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ARBORICULTURE | ECOLOGY | LANDSCAPE

Woodland Management Plan

2025 - 2029

Mockett's Wood

St Peter's, Broadstairs

Kent, CT10 2UN

For: Broadstairs and St Peter's Town Council

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1 Introduction

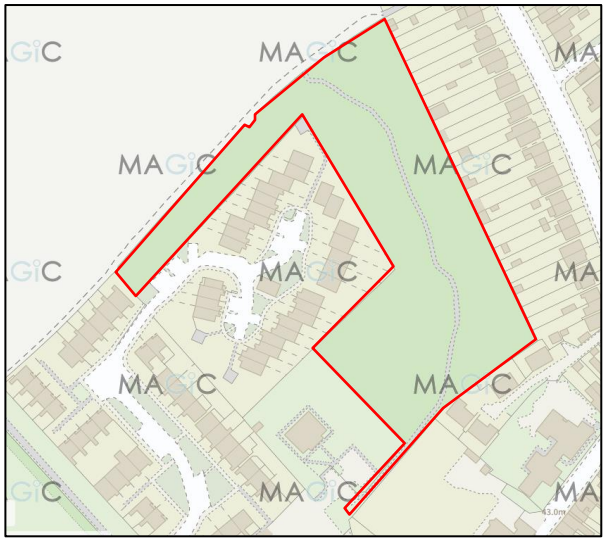
1.1 Background

Mockett's Wood is a small urban woodland c. 1.3ha (3.3 acres) in size. The woodland was historically in private ownership by the Mockett family before being gifted to Broadstairs and St Peter's Town Council and the woodland is a centenary community woodland. Management activities are carried out by a volunteer group and council contractors as needed.

1.2 Location

Mockett's Wood is located within St Peter's in the north-west of the town of Broadstairs at central OS grid reference TR 3813 6868. The site wraps around residential houses and Mockett's Wood Surgery to the south-west. An arable field lies to the north-west and residential houses lie to the north-east and south-east.

Figure 1.1: Location of Mockett's Wood and site boundary (red line)



1.3 Access

The woodland can be accessed at the northern end where it links to a public footpath and bridleway which runs along the north-western boundary and links to Saint Peter's Footpath to the south-west and Northdown Road to the east. The southern entrance is located within a public car park off Hopeville Avenue. The nearest bus stop is located along Hopeville Avenue and Broadstairs train station is located c. 1.2km south-east.

The woodland is for pedestrian use with dog walking permitted. Vehicles and horses are prohibited and cyclists are asked to dismount.

Multiple paths are present within the woodland. A main central path is woodchipped and visitors are encouraged to use this path. Other paths have been created by visitors with many regularly used which has resulted in the creation of bare earth. There are now more paths than are necessary for pedestrian access.

Paths in the north-western section reach a dead end and multiple access points have been created along the north-western boundary through vegetation removal.

Photo 4.1: Northern pedestrian access

Photo 4.2: Southern pedestrian access

Photo 4.3: Area of erosion caused by pedestrian access where two paths meet

1.4 Management Considerations

The woodland is managed by a team of volunteers and therefore management actions need to be achievable within the skill set and capacity of the group. Where essential, Broadstairs and St Peter's Town Council and external funding opportunities are available, however the majority of the management is carried out by the volunteer group.

Mockett's Wood is located within an urban location and is regularly used by a large amount of people, both locals and visitors. Management needs to consider potential misuse and vandalism of the woodland as well as how to maximise visitor experience. There are also many locals who have a deep attachment to the wood and its management, including the residents of the adjacent properties and businesses. Management should therefore be considerate to these groups.

2 Habitats

2.1 Habitats on site

The site comprises a mixed deciduous woodland. See **Appendix 1** for a map of the woodland and **Appendix 2** for a species list. Sycamore is dominant and self-seeded throughout. Mature ash, field maple, small leaved elm, beech, horse chestnut and wild cherry are also present. **Appendix 1** shows the location of mature trees on site, noted for their age, structure and/or ecological niches. Butcher's broom is frequent throughout the woodland and dominant in the understorey in places, particularly in the north of the site. Bramble also dominates the understorey in places. Herbaceous species include ivy, common nettle and Alexanders. A compost pile is present in the eastern corner comprising arisings from woodland management activities. Climbing species, with the exception of ivy, are absent from the woodland.

Along the south-west boundary is an area called The Meadow and to the east of this is an area called The Glade. These areas have more light reaching the ground through the canopy due to their structure and past management and are described below.

The Meadow

The meadow comprises c. 900m^2 of grassland planted with trees. Trees have been planted since the year 2000 with the area previously managed as grassland (see **Photo 4.4**). Very little grassland remains with the area mostly now classified as woodland (see **Photo 4.5**). A lack of grassland management has resulted in areas of dense bramble scrub and dominant common nettle within the remaining grassland areas. Other herbaceous species include red campion, red fescue, Yorkshire fog, greater burdock, broad-leaved dock and ivy. A full species list is provided in **Appendix** 2.

Visitors are deterred from The Meadow via a length of dead hedging along the north-eastern boundary and dense bramble growth along the path to the south.

Photo 4.4: The Meadow before 2000 (image provided by Tree Warden, Broadstairs & St Peters Town Council).

Photo 4.5: The Meadow grassland becoming encroached by woodland

The Glade

The glade comprises an area of planted and self-seeded trees including sycamore, cherry, small leaved elm, hawthorn and hornbeam (see **Photo 4.6**). Two hazel trees are present and are coppiced annually with the material used to maintain dead hedging on site. A full species list is provided in **Appendix 2**. There is a central area where light can enter through the canopy although a lack of management has resulted in a limited ground flora with dense bramble growth.

Visitors are deterred from this area with dead hedging surrounding the area with an entrance gap for management to the west.

Photo 4.6: The Glade

2.2 Management Plan Aims

This management plan outlines the activities necessary to achieve the following aims. **Appendix 3** and **Section 3** outline the management prescriptions.

- Objective 1: Manage existing habitats to enhance biodiversity within the woodland.
- Objective 2: Ensure the woodland is welcoming, safe and accessible.
- Objective 3: Maintain and improve the woodland condition.

3 Objective 1: Manage existing habitats to enhance biodiversity within the woodland

3.1 The Meadow

The meadow should be managed to allow more light to reach the ground and allow grassland species to flourish. There is no grazing pressure within the woodland which would achieve this naturally and so the following actions should be undertaken:

- Removal of lower tree branches. Lower branches, up to a height of 2m above the ground, should be pruned to create a crown lift similar to a browse line created by deer. This should be carried out outside of the bird nesting season (which is March to August inclusive) or following a check for nesting birds by a competent person to avoid harm to breeding birds.
- Bramble scrub should be removed. This should be done using a strimmer with a mulching blade attachment and the arisings raked off and disposed of or added to the compost pile on site. Growth over 0.5m in height should be cut outside of the bird nesting season to avoid harm to breeding birds which may nest within the bramble scrub. New growth can be cut by hand as it appears with roots dug out. If access within this area becomes an issue as it is opened up then a scrub line could be maintained around the perimeter and/or dead hedging installed to deter visitors.
- Nettles should be pulled by hand annually focussing on the areas around the existing grassland and extended outwards. Care should be taken to remove as much of the roots as possible.
- The grassland should be cut late July to early September, with the arisings left for a couple of days to allow the seeds to drop, then raked up and removed. If there is a lot of winter growth that could crowd out wildflowers, then the grass should be cut again in early spring and the arisings removed. A handheld scythe or brush cutter would be suitable for grass cutting in this area.
- Trees should not be planted in this area and any self-seeded saplings should be removed.
- Ideally the meadow should be allowed to regenerate naturally. If it is desirable to speed up this process then green hay could be sourced (as locally as possible and from the same soil type to maximise success). Alternatively, a meadow seed mix could be sown such as Landlife Wildflowers 'Woodland and Heavy Shade Wildflower Seeds'. To maximise success the manufacturer's guidelines should be followed.

3.2 Coppicing

Coppiced trees allow more light to reach the woodland floor which enhances the biodiversity of the ground flora.

- Hazel coppice should continue within The Glade. The trees should be cut every five years once nuts have been produced, with all stems cut back to within a few inches of the stool. More frequent cutting does not allow the tree to regenerate. Alternatively if only small quantities of stems are required for dead hedging on site these could be cut annually.
- Small sycamore trees that are too large to be removed by hand should be coppiced. The trees should be cut to 10-20cm in height with the stem cut at an angle to reduce rot from pooling of rain water. The growth should then be cut every five years or as material is needed. A few trees should be cut each year over a five year period to create a manageable five year coppice

rotation. If any regrowth is found to be producing seeds then the frequency of the coppice rotation should be increased to avoid the production of sycamore seedlings.

3.3 Woodland Planting

To increase woodland diversity planting should be undertaken.

- Plant native tree species in areas where sycamore has been removed. If hazel is planted then include in coppice rotation.
- Plant honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum* and wild clematis *Clematis vitalba* within areas of partial shade along the meadow edge and north-western boundary. Once established cuttings could be taken and new plants propagated to extend the planting or for use in other areas of the woodland such as along path edges.
- To encourage diverse species to establish within newly opened up areas, dense ivy growth could be removed by cutting and hand digging. Ivy is a valuable plant for wildlife and is able to grow in densely shaded areas of the wood, providing valuable ground cover where few other species can establish. However, it's removal in less shaded areas would allow other species the space to become established. Particularly dense areas should not be removed during the bird nesting season as these may be in use by breeding birds.

3.4 Sycamore Removal

Sycamore is a naturalised species within the UK and has many benefits for wildlife. However, it rapidly self-seeds and can out compete other species, thereby reducing biodiversity. Given Mockett's Wood is a small woodland sycamore should be controlled to maximise diversity within the small space. The following actions should be undertaken to ensure sycamore does not dominate:

- Young seedlings and saplings should be removed by hand pulling.
- Small trees should be cut and the roots dug out.

3.5 Alexander's Removal

Alexander's is dominant in areas of the woodland and it is necessary to control its spread to encourage biodiversity. Alexander's spreads via seed dispersal and removing the whole plant before it sets seed is key to its eradication. The plants flower between April and June and removal should therefore begin in April. If vegetative identification is possible then removal can begin earlier. The following actions should be undertaken:

- Plants should be removed by hand pulling before the plants set seed.
- Any plants with seeds present should be burnt or removed from site.

3.6 Habitats for Woodland Fauna

- Maintain existing bird, bat and hedgehog boxes and repair as necessary. Maintain the existing bird boxes by making any necessary repairs, this should be carried out between September and February inclusive to avoid disturbing breeding birds. Maintain the bat box by removing any branches to ensure a clear flight path for bats to the box. This can be carried out at any time. Note that inspection or relocation of a bat box and potential disturbance of a bat requires a licensed ecologist. Maintain the hedgehog box by making any necessary repairs between May and September inclusive, following a check for occupancy. If a hedgehog is

present the box should be left alone. The hedgehog box should not be disturbed outside of this time to avoid potentially disturbing hibernating hedgehog.

- Relocate the hedgehog box to a less disturbed and less accessible area such as within The Glade in an area that will not be impacted by any tree or bramble scrub removal.
- Create a hibernaculum north of The Meadow in a depression created by the roots of a fallen tree. The hole should be extended so that it is c. 2m by 1m in extent and up to 50cm deep and then filled with wood from native hardwood species (such as the felled sycamore) to provide reptile refuge and hibernation opportunities. Dead wood habitats also provide important egg laying and larval habitat for invertebrates and refugia / foraging for small mammals. If vandalism becomes an issue, then bramble should be encouraged to grow over the hibernaculum to deter the wood being removed.

4 Objective 2: Ensure the woodland is welcoming, safe and accessible

4.1 Circular Routes

The current main path leads from south to north or north to south with the same route being walked in reverse to return to the entrance. Two circular routes should be established using existing paths created by visitors. Interpretation should be installed to promote these routes (see **Appendix 1**). Other paths should be blocked off to discourage visitors from using them. This would have the aim of addressing visitors desire to explore more areas of the woodland while reducing erosion caused by multiple paths. There are several options for blocking off path entrance points:

- Transplant butcher's broom within small gaps. Butcher's broom is a dense thorny plant and can be used to deter visitors from accessing areas. The quickest way to create a barrier would be to transplant individual plants by digging up the root ball. This should be done in early spring. Plants could also be grown from cuttings or seeds but this is more time consuming, has a low success rate and young plants would be more vulnerable to trampling.
- Install dead hedging within larger gaps. This would also provide habitat for birds, invertebrates and small mammals and material created from sycamore removal on site could be used. Butcher's broom could be planted behind the dead hedge to provide a double barrier if dead hedging alone is not enough of a deterrent in certain areas. Similarly additional material from sycamore removal could be piled behind the dead hedge to discourage people climbing over.

Wide areas of bare earth in between access points could either be planted with native woody species or allowed to re-vegetate naturally.

4.2 North-western compartment

The north-western compartment is a narrow rectangular strip running between an arable field and the residential road of Church Court Grove. Visitor access is not desirable to this part of the woodland as it would be a dead-end route and encroach on the privacy of the residents of Church Court Grove. A path has been created which leads from the main path to this area and in addition multiple entrance points have been created within the north-western boundary. There is also evidence of fire damage and vegetation removal. This area should be managed for wildlife only and visitors should be discouraged from entering it and the access points blocked off.

There are several options for blocking off access points. The discouragement of visitors to this area will likely take time and access points may need to be repeatedly blocked off. The transplanting of butcher's broom and installation of dead hedging should be actioned first and its effectiveness monitored. If it is determined not to be effective at discouraging visitors then a fence could be installed.

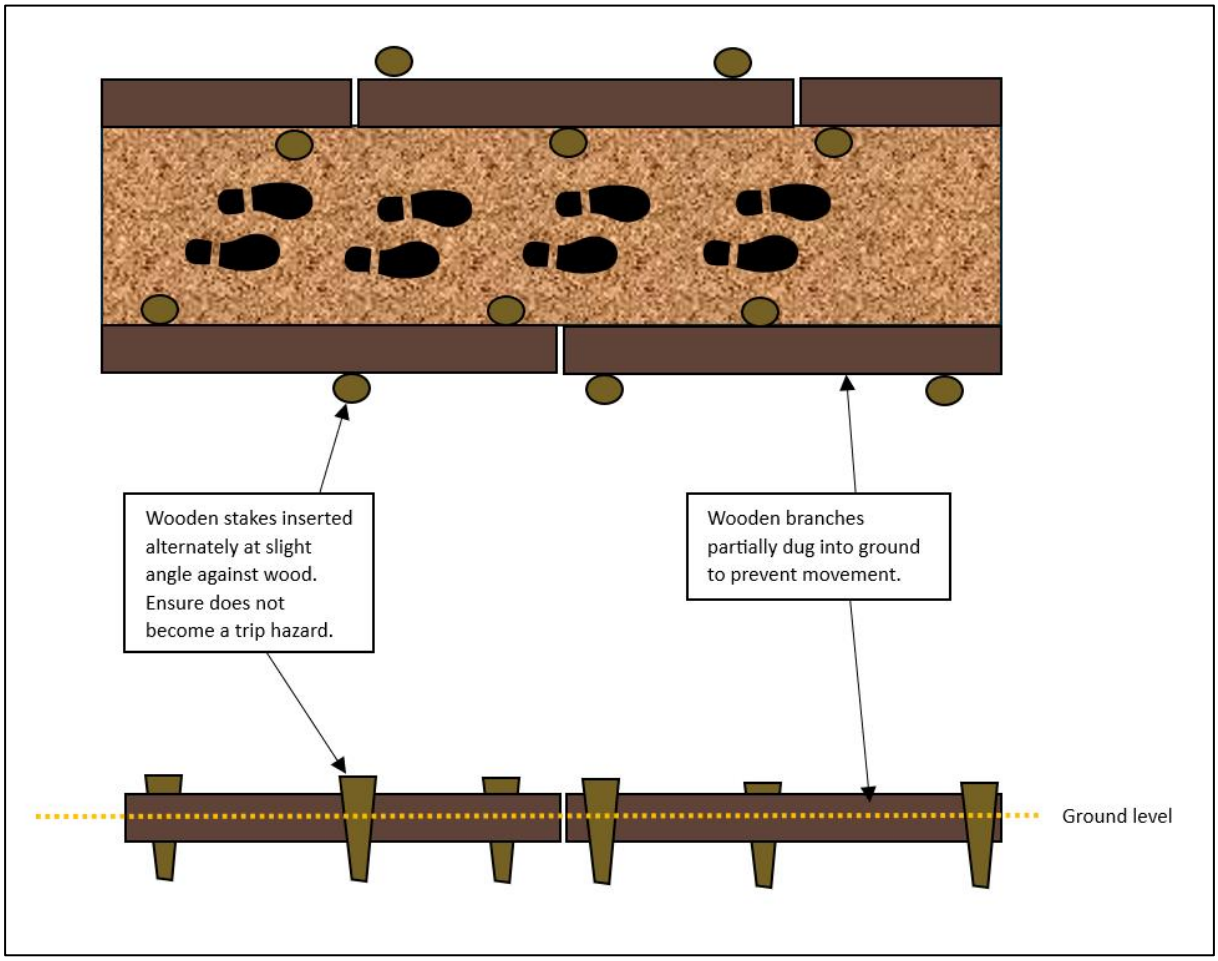
- Transplant butcher's broom (see above) to prevent access in the short-term. In the long-term install a fence with gated maintenance access and encourage further growth of butcher's broom. The butcher's broom should be planted so as not to block access for maintenance.
- Install a fence along the north-western boundary. The fence would need to be high enough to prevent visitors from climbing it and with gaps at least 13cm wide and at ground level created at 10m intervals to allow hedgehogs to pass through. Climbing species could be planted at the base of the fence and encouraged to grow up it.

- A post and board barrier along the northern boundary can be climbed by visitors and so should be made more substantial to deter visitors from accessing the north-western compartment at this point. The barrier could be constructed with upright boards which are harder to climb than horizontal boards. Vegetation should also be encouraged to grow over the barrier to screen it from view and make it harder to climb.

4.3 Path Maintenance

The main path is woodchipped to create a more accessible access path. Over time the woodchip has spread creating a wider path than is necessary and it is smothering path-side vegetation. To prevent the woodchip continuing to spread the main path and new circular path routes should be edged. This will also help to make clear to visitors where the circular paths are. To create a natural path straight branches from sycamore removal or elsewhere in the wood could be used. These should be partially dug into the ground and staked as shown in **Figure 4.1**. Where practical, excess woodchip beyond the path edge should be removed to allow vegetation to regrow.

Figure 4.1: Path edging example



An area within the south of the site where the main path joins another, which will form part of one of the new circular routes, has become badly eroded and woodchip has spread to create a large unvegetated area (**Photo 4.3**). Following the installation of path edging in this area, three hazel trees will be planted with hurdles made from coppiced hazel planted around them. Sweet violet previously grew in this area and could be transplanted from elsewhere in the wood. If trampling occurs from

visitors taking a short cut, then additional hurdles could be installed in addition to the path edging. These should be no more than 0.5m in height to prevent excessive shade.

4.4 Interpretation

Interpretation creates a welcoming woodland and helps to guide visitors. The following should be installed within the woodland:

- A circular route map. A map should ideally be located at each entrance point and clearly show the main path and two circular walking routes. While the path edging is being installed it may also be necessary to provide signage within the woodland to indicate the circular path routes.
- Install a management information board along the main path between The Meadow and The Glade, to explain the management techniques of bramble removal and grass cutting to create species rich grassland and the benefits of coppicing.

Local schools should be engaged and encouraged to take self-led visits within the woodland. A risk assessment for Mockett's Wood and a map of the woodland could be provided including location of the car park and toilets. See **Appendix 4** for an example risk assessment.

4.5 Tree survey

An annual tree inspection survey is carried out by Invicta Arboriculture to assess trees for safety including disease and should continue with recommendations acted upon to ensure the woods are safe. The survey is conducted in the winter when bare branches are more easily visible from the ground. In addition, an expert should be consulted following damage at any other time of year, e.g. following storm damage.

5 Objective 3: Maintain and Improve the woodland condition

5.1 Littering and fire lighting

The urban location and regular visitor use of the site can result in accumulations of litter and fire lighting which causes areas of bare earth and occasionally burnt vegetation and trees. The following actions should be undertaken with the aim of reducing the negative effects:

- Maintain the two litter bins on site.
- Continue to carry out regular litter picks and implement a post Easter and summer school holiday litter pick to address the increase in litter at these times.
- Restrict access to the north-western compartment as described above.
- Sacrifice an existing fire site and block off paths which lead to all other fire sites as described in **Section 4.1**. The fire site not removed should be monitored to ensure that it does not become too large. If it does then butcher's broom and dead hedging could be used. Litter should be regularly removed from this area to encourage visitors to do the same.

5.2 Vegetation Monitoring

Vegetation monitoring should be carried out to monitor changes in vegetation within target areas:

- The Meadow. A count of the total number of wildflower and grass species could be used to measure biodiversity if species identification is not possible. A set number of quadrats is recommended to ensure the results are comparable year on year.
- The Glade. A similar monitoring method to that described above should be used. In addition hazel should be monitored to ensure it is producing hazel nuts in between coppicing to ensure the coppice rotation is appropriate.
- Areas of ivy removal. A spring/summer check should be made in newly opened up areas where ivy has been removed to monitor its control and assess if ground flora species diversity has improved.

An annual check for invasive species such as montbretia, cotoneaster and Japanese knotweed should be carried out. This should focus on the boundaries adjacent to gardens and the two entrances. If any invasive species are found then a specialist contractor should be contacted to advise on its removal.

Monitoring will help to inform the next five year management plan by assessing the effectiveness of the actions within this management plan in achieving the management aims. Notable or interesting records should be sent to Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre.

5.3 Fauna Monitoring

Monitoring of fauna species can help to inform management by targeting actions to benefit species known to be using the site. The results can also be used to inform visitors which species are present. Surveys for butterflies and birds are recommended. Monthly surveys for butterflies are recommended between May and mid-September and should be carried out in warm sunny weather between mid-morning and mid-afternoon, walking the same route each visit. A breeding bird survey should be carried out between late March and mid-June in good weather in the morning. If possible, this should include 3-4 visits and the same route should be walked each visit. Incidental records for all species should also be recorded. Records should be sent to Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre.

Appendix 1 Site Maps

Figure A1.1: Existing Habitats at Mockett's Wood

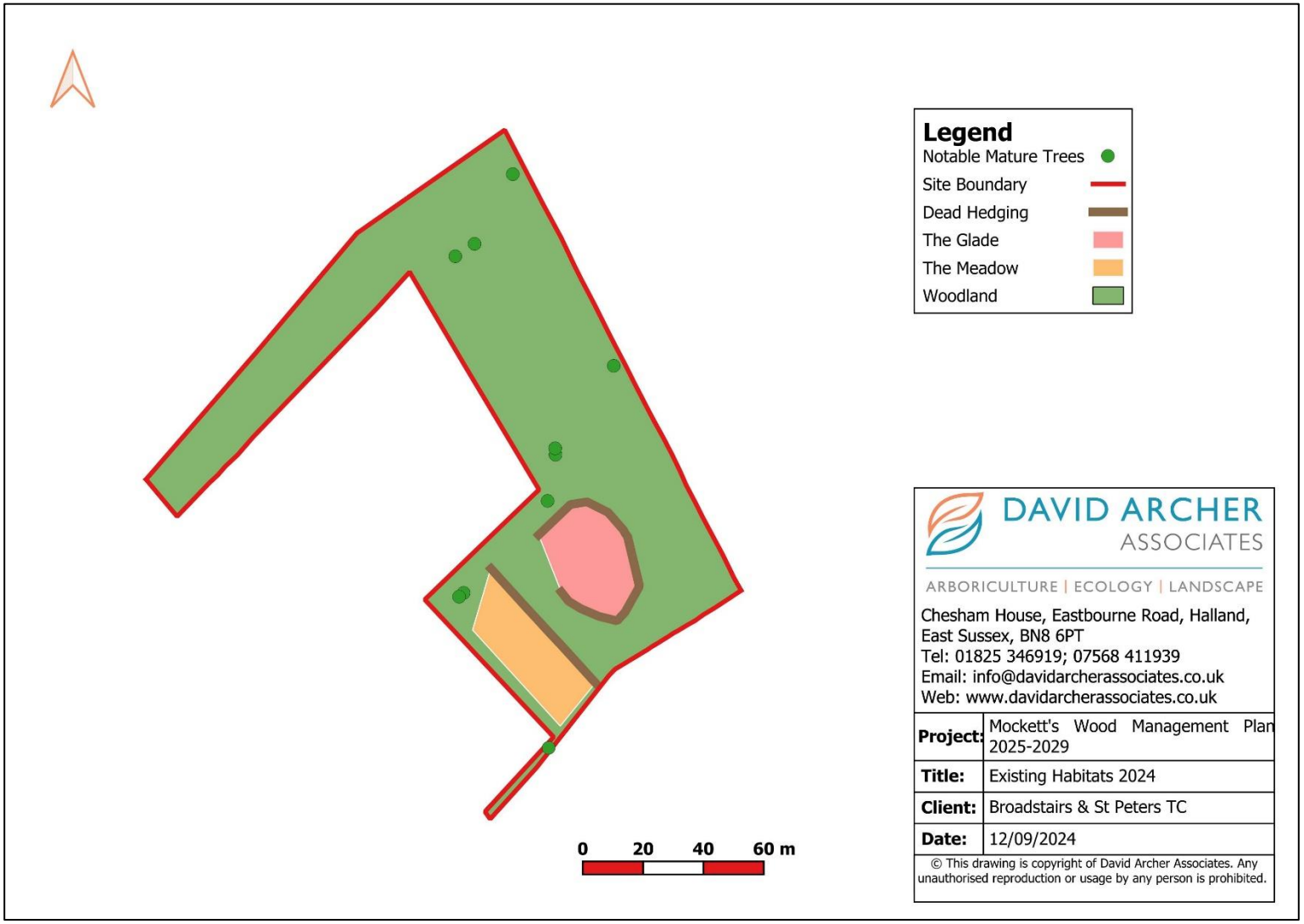
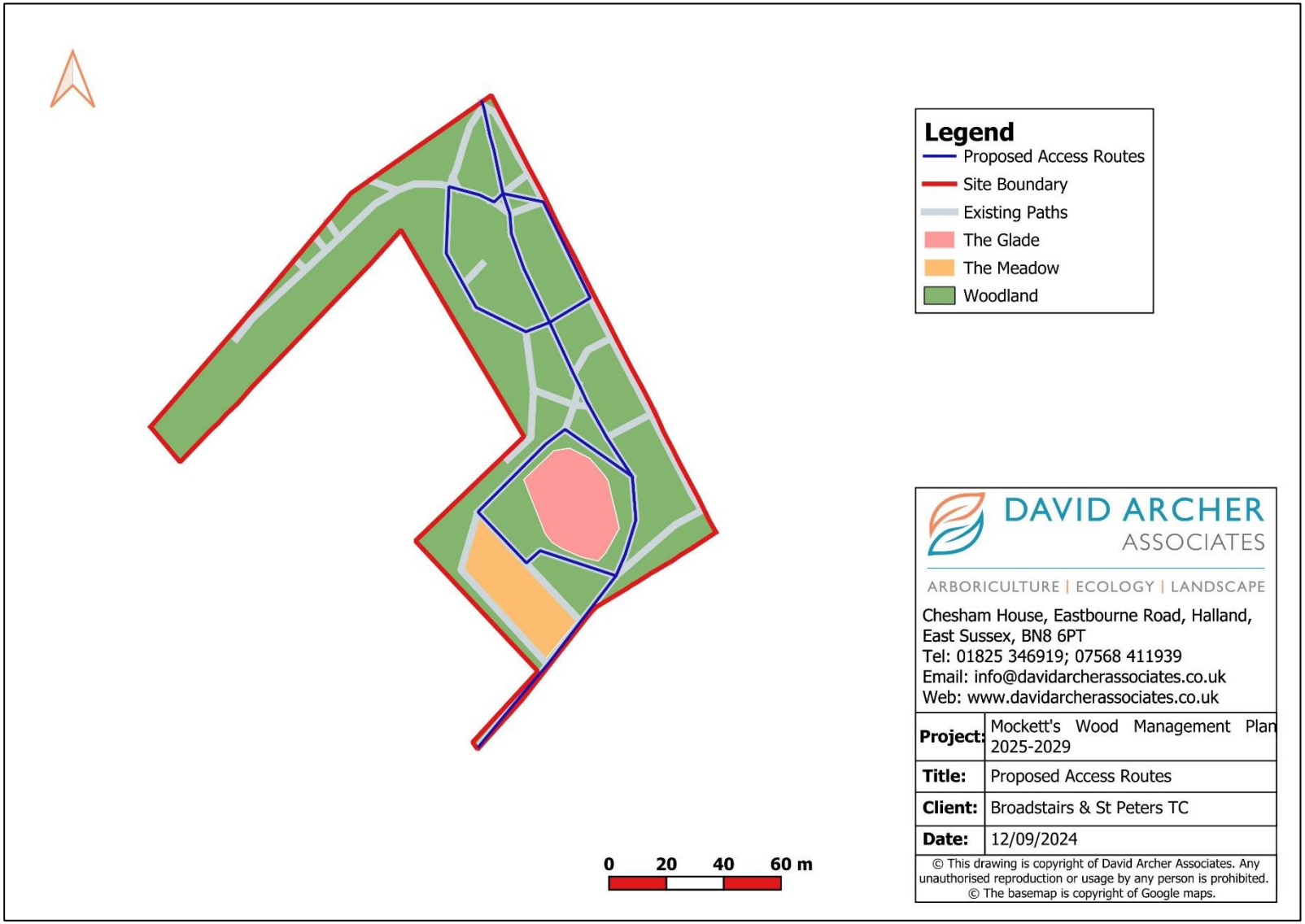


Figure A1.2: Proposed Access Routes at Mockett's Wood



Appendix 2 Species List

Table A2.1: Species of flora recorded at Mockett's Wood August 2024

Common name	Scientific name
The Meadow	
Red campion	*Silene dioica*
Greater burdock	*Arctium lappa*
Black horehound	*Ballota nigra*
Yorkshire fog	*Holcus lanatus*
Broad-leaved dock	*Rumex obtusifolius*
Ribwort plantain	*Plantago lanceolata*
Common nettle	*Urtica dioica*
Cock's foot	*Dactylis glomerata*
Red fescue	*Festuca rubra*
Alexander's	*Smyrnium olusatrum*
Wood avens	*Geum urbanum*
Spear thistle	*Cirsium vulgare*
Ivy	*Hedera helix*
The Glade	
Bramble	*Rubus fruticosus* agg.
Common nettle	*Urtica dioica*
Stinking iris	*Iris foetidissima*
Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*
Small leaved elm	*Ulmus minor*
Dogwood	*Cornus sanguinea*
Hazel	*Coryllus avellana*
Guelder rose	*Viburnum opulus*
Hawthorn	*Crataegus monogyna*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*

Woodland	
Dogwood	*Cornus sanguinea*
Willow	*Salix* sp.
Yew	*Taxus baccata*
Hazel	*Coryllus avellana*
Holm oak	*Quercus ilex*
Hawthorn	*Crataegus monogyna*
Holly	*Ilex aquifolium*
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*
Hornbeam	*Carpinus betulus*
Guelder rose	*Viburnum opulus*
Field maple	*Acer campestre*
Small leaved elm	*Ulmus minor*
Wild plum	*Prunus domestica*
Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatanus*
Beech	*Fagus sylvatica*
English oak	*Quercus robur*
Elder	*Sambucus nigra*
Wild privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*
Wild cherry	*Prunus avium*
Rowan	*Sorbus aucuparia*
Butcher's broom	*Ruscus aculeatus*
Bramble	*Rubus fruticosus* agg.
Ivy	*Hedera helix*
Bristly oxtongue	*Helminthotheca echioides*
Black horehound	*Ballota nigra*
Common nettle	*Urtica dioica*
Wood avens	*Geum urbanum*
Lords and ladies	*Arum maculatum*
Wall barley	*Hordeum murinum*

Stinking iris	*Iris foetidissima*
Pendulous sedge	*Carex pendula*
Alexanders	*Smyrnium olusatrum*
Mugwort	*Artemisia vulgaris*
Wood dock	*Rumex sanguineus*
Garlic mustard	*Alliaria petiolata*
Cow parsley	*Anthriscus sylvestris*
Smooth sow-thistle	*Sonchus oleraceus*
Nipplewort	*Lapsana communis*

Appendix 3 Management Prescriptions

Table A3.1: Management Prescriptions at Mockett's Wood

MANAGEMENT TASK	TIMING	Mockett's Wood Management Prescriptions					
		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	AREA
Meadow management **Removal of tree branches – crown lifting. Time to avoid breeding birds or carry out check.**	September - February	✓		✓		✓	The Meadow
Meadow management **Removal of bramble –Mulching using a strimmer. Remove arisings. Time to avoid breeding birds. Concentrate clearance in meadow centre and move outwards as cleared areas become manageable.**	September to February	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Meadow
Meadow management **Removal of bramble and nettles - hand cutting and root removal of new shoots following mulching. Remove arisings.**	Early spring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Meadow
Meadow management **Grass cut - Remove arisings.**	Late July-early September and early spring as needed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The Meadow
Coppicing **Hazel - Coppice hazel trees every 5 years. Small amounts of material may be taken annually.**	November to February			✓			The Glade
Coppicing **Sycamore – Cut a few small trees to 10-20cm in height each year. Subsequent management plans should then include a five-year coppice rotation. Monitor regrowth for seed production and increase coppice rotation as necessary.**	November to February	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mockett's Wood
Woodland planting **Plant native tree species. Monitor and water as necessary in first year.**	November - March	✓	✓				Within gaps created by sycamore removal

Woodland planting **Plant honeysuckle and wild clematis. Water during dry weather in first year.**	Spring or autumn		✓				In dappled shade at meadow edge and north-western boundary
Sycamore removal **Hand pull sycamore seedlings and saplings**	Spring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mockett's Wood
Sycamore removal **Hand cut small trees and dig out roots**	All year	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mockett's Wood
Alexander's removal. Remove before seeds appear.	Spring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mockett's Wood
Ivy management	All year						Areas of newly opened canopy.
Habitats for woodland fauna **Maintain existing bird boxes (make repairs September-February), bat box (remove branches to ensure a clear flight path as needed. Note inspection requires a licensed ecologist) and hedgehog boxes (make repairs May – September if not occupied).**	Various	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mockett's Wood Hedgehog box – The Glade
Habitats for woodland fauna **Create a hibernaculum followed by maintenance to add additional material as needed.**	All year	✓		✓		✓	Within natural depression north of The Meadow
Access **Block off paths - transplant butcher's broom. Carry out as needed.**	Early spring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Unwanted paths.
Access **Block off paths - dead hedging. Install and maintain as needed.**	Following coppicing and sycamore removal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Unwanted paths.
Access **Installation of fence – following installation of transplanted butcher's broom and dead hedging, monitor effectiveness for a minimum of 3 years before determining if a fence is required. Allow for first year of installation before monitoring.**	All year		✓	✓	✓		North-western compartment
Access **Path maintenance – install path edging. Maintain as necessary**	All year	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Main path and circular routes
Access **Plant up large area of erosion by transplanting appropriate species. Install hurdles as necessary.**	Spring	✓	✓				Between main path and new circular route.
Interpretation **Install circular route maps and management information board**	All year	✓					Maps – entrances. Information board – main path.
Tree survey **Invicta Arboriculture to carry out annual tree inspection survey.**	Winter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mockett's Wood
Littering **Litter pick and maintain litter bins. Additional litter picks after Easter and summer school holidays.**	All year	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mockett's Wood
Fire lighting **Monitor fire site and install butcher's broom and dead hedging as necessary**	All year	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Fire site
Monitoring **Vegetation surveys advised to monitor change and check for invasive species**	Spring and summer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Throughout site

Monitoring **Further optional surveys include butterfly and bird surveys.**	Late spring and summer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Throughout site

Appendix 4 Example Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment: Mockett's Wood				
Name of person compiling this risk assessment: **This assessment should be reviewed annually unless accident/incident occurs requiring immediate review.**				
Probability Score: **1. <5% chance that it will occur – very unlikely** **2. 25% chance that it will occur** **3. 50% chance that it will occur** **4. 75% chance that it will occur** **5. >95% chance that it will occur – very likely**	**Severity Score** 1. Not serious – no first aid required 2. Minor Injury – requiring basic first aid 3. Injury – requiring non immediate professional medical attention 4. Serious injury/multiple injuries – requiring immediate medical attention 5. Major accident – multiple injuries or fatality	**Calculate the risk levels:** The rating is calculated from the probability multiplied by the severity which will give a rating between 1 & 25. Activities deemed to have a revised rating of over 12 should not be carried out as they are deemed too dangerous		
Hazard	**Harm**	**Risk Rating (Probability x Severity =)**	**Control measures to reduce the risk**	**Revised Risk Rating (Probability x Severity =)**
Debris, branches, tree roots, animal holes, slippery ground	Slips, trips and falls, head injuries.	4 x 4=16	Main paths to be used. Appropriate footwear to be worn. First aid kit to be carried.	2 x 3=6
Poisonous/toxic species including fungi and berries	Poisoning/allergic reaction, death.	2 x 5 = 10	Safety talk before visit about not eating any found items. Hand washing equipment to be available (or nearby toilets used), especially before eating.	1 x 5=5
Dogs	Dog attacks	2 x 4 = 8	Students instructed not to approach strange dogs.	1 x 4 = 4
Nettles and brambles	Stings, scratches	4 x 2= 8	Site activities away from nettles and brambles. Appropriate footwear, trousers and long sleeves advised. First aid kit to be carried.	2 x 2= 4

Bees, wasps	Stings, bites	2 x 5 = 10	First aid kit to be carried. If bees or wasps are seen leave alone and area surrounding nest to be left undisturbed.	1 x 5 = 5
Trees – falling branches	Head injuries, broken bones	2 x 5 = 10	Tree inspection survey carried out annually on site and dangerous trees/branches removed. Do not enter the woodland in high winds. First aid kit to be carried.	1 x 5= 5
Woodland operations	Cuts, head injuries, death	2 x 5 = 10	On arrival inform any persons conducting woodland activities of your group's presence. First aid kit to be carried.	1 x 5 = 5
Road	Collision, death	2 x 5 = 10	Students instructed not to stray beyond the woodland boundary and to cross car park under direct adult supervision. FS leader to check fences every 3 months or as necessary. First aid kit to be carried.	1 x 5 = 5
Mammal urine	Leptospirosis/Weil's disease	3 x 4 = 12	Hand washing equipment to be available and its use encouraged, especially before eating/drinking. Nothing to be eaten during water based activities. When hands are submerged in water, i.e. stream dipping, any cuts are to be covered. Only water bought on to the site to be drunk. Gloves to be worn when checking small mammal tubes. All users informed of the symptoms of Weil's disease.	1 x 4 = 4
Ticks	Lyme's disease	1 x 4 = 4	Users to be warned about ticks and Lyme's disease and advised to wear long trousers and report any rashes/bites to FS leader. Tweezers to be carried in first aid kit for tick removal. Medical advice to be sought if a tick bite is suspected.	1 x 3 = 3

Signed: **Position:** **Date:**