



The Moreton Hall Wildlife Group
WOODLAND WAYS NEWS
July 2025

Notice of Annual General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting will be held in the Conference Room at the Moreton Hall Pub, Lawson Place, Bury St Edmunds
10am – 10.30am on Sunday 13th July 2025 to transact the following business

Agenda

- 1. Minutes of the previous meeting**
To be agreed and matters arising
- 2. Reports and accounts**
To receive and consider the accounts for the years ended 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024, and the reports of the charity trustees
- 3. Appointment of charity trustees**
To elect the trustees as listed below
Caroline Byrne
Jenny Green - Secretary
Mike Hollins
Moirra Lawson - Treasurer
Russell Moles
Janet Scorer
Nick Sibbett - Chair
Jane Starling
- 4. Any other business.**

Everyone Welcome.

Please note the meeting place – we will be outside if the weather is good, otherwise indoors.
We need enough members to attend so that the meeting is quorate; if this is the only event you come to, please do make the effort. After the AGM we will go to Woodland Ways Pond and to Pond Covert orchard for our work party - making hay whilst the sun shines and some tree maintenance work.

The trustees run Woodland Ways – arranging the work programme, keeping us safe and compliant with charity law. If you have something to say, you are very welcome to come to a Trustees meeting and tell us, even if you are not a trustee yourself.

Recent activities

Pond Covert orchard mistletoe project

Previously we reported that we had collected around 120 mistletoe berries from a large estate outside Bury St Edmunds. Apple trees, and one hawthorn, were inoculated with the seeds back in February 2025. In June, we found that 26 had germinated into seedlings, with a disc-shaped 'holdfast' and the tip of the seedling growing into the bark. As the seedling penetrates into the apple tree's sap system, an external growth will form. Not all 26 seedlings will survive, but we are very hopeful that some will grow into adults and will be decent-sized plants by 2029. A drawing showing the tree locations and how many seedlings have survived was drawn by Mike Clare and is enclosed.

Home Covert Biodiversity Project

Our June work party will be to re-treat the fence around our storage container. It was last done nearly In June, we used a standard method of assessing the condition of Home Covert. A checklist, based on the Government's statutory Biodiversity Net Gain metric, was used by members to identify the wood's strong points and weak points. The completed checklist is attached.

We found that Home Covert was in moderate condition. Two of the reasons it did not score more highly was the presence of deer which are eating almost every tree or shrub leaf below 1m high, and a dominance of sycamore in the high canopy. Trustees are now considering if we can improve matters, by replacing sycamore with native tree species and fencing part of the wood to allow it to recover from deer browsing.

Work Parties

For more information please contact us.

Date in 2025	Activity	Meeting Point
Sunday 13th July 10.00 - 12.00	AGM and hay rake at Woodland Ways Pond / Pond Covert orchard	Moreton Hall Pub Find us in the garden if the weather is dry
Sunday 10th August 10.00 - 12.00	Natterer's Wood The great hay rake	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 14th September	Natterer's Wood Tree rescue	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 12th October 10.00 – 12.00	Natterer's Wood Tree rescue	Natterer's Wood Kingsworth Road entrance
Sunday 16th November 10.00 – 12.00	Pond Covert Path maintenance	Woodland Ways storage unit Pond Covert, Sebert Road
Sunday 8th December 10.00 - 12.00	Home Covert Path maintenance	Woodland Ways storage unit Pond Covert, Sebert Road

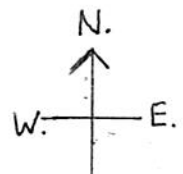
Weather, new needs etc sometimes means we change plans at short notice. Check our website or Facebook for the most up to date information.

Trustees' meet on Monday evenings, with the next ones on 15th September and 8th December. Please come to find out what the trustees do, and contribute anything you might have to tell us

Telephone: Nick Sibbett (chair) 01284 723847
 Telephone: Jenny Green (secretary) 01284 723857
 Email: chair@woodlandways.org.uk
 Website: www.woodlandways.org.uk
 Facebook: @NatterersWood

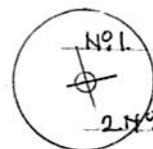
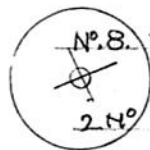
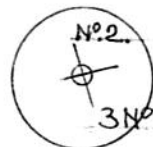
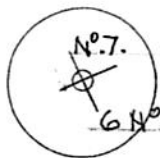
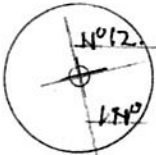
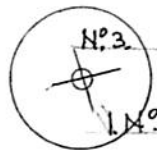
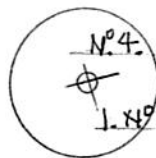
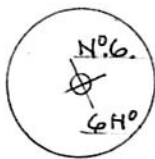
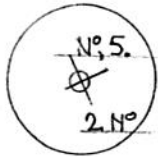
Mistletoe seeds plan
on 9 Feb. 2025
Progress check made
on 8 June. 2025 and
Number taken noted
a total of 26 N°.

Edge of cycleway
to Sebert Road.

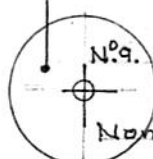


Visual Survey only
not to scale
ie. diagrammatic

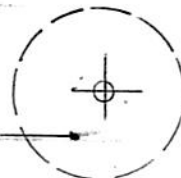
Sub-station.



12 N° Apple trees.



1 N° Plum tree



Entrance to Orchard

Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type					
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types					
Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood Woodland and forest - Wet woodland					
Habitat Description					
Other woodland, broadleaved.					
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification					
This condition sheet is based on the England Woodland Biodiversity Group (EWBG) Woodland Condition Survey Method, available here:					
Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylvia.org.uk)					
<p>IMPORTANT: This biodiversity metric woodland condition assessment must be used to assess woodland being input into the biodiversity metric. The outputs of this condition assessment are not equivalent to, nor are they comparable with the scores from the EWBG condition assessment, because the EWBG assessment has been adapted for the biodiversity metric, including the removal of EWBG Indicator 7 (Proportion of favourable land cover around woodland) and Indicator 14 (Size of woodland), and minor changes to other indicators.</p>					
On-site or off-site, site name and location	on site	Survey date and Surveyor name	11th May 2025 Woodland Ways		
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference	TL87286436	Habitat parcel reference			
Condition Assessment Criteria					
Indicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)
A Age distribution of trees	Three age-classes ¹ present.	Two age-classes ¹ present.	One age-class ¹ present.	2	post-war tall sycamore (intermediate) and saplings (young)
B Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland ² .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in less than 40% of whole woodland ² .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland ² .	1	Browsing by muntjac in whole wood
C Invasive plant species	No invasive species ³ present in woodland.	Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> or cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> not present, and other invasive species ³ <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species ³ ≥10% cover.	3	none seen
D Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species ⁴ found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species ⁴ found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species ⁴ across woodland parcel.	3	beech, hazel, ash, holly, hawthorn, elder, field maple, elm all at low abundance. Sycamore dominant.

E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native ⁵ .	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native ⁵ .	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native ⁵ .	1	>80% sycamore canopy cover
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space ⁶ . Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted ⁷ .	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space ⁶ .	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space ⁶ . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category ⁷ .	3	no open space but less than 10ha
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland ⁸ ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland ⁸ .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland ⁸ .	3	trees 4-7cm, saplings and seedlings present although very few seedlings are present
H	Tree health	Tree mortality 10% or less, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback ⁹ .	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present ⁹ .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present ⁹ .	3	dead trees have previously been removed for safety
I	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community ¹⁰ at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community ¹⁰ at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community ¹⁰ at ground layer present.	1	
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland ¹¹ .	Two storeys across all survey plots ¹¹ .	One or less storey across all survey plots ¹¹ .	2	
K	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran trees ¹² per hectare.	One veteran tree ¹² per hectare.	No veteran trees ¹² present in woodland.	1	no veteran trees
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities ¹³ .	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities ¹³ .	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities ¹³ .	2	deadwood is surprisingly abundant for an urban wood - safety felling has left logs in place
M	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident ¹⁴ .	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area, and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground ¹⁴ .	1 hectare or more of nutrient enrichment, and or 20% or more of woodland area has damaged ground ¹⁴ .	2	nettles less than 20% of woodland area

Total Score (out of a possible 39) 27

Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Result Achieved
Total score >32 (33 to 39)		Good (3)	Moderate
Total score 26 to 32		Moderate (2)	
Total score <26 (13 to 25)		Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Exclude deer from all or part the area			
Diversify the canopy by swapping sycamore for native tree species			