# Trendlewood Community Park

## MANAGEMENT PLAN

*2016-2020*

North Somerset COUNCIL







## CONTENTS


| | | Page |
|---|---|---|
| **1.0** | **INTRODUCTION** | |
| 1.1 | Purpose of plan | 1 |
| **2.0** | **POLICY CONTEXT** | 2 |
| **3.0** | **SITE DECSRIPTION** | |
| 3.1 | Location and access | 3 & 5-6 |
| 3.2 | Relationship to other green infrastructure | 3 & 8 |
| 3.3 | Ownership and Designations | 4 |
| 3.4 | History | 10 |
| 3.5 | Overview of the park today | 11-12 |
| 3.6 | Mapping the park | 12-13 |
| 3.7 | Description of Key Features | 14-26 |
| 3.8 | Detailed site statistics | 27 |
| 3.9 | Existing Management arrangements | 28 |
| **4.0** | **ANALYSIS OF ISSUES** | |
| 4.1 | Site Analysis | 29- 30 |
| 4.2 | Qualitative Assessment | 30- 34 |

| | | Page |
|---|---|---|
| **5.0** | **VISION, AIMS, OBJECTIVES & ACTION PLAN** | |
| 5.1 | Vision | 34 |
| 5.2 | Aims | 35 |
| 5.3 | 1 and 5 year priorities | 36-37 |
| 5.4 | 5 year action plan | 38-51 |
| **6.0** | **FINANCE** | |
| 6.1 | Existing expenditure | 52 |
| **7.0** | **MONITORING & REVIEW** | 53 |
| **APPENDICES** | | |
| Appendix 1: Nailsea Round Walks 1 and 2 | | 54 |
| Appendix 2: Tree Preservation orders | | 55 |
| Appendix 3: Tree Risk Assessment 2015 | | 54-55 |
| Appendix 4: Upgraded Woodland Path | | 56-57 |
| Appendix 5: Grounds Maintenance contract and Tree management | | 58 |
| Appendix 6: Tall Grass Areas | | 59-61 |
| Appendix 7: Ranger inspection form | | 62 |
| Appendix 8: Volunteer Work program | | 63-64 |
| Appendix 9: Management Committee | | 65 |
| Appendix 10: Possible new projects | | 67-68 |
| Appendix 11: Risk Assessments | | 69-71 |
| Appendix 12: Monthly inspection record | | 72 |
| Appendix 13: Work Areas | | 73 |

Appendix 14: FoTP tasks completed in 2015 74-76
Appendix 15: overview of the previous 5 years 77-79

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Purpose of the plan

This plan has been prepared in order to identify specific objectives and priorities in relation to the current and future management of the Trendlewood Community Park within the next five years, and sets out aspirations that may be delivered in the future. The plan takes into account the needs of the local community and the opportunities and restrictions of the site. For the action plan see pages 36-49

Management plans are a core element of open spaces and woodland management work. This plan has been prepared in order to provide a framework within which all future management is carried out; and enable any person involved to understand how and why decisions are taken. It identifies specific objectives and priorities for management within the next five years.

This is the second management plan that has been written for Trendlewood Community Park. It covers the period 2016 – 2020/21.

The structure of the plan has been developed using existing good practice including CABE Space's 'Guide to producing Green Space Management Plans'[1], guidance within Green Flag[2], UK Woodland Assurance Standard requirements[3]

The draft plan has been prepared specifically as an outline document to be used as a basis for discussion and from which the final plan will develop. This will ensure residents and visitors will be engaged with the sites on-going management. A management plan is designed to be 'working document' and will be added to and altered as the time period designated progresses.

[1] CABE Space has now merged with The Design Council. It promotes well-designed parks, streets and squares as a crucial part of our towns and cities. The guide can be found at http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110118095356/http:/www.cabe.org.uk/publications/producing-parks-and-green-space-management-plans

[2] The Green Flag is the national standard for parks in England and Wales. More information can be found at www.greenflagaward.org.uk

[3] *The UK Woodland Assurance Standard is a* standard for forest management in the United Kingdom. More information can be found at www.ukwas.org.uk

## 2.0 POLICY CONTEXT

Trendlewood Community Park is identified as an Amenity area of Public Open Space and is protected under Policy ECH/1 – Amenity Areas of North Somerset Replacement Local Plan 2007[4] & Core Strategy 2012[5].

Management of open spaces, including Trendlewood Community Park, meets North Somerset Council's main aims of:

- Enhancing health and well being
- Protecting and improving the environment
- Building safer and stronger communities

North Somerset Council has a Play Strategy that identifies a number of important priorities for play in North Somerset. One of the key priorities is to *'develop and improve more neighbourhood play opportunities in the parks and open spaces (especially for the 10 -16 year olds) that are accessible, sustainable and to promote the use of the natural open spaces'* as stated in the Design for Play guidance[6].

In 2006, the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act introduced a duty on all public bodies to conserve and enhance biodiversity[7]. To meet this obligation, the local authority needs to ensure that appropriate management for biodiversity is undertaken on its landholdings. Green infrastructure management plans provide a practical mechanism for meeting this obligation, as they include aspirations and actions for biodiversity.

Management of open spaces that contain locally important wildlife habitats can also contribute directly to the aims of the North Somerset Biodiversity Action Plans[8] and the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (section 41)[9] priority habitats and species. Management plans provide a practical mechanism for meeting this obligation, as they include aspirations and actions for biodiversity.

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[4] North Somerset Council's Replacement local plan 2007 can be found at https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Environment/Planning_policy_and-research/localplanning/Pages/localplanandproposalsmap.aspx

[5] North Somerset Council's Core Strategy 2012 can be found at https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Your_Council/Policies_plans_and_strategies/Pages/Policies,plans-and-strategies.aspx

[6] See http://www.playengland.org.uk/resources/design-for-play.aspx

[7] Biodiversity, or biological diversity, refers to the number of species of plants and animals in a given habitat.

[8] North Somerset Biodiversity Action Plan can be found at https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Environment/Planning_policy_and-research/localplanning/Documents/Core%20Strategy/LD01%20North%20Somerset%20Biodiversity%20Action%20Plan%20(pdf).pdf

[9] UK Biodiversity Action Plan can be found at http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5155

# 3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

## 3.1 Location and access (Map 1a, 1b and 1c, Page 5, 6 and 7)

Trendlewood Community Park is situated in the South East of Nailsea, surrounded by housing. The 5.37 hectare site consists of a woodland compartment (Nowhere Wood) and a series of grassland compartments. Nailsea Round Walks 1 and 2 (which follow existing Public Rights of Way) run through part of the community park (see appendix 1 for these routes).

**Compartment 1: Nowhere Wood**
Nowhere Wood is situated between the Trendlewood housing estate, St Francis RC School and North of Nowhere Lane (ST479703). It is bordered on the north, east and west by residential properties and the southern edge adjoins the first grassland compartment. The total area of woodland is 1.47 hectares, comprising of one main block south of Nowhere Lane and four smaller areas North of Nowhere Lane.

The woodland provides access for walkers and cyclists. Vehicles can drive to the edge of the woodland at Tetbury Gardens and Nowhere Lane via Station Road. There is no vehicular access into the woodland and there are no public or permissive bridleways. There are two designated footpaths in the woodland - Nowhere Lane is Public Footpath LA13/34/10, and Footpath LA13/35/10 runs along the northern limit of the wood. There are numerous informal paths throughout the entire woodland used by walkers and cyclists, and the site provides an important natural space for children to play in.

**Compartment 2-6: Grassland compartments**
These are situated to the south of Nowhere Wood and to the east of St Francis RC School (ST479700). They cover 3.90 hectares and consist of four blocks, separated by footpaths and roads. The first three areas are bordered by residential properties, and the final section is bordered by residential properties on its north, and the North Somerset Levels and Moors to its south.

Trendlewood Community Park provides access for walkers and cyclists, and is used as a recreational and play space by children in the local community. Horse riding is permitted along the Bridle way in compartment 6. Map 1b (page 6) shows the locations of public footpaths and the bridleway.

## 3.2 Relationship to other green infrastructure (Map 2a and 2b, Page 8 and 9)

Trendlewood Community Park is part of the green infrastructure within Nailsea and North Somerset. The site is one of a number of green spaces around the periphery of Nailsea, connected with the North Somerset Levels and Moors countryside. These green spaces are not only important areas for wildlife and the conservation of biodiversity; they provide important links within the town and into the surrounding countryside. Trendlewood Community Park provides an extensive recreational space in the community and is important for access and as a play space for local children. It is used as a route to school and work and links Nailsea town to the countryside via Public footpaths, cycle routes and a bridleway. Private land adjoining the site and in the surrounding area contributes to the network of green space in Nailsea. Positive management of these spaces will contribute towards our vision for the site, and so it is important that we engage with the local community to encourage positive management of their gardens and land.

## 3.3 Ownership and designations

### 3.3.1 Typology

Trendlewood open space is designated as a “Community Park”. North Somerset Council’s Green Infrastructure Strategy describes the distinctiveness of these sites as “Accessible, informal green spaces offering opportunities for recreation and biodiversity, used by local people from, and beyond, the immediate neighbourhood” There should be a “High level of community engagement and involvement in site management” and a “Balance of community aspirations, social and environmental needs of the site”.

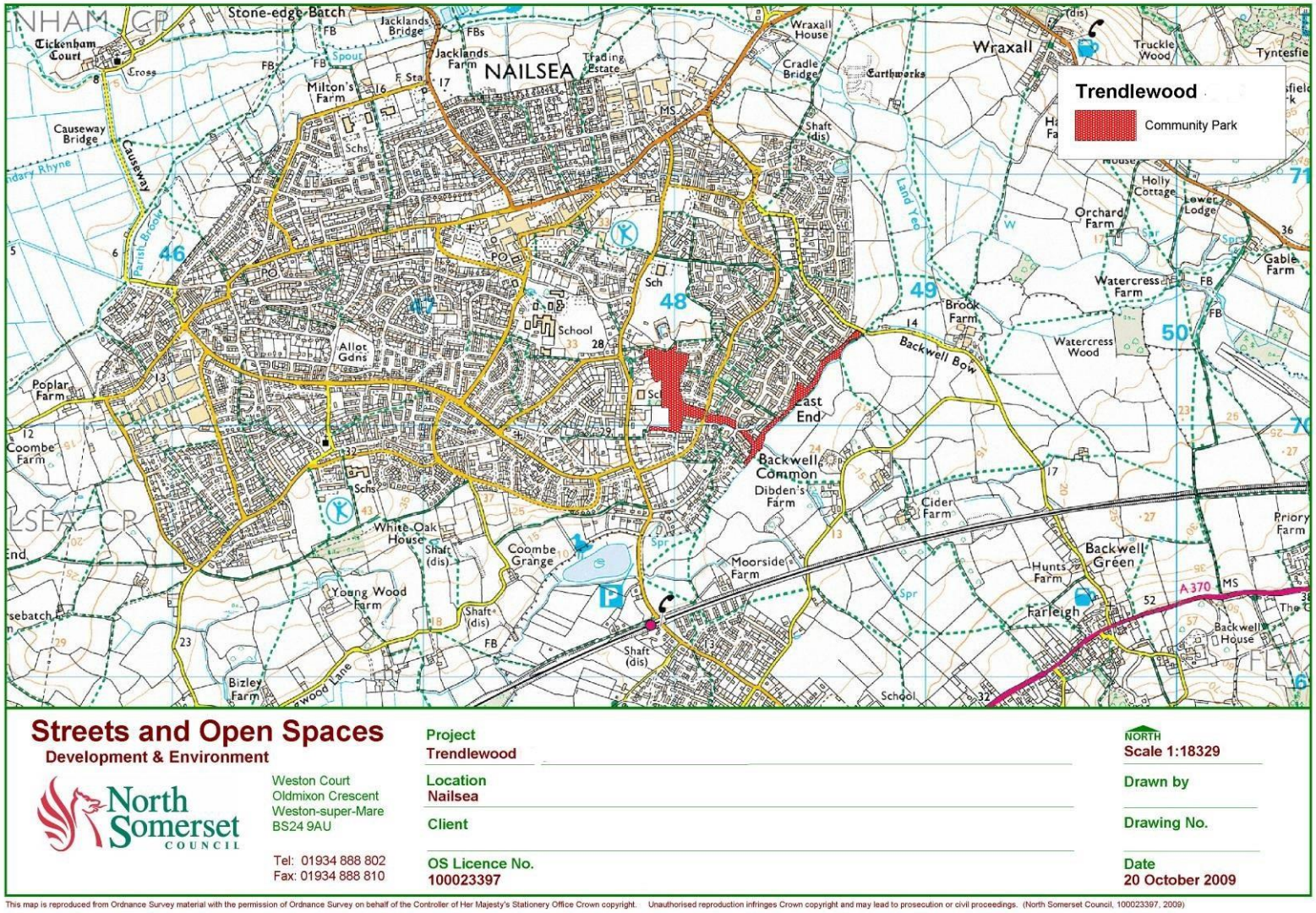
### 3.3.2 Ownership

North Somerset Council (NSC) is the freeholder of the site.

### 3.3.3 Legal issues

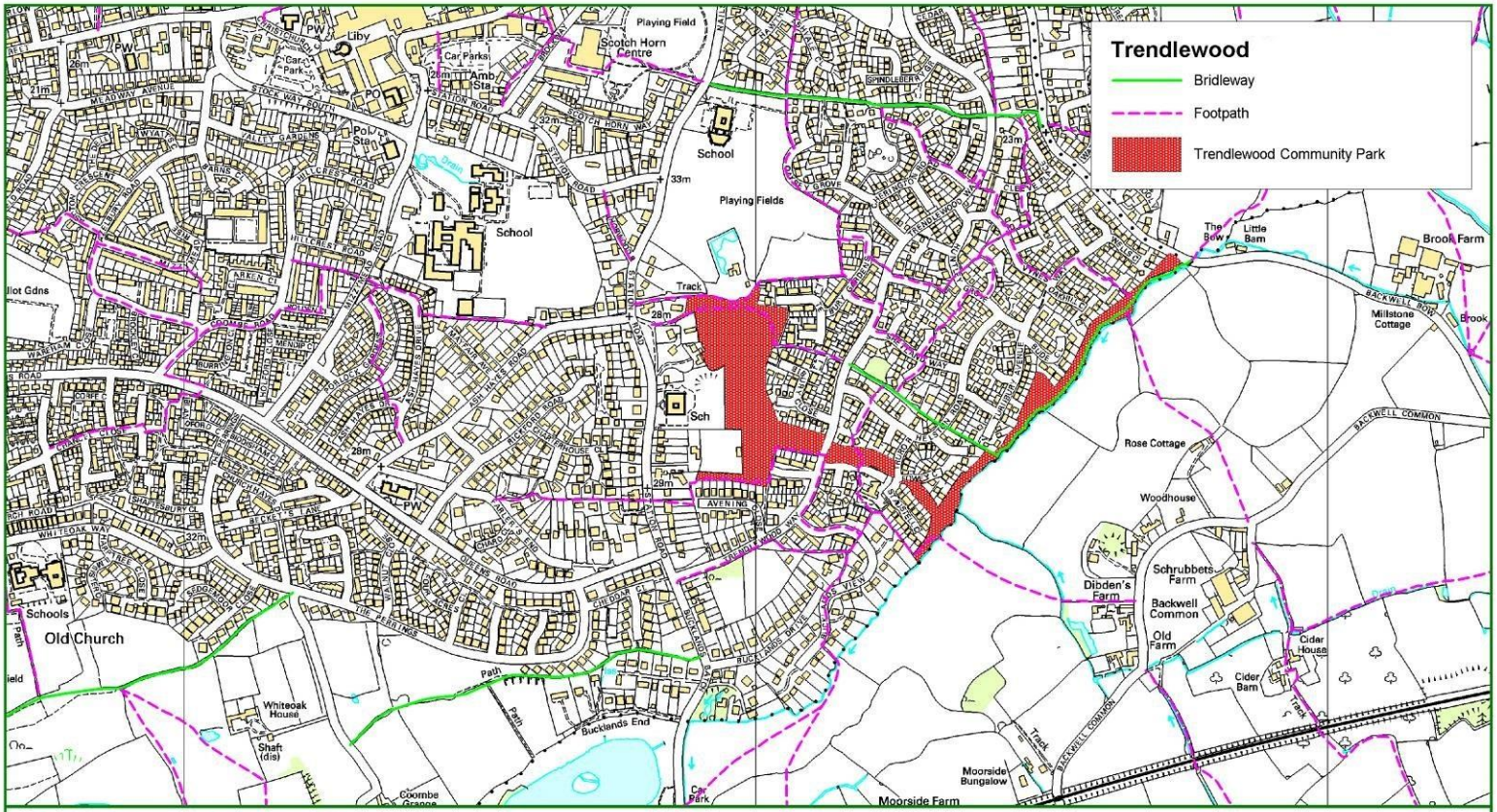
- The Rock face in Nowhere Wood is designated a Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Site (RIGS).
- There are various Public Rights of Way – footpaths and bridleways throughout the site (see map 1b, page 6).
- The whole of Nowhere Wood is protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), and there are a number of individual trees in the grassland compartments which are covered by a TPO (See map in appendix 2).

## Map 1a - Location of Trendlewood Park



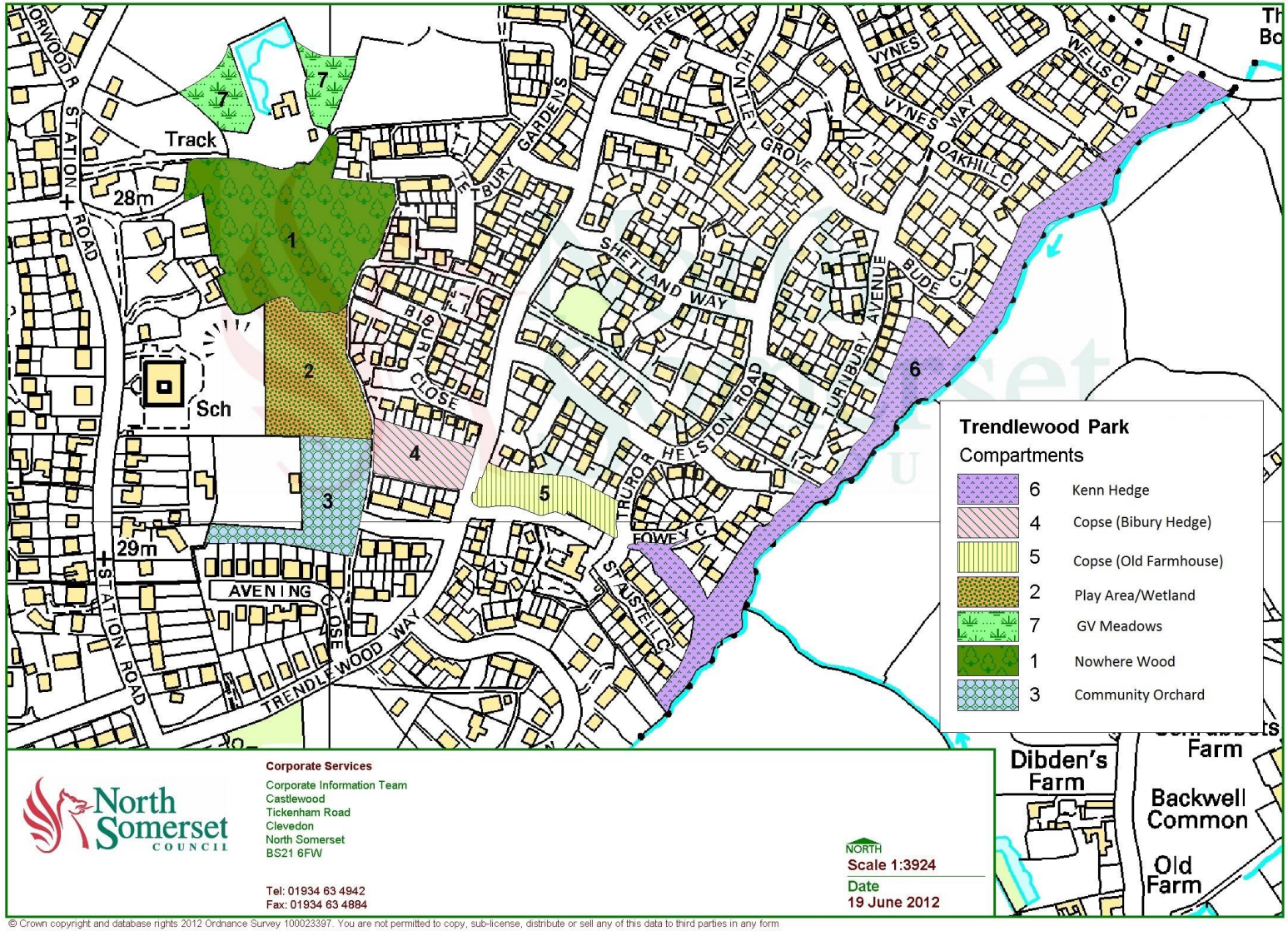

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## Map 1b - Public Rights Of Way through Trendlewood Park



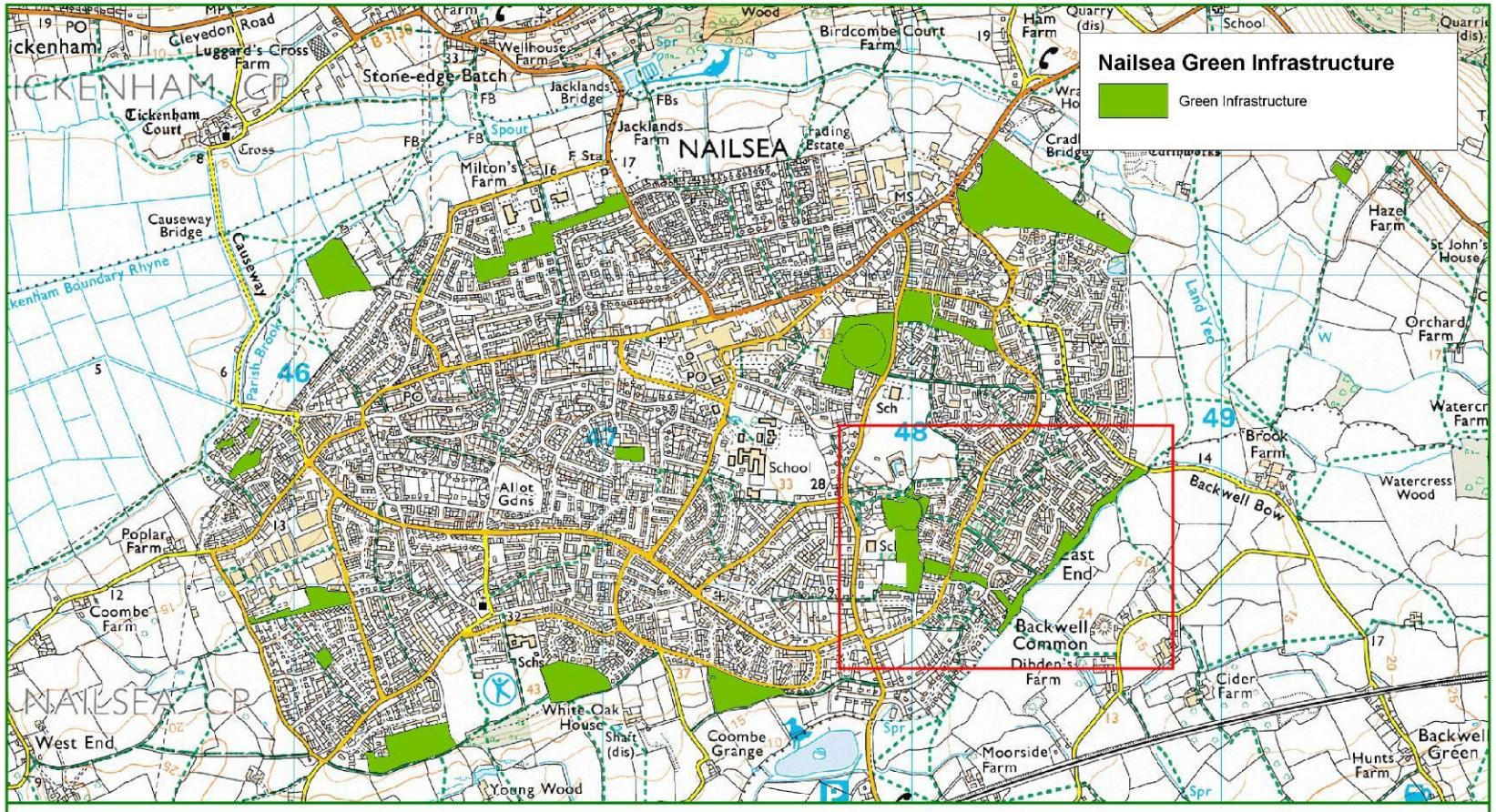

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## Map 1c – Compartments of Trendlewood Park




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## Map 2a - Relationship to other NSC owned Green Infrastructure




**Streets and Open Spaces**
Development & Environment

North Somerset Council

Weston Court
Oldmixon Crescent
Weston-super-Mare
BS24 9AU

Tel: 01934 888 802
Fax: 01934 888 810

Project: Trendlewood Way
Location: Nailsea
Client:
OS Licence No. 100023397

NORTH
Scale 1:18329
Drawn by
Drawing No.
Date: 20 October 2009

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## Map 2b - Aerial Photograph showing Trendlewood Park and surrounds




North Somerset Council

**Development & Environment**

Somerset House
Oxford Street
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 1TG

Tel: 01934 888 888
Fax: 01934 634 634

**Project**
**Trendlewood Way**

**Location**

**Client**

**OS Licence No.**
**100023397**

NORTH
**Scale 1:3505**

**Drawn by**

**Drawing No.**

**Date**
**18 December 2009**

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## 3.4 History of Community Park

### Nowhere Wood

The woodland that we see today originates from the closure of Trendlewood Quarry which operated from the 1850's until the 1930's. This is the only good exposure of the pennant sandstone in the Nailsea Coal Basin. Quarrying for the stone dates back to the Roman period, and pennant is included in the fabric of several Roman villas across the region e.g. Gatcombe Villa at Long Ashton.

Trendlewood Quarry was opened by the Hobbs family in the mid nineteenth century. The Hobbs were founders of a great quarrying dynasty in Wales and South West England. Part of the Hobb's empire was sold to the house building group Wimpey. Kelly's directories gives dates and companies working Pennant which had died out in Nailsea by the 1930s although it continued into the 1960s elsewhere in the Bristol region.

The resulting features of this quarrying activity are still evident in the woodland today – there are stone spoil heaps, retaining dry stone walls and a ramp on the southern edge which was used to cart stone from the quarry to Station Road.

The vegetation alongside Nowhere Lane suggests longer term tree cover. Field maple, spindle and Oak are prevalent and of a size and maturity different to that of the vegetation within the quarry. There are no records to indicate silvicultural management at this site. The existing trees are closely spaced with the form typical of long-term unmanaged woodland.

There are a number of exotic species within the quarry floor such as Walnut *(Juglans regia)*, Snowberry *(Symphoricarpos spp)* and Shrubby Honeysuckle *(Lonicera nitida)*. Japanese Knotweed is also present. The wood was owned for many years by a local family who used is as their garden and may have introduced these exotic plants.

### Grassland Compartments

Compartments 4, 5 and 6 were originally the course of a stream that ran down off farmland and into the River Kenn. Developers largely infilled the valley cut by the stream, and culverted the water. The course of the stream is still visible today, and a line of mature trees grows along it.

Compartment 6 which runs alongside the River Kenn was formerly farmland and orchards. Developers wanted to build housing down to the river but local campaigners successfully ensured that a wide strip of land was allocated as a bridleway from St. Austell Close to Lodge Lane. The river is lined with a continuous mature hedgerow, which is managed by us for wildlife. Some of the local orchards would have been used for cider apples which were sold to the Coates cider factory in Nailsea.

## 3.5 Overview of the community park today

Map 2b and Map 3 show the existing layout of the community park

### *Woodland*

Management of the woodland is carried out by the Friends of Trendlewood Park voluntary group. They carry out scrub clearance, hand pulling of invasive species, and litter picking on a regular basis. The group began solely working on the woodland in 1999 and were instrumental to a number of activities and projects. The group later expanded and developed into the Friends of Trendlewood Park in 2011 and have since carried out works across the park including within the woodland such as;

- The planting of a native hedgerow along the boundary with St. Francis School
- Invertebrate survey (by Tony Smith) and partial excavation of woodland pond
- Hazel coppicing every eight years (to the North of Nowhere lane)
- Construction of three wooden benches
- Erection of four posts with footpath signs and steps
- Creation of timber edged path
- Erection of bird and bat boxes
- Ongoing scrub clearance



**Nowhere wood - bike ramps**

Other organisations and individuals have also been involved such as the BTCV, Timberland, St Francis School, Nailsea School, Dry Stone Walling Society, Hawk and Owl Trust, Tony Smith and Nailsea Town Council.

More recently local children have developed the existing bike ramps to create an actively used cycle track. NSC aided with the clearance of some of the scrub in the area to allow this to develop under request from some of the local children.

***Grassland Compartments***

- Until 2011 all of Trendlewood Park grassland compartments 2-6 were managed under North Somerset Council's standard Grounds Maintenance contract. Around 15% of the grassland is now managed by the Friends group. These areas are being managed via a once a year hay cut, the FoTP are aided by NSC Green Team when carrying out the hay cuts, who take the arising's away from site to compost.
- The meadow areas to the north of the wood (compartment 7) were created in 2008, in areas that were previously mown. They are owned by Nailsea School and managed in partnership with the Friends of Trendlewood and North Somerset Council. These meadows were created as a result of ideas that came out of a Community Owl project, which identified Tawny Owls in the wood, and suggested that meadow creation would improve the habitat for food species such as small mammals. The FoTP arrange for an external contractor to aid with the cut of these meadows. The arising's are left on site to compost down.
- A separate meadow area was also introduced in 2013 at the very end of compartment 6. This previously largely unused section of amenity grassland now provides a large area of Tall Grass which has huge biodiversity benefits. The FoTP in conjunction with the Green Team cut this annually, and remove the arising's.

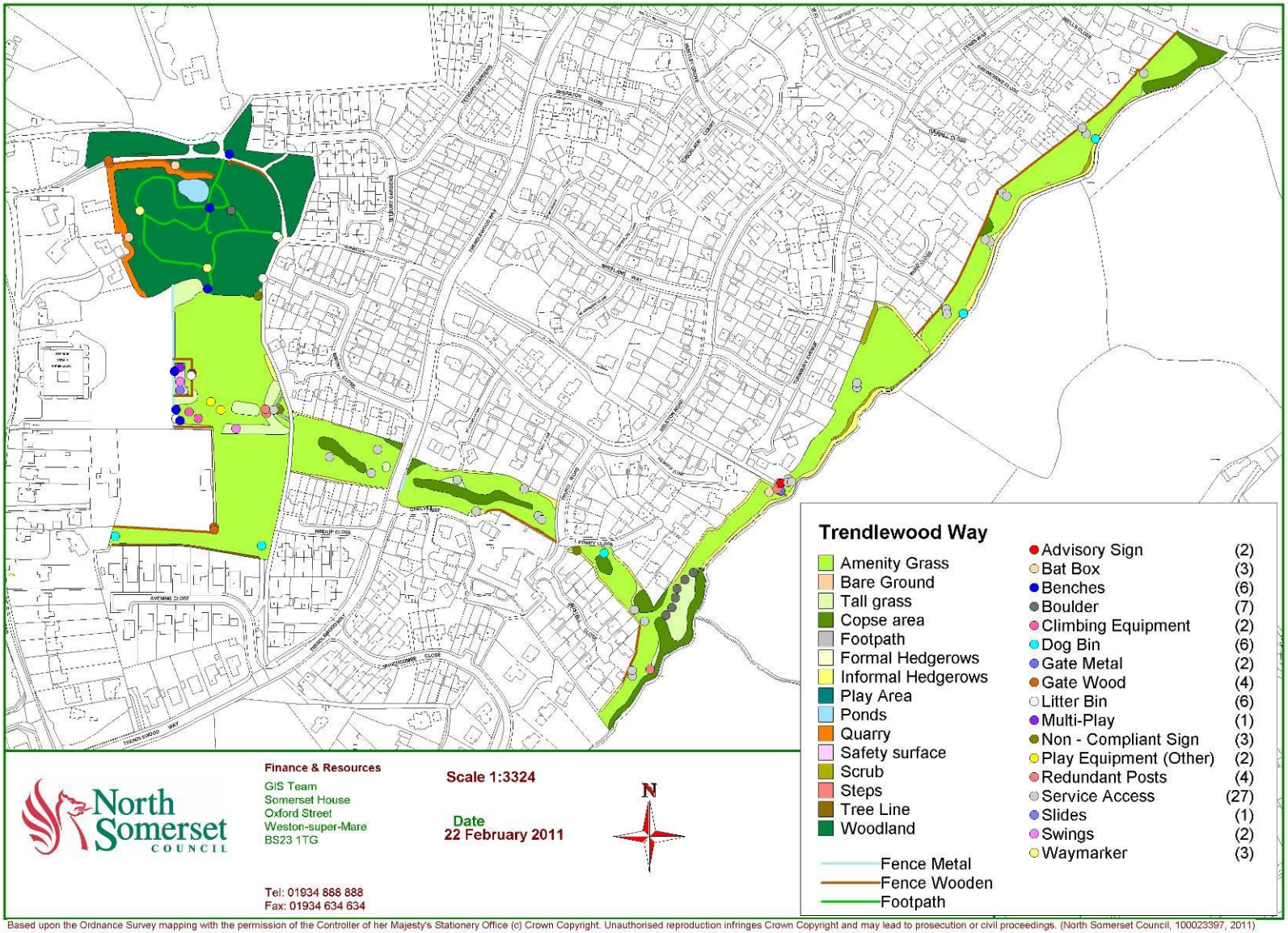


**Compartment 2 – boundary with Nowhere Wood**

## 3.6 Mapping the community park

The community park has been mapped in detail using MapInfo, a Geographic Information System (GIS) which includes mapping software and a database to plot all the features within the site as follows:

## Map 3- Detailed layout of the community park




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## 3.7 Description of key features

**Compartment 1**

**Woodland**

*Description*

The woodland is protected by a TPO. Ash, Sycamore, English Oak, Hawthorn and Field Maple grow throughout the wood.

There are also isolated specimens of apple, willow and beech. Holly grows widely within the wood whilst spindle, sloe and elder are also present in small numbers.

Hazel predominates the under storey along Nowhere Lane and is also found intermittently within the Wood.

The ground flora includes Nettle, Hogweed, Dog's Mercury, Herb Bennett, Herb Robert, Enchanters Nightshade, Wood Speedwell, Dock, Cuckoo Pint, Primrose, Blue Bells, Ground Elder, Coltsfoot and Cyclamen.

Sedges are present along with a variety of fern species. There are a number of exotic species within the quarry floor such as Walnut, Snowberry and Shrubby Honeysuckle. Invasive species such as Japanese knotweed, Periwinkle and Winter Heliotrope are also present.

*Key Management Issues*

Nowhere wood is certified under the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®), a system for certifying responsibly managed woodlands. [10]

The woodland is largely even aged, resulting in little or no regeneration due to lack of light. This means that the woodland is in decline because there are no young trees for the future.

Hazel does not usually fruit well before it is seven or more years old. The Ideal coppice cycle length for dormice is probably 15 to 20 years.

There is an area of young Ash at the North East section of the woodland which has generated at the same rate, it would be beneficial to thin this.

Heavy bicycle use of the pathways can cut up the ground and damage the ground flora.

Spanish blue bells are a threat to the



**Woodland North of bike ramp area**



**Cuckoo Pint in Nowhere Wood (Andrew Town)**

[10] For more information see http://www.fsc-uk.org/. Our License Code is FSC® C003522.

The Friends of Trendlewood Park carry out Hazel coppicing every 8 years to the north of Nowhere Lane, the last major coppice was carried out in 2008. A consent to fell was applied for at the end of 2015 to start coppicing neglected hazel stools again.

**Trees**

*Description*

Aside from supporting a huge number of fauna species, trees can become treasured members of a community in their own right.

Woodlands emphasize the natural environment by creating a wealth of habitats and opportunities for wildlife. They also offer us the maximum opportunity for recreation and escape, and inspire our imaginations and creativity.

Trees have the potential to help manage flooding and reduce soil erosion. They provide shade and limit the 'urban heat island effect' which will become increasingly important in a warming climate. They also remove pollutants and act as a carbon sink, helping us to adapt to climate change.

The structure of the woodland has altered since the first management plan for this site was created. The large veteran Oak at the centre of the woodland has fallen over the seasonal pond, this has allowed more light English variety. Bluebells in the wood have been surveyed which revealed that there are substantial quantities of Spanish and various stages of hybridisation already present in many areas making eradication impractical.

*Key Management Issues*

Throughout North Somerset we are seeking to increase our tree cover to help maintain a healthy and long living tree population.

Trendlewood Park will be the subject of a safety inspection to identify hazards every 4 years the last inspection was in 2015. A copy of the latest report can be located in the Appendix 3, a number of actions were required.

Risk management must strike a balance between removing unacceptable hazards from higher traffic areas, and retaining features for their ecological and amenity value, in areas that are less frequented.



**Nowhere Wood (Andrew Town)**



**Great Spotted Woodpecker (Andrew Town)**

onto the woodland floor at this location and new undergrowth to develop.

A number of young trees have been planted within the park over the years to aid in the regeneration of the area.

**Rock Face**

*Description*

The Quarry rock face in Nowhere Wood is an important geological site and is such designated as a RIGS. There is currently an annual Quarry risk management programme in place carried out by Hydrock, the Rock face and boundaries are currently in an acceptable condition. NSC keeps records of these inspections.

*Key Management Issues*

There are issues with graffiti and scrub encroachment – Portuguese Laurel, bramble and Ivy. The crevices would likely provide a good roosting location as a good number bats have been identified foraging in and around the margins of the woodland. However when a survey by the Avon Bat Group was carried out no evidence of bats leaving possible roosts were detected.

Small trees and scrub have started to grow out of the rock face, these need to be monitored to ensure no health and safety issues arise.



**Graffiti on the RIGS**

**Quarry Floor**

*Description*

The quarry floor is very wet and shallow for rooting as the soil is only inches deep. This means that trees find it hard to establish here, and as a result the increased amount of light that reaches the floor means that invasive species have proliferated.

*Key Management Issues*

Invasive species need controlling

The area is also subject to dumping of garden waste, litter and frequent small fire pits.

## Seasonal Pond

*Description*

There is one informal pond in the Woodland fed by rain water supplemented in very wet periods by an overflow pipe from the Old Quarry number 56. It is very shallow and shaded, and provides a wet woodland habitat containing rotting logs. The area surrounding it consists of open areas of mud with sedges.

It is an important area for rare species of snails and leeches.

*Key Management Issues*

Since the Oak has fallen at this site the length of time there is water present has reduced. Water largely is only present at times of heavy rainfall increased in periods of sustained rain by the overflow pipe leading from the adjacent property.

As the pond dries up regularly amphibians are not able to breed successfully. It is also subject to litter and debris dumping.



**Seasonal Pond with low water level**

## Paths and Steps

*Description*

There are a number of informal paths throughout the woodland and tarmac paths along the periphery. Wooden steps near the pond were constructed by the Friends of Nowhere Wood, and parts of the informal paths have timber edging which was constructed by the BTCV.

An all ability path was installed in 2012, paid for from a Forestry Commission grant, this pathway in maintained by the friends Group. (appendix 4).

*Key Management Issues*

The paths can become muddy in places and leaf litter can build up, this is seasonally managed by the Friends group.

An increase in bike use has started to erode some footpaths in places, this needs to be monitored.



**Informal footpath**

## Seating

*Description*

There are currently three wooden benches within the Woodland. The Friends Group had originally constructed four benches, but one was removed due to vandalism.

*Key Management Issues*

None



**Bench In Nowhere Wood**

## Signs

*Description*

At the main entrance to the woods there is an interpretation board providing information on Nowhere Wood. This was installed during the term of the previous management plan.

There are also four Footpath signs throughout the wood which were erected by the Friends Group.

*Key Management Issues*

There are still some old Wood Spring signs around which need to be removed.

Further signage directing visitors from the main road to the woods could be considered when funding is available. Some signage was installed from Station Road and Trendlewood way in 2015.




**Old Woodspring Sign**

## Bins

*Description*

There are two litter bins on the edge of the woodland and one within. There are no dog bins.

*Key Management Issues*

They are in reasonable condition but lack consistency in style.



**Litter bin attached to footpath post**

**Bird and bat boxes**

*Description*

Friends of Trendlewood Park in conjunction with the Hawk and Owl Trust have put up a number of bird boxes, four bat roost boxes and one Tawny owl box.

Volunteers have put up Dormice boxes in the hedges surrounding the woodland to determine the presence or absence of dormice in the area.

The bat boxes have been installed within the woodland and are surveyed for indicators of use.

*Key Management Issues*

Boxes should be checked in the winter and cleared of old debris if they are not in use, so that they can be used again. The bird boxes are currently inspected on alternative years with those on Kenn hedge by a specialist.

The bird boxes are regularly used, however there is no evidence as of yet of Dormice – this needs to have ongoing monitoring.

Bat boxes can only be checked by licenced handlers. Boxes have not been checked for some time and have become damaged since installation. These should be removed or repaired.



**Bat box on an Ash Tree**

**<u>Compartments 2-7</u>**

**Amenity grass**

*Description*

Amenity grass still covers the vast majority (approx 75%) of the site. This short grass is managed through the NSC Grounds Maintenance Contract (See Appendix 5) and is cut approximately every 10/12 days.

*Key Management Issues*

We want to ensure the local community can enjoy the green space while achieving cost effective management, enhancing biodiversity, and addressing climate change. For these reasons around 15% of the grassland has been turned over to tall Grass Meadows, these areas are cut as a hay cut by the Friends Group once a year (See A5.1 and Appendix 6 for location details).



**Area of amenity grass in compartment 2 showing the boundary with Nowhere Wood**

Some of the grassland is seasonally wet which can cause problems for machine cutting

**Tall grass meadows**

*Description*

The main areas of tall grass are in compartment 6 of Trendlewood Park. The grounds of Nailsea School contain two small meadow areas (compartment 7), where the Friends of Nowhere Wood sown native wildflower seed mixes and planted various perennials.

Since the previous Management plan the Tall Grass areas have increased to include a location in compartment 2, running along the edge of the woodland. As well as, an area in compartment 3, running along the boundary with the Croquet club. The tall grass as also been increased in compartment 6.

The Tall Grass meadow in compartment 3 also forms the new community Orchard, where a number of fruit bearing trees have been planted over the term of the previous Management Plan. The Tall Grass area at this location is reseeded with Yellow rattle regularly. A wild flower seed mix has also been added in strips along the outer edge of this area of Tall Grass, this included poppies in 2014 to coincide with the memorial for the end of the WW!.

*Key Management Issues*

There is still overall a general lack of tall grass through the site, and associated wildflowers are uncommon. Ideally more areas should be considered for Tall Grass Meadows dependant on resources and finances.



**Tall grass meadow in compartment 7**

**Annual wildflower mix**



These areas of Tall Grass are managed in a conservation friendly manner, largely being cut by hand, as a once a year hay cut. The arising's are predominantly removed from site to compost. Compartments 7 are cut by a contractor funded for by the Friends Group, the arising's from here are left on site.

Tall grass meadows are important habitats for wildlife. The structure of tall grass alone provides shelter and food for a variety of insects and small mammals (which will in turn attract birds and other wildlife) that would not be able to survive in an area of short-mown amenity grass.

There has been significant loss of unimproved and semi-improved grassland, and whilst not a substitute for these, tall grass areas that have the opportunity to become wildflower meadows (through natural regeneration from the seed bank or by planting) provide important habitats for insects such as Butterflies, Grasshoppers and Bumblebees and are an attractive feature of the landscape.

The reduced frequency in grass cutting also means that the cost of management and the carbon footprint of machinery can be reduced.

**Hedgerows**

*Description*

The site is bordered by a mixture of short and tall hedges. Most of these hedges are managed by the Friends Group via ad hoc cuts, the hedge lines have been encouraged to grow to create nesting areas for birds and corridors for the bats.

Kenn hedge in compartment 6 is well developed, tall and thick. It contains lots of fruiting hawthorn and blackthorn which are important for foraging birds in the late summer and autumn when seeds become scarce. The height also makes it particularly important for bat navigation and as a source of invertebrates to fed upon. It is an 'important' hedge under the hedgerow regulations 1997. This stretch of hedge is not covered by the GM contract, but has its own management plan.

There is another important stretch of hedge in compartment 2 between the wetland area and the large oak.

A Native mix of hedging trees have been planted along the hedge line in compartment 4 and compartment 2 which runs along the boundary with St. Francis School which is maintained by the Friends group.

Species rich hedges are priority habitats in the North Somerset LBAP. Most of the hedgerows on site have now developed into good quality

*Key Management Issues*

Cutting should take place outside of the bird nesting season.

The best practice recommendation is to cut hedges on a two year rotation.

There is conflict regarding the management of the Kenn hedge for wildlife as they obstruct the view of the Levels and Moors for some local residents.

Dormice have been recorded in the local area – managing hedges sympathetically and enhancing hedge connectivity may enable them to increase their range into the Woodland/hedges.

The Base of hedgerows should not be treated with herbicide, but should be encouraged to develop a healthy and diverse ground flora.

Bramble in hedges is an important feature for dormice and butterflies, and management will reflect this.

In recent years some conflict has developed between neighbours of the park and the bordering hedgerows, largely in relation to a reduced cutting schedule due to diminished budgets. Neighbour relations need to be built upon to prevent illegal cutting of the park hedges.



**The well developed Kenn hedge**

**Dormice have been recorded in the surrounding area (Gill Brown)**



hedgerows which provide excellent foraging habitats as well as navigation line for bats.

10 dormouse boxes were installed along the Kenn hedge which were inspected by a licensed dormouse handler, but no evidence was found. Other small mammals and bees have used the boxes. They are now left unchecked.

**Play area**

*Description*

There is one children's play area in compartment 2 which is inspected by the Ranger (appendix 7). Repair works are carried out by contractors as and when required.

Additional play equipment has been introduced (in March 2010) outside the fenced area as part of the Playbuilder Scheme. This scheme is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and enables local authorities to work with children, families and communities to build stimulating and exciting play spaces.

*Key Management Issues*

The play area is in an acceptable condition but does suffer from litter.

Additional areas of Tall Grass should not conflict with this location to ensure adequate use of the play equipment.

Some of the play equipment is starting to show age related wear and tear, replacements should be sort where funding becomes available.



**Play area**

**Copse areas**

*Description*

Small areas of trees (mainly Oak with some Willow) growing along what was previously the course of a stream.

Two new sites were added to the entrance of compartment 4 during the course of the previous Management Plan by the Friends group, these are managed be the Friends group. These have supported a range of breeding insects and butterflies.

*Key Management Issues*

See Trees (page 18)

**Resting Comma – a butterfly of Woodland glades**



**Scattered trees**

*Description*

Oak, Ash, Willow, Cherry and Rowan, some of which are protected under TPO's (see appendix 2). Most are along or near public footpaths and there is a mixture of young and mature trees.

A number of new trees have been planted by the Friends group, including along the pathway in compartment 3 and the orchard species within the 'community orchard'. The trees in the orchard have been planted in partnership with Transition Nailsea, which is a local sustainability group.

During the summer of 2015 a large Ash near to the play area failed and the decision was made to fell it. The dead wood has been left on site to make important habitats for insects.

*Key Management Issues*

See Trees (page 18)

Over the term of the previous management plan two prominent trees within the park failed their risk assessment as part of the 2015 walk over assessment. A large Ash was removed from near the play area and the large dead Oak on the boundary of compartment 2 was reduced. The oak is being monitored for future failure, however, it is home to a large bee population and other insect species so is important to the ecosystem. Replanting of these trees should be considered due to the habitat loss.



**Willow in compartment 2. The muddy area in front shows the area that can get water-logged.**

**Signage**

*Description*

There are number of signs around the site, including some remaining old Woodspring signs.

Interpretation signage has been put at junction of compartments 2, 3 and 4 – the main meeting area for the site.

Navigation signs have also been placed at the entrance to the site from Trendlewood way and Station road directing visitors to the park on either side of the road.

Signs highlighting the bridle way and areas that are not for horse riding have also been erected around the site.

*Key Management Issues*

Any remaining Woodspring signs need to be updated when funding is available.



**Woodspring Sign**

**Bins**

*Description*

There are three litter bins and six dog bins

*Key Management Issues*

Old litter bins would benefit from being replaced when funding available




**Plastic litter bin attached to Sign**

**Bird boxes**

*Description*
There are a number boxes along the Kenn hedge in compartment 6. NSC also gave a number of these boxes to neighbouring houses on the site.

There are also two Little Owl boxes in the Kenn Hedge.

*Key Management Issues*
A number of these boxes have been used, however ongoing monitoring is required.

Boxes should be checked in the winter and cleared of old debris


**Bird Box**

## 3.8 Detailed site statistics

A detailed asset survey was undertaken in the community park, the following is a summary of key features recorded:

| **Soft and hard landscape features** | **Area (m²)** |
|---|---|
| • Total area of the community park | 53,993 |
| • 85% of the grassland area (compartments 2-6) is amenity grass | 33,502 |
| • 27% of the community park is woodland | 14,578 |
| • 15% of the grassland area (compartments 2-6) consists of tall grass | 5912 |
| • Copse Areas cover 8% of compartments 2-6 | 3153 |
| • Meadow areas (Compartment 7) | 4155 |

| **Boundaries and associated infrastructure** | **Length (m²)** |
|---|---|
| Metal Fencing | 122 |
| Wooden Fencing | 630 |

| **Furniture** | **Number** |
|---|---|
| Benches (Wood) | 3 |
| Dog Bins | 6 |
| Litter Bins | 5 |
| Signs | 12 |
| Boulders | 6 |
| Gates | 4 |

## 3.9 Existing management arrangements

Management of the site is the responsibility of NSC. Nowhere Wood is not included within the grounds maintenance contract and management is carried out as necessary, primarily by the Friends of Trendlewood Park. The friends group have widened their remit to carry out maintenance tasks and surveys throughout the whole park, following the guidelines of this management plan (see appendix 8 for volunteer work programme).

The Grounds Maintenance of this site is provided by external contractors (Glendale Services Ltd) and is monitored by the Council's Green Spaces Officer who works within the Green Infrastructure Team of Streets and Open Spaces. The GM contractors only cut the amenity grass areas. The tall grass areas are cut as a meadow hay cut by the Friends group once a year by hand or by external contractor, this method has a much higher conservation value than routine cuts (see appendix 6 for areas for tall grass meadow managed areas).

The friends group is routinely supported by Somerset Wood Recycling, a social enterprise who take out groups of volunteers with various backgrounds and teams from Community Pay Back. Nailsea Town Council also provide grant opportunities for the Friends group to enable them to carry out extra works on the park.

The Grounds Maintenance contract under which this management plan has been prepared ends March 2020.

Key Grounds Maintenance tasks are described in appendix 5. The text has been taken directly from the Grounds Maintenance contract. It is possible that this list of tasks and outputs will alter when the new contract is re-let.

Work to trees within the site is carried out either reactively, when events or circumstances arise, or as part of the planned programme of risk reduction (See appendix 5).

# 4.0 ANALYSIS OF ISSUES

## 4.1 Site Analysis

The following section summarises an assessment of 'what are we doing well' and 'where could we improve'. The analysis has been informed by considering the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) related to the park.

**What are we doing well?**

Nowhere Wood

- Working in Partnership with the local community
- The wood is generally a tranquil and peaceful retreat in a dense residential area – it has a very rural feel, despite its urban setting
- There is strong community involvement and sense of pride – The Friends of Trendlewood Park have been instrumental in the management of the site. An activities report is produced after every volunteer day so that works can be recorded and future activities planned.
- Baseline species surveys have been undertaken
- Invasive species are being controlled by hand pulling
- Scrub clearance is carried out regularly, and hazel coppicing is kept to a good rotation. Cut wood is left on site to create habitat piles.
- Litter is kept under control primarily by the Friends Group
- The addition of an all ability pathway has greatly improved access

Grassland Compartments

- The community park offers excellent opportunity for general recreation and play – this has been further

**Where could we improve?**

Nowhere Wood

- The wood is of an even age which is resulting in little or no regeneration. This needs to be addressed with appropriate measures such as felling and tree thinning.
- Invasive Periwinkle and Japanese Knotweed still pose a problem, these have been sprayed and hand pulled over the last 5 years but are still present.
- The important RIGS has been subject to graffiti, this has been reduced but still poses an issue
- Scrub encroachment of the RIGS has been addressed but is still ongoing
- Conservation measures for the Industrial archaeology ( e.g. the dry stone wall and ramp leading into the woodland) need to be addressed
- Volunteer numbers can be low and the group would benefit from increased members
- Volunteer activities need to continue to be tied into specific priorities/aims of the management plan

Grassland Compartments

- The provision for seating has been increased, however further locations should be considered

enhanced by the Playbuilder project which was completed in March 2010.
- The site provides good access to the town and surrounding countryside, and is used as a route to work and school.
- The Friends Group have planted a native hedgerow along the boundary of St Francis School
- Compartment 6 contains an important wildlife hedgerow, and it is managed accordingly
- Tall grass areas provide habitat for a variety of species that would not be present if the grass was gang mown
- The Friends group have planted the meadow areas (compartment 7) with a native wildflower seed mix. This has included relocating plugs from the redevelopment of the glass works site.
- The site offers an attractive Landscape with a diversity of tree species.
- Compartment 4 entrance has been greatly improved with the addition of two copse areas, vastly improving the biodiversity of the area.

- Litter can build up in the play area and near the copse area in compartment 4
- There are still large areas of amenity grass which have little value for biodiversity.
- There has been increased cases of neighbours overcutting their boundary hedges, this will need to be addressed going forward.

## 4.2 Qualitative assessment – This describes the present condition of the community park

### 4.2.1 A Welcoming Place

The wood is generally quiet and with many people from the local area visiting, taking advantage of the All Ability Pathway and the number of informal pathways throughout. In the past footpath posts have been erected to direct people along the informal paths and encourage more walkers into the wood. Interpretation signage has been added to the main entrance of the woodland which details some of its main features. Further signage could be used to detail the RIGS. Access through the wood is suitable for walkers and cyclists, and wheelchair users.

The community park largely consists of mown grass, with areas of scattered trees and copse. Compartments 2, 3 and 6 are generally more open with a mixture of young and old scattered trees, giving the impression of a historic park. These areas seem to be used more frequently than compartments 4 and 5. The entrance to compartment 4 has been improved with the addition of two copse/spinney areas, which create a formalised entrance. There are footpath signs to direct people along the informal grass paths

from compartments 4 to 6. Directional signage has also been installed at the edge of component 4 directing visitors over the road to compartments 5 and 6. The installation of an interpretation board within the heart of the park provides information on the park and its features.

### 4.2.2 Healthy, Safe and Secure

The grassland compartments generally feel safe as they are open and generally easily accessible, however, areas can become very muddy during the wet season and so caution should be taken during the winter months.

At present the woodland is already under an informal 'lay-person' inspection. From 2011 a walkover survey every 4 years will identify trees that require work to reduce the risk of harm to within acceptable limits, following North Somerset Council's Tree Risk Management programme, the last inspection was carried out in 2015. A routine safety inspection of the rock face is carried out to monitor its stability, and remediation is carried out where the risks are deemed unacceptable.

Access to the woodland has been greatly improved by the addition of the access for all path and interpretation signage, the amount of visitors and users have increased since these have been installed. There is some natural uncertainty of woodlands perceived by some visitors to the woodland which can cause some people to feel unsafe because it is enclosed by its very nature.

The Community Response Officer for the area regularly patrols the park, particularly during the school holidays. They will deal with localised antisocial behaviour such as dog fouling and littering and has the ability to issue on the spot fixed penalties. The Community Response Team will also aid the Natural Environment Team with Community Protection Orders under the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 which can target specific issues such as fly-tipping green waste on the parks. The Community Response team is also joint funded by Avon and Somerset Police and act as the direct link between the two organisations if there are larger scale issues that need to be addressed.

The Friends group carry out monthly inspections on the site and will report back any issues that need to be resolved, including any health and safety issues. It is important to note that the FoTP are not responsible for health and safety issues, NSC are directly responsible for these.

### 4.2.3 Clean and well maintained

The initial experience of the wood is one that is clean, litter free and reasonably well managed. The main issues include the graffiti and scrub encroachment on the rock face, the litter left behind in the 'camp' areas and the bike ramps and at the quarry face. As well as some presences of invasive periwinkle. The benches and fences are in acceptable condition, but the bins could benefit from updating. The FoTP regularly provide litter picks around the rock face in particular. Glendale have been instructed to provide litter picks around the 'camp'/bike ramps when they clear the bins.

The grassland compartments are generally clean and litter free and the grass is in good condition. The play area is in an acceptable condition but can suffer from litter dumping and litter can build up around some of the copse areas. Some of the equipment has become tired and has requires maintenance. Whilst there are a number of seating options within the grassland compartments further areas could be considered.

There has been a noted increase of garden waste being dumped in both the woodland and grassland compartments, Community Protection Orders should be considered going forward to address this.

### 4.2.4 Sustainability

North Somerset Council has a Mainstreaming Sustainability Action Plan. It has been developed to assist with the integration of sustainability principles into all of the Council's policies, services and activities.

The wood from any felled or thinned trees in Nowhere Wood is either kept on site to create habitat piles, or small amounts are removed by the volunteers. There is the opportunity to use the timber from any felled trees to make sign posts and new benches for the Woodland and Trendlewood Park. For instance the felled Ash by the play area was used to create habitat piles within the woodland and has been used to create a natural barrier around the bike ramps. The thinned ash within the woodland has been used to create brash fencing/dead hedging to block off some of the unofficial paths to allow the understory a chance to regenerate, both activities took place in the late winter, early spring 2015/6.

Tall grass areas in the Community Park and meadows in the grounds of Nailsea School (compartment 7) are cut once a year and the arising's are either taken away or is composted on site. This method of management is in keeping with sustainable conservation management techniques.

Nowhere Wood is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®), which means that we are complying with the highest social and environmental standards on the market.

### 4.2.5 Conservation and Heritage

The woodland contains a range of tree species of an even age structure. Of major importance is creating a normal age distribution through the wood, to enable its survival in the future. This will also increase the diversity of ground flora. Invasive Periwinkle and Japanese Knotweed are present in the wood, and these need to be controlled by appropriate means. Coppicing of hazel should be maintained.

Peat is not used on site and the use of pesticides is kept to a minimum, only spot spraying techniques are used. Pesticides are used only to treat Japanese Knot Weed as part of the Councils control of invasive species program. In the past the hardstanding pathway through compartment 2 has been sprayed along the edge, this has predominantly stopped with the FoTP preferring to control growth her by strimming.

The RIGS has been subject to graffiti and scrub encroachment and needs to have continuous positive management. There is also opportunity to improve the condition of the Industrial archaeology in the Wood such as the dry stone wall and ramp. Further signage could be added to identify the history and importance of the RIGS.

Native hedgerows (e.g. Kenn Hedge in compartment 6) are important features bordering the grass compartments, providing rich habitats for a variety of wildlife – especially birds and bats. Maintaining the connectivity of hedges along and near the community park will further enhance their environmental benefits. The abundance of short-mown amenity grass has little benefit for biodiversity and is costly to manage. The creation of further tall grass meadows on the site will provide better opportunities for wildlife conservation, and may reduce management costs and the carbon footprint of the machinery used, however there has been a huge improvement in the diversity of the grassland in recent years. There is the opportunity to improve interpretation so visitors are aware of the site's origins and its context with the local landscape. New sites to be discussed in the winter Management Committee meeting each year.

Overall the woodland and grassland compartments provide a range of habitats for a wealth of wildlife. A high number of species have been recorded by the friends group including:

153 flower species
86 fungi
116 flies
53 bees
20 butterflies
41 birds
And many more

The Friends group have noted an increasing array of species over the year which partly reflects the careful management if the wildlife habitats in the park.

### 4.2.6 Community Involvement

There is a very strong community involvement in the Park. The Friends of Trendlewood Park undertake practical management tasks and they are also involved in developing the site management plan. They have established working relationships with local neighbours, schools and police through events and practical habitat management volunteering activities. Community involvement could be improved by increasing the number of volunteers, in particular by engaging further with neighbours of the park.

Nailsea Town Council regularly donate grants to the Friends group to enable them to expand on their work and purchase equipment. The Friends group is supported by Somerset Wood Recycling, a social enterprise who work with North Somerset Council to aid in conservation management tasks. SWR enable volunteers to attend work days, whist also working with the probation service.

The Friends group also has developed a very good working relationship with local enterprises. The landlord of the local pub is very interested in supporting the group and the local community and aids the group in a number of ways, including allowing meetings to take place on the premises.

Recently the Friends Group have invited the Bristol Nordic Walking Society to include the park as one of their regular sites, as such frequent walking days take place around the park.

### 4.2.7 Marketing

The introduction of interpretation boards around the site has greatly increased the public's knowledge and awareness of the site. The Friends group aided NSC in the production of a leaflet to provide information about the site. Copies of these can be located on the site near to the main noticeboard. They are also distributed around local community spots such as Nailsea Town Council offices.

The Friends Group also have a site on social media outlet Facebook, a website and provide regular newsletter which they distribute to their members mailing list. Local events are also advertised in local media outlets and with flyers around the site. They also take part in community events and will have stall at the Nailsea Community Market, and take part in a biannual Trendlewood community festival.

NSC actively promotes the group and their hard work on the site and the importance of the site whenever possible through local media circulations. Details of the open space and its green flag achievements can be located on the North Somerset Council Website, although further details on the area could be provided.

### 4.2.8 Management

This is the second management plan that has been written to encompass the whole of Trendlewood Park. It will guide future management of the community park. Key to meeting this objective is ongoing review and monitoring to determine if the plan is being implemented effectively. In order for this to be effective regular meetings with the current management committee will continue to be held regularly (see appendix 9).

## 5.0 VISION, AIMS, OBJECTIVES & ACTION PLAN

This section uses the analysis of the park made in previous sections as follows:

- to re-enforce the vision for the park;
- to summarise the overall aims for the park for the next 5 years;
- to summarise our 1 year and 5 year priorities for the park;
- to provide a detailed one year action plan for the park with aims, objectives and actions, as illustrated below:

### 5.1 Vision - This is what we want the site to be:

*"To provide and maintain a high quality, welcoming and biodiverse Community Park that promotes enjoyment and engagement with the natural environment, and provides a safe space for recreational use and play".*

### 5.2 Aims - This is how we plan to achieve the Vision, by focusing on a number of important key areas:

The Table below shows the key management Issues for the sites as defined by Green Flag criteria

| **A Welcoming Place** | **Sustainability** | **Community Involvement** |
|---|---|---|
| • To ensure that Trendlewood Way is welcoming and accessible to the local community | • Adopt environmental management principles to reduce the impact of management operations on the environment.<br>• Explore other ways of managing amenity grass and work with landowners who are interested in | • To recognise and encourage further community involvement in the community park through consultation, events and activities. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | managing their land for food production wildlife. | |
| **Healthy, Safe and Secure**<br>• Work towards keeping risk as low as reasonably possible for all users of the community park | **Conservation**<br>• To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the site<br>• To maintain the important geology of the site in positive condition | **Marketing**<br>• To actively promote the community park to all potential users. |
| **Clean and Well Maintained**<br>• To maintain good standards of cleanliness and site maintenance. | **Heritage**<br>• Maintain and/or enhance the site's industrial archaeology<br>• Maintain the strategic significance of the community park in the Green Infrastructure Strategy. | **Management**<br>• To provide a responsive, flexible and high quality management service. |

## 5.3 Summary of 1 and 5 year priorities – These will be dependent on finding funding and resources

This section summarises our priorities for 2016, and sets out our aspirations and priorities for the next five years. The realisation of these aspirations will be strongly influenced by the availability of resources. Each year, we will review our progress against the action plan and draw from the aspirations to inform future action plans.

**Priorities for 2016**
- Ensure areas of tall grass and wildflowers are maintained to the high standard currently achieved to create the best manageable habitats for wildlife.
- Consider further areas to increase the amount of tall grass to benefit wildlife and reduce management costs
- Investigate areas for grass composting on site
- Maintain hedgerows to grow tall and thick to benefit birds and bats

**Priorities for the next 5 years (2017-20) (Subject to funding and community support)**
- Develop and implement a long term Woodland Strategy to ensure that a mixed aged woodland is established and maintained
- Investigate methods of removing invasive laurel from RIGS.
- Seek to reduce anti-social behaviour, litter and fly tipping, in particular the dumping of garden green waste.
- Encourage a more diverse woodland ground flora

- Continue to maintain standard of graffiti removal and litter picking at RIGS and maintain only one fire pit area.
- Consider extra interpretation boards and signage, including providing history of the RIGS.
- Continue to carry out native wildflower planting in tall grass areas
- Investigate and commence new projects e.g. creation of a wetland or permanent pond, maintain and consider further food producing trees such as apple trees (See Appendix 10a/b)
- Continue to have regular meetings with the Friends Group and Committee to ensure work is following management plan.
- Continue to survey parks fauna and flora.

- Continue to implement a strategy for controlling Invasive species
- Enhance the condition of the geological site in Nowhere Wood
- Improve the provision of seating
- Enhance the wildlife value of the site by joining up areas of tall grass and hedges. Look at linking these with hedges and green spaces outside of the immediate site for a greater benefit to wildlife.
- Carry out archaeological survey in and around the Woodland
- Seek to improve some footpaths within the park which become extremely muddy during the winter.
- Seek to work with park neighbours to limit unauthorised activity on boundary hedgerows.
- Engage with the youth group using the bike ramps to encourage them to clear up litter and limit usage of the pathways through the woodland as this can cause damage to path surface.

## 5.4 5 year action plan

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A Welcoming Place**<br>• To ensure that Trendlewood Way is welcoming and accessible to the local community | | | | |
| A1.1) Increase provision of signage and interpretation | A1.1.1) Introduce welcome and interpretation signage for the RIGS, to include industrial archaeology and biodiversity, and code of conduct.<br><br>A1.1.2) Consider putting up a community notice board to advertise volunteering opportunities, events, activities and other relevant information<br><br>A1.1.3) Remove any remaining old (Woodspring) signs and replace with new ones | .<br><br> | Implement when funding available<br><br>Implement when funding available<br><br>Implement when funding available | Revenue/ Friends Group<br><br>Countryside budget<br><br>Countryside budget |
| A1.2) Improve access | A1.2.1) update some of the pathways around the park which are subject to extreme poaching during wetter time<br><br>A1.2.2) Consider/Investigate | 20m section was added Spring 2016. Will look at further extensions this winter | Implement when funding available<br><br>Implement | Countryside budget/revenue<br><br>Revenue |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | improving the drainage and/or surface in waterlogged areas along the Kenn hedge | | when funding available | |
| A1.3) Introduce further seating into Trendlewood way | A1.3.1) consider locations for further seating. | | Implement when funding is available. | Countryside budget/revenue/friends group |
| A1.4) Maintain pathways to an acceptable standard | A1.4.1) Carry out path repairs such as clearing detritus and filling in potholes as necessary | Ongoing – FoTP clear the woodland paths throughout the year. Glendale to strim path edges | Ad-hoc basis/Ongoing | Friends Group/ Contractors |
| **Healthy, Safe and Secure**<br>• Work towards keeping risk as low as is reasonably possible for all users of the community park | | | | |
| A2.1) Seek to reduce and control antisocial behaviour, litter and fly-tipping, particularly in the RIGs area. | A2.1.1) Engage and involve local communities e.g. schools and Police/PCSO's NSC Community Response Officer | Community Response Officer carries out regular patrols and liaises with the police. | Ongoing | Friends Group/NSC Officers |
| | A2.1.2) Incorporate literature around the history into new signage produced | | Implement when funding available | Friends group/Officer time |
| | A2.1.3) Continue litter Picking | FoTP regular attendance. Glendale tasked with litter picking 'hot spots' | On going | Friends Group/contractors |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | A2.1.4) Develop and produce a strategy for dealing with antisocial behaviour and litter – look at possible Community Protection notices | | On going | Officer time |
| A2.2) Keep risk of harm from trees to a minimum | A2.2.1) Implement risk management process following NSC's Tree Risk Management Policy | Site walk-over was carried out by Tree Officer in 2015 | 2015, 2019, then continuing every 4 years | Tree Section |
| A2.3) Risks from Quarry/rock face are controlled | A2.3.1) Continue quarry risk management monitoring programme and carry out remedial works where the risks are deemed unacceptable | Date of inspection to be logged and justification of actions to be recorded | Annually, ongoing | Countryside budget |
| A2.4) Maintain play equipment in safe condition | A2.4.1) Rangers to continue weekly monitoring. | Date of inspection to be logged (see appendix 7 for inspection form extract) | Weekly, ongoing | Officer time |
| **Clean and Well Maintained**<br>• To maintain high standards of management, cleanliness and site maintenance | | | | |
| A3.1) Maintain standards of amenity grass cutting | A3.1.1) Grounds Maintenance (GM) to continue grass cutting (See section 3.9 for details) | Grass is cut to meet Grounds Maintenance (GM) contract performance standards | Ongoing | Contractors |
| A3.2) Maintain hedge cutting | A3.2.1) continue to ensure | Hedges are cut to | Annual cut | Friends |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | hedges are cut when required – no briars are blocking pathways. Any hedges cut by the GM contract to meet contract standards. | meet GM contract standards | | group/contractors |
| A3.3) Maintain sites free of litter and dog fouling | A3.3.1) GM to continue litter picking before grass cutting<br><br>A3.3.2) Friends group to continue litter picking on a regular basis<br><br>A3.3.3) ensure all dog and litter bins are emptied<br><br>A3.3.4) frequent litter picks to be carried out around the camps and bike ramps | <br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>Glendale have been tasked with this when clearing bins | Ongoing<br><br>Ongoing<br><br>3x a week<br><br>Ongoing | Contractors<br><br>Friends Group<br><br>Contractors<br><br>Friends Group/contractors |
| A3.4) Maintain scrub boundaries appropriately so that there is minimal encroachment on footpaths or important habitats | A3.4.1) Control bramble where necessary in consultation with Friends group | Bramble does not encroach footpaths or important habitats | Annually | Friends Group/ contractors |
| **Sustainability**<br>• Adopt environmental management principles to reduce the impact of management operations on the environment<br>• Explore other ways of managing amenity grass and work with landowners who are interested in managing their land for food production wildlife | | | | |
| A4.1) Investigate sustainable | A4.1.1) Investigate feasibility | | On going | Friends |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| options for dealing with grass cuttings left after a meadow cut. | of grass composting on site, rather than transporting away from.<br><br>A4.1.2) Consider restrictions to proposed areas such as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ's). This may involve consulting with Natural England. | | On going | Group/Officer Time<br><br>Officer Time |
| A4.2) Reduce/restrict the use of chemicals in Trendlewood Park | A4.2.1) continue to implement weed killer protocol | Spot spraying invasive species annually | On going | Officer Time |
| A4.3) Reduce Carbon footprint of operations | A4.3.1) Reduce the frequency of grass cutting and manage further areas via a hay cut (See also A5.1). (See Appendix 6 for map) | To discuss further areas each winter committee meeting | Implement when funding available | Friends group/officer time |
| A4.4) Maintain presence of fruit bearing trees, so that communities can become more self sufficient | A4.4.1) ensure young trees are appropriately cared for<br><br>A4.4.2) Engage and encourage the community/householders e.g by donating fruit trees and whips | | On going<br><br>On going | Approach Forest of Avon Trust/ Nailsea Transitions/ Friends of Nowhere Wood |
| **Conservation:**<br>• To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the site<br>• To maintain the important geology of the site in positive condition | | | | |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| A5.1) manage tall grass areas in Trendlewood Way | A5.1.1) maintain current areas of Tall grass.<br><br>A5.1.2) continue to plant Yellow Rattle in hay cut areas where possible to encourage colonisation to reduce the amount of grass that goes into composting<br><br>A5.1.3) create a diversity of grass lengths to provide a more varied habitat for species | | Annually<br><br>Annually<br><br>Ongoing | Friends group<br><br>Friends Group |
| A5.2) Increase connectivity of tall grass areas | A5.2.1) Review additional tall grass areas dependant on funding and resources | | Implement when funding available | Friends Group/Officer time |
| A5.3) Increase the length and connectivity of native hedges on and outside of the immediate site, to benefit wildlife by increasing opportunities for dispersal | A5.3.1) Introduce native species whips along bare fence line in compartment 6 and 5<br><br>A5.3.2) Map and plan connectivity between hedges on Trendlewood Park site and the immediate area.<br><br>A5.3.3) Plant up gaps identified in the hedgerows, | Whips were planted in 2015/6 along compartment 6 and 4 – further areas to be discussed winter 2016<br><br>Whips were planted in 2015/6 along | Implement when funding available<br><br>Ongoing | Friends group/countryside budgets<br><br>Officer Time<br><br>Friends group/countryside budget |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | subject to resources | compartment 6 and 4 – further areas to be discussed winter 2016 | Ongoing | Friends group |
| | A5.3.4) Engage the community/householders by providing whips and training/information on hedge management and planting | . | Ongoing | Friends Group/officer time |
| | A5.3.5) Work with neighbours to ensure boundary hedges are maintained and no unauthorised cutting is taking place. | Letter to be sent to neighbours 2016 | | |
| A5.4) Maintain hedgerows to grow tall and thick to benefit wildlife. Bramble management in hedges should strike a balance between maintaining the ecological value of the bramble, and controlling its rigorous growth which could swamp the hedge | A5.4.1) continue to keep hedges/scrub out of the Grounds Maintenance (GM) contract to act as 'refuge' areas for wildlife. | | Annually | Friends Group/Officer Time |
| | A5.4.2) Investigate any hedges that are flailed being moved to a two year rotation to allow hedges to flower and fruit | | On going | Officer Time |
| | A5.4.3) Prune hedges not included in the GM contract in | | Annually | Friends group/contractors |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | the winter as and when required.<br><br>A5.4.4) Plant native species at the hedge base in targeted areas, if they do not develop by natural regeneration | | Annually | Friends Group/countryside budget |
| A5.5) Increase wildlife value of tall grass areas | A5.5.1) continue to carry out native wildflower planting (local provenance) in meadows and tall grass areas, especially if new areas are added.<br><br>A5.5.2) Investigate areas that can be managed for seed production to benefit seed eating birds | Seeds were provided by NSC 2016 and an extra 1m strip was added to the boarder on the community orchard | Annually<br><br>Ongoing | Friends Group.<br><br>Officer time/friends group |
| A5.6) Increase structural diversity by native tree planting in suitable areas of grass compartments | A5.6.1) Investigate possible restoration of wet woodland (which is an LBAP priority habitat) in compartment 4 and 5 | | Implement when finding available | Tree Section |
| A5.7) Work towards establishing<br>a healthy, mixed aged woodland | A5.7.1) Develop a broad, long term (25-50 year) Woodland Strategy<br><br>A5.7.2) Investigate areas for the creation of a glade to | <br><br>Laurel was removed from quarry face | Implement when funding available<br><br>Implement when funding | Tree Section<br><br>Tree Section |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | increase habitat diversity e.g. near RIGs site, or around the bike ramp area. | winter 2015/6, will aid towards this | available | |
| | A5.7.3) Carry out windthrow risk assessment | | Implements when funding available | Tree Section |
| | A5.7.4) Implement tree felling and/ or thinning in consultation with the Tree Section | Site walk around planned for autumn 2016 | Implement when funding available | Tree section/Friends group |
| | A5.7.5) Continue tree thinning and Hazel Coppicing (to the North of Nowhere Lane near houses 33 and 34). Aim to maintain rotation at 8 years so that nuts can be produced. Coppicing should be staggered so that stand 1 and 2 are not all cut at the same time. | FoTP arranged coppicing of some hazel stems winter 2015/6. Consent to fell lasts 2 years. | Stand 1 and 2 were last coppiced in 2008. Next coppice in 2016 | Friends Group |
| | A5.7.6) Carry out a programme of coppicing on Sycamore and Ash saplings | FoTP gained a grant from Nailsea Town council to thin some ash trees within the woodland | Implement after thinning has occurred . | Friends group |
| | A5.7.7) Designate areas for replanting or to be left for | | Implement when funding available | Officer time |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | natural regeneration<br><br>A5.7.8) Commence replanting if required<br><br>A5.7.9) Leave standing dead wood where possible | | Implement when funding available<br><br>ongoing | |
| A5.8) Encourage a more diverse ground flora in woodland | A5.8.1) see A5.7.2-A5.7.7<br><br>A5.8.2) Put up signs asking cyclists to keep to the pathways so that damage to ground flora (such as blue bells and primroses) is kept to a minimum. | | Ongoing<br><br>Implement when funding available | Officer time |
| A5.9) Maintain soil in a stable condition | A5.9.1) Take suitable measures to control/reduce soil erosion during management works in the woodland | | Ongoing | Tree section/contractors |
| A5.10) Investigate Improving the condition of the Woodland pond for frogs, toads and newts | A5.10.1) Opportunities to be discussed and agreed on with Friends group. This may include making a small part of the Woodland pond permanent or considering suitable alternative locations for a wetland area or permanent pond e.g. Area in | | Implement when funding available | Friends Group/ Officer time |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Compartment 2 (see Appendix 10a/b) | | | |
| A5.11) Control invasive species in the Woodland | A5.11.1) Continue hand pulling on a regular basis.<br><br>A5.11.2) Develop and implement a strategy for controlling Invasive species<br><br>A5.11.3) Carry out a survey of blue bells to determine whether they are English or Spanish and manage appropriately.<br><br>Also see A5.7.6 | Large area of Laurel was removed from quarry face winter 2015/6 – look to carry out more works when possible | Ongoing<br><br>Implement when funding available<br><br>Ongoing | Friends Group<br><br>Tree Section/Officer Time<br><br>Officer Time |
| A5.12) Undertake/update species surveys to inform subsequent management | A5.12.1) Carry out fauna surveys e.g. bat, bird and butterfly<br><br>A5.12.2) Carry out flora surveys (including trees) | | Annually where possible<br><br>Annually where possible | Avon Bat Group/ Volunteers/ Ecologist |
| A6.1) Control/remove scrub encroachment on the RIGS in order to enhance its condition | A6.1.1) Carry out stability checks on the rock face to identify suitable areas for scrub removal<br><br>A6.1.2) consider carrying out further bat survey for roosting | Act on any recommendations | Annually<br><br>As required | Hydrock/budgets<br><br>Avon Bat Group |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | bats in the rock face prior to any works<br><br>A6.1.3) Contractor to clear scrub on RIGS in areas deemed appropriate (following consultation with RIGS group). Work may have to stop if bats are found. | | Implement when funding available | Seek funding |
| A6.2) Discourage vandalism to the RIGS in order to enhance its condition | A6.2.1) Remove existing graffiti from the RIGs site<br><br>A6.2.2) Develop a process for removing graffiti in difficult to reach areas that will not be covered by the standard graffiti removal contract.<br><br>A6.2.3) Work with Police/PCSO's/Community Response Officers to patrol areas<br><br>A6.2.4) Liaise with Friends group to produce draft sign wording and collate photos for an interpretation sign in the 'camp' area | Community Response Officer patrolling the area | Ongoing<br><br>Implement when funding available<br><br>Ongoing<br><br>Implement when funding available | Officer Time/countryside budgets<br><br>Officer time<br><br>Officer time/friends group |
| **Heritage** | | | | |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Maintain and/or enhance the site's industrial archaeology<br>• Maintain the strategic significance of the community park in the Green Infrastructure Strategy | | | | |
| A7.1) Carry out archaeological survey of the Woodland and other areas if required. | A7.1.1) Address Issues raised | | | Officer Time/ Volunteers |
| **Community Involvement**<br>• To recognise and encourage further community involvement in the woodland and community park through consultation, events and activities | | | | |
| A8.1) Investigate and commence possible new community projects for Trendlewood Way | A8.1.1) Investigate the creation of a wetland/bog area or a permanent pond in compartment 2 in the naturally water logged area next to the Willow tree (See Appendix 10a and 10b)<br><br>A8.1.2) Identify further community projects in consultation with Friends group<br><br>A8.1.3) continue to liaise with local school and groups to arrange further activities | | implement when funding secured<br><br>Implement when funding secured<br><br>On going | Tree section budget/ Nailsea Transitions Group/Friends Group/Ranger/ Volunteers<br><br>Officer time/Friends group<br><br>Officer time/friends group |
| **Marketing**<br>• To actively promote the community park to all potential users | | | | |
| A9.1) Raise awareness of the community park and promote volunteering opportunities with | A9.1.1) continue to raise awareness through events, promotional literature and | Fiends group produce a monthly newsletter which is | Ongoing | Officer time/Friends Group |

| Objectives | Actions | Measure | Timetable | Resources *(staff/capital/ revenue)* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| the Friends group | Council's website/Friends Group web site/circulations | circulated to members. Volunteer dates to be advertised with NSC publications | | |
| | A9.1.2) Carry out resident's survey | | 2016-2020 | Officer Time/friends group |
| | A9.1.3) Keep local Parish Council aware of site developments | Parish Councillors attend committee meetings | Ongoing | Officer time/Friends Group |
| | A9.1.4) Work with community groups | | Ongoing | Friends Group/Officer time |
| **Management**<br>• To provide a responsive, flexible and high quality management service | | | | |
| A10.1) Volunteer activities to be tied into specific priorities/aims of the management plan. | A10.1.1) Arrange planning meeting at the beginning of each works season to agree on specific work schedule for each compartment | To be timetabled in winter meeting | Ongoing | Friends group/officer time |
| A10.2) continue to have management committee meetings with relevant stake holder to oversee the management plan and make management decisions with the relevant officers | A10.2.1) Consult relevant groups and individuals (see appendix 9) | | Ongoing | Officer Time |

# 6.0 FINANCE

## 6.1 Existing expenditure

Trendlewood is maintained through the Councils £2.1m Parks & Streetscene Contract.

The Parks & Streetscene Contract is a resource based contract and the core services that it provides are street cleansing, litter removal and litter bin emptying, tree management and grounds maintenance.

As this is a resource based contract and not a bill of quantity contract it is difficult to quantify a cost to this site and individual jobs. However we can confirm what maintenance activities take place which are follows:

* Litter picks and litter bin emptying three time a week
* Grass cutting and strimming on a 10 working day cycles.
* Once per annum hedge cutting
* Tree maintenance when required.

The Council also has a social enterprise contract with Somerset Wood Recycling who provide the Council with a Green Team. This team provide additional grounds maintenance at Trendlewood as and when required and provides support to the existing volunteer groups when requested.

# 7.0 MONITORING AND REVIEW

The management plan sets out a clear and detailed 5 year action plan, and outlines a number of aspirations.

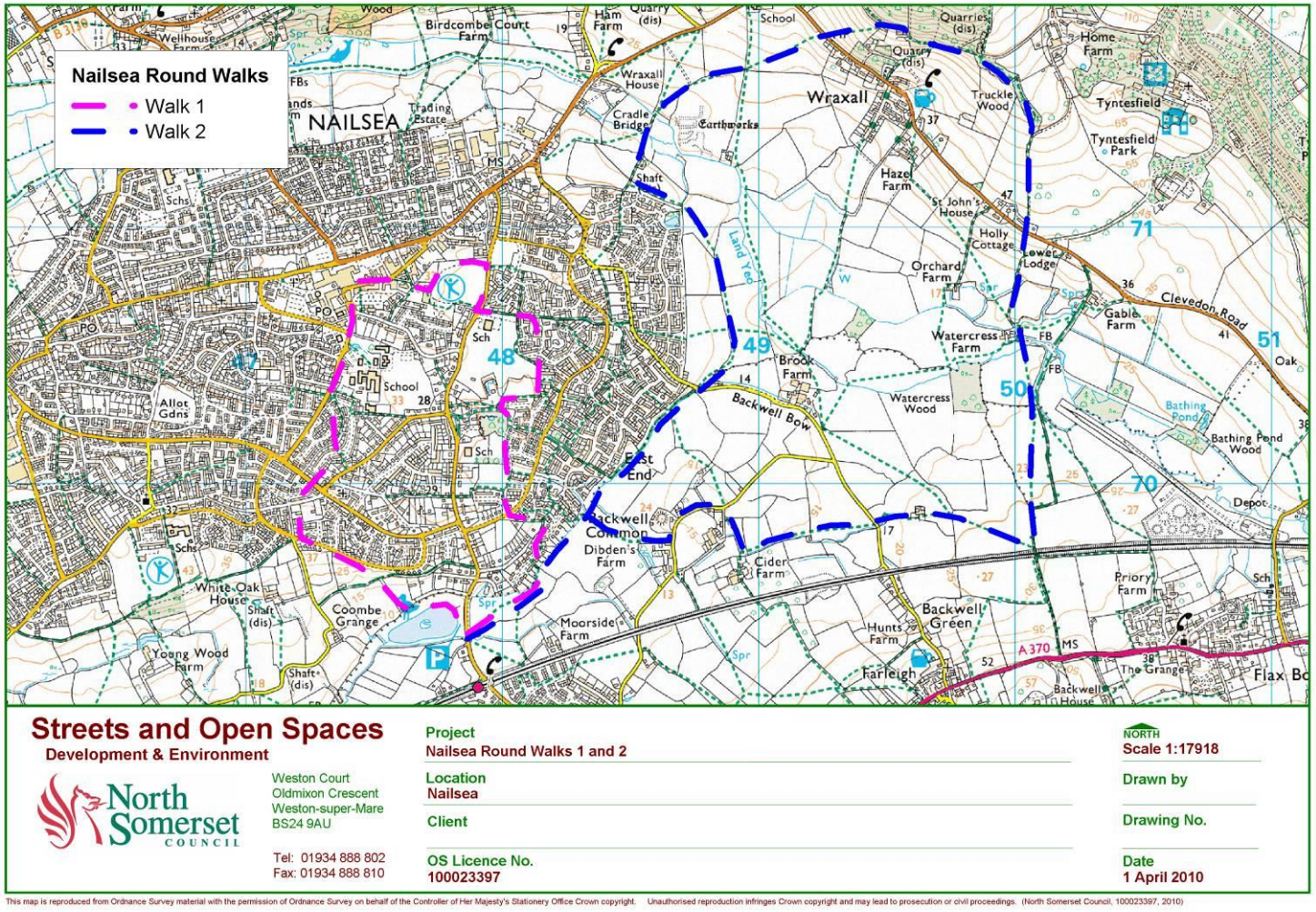
It is our intention that the action plan will form an integral part of the responsible officers overall annual work plan and targets, which will be reviewed on an ongoing basis through one to one meetings with managers and the more formal performance review process.

The action plan will also be reviewed by the management committee quarterly, and progress monitored. This will be used to inform the action plan for the following year, and if appropriate, make minor changes to the overall management plan.

The management plan will be subject to a major review every 5 years, when it will be re-drafted and subject to consultation to develop a plan for the following 5 years.

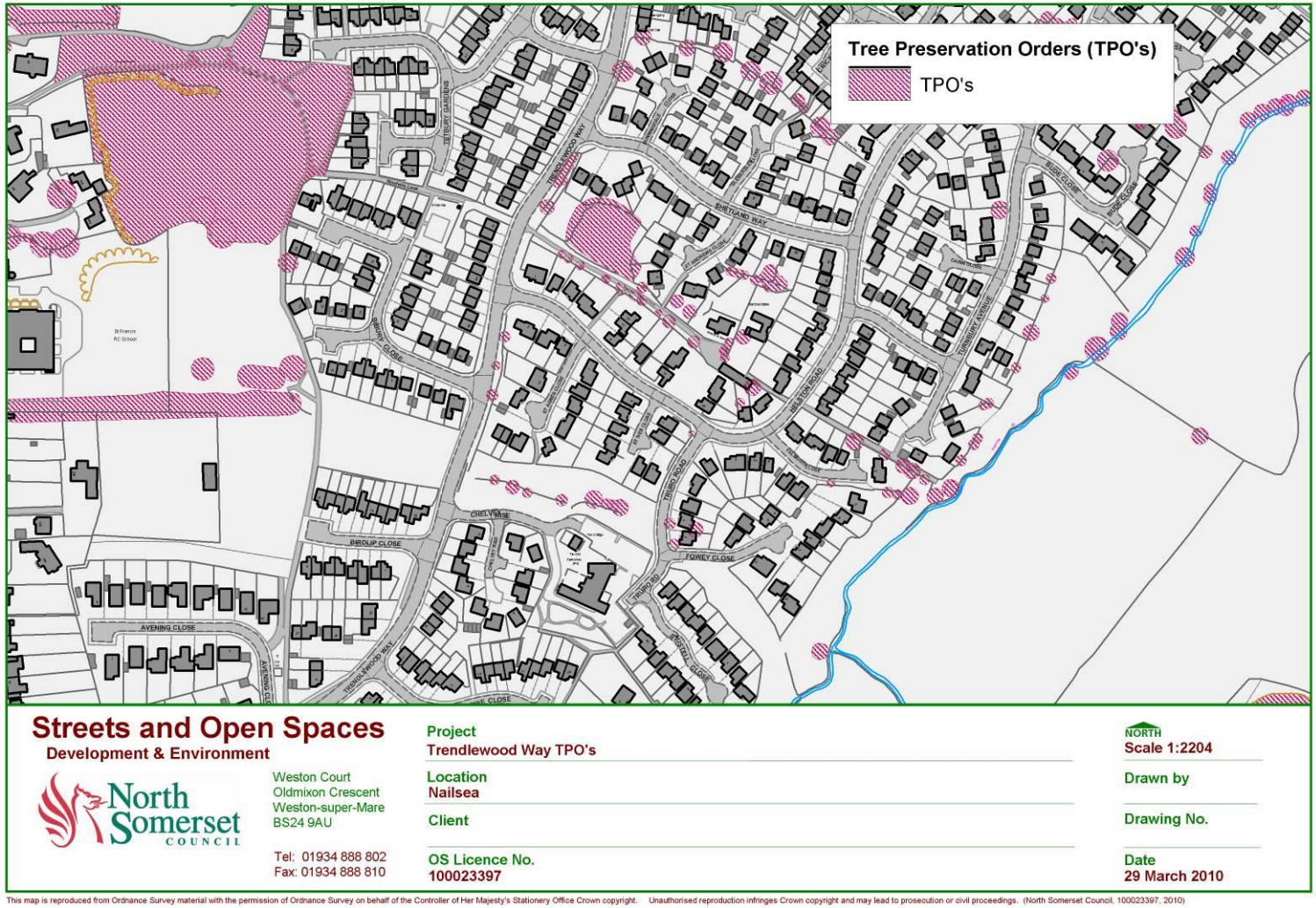
# Appendix 1: Nailsea Round Walks 1 and 2

This map illustrates the routes of the 'Nailsea Round Walks' which run through Trendlewood Way Community Park. These follow existing Public Rights of Way and walkers are guided along the routes by Waymarkers. There are 6 round walks in Nailsea.




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# Appendix 2: Tree Preservation Orders



## Appendix 3: 2015 Tree Risk Assessment Site Walk Over, planned works

| | |
|---|---|
| **Park/Open space:** | **Trendlewood Way** |
| **Survey date:** | **20/08/2015** |
| **Surveyor:** | **Jason Cox** |

| Survey group | Survey Tree | Species | Height | Stem Diameter (mm) estimated | Work spec | QTRA Risk Index | Power Cables Y/N | Date Work Completed | Certified completed (Initials) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G1 | **T1** | Maple | 11 | 400 | Fell Dead | **10** | **N** | | |
| G1 | **T2** | Lime | 16 | 450+ | Monolith to 6m | **10** | **N** | | |
| G1 | **T3** | Oak x3 | 16 | 450+ | Remove dead wood larger than 50mm | **5** | **N** | | |
| G1 | **T4** | Oak Dead | 12 | 450+ | Reduce by 6m | **4** | **N** | | |
| G1 | **T5** | Oak | 14 | 450 | Remove large dead limb over path | **5** | **N** | | |
| G1 | **T6** | Ash x2 | 16 | 450+ | Remove 2x dead limbs on each tree over driveway entrance | **5** | **N** | | |
| G1 | **T7** | Maple | 10 | 400 | Remove dead wood larger than 25mm | **5** | **N** | | |

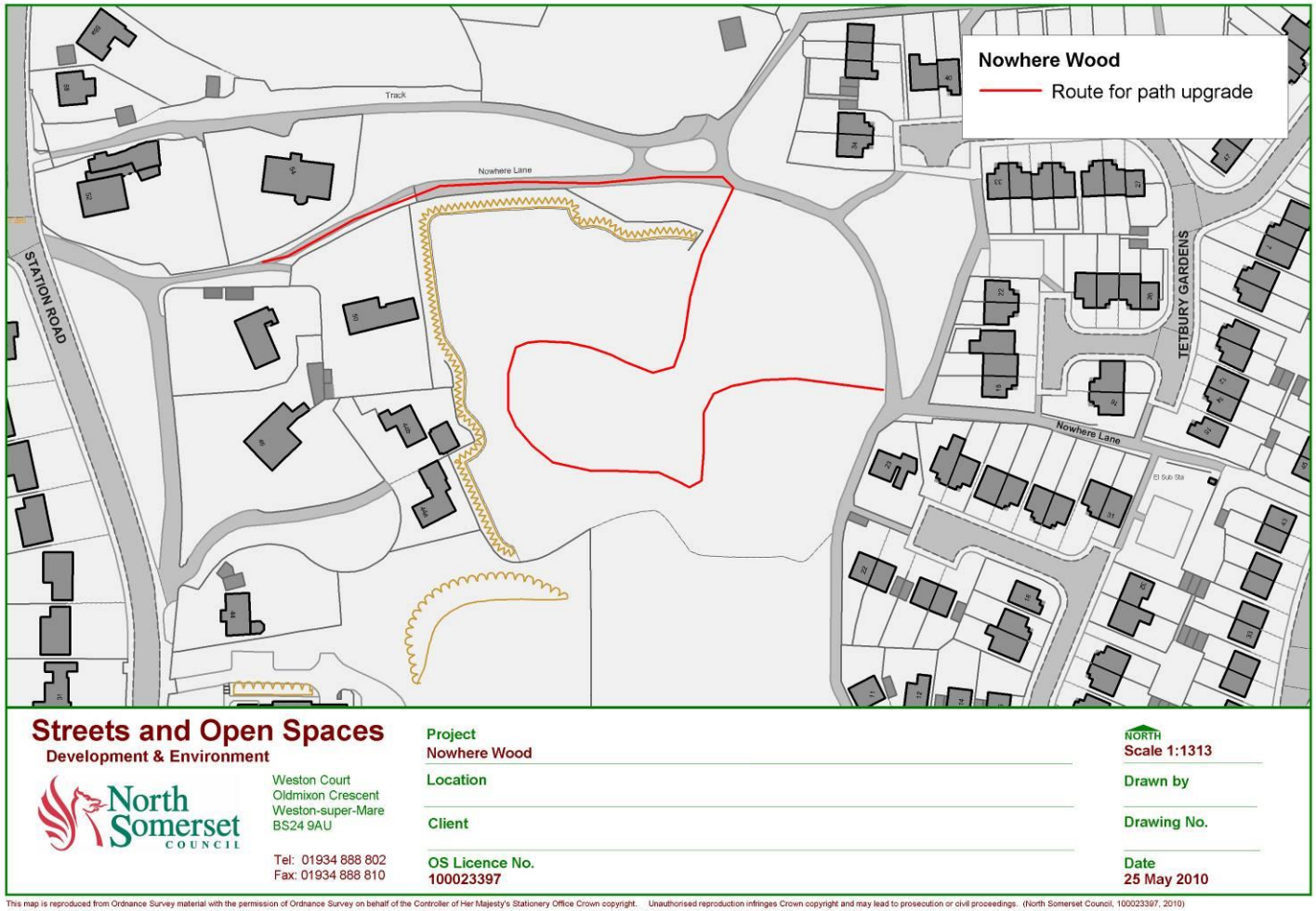
| Park/Open space: | Trendlewood Way |
|---|---|
| Survey date: | 8/20/2015 |
| Surveyor: | Jason Cox |

| Survey group | Survey Tree | Species | Height | Stem Diameter (mm) estimated | Work spec | QTRA Risk Index | Power Cables Y/N | Date Work Completed | Certified completed (Initials) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G1 | **T1** | Maple | 11 | 400 | Fell Dead | **10** | **N** | 2/9/15 | |
| G1 | **T2** | Lime | 16 | 450+ | Monolith to 6m | **10** | **N** | 3/9/15 | |
| G1 | **T3** | Oak x3 | 16 | 450+ | Remove dead wood larger than 50mm | **5** | **N** | 7/9/15 | |
| G1 | **T4** | Oak Dead | 12 | 450+ | Reduce by 6m | **4** | **N** | 8/9/15 | |
| G1 | **T5** | Oak | 14 | 450 | Remove large dead limb over path | **5** | **N** | 22/9/15 | SO |
| G1 | **T6** | Ash x2 | 16 | 450+ | Remove 2x dead limbs on each tree over driveway entrance | **5** | **N** | 22/9/15 | SO |
| G1 | **T7** | Maple | 10 | 400 | Remove dead wood larger than 25mm | **5** | **N** | 9/9/15 | |



## Appendix 4: Upgraded route (Access for All Path) through Nowhere Wood

The upgraded path follows the existing informal muddy path that runs through the Wood.



# Appendix 5: Grounds Maintenance Contract and Tree Management

## Grounds Maintenance Tasks

The text below has been taken directly from the Grounds Maintenance contract. It is possible that this list of tasks and outputs will alter when the new contract is re-let.

<table>
<tr><th>Task</th><th>Output</th></tr>
<tr><td>Amenity grass mowing</td><td>
<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">Grass Cutting Performance Standards:</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Minimum Height</td><td>Maximum Height</td></tr>
<tr><td>March to October inclusive</td><td>15 mm</td><td>35 mm</td></tr>
<tr><td>November to February inclusive</td><td>15 mm</td><td>50 mm</td></tr>
</table>
Associated Requirements:<br>
• Half Moon Edging<br>
• For information over the last 2 seasons it is anticipated that this specification equates to a minimum of 14 cuts per annum.<br><br>
All areas in this category as indicated by the Supervising Officer shall be cut with an approved type of cylinder or rotary mower, either pedestrian controlled, ride on type or tractor mounted. There shall be no requirement for cuttings to be collected.
</td></tr>
<tr><td>Hedge Cutting</td><td>Annual cut on one side by flailing. Not every section of hedge on the site is maintained.<br><br>On hedges cut the existing heights and widths of the hedges shall be maintained unless otherwise agreed by the Supervising Officer. Regular cutting will remove all growth back to the point of the previous cut, unless otherwise agreed with the Supervising Officer.</td></tr>
</table>

| | |
|---|---|
| | In conjunction with the Supervising Officer, the Contractor shall develop an annual programme of hedge cutting operations taking into account the necessity for operations to be undertaken both once and twice per annum dependent upon the location of the hedge. Once agreed this annual programme shall be adhered to by the Contractor.<br><br>The Contractor shall clear the hedge base of all leaves, litter and debris once per year during January to February. All Bramble stem and roots should also be removed at this time.<br><br>Informal hedges shall be cut once during the winter period or as agreed with the Supervising Officer. These tend to be hedges of mixed plant species although some single specie hedges are located throughout the District. Certain natural hedges shall require cutting back from the highway or footpath from time-to-time as instructed by the Supervising Officer.<br>The Contractor shall, when undertaking this work use secateurs, loppers and pruning saws. After completion of the work the hedge shall give an appearance of being completely natural having a 'soft' outline. Squaring up of the sides or top will not be permitted. |
| Litter Picking | All litter and debris on areas to be mown shall be removed immediately prior to mowing. Any shredded as a result of the mowing operation, shall be removed as part of the same operation before machinery and equipment leaves the site. Removal by manual, mechanical or vacuum sweeping all litter, detritus, rubbish, tree debris, weeds, animal fouling and other deposited or abandoned material. All areas will be free of the above materials immediately after completion and achieve a standard that meets Environmental Protection Act Grade A. |
| Bin Emptying | Two bins are emptied three times a week<br>The Contractor should empty litter bins as per the schedule.<br>The Contractor shall ensure that any litter in the area surrounding the receptacle (i.e. within approximately 2 metre radius) shall be cleared at the same time as the bin is emptied. |

## Tree Management

Work is carried out on the instruction of one of the Council's Tree Officers, or by another officer with out of hours authority. The work is carried out by external contractors (Glendale Services Ltd), who provide 24 hour emergency service. The tree works contract ends in March 2020. In some instances, it may be more resource-efficient to instruct another fully trained and insured contractor to carry out specified work.

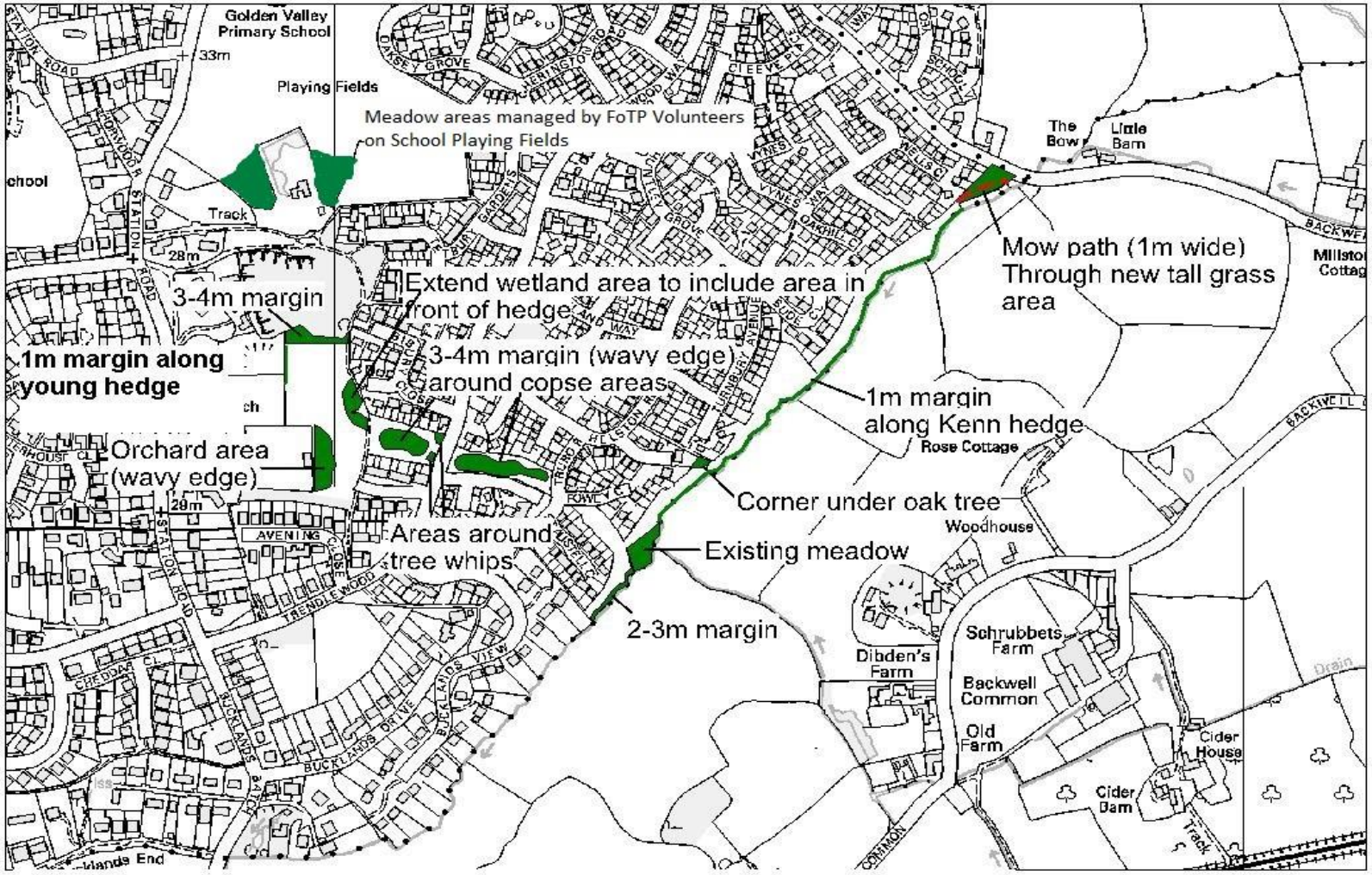
Tasks include the full range of arboricultural operations, including felling, crown pruning, limb removal, removal of deadwood, climbing inspections, and planting and young tree maintenance.

The Council's Tree Risk Management Plan will be applied to the site to ensure that the council's duty of care is met in a reasonable way. This will be achieved through regular surveys to identify unacceptable hazards, with follow-up remedial tree work to remove the hazards or to reduce them to an acceptable level. Common tasks will include the removal of significant deadwood over footpaths, of the removal of trees at high risk of failure. Tree work to reduce the likelihood of legal claims will also be considered.

Risk management will be balanced against the ecological value of features such as deadwood and cavities, and with the aesthetic, ecological and social benefits that trees bring.

## Appendix 6: Current areas of tall grass meadows

Total area of tall grass managed as a meadow cut, approximately 15% of grassland compartments. Compartment 7 (playing fields) are not part of the management of Trendlewood Park, but are managed by its Friends Group.



# Appendix 7: Extract from Rangers weekly play area inspection form

North Somerset Council

## Play Areas Weekly Inspection and Maintenance

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Site name and number | **Nailsea - Trendlewood** **21** | Inspector | Chris Field |
| Date of inspection | 7.11.11 | Time from site | 1.00 |

| | N/L/M/H | Cleared Y/N? | Other action taken |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Litter:** | N | | |
| **Glass:** | N | | |
| **Dog Faeces:** | | | |
| **Other:** | | | |
| **Bins emptied:** | | | |

| Item: | Condition | Risk Factor (1-25) | | | Date resolved |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wicksteed 10ft Swing (2 Flat, 2 Cradle) | Satisfactory | Low | 4 | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Levercrest Multiplay Unit | Satisfactory | Low | 4 | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Russell Slide Climber | Satisfactory but at end of life | Low | 5 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Playdale Zip Wire | Satisfactory | Low | 5 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Rodeo Board | Satisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Basket Swing | Satisfactory | Low | 5 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Trim Trail | Satisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rope Nest | Satisfactory | Low | 5 | | |
| | | | | | |
| Signs | Satisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| Bins | Satisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| Self closing gate | Saisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| Dog Proof Fence | Satisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| Seating & Benches | Satisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| Safety impact surfacing | Satisfactory | Low | 2 | | |
| **Comments / Vandalism:** | | | | | |

# Appendix 8: Trendlewood Park Volunteer Work Programme

| DATE | AREA | TASK | CONTRACTOR/ VOLUNTEER | COMPLETEIO N DATES/NOTE S |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Practical management tasks** | | | | |
| October-November | Compartments 2-7 | Scything and raking grass | Volunteers. Contractors may need to cut some areas, and volunteers can rake. | |
| October - February | Compartment 4 and 6 | Hedge planting | Volunteers | |
| September-October | Assess appropriate areas and record | Plant hedge base seed mix | Volunteers | |
| September - January | Compartments 2-6 | Wildflower planting in tall grass meadows | Volunteers | |
| November - January | As required | Hedge pruning | Volunteers | |
| Mid November - Mid January | Whole site. Assessment needed | Scrub management | Volunteers | |
| October - February | Compartment 1 | Hand pulling invasive species | Volunteers | |
| November-January | Compartment 1 Areas to be agreed. | Coppice sycamore and ash saplings | Volunteers | |
| Ongoing | Compartment 4 | Clearing between tree whips | Volunteers | |
| Ongoing | Whole site | Litter picking | Volunteers | |
| **Surveys** | | | | |
| Once a month | Whole site (excluding compartment 7) | Site inspections | Volunteers | |
| Summer | Whole site | Bat, bird, butterfly and botanical surveys | Volunteers. | |
| 2012 | Compartment 1 | Archaeological survey of woodland and grassland areas. | Vince Russet/NEAT | |
| April-October | Compartment 6 | Dormice surveys | Volunteers | |
| October-February | Compartment 1 | Check bird and bat boxes | Keith and Linda Hall (Specialised nest boxes) | |
| May-June 2012 | Compartment 1 | Carry out blue bell survey to determine if English, Spanish or hybrid. | May require specialist | |

# Appendix 9: Management Committee

It is proposed that a management committee is formed to oversee the ongoing management of Trendlewood Community Park.

**The purpose of the management committee is to work towards:**

- Ensuring the vision and specific policies of the management plan are followed
- Improving, conserving, supporting and protecting Trendlewood Community Park for the enjoyment of all visitors
- Overseeing all projects designed to enhance the site and its facilities, for example, grant-aided restoration projects, maintenance tasks and visitor enjoyment.

Over the last 16 years the Friends of Community Park have worked to maintain the Woodland in good condition for wildlife and the enjoyment of residents and visitors.

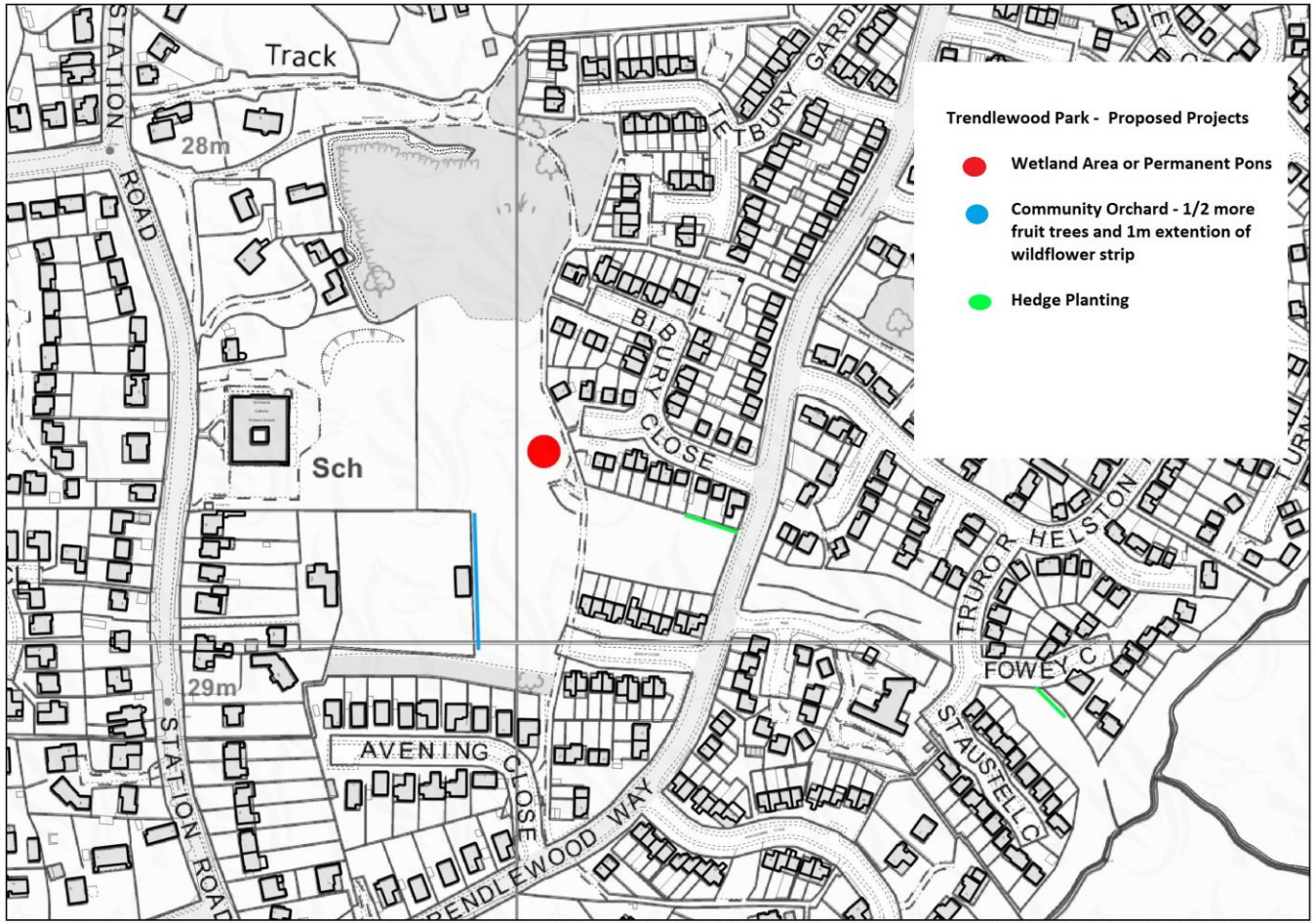
It is therefore proposed that the Friends of Nowhere Wood nominate representatives to sit on the management committee. The Committee will sit twice yearly and meetings will be held locally.

The management committee shall consist of:
- North Somerset Council Ward Councillor (Chair)
- Two representatives from Friends of Nowhere Wood
- Two representatives from Nailsea Town Council
- North Somerset Council Officers

## Appendix 10a: Areas used/to be used for planting and other projects

Community Orchard has previously been planted with apple trees. Other food producing trees have also been planted, for example pear trees of hazel trees.

Some areas of hedge planting to be considered and possible location of wetland area.




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## Appendix 10b: Possible area for creation of a wetland or permanent pond

This area in compartment 2 (shown in pink in above map – appendix 2a) becomes water logged during wet periods. It may be suitable for the creation of a wetland area, or even a permanent pond.



**Photo: Andrew Town**

# Appendix 11: Risk assessment forms

| **WORK ACTIVITIES FOR:**<br>**Visitors to Trendlewood** | **DIRECTORATE:**<br>Development & Environment |
|---|---|

| **Name of Assessor** | |
|---|---|
| **Date** | |

**Activities Identified:**
Trendlewood Community Park is a popular place with local people and visitors to the area for recreation, relaxation and the walking of dogs.

**Associated Hazards:**

1. Steep quarry in woodland
2. Falling rock from quarry face
3. Dog fouling
4. Paths
5. Trees

**People at risk:**
Visitors to the hill, contractors.

**Existing Control measures:** (eg. Safe Methods of Work, Training/Information/Instructions, NSC guidance/best practice, PPE etc)

1. The quarry edge is fenced and is checked on a regular basis
2. An annual assessment of the rock face is carried out by Hydrock
3. Dog bins are provided at the main entrances to the site. Friends group walk the site on a regular basis and chat to dog walkers who use the site.
4. Paths are checked regularly for trip hazards by volunteers and NSC officer. Where access
5. A 4-yearly inspection of trees is undertaken. Most recent inspection was carried out in 2015.

**Action Required:**
1. Regular checks to ensure fencing is secure
2. Regular checks
3. Periodic publicity as to hazard
4. Regular checks of paths and desire lines/main access routes. Deal with as necessary.
5. Any trees found needing attention are dealt with as appropriate.

***Written Procedure Completed? YES / NO***

# Example volunteer risk assessment
# (Volunteers have approved risk assessments for all tasks they carry out)

**SITE RISK ASSESSMENT**

**VENUE: Trendlewood Way Community Park including two meadows on Nailsea School playing fields**

**ASSESSMENT DATE: 30.8.11**
**COMPLETED BY: Pat Gilbert & Clive Bradshaw**

**PROPOSED ACTIVITY / ENVIRONMENT: Litter picking**

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:**
**DATE:**

| **Hazards**<br><br>*List significant hazards that may result in serious harm or affect people in the party.* | **Risk**<br><br>*Indicate the level of risk involved* | **Who might be harmed?** *List groups of people who are especially at risk from the hazards identified*. | **Is the risk adequately controlled?**<br><br>*List existing controls or note where information may be found. (e.g. information, instruction training, systems or procedures)* | **What further actions are needed to control the risk?** *List the risks that are not adequately controlled and propose actions that are needed to reduce or eliminate the risks.* | **Tick if these actions are in place** | **Out-come** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Slips/trips/ falls**<br><br>**Sharp objects at eye level**<br><br>**Lifting of weights/ bending/stretching** | Low | Friends of Trendlewood Park volunteers | - volunteers not to work alone<br>- volunteers to carry mobile phone to contact emergency services in the event of incident / injury<br>- new volunteers to be given guided tour of wood and environs, pointing out hazards prior to start of first litter picking session<br>- volunteers to wear suitable protective clothing & safe footwear<br>- volunteers to be advised of safe working practices prior to work session<br>- volunteers to carry First Aid kit during work session. Ensure First Aid materials are replaced if used | | | |
| **Dogs and dog fouling** | Moderate | Friends of Trendlewood Park volunteers | - avoid confrontation with aggressive dogs<br>- report any incidents with aggressive dogs to NSC/Police<br>- wear protective clothing/gloves & footwear<br>- use litter tongs/pickers at all times to collect bagged faeces. Never handle unbagged faeces<br>- dispose of dog faeces in designated dog bins | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Sharp objects:**<br>**-broken glass**<br>**-needles**<br>**-tin drink cans**<br><br>**Other hazardous rubbish** | Moderate | Friends of Trendlewood Park volunteers | - volunteers not to work alone<br>- volunteers to carry mobile phone to contact emergency services in the event of injury<br>- volunteers to be advised of safe working practices prior to first litterpicking rk session<br>- volunteers to use equipment provided i.e. suitable gloves/baggo + rubbish sacks<br>- use adequate grade of plastic rubbish sack to avoid glass/needles cutting bags and causing injury<br>- carry First Aid kit during work session. Ensure First Aid materials are replaced if used | | | |

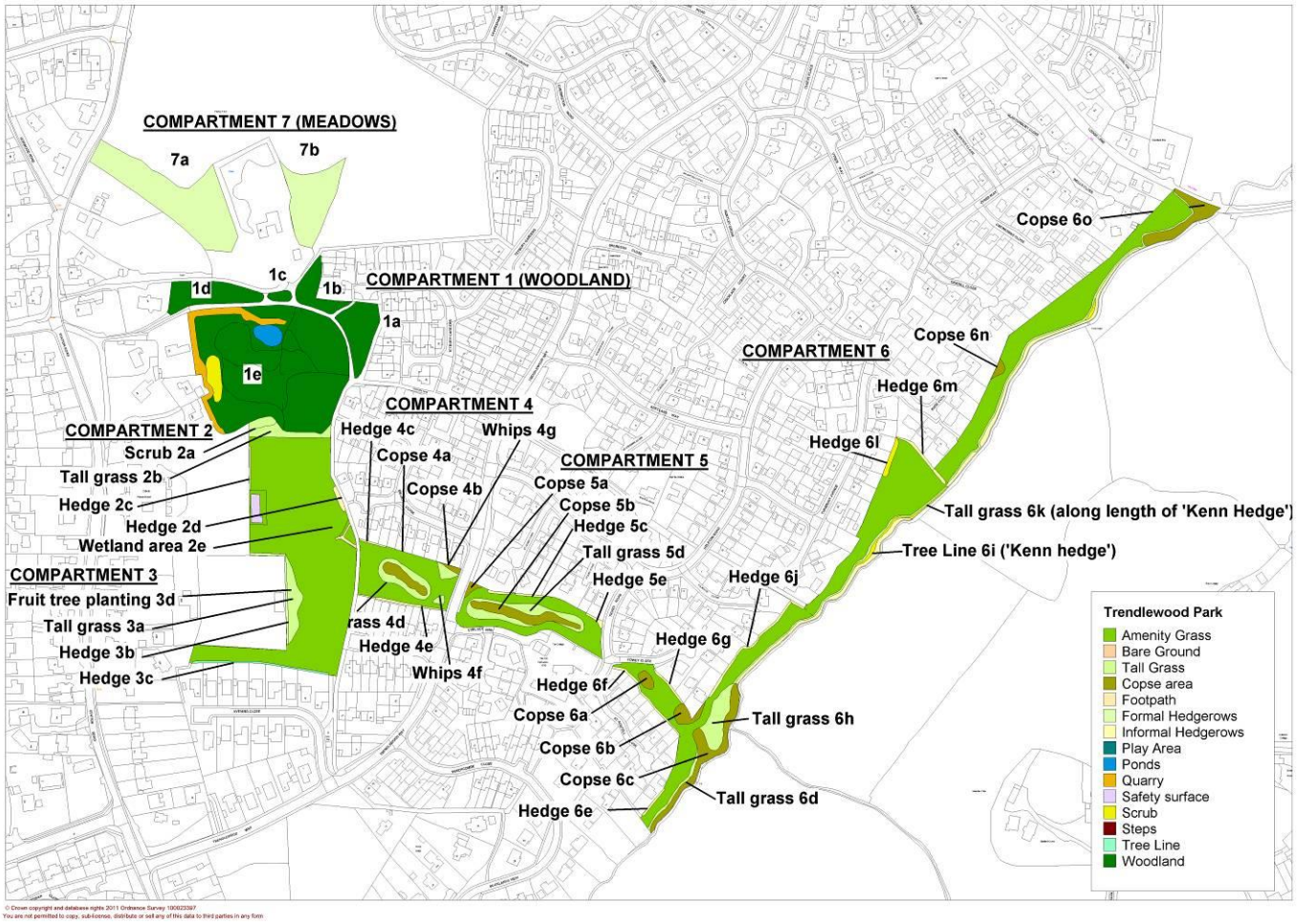
## Appendix 12: Monthly inspection record (example sheet)

# Trendlewood Park monthly inspection record

| | Date Inspected | Date Inspected | Date Inspected | Date Inspected | Date Inspected |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Quarry Fence** | | | | | |
| **'Camp area'** | | | | | |
| **Seasonal Pond** | | | | | |
| **Paths** | | | | | |
| **Benches** | | | | | |
| **Bins** | | | | | |
| **Signage** | | | | | |
| **Play area** | | | | | |
| **Miscellaneous** | | | | | |

# Appendix 13: Trendlewood park work areas

This map is used by the friends group to help ease identification of the areas they carry out work in for recording purposes.



# Appendix 14: management, maintenance, activities and events 2015/16

| Actions | Supporting image |
|---|---|
| **Wildflower strip – community orchard**<br><br>The FoTP increased the buffer strip between the tall grass in the orchard and the mown grass in compartment 4 by planting a second 1m wide wildflower strip. This provided a beautiful array of wildflowers that lasted well into the autumn. This accompanied by the tall grass had a very positive effect on pollinators such as bees and butterflies. | <br> |
| **Community events**<br><br>The FoTP was involved in a number of community days this year including national community clean up events – where a volunteers were encouraged to participate in a national litter pick in open spaces. Rainbows for wildlife, which involved wildlife related games around the park. running a stall at the Trendlewood Community Festival, which generated a profit from the sales for the first time. The money will be used by the FoTP towards seed purchases etc.<br><br>This years Wassil was also a great success with the weather holding out encouraging a large number of locals to attend. | <br> |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Bat walk**<br><br>Avon Bat Group in conjunction with FoTP carried out an evening bat walk around the park. | No pictures available |
| **Nordic Walking Group**<br><br>At the invitation of the FoTP the Nordic Walking group have set up a weekly walking event for beginners to explore the park. | No pictures available |
| **Coppicing**<br><br>The FoTP have carried out some coppicing this winter as part of the woodland management scheme. The Hazel is coppiced on an 8 year rotation within the woodland. | <br> |

**On going management**

The FoTP have successfully cut by hand with the help of Somerset Wood Recycling all the tall grass areas again this year. As well as engaging a contractor to cut the meadows by the school.

They have also planted two new trees and plugged gaps in the native hedgerows with whips.

They have also re-backfilled the steps between Kenn hedge and the neighbouring farmland.





# Appendix 15: Overview of the previous 5-year management plan

The previous management plan ran from 2011-2015 and was the first to cover Trendlewood Park and Nowhere Woods. It included the development of the Friends of Trendlewood Park volunteers, who previously only carried out management of the woods only. The group now carries out management across the whole park.

During the term of the previous management plan the FoTP, working in partnership with North Somerset Council (the freeholder for the land), have carried out a vast number of tasks to improve the management of the park for both the public and wildlife, concentrating on improving the park for long term conservation benefits.

15% of the amenity grassland is now managed as tall grass areas/meadows and are cut as a once a year hay cut. This is sustainable and more cost effective and greatly improves the conservation value of the grassland. A number of butterfly, bee and other insect species benefit from this, and this in turn benefits the bird and bat population in the area. The grass species have improved within these areas so have the number of wildflower species which is an important factor for pollinators. The tall grass areas also provide an attractive alternative from large, solely amenity cut, areas.

The FoTP are aided by the Green Team, North Somerset Councils Social Enterprise contractors, who work with volunteers from all walks of life, as well as, community pay back teams. The addition of this team has been invaluable to the continuation of the good work the Friends group carries out, and has enabled them to increase their activities in the park – including increasing the long grass areas as they aid with the hay cuts and the removal of the arising's.

Many of the hedgerows have been greatly improved by encouraging thick and tall growth for the benefit of nesting birds and acting as bat corridors and feeding grounds. These have been largely removed from the Councils regular cutting regime and are now cut ad-hoc by the volunteers.

The Friends Group is dedicated to promoting the value of Trendlewood Open Space and regularly take part in community events and organise events directly on the open space. They have an ever growing list of members who receive regular updates on progress and plans within the park. These updates encourage local residents to aid with fundraising and donations – quite often in the form of new tree saplings to be planted or wild flower plugs for the meadows. Or in the case of the local landlord, the use of the pub for meetings and storage.

Nailsea Town Council have also played an important role in the development of the management of the site, and are keen to be involved in whichever way they can. The Friends group have been the recipient of Parish grants for community groups for a number of years, allowing the volunteers to purchase equipment and plants that otherwise would not been obtainable.

The FoTP also carry out regular management work within Nowhere Woods including scrub clearance, coppicing, invasive species removal and litter picking. They also have installed bird and bat boxes, constructed wooden benches and edged pathways.

The Friends group also work with and invite a number of other community groups to take part from Transition Nailsea to Rainbow groups. A number of corporate businesses have also been involved, such as Sainsbury's who donated Whips for brownies to plant.

A number of key action points from the previous management plan have been carried out through the Friends group and NSC Officers:

**Priorities for 2011**

- **Introduce interpretation signage to help people find their way around and to encourage respect and understanding of the site – including its history and wildlife importance (using grant funding)**
- **Improve access through the wood (using grant funding)**
- Seek Local Nature Reserve (LNR) status
- **Carry out a bat survey to ascertain potential use of the quarry face as a bat roost (volunteers to survey)**
- Investigate improving the Woodland pond for breeding amphibians. Alternative location in Compartment 2 may be considered (see Appendix 2a)
- **Increase the amount of tall grass to benefit wildlife and reduce management costs**
- **Investigate areas for grass composting on site**
- **Maintain hedgerows to grow tall and thick to benefit birds and bats**
- **Remove existing graffiti from RIGS**
- Investigate areas for the creation of a Woodland glade
- **Carry out native wildflower planting in tall grass areas**
- **Investigate and commence new projects e.g. creation of a wetland or permanent pond, planting food producing trees such as apple trees (See Appendix 2a)**
- **Set up a management committee to monitor progress and to ensure volunteer activities are tied into specific aims of the management plan.**

**Priorities for the next 5 years (2011-15) (Subject to funding and community support)**

- Develop and implement a long term Woodland Strategy to ensure that a mixed aged woodland is established and maintained
- **Seek to reduce anti-social behaviour, litter and fly tipping**
- **Encourage a more diverse woodland ground flora**
- **Develop and implement a strategy for controlling Invasive species**
- Enhance the condition of the geological site in Nowhere Wood
- **Carry out tree planting to increase canopy cover, create attractive entrances to the site and benefit wildlife**
- **Improve the provision of seating**
- Create new access path through to St Francis School to provide children with a safe route for walking to school
- Enhance the wildlife value of the site by joining up areas of tall grass and hedges. Look at linking these with hedges and green spaces outside of the immediate site for a greater benefit to wildlife.
- Carry out archaeological survey in and around the Woodland

Many of the larger goals such as upgrading the access for all path and the interpretation boards were completed through grants. Small tasks have been ongoing and have been the product of funding raising or North Somerset Council budgets.

However, the NSC is now facing more measures of austerity and so providing funds for larger projects is becoming increasingly difficult and we are reliant on community group involvements and the excellent work the Friends Groups carry out. The Friends groups have unfortunately seen a decline in participation over the years and so management tasks and goals need to be realistic to the site.

Trendlewood park has greatly improved since the beginning of the previous management plan and so the next 5 year plan will focus on maintaining this work and building upon the areas that have already been improved.

The main area that was not achieved from the previous plan was a long term strategy for improving the woodland. The woodland is in decline due to a largely even age structure. However, tree works are only carried out by NSC tree team on a reactional risk based nature.

As such, whilst this has been added into the next management plan, grant options will need to be investigated. The Friends Group have already started some works by obtaining a consent to fell to coppice some Hazel – as part of the 8 year rotation – and arranging for a contractor to thin some of the young Ash trees.

NSC will be working with the FoTP to further these works where possible, including engaging with residents to build the volunteer numbers to aid with this work. The main focus will be maintaining the park for wildlife and conservation value.

# Appendix 15: management, maintenance, activities and events 2016/17