

**Ottershaw Park Woodlands**

**Management Plan**

# **Ottershaw Park Woodlands**

## **Management Plan**

**Prepared by**

**Roger Fitter MBE**

**May 2012**

### **Contents.**

**Management Plan**  
**Compartment Schedule**  
**Woodland Path Route**  
**Bat Survey**  
**Maps**

# Ottershaw Park

## Management Plan

Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	2012	To	2032
Date of last review <sup>1</sup> (2.1.3)			
Owner / tenant	Ottershaw Park Residents		
Agent / contact	Roger Fitter MBE		
Signed declaration of tenure rights and agreement to public availability of the plan <sup>2</sup> (UKWAS 1.1.3/1.1.5/2.1.2)			

### 1. Background information

#### 1.1 Location

Nearest town, village or feature	Ottershaw
Grid reference	TQ 013633
Total area (ha)	5.4 ha

#### 1.2 Description of the woodland(s) in the landscape

The woodland is situated close to the village of Ottershaw, on the southern side of the A319 Chobham Road, between the road and the adjacent residential properties. The woodland is on gently sloping ground with an elevation of between 37m and 48.9m above sea level. (See Map 2 ) The soil is Bagshot Sands. The tree crop is made up of a mixture of mature and over mature Oak, Beech, Sweet Chestnut together with Ash, Birch and Alder in the wetter area. There are patches of Hazel coppice and an abundance of young Ash natural regeneration. The ground vegetation is made up of patches of Bramble, Bracken and Stinging Nettle with an isolated patch of Dogs Mercury close to the wetter area in compartment 4.

#### 1.3 History of management

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<sup>1</sup> The plan must be reviewed every five years.

<sup>2</sup> As owner, tenant or manager, you have the right to manage the wood in accordance with this plan. At least a summary of the management plan must be made publicly available on request.

The woodland was originally part of the Ottershaw Park Estate. During World War 2 the area was used to store vehicles prior to the D.Day landings, with a thick layer of brick rubble brought in from buildings demolished in the blitz. This is still evident throughout the site.

There are no signs of any woodland management having been carried out since that time and many of the trees blown down in the storms of 1987 and 1990 are still in evidence. Where gaps appeared in the canopy, these have been largely filled with self sown Birch.

## 2. Woodland information

### 2.1 Areas and features

2.1.1 Designated areas	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Special Areas for Conservation (SACs)	N/A		
Special Protection Areas (SPAs)	N/A		
Ramsar Sites ( <b>see note on Guidance</b> )	N/A		
National Nature Reserves (NNRs)	N/A		
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)	N/A		
Other designations e.g.: National Parks (NPs), Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)	N/A		
<b>Details</b>			
2.1.2 Rare and important species	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Red Data Book or BAP species			
Rare, threatened, EPS or SAP species	X		
<b>Details</b>			
Possible Bat roosts identified			
2.1.3 Habitats	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW)	X		
Other semi-natural woodland	X		
Plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS)			
Semi-natural features in PAWS			
Woodland margins and hedges			
Veteran and other notable trees	X		
Breeding sites	X		
Habitats of notable species or subject to HAPs			
Unimproved grassland			



Rides and open ground			
Valuable wildlife communities			
Feeding areas			
Lowland heath			
Peatlands			
Others			
<b>Details</b>			
Possible breeding sites for bats			

2.1.4 Water	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Watercourses			
Lakes			
Ponds			
Wetland habitats	X		2
<b>Details</b>			
Winter filled pond in the SW corner of compartment 4			
2.1.5 Landscape	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Landscape designated areas			
Landscape features			
Rock exposures			
Historic landscapes			
Areas of the woodland prominent from roads	X		2
Areas of the woodland prominent from settlements	X		2
<b>Details</b>			
2.1.6 Cultural features	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Public rights of way	N/A		
Prominent viewing points	N/A		
Permissive footpaths	N/A		
Areas managed with traditional management systems	N/A		
<b>Details</b>			
2.1.7 Archaeological features	In woodland	Adjacent to woodland	Map
Scheduled monument	N/A		
Historical features	N/A		

## Details

### 2.2 Woodland resource characteristics

See compartment Schedule

### 2.3 Site description

There is gated access to compartments 1, 2 and 3, although that into compartment 3 will need improvement, as it leads straight into a ditch. Access into compartment 4 is over a culverted ditch from the private drive which forms its southern boundary.

There is a post and wire boundary fence between compartments 3 and 4. Compartments 1 and 2, and 2 and 3 are separated by hard roadways. (See Map 2)

The ground is generally level and access throughout the woodland will be helped by the presence of the brick rubble that is present throughout most of the area.

A large amount of the fallen and standing dead-wood can remain where it is, provided that it doesn't compromise safety.

There are no sporting interests associated with the woodland.

The soil is Bagshot Beds.

### 2.4 Significant hazards, constraints and threats

There is a brick-built circular water reservoir left over from the wartime occupation, together with an adjacent brick lined hole, both of which will need to be made safe. (See Map 2)

Many of the old trees have holes and cavities which would make ideal habitats for bats.

It has been reported that newts have been seen in the vicinity of the winter pond area in compartment 4

## 3. Long term vision, management objectives and strategy

### 3.1 Long term vision

To maintain and improve the differential age structure and biodiversity of the woodland

To make the woodland safe for the enjoyment of the owners, by establishing a well defined path throughout the four compartments.

Improve the screening from the public road.

Keep the woodland looking natural rather than over manicured.

### 3.2 Management objectives

No.	Objective
1	Make the woodland as financially viable as possible by selling produce and obtaining any grants available.
2	Make use of natural regeneration where possible
3	Maintain or improve conditions for flora and fauna
4	Maintain or improve the visual condition of the woodland
5	To improve the species range by planting more native species

### 3.3 Strategy

See Compartment schedules and prescriptions.

Standing and fallen dead-wood to be retained where it doesn't compromise safety.

Where possible standing sales will be made to minimise the need for prior expenditure

Where possible sales will be made to local markets.

Where required, local labour will be used if it is available.

Selected areas of natural regeneration will be protected by temporary deer fencing, as will small plots of planted trees

Existing areas of Rhododendron along the northern boundaries will be retained for their screening effect, but prevented from spreading further into the woodland.

Create and maintain a woodland path along the line shown on Map 2 and the accompanying photographs.

Potential bat roosts and breeding sites will be managed according to the guidelines that form part of this document.

Make safe the brick reservoir and adjacent pit.

### 3.4 Woodfuel initiative

Would you be interested in receiving information on funding opportunities for the purchase of harvesting machinery or wood fuel boilers?

**Yes / No** (delete as appropriate)

## 4. Management prescriptions/operations

### 4.1 Silvicultural systems

#### 4.1.1 Harvesting

Harvesting should be carried out by qualified contractors, following agreed standing sales

The main species to be removed will be Birch, together with dangerous and misshapen trees

#### 4.1.2 Phased felling and restructuring of plantations

(Proposed amendment to guidance – applies to all even-aged woodland 3.2.3)

See compartment schedules and prescriptions.

#### 4.1.3 Establishment, restocking and regeneration

See 3.3 above

### 4.2 New planting

(Proposed additions to guidance to clarify consideration of design impacts etc 3.2.1/3.2.2, to add reference to local native seed zones and FRM regulation 6.3.3)

No new areas of planting are planned

### 4.3 Other operations

Coppicing of existing Hazel stools will take place at the latter end of the first five year period.

Ditches will be cleaned out as required

The winter pond area will be cleaned out and possibly deepened to increase the water retention, for the benefit of wildlife

### 4.4 Protection and maintenance

#### 4.4.1 Pest and disease management

If problems become apparent, advice will be sought from the appropriate sources.

4.4.2 Fire plan

In the event of fire, the local fire brigade will be called.

4.4.3 Waste disposal and pollution

The dumping of garden waste will be discouraged.

As work is carried out, any rubbish will be removed.

Where machinery is used on site, the operator will be required to provide appropriate spill kits and remove all cans and other waste material

4.4.4 Protection from unauthorised activities

The woodlands are protected by locked gates.

4.4.5 Protection of other identified services and values (4.1.1)

(Move some guidance from 4.3, add some new guidance)

**4.5 Game management**

N/A

**4.6 Protecting and enhancing landscape, biodiversity and special features**

4.6.1 Management of designated areas

N/A

4.6.2 Measures to enhance biodiversity and other special features (2.1.1k and 6.1.1)

Retain standing and fallen dead-wood where it is safe to do so.

Protect potential bat areas by following the guidelines.

#### 4.6.3 Special measures for ASNW and SNW

#### 4.6.4 Special measures for PAWS

(Guidance needs to be updated to reflect new PAWS requirements in 6.3.2 UKWAS)

N/A

#### 4.6.5 Measures to mitigate impacts on landscape and neighbouring land (3.1.2)

N/A

### 4.7 Management of social and cultural values

#### 4.7.1 Archaeology and sites of cultural interest

N/A

#### 4.7.2 Public access and impacts on local people

(add reference to H&S consideration and other impacts in guidance to 7.4.2)

N/A

## 5. Consultation

Organisation/individual	Date received	Comment	Response/action
Dr Sarah Harris and Dr Rob Souter	April 2012.	Bat survey, recommendations to be followed	

## 6. Monitoring plan summary

Objective number, issue or UKWAS Requirement	Indicator	Method of assessment	Monitoring period	Responsibility	How will information be used?
N/A					

(Amendments to guidance – replicable to allow comparison over time 2.3.2b and required scope of monitoring activities 2.3.2c plus annual monitoring related to effectiveness of measures for special areas 2.3.5)

## 7. Work programmes

### 7.1 Outline long-term work programme (yyyy to yyyy)

Compartment or area	Activity	Year		
		6-10	11-15	16-20
1, 2, 3 & 4	Continue to maintain the woodland path	X	X	X
1, 2, 3 & 4	Maintain ditches	X	X	X
1, 2, 3 & 4	Thin out young Ash and planted trees to favour best stems of any species while encouraging a wider range of species.	X	X	X
1, 2,3 & 4	Continue to provide habitat for protected species.	X	X	X
1 2, 3 & 4	Exploit any markets that can be found for produce that is the result of sound woodland management	X	X	X
1, 2, 3 & 4	Review the management plan at the end of each period.	X	X	X

### 7.2 Short-term work programme (yyyy to yyyy)

Compartment or area	Activity	Year				
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Remove all birch	X				
1	Create a woodland path	X				
1	Plant small groups of trees to increase road screening	X				
1	Protect Ash NR and any additional planting with deer fence where appropriate.	X	X	X	X	X
1	Make safe the reservoir and pit	X				
1	Maintain the path and control weed growth where required.		X	X	X	X
2	Remove all Birch and any other competing trees.	X				
2	Create a woodland path.	X				

2	Protect Ash NR and any planted trees establishing in open areas	X	X	X	X	X
2	Maintain the path and control weed growth where required	X	X	X	X	X
2	Coppice Hazel				X	
2	Thin out any retained trees to preserve the best formed specimens				X	
3	Remove all Birch and any other suppressed specimens, taking care to preserve any possible bat habitat.	X				
3	Plant and protect additional groups of trees to improve screening from public road.	X				
3	Protect Ash NR establishing in any open areas, plant additional species as appropriate	X				
3	Improve access from the gate	X				
3	Create a woodland path	X				
3	Maintain the path and control weeds as above.	X	X	X	X	X
3	Clean out any section of ditch within this compartment.	X				X
4	Clear up fallen Birch and lightly thin the remainder	X		X		X
4	Plant and protect mixed groups of trees where and when the opportunity arises	X	X	X	X	X
4	Create a woodland path.	X				
4	Maintain the woodland path		X	X	X	X
4	Clean out ditches	X			X	
4	Make safe the foot-bridge	X				
4	Clean out and deepen the pond area.		X			
4	Coppice any Hazel				X	
1,2,3 & 4	Review the plan					X

## 8. Costings (2.2.1)

Outline projected costs and income over plan period. Please read guidance note for further information.

## 9. Maps

List all maps here and append to plan.

Map No./Title	Description
1	Compartments
2	Constraints



## 10. Thinning, felling and restocking proposals

**Applicants seeking funding through the wood fuel initiative** for harvesting machinery or wood fuel boilers must indicate the total volume that is to be thinned and felled during the period of this plan, **by completing Table A.**

This section **should not be completed** for any other applications.

All applicants **must** complete **Table B.** where harvesting work is to be undertaken.

**Table A.**

Species	Total estimated volume to be harvested during plan period (m <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Broadleaves</b>	
<b>Conifers</b>	



## Ottershaw Park Woodlands.

Compt	Area	Description	Prescription
1	1.3ha	This area contains a higher proportion of mature trees, mainly Oak and Sweet Chestnut with an occasional Beech. Scattered throughout are pole stage Birch and Ash. There are several fallen and decaying large trees. Small clumps of Hazel and Rhododendron are also present. In places there are areas of bramble and nettle. An old brick reservoir and sunken tank are also in this area.	Remove all the Birch as firewood, together with any suppressed trees of other species. Lop and top could be chipped and used to surface the woodland path. Create a woodland path along the line shown on Map 2 and indicated on the photograph layout. Retain the Rhododendron as a screen, filling in any gaps with protected planting of Beech, Cherry and Hornbeam. In open areas created by the felling, protect the naturally regenerating Ash with a temporary deer fence, introducing a few other native species. Make safe the reservoir and pit.
2	1.4ha	The few larger trees are on the NW of the area, There is quite a large area of Hazel coppice .in the NE corner together with an accumulation of dumped garden waste.. Most of the area carries a crop of pole stage Ash and Birch. In the SE there is the remains of a grove of Lawson Cypress, several of which have blown over. There is an abundance of young Ash natural regeneration.	Remove all the Birch as firewood, together with a general thinning of other species to favour the trees with the best form. The fallen Lawson Cypress should be removed to make way for the proposed woodland path, which should follow the line shown on Map 2 and the photograph layout and could be surfaced with the chipped arisings from the felling operation. Open spaces should be treated as those in compartment 1, to restock the areas with young trees. The Hazel should be considered for coppicing towards the end of the five year period.
3	1.4ha	This area contains a number of mature Oak, Sweet Chestnut and Scots Pine, many of which have a potential of providing a bat habitat. There is also a very large mature Acacia, midway along the southern boundary of the compartment. Throughout the area there	Improve the access from the gate entrance by filling the wet hollow with brick rubble from elsewhere on the site. All the Birch should be cut for firewood, together with any small or misshapen trees that are interfering with better specimens, bearing in mind the recommendations for maintaining

		<p>are a number of fallen trees, some dating back some time together with a number of</p> <p>more recently fallen Birch. As in other areas there is an abundance of seedling Ash, which could be used to regenerate the area, Access from the gate is down a slope into a very wet area.</p>	<p>bat habitat.</p> <p>Create the woodland path following the line shown on Map 2 and the</p> <p>photograph layout, using chipped arisings from the felling to form an all weather surface.</p> <p>Retain any Rhododendron close to the northern boundary and thicken up the screen by additional planting, as in compartment 1.</p> <p>Utilise any natural regeneration together with additional planting, to establish a future crop, where gaps in the canopy give sufficient space. It may be considered necessary to erect temporary deer fence to protect these areas.</p>
4	1.3ha	<p>The crop in this area differs from the others, as there are very few older trees, but a thick cover of pole stage Birch, with a fringe of Alder along the northern edge of the wet pond area, There are isolated clumps of Hazel coppice, Elderberry, Sycamore and Ash. Access is un-gated from the private road as shown on Map 2, over a culvert into the woodland to join a visible open ride running NE to the boundary with compartment 3. This open ride should form the line of the proposed woodland path. There is a barbed wire and post fence running along the length of the boundary with compartment 3, which will have to be cut where the proposed path crosses into the compartment. A number of the Birch have blown down in the recent high winds. Surface water from the main</p>	<p>Management will have to differ here due to the nature of the crop, with periodic light thinnings of the Birch to try to avoid further wind blow. Where windblow has already occurred, the poles should be cleared up for firewood with the thinnings. The resulting open ground could then be planted with native species, protected with tree shelters.</p> <p>Retain the line of the existing open ride to form part of the proposed woodland path, having opened up a gap in the barbed wire fence. Clean out ditches and consider cleaning out and deepening the pond area to improve the wildlife habitat.</p> <p>Make safe the plank foot bridge by adding a handrail.</p> <p>Re-coppice the clumps of Hazel. Thinning of the Birch should take place at three year intervals. Should further windblow occur, an alternative strategy for the area will have to be considered.</p>

		<p>entrance road drains into a ditch via an underground pipe, close to photo point 21. The ditch feeds into the pond area exiting through the culvert at the access point and then follows the southern boundary of the compartment and then into the neighbouring woodland property.</p>	
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Proposed route of the woodland path, shown in green on photographs taken from the points indicated on Map 2.



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# Ottershaw Park Woodland survey for potential to support bats

1<sup>st</sup> April 2012

by Dr. Sarah Harris and Dr. Rob Souter

## **1. Introduction**

1.1 A survey of Ottershaw Park Woodland, Ottershaw, Surrey was undertaken to advise the owners on the potential for the woodland to support bats in connection with its future management. The woodland was surveyed by Dr Sarah Harris (Natural England bat licence number 20113614) and Dr Rob Souter (an experienced ecologist), accompanied by Mr Nigel Eastment and Mr Paul Phipps on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

1.2 This report provides the following information:

- The methods used for the survey;
- The results of the survey regarding the potential of the woodland to support bats;
- Recommendations for future management regarding bats with suitable timings for works within the woodland; and
- Comments on the woodland's ability to support other protected species and species of interest.

1.3 Target notes including photographs are provided to indicate particular points of interest.

## **2. Methods**

2.1 A biological records search was undertaken by means of a web search to identify any 'freely available' biological records from previous surveys/phase 1 reports for sites close to the woodland. The results of the web search can be found in **Appendix 1**.

2.2 Trees with features that may provide suitable bat roosting habitats were recorded, using binoculars where necessary to identify the features. Features include natural rot holes, woodpecker holes, cracks and crevices within and underneath bark, split limbs, exposed heart wood, internal cavities and mature ivy coverage.

2.3 The overall value of the woodland for bats was also considered, with the linear connectivity to nearby landscape features of value (additional woodland, water features) taken into account.

2.4 The potential of the woodland to support other protected species (Great Crested Newts, Dormice etc.) and other mammal species was also recorded.

### 3. The potential of the woodland to support bats

#### Description and overall condition of the woodland

- 3.1 The woodland is located to the north of Ottershaw Park bound on its northern boundary by Chobham Road. It is a linear woodland of approximately 4 hectares (10 acres), extending west to east comprising three compartments (Plot A to C). Plots B and C are identified as semi-natural 'Ancient Woodland' whilst Plot A was historically open land (parkland or agricultural).
- 3.2 The woodland underwent dramatic disturbance during WW2 as it was used for storing equipment for a period before the D-Day landings, following the spreading of hardcore derived from London's bombed buildings across much of the woodland floor. The condition of the surviving trees and those that have established during the intervening period is often poor, with a relatively high proportion of deadwood present, potentially as a result of the hardcore effecting root development.
- 3.3 The woodland has also suffered from storm events such as during the 1987 hurricane, with a large proportion of windblown trees apparent. The woodland has remained unmanaged for a number of years and subsequently has a notable amount of damaged and decayed trees creating a significant amount of standing and lying deadwood.
- 3.4 The woodland structure comprises a number of mature trees of several species including Oak, Sweet Chestnut, Ash and Scots Pine, with the oldest trees were at the western end of Plot A. The understorey was dominated by Silver Birch in Plot A but with Elder, and Hazel was more apparent in Plot B and C. There was an abundance of young Ash saplings less than 2 years old, particularly in Plots B and C.
- 3.5 The ground flora varies between the three plots, with significant areas of Common Nettle in Plot A, but limited cover in Plots B and C although a few ancient woodland indicator species were present.
- 3.6 There is an area of Alder Carr on the southern edge of Plot C, providing wet woodland conditions for a variety of species. In several areas there is significant evidence of garden waste that has been dumped in the woodland over a period of years, which will have a negative impact on the woodland by potential transfer and establishment of non-native plant species.

#### Trees with potential to support roosting bats

- 3.7 There are a number of trees (at least 20) within the woodland that are observed to have features of potential value for bats (see **Section 2.2**). These trees can be divided into three main categories:
- Healthy specimens (the majority of which are Oak and Sweet Chestnut, with some Ash) with woodpecker holes, natural rot holes or mature ivy coverage (**Appendix 2, Target Note 1**);

- Trees with dead limbs and cracks and crevices possibly exposing heart wood (**Appendix 2, Target Note 2**); and
- Dead trees/stumps that are still standing with numerous holes, cracks and crevices and internal cavities (**Appendix 2, Target Note 3**).

3.8 Trees with potential value for bats were found throughout the woodland, but in general Plot A has the largest number of trees of interest throughout, with other trees present near the northern edge of Plot B, and again scattered throughout Plot C, including up to the eastern boundary.

#### Tree felling/clearance works affecting potential bat roosts

3.9 In woodlands, bats select naturally warm sites such as sheltered trees receiving some sunshine during the day. They also select highly insulated sites, such as a hole in a tree with a small space and thick wood surrounding it. They are sensitive to heat, light and humidity, and the impact of woodland operations such as felling trees providing cover/shelter near roost trees or removal of mature ivy needs to be considered.

3.10 If a roost tree is isolated by clear-felling it will be exposed to changes or extremes in heat or light, which may subsequently cause a roost tree to no longer be suitable. Some trees or standing dead wood which are considered to have high potential for bats may be being supported by limbs of other nearby trees (**Appendix 2, Target Note 4**). In this situation, the supporting limb would need to be retained to ensure the high potential tree is maintained in situ.

#### Management of the woodland and overall potential for bats

3.11 Confirmed roost trees, or trees considered to have high potential value for bats (Natural Reserve trees) should be surrounded by a buffer of other trees, so that the current conditions are maintained as far as is possible. By maintaining a 'link' of buffer trees between the 'roost' tree and the rest of the woodland, the shelter is maintained and the risk of increased predation caused by roost isolation is reduced.

3.12 Overall, the woodland has considerable potential for providing both roosting and foraging opportunities for bats. If the wider landscape is taken into consideration, the proximity and connectivity (by linear features such as tree and hedgerows which should be maintained) of other areas of woodland and lakes nearby further increase the value of the woodland and the number of bat species that it may support.

#### 4. Recommendations and timings of works relating to bats

##### 4.1 Recommendations

- All trees identified to have potential to support roosting bats should be retained, including healthy specimens, trees with partial decay, and standing dead trees/stumps;
- In addition to the trees being retained, a 'buffer zone' of trees should be maintained around each identified tree, to maintain the microclimate/sheltered conditions of potential bat roosts. According to the Forestry Commission, the 'buffer zone' around a 'Natural Reserve' tree (most likely to contain roosts) should be 1.5 times the canopy diameter. For dead trees/stumps where no canopy forms, surrounding trees within a buffer zone of four metres radius of the 'Natural Reserve' tree should be retained;
- If limbs from other trees are supporting a 'Natural Reserve' tree, the limbs should be retained to protect the reserve tree in its current state;
- If a woodland path is to be created the route should avoid close proximity to trees identified as having potential value for bats, particularly those trees that have dead/dying timber. This will avoid the likely H&S requirement of removing limbs/deadwood from trees that may support bat roosts, which would require further survey work; and
- All timber removal/scrub clearance should be undertaken to avoid the active bat season (April-September). The timings for proposed works within the woodland are provided in **Table 1** below.

**Table 1:** *Timing of works relating to bats*

Works	Timing
Any removal of timber attached to trees identified to have bat potential, ideally to be soft-felled and advice from a licensed bat ecologist sought if deemed necessary.	Late September-October only

#### 5 Other protected and notable species

5.1 From the biological records found for the Broxend Nursery site, Great Crested Newt is confirmed to be within the local area and the woodland would provide suitable terrestrial habitat for this species. The area of Alder Carr wet woodland on the southern edge of Plot C surrounds an ephemeral pond that was dry during the early spring visit but in some years may provide suitable breeding habitat for Great Crested Newts.

5.2 A dead badger was found during the woodland survey, possibly having been hit by a vehicle on the Chobham Road. Further evidence of the use of the woodland by badgers was identified by the presence of a currently disused entrance to an outlier/subsidiary badger sett.

5.3 A number of local records for Stag Beetle were identified in the Biological records search for the Broxend Nursery site. It is highly likely that Stag Beetles are present in the woodland, with the larvae living within the buried sections of dead wood, making these areas of lying dead timber important habitats within the woodland. The lying dead wood will provide habitat for a number of invertebrates, including other species of beetle, and the upturned root plates in sunny situations (**Appendix 2, Target Note 5**) can also provide important nesting habitat for solitary bees.

5.4 Reference to NBN (National Biodiversity Network) shows that Dormice have not been recorded within 10km of the woodland, so that even though the woodland may provide suitable food for Dormice, including the flowers of hawthorn, honeysuckle and bramble, invertebrates and a variety of fruit, nuts (including hazel) and seeds, they are unlikely to be present here.

## 6 General recommendations for the woodland and timing of works

### 6.1 General Recommendations

- As much lying deadwood to be kept in situ as possible, including lying trunks, upturned root plates and stumps, to provide habitats for invertebrates including Stag Beetles (a Surrey BAP species). Where lying deadwood needs to be cut/moved (to make way for the woodland path for example, the timber should be left as near as in situ as possible;
- Additional log piles, including partially buried timber (essential for Stag Beetle larvae) could be created as an enhancement for invertebrate species;
- All timber removal/scrub clearance should be undertaken to avoid the bird nesting season (March-September). The timings for proposed works within the woodland are provided in **Table 2** below;
- The area of Alder Carr wet woodland should be maintained in its current condition, with no clearing or thinning of the trees; and
- The garden waste that has been left in at least two areas of the woodland should be removed as soon as possible, to reduce the possibility of introduction of non-native plant species to the woodland, and improve its aesthetic appeal.

**Table 2:** *General timing of works*

Works	Timing
Removal of trees/scrub with potential for nesting birds.	October-February only

## **Appendix 1 - Previous Biological records**

A Biological records search provides information regarding statutory and non-statutory site designations, protected species, rare/notable species and priority species/species of conservation concern within a specified radius of a specific site, enabling such factors to be taken into account during future management/development.

This service can be provided by the local Surrey biological information centre (SBIC). This service may incur a cost, but may be free if the owner of the site is receiving grant aid. The contact address for SBIC can be found below.

In this instance, a web search was undertaken to identify any 'freely available' biological records from previous surveys/phase 1 reports for sites close to the woodland. An extended Phase 1 habitat survey was undertaken by Marishal Thompson and Co. in 2007 on the site known as Broxend Nursery, approximately 1km to the east of the woodland. Species of note that were recorded within a 2km radius of this site include Pipistrelle bat species, Great Crested Newt and Stag Beetle.

### **Contact for Surrey Biological Information Centre**

#### **Contact**

Mr Alistair Kirk

#### **Address**

Records Centre Manager,  
Surrey Wildlife Trust,  
Pirbright,  
Surrey, GU24 0JN

#### **Telephone**

01483 795448

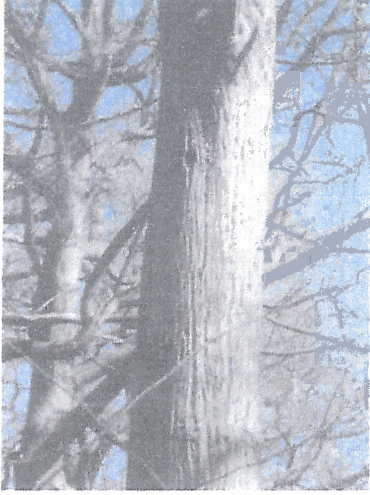


#### **Email**



[alistair.kirk@surreywt.org.uk](mailto:alistair.kirk@surreywt.org.uk)

#### **Web**

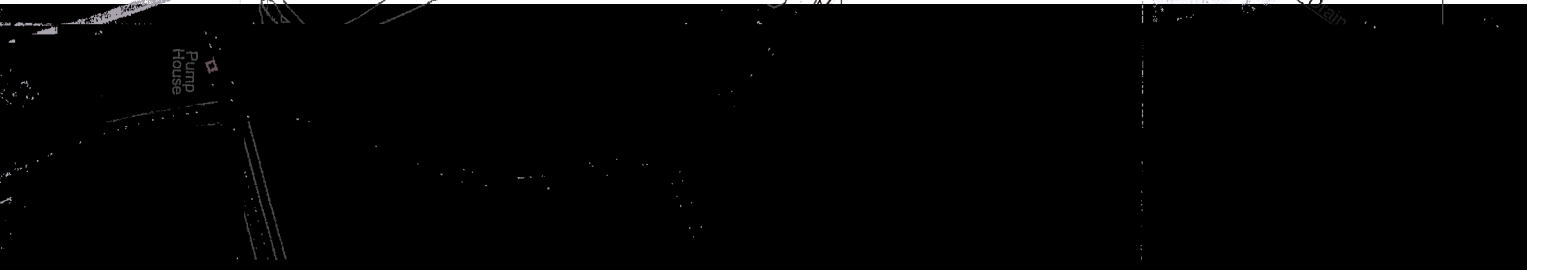
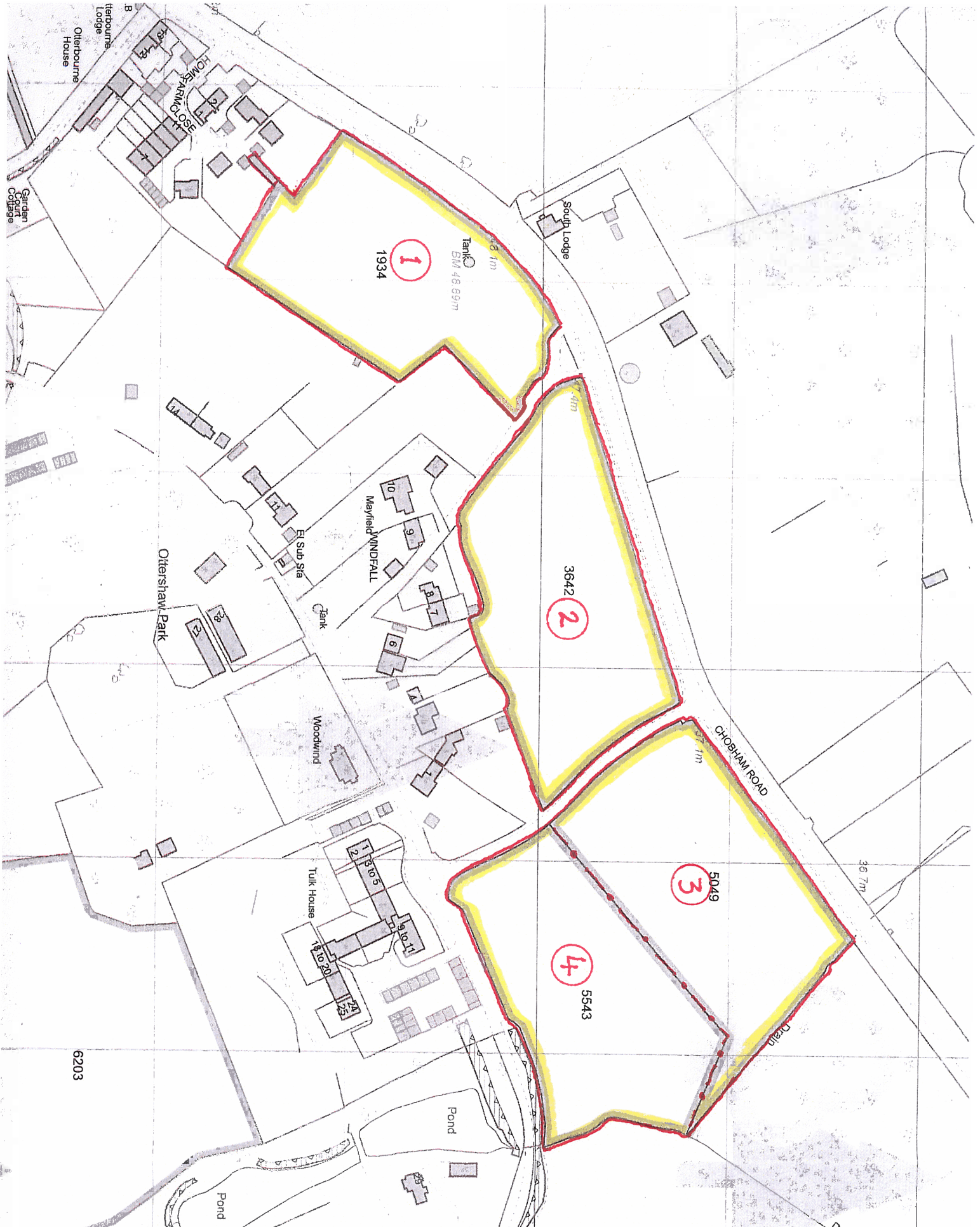
<http://www.surreywildlifetrust.co.uk/>

## Appendix 2 - Target Notes

Target Note Number	Description	Photograph
1	Woodpecker holes possibly used by bats in an otherwise healthy tree.	
2	A tree with dead limbs and long crevice on the main trunk, providing numerous features for bats.	
3	A standing dead trunk, with numerous large holes and gaps allowing access to the heartwood and hollow cavities inside the trunk. Staining can be seen beneath the lowest hole, which may indicate use by bats.	

4	<p>A standing dead tree stump with potential value for bats, possibly supported by a separate limb which will need to be retained to preserve the condition of the stump.</p>	
5	<p>An upturned root plate and attached lying dead wood, providing important habitats for invertebrates.</p>	





Pump House

6203

Oftershaw House  
Oftershaw Lodge  
Garden Cottage

HOMES FARM COY

1934

Tank BM 48 897m

1

3642

2

5049

3

5543

4

CHOPHAM ROAD

Drain

Pond

Pond

Tulk House

Woodwind

Ei Sub Sta

Mayfield WINDFALL

Soup Lodge

Oftershaw Park

6203

