

# Longacre Wood

(Plan period – 2026 to 2036)



WOODLAND  
TRUST

# Management Plan Content Page

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## Introduction to the Woodland Trust Estate

The Woodland Trust owns and cares for well over 1,250 sites covering almost 30,000 hectares (ha) across the UK. This includes more than 4,000ha of ancient semi-natural woodland and almost 4,000ha of non-native plantations on ancient woodland sites and we have created over 5,000ha of new native woodland. We also manage other valuable habitats such as flower-rich grasslands, heaths, ponds/lakes and moorland.

Our Vision is:

“A UK rich in native woods and trees for people and wildlife.”

To realise all the environmental, social and economic benefits woods and trees bring to society, we:

- **Create Woodland** – championing the need to hugely increase the UK’s native woodland and trees.
- **Protect Woodland** – fighting to defend native woodland, especially irreplaceable ancient woodland and veteran trees; there should be no loss of ancient woodland
- **Restore Woodland** – ensuring the sensitive restoration of all damaged ancient woodland and the re-creation of native wooded landscapes.

# Management of the Woodland Trust Estate

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.

The following principles provide an overarching framework to guide the management of all our sites but we recognise that all woods are different and that their management also needs to reflect their local landscape, history and where appropriate support local projects and initiatives.

1. Our woods are managed to maintain their intrinsic key features of value and to reflect those of the surrounding landscape. We intervene in our woods when there is evidence that it is necessary to maintain or improve biodiversity, safety and to further the development of more resilient woods and landscapes.
2. We establish new native woodland for all the positive reasons set out in our Conservation Principles, preferably using natural regeneration but often by planting trees, 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. Where possible, we pro-actively engage with people to help them appreciate the value of woods and trees.
4. The long term vision for all our 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 natural and cultural heritage value of sites is taken into account in our management and in particular, our ancient trees are retained for as long as possible.
7. Land and woods can generate income both from the sustainable harvesting of wood products and the delivery of other services. We therefore consider the appropriateness of opportunities 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 encourage our woods to be used for 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. We maintain a network of sites for long-term monitoring and trials leading to reductions in plastics and pesticides.
10. Any activities we undertake are in line with our wider Conservation Principles, conform to sustainable forest management practices, are appropriate for the site and balanced with our primary objectives of enhancing the biodiversity and recreational value of our woods and the wider landscapes.

## The Public Management Plan

This public management plan describes the site and sets out the long term aims for our management and lists the Key Features which drive our management actions. The Key Features are specific to this site – their significance is outlined together with our long, 50 years and beyond, and our short, the next 5 years, term objectives for the management and enhancement of these features. The short term objectives are complemented by an outline Work Programme for the period of this management plan aimed at delivering our management aims.

Detailed compartment descriptions are listed in the appendices which include any major management constraints and designations. Any legally confidential or sensitive species information about this site is not included in this version of the plan.

There is a formal review of this plan every 5 years and we continually monitor our sites to assess the success of our management, therefore this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme.

Please either consult The Woodland Trust website

[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk)

or contact the Woodland Trust

[operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk](mailto:operations@woodlandtrust.org.uk)

to confirm details of the current management programme.

A short glossary of technical terms can be found at the end of the plan.

## Location and Access

Location maps and directions for how to find and access our woods, including this site, can be found by using the following link to the Woodland Trust web-site which contains information on accessible woodlands across the UK

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/find-woods/>

In Scotland access to our sites is in accordance with the Land Reform Act (of Scotland) 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

In England, Wales and NI, with the exception of designated Public Rights of Ways, all routes across our sites are permissive in nature and where we have specific access provision for horse riders and/or cyclists this will be noted in the management plan.

# The Management Plan

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GLOSSARY

## 1. SITE DETAILS

### Longacre Wood

Location:	Dutton	Grid	reference:	SJ580780	OS	1:50,000	Sheet	No.	117
Area:	12.99 hectares (32.10 acres)								
External Designations:	Community Forest								
Internal Designations:	N/A								

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Longacre Wood is a 13 Ha broadleaved woodland located near the small village of Dutton in North Cheshire, two miles south of the M56 motorway and five miles south of Runcorn. It lies within the attractive Weaver Valley which is an Area of Special Landscape Value and is adjacent to the West Coast railway line to the west and the Trent and Mersey Canal to the north east. The local landscape is predominantly mixed dairy and arable farmland with wooded copses and several large privately owned broadleaved woodlands. Longacre wood is a semi-natural ancient woodland with younger broadleaf woodland adjacent to the ancient woodland. The Weaver Valley has one of the largest concentrations of ancient woodland in Cheshire including Bird's Wood which lies across the far side of the railway line and is part of the Aston Estate.

The site was acquired by the Woodland Trust in two phases between 2002 to 2004 with support from the Mersey Forest, English Nature, WREN, the Forestry Commission and local funders. The Woodland Trust also own a larger site called Dutton Park about half a mile to the south west of Longacre Wood along a public bridleway that leads to the River Weaver. Dutton Park is nearly 60 Ha in total and includes two blocks of semi-natural ancient woodland, about 30 Ha of new native woodland planting, riverside meadows, scrub habitat, ponds and wetland scrapes.

Longacre Wood is split into three woodland compartments: the largest is the Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) situated in the steep-sided clough valley with a stream along the bottom; the other two compartments are both small blocks of new native broadleaf planting which had previously been fields used for grazing and arable crops. The new woodland areas were planted in 2004/5 with nearly 9000 native trees and shrubs including English oak, ash, alder, silver birch, rowan with hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, and dog rose. These compartments are 74% new native woodland with 16% open ground mostly in the form of path rides and old Marl pits and approximately 10% left for natural regeneration to colonise. The soils on the site are predominantly brown earth and boulder clay with pockets of lighter alluvial deposits along the stream.

Part of the Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland were cleared in the 1940's and replanted with sycamore, hornbeam, elm, horse chestnut and common lime which has resulted in many of the trees here now being of a similar age from this time. The woodland also contains oak, ash, wych elm, alder, silver birch, downy birch, wild cherry, hazel, elder, hawthorn. There are a number of impressive mature trees including common limes (originally planted in avenues), hornbeam and oak (the bulk of the which are found along the canal embankment). The wood contains a significant amount of standing and fallen deadwood. The ground flora of the ancient woodland is spectacular in the spring with widespread bluebells and ramsons covering the sides and bottom of the clough. Overtime it is hoped these will spread out into the newer planted areas of woodland.

There are several public access points into the wood: one access point is via a stile from Lodge Lane, two access points via kissing gates from a bridleway track that leads to/ from Aston village and two access points from the canal towpath. Due to the nature of the site there are a series of steps and a footbridge crossing over the stream in the clough. The site has about 1000 metres of grass path rides in the new woodland blocks and an unsurfaced footpath through the ancient semi-natural woodland. A public footpath passes along the eastern edge of the woodland from Lodge Lane to the canal towpath. The wood is regularly used by local people, but does not have high numbers of visitors.

Two large culverts and an overflow channel for the canal (all the responsibility of the Canals and Rivers Trust) are

located within the ASNW compartment. There are also two underground ethylene pipelines running beneath all three compartments from east to west.

### 3. LONG TERM POLICY

The long term intention for Longacre Wood is to create and maintain a high forest of predominantly native mixed broadleaves with a diverse species and age structure.

The wood will be managed primarily as a recreational and landscape feature. Key drivers for any woodland management operations will be for public access and safety, tree safety and if necessary to encourage a more diverse and resilient woodland for the future capable of withstanding pressures from climate change, pests and diseases.

The ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW) component should be protected and retain a diverse mix of species and age structures along with natural regeneration and suitable ancient woodland ground flora species. The areas of new planted woodland will help to act as a buffer to the ASNW and reduce the impact of any future changes in the surrounding land use.

Overall the woodland will be allowed to develop through natural processes where possible, but it may necessary to intervene to diversify the species mix and age structure.

Woodland and path edges will be managed by rotational coppicing to create a more varied structure and to maintain visitor access.

The site entrances, footpaths and site infrastructure will be suitably maintained to ensure the site is welcoming and safe for visitors to use and enjoy.

## 4. KEY FEATURES

### 4.1 f1 Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

<b>Description</b>
Longacre Wood is a fairly even aged mix of mature broadleaf species including English (pendunculate) oak, sycamore, hornbeam, common lime, beech, ash, wych elm, wild cherry, silver birch, downy birch, alder and horse chestnut. The shrub layer of the wood includes hazel, hawthorn, elder, honeysuckle and ivy. Many saplings can also be observed in the shrub layer particularly ash, which shows natural regeneration is occurring successfully. Ground flora in the woodland is both diverse and well established. Locally abundant species include bluebell, ramson, dogs mercury, lesser celandine, wood anemone and ferns. The woodland contains significant levels of deadwood which offers an excellent habitat for birds and invertebrates. A stream runs through the compartment with associated wetland marginal zones including a pond.
<b>Significance</b>
Compartment 3A is designated as Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) in English Nature's Ancient Woodland Inventory. Ancient woodland is a rare habitat and now comprises only 2% of woodland cover in the UK. The Weaver Valley area has the second highest concentration of ASNW in Cheshire making this site significant in the local area. Ancient woodland is a Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitat for Cheshire which has approximately 5% woodland cover in total.
<b>Opportunities &amp; Constraints</b>
Restructuring of the canopy layer which is dominated by sycamore would create gaps in the canopy and opportunities for more diverse natural regeneration. A constraint to carrying out management work is that vehicular access is difficult in parts of the woodland especially the wetter areas and steep slopes.
<b>Factors Causing Change</b>
Shading caused by dense canopy of sycamore and beech resulting in poor shrub layer and ground flora in some areas. Squirrel damage to trees is occurring but is not currently an issue for tree health or natural regeneration. Tree disease especially Chalara ash dieback will lead to the loss of ash within the wood.
<b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b>
In the long term the ASNW should be predominantly native broadleaves with a mix of species, structure and age classes along with a diverse shrub layer and ground flora. The site should retain a mix of open ground areas with scrub, transitional zones and wetland habitats to enhance the biodiversity value of the site. There should be an increasing volume of fallen and standing deadwood.
<b>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</b>

During the plan period there will be minimal intervention apart from any work required for public safety reasons as part of the Trust's duty of care to visitors through the tree safety inspection regimes. Carry out a woodland condition assessment once during the plan period to monitor natural regen. and ground flora, the health and resilience of the woodland and identify any threats from tree disease, pests or mammals.

#### 4.2 f2 Secondary Woodland

<b>Description</b>
The young woodland compartments were planted in 2004/5 with a mix of native trees and shrubs including oak, ash, silver birch, rowan, alder, wild cherry and woody shrubs: hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, crab apple and dog rose. The new woodland planting comprises approx. 74% of the site with 16% left as open ground including rides and a further 10% fenced, scarified and then left for natural regeneration to colonise.
<b>Significance</b>
Cheshire is one of the least wooded counties in England with less than 4% woodland cover. This new native woodland planting will serve to buffer the adjoining ASNW and enhance biodiversity of the site by creating a mix of habitats.
<b>Opportunities &amp; Constraints</b>
The new woodland is uniform in age and structure because it was all planted at the same time. Thinning work would enable the new woodland blocks to develop a more mixed age structure, species composition and help to increase the amount of deadwood habitat.
<b>Factors Causing Change</b>
Canopy closure will occur as the wood matures. Tree disease particularly Chalara could result in significant tree loss in the new woodland blocks.
<b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b>
The long term aim is to create an extension to the ASNW of native broadleaves with a mix of species, structure and age classes along with a diverse shrub layer and ground flora. The site should contain a mix of habitats including scrub, transitional zones and a wetland/pond area to enhance the biodiversity value of the site.
<b>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</b>
During the plan period coppicing will be carried out along path edges to improve sight lines and create a varied structure to the woodland edges. Thinning will be carried out in the new planting blocks to diversify the age and structure of the new woodland. The open ground areas will be allowed to develop naturally into transitional scrub zones. The growth and health of the new trees will be monitored.

#### 4.3 f3 Informal Public Access

<b>Description</b>
Longacre Wood offers informal public access with about 1km of permissive grass path rides through the new woodland and an unsurfaced path through the ancient woodland. Access to the site is from either Lodge Lane, the canal towpath or the track/ bridleway that passes alongside the south western boundary. A public footpath runs through the eastern

<p>part of the site linking the canal to Lodge Lane. Woodland Trust welcome signs are at all entrances and 2 new Information boards were installed in 2017 at the entrance near Lodge Lane and the entrance from the canal leading down steps. Within the wood there is a wooden footbridge over the stream, three sets of timber steps, several old way marker posts with tree leaf designs and a single bench located near the footpath through the ancient woodland.</p>
<p><b>Significance</b></p>
<p>The wood provides informal public access for visitors to enjoy and experience an area of ancient woodland and younger native woodland. There are good footpath links to the Trent and Mersey Canal and Weaver Navigation. It is also easily accessed from the Runcorn which is less than two miles away. Increasing access to and enjoyment of woodland is one of the Trust's key outcomes.</p>
<p><b>Opportunities &amp; Constraints</b></p>
<p>Constraints:  There is no parking at the site and parking on Lodge Lane is very limited with police parking restrictions. Management access within the ancient woodland area is limited/ difficult, and the ground in the new woodland blocks can get muddy in winter/ after heavy rain.  Opportunities to improve access from the canal towpath and Lodge Lane could be investigated.</p>
<p><b>Factors Causing Change</b></p>
<p>Damage to grass footpaths when it is wet. Increase in the level of public use of the site could cause greater wear and tear on footpaths and infrastructure.</p>
<p><b>Long term Objective (50 years+)</b></p>
<p>Public access should be maintained at current levels with five entrance points, appropriate infrastructure, signage and 1000m of grass rides and surfaced footpath being suitably maintained to ensure the site is welcoming and safe for people to visit.</p>
<p><b>Short term management Objectives for the plan period (5 years)</b></p>
<p>Footpaths will be maintained by mowing and cutting back vegetation (three times a year) to maintain public access. Entrances, boundaries and site infrastructure will be inspected and maintained as part of the EMC. Coppicing along path edges will be undertaken to improve sightlines during the plan period. The condition of access infrastructure (footpaths, bridge, steps, signs, etc) will be monitored and reviewed. The Trust's duty of care to visitors will continue to be addressed through on going tree safety and site risk assessment regimes.</p>

## 5. WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type Of Work	Description	Due Date
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## APPENDIX 1 : COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
1a	2.3	Oak (pedunculate)	2004	Wood establishment	Services & wayleaves	Community Forest
<p>This compartment forms the eastern part of the site and is mostly flat with a slight slope towards the west and a single damp depression in the middle of the site. The northern boundary is defined by a hedgerow beyond which lies the Trent and Mersey canal and the eastern and southern boundaries abut neighbouring pasture fields. The western boundary adjoins the mature ASNW (compartment 3).</p> <p>The compartment is 87.5% (2.01ha) new native woodland planted in 2004 and 12.5% (0.29ha) open ground which includes paths rides and a small damp marl pit which has been filled with sub soil in the past.</p> <p>The planting mix comprises of English (Pedunculate) oak 35%, ash 25%, silver birch 10%, rowan 10%, alder 5%, wild cherry 5% and 10% woody shrubs (hazel 4%, hawthorn 2%, blackthorn 2%, crab apple 1% and dog rose 1%). In total 4275 trees were planted in blocks varying in size from groups of 10 to 50. Prior to planting the site was predominantly rye grass and this was cut. The perimeter field boundaries contain remnant wildflower populations of red campion, greater knapweed and foxglove, mainly found beneath the hedge boundary in the northern part of the site.</p> <p>A public right of way runs across the eastern edge of the site from the NE corner (access over a stile) by the canal towpath to the SE corner (where there is a stile and dog gate). It then runs along the edge of the neighbouring pasture land onto Lodge Lane via a stile.</p>						
2a	3.19	Oak (pedunculate)	2005	Wood establishment	Services & wayleaves	Community Forest
<p>This compartment forms the south western part of the site and has a gentle slope with a south/ south easterly aspect. The northern and eastern boundaries adjoin the mature ASNW (compartment 3) with a small section bordering a neighbouring pasture field in the south east corner of the compartment. The western boundary abuts the railway embankment and the southern boundary is next to an access track. This compartment contains new native planting completed in March 2005. It was previously intensively farmed for many years and was used for maize production in 2003. Prior to planting the site was seeded with a low vigour grass mix. The compartment is 64.5% (2.05ha) new native woodland, 16% (0.5ha) natural regeneration and 19.5 % (0.63ha) open ground which includes paths/ rides and a damp marl pit.</p> <p>The planting mix comprised English (Pedunculate) oak 35%, ash 25%, silver birch 10%, rowan 10%, alder 5%, wild cherry 5% and 10% woody shrubs (hazel 4%, hawthorn 2%, blackthorn 2%, crab apple 1% and dog rose 1%). In total 4500 trees were planted in this compartment in blocks varying in size from groups of 10 to 50.</p> <p>At the fringes of the compartment some open space has been left to be colonised by natural regeneration and this area was rabbit fenced and scarified to assist colonisation.</p> <p>There are two pedestrian/ management access points into the compartment along the southern boundary from the access track which is also a public bridleway.</p>						
3a	7.5	Sycamore	1946	High forest	Gullies/Deep Valleys/Uneven/Rocky	Community Forest

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Designations
					ground, Housing/infrastructure, structures & water features on or adjacent to site, Mostly wet ground/exposed site, No/poor vehicular access to the site, Services & wayleaves	
<p>This compartment is a typical clough woodland and is Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) comprising of sycamore, oak, ash, silver birch, downy birch, wych elm, wild cherry, alder, horse chestnut, beech, hazel, elder, hawthorn, hornbeam and common lime. This sub-compartment is bounded by new native planting (cpts 1 and 2) on both sides and the Trent and Mersey Canal to the north east. Many of the trees are similar aged from when the site was cleared and replanted in the 1940's. Sycamore (and to a lesser extent beech) dominates the canopy and hence very little shrub layer and ground cover exists on the upper level of the wood. There are some interesting specimen trees including hornbeam, large leaved lime, wild cherry and hawthorn. Along the canal survives some of the older oak can be found from the war time clearance.</p> <p>It contains a diverse assemblage of ancient woodland indicator plants including bluebell, ramson, dogs mercury, lesser celandine, wood anemone and harts tongue fern. There is a small stream running the entire length of the woodland and this is where the richest ground flora can be found. Large areas of damp ground are covered with ramson during springtime.</p> <p>Approx. 0.25ha of ash regeneration interspersed with a smaller number of oak can be found between the stream and the canal. There is a small pond in the centre of the site with horsetail being the dominant species. A permissive footpath runs from the canal towpath down steps and back up more steps into the wood before the path splits and goes into the two compartments of new woodland.</p>						

### **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.

**Windblow/Windthrow**

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

**Registered Office:**

**The Woodland Trust, Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL.**

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