WOODLAND TRUST

Tring Park

Management Plan 2018-2023

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MAPS

THE WOODLAND TRUST

INTRODUCTION

The Trust's corporate aims and management approach guide the management of all the Trust's properties, and are described on Page 4. These determine basic management policies and methods, which apply to all sites unless specifically stated otherwise. Such policies include free public access; keeping local people informed of major proposed work; the retention of old trees and dead wood; and a desire for management to be as unobtrusive as possible. The Trust also has available Policy Statements covering a variety of woodland management issues.

The Trust's management plans are based on the identification of Key Features for the site and setting objectives for their management. A monitoring programme (not included in this plan) ensures that these objectives are met and any necessary management works are carried out.

Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATING

The information presented in this Management plan is held in a database which is continuously being amended and updated on our website. Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.
Please either consult The Woodland Trust website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk or contact the Woodland Trust (wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk) to confirm details of the current management programme.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and a summary of monitoring results can be obtained on request.

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The management of our woods is based on our charitable purposes, and is therefore focused on improving woodland biodiversity and increasing peoples' understanding and enjoyment of woodland.

Our strategic aims are to:

- Protect native woods, trees and their wildlife for the future
- Work with others to create more native woodlands and places rich in trees
- Inspire everyone to enjoy and value woods and trees

All our sites have a management plan which is freely accessible via our website www.woodlandtrust.org.uk. Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) through independent audit. In addition to the guidelines below we have specific guidance and policies on issues of woodland management which we review and update from time to time.

We recognise that all woods are different and that the management of our sites should also reflect their local landscape and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives. Guidelines like these provide a necessary overarching framework to guide the management of our sites but such management also requires decisions based on local circumstances and our Site Manager's intimate knowledge of each site.

The following guidelines help to direct our woodland management:

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland using both natural regeneration and tree planting, but largely the latter, particularly when there are opportunities for involving people.
3. We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe.
4. The long term vision for our non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites is to restore them to predominantly native species composition and semi-natural structure, a vision that equally applies to our secondary woods.
5. Existing semi-natural open-ground and freshwater habitats are restored and maintained wherever their management can be sustained and new open ground habitats created where appropriate.
6. The heritage and cultural value of sites is taken into account in our management and, in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Woods can offer the potential to generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We will therefore consider the potential to generate income from our estate to help support our aims.
8. We work with neighbours, local people, organisations and other stakeholders in developing the management of our woods. We recognise the benefits of local community woodland ownership and management. Where appropriate we allow our woods to be used to support local woodland, conservation, education and access initiatives.
9. We use and offer the estate where appropriate, for the purpose of demonstration, evidence gathering and research associated with the conservation, recreational and sustainable management of woodlands. In particular we will develop and maintain a network of long-term monitoring sites across the estate.
10. Any activities we undertake will conform to sustainable forest management principles, be appropriate for the site and will be balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

SUMMARY

This public management plan briefly describes the site, specifically mentions information on public access, sets out the long term policy and lists the Key Features which drive management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with their long (50 year+) and short (5 year) term objectives. The short term objectives are complemented by a detailed Work Programme for the period of this management plan. Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. A short glossary of technical terms is at the end. The Key Features and general woodland condition of this site are subject to a formal monitoring programme which is maintained in a central database. A summary of monitoring results is available on request.

1.0 SITE DETAILS

Site name:	Tring Park
Location:	Tring
Grid reference:	SP929102, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 165
Area:	132.94 hectares (328.50 acres)
Designations:	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Grade II Listed Parkland, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Scheduled Ancient Monument, Site of Special Scientific Interest

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Summary Description

Walk among mixed broadleaf woodland and explore one of the largest areas of unimproved chalk grassland in the county, at this tranquil site just a 10-minute walk from Tring's Natural History Museum at Tring. There are wonderful wildflowers and butterflies to see in spring and summer, historic features, and open vistas with great views.

2.2 Extended Description

Tring Park is one of Hertfordshire's most important ecological areas and one of the Trust's most exciting and diverse sites. Covering an area of 107 hectares Tring Park contains a mosaic of mixed woodland and intense chalk grassland, some of exceptional quality. Lying to the south of Tring, the site runs along the Chiltern ridge offering superb views eastwards over the lowland vale. Once part of Tring House, the site has a deep history as evident by the two ancient monuments that can still be found in the grounds.

The internal landscape of the historic parkland is one devised by James Gibbs in the early 18th Century and is one that is locally and nationally important. Separated from the main house in the 1970's by the Tring bypass, the site is now owned by Dacorum Borough Council and leased to the Woodland Trust on a 399 year lease.

The woodland is partly PAWS, which is seeing gradual restoration, but foremost in the management of Tring Park is a sensitive grazing regime of 35.6 hectares of unimproved chalk grassland. An extremely rare habitat, and indeed the second largest in Hertfordshire, this area has been given SSSI status. Buffering the grassland is areas of scrub, improving in biodiversity each year and indeed contain invertebrates such as the locally rare Purple Emperor butterfly.

The underlying geology is principally chalk and where the soils are thinnest, chalk loving plants such as Autumn Gentian continue to thrive. Higher on the ridge the chalk is buried under the deeper soils where clay and flints dominate.

Hugely popular in the local environment, the site has an almost constant influx of visitors enjoying quiet recreation. Way marked walks and excellent links to Tring and Wigginton make it easily accessible. Management access is via a tarmac road off Fox Road in the east or via the two access points off Hastoe Lane, one leading into the parkland, the other onto King Charles Ride.

In summary, the superb integration of recreation, conservation and history means Tring Park exemplifies diverse countryside management.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

By bus

Nearest bus stops:
East entrance - corner of Fox Road and Highfield Road in Wigginton, 200m away along a quiet suburban road with pavement.

Northern entrance from Tring - corner of Akeman Street and High Street in Tring, 500m away along quiet suburban road with pavement.

By train

Tring railway station is 3.2km (two miles) away.

For up-to-date information on public transport, visit traveline.org.uk; or telephone 0871 200 2233.

By car

Nearest car park: The joint Natural History Museum at Tring/Woodland Trust car park off Hastoe Lane, 350m from the park's northern entrance. See Tring's Natural History Museum website for details of opening times. The bridge which leads from the museum to the park has a number of steps which could cause difficulty for pushchairs and wheelchairs. For more information email tringpark@woodlandtrust.org.uk.

Alternatively, the High Street car park is 600m away along a quiet suburban road with pavement.

3.2 Access / Walks

Access is available directly from the surrounding country roads. On the western boundary there are two entrances straight off Hastoe Lane, two off Merlin Hill, three directly off the village roads in Wigginton to the eastand one via a public footpath from Tring to the north via a footbridge over the A41.

The flat, hard-surfaced Ridgeway National Trail runs through the park, entering off Marlin Hill to follow the King Charles Ride – the main path through the woodland on top of the ridge - from east to west until exiting onto Fox Road. The wide entrances are suitable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The track can become seasonally muddy in places. Other entrances to the site are simple squeeze stiles or kissing gates.

A bridleway runs along King Charles Ride and there are several waymarked walks to guide you through the site, including the 30-minute Parkland Walk and the longer Woodland Walk. You can find details on one of the various information boards dotted along the trails. These paths are largely unmodified grass and earth surface which can get muddy and very slippery when wet. There are also some very steep slopes and small sections of steps.

The entire site is open to the public throughout the year, with the exception of Oddy Hill which is closed in November and December while the sheep are grazing. Cattle graze in the parkland year-round.

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The long term intentions for Tring Park are to maintain and enhance its tremendous conservational, historical and recreational assets to make it a true exemplar of countryside management. This will involve continued consultation with all interested parties and liaison with environmental groups such as Natural England, Herts Biological Records Centre and Butterfly Conservation. The complex, diverse management involved means a more focussed approach can be apportioned to the varied habitats and features:

The grazing regime on the grassland areas is a vital component of its successful management and will continue to contribute to the grassland's increasing quality and physical area. Necessary support will be given to ensure the grazing continues unhindered. All the SSSI to be in favourable condition and scrub levels well controlled to ensure maximum benefit in terms of biodiversity throughout the different areas.

Gradual restoration will continue in the areas of planted ancient woodland through small-scale thinning operations. This will favour and preserve any remnant features of the ancient woodland and any regenerating native trees. There should also be greater diversity in structure and a developing understorey in the thinned areas, with the aim of management eventually on a continuous cover basis. Controlling invasive species such as laurel and rhododendron will be an important part of improving the ancient woodland ground flora. The aging oak, ash, beech and horse chestnut scattered throughout the site will be left to senescence and beyond resulting in a large number of veteran trees.

The whole site, in particular the parkland, will display characteristics of early 18th Century landscaping, in the vein of James Gibbs. This will be in the form of regenerated avenues, parkland standards and maintenance of King Charles Ride and the stunning internal and external vistas. Views of the formal rides and monuments as well as the viewpoints along the ridge, looking out over the Chilterns, will remain clear and unobstructed. Attractive in the local landscape, the park will compliment the general features of the Chiltern escarpment and AONB.

The Scheduled Ancient Monuments will remain in good repair and be a prominent reminder of the park's character and history. The Trust's corporate objective of increasing people's awareness and enjoyment of woodland will be achieved by continuing to provide and maintain appropriate access paths and facilities throughout the wood.

Tring Park has been identified as one of the Trust's Destination Sites as there are many opportunities to recreate historical parkland views and key parkland features, whilst inspiring people about our work and involving the wider community. Local consultation will be carried out to inform any future improvements, alongside landscape restoration investigation and access and interpretation development whilst ensuring we safeguard the nature conservation assets of the site.

5.0 KEY FEATURES

The Key Features of the site are identified and described below. They encapsulate what is important about the site. The short and long-term objectives are stated and any management necessary to maintain and improve the Key Feature.

5.1 Semi Natural Open Ground Habitat

Description

Designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) which covers the escarpment, Oddy Hill and much of the open parkland. A total of 35.6 hectares of unimproved chalk grassland with locally uncommon and rare species such as common spotted orchid, common rockrose, milkwort and large thyme. Oddy Hill is the smaller part of the SSSI but is perhaps the more valuable in that it supports Chiltern and Autumn Gentians. The chalk grassland is also home to important butterflies such as the UK BAP priority species, Dingy and Grizzled skipper. It is thought that prior to formalisation of the parkland, the grass areas where part of Tring Common, an area of semi-natural chalk grassland and heath.

Significance

It is the second largest area of unimproved calcareous grassland in Hertfordshire and is recognised as one of the most important due to its size and due to the presence of species such as common spotted orchid, Autumn gentian and Chiltern gentian. SSSI is surrounded within a landscape that supports a mosaic of habitats, including grassland, scrub and woodland. The whole area collectively supports a diverse range of plants, invertebrates, mammals and birds.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
1. Scrub encroachment, particularly on Oddy Hill and the escarpment.
2. Shade from parkland trees.
3. Noxious weeds (ragwort, thistles).

Opportunities:
1. Through a continued programme of sensitive grazing under the Environmental Stewardship Scheme.
2. Through continued control / removal of encroaching scrub.
3. Through control / eradication of noxious weeds.

Factors Causing Change

Factors causing change:
1. Scrub encroachment, particularly on Oddy Hill and the escarpment.
2. Shade from parkland trees.
3. Noxious weeds (ragwort, thistles).

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The continued sensitive grazing regime on unimproved calcareous grassland will help it to remain at least as large and floristically rich. Present levels of scrub (1 -2 %) maintained in the parkland, virtually no scrub on Oddy Hill and a ratio of about 40% scrub to 60% open grassland on the escarpment. All areas of the SSSI in favourable condition.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Operational Objective:
Increase area of unimproved calcareous grassland whilst maintaining or increasing its quality and reducing overall the levels of scrub.

Work Programme:
Grazing:
To continue with the current grazing regime as approved by Herts Biological Records Centre, Natural England and DEFRA. Currently the average should be about 50 head in summer and 25 in winter. Cattle are allowed to roam into the escarpment (cpt 8)all year round and about a dozen sheep graze Oddy Hill from Sept/Oct - Dec. The effectiveness of this grazing regime to deliver the SSSI conservation objectives will need to be monitored during the lifetime of this plan, with recommendations for alterations as necessary.

Scrub control:
Annual scrub control by cutting during the winter months, preferably as late as possible.
Scrub in the parkland should remain at current levels (approx 2%), however, the scrub pockets should be transient. ie the older dense scrub is to removed but younger scrub pockets appear elsewhere.
The scrub to grassland ratio on the escarpment to be maintained at around 40:60. This is regarded as a suitable scale of scrub removal within the five year period and work will be targeted to ensure the core chalk grassland areas are maintained and buffer areas restored and managed effectively. Older scrub areas are to be prioritised for removal. Favourable condition status is defined by the SSSI conservation objectives.
Oddy Hill should be kept clear of scrub, in accordance with the SSSI conservation objectives, except for the occasional pocket of woody shrubs and the occasional individual tree. There are some elm and birch which have useful landscape value.
Annual topping of thistles and hand pulling of ragwort in the parkland.

5.2 Historic Landscape

Description

Stunning park, woodland and avenues landscaped by Charles Bridgeman and James Gibbs in late 17th / early 18th centuries, and at one time was part of larger park including Tring House and gardens.

The whole site is within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The park and woodlands contribute greatly to the local landscape as it is visible from approaches to Tring and notably from the A41 which runs through the park. Woodland and mature avenues on the upper slopes sweep down the escarpment to the rolling downland of the park where beautiful copper beech and aging Scots pine catch the eye. Internal landscape is valuable as walks and viewpoints look out across the park from many areas, particularly from along the lime lined King Charles Ride.

Significance

Most parkland features remaining are a legacy of the formal landscaping period of the early 18th Century. It is also a landscape that is widely enjoyed by the local population. The whole site is within the Chilterns AONB and is greatly visible from the A41 and the Ridgeway National Trail. Internal viewpoints are extremely good and are greatly appreciated by local community. Actual layout of park and woods present a landscape unique to the area, being reflective of 18th Century landscaping.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
1. Natural senescence of park and avenue trees.
2. Noise / visual pollution from A41 dual carriageway.
3. Encroachment of scrub.

Opportunities:
1. Supplementary planting (where appropriate) of park / avenue trees in keeping with original layout.
2. Arboricultural works to existing avenue trees to retain character and promote longevity.
3. Control of encroaching scrub.
4. Maintain internal viewpoints through control of scrub / secondary woodland.

Factors Causing Change

Factors causing change:
1. Natural senescence of park and avenue trees.
2. Encroachment of scrub.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

For the parkland and other components such as King Charles Ride and the woodland avenues to noticeably reflect the formality of early 18th Century landscaping. A healthy, well maintained and regenerated Lime Avenue, light and open woodland avenues and sporadic parkland standards. Uninhibited views of the parkland and wider countryside.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Operational Objective:
Parkland and other components such as King Charles Ride and the woodland avenues to be healthy, open and be reminiscent of the early 18th Century landscaping.

Work Programme:
Regeneration of Lime Avenue, King Charles Ride and parkland standards by supplementary planting as deemed necessary in order to replace dead trees and retain character.
Crown lifting and minor tree surgery as per inspections to maintain healthy avenues and clear vistas.
Annual clearance of undergrowth and epicormic shoots on King Charles Ride trees to accentuate its character.
Annual work on widening internal rides, particularly the internal views of the monuments in cpt 5.
Annual works to maintain views from the view points along King Charles Ride.

5.3 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Description

Much of the woodland at Tring Park is classed as a Planted Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS). These areas have remnants of ancient woodland flora and some characteristic over-mature beech, oak and ash. They were planted with non-native conifers and beech during the 1970s / 80s where the dense shade contributed to the demise of much of the ancient flora. Recent thinning has been aimed at reducing the coniferous element and opening up existing broadleaves and areas of regeneration; a move that should help return the woodland to its previous lowland ash-beech characteristics, typical of NVC Classification W12.

Significance

Planted Ancient Woodland Sites (PAWS) are valuable for their latent potential. They contain remnant populations of ancient woodland communities and species, often in small, isolated pockets. Areas of Tring Park contain specialist woodland flora, which are a key characteristic of ancient woods, as well as other important species such as veteran trees, lichens, fungi and deadwood. These species are part of a complex ecological system and do not spread easily to new areas. PAWS can also have an historic and cultural importance; Tring Park contains ancient trees, old tracks and earthwalls, all of which may be used to help explain the history of the landscape and how it developed.

It is vital therefore to conserve and enhance these ancient woodland communities and species. One of the Trust's main objectives is to ensure no further loss of ASNW and lead in the restoration of Planted Ancient Woodland Sites.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
1. Presence / regeneration of non-native species and invasive laurel.
2. Squirrel / deer damage.

Opportunities:
Preservation and restoration of ancient woodland components is the main driver and opportunities summarised as:

1. Continued removal of conifers and other non-native species.
2. Continued control of invasive laure and other non-nativesl.
4. Retain sallows and subsequent breeding area for Purple Emperor butterfly.

Factors Causing Change

Factors causing change:
1. Presence / regeneration of non-native species and invasive laurel.
2. Squirrel / deer damage.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Predominantly mixed native broadleaf woodland with a noticeable understorey of native trees, shrubs and frequent natural regeneration broadly in line with NVC W12. The conifer element should be minimal and limited to a few scattered conifers with no dense patches or heavily shaded areas. A healthy ground flora and ancient woodland characteristics evident throughout the wood.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Operational Objective:
Increase semi-natural composition and ancient woodland characteristics and reduce the proportion of non native species by gradually manipulating these small areas of woodland to enhance the conditions in which the remnant ancient woodland communities can recover and thrive.

Work Programme:
To reduce the shading effect of laurel it will be controlled annually in all woodland compartments to a point where it is no longer compromising the ancient woodland components. All cutting to be followed up by careful application of glyphosate to reduce regrowth.

The PAWS stands would not be classed as critical or even threatened but future thinning to reduce the coniferous element and open up existing broadleaves would be beneficial in promoting healthy woodland structure and ground flora. Any thinning would only be carried out to enhance and / or secure ancient woodland characteristics. Felling to waste is likely to be the most suitable option, as access if difficult and the crop of poor quality. It should also be considered if the benefits of removing the timber do not outweigh the potential damage to ancient woodland components.

In all compartments, effort should be made during operations to retain medium age and mature sallows, as they are key breeding areas for the Purple Emperor butterfly.

5.4 Building Of Interest

Description

Obelisk and Summerhouse standing in the formal ride / avenue area in the northeast of the site known as Park Wood, sited to offer superb internal vistas. Both these features are contemporary with the park design of the early 18th Century and probably designed by the architect James Gibbs. Constructed with brick and plaster and finished in white paint, the Summerhouse has a grand temple front with four columns characterised by angular scrolls below an ornate triangular roof.

The 50ft tapering Obelisk is made of red brick and limestone ashlar which rests on a square pedestal and towers up to a pierced ball finial. Legend has it that it was built to commemorate the visits to the mansion of Charles II and his mistress Nell Gwyn.

Dacorum Borough Council maintains responsibility to manage and maintain the structures, both of which underwent sensitive restoration in 1995.

Significance

Grade II Listed Monuments dating back to the early 18th Century. They form an integral part of the parks history as well as provide an attractive and interesting addition to the area.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
1. General aging and continued need for monitoring and repair.
2. Interference by local tree roots / branches and windblow.
3. Vandalism in the form of graffiti and fires.

Opportunities:
1. Good management by DBC.
2. Include in any future site interpretation.

Factors Causing Change

Factors causing change:
1. General aging and continued need for monitoring and repair.
2. Interference by local tree roots / branches and windblow.
3. Vandalism in the form of graffiti and fires.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Obelisk and summerhouse to be in a good state of repair (through good management and communication with Dacorum Borough Council). Open with no threats of damage from surrounding woodland and operations and clearly visible from along all adjoining rides.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Operational Objective:
Attractive and safe monuments with minimal vandalism and clearly visible from all adjoining rides.

Work Programme:
On-going communication with Dacorum Borough Council over monitoring and repairs etc.
Annual control of surrounding vegetation and trees to ensure minimal threat to structures.
Gather further historical information with a view to providing wider conceptual interpretation.

5.5 Informal Public Access

Description

Tring Park is widely used for informal and quiet recreation, primarily locals from Tring town and the surrounding villages such as Hastoe and Wigginton. There are numerous access points around the perimeter, including a footbridge over the A41 leading to Tring and a joint car park with the Natural History Museum off Hastoe Lane.

There are several public footpaths as well as a bridleway that runs along King Charles Ride, also part of the National Ridgeway Trail. Waymarked walks lead around the park and there are several information boards and benches, mostly sited to offer splendid views out across the Chilterns.

Significance

Tring Park's size and prominent position make it a natural attraction for the local population who can enjoy and appreciate the varied woodland and its associated habitats.

Informal Public Access raises people's awareness and enjoyment of woodland, fulfilling one of the Trust's three corporate objectives.

In summary it:
Provides suitable areas for the surrounding population to walk and ride and also to exercise dogs.
Provides opportunities for nature study and the appreciation of the countryside for people of all ages and abilities.
Adds interest to the surrounding villages and the region.
Adds to the local rights of way network.
Helps people understand the history of the landscape and how it developed.

Opportunities & Constraints

Constraints:
1. Abuse of access rights, mainly camping, fires and litter in summer months.
2. Vandalism of gates, fenced tree enclosures
3. Graffiti on the summerhouse.

Opportunities:
1. Improved interpretation, particularly at Oddy Hill to highlight site sensitivity and discourage abuse.
2. Pro-active advertisement in local town / villages via the continued distribution of the site leaflet.
3. Continued maintenance of path network and clearance of internal and external vistas.

Factors Causing Change

Factors causing change:
1. Abuse of access rights, mainly camping, fires and litter in summer months.
2. Vandalism of gates, fenced tree enclosures
3. Graffiti on the summerhouse.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The whole park will remain open to the public for quiet informal recreation predominantly by locals from Tring and surrounding villages. Waymarked walks, information boards and provision of leaflets will be retained / enhanced in line with public use and demand.

Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)

Operational Objective:
Easily accessible, attractive, well maintained and safe woodland regularly used by the public. Path network and entrances remain in good condition and are appropriate for level and type of use and in accordance with access category A. Retain and enhance the internal vistas and excellent views out of the wood from the existing viewpoints high up on the ridge.

Work Programme:
Cut main paths 3 times a year as per EMC and an additional 2 cuts in between at the rond point and natural play area.
Annually cut undergrowth at least 3m either side of King Charles Ride to accentuate its character.
Remove epicormic shoots from base of lime trees.
Annual programme of opening up vistas around monuments in cpt 5 and all viewpoints along King Charles Ride.
Annual inspection of all gates, benches, waymarkers and information boards and constant monitoring of path surfaces.
Annual tree safety inspection of Zones A and B and arboricultural work as required.
Provision of site leaflets in local outlets in Tring to advertise the park and inform of history, conservational value and recreational facilities.

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
2018	SL - Tree Safety Emergency Work	27th Sept Cutting and making safe large beech, 12th Dec Clear large fallen chestnut, 13th Dec, 3rd,9th,16th Jan Clearing and felling/making safe approx. 20 trees following snow damage	28/02/18
2018	PE - Events - General	Replace broken gate. Attend festival set up and clear. Clear rubbish and broken glass. Return 2 truck loads of equipment to HW. Remove Perspex, install chicane.	28/02/18
2018	CS - General Consultancy	Tring joint car park - Complete detailed design. Interpret results of soakway tests, run windes software cacluclations on infiltration porosity, prepare full detailed design drawings for tender, liaise with contractors, write tender and contract documents, issue tender set for contractors to tender.	28/02/18
2018	CS - General Consultancy	Tring gateway project - Time spent considering way forward and issues and advising the WT	28/02/18

2018	CS - Ecological Survey & Assessment	Tring Park Soil Surveys to include: 1. Soil resources survey conducted using free survey techniques to Soil Survey of England and wales criteria. Details to include: • Topsoil and subsoil depths (to 1.2 m) • Soil texture, stoniness and structural condition for each identified layer • Calcium carbonate reactivity for each layer • Soil drainage characteristics • Slope gradient and aspect 2. Collection of approximately 10 samples of topsoil for laboratory analysis of fertility (pH, available P, K, Mg) 3. Preparation of a soil survey report including • Soil type descriptions • Summarised fertility analysis • Maps at 1:10,000 scale or less to include: • Soil series/phases • Phosphate/potash indices	30/04/18
2018	LC - Routine Litter Picks	x2 dog poo bins with dog lead handle, screw seal strapping and ground anchors. For replacement and repositioning of bins at Tring Park. To be ordered in March and delivered/installed by April, working in conjunction with Dacorum Council.	30/04/18
2018	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone A	Carry out tree safety works as per survey report 20.10.17, not including the trees under questions with Forest Research	30/04/18
2018	SL - Tree Safety Emergency Work	Take down hung up branches on cedars trees after snow storms	30/04/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Take down old stock fence along KCR and play area	30/04/18

2018	CS - General Consultancy	Grant application work for Tring extensions. Tring: Site visits and liaising with WT, FC and other stakeholders (incl if required local community) - 8 days Preparation of applications in relation to Woodland Planning Grant and supportive EIA documentation - 7 days Day rate is £450 per day therefore Cost estimate is £6750 excl VAT and expenses.	30/04/18
2018	NWH - Grazing Work	Management fee for grazier as agreed with Jo Wyles.	30/04/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Cut paths and strim edges, signs and furniture four times per year, see mowing and strimming map for details.	31/05/18
2018	NWH - Maintenance Work	P1: Maintain rond point as necessary - restone path, weed, replace failed trees, remove any developing scrub etc.	31/05/18
2018	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Tring Park Visitor Basics - To incorporate all amends and new illustrations to the existing Tring Park site map, as discussed on Tuesday 12th December. To include typesetting, page make-up and pdf proofs for your approval. A4 Site Map - Amends to existing map – the supply of artwork only - £1,850	31/05/18
2018	CS - General Consultancy	White Design works	31/05/18

2018	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Tree Pod / Landscape Lookout. Design and Production. As per contract 2.2.1 First payment due upon successful award of planning consent.	01/06/18
2018	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Tree pod / Landscape lookout Design and production. As per contract 2.2.2 Payment due three weeks into construction.	01/06/18
2018	AW - Car Park Construction	Car park resurfacing	29/06/18
2018	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Tree Pod / Landscape Lookout. Design and production. As per contract 2.2.3 Payment due upon satisfactory completion and delivery of the work.	30/06/18
2018	CS - General Consultancy	Planning/strategy consultant	30/06/18
2018	CS - General Consultancy	Bridge and alleyway consultancy work	30/06/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Provide additional mow and strim to rond point and natural play area, see mowing and strimming map for details.	30/06/18
2018	CS - General Consultancy	Tring Park alleyway improvements - consultation as follows: Prepare an outline of how the new fence framework may work, more conceptual than detailed, Once agreed liaise with a fence manufacturer/ iron worker as necessary to prepare the design to detail for all the sections and with suitable foundations, Seek quotes to remove the existing fence in its entirety and oversee removal allowing for meetings with fence contractors on site to understand the full extent of the removal works, (allow 1 x site visit), Seek quotes to manufacture and deliver the new fence to site and install the new fence (this could be the same people as design and manufacture/and remove);	30/06/18
2018	PE - Events - General	Tring Park Family Festival	08/07/18

2018	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Production and delivery of way marker posts for Tring Park, as agreed with Jo Watkinson, as part of visitor basics works prior to VE accreditation 18 waymarkers of various specs = 2610 Extra paint = 45 Delivery = 185 Total 2840 +VAT	31/07/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	visitor basics improvements 2840 removed as separate line created for production of waymarkers for VB work - LT 24/11/17 1850 removed as separate line created for amendments to TP map by Colour Heroes - L Tuffin, 15/12/17	31/07/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Check and maintain entrances. Cut paths to spec and ensure signs and info boards are clean. Remove all litter from fire site at bottom of Oddy Hill. Report any issues.	31/07/18
2018	WC - Invasive Plant Control	Pulling ragwort on parkland and escarpment.	31/08/18
2018	WMM - General Site Management	General site maintenance as required - helping with work parties, changing signs, banners etc, fixingany broken fences/gates etc, sorting barn and removing rubbish, installing any signs/interpretation etc.	31/08/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Improvements to access points	31/08/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Provide additional mow to rond point and natural play area, see mowing and strimming map for details.	31/08/18
2018	NWH - Grazing Work	Topping of worst patches of thistle in Parkland	31/08/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Cut paths and strim edges, signs and furniture four times per year, see mowing and strimming map for details	30/09/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Alleyway, bridge and main entrance works	30/09/18

2018	WC - Invasive Plant Control	Cut areas of laurel and treat previous year's regrowth with Glyphosate in June. Allow 12 man days. Provide map with areas cut and treated when operation complete.	30/09/18
2018	CS - Visitor Survey & Assessment	Breakdown of costs: £100 joining fee for Tring Park to be part of the Visitor Attraction Quality Scheme, run by the AA on behalf of Visit England. £278 for assessment fee, this covers an assessment every 2 years for sites attacting between 50K-100K footfall. Assessment due date: September 2018.	30/09/18
2018	PE - Events - Contractor/Provider	Tring Park Festival of Light	31/10/18
2018	PE - Events - General	Tring Park events £100 removed for hall hire for consultation on 30/1/18 (LT 10/1/18)	30/11/18
2018	NWH - Maintenance Work	Remove scrub on Oddy Hill – cut regrowth and clear a new area of scrub and larger trees where necessary.	31/12/18
2018	WMM - Ride Management	Manage 19th century lime avenue - remove epicormic and scrub growth.	31/12/18
2018	NWH - Maintenance Work	Manage scrub within the main parkland - Remove scrub encroachment on the main parkland annually to retain and increase the grassland habitat.	31/12/18
2018	NWH - Maintenance Work	Clear Oddy Hill road of leaves and mud once per year and strim and tidy edges	31/12/18
2018	NWH - Maintenance Work	Annual management of viewpoints off KCR – strim viewpoints and rond point to keep them open and clear. Increase the views on either side by clearing areas of scrub and trees.	31/12/18
2018	NWH - Initial Restoration Work	Control of scrub and trees on escarpment - Remove scrub on a gradual basis to reach eventual ratio of 40:60. Restrim previous year’s growth were necessary and then clear a new area of scrub growth joining up previously cleared areas. Provide 10 gang days.	31/12/18
2018	WMM - Ride Management	Maintain all trees in Park Wood - remove epicormic and scrub growth.	31/12/18

2018	WMM - Ride Management	Maintain KCR - remove epicormic and scrub growth.	31/12/18
2018	WMM - Ride Management	P10: MANAGE THE RIDES IN NORTH PEST HOUSE WOOD & BULLS WOOD FOR WILDLIFE BY OPENING THEM UP AND INITIATING A MOWING REGIME - Create scallops throughout rides and where appropriate clear trees and scrub to open up rides.	31/12/18
2018	WMM - Ride Management	Mange the rides - create scallops and where appropriate clear trees and scrub to open up rides.	31/12/18
2019	NWH - Grazing Work	Management fee for grazier as agreed with Nick Sherriff.	30/04/19
2019	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Check and maintain entrances. Cut paths to spec and ensure signs and info boards are clean. Remove all litter from fire site at bottom of Oddy Hill. Report any issues	31/05/19
2019	NWH - Maintenance Work	P1: Maintain rond point as necessary - restone path, weed, replace failed trees, remove any developing scrub etc.	31/05/19
2019	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Improvements to access points	31/05/19
2019	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Check and maintain entrances. Cut paths to spec and ensure signs and info boards are clean. Remove all litter from fire site at bottom of Oddy Hill. Report any issues.	31/07/19
2019	WC - Invasive Plant Control	Pulling ragwort on parkland and escarpment.	31/08/19
2019	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Check and maintain entrances. Cut paths to spec and ensure signs and info boards are clean. Remove all litter from fire site at bottom of Oddy Hill. Report any issues.	30/09/19
2019	WC - Invasive Plant Control	Cut areas of laurel and treat previous year's regrowth with Glyphosate in June. Allow 12 man days. Provide map with areas cut and treated when operation complete.	30/09/19
2019	AW - Car Park Construction	Burgan funded activity, HW/Tring split TBC	29/11/19

2019	NWH - Maintenance Work	P2: Annual management of view points off KCR	31/12/19
2019	WMM - Ride Management	P11: MANAGE SCRUB ENCROACHMENT ON THE FIELD ABOVE AND SOUTH OF KING CHARLES RIDE BY MOWING & SCRUB BASHING - Manage scrub encroachment to encourage regeneration of increasingly rare heathland flora.	31/12/19
2019	WMM - Ride Management	P10: MANAGE THE RIDES IN NORTH PEST HOUSE WOOD & BULLS WOOD FOR WILDLIFE BY OPENING THEM UP AND INITIATING A MOWING REGIME - Create scallops throughout rides and where appropriate clear trees and scrub to open up rides.	31/12/19
2019	WMM - Ride Management	P9: Maintain KCR and allees in the forest garden - Remove scrub regrowth and epicormic growth.	31/12/19
2019	WMM - Ride Management	P5: Maintain allee in Park Wood - remove epicormic and scrub growth	31/12/19
2019	NWH - Initial Restoration Work	P3: SELECTIVE & SENSITIVE CLEARANCE AND CONTROL OF ENCROACHING SCRUB & TREES ON MIDDLE AND LOWER SCARP SLOPE - Remove scrub on a gradual basis to reach eventual ratio of 40:60 over five years.	31/12/19
2019	NWH - Maintenance Work	P17: Remove scrub on Oddy Hill as necessary	31/12/19
2019	NWH - Maintenance Work	P16: REDUCE SCRUB WITHIN THE MAIN GRAZING AREA OF THE PARK - Remove scrub encroachment on the main parkland annually to retain and increase the grassland habitat.	31/12/19
2019	WMM - Ride Management	P6: Manage 19th century lime avenue - flail scrub regrowth and epicormic growth	31/12/19
2020	AW - Visitor Access Maintenance	Improvements to access points	31/05/20
2020	NWH - Maintenance Work	P1: Maintain rond point as necessary - restone path, weed, replace failed trees, remove any developing scrub etc.	31/05/20

2020	AW - Car Park Construction	burgan funded activity on destination sites, split HW/Tring TBC	30/11/20
2020	NWH - Maintenance Work	P17: Remove scrub on Oddy Hill as necessary	31/12/20
2020	WMM - Ride Management	P6: Manage 19th century lime avenue - flail scrub regrowth and epicormic growth	31/12/20
2020	NWH - Maintenance Work	P16: REDUCE SCRUB WITHIN THE MAIN GRAZING AREA OF THE PARK - Remove scrub encroachment on the main parkland annually to retain and increase the grassland habitat.	31/12/20
2020	NWH - Initial Restoration Work	P3: SELECTIVE & SENSITIVE CLEARANCE AND CONTROL OF ENCROACHING SCRUB & TREES ON MIDDLE AND LOWER SCARP SLOPE - Remove scrub on a gradual basis to reach eventual ratio of 40:60 over five years.	31/12/20
2020	WMM - Ride Management	P5: Maintain allee in Park Wood - remove epicormic and scrub growth	31/12/20
2020	WMM - Ride Management	P9: Maintain KCR and allees in the forest garden - Remove scrub regrowth and epicormic growth.	31/12/20
2020	WMM - Ride Management	P10: MANAGE THE RIDES IN NORTH PEST HOUSE WOOD & BULLS WOOD FOR WILDLIFE BY OPENING THEM UP AND INITIATING A MOWING REGIME - Create scallops throughout rides and where appropriate clear trees and scrub to open up rides.	31/12/20
2020	WMM - Ride Management	P11: MANAGE SCRUB ENCROACHMENT ON THE FIELD ABOVE AND SOUTH OF KING CHARLES RIDE BY MOWING & SCRUB BASHING - Manage scrub encroachment to encourage regeneration of increasingly rare heathland flora.	31/12/20
2020	NWH - Maintenance Work	P2: Annual management of view points off KCR	31/12/20

2021	WMM - Ride Management	P11: MANAGE SCRUB ENCROACHMENT ON THE FIELD ABOVE AND SOUTH OF KING CHARLES RIDE BY MOWING & SCRUB BASHING - Manage scrub encroachment to encourage regeneration of increasingly rare heathland flora.	31/12/21
2021	WMM - Ride Management	P10: MANAGE THE RIDES IN NORTH PEST HOUSE WOOD & BULLS WOOD FOR WILDLIFE BY OPENING THEM UP AND INITIATING A MOWING REGIME - Create scallops throughout rides and where appropriate clear trees and scrub to open up rides.	31/12/21
2021	WMM - Ride Management	P9: Maintain KCR and allees in the forest garden - Remove scrub regrowth and epicormic growth.	31/12/21

APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	1.00	Beech	1960	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/ Rocky ground	Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
A small compartment on the western edge known as Bishops wood. It mainly comprises gnarled beech and mature ash, last thinned in 2000. Several large beech and horse chestnut standards are also present, established around 1850, along with a few younger wild cherry. The dense understorey is dominated by mature hawthorn, with occasional holly and hazel regeneration. Ground flora is very sparse with the odd patch of nettle, moss and rose. The sub-compartment has an easterly aspect and borders Hastoe Lane to the west and scrub woodland to the east. Running south to north is a deeply carved track of some antiquity. It is lined with an avenue of mature beech that seem to be at least 200 years old. There are also some linear earthworks that run almost parallel with this feature.							
1b	3.00	Beech	1975	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Part of Bishops Wood, this sub-compartment was felled and replanted with broadleaves and mixed conifers in the 1970's. Many of the young beech have been decimated by squirrels but the ash remains untouched. 2001 thinnings favoured the removal of the exotic conifers together with the worst affected beech. The wood is now dominated by ash and beech, along with some massive lime and a few Scots pine and larch of average form. Understorey consists of abundant ash regeneration responding well to the extra light from the recent thinnings. Bluebell, primrose, mosses and sedges make up most of the ground flora with much of the woodland floor covered with ash seedlings. The sub-compartment has a northerly aspect and a hard surfaced bridleway known as King Charles Ride runs east / west. The Ridgeway National Trail follows this bridleway. Towards the northern boundary of the compartment is a small brick and flint structure, set back into the ground and mostly demolished, which appears to be consistent with the park wall.							

2a	3.20	Birch (downy/silver)	1990	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
This area was felled and replanted in 1985 with larch, spruce and beech. The beech has largely failed and the conifers have been attacked by Glis glis resulting in significant failure. Only the occasional undamaged conifer remain together with an abundance of naturally regenerating birch and willow. The area was thinned in 2003 to remove the worst affected trees and to help encourage the undamaged ones. Many of the original Sequoia stumps have regrown with multiple stems. Ground flora includes grasses, moss and bramble and several large decaying stumps are also present. The sub-compartment has a slight northerly aspect and the eastern boundary backs onto housing. Interesting note regarding Glis glis, otherwise known as edible dormouse: Walter Rothschild, who later became the second Baron Rothschild, brought the first six Glis glis to England in 1902. No-one knows exactly why, but he turned them loose in Tring Park and they spread and bred.							
2b	3.10	Japanese larch	1980	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Although planted at the same time as cpt 2a in 1985, the beech, pine and larch have established better and show less damage by squirrels and Glis glis. Japanese larch is prominent in the canopy with increasing amounts of broadleaves and some Sequoia regrowth. A few huge cedar line the southern boundary. The area was thinned in 2003 and many of the larch were removed. Ash, birch and willow are all present in noticeable amounts. The developing understorey contains hazel, rowan, sycamore, hawthorn and laurel. Ground flora is sparse but where light penetrates the canopy grasses, fox-glove and ferns are present. Several large decaying stumps are also present. The sub-compartment has a slight southerly aspect and borders housing on the east and southern edges. The residential road to the south of the compartment provides access but there is a covenant which limits the vehicle size to only a few tonnes, therefore the route cannot be used for timber wagons.							

3a	6.90	Beech	1998	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
This area of mature woodland was savaged by storms in the 1990's resulting in considerable loss of older trees, especially beech. The large open area was planted with oak and beech in 1998 and these have grown slowly to the point that the protective shelters have been mostly removed. Other smaller gaps have been left unplanted and have been colonised by naturally regenerating birch, beech and ash. There are still open areas dominated by grasses but the laurel growth has ballooned since the storms and is competing with the natural regeneration. Laurel control has taken place, most recently in 2004 but regrowth is strong. The mature beech trees are of roughly equal height but are of two distinctly different age classes. The older specimens were established around 1850 and the younger trees around 1960. They each account for approx 30% of the canopy but deadwood and decay is common. Some huge oak and pole stage sycamore are also present with limes lining the adjacent rides. Understorey consists of frequent beech regen, occasional holly and the odd patch of rhododendron which helps to provide good structural diversity and a considerable range of species. Ground flora is abundant among the regeneration and consists of bramble and grasses. Due to past windblow there is a good volume of course woody debris.							
3b	1.20	Mixed native broadleaves	1955	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other, Planted Ancient Woodland Site
Sub-compartment 3b is a thin strip of even aged Scots pine and larch established around 1955. Thinned in 2001, broadleaves such as beech, ash and birch were released and are breaking through to command more of a position in the canopy. Broadleaf natural regeneration and occasional holly are present in the understorey with ground flora consisting of bluebells, primroses and bramble. The sub-compartment has a slight southerly aspect and is surrounded by other woodland.							
4a	4.90	Beech	1955	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site

This compartment, known as the nursery was planted in rows around 1955. It mainly comprises beech of average form with elements of ash, cherry and the odd larch, Scots pine and Douglas fir. Last thinned in 2002 when the majority of the conifers were removed and is now developing as an attractive broadleaf stand. Some majestic, monstrous beech in the northwest corner provide the highlight of the compartment. Being even aged the understorey is minimal with infrequent holly, hawthorn and elder along with increasing ash and sycamore regeneration. Laurel is also noticeable. Ground flora includes a fantastic spread of bluebells in the spring, along with primroses, grasses, ferns and bramble. The sub-compartment has a slight southerly aspect facing onto open fields.							
5a	1.60	Ash	1980	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other, Scheduled Ancient Monument
This sub-compartment is dominated by yew and ash, with the canopy species in a distinct spatial arrangement having the ash in the centre and yew, along with huge lime around the perimeter. The ash is of average form and established around the 1970's. Despite some younger yew, the majority are mature specimens probably part of the original landscape planting. Understorey consists primarily of sycamore and ash along with a smattering of yew. The dark conditions mean ground flora is mostly sparse. Large bushes of box are occasionally found growing intimately with the yew. Throughout the sub-compartment, and other areas in Tring Woods, are old pits and piles. These congregate around the mature yew and box. The sub-compartment has a north westerly aspect.							
5b	2.40	Ash	1975	High forest		Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other, Scheduled Ancient Monument

This sub-compartment mainly comprises pole stage ash with pockets of beech, lime and yew. The eastern section has significant amounts of Corsican pine, Norway spruce, ash, beech and sycamore. Again, yew line all the rides and are interspersed with massive lime trees. Some very mature beech are also dotted throughout. Frequent beech and ash regeneration dominates the understorey but sycamore, holly, elder and laurel are also noticeable. Ground flora mainly consists of dogs mercury along with patches of ferns, nettles and bramble. Several large windthrown stumps are also present. Towards the east it is more open with ground flora showing bluebells, primroses and wetland grasses. This wetter area centres on a silted boundary pond. The Summer House is located at the very northeastern point and the obelisk stands tall at the western corner. The sub-compartment backs onto the highway and remnants of the old boundary wall are still obvious.							
5c	5.30	Beech	1970	High forest	Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Planted Ancient Woodland Site, Scheduled Ancient Monument
Beech is the most common species in sub-compartment 5c, occupying approx 60% of the canopy. Established around 1970 it shows some signs of squirrel and deer damage. Other principle species include large horse chestnut standards, established around 1900 along with younger cherry, ash, Japanese larch and sycamore. A dense understorey consists of frequent sycamore and yew and occasional rhododendron and laurel regeneration. This understorey is interspersed with rank grassy meadows and clearings where ash is regenerating freely, crowding out other flora. The southernmost part of the sub-compartment grades into dense secondary growth, including hawthorn, ash and fruit trees. Ground flora includes bramble, rose, grasses and some young holly. The sub-compartment has a westerly aspect, adjoins woodland on all sides and has public footpaths around and through it, as well as bordering the bridleway King Charles Ride.							
5d	2.60	Ash	1970	High forest	Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other, Scheduled Ancient Monument

Sub-compartment 5d has a northwesterly aspect which leads down the parkland. It mainly comprises pole stage ash with some mature beech and horse chestnut. Characteristically, yew trees line the paths that lead to the obelisk and there is an old avenue of horse chestnut lining the boundary with the park.
Understorey is dense with sycamore, ash and beech regen along with elder, hawthorn and scrubby vegetation such as brambles.

6a	1.80			Coppice	Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Site of Special Scientific Interest

This sub-compartment is commonly known as 'Oddy Hill', primarily a small, sloping area of exceptional unimproved calcareous grassland designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). It supports a diverse range of flora including locally uncommon and rare species such as the Chiltern gentian, Autumn gentian, large thyme, twayblade, common spotted orchid and harebell. The key area of 0.6ha is enclosed by stock fencing and grazed with sheep in early winter. Outside the SSSI the remaining area is made up of a tarmac access road and a scrubby ash / willow shelter belt on the dual carriageway side of the access track. Over the years the enclosed area has become a mixture of open grassland and scrubby woodland but focussed management effort in recent years has cleared back a lot of the scrub in favour of the chalk grassland. The top of the enclosure has a greater proportion of scrub with ash coppice, scattered silver birch, woodland shrubs and coarser grasses. The lower part of the enclosure is species rich chalk grassland. Here the soils are very thin, in part due to historic chalk quarrying where there is still a largish dell evident. The old quarrying works provide a steep topography and these slopes are particularly important for supporting the rarer chalk grassland species.
Unfortunately the site is prone to fires, vandalism and litter in the summer months.

7a	3.50					Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other

Strip of neutral grassland, known as the 'top enclosure' with encroaching scrub including hawthorn, elder, ash and rowan. The enclosure extends to about 3.5 hectares and is lightly grazed with cattle in the Autumn. The southern fenceline forms the old Tring Park boundary and has some impressive mature beech along its length. Several younger beech have been planted as future replacements. King Charles Ride runs along the northern boundary which is lined with huge lime trees. The soils are not as chalky as elsewhere in the park as clay with flints dominate. The grass is ranker here than elsewhere and anecdotal evidence suggests that this has been used as a dumping ground over the years. There are signs of enrichment together with the occasional pile of old building rubble. There is an area of Japanese knotweed which is being reduced in size. The enclosure is developing some interesting grassland in its own right with oxlips appearing more frequently.

8a	9.90				Very steep slope/cliff/quarry/ mine shafts/sink holes etc	Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other, Site of Special Scientific Interest
This compartment is an enclosure along the Chiltern's scarp slope and known as the 'Escarpment'. It is mostly unimproved chalk grassland, interspersed with scrub, both in clumps and large, dense thickets. The edges of the compartment, particularly in the southeastern section are more woodland in character where ash is the main component, ranging from young regeneration up to maturing canopy trees. Scrub, made up of hawthorn, ash, elder, rose and bramble has encroached over the last 50 years and in places shades out all ground flora. The scrub forms a valuable edge zone between the woodland and the sward but if not controlled can destroy the important grassland habitat. However, the large areas of bramble are of great importance to the butterfly assemblage. Current butterfly and invertebrate monitoring showed the rare Purple Emperor to be present as well as skippers and fritillaries.							
9a	44.50					Historic Landscape, Informal Public Access	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Other, Site of Special Scientific Interest

Historic Grade II listed parkland with undulating downs of high scenic value, known as 'The Park'. Large part of it is designated a SSSI due to it being one of the better examples of unimproved chalk grassland in Hertfordshire. The remainder of the park area is neutral chalk grassland but vitally important in acting as a buffer to the more valuable SSSI.
Throughout the parkland are the remnants of landscape planting from various periods. These include splendid mature specimens of beech, horse chestnut and lime along with some stunning, eye-catching copper beech and a regimented square of Scots pine. Foremost in the landscape is the Lime Avenue, which forms a long, direct vista from the southern corner of the Park to the house. Approximately 50 young parkland trees were planted throughout the park in 2000/2001 to succeed the current majestic specimens when they begin to senesce. Embankments and other field archaeology exist together with more recent building bases and foundations.
The chalk grassland is punctuated with pockets of scrub, mainly comprising hawthorn, elderberry, bramble and occasional ash or hazel. Some ragwort persists but has reduced in recent years. The herb-rich grassland supports chalk loving plants such as common spotted orchid, harebell, cowslip, cornflower, field scabious and Autumn hawkbit. There are grassed ant hills throughout the Park but mainly on the south facing slopes. The Park is populated with butterflies such as Orange tip, Marbled white, Common blue, Ringlet and Meadow brown.
The whole park area is grazed with cattle and there is a handling area located next to the dual carriageway on the non SSSI section.
A public footpath leads across the park and connects to Tring via a footbridge over the duel carriageway.
The park is widely used by locals for dog walking and quiet recreation and remains well drained even in winter.
The northwestern corner field is currently let on an Agricultural Holdings Act Tenancy 1986.

GLOSSARY

Ancient Woodland

Ancient woods are defined as those where there has been continuous woodland cover since at least 1600 AD. In Scotland ancient woods are defined strictly as sites shown as semi-natural woodland on the 'Roy' maps (a military survey carried out in 1750 AD, which is the best source of historical map evidence) and as woodland all subsequent maps. However, they have been combined with long-established woods of semi-natural origin (originating from between 1750 and 1860) into a single category of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland to take account of uncertainties in their identification. Ancient woods include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland and plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites (see below). May support many species that are only found in ancient woodland.

Ancient Semi - Natural Woodland

Stands in ancient woods defined as those consisting predominantly of native trees and shrubs that have not obviously been planted, which have arisen from natural regeneration or coppice regrowth.

Ancient Woodland Site

Stands in ancient woods that have been converted to plantations, of coniferous, broadleaved or mixed species, usually for timber production, including plantations of native species planted so closely together that any semi-natural elements of the understorey have been suppressed.

Beating Up

Replacing any newly planted trees that have died in the first few years after planting.

Broadleaf

A tree having broad leaves (such as oak) rather than needles found on conifers (such as Scots pine).

Canopy

The uppermost layer of vegetation in a woodland, or the upper foliage and branches of an individual tree.

Clearfell

Felling of all trees within a defined area.

Compartment

Permanent management division of a woodland, usually defined on site by permanent features such as roads. See Sub-compartments.

Conifer

A tree having needles, rather than broadleaves, and typically bearing cones.

Continuous Cover forestry

A term used for managing woods to ensure that there are groups or individual trees of different ages scattered over the whole wood and that some mature tree cover is always maintained. Management is by repeated thinning and no large areas are ever completely felled all at once.

Coppice

Trees which are cut back to ground levels at regular intervals (3-25 years).

Exotic (non-native) Species

Species originating from other countries (or other parts of the UK) that have been introduced by humans, deliberately or accidentally.

Field Layer

Layer of small, non-woody herbaceous plants such as bluebells.

Group Fell

The felling of a small group of trees, often to promote natural regeneration or allow planting.

Long Term Retention

Discrete groups of trees (or in some cases single trees) that are retained significantly past their economic felling age. Operations may still be carried out within them and thinning is often necessary to maintain stability.

Minimum Intervention

Areas where no operations (such as thinning) will take place other than to protect public safety or possibly to control invasive exotic species.

Mixed Woodland

Woodland made up of broadleaved and coniferous trees.

National vegetation classification (NVC)

A classification scheme that allows an area of vegetation to be assigned to the standardised type that best matches the combination of plant species that it contains. All woodlands in the UK can be described as being one of 18 main woodland types (W1 - W18), which principally reflect soil and climatic conditions. For example, Upland Oakwoods are type W11, and normally occur on well drained infertile soils in the cooler and wetter north and west of Britain. Each main type can be subdivided into numerous subtypes. Most real woods contain more than one type or sub-type and inevitably some woods are intermediate in character and can't be properly described by any sub type.

Native Species

Species that arrived in Britain without human assistance.

Natural Regeneration

Naturally grown trees from seeds falling from mature trees. Also regeneration from coppicing and suckering.

Origin & Provenance

The provenance of a tree or seed is the place where seed was collected to grow the tree or plant. The origin is the geographical location within the natural range of a species from where seeds/tree originally derives. Thus an acorn collected from a Turkey oak in Edinburgh would have an Edinburgh provenance and a southern European origin.

Re-Stocking

Re-planting an area of woodland, after it has been felled.

Shrub Layer

Formed by woody plants 1-10m tall.

Silviculture

The growing and care of trees in woodlands.

Stand

Trees of one type or species, grouped together within a woodland.

Sub-Compartment

Temporary management division of a compartment, which may change between management plan periods.

Thinning

The felling of a proportion of individual trees within a given area. The remaining trees grow to fill in the space created.

Tubex or Grow or Tuley Tubes

Tubes placed over newly planted trees or natural regeneration that promote growth and provide protection from animals such as rabbits and deer.

Weeding

The control of vegetation immediately around newly planted trees or natural regeneration to promote tree growth until they become established. Either by hand cutting or with carefully selected weed killers such as glyphosate.

Windblow/Windthrow

Trees or groups of trees blown over (usually uprooted) by strong winds and gales.