	SITE No: SP06/15
SITE NAME	WALKWOOD COPPICE
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 025 651
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	11.3ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and yew woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	N/A
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	Great-crested Newt
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Midland Hawthorn

SITE No. SDOC/15

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

An ancient semi-natural woodland that was partly clear-felled about 50 years ago and has now regenerated. The wood forms the southern edge of Morton Stanley Park and lies on a steep ridge overlooking the site, buffering it from housing development to the south. Though much of the original canopy has been lost there are still a few oak standards remaining and more recent plantings are beginning to mature. The understorey includes a diverse range of woody species including birch, sweet chestnut, cherry, elder, crab apple, rowan, holly, guelder rose, Midland hawthorn, and blackthorn. The ground flora includes bluebell, wood-sorrel, bracken, wood anemone and wood sage.

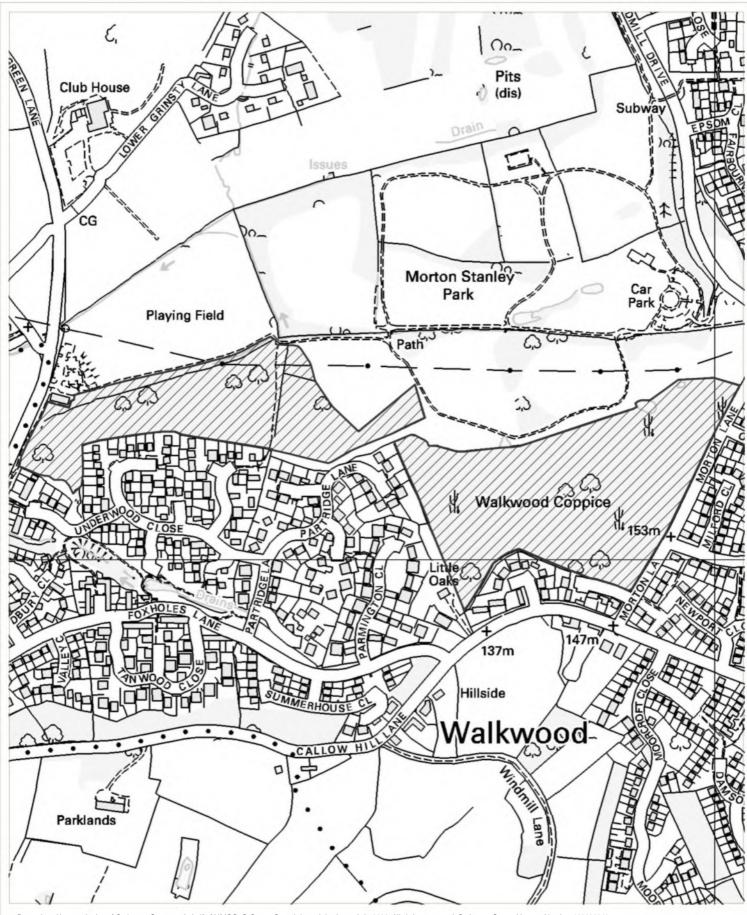
Faunal information for the site is incomplete but there are past records for frog, toad, great-crested and smooth newts from the ponds. Commoner butterflies and dragonflies have also been recorded and it is likely that the continuing improvement of the rest of Morton Stanley Park through sensitive management by the Council will add to the invertebrate value of Walkwood Coppice as well.

The site is part of the larger Morton Stanley Park Local Nature Reserve designated in 1999.

Walkwood Coppice

Do not scale from map. For accurate Plan refer to GIS

Scale 1:5000



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SITE No: SP06/26

SITE NAME	ABBEY AND FORGE MILL PONDS
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 047 686
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	3.1ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Open Water - Standing
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Standing open water
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Marshland, grassland
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	N/A

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A group of four ancient mill and fish ponds ranged around the site of Bordesley Abbey and falling within the wider Scheduled Ancient Monument. The pools feed into the River Arrow, which flows to the north of the pool complex, via a narrow outflow stream and are for the most part fringed with a mixture of woodland and grassland. Between them they support a reasonable aquatic flora and marginal swamp vegetation, whilst some of the surrounding woodland trends towards a wet woodland community with alder in the canopy. Some of the surrounding grassland is unimproved and there are past records for meadow saxifrage.

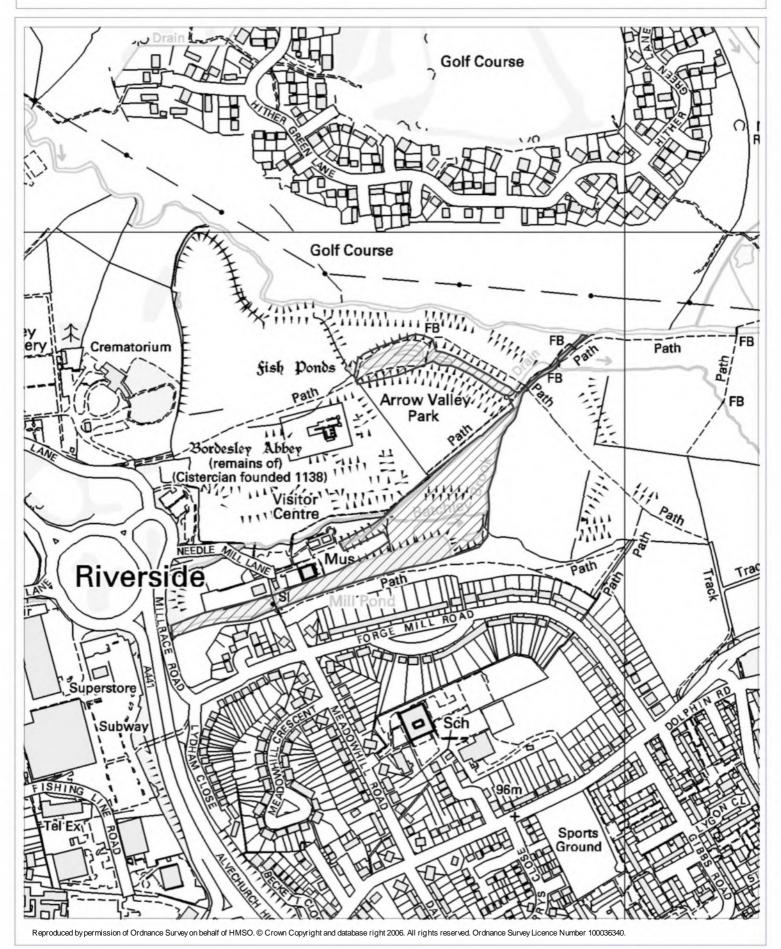
Faunal records are incomplete for the site but the pools are likely to be important for a range of invertebrates including dragonflies. The site is also considered to be valuable for breeding birds and is likely to provide foraging habitat for bats.

The wider Bordesley meadows complex is managed by Redditch Borough Council and the various grassland and hedgerow habitats help to augment the Special Wildlife Site and provide a landscape buffer for the pools.

Abbey and Forge Mill Ponds

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:5000



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SITE No: SP06/29

SITE NAME	ARROW VALLEY PARK LAKE
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP061 674
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	16.1ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Open water – standing, Reedbed
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Standing open waters, wet woodland, Reedbed
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	N/A
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Kingfisher, Reed Warbler
18	

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This site comprises a large artificial lake and its associated marginal habitats. It falls within the wider Arrow valley green wedge, which runs north to south through the centre of Redditch town. The lake has suffered from a range of pressures in the past but active management and the establishment of reedbeds & swamp vegetation are helping to increase botanical diversity. Small pockets of adjacent woodland are characteristic of the National Vegetation Classification (NVC) W6 wet woodland community.

The aquatic communities primarily occur in the sheltered bays of the lake. Areas dominated by Greater Willowherb (NVC community OV26) can be found running west from the countryside centre (located in the north east bay) whilst a dense stand of Common Reed (NVC S4) has been planted on the eastern side of the countryside centre and is developing into a fringing reedbed.

A small area of swamp, dominated by Greater Pond Sedge (NVC S6), occurs at the end of the north-west bay. Here there is a relatively diverse community including Great Willowherb, Bulrush, Branched Bur-Reed, Water Mint, Soft Rush and Water-Forget-Me-Not.

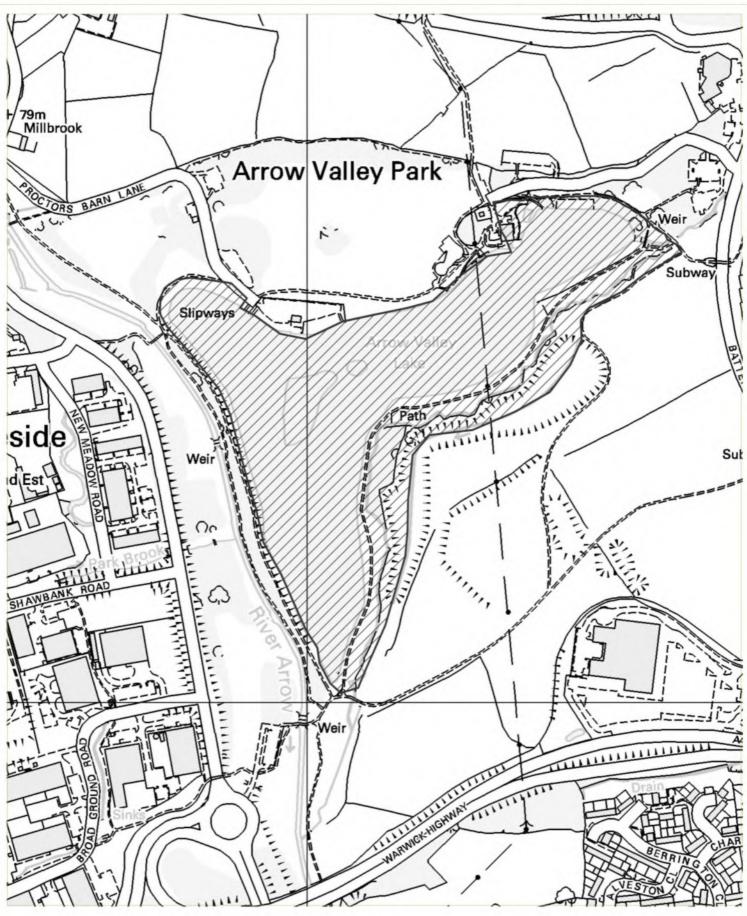
There is a pure stand of Reedmace swamp (NVC S12) on the southerly bank of the north-east bay.

Faunal records for the site are incomplete but kingfishers and reed warblers are known to use the margins of the lake.

Arrow Valley Park Lake

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:5000



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SITE No: SO96/26

SITE NAME	UPPER BEANHALL MEADOWS
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SO995614
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	16.07.2008
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch District Council
PARISH	Feckenham
TOTAL AREA	4.21 Ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Grassland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Unimproved Neutral/Calcareous Grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Semi-improved pasture scrub/hedgerows; flowing water (ditches)
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	No information
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Cowslip, adder's-tongue fern, quaking grass, salad burnet, twayblade, yellow rattle, pepper saxifrage, hoary plantain, common fleabane, devil's-bit scabious, common spotted orchid.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A group of unimproved pasture and meadow grasslands on low-lying level ground. The site is divided between two separate field compartments, and bounded by mature ancient hedgerows. Ridge-furrow patterns are strongly evident. The site adjoins and is partly surrounded by Rookery Cottage Meadows SSSI. This whole block of unimproved and semi-improved meadows and pastures (Beanhall and Rookery Cottage) totals 12 Ha.

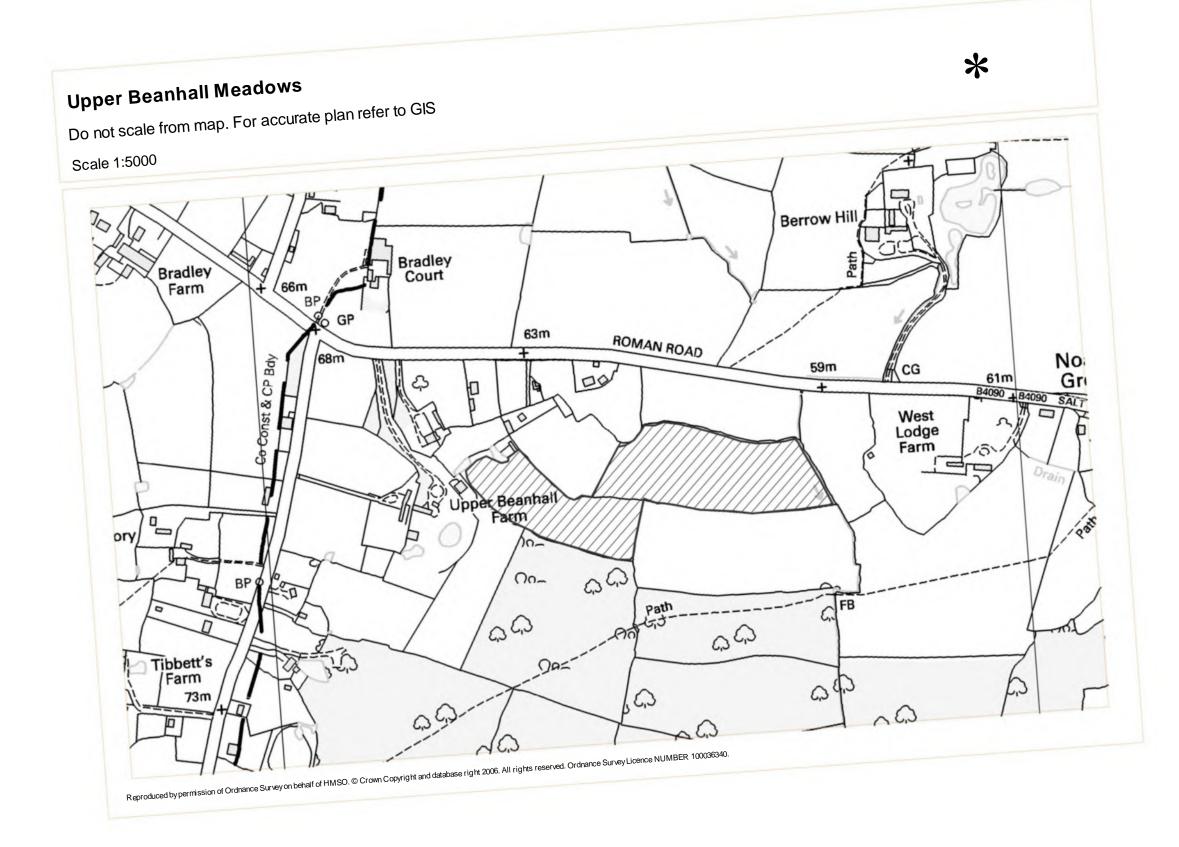
The main feature is the long, narrow east-west aligned meadow with ridge/furrow running in two different directions across it; very herb-rich on the ridges with swards characteristic of the crested dog's-tail with common knapweed community, or National Vegetation Classification (N.V.C.) type: MG5b – the lady's bedstraw sub-community, but quite calcareous in places, grading towards an upright brome or tor grass community (NVC CG3/4). In fact the sward shows quite a degree of variation, with damper marshy element in the furrows, with small sedges, in particular, glaucous sedge forming lawns particularly towards the east end. The abundance of cowslip throughout in spring is very striking, and other calcicoles, such as salad burnet and ladies bedstraw are prominent in the ridge-top turf.

The westerly arm, also ridge and furrow, is mostly partially improved. Much grassier, and with far fewer herbs per unit area, however, common knapweed, cowslip, lady's bedstraw and agrimony are still all locally frequent, and this sward shows strong potential for restoration to the diversity of its neighbour.

Another valuable wildlife feature across the whole site is its tall, bushy species-rich hedgerows with midland hawthorn, blackthorn, buckthorn, dogwood and ash

The main block of the site is a fine example of a species-rich MG5 grassland and supports a number of scarce and local plants, such as twayblade (*Listera ovata*) and adder's-tongue fern (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*). Green winged orchid (*Orchis morio*) and bee orchid (*Ophrys apifera*) have been previously recorded.

The dense overgrown hedgerows with occasional mature trees provide ideal habitat for small birds –especially warblers – common whitethroat, lesser whitethroat, blackcap, chiffchaff. Cavities in the bigger boundary ashes afford nesting sites for green woodpecker, stock dove and marsh tit. These species were holding territories in spring 2008.



SITE No: SO96/27

STIL NO SOVIE	
SITE NAME	BERROW HILL
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SO997622
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	12.03.2008
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Feckenham
TOTAL AREA	23.7На
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Grassland, scrub, broadleaved woodland, open water
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Lowland neutral and calcareous grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Broadleaved and yew woodland, Scrub and mature hedgerows; ponds with aquatic and emergent vegetation
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	No information
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Adder's-tongue fern, common spotted orchid, common milkwort, green- winged orchid, cowslip, fairy flax, betony, broad-leaved pondweed.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A hilltop site to the west of Feckenham village with a varied topography and a variety of semi-natural habitat types, in particular woodland and areas of unimproved grassland on moderately steep slopes. Geology is land-slipped material over lower liassic limestones and shales. The 350 ft. hill is flat topped and is also known to have pre-historic associations.

The main features of botanical and wildlife interest on this hill are:- the calcareous pasture at the northern end of the site with its fine sward and many old ant-mounds - this has species-rich swards of both neutral knapweed/lady's bedstraw/crested dogstail grassland - National Vegetation Classification (NVC): MG5b and upright brome / tor grass grassland - NVC: CG3 & CG5; damp grassland on the summit with locally rushy pasture, but grading to MG5, with jointed rush, adder's-tongue fern and occasional spikes of green-winged orchid; the scattered ponds and flushed areas supporting marshy flora, including water starworts, pondweeds, water crowfoots and sedges; the broadleaved woodland, predominantly of ash – NVC: W8 occupying the western slope; finally an area of dense thicket-stage scrub of hawthorn, bramble, gorse and blackthorn on the north-western slope.

The remaining slopes of the hill comprise closely grazed semi-improved pasture, but with areas of local floristic interest on the soil creep terracettes.

With its combination of scattered scrub, with sunny glades and species rich grassland, the site has long been known as an important area for butterflies and moths – though there is no recent comprehensive data available.

Plants of note occurring throughout include: yellow wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*), hairy violet (*Viola hirta*), dwarf thistle (*Cirsium acaule*), green-winged orchid (*Orchis morio*), adder's-tongue fern (*Ophoiglossum vulgatum*) and broad-leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton natans*). Past records for Sherard's downy rose (*Rosa sherardii*).

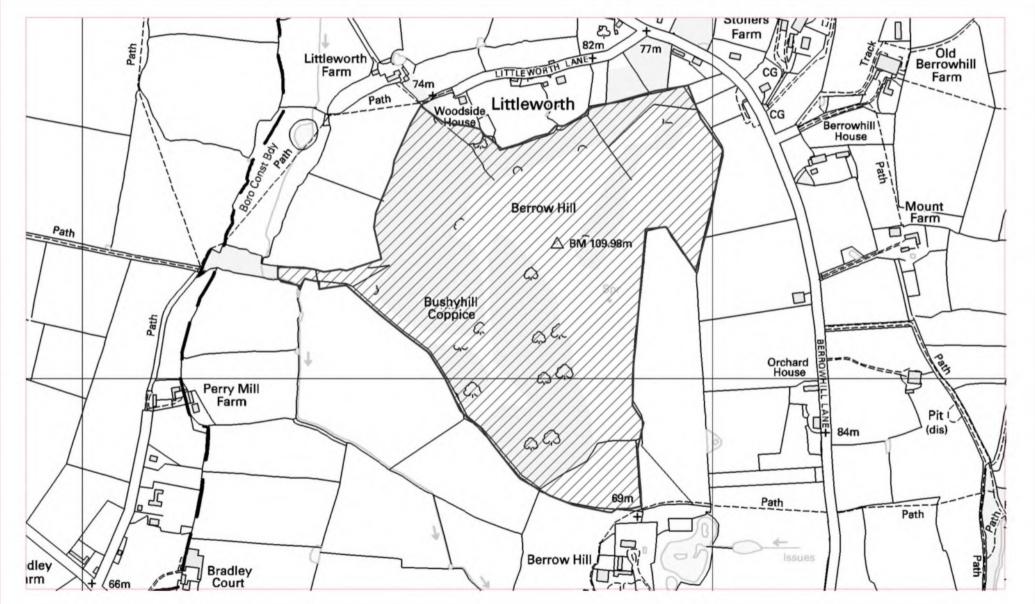
Fauna recorded post 2000 includes small heath butterfly (*Coenonympha pamphilus*)), broad-bodied chaser dragonfly (*Libellula depressa*) and nesting great spotted woodpecker (*Dendrocopus major*)

20 species of butterfly were recorded here in the 1980s, including green-veined white, small skipper, large skipper, small copper, common blue, ringlet and orange tip. The dense scrub area has past records for breeding turtle dove.

Berrow Hill

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS

Scale 1:6000



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	SITE No: SO 95/09
SITE NAME	BOW, SHELL, SWAN AND SEELEY BROOKS
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SO936 551
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	SP004 661 (north) SO919 425
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Bromsgrove, Redditch, Wychavon
PARISH	Multiple
TOTAL AREA	N/A
LENGTH IF LINEAR	38km
SWS HABITAT	Open Water flowing, Marshland, Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Rivers and Streams, Broadleaved and Yew Woodland, Marsh and
	Reedbed
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Scrub
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	Otter,
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Kingfisher, White-legged damselfly, Scarce Chaser

Rising near Redditch these small watercourses flow south and west before draining via the Bow Brook into the River Avon at Defford. Typically the streams are small, narrow and varied in structure. The stream beds comprise gravels and clays overlying alluvium and lias clays which give rise to a variety of streambed habitats. Flow and depth are variable with a number of deeper pools interspersed with shallow faster-flowing sections, particularly in the upper reaches.

Though the brooks vary in quality along their length they are predominantly rich in both aquatic and emergent vegetation. Parts of the corridor are tree lined, particularly with pollarded willows and alders and in places the brooks flow through woodland or associated marshland, augmenting the biodiversity value of the brooks themselves. For the most part though, they flow through open agricultural land and form an important wildlife corridor through this part of the east Worcestershire Plain.

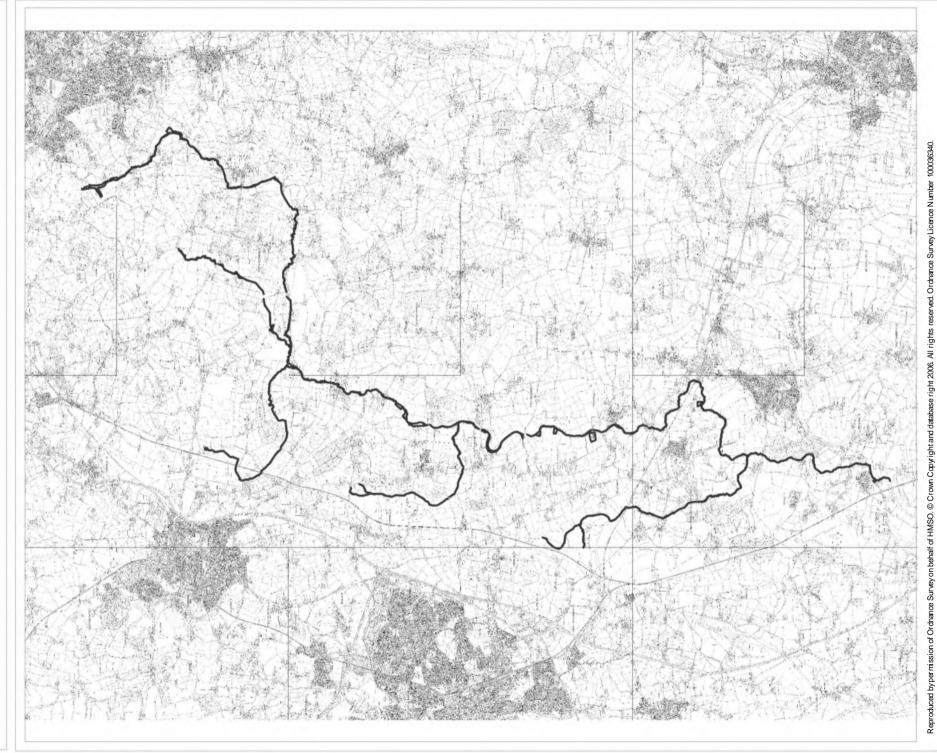
The Bow Brook in particular is known for its aquatic and emergent flora and also has an impressive invertebrate fauna including Scarce Chaser and White-legged Damselfly. Kingfishers have bred in several places and otters have been recorded along much of the corridor, though there has not been a comprehensive survey recently.



Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

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Scale 1:110000



	SITE No: SP06/05
SITE NAME	BRANDON BROOK MEADOW
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP008 601
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	20.12.2003
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Feckenham
TOTAL AREA	1.08 Ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Grassland & Marsh
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Unimproved lowland neutral grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Swamp, scrub, riparian/open water – flowing, boundary hedges
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Devil's-bit scabious, meadowsweet, ragged robin, pepper saxifrage, common knapweed, lady's bedstraw, wild angelica, betony, tormentil, tufted hair-grass

A damp meadow ³/₄ mile south of Feckenham village, adjacent to the Brandon Brook. The field is bordered on all sides by large dense hedges with some mature trees. Adjoining land use is mostly semi-improved permanent pasture, though there is a large arable field to the immediate south of the site. The Feckenham Wylde Moor nature reserve lies close by. The site sits on poorly drained clay-loam soils (in parts, peat) over lacustrine alluvium. Underlying strata is triassic Mercia mudstones with skerry formations.

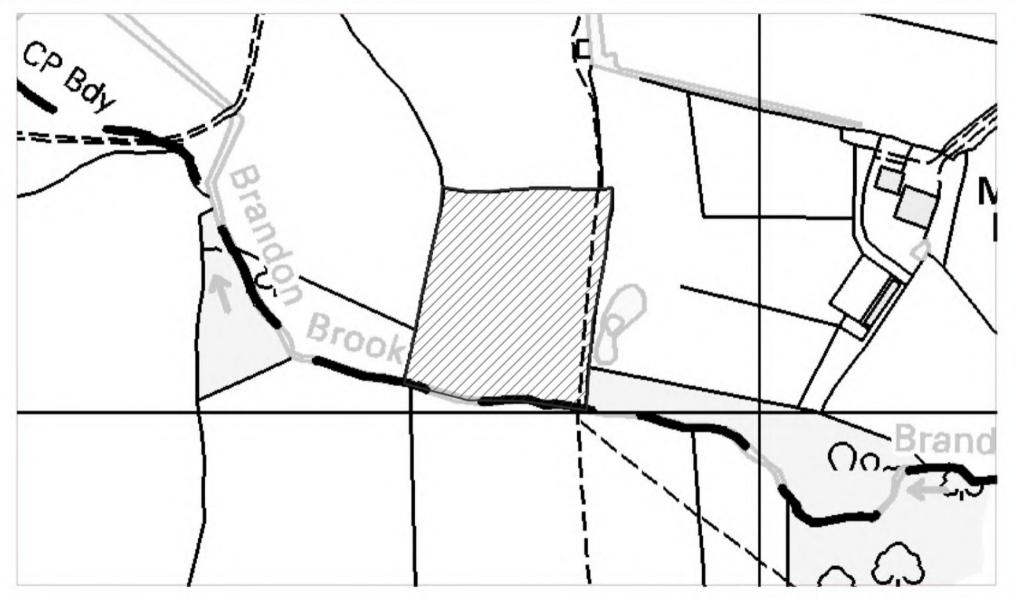
It is dominated by dense wetland vegetation - mostly monodominant stands of greater pond-sedge (i.e. a swamp community of National Vegetation Classification (NVC): S6), with some scattered scrub and blackthorn. There is however a central drier area of relict neutral grassland with a sward of NVC-type MG5 (Common knapweed and crested dogs tail grass community) – this is becoming encroached by a transitional mire vegetation of meadowsweet, angelica and tufted hair-grass (NVC: M27). The extreme southern edge of the site includes the bank of the Brandon Brook which is lined with willow and alder trees

The site is attractive to butterflies - such as large and small skippers, meadow browns, ringlets; and dragonfly and damselfly species. The dry grassland in the centre supports occasional colonial mounds of the yellow meadow ant.

Brandon Brook Meadow

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS

Scale 1:2000



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	SITE No: SP06/02
SITE NAME	BROOK HOUSE MEADOW AND FECKENHAM BANK
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP004 616
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	12.11.2004
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Feckenham
TOTAL AREA	4.5ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Grassland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Unimproved neutral grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Hedges, scrub, open water - standing
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Cowslip, lady's bedstraw, common restharrow, devil's-bit scabious,
	salad burnet, yellow rattle, common knapweed, adder's-tongue fern

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A complex of herb-rich hay-meadows and pastures situated at the western end of the village of Feckenham astride the B4090 road. A northward extension of the site runs along the steeply sloping valley side of the Bow Brook. Three of the four southernmost meadow enclosures exhibit ridge and furrow terrain. All four southernmost meadows within the site have sward species characteristic of a neutral grassland of crested dog's-tail/common knapweed' type (National Vegetation Classification: MG5 – type). The narrow sling pasture to the north has a similar sward flora, though it is slightly more calcareous. Taking the fields from south to north the habitats are as follows.

Field 1 is a small meadow, the edges of which are planted with trees and have mown strips. The sward is dominated by a mix of red fescue/common bent and is quite mossy with some damper areas colonised by glaucous sedge patches. Prominent herbs include self heal, yarrow, common knapweed and ribwort plantain. Less common species include devil's-bit scabious, bugle and yellow rattle. There are previous records for Adder's tongue fern.

Field 2 is a ridge and furrow field with a small pond at its north-west corner. It has a red fescue/common bent/crested dog's-tail sward with locally frequent birdsfoot trefoil, lady's bedstraw and common knapweed. More uncommon species are cowslip, pepper saxifrage and burnet saxifrage. There are previous records for adder's-tongue fern

Field 3 has a reasonably herb-rich sward with high local abundance of cowslip. More uncommon species include salad burnet.

Field 4 is a fairly species-rich ridge and furrow field with an abundance of yellow rattle, cowslip, rough hawksbit, lady's bedstraw, ox-eye daisy and a high frequency of goat's beard. The presence of salad burnet, hoary plantain and (rarely) common rest-harrow on the ridge tops indicates trends towards more calcareous conditions here.

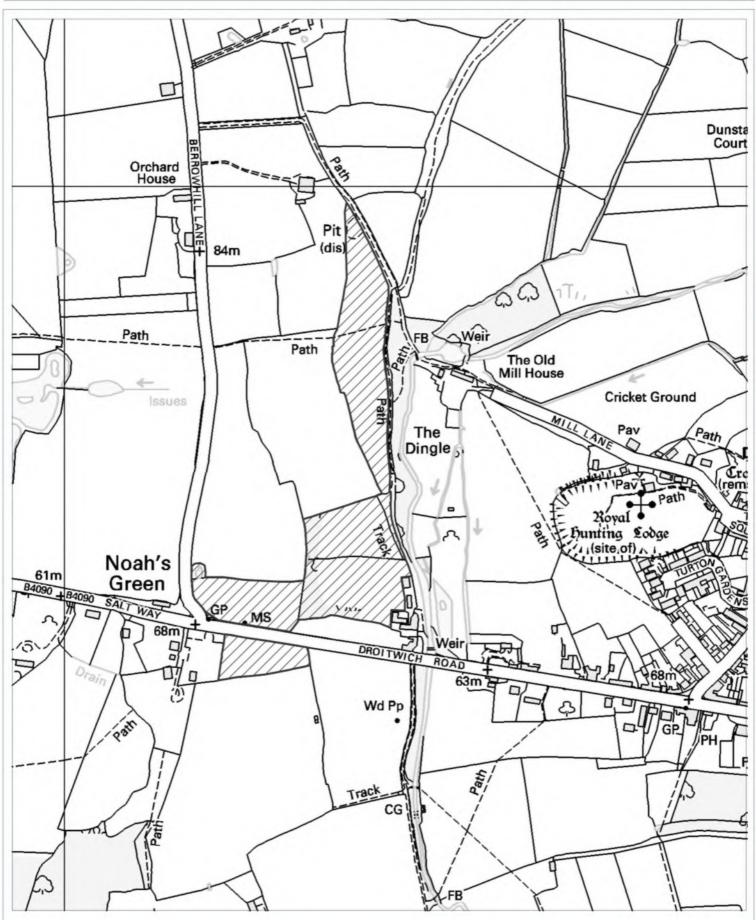
Field 5 is a narrow field on much steeper ground than fields 1-4. There is a fine sward dominated by fescues/bents/crested dog's-tail with calcicolous plants prominent. These include lady's bedstraw, cowslip, bulbous buttercup and common rest-harrow. Other less common plants occurring here are hairy oat-grass and nodding thistle. There are past records for small-flowered buttercup growing at the base of the slope bordering scrubby woodland.

Additional habitat features of note within site include a small pond with hard rush, soft rush, reedmace and fools watercress; species rich hedgerows and a scrubby sunken green lane, with dogs mercury, goldilocks buttercup and bluebell in their bases.

Brook House Meadow and Feckenham Bank

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:5000



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SITE No: SP06/06

SITE NAME	BURIAL LANE
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 008 628
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	SP 008 636 (North), SP 004 618 (South)
DATE OF LISTING	26.8.2009
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch Borough Council
PARISH	Redditch and Beoley
TOTAL AREA	N/A
LENGTH IF LINEAR	2.1km
SWS HABITAT	Hedgerow, Grassland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Ancient and / or species rich hedgerow, unimproved neutral grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Open water - standing, scrub, veteran trees
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	[Bats]
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Dog's Mercury, Pyramidal Orchid, Cowslip, Black Knapweed, Quaking
	Grass

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Burial Lane is an old 'green lane' running through a predominantly intensively managed arable landscape for a distance of over 2km. It is of primary importance for its role as a green corridor through the landscape and is likely to be a key feature for a number of foraging and commuting species, including bats. It also includes interesting habitat elements of significant importance in their own right.

The lane has an undulating cross section and is bounded on either side by stock-proof fencing, together with mature hedges and some large trees, which are relics of a hedgerow that has been laid and coppiced in the past. This management has resulted in large multi stemmed 'veterans', some of 2-3 metres across at the base, and some single stemmed over mature specimens. In some places the track has a cobbled base, indicative of a traditional route way. In wider sections it gives way to narrow bands of woodland with canopy, sub-storey and ground flora structure. There is a small overgrown pond near the northern end and an unimproved grassland field at the southern end.

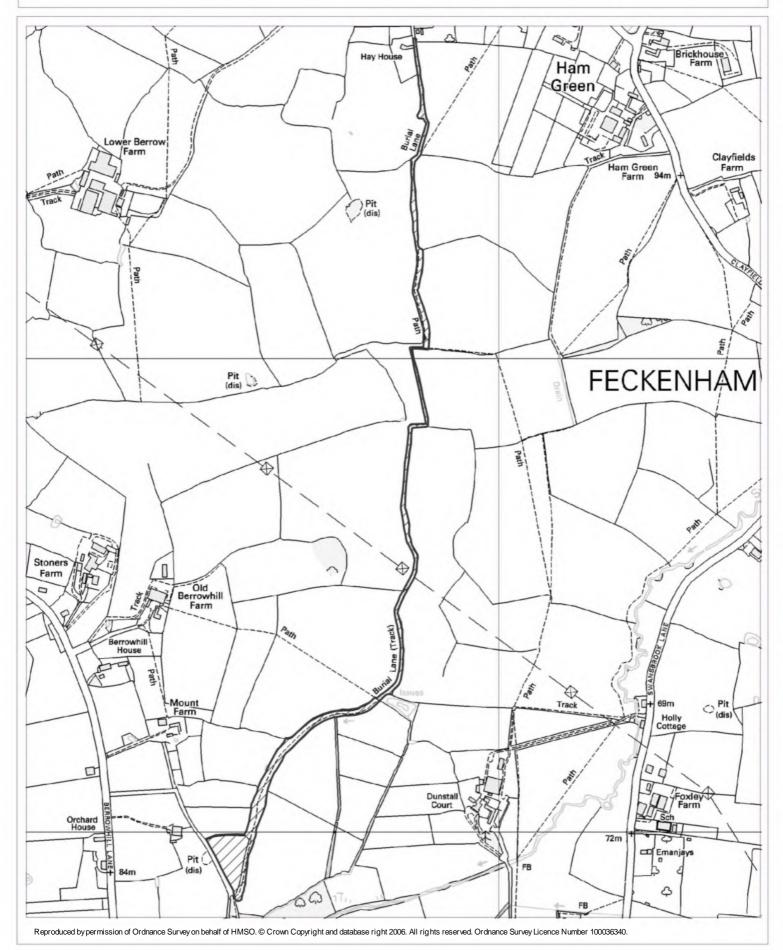
The site has a diverse flora with, in places, a woodland canopy dominated by ash and oak, together with many other woody species in the original hedgerow boundaries. These include aspen, wych elm, hazel, crab apple, holly and field maple. The more wooded areas have a ground flora characteristic of ancient woodland and include bluebell and dog's mercury whilst the unimproved grassland community is similar to NVC MG5 and holds pyramidal orchid, cowslip, black knapweed and quaking grass.

As a linear feature Burial Lane provides a valuable wildlife corridor and forms a significant foraging and commuting route for a wide range of species. It is highly likely that it is used by bats and some of the larger trees offer roost potential. The presence of the pond also offers aquatic opportunities for local amphibians and reptiles.

Burial Lane

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:8000



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SITE NAME	DAGNELL BROOK
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP052 710
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	SP059 728 (North), SP052 688 (South)
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Bromsgrove, Redditch
PARISH	Alvechurch, Beoley, Redditch
TOTAL AREA	N/A
LENGTH IF LINEAR	5.6km
SWS HABITAT	Open Water - Flowing
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Rivers and Streams
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Woodland, Scrub, Marshland
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	Otter [White-clawed Crayfish]
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	N/A

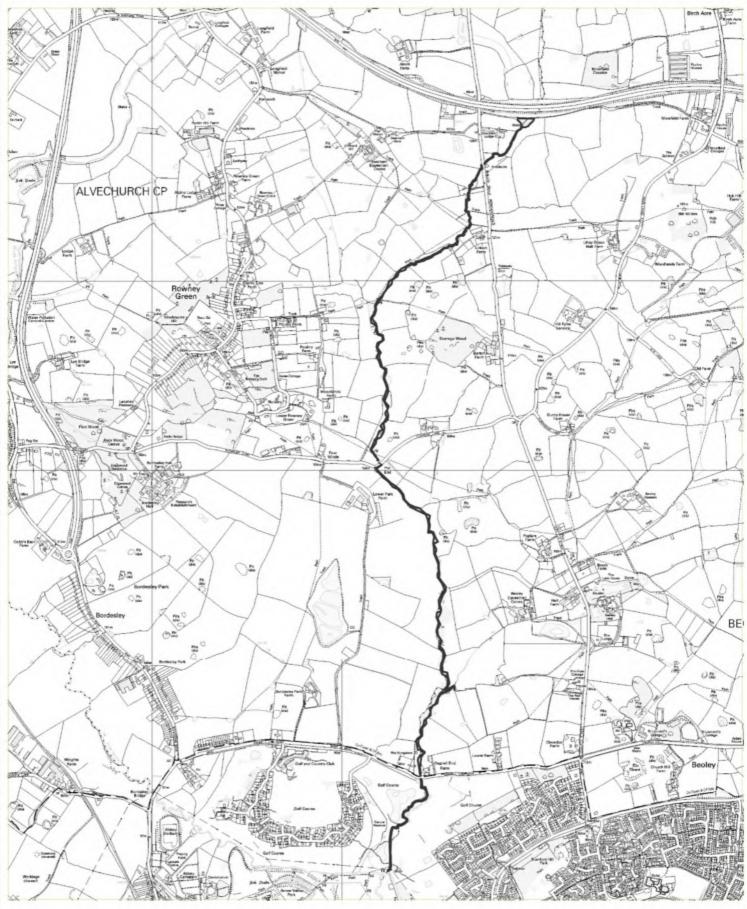
The Dagnell Brook is a small tributary of the River Arrow, rising from springs around Weatheroak Hill north-east of Alvechurch and entering the Arrow on the northern edge of Redditch. Though the brook itself is rather narrow it is tree lined for much of its length and forms an important wildlife corridor through this part of the county, especially where it flows through otherwise improved farmland. Aquatic vegetation tends to be rather limited as a result of the significant shade cast by bankside trees, but these, together with occasional areas of marginal vegetation and associated scrub add value to the corridor as a whole.

Faunal records for the brook are incomplete but otters are known to be present and there are past records for white-clawed crayfish. Their current status here is unknown but the brook contains plenty of suitable habitat for the species and it is possible that a relict population still persists.

Dagnell Brook

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:20000



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SITE NAME	DOWNSELL WOOD
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 026 657
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	5.1ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	N/A
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	None Known
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Wild Service tree

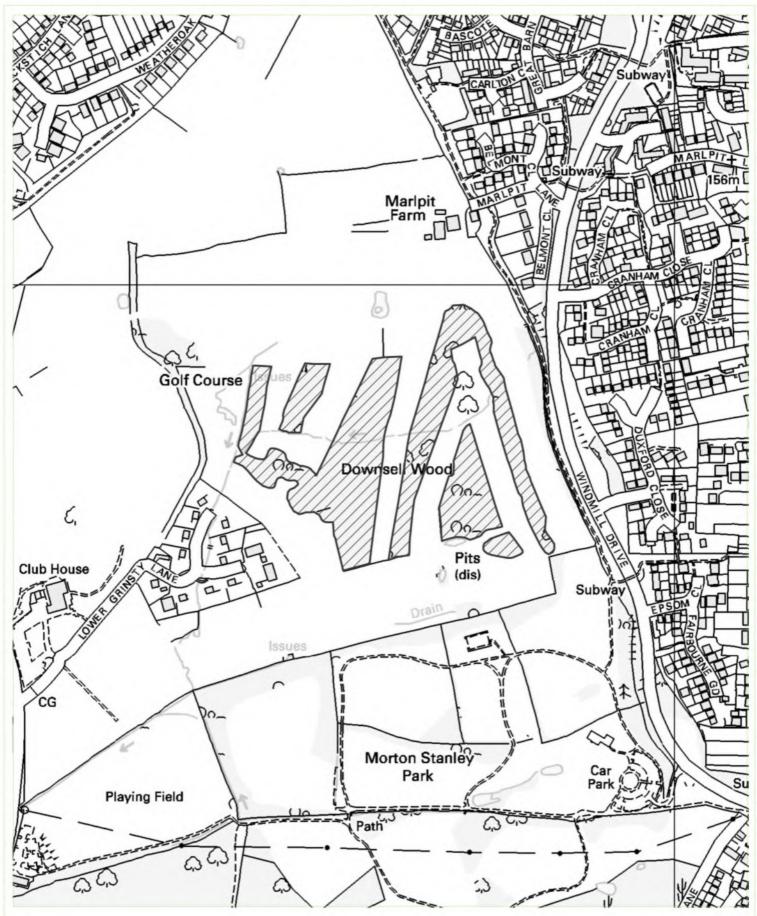
A modified ancient semi-natural woodland shown on the NCC's Inventory of Ancient Woodlands. The site is now somewhat compartmentalised by tracks and fairways associated with the golf course within which it sits but nonetheless it still has sufficient value to qualify as a Special Wildlife Site.

For the most part the canopy is dominated by oak but where a small stream cuts through several of the blocks there are wetter areas with willow and alder that conform more closely to a wet woodland community. The stream and damp areas help to add value to the site and although there are no records for particularly rare species the woodland has a reasonable species diversity given its size and modification. Of particular note are a number of wild service trees, which help to confirm the ancient woodland status of this site.

Downsell Wood

Do not scale from map. For accurate Plan refer to GIS

Scale 1:5000



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	SITE No: SP06/11
SITE NAME	FOXLYDIATE AND PITCHER OAK WOODS
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	Foxlydiate SP 022 672 Pitcher Oak SP 028 670
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.0.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	53.1ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Grassland
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	Bats
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Large-leaved Lime, Wild Service, Violet helleborine

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This site comprises two large ancient semi-natural woodlands split into a total of four compartments by roads and housing development. Between them they form a significant habitat block and a particularly important component of Redditch's green infrastructure. Both woods are listed on the NCC Inventory of Ancient Woodland and have a diverse structure with significant open glade areas adding to the overall diversity. These are predominantly oak woodlands with both pedunculate and sessile oak dominating the canopy, though other species including birch, small leaved lime, large leaved lime, hazel, ash, field maple, yew, wild service and sweet chestnut are also found. The ground flora is similarly diverse with a range of woodland indicators augmented by rich grassland in the glades. In places the flora tends towards a more acidic mix with species including heather and tormentil occurring.

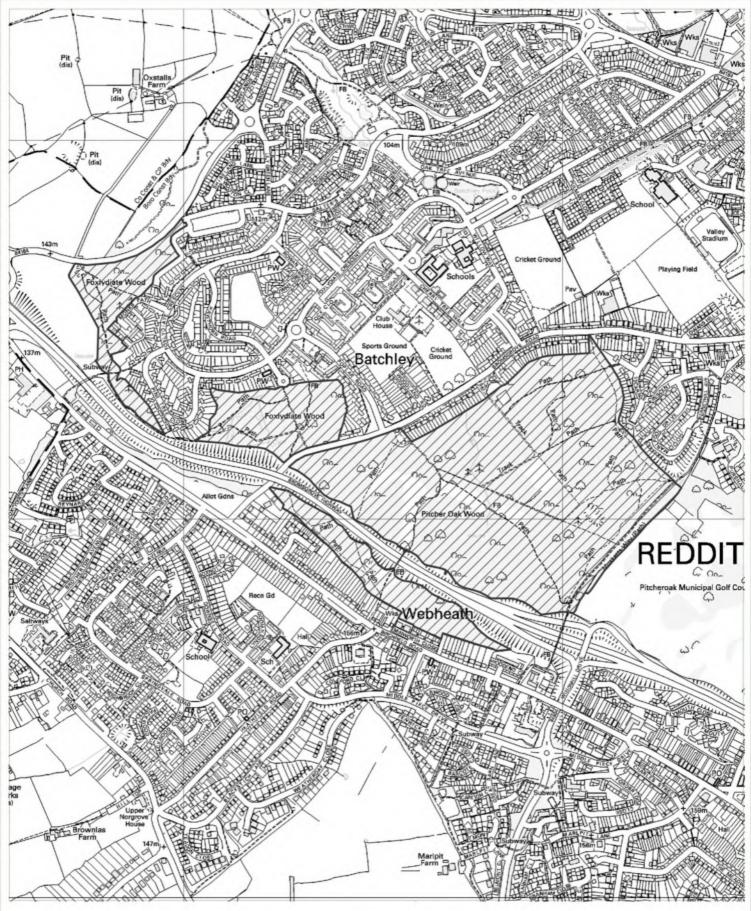
Faunal records for the two woods are incomplete but bats and a variety of nesting birds are likely to use both and there are records for a range of butterflies including Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, White Admiral and Small Heath, particularly associated with Pitcher Oak Wood.

Both Woods are also designated as Local Nature Reserves by Redditch Borough Council.

Foxlydiate and Pitcher Oak Woods

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:10000



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SITE No: SP06/31

SITE NAME	IPSLEY ALDERS MARSH
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP078 677
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	SP078 679 (northern section), SP077 674 (southern section)
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	4.9ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broadleaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Scrub, Grassland, Marshland, open water (both standing and flowing)
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Lesser spotted woodpecker

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Two predominantly wooded compartments that make up part of the wider Worcestershire Wildlife Trust Ipsley Alders Nature Reserve. Both sections abut the Ipsley Alders Site of Special Scientific Interest and are of significant value both in their own right and as a buffer to the valuable marshland habitats here.

Parts of both compartments comprise relatively recent plantations dominated by oak and Alder but the northern area includes older woodland with some significant pollards, which add value to the site as a whole. A small pool falls within the southern section and although much invaded by great reedmace it is still valuable for wetland fauna.

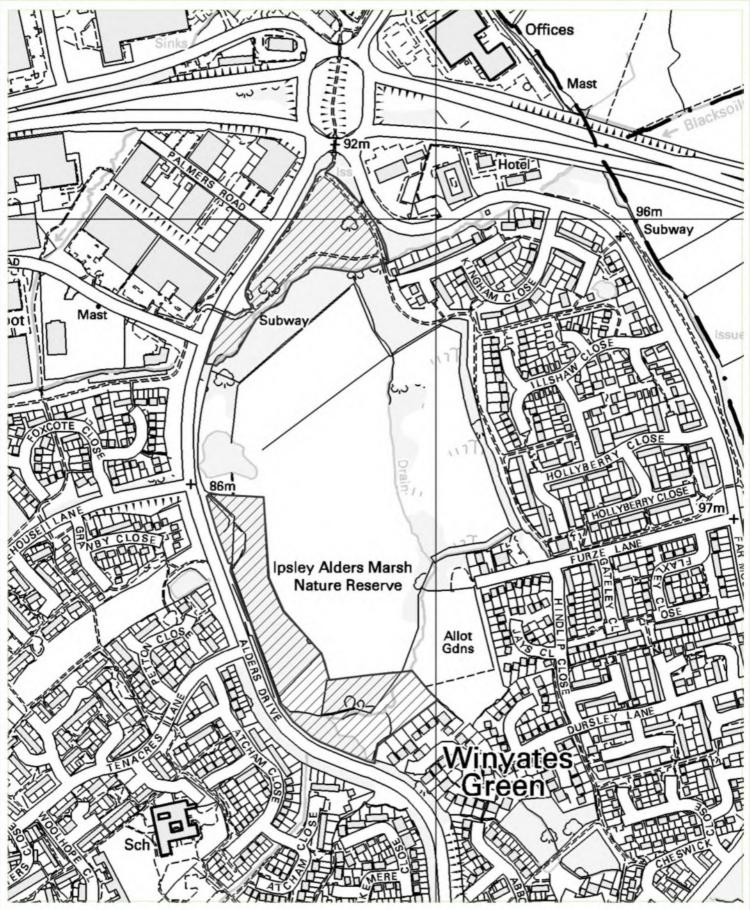
Flora records for the Ipsley Alders Marsh complex detail over 170 species including 3 locally rare plants and whilst the two sections discussed here are not as diverse as the Site of Special Scientific Interest they are still of significant value, particularly as they offer a drier (and therefore complementary) habitat mosaic than much the rest of the site.

Faunal records for the overall site complex include 17 species of butterfly and 14 species of dragonfly and damselfly but these wooded sections are of especial interest for woodland birds, including lesser spotted woodpecker. There are also past records for marsh and willow tits. Water rail are likely to use the pools.

Ipsley Alders Marsh

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:5000



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SITE No:	SP06/25
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SITE NAME	LODGE POOL
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP048 666
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	2.6ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Open water - standing
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Standing open waters, Wet Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Knotted pearlwort, Grey Wagtail

Lodge Pool lies near the centre of Redditch, set within an amenity park and surrounded by housing. It has been modified by the installation of artificial revetments and non-native tree planting and is also rather intensively stocked with fish. Nonetheless it still retains significant wildlife interest.

The pool is relatively shallow with a diverse range of swamp communities along the south and west banks. Wet woodland occurs in the west of the site but the east and north-west banks are primarily managed amenity grassland.

The most conspicuous aquatic plant in the pool is amphibious bistort, which forms dense beds in shallow water with accumulated soft silt beneath; this is the National Vegetation Community (NVC) A10 *Polygonum amphibium* community. In addition there are smaller areas of the following NVC plant communities.

- A16 *Callitriche stagnalis* community in the inflow ditch in the west of the site. This is a single-species stand and grows in gently flowing water isolated from the main lake in a silty, eutrophic substrate.
- Stands of S7 *Carex acutiformis* swamp around fishing platforms in the south of the site in five to ten metre wide bands dominated by lesser pond-sedge with locally frequent reedmace, yellow iris and a ground-layer of creeping bent. Gipsywort and angelica are also frequent; skullcap is occasional. In the back-marsh hairy sedge is common with occasional marsh bedstraw.
- The S12 *Typha latifolia* swamp is the most widespread swamp community around the pool, occurring on the southern shore where it grades into the S7 swamp. On the western shore the S12 swamp grows in purer stands.
- A small stand, only of a few square metres, of branched bur-reed, the S14 *Sparganium erectum* swamp, occurs in the silty inflow ditch with an understorey of water forget-me-not and brooklime.
- Small patches of common spike-rush occur in association with areas of S7 swamp; this is the S19 *Eleocharis palustris* swamp. Lesser spearwort and jointed rush are also frequent here.
- A band of OV26 *Epilobium hirsutum* community, dominated by great willowherb, borders the water's edge in stretches on the southern and western shores. On the southern shore it grades into the OV24 *Urtica dioica-Galium aparine* community.

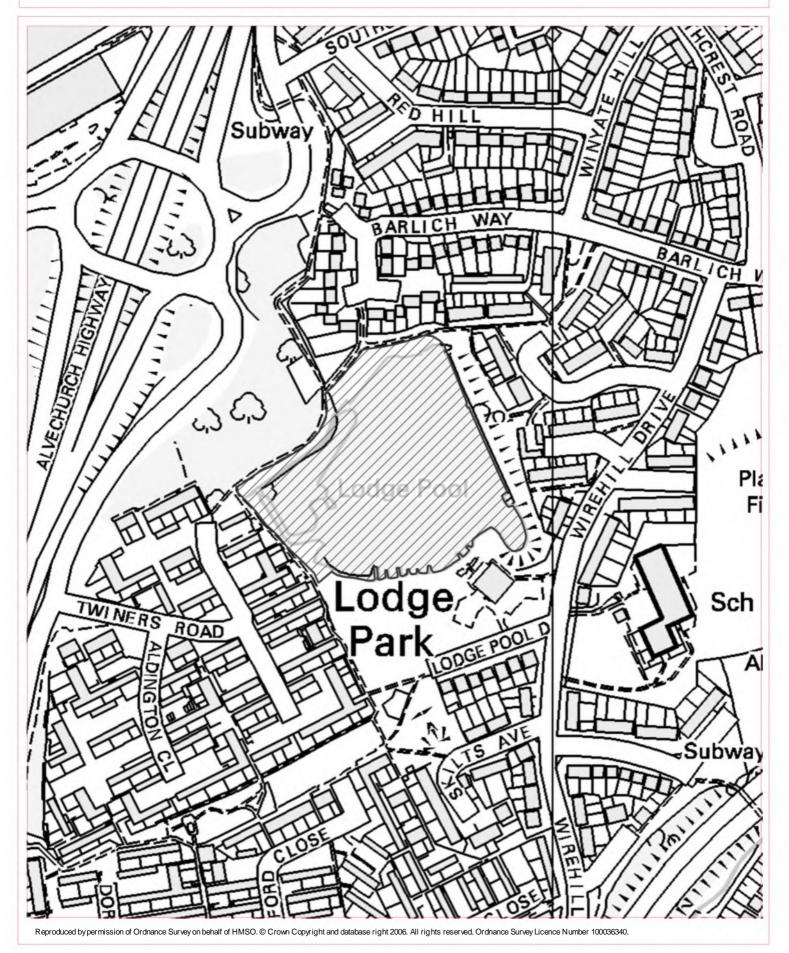
Mature pedunculate oak trees are scattered around the pool and some of these are of a good age, including one which appears to be in excess of 200 years old. The majority of the trees around the lake have been planted but the gaps between them have been more naturally colonised by scrub dominated by common hawthorn and ivy. These areas conform to the NVC W21 *Crataegus monogyna* scrub community. Wet woodland on the western banks is dominated by white willow and is closest to a W6 *Alnus glutinosa-Urtica dioica* woodland. On the water's edge this includes a stand of osiers.

This range of habitats means that in spite of its poor water quality and turbidity the pool is still of significant wildlife value.

Lodge Pool

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:3000



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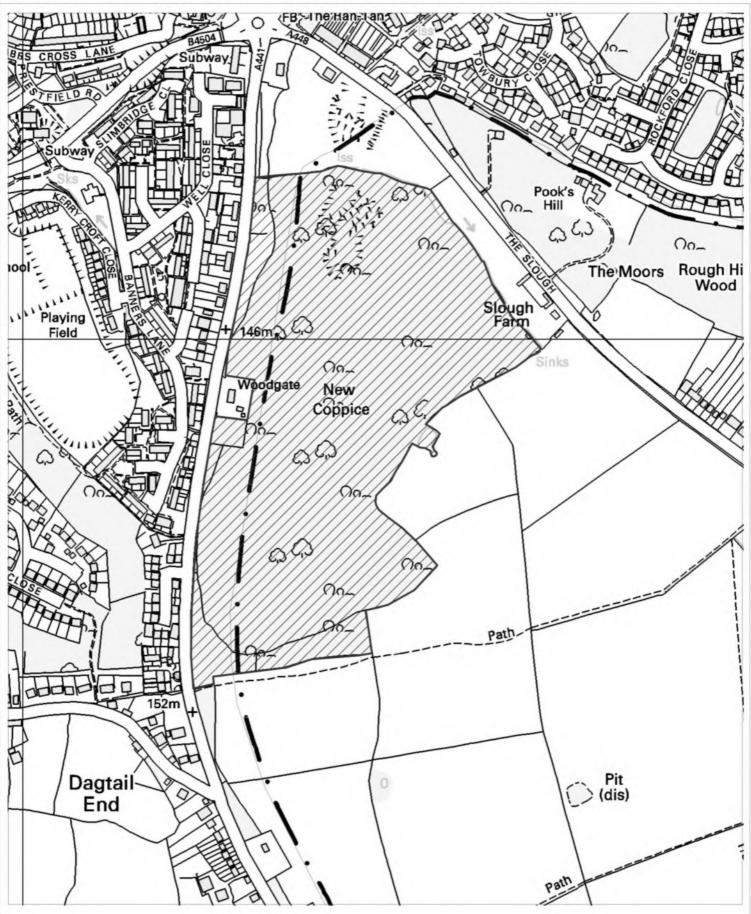
	SITE No: SP06/21
SITE NAME	NEW COPPICE
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 044 639
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	18.8ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broadleaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	N/A
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	None known
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	N/A

A large semi-natural oak/ash/birch woodland with a well developed shrub layer lying on the county boundary, with the majority of the site in Warwickshire. The small section in Worcestershire is included here in accordance with its county wildlife site status over the border.

New Coppice

Do not scale from map. For acurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:5000



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SITE No: SP06/24

	51121(0) 51 00/21
SITE NAME	OAKENSHAW FENNY ROUGH
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 048 665
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	1.4ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland, Open Water - Flowing
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	N/A
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	N/A

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

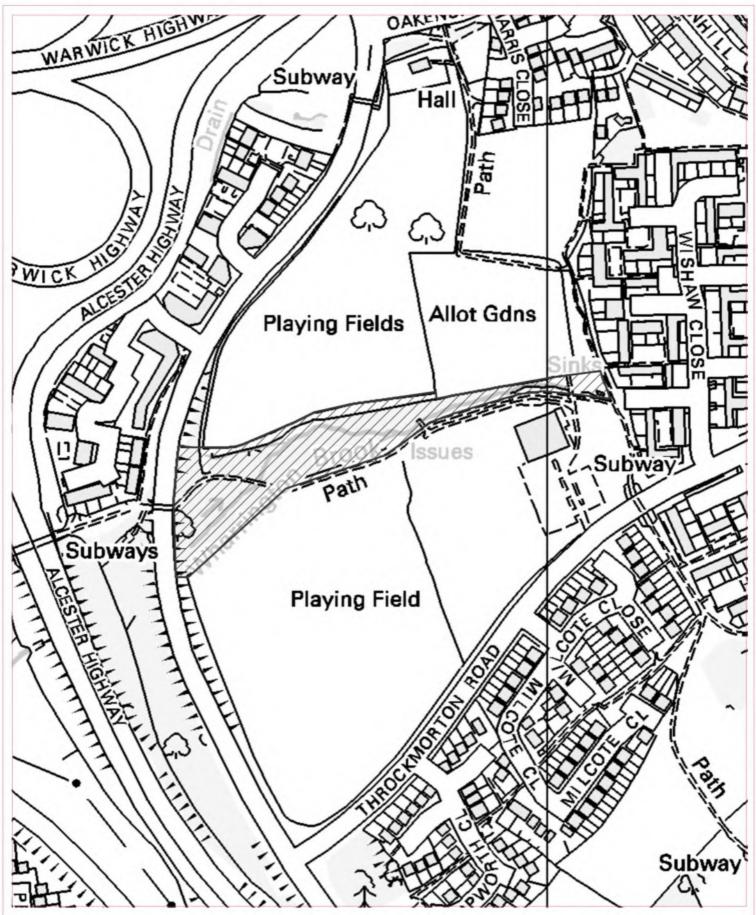
A small wooded site running along the banks of the Wharrington Brook in the centre of Redditch. It lies close to, and just downstream of, Oakenshaw Wood and Oakenshaw Spinney and with them forms an important part of the somewhat dislocated ecological corridor along the wider brook course. The woodland is predominantly semi-natural with a mixed canopy including alder, ash, willow, elder, hawthorn and oak as well as some coniferous plantings including larch and spruce. Ground flora is not particularly rich but there are records for old-woodland indicators including bluebell and dog's mercury and wetter components including pendulous sedge and false fox-sedge.

Faunal records for the site are incomplete but a variety of common butterflies have been recorded in the past.

Oakenshaw Fenny Rough

Do not scale from map. For acurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:3000



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SITE NAME	OAKENSHAW SPINNEY
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 044 651
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	2.0ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland, Marshland, Open Water - Standing
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	N/A
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	N/A

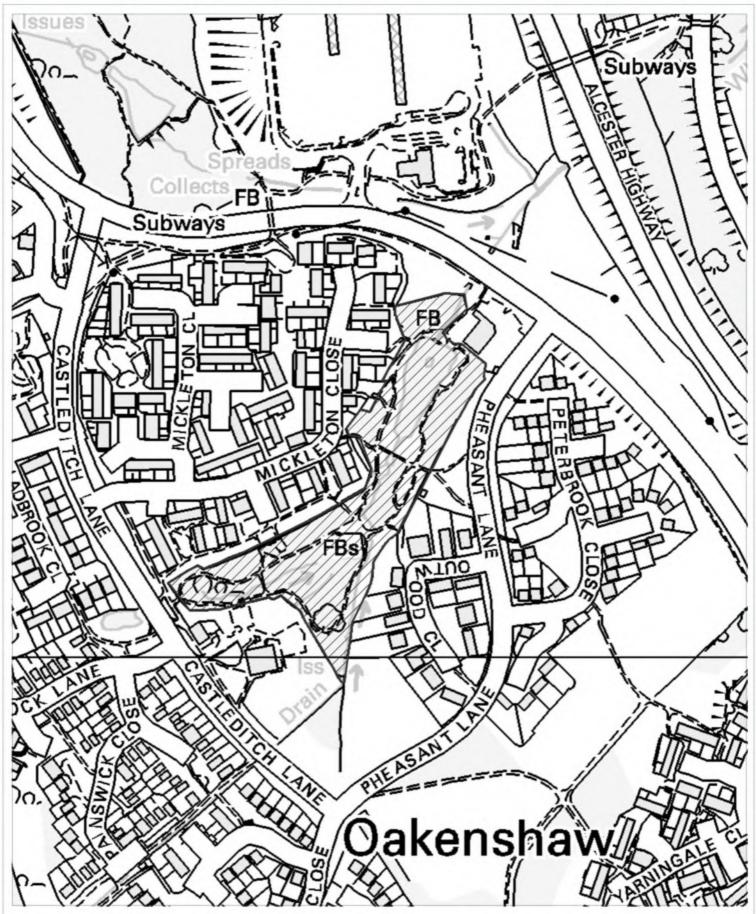
This is a small woodland site, which extends along a stream valley in an otherwise built up part of Redditch. There are two pools in the centre of the wood and although these have become heavily silted up, and for the most part vegetated, they add significant diversity to the site. The woodland blocks retain a sizeable natural component, though some areas have been partly planted with ornamental species in the past. Otherwise there is an interesting mix of dry and damper species which includes field maple, alder, guelder rose, hazel, hawthorn, oak, blackthorn, crack willow, rowan and dogwood. The ground flora includes bugle, wild angelica, meadowsweet, gypsywort, reed canary grass, bluebell, foxglove and enchanter's nightshade.

Faunal records for the site are incomplete but it is highly likely that bats make use of the woodland for foraging, and a variety of nesting birds will be present.

Oakenshaw Spinney

Do not scale from map. For acurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:3000



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	SITE No: SP06/20
SITE NAME	OAKENSHAW WOOD
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 041 656
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
	D. 11/(1
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	11.4ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Unimproved grassland, Ponds
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Toad, Wild Service Tree, Marbled White, Purple Hairstreak

STTE N. CDOC/20

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A large block of woodland in the centre of Redditch, Oakenshaw Wood is a significant part of the Wharrington Brook complex and with Oakenshaw Spinney and Oakenshaw Fenny Rough forms a valuable ecological resource in this part of the town. It is shown as ancient semi-natural woodland on the NCC's Inventory of Ancient Woodland. The woodland canopy is dominated by oak (both native species are present) with abundant birch and frequent ash, whilst the secondary storey has holly, rowan, elder, hazel and guelder rose. The ground flora is reasonably rich and includes pendulous sedge, bluebell, dog's mercury, enchanter's nightshade, marsh bedstraw, wood avens, foxglove, rushes and sedges. There are some small ponds and damp flushes, which together with areas of species-rich grassland on the northern edge of the wood add interest to the site.

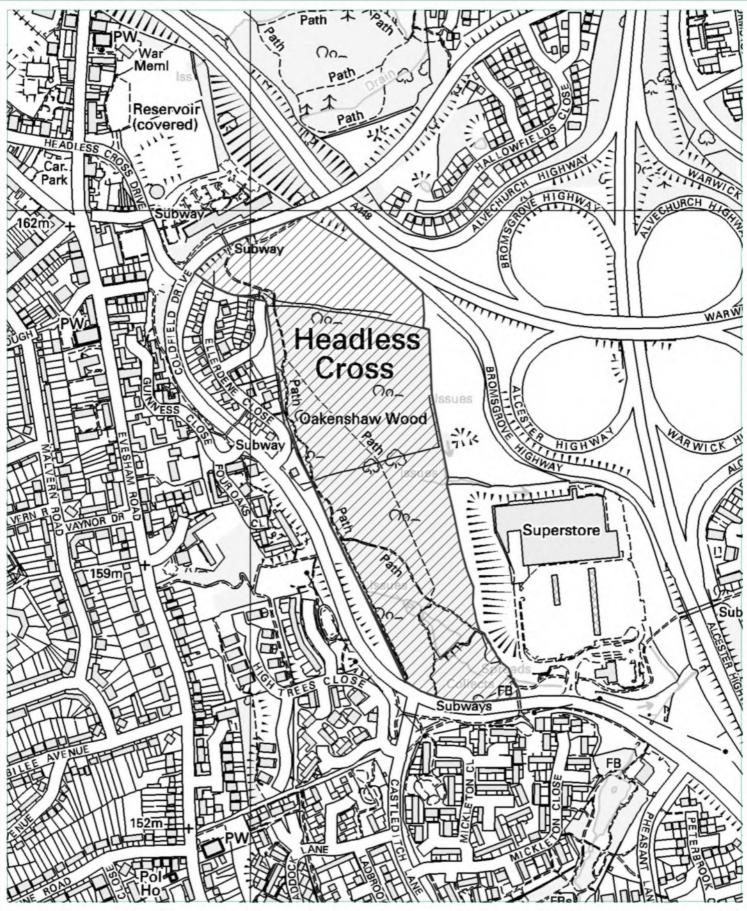
Faunal records for the site are incomplete but bats are likely to use the wood for foraging and there will be a variety of nesting birds. There are past records for toads and smooth newts in the ponds. The woodland and grassland to the north are excellent for invertebrates and have past records for a range butterflies including marbled White and Purple Hairstreak.

The site is also a designated Local Nature Reserve, owned and managed by Redditch Borough Council.

Oakenshaw Wood

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Scale 1:5000



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	SITE No: SO96/24
SITE NAME	OLD RECTORY MEADOWS
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SO988 613
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	12.05.2003
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Wychavon, Redditch
PARISH	Stock and Bradley
TOTAL AREA	2.4ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Grassland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Lowland neutral grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Boundary hedges, orchard trees
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Cowslip, bugle, pepper saxifrage, common knapweed, spring sedge, glaucous sedge, saw wort, betony, wood anemone

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A group of 4 small fields to the west of Bradley Green, located next to the Old Rectory. The site has near flat topography apart from areas of ridge and furrow, though the largest field slopes gently towards the west. It includes some locally damp areas due to soil changes and gradients. Soils are surface water gleys and clay-loams over lias clay.

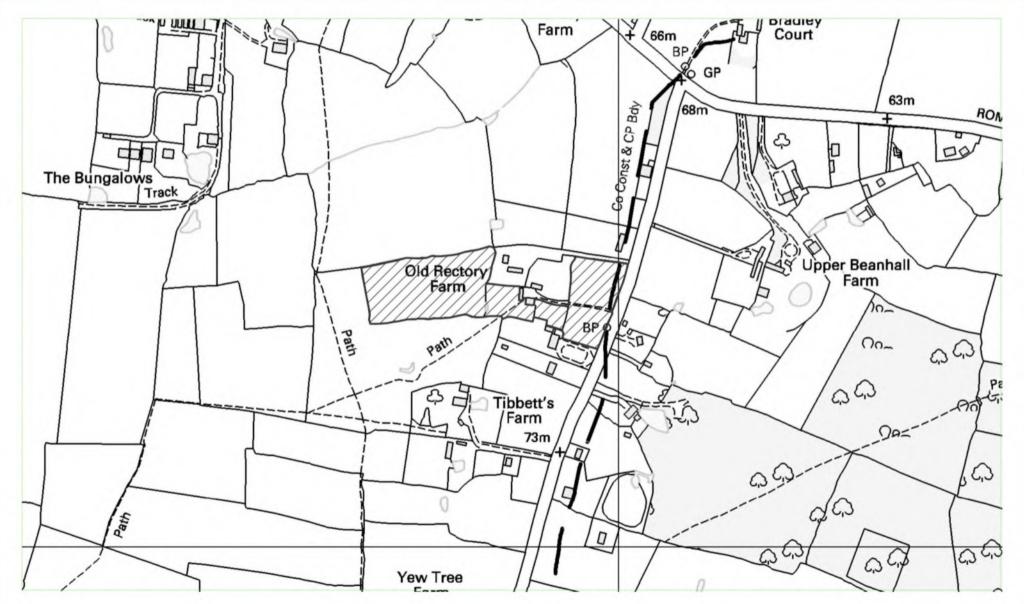
The two smallest fields to the immediate north of the Rectory are partly species-rich crested dogstail/common knapweed grasslands (National Vegetation Classification: MG5-type), but with damper areas having creeping buttercup, rushes, coarse grasses and semi-improved swards of crested dogstail/ryegrass/clover (National Vegetation Classification: MG6). These link via an improved paddock to a larger field. This meadow has a sward, locally of crested dog's-tail/ knapweed type on the ridge tops, though with a more improved, less species-rich, grass-dominated turf in the furrows.

Species of interest include cowslip, glaucous sedge, spring sedge, pepper saxifrage and betony in the smaller fields and ladies bedstraw, birdsfoot trefoil, pepper saxifrage, common knapweed, saw-wort, betony, wood anemone and devil's-bit scabious in the largest field.

Old Rectory Meadows

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Scale 1:5000



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SITE No:	SP06/17
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	SILLING SI GGII
SITE NAME	PITCHER OAK GOLF COURSE
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 033 668
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	22.8ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Mosaic
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and Yew Woodland, Unimproved grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Grassland, woodland, scrub
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	N/A
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	N/A

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A council owned golf course in the centre of Redditch this site forms an important part of a wider complex including Foxlydiate and Pitcher Oak Woods. The golf course lies on undulating ground on predominantly north-facing slopes and comprises the expected golf course mosaic of open greens and short mown fairways with significant areas of 'rough' and clumps of woodland. It also has a fringe of mature trees. Woody species include oak, ash, birch, rowan, holly, hawthorn, broom and gorse. Some areas have a diverse, and often acidic, ground flora including wood anemone, heather, harebell, common knapweed, wood sage, pignut, bluebell and bitter vetch.

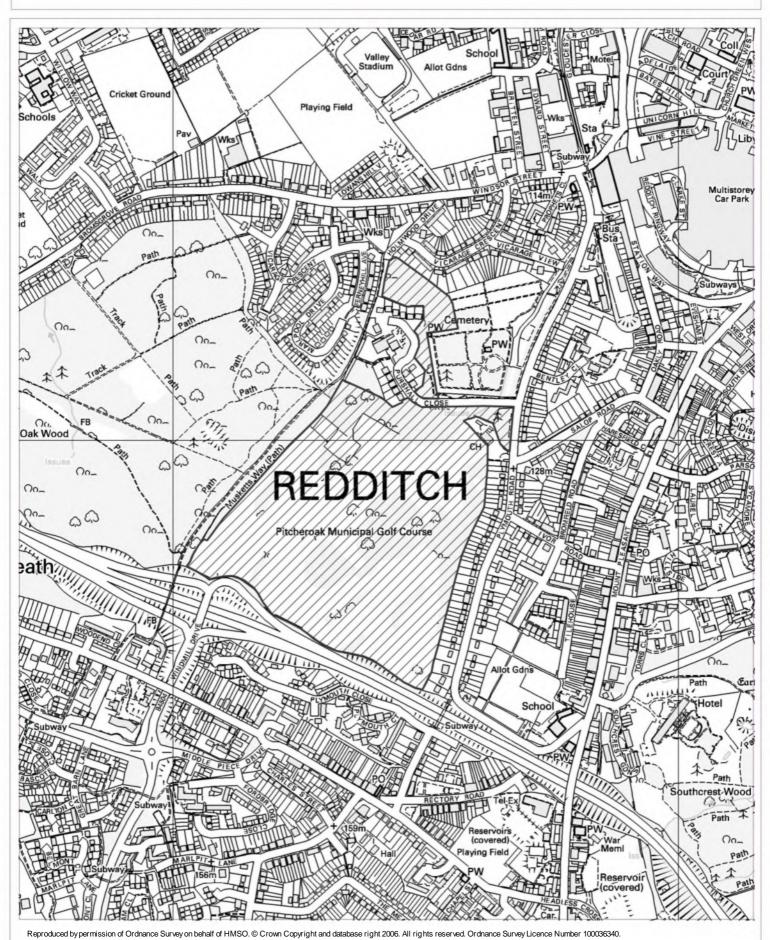
To the north of the golf course, and within this site, is Holm Wood, an oak woodland with some ornamental planting on an ancient woodland site. There is still a sizeable natural component to the wood with silver birch, hazel, hawthorn, ash, holly, sallow, rowan, elm, yew and aspen all present in the canopy and secondary storey. The ground flora is not especially rich but includes wood sorrel, yellow archangel, wood sage and bluebell.

Faunal records for the site are incomplete but it is likely to provide suitable habitat for a wide range of birds and invertebrates as well as foraging opportunities for bats.

Pitcher Oak Golf Course

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:7500



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	SITE NO: SP06/30
SITE NAME	RAVENSBANK DRIVE BRIDLE TRACK
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP079 684
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	SP074 694 (north), SP085 675 (south)
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Bromsgrove, Redditch
PARISH	Beoley, Redditch
TOTAL AREA	N/A
LENGTH IF LINEAR	2.1km
SWS HABITAT	Hedgerow, Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	N/A
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Open water - flowing, scrub, Grassland
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	[Bats, great-crested newts]
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Dog's Mercury, Enchanter's Nightshade, Knapweed

SITE No. SD06/30

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A long double hedged trackway that has become overgrown and now provides an important wooded wildlife corridor around the north-eastern edge of Redditch. The site also forms part of the county boundary.

The site comprises two hedges (one either side of the track) with associated scrub and areas of more mature linear woodland, a small watercourse augmented by numerous wet flushes and seasonally inundated marginal ditches, and more permanent water features, including in particular a large pond at its northern end. The central trackway is effectively a woodland ride and is heavily shaded and damp, with a ground flora including pendulous sedge and soft rush. Remnant patches of grassland associated with previous land uses are now mostly shaded out but grassland species persist in a few areas on the western edge of the site and help to add to the overall floristic diversity. Whilst the habitats found here are not particularly rare their value is considerably enhanced by their linear nature and the site is likely to provide a foraging and commuting corridor for a range of protected and other species including bats and great-crested newts. Although broken in several places the site extends to over 2km and its primary value is as a wildlife corridor through an otherwise rather urban environment.

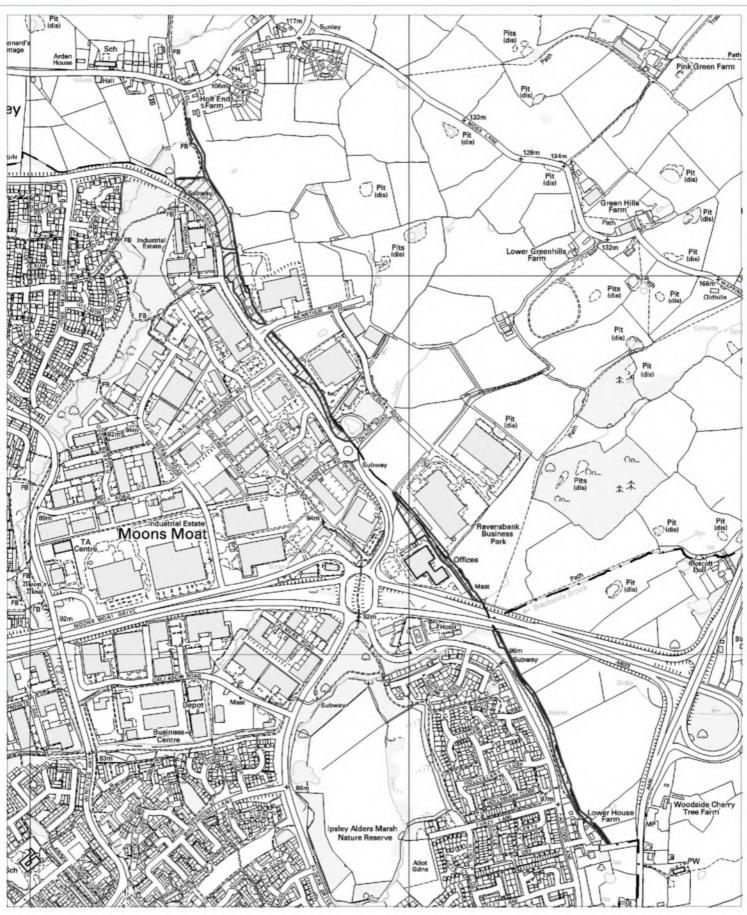
Flora includes ash, oak, field maple, hawthorn, hazel, elder, holly, enchanter's nightshade, bluebell, meadowsweet, soft rush, pendulous sedge, bird's-foot trefoil and black knapweed.

Faunal records for the site are incomplete but it is highly likely that the corridor is used by bats and great-crested newts, both of which are known to occur in the locality. It is also of value for nesting birds including the amber-listed Song Thrush.

Ravensbank Drive Bridle Track

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

Scale 1:10000



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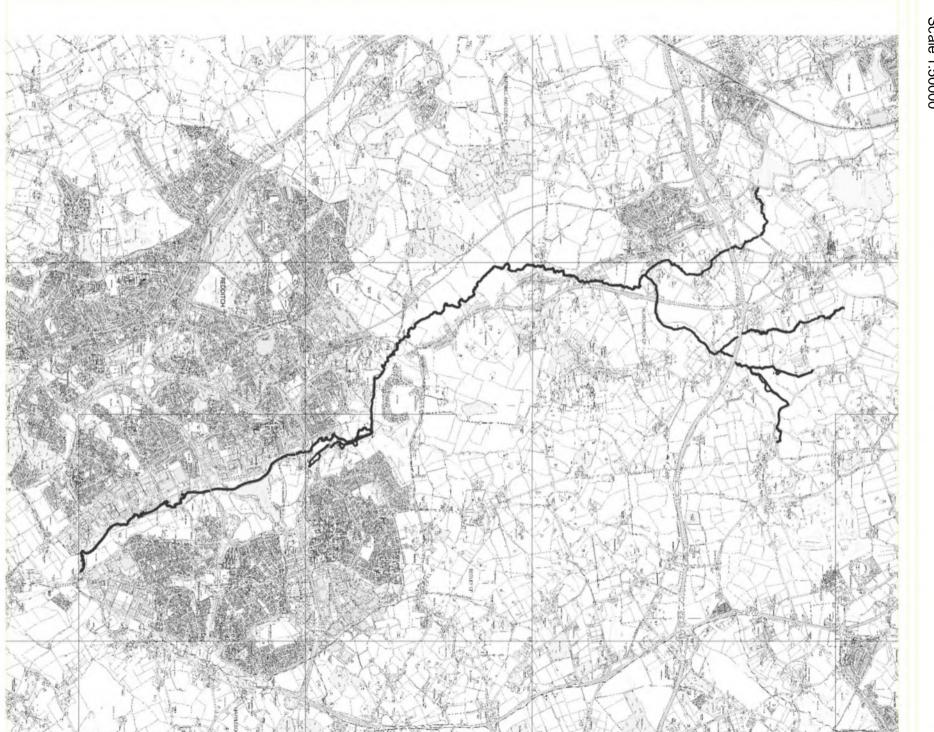
SITE No: SP06/18

SITE NAME	RIVER ARROW
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP039 695
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	SP036 731 (North) SP071 650 (South)
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Bromsgrove, Redditch
PARISH	Alvechurch, Tutnall and Cobley, Redditch
TOTAL AREA	N/A
LENGTH IF LINEAR	16km
SWS HABITAT	Open Water - Flowing
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Rivers and Streams
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Woodland, scrub, marshland
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	Otter
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Kingfisher

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Rising from an overflow at Lower Bittell Reservoir, the River Arrow flows south through Redditch to join the River Avon at Salford Priors in Warwickshire. For much of its length it is lined with trees and shrubs (which in some places broaden out into woodland) and creates an important wildlife corridor through the landscape. It is a particularly valuable feature where it flows through the centre of Redditch where both the river and its attendant valley form a significant green wedge through the town. Overshadowing by bankside trees means that the aquatic flora is limited in most stretches although in places there are beds of both in-stream and marginal vegetation. In combination with a full range of natural features, including fast flowing riffle sequences, these help to support a reasonable aquatic fauna.

Otters are known to be present and kingfishers breed in several places.



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River Arrow

Do not scale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS.

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Scale 1:50000

SITE No: SP06/10

SITE NAME	SHURNOCK MEADOWS
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP018609
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	21.07.2003
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Feckenham
TOTAL AREA	6.68 Ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Grassland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Lowland neutral grassland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Reedbed, hedgerows
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	No information
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Great burnet, ragged robin, common fleabane, devil's-bit scabious, brown sedge, common sedge, adder's-tongue fern, pepper saxifrage

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

A series of low-lying damp meadows of fairly coarse-grade grassland, running on a N.E./S.W. axis, located east of Feckenham. Soils are stagnogleys and ground-water alluvial gleys, lying over alluvium with peaty deposits on a bedrock of triassic Mercia mudstone.

The field block to the immediate south of Meadow Farm is the wettest. It has been partially improved, but is now reverting back to sedge/rush/meadowsweet vegetation, showing transitions between a common knapweed with crested dogstail sward, i.e. National Vegetation Classification (N.V.C.): MG 5 type, a Yorkshire fog/soft rush vegetation (NVC: MG10 type); and meadow foxtail/great burnet (NVC; MG4 type). The southern-most meadow is also damp, varying between a knapweed/crested dog's-tail and meadow foxtail/great burnet (NVC: MG5&MG4) sward. The middle two field blocks are poorer in species but sward vegetation varies between a rather fragmentary dogstail/knapweed (MG5) and a semi-improved species-poor dogstail/ryegrass (MG6) sward. A willow and alder lined small stream runs southwards through the middle of the site and all the fields are bounded by shrub-rich hedgerows with mature standard trees.

In the wetter meadows, species assemblages showing characteristics of 'Lammas' flood-meadows occur, e.g. plants such as ragged robin (*Lychnis flos-cucculi*), great burnet (*Sanguisorba officinalis*) and meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*), together with some uncommon/local sedges such as carnation sedge (*Carex panicea*), common sedge (*Carex nigra*) and brown sedge (*Carex nigra*). Adder's-tongue fern (*Ophioglossum vulgatum*) can also be found

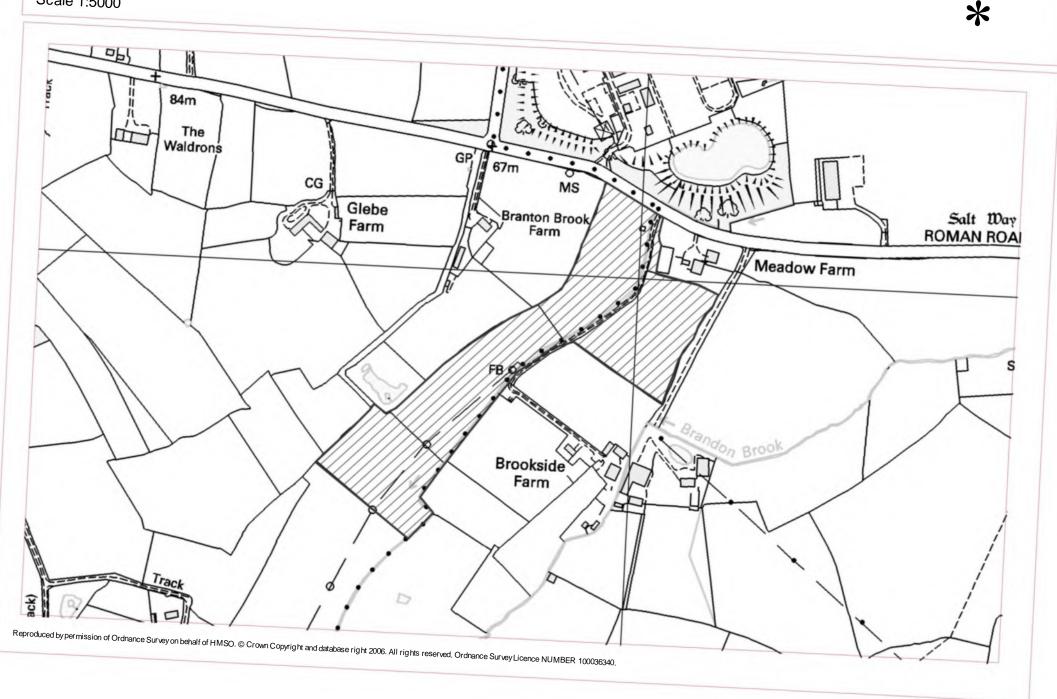
Fauna recorded in the 1990s and in 2003 includes:-

Butterflies and moths: orange tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*), common blue (*Polyommatus icarus*), small skipper (*Thymelicus sylvestris*), green-veined white (*Pieris napi*), gatekeeper (*Pyronia tithonia*), painted lady (*Cynthia cardui*), silver-y (*Autographa gamma*) and 5-spot burnet moth (*Zygaena filipendula*) Mammals and birds: red fox, mole, grey partridge, raven, chiffchaff Reptiles: grass snake

Shurnock Meadows

Do notscale from map. For accurate plan refer to GIS

Scale 1:5000



	SITE No: SP06/19
SITE NAME	SOUTHCREST WOOD
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE	SP 041 663
LINEAR SITE LIMITS (if appropriate)	N/A
DATE OF LISTING	28.09.1990
DISTRICT COUNCIL (s)	Redditch
PARISH	Redditch
TOTAL AREA	10.9ha
LENGTH IF LINEAR	N/A
SWS HABITAT	Woodland
NATIONAL BAP HABITATS	Broad-leaved and Yew Woodland
OTHER HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE	Ponds, grassland
NATIONAL BAP SPECIES	Slow-worm, bats
OTHER SPECIES OF IMPORTANCE	Large-leaved Lime, Toad

CITE N. CDOC/10

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Southcrest Wood is a predominantly acidic oak and birch woodland, with some damp areas, ponds and occasional basic outcrops adding diversity to the flora. It is shown as ancient semi-natural woodland on the NCC's Inventory of Ancient Woodland but parts of the site have been heavily modified and there are some compartments planted with exotic species. Though the semi-natural parts of the canopy are dominated by oak there are occasional large and small-leaved limes, ash and areas of alder in the wetter parts of the wood. The understorey is dominated by hazel and hawthorn with other shrubs including guelder rose, crab apple and honeysuckle. The ground flora is often indicative of the acidic substrate and includes heather and bilberry with more neutral areas having a range of woodland indicators such as bluebells and wood anemone.

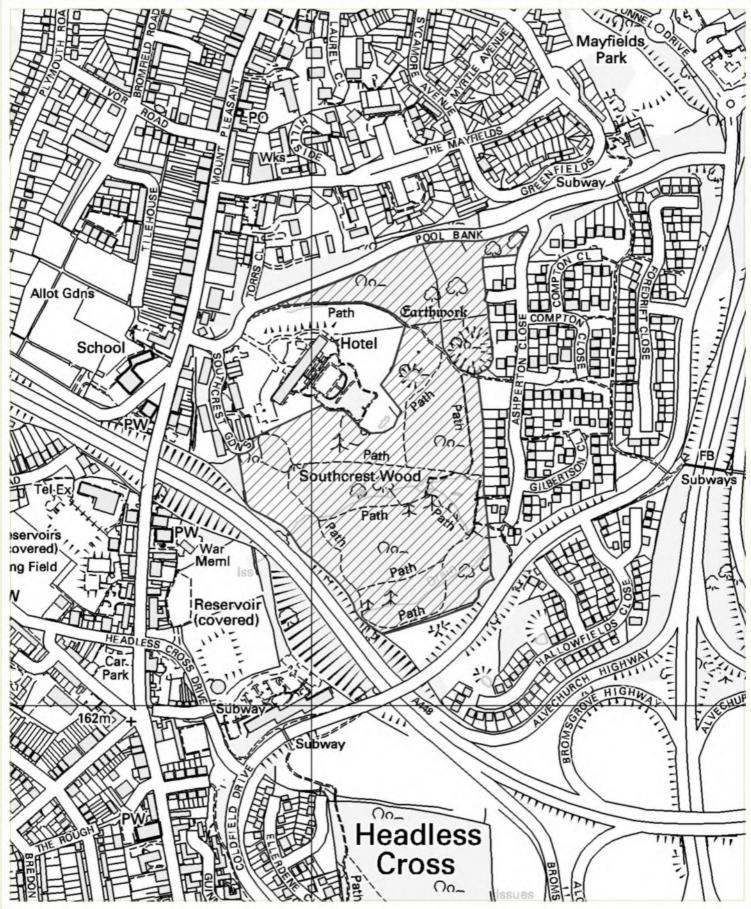
The faunal records for the site are incomplete but the ponds are known to be used by toads and there are past records for slow-worm and a wide range of butterflies, including marbled white. The site will also provide suitable habitat for a range of breeding birds and foraging opportunities for bats.

The wood is designated as a Local Nature Reserve by Redditch Borough Council.

Southcrest Wood

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Scale 1:5000



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