

Kings Pond Meadow

SU66701170

61-0167

Winchester City

Habitat Survey



Date of Survey:	22/05/2020
Written by:	Joel Miller
Validated by:	Sarah Callegari
Date of validation:	02/07/2020
Last reviewed by:	
Date of review:	



Survey Summary

Kings Pond Meadow 22/05/2020

Site Details

Grid Reference :	SU66701170	File Reference :	61-0167
Total Area :	2.5 ha		
Civil Parish :	Denmead		
District :	Winchester		
Vice-County :	11, South Hampshire		

Survey Details

Survey Type :	Phase II
Survey Date :	22/05/2020
Survey Time on Site :	3.5 (hrs)
Data Owned By :	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre Partnership
Data Recorded By :	Joel Miller, HBIC

Site Summary

The site is a field located on the eastern residential edge of Denmead. The field is found on gently sloped and undulating ground. There is a clay, silt, sand and gravel bedrock. It is directly adjacent to the larger Soake Farm Meadow SINC to the south. The titular Kings Pond lies at the northern end of the site, mostly outside the boundary. A connecting watercourse runs south through the field from this pond.

Site Designations

Designation

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Features

<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
Geology	Reading Beds
Geology	Upper Chalk
Management	Grazing - Horses

Priority Habitats

Priority Habitats

Lowland meadows
Hedgerows

Area

Notable Species

<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Status</u>
<i>Anacamptis morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid	Hampshire BAP Species IUCN (EN2014) - Vulnerable IUCN (2001) - Near Threatened
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling	Birds of Conservation Concern: Red List

466000

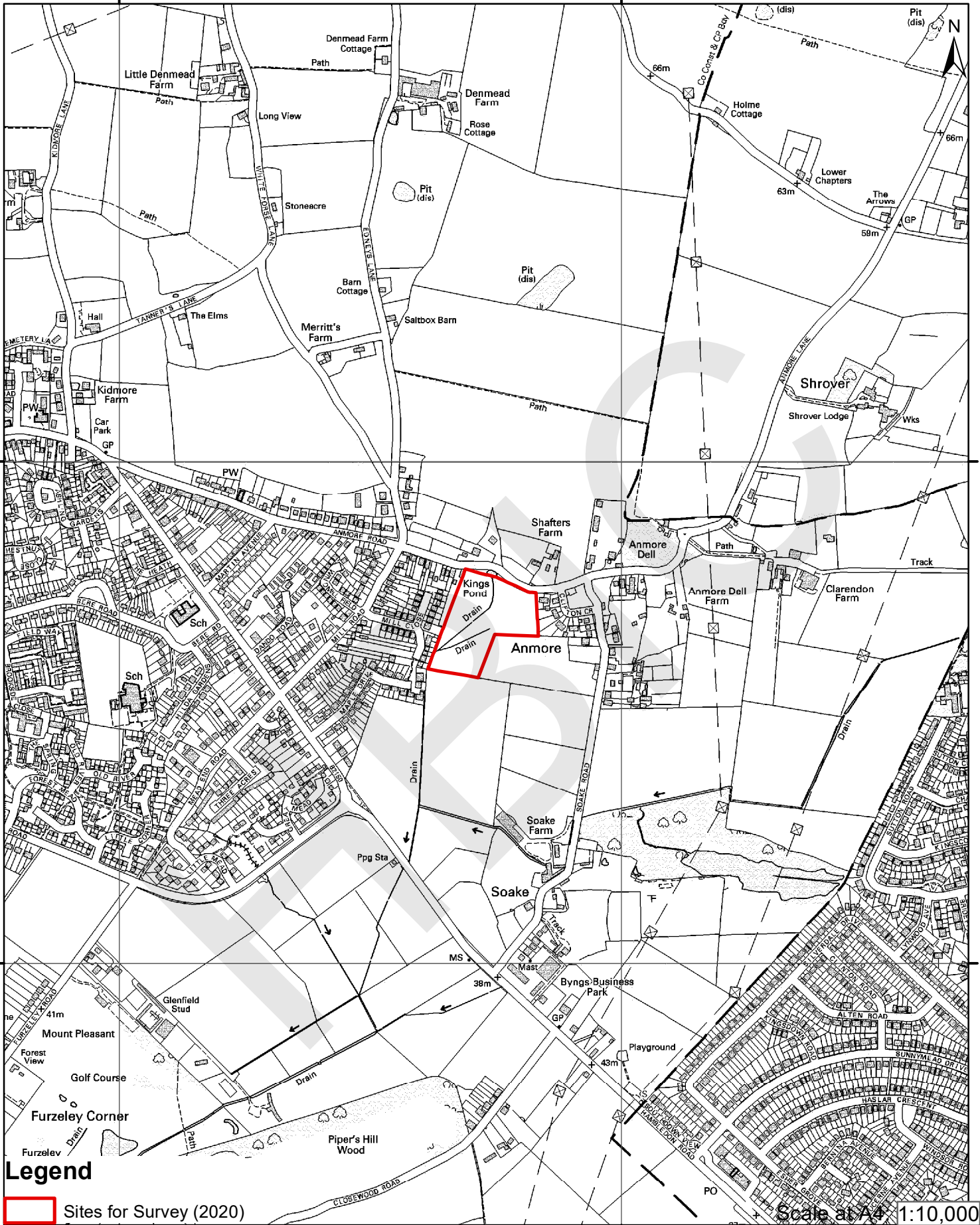
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Legend

Sites for Survey (2020)

Scale at A4 1:10,000

466000

467000



HBIC Survey Programme 2020
 Kings Pond Meadow
 SU66701170

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Survey Details

Site Description

The site is a field located on the eastern residential edge of Denmead. The field is found on gently sloped and undulating ground. There is a clay, silt, sand and gravel bedrock. It is directly adjacent to the larger Soake Farm Meadow SINC to the south. The titular Kings Pond lies at the northern end of the site, mostly outside the boundary. A connecting watercourse runs south through the field from this pond.

The site supports a combination of semi-improved and improved grassland habitats. A high grazing level means that the sward is very short across the site. Bare ground and annual vegetation is present in some places.

Despite this management Lowland Meadow habitat occupies much of the field. The sward is herb-rich and has good species diversity, with a fairly good coverage of lowland meadow species. Herbs such as black knapweed and bird's-foot trefoil are frequent and corky-fruited water-dropwort is also prominent. A total of 4 grassland indicators are noted within these semi-improved swards, including one spike of the IUCN Vulnerable (England) green-winged orchid (*Anacamptis morio*).

There are areas of less diverse, more improved grassland present. The herb presence is still high here, but there is less coverage of lowland meadow species. The most heavily grazed areas are found here.

There are also several small patches of inundation grassland present. These are particularly found within the grazed ditch but also found in hollows within the site. The area of Kings Pond at the northern end of the ditch supports grazed swamp habitat.

Mature scrub has developed along the ditch lines. Hedgerows are found along all boundaries of the site. These are mostly overgrown, but complete, with some trees present.

Management

As stated above, the site is heavily grazed by horse. Grazing management is ideal for the majority of grassland sites. However, higher levels of grazing can be detrimental to wildlife. Sward structural diversity is reduced and, if the grazing is all-year round, plant species can have no time to flower and set seed, which can have an impact on floral and faunal diversity.

The natural variations of soil and topography within the site mean that, with a relaxation of grazing levels, the site could support a more valuable wildlife habitat.

Scrub is a valuable component of grassland habitat. However, the scrub that has developed has shaded out potential marsh or swamp habitat within the ditches. Some removal of this scrub may be beneficial.

The highly invasive new zealand pigmyweed was noted within the Kings Pond swamp area. This non-native species may spread within the wetter areas of the site and neighbouring pond.

Area description

Area 1 – MG5a *Cynosurus cristatus*- *Centaurea nigra* grassland, *Lathyrus pratensis* subcommunity
Lowland Meadow Priority Habitat (IHS GN11.GM13)

These areas of grassland retain a good herb presence and species diversity. They are marshy in places, tending to rush-pasture or inundation grassland. To the west there are also some sand deposits which support more acid-loving species and a localised MG5c (*Danthonia decumbens* sub-community) sward type.

The most frequent species in the sward are rye grass, sweet vernal grass, black knapweed, ribwort plantain, buttercups, fleabane, bird's-foot trefoil and glaucous sedge. There is also some yarrow, meadow-grasses, daisy, cat's-ear, bents, clovers and selfheal. Corky-fruited water-dropwort is occasional to locally frequent. Other species noted include meadow vetchling, rushes, squirrel's-tail fescue, sheep's sorrel, stone parsley, common yellow sedge and green-winged orchid.

Area 2 – MG6a *Lolium perenne*-*Cynosurus cristatus* grassland, typical sub-community (IHS GI0.GM13)

These grassland areas are more improved, and less diverse than Area 1. They still retain a good herb presence, but the coverage from lowland meadow species is reduced. The sward is very short and there is localised bare ground and patches of developing Area 5 vegetation.

The main species within the sward are rye grass, annual meadow-grass, buttercups, clovers, glaucous sedge, sweet vernal grass, ribwort plantain, rough meadow-grass, selfheal and docks.

Area 3 – MG13 *Agrostis stolonifera*-*Alopecurus geniculatus* grassland (IHS GNZ.GM13)

This hollow within the field supports inundation grassland. A few other smaller hollows or similar vegetation are noted within Area 1. Marsh foxtail is prominent and there is much creeping bent, creeping cinquefoil, glaucous sedge and yorkshire fog.

Area 4 – S23 Other water-margin vegetation (IHS EM21))

At the northern end of the ditch is an area of the eponymous Kings Pond. The rest of the pond is found outside the northern boundary of the site. There is a grazed swamp habitat here. This is formed of fool's water-cress, yellow flag, brooklime, floating sweet-grass, docks, creeping buttercup, silverweed, yorkshire fog and fleabane. The vegetation merges into Area 6 habitat type. Unfortunately, new zealand pigmyweed was noted here.

Area 5 – OV21 *Poa annua*-*Plantago major* community (IHS GI0.GM13)

The most heavily grazed areas of the site are near the access points. Bare ground is dominant, with some annual meadow-grass, greater plantain, rye grass, cock's-foot, creeping buttercup, docks and scentless mayweed.

Area 6 – OV28 *Agrostis stolonifera*-*Ranunculus repens* community (EM22.GM13)

The other areas of inundation habitat are most likely wetter for longer periods of time than Area 3. These ditch areas are heavily grazed and have much bare mud. The main species are creeping buttercup, creeping bent, yorkshire fog, celery-leaved buttercup and marsh foxtail.

Area 7 – W22 *Prunus spinosa*-*Rubus fruticosus* scrub (IHS WB2.WF11.WM7)

The scrub along the ditches is fairly mature. It is formed of blackthorn, hawthorn, bramble, willow, dog rose and ivy.

Hedgerows

H1	These hedges are uncut but complete. They are formed of hawthorn, blackthorn, elder, bramble and ivy.	IHS LF11.LH1.LM22 Hedgerow Priority Habitat
H2	This hedge is derelict. There is some hawthorn and bramble.	IHS LF1Z.LH2.LM22
H3	This hedge is cut regularly. It is composed of blackthorn, hawthorn and bramble.	IHS LF11.LH1.LM12 Hedgerow Priority Habitat
H4	This hedge-with-trees has oak trees over a hawthorn hedge.	IHS LF11.LH1.LM31 Hedgerow Priority Habitat
H5	This is a garden hedge.	IHS LF1Z.LH3.LM12 Hedgerow Priority Habitat



Photo 1 – Showing high level of grazing at more improved north-eastern corner of the site.



Photo 2 – Showing eastern part of the site.



Photo 3 – Showing grazed Kings Pond.



Photo 4 – Showing scrubbed and heavily grazed ditch.



Photo 5 – Showing gentle topographical variations in western part of the site.




Photo 6 – Showing heavy grazing at southern end of the site.



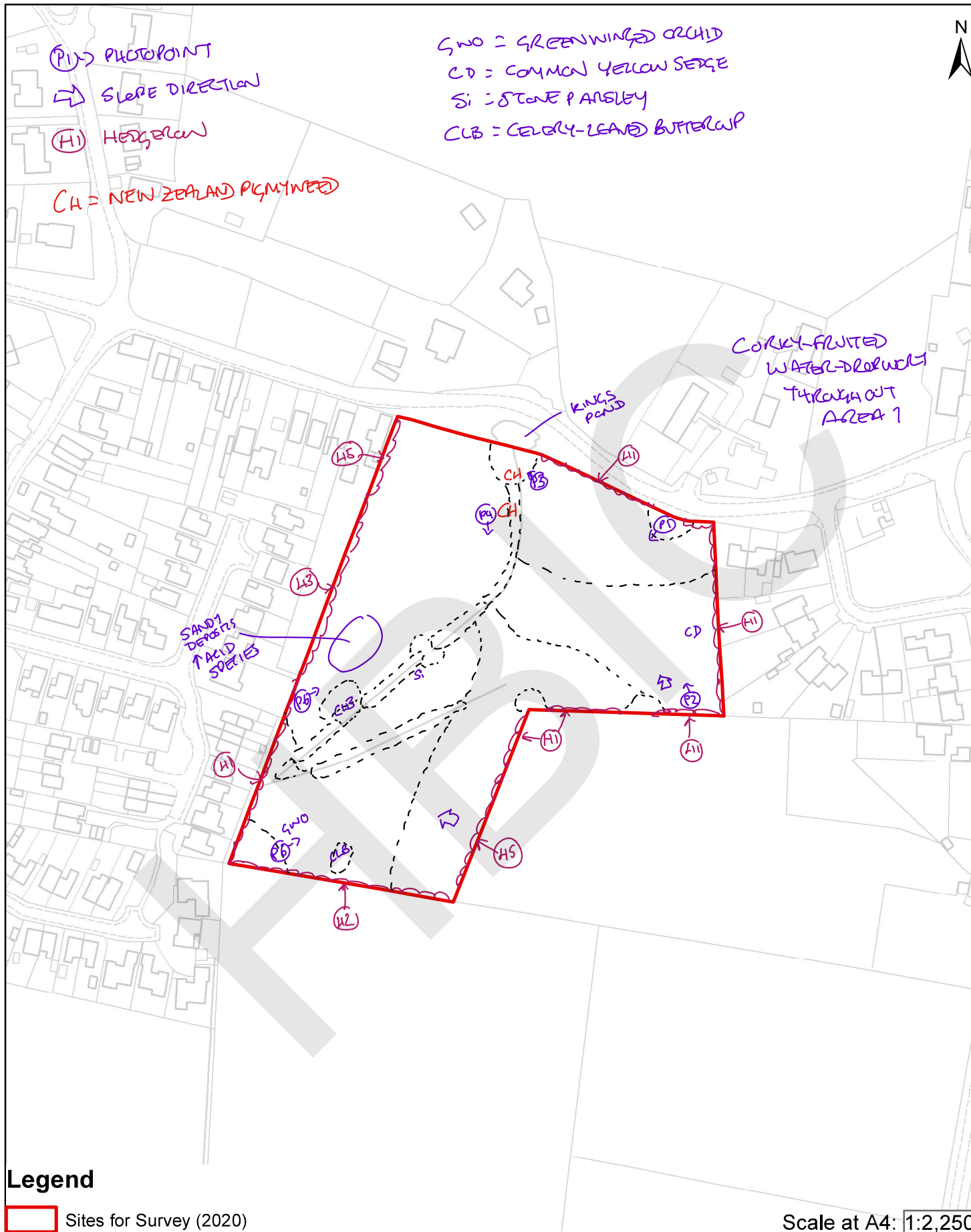
- Area 1 - MG5a grassland Priority Habitat
- Area 2 - MG6a grassland
- Area 3 - MG13 grassland
- Area 4 - S23 swamp
- Area 5 - OV21 community
- Area 6 - OV28 community
- Area 7 - W22 scrub



Legend

 Sites for Survey (2020)

Scale at A4: 1:2,250



Survey Details

Kings Pond Meadow 22/05/2020

Habitats Recorded

Priority Habitats

Hedgerows
Lowland meadows

Area

National Vegetation Classifications

MG5a, Cynosurus cristatus-Centaurea nigra grassland: Lathyrus pratensis subcommunity	55 %
MG6a, Lolium perenne-Cynosurus cristatus grassland: Typical subcommunity	25 %
OV21, Poa annua-Plantago major community	5 %
OV28, Agrostis stolonifera-Ranunculus repens community	5 %
S23, Other water-margin vegetation	5 %
W22, Prunus spinosa-Rubus fruticosus scrub	5 %
MG13, Agrostis stolonifera-Alopecurus geniculatus grassland	3 %

Species Recorded

<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Notable</u>
* <i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	R	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	O	
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	OLF	
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	OLF	
<i>Alopecurus geniculatus</i>	Marsh Foxtail	OLF	
# <i>Anacamptis morio</i>	Green-winged Orchid	R	Y
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	OLF	
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	R	
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	Parsley-piert	R	
<i>Apium nodiflorum</i>	Fool's-water-cress	RLF	
<i>Arctium minus</i>	Lesser Burdock	R	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords-and-Ladies	R	
<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>	Winter-cress	R	
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	OLF	
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	R	
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower	R	
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge	F	
<i>Carex hirta</i>	Hairy Sedge	R	
# <i>Carex viridula</i> subsp. <i>oedocarpa</i>	Common Yellow-sedge	R	
<i>Centaurea nigra</i> sens. lat. (= <i>nigra/debauxii</i>)	Common Knapweed	F	
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	R	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	R	
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	R	
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	New Zealand Pigmyweed	RLF	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	RLF	
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	O	
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	O	
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willowherb	R	
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	OLF	
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	R	
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground-ivy	R	
<i>Glyceria fluitans</i>	Floating Sweet-grass	RLF	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	RLF	

<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Notable</u>
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	O	
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear	OLF	
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow Iris	RLF	
<i>Juncus acutiflorus</i>	Sharp-flowered Rush	RLF	
<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	Toad Rush	R	
<i>Lamium album</i>	White Dead-nettle	R	
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	R	
<i>Leontodon saxatilis</i>	Lesser Hawkbit	OLF	
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	F	
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	OLF	
<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Gypsywort	R	
<i>Odontites vernus</i>	Red Bartsia	R	
<i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	Hemlock Water-dropwort	R	
# <i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>	Corky-fruited Water-dropwort	OLF	
<i>Persicaria hydropiper</i>	Water-pepper	R	
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	F	
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	R	
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	OLA	
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Smooth Meadow-grass	O	
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass	O	
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	R	
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	O	
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal	F	
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	RLF	
<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Common Fleabane	OLF	
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak	R	
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	O	
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	OLF	
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	F	
<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup	RLF	
<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i>	Water-cress	R	
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog-rose	RLF	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	OLA	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	R	
<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	Sheep's Sorrel	RLF	
<i>Rumex conglomeratus</i>	Clustered Dock	O	
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock	R	
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	O	
<i>Sagina procumbens</i>	Procumbent Pearlwort	R	
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Common Sallow	R	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	R	
<i>Scorzoneroideis autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawkbit	R	
# <i>Sison amomum</i>	Stone Parsley	R	
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	R	
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	Dandelion	O	
<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil	O	
<i>Trifolium micranthum</i>	Slender Trefoil	O	
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	O	
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	O	
<i>Tripleurospermum inodorum</i>	Scentless Mayweed	R	
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	R	
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	OLA	
<i>Veronica beccabunga</i>	Brooklime	R	
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Thyme-leaved Speedwell	R	
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	R	
<i>Vulpia bromoides</i>	Squirreltail Fescue	RLF	

<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Notable</u>
<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Notable</u>
<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Woodpigeon	P	
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling	P	Y
<i>Turdus merula</i>	Blackbird	P	

Species Summary

Total no. of species :	92
No. of woodland species :	43
* No. of AWVP indicators :	1
# No. of acid/neutral grassland indicators :	4

Notes

Habitat Classifications :

Priority: Habitats identified as the highest priority for conservation action in the UK

NVC: A system of classifying natural habitat communities according to species associations

Phase 1: A standardised system for surveying, classifying and mapping broad wildlife habitats including urban areas

Peterken: A stand type classification that describes woodlands by tree species

Indicators Species :

- * Ancient Woodland Vascular Plants (AWVP) - species most strongly associated with ancient woodland and are typical components of botanically rich ancient woodland communities
- # Acid/neutral grassland indicators - species which seldom occur outside of unimproved acid/neutral grasslands or are indicative of a long period of uninterrupted grassland management
- ~ Chalk grassland indicators - species characteristic of unimproved chalk downland or have a strong affinity to calcareous soil

Species Abundance:

Frequency: D=dominant A=abundant F=frequent O=occasional R=rare L=locally

Frequencies within brackets () indicate non-native occurrences

Habitat and Species designations and statuses:

Habitat designations/categories and species legislation/statuses are correct at the time the report was generated and may not necessarily reflect those applicable either at the time of survey or later than the generated date.