SINC Network and Nature Recovery Review

ISSUE 02

London Borough of Barnet

Final report

Prepared by LUC

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 In June 2023, LUC was appointed by the London Borough of Barnet (LBB) to deliver the Parks and Open Space Strategy (POSS), which will be completed in May 2025. To inform the emerging POSS, as part of the appointment, LUC is undertaking a review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and of wider nature recovery opportunities. This report presents all tasks related to nature recovery for consideration in relation to the POSS.

Project Aims

1.2 The aims of the SINC Review are to undertake:

- Targeted consultation with technical specialists to ensure cross-compatibility between the planning and delivery of both nature recovery and greenspaces workstreams by LBB.
- A desk-based review of ecological assets in the borough to identify the existing baseline, including statutory and non-statutory designated sites, ancient woodland and priority habitats. The baseline includes consideration of Areas of Deficiency (AoD) in access to nature and where the provision for biodiversity may be limited within the borough.
- Matrix-based assessment of opportunities to deliver Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) across land parcels owned by the Council.
- Collate a baseline of the SINC network in accordance with the published London criteria, including field survey of all accessible sites, and assess each to ensure the appropriate grade and boundary are in place. Appropriate management recommendations are also outlined.
- Collate additional, detailed UK Habitat Classification and condition data of select sites identified by LBB to inform land use and development planning decision-making.

- Identify priority opportunities for nature recovery and for BNG to inform future decision-making by technical specialists within the Council to ensure cross-compatibility with other related workstreams, such as flood risk management, etc. This is important to ensure effective use of resources and funding during future planning and delivery of POSS actions. These will be separately reported within the POSS.

Context

Overview

1.3 The London Borough of Barnet is one of the greenest boroughs in London, strongly contributing to the Borough's character. The borough supports a diverse range of biodiversity assets, including:

- One nationally designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
- Seven Local Nature Reserves (LNR);
- 67 SINC, including eight Metropolitan, ten Borough Grade I, 26 Borough Grade II and 23 Local;
- Green and Blue Corridors, including within the valleys of Dollis Brook, Pymmes Brook and River Brent;
- Ancient woodland;
- Priority habitats, including deciduous woodland, traditional orchards, reedbeds, lowland heathland, lowland meadows and good quality semi-improved grassland.

Nature Recovery

1.4 In May 2022, the Council declared a climate and biodiversity emergency.

> "*We have declared a climate emergency because we recognise that urgent action is needed to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss*." **[See reference** 1**]**

1.5 In recognition of the biodiversity emergency, the 2021 Environment Act requires a national nature network delivered though a series of Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS). Barnet falls within the Greater London LNRS, the development of which is led by the Greater London Authority (GLA). The designated site network, including SINC, form the core to the LNRS which aims to ensure nature is 'bigger, better and more connected' **[See reference** 2**]** for nature to recover and thrive. Thriving ecosystems optimise resilience to climate change whilst delivering ecosystem services such as air and water regulation, and to support peoples health and well being.

1.6 4.According to the Mayor of London's office, completion of the London LNRS is targeted for late 2025. Once the emerging Greater London LNRS is in place, the Council "will prepare a Local Nature Recovery Network which will provide more detail on the ecological networks across the Borough and how they can be enhanced" **[See reference** 3**].** A 'network-led' approach has therefore been taken in this review of SINCs across the borough. It considers, at a high level, where opportunities for expansion, enhancement and greater connectivity may be achieved to underpin planning and delivery of the future recovery network.

Sustainability

1.7 Barnet's Sustainability Strategy addresses the commitment to become a Net Zero council by 2030 and Net Zero borough no later than 2042. The Strategy includes various targets including the protection and restoration of threatened species and habitats via a Biodiversity Action Plan **[See reference** 4**]**. As part of these efforts, the BarNET ZERO campaign has been designed to bring residents, communities, and businesses on the borough's journey to Net Zero.

Biodiversity Net Gain

1.8 The mandatory requirement for BNG was established under the 2021 Environment Act (see Chapter 2). Incorporation of BNG into Local Plans and strategic planning aims to ensure it contributes optimally to nature recovery and effectively alongside other land management workstreams, such as parks and open space management, flood risk management, etc. Mechanisms for monitoring and reporting progress are, at the time of writing, yet to be established but are expected to be cross-complimentary to centralised mechanisms for Greater London and/or England-wide.

1.9 In the case of off-site (compensatory) BNG, the Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) must be agreed, prior to development. Off-site gains may be delivered on land owned by an LPA using legal agreements (s106 agreement and conservation covenants) to ensure successful delivery. Like other public bodies or charities with conservation-related purposes or functions, an LPA is eligible to become a 'responsible body' (i.e. BNG provider) where specific criteria can be met **[See reference** 5**]**. However, as an LPA cannot secure gains using legal agreements with themselves, the land must be secured on other ways **[See reference** 6**]**.

Structure

1.10 As part of the wider consultation to inform the POSS, this Review is informed by targeted consultation to consolidate a holistic view of the operation and management of the parks service, initiatives and programmes of work, alongside those for nature recovery, such as the emerging Greater London LNRS and mandatory requirement for BNG.

1.11 Chapter 4: The desk-based ecological baseline collates existing data on the biodiversity assets across Barnet. Using digital mapped data from London and national sources, the baseline identifies the nature and distribution of assets, including how the designated site network relates to parks and open

spaces, to inform where opportunities for expansion, enhancement and greater connectivity may be prioritised to meet the needs of nature recovery in a changing climate with a growing urban population. Consideration is given to cross-boundary opportunities.

1.12 Chapter 5: The matrix-based assessment of opportunities across Barnet's parks and open spaces to prioritise delivery of BNG as part of an expanded nature network is intended to inform future land use prioritisation and detailed feasibility work and/or targeted surveys. It is important that BNG opportunities are sought outside of, but complementary to, the SINC network. Assessment focuses on council-owned land parcels to inform LBB decision-making of opportunities for BNG delivery on land which they hold control (where registration as a 'responsible body' is achieved). The matrix will utilise the findings of the desk-based baseline. Parameters of the matrix relate both to the requirements of BNG (such as to avoid delivery in designated SSSI) and to nature recovery (such as optimising expansion, buffering and connectivity out from the core designated site network).

1.13 Chapter 6: The habitat survey and condition assessment completed across all sites of the SINC network has been undertaken using rapid survey and mapping methods in accordance with the 2004 GLA Open Space and Habitat Survey Methodology and 2019 Mayor of London's criteria for SINC selection, allowing Red-Amber-Green (RAG) status mapping across the network.

1.14 Additional detailed UK Habitat Classification survey and condition assessment was completed at select sites identified by LBB. This targeted data will be used to inform development planning and spatial planning decisions by LBB, and will contribute to the wider collation of biodiversity baseline information across the borough.

1.15 Chapter 7: Priority opportunities for nature recovery and for BNG are identified for future agreement with technical specialists within the Council to ensure cross-compatibility with other related workstreams, such as flood risk

management. This is important to ensure effective use of resources and funding during future planning and delivery of POSS actions.

Chapter 2

Legal and Policy Context

2.1 This section provides an overview of legislation and policy at the national, London and borough levels relate to the designation, safeguarding and management of the SINC network.

National

Summary of Targets Relevant to Nature Recovery

2.2 The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan sets long-term goals and ambitions for environmental improvement. Legally binding targets of the Plan, taken forward in the 2021 Environment Act, that relate to biodiversity are summarised as:

- Restore or create in excess of 500,000ha of a range of wildlife-rich habitat outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022 levels, with interim targets set in the 2023 Environment Improvement Plan (EIP) for 140,000ha by 2028;
- Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050, with interim targets set in the 2023 EIP to increase this by 0.26% by 31 January 2028;
- Reduce nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and sediment pollution from agriculture into the water environment by at least 40% by 2038, compared to a 2018 baseline;
- Halt the decline in species populations by 2030, and then increase populations by at least 10% to exceed current levels by 2042; and

- Improve the Red List Index for species extinction risk by 2042, compared to 2022 levels.

2.3 In 2020, the Government committed to protecting 30% of the UK's land by 2030 ('30 by 30'). The route to achieving this forms part of the 2023 EIP, as listed above. The global 30 by 30 target was adopted at the COP15 UN Biodiversity Summit in 2022.

2.4 In addition, the Government's Biodiversity 2020 Strategy **[See reference 7]** includes a target to restore at least 15% of degraded ecosystems as a contribution towards climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Imperatives and Duties in the Conservation of Habitats and Species

2.5 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) forms the principal legislation which transposes the EU Regulations into UK law. Habitats (Annex I) and species (Annex II) of importance at the European level are legally protected within the UK through the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. Together, these form the legal basis to nature conservation against which the Government, and supporting local authorities, must act.

2.6 The 2006 Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (as amended) places an enhanced duty on public authorities. Section 40 (amended by the 2021 Environment Act, Section 102) requires public authorities to conserve and enhance biodiversity **[See reference 8]**, **[See reference 9]**: "Every public body must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving and enhancing biodiversity"..

2.7 Section 41 of the NERC Act lists the habitats and species of principal importance. The Priority Habitat Inventory (PHI), held by Natural England, maps

national coverage of priority habitats. Mapping of London Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) suitability habitats, held by Greenspace Information for Greater London (GIGL), provides additional, finer resolution of local priorities. Most of the PHI and London BAP habitats within the borough are protected **[See reference** 10**]**.

Local Nature Recovery Strategies

2.8 LNRS are a requirement of the 2021 Environment Act. As outlined in **Chapter 1**, LNRS will collectively deliver national coverage of a nature network in response to the ecological and climate emergencies. Each LNRS is delivered through partnership working.

2.9 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) promotes a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing ecological networks, thereby increasing resilience to current and future pressures. This includes the enhanced duty on public bodies to not only have regard to biodiversity but to report on this at regular intervals. Other paragraphs of primary relevance include:

- The role of the planning system as outlined in Paragraph 187 to (a)

  Protect and enhance valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils; (b) Recognise the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services; (d) Minimise impacts on, and provide net gains for, biodiversity including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs.

- Regarding nature recovery paragraph 159 states that "*The improvements to green spaces required as part of the Golden Rules* **[See reference** 11**]** *should contribute positively to the landscape setting of the development, support nature recovery and meet local standards for green space provision where these exist in the development plan. Where no locally specific standards exist, development proposals should meet national standards relevant to the development (these include Natural England*

standards on accessible green space and urban greening factor and Green Flag criteria). Where land has been identified as having particular potential for habitat creation or nature recovery within LNRS, proposals should contribute towards these outcomes".

- Paragraph 162 requires that plans take "*a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications*" for biodiversity along side flood risk, drought and other key considerations.

Greater London and Barnet

2.10 As the Greater London LNRS brings more synchronicity between regional and borough level policies, these are described side by side under each subheading below, to help streamline the review.

The SINC Network

2.11 The London Plan **[See reference** 12**]** defines SINC as:

> *"Areas of land chosen to represent the best wildlife habitats in London and areas of land where people can experience nature close to where they live and work".*

2.12 The SINC network offers a comprehensive network of protected sites which stretches across London, protecting a breadth of rare and important wildlife habitats. Maintaining SINCs as the key nodes of nature networks is critical to maintaining the ecological health and functionality of the statutory and non-statutory designated sites and wider green space network. Many mobile species rely on multiple sites and/or habitats within their lifecycles, ideally

adjacent to each other, connected via suitable green corridors or within close proximity.

2.13 Management of SINCs for the benefit of wildlife provides people with access and connection to nature. SINCs are also an important constituent of London's heritage and cultural identity.

SINC Classification

2.14 Table 2.1 **[See reference 13]** presents the classification of SINCs into three tiers depending on their relative value.

Table 2.1: SINC Classification

Status	Description
Metropolitan Importance	Strategically important conservation sites for London. These sites may contain the best assemblages of London's habitats or species. Sites contain particularly rare or important populations of species, or they may be sites which are of particular significance within otherwise heavily built-up areas of London. Should one of these sites be lost or damaged, something would be lost which exists in a very few other places in London.
Borough Importance (Grades I and II)	Support habitats or species of value at the borough level. Although sites of similar quality may be found elsewhere in London, damage or loss to these sites would mean a significant loss to the borough. Borough Grade 1 sites are of a higher status than Borough Grade 2 sites.
Local Importance	Important for the provision of access to nature at the neighbourhood level. These sites can be found across the borough and are particularly important in areas otherwise deficient in access to nature.

2.15 Proposed SINC (pSINC) are those awaiting adoption within a Local Plan, during the public consultation (Local Plan Reg 18) stage. The register and mapping of pSINC is held by GIGL to ensure their recognition and protection during the period between submission and official adoption. There are no existing pSINC within Barnet.

Local Site Selection Panel

2.16 As part of the process to identify and assess sites for consideration as SINC, each borough may be advised by an independent Local Site Selection Panel. The Panel may advise on site selection, approach to survey and in validating recommendations on SINC selection. Typically Panels are active around the time of Local Plan renewal. Not all boroughs have an active Panel and there is not currently one in place for Barnet.

The Mitigation Hierarchy

2.17 The London Plan sets the context for a coordinated approach to nature conservation across all boroughs. Policy 'G6 Biodiversity and access to nature' states that:

"SINC sites should be protected but that where harm to a SINC is unavoidable, and where the benefits of the development proposal clearly outweigh the impacts on biodiversity, the following mitigation hierarchy should be applied to minimise development impacts:

- *Avoid damaging the significant ecological features of the site.*
- *Minimise the overall spatial impact and mitigate it by improving the quality or management of the rest of the site.*
- *Deliver off-site compensation of better biodiversity value."*

Local Nature Recovery Strategies

2.18 The emerging Greater London LNRS is led by the GLA, with initial work focused on governance to ensure it is fully supported in the London Plan and London Environment Strategy. LBB is a delivery partner for the Greater London LNRS with staff engaged, at the time of writing, with the stages of identification of priorities and opportunities through cross-borough consultation. Feedback from the ongoing discussions between the LBB Ecologists and GLA LNRS Lead Officer have informed this Review. LBB collaborates with neighbouring London boroughs on the delivery of biodiversity assets including Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp) SSSI, SINC and LNR, which spans across both Barnet and Brent. Also, as an outer London borough, LBB will collaborate with Hertsmere Borough Council and Hertfordshire County Council to plan and deliver cross-boundary connectivity between neighbouring LNRS areas.

2.19 Within Barnet, all SINC are mapped on the Local Plan Proposals Map (Core_04). Policy ECC06 Biodiversity Part (a) provides protection for these sites. Policy ECC06 also requires the protection of priority habitats and species. The policy provides for cooperating with London Wildlife Trust and the Brent Catchment Partnership to improve and enhance biodiversity in Barnet.

2.20 The key objectives to help deliver the Barnet Local Plan Vision **[See reference** 14**]**, include with particular relevance to Biodiversity: “To integrate the natural environment into the urban landscape, improving access to, and enhancing the contribution of biodiversity, Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and green and blue infrastructure”. Currently, Barnet’s Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Sustainable Design and Construction **[See reference** 15**]** sets out specific design principles in relation to biodiversity, and the SPD on Green Infrastructure **[See reference** 16**]** sets detail on biodiversity and habitat quality.

Strategic Assets for Nature Recovery

Trees and Woodlands

2.21 Trees and woodlands are given specific consideration under London Plan Policy G7. The 'urban forest' is defined as "the area of London under the canopy of trees". The concept of urban forest translates the traditional approach to forest management by coupe to 'coupes' within the urban environment, such as Monken Hadley Common SINC which supports large areas of priority habitat broadleaved deciduous woodland.

2.22 The 2020 London Urban Forest Plan **[See reference** 17**]** sets a series of goals for better protection and management, new planting and natural regeneration, and to value and promote its benefits to landowners, managers and the wider public.

2.23 All ancient woodland and the majority of Barnet's priority deciduous woodland lies within the borough SINC network. A number of traditional orchards – also priority habitat – occur, scattered widely across the borough. In addition, a number of ancient and veteran trees are scattered throughout the borough (described further under Chapter 4: 'Irreplaceable Habitats'). All these habitats contribute towards London's Urban Forest.

2.24 Barnet's Tree Planting policy includes a commitment to plant 5,000 trees by 2028 as part of the Council's plan to become one of London's most sustainable boroughs, and to achieve its target of being a Net Zero borough by 2042 **[See reference** 18**]**.

Rivers and Waterways

2.25 Waterways are defined in the London Plan as a network of waterways including "*The River Thames, its tributary rivers and canals, but also to other*

water spaces including docks, lakes and reservoirs" which are of strategic importance for London.

2.26 The Brent catchment spans from its headwater streams through the boroughs of Brent and Ealing to the lowland reaches where it merges with the Grand Union Canal in Hounslow, the River Brent transports rainfall and surface waters across approximately 70 square miles (175km^2) over more than 50 miles of the main river and additional miles of minor waterways, including some lost rivers where tributaries have been buried underground.

2.27 The Brent Catchment Action Plan **[See reference** 19**]** includes the following objectives and targets:

- Reducing pollution - By 2027 water quality in the Brent catchment will have a 'good' ability to support wildlife;
- Making Brent rivers and streams more natural - By 2027, up to 10 kilometres of heavily modified river will be transformed to a more natural condition;
- Tackling problem invasive plant species - By 2027, decreasing density and distribution of invasive non-native species in chosen locations by at least 20%.
- Creating better opportunities for safe access and recreation
    - By 2027, improving access to at least two new green spaces along the waterways in the Brent Catchment;
    - Completing a 24-mile riverside trail from Barnet to Brentford on the Thames;
    - Improving 12 miles of riverside access for walking, cycling and the disabled throughout the catchment.

2.28 . The London Lea represents the lower reaches of the River Lea extending from the M25 to its tidal section and confluence with the River Thames in London's docklands. The London Lea Catchment Action Plan **[See reference** 20**]** includes Pymmes Brook and its tributaries, across the east of the borough.

The plan includes a number of projects occurring throughout the catchment, with the primary aims of improving water quality, biodiversity and getting people and communities engaged.

2.29 The London Lea Catchment Action Plan includes the following themes and objectives:

- Water quality
  - Reduce the frequency and severity of pollution
  - Increase surface water management at source
- Biodiversity
  - Restore an ecologically complex structure to the channels
  - Improve riverine and riparian habitat
  - Improve river function and sustainability
- Getting people and communities engaged
  - Improve knowledge and understanding of the catchment
  - Improve awareness of the impact of behaviour on the water environment
  - Increase public engagement and participation
  - Promote and improve bio-security measures

Green Corridors

2.30 Green corridors are defined in the London Plan as:

> *"Relatively continuous areas of open space leading through the built environment, which may be linked and may not be publicly accessible and provide an extension to the habitats of the sites they join.*

They need not be very wide, but they are essential routes for the movement of both flora and fauna and, as they are often undisturbed, can provide similar conditions to formally designated nature reserves."

Areas of Deficiency (AoD) in Access to Nature and to Public Open Space

2.31 The importance of access to greenspace is well-recognised as a fundamental contributor to our health and wellbeing. The two measures of 'AoD in Access to Nature' and 'AoD in Access to Public Open Space' recognise the spatial implications of accessible assets in two different categories of biodiversity value. It is important to distinguish these when translating between the nature recovery review and the wider POSS. GIGL mapping of both measures is used to inform spatial planning consistently across Greater London.

2.32 The London Plan defines AoD in access to nature as:

"*Areas where people have to walk more than 1km to reach an accessible SINC of Metropolitan or Borough Importance*."

2.33 Access to nature specifically focuses on those sites of higher ecological value – namely Metropolitan and Borough grade SINC. Increase in the status of a Local SINC to Borough, for example, can positively address the extent and distribution of AoD to Nature. AoD to Nature forms an important part of this nature recovery review.

2.34 Access to public open space is a broader measures, reflecting the open space typologies prescribed in the London Plan, irrespective of biodiversity

value. AoD to Public Open Space forms a consideration of the POSS. In 2015 the recommended distances for each type, are **[See reference** 21**]**:

- Regional parks: 5km max
- Metropolitan parks: 2.4km max
- District: 1.2km max
- Local, Small and Pocket parks: 400m max.

Biodiversity Metrics as Delivery Mechanisms

2.35 The emerging Barnet Local Plan will provide a 15-year vision for the Borough's development. The updated GI SPD will provide guidance on delivering green measures including BNG, Urban Greening Factor (UGF), as well as restoration of Barnet's blue infrastructure.

BNG

2.36 The 2021 Environment Act mandates the requirement for a minimum 10% BNG, with minimum 30 year legacy period (some exclusions apply) **[See reference** 22**]**. BNG adheres to the mitigation hierarchy, with primary focus on impact avoidance at the early masterplanning and design stages. Where impacts are unavoidable, gains are to be delivered on-site or, where this is not possible, on adjacent/nearby land, off-site (adjacent / nearby) compensation and, as a last resort, off-site at distance.

2.37 The requirement for BNG is reflected in the 2021 London Plan Policy G6. The 2018 London Environment Strategy and Implementation Plan promotes the adoption of BNG for London to promote wildlife-friendly landscaping in new development, and provides guidance and support on the management and creation of priority habitats, conservation of priority species and establishment of wildlife corridors.

2.38 Barnet Local Plan Policy ECC06 reflects the mandated minimum 10% requirement BNG.

2.39 GIGL is a key partner to the successful delivery of BNG and has provided data to inform this Review **[See reference** 23**]**.

UGF

2.40 The London UGF requires biodiversity gains on land with little or no baseline value (such as previously developed sites) i.e. where the percentage gain through BNG would be minimal or absent. This helps to ensure the nature network permeates all urban areas, as part of a bigger, better, more connected resource that serves biodiversity, the local and wider ecosystem services.

2.41 London Plan Policy G5 introduces the use of an UGF to evaluate the quantity and quality of urban greening provided by a development proposal. Associated guidance and UGF calculator was last published in February 2023.

Chapter 3

Approach

3.1 This Review is informed by targeted consultation with the LBB Parks Service Ecologist and LBB Planning Team Ecologist. Having technical specialists within the bedded within both Parks and Planning teams strengthens collaborative decision-making and ultimately supports effective site management to meaningfully address nature recovery from policy through to on-site delivery. The findings and recommendations of consultation discussions are not distinctly reported but have shaped the methods through to recommendations of this Review, ensuring it speaks to the wider work across the borough and Greater London region.

Desk-Based Ecological Baseline

3.2 To collate background information and to highlight likely habitats or species of interest in relation to each SINC, the following GIS datasets were overlayed with the SINC boundaries and the data populated to each site proforma in advance of survey:

- Statutory and non-statutory designated nature conservation sites;
- Ancient woodland inventory, priority habitat inventory and Ordnance Survey open water mapping;
- Protected **[See reference** 24**]** and notable species **[See reference** 25**]** of relevance, provided by GIGL;
- AoD in access to nature;
- Base mapping and aerial imagery.

3.3 The designation boundaries, accompanying citations, and the habitat inventory mapping were collated across an additional 1km buffer. This is of particular importance where existing sites, watercourses, and other biodiversity

assets straddle the borough boundary but is also used to inform the identification of cross-boundary opportunities.

3.4 AoD in access to nature **[See reference** 26**]** has been considered as part of the existing need for, and pressure on, the SINC network. This spatial dataset was mapped by GIGL, consistent with the mapping method for Greater London as a whole. Future population growth (through the Local Plan) was not explicitly considered as part of this study.

3.5 LBB declared a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency in 2022 recognising that urgent action is needed. In response, LBB has launched a Climate Action Plan to outline the steps to reach the target of being a net zero carbon as an organisation by 2030, and net zero place by 2042. Net zero focuses on carbon which, in relation to nature recovery, relates to carbon sequestration (e.g. through tree planting) and carbon storage (e.g. through management of soils, grasslands and woodlands). Additionally, as an indication of future climate resilience, consideration is given in this study to Flood Zone 3 and to the London GI map dataset (within the BNG matrix-based assessment).

Matrix-Based Assessment of BNG Opportunities

3.6 The matrix-based assessment of opportunities to prioritise delivery of BNG across Barnet is intended to inform future land use prioritisation, detailed feasibility work and/or targeted surveys.

3.7 This task considers opportunities for delivery of BNG across the borough as a whole, including those beyond the SINC designations, as part of an expanded nature network. Assessment focuses on the POSs of Barnet – typically Council-owned land parcels – to inform LBB decision-making of BNG delivery on land which they hold control (where registration as a ‘responsible body’ is achieved).

Building the Matrix

3.8 Noting the overarching aim to inform the POSS, the POS dataset was used as the basis to land parcels for assessment (accessed June 2024). Each assessed land parcel (matrix row) is assessed against a series of prioritisation parameters (matrix columns). Parameters have been selected to optimise cross-reference between related workstreams (e.g. the emerging London LNRS and LGIF) and the most up to date datasets (GIGL-held Green Infrastructure (GI) mapping, climate resilience mapping, etc). The matrix aims to inform transparent discussion and consistent decision-making between Council departments.

3.9 The matrix uses the desk-based baseline data. Parameters of the matrix relate to:

- The requirements of BNG (such as to avoid delivery in designated SSSI);
- Parks and open space mapping and typologies;
- Principles of the nature recovery network (expansion, buffering and connectivity out from the core designated site network);
- Related workstreams (such as the emerging London Green Infrastructure Framework (LGIF) and GiGL-held climate resilience mapping).

3.10 The purpose of BNG is for biodiversity, offsetting (compensating for) the loss of ‘like for like’ habitats elsewhere to development. Whilst habitat creation and enhancement delivered through BNG can also serve other functions such as flood alleviation, carbon sequestration and access to nature, the principal function for biodiversity through delivery of target habitat condition/s must be met. The following POS typologies categories were therefore excluded from the dataset:

- Provision for children, young people and other recreation;
- Outdoor sport;
- Cemetery;

- Allotment, community garden, city farm.

3.11 To facilitate decision-making and enhance information sharing, parameters for prioritisation were set and grouped into specific aspects of nature recovery as listed below. The complete list of datasets included within each category is detailed in **Appendix B**.

- Land parcel parameters: Details such as the individual parcel reference, name, area, ownership (listing specific Council department, where known), and public access.
- Exclusion criteria: Where land parcels intersect with designated sites such as SSSI, the overlap should not be considered for potential of BNG allocation (overlaps are shown in **Figures 3.1** to **3.3**). This is principally because obtaining biodiversity units from protected areas often contravenes the principle of additionality, which mandates that BNG outcomes must represent a genuine and measurable increase in natural value beyond existing conditions. For Barnet, SINC – and the recommended SINC boundary extensions identified in the field surveys of 2023 and 2024 – have also been excluded to encourage delivery of BNG across a bigger and better connected nature recovery network.
- Recognised nature network contribution: These parameters evaluate the current contribution of the sites to the nature network, such as distance to existing SINC network, habitat value and contribution to the ecological network that connects designated sites.
- Habitat opportunity: These include data from national and regional resources e.g. GIGL London-wide BAP habitat suitability, NE national habitat network mapping, and Flood Risk Zone 3. Evaluating habitat opportunity allows for resources to be optimally allocated to areas with the highest potential for biodiversity improvement, maximising the impact of investments in BNG. Additionally, integrating habitat data with other land-use plans, like flood management, allows for holistic contributions to both environmental and community resilience.
- Synergy and function: This group considers cross-complementary opportunities to other workstreams, ensuring that enhancements are strategic and aligned with broader environmental and community

objectives. It utilises key datasets including the London GI Focus Map and data on access to nature and greenspace (GiGL, and LUC 2024 datasets).

3.12 Spatial analyses were conducted using GIS to assess the intersections and proximities between the green parcel layer and each overlaid dataset. The matrix resulting from this analysis is presented in **Appendix B**.

A Dynamic Approach

3.13 The matrix-based assessment is designed to support transparent discussion through collation of relevant data as an iterative process – allowing easy update as more refined information is available. Periodic updates to the matrix are recommended, as new data and insights gained from ongoing workstreams are generated. This will be supported by the service level agreement for data sharing with GiGL. All new data updates or additions should be listed with the date in the column header for transparency.

3.14 Future revisions of the assessment are anticipated to integrate new or revised datasets, as they become available, including:

- Habitat maps (baseline and opportunity mapping) produced as part of the LNRS;
- Future pipeline SINCs, which may be identified by LBB subsequent to this study, potentially through delivery of BNG. Future Pipeline SINCs represent sites areas recognised for their potential contributions to local biodiversity, albeit not yet meeting established SINC criteria. They will be essential to help meeting the nature access needs of the expanding population as well as increased nature recovery targets;
- POS expansion, to include new sites identified as a result of the ongoing POSS;
- Climate risk maps under development by the GLA and Bloomberg Associates, designed to analyse climate exposure and vulnerability across

Greater London, fostering equitable responses to climate impacts and directing resources to the most vulnerable communities;

- Considerations for management, such as existing friends groups, associated education bodies, etc;
- Updates to AoD in access to nature mapping as a result of development in accordance with the Local Plan.

3.15 Updates may also reflect advancements in 'stacking' or the concurrent sale of credits or units from various nature markets, such as carbon sequestration and flood alleviation, based on a single intervention on an area of land **[See reference** 27**]**. This approach not only capitalises on BNG but also integrates other environmental market opportunities.

SINC Network Habitat Survey, Condition Assessment and Status Review

3.16 Survey data was collected using tablets in the field i.e. digital mapping using GIS with supporting assessment data recorded in a bespoke proforma designed specifically for the project. To inform the field survey, the proforma was pre-populated with data collected during the initial desk-based baseline gathering task. This included data on designated sites, priority habitats, protected/notable species, invasive species and whether this site was located in an AoD in access to nature.

3.17 Ahead of the site surveys, a pilot survey was carried out to test the proforma and a session was carried out with all surveyors to ensure consistency in assessment and in recording and interpretation of the SINC criteria. Regular QA checks of data were conducted throughout the survey period by the Project Manager. Following completion of the surveys, a workshop was held with the Project Manager to develop recommendations for each site.

3.18 All surveys incorporated relevant best practice methods described under the survey method subheadings below.

Seasonal Timing and Access

3.19 All surveys were completed during the preferred period for general habitat survey of April to September (September 2023 and April to June 2024). Surveys supporting, or anticipated to support, floral assemblages that require a more specific optimal window, such as woodlands or grasslands of higher ecological value, were completed accordingly during the spring and early summer of 2024.

3.20 Eleven SINCs were surveyed in 2023. Clarefield Park LSINC, was removed prior to the 2024 surveys. Fifty-five SINCs were surveyed in 2024, creating a total sixty-six SINCs reviewed. Survey methods used at each site assessed in 2023 are presented in **Table D.1**Table D.1: 2023 Since Surveys Completed and assessed in 2024 are presented in **Table D.2** (**Appendix D**).

3.21 Eleven of the sixty-six SINCs surveyed could not be fully accessed. A further eleven sites comprise private land and therefore no survey could be undertaken. Where access was restricted, the mapping, proforma and assessment were completed, as far as possible, using desk-based information including ecological records provided by GIGL. Review of aerial imagery was undertaken for these sites to understand the changes in habitat cover, or land use since the SINC citation was last updated (2006/07). Restricted access applied to the following sites. However, view from adjacent land or review of aerial imagery supplemented the assessment and therefore, this was not considered to be a significant limitation to the survey.

- Partial access:
  - **Arkley Lane and Pastures** was partially surveyed. Survey could only be conducted along Arkley Lane as the surrounding pastures comprise private land. Some inaccessible fields could be viewed from Arkley Lane, and others were assessed using aerial imagery.

- **Barfield Allotments Nature Park** was partially surveyed as the key for the locked section (nature reserve site) did not work. This area of scrub and scattered trees could be viewed through the fence.
- **East Finchley Cemetery** was partially surveyed as the western portion was fenced preventing access. The inaccessible area could be viewed through the fence.
- **Edgwarebury Brook** was partially accessible to the north of the site. Inaccessible areas were assessed from adjacent land and through review of aerial imagery.
- **Edgwarebury Park** was partially accessible with no access to the north-west field. This area was surveyed from adjacent land.
- **Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill** was mostly accessible along public rights of way. However, Highwood Hill is private land and therefore assessment of this area was conducted using aerial imagery.
- **Upper Dollis Brook** and **Lower Dollis Brook** were partially surveyed as some areas could not be accessed due to dense scrub / ruderal species / woodland. Given their size, random sampling points along the brook were surveyed and a desk-based assessment was made of the other areas using aerial imagery. Given the similarity of habitats along the brook within each of the sites, based on the desk-based assessment and field surveys, it was considered acceptable to assume threats and opportunities are homologous along the brook and all of these would have been captured in the areas surveyed.

- No access but viewed from adjacent land:
  - **Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting** was surveyed from adjacent land as this is an active railway line.
  - **Mill Hill Substation Pastures** was surveyed from adjacent land.
  - **Northern Line Embankment, High Barnet** as surveyed from adjacent land as this is an active railway line.
  - **Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting** was surveyed from adjacent land as this is an active railway line.

- No access to the following sites, as these comprise private land, therefore desk-based assessment was carried out:
  - Arkley South Field
  - Bruno's Field
  - Drivers Hill
  - Edgware Way Rough
  - Glebe Lane Pastures
  - Lakeside Nature Reserve
  - Mill Hill Golf Course
  - North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds
  - Sulloniacis Pastures
  - Totteridge Croft Field (or Dell's Down Acre)
  - Turner's Wood

Survey Methods

GLA Open Space and Habitat Survey

3.22 All SINC of the network were surveyed using the standard GLA Open Space and Habitat Survey method, as identified by the Council. The sites are mapped in **Figures A.1** to **A.3**.

3.23 Survey was principally guided by the GLA Open Space and Habitat Survey Methodology, which enables the collection of the key site information. This involves collection of data relating to a range of site attributes ranging from land use, access and management to the habitats present and their percentage cover. Detailed plant species lists were only collected for species-rich or particularly notable habitats as per the GLA methodology.

UK Habitat Classification

3.24 Habitat Mapping was completed for all SINC in line with the 2023 UK Habitat V2.0 Classification System survey methodology **[See reference** 28**]**. The UK Habitats Survey technique provides a rapid and standardised assessment to classify habitats within the site using the hierarchical system to determine primary habitats (including ecosystems, broad habitats, priority habitats and Annex 1 habitats) and the non-hierarchical system (use of secondary codes to confirm habitat types and record information on management and the environment relating to that habitat parcel).

3.25 The survey took into consideration protected and notable species, including recording the potential for, or signs of any of these species.

BNG Condition Assessment

3.26 In 2023, for all surveyed SINC, additional condition assessment data was collated using the method of BNG, as part of the original brief. Essentially a pilot for LBB to test the then recently published Defra Metric 4.0, the data (and its future application within the SINC network) was reviewed against the resource demand on the survey team. Given the objectives of the study to inform the POSS, and the inclusion of the BNG matrix-based assessment to inform land planning and management between LBB Teams, in agreement with LBB, BNG condition data was not continued in 2024.

3.27 The condition of habitat is considered a measure of habitat quality and measures the ‘working-order’ against the optimal potential of habitat type. Assessment criteria cover broad habitat types therefore further clarification is provided and professional judgement used to assign condition where appropriate, using Defra condition sheets and associated guidance.

3.28 Condition assessment have been carried out in cognisance of current best practice guidance **[See reference** 29**]**, **[See reference** 30**]**, **[See reference**

31]. All surveys were completed by suitably qualified LUC ecologists. Regarding the BNG condition assessments specifically, these were variously completed by Jasmine Bernard BSc (Hons), a Qualifying Member of CIEEM and Rosalind Warwick-Haller BSc (Hons) MSc, a Qualifying Member of CIEEM.

SINC Status Review

3.29 All SINC were assessed against the 2019 London Wildlife Sites Board criteria for SINCs selection **[See reference** 32**]** (**Table 3.1**), using the collated survey data.

Table 3.1: SINC Assessment Criteria

Assessment Criteria	Guidance
Representation	The best examples of each major habitat type are selected. These include typical urban habitats such as abandoned land colonised by nature. Where a habitat is not extensive in the search area it will be appropriate to conserve all or most of it, whereas where it is more extensive a smaller percentage will be conserved.
Habitat Rarity	The presence of a rare habitat makes a site important, because the loss of, or damage to, only a few sites threaten the survival of the habitat in the search area.
Species Rarity	The presence of a rare species makes the site important in a way that parallels rare habitat.
Habitat Richness	Protecting a site with a rich selection of habitat types not only conserves those habitats, but also the wide range of organisms that live within them and the species that require more than one habitat type for their survival. Rich sites also afford more opportunities for enjoyment and educational use.
Species Richness	Generally, sites that are species rich are preferred, as this permits the conservation of a correspondingly large number of species (however, some habitats such as reed beds, heaths and acid woodlands, are intrinsically relatively species poor).

Assessment Criteria	Guidance
Size	Large sites are generally more important than small sites. They may allow for species with special area requirements. Larger sites may be less vulnerable to small scale disturbance, as recovery is sometimes possible from the undisturbed remainder. They are more able to withstand visitors. Size is also related to the richness of habitat and species. The evaluation of the site's size was based on professional judgement, which was informed by the information on the extent of the site relative to the local area. For those sites of notable size, these were considered to be of particular importance in the local area, for example a large site within an urban area is considered to be of notable size, and which due to its size provides a significant contribution to a strategic wildlife corridor.
Important Populations of Species	Some sites are important because they hold a large proportion of the population of a species for the search area.
Ancient Character	Some sites have valuable ecological characteristics derived from long periods of traditional management, or even continuity in time to woodlands and wetlands that occupied before agriculture. Ancient woodlands, old parkland trees and traditionally managed grasslands tend to have typical species that are rare elsewhere. These habitats deserve protection also because of the ease with which they are damaged by changes in management.
Recreatability	The more difficult it is to recreate a sites habitat the more important it is to retain it. (Ponds can be created from scratch within a few years – whereas woodlands take decades). Certain habitats cannot be recreated because of practical reasons such as land availability and cost.
Typical Urban Character	Features such as canals, walls, bridges, railway sidings colonised by nature often have a juxtaposition of artificial and wild features. Some of these habitats are particularly rich in species / have rare species / communities. Particular physical or chemical substrates may allow rare species to thrive. They may also have particular visual qualities.
Cultural and Historic Character	Sites such as historic gardens with semi-wild areas, garden suburbs, churchyards which have reverted to the wild may have a unique blend of cultural and natural history.
Geographic Position	Regarding areas of deficiency in access to nature.

Assessment Criteria	Guidance
Access	An important consideration – especially in areas where there are limited opportunities for large urban populations to enjoy the natural world. Some access is desirable to all but the most sensitive sites, but direct physical access to all parts of a site may not be desirable.
Use	The current use of the site, relating to how the site is used by people e.g. education, research, or quiet enjoyment of nature.
Potential	Where a site can be enhanced given modest changes in management practices gives it value. Opportunity exists where a site is likely to become available for nature conservation use, or where there is local enthusiasm.
Aesthetic Appeal	Factors which contribute to the enjoyment of the experience of visiting a site –seclusion/views/variety of landscape etc.

3.30 The SINC assessment included a set of recommendations based on the categories set out in **Table 3.2.**

Table 3.2: Assessment Categories

Category	Description
Proposed upgrade and/or extension	SINC recommended for an upgrade in SINC designation and/or extension to the site boundary to include additional habitats that contribute to the value of the SINC.
Opportunity	Existing SINC with potential, through habitat management and/or creation, to be recommended for upgrade in the future. These sites are recommended to retain their designated grade in advance of such measures being implemented.
No change	SINC that have maintained their value and at which no significant interventions for restoration, enhancement or creation are identified, such that may increase their grade of designation.
At risk	SINC at risk of downgrade or de-designation due to a decline in ecological value. These SINC should retain their existing designation, however, action is required to ensure that these sites retain, and where appropriate additionally enhance, their value.

Category	Description
De-designation and/or reduction	SINC, or portion thereof, that has been subject to significant and irreversible change i.e. no longer considered to support habitats of SINC value and not considered viable for restoration or recreation. This includes changes to site boundaries to exclude areas that no longer supports habitats that contribute to the SINC value or its operation. Compensatory measures are recommended to ensure the network maintains minimum overall existing value.
'Future pipeline' SINC	Sites not previously designated as a SINC but that were considered to support habitats of SINC quality and were therefore recommended to be designated as such.

Priority Opportunities for Nature Recovery and for BNG

3.31 Based on the work completed as part of this Review, priorities will focus on the designated sites network, priority habitats and recognised green and blue corridors of the borough. Opportunities for connection, enhancement and creation/expansion will be supported by condition data to guide the identification and prioritisation of BNG opportunities (as a mechanism for delivery of nature recovery).

Limitations and Constraints

3.32 Potential constraints associated with access for field survey are addressed earlier under 'Survey Methods'. Given the nature of the assessment methodology and criteria, field-based assessments were necessarily subjective to a degree and based on the professional judgement of experienced ecologists. No significant residual constraint, however, remains.

Chapter 4

Desk-Based Ecological Baseline

4.1 This chapter provides an overview of the local conservation priorities across the borough. It considers both those protected within the SINC network and those outside that may:

- Form the basis for expansion, connection and buffering of the SINC network;
- Support wider nature recovery and climate change resilience;
- Help to address AoD in access to nature (Metropolitan and Borough SINC), and/or to dilute existing and future pressures on SINC as a result of recreational access.

Designated Site Network

4.2 Figure A.5 illustrates the designated site network across Barnet and surrounding 1km. **Table A.1**(**Appendix A**) lists the site names and labels for Barnet's SINCs as presented in **Figure A.5** and **Figure A.8**.

National Designated Network

4.3 Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp) **SSSI, SINC** and **LNR** lies across the south west boundary of the borough, spanning Barnet and Brent. Formed in 1835, stands out among London's artificial lakes due to its naturally sloping earth banks and shallow depth, fostering a diverse array of wetland and waterside habitats that support significant breeding populations of great crested grebes, notable wintering waterfowl, and a variety of plant species, making it a valuable ecological asset for Greater London. All three units are under favourable conditions (2019 data **[See reference** 33**]**). The SSSI management objectives

are being met but there will be a need to ensure that encroachment of scrub into fen and reed bed is kept in check. The site continues to support good numbers of pochard (*Netta rufina*), shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) and reed warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*).

4.4 Hampstead Heath Woods SSSI and **SINC** lies outside of but adjacent to the south east boundary of the borough, within Camden. Encompassing North Wood and Ken Wood, they exemplify long-established high forest woodlands characterised by an exceptional structure with numerous old and over-mature trees, fostering dead wood habitat crucial for various invertebrate species, along with an adjacent valley featuring an acidic flush supporting developing bog-moss communities, providing a habitat for nationally rare and vulnerable species like the jewel beetle (*Agrilus pannonicus*). Both units are in favourable condition (2018 data **[See reference** 34**]**).

4.5 The designated site network forms the core of the nature recovery network, connected and buffered by intervening habitats of the wider parks, open spaces and green infrastructure. The protection, restoration and enhancement of this network will be vital to ensure that biodiversity is protected and able to thrive, resilient to the challenges that are brought by both climate change and future population growth.

Local Designated Network

4.6 Barnet's SINC Network comprises 67 SINCs, eight of which are of Metropolitan Importance, 10 of Borough Importance Grade I, 26 of Grade II, and 23 of Local Importance. Together these cover 13.41% of the borough. 32 (almost half) are owned by LBB, and further eight are in shared ownership.

4.7 1,596ha (18.39%) of Barnet lies within an AoD in access to nature i.e. falls at greater than 1km from an accessible SINC of Metropolitan or Borough Importance.

4.8 The SINC network in Barnet demonstrates robust habitat connectivity where sites lies adjacent to another, thus effectively reducing the edge effects on land of recognised ecological value and in (or with potential to be in) positive management. SINC designations cover many of the watercourses, facilitating corridors for dispersal as well as supporting habitat in their own right. Notably, a substantial cluster of sites in the northern part of the borough forms a cohesive linkage, connecting the source areas of Folly, Dollis and Mutton Brooks, which are tributaries of the River Brent.

4.9 The nine **Metropolitan SINC** cover 3.6 % of the borough. Wetland features such as ponds/lakes, wet grassland, and running water occur in multiple sites, underlining their significance for biodiversity. Additionally, several sites contain elements of secondary woodlands, hedges, and unimproved neutral grasslands.

4.10 The ten **Borough Class I SINC** cover 2.8% of the borough, and 28 **Borough Grade II SINC**, 5.2%. These sites exhibit a diverse range of habitats: acid grassland, marsh/swamp, ponds/lakes, scrub, and various types of woodlands, including ancient, wet woodland, and secondary deciduous. Several SINCs incorporate semi-improved neutral grassland. Unique attributes include the identification of two ancient woods with a notably large population of wild service trees (*Sorbus torminalis*).

4.11 The 23 **Local SINC** cover 1.9% of the borough. Barnet's Local SINCs showcase a mix of urban green and more natural spaces. Ancient woodland and veteran trees are again protected in the Local designations. More common and widespread habitat types include scattered trees, and semi-improved neutral and amenity grassland, thus highlighting the presence of open spaces with a mix of natural and managed vegetation. Additionally, several sites feature water elements such as ponds/lakes and running water, contributing to the overall biodiversity of the network.

4.12 Additionally, there are **13 Local Nature Reserves (LNR)** all of which overlap with SINCs of Metropolitan and Borough importance.

Irreplaceable Habitats

4.13 Barnet supports 71.5ha of ancient woodland, all of it protected within the SINC network. A large cluster of woodland can be found in the north of the borough, within the Metropolitan SINC of Scratchwood, and the Borough Grade II SINC of Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm. Three smaller patches of woodland can be found spread out alongside the east side of the borough, within Borough Grade I and II SINCs.

4.14 Veteran tree data was not provided for the study. The Woodland Trust Ancient Tree Inventory **[See reference** 35**]** does provide a interactive map of ancient trees, for which data can be submitted by members of the public. The LBB Community Tree Portal **[See reference** 36**]** also provides broader information on trees, include those protected by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs).

Priority and Notable Habitats

4.15 Priority habitat inventory mapping extends across 930.11ha (10.7%) of the borough. **Figure A.6** illustrates the priority and notable habitats across the borough, with areas tabulated for ready comparison in the legend.

4.16 Priority habitats predominantly comprise **deciduous woodland**, accounting for 611.79ha (7.1% of the borough, and 75% of the total PHI in Barnet). Ancient Woodland extends across 71.54ha (0.8%) of the borough. A significant portion of the woodland aligns with the waterway network, characterised by narrow, continuous linear stretches.

4.17 In addition to the woodland network, **traditional orchards** occur scattered throughout Barnet, reflecting is position as an outer, less built up London borough. Traditional orchards are less well represented within the SINC designations. These small and scattered habitats typically arise as a result of

historic land use and represent local priorities within wider parks and green spaces, closer to / within more urban areas.

4.18 Barnet supports a 58.82ha (0.7% of the borough) of **lowland meadow PHI**, entirely within Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill Metropolitan SINC at the riverhead of Dollis Brook. This area, one of London's finest examples of traditional countryside, features extensive herb-rich pastures interspersed with ancient hedgerows. Towards the north of the borough, the grassland network is supported by patches of high-quality semi-improved grassland PHI, albeit somewhat fragmented.A significant portion of **lowland heathland PHI** is situated within Hampstead Heath SSSI, in mosaic with an array of habitats, including one of the capital's few bogs, expansive grasslands and ancient woodland.

4.19 Brent Reservoir SSSI and SINC, supports a relatively small area of **Reedbed PHI**. Reedbed is typically uncommon and fragmented in distribution, however, this occurs as marginal habitat i.e. is inherently small in area and often below minimum mapped scale. Moreover, reedbed occurs in mosaic with other habitats of value, such as open water, hence, as a mosaic can be well-connected.

4.20 The PHI category of **'No main habitat but additional habitats present'** encompasses areas "where candidate habitats exist but no main habitat can be identified" **[See reference** 37**]**. Examples include unidentified grassland types, woodland edge habitats, mosaic habitats like scrub and grassland, and modified habitats such as pastures and golf courses. These areas contribute to the value and diversity of the habitat mosaic.

4.21 The London BAP **[See reference** 38**]**, **[See reference** 39**]** managed through the guidance of GIGL, identifies local conservation priorities and supporting actions. The London 'BAP Habitat Suitability Mapping' **[See reference** 40**]** illustrates areas, consistently across Greater London, to help focus efforts for priority habitat creation. Nine such habitat types relevant to Barnet.

4.22 In addition to PHI, open mosaic habitat (OMH) mapping is available **[See reference** 41**]**. This indicates the presence of OMH within the SINC network at Clarefield Park Local SINC and Clitterhouse Playing Fields Local SINC. Clarefield Park was not included within the sites surveyed so the data could not be ground truthed as part of the review. The area of OMH within Clitterhouse Playing Fields was largely dominated by scrub, with neutral grassland. There was no evidence to suggest this area had been managed as OMH.

Wetland Habitats and Strategic Corridors

4.23 Barnet lies predominantly within the River Brent catchment. Emerging from springs in Totteridge (High Barnet) and Stanmore (Harrow), the River Brent catchment encompasses the land and waterways that flow into the River Thames at Brentford (Hounslow). This catchment includes various tributary streams in Barnet, which are also SINC, like the Silk Stream, Dollis Brook, the Welsh Harp SSSI reservoir. The River Lea catchment overlies the north east of the borough, including Pymmes Brook and its tributaries (such as Strawberry Vale Brook) which ultimately flow west.

4.24 The water network is of significant importance within the SINC network of Barnet. As described above, many of the SINC are characterised by the presence of ponds, lakes, wet ditches, wet grassland, running water, and reedbeds.

4.25 Three Strategic Corridors identified across Barnet (2012 ALGG SPD **[See reference** 42**]**) all follow watercourse corridors. Whilst the ALGG is under review, creation of interconnected green networks continue to offer enhancement to Londoners' quality of life, and ensure sustainable urban living aligns with the aims of a robust SINC and nature network. The Strategic Corridors identified in the ALGG SPD are:

- Dollis Link: Connects Moat Mount Open Space in the Green Belt to Brent Valley via Folly Brook and Riverside Walk Gardens, extending to Hampstead Heath. The northern part traverses farmland and playing fields, while the lower reaches form a green corridor through the built-up

area, some sections culverted. Dollis Valley Greenwalk links to London LOOP and Capital Ring walks.

- Pymmes Brook Link: Follows a tributary from Pickett's Lock on the River Lee to Monken Hadley Common in the Green Belt. The Pymmes Brook Trail connects with London LOOP in the north and Lee Valley Walk in the south, passing through parks like Oak Hill and Brunswick. The trail follows the waterway along most of its course but crosses the A10 in urban areas.
- Silk Stream and Edgware Brook Link: Runs from Brent Reservoir's (Welsh Harp) green spaces through suburban development to the urban fringe at Stanmore. Watercourses are visible and accessible only along specific sections of the corridor.

4.26 These corridors or links lie alongside significant portions of Barnet's SINC network, including Upper and Lower Dollis Brook, Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill, Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm, Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp), Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook.

Priority Species

4.27 Priority species records provided by GIGL, which overlie each SINC, are included within the site proformas (**Appendix C**), ranging from birds to mammals, invertebrates, fungi, vascular plants and lichen.

4.28 The SINC network provides protection of habitat which support a range of priority, notable and common species within the borough, making the network vital in the maintenance of existing species populations to shelter, breed, hibernate, forage and disperse.

4.29 Enhancement, expansion, buffering and better connectivity across the SINC network, as part of a bigger, better, more joined up nature recovery network, is necessary to halt and reverse species decline.

Borough-wide Initiatives

4.30 The emerging Greater London LNRS Local Habitat Map includes the following layers:

- Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity (APIBs) – showing existing designated sites (including non-statutory SINCs) and irreplaceable habitat.
- Measure locations – showing where the measures (actions or interventions) set out in the LNRS should be implemented i.e. opportunity (potential project) areas.
- Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance (ACBs) – essentially a merge of the measure locations, excluding any existing APIBs.

4.31 The Local Habitat Map is devised with the input of each Borough. Accordingly, the measure locations and ACBs will reflect similar (possibly subsequently updated) information as outlined out below.

4.32 Rewilding opportunities identified by the London Rewilding Taskforce located closest to Barnet include Harrow Weald to Stanmore (347ha) and Enfield Chase (1,148ha), which usefully inform cross-boundary land use and management. Barnet underscores the significance of The Watling Chase Community Forest in its draft Local Plan and actively participates in developing the Hertfordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy **[See reference** 43**]**.

4.33 Current projects and initiatives related to the SINC network are summarised as follows:

- Action for Silk Stream: Led by Thames21, this project tackles the effects of climate change by making space for water, reducing flooding and improving water quality in the Silk Stream catchment (the west-most portion of Barnet) for the benefit of both communities and the environment.
- Riverside Connections: Walking with Nature from Wembley Park to the Welsh Harp is a walking route between Wembley Park and the Welsh Harp.

- Unblocking the Burnt Oak Brook: The Burnt Oak Brook in Watling Park requires rehabilitation to address issues such as removing redundant reinforcements and clearing litter obstructing ecological recovery. Collapsed reinforcements and constant litter accumulation in the brook demand attention. The project, in collaboration with local groups, aims to restore this popular yet often unsightly section, raising awareness about the broader impact of blockages on water networks, including the sewerage system. The initiative combines river restoration with educating the public about blockages caused by litter and pollution, contributing to a cleaner environment for wildlife and people.
- Restoring Brent Rivers and Communities: The 3-year Greggs Foundation-funded project restores three sections of the River Brent across London boroughs. Integrating river restoration science, creative arts, and wellbeing engagement, the Restoring Brent Rivers and Communities initiative fosters connections with local groups and champions. Focus areas include Silk Stream in Harrow, Burnt Oak Brook in Barnet, and the main River Brent in Neasden, North West London. Additional funding from the Greater London Authority's Greener City Fund extended the project at Quainton St Open Space, enabling continued online and in-person engagement, along with river restoration efforts in 2020.

4.34 Future projects and initiatives identified from that affect the SINC network include:

- The Dollis Brook Urban Pollution Management Project: Assesses the impact of Thames Water on the Water Quality of the Dollis Brook and identify potential mitigation solutions.
- The Welsh Harp Vision: A collaborative project between landowners Canal and River Trust, Brent and Barnet councils, with the GLA. The project will work with local communities to deliver a feasibility study for a local vision that will transform the SSSI. The feasibility report will identify potential sources of funding to take forward a variety of integrated future projects and management plans urgently needed to restore and sustain ecological and amenity benefits for wildlife and people for the long term.

- The forth coming ‘Citizen Zoo’ Feasibly Study to be commissioned by LBB which would determine the feasibility and appropriateness of the south east corner of the Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp) in supporting species reintroduction. Species that may be considered include beavers, white storks and osprey, hence; the site is to be considered as part of a wider range/s.
- The Dollis Ditch Dun Challenge: In 2020, the Environment Agency engaged the Brent Catchment Partnership to find the Dollis Brook Ditch Dun, a rare river fly last observed in the 1990s.

Areas of Deficiency (AoD) in Access to Nature

4.35 Figure A.7 illustrates the AoD in access to nature across Barnet. 1,596ha (18.39% of the borough) falls within an AoD in access to nature. Addressing these AoD requires an increase in the provision of accessible Metropolitan and Borough SINC (including through upgrade of Local SINC to Borough I.

4.36 Access to biodiverse greenspaces is a fundamental component of the health and wellbeing of Barnet residents, and is a distinctly recognised criteria for SINC designation (**Chapter 3**, **Table 3.1**). Nevertheless, the commitment to deliver nature recovery must accommodate the needs of species to shelter, breed, forage, hibernate and disperse as a priority of the SINC network.

Strategic planning of an access framework that accommodates undisturbed areas for wildlife to complete their lifecycles, and to respond to external pressures such as to the changing climate is essential. Undisturbed areas, depending on local ecology, may include unlit and interconnected canopy cover, structurally diverse undergrowth, dead hedging, tall and tussocky grassland and retention of self sown scrub.

Climate Change Resilience

4.37 Biodiverse greenspaces provide vital ecosystem services that enable climate change adaptation and mitigation, provide natural flood management, carbon sequestration and benefiting air quality. Opportunities for biodiverse greenspaces can include areas peripheral to formal parks and recreational spaces to offer habitats suitable for a diverse range of flora and fauna. These are reflected in the POSS and the London GI Map. Delivery of ecological enhancement and restoration on formerly leased land holdings can be explored as lease periods draw to their latter stage and/or completion.

4.38 Flood Zone 3 represents land with a high probability of flooding – 1 in 100 (1%) or greater probability of flooding in any given year. Flood zone 3 can be used as an indicator of opportunities to focus wetland habitat creation, including natural surface SUDS. It is therefore a useful parameter to consider for both nature restoration, flood management and climate resilience teams to consider in land use planning. The LBB Sustainable Drainage Strategy **[See reference** 44**]** sets out the Councils' long-term vision to encourage the delivery of SuDS throughout the borough; Section 13 addresses biodiversity specifically.

Consideration of Future Population Growth

4.39 Whilst not a specific consideration of this study, change in access to nature will change with population growth. Planned growth in the Local Plan will see the demand for access to greenspaces increase but potentially also new greenspaces delivered in or alongside new development.

4.40 Demand in access is predicted to increase pressure on existing site, including Borough and Metropolitan SINC. LBB has flagged particular concern regarding the future recreational pressure associated with population growth in and around the Glebelands Local Nature Reserve. Site management must

respond to increases in demand to ensure that recreational impacts do not incur damage or disturbance to the habitats and species. Monitoring is therefore important to ensure that high demand locations and / or sensitive ecological receptors are not at risk and that preventative measures are put in place before remedial measures are required.

Chapter 5

Matrix-Based Assessment of BNG Opportunities

5.1 In managing development consents through the planning system, the mitigation hierarchy requires that on-site biodiversity units be prioritised. Where offsite units are unavoidable LPAs should focus on efficiently directing the allocation of offsite units to optimise resources for nature recovery in a holistic manner. To support this effort, green spaces identified in the Barnet POSS were assessed using the matrix-based approach to initially identify and prioritise potential sites for biodiversity unit delivery as part of an iterative process.

5.2 The emerging LNRS will identify the habitat priorities and the opportunity areas that are most beneficial for nature. It is anticipated that these areas of strategic significance would secure a percentage uplift (up to 15%) in the BNG units achieved.

The BNG Market for LPAs

5.3 LPAs are authorised to develop or improve habitats on their properties to generate biodiversity units within a site registered with Natural England as a Biodiversity Gain Site. These units can be sold to developers who are required to fulfil their BNG commitments. This process enables LPAs to receive financial contributions, which can be used to further invest in local environmental projects and community initiatives.

5.4 To participate in this marketplace, LPAs may either sell registered biodiversity units directly or act as intermediaries, facilitating connections between developers and other providers of biodiversity units **[See reference 45]**. The trading of these units must adhere to the legal and regulatory

requirements of BNG, ensuring that the enhanced habitats are preserved for at least 30 years, typically through planning obligations or conservation covenants.

5.5 LPAs should maintain impartiality, not favouring their own sites over others, and must offer guidance to local landowners on developing habitats that align with the forthcoming LNRS. This systematic method not only supports the integration of BNG into wider local policies, such as health, well-being, and flood risk management but also boosts the environmental and social gains for the community. However, it is acknowledged that while these multi-functional benefits are valuable, the primary focus on biodiversity outcomes must be sustained in the long term as per designated habitat targets.

5.6 It is recognised that, given the complex legal mechanism required and the conditions around management, delivery of off-site BNG within Greater London is yet to establish as a ‘marketplace’. No Responsible Bodies have yet registered in London and the BNG register is yet to be established.

Results

5.7 The matrix can be found in **Appendix B** for open space parcels illustrated in **Figures 3.1** to **3.3**.

5.8 The matrix is intended to inform transparent, cross-team decision-making on land use and management. It presents an opportunity to streamline BNG initiatives, ensuring efficient allocation of resources and management oversight within publicly accessible land parcels. Identification of high-priority land parcels will focus on those that score highly for key parameters, selected to align with the Council's broader environmental and community objectives, as well as existing strategic plans. Priority parcels may then be taken forward for development of site-specific survey and action planning, aligning with statutory BNG guidance.

5.9 In the context of a matrix-based BNG prioritisation exercise, deciding whether to prioritise land parcels with high or low recognised nature network

contributions depends on the specific goals of the BNG initiative and the overall conservation strategy. Here are considerations that showcase the data and how prioritisation could be done:

- The POS dataset included information about land ownership, intended to focus on publicly-owned land. Out of 214 POS parcels, 71% are owned by the local authority.
- In terms of size, the assessed parcels range from 0.3 to 68.87ha, averaging 5.87ha overall (with a considerable standard deviation of 10.8 ha, indicating a wide range of parcel sizes). It is anticipated that to optimise the efficiency of management and because larger parcels arguably support more substantial ecological benefit, reduced fragmentation, etc, a minimum threshold size may be used to prioritise selection. Financial contributions for BNG unit deficits accrued across several development schemes may be pooled for delivery at one site and managed holistically in the long term.
- In Barnet, 67.8% of the POS parcels are open to the public, and 14% have limited access (18.2% are classified as unknown access). It is recognised that, whilst allowing access to sites where BNG is delivered can derive benefits for local communities, public use can impact both the target habitat distinctiveness and condition. The feasibility of any parcel must consider the nature, extent, and level of expected use to balance public benefit with ecological integrity.
- Exclusion parameters: Excluding designated areas from BNG calculations ensures that biodiversity enhancements result of BNG policy contribute to ecological improvements where they are most needed, expanding and enhancing the broader ecological network beyond current conservation efforts.
    - Most of the land parcels are not intersected by SSSIs, with only six (3%) being partially intersected. This illustrates an example of how the matrix and figures can be used for land prioritisation: the remainder of the POS parcels has high priority for prioritising BNG, as it would contribute to the expansion of the habitat in these priority areas. For example, parcels ID 55, 181, and 182 would potentially be preferred for expanding the network.

- Whilst SINC are not strictly designated, exclusion of these as part of the core nature network drives BNG to deliver wider expansion, buffering and connection as part of the 'bigger, better, more joined-up' Lawton principles. 20.1% of the POS parcels are partially intersected by SINCs. The non-SINC sections of such parcels therefore represent high priority for BNG delivery. It should be noted that nearly 24% of the parcels are entirely occupied by SINC designation. These parcels are suggested to be excluded from prioritisation due to the principle of additionality.

- Recognised network contribution:
  - The distance of the POS parcels to the nearest SINC varies from 0m (those adjacent to SINC sites) to 700m, with a mean distance of 98.6m. This can be interpreted as a rough measure of connectivity potential, where parcels closer to SINCs can serve as critical linkages, enhancing ecological corridors and network resilience.
  - 10% of the POS parcels intersect with GiGL Network Mapping, indicating that these parcels can constitute key linkages for the SINC network. Of these, the range of distances to SINC sites varies from 10m to 341m. Again, those closet to SINC sites may bring enhanced benefits for strengthening the nature network.
  - Regarding the current habitat value of the POS parcels, values close to 1 indicate higher distinctiveness scores. In Barnet, the average value of POS parcels ranges between 0 and 0.77. Prioritising parcels with high contributions can strengthen and expand existing networks, making ecological corridors more robust and enhancing the resilience of ecosystems. On the other hand, there might be less scope to increase biodiversity value significantly in areas already performing well, which could limit the gains in terms of BNG percentage increases. Parcels with lower contributions might offer more scope for significant enhancements, aligning well with the principle of additionality in BNG; yet, it may require more resources and effort to enhance these areas, and the outcomes could be less predictable. The decision should align with the emerging LNRS Statement of Biodiversity Priorities, local conservation priorities, and the specific objectives of the BNG plan. If the goal is to enhance an already thriving ecological network,

prioritising high contribution areas might be beneficial. Conversely, if the goal is to expand and connect isolated habitats, focusing on low contribution areas might be more strategic.

- Habitat opportunity:
  - The GiGL Habitat Suitability data help identify areas which would give the best benefit to biodiversity. More than 50% of the POS parcels lie entirely in areas suitable for the creation of BAP habitats, and a further 26.6% lie in areas of partial suitability. This shows the high potential for Barnet to enhance and expand BAP habitats.
  - The NE Habitat Network mapping further highlights the potential for linkages. This dataset can be used to complement the more specific London-based GIGL dataset because it provides a broader perspective on ecological networks and connectivity using national data.
  - The Flood Risk Zone 3 parameter indicates where wetland and ephemerally wet habitats may be targeted, potentially integrating flood mitigation with BNG efforts **[See reference** 46**]**. 161 parcels do not intersect with the flood risk zone; the remaining vary in their overlap. Those with the most significant overlap (above 5ha) are Oakhill Park, Brook Farm/Wyatt's Farm, and Windsor Open Space.
- Synergy and function:
  - The Green Infrastructure dataset helps identify where there is more need or less need for green infrastructure interventions based on demographic factors and current provision of green infrastructure. The index ranges from 0 to 1, with values closer to 1 being those with more need. In Barnet, the mean index value for the POS parcels is 0.49, with a maximum value of 0.92 in Cricklewood Open Space. This index should be leveraged with the ecological priorities, as BNG primarily responds to biodiversity needs, whilst helping ensure that interventions are targeted where they can have the most significant impact for people’s wellbeing.
  - Finally, the assessment of the POS parcels against the AoD in access to nature allows identifying priority areas for enhancing public access to natural spaces. 24.3% of the land parcels intersect with an AoD,

highlighting the potential for targeted BNG efforts to address both ecological and social needs, improving access to nature for underserved communities and enhancing overall environmental quality.

Chapter 6

SINC Network Habitat Survey, Condition Assessment and Status Review

6.1 This Chapter outlines the findings of the SINC Review. This includes details of recommended changes to SINC status and overarching habitat management recommendations.

6.2 The SINC status recommendations are presented in **Figure A.8** and **Table 6.1**. More detailed information is provided in the accompanying proformas for each surveyed SINC, in **Appendix C**. **Table A.1 (Appendix A**) lists the site names and labels for Barnet's SINCs as presented in **Figure A.5** and **Figure A.8**

Table 6.1: SINC Status Recommendations (* for sites which were assessed entirely through desk-based review)

Recommendation	SINC Surveyed
Proposed extension	Burtonhole Lane and Pasture
Proposed extension	Edgwarebury Brook
Proposed extension	Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve
Proposed extension	Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm
Opportunity	Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve
Opportunity	Glebelands Local Nature Reserve
Opportunity	Lower Dollis Brook

Recommendation	SINC Surveyed
Opportunity	Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting
Opportunity	Upper Dollis Brook
Opportunity	Woodridge School Nature Reserve
No change	Arkley Lane and Pastures
No change	Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
No change	Ashley Lane
No change	Avenue House Grounds
No change	Barfield Allotments Nature Park
No change	Barnet Environment Centre
No change	Bell's Hill Burial Ground
No change	Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters
No change	Big Wood and Little Wood
No change	Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp)
No change	Bruno's Field*
No change	Cherry Tree Wood
No change	Clay Lane
No change	Copthall South Fields
No change	Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park
No change	Drivers Hill*
No change	East Finchley Cemetery

Recommendation	SINC Surveyed
No change	Edgware Way Rough*
No change	Edgwarebury Park
No change	Friary Park
No change	Glebe Lane Pastures*
No change	Grahame Park Open Space
No change	Greenhill Gardens
No change	Hadley Green
No change	Hampstead Heath
No change	Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting
No change	King George's Fields
No change	Lakeside Nature Reserve*
No change	Mill Hill Golf Course*
No change	Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve
No change	Mill Hill Substation Pastures
No change	Monken Hadley Common
No change	Mutton Brook
No change	New Southgate Cemetery
No change	Northern line Embankment, High Barnet
No change	North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds*

Recommendation	SINC Surveyed
No change	Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve
No change	Prince's Park
No change	Pymmes Brook
No change	Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve
No change	Rowley Lodge field
No change	Scratchwood
No change	Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook
No change	St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries
No change	Sulloniacis Pastures*
No change	Sunny Hill Park
No change	The Mill Field
No change	Totteridge Common
No change	Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill
No change	Totteridge Green
No change	Turner's Wood*
At risk	Arkley South Field*
At risk	Clitterhouse Playing Fields
At risk	College Farm
At risk	Totteridge Croft Field (or Dell's Down Acre)*
Partial de-designation	None

Recommendation	SINC Surveyed
Dee-designation	None

Proposed Upgrade

6.3 No sites were proposed for upgrade at the current time of review.

Proposed Extension

6.4 The following sites were considered suitable for extension:

- **Burtonhole Lane and Pasture** (BII): There are similar woodland and scrub habitats to the north east of the site. Expansion of the SINC boundary to include this area would provide ecological connectivity between the site and nearby Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve BIISINC. Expansion of this site would provide functional linkage between multiple SINCs, which together would provide a wildlife corridor through the centre of the borough.
- **Edgwarebury Brook** (BII): Comprises a brook which flows through the north west of the borough. There is opportunity for extension of the SINC to include similar habitats along the brook to the north and south of the existing SINC. This would increase the area of running water and scrub habitats of similar type and condition within the site and provide a longer blue corridor within the borough.
- **Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve** (BI): Is managed as a nature reserve and sits adjacent to other areas of similar habitat, including woodland, scrub and grassland. This site offers opportunity for expansion to include these areas of good quality habitat to create a large SINC, which would support the multiple notable and protected species found within the site.

- **Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm** (BII): There are large areas of woodland and scrub to the north of the site, which look to be in a similar condition and of similar species composition to the habitats within the site. Extending the SINC boundary to incorporate these would provided ecological connectivity with other SINCs, such as Rowley Lodge Field BIISINC, to the north of the borough.

It is recommended that the site boundaries for each of these is altered to include additional habitats, which are considered to contribute to the value of the existing SINC site. The inclusion of these areas will bolster the existing network by increasing the area of SINC designated land by 48ha (4% increase in land designated as SINC in Barnet), which in turn provides greater resilience of ecosystems to impacts from climate change. Opportunity

6.5 The following sites have potential, through habitat management and/or creation, to be recommended for upgrade in the future:

- **Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve** (BI): Comprises ancient woodland, a pond, scrub and semi-improved grassland, which is well managed for biodiversity and is a valuable wildlife

site within an otherwise heavily developed urban area. The site is connected, via a relatively thin woodland strip to Glebelands Local Nature Reserve to the west. It is recommended that habitat enhancements are provided to strengthen the connectivity between the Glebelands LNR and the neighbouring Coppetts Wood LNR. Depending on the nature and extent of enhancement, the connecting habitat may warrant future inclusion in the designation boundary and, potentially, bringing the two SINCs to one larger. This would increase resilience and may permit the Site to be upgraded in future.

- **Glebelands Local Nature Reserve** (BI): This is a valuable wildlife site providing habitats for many rare species identified in the ecological records including great crested newt (GCN) **[See reference** 47**]**. There is potential to provide further enhancements to the site through management of litter and waste and eradication of invasive non-native species such as Japanese knotweed which was noted within the woodland. In addition, it is recommended that habitat enhancements are provided to strengthen the connectivity between the Glebelands LNR and the neighbouring Coppett's Wood LNR. As noted for Coppetts Wood and Scrublands above, it is recommended that habitat enhancements are provided to strengthen the connectivity between the two SINCs And, depending on the nature and extent of enhancement, the connecting habitat may warrant future inclusion in the designation boundary and, potentially, bringing the two SINCs to one larger. This would increase resilience and may permit the Site to be upgraded in future. Enhancements should be sensitive to the GCN population present, ensuring that waterbodies remain suitable, or are enhanced, for breeding GCN and protected from human interference.
  Lower Dollis Brook (BII): The site continues to be a valuable resource for people and wildlife across the borough, given the expansive area of the brook and connectivity to other SINCs, open spaces and urban areas. Although the habitats adjacent to the Lower Dollis Brook SINC are less ecologically valuable than Upper Dollis Brook SINC, they still provide a valuable wildlife corridor throughout the south of the borough and should be protected. Due to the presence of habitats of less ecological value than the Upper Dollis Brook Borough Grade I SINC and the modified nature of the Lower Dollis Brook, this site should remain a Borough Grade II SINC. However, implementation of the enhancements described above within the

management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections provides opportunity for future upgrade in SINC status. Once the recommended enhancements have been made to both the Lower and Upper Dollis Brook these sites could be combined to create a single SINC of Metropolitan importance in future due to the strategic significance of the brook, which passes through a large area of the borough providing ecological connectivity between other SINCs and habitats in the wider landscape. Enhancements should focus on the creation of natural habitats, restoration of the natural morphology of the brook and meadow, wet woodland, and wetland creation similar to the habitats present along the Upper Dollis Brook SINC. In addition the control and eradication of invasive non-native species if required along the entire length of the brook.

- **Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting** (L): The railway cutting forms part of a wildlife corridor through the east of Barnet, which extends beyond the boundary of the SINC, and therefore is an important corridor providing connectivity for species within and beyond Barnet. The SINC is recognised to hold ecological value and to be of strategic importance for landscape-scale connectivity. The SINC has potential for upgrade to Borough Grade II based on the recommended habitat measures, however, this should be finalised following full access ecological survey and discussion with Network Rail to ensure an increase in status can be maintained in the long term throughout the cyclic management of the active railway network. In with Council feedback, the current Local SINC grade remains appropriate for this site and it is therefore not recommended for upgrade at this time.
- **Upper Dollis Brook** (BI): Recognised as a valuable resource for both wildlife and residents, this site boasts diverse habitats, including natural wet woodland and neutral grassland. The site offers a unique opportunity in the borough to follow the brook along its length and enjoy the nature associated with it, particularly water vole, kingfisher and little egret. Surrounding habitat is a mixture of broadleaved woodland and neutral grassland and modified habitats such as amenity grassland and hard standing. The more natural habitats are of greater ecological value and should be managed appropriately and protected to ensure they continue to support the great diversity of species. Enhancement should be focused on controlling and eradicating invasive non-native species, particularly Himalayan balsam, which is taking over in several places along the brook.

There is an opportunity to combine the Upper and Lower Dollis Brook SINC sites to create a single SINC. Once the recommended enhancements have been made to the Upper and Lower Dollis Brook, the entire Dollis Brook may have potential to be designated as Metropolitan SINC status in future.

- **Woodridge School Nature Reserve** (L): A valuable education source for local schools. Potential exists to enhance the woodland and to re-instate the pond, which would provide further educational opportunities for local school children. The site is a small subsection of a larger area of woodland which is continuous with extensive greenspaces including the Folly Brook, Darlands Nature Reserve and a series of fields. There is therefore potential to expand the size of the SINC, to incorporate these additional habitats which are continuous with the site. It is recommended that a survey is undertaken which incorporates the wider area. This would potentially result in an increase in the SINC grade and size**.**

At Risk

6.6 Four sites are at risk of maintaining current status due to declining ecological value. Immediate action is needed to ensure these sites do not lose further condition, recover or are reinstated and, where possible, increase their ecological value:

- **Arkley South Field** (BII)*: This site comprises a series of fields located to the north of the borough of Barnet. The fields were previously set-aside agricultural fields comprising grassland of low botanical interest, ditches and hedgerows. However, there has been regular ploughing of these fields since 2006 and agricultural intensification the site makes this SINC at risk of downgrade in status to Local SINC status, as it is unlikely to support the biodiversity which it was originally designated for in 1997.
- **Clitterhouse Playing Fields** (L): Predominantly characterised by intensely managed amenity grassland, with a small stream and associated scrub in the northeast. Despite its current low ecological value, there are notable opportunities for improvement. Recommendations include the

implementation of initiatives such as wildflower meadow planting and adopting a more relaxed mowing regime. These measures aim to enhance the ecological value of the site, fostering biodiversity and contributing to its overall environmental quality.

- **College Farm** (L): Comprises old stables, grassland pasture and an avenue of trees. However, the site does not meet the criteria for a local SINC without large management intervention and opening the site up for access to the public.
- **Totteridge Croft Field (or Dell's Down Acre)** (BI)*: Comprises a series of horse paddocks of improved grassland and an artificial surfaced riding yard. There are also areas of hardstanding, buildings and paths. Since the site citation was last updated in 2006, this change in management has resulted in substantial loss of trees and likely reduction in botanical interest of the previously neutral unimproved grassland fields. This change threatens the status of this site, which is currently designated as a Borough Grade I SINC. The site is at risk of downgrade in status to Local SINC status. Survey is required in order to better understand what ecological value remains and the appropriate action for this site, whether that be downgrade or de-designation.

No Change

6.7 The following sites were deemed to meet the criteria for their current SINC status:

- **Arkley Lane and Pastures** (BII): Comprises an old country lane surrounded by mature trees and hedgerows surrounded by semi-improved and improved grasslands, which continue to provide habitats of ecological value to local wildlife and therefore continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill** (M): Provides a good example of large areas of woodland, scrub and grassland habitats within the borough which support large numbers of notable and/or rare species.

The site continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status due to the extent and range of habitats present.

- **Ashley Lane** (BII): Comprises a long bridleway path, lined with a diverse range of mature trees including oak, horse chestnut, cherry, sycamore and ash and dense scrub. The scrub contains standing and fallen deadwood which provides additional habitat niches to a range of species including insects, reptiles, birds and bats. There is also a small stream along the east boundary of the site. Despite the small size of this site it continues to meet BII status as it provides a range of habitats which support local wildlife.
- **Avenue House Grounds** (L): Is a small publicly accessible site, which continues to meet Local SINC status as it supports amenity grassland, broadleaved woodland, a small pond and bog garden. Habitats have potential to support a range of notable and protected species including birds, bats, mammals, amphibians and invertebrates.
- **Barfield Allotments Nature Park** (L): Comprises a small area of scrub and woodland, closed off to the public, with overgrown areas and overshadowed grassland and glades. The public section includes a children's playground, ornamental planting, and mature trees, providing suitable habitat away from human disturbance. This site continues to meet Local SINC status.
- **Barnet Environment Centre** (L): The site, encompassing the Noah's Ark Hospice, features valuable habitats, including woodland with ponds, meadow, bramble scrub, scattered trees, amenity grass, and ornamental/wildflower planting. The Environment Centre, managed by volunteers, is an education centre for local schools, providing a great space for wildlife and offering a space for children to connect with nature. Therefore, the site continues to meet Local SINC status.
- **Bell's Hill Burial Ground** (L): Is a small site which provides a peaceful escape for local people, while also providing valuable opportunities for wildlife. Therefore, it continues to meet Local SINC status. There is potential within the site to provide further opportunities for local species, through altering the mowing regime to encourage growth of tall grasses, installing bat and bird boxes, wood piles and bug hotels. Meadows can be

created whilst retaining public access through mowing footpaths around some areas and implementing rotational meadow management. Good examples of rotational meadow management include Brompton Cemetery (BISINC), which is managed by The Royal Parks in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

- **Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters** (L): This site continues to meet local SINC status due to the mixture of habitats present and the access to nature it provides for local people.
- **Big Wood and Little Wood** (BI): The site continues to meet Borough Grade I status, as it supports a good example of ancient woodland, which is a rare habitat within the borough.
- **Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp)** (M): Continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status as the large woodland and reservoir habitats support populations of national importance of bird species such as great crested grebe, shoveler and gadwall. The SINC is also functionally connected with a blue corridor, Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook BIISINC through the west of the borough which offers ecological connectivity with other SINCs including Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve BIISINC and Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park BIISINC.
- **Bruno's Field** (BII)*: Provides a substantial contribution to the SINC network and is likely to support a range of flora and fauna. Therefore, it continues to meet Borough Grade II status. Recommendations are provided with regards to management (risk of over grazing in particular) and enhancement opportunities to enhance the ecological value of the grassland habitats.
- **Cherry Tree Wood** (L): Is a public park, which continues to meet Local SINC status. Habitats include ancient woodland, scrub and grassland are likely to support a wide variety of species and there are records for notable migratory bird species including mistle thrush and redwing.
- **Clay Lane** (L): Is a publicly accessible site, which provides a wildlife corridor in the northwest of the borough that extends along the northern boundary of Edgwarebury Cemetery and supports a range of notable and protected species including skylark, slow worm and small Skipper. This site continues to meet Local SINC status.

- **Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common** (BII): Continues to meet Borough Grade II status through providing suitable habitat for London BAP species such as grass snake, slow worm and song thrush. The site also provides a wildlife corridor with other green spaces within the centre of the borough.
- **Copthall South Fields** (L): The site features large areas of broadleaved woodland and long grassland, provides opportunities for multiple species. The site is used by local residents for dog walking and continues to meet Local SINC status.
- **Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park** (BII): Comprises a public park containing a stream, reedbeds and large pond. The site also supports populations of protected, notable and priority species including badger, bats, slow worm, a range of birds and Nationally Scarce invertebrates such as Jersey Tiger moth. Therefore, the site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Drivers Hill** (BII)*: The site appears to continue to provide habitats of sufficient size and condition to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **East Finchley Cemetery** (L): The site is a valuable wildlife site providing habitat for a good mix of species. The site remains unchanged since the SINC citation was last updated and continues to meet Local SINC status. There is opportunity to maximise the ecological value of the SINC, through sowing yellow rattle in areas of grassland in order to encourage wildflower establishment and species diversity. Additional enhancements include installation of bird and bat boxes onto trees and buildings to provide further nesting/roosting spaces.
- **Edgwarebury Park** (L): Is a diverse park comprising of a range of habitats which offer opportunities for wildlife. A number of biodiversity features have been implemented at the park including relaxed meadow management in some areas, bird and bat boxes, bug hotels and standing deadwood. Recommendations have been included to further enhance the site for wildlife, however it continues to meet Local SINC status. Suggested enhancement opportunities include expanding the relaxed mowing regime whilst retaining mown paths, creating a wildlife pond within an area of long species-rich grassland and increasing wildlife friendly

planting within the formal garden to improve pollinator abundance and diversity.

- **Edgware Way Rough** (M)*: Continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status as the site possesses London's strongest population of a regionally uncommon plant, great burnet. There are several other uncommon plant species and declining bird species also present within the site. One suggestion for enhancing the aesthetic appeal of the site is through better management of litter and waste as there is an issue with fly tipping at the site.
- **Friary Park** (L). Large site with multiple habitats, including amenity grassland, scrub, tree lines, hedgerows, mature trees, a stream, ornamental planting, a skate park, and a children's playground, is widely used for recreation by the local community. It provides valuable green space for both wildlife and people and continues to meet Local SINC status.
- **Glebe Lane Pastures** (BI)*: This desk based review, presumes that the habitats on site have not changed since the SINC was designated and it continues to meet the SINC criteria. Due to the undisturbed nature of this site it is of significant value to local wildlife and likely to be of value to ground nesting birds in particular. Therefore, it continues to meet Borough Grade I status.
- **Grahame Park Open Space** (L). The site includes amenity grassland, scattered mature trees, a large pond, and associated wetland and reedbeds. The aquatic habitats hold higher ecological value, supporting a range of species. The site experiences high public usage, mainly by local residents walking dogs and by families. The site continues to meet Local SINC status.
- **Greenhill Gardens** (L). The gardens feature an ornamental lake, pocket of woodland, amenity grassland, and scattered trees, is an important space for local people and continues to meet Local SINC status. The ornamental lake, bordered by willow and alder trees, supports common wildfowl. However, the grassland faces erosion, and a change in management is recommended to re-establish and diversify grassland, improving opportunities for invertebrates.

- **Hadley Green** (M): Supports a rich diversity of habitats and species, including those which are rare in London. The site also has a rich history and would be very difficult to recreate. It therefore continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status, and so no change has been recommended. There is potential to provide further opportunities for species using the site, as well as control of invasive species to prevent deterioration of habitats.
- **Hampstead Heath** (M): Continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status. Hampstead Heath is a well known London park and its large area and diverse habitats support several notable and protected species including pipistrelles bats, Daubenton's bat, birds including grey wagtail, kingfisher, lesser redpoll, redwing and tawny owl, and invertebrates such as Essex skipper, purple emperor, small copper and white letter hairstreak, whilst still providing recreational opportunities for people.
- **Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting** (L): The SINC is an important greenspace providing many recreational opportunities for people in the local area. Therefore the site continues to meet Local SINC status. There are opportunities to enhance the ecological value of the site, predominantly in the grassland, woodland and tree line areas. These enhancements including relaxed meadow management to encourage species diversity within the grassland, native tree replacement, tree planting to strengthening tree lines where there are gaps and selective felling to open up the dense woodland canopy, would contribute to the overall ecological value of the site.
- **King George's Fields** (BII): The park features diverse grassland and woodland with varying management styles. While the grassland lacks diversity, the woodland and native hedgerows offer excellent bird and invertebrate habitats. Despite challenges in identifying specific grassland types, the site is vital for both community and wildlife, particularly birds. The site continues to meet Borough Grade II status due to its diverse habitats, large size, and public accessibility. The site is valued for its rarity of habitats in London, emphasising the need for protection. Enhancements should prioritise woodland management, including selective tree felling and deadwood creation. Consideration is given to creating a woodland pond to boost habitat diversity and species richness on-site.

- **Lakeside Nature Reserve** (L)*: Continues to offer a valuable ecological resource to local wildlife, as it offers important open water habitat in an otherwise heavily developed area. Therefore, it continues to meet Local SINC status.
- **Mill Hill Golf Course** (BI)*: Appears to remain unchanged since the citation was last updated in 2006. The geographical location of the site adjacent to and ecologically connected to other SINCs, range of habitats present and likely flora and fauna supported by the site means it continues to meet Borough Grade I status and provides a substantial contribution to the SINC network.
- **Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve** (BII): Is ecologically connected to other local green spaces and SINCs and forms part of a wildlife corridor in the west of the borough. The site is not accessible by the general public and supports a variety of wildlife, including multiple notable species, which likely benefit from the undisturbed nature of the railway. Therefore, the site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Mill Hill Substation Pastures** (M): Is an important area for unimproved London Clay grassland and supports a good example of this habitat. The site supports several notable species such as Essex skipper and small skipper and is likely to also support protected species such as bat and badger. The habitats on site are diverse and the hedgerows and tree lines provide ecological connectivity with broadleaved woodlands in the surrounding landscape including those at Burtonhole Lane and Pastures BIISINC, therefore this site continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status.
- **Monken Hadley Common** (BI): Is a large wooded area, well managed for nature conservation, which continues to meet Borough Grade I SINC status. There is still potential to improve the accessibility of the site through creation of paths which do not get waterlogged and through provision of information boards within the woodlands to encourage educational use.
- **Mutton Brook** (L): Continues to meet Local SINC criteria through providing public access to a number of different green spaces which exhibit a diverse range of habitats. These habitats support a variety of common species.

- **New Southgate Cemetery** (BII): Contains a good mix of habitats, which provide opportunities for local wildlife and contains important populations of species (the dusky cockroach). The SINC continues to meet Borough Grade II status. Enhancements to the habitats on site, in particular the grassland which is regularly mown and therefore has little value to wildlife, would increase the ecological value of the site.
- **Northern line Embankment, High Barnet** (BII): The SINC is part of a valuable ecological network and continues to meet Borough Grade II status. Management recommendations to maximise opportunities on site for local wildlife, include pollarding or coppicing trees instead of felling, creation of deadwood habitats, creation of a bee bank and removal of invasive non native species replaced by native wildlife friendly planting. Additionally, maintenance of grassland habitats to prevent scrub encroachment will ensure the continues provision of the habitat mosaic which is likely to support a range of insects, birds, bats and possibly reptiles.
- **North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds** (BII)*: Continue to offer an important resource to local wildlife, as they offer important open water habitat in an otherwise heavily developed area. Therefore, the site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve** (BI): Comprises ancient woodland which is an irreplaceable habitat of significant ecological value and provides important habitat for a diverse range of fauna. It therefore, continues to meet Borough Grade I status. Opportunities exist for further habitat enhancement including increasing marginal vegetation around the pond and selective thinning of young trees near the stream and pond to encourage light.
- **Prince's Park** (L). The park, characterised by amenity grassland, scrub, mature trees, tennis courts, café, and a children's playground, serves as a valuable resource for various species. The mature trees offer vital habitat, and the site is heavily used by local people, including families, recreational users, and dog walkers. Therefore, the site continues to meet Local SINC status.

- **Pymmes Brook** (BII): Is a valuable wildlife corridor, which connects multiple SINCs and greenspaces in the borough with those outside of the borough. The site continues to meet Borough Grade II status. Management recommendations have been provided which would further enhance the ecological value of the habitats on site and create a more enjoyable space for those visiting the SINC. Enhancements include marginal planting along the brook, select thinning of young trees to encourage light to the water and relaxed meadow management of areas of amenity grassland. Access delineation, which could be achieved through use of dead hedging, would encourage growth of ground flora within the understorey of the ancient woodland.
- **Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve** (M): Continues to contribute substantially to the SINC network and there are no existing pressures or threats to the site. As the woodlands continue to develop to maturity, the ecological value of the site will continue to increase over time. Therefore, this site continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status.
- **Rowley Lodge Field** (BII): Continues to meet Borough Grade II status due to the extent and diversity of habitats present, with meadow grasslands, mature and ancient trees all contributing to the ecological value of the site.
- **Scratchwood** (M): Despite the public access and safety issues on the site, it continues to offer significant contribution to the ecological value of the area and is likely to support diverse assemblages of species. Due to the large size of this site, presence of irreplaceable ancient woodland and strategic importance of the site which offers ecological connectivity with other nearby SINCs and habitats in the wider landscape, such as Mill Hill Golf Course BISINC, the site continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status.
- **Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook** (BII): Is an important blue and green corridor within the borough, which offers ecological connectivity with local green spaces and other SINC sites. Therefore, this site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries** (BII): A diverse and species rich cemetery, which should continue to be managed for biodiversity. The site continues to meet Borough Grade II status. Additional enhancements such as deadwood habitat creation, installation of bird and bat boxes on

buildings and trees, creation of species-rich native hedgerows and native wildlife friendly panting of flower beds would further increase its ecological value.

- **Sulloniacis Pastures** (BII)*: Comprises rarer flower rich pastures which are situated on London Clay soil and form part of a larger roman archaeological site. Due to the presence of rare habitat, the site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Sunny Hill Park** (L): A large public park providing green space and sports facilities such as tennis courts for recreational use by local residents in an otherwise heavily built up area. The site comprises small pockets of woodland, scrub and amenity grassland with several newly planted trees. The site continues to meet Local SINC status.
- **The Mill Field** (BII): Is a small publicly accessible site supporting diverse habitats and species. The semi-improved grassland and broadleaved woodland habitats are good examples within the borough despite their small size. Therefore, this site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Totteridge Common** (BII): The diverse range of habitats present including terrestrial and aquatic habitats and the range of species these support including a diverse bird assemblage, bats, insects and potential presence of amphibians and reptiles makes a substantial contribution to the SINC network. It also provides an important wildlife corridor along the roadside. Therefore, this site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill** (M): Continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status, due to the diversity and condition of habitats present and range of wildlife which are supported.
- **Totteridge Green** (BII): Offers substantial ecological value to the SINC network and to local residents who enjoy the many benefits of wildlife rich habitats on their doorstep. Therefore, this site continues to meet Borough Grade II status.
- **Turner's Wood** (BII)*: Continues to provide significant ecological value to the SINC network in Barnet and in London as a whole. It supports irreplaceable ancient woodland habitat, which is likely to provide shelter,

nesting and foraging habitat to a wide range of species including insects, birds, bats and mammals.

Chapter 7

Priority Opportunities

7.1 Priority opportunities within the SINC network are those sites identified as ‘extension’ and ‘opportunity’, representing specific opportunities for a ‘bigger and better’ network.

7.2 Four sites have been identified as ‘at risk’ of maintaining current ecological status, based on the decline in ecological condition through inappropriate use and / or lack of beneficial management. These represent priority actions, both for the individual sites and the overall network.

7.3 The four sites identified for ‘extension’ represent the successes in enhanced and establishing habitats that should be recognised by the revised boundaries, and so too greaterarea and connectivity across the SINC network.

7.4 Five SINC have been identified as ‘opportunity’ sites, reflecting the more substantial opportunities to address specific local need and with potential for future upgrade in status as a result

7.5 As noted in **Chapter 2**, LBB does not currently have the support of an independent Site Selection Panel to inform the process of SINC identification, assessment and ratification through local expertise. Typically Panels are active around the time of Local Plan renewal. The Council Ecologists are actively engaged with external expertise working toward the pan-London sharing of information and ideas which will deliver the LNRS. LBB draws data from, and contributes to, GIGL as part of coordinated gathering and analysis. Whilst it would be beneficial for all boroughs to enjoy the support of a Panel, consultation driving the LNRS and London GI Framework may usefully mobilise local expertise that can be called upon for similar gain.

7.6 There may be opportunity to formalise the cross-team collaboration already in progress as the Ecologists continue to work with LBB colleagues in

understanding and decision-making around land planning and management. If not in place, a regular forum could usefully give opportunity to celebrate successes, prioritise actions and streamline funding applications between staff delivering for nature recovery, parks and recreation, flood risk management, net zero, etc.

7.7 It is recognised that the spatial scope of this study captures all SINC within and extending beyond the borough, such as Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp) but does not include SINC that adjoin or lie close to the borough boundary. Examples, include Pinkham Way (Borough Grade I) which lies within Haringey, although under the ownership of LBB. Such cross boundary collaboration is essential to ensure the network is not only maintained in thriving condition but can reflect the need for 'more, bigger, better and joined-up' sites that provide the core to wider nature recovery.

7.8 Building out from the SINC network, **Chapter 4** summarises the opportunities in relation to nature recovery more widely, such that the SINC network as a core can be buffered and better connected. Foci include the three strategic corridors within the Brent catchment – Dollis Link, Pymmes Brook Link and Silk Stream and Edgeware Brook Link – and the enhancement of SINC within AoD to Nature to meet Borough or Metropolitan importance.

7.9 Whilst it is recognised that BNG may usefully fund the delivery of habitat creation and enhancement opportunities within the SINC network, this study has focused on opportunities for BNG to contribute to nature recovery more widely across POS land parcels, as part of cross-team land use planning and management. **Chapter 5** describes how the selected datasets might most usefully be used to prioritise sites to be taken forward for more detailed survey and action planning. The matrix is intended to be a flexible approach, that can be readily updated with new datasets such as the London Climate Resilience Risk, once published.

7.10 Local Plan policy making at the borough level can address both the initial delivery of BNG as well as ongoing management and maintenance mechanisms to assist monitoring of gains in the longer term. Appropriately

worded planning conditions and planning obligations would also help achieve effective monitoring and enforcement of BNG, particularly in relation to the maintenance and monitoring of significant onsite habitat enhancements and registered offsite gains. Policies should usefully seek to meet net gain objectives in line with the LNRS.

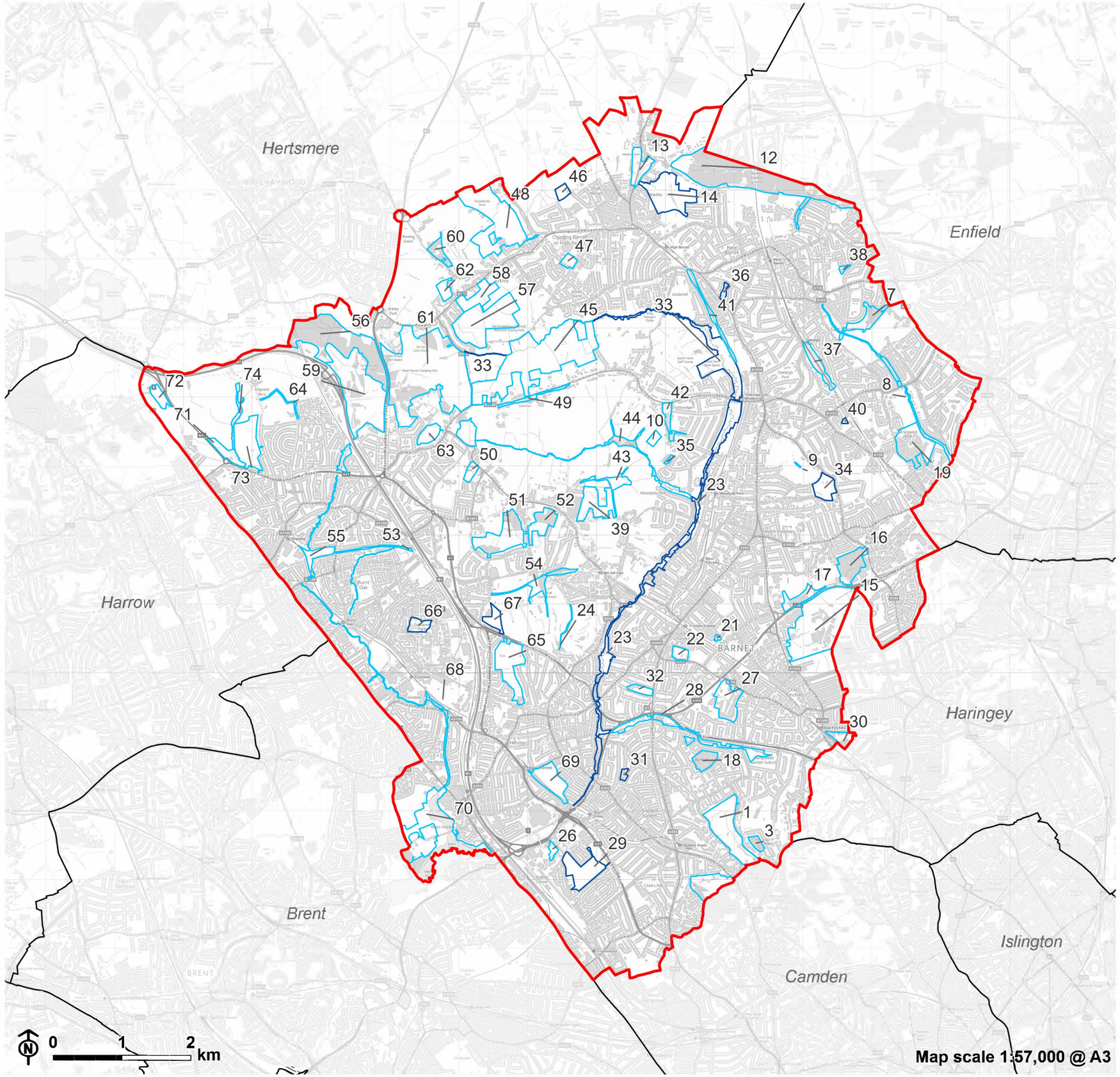
Appendix A

Report Figures

Barnet: Creation of a new Parks and Open Spaces Strategy

London Borough of Barnet

Figure A.4: Summary of site assessment



London Borough of Barnet

Neighbouring borough

Year of SINC survey

2023

2024

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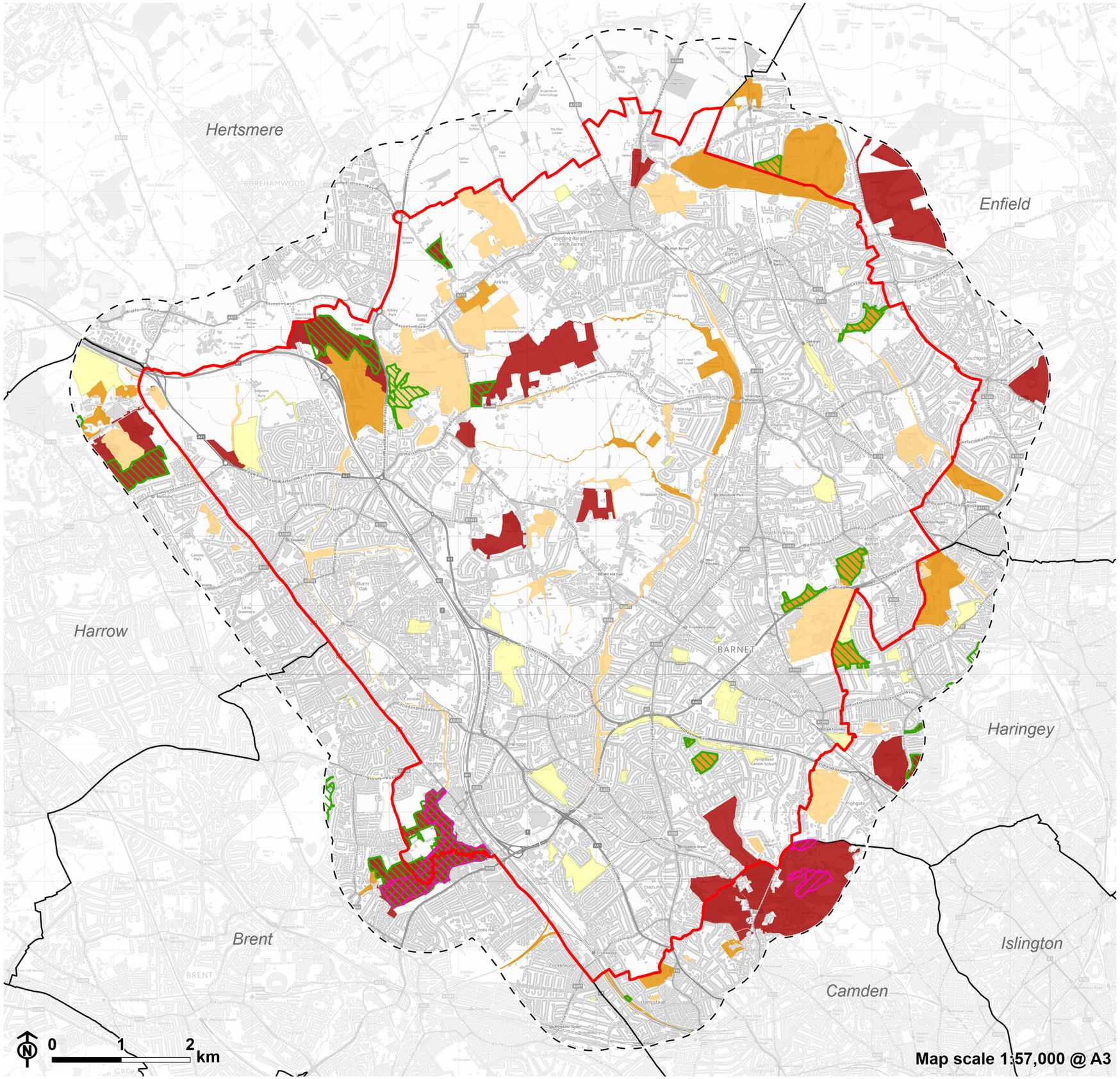
Barnet: Creation of a new Parks and Open Spaces Strategy
London Borough of Barnet

LUC

Figure A.5: Designated site network



- London Borough of Barnet
- Barnet 1km buffer
- Neighbouring borough
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

SINC

- Metropolitan
- Borough Grade 1
- Borough Grade 2
- Local

Extent of designated site network within Barnet

Designation	*Number of sites*	*Coverage within Barnet (%)*
LNR	13	1.76
SSSI	2	0.38
SINC	67	13.41
Metropolitan	9	3.58
Local	23	1.9
Borough (Grade 2)	25	5.16
Borough (Grade 1)	10	2.77

Note: There is no GiGL data for Hertsmere as GiGL data does not extend beyond Greater London. There is some overlap in the designations tabulated. The total area of designated land across Barnet is 186ha.

GiGL

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London Borough of Barnet

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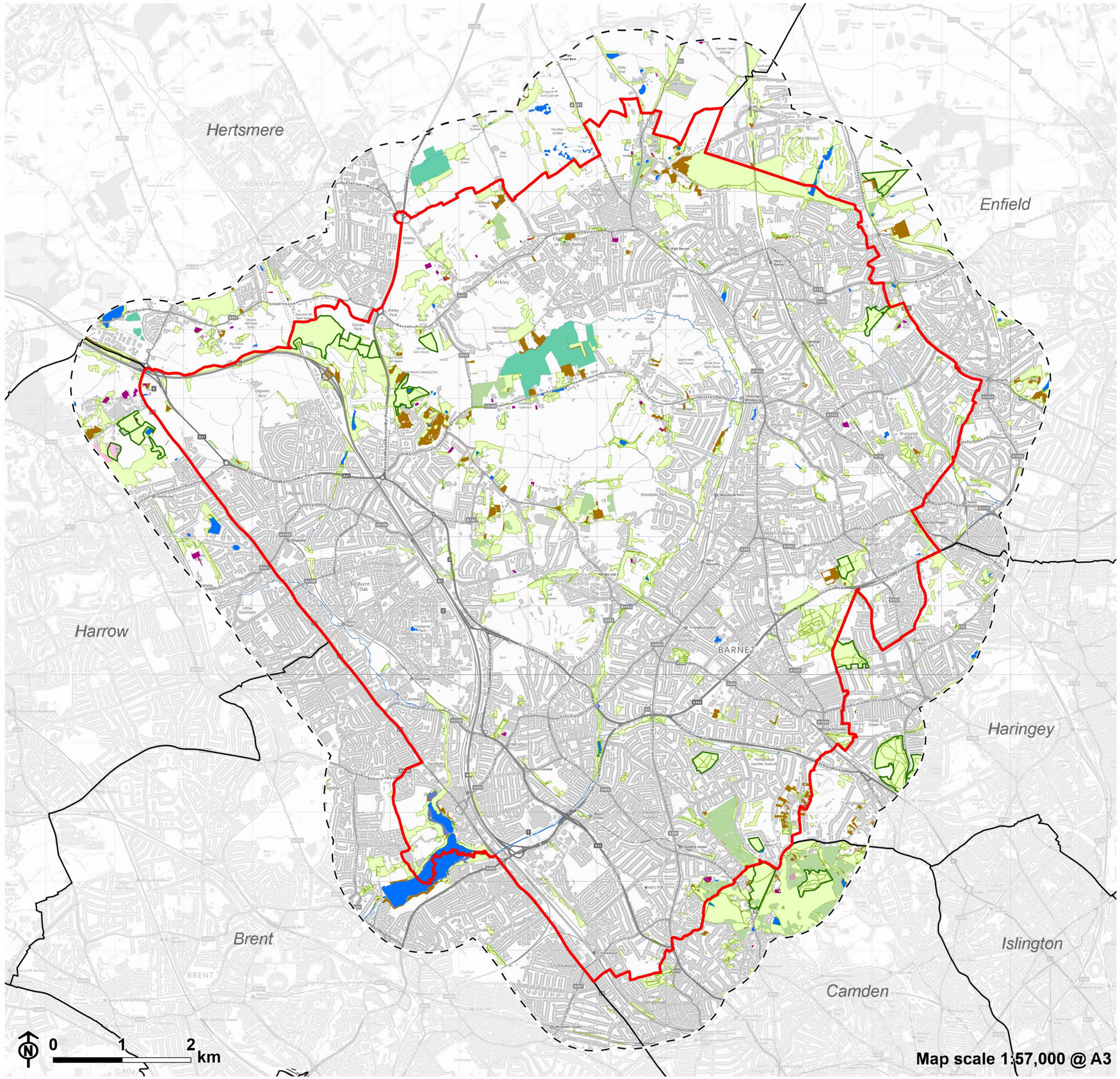
Figure A.6: Priority and notable habitats



- London Borough of Barnet
- Barnet 1km buffer
- Neighbouring borough
- Ancient woodland
- Surface water

Priority Habitat Inventory

- Deciduous woodland
- Good quality semi improved grassland
- Lowland dry acid grassland
- Lowland fens
- Lowland heathland
- Lowland meadows
- No main habitat but additional habitats present
- Reedbeds
- Traditional orchard

Extent of priority and notable habitat within Barnet

Priority habitat type	*Area within Barnet (ha)*	*Coverage within Barnet (%)*	*Area within Barnet SINCs (ha)*
Ancient woodland	71.5	0.8	70.7
Deciduous woodland	611.8	7.1	395.4
Good quality semi improved grassland	34.6	0.4	33.9
Lowland heathland	31.2	0.4	31.2
Lowland meadows	58.8	0.7	56.2
No main habitat but additional habitats present	65.1	0.8	25.2
Reedbeds	4.4	0.1	4.4
Surface water	46.5	0.5	40.9
Traditional orchard	6.1	0.1	1.1

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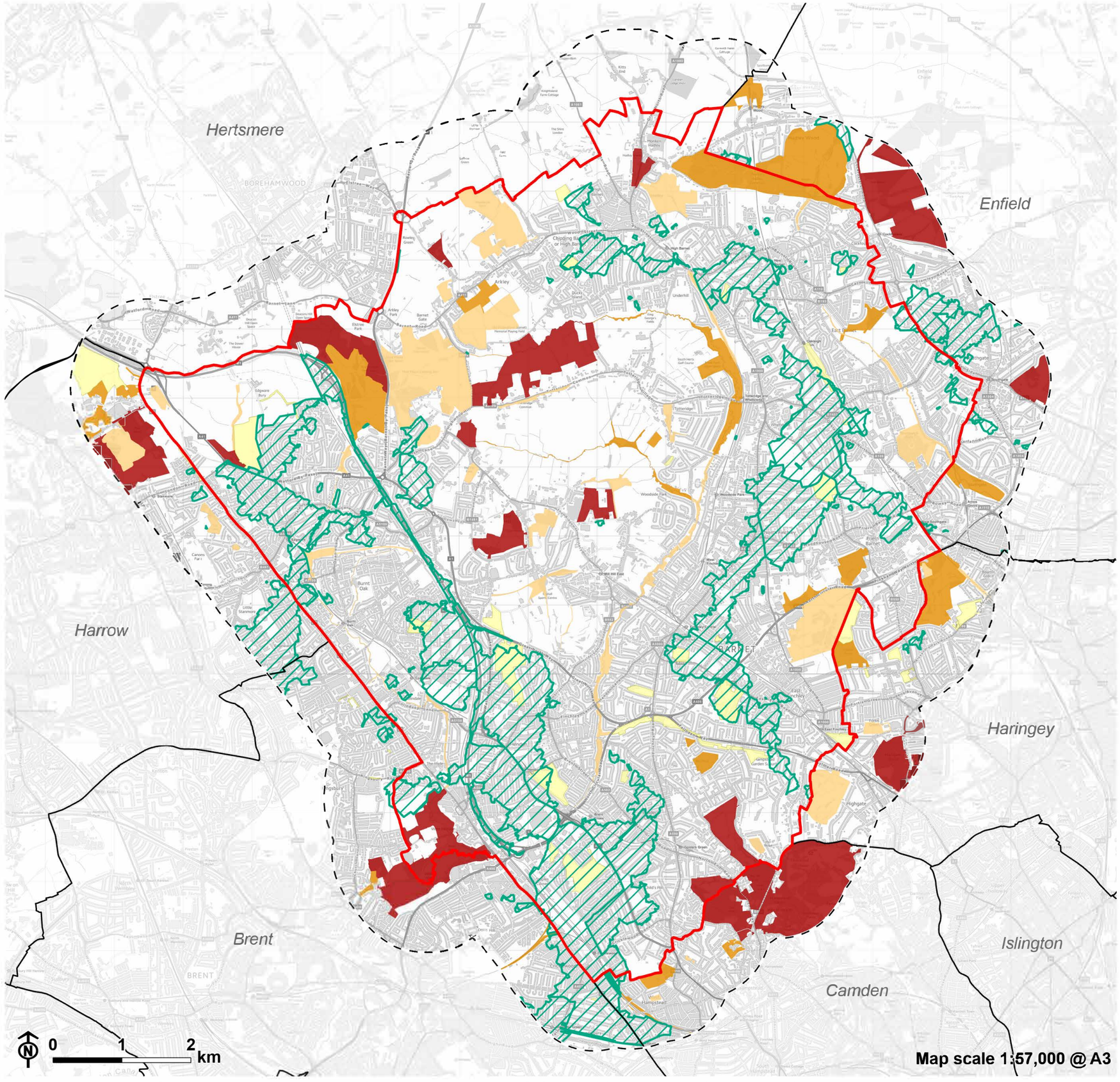
Figure A.7: Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature



London Borough of Barnet
Neighbouring borough
Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature (AoD)

SINC

Metropolitan
Borough Grade 1
Borough Grade 2
Local

Note: There is no GiGL data for Hertsmere as GiGL data does not extend beyond Greater London.

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London Borough of Barnet

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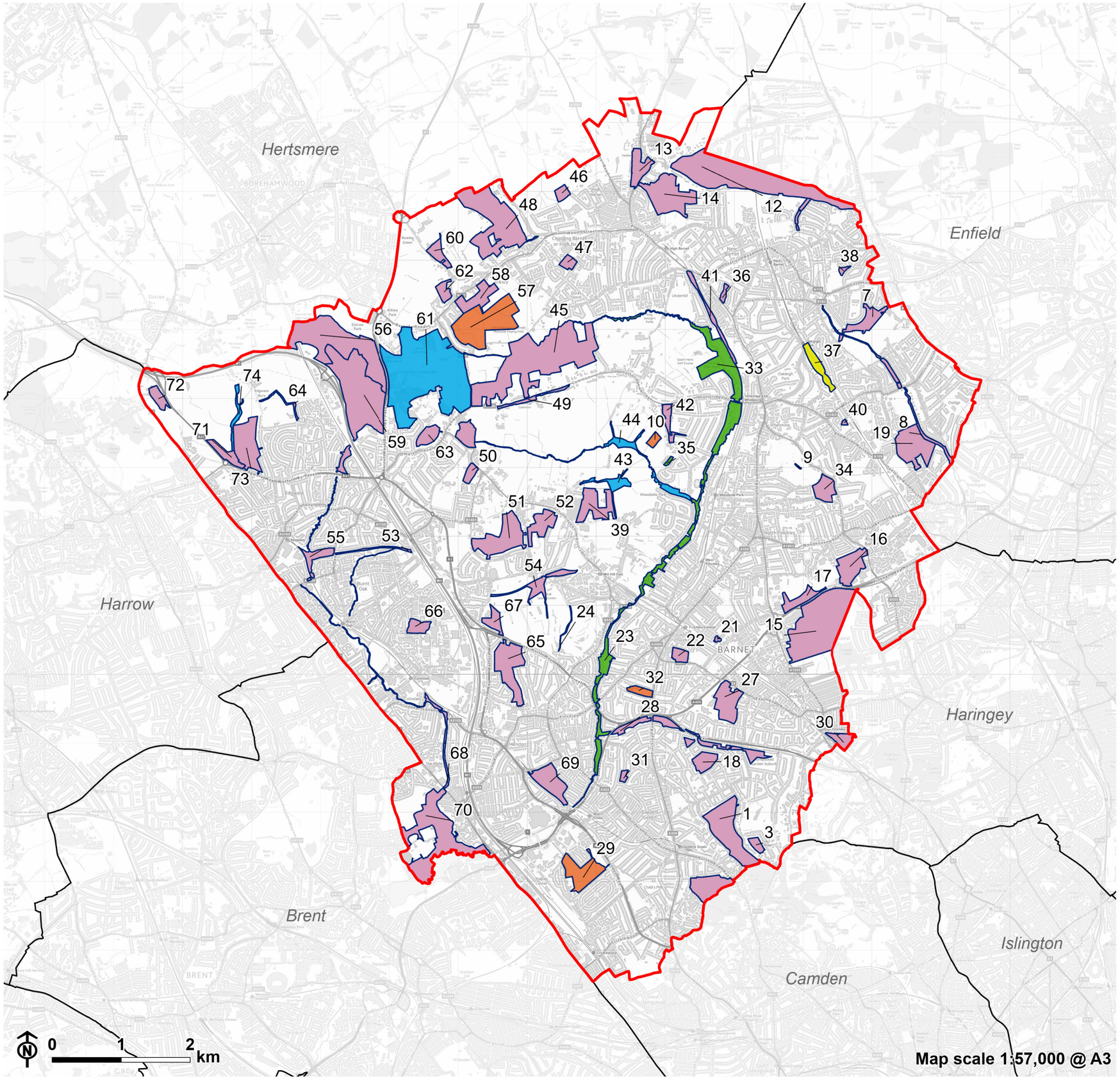
Figure A.8: Summary of SINC Review



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London Borough of Barnet

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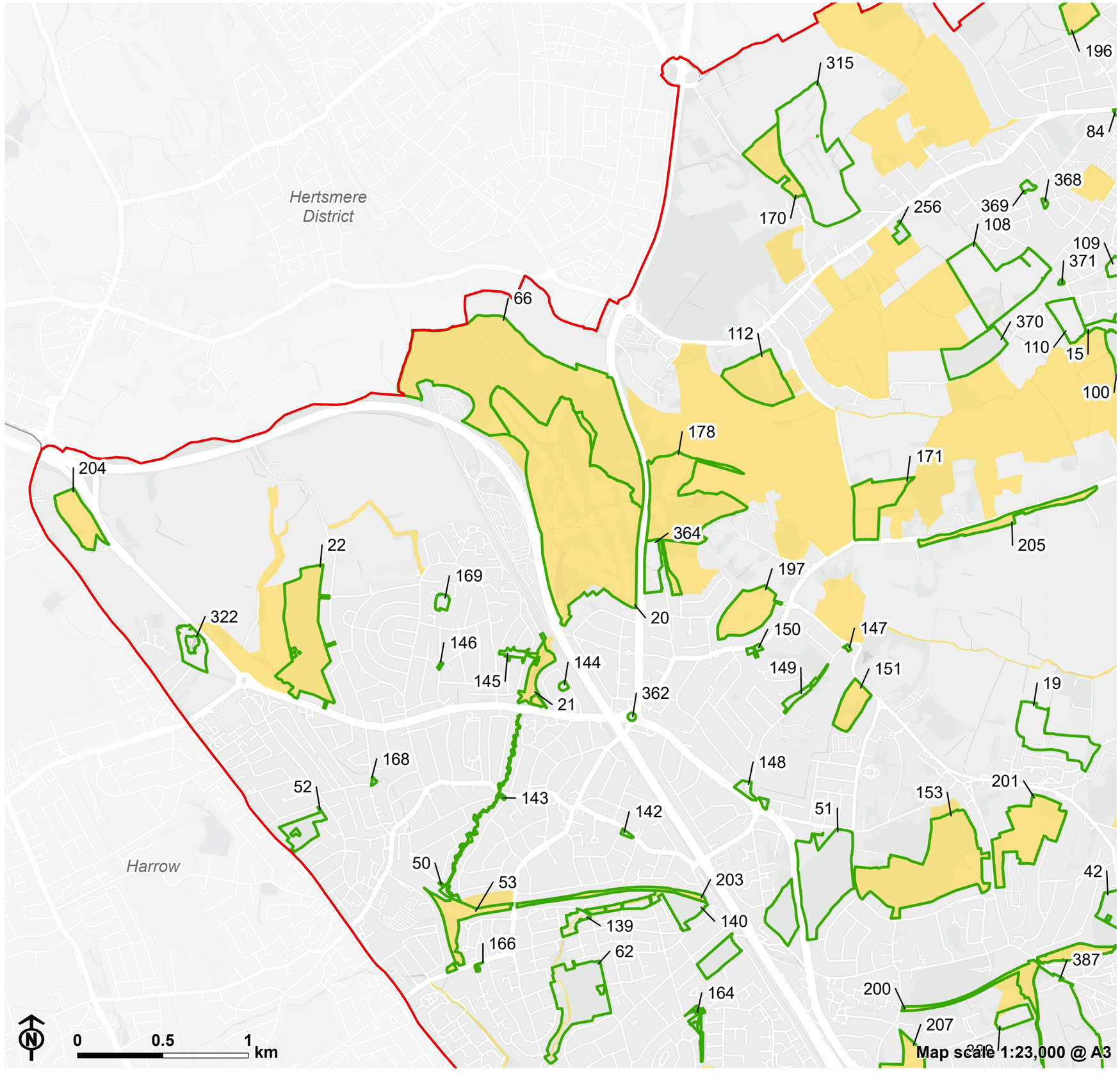
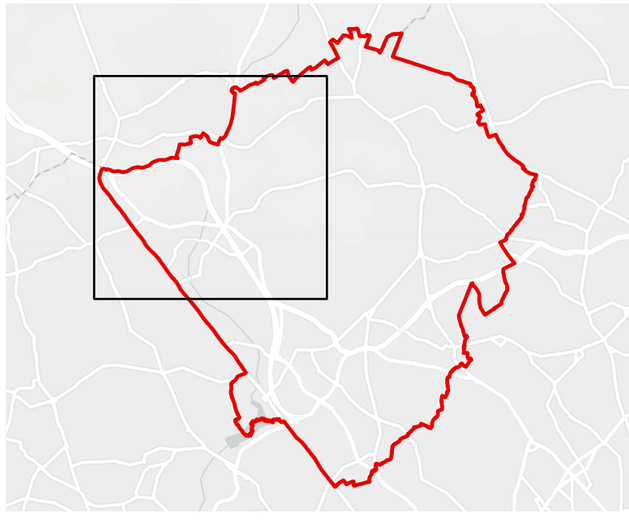
Open space parcel - Western Barnet





- London Borough of Barnet
- Neighbouring London borough
- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Open space parcel

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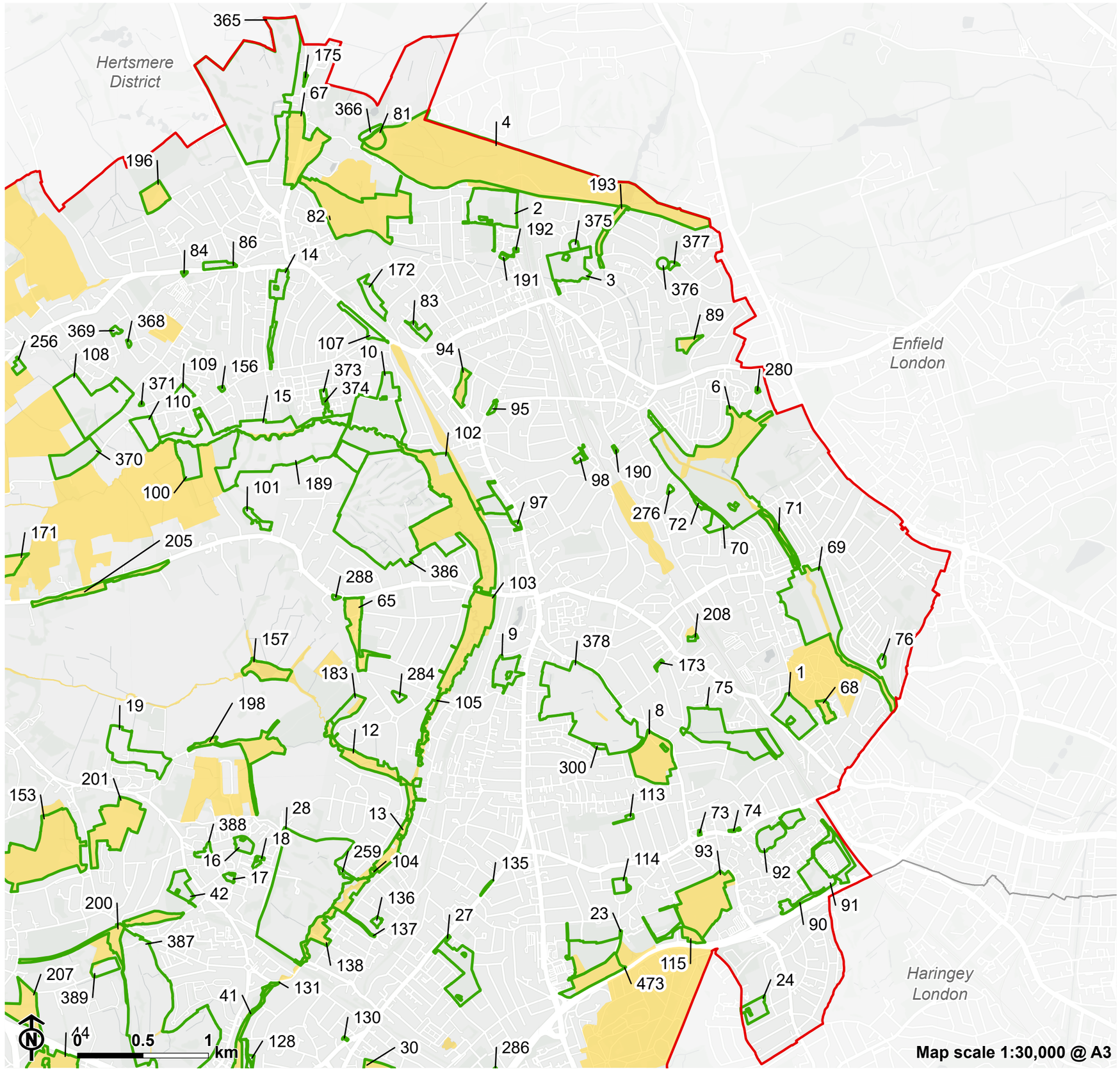
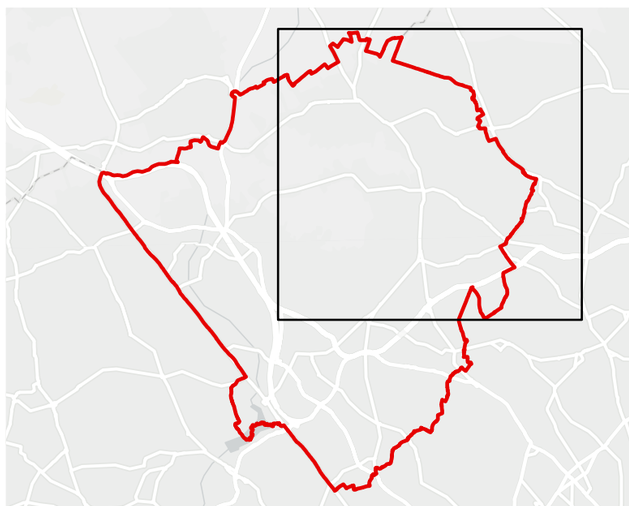
Barnet: Creation of a new Parks and Open Spaces Strategy
London Borough of Barnet

LUC

Open space parcel - Eastern Barnet





- London Borough of Barnet
- Neighbouring London borough
- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Open space parcel

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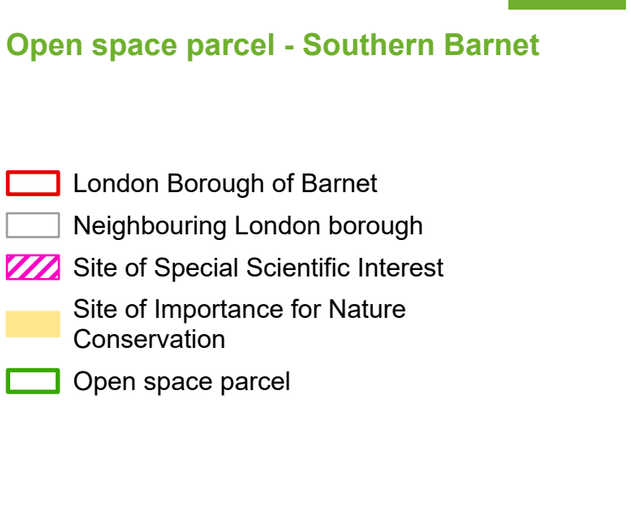
Barnet: Creation of a new Parks and Open Spaces Strategy
London Borough of Barnet

LUC

Open space parcel - Southern Barnet

- London Borough of Barnet
- Neighbouring London borough
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
- Open space parcel



Haringey
London
Brent
Camden

0 0.5 1 km

Map scale 1:27,000 @ A3

GiGL

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Table A.1: SINC names and figure label numbering

LUC ID	SINC Name	SINC Site Reference
1	Hampstead Heath	M072
3	Turner's Wood	BaBII24
7	Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve	BaBI04
8	Pymmes Brook	BaBII20
9	North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds	BaBII18
10	Totteridge Croft Field (or Dell's Down Acre)	BaBI09
12	Monken Hadley Common	BaBI03
13	Hadley Green	M032
14	King George's Fields	BaBII15
15	St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries	BaBII19
16	Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve	BaBI06
17	Glebelands Local Nature Reserve	BaBI07
18	Big Wood and Little Wood	BaBI05
19	New Southgate Cemetery	BaBII21
21	Lakeside Nature Reserve	BaL17
22	Avenue House Grounds	BaL07
23	Lower Dollis Brook	BaBII16
24	Ashley Lane	BaBII12
26	Clarefield Park	BaL16
27	East Finchley Cemetery	BaL08

LUC ID	SINC Name	SINC Site Reference
28	Mutton Brook	BaL09
29	Clitterhouse Playing Fields	BaL06
30	Cherry Tree Wood	BaL13
31	Prince's Park	BaL15
32	College Farm	BaL14
33	Upper Dollis Brook	BaBI08
34	Friary Park	BaL12
35	Woodridge School Nature Reserve	BaL20
36	Greenhill Gardens	BaL10
37	Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting	BaL11
38	Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters	BaL22
39	Mill Hill Substation Pastures	M127
40	Barfield Allotments Nature Park	BaL21
41	Northern line Embankment, High Barnet	BaBII17
42	Totteridge Green	BaBII14
43	Burtonhole Lane and Pasture	BaBII13
44	Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve	BaBI02
45	Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill	M034
46	Barnet Environment Centre	BaL04
47	Bell's Hill Burial Ground	BaL05
48	Arkley Lane and Pastures	BaBII22
49	Totteridge Common	BaBII09
50	The Mill Field	BaBII08

LUC ID	SINC Name	SINC Site Reference
51	Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill	M038
52	Drivers Hill	BaBII10
53	Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve	BaBII04
54	Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common	BaBII11
55	Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park	BaBII03
56	Scratchwood	M139
57	Arkley South Field	BaBII25
58	Glebe Lane Pastures	BaBI01
59	Mill Hill Golf Course	BaBI10
60	Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve	M033
61	Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm	BaBII06
62	Rowley Lodge field	BaBII23
63	Bruno's Field	BaBII07
64	Clay Lane	BaL01
65	Sunny Hill Park	BaL03
66	Grahame Park Open Space	BaL02
67	Copthall South Fields	BaL23
68	Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook	BaBII05
69	Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting	BaL18
70	Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp)	M035
71	Edgware Way Rough	M126

LUC ID	SINC Name	SINC Site Reference
72	Sulloniacis Pastures	BaBII01
73	Edgwarebury Park	BaL19
74	Edgwarebury Brook	BaBII02

Appendix B

Matrix-Based Assessment of BNG Opportunities

LAND PARCEL PARAMETERS						EXCLUSION PARAMETERS		RECOGNISED NETWORK CONTRIBUTION			HABITAT OPPORTUNITY		
Current POS network	Name	Grid reference	Area (ha)	Ownership	Public access (Y / N)	Intersected by SSSI	Intersected by SINC (incl. 2024 recommended boundary expansion or new)	Distance to nearest SINC	Intersected by GIGL Ecological Network Mapping	Mean average habitat value of parcel	GiGL BAP Suitability Habitats (ha)	NE Habitat Network Mapping (ha)	Flood Risk Zone3 (ha)
Parks	New Southgate Recreation Ground	TQ2847992972	5.64	Unknown	Limit_Pub	No	No	11.44	Yes	0.20	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Barnet P/F/ King Geo.Vpf	TQ2522895337	12.30	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.22	Entire	0.00	1.03
Parks	Grange Playing Fields	TQ2376894968	4.02	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.40	Entire	4.02	0.09
Amenity green spaces	Totteridge O/S Badgers Cr	TQ2434894465	1.16	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	182.93	No	0.17	Partial	0.99	0.00
Parks	Brook Farm/Wyatt'S Farm	TQ2581394536	31.26	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	Yes	0.36	Partial	0.00	5.41
Parks	Whetstone Strays	TQ2599793769	11.02	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.29	Entire	0.00	3.28
Green corridors	Riverside Walk South	TQ2503191715	3.21	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.34	Entire	0.00	1.64
Green corridors	Laurel Way Open Space	TQ2564193097	1.50	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.28	Partial	0.00	1.14
Amenity green spaces	Barnet Hill Open Space	TQ2517295932	1.65	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	28.77	No	0.11	Partial	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Whitings Hill Open Space	TQ2303995325	15.12	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.07	Entire	14.69	0.00
Parks	Stanhope Road Open Space	TQ2372895477	1.03	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	300.30	No	0.16	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Quinta Drive Open Space	TQ2344595181	3.29	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	0.00	No	0.26	Entire	3.29	0.03
Natural green spaces	Barnet Gate Wood	TQ2163894820	7.89	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.35	Entire	7.89	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Warnham Road O/S	TQ2712492237	0.25	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	283.20	No	0.16	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Woodhouse Open Sapce/Ingleway	TQ2706091716	1.15	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	347.12	No	0.18	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Coppetts Wood Exchange Land Development	TQ2759191339	2.20	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.30	Partial	2.20	0.00
Parks	Oak Lane Open Space	TQ2649690099	0.42	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	274.67	No	0.05	No	0.00	0.00
Green corridors	The Bowls/Falloden Way	TQ2537089163	0.39	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.18	Entire	0.39	0.26
Green corridors	Northway Gardens Extension	TQ2580988955	1.62	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.15	Partial	1.37	0.73
Green corridors	Woodside Park Club Entrance	TQ2508592667	4.57	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.31	Entire	0.00	2.14
Natural green spaces	Big Wood Nature Reserve	TQ2557188738	7.35	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.35	Entire	7.35	0.00
Parks	Willifield Way Open Space	TQ2533188345	0.14	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	260.51	No	0.07	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Meadway Gate	TQ2536888108	0.11	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	216.98	No	0.12	No	0.11	0.00
Green corridors	Brookside Walk	TQ2501089305	3.60	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.25	Partial	0.25	0.96
Natural green spaces	Littlewood Nature Reserve	TQ2534289020	1.20	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.24	Entire	1.20	0.00
Parks	Willifield Green	TQ2505288896	0.30	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	216.15	No	0.11	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Elm Park	TQ2513286445	0.31	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	357.16	No	0.11	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Exploratory Park	TQ2336487458	1.01	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.23	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Village Rd Open Space	TQ2422590353	0.50	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	32.60	No	0.19	Entire	0.00	0.00
Green corridors	Riverside Walk North	TQ2531791974	4.68	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.25	Partial	0.00	2.67
Amenity green spaces	Church End Gardens	TQ2496390549	0.06	Priv	Limit_Pub	No	No	196.14	No	0.04	No	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Thornhill Avenue Open Space	TQ2438890958	0.31	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.24	Entire	0.00	0.26
Parks	Charter Green	TQ2475189471	0.69	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	30.33	No	0.09	Entire	0.00	0.00
Green corridors	Riverside Gardens	TQ2402789545	0.21	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.23	Entire	0.00	0.19
Amenity green spaces	Ballards Lane Spinny	TQ2604091703	0.14	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	699.22	No	0.08	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Finchley Way Open Space	TQ2520391443	0.36	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	170.27	No	0.13	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Lovers Walk	TQ2508891415	0.31	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	0.00	No	0.18	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Oakdene Park/Gordon Road	TQ2475291354	3.51	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.35	Entire	0.00	2.07
Parks	Meads Open Space, The	TQ2055191647	2.65	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.27	Entire	0.00	1.13
Parks	Old Court House Recreation Ground	TQ2445796309	3.01	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	439.97	No	0.14	Partial	0.00	0.00
Parks	Lyndhurst Park	TQ2117891740	6.02	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.23	Entire	0.00	0.17
Amenity green spaces	Ashbourne Grove O/S	TQ2085792165	0.16	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	288.76	No	0.14	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Penhurst Gdns Hale Lane	TQ2013692377	0.06	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	0.07	No	0.15	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Mount Grove Open Space	TQ2048993029	0.21	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	123.08	No	0.09	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Harcourt Avenue Open Space	TQ2020393218	0.62	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	12.16	No	0.08	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Lynford Gardens - Sundial	TQ1976793149	0.07	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	470.68	No	0.10	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Holcombe Hill	TQ2215593253	0.08	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	16.88	No	0.21	No	0.08	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Simmonds Mead	TQ2155692426	0.89	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	580.90	No	0.12	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Lawrence Green	TQ2184892959	0.88	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	168.56	No	0.20	Partial	0.84	0.00
Green corridors	Riverside Walk/Ducks Isla	TQ2426895198	10.86	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.24	Partial	10.45	1.18
Amenity green spaces	Marsh Close/Marsh Lane Os	TQ2159193238	0.30	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	81.98	No	0.13	No	0.30	0.00
Parks	Mill Field	TQ2217592913	3.50	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.32	Entire	0.00	0.00

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Parks	Arrandene Open Space	TQ2259091871	23.43	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.49	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Grove, The	TQ2267489294	1.45	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	211.36	No	0.14	Partial	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Church Road Hendon	TQ2297189373	0.06	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	157.66	No	0.06	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Darlands Drive/Mays Lane	TQ2401995510	0.12	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	303.52	No	0.09	No	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Darlands Lake Lnr	TQ2435993354	3.49	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.41	Entire	0.00	0.28
Green corridors	Brent Park	TQ2401688810	3.58	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.25	Entire	0.00	2.68
Parks	Panoramic Park	TQ2418692018	1.37	Priv	Unknown	No	No	151.14	No	0.20	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Mount Rd Open Space	TQ2233487972	0.11	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	381.27	No	0.13	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Brent Green	TQ2355888740	0.29	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	138.05	No	0.07	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Woodfield Park	TQ2154587460	8.86	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.31	Partial	8.74	0.00
Parks	York Park	TQ2184687937	1.09	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.31	Entire	1.09	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Grahame Pk F/P-Nth Of O/S	TQ2126091083	0.83	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	27.36	No	0.18	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Court Way O.S	TQ2127389371	0.26	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	167.68	No	0.12	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Pavilion Way Open Space	TQ1999391371	0.08	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	62.07	No	0.12	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Deacons Green	TQ1937792471	0.09	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	480.40	No	0.17	No	0.00	0.06
Parks	Boysland O/S	TQ1977993520	0.64	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	148.18	No	0.05	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Central Park	TQ2407991780	0.39	Priv	Unknown	No	No	413.23	No	0.15	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Rowley Green Common Nature Reserve	TQ2171596101	5.53	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.38	Entire	5.53	0.00
Natural green spaces	Totteridge Fields Nature Reserve	TQ2226994060	7.01	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.77	Entire	7.01	0.00
Parks	Meadway Open Space	TQ2517096204	2.47	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	189.94	Yes	0.31	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Verge	TQ2735893413	0.15	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	252.87	Yes	0.13	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	High Stone Site Of Battle (Grass Verge/Small O/S)	TQ2465697883	0.13	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	198.52	No	0.10	No	0.12	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Cricklewood Open Space	TQ2390785823	0.36	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	229.04	Yes	0.01	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Land To The Rear Of Briarfield Avenue	TQ2585590148	0.63	Priv	Open_Pub	No	No	164.65	Yes	0.24	Partial	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Moat Mount Open Space	TQ2118794092	18.49	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.37	Entire	18.49	0.00
Parks	Eastern Park	TQ2427591891	0.38	Priv	Unknown	No	No	310.98	No	0.13	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Welsh Harp Marginal Land Site A	TQ2233287484	2.40	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	Partial	Entire	0.00	No	0.36	Partial	2.40	0.02
Natural green spaces	Welsh Harp Marginal Land Site B	TQ2174187565	4.60	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	Partial	Entire	0.00	No	0.45	Entire	4.59	0.09
Natural green spaces	Welsh Harp Marginal Land Site D	TQ2169387773	3.50	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	Partial	Entire	0.00	No	0.56	Entire	3.50	0.26
Natural green spaces	Woodridge Nature Reserve	TQ2499093068	2.31	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.35	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Claremont Park	TQ2342786885	2.28	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	34.50	No	0.11	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Elmhurst Open Space	TQ2658989556	0.57	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	426.34	No	0.23	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Ossulton Way O/S	TQ2618089429	0.06	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	130.38	No	0.13	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	King George V Field A	TQ2447095039	26.19	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.40	Entire	25.07	2.00
Parks	Mill Hill Park	TQ2338792699	7.65	Priv	Unknown	No	No	150.36	Yes	0.25	Partial	4.77	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Cranbrook Road O/S	TQ2702295049	0.12	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	212.61	No	0.12	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Shaftsbury Avenue O/S	TQ2616996517	0.28	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	459.02	No	0.09	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Cromer Road O/S	TQ2626496570	0.10	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	415.44	No	0.08	No	0.00	0.00
Green corridors	Baring Road Castlewood Road	TQ2702596819	2.09	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.22	Entire	0.80	0.71
Natural green spaces	Barnet Countryside Centre	TQ2350596972	3.29	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.33	Partial	3.29	0.00
Natural green spaces	Bruno'S Field	TQ2156593459	6.62	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.37	Entire	6.37	0.00
Green corridors	Burtonhole Lane And Pasture	TQ2425092748	6.51	Priv	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.33	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Tudor Sports Ground	TQ2609196892	9.60	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	8.07	No	0.22	Partial	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	<Null>	TQ2055894078	59.16	Unknown	Unknown	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.14	Entire	59.16	2.14
Green corridors	Copthall Railway Walk And Copthall Common	TQ2309191337	6.30	Priv	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.36	Entire	0.00	0.00

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Natural green spaces	Drivers Hill	TQ2320792172	10.80	Priv: Jehovah's Witness	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.36	Partial	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve	TQ2077191829	2.29	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.25	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Sulloniacis Pastures	TQ1765094008	5.07	Priv	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.36	Entire	5.01	0.00
Green corridors	Totteridge Common	TQ2309094001	3.69	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.23	Entire	3.69	0.00
Parks	Claremont Road Millenium Park	TQ2381686313	0.44	Priv	Limit_Pub	No	No	341.05	Yes	0.17	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Copthall South Fields	TQ2251690775	5.69	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.37	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Barfield Nature Park	TQ2761793601	0.23	Priv	Limit_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.31	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Stoneyfields Park	TQ2032993106	2.66	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.23	Entire	0.70	1.03
Amenity green spaces	Moat Crescent Mount	TQ2563389810	0.14	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	104.40	No	0.14	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Greyhound Hill Open Space	TQ2284789511	0.03	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	16.75	No	0.08	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Edgwarebury Park	TQ1898093319	15.81	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.31	Entire	6.57	0.53
Parks	Glebelands Open Space	TQ2683991195	7.25	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.09	Entire	6.33	0.00
Parks	Hallwick Recreation Ground	TQ2809190767	2.34	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	220.35	No	0.18	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Land Behind The Parish Church Of St Peter, Arkley	TQ2246695678	0.64	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	0.00	No	0.19	Entire	0.55	0.00
Natural green spaces	Land Behind Linkside	TQ2496891795	0.34	Priv	Unknown	No	No	33.10	No	0.26	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Victoria Park	TQ2590391039	7.38	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	254.29	No	0.16	Partial	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Rushdene/Gallants Farm O/S	TQ2744394741	0.20	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	92.24	No	0.13	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Westcroft Close	TQ2426485638	0.06	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	39.90	No	0.08	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Westcroft Close	TQ2413685753	0.14	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	14.22	No	0.11	No	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	Finchley Golf Course	TQ2462991677	41.43	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	0.00	No	0.28	Partial	0.00	0.32
Amenity green spaces	Vernon/Mansfield D/D Lane	TQ2811195499	0.11	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	168.17	No	0.09	No	0.11	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Public Paths - G.Park	TQ2105490389	0.04	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	278.21	No	0.13	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Public Paths - G.Park	TQ2146190269	0.49	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	63.73	No	0.05	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Chiddingfold	TQ2536993160	0.46	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	207.09	No	0.08	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Garden Of Hope	TQ2585289960	0.23	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	27.77	No	0.06	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Long Land Pasture	TQ2607790249	1.10	Priv	Unknown	No	No	314.47	No	0.27	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Beaufort Square Garden	TQ2205789978	0.51	Priv	Unknown	No	No	425.49	No	0.06	Partial	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Pond By The Orange Tree Pub	TQ2488793917	0.13	Priv	Unknown	No	No	26.47	No	0.13	Entire	0.00	0.00
Green corridors	Brookside Walk	TQ2451589272	5.84	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.27	Partial	0.00	1.93
Parks	Victoria Recreation Ground	TQ2667296423	6.33	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	No	45.23	No	0.06	Partial	0.00	0.47
Parks	Avenue House Grounds	TQ2520890270	4.27	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.17	Partial	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	<Null>	TQ2690592781	0.33	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	174.10	No	0.15	Partial	0.00	0.00
Parks	Cherry Tree Wood	TQ2756989056	5.25	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.30	Entire	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	<Null>	TQ2196196122	21.37	Unknown	Unknown	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.40	Entire	21.37	0.00
Parks	Lyttleton Playing Fields	TQ2650688747	9.31	Unknown	Limit_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.21	Partial	0.00	0.34
Golf courses	<Null>	TQ1836093226	2.64	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	30.81	Yes	0.27	Entire	2.64	0.00
Green corridors	Northway Gardens	TQ2558388992	1.47	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.21	Partial	1.47	0.76
Parks	Hampstead Heath Extension	TQ2592387724	30.19	Other_Pub: Corporation of London	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.22	Entire	30.19	0.00
Parks	Basing Hill Park	TQ2442887026	2.57	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	210.10	No	0.17	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Childs Hill Park	TQ2478686914	2.81	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	386.51	No	0.17	Entire	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	<Null>	TQ2633787910	19.32	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	49.90	No	0.70	Partial	11.38	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Northway Circus Roundabout	TQ2089092850	0.17	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	477.19	No	0.00	No	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	<Null>	TQ2101193726	2.79	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	0.02	No	0.22	Partial	2.79	0.00
Golf courses	Old Fold Manor Golf Club	TQ2427997800	48.49	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	10.62	Yes	0.23	Partial	47.39	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Land Opposite Monken Hadley Common	TQ2514597466	0.73	Priv	Unknown	No	No	5.99	No	0.38	Entire	0.57	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Barnet Physic Well	TQ2330895856	0.13	Priv	Unknown	No	No	153.18	No	0.16	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Land At Endersby Road/Garthland Dr.	TQ2320795953	0.36	Priv	Unknown	No	No	198.47	No	0.10	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Golders Hill Park	TQ2562986927	13.85	Other_Pub: Corporation of London	Limit_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.24	Partial	13.84	0.00

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Natural green spaces	Whitings Wood	TQ2289194972	5.93	Priv	Unknown	No	No	0.00	No	0.42	Entire	5.93	0.00
Amenity green spaces	<Null>	TQ2340595393	0.08	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	304.80	No	0.15	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green spaces	Land At Mill Bridge Estate	TQ2479795468	0.29	Priv	Unknown	No	No	152.10	No	0.03	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	Land At Meadow Close	TQ2484495317	0.49	Priv	Unknown	No	No	22.10	No	0.08	Partial	0.24	0.00
Amenity green	Land At Armstrong Cres	TQ2670996607	0.39	Priv	Unknown	No	No	134.32	No	0.13	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	Mount Pleasant Roundabout	TQ2738696467	0.58	Priv	Unknown	No	No	273.93	No	0.13	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	Land At Mount Pleasant/Landford Rd	TQ2745096452	0.25	Priv	Unknown	No	No	275.50	No	0.15	Entire	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	North Middlesex Golf Club	TQ2683993085	30.11	Unknown	Unknown	No	Partial	0.00	Yes	0.22	Partial	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	<Null>	TQ2423785878	0.07	Unknown	Unknown	No	No	171.19	No	0.08	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	Pennine Drive Roundabout	TQ2400086805	0.27	Priv	Unknown	No	No	161.16	No	0.16	No	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	South Herts Gold Course	TQ2529294606	47.86	Unknown	Unknown	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.44	Partial	5.23	1.05
Golf courses	Hendon Golf Club	TQ2343390830	42.94	Unknown	Unknown	No	Partial	0.00	Yes	0.42	Entire	0.00	3.31
Parks	Officer'S Mess Gardens	TQ2387591956	0.66	Priv	Unknown	No	No	190.78	No	0.12	Partial	0.00	0.00
Golf courses	Metro Golf Centre	TQ2312491094	2.00	Unknown	Unknown	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.29	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Princes Park	TQ2440088481	1.34	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.17	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Monken Hadley Common	TQ2575097280	68.87	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.40	Partial	57.65	1.29
Green corridors	Windsor Open Space	TQ2413690255	9.06	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.26	Entire	0.00	6.07
Parks	Bittacy Hill Park	TQ2370991713	2.66	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	85.00	Yes	0.20	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Sunny Hill Park	TQ2260490246	21.17	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.35	Partial	0.00	0.00
Parks	Hendon Park	TQ2335188463	11.55	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.20	Partial	0.00	0.00
Parks	Sturgess Park	TQ2295587946	0.64	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	412.98	No	0.20	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Glebelands Nature Reserve	TQ2686491026	5.06	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.31	Entire	5.06	0.00
Parks	Grahame Park	TQ2142490674	3.77	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.18	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Colindale Park	TQ2141189787	0.99	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	31.85	No	0.15	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	West Way Open Space	TQ1979091838	0.26	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	0.00	No	0.15	No	0.00	0.25
Parks	Mill Hill Park	TQ2201691916	18.15	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	10.39	No	0.23	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Stonegrove Park	TQ1896192183	2.83	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	217.39	Yes	0.18	Entire	1.07	0.00
Green corridors	Dean'S Brook	TQ1993391709	5.77	Priv	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.20	Partial	0.00	1.86
Parks	Malcolm Park	TQ2219788640	1.82	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	283.16	No	0.18	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	West Hendon Playing Fields	TQ2134187965	26.96	Unknown	Open_Pub	Partial	Partial	0.00	Yes	0.43	Partial	20.54	0.12
Natural green spaces	Welsh Harp Marginal Land Site C	TQ2181787939	1.65	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	Partial	Partial	0.00	No	0.38	Partial	1.65	0.25
Natural green spaces	Welsh Harp Marginal Land Site E	TQ2161688254	1.51	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	Partial	Entire	0.00	No	0.57	Partial	1.51	1.27
Parks	Rushgrove Park	TQ2178889233	3.59	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.25	Entire	0.00	3.39
Amenity green	Peel Square	TQ2188789604	2.17	Priv	Unknown	No	No	36.18	No	0.19	Partial	0.00	0.00
Parks	Oakhill Park	TQ2779394898	33.24	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.27	Partial	13.84	5.39
Parks	Montrose Playing Fields	TQ2091090222	10.92	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	Yes	0.22	Entire	0.00	3.57
Parks	Silkstream Park	TQ2050390494	4.51	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.18	Partial	0.00	3.01
Parks	Watling Park	TQ2057391203	10.75	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.19	Entire	0.00	2.38
Parks	Clitterhouse Playing Fields	TQ2383787078	17.95	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.20	Partial	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Totteridge Green	TQ2503993714	4.98	Priv	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.19	Partial	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Scratchwood	TQ2024094886	56.76	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.40	Entire	56.73	0.00
Natural green spaces	Hadley Green	TQ2462097349	10.01	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.06	Partial	8.15	0.00
Natural green spaces	Brunswick Woods	TQ2863493049	1.19	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.31	No	0.00	0.00
Parks	Brunswick Park & Waterfall Walk	TQ2857793789	19.60	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.35	Partial	0.00	1.78
Parks	Church Farm Open Space	TQ2779394476	1.32	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	226.69	No	0.24	Entire	0.00	0.00
Green corridors	Everleigh Walk	TQ2832394348	2.28	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.18	Partial	0.00	1.43
Amenity green	St Marys Church Green	TQ2766794627	0.32	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	129.62	No	0.14	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Kennard Road Open Space	TQ2766892119	0.08	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	310.46	No	0.04	No	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	Frien Barnet Road Gardens	TQ2791692135	0.10	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	294.31	No	0.08	No	0.10	0.00
Parks	Bethune Recreation Ground	TQ2770692943	12.89	Unknown	Open_Pub	No	No	117.96	Yes	0.20	Partial	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	Lincoln Avenue O.S.	TQ2906193430	0.40	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	62.40	No	0.14	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Central Square	TQ2546988403	3.38	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	50.38	No	0.07	No	1.56	0.00
Green corridors	Fletchers Gardens	TQ2602288928	0.67	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.18	Entire	0.00	0.40
Parks	Friary Park	TQ2731592679	9.14	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.20	Partial	0.00	0.00
Parks	Hadley Cricket Outfield	TQ2519797406	1.54	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.15	Entire	1.54	0.00
Parks	King Georges Field	TQ2503996820	19.66	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.23	Partial	0.00	0.00
Parks	Highlands Gardens	TQ2556995943	1.07	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	169.04	Yes	0.20	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Jubilee Gardens	TQ2373296391	0.11	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	315.56	No	0.14	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Ravenscroft Gardens	TQ2398896453	1.13	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	441.55	No	0.14	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Belmont Open Space	TQ2756795855	1.27	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Partial	0.00	No	0.29	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Swan Lane Open Space	TQ2614793359	3.54	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	177.04	Yes	0.18	Entire	0.00	0.00
Parks	Bounds Green/Fairview Open Space	TQ2844991602	1.32	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	74.49	Yes	0.24	Partial	0.00	0.46
Parks	Friern Bridge Retail Park	TQ2856391782	6.62	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	30.12	No	0.26	Partial	0.00	0.08
Parks	Frien Park	TQ2820392088	4.44	Local_Auth	Limit_Pub	No	No	274.32	Yes	0.34	Entire	0.00	0.00
Natural green spaces	Coppetts Wood	TQ2770191583	12.97	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.38	Partial	12.97	0.00
Parks	Greenhill Gardens	TQ2585195514	1.68	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	Entire	0.00	No	0.24	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	Lyonsdown Road O.S	TQ2608695355	0.29	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	203.58	Yes	0.15	Entire	0.00	0.00
Amenity green	G.N.R. Open Space	TQ2626894482	0.30	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	170.11	No	0.12	Entire	0.00	0.00

Current POS network	Name	Grid reference	Area (ha)	Ownership	Public access (Y / N)	Intersected by SSSI	Intersected by SINC (incl. 2024 recommended boundary expansion or new)	Distance to nearest SINC	Intersected by GIGL Ecological Network Mapping	Mean average habitat value of parcel	GiGL BAP Suitability Habitats (ha)	NE Habitat Network Mapping (ha)	Flood Risk Zone3 (ha)
Amenity green	Holland Close O.S	TQ2674694980	0.47	Local_Auth	Open_Pub	No	No	281.11	No	0.15	Entire	0.00	0.00

Appendix C

Site Proformas

Appendix D

SINC Survey Methods

Table D.1: 2023 Since Surveys Completed

SINC Grades	SINC Name	Survey method GLA OS&H	Survey method UK Nabs	Survey method BNG Condition
Metropolitan	n/a	N	N	N
Borough I	Upper Dollis Brook	Y	Y	N
Borough II	King George's Fields	Y	Y	N
Borough II	Lower Dollis Brook	Y	Y	N
Local	Barfield Allotments Nature Park	Y	Y	Y
Local	Barnet Environment Centre	Y	Y	Y
Local	Clitterhouse Playing Fields	Y	Y	Y
Local	Copthall South Field	Y	Y	Y
Local	Friary Park	Y	Y	Y
Local	Grahame Park Open Space	Y	Y	Y
Local	Greenhill Gardens	Y	Y	Y
Local	Prince's Park	Y	Y	Y

Table D.2: 2024 SINC Surveys Completed

SINC Grades	SINC Name	Survey method GLA OS&H	Survey method UK Nabs	Survey method BNG Condition
Metropolitan	Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill	Y	Y	N
Metropolitan	Brent Reservoir (Welsh Harp)	Y	Y	N
Metropolitan	Hadley Green	Y	N	N
Metropolitan	Hampstead Heath	Y	N	N
Metropolitan	Mill Hill Substation Pastures	Y	N	N
Metropolitan	Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve	Y	N	N
Metropolitan	Scratchwood	Y	N	N
Metropolitan	Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill	Y	Y	N
Borough I	Big Wood and Little Wood	Y	N	N
Borough I	Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve	Y	Y	N
Borough I	Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve	Y	N	N
Borough I	Glebe Lane Pastures	Y	N	N
Borough I	Glebelands Local Nature Reserve	Y	Y	N
Borough I	Mill Hill Golf Course	Y	N	N
Borough I	Monken Hadley Common	Y	Y	N
Borough I	Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve	Y	N	N
Borough I	Totteridge Croft Field (or Dell's Down Acre)	Y	N	N

SINC Grades	SINC Name	Survey method GLA OS&H	Survey method UK Nabs	Survey method BNG Condition
Borough II	Arkley Lane and Pastures	Y	N	N
Borough II	Arkley South Field	Y	N	N
Borough II	Ashley Lane	Y	N	N
Borough II	Bruno's Field	Y	N	N
Borough II	Burtonhole Lane and Pasture	Y	N	N
Borough II	Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common	Y	N	N
Borough II	Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park	Y	N	N
Borough II	Drivers Hill	Y	N	N
Borough II	Edgwarebury Brook	Y	N	N
Borough II	Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve	Y	N	N
Borough II	Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm	Y	N	N
Borough II	New Southgate Cemetery	Y	N	N
Borough II	North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds	Y	N	N
Borough II	Northern line Embankment, High Barnet	Y	N	N
Borough II	Pymmes Brook Rowley Lodge field	Y	N	N
Borough II	Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook	Y	Y	N
Borough II	St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries	Y	N	N
Borough II	Sulloniacis Pastures	Y	N	N

SINC Grades	SINC Name	Survey method GLA OS&H	Survey method UK Nabs	Survey method BNG Condition
Borough II	The Mill Field	Y	N	N
Borough II	Totteridge Common	Y	Y	N
Borough II	Totteridge Green	Y	N	N
Borough II	Turner's Wood	Y	N	N
Local	Avenue House Grounds	Y	N	N
Local	Bell's Hill Burial Ground	Y	Y	N
Local	Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters	Y	Y	N
Local	Cherry Tree Wood	Y	Y	N
Local	Clay Lane	Y	Y	N
Local	College Farm	Y	N	N
Local	East Finchley Cemetery	Y	Y	N
Local	Edgwarebury Park	Y	Y	N
Local	Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting	Y	Y	N
Local	Lakeside Nature Reserve	Y	N	N
Local	Mutton Brook	Y	Y	N
Local	Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting	Y	Y	N
Local	Sunny Hill Park	Y	Y	N
Local	Woodridge School Nature Reserve	Y	Y	N

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3 Barnet Local Plan Biodiversity Technical, April 2022. Available: Biodiversity Technical Paper.pdf (barnet.gov.uk)

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6 Actions LPAs should take on mandatory biodiversity net gain. Available: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/biodiversity-net-gain-what-local-planning-authorities-should-do#actions-lpas-should-take-on-mandatory-biodiversity-net-gain

7 Biodiversity 2020 Strategy: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services. Available: Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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9 Reporting your biodiversity duty actions. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/reporting-your-biodiversity-duty-actions

10 London Wildlife Trust (2015), Spaces wild: championing the values of London's wildlife sites.

11 The green belt 'golden rules' are guidelines that ensure development on green belt land is conducted responsibly, for example, environmental protection and accessible green space.

12 Greater London Authority (2021) The London Plan: The Spatial Development Strategy for Greater London [pdf]. Available at: https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2021.pdf

13 Mayor of London (2017), Appendix 5: SINC Selection Criteria

14 Barnet London Borough (2022) Barnet's Local Plan Examination in Public: Technical Paper on Biodiversity, April 2022

15 2006 Sustainable Design and Construction SPD Draft SPD Sustainable Design and Construction November 2006 (barnet.gov.uk)

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20 London Lea Catchment Management Plan. Available: River Lea Catchment Partnership - London Lea home

21 Available: Access to Public Open Space and Nature by Ward - London Datastore

22 Exclusions are summarised under current government guidance available: Biodiversity net gain - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

23 GIGL: BNG Resources (Accessed 2024): https://www.gigl.org.uk/recording-surveying/links-and-resources/biodiversity-net-gain-bng-resources/

24 Protected species are those which are listed within conservation designation and afforded protection under national and international legislation. JNCC create and maintain the list of conservation designations.

25 Notable species are those which have been listed as rare, endangered or a priority species of conservation concern. JNCC create and maintain the list of conservation designations.

26 Available: Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature - GIGL

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32 The London Wildlife Site Board (LWSB) Advice Note, April 2019. It is understood that the criteria are currently under review, but no date of revised publication is yet confirmed. The findings, and arising recommendations, may in due course benefit from review in light of updated criteria once published.

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46 Note that the LBB 2022 Local Plan Biodiversity Technical Paper, Section 2.0, states “The Green Infrastructure SPD (EB_GI_10) will provide detail on how to deliver multifunctional green infrastructure including best practice for Sustainable Drainage Systems, give advice on achieving biodiversity net gain and the Urban Greening Factor”].

47 Records of the GCN population collated by the Council include three breeding ponds with a peak counts of 27 adults at Long Marsh Hollow in April 2024 and an historic peak count of 74 adults (57 adult males, 17 adult females) in April 2003. In addition, 418 larvae were record in July 2014.

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Development Planning / Urban Design and Masterplanning
Environmental Impact Assessment / Landscape Planning and Assessment
Landscape Management / Ecology / Historic Environment / GIS and Visualisation

M072 Hampstead Heath
Site information
LUC Site ID: 1
SINC ID: M072
SINC Name: Hampstead Heath
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ2730486626
Area (ha): 316.91
Ward: Barnet, Camden
Land Use: Parks and Gardens, Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: One of London's best loved open spaces, the Heath's remarkable range of Habitats so close to central London includes one of the capital's few bogs, as well as wide expanses of grassland and ancient woodland.
SINC Description: Just over six kilometres from central London, this extensive site is well known for its unique mix of semi natural and formalHabitats. Ancient woodlands contain an exceptional number of old and over mature trees, providing dead woodHabitat for a range of specialist invertebrates, including the nationally rare jewel beetle Agrilus pannonicus. Another importantHabitat is the small wet flush , or bog, containing several species of bog mosses, Sphagnum spp., and water horsetail, Equisetum fluviatile, all very rare in London. Acid grassland occurs on the upper slopes, supporting heath bedstraw, Galium saxatile, pill sedge , Carex pilulifera, pignut, Conopodium majus, and other characteristic plants. In several places heathland restoration is being attempted, using heathers, Calluna vulgaris, Erica spp.. Relict heathland invertebrates include the tube web spider , Atypus affinis, at its only known London site. The many ponds and watercourses on the site are of further botanical, entomological and ornithological interest. Other rare plants include creeping willow, Salix repens, lemon scented fern, Oreopteris limbosperma, and hard fern, Blechnum spicant. One of north London's most popular open spaces, the Heath has been skillfully managed to integrate wildlife and recreation over the last decade. Owned by the City of London with the exception of the Kenwood Estate, which is owned by English Heritage; part Site of Special Scientific Interest. Hampstead Heath won a Green Flag Award again for 2006/7.
Management provider: Council, City of London
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Hampstead Heath Woods
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Lowland heathland, Traditional orchard
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Butterfly, Baltic Gull, Barnacle Goose, Bluebell, Chives, Common Darter, Common Pipistrelle, Cornflower, Daubenton's Bat, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Galingale, Greenfinch, Grey Wagtail, Herring Gull, Hoary Cinquefoil, House Sparrow, Kingfisher, Large Skipper, Lesser Redpoll, Lesser Whitethroat, Nathusius's Pipistrelle, Pipistrelle Bat species, Purple Emperor, Redwing, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Soprano Pipistrelle, Spotted Flycatcher, Stag Beetle, Starling, Swift, Tawny Owl, West European Hedgehog, White letter Hairstreak
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Bluebell, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Muntjac, Curly Waterweed, Evergreen Oak, False acacia, Giant Hogweed, Green Alkanet, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Least Duckweed, Montbretia, New Zealand Pigmyweed, Nuttall's

M072 Hampstead Heath
Waterweed, Parrot's feather, Pink Purslane, Ragweed, Ring necked Parakeet, Shaggy Soldier, Small Balsam, Snowberry, Spanish Bluebell, Turkey Oak, Water Fern
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the south of the borough, with the majority of the SINC lying in the neighboroughing borough. Hampstead heath is not connected to any other SINC or green spaces within the borough. The site was split into 2 sections - Golders Hill Park and Hampstead Heath Extension.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Warm and cloudy
Date: 5/15/2024 2:22:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The sites are managed for high usage by visitors.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, Standing water, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Golders Hill Park Amenity grass including perennial rye, cocks foot, ribwort plantain, common daisy, creeping buttercup, dock, and white clover. Longer sward grass in the central north, included the same species plus cow parsley and meadow foxtail. Within the amenity grassland plots were scattered trees comprising ash, cherry, hawthorn, malus sp, prunus, silver birch, cooper beech, poplar, northeast pines, cypress, yew scattered trees too. Within the sire was tennis courts, a zoo and aviary in centre, butterfly house in north, deer park, children's play area in south and ornamental gardens. Lining the hardstanding pathways were mature tree lines of horse chestnut and lime. A small ornamental pond in the north of the site with a stand of reeds. Hampstead Heath Extension London plane trees line the roadsides on the east and west boundaries. Football and rugby pitches comprise the grassland fields in the north of the site. Mature trees and scrub line football pitches - Limes, oak, ash, copper beech, elder, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn. Some areas are fenced off to protect tree roots. New tree planting in centre along paths of cherry saplings. The grassland species include perennial rye grass, cocksfoot, white clover, and ribwort plantain. Areas of longer sward had nettle, cow parsley, and cleavers. A toilet block and house/maintenance building in centre of the site.

M072 Hampstead Heath
Woodland in southeast corner of site. Species included mature oak, hazel, ash, cherry, yew, silver birch, some cherry laurel, bramble, holly, hawthorn and field maple. Pond and wetland area with flag irises, desilting works taking place.
Threats and Disturbances: Vehicle erosion, Litter, Dog Fouling, Invasive Species: Additional comments: Litter and dog fouling was an issue on the Hampstead Heath Extension. Cherry laurel was noted in that section of the site too. Cherry laurel and bamboo were identified within the site which would need to be removed before they spread. There was also vehicle erosion surrounding the pond and fields in the south of the Extension.
Ecological opportunities on site: Deadwood, Wildlife Friendly Additional comments: Wildlife friendly planting within Golder Hill Park to replace some of the ornamental species, which would benefit the local wildlife. Deadwood feature creation within the woodlands for invertebrates and reptiles.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland, mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The pond and wetland Habitat provided suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

M072 Hampstead Heath

M072 Hampstead Heath

M072 Hampstead Heath

M072 Hampstead Heath

M072 Hampstead Heath

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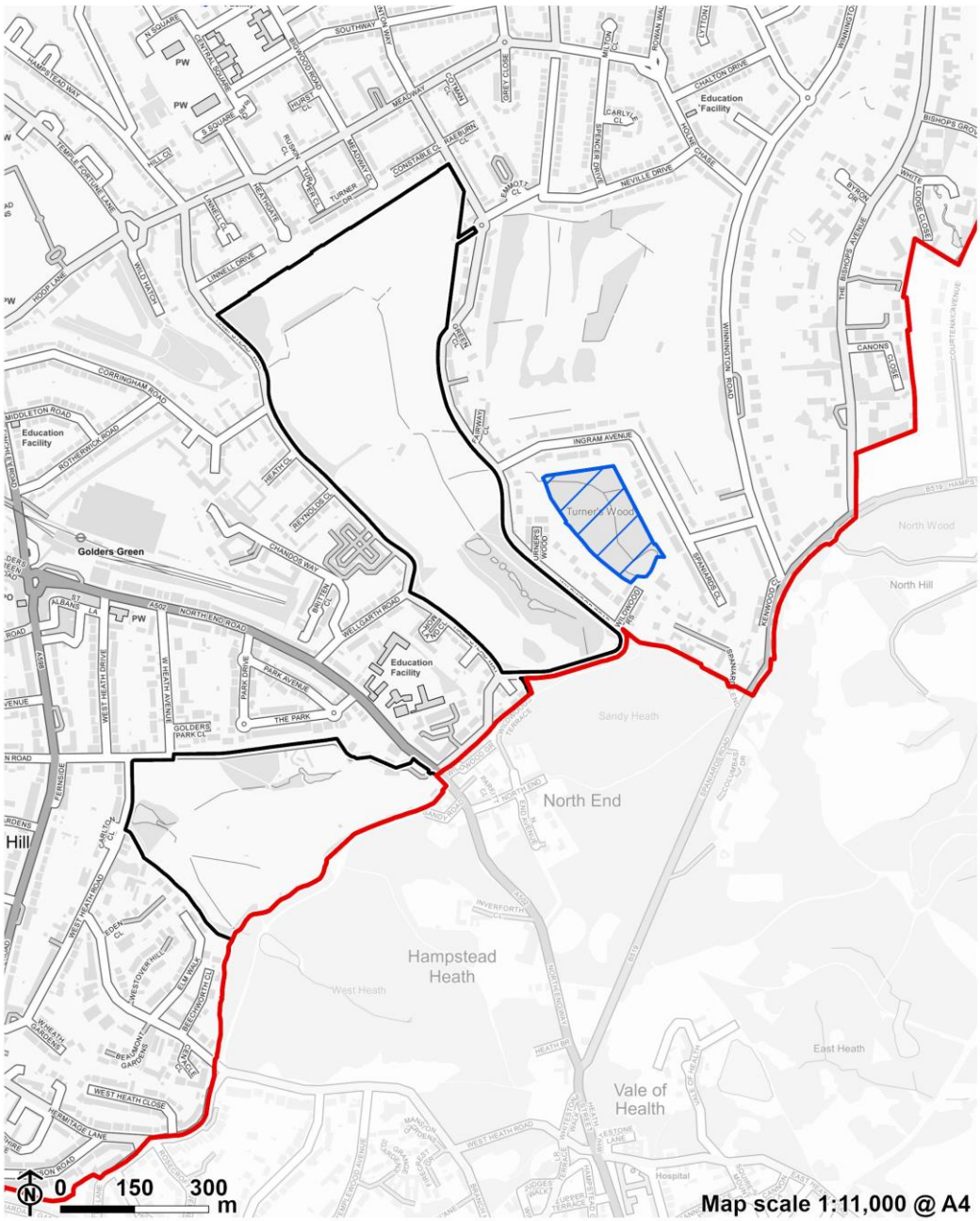
M072 Hampstead Heath

M072 Hampstead Heath

M072 Hampstead Heath

M072 Hampstead Heath
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Regular bin collections on site to reduce loose waste on the site.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): Hampstead Heath Strategy 2018-2028
SINC Criteria
Representation: The woodland and scrubHabitats are large and good examples of the Habitats within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: Large expanses of mature woodland are rarer in the borough.
Species Rarity: The sites supports many London BAP, notable and protected species such as bats, birds and invertebrates.
Habitat Richness: The two sections of the site support multiple differentHabitats.
Species Richness: N/A

M072 Hampstead Heath
Size: The site is a large site within the borough and supports large areas of woodland and grassland Habitats.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The large site would be very difficult to recreate within London due to it's large size and numerousHabitats it supports.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is in the south of the borough and is not connected to other SINCs within the area. However, the site covers a large area within London.
Access: The site is fully accessible to the public.
Use: The site is used by visitors, locals, families, dog walkers, and runners.
Potential: Wildlife friendly planting within Golder Hill Park to replace some of the ornamental species, which would benefit the local wildlife. Deadwood feature creation within the woodlands for invertebrates and reptiles.
Aesthetic Appeal: The large sit provides large green fields, lines of mature trees and flowering scrub which are aesthetically appealing.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the Metropolitan site criteria. Hampstead Heath is a well know London park and its large area supports numerous notable and protected species, whilst still providing recreational opportunities for people.
Site Maps



Map scale 1:11,000 @ A4

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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

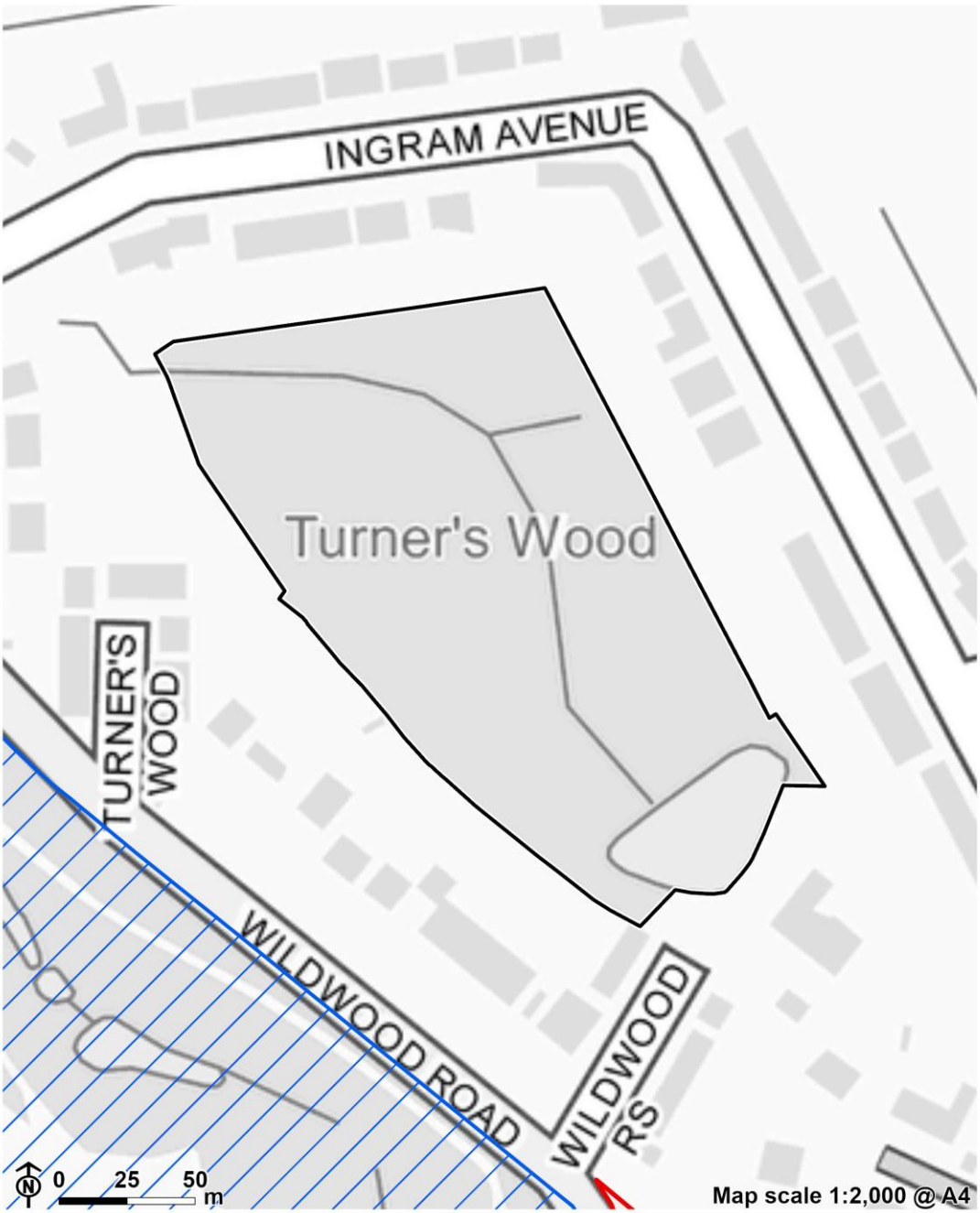
Other LUC assessment site

BaBII24 Turner's Wood
Site information
LUC Site ID: 3
SINC ID: BaBII24
SINC Name: Turner's Wood
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2632187520
Area (ha): 2.99
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A small ancient wood close to Hampstead Heath.
SINC Description: This small ancient wood, very close to Hampstead Heath, is owned and managed as a bird sanctuary by residents of surrounding properties. The canopy is dominated by sessile oak, Quercus petraea, suggesting acidic soils. Other trees include pedunculate oak, Q. robur, hornbeam , Carpinus betulus, sycamore, Acer pseudoplatanus, beech, Fagus sylvatica, and downy birch , Betula pubescens. A particularly diverse shrub layer includes common and Midland hawthorns, Crataegus monogyna and C. laevigata, rowan, Sorbus aucuparia, , wild service tree , S. torminalis, , hazel , Corylus avellana, wild cherry, Prunus avium, holly, Ilex aquilifolium, elder, Sambucus nigra, and yew, Taxus baccata. There are also a few ornamental species, reflecting past management as a Victorian woodland pleasure garden. The ground flora is dominated by bramble, Rubus fruticosus agg., and bracken, Pteridium aquilinum, with carpets of native and hybrid bluebells , Hyacinthoides non scripta and H. x variabilis, in spring. Other woodland wild flowers include wood anemone , Anemone nemorosa, ramsons, Allium ursinum, foxglove, Digitalis purpurea, and enchanter’s nightshade, Circaea lutetiana, .
Management provider: Private landowner.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. Turner's Wood is a private ancient woodland located to the south of the Borough of Barnet. It comprises ancient woodland and a large pond.

BaBII24 Turner's Wood
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: N/A - desk based review
Date: 9/5/2024 3:11:00 PM
Survey access: No Access
Level of Use: Low
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): This site has been assessed through review of aerial imagery therefore, comments cannot be made as to the management of the woodland, which is understood from the 2006 citation, to be managed by residents of the adjacent properties.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Standing water
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: N/A
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: N/A
Ecological opportunities on site: Deadwood, Active Tree, wetland creation, Wildlife Friendly, Meadow creation Additional comments: There may be opportunities for deadwood Habitat creation, both standing and fallen, through veteranisation of suitable trees and as part of active tree management. There may be opportunity for wildflower meadow creation bolstered with wildlife friendly planting in the areas of amenity grassland which surround the pond. There may also be opportunities for enhancing the ecological value of the pond through marginal planting, reedbed creation or installation of other features such as floating roost platforms and duckhouses for waterfowl.
Interest: Birds, Invertebrates, Amphibians, Bryophytes, Lichen, Fungi, Mammals Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: This ancient woodland is thought to be managed as a bird sanctuary and therefore likely to support a rich assemblage of passerine and woodland birds. Although there are no ecological records for the site, the citation which was last updated in 2006 states that "Breeding birds include tawny owl, nuthatch, coal tit and green and great spotted woodpeckers. A good range of mammals includes hedgehog, field vole, woodmouse and bats." It is likely that all these species remain and the woodlands are likely to support a range of bat species given the presence of foragingHabitat within the woodland and the pond.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: The site appears to remain unchanged since the citation was last updated in 2006.
Management Recommendations:

BaBII24 Turner's Wood
In the absence of survey, no management recommendations can be made for the woodland or pond.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): It is not known whether there is a management plan for this site, however it is understood that the woodland is managed by residents of the adjacent properties.
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Ancient woodland is an increasingly rareHabitat in London and is particularly rare in Barnet, where remaining areas of undeveloped land is predominantely pasture.
Species Rarity: Ancient woodland forms some of the most ecologically richHabitats in the UK, supporting rare species of flora and fauna and is therefore considered an irreplacableHabitat. Although there are no ecological records for this site, it is likely to support rare plants, fungi, bryophytes and lichens in addition to a range of rare animals from saproxylic invertebrates to birds, bats and mammals such as badger.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: There are no ecological records for the site, however, the citation suggests that the site is managed as a bird sanctuary and is therefore, likely to support a diverse bird assemblage. Species previously recorded on the citation include tawny owl, nuthatch, coal tit and green and great spotted woodpeckers.
Size: The site is just under 3ha in size, which is a considerable sized SINC, especially given that the majority of the site comprises ancient woodland.
Important populations of species: There are no ecological records for the site, but it is likely to support rare woodland bird assemblages including lesser spotted woodpecker, willow warbler and bullfinch.
Ancient Character: The site comprises predominantely ancient woodland which are typically woodlands over 400 years old.
Recreatability: Due to their age, and the complexHabitat which develops including veteran and ancient trees and the diverse species assemblages which rely on these either for shelter, food or nutrients, ancient woodlands cannot be recreated.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: Woodlands and ancient woodlands in particular have significant cultural value due to their long history within the landscape and society's primitive connection with woodlands as places of refuge/ hunting grounds..
Geographic Position: Turner's Wood lies at the south of the borough near the parkland area of Hampstead Heath SINC which lies within Barnet. It is surrounded by residential properties, however it is likely to offer importantHabitat for a range of animals including birds of the wider woodlands of Hampstead Heath which lie outside of the borough to the south.
Access: The site is private and only accessible to residents of the surrounding properties.
Use: The site is used by residents of the surrounding properties.
Potential: The site may hold potential for further ecological enhancement such as through deadwoodHabitat creation or wildlife friendly planting (where appropriate outside of the woodland within areas of amenity grassland). There may also be opportunities for enhancing the ecological value of the pond through marginal planting, reedbed creation or installation of other features such as floating roost platforms and duckhouses for waterfowl.
Aesthetic Appeal: The woodland is likely to be of substantial aesthetic appeal due to its ancient character and likely diversity of plant species within the woodland canopy, sub-canopy, understorey and ground layer and also within the range of wildlife present within the woodland.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions

BaBII24 Turner's Wood
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: Turner's Wood continues to provide significant ecological value to the SINC network in Barnet and in London as a whole. It supports rare ancient woodland Habitat, which is likely to provide shelter, nesting and foragingHabitat to a wide range of species including insects, birds, bats and mammals.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 7
SINC ID: BaBI04
SINC Name: Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2790095152
Area (ha): 10.21
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Amenity, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Parks and Gardens, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: An ancient wood, managed as a nature reserve by the London Wildlife Trust.
SINC Description: An ancient woodland, declared a Local Nature Reserve in 1997 and managed by the London Wildlife Trust. The canopy is dominated by pedunculate oak, Quercus robur, hornbeam, Carpinus betulus, and ash, Fraxinus excelsior, with occasional horse chestnut, Aesculus hippocastanum. A variable shrub layer includes common and Midland hawthorns, Crataegus monogyna and C. laevigata, , field maple, Acer campestre, and wild service tree, Sorbus torminalis, with cherry laurel , Prunus laurocerasus, locally abundant. The ground flora includes bluebell, Hyacinthoides non scripta, wood speedwell , Veronica montana, wood anemone, Anemone nemorosa, wood forget me not, Myosotis sylvatica, and wood, remote and pendulous sedges, Carex sylvatica, C. remota and C. pendula. Breeding birds include tawny owl, nuthatch, treecreeper, stock dove, blackcap and chiffchaff. A small stream flows through the wood on its way to join the Pymmes Brook. An area of grassland beside the wood contains common wild flowers such as lady's bedstraw, Galium verum, common knapweed, Centaurea nigra, lesser stitchwort, Stellaria graminea, and bird's foot trefoil, Lotus corniculatus. Good numbers of common butterflies, including gatekeeper, common blue and large, small and Essex skippers, occur in this meadow.
Management provider: London Wildlife Trust.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Oak Hill Wood
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Butterfly, Bluebell, Essex Skipper, Eurasian Badger, Great Crested Newt, Greenfinch, Grey Wagtail, Hobby, Large Skipper, Lesser Whitethroat, Pipistrelle, Red Kite, Redwing, Service tree, Shoulder striped Wainscot, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Spotted Flycatcher, Swift, Tawny Owl, White letter Hairstreak
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Muntjac, False acacia, Ring necked Parakeet, Spanish Bluebell, Turkey Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is a publicly accessible greenspace dominated by ancient woodland, located on the north eastern edge of the borough. The southern side of the SINC is bound by open greenspace which along with the SINC is designated as

BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve
Metropolitan Open Land. The north of the SINC is bound by residential houses. Pymmes Brook SINC intersects with the southern section of Oak Hill Wood SINC, running north to south down the length of the borough. The SINC therefore is well connected to further valuableHabitat in the surrounding area and is an important component of the ecological network in this part of Barnet.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Warm and sunny
Date: 5/9/2024 12:37:07 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Signs of management included creation of dead hedges from cut cherry laurel, removal of barriers and concrete culverts from the Pymmes brook tributary which flows through the site, maintenance of grass paths within the long grassland area and evidence of pond creation. Overall the site appeared to be well managed.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Habitats on site included ancient broadleaved woodland, a stream, pond, semi-improved neutral grassland with scattered trees and amenity grassland. Below provides a summary of the species seen while on site. The majority of the site included ancient broadleaved woodland. The canopy was dominated by English oak with abundant hornbeam. The understorey included frequent holly with abundant cherry laurel and occasionally yew, blackthorn, horse chestnut and elder. Conifer species and ash were seen rarely. Ground layers species included abundant cow parsley and locally abundant nettle, cleavers and variegated yellow archangel. Bramble, field maple saplings, hawthorn, jack in the hedge and pendulous sedge were seen occasionally. Wood melick was noted rarely. In general the woodland appeared to be in good condition with a good age range of trees from mature to saplings, a good amount of hibernacula was present as well as standing deadwood and species were predominantly native species although cherry laurel was noted to be abundant in the understorey. A stream and a small pond were present and a small area of amenity grassland with tree lines was present in the north of the site. The amenity grassland appeared to include standard playing field species including perennial rye grass, daisy, greater plantain, clover and annual meadow grass. A small area of neutral grassland with scattered trees was also present in the west of the site. The grassland was dominated by false oat grass with frequent meadow foxtail and occasional meadow buttercup. Species diversity within the grassland was quite low however the survey was carried out at the beginning of May and so some species may not have been identifiable yet. Scattered trees included oak, horse chestnut, poplar, rowan and also some blackthorn and bramble scrub.
Threats and Disturbances: Invasive species, Dog fouling, Erosion, Litter: Additional comments: Invasive species were seen within the woodland including abundant cherry laurel and locally abundant variegated yellow archangel, which was starting to carpet the floor in some areas. Other species which weren't seen but are known to be on site include Butterfly bush, Chinese Muntjac, False acacia, Ring necked Parakeet, Spanish Bluebell and Turkey Oak. Many paths were present throughout the woodland which was good for access, however they were waterlogged at points, making it difficult to walk in some places and subsequently forcing people off the path in some locations. This could be

managed through creation of natural walkways for example, or by reviewing alternative routes through areas of the site which are less susceptible to waterlogging. This would help prevent people diverting off the path, and also help to prevent erosion.

The site also appeared to be used frequently by dog walkers/walkers so there is a risk of dog waste and litter which was seen on site, albeit in relatively small amounts. If the amount raises, additional dog waste bins could be added.

Ecological opportunities on site:

Mowing, wetland creation, Active Tree, Wildlife Friendly, Education

Additional comments:

N/A

Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fungi

Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:

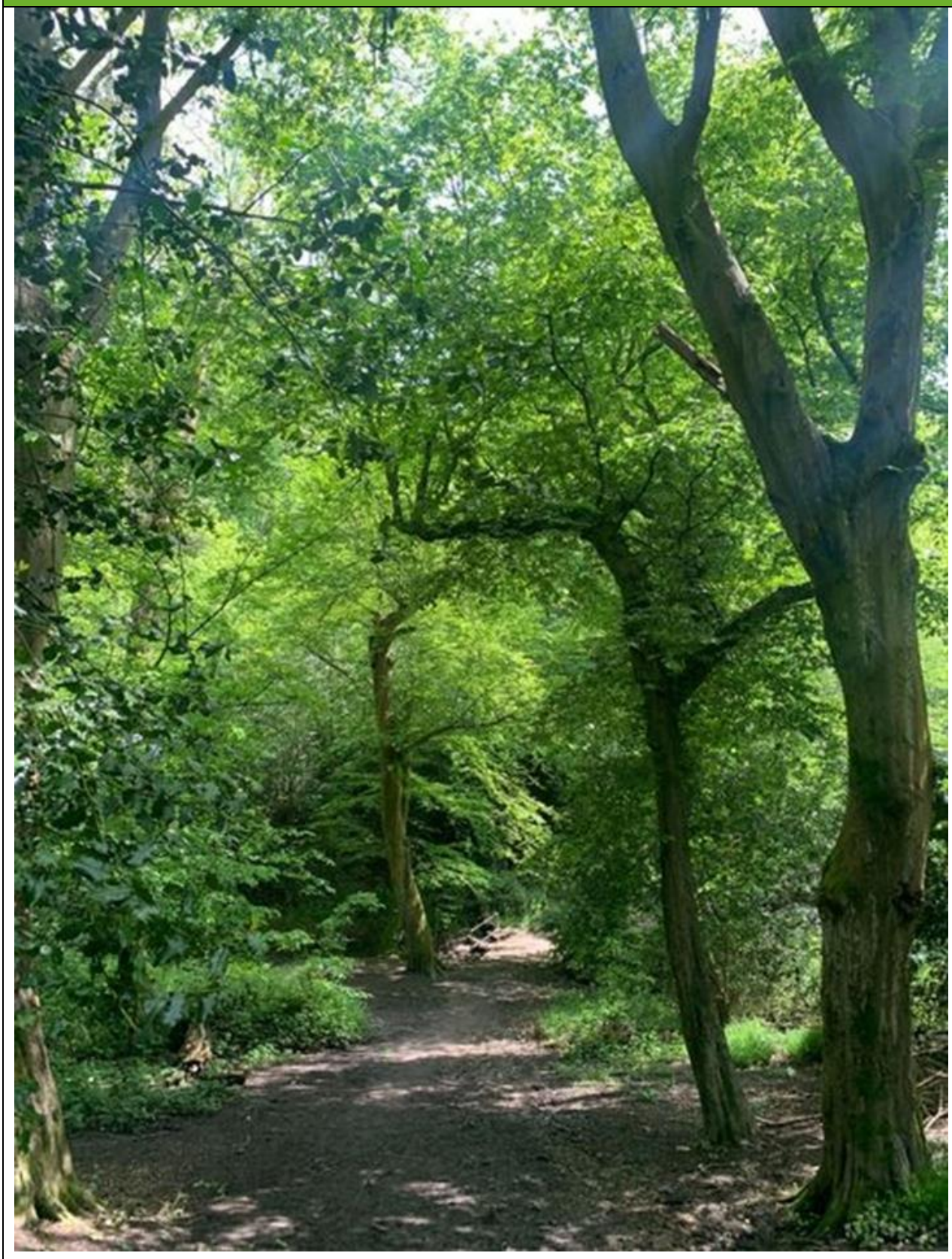
The woodland Habitat provides shelter, foraging and nesting/roosting opportunities for a range of birds, bats, mammals, reptiles and invertebrates and amphibians. The small pond also provides breeding Habitat for amphibians. Given it is an ancient woodland, it is likely that fungi is associated with any veteran/ancient trees on Site.

Habitat figure: N/A

Site Photographs:

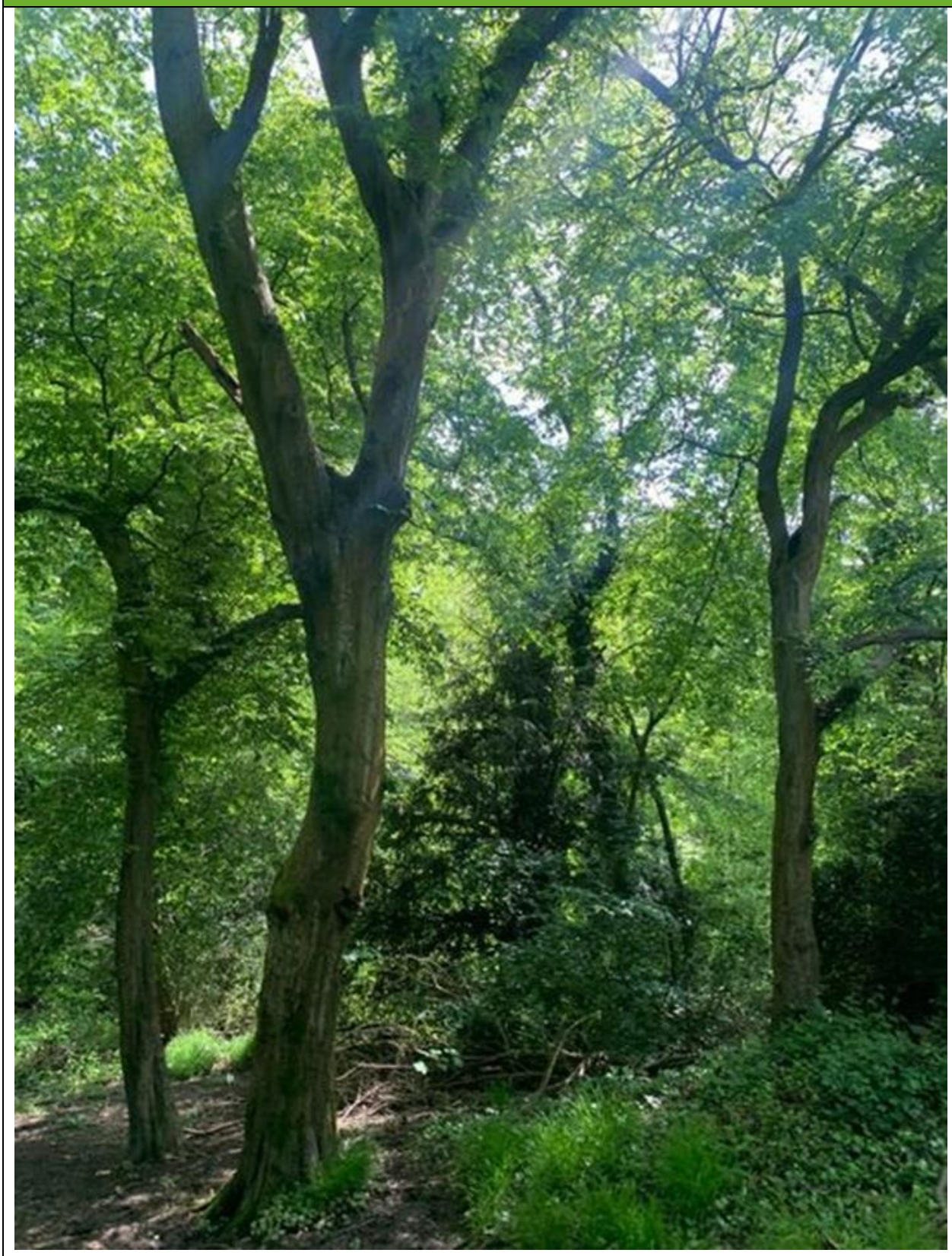
BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve

BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve



BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve

BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve



BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve

BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve

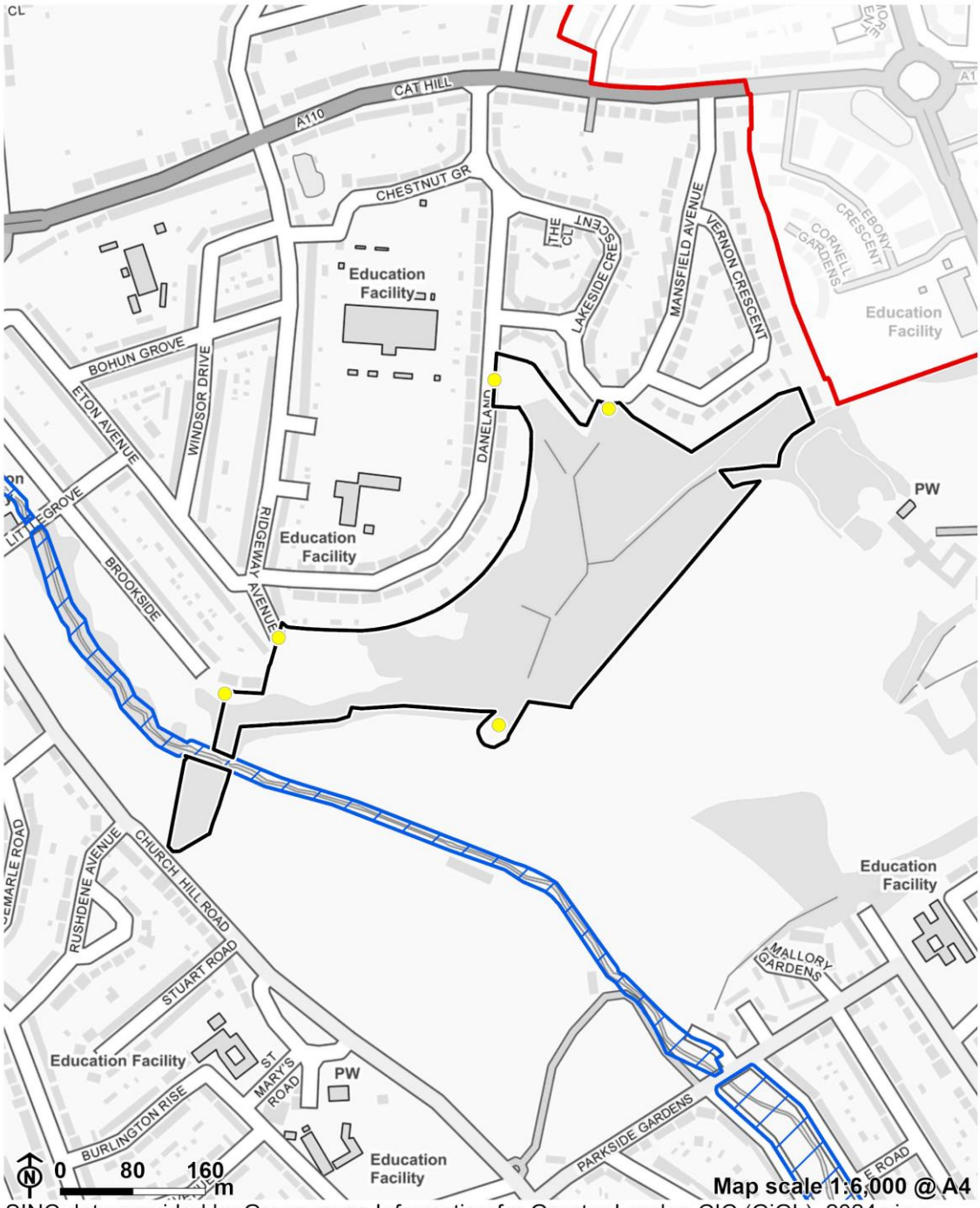
BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - No previous survey report available.

BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve
Management Recommendations: - The stream and small pond had relatively little aquatic marginal vegetation, however if stream improvements (i.e. removal of barriers and concrete culverts) were carried out recently, then this could be the reason. If aquatic species do not establish naturally along the bank of the stream/pond, then measures could be taken such as select coppicing of some trees along the waterbodies to allow more light in and/or planting of native marginal aquatic plants. This would increase the wildlife value of the waterbodies while helping to prevent against erosion. - Management of invasive species. There was some evidence of cherry laurel control, however there was still lots of presence noted throughout. All invasive species should be controlled in line with legal requirements. - Creation of natural paths to prevent them becoming waterlogged and to ensure the public are able to use the paths. - Some areas of ground within the woodland were devoid of any ground vegetation, possibly a result of lack of light and/or footfall. Creation of natural clear paths would focus people to the paths, and reduce the likelihood of people walking off the paths into the woodland. Consideration could be given to coppicing/select removal of a few trees to let some more light in some places , however valuable trees such as mature/ancient/veteran trees should be avoided. - The neutral grassland and scattered trees should be maintained as such to prevent tree and scrub succession from losing the grassland. If not already being done, the grassland would benefit from a varied mowing regime to create different sward heights and to increase the species diversity per m2. Small areas of bare ground (between 1% and 5%) could also be created in the grass to provide opportunities for invertebrates. Consideration should also be given to planting yellow rattle (of local provenance) in the grassland to decrease the dominance of grass and allow wildflowers a chance to grow. - Educational signs could be added so visitors can learn about species on site, and also the management practices within the woodland. This will give visitors a greater understanding and it is likely this will encourage people to stick to the paths to protect the Habitat.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: A good example of broadleaved woodland which represents a valuableHabitat in the borough of Barnet.
Habitat Rarity: Ancient woodland is a very rareHabitat, covering 2.5% of the UK and one that is rare in London.
Species Rarity: Known to support an array of protected and notable species as identified in the desk study such as wild service tree, spotted flycatcher (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC)) red list , swift (BOCC red list), tawny owl (BOCC amber list) song thrush (BOCC amber list), lesser spotted woodpecker, (BOCC red list), great crested newt, white letter hairstreak, greenfinch (BOCC red list), badger, pipistrelle, small heath.
Habitat Richness: A good mix of Habitats including ancient woodland, a pond, a stream, semi-natural neutral grassland, amenity grassland and scattered trees.
Species Richness: The array of Habitats and the ancient nature of the site has resulted in a species richHabitat, which supports a diverse range of fauna as well as flora, as detailed above in the desk study results.
Size: A relatively large woodland for London (10.21ha), and the site is continuous with surrounding open greenspace (including Pymmes Brook SINC) so is a valuable component of the wider green network.
Important populations of species: The desk study identified great crested newt within the site. Given the size of the site, it is likely this SINC is a valuable terrestrial Habitat for great crested newts in London.
Ancient Character: Ancient woodland is present on site.
Recreatability: Ancient woodland is an irreplaceableHabitat and so cannot be recreated. The grasslands, in particular the amenity grassland could be recreated.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: Oak Hill Wood is an ancient woodland thought to date back to at least the 11th century when it was owned by the church, before being sold and incorporated into the Oak Hill Estate in the 1550s. The estate came into public ownership in 1931 when the local authority purchased the land, opening it in 1933 for public recreation. Owned by

BaBI04 Oak Hill Wood Local Nature Reserve
London Borough of Barnet, the woodland became a focus for the Trust's conservation management in 1985, and in 1997, along with the eastern slope, was declared a Local Nature Reserve.
Geographic Position: The site is a publicly accessible greenspace dominated by ancient woodland, located on the north eastern edge of the borough. The southern side of the SINC is bound by open greenspace which along with the SINC is designated as Metropolitan Open Land. The north of the SINC is bound by residential houses. Pymmes Brook SINC intersects with the southern section of Oak Hill Wood SINC, running north to south down the length of the borough. The SINC therefore is well connected to further valuableHabitat in the surrounding area and is an important component of the ecological network in this part of Barnet.
Access: There are lots of access points however it was waterlogged (at the time of survey) and so not always accessible for all.
Use: The site is used for recreational purposes such as walking, dog walking and for exercise.
Potential: The site is already a valuable wildlifeHabitat, however potential exists for additional Habitat enhancements to maximise its potential and also potential for education.
Aesthetic Appeal: A very peaceful site, offering a valuable escape in a city.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The SINC comprises an irreplaceable wildlifeHabitat, which is of significant ecological value and provides importantHabitat for a diverse range of fauna. It is therefore recommended that the SINC retain its Borough Grade I status. Opportunities exist forHabitat enhancement and management.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

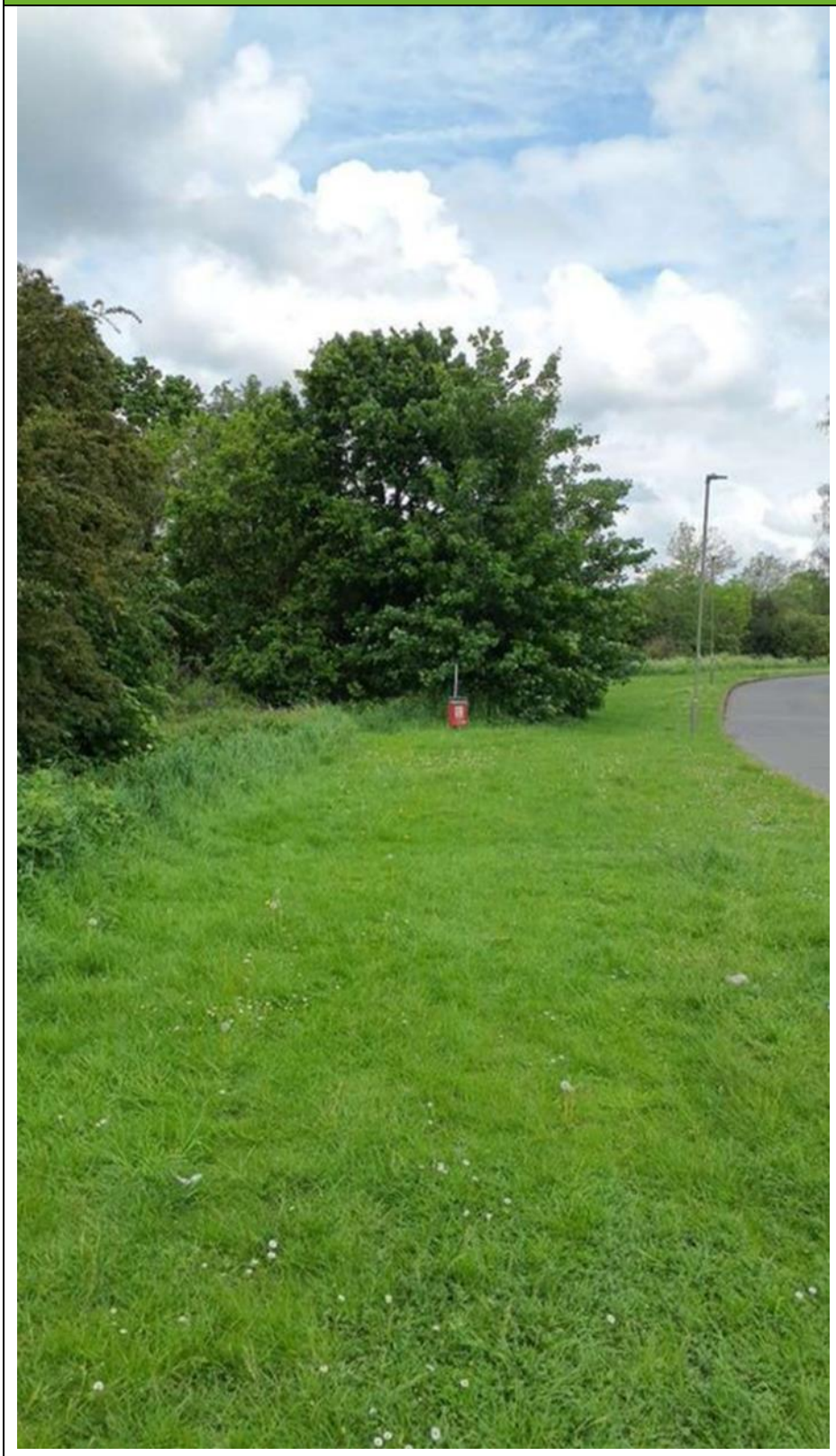
Access point

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook
Site information
LUC Site ID: 8
SINC ID: BaBII20
SINC Name: Pymmes Brook
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2873493484
Area (ha): 10.83
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Cemeteries and Churchyards, Parks and Gardens, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Amenity, Green Corridors
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: The Pymmes Brook flows through a corridor of woodland and grassland.
SINC Description: The Pymmes Brook, a small tributary of the River Lea, flows southwards through the eastern part of the borough of Barnet. Two sections of the brook are included in this site. The first is a 500 metre stretch from where the brook leaves Monken Hadley Common to Park Road. The southern section is just over 3 kilometres in length, from Brookside to the borough boundary with Enfield, where it enters Arnos Park on its way to join the River Lea at Edmonton. Between these two sections, the brook flows for about a kilometre between back gardens in a concrete channel of limited nature conservation interest, and then in a short culvert. In the northern section of the site, the brook flows through an attractive strip of rough grassland and scattered scrub, with a narrow belt of oak , Quercus robur, woodland beside the river. There is little aquatic vegetation because of the shade. The southern section is also largely wooded. The most interesting woodland is on the eastern bank, just north of New Southhgate Cemetery. This appears to be a fragment of ancient woodland, with a canopy of fine old pedunculate oaks , Quercus robur, along with ash, Fraxinus excelsior, crack willow, Salix fragilis, and hornbeam, Carpinus betulus. The understorey includes wild service tree, Sorbus torminalis, Midland hawthorn, Crataegus laevigata, field maple, Acer campestre, and crab apple, Malus sylvestris, and the ground flora contains pignut, Conopodium majus, wood millet, Millium effusum, wood melick, Melica uniflora, field rose, Rosa arvensis, and bluebell , Hycinthoides non scripta, . The brook in this section has fairly natural banks and a gravel bed, though the dense shade restricts aquatic vegetation. In more open areas, broad leaved pondweed , Potamogeton natans, grows in the water with a few clumps of pendulous sedge , Carex pendula, on the banks. Grey wagtails can often be seen foraging beside the water. The Pymmes Brook Trail provides access for most of the length of the site.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Oak Hill Wood
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Butterfly, Bluebell, Common Darter, Common Frog, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Grey Wagtail, House Sparrow, Kingfisher, Large Skipper, Lesser Butterfly orchid, Service tree, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Starling, West European Hedgehog
INNS Records:

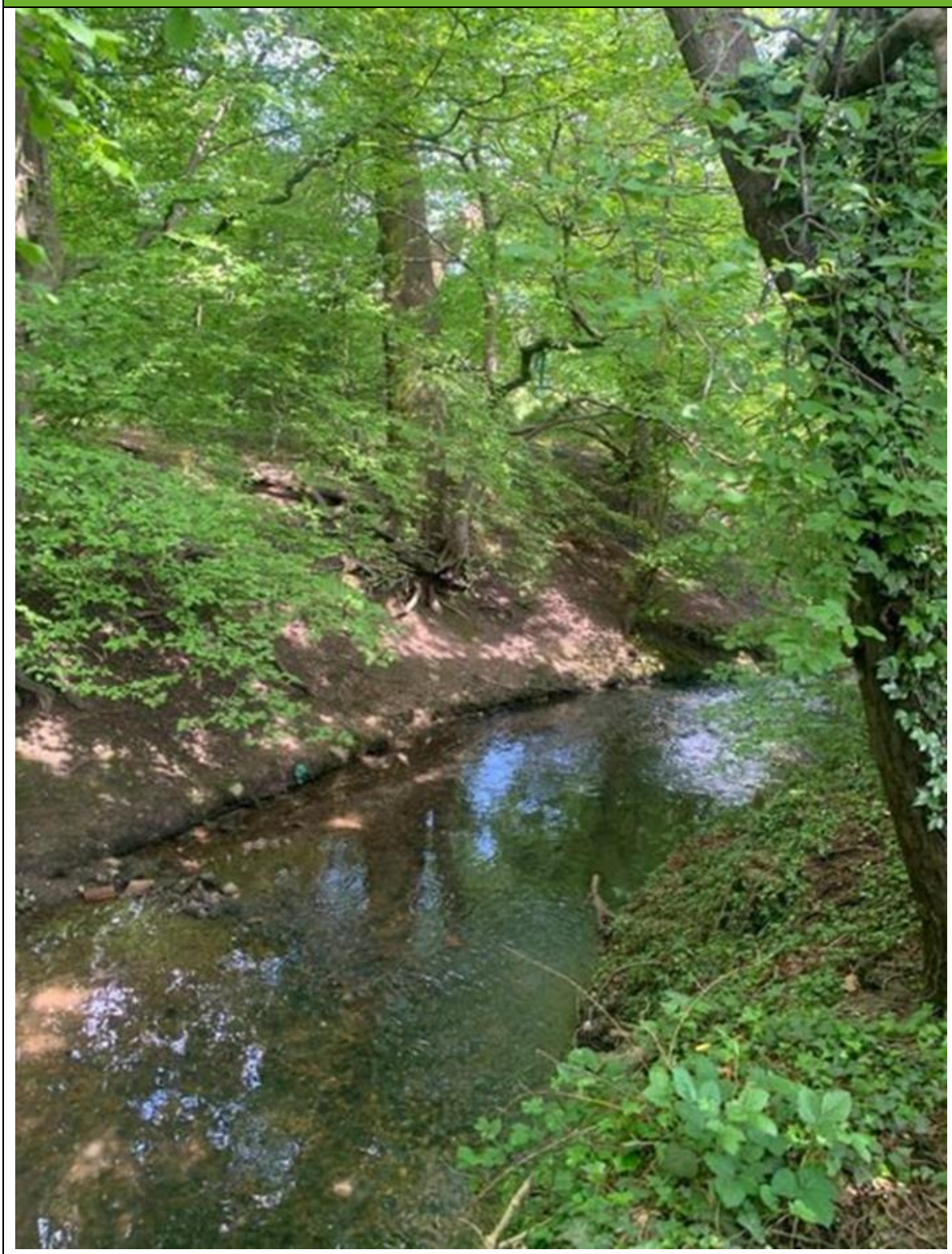
BaBII20 Pymmes Brook
Turkey Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The Pymmes Brook, a small tributary of the River Lea, flows southwards through the eastern part of the borough of Barnet. The northern part of the SINC flows south from Monken Hadley common SINC, through Oak Hill Wood SINC in the middle and alongside New Southgate cemetery SINC in the south. As well as the SINC's the brook flows through various greenspaces designated as Metropolitan Open Land, thereby providing connectivity between multiple greenspaces in this part of the borough. The brook itself is also a green corridor which connectsHabitats in Barnet, Enfield and Haringey. The SINC is publicly accessible.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Warm and sunny
Date: 5/10/2024 1:54:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): N/A
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Southern end The southern length of brook was vegetated with a fragment of ancient woodland. Canopy trees were dominated by English oak and occasional hornbeam, ash, alder, sessile oak and beech. Field maple and whitebeam were seen rarely. The understorey included abundant blackthorn and elder, with occasional hawthorn and willow. Bramble, cow parsley and nettle were noted in the ground layer. Dead trees and trees with veteran features providing suitability for roosting bats were noted as well as dead trees within the brook creating pools and riffles, providing ecological niches within the watercourse. Brunswick park to Oak Hill Park This length of the brook ran through much more openHabitat including predominantly amenity grassland with scattered trees. The grassland was dominated by annual meadow grass, perennial rye grass, dandelion and daisy were noted occasionally and greater plantain and mouse ear were seen rarely. Trees included oak, copper beech and willow. The ditch was lined with bramble, cow parsley, nettle and field mustard. Northern end The very northern part of the brook was lined with broadleaved secondary woodland. The canopy was dominated by English oak with occasional sycamore, ash and willow. The understorey was dominated by holly, with frequent hawthorn, blackthorn, occasional guelder rose and rarely dogwood. The ground layer included abundant hedge mustard, cleavers, cow parsley and nettles. Creeping buttercup was locally abundant and bramble and herb robert were frequent. Stitchwort, broadleaved dock, meadow buttercup were seen occasionally and forget me not and goats rue were seen rarely.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Dog Fouling, Litter, Invasive Species: Additional comments:

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook
Some areas of the brook had little to no aquatic vegetation, which overtime could lead to erosion of the banks. There were also signs of dogs accessing the brook which over time will exacerbate erosion along the bank. There was also evidence of people walking within the woodland to access the brook in the south of the site, which is potentially why in some areas there was a lack of ground flora/vegetation. Dog waste and litter was noted predominantly within the northern wooded section of the brook. London invasive species goats rue and green alkanet were seen within the SINC. Turkey oak was not seen but is known to be on site.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, wetland creation, Scrub estab, Active Tree, Deadwood, Wildlife Friendly, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub vegetation provide nesting, roosting, foraging and commuting opportunities for birds and bats. Common frog was identified on site within the desk study, as well as hedgehog and a range of birds and invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook



BaBII20 Pymmes Brook



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BaBII20 Pymmes Brook

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

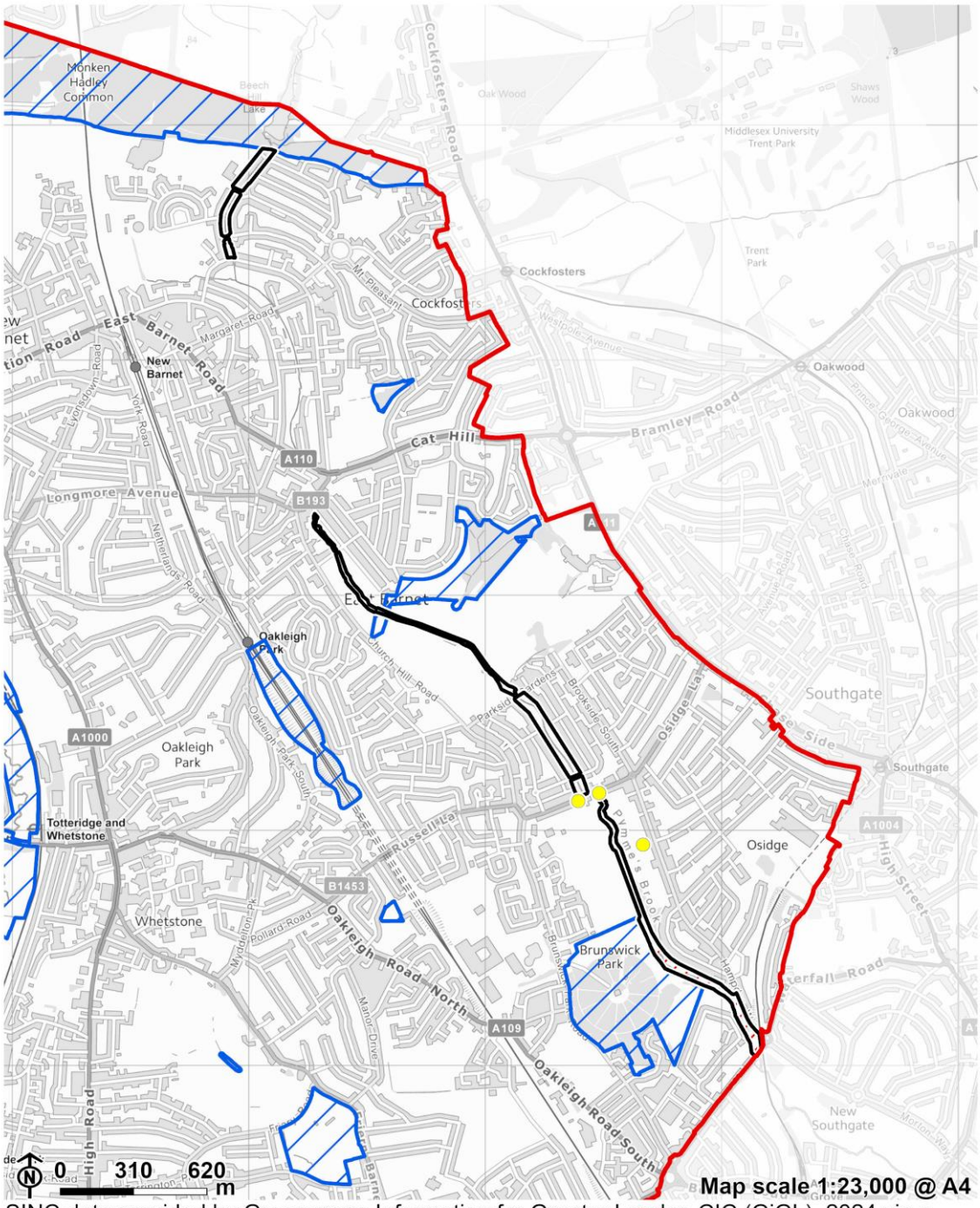
The wooded areas of the brook included a good mix of native species, with mature and veteran trees providing valuable ecological niches such as deadwood and cavities and dense scrub providing good bird nestingHabitat. The ditch itself however had very little aquatic vegetation growing within it in places, likely due to the woodland creating too much shade. Select coppicing and/or scrub management could be carried out to let some more light in along these sections to allow marginal aquatic vegetation to grow. If these do not establish on their own accord, then planting of native marginal aquatic species of benefit to wildlife could be planted. Any wood generated from vegetation removal can be used to create wood piles along the course of the SINC, in particular within the wooded areas.

Within the ancient woodland in the south of the site, there were areas which were lacking in ground flora/vegetation, potential as a result of people walking through these areas to reach the brook. A specific access/viewing point could be created, to allow people to view the brook, while trying to discourage them from accessing the rest of the woodland. Dead hedges could be used to prevent access in certain areas.

Outside of the wooded areas, the brook ran through predominantly regularly mown amenity grassland with scattered trees. Enhancing the grassland (where feasible) to create a species rich grassland, would uplift the ecological value of the site and provide greater opportunities predominately for invertebrates. It is understood that it is important that the SINC is still accessible and able to be enjoyed, therefore, some areas of the grass should remain short to allow this. Providing information boards including details on species and Habitats within the SINC and management techniques would educate the public, and it is then more likely they would be be in favour of the management styles such as long grass, which are unfamiliar and so can result in people thinking it is unsightly.

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook
Invasive species should be monitored and removed in line with legal requirements. If select vegetation management is carried out to let some more light into the brook, the brook should be monitored for the presence of aquatic invasive species such as Himalayan balsam, which readily establishes itself on river banks.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: A good example of an urban brookHabitat which represents a valuable resource within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: Woodland and in particular ancient woodlands are rare Habitats in urban environments.
Species Rarity: The desk study identified a range of protected and notable species on site such as song thrush (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) amber list), starling (BOCC red list), house sparrow (BOCC red list), dunnock (BOCC amber list) common frog, lesser butterfly orchid, wild service tree and west European hedgehog.
Habitat Richness: The site is a watercourse running through stretches of ancient woodland, secondary woodland, grassland, scrub and scattered trees.
Species Richness: Given the brook is running through a variety of Habitats, the SINC is species rich, however the brook itself could be vegetated with more aquatic vegetation.
Size: The SINC is 10.83ha and passes through three SINC's as well as areas of Metropolitan Open Land. It flows down the length of the borough acting as a green corridor, and is therefore a very important component of the wider ecological network.
Important populations of species: It is not known if the site supports important populations of species, however given the length of the SINC, and that it is an ecological corridor that runs through multiple boroughs, the site has potential to support important populations of species.
Ancient Character: Ancient woodland is present within the site.
Recreatability: The ancient woodland is an irreplaceableHabitat and a brook in London cannot be re-created.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The northern part of the SINC flows south from Monken Hadley common SINC, through Oak Hill Wood SINC in the middle and alongside New Southgate cemetery SINC in the south. As well as the SINC's the brook flows through various greenspaces designated as metropolitan open land, thereby providing connectivity between multiple greenspaces in this part of the borough. The brook itself is also a green corridor which connectsHabitats in Barnet, Enfield and Haringey.
Access: The SINC is publicly accessible.
Use: The site is used for recreation/amenity purposes, exercise, dog walkers. The pymmes brook trail is a popular walking trail and the green chain walk goes alongside the brook.
Potential: There is potential to maximise the ecological value of the site through enhancements and management recommendations listed above.
Aesthetic Appeal: A peaceful and aesthetic walking route.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion:

BaBII20 Pymmes Brook
The SINC is a very valuable green corridor which connects multiple SINCs and greenspaces in the borough with those outside of the borough. The site continues to meet Borough Grade II status and therefore it is recommended that the SINC retains this status. Management recommendations have been provided which would enhance the ecological value of the Habitats on site for wildlife even further, and make a more enjoyable space for those visiting the SINC.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

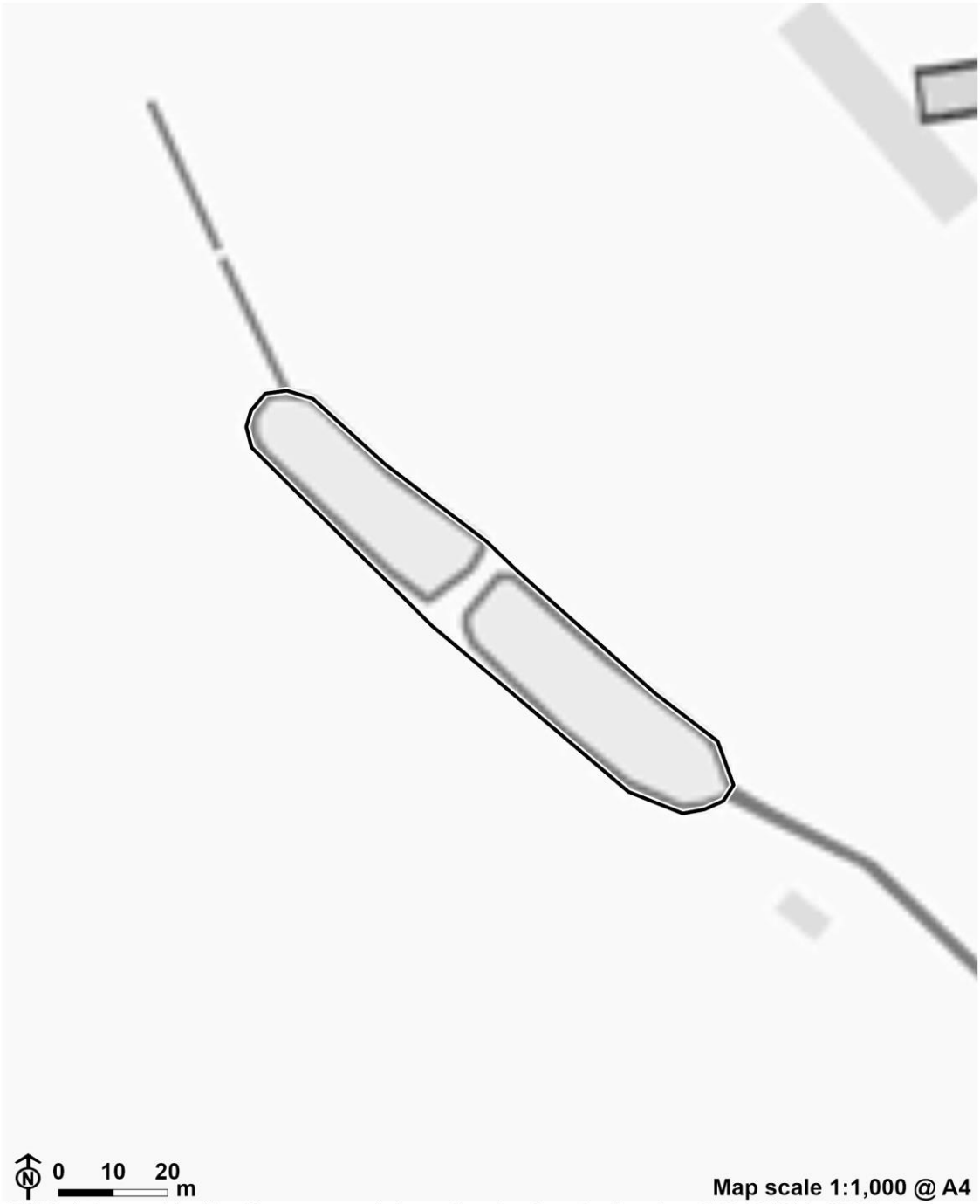
Site accessibility issue

Access point

BaBII18 North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds
Site information
LUC Site ID: 9
SINC ID: BaBII18
SINC Name: North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2692293014
Area (ha): 0.18
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: Two ponds on a private golf course, with important populations of amphibians.
SINC Description: The two ponds on North Middlesex Golf Course support a breeding colony of palmate newts, a rare species in London, as well as the commoner smooth newt. The upper pond, which is close to the club house, is rather formal, with a fountain and lights, and the marginal vegetation is cut regularly. The lower pond is less formal, and has a fringe of yellow iris , Iris pseudacorus, , reed sweet grass , Glyceria maxima, , water mint , Mentha aquatica, and brooklime , Veronica beccabunga, . Rigid hornwort , Ceratophyllum demersum, and Nuttall's waterweed , Elodea nuttallii, grow beneath the water's surface. The lower pond is linked by a ditch to a small area of woodland, which is probably important as terrestrial Habitat for the newts. The ditch continues as a small stream into Friary Park.
Management provider: Private landowner.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: Nuttall's Waterweed
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. The ponds at North Middlesex Golf Course appear to remain unchanged since the last update to the citation in 2007, which states that the ponds support palmate and smooth newt. There are no ecological records for the site, however, it is likely that the ponds continue to support newts.
Survey Data

BaBII18 North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds
Surveyor: EM
Weather: N/A - desk based review.
Date: 9/5/2024 10:37:00 AM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Unknown
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The ponds appear to be well managed and despite the records for invasive Nuttall's waterweed, the pond doesnt seem to be affected by nutrient input or algal growth.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): standing water
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprises two ponds located within the centre of North Middlesex Golf Course. Both ponds support marginal vegetation. Blacketts Brook traverses the pond from the north and north-west to the south and into adjacent Friary Park Local SINC.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: There are no apparent threats to the condition of the SINC.
Ecological opportunities on site: wetland creation Additional comments: There may be opportunities for enhancing the ecological value of the ponds through additional marginal planting or installation of other features such as floating roost platforms and duckhouses for waterfowl. There may also be opportunity for more ambitious enhancements through renaturalising Blacketts Brook and increasing the wetland Habitat provision especially between Friary Park and the ponds in North Middlesex Golf Course.
Interest: Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The ponds are presumed to support palmate and smooth newts and although there are no ecological records for the site, the ponds are also likely to support aquatic insects, waterfowl and foraging bats.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: There have been no obvious changes to the site since 2007, from review of aerial imagery.
Management Recommendations: N/A
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A

BaBII18 North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Ponds are relatively rare Habitats in London and particularly in Barnet. Therefore, the site offers a significant ecological resource to local wildlife. The site is likely to support amphibians such as palmate and smooth newt, aquatic insects, foraging bats, waterfowl species, and possibly fish.
Species Rarity: Palmate and smooth newt are relatively rare species for London.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: Despite the small size of these ponds which cover a total area of 0.18ha, they provide extremely importantHabitat to a wide range of wildlife and offer aquatic ecological connectivity to nearby Friary Park Local SINC.
Important populations of species: The site is likely to support a population of palmate and smooth newts.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: Although man-made ponds can be created, a pond of this size and ecological value within the landscape is difficult to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located within the centre of the borough and in an area of few SINCs, with only Friary Park Local SINC nearby. The golf course itself sits within an otherwise heavily developed area, surrounded by residential housing.
Access: The site is private and can only be accessed by members of the golf club.
Use: The site is used by members of the golf club.
Potential: There is some potential for ecological enhancement including additional marginal planting or installation of other features such as floating roost platforms and duckhouses for waterfowl. There may also be opportunity for more ambitious enhancements through renaturalising Blacketts Brook and increasing the wetland Habitat provision especially between Friary Park and the ponds in North Middlesex Golf Course.
Aesthetic Appeal: The ponds offer substantial aesthetic appeal in terms of the landscaping of the golf course, and also offer ecological value to wildlife.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The ponds continue to offer an important resource to local wildife, as they offer important open waterHabitat in an otherwise heavily developed area.
Site Maps



Map scale 1:1,000 @ A4

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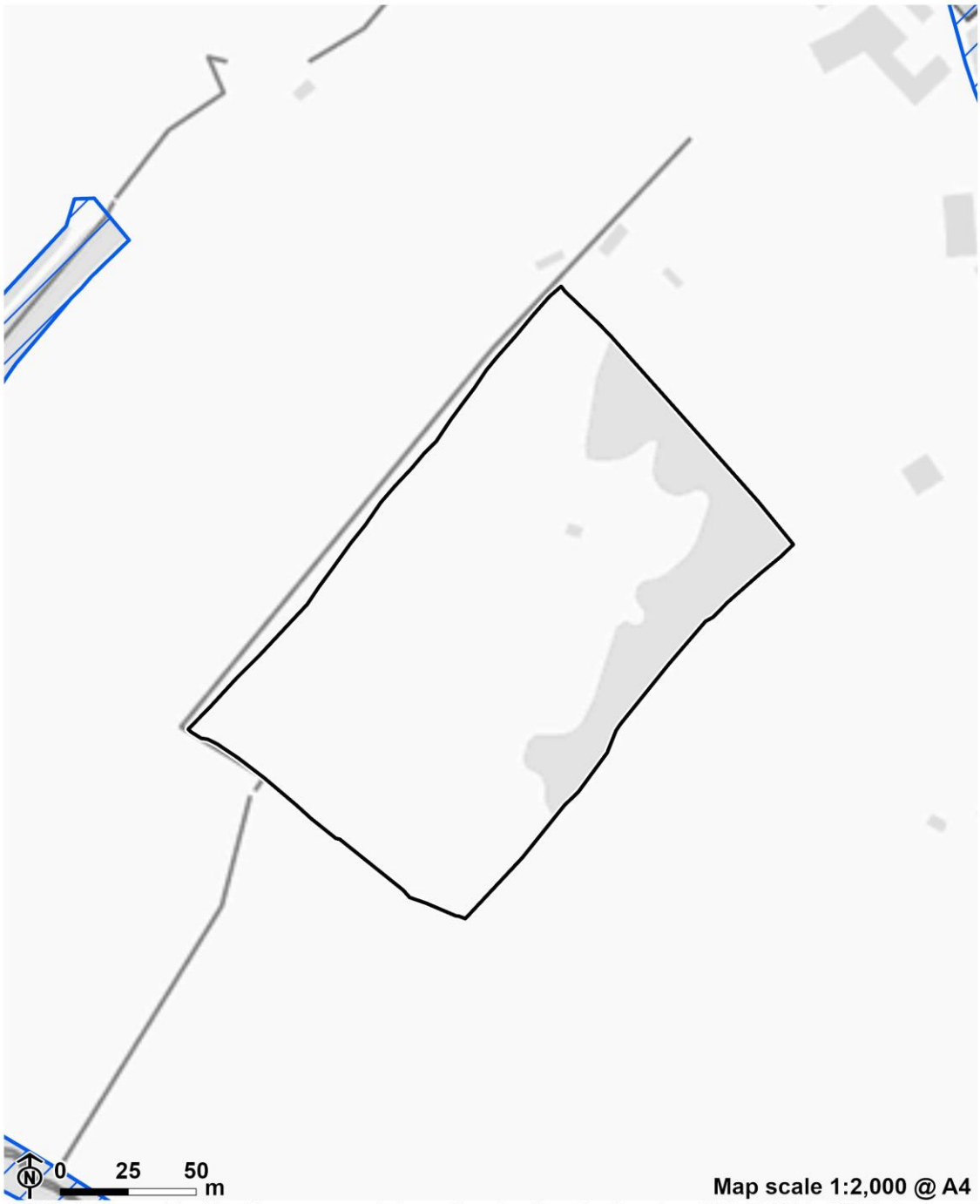
LUC assessment site

BaBI09 Totteridge Croft Field or , Dell's Down Acre,
Site information
LUC Site ID: 10
SINC ID: BaBI09
SINC Name: Totteridge Croft Field or , Dell's Down Acre,
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2483393399
Area (ha): 2.45
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Agriculture; Golf course
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A flower rich meadow surrounded by fine hedges.
SINC Description: An isolated unimproved field on the London clay, to the south east of Totteridge Fields near Darland's Lake. The grassland is dominated by tufted hair grass , Deschampsia cespitosa, and red fescue , Festuca rubra, , with a good variety of herbs including sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, , pignut , Conopodium majus, and large quantities of greater bird's foot trefoil , Lotus pedunculatus, . Surrounding hedges contain good quantities of Midland hawthorn , Crataegus laevigata, . A lack of management in the 1990s has led to a loss of floral diversity, with coarse grasses and creeping thistle , Cirsium arvense, replacing the meadow species in large areas.
Management provider: Private landowner.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. Totteridge Croft Field is a previously neutral unimproved grassland which had several scattered trees and pockets of scrub, located to the south-east of Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve SINC. The site is surrounded by mature broadleaved trees and hedgerows. There is an extensive area of broadlaved woodland located along the southern boundary of the site and the Folly Brook flows to the south within this woodland. Since the citation was last updated in 2006, the site has changed significantly through the change of use to a horse paddock with associated improvement of the grassland, likely

BaBI09 Totteridge Croft Field or , Dell's Down Acre,
resulting in loss of botanical interest. There has also been a loss of trees and introduction of hardstanding, buildings, paths and a riding yard.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: N/A - desk based review
Date: 9/5/2024 8:00:00 AM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Low
Management: Poor Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The field appears to be grazed by horses. This is a change in management since the site was designated, and since the citation was last updated in 2006.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Review of aerial imagery indicates that the site comprises semi-improved and improved grassland fields, used as a horse paddock. The site is surrounded by a mature tree line and broadleaved woodland to the south. No mature trees remain within the field, despite the parkland setting which used to be present in 2006.
Threats and Disturbances: Encroach: Additional comments: Over grazing presents a threat to the species richness of the grassland through creating a short sward, increasing nutrient enrichment of the soil and reducing the overall ecological value of the grassland to wildlife including invertebrates, birds, bats and small mammals.
Ecological opportunities on site: Meadow creation, Tree hedge, wetland creation Additional comments: There is substantial opporunity for restoring this former unimproved grassland with scattered trees. However, restoring a site such as this which has experienced a change in land use requires landowner engagement and participation.
Interest: Birds, Mammals, Fish, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site in its current condition is likely to only support a small number of invertebrates, passerine birds associated with the trees and nearby woodland and nearby Folly Brook. Bats are likely to use the adjacent woodlands for foraging and roosting.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: Since the citation was last updated in 2006, the site has changed significantly through the change of use to a horse paddock with associated improvement of the grassland, likely resulting in loss of botanical interest. There has also been a loss of trees and introduction of hardstanding, buildings, paths and a riding yard.

BaBI09 Totteridge Croft Field or , Dell's Down Acre,
This lack of appropriate management has continued since the citation was last updated in 2006, stating "A lack of management in the 1990s has led to a loss of floral diversity, with coarse grasses and creeping thistle (Cirsium arvense) replacing the meadow species in large areas."
Management Recommendations: Alteration in meadow management is recommended to restore the botanical diversity of the grassland. This would require relaxing the current grazing intensity, or grazing on rotation to enable areas of the site to recover. Additional tree planting would restore the former parkland style of this field which is liely to have originally comprised broadleaved woodland.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The broadleaved woodland which surrounds the site and the potential areas of marshy grassland within the otherwise semi-improved and improved grassland field may retain some botanical interest.
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is just 2.4ha in size and does not support muchHabitat richness.
Important populations of species: There are no ecological records for the site. However, the trees and hedgerows which surround the site may support passerine birds and the surrounding woodland is also likely to support foraging and potentially roosting bats.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The site is former unimproved grassland with good botanical interest supporting a number of plants associated with open woodland Habitat including pignut and pepper-saxifrage. Other species recorded previously at the site and an indication of the marshy grassland likely to be present include greater birds'-foot-trefoil and sneezewort. Although these less common herbs and wildflowers are likely to have been lost from the site, there may be potential to restore the former botanical interest of this site.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located within an area of predominantely agricultural land within Totteridge at the centre of the borough. It is surrounded by urban areas of Woodside Park to the south-east, Finchley to the south and Edgware to the west. The site lies in close proximity to Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve SINC to the west and Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill SINC to the north-west.
Access: The site is privately owned and therefore, there is no public access to the site.
Use: The site is used as a horse paddock.
Potential: There is some potential for restoration, however, given the change in land use this would require landowner engagement and participation.
Aesthetic Appeal: The location of this site in close proximity to Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve SINC and the woodland and pastures which surround it has substantial aesthetic appeal, however, the Habitats within the site do not.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions

BaBI09 Totteridge Croft Field or , Dell's Down Acre,
SINC Recommendations: At risk
SINC Conclusion: The change in management and introduction of horse grazing with associated buildings, paths and a riding yard threatens the status of this site which is currently designated as a Borough Grade I SINC. The site is at risk of downgrade in status to Local SINC status. Survey is required in order to better understand what ecological value remains and the appropriate action for this site, whether that be downgrade or de-designation.
Site Maps



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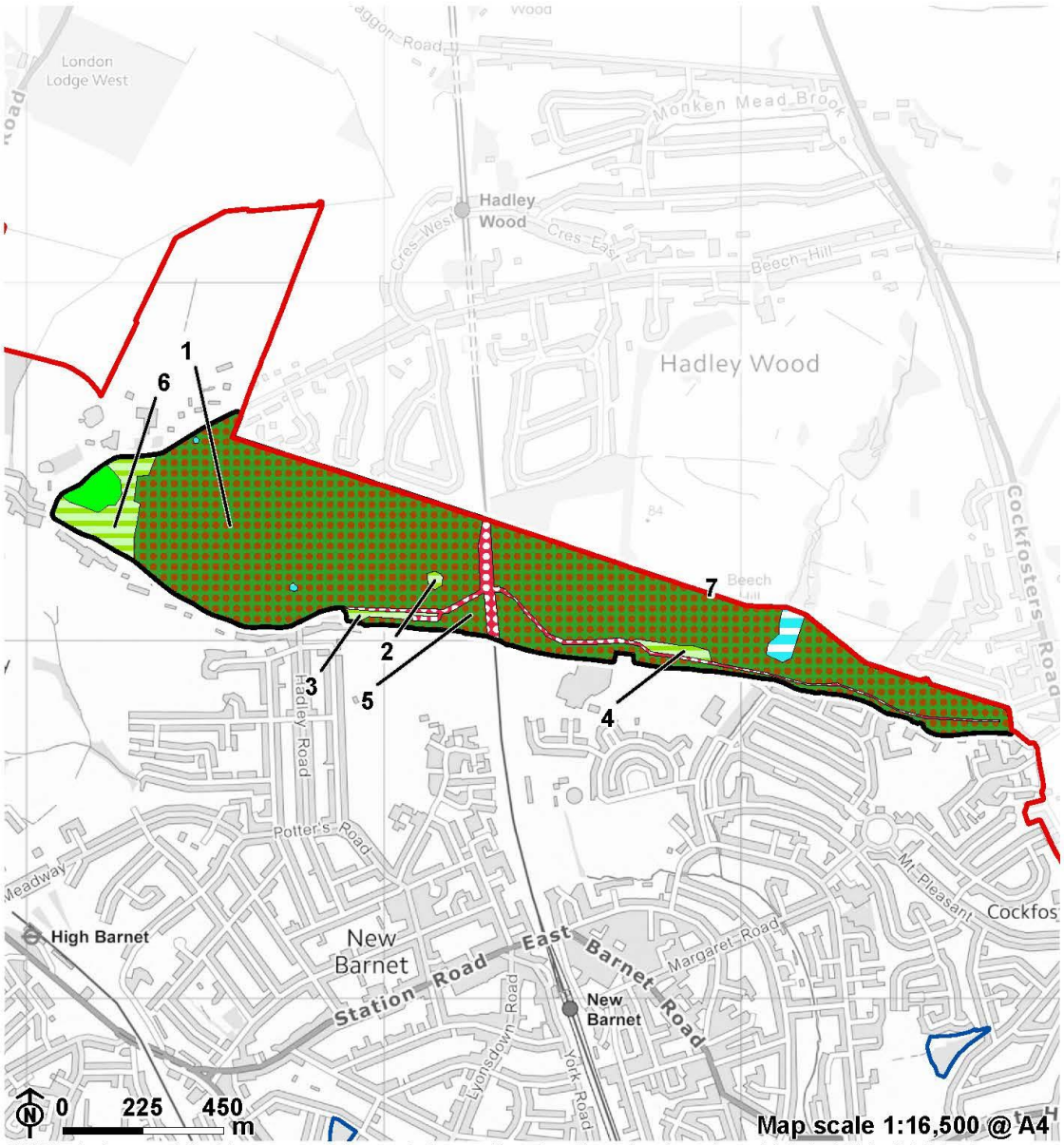
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common
Site information
LUC Site ID: 12
SINC ID: BaBI03
SINC Name: Monken Hadley Common
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2641597188
Area (ha): 72.39
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Amenity, Green Corridors, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Other
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A large wooded common with areas of acid grassland and several ponds.
SINC Description: This large common is the last remaining fragment of the former Enfield Chase. It is mostly wooded, with small areas of grassland, a large artificial lake and two ponds. The woodland is dominated by pedunculate oak, Quercus robur, with hornbeam, Carpinus betulus, and beech, Fagus sylvatica, locally abundant, and a few fine old field maples, Acer campestre, . Holly , ilex aquilifolium, forms a dense understorey in places, while elsewhere a more diverse shrub layer includes Midland hawthorn, Crataegus laevigata, field maple, hazel, Corylus avellana, crab apple, Malus sylvestris, elm, Ulmus sp., and rowan, Sorbus aucuparia. The ground flora includes wood speedwell, Veronica montana, stinking iris , Iris foetidissima, wood sorrel, Oxalis acetosella, goldilocks buttercup , Ranunculus auricomus, dog's mercury, Mercurialis perennis, wood melick, Melica uniflora, bluebell , Hyacinthopides non scripta, and broad buckler fern , Dryopteris dilatata. Several of these are ancient woodland indicators, suggesting that fragments of the woodland have survived from before the time when the common was managed as wood pasture. Butterflies occurring in the woodland include white letter and purple hairstreaks. Breeding birds include sparrowhawk, tawny owl, cuckoo, stock dove, willow warbler, nuthatch and treecreeper. Several clearings support acid grassland. The sward is dominated by red fescues, Festuca rubra, or wavy hair grass , Deschampsia flexuosa, with a little mat grass, Nardus stricta, in places, the latter rather rare in London. Typical wild flowers of acid soils can be seen, such as harebell, Campanula rotundifolia, sheep's sorrel, Rumex acetosella, mouse ear hawkweed, Pilosella officinarum, tormentil, Potentilla erecta, heath bedstraw, Galium saxatile, heath groundsel, Senecio sylvatica, and common sedge , Carex nigra, . The largest of the three water bodies, known as Jack's Lake or Beech Hill Lake, is managed for angling, but contains some wetland vegetation and supports common waterfowl. It is used for feeding by Daubenton's bats, which forage low over the water. The two smaller ponds have a much richer flora, including broad leaved pondweed, Potamogeton natans, water starwort, Callitriche sp., lesser spearwort, Ranunculus flammula, water forget me not, Myosotis scorpioides, common spike rush, Eleocharis palustris, nodding bur marigold, Bidens cernua, and branched bur reed, Sparganium erectum. The ponds support large populations of amphibians, which attract grass snakes.
Management provider: Monken Hadley Common Trust.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Butterfly, Blood vein, Bluebell, Buff Ermine, Chalk Hill Blue, Common Redpoll, Common Tern, Cuckoo, Daubenton's Bat, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Ferruginous Duck, Fieldfare, Firecrest, Garden Tiger, Ghost Moth, Great Crested Newt, Great Northern Diver, Green Sandpiper, Greenfinch, Grey Wagtail, Hobby, House Martin, House Sparrow, Kingfisher, Large Skipper,

BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common
Large leaved Lime, Latticed Heath, Lesser Redpoll, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Mistle Thrush, Mouse Moth, Noctule Bat, Pipistrelle Bat species, Powdered Quaker, Purple Emperor, Redwing, Sand Martin, Shaded Broad bar, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Spotted Flycatcher, Starling, Stinking Hellebore, Swift, Tawny Owl, Wall, Water soldier, West European Hedgehog, Woodcock
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Muntjac, Green Alkanet, New Zealand Pigmyweed, Ring necked Parakeet, Snowberry, Spanish Bluebell
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Monken Hadley Common is a large wooded common located on the northern boundary of the borough. The site forms part of the SINC network as it is connected to the Pymmes Brook SINC which flows from the common, south within the borough. The site is also bound by Covert Way Local Nature Reserve to the north and additional greenspaces including Hadley Wood Golf Club to the north and East Barnet Golf Club to the south. The site is located in the green belt and the green chain walk runs through the site. The remaining edges of the site are bound by predominately residential developments.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Sunny and warm
Date: 5/7/2024 10:25:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The common is managed by The Monken Hadley Common Conservation Volunteers, operating under five year management plans, of which they are currently in their seventh management plan (2024-2029). The volunteers carry out management aimed at the conservation of flora and fauna indigenous to the area. Examples of tasks include stream and ditch clearance, path clearance, pond clearance, litter collection etc. The common appears to be well managed.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Acid grassland, Species Rich grassland, Other Rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, Standing water, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: This large common is the last remaining fragment of the former Enfield Chase. It is mostly wooded, with small areas of grassland, a large artificial lake, two ponds and ditches. The broadleaved woodland appeared to have a canopy dominated by beech with frequent English oak and rarely copper beech, horse chestnut, ash and hornbeam. The understorey was noted to be dominated by holly with occasional hawthorn, dog rose, elder and cherry laurel. Hazel and blackthorn were seen rarely. The ground was noted to include abundant bramble, with occasional comfrey, chickweed, wood melick, sycamore saplings, pendulous sedge, cleavers, nettles, garlic mustard, common hogweed and woodland forget me not. Soft rush, willowherb, enchanters nightshade, bittercress, broadleaved dock, speedwell, herb robert , bracken and lords and ladies were seen rarely. Please note the woodland is very large and therefore it is likely that species composition differs throughout the woodland.

BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common
Areas of neutral grassland within glades were noted to include meadow foxtail, perennial rye grass, cocksfoot, meadow buttercup, common sorrel, annual meadow grass, white clover, ragwort, mouse ear, soft rush and yorkshire fog. Scattered trees were noted to be largely English oaks. Areas of acid grassland are also known to be on on site. Please see the previous SINC description for species found within the acid grassland. The woodland was observed to be in good condition, with a good mix of native species, established understorey and ancient woodland indicator species including wood melick and pendulous sedge were identified within the wood demonstrating the ancient nature of the site (although not classified as ancient woodland). Dead wood and brash piles, and standing dead wood were also noted within the site which provide shelter for a range of species. The ponds also provide valuable breeding Habitat for amphibians. Glades were also present with the woodland which increased the value of woodland for wildlife.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Litter, Dog fouling, FlyTip, Invasive species: Additional comments: There was evidence of path erosion as the ground becomes waterlogged, making it difficult to walk on the paths in some locations. Invasive species identified in the desk study include : A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Muntjac, Green Alkanet, New Zealand Pigmyweed, Ring necked Parakeet, Snowberry, Spanish Bluebell. Himalayan balsam was also mentioned within the management plan. Litter and dog waste was seen but only a small amount.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, wetland creation, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish, Higher Plants, Fungi Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The variety of Habitats on site is able to support a range of species on site. Woodlands provideHabitat for small mammals (including bats), birds, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, plants and fungi. Jack's Lake supports fish and fishing on the lake is permitted. The pond's provide breeding Habitat for amphibians and Habitat for invertebrates.
Habitat figure:



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Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- r1g - other standing water
- u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

2: 32 - scattered trees

3: 32 - scattered trees

4: 32 - scattered trees

5: 10 - scattered scrub

6: 32 - scattered trees

7: 10 - scattered scrub

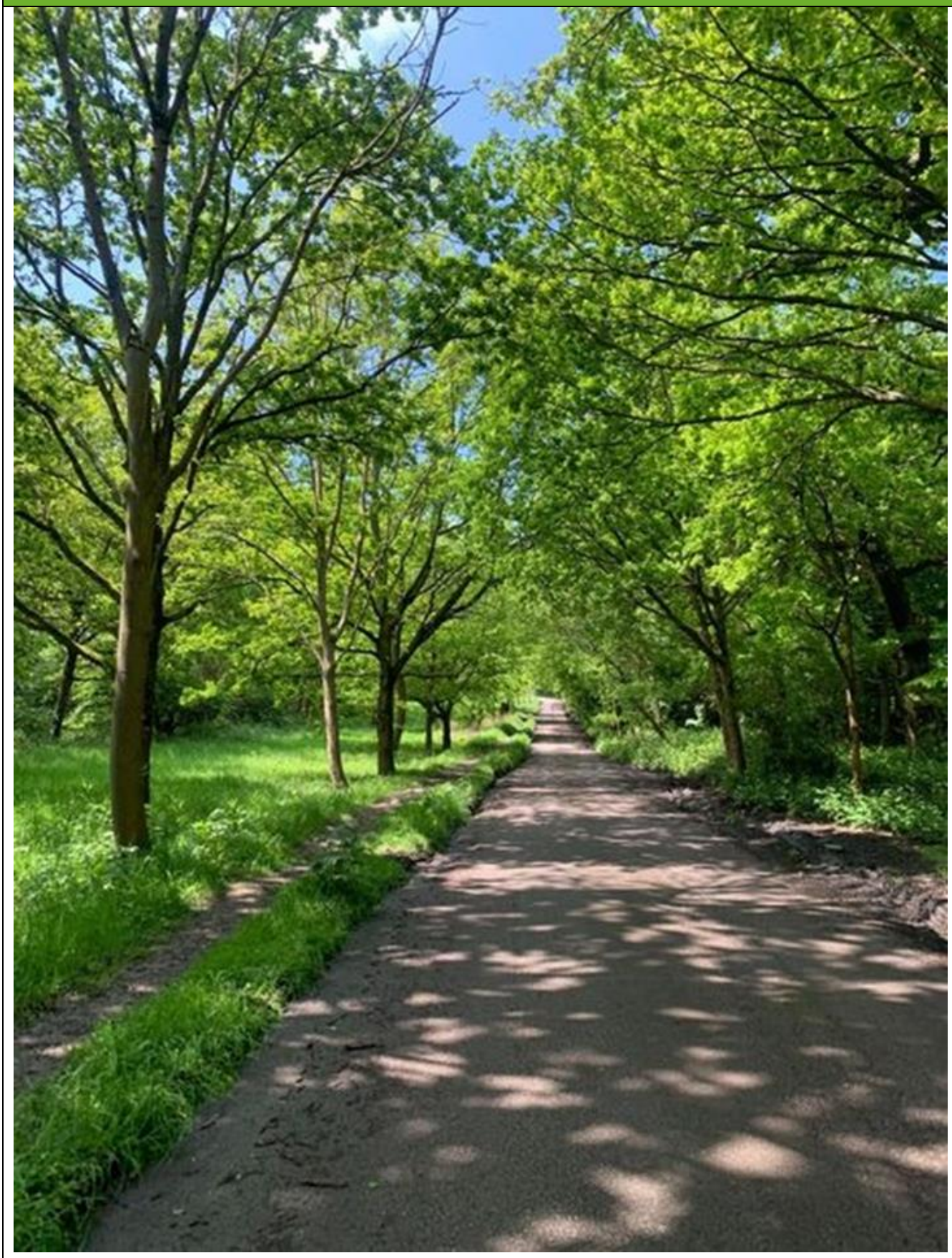
BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common

Site Photographs:

BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common

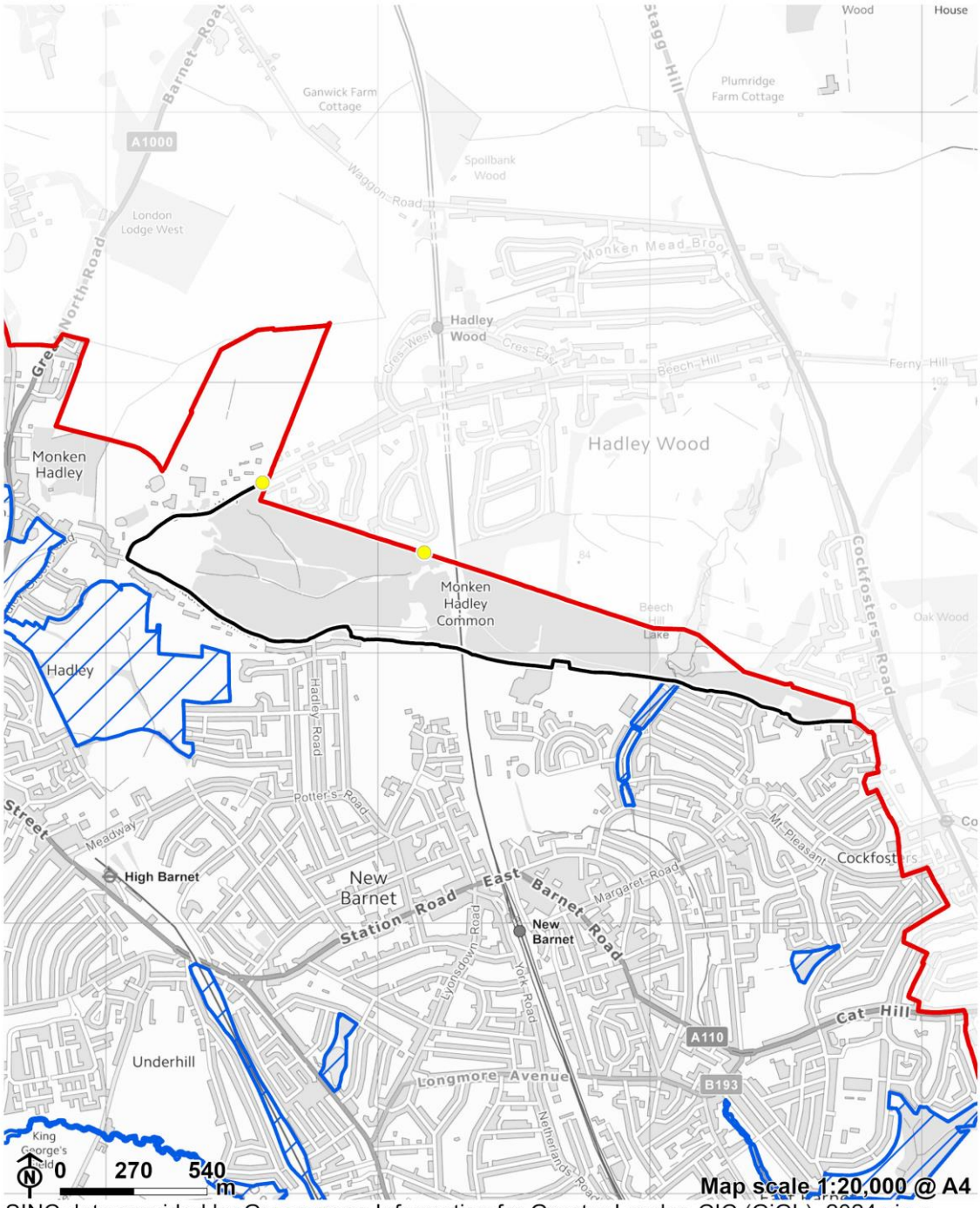
BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common

BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common



BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: The existing management plan for the common is extensive and includes methods to combat issues of fly tipping, litter and dog waste through the provision of bins and prompt removal of fly tipping. Invasive species control is also a factor covered within the management plan. This should be done so in line with legal requirements. During the site visit, the paths were very waterlogged and muddy making it difficult to walk on in some areas, reducing accessibility and forcing people off the paths and through the surroundingHabitat. It is recommended that natural paths which can withstand waterlogging are created so they are accessible at all times of year and also to ensure people stick predominantly to the paths. Given the amount of waterlogging in parts of the site, consideration could be given the creation of swales/SuDs. There is an opportunity to use the common as an educational resource. Information boards could be added to highlight what species use the Habitats on site, and the management techniques used to manage the site for biodiversity. A specific woodland management plan for the site exists. If the grassland is not already, it would be beneficial to introduce a mowing regime which allows the grass to remain long in summer to set seed, and to encourage the growth of wildflowers.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): Monken Hadley Common: Management Plan 2024-2029.
SINC Criteria
Representation: A good example of woodland in London, which represents a valuableHabitat within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: Broadleaved woodland is rare in urban areas, in particular areas which are this large. The site also includes acidic grassland which is additionally a rareHabitat.
Species Rarity: Species listed within the desk study include chalk hill blue, common redpoll (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) amber list), common tern (BOCC amber list), cuckoo (BOCC red list), dunnock (BOCC amber list), ferruginous duck, fieldfare (BOCC red list), great crested newt, great northern diver (BOCC amber list), green sandpiper (BOCC amber list), greenfinch (BOCC red list), house martin (BOCC red list), house sparrow (BOCC red list), large leaved lime tree, lesser redpoll (BOCC red list), lesser spotted woodpecker (BOCC red list), mistle thrush (BOCC red list). purple emperor butterfly, small heath, song thrush (BOCC amber list), spotted flycatcher (BOCC red list), starling (BOCC red list), swift (BOCC red list), tawny owl (BOCC amber list), wall butterfly, water soldier, west European hedgehog, woodcock (BOCC red list), sparrow hawk (BOCC amber list), stock dove (BOCC amber list), willow warbler (BOCC amber list), noctule bat, pipistrelle sp and grass snake.
Habitat Richness: The SINC is dominated by broadleaved woodland however contains a mix of otherHabitats including acidic grassland, neutral grassland, scattered trees, ponds, a lake and ditches.
Species Richness: The site is very species rich, supporting a range of plant and animal species, as detailed above.
Size: The site is 72.39ha, which is one of the largest SINC's in the borough. This therefore makes it vital to the resilience of the SINC network.
Important populations of species: The site supports many vulnerable species, including multiple amber and red list Birds of Conservation Concern species, as well as hedgehog, great crested newt, bat species and rare plants such as water soldier. The woodland is large in size, especially for London, and therefore likely supports important populations of species.
Ancient Character: Although the woodland is not classified as ancient woodland, the woodland does support ancient woodland indicators. This suggests that fragments of the woodland have survived from before the time when the common was managed as wood pasture.
Recreatability: The nature of the site, having previously been managed as wood pasture since the 1700's and the presence of mature and veteran trees makes this site very difficult to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: A railway runs through the middle of the site.

BaBI03 Monken Hadley Common
Cultural/Historic Character: The common was created as a result of the Enfield Chase Act 1777 when most of the medieval hunting forest of Enfield Chase was enclosed, leaving the site open for grazing. The common was grazed for nearly 200 years until approximately 50 years ago. Now it is used entirely for recreation. Ancient woodland indicator species were noted within the woodland, suggesting that some fragments have remained since before it was managed as wood pasture.
Geographic Position: Monken Hadley Common is a large wooded common located on the northern boundary of the borough. The site forms part of the SINC network as it is connected to the Pymmes Brook SINC which flows from the common, south within the borough. The site is also bound by Covert Way Local Nature Reserve to the north and additional greenspaces including Hadley Wood Golf Club to the north and East Barnet Golf Club to the south. The site is located in the green belt and the green chain walk runs through the site. The remaining areas of the site are bound by predominately residential developments.
Access: There were multiple access points and paths however they were waterlogged at points and so not accessible to all.
Use: The main use of the site is for recreation. The site may attract people from further afield given its size. The lake is used by the angling society.
Potential: The site is a large wooded area, well managed for nature conservation. There is potential to improve the accessibility of the site through creation of paths which do not get waterlogged and through provision of information boards to use the woods as a resource for education.
Aesthetic Appeal: A great place for locals to escape the city and be within nature.
Geodiversity Interest: The common has been designated as a Locally Important Geological Site. Most of the common lies on London Clay however in the western end of the common, the clay is overlaid by Stanmore Gravel and there is a spring line at approximately the junction with the London Clay.
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site is a large wooded area, well managed for nature conservation. The SINC has been appropriately designated as Borough Grade I status and therefore no change is recommended. There is still potential to improve the accessibility of the site through creation of paths which do not get waterlogged and through provision of information boards to use the woods as a resource for education.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

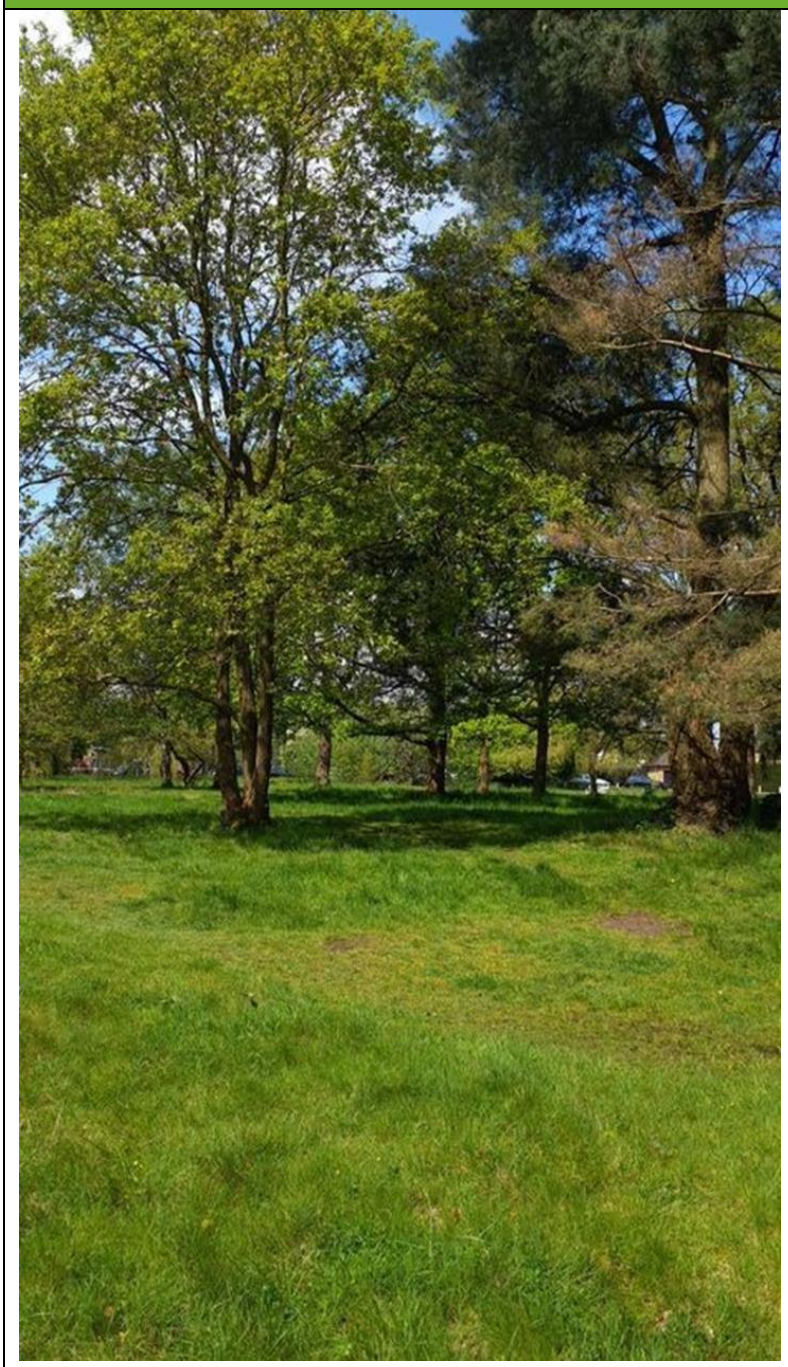
Other LUC assessment site

Access point

M032 Hadley Green
Site information
LUC Site ID: 13
SINC ID: M032
SINC Name: Hadley Green
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ2467197329
Area (ha): 10.01
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Amenity, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: The grassland and wetlands of this green support many plants and insects.
SINC Description: This site consists principally of acid grassland with some damper grassland associated with ditches and ponds. Acid grassland is composed of fescues, Festuca spp., and bent grasses, Agrostis spp., with several London rarities, including mat grass, Nardus stricta, heath rush, Juncus squarrosus, heath grass, Danthonia decumbens, oval sedge, Carex ovalis, and sneezewort, Achillea ptarmica. Ditches support London rarities water purslane, Lythrum portula, lesser spearwort , Ranunculus flammula, and marsh ragwort, Senecio aquaticus. Ponds add to the botanical diversity of the site, with further regionally uncommon species; tufted forget me not , Myosotis laxa, arrowhead, Sagittaria sagittifolia, lesser marshwort, Apium inundatum, and fiddle dock, Rumex pulcher. The invertebrate fauna includes 11 species of dragon/damselflies.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Good quality semi improved grassland, Traditional orchard
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Cuckoo, European Water Vole, Grey Wagtail, Large Skipper, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush
INNS Records: Curly Waterweed, Evergreen Oak, New Zealand Pigmyweed, Nuttall's Waterweed, Turkey Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: A local green located in the north of the borough which is bound largely by residential development as well as Old Fold Manor Golf Club to the west and King Georges field SINC to the east. The site is within the green belt and along the green chain walk.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Warm and sunny

M032 Hadley Green
Date: 5/7/2024 12:36:41 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Signs of management included paths mown while keeping the rest of the grass long. This creates structural diversity while keeping visitors to the paths. There was also evidence of bramble control.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Acid grassland, Other rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Habitats on site included predominantly grassland with scattered trees, ponds and ditches. A private property was present within the site and so this was not accessible. Species noted within the grassland included false oat grass, cocksfoot, meadow foxtail, Agrostis sp, common sorrel, Festuca sp, yarrow, knapweed, white clover, cow parsley, ribwort plantain, yorkshire fog, annual meadow grass, sweet vernal grass, perennial rye grass, catsear, mousear chickweed, field wood rush, bulbous buttercup, cleavers, spanish bluebell, soft rush, tormentil and garlic mustard. Scattered trees included copper beach, sycamore, lime, coniferous sp, horse chestnut, English oak, holm oak, elder and silver birch. Bramble and cherry laurel were also noted. Willow sp and yellow flag iris was noted within the pond.
Threats and Disturbances: Invasive species, Encroach, Erosion: Additional comments: Potential for encroachment from parking as residential homes are present along the boundary of the site. Some poaching from waterfowl was present on the edge of the pond and invasive species are present, as identified above in the desk study.
Ecological opportunities on site: Deadwood, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish, Higher Plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The trees and scrub on site are likely to support bats and birds while commuting/foraging and nesting/roosting. The ponds and surrounding grassland provideHabitats for amphibians within their breeding and terrestrial phase. The ponds and grassland also provideHabitat for invertebrates, with the site known to support 11 species of dragonfly/damselfly. It is unknown whether the ponds support fish, however it is possible they are present. The site is also known to support various rare plants.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

M032 Hadley Green



M032 Hadley Green

M032 Hadley Green

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

M032 Hadley Green
N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: Recommendations include the removal and control of invasive species in line with legal requirements, creation of hibernacula scattered throughout the site and bird and bat boxes could be placed on trees. Small pockets of scrub can be allowed to develop, such as around trees, to provide more bird nestingHabitat and shelter, however scrub should remain below 5% of the grass area. Cover of bare ground within the grassland should also be maintained to be between 1% and 5%. Information boards could be placed on site, to provide more info on the species and Habitats on site, as well as management practices.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The site supports acid grassland which is an uncommon Habitat in London.
Species Rarity: Numerous plants rare in London have been recorded on site, as detailed within the previous SINC citation (see above) , as well as 11 species of dragon/damselflies. Protected and notable species were also identified on site within the desk study such as cuckoo (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) red list) and song thrush (BOCC amber list).
Habitat Richness: The site has a good mix of Habitats including acid grassland, ponds, ditches, scattered trees and scrub.
Species Richness: The site is known to support a diverse range of plant species as well as invertebrates and birds and there has previously been a record of European Water Vole on site.
Size: The site is 10ha and is ecologically connected to larger open greenspaces including King George's Field SINC and Old Fold Manor Golf Club.
Important populations of species: The site is known to support 11 species of dragon/damselfies and there has previously been a record for European Water Vole on site.
Ancient Character: N/A.
Recreatability: Given the age of this green and the presence of mature trees, it would be difficult to recreate thisHabitat.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The green was known by at least 1345, making it the oldest public open space in the borough. It is reputedly the site of the Battle of Barnet in 1471 in the War of the Roses. It is a traditional village common and was grazed by villagers' animal for hundreds of years until the 20th century. In 1818 the green become public open space.
Geographic Position: The site is located in the north of the borough and is bound largely by residential development as well as Old Fold Manor Golf Club to the west and Kind Georges field SINC to the east. The site is within the green belt and along the green chain walk.
Access: The site is publicly accessible.
Use: The site is in use as a village green.
Potential: There is potential to provide further opportunities for species known to be using the site, as detailed in the management sections.
Aesthetic Appeal: Very peaceful and aesthetic place to relax, unwind and enjoy nature.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change

M032 Hadley Green
SINC Conclusion: The site supports a rich diversity of Habitats and species, including those which are rare in London. The Site also has a rich history and would be very difficult to recreate. It therefore continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status, and so no change has been recommended. There is potential to provide further opportunities for species using the site, as well as control of invasive species to prevent deterioration of Habitats.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

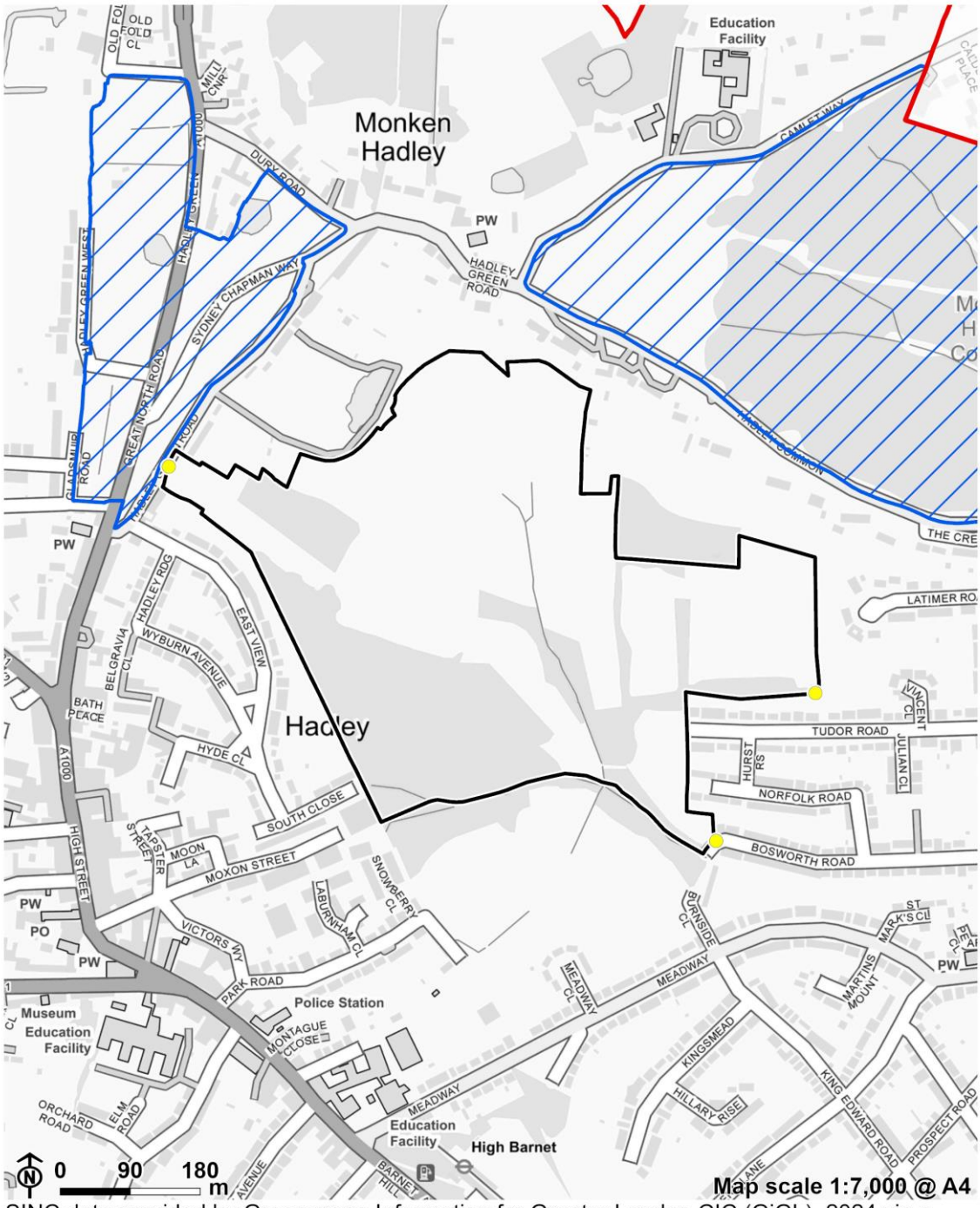
BaBII15 King George's Fields
Site information
LUC Site ID: 14
SINC ID: BaBII15
SINC Name: King George's Fields
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2503396940
Area (ha): 27.84
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Fields
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: A pleasant, grassy hillside with a surprisingly rural quality, considering its location in suburban Barnet.
SINC Description: This pleasant, grassy hillside has a surprisingly rural quality, considering its location in suburban Barnet. It consists of a patchwork of small fields, intersected by overgrown hedgerows, narrow strips of woodland and small streams. Much of the grassland comprises coarse grasses with a few common wild flowers, but there are several areas with a much richer flora. These herb rich fields are dominated by creeping bent (Agrostis stolonifera) and red fescue (Festuca rubra), with much sweet vernal grass (Anthoxanthum odoratum) and Yorkshire fog (Holcus lanatus), and contain wild flowers typical of unimproved grassland, including devil's bit scabious (Succisa pratensis), betony (Stachys officinalis), cuckooflower (Cardamine pratensis) and greater bird's foot trefoil (Lotus uliginosus), along with numerous commoner species. Damp flushes support tufted hair grass (Deschampsia cespitosa), jointed rush (Juncus articulatus), water figwort (Scrophularia auriculata) and yellow iris (Iris pseudacorus). Acid grassland on top of the hill contains abundant sheep's sorrel (Rumex acetosella) and tormentil (Potentilla erecta) in a sward dominated by red fescue. Fine old hedgerows, some of which have expanded into belts of scrubby woodland, criss cross the fields. These are composed largely of common and Midland hawthorns (Crataegus monogyna and C. laevigata), field maple (Acer campestre) and blackthorn (Prunus spinosa), with emergent pedunculate oaks (Quercus robur) and white and crack willows (Salix alba and S. fragilis). There are a number of magnificent old oaks scattered among the fields. Strips of damp woodland along the streamlines are dominated by willows (Salix spp.), oak, hornbeam (Carpinus betulus) and ash (Fraxinus escelsior). The ground flora includes a few ancient woodland indicators, such as wood anemone (Anemone nemorosa), wood sorrel (Oxalis acetosella) and bluebell (Hyacinthoides non scripta), which may have survived in hedges. Square stalked St John's wort (Hypericum tetrapterum) grows at the edge of a willow thicket on the site of a former pond. Breeding birds include sparrowhawk, stock dove, bullfinch, willow warbler and chiffchaff. A good selection of common butterflies occurs, along with the chimney sweeper, an uncommon day flying moth. The London LOOP passes through the site.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Butterfly, Black Redstart, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Fieldfare, Greenfinch, Herring Gull, Hobby, House Sparrow, Large Skipper, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Red Kite, Redwing, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Starling, Wall

BaBII15 King George's Fields
INNS Records: Chinese Muntjac, Goat's rue, Ring necked Parakeet
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: King George's Fields is in the north of the Borough and is comprised of a mosaic of hilly grasslands, overgrown hedgerows, woodlands and streams. The site is well used, particularly by walkers and dog-walkers and provides a uniquely rural feel in comparison with the surrounding urban area of Barnet.
Survey Data
Surveyor: JB
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The site is managed by London Borough of Barnet.Habitats were in good condition and provided a range of opportunities for wildlife. Grassland had been recently cut but it was evident several long meadow areas had been established. These meadow areas are managed under traditional 'cut and lift' management to mimic grazing and increase wildflower diversity. Hedgerows were overgrown which, although provide excellent nectar/food sources and Habitats for birds and invertebrates, they are becoming closer to a line of trees, therefore management should be implemented to maintain them as hedgerows.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Acid grassland Species-rich neutral grassland Other rivers and streams Parks and urban greenspaces Woodland Scrub Native Hedgerow
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: King George’s Fields is comprised of a mosaic of grassland, woodland, hedgerows and streams. Grassland was subject to varying management styles, with shorter mown pathways of amenity grassland intersecting longer meadow areas of semi-improved neutral grassland. Acidic species were not noted during the site survey, however grassland had been recently cut so species ID was difficult and many of the herbs had finished flowering. Grassland species included coarser, tussocky species including rough meadow grass Poa trivialis cock’s-foot Dactylis glomerata, yorkshire fog Holcus lanatus, Timothy grass Phleum pratenses and Agrostis sp. Some scattered mature trees were present, although the majority were within woodlands and hedgerows. Native overgrown hedgerows with trees bordered grassland areas, with species including hawthorn Crataegus monogyna, blackthorn Prunus spinosa, elder Sambucus nigra, dog rose Rosa canina and holly Ilex aquifolium. Pockets of woodland were scattered throughout, primarily smaller linear areas with a larger area in the southwest. The larger area in the southwest had more diverse ground flora and a greater number of seedlings and saplings compared with the other woodland parcels. Several wet and dry streams were noted within the woodland parcels, the majority of which were part of the

BaBII15 King George's Fields
Shirbourne Brook. Scrub was scattered throughout the site, dominated by bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. with occasional elder Sambucus nigra.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion Invasive species: Additional comments: Some erosion was noted on the shortly mown amenity grassland pathways, but no erosion was noted in longer meadow areas therefore erosion is considered to be well managed with footfall targetingHabitats of lower ecological value. No signs of litter or dog fouling was noted, although there is potential for this to become a threat given the large number of visitors and dog walkers. Cherry laurel was noted in hedgerows and parakeets were seen during the site visit. These species should be controlled to ensure they do not outcompete native species.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing regime Meadow creation Wetland creation/enhancement Scrub establishment/management Deadwood heabitat creation Additional comments: Create a woodland pond in the larger area in the southwest to increase opportunities for amphibians and invertebrates. This would also increase the site's suitability for reptiles, particularly grass snake. Management recommendations described below, such as selective felling of trees in woodland and creation of deadwoodHabitats will enhance opportunities for invertebrates. Supplementary seeding of the meadow areas should be considered to increase forb diversity and in turn increase opportunities for invertebrates, particularly pollinators. Scrub should continue to be managed appropriately to provide opportunities for nesting birds.
Interest: Mammals Birds Reptiles Amphibians Invertebrates Higher plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees, hedgerows and woodland provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. Additionally, a building in the southeast of the Site was determined to have features suitable for roosting bats. Longer meadow areas and scrub provide foraging and sheltering opportunities for invertebrates and deadwood within woodland parcels provide opportunities for saproxylic species. Streams provide opportunities for amphibians and scrub, woodland and hedgerows provide sheltering opportunities for amphibians and reptiles.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Selective felling of trees within the woodland will allow more regrowth within the woodland, allowing a greater age range to develop and a greater vertical structure. This will also encourage a more diverse ground flora to develop by creating areas of temporary open space in the canopy. Any trees felled should be left within the woodland to create deadwoodHabitats. A clear path network should be provided, to discourage trampling of the woodland ground flora. Control bramble and nettle in woodland which is currently dominating some areas to allow a more diverse variety of ground flora to establish. Remove old broken fencing in woodland parcel in northwest close to one of the streams. Create a woodland pond in the larger area of

BaBII15 King George's Fields
woodland in the southwest. Continue relaxed mowing in meadow areas. Implement a management plan for all hedgerows to prevent transitioning into tree lines.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: AlthoughHabitats present were not the best examples of those in London, mature native hedgerows are good examples in Barnet and therefore should be conserved.
Habitat Rarity: Common and widespread Habitats were present on site, but these were considered relatively rare in the context of London, especially streams, woodland, mature native hedgerows and meadows.
Species Rarity: The desk study identified a number of protected and notable species within the site, in particular bird species and invertebrates, as well as the uncommon day flying moth the chimney sweeper Odezia atrata. Breeding birds include sparrowhawk, stock dove, bullfinch, willow warbler and chiffchaff. For further detail, refer to the Protected/Notable species above.
Habitat Richness: The site supports semi-improved neutral grassland with different management styles, amenity grassland, scrub, woodland, hedgerows, streams and scattered mature broadleaved trees which is considered relatively rich given the sub-urban London context.
Species Richness: The site supports a range of common and widespread floral and faunal species which are supported by a diverse range of Habitats within the site, which are likely to present a valuable source in a relatively urban area.
Size: The site is 27.84ha which is considered a relatively large size for this sub-urban area of London and is strategically important, located close to Monken Hadley Common SINC.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland and scrub can be easily recreated. However, mature trees and hedgerows, woodland and streams are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The site is one of many King George's Fields across the county, established as memorials, following the death of King George V in 1936. The creation of the space was funded by King George's Fields Foundation, the work of which is now undertaken by the charity Fields in Trust.
Geographic Position: The site is located in the north of the borough, between Monken Hadley Common SBINC and Hadley Green SMINC. King George's Fields has functionally linkedHabitat with these neighbouring SINCs, including grassland and woodland and therefore will provideHabitat for similar species and together they form a valuable strategic network within this part of the borough. Additionally, the Shirebourne Brook runs through King George's Fields and joins up with the Pymmes Brook SINC in the east, providing a valuable blue corridor within the borough.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: The site is used primarily by walkers and dog walkers.
Potential: There is potential to further improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site provides a secluded, rural feel which is relatively rare in London with a variety of Habitats such as grassland, woodland, mature trees and streams which are aesthetically appealing. Hedgerows with a variety of native species are visually appealing bearing colourful flowers and berries. Bird song is notable throughout. From the top of the hill, views of surrounding Barnet provide aesthetic appeal with benches at the top to enjoy the view.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A

BaBII15 King George's Fields
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to be a valuable resource for people and wildlife, particularly birds, bats and invertebrates in the borough. The Habitats present, including woodland, old native hedgerows, mature trees and streams are rarer in London and therefore should be protected. Enhancements should focus on woodland management and enhancement through selective felling of trees and deadwood creation. A woodland pond could also be created to enhance the diversity of Habitats on site and therefore the diversity of species using the site.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries
Site information
LUC Site ID: 15
SINC ID: BaBII19
SINC Name: St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2725890702
Area (ha): 62.54
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Cemeteries and Churchyards, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: The largest cemetery in London, with woodland and flower rich grassland.
SINC Description: These two adjacent cemeteries in East Finchley together form the largest cemetery in London. While some parts are still used for burials, the rest is managed informally, with nature conservation in mind. Much of the site is wooded, with sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, the dominant trees. Pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, , hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, and willows , Salix spp., are also frequent, and a number of fine specimens of exotic trees survive in the woodland from an earlier, more formal landscape. The ground flora, though dominated by bramble, is surprisingly rich, and includes pignut , Conopodium majus, , goldilocks buttercup , Ranunculus auricomus, , cuckooflower , Cardamine pratensis, , primrose , Primula vulagaris, , wild and barren strawberries , Fragaria vesca and Potentilla sterilis, , bugle , Ajuga reptans, and bluebell , Hyacinthoides non scripta, . Several of these species are indicative of ancient woodland. These may have colonised from adjacent Coldfall Wood. More open areas support neutral grassland with a good range of wild flowers, including burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, , agrimony , Agrimonia eupatoria, , common knapweed , Centaurea nigra, and lady's bedstraw , Galium verum, . Wild basil , Clinopodium vulgare, and wild marjoram , Origanum vulgare, , usually found on chalky soils, have both been recorded. Two small clumps of water avens , Geum rivale, , extremely rare as a wild plant in south east England, have presumably spread from a graveside planting. There are numerous ant hills of the yellow meadow ant , Lasius flavus, within the grassland. A short section of the Strawberry Vale Brook flows through the north east corner, fringed with wetland vegetation including rushes , Juncus spp., , great reedmace , Typha latifolia, , marsh thistle , Cirsium palustre, , pendulous sedge , Carex pendula, and some fine mature white willows , Salix alba, . The site supports a good range of breeding birds, including green and great spotted woodpeckers, treecreeper, goldcrest, chiffchaff, willow warbler, blackcap and lesser whitethroat. Muntjac deer are frequent visitors. Many of the gravestones have a good covering of mosses and lichens.
Management provider: Islington and Camden Cemetery Services
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Coldfall Wood
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Box, Buff Ermine, Common Pipistrelle, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Firecrest, Greenfinch, House Martin, Large Black Slug, Large Skipper, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Lesser Whitethroat, Mistle Thrush, Natterjack Toad, Noctule Bat, Pipistrelle, Pipistrelle Bat species, Slow worm, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Soprano Pipistrelle, Starling, Swift, Wall, White letter Hairstreak
INNS Records:

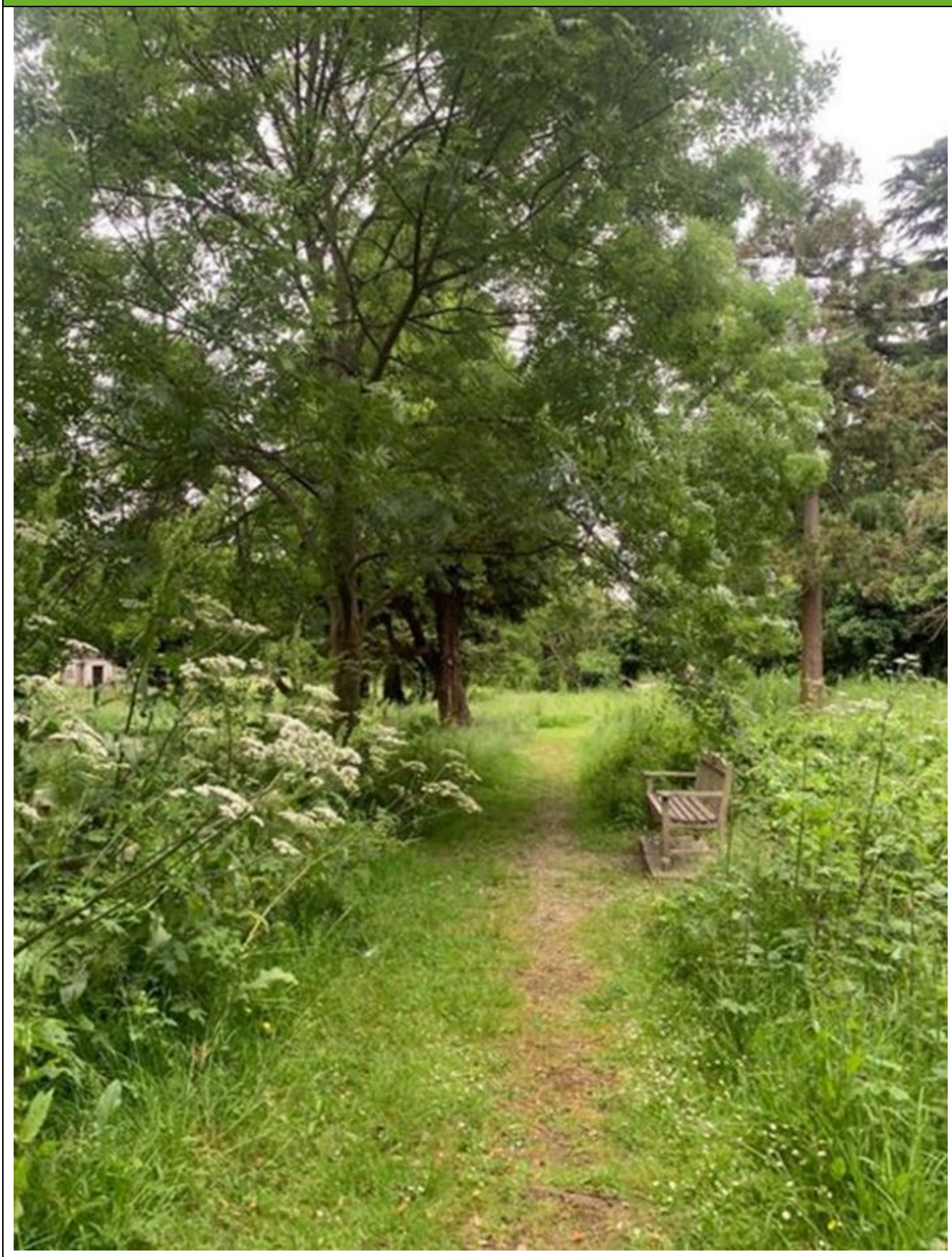
BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries
A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, Evergreen Oak, False acacia, Goat's rue, Japanese Knotweed, Snowberry, Turkey Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: A large cemetery located in the east of the borough, designated as metropolitan open land. The site is just south of Coppetts Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve and Glebelands Local Nature Reserve, however they are separated by the busy north circular road, therefore they are not ecological connected, apart from for birds. The SINC however is bound to the east by greenspace including Muswell Hill playing fields and an area of woodland just south of the playing fields, known as Coldfall Wood Local Nature Reserve, which is an ancient woodland. It is also bound to the south by allotments, and therefore there is likely good ecological connectivity between these greenspaces.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Fair and dry
Date: 6/4/2024 2:31:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The cemetery has a good range of Habitats, and has clearly been managed to provide opportunities for wildlife. Areas have been left unmanaged and left to develop into woodland, and much of the grass amongst the graves was left to grow long, with a high species diversity including wildflowers. Standing dead wood was also present.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Churches and Cemeteries
Habitat survey description: A good mix of Habitats were present within the Site including semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered trees, shrubs, amenity grassland, tall ruderal species and broadleaved woodland. A good mix of species were present and the grassland had a high diversity of species. Strawberry Vale Brook also runs through the north east of the Site. Shrub planting included a mix of rose, cherry laurel, dog rose, rhododendron, butterfly bush and spotted laurel. Scattered trees included large cedars, copper beech, weeping willow, conifers, lime, oak, horse chestnut, yew, cherry, hornbeam, silver birch, oak, monkey puzzle, silver birch, mulberry and sycamore. Amenity grassland included annual meadow grass, common daisy, creeping buttercup, white clover, red clover, perennial rye grass, yarrow, catsear, Festuca sp, cuckoo, yorkshire fog, cutleaved geranium and common sorrel. Puffball was also seen in the grassland. Semi-improved neutral grassland growing around the graves included rough meadow grass, ox eye daisy, cocksfoot, red clover, false oat grass, meadow buttercup, perennial rye grass, ribwort plantain, meadow foxtail, soft brome, broadleaved dock, herb robert, sweet vernal grass, cuckoo flower, black medick, yorkshire fog, bristly oxtounge, Festuca sp, soft brome, broadleaved dock, creeping thistle, white clover and creeping buttercup. Tall ruderal species included hogweed, hedge bindweed, broadleaved dock, comfrey, goats rue, creeping thistle, willowherb and oxeye daisy. The canopy within the broadleaved woodland included sycamore, horse chestnut and ash. The understorey included holly, hawthorn, yew, privet, dog rose, dogwood, sycamore saplings, elm and rhododendron. The ground layer included strawberry saxifrage, bramble, herb robert and ivy.

BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries
Threats and Disturbances: Invasive species: Additional comments: Invasive species seen on site included cherry laurel, rhododendron, butterfly bush, bamboo and goats rue. Invasive species identified on the desk study included: A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, Evergreen Oak, False acacia, Goat's rue, Japanese Knotweed, Snowberry and Turkey Oak.
Ecological opportunities on site: Tree hedge, Wildlife friendly Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Bryophytes, Lichen, Fungi Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site is known to support a variety of birds, and also provides roosting and foragingHabitat for bats, given the presence of mature trees with suitable roosting features, and the buildings on site which likely provide opportunities for roosting. The long grass and woodland also provide suitable terrestrial Habitat for reptiles and amphibians. No ponds were present on site, however the site is bound by allotments, woodland and residential gardens, so it is likely that small ponds are present in the vicinity. Therefore, should there be any wildlife ponds within proximity to the SINC, the Habitats on site would provide a valuableHabitat for amphibians in the terrestrial phase. Graves in cemeteries are likely to support lichens and bryophytes and puffball funghi was seen within the grassland on site.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries

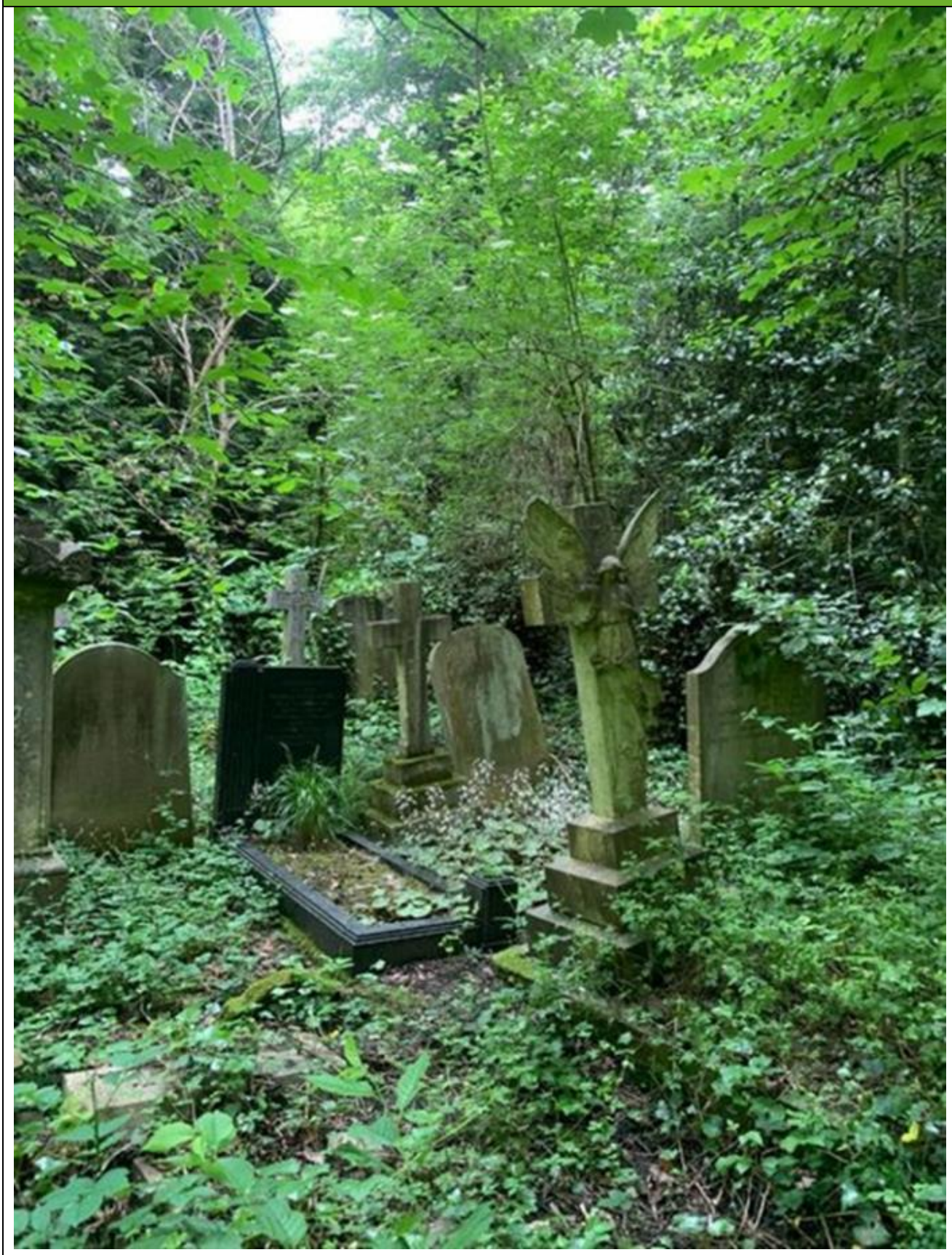
BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries

BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries

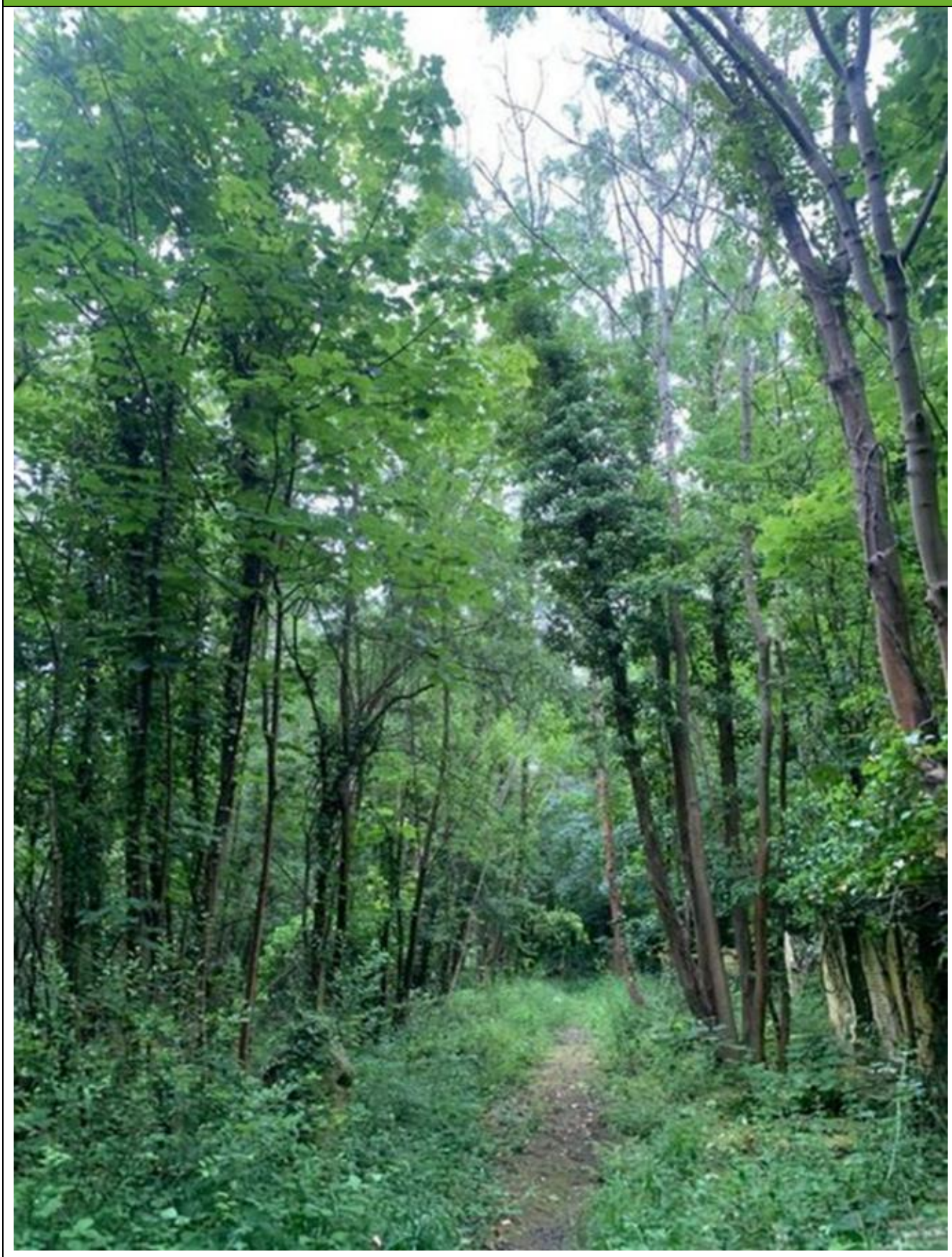


BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries

BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries



BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries



BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

The site should continue to be managed for biodiversity with grassland left to grow long in summer. Any trees that fall/require felling should be used to created deadwoodHabitats on site and bat and bird boxes could be put up on buildings or mature trees that are unlikely to fall/require felling. Species rich native hedgerows could be created on site, and flower beds were present on Site, with some beds currently bare ground waiting to be planted. It is recommended that flower beds are planted with native species or non-native plants of benefit wildlife, such as those on the RHS plants for pollinators list. Species with good amenity value can be selected to also provide a colourful flower bed within the cemetery.

Invasive species should be controlled and managed in line with legal requirements.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

N/A

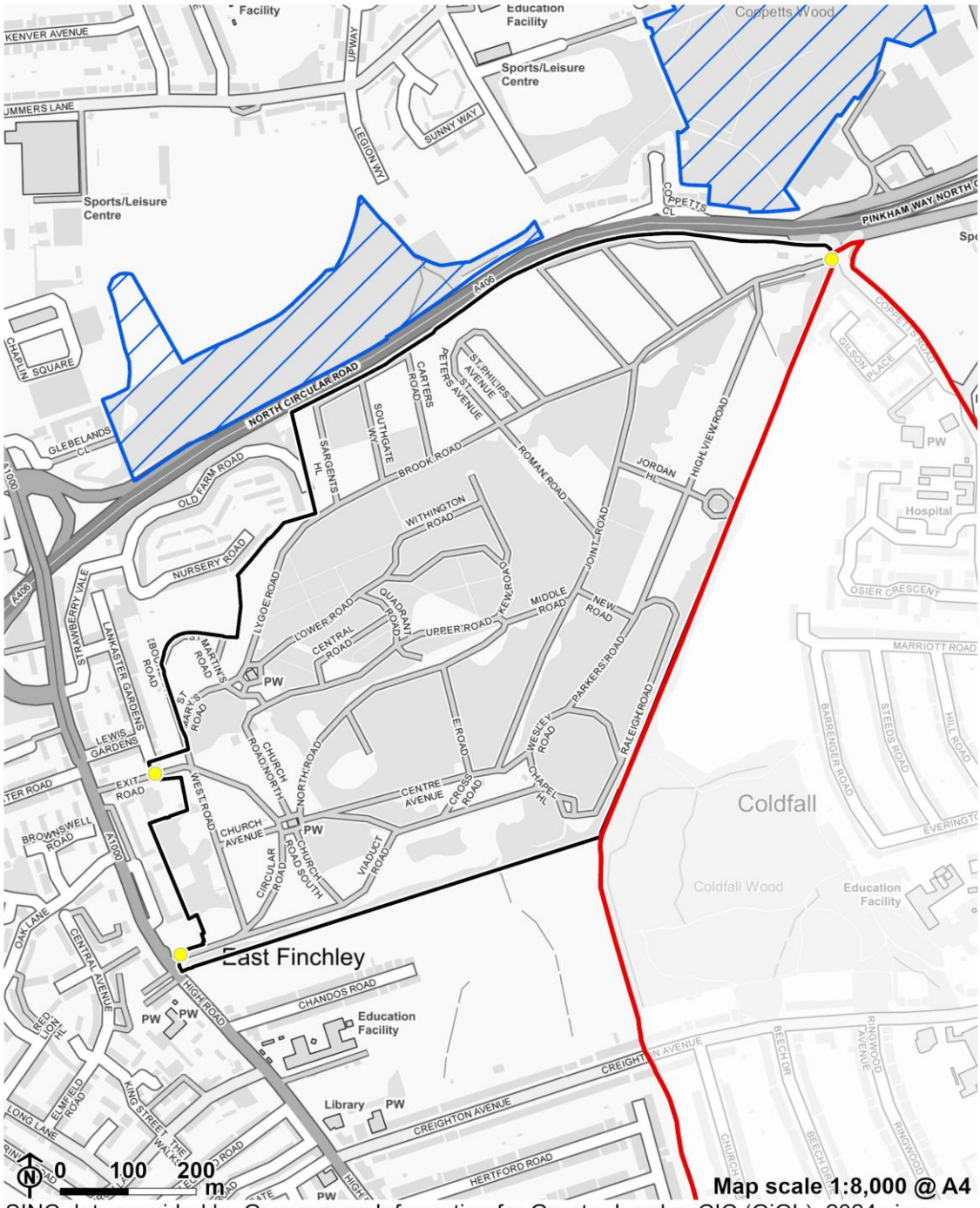
SINC Criteria

Representation: N/A

Habitat Rarity: The site contains woodland, which is uncommon in urban areas.

Species Rarity: The desk study identified multiple protected/notable species on site such as dunnock (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) amber list), greenfinch (BOCC red list), house martin (BOCC red list), lesser spotted woodpecker (BOCC red list), mistle thrush (BOCC red list), small heath, song thrush (BOCC amber list), starling (BOCC red list), swift (BOCC red list), white letter hairstreak and wall moth. Some rare plant species were also identified within the previous citation such as water

BaBII19 St Pancras and Islington Cemeteries
avens. Please note the desk study included a record for Natterjack toad onsite, however it is unlikely for Natterjack toad to be present within the site.
Habitat Richness: A diverse mix of Habitats including grassland, woodland, shrubs and tall ruderal species.
Species Richness: The Habitats were noted to include a varied range of plant species and the site is known to support a range of fauna as detailed above.
Size: The site is very large at 62 ha, and is the largest cemetery in London.
Important populations of species: Given the size of the site, it is likely the site supports important populations of birds.
Ancient Character: The woodland includes species indicative of ancient woodland, although the woodland on site has not been designated as ancient woodland. These species may have colonised from the adjacent Coldfall Wood, which is an ancient woodland.
Recreatability: The site contains many mature trees and woodland, which would take a long time to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: Some of the cemetery had been left to develop into secondary woodland amongst the graves.
Cultural/Historic Character: The site is registered under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 within the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens by Historic England for its special historic interest.
Geographic Position: A large cemetery located on the east of the borough, designated as metropolitan open land. The site is just south of Coppetts Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve and Glebelands Local Nature Reserve, however they are separated by the busy north circular road, therefore they are not ecological connected, apart from for birds. The SINC however is bound to the east by greenspace including Muswell Hill playing fields and an area of woodland just south of the playing fields, known as Coldfall Wood Local Nature Reserve. It is also bound to the south by allotments, and therefore there is likely good ecological connectivity between these greenspaces.
Access: The site is publicly accessible and easy to access.
Use: The site is in use as a cemetery.
Potential: The site currently provides valuable opportunities for wildlife. Small management suggestions have been made to bolster this even further.
Aesthetic Appeal: A peaceful site, with many areas having a 'wild' feel and flowers in summer providing good aesthetic appeal.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: A diverse and species rich cemetery, which should continue to be managed for biodiversity. The site has been appropriately designated as a SINC of Borough Grade II status and therefore no change has been recommended. Additional enhancements would increase its value for species on site even further.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

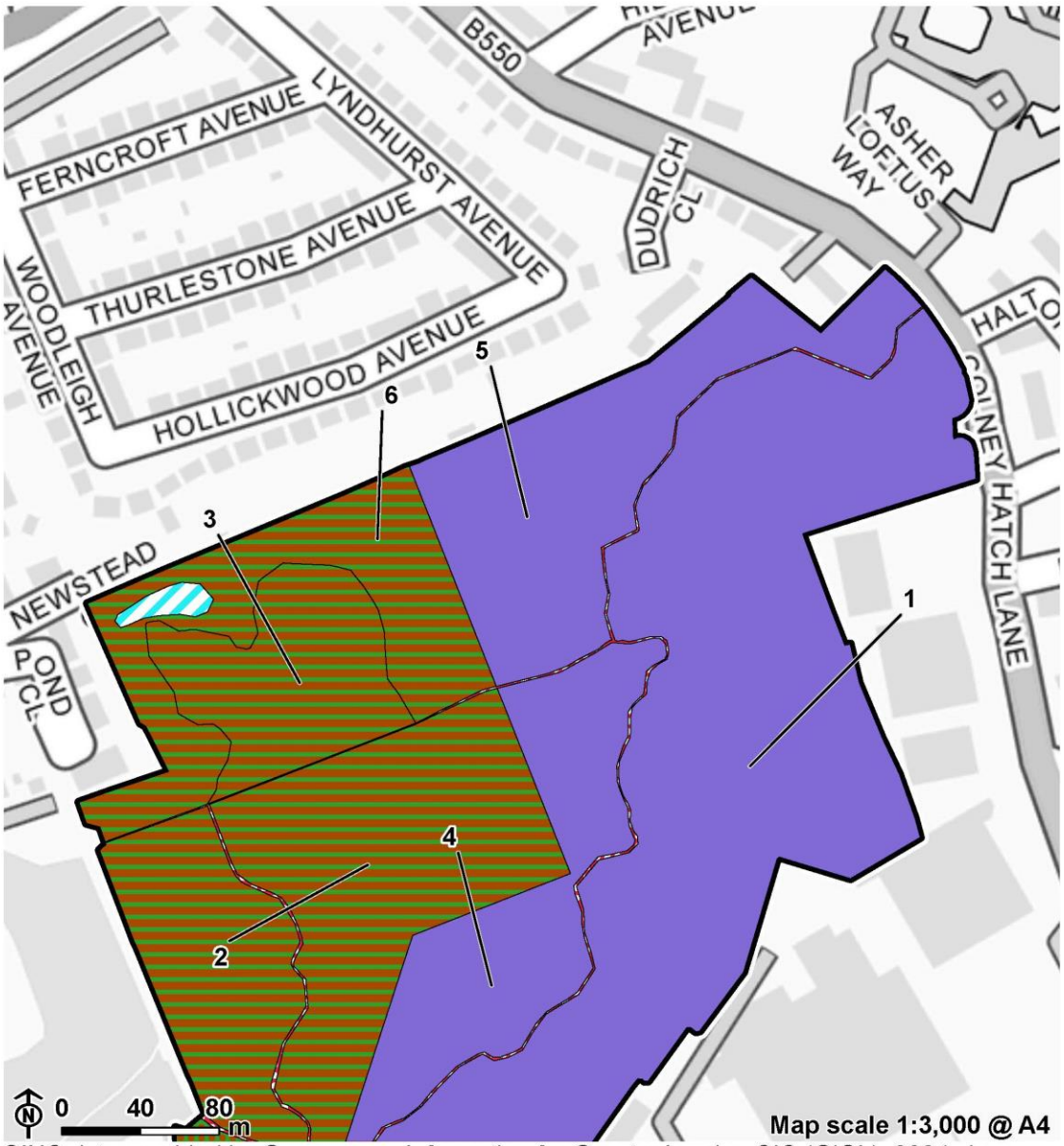
Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 16
SINC ID: BaBI06
SINC Name: Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2771191557
Area (ha): 14.53
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Woodland, scrub and flower rich grassland in an attractive and much loved nature reserve.
SINC Description: Coppett's Wood is a secondary woodland, with a canopy dominated by pedunculate oak, Quercus robur, and hornbeam , Carpinus betulus, with several other trees in smaller quantity. The shrub layer consists of hazel , Corylus avellana, , hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, holly, Ilex aquilifolium, , elder , Sambucus nigra, and elm, Ulmus sp., with an unusual naturalised population of juneberry, Amelanchier lamarckii. The ground flora includes bluebell Hyacinthoides non scripta, garlic mustard, Alliaria petiolata, lords and ladies, Arum maculatum, male fern, Dryopteris felix mas, broad buckler fern, D. dilatata, and hart's tongue fern, Phyllitis scolopendrium, . Breeding birds in the woodland include all three woodpeckers, tawny owl, sparrowhawk, nuthatch and treecreeper. A small pond in the north west corner supports a clump of yellow iris, Iris pseudacorus, as well as breeding common frogs and smooth newts. Scrublands is a mix of scrub, grassland and tall herbs, on the site of a former sewage works. The mosaic of Habitats includes a few rare and unusual plants, including imperforate St John's wort, Hypericum maculatum, downy rose, Rosa tomentosa, , sweet briar, R. rubiginosa, hare's foot clover, Trifolium arvense, and bee orchid, Ophrys apifera. This is excellent Habitat for invertebrates, and supports several rare species. Birds nesting in the scrub include common and lesser whitethroats and goldfinch. The site was declared an Local Nature Reserve in 1997.
Management provider: Coppetts Wood Conservationists.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: N/A
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: GiGL records include Brambling, a Butterfly, Dunnock, Fieldfare, Firecrest, Greenfinch, Hobby, Kingfisher, Large Skipper, Lesser Redpoll, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Lesser Whitethroat, Peregrine, Pied Flycatcher, Red Kite, Redwing, Service tree, Slow worm, Song Thrush, Spotted Flycatcher, Swift, Tawny Owl, Tree Pipit, Whinchat, White Admiral, White letter Hairstreak, Willow Tit, Woodcock, Woodlark, Yellow Wagtail. The Council has also collated great crested newt (GCN) records for the site and local pond network across the Glebelands and Coppetts Wood SINCs totalling: three breeding ponds with a peak counts of 27 adults at Long Marsh Hollow in April 2024 and an historic peak count of 74 adults (57 adult males, 17 adult females) in April 2003, estimated as a 'Medium' population size class (peak count of 10-100 adults). 418 larvae were record in July 2014.
INNS Records:

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve
Butterfly bush, Evergreen Oak, False acacia, Giant Hogweed, Giant Knotweed, Goat's rue, Green Alkanet, Japanese Knotweed, Montbretia, Ring necked Parakeet, Snowberry, Waterer's Cotoneaster
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is a biodiverse SINC supporting ancient woodland, a pond, scrub with tall ruderal vegetation and semi-improved grassland. The site is located within an area of dense urban development, with residential houses to the north and north east and a shopping complex to the south and east. However it is adjacent to Metropolitan Open Land to the west, and the SINC itself is designated as MoL. The site is also ecologically connected to allotments and The Glebe Land Open Space, including the Glebelands Local Nature Reserve to the west. The site is therefore an important component of the SINC network, and provides vital opportunities for species in an urban area.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Clear and sunny
Date: 6/4/2024 11:41:00 AM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The site is well managed for biodiversity by Coppetts Wood Conservationists. A good mix of native species were noted, with a good age range of tree species including veteran trees showing many features for bats, birds and invertebrates. Volunteers manage the site and carry out activities such as ‘bramble bashing’, tree planting and pond work as well as many other activities. There was evidence of this on site including bramble clearance and path maintenance, clearance of tall ruderal in grass clearings as well as dead wood piles and bird and bat boxes. The site is well used and there is a small annual festival in a glade within the SINC.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The SINC supports a diverse range of Habitats and species including woodland, pond, grassland, scrub and tall ruderal. Many invertebrates were noted within the scrub and tall ruderal areas, in particular in areas where there was an abundance of comfrey, a native plant of value to pollinating insects. The site is well managed for biodiversity, and for people, with clear paths, and an annual small festival which is held within the woods. The woodland canopy was dominated by English oak, with abundant hornbeam, frequent sycamore and occasional ash, rowan and Norway maple. Silver birch and Populus sp were seen rarely. The understorey was dominated by bramble, with frequent holly, hawthorn and cow parsley. Elder, hazel, butterfly bush, bindweed, Japanese knotweed, young horse chestnut and dog rose were seen occasionally. Yew, cherry laurel, field maple, whitebeam, willow, apple and young aspen were seen rarely. The ground layer was dominated by ivy and bramble with abundant nettles and locally abundant red campion. Wood avens was noted frequently and bracken, garlic mustard, herb robert and cleavers were noted occasionally. Elm saplings, horse chestnut saplings, pendulous sedge, hairy brome, rough meadow grass, false oat-grass, ragwort, mock orange and teasel were noted rarely. The scrublands part of the site included a mix of tall forbs and herbaceous vegetation, scattered scrub, scattered trees and semi-improved neutral grassland. This area was very dense and therefore could only be viewed from the paths through the site. Along the paths, comfrey was dominant with abundant bramble, field mustard and locally abundant ox eye daisy and perennial rye. Crested dogstail, rough meadow grass, false oat grass, broadleaved dock, willowherb, vetch sp were noted

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve
occasionally. Rare species included meadow buttercup, purple toadflax, cut leaf geranium, black medic, cocksfoot, yorkshire fog and soft brome.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Invasive species: Additional comments: There are online reports of litter and fly tipping, however this appears to be known and managed by the Coppetts Wood Conservationists group, and only small amounts of litter were seen while on site. Stands of Japanese knotweed were noted within the SINC and there are multiple additional INNS records as detailed within desk study above.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab, Active Tree Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fungi Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Wildlife within the SINC is well documented by the Coppetts Wood Conservationists and the site is known to support a range of species including newts and frogs within the pond, small mammals including bats, common reptiles including slow worm and grass snake, a range of bees, butterflies and wildlfowers as well as many bird species. Particular recognition of the GCN population has been flagged by the council, noting that the on site pond is part of the local network supporting a medium sized popuation of the species. Protected/notable species within the desk study include a butterfly, brambling, dunnock, fieldfare, firecrest, greenfinch, hobby, kingfisher, large skipper, lesser redpoll, lesser spotted woodpecker, lesser whitethroat, peregrine, pied flycatcher, red kite, redwing, service tree, slow worm, song thrush, spotted flycatcher, swift, tawny owl, tree pipit, whinchat, white admiral, white letter hairstreak, willow tit, woodcock, woodlark, yellow wagtail. The ancient woodland is also likely to support fungi.
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

h - heathland and shrub

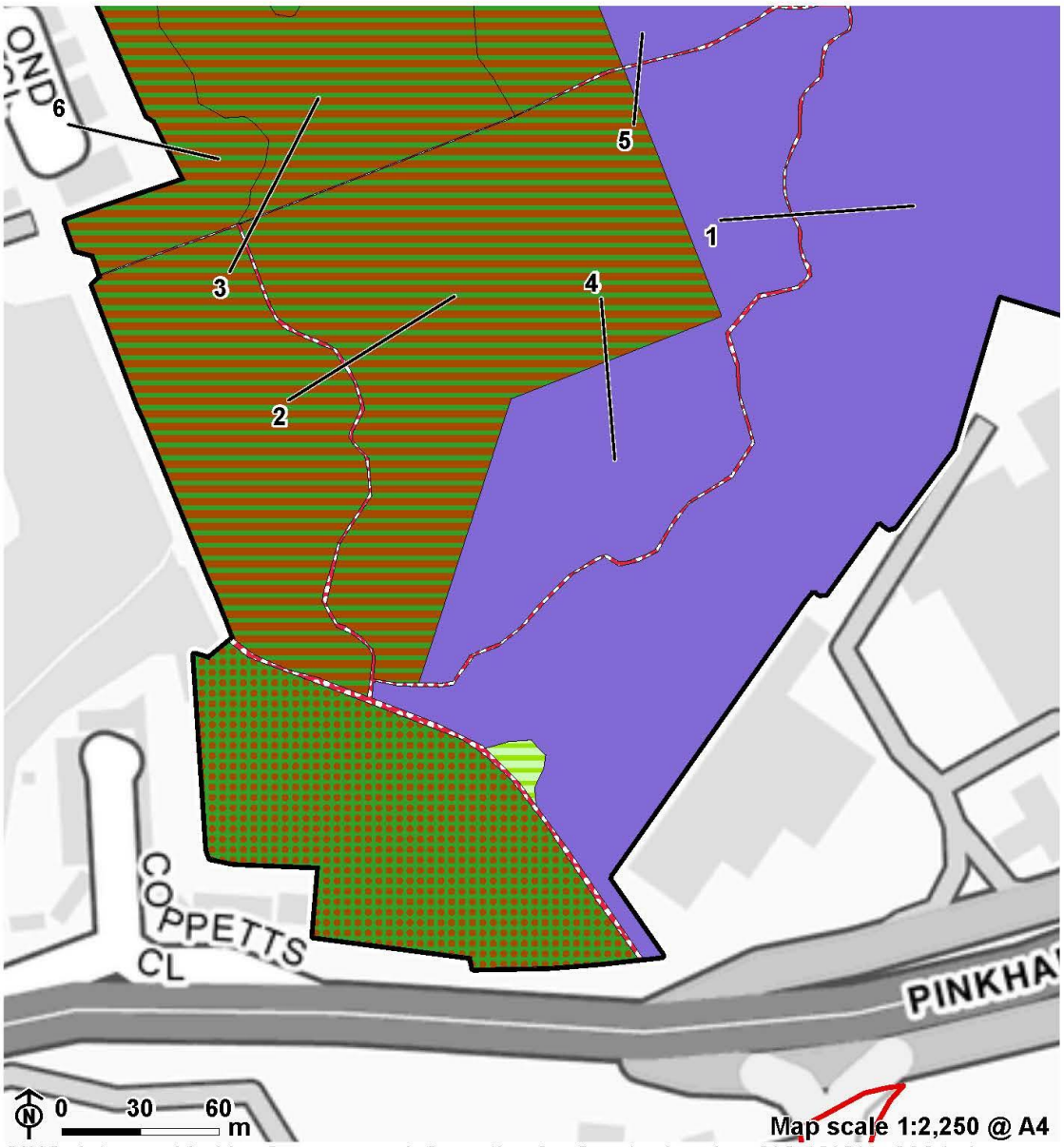
r1 - standing open water and canals

u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface

w1f - lowland mixed deciduous woodland

w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- h - heathland and shrub
- u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- w1f - lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 532 - scattered grass, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub, 16 - tall forbs

2: 28 - ancient woodland site

3: 28 - ancient woodland site

4: 532 - scattered grass, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub, 16 - tall forbs

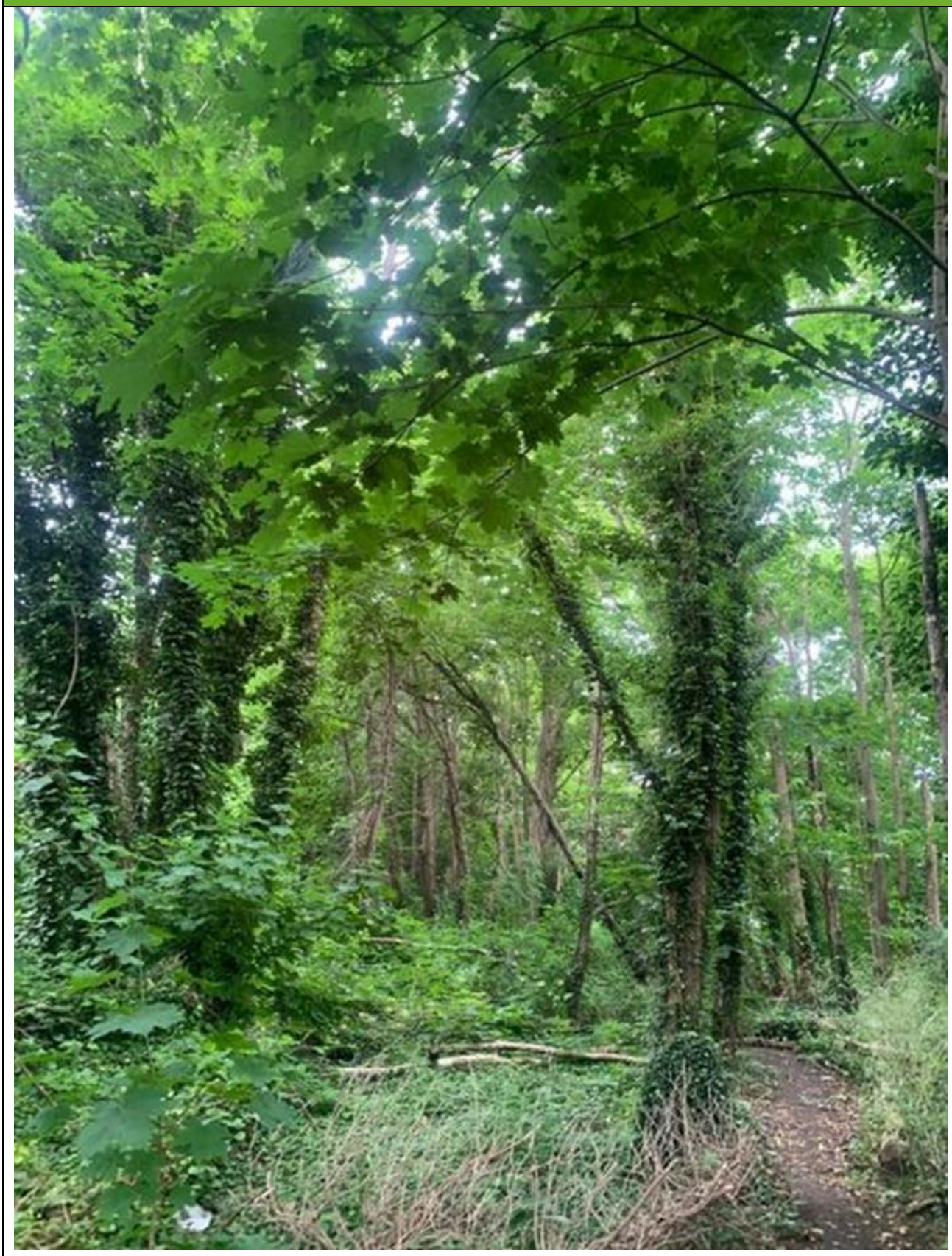
5: 532 - scattered grass, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub, 16 - tall forbs

6: 28 - ancient woodland site

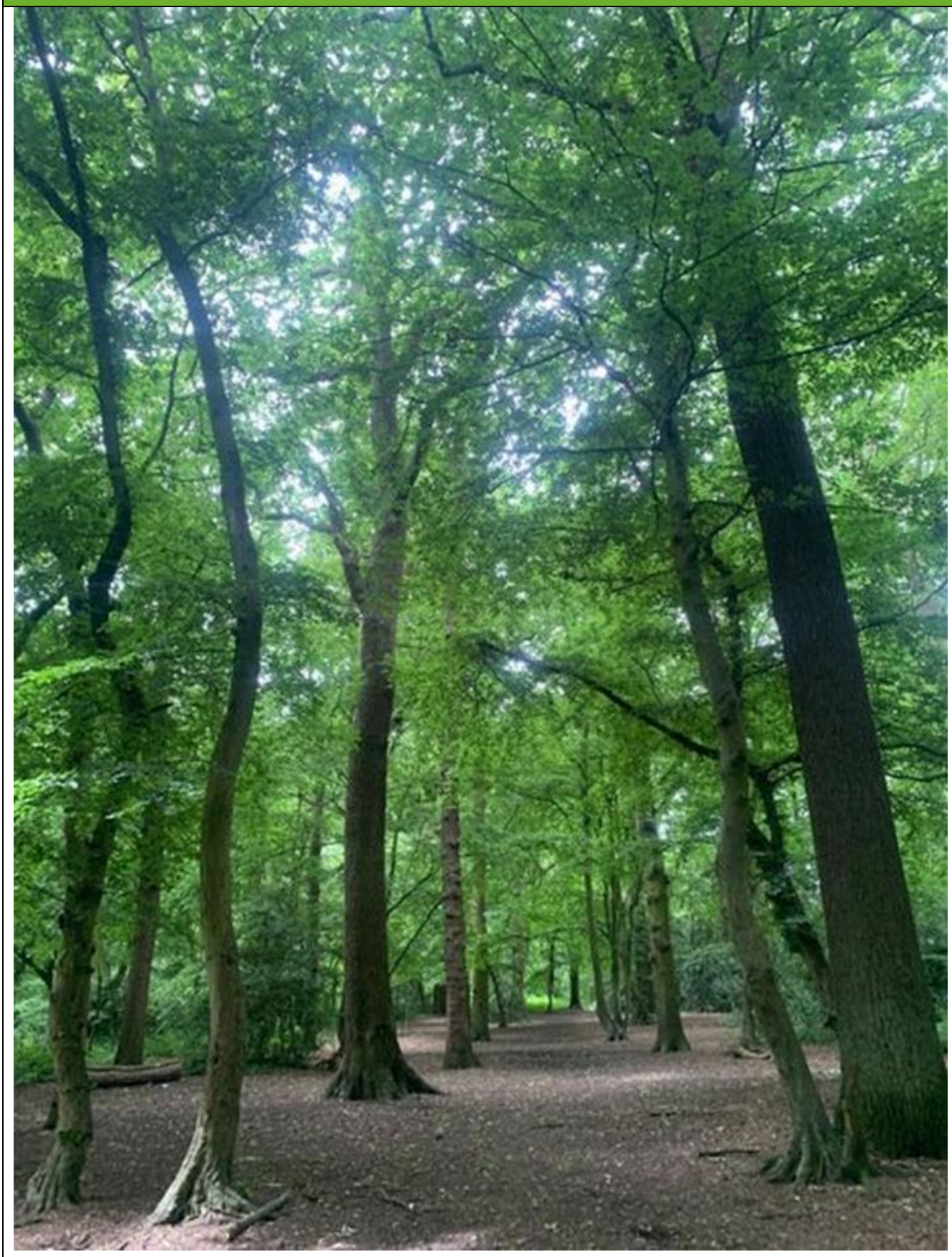
BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve

Site Photographs:

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve

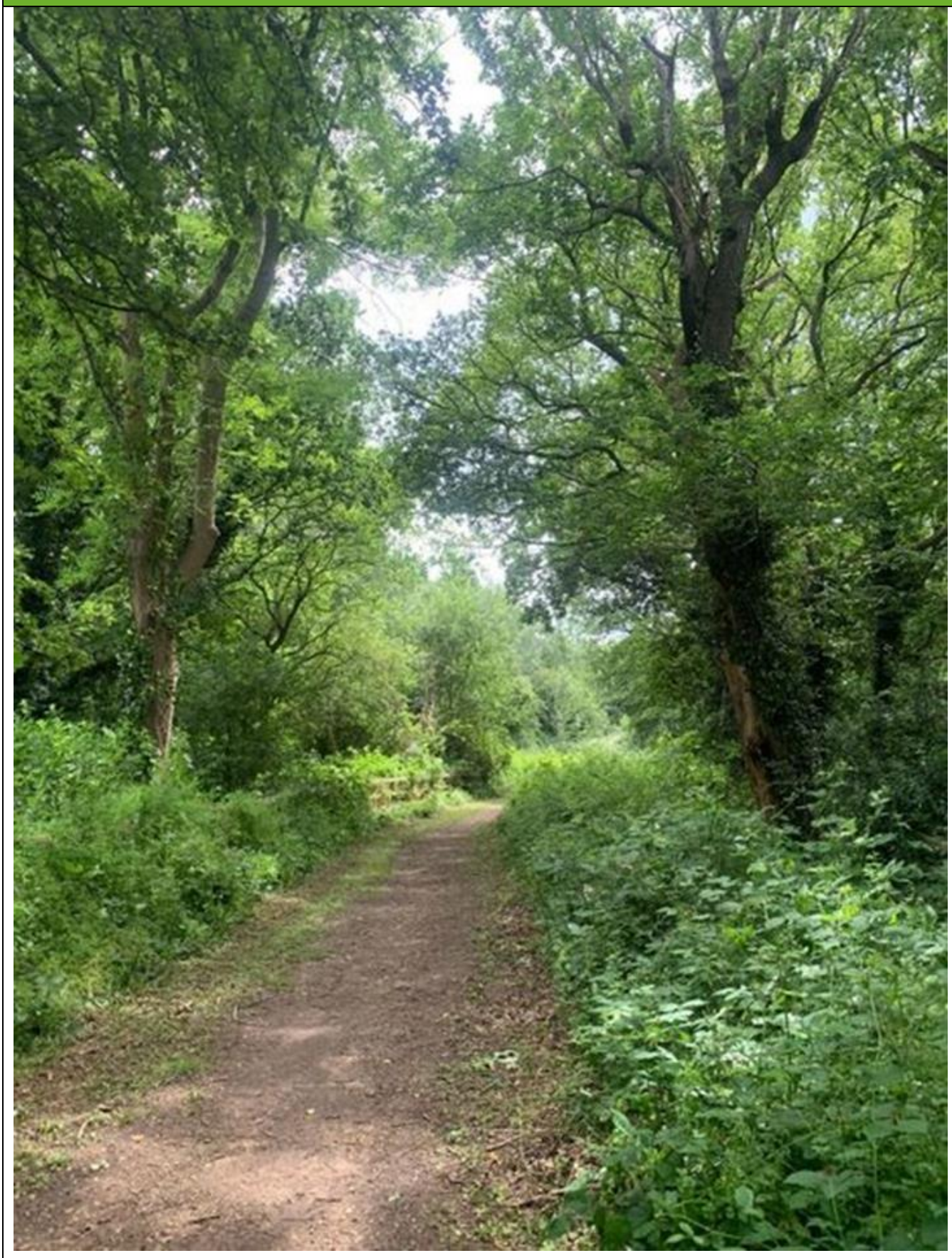


BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve



BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve



BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

Many management activities are ongoing at the site, and it is well understood by the Coppetts Wood Conservationists.

The SINC should continue to be managed to protect and enhance wildlife. The scrub should continue to be managed to ensure that no one species comprises more than 75% of the area, with at least three native woody species present. It should also be managed to allow a range of ages to develop including seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature shrubs. The grassland and scrub areas should also continue to be managed to ensure that succession does not lead to a loss of these Habitats, and the diversity of Habitats is maintained. In addition, the pond was noted to be quite shaded, and may benefit from coppicing around the pond edge to allow light through, potentially increasing the suitability of the pond for GCN. To strengthen habitat suitbaility for GCN, consideration could be given to the creation of an additional wildlife pond.

Japanese knotweed and other invasive species will need to continue to be managed in line with legal requirements.

Options to optimise connectivity between the site and nearby Glebelands Local Nature Reserve should include management of recreational access route/s to ensure that that flank formal routes and/or desire lines includes areas that free from direct disturbance. This may be achieved by deliineating access (e.g. dead hedging) and favourable management of adjoining habitats (where landownership permits). Interventions should take into account medium and longer term future recreational demand.

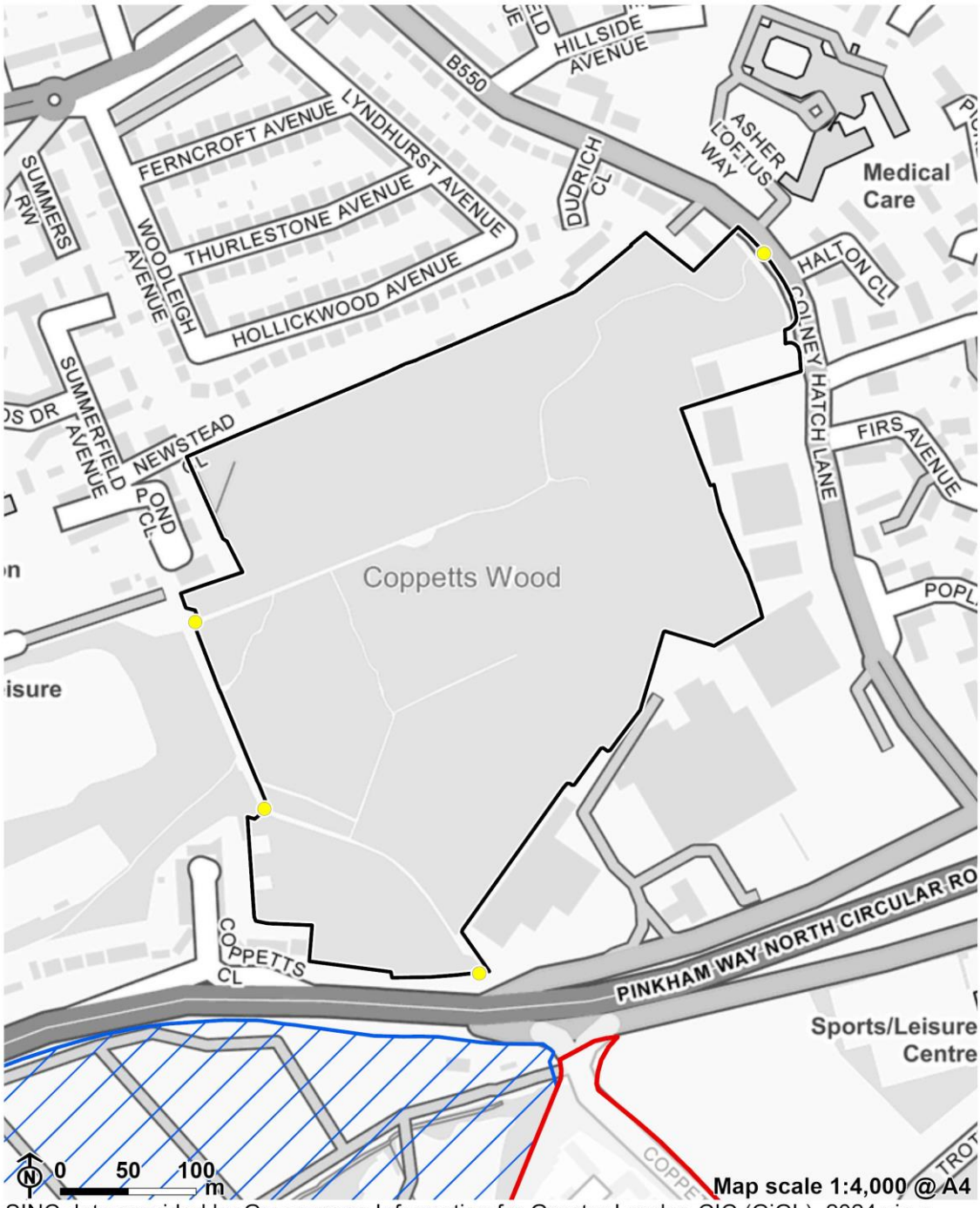
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

A management plan document could not be located online, however the Coppetts Wood Conservationists website include methods of management deployed on site.

SINC Criteria

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve
Representation: A good example of woodland and tall ruderal/scrub in London which is clearly valuable to pollinators and represents a valuable resource in the borough.
Habitat Rarity: The site supports ancient woodland which is an uncommon Habitat in urban areas.
Species Rarity: The desk study identified a range of protected/notable species on site such as dunnock (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) amber list), fieldfare (BOCC red list), greenfinch (BOCC red list), lesser redpoll (BOCC red list), lesser spotted woodpecker (BOCC red list), wild service tree, slow worm, song thrush (BOCC amber list), spotted flycatcher (BOCC red list), swift (BOCC red list), tawny owl (BOCC amber list), tree pipit (BOCC red list), whinchat (BOCC red list), white admiral, white letter hairstreak, willow tit (BOCC red list), woodcock (BOCC red list), yellow wagtail (BOCC red list). The site is also known to support breeding amphibians, as well as some rare plant species as detailed in the previous site citation.
Habitat Richness: The site is Habitat rich, supporting a good range of Habitats including woodland, scrub, grassland, pond and tall ruderal.
Species Richness: The site supports a range of Habitats, which in turn has resulted in a site rich in flora and fauna.
Size: The site is fairly large at 14.53ha, and is ecologically connected to further greenspaces to the west including the Glebelands SINC and allotments.
Important populations of species: Given the size of the site and the mix of Habitats, it is likely the site supports important populations of species. There is also evidence to suggest that the site contributes to support a significant GCN population. .
Ancient Character: Part of the site is recognised as ancient woodland.
Recreatability: Given that part of the site is designated as ancient woodland, this Habitat is irreplaceable. The scrublands part of the site has established on top of a disused sewage works and landfill. Therefore the underlying ground conditions of this area of the site are varied, and likely difficult to recreate exactly.
Typical Urban Character: The scrublands part of the site has established on top of a disused sewage works and landfill. Therefore the underlying ground conditions of this area of the site are varied.
Cultural/Historic Character: The site has a rich history and was once part of an extensive area of woodland known as Finchley Common. The common was enclosed in 1811 and in C19th, a sewage work was constructed next to Coppetts Wood on the area which is now the scrublands. The wood was also used for military training and gas mask testing in WWII. The sewage works closed in 1963 and Coppetts Wood Conservationists were formed in 1983. The site was designated as a local nature reserve in 1997.
Geographic Position: The site is located within an area of dense urban development, with residential houses to the north and north east and a shopping complex to the south and east. However it is connected to Metropolitan Open Land to the west, and the SINC itself is designated as MoL. The site is also ecologically connected to allotments and The Glebe Land Open Space, including the Glebelands Local Nature Reserve to the west. The site is therefore an important component of the SINC network, and provides vital opportunities for species in an urban area.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: Recreational use including a small annual festival held within a clearing.
Potential: The site is well managed and should continue to be managed for biodiversity.
Aesthetic Appeal: Very peaceful site, provides a lovely walk for visitors to escape the city and be in nature.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Opportunity
SINC Conclusion: The site is well managed for biodiversity and is a very valuable wildlife site within an urban area. The site continues to meet Borough Grade I status and should continue to be managed for biodiversity.

BaBI06 Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve
The category of Opportunity relates to conectivity wth the nearby Glebelands Local Nature Reserve, which the Council has expressed interest to achieve (spring 2024). This would increase the value of these sites, and may permit extension of the combined SINC boundary in future.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

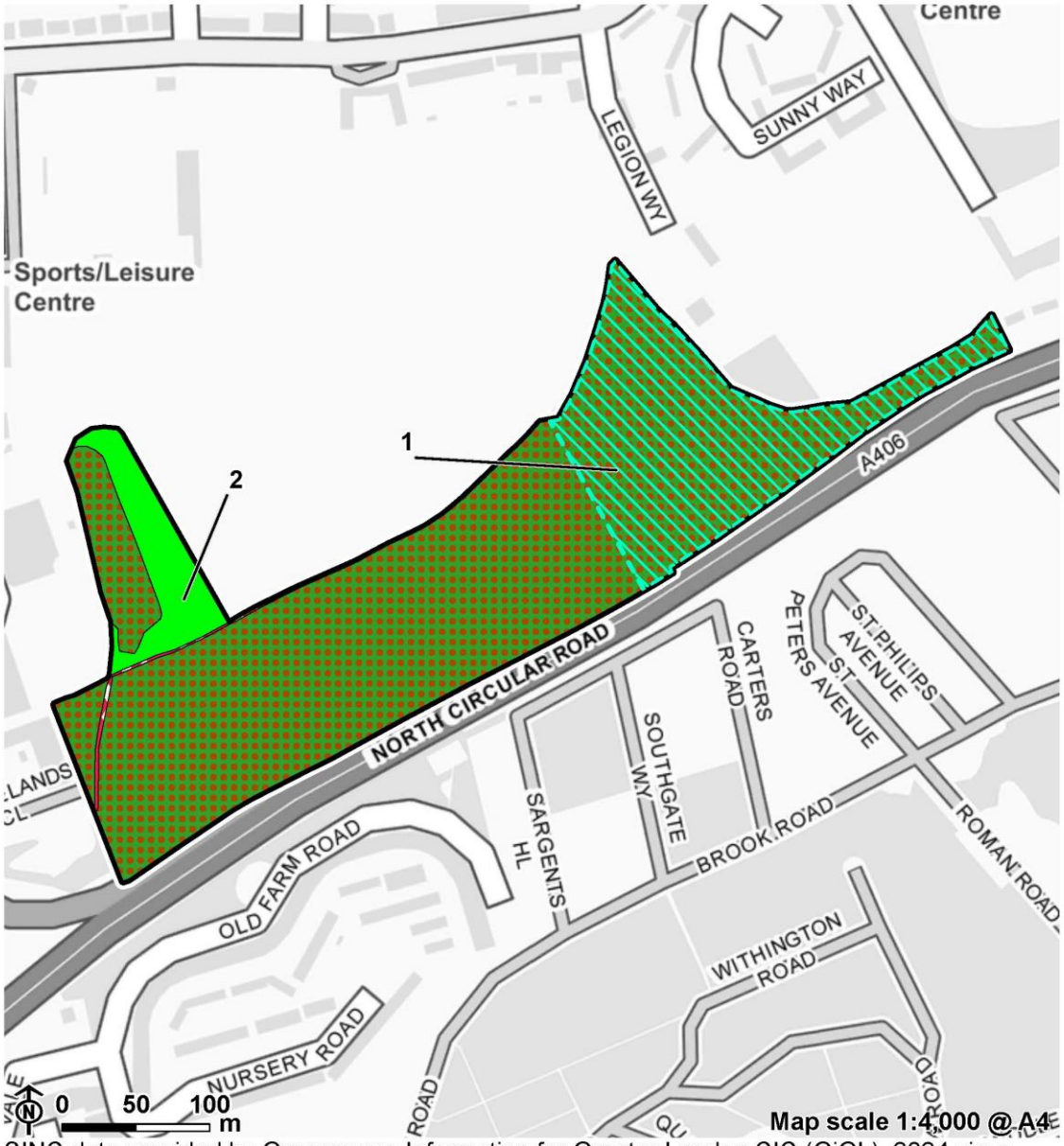
Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 17
SINC ID: BaBI07
SINC Name: Glebelands Local Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2701091092
Area (ha): 7.73
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Woodland with streams and shallow pools, with a remarkable range of wetland flowers.
SINC Description: This fragment of the former Finchley Common consists mostly of tall scrub and secondary woodland with a number of excellent wetland features, and areas of grassland and tall herbs in the south west. Most of the woodland is dominated by hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , with taller oak , Quercus robur, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, at the eastern end and silver birch , Betula pendula, in the west. The ground flora is dominated by bramble , Rubus fruticosus ag., and ivy , Hedera helix, . In damper areas, crack willow, Salix fragilis, dominates with grey willow, S. cinerea, below, while alder, Alnus glutinosa, lines the numerous small streams which run through the wood. There are numerous small pools in the wood, most of them seasonal. These support a very diverse wetland flora, with a number of very rare species. This is the only known London site for lesser water plantain, Baldellia ranunculoides, while thread leaved water crowfoot, Ranunculus trichophyllus, and marsh speedwell, Veronica scutellata, are also very rare in London. Other wetland plants here include common marsh bedstraw , Galium palustre, tufted forget me not, Myosotis laxa, jointed rush, Juncus articulatus, brooklime, Veronica beccabunga, lesser spearwort, Ranunculus flammula, false fox sedge, Carex otrubae, watercress, Rorippa nasturtium aquatica, and celery leaved buttercup, Ranunculus sceleratus. Around the edges of the woodland are strips of rough grassland and tall herbs, and some overgrown allotments. These support a population of slow worms. The site has a good diversity of breeding birds. Glebelands was declared a Local Nature Reserve in 1997.
Management provider: Coppetts Wood Conservationists.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: N/A
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Flowering Plant, Black Redstart, Dunnock, Eurasian Badger, Firecrest, Great Crested Newt, Greenfinch, Kingfisher, Lesser Water plantain, Lesser Whitethroat, Round fruited Rush, Small Copper, Smew, Spotted Flycatcher, Tall Hawkweed. The Council has also collated great crested newt (GCN) records for the site and local pond network across the Glebelands and Coppetts Wood SINCs totalling: three breeding ponds with a peak counts of 27 adults at Long Marsh Hollow in April 2024 and an historic peak count of 74 adults (57 adult males, 17 adult females) in April 2003, estimated as a ‘Medium’ population size class (peak count of 10-100 adults). 418 larvae were record in July 2014.

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve
INNS Records: No invasive species records were detected however this does not mean they are absent from the site
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Glebelands Local Nature Reserve is a broadleaved woodland, with many characteristics of a wet woodland. It is located in the south east of the borough, along the southern border of the Glebe Land Open Space, which includes short grassland areas used for sports and recreation. Urban development bounds the west of the SINC and allotments bound the eastern aspect of the SINC. Islington and St Pancras cemetery is present just south of the SINC, however it is separated from the SINC by the north circular road, therefore connectivity between these two sites would be limited to predominantly bird species. There is however ecological connectivity between the site and Coppetts Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reerve which is approximately 220m east. The SINC is also an area of Metropolitan Open Land and is a important component of the ecological network in this area of Barnet.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Overcast with occasional light drizzle
Date: 6/4/2024 1:44:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The site is managed by Coppetts Wood Conservationists, through which volunteers manage both the Glebelands and Coppetts Wood. A good mix of ages were present within the woods and there were signs of regeneration. Dead hedging was also present alongside one of the ponds, protecting the pond edge from the the adjacent path which ran very close. Deadwood was present in the woodland and many showed features with suitability for roosting bats. The scrub was very dense at points – most notably in the east of the woodland – meaning that access (and associated distrubance) was restricted in some areas.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site was predominantly secondary broadleaved woodland, with wetland features showing characteristics of a wet woodland. Numerous pools and ponds were present throughout the woodland, some of these seasonal, and some were larger and permanent. Small northern section of broadleaved woodland - the canopy included a mix of lime, English oak, willow and field maple. The understorey included hazel, hawthorn, dog rose, elder and sessile oak. The ground included nettles, hemlock, hogweed, red campion and bracken. The main section of broadleaved woodland - the canopy included a mix of willow species and English oak, roughly in equal abundance. Ash was seen frequently and there was occasional sycamore and cherry. The understorey was dominated by hawthorn with abundant willow and frequent elder, holly, yew and blackthorn. Grey willow, Japanese knotweed, snowberry, common plum, cherry and hazel was seen occasionally. Field maple and lime was seen rarely. The ground layer included abundant ivy, bramble and locally abundant bracken, willowherb and nettles. Wood avens and herb robert were noted frequently and bittersweet, hedge woundwort, garlic mustard, red campion, cow parsley, hogweed, cleavers and comfrey were

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve
noted occasionally. Bluebell, false oat grass and rough meadow grass were seen rarely. Flag iris and bullrush was noted in the larger pond.
Threats and Disturbances: Vandalism, Litter, FlyTip, Invasive species, Noise Additional comments: Vandalism - There was evidence that a small fire had been started within the woodland, directly under a mature oak tree. The fire had burnt the trunk of the tree. Litter and fly tipping - litter was seen occasionally within the woodland as well as an old motorbike which had been left within the woodland. Invasive species - Multiple stands of Japanese Knotweed were noted within the woodland. Noise - the site is immediately adjacent to North Circular road.
Ecological opportunities on site: wetland creation, Scrub establishment Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Higher Plants, Fungi Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site is known to support breeding birds, a diverse plant flora, common reptiles including slow worm and the great crested newt. Particular recognition of the GCN population has been flagged by the council, noting that the on site pond is part of the local network supporting a medium sized popuation of the species. Many of trees were mature and displayed veteran features with suitability for roosting bats, so it is likely that bat roosts are present here or at least use the site for commuting and foraging. The plant species and ponds and pools likely support an array of invertebrate species. It is possible that veteran trees are present within the woodland, and support fungi, although none was seen while on site.
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

u1b6 - other developed land

w1g - other broadleaved woodland

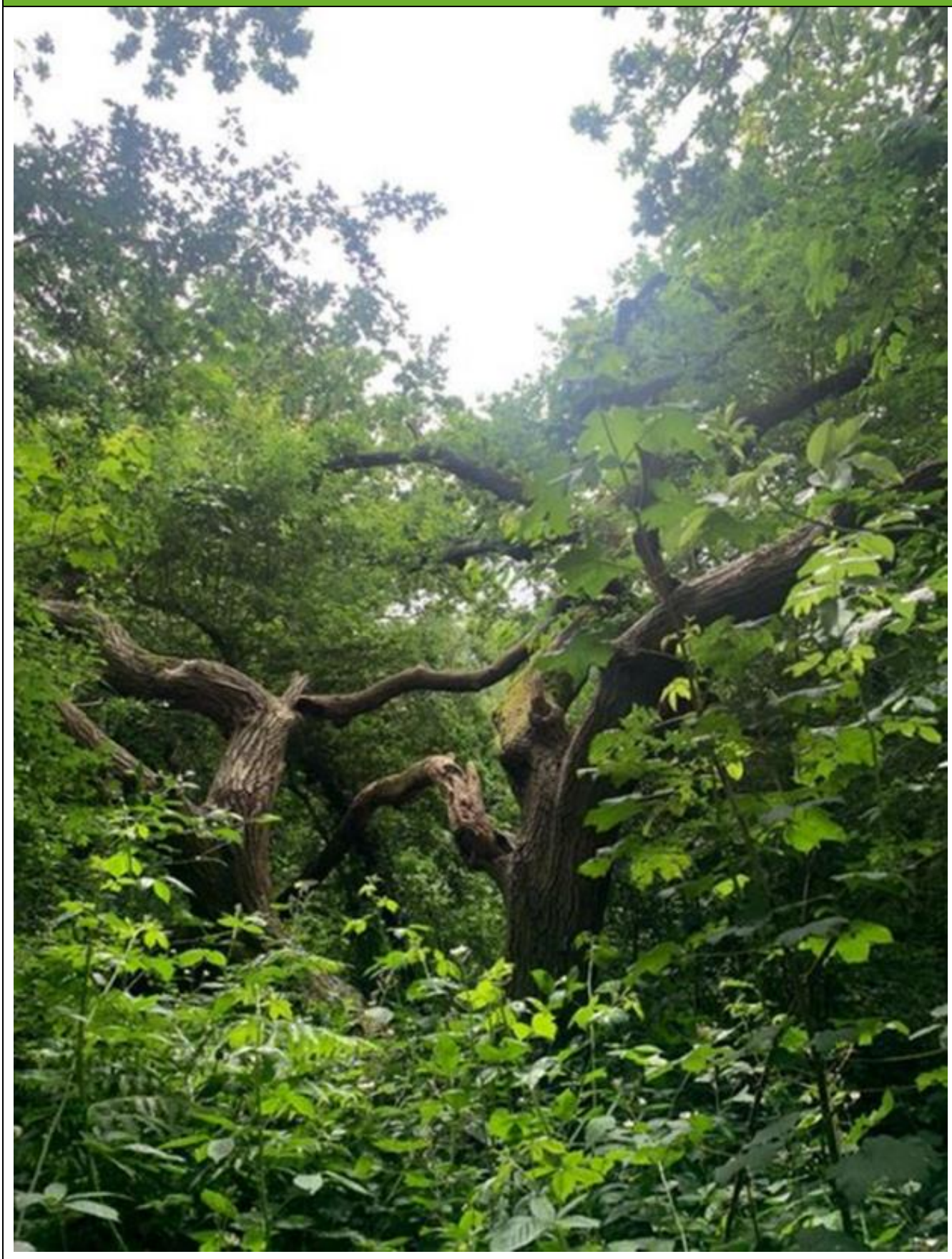
*Labels refer to secondary code below.

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve

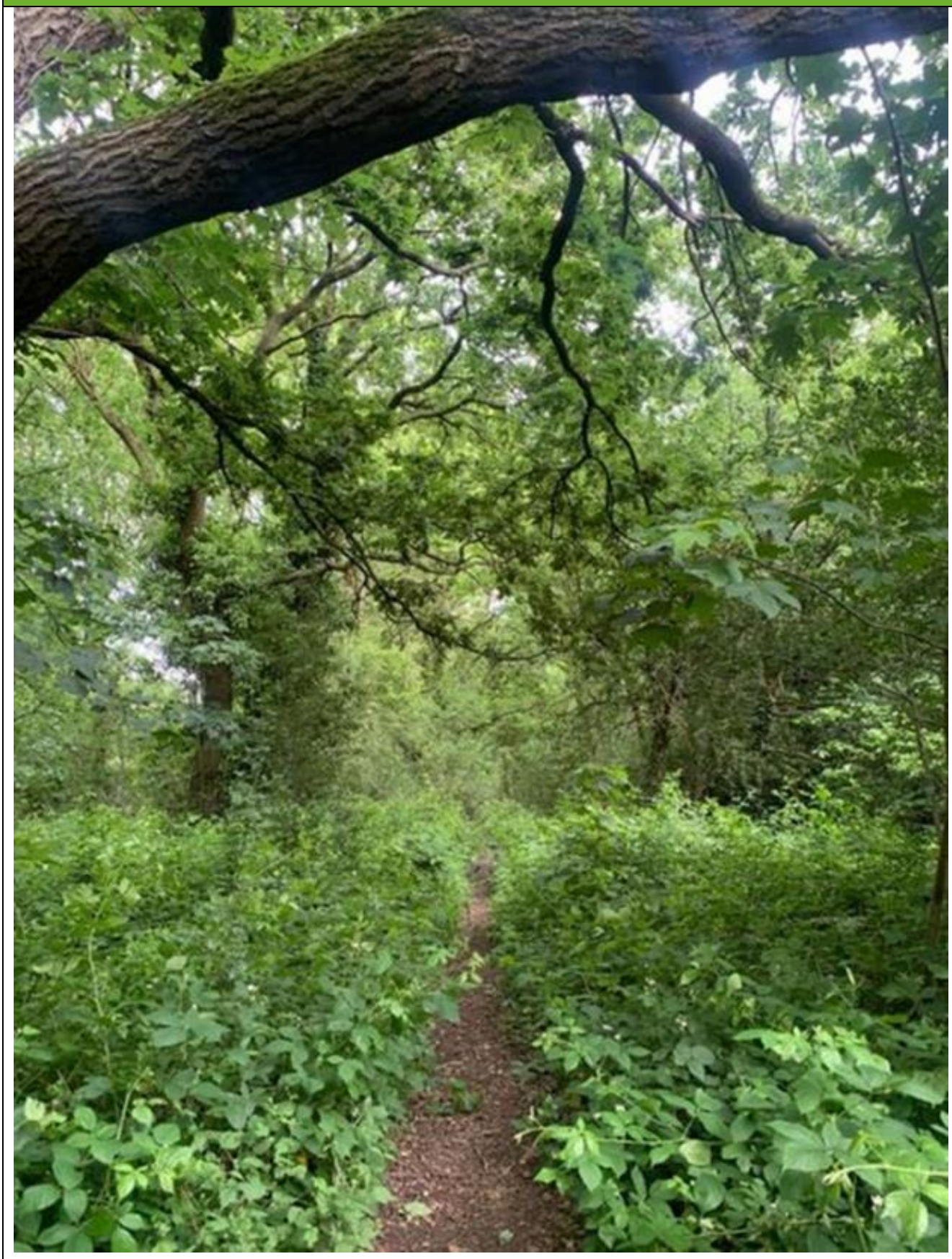
Site Photographs:

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve



BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve



BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve

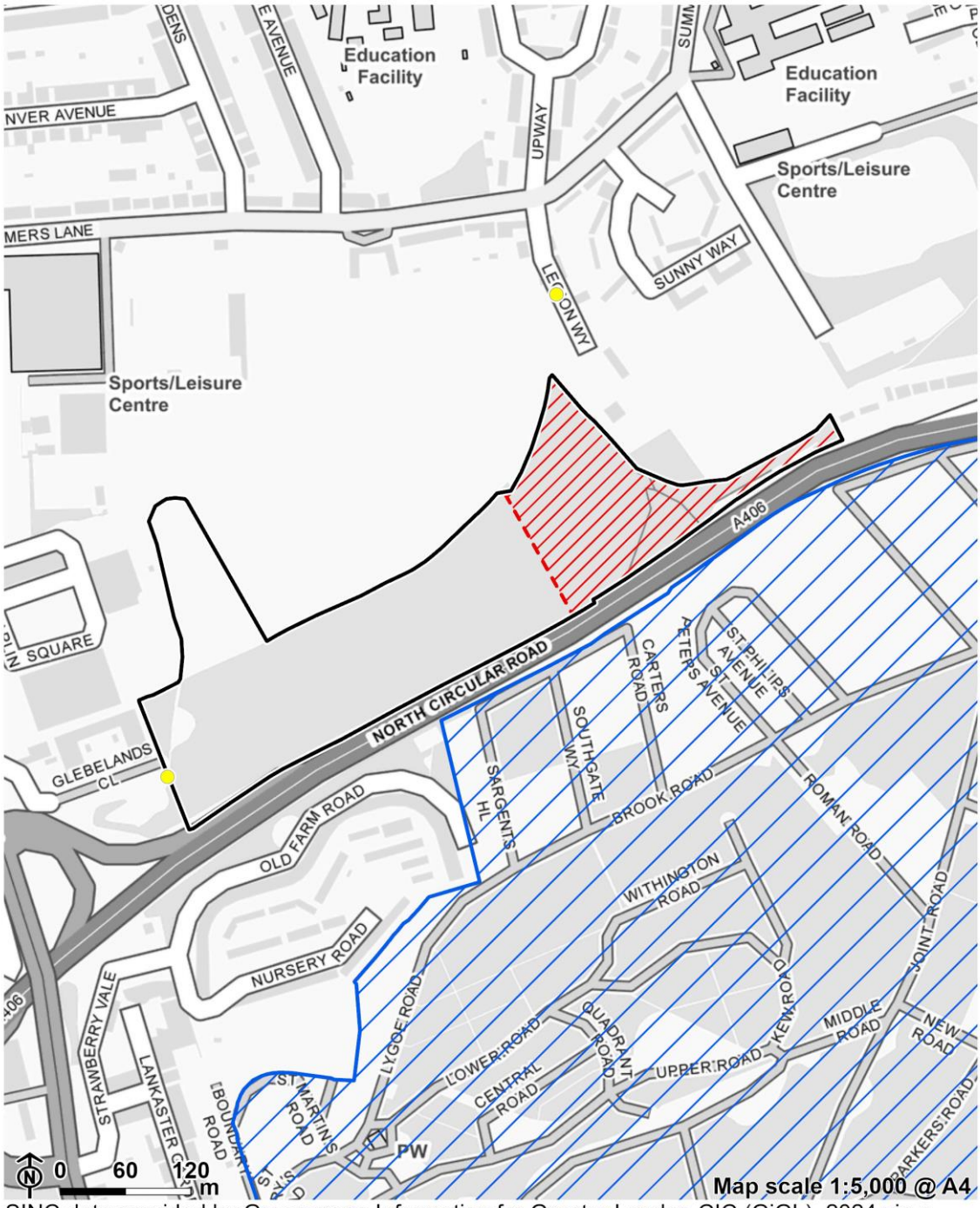
BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: Options to optimise connectivity between the site and nearby Coppetts Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve should include management of recreational access route/s to ensure that that flank formal routes and/or desire lines includes areas that free from direct disturbance. This may be achieved by deliineating access (e.g. dead hedging) and favourable management of adjoining habitats (where landownership permits). Interventions should take into account medium and longer term future recreational demand. The ponds should be managed to ensure that they continue to provide suitable breeding habitat for GCN, and and do not become too shaded by surrounding or overhanging trees or dense with aquatic vegetation. Terrestrial habitat surrounding and connecting between the pond network is important for newts, not only to disperse but for as foraging, shelter and hibernation, particularly outside of the breeding season. Nearby Coppett's Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve provides further habitat including grassland, woodland, scrub and a pond. The connectivity between these two SINC would benefit from being strengthed for biodiversity generally but specifically also for GCN. Some areas of understorey was impenetrable, with dense bramble and nettles. These structurally complex areas, typically safe from recreational disturbance, provide goodHabitat for nesting birds, small mammals, and some invertebrates but, in the medium and long term will require management to ensure growth of these gregarious species do not excesively dominate over diverse ground flora, that rides and glades can be maintained or created, etc. The woodland edge had a good mix of scrub and tall ruderal species, however it is recommended that the grass be left long along the woodland edge, at least up to the footpath. This would enhance the woodland edge further by widening the buffer, and adding an additional Habitat to create a more complex woodland edge. The Japanese knotweed should be controlled in line with legal requirements in order to prevent its spread. Litter and fly tipping should be monitored and removed
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): No formal management document could be located, however the Coppetts Wood Conservationists website does include detail on management.
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Woodland is an uncommon Habitat in urban areas and the woodland on site shows characteristics of wet woodland, which is particularly rare in urban areas.
Species Rarity: A range of protected/notable species were identified on site within the desk study such as black redstart (Birds of Conservation Concern BOCC amber list), dunnock (BOCC amber list), badger, great crested newt, greenfinch (BOCC red list), smew (BOCC red list), spotted flycatcher (BOCC red list). It is also the only known London site for lesser water plantain. Thread leaved water crowfoot and marsh speedwell have also been recorded on site which are rare in London. Slow worm is also found on site.
Habitat Richness: While the site is predominantly woodland, within the woodland are numerous pools and ponds, and scrub and ruderal vegetation along the edge of the woodland.
Species Richness: A diverse mix of wetland and woodland plant species have been recorded on site, including rare species, as well as a range of fauna including birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates.
Size: A medium site at 7.73ha, however it is connected to further greenspaces in the local area, as well as Coppetts Wood SINC. Therefore it is an important component of the ecological network.
Important populations of species: This is the only known London site for lesser water plantain, while thread leaved water crowfoot, and marsh speedwell are also very rare in London. There is also evidence to suggest that the site contributes to support a significant GCN population.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The site supports mature trees and wetland features which support rare wetland plants, which would be very difficult to recreate.

BaBI07 Glebelands Local Nature Reserve
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: An important wildlife site for local people to walk and feel within nature. Coppetts Wood Conservationists manage the site, which is carried out by volunteers, which demonstrates the passion people have for these nature reserves and their importance.
Geographic Position: Glebelands Local Nature Reserve is a broadleaved woodland, with many characteristics of a wet woodland. It is located in the south east of the borough, along the southern border of the Glebe Land Open Space, which includes short grassland areas used for sports and recreation. Urban development bounds the west of the SINC and allotments bound the eastern aspect of the SINC. Islington and St Pancras cemetery is present just south of the SINC, however it is separated from the SINC by the north circular road, therefore connectivity between these two sites would be limited to predominantly bird species. There is however ecological connectivity between Glebelands and Coppetts wood SINC which is approximately 220m east of Glebelands. The SINC is also an area of Metropolitan Open Land and is an important component of the ecological network in this area of Barnet.
Access: The site is publicly accesible.
Use: The site is used for recreation i.e. walking.
Potential: This is a very valuable wildlife site providingHabitats for many rare species. There is potential to provide further enhancements to the Habitats on site, as detailed in the management section.
Aesthetic Appeal: Evidence of vandalism, and litter does reduce the aesthetic appeal of the site and make it feel slightly unsafe.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Opportunity
SINC Conclusion: This is a valuable wildlife site providing Habitats for many rare species witin an urban area. The site continues to meet Borough Grade I status. The category of Opportunity relates to conectivity wth the nearby Coppetts Wood and Scrublands Local Nature Reserve, which the Council has expressed interest to achieve (spring 2024). This would increase the value of these sites, and may permit extension of the combined SINC boundary in future.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

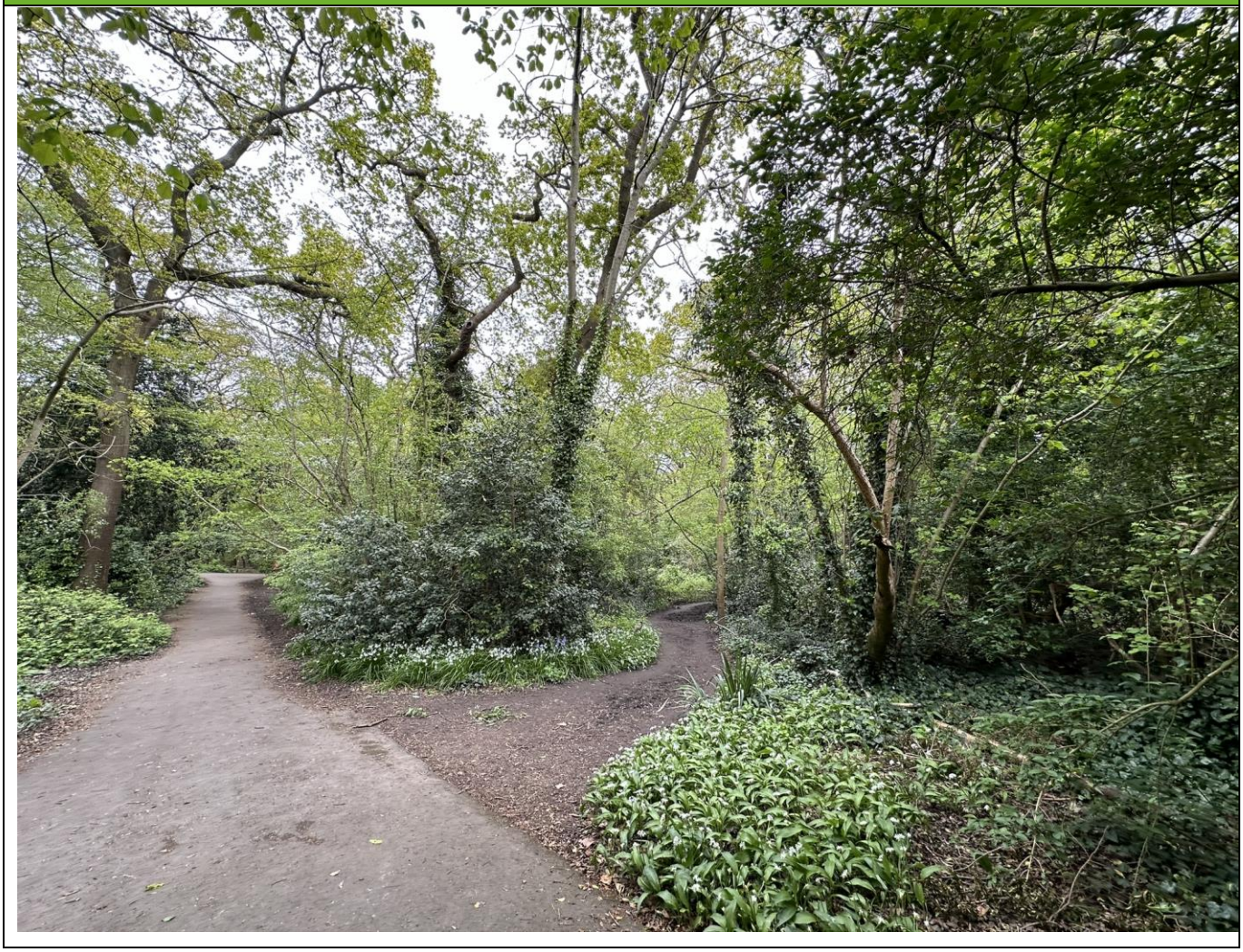
Site accessibility issue

Access point

BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood
Site information
LUC Site ID: 18
SINC ID: BaBI05
SINC Name: Big Wood and Little Wood
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2557388719
Area (ha): 8.42
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: Two ancient woods with an unusually large population of wild service tree.
SINC Description: These two ancient woods were formerly part of a single, much larger wood, and consequently have similar species compositions. Pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, is the dominant canopy tree, with ash , Fraxinus excelsior, , sessile oak , Quercus petraea, , hornbeam , Carpinus betulus, and wild cherry , Prunus avium, . The shrub layer consists largely of old coppiced hazel , Corylus avellana, , with common and Midland hawthorns , Crataegus monogyna and C. laevigata, , holly , Ilex aquilifoilium, , field maple , Acer campestre, , crab apple , Malus sylvestris, , guelder rose , Viburnum opulus, and an exceptionally large population of wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, . Over 100 of the latter were counted in Big Wood in the mid 1990s. The ground flora is dominated by bramble , Rubus fruticosus agg., and ivy , Hedera helix, , with frequent bluebell , Hyacinthoides non scripta, . Ancient woodland indicators include wood anemone , Anemone nemorosa, , remote and wood sedges , Carex remota and C. sylvatica, , ramsons , Allium ursinum, and solomon's seal , Polygonatum multiflorum, , though the latter may be a garden escape here. Breeding birds include tawny owl, nuthatch, treecreeper, bullfinch and spotted flycatcher.
Management provider: Council
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Big Wood and Little Wood
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Baltic Gull, Bluebell, Dunnock, Linnet, Mistle Thrush, Redwing, Song Thrush, Tawny Owl
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Green Alkanet, Spanish Bluebell
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Two small areas of ancient woodland within the south of the borough. The two sections of the site are separated by residential properties and neither are connected to other SINC sites.

BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Cloudy and dry, cold
Date: 4/24/2024 11:50:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): N/A
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The two areas of ancient woodland comprised similar species compositions and were surrounded by residential properties. Big wood in the south included dominant mature oak, coppiced hazel, abundant holly, bramble, bluebell, ivy, frequent elder, ash, hawthorn, cherry, dock, nettle, occasional field maple, cow parsley, wood sedge , and rare common snowberry. Within the site ran a number of dry ditches, some of which were filled with deadwood features. Dead hedging was also noted along the pathways. Little wood to the north of Big Wood had a lot more ground flora, with similar species to above, but also including yew, sycamore, cleavers, wood anemone, bracken, ground ivy and stands of cherry laurel.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Litter, Dog Fouling: Additional comments: The paths were not reinforced and were eroding into the woodland at the edges. Litter and dog fouling was common in both the sites.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub establishment, Deadwood Additional comments: The removal of INNS within the woodland and thinning of bramble and bracken,
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site supports foraging and roosting bats within the woodland. The deadwood features support invertebrates and the scrub and woodland provide foraging, shelter and nesting opportunities for birds, small mammals and reptiles.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood



BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood

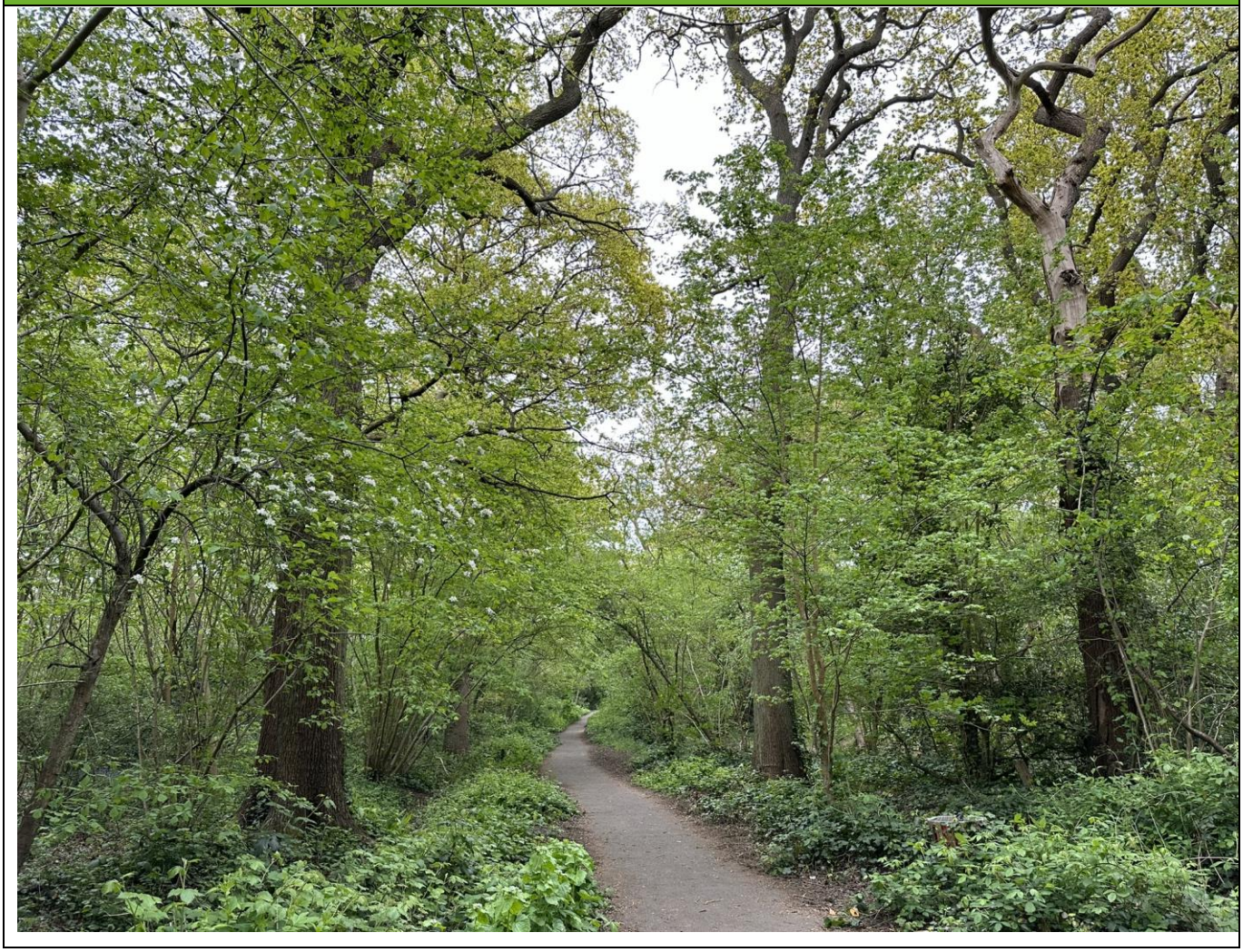
BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood

BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood

DOLLIS VALLEY
GREENWALK

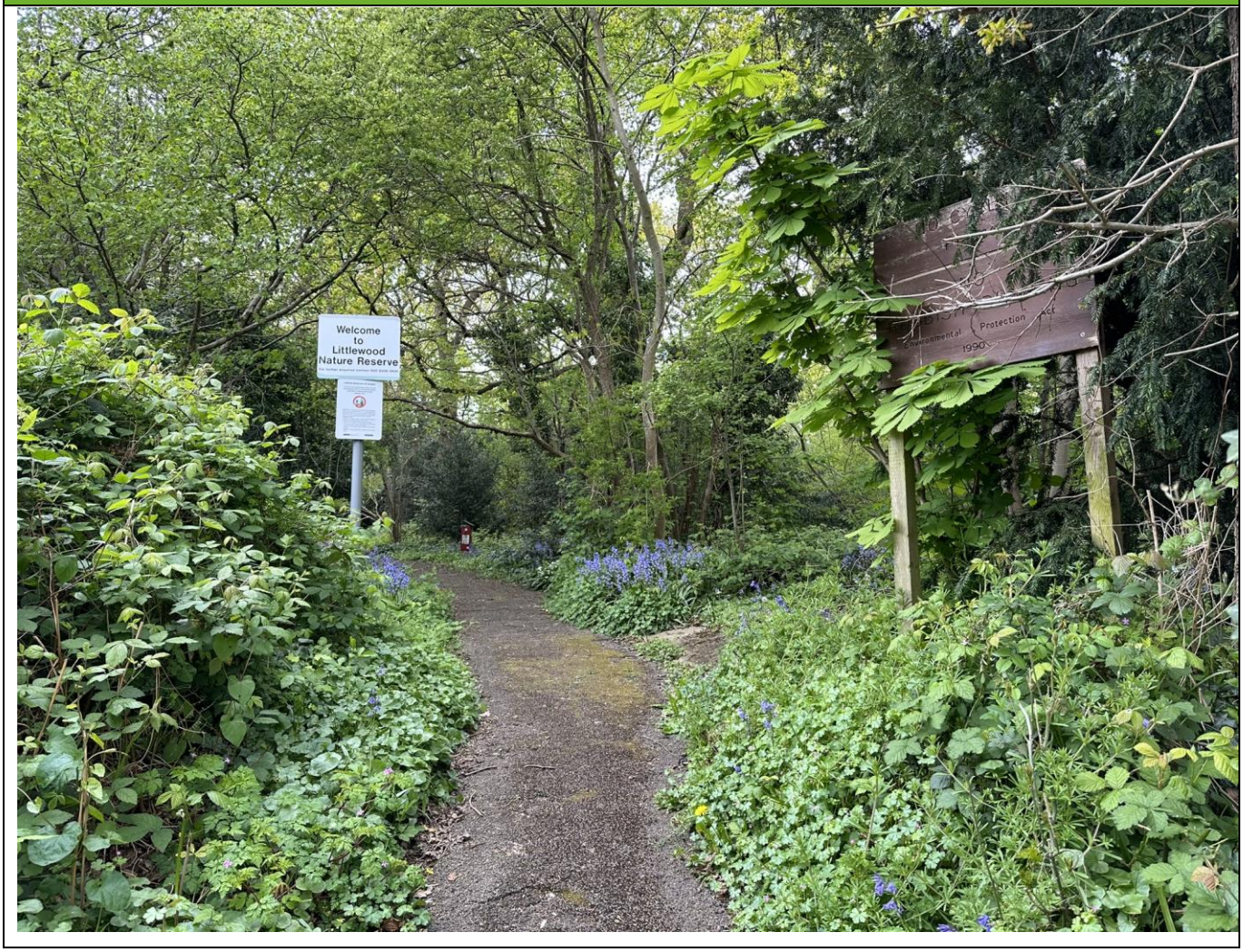
BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood

BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood



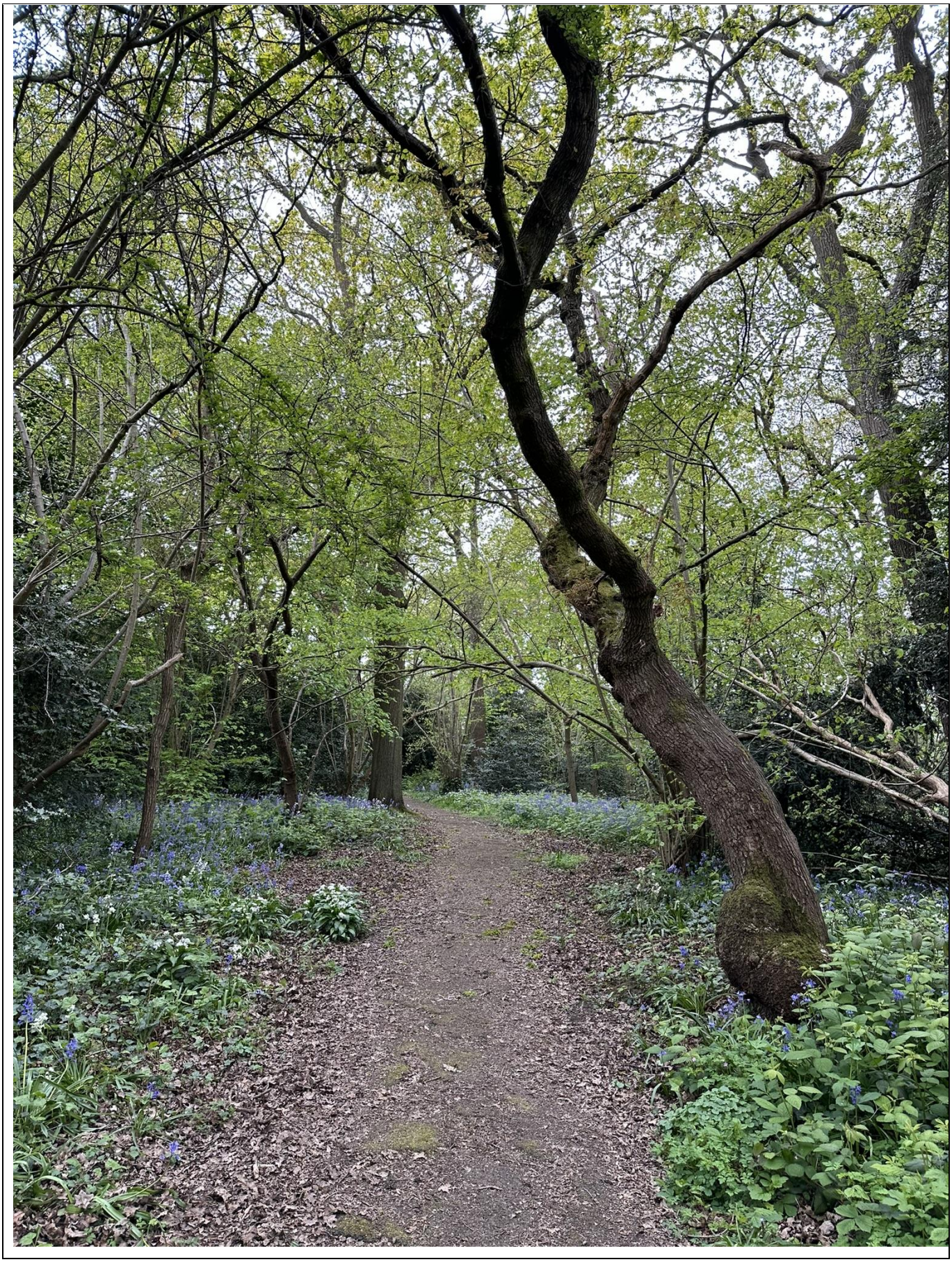
BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood

BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood



NO CYCLING
Please
NO
RUBBISH DUMPING
Environmental Protection Act
1990

BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood



BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood

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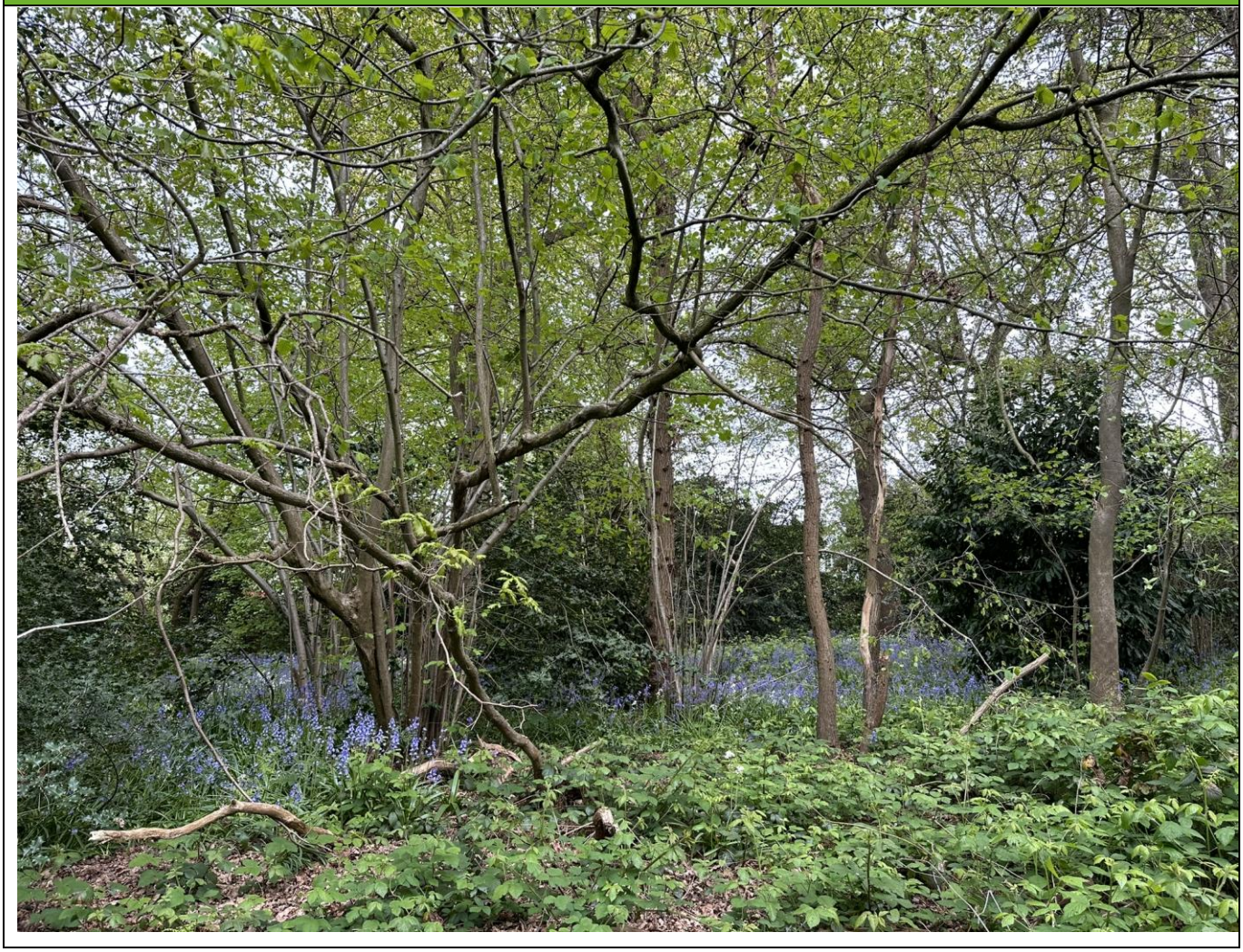
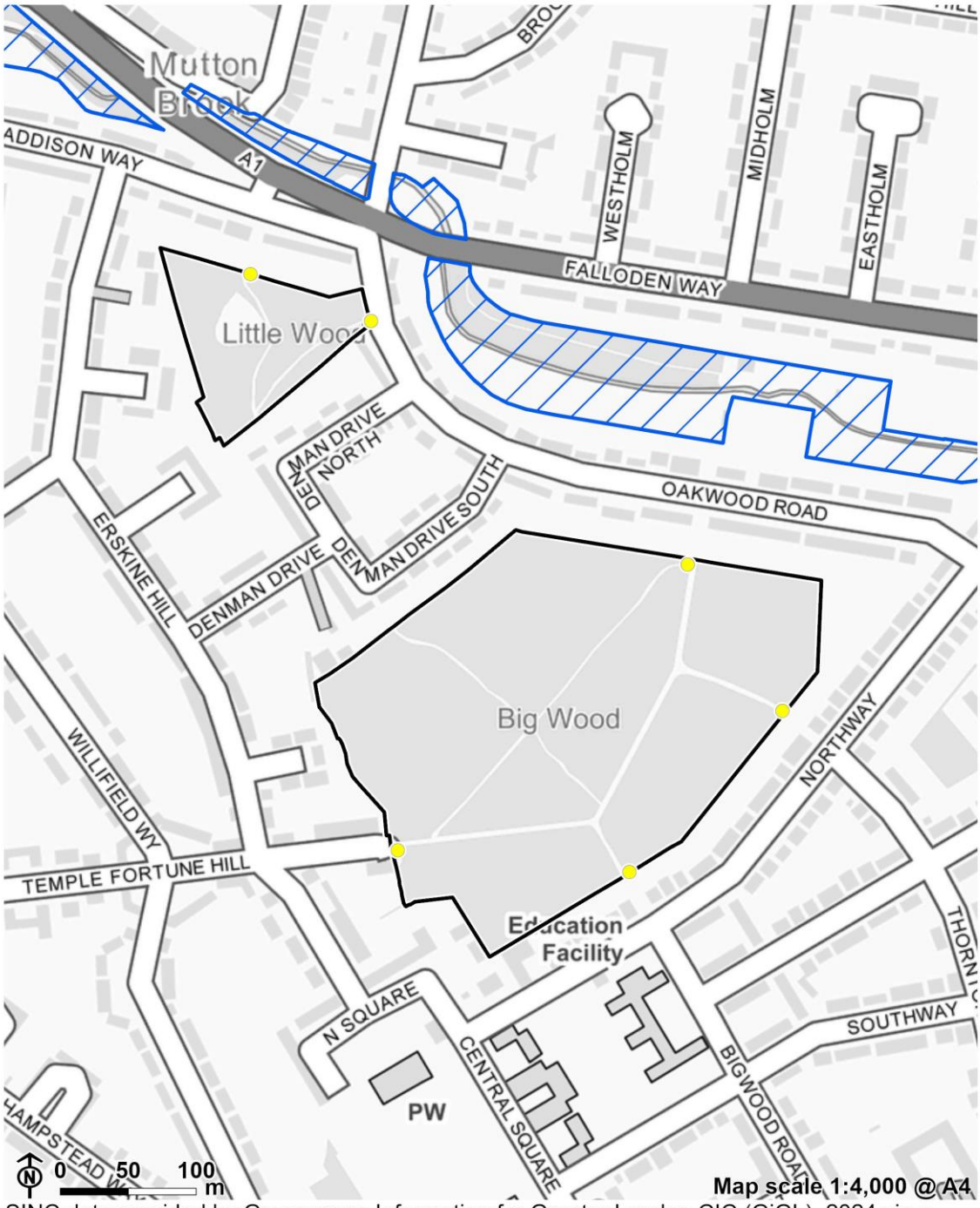
BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood



BaBI05 Big Wood and Little Wood
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Removal of INNS to reduce the spread within the site. Creation of more deadwood features to benefits invertebrates and reptiles. Thinning of bramble and bracken to create glades within the woodland to encourage the ground flora. Frequent litter clean-ups.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The two areas are good examples of ancient woodland within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: Ancient woodland Habitats are rare within the borough and London.
Species Rarity: The site provide suitableHabitat for multiple notable and protected bird species such as Dunnock, Linnet, Mistle Thrush, Redwing, Song Thrush and Tawny Owl.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The sites are small overall, but support good example of the rareHabitat.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The woodland would be very difficult to reproduce due to the years taken for the trees to reach ancient status.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: These area were once part of a much large expanse of ancient woodland within London.
Geographic Position: The two sites are not connected to other SINCs within the borough.
Access: The sites are both fully accessible by the public on footpaths
Use: Mainly locals and dog walkers.
Potential: Removal of INNS to reduce the spread within the site. Creation of more deadwood features to benefits invertebrates and reptiles. Thinning of bramble and bracken to create glades within the woodland to encourage the ground flora. Frequent litter clean-ups. to prevent pollution incidents.
Aesthetic Appeal: The dense woodland, coppiced hazel and dead hedgeing provide a quiet and calming atmosphere.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the Borough grade criteria as supports good examples of ancient woodland a rareHabitat within the borough.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

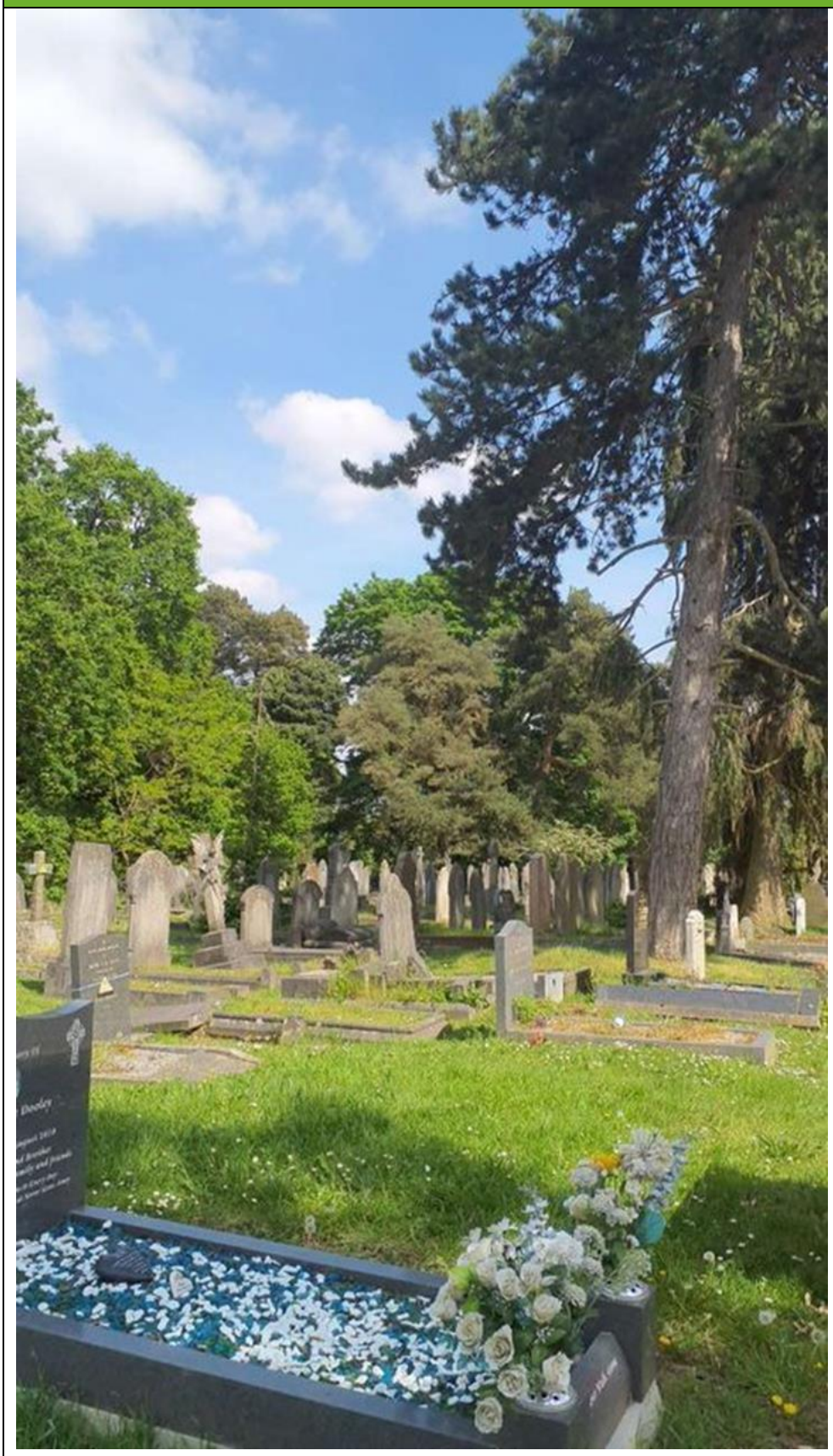
Access point

BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery
Site information
LUC Site ID: 19
SINC ID: BaBII21
SINC Name: New Southgate Cemetery
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2862993298
Area (ha): 22.06
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Cemeteries and Churchyards, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A Victorian cemetery with woodland.
SINC Description: This is a sizeable Victorian cemetery with a particularly fine chapel. Among the more notable burials is Shogi Effendi, a leader of the Baha'i faith. Parts of the cemetery are still used for burials, and these are formally managed. There are some fine mature trees, including pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, and yew , Taxus baccata, , as well as numerous exotic species. The grass between the graves is closely mown, with flower beds, shrubberies and evergreen hedges. Away from recent burials, management has been relaxed, and woodland has developed. Young oak, ash , Fraxinus excelsior, , birch , Betula sp., and sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, have filled the gaps between the old landscape trees, and there is a dense shrub layer of willows , Salix spp., , hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, and suckering elm , Ulmus sp., . The ground flora is dominated by bramble , Rubus fruticosus agg., and ivy , Hedera helix, , and also includes foxglove , Digitalis purpurea, , wood sage , Teucrium scrodonia, and garlic mustard , Alliaria petiolata, . The cemetery supports a good range of breeding birds, including green and great spotted woodpeckers, coal tit and nuthatch. This is the most northerly known site in Britain , and the only site in London, for the dusky cockroach , Ectobius lapponicus, . This scarce native insect is not one of the cockroach species which can become a household pest.
Management provider: New Southgate Cemetery
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Dunnock, Greenfinch, Large Skipper, Lesser Redpoll, Mistle Thrush, Redwing, Song Thrush, Starling, Tawny Owl
INNS Records: Chinese Muntjac, Evergreen Oak, Goat's rue, Japanese Knotweed
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: A cemetery located on the eastern edge of the borough, immediately adjacent to Pymmes Brook SINC. The SINC itself is an area of Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and is bound by further MOL to the north (Brunswick park) and west (new Southgate

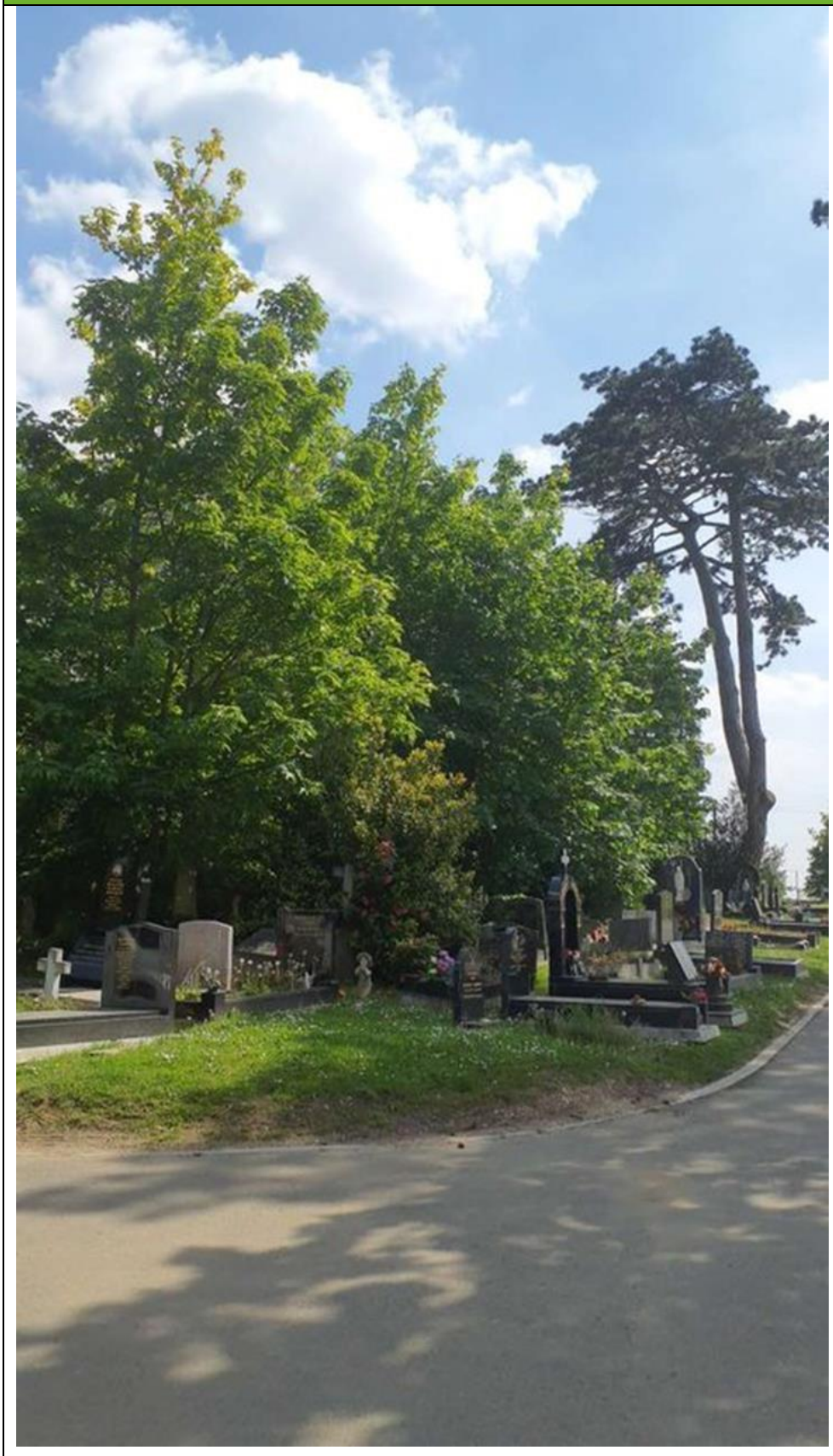
BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery
recreation ground). Aside from these areas of MOL, the cemetery is located in area of dense residential development and therefore provides a valuable wildlife site in this area of Barnet. Further, the Pymmes brook which runs alongside the cemetery, connects the SINC with further areas of greenspace to the north and south as it flows through the borough and into Enfield and Haringey. The cemetery is therefore an important component of the wider ecological network.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Warm and sunny
Date: 5/10/2024 12:21:25 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The grassland around the gravestones appeared to be regularly mown and kept short.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Churches and Cemeteries
Habitat survey description: Habitats on site included predominately regularly mown amenity grassland around the graves, scattered trees, shrubs and scrub throughout the graves and herbaceous species growing on the graves. Broadleaved woodland was also present along the eastern edge of the site and in the south of the site between two residential cul-de-sacs. Scattered trees included abundant coniferous species, English oak, occasional yew, ash, Norway maple, rowan and sycamore. Cherry, lime, horse chestnut, non-native oaks and willow were seen rarely. Large mature oak trees were noted which provide suitability for roosting bats. Introduced shrub and scrub was scattered within the cemetery and included frequent holly and ornamental species with occasional Rhododendron, dog rose and hawthorn. The graves were noted to support herbaceous flowering species including abundant herb Robert, frequent forget me not, occasional sedum species and horsetail. Lavender, elephants ears and willowherb were noted rarely. The amenity grassland around the graves was noted to include frequent daisy, ribwort plantain, greater plantain, perennial rye grass, white clover, lesser trefoil, spotted medick and fescue sp. Catsear and dandelion were seen occasionally and germander speedwell and vetch sp were seen rarely. The broadleaved woodland at the eastern end of the site had a canopy dominated by oak and sycamore with abundant ash. The understorey included a mix of holly , elder, bramble, nettle , cow parsley, dog violet, meadow buttercup, cleavers and bluebells . The survey of the woodland was limited due to the presence of overgrown and unstable gravestones and the density of the vegetation in places. The small area of broadleaved woodland in the south of the site had a canopy made up of field maple and English oak. The understorey was dominated by field maple saplings, hawthorn and holly. Yew and cherry laurel were noted frequently and hazel and sycamore saplings were seen occasionally. The ground layer was dominated by ivy, with occasional cleavers and bramble and rarely broadleaved dock and garlic mustard.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Invasive species, BoundaryTreat: Additional comments: Invasive species (Rhododendron and cherry laurel) were noted on site. Chinese Muntjac, Evergreen Oak, Goat's rue, Japanese Knotweed were additionally listed within the desk study as being on site.
Ecological opportunities on site:

BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery
Mowing, Meadow creation, Tree Hedge, Deadwood, Wildlife Friendly, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Lichen Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Cemeteries are known to be valuable wildlife sites supporting an array of different species. The woodland provides nesting and roostingHabitat for birds and bats as well as other small mammals. The site is also bound by residential gardens which may support small wildlife ponds. If amphibians are present in any surrounding small ponds, then they will likely be using the woodland on site when in their terrestrial phase. The gravestones in cemeteries are also known to support lichens and allHabitats will support invertebrate species.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery

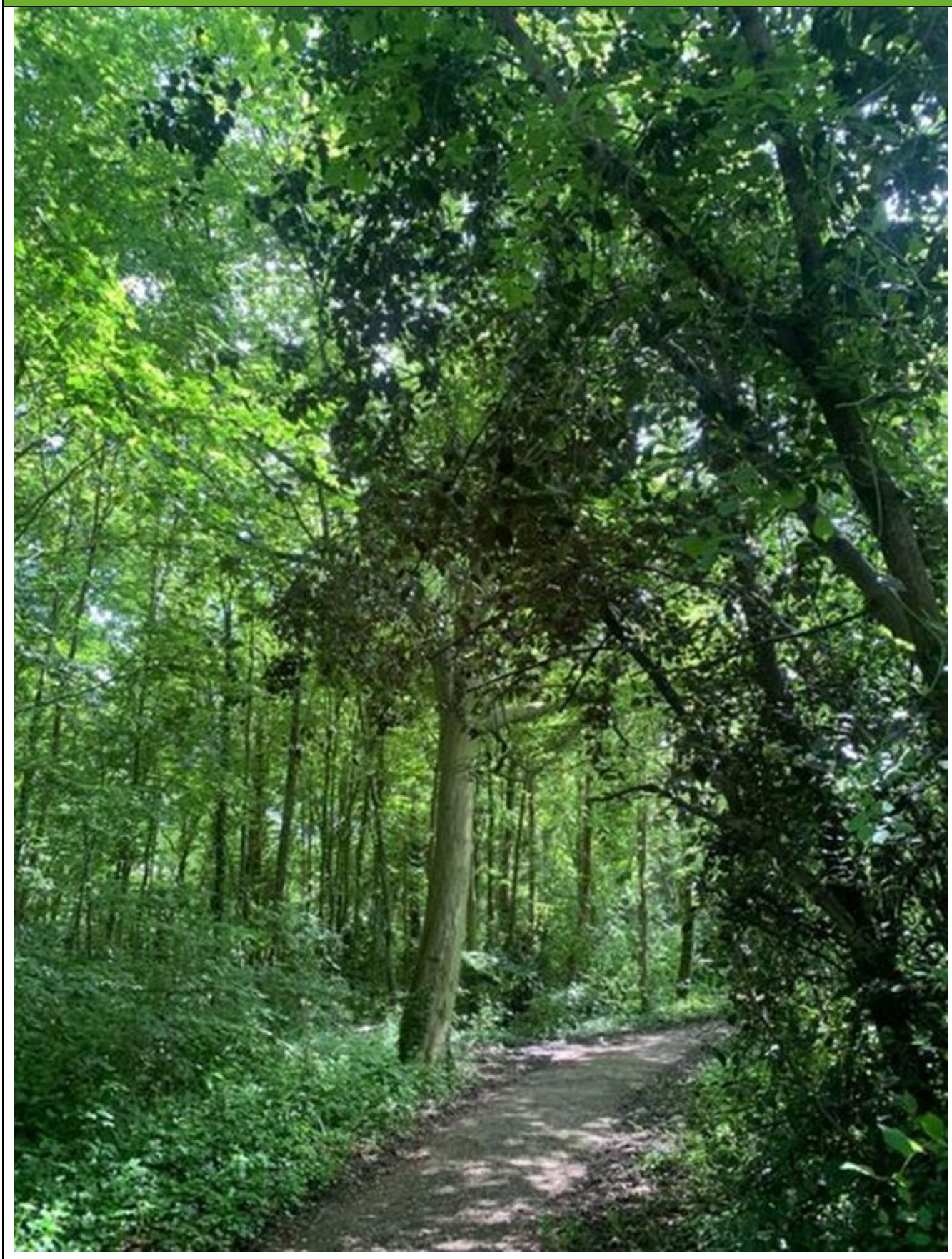


BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery

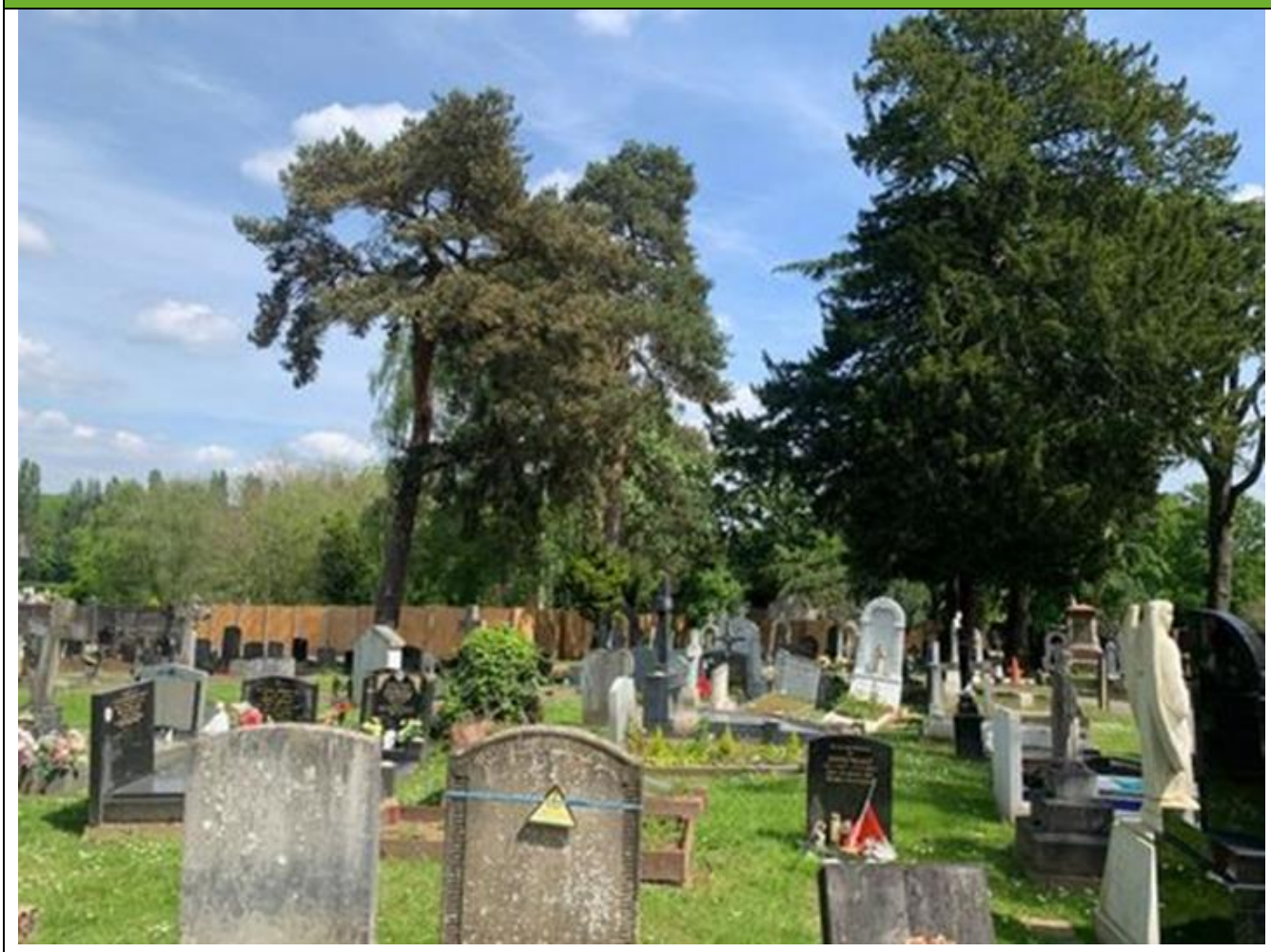


BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery

BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery



BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery



Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

Areas of grassland (where feasible) should be left to grow long and enhanced to create a species rich grassland with structural diversity. It is likely that some people visiting the graves may see this as unsightly and want to keep the grass short, therefore informative boards are important to educate people on the importance of enhancing the grassland for wildlife.

Invasive species should be controlled in line with legal requirements to ensure they do not spread.

Management in the woodland is limited due to the presence of old gravestones. The woodland should be protected to maintain its extent as it provides opportunities for a range of species. Bird and bat boxes and wood piles could be placed within the woodland.

Flower boxes/beds could be planted with native or non-native flowering species of benefit to pollinating insects (see RHS list) throughout the cemetery. This would provide opportunities for invertebrates and would provide a visual enhancement, improving the amenity value and enjoyment for visitors.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

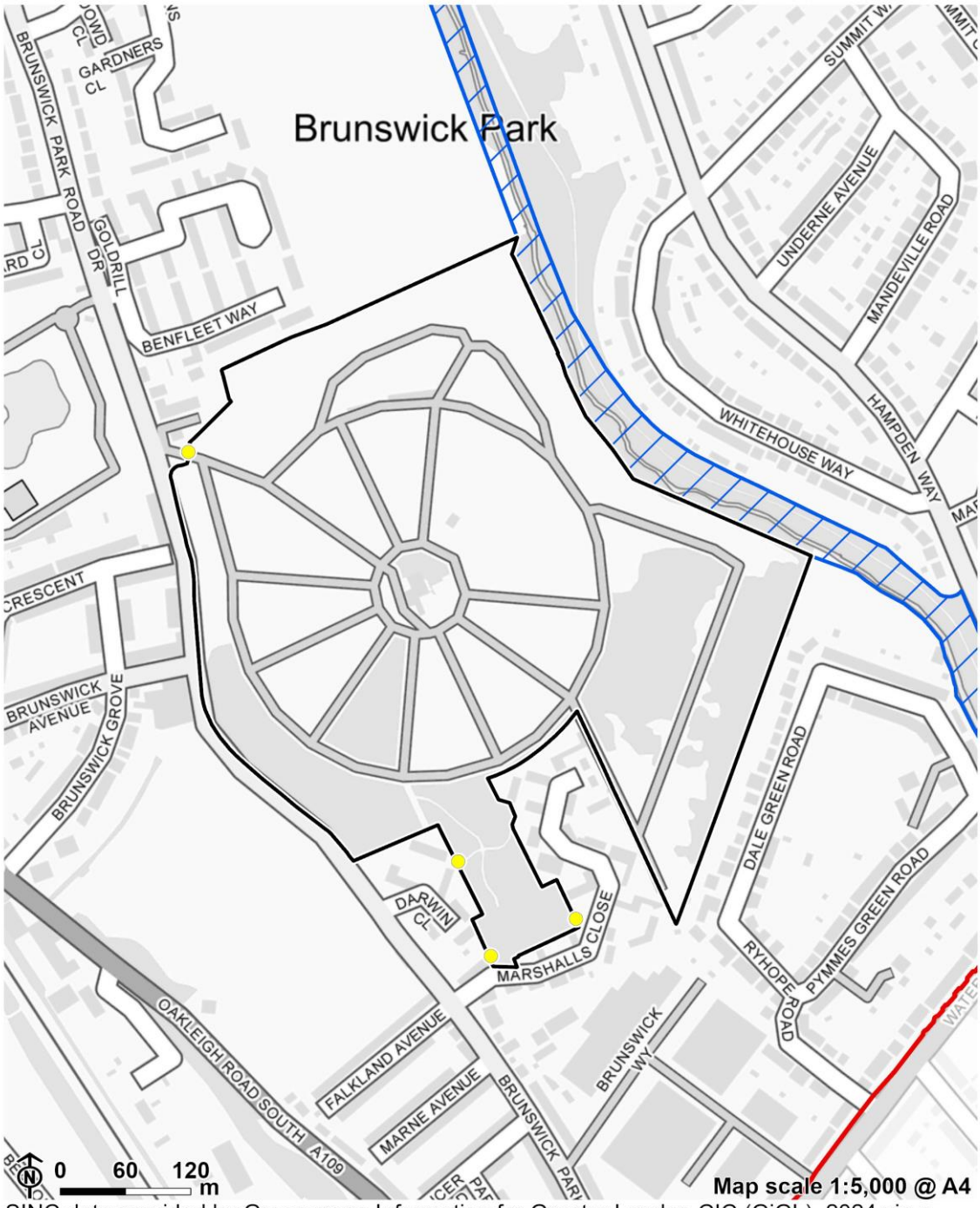
New Southgate Cemetery Conservation Management Plan.

SINC Criteria

Representation: N/A

Habitat Rarity: The site supports broadleaved woodland, which is an uncommon Habitat in urban areas.

BaBII21 New Southgate Cemetery
Species Rarity: The desk study identified a number of protected/notable species on site including dunnock (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) amber list), greenfinch (BOCC red list), lesser redpoll (BOCC red list), mistle thrush (BOCC red list), song thrush (BOCC amber list), starling (BOCC red list) and tawny owl (BOCC amber list). Additionally, as detailed in the previous site citation, the site is the only site in London which supports the dusky cockroach.
Habitat Richness: Habitats present on site included woodland, amenity grassland, scattered trees and shrubs.
Species Richness: A good mix of tree and shrub species, however the grassland was limited due to it been regularly mown. Allowing the grass to grow would increase the species diversity on site.
Size: The Site is a large site at 22ha, and is connected to further open greenspaces, making it an important component of in the wider ecological network.
Important populations of species: This is the most northerly known site in Britain , and the only site in London, for the dusky cockroach , Ectobius lapponicus, . This scarce native insect is not one of the cockroach species which can become a household pest.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The site is more than 100 years old and includes mature tree species which would therefore take a long time to re-create.
Typical Urban Character: An area of the cemetery had been left to nature, and had developed into secondary broadleaved woodland amongst the graves.
Cultural/Historic Character: The cemetery received Royal Assent in 1855 and the first burial took place in 1861. Many of the memorials at New Southgate Cemetery has historical associations to prominent figures. A few examples include Shoghi Effendi, Sir Alfred Baring Ground and Dorothy Lawrence.
Geographic Position: A cemetery located on the eastern edge of the borough, immediately adjacent to Pymmes Brook SINC. The SINC itself is an area of Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) and is bound by further MOL to the north (Brunswick park) and west (new Southgate recreation ground). Aside from these areas of MOL, the cemetery is located in area of dense residential development and therefore provides a valuable wildlife zone in this area of Barnet. Further, the Pymmes Brook which runs alongside the cemetery, connects the SINC with further areas of greenspace to the north and south as its flows through the borough and into Enfield and Haringey. The cemetery is therefore an important component of the wider ecological network.
Access: The site is publicly accesible and includes many paved paths, making it easily accessible for all.
Use: The site is in use as a cemetery.
Potential: There is potential to increase the value of the site through enhancement of the grassland on site and addition of wildlife friendly planting, which would also increase the aesthetic appeal of the site.
Aesthetic Appeal: A peaceful cemetery.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The cemetery contains a good mix of Habitats which provide opportunities for local wildlife and contains important populations of species (the dusky cockroach). The SINC has been appropriately designated as Borough Grade II status and therefore no change is recommended. Enhancing the Habitats on site, in particular the grassland which is regularly mown and therefore has little value to wildlife, would uplift the ecological value of the site.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

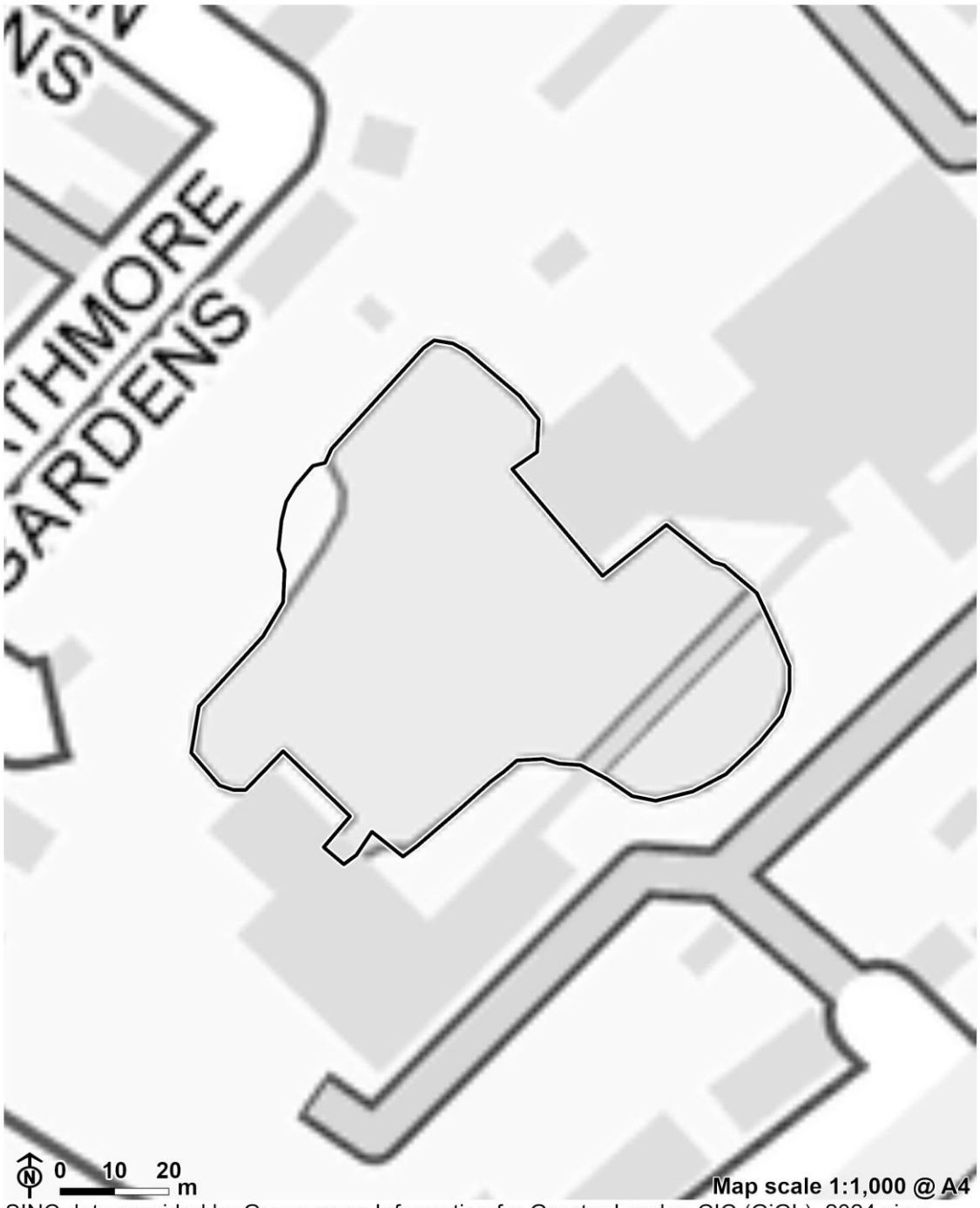
Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL17 Lakeside Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 21
SINC ID: BaL17
SINC Name: Lakeside Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2575690511
Area (ha): 0.57
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Lake
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A small nature area developed as part of the landscaping around an office development.
SINC Description: This small nature area in Finchley was developed as part of the landscaping for an office complex. Its most interesting feature is a small lake. Water mint , Mentha aquatica, , gypsywort , Lycopus europaeus, , purple loosestrife , Lythrum salicaria, and yellow iris , Iris pseudacorus, fringe the shore and there are also some clumps of white water lily , Nymphaea alba, . A wooded island provides safe nestingHabitat for waterfowl. Tufted duck, mallard, coot and moorhen inhabit the lake and dragonflies can be seen in summer.
Management provider: Private landowner.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: No PHI within site.
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. The site comprises a large lake with grass banks and a mature tree line and footpath along the north boundary. The lake sits adjacent to an office block for Pentland Brands Ltd and is surrounded on all sides hardstanding and development. The lake was constructed between 2003 and 2004 as part of the landscaping for the Pentland offices.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM

BaL17 Lakeside Nature Reserve
Weather: N/A - desk based review
Date: 9/3/2024 3:25:00 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Low
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Unable to comment on the management of the lake in the absence of survey. Through review of aerial imagery there doesnt appear to be any issues with algal blooms. The lake is likely to support fish and waterfowl.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): standing water
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprises a large lake surrounded by grass banks, with a mature tree line along the north boundary.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: N/A
Ecological opportunities on site: Wildlife Friendly, wetland creation, Meadow creation Additional comments: There may be opportunities for creating additional wetland Habitats such as reedbeds, marginal vegetation and other features such as floating roost platforms and duckhouses for waterfowl. These features require regular maintenance and management to avoid encroachment into the open waterHabitat. Where there is deep water floating reedbeds may be an option for increasingHabitat provision for waterfowl and invertebrates such as dragonflies.
Interest: Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish, Birds Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Although there are no GiGL records were returned for the site, it is likely to support waterfowl, foraging bats, fish, insects and amphibians .
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: Review of aerial imagery revealed no obvious changes to the site since 2007.
Management Recommendations: N/A
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A

BaL17 Lakeside Nature Reserve
Habitat Rarity: Lakes and ponds are relatively rare Habitats in London and particularly in Barnet. Therefore, despite the fact that this site is man-made it offers a significant ecological resource to local wildlife in an otherwise heavily developed area. The site is likely to support a range of birds including waterfowl and passerines, bats, insects, fish and possibly amphibians such as common frogs.
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is extremely small at just 0.6ha in size. However, given the limited availability of lake and pond Habitats within Barnet it offers a substantial resource to wildlife.
Important populations of species: The lake is likely to support a diverse assemblage of waterfowl including tufted duck, mallard, coot and moorhen.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The lake itself is man-made, however the waterside is fringed with mature trees which were present before the lake was constructed and therefore, offer importantHabitat niches in the landscape that take a long time to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located within the south-east area of Barnet in Finchley. It lies in an area with few SINCs, the nearest being Avenue House Grounds located 400m to the south-west. East Finchley Cemetery is also located within 600m south of Lakeside Nature Reserve.
Access: The site is private and can only be used by office workers of the adjacent office block.
Use: The lake is likely to provide a great outdoor space for the enjoyment of office workers and for reflection and quiet contemplation which is known to be beneficial to mental wellbeing and boost productivity.
Potential: The site has potential to achieve some ecological enhancement through the addition and management of marginal vegetation, reedbeds, and floating platforms or an island for roosting and nesting waterfowl.
Aesthetic Appeal: The lake was developed as part of the landscaping for the adjacent office blocks due to the tranquil feeling that open water creates. Therefore, it offers significant aesthetic appeal which ties into its use to contribute to office workers wellbeing.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to offer a valuable ecological resource to local wildife, as it offers important open waterHabitat in an otherwise heavily developed area.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

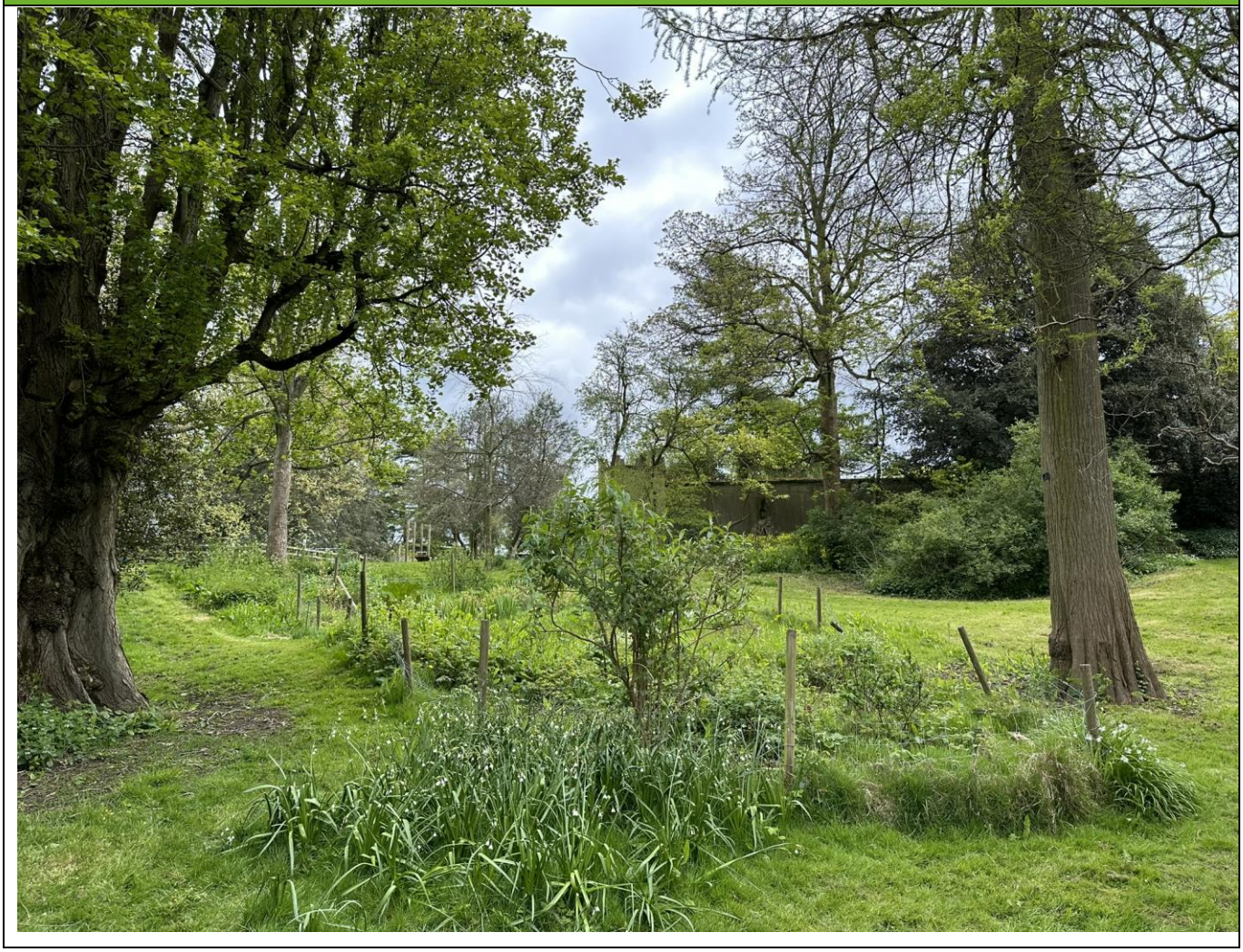
BaL07 Avenue House Grounds
Site information
LUC Site ID: 22
SINC ID: BaL07
SINC Name: Avenue House Grounds
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2521590281
Area (ha): 4.08
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Parks and Gardens, Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: Parkland with mature trees surrounding Avenue House, an historic building.
SINC Description: Avenue House is an important cultural building in Finchley and a Grade 2 Listed building. It was once owned by the son of Henry Stephens, the inventor of writing ink. The house is set in attractive parkland, which features an arboretum with many fine old evergreen trees, extensive shrubberies, lawns and an ornamental pond. The wildlife interest lies mainly in the site's birdlife, with great spotted woodpecker, greenfinch, great tit, robin and wren regularly seen. Grey squirrels abound in the woodland and frogs breed in the pond. There is a children's playground, with some equipment suitable for children with disabilities.
Management provider: Funded by Lottery Fund
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Common Pipistrelle, Greenfinch, House Sparrow, Nyctalus Bat species, Song Thrush, Soprano Pipistrelle
INNS Records: Perfoliate Alexanders, Three cornered Garlic
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet):Can become a member, lottery funded info boards.
Summary of Site: The site is located in the south east of the borough and is not connected to other green spaces or SINCs within the area. The house grounds are publicly accessible from 8am until 6pm everyday. The historic gardens, house and cafe include areas of woodland, grassland, ornamental pond and ornamental planting.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Cold and cloudy

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds
Date: 4/24/2024 10:13:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Lawns were being mowed whilst on site
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): standing water, Reedbeds, Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprised multipleHabitats including historic buildings, café, playground, pond, reedbeds, amenity grassland, woodland, scrub and ornamental beds. Within the south of the site is a large area of short mown amenity grassland, the species included perennial rye grass, cocks foot, ribwort plantain, white clover and dandelion. The majority of the rest of the site comprised woodland and mature scattered trees. The woodland species included lime, pine, holly, the scrub layer and ground flora comprised bramble, ivy, cherry, cherry laurel, elder, garlic mustard, wild garlic, bluebell and green alkanet. Within the woodland were several log piles and lying deadwood. In the centre of the site a small pond with reedbeds and 'bog garden' were identified. Stands of phragmites reeds lined the pond ad was surrounded by aquatic and marginal planting. Mature scattered trees lined the hard standing pathway throughout the site and include sycamore, horse chestnut, pinus spp., ash, London plane, silver pendant lime, golden ash, and beech. Many of these trees had been planted as part of the estates' garden.
Threats and Disturbances: Noise: Additional comments: The site as well managed and in a good condition. There is a little noise from the adjacent main road to the south of the grounds.
Ecological opportunities on site: Meadow creation, Scrub establishment Additional comments: Scrub management including the control and removal of cherry laurel and bramble to allow ground flora to flourish. The creation of a meadow within the amenity grassland to encourage more species diversity within the grassland.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats, small mammals and birds. The ornamental pond and wetland Habitat provided suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

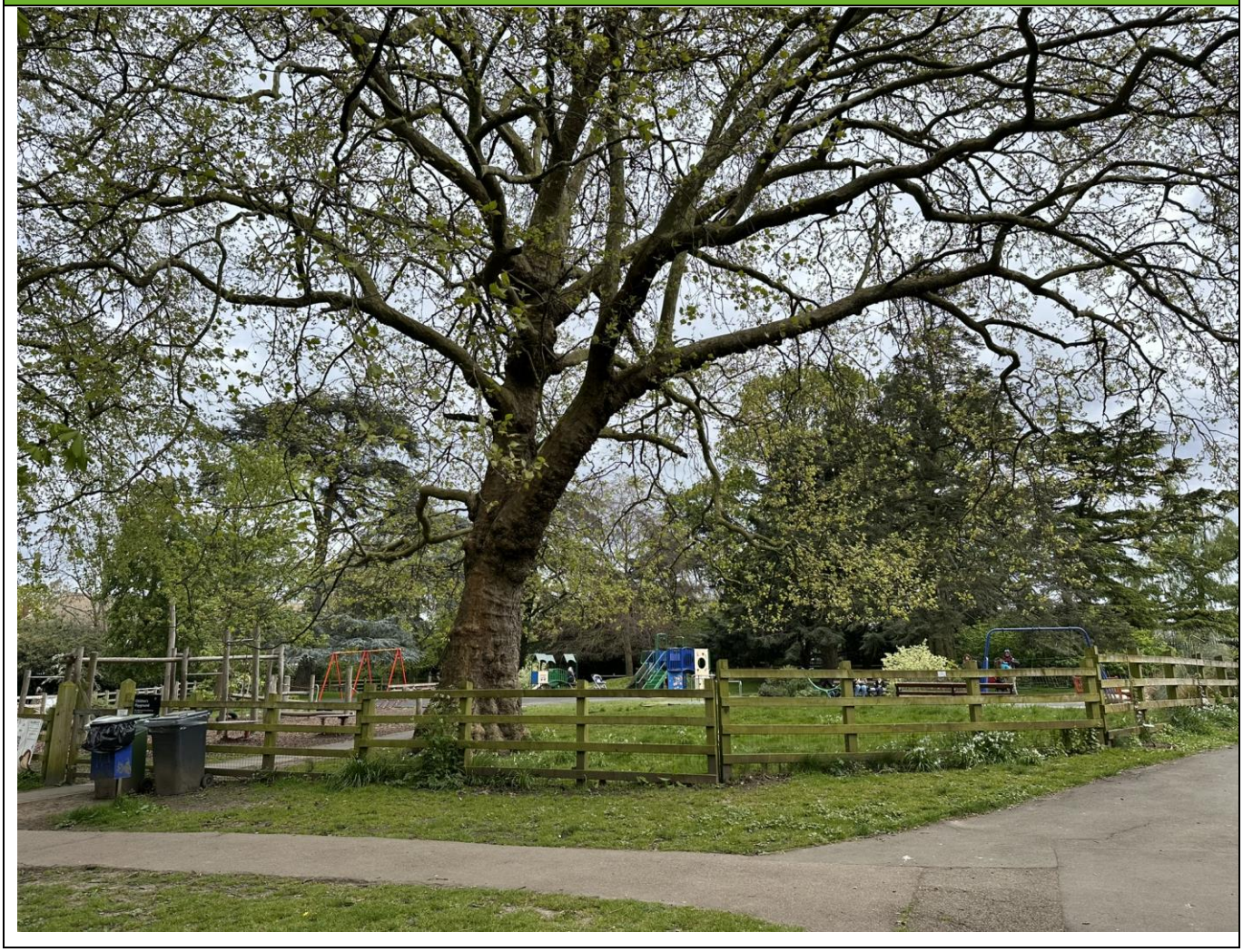
BaL07 Avenue House Grounds

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds



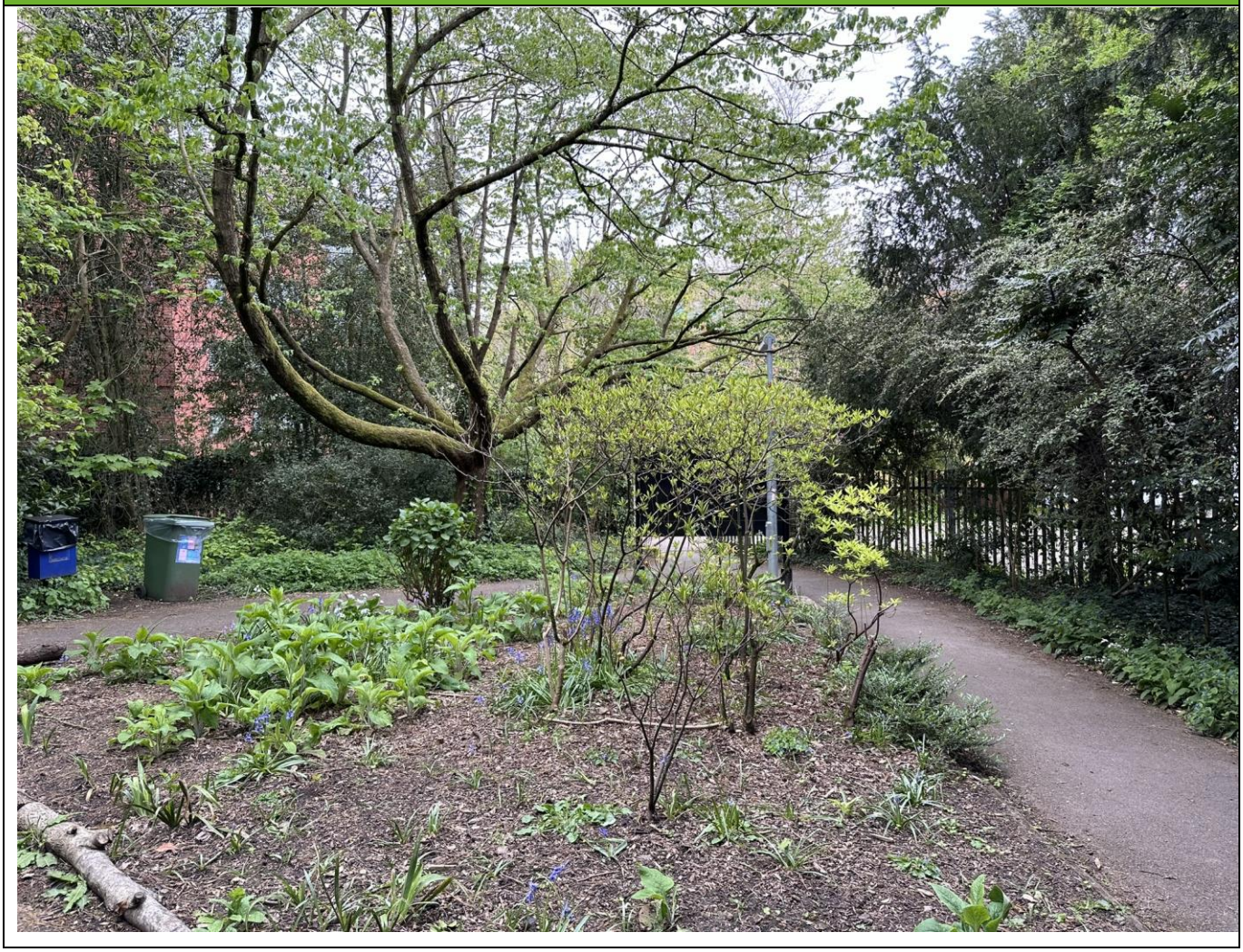
BaL07 Avenue House Grounds



BaL07 Avenue House Grounds

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds



BaL07 Avenue House Grounds

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: The removal of the cherry laurel to control it's spread within the site, also thinning of bramble scrub to benefit the ground flora and create glades within the woodalnd.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The site is a good example of ornamental gardens within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: The Habitats within the site are common within the borough and London.
Species Rarity: The site supports several notable and protected species including bats and birds such as Common Pipistrelle, Greenfinch, House Sparrow, Nyctalus Bat species, Song Thrush, and Soprano Pipistrelle
Habitat Richness: There are multipleHabitats within the small site which benefit wildlife.
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The SINC is small at 4ha.

BaL07 Avenue House Grounds
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The woodland Habitat would be difficult to recreate given the time take for the trees to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The site houses an important Grade 2 Listed building. It was once owned by the son of Henry Stephens, the inventor of writing ink.
Geographic Position: The site is in the southeast of the borough and is not connected to any further green sites or SINCs.
Access: The site is accessible by the public and cateres for al including toilets, cafes, playground, and tarmac paths, steps and ramps
Use: The main used groups seen to be using the site were families, visitors, and dog walkers.
Potential: The woodland and scub condition could be improved through removing INNS and creating glades. The creation of more species diversity within the grassland would also benefit wildlife.
Aesthetic Appeal: Lots of flowering plants and trees, ornamental borders, pond with reedbeds, walks within the woodland, and varying contours in the landscape.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: This small publicly accessible site meets the Local SINC criteria as the commonHabitats supports a number of notable and protected species.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Access point

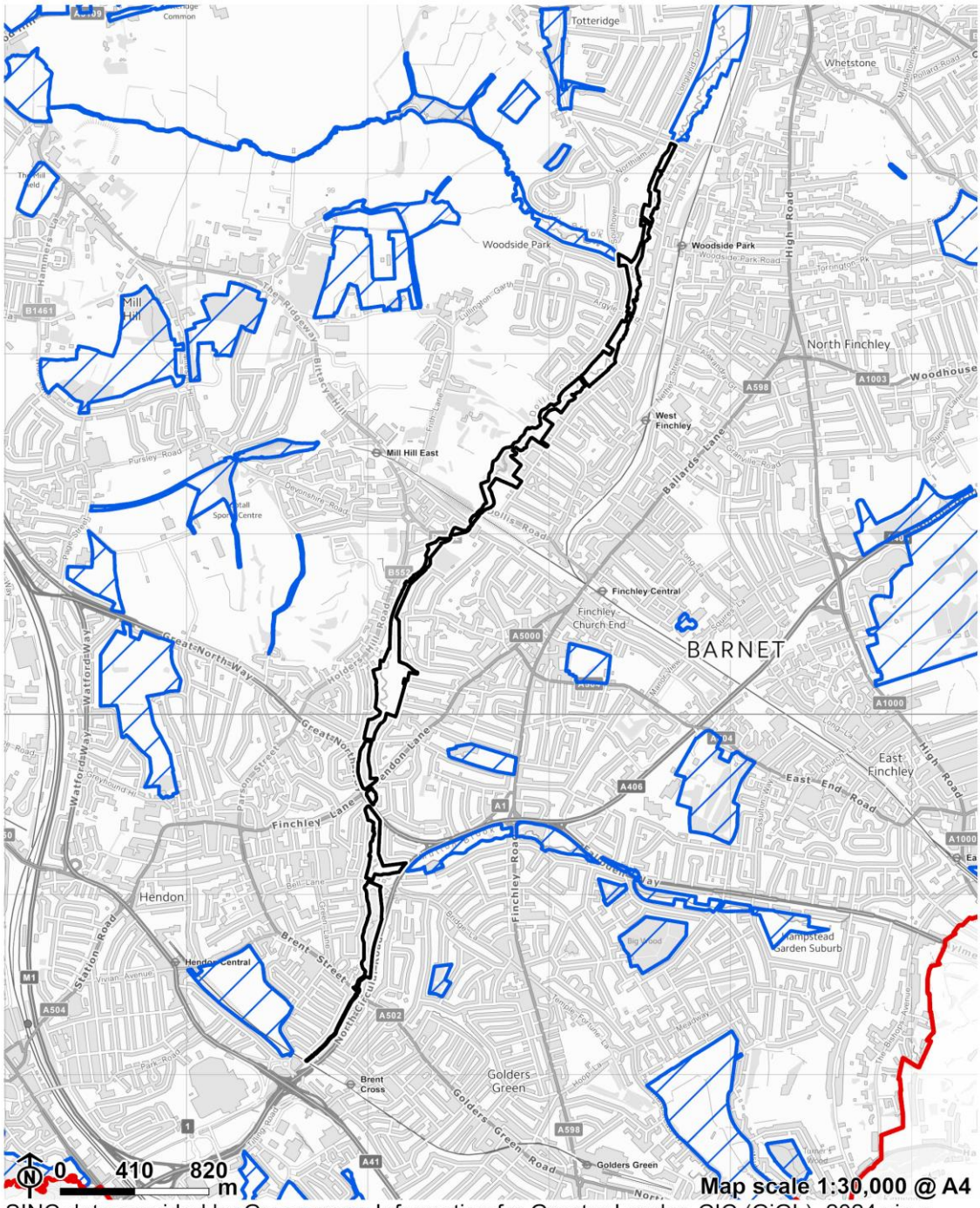
BaBII16 Lower Dollis Brook
Site information
LUC Site ID: 23
SINC ID: BaBII16
SINC Name: Lower Dollis Brook
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2411490079
Area (ha): 29.45
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms, Green Corridors, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: The Dollis Brook runs through a narrow strip of woodland between Woodside Park and Hendon, forming an important green corridor.
SINC Description: The lower reaches of the Dollis Brook, between Woodside Park and Hendon, are less natural and ecologically rich than the upper reaches. Nevertheless, the river forms a valuable green corridor through suburbia. Towards the southern end of the site, the Mutton Brook joins the Dollis Brook, and the combined brooks become the River Brent. The brook follows a more or less natural, meandering course as far downstream as Finchley Golf Course, below which is has been straightened and confined with concrete or wooden revetments. It is flanked along most of its length by narrow strips of woodland. This is mostly dominated by sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus), with a wide range of other trees and shrubs, including some fine old oaks (Quercus robur). The woodland ground flora is richest where the stream passes through Finchley Golf Course, Here, ancient woodland indicators such as ramsons (Allium ursinum) and wood meadow grass (Poa nemoralis) suggest a long history of woodland cover. Due to the shading, aquatic vegetation is limited to Indian balsam (Impatiens glandulifera) and occasional clumps of yellow iris (Iris pseudacorus) and pendulous sedge (Carex pendula). Sticklebacks occur in the brook, and kingfishers nest in its steep clay banks. In Brent Park, the River Brent has been widened into a lake. This is fringed with alders (Alnus glutinosa) and has a wooded island, on which tufted ducks, mallards, coots and moorhens nest. Footpaths follow much of the length of the site, and the Dollis Valley Greenwalk continues as far as the confluence of the two brooks.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Dunnock, European Water Vole, Greenfinch, Grey Wagtail, Kingfisher, Large Skipper, Large leaved Lime, Little Egret, Mistle Thrush, Pipistrelle Bat species, Redwing, Reed Bunting, Skylark, Song Thrush, Starling, Swift
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Butterfly bush, Cherry Laurel, False acacia, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Red eared Terrapin, Snowberry

BaBII16 Lower Dollis Brook
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Lower Dollis Brook encompasses the lower regions of the Dollis Brook with adjacentHabitats and runs from the middle of the borough to the south. As with the Upper Dollis Brook, the site is fringed by linear strips of woodland, shading the majority of the brook. The surroundingHabitats are less natural than Upper Dollis Brook, dominated by amenity grassland with playparks and associated hard standing pathways. These Habitats are mainly used by walkers, dog walkers and for recreation, particularly children playing in adjacent playparks and in the brook.
Survey Data
Surveyor: JB
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The majority of Habitats were in good condition, including mature trees and woodland. Habitats provide opportunities for a variety of species with the current management practices in place. The site is also well managed for amenity use, with pathways easily accessible and the majority of the grassland cut for amenity use. A more relaxed, wildlife-focussed management style in some areas would be beneficial to biodiversity (see management recommendations below). Himalayan balsam was abundant in areas, which will need to be managed and removed.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers and streams Parks and urban greenspaces Woodland Scrub Native Hedgerow
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprises the lower region of Dollis Brook, which is shallow and has a more modified channel than the upper region but still of good water quality. Given the shading from adjacent woodland, no aquatic vegetation was noted, with marginal vegetation limited to Himalayan balsam Impatiens glandulifera and pendulous sedge Carex pendula. The bordering woodland is dominated by sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus with horse chestnut, oak Quercus robur, Aesculus hippocastanum, elder Sambucus nigra and alder Alnus glutinosa. Ground flora in the woodland was sparse in places where erosion from trampling was evident. Grassland surrounding the brook/woodland primarily has low value with a very short sward, limited species diversity and lacking forbes. Small localised areas were left longer and were slightly more diverse with coarser, more tussocky species. Mature broadleaved trees were scattered within grassland areas. Tall ruderal dominated by nettle Urtica dioica and bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. scrub was scattered throughout the woodland understorey and adjacent to the brook.
Threats and Disturbances: Invasive species Litter Erosion: Additional comments:

BaBII16 Lower Dollis Brook
Cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus, false acacia Robinia pseudoacacia and Himalayan balsam were noted on site. In particular, false acacia was spreading with suckers noted and Himalayan balsam was locally dominant in places. Some litter was noted in the brook. Erosion was noted, particularly on the banks of the brook and in woodland where there were large expanses of bare ground.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing regime Meadow creation Tree/hedgerow planting Deadwood heabitat creation Wildlife friendly planting Access opening/restriction Additional comments: Relaxing the mowing regime in some areas, for example, a buffer zone between the brook and amenity grassland, to create longer and more diverse swards. Thereby enhancing the site for invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles by increasing structural diversity. Introduce species-rich planting of benefit to local wildlife, for example surrounding play park areas. Plant a native species-rich hedgerow along boundary fence line. Selective felling of trees within the woodland fringing the brook to enhance light levels and encourage the growth of aquatic plants. Any trees felled should be left within the woodland to create deadwoodHabitats.
Interest: Mammals Birds Reptiles Amphibians Invertebrates Higher plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees and woodland provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. Scrub provides foraging and sheltering opportunities for invertebrates and deadwood within woodland provide opportunities for saproxylic species. The brook provides opportunities for amphibians, as well as commuting and foraging opportunities for birds and bats. Scrub and woodland provide sheltering opportunities for amphibians and reptiles.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Areas of woodland / banksides should be fenced off to prevent erosion and allow ground flora to re-establish. Control and eradicate invasive non-native species. Control litter through regular clean-ups of the brook and surroundingHabitat. Diversify mowing regime.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: AlthoughHabitats present were not the best examples of those in London, the brook is a rarerHabitat in London and therefore is a good example in this urban area and should be protected.

BaBII16 Lower Dollis Brook
Habitat Rarity: Habitats present were common and widespread, although the brook is a rarerHabitat within London, with many waterbodies now underground. Woodland is also rarer in London.
Species Rarity: The desk study identified a number of protected and notable species within the site, notably water vole, which are rare and declining throughout the UK and particularly rare in London. Birds such as kingfisher have been recorded nesting in the clay banks. For further detail, refer to the Protected/Notable species above.
Habitat Richness: The site comprises the brook, amenity grassland, tall ruderal, scrub, woodland, and scattered mature broadleaved trees which is considered relatively rich given the sub-urban London context.
Species Richness: The site supports a range of common and widespread floral and faunal species, as well as rarer species, as discussed above in the 'Species Rarity' section. These species are supported by a diverse range of Habitats within the site, in particular the brook itself, which is a rarerHabitat to be found in London and is likely to present a valuable source in a relatively urban area.
Size: The site is 29.45ha which is considered relatively large for Barnet. It spans a significant area of the borough, and together with the Upper Dollis is of strategic importance. It offers terrestrial and aquatic ecological connectivity betweenHabitats in t
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: Ancient woodland indicators have been recorded in the woodland, although weren't noted during the site survey, suggesting a long period of woodland cover.
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland and scrub can be easily recreated. However, brook, mature trees and woodland are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: Lower Dollis Brook runs from the centre of the borough (Woodside Park) to the south (Hendon) and is a strategically important green and blue corridor through suburban Barnet. The site connects with Upper Dollis Brook SINC and together they connect up the north and south of the borough. In the south, Dollis Brook joins with the Mutton Brook and the combined brooks become the River Brent.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: The site is primarily used by walkers and dog walkers, as well as for relaxing in nature and recreation, particularly children playing in adjacent playparks and in the brook.
Potential: There is significant potential to enhance the ecological value of the site. Opportunities include the control and eradication of INNS such as Himalayan balsam, which likely requires a catchment scale approach. Additionally, alterations to meadow management is recommended to reduce the frequency of cutting whilst still retaining an area of amenity grassland for public access and recreation. This could be achieved by relaxing the mowing regime in areas or through rotational cutting. The Upper Dollis has a more natural channel and therefore, there could be opportunity to restore the Lower Dollis through de-canalising sections, or introducing in-channel features such as baffles and pools. Re-meandering sections where space allows could increase wetland Habitat through expanding the riparian corridor and provide flood risk alleviation.
Aesthetic Appeal: The variety of Habitats on site, in particular the brook surrounded by woodland is aesthetically appealing, with a variety of natural sounds and colours. The diversity of birds using the brook was notable and provided aesthetic appeal to relaxing on the site.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Opportunity
SINC Conclusion:

BaBII16 Lower Dollis Brook
The site continues to be a valuable resource for people and wildlife across the borough, given the expansive area of the brook and connectivity to other SINCs, open spaces and urban areas. Although the Habitats adjacent to the Lower Dollis Brook SINC are less ecologically valuable than Upper Dollis Brook SINC, they still provide a valuable wildlife corridor throughout the south of the borough and should be protected. Due to the presence of Habitats of less ecological value than the Upper Dollis Brook Borough Grade I SINC and the modified nature of the Lower Dollis Brook, this site should remain a Borough Grade II SINC. However, implementation of the enhancements described above within the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections provides opportunity for future upgrade in SINC status. Once the recommended enhancements have been made to the Lower and Upper Dollis Brook these sites could be combined to create a single SINC of Metropolitan importance in future. Enhancements should focus on the creation of naturalHabitats, restoration of the natural morphology of the brook and meadow and wetland creation similar to the Habitats present along the Upper Dollis Brook SINC. In addition the control and eradication of invasive non-native species if required along the entire length of the brook.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

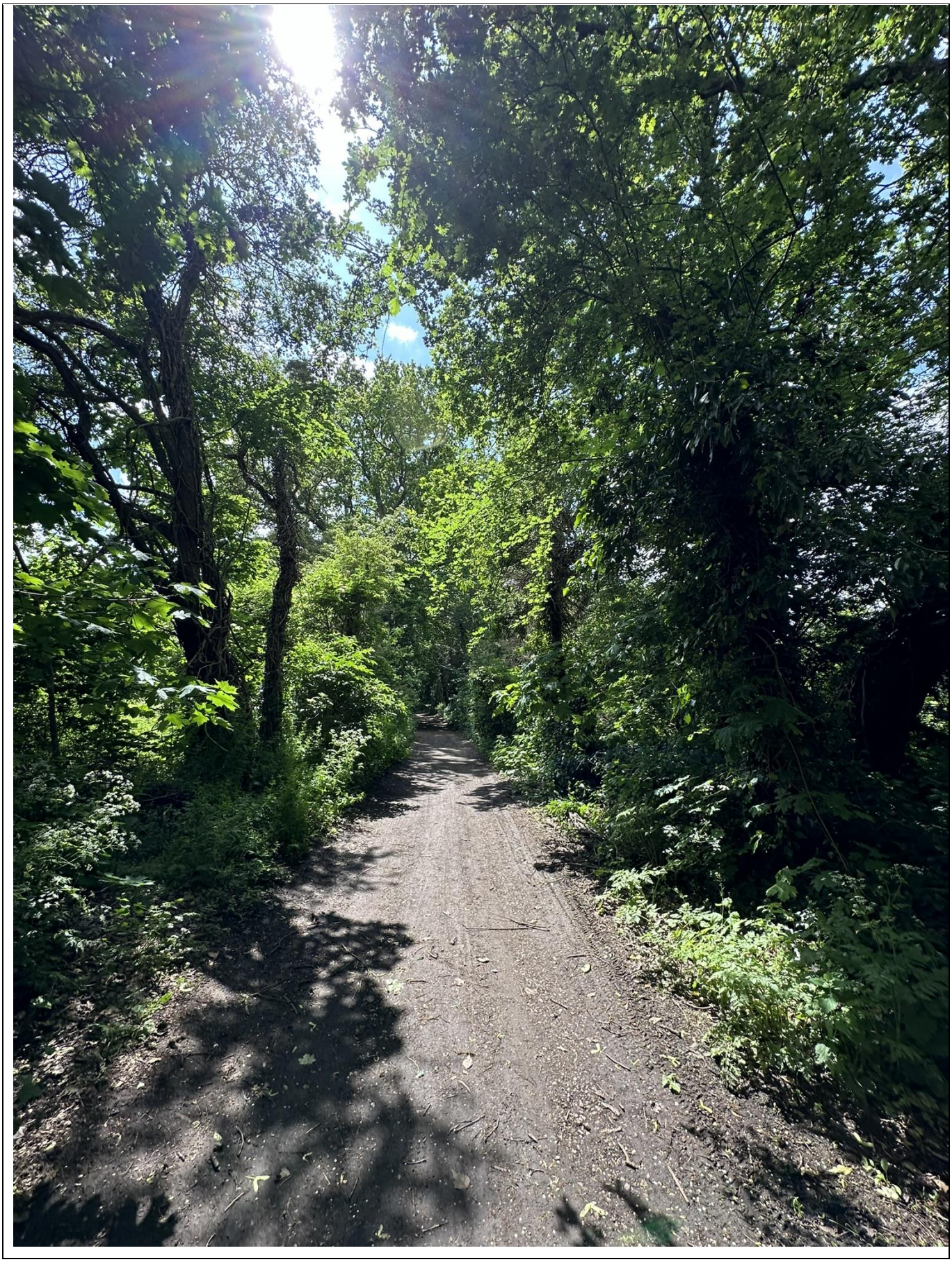
BaBII12 Ashley Lane
Site information
LUC Site ID: 24
SINC ID: BaBII12
SINC Name: Ashley Lane
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2354590598
Area (ha): 0.74
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Cemeteries and Churchyards
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A delightful walk along a lane banked by hedges and a 400 year old ancient trackway.
SINC Description: This is a delightful walk along a former green lane and ancient trackway, over 400 years old, which runs between Hendon Golf Course and Hendon Cemetery. The lane has retained its original hedgerows, which have developed into narrow belts of woodland in places. Fine old pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, trees form a partial canopy over hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, and field maple , Acer campestre, , with smaller amounts of blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, , elder , Sambucus nigra, , dogwood , Cornus sanguinea, , holly , Ilex aquilifolium, , elm , Ulmus sp., and wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, . The hedge bottom flora includes ancient woodland indicators such as ramsons , Allium ursinum, , bluebell , Hyacinthoides non scripta, , wood melick , Melica uniflora, and dog's mercury , Mercurialis perennis, . A small stream crosses the lane mid way along its length.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Bluebell
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the centre of the borough and is ecologically linked to a golf course to the east and west, which provides connectivity to a further SINC site to the northwest. The site comprises a long bridleway path lined with deciduous woodland, comprising mature trees and dense scrub.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH

BaBII12 Ashley Lane
Weather: Warm and cloudy
Date: 5/15/2024 11:06:12 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The path was eroded and in multiple areas, making it almost unpassable, limiting access for people. The scrub and trees were cut back from overgrowing onto path. This was historic management, no recent signs of cutting back this year.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The bridleway path was bound on both sides by mature trees and dense scrub. The tree species included mature abundant oak, ash, frequent semi-mature horse chestnut, cherry and sycamore, and rare yew. The scrub included hawthorn, elder honeysuckle, holly, sapling ash, field maple, blackthorn, bramble and hazel. The ground flora along the edge of the path consisted of abundant wild garlic, garlic mustard, ground ivy, frequent nettle, cowslip, dock, creeping buttercup, and occasional bluebell, cleavers, barren brome, and common hogweed. Within the scrub was multiple fallen and standing deadwood. A small stream was identified along east site boundary.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Dog fouling, Litter, Pollution: Additional comments: A watercourse flows in from the golf course to the east, there is a risk that any fertilizer or pesticides that could be used on the course would flow into the SINC and cause a pollution event.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub establishment Additional comments: Reinforcing the access track to ensure it available for everyone to use year-round.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and dense scrub provide suitableHabitat for multiple species including mammals, birds, invertebrates , and reptiles to forage, shelter and hibernate. The deadwood was of special interest to invertebrates. The stream Habitat provided suitableHabitat for amphibians within the site.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

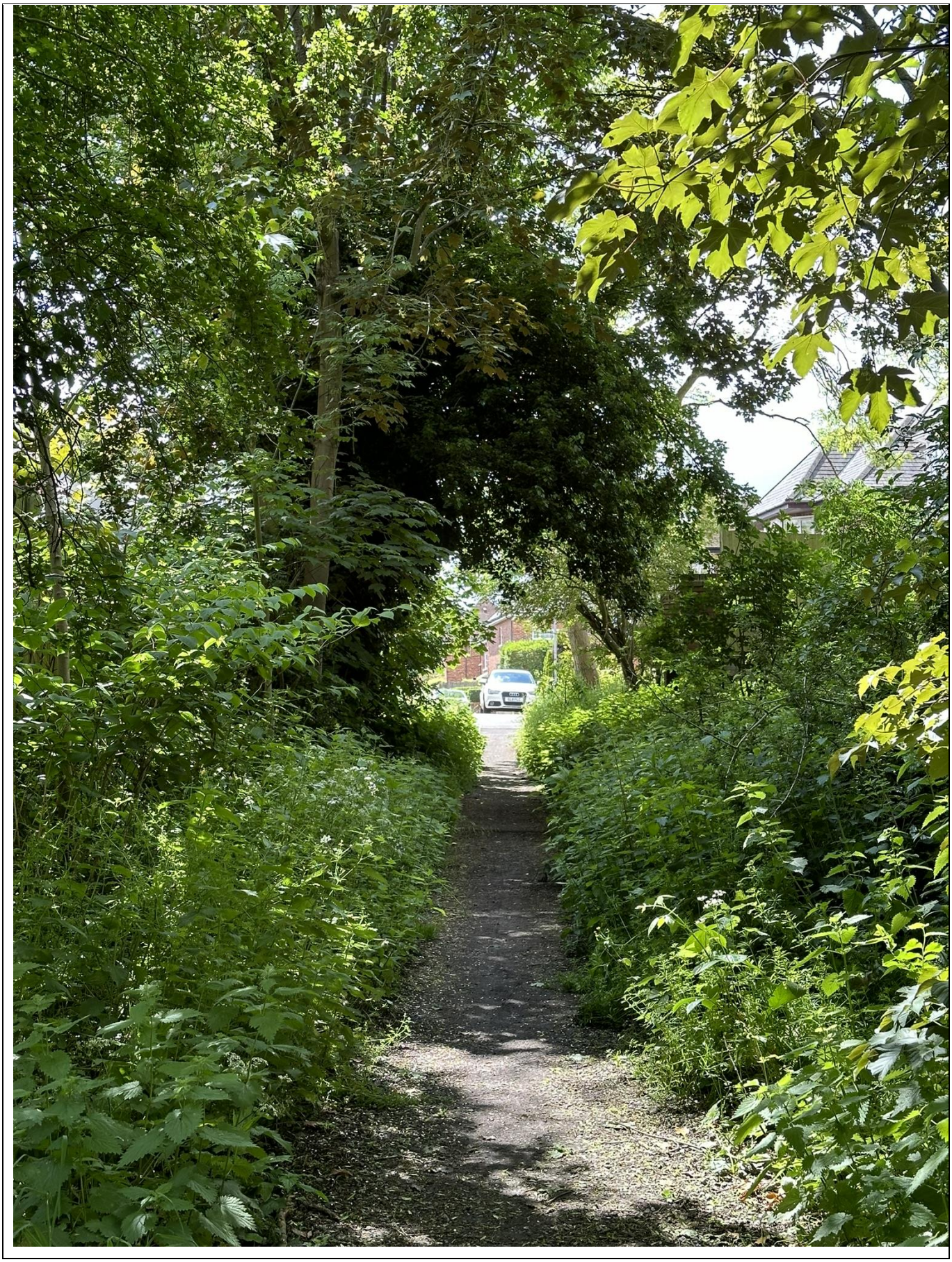
BRIDLE
WAY

LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET
REFUSE DISPOSAL (AMENITY)
ACT 1978
LITTER ACT 1983
IT IS AN OFFENCE TO ABANDON LITTER OR
REFUSE; OFFENDERS WILL BE PROSECUTED.
MAXIMUM PENALTY £200.

BaBII12 Ashley Lane

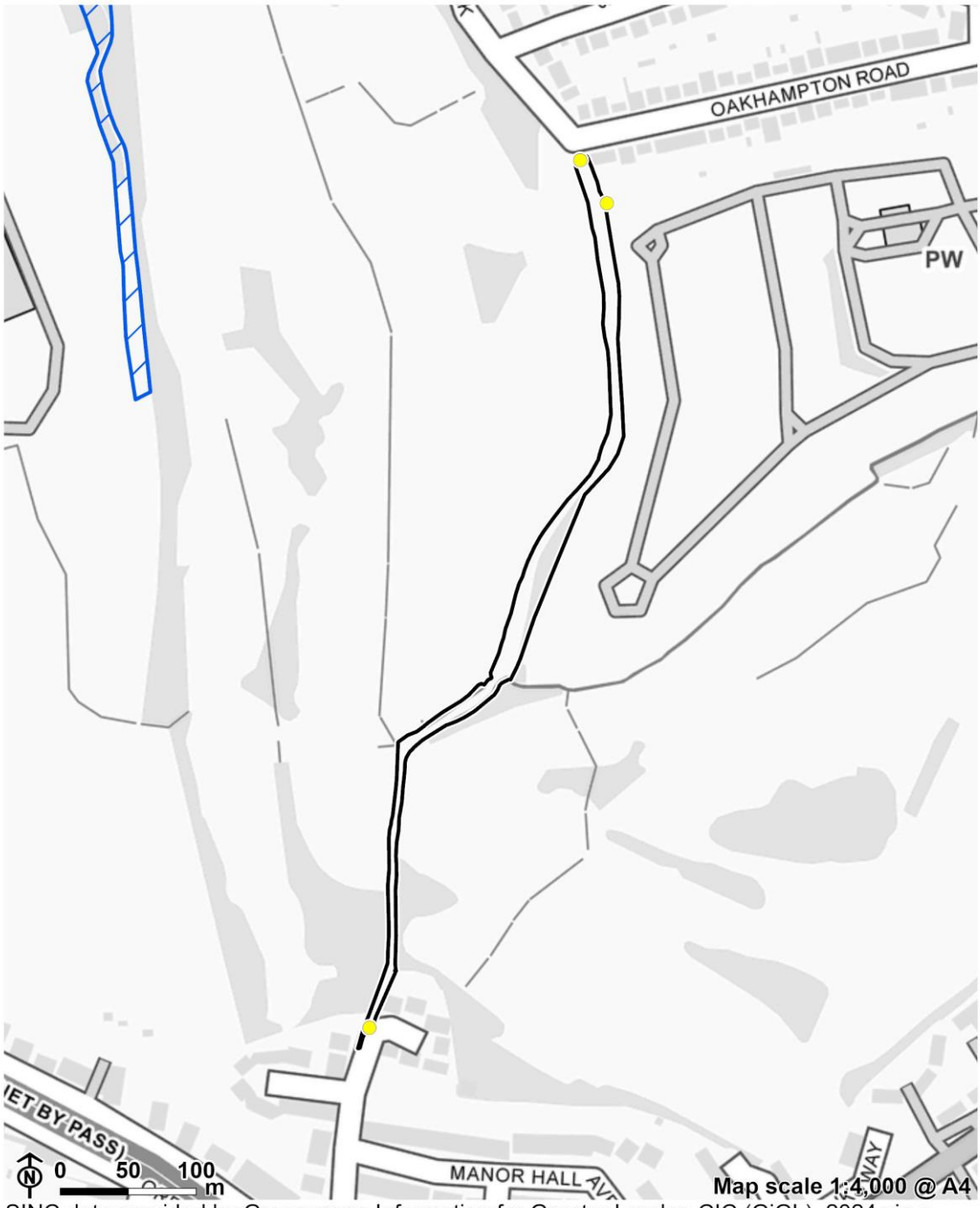


BaBII12 Ashley Lane



BaBII12 Ashley Lane
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Dense scrub could be thinned out and control of nettles. Reinforcement of the bare ground path to make the site more accessible during wet periods.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The trees and scrub present on site are a good example of deciduous woodland a Natural England PriorityHabitat.
Habitat Rarity: AllHabitats within the site are common within the borough , and therefore are not considered to support rare Habitats.
Species Rarity: Notable species included occasional bluebells within the mature trees and scrub.
Habitat Richness: The site comprised predominantly woodland with scrub on both sides of the track, there was also a stream in the east of the site.
Species Richness: The site was species-rich, with six different tree species, mainly native, and nine different scrub species. The ground flora was also diverse, but common species.
Size: The site was a small , linear corridor, at 0.7ha, within a larger green space that is ecologically connected to further green spaces and SINCs. This is an important link in the ecological network of the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site would be difficult to recreate, especially the mature trees, small stream and standing deadwood.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located in the centre of the borough and provides linear connectivity between the cemetery and the two sides of the golf course. The SINC is ecologically connected to Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common SINC forming a large component of green space within the borough.
Access: Full access from both ends, though during winter and wet weather would be less accessible due to mud.
Use: he main user groups noted using the site was walkers, runners and dog walkers.
Potential: There is potential for the site to become overgrown with dense bramble scrub. This should be selectively thinned and with small glades created which would increase floristic and Habitat diversity.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site is very green with multiple flowering scrub and tree species. This site is also very quiet and calming.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion:

BaBII12 Ashley Lane
The site is recommended to not change designation. The Borough Grade II grading is supported by the priority woodland Habitat within the site which provides opportunities for multiple species. The SINC also forms part of a larger network of green space in the centre of the borough.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery
Site information
LUC Site ID: 27
SINC ID: BaL08
SINC Name: East Finchley Cemetery
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2591689596
Area (ha): 15.71
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Cemeteries and Churchyards, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Large cemetery with mature trees and some wild flowers typical of old grassland.
SINC Description: This large cemetery, which is still used for burials, dates from the early Victorian era. At that time many inner city cemeteries were filling up fast and new cemeteries were opened in the countryside on the outskirts of London. The site is generally formally managed with large areas of close mown turf, scattered trees and small plots of ornamental shrubbery. It has some fine old oak trees , Quercus robur, which stand as relics of the former countryside. As in many London cemeteries, evergreen trees make a significant contribution to the landscape, with yew , Taxus baccata, , Cedar of Lebanon , Cedrus libani, and Wellingtonia , Sequoia giganteum, amongst the more conspicuous species. These are favoured by goldcrest and coal tit. Where the grassland has been allowed to develop naturally, some interesting wild flowers such as burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, have been recorded. Naturally colonising ash and sycamore scrub around the edges of the site are gradually evolving into woodland.
Management provider: The Park Service in conjunction with Contractors - Continental Landscapes limited.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Beetle, Box, Common Pipistrelle, Grey Wagtail, Lesser Noctule, Long eared Bat species, Painted Nomad Bee, Pipistrelle, Pipistrelle Bat species, Soprano Pipistrelle, Tawny Owl
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Butterfly bush, Cherry Laurel, Evergreen Oak, False acacia, Green Alkanet, Japanese Knotweed, Snowberry, Tree of heaven, Turkey Oak, Wall Cotoneaster
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: East Finchley Cemetery is a cemetery located in the south of the borough, in an area of dense urban development. The SINC is bound by residential development to the north, east and south and schools to the west. A small allotment also bounds the site on the south west corner. The site is designated as Metropolitan Open Land.

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Dry and clear
Date: 6/10/2024 9:45:00 AM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Efforts had clearly been made to enhance the site for biodiversity. Much of the grass was cut short, however some areas of grass had been set aside and left to grow long, to provide opportunities for local invertebrates. Deadwood was also noted in grassed areas of the site, as well as areas of tall ruderal and scrub providing bird nesting opportunities. Paths were well maintained. Some of the site in the west was fenced off and so not accessible.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Parks Urban Greenspace, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Churches and Cemeteries
Habitat survey description: The cemetery included a good mix of Habitats including amenity grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, tall ruderal, scattered mature trees, dense scrub and a beech hedge. Efforts had been made to allow some areas of grassland and tall ruderal to grow longer, providing benefits for biodiversity. Scattered trees included abundant yew and sycamore, frequent holly, coniferous species, occasional English oak, cypress, elder, copper beach, silver birch, lime and narrow leaved ash. Horse chestnut, gingko, plane tree, tulip tree, cherry and false acacia were noted rarely. Short areas of semi-improved neutral grassland around the graves included abundant rough meadow grass, white clover and frequent perennial rye grass, creeping buttercup and ribwort plantain. Creeping cinquefoil, common daisy, yorkshire fog, yarrow, meadow buttercup, false oat grass, crested dogstail, bristly oxtounge, greater plantain, oxeye daisy, rough hawkbit and birds foot trefoil were seen occasionally. Creeping thistle, ragwort, black medick, field madder, herb robert, red clover, fescue sp, cut leaved geranium, soft brome, mouse ear chickweed, self-heal, spotted medick and pink sorrel were seen rarely. The longer section of semi-improved neutral grassland in the centre of the site was dominated by false oat grass, with frequent cocksfoot and yorkshire fog. Lady's bedstraw, meadow vetchling, rough hawkbit, creeping cinquefoil, germander speedwell, meadow buttercup, oxeye daisy, fescue sp, meadow foxtail and perennial rye grass was seen occasionally. Meadow barley, red clover, pyramid orchid, common vetch, tor grass, Luzula sp and bee orchid were seen rarely. Tall ruderal areas included a mix of bristly oxtounge, oxeye daisy, common salsify, red clover, common knapweed, broadleaved dock, wild carrot, spear thistle, meadow buttercup, false oat grass, crested dogs tail, rough meadow grass, yorkshire fog and cocksfoot. Scrub and scattered trees along the southern boundary could only be viewed from the edge. Species noted included poplar, lime, sycamore, willow, privet, bramble and hogweed. Scattered scrub within grass areas included young hawthorn and rowan and scattered introduced shrubs included Portuguese laurel, cherry laurel, snowberry and viburnum. A beech hedge was also present in the north of the site.
Threats and Disturbances: Invasive species: Additional comments:

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery
Invasive species were noted on site including false acacia, Portuguese laurel, cherry laurel and snowberry. Other invasive species listed on the desk study include a flowering plant, butterfly bush, evergreen oak, green alkanet, Japanese knotweed, tree of heaven, Turkey oak and wall cotoneaster.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Wildlife friendly, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: An ecological survey was carried out by London Conservation Species Ltd in 2006 and they found the site to be important for birds, invertebrates and bats. In 2006 173 species of terrestrial invertebrate were found on site including Hypena rostralis, Cosmopterix zieglerella, Nomada fucata and Roesel's Bush-cricket. Common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, brown long eared and leislers were also recorded on site. The site supports many trees with bat roost suitability features as well as a disused chapel which provides roosting opportunities for bats. Goldcrest was also recorded on site.
Habitat figure:

SINC data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), 2024 via a Service Level Agreement with LB Barnet. Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerows
- Line of trees
- Other native hedgerows

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3d - bramble scrub
- h3h - mixed scrub
- u - urban
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1b6 - other developed land
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland
- No habitat survey

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 128 - tall or tussodcy sward, 16 - tall forbs, 10 - scattered scrub, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub,

2: 846 - flower bed

3: 106 - mown

4: 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 847 - introduced shrub

5: 847 - introduced shrub

6: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 106 - mown,

7: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards

8: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards

9: 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub,

10: 847 - introduced shrub

11: 847 - introduced shrub

12: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 106 - mown,

13: 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown,

14: 847 - introduced shrub, 32 - scattered trees,

15: 31 - secondary woodland

16: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

17: 32 - scattered trees

18: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

19: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

20: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

21: 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

22: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

23: 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub,

24: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

25: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

26: 32 - scattered trees, 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 106 - mown

27: 128 - tall or tussodcy sward, 32 - scattered trees, 90 - cemeteries and churchyards

28: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown

29: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

30: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced shrub

31: 32 - scattered trees

32: 847 - introduced shrub, 32 - scattered trees, 846 - flower bed

33: 847 - introduced shrub, 32 - scattered trees,

34: 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub,

35: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 106 - mown,

36: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown, 847 - introduced

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

Site Photographs:

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

Continue to manage the area of long grassland. This area contained a good mix of wildflowers, however in general, tussocky grass dominated. Consideration could be given to the introduction of yellow rattle, which would supress some of the grasses and allow some more wildflowers to establish. It is recommended that more areas of grass be managed in this way, as the majority of the grassland appears to be maintained as a short grassland.

It is understood that many visitors of the cemetery may think long grassland looks unkept or neglected, which is why it is important to provide information boards which educate visitors on the important of managing grasslands in this way. Maintaining a neat border around the long areas of grassland may help to realise that is in fact still a managed area of grassland.

Areas of bulb planting were present occasionally within the SINC which provides an aesthetic appeal, however some were noted to be non-native species. It is recommended that native or non-native species of benefit to wildlife should be planted in these areas, and colourful species can be chosen to ensure it also provides an aesthetic benefit. It is recommended to use the RHS 'plant for pollinators' list.

Bird and bat boxes could be put onto trees and buildings to provide further nesting/roosting spaces.

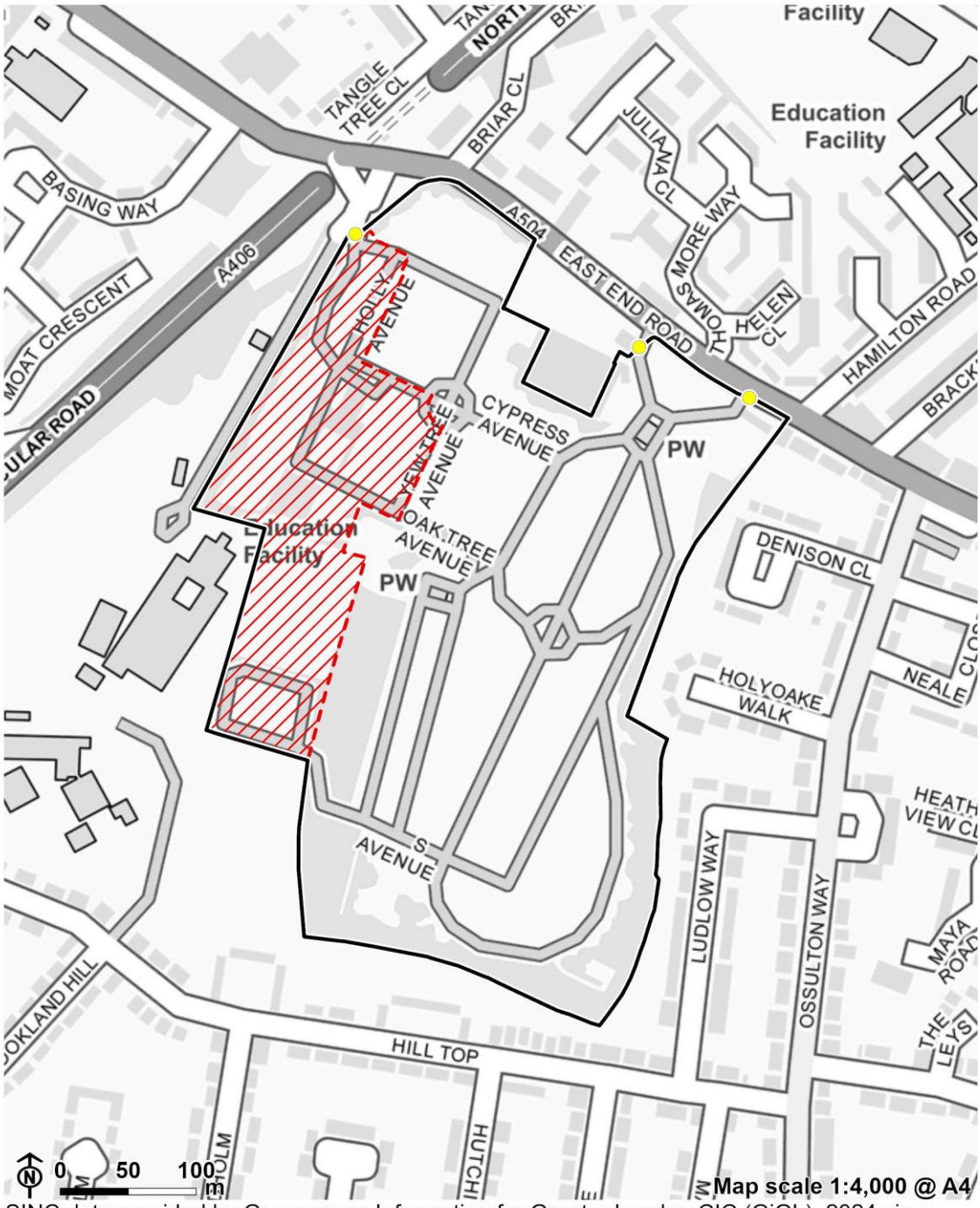
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

East Finchley Cemetery Plan 2007 - 2012. A more recent management plan does not appear to be available.

SINC Criteria

Representation: N/A

BaL08 East Finchley Cemetery
Habitat Rarity: N/A
Species Rarity: A range of protected and notable species were identified in the desk study such as various bat species (common pipistrelle, noctule, long eared bat, soprano pipistrelle) and tawny owl (birds of conservation concern amber list). Orchids were also seen on site, including pyramid and bee orchid.
Habitat Richness: The site supports a good mix of Habitats, and isHabitat rich considering its primary purpose is a cemetery.
Species Richness: The site supports a good mix of species including wildflowers such as lady's bedstraw, meadow vetchling, rough hawkbit, pymarid orchid and bee orchid. The site is also known to support bat roosts, and over 100 invertebrate species.
Size: A medium sized SINC at 15ha.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: The site include fine old oak trees, which stand as relics of the former countryside.
Recreatability: The cemetery is over 150 years old, and includes many mature trees which would take a very long time to recreate e.g. the two cedars of Lebanon planted on the front lawn, were planted in 1856.
Typical Urban Character: Areas of long grass had been left to grow around some of the graves, showing the juxtaposition between man-made and natural features.
Cultural/Historic Character: A meaningful and important place for many people to visit their loved ones. The cemetery also includes some famous names and burials of special interest.
Geographic Position: The cemetery is located in the south of the borough, in an area of dense urban development. The SINC is bound by residential development to the north, east and south and schools to the west. A small allotment also bounds the site on the south west corner. The site is designated as Metropolitan Open Land.
Access: The site is publicly accessible and includes paved paths throughout. Therefore it is easily accessible for all.
Use: The site is in use as a cemetery.
Potential: The site is a valuable wildlife site providingHabitat for a good mix of species. There is opportunity to maximise this even further, as detailed in the management section.
Aesthetic Appeal: A peaceful site, with good aesthetic appeal.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site is a valuable wildlife site providingHabitat for a good mix of species. The site is consistent with the previous citation, and therefore it is recommended that the SINC retain its local status. There is opportunity to maximise the ecological value of the SINC further, as detailed in the management section.
Site Maps



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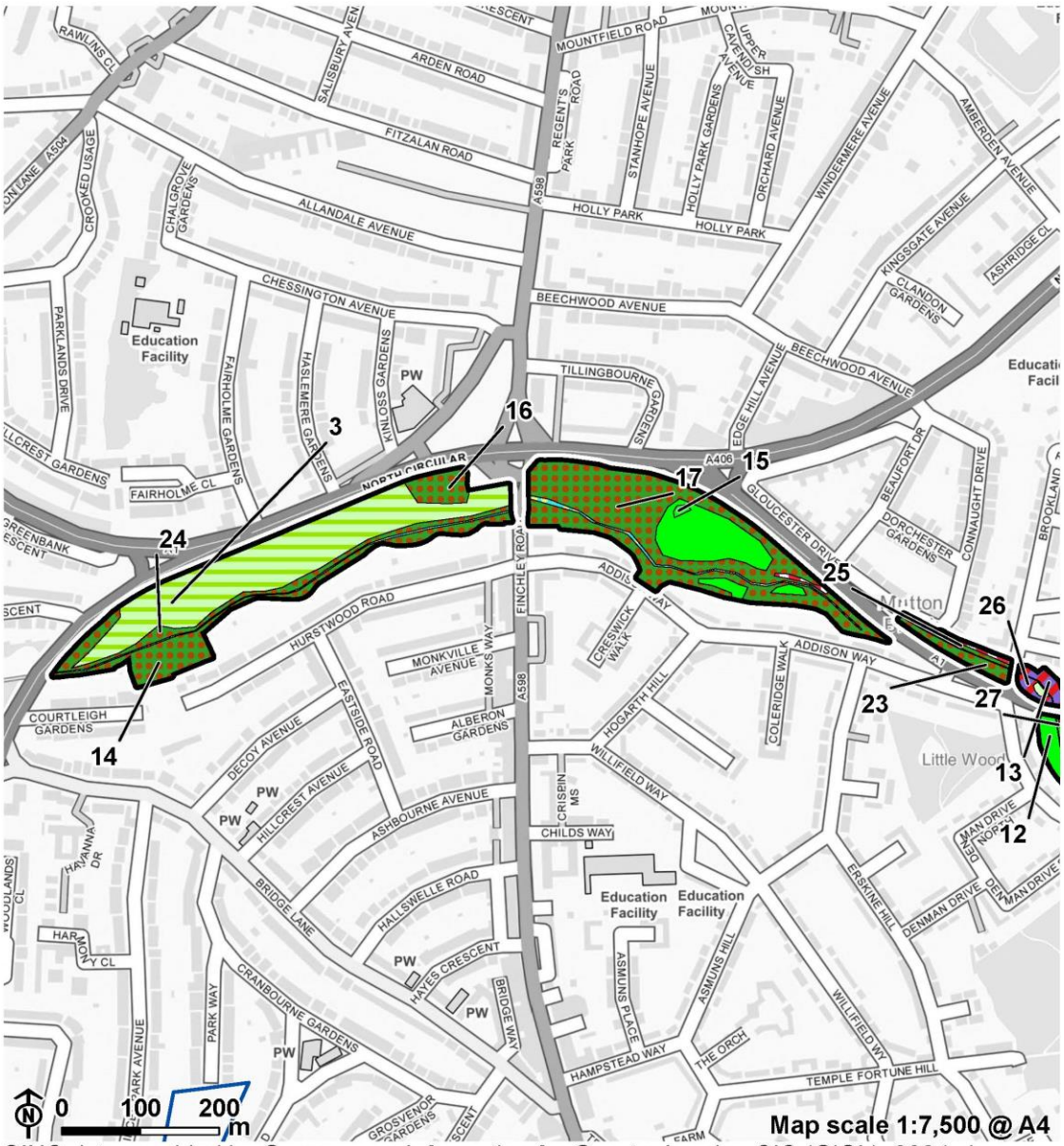
LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

Access point

BaL09 Mutton Brook
Site information
LUC Site ID: 28
SINC ID: BaL09
SINC Name: Mutton Brook
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2450589254
Area (ha): 15.17
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: Urban stream, a tributary of the Dollis Brook, canalised in some stretches, more natural in others.
SINC Description: The Mutton Brook rises in Highgate, flowing east towards Hendon, where it joins the Dollis Brook. The Dollis Valley Greenwalk follows the stream from Hampstead Garden Suburb to the junction of the two streams, and the Capital Ring also follows the Mutton Brook here. At Lyttleton Playing Fields, in Hampstead Garden suburb, the Mutton Brook is partially straightened and shaded by woodland on its northern side. Further downstream it flows through an attractive small park at Northway Gardens, although the stream itself is constrained within a stark concrete channel. The brook gains its most natural quality further downstream again, alongside the A1 and North Circular Roads. Ivy clad oak , Quercus robur, , ash , Fraxinus excelsior, and willow trees , Salix sps, fringe the river bank, providing excellentHabitat for birds. Most of the catchment of the Mutton Brook is urban and, as a result, unfortunately the water quality is often poor. None the less, grey wagtails can usually be spotted foraging at the water's edge.
Management provider: Council
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, False acacia, Goat's rue, Green Alkanet, Japanese Knotweed, Snowberry
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is in the south east of the borough and is ecologically connected to the Lower Dollis Brook which is another blue and green corridor through the centre o the borough.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH

BaL09 Mutton Brook
Weather: Showers and windy
Date: 4/25/2024 9:40:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): N/A
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprises the Mutton Brook which is a tributary to the Lower Dollis Brook to the west. The brook runs through a number of public green spaces including the Lyttleton Playing Fields. The banks of the brook are engineered and supported by wood panels, and the steam is very shallow. Along the edges of the stream in the east of the site are areas of dense scrub, scattered trees, children's playground and playing fields. The species included mature ash, horse chestnut, cherry, sycamore, hawthorn, bramble, yew, nettle ivy, beech, hazel, blackthorn, bluebell, field maple, cherry laurel, and cow parsley. The grassland comprised perennial rye grass, dandelion, ribwort plantain, creeping buttercup, common daisy and cocks foot. In the centre and west of the site the brook flowed within woodland, the species included mature willow, hazel, hornbeam, oak, ash, alder, horse chestnut, hawthorn, ivy, bramble, crab apple, cleavers, nettle, and bluebell. The grassland in the west site parcel had a longer sward and had more species diversity.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling, FlyTip, Noise: Additional comments: Throughout the site and within the stream was lot of loose little and within the west of the site were signs of fly-tipping. A main road bordered the north aspect of the site and traffic noise was a constant.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Scrub establishment Additional comments: The thinning of bramble and nettle within the scrub and woodland in the centre and west of the site to encourage the ground flora such a bluebells. A mowing regime on the short managed grassland in the centre of the site to promote sward height diversity.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland, mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The brook also provides a commuting route through the borough for bats, The brookHabitat provided suitableHabitat for fish, amphibians and invertebrates.
Habitat figure:



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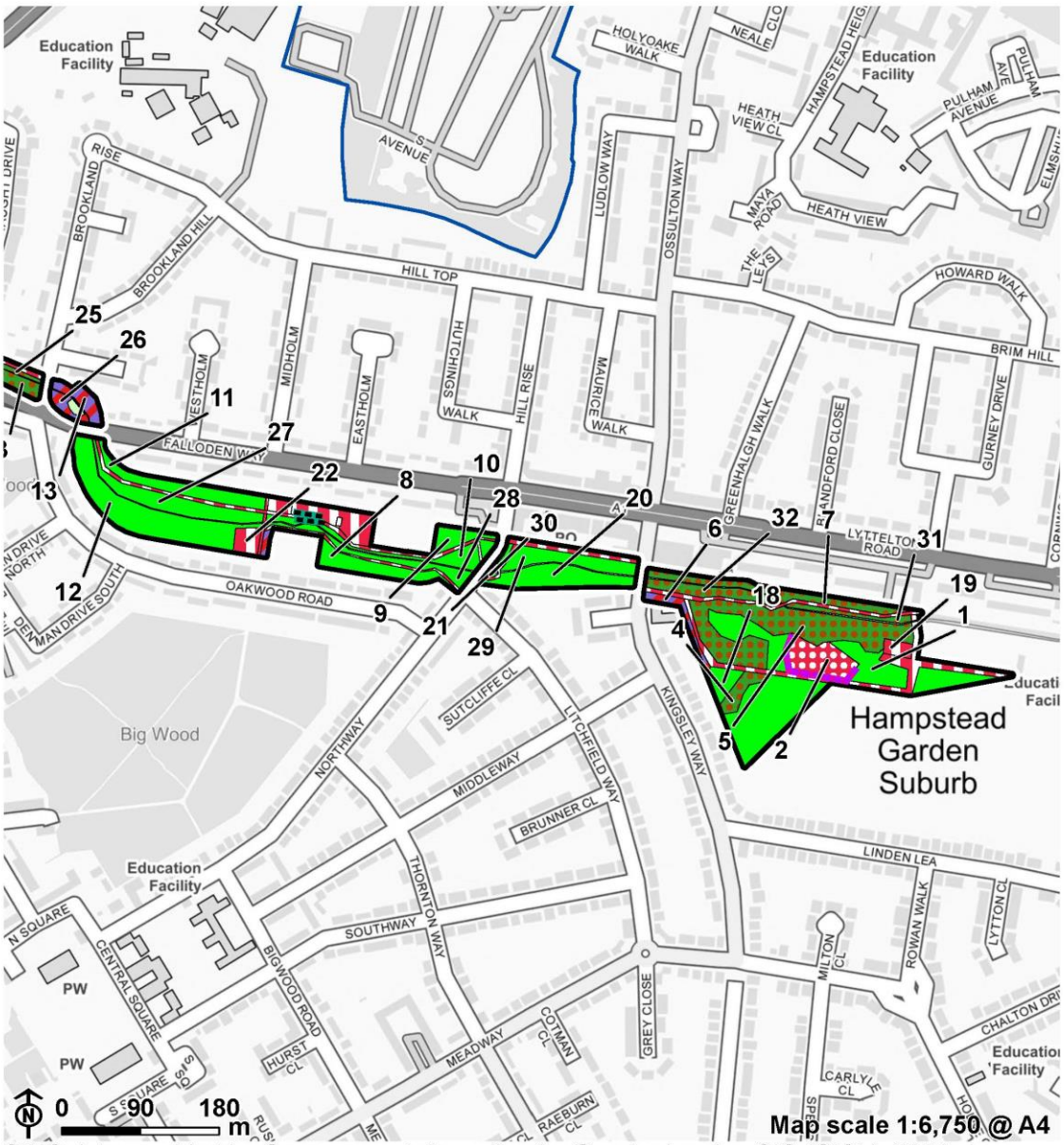
- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- g - grassland
- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3 - dense scrub
- r2 - rivers and streams
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat linear

- Line of trees
- Native hedgerows

UKHab habitat area*

- g - grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3 - dense scrub
- r2 - rivers and streams
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 32 - scattered trees
2: 823 - children's play space
3: 10 - scattered scrub
4: 10 - scattered scrub
5: 10 - scattered scrub
6: 32 - scattered trees
7: 10 - scattered scrub
8: 847 - introduced shrub
9: 32 - scattered trees
10: 32 - scattered trees
11: 32 - scattered trees
12: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub, 847 - introduced shrub
13: 32 - scattered trees
14: 10 - scattered scrub
15: 846 - flower bed
16: 10 - scattered scrub
17: 10 - scattered scrub
18: 32 - scattered trees
19: 813 - educational building
20: 10 - scattered scrub, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub
21: 10 - scattered scrub, 847 - introduced shrub, 847 - introduced shrub
22: 823 - children's play space
23: 10 - scattered scrub
24: 10 - scattered scrub
25: 10 - scattered scrub
26: 32 - scattered trees
27: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub, 847 - introduced shrub
28: 32 - scattered trees
29: 10 - scattered scrub, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub
30: 10 - scattered scrub, 847 - introduced shrub, 847 - introduced shrub
31: 10 - scattered scrub
32: 10 - scattered scrub

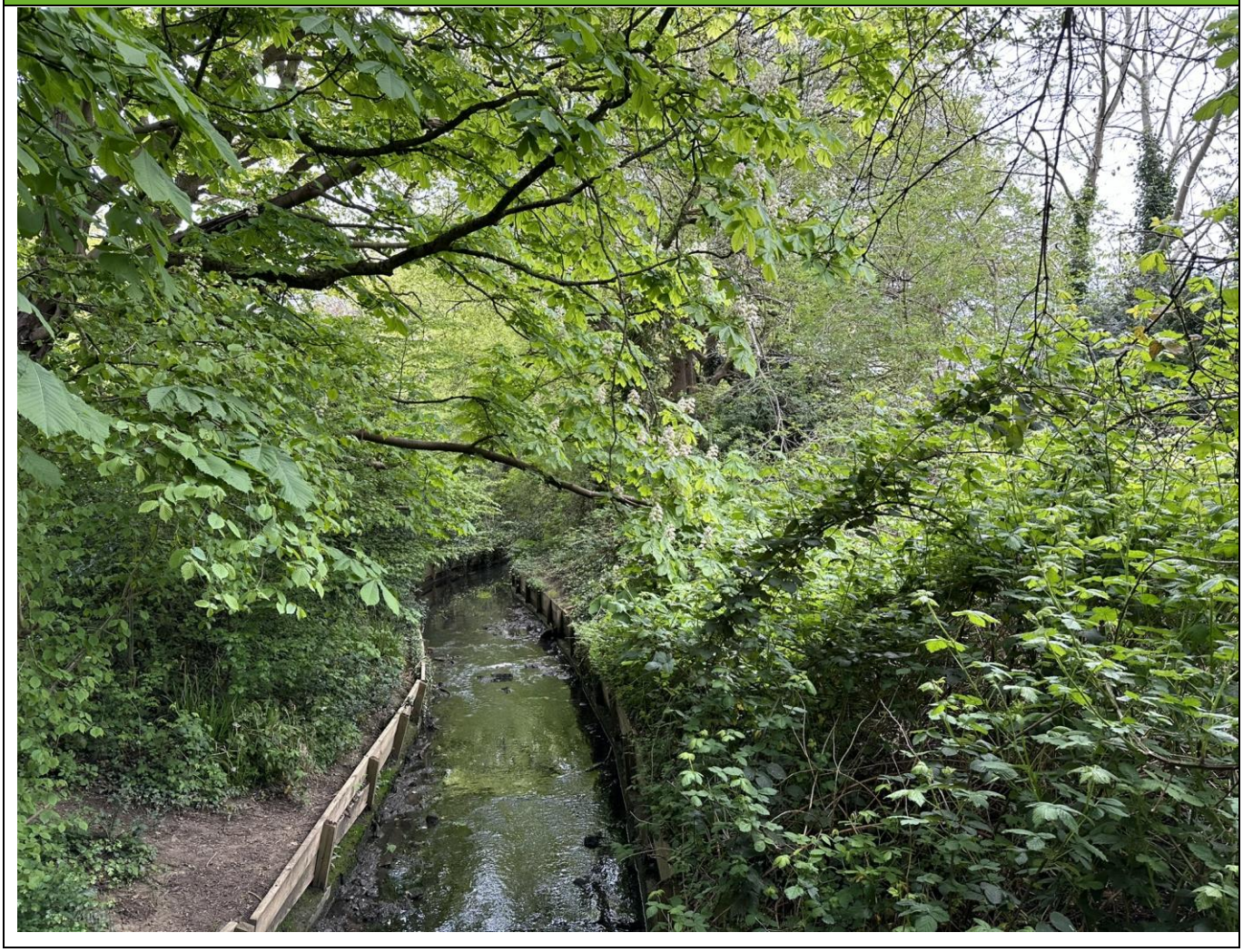
BaL09 Mutton Brook

Site Photographs:

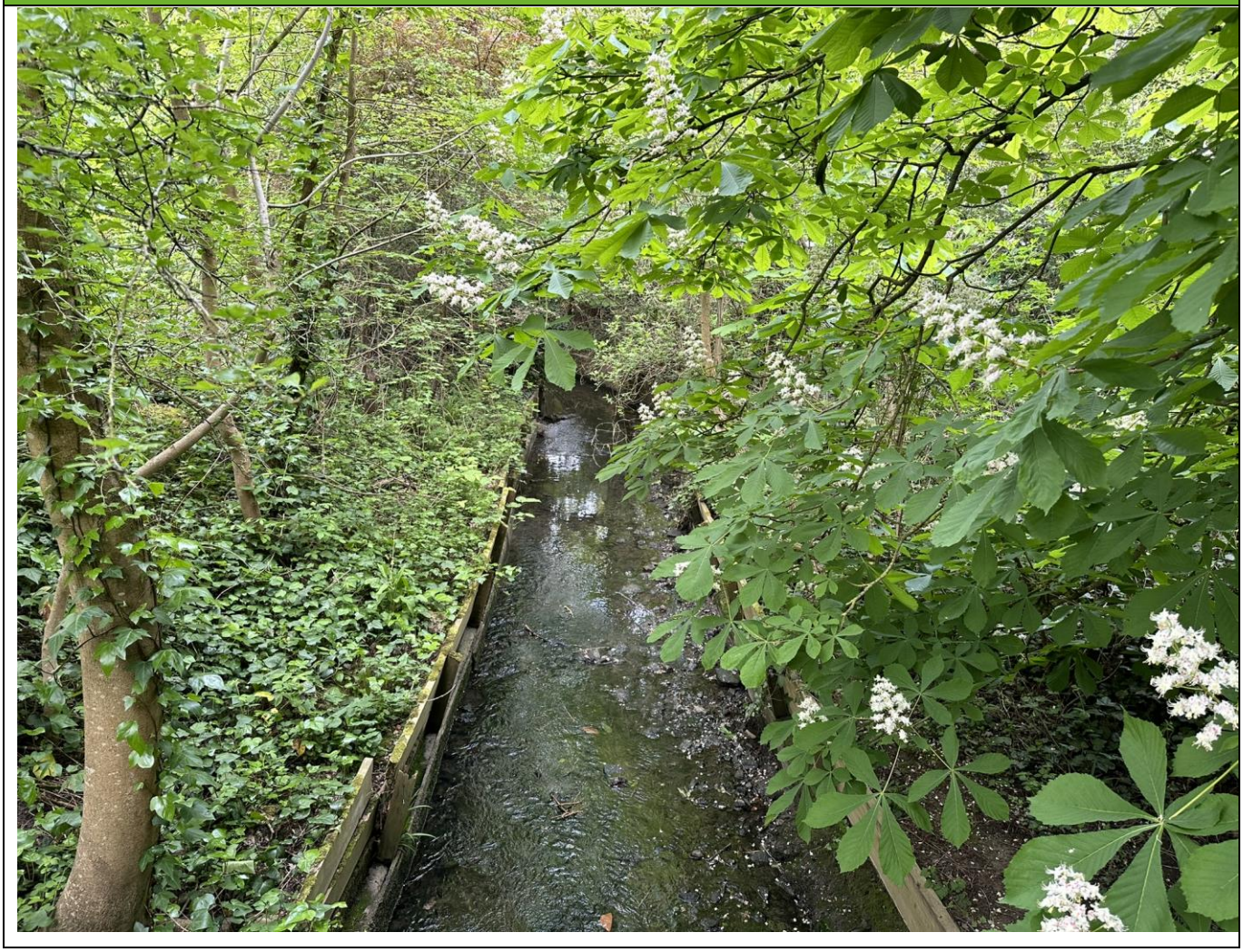
BaL09 Mutton Brook

BaL09 Mutton Brook

BaL09 Mutton Brook



BaL09 Mutton Brook



BaL09 Mutton Brook

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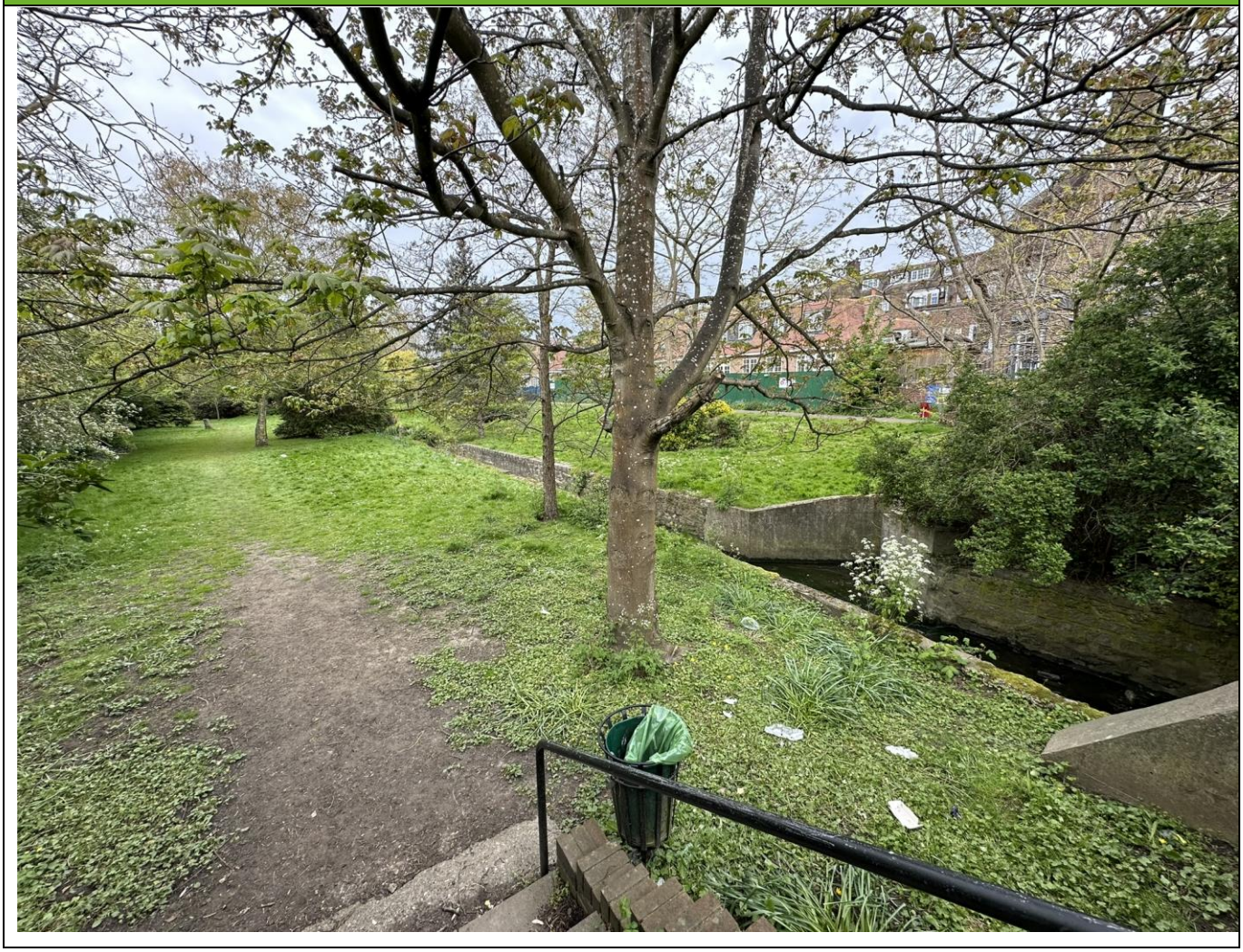

BaL09 Mutton Brook

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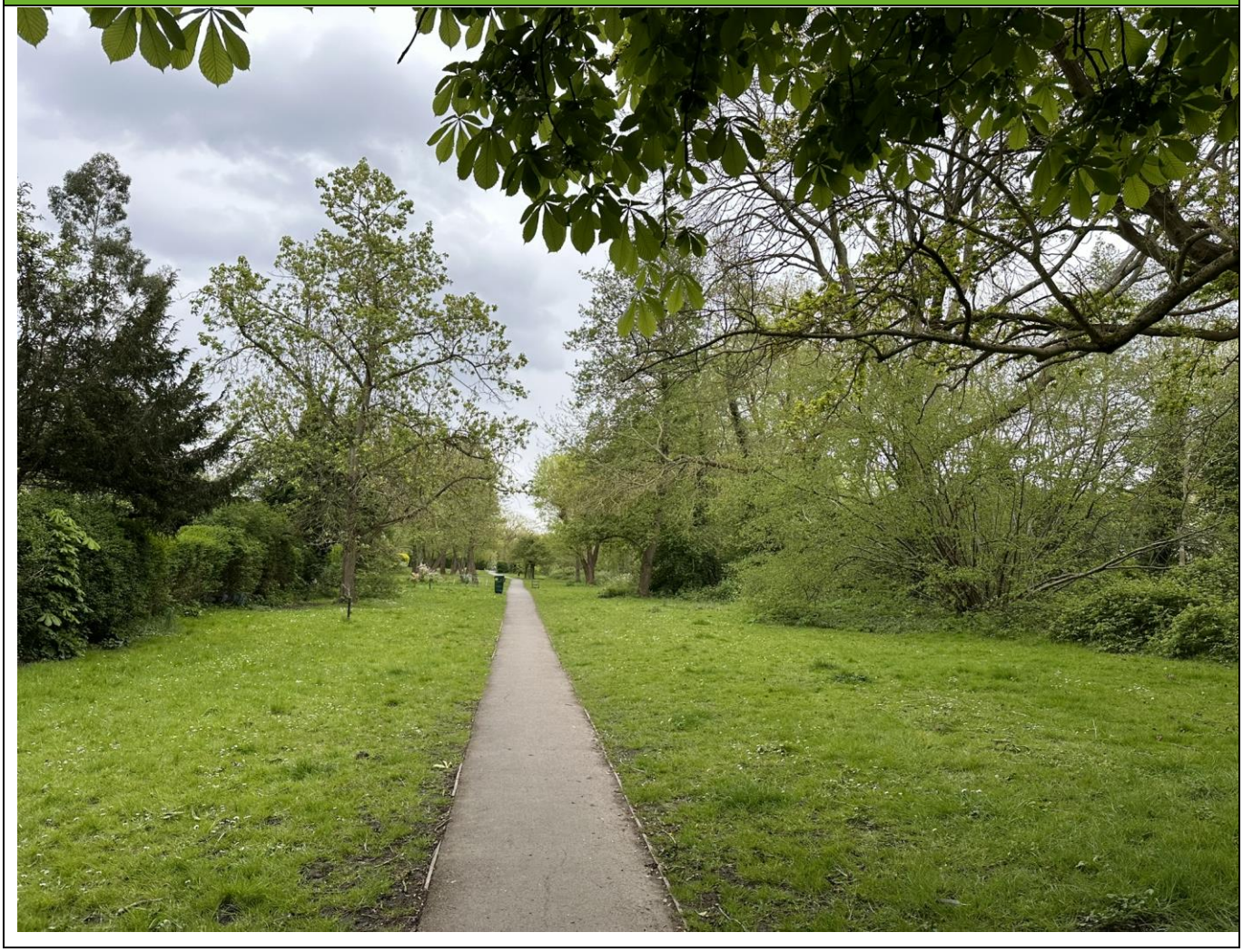
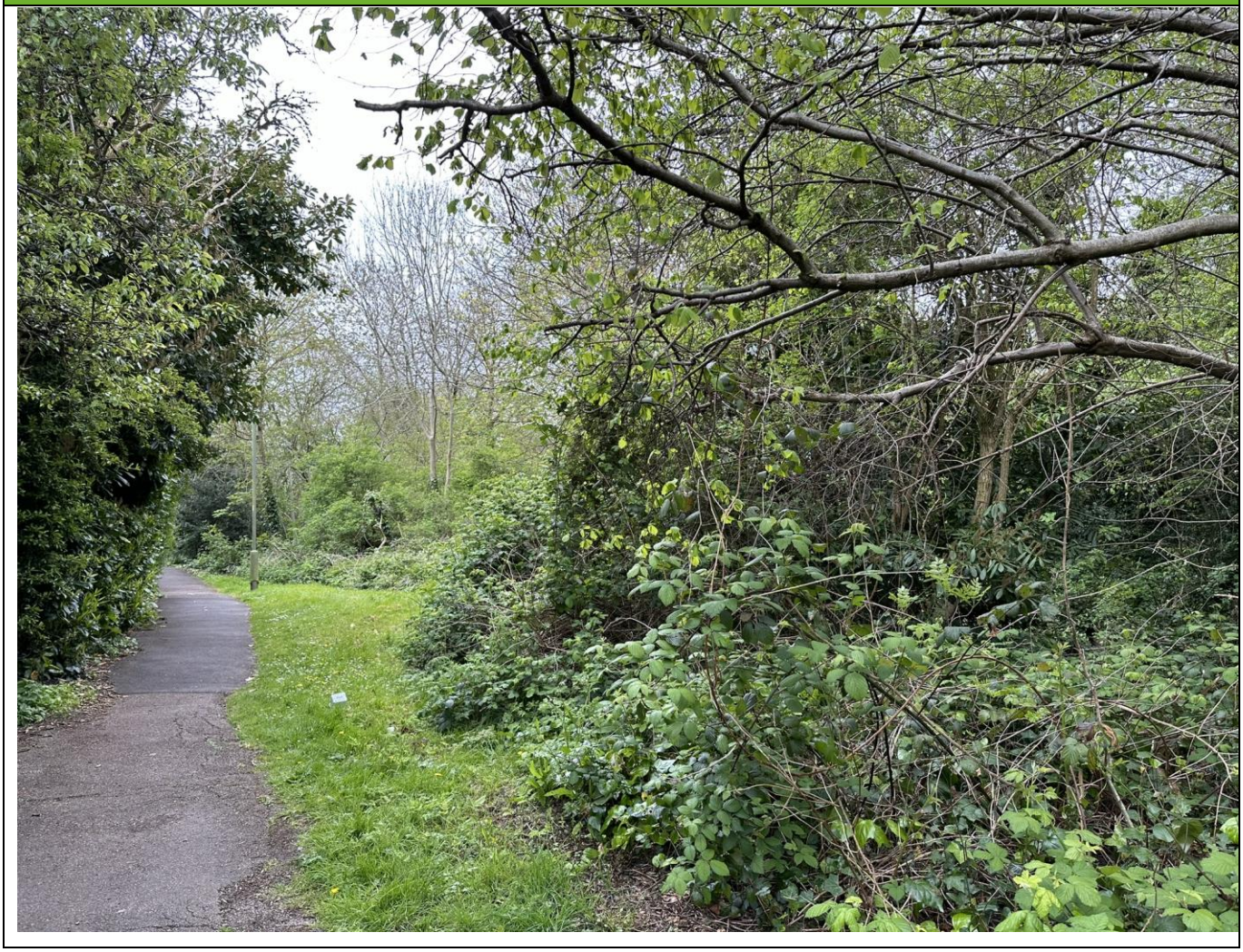


BaL09 Mutton Brook

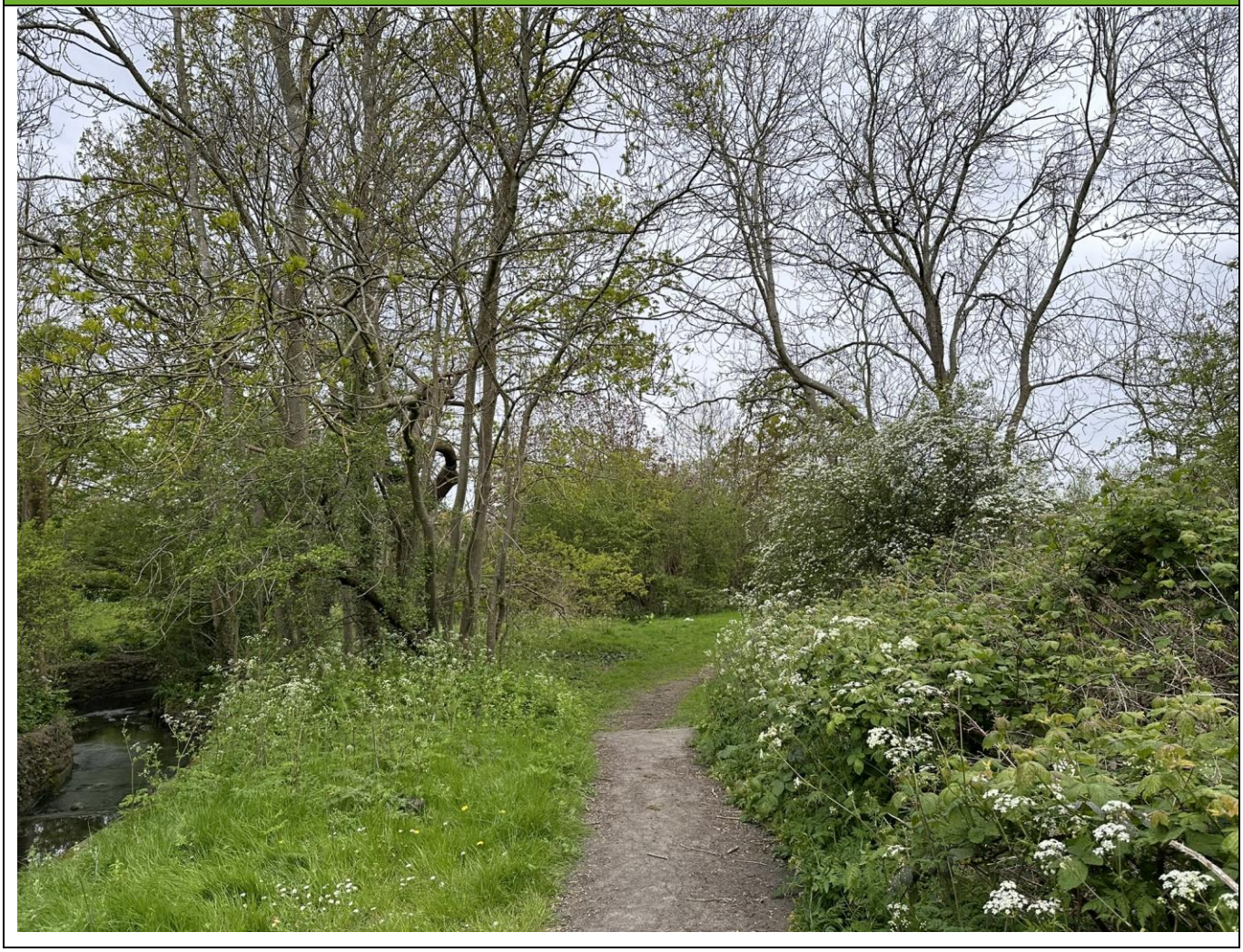
BaL09 Mutton Brook

BaL09 Mutton Brook



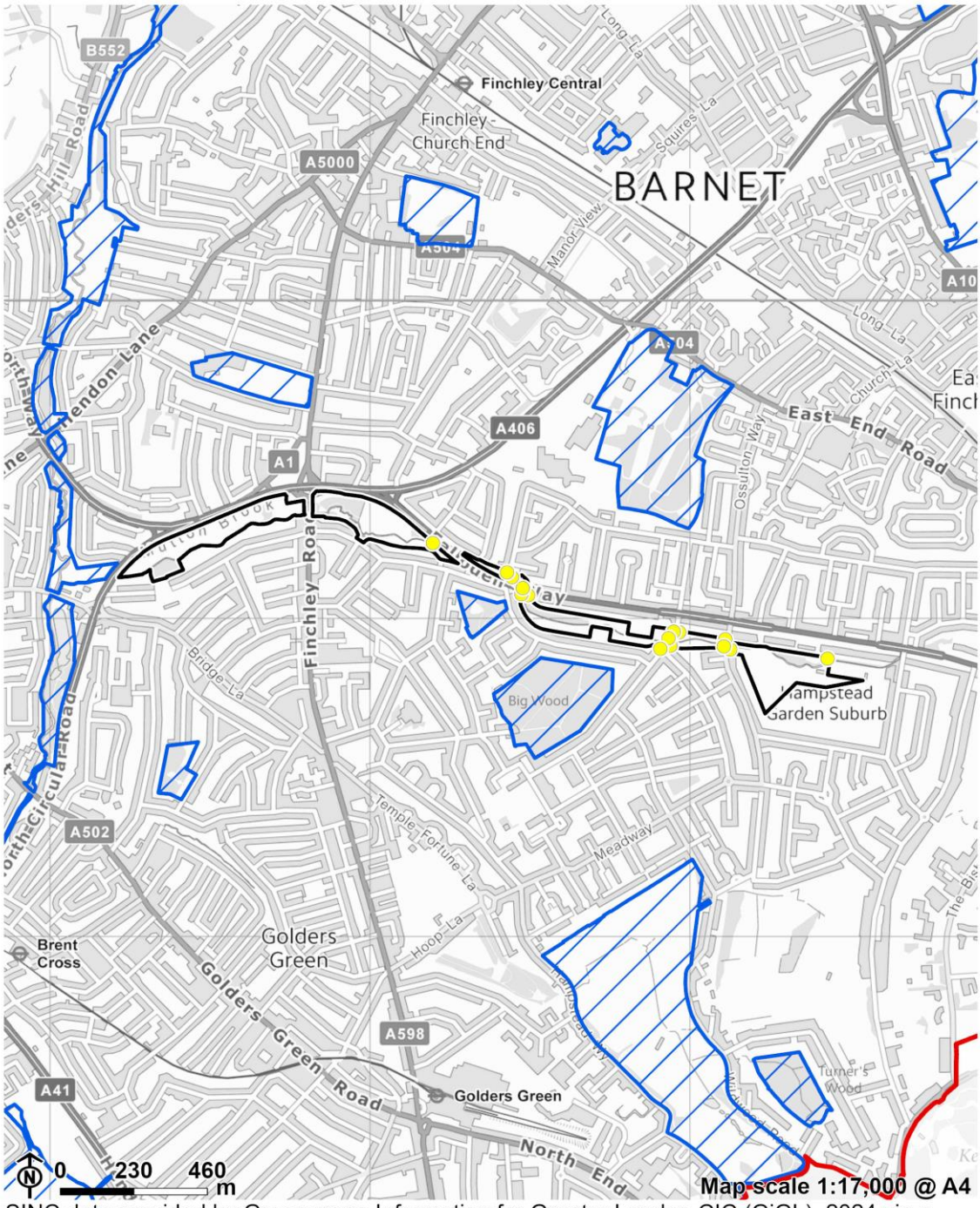
BaL09 Mutton Brook

BaL09 Mutton Brook



BaL09 Mutton Brook
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Regular clean-up of the litter in the site and fly-tipping in the woodland and stream. Removal and control of cherry laurel in the centre and east of the site to prevent spread. Native planting along the north site boundary in the west parcel to create a barrier along the main road to reduce the impact of noise on the site.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: A large expanse of un-culverted stream within the borough is relatively rare.
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: 15ha

BaL09 Mutton Brook
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The areas of woodland would be hard to recreate given the number of mature trees within the site.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is a linear blue corridor that connects to a large blue/green corridor that runs through the centre of the borough.
Access: The site is fully accessible by the public.
Use: The site was used in parts for recreation, by dog walkers, locals and families.
Potential: There is opportunity to increase the sites' floristic diversity through a varied mowing regime and thinning and removal of dense scrub to create glades within the woodland blocks.
Aesthetic Appeal: The flowing brook, woodland and flowering scrub provide an aesthetic appeal within the site.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site reaches the Local SINC criteria through providing public access to a number of different green spaces which exhibit a number of differentHabitats. These Habitats support a variety of common species.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

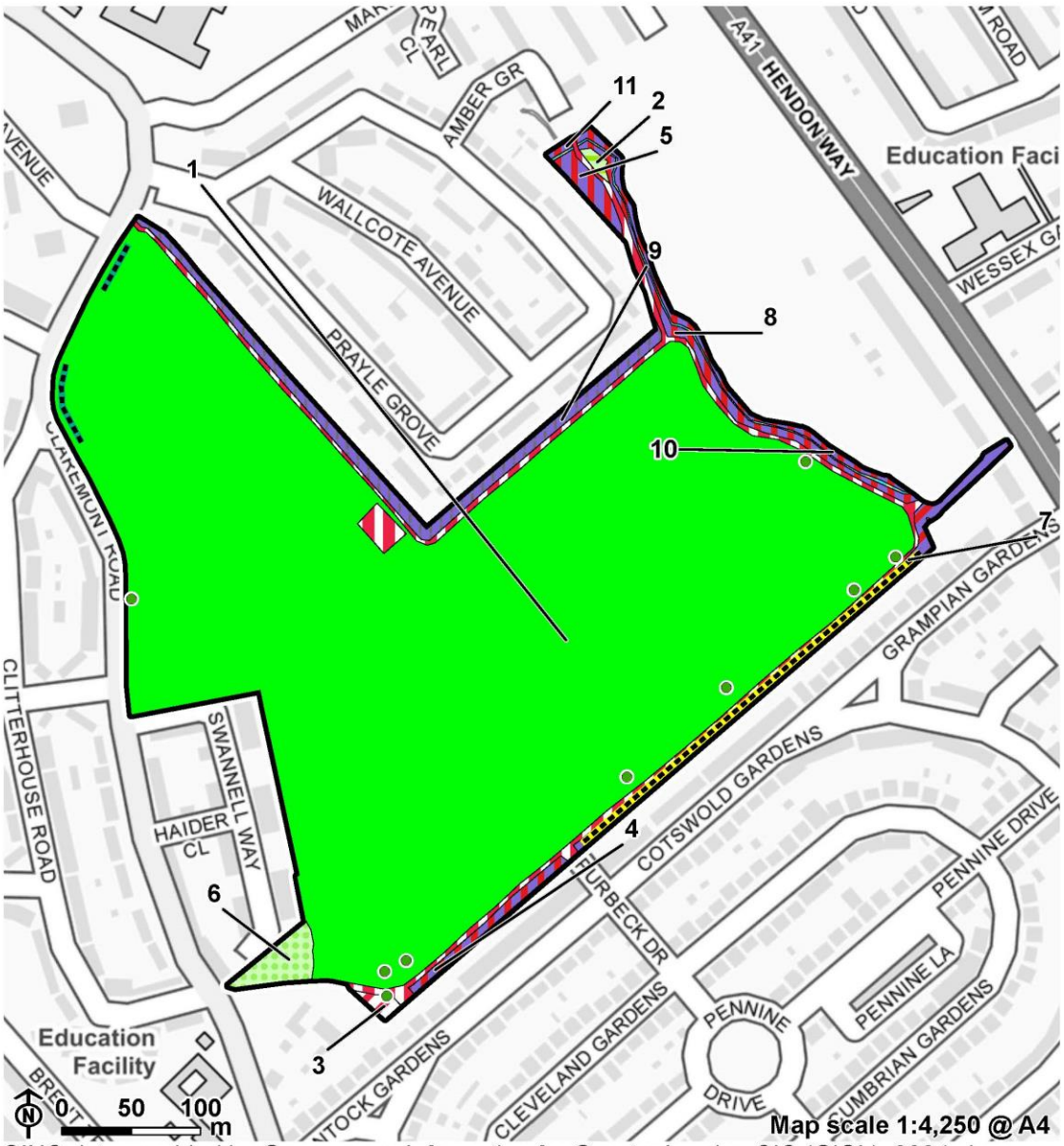
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields
Site information
LUC Site ID: 29
SINC ID: BaL06
SINC Name: Clitterhouse Playing Fields
SINC Grade:
Grid Reference:
Area (ha):
Ward:
Land Use:
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary:
SINC Description:
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:
NE Priority Habitat records:
London BAP Habitat suitability records:
Protected/Notable Species records:
INNS Records:
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Clitterhouse Playing Fields is located in the south of the borough and is surrounded by residential properties. The site is functionally connected to a large area of allotments to the northeast. The site comprises an amenity grassland field with scrub and hedgerows along the east and south boundaries, limited scattered trees and a small stream along the northeast boundary. A small playground was located in the central north of the site.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Poor Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management):

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields
The majority of the Habitat comprised intensely mown amenity grassland, which was eroding along the paths due to high levels of use. Also, the hedgerows and scrub were recently heavily trimmed back.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The centre of the site comprised a recreation field, with dominant perennial rye Lolium perenne, abundant wall barley Hordeum murinum, white clover Trifolium repens, dandelion Taraxacum sp., and ribwort plantain Plantago lanceolata. The grassland was being mown by a tractor whilst on site to a very short sward and had many areas of bare ground where the grass had been eroded due to high use. Along the northeast boundary of the site was a thin strip of scrub which comprised abundant hawthorn Crataegus monogyna, bramble Rubus fruticosus, and hazel Corylus avellana, with frequent field maple Acer campestre, ash Fraxinus excelsior, sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus, oak Quercus robur, rose Rosa canina, Budleia Buddleia sp, and elder Sambucus nigra. The composition of the scrub along the north boundary was similar to that of the northeast boundary, though had more sign of enrichment including abundant nettle Urtica dioica and cleavers Galium aparine. A small stream runs from north to east in the north of the site within the scrub. A hedgerow with mature trees ran the length of the southeast site boundary and included mature sycamore, ash, and horse chestnut Aesculus hippocastanum. The hedgerow species comprised dense bramble, cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus, hazel, and ivy Hedera helix. Along the northwest fence line there were two short trees lines, the species included semi-mature oak and sycamore, and mature cherry Prunus sp. These trees were located within the amenity grassland and along the edge of a busy road. Within the rest of the amenity grassland eight mature urban trees were recorded including horse chestnut and oak. In the south corner of the site, a small section of tall ruderal was identified with species including dominant false oat grass Arrhenatherum elatius, and perennial rye, abundant nettle, ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris, bramble, spear thistle Cirsium vulgare, mugwort Artemisia vulgaris, dock Rumex obtusifolius and yarrow Achillea millefolium, and frequent wall barley and yorkshire fog Holcus lanatus. Located next to this was a small ornamental flowerbed with sunflowers Helianthus spp. and gazanias Gazania spp..
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Litter and dog fowling were major issues within the site. Bins were provided on site but were full and litter was left at the benches and other seating areas. Dog fouling was mainly concentrated along the path edges in the north of the site and along the stream.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: Areas of longer sward grassland will help to increase the ecological diversity of the site and provideHabitat for invertebrates. DeadwoodHabitat creation will also improve the site for invertebrates. Tree planting along the northwest boundary to connect the two small tree lines and provide further ecological connectivity within the site.
Interest: N/A Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees, hedgerows and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The stream provides opportunities for amphibians and fish, as well as commuting and foraging opportunities for birds and bats.
Habitat figure:



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- LUC assessment site
- Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerow with trees
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g3c5 - arrhenatherum neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h2a5 - species-rich native hedgerow
- h3 - dense scrub
- h3d - bramble scrub
- r2 - rivers and streams
- u1 - built-up areas and gardens
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields

Site Photographs:

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields

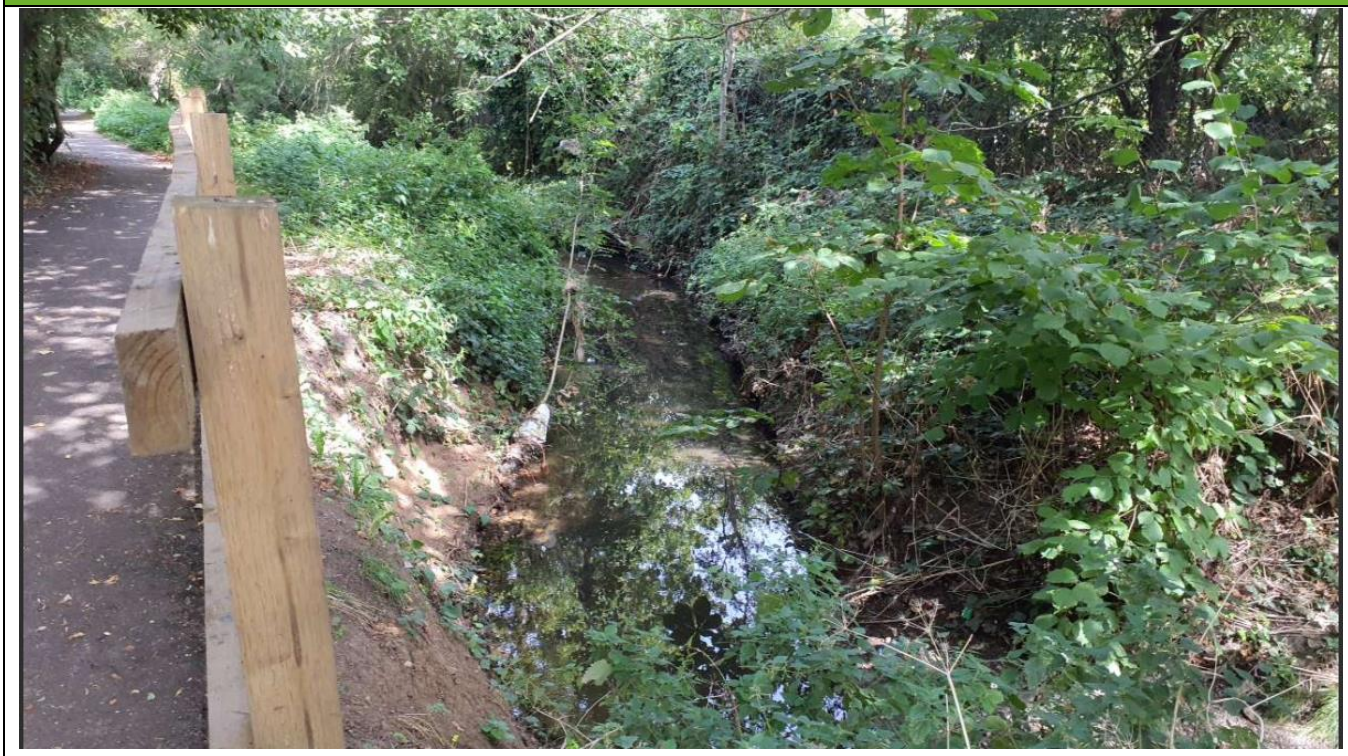
Clitterhouse
Playing Fields
N
Route Overview:
Distance: 1km
Difficulty:
Key
COTSWOLD GARDENS
Fit and Active in Barnet
For more information visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/marked_and_measured_routes
BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields



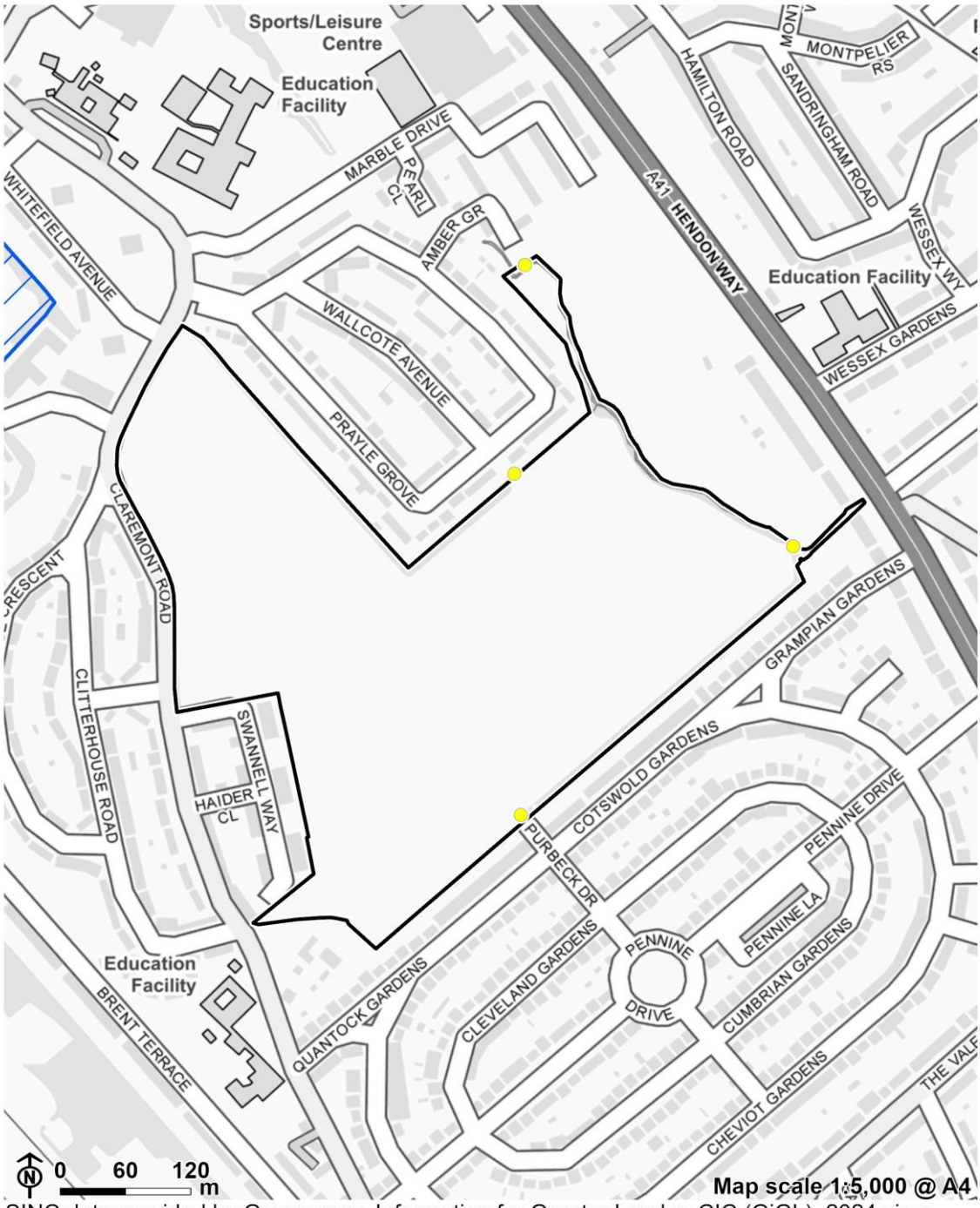
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A

Management Recommendations:

Removal of cherry laurel within the scrub. Relax the mowing regime around the edges of the site to create buffers with a longer sward. Litter management through regular clean-ups of the benches and surroundingHabitat.

BaL06 Clitterhouse Playing Fields
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: AlthoughHabitats present were not the best examples of those in London, the stream is a rarerHabitat in London and therefore is a good example in this urban area and should be protected.
Habitat Rarity: Habitats present were common and widespread, although the stream is a rarerHabitat to be found within London, with many waterbodies now culverted.
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: Majority of the site comprised amenity grassland so was not considered rich inHabitats.
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is 17.32ha which is considered a relatively large green space in the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland and scrub can be easily recreated. However, the stream and mature trees are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: N/A
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: The site is primarily used by walkers and dog walkers, as well as recreational activities.
Potential: There is potential to improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site provides an open green space where people can go to walk and relax.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: At risk
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the Local SINC criteria. It is a relatively large green space comprised of common and widespread Habitats. The site provides an open space for local people. There are signs of high levels of use by the public that is creating negative impacts upon the site including erosion, litter and dog fouling. The recreation area is intensively managed through mowing and has produced grassland with little species diversity. Without further intervention and more relaxed management of the site, it is at risk of being de-designated.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood
Site information
LUC Site ID: 30
SINC ID: BaL13
SINC Name: Cherry Tree Wood
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2753289022
Area (ha): 5.35
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Green Corridors, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: Ancient woodland managed as an attractive local park.
SINC Description: Cherry Tree Wood is a fragment of a once much larger woodland in Great Hornsey Park and can be picked out on Rocque's map of 1754. The many stemmed appearance of the hornbeam trees , Carpinus betulus, today is evidence of the wood's historic management as 'coppice with standards'. The hornbeams were cut back every few years to provide wood for charcoal, whilst the oaks , Quercus robur, would be left to grow to their full height for timber. Since this practice ceased the hornbeams have grown tall and leggy, and the wood has become rather heavily shaded. London Borough of Barnet have re introduced coppicing in places to encourage new growth. Wood anemone , Anemone nemorosa, can be found here in spring with other ancient woodland plants including ramsons , Allium ursinum, and wood sedge , Carex sylvatica, . Nuthatch and great spotted woodpecker can often be sighted, and mistle thrushes forage on the open lawns. The Capital Ring between Hendon and Highgate passes through Cherry Tree Wood.
Management provider: Council
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Dunnock, Greenfinch, Large Skipper, Mistle Thrush, Redwing, Small Copper, Song Thrush
INNS Records: Green Alkanet, Small Balsam, Snowberry, Spanish Bluebell
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet):Reintroduced coppicing of the hornbeams.
Summary of Site: The public park is located in the east of the borough on the boundary. The site is not connected to any other green or SINC sites within the borough or the adjacent one. The park comprises woodland, scrub and grassland, with a children's play area, cafe and tennis courts.
Survey Data

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Cold and windy
Date: 4/24/2024 2:13:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The grassland was very waterlogged.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, Scrub, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The comprised woodland, scrub and grassland, with a children's play area, tennis courts, basketball court, cafe and toilets. The woodland throughout the site included dominant hornbeam and abundant oak. There was little to no understorey or ground flora with rare stands of holly and yew. In the southern tip of the woodland was an area of bramble and hawthorn scrub. Within the centre of the site was short mown amenity grassland. In the north east of the site was an area of grassland with newly planted prunus, hazel and sorbus trees.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Vandalism, Dog fouling: Additional comments: Graffiti was noted on the cafe and toilet buildings. Litter and dog fouling was seen throughout the site.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub establishment Additional comments: Woodland management to create glades for ground flora opportunities. Planting of native scrub such as hawthorn and blackthorn within the woodland to support range of species. Creation of deadwood features.
Interest: Mammals, Birds Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland provided suitable foraging and nesting/roosting opportunities for mammals, bats and birds.
Habitat figure:

Map scale 1:2,750 @ A4

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Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site
- Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

- Native hedgerows

UKHab habitat area*

- g4 - modified grassland
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

2: 10 - scattered scrub

3: 10 - scattered scrub

4: 10 - scattered scrub

5: 32 - scattered trees

6: 32 - scattered trees

7: 32 - scattered trees

8: 823 - children's play space

9: 823 - children's play space

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

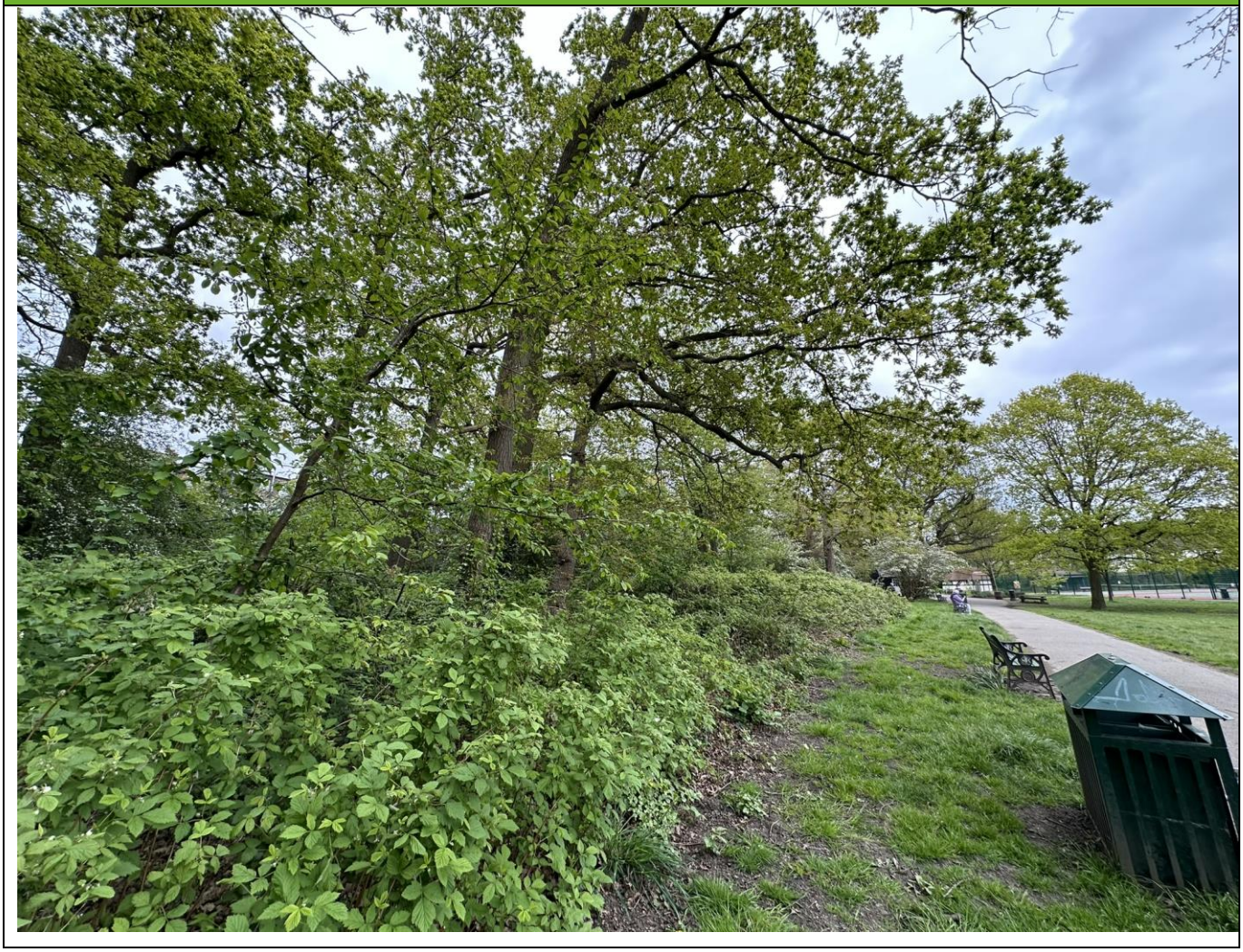
Site Photographs:

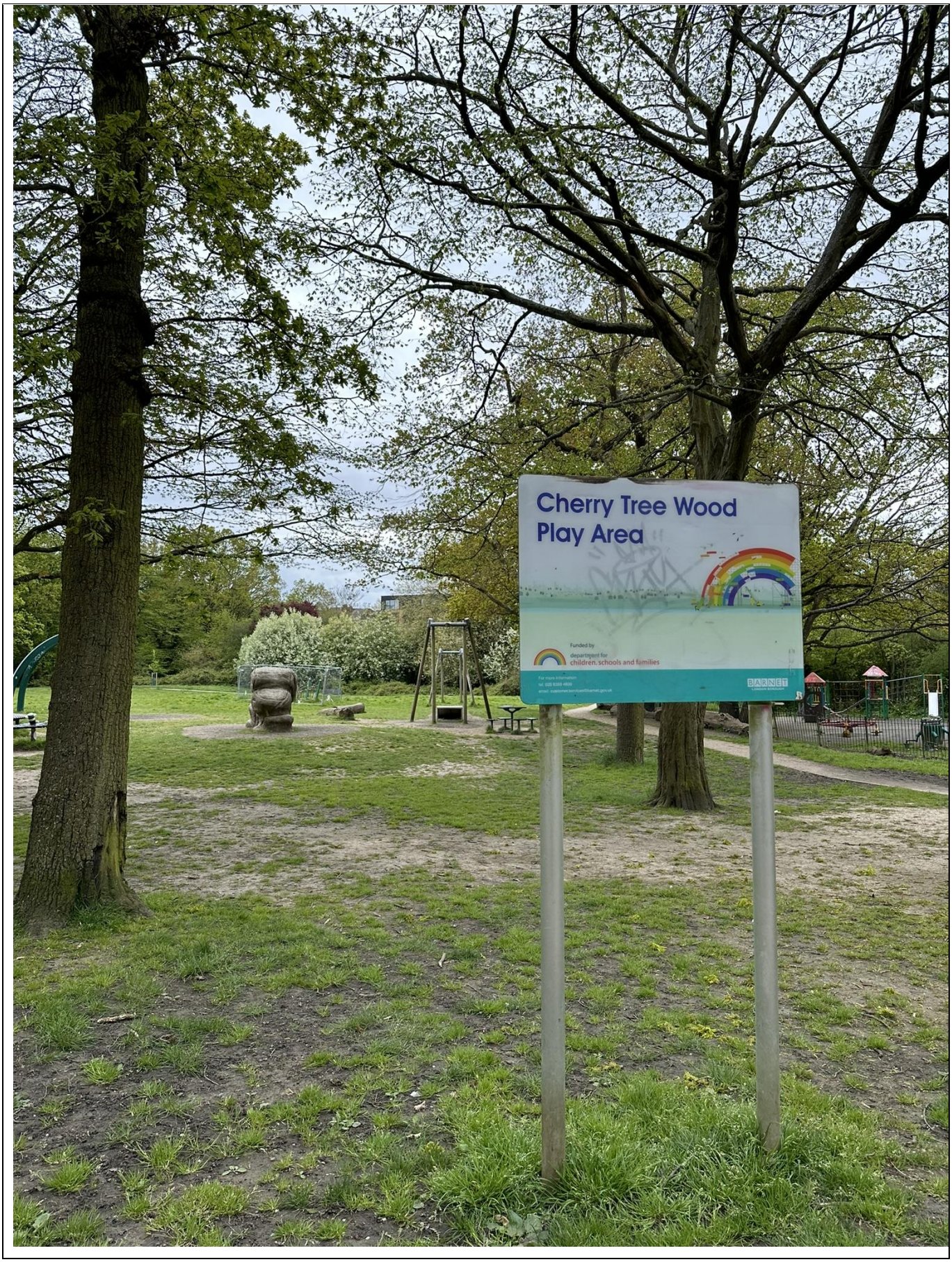
BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

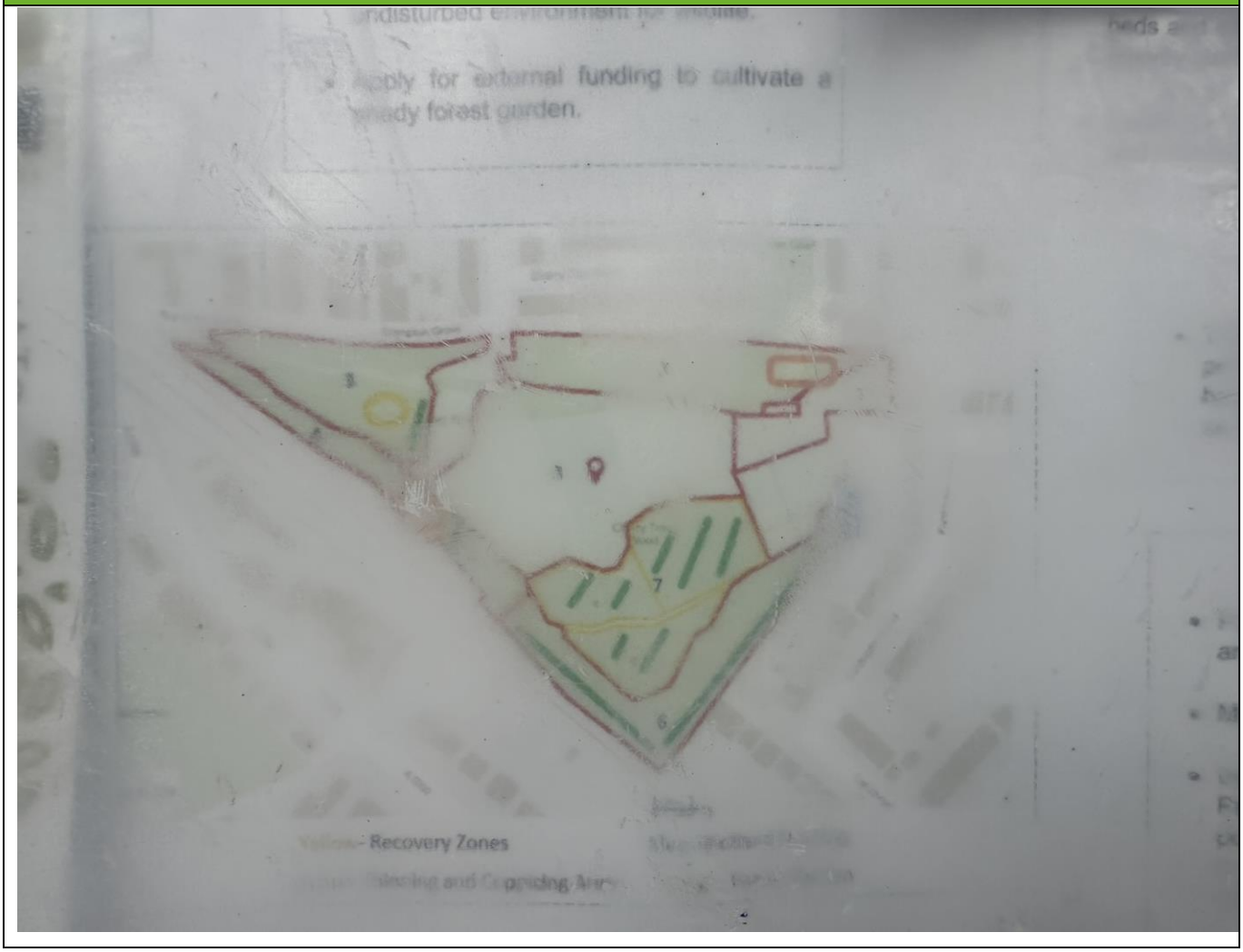



Cherry Tree Wood
Play Area
Funded by
department for
children, schools and families
BARNET

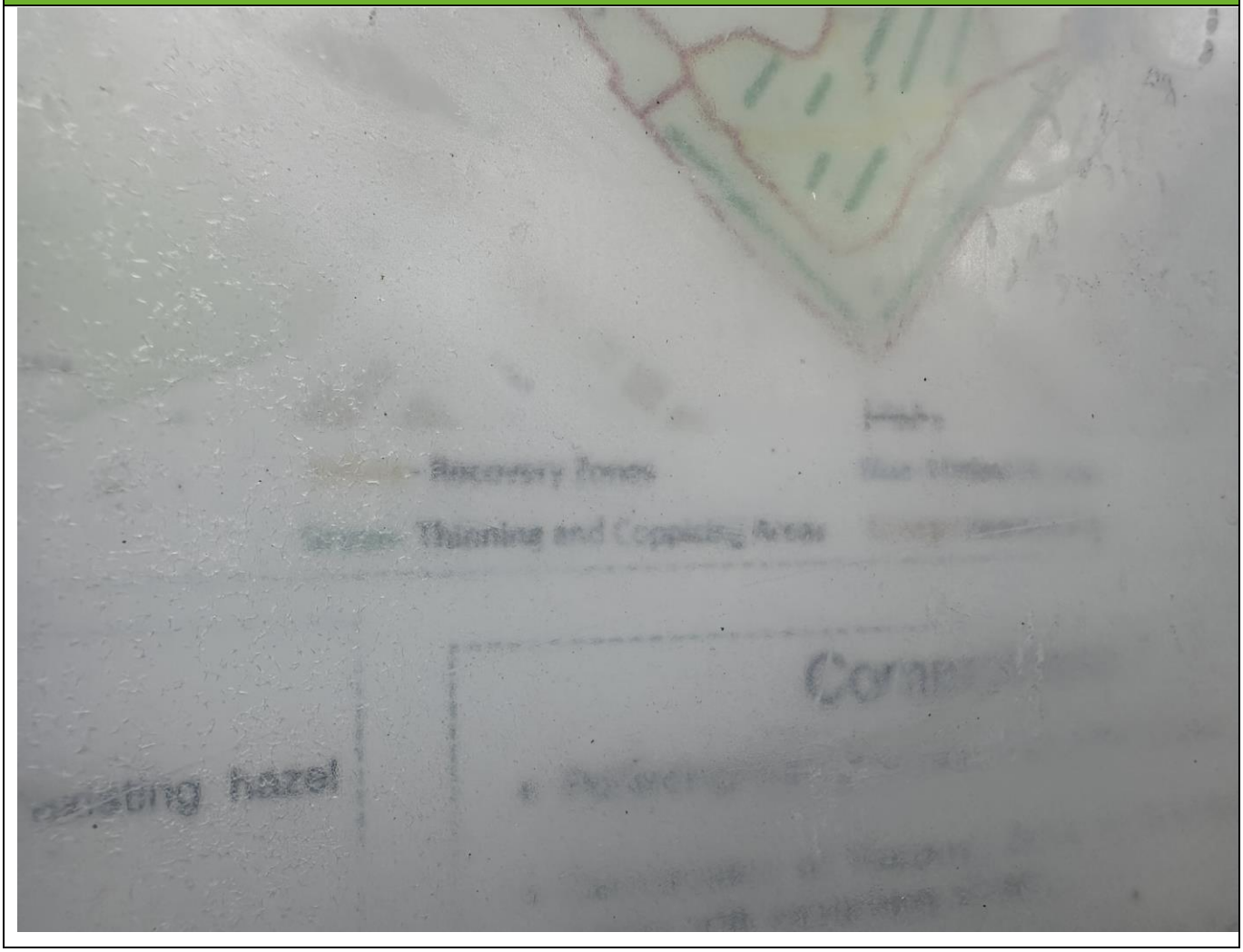
BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood



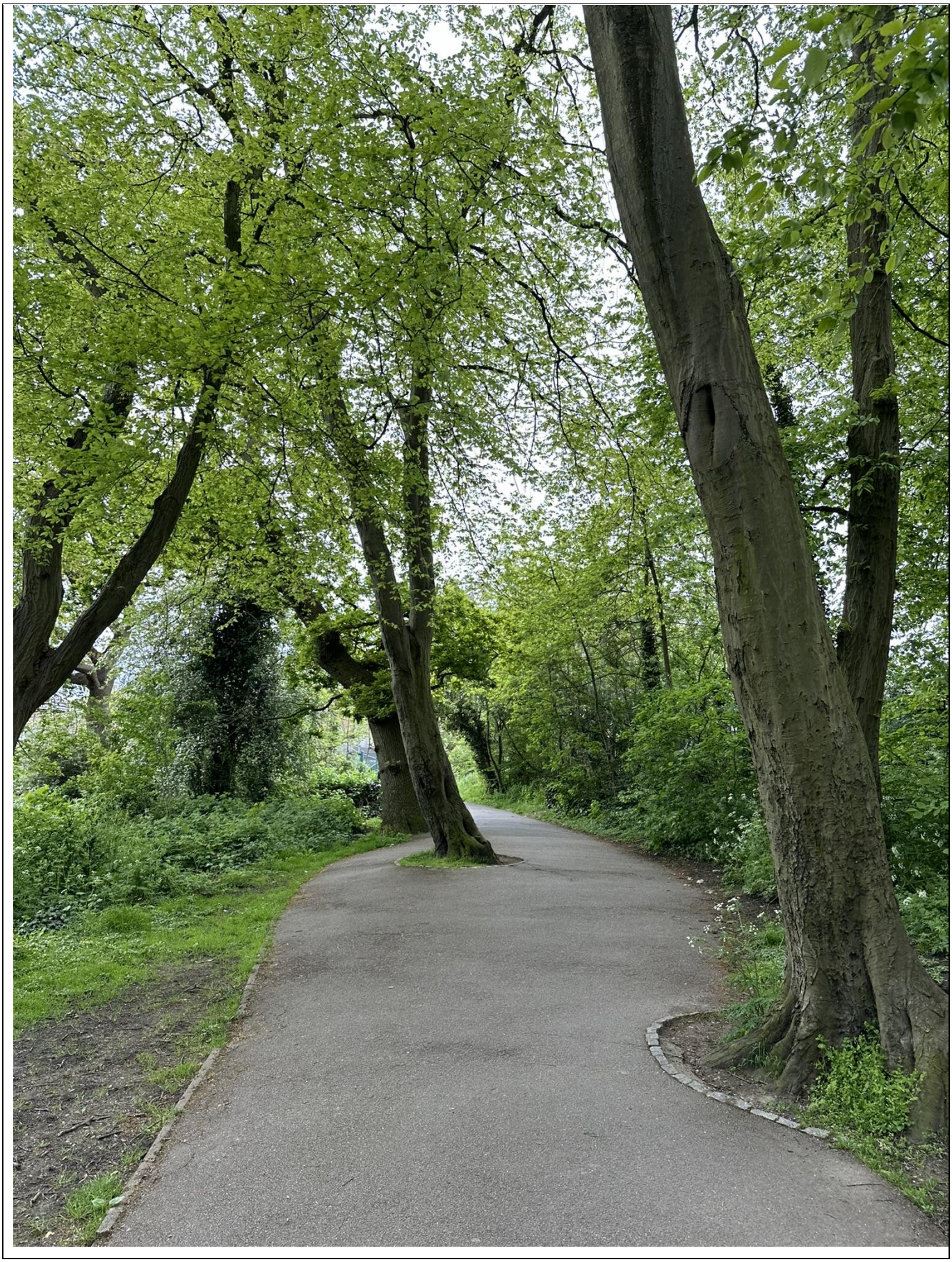
BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood



BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood



BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

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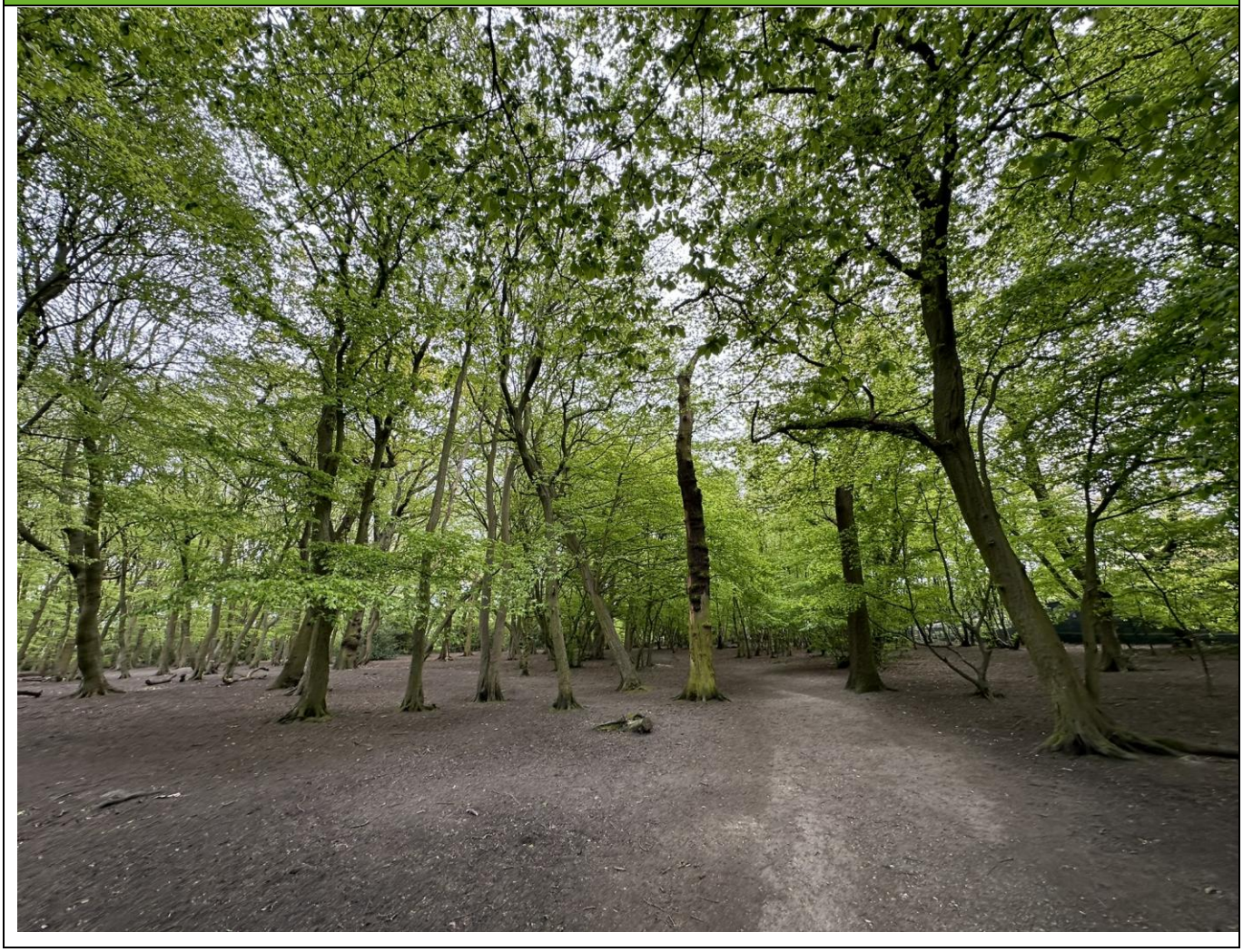
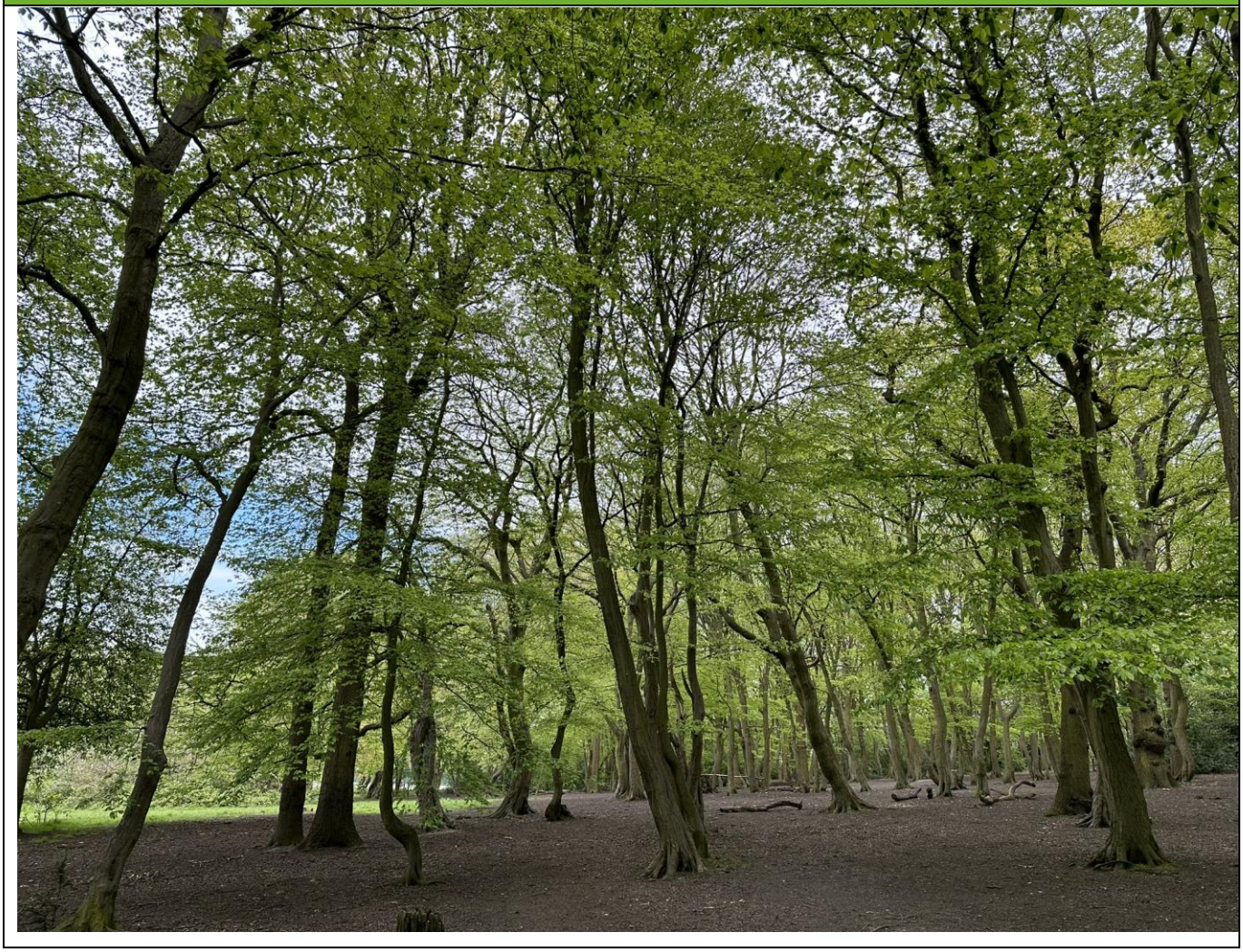


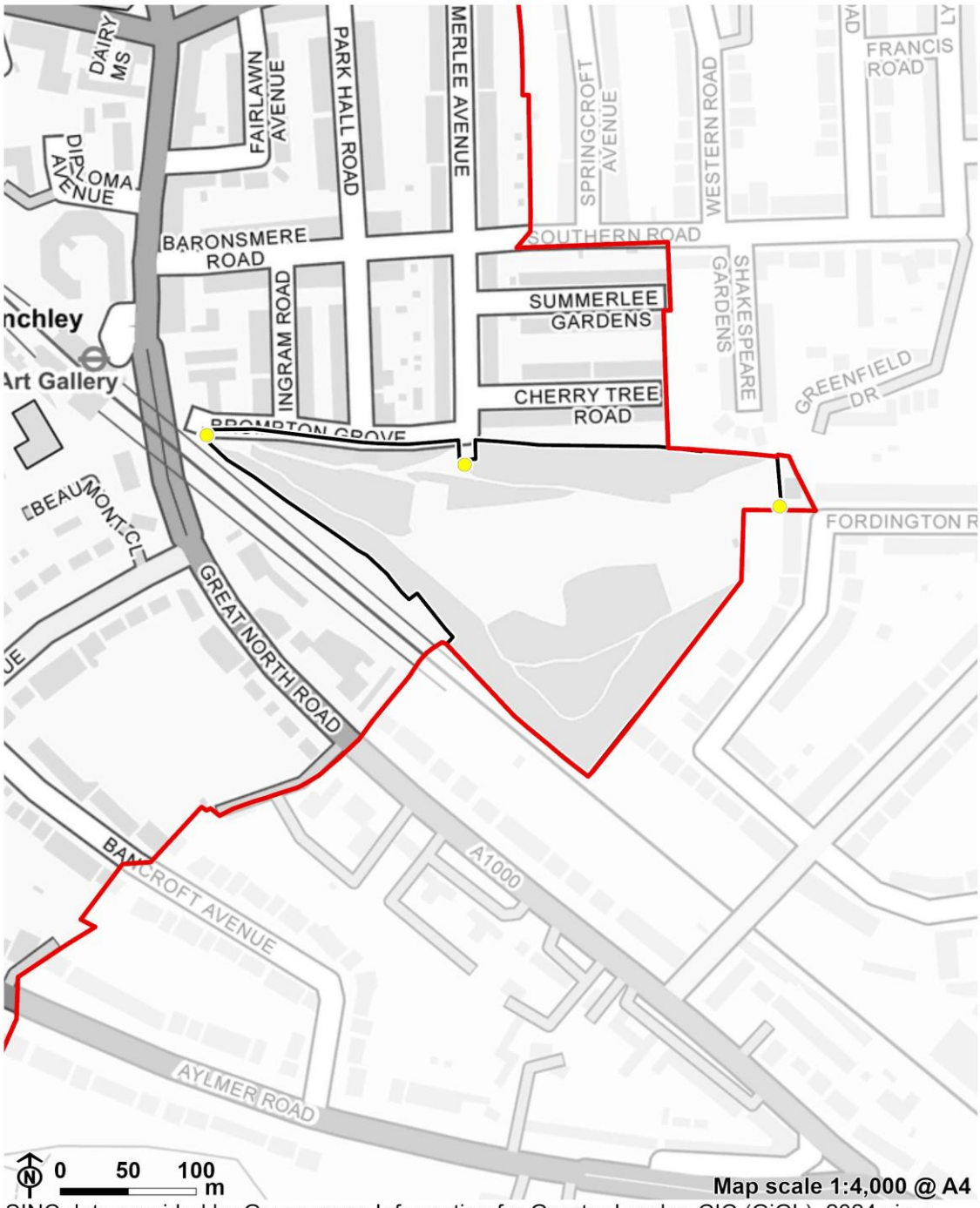
BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood



BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Cutting back area of the dense canopy to allow light through to the ground to create area with ground flora. Planting of wildlife friendly native scrub within the woodland to benefit species such as mammals and birds. Regular litter clean-ups.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): Council have been recently coppicing the hornbeam to manage the woodland.
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: N/A
Species Rarity: Notable bird and invertebrate species that are known to use the site include, Dunnock, Greenfinch, Large Skipper, Mistle Thrush, Redwing, Small Copper, Song Thrush
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The SINC is small for the borough.

BaL13 Cherry Tree Wood
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The woodland would be difficult to recreate given the time taken for the trees to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is on the east boundary of the borough and is not linked to other SINCs or green spaces.
Access: The park is publicly accessible.
Use: The main user groups seen on site were families, dog walkers and locals.
Potential: There is potential to create a diverse understorey and ground flora within the woodland, where it is currently lacking.
Aesthetic Appeal: The woodland and greeness of the site provides an aesthetic appeal.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The publicly accessible park and historic house meet the Local SINC criteria through the Habitats present supporting a wide variety of species, and provide a green space for locals to enjoy.
Site Maps



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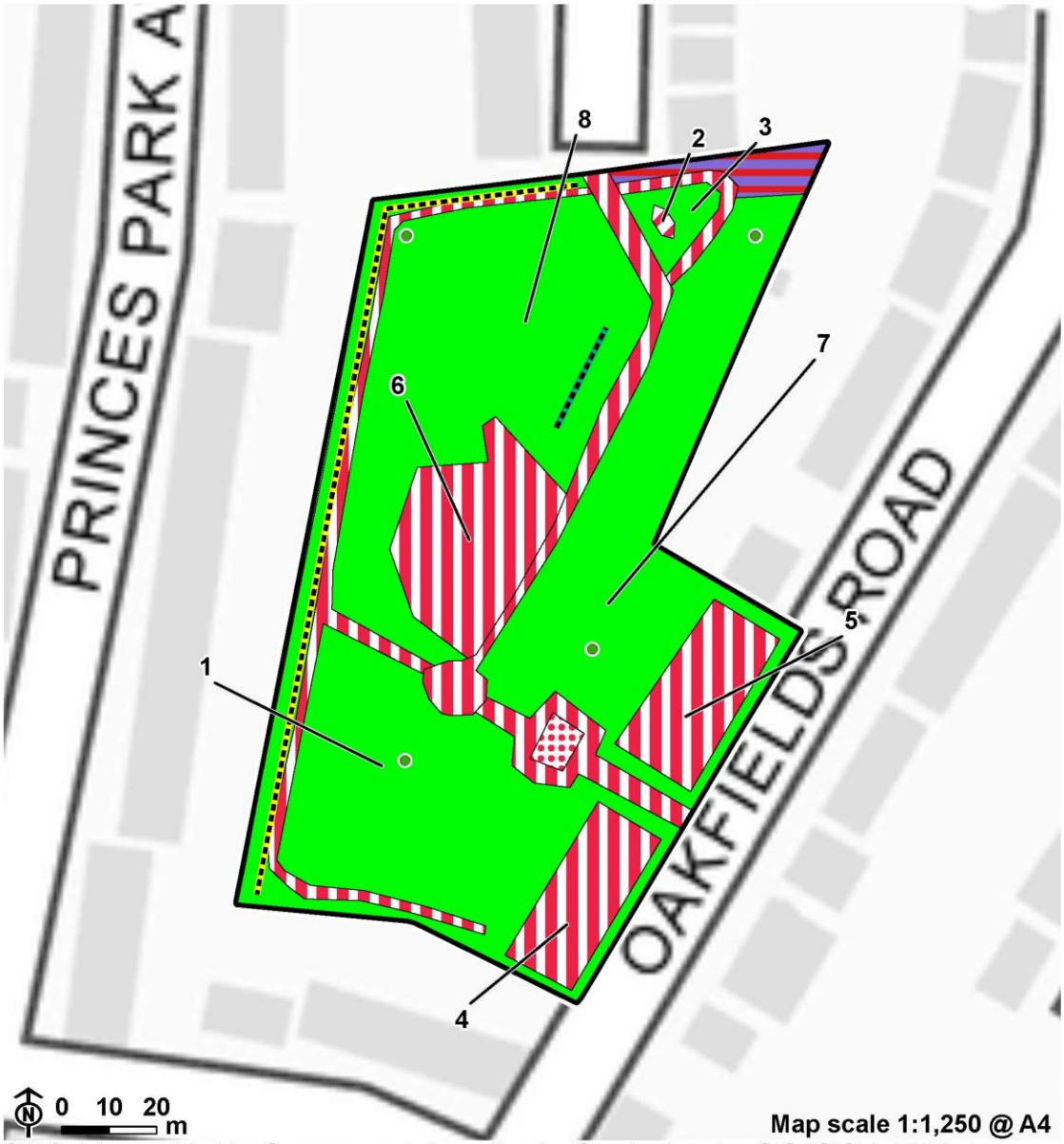
London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL15 Prince's Park
Site information
LUC Site ID: 31
SINC ID: BaL15
SINC Name: Prince's Park
SINC Grade:
Grid Reference:
Area (ha):
Ward:
Land Use:
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary:
SINC Description:
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:
NE Priority Habitat records:
London BAP Habitat suitability records:
Protected/Notable Species records:
INNS Records:
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The is located in the south of the borough ad is not linked to any other SINCs or green spaces in the wider area. The site comprised amenity grassland, scrub, mature trees, tennis courts, café and children's playground. The mature trees provide valuableHabitat for multiple species including nesting birds and invertebrates. The site was highly used at the time of visit by local people, including families, recreational users and dog walkers.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management):

BaL15 Prince's Park
The ornamental flower beds were neat and cared for. The grassland was also recently mowed and hedgerows were cut back to stop encroachments on the pathways along the edges of the site enabling access for people.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The majority of the small site comprised amenity grassland with scattered mature oak trees. In the northeast corner was a number of ornamental flower beds and scattered scrub, including rose Rosa sp., yew Taxus baccata and cherry laurel Prunus laurocerasus. Along the north and west site boundaries ran a hedgerow, with species including pyracantha Pyracantha coccinea, yew, cherry laurel, bramble Rubus fruticosus, bamboo Bambusa sp., sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus, Prunus sp., and hawthorn Crataegus monogyna. Throughout the site ran a set of hardstanding pathways which were lined with park benches. A small children's playground was located in the centre of the site, and two tennis courts in the east. A café building sits between the playground and the courts.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Litter was a minor issue within the site. Bins were provided on site, but were full and litter was left at the benches and other seating areas.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: Areas of longer sward grassland will help to increase the ecological diversity of the site and provideHabitat for invertebrates. This could be concentrated along the edges of the site.
Interest: N/A Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees, hedgerows and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds.
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

Hedgerow with trees

Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

h3h - mixed scrub

u1 - built-up areas and gardens

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

u1b5 - buildings

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 32 - scattered trees

2: 828 - vegetated garden

3: 201 - young trees - planted

4: 821 - artificial sports pitches

5: 821 - artificial sports pitches

6: 823 - children's play space

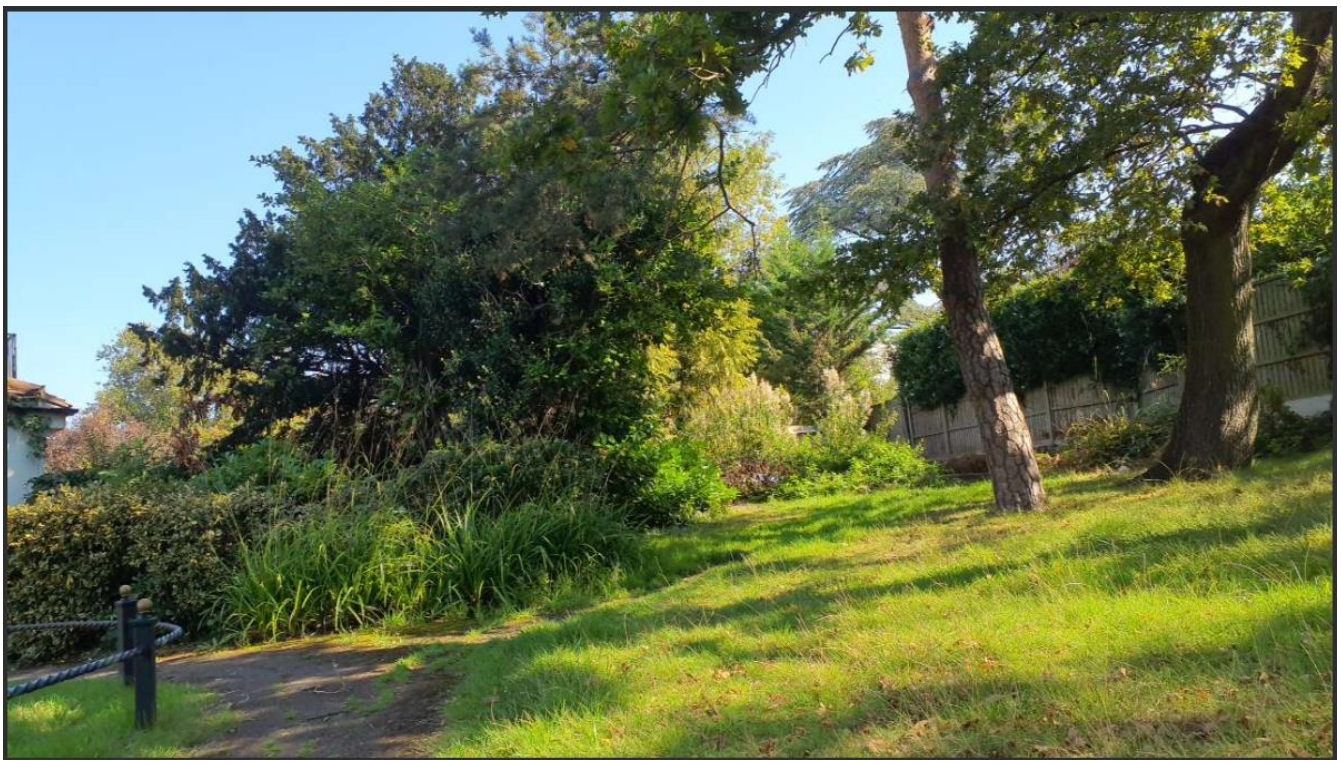
7: 32 - scattered trees

8: 32 - scattered trees

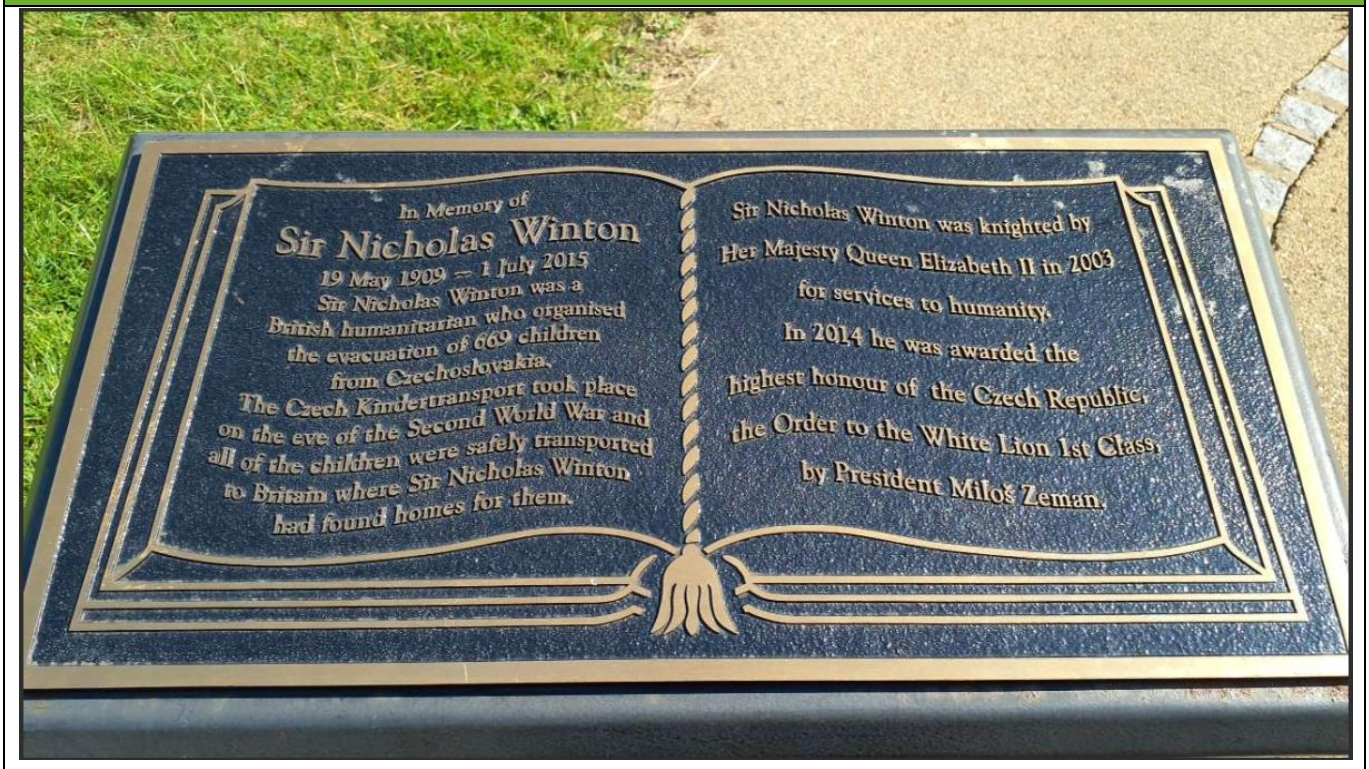
BaL15 Prince's Park

Site Photographs:

BaL15 Prince's Park

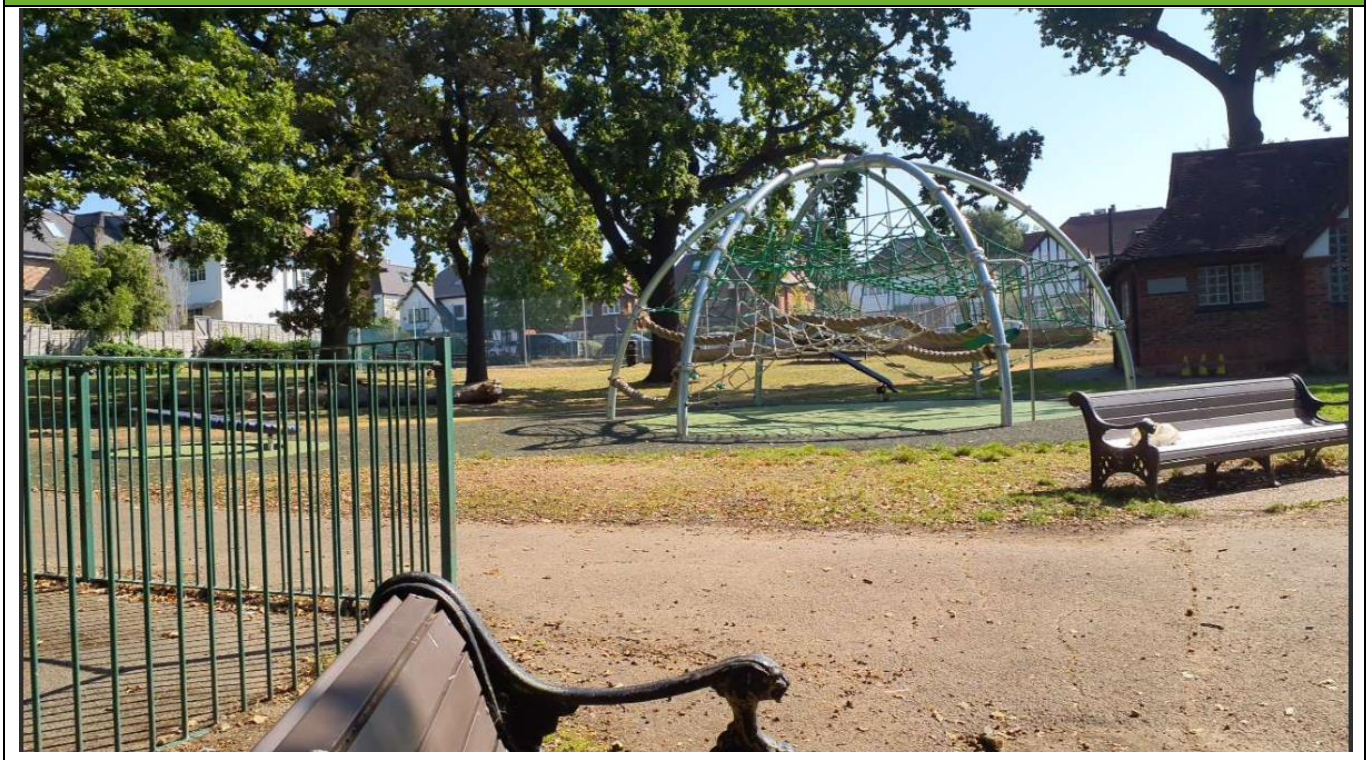


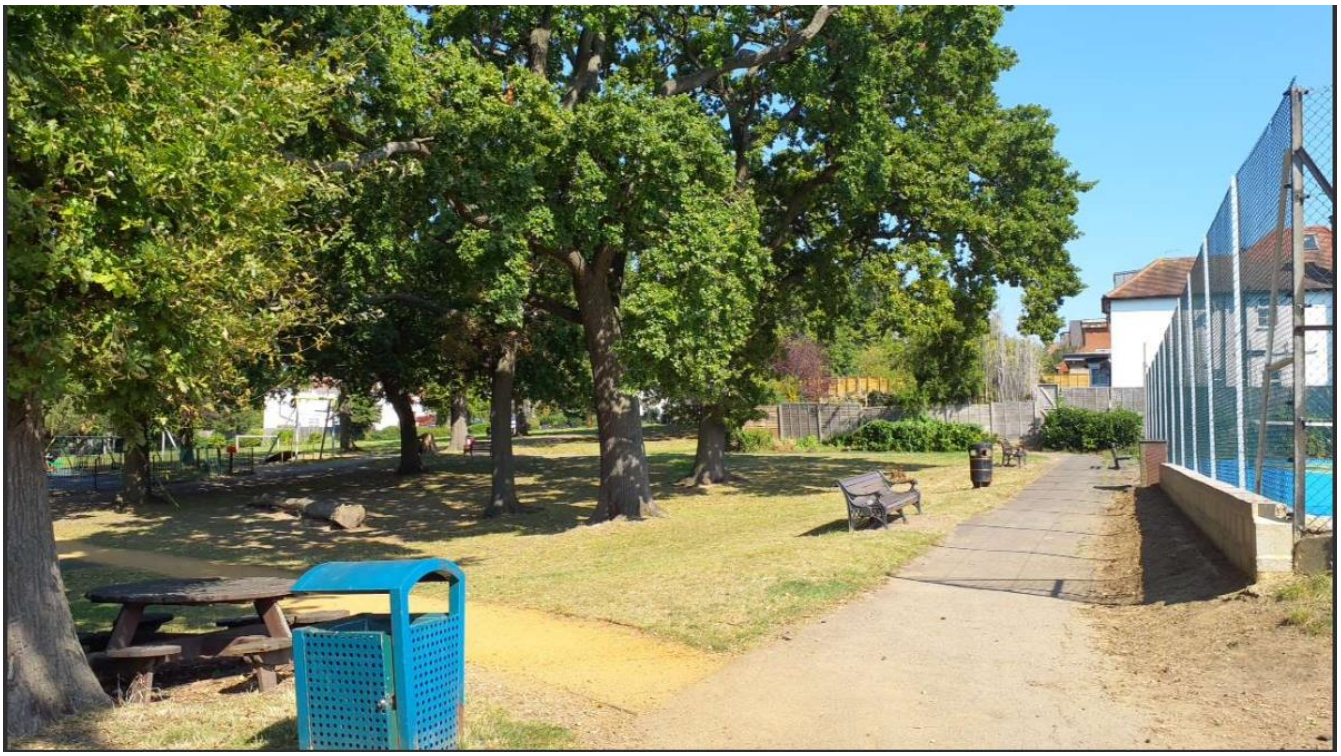
BaL15 Prince's Park



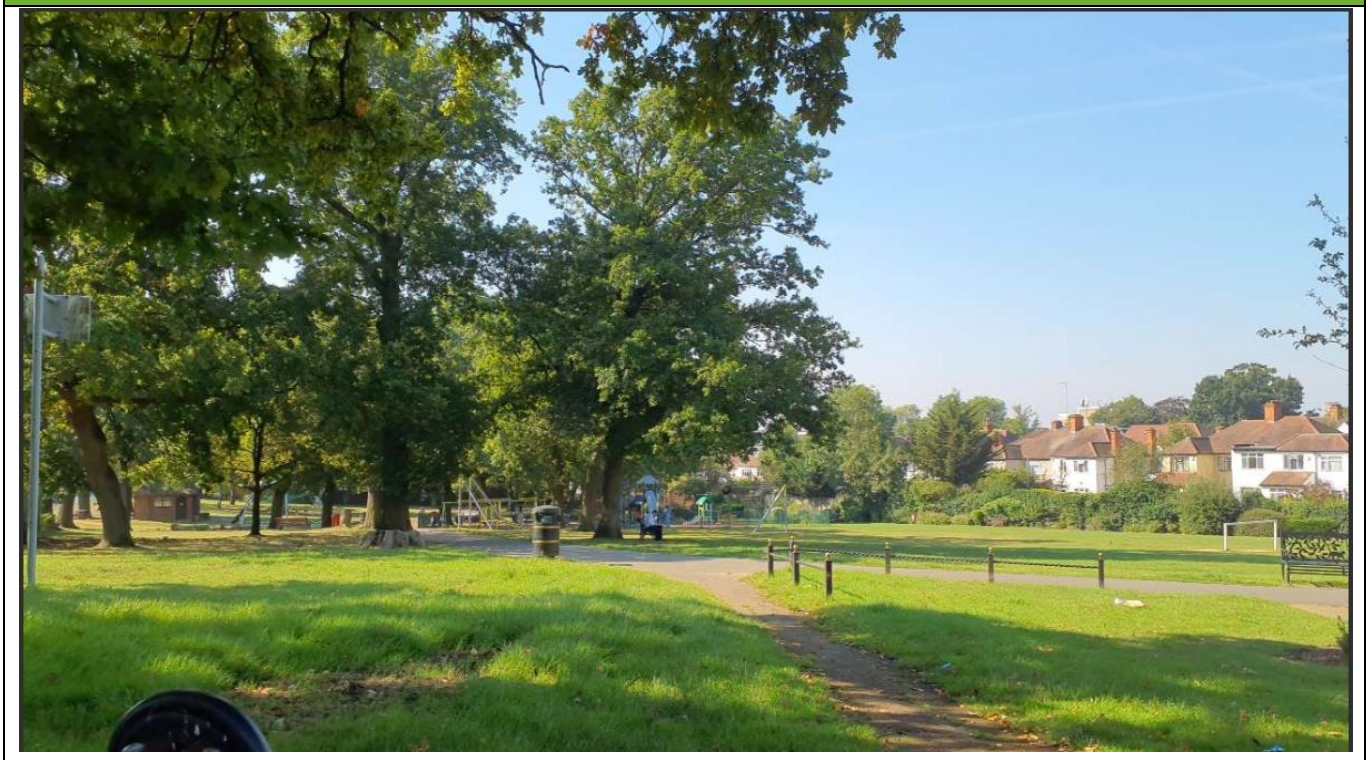
BaL15 Prince's Park

BaL15 Prince's Park





BaL15 Prince's Park



fab
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Annual Season Tickets
Holders can make two 1 hour bookings per week at no extra charge.
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NO DOGS
NO SKATEBOARDING
NO SCOOTERS
NO FOOTBALL OR LARGE BALL
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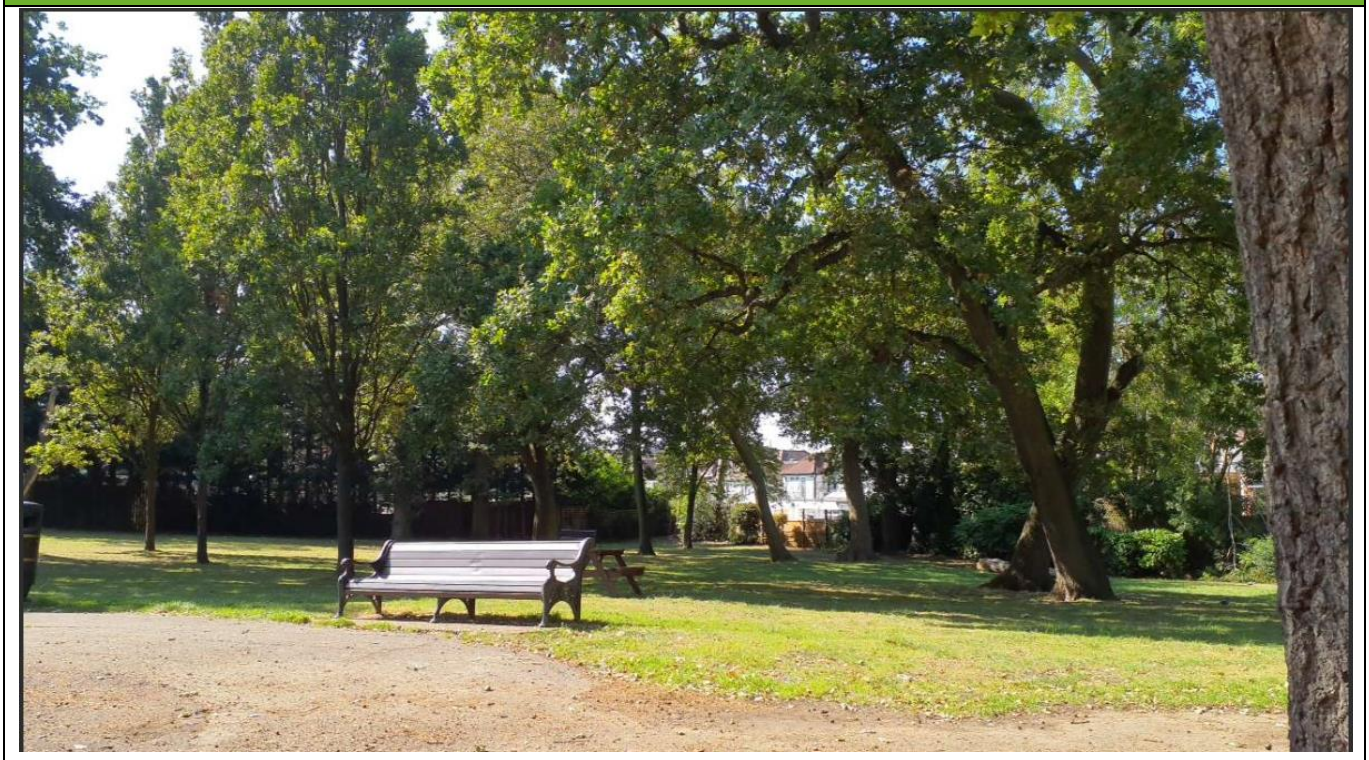
LONDON BOROUGH

BaL15 Prince's Park

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Removal of cherry laurel within the scrub. Relax the mowing regime around the edges of the site to create buffers with longer sard. Litter management through regular clean-ups of the benches and surroundingHabitat.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The oak trees were remnants of a historic woodland and are good examples of mature trees.
Habitat Rarity: Habitats present were common and widespread, although the mature oak trees form part of Natural England priorityHabitat of deciduous woodland.
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: Majority of the site comprised amenity grassland so was not considered rich.
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is 1.42ha, which is a small SINC for the area.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland and scrub can be easily recreated. However, mature trees are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved.
Typical Urban Character: N/A

BaL15 Prince's Park
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The SINC is not ecologically connected to the other SINCs in the borough, but it connected to a network of residential gardens to the north.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: The site is primarily used by locals, families and dog walkers, as well as recreational and sport activities.
Potential: There is potential to improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site provides space where people can go to walk and relax. The mature trees and hedgerows create a green space where people can engage in nature. The ornamental planting and flowering hedgerows also provide an aesthetic appeal.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to meet the Local SINC criteria. It is a small green space comprised of common and widespread Habitats. Mature trees and hedgerows are of higher ecological value. The site provides a green open space for local people. The mature trees and hedgerow provide opportunities for multiple species and provide ecological connectivity within the site and the site provides a stepping stone between the SINCs in the south of the borough.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL14 College Farm
Site information
LUC Site ID: 32
SINC ID: BaL14
SINC Name: College Farm
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2463189751
Area (ha): 3.58
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: Former showpiece dairy farm which has now been bought by a charitable trust and will be reopening as a working farm.
SINC Description: College Farm was built in 1886 by the founder of the Express Dairy Company as a showpiece to promote cleanliness in milk production. Its contribution to London's supply of milk was quite small in quantity but it had great importance as a show place for the public of all that was newest and best in dairy livestock and equipment. Sir George Barham, the farm's founder, was a great innovator and many ideas were pioneered at College Farm which are still in use today. The Department of Transport have owned the farm since 1974, bought to use as exchange land for a planned road improvement of the North Circular Road. Chris and Jane Owner became the tenant farmers in 1976, with the intention of keeping the farm for what it was originally intended as a place the public can visit and see farming in an otherwise urban area. They stocked the buildings with farm animals and opened the farm to the public on a daily basis in 1980, also taking around groups of school children and holding special event days each month. In excess of 35, 000 visitors a year came to College Farm until the doors closed at the start of the foot and mouth epidemic in February 2001. From then on discussions were held between the Department of Transport, English Heritage, Heritage Lottery and the College Farm Trust to try to secure the future of College Farm. Finally, in November 2006, College Farm Trust, a charitable organisation, purchased College Farm and, after necessary improvements to the listed buildings and derelict areas, intend to restore the site as a working farm and create an educational centre and museum, before re opening to the public. Currently, an equestrian shop and a pet food and supplies shop occupy the farm buildings. The trees and scrub around the fields provideHabitat for common birds. Pipistrelle bats have been recorded.
Management provider: College Farm Trust, a charitable organisation.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: No PHI within site.
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Pipistrelle Bat species
INNS Records: No invasive species were detected at site however this does not mean they are absent from the site .
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site:

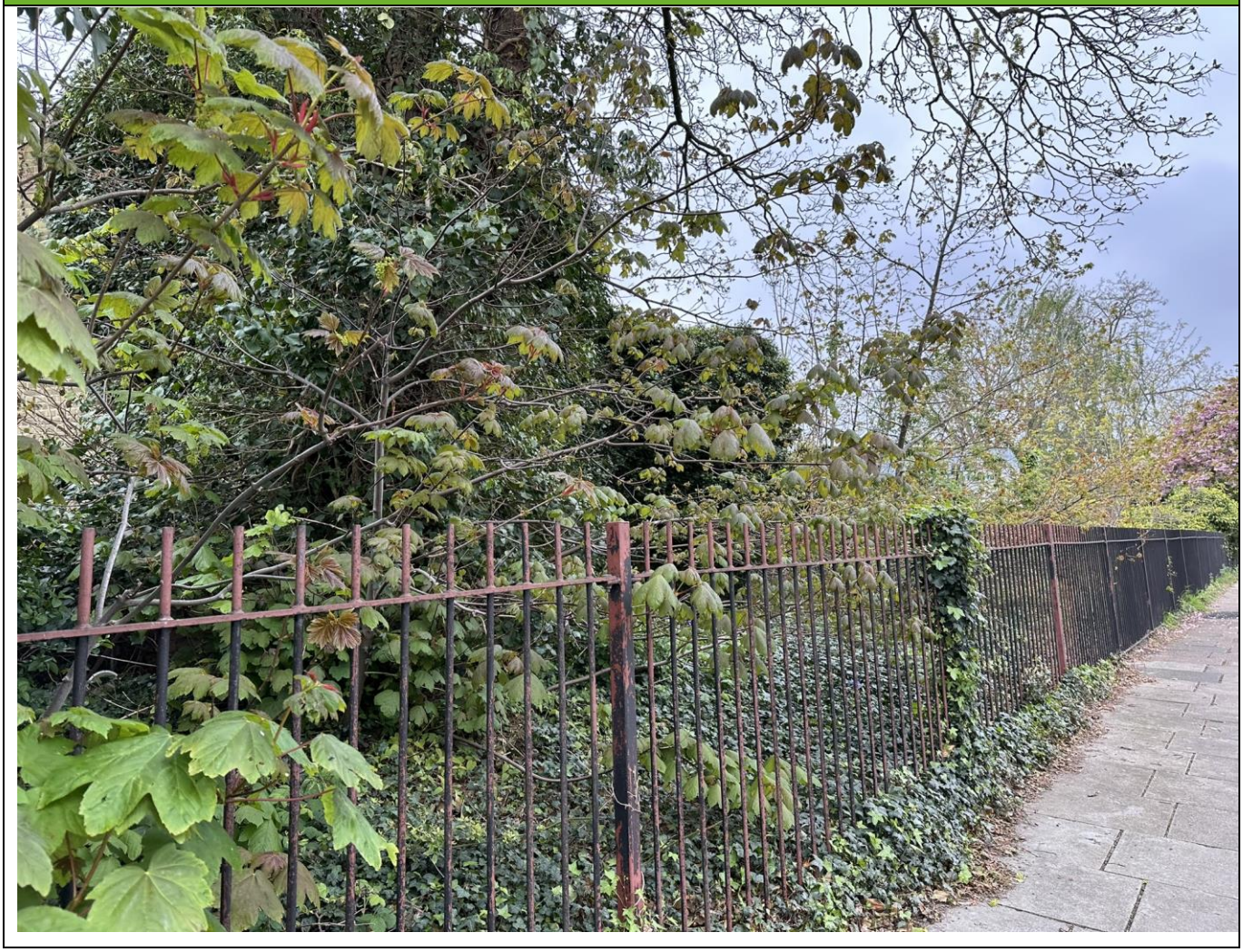
BaL14 College Farm
The site was located in the central south of the borough and was not functionally connected to any other green sites within the borough. The site comprised old stables, grassland pasture and an avenue of trees.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Wet and windy
Date: 4/23/2024 2:46:00 PM
Survey access: View
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The grassland was not under a current mowing regime and had been left to grow long.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The grassland was a very long sward and comprised multiple small fields, the species included meadow foxtail, perennial rye grass, Yorkshire fog, cocks foot, dandelion, red dead nettle, creeping buttercup and nettle. Through the centre of the site was a line of Italian poplar trees. Surrounding the stable blocks in the west of the site were small patches of scrub, including bramble, hawthorn, ivy, rose, yew and cleavers. A number of scattered trees also line the buildings, these comprise sycamore and oak.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Graffiti was noted on the north corner of one of the stable blocks.
Ecological opportunities on site: Meadow creation, Tree hedge, Wildlife friendly Additional comments: The creation of hedgerows or line of trees along the boundaries of the site will provide ecological connectivity through the site and provide commuting and foragingHabitats for bats and birds. Wildlife friendly planting within the field will also benefit invertebrates and small mammals.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The avenue of trees provide a commuting route and foragingHabitat for bats and birds. The grassland fields provide suitable foragingHabitat for invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaL14 College Farm

BaL14 College Farm

BaL14 College Farm

BaL14 College Farm

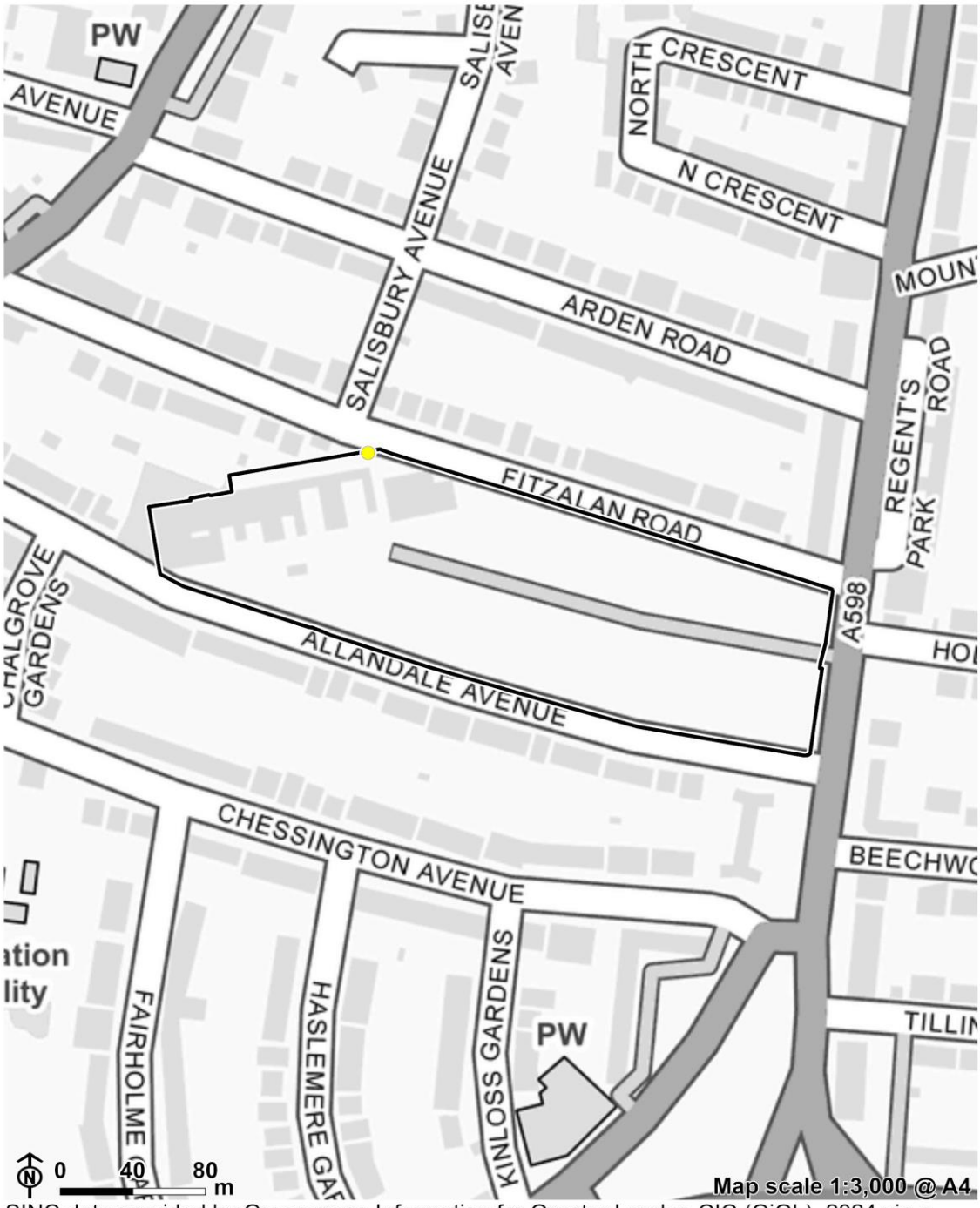


BaL14 College Farm

BaL14 College Farm

BaL14 College Farm
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: N/A
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: N/A
Species Rarity: Records of pipistrelles bats within the site have been noted.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The SINC is small and non accessible.
Important populations of species: N/A

BaL14 College Farm
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: N/A
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is in the central south of the borough and isn't connected to any other SINC sites.
Access: The site was not publicly accessible.
Use: The site did not seem to be used, the stable block currently trades as an equestrian and pet store
Potential: There is an opportunity to create furtherHabitats within the site such as hedgerows, tree lines and wildlife friendly planting.
Aesthetic Appeal: N/A
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: At risk
SINC Conclusion: The site does not meet the criteria for a local SINC without large management intervention and opening the site up for access to locals.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Access point

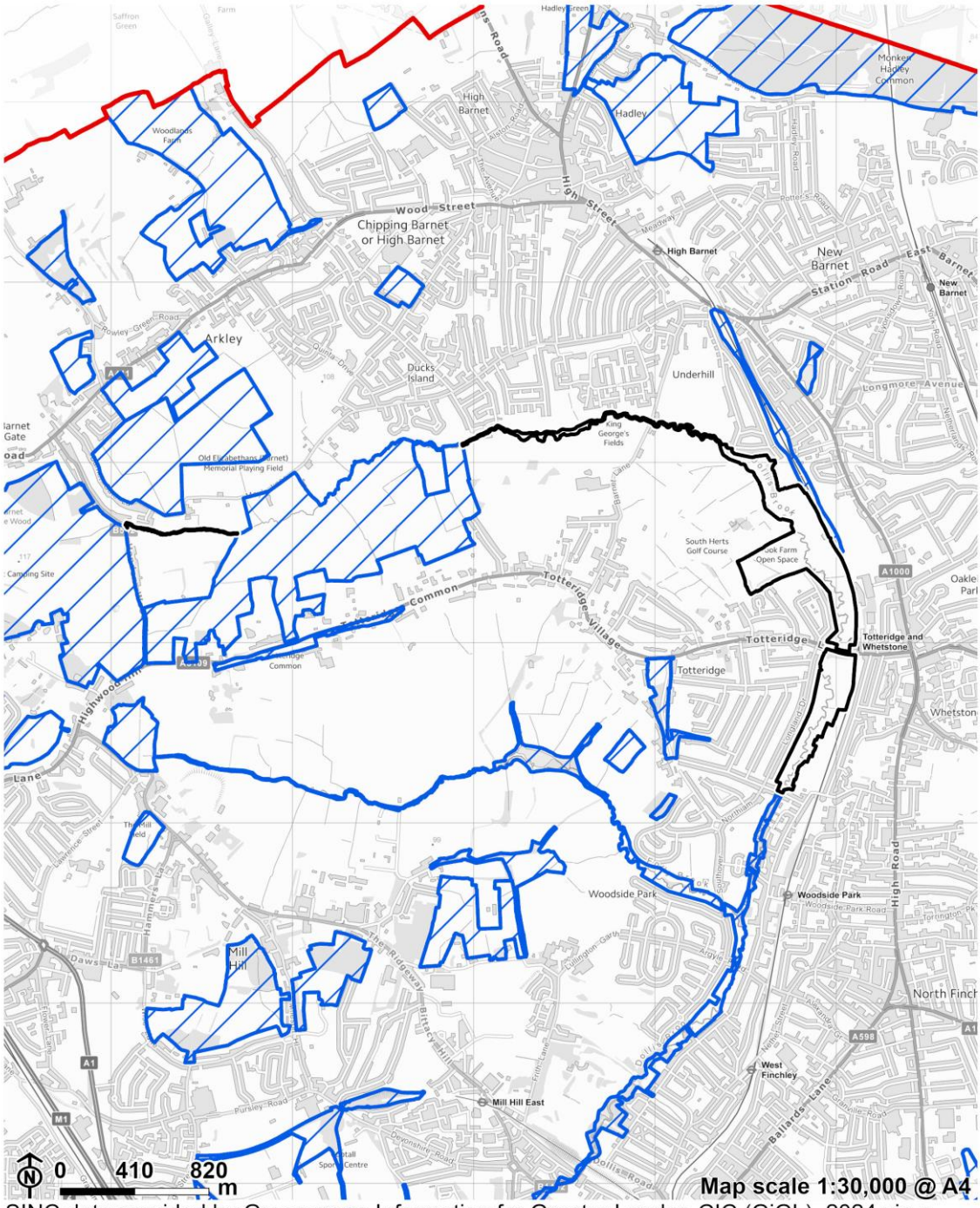
BaBI08 Upper Dollis Brook
Site information
LUC Site ID: 33
SINC ID: BaBI08
SINC Name: Upper Dollis Brook
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2575294458
Area (ha): 39.74
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Green Corridors, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: An attractive section of the Dollis Brook, winding through flower rich fields with fine hedges and small woods.
SINC Description: The Dollis Brook winds its way through farmland and playing fields for about 6 kilometres between Arkley and Woodside Park. This includes a section within the Totteridge Fields Site of Metropolitan Importance. For much of its course it meanders between natural banks, with clear water and a clay or gravel bed, though some sections are restrained by concrete cladding or wooden toe boards. The steam is largely fringed with a narrow strip of woodland, making it too shady for aquatic plants. Where there is sufficient sunlight, water starwort (Callitriche sp.), Canadian waterweed (Elodea canadensis) and broad leaved pondweed (Potamogeton natans) grow beneath the water, with yellow iris (Iris pseudacorus), water pepper (Persicaria hydropiper), fool's watercress (Apium nodiflorum), great reedmace (Typha latifolia), marsh woundwort (Stachys palustris) and branched bur reed (Sparganium erectum) in the margins. Kingfishers, grey wagtails and moorhens can be seen along the stream. The surrounding countryside of Duck's Island, Wyatt's Open Space, Brook Farm Open Space and Whetstone Stray includes some quite herb rich meadows, some of them damp, with plants such as sneezewort (Achillea ptarmica), oval sedge (Carex ovalis), devil's bit scabious (Succisa pratensis), cuckooflower (Cardamine pratensis), meadow crane's bill (Geranium pratense and meadowsweet (Filipendula ulmaria). There are also some fine old hedges, which include uncommon shrubs such as spindle (Euonymus europaeus) and buckthorn (Rhamnus cathartica), and small areas of woodland and scrub. The Dollis Valley Greenwalk follows most of the Dollis Brook through this section, and the London LOOP follows a large part of it.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Butterfly, Common Frog, Common Toad, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, European Water Vole, Greenfinch, House Sparrow, Kingfisher, Large Skipper, Lesser Whitethroat, Little Egret, Mistle Thrush, Red Hemp nettle, Redwing, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Skipper, Smaller Tree mallow, Song Thrush, Stag Beetle, Strawberry Clover, West European Hedgehog
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Canadian Waterweed, Chinese Muntjac, Giant Hogweed, Goat's rue, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Snowberry, Turkey Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No

BaBI08 Upper Dollis Brook
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Upper Dollis Brook runs from the northwest to the centre of the borough and is shaded almost entirely by fringing woodland. The most westerly area, separated from the rest of the SINC boundary, is more open with a few scattered trees bordering the brook. Upper Dollis Brook is bordered by notably more naturalHabitats than Lower Dollis Brook, including woodland and semi-improved neutral grassland.
Survey Data
Surveyor: JB
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The majority of Habitats were in good condition, including mature trees and longer, diverse grassland areas.Habitats provide opportunities for a variety of species with the current management practices in place. Himalayan balsam was dominating in areas, this invasive species will need ongoing management and removal. Some pathways through the woodland towards the south were overgrown and difficult to access.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species-rich neutral grassland Other rivers and streams Parks and urban greenspaces Woodland Scrub Native Hedgerow
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Open landscapes with ancient/veteran trees
Habitat survey description: The site comprises the upper region of the Dollis brook which is predominantly shaded by woodland with little aquatic and marginal plants. Marginal plants included pendulous sedge Water quality is generally good, with shallower areas in the north. Himalayan balsam Impatiens glandulifera is locally dominant in some sections. The woodland fringe is generally narrow, linear strips, with a wider area towards the south. In the north, adjacent to the east of the brook, are recreational fields with shortly mown amenity grassland lacking diversity with species limited to perennial rye gras Lolium perenne, white clover Trifolium repens and dandelion Taraxacum officinale. Patches of locally dominant nettle Urtica dioica and field bindweed Convolvulus arvensis were also noted. Further down the brook, in the middle – south, adjacent fields are more diverse with coarser species indicative of semi-improved neutral grassland. Given the lateness in the flowering season, forbes were difficult to identify, although creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, white clover Trifolium repens and meadowsweet Filipendula ulmaria were noted. Grass species included Timothy grass Phleum pratense, cock's-foot Dactylis glomerata, Agrostis sp., Yorkshire fog Holcus lanatus, perennial rye grass Lolium perenne, false oat grass Arrhenatherum elatius. Mature and veteran trees are scattered within the grassland areas. Overgrown native hedgerows intersected the fields with species including blackthorn Prunus spinosa, hawthorn Crataegus monogyna, dog rose Rosa canina, elder Sambucus nigra, spindle Euonymus europaeus and buckthorn Rhamnus cathartica. To the west of the brook, opposite Brook Farm Open Space, denser scrub dominated by bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. was noted with tall ruderal species including willowherb Epilobium sp., creeping thistle Cirsium arvense and Himalayan balsam Impatiens glandulifera.
Threats and Disturbances: Fly tipping

BaBI08 Upper Dollis Brook
Invasive species Litter: Additional comments: Himalayan balsam Impatiens glandulifera, which was noted throughout, is a key threat, particularly in the fields to the west of the brook, opposite Brook Farm Open Space. This area was almost completely dominated by Himalayan balsam and was almost inaccessible given the density of the growth. This should be removed and controlled. Fly tipping of items such as an old plastic seesaw was noted in the brook, as well as some litter in the brook and adjacent grassland. Dog fouling was well managed and erosion was minimal, with clear hard standing pathways throughout and erosion limited to less ecologically valuable areas, such as shortly mown amenity grassland.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing regime Meadow creation wetland creation/enhancement Tree/hedgerow planting Scrub establishment/management Deadwood heabitat creation Additional comments: Selective felling of trees within the woodland fringing the brook to enhance light levels and encourage the growth of aquatic plants. Any trees felled should be left within the woodland to create deadwoodHabitats. Create a buffer of long grassland between the brook / woodland and amenity grassland by relaxing the mowing regime in northern section. Control injurious weeds including creeping thistle Cirsium arvense and nettle Urtica dioica. Control and eradicate invasive species. Plant trees within localised areas of the open grassland fields, with species resilient to climate change and beneficial to local wildlife.
Interest: Birds Mammals Reptiles Amphibians Invertebrates Higher plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees, hedgerows and woodland provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. Longer meadow areas and scrub provide foraging and sheltering opportunities for invertebrates and deadwood within woodland parcels provide opportunities for saproxylic species. The brook provides opportunities for amphibians, as well as commuting and foraging opportunities for birds and bats. Scrub, woodland and hedgerows provide sheltering opportunities for amphibians and reptiles.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Control and eradicate invasive species. Manage pathways in the woodland in the south, where areas are becoming overgrown and inaccessible. Litter and fly tipping management through regular clean-ups of the brook and surroundingHabitat. Continue the existing meadow management regime to retain long swards, which support species diversity.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A

BaBI08 Upper Dollis Brook
SINC Criteria
Representation: AlthoughHabitats present were not the best examples of those in London, the brook is a rarerHabitat in London and therefore is a good example in this urban area and should be protected. Mature native hedgerows were also good examples within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: Habitats present were common and widespread, although the brook is a rarerHabitat to be found within London, with many waterbodies now underground. Mature native hedgerows and woodland are also rarer in London.
Species Rarity: The desk study identified a number of protected and notable species within the site, notably water vole, which are rare and declining throughout the UK and particularly rare in London. Hedgehogs, which are also in fast decline, have been recorded on Site and birds such as kingfisher and little egret have been noted. Rare hedgerow species include spindle and buckthorn are also present on Site. For further detail, refer to the Protected/Notable species above.
Habitat Richness: The site comprises the brook, semi-improved neutral grassland with different management styles, amenity grassland, scrub, woodland, hedgerows, and scattered mature broadleaved trees which is considered relatively rich given the sub-urban London context.
Species Richness: The site supports a range of common and widespread floral and faunal species, as well as rarer species, as discussed above in the 'Species Rarity' section. These species are supported by a diverse range of Habitats within the site, in particular the brook itself, which is a rarerHabitat to be found in London and is likely to present a valuable source in a relatively urban area.
Size: The site is 39.74ha which is considered a relatively large size and it spans across a large part of the borough, providing terrestrial and aquatic ecological connectivity making this site strategically important within the SINC network. It offers connecti
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland and scrub can be easily recreated. However, brook, mature trees and hedgerows and woodland are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The Upper Dollis Brook runs from the northwest to the centre of the borough and includes a section which runs through the Totteridge Fields Metropolitan SINC site, as well as Duck's Island, Wyatt's Open Space, Brook Farm Open Space and Whetstone Stray. The site connects with Lower Dollis Brook SINC and together they connect up the north and south of the borough and are of strategic significance within the SINC network.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: The site is primarily used by walkers and dog walkers, as well as recreational activities and relaxing in nature.
Potential: There is potential to enhance the ecological value of the site, through control and eradication of INNS such as Himalayan balsam, which likely requires a catchment scale approach. Additionally, tree management is required along the brook in order to increase light levels and encourage aquatic plant growth. Long sward meadow grassland could be created between the brook / woodland, whilst still retaining a strip of amenity grassland for public access and recreation by relaxing the mowing regime in northern section.
Aesthetic Appeal: The variety of Habitats on site, in particular the brook surrounded by woodland is aesthetically appealing, with a variety of natural sounds and colours. Invertebrates, particularly crickets, are notable within the longer areas of grassland and the diversity of birds with associated bird song is notable.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Opportunity

BaBI08 Upper Dollis Brook
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to be a valuable resource for people and wildlife across the borough, given the expansive area of the brook and connectivity to other SINCs, open spaces and urban areas. The site offers a unique opportunity in the borough to follow the brook along its length and enjoy the nature associated with it, particularly water vole, kingfisher and little egret. SurroundingHabitat is a mixture of broadleaved woodland and neutral grassland and modifiedHabitats such as amenity grassland and hard standing. The more naturalHabitats are of greater ecological value and should be managed appropriately and protected to ensure they continue to support the great diversity of species. Enhancement should be focused on controlling and eradicating invasive non-native species, particularly Himalayan balsam, which is taking over in several places along the brook. There is an opportunity to combine the Upper and Lower Dollis Brook SINC sites to create a single SINC. Once the recommended enhancements have been be made to the Upper and Lower Dollis Brook, the entire Dollis Brook could achieve Metropolitan SINC status in future. Further information is provided in the Lower Dollis Brook survey proforma.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaL12 Friary Park
Site information
LUC Site ID: 34
SINC ID: BaL12
SINC Name: Friary Park
SINC Grade:
Grid Reference:
Area (ha):
Ward:
Land Use:
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary:
SINC Description:
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:
NE Priority Habitat records:
London BAP Habitat suitability records:
Protected/Notable Species records:
INNS Records:
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the east of the borough. The site is adjacent to a large gold course to the northwest. The site comprised amenity grassland, ornamental planting, hedgerows, scrub, mature and veteran trees, a stream, children's playground and skate park. The mature trees, hedgerows and scrub provide valuableHabitat for multiple species such as nesting birds, small mammals and invertebrates. The site was highly used at the time of visit by local people, including families, recreational users, and dog walkers.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management):

BaL12 Friary Park
The stream is known to flood in the west of the site. Reshaping to make the stream more natural is planned. Sandbags are currently used to protect the adjacent homes.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Friary Park is located in the east of the borough and is a network of green spaces. The majority of the site comprised amenity grassland with scattered mature and veteran oak trees. Around the boundaries of the site were lines of mature and veteran trees, the species included oak Quercus robur, horse chestnut Aesculus hippocastanum, hornbeam Carpinus betulus, ash Fraxinus excelsior, and recently planted young field maple Acer campestre. In the north of the site was an ornamental garden surrounded by a cypress Cupressus x leylandii hedge. In the south of the site, along the stream was a large area of scattered trees and scrub. Also, an area of newly planted trees which was part of a previous council initiative was noted. A tributary of Pymmes Brook flows through the west and south of the site. A network of hardstanding pathways linked the access gates on all aspect of the park. Large trees that had died and been cut down were left in place to create deadwoodHabitat for invertebrates.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Litter was a minor issue within the site. Bins were provided on site but were full and litter was left at the benches and other seating areas, especially near the skate park in the north of the site. The desk study provided information regrading previous pollution events within the stream, due to outputs from the local residences. Dog fouling was kept to a minimum but was identified within the areas of scrub and scattered trees in the south of the site.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: Areas of longer sward grassland and/or meadow will help to increase the ecological diversity of the site and provideHabitat for invertebrates. This could be concentrated along the scrub in the south of the site. The newly planted trees in the south will need further management to prevent bramble scrub from encroaching the new trees. Wildlife friendly planting will also increase the opportunities for invertebrates within the site.
Interest: N/A Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The veteran and mature trees, hedgerows and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The scrub in the south of the site provides opportunities for reptiles and mammals to shelter. The large deadwood features in the north of the site provide importantHabitat for invertebrate species such as saproxylic species like stag beetle. The stream within the site also provides suitable aquaticHabitat for amphibians.
Habitat figure:

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LUC assessment site

Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

Hedgerow with trees

Hedgerows

Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

h3d - bramble scrub

h3h - mixed scrub

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

u1b5 - buildings

u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 32 - scattered trees

2: 32 - scattered trees

3: 32 - scattered trees

4: 32 - scattered trees

5: 823 - children's play space

6: 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub,

7: 32 - scattered trees

8: 32 - scattered trees

9: 32 - scattered trees

10: 32 - scattered trees

11: 32 - scattered trees

12: 32 - scattered trees

13: 32 - scattered trees

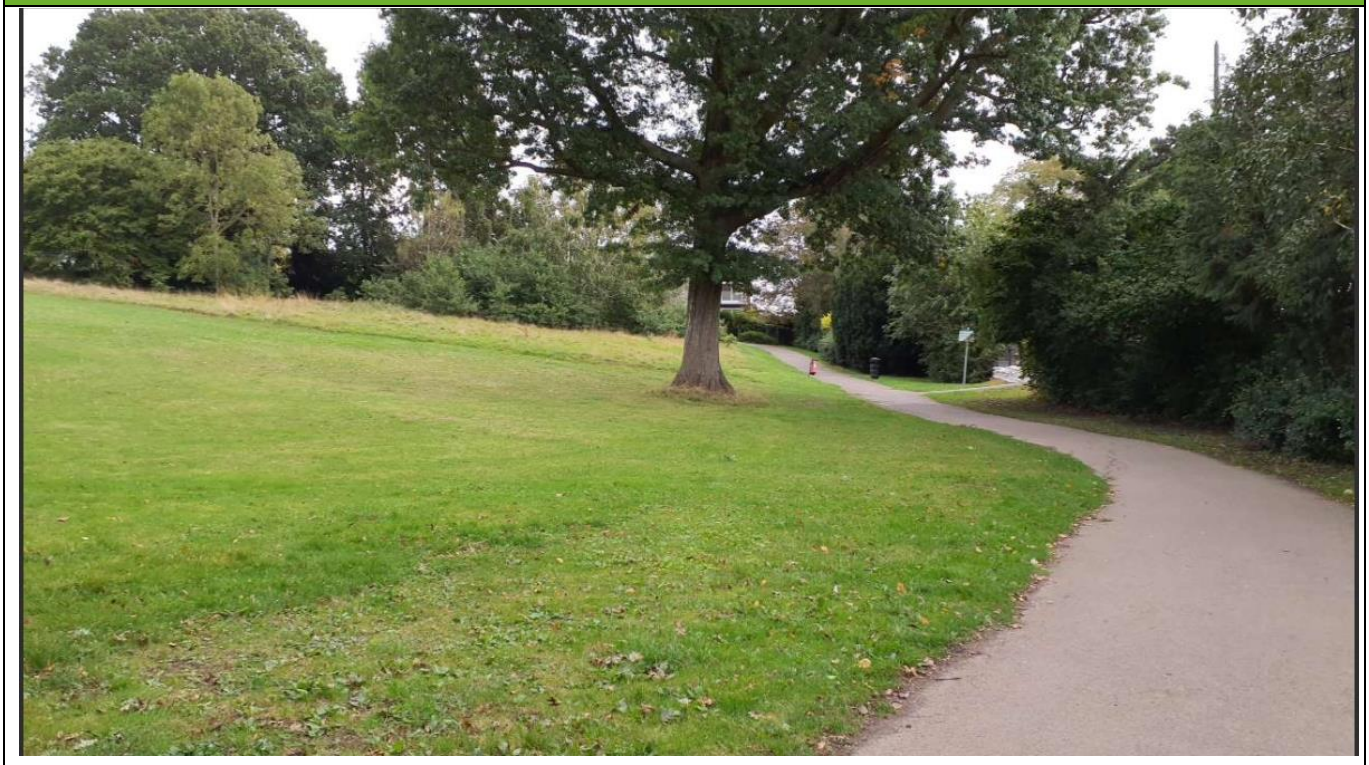
BaL12 Friary Park

Site Photographs:

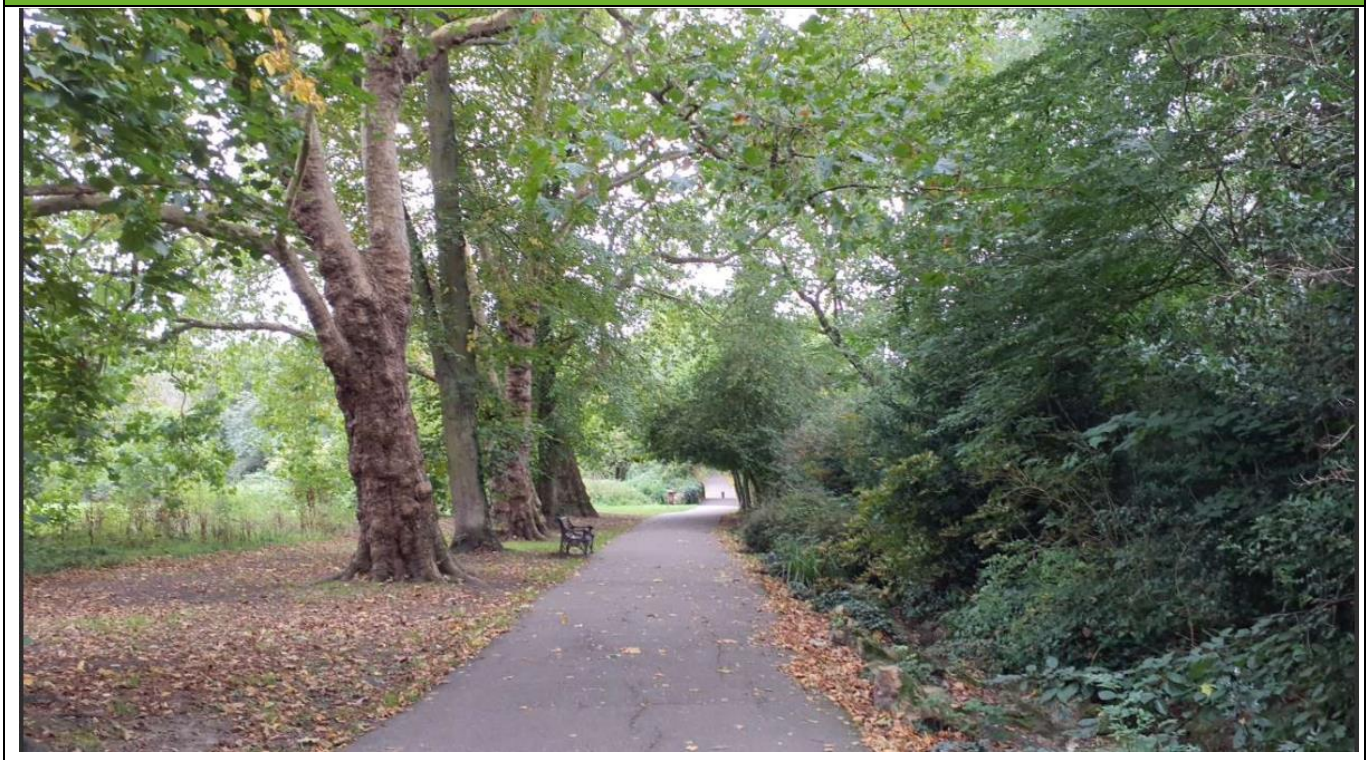
BaL12 Friary Park

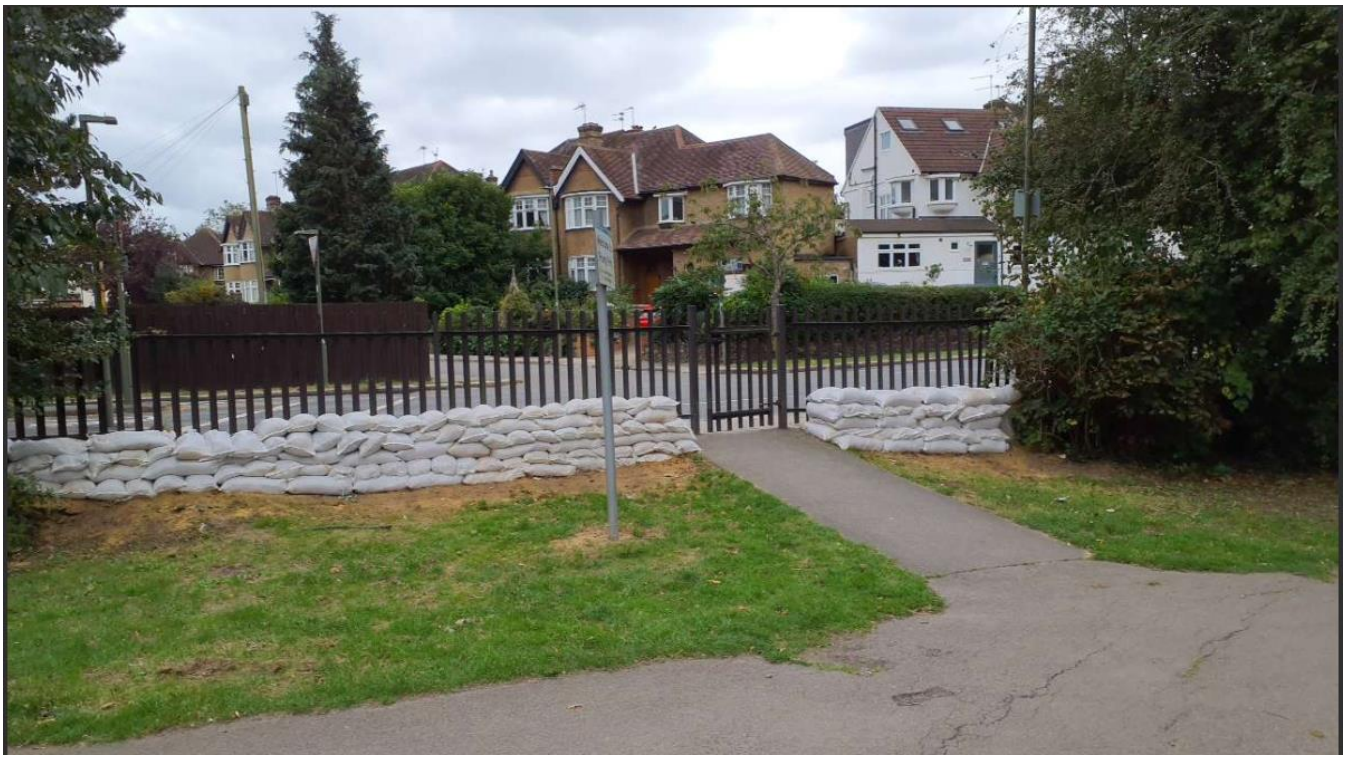
Active Trail
Friary Park
Active Trails supports The Mayor of Barnet's Golden Kilometre initiative which was launched in 2015. The Golden Kilometer aims to encourage primary school children to exercise and inspire young people to lead healthier and more active lifestyles.
N
Route Overview:
We have marked out some pre-plotted trails which you can run, jog, walk or cycle at your own pace. Each trail has a difficulty rating from 1 to 4 (1= easy and flat, 4= difficult and hilly).
This trail is one Kilometre - there are markers on this circuit at 250, 500 & 750 metre distances so a kilometre can be broken down into smaller parts. The benefits of completing a daily kilometre results in you becoming fitter and more active whilst also improving concentration!
Distance: 1km
Difficulty:
Route Marker
Key:
Friary Park
Start/Finish
Direction
Friary Park
500m
250m
750m
For more information visit: www.barnet.gov.uk/active-trails
BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

BaL12 Friary Park

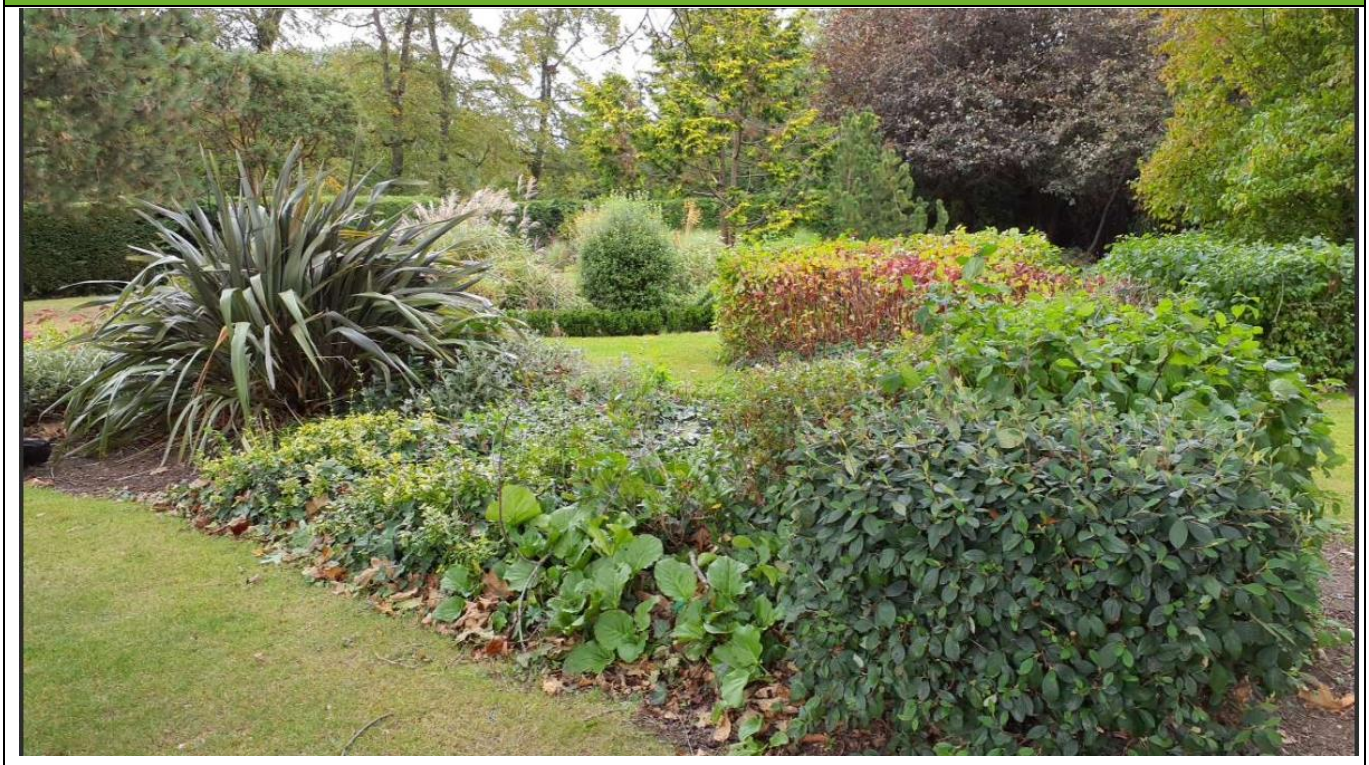


BaL12 Friary Park



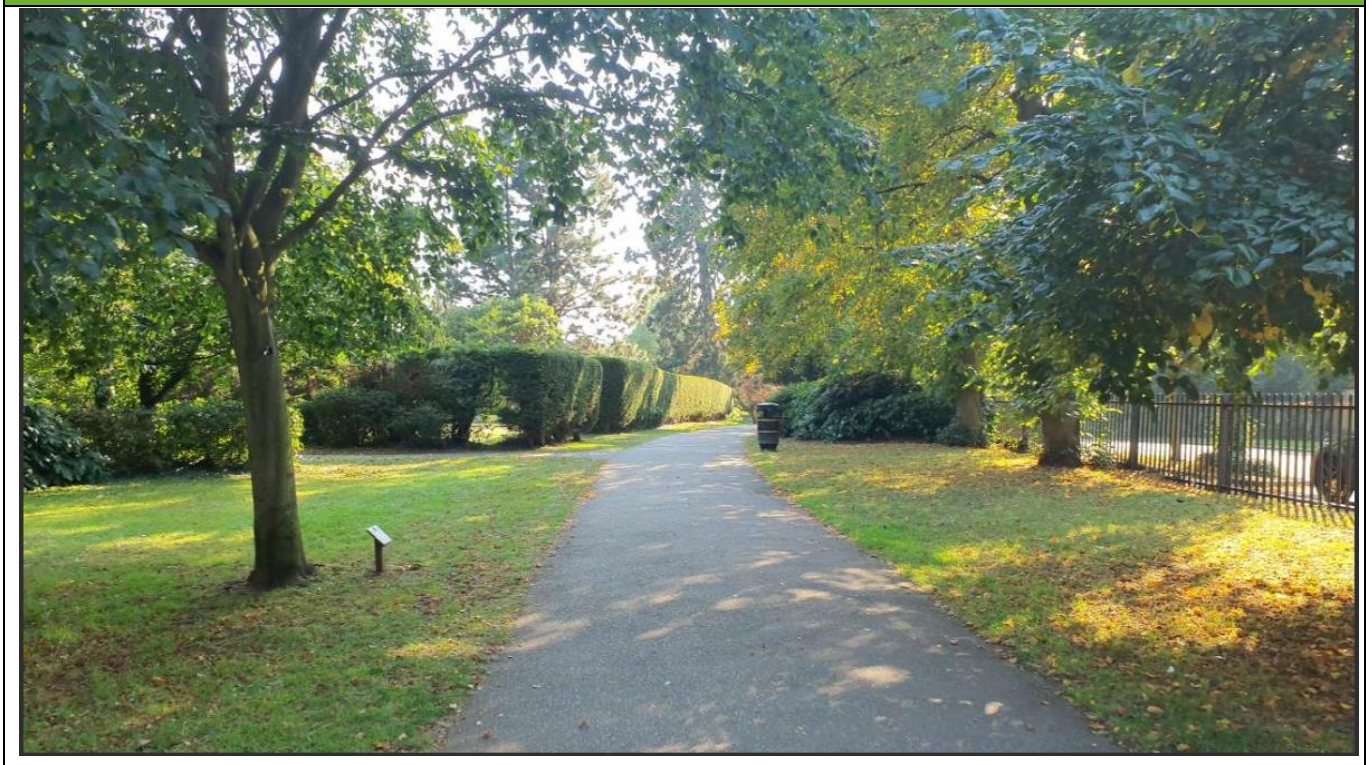


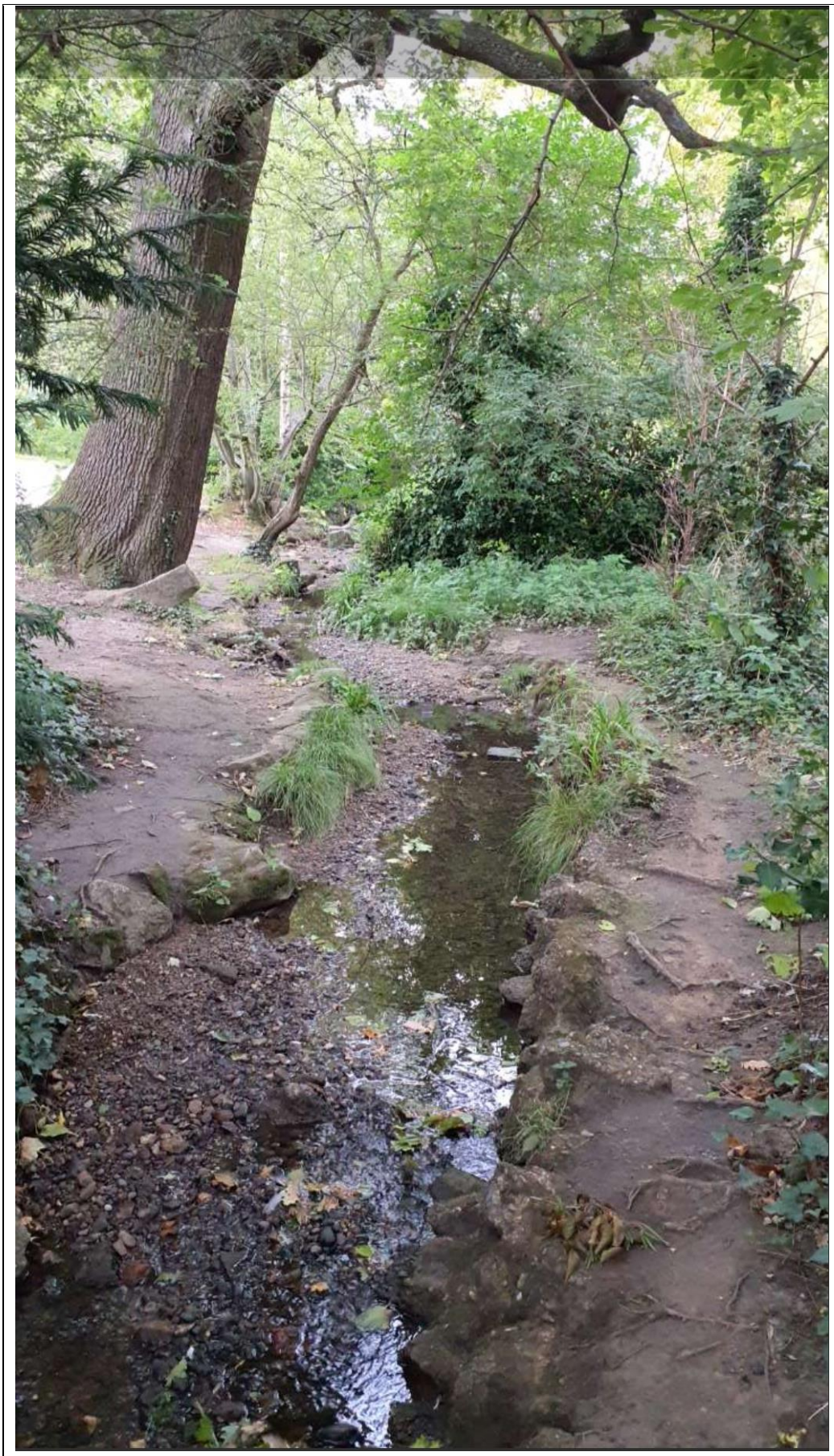
BaL12 Friary Park



BaL12 Friary Park

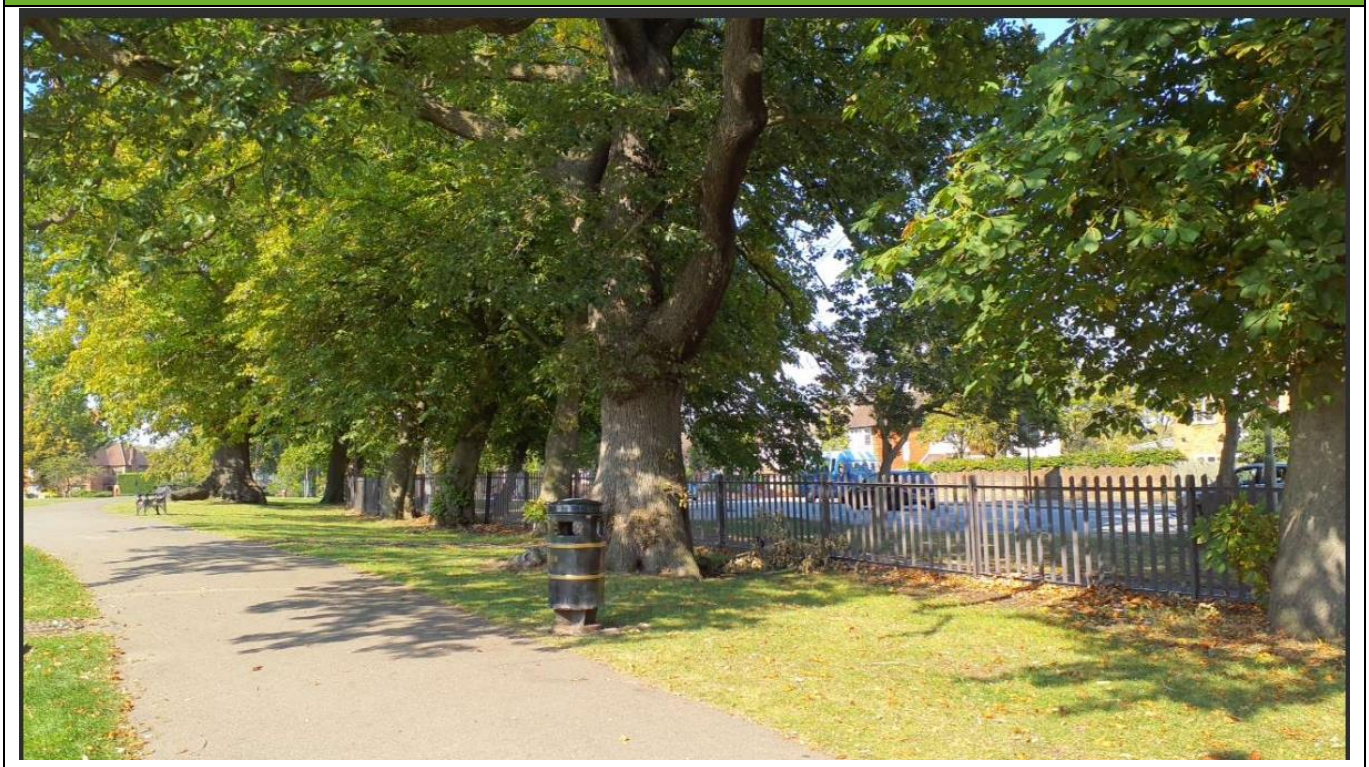
BaL12 Friary Park





BaL12 Friary Park

BaL12 Friary Park



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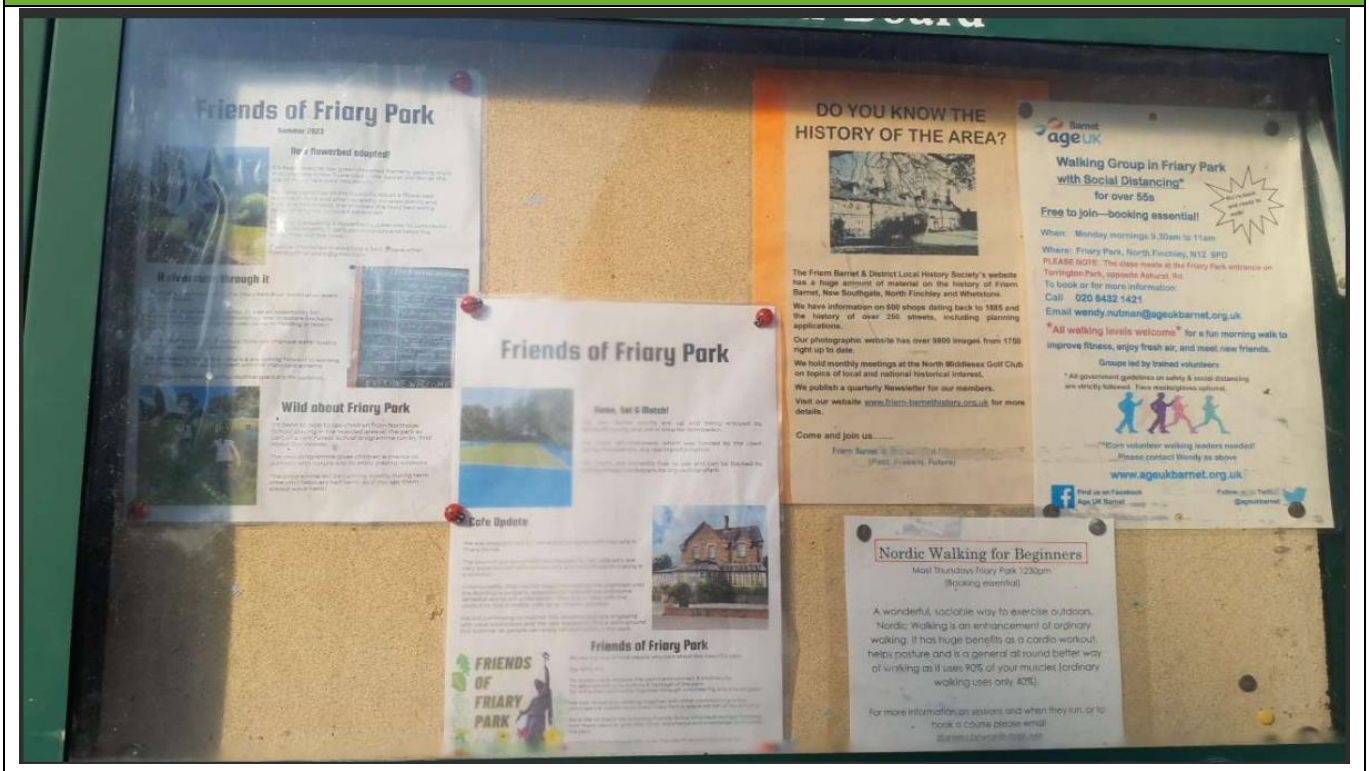

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Relax the mowing regime around the edges of the scattered scrub to create buffers with a greater sward diversity. Thinning of bramble scrub to allow the newly planted trees to flourish. Litter management through regular clean-ups of the benches and surroundingHabitat.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The veteran oak trees are a great example of a rareHabitat within London.
Habitat Rarity: Habitats present were common and widespread, although the veteran oak trees form part of Natural England priorityHabitat of deciduous woodland, and the stream in it's semi-natural course is rare within London.
Species Rarity: The site providesHabitat that is suitable for multiple protected and notable species such as mistle thrush, redwing, song thrush, and Essex skipper butterfly.
Habitat Richness: The site comprised multiple differentHabitats including amenity grassland, scrub, hedgerows, lines of trees, veteran trees, newly planted native woodland, and a small stream.
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is 9.12ha, which is a relatively large SINC for the area.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A

BaL12 Friary Park
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland and scrub can be easily recreated. However, veteran and mature trees and deadwood are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved. The veteran trees are also classed as irreplaceableHabitat.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The SINC is ecologically connected to the golf course to the north and allotments to the east.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: The site is primarily used by locals, families and dog walkers, as well as for recreational and sport activities.
Potential: There is potential to improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site provides space where people can go to walk and relax. The mature trees and hedgerows create a green space where people can engage in nature. The ornamental planting and flowering hedgerows also provide aesthetic appeal.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continue to meets the Local SNC designation. It is a large green space comprised of common and widespread Habitats, although the veteran and mature trees, hedgerows, stream and deadwood features are of higher ecological value. The site provides a green open space for local people. The site provides opportunities for multiple species, including rare and notable species listed above and provide ecological connectivity within the site. The site is closely connected to further green spaces within the east of the borough.
Site Maps

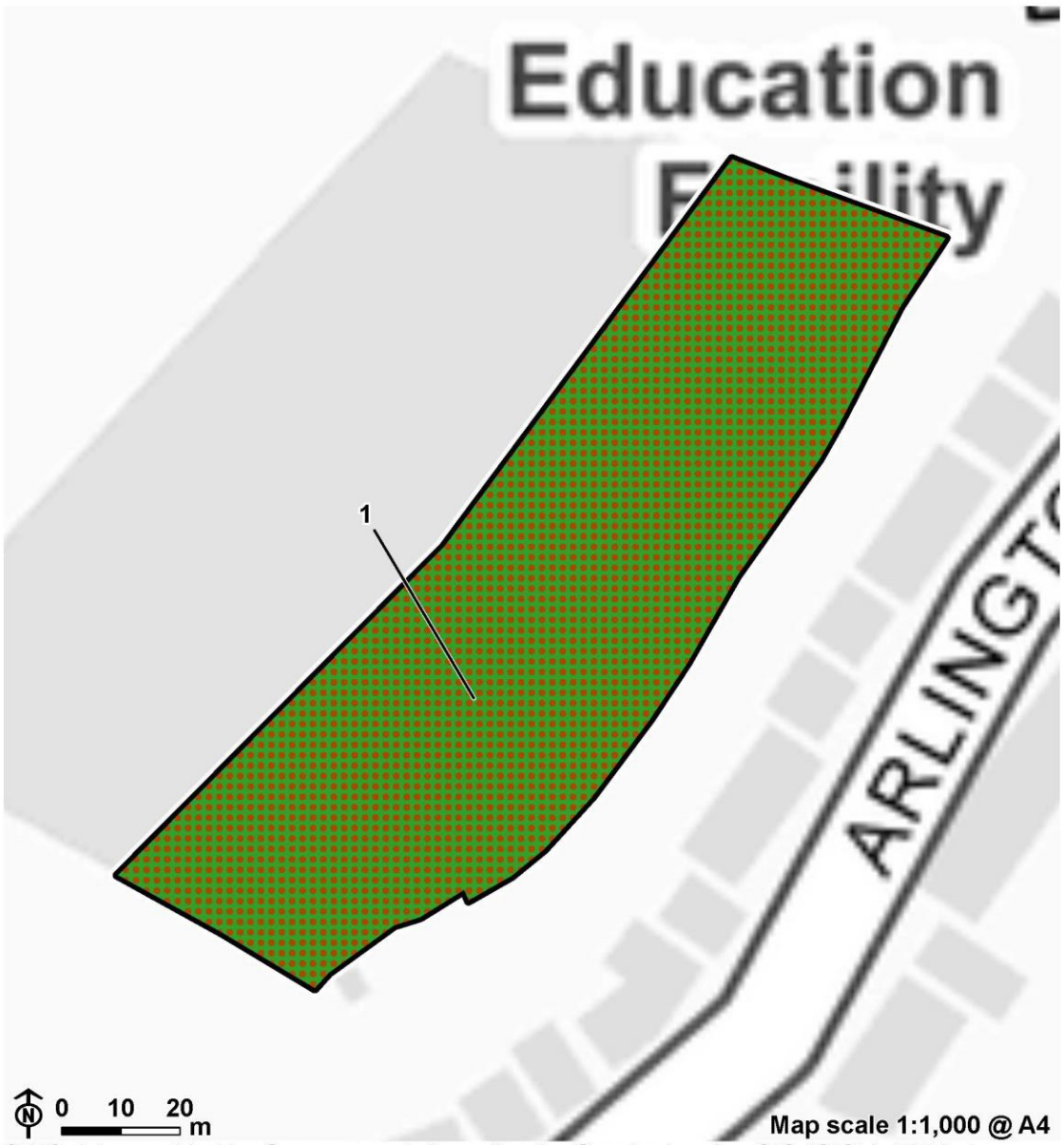
SINC data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), 2024 via a Service Level Agreement with LB Barnet. Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 35
SINC ID: BaL20
SINC Name: Woodridge School Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2504693089
Area (ha): 0.7
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other Urban Fringe, Amenity
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Publicly accessible nature garden, adjacent to a school, with woodland, rough grassland and a pond.
SINC Description: This small nature garden offers a good mix of Habitats for primary schools in the Whetstone\North Finchley area. It has a small area of young oak woodland complemented by rough grassland and a wildlife pond. Tall hedgerows help to create a sense of seclusion. The site was thought to support slow worms and the grassland contains some interesting wild flowers including pignut , Conopodium majus, and yellow archangel , Lamiastrum galeobdolon, . It is an excellent facility for school projects such as pond dipping, looking at wild flowers or watching butterflies and other insects. The nature garden is managed by London Borough of Barnet's Parks Department, and there is free public access.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The Habitats on site include secondary broadleaved woodland only. No pond or grassland was present within the SINC boundary. Grass was present within the ground layer of the woodland, but forms part of the woodland Habitat. The site is located in the middle of the borough and is bound by Woodridge Primary School to the north and residential development to the east and south. The western aspect is connected to extensive areas of greenspace within the green belt, forming a network of woodland, wetlands, grasslands, fields, tree lines and the Folly Brook. This includes Folly Brook and Darlands Lake Nature Reserve, Totteridge Croft Field and Burton Hole Lane and Pasture. The site itself is also located within the green belt.
Survey Data

BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Warm and sunny
Date: 5/9/2024 4:51:50 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Poor Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The pond and grassland was not visible within the SINC boundary, indicating a lack of management at the site, unless the SINC boundary has changed.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Habitats on site included secondary broadleaved woodland only. No pond or grassland was seen on site. Grass was present within the ground layer of the woodland, but forms part of the woodland Habitat. The canopy layer was dominated by semi - mature oak trees, all approximately of the same age. The understory was dominated by yew with occasional hawthorn, blackthorn, field maple saplings, rowan, holly and hazel. The ground layer included bent grasses with bramble, hornbeam saplings and holm oak saplings.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Dog fouling, Invasive species: Additional comments: The path was waterlogged in places. This made it very difficult to walk at points, forcing people to walk off the path and into the woodland. Dog walkers were seen within the woodland, so there is a potential for contamination from dog waste. Holm oak was also seen in the woodland.
Ecological opportunities on site: Wetland creation, ActiveTree, Deadwood Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland on site provides suitableHabitat for commuting, foraging and nesting/roosting birds and bats. The SINC is connected to grassland, scrub, wetland, tree lines and woodland Habitat which potentially support common reptiles and amphibians, and therefore should they be present, they have the potential to be using the woodland on site for shelter and foraging. The woodland will also support common and widespread invertebrates.
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

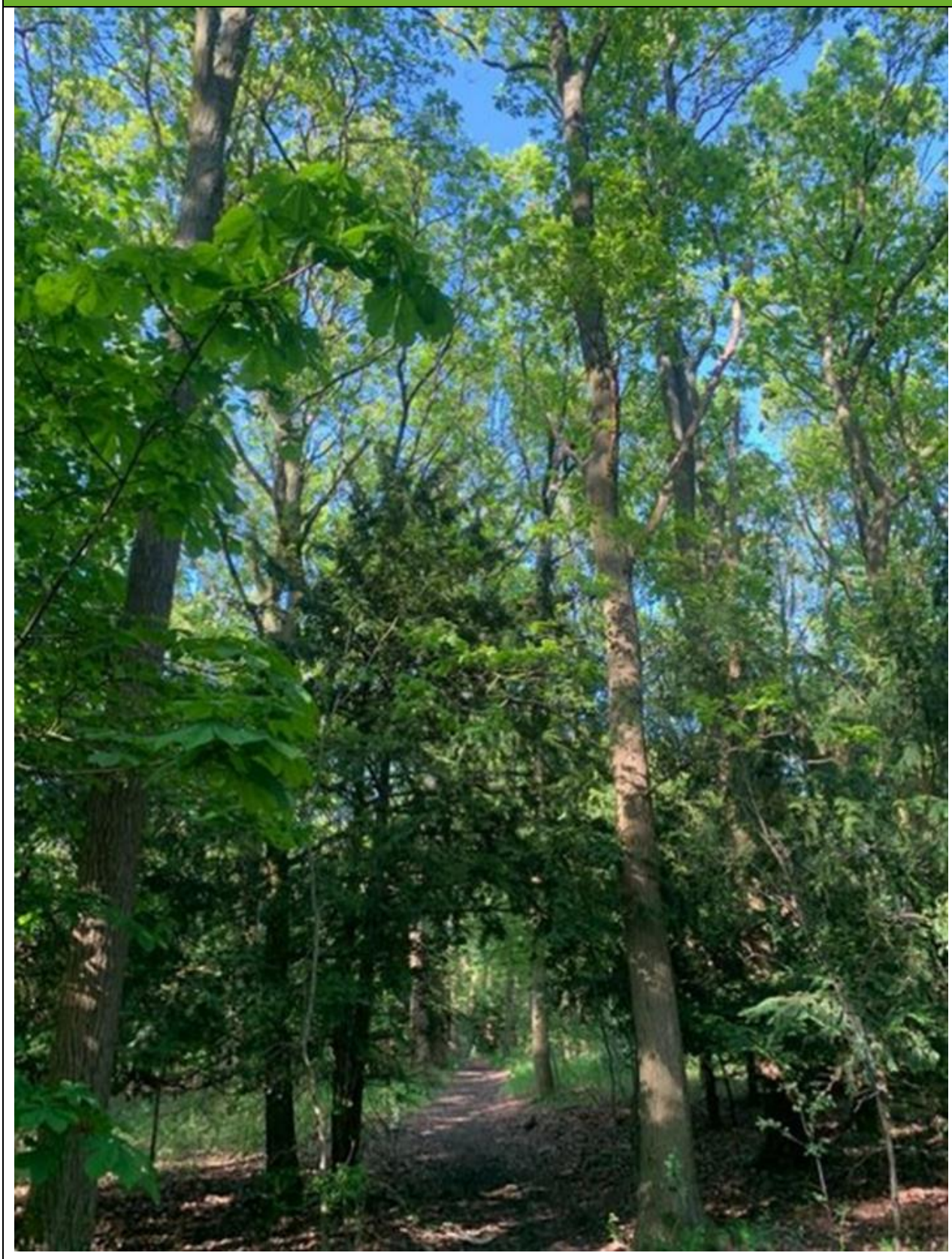
w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

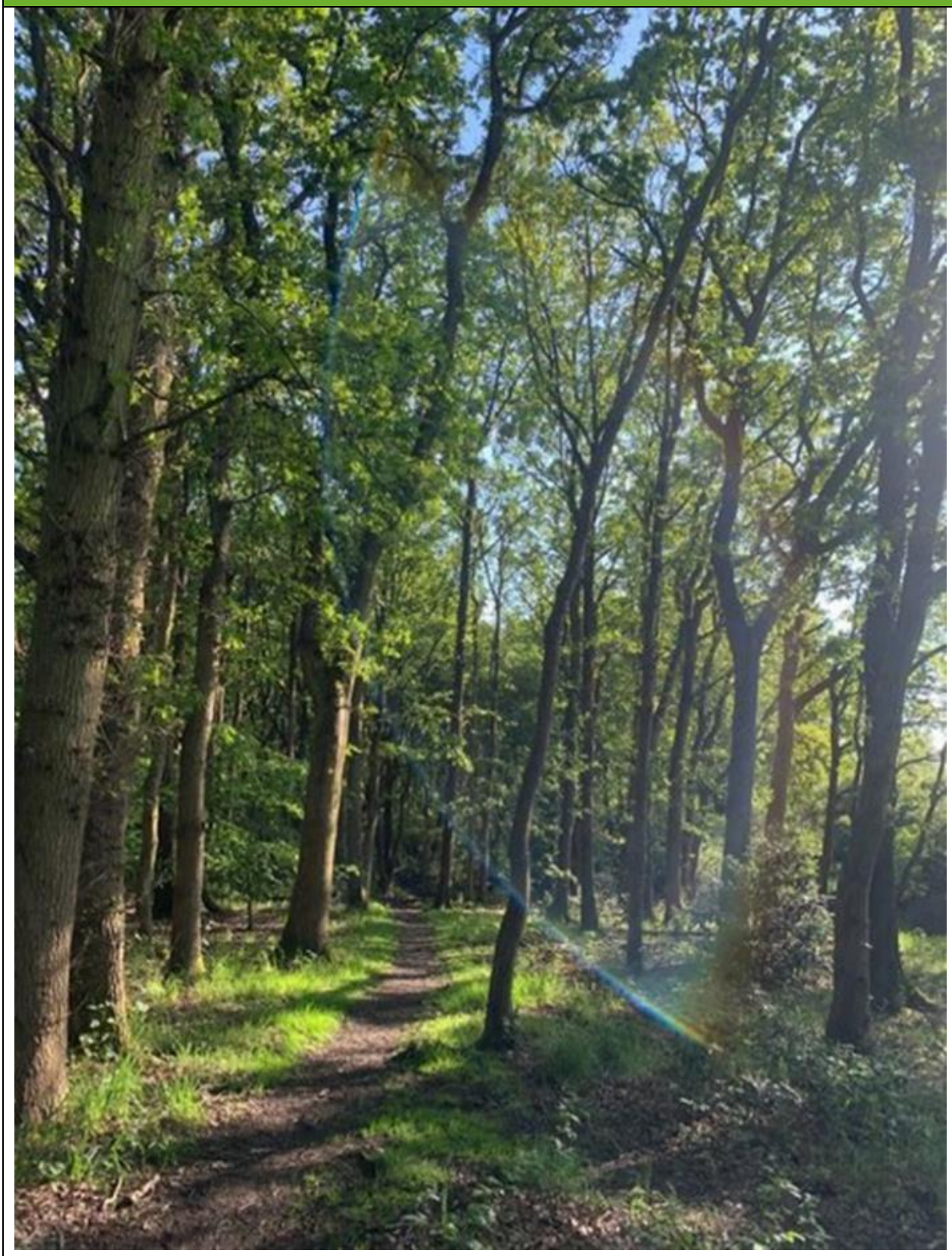
BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve

Site Photographs:

BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve



BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve



BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve

BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: The paths could be maintained better, potentially through creation of natural paths which do not become so waterlogged. Consideration could be given to re-instatement of the pond within the woodland. DeadwoodHabitats could be created within the woodland such as hibernacula/log piles etc to provide shelter. The SINC is a small section of a larger area of woodland. The woodland should be managed as a whole. As the woodland develops, consideration should be given to coppicing of select species to allow more light into the woodland, allowing a more diverse ground layer to develop. Ecological niches could also be created on site though the veteranisation of trees. The holm oak should be removed and controlled in line with legal requirements.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Broadleaved woodland is uncommon in urban areas.
Species Rarity: No rare species were seen during the visit or identified within the desk study, however the site has the potential to support protected/notable species, primarily birds, bats and invertebrates.
Habitat Richness: Only broadleaved woodland was identified on site, therefore it is not considered to support a diverse range of Habitats.
Species Richness: The woodland supports a good native species mix but poor ground flora.
Size: The SINC is very small (<1ha), however, it is a small section of a larger area of woodland, which forms a component in the green belt mosaic of woodland, wetland, grassland and tree lines.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The site consists of secondary broadleaved woodland which would take a fairly long time to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: Important local wildlife site used by local school as an education source.
Geographic Position: The site is located in the middle of the borough and is bound by Woodridge Primary School to the north and residential development to the east and south. The western aspect is connected to extensive areas of greenspace within the green belt, forming a network of woodland, wetlands, grasslands, fields, tree lines and the Folly Brook. This includes Folly Brook and Darlands Lake Nature Reserve, Totteridge Croft Field and Burton Hole Lane and Pasture. The site itself is also located within the green belt.
Access: The site is publicly accessible although the path was waterlogged, making walking difficult in some places.
Use: The site is used for recreational purposes and by local schools.
Potential: A small local site which forms part of the wider ecological network. Potential exists to enhance the woodland to maximise its ecological value, and also to re-instate the pond which has disappeared.
Aesthetic Appeal: A peaceful woodland site providing an escape from the city for local residents.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A

BaL20 Woodridge School Nature Reserve
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Opportunity
SINC Conclusion: The site is a small subsection of a larger area of woodland which is continuous with extensive greenspaces including the Folly Brook, Darlands Nature Reserve and a series of fields. There is therefore potential to expand the size of the SINC, to incorporate these additional Habitats which are continuous with the site. It is recommended that a survey is undertaken which incorporates the wider area. This would potentially result in an increase in the SINC grade and size.
Site Maps

SINC data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), 2024 via a Service Level Agreement with LB Barnet. Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

LUC assessment site

BaL10 Greenhill Gardens
Site information
LUC Site ID: 36
SINC ID: BaL10
SINC Name: Greenhill Gardens
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2585495522
Area (ha): 1.64
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Parks and Gardens
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Small park with scattered trees and an ornamental lake, supporting common waterfowl.
SINC Description: Greenhill Gardens is an attractive little park for a quiet stroll. The present park is the remaining fragment of a once much larger country estate. Its most significant feature is a large ornamental lake, with a small wooded island. Alder (Alnus glutinosa) and willow (Salix fragilis) trees fringe the shore. The lake supports mallard, mute swan, coot and moorhen, and pipistrelle and noctule bats have been observed fraging overhead. Siskins have been spotted feeding on the alder seeds in winter time.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Starling
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Greenhill Gardens is a public park located in the north of the borough and includes an ornamental lake with a wooded island in the west, which is not publicly accessible. Surrounding the lake on all sides is a tree line dominated by crack willow Salix fragilis and alder Alnus glutinosa. Amenity grassland with scattered trees intersected by hard standing pathways are also present within the site.
Survey Data
Surveyor: JB
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM

BaL10 Greenhill Gardens
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The mature trees were in good condition. The water quality of the lake was good with some marginal vegetation. The mowing regime was intensive resulting on a uniform sward which lacked diversity. Opportunities to improve management are outlined in the management recommendations section below.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks and urban greenspaces Standing water Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site's most important feature is the ornamental lake with a wooded island which is surrounded by a tree line, with species including crack willow, alder, ash Fraxinus excelsior, aspen Populus tremula, wild cherry Prunus avium, white poplar Populus alba, elder Sambucus nigra, horse chestnut Aesculus hippocastanum, sycamore Acer pseudoplatanus and hawthorn Crataegus monogyna. A hard standing pathway surrounds the lake and intersects amenity grassland leading to and from entrances in the north and south. Short mown amenity grassland with scattered trees was noted throughout with species including cedar Cedrus libani, lime Tilia sp., cypress Cupressus sempervirens, oak Quercus sp., hawthorn, horse chestnut, sycamore, hornbeam Carpinus betulus, wild cherry, yew Taxus baccata and Scot's pine Pinus sylvestris. Grassland lacked diversity and was severely eroded in places due to trampling, particularly north of the lake. A small area of woodland was noted in the southeast of the site with species including cypress, white poplar, willow Salix sp., ash and aspen, with an understorey dominated by ivy Hedera helix with cow parsley Anthriscus sylvestris, nettle Urtica dioica, bramble Rubus fruticsosus agg.. In the west, adjacent to the pathway, a tree line was noted with hawthorn, sycamore, hornbeam, oak and yew.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion: Additional comments: Erosion was a significant issue within the amenity grassland on the site, with areas of bare ground prevalent. Litter and dog fouling were well managed.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing regime wetland creation/enhancement Tree/hedgerow planting Scrub establishment/management Deadwood heabitat creation Wildlife friendly planting Additional comments: Create reedbeds around the edges of the lake to establish additional opportunities for invertebrates and birds. Create scrub and hedgerows around the boundaries of the site to enhance the site's connectivity and opportunities for bats, birds and invertebrates. Relax the mowing regime to diversify the grassland and consider seeding to encourage a more diverse sward. Retain any dead trees on site to create deadwoodHabitats for invertebrates, particularly saproxylic species such as stag beetle. Create flower rich areas for pollinators.
Interest: Mammals Birds

BaL10 Greenhill Gardens
Reptiles Amphibians Invertebrates Fish Higher plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees and woodland provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The lake with aquatic and marginal vegetation provides opportunities for birds, including waterfowl, invertebrates, amphibians and foraging bats.
Habitat figure:

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LUC assessment site

Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

r1g - other standing water

u1 - built-up areas and gardens

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 32 - scattered trees

2: 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown,

3: 46 - ornamental lakes or ponds

4: 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown,

5: 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown,

6: 32 - scattered trees, 106 - mown,

BaL10 Greenhill Gardens
Site Photographs:
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Re-seed grassland / bare ground areas, relax mowing regime and fence off to encourage establishment of a more diverse sward.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: NoHabitats present were the best examples of those in London.
Habitat Rarity: Habitats were common and widespread.
Species Rarity: The site supports a range of common and widespread birds, bats and invertebrates.
Habitat Richness: The site supports amenity grassland, woodland, lake, scattered mature broadleaved trees and tree lines which is considered relatively rich given the sub-urban London context.
Species Richness: The site supports a range of common and widespread floral and faunal species which are supported by a diverse range of Habitats within the site, which are likely to present a valuable source in a relatively urban area.
Size: The site is 1.64ha which is considered a small park, however it provides a valuable resource for a variety of wildlife within this sub-urban area of London and contributes to the strategic corridors in the north of the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland and the lake can be easily recreated. However, mature trees are less recreatable due to the period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located in the north of the borough close to the Northern line Embankment, High Barnet SINC and Upper Dollis Brook SINC and forms part of the strategic network in the north of the borough.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible.
Use: The site is used by local residents to walk, dog walk, exercise and relax in nature.
Potential: There is potential to further improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site offers a valuable opportunity for local residents to enjoy the semi-naturalHabitats within the site, in particular the lake and associated vegetation and wildlife. Aesthetic appeal could be enhanced through creating colourful flower-rich areas.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change

BaL10 Greenhill Gardens
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to offer valuableHabitats for local people and wildlife. Opportunities for enhancement should focus on diversification and re-establishment of the grassland in areas of bare ground to enhance opportunities for invertebrates and in turn bats and birds. The site is limited by its size and limited range and quality of Habitats and therefore should remain as a Local SINC.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting
Site information
LUC Site ID: 37
SINC ID: BaL11
SINC Name: Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2723294452
Area (ha): 8.02
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Green Corridors
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: Wide railway cutting with banks of low scrub and tall herbs and a small area of woodland.
SINC Description: Railway cuttings can be important wildlife corridors, linking the city centre with the countryside beyond London. They also serve asHabitat in their own right. In this cutting, the railway banks are clad predominantly in scrub of bramble , Rubus fruticosa agg., , dog rose , Rosa canina, , hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, and blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, , interspersed with coarse grassland and tall herbs. A small area of secondary woodland has grown up on the western side. The scrub and tall herbs are important for birds like the goldfinch and lesser whitethroat, while the woodland supports such summer breeding visitors as willow warbler and chiffchaff. Although there is no public access to the scrub itself, a footbridge between Oakleigh Park South and Alverstone Avenue provides good views up and down the railway corridor.
Management provider: National Rail
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: House Sparrow, Mistle Thrush, Starling
INNS Records: No invasive species records were detectedhowever this does not mean they are absent from the site.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: A railway track with vegetated banks located in the east of the borough. The SINC is located in an area of dense residential development, however, given it is a railway track, the site is part of a wildlife corridor which goes north/south through the borough. The site is not adjacent to any other SINC's however the railway line does extend up to Monken Hadley Common SINC in the north of the borough, therefore there is potential connectivity via the railway line.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting
Weather: Warm sunny
Date: 5/9/2024 2:33:53 PM
Survey access: View
Level of Use: Unknown
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The site could not be accessed, however from a bridge over the railway track it could be seen that log piles had been created within the Habitat. These were likely created from wood generated from tree management activities on site.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Given the site is a railway line, it is not publicly accessible and so could only be viewed from adjacent land. Habitats which could be seen included scrub, scattered trees, secondary woodland, tall ruderal vegetation and short herbaceous vegetation. Species which could be seen included sycamore, goat willow, English oak, silver birch, cherry, hawthorn, holly, horse chestnut, ivy, bramble and horsetail. Trees were fairly set back from the track, presumably for health and safety reasons, meaning the immediate areas along the track were covered in short herbaceous vegetation including ivy, scattered bramble, nettle, horsetail and other herbaceous species which couldn't be seen properly, as well as small areas of bare ground and wood piles.
Threats and Disturbances: Pollution, Litter, Invasive species, Noise: Additional comments: Potential noise and pollution from the trains, and a small amount of litter seen. The extent/presence of invasive species couldn't be assessed as the site could not be accessed. Hhowever without management this linear habitat has the potential to become dominated by invasive species, and so they should be monitored and controlled in line with legal requirements.
Ecological opportunities on site: Meadow creation, Scrub management, Active Tree, Wildlife Friendly, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Small mammals (including bats) and birds likely use the site for nesting/roosting, foraging and shelter. The site also provides potential reptile Habitat within the mix of woodland, scrub and open areas. Log piles had been intentionally created along the site, providing sheltering habitat for reptiles, amphibians and small mammals. The SINC is bound by residential gardens, therefore it is possible small wildlife ponds are present in some of the gardens, providing breeding Habitat for amphibians. Should amphibians be present within the residential gardens, it is likely that the Habitats within the SINC would be used by amphibians when in the terrestrial phase. The small areas of bare ground and herbaceous vegetation is likely used by common and widespread invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting

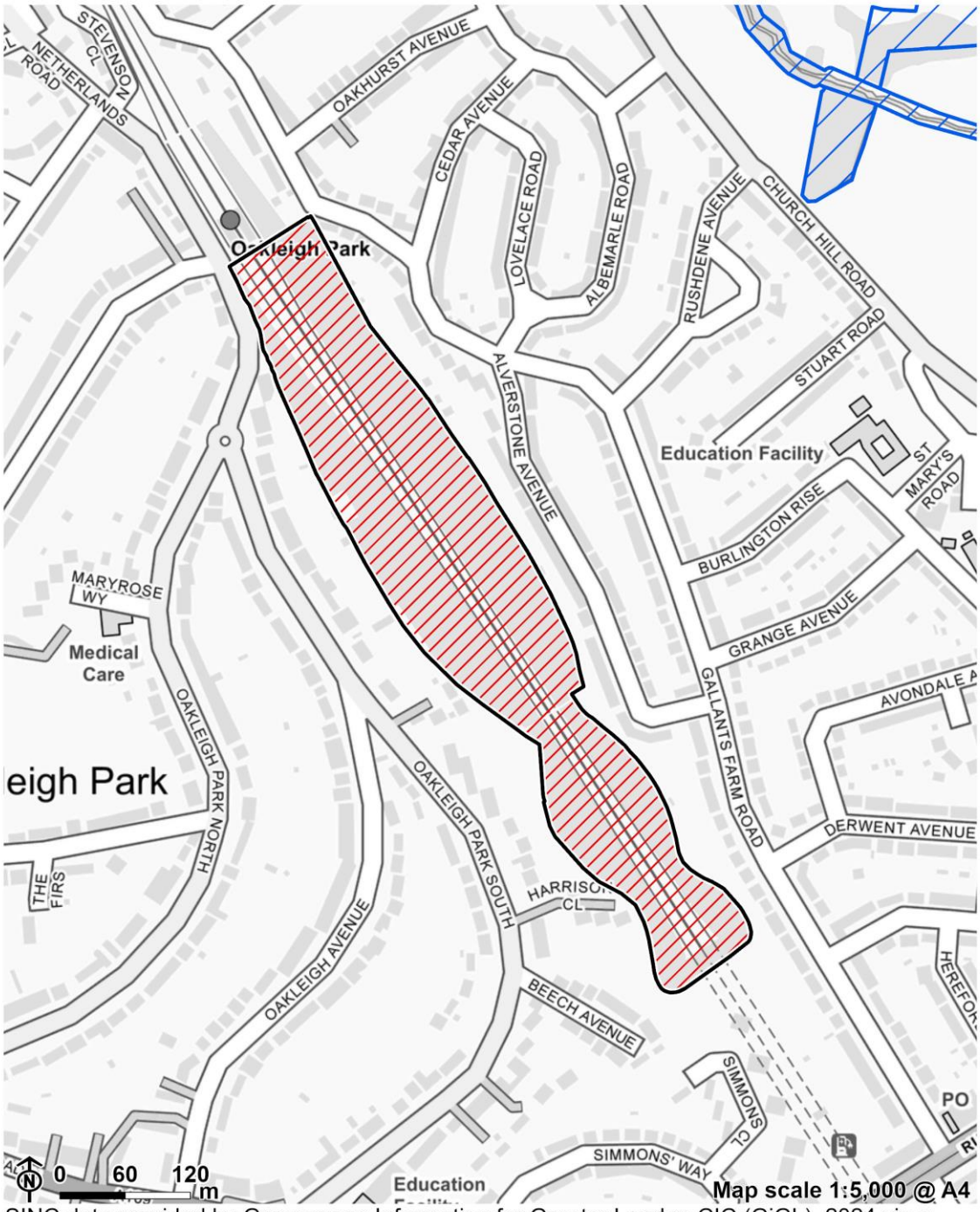
BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: There is a fairly wide area along the length of the train track which has been kept clear of trees, presumably to maintain functionality of the line and/or health and safety reasons. This area could be enhanced to create a species rich grassland alongside the scrub and wooded areas, provided this alligns with the primary use of the site as a railway track. Trees and scrub would need to be maintained to ensure they do not spread into any created grassland Habitat. The secondary woodland may require some woodland management however access would be required to undertake a survey. The scrub should be managed so that there is a good mix of species present, with no single species comprising more than 75%. A good age range of scrub should also be present (seedling, saplings, young shrubs and mature), and the grassland enhancement would help to create a well developed edge around the scrub. Bird and bat boxes and beetle banks could be added. An in depth survey should be undertaken of the Habitat before undertaking enhancements.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Broadleaved woodland is a rare Habitat in urban areas, particularly in London.
Species Rarity: The desk study found house sparrow, mistle thrush and starling to be present on site which are all Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) red list species. In addition the woodland supports summer breeding birds such as willow warbler (BOCC amber list).
Habitat Richness: The site supports scrub, secondary woodland and herbaceous vegetation.
Species Richness: It was not possible to fully assess the species present due to lack of access.
Size: The site is 8.02ha however is continuous with the remainder of the railway line as it travels through Barnet, acting as a wildlife corridor through the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: Some trees were mature which would take a long time to recreate. Other Habitats would be fairly easy to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: The railway is a particularly urban feature of the landscape, and vegetation alongside it creates an important wildlife corridor within urbanised areas of London.
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: A railway track with vegetated banks located in the east of the borough. The SINC is located in an area of dense residential development, however, given it is a railway track, the site is part of a wildlife corridor which goes north/south through the borough. The site is not adjacent to any other SINC's however the railway line does extend up to Monken Hadley Common SINC in the north of the borough, therefore there is potential connectivity via the railway line. The site is also located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature.
Access: There is no public access as it is a railway line.
Use: The site is used as a railway line.
Potential: Given the site is not open to the public, it has potential to be valuable for wildlife.Habitat enhancements listed above have the potential to bolster the opportunities on site for a range of species in the local area, particularly reptiles. However it is

BaL11 Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting
acknowledged that the primary use of the site is a railway line so enhancements must be in accordance with the functional operation and maintenance of the railway line.
Aesthetic Appeal: The vegetated bank does soften the the view of the train track.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Opportunity
SINC Conclusion: This SINC is currently designated as a site of Local importance. Sites of local importance are those which are, or may be, of particular value to people nearby (such as residents or schools). Given this site is an active railway, the site is not, and will not in future be open to the public. In addition, the site forms part of a wildlife corridor through the east of Barnet, and therefore is an importantHabitat feature offering connectivity within Barnet at the landscape scale. The SINC has potential for upgrade to Borough Grade II based on the recommended habitat measures, however, this should be finalised following full access ecological survey and discussion with Network Rail to ensure an increase in status can be maintained in the long term throughout the cyclic management of the active railway network.
Site Maps



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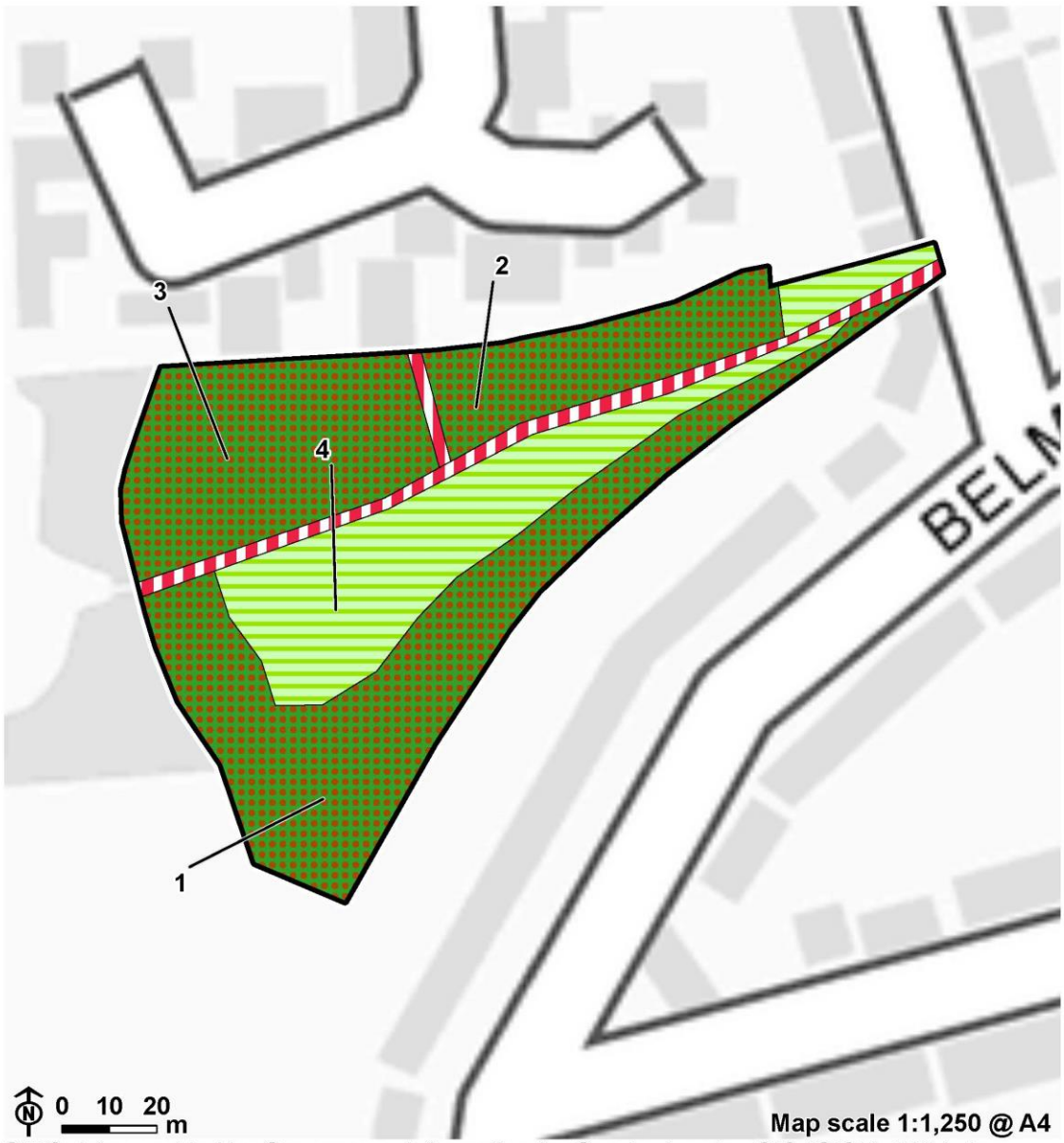
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters
Site information
LUC Site ID: 38
SINC ID: BaL22
SINC Name: Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2760895849
Area (ha): 0.98
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Informal, grassy open space with hedgerows, and small areas of woodland and scrub.
SINC Description: A secluded open space hidden behind three residential streets, Belmont Open Space has a pleasant rural quality. The grass is lightly managed, with a fair number of wild flowers, such as garlic mustard , Alliaria petiolata, , cow parsley , Anthriscus sylvestris, , lesser celandine , Ranunculus ficaria, and lords and ladies , Arum maculatum, . There is a good number of mature trees, including ivy clad oaks , Quercus robur, , horse chestnut , Aesculus hippocastanum, and London plane , Platanus x hispanica, . An old, unmanaged hedgerow has expanded into a belt of scrub and thickets of hawthorn, blackthorn and bramble provide further nestingHabitat. The local RSPB group has recorded an impressive list of birds here, including green, great spotted and lesser spotted woodpeckers, sparrowhawk, blackcap, goldcrest and coal tit, many of them breeding on the site. Spotted flycatcher and cuckoo have also been sighted here in recent years.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Dunnock, Greenfinch, Song Thrush
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: A small public open space, located in the north east of the borough, consisting of broadleaved woodland and grassland with scattered trees. The site is located in an area of dense urban development, bound by allotments to the west, and all remaining aspects are bound by residential development.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR

BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters
Weather: Sunny and warm
Date: 5/7/2024 2:02:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The grass was of varying sward heights and the scrub appeared to be managed. Generally the site appeared to be managed well considering it is a very small site.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The northern and southern edge of the site was lined with secondary broadleaved woodland, with semi-improved neutral grassland in the middle and scattered trees. A path also ran down the middle from Norrys road in the east to the allotments in the west. Species within the grassland included perennial rye grass, daisy, doves foot cranesbill, mouse ear chickweed, meadow buttercup, creeping buttercup, yarrow, meadow foxtail, cuckoo flower, Spanish bluebell, lesser celandine, broadleaved dock, clover, annual meadow grass and daffodil. The woodland canopy was dominated by English oak, with frequent London plane, occasional elder, sycamore, Norway maple and horse chestnut. Field maple and lime were noted rarely. The understorey was dominated by bramble, with frequent nettle and occasional dog rose, blackthorn, hawthorn and cow parsley. Scattered horse chestnut trees with some scattered scrub were noted in the grassland.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog Fouling, Vehicle erosion: Additional comments: A small amount of litter and dog fouling was present. There was additionally some evidence of vehicles however it is possible these were vehicles used to carry out maintenance of the site.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Deadwood Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland on site provides Habitats for foraging, commuting and nesting/roosting birds and bats. The site is bound by residential gardens which may contain small ponds. Should there be any ponds present within these residential gardens, then it is likely this site provides important terrestrial Habitat for any amphibians. Allotments are also known to provide suitableHabitat for common reptiles such as slow worm. Should there be any common reptiles present within the neighbouring allotments then it is also likely they may be using the Habitats within the SINC. The vegetation on site likely supports common and widespread invertebrates. In general, the site likely is most important for birds given its small size, and the RSPB have recorded various species on site.
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

g3c - other neutral grassland

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

2: 10 - scattered scrub

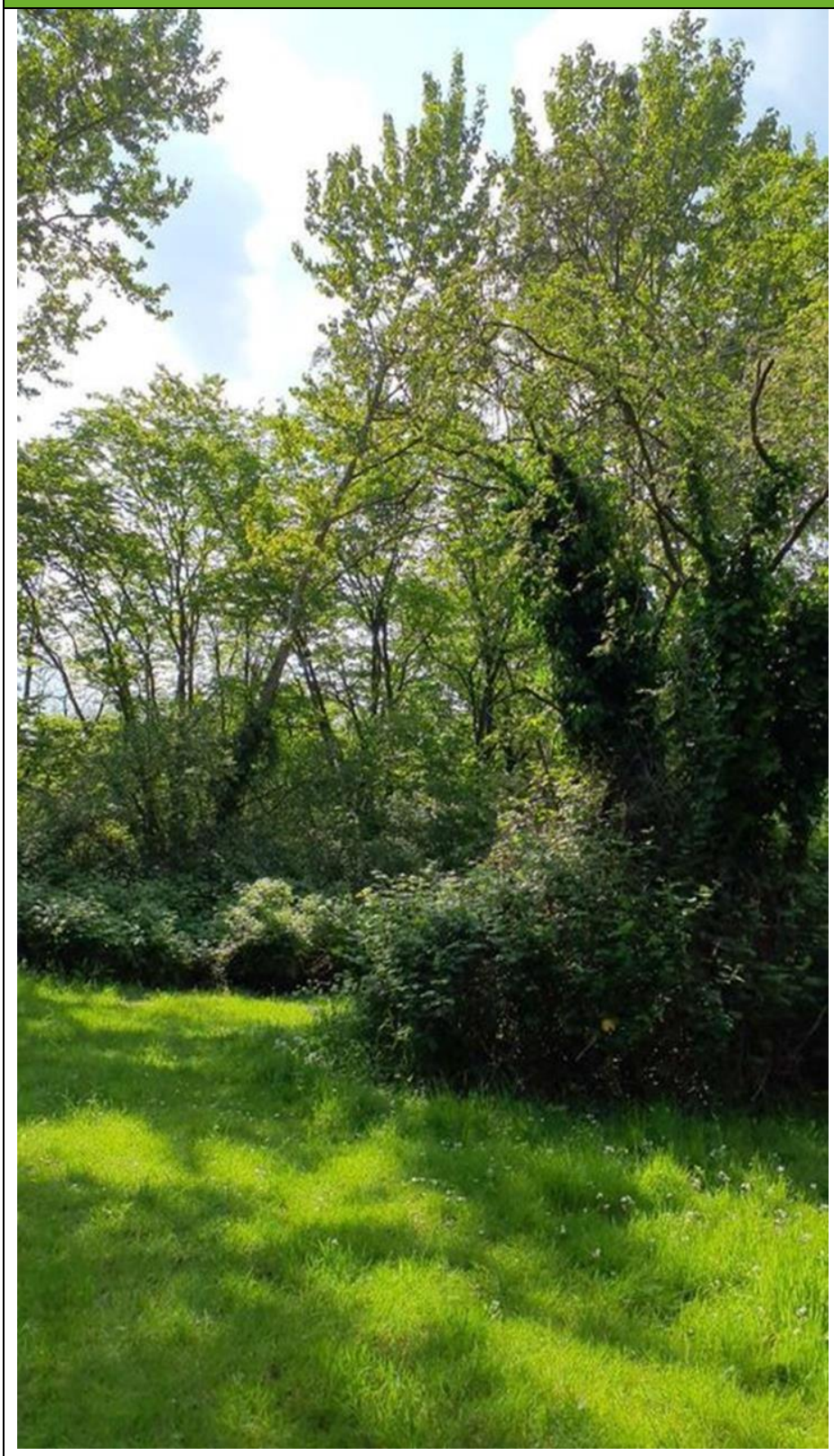
3: 10 - scattered scrub

4: 32 - scattered trees

BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters

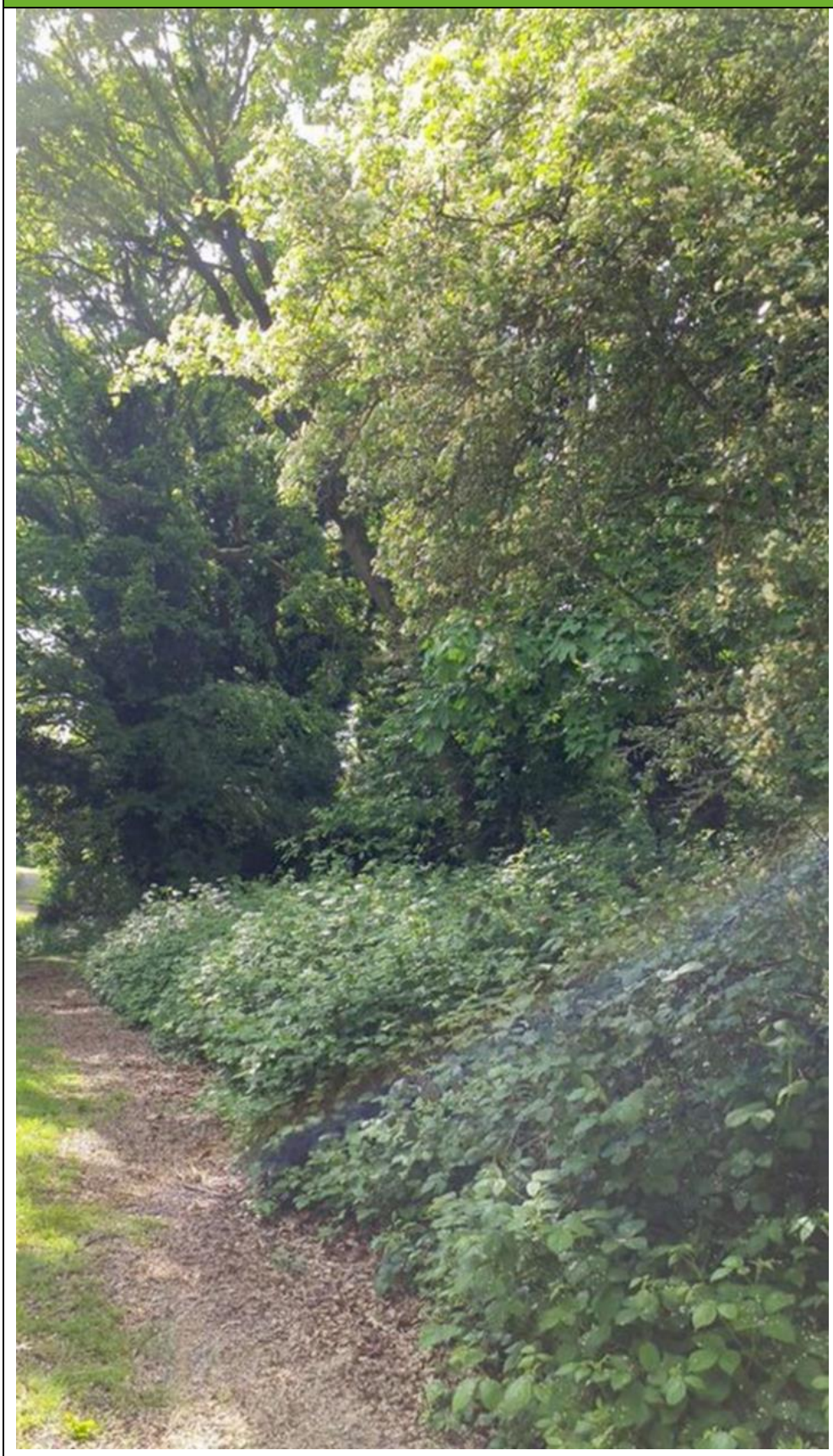
Site Photographs:

BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters



BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters

BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters



Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters
N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: The site is most likely important for birds in the local area, therefore woodland and scrub should be maintained to provide suitable bird nestingHabitats and scrub and trees should be controlled to ensure that they do not encroach on the existing grassland to retain a mix of Habitats on site. Bird and bat boxes could be placed on trees to provide additional nesting opportunities. Hibernacula could also be created within the woodlands to provide shelter for amphibians and reptiles should they be present. The grassland should be managed by a mowing regime which keeps the grass long in summer to allow grasses and wildflowers to grow and set seed (if this is not already in place). This would also increase the diversity of the grass.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The site supports woodland which is an uncommon Habitat in urban areas and in London.
Species Rarity: The site is known to support protected/notable species such as lesser spotted woodpecker (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) red list), sparrowhawk (BOCC amber list), spotted flycatcher (BOCC red list), cuckoo (BOCC red list), dunnock (BOCC amber list), greenfinch (BOCC red list) and song thrush (BOCC amber list).
Habitat Richness: The site supports woodland, grassland and scattered trees.
Species Richness: A fairly small site with widespread Habitats however the site has been found to support a good variety of bird species including multiple on the red and amber list.
Size: This is a very small site (less than 1ha), however it is connected to residential gardens and allotments.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: There are mature trees on site which would take a long time to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: NA
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is bound by allotments to the west, and all remaining aspects are bound by residential development. The site is located in an area of deficiency, in an area of dense urban development so it likely is an important greenspace in this corner of Barnet, providing opportunities primarily to birds and humans.
Access: A hardstanding path goes through the middle of the site, making the SINC accessible for all.
Use: The site is a small public park, used for recreational and sports activities.
Potential: There is potential to enhance the Habitats on site, to provide additional opportunities for species potentially on site, as detailed in the management section.
Aesthetic Appeal: A very small park, however it does provide a restful escape from the city.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change

BaL22 Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters
SINC Conclusion: This site continues to meet local SINC status due to the mixture of Habitats present and the access to nature it provides for local people.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Access point

M127 Mill Hill Substation Pastures
Site information
LUC Site ID: 39
SINC ID: M127
SINC Name: Mill Hill Substation Pastures
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ2399392453
Area (ha): 15.84
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Other Urban Fringe, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A series of flower rich pastures divided by fine old hedges, providing aHabitat for some rare plants and birds.
SINC Description: A mosaic of horse grazed pastures around the Mill Hill Electricity Substation. These are varied, but contain some very representative patches of unimproved London Clay grassland. Characteristic and locally uncommon plants include devil's bit scabious , Succisa pratensis, , sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, and red bartsia , Odontites verna, . The dividing hedges appear to be very old, consisting of a wide range of trees and shrubs. The Burtonhole Brook flows through the site, adding further to itsHabitat diversity. The breeding avifauna includes spotted flycatcher.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Good quality semi improved grassland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Bluebell, Common Cudweed, Essex Skipper, Small Skipper
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site comprised a network of horse pastures with scattered mature trees and scrub. The site could not be accessed but small areas in the east could be viewed from the bridle path. The site is in the centre of the borough and is adjacent to another SINC. The site is also ecologically connected to the wider green spaces in the centre of the borough.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Wet and cold

M127 Mill Hill Substation Pastures
Date: 4/25/2024 2:13:00 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Low
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The grassland fields seemed to be in good condition with little erosion from the horses.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Scrub, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): MeadowsPastures
Habitat survey description: The site consisted of grassland paddocks with areas of scrub in the east, including bramble, blackthorn and hawthorn. A line of mature oak trees was noted along the east site boundary. Within the paddocks were scattered mature oak and fallen deadwood. In the south of the site near the entrance, were banks of scattered trees and scrub comprising sycamore, ash, oak, field maple, hawthorn, bramble, and honeysuckle.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion: Additional comments: The site was used to graze horses, the grassland could become over-poached if not managed suitably.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub establishment, Deadwood Additional comments: Using the fallen deadwood within the site to create log piles and other deadwood features. Planting of native scrub to increase the scrub diversity.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The fallen deadwood providesHabitat for invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

M127 Mill Hill Substation Pastures

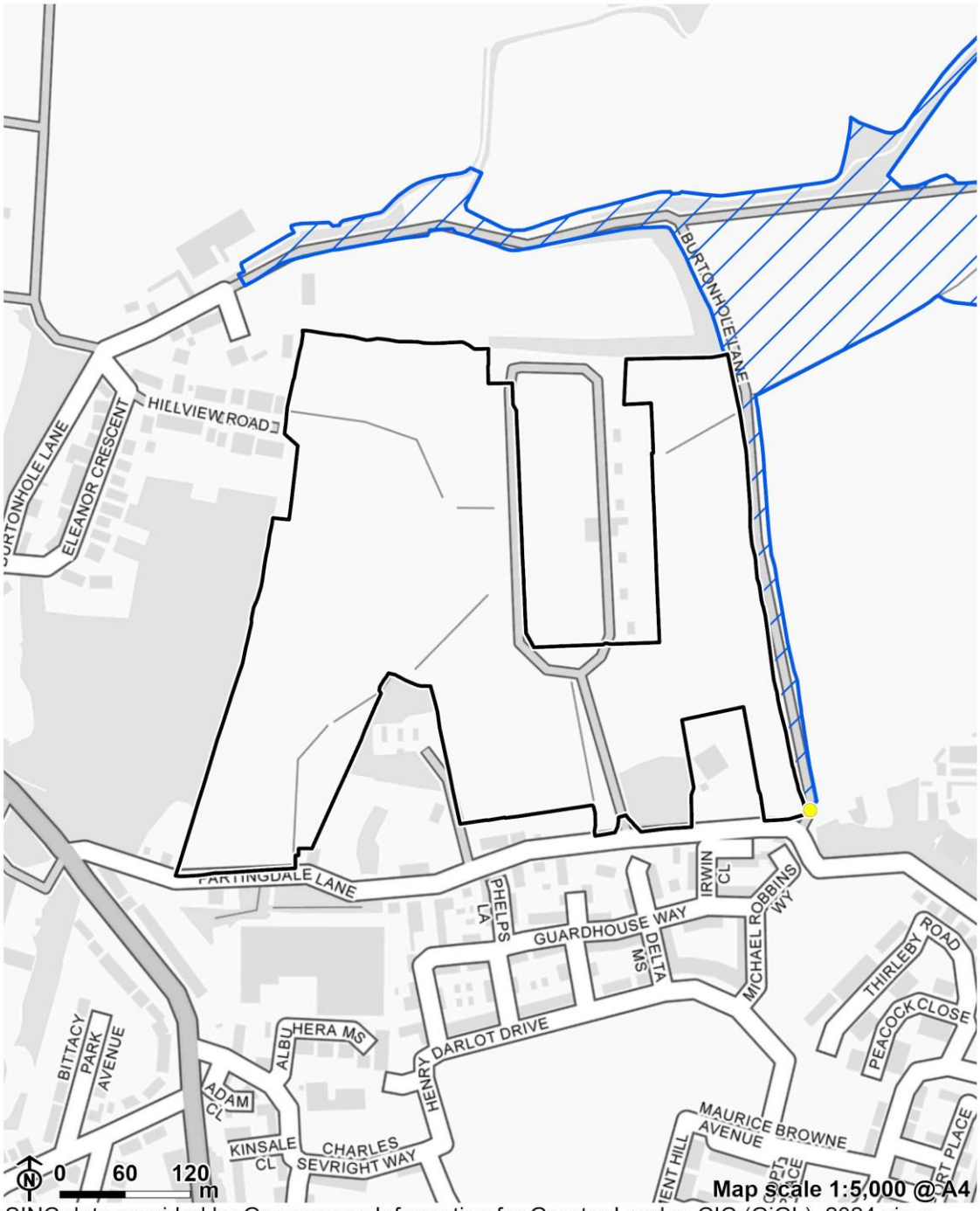
M127 Mill Hill Substation Pastures

M127 Mill Hill Substation Pastures

M127 Mill Hill Substation Pastures

Danger
Keep Out

M127 Mill Hill Substation Pastures
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Grazing management on the grassland to ensure the London clay is not detrimentally affected by over grazing of horses. Using the fallen deadwood within the site to create log piles and other deadwood features for reptiles and invertebrates on the site. Planting of native scrub to increase the scrub diversity.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The site is a good example of London clay grassland within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: These pastures are patches of unimproved London Clay grassland which is rare within the borough.
Species Rarity: The site supports several notable and protected species including Bluebell, Common Cudweed, Essex Skipper, and Small Skipper.
Habitat Richness: The site comprises London clay grassland, scrub, mature trees and woodland.
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is medium sized and supports a variety of Habitats and species.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The grassland would be difficult to recreate as needs species soil types.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is in the centre of the borough and is adjacent to another SINC. The site is also ecologically connected to the wider green spaces in the centre of the borough.
Access: The site is not publicly accessible.
Use: The site is used to graze horses.
Potential: There is potential to improve the scrub species diversity within the site by native shrub planting.
Aesthetic Appeal: Open pastures with tree lines, scattered trees and scrub provide a very green view.
Geodiversity Interest: London clay soils.
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site is an important area for London Clay grassland and supports a good example of thisHabitat. The site also supports several notable and protected species and therefore meets the Metropolitan SINC criteria.
Site Maps



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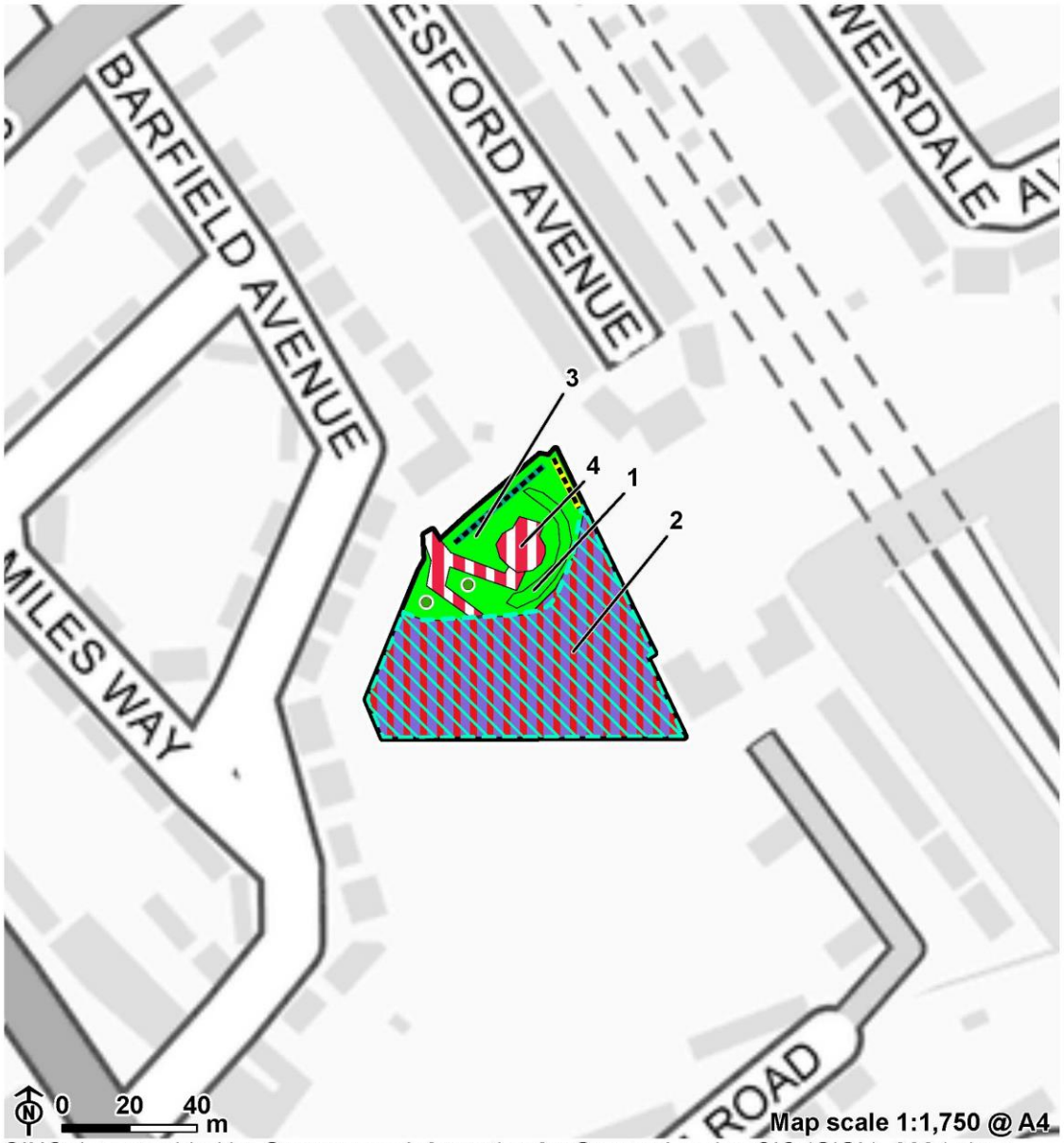
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park
Site information
LUC Site ID: 40
SINC ID: BaL21
SINC Name: Barfield Allotments Nature Park
SINC Grade:
Grid Reference:
Area (ha):
Ward:
Land Use:
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary:
SINC Description:
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:
NE Priority Habitat records:
London BAP Habitat suitability records:
Protected/Notable Species records:
INNS Records:
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The Site is in the east of the borough and is not connected to any SINCs, to the south of the site is a small area of allotments. The Site included a small area of scrub and woodland which is closed off to the public. This has been allowed to become overgrown and areas of grassland and glades are overshadowed by dense bramble. The area of scrub provides suitableHabitat for wildlife which is removed from human disturbance. The area of scrub and scattered trees could be viewed through the fence and therefore was not considered to be significant limitation to the survey. The public section of the park consists of a children's playground, ornamental planting and mature trees.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good

BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park
Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The playground is well managed, with the scattered scrub cut back to avoid overhang onto the playground. The area of scrub and scattered trees behind the locked fence was very dense, with few glades.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Barfield Allotments Nature Reserve is a very small SINC site in the east of the borough. The site is ecologically connected to the allotments to the south and to a green bridge, which provides connectivity across the railway tracks to the east. The site comprises a small children's playground with amenity grassland, scattered ornamental scrub and scattered semi-mature silver birch Betula pendula and oak trees Quercus robur. The scrub species include box Buxus sempervirens, honeysuckle Lonicera periclymenum and buddleia Buddleia sp.. The amenity grassland was cut to a short sward and was dominated by perennial rye grass Lolium perenne and cock's foot Dactylis glomerata, with abundant white clover Trifolium repens. The site was split in half by a locked fence, which prohibited public access to the scrub and scattered trees. This area comprised semi mature ash Fraxinus excelsior, willow Salix sp., and oak. The scrub species included dominant dense bramble Rubus fruticosus and abundant hazel Corylus avellana and hawthorn Crataegus monogyna. There were narrow grassland pathways cut through this section of the site.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Litter was a minor issue within the site, one bin was provided for the playground but was overflowing.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: The scrub within the south of the site was dominated by bramble. This could be thinned to create glades within the scattered trees and would create further floristic and sward height diversity. This would also create areas where reptiles can bask without human disturbance. Within the playground area, the scrub planting could be supplemented with wildlife and invertebrate friendly planting.
Interest: N/A Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The semi-mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The scrub in the south of the site provides opportunities for reptiles and mammals to shelter. The deadwood features within the south of the site provide importantHabitat for invertebrate species such as saproxylic species like stag beetle.
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

Individual tree

Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat linear

Hedgerow with trees

Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

h3d - bramble scrub

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

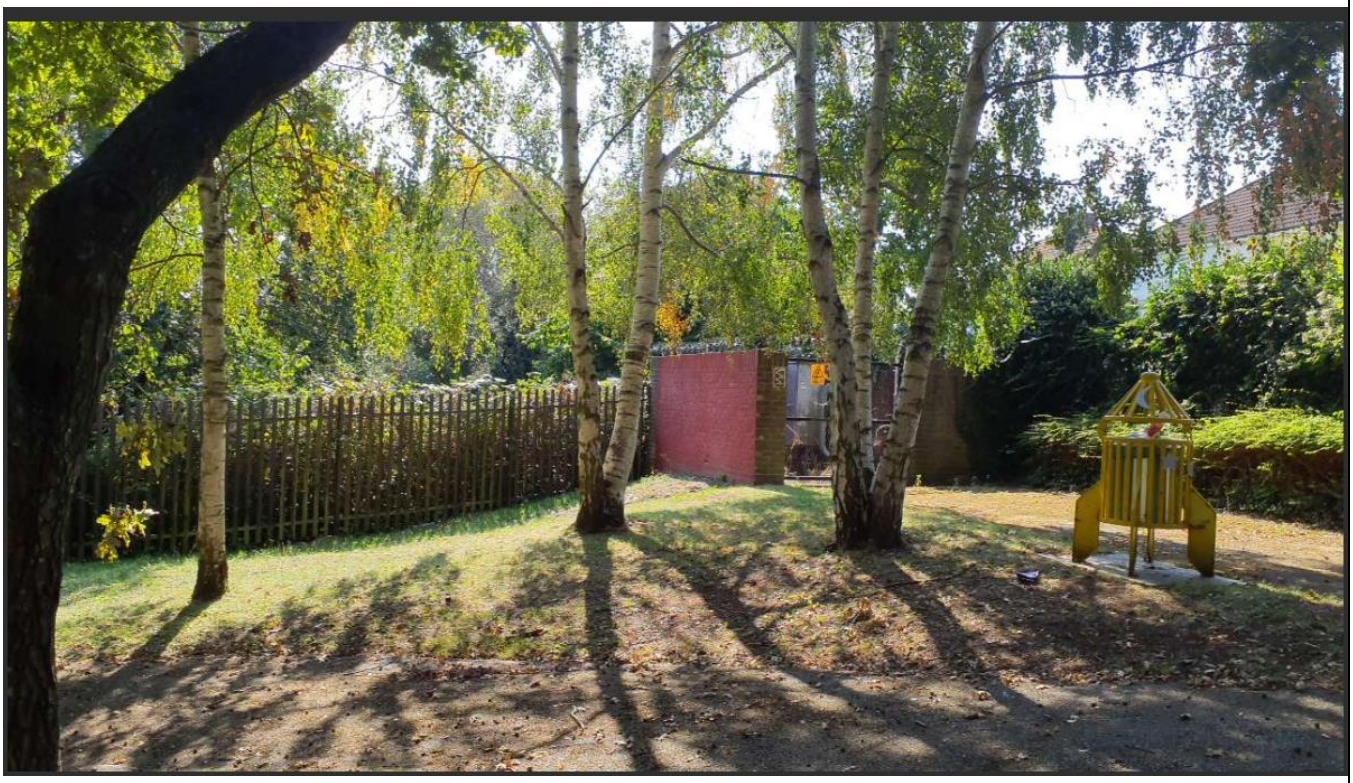
2: 32 - scattered trees

3: 32 - scattered trees

4: 823 - children's play space

BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park

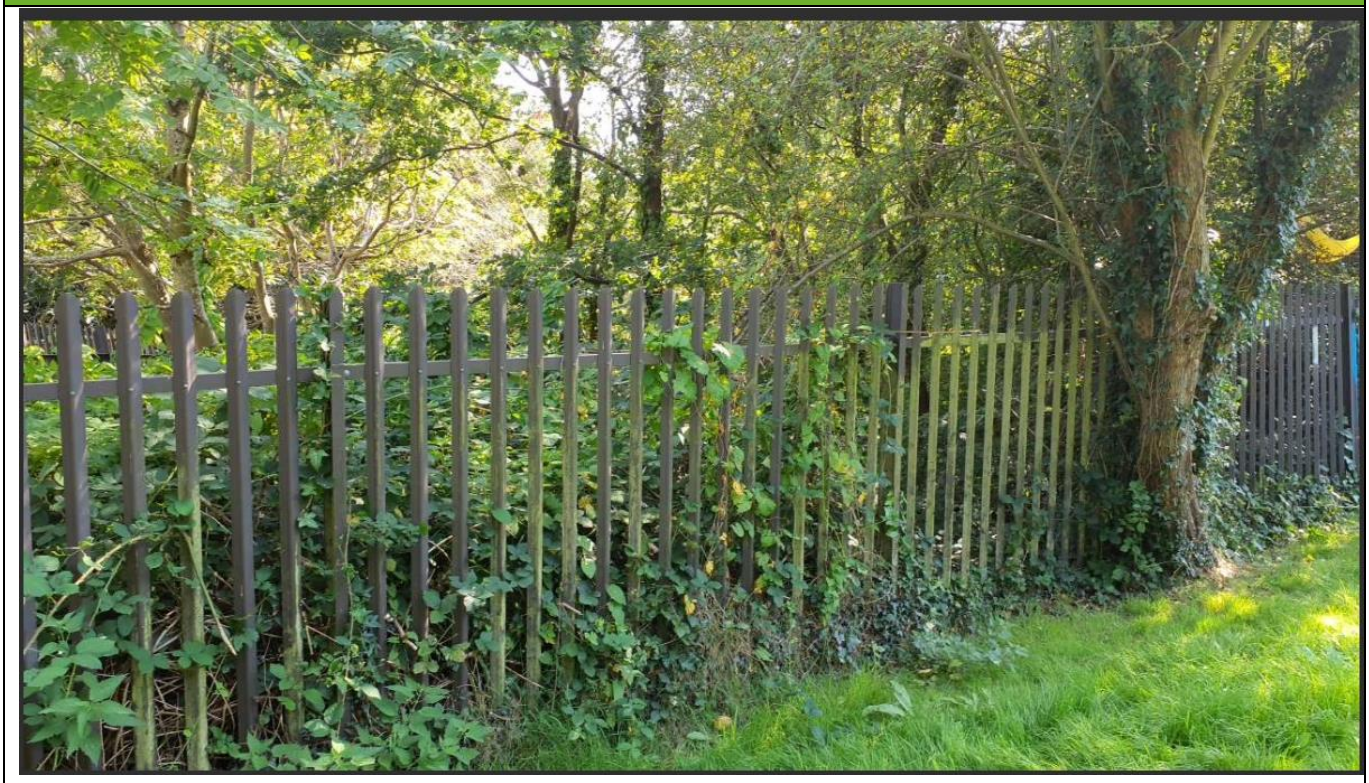
Site Photographs:



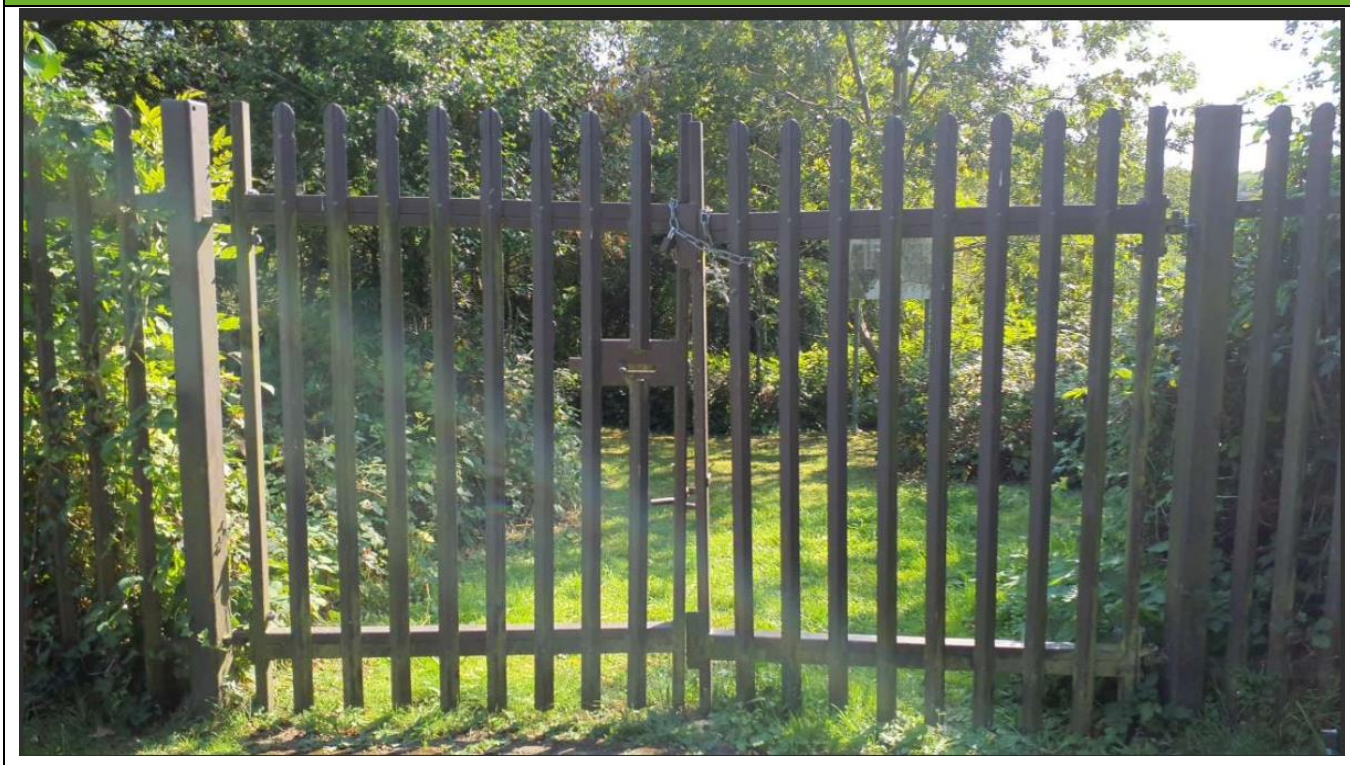
BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park

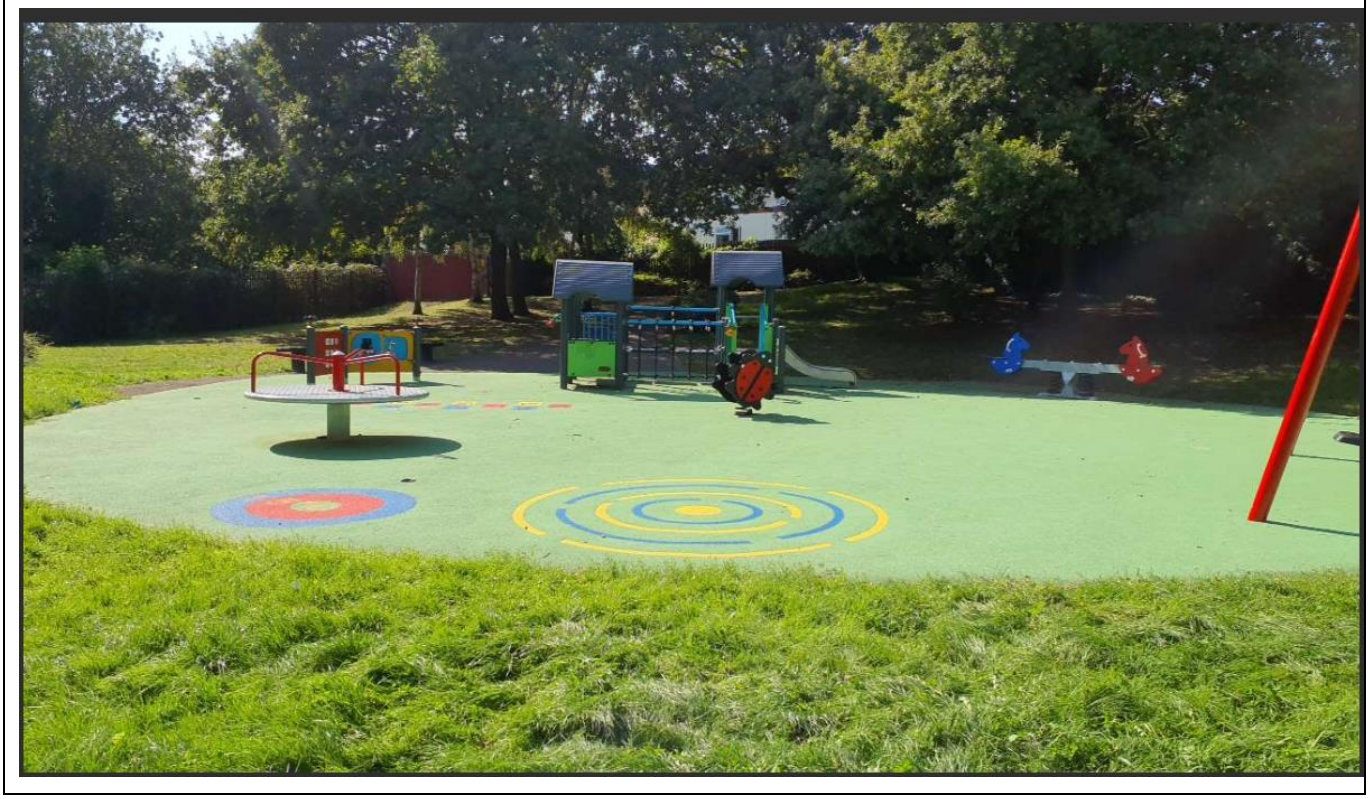
BARFIELD NATURE RESERVE

BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park

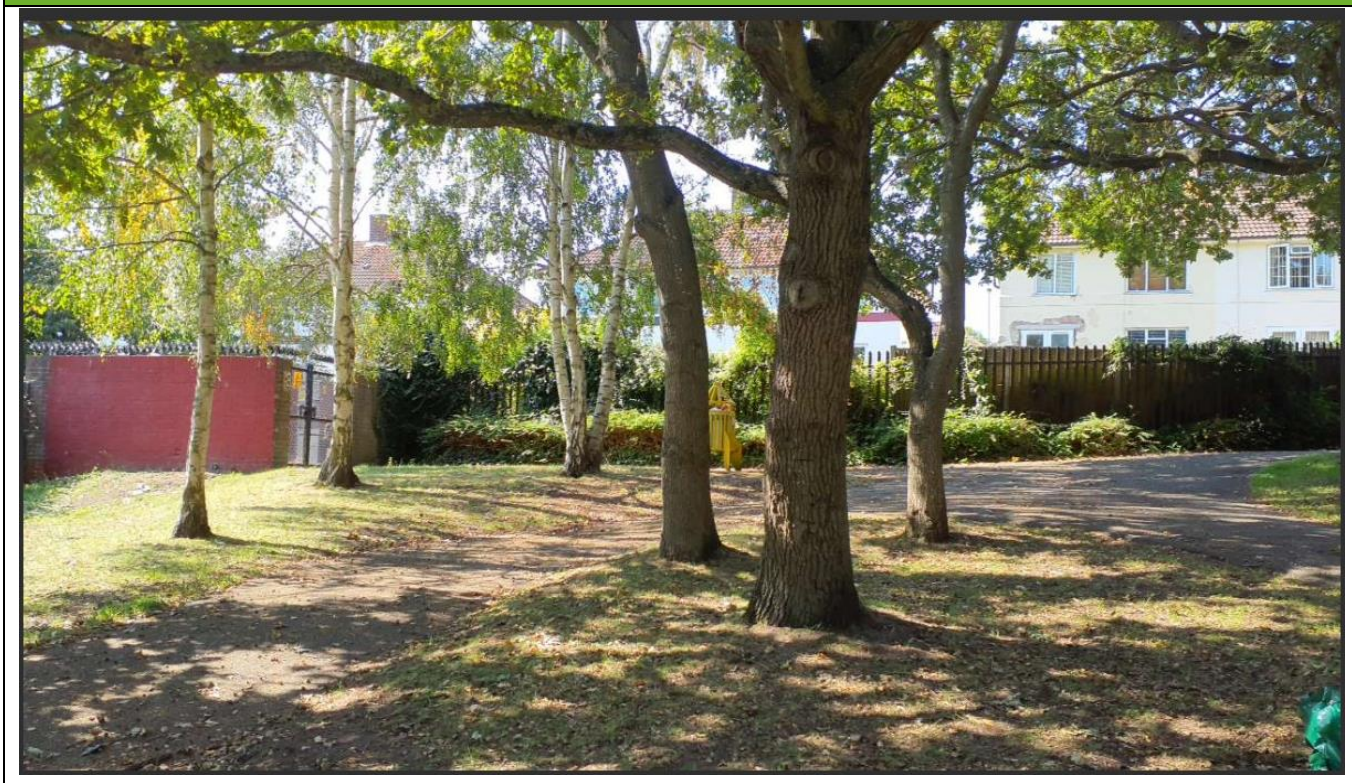


BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park





BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park

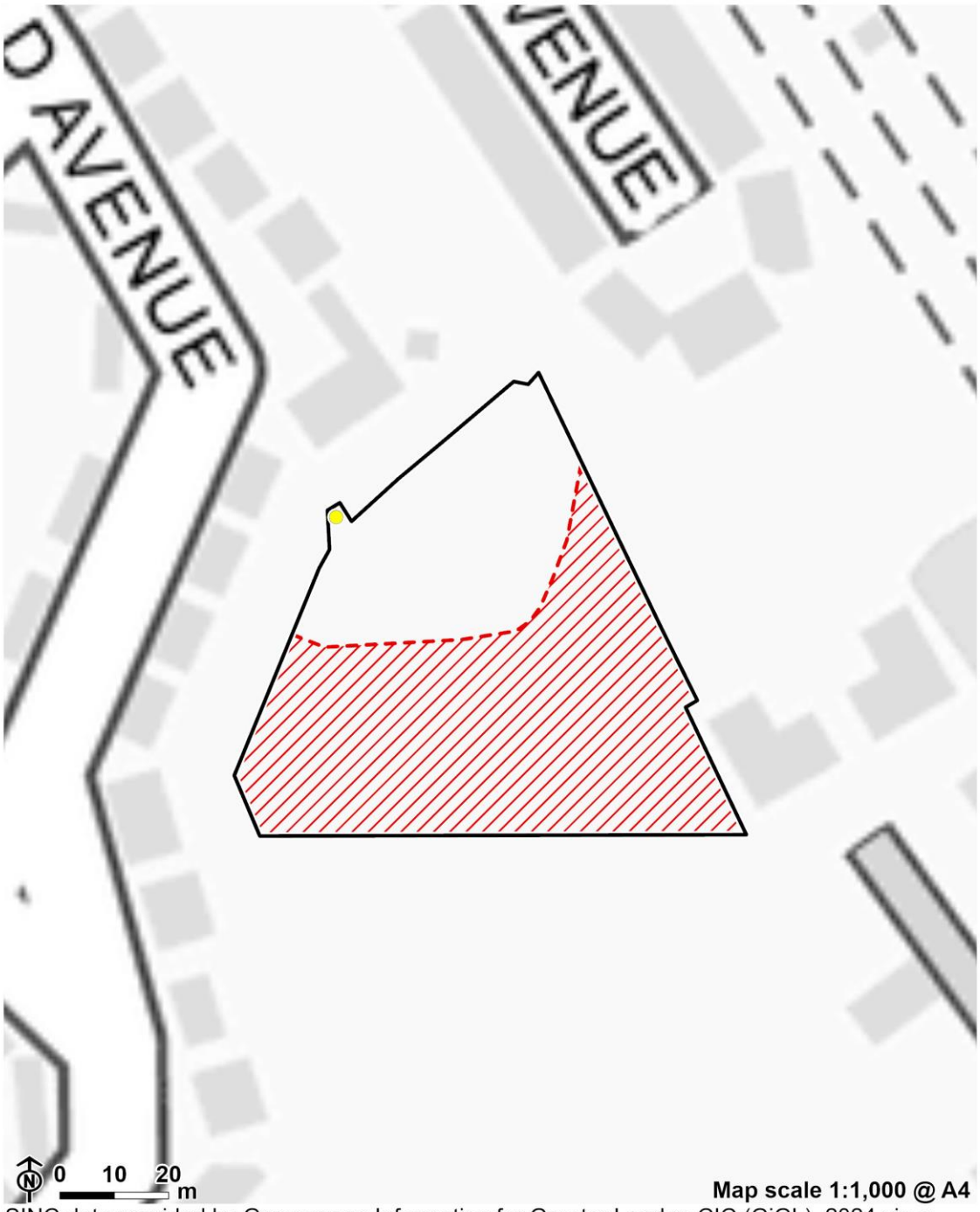


Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A

Management Recommendations:

BaL21 Barfield Allotments Nature Park
Thinning of bramble scrub to create a more diverse ground flora and this will also provide areas for common lizard to bask. Litter management through regular clean-ups of the benches and surroundingHabitat.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The Habitats present were common and widespread.
Species Rarity: The site providesHabitat that is suitable for slow worm and common lizard .
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is 0.5Ha, which is a very small SINC for the area.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The area of undisturbed scrub and scattered trees with deadwood is less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them with the lack of disturbance and therefore should be conserved.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: This SINC is located within an area of deficiency for nature conservation and provides an importantHabitat for common reptiles.
Access: The site is partially accessible to the public.
Use: The site is primarily used by locals and families. School groups can access the area of scrub.
Potential: There is potential to improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The scrub and scattered trees provide a green oasis in an urban area.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the designation for a Local SINC, it is a small green space comprised of common and widespread Habitats, the scrub and semi- mature trees and deadwood features are of higher ecological value. The site provides a green open space and playground for local people. The site provides opportunities for multiple species, including common lizard and slow worm. The site is ecologically connectivity to further open green spaces within the borough.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

Access point

BaBII17 Northern line Embankment, High Barnet
Site information
LUC Site ID: 41
SINC ID: BaBII17
SINC Name: Northern line Embankment, High Barnet
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2567395176
Area (ha): 6.2
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms, Green Corridors, Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A steep railway embankment, providing a goodHabitat for reptiles.
SINC Description: The railway embankment between Totteridge and Whetstone and High Barnet is vegetated with woodland, interspersed with bramble , Rubus fruticosus agg., scrub, rough grassland and tall herbs. The woodland is mostly composed of sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, , silver birch , Betula pendula, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, . Grassland patches are dominated by false oat grass , Arrhenatherum elatius, , and tall herbs include rosebay willowherb , Chamerion angustifolium, , mugwort , Artenisia vulgaris, , hogweed , Heracleum sphondylium, and cow parley , Anthriscus sylvestris, . The more openHabitats support one of the few known colonies of common lizards in the borough of Barnet, and slow worms are also present.
Management provider: Transport for London
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Beetle, Alpine Hair grass, Large Skipper
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Goat's rue, Snowberry
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: This site is a railway embankment between Totteridge & Whetstone and High Barnet Station, vegetated with broadleaved woodland and scrub. Located in the north of the borough, the SINC forms a wildlife corridor with the remainder of the railway line as it travels south, which is not part of the SINC but is still vegetated along its course (including residential gardens, allotments, woodland), although with some fragmentation from urbanisation after the line passes Totteridge & Whetstone. The SINC is also bound by allotments, residential gardens and a public park and the southern part of the SINC falls within the green belt, therefore the site is well connected to local greenspaces. Given the site is an active railway track, the site is not accessible to the public.
Survey Data

BaBII17 Northern line Embankment, High Barnet
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Warm and sunny
Date: 5/9/2024 3:47:00 PM
Survey access: View
Level of Use: Unknown
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Given there was no public access to the site, surveying the site was limited and could only be viewed from public park to the west of the site, therefore it was not possible to effectively assess the level of existing management. It is assumed that trees would be highly managed and pruned for safety reasons.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The survey was limited as there was no public access so it could only be surveyed from the public park to the west of the site. From what could be seen the railway track was lined with woodland and scrub. Species which could be seen included blackthorn Prunus spinosa, hawthorn Crataegus monogyna, bramble Rubus fruticosa with trees including predominantly oak Quercus robur and Norway maple Acer platanoides, elder Sambucus nigra, ash Fraxinus excelsior, goat willow Salix caprea, lime Tilia x europaea, horse chestnut Aesculus hippocastanum . Bluebells Hyacinthoides non-scripta, stitchwort Stellaria sp and wood avens Geum urbanum were also noted on the ground. From what could be viewed from the edge of the site, the onlyHabitats that could be seen was the woodland and scrub. No grassland was visible within the site from the site boundary, however from aerial it looks like some grassland/tall ruderal vegetation line the track.
Threats and Disturbances: Pollution, Invasive species, Noise: Additional comments: Potential for noise and pollution given the site is a railway line and butterfly-bush, goats-rue and snowberry is known to be on site. The extent of invasive species couldn't be assessed as the site could not be accessed, however without management thisHabitat has the potential to become overrun with invasive species, and so they should be monitored and controlled in line with legal requirements.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub management, Deadwood, Wildlife friendly Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The trees and shrubs provide bird nestingHabitat, and it is possible that some of the trees on site have features suitable for roosting bats. As well as for roosting, bats would use the site for commuting and foraging on invertebrates likely to be using the site. The site is bound by residential gardens and allotments. It is likely that small ponds are present within these off-site Habitats providing breeding Habitat for amphibians. Given the connectivity between the site and the neighbouringHabitats, amphibians potentially use the SINC during their terrestrial phase. Compost heaps within allotments are also known to support reptiles such as slow worms, meaning if present, they may use the Habitats within the SINC for shelter, and foraging. The site is known to support slow worms and common lizards.
Habitat figure: N/A

BaBII17 Northern line Embankment, High Barnet
Site Photographs:

BaBII17 Northern line Embankment, High Barnet

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

Options are fairly limited given it is a railway line meaning the site is narrow. Enhancements could include:

- consideration should be given to pollarding or coppicing trees that would ordinarily have to be felled to maintain the railway line.

- using wood generated from tree management activities to create deadwoodHabitats and place them scattered within the woodland.

- addition of bird and bat boxes on trees.

- addition of a bee bank.

- removal of invasive species and replacement with native tree and scrub species

- maintenance of grassland and ruderalHabitats to ensure that scrub does not encroach on These Habitats, maintainingHabitat diversity within the site.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

TFL Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity Plan.

SINC Criteria

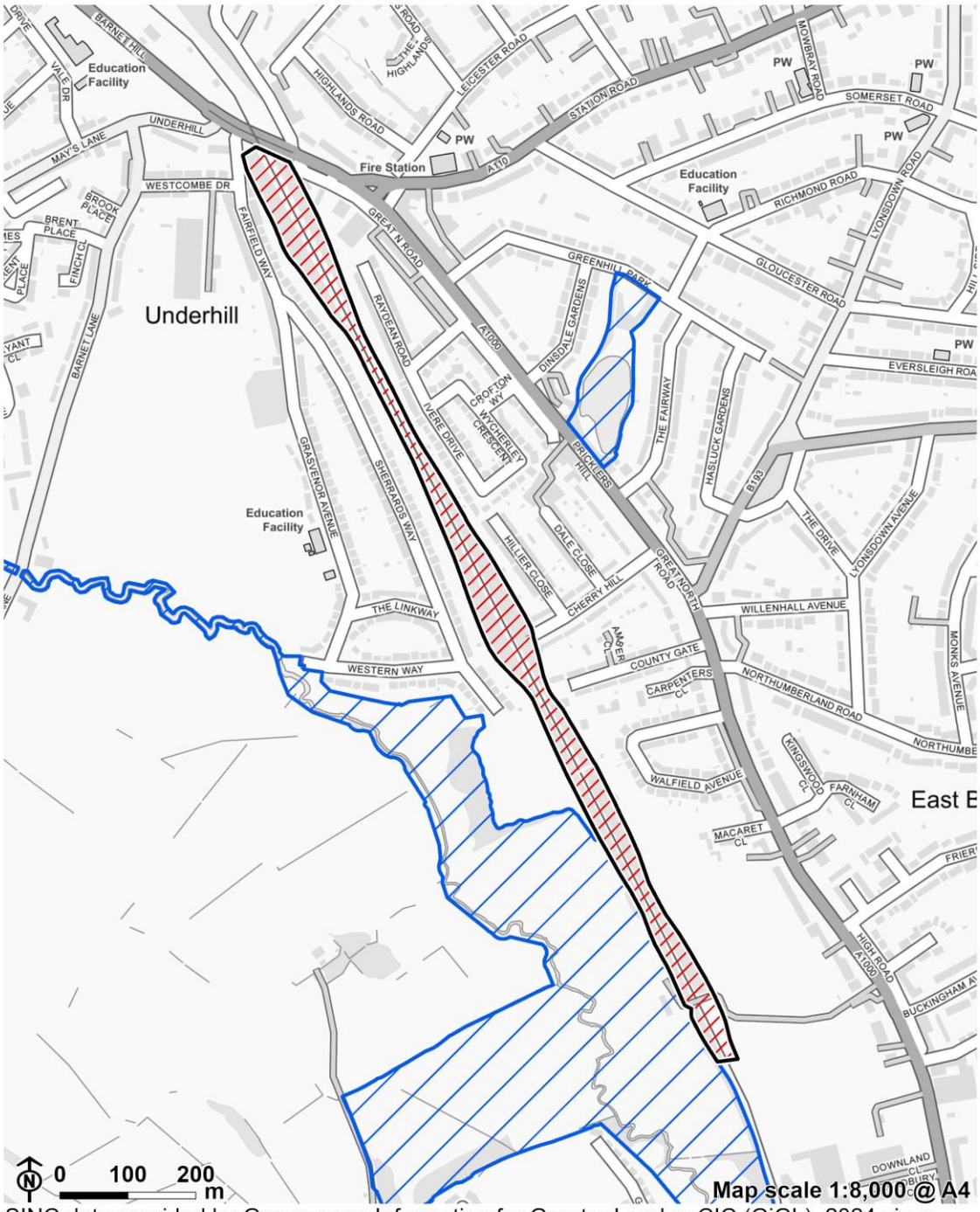
Representation: N/A

Habitat Rarity: Broadleaved woodland is a rareHabitat within urban areas, particularly in London.

Species Rarity: The SINC is known to support one of the few known colonies of common lizards in the borough and it also supports slow worms.

Habitat Richness: The site is predominantly woodland and scrub, with smaller areas of grassland and tall ruderalHabitats.

BaBII17 Northern line Embankment, High Barnet
Species Richness: It was not possible to assess fully due to lack of access.
Size: The site is 6.2ha, however it is well connected to surrounding greenspaces including a public park, allotments, residential gardens and further railway line south of the SINC. Therefore it is an important component of the broader ecological network.
Important populations of species: The SINC is known to support one of the few known colonies of common lizards in the borough.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: Mature trees were noted within the woodland which would take a considerable amount of time to recreate. OtherHabitats including grassland, ruderal vegetation and scrub would be faster to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: The railway is a particularly urban feature of the landscape, and vegetation alongside it creates an important wildlife corridor within urbanised areas of London.
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is bound by a public park, allotments and residential gardens, and also forms a wildlife corridor with the railway line as it travels south. In addition, the southern part of the site is within the Green belt and therefore forms a important component of a broader ecological network and provides a differentHabitat to those in the surrounding greenspaces, therefore providing important places for shelter, foraging and nesting/roosting.
Access: No public access as it is a railway line.
Use: The site is a railway line.
Potential: Given the site is cut off from the public, it has the potential to be a valuable haven for wildlife. The existing management recommendations would bolster the opportunities for species likely to be in neighbouringHabitats and therefore likely to be on site.
Aesthetic Appeal: The vegetation does soften the appearance of the railway as it is largely hidden by the trees.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The SINC is part of a valuable ecological network and should retain its designation as a SINC of Borough Grade II status. Management recommendations have been included to maximise opportunities on site for local wildlife.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

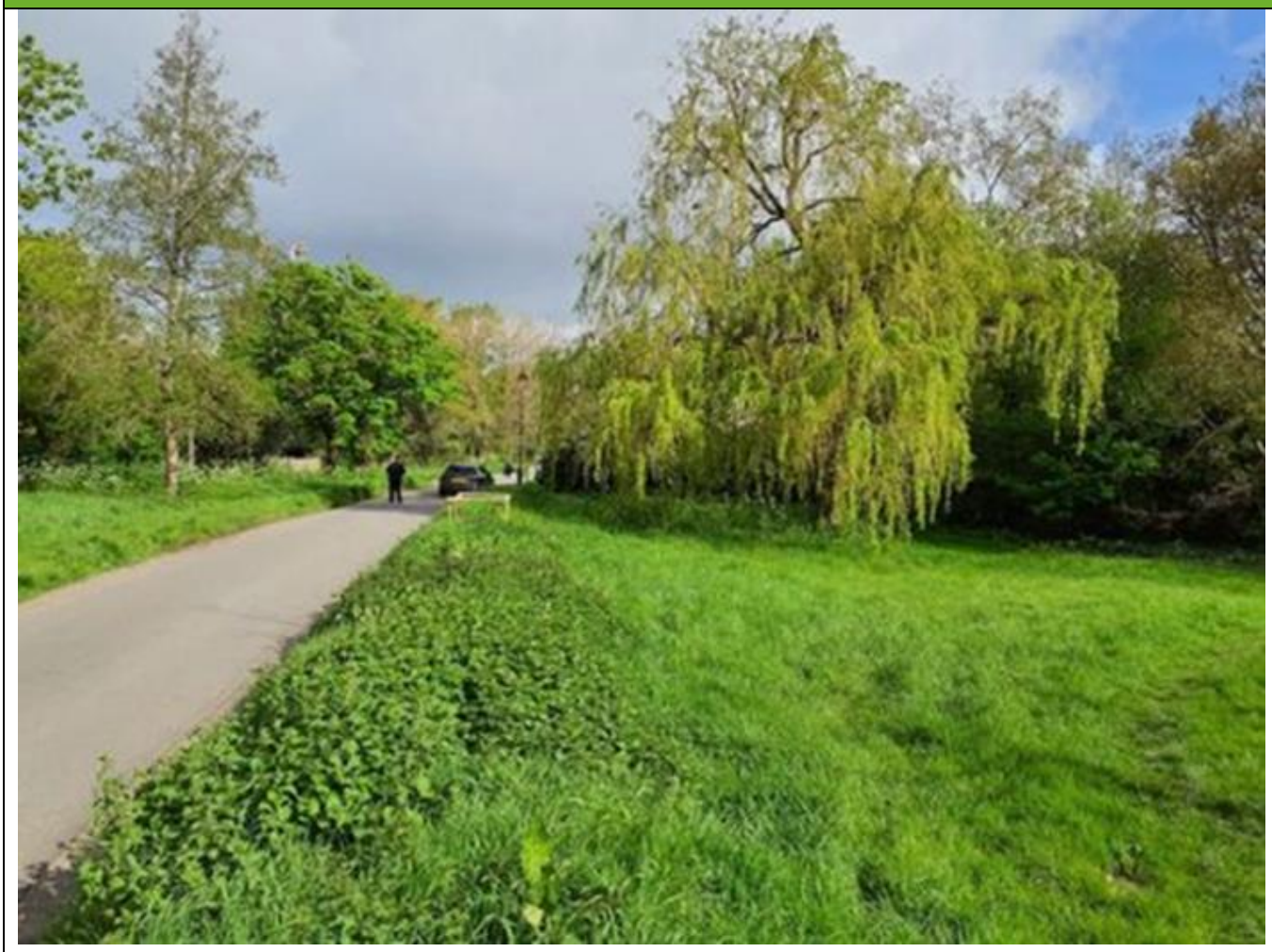
BaBII14 Totteridge Green
Site information
LUC Site ID: 42
SINC ID: BaBII14
SINC Name: Totteridge Green
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2502393806
Area (ha): 4.98
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A typical English village green with open grassland, scattered trees, small pockets of scrubby woodland and a pond.
SINC Description: This typical English village green comprises open grassland with scattered trees, small pockets of scrubby woodland and a pond. Much of the grassland is dominated by perennial rye grass , Lolium perenne, and other coarse meadow species, and contains a reasonable diversity of common wild flowers. There are areas of dry acid grassland, dominated by bents , Agrostis spp., and red fescue , Festuca rubra, , where burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, , tormentil , Potentilla erecta, and bird's foot trefoil , Lotus corniculatus, grow. Several damp hollows, probably former ponds, contain tussocky grassland of tufted hair grass , Deschampsia cespitosa, , with uncommon wild flowers such as great burnet , Sanguisorba officinalis, , bog stitchwort , Stellaria uliginosa, and common marsh bedstraw , Galium palustre, . The one surviving pond , of 14 shown on a map from the 1840s, is Laurel Farm Pond. This is frequented by large numbers of geese and mallards, and hence has rather limited aquatic vegetation. Scattered trees include pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, , beech , Fagus sylvatica, , horse chestnut , Aesculus hippocastanum, and willows , Salix spp., , with one particularly fine veteran oak near the school. The woodlands contain these species, along with sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, , hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , field maple , Acer campestre, , silver birch , Betula pendula, and hazel , Corylus avellana, . There are dense thickets of blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, and regenerating elm , Ulmus sp., . The woodland ground flora includes bluebell , Hyacinthoides non scripta, , ramsons , Allium ursinum, , lords and ladies , Arum maculatum, and the locally rare soft shield fern , Polystichum setiferum, .
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Dunnock, Greenfinch, Purple Emperor, Small Skipper
INNS Records: Japanese Knotweed
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A

BaBII14 Totteridge Green
Summary of Site: Totteridge Green forms a traditional village green comprising a mature tree lined road with large stretches of open grassland. There is also a narrow stretch of broadleaved woodland connecting Totteridge Green with nearby Coppice Walk to the west. At the southern corner of the site lies a large ornamental pond.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: Cloudy
Date: 4/17/2024 8:47:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): There was evidence of recent management of the ditches which appear to have been dug out with material left on banks. However, there appears to be regular fly tipping of garden waste from adjacent residential properties.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The Green contains two ponds, one permanently wet the other ephemeral and mostly dry at time of survey, mature trees and semi-improved grassland. There is also an area of wetter grassland with sphagnum moss and field woodrush near the south-east of site. Presence of silverweed along road edges indicates areas of wetter ground. There are also avenues of mature trees along footpaths and along each side of Totteridge Green road. The semi-improved grassland contains perennial ryegrass, meadow buttercup, common sorrel and meadow foxtail. There are areas of scrub including a stand of gorse along the road bank at the southern portion of the site. The Green contains various mature trees including weeping willow, beech, Indian bean tree, sycamore, and young hazel trees. The woodland canopy comprises of predominantly pedunculate oak and ash, with an understorey of hawthorn, horse chestnut, holly, rowan, hazel, spruce, elm and field maple, with cherry laurel in places. There is also low growing bramble in places. The woodland ground flora includes garlic mustard, mouse ear, native, hybrid and non-native bluebells, lesser celandine, cleavers, cow parsley, forget me not, meadow buttercup, comfey, herb-robert, lords-and-ladies, red campion, dryopterid fern, soft shield fern and wood sedge.
Threats and Disturbances: Fly Tip, Invasive species: Additional comments: Within the woodland area to the west of Totteridge Green road there is a large clearing which has been used to dump a large amount of garden waste. There are also Italian bluebells in areas. There are historic records for the presence of Japanese knotweed at the site, however none was observed during the survey.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates

BaBII14 Totteridge Green
Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The Green is known to support a range of common and less common bird species including jays, blackbirds, wrens, robins and blue tits. At the pond a grey heron was observed in addition to mallards and moorhens.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII14 Totteridge Green

BaBII14 Totteridge Green



BaBII14 Totteridge Green

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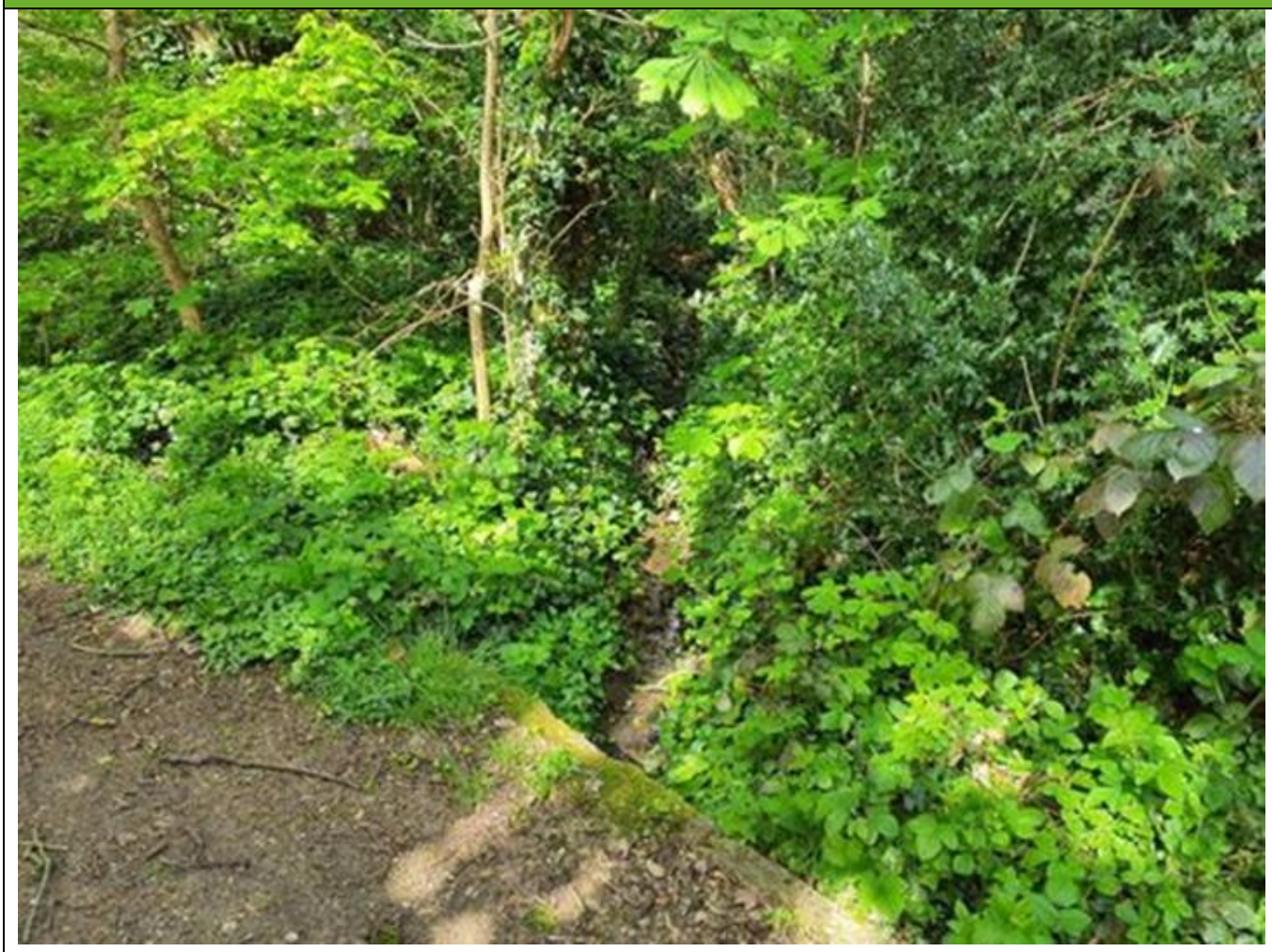

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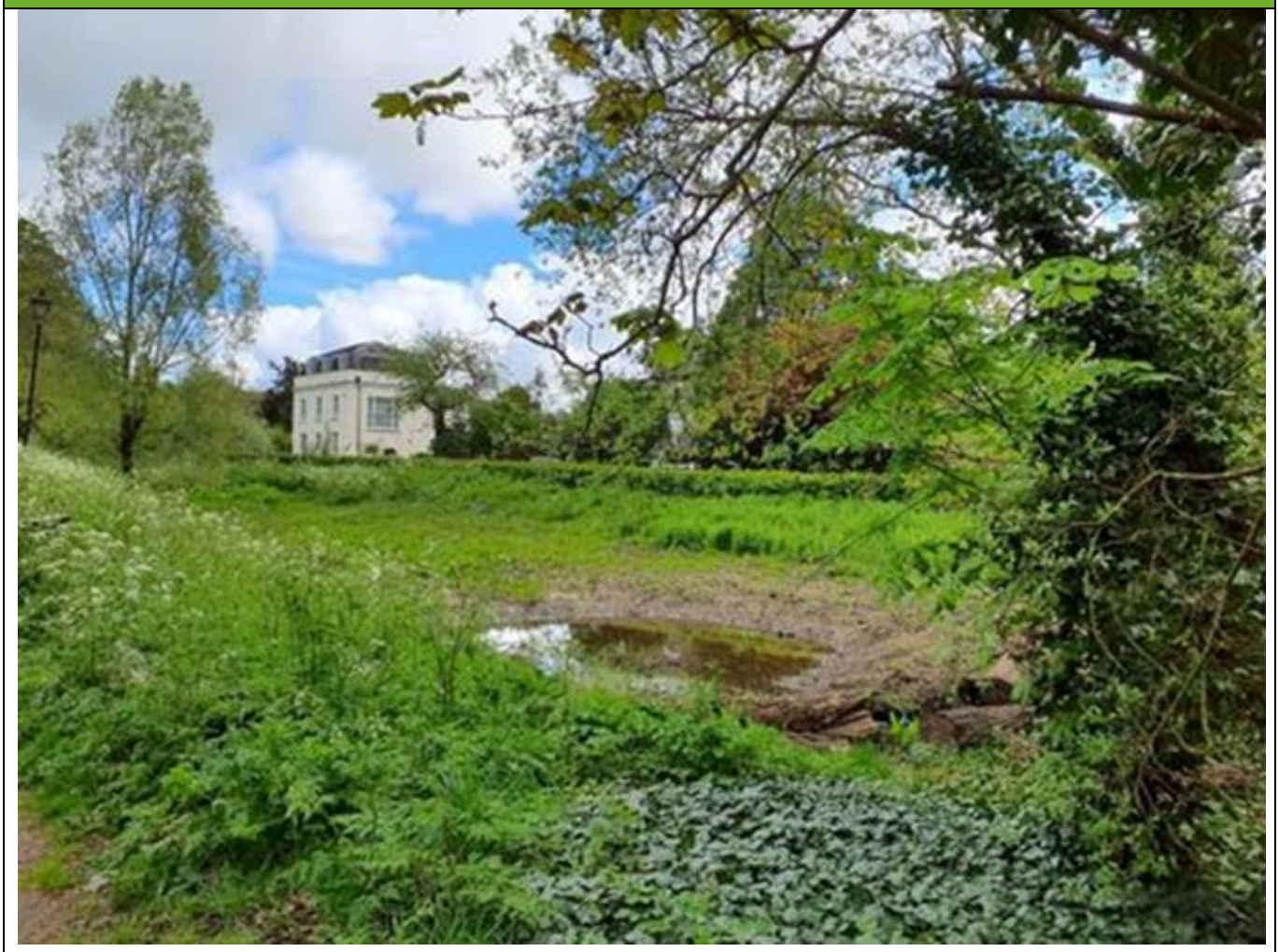
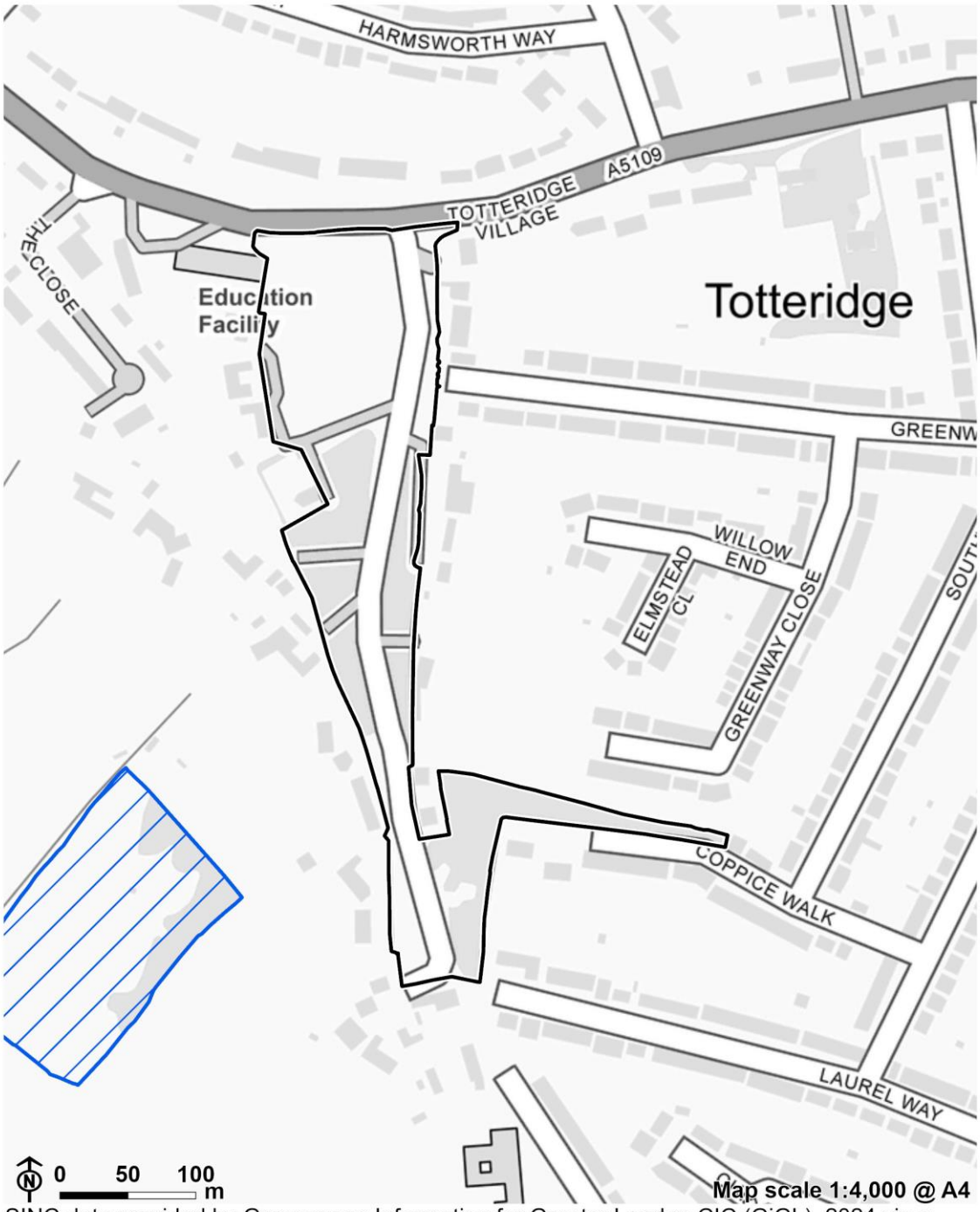


BaBII14 Totteridge Green
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: It is recommended that information boards are installed at key gateways to the site in order to explain the ecological importance of the SINC and the risks that garden waste can have with regards to introducing non-native species.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: Totteridge Green offers good representation of a traditional English village green and contains a range of Habitats and species.
Habitat Rarity: N/A
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: The Green supports broadleaved woodland, semi-improved grassland and a pond, Habitats which are not typically present within residential areas. The trees are particularly mature and are likely to offer significant Habitat value to nesting, foraging and roosting birds and bats.
Species Richness: These Habitats are likely to support diverse species assemblages including woodland birds, small mammals, bats, invertebrates and amphibians.

BaBII14 Totteridge Green
Size: The village green is a substantial size of 5ha and lies within a network of other sites of borough importance.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: N/A
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: Totteridge Green has particular cultural value to residents as it provides a focal point for residents to meet and likely has done for many decades.
Geographic Position: Totteridge Green is located to the west of the town of Totteridge, which is within the centre of the borough. Totteridge Green lies within a network of other Borough SINC sites including Totteridge Croft Field, which lies just 100m west of the Green, and Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve which lies just 400m south-west. The canopy cover of mature trees offers ecological connectivity between Totteridge Green and these SINC sites to the south-west.
Access: The site is publicly accessible on foot and by car from all surrounding residential areas.
Use: The site is predominantly used by residents of Totteridge Green and the adjacent roads for walking, dog walking and general exercise and recreation.
Potential: N/A
Aesthetic Appeal: The village green offers substantial aesthetic appeal both to visitors and residents and there are multiple areas for people to walk through and sit to enjoy the natural surroundings and wildlife.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to offer substantial ecological value to the SINC network and to local residents who enjoy the many benefits of wildlife richHabitats on their doorstep.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture
Site information
LUC Site ID: 43
SINC ID: BaBII13
SINC Name: Burtonhole Lane and Pasture
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2434892834
Area (ha): 6.51
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other Urban Fringe, Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: An old green lane, flanked by tall hedgerows, which now serves as a public footpath and bridleway, and two neighbouring, flower rich meadows.
SINC Description: Burtonhole Lane is an old green lane which now serves as a public footpath and bridleway. It is flanked by tall hedgerows, which have expanded into woodland strips in places. A good variety of shrubs include hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, , elder , Sambucus nigra, , bramble , Rubus fruticosus, , suckering elm , Ulmus sp., , dog rose , Rosa canina, and field rose , R. arvensis, , with lesser amounts of hazel , Corylus avellana, , holly , Ilex aquilifolium, , goat willow , Salix caprea, and wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, . A number of stately trees, mostly pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, tower over the hedges. A diverse hedge bottom flora includes wood forget me not , Myosotis sylvatica, , heath groundsel , Senecio sylvatica, , great horsetail , Equisetum telmateia, , stone parsley , Sison amomum, , barren strawberry , Potentilla sterilis, , bluebell , Hycinthoides non scripta, , ramsons , Allium ursinum, , dog's mercury , Mercurialis perennis, and lesser periwinkle , Vinca minor, . A wet ditch at the base of the hedge contains common marsh bedstraw , Galium palustre, and marsh cudweed , Gnaphalium uliginosum, and supports breeding frogs. Birds frequenting the hedgerows include chaffinch, bullfinch, goldcrest and green woodpecker, and mammals include stoat, weasel and bank vole. To the east of Burtonhole Lane are two fields of old London clay grassland. The sward is dominated by Yorkshire fog , Holcus lanatus, , with tufted hair grass , Deschampsia cespitosa, in places. Much of the fields supports only a limited range of common wild flowers, but several damp areas have a much richer flora, including sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, , greater bird's foot trefoil , Lotus uliginosus, , false fox sedge , Carex otrubae, , cuckooflower , Cardamine pratensis, and marsh thistle , Cirsium palustre, . The Burtonhole Brook crosses the fields, and contains plicate sweet grass , Glyceria notata, , water pepper , Persicaria hydropiper, , common water starwort , Callitriche stagnalis, and water mint , Mentha aquatica, . To the north of the fields is a narrow belt of planted woodland, with a footpath leading to Darland's Lake. A small, shady pool lies in the corner of the wood, fringed with crack willows , Salix fragilis, .
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records:

BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture
No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the centre of the borough. The site is adjacent to the Mill Hill Substation SINC and is ecologically connected to the Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve to the east. The small site includes a bridal-path through the north and east of the site, through woodland and scrub.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Wet and windy
Date: 4/25/2024 1:39:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The pathways were well kept.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Bridle path and pathway in the north of the site lined by scrub and woodland including sycamore, ash, alder, oak, bramble, hawthorn, hornbeam, goat willow, horse chestnut, rose, creeping thistle, nettle, cleavers, bluebell, ivy, garlic mustard. There was a small wet ditch on either side of the path. In the east of the site was a further public footpath through the woodland and scrub, comprising hornbeam, field maple, ash, hawthorn, goat willow, oak, horse chestnut, blackthorn, bramble, rose, garlic mustard, soft rush, dock, common hogweed, and creeping buttercup. Within the trees and scrub were open glades, however these were being encroached by nettle and bramble.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling: Additional comments: There were areas of litter and dog fouling near the entrance to the site in the west.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab, ActiveTree, Deadwood Additional comments: Thinning of dense scrub in the woodland to create glades, and maintaining the existing glades. Creation of deadwood features for invertebrates. Coppicing of hazel trees.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds.

BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

NO
THROUGH
ROAD

CIRCULAR
WALK
CIRCULAR
WALK
TOTTERIDGE & MILL HILL
CIRCULAR WALKS

BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture

BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture

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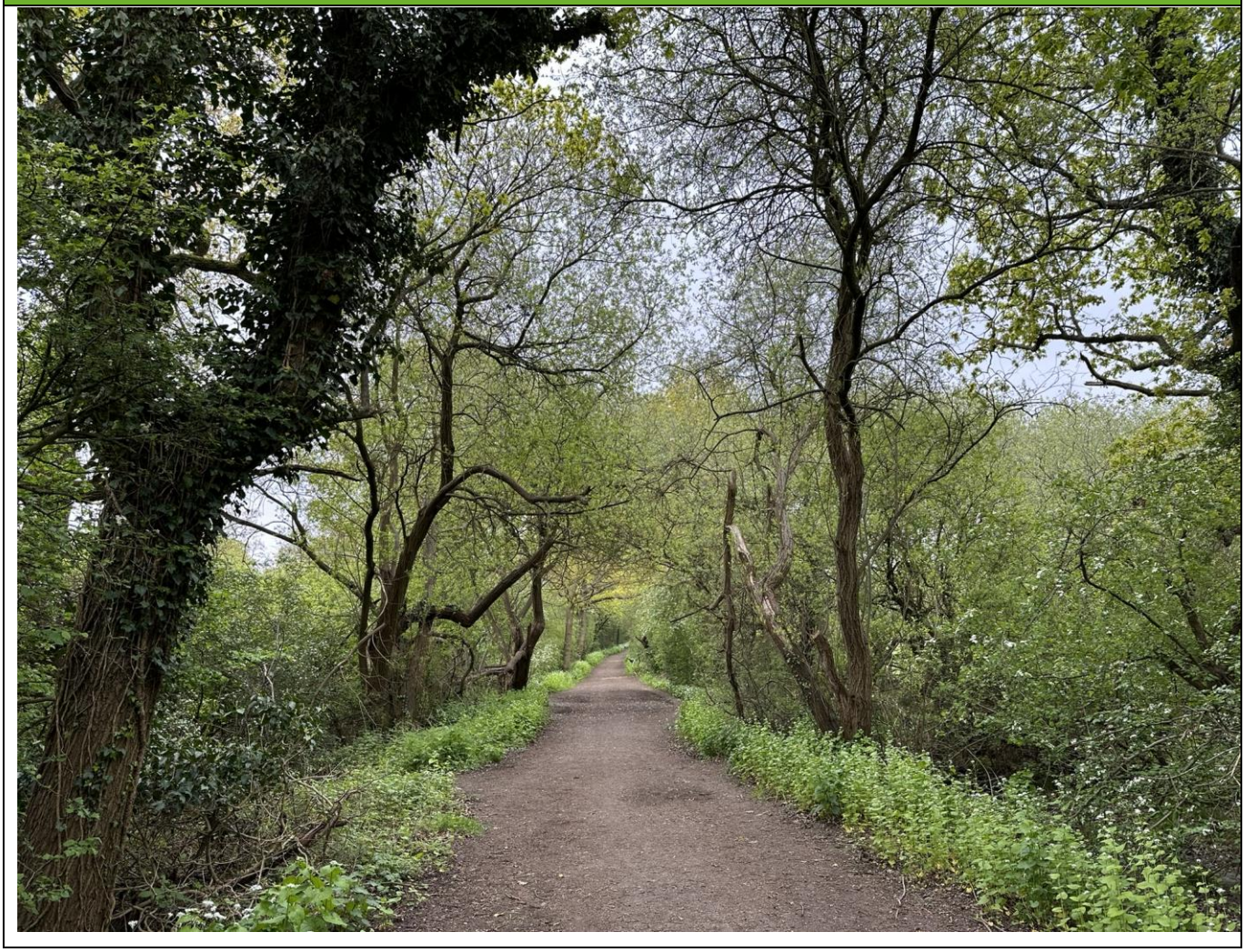
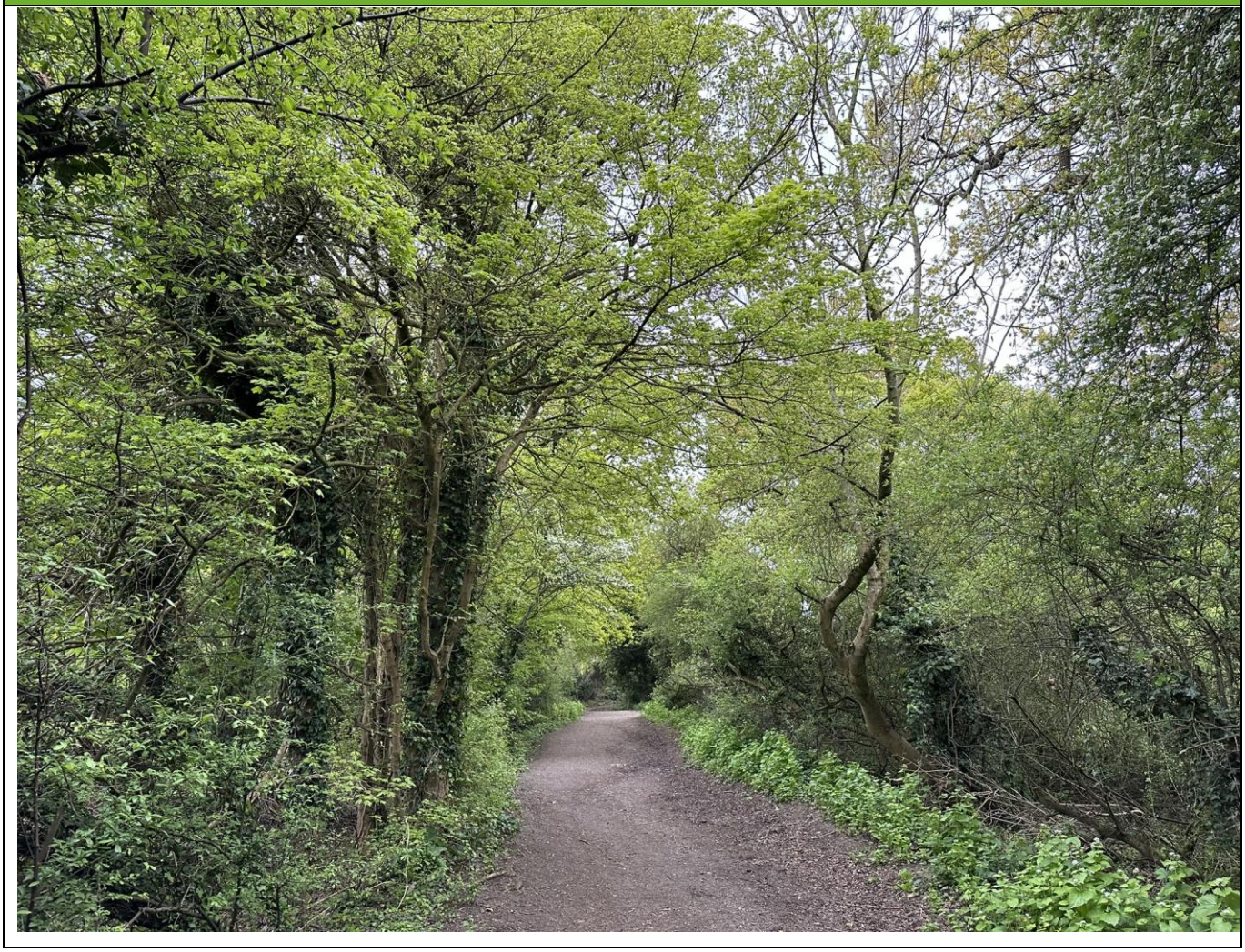
BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture

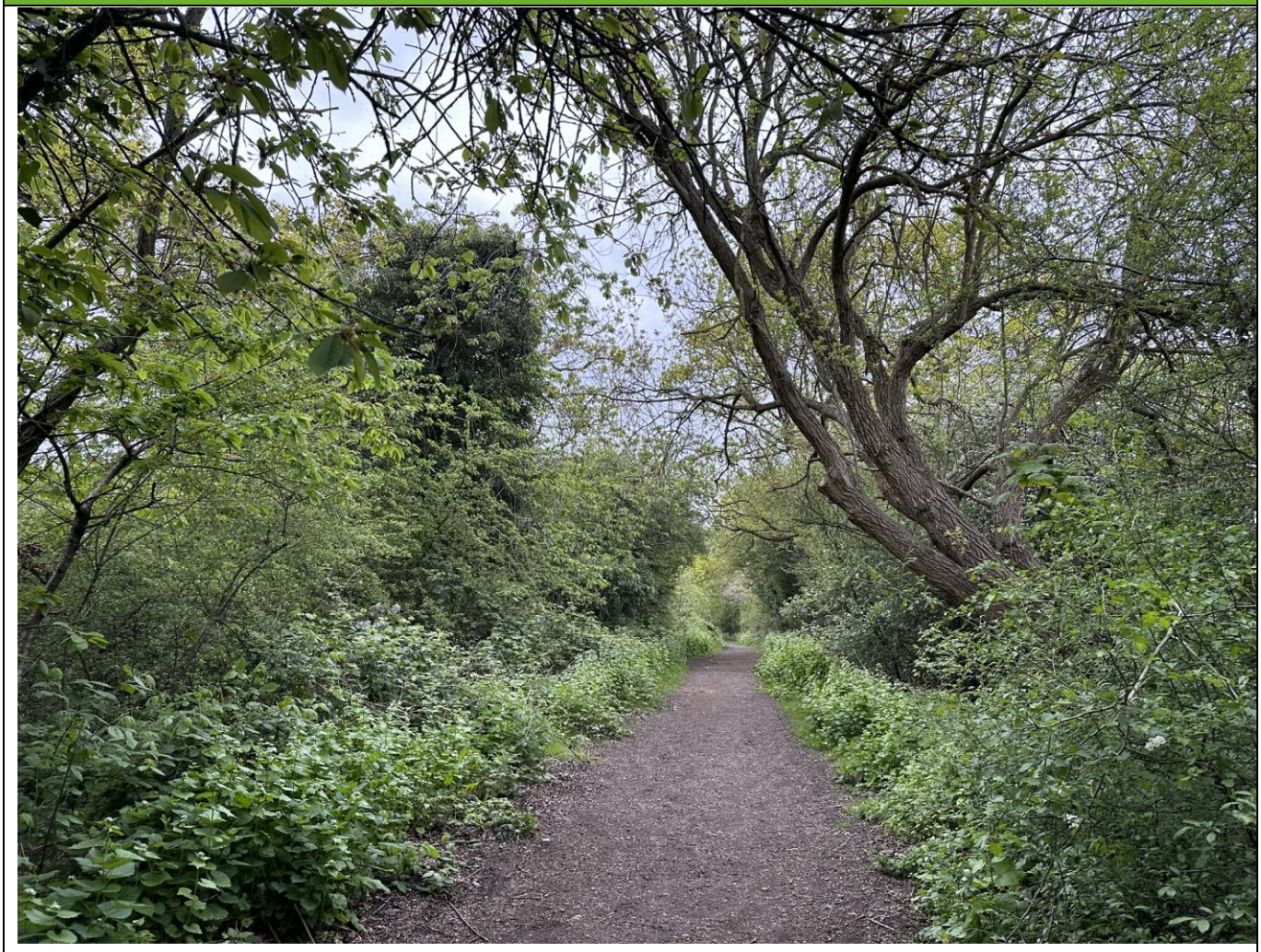
BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture



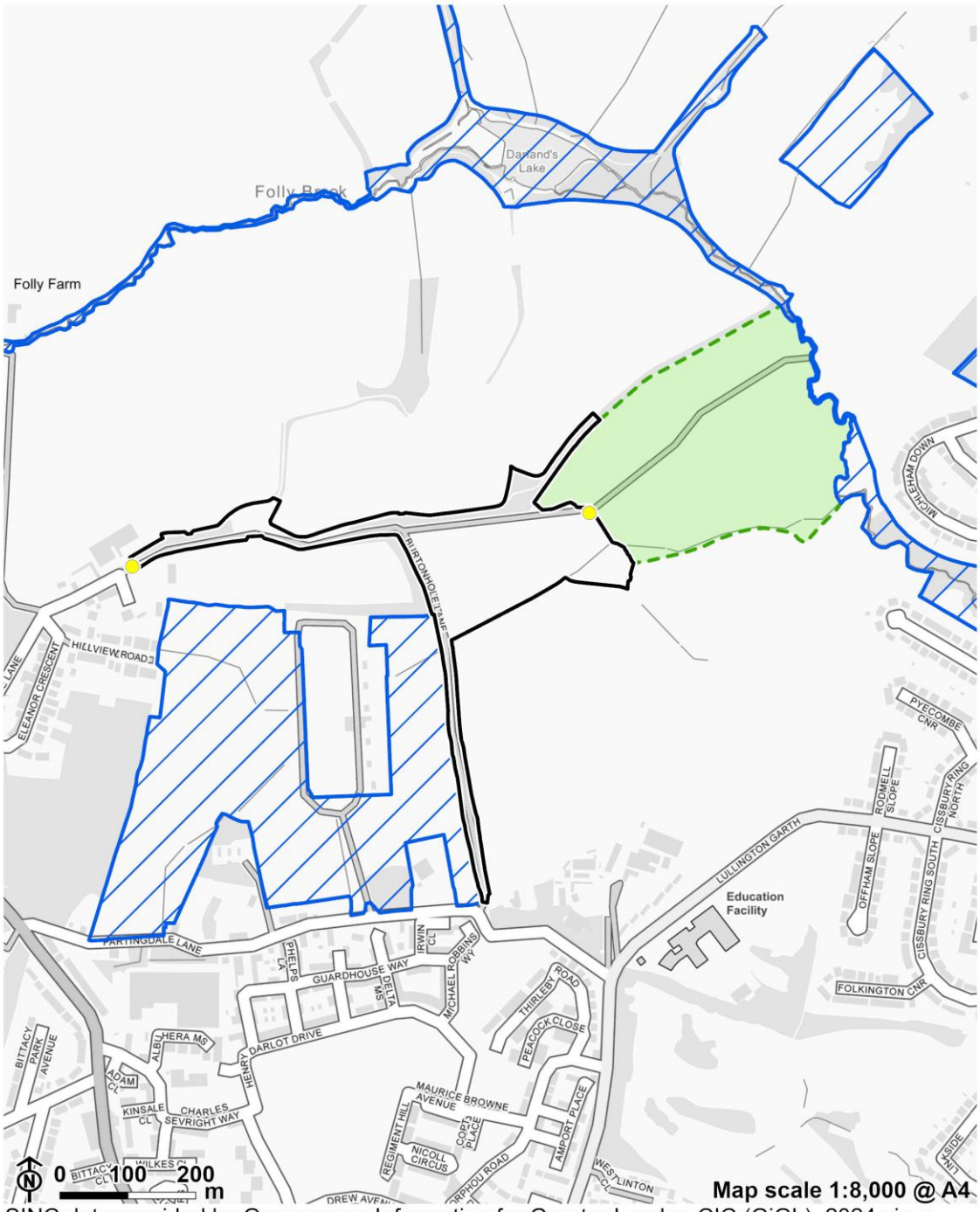
BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture

BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture



BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Regular clean-ups along the paths within the site and provision of bins near the entrances. Thinning and removal of scrub to create glades within the woodland which will increase the floristic diversity of the ground flora within the woodland and provide suitableHabitat for reptiles to forage.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The woodland and scrub present are good examples of These Habitats.
Habitat Rarity: N/A
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The SINC is small, but supports mature woodland Habitat.

BaBII13 Burtonhole Lane and Pasture
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The mature trees within the woodland would be difficult to recreate due to the time taken to reach their maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The SINC is in the centre of the borough and is ecologically linked to a much larger swathe of green space. The site is functionally connected to another SINC to the southeast.
Access: The site is accessible along a bridle path, though was muddy in areas.
Use: The primary users groups within the site were walkers and horse riders.
Potential: There is potential to increase the species diversity within the site by creating glades within the woodland where the ground flora can flourish.
Aesthetic Appeal: The dense scrub and woodland provide a quiet and calm environment where locals can relax.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Proposed extension
SINC Conclusion: There are similar woodland and scrubHabitat to the north east of the site. Including this area would functionally connect the site to the Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve, another Borough grade II site, and thus functionally linking multiple SINCs together creating a green corridor through the centre of the borough.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Proposed boundary exentsion

Access point

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 44
SINC ID: BaBI02
SINC Name: Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2498192746
Area (ha): 11.22
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Other Urban Fringe, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Amenity
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A lake fringed with reeds and wet woodland, and part of a tree lined stream.
SINC Description: The Folly Brook flows mostly through farmland on its 3.6 kilometre course from Belmont School to Woodside Park, with occasional playing fields, and parkland at the eastern end. The brook is lined for most of its length by narrow strips of woodland and scrub, with a good variety of trees and shrubs. The water quality is fairly good, especially in the upper reaches, allowing invertebrates of clean water to thrive. The caddis flies Plectronemia conspersa and Micropterna sequax and the stonefly Nemoura cinerea occur here at their only location in the Brent catchment. Darland's Lake was originally an ornamental lake, created by damming the Folly Brook. It is now managed as a nature reserve by the Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust. The lake is very shallow, with an extensive reed bed at the western end and a fringe of marginal vegetation, including brooklime , Veronica beccabunga, and marsh marigold , Caltha palustris, . This grades into carr of willows , Salix spp., and alder , Alnus glutinosa, . This is a scarceHabitat in London, and it is even rarer to find wet woodland which is actively managed by coppicing. The carr grades into drier woodland of oak , Quercus sp., , hornbeam , Carpinus betulus, and horse chestnut , Aesculus hippocastanum, . Several indicators of ancient woodland can be found here, including wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, , yellow archangel , Lamiastrum galeobdelon, , wood anemone , Anemone nemorosa, , goldilocks buttercup , Ranunculus auricomus, and greater burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella major, , the latter very rare in London. It is possible that some or all of these were originally planted, as documentary evidence suggests that this is not, in fact, ancient woodland. In damp grassland beside the woodland, a population of the nationally rare fritillary , Fritillaria meleagris, can be found. The site was formerly notified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest because of these rare plants, but they are now known to have been introduced, and the site is no longer a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The nature reserve has a diverse range of breeding birds, including reed bunting, hobby, sparrowhawk, jackdaw, stock dove, mandarin duck and a variety of common waterfowl. 18 species of mammals, including stoat and weasel, have been recorded. The site is also of value for grass snakes, amphibians, fungi and invertebrates. There is free access to the nature reserve, and footpaths cross the Folly Brook at a number of places.
Management provider: Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Alder Leaf Beetle, Baltic Gull, Bluebell, Common Pipistrelle, Daubenton's Bat, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, European Water Vole, Fieldfare, Fritillary, Gadwall, Grass Snake, Grasshopper Warbler, Green Sandpiper, Grey Wagtail, Herring Gull, House Martin, House Sparrow, Kingfisher, Lapwing, Large Skipper, Lesser Noctule, Lesser Whitethroat, Linnet, Little Egret, Mistle Thrush,

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve
Nathusius's Pipistrelle, Natterer's Bat, Nightingale, Noctule Bat, Pipistrelle, Pipistrelle Bat species, Red Kite, Redwing, Reed Bunting, Serotine, Skylark, Slow worm, Song Thrush, Soprano Pipistrelle, Starling, Swift, Whiskered\Brandt's Bat, Willow Tit
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Muntjac, Evergreen Oak, Giant Hogweed, Highclere Holly, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, New Zealand Pigmyweed, Ring necked Parakeet
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the centre of the borough, and comprises woodland, a large pond, a stream and grassland. The site is blue and green corridor though a larger area of arable land and is ecologically connected to Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill in the west., Totteridge Croft Field to the east and Burtonhole Lane and Pasture to the south. The Site is therefore an important component of the SINC network.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Wet and cloudy
Date: 5/16/2024 2:41:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): N/A
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Scrub, Woodland, standing water
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The majority of the site comprised Natural England PriorityHabitat deciduous woodland and dense scrub. The east section of the brook and associated woodland and grassland was accessible. The woodland including abundant semi-mature willow, mature oak and ash, frequent hawthorn, blackthorn, elder, ivy, occasional field maple. Abundant bramble, cleavers, cow parsley, frequent pendulous sedge, dock, ground ivy, occasional nettle, lesser celandine, holly, bracken, and common hogweed. There were a number of glades within the woodland which included Timothy grass, nettle, cow parsley, dock, annual meadow grass. The small brook flows through the site and into a pond in the centre. The fields of grassland in the southeast of the site comprised abundant perennial rye grass, timothy grass, meadow fox tail, frequent creeping buttercup, common daisy, white clover, ribwort plantain, occasional dock, nettle, common bindweed and creeping thistle. The central section of the woodland seemed to be in a similar composition, but could only be viewed from a distance.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling: Additional comments: Along the pathway and within the grassland fields were signs of dog fouling and littering.
Ecological opportunities on site:

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve
Scrub estab, Deadwood Additional comments: There were some piles of lying deadwood and dead hedging but more could be created throughout the site. The thinning of the bramble would extend the glade areas within the woodland. The creation/clearing of the footpath within the site making it more accessible.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds, and sheltering options for reptiles and amphibians. The pond provides suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates. Within the desk study the site is know to support a large number of protected and noble species including alder leaf beetle, baltic gull, bluebell, common pipistrelle, Daubenton's bat, dunnock, Essex skipper, european water vole, fieldfare, fritillary, gadwall, grass snake, grasshopper warbler, green sandpiper, grey wagtail, herring gull, house martin, house sparrow, kingfisher, lapwing, large skipper, lesser noctule, lesser whitethroat, linnet, little egret, mistle thrush, Nathusius's pipistrelle, natterer's bat, nightingale, noctule bat, pipistrelle, red kite, redwing, reed bunting, serotine, skylark, slow worm, song thrush, starling, swift, whiskered/brandt's bat, and willow tit.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve

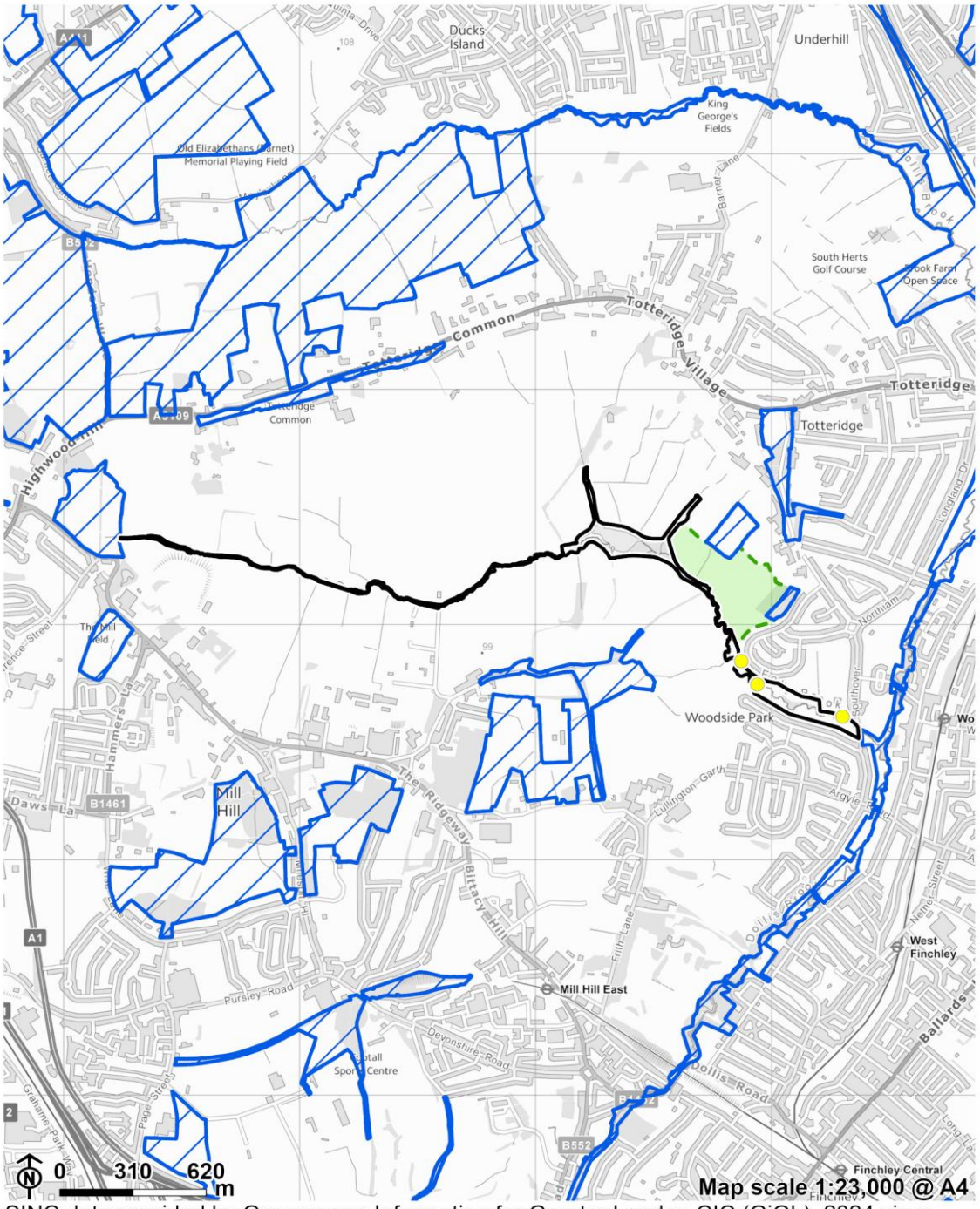
BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Regular clean-ups along the pathways within the site, and provision of bins. Thinning of scrub to create glades within the woodland will help to increase the the sites diversity of Habitats. The scrub should be managed to allow a range of ages develop including seedlings, sapling, young shrubs and mature shrubs. Creation of deadwood features to benefit invertebrates. The desk study noted invasive and non-native species within the woodland, continued management and removal of these species in line with legal requirements.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The priority woodland, scrub and stream are good examples of eachHabitat within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: The stream and large pond are rarerHabitats within borough.
Species Rarity: The site supports a large numbers of notable and protected species, as noted in the desk study above, including bats, birds, reptiles and invertebrates.
Habitat Richness: The site supports multipleHabitats including priority woodland, grassland, scrub, a pond and stream Habitats.

BaBI02 Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve
Species Richness: The woodland and scrubHabitats are species rich with native species.
Size: The SINC is a large site (11.22ha) which supports multipleHabitats and notable species . Due to its size, it is of considerable importance for biodiversity within the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The site Habitat including the woodland, stream and scrub are rarerHabitats within the borough and would take a great deal of time to recreate due to the time taken to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located in the centre of the borough and is ecologically connected to multiple SINC sites.
Access: The site is partially accessible by public footpath, though was eroded due to high levels of use.
Use: The site is managed as a nature reserve, with designated pathway through the site, and the main used groups identified on site were walkers and runners.
Potential: The site could be extended to include areas of woodland, grassland and scrub to the north, east and west. T he woodland and scrubHabitat look to be of a similar composition as the priorityHabitat on site and would create a larger SINC which would be ecologically connected to further SINC sites, creating a larger ecological corridor in the borough.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site is extremely green and quiet with multiple flowering species.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Proposed extension
SINC Conclusion: The site is managed as a nature reserve and sits adjacent to further areas of similiarHabitat, including woodland, scrub and grassland. The potential expansion would create a large SINC which would support the multiple notable and protected species found within the existing site.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Proposed boundary exentsion

Access point

M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill
Site information
LUC Site ID: 45
SINC ID: M034
SINC Name: Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ2310594508
Area (ha): 97.52
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Other Urban Fringe, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Amenity
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: One of the finest areas of traditional countryside in London, with extensive herb rich pastures, separated by ancient hedgerows
SINC Description: One of the finest areas of traditional countryside remaining in outer London. Large areas of mostly unimproved grassland support a very rich flora, including numerous locally uncommon plants. Sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, is common, while other interesting species include harebell , Campanula rotundifolia, , devil's bit scabious , Succisa pratensis, , saw wort , Serratula tinctoria, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, , greater burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella major, , square stemmed St John's wort , Hypericum tetrapterum, and at least seven species of sedge, including carnation sedge , Carex panicea, . The network of old hedgerows contain a wide diversity of woody species, including guelder rose , Viburnum opulus, and wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, . The site also supports a varied breeding avifauna, and an important invertebrate fauna, which includes several nationally rare and scarce beetles and spiders. Part of the site is managed as a London Wildlife Trust nature reserve.
Management provider: Council owned land managed by London Wildlife Trust. Private land managed by landowners\ farmers.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Totteridge Fields
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Good quality semi improved grassland, Lowland meadows, Traditional orchard
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Beetle, A Butterfly, A True Bug, A True Fly, Baltic Gull, Brown Tree Ant, Buff Ermine, Centre barred Sallow, Common Darter, Common Pipistrelle, Cuckoo, Dot Moth, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Fieldfare, Golden Plover, Green brindled Crescent, Greenfinch, Grey Dagger, Grey Wagtail, Herring Gull, Hobby, House Martin, House Sparrow, Knot Grass, Lapwing, Large Skipper, Large Tortoiseshell, Latticed Heath, Lesser Black backed Gull, Lesser Whitethroat, Linnet, Minor Shoulder knot, Mistle Thrush, Mottled Rustic, Oak Hook tip, Pinhole Borer, Purple Emperor, Red Kite, Redwing, Rustic, Sand Martin, Shaded Broad bar, Shoulder striped Wainscot, Silver studded Blue, Skylark, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Phoenix, Small Skipper, Small Square spot, Song Thrush, Starling, Swift, Tawny Owl, Yellowhammer
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Muntjac, Goat's rue, Ring necked Parakeet
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site:

M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill

Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill forms an expansive area of predominantly pastureland to the north of the borough. The site is interconnected by a rich network of ancient hedgerows and streams and parcels of broadleaved woodland and scrub. The mosaic of high quality and diverseHabitats present provides a haven for wildlife and supports a diverse faunal assemblage with a range of birds, mammals and insects, including nationally rare and scarce beetles and spiders.

Only the publicly accessible Totteridge Fields was surveyed, as Highwood Hill is private land.

Survey Data

Surveyor: EM

Weather: Sunny

Date: 4/18/2024 7:56:00 AM

Survey access: Full

Level of Use: Moderate

Management: Good

Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management):

The entirety of the site is well managed. However, the area of publicly accessible land of Totteridge Fields, located within the south-east and managed by London Wildlife Trust supports a noticeable increase in wildlife. It supports a combination of managed pasture, areas of dense undisturbed scrub and extensive well connected hedgerows and tree lines. There was a considerable increase in bird species present within the LWT managed area in comparison to the rest of Totteridge Fields, which also support a rich bird assemblage.

The Trust manages three of the 30 fields of the Totteridge Fields complex, leasing them from London Borough of Barnet. Traditional hay-cutting methods are used, with volunteers mowing alternative areas each year to help conserve the richly diverse plant and invertebrate population. This work is supplemented by conservation grazing with traditional breeds of cattle, first introduced in 2014. Further works are undertaken to maintain the pond and ditches in the lower wetter parts of the reserve. The reserve also supports two beehives.

Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Other rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, Scrub, native hedge

Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site):

MeadowsPastures, Vet trees

Habitat survey description:

There are a diverse range of Habitats present across the entire site with oak woodlands, various grasslands including species-rich meadows, tussocky grassland and areas of marshy grassland, scrub and native species-rich ancient hedgerows. There are a range ofHabitat niches available including deadwoodHabitats within woodlands and along hedgerows both natural and man-made resulting from tree management activities.

Threats and Disturbances: N/A:

Additional comments:

There are no perceivable threats or disturbances to the site, since it is only accessible on foot from adjacent suburban areas and therefore experiences relatively low levels of recreational disturbance. It is also well managed with no obvious signs of overgrazing or erosion.

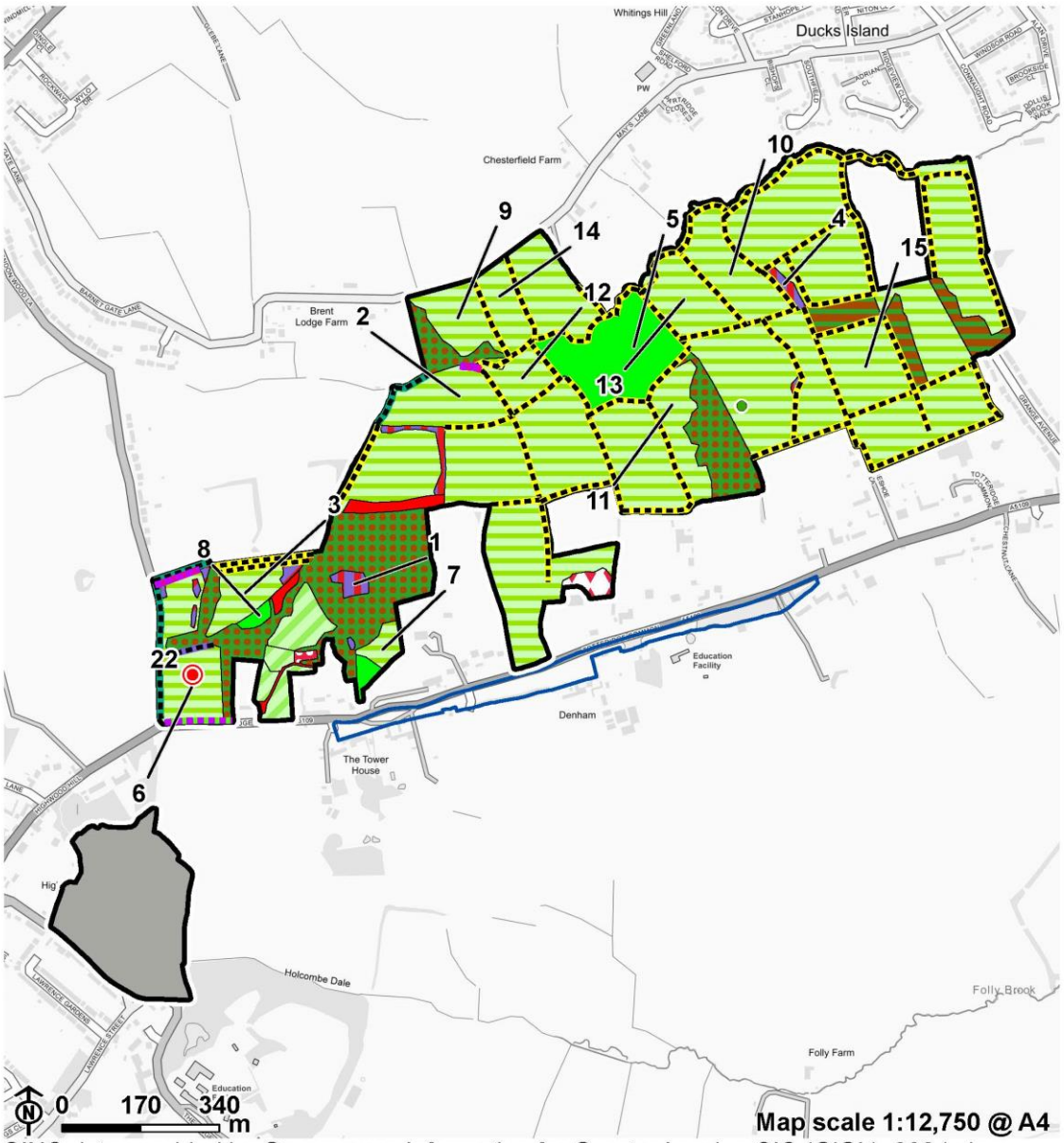
Ecological opportunities on site:

Meadow creation, wetland creation

Additional comments:

The site is well managed for biodiversity and should continue to be managed in this way. There are existing semi-improved grassland fields within Totteridge Fields, which could be enhanced through additional species sowing. Areas of wet/ marshy grassland may also benefit from enhancement and there may be opportunities for wetland creation through expanding the ditch network or creating swales in fields with existing wet/ marshy grassland.

M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Bryophytes, Lichen, Fungi Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The meadows and woodlands support rich bird assemblages including chiffchaffs, chaffinch, robins, blackbirds, wrens, song thrush. The areas of broadleaved woodland and old meadows are likely to support a range of lower plants including fungi, lichens and bryophytes. Additionally the range of Habitats present support various invertebrates including rare and notable species, and both small mammals and possibly badger due to the suburban nature of the site and ample foragingHabitat available.
Habitat figure:



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- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site
- Target notes
- Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerow with trees
- Hedgerows
- Line of trees
- Native hedgerows
- Species-rich native hedgerows

UKHab habitat area*

- g3 - neutral grassland
- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3a - blackthorn scrub
- h3d - bramble scrub
- h3h - mixed scrub
- u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- u1d - suburban mosiac of developed and natural surface
- u1e - built linear features
- w1f - lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland
- No habitat survey

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

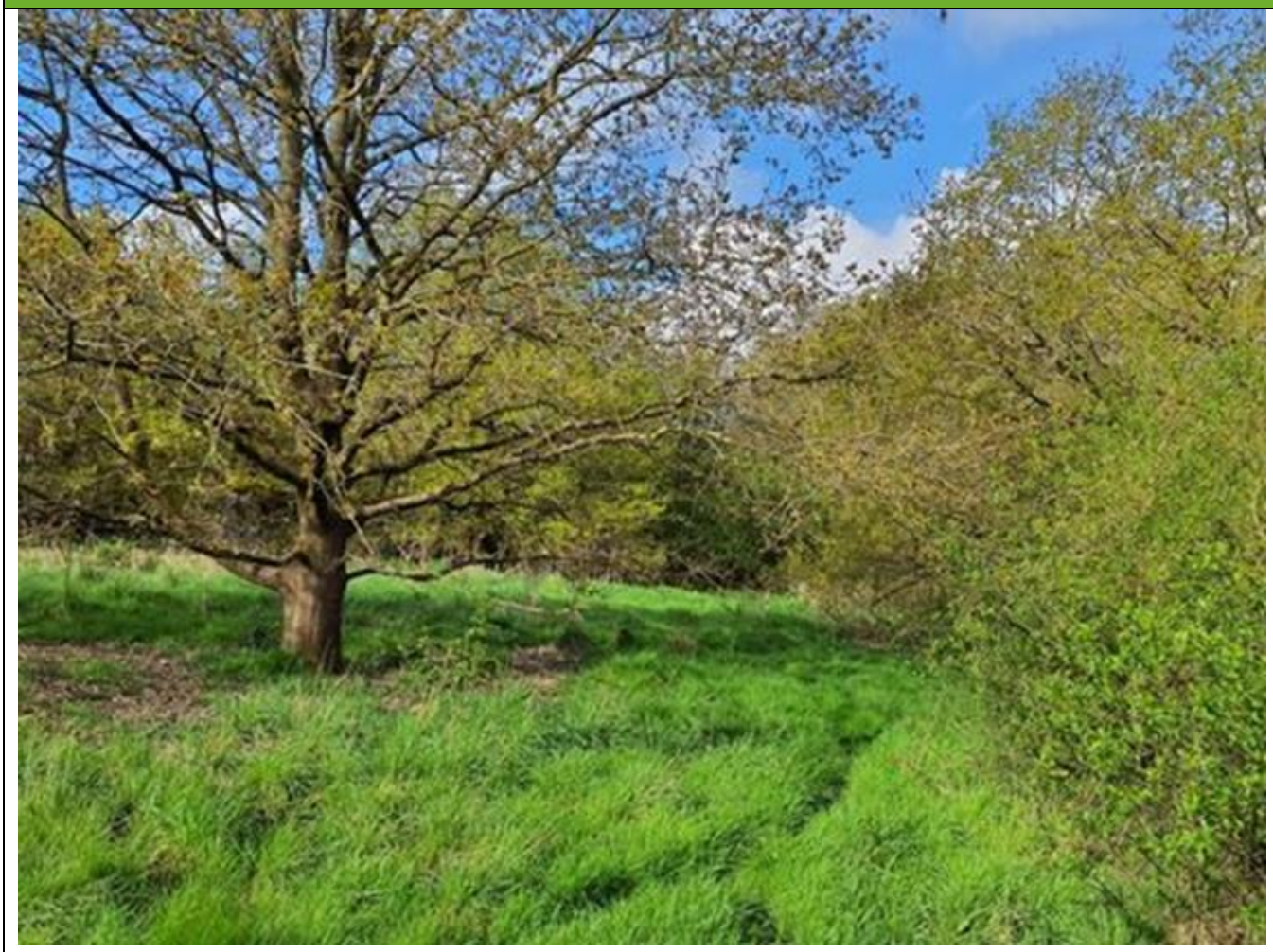
UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 32 - scattered trees
2: 103 - horse grazed
3: 10 - scattered scrub
4: 32 - scattered trees
5: 101 - cattlegrazed
6: 10 - scattered scrub
7: 32 - scattered trees
8: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
9: 201 - young trees - planted, 10 - scattered scrub,
10: 101 - cattlegrazed
11: 10 - scattered scrub, 32 - scattered trees,
12: 101 - cattlegrazed
13: 101 - cattlegrazed
14: 101 - cattlegrazed
15: 10 - scattered scrub

M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill

Site Photographs:

M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill



M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill

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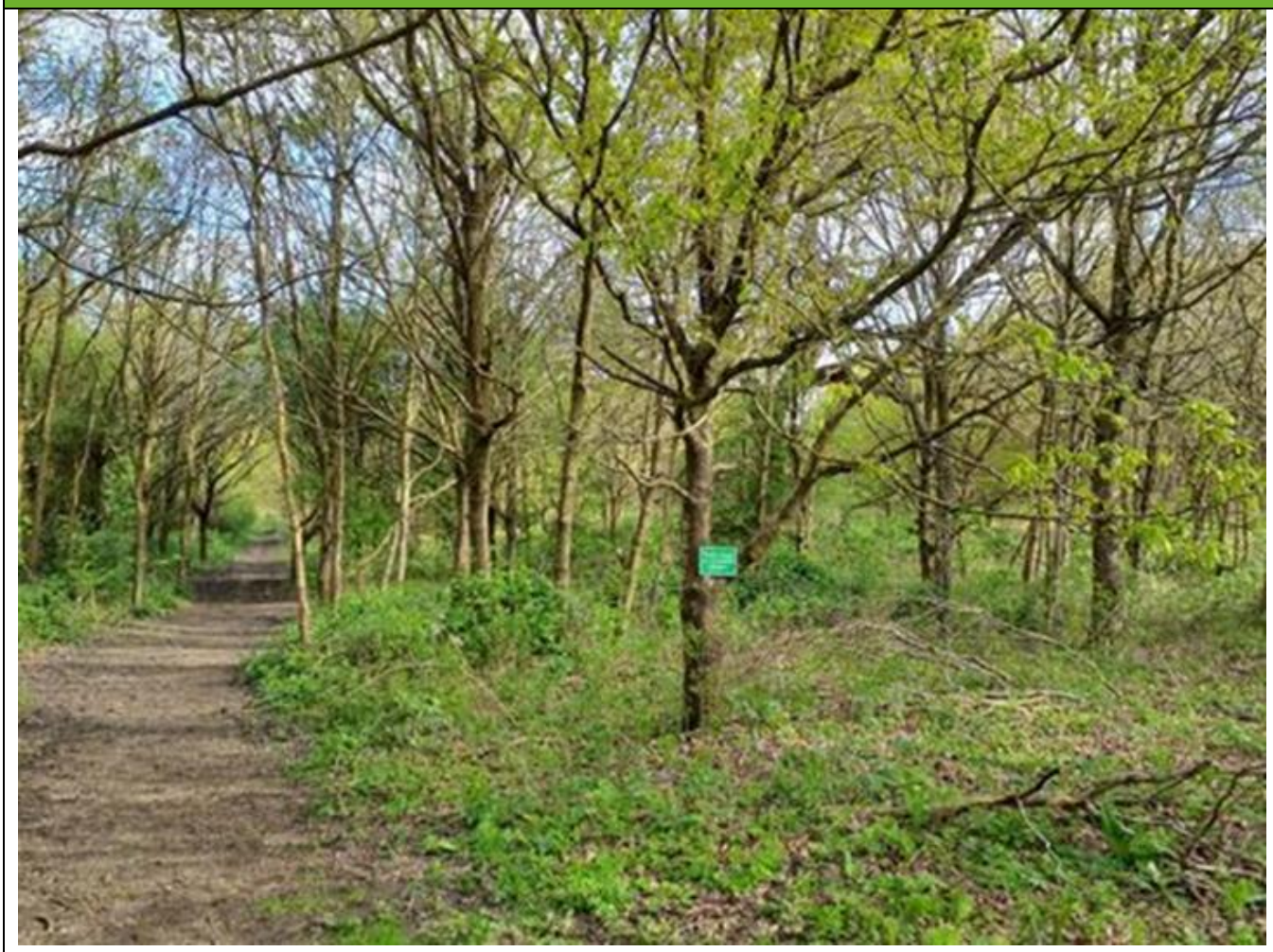
M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill



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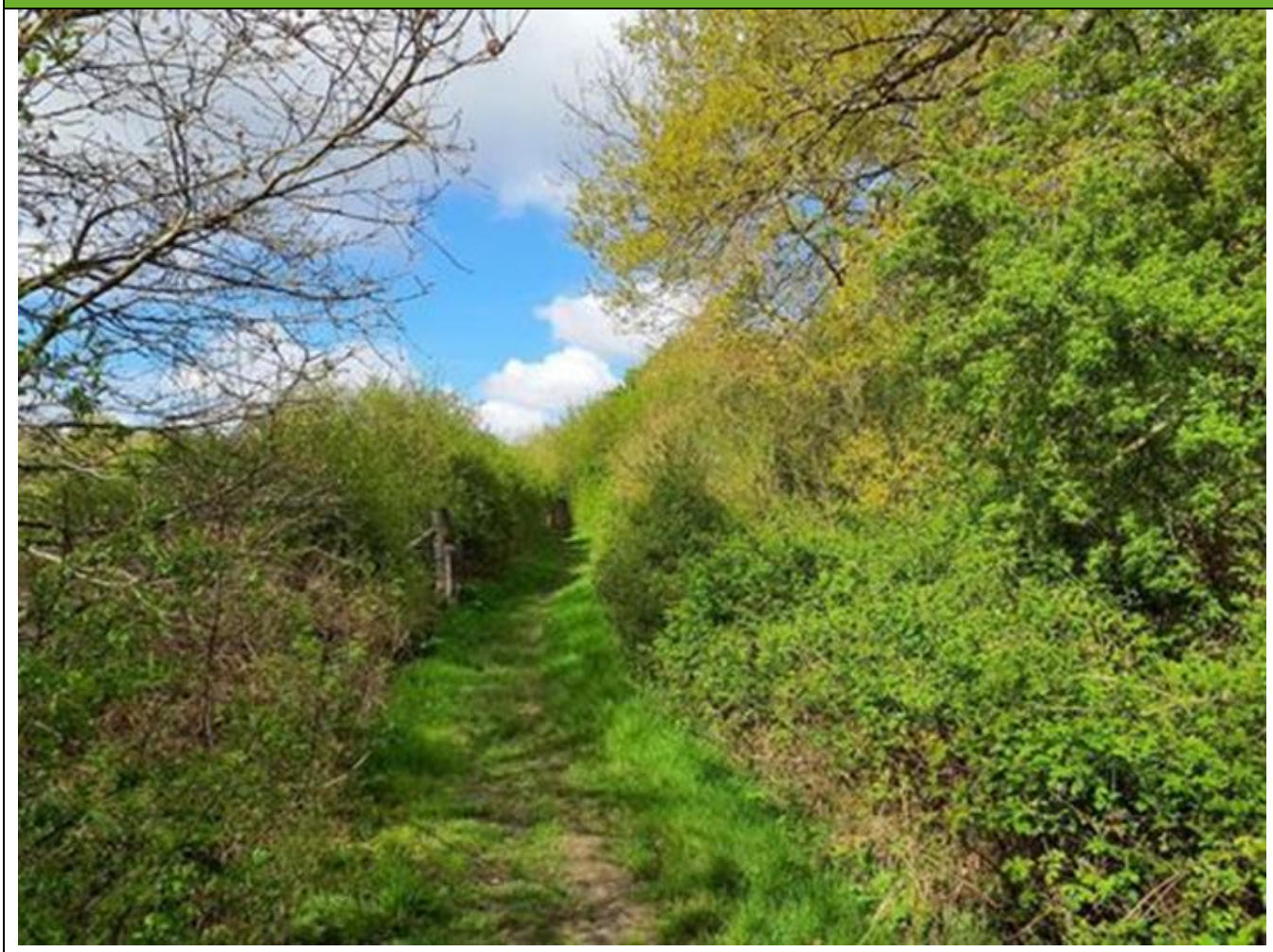

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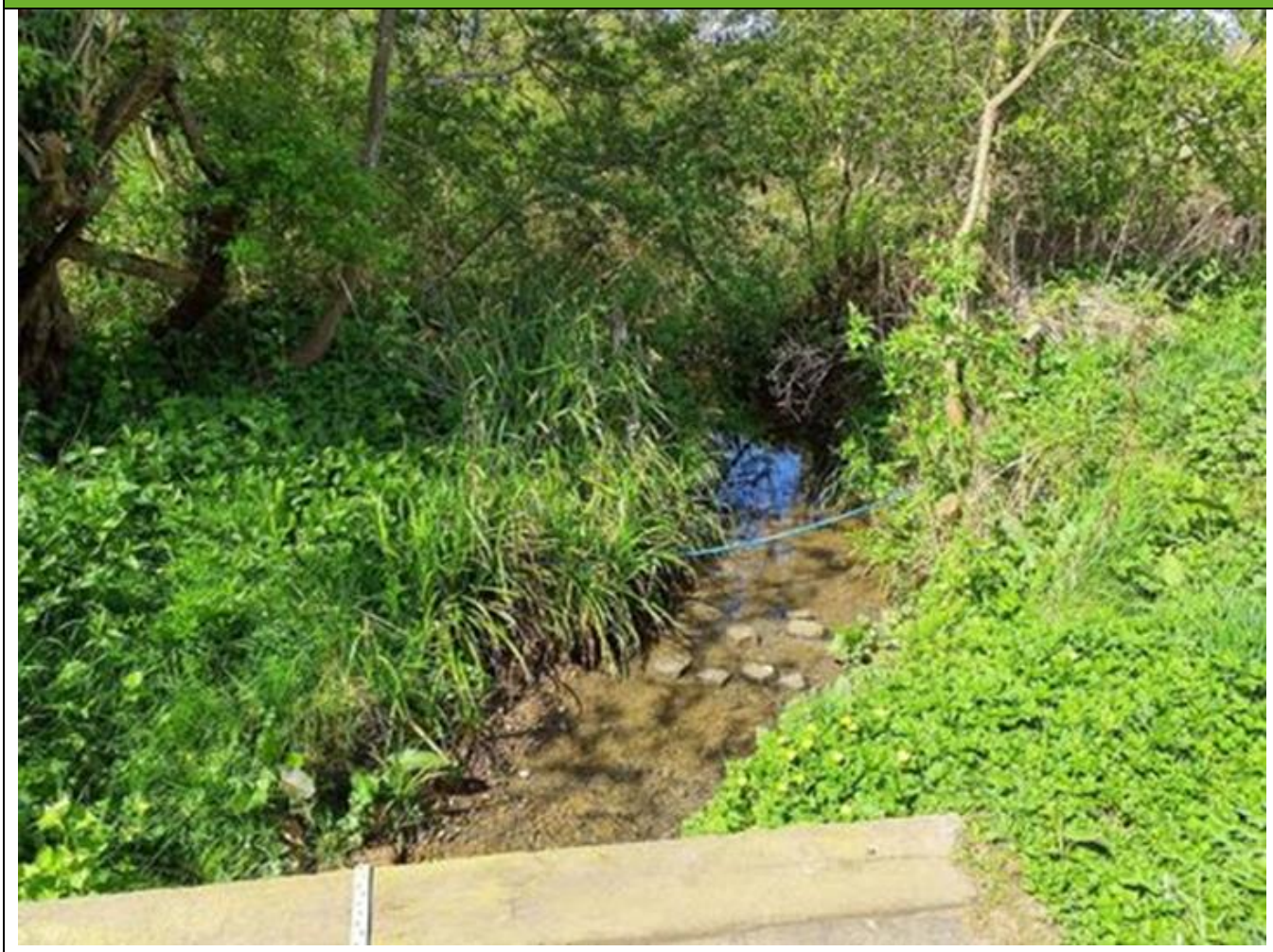

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M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill

M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - No previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

There are no threats or disturbances to the site.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

Unknown.

SINC Criteria

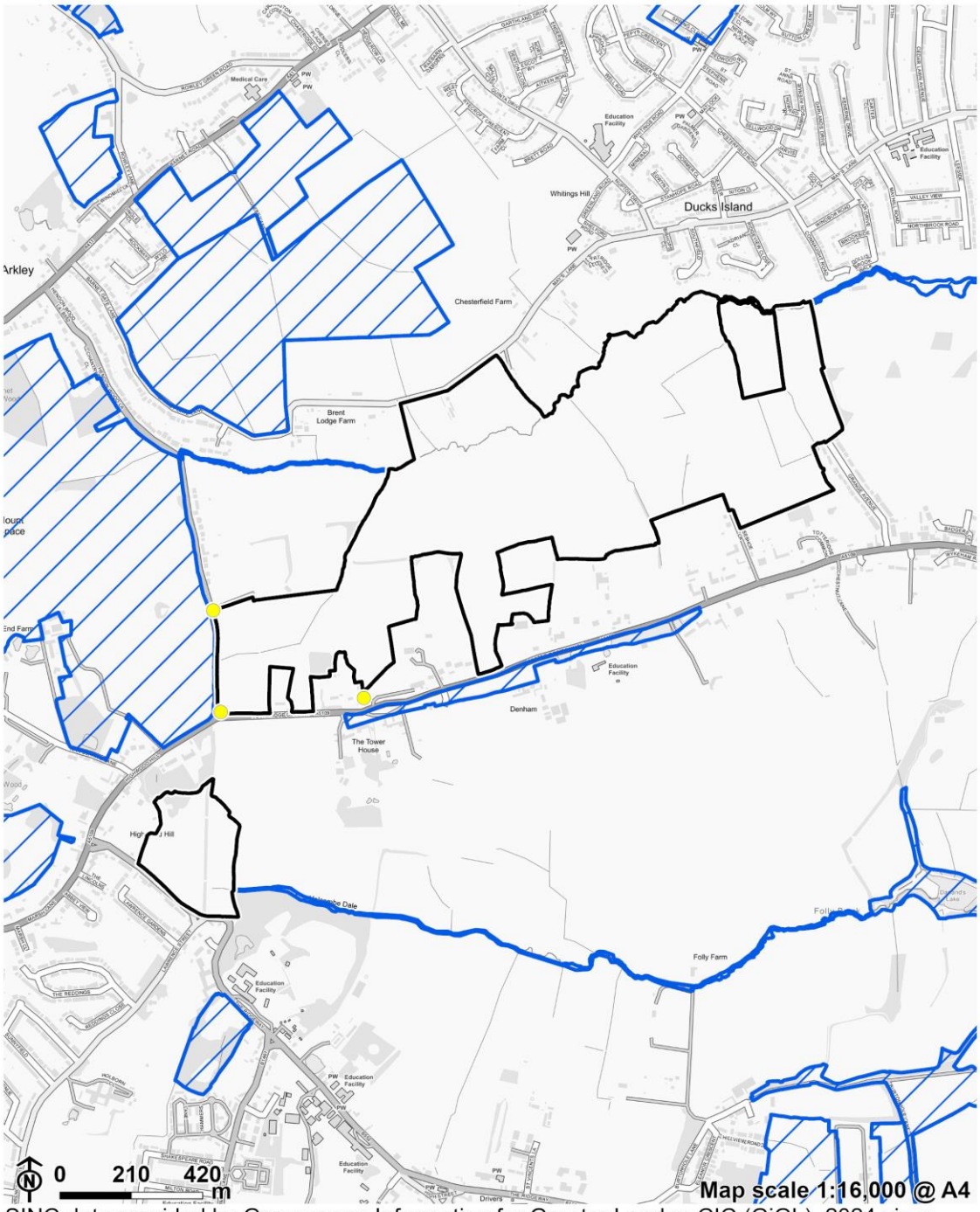
Representation: Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill represents traditional countryside with expansive meadows, intersected by ancient hedgerows and a stream network with areas of broadleaved woodland and mature and veteran trees along hedgelines, woodland boundaries and

Habitat Rarity: Old meadows, particularly those supporting species-rich grassland are an increasingly rareHabitat especially within outer London. The same is true for ancient hedgerows, which support significant biodiversity.

Species Rarity: Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill is known to support a range of rare and notable invertebrate species including nationally rare and scarce beetles and spiders and butterflies of conservation concern such as purple emperor and small heath (also listed on s41 species of principle importance).

Habitat Richness: There are a diverse range of Habitats present across this area of countryside including species-rich meadows, semi-improved grasslands and marshy grassland. In addition, there are large areas of broadleaved woodland, areas of scrub and ancient hedgerows,

M034 Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill
Species Richness: The variety of Habitats present and their condition supports several diverse species assemblages including invertebrates, birds and likely mammals too including bats and possibly badger. The birds present within the nature reserve area managed by London Wildlife Trust is particularly species rich with robin, blackbird, song thrush, wren, dunnock, blackcap, greenfinch, blue tit and chiffchaff present. Elsewhere in areas of open farmland with dense hedgerows and pockets of dense scrub other species such as greater spotted woodpecker, jackdaw, great tit and magpies were present.
Size: The site is extremely large at 97ha in total of continuous countryside. The size of this site contributes its status as a Metropolitan SINC.
Important populations of species: The site supports populations of nationally rare and scarce invertebrates. It is also likely to support populations of rare woodland and farmland birds such as greenfinch, which is listed as red on the UK Bird's of Conservation Concern.
Ancient Character: The site supports ancient hedgerows and old traditional meadows which support significant biodiversity due to their age and the long standing history of traditional management practices.
Recreatability: Due to the presence of a network of ancient hedgerows, old meadows, streams and broadleaved woodland the Habitats within this SINC would be extremely difficult to recreate as they have reached a significant stage of maturity with inherent ecological value.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: Traditional countryside has significant cultural value, as people have always enjoyed nature within the countryside. The open expansive views, offering familiar sights and changes across the seasons creates a cultural connection for locals with a site such as this.
Geographic Position: The site is located to the north of the borough of Barnet, within a large belt of agricultural land and in close proximity to a large number of nearby SINCs. This SINC offers strategic connectivity with adjacent Moat Mount Open Space Borough Grade II SINC to the west and Totteridge Common Borough Grade II SINC to the south.
Access: The site is accessible on foot via public rights of way from nearby roads. There are no surfaced or accessibility walking routes, given it is a traditional countryside setting with active farms.
Use: The site is predominantly used by walkers, including dog walkers.
Potential: N/A
Aesthetic Appeal: The site has substantial aesthetic appeal as a result of the expansive views, opportunities for being immersed in nature with abundant bird song, insects, flowing streams and rich colours across the wildflower fields and blossoming hedgerows and trees.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to meet Metropolitan SINC status due to the diversity and condition of Habitats present and range of wildlife which are supported.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL04 Barnet Environment Centre
Site information
LUC Site ID: 46
SINC ID: BaL04
SINC Name: Barnet Environment Centre
SINC Grade:
Grid Reference:
Area (ha):
Ward:
Land Use:
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary:
SINC Description:
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:
NE Priority Habitat records:
London BAP Habitat suitability records:
Protected/Notable Species records:
INNS Records:
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Barnet Environment Centre is a nature reserve built 45 years ago for nature conservation, in the north of the borough. The site is used by schools, primarily in Barnet, for education with thousands of children visiting each year. Part of the site was re-developed in 2015 to create Noah's Ark Children's Hospice. The rest of the site is a wildlife haven with woodland, ponds and meadows.
Survey Data
Surveyor: JB
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management):

BaL04 Barnet Environment Centre
No official tree management plan in place but the volunteers manage trees appropriately, as evidenced by mature trees being in good condition. Deadwood is left in the woodland and dead hedges have been created throughout, creating opportunities for invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles. The meadows are under a meadow management plan which involves varying mowing regimes, removing arisings and planting of yellow rattle to parasitise grasses and in turn encourage meadow flowers establishment. The varied mowing regime results in a structurally diverse sward able to support a variety of grasses, wildflowers, invertebrates and reptiles. Several native hedges have been planted in recent years. Bat boxes, bird boxes and a bug hotel are present and maintained. Pond surveys and bat walks are undertaken by volunteers.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site is divided into two areas – the Barnet Environment Centre and the Noah's Ark Hospice. Within the Barnet Environment Centre, there are variousHabitat areas including a garden, woodland, ponds and meadow, each of which are described below. Newly planted hedgerows were present throughout with native species including hazel Corylus avellana and dog rose Rosa canina. The garden in the Barnet Environment Centre comprised improved grassland with species including white clover Trifolium repens, red clover Trifolium pratense, thyme-leaved speedwell Veronica serpylifolia, oxeye daisy Leucanthemum vulgare, common mouse-ear chickweed Cerastium fontanum, Geranium sp. and perennial rye grass Lolium perenne. Grassland was subject to a less intense mowing regime, with some areas left to grow a longer sward. Trees were scattered within the grassland, including willow Salix sp. and English oak Quercus robur. Surrounding the grassland were ornamental flower beds with wildflowers including hedge bedstraw Gallium mollugo, knapweed Centaurea sp., oxeye daisy, primrose Primula sp., St John's-wort Hypericum perforatum, viper's-bugloss Echium vulgare, teasel Dipsacus sp., mustard Sinapis sp., bristly oxtongue Helminthotheca echioides, ragwort Jacobaea vulgaris, nipplewort Lapsana communis and meadow grass Poa sp. A small memorial garden was also present in this area, which was highly manicured with short amenity grassland, ornamental shrubs and a small shed. A sedum green roof has been established on the centre's roof. To the west of the garden are two attenuation ponds which are no longer used for drainage and have been naturally colonised with aquatic and marginal plants including willow Salix sp., purple loosestrife Lythrum salicaria, bulrush Scirpoides holoschoenus and pendulous sedge Carex pendula. These ponds are not accessible due to the steepness and overgrown nature of their banks. They are a wild space of high value for wildlife, in particular dragonflies and butterflies. A further four ponds are present within the woodland on site, each with marginal planting including flag iris Iris pseudacorus, sedge Carex sp., water mint Mentha aquatica, gypsywort Lycopus europaeus, pennywort Umbilicus rupestris, marsh marigold Clatha palustris, water lily Nymphaeaceae, lesser spearmint Mnetha spicata and duckweed Lemnoideae, providing opportunities for invertebrates and amphibians. A large area of woodland was in the north and west of the site with species including dominant English oak, abundant birch Betula sp., willow Salix sp., wild cherry Prunus avium and hornbeam Carpinus betulus, frequent aspen Populus tremula, occasional rowan Sorbus aucuparia, ash Fraxinus excelsior, field maple Acer campestre and yew Taxus baccata and locally rare Scots pine Pinus sylvestris, wild service tree Sorbus torminalis, lime Tilia sp., hazel, beech Fagus sylvatica, spindle Eunymus europaeus and monterey pine Pinus radiata. Understorey and ground flora was dominated by bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. with abundant enchanters nightshade Circaea lutetiana, wood avens Geum urbanum, dogwood Cornus sanguinea, blackthorn Prunus spinosa and herb robert Geranium rovertianum, frequent cleavers Galium aparine, red campion Silence dioica and nettle Urtica doica and occasional liverwort Marchantiophyta sp., holly Ilex aquifolium and guelder rose Viburnum opulus and locally rare bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta, sedge Carex sp. and Yorkshire fog Holcus lanatus. Dead hedges and deadwood were present throughout. In the northeast corner of the woodland is a pollinator patch with Chinese honeysuckle Lonicera tragophylla, meadowsweet Filipendula ulmaria, comfrey Symphytum sp., lambs ear Stachys byzantina and wild carrot Daucus carota, which provide a nectar source throughout the year. The meadow area was subject to varying management styles, creating a structurally diverse sward of semi-improved neutral grassland. Species included rough meadow grass Poa trivialis, false oat grass Arrhenatherum elatius, cock's-foot Dactylis glomerata, knapweed, yellow rattle Rhinanthus minor, lesser stitchwort Stellaria graminea, hairy tare Ervilla hirsuta, meadow buttercup Ranunculus acris, creeping buttercup Ranunculus repens, ragwort, sneezewort Achillea ptarmica, yarrow Achillia millefolium, marsh thistle Cirsium palustre, creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, common toadflax Linaria vulgaris, cleavers, cowslip Primula veris, bird's-foot trefoil Lotus corniculatus, primrose, spotted medick Medicago arabica and Yorkshire fog. Localised areas of bramble scrub were noted. A hibernaculum was noted in the northwest of the meadow. The Noah's Ark Hospice area was less ecologically valuable with less naturalHabitats, dominated by hard standing car park and the main building. The building had a green roof which appeared to be sedum only. Pockets of introduced shrub and ornamental planting with young rowan trees were scattered throughout the car park and in the hospice garden. An area of artificial turf was also noted in the garden.

BaL04 Barnet Environment Centre
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: The site is not significantly threatened. No invasives are present and erosion is well managed with a clear network of pathways throughout. Areas of the site are left undisturbed, for example areas within the woodland and the attenuation ponds. Oak processionary moths are on site and are a threat to oak trees, with risk of tree death affecting the woodland composition and causing health and safety risk to the public. Control and eradication of invasive species should be undertaken, should any present themselves.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: Within Noah's Ark Children's Hospice, planting should focus on more native species and those of benefit to local wildlife and replace the artificial grass with amenity grassland, although it is understood opportunities are limited given the small size and amenity use. Remove the manicured memorial garden in the Environment Centre and replace with a diverse neutral grassland with scattered trees, potentially an orchard with native fruit trees. Continue to implement a varied mowing regime in the meadow area. Continue planting native hedgerows and undertake laying and infill planting as they develop, as required. Diversify green roofs with a more varied soil depth and planting structure to provide moreHabitat niches for a wider range of invertebrates.
Interest: N/A Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees and woodland provide roosting/nesting, foraging and commuting opportunities for bats and birds. Scrub also provides nesting, sheltering and foraging opportunities for birds, invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians. Deadwood and hibernacula provide sheltering opportunities for invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians. Ponds provide breeding and foragingHabitat for invertebrates and amphibians and wildflowers throughout the site are important resources for pollinators. The structurally and species diverse meadow provides importantHabitat for invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles.
Habitat figure:

SINC data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), 2024 via a Service Level Agreement with LB Barnet. Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

- LUC assessment site
- Target notes
- Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

- Native hedgerows

UKHab habitat area*

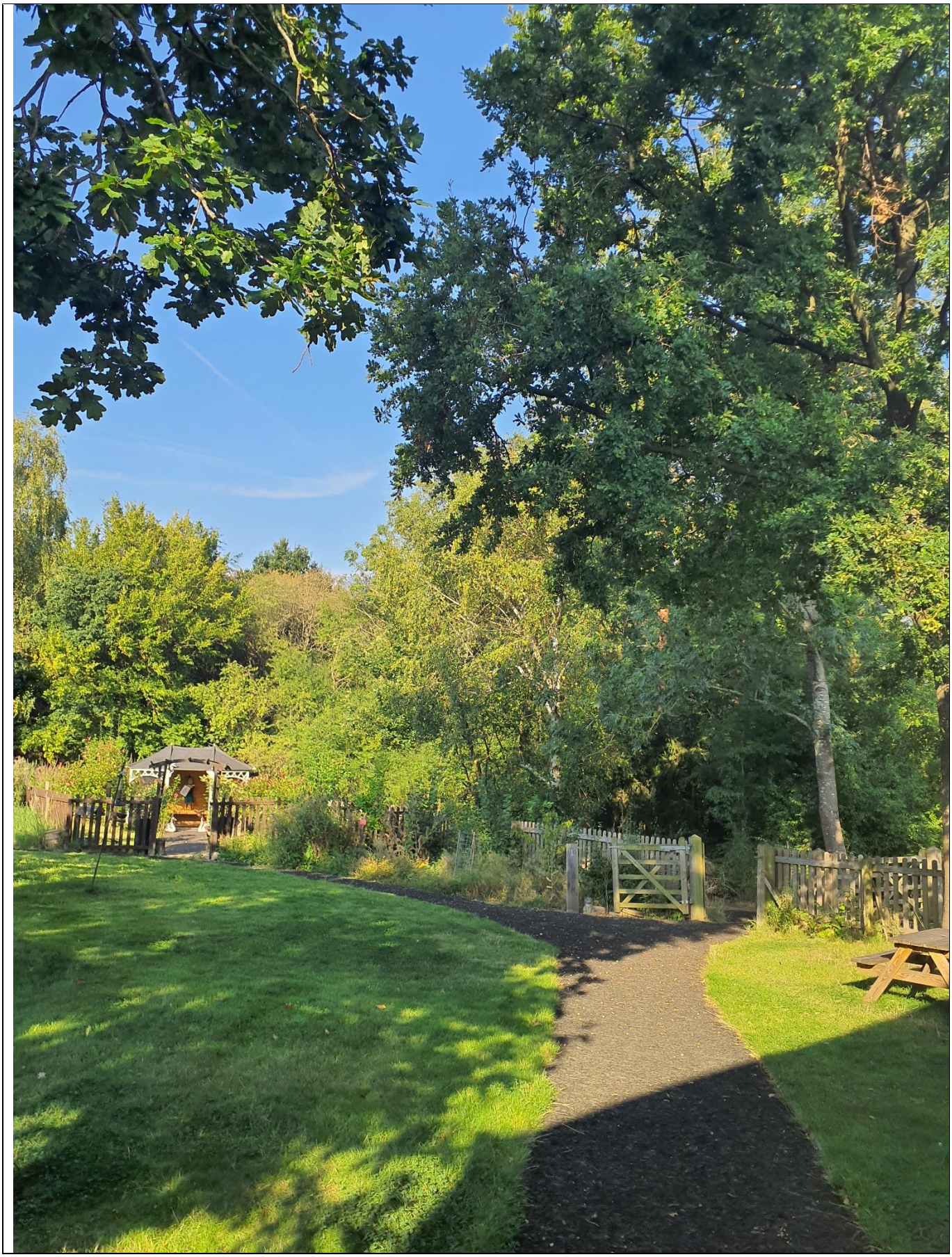
- f2d - aquatic marginal vegetation
- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3d - bramble scrub
- r1g - other standing water
- u1 - built-up areas and gardens
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1b6 - other developed land
- u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- w1f7 - other lowland mixed deciduous woodland

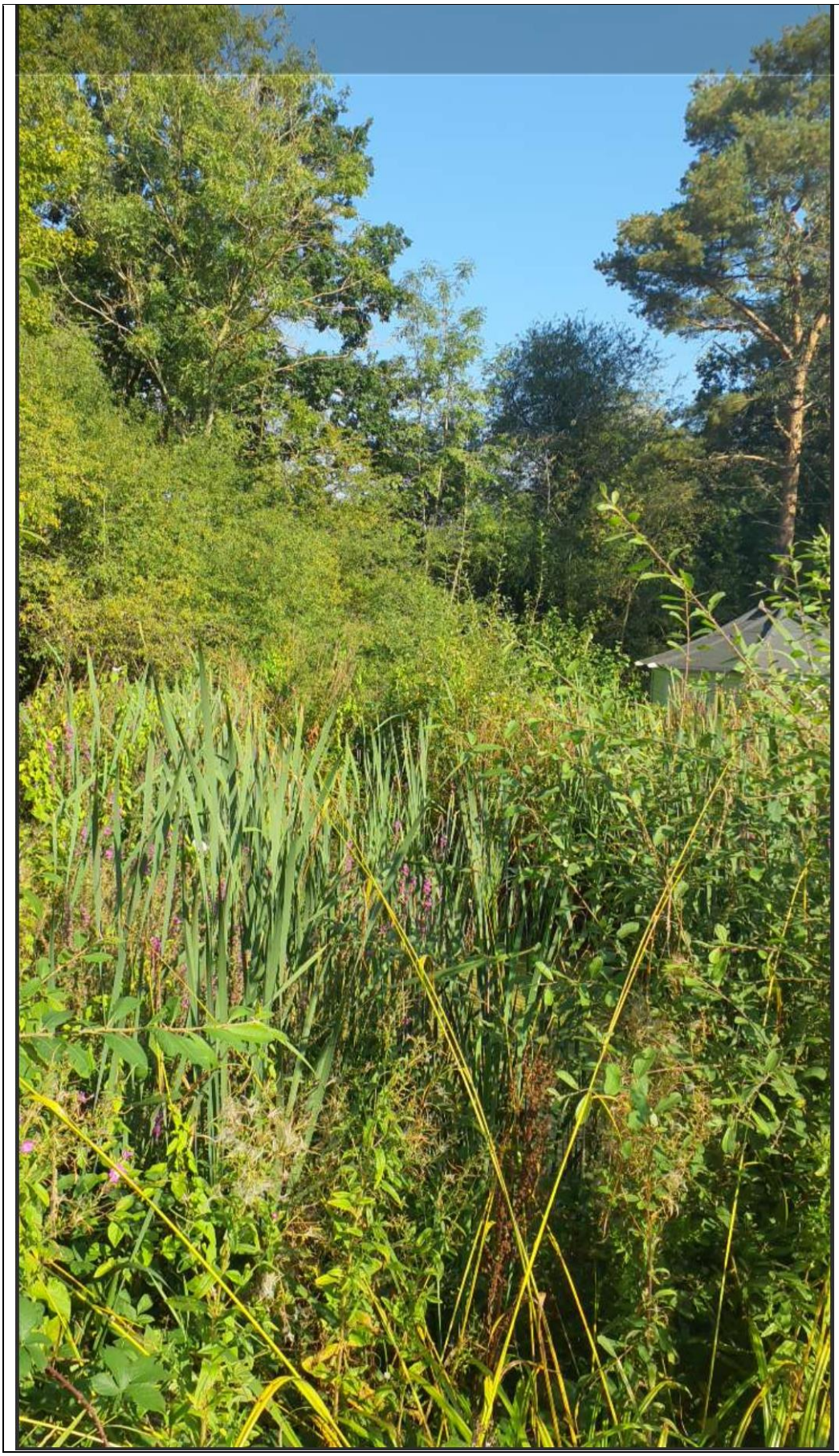
*Labels refer to secondary code below.

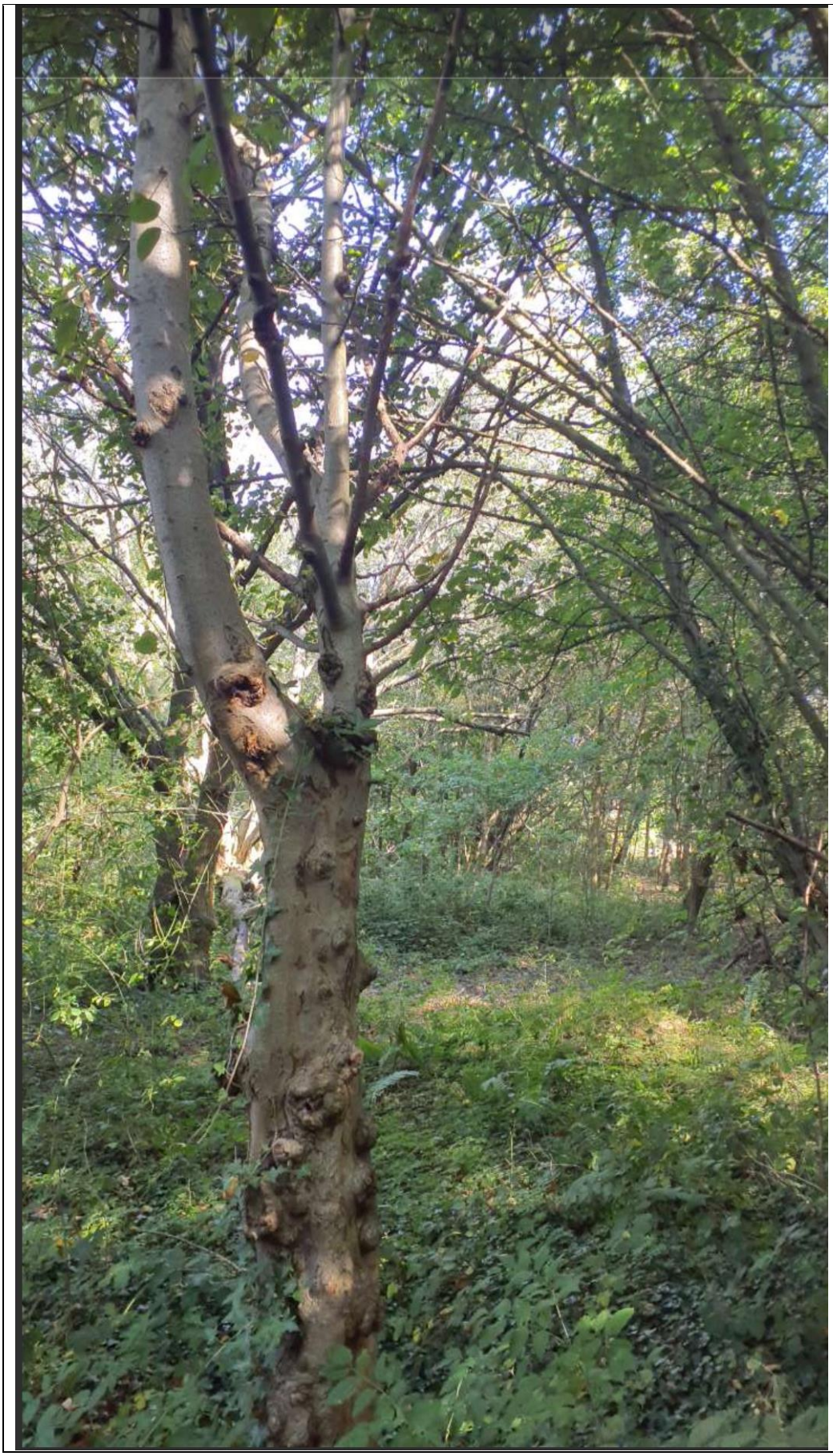
UKHab habitat area secondary code

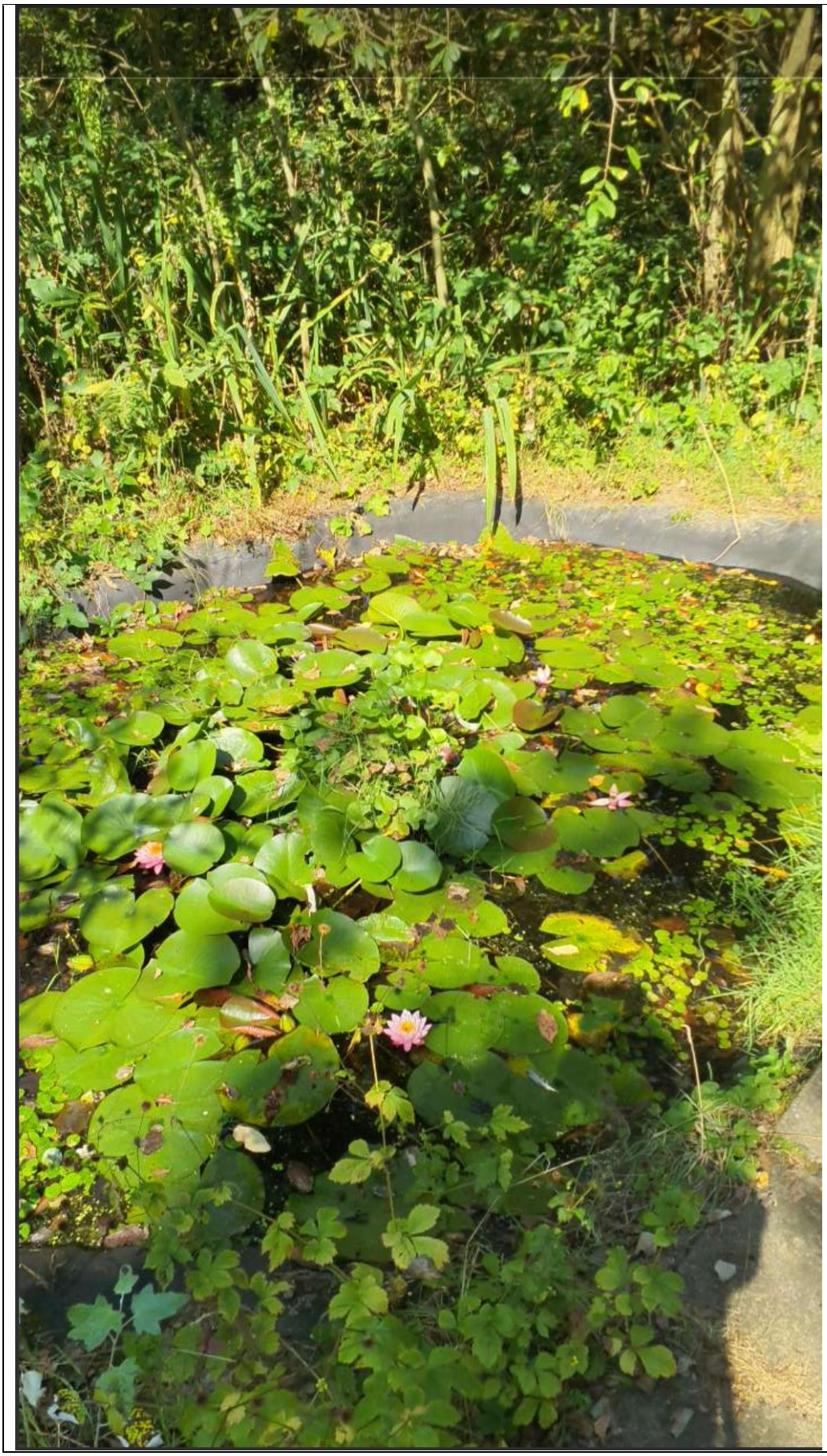
1: 847 - introduced shrub
2: 847 - introduced shrub, 846 - flower bed,
3: 86 - green roof
4: 847 - introduced shrub
5: 847 - introduced shrub
6: 847 - introduced shrub
7: 847 - introduced shrub
8: 41 - pond (non-priority)
9: 847 - introduced shrub
10: 847 - introduced shrub
11: 847 - introduced shrub
12: 847 - introduced shrub, 846 - flower bed,
13: 847 - introduced shrub
14: 847 - introduced shrub
15: 41 - pond (non-priority)
16: 847 - introduced shrub
17: 41 - pond (non-priority)
18: 41 - pond (non-priority)
19: 16 - tall forbs
20: 823 - children's play space
21: 846 - flower bed
22: 813 - educational building, 86 - green roof,
23: 846 - flower bed, 847 - introduced shrub, 845 - ground level planters
24: 32 - scattered trees
25: 32 - scattered trees
26: 32 - scattered trees, 128 - tall or tussodcy sward,
27: 41 - pond (non-priority)
28: 41 - pond (non-priority)

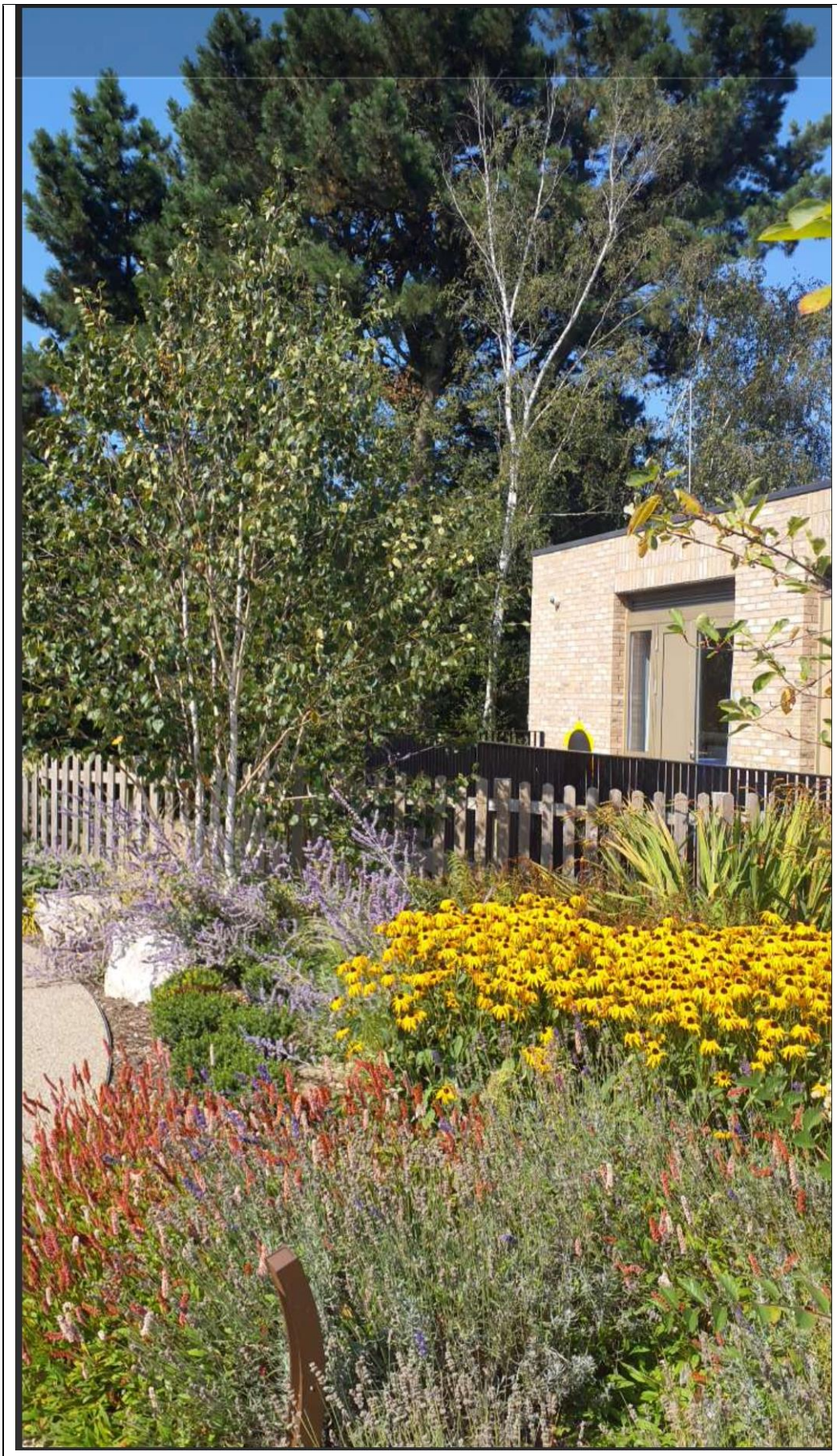
BaL04 Barnet Environment Centre
Site Photographs:











BaL04 Barnet Environment Centre
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Control bramble to prevent encroachment in the meadow. Create rides, clearings and glades in the woodland to encourage more ground flora. Manage woodland ponds, particularly bottle pond, to reduce shading from marginal plants and reduce cover of duckweed.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: NoHabitats present were the best examples of those in London, however the site represents an excellent example of wildlife conservation in a relatively small space and urban borough and therefore should be conserved.
Habitat Rarity: Common and widespread Habitats were on site, but these were considered relatively rare in the context of London, including wildflower meadow and woodland.
Species Rarity: Are these noted in the desk study as being present?
Habitat Richness: The site supports grassland with different management styles, woodland, ponds, ornamental flower beds, scattered trees, scrub, green roofs and hedgerows which is considered relatively rich for London.
Species Richness: The site supports a range of common and widespread floral and faunal species which are supported by a diverse range of Habitats within the site, which are likely to present a valuable source in a relatively urban area.
Size: The site is 3.29ha which is considered relatively small, however it is an excellent example of how a small space can be managed sympathetically for nature and provide a valuable education resource. Although small, the value of eachHabitat is maximised th
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, including grassland, ponds and scrub can be easily recreated. However, mature trees and woodland are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site lies in the north of the borough between Arkley Lane and Pastures SINC, Hadley Green SINC and King George's Fields SINC. The site has functionally linkedHabitat with these SINCs and therefore contributes to supporting species using these sites and to the strategic network in the north of the borough.
Access: The site is fully accessible for patients at the hospice and local schools Tuesday – Thursday in term-time. A rubber path has been created in the woodland suitable for wheelchairs.
Use: The site is primarily used for nature conservation and education. Two thousand children visited last year alone.
Potential: There is potential to further improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site immerses you in nature, in particular within the woodland where you can forget you're in London at times. The ponds attract butterflies, dragonflies and other invertebrates which provide visual and acoustic appeal whilst woodland and scattered trees attract birds with notable bird song throughout. The ornamental flower beds with native wildflowers provide visual appeal with their bright colours.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A

BaL04 Barnet Environment Centre
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site is a great example of what can be done for nature conservation in a small space and urban area. Volunteers manage the site with wildlife as the highest priority and strive to create a wild space for nature and people. The site is well used by local schools for education so is an important community space. Each of the Habitats provide opportunities for a great number of species and the site is likely to represent an important resource for wildlife populations within this urban area. The site is limited by its small size and access restrictions and therefore it is recommended the site remains as a Local SINC, although the importance of this site for local people and wildlife is recognised.
Site Maps

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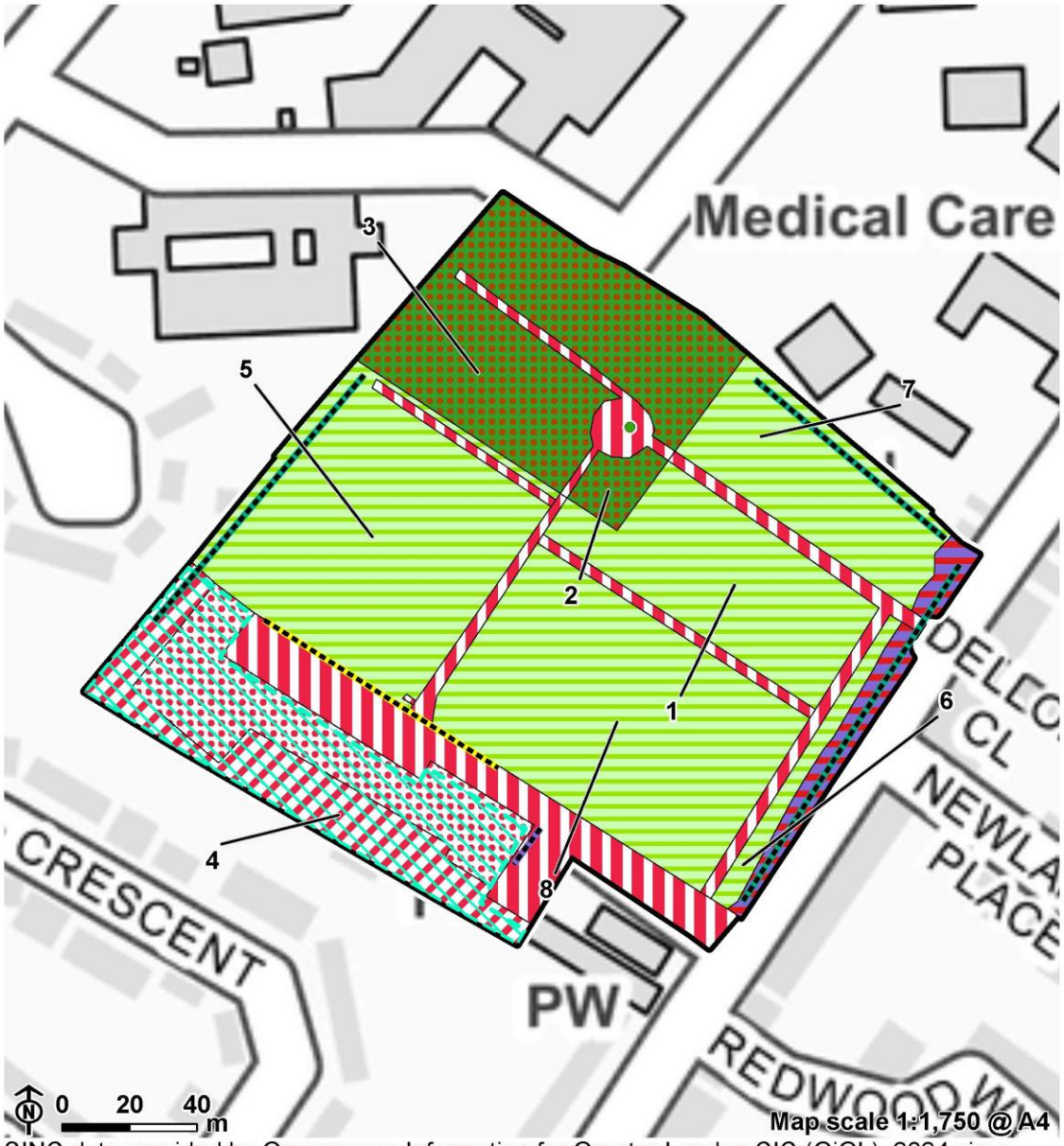
LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground
Site information
LUC Site ID: 47
SINC ID: BaL05
SINC Name: Bell's Hill Burial Ground
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2359195974
Area (ha): 3.32
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Cemeteries and Churchyards
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Cemetery in Chipping Barnet, formally managed in some parts, but allowed to develop naturally in others.
SINC Description: This small late Victorian cemetery is a pleasant spot for a quiet stroll, with quite a rural feel. Its western half, where recent burials are concentrated, is managed in a typical, fairly formal way, with neatly mown lawns and well tended plots of flowers around the graves. In the eastern half, a lighter approach is taken, allowing tall meadow grasses to dominate the landscape, together with wild flowers such as common knapweed , Centaurea nigra, , Lady's bedstraw , Galium verum, , tufted vetch , Vicia cracca, , meadow vetchling , Lathyrus pratensis, and common bird's foot trefoil , Lotus corniculatus, . In wilder corners, tangles of bramble , Rubus fruticosa agg., and roses , Rosa spp., scramble over the tombs. This is an excellent site for butterflies, with gatekeeper, small skipper and meadow brown amongst the summer residents.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: No PHI within site.
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: Cherry Laurel, Japanese Knotweed, Turkey Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: A local cemetery located in the north of the borough, in an area of dense urban development. The site is bound by Barnet hospital to the north and all other aspects are bound by residential development. The site is fairly isolated from other local greenspaces, however it is connected to residential gardens, which are an important component of the ecological network, especially in dense urban areas.
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR

BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground
Weather: Overcast, dry
Date: 5/15/2024 11:34:16 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Low
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The northern corner of the site had been left to develop into secondary broadleaved woodland, while the rest of the site had been managed as grassland around the gravestones. The grass had been allowed to grow longer, allowing species to flower.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Churches and Cemeteries
Habitat survey description: The cemetery included semi-improved neutral grassland, scattered scrub, scattered trees and secondary broadleaved woodland. Approximately 65% of the site was made up of the grassland with scattered scrub and trees and the remaining 25% was made up of secondary broadleaved woodland. A good mix of native species were noted within the Habitats. The remaining 10% was a private care home. The grassland included abundant foxtail, locally abundant wood avens, frequent common sorrel, red fescue, yorkshire fog, ribwort plantain, herb robert and poa sp. Perennial rye grass, red clover, annual meadow grass, meadow buttercup, creeping cinquefoil, sweet vernal grass, cuckoo flower, creeping buttercup, bugle, germander speedwell, geranium sp, and barren brome were seen occasionally. Cocksfoot, cleavers, mouse ear chickweed, silverweed, lesser knapweed, hairy sedge, vetch sp and soft brome were seen rarely. Scattered trees and scrub included predominantly oak with abundant coniferous trees and scattered hawthorn predominantly, with occasional scattered yew, frequent holly and occasionally elder. The woodland canopy included dominant Norway maple and rarely ash. The understorey included a mix of hawthorn, yew, holly, cherry laurel, young oak, young Norway maple and Mexican orange. The ground was covered in ivy, with bramble, nettles, wood avens, Norway maple seedlings, cow parsley, elder and fern also present. Trees and shrub/scrub vegetation was present along the edge of the site and included plum, hawthorn, holly, yew, non-native oak, horse chestnut, ash, Prunus sp and Norway maple. An overgrown defunct hazel hedge was also present in the south of the site and an overgrown hedge with ornamental shrub species including firethorn, elder, wisteria, honeysuckle, spotted laurel, currant, young ash trees, walnut tree and goat willow was present adjacent to the care home car park.
Threats and Disturbances: Invasive species: Additional comments: Cherry laurel was present in the woodland. Additional invasive species listed in the desk study included Japanese knotweed and Turkey oak.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Deadwood, Wildlife Friendly, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Invertebrates, Lichen, Fungi Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site is fairly isolated, located in an area of dense urban development, therefore, species likely to be using the site are those which are the most mobile, including birds, bats and invertebrates. Cemeteries do also often support lichens and fungi.

BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground
Habitat figure:



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- LUC assessment site
- Individual tree
- Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerow with trees
- Hedgerows
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- h3h - mixed scrub
- u1 - built-up areas and gardens
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1b6 - other developed land
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub, 32 - scattered trees, 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 847 - introduced shrub

2: 31 - secondary woodland

3: 31 - secondary woodland

4: 828 - vegetated garden

5: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 10 - scattered scrub, 847 - introduced shrub

6: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub

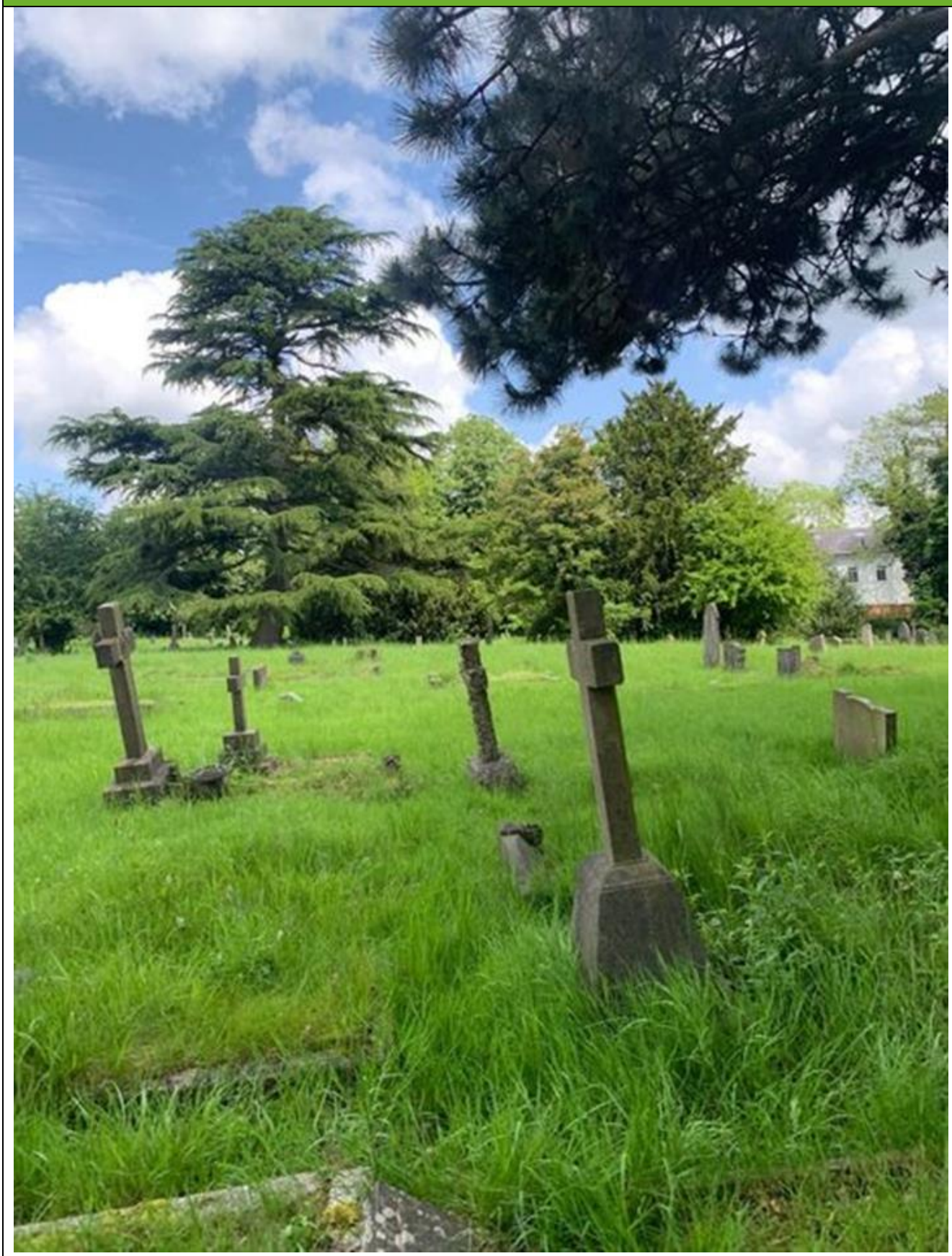
7: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub, 847 - introduced shrub

8: 90 - cemeteries and churchyards, 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub, 10 - scattered scrub

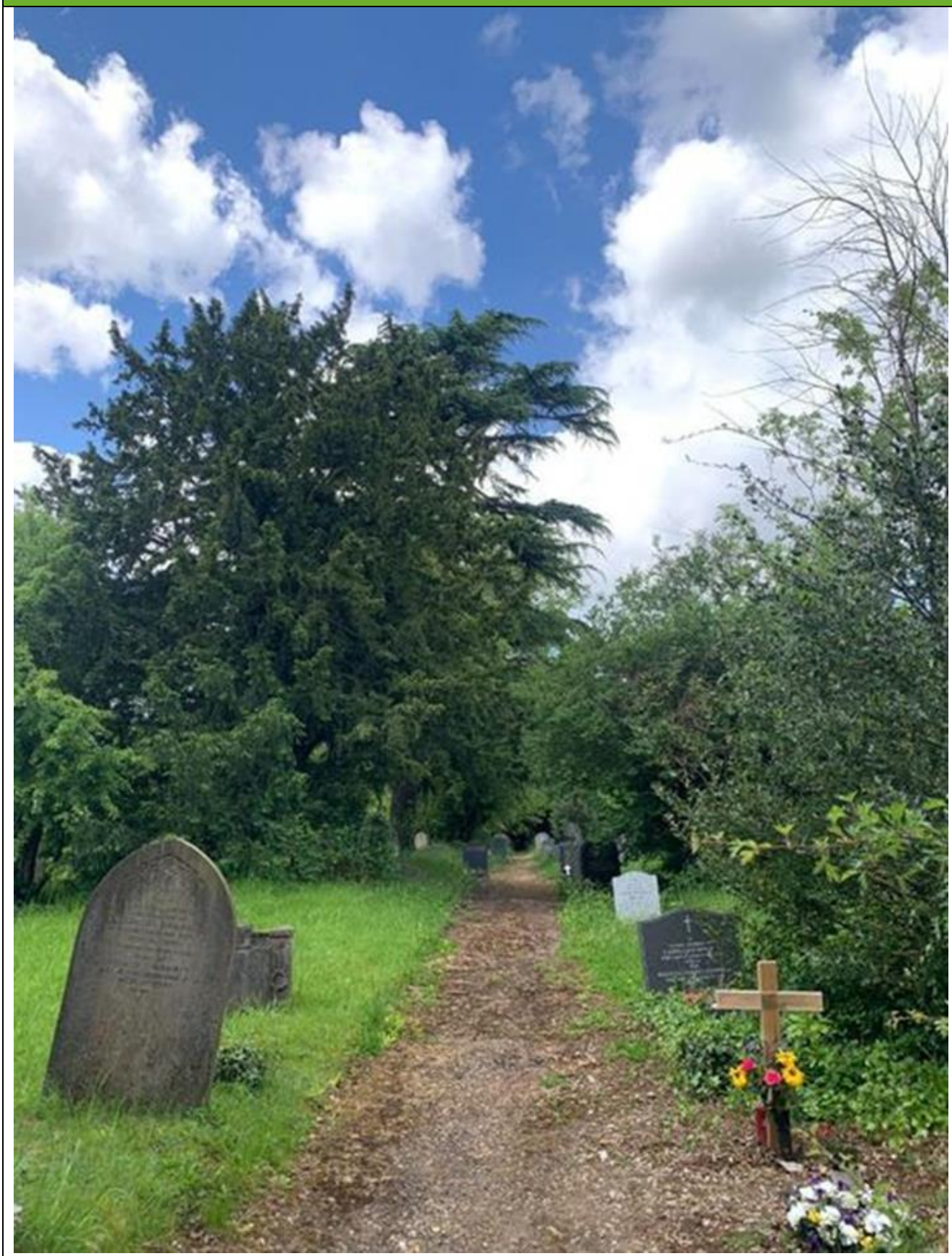
BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground

Site Photographs:

BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground

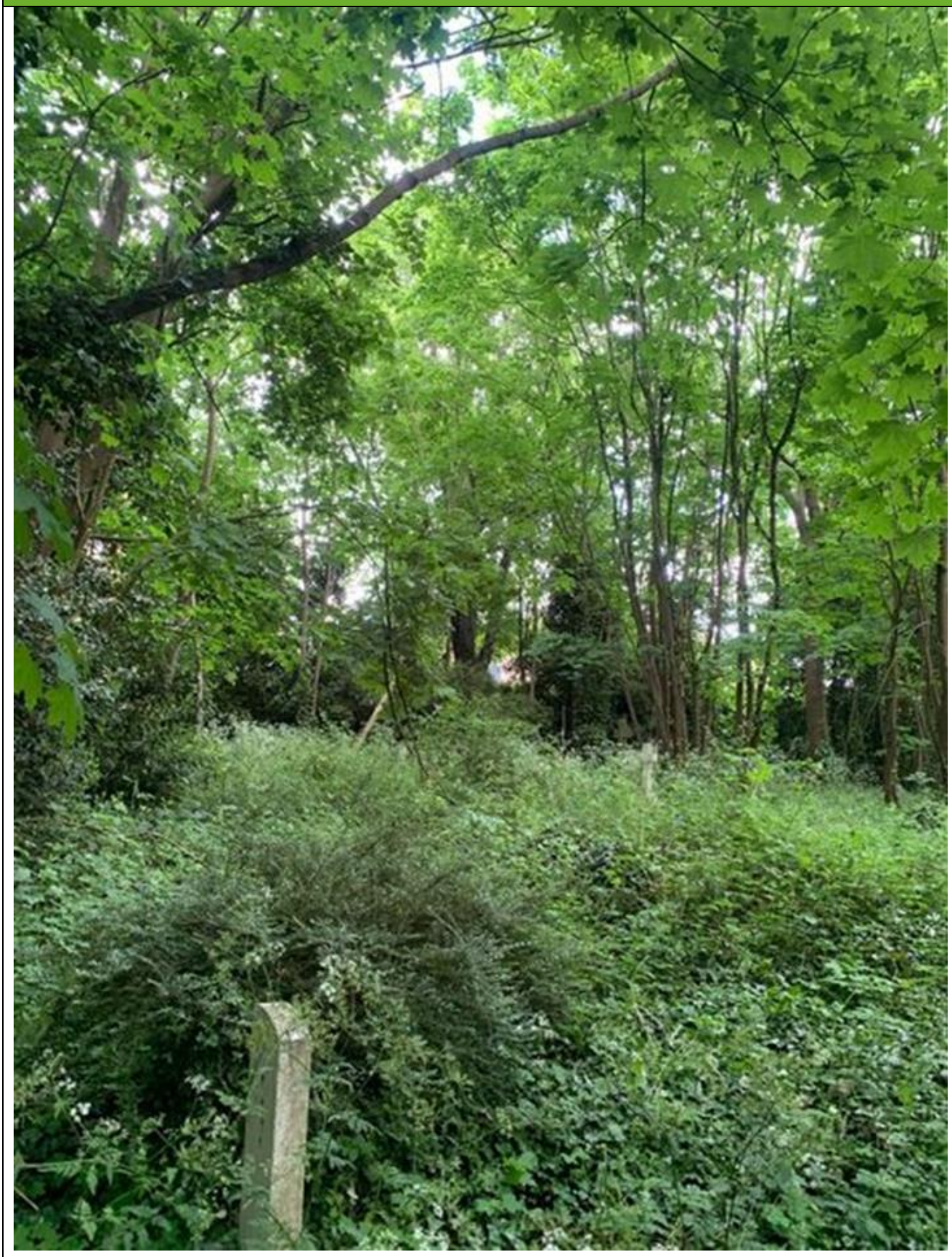


BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground



BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground

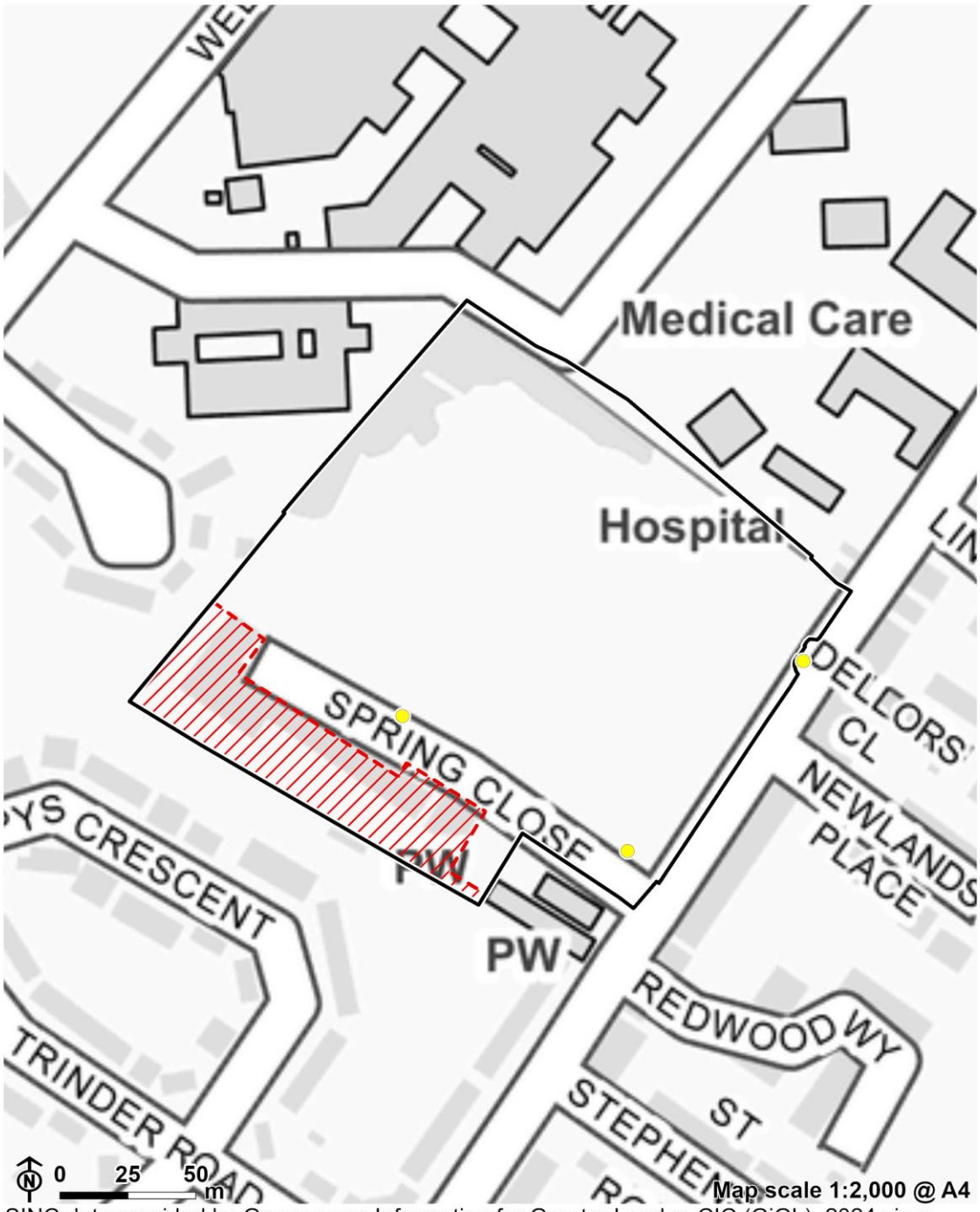
BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground



BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground

BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey survey report available.
Management Recommendations: The grassland had a good mix of species and it had not been cut short at the time of the survey. A mowing regime should be implemented/maintained which ensures the grassland is left long throughout the summer. However grass paths through the gravestones could be kept short to allow access to graves, and also create a diverse sward height. Having well maintained paths through the longer areas, will also help bring people 'on side', who think that long grass looks unkept, as it will look more 'ordered'. This would also benefit visitors, as some of the paths appeared to be over grown and not very well maintained, so the SINC would benefit from path maintenance. Woodland enhancements are limited due to gravestones in the woodland, however cherry laurel and any other invasive species should be managed in line with legal guidelines. Bat and bird boxes, wood piles and bug hotels could also be added to the woodland. Information boards could be added to educate visitors about the benefit of keeping the grass long, as it is likely that visitors may think it makes the cemetery look unkept and abandoned. Pots/beds with planted native wildflowers of benefit to pollinating insects could be added. This would provide opportunities for invertebrates while also improving the aesthetic appeal of the site.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Broadleaved woodland is on site which is an uncommon Habitat in urban areas.
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: A mix of Habitats including grassland, scattered trees, scrub and woodland were noted on site.
Species Richness: The site supports a good mix of native species, including wildflowers within the grassland.
Size: A small site located in a dense urban area.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The site has been a cemetery since 1895 and includes many mature trees. These mature trees would therefore take a long time to reach the same level of maturity.
Typical Urban Character: An area of the cemetery had been left to develop into secondary woodland, amongst the graves.
Cultural/Historic Character: An important visiting place for family members.
Geographic Position: The site is bound by Barnet hospital to the north and all other aspects are bound by residential development. The site is fairly isolated from other local greenspaces, however it is connected to residential gardens, which are an important component of the ecological network, especially in dense urban areas.
Access: The site is publicy accessible, however maintenance of the paths could be improved.
Use: The site is used as a cemetery.
Potential: A species diverse site, with potential to provide further opportunities for bats, birds and invertebrates.
Aesthetic Appeal: The aesthetic appeal could be improved by planting of pots with native flowers to add some bright colours and provide benefit to invertebrates.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A

BaL05 Bell's Hill Burial Ground
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: This site is a small site which provides a peaceful escape for local people, while also providing valuable opportunities for wildlife. Therefore it should retain its status as a local SINC. There is potential within the site to provide further opportunities for local species, as detailed within the management section.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

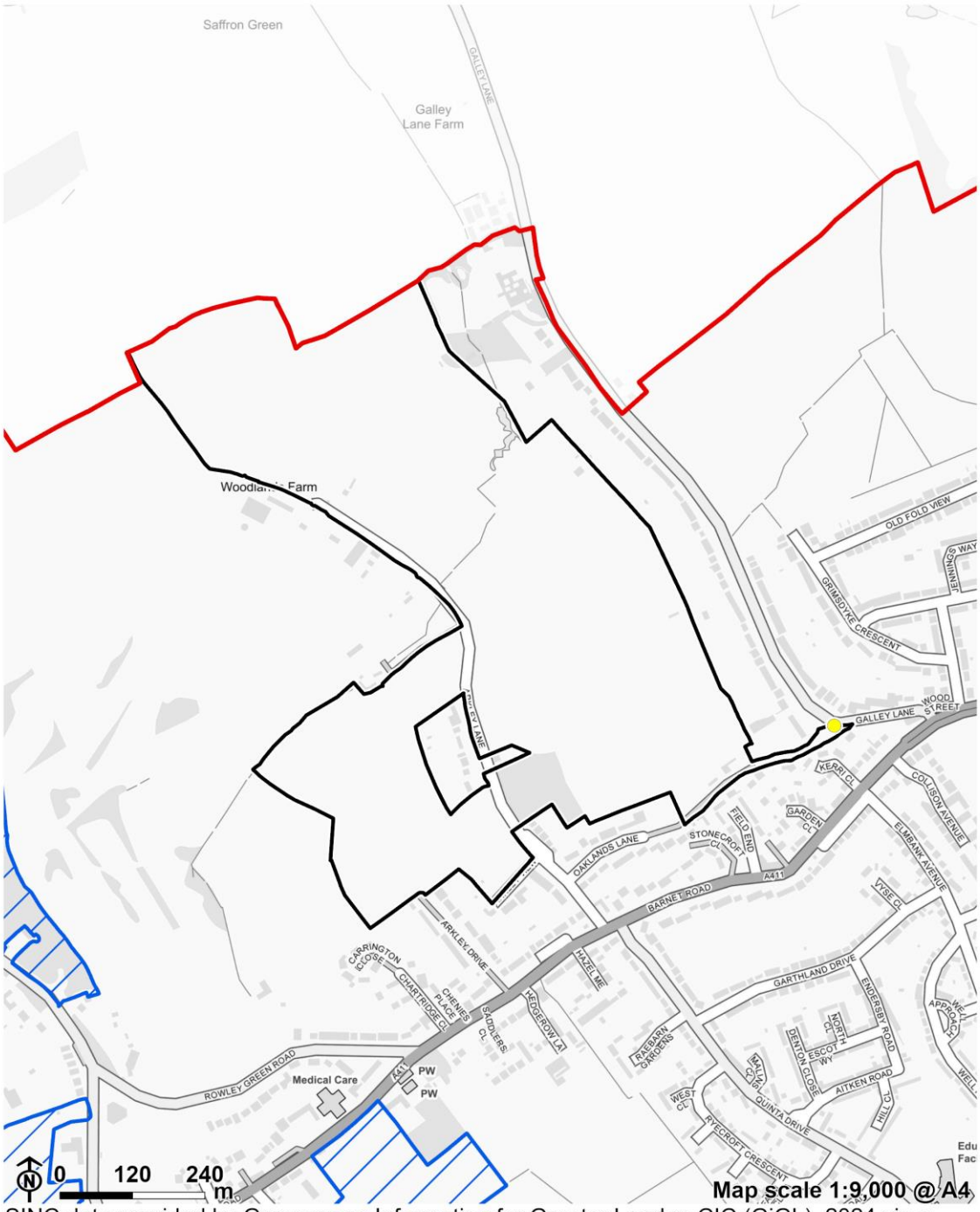
Access point

BaBII22 Arkley Lane and Pastures
Site information
LUC Site ID: 48
SINC ID: BaBII22
SINC Name: Arkley Lane and Pastures
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2255896548
Area (ha): 50.06
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other Urban Fringe, Green Corridors, Outdoor Sports Facilities,
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A country lane with fine old hedges, surrounded by flower rich meadows and pastures.
SINC Description: Arkley Lane, an old drovers' road, is now a quiet country lane. It runs between thick hedges with the traditional bank and ditch. Mature ash , Fraxinus excelsior, and field maple , Acer campestre, and some magnificent old pedunculate oaks , Quercus robur, emerge from hedges composed of beech , Fagus sylvatica, , hornbeam , Carpinus betulus, , wild cherry , Prunus avium, , blackthorn , P. spinosa, , silver birch , Betula pendula, , hazel , Corylus avellana, , common and Midland hawthorns , Crataegus monogyna and C. laevigata, , willows , Salix spp., , holly , Ilex aquilifolium, , elder , Sambucus nigra, and roses , Rosa spp., . The diverse hedge bottom flora is dominated by cow parsley , Anthriscus sylvestris, , and also includes bluebell , Hyacinthoides non scripta, , dog's mercury , Mercurialis perennis, , hedge bedstraw , Galium mollugo, and greater burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella major, , the latter a rare species in London. The ditches support a wetland flora including water figwort , Scrophularia auriculata, , wild angelica , Angelica sylvestris, and rushes , Juncus spp., . A small adjacent woodland, probably ancient, adds to the Habitats. This has a canopy of fine old oak and ash over an understorey containing crab apple , Malus sylvestris, , Midland hawthorn, hazel and holly. Bluebell and common dog violet , Viola riviniana, occur in the ground flora. The woodland and hedges support a good range of nesting birds, including sparrowhawk, willow warbler and stock dove. Muntjac deer are frequently seen. The fields on either side of Arkley Lane are a fine example of traditional countryside, divided by thick hedges with emergent oak and ash, and with a few small patches of scrub. Some are grazed by horses, while others are managed as hay meadows. The grassland in most of the fields supports only a limited range of common grasses and wild flowers, but three fields are much richer, having escaped agricultural improvement. These support wild flowers typical of old grassland, such as sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, , pignut , Conopodium majus, , oval sedge , Carex ovalis, and greater burnet saxifrage. Damp areas around a former stream bed include additional species such as ragged robin , Lychnis flos cuculi, and square stalked St John's wort , Hypericum tetrapterum, .
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Good quality semi improved grassland, Traditional orchard
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, Highclere Holly, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed

BaBII22 Arkley Lane and Pastures
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Arkley Lane is an old tree and hedge-lined country lane surrounded by "Pasture" fields, which comprise semi-improved and improved grassland. Only Arkley Lane was accessed for the purposes of this survey, as the surrounding fields are private land.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: Cloudy, showers.
Date: 4/17/2024 2:29:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Low
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The hedgerow and tree-line alongside Arkley Lane does not require any regular management and therefore, the Habitats are well developed and scrubby offering shelter, nesting, and foragingHabitat to a range of fauna including birds, bats and mammals.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): MeadowsPastures
Habitat survey description: There is a pond along the north of the bridleway and a dry ditch along the south. Treelined paccess route. The rest of the site comprises private inaccessible land.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: N/A
Ecological opportunities on site: wetland creation Additional comments: The citation describes a former stream bed. Therefore, there may be opportunity for re-wetting, enhancement to the existing ditch network and creation of wet grasslands to increaseHabitat richness.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Higher Plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature tree lines and hedgerows on site are likely to offer substantial value to birds and bats through offering shelter for nesting and roosting, and providing foragingHabitat and commuting corridors.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII22 Arkley Lane and Pastures
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report.
Management Recommendations: N/A
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: There are pockets of broadleaved woodland surrounding Arkley Lane, which are connected via a network of hedgerows and tree lines. Additionally, the surrounding fields support unimproved grassland which are particularly ecologically valuable and support rare plant and invertebrate species.
Species Rarity: The range of Habitats present within this site are likely to support a diverse assemblage of birds such as passerines and birds of prey.
Habitat Richness: The site supports a range of Habitats including broadleaved woodland, unimproved, semi-improved and wet grasslands.
Species Richness: N/A

BaBII22 Arkley Lane and Pastures
Size: The site is a substantial size at 50ha, supporting a range of ecologically valuableHabitats.
Important populations of species: The site is likely to support a range of birds, invertebrates, bats and small mammals.
Ancient Character: Arkley Lane is an old country lane which supports wooded banks and hedgerows which are likely to comprise of ancient woodland indicators.
Recreatability: The old hedgerows and broadleaved woodlands take a long time to reach maturity and to become well establishedHabitat features, of value to a range of flora and fauna and therefore, are difficult to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located along the northern boundary of Barnet and lies in close proximity to several other SINCs including Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve located 400m west and connected via mature tree lines and hedgerows.
Access: The country lane itself can be accessed on foot, however the adjacent fields are private.
Use: The country lane is predominantly used for vehicle access to houses and farms along Arkley Lane. The remainder of the site comprises grazed agricultural fields.
Potential: N/A
Aesthetic Appeal: N/A
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to supportHabitats of significant ecological value to flora and fauna.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

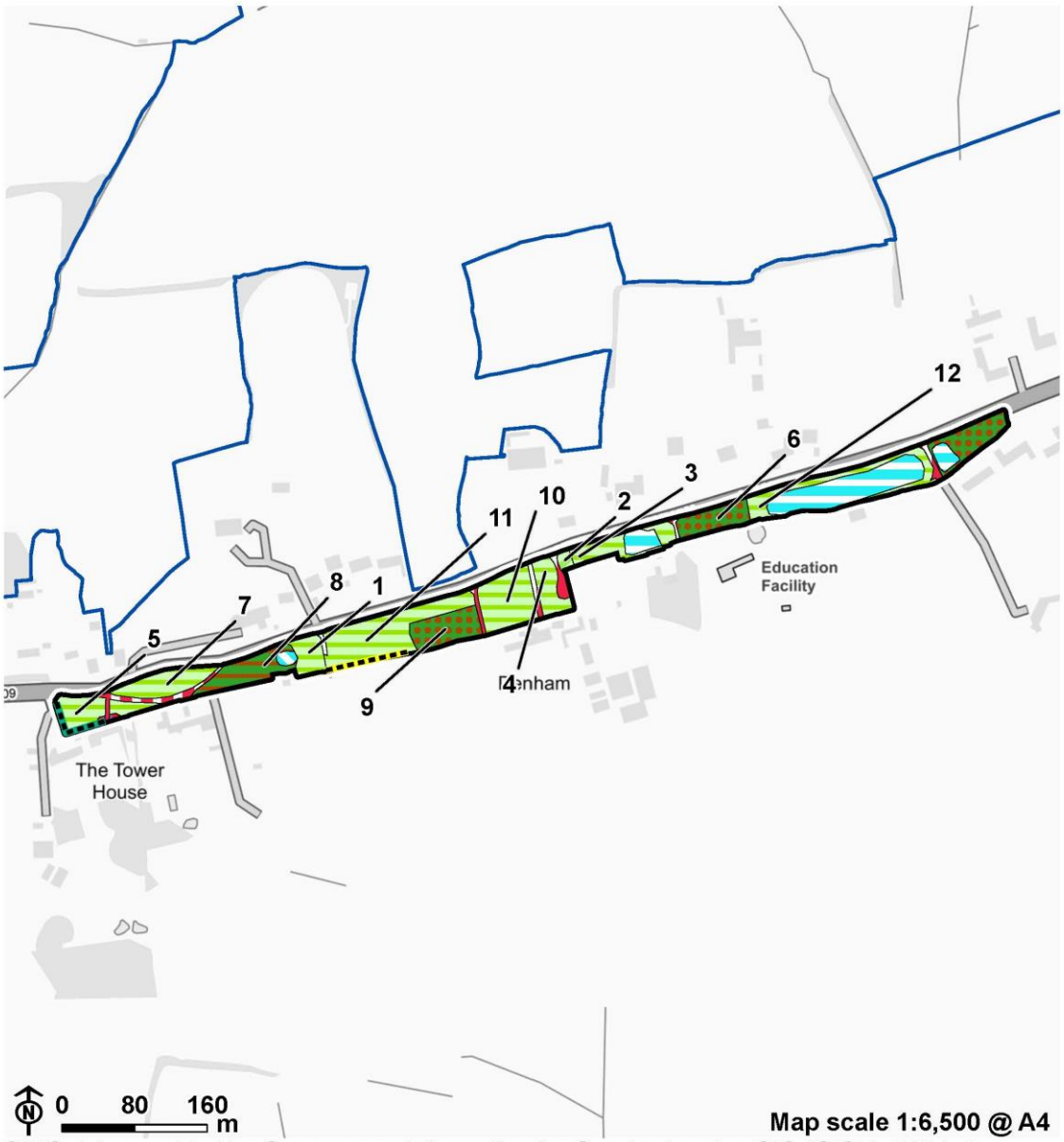
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBII09 Totteridge Common
Site information
LUC Site ID: 49
SINC ID: BaBII09
SINC Name: Totteridge Common
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2309094023
Area (ha): 3.69
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other Urban Fringe, Amenity
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: An attractive wayside common, with scattered trees, overgrown hedgerows, pockets of woodland and a chain of old ponds.
SINC Description: This is an attractive wayside common, with scattered trees, overgrown hedgerows and several pockets of scrubby woodland. Its most interesting feature ecologically is a chain of old ponds. The scrub and woodland is composed mainly of sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, and elm , Ulmus sp., , with other trees and shrubs including two young native black poplars , Populus nigra ssp. betulifolia, near the southern margin of the common. This latter tree is scarce in Britain, and is a priority species in the London Biodiversity Action Plan. There are some fine mature oaks , Quercus sp., and horse chestnuts , Aesculus hippocastanum, and a number of old coppiced hornbeams , Carpinus betulus, scattered throughout the common. The grassland is dominated by bents , Agrostis spp., and Yorkshire fog , Holcus lanatus, , with a fairly good range of wild flowers, including burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, , common knapweed , Centaurea nigra, and oxeye daisy , Leucanthemum vulgare, . Damp areas near some of the ponds contain much tufted hair grass, along with marsh thistle , Cirsium palustre, , oval sedge , Carex ovalis, , jointed rush , Juncus articulatus, and hedge bedstraw , Galium mollugo, . There are five ponds on the common: Long Pond, Ellern Mede Pond, Pink Cottage Pond, Warren Pond and Burnham's Pond. These vary in character due to size, shading, disturbance and management, but all have an interesting wetland flora and most are valuable for dragonflies, other invertebrates and amphibians. Long Pond is used for angling, so presumably contains a good population of fish, which may reduce its value for amphibians. Marginal and emergent plants to be found around the edges of the ponds include lesser spearwort , Ranunculus flammula, , trifid bur marigold , Bidens tripartita, , fool's watercress , Apium nodiflorum, , common and narrow leaved water plantains , Alisma plantago aquatica and A. lanceolata, , sharp flowered rush , Juncus acutiflorus, , marsh woundwort , Stachys palustris, , yellow iris , Iris pseudacorus, and false fox sedge , Carex otrubae, . In deeper water, white water lily , Nymphaea alba, , curled and broad leaved pondweeds , Potamogeton crispus and P. natans, and Canadian and Nuttall's waterweeds , Elodea canadensis and E. nutallii, can all be found.
Management provider: Unknown.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Common Darter, Greenfinch, Lapwing, Purple Emperor, Song Thrush, Spotted Flycatcher
INNS Records: Canadian Waterweed, Cherry Laurel, Nuttall's Waterweed

BaBII09 Totteridge Common
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The common lies within the north of the borough, parallel with Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill Metropolitan SINC. The site comprises a large narrow roadside verge, with a series of old ponds to the east. The verge is predominantly neutral grassland with small areas of species rich herb flora. There is also a small area of secondary broadleaved woodland at the centre of the site and a small orchard with various fruit and berry trees.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: Blue skies some clouds.
Date: 4/17/2024 11:22:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Low
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Overall in good management.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water, Woodland, Orchard, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The road verge comprises neutral grassland with mature trees including horse chestnut, field maple, beech and oak. There is also an area of secondary broadleaved woodland and a small orchard supporting fruit and berry trees at the centre of the site. Standing and fallen deadwood is present within the woodland and there was also a large fallen oak at the time of the survey. The ponds located to the east of the site support emergent and marginal aquatic vegetation and waterfowl.
Threats and Disturbances: FlyTip: Additional comments: Some evidence of spoil dumped along boundaries of site, but otherwise no perceived threats.
Ecological opportunities on site: Active Tree, Deadwood Additional comments: The secondary woodland would benefit from woodland management as it matures, the creation of deadwood features and veteranisation of some trees in order to increase the ecological value of the woodland to birds, insects and fungi.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: During the survey there was a noticeable abundance of spiders and bees throughout the common. The site is also likely to support butterflies, moths and dragonflies too. The openHabitats and areas of closed woodland and wetland are likely to support bats, birds and mammals. Additionally, the ponds are likely to support amphibians and aquatic insects.
Habitat figure:



Map scale 1:6,500 @ A4

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- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerow with trees
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g3 - neutral grassland
- g3c - other neutral grassland
- h3d - bramble scrub
- r1a - eutrophic standing waters
- r1g - other standing water
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- w1f7 - other lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 32 - scattered trees

2: 107 - mown and collected

3: 32 - scattered trees

4: 32 - scattered trees

5: 32 - scattered trees, 60 - long continuity habitat,

6: 10 - scattered scrub

7: 32 - scattered trees

8: 31 - secondary woodland

9: 31 - secondary woodland

10: 32 - scattered trees

11: 32 - scattered trees

12: 32 - scattered trees

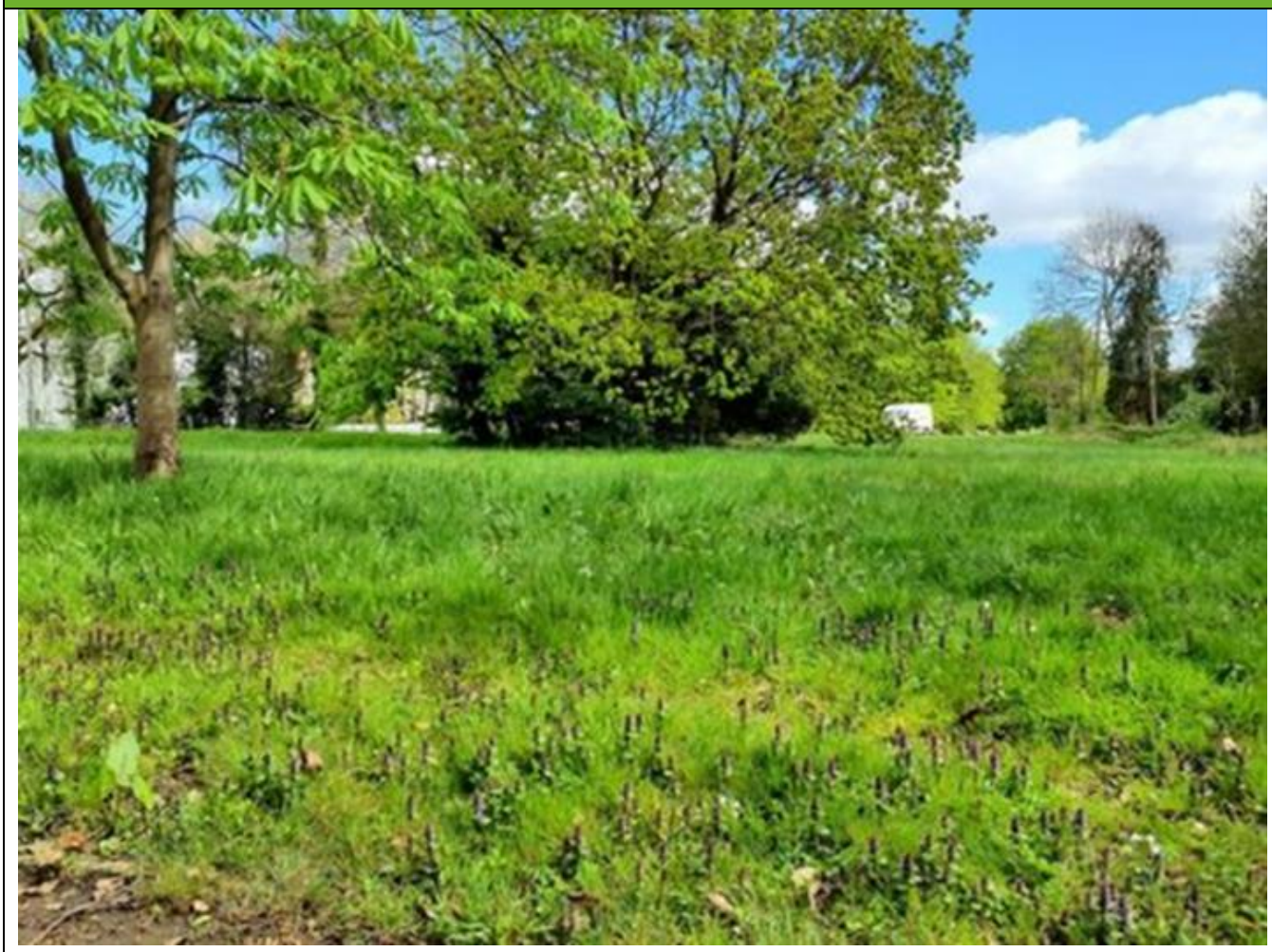
BaBII09 Totteridge Common

Site Photographs:

BaBII09 Totteridge Common

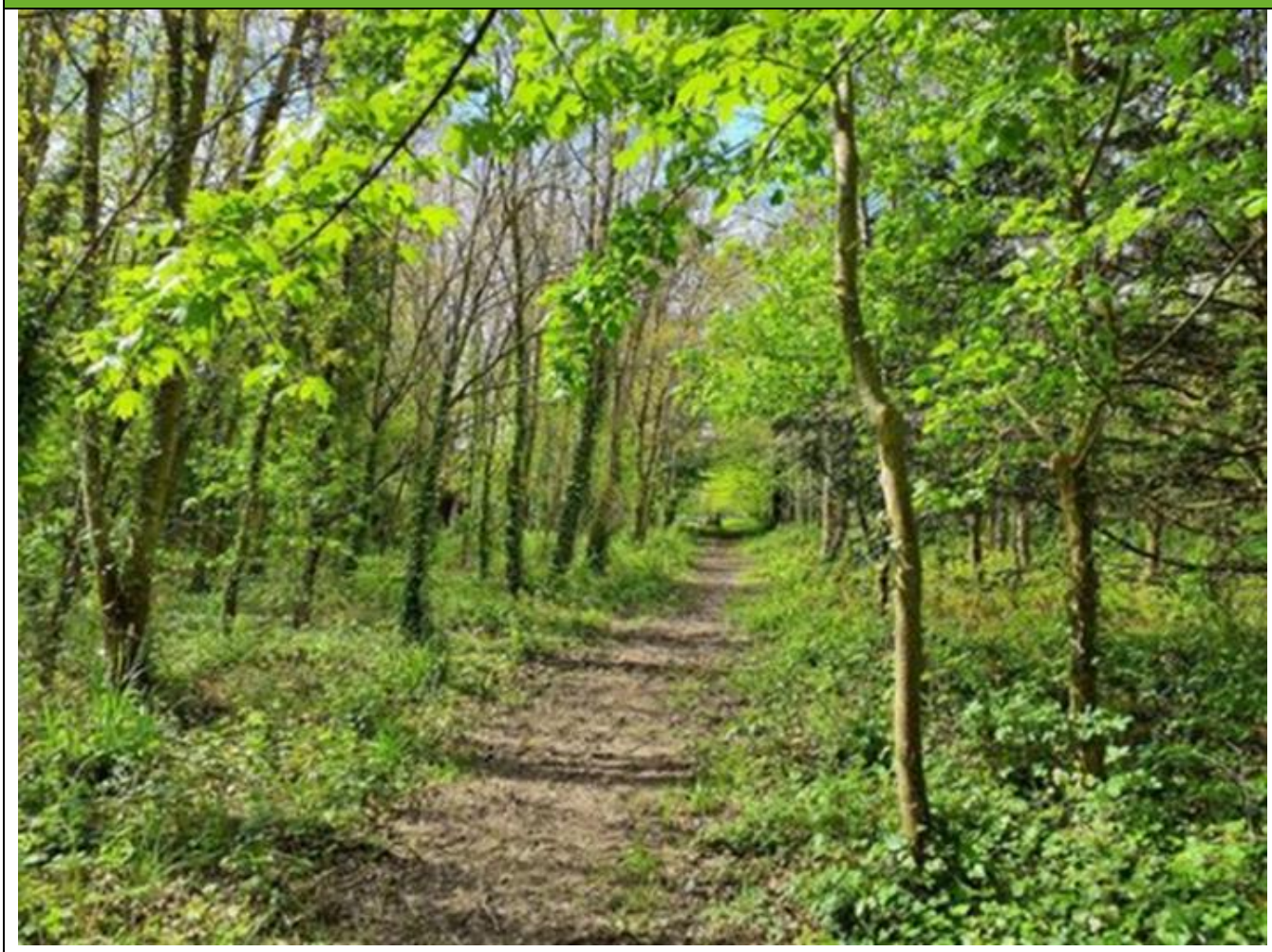
BaBII09 Totteridge Common

BaBII09 Totteridge Common



BaBII09 Totteridge Common

BaBII09 Totteridge Common



BaBII09 Totteridge Common

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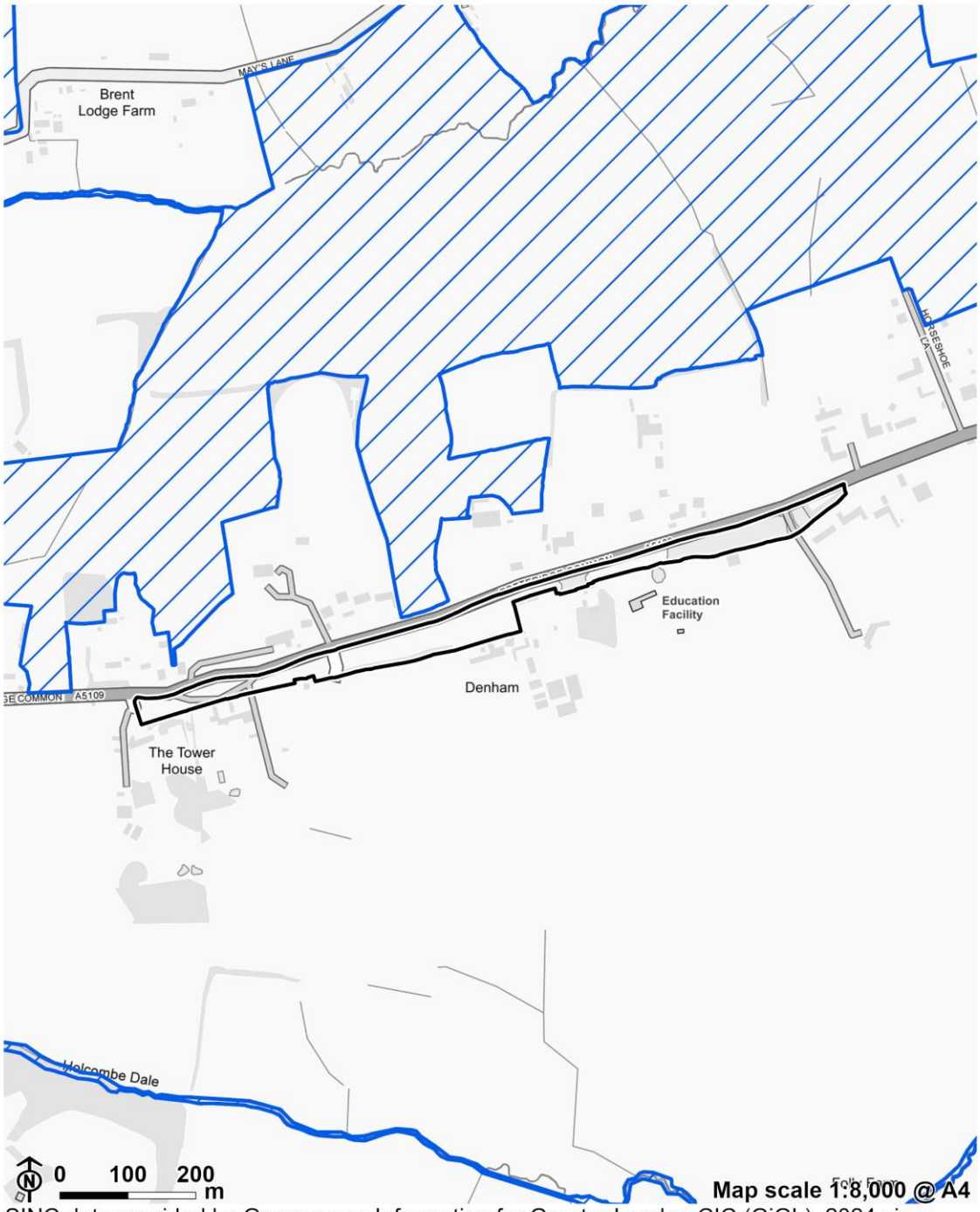
BaBII09 Totteridge Common

BaBII09 Totteridge Common

BaBII09 Totteridge Common
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: It is recommended that information boards are installed each end of the common, in order to explain the ecological importance of the SINC and the risks that garden waste can have with regards to introducing non-native species.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: Totteridge Common represents a diverse roadside verge, of substantial ecological value both in terms of the range of Habitats available to support species populations through their lifecycle but also in terms of the ecological connectivity which the commo
Habitat Rarity: Wetlands and ponds are increasingly rare Habitats due to substantial loss over recent decades and therefore the series of old ponds at Totteridge Common represent a significant feature within the local landscape.
Species Rarity: The site supports historic records for purple emperor butterfly which is a species of conservation concern, that relies on willows as the larval foodplant and is therefore likely to be supported by the woodland edgeHabitats of the ponds. Additionally there are historic records for rare bird species such as greenfinch and lapwing, which are likely to be supported by the woodland and open grassland Habitats of the common and immediate surrounding fields.

BaBII09 Totteridge Common
Habitat Richness: The common supports neutral grassland, a series of ponds and secondary broadleaved woodland Habitats, which are not typically present within residential areas. The trees are particularly mature and are likely to offer significant Habitat value to nesting,
Species Richness: N/A
Size: Despite the small size of this site at just under 4ha, it offers a substantial contribution to the SINC network both through the Habitats present and as an important ecological corridor.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The range of Habitats present, including old ponds, neutral unimproved grassland and mature trees take a significant time to reach establishment and therefore the ecological value of These Habitats is difficult to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: Road verges of this diversity and local character represent typical suburbanHabitats.
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: Totteridge Common is located to the north of the borough and connects Totteridge Village to the east with Mill Hill to the west. The site lies parallel with Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill Metropolitan SINC, which comprises an extensive area of open countryside to the north of Totteridge Common.
Access: The site is accessible by car and on foot from surrounding residential areas.
Use: The common is largely used by people enjoying daily exercise, walking and running along Totteridge Common. The largest of the five ponds is also a fishing pond with a pontoon for access.
Potential: N/A
Aesthetic Appeal: The range of Habitats present across the common and mature trees create an attractive setting along the roadside.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to offer a substantial contribution to the local SINC network and retains its value as a Borough SINC.
Site Maps



Map scale 1:8,000 @ A4

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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaBII08 The Mill Field
Site information
LUC Site ID: 50
SINC ID: BaBII08
SINC Name: The Mill Field
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2218092913
Area (ha): 3.48
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Educational; Landscaping around premises; Park; Playing fields
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A large open space in Mill Hill with flower rich meadow and fine hedges.
SINC Description: This is a large open space in Mill Hill, possibly the historic site of a windmill which gave the area its name. The upper slopes, which command fine views across west London and beyond, are formally managed, with close mown grass and sports pitches. The lower parts of the field are much less formal, with the feel of a piece of countryside encapsulated in suburbia. The herb rich, slightly acid grassland is dominated by bents , Agrostis spp., and red fescue , Festuca rubra, , with tufted hair grass , Deschampsia cespitosa, in damper areas. Wild flowers include devil's bit scabious , Succisa pratensis, , tormentil , Potentilla erecta, and burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, . The small copper butterfly occurs here, its caterpillars feeding on common sorrel , Rumex acetosa, . A small, spring fed pond has a rich wetland flora, including nodding bur marigold , Bidens cernua, , branched bur reed , Sparganium erectum, , water forget me not , Myosotis scorpioides, , water plantain , Alisma plantago aquatica, and water pepper , Persicaria hydropiper, . Thick hedgerows of hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, , elder , Sambucus nigra, and holly , Ilex aquilifolium, form the field boundaries, with emergent trees of pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, , ash , Fraxinus excelsior, and wild cherry , Prunus avium, . Further trees are scattered around the field, including a particularly fine oak near the football pitch. There are also areas of willow , Salix spp., scrub, and extensive stands of creeping thistle , Cirsium arvense, . The latter requires control to prevent further invasion into the herb rich grassland.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Small Copper
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site:

BaBII08 The Mill Field
The site is located in the central west of the borough. The Habitat comprise grassland, woodland, scrub and a small pond. The site is ecologically connected to other green spaces to the west and north. It is publicly accessible with a loop walk through the site.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Dry and windy
Date: 4/23/2024 1:39:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The pathways are kept clear from scrub and are cut neatly within the grassland, allowing continued access to the site.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The large grassland field in the north of the site was a shorter sward than that in the south. The grassland comprised dominant red fescue and creeping bent grass, with abundant dandelion, yarrow, common daisy, white clover, ribwort plantain, frequent perennial rye grass, Yorkshire fog, common sorrel, and occasional dock and creeping buttercup. Within the grassland was scattered mature trees including oak and silver birch. Along the boundaries of the north field were mature trees and scrub comprising horse chestnut, ash, holly, sycamore, and beech. The woodland through the centre of the site included oak, silver birch, ash, bramble, bracken, bugle, sycamore, holly, bluebell, blackthorn, hawthorn, horse chestnut, goat willow, A small pond was noted in the woodland, but could not be accessed due to dense scrub. The southern grassland had a longer sward, and also included horsetails, knapweed, bramble suckers, cuckoo flower, bugle, and meadow fox tail grass. Ornamental planting was noted along north boundary with the road.
Threats and Disturbances: Dog fouling, Litter: Additional comments: The site was generally well kept, with a little litter and dog fouling noted along the roadside in the north.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Deadwood Additional comments: Improving and reinforcing the pathways through the woodland to stop erosion would benefit the ground flora on the woodland edges and allow access throughout the winter. The creation of deadwood features within the scrub and woodland to support and provide opportunities for invertebrates such as saproxylic species, and reptiles. The creation of a mowing regime within the grassland to produce a diversity in sward height.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:

BaBII08 The Mill Field
The woodland, tree lines and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The grassland supports foraging invertebrates, including the notable Small Copper butterfly, reptiles and small mammals. The pondHabitat provided suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

Welcome
to
The
Mill Field
For further enquiries contact 020 8359 4600
www.barnet.gov.uk

BaBII08 The Mill Field

BaBII08 The Mill Field

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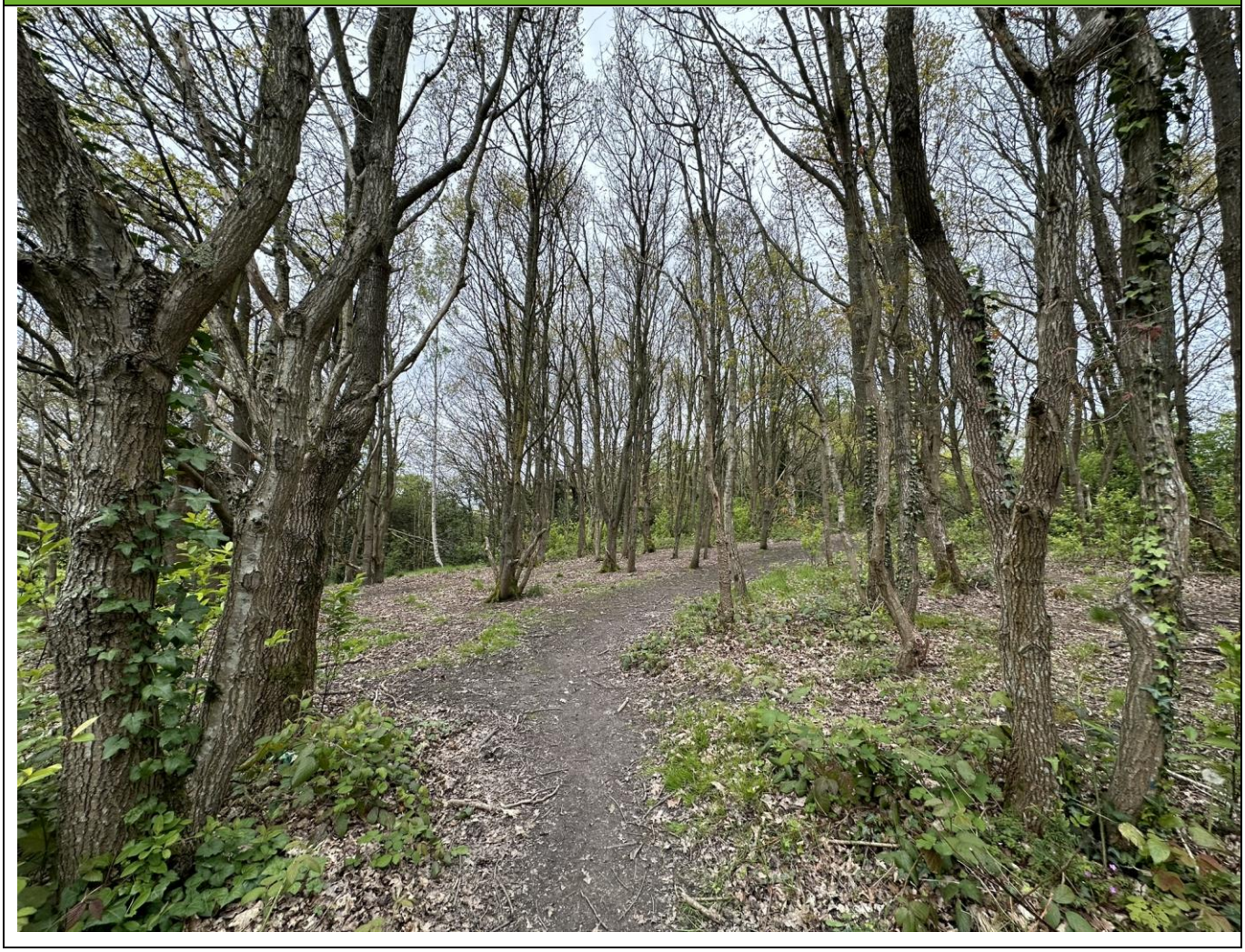
BaBII08 The Mill Field



BaBII08 The Mill Field

BaBII08 The Mill Field

BaBII08 The Mill Field

BaBII08 The Mill Field
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: More frequent litter clean-ups and collections from the in-situ bins to reduce waster within the site. Dead hedging along the pathways within the woodland to prevent further pathway erosion into the woodland edge.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The Natural England PriorityHabitat deciduous woodland and slightly acidic grassland are good examples of These Habitats within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: There were mature trees with veteran features which would benefit bats and invertebrates within the site.
Species Rarity: The site supports plants which are used by notable species including the Small Copper butterfly, as noted in the desk study above. The site would also support other London BAP species such as the song thrush.
Habitat Richness: The site was comprises of a mix of differentHabitats including priority deciduous woodland, scrub, acidic grassland and a pond.

BaBII08 The Mill Field
Species Richness: The acidic grassland was native-species rich and supported over 15 different species. The differentHabitats within the site supported a multitude of common and widespread species.
Size: The site is very small for the borough, but is an important site with Priority Habitats which support numerous species .
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The mature trees with veteran features are an irreplaceableHabitat, the woodland and scrub are also difficult to recreate given the time taken to reach their maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The site was once home to a historic windmill, which is thought to have given its name to the area and site.
Geographic Position: The site is in the west of the borough and is connected to further green spaces. The site forms part of a green corridor in the centre of the borough which link multiple SINC sites including Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill and Folly Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible with a hardstanding path along norther boundary, a loop walk down hill through the woodland to the south field. Though would become impassable in winter.
Use: Moderate levels f use, mainly by dog walkers and families.
Potential: The woodland and grassland Habitat condition and species they support could be improved through creating deadwood features, dead hedging and a mowing regime respectively.
Aesthetic Appeal: There are great views down the hill to Wembley and the site is full of flowering species, which provides people with enjoyment of nature through colour and scents.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to meet the designation criteria for Borough Grade II as the publicly accessible small site supports multipleHabitats and species, including notable and London BAP species. The acidic grassland and priority deciduous woodland Habitats are good example of the Habitats within the borough despite the small size.
Site Maps

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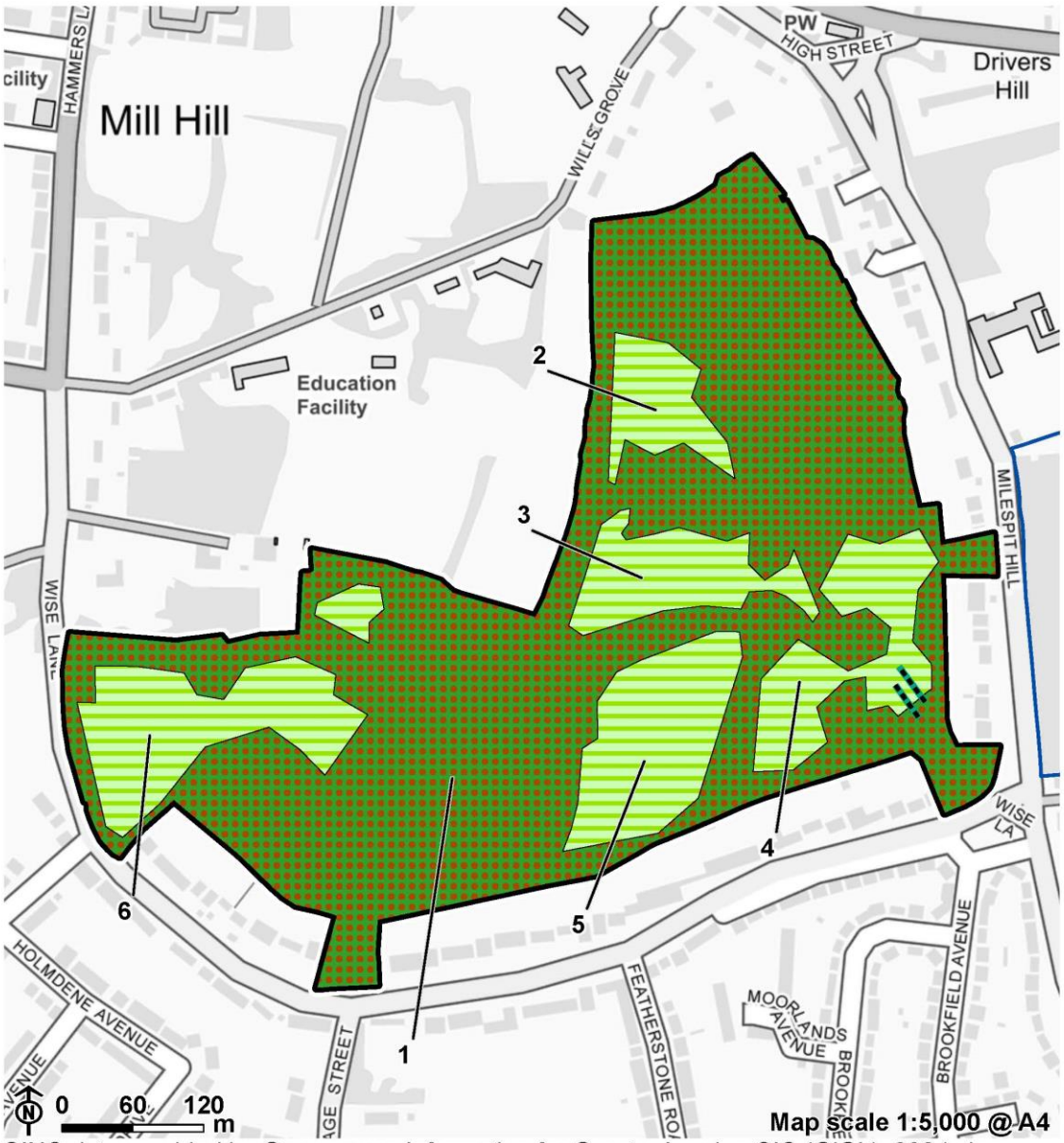
LUC assessment site

Access point

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
Site information
LUC Site ID: 51
SINC ID: M038
SINC Name: Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Re ference: TQ2256791953
Area (ha): 24.58
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Amenity, Green Corridors, Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: An area of woods and meadows near Mill Hill Village, with an abundance of flowers, frequented by a wide variety of birds.
SINC Description: A large area of grassland with a traditional countryside character and free public access. The herb rich sward contains numerous uncommon species characteristic of unimproved grassland, including sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, , ragged robin , Lychnis flos cuculi, , adder's tongue fern , Ophioglossum vulgatum, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, and oval and grey sedges , Carex ovalis, C. divulsa ssp. divulsa, . Old hedgerows contain the uncommon wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, . The breeding avifauna of woodland and hedgerows includes spotted flycatcher and lesser whitethroat, with reed bunting and skylark in the meadows.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Good quality semi improved grassland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Bluebell, Common Pipistrelle, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Large Skipper, Lesser Noctule, Lesser Redpoll, Lesser Whitethroat, Long eared Bat species, Nathusius's Pipistrelle, Redwing, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Soprano Pipistrelle, Spotted Flycatcher, Whinchat, Willow Tit, Woodcock
INNS Records: Cherry Laurel, False acacia, Japanese Knotweed
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the centre of the borough and is adjacent to another SINC (Drivers Hill). The site comprises large areas of semi-improved neutral grassland and woodland with dense scrub. There is public access through the site on designated pathways.
Survey Data

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Wet and windy
Date: 6/10/2024 10:25:00 AM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): All the paths had been cut clear of scrub, though through the grassland these were eroding to mud due to heavy rain and high use.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The majority of the site comprised woodland. The canopy was dominant oak, abundant silver birch, ash, hazel, willow, with occasional beech. The understorey included abundant dense bramble, holly, elder, frequent malus sp, ivy, hawthorn, blackthorn, sycamore, garlic mustard, ground ivy, yew, nettle, willowherb, cleavers, bracken, and occasional cherry laurel. There were also a few small grassland glades within the woodland, these could not be accessed due to dense scrub. The grassland meadows included dominant perennial rye, abundant annual meadow grass, ribwort plantain, meadow foxtail, frequent cow parsley, creeping buttercup, Yorkshire fog, white clover, red clover. Within the grassland in the southwest of the site were multiple mature oak trees, surrounded with scrub including bramble and rose. In the southeast of the site two tree lines border the hardstanding access track, these comprised semi-mature oak and lime trees.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling, Invasive species: Additional comments: Stands of cherry laurel were identified within the woodland and scrub. The desk study also notes that there is False acacia, Japanese Knotweed within the woodland, though was not identified during the site visit. The site was highly used by dog walkers, there was a lot of litter and dog fouling along the path edges.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, wetland creation, Scrub estab, Deadwood Additional comments: The mowing regime would create a sward height diversity within the meadows and would create a greater floristic diversity too, which will benefit invertebrates. There were areas of waterlogged grassland and woodland that would benefit from wetland and marginal planting. Areas of dense scrub should be thinned to create additional glades within the woodland.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The grassland and woodland provide foraging opportunities for reptiles and invertebrates. The desk study also lists a large variety of notable, protected and London BAP species that the site supports, including Bluebell, Common Pipistrelle, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Large Skipper, Lesser Noctule, Lesser Redpoll, Lesser Whitethroat, Long eared Bat species, Nathusius's Pipistrelle, Redwing, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Soprano Pipistrelle, Spotted Flycatcher, Whinchat, Willow Tit, and Woodcock.

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat linear

Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

g3c - other neutral grassland

w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

2: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,

3: 32 - scattered trees

4: 32 - scattered trees

5: 32 - scattered trees

6: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
Site Photographs:

Welcome
to
Arrendene
Open Space

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

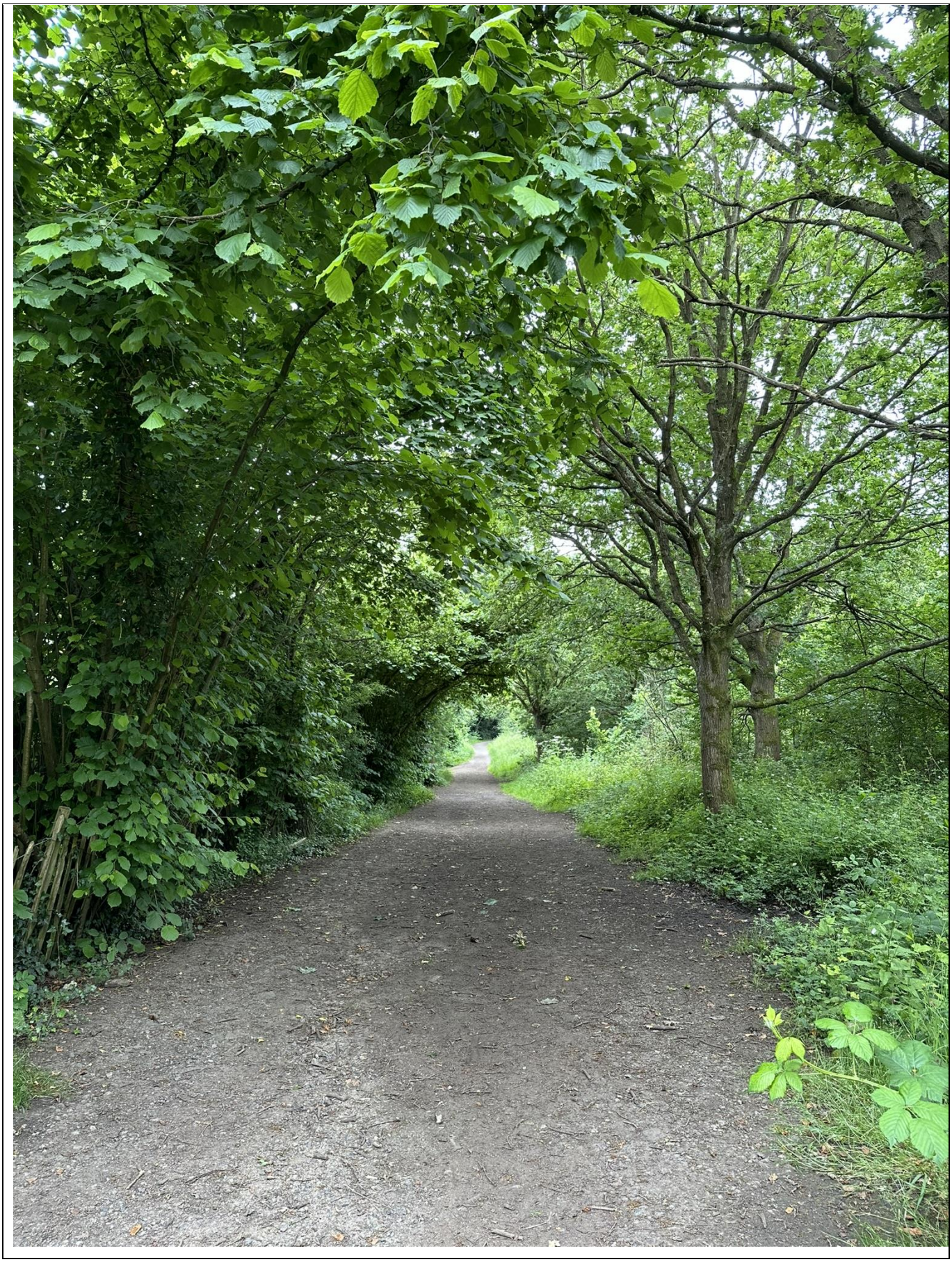
M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

Barnet
London Borough Council
ARRANDENE
OPEN SPACE
ORSE AND PONY RIDING
Horse and pony riders may use the riding track and
the two fields at the northern end of the open space
at their own risk provided that they do not ride at
more than a steady canter nor in such way as to
endanger pedestrians. Riding is not permitted in any
other part of the open space.
Town Hall
Hendon
NW4
Chief Executive
Mr M.M.Caller



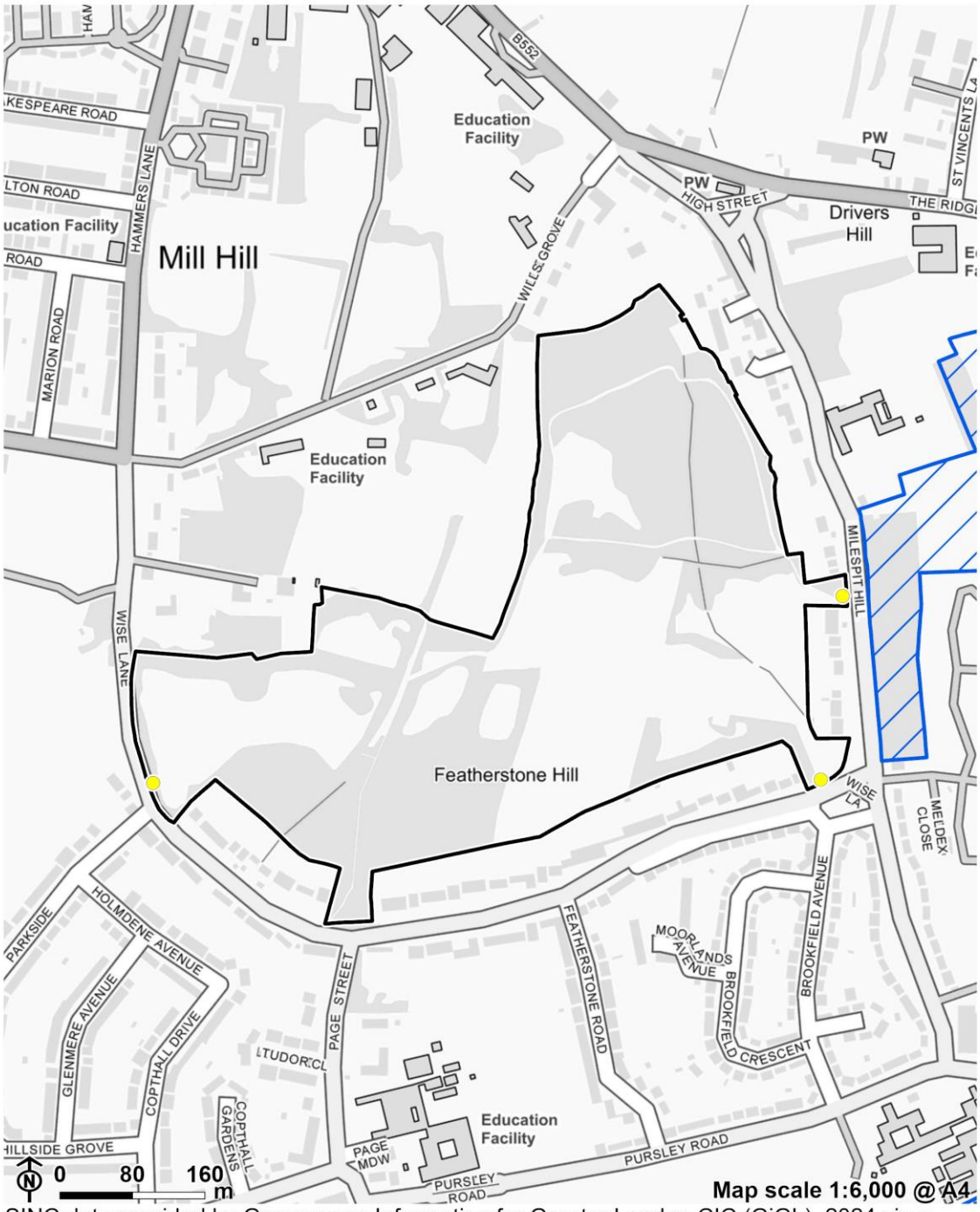
M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Litter management through regular clean-ups of the site, especially along the pathways in the woodland. Control and removal of invasive species such as cherry laurel from the woodland and scrubHabitats.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: This site is an example of good condition Natural England PriorityHabitat deciduous woodland, large areas of semi-improved neutral grassland and scrubHabitats within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: The large areas of priority woodland and semi-improved neutral grassland Habitats are rarer within London.
Species Rarity: The species composition of the woodland and grassland are relatively common, however there is a long list of notable and rare species which utilise the Habitats present , as set out in the desk study above.
Habitat Richness: The site isHabitat rich including priority deciduous woodland, scrub, semi-improved grassland and scattered trees .

M038 Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill
Species Richness: The woodland, scrub and grassland Habitats have diverse species lists, and support a wide range of notable, protected and London BAP species, as shown in the desk study.
Size: he site is large (24.5ha) within the centre of the borough. It provides large expanses of woodland and grassland which are in close proximity to further SINCs and urban green spaces. The site is a green stepping stone to further green and SINC sites in t
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The mature trees and large areas of deciduous woodland would be difficult to replicate due to the time taken to reach maturity and the large area of woodland existing within the site.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is in the centre of the borough and part of a wider area of urban green spaces, including further SINC sites to the east (Drivers Hill) and south Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common). These provide green stepping stones through the borough, and form an important part of the ecological network.
Access: The site is publicly accessible with hardstanding paths in the south. There are also paths cut through the woodland and grassland meadows which allow access throughout the site.
Use: The site is used by locals, dog walkers, families, and runners for recreational purposes.
Potential: Thinning and management of the scrub to create glades in the woodland and a varied mowing regime within the grassland would provide more diversity within the site for species.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site has large areas of woodland and scrub which included flowering species. It provided a large, calming green space for people to enjoy.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: Arrandene Open Space and Featherstone Hill continues to meet the Metropolitan SINC designation as the site provides a good example of large areas of priority woodland, scrub and semi-improved neutral grassland Habitats within the borough which support large numbers of notable, protected and London BAP species.
Site Maps



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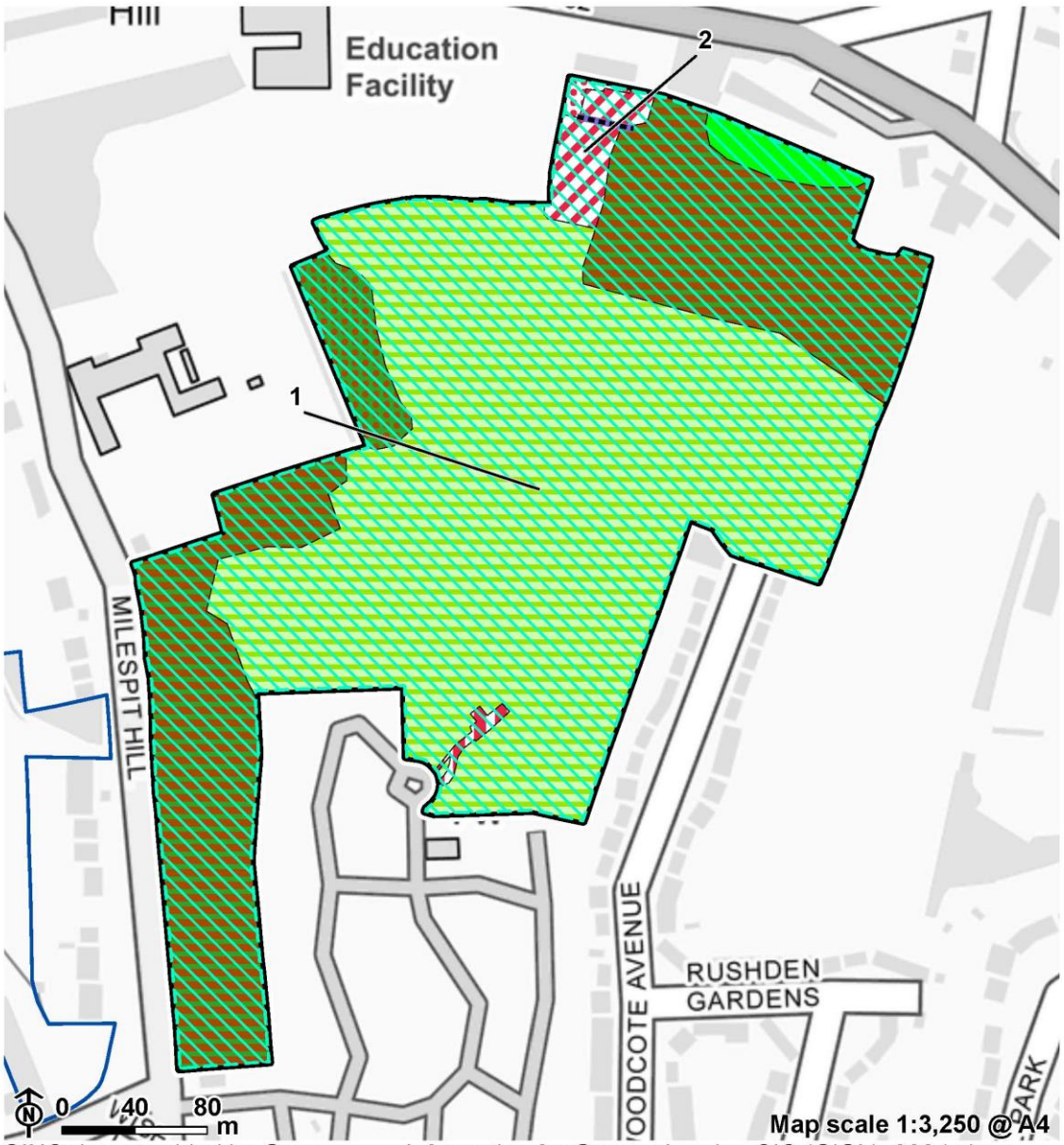
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBII10 Drivers Hill
Site information
LUC Site ID: 52
SINC ID: BaBII10
SINC Name: Drivers Hill
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2321692123
Area (ha): 10.8
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Amenity, Cemeteries and Churchyards
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: An attractive landscape of traditional pastures and small woods.
SINC Description: This site consists of several fields, some of which are intermittently grazed, and two small areas of woodland. The grassland contains a fair diversity of grasses and wild flowers, including species typical of old pasture, such as crested dog's tail , Cynosurus cristatus, , oval sedge , Carex ovalis, , and lady's bedstraw , Galium verum, . Wetter areas contain tufted hair grass , Deschampsia cespitosa, , greater bird's foot trefoil , Lotus uliginosus, and great horsetail , Equisetum telmateia, . Scrub of hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , elder , Sambucus nigra, and bramble , Rubus fruticosus agg., is invading the ungrazed fields. The larger of the two woods is Wentworth Hall Wood, on the northern edge of the site. The canopy is dominated by pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, , over an understorey of common and Midland hawthorns , Crataegus monogyna and C. laevigata, , yew , Taxus baccata, , holly , Ilex aquilifolium, and elder. The ground flora is dominated by bramble and ivy , Hedera helix, . The other strip of woodland, in the south west of the site, is dominated by oak and sycamore.
Management provider: Jehovah's Witnesses
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Hobby, Tree Pipit
INNS Records: Chinese Muntjac, Snowberry
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: A privately owned SINC located in the centre of the borough. The site is bound by Mill Hill cemetery to the South, schools to the north and residential housing and fields to the east and west. Arrandene open space and Featherstone Hill SINC is located just west of the site, however it is separated from the site by a road and residential housing. The site is located in the green belt and is connected to nearby greenspaces and is therefore an important component of the ecological network.

BaBII10 Drivers Hill
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Clear and dry
Date: 5/16/2024 2:00:00 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Unknown
Management: Unknown Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The site could not be accessed to survey so management could not be assessed.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): MeadowsPastures
Habitat survey description: Habitat survey could not be undertaken. The site has been mapped from desk study information and aerial photography. The site appears to be largely dominated by a mosaic of grassland, scattered scrub and scattered trees, with some areas of wet grassland. Smaller areas of broadleaved woodland are also present on site.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Threats are not known, as the SINC could not be accessed.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: No access possible so survey could not be undertaken.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Habitats on site are most likely to support birds, bats and invertebrates. The site also may provide suitable reptileHabitat given the presence of grassland and scrub.
Habitat figure:



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- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site
- Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerows

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- u1 - built-up areas and gardens
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- w1f - lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

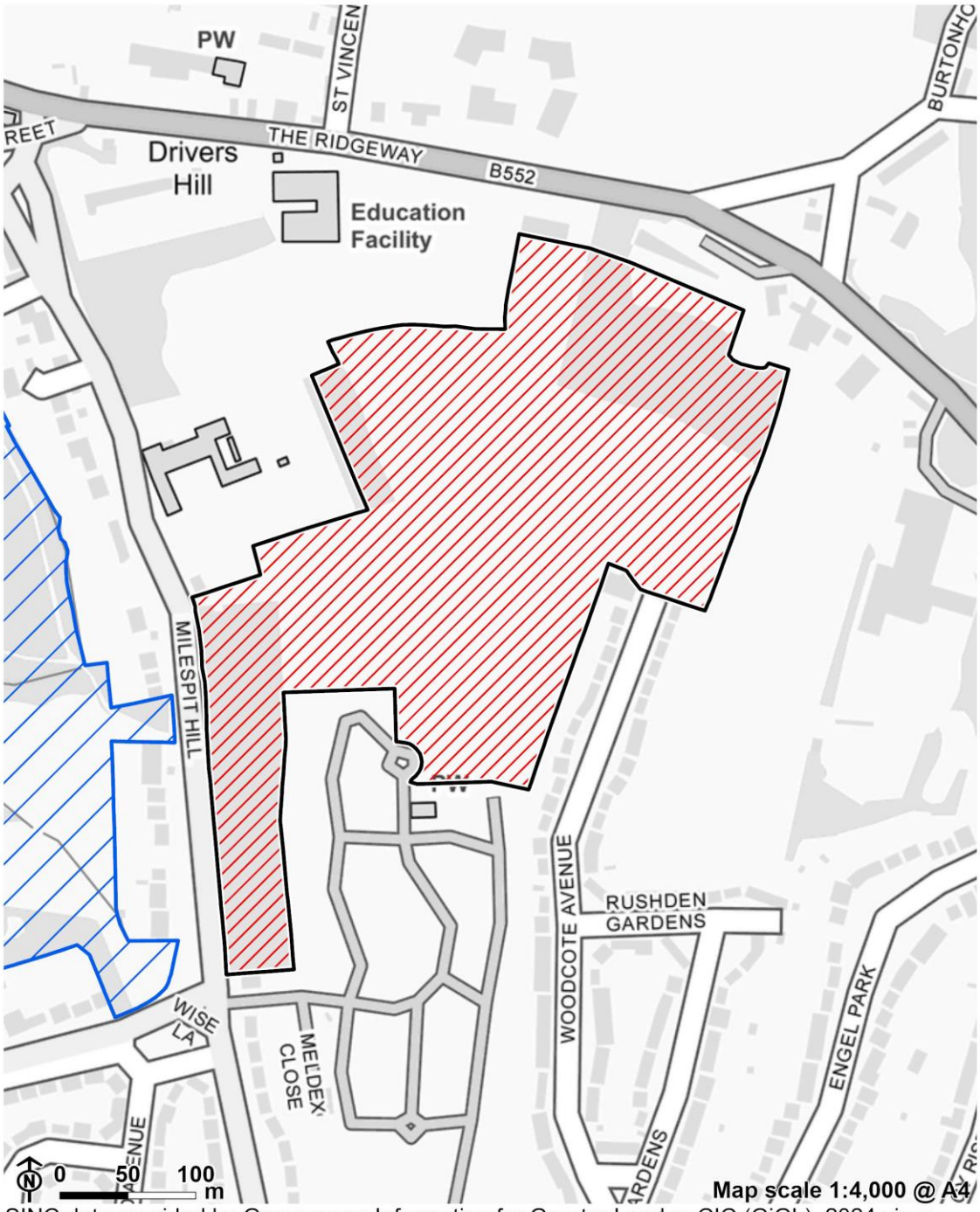
UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub, 32 - scattered trees, 128 - tall or tussodcy sward

2: 828 - vegetated garden

BaBII10 Drivers Hill
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: Access should be granted to undertake aHabitat survey and identify areas to improve management for biodiversity. General recommendations would include management of scrub to ensure a good mix of species and ages of the scrub. The scrub should be bound by a mix of grass and herbaceous vegetation and invasive species should be monitored and controlled in line with legal requirements. Enhancements may include addition of hedgerows, and standing water to provide a breeding Habitat for amphibians. The grassland should be managed to encourage species diversity and diversity in sward heights, and a small amount (between 1 -5%) of bare ground should be present. Bird and bat boxes could additionally be added to trees to provide further roosting /nesting opportunities. The woodland would need to be subject to a condition assessment to assess the condition of the woodland, and areas for enhancement.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The site supports woodland which is uncommon in urban areas.
Species Rarity: Tree pipit (Birds of Conservation Concern red list) was identified in the desk study.
Habitat Richness: Based on the desk study, there are a range of Habitats present on site including grassland (including wet grassland), woodland and scrub.
Species Richness: It was not possible to assess this criteria as the survey could not be undertaken, but as the site supports multipleHabitat types, it is likely it also supports a diverse species mix.
Size: A large SINC at 10.8ha.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The site supports woodland which would take a long time to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The site includes the headquarters of Britain's Jehovas' Witnesses.
Geographic Position: A privately owned SINC located in the centre of the borough. The site is bound by Mill Hill cemetery to the South, schools to the north and residential housing and fields to the east and west. Arrandene open space and Featherstone Hill SINC is located just west of the site, however it is separated from the site by a road and residential housing. The site is located in the green belt and is connected to nearby greenspaces and is therefore an important component of the ecological network.
Access: Privately owned and therefore there was no access to the public.
Use: Site supports headquarters of Britain's Jehovas' Witnesses.
Potential: N/A
Aesthetic Appeal: N/A
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions

BaBII10 Drivers Hill
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: Due to the lack of access to the SINC site, a desk study was undertaken. It is not recommended that there should be a change in the SINC designation, however, it is recommended that an update site survey is undertaken to confirm the condition of the site.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

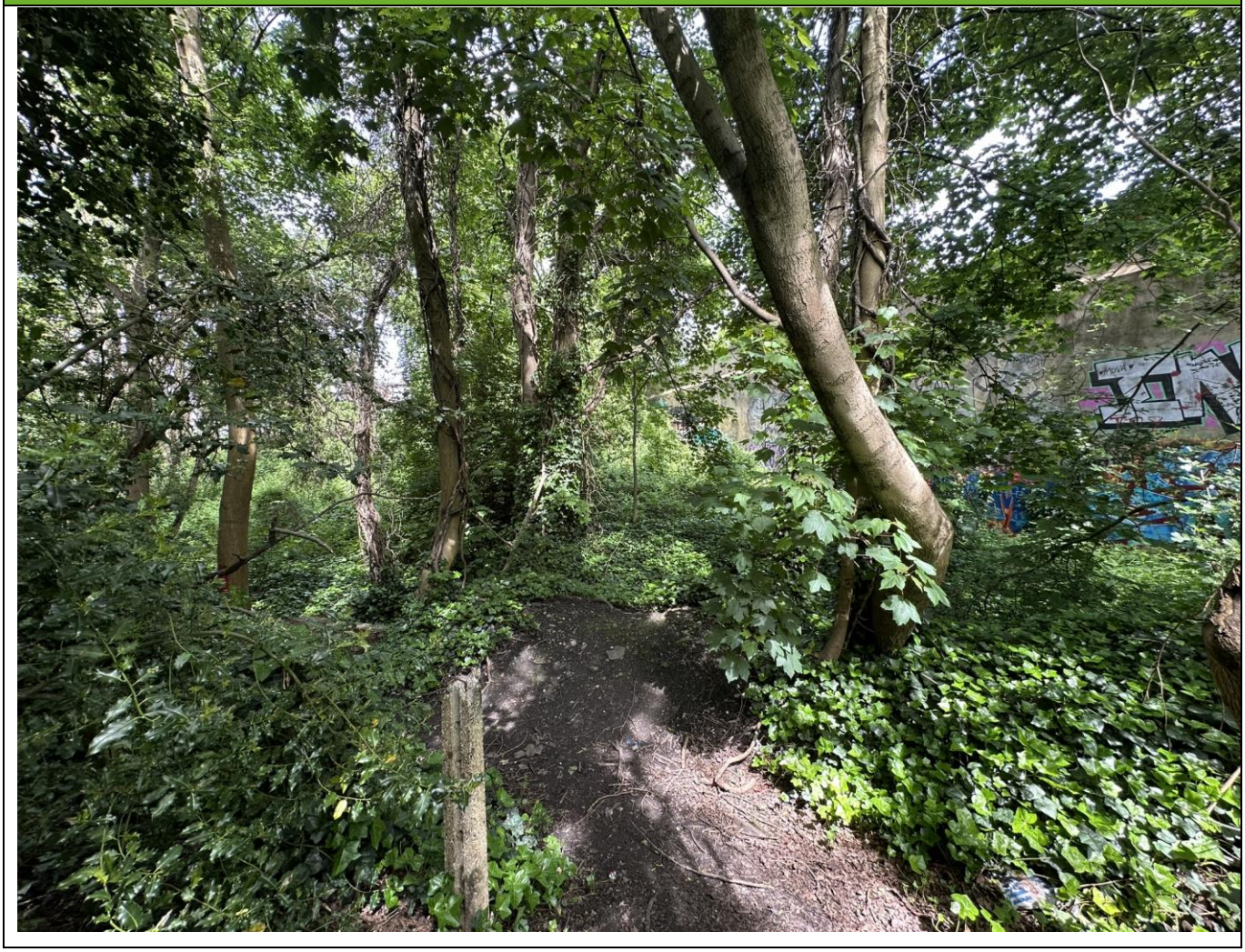
Other LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

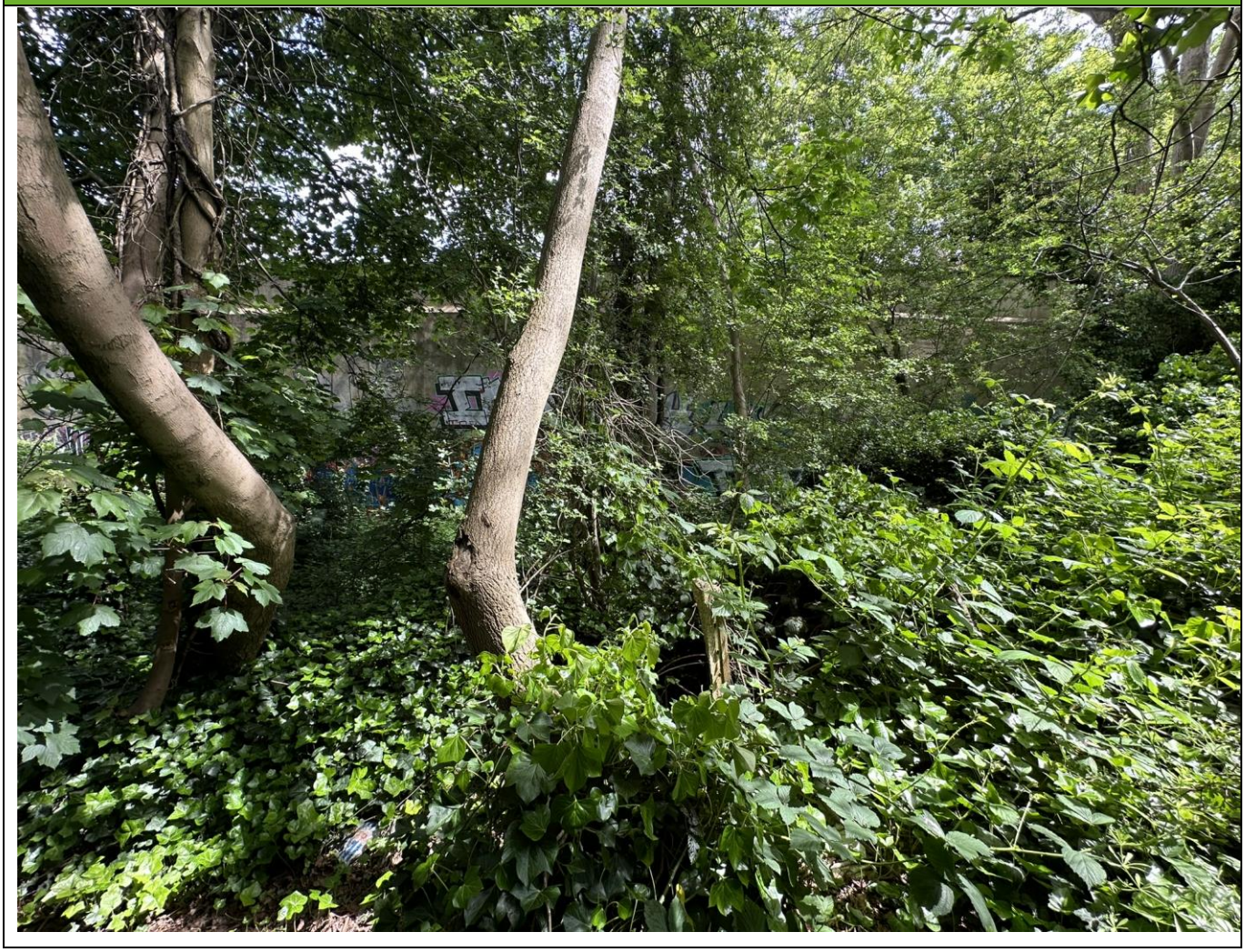
BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 53
SINC ID: BaBII04
SINC Name: Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2062891807
Area (ha): 2.29
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Amenity, Parks and Gardens, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: A long, narrow nature reserve on the course of an abandoned railway.
SINC Description: This is a long, narrow strip of wildlifeHabitat on the course of a railway abandoned in 1964. Most of the site is now wooded, with small glades of rough grassland and tall herbs. The woodland canopy includes oak , Quercus robur, , sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, , field maple , A. campestre, , wild cherry , Prunus avium, , silver birch , Betula pendula, , alder , Alnus glutinosa, and crack willow , Salix fragilis, , with a dense shrub layer of hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, and grey willow , Salix cinerea, . The grassland is dominated by false oat grass , Arrhenatherum elatius, , with a good range of wild flowers including burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, and great burnet , Sanguisorba officinalis, , the latter a rare species usually associated with unimproved grassland. Stands of tall herbs include rosebay willowherb , Chamerion angustifolium, and creeping thistle , Cirsium arvense, . The site supports a large population of slow worms. Most of the site is managed as a nature reserve by the Barnet Group of the Lo ndon Wildlife Trust.
Management provider: Barnet Group of the London Wildlife Trust.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Common Frog, Corn Buttercup, Dunnock, Greenfinch, Hobby, House Sparrow, Large Skipper, Mistle Thrush, Redwing, Service tree, Slow worm, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Starling, Swift, Tawny Owl, Woodcock
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Cherry Laurel, False acacia, Himalayan Balsam, Spanish Bluebell
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site was located in the west of the borough and is an important green corridor which is ecologically linked to two SINCs, Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park in the west and Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook to the south. Due to restricted access it

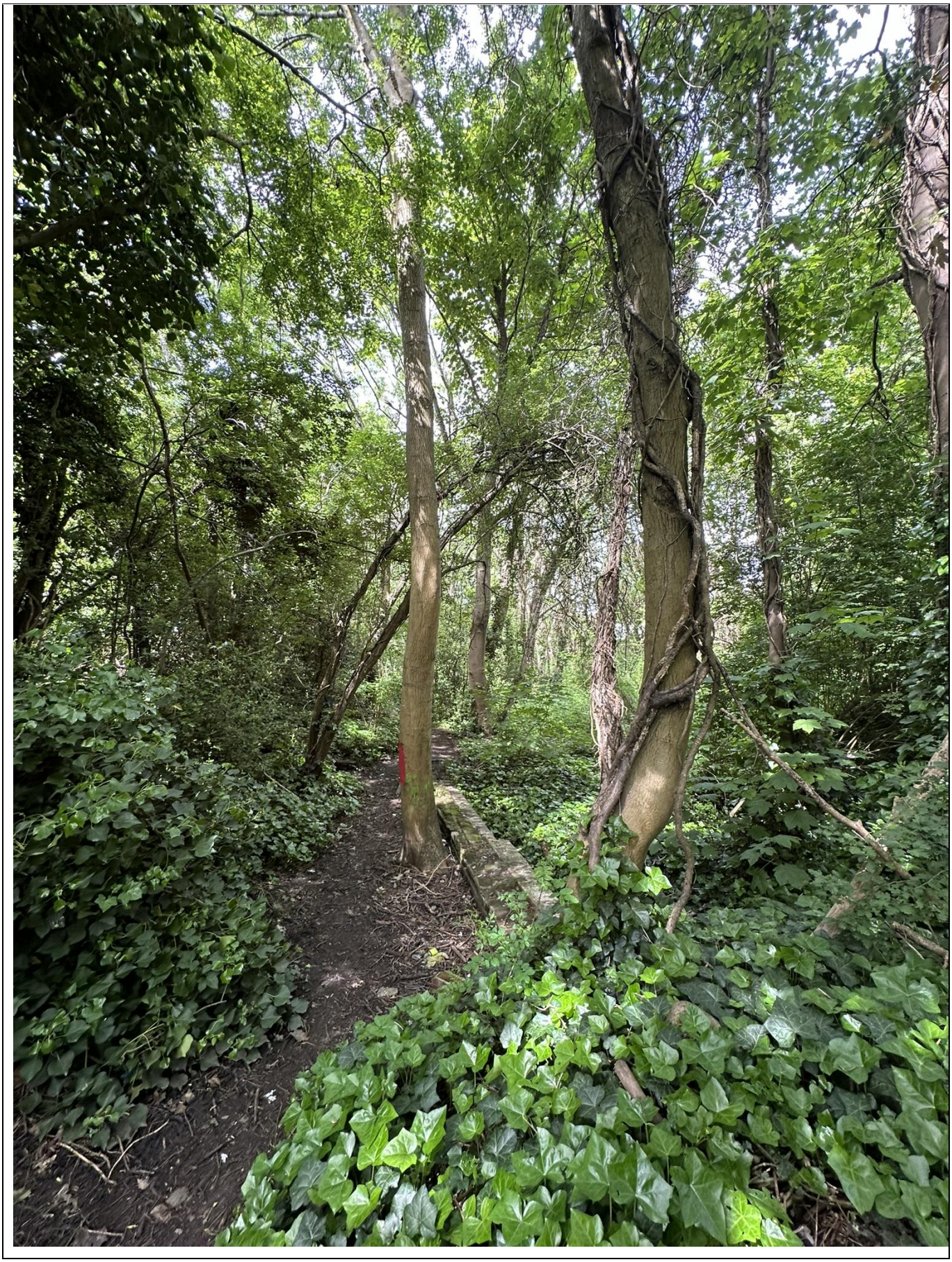
BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve
was not possible to assess the site in full, with the assessment limited to views from adjacent Public Rights of Way (PROWs) of the eastern third of the site and based on the desk study. The site comprised woodland with dense scrub.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Warm and sunny
Date: 5/17/2024 11:12:00 AM
Survey access: View
Level of Use: Low
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Due to restricted access to the site, comment cannot be made on the existing management.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The woodland species throughout the site include semi mature trees oak, sycamore, ash, silver birch, and horse chestnut. the understorey and scrub comprised dense abundant bramble, hawthorn, frequent field maple, ivy, holly, willow, nettle, and occasional cleavers and cow parsley.
Threats and Disturbances: Vandalism, Litter, Dog fouling, FlyTip: Additional comments: The site had a lot of litter and fly tipping within the accessible area, also a homeless encampment within the eastern stretch of the site.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab, ActiveTree, Deadwood Additional comments: The scrub within the site was very dense, thinning the bramble to create glades within the woodland would benefit multiple species and would create a larger scrub diversity within the site. The creation of deadwood features would benefit invertebrates within the woodland.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The desk study also provides a large number of protected and notable species that the site supports, including, Common Frog, Corn Buttercup, Dunnock, Greenfinch, Hobby, House Sparrow, Large Skipper, Mistle Thrush, Redwing, Service tree, Slow worm, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Starling, Swift, Tawny Owl, and Woodcock.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve

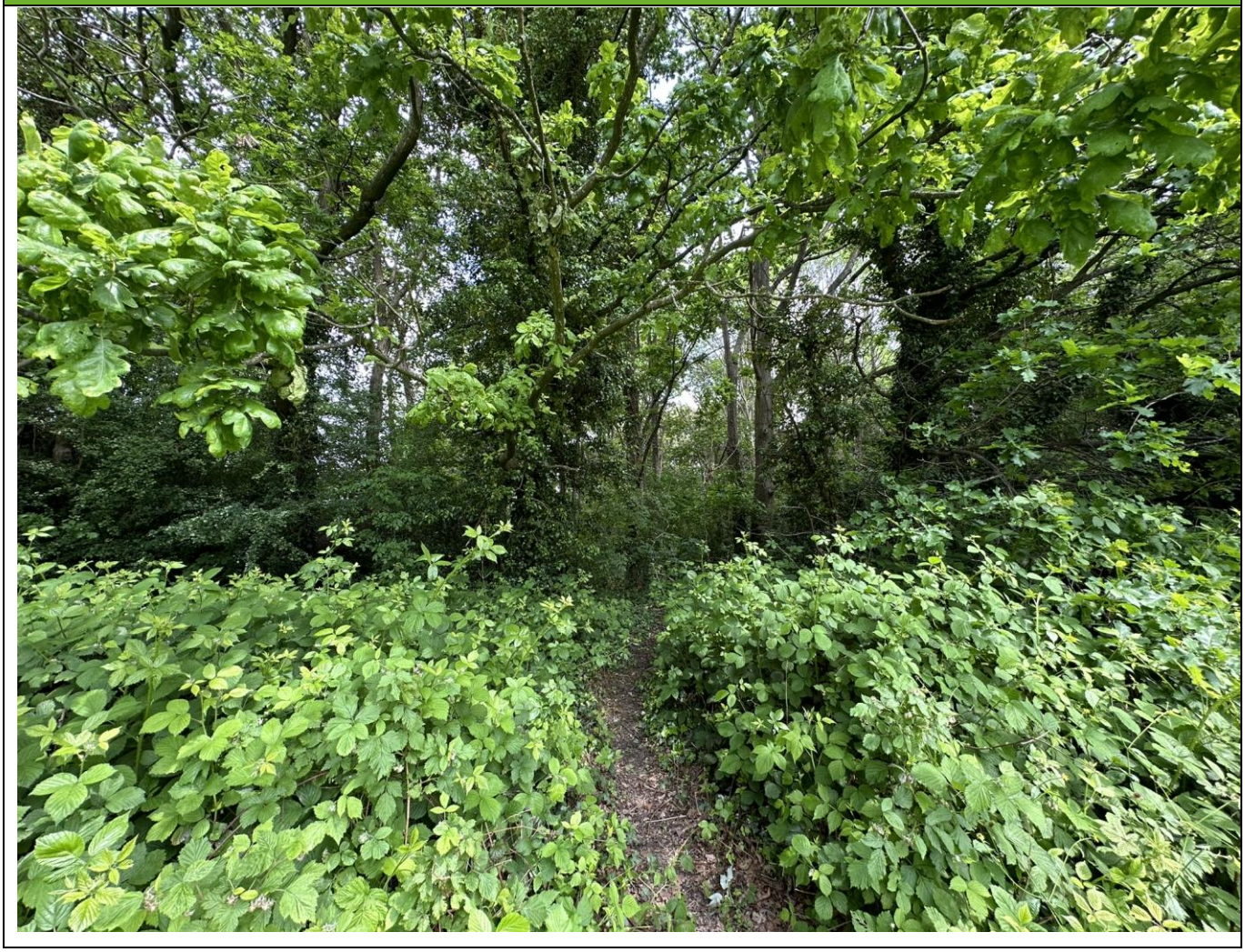


BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve





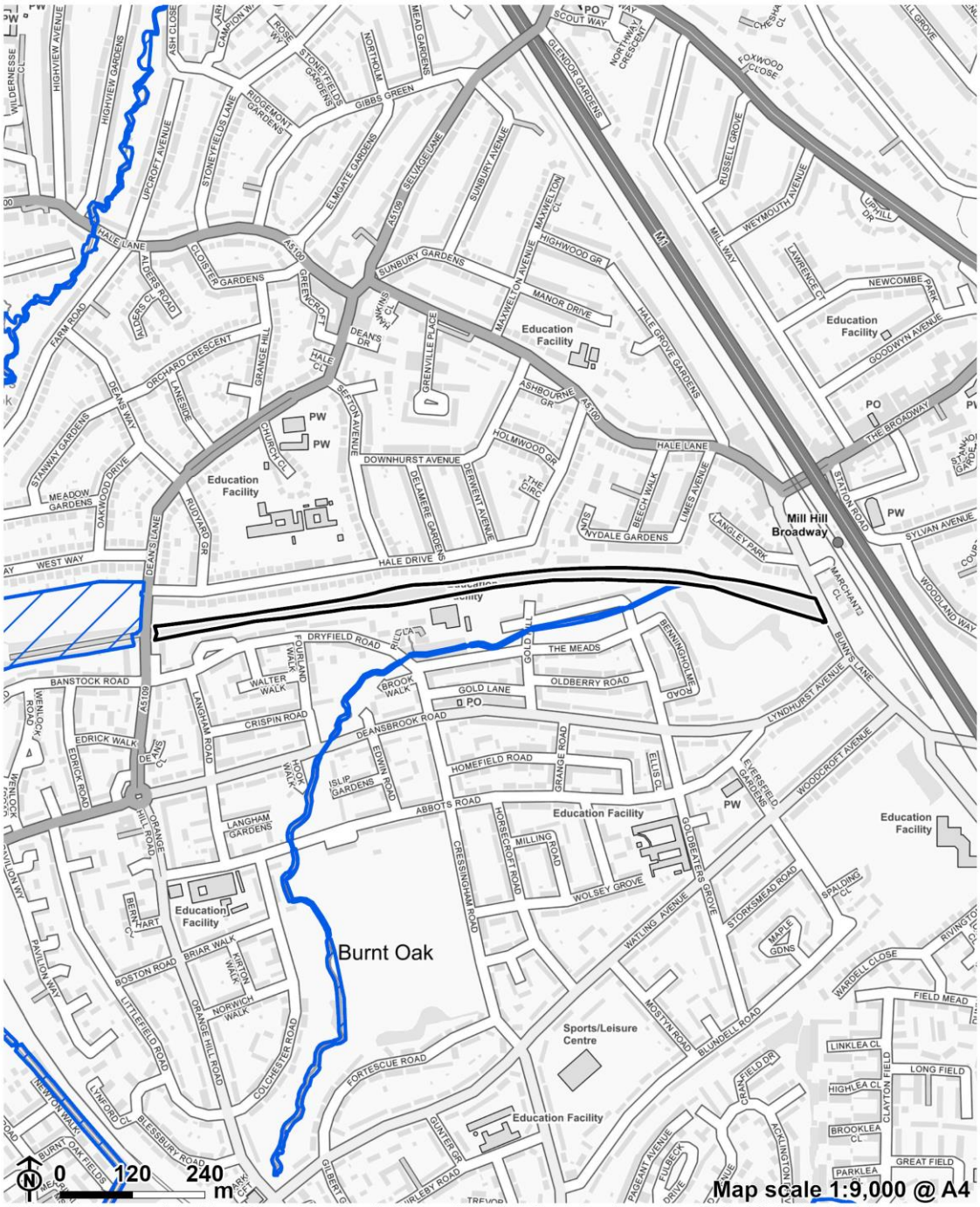
BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve



BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve

BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Thinning of bramble and young sycamore to create glades within the woodland. More frequent litter and fly-tipping clean-ups within the site. The creation of deadwood features to benefit invertebrates within the woodland.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The woodland within the site is not the best example of woodland in the borough due to the dense scrub layer, lack of ground litter and large amount of litter and fly tipping.
Habitat Rarity: The priority woodland Habitat is rarer within London.
Species Rarity: The site supports numerous notable, protected and London BAP species including slow worms, house sparrow, song thrush and large skipper, as identified in the desk study above.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A

BaBII04 Mill Hill Old Railway Nature Reserve
Size: The site is small, at 2.29ha, though provides valuableHabitat which supports a number of different notable and protected species, as listed above and in the desk study.
Important populations of species: The site supports a large population of slow worms, which are a London BAP species.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The woodland and scrub would be difficult to replicate due to the time taken (since the mid 1960's) to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site was located in the west of the borough and was ecologically linked to two further SINCs which create a valuable green and blue corridor in west the borough.
Access: The site is not accessible to the public and the east third can be viewed from adjacent land.
Use: The site isn't publicly accessible, and has been managed as a nature reserve by the Barnet Group of the London Wildlife Trust.
Potential: There is potential to improve the condition of the site through the thinning of bramble and sycamore to create glades within the priority woodland. Also, through regular clean-up of litter and other rubbish within the site.
Aesthetic Appeal: This is a very dense green area which a number of residential houses back onto and can be viewed from a public park.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The Site continues to meet the Borough Grade II designation. This site is ecologically connected to other local green spaces and SINCs and is a part of an important green and blue corridor in the west of the borough, which is valuable for the SINC network. The site is not accessible by the general public and now supports a variety of wildlife, including multiple notable and protected species, and supports an important population of slow worms in London.
Site Maps



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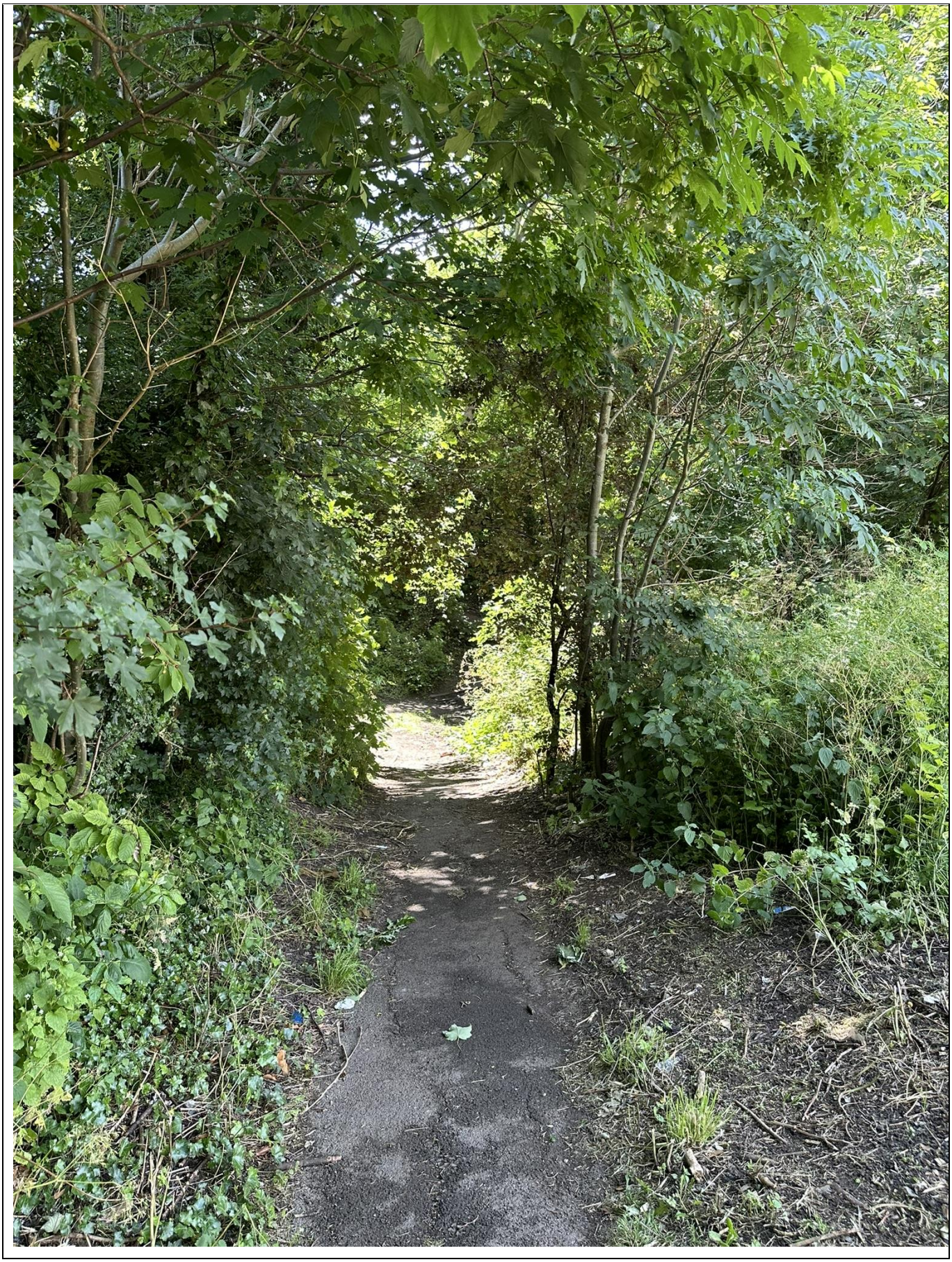
LUC assessment site

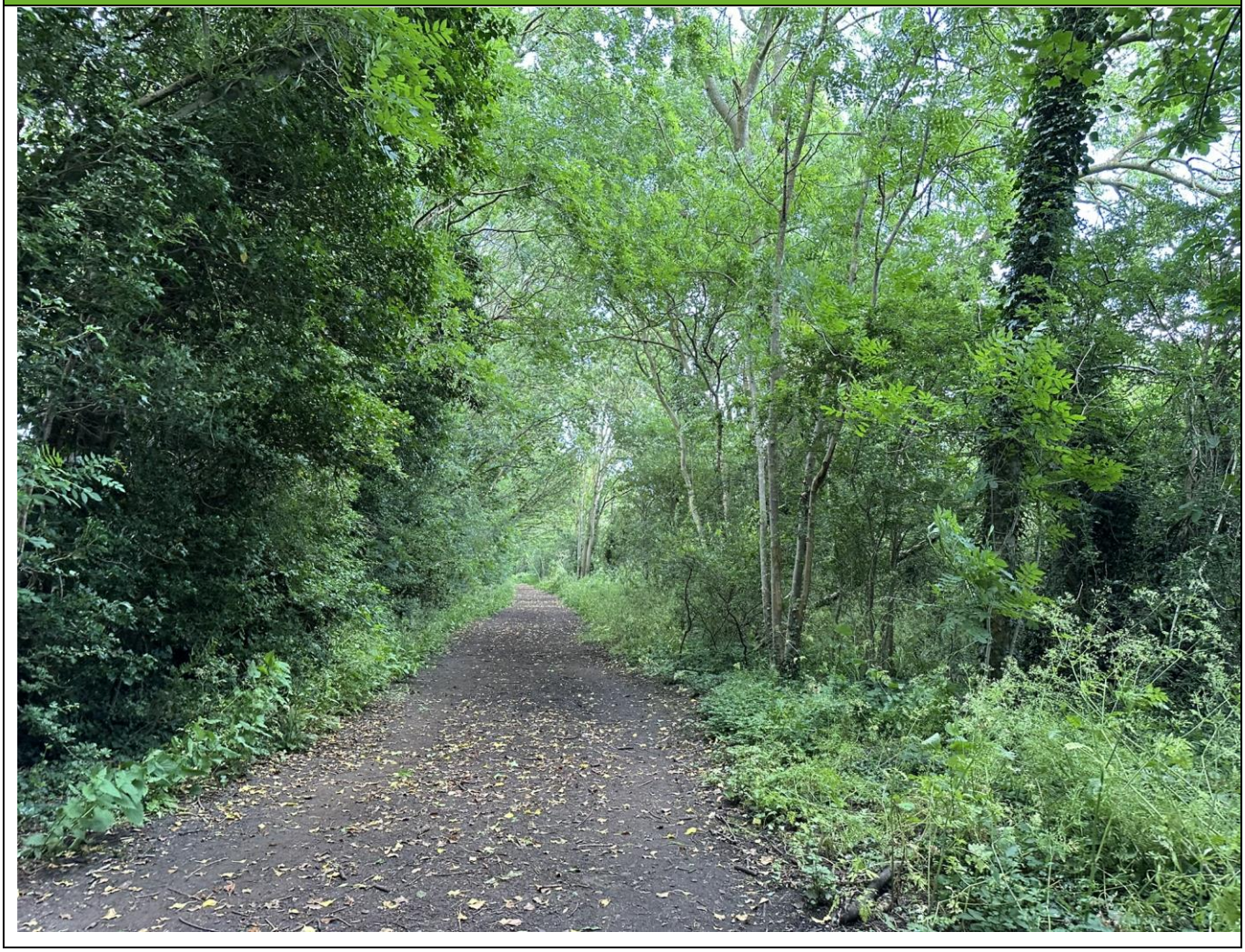
Other LUC assessment site

BaBII11 Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common
Site information
LUC Site ID: 54
SINC ID: BaBII11
SINC Name: Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2312691305
Area (ha): 9.26
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Green Corridors, Other
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A pleasant and interesting linear walk along an abandoned railway, with a mix of woodland, scrub and grassland.
SINC Description: This is a pleasant and interesting linear walk along an abandoned railway. It contains a mix of secondary woodland, scrub and rough grassland. The grassland is mostly dominated by false oat grass , Arrhenatherum elatius, , with a reasonable diversity of wild flowers, including burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, , perforate St John's wort , Hypericum perforatum, and tufted vetch , Vicia cracca, . The woodland is all comparatively recent in origin, and is variously dominated by sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, , oak , Quercus robur, and silver birch , Betula pendula, . There are some older oaks on Copthall Old Common, where the walk broadens out. The common also has a small pond, which contains yellow iris , Iris pseudacorus, and water starwort , Callitriche sp., . To the south of the common, the walk narrows into a green lane, with some fine old oaks in the hedgebanks. Bluebells , Hyacinthoides non scripta, occur in the hedge bottoms. The variedHabitats on the site support a good range of common birds, including blackcap, chiffchaff and goldfinch. Slow worms also occur, and a good range of invertebrates include the scarce and declining glow worm , Lampyris noctiluca, at one of few known London sites.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Bluebell, Common Frog, Common Toad, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Grass Snake, Large Skipper, Slow worm, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, White letter Hairstreak
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Evergreen Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site:

BaBII11 Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common
The site is located in the centre of the borough and is comprised of a path lined with dense scrub and woodland in the west and south of the Site. In the north and east of the site were large expanses of woodland that was not accessible from the path and in the south west was a small area of golf course green. The SINC is functionally connected to further green spaces on all aspects including playing fields to the north and west, and a gold course to the south and allotments to the east.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 6/10/2024 11:30:00 AM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The path was kept clear from overhanging scrub and trees.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The path was lined by mature ash, oak, elder, and sycamore. The understorey and ground flora comprised hawthorn, blackthorn, elder, common hogweed, cherry laurel, yew, hazel, field maple, dog rose, horse chestnut saplings, nettle, bramble, ivy, cow parsley, garlic mustard, cleavers and creeping buttercup. There was ample fallen deadwood. A section of golf course in the south of the site could not be accessed at the time of survey. This comprised short amenity, grassland and sand bunkers. There was a homeless in encampment within the woodland.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling, FlyTip: Additional comments: Large areas in the east of the site were covered in litter and fly tipping. There were also signs of dog fouling the whole length of the pathway.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab, Deadwood Additional comments: The woodland would benefit from scrub thinning and clearance to create glades which would provide a more diverse ground flora and benefit more species. The creation of more deadwood features would benefit invertebrates within the site.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Mature trees, woodland and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The dense scrub and dead wood features provided interest for reptiles and invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:



BaBII11 Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common



BaBII11 Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common

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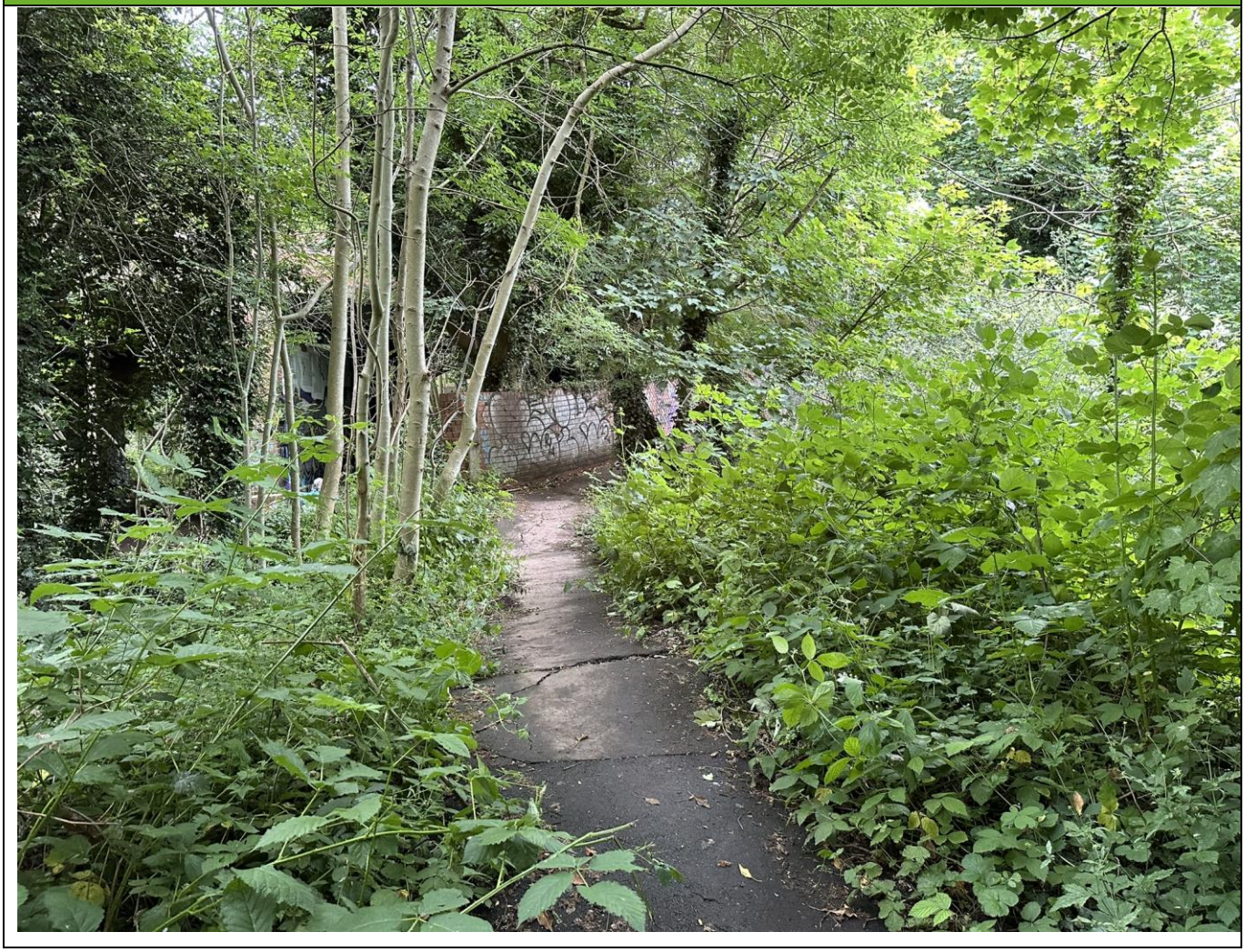

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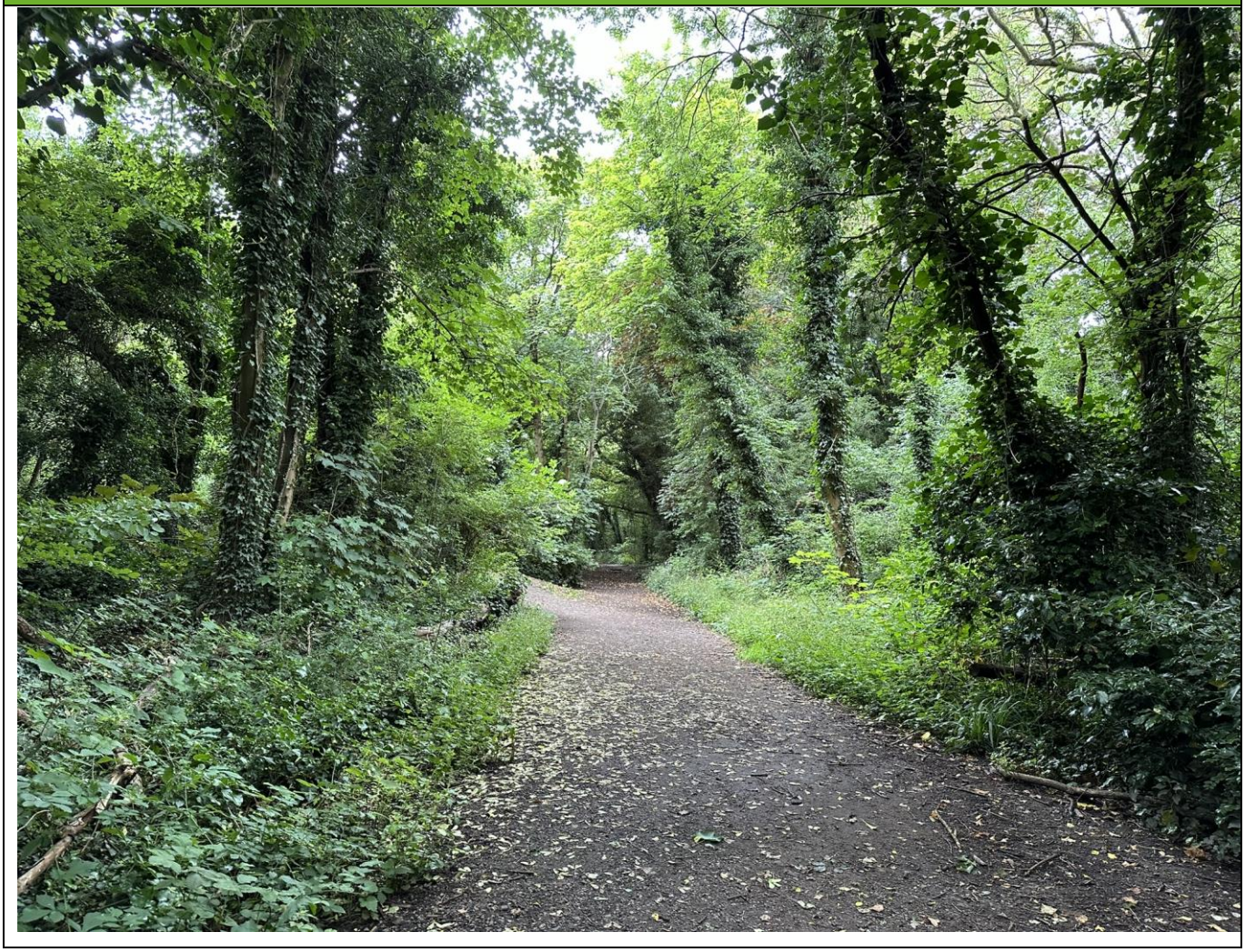
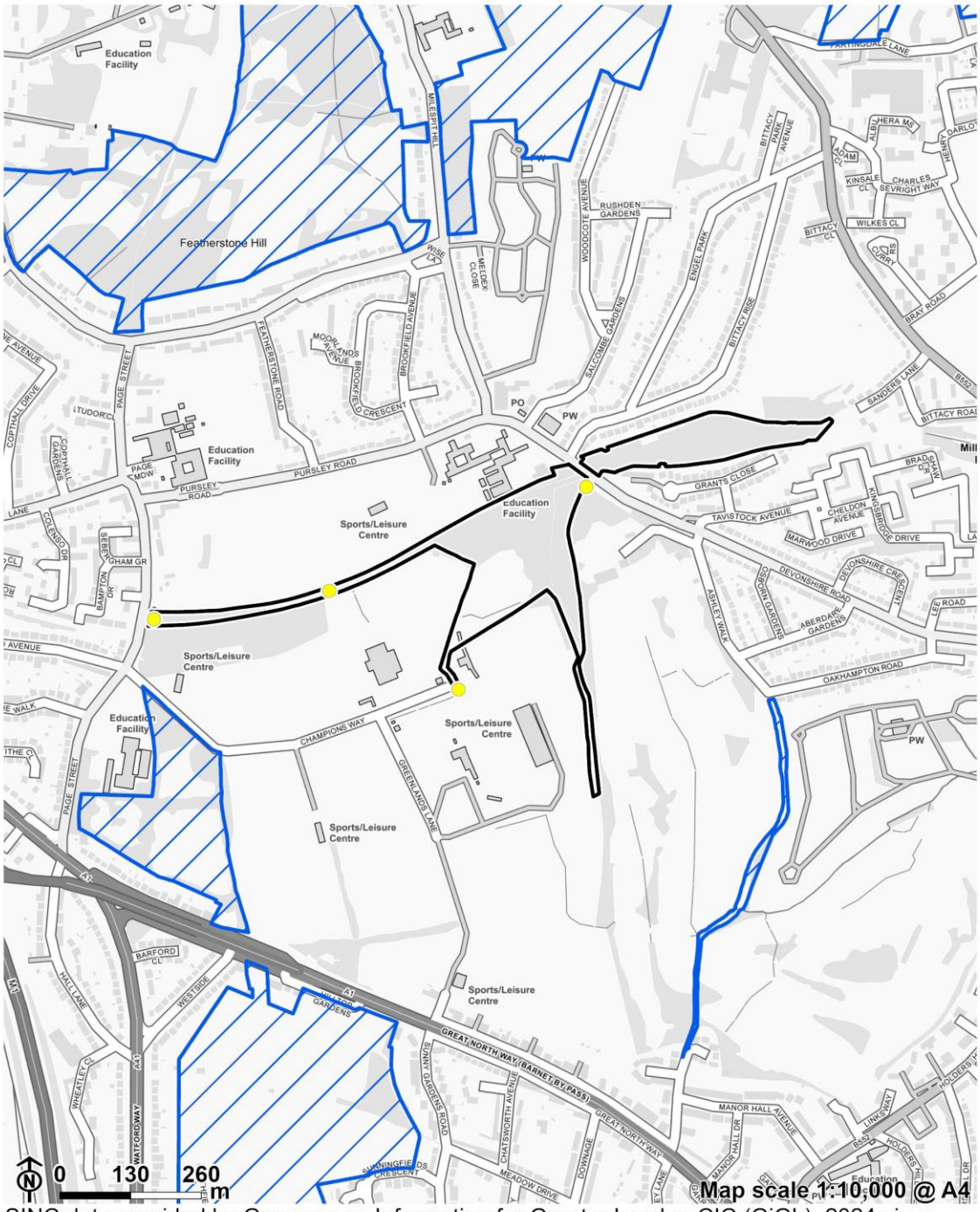


BaBII11 Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Understorey management and bramble clearance to create glades to benefit the ground flora. Litter and fly-tipping frequent clean-ups to reduce waste within the site.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The Habitats present, including woodland, scrub and amenity grassland are not considered the best example of these within the borough.
Habitat Rarity: Habitats present were common and widespread.
Species Rarity: The site supported a number of species, including notable and protected species such as Bluebell, Common Frog, Common Toad, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Grass Snake, Large Skipper, Slow worm, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, White letter Hairstreak, as noted in the desk study.
Habitat Richness: The site was notHabitat rich. The woodland and dense scrub dominated the site, with a small area of amenity grassland in the south

BaBII11 Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is medium sized, at 9.26ha, but is an important linear corridor n the centre of the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The Habitats within the site, included grassland and scrub, which can be easily recreated. However, the mature trees are less re-creatable due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is in the centre of the borough and provides an important linear ecological corridor that connects to further green spaces and SINCs to the south and east.
Access: There are multiple access points to the site. The path was just made of soil and will become muddy and erode away with heavy rain, making it not accessible for everyone.
Use: The site was mainly for recreational walking, with the grassland in the south used as part of the golf course.
Potential: There is potential to increase the quality of the woodland and scrubHabitat through bramble thinning to create glades, and rubbih clean-ups.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site is very green, with multiple flowering species, though has lots of litter which degrades the aesthetic appeal of the site.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the borough grade II criteria through providing suitableHabitat for London BAP species such as grass snake, slow worm and song thrush. The site also provides a green corridor to other green spaces within the centre of the borough.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

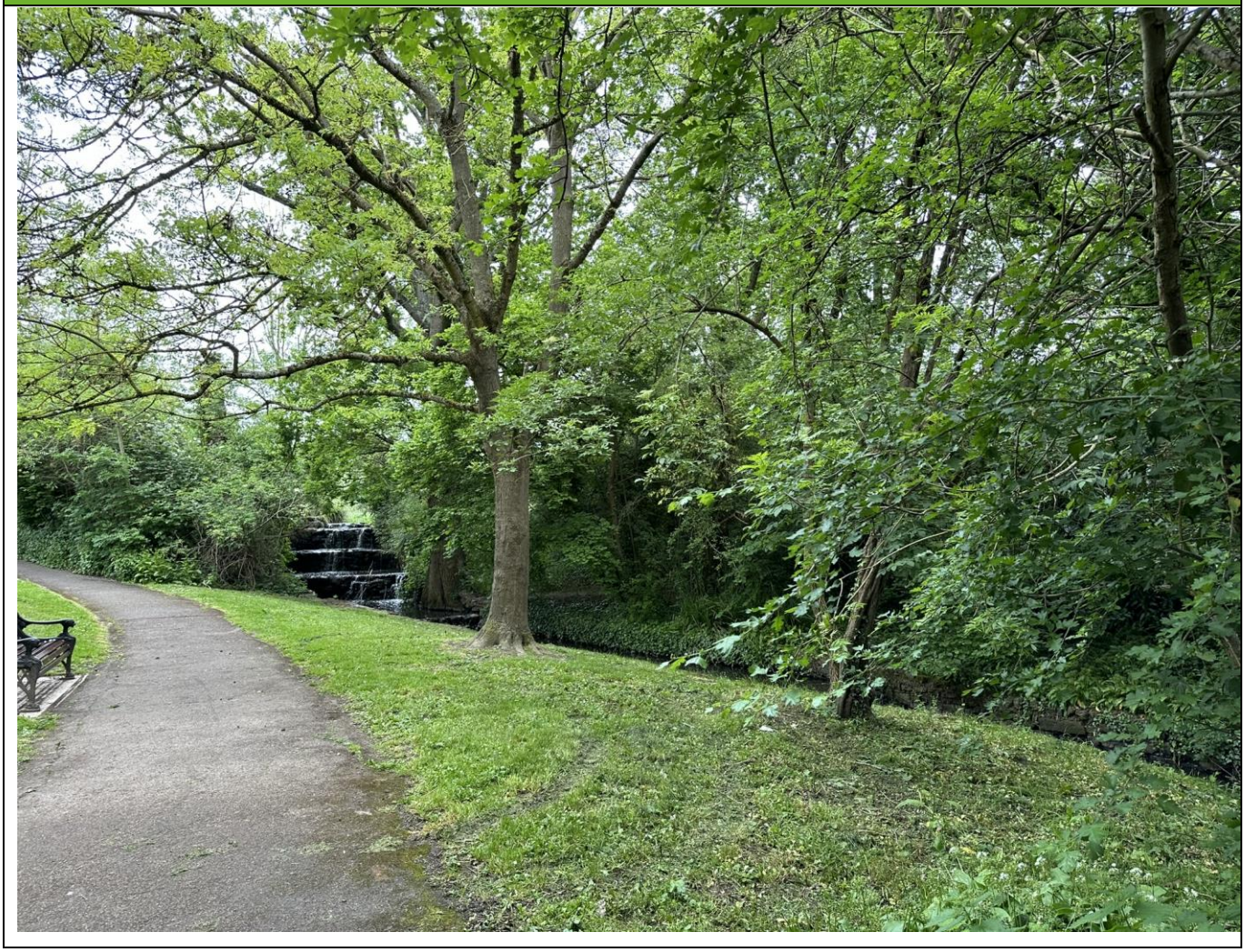
BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park
Site information
LUC Site ID: 55
SINC ID: BaBII03
SINC Name: Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ1997091757
Area (ha): 11.2
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms, Green Corridors, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: A meandering wooded stream, which widens into an attractive ornamental lake in Stoneyfields Park.
SINC Description: The Deans Brook runs for just over 2 kilometres from its emergence from a culvert under the M1 motorway, through Stoneyfields Park, through suburban Edgware, to join the Silk Stream near Edgware Hospital. This site also includes an area of allotments to the east, and wetland and railside land to the south of the Edgware station sidings. The stream largely follows its natural, sinuous course, but most of the banks are restrained by wooden toe boards. It is heavily shaded by narrow strips of woodland for much of its length, and there is little aquatic vegetation. Kingfishers and grey wagtails are regularly seen along the brook. In Stoneyfields Park, the brook has been widened into an ornamental lake. This has a wide fringe of tall emergent vegetation, dominated by great and lesser reedmace , Typha latifolia and T. angustifolia, , with yellow iris , Iris pseudacorus, , great willowherb , Epilobium hirsutum, , gypsywort , Lycopus europaeus, , water mint , Mentha aquatica, and wild angelica , Angelica sylvestris, . Coots, moorhens and mallards breed on the lake, which also supports amphibians and dragonflies. OtherHabitats within Stoneyfields Park include woodland, hedgerows and grassland. The woodland of oak , Quercus robur, and hazel , Corylus avellana, and some of the hedges are clearly old, and contain plants indicative of ancient woodland, such as wood sedge , Carex sylvatica, and ramsons , Allium ursinum, . Some of the grassland is quite herb rich, with wild flowers such as cuckooflower , Cardamine pratensis, . The only part of this site which is accessible is Stonyfields Park, although good views of the wetland to the south of Edgware station can be had from trains between Edgware and Burnt Oak.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Alpine Hair grass, Bats, Common Darter, Common Frog, Common Toad, Dunnock, Eurasian Badger, Grey Wagtail, House Sparrow, Jersey Tiger, Little Egret, Redwing, Slow worm, Song Thrush, Starling
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Cherry Laurel, Giant Hogweed, Goat's rue, Japanese Knotweed, Snowberry
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No

BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site lies in the northwest of the borough and connects multiple green sites and SINCs together. The site comprises a 2km brook and public park in the north and an area of restricted access land around a train depot and allotments in the south.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Wet and cloudy
Date: 5/16/2024 1:17:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The park in the north was well managed for public use, with large areas of amenity grassland, a large pond, scrub and woodland. The rest of the site was not accessible, so no comment can be made on the existing management.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Woodland, Scrub, standing water, Parks Urban Greenspace, Reedbeds
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): GardensAllots
Habitat survey description: Stoneyfield Park in the north of the site comprises managed grassland, scrub, woodland, a stream, large pond and reedbeds. The woodland blocks in the north and south of the public park included mature ash, oak, cherry, bramble, dog rose, silver birch and blackthorn. The ground flora comprised wild garlic, dock and nettle. Bat boxes was noted within the trees. The grassland in the park was short mown for amenity use, the species comprised abundant perennial rye, common daisy, frequent dandelion, white clover, and ribwort plantain. There were also a number of scattered trees within the grassland and along the park boundaries including cherry, field maple and silver birch. In the centre of the park there was a large pond with patches of reedbeds with willow, pendulous sedge, garlic mustard, flag iris, elder and cow parsley. A stream flows into pond from north and out from pond into the woodland in the south There was also a children's playground to the north of the pond. The stream flows south, with linear woodland and scrubHabitat either side within a narrow strip, between residential gardens. In the south end of the site was a large area of allotments and train yard. Dense woodland in the south tip was not accessible.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling, Vandalism, Pollution, FlyTip, Noise: Additional comments: Stoneyfields Park was impacted by noise for the nearby M1. Also along the brook and around the train depot area was a lot of litter and fly-tipping. Within the park in the north there were also signs of dog fouling.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab, Deadwood Additional comments:

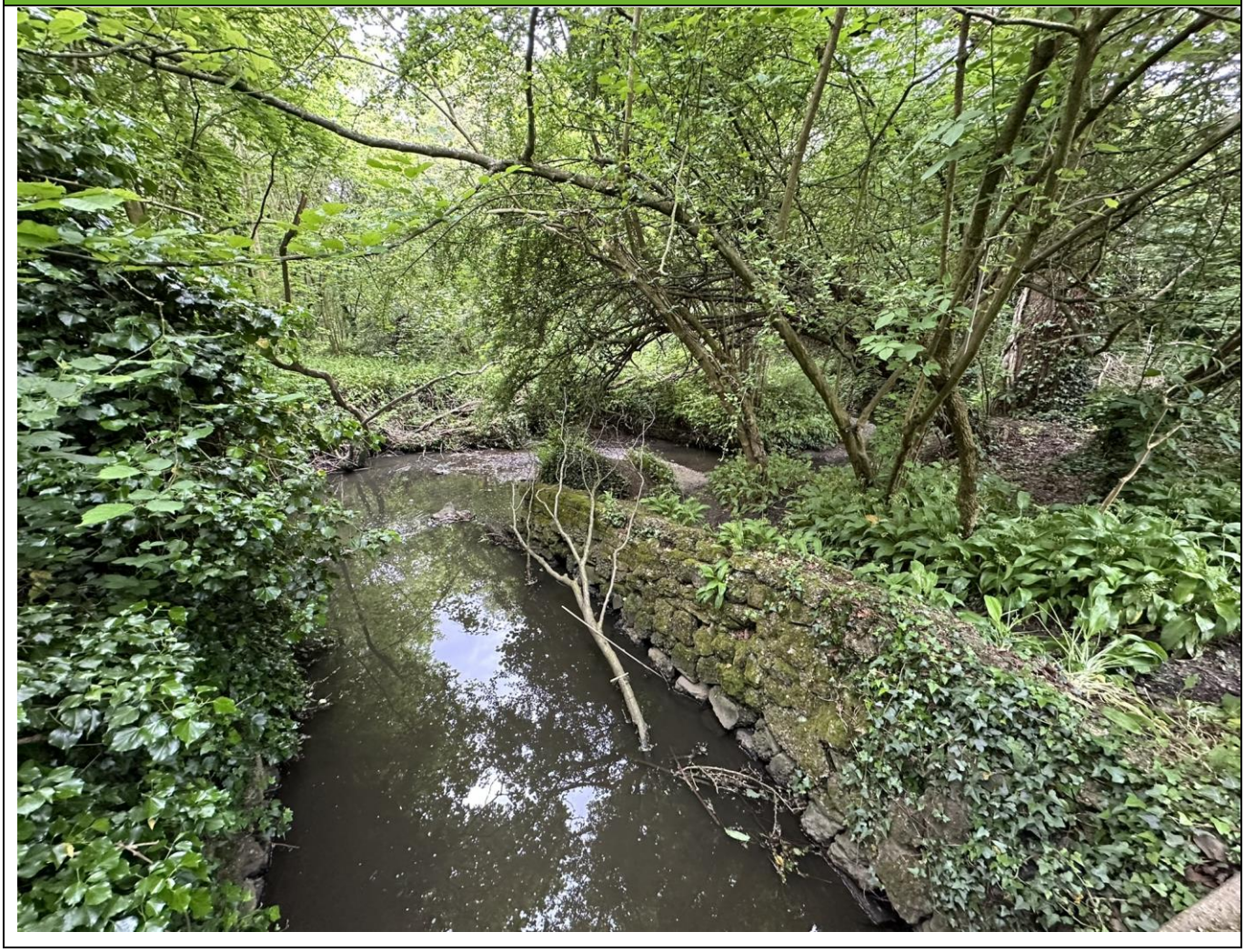
BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park
Scrub management along the edges of the brook and in the south of the site. Thinning of scrub in the south to provide glades where grassland Habitats can be created. Deadwood features within the woodland and scrub in the north of the site for invertebrates and reptiles.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The stream provides commutingHabitat for bats and fish. The pond and wetland Habitat provided suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park

BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park



BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park



BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park

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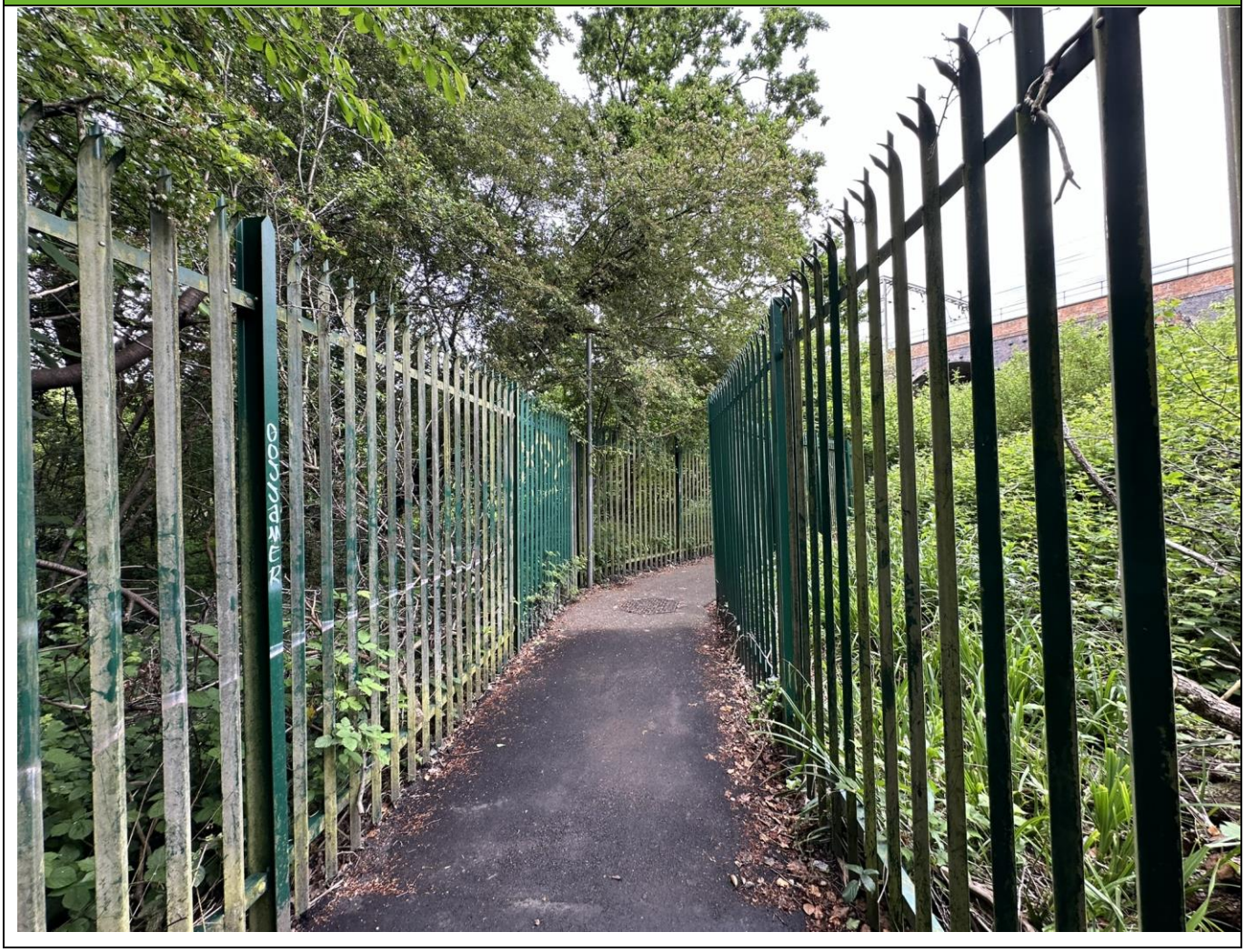
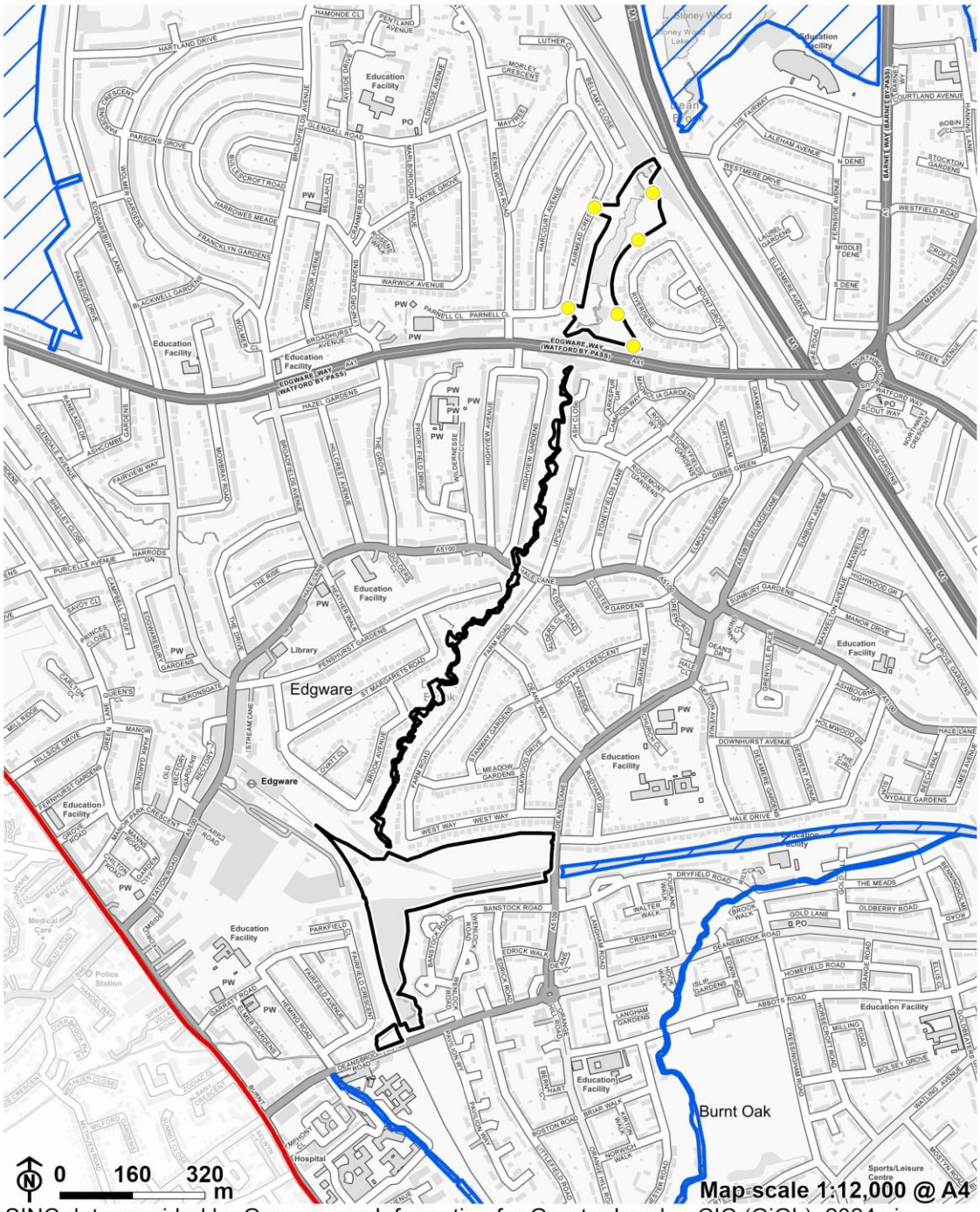


BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park

BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park

BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Deadwood feature creation to benefit invertebrates. Scrub thinning within the woodland and south of the site to create more diverseHabitats. Frequent litter and fly-tipping clean-ups.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The stream Habitat is a good example of a long non-culverted natural stream within the borough and London.
Habitat Rarity: The pond, long stream and reedbedHabitats are rarer within the borough and London. All These Habitats are listed under the London BAP Priority Habitats.
Species Rarity: The site supports multiple notable and protected species of birds, reptile and invertebrates, as listed in the desk study.
Habitat Richness: The site comprised multipleHabitats including a 2km stream, large pond, reedbeds, woodland, scrub and grassland.
Species Richness: N/A

BaBII03 Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park
Size: The site is relatively large and the 2km length of un-culverted stream is unusual for the borough. The site forms an important blue and green corridor through the west of the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The stream, large pond and mature trees would be very difficult to replicate, given the urban nature of the borough and the time taken to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located in the northwest of the borough and is a valuable green and blue corridor between other SINC sites to the north, east and south.
Access: The site is only accessible in the park in the north.
Use: The park was mainly used by families and dog walkers.
Potential: The scrub and woodland Habitat condition could be improved within the site through the management described above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The large pond, reedbeds and stream provide a calming green space.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The SINC continues to meet the Borough Grade II status. The site provides a public park, long stream, reedbeds and large pond within the site. The site also supports populations of notable and protected species within the borough and London.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

M139 Scratchwood
Site information
LUC Site ID: 56
SINC ID: M139
SINC Name: Scratchwood
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ1997094976
Area (ha): 56.76
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Other Urban Fringe, Green Corridors
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: A country park with a large ancient wood, flower rich meadows and a stream fed pond, including many scarce plants
SINC Description: An extensive country park, including a large and varied area of woodland , parts of which are ancient, , with some peripheral neutral and acid grassland, scrub and wetland Habitats. The ancient woodland consists mostly of sessile oak , Quercus petraea, and hornbeam , Carpinus betulus, , with some wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, . The ground flora includes many locally uncommon plants, such as sanicle , Sanicula europaeus, , yellow pimpernel , Lysimachia nemorum, , great woodrush , Luzula sylvatica, , lady fern , Athyrium filix femina, , narrow buckler fern , Dryoteris carthusiana, and opposite leaved golden saxifrage , Chrysosplenium oppositifolium, . Other, secondary woodland areas consist predominantly of birch , Betula spp., , hawthorns , Crataegus spp., and sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, . Herb rich grassland shows both neutral and acid characteristics, where uncommon species include heath grass , Danthonia decumbens, , dyer's greenweed , Genista tinctoria, , and pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, . A large, stream fed pond supports a variety of aquatic plants including the London rarities pond water crowfoot , Ranunculus peltatus, , cyperus sedge , Carex pseudocyperus, and sharp flowered rush , Juncus acutiflorus, . The breeding avifauna includes nuthatch, lesser whitethroat and cuckoo.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Scratchwood and Moat Mount Open Spaces
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Bats, Bluebell, Buff Ermine, Bulrush Veneer, Cinnabar, Common Lizard, Cuckoo, Dark leaved Hawkweed, Double Dart, Dunnock, Dusky Brocade, Grass Snake, Knot Grass, Lackey, Minor Shoulder knot, Mistle Thrush, Mottled Rustic, Mouse Moth, Oak Hook tip, Round fruited Rush, Shaded Broad bar, Shoulder striped Wainscot, Slow worm, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Starling, Tawny Owl, White Ermine, White barred Knot horn
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Butterfly bush, Goat's rue, Japanese Knotweed, Snowberry
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site comprises a large area of broadleaved woodland including ancient semi natural woodland, located at the north west of the borough adjacent to Mill Hill Golf Course, to the west of the A1 and north of the M1.

M139 Scratchwood
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: Overcast with some rain
Date: 4/16/2024 1:03:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Low
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The car park requires monitoring for safety and to prevent fly tipping and littering.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Other rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water, Acid grassland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Habitats include broadleaved woodland (ancient, mature and secondary), pockets of scrub and areas of improved grassland, neutral grassland and acid grassland. There are also streams which run in a north to south aspect through the centre of the site and a pond in the southern portion of the site.
Threats and Disturbances: Intrusive_Build, Litter, FlyTip, Invasive species: Additional comments: There are safety concerns especially at the car park for this site and nearby Moat Mount, which is locked and only accessible on foot. There is also a derelict building near the car park, which is in a poor state of disrepair and detracts from the amenity value of the open space.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Meadow creation Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Birds, Mammals, Amphibians, Higher Plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland and grasslands are likely to support a range of birds, bats and mammals. Additionally, the site is known to support diverse flora including rare species such as sanicle, yellow pimpernel, great woodrush, lady-fern, narrow buckler-fern and opposite-leaved golden-saxifrage.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

M139 Scratchwood

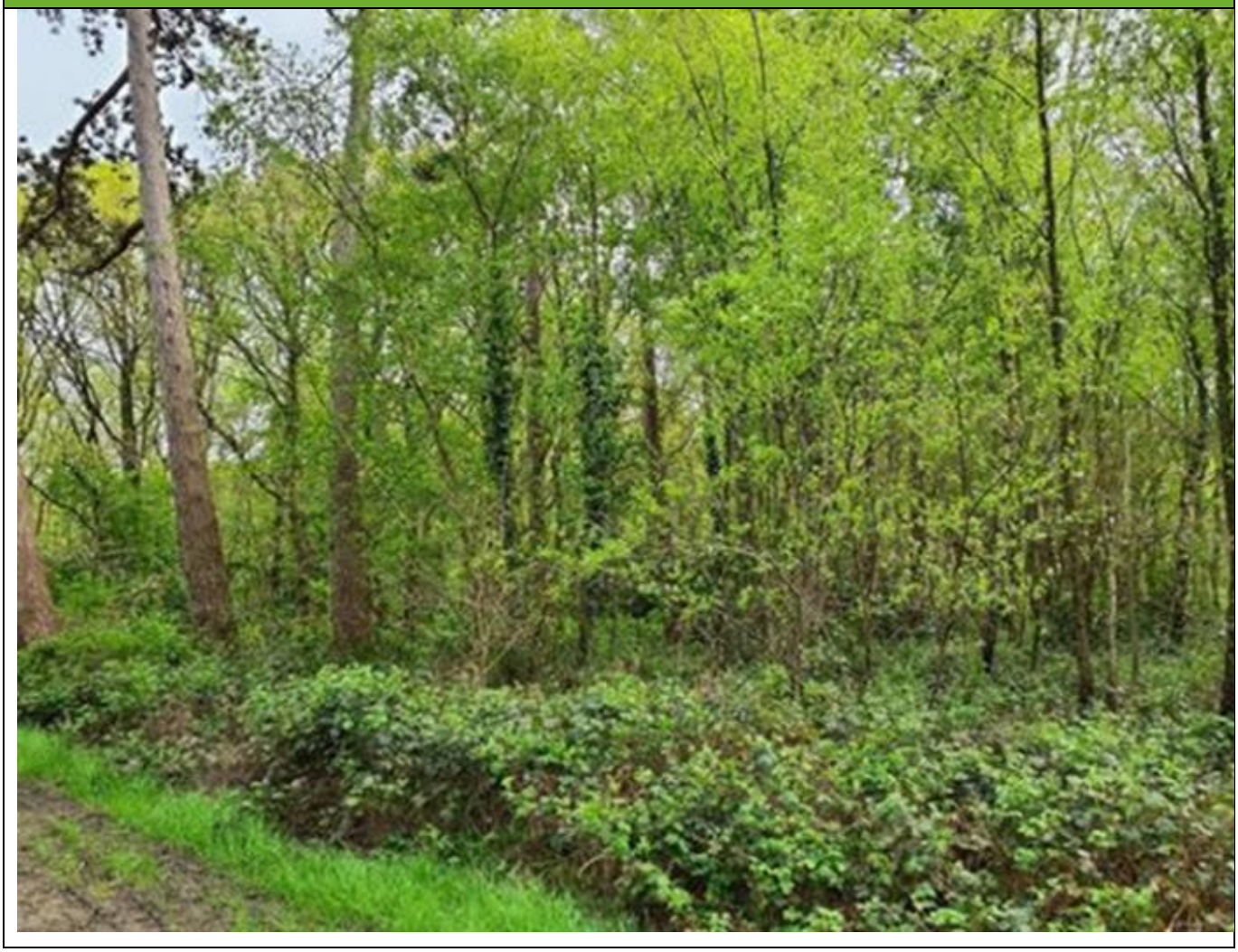
M139 Scratchwood

M139 Scratchwood

M139 Scratchwood

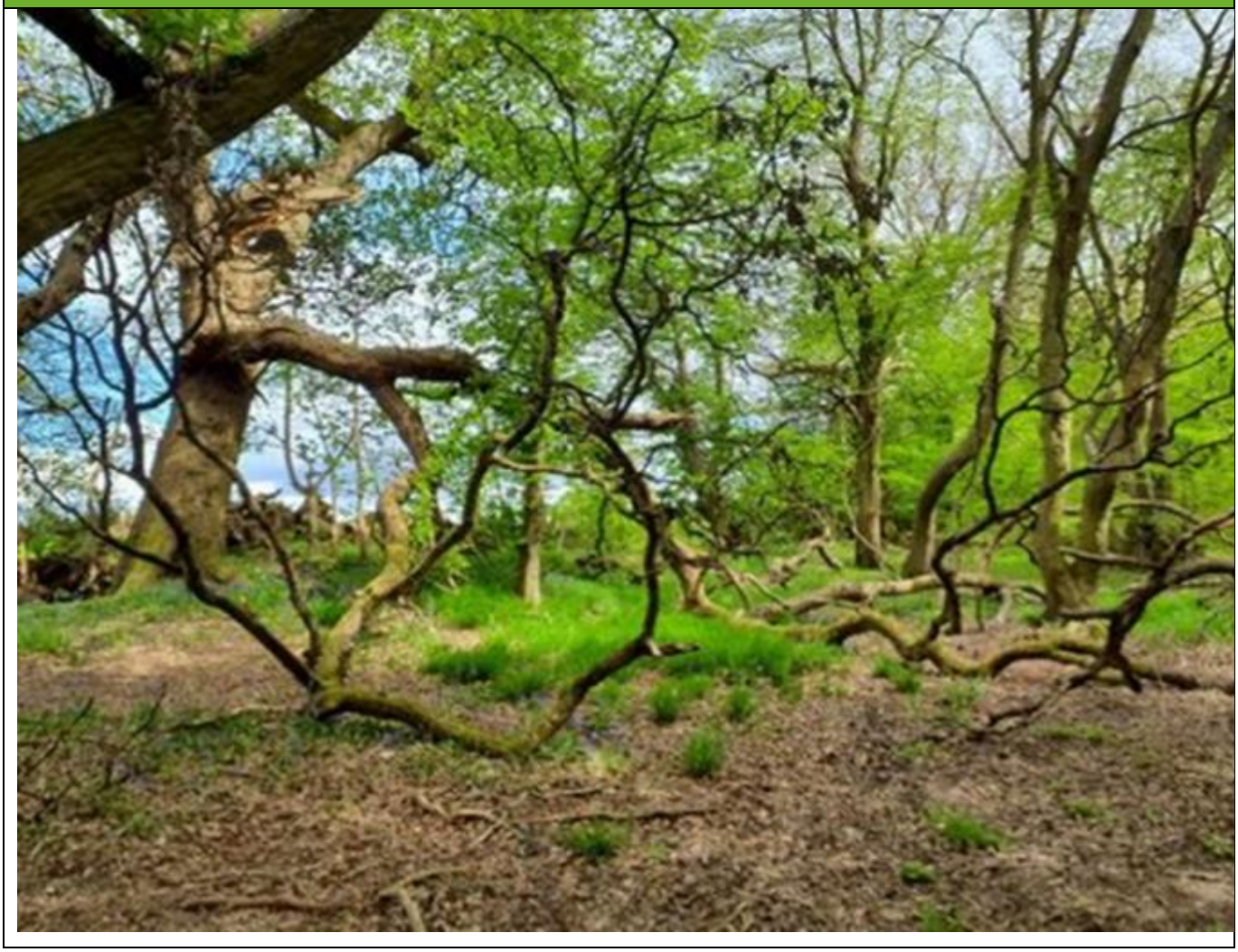
M139 Scratchwood

M139 Scratchwood

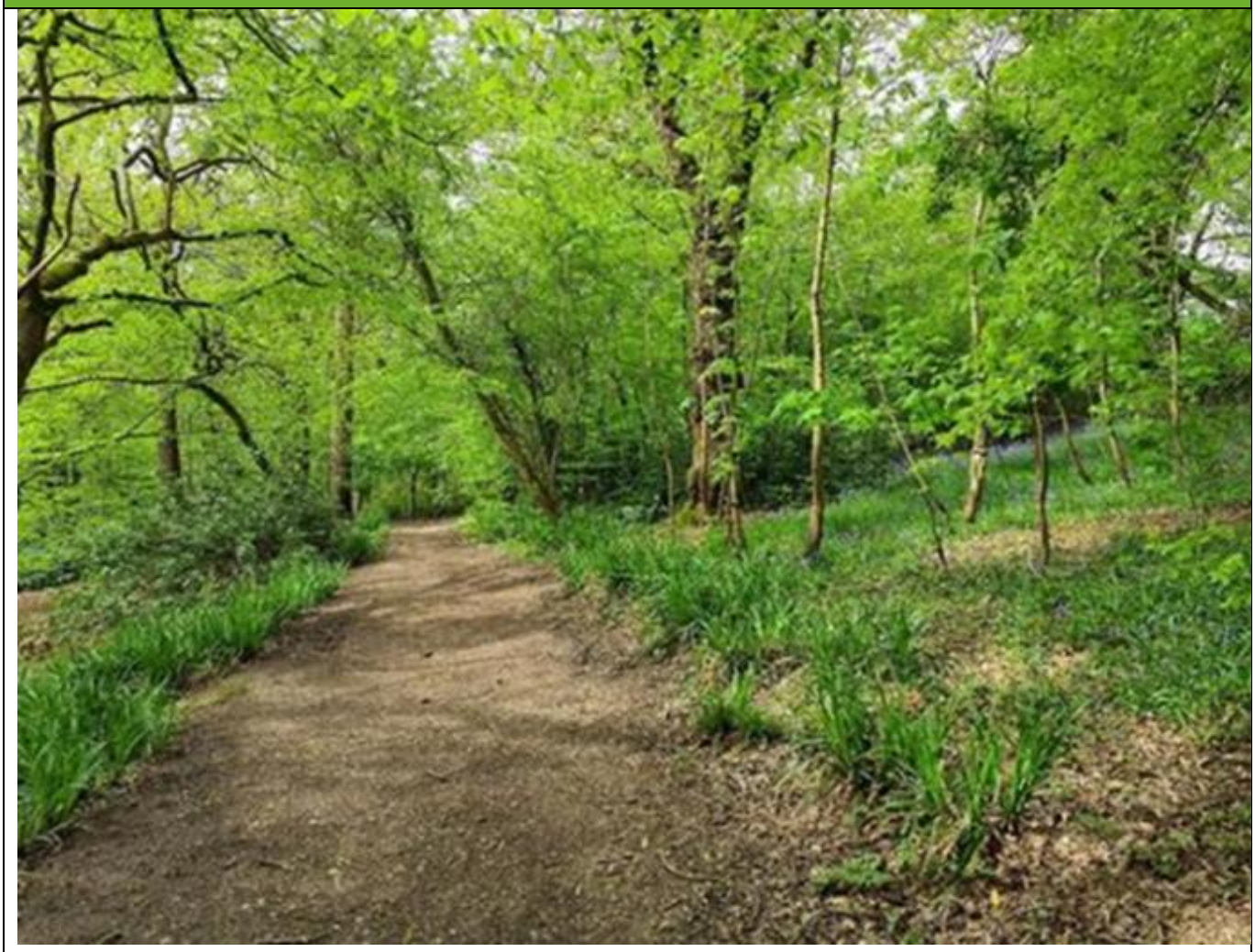


M139 Scratchwood

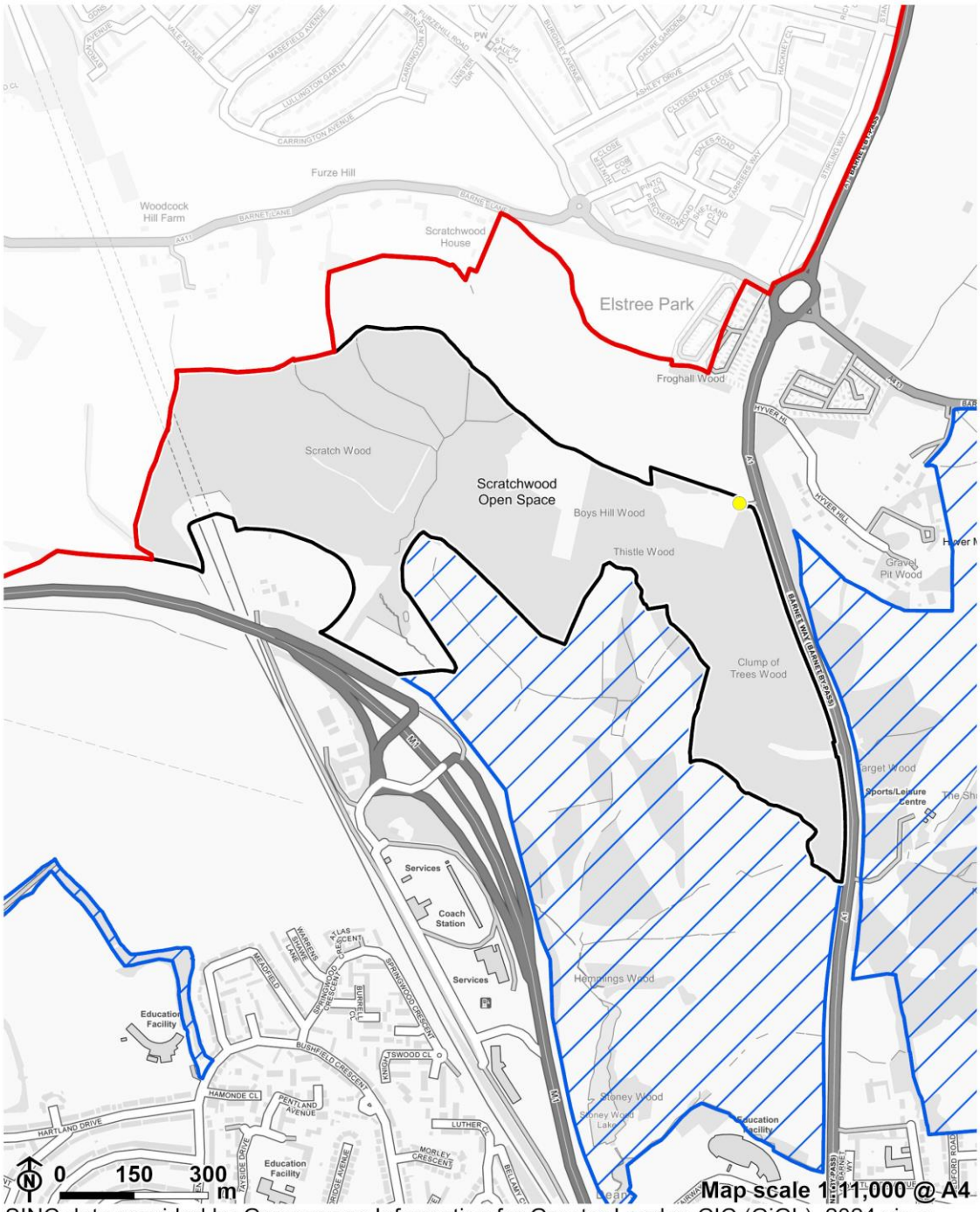
M139 Scratchwood



M139 Scratchwood

M139 Scratchwood

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: Eradication of rhododendron.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The site offers good representation of a large country park with variedHabitats and topography .
Habitat Rarity: Broadleaved woodland and particularly ancient woodland is a rareHabitat within urban areas particularly in London.
Species Rarity: Due to the scale of the site and diversity of Habitats present including terrestrial and aquaticHabitats, namely the stream-fed pond, there are a range of floral and faunal species present. These include rare species of plants, insects and birds such as small copper butterfly, mistle thrush and tawny owl.
Habitat Richness: The site comprises a variety of broadlleaved woodlands, plus grasslands, streams and a pond.

M139 Scratchwood
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site covers an extensive area of 56ha, which is a substantial area of woodland with varying composition.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: The site supports ancient woodland and therefore has inherent ancient character.
Recreatability: Due to the presence of ancient woodland, and other Priority Habitats such as the stream-fed pond it would be difficult to recreate the variety of Habitats present and impossible to recreate the irreplacableHabitats.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: Woodlands and trees have particular cultural value for people.
Geographic Position: The site is located to the north of the borough and lies immediately adjacent to and has ecelogical connectivity with the Habitats of Mill Hill Golf Course SINC. It also lies on the opposite side of the A1 to Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm SINC. Although the A1 presents a barrier to direct terrestrial connectivity, some species such as birds, bats and invertebrates are likely to be supported byHabitats along both sides of the A1.
Access: There is public access across the majority of the site. However, access to the site is predominantely by car from the A1 road. This limits public accessibility and reduces the number of visitors to the park.
Use: The site is predominantely used by dog walkers.
Potential: N/A
Aesthetic Appeal: Unable to comment due to limited survey area.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: Despite the public access and safety issues on the site, it continues to offer significant contribution to the ecological value of the area and is likely to support a diverse assemblage of species.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

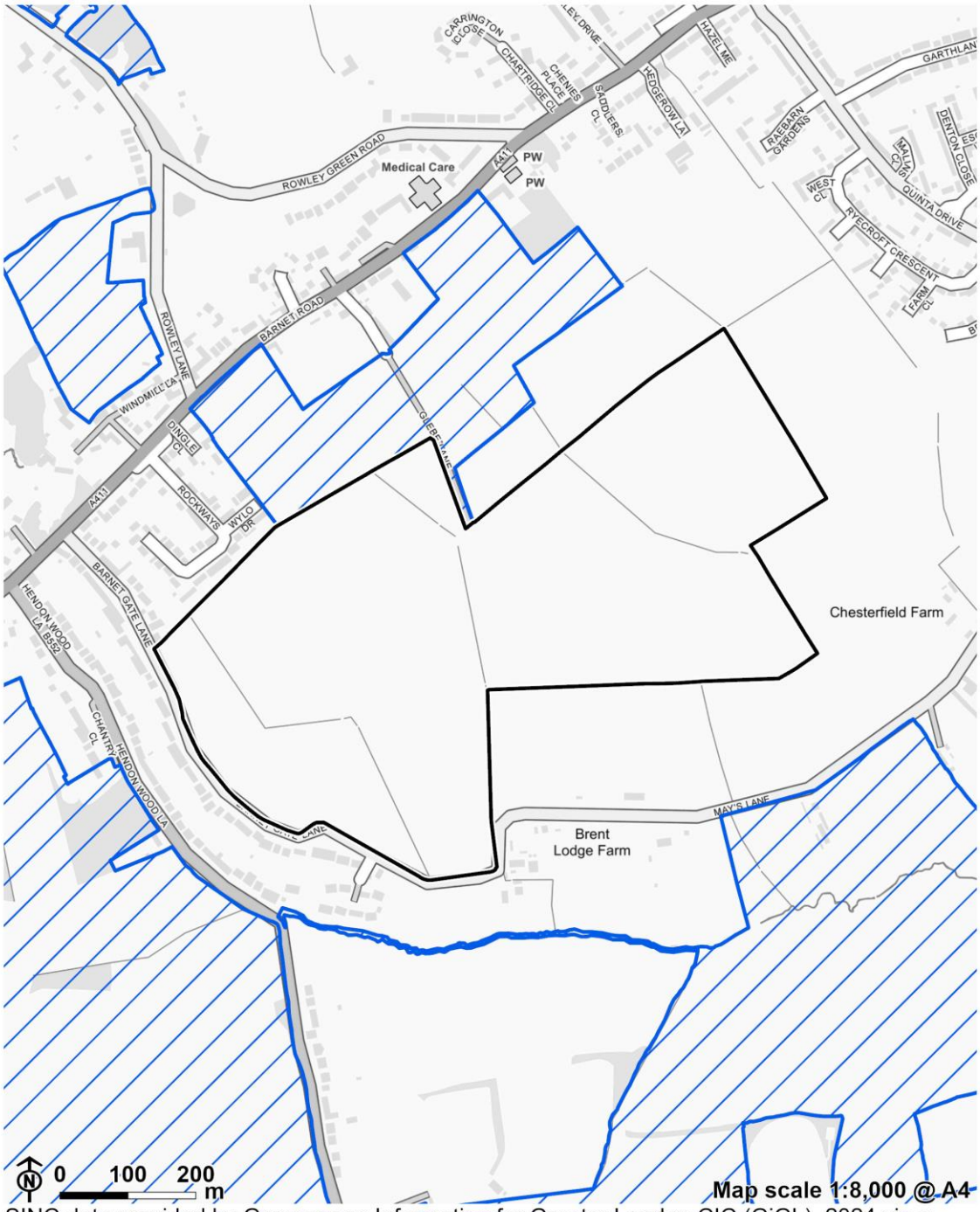
Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBII25 Arkley South Field
Site information
LUC Site ID: 57
SINC ID: BaBII25
SINC Name: Arkley South Field
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2239195114
Area (ha): 39.76
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: An area of set aside fields, important for nesting skylarks.
SINC Description: This extensive area of open grassland to the east of Barnet Gate Lane comprises a series of set aside agricultural fields with hedgerows and ditches. The grassland is not of any great botanical interest, though the ditches contain wetland plants such as gypsywort , Lycopus europaeus, , while stone parsley , Sison amomum, grows in the hedge bottoms. The main nature conservation value of the fields is for their breeding birds. Foremost among these is at least 20 pairs of skylarks, a declining species which is a priority in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. The grassland also supports a few pairs of meadow pipits, while the hedges and ditches provide nest sites for kestrel, reed bunting, whitethroat, willow warbler and green woodpecker. There is no access to the fields, but their birdlife can be appreciated from nearby roads and footpaths.
Management provider: Private landowner
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Cuckoo, Greenfinch, Hobby, Large Skipper, Red Kite, Skylark, Small Skipper, Spotted Flycatcher
INNS Records: Ring necked Parakeet
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. A series of fields located to the north of the borough of Barnet. These fields were previously set-aside agricultural fields comprising grassland of low botanical interest, ditches and hedgerows. At the time of the 2006 update to the SINC citation, the grasslands supported various breeding birds including ground nesting birds such as skylarks and meadow pipits. Over the past 18 years the fields have been bought into agricultural use and ploughed annually. Therefore, the site is less likely to support ground nesting birds due to ploughing but still likely to retain the ditch and hedgerowHabitat features which offer valuableHabitat to the range of other bird species likely to be present including kestrel, reed bunting, and willow warbler.

BaBII25 Arkley South Field
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: N/A - desk based review.
Date: 9/2/2024 12:45:44 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Unknown
Management: Poor Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Management of the site has changed since the SINC citation was last updated in 2006, and the site has come into regular and more intensive agricultural use, whereas it was previously set-aside grassland fields.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): native hedge, Other rivers
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The Habitats on site comprise agricultural fields, hedgerows and ditches.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Veh_erosion: Additional comments: The intensification of agricultural use is likely to reduce the ecological value of these fields particularly to insects, birds and small mammals. Ploughing of the field is likely to have resulted in soil erosion which has consequences on both soil condition (invertebrate richness) and environmental risk especially to adjacent watercourses.
Ecological opportunities on site: Tree hedge, Meadow creation, Mowing, Scrub estab, Deadwood, Wildlife friendly Additional comments: There is substantial opportunity to restore this sites former biodiversity through arable reversion in order to recreate the grassland Habitats which were previously improtant components of this SINC site.
Interest: Birds Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: Although there has been a reduction in the condition of Habitats at this site likely leading to the loss of some breeding birds such as skylark and meadow pipit, the hedgerows and ditches which remain are likely to offer important shelter, nesting and foragingHabitat to a range of birds.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: Review of aerial imagery indicates that there has been gadual agricultural intensification of this site since the citation was last updated in 2006.
Management Recommendations: Arable reversion and rotational management of grassland fields, in order to restore soil condition and structural complexity of grasslands.

BaBII25 Arkley South Field
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: N/A
Species Rarity: The hedgerows and ditches which remain are likely to support a range of breeding birds including kestrel, reed bunting, willow warbler and whitethroat.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: The breeding bird assemblage is likely to be relatively species rich due to the extensive network of hedgerows, and the surrounding grasslands, scrub and woodland Habitats which lie adjacent to the site.
Size: N/A
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: The hedgerow network may include long established native species rich hedgerows which may comprise of ancient indicators.
Recreatability: N/A
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located within the north of the borough and sits immediately south of Glebe Lane Pastures Borough Grade I SINC. Therefore, the hedgerows and ditches within the field offer ecological connectivity to the surroundingHabitats including the SINC to the north and are of significant ecological importance.
Access: The site is private and cannot be accessed by the public.
Use: The site forms agricultural land.
Potential: The site holds substantial potential for supporting a range of flora and fauna. The SINC citation which was last updated in 2006, indicated the species richness and species rarity which could be achieved on the site through arable reversion and restoration of a mosaic of grassland fields.
Aesthetic Appeal: N/A
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: At risk
SINC Conclusion: Due to the regular ploughing of these fields and agricultural intensification the site is at risk, as it is unlikely to support the biodiversity which it was originally designated for in 1997.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

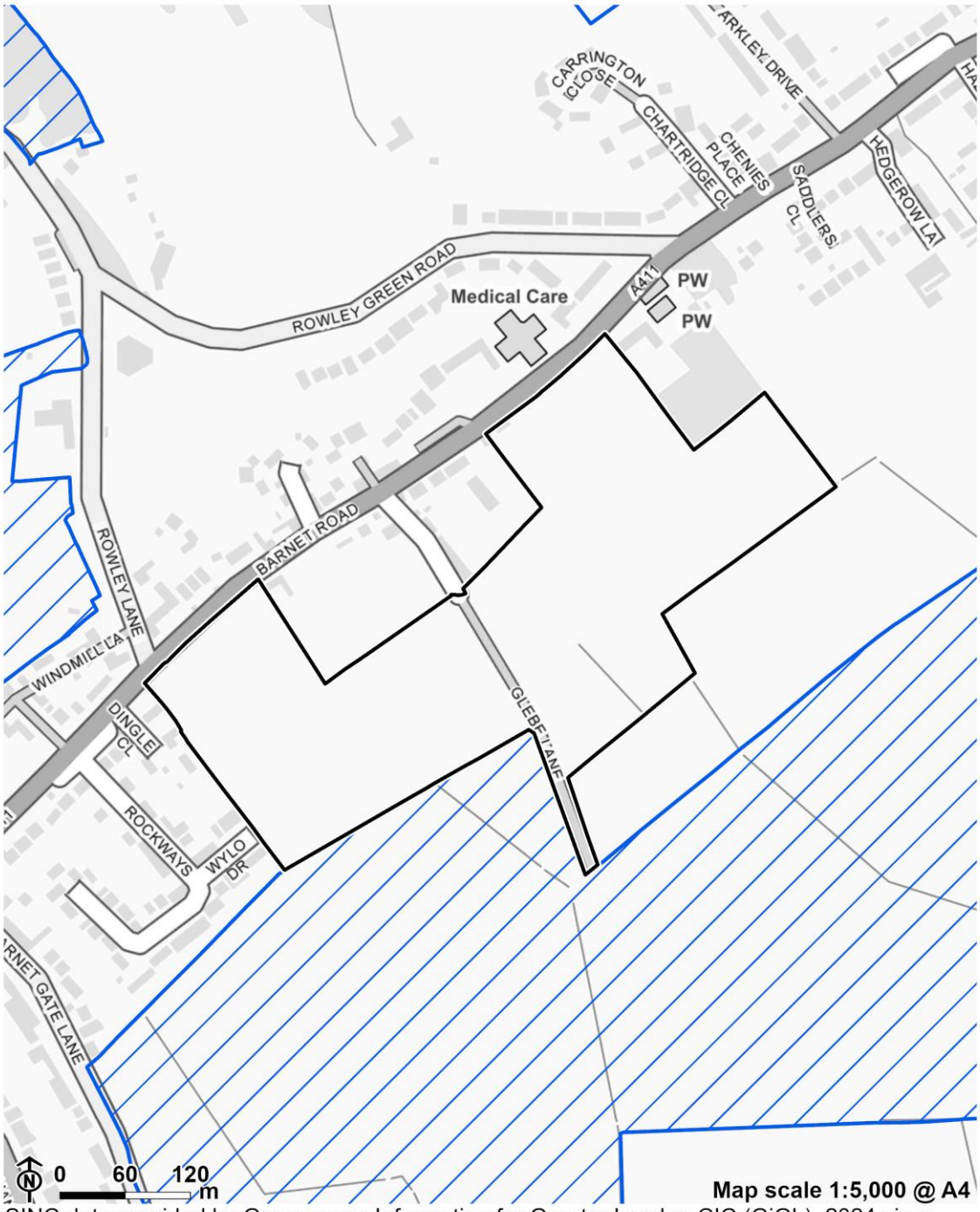
Other LUC assessment site

BaBI01 Glebe Lane Pastures
Site information
LUC Site ID: 58
SINC ID: BaBI01
SINC Name: Glebe Lane Pastures
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2226795475
Area (ha): 12.01
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Other
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: Five fields of colourful, flower rich grassland with ponds and wet ditches.
SINC Description: These five fields, some of them managed for hay while others are grazed by horses, contain flower rich unimproved grassland. The sward is dominated by Yorkshire fog , Holcus lanatus, and bents , Agrostis spp., , with a good variety of other grasses. Tufted hair grass , Deschampsia cespitosa, becomes dominant in damper areas. A good diversity of colourful wild flowers includes two species which are strongly indicative of unimproved grassland: pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, is abundant in the middle two fields, while sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, is widespread, particularly in damper areas. No less than five species of sedges have been recorded: hairy , Carex hirta, , oval , C. ovalis, , spiked , C. spicata, , common , C. nigra, and glaucous , C. flacca, . On drier ground, at the top of the hill, acid grassland dominated by red fescue , Festuca rubra, contains good quantities of tormentil , Potentilla erecta, . Several ditches cross the fields. These contain a rich wetland vegetation, including colourful swathes of fleabane , Pulicaria dysenterica, , greater bird's foot trefoil , Lotus uliginosus, and great willowherb , Epilobium hirsutum, , as well as brooklime , Veronica beccabunga, and bog stitchwort , Stellaria uliginosa, , the latter rare in London. Bog stitchwort is also found in some of the damp hollows and seasonal ponds in the fields, along with pond water crowfoot , Ranunculus peltatus, and the even rarer ivy leafed water crowfoot , R. hederaceus, . Two deeper, permanent ponds in the east of the site contain further wetland plants, including bulbous rush , Juncus bulbosus, , lesser spearwort , Ranunculus flammula, and broad leaved pondweed , Potamogeton natans, . The fields are separated by hedges of hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, , blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, and crab apple , Malus sylvestris, , with occasional emergent pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, . Glebe Lane itself, no longer an access route, forms a broader thicket of scrub.
Management provider: Private landowner.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Lapwing, Little Egret, Skylark
INNS Records: Spanish Bluebell
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No

BaBI01 Glebe Lane Pastures
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. Glebe Lane Pastures comprises a series of small fields, located within the north of the borough adjacent to Arkley South Field Borough Grade II SINC.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: N/A - desk based review
Date: 9/2/2024 2:41:00 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Unknown
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Review of aerial imagery indicates that some of the fields continue to be used for hay, with others being grazed. In the absence of survey, it can be presumed that there is minimal management of the site, with the exception of the fields which are cut for hay. This is likely to benefit wildlife through providing undisturbedHabitat.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Acid grassland, Species rich grassland, Other rivers, Wetlands, Scrub, native hedge, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): MeadowsPastures
Habitat survey description: Review of aerial imagery indicates that the site comprises a diverse range of grasslands including unimproved neutral grassland, wet grassland and acid grassland. There are hedgerows, woodland shelter belts and dense scrub which lie along field boundaries. There are also several ditches running across the fields.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: N/A
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates, Higher Plants Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site is likely to support a good range of flora and fauna including birds, invertebrates and possibly common reptiles such as common lizard and grass snake. There are records for skylark, lapwing and little egret.
Habitat figure: N/A

BaBI01 Glebe Lane Pastures
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: Review of aerial imagery indicates that since 2006Habitat succession has occured, scrub has become more extensive across the site, and hedgerows have been expanded to form woodland belts.
Management Recommendations: Management should aim to maintain the range of grassland types presents and include scrub management to retainHabitat complexity and shelter to passerine birds, and small mammals whilst prevent encroachment onto high value grassland Habitat.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Unimproved grasslands are increasingly rare Habitats in the UK and particularly in London. They support a diverse range of plants and invertebrates.
Species Rarity: There are records for lapwing and skylark, which are increasingly rare ground nesting birds. These species are require undisturbed grasslands in order to build nests and raise chicks.
Habitat Richness: There are a range of Habitats present at Glebe Lane Pastures including unimproved grassland, acid grassland, wet grassland, ditches, hedgerows, scrub and woodland belts. This diversity is not typical of a site of this small size and within an otherwise im
Species Richness: The site is likely to support considerable richness of birds and insects, and may also support small mammals.
Size: The site is just 11ha however, it comprises a significant diversity of Habitats.
Important populations of species: The site may support rare and threatened bird species such as skylark and lapwing.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: Unimproved grasslands are rare Habitats which are very difficult to recreate, especially those which are long established unimproved grassland, the most species-rich of their kind.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: Glebe Lane Pastures is located within the north of the borough immediately adjacent to Arkley South Field. The site lies within an otherwise improved agricultural landscape and is therefore of significant ecological value to local wildlife.
Access: The site is private and cannot be accessed by the public.
Use: The site is used for hay and may be grazed by horses.
Potential: N/A
Aesthetic Appeal: N/A
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change

BaBI01 Glebe Lane Pastures
SINC Conclusion: This desk based review, presumes that the Habitats on site have not changed since the SINC was designated and it continues to meet the SINC criteria. Due to the undisturbed nature of this site it is of significant value to local wildlife and likely to be of value to ground nesting birds in particular.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

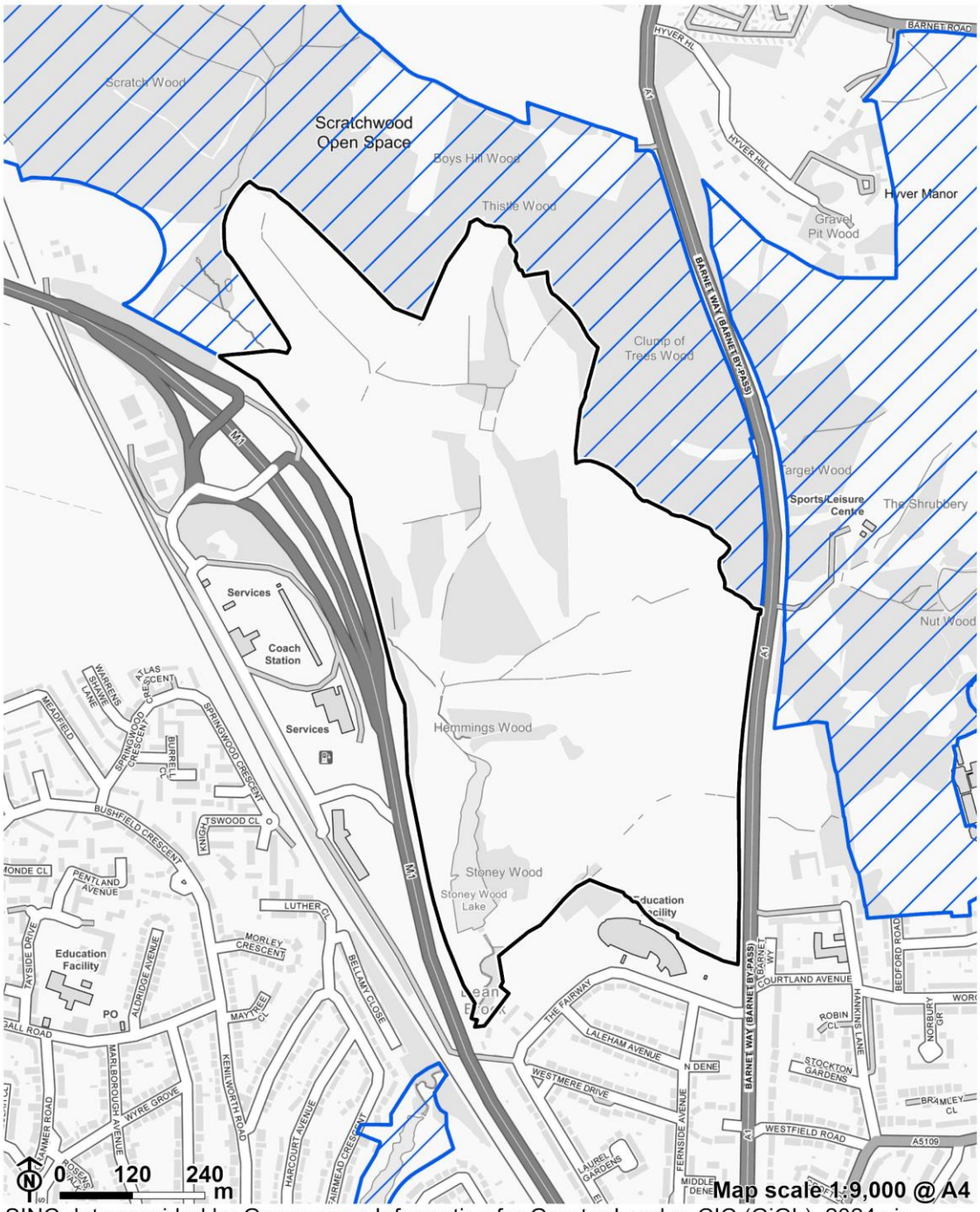
Other LUC assessment site

BaBI10 Mill Hill Golf Course
Site information
LUC Site ID: 59
SINC ID: BaBI10
SINC Name: Mill Hill Golf Course
SINC Grade: Borough Grade I
Grid Reference: TQ2050494084
Area (ha): 61.45
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Amenity, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Green Corridors
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A large golf course with a good range of wildlifeHabitats.
SINC Description: This large golf course contains a good range of high quality wildlifeHabitats, including acid and damp neutral grassland, small patches of woodland, streams and ditches, and a lake. While the wide fairways are closely mown, the roughs contain a variety of different grassland types. The richest areas of unimproved grassland support several locally uncommon plants, including dyer's greenweed , Genista tinctoria, , betony , Stachys officinalis, , devil's bit scabious , Succisa pratensis, , heath speedwell , Veronica officinalis, , cowslip , Primula veris, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, , barren strawberry , Potentilla sterilis, and zigzag clover , Trifolium medium, . Damper areas, dominated by tufted hair grass , Deschampsia cespitosa, , also contain compact rush , Juncus conglomeratus, , greater bird's foot trefoil , Lotus uliginosus, and wild angelica , Angelica sylvestris, . Some of the woodland strips between fairways are probably relics of old farm hedgerows, and show characters of ancient woodland. Beneath a canopy of fine mature pedunculate oak , Quercus robur, and ash , Fraxinus excelsior, , both the shrub layer and ground flora contain several ancient woodland indicator species, including wild service tree , Sorbus torminalis, , field maple , Acer campestre, , crab apple , Malus sylvestris, , dog's mercury , Mercurialis perennis, , wood meadow grass , Poa nemoralis, , wood millet , Milium effusum, , ramsons , Allium ursinum, and yellow archangel , Lamiastrum galeobdelon, . The numerous ditches, streams and small pools, and the larger Stoneyfields Lake, support a diverse wetland flora, including common water starwort , Callitriche stagnalis, , brooklime , Veronica beccabunga, , watercress , Rorippa nasturtium aquatica, , wild angelica, white water lily , Nymphaea alba, , common spike rush , Eleocharis palustris, , horned pondweed , Zanichellia palustris, , square stalked St John's wort , Hypericum tetrapterum, , common water crowfoot , Ranunculus aquatilis, and ivy leaved duckweed , Lemna trisulca, . This mosaic of Habitats supports a diverse animal life. Breeding birds include six species of warblers, reed bunting, linnet and green and great spotted woodpeckers. Mammals include mole and common shrew, while common frogs and smooth newts breed in the lake. A good range of invertebrates is also present.
Management provider: Private landowner.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Scratchwood and Moat Mount Open Spaces
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Common Frog, Cuckoo, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Greenfinch, Large Skipper, Lesser Redpoll, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Lesser Whitethroat, Pied Flycatcher, Redwing, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Tawny Owl, Willow Tit, Woodcock

BaBI10 Mill Hill Golf Course
INNS Records: Giant Hogweed, Goat's rue, Least Duckweed, Wall Cotoneaster
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. Mill Hill Golf Course is located within the centre of Barnet and appears to remain unchanged since the previous update to the SINC citation in 2006.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: N/A - desk based review
Date: 9/5/2024 9:00:00 AM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Low
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Mill Hill Golf Course remains in use as a golf course and appears to remain unchanges since the previous update to the SINC citation.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Acid grassland, Woodland, Scrub, standing water
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Vet trees
Habitat survey description: Review of aerial imagery indicates that the site continues to support a wide range of Habitats including acid grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, unimproved neutral grassland, wet grassland. The north of the site is surrounded by ancient woodland and there are woodland blocks supporting ancient woodland indicators alongside some of the fairways, others are surrounded by secondary broadleaved woodland and there are scattered trees present too. There are wet ditches present and a pond located within the south-west of the site.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: There are no apparent threats to the SINC status, presuming that the range of grassland Habitats are maintained and managed appropriately. Review of aerial imagery indicates that acid grassland and unimproved and semi-improved grassland are present within the roughs either side of the fairways.
Ecological opportunities on site: Wildlife friendly, Meadow creation, wetland creation, Deadwood, Scrub estab, Mowing Additional comments: Golf courses present substantial opportunity for ecological enhancement either through the management of Habitats on site, or through more ambitiousHabitat enhancement and creation opportunities.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Lichen, Fungi Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:

BaBI10 Mill Hill Golf Course
The diverse range of Habitats present at Mill Hill Golf Course make this site suitable to support a range of flora and fauna including insects, birds, bats, amphibians and mammals. The location of this site and surrounding ancient woodland makes it suitable to support rare bird assemblages, as well as large mammals such as badger. The previous SINC citation states that the golf course supports a range of breeding birds including warblers, reed bunting, linnet and green and great spotted woodpeckers. Although there are no ecological records for these species, there are records for lesser spotted woodpecker, greenfinch, cuckoo, lesser redpoll, willow tit, tawny owl and woodcock. The citation also states that mammals include mole and common shrew, while common frogs (of which there are ecological records) and smooth newts breed in the lake. The golf course is also likely to support a range of invertebrates and there are ecological records for butterflies including Essex skipper, large skipper, small copper, small heath and small skipper. The woodlands are also likely to support saproxylic beetles. Golf courses also provide suitableHabitat for a range of reptiles such as common lizard and grass snake due to the range of grassland Habitats, sward heights, presence of woodland and wetland. However, there were no ecological records for these species.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: There have been no apparent changes to the Habitats since the previous survey in 2006.
Management Recommendations: N/A
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): The golf course will have a management plan in place, tailored to the management of grassland fairways and greens.
SINC Criteria
Representation: Mill Hill Golf Course supports a diverse range of Habitats and has a high level of woodland canopy cover. The range of Habitats present, particularly the range of grassland Habitats present contributes to this sites status as a Borough Grade I SINC. The s
Habitat Rarity: The site supports ancient woodland which is an extremely rareHabitat in London. Barnet supports a relatively large amount of ancient woodland. Additionally, acid and unimproved neutral grassland are rare Habitats which support substantial botanical and faunal interest.
Species Rarity: There are ecological records for a range of rare species for London including rare birds such as greenfinch, lesser spotted woodpecker, cuckoo, lesser redpoll, willow tit, tawny owl and woodcock. There are also records for several rare and priority butterfly species including Essex skipper, large skipper, small copper, small heath and small skipper. The woodlands within and adjacent to site are likely to support important saproxylic invertebrates such as beetles and flies. The site is likely to offer foraging and roostingHabitat for bats and may also support badger due to the surrounding canopy of broadleaved woodland and adjacent ancient woodland present.
Habitat Richness: There are a diverse range of Habitats present at Mill Hill Golf Course including acid and unimproved neutral grassland, wet grassland, ditches and a pond. There is also extensive broadleaved woodland canopy cover with areas of woodland supporting ancient
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The golf course is a substantial size at 61ha and due to the range of Habitats present and the long history of management of the golf course, this site is likely to offer an important refuge to a wide range of wildlife. It is therefore likely to be of hig
Important populations of species: The golf course is likely to be important to bird and invertebrate populations and may also support a diverse bat assemblage.
Ancient Character: The woodland belts which lie either side of the fairways support ancient woodland indicator species and are likely to be of similarHabitat composition to the areas of ancient woodland to the north of the golf course.
Recreatability: The woodlands, grasslands and wetland Habitats including the large lake present at Mill Hill Golf Course are difficult to recreate and take a long time to reach maturity. The woodlands in particular may comprise remnant areas of ancient

BaBI10 Mill Hill Golf Course
woodland which may have once been part of a much larger parcel of ancient woodland of which several areas remain adjacent to the north boundary of the golf course (within Scratchwood SINC).
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: Mill Hill Golf Course is located within the north-west of the borough and lies in an area with a large number of other SINC sites including Scratchwood Metropolitan SINC to the north, Moat Mount and Mote End Open Space SINC to the east and Deans Brook and Stoneyfields Park to the south. There is terrestrial ecological connectivity with Scratchwood and hydrological connectivity with Deans Brook.
Access: The golf course is private and accessible to members only.
Use: The golf course is only used by golfers.
Potential: As described within the management recommendations and ecological opportunities, golf courses in general offer substantial opportunities for ecological enhancement. This can be achieved through small scale interventions such as altering the mowing regime to increase the areas of species-rich tall grasslands supporting invertebrates, birds and small mammals, creating deadwoodHabitats or providing wildlife friendly planting. Or it can be achieved by large scale and ambitious ecological restoration initiatives.
Aesthetic Appeal: The golf course is likely to be designed to achieve aesthetic appeal in terms of its landscaping. However, it is a managed landscape and therefore it probably doesnt achieve the same appeal from an ecological perspective, as other more naturalHabitats such as woodlands, parklands and wetlands which support higher biodiversity.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The golf course appears to remain unchanged since the citation was last updated in 2006. The geographical location of the site adjacent to and ecologically connected to other SINCs, range of Habitats present and likely flora and fauna supported by the site means it continues to contribute to the SINC network.
Site Maps



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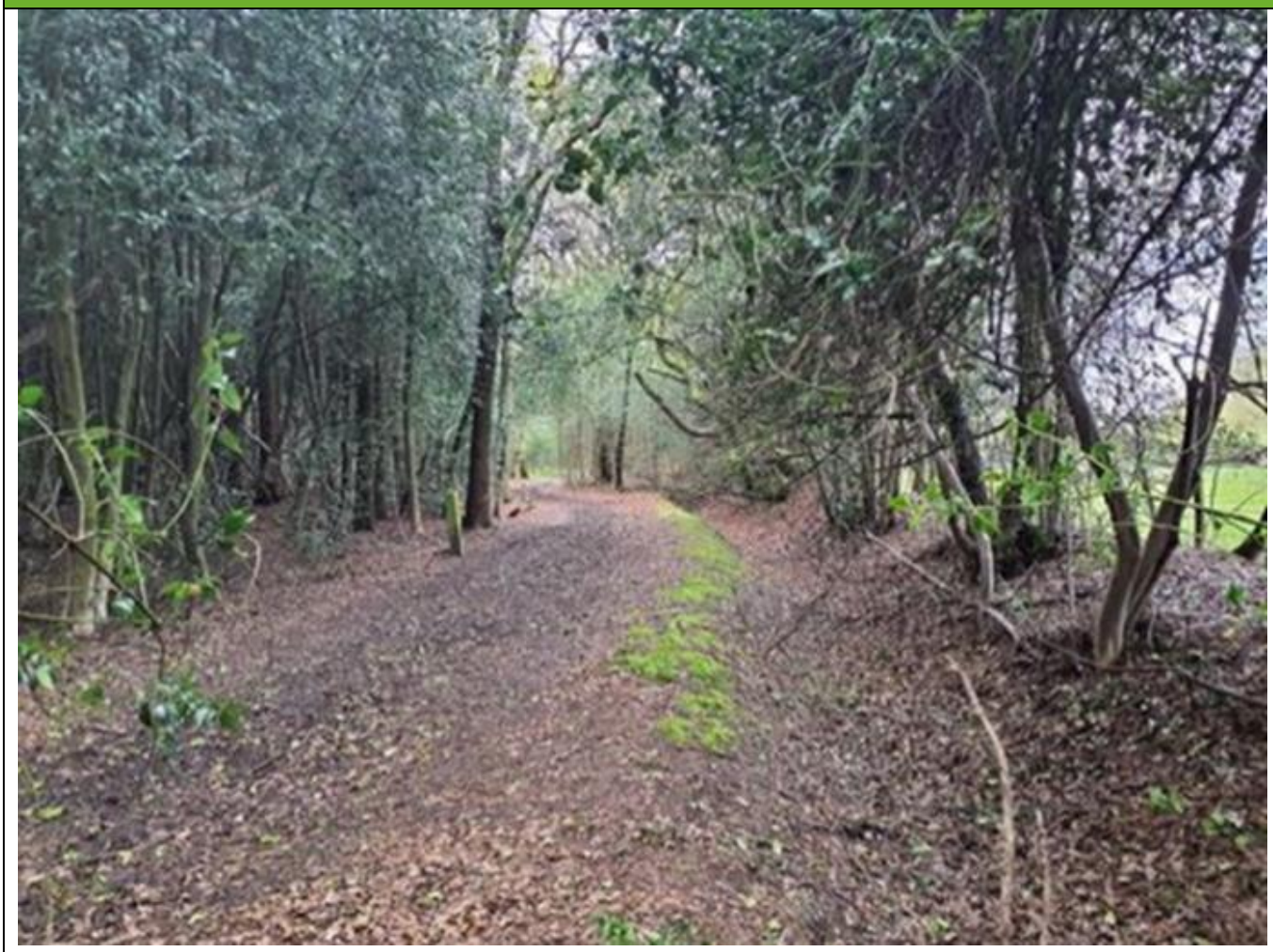
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

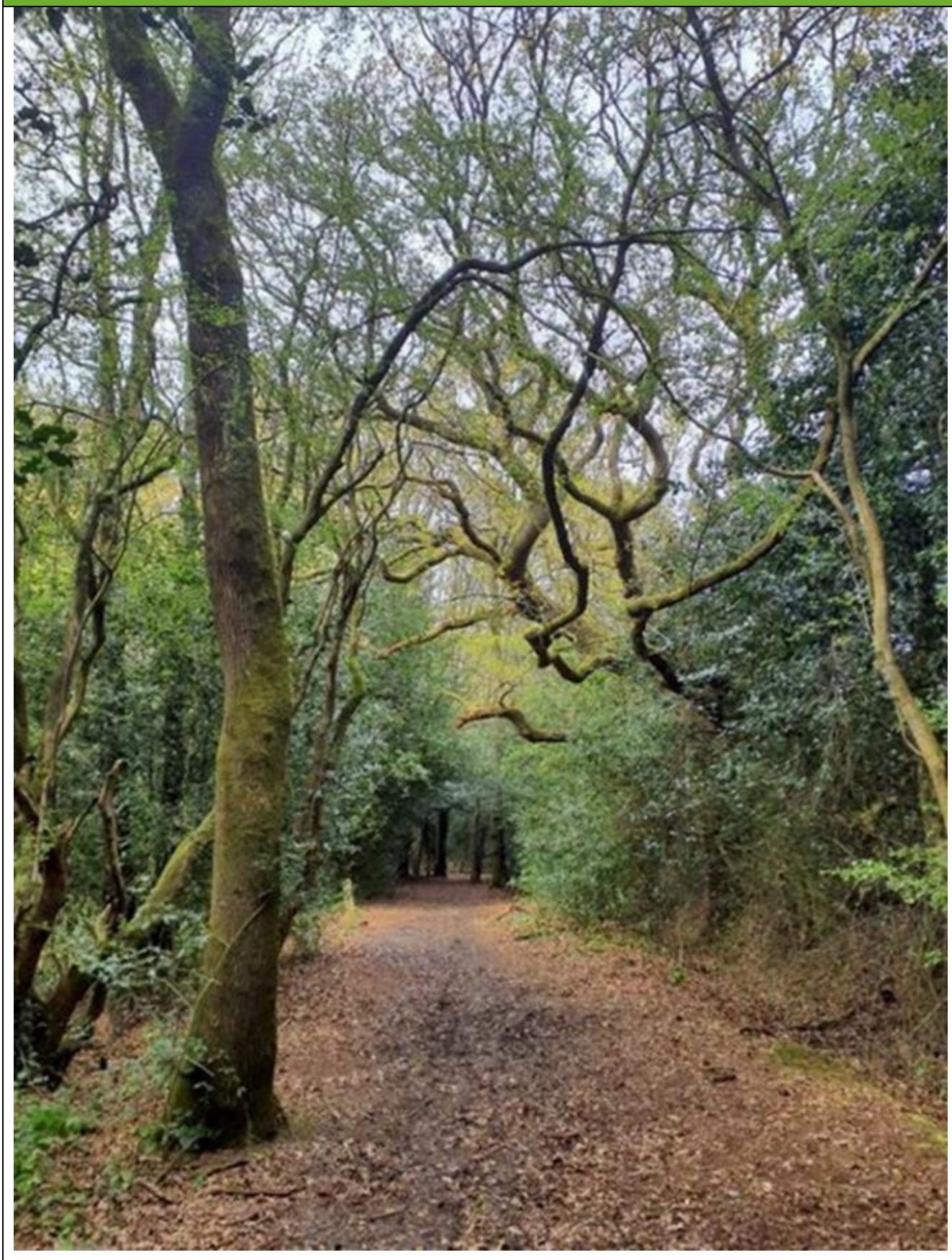
M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve
Site information
LUC Site ID: 60
SINC ID: M033
SINC Name: Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ2172596137
Area (ha): 5.88
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace,
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: One of London's very few bogs is contained in this area of oak and birch woodland, heathland and grassland.
SINC Description: Rowley Green Common is largely secondary woodland with areas of relict heathland. Oak , Quercus robur, and birch , Betula spp., dominate, with some willow , Salix spp., and aspen , Populus tremula, . Heath and acid grassland supports uncommon species such as heather , Calluna vulgaris, , mat grass , Nardus stricta, , petty whin , Genista anglica, and pill sedge , Carex pilulifera, . The most importantHabitat here is the Sphagnum bog, being one of very few left in London. At least four species of bog moss , Sphagnum spp., occur with various rushes , Juncus spp., , purple moor grass , Molinia caerulea, , lesser spearwort , Ranunculus flammula, and the London rarity star sedge , Carex echinata, . A large pond in the west of the site supports further botanical interest, where rare species include floating club rush , Eleogiton fluitans, , marsh speedwell , Veronica scutellata, , and bulbous and sharp flowered rushes , Juncus bulbosus, J. acutiflorus, . The invertebrate fauna includes the locally uncommon emerald damselfly , Lestes sponsa, , together with many other more widespread species. The site also supports a diverse avifauna as well as various amphibians, reptiles and mammals. A Local Nature Reserve managed jointly by the Herts. and Middlesex and London Wildlife Trusts.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Rowley Green Common
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Good quality semi improved grassland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Moss, Bluebell, Bog Moss, Cinnabar, Common Darter, Common Redpoll, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Fringed Bog moss, Grass Snake, Large Skipper, Mistle Thrush, Petty Whin, Pipistrelle, Pipistrelle Bat species, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Spiky Bog moss, Tawny Owl
INNS Records: Ring necked Parakeet
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located to the north of the borough, in close proximity to Rowley Lodge Field SINC. The site comprises predominantly broadleaved woodland of secondary form. There is also a large area of sphagnum bog and a pond to the south-west of the site. The bog is one of the last remainingHabitats of its type in London.

M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: Overcast
Date: 4/16/2024 2:27:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Low
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): N/A
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Acid grassland, Wetlands, standing water, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): FenMarshSwamp
Habitat survey description: The woodland consists of a majority of young sessile oak, birch and hazel with a holly and hawthorn understorey. Bramble dominates the ground flora across the majority of the woodland with pockets of bracken and occasional bluebells.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: There are no threats facing this site, as it experiences low levels of visitor pressure.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab, Active Tree, Deadwood Additional comments: Woodland management and veteranisation is recommended as the woodland reaches maturity.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Higher Plants, Bryophytes Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site is known to support a rich invertebrate fauna assemblage including locally uncommon emerald damselfly Lestes sponsa. In addition to reptiles such as grass snake and amphibians associated with the pond and Bog Habitats. There are records for several rare moss species including bog moss, fringed bog moss and spiky bog moss.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve

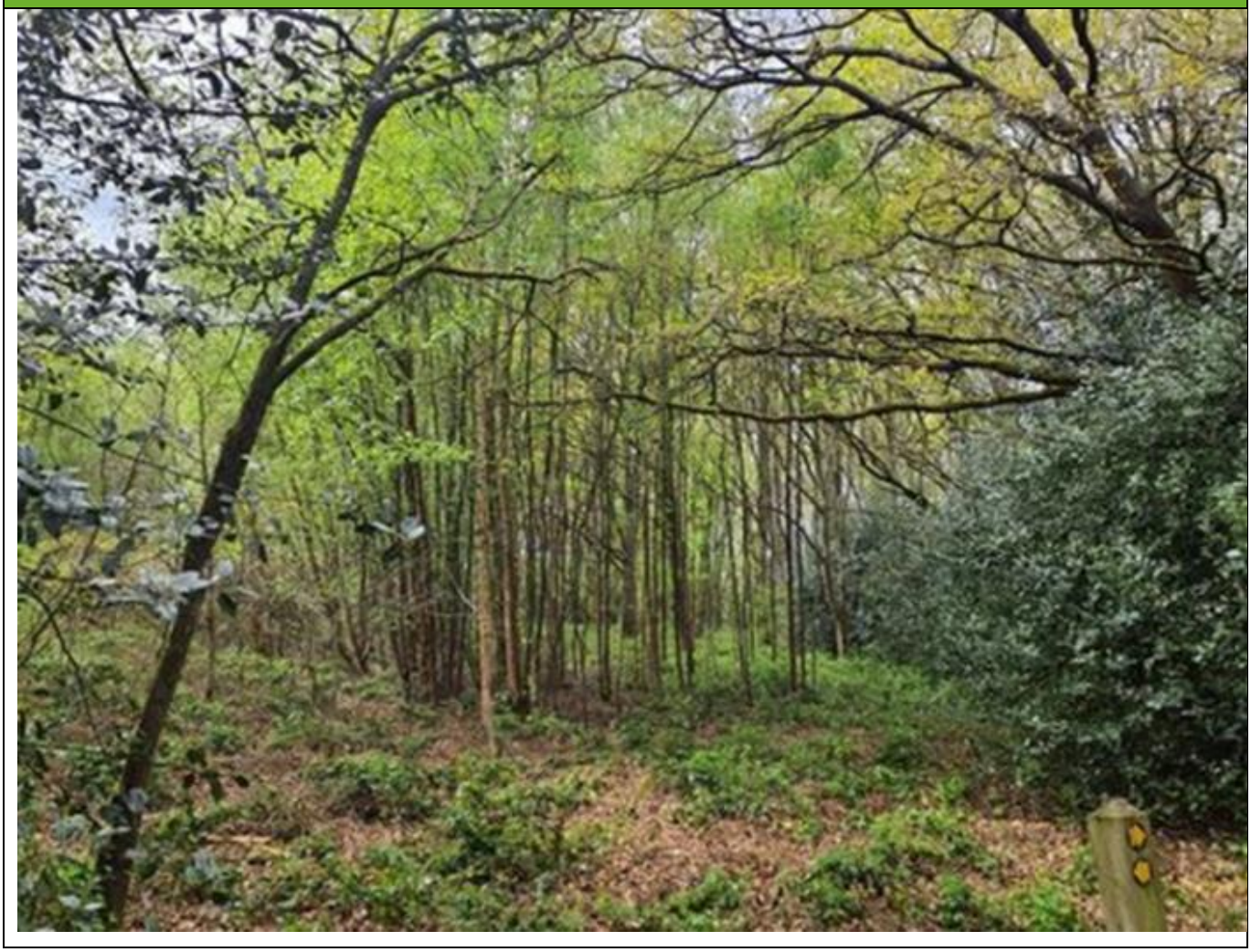


M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve

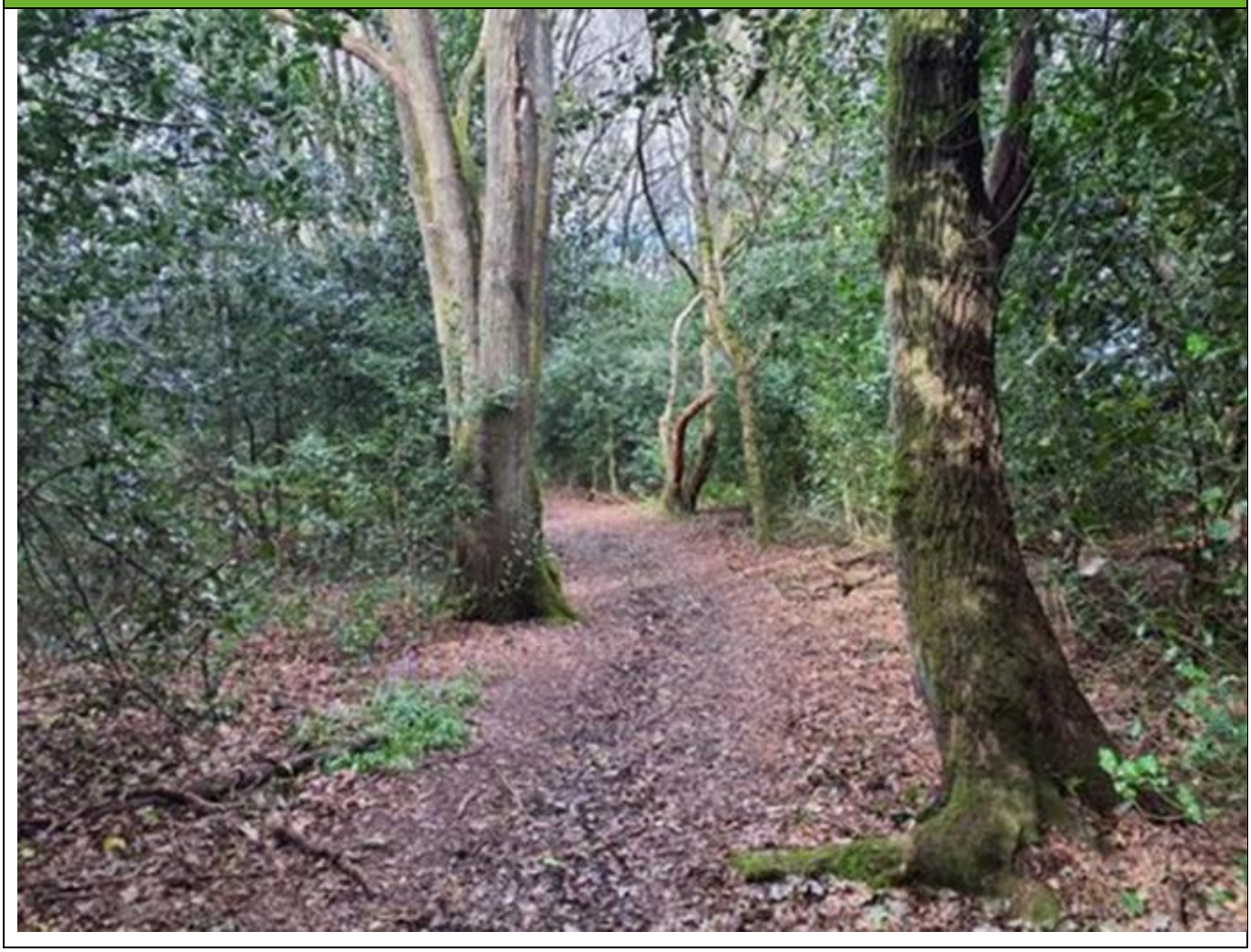


M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve

M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve



M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve



M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve

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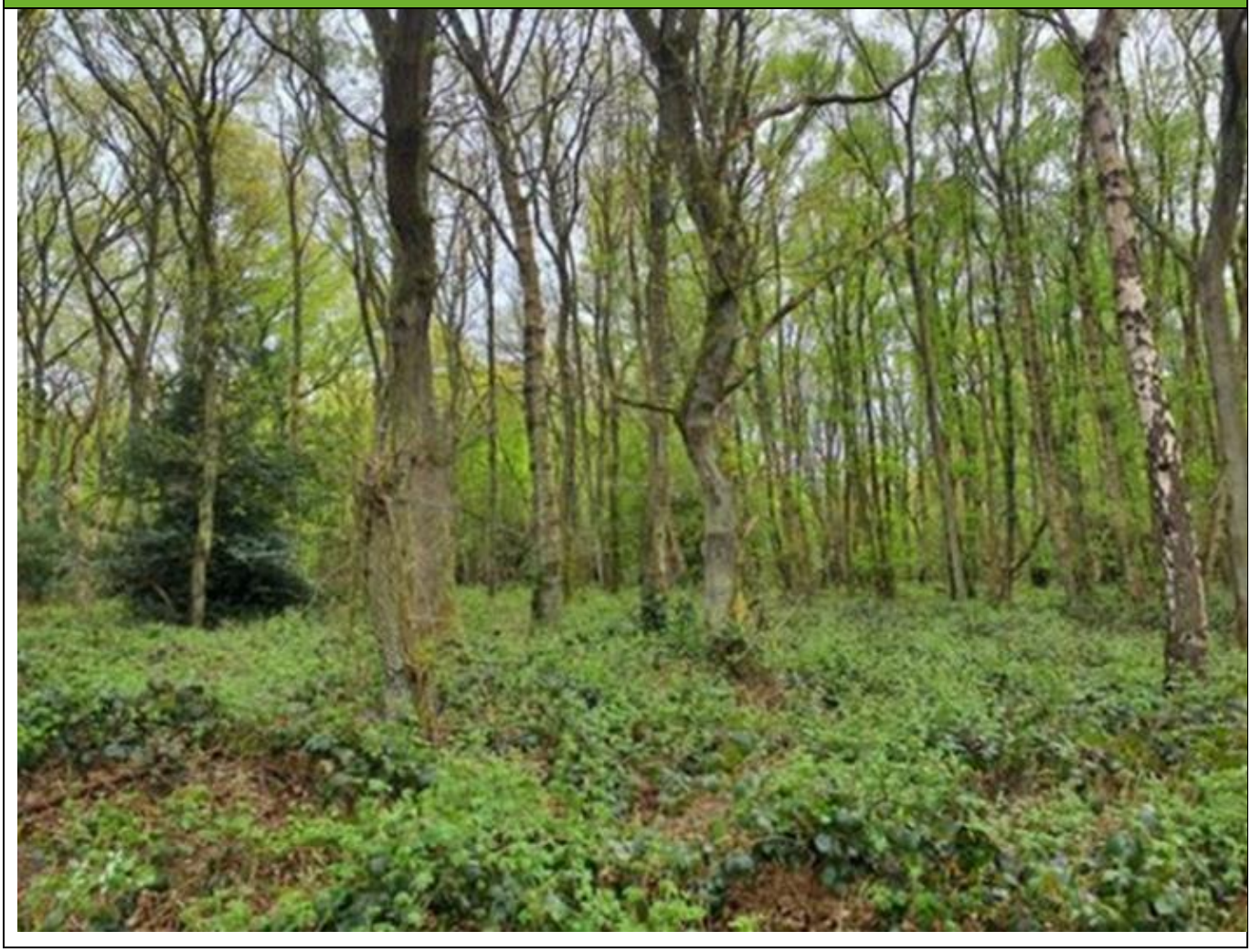
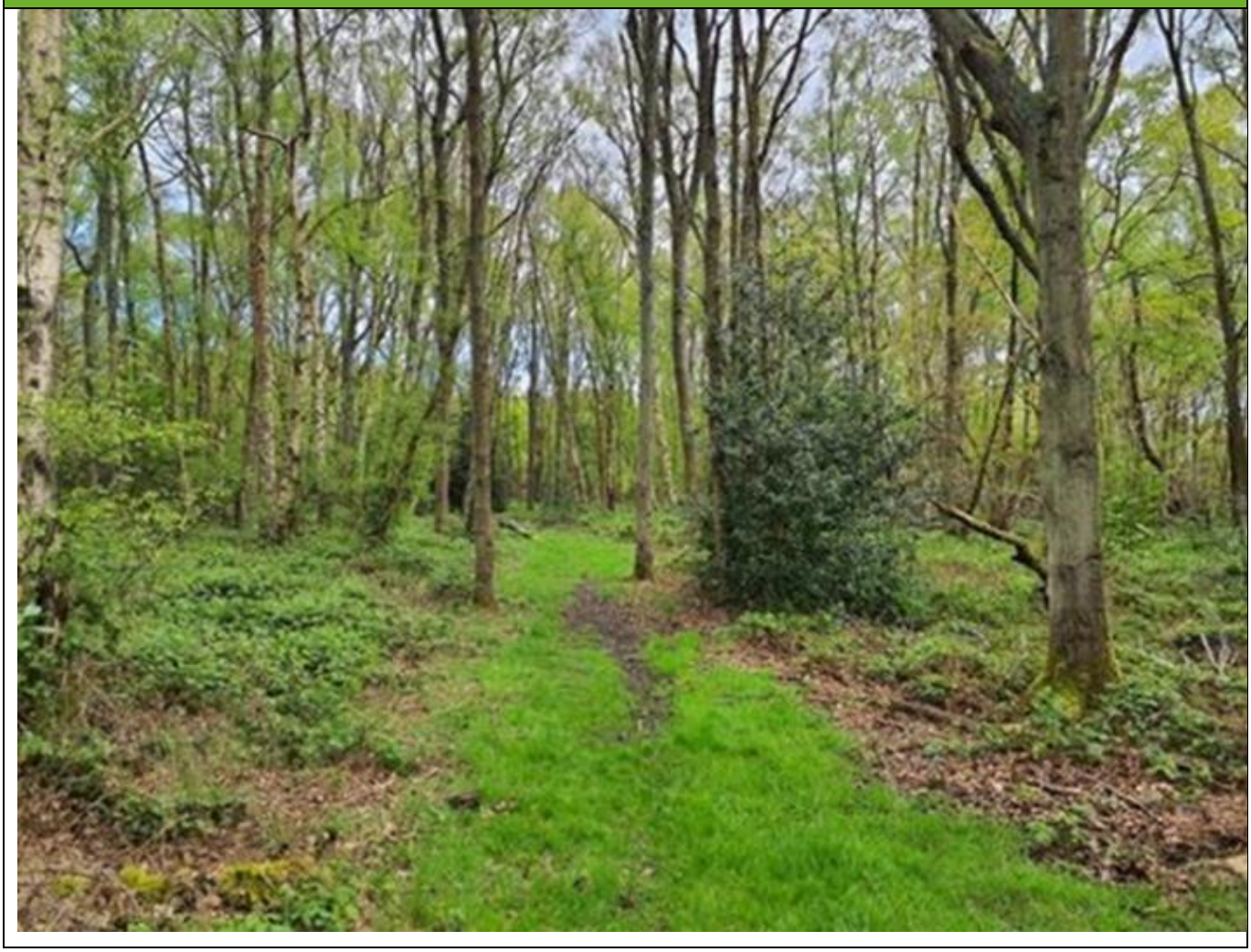
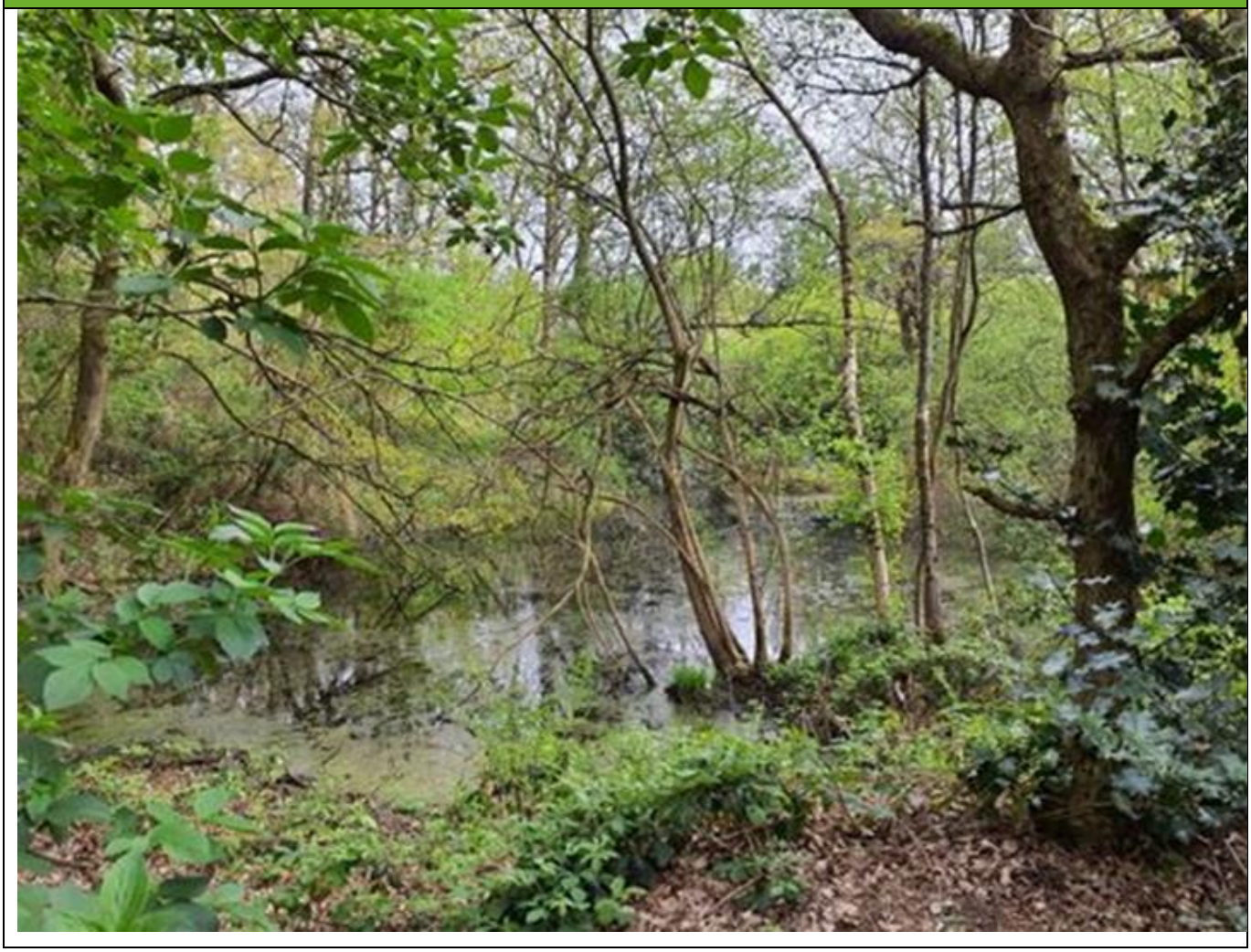


M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve



M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve



M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve

M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve

M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report available.

Management Recommendations:

Management of the site and particularly of the woodland as it continued to establish, will need to ensure the protection and enhancement of the rare bog and pond Habitats. Without management of the woodland there is risk of encroachment of trees into the bog and possible gradual drying especially of the smaller shallower pools within the bog.

As the woodland reaches maturity it is also recommended that veteranisation is carried out of suitable trees in order to provide additional Habitat niches for birds, bats and invertebrates and increase the Habitat richness of areas of secondary woodland. This could be further complimented by creation of deadwoodHabitats such as reptile hibernacula and log piles for invertebrates and amphibians. Scrub management is also recommended to ensure development of dense scrub whilst retaining areas of open grassland as the Habitats continue to develop through succession in order to maintain the open wildflower-rich glades and herb-rich grassland areas.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

N/A

SINC Criteria

Representation: Since bogHabitat is a rareHabitat in London, this site is likely to represent the best and possibly the only bogHabitat in Barnet.

Habitat Rarity: The site supports one of the few remaining sphagnum Bog Habitats in London, and therefore holds substantial ecological value within the SINC network.

M033 Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve
Species Rarity: Several rare species are associated with the bog and pond Habitats including star sedge, which is a rare species for London, floating club rush, marsh speedwell and bulbous and sharp flowered rushes.
Habitat Richness: The site supports a diverse mosaic of Habitats including secondary broadleaved woodland, scrub, acid grassland, neutral grassland, bog and pond Habitats.
Species Richness: Due to the diversity of Habitats present there is a wide range of species associated including terrestrial and aquatic species. Taxonomic groups associated with These Habitats include birds, bats, amphibians, reptiles and invertebrates.
Size: The site is 5.86ha in size and supports a relatively large area of broadleaved woodland within the northern area of the Borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: Bog Habitats are particularly rare because they have specific hydrological and soil requirements which are very difficult to recreate elsewhere. This highlights the importance of protecting remainingHabitats from furtherHabitat loss.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: Woodlands have particular cultural associations for people.
Geographic Position: The site is located within the north of the borough, within close proximity to Rowley Lodge Field, which supports a large area of former hay meadow with secondary woodland and parkland trees, which sits south along the same road. With the exception of the large area of broadleaved woodland to the south-west, the site lies within predominantly agricultural land.
Access: The site can only be accessed on foot via public footpaths from Rowley Lane.
Use: The site is predominantly used by walkers including dog walkers.
Potential: The site currently comprises predominantly young secondary woodland which has lower ecological value to flora and fauna, however there is great potential for trees across the site to develop to maturity and contribute substantially to the Habitat provision to birds, bats, insects and lower plants such as mosses, lichens and fungi.
Aesthetic Appeal: The woodland offers a quiet space to enjoy birdsong away from the adjacent main road.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to contribute substantially to the SINC network and there are no existing pressures or threats to the Site. As the woodlands continue to develop to maturity the ecological value of the site will continue to increase over time.
Site Maps

SINC data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), 2024 via a Service Level Agreement with LB Barnet. Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm
Site information
LUC Site ID: 61
SINC ID: BaBII06
SINC Name: Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2152094299
Area (ha): 114.36
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Outdoor Sports Facilities, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A large, hilly open space with an excellent variety of wildlifeHabitats.
SINC Description: This is a large, hilly open space with a good range of Habitats, and affords magnificent views from the top of the hill. The site includes much of Moat Mount and Scratchwood Countryside Park , Scratchwood itself is a Site of Metropolitan Importance, , and the adjacent Mote End Farm. Barnet Gate Wood, at the northern end of the farm, is a small ancient wood. The canopy is composed of oak , Quercus robur, and hornbeam , Carpinus betulus, , with an understorey dominated by rhododendron , Rhododendron ponticum, , with areas of hazel , Corylus avellana, coppice and a few wild service trees , Sorbus torminalis, . Wood anemone , Anemone nemorosa, and bluebell , Hyacinthoides non scripta, occur in the ground flora. The Countryside Park contains a number of small woods, all of them secondary. Nevertheless, Target Wood has an excellent structure, with coppiced hazel in a shrub layer which also includes crab apple , Malus sylvestris, and field maple , Acer campestre, , while Nut Wood has a surprisingly good ground flora, including soft shield fern , Polystichum setifera, , yellow archangel , Lamiastrum galeobdolon, , wood speedwell , Veronica montana, and bluebell, species usually associated with ancient woods. Most of the farm and much of the Countryside Park is grassland, including some fine examples of unimproved London clay grassland, with an excellent diversity of wild flowers, including cowslip , Primula veris, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, , devil’s bit scabious , Succisa pratensis, , sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, , pignut , Conopodium majus, , burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, , betony , Stachys officinalis, , square stalked St John’s wort , Hypericum tetrapterum, , greater bird’s foot trefoil , Lotus uliginosus, and zigzag clover , Trifolium medium, . Other fields are less diverse, but are surrounded by an excellent network of hedges with a good diversity of trees and shrubs. Greater burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella major, , which is very rare in London, grows in some of the hedge bottoms. Wetlands include Leg of Mutton Pond in the Countryside Park and an excellent wet ditch on the farm. The pond contains white water lily , Nymphaea alba, , and blue water speedwell , Veronica anagallis aquatica, , and supports amphibians, which attract grass snakes, and a good diversity of invertebrates. The ditch supports a diverse flora including common marsh bedstraw , Galium palustre, and narrow fruited watercress , Rorippa microphylla, . The Countryside Park is a Local Nature Reserve. The London LOOP and the Dollis Valley Greenwalk pass through the site.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Scratchwood and Moat Mount Open Spaces, Totteridge Fields
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: A Butterfly, Bats, Black backed Meadow Ant, Bluebell, Butcher's broom, Chamomile, Cinnabar, Common Darter, Corn Spurrey, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Grass Snake, Hobby, Large Skipper, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Lesser Whitethroat,

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm
Mistle Thrush, Pipistrelle Bat species, Purple Emperor, Red Kite, Round fruited Rush, Small Copper, Small Skipper, Song Thrush, Spotted Flycatcher, Stinking Chamomile, Swift, Tawny Owl, Turtle Dove, Willow Tit
INNS Records: A Flowering Plant, Cherry Laurel, Chinese Muntjac, False acacia, Giant Hogweed, Goat's rue, Himalayan Balsam, Nuttall's Waterweed, Turkey Oak
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet):Outdoor Centre and Camp Site.
Summary of Site: Moat Mount is a Local Nature Reserve. The site is located in the central north of the site. The site is functionally connected to other SINCs and form a large area of green space within the borough. It is also part of the Dollis Valley Green Walk. The site is comprised of woodland, scrub, hedgerows and London clay grassland fields.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Wet and sunny
Date: 6/10/2024 2:14:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): There were few signs of current management. The car park entrance was blocked off and the camp buildings seemed to be very run-down. Areas of scrub within the woodland and along the paths were becoming overgrown and very dense.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, standing water, Woodland, Scrub, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprised large expanses of grassland fields and large woodland compartments. Much of the grassland fields were bounded by native hedgerows The grassland was not recently managed and was of a long sward. The species included rough meadow grass, Yorkshire fog, meadow barley, meadow buttercup, sweet vernal ribwort plantain, chickweed, common daisy, oxeye daisy, yarrow, cuckoo flower, sorrel, dandelion, meadow foxtail, false oat, cocks foot, and meadow fescue. The grassland in the southwest of the site, around the car park had been mown recently and had little species diversity. The woodland canopies consisted of horse chestnut, hornbeam, sycamore, ash, field maple, oak, lime, willow, yew, elder, and beech. The understorey and ground flora species included pendulous sedge, bramble, wood dock, nettle, holly, cherry laurel, bracken, wood avens, holly, herb robert red campion, and ground ivy. Snowberry and rhododendron were also noted within the woodland. A large man-made pond with concrete sidings was identified within the southern woodland. There was little marginal vegetation, only small stands of bamboo. The grassland surrounding the camp, in the centre of the site had a slightly different composition of species, including cocks foot, Yorkshire fog, red fescue, sorrel, stitch wort, dandelion, red clover, white clover, rough meadow grass, creeping

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm
buttercup, oak saplings, false oat, meadow foxtail, perennial rye, rough hawkbit birds foot trefoil creeping cinquefoil, bramble, horsetails, and meadow fescue.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling, FlyTip, Invasive species: Additional comments: There was a lot of loose litter and fly-tipping within the grassland around the car park, also dog fowling along the paths within the woodland. INNS were identified within the woodland and also noted on the desk study
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Scrub estab, ActiveTree, Deadwood Additional comments: Scrub thinning in areas where the bramble was becoming very dense, also cutting back of scrub from pathways. The grassland fields were all the same length sward, a varied mowing regime would benefit the sward height diversity and provide greater species diversity. Marginal and aquatic planting at the pond to benefit wildlife.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland and scrubHabitats provided suitableHabitats for mammals, birds, reptiles and invertebrates to forage and shelter. The pond provided opportunities for amphibians. The hedgerows within the site provided commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH
Welcome to Moat Mount Local Nature Reserve
ENGLISH NATURE
This sign was produced with financial support from English Nature
KEY
Woodland
Scrub / rough grassland
Short grass
Leg of Mutton pond
Car park
Access point
Main paths
Moat Mount Outdoor Centre
Bus stop
N
Scale
0 100 200
metres
YOU ARE HERE
P
A1
Mote End Farm
Moorhen
London LOOP and Dollis Valley Greenwalk routes
Yellow iris
Wellingtonia
Moat Mount has enjoyed a long history of human settlement with evidence of Roman habitation and traceable private ownership for over 500 years.
The estate, which included the Scratchwood site on the opposite side of the A1, was bought by the Cox family in 1866. The mansion stood on the raised ground to the south of the property but was extensively damaged by fire and has long since disappeared. The grounds were set out as a parkland landscape with an ornamental lake and exotic plantings. As a result, trees such as the magnificent Wellingtonia can be seen here.
Different woodlands have been planted at various times over the past 200 years and as a result the trees on the site vary greatly in age.
The Leg of Mutton pond, reached its present shape by 1870. The pond is a haven for invertebrates and birds and has many breeding frogs.
Small farms within the estate grew hay for the horse population of London but since the decline in demand many of these fields have been colonised by scrub and young woodland.
In 1923 the Cox estate was sold and a large part passed to the Hendon Urban District Council including Moat Mount and Scratchwood.
The site continues to be managed as public open space by Barnet Council, guided by an advisory group and management plan.
Volunteers regularly carry out practical conservation tasks.
The site received Local Nature Reserve designation in 1997 giving it greater ecological protection and providing the visitor with better opportunities to enjoy this wonderful historic landscape.
Look out for the orienteering course and tree trail, and the new Moat Mount Outdoor Centre, a short stay residential centre for young people.
Moat Mount is also a gateway site to Watling Chase Community Forest.
This site is subject to the London Borough of Barnet's byelaws for pleasure grounds and Local Nature Reserves.
WATLING CHASE
FOREST FOR THE COMMUNITY
For further information, contact the Countryside Liaison Officer on 0181-359 3052
OUTDOOR CENTRE

Car park
Access point
Main paths
Moat Mount Outdoor Centre
Bus stop
N
Scale
0 100 200
metres
YOU ARE HERE
P
A1
London LOOP
and Dollis Valley
Greenwalk routes
Yellow iris
Wellingtonia
years.
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WATLING CHASE
FOREST FOR THE COMMUNITY
For further information, contact the Countryside Liaison Officer on 0181-359 3052
OUTDOOR CENTRE
AND
CAMP SITE
BARNET
LONDON BOROUGH

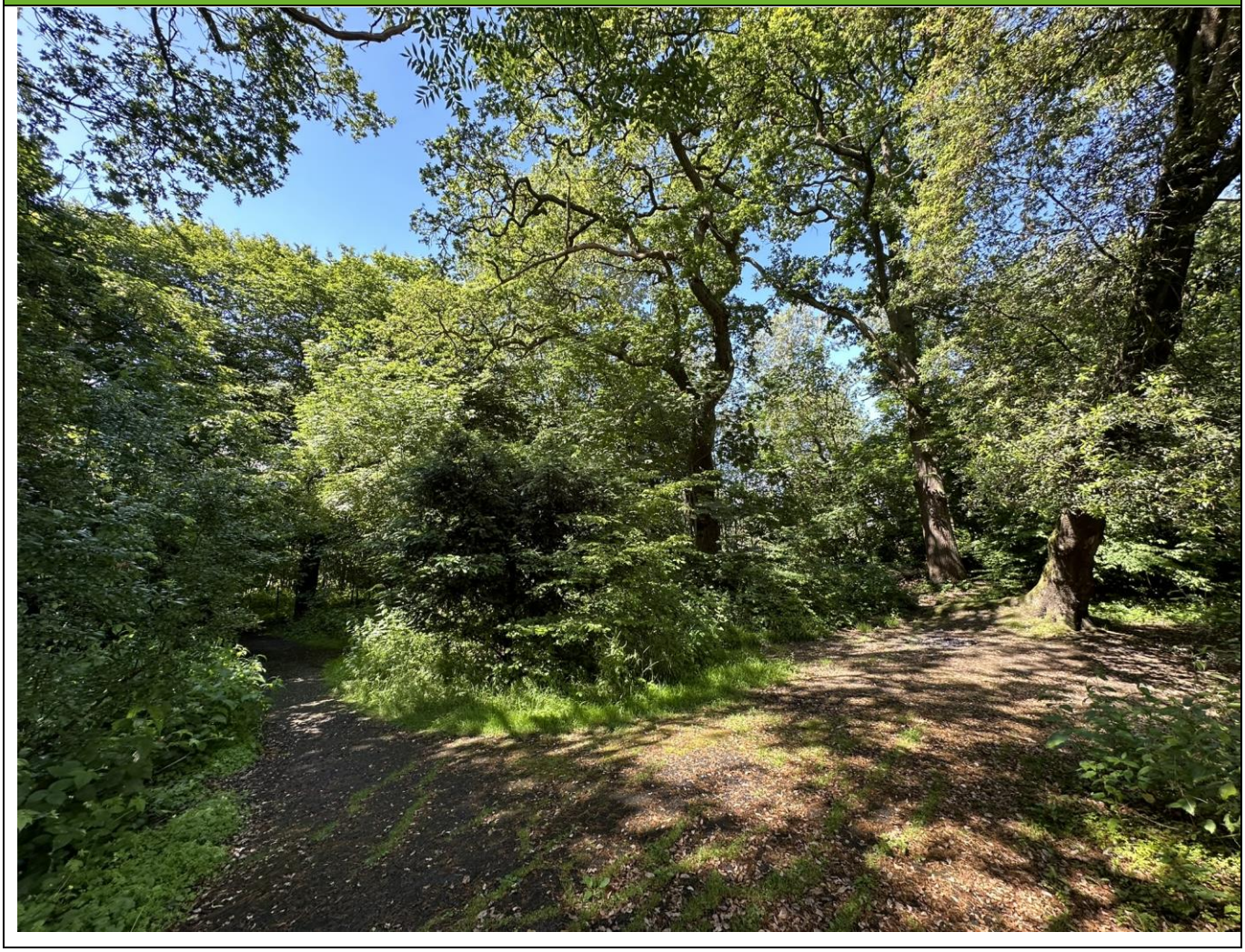
BARNET 4m (61/2km)
MONKEN HADLEY 61/4m (10km)
TRENT PARK 8m (13km)
LONDON LOOP
ELSTREE STATION 2m (3km)
ALDENHAM COUNTRY PARK 4m (61km)
STANMORE COUNTRY PARK 5m (81/2km)
LONDON LOOP

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm

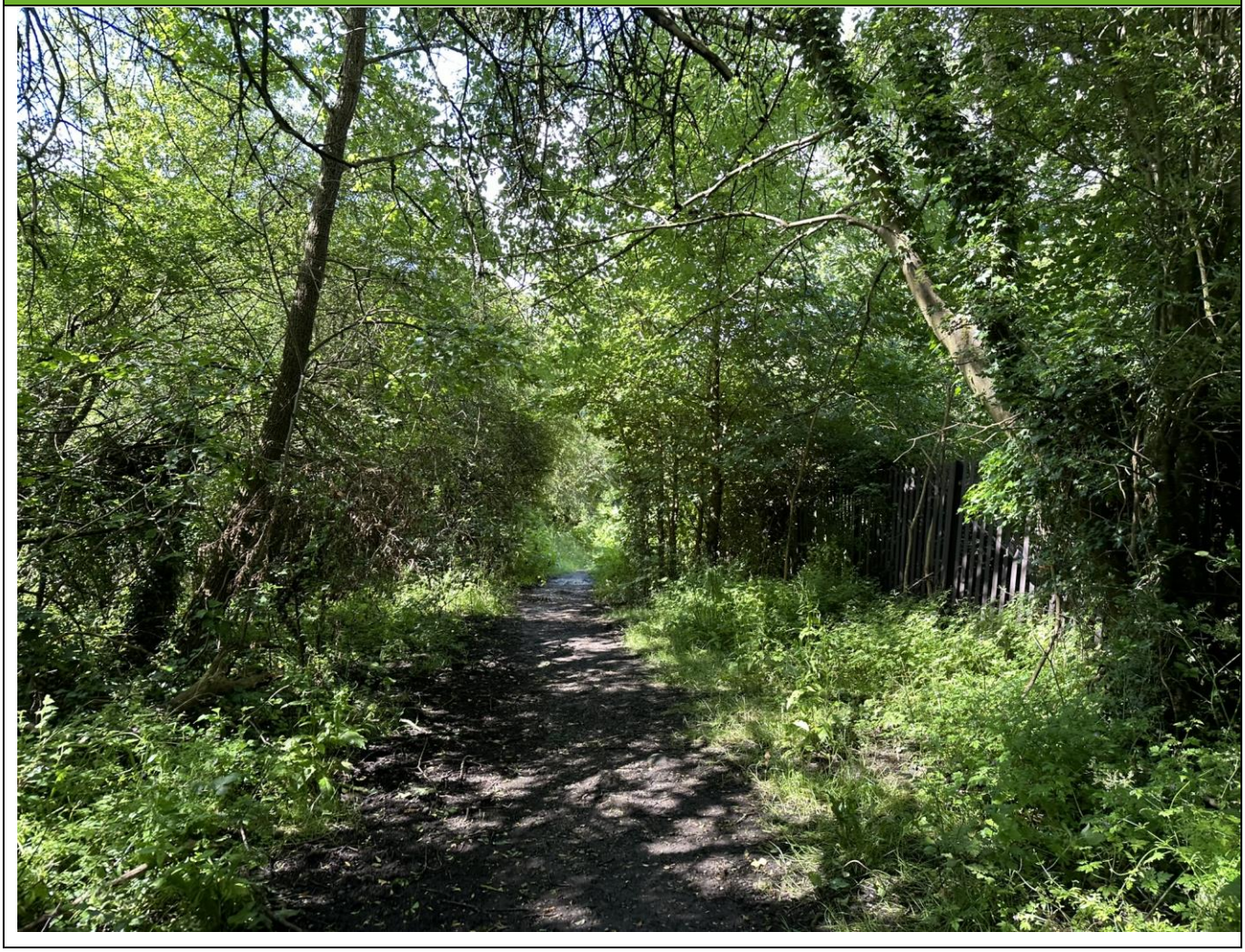
BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm



BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm



Youth Service
MOAT MOUNT CAMP SITE
Camping and outdoor activities for Youth Groups and Schools
TEL 020 8906 9499
Camp Site and Outdoor Centre
This field is used by groups of children throughout the year. Please keep your dogs under control, and make sure that they do not foul the area.

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A

Management Recommendations:

Removal and control of snowberry and rhododendron within the site. The creation of a varied mowing regime within the grassland fields to create sward height diversity. Litter and dog fouling management through regular clean-ups.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

N/A

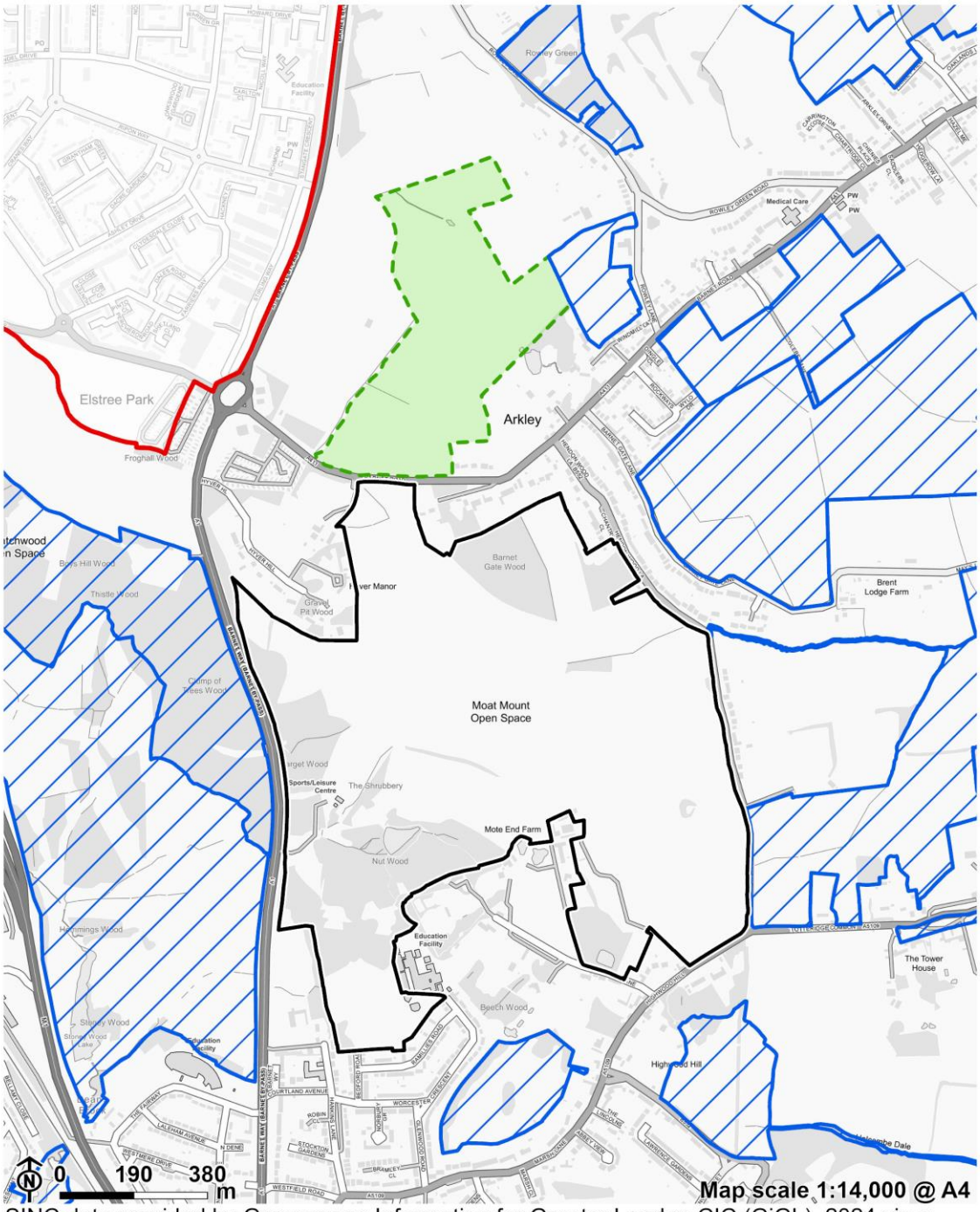
SINC Criteria

Representation: AlthoughHabitats present were not the best examples of those in London, the woodland compartments are rarerHabitat in London and therefore is a good example in this urban area and should be protected.

Habitat Rarity: The woodland, large grassland fields and scrubHabitats present are rare within London and support a range of species.

Species Rarity: The site supports a wide variety of notable, protected and London BAP flora and fauna species, including bats, black backed meadow ant, bluebell, butcher's broom, chamomile, cinnabar, common darter, corn spurrey, dunnock, essex skipper, grass snake, hobby, large skipper, lesser spotted woodpecker, lesser whitethroat, mistle thrush, pipistrelle bat species, purple emperor, red kite, round fruited rush, small copper, small skipper, song thrush, spotted flycatcher, stinking chamomile, swift, tawny owl, turtle dove, and willow tit.

BaBII06 Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm
Habitat Richness: The site isHabitat rich with priority woodland, dense scrub, London clay grassland, native hedgerows and a pond.
Species Richness: The site isHabitat rich with priority woodland, dense scrub, London clay grassland, native hedgerows and a pond.
Size: This SINC is very large at 114ha, and forms a sizeable part of the SINC network within the borough, and plays an important role in the function and resilience of the boroughs' SINCs.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The priority woodland Habitats are hard to recreate due to the difficulty and period of time it would take to re-establish them to this level of maturity and therefore should be conserved. The London clay grassland is also difficult to recreate given the precise soil conditions and location needs for the Habitat.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is ecologically connected to multiple other SINCs in the north of the borough. Providing connectivity and a large green corridor across the borough.
Access: The site is partially accessible by the public, but areas around the camp are private.
Use: The site is primarily used by walkers and dog walkers, as well as recreational activities. There was also an outdoor centre and camp site used for education.
Potential: There is potential to improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site provides an open green space where people can go to walk and relax.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Proposed extension
SINC Conclusion: There are large areas of woodland and scrub to the north of the site which look to be in a similar condition and species composition to the Habitats within the site. Extending the SINC boundary to incorporate these would provided further ecologically connectivity with more SINC sites in the north of the borough.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Proposed boundary exentsion

BaBII23 Rowley Lodge field
Site information
LUC Site ID: 62
SINC ID: BaBII23
SINC Name: Rowley Lodge field
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2178995554
Area (ha): 4.41
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other Urban Fringe
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: A flower rich meadow with some fine old oak trees.
SINC Description: This is an old hay meadow, with flower rich grassland, scattered oak , Quercus robur, trees and small patches of scrub. The sward is composed of creeping bent , Agrostis stolonifera, , Yorkshire fog , Holcus lanatus, , creeping soft grass , H. mollis, , sweet vernal grass , Anthoxanthum odoratum, and tufted hair grass, and contains a good diversity of wild flowers, including great burnet , Sanguisorba officinalis, and pignut , Conopodium majus, , both characteristic of unimproved grassland. Patches of acid grassland are dominated by red fescue , Festuca rubra, , and contain abundant sheep's sorrel , Rumex acetosella, and tormentil , Potentilla erecta, . A public footpath crosses the field from Barnet Road to Rowley Green.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Slow worm
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located to the north of the Borough and lies within a larger area of Open Space to the west, Rowley Lane Fields, which comprises an extensive area of secondary broadleaved woodland on former agricultural land. Rowley Lodge Field SINC is of similar composition on former hay meadow, which now comprises broadleaved woodland and open parkland Habitat with a mosaic of acid and neutral grasslands and scrub. The site is privately owned with public rights of way enabling public access through across the site.
Survey Data

BaBII23 Rowley Lodge field
Surveyor: EM
Weather: Dry and overcast.
Date: 4/18/2024 1:39:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): N/A
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Acid grassland, Woodland, Scrub, Parks Urban Greenspace
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Meadows and Pastures
Habitat survey description: The site comprises of parcels of secondary broadleaved woodland of predominantly English oak with scattered mature parkland trees and areas of acid and unimproved neutral grassland and scrubHabitat. At the centre of the site there is a large area of neutral grassland with oak and hawthorn trees and patches of dense bramble scrub. Along the northern boundary there is a more diverse woodland canopy comprising English oak, beech, hawthorn, willow, downy birch and holly. At the northern boundary there is also a wet ditch and parallel bank along the woodland edge supporting abundant native bluebells.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: N/A
Ecological opportunities on site: Deadwood, ActiveTree, Scrub estab Additional comments: An area to the centre of the site has informal fencing stating that the site is private property, to prevent people from straying from the public footpaths as these are not clearly delineated. It is recommended that proper footpath waymarking is implemented across the site and/ or formal fencing to deter access to prevent the requirement for informal fencing which presents barriers to the movement of wildlife across the site and detracts from the aesthetic value of the site.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site is likely to offer nesting and foragingHabitat for woodland birds. The woodlands have potential to offer suitableHabitat for the creation of badger setts. There are also historic records for slow worm at the site which may be supported by the mosaics of grassland and scrub present.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

PRIVATE PROPERTY
NO
TRESPASSING

BaBII23 Rowley Lodge field

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous SINC report available.

Management Recommendations:

As trees continue to establish in maturity, it is recommended that some are veteranised in order to offer additional Habitat niches to birds, bats and invertebrates and increase the Habitat richness of areas of secondary woodland. This could be further complimented by creation of deadwoodHabitats such as reptile hibernacula and log piles for invertebrates and amphibians. Scrub management is also recommended to ensure development of dense scrub whilst retaining areas of open grassland as the Habitats continue to develop through succession in order to maintain the open parkland landscape which exists and prevent the loss of meadow grassland, which reflects the history of the site as a hay meadow.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

N/A

SINC Criteria

Representation: Rowley Lodge Field forms part of a much larger area of secondary broadleaved woodland and represents the most diverse assemblage of Habitats and mature trees including ancient oak trees within the wider Rowley Lane Fields Open Space, to the west.

Habitat Rarity: Old meadows comprising acid and unimproved neutral grassland which are present within the parkland Habitat of Rowley Lodge Field, are rare Habitats, especially in the urban setting of London.

BaBII23 Rowley Lodge field
Species Rarity: Slow worm are particularly rare within London due to their specificHabitat preferences and requirement for large areas of undisturbedHabitat including hibernacula, refugia and basking areas.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is 4.4ha in size which is a moderate size in relation to other SINC sites across Barnet.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: The old banks along the northern boundary of the site represent the ancient character and would have formed ancient field boundaries of the former hay meadow. These banks support an abundance of bluebells (ancient woodland indicator) at the time of the su
Recreatability: Old meadows are very difficult to recreate due to their inherent soil quality, with low nutrients supporting a diverse assemblage of flowering plants including rare species such as great burnet and pignut.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located within the north of the Borough, within close proximity and just north along the same road as Rowley Green Common Local Nature Reserve, which is designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance due to the presence of rare bogHabitat within an area of broadleaved woodland. The wider Open Space to the west and north offers terrestrial connectivity between these SINC sites due to tree canopy cover which also extends along Rowley Lane.
Access: The site can only be accessed on foot via public footpaths from Rowley Lane and Brickfield Lane, or from Rowley Lane Fields Open Space to the west.
Use: The site is predominantly used by walkers including dog walkers.
Potential: The site currently comprises predominantly young secondary woodland which has lower ecological value to flora and fauna, however there is great potential for trees across the site to develop to maturity and contribute substantially to the Habitat provision to birds, bats, insects and lower plants such as mosses, lichens and fungi.
Aesthetic Appeal: As the site is only accessible on foot and is surrounded by tree lined boundaries, it feels like a secluded natural oases and instils a sense of calm. Access along the narrow alley to the north of Rowley Lodge, which leads to the site from Rowley Lane, creates a sense of intrigue as the alley is narrow with fence and tree lined boundaries preventing views across adjacent land which opens up when you reach the meadow.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to meet BII status due to the extent and diversity of Habitats present, with meadow grasslands, mature and ancient trees also contibuting to the ecological value of the site.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBII07 Bruno's Field
Site information
LUC Site ID: 63
SINC ID: BaBII07
SINC Name: Bruno's Field
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2158193461
Area (ha): 6.62
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: This secluded, cattle grazed field, once part of the park of Highwood House, is now hidden behind houses in suburban Mill Hill.
SINC Description: This secluded field, once part of the park of Highwood House, is now hidden behind houses in suburban Mill Hill. The field is grazed by cattle from the Royal Veterinary College. The sward includes a good range of grasses, including crested dog's tail , Cynosurus cristatus, and sweet vernal grass , Anthoxanthum odoratum, , typical of old meadows. A good range of common wild flowers occurs among the grasses, including meadow buttercup , Ranunculus acris, , common sorrel , Rumex acetosa, , lesser stitchwort , Stellaria graminea, and bugle , Ajuga reptans, . At the bottom of the hill, a small stream and pond give rise to some marshy grassland, where a more interesting range of wild flowers can be found, including brooklime , Veronica beccabunga, , marsh yellow cress , Rorippa palustris, and tufted forget me not , Myosotis laxa, , with water starwort , Callitriche sp., in the pond. There are a number of trees scattered throughout the field, including some fine old pedunculate oaks , Quercus robur, and a shelter belt of hybrid black poplars , Populus x canadensis, on the western edge. There is also a small orchard.
Management provider: Private landowner.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Large Skipper
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. Bruno's Field SINC is also known as Highwood Park as it was previously the park of Highwood House. It lies within the Mill Hill area of Barnet which supports several SINCs in the surrounding landscape including Moat Mount Open Space and Mote End Farm SINC to the north, Mill Hill Golf Course SINC to the north-west and Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill SINC and Folly

BaBII07 Bruno's Field
Brook and Darland's Lake Nature Reserve SINC to the east. Bruno's field comprises neutral semi-improved grassland, a small stream and a pond surrounded by marshy grassland. The fields are grazed by livestock.
Survey Data
Surveyor: EM
Weather: N/A - desk based review.
Date: 9/3/2024 3:27:43 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Unknown
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The site appears to be intensively grazed by livestock.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub, standing water, Other rivers
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprises semi-improved neutral grassland, extensive broadleaved woodland and scrub surrounds the outer edge of the field and there are pockets of broadleaved woodland within the centre of the site. There is also a stream, pond and area of marshy grassland, which lie at the bottom of the hill.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Overgrazing presents a threat.
Ecological opportunities on site: Meadow creation, wetland creation Additional comments: There are likely to be opportunities to increase the ecological value of the grassland for birds, insects and bats through altered meadow management and wetland enhancement surrounding the pond area.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: There are records for large skipper within the site and there is potential for the woodland and grassland to support a large range of other butterflies, insects, birds and bats including breeding birds, and foraging and roosting bats. The stream and pond may support amphibians and fish, especially since the stream is likely to offer hydrological connectivity with Folly Brook which is known to be of good water quality and support several aquatic macroinvertebrates such as caddis flies and a rare stonefly (Nemoura cinerea), which only occurs at one location within the Brent catchment at Folly Brook.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: Since the citation was last updated in 2006, and through a review of aerial imagery it appears as though the site has been divided up with fencing into four fields each with an animal shelter and continues to be managed by livestock including horses. However, the grazing intensity appears to have increased since 2006, with the fields appearing to be more improved and likely

BaBII07 Bruno's Field
species poor semi-improved or improved grassland of lower botanical diversity, potentially as a result of overgrazing and nutrient enrichment.
Management Recommendations: Over grazing could present a threat to the species-richness, Habitat complexity and ecological value of this site. It could also cause nutrient enrichment which reduces botanical interest and species richness. Therefore, meadow management is recommended and the grazing intensity and livestock used should be reviewed in order to ensure that it is an appropriate level to encourage floristic diversity.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: FreshwaterHabitats such as ponds are increasingly rare as many ponds have been lost to infilling, scrub or reed encroachment or development. Therefore, the presence of a pond within Bruno's Field presents a significant Habitat feature to a range of flora and fauna.
Species Rarity: The site is likely to offer foraging and roostingHabitat for bats and may even support rare bat species due to the proximity of the site to several large areas of woodland, and the presence of the stream which likely offers a commuting and foraging corridor connecting to Folly Brook.
Habitat Richness: Despite the small size of the site at just 6.6ha, it supports a range of differentHabitats including grasslands, woodlands, scrub, freshwater pond and a stream, which offer substantial value to local wildlife and likely provide both terrestrial and hydro
Species Richness: There are records for large skipper within the site, which rely on grassyHabitats, woodlands and damp shelteredHabitats and therefore are likely to thrive within the combination of marshy grassland, neutral semi-improved grassland and woodland Habitats of Bruno's Field. There are likely to be a range of butterfly species present within the site. In addition to several other insects. The site is also likely to support breeding birds, and foraging and roosting bats. The stream and pond may support amphibians and fish.
Size: Despite the small size of the site at just 6.6ha it contains a diverse range of Habitats of and likely supports a range of flora and fauna.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The range of Habitats present including broadleaved woodland which takes a long time to develop into an established and matureHabitat and the stream and pond which are present at this site due to a range of likely factors including topography and geology make the Habitat composition very difficult to recreate.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The site is the former park of Highwood House and therefore there is likely to be both cultural and historic significance.
Geographic Position: The site lies within Mill Hill, which supports a dense network of SINC sites. This site is likely to be an important stepping stoneHabitat to some of the larger and more strategically significant sites such as Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill Metropolitan SINC located to the north-east and Scartchwood Metropolitan SINC located to the north-west.
Access: The site is private and therefore cannot be accessed by the public.
Use: The site is predominantely used for grazing animals.
Potential: The site holds substantial value for meadow enhancement, and through review of the grazing regime there may be opportunity to increase structural and species diversity of the grassland Habitat.

BaBII07 Bruno's Field
Aesthetic Appeal: The site's topography lying on a hill and the surrounding woodland, presence of the stream and pond are likely to create a site which offers aesthetic appeal both visually and through the likely presence of birdsong and other aspects such as flowing water.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site continues to provide a substantial contribution to the SINC network and is likely to support a range of flora and fauna. Recommendations are provided with regards to management (risk of over grazing in particular) and enhancement opportunities to restore the ecological value of the grassland Habitats.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaL01 Clay Lane
Site information
LUC Site ID: 64
SINC ID: BaL01
SINC Name: Clay Lane
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ1926694031
Area (ha): 1.92
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A quiet country lane with fine hedgerows and mature trees.
SINC Description: Clay Lane is a quiet country lane, which leads from Edgwarebury into the Hertfordshire countryside. Ancient hedgerows line the route, with fine old oak , Quercus robur, , field maple , Acer campestre, and ash trees , Fraxinus excelsior, , standing over bushes of Midland hawthorn , Crataegus laevigata, , blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, and hazel , Corylus avellana, . Native honeysuckle , Lonicera peryclymenum, and black bryony , Tamus communis, , scramble up the trees; these climbing plants are considered to be living evidence of the hedgerow's antiquity. Swathes of cow parsley , Anthriscus sylvestris, , greater stitchwort , Stellaria holostea, and red campion , Silene dioica, grow beside the path, with lords and ladies , Arum maculatum, , ramsons , Allium ursinum, and the locally uncommon remote sedge , Carex remota, in shady spots.
Management provider: N/A
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: No
Protected/Notable Species records: Skylark, Slow worm, Small Skipper
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Public footpath lined by broadleaved woodland and scrub in the north west of the borough. The site is a linear green corridor which provides ecological connectivity along the north boundary of the Edgwarebury cemetery.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Warm and dry

BaL01 Clay Lane
Date: 4/24/2024 3:33:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The path is kept clear by regular cutting back of scrub.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Ancient hedgerows have developed into areas of woodland and scrub. Species including dock, cleavers, cow parsley, ivy, nettle, wild garlic, garlic mustard, pendulous sedge, bluebell, bramble, elder, yew, hawthorn, blackthorn, mature oak, and ash. A wet ditch was noted in the south of the site along the right hand side of the path.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Litter, Dog fouling, FlyTip: Additional comments: Near the south entrance to the site was an area of fly-tipping and litter. The pathway was very muddy and almost impassable in the north of the site.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab, Deadwood Additional comments: Thinning of bramble and scrub understorey to develop areas of ground flora. Creation of deadwood features using the fallen trees.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The wet ditch provided suitableHabitat for amphibians and brash piles supported invertebrates and reptiles.
Habitat figure:

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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Individual tree

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

u1c - artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface

w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

2: 10 - scattered scrub, 50 - ditch,

3: 10 - scattered scrub

4: 10 - scattered scrub

BaL01 Clay Lane
Site Photographs:

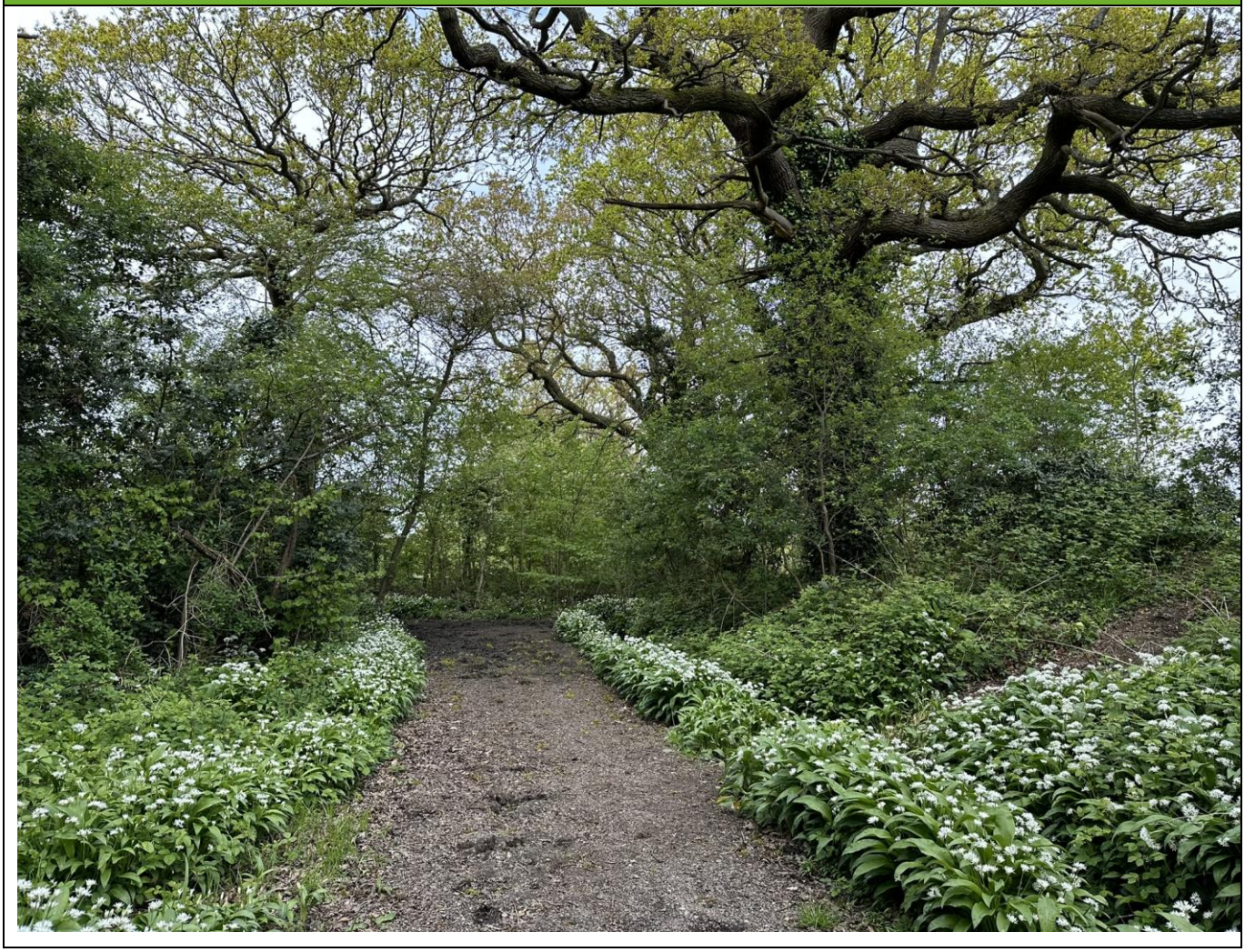
BaL01 Clay Lane

BaL01 Clay Lane

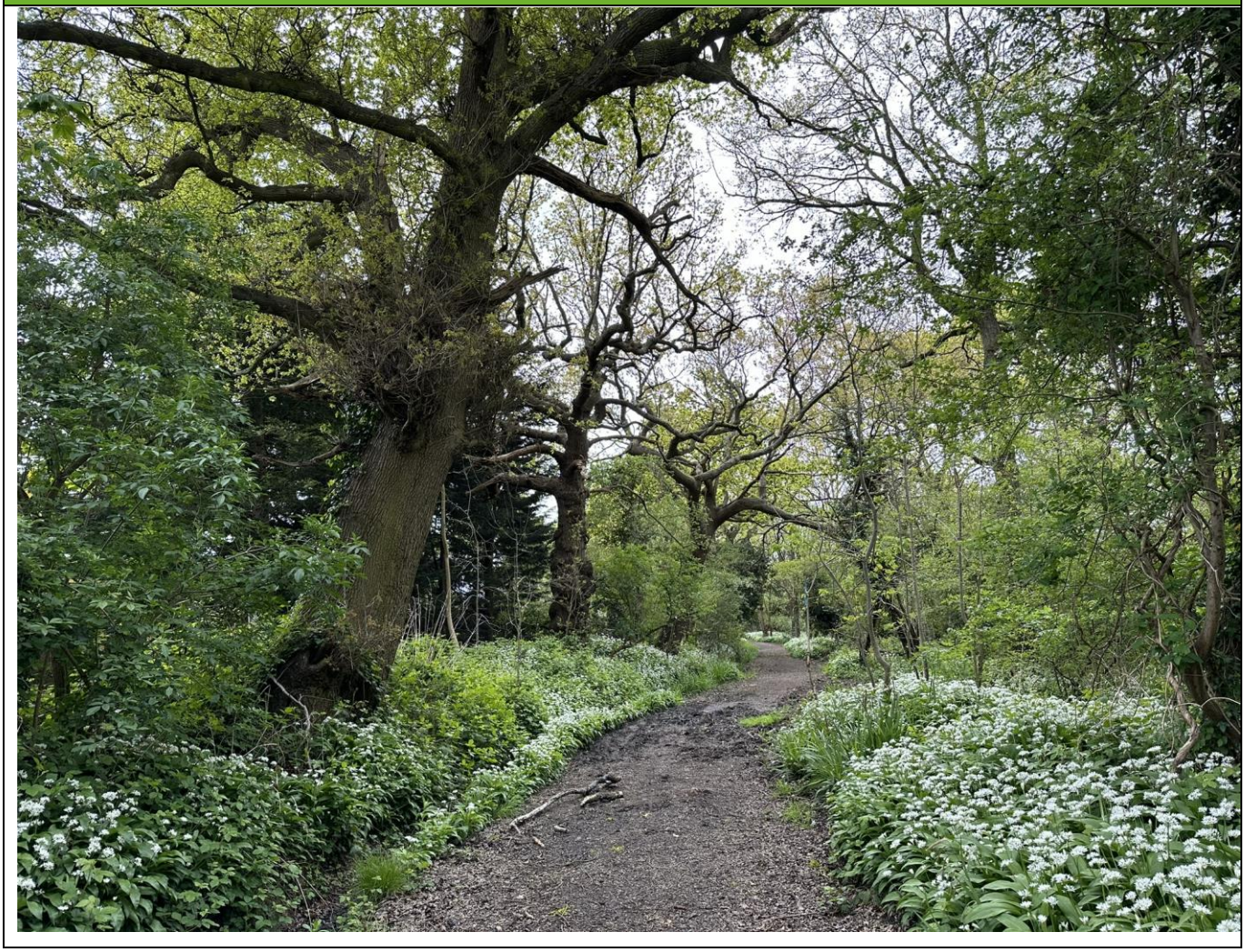
BaL01 Clay Lane

BaL01 Clay Lane

BaL01 Clay Lane



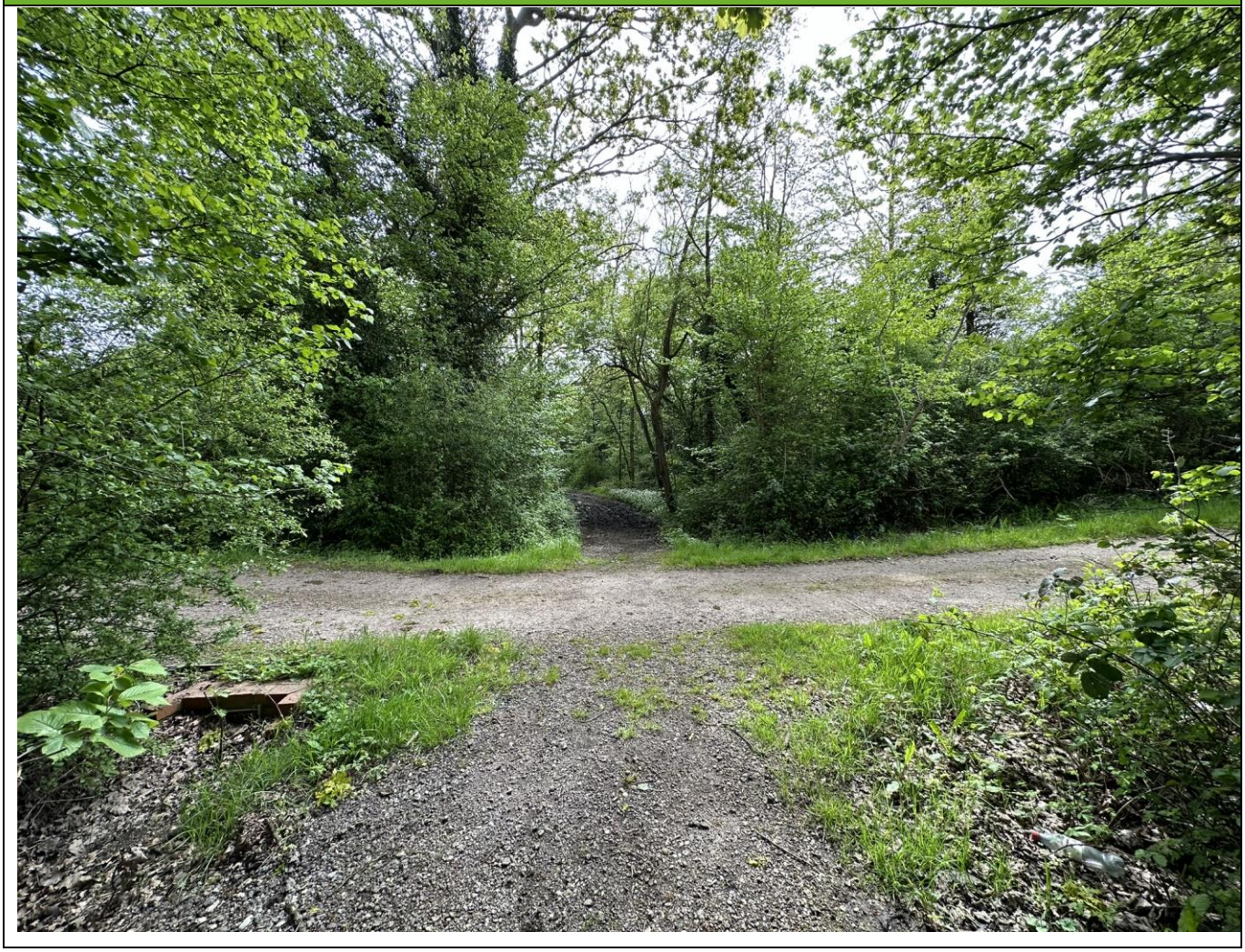
BaL01 Clay Lane



BaL01 Clay Lane

BaL01 Clay Lane

BaL01 Clay Lane



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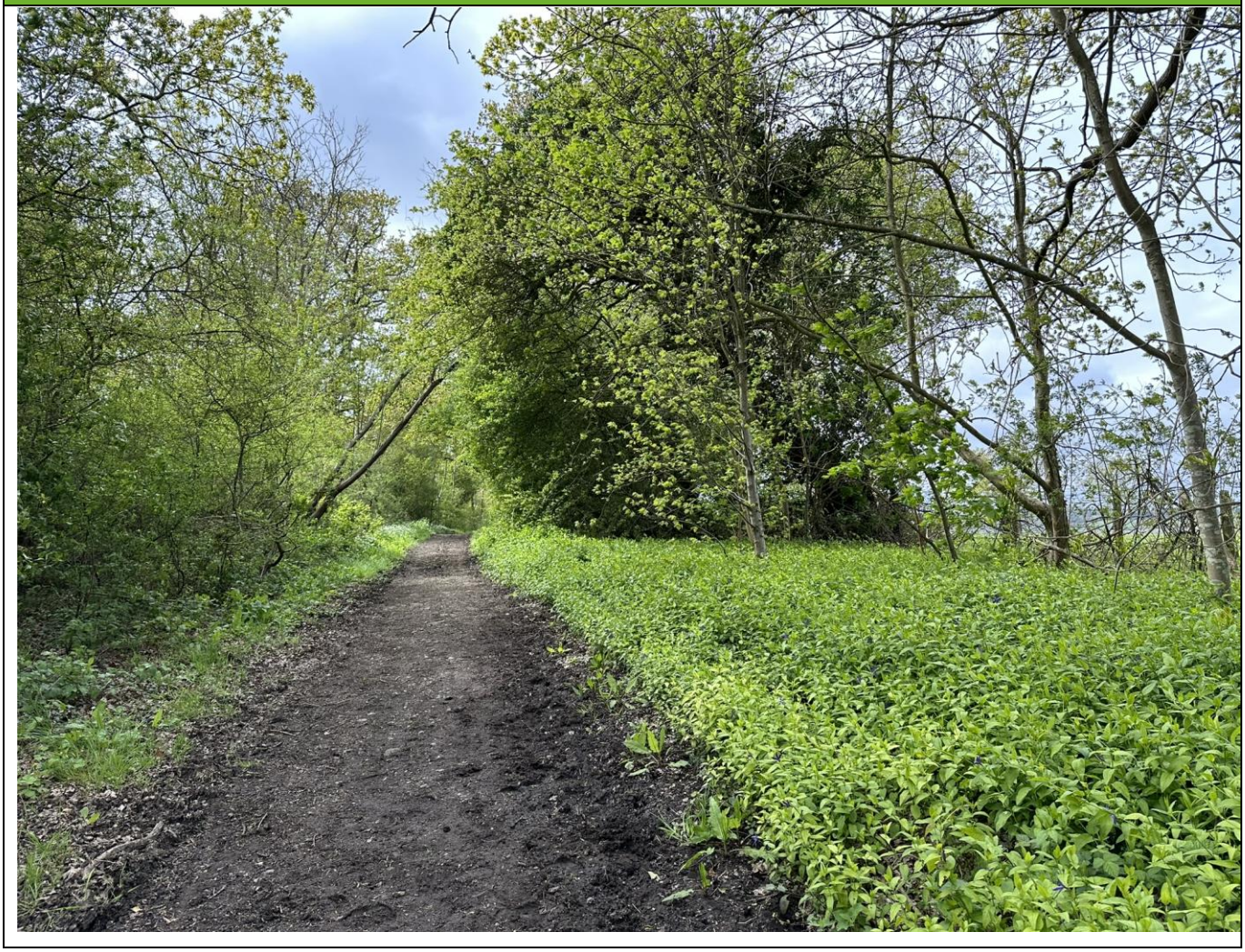
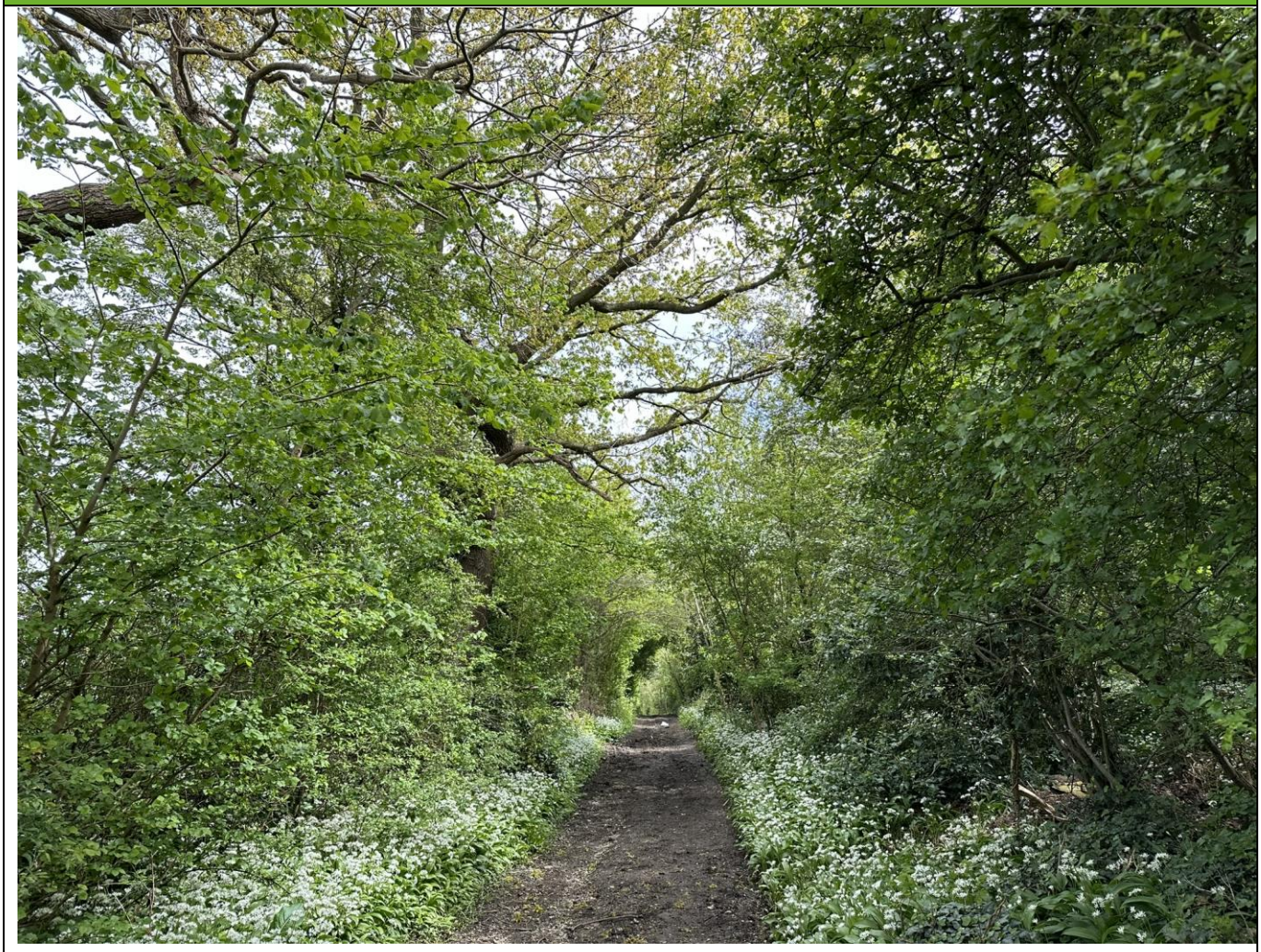
BaL01 Clay Lane



BaL01 Clay Lane

BaL01 Clay Lane

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Regular litter clean-ups within the site and collection of the bin in the south of the site. Reinforcing the pathway with gravel to ensure no further erosion due to high public usage.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The site Habitats are remains of ancient hedgerows within the borough, These Habitats are rare within the area.
Species Rarity: The site supports three notable and protected species, Skylark, Slow worm and Small Skipper.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is very small at 1.92ha, but supports a diverse woodland and scrubHabitat.

BaL01 Clay Lane
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The mature trees and scrub would be difficult to recreate given the tie taken for the species to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is in the northwest of the site and provides a green corridor along the edge of the cemetery.
Access: The site is accessible by the public at all times.
Use: The main used groups were locals, dog walkers and horse riders.
Potential: The condition of the site could be improved through the creation of glades within the scrub and woodland to benefit the ground flora. The creation of dead wood piles using the fallen deadwood on site to support invertebrates and reptiles such as slow worm.
Aesthetic Appeal: The pathway goes through flowering scrub and green trees which have an aesthetic appeal.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The public accessible site provides a linear ecological corridor in the northwest of the borough and support multiple species, which meets the Local SINC criteria.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park
Site information
LUC Site ID: 65
SINC ID: BaL03
SINC Name: Sunny Hill Park
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2274790022
Area (ha): 22.4
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Cemeteries and Churchyards, Parks and Gardens, Amenity
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: A large hillside park in north Hendon with fine views to the north and west.
SINC Description: Sunny Hill Park is a large airy park in north Hendon, offering fine views to the north and west. Much of the landscape is managed as a typical urban park, with a wide range of recreational facilities. However, this site also retains features of the former farm fields, which occupied this area before the expansion of suburban London in the 1920s and 1930s. Towards the southern end of the park, the more urban parkland gives way to wild flower meadow; some typical wild flowers to be found here include black knapweed , Centaurea nigra, , common sorrel , Rumex acetosa, , lesser stichwort , Stellaria graminea, and three species of buttercup , Ranunculus spp., . A small plot of woodland in the south east corner of this field was once part of the neighbouring St Mary's Churchyard. The churchyard is an important historic site, with artefacts from the Roman period and evidence of a Saxon settlement. Another area of rough grassland and scrub towards the north of the site is managed particularly for slow worms. These small reptiles were introduced to the park when their previousHabitat was lost to development some years ago.
Management provider: Council
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: Chinese Muntjac
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the southwest of the borough. The large public park is separated from other green sites and SINCs by main roads in the wider area. The site comprised commonHabitats including amenity grassland, scrub and small areas of woodland.
Survey Data

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Cloudy and warm
Date: 5/17/2024 3:04:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): All areas of the park were very well managed with paths and vegetation cut back, areas of new trees planted.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, Scrub, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprised recently and intensively cut amenity grassland with scattered trees. The species included abundant perennial rye grass, yorkshire fog, cocks foot, white clover, frequent dock, daisy, ribwort plantain, and mature oak, willow, and horse chestnut trees. There was an area of longer sward grassland in the south of the site, the species included cow parsley, creeping buttercup, perennial rye, meadow foxtail, dock, and knapweed. There were small woodland parcels within the north, central and south of the site. The south woodland was a mixture of deciduous and non-deciduous trees and scrub, including bramble, alder, horse chestnut, elder, and cypress. The north woodland block comprised mature horse chestnut, field maple, elder, hawthorn, ash, cherry, and bramble. The central woodland block included dense scrub as well as mature trees, the species comprised oak, hawthorn, willow, ash, bramble, sycamore, elder and dog rose. Multiple tree lines bordered the hardstanding access paths, these were both mature trees and newly planted saplings. Including mature oak, cherry, ash, elder, semi-mature hawthorn, sycamore, horse chestnut and young London plane saplings. Also within the north of the site was a cafe and public tennis courts.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling: Additional comments: Stands of bamboo and cherry laurel noted along the site boundaries. Litter and dog fouling was noted in the south of the site.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Deadwood, Wildlife friendly Additional comments: The grassland, especially in the south would benefit from a varied mowing regime to create sward height diversity, which would generate further floristic diversity of species. This would benefit invertebrates, birds and small mammals. Within the woodland blocks the creation of deadwood features would provide opportunities for reptiles and invertebrates to forages and shelter. Additional wildlife planting along the borders would provide further opportunities for invertebrates within the site.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The grassland, especially the more species-rich in the south of the site provides foragingHabitat for invertebrates, reptiles and small mammals.
Habitat figure:

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- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerow with trees
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3 - dense scrub
- h3f - hawthorn scrub
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 32 - scattered trees

2: 32 - scattered trees

3: 10 - scattered scrub

4: 32 - scattered trees

5: 32 - scattered trees

6: 108 - frequently mown

7: 10 - scattered scrub

8: 32 - scattered trees

9: 10 - scattered scrub

10: 10 - scattered scrub

11: 32 - scattered trees

12: 10 - scattered scrub

13: 108 - frequently mown

14: 108 - frequently mown

15: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

Site Photographs:

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

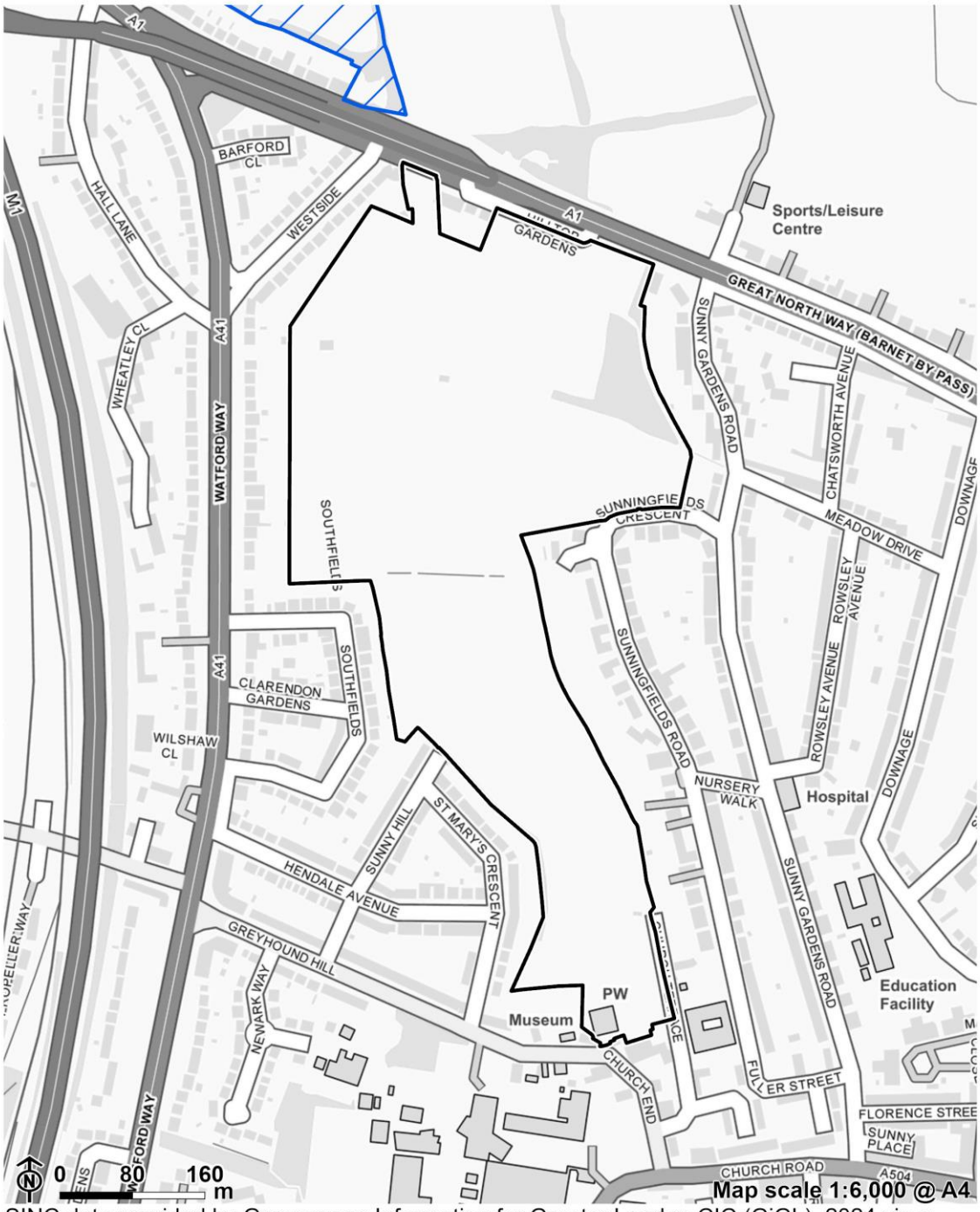
BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: More frequent litter management through regular clean-ups of the site, especially in the south of the site. Removal and management of invasive species such as the bamboo and cherry laurel.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The Habitats present, amenity grassland, woodland and scrub are not the best examples of these within the borough. However, stands of priority deciduous woodland within a densely urban area are rare.
Habitat Rarity: The majority of the Habitats within the site are common place in the borough, the woodland stands are rare within London
Species Rarity: The site supports common and widespread species.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: The amenity use and intensive management of the site has meant that the site supports few species.
Size: A large public park at 22.4ha, though pretty intensively managed with high public usage, only small areas ofHabitat within the site are of value to species.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The mature scattered trees would not be easily recreated due to the time taken to reach maturity. The large size of the public park would also be difficult to recreate given the urban nature of the borough.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: A small area in the souh of the site was once part of the St Mary's Churchyard. The churchyard is an important historic site, with artefacts from the Roman period and evidence of a Saxon settlement.
Geographic Position: The site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature. The site is separated from further green spaces by main roads, though does form part of a mosaic if green spaces in the wider area in the south of the borough.
Access: The site is fully publicly accessible with hardstanding paths throughout.
Use: The site was mainly used for recreational use by locals, runners, walkers, families, sports, and cafe.
Potential: Due to the recreational use of the site and Habitats present it is unlikely to be upgraded in designation, the continued management of the site and Habitat creation opportunities highlighted above will maintain its Local SINC status
Aesthetic Appeal: A large open green space with good views across the borough.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion:

BaL03 Sunny Hill Park
The site continues to meet the Local SINC criteria. This large public park provides a green spaces for locals to use recreationally. The site comprised commonHabitats which are managed intensively for the high public usage of this park.
Site Maps



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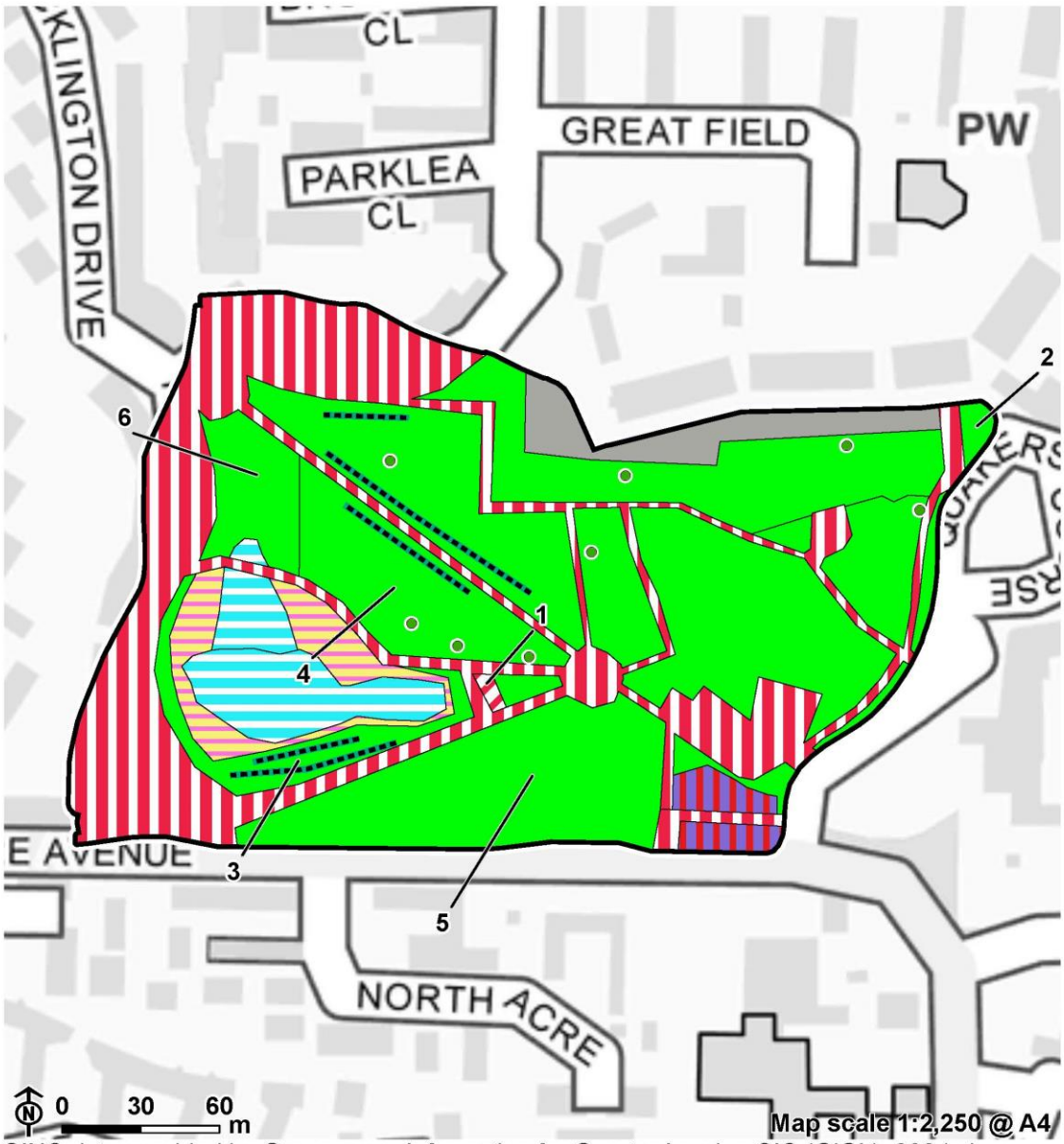
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space
Site information
LUC Site ID: 66
SINC ID: BaL02
SINC Name: Grahame Park Open Space
SINC Grade:
Grid Reference:
Area (ha):
Ward:
Land Use:
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary:
SINC Description:
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:
NE Priority Habitat records:
London BAP Habitat suitability records:
Protected/Notable Species records:
INNS Records:
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Add examples
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The grassland is kept to a short sward and the flower beds are tended to by a local friends group. The reeds and rushes surrounding the pond are cut back yearly.

BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Grahame Park is located in the west of the borough in an area of deficiency. The Habitats within the site comprised amenity grassland, tall ruderal, scattered trees, lines of trees, a large pond and reedbeds. The amenity grassland was cut to a short sward and was dominated by perennial rye grass Lolium perenne and cock's foot Dactylis glomerata, with abundant white clover Trifolium repens. The scattered trees were a mixture of mature and semi-mature horse chestnut Aesculus hippocastanum, London plane Platanus × acerifolia, oak Quercus robur, beech, sycamore and ash Fraxinus excelsior. A large pond was located in the west of the site and surrounding the north was a strip of reedbed comprising reedmace Typha Latifolia and rush Juncaceae sp.. In the northeast corner of the site, the grassland was unmanaged and had a taller sward with ruderal species such as dock Rumex obtusifolius, creeping thistle Cirsium arvense, and nettle Urtica dioica. Also within this area were multiple young trees. In the east of the site was Graham Park Youth Centre and associated playground.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Litter was found along the boundaries of the site, especially at the layby on the south boundary. In the north of the site, part of the grassland was fenced off as part of construction works on the adjacent land. Within the area of scattered trees in the south of the site, large amounts of dog fouling was also identified.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: All the grassland on site, excluding the northwest corner, was kept at a short length. A more relaxed mowing regime at the base of the scattered trees would provide greater floristic and sward diversity. Around the pond, the wetland Habitat was being encroached by nettle and bramble. These species should be managed and removed to enhance the wetland Habitat. Within the centre of the site, a few flowerbeds were identified, areas like this could be recreated throughout the park, along the pathway edges with wildlife friendly planting.
Interest: N/A Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The pond and wetland Habitat provide suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates.
Habitat figure:



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LUC assessment site

Individual tree

UKHab habitat linear

Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

f2e - reedbeds

g4 - modified grassland

h3d - bramble scrub

r1g - other standing water

u1 - built-up areas and gardens

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

No habitat survey

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 846 - flower bed

2: 32 - scattered trees

3: 32 - scattered trees

4: 32 - scattered trees

5: 32 - scattered trees

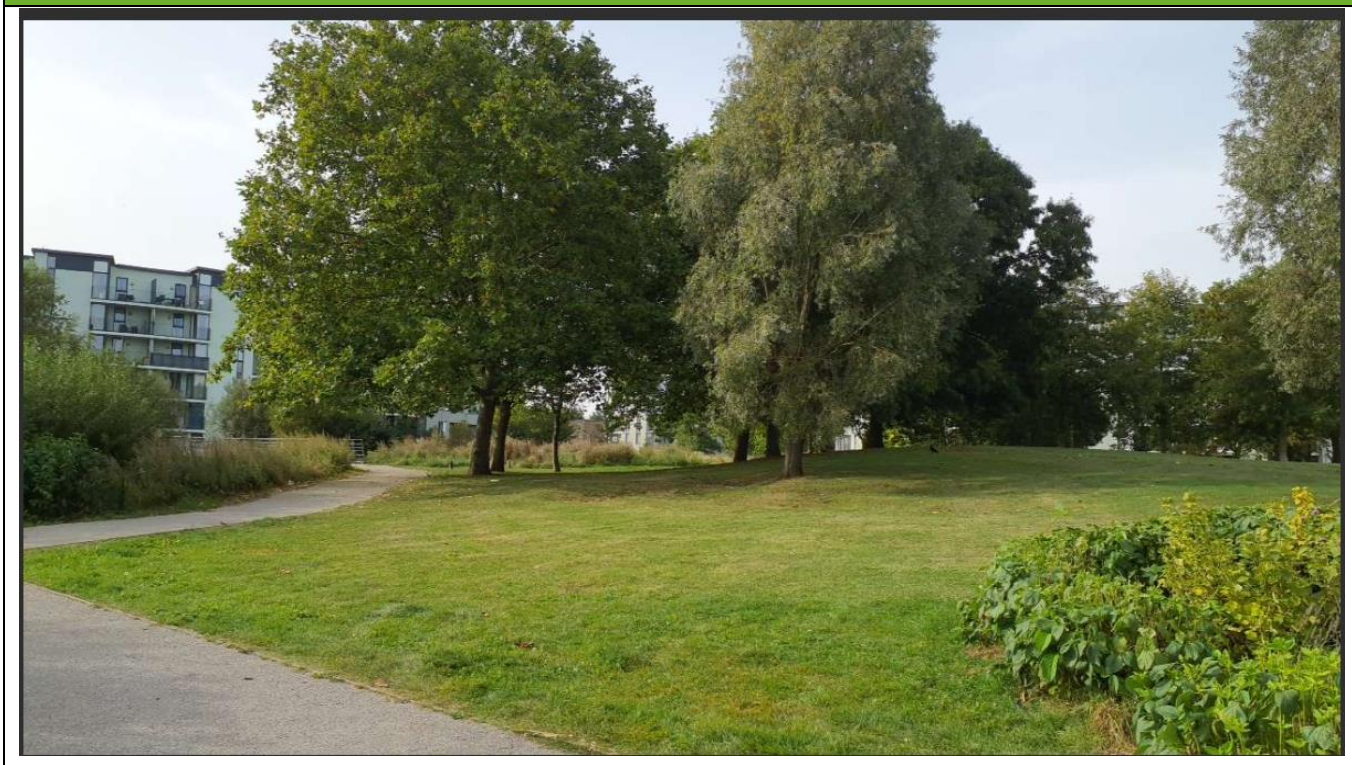
6: 81 - ruderal or ephemeral

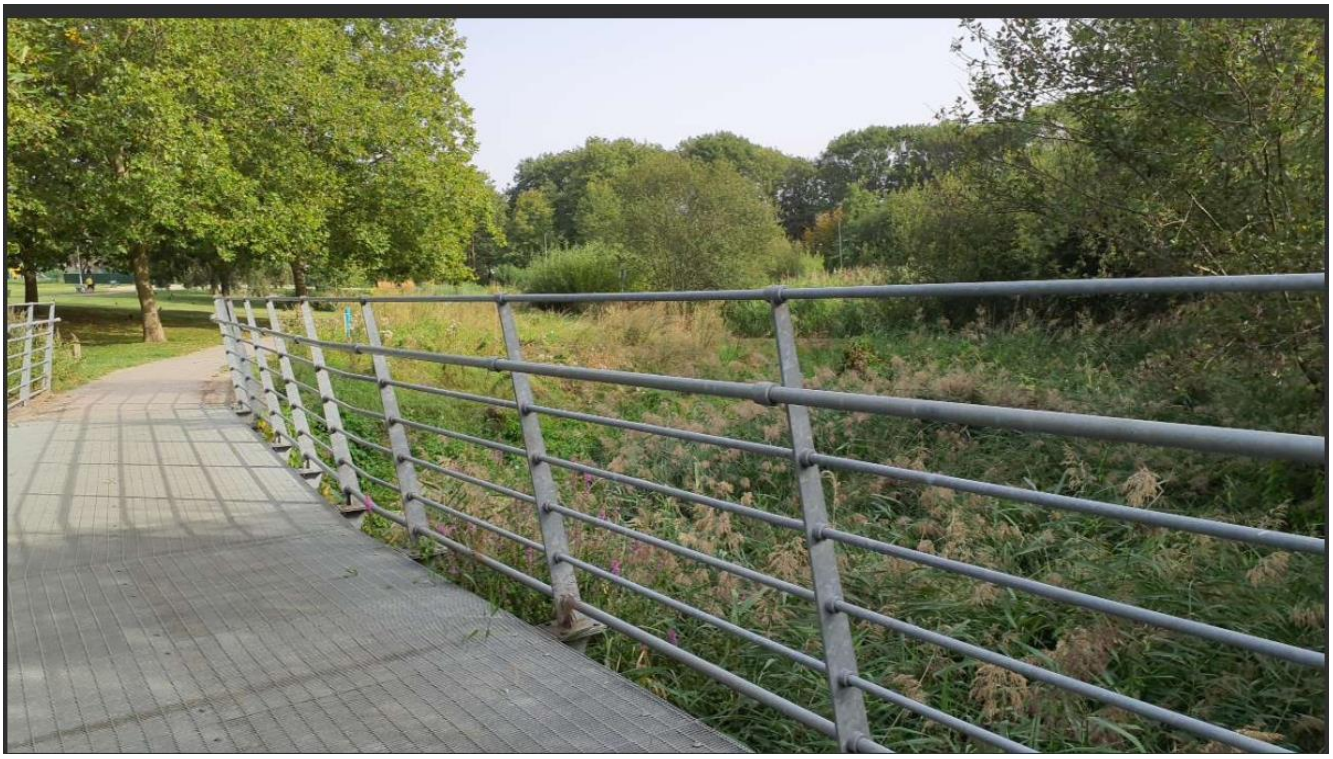
BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space

Site Photographs:

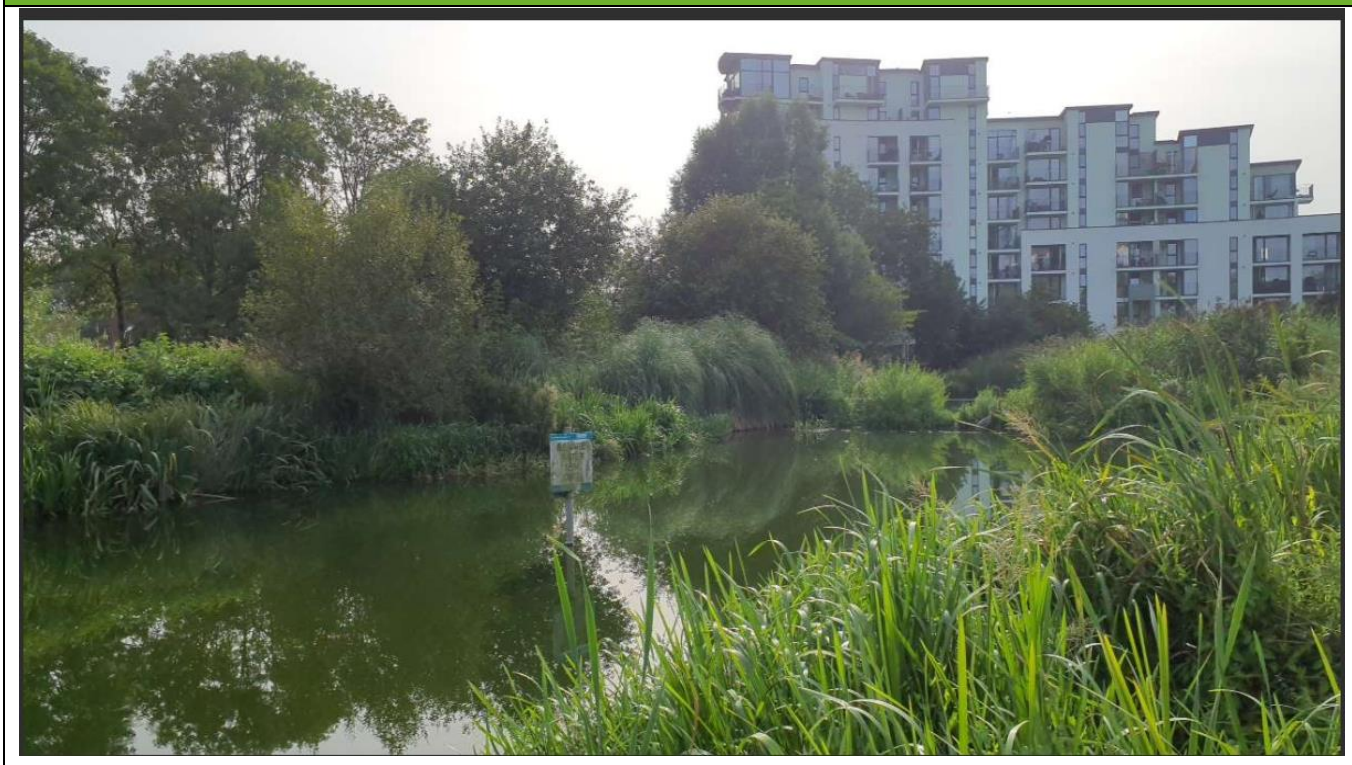
BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space

BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space





BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space



BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Litter management through regular clean-ups of the site, especially in the south of the site along the main road.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: Habitats present were common and widespread, although the pond and associated reedbeds are uncommon within London.
Species Rarity: The site providesHabitat that is suitable for notable and protected species such as house sparrow, starting, noctule and pipistrelle bat.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is 5.35Ha, which is a moderate size SINC for the area.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The pond and surrounding reedbed are difficult to recreate given the time taken to reach their maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A

BaL02 Grahame Park Open Space
Geographic Position: This SINC is located within an area of deficiency for nature conservation and is surrounded by residential properties.
Access: The site is fully accessible to the public.
Use: The site is primarily used by locals and families. Others may come from further away to use the youth centre.
Potential: There is potential to improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site provides an open green space with flowering plants and pond which have an aesthetic appeal.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the Local SINC designation as it is a public park comprised of common and widespread Habitats. The trees, pond and reedbeds are of higher ecological value. The site provides a green open space local people. The site provides opportunities for multiple species, including notable and rare species.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Access point

BaL23 Copthall South Fields
Site information
LUC Site ID: 67
SINC ID: BaL23
SINC Name: Copthall South Fields
SINC Grade:
Grid Reference:
Area (ha):
Ward:
Land Use:
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary:
SINC Description:
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:
NE Priority Habitat records:
London BAP Habitat suitability records:
Protected/Notable Species records:
INNS Records:
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located the central west of the borough. The site borders area of playing fields and tree lines to the east. The site comprises large areas of broadleaved woodland and neutral grassland that was being cut whilst surveying on site. The site provided opportunities for multiple species within the woodland Habitats and long grassland. The site was lightly used by local people for dog walking. Reptile mats were noted within the grassland.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Sunny and dry
Date: 12:00:00 AM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management):

BaL23 Copthall South Fields
The grassland had been left to grow long over summer and was being cut during the site visit.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Copthall South Fields is located in the central west of the borough. The Habitat consists of grassland, woodland and scrub. Three large species-rich neutral grassland areas were identified within the site. The species included dominant Yorkshire fog Holcus lanatus, cock's foot Dactylis glomerata, abundant perennial rye Loliume perenne, with frequent false oat Arrhenatherum elatius, timothy, meadow buttercup Ranunculus acris, and occasional common vetch Vicia sativa and dock Rumex obtusifolius. Surrounding each field was areas of broadleaved woodland that comprised dominant mature oak Quercus robur, field maple Acer campestre, abundant silver birch Betula pendula, blackthorn Prunus spinosa, semi mature ash Fraxinus excelsior, with rare pine Pinus sp.. The understorey was composed of dense scrub, species included bramble Rubus fruticosus, and hawthorn Crataegus monogyna. In the southeast of the site a small area of blackthorn scrub was also identified.
Threats and Disturbances: N/A: Additional comments: Litter was found along the boundaries of the site, and large items of rubbish were found at the site entrance in the north of the site.
Ecological opportunities on site: N/A Additional comments: Thinning of the scrub layer within the woodland to create glades. Creation of deadwoodHabitats to provide opportunities for invertebrates and reptiles.
Interest: N/A Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The grassland Habitat provides suitable foraging and baskingHabitat for bat and reptiles.
Habitat figure:

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LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

g3c - other neutral grassland

h3a6 - other blackthorn scrub

w1g - other broadleaved woodland

w1h - other woodland; mixed

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

2: 10 - scattered scrub

3: 10 - scattered scrub

4: 10 - scattered scrub

5: 106 - mown

6: 106 - mown

BaL23 Copthall South Fields

Site Photographs:

BaL23 Copthall South Fields

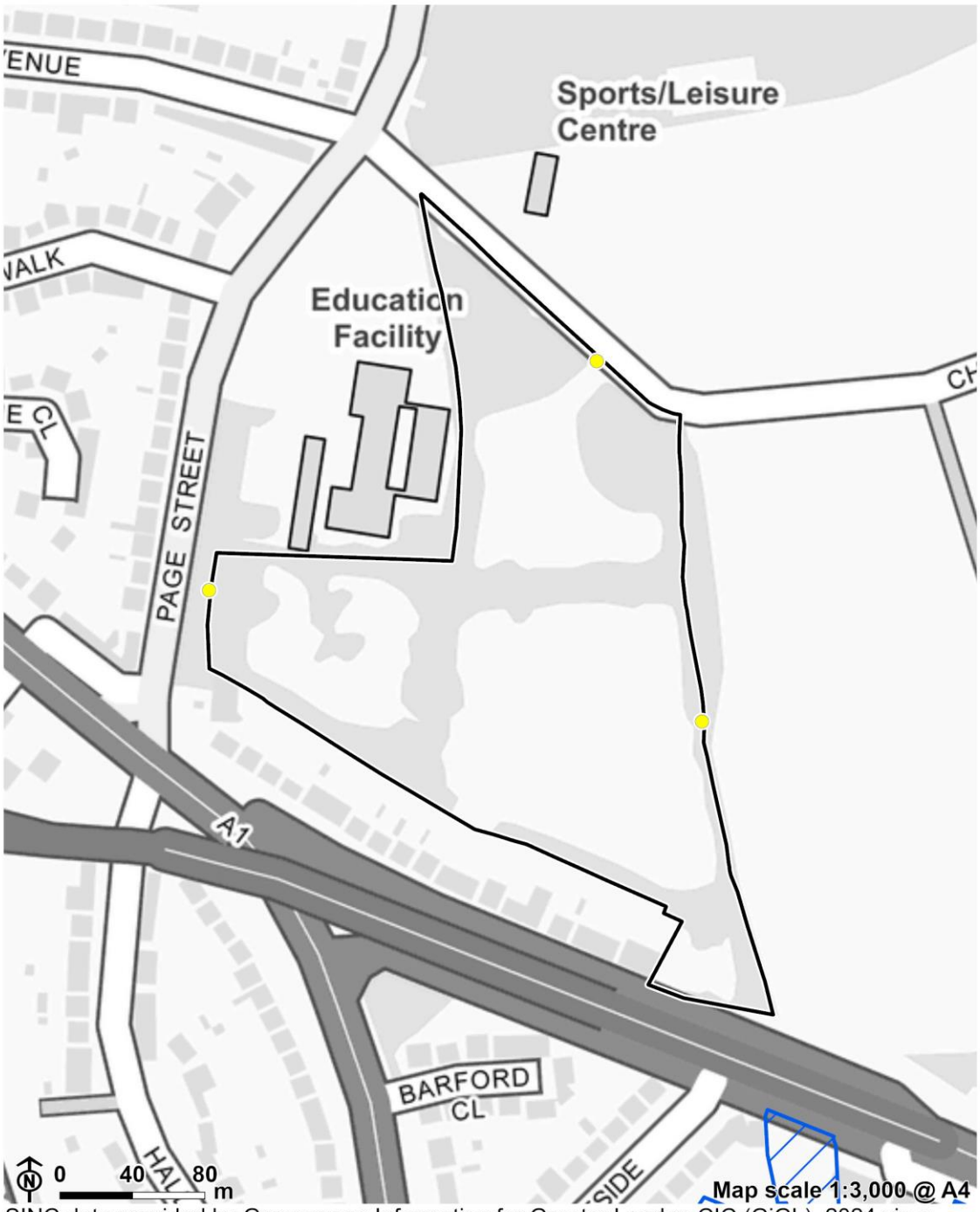
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A

Management Recommendations:

Litter management through regular clean-ups of the site, especially near the entrance along the main road.

BaL23 Copthall South Fields
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The woodland is a good representation of species diverse broadleaved woodland in London.
Habitat Rarity: Species rich neutral grassland is a rareHabitat within London.
Species Rarity: The site providesHabitat that is suitable for notable and protected species such as song thrush.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is 5.69Ha, which is a moderate size SINC for the area.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The woodland and scrubHabitat would be very difficult to recreate given the time taken to reach this level of maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: This site is ecologically connected to a length of open green spaces in the centre of the borough.
Access: The site is fully accessible to the public.
Use: The site is primarily used by locals and dog walkers.
Potential: There is potential to improve the ecological value of the site. Reference should be made to the management recommendations and ecological opportunities sections above.
Aesthetic Appeal: The woodland and flowering scrub provides and aesthetic appeal. Also, the long grassland and winding paths within the woodland provide a quiet area where people can relax.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The Local SINC designation is fitting for this site. The site is comprised of woodland, scrub and species-rich grassland which is of high ecological value. The site provides a quiet green open space for local people. The site provides opportunities for multiple species, including notable and rare species.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Access point

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook
Site information
LUC Site ID: 68
SINC ID: BaBII05
SINC Name: Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ2182688675
Area (ha): 8.74
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Amenity, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms, Green Corridors, Parks and Gardens, Allotments, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: Streams with surrounding open space, forming a green corridor through built up Colindale and Hendon.
SINC Description: The Silk Stream winds for just over 4 kilometres from near Edgware Hospital to flow into the Welsh Harp. Its tributary the Burnt Oak Brook runs for about 1.5 kilometres from near the M1 motorway to meet the Silk Stream at Burnt Oak. This is very much an urban river system, flowing through Colindale and Hendon. Its banks are largely restrained by wood or concrete, but throughout its length there are at least narrow strips of scrub and grassland on either side, forming a valuable green corridor through the built up area. The rivers support little aquatic vegetation, though curled pondweed , Potamogeton crispus, , Nuttall's waterweed , Elodea nutallii, and floating sweet grass , Glyceria fluitans, occur in places. Mallards and grey wagtails can often be seen, and three spined sticklebacks are present. The stream is best seen in the parks it passes through, such as Silkstream Park, Montrose Recreation Ground and Rushgrove Park.
Management provider: Unknown
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Brent Reservoir, Brent Reservoir \ Welsh Harp
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Bat, Daubenton's Bat, Grey Wagtail, Starling
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Nuttall's Waterweed
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site comprises 4km of engineered stream which was bounded by areas of scrub, woodland, allotments, hardstanding and amenity grassland. This is an important green and blue corridor through the west of the borough. Connecting SINCs in the south of the borough to those in the north.

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Warm and sunny
Date: 5/17/2024 1:32:00 PM
Survey access: View
Level of Use: Moderate
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Intensive grass management on the bank tops in areas, could be left to grow longer with additional marginal planting.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Other rivers, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The stream runs through the borough from the central northwest of the site into the Welsh Harp Reservoir in the south of the borough. This blue and green corridor links multiple SINC sites within the west of the borough. The stream is mainly canalised with reinforced banks and little evidence of aquatic vegetation. The stream is bordered by large areas of dense bramble scrub, short-mown amenity grassland, scattered mature trees, woodland, hardstanding and allotments. The woodland in the south included mature sycamore, willow, oak, elder, field maple, ash, cherry with dense bramble, nettle, hawthorn and holly.
Threats and Disturbances: Pollution, Litter, FlyTip, Invasive species: Additional comments: There were areas within the woodland and dense scrubHabitats throughout the site were full of litter and fly-tipping. These areas also pose a pollution threat with litter being dumped into the stream. Invasive species such a Himalayan balsam identified within the marginal planting and scrub. The desk study notes further invasive and non-native species including Butterfly bush, Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed, and Nuttall's Waterweed.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, wetland creation, Scrub estab Additional comments: Within the open parkland the stream flow through could benefit from a varied mowing regime. The grassland was currently cut very short up to the stream edge, keeping the grass long along the stream edge will benefit multiple species, including invertebrates, small mammals and reptiles. The creation of wetland/aquatic planting within the stream and along the bank tops will benefit the species diversity of the stream. The stream bank tops would also benefit from scrub management to create glades within the woodland and dense scrub.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees, scrub and stream provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The stream Habitat provided suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates.
Habitat figure:

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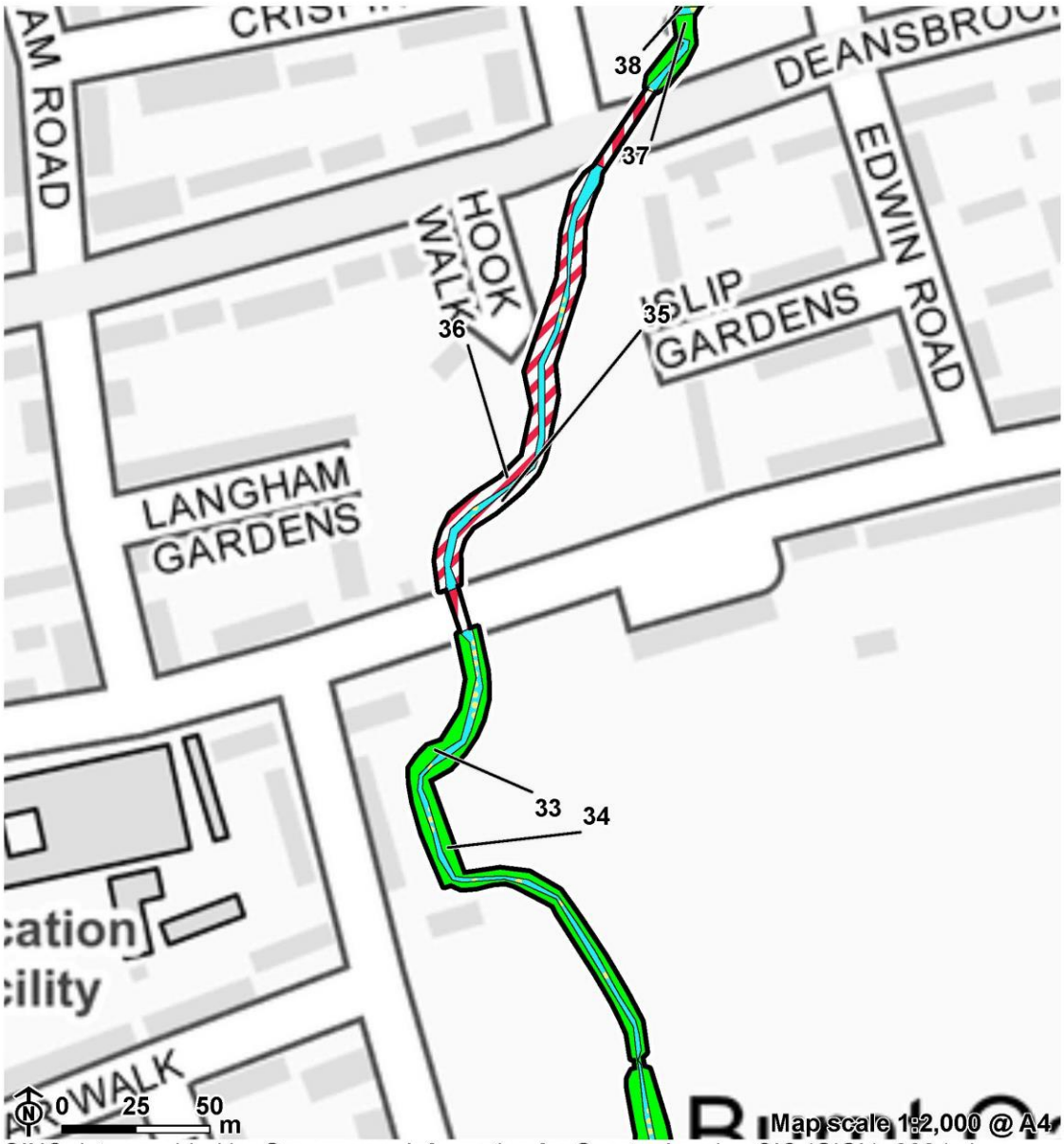
LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

r2b - other rivers and streams

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

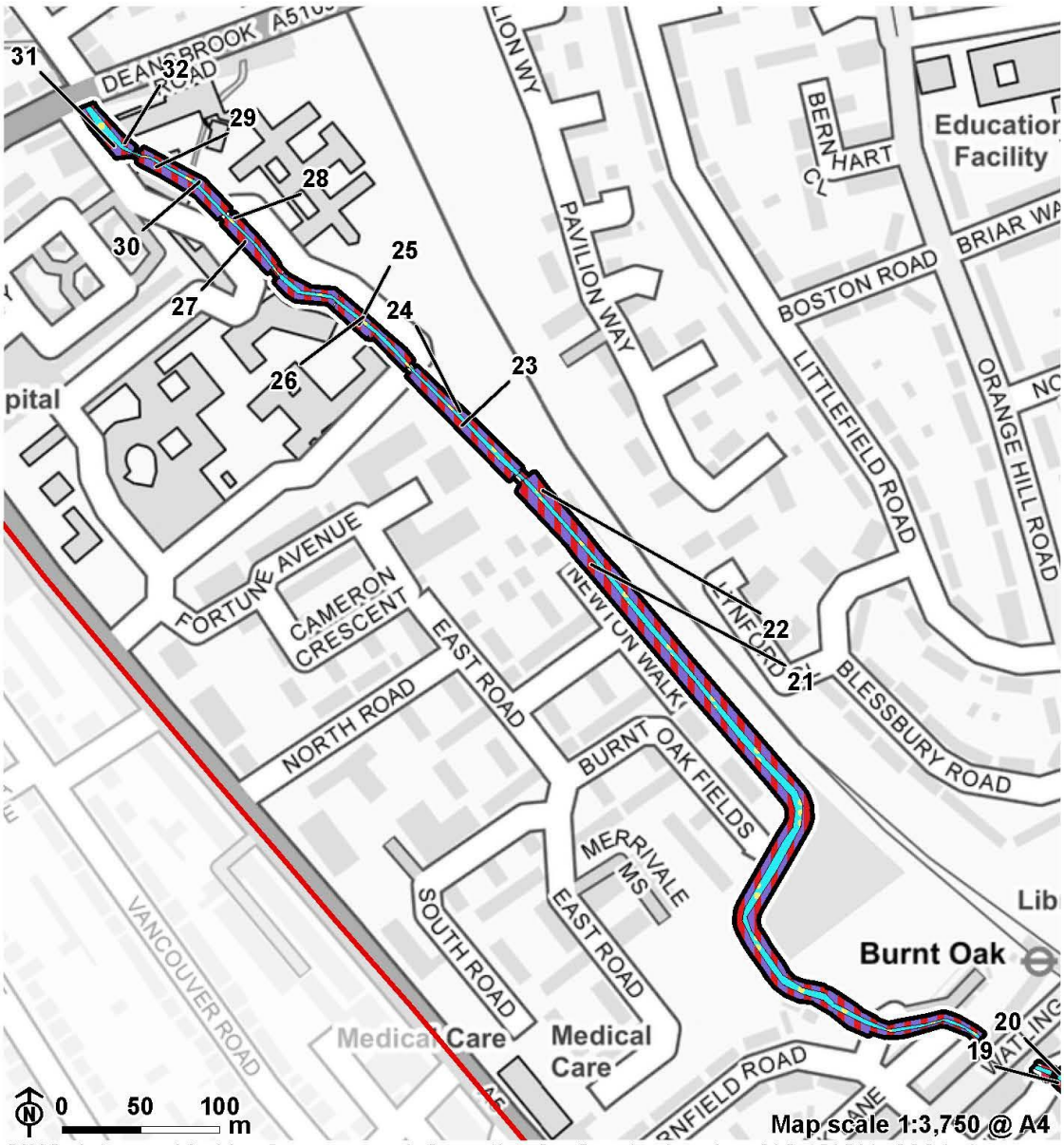
g4 - modified grassland

r2b - other rivers and streams

u1 - built-up areas and gardens

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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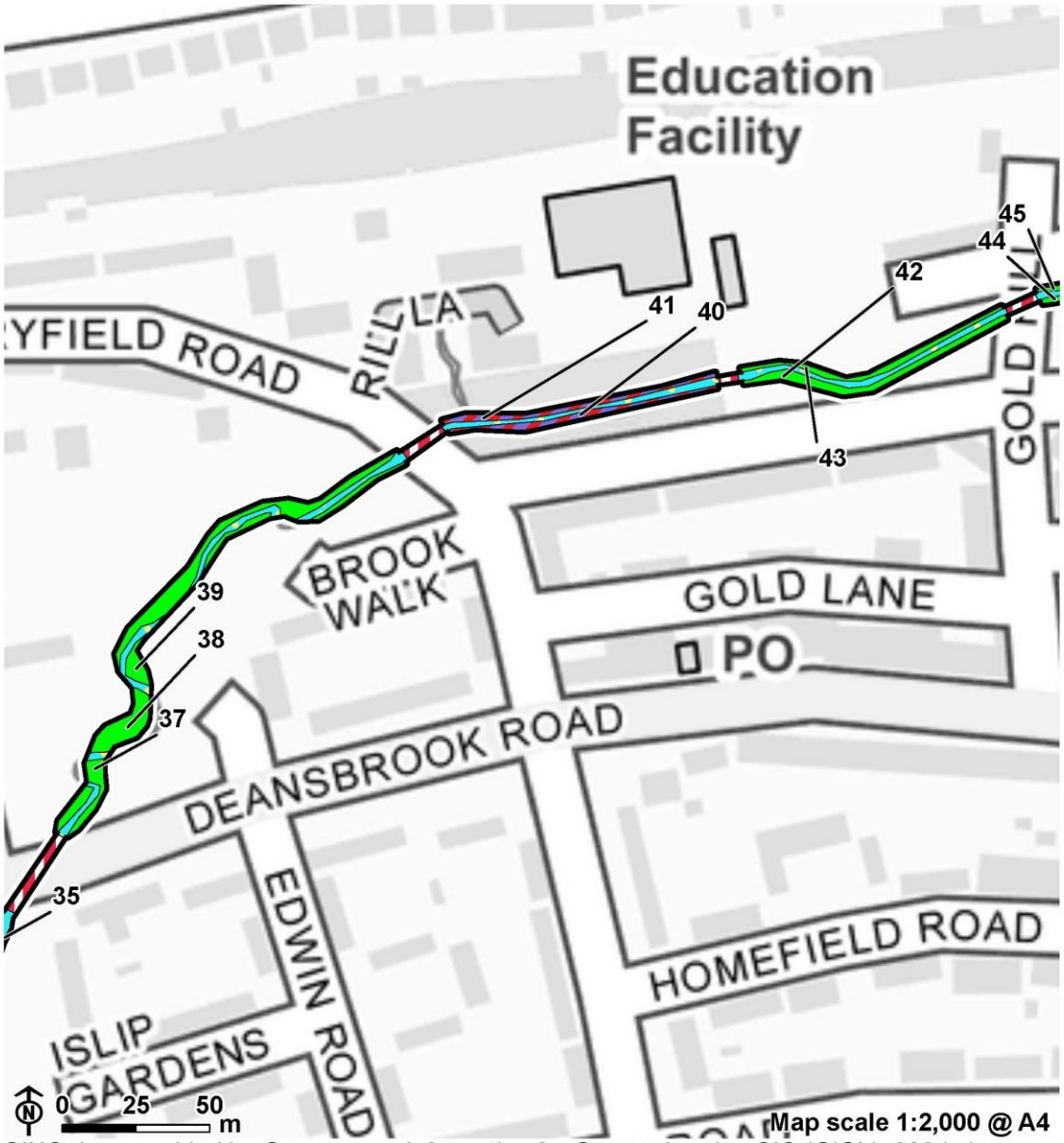
Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- h3d - bramble scrub
- r2b - other rivers and streams
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

g4 - modified grassland

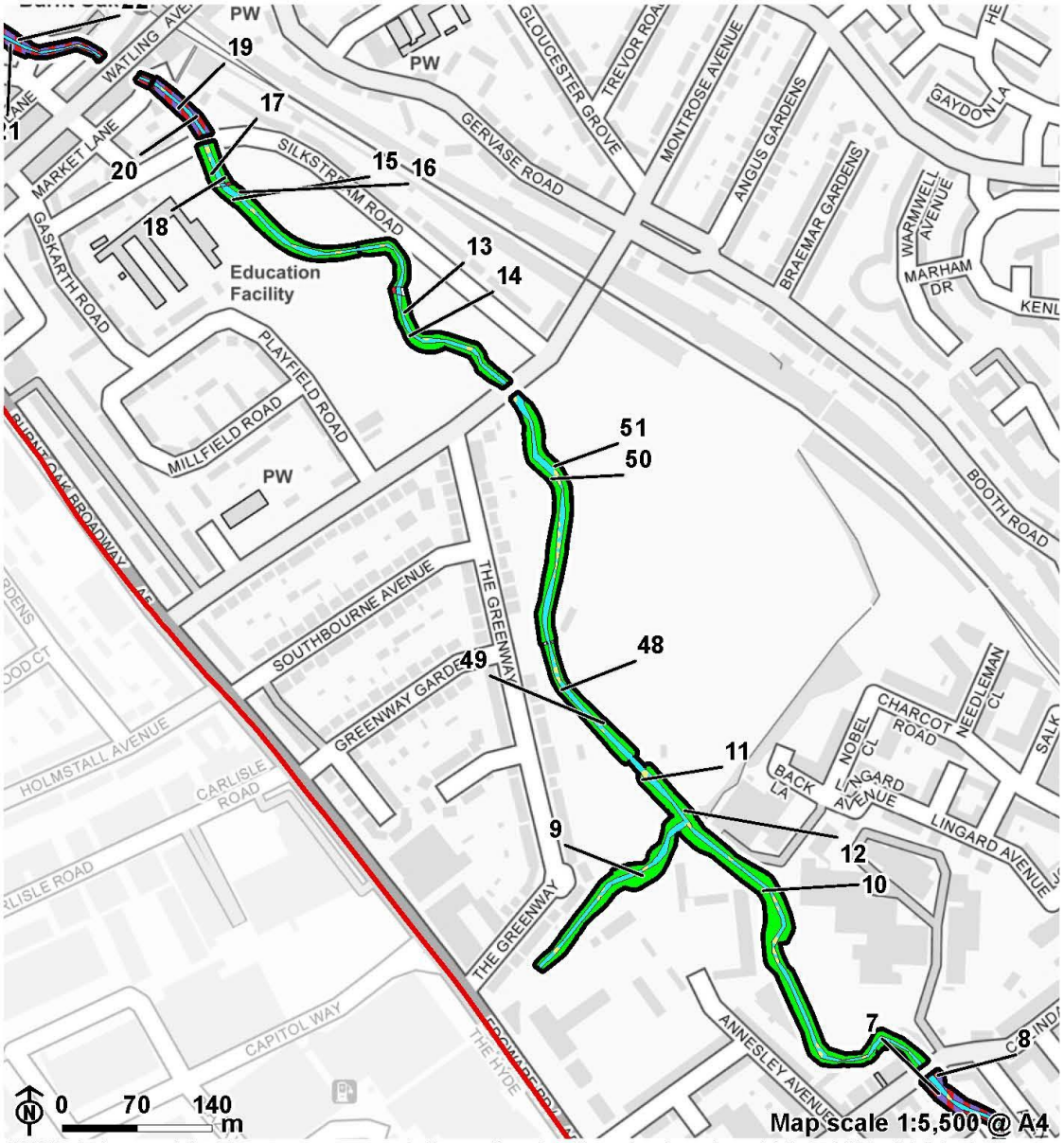
h3 - dense scrub

r2b - other rivers and streams

u1 - built-up areas and gardens

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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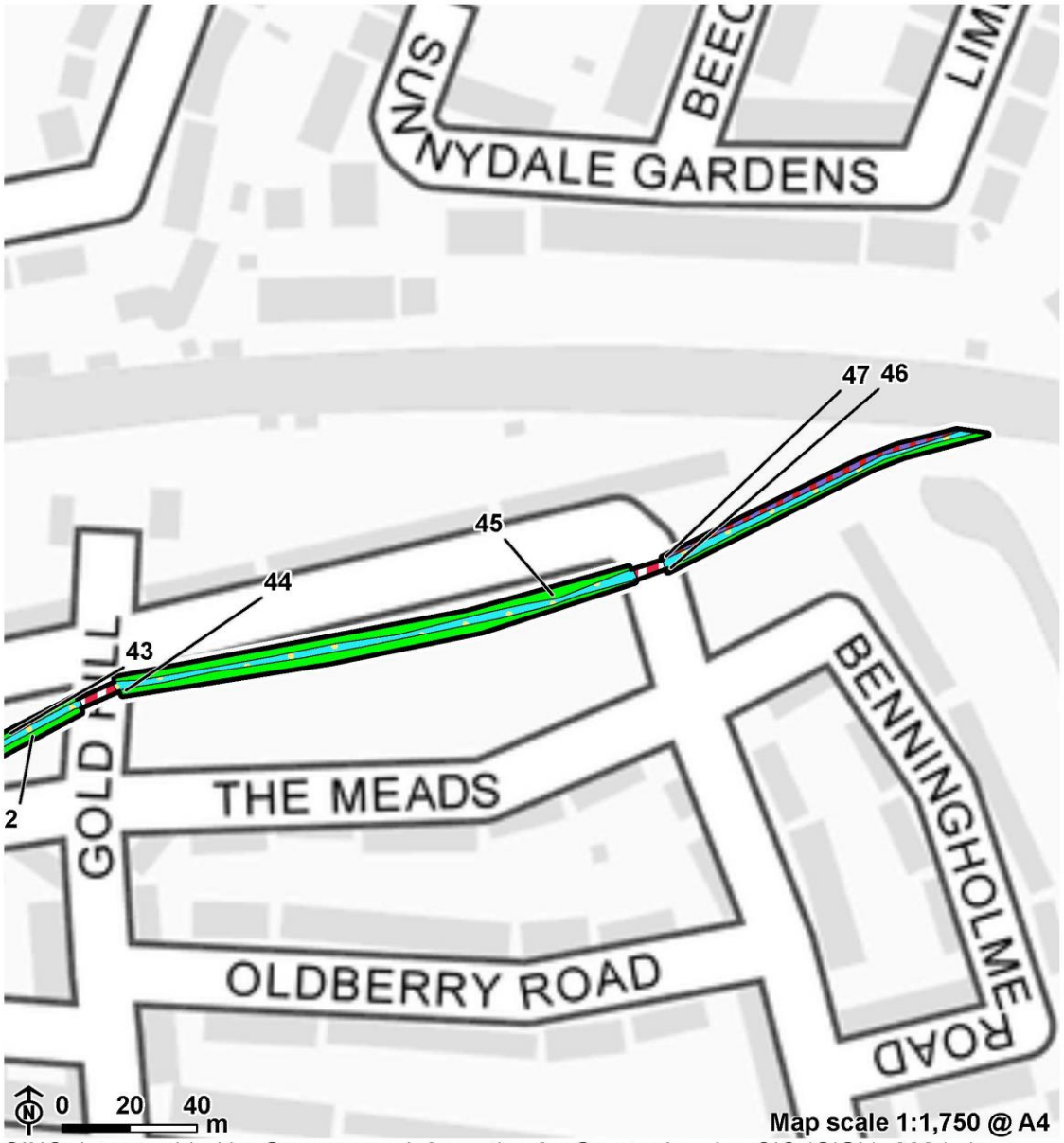
Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- g4 - modified grassland
- h3d - bramble scrub
- r2b - other rivers and streams
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

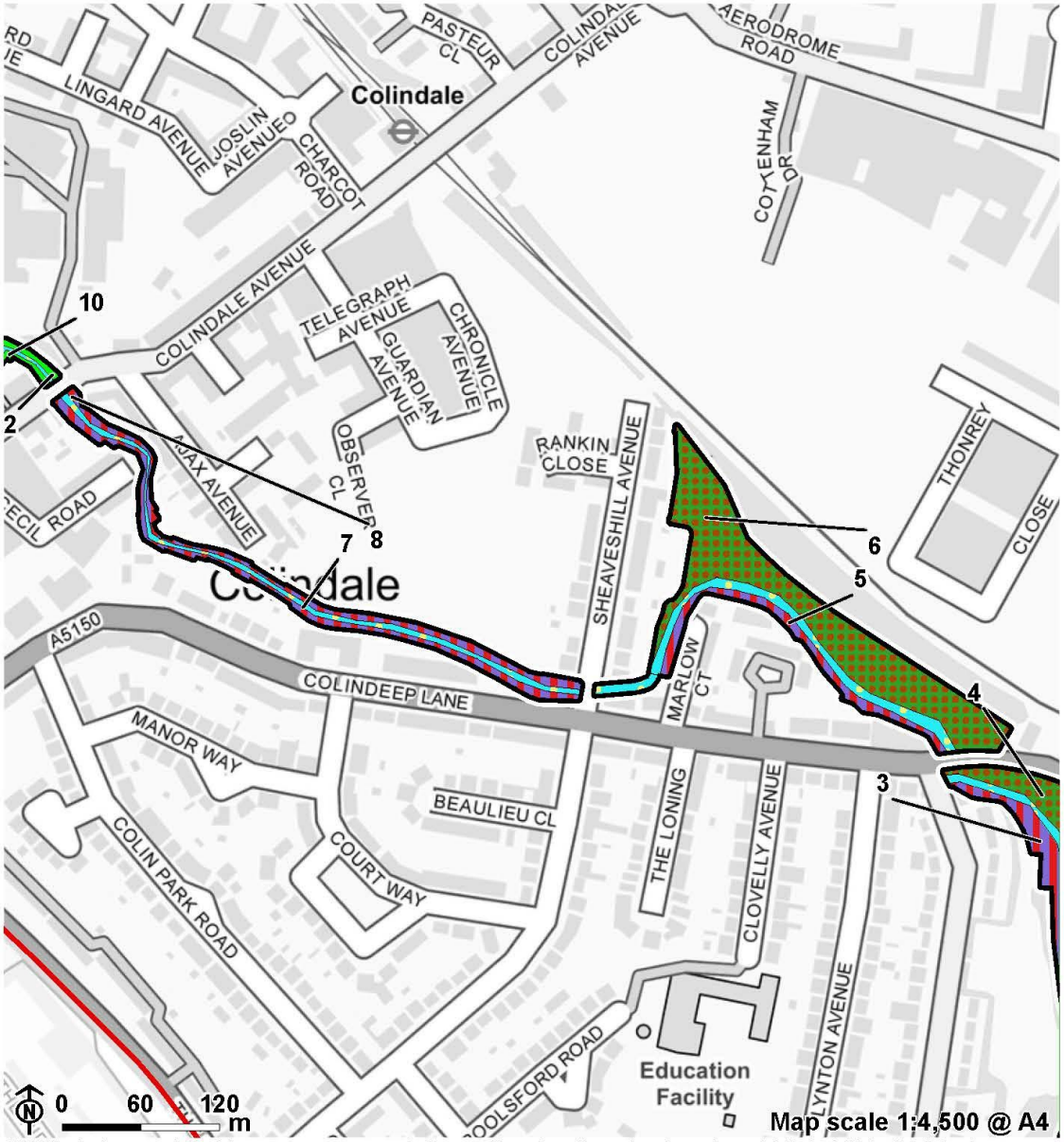
g4 - modified grassland

h3d - bramble scrub

r2b - other rivers and streams

u1b - developed land; sealed surface

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- g4 - modified grassland
- h3d - bramble scrub
- r2b - other rivers and streams
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

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Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- h3d - bramble scrub
- r2b - other rivers and streams
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

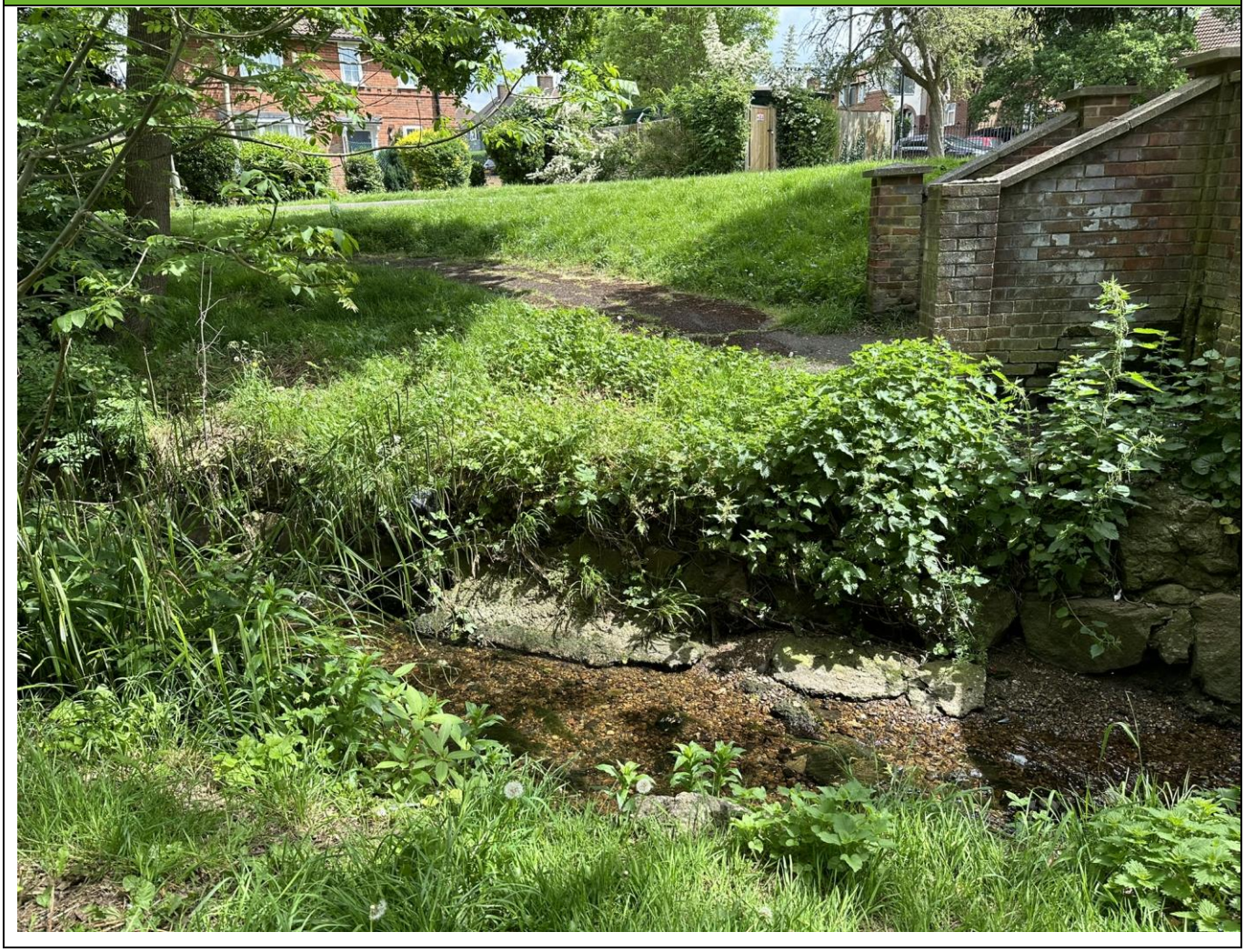
1: 32 - scattered trees
2: 32 - scattered trees
3: 32 - scattered trees
4: 10 - scattered scrub
5: 32 - scattered trees
6: 10 - scattered scrub
7: 32 - scattered trees
8: 616 - allotments
9: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
10: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
11: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
12: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
13: 32 - scattered trees
14: 32 - scattered trees
15: 32 - scattered trees
16: 32 - scattered trees
17: 32 - scattered trees
18: 32 - scattered trees
19: 32 - scattered trees
20: 32 - scattered trees
21: 32 - scattered trees
22: 32 - scattered trees
23: 32 - scattered trees
24: 32 - scattered trees
25: 32 - scattered trees
26: 32 - scattered trees
27: 32 - scattered trees
28: 32 - scattered trees
29: 32 - scattered trees
30: 32 - scattered trees
31: 32 - scattered trees
32: 32 - scattered trees
33: 32 - scattered trees
34: 32 - scattered trees
35: 616 - allotments
36: 616 - allotments
37: 32 - scattered trees
38: 32 - scattered trees
39: 32 - scattered trees
40: 32 - scattered trees
41: 32 - scattered trees
42: 32 - scattered trees
43: 32 - scattered trees

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook

Site Photographs:

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook



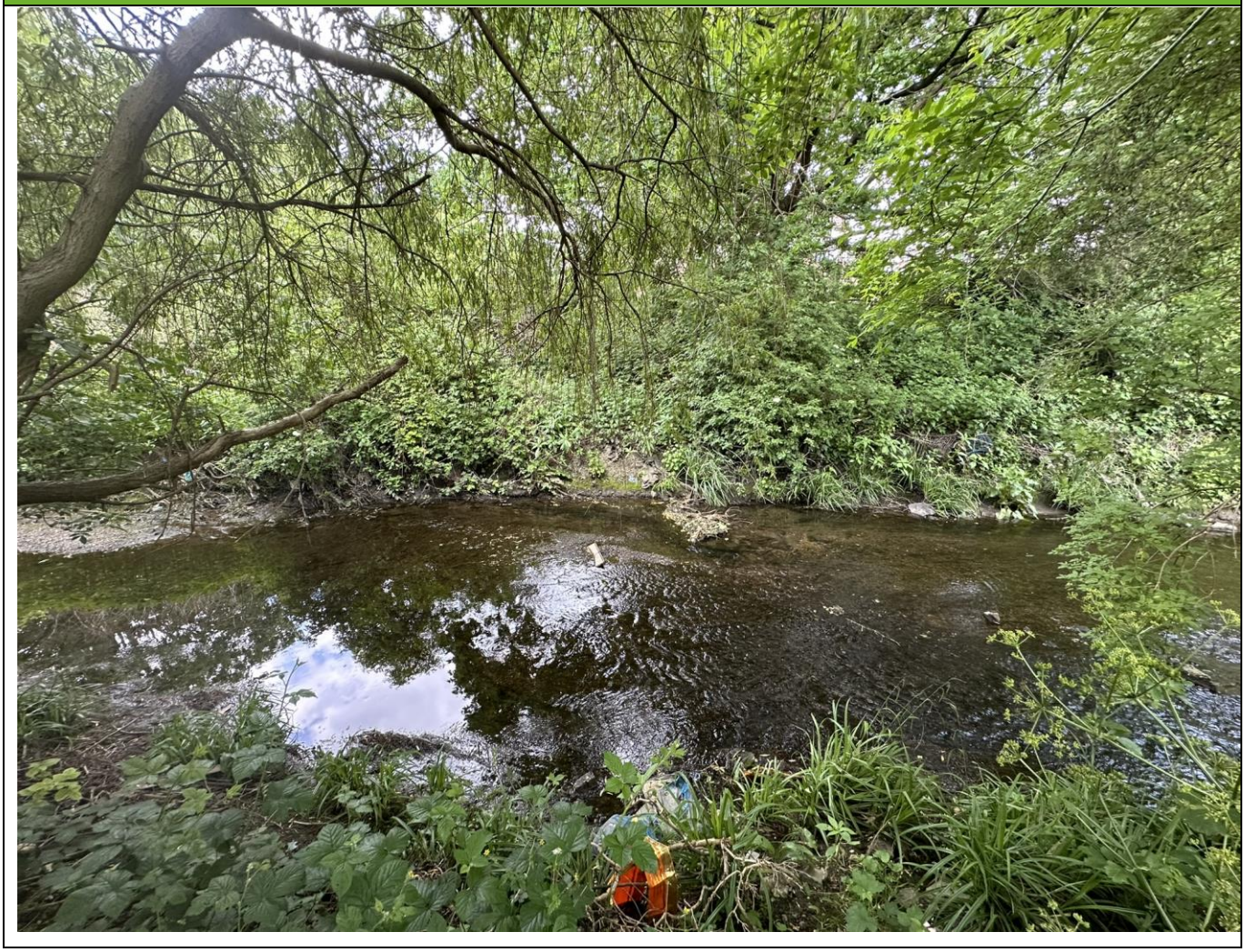
BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook

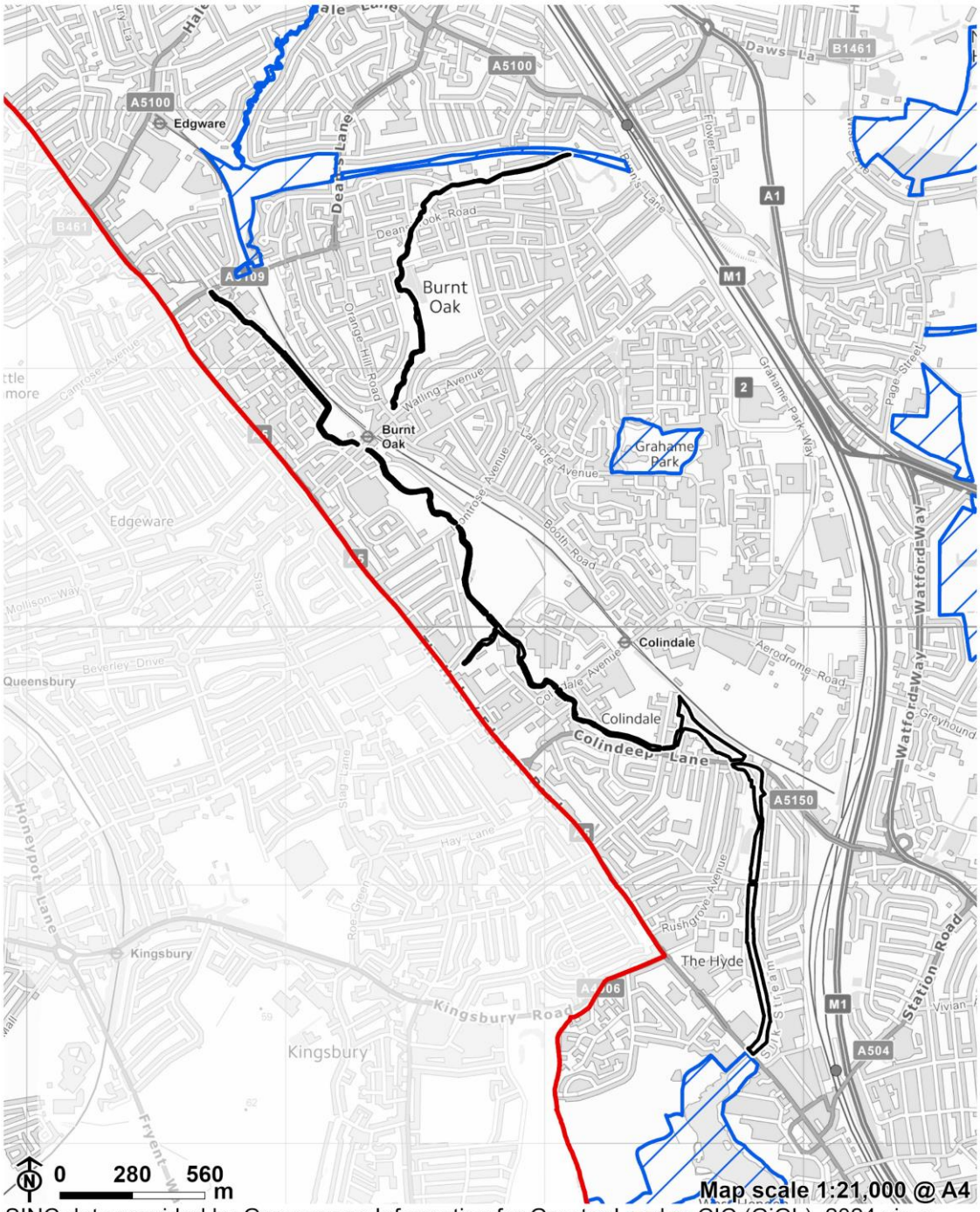
BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook



BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Frequent little collection and clean-ups to prevent further pollution events. Removal and treatment of invasive species such as the Himalayan balsam.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: The site provides moderate condition examples of the Habitats present, including a canalised stream, amenity grassland, scrub and woodland. The condition is lowered due to the intensive management and large areas of litter.
Habitat Rarity: Such a long stream flowing without being culverted is a rarerHabitat in London, although the banks have been straightened and reinforced in areas.
Species Rarity: The stream and narrow bank topHabitats support range of protected and notable species, including bats and birds, including Daubenton's bat and grey wagtail.
Habitat Richness: Within the small area of bank top along the stream there is a variety of marginalHabitats, including woodland, dense scrub, allotments and amenity grassland with scattered mature trees.

BaBII05 Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is a long SINC site within the borough that can support multiple different species. The site forms an important blue and green corridor through the borough.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The stream Habitat and mature trees would be very difficult to recreate given the size of the site and the years taken to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site provides an important green and value corridor along the west boundary of the borough which connects multiple SINC sites together. The site strengthens the SINC network in the borough.
Access: The stream and bank tops are partially accessible for most of the site, in a few areas the stream goes between residential properties or along private allotments.
Use: There is little public use of the stream, though in some areas the bank tops are accessible and form parts of local public green spaces.
Potential: The condition of the site could be improved through frequent litter clean-ups. Management of the dense scrub and grassland would provide further benefits to wildlife.
Aesthetic Appeal: A slow flowing stream through the borough, through large green public spaces lined with scattered trees, dense flowering scrub and allottments.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the Borough Grade II criteria due to the SINC being an important blue and green corridor within the borough which links local green spaces and SINC sites. The site also supports a range of Habitats and a number of protected and notable species.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting
Site information
LUC Site ID: 69
SINC ID: BaL18
SINC Name: Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ2329688410
Area (ha): 14.75
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Green Corridors, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Large hillside park with scattered trees, attractive ornamental gardens and recently planted woodland, with an adjacent railway cutting adding to the wildlifeHabitats.
SINC Description: A large, airy, hillside park offering fine views south across London, Hendon Park also offers a range of recreational facilities. The northern end of the park is more formal, with ornamental flowerbeds and rose gardens, and an attractive Holocaust Memorial Garden that provides a peaceful spot for quiet reflection. Small birds, such as long tailed tit, chaffinch and greenfinch forage along the tall hedgerows between the various plots. The rest of the park is made up mainly of informal parkland, with mown grass and mature trees, especially London plane , Platanus x hispanica, , lime , Tilea x europaea, and horse chestnut , Aesculus hippocastanum, . As part of the Millennium celebrations, school children planted a new block of native woodland near its western side. This will provide goodHabitat for birds when it matures. The park is a good spot for watching pipistrelle bats on a summer evening. The western edge of the park borders the Northern line railway, where the railside vegetation of rough grassland with tall herbs and patches of woodland attracts birds like the great spotted woodpecker, goldcrest and summer visiting chiffchaff. Hendon Park won a Green Flag Award for 2006\7. The Capital Ring passes through the park.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet (park) and London Underground Ltd (Railway cutting)
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Box, Brown Tree Ant, Greenfinch, House Martin, Large Skipper, Redwing, Skylark, Starling
INNS Records: Butterfly bush, Cherry Laurel, False acacia, Snowberry
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Hendon Park is a public urban park, including predominantly amenity grassland with lines of trees, small pockets of secondary broadleaved woodland and scattered trees. Tennis courts, a children's pay area, café and workout area were also present in the north and east of the site. The railway cutting ran along the western boundary of the site.

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting
The SINC is located in the south of the borough and surrounded on all sides by dense residential development. The area of public park is designated as an area of Metropolitan Open Land (MoL).
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Overcast, slight drizzle
Date: 5/16/2024 1:59:48 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Hendon Park was fully accessible, however, the railway line was not accessible and could only be viewed from within the park. In regards to management, the majority of the site is amenity grassland which is mown frequently for recreational use. There was evidence of possibleHabitat creation, including a small pocket of young trees, in the south of the site which may have been planted recently. Some small areas of grass surrounding trees had been left to grow long, creating opportunities for invertebrates on Site.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: Habitats on-site included predominantly modified grassland with tree lines, scattered trees, small pockets of secondary broadleaved woodland, ornamental planting, ornamental pond, a play area, hard standing including paths and tennis courts, and buildings including a café and toilets. The railway cutting was not accessible for survey, however, from adjacent land it appeared to be secondary broadleaved woodland dominated by shrubs, scrub and semi-mature trees. The modified grassland showed little signs of damage, with little bare ground and no invasive species. Many of the tree lines had ecological niches and opportunities for species with many mature oak species present. However many of the trees were also non-native species. The woodland along the western edge was noted to be lacking greatly in understorey species and ground flora, apart from along the edges of the woodland. Likely a result of the canopy being too dense, and potentially from use by those in the park. In addition all trees were roughly the same age.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, Dog fouling, Invasive species: Additional comments: Litter was seen within the park especially in the woodland and in the ornamental pond. Dog fouling was also seen in a few places within the park. Invasive species seen on site included cherry laurel, bamboo and green alkanet which will need to be controlled to ensure they don't spread. Other species noted in the desk study but not seen on site included Butterfly bush, False acacia and Snowberry.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, wetland creation, Tree Hedge, Scrub estab, Deadwood, Education Additional comments: N/A
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting
The woodland and trees on site provide commuting, foraging and roosting/nestingHabitats for bats and birds.Habitats on site also provideHabitat for widespread and common invertebrates.
Habitat figure:

SINC data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), 2024 via a Service Level Agreement with LB Barnet. Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

- LUC assessment site
- Individual tree
- Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerow with trees
- Hedgerows
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- r - rivers and lakes
- u - urban
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1b6 - other developed land
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland
- No habitat survey

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

SINC data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), 2024 via a Service Level Agreement with LB Barnet. Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2024.

- LUC assessment site
- Individual tree
- Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat linear

- Hedgerow with trees
- Hedgerows
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g4 - modified grassland
- r - rivers and lakes
- u - urban
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- u1b5 - buildings
- u1b6 - other developed land
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
2: 823 - children's play space
3: 31 - secondary woodland
4: 31 - secondary woodland
5: 846 - flower bed
6: 846 - flower bed
7: 846 - flower bed
8: 106 - mown, 32 - scattered trees,
9: 46 - ornamental lakes or ponds
10: 106 - mown
11: 846 - flower bed
12: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
13: 847 - introduced shrub
14: 106 - mown
15: 106 - mown, 32 - scattered trees,
16: 108 - frequently mown
17: 32 - scattered trees, 108 - frequently mown,
18: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
19: 847 - introduced shrub, 32 - scattered trees,
20: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
21: 823 - children's play space
22: 847 - introduced shrub
23: 10 - scattered scrub, 16 - tall forbs, 32 - scattered trees
24: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
25: 10 - scattered scrub, 16 - tall forbs, 32 - scattered trees
26: 32 - scattered trees, 108 - frequently mown,
27: 108 - frequently mown, 823 - children's play space, 32 - scattered trees
28: 32 - scattered trees, 108 - frequently mown,
29: 31 - secondary woodland
30: 802 - railway
31: 108 - frequently mown
32: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
33: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
34: 846 - flower bed
35: 846 - flower bed
36: 846 - flower bed
37: 846 - flower bed
38: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
39: 32 - scattered trees, 108 - frequently mown,
40: 847 - introduced shrub
41: 847 - introduced shrub
42: 847 - introduced shrub
43: 847 - introduced shrub

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting

Site Photographs:

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting

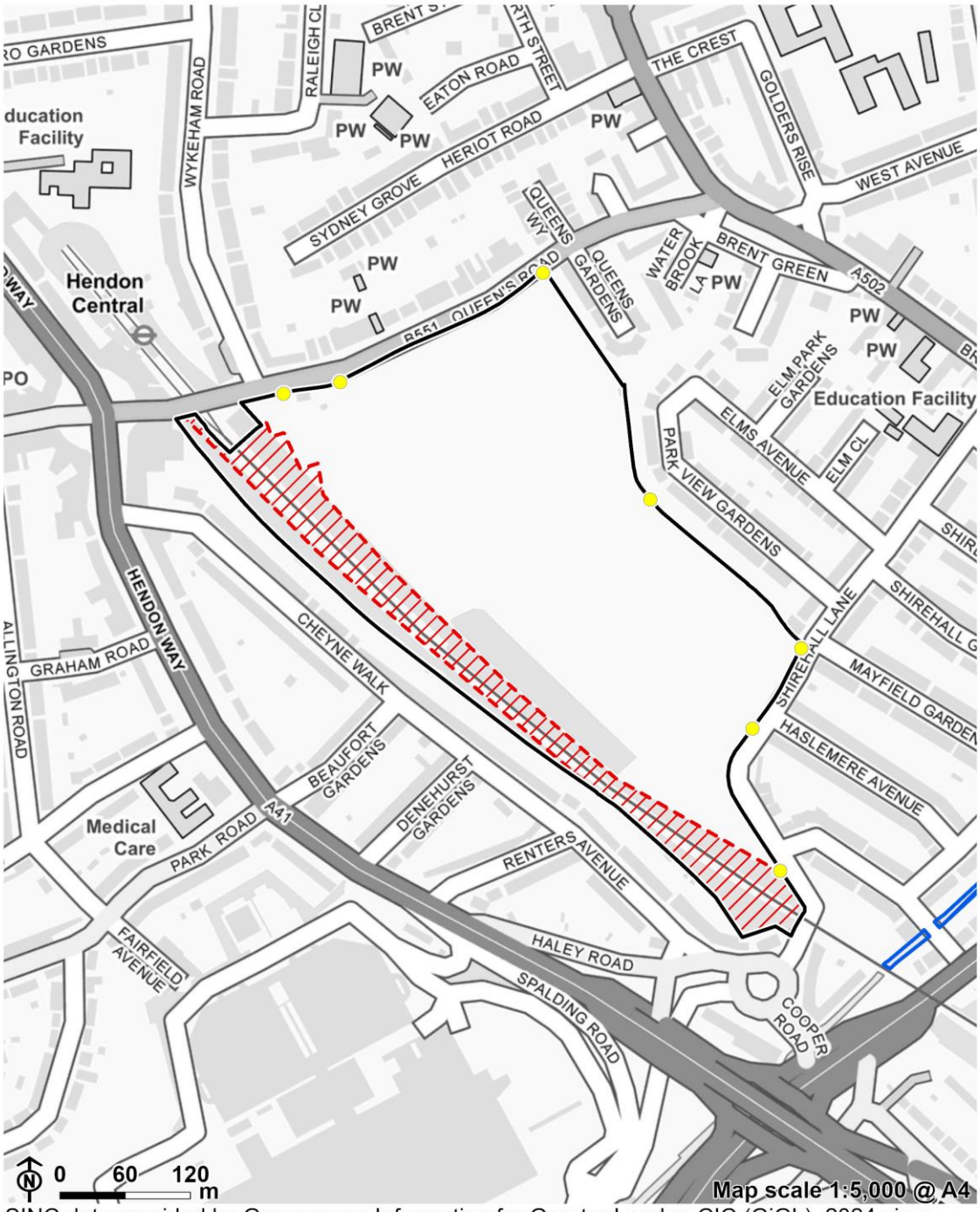
BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A - no previous survey report available.
Management Recommendations: Opportunities on-site include enhancing areas of the grassland via a relaxed mowing regime to allow the grass to remain long in summer, allowing wild flowers to establish and set seed. This would increase the value of the grassland for invertebrates and small mammals. The species diversity should be monitored and if necessary, seeding with a wildflower mix of local provenance may be required. Yellow rattle can also be seeded to increase species diversity within grasslands. It is understood that the site is primarily a public park so it is expected that most of the grassland will need to be retained as amenity grassland for sports and recreation. Sign posts could be added to provide information and educate the public on the practices to get them 'on side'. Areas may need to be fenced off to prevent people and dogs walking through and trampling the grass as it develops. Once more established, paths could be mown through the middle so visitors can enjoy it fully. Many of the trees and introduced shrubs on site are non-native and so should any die, they should be replaced by native species of benefit to wildlife. In addition, many of the tree lines had large gaps within so infilling of these tree lines could be done with native trees to increase the condition and connectivity of the tree lines and connectivity of the site. The woodland in the west of the site was observed to have a dense canopy, resulting in a lack of understorey and ground flora. Select felling/coppicing of trees within the woodland would be recommended to allow some light within and also some shrub planting to establish an understory layer and allow a ground layer to develop. Wood generated from felled wood should be used to create wood piles within the wooded area and in areas of long grass. A lot of litter was also noted within the woodland so thinning out the woodland slightly may make the woodland less of a 'hiding place' and may discourage people from going in the woodland and throwing their litter. A woodland Habitat is difficult to create in this environment due to the small size and the potential for antisocial behaviour that it attracts. Therefore, aHabitat guided by woodland principles, including mature trees, shrubs and a herbaceous ground floor is recommended. However, it may not be able to reach a woodland in good condition due to the small size and urban nature. The pond in the formal garden was also noted to be in bad condition with lots of litter within. This was an ornamental pond with little aquatic vegetation and located within a formal garden, therefore its value to wildlife was fairly low. If possible, a wildlife pond could be created within an area of enhanced grassland. The pond may need to be fenced off, and signposted to prevent people from littering within it. Invasive species should be controlled in line with legal requirements.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The site supports secondary broadleaved woodland which is uncommon in urban environments.
Species Rarity: Protected and notable species found on site in the desk study such as greenfinch (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) red list), house martin (BOCC red list), redwing (BOCC amber), skylark (BOCC red list) and starling (BOCC red list).
Habitat Richness: The site was predominantly regularly mown amenity grassland with tree lines and only small pockets of otherHabitats types present.
Species Richness: The site supports fairly common plant species, however a range of birds including those listed on the amber and red list have been recorded on site.
Size: This is a small/medium site at 14.75ha, however it is surrounded by residential development and therefore it is likely very valuable to local residents.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: Some mature oaks were present with potentially veteran features. Veteran trees are irreplaceableHabitats. Areas of secondary broadleaved woodland would also take a long time to recreate.

BaL18 Hendon Park and Northern Line Railway Cutting
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The park was originally part of a medieval estate known as the Steps Fields and owned by the Goodyer family. From 1868 till 1903 it was owned by the Kemp family when Hendon Council opened the park to the public. Hendon Council became part of the larger London Borough of Barnet in April 1965. The park supports a holocaust memorial garden and many facilities for recreational use such as the cafe, tennis courts, outdoor gym, car park and playing fields. The park is likely a very important area of greenspace for those in the local community.
Geographic Position: The SINC is located in the south of the borough and surrounded on all sides by dense residential development. The area of public park is designated as an area of Metropolitan Open Land (MoL).
Access: The majority of the site, excluding the railway cutting is publicly accessible.
Use: The majority of the SINC is a public park, used for sports and recreation. A small area of the SINC is a railway line.
Potential: The site is completely surrounded by dense residential development and is located in an area of deficiency, so the site is likely a very important greenspace for those in the local area. There is potential to enhance the ecological value of the site, through enhancement of the grassland, woodland and tree lines as specified in the management section.
Aesthetic Appeal: An aesthetic open greenspace, providing opportunities for relaxation and recreation.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The SINC is an important greenspace providing many recreational opportunities for people in the local area. Therefore no change has been recommended as the park has been appropriately designated as a local SINC. There are opportunities to enhance the ecological value of the site, predominantly in the grassland, woodland and tree line areas.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

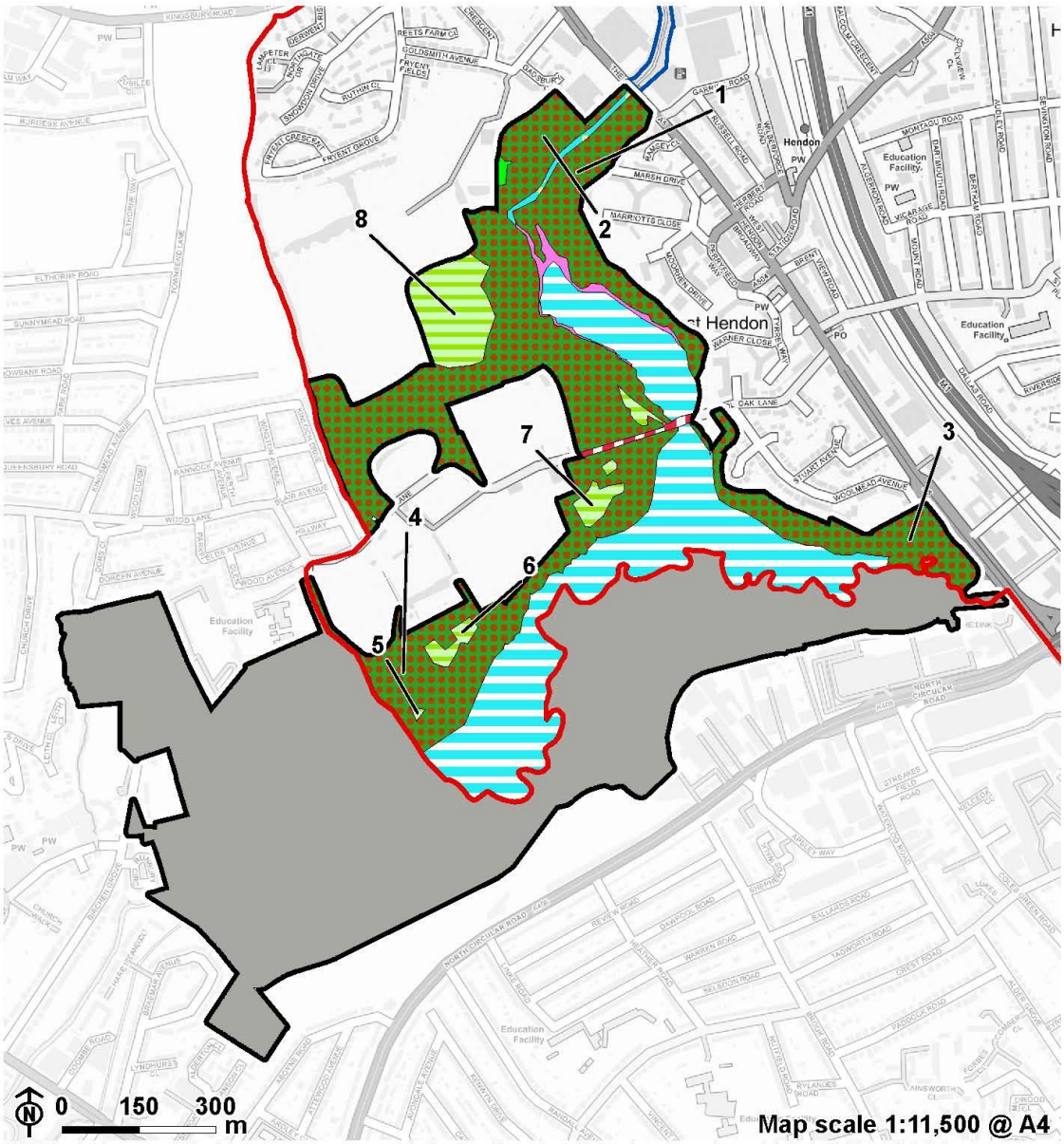
Site accessibility issue

Access point

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,
Site information
LUC Site ID: 70
SINC ID: M035
SINC Name: Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ2203287407
Area (ha): 103.44
Ward: Barnet, Brent
Land Use: Amenity, Allotments, Community Gardens and City Farms, Natural and Semi Natural Urban Greenspace, Outdoor Sports Facilities, Parks and Gardens
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: One of London's largest lakes, the Welsh Harp supports large numbers of water birds, including one of the biggest nesting colonies of great crested grebes in Britain.
SINC Description: An important refuge and breeding site for waterfowl and other birds. The site holds one of the country's largest breeding populations of great crested grebe, while common tern, kingfisher, reed bunting and several warbler species also breed here. In winter, the reservoir supports nationally important numbers of shoveler and gadwall, with teal, tufted duck, pochard and mallard numbers also significant. Other species regularly wintering include water rail and snipe, while smew, bittern and bearded tit are occasional visitors. There is also an important invertebrate fauna associated with both wetland and drierHabitats. Over 40 nationally rare species are present, including the longhorn beetle Phytoecia cylindrica. Other important invertebrates include the chimney sweeper moth and the nationally scarce white letter hairstreak butterfly. Plants of interest include southern marsh orchid , Dactylorhiza praetermissa, , greater spearwort , Ranunculus lingua, and golden dock , Rumex maritimus, . This is one of very few known sites in London for water shrew. Parts are managed for nature conservation and there is a well established field studies centre. Part of the site is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Local Nature Reserve.
Management provider: Canal & River Trust cares for the reservoir, while the London boroughs of Brent and Barnet share responsibility for the land around the reservoir.
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: Brent Reservoir, Brent Reservoir \ Welsh Harp
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Reedbeds
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Arctic Skua, Arctic Tern, Avocet, Baltic Gull, Barnacle Goose, Bar tailed Godwit, Bats, Bearded Tit, Bewick's Swan, Bittern, Black Redstart, Black Tern, Black necked Grebe, Black tailed Godwit, Bluebell, Brambling, Cetti's Warbler, Cinnabar, Common Darter, Common Pipistrelle, Common Redpoll, Common Sandpiper, Common Scoter, Common Tern, Common Toad, Corn Bunting, Crossbill, Cuckoo, Curlew, Dark Green Fritillary, Dartford Warbler, Daubenton's Bat, Dunlin, Dunnock, Essex Skipper, Ferruginous Duck, Fieldfare, Firecrest, Gadwall, Garganey, Golden Plover, Goldeneye, Goshawk, Grasshopper Warbler, Great Northern Diver, Green Sandpiper, Greenfinch, Greenshank, Green winged Orchid, Grey Wagtail, Hawfinch, Hen Harrier, Herring Gull, Hobby, Honey buzzard, Hoopoe, House Martin, House Sparrow, Kingfisher, Kittiwake, Lapwing, Large Skipper, Lesser Black backed Gull, Lesser Redpoll, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, Lesser Whitethroat, Linnet, Little Egret, Little Gull, Little Ringed Plover, Little Tern, Long tailed Duck, Marsh Harrier, Marsh Tit, Mediterranean Gull, Merlin, Mistle Thrush, Montagu's Harrier, Nathusius's Pipistrelle, Nightingale, Noctule Bat, Nyctalus Bat species, Osprey, Peregrine, Pied Flycatcher, Pipistrelle Bat species, Pochard, Purple Heron, Red Kite, Red necked Grebe, Red throated Diver, Redwing, Reed Bunting, Ring Ouzel, Ringed Plover, Ruff, Sand Martin, Sandwich Tern, Scaup, Shag, Shelduck, Short eared Owl, Skylark, Slavonian Grebe, Small Copper, Small Heath, Small Skipper, Smew, Snow Bunting, Song Thrush, Soprano Pipistrelle, Spoonbill, Spotted Flycatcher, Starling, Swift, Tall Hawkweed, Tawny Owl, Temminck's Stint, Tree Pipit, Tree Sparrow, Tundra Swan,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,
Turtle Dove, Whimbrel, Whinchat, White Stork, White fronted Goose, White letter Hairstreak, Whooper Swan, Willow Tit, Wood Sandpiper, Wood Warbler, Wood White, Woodcock, Woodlark, Yellow Wagtail, Yellowhammer
INNS Records: Bluebell, Chinese Muntjac, False acacia, Few flowered Garlic, Giant Hogweed, Giant Knotweed, Goat's rue, Green Alkanet, Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Monk Parakeet, Nuttall's Waterweed, Oak Processionary, Ring necked Parakeet, Snowberry
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The SINC is located in the southwest corner of the borough. The site is ecologically linked through a blue corridor to a further SINC site to the north. The large site comprises a reservoir, marginalHabitats, woodland, scrub and grassland. The whole sit is publicly accessible at all times.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Warm and cloudy
Date: 5/15/2024 1:08:00 PM
Survey access: Full
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The grassland Habitats did not seem to be managed, with a very long sward and stands of scrub colonising the areas.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Other rivers, Reedbeds, standing water, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The reservoir comprised over half of the site, with small areas of reedbeds along its banks, including phragmites, pendulous sedge, and yellow flag iris. The majority of the rest of the site was woodland, with small glades of grassland. The woodland throughout the site comprised Woodland glades brash piles - mature dominant oak, abundant sycamore, rowan, Ash, frequent willow, horse chestnut, silver birch. semi mature willow. The scrub layer and understorey included abundant elder, hawthorn blackthorn, willow, frequent sycamore, bramble, dog rose, willow herb, bracken, cleavers, nettle, garlic mustard, and creeping buttercup. Invasive Japanese knotweed was noted along section of the reservoir in the north and by the bridge in south section of the reservoir The grassland was left with a very long sward. The species included abundant perennial rye grass, cocks foot, Timothy and barren Brome. There was frequent cleavers, dock, white dead nettle, cow parsley, false oat, ribwort plantain, creeping buttercup , occasional vetch, common hogweed, yarrow, ragwort and dandelion. A number of stands of matures trees and scrub stood within the areas of grassland. These included mature Oak, Oak saplings, hawthorn, elder, bramble and rose scrub. A number of bird hides and fishing platforms were also noted within the site, although most were vandalised. During the survey reptile mats were located in the grassland, though no reptiles were located during the visit due to the hot weather.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Pollution, Vandalism, Litter, Dog fouling, FlyTip, Invasive species:

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,
Additional comments: The pathways, most of which were not hardstanding, were eroding away due to high usage and wet weather. This was encroaching onto the grassland and scrubHabitats. Invasive species were identified along the reservoir edge and within the woodland Habitats. Large amounts of litter, dog fouling and fly-tipping were also identified within the woodland.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, Scrub estab, Deadwood Additional comments: The grassland areas were not under any management and were left at a long sward with area of scrub encroaching within these. A mowing regime to create sward height diversity would benefit the site. The thinning of dense scrub within the woodland and around the reservoir edge will allow the ground flora to flourish. The creation of deadwood features within the woodland would support invertebrates and reptiles within the site.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates, Fish Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The reservoir and wetland Habitat provided suitableHabitat for fish, birds, amphibians and invertebrates. The grassland and scrub provide opportunities for reptiles to forage and shelter. The desk study lists a large number of bird species that use the site.
Habitat figure:



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Basemap

- London Borough of Barnet
- LUC assessment site
- Other LUC assessment site

UKHab habitat area*

- f - wetland
- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- r1g - other standing water
- r2b - other rivers and streams
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland
- No habitat survey

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 10 - scattered scrub

2: 10 - scattered scrub

3: 10 - scattered scrub

4: 10 - scattered scrub

5: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,

6: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,

7: 32 - scattered trees

8: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

Site Photographs:

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

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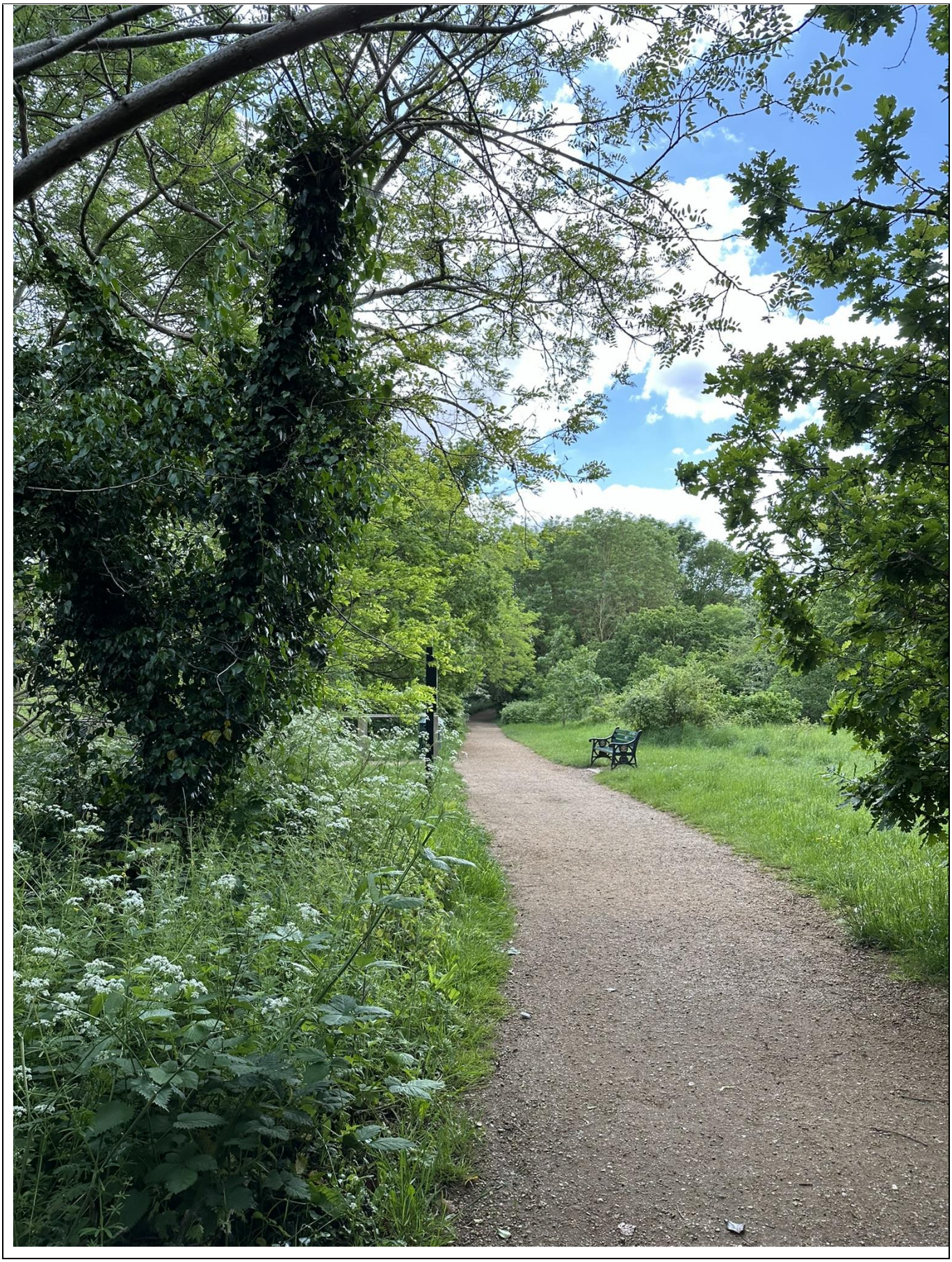


M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A

Management Recommendations:

Grassland was all a similar long length and had being overtaken by scrub. A varied mowing regime to create a sward diversity will benefit species diversity within the grassland. Removal and treatment of invasive species. The thinning of dense scrub within the woodland to create glades and creation of deadwood features for invertebrates and reptiles. Regular clean-ups and frequent bin emptying would reduce the waste within the site.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

N/A

SINC Criteria

Representation: The Habitats present within the site are some of the best examples of these within the borough. Part of the site is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Local Nature Reserve.

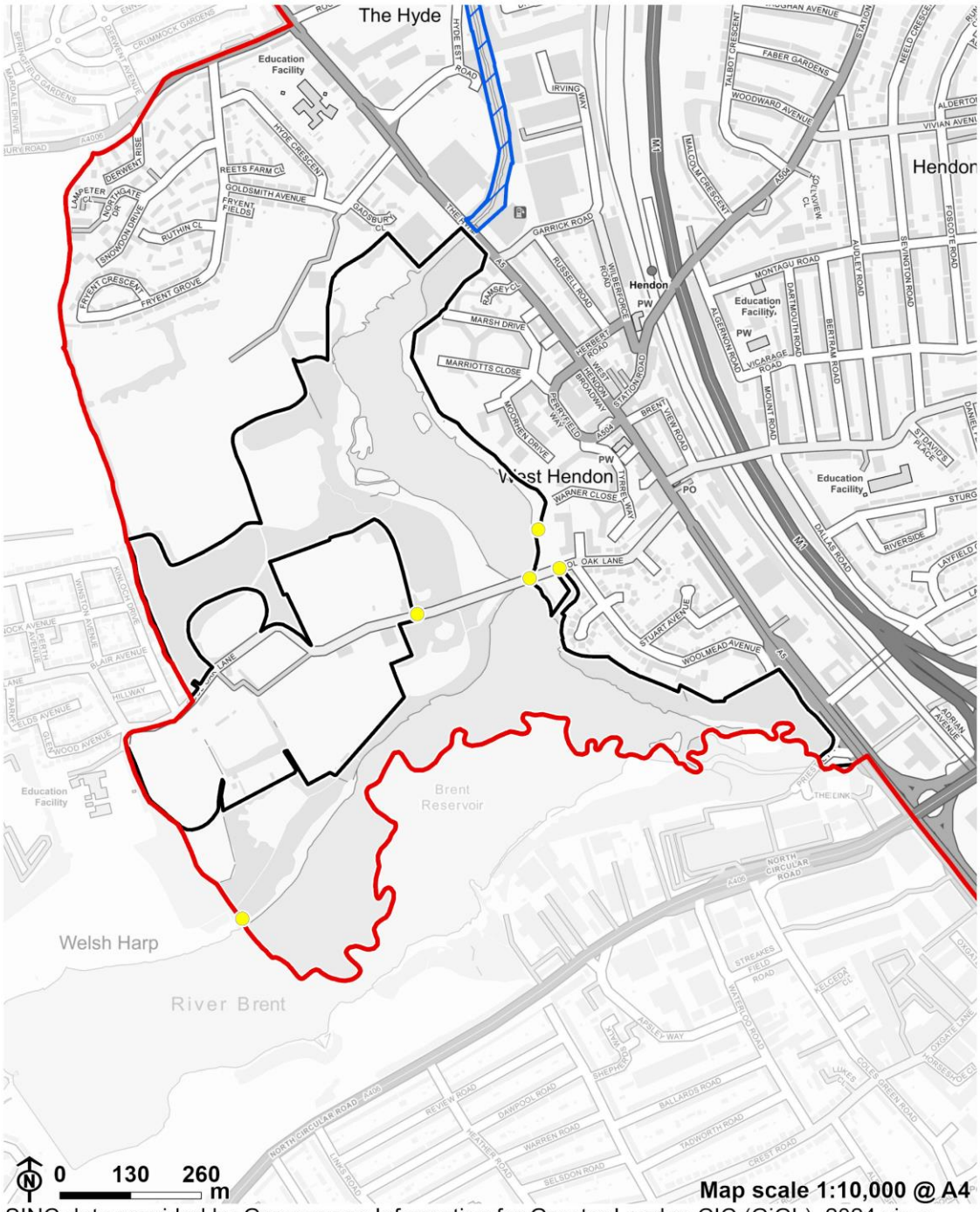
Habitat Rarity: Large reservoirs, large expanses of woodland and reedbeds are scarce within the borough and London.

Species Rarity: The site supports multiple different notable and protected species, including birds, bats, reptiles.

Habitat Richness: The site comprises a reservoir, reedbeds, grassland, scrub and woodland Habitats.

Species Richness: N/A

M035 Brent Reservoir , Welsh Harp,
Size: This is one of the largest SINC sites within the borough at 103.44ha. It supports multipleHabitats which support a range of different species.
Important populations of species: The site holds one of the country's largest breeding populations of great crested grebe, while common tern, kingfisher, reed bunting and several warbler species also breed here. In winter, the reservoir supports nationally important numbers of shoveler and gadwall.
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The large reservoir, reedbeds and woodland are not easy to recreate within London or the borough due to the size of the Habitats and the species they provide for.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The Site is in the southwest of the borough, and is partly within another borough. The site is ecologically connected to a further SINC site.
Access: The site is fully accessible by the public using footpaths.
Use: The woodland and scrubHabitat is used by walkers, families, runners etc for recreational purposes. The reservoir is used by fishermen and a local water sports club.
Potential: With additional management the grassland and woodland Habitat conditions could be improved, these include a grassland all a similar long length and was being overtaken by scrub. A varied mowing regime to create a sward diversity will benefit species diversity within the grassland. Removal and treatment of invasive species. The thinning of dense scrub within the woodland to create glades and creation of deadwood features for invertebrates and reptiles. Regular clean-ups and frequent bin emptying would reduce the waste within the site.
Aesthetic Appeal: The large open expanse of water, reedbeds and extensive woodland provide a welcoming space which is aesthetically pleasing with different flowering plants, and wildlife.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the SINC Metropolitan status as the large woodland and reservoirHabitats support nationally importance populations of multiple bird species such as great crested grebe, shoveler and gadwall. The SINC is functionally connected by a blue corridor through the west of the borough linking multiple SINC sites.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

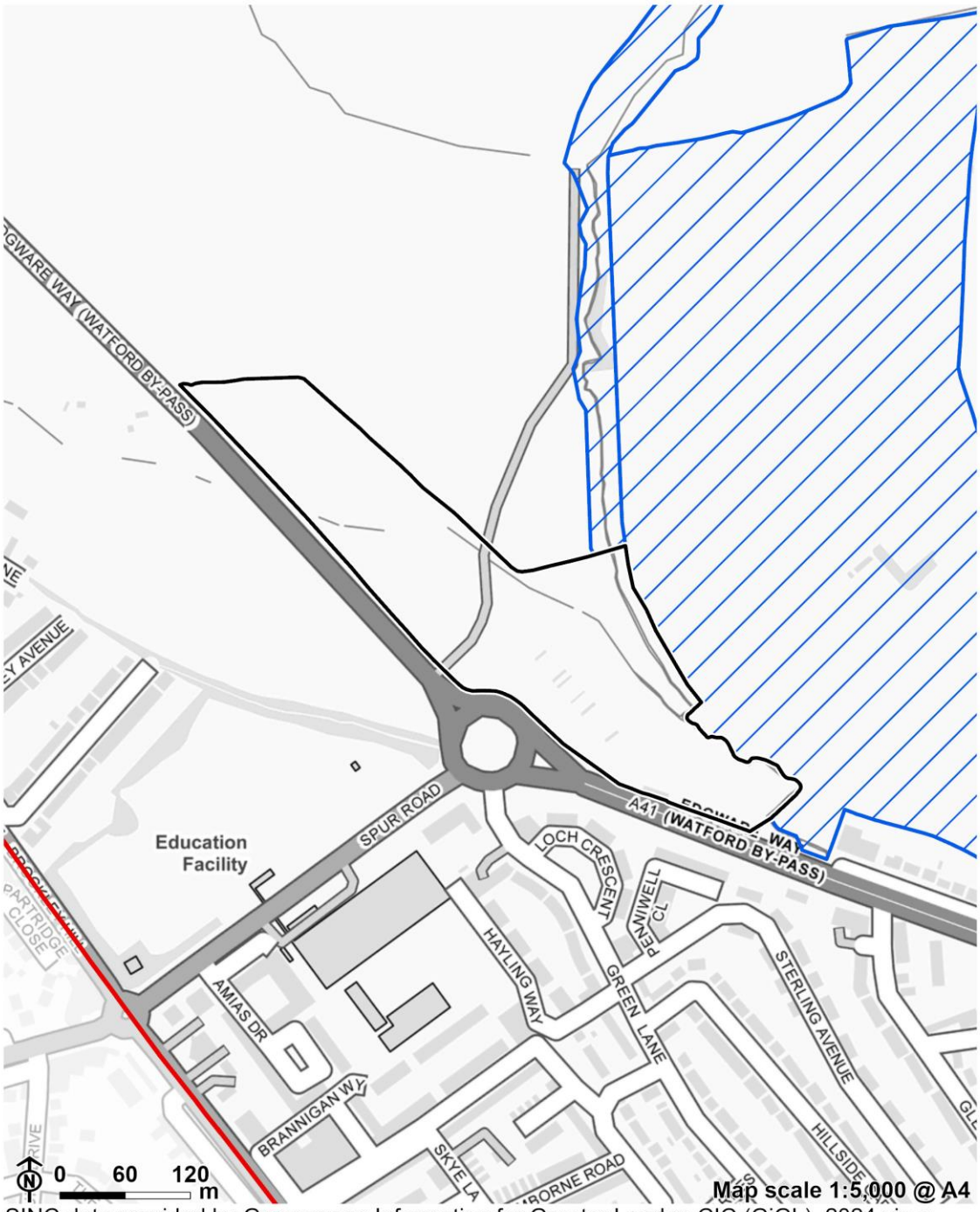
Other LUC assessment site

Access point

M126 Edgware Way Rough
Site information
LUC Site ID: 71
SINC ID: M126
SINC Name: Edgware Way Rough
SINC Grade: Metropolitan
Grid Reference: TQ1862493192
Area (ha): 6.69
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Parks and Gardens, Other Urban Fringe
Ownership: Public
SINC Summary: This damp, herb rich grassland includes London's strongest population of the regionally rare plant great burnet and many other uncommon plants characteristic of old meadows.
SINC Description: An area of typical unimproved London Clay grassland, traversed by a stream and an unused railway embankment. Damp, herb rich grassland over much of the site includes London's strongest population of the regionally uncommon plant great burnet , Sanguisorba officinalis, . Other uncommon plants characteristic of old meadows include sneezewort , Achillea ptarmica, , devil's bit scabious , Succisa pratensis, , pepper saxifrage , Silaum silaus, and sharp flowered rush , Juncus acutiflorus, . Drier grassland with scattered scrub on the railway embankment adds to the variety of the site. The stream margins support dense beds of sedges , Carex spp., , water cress , Rorippa nasturtium aquaticum, and brooklime , Veronica beccabunga, . The breeding avifauna includes yellowhammer and spotted flycatcher, while snipe overwinter.
Management provider: N/A
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland, Good quality semi improved grassland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Dunnock, House Sparrow, Mistle Thrush, Starling, Yellowhammer
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to health and safety concerns at this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk-based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. The site is located in the north of the borough and is ecologically connected to two SINC sites. The site is a Local Nature Reserve. The site is on a public footpath which links the adjacent SINCs.
Survey Data

M126 Edgware Way Rough
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: N/A
Date: 9/6/2024 1:12:00 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: Low
Management: Poor Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Removal of litter and cut back of scrub.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): N/A
Habitat survey description: The site comprises woodland, scrub, London clay grassland and a stream along the north boundary. The grassland is London's strongest population of the regionally uncommon plant great burnet. Other rarer plants which are characteristic of old meadow can be found within the site including, sneezewort, devil's-bit scabious, pepper-saxifrage and sharp-flowered rush. The stream runs along the northeast boundary of the site.
Threats and Disturbances: Litter, FlyTip, Noise: Additional comments: The site sits next to a main road and is exposed to the noise from the cars. In the south of the site, near the Brockley Hill Tube Station embankment, was a large area of little and evidence of longstanding fly tipping.
Ecological opportunities on site: Scrub estab Additional comments: Control of scrub to prevent further encroachment within the grassland.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: N/A
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Litter and fly-tipping are the major issues within the site which need to be controlled. Regular clean-ups and boundary control to reduce waste within the site.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A

M126 Edgware Way Rough
SINC Criteria
Representation: The site is a good example of the rare London clay grassland.
Habitat Rarity: Areas of London Clay grassland within the site.
Species Rarity: Rare plant species within the site include: Great burnet, Sneezewort, devil's-bit scabious, pepper-saxifrage and sharp-flowered rush. Yellowhammer and spotted fly-catcher have been noted to breed on site.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: This is a small site within the borough which holds London's strongest population of the regionally uncommon plant great burnet .
Important populations of species: Important population of salad burnet in London
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The grassland will be difficult to replicate given the rarer soil type it requires.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located in the north of the borough and borders two different SINC sites, as well as being ecologically connected to the wider green spaces.
Access: There is a public footpath through the site, but it is not maintained.
Use: The site does not seem to be well used by the public, apart from fly-tipping.
Potential: Control of scrub to protect the rare London clay grassland from encroachment by bramble. Regular clear up of litter and waster within the site and making sure there is no vehicle access via the south of the site along the A41.
Aesthetic Appeal: The site comprises long grassland, scrub and woodland which are a part of the wider green landscape in the north of the borough.
Geodiversity Interest: The site is on London Clay soil.
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the Metropolitan SINC criteria as the possesses London's strongest population of the regionally uncommon plant great burnet. Other uncommon plant species and declining bird species also use the Habitats. However, control of waste within the site is needed.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

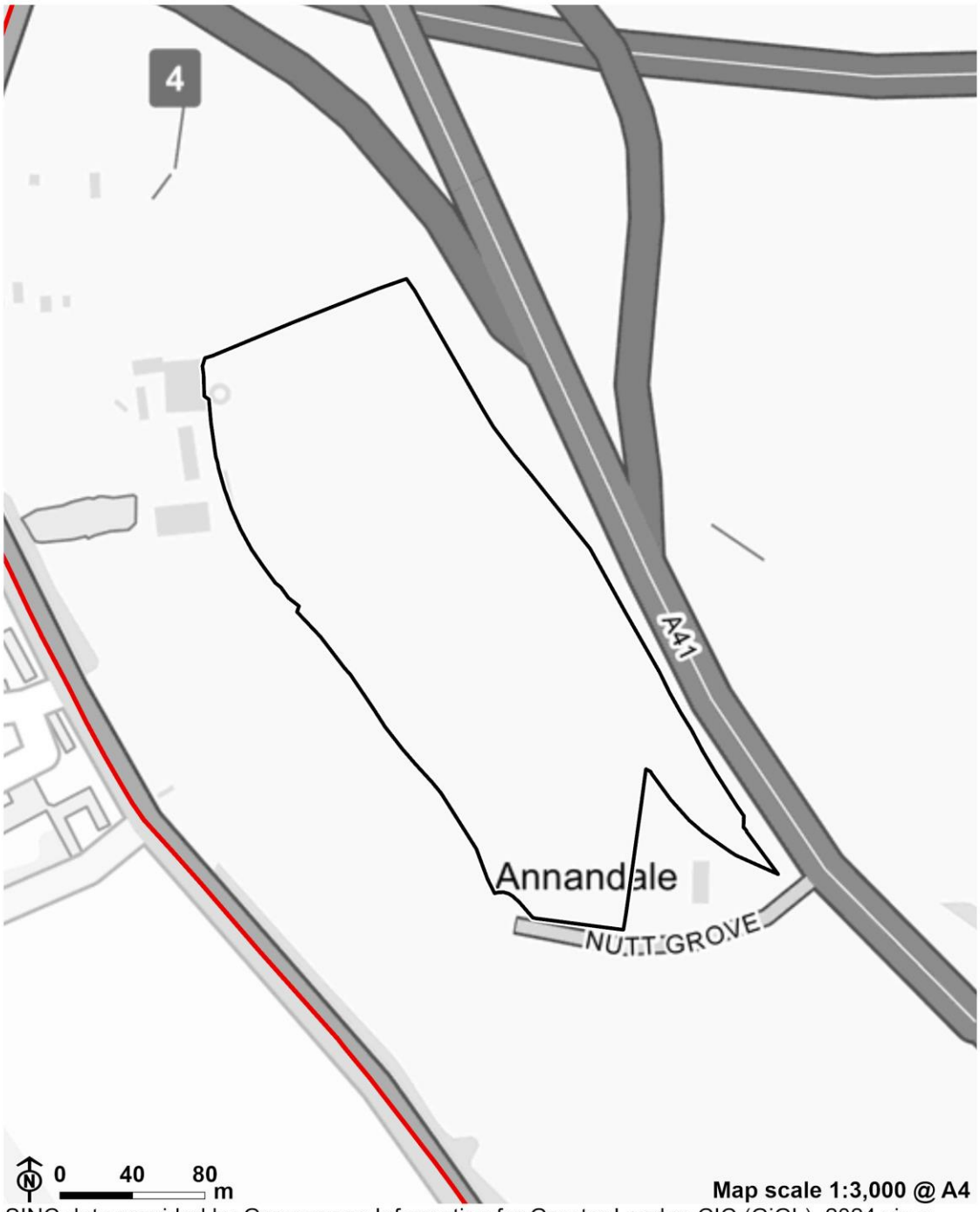
LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

BaBII01 Sulloniacis Pastures
Site information
LUC Site ID: 72
SINC ID: BaBII01
SINC Name: Sulloniacis Pastures
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ1766994007
Area (ha): 5.07
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Green Corridors
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: Flower rich pastures alongside an important archaeological site.
SINC Description: These flower rich pastures lie on the London clay, beside the Sulloniacis Roman settlement, a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The fields contain an abundance of wild flowers, including devil's bit scabious , Succisa pratensis, , burnet saxifrage , Pimpinella saxifraga, , agrimony , Agrimonia eupatoria, and greater bird's foot trefoil , Lotus uliginosus, . Two small areas of scrub and woodland contain sycamore , Acer pseudoplatanus, , oak , Quercus robur, , ash , Fraxinus excelsior, , hawthorn , Crataegus monogyna, and blackthorn , Prunus spinosa, .
Management provider: N/A
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: Due to the private ownership of this site, the site was not accessed for survey. However, a desk-based review was undertaken using aerial imagery and ecological records. The site is in the northwest corner of the borough and is functionally linked to green spaces to the south. The site is used to graze horses.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: N/A - Desk based study

BaBII01 Sulloniacis Pastures
Date: 9/6/2024 2:15:00 PM
Survey access: No_Access
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): Grassland looks to be eroded for over grazing by horses.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Woodland, Scrub
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): MeadowsPastures
Habitat survey description: The site is largely a mix of horse grazing pastures in the north, with a band of woodland and scrub in the south. The grassland was a very short sward. The tree species include oak, ash, sycamore, and field maple, with scrub including hawthorn and bramble.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion, Noise: Additional comments: The grassland pastures could become very eroded with high level of horse grazing which could lead soil run-off onto the road to the east of the site. The A41 runs along the east boundary, and therefore the site is exposed to high levels of vehicular noise.
Ecological opportunities on site: Tree Hedge, Scrub estab Additional comments: The creation of additional areas of scrub, scattered trees and hedgerow along the east site boundary would help reduce the effects of noise on the site, by creating a wider buffer.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The woodland and scrub within the site provides opportunities for foraging and nesting/roosting birds and bats. The scrub also provides suitableHabitat for invertebrates.
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs: N/A
Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: Sustainable grazing within the pastures to ensure the grassland maintains its flower richHabitat.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A

BaBII01 Sulloniacis Pastures
Habitat Rarity: The site comprises flower rich pastures which are rarer within the borough.
Species Rarity: N/A
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A
Size: The site is small at 5.05ha within the borough, the majority of this is flower rich grassland on London clay soil.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: N/A
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The SINC forms part of a Roman archaeological site.
Geographic Position: The site is in the northwest of the borough and does not ecologically link to other SINCs within the area, though is connected to the wider green spaces in the north of the borough.
Access: The site is not publicly accessible.
Use: The site is used to graze horses.
Potential: The site can be managed sustainably to maintain the flower-rich pastures whilst being used to graze horses. The creatio of a wider buffer of scrub, trees and hedgerow along the east site boundary will reduce the affects from the nearby road.
Aesthetic Appeal: The flower rich pastures create a pretty landscape which can be viewed from the main road.
Geodiversity Interest: The site is London Clay soil.
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: The site meets the Borough Grade II criteria. The SINC comprises rarer flower rich pastures which are situated on London Clay soil and form part of a larger roman archaeological site.
Site Maps



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London Borough of Barnet

LUC assessment site

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park
Site information
LUC Site ID: 73
SINC ID: BaL19
SINC Name: Edgwarebury Park
SINC Grade: Local
Grid Reference: TQ1894393320
Area (ha): 22
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Parks and Gardens, Other Urban Fringe
Ownership: London Borough of Barnet
SINC Summary: Large park with ancient hedgerows, parkland with scattered trees, stream down western side, ornamental gardens and recently planted woodland.
SINC Description: Edgwarebury Park is a large, attractive park on the very edge of north London. Its most distinctive feature is its magnificent old hedgerows. Gaps here and there offer glimpses out across the fields into the Hertfordshire countryside. Fine old oak , Quercus robur, , and ash trees , Fraxinus excelsior, tower above the bushes, and the presence of wild service tree is seen as an indicator of the hedgerows' antiquity. The grassland contains some interesting wild flowers, especially on damp ground in the north east corner. This is an excellent site for birdwatching. Species that nest in the park or nearby include song thrush, mistle thrush, great spotted woodpecker and common whitethroat. Parties of long tailed, great and blue tits work their way along the hedgerows, joined by redwings and fieldfares feasting on berries in winter. The Edgwarebury Brook runs in a shaded channel down the park's western side. Watling Chase Community Forest planted a new block of woodland in the north east corner of the park during the 1990s. The park also contains ornamental gardens, sports pitches and a playground.
Management provider: London Borough of Barnet
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: Deciduous woodland
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: No designated species at site.
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: Yes
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The SINC is a public park, located in the north west of the borough. It is bound to the west by two SINCs including Edgwarebury Brook and Edgware Way Rough. The site is located within the edge of the green belt and therefore fields, tree lines and hedgerows lie to the north and west of the site, and are ecologically connected to the site. Residential housing bounds the site to the east and a busy road (A41) runs alongside the southern boundary of the site.

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park
Survey Data
Surveyor: KR
Weather: Dry and fair
Date: 5/15/2024 1:54:00 PM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: High
Management: Good Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): There had been clear signs of management activities carried out to benefit biodiversity. For example in the east of the site, an area of grassland had been allowed to grow long and seeded with wildflowers to enhance the grassland. Standing deadwood and bug hotels had also been added into this area to provide further opportunities for wildlife. There were also a few small areas of grassland in the southern part of the site which had been left to grow long, such as around groups of scattered trees. Bird and bat boxes were also seen on site. The majority of the park was managed for recreational/amenity use with the majority of the grass area regularly mown to keep short.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Species rich grassland, Other rivers, Parks Urban Greenspace, Woodland, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Vet trees
Habitat survey description: The site is a public park, which is primarily for recreational/amenity use, however some areas had been managed for nature conservation. The majority of the site was regularly mown amenity grassland, with scattered trees and a playground and outdoor exercise area. The grassland to the north was lined by the old hedgerows with mature trees displaying veteran features. The hedgerows appeared to be overgrown. A formal garden area was located in the south of the site, with formal planting areas. An additional less formal garden area with grassland and scattered trees and shrubs was located in the east of the site. Tennis courts were present in the centre of the site as well an area of broadleaved woodland in the north east of the site, and smaller additional areas of woodland to the south. A few patches of dense scrub were present in the centre of the site alongside a tree line. The north-western field could not be accessed to be surveyed. The broadleaved woodland canopy was dominated by English oak, with frequent ash. The understorey was dominated by hazel, with occasional hawthorn, blackthorn, holly, cherry laurel and Prunus sp. Veteran oaks were noted within the woodland. The ground layer included cow parsley, yew sapling, field maple saplings, holly saplings, local dominant bramble, wood avens, dogwood, herb robert, wild garlic and red campion. The neutral grassland included abundant sweet vernal grass, meadow buttercup, meadow foxtail with frequent common sorrel, perennial rye grass, red fescue and yorkshire fog. Occasional species included creeping bent, creeping buttercup, lesser stitchwort, Poa sp, false oat grass, white clover and cuckoo flower. Knapweed and cocksfoot were seen rarely. The overgrown hedgerows included hawthorn, blackthorn, dogwood, yew and elder with predominantly oak trees.
Threats and Disturbances: Invasive species: Additional comments: Invasive species seen on site include cherry laurel and rhododendron. These should be controlled in line with legal requirements to ensure they do not spread.
Ecological opportunities on site: Mowing, wetland creation, Wildlife Friendly, Education Additional comments: N/A

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The site is known to support a range of bird species, and the site was noted to include multiple mature oak trees with various features with bat roost suitability, therefore the site possibly supports bat roosts, and very likely to support commuting and foraging bats. The long grassland and woodland Habitats have the potential to support amphibians in their terrestrial phase (provided that ponds are present within proximity to the site) and reptiles. The site likely supports a range of invertebrates.
Habitat figure:

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- LUC assessment site
- Individual tree
- Site accessibility issue

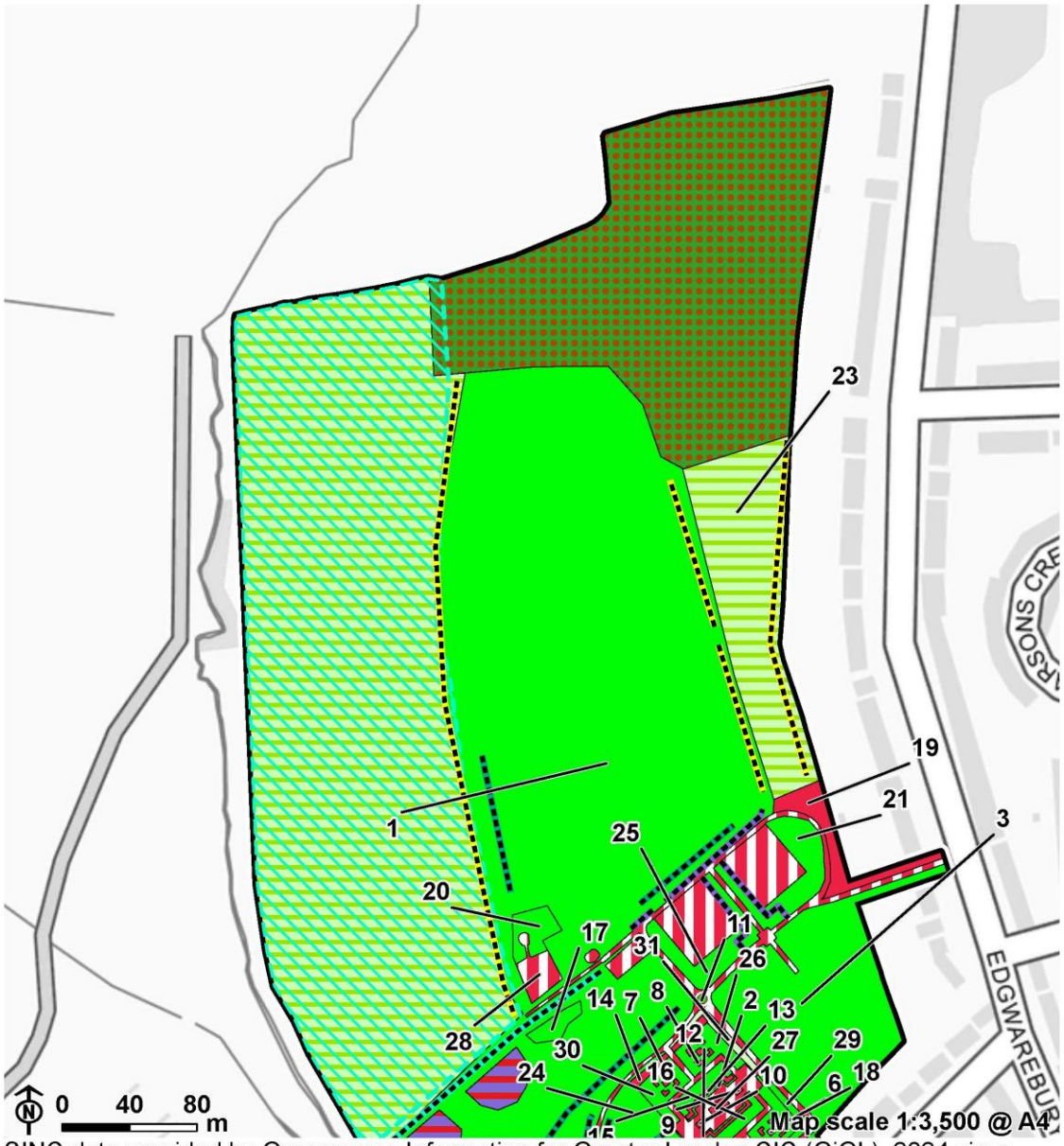
UKHab habitat linear

- Ecologically valuable line of trees
- Hedgerow with trees
- Hedgerows
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g - grassland
- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3h - mixed scrub
- u - urban
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- w1 - broadleaved and mixed woodland
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.



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- LUC assessment site
- Individual tree
- Site accessibility issue

UKHab habitat linear

- Ecologically valuable line of trees
- Hedgerow with trees
- Hedgerows
- Line of trees

UKHab habitat area*

- g - grassland
- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland
- h3h - mixed scrub
- u - urban
- u1b - developed land; sealed surface
- w1g - other broadleaved woodland

*Labels refer to secondary code below.

UKHab habitat area secondary code

1: 108 - frequently mown, 820 - natural sports pitches, 32 - scattered trees
2: 108 - frequently mown
3: 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub, 846 - flower bed
4: 201 - young trees - planted
5: 846 - flower bed
6: 846 - flower bed
7: 846 - flower bed
8: 846 - flower bed
9: 846 - flower bed
10: 846 - flower bed
11: 108 - frequently mown
12: 108 - frequently mown
13: 846 - flower bed
14: 846 - flower bed
15: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
16: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
17: 32 - scattered trees
18: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
19: 847 - introduced shrub, 32 - scattered trees,
20: 823 - children's play space
21: 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub,
22: 32 - scattered trees
23: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
24: 32 - scattered trees
25: 32 - scattered trees, 847 - introduced shrub,
26: 108 - frequently mown, 32 - scattered trees,
27: 847 - introduced shrub
28: 823 - children's play space
29: 32 - scattered trees, 10 - scattered scrub,
30: 108 - frequently mown
31: 10 - scattered scrub

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park
Site Photographs:

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

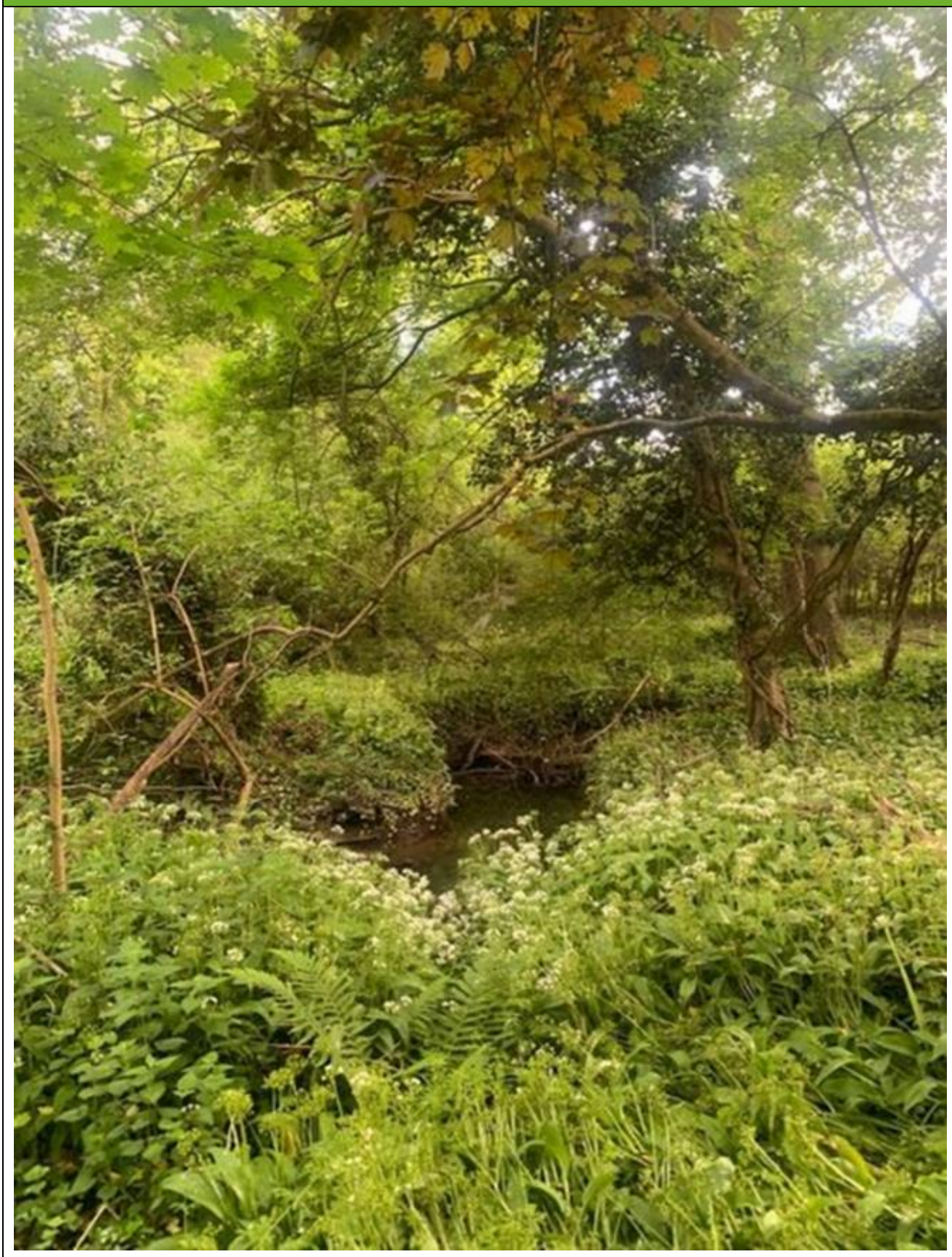
BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park



BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park

Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys:

N/A - no previous survey report assessment

Management Recommendations:

While some areas of grassland had been left to grow long, it would be beneficial to enhance additional areas of modified grassland, to create more species rich grassland on site. It would also be beneficial to create a wildlife pond within an area of long species rich grassland. This would provide breeding Habitat for amphibians and Habitat for a range of invertebrates. Given the sites location on the edge of the green belt and the array of Habitats on site including woodland and hedgerows with trees which connect the Habitats on site to those in the green belt, it is likely that the pond would be inhabited by a range of species. This would additionally provide an opportunity for education as the pond could be used for pond dipping/education for local schools. Signs were noted within the long grassland area providing information about what was being done to enhance the grass for wildlife which was good to see.

The area of formal garden could be enhanced for wildlife by planting with native or non-native species of benefit to wildlife, as listed on RHS plants for pollinators list. This would bolster the opportunities provided on site for invertebrates, and in turn providing foraging opportunities for bats.

Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB):

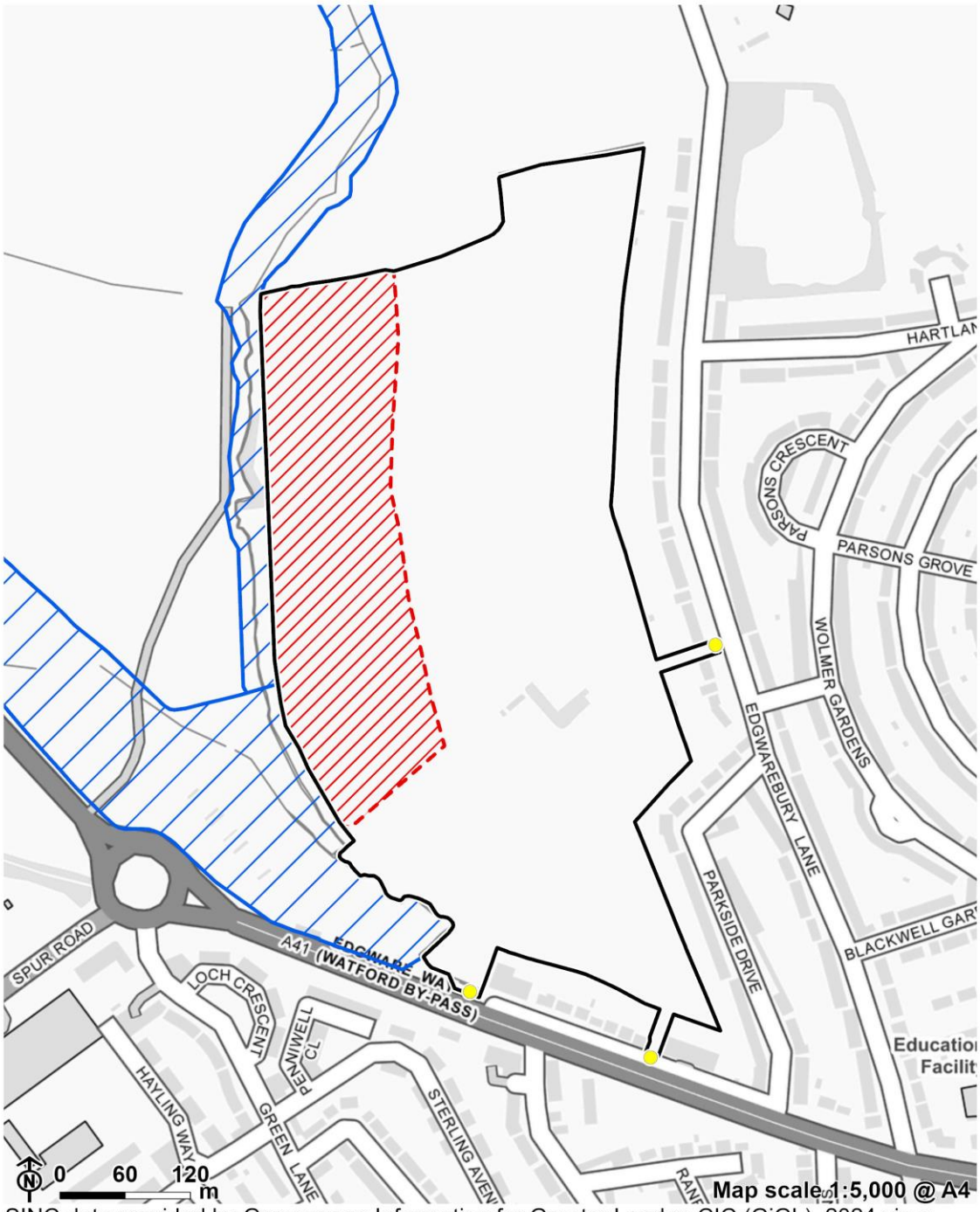
N/A

SINC Criteria

Representation: N/A

Habitat Rarity: The site supports broadleaved woodland which is uncommon in urban areas.

BaL19 Edgwarebury Park
Species Rarity: The site is known to support a range of birds such as song thrush (Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC) amber list), mistle thrush (BOCC red list), whitethroat (BOCC amber list) and fieldfare (BOCC red list).
Habitat Richness: The site supports a varied mix of Habitats including amenity grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, woodland, a brook, ornamental planting, hedgerows and scattered trees, however the majority of the site was regularly mown amenity grassland which is
Species Richness: The diverse mix of Habitats means there is a diverse mix of plant species, and mix of bird species known to be on site. It is very likely that the site supports bat species (most likely pipistrelles) and the deadwood on site likely supports invertebrates.
Size: This is a fairly large Site (22ha), which is located on the edge of the green belt and is therefore well connected to further greenspaces including two SINCs, which are bound to the west of the site.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: The park includes old hedgerows, and the presence of wild service tree is seen as an indicator of the hedgerows' antiquity.
Recreatability: The hedgerows included many mature oak trees with veteran features. Veteran trees are irreplaceableHabitats. The woodland which was planted in the 90's, would also take many years to reach its current condition.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: The park was once part of the Manor of Earlsbury, the earliest reference to which is in 1216. The park and surrounding area was part of the huge land holdings of All Souls College, Oxford.
Geographic Position: The park is located in the north west of the borough. It is bound to the west by two SINCs including Edgwarebury Brook and Edgware Way Rough. The site is located within the edge of the green belt and therefore fields, tree lines and hedgerows lie to the north and west of the Site, and are ecologically connected to the site. Residential housing bounds the site to the east and a busy road (A41) runs alongside the southern boundary of the site.
Access: Good access in the majority of the site, however the north-western field could not be accessed.
Use: The site is a public park, used for recreation, sports, relaxation, walking and socialising.
Potential: Management recommendations have been provided which would further increase the ecological value of the site.
Aesthetic Appeal: A peaceful park with many different areas to the park offering much to look at and explore while walking within it.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: No change
SINC Conclusion: A lovely park with a variety of Habitats providing good opportunities for wildlife. Recommendations have been included to further enhance the site for wildlife, however it is recommended that the SINC remains the same given its primary use as a public park, and therefore the opportunities forHabitat enhancement/creation is likely limited.
Site Maps



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Site accessibility issue

Access point

BaBII02 Edgwarebury Brook
Site information
LUC Site ID: 74
SINC ID: BaBII02
SINC Name: Edgwarebury Brook
SINC Grade: Borough Grade II
Grid Reference: TQ1878593721
Area (ha): 3.92
Ward: Barnet
Land Use: Other Urban Fringe
Ownership: Private
SINC Summary: An attractive section of stream with a good range of water plants.
SINC Description: This kilometre long section of the Edgwarebury Brook flows through farmland. It is a narrow stream of clear, mostly shallow water, with low banks and a bed of clay and gravel. Parts are shaded by trees and scrub, but much of it is open, with plenty of aquatic vegetation, including luxuriant beds of floating sweet grass , Glyceria fluitans, , and smaller amounts of brooklime , Veronica beccabunga, , water pepper , Persicaria hydropiper, , water cress , Rorippa nasturtium aquatica, , fool's watercress , Apium nodiflorum, , water plantain , Alisma plantago aquatica, , water mint , Mentha aquatica, , trifid bur marigold , Bidens tripartita, and common water starwort , Callitriche stagnalis, .
Management provider: N/A
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC: No designations.
NE Priority Habitat records: No PHI within site.
London BAP Habitat suitability records: Yes
Protected/Notable Species records: Lapwing, Lesser Whitethroat, Linnet, Peregrine, Red Kite, Skylark, Swift
INNS Records: No invasive species were recorded at the time of survey.
Is this site located in an Area of Deficiency in Access to Nature: No
Known projects/initiatives (listed by Barnet): N/A
Summary of Site: The site is located in the north of the borough and is ecologically connected to two additional SINCs and the wider green landscape. The brook is a blue corridor within the north of the borough. The site comprised a brook, horse paddocks, scrub, native hedgerows, and scattered trees. The north third of the site was accessible, with the southern 2/3rds inaccessible during the survey.
Survey Data
Surveyor: RWH
Weather: Rain showers, windy

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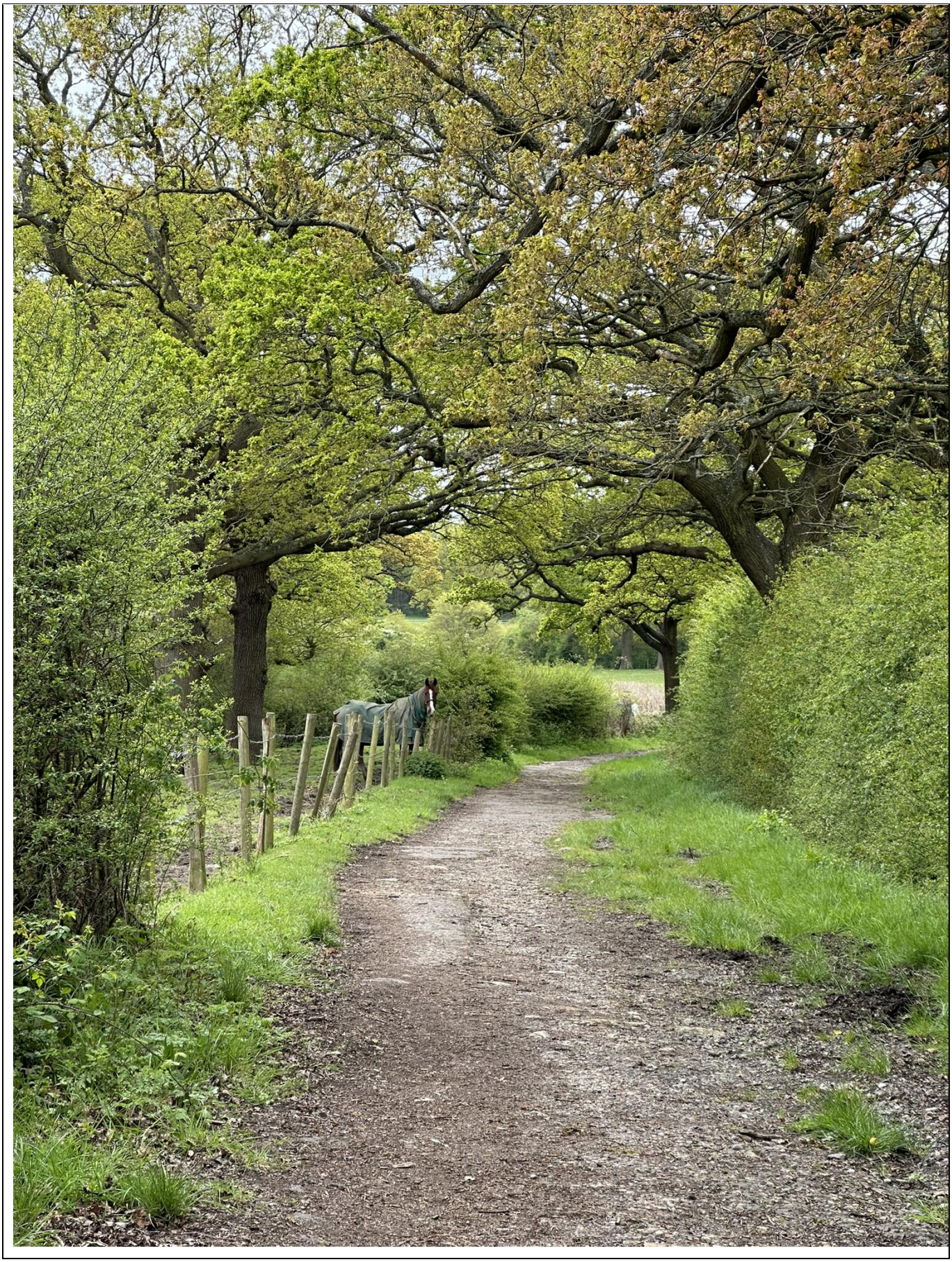
Date: 4/23/2024 11:59:00 AM
Survey access: Partial
Level of Use: High
Management: Satisfactory Additional comments on existing management (Use recommendations box below for any recommended changes in management): The horse paddocks were in poor condition with the grass very churned up.
Priority Habitats on site (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): Reedbeds, Other rivers, Scrub, native hedge
Other Important Habitats (only tick Habitats relevant to the site): MeadowsPastures
Habitat survey description: The brook passes between a number of horse paddocks. Within the paddock, along the bank edges, were area of dense scrub, these include dominant hawthorn and bramble abundant blackthorn and ivy, frequent ash, oak, and crab-apple, and rose. Also within the site were mature scattered oak trees. Two small areas of phragmites reeds were also noted within the fields within the margins of the brook. A short native hedgerow along the west field boundary in the north of the site was identified. From a review of aerial imagery the south end of the site included further areas of grassland, scrub and woodland.
Threats and Disturbances: Erosion: Additional comments: The horse paddocks in the north of the site were very eroded, with little grass left.
Ecological opportunities on site: Tree hedge, wetland creation, Deadwood Additional comments: The creation of further marginal planting and wetland creation along the edges of the brook. The planting of additional native hedgerows along the horse pasture fences and creation of deadwood features within the scrub.
Interest: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Invertebrates Explain the importance of the site for these interest features: The mature trees and scrub provide roosting/nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for bats and birds. The steam also provides a linear commuting route for bats, The wetland Habitat and brook provided suitableHabitat for amphibians and invertebrates
Habitat figure: N/A
Site Photographs:

BaBII02 Edgwarebury Brook

BaBII02 Edgwarebury Brook



BaBII02 Edgwarebury Brook

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Changes to Habitats since the previous surveys: N/A
Management Recommendations: The removal of horse from the paddocks to allow the grassland to re-establish and reduce run-off into the brook. Marginal planting would also help reduce the erosion along the bank tops of the brook.
Known/relevant existing site management plans (information to be provided by LBB): N/A
SINC Criteria
Representation: N/A
Habitat Rarity: The natural stream through the paddocks is a rarerHabitat within the borough as the shape has not been engineers or culverted within the site.
Species Rarity: The Habitats within the site support a number of notable and protected bird species including Lapwing, Lesser Whitethroat, Linnet, Peregrine, Red Kite, Skylark and Swift. House martins were also identified as using the site during the survey.
Habitat Richness: N/A
Species Richness: N/A

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Size: The site is small, but supports multipleHabitats including grassland paddocks, scrub, reedbeds, a stream and woodland.
Important populations of species: N/A
Ancient Character: N/A
Recreatability: The mature trees would be difficult to recreate given the time taken to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character: N/A
Cultural/Historic Character: N/A
Geographic Position: The site is located in the north of the borough and is ecologically connected to two additional SINCs and the wider green landscape. The brook is a blue corridor within the north of the borough
Access: The site was not accessible to the public, a bridal path ran along the west boundary of the top third of the site.
Use: The north of the SINC was being used to graze horses.
Potential: The removal of horse from the paddocks to allow the grassland to re-establish and reduce run-off into the brook. Marginal planting would also help reduce the erosion along the bank tops of the brook. The creation of deadwood features to support invertebrates and reptiles.
Aesthetic Appeal: The scrub and scattered trees provided a green landscape.
Geodiversity Interest: N/A
SINC Survey Conclusions
SINC Recommendations: Proposed extension
SINC Conclusion: A possilble extension of the SINC to include similarHabitats along the brook to the north and south of the site. This would increase the area of running water and scrub within the site and protect a longer blue corridor within the borough.
Site Maps

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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Proposed boundary exentsion