



WOODLAND
TRUST

Goodhart's Wood

Management Plan

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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 Consequently this printed version may quickly become out of date, particularly in relation to the planned work programme and on-going monitoring observations.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 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®) 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.

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:	Goodhart's Wood
Location:	Bishop Wilton, North Yorkshire
Grid reference:	SE801550, OS 1:50,000 Sheet No. N/A
Area:	1.48 hectares (3.66 acres)
Designations:	

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Extended Description

The site was gifted to the woodland trust in 2017 and the initial planting was carried out in in November 2018 with help from a local school group. The woodland is situated on a gentle slope on the outskirts of Bishop Wilton village. Access to the site is down Park Lane which, if approaching from a NW direction, is on the left just as you pass through Bishop Wilton village. Bishop Wilton Village is approximately 14m to the East of the center of York. The maintenance access gate to the site can be seen approx. 150m down Park Lane on the right. There is no formal parking for the site however parking is possible on the grass verge at the maintenance gate.

There is one entrance point to the woodland and this leads to a single circular footpath working its way through the site with a bench at the far end of the wood which enjoys pleasant far reaching views over towards York. The site has relatively low footfall but popular with local dog walkers. An information board has been installed at the entrance to the wood providing a simple map of the site and highlighting some things for visitors to keep their eyes out for.

The woodland is home to a number of standout trees with mature field maple & Ash dotted along the boundaries of the site. The more open land at the bottom of the wood shows evidence of historic ridge & furrow and is currently being managed as wood pasture land. Shrubs are abundant above the wood pasture with the inclusion of a range of tree species. A band of mature Hawthorn has been long established towards the top end of the site. Hedgerows surround the site with agricultural grazing land surrounding 3 of the 4 sides, these fields hold scattered pockets of tree cover, one of such pockets connects onto Goodhart's Wood complimenting it well. The village of Bishop Witon borders the site to the North.

The main tree species to be found within the wood are, Hazel, Ash, Oak, Cherry, Birch & Field Maple with shrub species of Holly, Guelder Rose & Hawthorn.

3.0 PUBLIC ACCESS INFORMATION

3.1 Getting there

3.2 Access / Walks

4.0 LONG TERM POLICY

The vision is to develop a small diverse broadleaved high forest encouraging self-sustaining woodland, dominated by native (80-100%) broadleaved species, with a mixed native shrub layer and diverse age structure.

The Woodland Pasture shall be maintained as such, ensuring good development of the field trees and preserving the archaeological ridge & furrow features. Annual mowing of the open ground in this area will be carried out to maintain the habitat.

The existing path network will be maintained by routine maintenance to support the level of public use of the site, which is not expected to change greatly from current levels.

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

Goodhart's Wood is an accessible wood on the edge of Bishop Wilton. It is accessible on foot from the village. There is one main entry points into the wood (to the north west).

The wood offers pedestrian-only access and there are just over 1km of managed paths for visitors to enjoy. The path network includes a circular route of the site sampling all the different habitats the site has got to offer as well as excellent views form the top of the site. The wood is low key and quiet but has the potential to be well used by local people.

Significance

The site is the only accessible wood in the vicinity of Bishop Wilton. Local community groups and the school have helped develop the site and therefor some local interest for the wood should be developed.

Opportunities & Constraints

The size and location of the wood mean that it is only likely to be of interest to local visitors. However there is the opportunity for wider promotion as a place of interest for walkers and nature enthusiasts.

Factors Causing Change

Increased public use.
Increase in any antisocial behaviour.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Access facilities will, on the whole, be low key and appropriate for this quiet locally visited site. However a good standard of access provision will be maintained: a path network will be kept open for use and the main entrances will be accessible and clearly signed.

The wood will be made as safe as practical for visitors through regular inspections of access infrastructure and tree safety inspections, which will become more frequent as the trees increase in age.

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

Access and signage will be maintained from the main entrance point. The circular path will be maintained and safety surveys undertaken at regular intervals.

5.2 Wood Pasture

Description

The trees within the pasture were planted in 2018 with the exception of the mature Hawthorn in the center. The trees planted were predominantly a small number of Oak (approx. 6). The ground they were planted on shows clear signs of historic ridge & furrow farming.

Significance

This feature helps provide a great mosaic of habitats across the site for both wildlife and visitors to enjoy and explore as well as keeping the archaeological features of the site clear to see. The low density of trees also aid in keeping the far reaching views open from a variety of locations around the site.

Opportunities & Constraints

There could be further opportunity to plant a small number of extra trees in the area in the future. Dog fouling could cause problems with the willingness of local farms to cut the pasture free of charge in exchange for the hay/silage.

Factors Causing Change

Animal damage.
Increase in antisocial behavior.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

Maintain the area as Woodland Pasture, ensuring good development of the field trees and preserving the archaeological ridge & furrow features.

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

Establish the newly planted field trees, trees to be monitored at least once a year to check on development and signs of any animal damage. Grass shall be cut annually ideally by a local farmer.

5.3 New Native Woodland

Description

Pre-planting the site consisted of a dense strip of mature hawthorn running across it. In 2018 planting was undertaken to expand on this wooded area. A broad leaf mix of relatively equal number of Oak, Field Maple, Hazel, Birch, Cherry was used along with shrub species of Guilder rose and Holly. Mature Ash & Field maple surround the site to complement the developing woodland.

Significance

The species diversity in this wood makes this woodland a valuable habitat and landscape feature of the surrounding area. The site is well known for its wildlife importance and bird life which is further expanded on with the development of the site.

Opportunities & Constraints

Goodhart's Wood is a small site, relatively isolated from other Trust properties and neighbouring woodland. The site located off the tourism routes is less prone to recreational pressures than that other similar woodland and would best serve as a wildlife haven in this sparsely wooded region. There is potential for further planting on the site in future years.

Factors Causing Change

Vandalism, fires etc. Increase public use, Damage by rabbits, deer, etc.

Long term Objective (50 years+)

The vision is to develop a diverse broadleaved high forest encouraging self-sustaining woodland, dominated by native (80-100%) broadleaved species, with a mixed native shrub layer and diverse age structure.

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

Weeding around planted trees will be required during this management plan period. Site monitoring will be undertaken to respond to any problems which might affect the long term vision.

6.0 WORK PROGRAMME

Year	Type of Work	Description	Due By
2018	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Install new field gate with side gate for pedestrian access . Work to include cutting back vegetation and removal of old gate etc. - £1000	31/03/18
2018	AW - Visitor Access Infrastructure	Supply and deliver of chiddingstone bench - 1800mm - oak £520 plus £61 delivery - Delivery to 10 Grosvenor Place, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 8LY	30/04/18
2018	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/07/18
2018	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	10/09/18
2018	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone A	Removal of small Ash (8-10m) and dead Elm towards the northern end of the hedgerow at the North of the site.	30/09/18
2018	PE - Interpretation & Signage	1 x Aberdeen C 73880 information board for entrance to woodland From Landmark Timber quote ref 13693 Delivery TBC	30/09/18
2018	LC - Initial Site Clearance	Clearance of boundary debris put over by adjacent landowner when cutting over grown hedges - work to also include clearing line for footpath. 3 men plus tracked chipper	30/09/18
2018	PE - Interpretation & Signage	c.f. New site panoramic information board for top of Goodhart's Wood. 1 x Aberdeen C 73880 Lecturn Artwork to follow Delivery David Wattam SALT Architects Limited 54 Lairgate, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 8EU	31/10/18
2018	PE - Interpretation & Signage	Installation of signs and moving of bench. To include post mix	31/10/18

2018	SL - Tree Safety Works - Zone B	removal of gale damaged boundary trees from new footpath	30/11/18
2018	WC - Tree Planting / Seeding	Delivery of plants and tree guards on day of planting & to assist in any preparation work.	30/11/18
2018	WC - Planting Ground Preparation	Contractor to spot weed planting areas & digging of holes prior to planting event with local school.	30/11/18
2018	WC - Tree / Seed Supply	<p>25 x Oak 25 x Field Maple 50 x Hazel 25 x Birch 25 x Cherry 25 x guilder rose 25 x Holly</p> <p>150 x Tree Guards (100 x 1.2m) & Stakes for all trees inc. Hazel. 50 x Shrub Guards (100 x 75cm) & Stakes for all shrubs.</p> <p>For collection by WT staff (Alec / Mark) on Wednesday 21st November 2018.</p>	31/12/18
2019	PE - Interpretation & Signage	<p>Large Welcome dibond sign for Goodhart's Wood x1 , Holes in each corner. Ref Viking Signs SO0141586</p> <p>Delivery to -</p> <p>Mark Feather WoodlandTrust 10 Grosvenor Place Beverley East Yorkshire</p>	07/05/19
2019	WC - Tree Weeding / Fertilising	Undertake spot weeding of all new planting to create 0.5m (radius) bare ground around each newly planted tree and shrub. to specification 4.2. in total 200 new trees and shrubs planted in 2018.	31/05/19
2019	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/05/19
2019	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	15/07/19

2019	PE - Interpretation & Signage	New site panoramic information board for top of Goodhart's Wood. 1 x Aberdeen C 73880 Lecturn Artwork to follow Delivery David Wattam SALT Architects Limited 54 Lairgate, Beverley, East Yorkshire, HU17 8EU	31/07/19
2019	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	30/09/19
2020	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/05/20
2020	WC - Tree Weeding / Fertilising	Undertake spot weeding of all new planting to create 0.5m (radius) bare ground around each newly planted tree and shrub. to specification 4.2. Make good any broken cable ties and straighten any blown tubes. In total 200 new trees and shrubs planted in 2018. Complete pesticide record and pass onto site manager.	31/05/20
2020	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	15/07/20
2020	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	30/09/20
2021	WC - Tree Weeding / Fertilising	Undertake spot weeding of all new planting to create 0.5m (radius) bare ground around each newly planted tree and shrub. to specification 4.2. Make good any broken cable ties and straighten any blown tubes. In total 200 new trees and shrubs planted in 2018.	31/05/21
2021	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/05/21
2021	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	15/07/21
2021	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	30/09/21
2022	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/05/22

2022	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	15/07/22
2022	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	30/09/22
2023	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/05/23
2023	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	15/07/23
2023	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	30/09/23
2024	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/05/24
2024	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	15/07/24
2024	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	30/09/24
2025	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	31/05/25
2025	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	15/07/25
2025	AW - Management Access Maintenance	Path cutting to spec 2.01	30/09/25

APPENDIX 1: COMPARTMENT DESCRIPTIONS

Cpt No.	Area (ha)	Main Species	Year	Management Regime	Major Management Constraints	Key Features Present	Designations
1a	0.70	Hawthorn species	1960	Min-intervention			
<p>The compartment predominantly consists of Hawthorn spanning across the width of the site in dense clumps. Towards the rear of the compartment the growth is less dense with a few open area. Large mature Ash can be found along the boundaries of the site in this compartment along with Field Maple. Planting to the north of the compartment was undertaken in 2018 of predominantly Guelder Rose along with small numbers of mixed tree species.</p>							
2a	0.50	Hazel	2018	Wood establishment			
<p>This compartment is to be planted by the Woodland Trust in Nov 2018. It is to be planted up with 1-2m spacing's with the majority being shrub species such as Hazel, Holly & Guelder-rose. The rest of the planting made up of Oak, Birch, Field maple & Cherry.</p>							
3a	0.60	Oak (pedunculate)	2018	Wood pasture			
<p>The compartment was planted by the Woodland Trust in Nov 2018. It consists of a small number of Oak & Field Maple with the intention to create a wood pasture. The compartment shows evidence of historic ridge and furrow.</p>							

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.