



2020 -2024

# Woods Meadow Country Park 5 - year Management Plan



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East Suffolk Norse  
2020 -2024

# Guidance Notes

The following notes have been prepared to help guide you through and understand the Management Plan. Section headings are highlighted below along with descriptions of their relevance within the overall plan.

## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

The first section describes the current situation, at the time the plan was written. It is an introduction and advises on the current facilities and their management.



## Part 2 – *Where do we want to get to?*

This section of the plan describes our vision for the park and sets out our management aims and objectives.



## Part 3 – *How will we get there?*

This section sets out how we are going to achieve our aims. A five-year Work Programme sets our long-term targets and Annual Action Plans, focusing on each year, will flow from this.



## Part 4 - *Appendices*



# Woods Meadow Country Park – 5 year Management Plan

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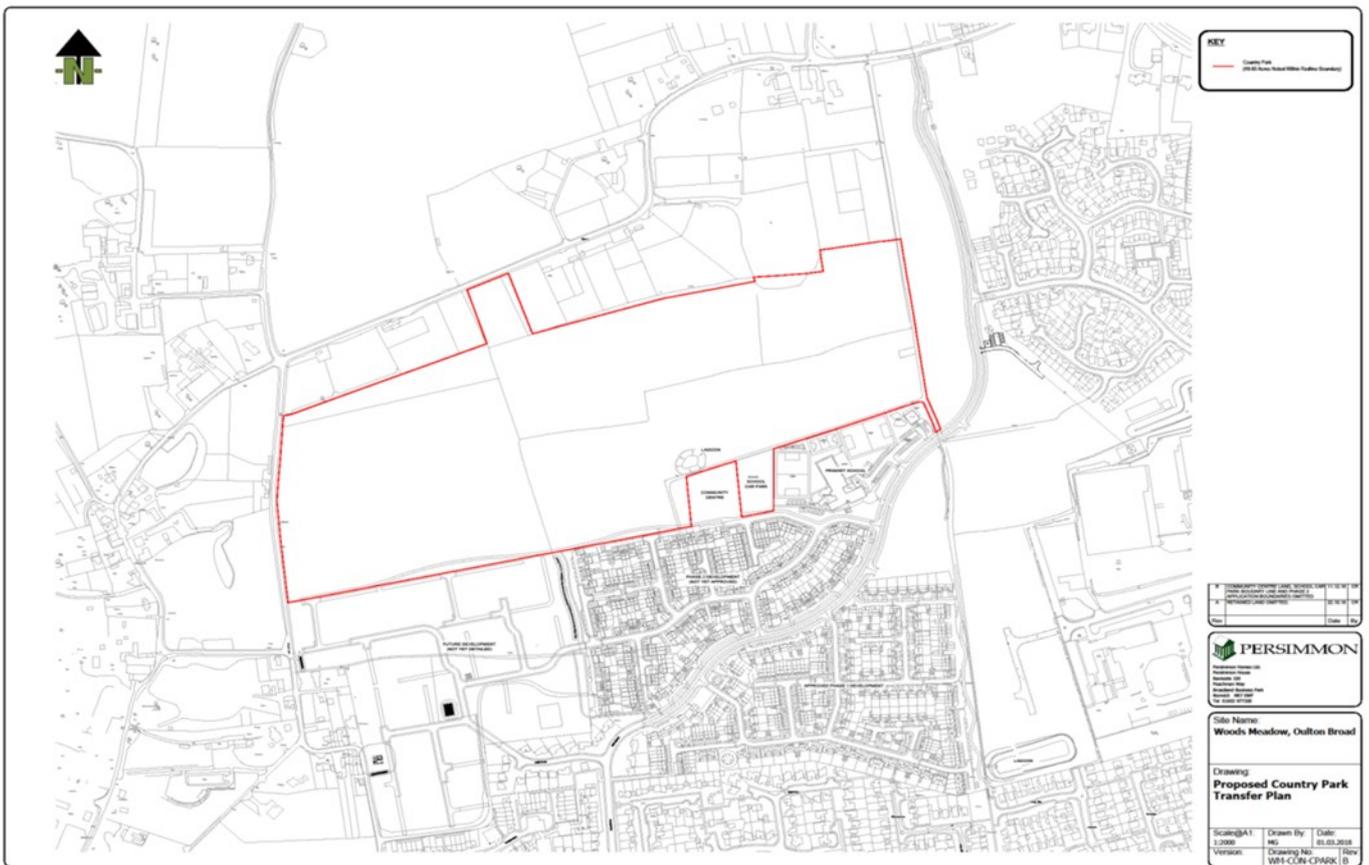
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# Part 1 – Where are we now?

## 1.1 General information

### 1.1.1 Location

Woods Meadow Country Park is located west of Lowestoft in the Parish of Oulton. It has various access points by foot and by horse riders. To the west and north west is an area of land under the Broads Executive ( Broads National Park ) and the River Waveney. Oulton Marshes, Carlton Marshes and North Cove, that lie consecutively to the south west are Nature Reserves managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust and are under the European designation Special Protection Areas ( SPA)



## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

**Grid Ref:** TM 51581 94370

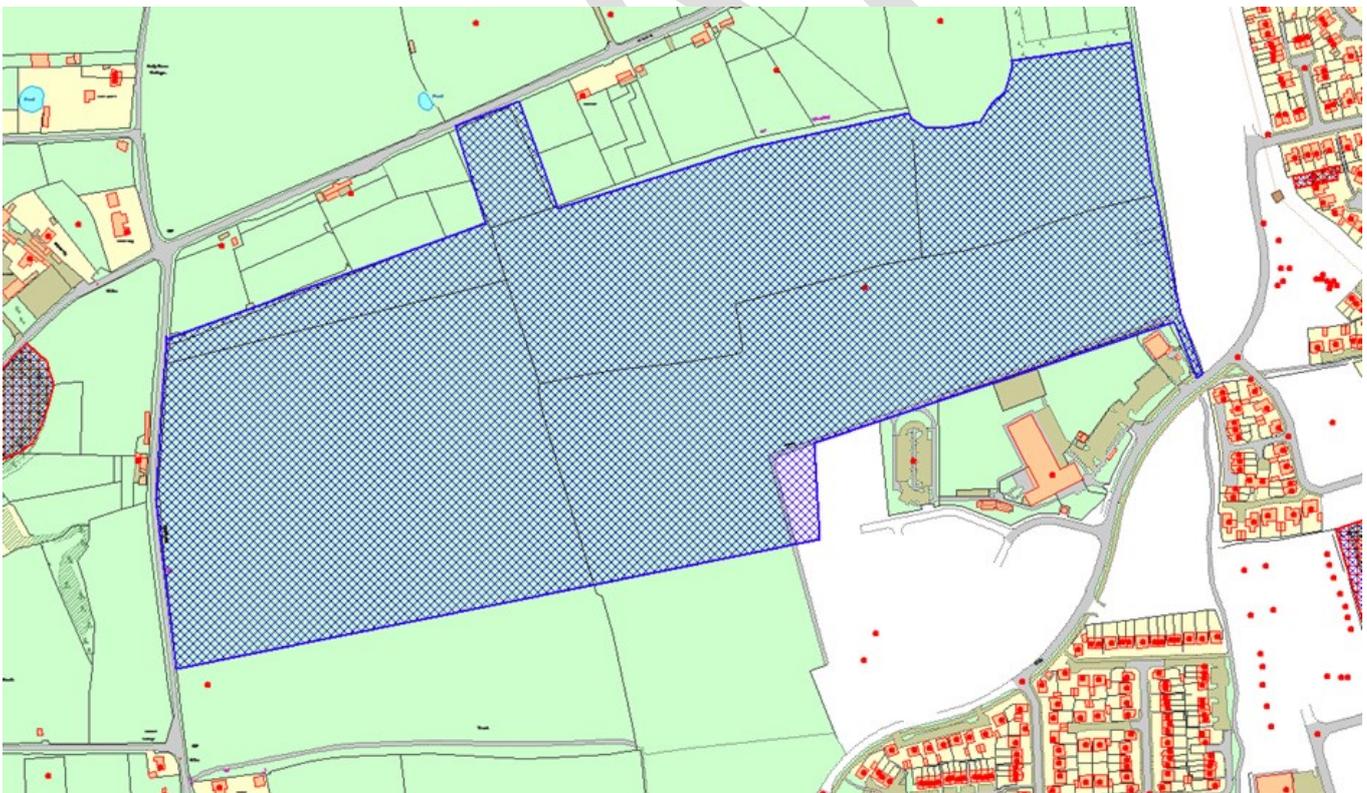
**Address:** Hall Lane, Oulton, East Suffolk, Suffolk, East of England, England, NR32 5DL

**1.1.2 Designations:** Country Park ( CP )

“The purpose of a country park is to provide a place that has a natural, rural atmosphere for visitors who do not necessarily want to go out into the wider countryside. Visitors can enjoy a public open space with an informal atmosphere, as opposed to a formal park as might be found in an urban area.”

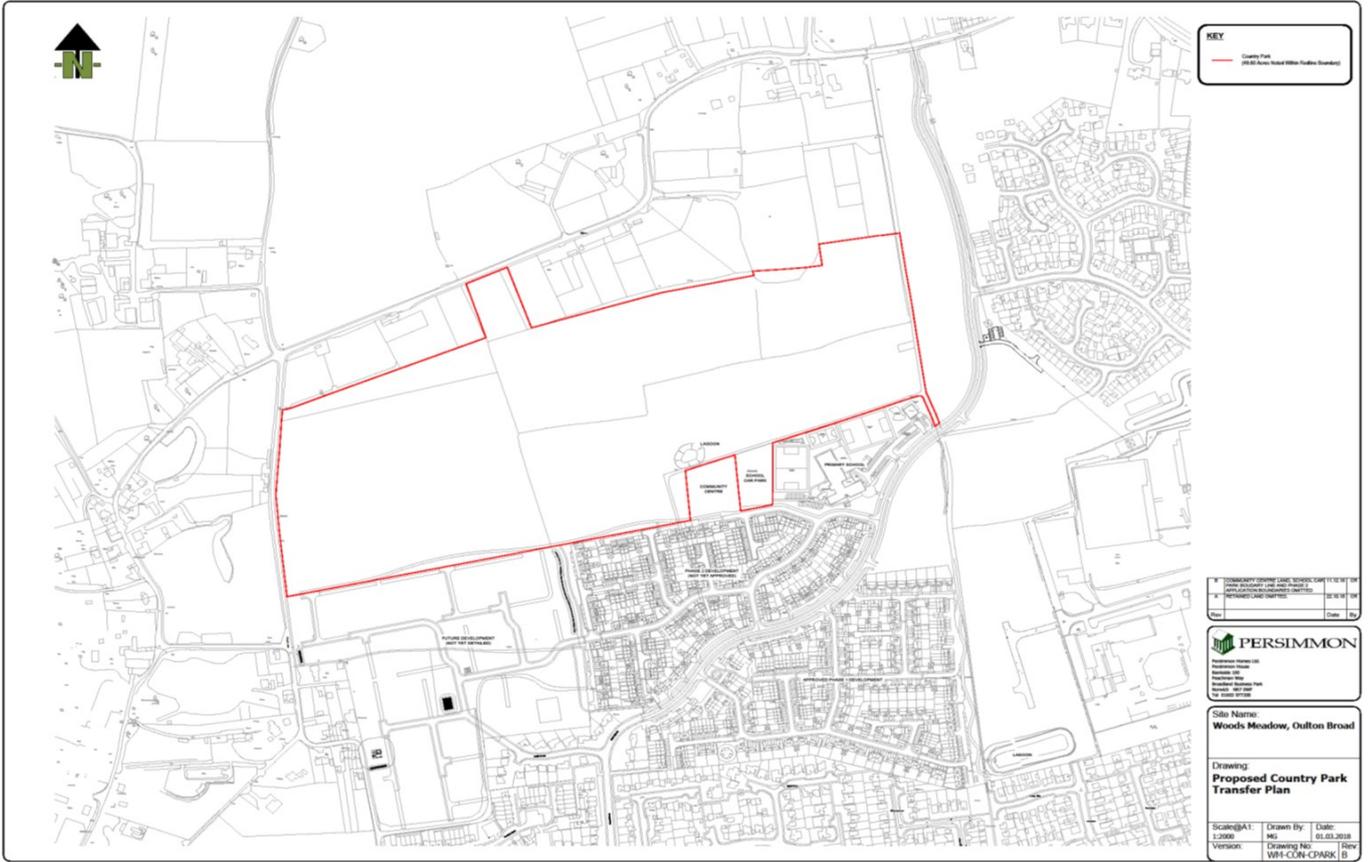
**1.1.3 Size:** 48.8 Acres

**1.1.4 Land Tenure:** The entire land holding is owned by East Suffolk District Council.



Plan supplied by East Suffolk Council January 2020

# Part 1 - Where are we now



Plan supplied by East Suffolk Council September 2020

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## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

### 1.1.5 Surrounding land use:

To the south of the Country Park, in time, will be bordered by phase 2 and 3 Persimmon Homes and to the east the Park is bordered by the Limes Primary Academy School and Longfield Footpath. To the north the land that borders the Park and Hall Lane was once used for landfill and is now used mostly by horse stables. To the west lies Camps Heath and north-west is Broads Authority controlled land which is a designated National Park.

Oulton Marshes, Carlton Marshes and North Cove which lie south west consecutively are Nature Reserves managed by Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Carlton and Oulton Marshes are under the European designation Special Protection Areas (SPA)

**“Large portions of Suffolk are within European designated sites, ‘Special Protection Areas’ (SPAs) together with Special Areas for Conservation (SACs) were born from the Birds and Habitats Directives and form a network of protected sites across the EU known as Natura 2000. SPAs designated for their bird interest cover 27,404 ha of Suffolk (over 7%) and SACs designated for their significant habitat interest cover 6,385 ha of Suffolk (over 1%). Suffolk also has 6 RAMSAR sites, an international designation which recognises significant wetland habitat.”**



Summer 2020

# Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

## 1.1.6 Legal details:

DRAFT

# Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

## 1.2 Environmental information:

**1.2.1 Soil and geology:** The Lowestoft Formation forms an extensive sheet of chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays. The Eastern half of the site has a higher clay content soil, which is evident by pools of surface water in wetter weather.

**1.2.2 Climate:** Lowestoft's climate is classified as warm and temperate. The average temperature in Lowestoft is 9.9 °C / 49.8 °F. The annual rainfall is 591 mm / 23.3 inch.

**1.2.3 Hydrology / hydrography:**

Compartment 1 and 3 have areas where clay deposits noticeably limit the free drainage of water, this is noticeable in a Sustainable Urban Drainage System ( SUDS ) that was installed in the Park by Persimmon Homes in Compartment 3. This is an ecologically sensitive way of coping with surface drainage of water. It is essentially an excavated area with a drainage pipe entering it. In wet weather surface water runs into it and then drains away.

Excess water from the Park vicinity tends to drain to the south. Bonds Meadow which lies south of the Park has an area of Alder Carr habitat. This habitat forms in areas that are continually wet. Alder is a tree that thrives in these conditions and 'mature carr woodland' is a largely undisturbed wilderness - a tangle of woody species, shade-tolerant herbs and lower growing plants.' *Broads Authority*

Persimmon Homes installed a foul sewer which runs from the Woods Meadow development, across Sands Lane and then through the low-lying area of Bonds Meadow to ensure drainage of Woods Meadow development. There has been a significant decrease in the water levels of the ponds in Bonds Meadow since installation.

**1.2.4 Flora:** A botanical survey of the site was undertaken by Lowestoft Field Club in 2019 which listed 103 plants. A Bee Orchid was notable on the northern boundary of the site comp 5. Slender Thistle and was notable in being a long way from its usual coastal habitat.

## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

### 1.2.5 Fauna:

The land having lain fallow since its last harvest in 2017 has attracted good numbers of seed eating birds with large flocks of Linnets and Goldfinches. Seven male Skylarks were recorded singing over the site in the Spring of 2019. This red-listed bird will be a key conservation species of the site.

Deer prints in the mud indicate the presence of Muntjac. Further Records will be collated over time.

### 1.2.6 Fungi:

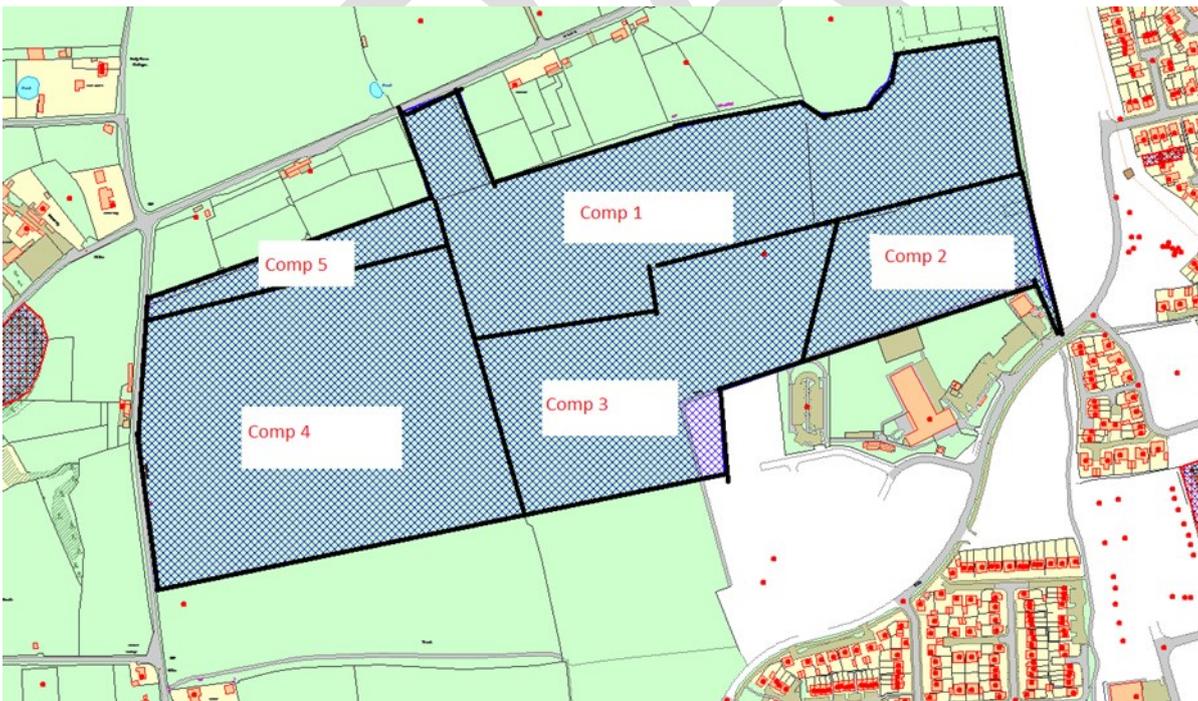
Fungi casually recorded so far are Shaggy Parasol and Agaricus Barnardii which is a national rarity.

### 1.2.7 Archaeological information:

Follow the link for the most recent archaeological dig in the area.

[https://www.academia.edu/31606114/An\\_Archaeological\\_Excavation\\_on\\_land\\_Off\\_Lime\\_Avenue\\_Oulton\\_Suffolk\\_Phase\\_1](https://www.academia.edu/31606114/An_Archaeological_Excavation_on_land_Off_Lime_Avenue_Oulton_Suffolk_Phase_1)

## 1.3 Site description:



Compartments

## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

### 1.3.1 Compartment 1:

The comp is bordered by a row Wild Plum *Prunus domestica* on its western border and Longfield footpath makes up its eastern border. To the north it borders stables and Laurel Farm, it also 'doglegs' at its western end for a small length to make a small rectangle of land that borders Hall Lane and is bordered by stable land both east and west. Along its long southern border is with comp 2 and 3 is made up of a broken scrubby hedge line with interspersed mature trees.

It is intended that horse riders can access this comp from Hall Road and take a route along its northern border to exit into Longfield Footpath. There will also be an option to ride west into comp 4 and ride around the intended Hay Field and exit into Woods Lane.

This compartment is around 5.6 hectares and it is proposal, that a mixed deciduous woodland be planted covering the entire compartment. Incorporated within the woodland would be open spaces in the form of rides and glades, these areas are known for their diverse wildlife and provide tranquil, welcome spaces for visitors to walk and relax in. Hazel coppice coupes could be planted, ensuring a transitional habitat within the wood and continuing community involvement in coppicing activities

Planting a new woodland would be an ideal way to involve the local community and foster a sense of ownership. The project will also be a plus in the global fight to slow down climate change.

"On average, one acre of new woodland can sequester about 2.5 tons of carbon annually. Young trees absorb CO<sub>2</sub> at a rate of 13 pounds per tree each year. Trees reach their most productive stage of carbon storage at about 10 years at which point they are estimated to absorb 48 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per year."



A single Bee Orchid was recorded 2019

## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*



Wild Plum *Prunus domestica* in blossom

### 1.3.2 Compartment 2:

The comp is bordered by the Limes Primary Academy School to the south, Longfield Footpath to the east and comp 3 to the south.

Around 1.5 hectares this area would be a valuable scrub area. As this area loses its dense quality, it can be coppiced and cut back to regenerate scrub. It will also help mitigate the removal of scrub by Persimmon Homes phase 3 when they clear the Fat and Bone area which is at present excellent scrub habitat.

Scrub is a valuable wildlife habitat and sometimes underrated. It provides dense vegetation that many shy retiring bird species favour. The dense regrowth provided a suitable habitat for a pair of Pheasants to nest in 2019. Reed Buntings have also been seen in this area several times. As the scrub goes through its transition through different stages of density, different bird species will be attracted to it. Small mammals such as voles and wood mice thrive in this habitat as do many invertebrates including butterflies.

Limited paths that are created by regularly cutting through the area will enable visitors to observe wildlife without creating too much disturbance.

The compartment takes in part of Longfield Footpath as it enters off Lime Avenue.

## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

### 1.3.3 Compartment 3:

The third largest compartment contains a Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (S.U.D.S). This feature was created by Persimmon Homes to aid drainage of surface water around the new houses. In 2019 it still retained water all through a relatively dry summer due to the clay content of the soil in this area. A fence around this feature will prevent young children from entering the water and disturbance to wildlife. Planting with reeds and marginal plants will increase the wildlife value.

The wider compartment could be managed as wild flower grassland with a late summer cut to encourage wildflowers. It is unlikely in the future that ground nesting birds such as Skylarks will continue to nest in this area as visitor activity increases. It is an area where dogs off leads could be encouraged as it will be away from suggested horse riding routes.

Planting of clumps of trees along the comp's southern boundary will, in time soften the view of the new development. Planting clumps of trees in the right-angle corners of this comp will soften the current agricultural impression.



Sustainable Urban Drainage System (S.U.D.S.) Feb 2020

## Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

### 1.3.4 Compartment 4:

This largest compartment is where a concerted attempt at conserving the now red-listed Skylark should take place. If disturbance by visitors can be limited and the comp is used as a late summer cut hay-meadow the conservation of Skylarks will be successful. A local farmer has agreed in principal to take a late hay crop. If such steps that are outlined below do not take place the Skylarks will almost certainly be lost from the site. Although intensive arable farming doesn't offer the best habitat for this bird it did provide much less disturbance by people and their dogs. An inner fence to this comp could keep visitors outside the hay crop through the bird nesting season from March until the end of August. From September until the end of February visitors could enter the hay field and run their dogs off leads for 6 months and the perimeter fence will stop them disturbing horse riders riding around the field on the other side. During the period that public access is prohibited there could be a wide pedestrian and horse riding route around the perimeters of this large comp. Dog walkers at this time of the year could be asked to keep their dogs on leads so that horse riders are not disturbed. Horse riders will be able to exit or enter this comp either on Woods Lane, north west corner or in the north east corner of this comp. Corners of this comp could be softened by planting individual trees or clumps. Room along its southern boundary should be left for tree planting to break up the view of the future development.

### 1.3.5 Compartment 5:

This comp forms a thin wedge shape bordered by stable land to the north, comp 4 to the south, Woods Lane west and comp 1 east. It slopes slightly up from comp 4. This area is part of the old landfill site and is noticeably undulating in places where presumably decomposition of the buried waste has occurred. There are several metal inspection-covers across the comp which must be considered in any mowing operations. It appears that a derelict fence along the border with comp 4, that it was once used for grazing horses. Rabbits presently keep most of the grass sward grazed, which has ensured a botanical interest with a good selection of wildflowers and grasses including Bee Orchid. The scarce fungus *Agaricus bernadii* was found in this comp 2019. This comp could be a dog free area where picnic benches might be placed. The fences that make up the boundaries of the stable land are mainly post and wire strand and easily entered by dogs. If dogs are allowed in the fence must be altered or replaced to keep dogs out.

# Part 1 – *Where are we now?*

## 1.4 Factors influencing management

### 1.4.1 Past management:

Most of the site was previously under arable cropping with the last harvest in 2017. Large areas of volunteer crop plants such as Beat and cereal crops have covered the site since the last harvest. Presently ( February 2020 the land is waiting to be cultivated and reseeded.)

In the Summer of 2018 Persimmon Homes spread many tones of soil over the site with agreement in principal only of East Suffolk Council. The timing of the operation would have meant that several pairs of Skylarks had their nests destroyed. Many bricks, curb stones and other building site waste were mixed in with the soil and might damage any future cultivating equipment. Compartment 5 was once part of land used for Landfill and have several small inspection covers across the compartment which need to be marked to aid mowing operations.

### 1.4.2 Biological/environmental trends:

Grassy margins and in some years cereal crops have been used by Skylarks for nesting. This declining red-listed bird will be a key conservation species of the site and given high consideration in future management. Whitethroats and Blackcaps nest in outgrown hedges where thick Bramble occurs.

### 1.4.3 Man-induced trends:

As ex arable land, it will retain relatively high levels of nitrates for a period, which will prevent plants that thrive in nutrient poor soil to an extent. Spring 2020 has shown a marked decrease in volunteer arable plants and more grasses. There are tracks across the site from Longfield footpath to Woods Lane from heavy plant access. This has compacted the ground and will benefit from being cultivated by sub-soiling. Compartment 5 was part of the landfill land and as decomposition of the buried waste occurs this may create more undulations to its ground surface. Several inspection covers are in this compartment and it must be ascertained that they are now redundant and could possibly be removed.

# Part 1 – Where are we now?

## 1.4.4 Management agreement/obligation/constraints:

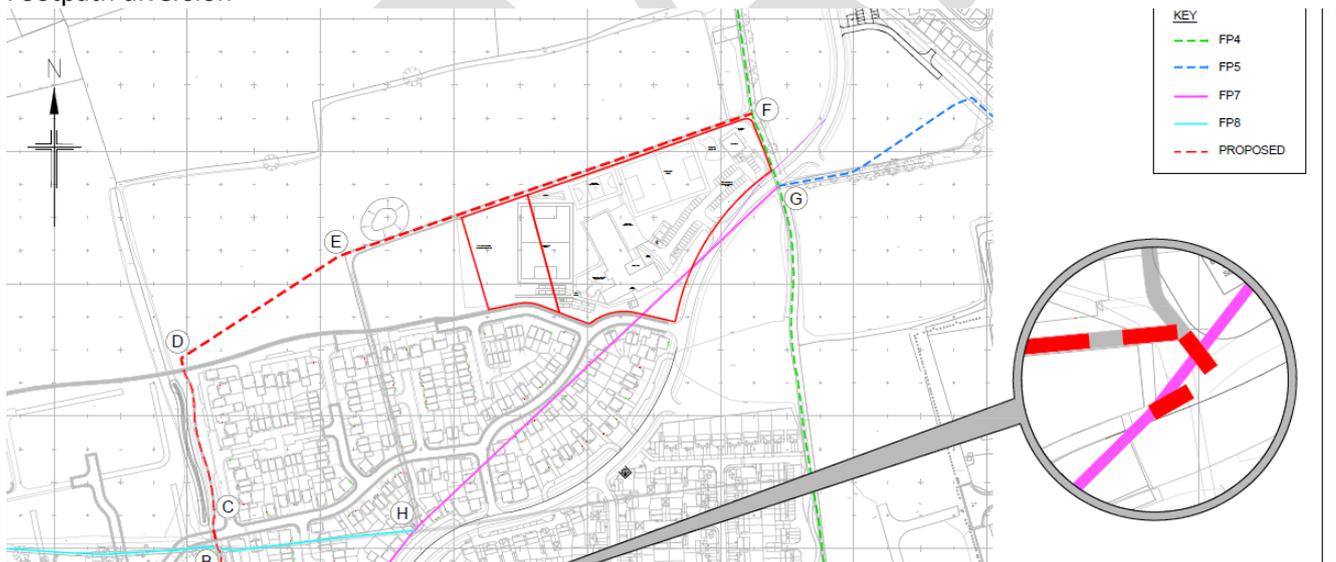
It was agreed by Persimmon Homes and East Suffolk Council that 50 acres of the Woods Meadow land bought by Persimmon Homes, would be given to East Suffolk Council to create a Country Park as part of the 'Section 106 Agreement' arrangements, Persimmon Homes have contributed funding for the development and maintenance of the 50-acre park for the next ten years. East Suffolk Norse took on the management April 2019.

A 3 year contract has been made with the previous Farmer of the Country Park land, Paul Button to take a late summer hay crop from compartment 4 this will provide suitable Skylark habitat.

The Council has an obligation within the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 ( NERC act ) to maintain and enhance biological diversity on its land holdings.

Suffolk County Council has redirected a Public Footpath through the Park, running from Longfield Public Footpath 'F' along the side of the school to the Soak-away 'E' then diagonally to the Parks southern border 'D' and exiting the Park there.

Footpath diversion



## Part 2 — *Where do we want to go?*

### 2. Objectives

#### 2.1 Objective 1

To create and maintain a welcoming Country Park that is accessible by all. Providing a 'green lung' for local people to escape urban confines and improve their physical and mental well-being.

#### 2.1.3 Objective 2

Transform the arable land into biologically diverse habitats, creating an oasis for wildlife with some consideration to climate change and carbon storage.

#### 2.1.4 Objective 3

To raise visitors awareness and appreciation of the habitats, wildlife and for safety considerations within the Country Park.

#### 2.1.5 Management proposals

##### 2.1.6 Access

There will be an emphasis in providing access for 'All'. Wheel-chair access should be enabled where possible and within budget constraints.

Horse riding has historically taken place along field margins and tracks. Special access gates should be provided that enable the horse to step over a bar which alternatively excludes unwanted motorbike access. Horse riding routes should be clearly marked and signs should be provided requesting that dogs need to be on leads when dog walkers are using these routes.

Pedestrian paths can be delineated by regular cutting the vegetation. It should be made clear by interpretation and signs where dogs should be on leads. This will help to reduce possible user conflicts and disturbance to wildlife

Fences that delineate the sites boundary will also direct visitors through access gates where site information can be placed.

Kissing gates will also exclude unwanted motorcycle access.

## Part 2 — *Where do we want to go?*

Motorbike access to the site has increased since the last crop was harvested in 2017.

The redirected Footpath from Longfield Footpath will follow the school fence line in comp 2 and 3 and then just passed the SUDS will take a diagonal line to the south west corner of comp 3 where it will exit into the residential area. It would be desirable if this path could enable wheelchair users to access the Park.

A 3 metre wide tarmac cycle path, with street lighting had been planned to enter the Park. This was contested by the Norse Countryside Team as not following the ethos of a Country Park and would be more appropriate on the development land. Suffolk County Council ( SCC ) Right Of Way ( ROW ) had worked with Persimmon Homes and had planned the route to enable children to cycle to school so keeping them off the road. It was loosely agreed at a site meeting that the track should go ahead in comp 3 but must keep tight to what was the Parks boundary and should re-enter the phase 3 development land.

### 2.1.7 **Practical habitat management:**

Local Authorities have an obligation under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 ( NERC act ). Although the primary function of a country park is not necessarily nature conservation, local authorities have an obligation to retain and enhance biological diversity. A species such as the sharply declining Skylark should be paid special attention.

The creation of a woodland around 5 hectares would encourage a more diverse selection of wildlife to the site and provide a welcome and contrasting habitat for visitors to enjoy. It will also store carbon adding to the global push to address climate change and can be largely planted by the local community so fostering a sense of ownership. The woodland could include several Hazel coppice coups that could include local volunteers to be included in its future management.

Around 2 hectares could be managed for scrub. As scrub is a transitional habitat to woodland, eventually a cycle of coppicing and cutting back will need to be undertaken in order to retain this rich wildlife habitat.

A large area of grassland should be managed to retain and enhance the habitat for nesting Skylarks. With the inevitable increase of visitors as surrounding new houses are inhabited, visitors should be excluded by a fence during the nesting season, otherwise this red-listed bird will be lost from-

## Part 2 — *Where do we want to go?*

-the site due to disturbance. This grassland area can have a late hay crop taken which will help retain the habitat. A local Farmer has already agreed to take the hay crop. Volunteers can help in keeping the sward free from Ragwort which is toxic and especially a problem when baled for hay. The close vicinity of horse stables also creates an obligation to remove Ragwort.

Wildflower areas could be established so that flies can feed on their nectar. The long grasses and vegetation providing cover for small mammals such as Bank Voles and Wood Mice that then go on to provide food for hunting birds such as the Kestrel. Some areas would need an annual cut and others could be cut biannually to aid overwintering invertebrates.

The sustainable urban drainage systems ( S.U.D.S ) which was installed by Persimmon Homes has retained some water even in the driest part of the summer so should provide a year round wetland habitat. House Martins were seen collecting mud from its margins during the Spring of 2019. The habitat can be improved by planting reeds, oxygenating plants and marginal. The area can be fenced with a suitable picket fence. This will have the dual purpose of preventing young children venturing into the water and leave the habitat and wildlife undisturbed. The fence could be gated so that groups can enter with the site Ranger or Volunteer.

A Woods Meadow volunteer group will be established which can be involved chiefly in habitat management but can potentially take on other aspects of site management depending on their skill sets.



Skylark nest

## Part 2 – *Where do we want to go?*

### 2.1.8 Education

The new Limes Primary Academy School and Nursery that sits alongside the site will be able to make good use of the Park. It is envisaged that pupils will be able to take part in tree planting sessions. Teacher or Ranger led walks in the Park will help pupils to learn about such subjects as habitats and food chains in a fashion that meets objectives of the school curriculum.

Ranger led guided walks in the Park can be used to raise awareness of the sites wildlife. These walks will be important in getting people 'onside' with the aims and aspirations for the Park.

### 2.1.9 Surveys

Surveying wildlife needs to be undertaken firstly to know what wildlife is present and after to Record species additions or losses on the site. It can be a good way to include local people that may have a wildlife specialism.

Main taxonomic groups will be recorded such as birds and plants. Other groups will be recorded on a more ad-hoc basis.

Visitor surveys would be valuable in understanding the use of the site and visitors aspirations for the Park. These may eventually be undertaken with volunteer help

### 2.2.1 Interpretation

Interpretation should play an important part in raising awareness of Visitors to the sites habitats and wildlife and cultural history. It should help the visitor develop a personal relationship with nature  
This should also raise the appreciation of visitors and help in their compliance with any steps implemented to limit wildlife disturbance.

## Part 3 — *How will we get there?*

3.1	Project No.	Description
	1	Land cultivation
	2	Site fencing and access gates
	3	Community involvement
	4	Woodland creation
	5	Hedge creation
	6	Interpretation
	7	Wildlife surveys
	8	School involvement
	9	Hard surfaced path
	10	Wild flower meadow
	11	Hay meadow
	12	Barn Owl box
	13	Events
	14	Skylark conservation
	15	Scrub creation
	16	Visitor surveys
	17	Hazel coppice
	18	News Letter
	19	Provide dog waste bin
	20	Write 5 year management plan
	21	Maintain Longfield Footpath border
	22	Wildflower meadow cut and remove
	23	Ranger patrol and provide site presence
	24	Green Flag Award, NE accreditation
	25	Site safety
	26	Soak-away feature S.U.D.S
	27	Fixed-point photography
	28	Inclusion of Bye-laws and/or PSPO
	29	Wood clad container for volunteers and tools.

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.2 Action plan tables

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j e c t N o .	Projects	C o m p	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
			1	The site will be cultivated to level and mix the soils spread by Persimmon Homes. The Farmer that last farmed the land has agreed to do this. Compartment 2 and 5 and the access area into compartment 1 will not be cultivated.	1 3 4	*	*
2	The site needs fencing to restrict unwanted access and channel access into desired areas. Special horse access gates will be installed, 1 in comp 4 Woods Lane, 2 in comp 1 Hall Lane and Longfield Footpath.	1 2 3 4 5	*	*			
3	Take steps to involve the local community in practical conservation tasks, wildlife surveying or in any other way to aid the running of the Park.	1 2 3 4 5	*	*	*	*	*
4	Engage expert advice on the creation of a 14 acre woodland with a view to begin planting as soon as possible. Planting saplings / 'whips' with volunteers and community groups.	1	*	*	*	*	*
5	Plant hedgerows with volunteers and community groups	4	*	*			
6	Produce interpretation with the aim of raising awareness of wildlife and visitor walking and horse riding routes reducing possible conflicts	1 2 3 4 5	*	*	*	*	*

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.3 Action plan tables

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C O m p	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
7	Ensure wildlife surveys are undertaken, mainly of birds and plants. Record ad-hoc observations. Engage visitors or groups with field-craft skills to contribute to this aim.	1 2 3 4 5	*	*	*	*	*
8	Maintain contact with The Limes Primary School and provide guided walks/talks in the Park	1 2 3 4 5	*	*	*	*	*
9	Provide a hard surfaced path to enable wheelchair/buggy access	2 3	*				
10	Establish a wildflower meadow by cutting and removing vegetation in August. Walk-ways cut through to encourage footfall will lessen trampling of plants.	3	*	*	*	*	*
11	Establish a large hay meadow with conservation considerations for breeding Skylarks. The aim would be for a local farmer to harvest and take the crop.	4	*	*	*	*	*
12	Contact Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project with a view to installing a Barn Owl box in a mature Oak tree. Barn Owls have been observed hunting over the Park.	1	*	*			

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.4 Action plan tables

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
13	Provide guided walks and talks to raise awareness of the Parks wildlife and habitats.	1 2 3 4 5	*	*	*	*	*
14	Retention of breeding Skylarks must be a key conservation consideration. The creation of a large hay field, timings of public access, interpretation, surveys and routes will all play a part.	1 2 3 4 5		*	*		
15	Scrub is a very valuable wildlife habitat and sometimes undervalued, often because of its untidy appearance. A large area will be left to become scrub and will be managed as such.	2	*	*	*	*	*
16	Visitor surveys will be undertaken in order to understand Park usage and visitor aspirations of the Park.	1 2 3 4 5		*	*		
17	Hazel coppice coupes should be included in the woodland creation. This will ensure a transitional habitat within the wood and involve regular community help in its maintenance.	1		*	*	*	*
18	A quarterly news-letter will be sent out to stakeholders and friends of the Park. The will be to inform and maintain interest in the Park.		*	*	*	*	*
19	Provide a dog waste bin on the Parks perimeter at the end of Longfield footpath. Monitor the situation as the building development phase 2 and 3 are completed as further dog waste bins may need to be installed.	2	*				

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.5 Action plan tables

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
20	Compile a 5 year management plan for the Park in a user friendly format. Detailing an action plan with annual plans.		*				
21	Maintain Longfield footpath where it borders the Park ensuring good access and creating a looked after impression for Park visitors.	1 2	*	*	*	*	*
22	Create a wildflower meadow by cutting in late summer and removing the vegetation. Investigate if the work may be undertaken by Norse operatives.	3		*	*	*	*
23	Provide site presence by Ranger patrol and develop relationships with Park visitors. Encourage use of the Park that is conducive with the statutory Countryside Code.	1 2 3 4 5	*	*	*	*	*
24	Investigate future funding opportunities for funding the running of the Park and Green Flag award and Natural England Country Park accreditation		*	*			
25	Undertake a quarterly site safety audit and basic tree inspection. Report suspected dangerous trees to the Norse Arboriculture Team.	1 2 3 4 5	*	*	*	*	*



## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.7 Annual action plan table 2021

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2021
20	Update plan as necessary	1 2 3 4 5	
1	The land was cultivated in the Spring of this year after one of the wettest Winters on record.	1 3 4	
2	Due to covid 19 production of some access gates were not available which has held up installation plans.	1 2 3 4	
3	Ongoing action is being taken to recruit volunteers and community groups to help with practical habitat work.	1 2 3 4 5	
4	The plan to begin planting the 5.6 hectare woodland with trees provided by the Woodland Trust was put on hold because of covid19 and will resume in the Autumn of this year	1	
19	Provide a dog waste bin close to the entrance to the Park at Woods Lane.	4	

## Part 3 — *How will we get there?*

### 3.8 Annual action plan table 2021

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2021
18	Provide a quarterly news-letter for stakeholders and friends of the Park		*
25	Undertake a quarterly site safety audit including a basic tree inspection. A dead mature tree; identified as a potential hazard has been brought to the attention of the arboriculture team.	1 2 3 4 5	*
5	The southern hedge was mulched this Spring and the northern hedge has been partly herbicide treated.	4	*
6	Two panels have been installed and further panels to go in the Long Fields path entrances. A Further panels will be needed in the car park entrances to the Park		*
7	Ad-hoc wildlife recordings continue to be made. Skylark numbers are down due mostly to the Spring cultivations of the hay filed and wild flower meadows	1 2 3 4 5	*
9	Persimmon Homes provided the hard surface rerouted public footpath May this year.	2 3	*
10	The wildflower meadow was sown in late May this year	3	*

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.9 Annual action plan table 2021

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2021
14	The hay field has been sown and a sign installed on the pedestrian access gate stating that there will be restricted access during the skylark nesting season.	4	
13	A programme of Ranger led walks and talks will be arranged.	1 2 3 4 5	
15	Compartment 2 will be largely left to 'scrub-up' The ground and vegetation has been left untouched since 2017 and has provided good over winter seed crop for wildlife.	2	
23	Maintain a Ranger patrol and site presence twice weekly. This is an important aspect of Country Park management as it suggests a level of intent by the Park owners, the District Council and the managers East Suffolk Norse in ensuring correct visitor use is maintained and adds a welcoming and informative roll to the Parks management.	1 2 3 4 5	
21	Maintain the vegetation along the Park border with Longfield footpath. This will maintain good access and provide welcoming impression for visitors.	1 2	
24	Begin Green Flag Award application process.		
25	Continue bi-annual site safety audit.	1 2 3 4 5	

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.9 Annual action plan table 2021

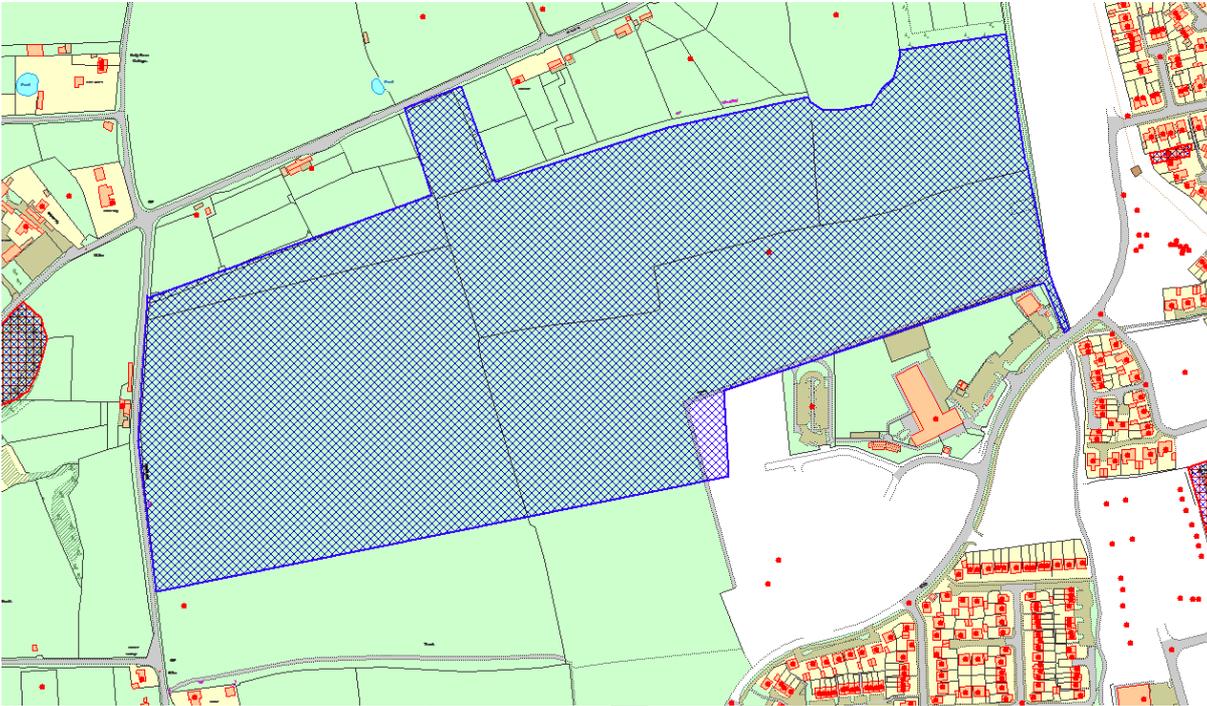
Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2021
26	The insistence of visitors, especially with dogs is inhibiting the establishment of vegetation and other wildlife. The gate has been rehung since it was las vandalised.	3	*
27	Log fixed-point photography coordinates and begin annual photographs. This type of photography will show incremental changes to habitats that can go unnoticed over time	1 2 3 4 5	*
16	Provide questions via 'Survey Monkey' to recipients of the Park News Letter and the Woods Meadow 'Facebook Group' Results should help understand a demographic profile of Park users and their aspirations for the Park.	1 2 3 4 5	*
12	One Barn Owl box still need to be placed in the tree that has a natural cavity currently used by a roosting Barn Owl.	1 3	*
29	Planning permission has been gained from ESC to site the container. We still need to establish how we might get the container into position. Persimmon Homes have mentioned that they may be able to help.		*

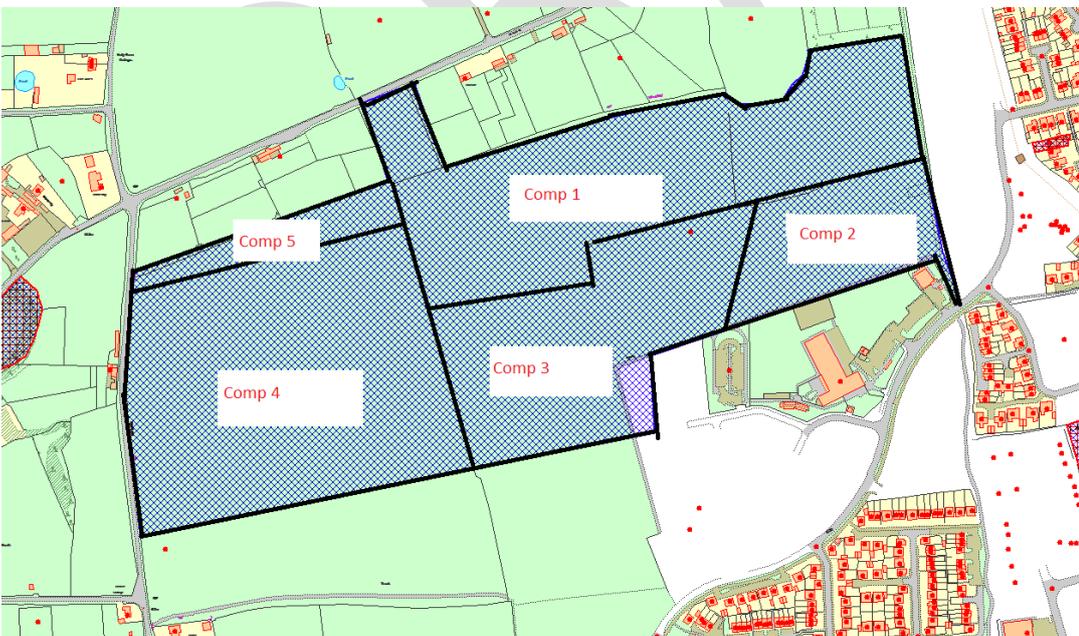
## Part 4 - Appendices

### 4. Appendices

#### 4.1 Map of land tenure as supplied by Est Suffolk Council September 2020



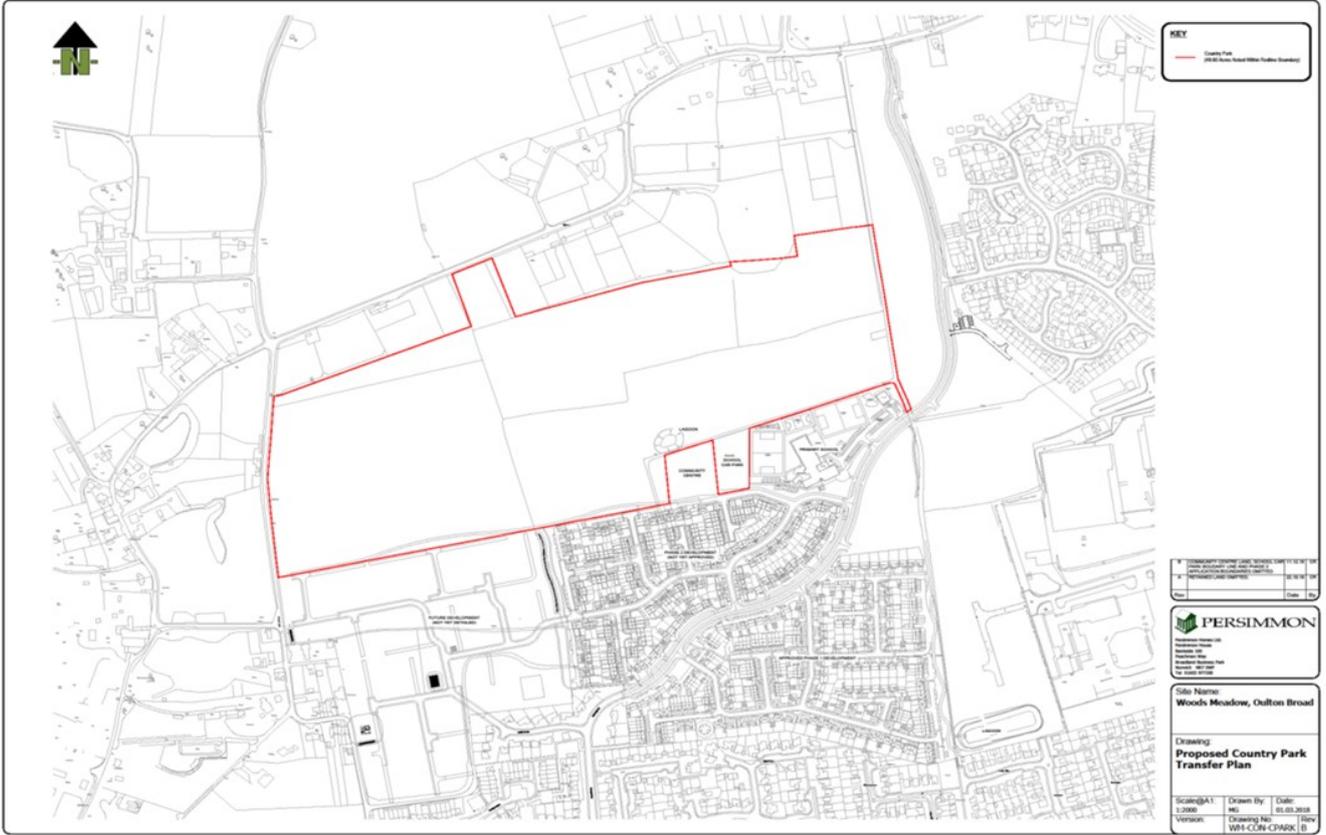
#### 4.1.2 Map showing compartments



# Part 4 – Appendices

## 4.1.3

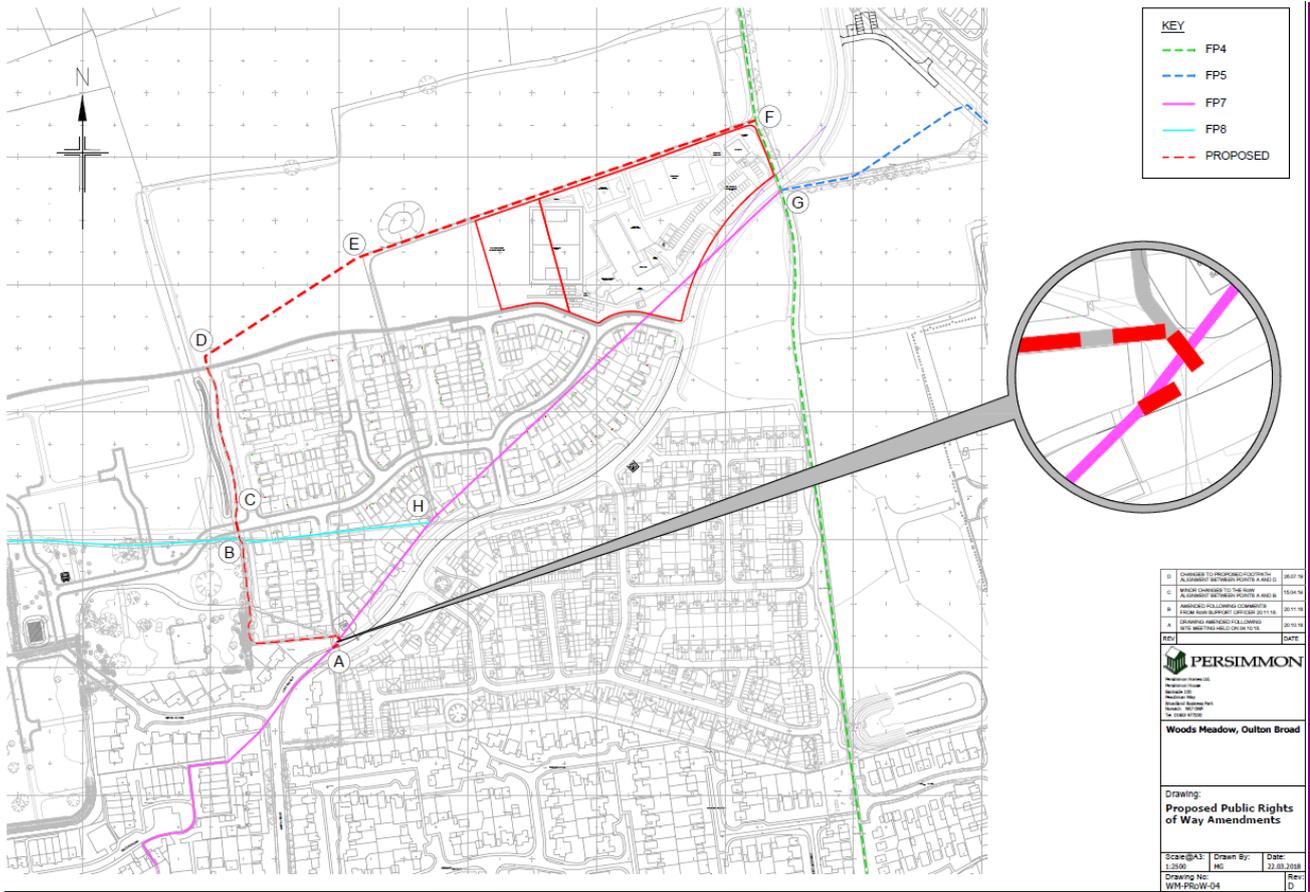
Boundary plan as supplied by East Suffolk Council September 2020



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# Part 4 - Appendices

## 4.1.3 Map of Public Footpath diversion



## Part 4 - Appendices

### 4.3 Botanical species identified

A hand written list of over 100 plant species was compiled by Lowestoft Field Club in 2019.

### 4.4 Bird species identified:

1	Carrion Crow	35	Peregrine
2	Rook	36	Pied Flycatcher
3	Jackdaw	37	Marsh Harrier
4	Jay	38	Pied Wagtail
5	Magpie	39	Brambling
6	Black-headed Gull	40	Redwing
7	Herring Gull	41	Heron
8	Lesser Black-backed Gull	42	Goldcrest
9	Kestrel	43	Lesser Redpoll
10	Sparrow Hawk	44	Siskin
11	Goldfinch	45	Linnet
12	Greenfinch	46	Mute Swan
13	Whitethroat	47	Wheatear
14	Lesser Whitethroat	48	Bullfinch
15	Blackcap	49	Black Redstart
16	Chiffchaff	50	Red Kite
17	Reed Bunting	51	Green Woodpecker
18	Skylark	52	Canada Goose
19	Meadow Pipit	53	Oyster Catcher
20	House Martin		
21	Barn Swallow		
22	Swift		
23	Robin		
24	Blackbird		
25	Duncock		
26	Cuckoo		
27	Blue Tit		
28	Great Tit		
29	Long-tailed Tit		
30	Coal Tit		
31	Barn Owl		
32	Mistle Thrush		
33	Buzzard		
34	Grey Heron		

## Part 4 - Appendices

### 4.5 Butterflies identified

Peacock  
Red Admiral  
Orange Tip  
Gate Keeper  
Meadow Brown  
Common Blue  
Holly Blue

### 4.6 Fungi Species identified:

Shaggy Parasol  
Agaricus Barnardii ( rare )  
Common Inkcap  
Field Mushroom  
Common Ink cap  
Stubble Rose Gill  
Yellow Stainer  
Jelly Ear  
Wood Blewit

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.7 Annual action plan table 2020

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2020
20	Draft Management Plan completed and circulated. The plan is intended to be easily updated or altered	1 2 3 4 5	*
1	The land will be cultivated to mix in the soils spread by Persimmon Homes and level the ground to make future mowing operations bearable and quicker. The farmer that previously farmed the land, has been contacted and has agreed to do the ploughing and other cultivations, sewing of new sward.	1 3 4	*
2	Kiwi Fencing contractors were due to install fencing and access gates but Covid 19 'lockdown' got in the way. Hopefully as the current restrictions end this can go ahead. It has been noted that Kiwi Fencing is currently working at Carlton Marshes Nature Reserve.	1 2 3 4	*
3	Ongoing action is being taken to recruit volunteers and community groups to help with practical habitat work.	1 2 3 4 5	*
4	A plan for a woodland covering 5.6 hectares will be formulated with The Woodland Trust. Planting will take place after the land has been cultivated. The planting will involve volunteers, community groups and schools. (	1	*
19	Provide a dog waste bin close to the entrance to the Park in Longfield footpath to address the increasing need as the Persimmon Homes developments are inhabited adding more visitors to the Park.	2	*

## Part 3 — *How will we get there?*

### 3.8 Annual action plan table 2020

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j e c t N o.	Projects	C o m p	2020
18	Provide a quarterly news-letter for stakeholders and friends of the Park		*
25	Undertake a quarterly site safety audit including a basic tree inspection. A dead mature tree; identified as a potential hazard has been brought to the attention of the arboriculture team.	1 2 3 4 5	*
5	Hedges will delineate boundaries and provide valuable wildlife habitat along the south and north borders of the planned hay field.	4	*
6	Interpretation to show paths and routes for walkers and horse riders will help with confrontation between these two visitor groups. A graphic designer has been sent a rough so that an artists-impression can be produced.		*
7	7 Skylark breeding pairs have been recorded and a local bird watcher has sent his sightings for the record. Lowestoft Field Club provided a plant survey 2019 Casual wildlife records can be found in the appendices.	1 2 3 4 5	*
9	Persimmon Homes are to provide a hard path from the Park entrance in Longfield footpath continuing along the school fence line and diagonally across the planned wildflower meadow, linking up with the footpath through phase 2 development to Lime Avenue	2 3	*
10	A large part of compartment 3 will be sewn with a wildflower mix after the land has been cultivated. It will be cut once late in the summer	3	*

## Part 3 — *How will we get there?*

### 3.9 Annual action plan table 2020

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	2020
14	An inner fence to the hayfield is planned which will more effectively prevent visitors from disturbing breeding Skylarks. Breeding bird surveys have been undertaken. A Skylark motif has been selected as the emblem of the Park in order to promote the conservation of this bird	4	
13	A programme of Ranger led walks and talks will be arranged. A Dawn Chorus walk was arranged pre covid 19 and then cancelled.	1 2 3 4 5	
15	Compartment 2 will be largely left to 'scrub-up' The ground and vegetation has been left untouched since 2017 and has provided good over winter seed crop for wildlife.	2	
23	Maintain a Ranger patrol and site presence twice weekly. This is an important aspect of Country Park management as it suggests a level of intent by the Park owners, the District Council and the managers East Suffolk Norse in ensuring correct visitor use is maintained and adds a welcoming and informative roll to the Parks management.	1 2 3 4 5	
21	Maintain the vegetation along the Park border with Longfield footpath. This will maintain good access and provide welcoming impression for visitors.	1 2	
24	Look into Green Flag Award and Natural Englands Country Park accreditation scheme.		
25	Trees checked with one dangerous tree reported and waiting to be felled. One 'Danger deep water sign' placed at the edge of the SUDS. Fencing to exclude access to the SUDS due May 2020.	1 2 3 4 5	

## Part 3 — How will we get there?

### 3.9 Annual action plan table 2020

Progress colours: completed = green, started but incomplete = amber, not started = red.

P r o j No.	Projects	C o m p	
26	Install 4' high picket fence with locked gate around the SUDS. Develop the area to enhance its wildlife value by planting Reeds and other native wetland vegetation. Planted around the fence, native shrubs/trees will help hide the fence and soften its appearance.	3	
27	Log fixed-point photography coordinates and begin annual photographs. This type of photography will show incremental changes to habitats that can go unnoticed over time	1 2 3 4 5	
28	Ask East Suffolk Council if they consider any form of site protection measures such as bye-laws, Public Space Protection Orders are necessary.	1 2 3 4 5	
16	Provide questions via 'Survey Monkey' to recipients of the Park News Letter and the Woods Meadow 'Facebook Group' Results should help understand a demographic profile of Park users and their aspirations for the Park.	1 2 3 4 5	
12	Two Barn Owl boxes have been purchased to locate on two mature Oaks on the borders of comp 1 and comp 3. It is advised to provide 2 as the male Barn Owl can use one to roost in and this increases the chance of attracting a breeding pair.	1 3	
29	Planning permission is being sort for the siting of as 20' by 8' container just outside the northwest corner of the proposed community centre area.		