

Hurst Green Parish Council Commissioned Report
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Neighbourhood Plan

Rapid Grassland Assessment



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Hurst Green Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan

Rapid Grassland Assessment

1. Summary

- This report was commissioned by **Hurst Green Parish Council (HGPC) Neighbourhood Plan**: to undertake rapid grassland surveys on nine sites and detail their current and potential value to contribute and help inform HGPC decision towards their suitability for housing.
- The specialist grassland consultant surveyor utilizes and adapts an existing rapid assessment & monitoring methodology designed for the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The resulting habitat types described are based on experience, as well as the seasonally present flora and fauna.
- High Weald Grassland are part of an extensive, landscape-scale habitat mosaic to include interconnecting multiple grassland biota such as; tussocky grassland, wet grassland, scrub/grassland mosaic. It is very important to look at the grasslands/ scrubland holistically, as grasslands of high biodiversity value within the High Weald AONB often fail to qualify purely due to their floristic diversity. N/B: Grassland of high nature conservation value are usually described using a narrow range of National Vegetation Classification (NVC) communities. In the High Weald most often classified as [MG5 \(Mesotrophic or neutral\)](#) or the BAP Priority habitat (Lowland Meadow) criteria [1].
- Land parcels; HG2, HG35 & HG40 were either not surveyed, or the survey work that was carried out was limited - due to access/boundary issues, or scrubbing up.
- **Most of the grasslands surveyed exhibited a number of positive indicator species (notably HG; 6, 11, 22, 28 & 39)** along with a range of common wildflower, grass and weed species. They also had notable fauna, which in context of the whole site - lead to some high value grassland finds. Under their existing management they are already 'valuable' for a range of invertebrates, birds or fungi.
- It is important to note, that subtle management changes (by landowners) within a number of grassland areas, could lead to an associated increase in number of positive wildflowers indicators recorded.
- This detailed but rapid screening method recorded the current (out of season baseline) value of individual grassland habitats. High value habitat for a range of species and suspected species = the requirement for more in season survey work. The report therefore comes with recommendations for additional in season grassland (& woodland/scrub) surveying in 2020 with associated species recording during 2020.

[1]. Ryland, K. 2019 . A review of current grassland monitoring & evaluation approaches with recommendations for a High Weald NRA. Informing a High Weald Nature Recovery Area proposal.

2. Background

In late September/ early October Weald Meadows Partnership & Services Grassland Consultant Dawn Brickwood was commissioned to survey nine sites, amounting to around 9 ha, on behalf of Hurst Green Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan.

The sites surveyed during October are mapped and illustrated in Appendix 1. The mapped sites are either shown as Improved (legend grey) or Semi-improved (legend light pink) grassland types.

Woodlands and weed dominated areas fell into the 'Improved' mapped category - as not true grassland areas.

The surveyed HGPCNP sites are shown in relation to other local meadows sites - classified through past surveys and mapped as unimproved, or species rich grassland.

Below is a general definition (www.highweald.org) of the three grassland types for reference.

Improved grassland: consists of mainly Ryegrass with few flowers such as buttercups, docks and thistles. ... These are the commonest grassland left in the Weald. They do have potential for conversion to rough grassland - as the Ryegrass declines, it will attract Voles, Bumblebees, and Barn Owls.

Semi-improved grasslands still retain a good number of grasses and valuable wildflowers such as Red Clover, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Ox-eye Daisy and Knapweed which are important for Bumblebees and many other insects. Under traditional management these also have the potential for supporting more species.

Unimproved grasslands can support 30- 50 kinds of grasses and wildflowers including such scarce and attractive Weald indicators such as Dyer's Greenweed, Devil's-bit Scabious, Pepper Saxifrage, Green-winged Orchid, Betony, and Sneezewort.

3. Survey, Assessment & Monitoring Techniques Explanation

There are different grassland survey techniques that are appropriate for different purposes. In the case of Hurst Green Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan a rapid survey technique was selected to utilise the resources available and yet provide robust baseline data - for any additional work where required.

A review of current grassland monitoring & evaluation approaches with recommendations for a High Weald Nature Recovery Area (2019) gives a full explanation of the complexity of grassland types and survey methodologies which can be utilised. Below is an *extract from the referenced report*, which explains how the rapid survey methodology came about.

'Species-rich grassland in the High Weald can often have characteristics of several different priority grassland types within close proximity. The importance of the fields to invertebrates as well as the contribution made by any hedgerows, scrub and old route ways all needs to be taken into account when looking at priority habitat types and relies on a large extent to the field skills of the assessor.

The features that characterise grassland habitats and which need to be assessed in order to evaluate their quality or guide future management include; botanical composition, ratio of herbs to grasses, presence and abundance of positive and negative indicator species (including scrub), type and quality of boundary features, the impact and appropriateness of management, potential to support invertebrates, fungi and other fauna .

In recent years there has been much work put into developing assessment methodologies that clarify the condition of high nature value grassland and also to pin down the qualifying features for BAP priority grassland habitats.

The time, money and expertise available for biological survey and monitoring work are constant constraints. As a result there has been an increased focus on using rapid survey methodologies. Most rapid assessment methods are based on recording the presence and cover of selected plant species as positive and negative indicators as a proxy for species-richness and grassland condition.

Collecting information about past and current management is particularly important when assessing the conservation value and potential of grassland habitats. Some management variables can be modified to improve site condition, for example removing cut material, reducing the extent of undesirable species at an early stage of infestation, timing of mowing, stocking levels and duration/timing of grazing. Other results of management or neglect may have more intractable or irreversible impacts such as elevated soil nutrient levels, loss of non-competitive species from the sward and seed bank or very long established woody plants. Ideally baseline surveys of grassland should be repeatable if ongoing monitoring of the habitat is required i.e. the survey results should be of a type and in a format to allow measurement of change over time. Monitoring (measuring change) should also extend beyond simple component species records and encompass other habitat condition indicators such as presence/proportion of scrub, grazing pressure, sward structure and extent of bare ground.

The rapid grassland assessment template for use with the High Weald AONB allow surveyors to record features in and around grassland that are of value to invertebrates both for feeding and as nesting or over-wintering habitat. Examples include; tussocky sward structure, adjoining woody habitats, how "flowery" the sward is and whether there are areas of bare ground or sunny banks [1].'

A copy of the original survey template associated with the report is located in Appendix 3. Adaptations were made by the surveyor in order to capture additional common species, as their recorded presence makes diverse and varied habitats. Also serving to provide robust baseline data for any further work.

[1]. Ryland, K. 2019 . A review of current grassland monitoring & evaluation approaches with recommendations for a High Weald NRA. Informing a High Weald Nature Recovery Area proposal.

4. Results

The nine sites were visited on a number of occasions during October, mainly in cool windy conditions but on one occasion with late autumn sun. The survey areas are illustrated on map Appendix 1 on page 9.

A summary of the site results are below, with individual adapted rapid site assessment records located in Appendix 2 from pages 10 onwards.

In addition to grassland, scrub, trees and hedgerow species, direct observations were also recorded for invertebrates, birds and fungi but due to the seasonal variations - all species present (within the sward and surrounding habitat) are unlikely to have been recorded. The records provide a guide to the current diversity of the sites and grassland consultant experience provides a classification of habitat type for the surveyed areas .

The data was recorded using the DAFOR abundance scale for flora (where possible) where: D = Dominant, A= Abundant, F= Frequent, O=Occasional and R= Rare. You can also have locally F or O. A selection of site photos are also detailed in Appendix 4.

HG2 - Approx 2.23ha - Woodland/Secondary Woodland Habitat with a Footpath.

Accessed via a narrow footpath behind houses at Ridgeway, this site was a challenge to survey. With boundary changes from domestic encroachment - much of the land now forms part of private gardens. The wider area is deciduous woodland and near the houses the disturbed understory consists of Maple and Ivy near the main footpath (east to west).

Limited survey work carried out - both south of the Footpath (where there is secondary woodland) and within the more established fenced woodland area to the north.

Key Attributes: the site borders and blends into Burgh Hill parcel HG27, Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW). This makes HG2 special in terms of the regenerating woodland habitat and is deciduous woodland on the GIS/ HGNP - Hurst Green - Ancient Woodland and Public Green Spaces - v1

Key Species: Bordering ASNW with feature large Oaks and Hornbeams - but no DAFOR species data.

Recommendations: Re-survey full site in spring/ summer season and redefine the ownership boundaries. A hard option for potential housing, with the secondary woodland bordering key ASNW , the site is likely to hold significant invertebrate interest.

HG 6 / HG39: 1.70 Ha Semi- Improved Grassland - Part of Both Fields Ploughed/ Re-Seeded?

Accessed via a gateway off the A21, two Semi-improved grasslands unfenced internally, managed as one unit, with similar habitat characteristics. Both have a good range of common grassland species, surrounded by established hedgerows/woodland boundaries - with a diverse bramble bank spanning the site(s) to the north.

Rapid survey carried out, both grasslands have indicators of species rich grasslands. HG6 may have been ploughed and is slightly less diverse but both with a grazed tussocky grass dominated sward & litter layer.

Key Attributes: Bramble bank and Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW) adjoining grassland in the western corner. The grasslands also have with a medieval field system & joint historic field boundaries with bank, ditches, notable hedgerows and a footpath to the south.

Key Species: Bird's-foot Trefoil, Red Clover, Hawkbit & Meadow Vetchling. **HG6 - 4 positive grassland indicators & 2 other notable species & HG39 - 6 positive grassland indicators & 2 other notable species.**

Recommendations: Re-survey 2-3 times during the season to capture all associated species. Ribbon development suggest that this could be an option for housing but additional invertebrate interest within the grassland and scrubland areas likely - especially with key bordering features such as ASNW.

HG 11 : 1.54/1.69 Ha Semi- Improved Grassland - With Sown Wildflower Margins.

Accessed via Burgh Hill Road, the Semi - improved HG11 grassland with positive indicator species- leads (unfenced) into larger grassland parcel HG36. Exhibiting similar grassland characteristics the grazed fields gently slopes south towards the main road (A265), with the lane adjacent to the north (Burgh Hill ASNW beyond) and domestic properties either side (east and west). The sward is fine but tussocky in sections. Margins around parts of the northern, eastern and southern headlands of HG11 have all been sown with a Chicory based wildflower mix - perhaps with the aim of increasing the wildlife potential of the grazed field. There is also part of a hedge/ tree margin to the southern boundary but this is incomplete.

Rapid survey carried out with more grassland species expected and good invertebrate interest. Wet flush observed to the west with species such as Hogweed & Tufted Hair Grass. Reasonably flat field with good invertebrate records and with management variations - more wildflowers are likely.

Key Attributes: Good hedgerows /tree boundaries. On the diverse hedgebank located on the lane Comma and Red Admiral butterflies observed in good numbers. Non medieval field system but known species rich wildflower meadows nearby - located beyond the A265.

Key Species: Bird's-foot Trefoil, Red Clover, Common Knapweed, Red Fescue and Meadow Vetchling. **6 positive grassland indicators and 6 other notable species recorded.** Ladybirds, Red Admiral & Comma Butterflies with Linnets feeding. The sown headland strip (while a cause of disturbance to the semi-natural grassland) supporting later foraging invert and bird species.

Recommendations: Enough grassland and associated invertebrates for site background and re-survey work in spring and summer to record and collate additional species.

HG 22 : 2.05/2.15 Ha - Semi -Improved Grassland.

Accessed off the A21 with open grassland & dilapidated fences, the site exhibits a parkland feel. The large diverse roadside hedge/tree line provides a calm environment despite the proximity to the A21. Good views across the grassland to the east. **The most recorded species (flora and fauna) of all the sites surveyed.** Lightly grazed (with the odd anthill) the grassland dominated sward has tussocky and finer leaved areas (to include Sweet Vernal Grass). With additional management - wildflower species likely to improve.

Full rapid survey carried out with more grassland species expected and good fungi & invertebrate interest. Grazed by c. 20 sheep at time of survey - very extensive (light) grazing. Also the most negative indicators species recorded; Thistle, Dock, with Bramble encroachment in areas - but useful for invertebrates. Survey identified; Anthills - indicative of traditional pasture land, Skippers, Red Admirals, Bumble Bees, Wood Wasps and Linnets.

Key Attributes: Parkland feel with diverse feature trees, diverse grassland with high value hedgerows. Non medieval field system, possibly changed over the years but with historic field boundaries present on the eastern edge.

Key Species: The highest number of flora species recorded; Bird's-foot Trefoil, Red Clover, Knapweed, Red Fescue, Fleabane (damp loving - good inverts), Grass and Meadow Vetchling. Recorded; anthills, Fungi and Waxcaps. Out of season survey also identified the grassland being extensively used by; Skippers, Red Admiral Bumble Bees, Wood Wasps and Linnets. **8 positive grassland indicators and 9 other notable species (inc invert/fungi & birds).**

Recommendations: Good grassland species, with this associated fungi and also invertebrate interest. Re-survey 2-3 times during the season with background information to add to the species present.

HG 23 : 1 Ha Disturbed Vegetation (outline planning permission applied July & refused in Oct).

Accessed off the A21, with dilapidated but old estate/park metal railing fence in places. Boundary trees included; Holly, Oak, Maple, Ornamental trees, Horse Chestnut, Hawthorn, Privet. A large Horse Chestnut tree an imposing entry feature(outside boundary?). The small site has a footpath running to the south. Brambly & tussocky in nature, the area could hold a good number of invertebrates and borders the very traditional wider grazed farmland pasture beyond. Adjacent to HG35 (with suspected grassland interest & bordering Hornbeams - indicative of historic boundaries). However, HG23 currently exhibits a weed dominated disturbed vegetation type - currently falling outside a true grassland habitat.

Rapid survey carried out with some grassland species present but potentially more invertebrate interest.

Key Attributes: Proximately to HG35 (with suspected interest) footpath & farmland beyond.

Key Species: Red Fescue, Nipplewort and Cinquefoil. **1 positive grassland indicator only.**

Recommendations: Outline planning application refused & despite the lack of grassland species - potentially warrants additional survey work due to; suspected invertebrate interest, surrounding High Weald features including the proximity to HG35, with Dormouse surveys (pictured) underway....

HG 28 : 2.25 Ha Drewett Cricket Field Public Green Space & Semi-Improved/ Unimproved Grassland .

Accessed off a footpath (an historic routeway) from the A21, this area of amenity/ recreation grassland was diverse, due in part to the constant management regime. Good feature trees, with a variety of grassland heights. The flat Cricket pitch area (disturbed) slopes to the east, into rougher more diverse natural grassland. The areas not mown regularly show promise of wildflower diversity - overall suspected NVC in the non sown/disturbed areas - MG6/ MG5. NB not necessarily borne out by the recorded survey results.

Full rapid survey carried out surveyor experience indicating diverse wildflower grassland.

Key Attributes: Grassland interest despite lack of records and feature hedgerows/ trees.

Key Species: Bugle, Red Fescue, Sweet Vernal Grass and Crested Dog's-tail. **2 positive grassland indicators and 2 other notable species recorded.**

Recommendations: Continue to manage for amenity requirement. Suggest a more relaxed management regime for the larger areas (such as the site entrance) & move to an annual/ bi-annual cutting/ removal rotation. Record species & limit the disposal of mowings (for invertebrate piles/compost) to perhaps 2-3 selected locations only.

HG 35 0.81ha & HG40 1 ha - Semi-Improved Grassland/ Scrubland.

Accessed via footpath from the A21 (past HG23) access to HG35 was poor, or in the case of HG40 impossible and therefore minimal site/survey data collated. A little headway was made into the area south of the footpath into HG35 where a number of interesting flora species recorded. HG 40 seen over fence only - not possible to safely access from either Foundry Close, or historic routeway to Drewett Field (HG28). Possible access in the future both areas by pre - arrangement with home owners from Foundry Close?

Limited survey work carried out but Key Attributes: grassland and grazing land bordering the sites. Some areas especially HG35 with medieval field system and historic field boundaries blending into HG40.

Key Species: Large Hornbeam feature trees on & footpath northern edge of HG35. **No key species** but HG35 records: Nipplewort, Ground Ivy, Foxglove, Buddleia, Self-heal, Square Stalked- St John's Wort. Other species heard/ observed: Crickets and Robins. HG35 species from Foundry Close: Hard Rush, Bramble and Elderflower.

Recommendations: Full survey required for habitat definitions/ recommended for the future. This work could be underway already, with evidence of dormouse monitoring on the northern border (pictured).

5. Discussion & Conclusions

All sites were visited over three days during October where survey work was undertaken (where possible) to record site data and identify the core habitat type.

Sites which require further survey work for ratification of their priority habitats and boundaries include HG parcel numbers; 2 and 35 & 40.

From the survey work:

HG2: is broadly a Woodland habitat but with additional access required to explore the full extent of the site and survey - across the seasons. Due to transitional habitat near the footpath, mapping as non grassland/improved despite the historic and ASNW component.

HG6 / HG39: historic Semi-improved grassland recorded with positive wildflower indicator species. Mapped as semi -improved grassland due to recorded species numbers and also the recent disturbance/reseed of selected grassland areas.

HG 11: Semi - improved grassland recorded with positive wildflower indicator species - which are likely to increase with additional management. With the added interest, albeit disturbance caused by the reseeded edge with a Chicory based wildflower seed mix - giving rise to the increased foraging potential of the area.

HG 22: Semi-improved grassland with anthills - indicative of old pasture and other species rich indicators such as Wax cap/fungi - associated with ancient trees. Parkland style grassland with the most positive wildflower indicators recorded with altered field boundaries.

HG23: Improved - disturbed vegetation but potential interest possible on site, due in part to proximately to key sites and associated AONB features.

HG28: Semi -improved public area of grassland (so unsuitable for housing) but likely to be species rich (NVC - MG6 - MG5 type in areas) under a more relaxed management regime.

HG 35: Limited access - additional survey work required. Historic field boundaries and key wildflower indicator species recorded in a small area on the northern edge of the site.

HG40: No access possible - so survey work required.

While the majority of the commissioned grassland areas results fall below the expected number and proportion of indicator species for classification of a species rich grassland [2] each of the individual sites grasslands recorded at least one species rich positive wildflower indicator. The overall flora and fauna numbers of the more common species were good and recorded within (broadly) historic field settings. Characteristic of the variety of interconnecting wildflower grasslands (key components) within the High Weald AONB, this is therefore not an unexpected result.

All sites should be re -surveyed with their recorded flora and potential flora interest. They all have significant fauna and with their High Weald features already serve to provide valuable interlinking habitats, warranting additional resources on recording time. It is recommended that any future work should include specifics such as; past and current management, as this will help provide additional depth to the current (and future) diversity.

The process is likely to occur as part of any application for outline planning permission but the existence of this rapid survey work provides Hurst Green Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan with a solid and useful set of baseline data, on which to build upon and take forward as part of the villages assessment of the potential sites suitable for housing.

[2]Where species rich (or unimproved) grassland is classified as: cover of rye-grasses and white clover is less than 10% with the sward species-rich (>15 vascular plant species/m², including a good range of grasses). A high cover of wildflowers and sedges (more than 30%), to exclude white clover, creeping buttercup and injurious weeds).

References & Sources

Ryland, K. 2019 . A review of current grassland monitoring & evaluation approaches with recommendations for a High Weald NRA. Informing a High Weald Nature Recovery Area proposal.

High Weald AONB Data:

HGPC Evidence 17 - HW AONB Hurst Green Parish Field and Heath factsheet Unit Data:

HGNP - Hurst Green - Ancient Woodland and Public Green Spaces - v1

HGNP - Hurst Green - Evidence 14 - BGS Parent Material Soil Group - Hurst Green v1

HGNP - Hurst Green - Priority Habitat Inventory A3 - Hurst Green Parish v1

HGNP-Hurst-Green-Village-Extended-Call-for-Sites-v10_WithComm

Weald Meadows Initiative - Grasslands Database 1998 - 2009

www.highweald.org

Weald Meadows Partnership (High Weald Landscape Trust) Grasslands Database 1998 - 2019

Rodwell, J.S. 2006 *National Vegetation Classification: Users' handbook*. JNCC, Peterborough

Rodwell, J.S. ed, 1992 *British Plant Communities. Volume 3. Grassland and montane communities*.

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Save Our Magnificent Meadows Rapid Assessment – how to design, undertake and analyse monitoring results & a surveyors guide to carrying out rapid assessment (2015)

Legend

I_meadows_polys_21_02_13

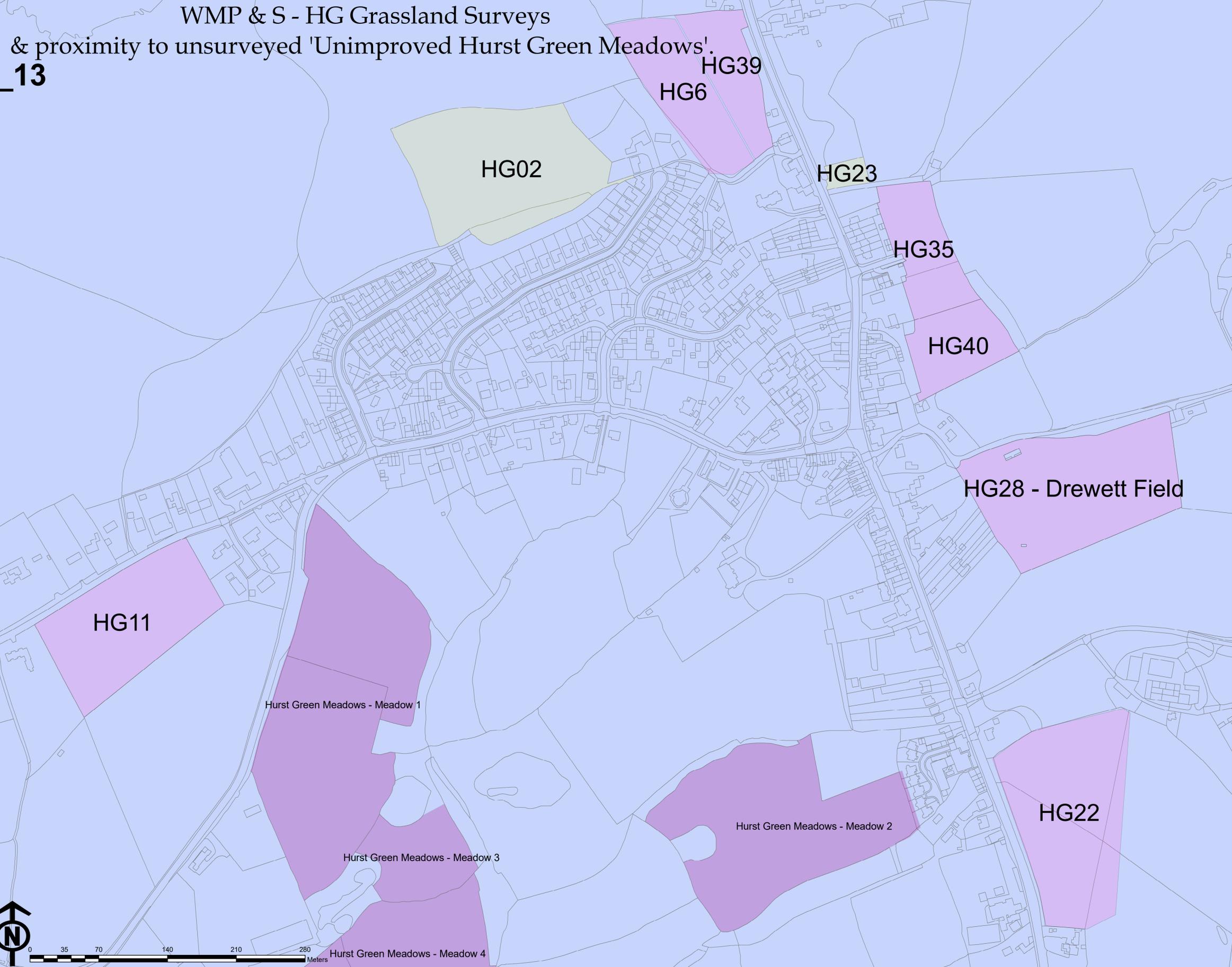
HABITAT_TY

- Grassland
- Improved
- Semi-improved
- unimproved

Wealden_MMAreas

Rother_MMAreas

WMP Survey - HGPC NP



Survey Area: HG02 (approx 2.23ha)					Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ72922743 TQ726270						
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No			Date: 02 & 10/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank	Other (specify)					
Comments Access via FP Church - Unable to access the majority of the open site due to domestic encroachment by home owners. Few Species recorded. Boundaries are difficult to distinguish but borders on Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW) parcel HG27 with bramble, scrub /trees secondary woodland all interesting & suggest further survey work required - with poss fauna interest. Maple, Ferns, Ivy & Bramble understory and trees include; Alder, Holly, Ash, large Oaks & Hornbeams. More of a (secondary) woodland than grassland habitat, with ready seed source from ASNWs to the North.											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes	No	Approximate cover of woody species		0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+	
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) See above, secondary woodland but with some large Hornbeams suggesting an old routeway, or path. Orchard planted in area behind garages to the SW of the site.											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.) No species recorded. Bare ground on Footpath with bramble and tree sapling understory.											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.) Disturbed											
NVC grassland community types present (BOLD)			MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)		U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)		
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) OTHER N/A: secondary woodland requires boundary ratification and full survey. Inverts and bird interest.											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland	Hedge	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track	Urban	Road
Scrub											
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc.) Presence of Footpath & ASNW											
Management (BOLD)		Grazed	Mown	Unmanaged		Other (specify)					
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.) Largely unmanaged, or now forms part of domestic gardens!											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable			Neglected		Other	
Comments (details) Neglected/ Other - as lack of management has given rise to some interest ,where not in domestic ownership!											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools		Shaw	Notable hedgerow	Notable Trees	Other	
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features) Lots of key AONB features - a developing habitat with lots of interest.....											

No Sp recorded other than those in attached form

Survey Area: HG6 (see HG39) Approx 1ha				Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ73182754 TQ732275							
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No			Date: 02 & 03/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field - with HG39	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank		Other (specify) Bramble Bank with interest				
Comments Grazed (topped) semi-improved grassland (poss sown but naturalised) of a tussocky nature, surrounded by good established hedgerows. With an interesting & diverse bramble bank to the north of the field (s) (spans HG6 & near Lodge Farm Oast beyond HG39). Hard to separate from HG39, as similar species present within both swards. HG6 perhaps a little less diverse but both fields benefit from the bramble bank.											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes North Field	No Elsewhere	Approximate cover of woody species	0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+		
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) Only the odd Oak Sapling within the field - bramble covered area present and noted to the north.											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.) Approx 2 cm litter layer with a little more bare ground shaded from Woodland/ trees. Maintained sward but quite tussocky in nature, good for invertebrates (heard Crickets and Grasshoppers) and hunting birds.											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.) Slope down to the N edge of the Woodland, damp /shady and highest in the middle - with views out to the High Weald AONB to the North W.											
NVC grassland community types present(BOLD)		MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)		U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)			
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) Enough interest to suggest further survey work, interesting grassland communities present - note Meadow Vetchling & Hawkbit.											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland ASNW - West	Hedge N, W & onto garden	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland - East boundary (unmarked)	Arable	Unsurfaced track - FP south	Urban	Road
		Scrub - N edge									
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc.) Western boundary woodland with deer & sheep fencing. Species mixed; Holly, Hazel, Alder, Hawthorn, Ash & Oak.											
Management (BOLD)		Grazed	Mown (topped?)	Unmanaged		Other (specify)					
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.) Probably grazed over the summer and topped more recently? Evidence of deer grazing as area of grassland adjacent ASNW.											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable		Neglected		Other		
Comments (details) Agricultural/ naturalised meadow sward with the added interest of the bramble patch around 3 m wide by 120 M across both fields.											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools - Hazel FP	Shaw	Notable hedgerow - A21	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features) Bank, Ditch and Track (Footpath) all to the south well established and historic with well established boundaries all round and ASNW to the North West corner (note areas of grassland HG6 & HG39 in the same management).											

Positive Indicator Species - 4 Additional notable - 2		DAFOR HG6	Positive Indicator Species			DAFOR
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort		Succisa pratensis	Devils-bit scabious		
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony		Tragopogon pratensis	Goats-beard		
Ajuga reptans	Bugle		Trifolium pratense	Red clover		
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged orchid		Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry		
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone		Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell		
Betonica officinalis	Betony		Viola spp	Violet spp.		
Briza media	Quaking grass		Negative Indicator Species			
Calluna vulgaris	Ling					
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley		
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge		Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass		
Carex Sp	Oval, Common, Carnation		Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	R/O	
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed		Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle		
Conopodium majus	Pignut		Galium aparine	Common cleavers		
Dactylorhiza spp.	Spotted/marsh orchid spp.		Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed		
Danthonia decumbens	Heath grass		Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue		
Erica spp,	Heather spp.		Plantago major	Greater plantain		
Euphrasia spp	Eyebright spp.		Rumex crispus	Curled dock	LF	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue		Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock		
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw		Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken		
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw		Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort		
Genista tinctoria	Dyer's greenweed		Urtica dioica	Nettle	O-Edge	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy					
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell		Other Flora Species			
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch					
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	LF	Poa annua	Meadow G. Annual	F	
Leontodon spp.	Hawkbit spp.	O	Poa trivialis	Meadow G. Rough	F	
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy		Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	F	
Linum catharticum	Fairy flax		Trifolium repens	Clover, White	O	
Lotus corniculatus	Birds-foot-trefoil - Common	LF	Stachys Spp.	Woundwort	O	
Lotus pedunculatus	Birds-foot-trefoil - Greater	O				
Melampyrum pratense	Common cow-wheat					
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky-fruited waterdropwort					
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adders-tongue					
Pedicularis sylvatica	Common lousewort					
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed					
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage		Notable Flora or Fauna			
Polygala spp	Milkwort spp.					
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil		Crickets			
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet		Grasshoppers			
Primula veris	Cowslip					
Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane					
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle					
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel					
Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort					
Silaum silaus	Pepper-saxifrage					
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged robin					

Survey Area: HG39 (see HG6) 0.84ha approx					Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ73222757						
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No			Date: 02 & 03/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field - with HG6	Unenclosed area		Road verge	Boundary bank		Other (specify) Bramble bank			
Comments Grazed (topped) Semi-improved grassland (poss sown but naturalised) of a tussocky nature surrounded by good established hedgerows. With an interesting and diverse bramble bank to the north of the field (Spans HG39 near Lodge farm Oast and across into HG6). Hard to separate from HG6 as similar species and both benefit from the bramble bank.											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes North Field	No Elsewhere	Approximate cover of woody species	0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+		
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) Only the odd Oak Sapling within the field - bramble covered area to the north.											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.) Maintained sward but quite tussocky in nature, good for invertebrates (Crickets and Grasshoppers) and hunting birds											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.) Convex shape leading into HG6 - with views out to the High Weald AONB slope to the North and South											
NVC grassland community types present(BOLD)		MG (neutral grassland)			M (marshy grassland)		U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)		
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) Enough interest to suggest further survey work, interesting grassland communities present - note Meadow Vetchling, Red Clover, Hawkbit and Bird's-foot Trefoil.											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland - West	Hedge	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track - south	Urban North part Oast & Barn	Road
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc.) A21 border hedge well established and most diverse with standard trees, Hornbeam, Oaks, Holly, Hawthorn, Bramble, Hazel and Ash. Interesting Scrub in the northern area with more wildflowers and good invertebrate and grass interest.											
Management (BOLD)		Grazed	Mown (topped?)	Unmanaged		Other (specify)					
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.) Probably grazed over the summer and topped more recently?											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable		Neglected		Other		
Comments (details) Agricultural/ naturalised meadow sward with the added interest of the bramble patch around 3 m wide by 120 M across both fields											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools - Hazel FP	Shaw	Notable hedgerow - A21	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features) Bank, Ditch and Track (footpath) all to the south well established and historic with good all round boundaries and ASNW to the West which borders HG6 (note areas treated and in same management).											

Positive Indicator Species - 6 Additional notable - 2		DAFOR HG39	Positive Indicator Species		DAFOR
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort		Succisa pratensis	Devils-bit scabious	
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony		Tragopogon pratensis	Goats-beard	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle		Trifolium pratense	Red clover	R
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged orchid		Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone		Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell	
Betonica officinalis	Betony		Viola spp	Violet spp.	
Briza media	Quaking grass		Negative Indicator Species		
Calluna vulgaris	Ling				
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge		Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	O - Edge
Carex Sp	Oval, Common, Carnation		Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	R/O
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed		Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	
Conopodium majus	Pignut		Galium aparine	Common cleavers	
Dactylorhiza spp.	Spotted/marsh orchid spp.		Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	
Danthonia decumbens	Heath grass		Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue	
Erica spp,	Heather spp.		Plantago major	Greater plantain	
Euphrasia spp	Eyebright spp.		Rumex crispus	Curled dock	LF
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	O	Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw		Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw		Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	
Genista tinctoria	Dyer's greenweed		Urtica dioica	Nettle	O-Edge
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy		Convolvulus arvensis	Bindweed	O
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell		Other Flora Species		
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch				
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	LF	Poa annua	Meadow G. Rough	F/LA
Leontodon spp.	Hawkbit spp.	O	Poa trivialis	Meadow G. Annual	F
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy		Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	F/LA
Linum catharticum	Fairy flax		Agrostis capillaris	Bent , Common	O/LF - E
Lotus corniculatus	Birds-foot-trefoil - Common	LF	Vicia Spp.	Tare Sp (north)	O
Lotus pedunculatus	Birds-foot-trefoil - Greater	O	Trifolium repens	Clover, White	O
Melampyrum pratense	Common cow-wheat				
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky-fruited waterdropwort				
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adders-tongue				
Pedicularis sylvatica	Common lousewort				
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed				
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage		Notable Flora or Fauna		
Polygala spp	Milkwort spp.				
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil		Crickets		
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet		Grasshoppers		
Primula veris	Cowslip				
Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane				
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle				
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel				
Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort				
Silaum silaus	Pepper-saxifrage				
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged robin				

Survey Area: HG11 (approx 1.54 - 1.69ha)					Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ72612701 (TQ726270)						
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No			Date: 2 & 10/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field - 3 sides	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank		Other (specify)				
Comments An open grazed field with road hedges and domestic boundaries on either side. Good hedgerows or tree boundaries on hedge bank sp include: Alder, Hazel, Silver Birch, Oaks, Hornbeam & Blackthorn. London Plane tree boundary to West with Oak, Maple, Blackthorn & Horse Chestnut understory with some garden species encroachment to include Sedum & Geranium with rail & pail fencing. To the East Rhododendron & Privet with odd Snowberry - (Non native)											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes	No	Approximate cover of woody species	0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+		
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) No trees as such within the sward bar the unfenced border out to the wider field HG36 (not survey) to the south.											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.) The sward fine but tussocky in sections. Good selection of around 11 grasses - notably Sweet Vernal Grass & 12 wildflowers - most notably Bird's-foot Trefoil in good number. Margins around parts of the northern, eastern and southern headlands all sown with a Chicory based commercial wildflower mix. This area had higher numbers of Clover and Knapweed but also annual colonisers.											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush - West	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.) Wet flush to the West with species such as Hogweed & Tufted Hair Grass. Reasonably flat field with good invertebrate interest - Comma and Red Admiral butterflies observed in good numbers.											
NVC grassland community types present (BOLD)		MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)		U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)			
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) Enough grassland and associated invertebrate interest to suggest further survey work should be carried out.											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland	Hedge	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track	Urban	Road
		Scrub									
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc.) Similar sward to the surrounding gardens suggesting a naturalised sward - as also indicated in unsown margins.											
Management (BOLD)		Grazed	Mown	Unmanaged		Other (specify)					
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.) Grazed and or mown as a short (+ 10 cm) sward height but no sign of stock.											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable		Neglected		Other		
Comments (details) Good invertebrate interest; Ladybirds, Red Admiral Butterfly, Comma Butterflies seen. With Linnets seen feeding. The outer (sown) strip will help support later foraging invertebrates and overwintering bird species.											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools	Shaw	Notable hedgerow	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features) Good road bank /boundary hedge with tree species. Good view across to South and evidence of walking within the field to the west of the site.											

Positive Indicator Species - 6 Additional notable - 6		DAFOR HG11	Positive Indicator Species		DAFOR
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort		Succisa pratensis	Devils-bit scabious	
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony		Tragopogon pratensis	Goats-beard	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle		Trifolium pratense	Red clover	O
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged orchid		Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone		Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell	
Betonica officinalis	Betony		Viola spp	Violet spp.	
Briza media	Quaking grass		Negative Indicator Species		
Calluna vulgaris	Ling				
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge		Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	E/sown
Carex Sp	Oval, Common, Carnation		Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	O
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed	O / LO sown	Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	
Conopodium majus	Pignut		Galium aparine	Common cleavers	
Dactylorhiza spp.	Spotted/marsh orchid spp.		Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	E
Danthonia decumbens	Heath grass		Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue	
Erica spp,	Heather spp.		Plantago major	Greater plantain	
Euphrasia spp	Eyebright spp.		Rumex crispus	Curled dock	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	LF/F	Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw		Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	E
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw		Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	E- O
Genista tinctoria	Dyer's greenweed		Urtica dioica	Nettle	E
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy		Rubus fruticosus	Bramble	E
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell		Other Flora Species		
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch				
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	O	Vicia sativa	Common Vetch	O
Leontodon spp.	Hawkbit spp.		Solanum dulcamara	Woody	R
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy		Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry	R
Linum catharticum	Fairy flax		Plantago lanceolata	Plantain, Ribwort	O
Lotus spp.	Birds-foot-trefoil spp.	LF/F	Rumex acetosa	Sorrel, Common	LO
Luzula spp.	Wood-rush spp.		Hypochaeris radicata	Cat'-ear, Common	O
Melampyrum pratense	Common cow-wheat		Sonchus asper	Sow Thistle	Strip F
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky-fruited waterdropwort		Trifolium repens	White Clover	Strip F
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adders-tongue		Stellaria graminea	Stitchwort, lesser	LO
Pedicularis sylvatica	Common lousewort		Trifolium dubium	Lesser Trefoil	LF
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed		Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	LF
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage		Notable Flora or Fauna		
Polygala spp	Milkwort spp.				
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil		Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal grass	LF
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet		Deschampsia flexuosa	Wavy Hair Grass	O (wet)
Primula veris	Cowslip		Ladybirds		
Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane	O	Red Admiral		
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle		Comma		
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel		Linnets		
Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort				
Silaum silaus	Pepper-saxifrage				
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged robin				

Survey Area: HG22 (2.05 - 2.15 ha approx)					Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ 73587 26826						
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No			Date: 02/10/ & 10/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank	Other (specify)					
Comments Note not enclosed on eastern edge field. Open grassland, fences down, wider parkland feel. Calm environment despite the proximity to the A21 with large road hedge. Good views across to the east. Most species of all sites surveyed - grassland and inverts.											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes	No	Approximate cover of woody species	0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+		
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) Parkland feel with feature trees in grassland, including 2 Oaks - 1 English and 1 Turkey. Another additional smaller specimen and dead oak. Entrance; Horse Chestnut, with large Oak and smaller Hornbeam adjoin the boundary holly road (A21) hedge.											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.) Appearance of mainly grassland dominated sward with tussocky and finer leaved grassland areas. Broadleaved species more prevalent at the non boundary fence line. Litter Layer 5-10 cm with approx 2% Molehills.											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.) Presence of dead Oak near site entrance with scrub and anthills. Wet features damp flushes in sward 5%											
NVC grassland community types present (BOLD)		MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)		U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)			
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) Tussocky - Kestrels and Buzzards seen hunting. Linnets seen picking seed from diverse grassland and broadleaved species with sward & Crickets chirping. Anthill, Waxcaps and Fungi all indicating key grassland - with increased management more flower content but possibly a reduction invertebrate numbers, Wood Wasps & birds.											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland	Hedge	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track (FP)	Urban	Road
		Scrub									
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc) Equal diversity and interesting grassland beyond as boundary surveyed not fenced with evidence of good use of footpath.											
Management (Bold)		Grazed	Mown	Unmanaged	Other (specify)						
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.) Grazed by sheep C. 20 at time of survey - very extensive (light) grazing Thistle, Dock, Bramble encroachment in areas - great for inverts. Survey Skippers, Red Admiral Bumble Bees, Wood Wasps and Linnets.											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable			Neglected		Other	
Comments (details) Favourable in terms of great wildlife for inverts as well as grazing animals but lower levels of management in future could lead to change of habitat with scrubbing up.											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools	Shaw	Notable hedgerow	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features) Good diverse hedgerows and notable trees in terms of size, diversity and age.											

Positive Indicator Species - 8 and 9 other notable species		DAFOR HG22	Positive Indicator Species		DAFOR	
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort		Succisa pratensis	Devils-bit scabious		
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony		Tragopogon pratensis	Goats-beard		
Ajuga reptans	Bugle		Trifolium pratense	Red clover	O/LF-fence	
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged orchid		Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry		
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone		Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell		
Betonica officinalis	Betony		Viola spp	Violet spp.	E	
Briza media	Quaking grass		Negative Indicator Species			
Calluna vulgaris	Ling					
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	E	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge		Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	O	
Carex Sp	Oval, Common, Carnation		Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	O-LF/F	
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed	R	Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	O	
Conopodium majus	Pignut		Galium aparine	Common cleavers	E	
Dactylorhiza spp.	Spotted/marsh orchid spp.		Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	O - fence	
Danthonia decumbens	Heath grass		Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue	R	
Erica spp,	Heather spp.		Plantago major	Greater plantain		
Euphrasia spp	Eyebright spp.		Rumex crispus	Curled dock	O/LF	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	LF/F	Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	O/LO	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw		Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	R	
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw		Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	O - fence	
Genista tinctoria	Dyer's greenweed		Urtica dioica	Nettle	E	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy	E- O/LF				
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell		Other Flora Species Recorded			
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch					
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	O/LF	Buttercup , Meadow	O	Bent, Common	LF
Leontodon spp.	Hawkbit spp.		Buttercup, Creeping	LF	Bent , Creeping	F
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy		Sorrel	O	Timothy	O
Linum catharticum	Fairy flax		Vetchling, Grass	O	Cocks - foot	LF
Lotus spp.	Birds-foot-trefoil spp.	O/LF +fence	Sweet Vernal Grass	LF	Hair Grass, Tufted	O
Luzula spp.	Wood-rush spp.		Stitchwort	LO	Rush, Soft	O
Melampyrum pratense	Common cow-wheat		Meadow Foxtail	O	Vetch, Common	O/LF fence
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky-fruited waterdropwort				Herb Robert	E
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adders-tongue					
Pedicularis sylvatica	Common lousewort					
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed					
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage		Notable Flora or Fauna			
Polygala spp	Milkwort spp.					
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil		Crickets			
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet		Linnets			
Primula veris	Cowslip		Kestrel			
Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane	O Fence	Buzzard			
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle		Fungi - Waxcaps & Field	Pictures		
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel		Red Admiral			
Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort		Bumble Bees			
Silaum silaus	Pepper-saxifrage		Hornet	Vespa crabro		
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged robin		Anthills (NE fence area)			

Survey Area: HG23 (less than 1ha)					Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ 73350 27468						
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No outline PP app July 19 - refused Oct 19			Date: 02/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank	Other (specify)					
Comments: Fences falling down but old estate park metal railing in places. Good boundary trees to include; Holly, Oak, Maple, Ornamental trees, Horse Chestnut, Hawthorn, Privet. Large Horse Chestnut tree (outside boundary?) a feature on entering the site. A small site next to FP to the South. Brambly and tussocky nature could house a good number of inverts and borders wider farmland beyond and adjacent to HG35 (interest) -potential dormouse interest too.											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes	No	Approximate cover of woody species	0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+		
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) Trees in sward; ornamental conifers and young Oak saplings with some other ornamental flowers. Approx 2 % of woody species excluding the Horse Chestnut area on entry just outside the site boundary.											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.) Weed dominated with nettle and brambles.											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.) Gentle slope to the E away from the A21 and towards the farm grassland fields.											
NVC grassland community types present(BOLD)		MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)		U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)			
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) Disturbed vegetation type across the small area with some neutral grassland species present but mainly bramble. Additional survey suggested.											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland	Hedge	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track	Urban	Road
		Scrub									
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc) Grassland to the E & N and un-surfaced footpath to the South with the A21 to the West. Semi-improved type grassland to the East and North from casual observation.											
Management (BOLD)		Grazed	Mown/Topped	Unmanaged	Other (specify)						
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.) Little evidence of management other than perhaps mowing/ topping which has reduce the height but bramble the predominate vegetation type.											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable		Neglected		Other		
Comments (details) Although the site has been prevented from scrubbing up due to the relatively undisturbed nature of the site there could be potential Invertebrate and bird interest.											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools	Shaw	Notable hedgerow	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features) Suggest retain boundary Trees - notable Horse Chestnut tree.											

Positive Indicator Species - 1		DAFOR HG23	Positive Indicator Species		DAFOR
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort		Succisa pratensis	Devils-bit scabious	
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony		Tragopogon pratensis	Goats-beard	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle		Trifolium pratense	Red clover	
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged orchid		Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone		Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell	
Betonica officinalis	Betony		Viola spp	Violet spp.	
Briza media	Quaking grass		Negative Indicator Species		
Calluna vulgaris	Ling				
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge		Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	
Carex Sp	Oval, Common, Carnation		Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	O
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed		Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	
Conopodium majus	Pignut		Galium aparine	Common cleavers	O
Dactylorhiza spp.	Spotted/marsh orchid spp.		Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	
Danthonia decumbens	Heath grass		Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue	
Erica spp,	Heather spp.		Plantago major	Greater plantain	
Euphrasia spp	Eyebright spp.		Rumex crispus	Curled dock	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	R	Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw		Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw		Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	
Genista tinctoria	Dyer's greenweed		Urtica dioica	Nettle	LF/F
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy		Rubus fruticosus	Bramble	F
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell		Other Flora Species		
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch				
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling		Bryophyta	Moss	O
Leontodon spp.	Hawkbit spp.		Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	LF
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy		Epilobium Spp.	Willowherb,Rosebay	O/LF
Linum catharticum	Fairy flax		Geranium robertianum	Herb -robert	O
Lotus spp.	Birds-foot-trefoil spp.		Hedera helix	Ivy	F
Luzula spp.	Wood-rush spp.		Ranunculus repens	Buttercup, C	F
Melampyrum pratense	Common cow-wheat		Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	LO
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky-fruited waterdropwort		Potentilla reptans	Cinquefoil	LF
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adders-tongue				
Pedicularis sylvatica	Common lousewort				
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed				
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage		Notable Flora or Fauna		
Polygala spp	Milkwort spp.				
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil				
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet				
Primula veris	Cowslip				
Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane				
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle				
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel				
Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort				
Silaum silaus	Pepper-saxifrage				
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged robin				

Survey Area: HG28 Drewett Cricket Field (2.25 ha approx)					Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ73562715						
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No			Date: 02 & 10/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank	Other (specify)					
Comments Entrance to the field via Footpath could be an old route way. Most diverse species to date due to constant management.											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes	No	Approximate cover of woody species		0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+	
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) One large Oak Tree											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.) Short and enclosed microclimate ideal for invertebrates. The litter layer caused by dumping of grass mowing from Cricket pitch and mown area (Qry may have been done for inverts, ideally suggest one or two compost areas).											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.) Flat Cricket pitch area slope to the East into rougher grassland.											
NVC grassland community types present(BOLD)			MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)	U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)			
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) Rough area - not mown regularly shows promise of wildflower diversity - allow larger areas to move to a once or twice a year cut and remove rotation. Suggested NVC - MG6/ MG5											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland	Hedge	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track	Urban	Road
		Scrub									
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc.) Good standard trees with a high outgrown hedge.											
Management (BOLD)		Grazed	Mown	Unmanaged		Other (specify)					
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.) Suggest creating a compost heap by the pavilion area (due for update) avoid mowings being left (in SE Tip) where Himalayan Balsam should be dug out and removed.											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable			Neglected		Other	
Comments (details) Suggest more grassland areas are left longer nearer entrance to the site.											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools	Shaw	Notable hedgerow	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features) Track/ Footpath to the north - old route way. All other boundaries also look old with good established trees or outgrown hedges. Species include; Maple, Holly, Hazel Oak with two large Oak Trees, Horse Chestnut. Also some Rhododendron, Hornbeam , Ash and Laurel.											

Positive Indicator Species - 2 & 2 notable species		DAFOR HG28	Positive Indicator Species		DAFOR
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort		Succisa pratensis	Devils-bit scabious	
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony		Tragopogon pratensis	Goats-beard	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle	O	Trifolium pratense	Red clover	
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged orchid		Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone		Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell	
Betonica officinalis	Betony		Viola spp	Violet spp.	
Briza media	Quaking grass		Negative Indicator Species		
Calluna vulgaris	Ling				
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge		Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	
Carex Sp	Oval, Common, Carnation		Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed		Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	
Conopodium majus	Pignut		Galium aparine	Common cleavers	
Dactylorhiza spp.	Spotted/marsh orchid spp.		Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	
Danthonia decumbens	Heath grass		Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue	
Erica spp,	Heather spp.		Plantago major	Greater plantain	
Euphrasia spp	Eyebright spp.		Rumex crispus	Curled dock	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	O/LF	Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw		Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw		Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	
Genista tinctoria	Dyer's greenweed		Urtica dioica	Nettle	E
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy		Taraxacum officinale	Dandelion	F
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell		Other Flora Species		
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch				
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling		Ranunculus repens	Buttercup, C	LF/F
Leontodon spp.	Hawkbit spp.		Geranium robertianum	Herb - Robert	O
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy		Rumex acetosa	Sorrel	O
Linum catharticum	Fairy flax		Prunella vulgaris	Self-heal	O
Lotus spp.	Birds-foot-trefoil spp.		Epilobium Spp.	Willow herb	E
Luzula spp.	Wood-rush spp.		Cerastium fontanum	Mouse-ear	O
Melampyrum pratense	Common cow-wheat		Dactylis glomerata	Cocks-foot	O
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky-fruited waterdropwort		Agrostis capillaris	Bent , Common	LF
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adders-tongue		Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	LF
Pedicularis sylvatica	Common lousewort				
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed				
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage		Notable Flora or Fauna		
Polygala spp	Milkwort spp.				
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil		Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet vernal Grass	F
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet		Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	LF
Primula veris	Cowslip				
Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane				
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle				
Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel				
Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort				
Silaum silaus	Pepper-saxifrage				
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged robin				

Survey Area: HG35 (& HG40 - no access at all)					Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site): TQ73412740						
Recorder: Dawn Brickwood			Follow up needed? Yes / No			Date: 02/10/2019					
Site description (BOLD)		Enclosed field	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank	Other (specify)					
Comments Unable to access the site due to the overgrown nature of site. Accessed HG35 a short distance only via footpath (Qry historic boundary with Hornbeam trees) to the north of the site. Interesting bits of grassland much brambled up . No Species recorded and those observed HG35; Nipplewort, Ground Ivy, Foxglove, Buddleia, Self-heal, Square Stalked- St John's Wort. Other species heard/ observed Crickets and Robin. HG35 Species seen via Foundry Close: Hard Rush, Bramble and Elderflower.											
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (BOLD)		Yes	No	Approximate cover of woody species		0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+	
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.) See above											
Sward characteristics (% of area)		Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas?	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.)											
Physical features (BOLD)		Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush?	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.)											
NVC grassland community types present(BOLD)			MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)	U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)			
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.) Enough interest to suggest further survey work recommended as interesting grassland communities present											
Adjoining habitats and features (BOLD)		Woodland	Hedge	River/ stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track	Urban	Road
		Scrub									
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc.)											
Management (BOLD)		Grazed	Mown	Unmanaged		Other (specify)					
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.)											
Condition (BOLD)		Favourable			Unfavourable			Neglected		Other	
Comments (details) Good interest where access is possible											
Historic boundary features (BOLD)		Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools	Shaw	Notable hedgerow	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features)											

No Sp recorded other than casual observation in site description

Survey Area:				Site Ref (central point or each end of linear site):						
Recorder:			Follow up needed? Yes / No				Date:			
Site description (circle)	Enclosed field	Unenclosed area	Road verge	Boundary bank	Other (specify)					
Comments										
Trees and/or shrubs present in sward? (circle)	Yes	No	Approximate cover of woody species	0-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	75%+		
Comments (age, species, source of woody species etc.)										
Sward characteristics (% of area)	Short <15cm	Tall >15cm	Tussocky	Herb-rich areas	Bare ground	Litter layer	Grass dominated	Fine grasses	Other	
Comments (depth of litter, amount of bare ground, other features of interest etc.)										
Physical features (circle)	Anthills	Ridges	Wet flush	Pond	Stream	Steep slope	Dips or hollows	Other e.g rock outcrops		
Comments (aspect of slope, extent/size of wet features, presence of deadwood etc.)										
NVC grassland community types present (circle)	MG (neutral grassland)		M (marshy grassland)		U (acid grassland)		CG (chalk grassland)			
Comments (details of NVC communities, proportion of different types etc.)										
Adjoining habitats and features (circle)	Woodland	Hedge	River/stream	Open water	Wetland	Grassland	Arable	Unsurfaced track	Urban	Road
	Scrub									
Comments (impact of adjoining features, good quality arable margins, presence of footpaths etc)										
Management (circle)	Grazed	Mown	Unmanaged	Other (specify)						
Comments (type of livestock, hay crop taken, silage cut etc.)										
Condition (circle)	Favourable		Unfavourable			Neglected		Other		
Comments (details)										
Historic boundary features (circle)	Bank	Ditch	Track	Pollards, stubs, large coppice stools	Shaw	Notable hedgerow	Notable Trees	Other		
Comments (species, size, proximity to other features)										

Positive Indicator Species		DAFOR	Positive Indicator Species		DAFOR
Achillea ptarmica	Sneezewort		Pulicaria dysenterica	Fleabane	
Agrimonia eupatoria	Agrimony		Rhinanthus minor	Yellow rattle	
Ajuga reptans	Bugle		Rumex acetosella	Sheep's sorrel	
Anacamptis morio	Green-winged orchid		Serratula tinctoria	Saw-wort	
Anemone nemorosa	Wood anemone		Silaum silaus	Pepper-saxifrage	
Betonica officinalis	Betony		Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged robin	
Briza media	Quaking grass		Succisa pratensis	Devils-bit scabious	
Calluna vulgaris	Ling		Tragopogon pratensis	Goats-beard	
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell		Trifolium pratense	Red clover	
Carex flacca	Glaucous sedge		Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	
Carex leporina	Oval sedge		Veronica officinalis	Heath speedwell	
Carex nigra	Common sedge		Viola spp	Violet spp.	
Carex panicea	Carnation sedge		Negative Indicator Species		
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed				
Cirsium dissectum	Meadow thistle		Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	
Conopodium majus	Pignut		Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass	
Dactylorhiza spp.	Spotted/marsh orchid spp.		Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	
Danthonia decumbens	Heath grass		Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	
Erica spp,	Heather spp.		Galium aparine	Common cleavers	
Euphrasia spp	Eyebright spp.		Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	
Festuca rubra	Red fescue		Helminthotheca echioides	Bristly ox-tongue	
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet		Plantago major	Greater plantain	
Filipendula vulgaris	Dropwort		Rumex crispus	Curled dock	
Galium saxatile	Heath bedstraw		Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw		Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken	
Genista tinctoria	Dyer's greenweed		Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	
Glechoma hederacea	Ground-ivy		Urtica dioica	Nettle	
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell		Other Notable Flora or Fauna		
Lathyrus linifolius	Bitter-vetch				
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling				
Leontodon spp.	Hawkbit spp.				
Leucanthemum vulgare	Ox-eye daisy				
Linum catharticum	Fairy flax				
Lotus spp.	Birds-foot-trefoil spp.				
Luzula spp.	Wood-rush spp.				
Melampyrum pratense	Common cow-wheat		Sketch of Site		
Oenanthe pimpinelloides	Corky-fruited waterdropwort				
Oenanthe silaifolia	Narrow-ldd waterdropwort				
Ophioglossum vulgatum	Adders-tongue				
Pedicularis sylvatica	Common lousewort				
Pilosella officinarum	Mouse-ear hawkweed				
Pimpinella saxifraga	Burnet-saxifrage				
Polygala spp	Milkwort spp.				
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil				
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet				
Primula veris	Cowslip				

Appendix 4: Selection Photos

Neighbourhood Plan Rapid Grassland Assessment

Comma HG11



Fungi HG22



Footpath HG 23/35



Header

HG39 looking South into HG6



HG6 looking north into HG39



Bramble Bank

HG11 - Red Admiral,



view to South



Chicory Mix headland



HG22 Views and Old Trees - good for Fungi



Comma



Anthill



Waxcaps

HG23 - View into site



HG28 - Cricket ground (left) and naturalised grassland beyond



Dawn Brickwood Weald Meadows Partnership & Services BSc (Hons.)
Nov 2019



Photos & Report Produced by:

Weald Meadows Partnership & Services

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