise any biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 04/10/08

Notes:

Map: 11 Barford East

Area (ha): 5.6

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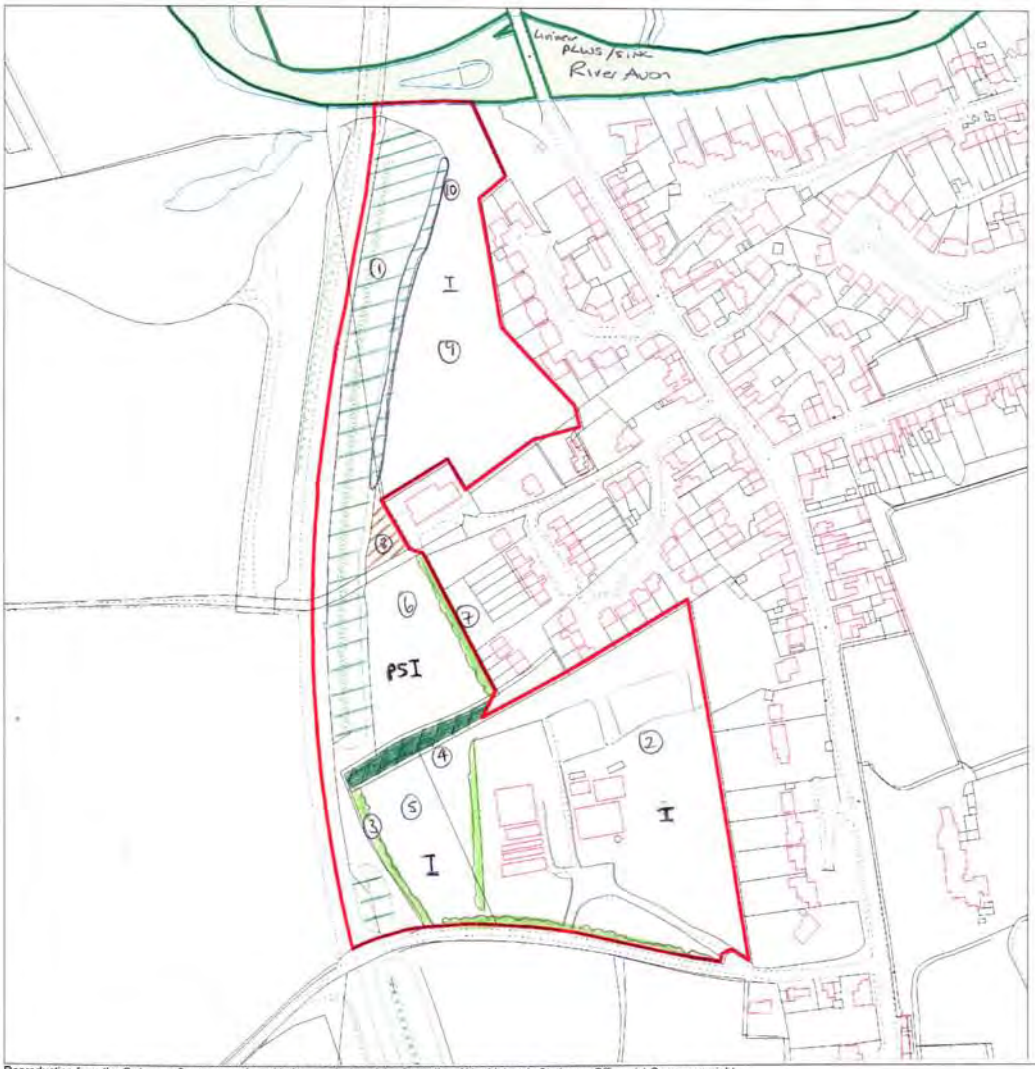

3.11 Map 11 Barford East

Area: 5.6ha

Overview
A large section of Map 11 is the grounds of Barford Nursery which encompasses many areas of hard standing, buildings and improved grassland. The grassland outside of the Nursery's boundaries is not intensively managed but of poor quality. A strip of native broadleaved plantation lies along the Western edge of the parcel. The River Avon Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li8q forms the Northern boundary of the parcel.

Key features
Adjacent River Avon Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li8q
Poor semi improved grassland with potential for reptiles
Hedgerows
Native broadleaved plantation
Mixed plantation

Habitat description
The areas of unmanaged grassland within this parcel of land, although not of high quality, provide suitable habitat for reptiles and invertebrates. The area within the boundary of the Nursery is considered to be of low ecological value due to the frequency of non native vegetation, disturbance and modern buildings. The majority of hedgerows within this parcel are comprised of non native species or have a low woody species diversity, however all hedgerows should be considered important as wildlife corridors. The area of mixed plantation (ID#4) is small and isolated but still provides habitat for birds and other wildlife. The native broadleaved plantation (ID#1) is still immature but has the potential to provide good habitat for a range of wildlife and to act as natural barrier to the main road. The Linear pLWS/SINC River Avon that lies just north of the parcel is ecologically significant and has potential to support protected species such as water voles and otters. Otters are already known to use sections of the River Avon.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The section of the River Avon Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li8q will need to be surveyed for water voles and otters, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of poor semi improved grassland and rank improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

A further survey will be required for the plantation woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The River Avon is potential water vole and otter habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles or otters. A management plan for the river should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

It is recommended that hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should take into consideration the hedgerows and mature trees with an emphasis on retaining the broad leaved plantation and buffering the River Avon. Mitigation is recommended for any losses in poor semi improved grassland.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): 02+04/10/08
Date(s): LW.

Notes:

Map: 12 Barford West

Area (ha): 33.7

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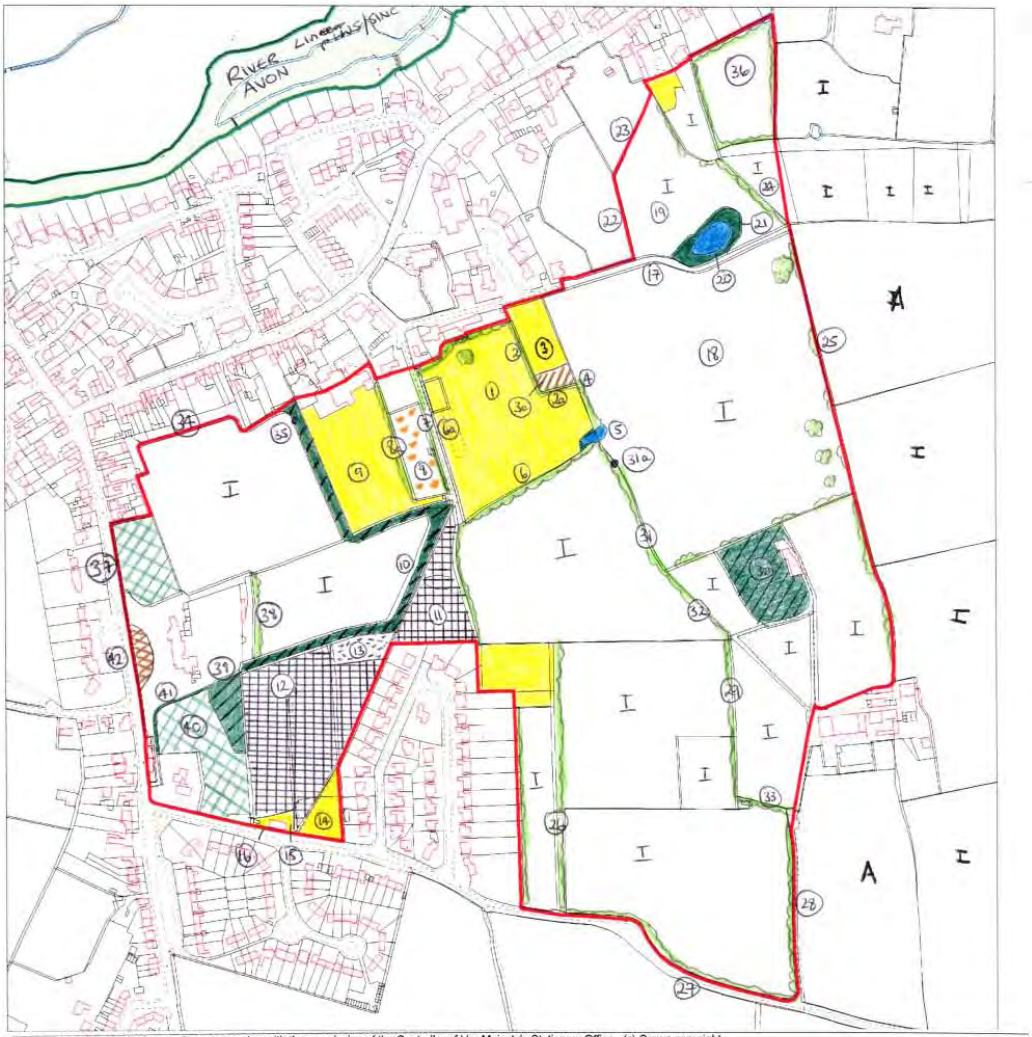

3.12 Map 12 Barford West

Area: 33.7ha

Overview
Map 12 is a complex mix of improved grassland, amenity grassland and plantation woodland most of which is a non native mix. There are many varied hedgerow types including mature species rich as well as non native residential boundaries. There is a veteran oak within one of the hedgerows. There are two areas of standing water suitable for breeding amphibians and a large area of allotments.

Key features
Two ponds with great crested newt potential
Veteran oak
Hedgerows
Mature trees
Semi natural broad leaved woodland surrounding largest pond
Mixed plantations
Scrub with reptile potential

Habitat description
The majority of Map 12 is managed improved grassland with a mix of intact mature hedgerows and defunct non native mix hedgerows. All the hedgerows are considered to be valuable as wildlife corridors and the mature relatively species rich hedgerows (ID#6,7,28,31) are of more significant value. The hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other important habitats such as the woods, ponds and scrub. The areas of improved grassland and amenity grassland have a low ecological value. There are many mature trees within the parcel in a range of species, however the most significant is the veteran oak (ID#31a) within a hedgerow as this a valuable landscape feature and wildlife habitat. Veteran trees are significant in the range of other species they support and in their level of oxygen production compared to younger trees. Many of the trees have potential for bat roosting sites as well as nesting habitat for birds.

The two ponds (ID#20,5) although with minimal aquatic vegetation and heavily shaded should still be considered to be suitable habitat for breeding amphibians. The largest pond (ID#20) is also surrounded by semi natural woodland that has diverse species and provides good habitat for a range of wildlife.

The areas of mixed plantation and broad leaved plantation are comprised of many non native species however they are still valuable habitats for wildlife and the strip provides a woodland corridor. Evidence of badger activity within

the parcel was noted during the survey. The areas of scrub (ID#40) are undisturbed and have potential to support reptiles and nesting birds.

The areas of allotments provide a valuable habitat for many native plants and animals, especially in these urban areas where green space can be limited. Often with overgrown plots as well as cultivated plots, compost heaps, grass areas, sheds and boundary trees or hedgerows, they can attract a variety of birds, invertebrates and mammals. In particular many insects, spiders and invertebrates thrive in areas of 'weedy' vegetation such as vacant plots and weed seeds are a valuable food source for some bird species, including sparrows and finches. They can also have potential for reptiles such as the BAP species slow worms and grass snakes.

Recommendations for Further Survey

The ponds within the parcel (ID#20,5) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the water levels or water quality.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland, mature trees and in particular the veteran oak is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#6,7,28,31) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

A further survey will be required for the sections of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

An area of this parcel provides suitable habitat for reptiles (ID#40) therefore if any development were to impact this area, then further survey would be required to establish if any such species are using the site.

Recommendations

The two ponds should be retained with suitable buffer zones implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of the buffer zones will depend on the presence or absence of protected species.

Some trees are specifically protected if covered by a local authority Tree Preservation Order or housing species protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (e.g. all bats and some nesting birds). Section 91 of Planning

Policy Statement 9 (ODPM, 2005) states that veteran and other substantial trees can be important for biodiversity conservation and local planning authorities should consider their nature conservation value and the use of TPOs to protect them, in land use change decisions. The veteran oak within this parcel (ID#31a) should therefore be retained with a buffer zone implemented to prevent damage to the tree and for Health & Safety reasons.

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

The areas of woodland are of biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 m width around the sites. This is to prevent damage to the woodland sites from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

There are multiple areas of biodiversity value within this parcel of land and these areas should be taken into consideration pending any development. The pond, woodlands, species rich hedgerows and mature trees should be retained to minimise any biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): M E
Date(s): 13/10/08

Notes:

Map: 13 Wedgnock Park Farm

Area (ha): 88.3

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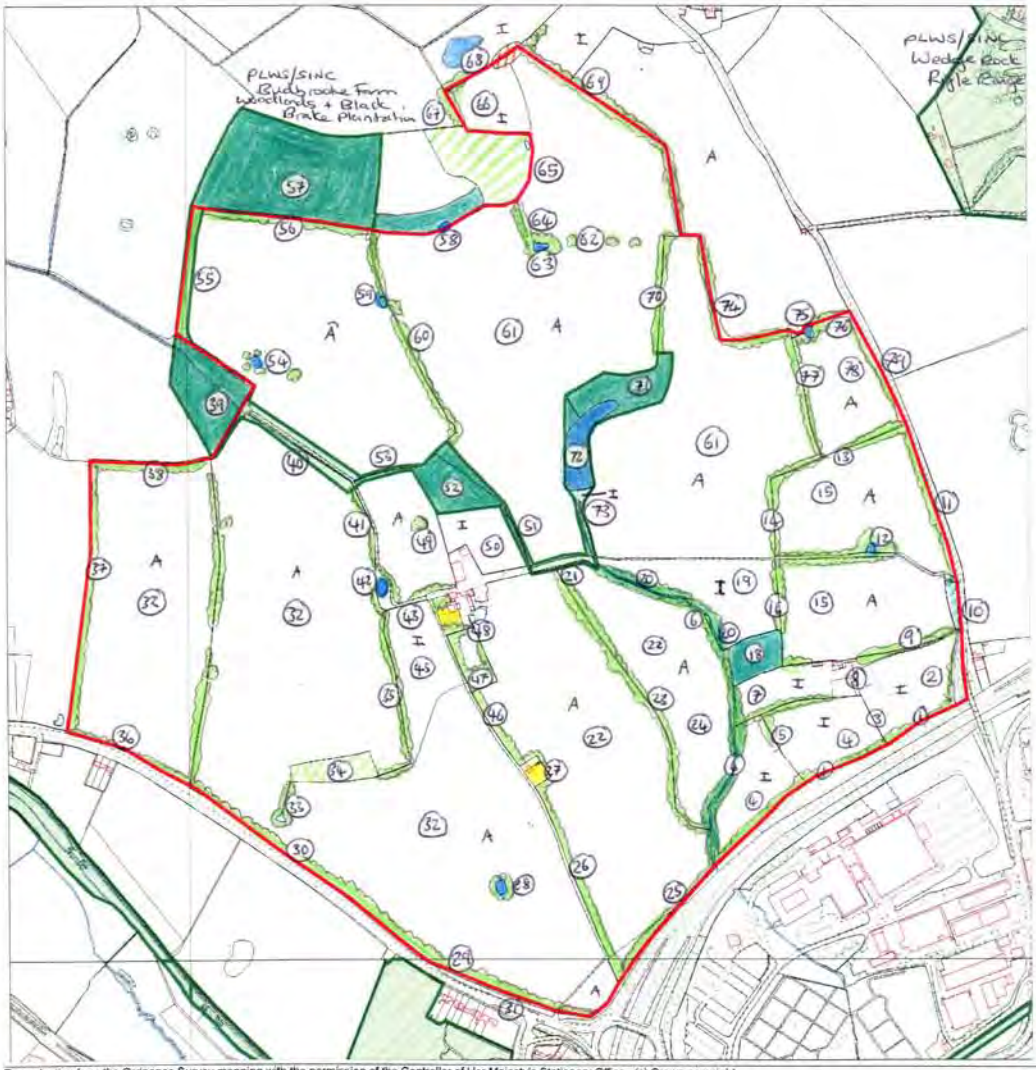

3.13 Map 13 Wedgnock Parm Farm

Area: 88.3ha

Overview
This large parcel of land is predominantly arable, improved grassland, hedgerows and connected fragments of semi natural broadleaved woodland (pLWS/SINC Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantations SP26T1). There are multiple water bodies within the parcel and just outside the boundary as well as a brook with a wooded fringe in the South east of the parcel. There are many mature trees and fragments of plantation both coniferous and broadleaved.

Key Features
pLWS/SINC Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantations
SP26T1 semi natural broadleaved woodland
Mature species rich hedgerows
Multiple ponds
Mature trees
Brook with woodland strip

Habitat description
The majority of Map 13 is arable with most fields having an average of 2-3m margins which are floristically poor. Despite the quality of the margins they can be an important refuge for any wildflowers, the field margins also provide buffer strips between agricultural operations and the sensitive habitats such as the hedgerows and the woodland fragments. The margins also provide valuable wildlife corridors for a range of species including invertebrates, birds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Field margins also provide nesting and feeding sites for game birds and songbirds. Invertebrate species including butterflies, grasshoppers, solitary wasps, and bees are attracted to field margins. Other fields are intensively managed improved grassland which is not ecologically significant. There are however many hedgerows and a reasonable number of these are mature and species rich (ID#11,13,16,23,26,29,44,46,60,70) and provide good habitat for nesting birds and invertebrates. The hedgerows also create a network of wildlife corridors, through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other important habitats such as the woods and ponds.

There are numerous mature trees such as oaks and ash that could provide suitable habitat for bats and nesting birds as well as being important landscape features. There are a large number of ponds (ID#59,58,54,63,72,42,28,12,68,75) within the parcel most of which seem floristically poor and eutrophicated. Despite the minimal aquatic vegetation these should still be considered suitable habitat for breeding amphibians. The largest water body provides suitable habitat for waterfowl and breeding waterside birds.

The most notable features of this site ecologically are the connected fragments of semi natural woodland (pLWS ID#39,52,71,57,18). These are typical of this type of woodland in the area and have some interesting ground flora, however they would need to be surveyed in spring to ascertain a full species list. These woodlands provide suitable habitat for a complete range of wildlife particularly bats and badgers especially as they still seem to be relatively connected by woodland strips or good quality hedgerows and trees. The stream within the south east section is ecologically important and has the potential to support protected species such as water vole or otter.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The pLWS/SINC Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantation SP26T1 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between April and June.

A further survey will be required for all the areas of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#11,13,16,23,26,29,44,46,60,70) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

All the ponds within the parcel (ID#59,58,54,63,72,42,28,12,68,75) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

The brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantation should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site. All the areas of woodland are of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around each site. This is to

prevent damage to the woodland sites from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodlands, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

All the ponds should be retained with suitable buffer zones implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of each buffer zone will depend upon the presence or absence of protected species.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

The brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

Map 13 contains considerable areas of rich woodland and species rich hedgerows. It is recommended that all areas of woodland are retained with considerable buffer zones to prevent any major biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 8/9/08

Notes:

Map: 14 Land East of Old Budbrooke Road (1)

Area (ha): 24.9

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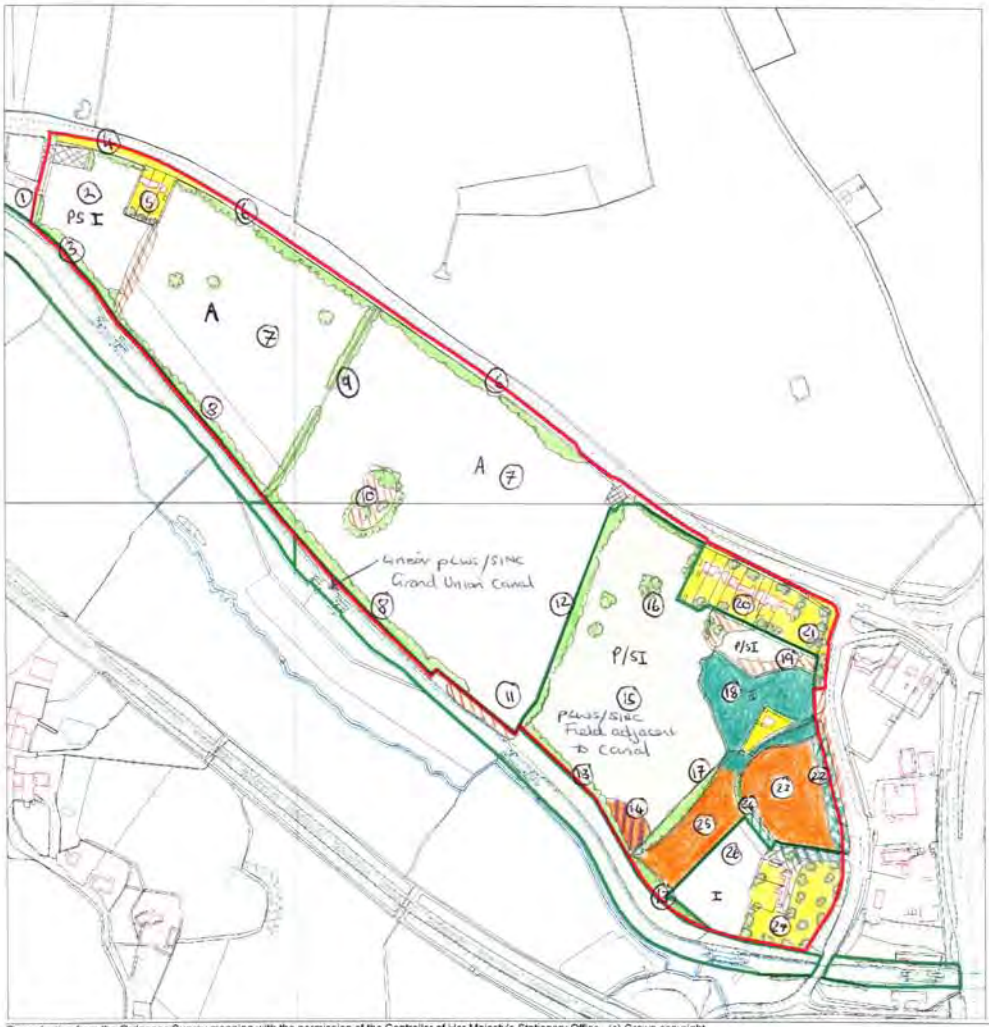

3.14 Map 14 Land East of Old Budbrooke Road (1)

Area: 24.9ha

Overview
This small parcel of land is divided between arable, poor semi improved grassland and a small amount of semi improved grassland with an even smaller area of marshy grassland. There are hedgerows, linear scrub and wooded belts providing boundaries and scattered mature trees. There is a small area of woodland within the pLWS/SINC Field adjacent to Canal SP26S3.

Key features
Semi improved grassland, marshy grassland, woodland and scrub contained within pLWS/SINC Field adjacent to Canal SP26S3
Adjacent Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n
Mature trees
Hedgerows

Habitat description
About half of this parcel of land is comprised of arable which has a low biodiversity value and the other half is a range of different quality grasslands with an area of woodland. The majority of the grassland is poor semi improved sheep grazed grassland which is floristically poor, however there are some areas within these fields that are more ecologically interesting for instance the area of marshy grassland (ID#14). The areas of neutral semi improved grassland that are within the pLWS/SINC Field adjacent to Canal SP26S3 cannot be fully subjected to LWS/SINC criteria until they are surveyed at a more appropriate time of year (between June and July) as during August they had only a modest species diversity. These areas of grassland are ecologically important however and support a range of wildlife particularly invertebrates.

The areas of linear scrub or wooded belts along field boundaries (ID#13,3,6,8,21,24) as well as the hedgerows provide good wildlife corridors and habitat for nesting birds. The area of woodland within the pLWS/SINC Field adjacent to Canal SP26S3 (ID#18) would need to be surveyed between April and July to determine its standard against the LWS/SINC criteria.

The Grand Union Canal forms the Southern boundary of the parcel is a Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n as it is an important wildlife corridor, especially as it is passing through intensive farmland. Canals can support highly diverse and unusual plant and animal assemblages along the better stretches including creatures such as water voles, white claw-crayfish, otters and kingfishers.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The pLWS/SINC Field adjacent to Canal SP26S3 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between June and July for the sections of grassland and between April and June for the small section of woodland.

The section of the Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n will need to be surveyed for water voles, otters and white claw-crayfish both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of semi improved grassland, marshy grassland and poor semi improved should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC Field adjacent to Canal SP26S3 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites.

The Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n is potential water vole and otter habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles or otters. A management plan for the canal should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The woodland is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Map 14 contains a significant amount of valuable habitat and provides habitat for wildlife using the canal. Any development within this parcel could impact on the canal's ability to act as a green corridor for wildlife moving in and out of the urban areas. This parcel is therefore unfavourable for development due to its location and biodiversity interest.

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OS Base Survey Map

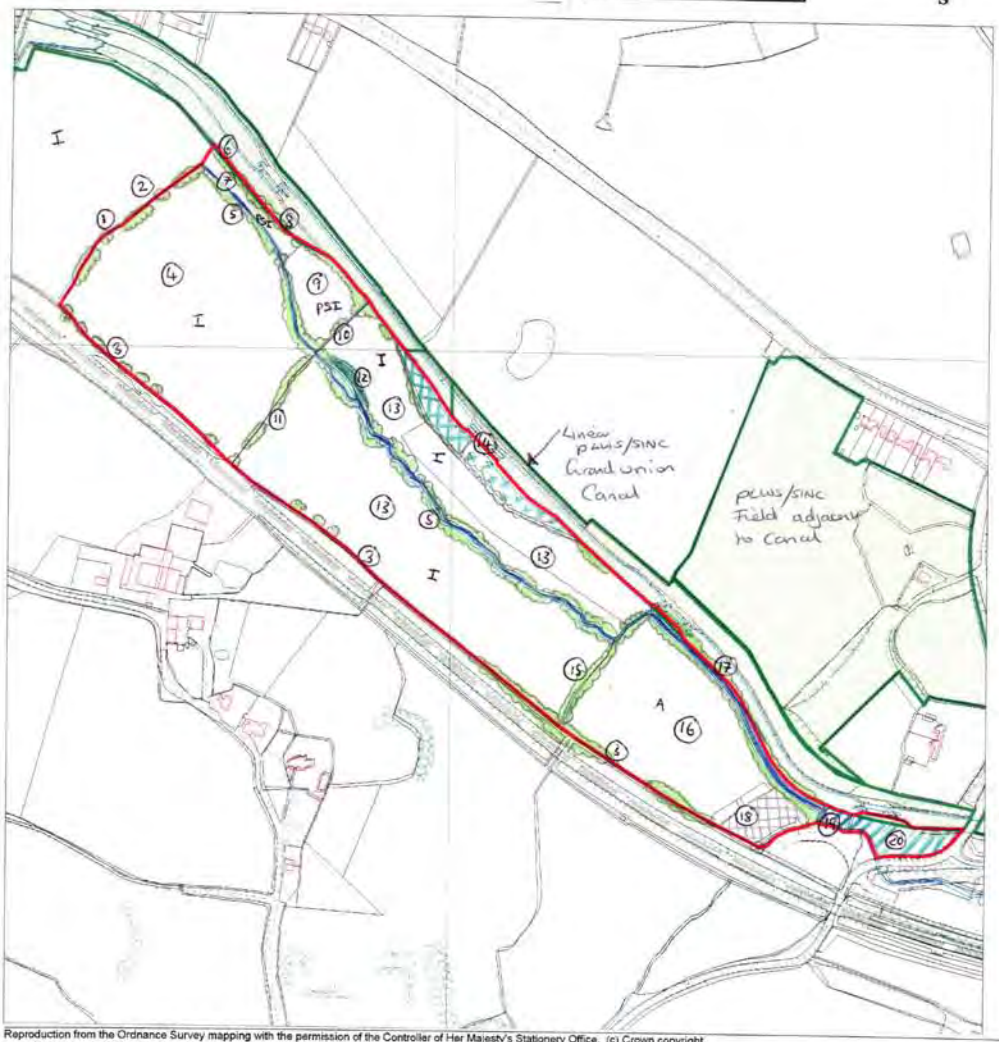
Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 10/09/08

Notes:

Map: 15 Land East of Old Budbrooke Road (2)

Area (ha): 16.1

N W E S



3.15 Map 15 Land East of Budbrooke Road (2)

Area: 16.1ha

Overview
This small parcel of land is dominated by improved grassland, a stream and arable. The linear scrub, trees and hedgerows are important features along with the adjacent Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n to the North of the parcel. There is a small area of poor semi improved wet grassland between the stream and the canal.

Key Features
Stream
Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n
Veteran oak with bat potential
Poor semi improved grassland
Hedgerows and linear scrub
Small fragment of semi natural broad leaved woodland
Broad leaved plantation

Habitat Description
The majority of Map 15 is improved grassland that has a low ecological value, however the hedgerows and linear scrub dissecting the parcel offer suitable habitat for many species including farmland birds and invertebrates. There is a veteran oak (ID#2) with holes and cracks suitable for roosting bats. Veteran trees are significant in the range of other species they support and in their level of oxygen production compared to younger trees.

The most significant feature of this parcel is the stream running the entire length of the parcel (ID#5,17). The stream is lined by scrub, trees and a very small section of semi natural woodland (ID#12). The stream provides a wildlife corridor which acts as a link for wildlife moving to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats. The stream has the potential to support protected species such as water voles. The areas of continuous and scattered scrub provide suitable habitat for nesting birds and have potential for reptiles.

The poor semi improved grassland (ID#7,9) is floristically poor but still has some ecological value particularly for invertebrates. The very small area of native broad leaved plantation (ID#20) is isolated with a considerable amount of traffic disturbance but still provides habitat for nesting birds. The Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n that forms the Northern boundary of the parcel is an important wildlife corridor, especially as it is dissecting intensive farmland. Canals can support highly diverse and unusual plant and animal assemblages along the better stretches including creatures such as water voles, white claw-crayfish, otters and kingfishers.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The stream and Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n will both need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and site surveys to establish their current status. The Canal will also need to be surveyed for otters and white claw-crayfish.

The areas of poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. An invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The Grand Union Canal Linear pLWS/SINC SP26Li2n should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site. The canal and stream are potential water vole and otter habitats and need to be protected by suitable buffer zones. The size of the buffer zones for these linear habitats will depend on the presence or absence of water voles or otters. A management plan for the canal and stream should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of these habitats.

Some trees are specifically protected if covered by a local authority Tree Preservation Order or are found to house a species protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (e.g. all bats and some nesting birds). Section 91 of Planning Policy Statement 9 (ODPM, 2005) states that veteran and other substantial trees can be important for biodiversity conservation and local planning authorities should consider their nature conservation value and the use of TPOs to protect them, in land use change decisions. The veteran trees within this parcel (ID#2) should therefore be retained with a buffer zone of 50 metres implemented to prevent damage to the tree and for Health & Safety reasons.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss

impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Map 15 provides habitat for wildlife using the canal. Any development within this parcel could impact on the canal's ability to act as a green corridor for wildlife moving in and out of the urban areas. This parcel is therefore unfavourable for development due to its location and the presence of a valuable watercourse dissecting the parcel.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): LW

Date(s): 8,10,12
09/08

Notes

Map: 16 Land Adjacent Hatton Park

Area (ha): 67

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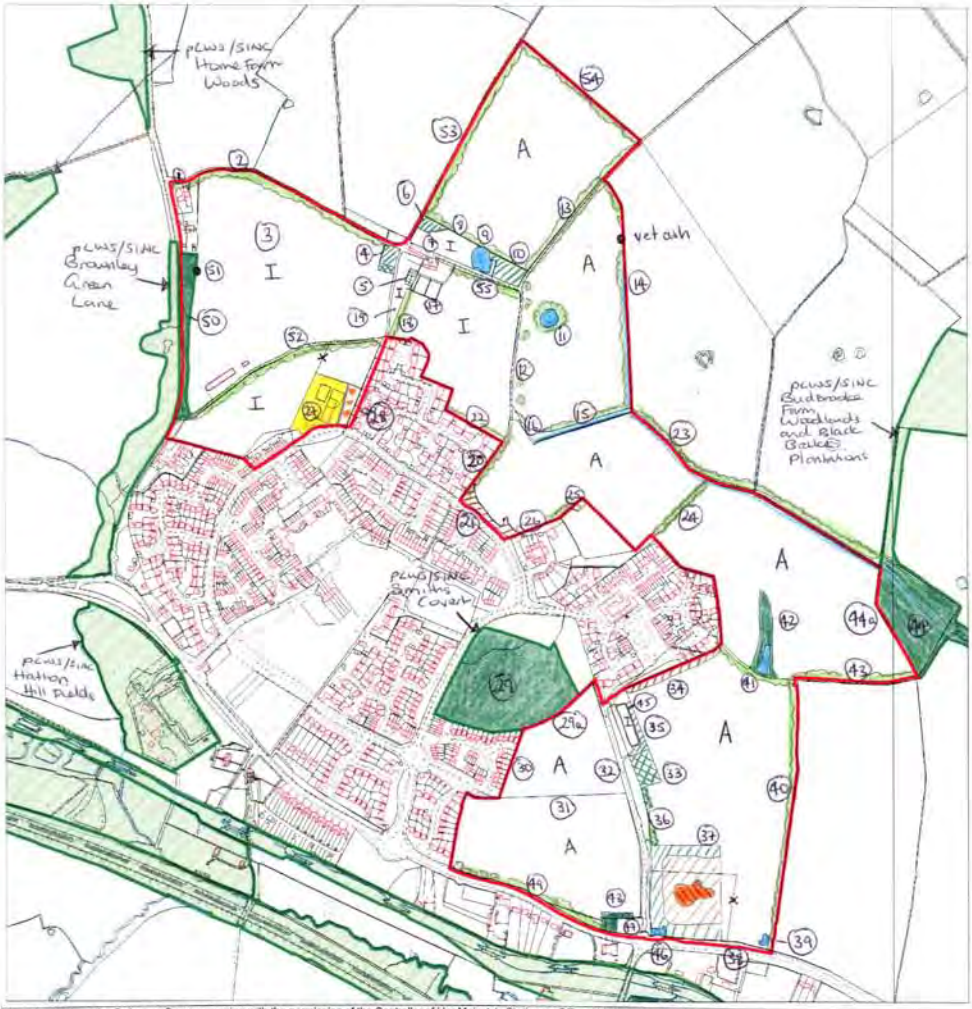

3.16 Map 16 Land Adjacent Hatton Park

Area: 67ha

Overview
This parcel of land, although dominated by arable and improved grassland has multiple areas of significant ecological interest. The main areas of interest are the ponds, excellent quality semi natural broad leaved woodland (three separate pLWS/SINCs), mature species rich hedgerows and veteran trees.

Key Features
Excellent quality semi natural broadleaved woodland with ancient woodland indicators (pLWS/SINC Smiths Covert SP26N2, pLWS/SINC Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantation SP26T1, pLWS/SINC Brownley Green Lane SP26N1)
Multiple ponds with one having diverse flora and high great crested newt potential
Mature species rich hedgerows
Veteran oak and veteran ash
Area of marshy grassland and tall ruderal with interesting diverse flora
Brook
Broad leaf plantations

Habitat Description
The majority of Map 16 is arable and improved grassland which have a low ecological value, however there are many areas that have high biodiversity. There are numerous hedgerows within the parcel with a significant proportion that are species rich (ID#20,23,24,36,40,41,55). All the hedgerows are important as they create a network of wildlife corridors, through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other important habitats such as the woods, ponds and brook.

A total of five ponds (ID#9,11,46,39,42) exist within the parcel all having potential for breeding amphibians. The largest pond has high great crested newt potential (ID#9) and the most diverse marginal and aquatic flora. The parcel contains a number of mature trees all of ecological value however two of these are veteran trees (ID#51,14) which are good habitat for a range of wildlife and important landscape features. Veteran trees are significant in the range of other species they support and in their level of oxygen production compared to younger trees.

There are three pLWS/SINC woodlands (ID#44 Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantation SP26, 29 Smiths Covert SP26N2,50) lying just outside the boundary of the parcel and in one case partially within the boundary. These pLWS/SINCs are all semi natural broad leaved woodland and are of Local Wildlife Site/SINC standard. All three woodlands have ancient woodland indicators and a diverse woodland flora, therefore these woodlands are ecologically significant. Evidence of badger activity within the

parcel was noted during the survey. There is an area of marshy grassland and tall ruderal (ID#37) in the Southern section of the parcel, which support an interesting and diverse flora and provides valuable habitat for wildlife. The areas of broadleaved plantation (ID#10,4,37,35) are very small but still provide suitable habitat for a range of wildlife including nesting birds. In addition there are a small number of outbuildings which have high bat potential.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The three pLWS/SINCs (Smiths Covert SP26N2, Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantation SP26T1 and Brownley Green Lane SP26N1) should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between April and June. A further survey will be required for any other remaining areas of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.

All the ponds within the parcel (ID#9,11,46,39,42) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#20,23,24,36,40,41,55) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

The area of marshy grassland and tall ruderal should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of this site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within this grassland area.

The brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

Full details of the presence of badgers and their use within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The three pLWS/SINCs (Smiths Covert SP26N2, Budbrooke Farm Woodlands and Black Brake Plantation SP26T1 and Brownley Green Lane SP26N1) should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the sites.

The woodlands are of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around each site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland sites from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodlands, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The ponds should be retained with a suitable buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of the buffer zone with depend upon the presence or absence of protected species.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

Some trees are specifically protected if covered by a local authority Tree Preservation Order or housing species protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (e.g. all bats and some nesting birds). Section 91 of Planning Policy Statement 9 (ODPM, 2005) states that veteran and other substantial trees can be important for biodiversity conservation and local planning authorities should consider their nature conservation value and the use of TPOs to protect them, in land use change decisions. The veteran trees within this parcel (ID#51,14) should therefore be retained with a buffer zone of 50 metres implemented to prevent damage to the trees and for Health & Safety reasons.

The brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should take into consideration the multiple areas of species rich woodland and ponds. The woodlands and pLWS/SINCs should have significant buffer zones to prevent any impact for development. Mature trees and species rich hedgerows should be retained to minimise any biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 15/08/08
22/08/08

Notes:

Map: 17 Kenilworth Castle Green/Clinton Lane

Area (ha): 31.9

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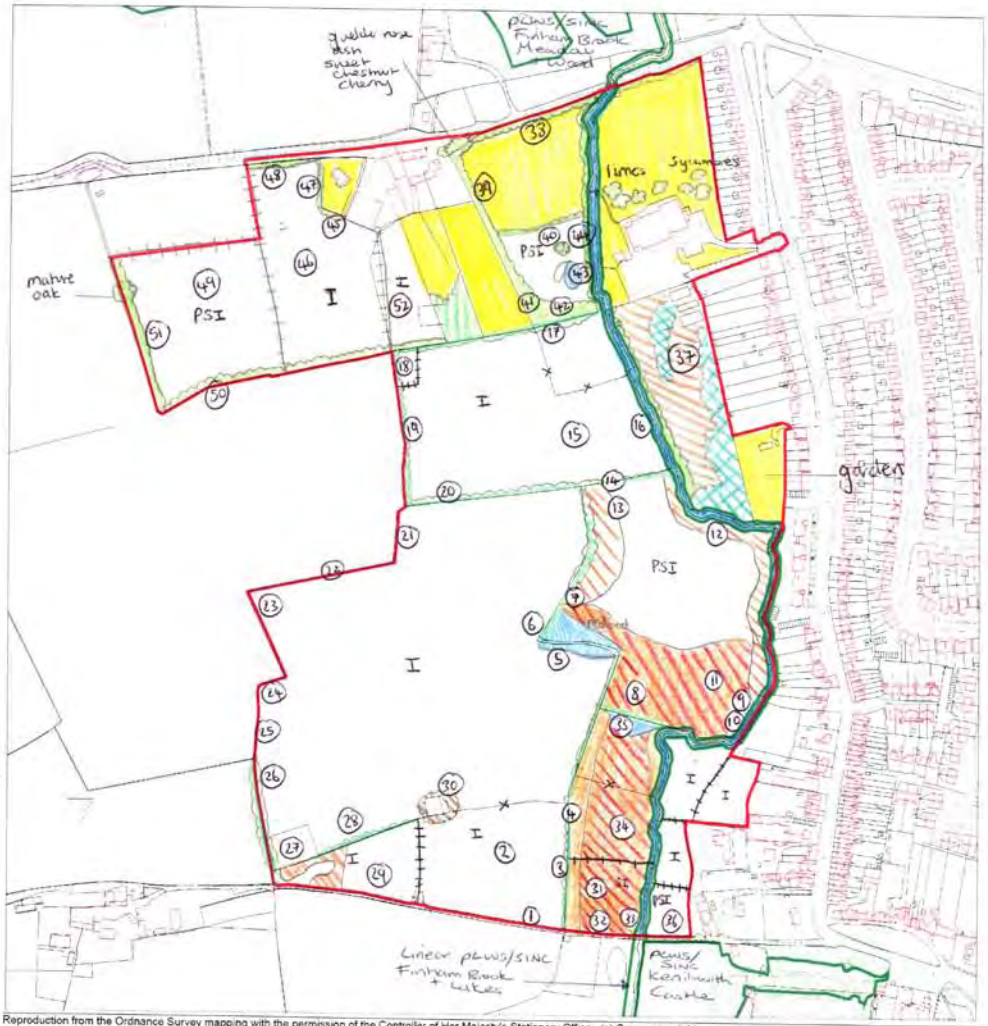

3.17 Map 17 Kenilworth Castle Green/Clinton Lane

Area: 31.9ha

Overview
A large proportion of Map 17 is improved grassland however there is also a large section of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality marshy grassland with a good population of a rare plant for Warwickshire. There is a Linear pLWS Finham Brook and Lakes SP27Li14r running from North to South with associated scrub and trees. The hedgerows within the parcel are mostly of poor quality or have been removed however there is one stretch of species rich mature hedgerow remaining.

Key Features
Substantial population of rare plant for Warwickshire within marshy grassland
Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality marshy grassland (not existing pLWS/SINC)
Linear pLWS/SINC Finham Brook and Lakes SP27Li14r with marginal and aquatic diversity
Species rich hedgerows
Disused barn with evidence of owls (precise species unknown)
Badger setts within parcel
Man made pond with good aquatic flora diversity
Mature trees
Ridge and furrow (not prominent)

Habitat description
The majority of Map 17 is improved grassland with mainly poor quality hedgerows or no hedgerows at all. These areas have relatively low value for wildlife. One stretch of hedgerow that is mostly intact appears to be species rich and mature (ID#14,20) which is ecologically significant however all the hedgerows still provide nesting habitat and corridors for wildlife. There is a disused barn (ID#27) where there is evidence of owl activity. The areas of poor semi improved grassland (ID#49,40,13,36) are floristically poor but can be valuable for invertebrates and small mammals.

The areas of continuous scrub and tall ruderal (ID#37) provide suitable habitat for reptiles and mammals. Evidence of badger activity within the parcel was also noted during the survey. The man made pond (ID#43) has been well constructed and provides opportunities for breeding amphibians and interesting aquatic flora.

The brook is a good wildlife corridor which acts as a link for wildlife moving to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats. The brook has the potential to support protected species such as water voles. The mature trees are valuable for wildlife and have the potential for bats.

The area of most significant ecological value is the marshy grassland (ID#8,11,5,31,32,33,34,35) which has good species diversity and covers a considerable area of land. The species rich semi improved grassland and

marshy grassland are important habitats for a range of wildlife particularly invertebrates. Characteristic butterflies include common blue, orange tip and meadow brown. Many sorts of bees, flies, wasps, beetles, bugs and moths also use these grassland habitats. The most important aspect of this habitat was the discovery of a large population (+100 plants) of a rare plant for Warwickshire called water purslane (*Lythrum portula*). Water purslane *Lythrum portula* has only been recorded four times in Warwickshire since records began in 1979 and most of these records are of small populations (e.g. two or three plants). This site has the potential to fulfil the criteria for designation as a Local Wildlife Site/SINC.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The areas of semi improved grassland and marshy grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. These areas should be surveyed with the Local Wildlife Site/SINC criteria. A bird, reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands and areas of reed bed.

The brook (Finham Brook and Lakes SP27Li14r) will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#14,20) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

The pond within the parcel (ID#43) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the pond will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the water levels or water quality.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

A full survey of the scrub and tall ruderal (ID#37) will need to be undertaken to ascertain the biodiversity value, as a thorough survey could not be completed due to difficulties with access.

It is recommended that a survey of the barn is completed to establish whether barn owls are using the barn for breeding purposes.

Recommendations
The Linear pLWS/SINC Finham Brook and Lakes SP27Li14r and the areas of semi improved grassland, marshy grassland and reed beds should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites.

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The pond should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the pond. The size of the buffer zone will depend on the presence or absence of protected species.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Map 17 has a significant ecological interest due to the presence of valuable habitats such as marshy grassland, reed bed and Finham Brook. Due to the sensitive habitats and high levels of biodiversity within the Western side of the parcel the majority of this parcel is therefore unfavourable for development.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 15/03/08 + 22/08/08

Notes:

Map: 18 Kenilworth Tainters Hill/New Street

Area (ha): 3.6

N W E S

3.18 Map 18 Kenilworth Tainters Hill/New Street

Area: 3.6ha

Overview
Map 18 contains amenity grassland, plantation and buildings in the North section and poor semi improved grassland, tall ruderal, mature oaks and hedgerows in the Southern section. The mature oaks and hedgerows are of ecological interest and provide important wildlife habitats. The grassland is unmanaged and with a low botanical diversity. The amenity grassland and plantation have a low ecological value, although the mature oaks and beech within the gardens are of ecological interest.

Key Features
Two Mature hedgerows – Wildlife corridor
Adjoining Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve
Mature pedunculate oaks and beech

Habitat Description
Due to the relatively small size of Map 18, it does not appear to support a great diversity of species or habitats. Over fifty percent of the parcel is private housing, private gardens and driveway. The majority of this holds little ecological value, due to the high proportion of non native trees, shrubs and plants. There are some mature trees within the grounds of the private residence, some of which are of wildlife value, for example the oaks and beech (ID#6). These trees could be valuable to the pair of sparrowhawks that were seen to be using the area.

In the Southern portion of the parcel the habitats are more natural, including poor semi improved grassland (ID#8) and mature hedgerows. The grassland is not managed and is therefore dominated by false oat and cocksfoot, typical of unmanaged rank grassland. The field contains two mature pedunculate oaks (ID#12,13) probably ranging from 150 – 250 yrs old. The more mature oak (ID#12) has medium bat potential as a roosting site due to cracks in the trunk.

The two hedgerows (ID#1,2) lining the public footpath are mature and species rich. They have a good mixture of woody species and support a varied ground flora. These hedgerows have value as wildlife corridors and linkage between the neighbouring Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve (Parliament Piece) and also for nesting birds.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The areas of poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#1,2) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

It is essential that the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve (Parliament Piece) is retained and a buffer zone is designated and implemented, with appropriate management of the buffer zone to meet objectives of the reserve.

Any development within this parcel of land should take into consideration the location of the adjacent Nature Reserve and aim to reduce any impact on this site. There should be an emphasis on retaining the mature trees and species rich hedgerows and the poor semi improved grassland should be replaced to prevent any major losses in biodiversity.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 25/08/05
24/03/06

Notes:

Map: 19 North Cubbington

Area (ha): 73.6

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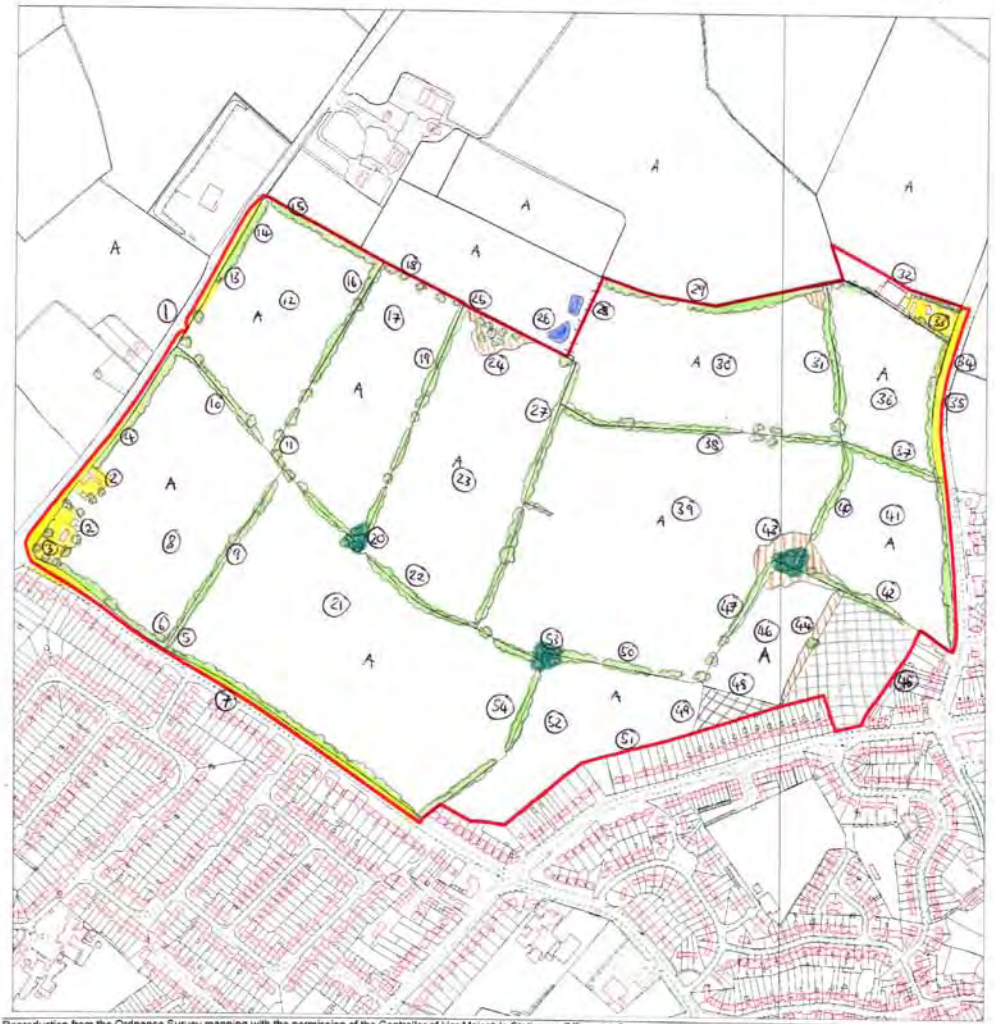

3.19 Map 19 North Cubbington

Area: 73.6ha

Overview
Map 19 is dominated with arable and hedgerows. Many of the hedgerows are mature and species rich. There are two water bodies just outside the boundary and three very small isolated areas of woodland. In the South East corner there is a section of allotments.

Key Features
Mature species rich hedgerows
Small areas of woodland
Ponds just outside boundary
Badger sett
Mature trees
Allotments with potential for reptiles

Habitat Description
Map 19 is dominated by arable which is of low ecological value. However the parcel has numerous mature species rich hedgerows (ID#5,9,10,15,16,19,22,27,31,35,38,40,47,49,50,54) which are a valuable habitat for a range of species for nesting and foraging requirements. All the hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors, through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other important habitats such as the small woods, ponds and allotments. Red list species such as yellowhammers were noted during the survey. The mature trees within the parcel offer suitable habitat for bats and other wildlife.

The areas of woodland (ID#20,53,43) are valuable for wildlife however due to their isolation and extremely small area they would not support an extensive range of woodland flora and fauna. The two ponds (ID#26) that lie just outside the boundary provide suitable habitat for breeding amphibians and protected species such as great crested newts which could be using areas within the parcel boundary for refugia.

The allotments provide a valuable habitat for many native plants and animals, especially near the urban areas where green space can be limited. This habitat has the potential to support grass snakes and UKBAP species such as slow worms.

Recommendations for Further Survey
It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#5,9,10,15,16,19,22,27,31,35,38,40,47,49,50,54) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

A further survey will be required for the small sections of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.

The two ponds just outside the parcel (ID#26) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts as although the ponds are outside the parcel boundary any amphibians may use areas within the boundary as refugia. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The small sections of woodland are of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 m width around each site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodlands, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The ponds should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of the buffer zone will depend upon the presence or absence of protected species.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on retaining mature trees, segments of woodland, species rich hedgerows and buffering the ponds outside the boundary.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): KE
Date(s): 28/08/08

Notes:

Map: 20 Land at Coventry Road, Cubbington

Area (ha): 17

3.20 Map 20 Land at Coventry Road, Cubbington

Area: 17ha

Overview
Map 20 comprises a large arable field with surrounding hedgerows, one of which is mature and species rich. The Southern small portion of the parcel is improved grassland used for grazing horses with areas of hard standing, buildings and allotments with lines of trees and hedgerows.

Key features
Mature species rich hedgerow
Mature trees
Allotments

Habitat Description
Map 20 is dominated by a large arable field with three to four metre wide margins which is of low ecological value as the margins are dominated by coarse grasses and ruderal species. The hedgerows surrounding the arable field are more ecologically significant especially the hedgerow on the Western side (ID#2) which is mature and species rich. The species rich hedgerow is complemented by a ditch which increases its wildlife value. However all the hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other important habitats within any surrounding fields such as ponds. Red list yellowhammers were also noted using the hedgerows within this parcel. There are a few mature oaks (ID#3,7) which provide suitable habitat for bats and other wildlife. The Southern portion of improved grassland, allotments and buildings are of low wildlife value. The allotments have potential to provide habitat for wildlife however they are very small, isolated areas with disturbance.

Recommendations for Further Survey
It is recommended that the potentially species rich hedgerow (ID#2) is subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

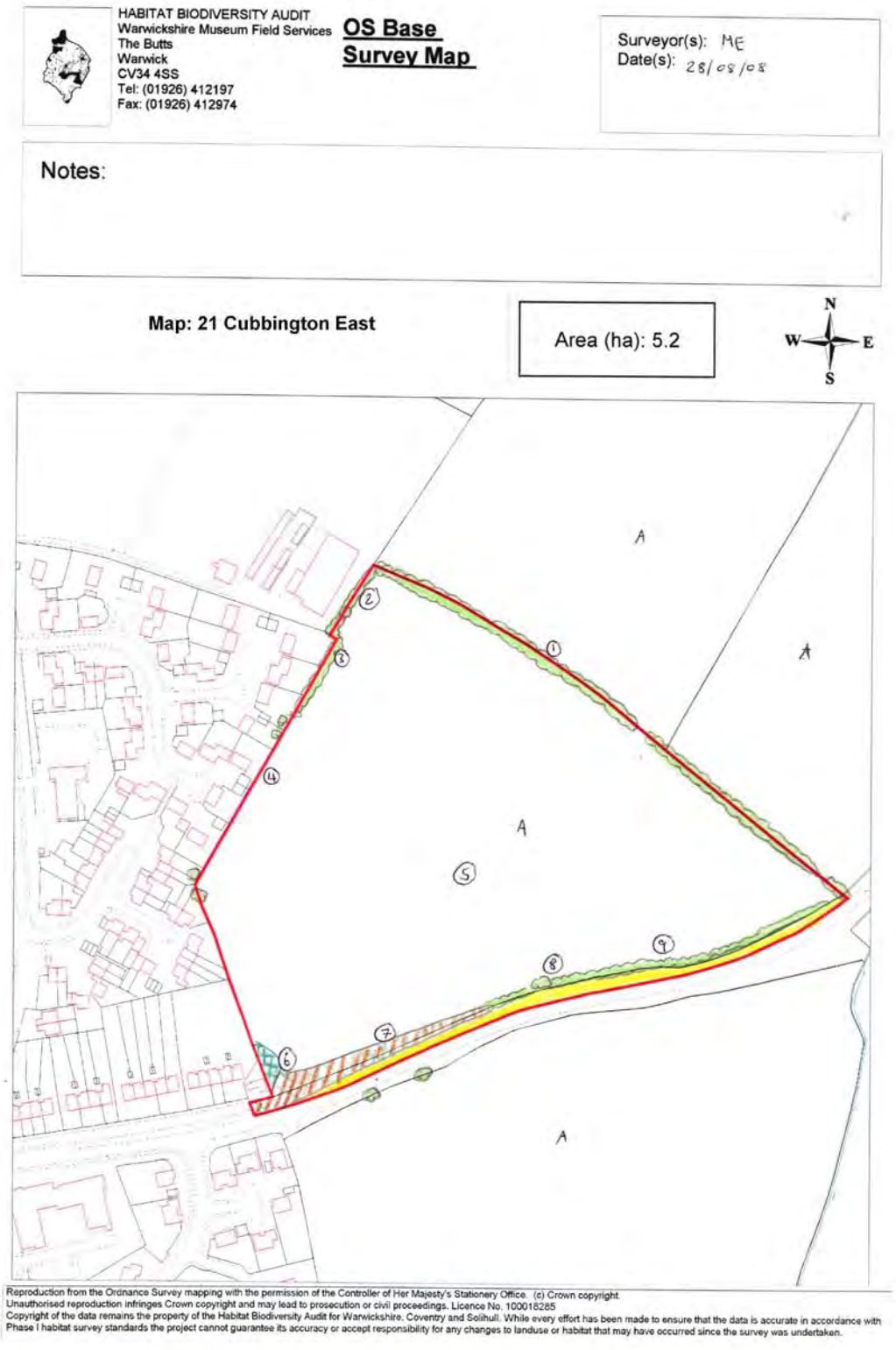
Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
It is recommended that the species rich hedgerow is retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native

species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Map 20 has a low biodiversity value and is therefore suitable for development. Mature trees and the species rich hedgerow should be retained to reduce biodiversity losses.


HABITAT BIODIVERSITY AUDIT
Warwickshire Museum Field Services
The Butts
Warwick
CV34 4SS
Tel: (01926) 412197
Fax: (01926) 412974
OS Base Survey Map
Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 28/08/08
Notes:
Map: 21 Cubbington East
Area (ha): 5.2
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3.21 Map 21 Cubbington East

Area: 5.2ha

Overview
This small parcel of land comprises entirely of one triangular arable field with surrounding hedgerows, an area of scrub, tall ruderal, mature trees and roadside verge amenity grassland.

Key Features
Hedgerows
Mature trees

Habitat description
Map 21 is made up of a triangular arable field with surrounding hedgerows. A couple of the hedgerows have diverse woody species (ID#1,2) and are therefore ecologically significant, especially for nesting and foraging farmland birds and invertebrates. All the hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors through the intensively-farmed landscape and help link the other habitats within the surrounding area. The mature trees are valuable to wildlife and offer potential habitat for roosting bats. The areas of scrub and tall ruderal (ID#6,7) are small and on the edge of the arable field therefore have limited potential for wildlife. The amenity grass verge (ID#7) is floristically poor and may suffer from disturbance and pollution from the road therefore limiting its potential for wildlife.

Recommendations for Further Survey
It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#1,2) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
It is recommended that the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that

a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Map 21 has a low biodiversity value and is therefore suitable for development. Mature trees and species rich hedgerows should be retained to reduce biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

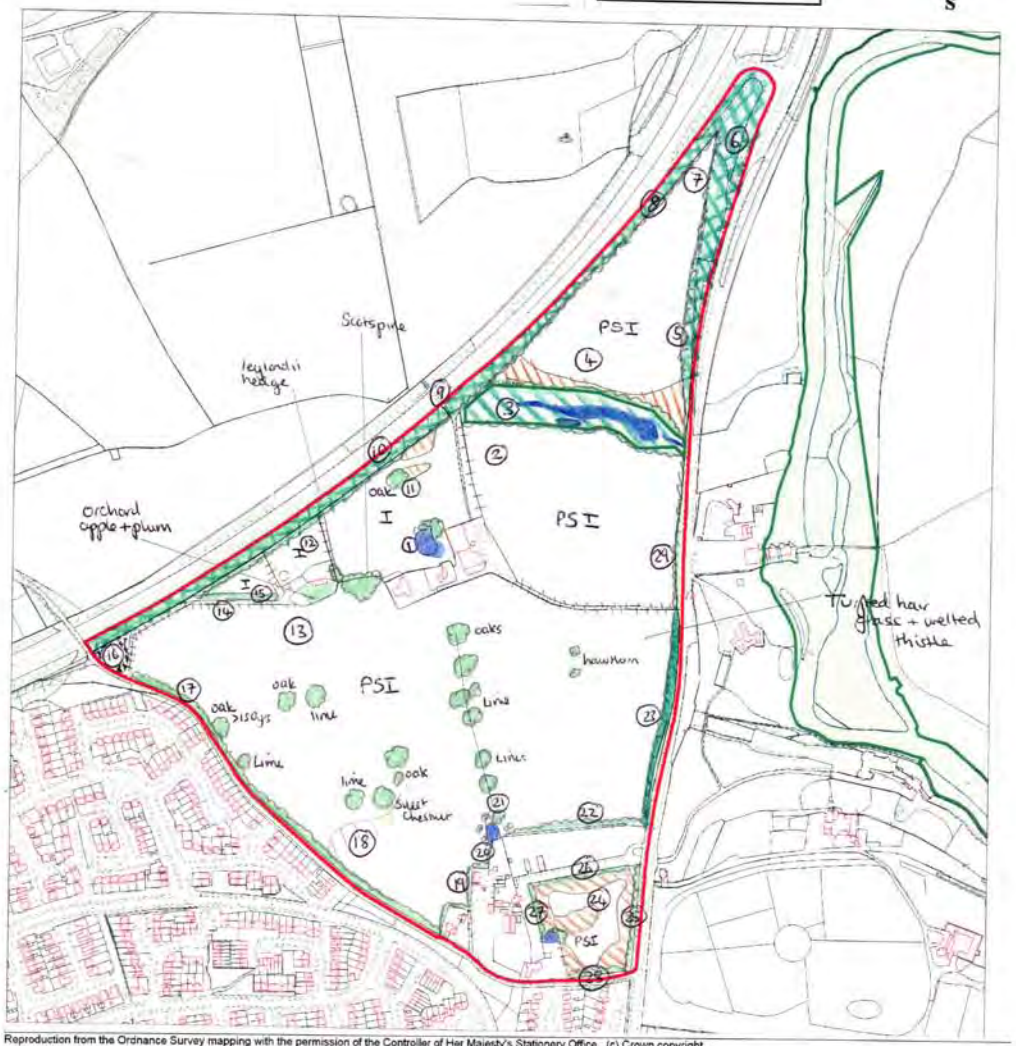
Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 02/09/08

Notes:

Map: 22 Woodloes Park/Hintons Nursery

Area (ha): 33.5

N W E S



3.22 Map 22 Woodloes Park/Hintons Nursery

Area: 33.5ha

Overview
This small parcel of land that is between two major roads is primarily poor semi improved grassland, improved grassland, continuous scrub and mature trees. Dissecting the Northern section is a strip of mixed plantation woodland that is a pLWS/SINC Woodloes Farm SP26Y2. The woodland contains veteran oaks and a watercourse. The grasslands have numerous mature yellow meadow anthills.

Key features
Veteran oaks within plantation woodland pLWS/SINC Woodloes FarmSP26Y2
Mature species rich hedgerow
Anthills for yellow meadow ants
Ponds
Mature trees
Wooded belt
Continuous scrub

Habitat description
This triangular parcel of land is fairly isolated due to the major trunk roads running parallel either side however there are some areas of ecological significance. The majority of the habitat is poor semi improved sheep grazed grassland with some areas showing faint ridge and furrow (ID#13,18). Although the grassland is floristically poor it has more value due to the frequency of mature ant hills (ID#4,13,2) occupied by yellow meadow ants (*Lasis flavus*). The presence of ant hills results in a greater diversity of wildlife within the grassland. Several insect eating birds will feed on the ants such as green woodpeckers and the ants can constitute up to eighty percent of the woodpeckers winter diet. The mounds make suitable basking sites for butterflies and reptiles. The ant hills have a different micro-climate and soil composition compared with the surrounding grassland so they can have different species of grasses, mosses and flowering plants colonising the surfaces and the majority of flowering plants within the grasslands were indeed found on the anthills. It is increasingly hard to find meadows with large numbers of well-developed mounds, because of modern farming methods and they are vulnerable to disturbance. Therefore these areas of grassland are valuable for a range of wildlife. A small area of ungrazed poor semi improved grassland with overgrown hedgerows and tall ruderal is undisturbed and therefore provides suitable habitat for reptiles and small mammals. This smaller field (ID#24) also has numerous ant hills that have been hidden by the tall grasses and therefore may now be vacant.

There are many mature trees in a range of species including some very large oaks. These trees are valuable habitat for many species and have the potential for roosting bats. There is a stretch of mature species rich hedgerow (ID#17) alongside a Public Right of Way although it is very overgrown it

provides good nesting opportunities for birds and a limited corridor for wildlife. There are a few ponds (ID#1,3,21,27) within the parcel that all have the potential for breeding amphibians however one has abundant aquatic vegetation that has a high potential for great crested newts. The sections of continuous scrub (ID#6,8,5,9,10) that encircle the Northern section of the parcel provide natural screening from the roads and nesting habitat for many birds. Evidence of badger activity within this parcel was noted during the survey.

The plantation woodland pLWS/SINC Woodloes Farm SP26Y2 (ID#3) had a number of veteran oaks and very mature beech trees which are valuable to a range of wildlife and important landscape features. Veteran trees are significant in the range of other species they support and in their level of oxygen production compared to younger trees. The woodland was surveyed against the Local Wildlife Site/SINC criteria (02/09/2008) and will be submitted to the panel in December 2008 or January 2009. It did not appear that the woodland was of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality due to a limited ground flora and the effects that agricultural disturbance have had on its water bodies and species diversity.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The areas of poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

A further survey will be required for the sections of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.
All the ponds within the parcel (ID#1,3,21,27) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

It is recommended that the potentially species rich hedgerow (ID#17) is subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of its biodiversity value.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC Woodloes Farm SP26Y2 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site.

The sections of woodland are of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 to 50 metres width around each site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

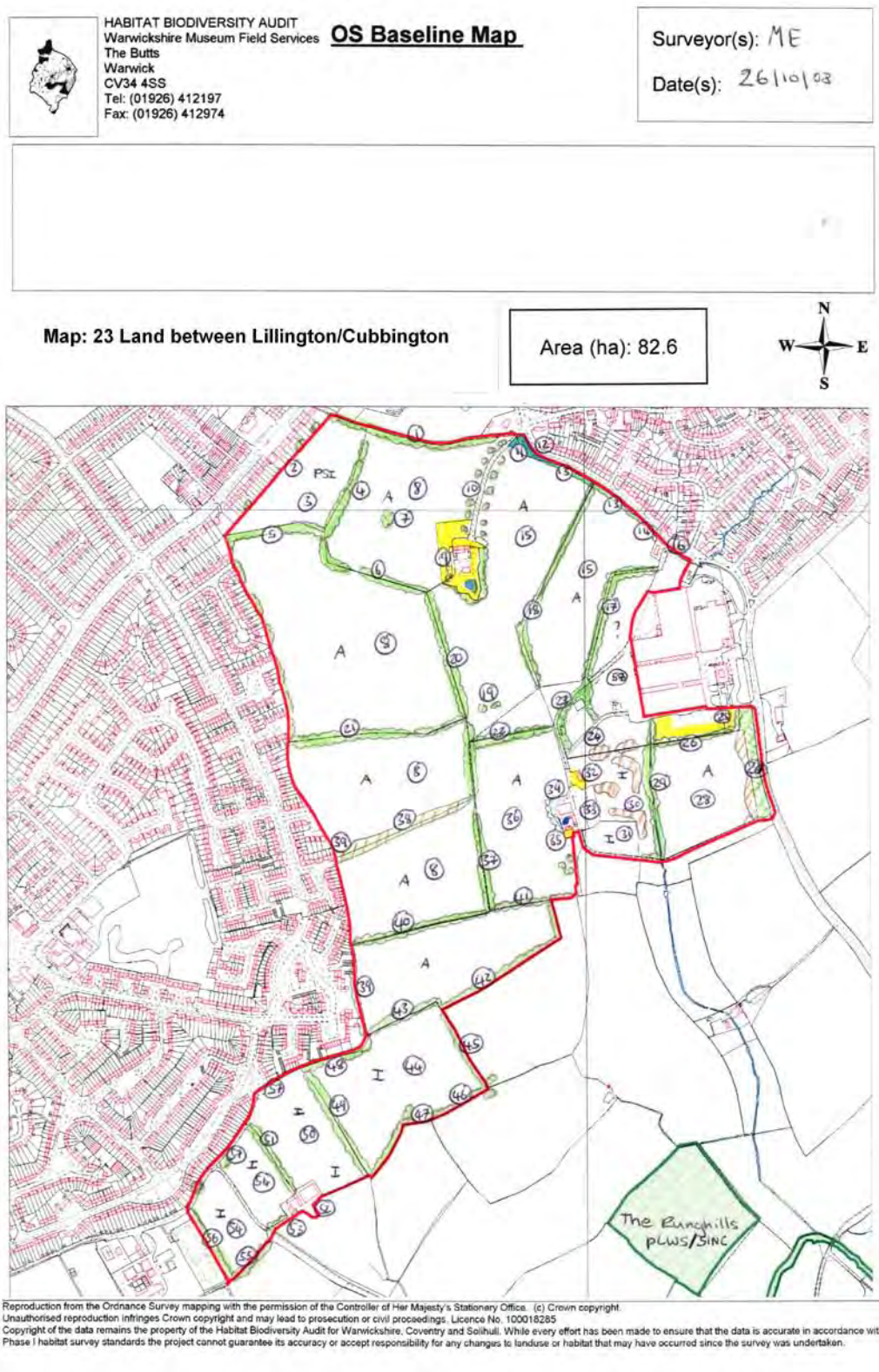
Some trees are specifically protected if covered by a local authority Tree Preservation Order or housing species protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (e.g. all bats and some nesting birds). Section 91 of Planning Policy Statement 9 (ODPM, 2005) states that veteran and other substantial trees can be important for biodiversity conservation and local planning authorities should consider their nature conservation value and the use of TPOs to protect them, in land use change decisions. The veteran trees within this parcel (ID#3) should therefore be retained with a buffer zone of 50 metres implemented to prevent damage to the trees.

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerow is retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

The ponds should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of the buffer zone will depend upon the presence or absence of protected species.

Map 22 has a high level of ecological significance due to the number of mature trees, old pasture grassland, water bodies and the species rich hedgerow. The grassland within this parcel is significant due to the presence of mature anthills and ridge and furrow. This grassland dominates the parcel and therefore the parcel is not favourable for development.


HABITAT BIODIVERSITY AUDIT
Warwickshire Museum Field Services
The Butts
Warwick
CV34 4SS
Tel: (01926) 412197
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OS Baseline Map
Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 26/10/03
Map: 23 Land between Lillington/Cubbington
Area (ha): 82.6
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The Runchills
pLWS/SINC
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3.23 Map 23 Land between Lillington/Cubbington

Area: 82.6ha

Overview
This large parcel of land is predominately arable with multiple mature hedgerows and improved grassland in the South West section of the parcel. There are residential buildings with associated amenity gardens, ponds and outbuildings found within the parcel. There are numerous mature trees and a very small section of semi natural woodland.

Key features
Mature hedgerows
Ponds
Mature trees
Buildings suitable for roosting bats
Evidence of badgers using areas of the parcel
Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality pLWS/SINC woodland (The Runghills SP36N1) outside parcel boundary

Habitat Description
Map 23 is dominated by arable and improved grassland which have a low ecological value. However there are multiple hedgerows within this parcel and although not many are very species rich they are mature with many mature trees. The hedgerows are the most ecologically significant aspect of this parcel due to their number and their value to wildlife. The hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors through the intensively-farmed landscape and help connect the other important habitats such as the watercourse, woods and ponds. The mature trees within the arable fields and within the hedgerows are also valuable to wildlife and have potential for roosting bats.

The ponds (ID#9,35) although mostly ornamental still provide opportunities for breeding amphibians. The area of semi natural woodland (ID#11) is very small therefore it will not be able to support any significant populations of woodland associated flora or fauna. The woodland however will still provide suitable habitat for small populations of species and is therefore still viewed as valuable. The area of ungrazed improved grassland (ID#30,44) is relatively undisturbed therefore potentially supporting a range of wildlife for example small mammals, invertebrates and reptiles. One portion of this parcel could not be surveyed due to the surveyors inability to gain access (ID#58) therefore this area would need to be looked at in more detail at another date.

The pLWS/SINC (The Runghills SP36N1) woodland is approx 300 metres from the outside of the boundary. This woodland is of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality due to its undisturbed characteristics and therefore supports a good range of woodland wildlife and this could be jeopardised with any nearby future development. To be noted Japanese knotweed was discovered within this parcel (ID#33).

Recommendations for Further Survey
The ponds within the parcel (ID#9,35) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

The small watercourse will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of rank improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

A further survey will need to be completed in the areas where access was not possible (ID#58) to ascertain the full biodiversity potential of this area.

Recommendations
It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The watercourse is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the watercourse should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The ponds should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of this buffer zone will depend upon the presence or absence of protected species.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss

impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

The areas of Japanese knotweed will need to be removed with a treatment of glycophosphate.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on retaining hedgerows and mature trees and ensuring the woodland to the South (The Runghills) is protected by a significant buffer zone to minimise any adverse effects of development.

HABITAT BIODIVERSITY AUDIT
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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 02/09/08
03/09/08

Notes:

Map: 24 Land North of Milverton

Area (ha): 121

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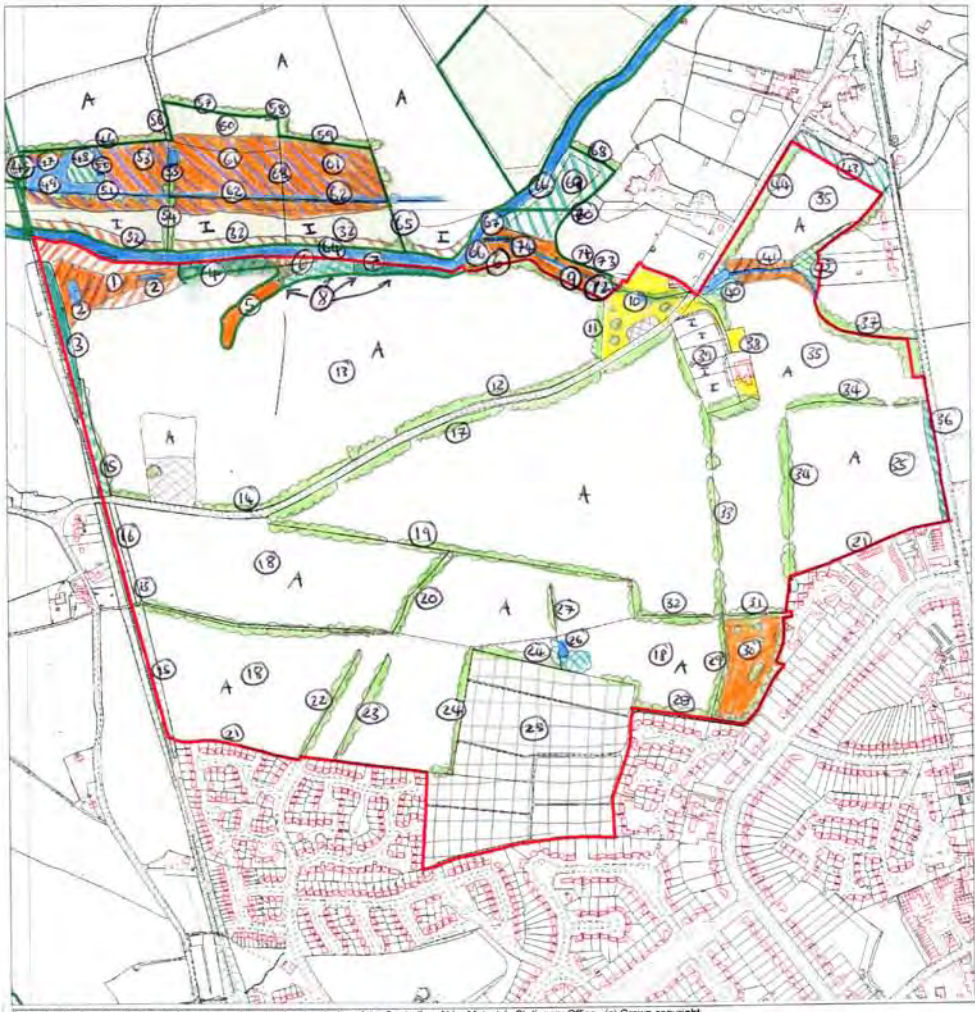

3.24 Map 24 Land North of Milverton

Area: 121ha

Overview
Map 24 comprises of arable, many species rich hedgerows and allotments. The Northern edge consists of a Linear pLWS/SINC River Avon SP36Li8d and a pLWS/SINC Hill Wootton Farm Meadows SP36E2 and these are the most ecologically significant due to the river and associated marshy habitats. There are also fragmented areas of scrub and semi improved grassland.

Key Features
Marshy grassland and swamp within adjacent pLWS/SINC Hill Wooton Farm Meadows SP36E2
Marshy grassland and semi improved grassland within parcel
River Avon
Mature species rich hedgerows
Ponds
Mature trees
Allotments

Habitat Description
Although arable dominates this parcel of land there are numerous species rich mature hedgerows (ID#12,17,19,20,22,23,24,32) which are valuable to many species as well as being important landscape features. The hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors through the intensively-farmed landscape and help connect the other important habitats such as the river, strips of woodland, ponds, grasslands and wetlands. The Northern boundary of the parcel supports the most interesting areas of habitat. The River Avon runs along this Northern boundary which has high potential for supporting protected species such as water vole and otter and the banks of the river were indeed noted for their suitability as water vole habitat. It is known that otters currently use this river. The River Avon also acts as an important wildlife corridor that acts as a link for wildlife moving to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats. The areas surrounding the river are also valuable as the majority is good quality marshy grassland (ID#1,2), swamp and semi improved grassland (ID#5). These habitats are important for wildlife and are sensitive to disturbance and changes in hydrology. This Northern section has the potential to support many diverse plants, breeding birds and invertebrates. Evidence of badger activity within this parcel was noted during the survey.

There are two ponds (ID#26,40) within the parcel that provide suitable habitat for breeding amphibians. The allotments provide a valuable habitat for many native plants and animals, especially in these urban areas where green space can be limited. The area of allotments has the potential to support grass snakes and the UKBAP species slow worms. The area of semi improved grassland (ID#30) in the South East corner appears unmanaged and undisturbed and could potentially support some interesting wildlife such as

reptiles and small mammals. Any of the mature trees within the parcel are valuable for wildlife and could potentially support roosting bats.

Recommendations for Further Survey

The Linear pLWS/SINC River Avon SP36Li8d and pLWS/SINC Hill Wooton Farm Meadows SP36E2 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between June and July.

The areas of semi improved grassland and marshy grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A bird, reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands. It is recommended that any areas of quality grassland within the floodplain of this section of the River Avon are included within the Linear pLWS/SINC.

The River Avon will need to be surveyed for water voles and otters, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#12,17,19,20,22,23,24,32) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

The ponds within the parcel (ID#26,40) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

A further survey will be required for the plantation woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

Full details of the presence of badgers and their use within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The Linear pLWS/SINC River Avon SP36Li8d and pLWS/SINC Hill Wooton Farm Meadows SP36E2 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The River Avon is potential water vole and otter habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the river should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The ponds and reed beds should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect their biodiversity value. The size of any buffer zone will depend upon the outcomes of the recommended surveys for any protected species or hydrology studies.

The plantation woodland is of biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

This parcel of land has multiple areas of ecological significance (marshy grassland, pLWS/SINC, reedbeds and watercourse) especially within the North of the parcel. Due to the high levels of biodiversity in the North section and development would need to implement a significant buffer zone for these sensitive habitats. There should be an emphasis on retaining the semi improved grassland in the South, mature trees and species rich hedgerows to reduce any biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 14/08/08
13/08/08

Notes:

Map: 25 Crackley Triangle/Dalehouse Lane

Area (ha): 39.3

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3.25 Map 25 Crackley Triangle/Dalehouse Lane

Area: 39.3ha

Overview
Map 25 is comprised of improved grassland, arable and hedgerows. There is a watercourse running from the North Western end to the South Eastern end. There is a railway with embankments dissecting the Northern section. The Southern section is poor semi improved grassland and semi improved grassland that is less intensively managed than the majority of the parcel.

Key Features
Scrub and tree lined watercourse (partly Linear pLWS/SINC River Sowe & Finham Brook & Lakes SP37Li4b)
Species rich arable field margins
Semi improved grassland
Hedgerows
Mature trees and veteran oak
Railway embankment Linear pLWS/SINC Kenilworth to Balsall Railway Embankments SP37Li9b

Habitat Description
Map 25 is dominated by improved grassland and two arable fields. The grassland is intensively grazed by sheep and horses and has a low ecological value. The arable fields have species rich five metre margins (ID#24,26) that extend the important habitat along the watercourse. As well as providing an important refuge for any wildflowers, the field margins also provide buffer strips between agricultural operations and the sensitive habitats such as the hedgerows and the watercourse. The margins also provide valuable wildlife corridors for a range of species including invertebrates, birds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Field margins also provide nesting and feeding sites for game birds and songbirds. Invertebrate species including butterflies, grasshoppers, solitary wasps, and bees are attracted to field margins such as these.

The brook (Linear pLWS/SINC River Sowe & Finham Brook & Lakes SP37Li4b) is lined with mature trees and scrub and has the potential to support protected species such as water voles. The brook also acts as an important wildlife corridors for wildlife moving to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats. The section of brook under the railway (ID#16) also has a botanical species of interest (opposite leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium*). The brook although significant is also dominated in parts with an invasive non native species (Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*) that is being spread along its banks.

The hedgerows within the parcel are mostly species poor however all hedgerows provide suitable habitat for nesting birds and act as wildlife corridors. There are many mature trees within the parcel that are valuable to

wildlife and one in particular that is a veteran oak (ID#20) has potential to support bats.

The areas of semi improved and poor semi improved grassland (ID#2,62,60) are not species rich and are regularly disturbed (used for horse riding). However these habitats are valuable for wildlife especially small mammals, invertebrates and reptiles.

The railway embankments (ID#28,21,41) are part of the Linear pLWS/SINC Kenilworth to Balsall Railway Embankments SP37Li9b that provides a good wildlife corridor for many species. The potential for reptiles using this habitat is increased due to the known population of lizards and potential population of adders using the railway further South within the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve (Kenilworth Common pLWS/SINC SP27W4).

Recommendations for Further Survey
The brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of semi improved grassland and poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these areas. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

The railway embankments (Linear pLWS/SINC Kenilworth to Balsall Railway Embankments SP37Li9b) provide suitable habitat for reptiles (ID#28,21,41) therefore if any development were to impact these areas, then further survey would be required to establish if any such species are using the site.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The two Linear pLWS/SINCs (Kenilworth to Balsall Railway Embankment SP37Li9b and River Sowe & Finham Brook & Lakes SP37Li4b) should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on either site.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

This parcel of land acts as important buffer habitat for both Finham Brook and the railway. These linear features are important for connectivity to the wider landscape. The parcel follows the line of the brook and therefore any development would directly impact the watercourse and its effectiveness as a green corridor. Therefore the parcel is unfavourable for development.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 12/08/08
13/08/08

Notes:

Map: 26 Golf Club/New Kingswood Farm, Dalehouse Lane

Area (ha): 23.9

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3.26 Map 26 Golf Club/New Kingswood Farm, Dalehouse Lane

Area: 23.9ha

Overview
The middle section of this parcel of land is dominated by a mosaic of amenity grassland and plantation forming Kenilworth Golf Course. Arable dominates the Eastern section and an area of improved grassland within the Western section.

Key Features
Semi natural woodland lining road verge (pLWS/SINC Dalehouse Lane SP37B2)
Native plantation
Areas of species rich tall ruderal and poor semi improved grassland
Hedgerows
Mature trees

Habitat Description
The middle section of the parcel of land is amenity grassland and plantation forming a golf course. The amenity grassland has a low ecological value however there are two areas (ID#8,19) that are not intensively managed that have more species diversity and wildlife value. However these areas are very small and relatively isolated with constant human disturbance resulting in a lower ecological significance. Although the areas of native broadleaved and mixed plantation are quite disturbed and have poor ground flora they still hold some value for wildlife.

The improved grassland has little ecological significance and only two associated hedgerows. The arable is surrounded with hedgerows that are all ecologically significant as they provide corridors and nesting habitat for wildlife. This parcel contains minimal hedgerows with one being of higher biodiversity value due to its woody species diversity, ground flora and associated ditch (ID#12,29). All hedgerows however are important for wildlife and enhance biodiversity by acting as a linkage between different habitats and providing nesting habitat for farmland birds. The mature trees within the parcel are valuable to wildlife and have potential for roosting bats. The roadside verge pLWS/SINC Dalehouse Lane SP37B2 (ID#21,22,23,24,25) is lined with semi natural broadleaved woodland with mature oaks and woodland ground flora however this is very narrow and disturbed.

There is a small section of semi natural broadleaved woodland (ID#1) and a large pond that are both ecologically significant just outside the boundary of the parcel. The pond provides suitable habitat for breeding amphibians that may use areas within the parcel for refugia and the woodland provides suitable habitat for a range of wildlife.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The pLWS/SINC Dalehouse Lane SP37B2 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between April and July.

The areas of poor semi improved grassland and tall ruderal should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

A further survey will be required for the plantation woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

It is recommended that the potentially species rich hedgerow (ID#12,29) is subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of its biodiversity value.

The pond outside the parcel (ID#1) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts as these species may be using areas within the parcel for refugia. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC Dalehouse Lane SP37B2 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site.

The woodland strip within the pLWS/SINC and the section just outside the boundary (ID#1) are both of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 metres width within the parcel for the woodland strip and 50metres around the section of woodland (although it is already abutting areas of development on two of its sides). This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerow is retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native

species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on retaining mature trees and the species rich hedgerow. The wooded strip alongside the road should be retained however this may affect any access to development. The woodland and pond outside the boundary should be protected to reduce any impact from development. The plantation woodlands within the golf course should be replaced to minimise biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 12/13/15 . 08.08

Notes:

Map: 27 Westwood Heath

Area (ha): 102.3

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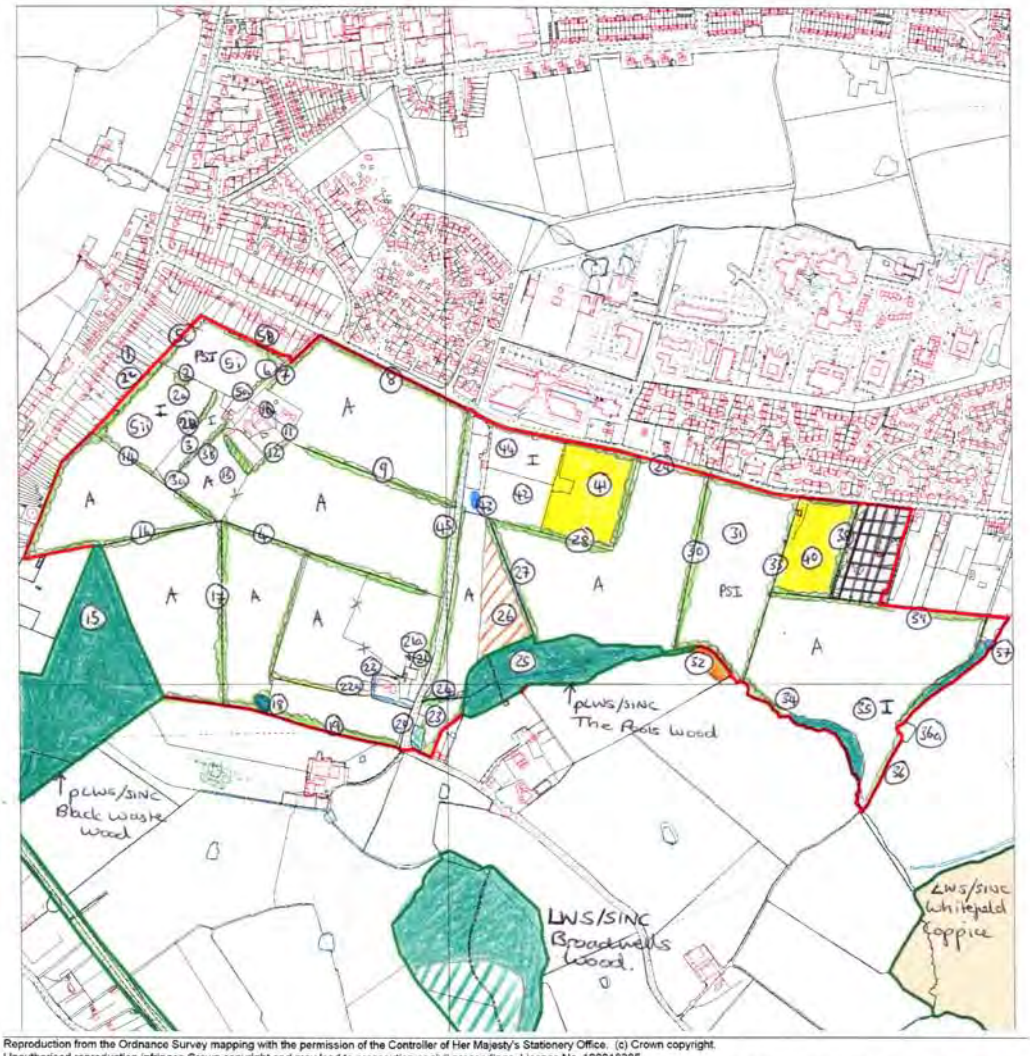

3.27 Map 27 Westwood Heath

Area: 102.3ha

Overview
Map 27 is dominated by arable with numerous hedgerows. There are two pLWS/SINC woodlands (Black Waste Wood SP27S2 and The Pools Wood SP27X2) that are Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality forming parts of the boundary on the Southern edge which are of great ecological significance. There are a few ponds, a small allotment and two areas of amenity grassland with an area of poor semi improved grassland in between.

Key Features
Two pLWS/SINC Woodlands (Black Waste Wood SP27S2 and The Pools Wood SP27X2) of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality with ancient woodland indicators
Ponds (one is a pLWS/SINC Bockendon Grange Pond SP27S5)
Strips of Semi natural woodland
Watercourse
Hedgerows
Mature trees
Two LWS/SINCs (Broadwells Wood SP27S1 and Whitefield Coppice SP27X3) outside boundary
Poor semi improved grassland
Badger setts

Habitat Description
The majority of Map 27 is arable with numerous hedgerows. Some of the hedgerows are mature species rich (ID#6,8,16,19,22a,27,28,36,39,45) which are valuable for a range of wildlife particularly foraging and nesting farmland birds and invertebrates. However all the hedgerows create a network of wildlife corridors through the intensively-farmed landscape and help connect the other important habitats such as the woods and ponds. The areas of greatest ecological importance are the pLWS/SINC semi natural broadleaved woodlands (ID#15 Black Waste Wood SP27S2 and 25 The Pools Wood SP27X2) that lie along the Southern boundary of the parcel. Both these woods were surveyed against the Local Wildlife Site/SINC criteria and both are expected to be fully designated Local Wildlife Site/SINCs. They are relatively undisturbed woods with ancient woodland indicators and a rich ground flora (of particular note broad leaved helleborine *Epipactis helleborine* found within Pools Wood ID#25). These woods are very valuable for wildlife as well as being important historical landscape features and also vulnerable to disturbance. There are two LWS/SINC woodlands (Broadwells Wood SP27S1 & Whitefield Coppice SP27X3) outside the parcel boundary which are also species rich and would be vulnerable to disturbance. Areas of semi natural woodland are continued in strips along the South Western edge which act as corridors for wildlife.

There are a few ponds (ID#18,43,37) within the parcel one that could not be surveyed due to access (ID#43) and one that is a pLWS/SINC (ID#18 Bockendon Grange Pond SP27S5). All the ponds have the potential to be suitable habitat for breeding amphibians and invertebrates and are important habitats for a range of wildlife. The areas of poor semi improved grassland (ID#5i,5ii,31) are species poor but relatively undisturbed and therefore have potential to support a range of wildlife such as small mammals, invertebrates and reptiles. There are many mature trees within the parcel that are valuable to wildlife and have the potential to support roosting bats.

The area of allotments provides good habitat for many species and has the potential to support species such as slow worms. The watercourse that runs along the Southern edge towards the East is a good wildlife corridor and has the potential to support protected species such as water voles. The areas of improved grassland and amenity grassland have a low ecological value due to the intense management and low species numbers.

Recommendations for Further Survey

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#6,8,16,19,22a,27,28,36,39,45) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

All the ponds within the parcel (ID#18,43,37) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality. The pLWS/SINC pond (Bockendon Grange Pond SP27S5) will need to be surveyed using the Local Wildlife Site/SINC criteria.

A further survey will be required for the strips of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.

The watercourse will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of poor semi improved grassland and rank improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. An invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found to be present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European

Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The two pLWS/SINCs (Black Waste Wood SP27S2 and The Pools Wood SP27X2) and the two LWS/SINCs (Broadwells Wood SP27S1 and Whitefield Coppice SP27X3) should be retained and a buffer zone of 50 metres around each woodland be implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland sites from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodlands, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

All the ponds should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of the buffer zones will depend upon the outcomes of the additional surveys.

The watercourse is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the watercourse should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

The Southern edge of this parcel of land contains the highest biodiversity levels due to the presence of species rich woodland. Due to the quality of these woodlands and the location of two more LWS/SINC woodlands just outside the boundary the majority of the parcel is unfavourable for development. Considerable buffer zones should be implemented and managed for each woodland should any development take place to minimise any biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 15/08/08
14/08/08

Notes:

Map: 28 Land North of Coventry Road/ Rowley Road, Baginton

Area (ha): 55.4

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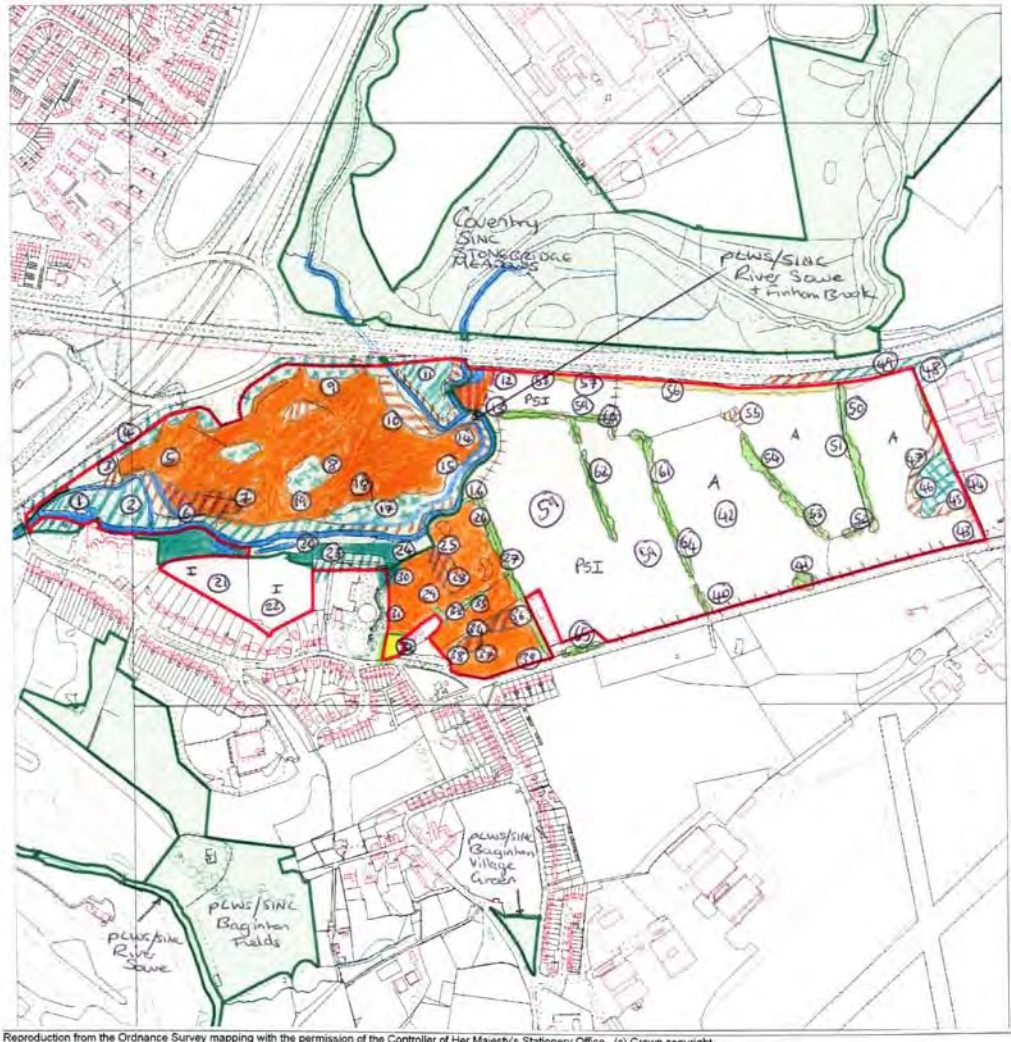

3.28 Map 28 Land North of Coventry Road/Rowley Road, Baginton

Area: 55.4ha

Overview
Map 28 is divided between relatively low biodiversity in the Eastern section dominated by arable and very high biodiversity in the Western section with semi improved and marshy grassland, swamp and semi natural woodland that are part of the River Sowe pLWS/SINC SP37G3.

Key Features
pLWS/SINC River Sowe SP37G3 species rich semi improved and marshy grasslands
Semi improved grassland, marshy grassland and swamp
River Sowe with trees and scrub
Suitable bat hibernaculam
Semi natural broad leaved woodland
Hedgerows
Mature trees

Habitat Description
The Eastern section of this parcel of land is dominated by arable and poor semi improved grassland. There are hedgerows within this section although most are defunct and species poor. All hedgerows however are important to wildlife by providing suitable habitat for nesting birds, foraging invertebrates and by acting as green corridors for many animals. There are several mature trees which are valuable for a range of wildlife particularly for the potential for roosting bats.

There is an area of scrub and tall ruderal vegetation (ID#7,8) along the Eastern boundary that provides suitable habitat for birds and other wildlife. Within this area of scrub there is a small stand of Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica* (ID#6) which is an invasive alien species. The poor semi improved grassland (ID#59) is still valuable despite its low diversity as it has potential to increase in quality due to the presence of species rich good quality grassland adjacent to it. The Western section of the parcel has a high biodiversity value due to a mosaic of habitats. The dominant habitat is semi improved grassland with marshy areas which are species rich. The majority of the grassland is a part of a pLWS/SINC (River Sowe SP37G3). The species rich semi improved grassland and marshy grassland are important habitats for a range of wildlife particularly invertebrates. Characteristic butterflies include common blue, orange tip and meadow brown. Many sorts of bees, flies, wasps, beetles, bugs and moths also use these grassland habitats.

The River Sowe runs through this section of the parcel and is well vegetated. The river is important to a range of wildlife and provides connectivity with neighbouring green spaces as well as the potential to support protected

species such as water vole and otter. The small areas of semi natural broadleaved woodland (ID#23) have an interesting ground flora and provide suitable habitat for many animals particularly nesting birds and roosting bats. Within one section of semi improved grassland there is an underground historical feature that has high potential to support roosting bats or to be used as a bat hibernaculam (ID#30). Evidence of badger activity was noted during the survey.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The pLWS/SINC River Sowe SP37G3 should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between June and July. The River Sowe will need to be surveyed for water voles and otters, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The areas of semi improved grassland, marshy grassland and poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these site. A bird, reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands. A study of the hydrology should be carried out to analyse the risk of impacting the areas of marshy grassland within the floodplain of the river.

A further survey will be required for the woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist. A bat survey is especially recommended for the underground historical feature (ID#30) as this has a high bat potential.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC River Sowe SP37G3 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site.

The River Sowe is potential water vole and otter habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the river should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The woodland is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50

metres width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

The area of Japanese knotweed (ID#6) should be removed using a treatment of glycophosphate.

Map 28 contains a high level of biodiversity due to the valuable grassland habitat and the River Sowe. The quality of the grasslands and the sensitivity to changes in hydrology result in an unfavourable parcel for development.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 20-23/08/08

Notes

Map: 29 Land South of Mill Hill/Coventry Road, Baginton

Area (ha): 40

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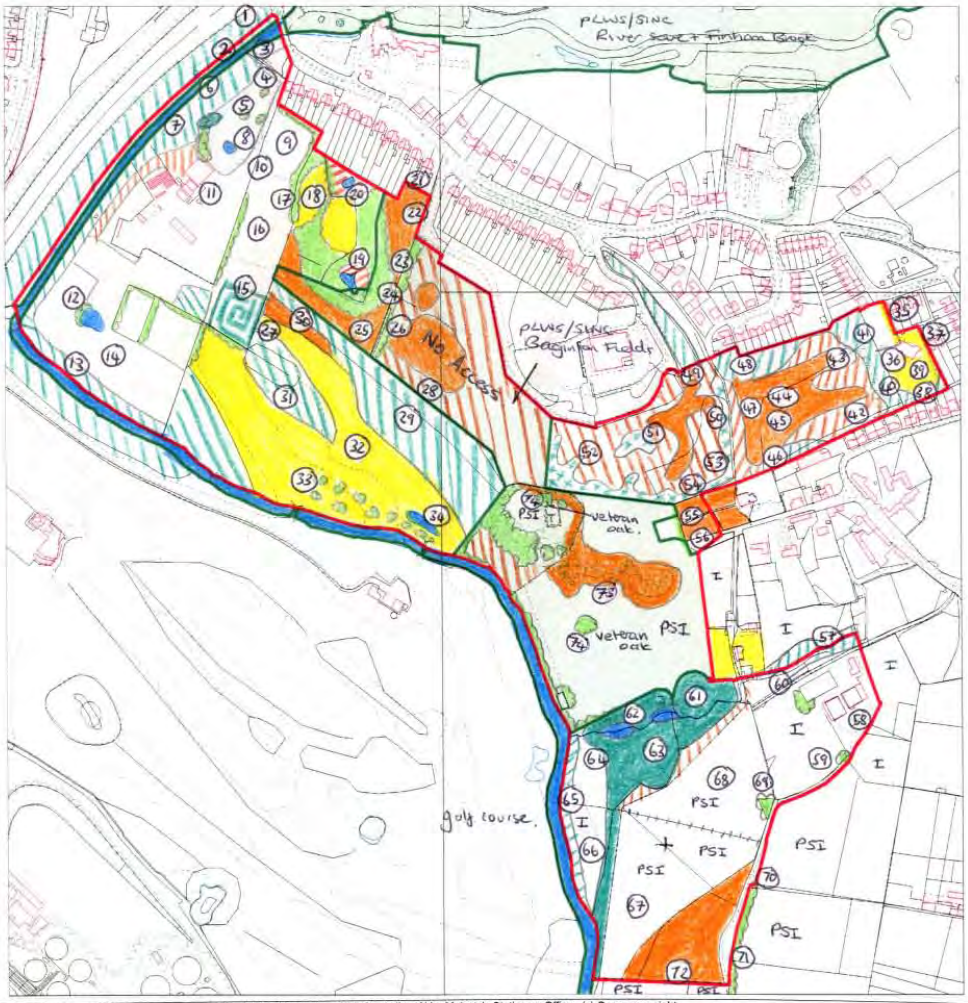

3.29 Map 29 Land South of Mill Hill/Coventry Road, Baginton

Area: 40ha

Overview
Map 29 is a complex mosaic of habitats without a single dominant habitat. There are multiple areas of undisturbed scrub, tall ruderal and rank semi improved grassland. A large area is comprised of the grounds and buildings of a garden centre and a large area is comprised of a golf course. The grazed fields in the Southern section are generally poor semi improved grassland with better quality areas within them. There is a section of good quality semi natural broadleaved woodland and the River Sowe forms the Northern and Western boundaries.

Key Features
Mosaic of habitats
Semi improved grassland
pLWS/SINC Baginton Castle Fields SP37H1
Undisturbed areas of scrub, tall ruderal and semi improved grassland
River Sowe pLWS/SINC SP37G3
Semi natural broadleaved woodland
Badger activity
Ponds
Mature and veteran trees

Habitat Description
Map 29 has a high ecological value due to the mosaic of habitats. The multiple habitats can support a diverse range of species and multiple behaviours such as nesting and foraging habitats within a small area. The areas of highest biodiversity value are the areas of acidic type semi improved grassland (ID#73,55), undisturbed areas of rank grassland (ID#44,45,47,51) and scrub and the semi natural woodland (ID#63,61,62). The acid type grasslands are characteristically species poor and support minimal particularly rare plant species in this area. However these habitats contain important elements of the county's biodiversity exemplified by the abundant sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetoslla*. Many of the invertebrates that occur in acid grassland are specialist species which do not occur in other types of grassland locally and a good number of nationally scarce, regionally scarce species rely heavily upon acid grassland. The open, dry acid grasslands on sandy soils in particular, can support a considerable number of ground-dwelling and burrowing invertebrates such as solitary bees and wasps. The semi improved grassland within the grazed fields (ID#72) is important for a range of wildlife particularly invertebrates. Characteristic butterflies include common blue, orange tip and meadow brown. Many sorts of bees, flies, wasps, beetles, bugs and moths also use these grassland habitats. The undisturbed areas of grassland, scrub and tall ruderal (ID#44,45,47,51) are particularly good for wildlife as they provide refuge within a high disturbance urban environment. Wildlife such as small mammals, invertebrates and reptiles would benefit from these undisturbed habitats. However there are

large areas dominated by Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica* (ID#53) which is an invasive alien species.

The section of semi natural broad leaved woodland (ID#63,61,62) has a rich ground flora and has two water bodies. The woodland provides suitable habitat for a range of wildlife such as bats, badgers and nesting birds. Evidence of badger activity was noted during the survey of this parcel. There are numerous mature trees and a couple of veteran oaks (ID#74) within the parcel that are valuable to wildlife as well as important features in the landscape. Veteran trees are significant in the range of other species they support and in their level of oxygen production compared to younger trees. The area of amenity grassland and plantation within the golf course has a relatively low biodiversity value due to the human disturbance and intensively managed habitats, however the plantation still provides habitat opportunities for many animals. There are only a minimal number of hedgerows within the parcel however all hedgerows provide habitat for nesting birds and act as corridors for wildlife. There are several ponds (ID#34,8,12,19,20,62) within this parcel that provide suitable habitat for breeding amphibians and invertebrates.

The River Sowe forms the Northern and Western boundaries to the parcel and provides an important habitat, connectivity to other green spaces and has potential to support protected species such as water voles and otters. The middle section of this parcel is a pLWS/SINC (Baginton Castle Fields SP37H1) which was surveyed 20th August 2008 to ascertain whether it is of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality.

Recommendations for Further Survey

The areas of semi improved grassland and poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands. The area within the North of the pLWS/SINC (Baginton Castle Fields SP37H1) will need to surveyed between June and July as this area was not fully surveyed as this part of the parcel was inaccessible.

The River Sowe will need to be surveyed for water voles and otters, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

A further survey will be required for the woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

All the ponds within the parcel (ID#34,8,12,19,20,62) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality.

Full details of the presence of badgers and their use within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC Baginton Castle Fields SP37H1 should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on the site.

The River Sowe is potential water vole and otter habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The woodland is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The ponds should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of the buffer zone depends upon the outcome of the suggested surveys.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Some trees are specifically protected if covered by a local authority Tree Preservation Order or housing species protected under the 1981 Wildlife and

Countryside Act (e.g. all bats and some nesting birds). Section 91 of Planning Policy Statement 9 (ODPM, 2005) states that veteran and other substantial trees can be important for biodiversity conservation and local planning authorities should consider their nature conservation value and the use of TPOs to protect them, in land use change decisions. The veteran trees within this parcel (ID#74) should therefore be retained with a buffer zone of 50 metres implemented to prevent damage to them.

The area of Japanese knotweed (ID#53) should be removed using a treatment of glycophosphate.

Map 29 has multiple areas of high biodiversity value. A large proportion of the parcel is semi improved grassland, rich woodland and a pLWS/SINC. Due to the grassland type (acidic) it is very valuable and difficult to replace. This parcel is therefore unfavourable for development.

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OS Base Survey Map

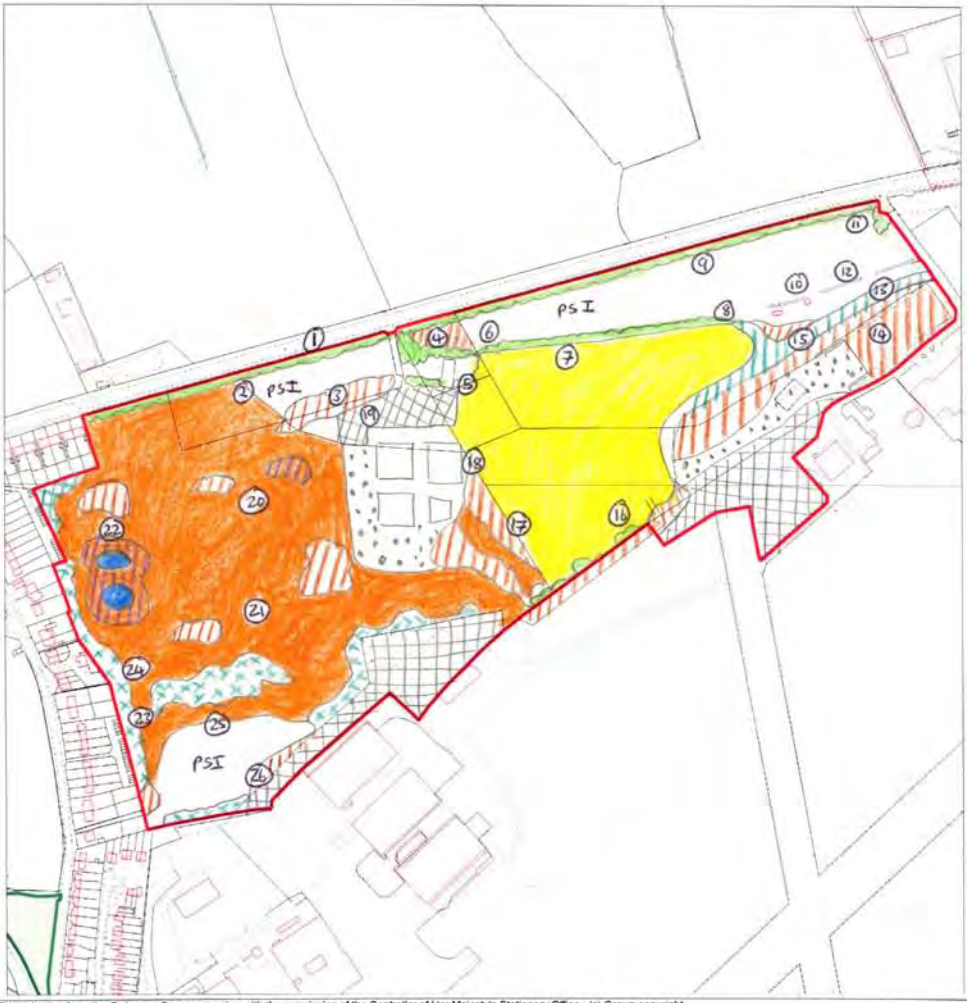
Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 13 + 14 /08 /08

Notes:

Map: 30 Rugby Club/South of Rowley Road Baginton

Area (ha): 22

N W E S



3.30 Map 30 Rugby Club/South of Rowley Road, Baginton

Area: 22ha

Overview
Map 30 is dominated by species rich semi improved grassland and poor semi improved grassland with a large area of amenity grassland and hard standing. There are scattered areas of tall ruderal vegetation and scrub with a section of Japanese Knotweed.

Key Features
Semi improved grassland with marsh and swamp
Tall ruderal scrub

Habitat Description
The areas of most ecological significance are the semi improved (ID#20) and poor semi improved grasslands (ID#25,2,9) that dominate Map 30. The grasslands have diverse flora and areas of marsh and swamp (ID#22) as well as scattered trees. The grasslands provide suitable habitat for a range of wildlife such as small mammals, reptiles, birds and invertebrates. Characteristic butterflies include common blue, orange tip and meadow brown. Many sorts of bees, flies, wasps, beetles, bugs and moths also use these grassland habitat types. Semi improved grassland is an increasingly rare habitat in Warwickshire and is a UKBAP habitat and therefore any areas of species rich grassland have a high biodiversity value. The areas of scrub (ID#21,24,26) within the grassland and the linear scrub are important to nesting birds and any mature trees are also valuable particularly if they support roosting bats. There are two large stands of the invasive alien species Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* (ID#23).

Recommendations for Further Survey
The areas of semi improved grassland, poor semi improved grassland, marshy grassland and reed bed should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of these sites. A bird, reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within the grasslands. It is recommended that a study of the hydrology for these areas be completed to analyse the effects that any development would have.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as

advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

The area of Japanese knotweed (ID#23) should be removed using a treatment of glycophosphate.

A large proportion of this parcel of land is species rich semi improved grassland which is a very valuable habitat. These types of grassland are not easily replaced therefore this parcel is unfavourable for development.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 26/08/08

Notes:

Map: 31 Land at Thickthorn, Kenilworth

Area (ha): 45.7

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3.31 Map 31 Land at Thickthorn, Kenilworth

Area: 45.7ha

Overview
Map 31 is dominated by improved grassland, arable and amenity grassland with hedgerows and mature trees. The parcel also contains numerous sections of semi natural woodland which is mainly contained within two species rich pLWS/SINCs (Glasshouse Spinney SP37A1 and Thickthorn Wood SP37A3). There is a small area of semi improved and poor semi improved grassland within a larger field of improved grassland.

Key Features
pLWS/SINC woodland (Thickthorn Wood SP37A3)
pLWS/SINC woodland (Glasshouse Spinney SP37A1)
Species rich hedgerow
Section of semi natural woodland
Mature trees

Habitat Description
The fields of improved grassland have a low ecological value and many hedgerows within these fields have been left unmanaged or replaced by fencing. There are several hedgerows within the parcel of land some that are hawthorn dominant and a few that are mature and relatively species rich (ID#26,31,34). All hedgerows are valuable to wildlife by providing habitat for nesting birds, foraging invertebrates and green corridors for many animals. The species rich mature hedgerows are also important as landscape features within the Arden area. There are field margins within two of the arable fields (ID#35). As well as providing an important refuge for any wildflowers, the field margins also provide buffer strips between the agricultural operations and the sensitive hedgerow habitat. The margins also provide valuable wildlife corridors for a range of species including invertebrates, birds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Invertebrate species including butterflies, grasshoppers, solitary wasps, and bees are attracted to field margins.

The improved fields are surrounded on the Western, Southern and Eastern boundaries by narrow strips of semi natural woodland (ID#6,8,16) that provide suitable habitat for a range of wildlife and good connectivity around the urban areas and main roads. The area of rank semi improved grassland (ID#12) is isolated within improved grassland however it is still valuable for wildlife such as small mammals and invertebrates especially butterflies and bees. There are many mature trees within the parcel some that are considerably mature that are important for biodiversity and have potential to support roosting bats.

The areas of greatest ecological significance are the sections of pLWS/SINC woodlands (ID#38,43,17). The first section, which is part of Thickthorn Wood (ID#17) is a significant size despite being dissected by the A46. It is a characteristic woodland type for South Warwickshire and has a rich ground flora. Thickthorn Wood was surveyed 3rd September 2008 and has been

recommended for Local Wildlife Site/SINC designation and would include the smaller section within the parcel. The strip of pLWS/SINC woodland Glasshouse Spinney (ID#38,43) is also of Local Wildlife Site/SINC quality with mature trees and a rich ground flora with some ancient woodland indicators. Glasshouse spinney is also a Warwickshire Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve.

Recommendations for Further Survey
A further survey will be required for the strips of woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value. The pLWS/SINC woodland (Glasshouse Spinney SP37A1) should be resurveyed with the Local Wildlife Site/SINC criteria. The pLWS/SINC woodland (Thickthorn Wood SP37A3) was surveyed with the Local Wildlife Site criteria on 3rd September 2008.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#26,31,34) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

The area of semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. An invertebrate survey should be completed within this grassland.

Full details of the presence of badgers and their use within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC woodlands (Thickthorn Wood SP37A3 and Glasshouse Spinney SP37A1) are of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the

hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Due to this parcels proximity to pLWS/SINC species rich woodland the majority of the parcel is not favourable for development. Any development should focus on protecting the areas of woodland with considerable buffer zones implemented and managed to reduce any biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

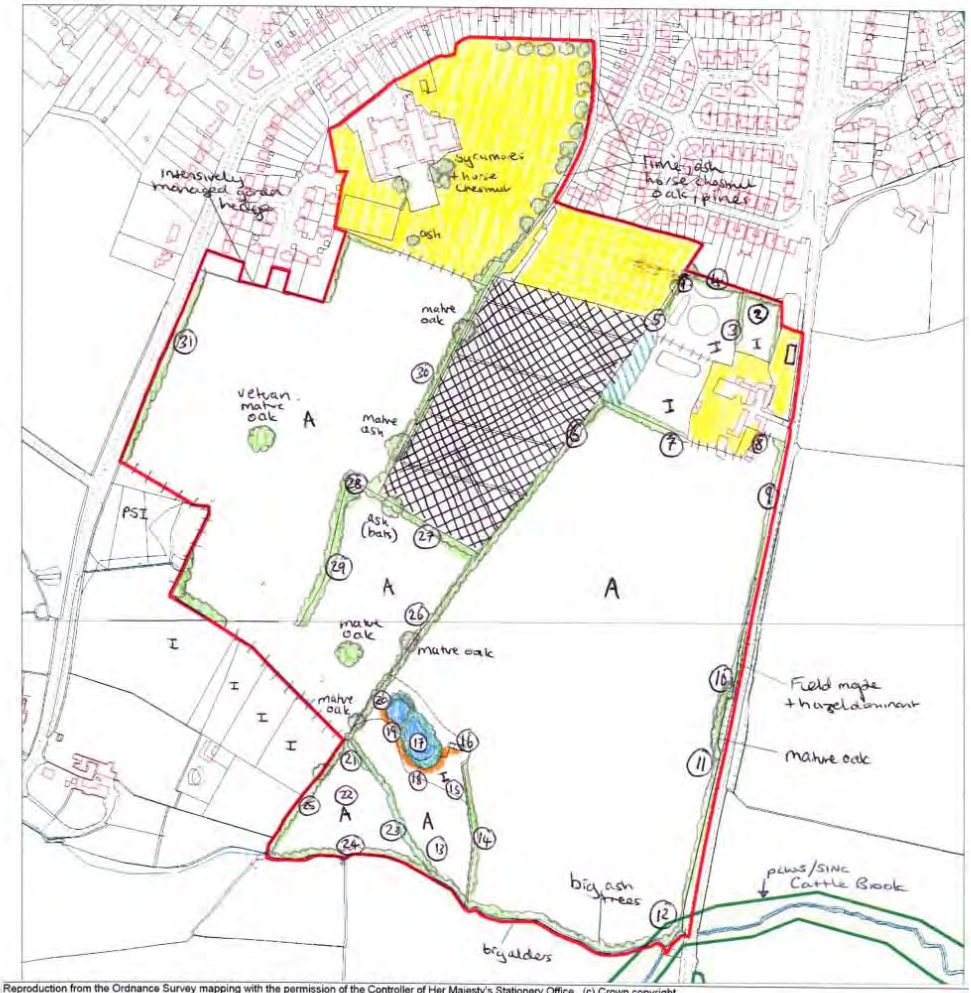
Surveyor(s): SEP
Date(s): 29/08/08

Notes:

Map: 32 Land South of Rouncil Lane (North of Leek Wootton)

Area (ha): 44.3

N W E S



3.32 Map 32 Land South of Rouncil Lane (North of Leek Wootton)

Area: 44.3ha

Overview
Map 32 is comprised of arable, allotments, amenity grassland, species rich hedgerows and mature trees. There is a watercourse with diverse vegetation forming the Southern boundary and a large pond with remnants of species rich semi improved grassland surrounding it.

Key Features
Large pond with high biodiversity surrounding habitat
Disused farm buildings with high potential for breeding owls
Species rich hedgerows
Mature trees
Field margins
Watercourse with diverse vegetation
Allotments

Habitat Description
Map 32 is dominated by two large arable fields and two smaller ones. Arable habitat has a low biodiversity value however there are some species rich hedgerows (ID#9,29,30,31) and wide field margins (ID#7,8,9) to increase the hedgerows biodiversity further. The two smaller arable fields (ID#13,22) do not seem to be sprayed regularly as there is a high diversity of arable weeds in the margins and within the crops. These fields therefore have potential to support more invertebrates and therefore a greater variety of wildlife than the more intensively managed fields surrounding them. The species rich hedgerows have a high biodiversity value and the wide field margins adjacent provide more opportunities for a greater variety of wildlife. However all the hedgerows are valuable as they provide habitat for a range of wildlife such as nesting farmland birds and act as green corridors for many animals. The field margins have a moderate diversity of plant species and numerous species of invertebrates were present during the survey. As well as providing an important refuge for any wildflowers, the field margins also provide buffer strips between agricultural operations and the sensitive habitats such as the hedgerows and the watercourse. The margins also provide valuable wildlife corridors for a range of species including invertebrates, birds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians. Field margins also provide nesting and feeding sites for game birds and songbirds. Invertebrate species including butterflies, grasshoppers, solitary wasps, and bees are attracted to field margins. There are numerous mature trees within the parcel that are valuable to biodiversity and have the potential to support roosting bats.

The pond (ID#17) and surrounding areas have a high biodiversity value and provide suitable habitats for breeding amphibians and invertebrates (dragonflies were recorded during the survey). The habitat surrounding the pond showed evidence of species rich grassland that was present during the

areas most recent survey in 2006 and two species in particular were of interest. Betony *Stachys officinalis* is frequent within the area surrounding the pond (ID#19) as well as vervain *Verbena officinalis* which is uncommon in Warwickshire. The disused farm buildings next to the pond (ID#16) have evidence of owl activity as well as other nesting birds such as swallow, sparrow and wren.

There is an area of allotments that provide a valuable habitat for many native plants and animals, especially in these urban areas where green space can be limited. The Northern section of the parcel is dominated by amenity grassland, buildings and ornamental planting which have a low biodiversity value. The watercourse that forms the Southern boundary has an interesting vegetation community and provides good connectivity between green spaces as well as having the potential to support protected species such as water voles.

Recommendations for Further Survey

The large pond within the parcel (ID#17) will need to be surveyed for invertebrates and amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the pond will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on water levels or water quality.

The remnant area of semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of this site.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#9,29,30,31) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

It is recommended that a survey of the farm buildings (ID#16) are surveyed for nesting farmland birds with a particular emphasis for barn owls.

The watercourse will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the farm buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The pond should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds and the surrounding grassland habitat. The size of the buffer zone will depend upon the outcome of the suggested surveys and the presence or absence of protected species.

The watercourse is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the watercourse should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should concentrate on protecting the large pond and enhancing the surrounding remnant grassland. The watercourse should be buffered to enable it to function as a green corridor for wildlife. Mature trees and species rich hedgerows should be retained to minimise biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 27/03/08

Notes:

Map: 33 Oak Leaf Farm, Howes Lane

Area (ha): 1.8

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3.33 Map 33 Oak Leaf Farm, Howes Lane

Area: 1.8ha

Overview
The small parcel of land is predominately residential buildings with amenity grassland and ornamental planting with a field of poor semi improved grassland and tall ruderal. There are areas of plantation, species rich hedgerows, mature trees and an old orchard.

Key Features
Poor semi improved grassland with neglected areas of tall ruderal
Species rich hedgerow
Old orchard
Broadleaved plantation
Mature trees
Area of green space within urban fringe connected to green corridor

Habitat Description
This small triangular parcel of land is comprised of residential buildings with the associated gardens. The gardens are predominately non native ornamental planting which has low ecological value but still provides foraging habitat for birds, mammals and invertebrates particularly bees. There is an area of old orchard (ID#4) within the gardens which is a UKBAP habitat as it is valuable to a range of wildlife such as invertebrates and birds. There are many mature and semi mature trees within the parcel that are valuable to wildlife in particular birds and has the potential for roosting bats. The areas of broadleaved plantation (ID#9,17,2,21) have an interesting ground flora and are valuable for a range of wildlife for nesting and foraging habitats. The poor semi improved grassland (ID#19) although species poor is still valuable for many invertebrates, small mammals and has the potential for reptiles especially due to the lack of disturbance and overgrown areas of tall ruderal vegetation. There is a species rich hedgerow (ID#13) forming the majority of the Western boundary that is particularly valuable in terms of biodiversity as well as being an important landscape feature. The parcel also provides some important green space within an urban environment with connectivity provided by the strip of plantation woodland that forms the Eastern boundary.

Recommendations for Further Survey
It is recommended that the potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#13) is subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of its biodiversity value.

The area of poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within this grassland.

A further survey will be required for the areas of plantation woodland between April and June, to determine their full biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the buildings, woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the species rich hedgerow is retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The plantation woodland is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on retaining the broad leaved plantation so that the linkage to the strip of broad leaved plantation remains. Mature trees and the species rich hedgerow should be retained to minimise biodiversity losses. The area of poor semi improved grassland should be replaced.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): LW
Date(s): 26/08/08 - 08/09/08

Notes:

Map: 34 Kings Hill Road, Gibbet Hill, Green Lane

Area (ha): 176.4

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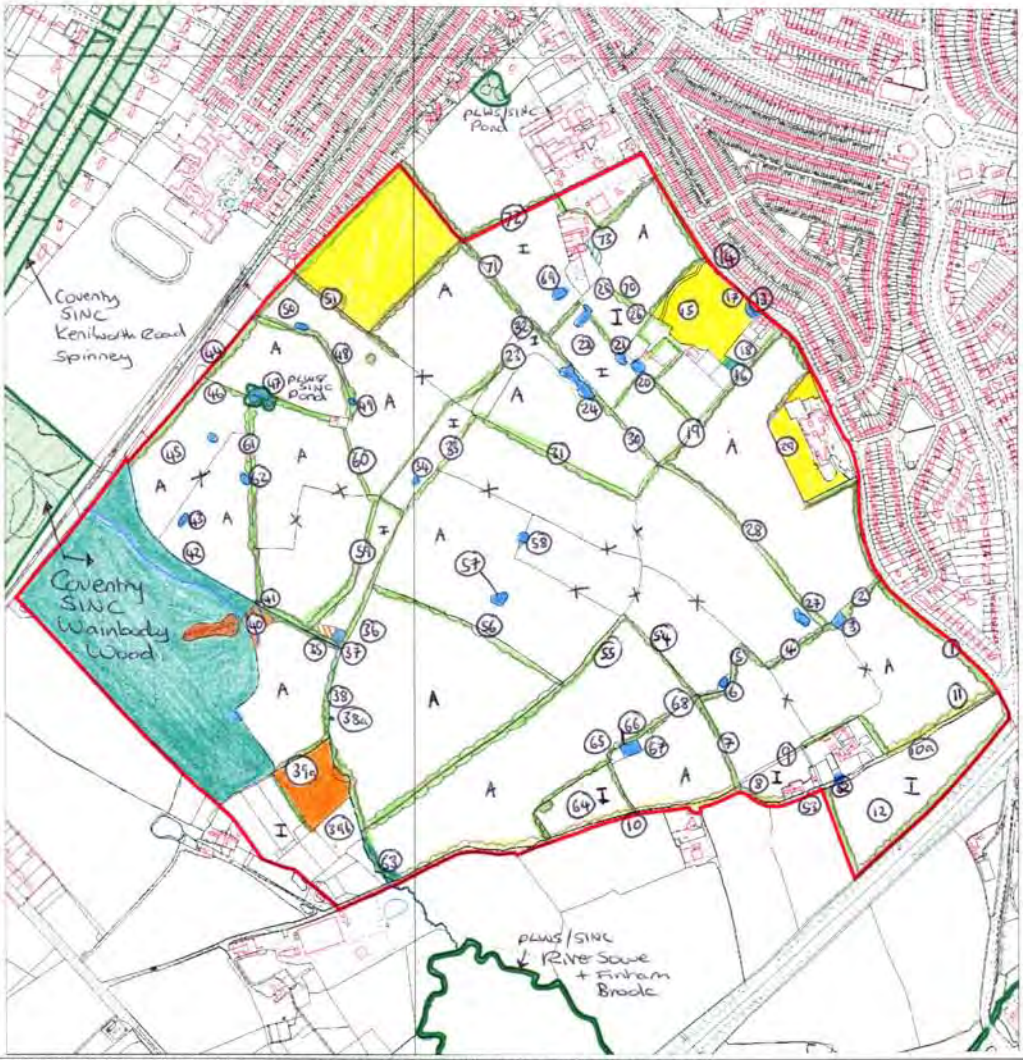

3.34 Map 34 Kings Hill Road, Gibbet Hill, Green Lane

Area: 176.4ha

Overview
This large parcel of land is dominated by arable, improved grassland, hedgerows, mature trees and numerous ponds. There is a large area of semi natural ancient broadleaved woodland that is a Coventry SINC (Wainbody Wood). There is an area of species rich calcareous semi improved grassland in the Southern corner.

Key Features
Semi natural ancient woodland (Coventry SINC Wainbody Wood)
Numerous ponds
Calcareous semi improved grassland
Species rich hedgerows
Veteran trees
Mature trees
Watercourse
pLWS pond (Pond SP37C2) within boundary and Coventry SINC pond (Finham Park Ponds) outside boundary
Badger setts

Habitat Description
The majority of this parcel of land is arable with hedgerows and ponds. The majority of the hedgerows are mature and have varied woody species. There are a large number of mature species rich hedgerows (ID#1,2,4,7,10,19,28,31,32,33,35,38,44,48,51,54,55,56,61,64,68,70,71) and some with associated ditches with a good range of ground flora that have a high biodiversity value as well as being important landscape features. All the hedgerows are important to wildlife as they provide nesting habitat for breeding birds, foraging habitat for many invertebrates and they create a network of wildlife corridors through the intensively-farmed landscape and connect the other important habitats such as the wood, ponds and grasslands. A few of the hedgerows were noted to have evidence of badger activity (ID#4,19,31). There are many mature trees and multiple veteran trees (ID#10a,11,33,38a) that are valuable to wildlife particularly roosting bats and are important features in the landscape.

An aspect of Map 34 that is particularly ecologically significant is the number of ponds (ID#3,6,13,20,21,24,25,27,34,37,43,45,47,49,50,52,57,58,62,66,67,69) most of which have a degree of connectivity due to their location within or near hedgerows. The ponds provide suitable habitat for breeding amphibians and invertebrates and one of the ponds is a pLWS/SINC (ID#47 Pond SP37C2). Many of the ponds have a good variety of aquatic vegetation and all should be considered to have potential for great crested newts.

Another area of high biodiversity value is the species rich calcareous semi improved grassland (ID#39a). This habitat is becoming increasingly rare within Warwickshire and is a UKBAP habitat. Calcareous semi-improved grasslands support a very rich flora and are also extremely important for invertebrates particularly butterflies, moths, bees and beetles. Nationally, the cover of calcareous grassland has suffered a sharp decline over the last 50 years and any remaining areas are therefore very ecologically significant. Such grasslands are also highly susceptible to changes in, or cessation of, management.

The area of most ecological significance within this parcel is the large area of semi natural ancient woodland (Wainbody Wood South Coventry SINC, separate map and Target Notes). The woodland is characteristic of this area and has a rich ground flora with several ancient woodland indicators as well as dry and wet ditches and a pond. This provides habitat for many animals and because of its size can support more stable populations of species. There is also a marshy area to the North West of the woodland (ID#40) within an arable field that contains common yellow sedge *Carex viridula ssp oedocarpa* which is an uncommon species for Warwickshire (eight records since the first record in 1985). The watercourse in the Southern section of the parcel is also important for biodiversity as it provides habitat for a range of wildlife and acts as a green corridor through to other green spaces.

Recommendations for Further Survey
A further resurvey will be required for the woodland (Coventry SINC) between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

The area of calcareous semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within this grassland.

It is recommended that any potentially species rich hedgerows (ID#1,2,4,7,10,19,28,31,32,33,35,38,44,48,51,54,55,56,61,64,68,70,71) are subjected to a full hedgerow survey following the ancient hedgerow criteria to establish the full extent of their biodiversity value.

All the ponds within the parcel (ID#3,6,13,20,21,24,25,27,34,37,43,45,47,49,50,52,57,58,62,66,67,69) will need to be surveyed for amphibians in particular great crested newts. A hydrology survey of the ponds will also need to be undertaken to ensure any development would not have any adverse affect on the ponds water levels or water quality. The pLWS/SINC ponds (ID#47 and the pond outside the parcel boundary Coventry SINC Finham Park Ponds) should be surveyed with the Local Wildlife Site criteria for their botanical value as well as their potential for great crested newts.

The watercourse will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

Full details of the presence of badgers and their use within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The woodland (Coventry SINC Wainbody Wood) is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The relatively rare calcareous grassland should be retained and buffered to prevent impact from run off and changes to hydrology affecting the site. A management plan should be written and implemented for this grassland to maintain its biodiversity value.

It is recommended that all species rich hedgerows are retained with a buffer zone. The less biodiverse hedgerows should be replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements.

The ponds should be retained with a buffer zone implemented to protect the biodiversity value of the ponds. The size of the buffer zones will depend upon the outcome of the suggested surveys.

The watercourse is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the watercourse should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Some trees are specifically protected if covered by a local authority Tree Preservation Order or housing species protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (e.g. all bats and some nesting birds). Section 91 of Planning Policy Statement 9 (ODPM, 2005) states that veteran and other substantial trees can be important for biodiversity conservation and local planning authorities should consider their nature conservation value and the use of TPOs to protect them, in land use change decisions. The veteran trees within this parcel (ID#10a,11,33,38a) should therefore be retained with a buffer zone of 50 metres around each tree implemented to prevent damage to them.

Any development within this large parcel of land should depend on the ability to retain the connectivity between the ponds via the hedgerows and the protection of the woodland and semi improved grassland. The woodland and grassland should have significant buffer zones to protect against impacts of development and to maximise retention of biodiversity. To reduce biodiversity losses all the ponds, species rich hedgerows and mature trees should be retained.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): M E
Date(s): 10/10/08

Notes:

Map: 35 Land NE of Fieldgate Lane, Whitnash

Area (ha): 7.1

N W E S

3.35 Map 35 Land NE of Fieldgate Lane, Whitnash

Area: 7.1ha

Overview
Map 35 is comprised of improved grassland and poor semi improved grassland with linear scrub and hedgerows. There is a tree lined watercourse (pLWS/SINC Whitnash Brook) forming the Eastern boundary with a drainage ditch and scrub forming the Southern boundary. A train line forms the Western boundary that is linear pLWS.

Key Features
Tree lined watercourse (Whitnash Brook pLWS/SINC)
Poor semi improved grassland
Hedgerows
Mature trees

Habitat Description
Map 35 is comprised of two fields, one of improved grassland and the other of poor semi improved grassland. The improved grassland (ID#4) has a low ecological value however there is an area of higher biodiversity in the North West corner of the field where more marshy grassland species are found (ID#5). The poor semi improved grassland (ID#8) is more important for biodiversity and although it has low species diversity it has some species of interest and has potential to improve quality. The areas of grassland provide habitat for a range of wildlife such as invertebrates and small mammals especially as they are currently not intensively managed. There is one hedgerow within the parcel which is species poor while the other boundaries have continuous scrub and trees. Although the hedgerow is species poor it still provides habitat for nesting birds and acts as a green corridor for many animals.

The section of most ecological significance is the tree lined watercourse (Whitnash Brook pLWS/SINC which provides suitable habitat for many riparian species and by acting as a link for wildlife moving to neighbouring habitats, or between hibernation and breeding habitats. The brook also provides suitable habitat for foraging bats and has the potential for water voles. The mature trees within the parcel are valuable for many species and have potential to support roosting bats. The railway forming the Western boundary is a pLWS/SINC (Railway Cutting SP36K1) and provides an important green corridor.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The two pLWS/SINCs (Whitnash Brook SP36G1 and Railway Cutting SP36K1) should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between June and July. The brook will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

The area of poor semi improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within this grassland.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

The railway embankment provides suitable habitat for reptiles therefore if any development were to impact these areas, then further survey would be required to establish if any such species are using the site.

Recommendations

The two pLWS/SINCs (Whitnash Brook SP36G1 and Railway Cutting SP36K1) should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites.

The brook is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the brook should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on protecting the function of the watercourse as a green corridor. The poor semi improved grassland should be replaced to reduce biodiversity losses.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 10/10/08

Notes:

Map: 36 Land R/O The Hamlet, Leek Wootton

Area (ha): 5.2

N
W E
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3.36 Map 36 Land R/O The Hamlet, Leek Wootton

Area: 5.2ha

Overview
The small parcel of land is dominated by improved grassland with minimal hedgerows. There is a strip of plantation woodland on an embankment to the East and a strip of semi natural broadleaved woodland to the North and West.

Key Features
Semi natural woodland strip
Hedgerows
Mature trees
Plantation on embankment

Habitat Description
The majority of Map 36 is improved grassland which has low ecological value. There are only a few hedgerows which are mostly species poor, however they still provide suitable habitat for nesting farmland birds and green corridors for a range of wildlife. The area of most ecological significance is the strip of semi natural broad leaved woodland (ID#1) to the North and West just outside the boundary which is part of a larger pLWS/SINC (Wootton Spinneys SP36E1). The woodland is valuable habitat for many species such as foraging and nesting birds, mammals, invertebrates, bats and badgers. The strip of broadleaved plantation (ID#3,7) along the embankment for the A46 is valuable as a green corridor along the road and as a refuge for wildlife. The mature trees within the parcel are valuable for a range of wildlife and have the potential to support roosting bats.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The pLWS/SINC (Wootton Spinneys SP36E1) should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between April and July.

The areas of rank improved grassland should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within these grasslands.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Full details of the presence of badgers and their use within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Recommendations
The pLWS/SINC (Wootton Spinney SP36E1) should be retained and protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 50 metres width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

This small parcel of land is amid sections of pLWS/SINC woodland that are valuable for biodiversity. Any development within this parcel should depend on the potential to retain the value of these woodlands despite any adjacent development. In order to satisfy the required buffer zone for woodland habitat only a very minimal area of the parcel could be developed therefore this parcel is unfavourable for development.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 10/10/08

Notes:

Map: 37 Land at Southam Lane, Radford Semele

Area (ha): 7.78

N W E S

3.37 Map 37 Land at Southam Lane, Radford Semele

Area: 7.8ha

Overview
Map 37 is comprised of a section of an arable field with hedgerows to the North and South and residential non native mixed hedgerows to the West. There is a small watercourse running along the Southern boundary, mature trees and a very small section of woodland.

Key Features
Hedgerows
Mature trees
Watercourse

Habitat Description
Map 37 is dominated by arable with only two fully native hedgerows. The arable field has minimal field margins and is therefore of low ecological value. The hedgerows are species poor but still provide suitable habitat for nesting farmland birds and offer connectivity to other habitats for many species. The hedgerows along the Western boundary are residential (ID#5,7,4) and are therefore mostly a non native mix with large sections replaced by fencing only. This residential boundary is therefore ecologically less significant than the native hedgerows but can still provide some refuge and foraging opportunities for birds and invertebrates. The mature trees within the parcel are valuable to a range of wildlife as well as having potential to support roosting bats. The area of scrub and tall ruderal (ID#9,10) in the South Western corner of the parcel are very small and therefore the biodiversity value is limited. The watercourse along the Southern boundary offers a good green corridor for many species. The area of woodland (ID#1) is very small and isolated and therefore its capacity to support great numbers of species and populations is greatly reduced however it is still valuable habitat particularly for nesting and foraging birds.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The watercourse will need to be surveyed for water voles, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status.

A further survey will be required for the very small section of woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements.

The watercourse is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the watercourse should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The small section of woodland is of biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on retaining mature trees and hedgerows are replaced.

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OS Base Survey Map

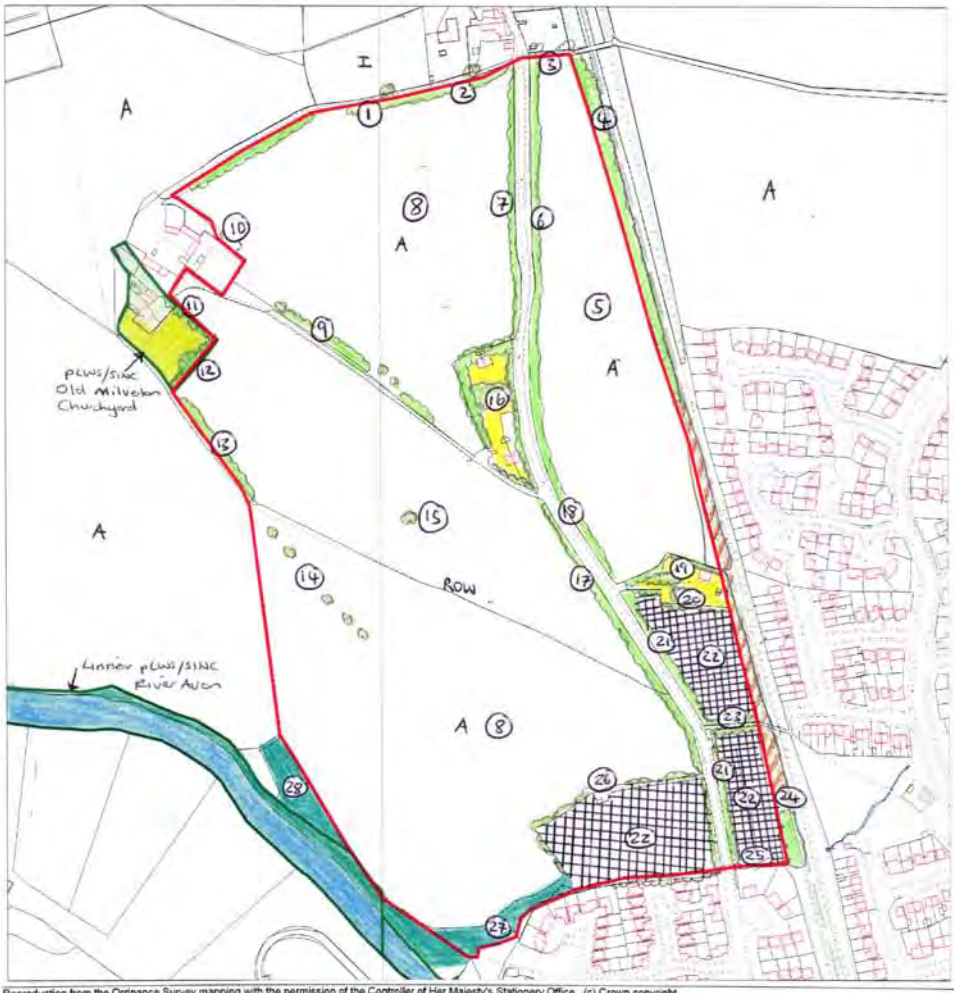
Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 17|10|08

Notes:

Map: 38 Land East of Milverton Lane, Old Milverton

Area (ha): 20

N W E S



3.38 Map 38 Land West of Milverton Lane, Old Milverton

Area: 20ha

Overview
Map 38 is dominated by arable with multiple hedgerows and mature trees. To the South there is a strip of semi natural broadleaved woodland adjacent to the River Avon (Linear pLWS/SINC SP36Li8d) and a small section of allotments. There is a small pLWS/SINC (Old Milverton Churchyard SP26Y1) outside the boundary to the North.

Key Features
Adjacent Linear pLWS/SINC River Avon
Strip of semi natural broadleaved woodland
Hedgerows
Adjacent pLWS/SINC Old Milverton Churchyard outside the parcel boundary
Mature trees
Allotments

Habitat Description
The majority of Map 38 is arable with multiple hedgerows and mature trees. The arable habitat has a low biodiversity value especially as there are no significantly sized field margins to act as buffers for the hedgerows. The hedgerows are mostly defunct and relatively species poor however they are still important to biodiversity as they create connectivity for wildlife across an expanse of agricultural land. There are numerous mature trees within the parcel that are valuable for wildlife especially with reference to nesting birds and the potential for roosting bats. The areas of allotments have a modest biodiversity value but provide foraging areas for a range of wildlife and have the potential to support species such as slow worms. The strip of semi natural woodland (ID#27,28) is important for biodiversity and provides suitable habitat for a range of wildlife. The woodland is adjacent to the River Avon (Linear pLWS/SINC SP36Li8d) which is an important linkage as a green corridor for many species of flora and fauna. The river also has the potential to support protected species such as water vole and otter as both species are known to use this river. There is also a pLWS/SINC (Old Milverton Churchyard SP26Y1) just outside the North West corner of the parcel that is primarily amenity grassland, mature trees and ornamental planting.

Recommendations for Further Survey
The Linear pLWS/SINC (River Avon) should be resurveyed using the Local Wildlife Site criteria between June and July. The river will need to be surveyed for water voles and otters, both desk top study for existing records and a site survey to establish current status. The pLWS/SINC (Old Milverton Churchyard SP26Y1) should be surveyed with the Local Wildlife Site criteria between June and July.

A further survey will be required for the strip of woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

Full details of the presence of badgers and their use within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat survey of the woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations

The Linear pLWS/SINC (River Avon SP36Li8d) and pLWS/SINC (Old Milverton Churchyard SP26Y1) should be retained and a buffer zone implemented to prevent direct or indirect impact on these sites.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements.

The River Avon is potential water vole habitat and needs to be protected by a suitable buffer zone. The size of the buffer zone for this linear habitat will depend on the presence or absence of water voles. A management plan for the river should be written and implemented to ensure future good management and enhancement of the habitat.

The woodland is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on buffering the River Avon and associated woodland and retaining mature trees.

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OS Base Survey Map

Surveyor(s): ME
Date(s): 10/10/08

Notes:

Map: 39 Black Lane

Area (ha): 4

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3.39 Map 39 Black Lane

Area: 4ha

Overview
Map 39 is dominated by allotments with surrounding linear scrub, mature trees and a narrow strip of semi natural broadleaved woodland. Outside the boundary the habitat is dominated by amenity grassland, broadleaved plantation and a small area of scrub and tall ruderal vegetation.

Key Features
Strip of semi natural broadleaved woodland
Allotments
Continuous scrub and tall ruderal
Linear scrub and mature trees

Habitat description
Map 39 is predominately allotments which have a modest ecological value. Allotments can provide a valuable habitat for many native plants and animals, especially in urban areas where green space can be limited. Often with overgrown plots as well as cultivated plots, compost heaps, grass areas, sheds and boundary trees or hedgerows, they can attract a variety of birds, invertebrates and mammals. Allotments also have the potential to support reptiles such as grass snakes and the UKBAP species slow worms. The surrounding linear scrub (ID#1,2,3,10) and mature trees are valuable for nesting and foraging birds as well as roosting bats. The narrow strip of semi natural woodland (ID#6,9) although not an expansive area of woodland provides wildlife with good connectivity around the urban areas. The areas of scrub and tall ruderal (ID#5) were not surveyed in detail, however they provide suitable habitat for nesting birds, small mammals, invertebrates and reptiles. Evidence of badger activity was noted within this parcel.

Recommendations for Further Survey
A further survey will be required for the strip of woodland between April and June, to determine its full biodiversity value.

The areas of continuous scrub and tall ruderal (ID#5) outside the boundary should be resurveyed between June and July to fully analyse the botanical interest of the site. A bird, reptile and an invertebrate survey should be completed within this section.

Full details of the presence of badgers within the parcel should be determined and necessary mitigation should be established if badgers are found present.

Bats can be found in many buildings and trees, even those that initially appear to be unsuitable. Bats and their roost sites are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Habitat Regulations 1994, the latter of which deems them a European Protected Species. Therefore it is recommended that a pre-determinative bat

survey of the woodland and mature trees is undertaken at an appropriate time of year by a qualified ecologist.

Recommendations
The narrow strip of woodland is of high biodiversity value and should be protected from development, including designation and implementation of a buffer zone of 35 m width around the site. This is to prevent damage to the woodland site from direct impact of root damage, or from indirect issues including changes to site hydrology, compaction, and increased temperature from development. With mature trees in the woodland, it is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties.

The mature trees within the parcel should be retained. Each tree should have a buffer zone to protect the tree's roots from development. It is important that a buffer zone is in place to address health & safety issues of future tree loss impacting on development properties. Please refer to the section on tree preservation and protection within Planning and Legal Context.

It is recommended that all hedgerows are replaced with new hedgerow habitat through and around any development, comprising suitable native species, as advised by Arden Character area guidelines. Please refer to the hedgerow regulations for advice on their legal protection and requirements within Planning and Legal Context.

Any development within this parcel of land should focus on replacing the lost allotment habitat, buffering the woodland along the Southern edge and retaining mature trees.