



# St Paul's Wood

## Management Plan 2017-2022

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## 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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk) or contact the Woodland Trust ([wopsmail@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto: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.

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## 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](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk). Our woods are managed to the UK Woodland Assurance Standard (UKWAS) and are certified with the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) under licence FSC-C009406 and 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.

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## 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

|                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Site name:</b>      | St Paul's Wood                      |
| <b>Location:</b>       | Burton Pidsea, Roos                 |
| <b>Grid reference:</b> | TA254310, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. 107 |
| <b>Area:</b>           | 1.30 hectares (3.21 acres)          |
| <b>Designations:</b>   |                                     |

## 2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Summary Description

This is one of The Woodland Trust's 'Woods on Your Doorstep' woodlands, created to commemorate the Millennium. It lies close to the on the eastern boundary of the village of Burton Pidsea, from where you can access the wood via a Public Right of Way.

## 2.2 Extended Description

The Trust purchased the wood on the 9th September 1999 as part of the Woods on Your Doorstep Project (WOYD). The wood is situated adjacent to the eastern boundary of the village of Burton Pidsea, East Yorkshire, in the flat high quality agricultural landscape of the Holderness Plain. The land, former arable is flat, slightly chalky and well drained although low lying.

The surrounding land is predominantly arable with views across open fields to the north and east. The Holderness area is one of the least treed areas in Europe at less than 1%. A narrow old belt of existing mature trees is situated outside the site, alongside the southern boundary. A Public Right of Way (PROW) from the village runs alongside the tree belt, with access to the site at approximately the mid point of the tree belt. The PROW continues parallel to the southern boundary to the south east corner of the wood before heading south to Prospect Hill. The adjacent landowner has planted a belt of trees on the opposite side of the track on the eastern boundary, which are roughly the same age as the trees in St Paul's Wood. A semi mature stand of poplars is located across the PROW towards the Southeast corner of the site. A new wire fence partitions the wood along the northern boundary from the adjacent arable field. The landowner has planted a double row hawthorn hedge along this boundary. A deep land drain bounds the site to the east

The woodland was designed primarily to provide a recreational facility and landscape feature as part of the WOYD project. This is one of the only significant areas of woodland in the village and forms an important local amenity. A circular path is maintained by the Trust, with 1 access point from the PROW on the southern boundary. Because of its close proximity to the village the site is popular with local people. It is envisaged that once the woodland becomes more established its usage will increase.

Work commenced in the autumn of 1999 with grass seeding the site with a meadow mix. The local community began the planting works in March 2000 following a very successful press campaign. The name was chosen for the wood by the local community and relates the name of the village church, which is, located close-by. The woodland was funded by the Millennium Commission, The Forestry Commission, The Sainsbury Family Charitable Trust. East Riding of Yorkshire County Council, Burton Pidsea Millennium Committee, BP Amoco Employees, Hull and East Riding Community Trust and local people.

The main tree species to be found on site are sessile oak, ash, cherry, rowan, field maple. Shrub species planted on-site are dog rose, blackthorn, hawthorn, hazel and holly.

An old belt of trees bounds the site to the west and south. A new wire fence bounds the site to the north. The outer edge of a deep drainage ditch bounds the site to the east. The Woodland Trust is responsible for all boundaries on site except for the boundaries of the garden boundaries of the properties on the south west corner of the site.

## 3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

### 3.1 Getting there

### ACCESS TO THE SITE

The wood is located on the eastern fringe of the village of Burton Pidsea. A public footpath, alongside St Peter's Church in the centre of the village leads to the Wood. Follow the path down St Peter's Walk past a number of houses. At the end of the cul-de-sac a footpath runs between two houses to the entrance to the woodland approximately 140m on the left.

Management access for contractors to the Trust is gained from a track, which leads down to the wood from the main road to the north (Burton Pidsea to Roos)

### ENTRANCE AND FOOTPATHS

The entrance to the site consists of a squeeze stile with an information board is located just inside the wood. The site is flat with a circular grass path of approximately 400m

### PARKING

Roadside parking is available within the village.

### PUBLIC TOILETS

None known within 5 miles.

### BUS STOPS

Nearest bus stop is in the centre of the village.

### TRAVEL INFORMATION

Further information about public transport contact Traveline on [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk) or phone 0870 608 2 608

## 3.2 Access / Walks

## 4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The long-term intention is to develop and maintain a diverse, secondary predominately broadleaved native high forest. This will be achieved by management of the existing trees or shrubs and the introduction of plants through natural regeneration, thus encouraging self-sustainability of the woodland and creation of a more diverse age structure in future years. The wood to be dominated (80-100%) native broadleaved species with a mixed shrub layer. Public access will be available throughout the site with the existing footpaths.



## 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 Informal Public Access

#### Description

The wood has open public access with a circular footpath (400m) and 1 entrance point being maintained by the Trust. A Trust welcoming sign and information board are at the entrance along the southern boundary of the site. Being within easy walking distance of most residents in Burton Pidsea the site proves very popular with a wide age range of the local community.

#### Significance

The site provides a short but interesting walk, which is very accessible for local people being located close to the edge of the village. No other woodland walks are known to exist in the immediate area.

#### Opportunities & Constraints

At present due to the small size and age the woods usage is clearly limited to a short walk for mainly local people. It is envisaged that as the woodland matures public usage will increase by local residents and ramblers using the PROW. An opportunity exists to place a seat in the wood, which would encourage people to spend some time in the wood, despite its small size. An extension to the site would also make the wood more desirable to visitors and such an opportunity may arise in the future.

#### Factors Causing Change

Increased public use

#### Long term Objective (50 years+)

To have a well-maintained circular footpath that enables good access all year round.

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

Maintenance of the existing circular path (400m) and one access point and signs. Paths cut once annually.

## 5.2 Secondary Woodland

### Description

Planted in 2000 this native secondary woodland consists of 18% sessile oak, 18% ash, 18% cherry, 18% rowan and 18% field maple. Shrub species planted on-site are 2% dog rose, 2% blackthorn, 2% hawthorn, 2% hazel and 2% holly.

### Significance

Holderness in the East Riding of Yorkshire is renowned for its flat, un-wooded and un-hedged landscape. Woodland cover in the East Riding of Yorkshire area is the lowest in the country at about 2.7% (1989 NCC), with Holderness itself being probably around 1%. The wood makes a valuable habitat and forms an important landscape feature of the area.

### Opportunities & Constraints

As the northern boundary fronts onto arable land the woodland edge on this side may be susceptible to drift from agricultural chemicals. If the newly planted hedge on the northern boundary survives this may help to mitigate the effects of chemical drift.

Being small in size the site is likely to be capable of supporting only a limited range of species. However, an opportunity may arise in the future to extend the site to the north. Once the new planting outside of the site to the east has matured and the semi mature poplar plantation to the south east has become more established the area will feature prominently in the landscape.

### Factors Causing Change

Increase public use  
 Damage by Deer, rabbits  
 Ash dieback disease

### Long term Objective (50 years+)

The vision is to maintain the wood as a diverse broadleaved high forest encouraging self-sustaining woodland, dominated by 80-100% native broadleaved species, with a mixed native shrub layer and diverse age structure. As woodland cover in Holderness is one of the lowest in the country the wood will contribute by providing an important woodland habitat and landscape feature to the area.

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

Further assessment of rabbit damage is required throughout the current plan period. Stocking levels are just adequate for the woodland but further losses would be of concern.

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## 6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

| Year | Type of Work | Description | Due By |
|------|--------------|-------------|--------|
|------|--------------|-------------|--------|

## APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

| Cpt No. | Area (ha) | Main Species             | Year | Management Regime | Major Management Constraints | Key Features Present                       | Designations |
|---------|-----------|--------------------------|------|-------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------|
| 1a      | 1.30      | Mixed native broadleaves | 2000 | High forest       |                              | Informal Public Access, Secondary Woodland |              |

The compartment consists of 1.3ha, which was planted in 2000 with native mixed broadleaf trees (90%) and shrubs (10%). Tree species within the wood consist of 18% sessile oak, 18% ash, 18% cherry, 18% rowan and 18% field maple. Shrub species planted on-site are 2% dog rose, 2% blackthorn, 2% hawthorn, 2% hazel and 2% holly. The trees and shrubs were planted in a random fashion at 3m spacing to achieve 1100 trees per hectare creating a naturalistic effect. A Trust welcoming sign is at the woodland entrance along the southern boundary. An oak tree to mark the millennium was planted opposite the main entrance within site.

## 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.