# **Birmingham & Black Country Local Sites Assessment Report**

EcoRecord Reference	Site Name	Grid Reference Current Status [1] Surve		Survey Date(s)	
N/A	Home Farm, Sandhills	SK 05815 04961	Part SLINC	27/09/2019	
Planning Authority	Site Ownership	Area/Length	Reason for Survey	Report Date	
Walsall	Private	84.73ha	BC Call for Sites	22/11/2019	
Meets LS Criteria	Part SLINC	Туре	Wildlife	i.e. Wildlife/Geological	
Amendment(s)	New Site	i.e. None; New Site; Upgrade; Downgrade; Extension; Whole/Part Deletion			
Description	Hedgerows, marshy grassland and semi-natural broadleaved woodland, as denoted on map 1, are deemed to meet the criteria for SLINC status, as such those not covered by Wyrley and Essington Canal SLINC (H4) should be designated as a new site 'Home Farm Hedges and Woods'.				

#### Citation (Summary of Value)

The survey site comprises a large area of arable land, hedgerows, woodland and a range of grasslands. Overall, the site is of good ecological value providing a range of habitat types, the hedgerows with native species and a good overall structure and broadleaved woodlands, which have become semi-natural, are of particular interest. The site itself is suitably positioned, sharing a boundary with the Wyrley and Essington Canal SLINC, to connect core areas of the landscape, particularly Chasewater and the Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths SSSI to Shire Oak Park LNR, while acting as a stepping stone along the canal wildlife corridor. As such due to their age, structure and connectivity H1, H4, H5, H9, F3, F7 and F8 are recommended for SLINC designation (**map 1**).

Local Site Selection Crit	eria		
Ecological			
Habitat Diversity	м	Despite containing a significant amount of arable land the site supports a range of habitats: hedgerows, semi-natural woodland, marshy and neutral grassland and running water. The woodlands also contain standing deadwood and brash piles offering additional microhabitats.	
Species Diversity	м	There is a good mix of native species amongst the hedgerows and woodlands while the marshy grassland offers different vascular species to those found in the field margins and areas of neutral grassland. No fauna surveys were undertaken but a number of birds, including Skylark ( <i>Alauda arvensis</i> ), were present during the survey.	
Habitat Rarity	м	Both the hedgerows and semi-natural woodlands present onsite are of note, listed as Habitats of Principal Importance.	
Species Rarity	м	A small number of species recorded on site are identified as <i>Rare</i> within Birmingham and Black Country. Fauna species recorded on site included multiple species listed within the Birds of Conservation Concern red and amber lists.	
Size or Extent	м-н	In the context of Walsall Local Sites Home Farm is of 'large' extent, covering over 80ha of land. However, much of the site is comprised of intensively managed agricultural land with the majority of its known ecological features being located in small areas or along field boundaries.	
Naturalness	м	The majority of the site is regularly managed and used for arable processes, however, the semi- natural woodlands significantly improve the naturalness of the survey area.	
Position & Connectivity	н	The site is adjacent to Wyrley and Essington Canal SLINC which has wider links to Chasewater and the Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths SSSI. The site lies in very close proximity to Shire Oak Park LNR, Clayhanger SSSI and Jokey Fields SSSI.	
Geological			
		Not Assessed.	
Social			
Historical & Cultural	м	The area comprises a field system with woodland blocks that has seen little change in land use since 1840. Furthermore, one of the woodland blocks sits atop a disused Arm Canal.	
Access	L	The site is privately owned and there are no designated public access routes.	
Aesthetic	м	The site is aesthetically pleasing, containing semi-natural features and reflecting the surrounding agricultural landscape.	
Recorded History	м	The Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation dataset describes the area as field systems dating back to the medieval period. The originally planted woodlands are present on maps dating back to at least 1840.	
Value for Learning	м	At the current time value for learning would be assessed as low, due to access restriction. However, there is potential for informal education focused on agricultural farming.	

#### Site Description

The survey site Home Farm is 84.73ha and is situated to the north of Walsall in close proximity to the boundary of Birmingham and the Black Country. The site also lies within 2km of important green spaces, including Chasewater and the Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths SSSI, Clayhanger SSSI and Shire Oak Park LNR, as well as having its northern boundary adjacent to Wyrley and Essington Canal SLINC.

Historic maps show the area as a field system since 1840 with two woodland plantations that are still present onsite today. The site also encompasses a disused canal arm with historic links to Wyrley and Essington Canal, it is present on maps as early as the 1880s. Historically the land to the east of the survey site has included farmland and woodland copses, whilst the west has had residential housing and factories including brick works.

Home Farm is comprised mostly of arable land, with crops managed on rotation, with associated Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) dominated hedgerows. The other dominating habitat onsite is broadleaved woodland, which occurs in two blocks and originates from planting pre 1840 but have now become semi-natural, developing structure with standing deadwood present. The site also contains a small range of grassland types, including marshy grassland and has onsite wet ditches as part of its field drainage system, providing a different habitat type and resource for wildlife.

There is no designated public paths and access is by permission only, however, there appears to be additional access available through a gate off Chester Road for residents.

Habitats			
Phase 1 Name	Broadleaved Woodland - Semi-natural	Phase 1 Code	A1.11

There are two broadleaved woodland plantation blocks onsite, both of which are present on historic maps dating back to 1840 and have now become semi-natural in character.

Field compartment 7 is comprised of semi-mature Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) and Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*) with a small number of Pine (*Pinus* sp.) trees. There is some natural regeneration of Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), however, this is limited due to the dense canopy restricting light to the woodland floor. This has also led to the development of a continuous Ivy (*Hedera helix*) carpet dominating the field layer. On the woodland edge adjacent to the track are multiple brash piles providing suitable habitat for amphibians and reptiles in the surrounding area. Interestingly, this section of woodland lies on a previous canal arm site.

The second woodland block in field compartment 8 is dominated by mature Sycamore and Beech trees with frequent Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*) and Pedunculate Oak. There is also a mature Common Lime (*Tilia × europaea*) tree which has historically been coppiced, showing regrowth from the base. Additionally, there is a large piece of standing deadwood on the woodland edge. The field layer is dominated by grasses and has a low forb content, comprised mostly of Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus agg.*), Common Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and Broadleaved Dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*).

In field compartment 1, separating two arable fields is a small row of planted broadleaved trees. They are semi-mature Silver Birch, Sycamore and Copper Beech trees and sit atop a slight embankment. In addition, in the south east corner is a small stand of semi-mature Sycamore trees.

Amongst hedgerow H4, there are two semi-mature Pedunculate Oak trees on the northern canal boundary.

On the southern boundary of field compartment 6 is a line of immature Sycamore trees acting as a screening belt. They appear to have replaced a previous hedgerow line and now connect hedgerow H12 to the woodland in F8.

Lastly in field compartment 9, two lines of semi-mature Sycamore and Beech trees with Ivy growth line the driveway entrance to Home Farm, these are present on OS maps as early as 1900.

Along the south west boundary of the site directly next to H12 is a line of planted Pine trees which are now semi-mature, with limited to no field-layer flora. They border an area of offsite scrub associated with Shire Oak House.

Phase 1 Name	Bramble Scrub	Phase 1 Code	A2.1RF

The hedgerow H10, which lies along the south western residential boundary, has started to encroach in to field compartment 6 in a localised area forming a dense patch of bramble scrub.

Phase 1 NameNeutral GrasslandPhase 1 CodeB2There are two small areas of neutral grassland onsite which are not currently in use for arable farming. The first is in the corner of<br/>field compartment 1 and partially enclosed by hedgerow H2. The area is dominated by Perennial Ryegrass (Lolium perenne),<br/>Cocks-foot (Dactylis glomerata) and Creeping Thistle (Cirsium arvense), with forbs only present occasionally within the sward, most<br/>of which are competitive species. Species include Common Chickweed (Stellaria media), Creeping Buttercup (Ranunculus repens)<br/>and Common Sorrel (Rumex acetosa). In the south west compartment of field compartment 6 is another area of neutral grassland<br/>that was previously part of the crop rotation. This area is now dominated by Red Fescue (Festuca rubra), and again holds low forb<br/>diversity and count. In addition, successional growth is present along the edges where encroachment from Bramble and Hawthorn<br/>scrub is evident.

Phase 1 Name	Improved Grassland	Phase 1 Code	B4
Ryegrass and Cocks-fo	d buildings is an area of enclosed grassland with a geese pen. The gra ot and a limited number of forbs including White Clover <i>(Trifolium repe</i> g due to the short length of the sward and small number of dominant sp	ens) and Broadleaved	
Phase 1 Name	Marshy Grassland	Phase 1 Code	B5

Field compartment 3 located adjacent to the north west boundary is an area of marshy grassland, with a high grass content dominated by Timothy (*Phleum pratense*) and False Oat-grass (Arrhenatherum elatius). Throughout the grassland are wet areas caused by localised patches of impeded drainage, this has led to the establishment of areas dominated by Reed Canary Grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Soft Rush (*Juncus effuses*) and Meadow Vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*).

This area of grassland holds a greater diversity of forb than other grassland habitats onsite with Hairy Tare (Vicia hirsuta). Common Bird's-foot-trefoil (Lotus corniculatus) and Cat's-ear (Hypochaeris radicata) included within the sward. Phase 1 Name Tall Herb - Ruderal Phase 1 Code C31 In field compartment 1 adjacent to H2 is an area of tall herb vegetation comprised of Common Nettle, Hogweed (Heracleum sphondylium) and Great Willowherb (Epilobium hirsutum). This vegetation is growing along the boundary line and has overgrown the wet ditch that runs along this field. In field compartment 2 is a small ruderal patch dominated by Common Nettle, caused by lack of management within this area. Phase 1 Name Arable Phase 1 Code J11 Arable fields are the largest habitat type onsite, comprising field compartments 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. The fields are managed on rotation sowing potatoes, carrots, rapeseed oil, wheat and barley. Field compartment 1 is enclosed by a Hawthorn hedgerow, field drainage ditch and an embankment with a line of trees following the farm entrance. This field has a small field margin of approximately one metre, except for the east corner where the field margin widens to between two and three metres, and continues alongside the field drainage ditch. These margins are dominated by common grass species including False Oat-grass, Yorkshire Fog (Holcus lanatus) and Annual Meadow Grass (Poa annua), as well as forbs including Common Toadflax (Linaria vulgaris), Meadow Buttercup (Ranunculus acris) and Common Daisy (Bellis perennis). Field compartment 2 is on a slight gradient, that is east facing, with the field itself extending outside the survey area on its north east boundary. These field margins are dominated by species tolerant of disturbed ground: Greater Plantain (Plantago major), Cocksfoot, White Clover and Field Pansy (Viola arvensis) and are approximately three metres in width. However, along the south eastern field boundary lies a grassy track, while the north east boundary is bordered by a hard core track, both increase the width of the field margin to almost 5 metres. In the middle of F2 is an old well and ditch present, which at the time of survey was holding water. Field compartment 4 is the smallest section of arable ground present onsite containing a narrow field margin, approximately half a metre in width which contains a good mix of vascular species present. Along the northern boundary of the field lies a rock and grass track, which widens the field margin to four metres, however, as this is used for vehicular access the soil has been compacted down creating areas of bare earth. The dominant species include Redshank (Persicaria maculosa), Wild Radish (Raphanus raphanistrum), Rough Hawkbit (Leontodon hispidus) and Common Sowthistle (Sonchus oleraceus). This track continues through field compartment 4 to the west boundary where there is a gate with unrestricted access to Chester Road. Field compartment 5 is enclosed by a residential hedgerow H7, an intact hedgerow H9 and the two woodland blocks on its north and south boundaries. The field itself is separated by a defunct and gappy Hawthorn hedgerow and contains small field margins approximately one-metre-wide, dominated by Perennial Rye-grass, Common Ragwort (Jacobaea vulgaris) and Cow Parsley (Anthriscus sylvestris). Field compartment 6 is similar to F5 with the field margins having the same structure and species composition. Phase 1 Name **Running Water** Phase 1 Code G2 A ditch containing running water is present as part of a field drainage system in field compartment 1, which runs offsite into the adjacent agricultural field, after running along the eastern boundary. The ditch is approximately half a metre wide and vegetated by grassland species located within the field margin of field compartment 1. No aquatic or marginal vegetation is present within the ditch, suggesting the ditch does not hold water for much of the year, also indicating that the water levels fluctuate greatly with weather Phase 1 Name Intact Hedgerow, Defunct Hedgerow, Hedgerow with Trees Phase 1 Code J2.1, J2.2, J2.3 The hedgerows onsite have been recorded as twelve separate compartments. They vary in structure but are all Hawthorn dominated and semi-regularly managed with some being dense, trimmed and intact whilst others are defunct with gaps. Compartment H1 is an intact Hawthorn hedgerow, currently dense and trimmed, without gaps that runs along Lichfield Road and the south east boundary of the site, linking field compartment 1 with the woodland comprising field compartment 8. This hedge is approximately 1.5 metres high and 1-metre-wide with a field layer of Common Nettle, Cow Parsley and Hedge Mustard (Sisymbrium officinale), as well as an Earthstar fungus. Hedgerow H2 is a small section of defunct hedgerow that is almost three metres high, with Common Nettle, Ivy and Herb Robert (Geranium robertianum) amongst its field-layer. It shows evidence of historical laying and sits atop a dry ditch but due to lack of management has become defunct. Compartment H3 is a defunct Hawthorn hedgerow with semi-mature trees approximately every five metres, tree species are dominated by Sycamore and Horse Chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum), which have low bat roosting potential, due to small cavities likely to be present within the numerous broken limbs present. The field layer is dominated by Cow Parsley, Hedge Mustard and Cocks-foot. Hedgerow H4 is the largest hedgerow onsite and is currently designated as part of the Wyrley and Essington Canal SLINC. It is a dense intact Hawthorn hedgerow with Bracken (Pteridium aquilinum), Common Nettle and Cleavers (Galium aparine) amongst the field-layer flora. It is approximately two metres tall and sits on a bank, with sections showing evidence of historical laying. The hedge height varies along its length, with some sections being lower, only one metre in height, making the canal tow path visible, furthermore due to this variation there are sections reinforced with post and rail fencing to prevent access and two sections with semi-mature Pedunculate Oak trees. Compartment H5 is a defunct hedgerow which is losing its linear nature, due to lack of management causing the hedgerow to become overgrown with Bramble and Goat Willow (Salix caprea). The southern section of the hedgerow becomes continuous with the woodland in field compartment 7. Hedgerows H6 and H7 are residential hedgerows that contain a mix of species including Hawthorn, Elder (Sambucus nigra) and ornamental shrubs with a field layer of Ivy, Common Nettle and Large Bindweed (Calystegia silvatica). Compartment H8 is a defunct Hawthorn hedgerow, over one-metre-high with Holly and a field layer of Ivy, Perennial Ryegrass and Cleavers. It partially separates field compartment 5. Hedgerow H9 is regularly managed but an intact Hawthorn hedgerow with semi-mature Sycamore and Beech trees, which become more frequent towards the southern boundary. There is very little fieldlayer flora but evidence of old pleachers, suggesting the hedgerow was laid in the past.

Compartment H10 is a residential boundary, dominated by a Hawthorn hedgerow with intermittent sections of fencing. Due to differences in management the hedge varies in height from two to five metres, and periodically contains semi-mature trees including Beech, Holly and Sycamore. Sections of this hedgerow have become overgrown with Bramble and Bracken and suffer from fly tipping from adjacent properties.

Hedgerows H11 and H12 are two short sections of hedgerow on the southern boundary of the site. They are both over three metres high and dominated by Hawthorn and Holly, with semi-mature Sycamore and Elder trees amongst the hedgerow. The field layer is comprised of Ivy, Cow Parsley and Common Nettle.

Phase 1 Name	Dry Ditch	Phase 1 Code	J26

A dry ditch located along hedgerow H2 adjoins the ditch containing running water in F1. This ditch is becoming overgrown with Common Nettle, Bramble and Broad Leaved Dock, however, there is evidence of mammals using this cover, due to the presence of a regularly used mammal path, but it could be domestic animals present onsite.

Notes

Habitats of Note [2]						
Phase 1 Name	Phase 1 Code	EHD	NERC	LBAP	Rarity	Year Recorded
Hedgerows	J2.1,J2.2,J2.3		Y			2019
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	A1.11		Y			2019
Notes						

Flora							
Species	Statutory	NERC	LBAP	RDL	Rarity	Axiophyte	Year Recorded
Angelica sylvestris - Wild Angelica					F	BBCF_Ax	2008
Cirsium palustre - Marsh Thistle					F	BBCF_Ax	2019
Euphrasia officinalis agg Eyebright					R	BBCF_Ax	2019
Galium odoratum - Woodruff					R	BBCF_Ax	2019
Galium palustre - Marsh-bedstraw					F	BBCF_Ax	2019
Hyacinthoides non-scripta - Bluebell	WCA8		Y		С		2008
Leontodon hispidus - Rough Hawkbit					U	BBCF_Ax	2019
Notes							
Fauna							
Species	Statutory	NERC	BAP	RDL	Concern	Rarity	Year Recorded
Alauda arvensis - Skylark		Y	Y	BRed		С	2019
Delichon urbicum - House Martin				BAmb		F	2019
Passer domesticus - House Sparrow		Y		BRed		VC	2019
Sturnus vulgaris - Starling		Y		BRed		VC	2019
Notes	I	•	1	2.104			

## Site/Habitat Suitability for Other Species of Note (not recorded during the survey)

Description/Notes

The hedgerows provide suitable commuting and foraging habitat for small mammals and breeding birds using the wider landscape. The arable land surrounded by hedgerows has the potential to be used by ground nesting or winter birds, as well as Brown Hares (*Lepus europaeus*) which require open farmland habitat. Semi-mature trees and standing deadwood on site have bat roost potential, therefore along with the hedgerows the site has potential to be used by foraging and commuting bats.

Species	Location	Abundance (DAFOR)	Year Recorded
Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum – Variegated Yellow Archangel	H10	R	2019
Rhododendron ponticum - Rhododendron			2008

Geology	
Solid/Drift Formation	Chester Formation - Sandstone and Conglomerate, Interbedded.

Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 247 to 250 million years ago in the Triassic Period. Local environment previously dominated by rivers.

### Features of Value

None recorded.

#### Soils

A mix of freely draining slightly acid sandy soils and slightly acid loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage.

Public Access & Site Usage		
Land Use	Arable.	
Access Level	Restricted.	
Access Type(s)	By permission only.	

#### Comparison with Previous Survey(s) Results

No previous survey data available for comparison.

#### Summary of Assessment

When assessed against the Birmingham and Black Country Local Sites Criteria, Home Farm scores mostly *medium* for the ecological criteria. This ecological value is mostly attributed to the well-connected hedgerow network with adjacent semi-natural woodlands which have been present since at least 1840. This includes: hedgerow H4 which forms the boundary between the site and the Wyrley and Essington Canal SLINC, field compartments 7 and 8 which are linked via hedgerows H9 and H5 and hedgerow H1 that is dense in structure and provides a corridor for wildlife coming from outside the borough. Furthermore, the marshy grassland present in field compartment 3 is of high species diversity and provides good habitat for small mammals and birds. Therefore, it is recommended the well-connected hedgerows with native species, marshy grassland and the adjacent woodland blocks are designated as SLINC. This will establish an ecological corridor between surrounding SSSIs, SINCs, SLINCs and LNRs on the edge of an urban area. However, the remaining arable and grassland onsite is of less ecological value and does not meet the threshold for selection.

Recommendations (including further survey & site management/enhancement)	
1	Increase the width of the arable field margin and manage to increase field-layer flora diversity.
2	Further fauna surveys including winter and breeding bird surveys would be beneficial to ascertain importance of the site for local bird populations, including Skylarks.
3	The dense woodland onsite should be selectively thinned to allow further development of the understory and to allow light to the woodland floor for the diversification of field-layer flora.
4	Defunct hedgerows should be restored by planting of native species. Management should continue to maintain the dense structure of the intact hedgerow network present onsite.

#### Data Sources

	Source	Date
Species and Habitat Data Source(s)	Ecorecord data search 2019	27/09/2019
Geological Data Source(s)	British Geological Society 1:50,000 bedrock & superficial deposits GIS web map services from BGS website: <u>https://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/services/mash-ups/desktopgis.html</u>	18/11/2019
Soils Data Sources(s)	Soilscapes, Cranfield Soil & Agricultural Institute website: http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/	18/11/2019
Historic Data Sources(s)	Ordnance Survey Country Series Mapping Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation, Wolverhampton City Council, 2009 (updated 2010): https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/blackcountry_hlc_2009/	18/11/2019

#### [1] Definitions of Local Sites in B&BC (SINCs & SLINCs) and Potential Sites of Importance (PSIs)

In Birmingham and the Black Country Local Wildlife and Geological Sites encompass what are termed Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINCs). This two-tier system aims to ensure that all sites of substantive local nature conservation and geological value are selected by assessing sites in both a sub-regional (i.e. Birmingham and the Black Country) and metropolitan borough or city context (either Birmingham, Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall or Wolverhampton). The two designations are defined as:

- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) Sites of substantive nature conservation value in the context of Birmingham and the Black Country.
- Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC) Sites of substantive nature conservation value in the context of a metropolitan borough.

Potential Sites of Importance (**PSIs**) have not yet been assessed against the Local Wildlife and Geological Sites selection criteria but may potentially support species of note, areas of important semi-natural habitat or valuable geological features. PSIs are identified primarily through the use of aerial photography, but also through reference to old maps, existing records and local knowledge. Commonly these sites will not have been subject to the survey work necessary to undertake a Local Wildlife and Geological Sites assessment.

#### [2] Habitats/Species of Note Tables – Attribute Definitions

**STATUTORY (PROTECTED)** - *EHD* = EU Habitats Directive (plus where relevant the Annexe II or IV) | *WCA S1* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 1 (birds protected at all times) | *WCA S5* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *WCA S8* = Wildlife & Countryside Act Schedule 5 (animals with various levels of protection) | *PBA* = Protection of Badgers Act 1992 | *HabRegs2* = The Conservation (Natural Habitats, & C.) Regulations 2010 (Schedule 2) | *HabRegs4* = The Conservation (Natural Habitats, & C.) Regulations 2010 (Schedule 4).

BAP – Habitats/Species included on latest UK UK BAP or B&BC LBAP list of Priority Habitats/Species.

NERC – Y or Sect. 41 = Habitats/Species included on current list of Principal Importance in England under Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006 or amended). RDL - Species included on Global IUCN & British Red Data Lists: BRed = Bird Population Status – red | BAmb = Bird Population Status - amber | RLGB.EN = IUCN (2001) – Endangered | RLGB.VU = IUCN (2001) – Vulnerable | RDBGB.R = IUCN (pre 1994) – Rare | RLGB.Lr(NT) = IUCN (2001) - Lower risk - near threatened | RDBGB.IK = RDB - Insuff known | RLGB.DD = IUCN (2001) - Data Deficient

RARITY (HABITATS) - BIRMINGHAM & BLACK COUNTRY - Habitats included on the B&BC list of locally rare habitats (administered by EcoRecord).

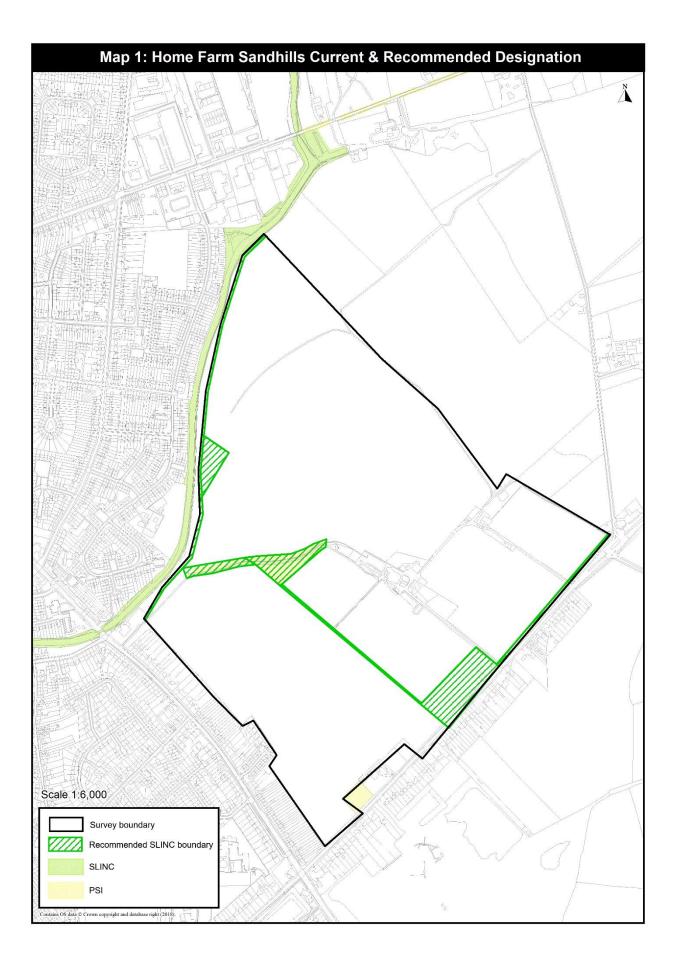
**RARITY (FLORA SPECIES) - BIRMINGHAM & BLACK COUNTRY** - (based on data held and managed by EcoRecord): *VR* = Very Rare - a species present in less than 1.0% of 1Km squares, tetrads, or 5Km squares in B&BC | *R* = Rare - a species present in 1.0% - 4.3% of 1Km squares, tetrads, or 5Km squares in B&BC | *U* = Uncommon - a species present in 4.3% - 12% of 1Km squares, tetrads or 5Km squares in B&BC | *NRR* = no recent B&BC records. **AXIOPHYTE** - BBCF\_Ax = included on the Birmingham & the Black Country list of axiophytes.

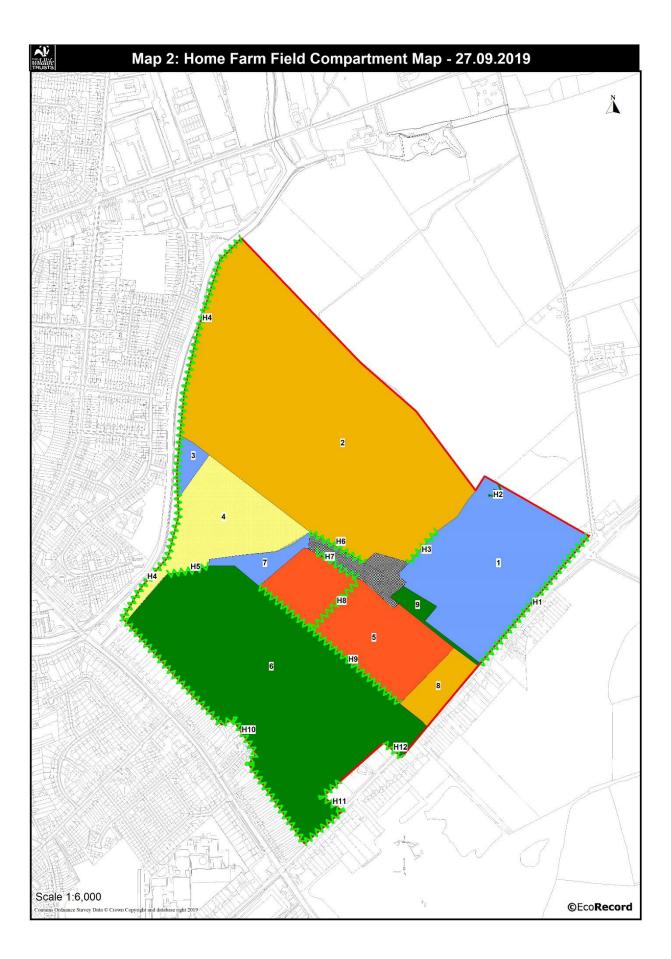
#### CONCERN (FAUNA SPECIES OF CONSERVATION CONCERN) -

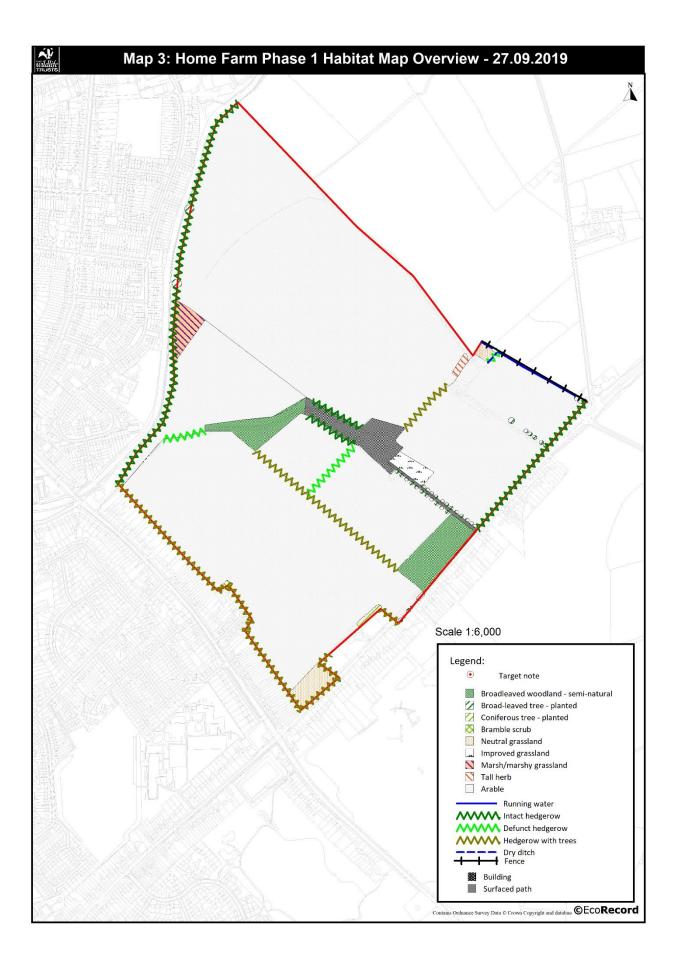
Birds: R = Birds of Conservation Concern Red List - bird species of high conservation priority needing urgent conservation action. This encompasses species that are Globally Threatened according to the International Union for Nature Conservation criteria; those whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years; and those that have declined historically and not shown a substantial recent recovery. A = Bird of Conservation Concern Amber List – bird species with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe; those whose population or range has declined moderately in recent years; those whose population has declined historically but made a substantial recent recovery; rare breeders; and those with internationally important or localised populations. Invertebrates: RD = Regional Decline identified in Butterfly Conservation West Midlands Regional Action Plan.

YEAR - The most recent year the species has been recorded.

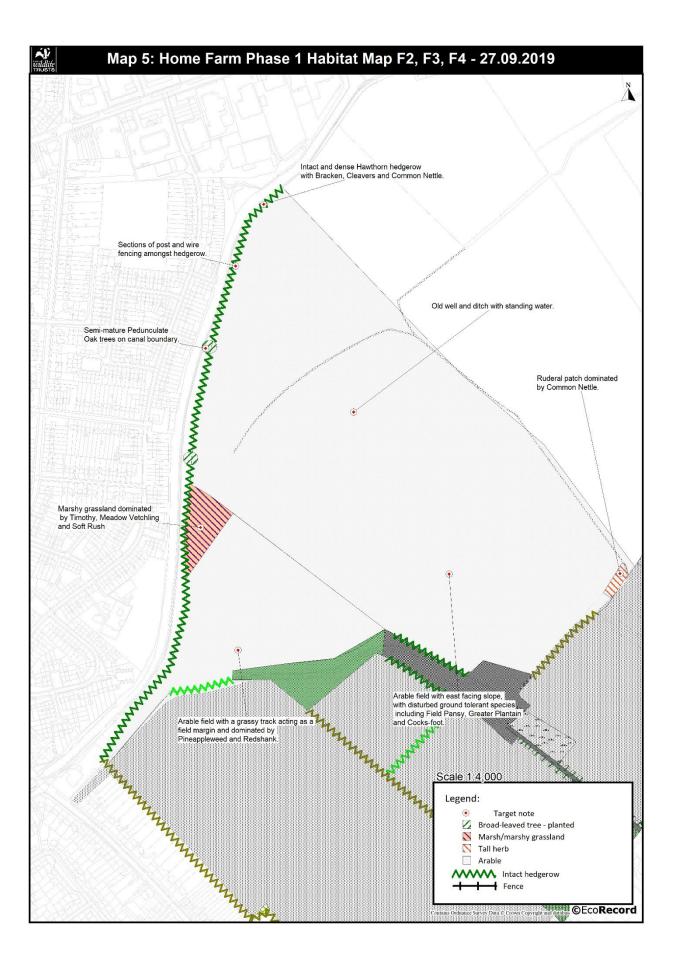
[3] Species listed on Schedule 9 part 1 (animals) and part 2 (plants) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended - this lists animals which may not be released or allowed to escape into the wild and plants which may not be planted or otherwise caused to grow in the wild.

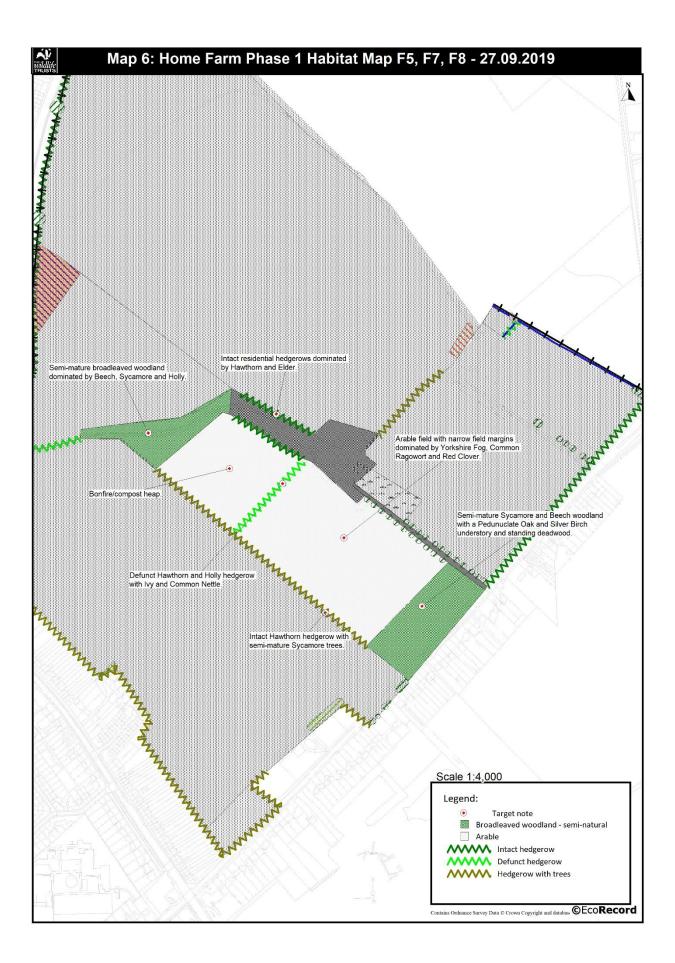


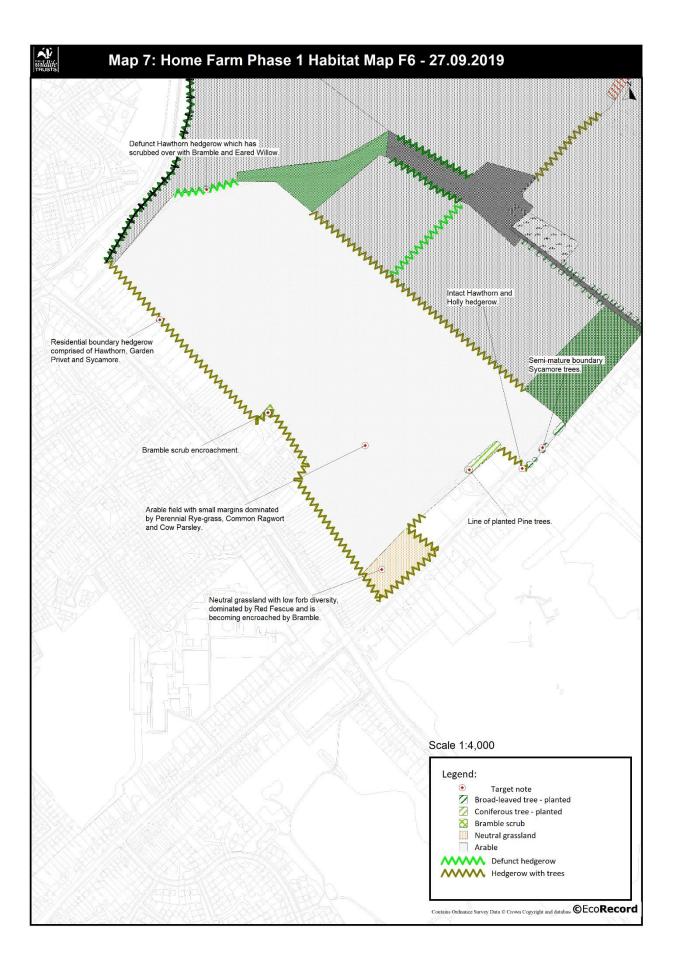














**Photograph 1:** Field compartment 6 and hedgerow H9 and field compartment 8 recommended for designation.



Photograph 2: Field drainage ditch with running water in field compartment 1.



Photograph 3: Arable land comprising field compartment 2.



Photograph 4: Hedgerow H4 which forms the boundary with the canal.



Photograph 5: Area of marshy grassland comprising field compartment 3.



Photograph 6: Field compartment 8 woodland block with uprooted tree.

## FLORA

Sandhills and Barn Piece (F1)

Sandhills and Barn Piece (F1)	
Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Bellis perennis	Daisy
Betula pendula	Silver Birch
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle
Cirsium palustre	Marsh Thistle
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Cytisus scoparius	Broom
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb
Fagus sylvatica	Beech
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog
Hypochaeris radicata	Cat's-ear
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Linaria purpurea	Purple Toadflax
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass
Matricaria discoidea	Pineappleweed
Petasites hybridus	Butterbur
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain
Plantago major	Greater Plantain
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort
Silene latifolia	White Campion
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sow-thistle
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed
Taraxacum officinale agg.	Dandelion
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

Scientific Name	Common Name
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Bellis perennis	Daisy
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Euphrasia officinalis agg.	Eyebright
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
Geranium molle	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog
llex aquifolium	Holly
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Leontodon hispidus	Rough Hawkbit
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass
Lotus corniculatus	Common Bird's-foot-trefoi
Matricaria discoidea	Pineappleweed
Persicaria maculosa	Redshank
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain
Plantago major	Greater Plantain
Poa annua	Annual Meadow-grass
Poa pratensis	Smooth Meadow-grass
Raphanus raphanistrum	Radish
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard
Stellaria media	Common Chickweed
Taraxacum officinale agg.	Dandelion
Trifolium repens	White Clover
Tripleurospermum inodorum	Scentless Mayweed
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch
Vicia hirsuta	Hairy Tare
Viola arvensis	Field Pansy

# Ogley Hay Hill (F3)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb

- Glyceria maxima Hypochaeris radicata Juncus effusus Lathyrus pratensis Lotus corniculatus Phalaris arundinacea Phleum pratense Plantago lanceolata Poa trivialis Rumex obtusifolius Senecio jacobaea Taraxacum officinale agg. Trifolium pratense Trifolium repens Trisetum flavescens Vicia hirsuta
- **Reed Sweet-grass** Cat's-ear Soft-rush Meadow Vetchling Common Bird's-foot-trefoil Reed Canary-grass Timothy **Ribwort Plantain Rough Meadow-grass Broad-leaved Dock Common Ragwort** Dandelion **Red Clover** White Clover Yellow Oat-grass Hairy Tare

### Ogley Hay Hill (F4)

- Scientific Name Arrhenatherum elatius Artemisia vulgaris Bromus sterilis Calystegia silvatica Chamerion angustifolium
- Cirsium arvense Cirsium vulgare Dactylis glomerata Epilobium hirsutum Leontodon hispidus Lolium perenne Matricaria discoidea Papaver rhoeas Persicaria maculosa Plantago major Poa annua Poa trivialis Raphanus raphanistrum Sonchus arvensis Sonchus oleraceus Taraxacum officinale agg. Tripleurospermum inodorum Veronica persica

### Common Name

False Oat-grass Mugwort Sterile Brome Large Bindweed Rosebay Willowherb

**Creeping Thistle** Spear Thistle Cock's-foot Great Willowherb **Rough Hawkbit** Perennial Rye-grass Pineappleweed **Common Poppy** Redshank **Greater Plantain** Annual Meadow-grass **Rough Meadow-grass** Radish Perennial Sow-thistle Smooth Sow-thistle Dandelion Scentless Mayweed Common Field-speedwell

#### Owen's Piece and Canal Piece (F5)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly-bush

Corylus avellana Dactylis glomerata Holcus lanatus Hypochaeris radicata Lamium album Lolium perenne Matricaria discoidea Persicaria maculosa Plantago lanceolata Plantago major Poa annua Rumex obtusifolius Senecio jacobaea Stellaria media Taraxacum officinale agg. Trifolium pratense

Hazel Cock's-foot Yorkshire-fog Cat's-ear White Dead-nettle Perennial Rye-grass Pineappleweed Redshank **Ribwort Plantain Greater Plantain** Annual Meadow-grass **Broad-leaved Dock Common Ragwort Common Chickweed** Dandelion **Red Clover** 

### Shire Oak Piece (F6)

Scientific Name Acer pseudoplatanus Anthriscus sylvestris Arrhenatherum elatius Artemisia vulgaris Bellis perennis Cirsium arvense Dactylis glomerata Epilobium hirsutum Euphrasia officinalis agg. Festuca rubra Galium aparine Galium verum Geranium molle Geranium robertianum Holcus lanatus Lamium album Leontodon hispidus Lolium perenne Lotus corniculatus Persicaria maculosa Quercus robur Ranunculus acris Raphanus raphanistrum Rumex obtusifolius Senecio jacobaea Sisymbrium officinale Stellaria media

Sandhills Wood (W1) Scientific Name Common Name

Sycamore **Cow Parsley False Oat-grass** Mugwort Daisy **Creeping Thistle** Cock's-foot Great Willowherb Eyebright **Red Fescue** Cleavers Lady's Bedstraw Dove's-foot Crane's-bill Herb-Robert Yorkshire-fog White Dead-nettle **Rough Hawkbit** Perennial Rye-grass Common Bird's-foot-trefoil Redshank Pedunculate Oak **Meadow Buttercup** Radish **Broad-leaved Dock Common Ragwort** Hedge Mustard **Common Chickweed** 

Common Name

Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut
Betula pendula	Silver Birch
Fagus sylvatica	Beech
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
llex aquifolium	Holly
Prunus avium	Wild Cherry
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

# Turnpike Road Plantation (W2)

# Common Name

Horse-chestnut
Lesser Burdock
Silver Birch
Cock's-foot
Beech
Hogweed
Holly
White Dead-nettle
Rough Meadow-grass
Pedunculate Oak
Meadow Buttercup
Bramble
Broad-leaved Dock
Elder
Rowan
Dandelion
Lime
Common Nettle
Common Vetch

# Lichfield Road Hedge - west (H1)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic Mustard
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Betula pendula	Silver Birch
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Galium aparine	Cleavers

Hedera helix subsp. helix Heracleum sphondylium Rubus fruticosus agg. Sisymbrium officinale Sonchus asper Urtica dioica Common Ivy Hogweed Bramble Hedge Mustard Prickly Sow-thistle Common Nettle

## Barn Piece Hedge - west (H2)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Galium aparine	Cleavers
llex aquifolium	Holly
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock
Taraxacum officinale agg.	Dandelion
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

## Ogley Hay Hill Hedge - south (H3)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Galium odoratum	Woodruff
Galium palustre	Marsh-bedstraw
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

## Canal Hedge, Sandhills (H4)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Epilobium hirsutum	Great Willowherb
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Prunus avium	Wild Cherry
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn

Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak
Rosa arvensis	Field-rose
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

# Sandhills Arm Hedge (H5)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle
Geranium robertianum	Herb-Robert
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock
Salix caprea	Goat Willow
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

# Sandhills Cottages Hedge - north (H6)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Alnus glutinosa	Alder
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

## Sandhills Cottages Hedge - south (H7)

<u> </u>	
Scientific Name	Common Name
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Bellis perennis	Daisy
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Fagus sylvatica	Beech
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Ligustrum ovalifolium	Garden Privet

Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Rubus idaeus	Raspberry
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Senecio jacobaea	Common Ragwort
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

## Owens Piece Hedge - north (H8)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed
Ilex aquifolium	Holly
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Lolium perenne	Perennial Rye-grass
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

# Shire Oak Piece Hedge - north (H9)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

# Shire Oak Piece Hedge - south (H10)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Fagus sylvatica	Beech
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog
Ilex aquifolium	Holly
Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp.	
argentatum	Yellow Archangel
Ligustrum ovalifolium	Garden Privet
Lonicera periclymenum	Honeysuckle

Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

# Lichfield Road Hedge - west (H11)

ļ	Scientific Name	Common Name
	Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
	Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
	Calystegia silvatica	Large Bindweed
	Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle
	Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
	Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
	Ilex aquifolium	Holly
	Papaver rhoeas	Common Poppy
	Pinus	Deal
	Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
	Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel
	Sambucus nigra	Elder
	Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

## Shire Oak House Hedge (H12)

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Bryonia dioica	White Bryony
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male-fern
Galium aparine	Cleavers
Hedera helix subsp. helix	Common Ivy
llex aquifolium	Holly
Lamium album	White Dead-nettle
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Sisymbrium officinale	Hedge Mustard
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle

## Access Road and Paddock

Scientific Name	Common Name
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut
Anisantha sterilis	Barren Brome
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley
Artemisia vulgaris	Mugwort
Cirsium arvense	Creeping Thistle
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot
Euphorbia peplus	Petty Spurge

Fagus sylvatica Geranium molle Hedera helix subsp. helix Lamium album Leontodon hispidus Lolium perenne Persicaria maculosa Plantago major Poa annua Poa trivialis Rubus fruticosus agg. Rumex acetosa Rumex obtusifolius Stellaria media Taraxacum officinale agg. Trifolium repens Urtica dioica

Beech Dove's-foot Crane's-bill Common Ivy White Dead-nettle Rough Hawkbit Perennial Rye-grass Redshank **Greater Plantain** Annual Meadow-grass **Rough Meadow-grass** Bramble Common Sorrel **Broad-leaved Dock Common Chickweed** Dandelion White Clover **Common Nettle** 

### FAUNA

Whole Site

Scientific Name Pieris rapae Aegithalos caudatus Columba palumbus Delichon urbicum Erithacus rubecula Troglodytes troglodytes Alauda arvensis Carduelis carduelis Corvus corone Hirundo rustica Passer domesticus Pica pica Sturnus vulgaris

## Common Name

Small White Long-tailed Tit Woodpigeon House Martin Robin Wren Skylark Goldfinch Carrion Crow Swallow House Sparrow Magpie Starling