West Wood
Management Plan

Castle Point Borough Council

August 2010

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Associates Limited

Landscape Management & Ecology

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Date	**August 2010**	**To**	**August 2030**
Date of last review	**N/A**	**Date of next review**	**2015**
Owner / tenant	**Castle Point Borough Council**		
Agent / contact	**Steve Plumb: Agent**		
Signed declaration of tenure rights and agreement to public availability of the plan			

Background information

Location

Nearest town	Hadleigh, Castle Point
Grid reference	TQ 805 882
Total area (hectares)	33.1ha

Description of the woodland in the landscape

West Wood forms part of an important collection of ancient woodland within Castle Point and Rochford, which were the subject of a study by Oliver Rackham in 1986. West Wood is one of the largest of the remaining woods in the area. The wood sits within Natural England's Joint Character Area 111 - Northern Thames Basin, where it fits within the Essex Wooded Hills and Ridges area. While the character of the area has been significantly affected by urban development the woods and the interlinking areas of open countryside are key landscape features that provide remnant of the historic landscape character. The Essex Thames Gateway Historic Environment Characterisation identifies West Wood and the surrounding countryside as being sensitive to change due to its lack of development.

West Wood itself is situated between Hadleigh town centre and Daws Heath. The southern half of West Wood is now largely surrounded by residential development with West Wood Primary School adjacent to the south-eastern boundary. The wood still provides an important backdrop for these residential areas and due to the height of the trees provides a wooded setting for these houses that benefits the local street scene. The northern half is more prominent in the surrounding landscape with views over fields to the north and northeast and over the Deanes School playing fields to the west. It links directly to Rag Wood and Cottage Plantation which join Daws Heath Road.

The wood forms part of the Daws Heath and Hadleigh Living Landscape for which a Vision Plan has been produced by the Essex Wildlife Trust. This vision plan sets out a range of actions that need to be taken to protect and enhance the landscape and biodiversity value of this area. This management plan draws on the objectives of the Vision Plan and seeks to achieve the actions that have been identified that are appropriate to this site.

West Wood is the largest of the woods owned by Castle Point Borough Council.

History of management

West Wood is ancient semi-natural woodland with only a small area immediately north of the Prittle Brook that had been meadow until the 1930s and is now secondary woodland. There are the remains of an old lane along the north eastern boundary.

Some detail is given by Rackham (1986) into the history of the wood's management. There is documentary evidence that the wood belonged to St Paul's Cathedral by 1695, but it is considered that the ownership may have gone back to the Middle Ages. It continued to be owned by the Church Commissioners until 2009 when it was sold to Castle Point Borough Council.

Rackham records that Luftwaffe aerial photograph of 1940 showed that the whole wood north of the brook had been clear-felled over several years and was in different stages of regrowth. It appears that most of the standard timber trees were removed from this part of the woodland at that time. By contrast the southern half of the wood was not coppiced and this area is characterised by a high density of standards. There appears to have been some further coppicing in the late 1970s-early 1980s.

Since 2006 the Castle Point Wildlife Group has been involved in managing the wood. Work has focused on the southern half of the wood with three compartments having been coppiced and work to open up the main ride having been carried out. The group has also coppiced a small area immediately north of the brook.

Castle Point Borough Council purchased the wood from the Church Commissioners in 2009 with the support of Veolia ES Cleanaway Pitsea Trust and Essex County Council.

Woodland information

2.1 Areas and features

2.1.1 Designated areas	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Other designations	X	X	
Details West Wood has been identified as a Local Wildlife Site (CP24). Cottage Plantation immediately to the north is also a Local Wildlife Site (CP26)			
2.1.2 Rare and important species	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Red Data Book or BAP species	?		2
Rare, threatened, EPS or SAP species	?		
Details • There are a number of large poplars however it is likely that they are hybrids • It is likely that the wood will provide roosting opportunities for bat species. It is			

necessary to undertake surveys to establish the species and indication of numbers that use the wood.

- There is an extensive badger sett in the middle of the northern area with outlying holes to the east of this
- Further surveys are required over time to built a better understanding of the wildlife value of the wood and how it changes over time with more active management

2.1.3 Habitats	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Ancient semi-natural woodland	X		
Other semi-natural woodland		X	
Woodland margins and hedges		X	
Veteran and other notable trees	X	X	
Breeding sites			
Habitats of notable species or subject to HAPs	X		
Rides and open ground	X		
Valuable wildlife communities			
Feeding areas			

Details

- Rackham (1986) states that the Wild Service in the southern half of the wood might be more abundant than in any other wood in England. There is now good amount of young trees and saplings in the northern area.
- Common Cow-wheat, the principal food plant of the heath fritillary, is present in good amounts. Heath fritillary is a key species in the Daws Heath Living Landscape. Regular coppicing will help increase the amount of cow-wheat that is present therefore potentially allowing the butterfly to colonise West Wood.
- The vegetation beside the central ride in the southern half has been coppiced in sections. There is scope to increase coppicing on the section and to create new rides, particularly along paths in the northern half

2.1.4 Water	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Watercourses	X		
Lakes			
Ponds	X		
Wetland habitat	X		

Details

- Prittle Brook runs west-east through the central section of wood. This is a narrow, steep sided channel that supports some harts tongue fern. Close by, particularly south of the brook there is a wetter area containing large amounts of pendulous sedge, rushes and other plants favouring wetter conditions. In some sections stinging nettle and other vigorous species have established, a sign of nutrient rich soils in these areas. It is proposed to create a scrape adjacent to the brook that will improve the value of this habitat
- There are small seasonal ditches running down to the brook that provide additional habitat and which should be opened up to allow more light in. This might allow a wider range of plants to develop.
- There is a pond at the eastern end of the stream valley close to the Westbourne Close entrance. This has been formed with gabions. This can be expanded southwards to increase the extent of the habitat

2.1.5 Landscape	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Landscape designated areas			

Landscape features			
Historic landscapes			
Areas of the woodland prominent from roads	X		
Areas of woodland prominent from settlements	X		
Details The wood is prominent from surrounding roads including the A129 which runs beside the southwest end of the wood. The wood is situated within the urban area of Hadleigh and Thundersley and contributes significantly to the character of the local area			
2.1.6 Cultural features	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Public rights of way	X	X	
Prominent viewpoints			
Permissive routes	X		
Areas managed with traditional management systems			
Details A circular Public Bridleway runs around the northern half of the wood from The Gill entrance then continues eastwards to Daws Heath Road			
2.1.7 Archaeological features	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Scheduled ancient monument			
Historical features	X		
Details • There are some well-preserved wood banks throughout the wood, which appear to have been developed in different phases. A sinuous bank running close to the western boundary in the southern half of the wood dates from World War II • There are remains of an ancient lane that ran from Rag Wood along the eastern boundary to The Gill • The woodbank that run north-south through the centre of the southern half of the wood forms the parish boundary between Thundersley and Hadleigh			

2.2 Woodland resource characteristics

Recreation

The wood is a valuable recreational resource due to it being situated adjacent to residential areas and its good network of paths (Plan 5). It is primarily used for informal activities such as dog walking. The bridleway and permissive routes allow access throughout the wood. Most of the paths are in a satisfactory condition although there are some sections which remain wet throughout most of the year that require surfacing.

There is a need to achieve a balance between maintaining areas of standing deadwood and public safety. Where dead trees or boughs overhang the main path network they will be removed and the wood kept on site with larger sections left uncut and with smaller material stacked to form habitat piles. The birch in particular will be monitored as the tops are prone to being blown out in high winds. The development of rides will help with safety as there will be less material overhead.

Biodiversity

The site is an Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and a Local Wildlife Site. Due to its acid soils the wood does not support a dense ground flora, however there are a good range of species

present, including Common Cow-wheat. Where coppicing has already taken place north of the brook and where there are gaps in the canopy cow-wheat grows in good quantities. Due to the proximity of the wood to other sites where Heath Fritillary has been reintroduced management of the coppice regime will seek to maximise the suitability of the wood for the cow-wheat to enable the butterfly to colonise and extend its range.

The biodiversity value of the wood will be extended by the development of rides along the main paths. It is proposed to improve the wetland associated with the brook and ponds by creating a scrape and digging out the existing pond to increase its size. In both cases it will be necessary to remove some of the trees to allow in more light to allow the wetland plants to develop better.

The variation of woodland types and dominant species together with the presence of the stream and ponds add to its value. With its proximity to two schools there is potential to increase its use for education.

Members of the Castle Point Wildlife Group are undertaking plant surveys to help monitor the changes resulting from the coppicing. Ideally there should be other surveys, for example of bats, birds, fungi and ideally invertebrates in order to develop a fuller understanding of the value of the wood for biodiversity.

Timber and wood products

Currently some wood products are being sold. This is primarily firewood although some better quality timber is being obtained during the thinning of the mature standards. Some timber is used on site, for example for benches.

The hornbeam is currently sold as firewood although it could also be used for wood fuel. The sweet chestnut coppice has not be managed in recent years. It is likely that this would be used for wood fuel as there is unlikely to be a market locally for using it for other purposes such as fencing. It is necessary to thin some of the oak standards in the southern half of the wood and these should be assessed to see whether they would be suitable for timber.

2.3 Site description

The wood is situated within the valley of Prittle Brook which divides the wood into two plateaux. There are gentle slopes towards the brook. In the northern half there is another shallow valley running north-south associated with a spring that runs in the winter months.

The two areas have distinctive characters as the result of a mix of geology and past management.

The southern half of the wood contains a large number of mature standards, predominantly oak. As these have not been thinned there are on average over 20 per acre, well above the more traditional number of 12. This has resulted over time in the understorey becoming heavily shaded and suppressed. It appears as if some of the coppice stools have been lost over time. The coppice in this area is predominately hornbeam, although there are areas of sweet chestnut. There are significant areas of young holly developing. There are areas of natural regeneration, particularly of hornbeam to the east of the main ride.

In the past four years there have been three areas that have been coppiced in this part of the wood (see plan 1). In spring 2010 several large standards were felled to open up the canopy further and to reduce the density to more traditional levels.

A small ditch runs from close to Hedge Close to the brook. The south end in particular has scope to provide additional habitat including creating a seasonal pond by damming the ditch and allowing water to back up. The brook itself runs through a narrow, steep-sided channel which supports some wetland plants such as Hart's-tongue fern. The presence of dense tree cover around it limits the ecological value of this feature. It leads to a pond that is bounded on the north side by gabions. To the south it forms a wetland area where the ditch from Hedge Close runs. Again the tree cover in this area limits the wetland plants that occur in this area although there are species such as water mint present in small numbers.

North of Prittle Brook the wood contains denser coppice with fewer mature standards. The coppice immediately north of the brook and close to the western boundary is predominately hornbeam (see Plan 1). Much of this has been coppiced within the last 30 years; however it has a dense canopy that limits the amount of ground cover. Further north and east the coppice is primarily sweet chestnut.

Some of the large sweet chestnut stools are starting to suffer from partial dieback of some stems and in some cases have begun to collapse, particularly in the centre of the wood. There are some stools that have suffered wind damage.

Towards the northern and eastern boundaries there is more birch and the canopy is more open.

There is a central ditch running north-south from the boundary (see Plan 1) beside which there are areas of hazel coppice and some willow. There is also a line of large black poplars that appear to be the native variety although they do not occur on the current Essex list for this species. The hornbeam to the west of this ditch and south of Deanes School appears to have been the most coppiced about 20 years ago.

Rackham (1986) refers to the lack of standards within the northern part of the wood due to most having been felled prior to the Second World War. In the intervening years a good number of standards have developed including oak, ash and sweet chestnut. There is also several mature beech. It is noted that there are also several large oak coppice stools.

The ground flora is typical of woods on largely acid soils being relatively sparse in many areas. This is exacerbated by the relatively dense canopy; where coppicing has occurred there is an increase in species. Wood anemone is scattered throughout the wood. The largest area of bluebell is situated in the northern part of the wood within in small valley area. There are good areas of common cow-wheat, the food plant of the heath fritillary, with the largest concentration immediately north of the brook although small patches are scattered throughout much of the wood where there is sufficient light for it. In addition Wood Melick, Wood Millet, Hart's-tongue Fern, Primrose, Wood Sedge and Remote Sedge have been recorded during recent surveys. Other species that have been recorded (ECCOS 2007) include, Woodruff, Great Wood-rush, Stinking Iris, and Wood Spurge.

With the wood being dominated by relatively mature coppice there is not large amounts of dense scrub. As a result there is limited cover for nesting birds or small mammals. Where

coppicing is has occurred this is starting to create some denser vegetation that should be beneficial.

The main entrance into the wood is off Rayleigh Road in the southwest corner of the wood. In addition there are two entrances in the eastern side off Westwood Gardens and Hedge Close. In the southern half of the wood there is one main route along the central ride. There is a circular public bridleway that runs around the northern half of the wood from an entrance off The Gill. This is well used by horse riders and walkers and some off-road cyclists. Throughout the rest of the wood there are a large number of other paths, most of which are quite small, used mainly by local dog walkers. There are bridges over the brook however most of the other smaller ditches have no bridges and this is leading to damage occurring to ground flora and features such as old woodbanks.

In the past a sewer was laid across the wood to the north of the brook. There are plans in the future to lay a new pipe through to the north of this. If this occurs negotiations need to take place to minimise the loss of the original coppice stools.

2.4 Significant hazards, constraints and threats

Hazard

There are no significant hazards identified on the site although it will be necessary to be aware of the sewer crossing the site (see Plan 2)

Constraints

- Houses and gardens bordering the site;
- Limited existing vehicular access through site for management
- Existing sewer course
- Protection of woodbanks

Threats

- There are reports that some of the oaks are suffering from Acute Oak Decline. This should be confirmed and the spread monitored if so.
- A proposed route has been marked up across the wood by Anglian Water for a replacement sewer. This has potential to cause significant harm if not carried out sensitively
- Dumping of garden waste and encroachment of garden fences

3.0 Long term vision, management objectives and strategy

3.1 Long term vision

West Wood will be managed to ensure its long term survival as an ancient semi-natural woodland of predominantly coppice with standards. The boundary areas will be managed as high forest with dense understorey to maintain the contribution that the wood plays on the local landscape character and to screen the buildings on the perimeter of the wood.

By carrying out a regular coppice regime will result in improved habitats for wildlife due to improved structural diversity and the ability of cow-wheat to re-establish more widely.

Access will be improved through improvements to the path network, particularly in improving the surfaces in the wetter parts of the wood and bridging ditches to reduce damage to the historic woodbanks.

Wood and timber will be produced, and where possible sold. The site will be managed in compliance with UKWAS. It is recommended that Castle Point Borough Council investigates joining the Essex Forest Stewardship Council joint certification group that is being led by the County Council.

There are two schools immediately adjacent to the site and therefore the wood offers excellent opportunities for use for environmental education activities.

3.2 Management objectives

1. Maintain the character of the site by continuing coppice cycles appropriate to the dominant species and to benefit the areas of common cow-wheat in order to improve the quality of the wood for heath fritillary
2. Maintain the wood and its path network to ensure that its value for recreation is increased
3. Maintain and enhancing biodiversity value by increasing structural diversity and managing additional habitat such as the stream, ponds and ditches
4. Support the work of the Castle Point Wildlife Group in leading the management operations
5. Produce and market timber and wood products from coppice and thinning of standards
6. Achieve an improved network of paths to benefit users and reduce detrimental impacts
7. Achieve FC grants and FSC certification

3.3 Strategy

The majority of the wood will continue to be managed as coppice with standards due to much of it being in good to fair condition due to ongoing management. As the wood has a prominent role in the local landscape it is intended to maintain most of the boundary as continuous cover woodland with plenty of understorey to help screen the residential properties and the A129.

- Increase structural diversity by:
  a) Maintaining regular coppice
  b) Developing continuous cover woodland management on woodland boundaries
  c) Developing wide rides
- Thin number of timber trees in the south plateau to average about 12 per acre including a mix of mature specimens and younger trees to develop to replace them in the future and monitor the development of those in north plateau, thinning where necessary.
- Formalise the arrangement with the Castle Point Wildlife Group to continue to coordinate management works (either undertaking works themselves or using contractors)
- Maintain some standing and fallen deadwood where safe to do so
- Inspect the wood including its boundaries every two years for potentially hazardous trees

- Woodland Improvement Grant (WIG) application to be made to help fund appropriate capital works, including for coppicing to benefit biodiversity, and improvements to paths, waymarking and interpretation.
- Woodland Management Grant (WMG) to be sought for achieving FSC certification

3.4 Woodfuel initiative

Would you be interested in receiving information on funding opportunities for the purchase of harvesting machinery or wood fuel boilers?

Yes / ~~No~~

4.0 Management prescriptions/operations

4.1 Silvicultural systems

The wood historically has been managed as a coppice with standards, which has appeared to continue well into the 20th Century. As a result the condition of the existing coppice stools is generally reasonable and recent coppicing has been successful with most growing back well. The sweet chestnut in the central part of the northern half does contain the largest stools with a significant number starting to collapse.

The priorities for coppicing are the hornbeam north of the brook to allow the spread of the common cow-wheat and to reduce the central area of sweet chestnut.

Active coppicing was resumed in 2006/7 by the Castle Point Wildlife Group. The regrowth has been good in all of the areas. There has been a tendency to leave more stools and young standards standing than in the norm; and while this is not impacting directly on the regrowth it could reduce some of the connectivity for the heath fritillary.

Most of the large standards in the northern wood were felled during the Second World War whereas those in the southern half were left. It is important to continue to thin the oak in the southern wood so that there are approximately 12 per acre. These should include a mix of mature and young specimens to ensure that there is long term. It will be necessary to start thinning the standards in the northern half once coppicing commences here as there a large numbers of standards, many of which are now at least 70 years old.

4.1.1 Harvesting

When coppicing a key issue to be determined will be the extraction of the timber and wood. The only suitable point to extract the wood from is via the central ride to the Rayleigh Road entrance. There is a track running north of the Gill however this is a bridleway and the only vehicular access is via residential roads. It will be necessary to open up a new ride through the northern section which can be used for extraction but which will also be available as a route for walkers.

Consideration should be given to whether material could be extracted using heavy horses, particularly coming from the northern half to reduce compaction in sensitive areas. It might also be necessary to create a small stacking area in the wood. At present there is an area shown on Plan 4 that is used for stacking some cord wood. This would be a suitable location for this purpose in the long term as it is currently relatively open.

4.1.2 Establishment, restocking and regeneration

As the wood is being managed as a coppice there will be no need to undertake and restocking. There is good natural regeneration throughout the wood

4.2 New planting

There is no opportunity for new planting to be carried as the whole site is already treed.

4.3 Other operations

No other operations are planned at the time of writing

4.4 Protection and maintenance

4.4.1 Pest and disease management

The wood suffers relatively little from pest species. No deer occur within the wood and while squirrels are present they do not appear to cause extensive damage.

There are reports of some trees suffering from oak decline. It should be established whether this is the case and whether it is Acute Oak Decline. If so the Forestry Commission guidance on monitoring and treating the diseased trees should be followed.

There are some patches of laurel scattered around the wood and these should be removed as a priority to avoid them establishing further. Close to the residential areas there are a number of garden escapes such as Spanish bluebell. There is no evidence of sycamore in the wood.

4.4.2 Fire plan

Being broadleaved woodland it is considered that it represents a low fire risk. There are significant numbers of residential properties overlooking the wood and people walking through the site who would raise the alarm if there should be a fire.

Currently the volunteers burn brash when carrying out coppicing; as this is during the winter months again it is considered to pose limited risk. Opportunities are being considered for disposing of the material by other means e.g. by chipping.

4.4.3 Waste disposal and pollution

The main works that are proposed are for coppicing and some selective felling. This results primarily in wood that can be sold. As referred to in 4.4.2 opportunities for disposing of brash more sustainably are being considered in order to reduce the reliance on bonfires. This will reduce levels of smoke nuisance for neighbours and woodland users.

There is a build up of litter close to the boundary of Deanes School that needs to be cleared regularly to prevent it building up. It is proposed to organise activities with the school to help to tackle this problem and help engage pupils in caring for the site. Once this has been carried out it may be necessary to undertake periodic clearances with contractors if the problem persists.

4.4.4 Protection from unauthorised activities

There appears to be few cases of vandalism on site, probably due to its use and location close to residential properties.

4.4.5 Protection of other identified services and values

Health and safety inspections should be carried out annually to assess the condition of the trees along the main paths. This survey should be recorded and kept on file.

There is a sewer running across the site (see Plan 2). None of the proposed operations would have any impact on this.

4.5 Game management

No game management within the wood

4.6 Protecting and enhancing landscape, biodiversity and special features

4.6.1 Management of designated areas

The national performance indicator NI 197 seeks to increase the number of Local Wildlife Sites in Positive Conservation Management; this management plan will help ensure that this ancient woodland site is appropriately managed. With the existing management and production of the management plan the site is considered to be in Positive Conservation Management.

4.6.2 Measures to enhance biodiversity and other special features

- Continue to manage the majority of the wood in a regular coppice cycle in the long term
- Ensure a succession of sunny clearings with abundant Common Cowwheat, in otherwise sparse vegetation. Coppicing or group felling of high forest woodland best produces such clearings, but continuity of management is essential. Wide sunny rides are needed for the species to move to new, freshly cleared areas where conditions are suitable for breeding. Coppice small plots (0.4 -2ha) on a rotation of 10-20 years, preferably cutting adjacent plots within 3 years, or within 300m of an existing colony.
- In areas to be developed as high forest close to the boundaries with residential properties thinning will be carried out to create a more varied woodland structure, including increasing the shrub layer to provide more cover for birds and small mammals
- Maintain dead standing wood where safe to do so
- Clear trees from southern side of the pond and carry out careful digging of silt to extend the size of the pond while maintaining some of the existing wetland flora
- Create new lagoon on the southern side of the brook, including clearing some of the trees in the vicinity to allow wetland plants to establish
- Protection of badger sett to avoid disturbance to this protected species.

4.6.3 Special measures for ASNW

See 4.6.2 above

4.6.4 Special measures for PAWS

There has been no planting in the woods

4.6.5 Measures to mitigate impacts on landscape and neighbouring land

The trees close to the boundaries in the southern half of the wood will be managed as high forest to reduce impacts on adjoining properties

4.7 Management of social and cultural values

4.7.1 Archaeology and sites of cultural interest

The primary historic features are the series of woodbanks running through the site. The main threat to these is the localised damage close to paths, particularly in wetter sections where people are avoiding muddy areas. These areas are seen as a priority for path improvements to reduce this damage.

4.7.2 Public access and impacts on local people

The wood is a public open space available to the public at all times. There are three main entry points to the wood; the main access is off Rayleigh Road in the southwest corner and two on the eastern side off West Wood Gardens and Hedge Lane. The western access should be enhanced to make it more welcoming. This is also the main vehicular access for the wood.

Running from the main gate the main path runs along the central ride to the brook. There is also a busy route following the old bank close to the western boundary. There is a circular bridleway within the northern half of the wood. There is an extensive network of small paths throughout the whole wood. Plan 5 shows the primary path network.

The majority of the path surfaces are suitable for use throughout the year however where there are sections that are consistently wet this is resulting in damage to the surrounding vegetation and historic woodbanks where users try to avoid these areas. Some of these areas are associated with ditches that do not have a bridge. It is proposed to surface the wettest sections and new bridges where necessary. These sections are shown on Plan 4.

It is proposed to coppice the vegetation beside the main routes to create rides that are easier to follow and which will extend the range of ground flora that is present. A new ride will be created through the centre of the north wood to improve public access and to provide an extraction route for cut timber.

It is important to ensure that the main paths are maintained to prevent them becoming overgrown by side vegetation. Regular maintenance of the path network is an important objective in order to improve the enjoyment of the site for users, reduce the recreational pressure to the trees and features such as the woodbanks. Additional waymarking is required in order to ensure users are clear as to which are the main paths; this will help reduce the number of small paths crossing the site. A replacement bridge is required over the brook close to the western boundary as one of the current crossbeams is cracked.

With the management of the wood by Castle Point Wildlife Group there is scope for local residents to become actively involved in helping to care for the wood.

Regular public activities such as guided walks and open days should be held to raise awareness of local people to the history and value of the wood and also to explain the purpose of the management.

5.0 Consultation

Local residents are informed of management works by notices in advance of works taking place.

6.0 Monitoring plan summary

Objective number or issue	Indicator	Method of assessment	Monitoring period	Responsibility	How will information be used
Path network	Condition	Walk over survey	Annually	CPWG	To assess need for additional maintenance
Tree safety	Dead, dying or dangerous trees and branches over paths	Walk main path network and record location of potential risks	Annually	CPWG	Determine what action is required. Provide record of survey taking place
Survey common cow-wheat	Area covered by plant	Survey of wood during summer and recording areas where occurring	Annually	CPWG	Monitor potential increase in distribution of the plant

7.0 Work programmes

7.1 Outline long-term work programme (2016-2031)

7.2 Short-term work programme (2010-2015)

Compartment or area	Activity	Year				
		1	2	3	4	5
All woodland	Path management – surface persistently wet sections and install bridges where indicated over ditches	*	*			
All woodland	Maintenance of path network	*	*	*	*	*
All woodland	Install new waymarking and interpretation panels		*			
Southern half	Complete the creation of the central ride	*		*		
Northern half	Extend central ride to enable extraction of timber from coppiced areas	*	*	*	*	*
Area	Undertake coppicing of compartments as set out in Plan 3	*	*	*	*	*
Southern half of wood	Selective felling of standards to ensure final density of approximately 12 per acre	*	*	*	*	*
Area close to Deanes School	Organise litter clearance /awareness project with pupils to help address issue and encourage positive engagement	*				
Prittle brook	Develop lagoon area and clear pond as shown on Plan 4		*			