

# Civil Parish of CATSFIELD EAST SUSSEX, within Rother District Council (RDC)



## BIODIVERSITY AUDIT

By  
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Chartered Biologist  
Chartered Environmentalist



on behalf of:  
**Catsfield Parish Council (CPC)**



© John Feltwell View over the centre of the village showing both churches.  
Two churches are visible, as well as Wylands in the top left. 02 July 1996

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<sup>1</sup> Feltwell, J. Local naturalist who has lived in the area for 43 years, and who wrote '*Rainforests*' in which there is a chapter of 'Global Warming' see illustrated chapter in [www.drjohnfeltwell.com](http://www.drjohnfeltwell.com). He has also been the volunteer Tree Warden for Catsfield and Crowhurst for 34 years.

## Background,

Rother District Council (RDC) declared their own Climate Emergency in September 2019.<sup>2</sup>

Catsfield Parish Council (CPC) have not signed up to the Climate Emergency at the present time (April 2023).

The CPC have not yet produced a Neighbourhood Plan.

## Aims

The aims of this Biodiversity Audit is thus to set a baseline for the parish on which data can be added in the future. Data can also be used for the compilation of Biodiversity Metrics<sup>3</sup> to be prepared by all developers for any proposed planning developments in the future. The data can also be used as an evidence base for continued nature conservation in the parish.

## Contents

This audit first quantifies the parish, then looks at the

- Habitat Assets, then the
- Species Assets, then looks at the
- Protected areas and species within the parish; then
- Finally the effects of climate change on the habitats and species.

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<sup>2</sup> Rother District Council declared a climate emergency and pledged to become carbon neutral by 2030. See also Rother Environment Strategy 2020. <https://www.rother.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/RotherEnvironmentStrategy2020-2030-VersionSept2020.pdf> (accessed 17 March 2021).

<sup>3</sup> Using the latest upgrade, currently: The Biodiversity Metric Version 4.0 (March 2023).

## Executive Summary

- The village is a well-wooded parish with a good range of interesting habitats, flora and fauna.
- There is one Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the parish boundary, and influences from three others outside.
- More than half the parish is in the High Weald AONB, so it has plenty of responsibility and obligation to protect nature.
- The parish has many Ancient Woodland, in fact about 46 named woodlands and shaws, 28 of them within the AONB and 18 outside the AONB.
- Many of the Ancient Woodlands are also Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats.
- There are at least 28 bluebell woods in the parish.
- There are plenty of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species present.
- There have been only three major impacts upon the environment, creation of the 'Ninfield Sub-Station', creation of the Wylands Fishing Centre and the introduction of the line of electricity pylons across the parish.
- There has been some habitat loss of woods, hedgerows and meadows, and this has been due to man-made habitat destruction and agricultural practices.
- The way that farming has affected the countryside has been a significant factor in the biodiversity of the parish that we see today.
- Evidence for climate change effects on habitats and species is currently very limited.
- This baseline of evidence will assist with future conservation.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> This is a working document that can be expected to be updated at regular intervals. It was commissioned pro bono for the Catsfield Parish website, so it is available to all. Any correspondence can be directed to [john@wildlifematters.com](mailto:john@wildlifematters.com) or other members of the parish council.

## Community Initiative and Acknowledgements

The following have been very helpful in providing information, and they have all agreed that their data can be used, and be used on-line on the Catsfield Parish web site, and thus usage to the wider world.

- Brotherton, Sarah – Landscape Officer, High Weald AONB Unit
- Clark, Judy, Ellen Campbell & Jacqueline Rose – for Sussex Botanical Recording Society Churchyard Project
- Hodgson, Carol – interfacing with Facebook
- Jill Jarrett – historical records, former resident
- Lavender, Jason – High Weald AONB Unit, Flimwell – maps and plans
- Philcox, Ann -- local resident
- Philcox, James – local data as former resident
- Philcox, Penny – local data as former resident
- Newmarsh, James – ESCC for advice and support for wildlife verge designation
- Scarff, Jackie, Clerk & RFO to Ninfield Parish Council
- Steve Nicholls – local resident
- Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SBRC) – supplying biodiversity records
- Sussex Wildlife Trust (SWT) – information
- Sharp, Alexandra, Mrs. Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer, Catsfield Parish Council
- Sussex Botanical Recording Society, Churchyard records for 2016
- Tim Macpherson – local resident

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## ACRONYMS

|        |                                                                                      |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AONB   | Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty                                                   |
| BAP    | Biodiversity Action Plan                                                             |
| CPC    | Catsfield Parish Council                                                             |
| EA     | Environment Agency                                                                   |
| EU     | European Union                                                                       |
| ESCC   | East Sussex County Council                                                           |
| GCN    | Great Crested Newt                                                                   |
| IRZ    | Impact Risk Zones                                                                    |
| LNR    | Local Nature Reserve                                                                 |
| MAGIC  | Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside                              |
| NT     | National Trust                                                                       |
| Ramsar | An international wetland site; a place in Iran where the wetland conference was held |
| RDB    | Red Data Book                                                                        |
| RSPB   | Royal Society for the Protection of Birds                                            |
| SAC    | Special Area of Conservation                                                         |
| SBRC   | Sussex Biological Records Centre                                                     |
| SNCI   | Site of Nature Conservation Importance                                               |
| SPA    | Special Protection Area                                                              |
| SSSI   | Site of Special Scientific Interest                                                  |
| SBRC   | Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre                                                    |
| SWT    | Sussex Wildlife Trust                                                                |
| TPO    | Tree Protection Order                                                                |
| WCA    | Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981                                                    |

**Table WM01 Catsfield in numbers:**

| <b>STATISTICS</b>                                                                                                                           |                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Size of parish                                                                                                                              | 12.2 km <sup>2</sup> (4.7 sq m) at 50.90 N 0 45 E <sup>5</sup>    |
| People                                                                                                                                      | 970 in 30 June 2019 (891 in 2011; 837 in 2001) =census stats      |
| Density                                                                                                                                     | 79.45/km <sup>2</sup> <sup>6</sup>                                |
| Farms (old and new)                                                                                                                         | 27                                                                |
| <b>HABITAT ASSETS</b>                                                                                                                       |                                                                   |
| Ancient woodlands                                                                                                                           | 46 (28 in the AONB part, 18 outside the AONB)                     |
| Bluebell woods                                                                                                                              | 27 at least - still being surveyed                                |
| Medieval Field Systems & Lanes                                                                                                              | 11 in the AONB area. Lanes = 6                                    |
| Meadows                                                                                                                                     | None specifically identified – perhaps several present            |
| Hedgerows<br>(as linear corridors)                                                                                                          | Many throughout the parish – as yet un-quantified                 |
| Streams                                                                                                                                     | 8 (4 named: Catsfield, Trout, Powdermill, Watermill) + 4 un-named |
| Ponds & Reservoirs                                                                                                                          | 33++, many lost (Broomham), many gained (Wylands). Reservoirs =2  |
| Ponds in woods                                                                                                                              | 5                                                                 |
| Springs                                                                                                                                     | 5 (i.e. 'Spr' on maps)                                            |
| Wetlands                                                                                                                                    | None, but Catsfield is in 5 catchment areas inc Combe Valley      |
| Sandstone Outcrops                                                                                                                          | Freckley Hollow                                                   |
| Heathlands                                                                                                                                  | None - but Freckley Hollow has some heather patches               |
| Bogs                                                                                                                                        | None identified in parish                                         |
| <b>SPECIES ASSETS</b>                                                                                                                       |                                                                   |
| <b>(NB. these are all under-estimates, until all the prolific Sussex Biodiversity data is transcribed – particularly the invertebrates)</b> |                                                                   |
| <b>Flora:</b> Flowering plants                                                                                                              | 125 species from St Laurence Church in, 2016                      |
| Trees: Ash trees                                                                                                                            | approx 280 ash trees, of which about 50% dead or dying            |
| Trees: CAVAT value                                                                                                                          | 23 trees valued at total of £2million                             |
| Trees: TPOs                                                                                                                                 | 1 as blanket TPO on 6 of Wyland Woods                             |
| Mosses, Liverworts                                                                                                                          | 11 species (list to come)                                         |
| Fungi & Lichens                                                                                                                             | 13 species                                                        |
| Colonial Amoeba                                                                                                                             | 2 slime moulds                                                    |
| Lichens                                                                                                                                     | 160 species                                                       |
| Mammals (inc. bats)                                                                                                                         | 20 species                                                        |
| Reptiles & Amphibians                                                                                                                       | 5 species each                                                    |
| Birds                                                                                                                                       | 100+, but only 42 listed here                                     |
| Fish                                                                                                                                        | 2 species                                                         |
| Butterflies & Moths                                                                                                                         | 28 butterfly species Moths (list to come)                         |
| <b>CONSERVED / PROTECTED AREAS</b>                                                                                                          |                                                                   |
| Statutory (Habitats)                                                                                                                        | Ashburnham Park (SSSI)                                            |
| Statutory (Species)                                                                                                                         | All bats; BAP species: hedgehog, house sparrows....               |
| Priority S41 Habitats                                                                                                                       | 50 at least                                                       |
| Woodpasture & Parkland (S41)                                                                                                                | 1 large area of Ashburnham                                        |
| Wildflower verges                                                                                                                           | 1 (Freckley Hollow)                                               |

<sup>5</sup> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catsfield> (accessed 17 March 2021)

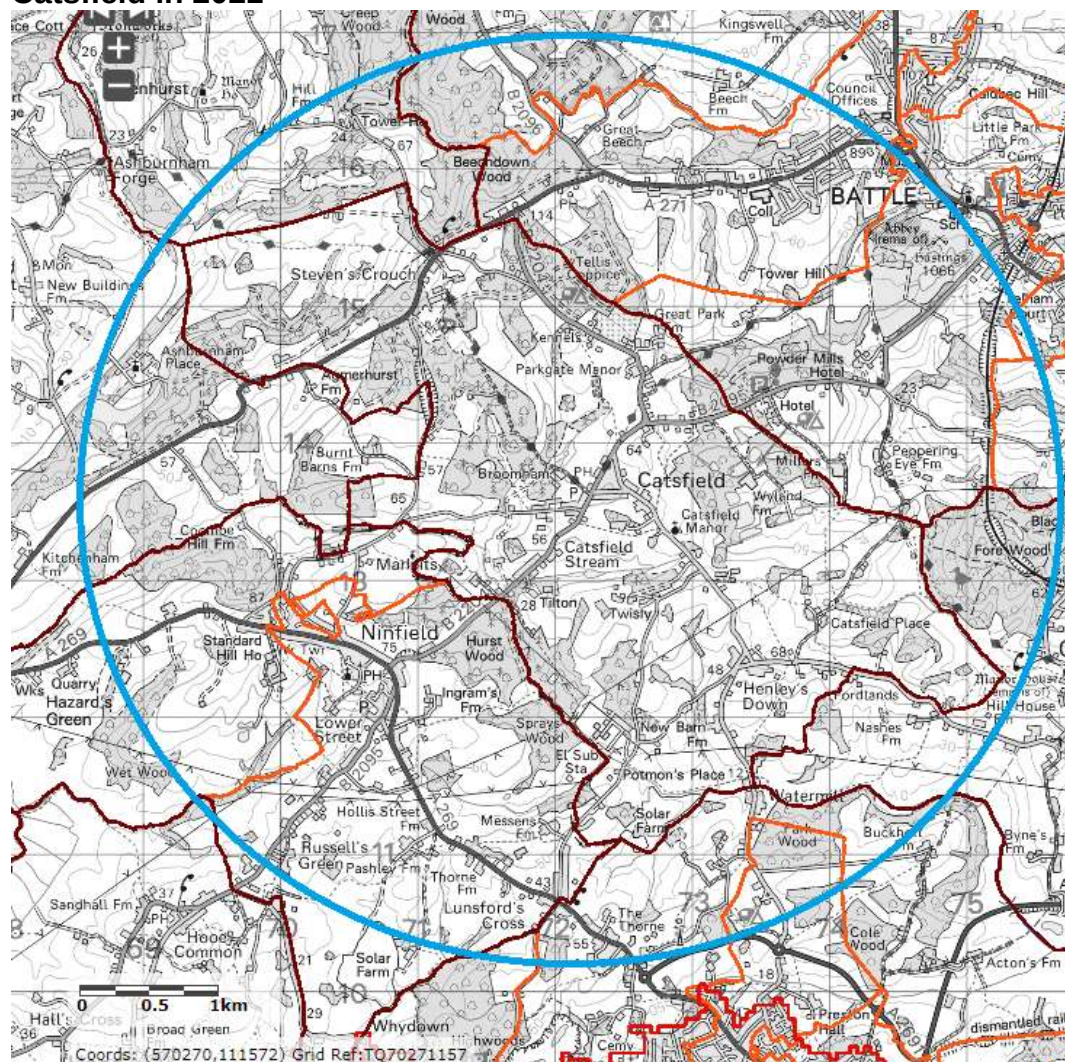
<sup>6</sup> [Catsfield \(Parish, United Kingdom\) - Population Statistics, Charts, Map and Location \(citypopulation.de\)](#) (accessed 17 March 2021)

## The Civil Parish of Catsfield, East Sussex,<sup>7</sup>

The outline of the parish is shown below (in dark brown).

The parish is surrounded by six parishes (clockwise from the north) Penhurst, Battle, Crowhurst, Bexhill, Ninfield, Ashburnham.

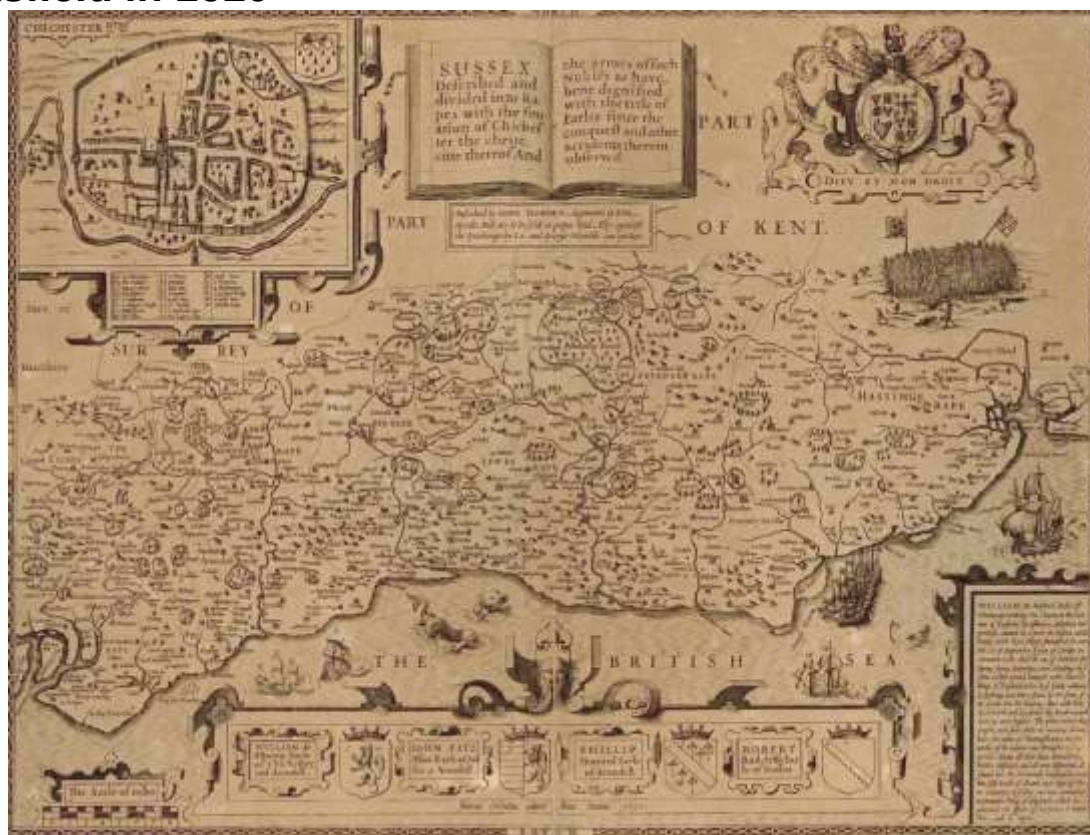
### Catsfield in 2021



© magic.gov.uk © Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright (2005). All rights reserved. Wildlife Matters Licence Number 100002077. Screen shot taken from [www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk) by with permission from MAGIC support 6.4.13 Alexandra Hajok (accessed 17 March 2021), showing some different colours representing the curtilages with adjacent parishes.

<sup>7</sup> The centre of Catsfield village is registered here as St Laurence Church at TQ72851335 and Post Code TN33 9BG. Catsfield is within '1066 Country'.

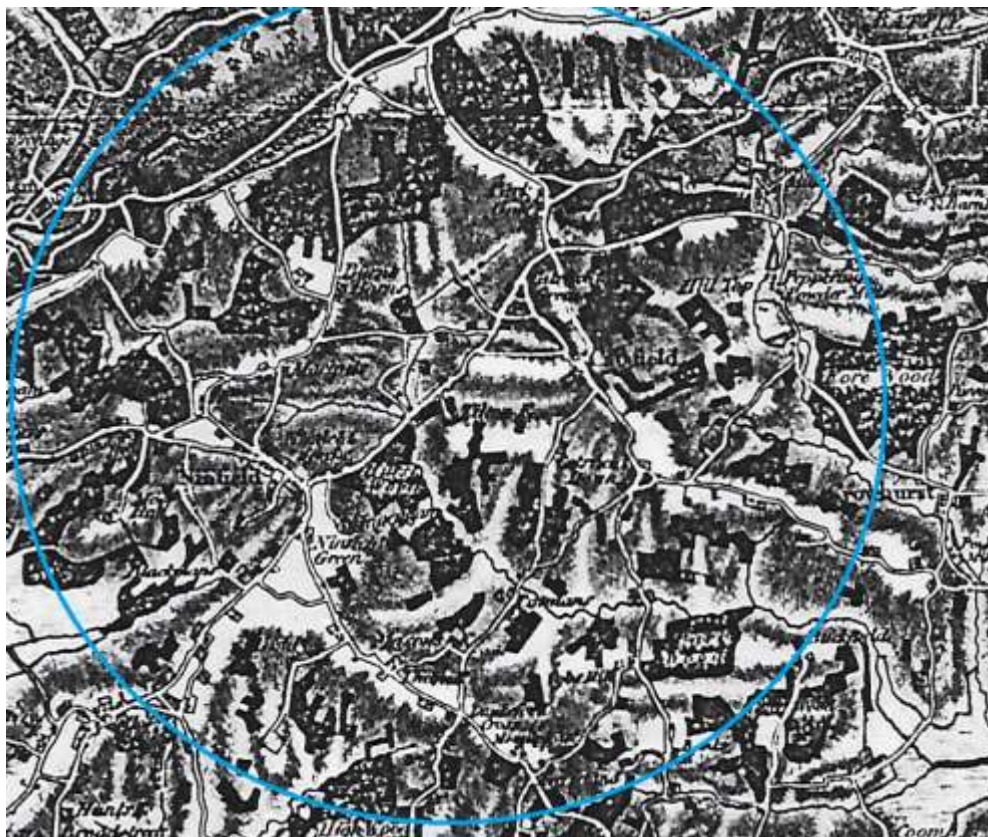
## Catsfield in 1610



Speed's map of Sussex dated 1610 (above, with detail below), with detail of Battle and (likely) Normanhurst below, rather than Ashburnham. It is perhaps no co-incidence that there is a Park Corner and Park Farm in Catsfield



## Catsfield in 1813



OS 1813 showing the topography. From a map printed by Headley Brothers Ltd., Ashford, Kent. Notice how there are two routes along the present day Kitchenham Road, one to the north through what is now Ashburnham Park, the other following Kitchenham Road.

This map sets out the main infrastructure that is present today, and seems to show more emphasis on some routes than others compared to today. There is a triangle of roads with Park Farm in the centre. Also there are three routes in the centre of village, one of them is now just a footpath. The topography shows the higher areas (dark) and the cleared lowland field areas (white).

Definitions clarified: The Green – this is the area of green grass verge that runs through the village from the entrance to Skinners Lane past the Post Office. The Green is also the name of the triangle of land (not apparently built upon by 1813 (above) bounded by Church Lane, the B2044 and where Herman's Cottage is situated.

The Biodiversity of the parish would have been so much richer in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with fewer buildings and fewer environmental impacts from people.

A small part of the parish seems to have belonged to Ninfield parish, as indicated in the Tithe map of 1839 'Part of Ninfield Parish'. This is to the east of Freckley Hollow. Today all of the east side of the hollow is now Catsfield Parish.

Information from the Parish Clerk of Ninfield is that it is believed that when Wealden District Council came into existence in 1974 this part of Catsfield was lost to Ninfield, and a bit added from Ashburnham, when the changes from 1972 were enacted and Hailsham and Uckfield rural district councils were merged.<sup>8</sup>



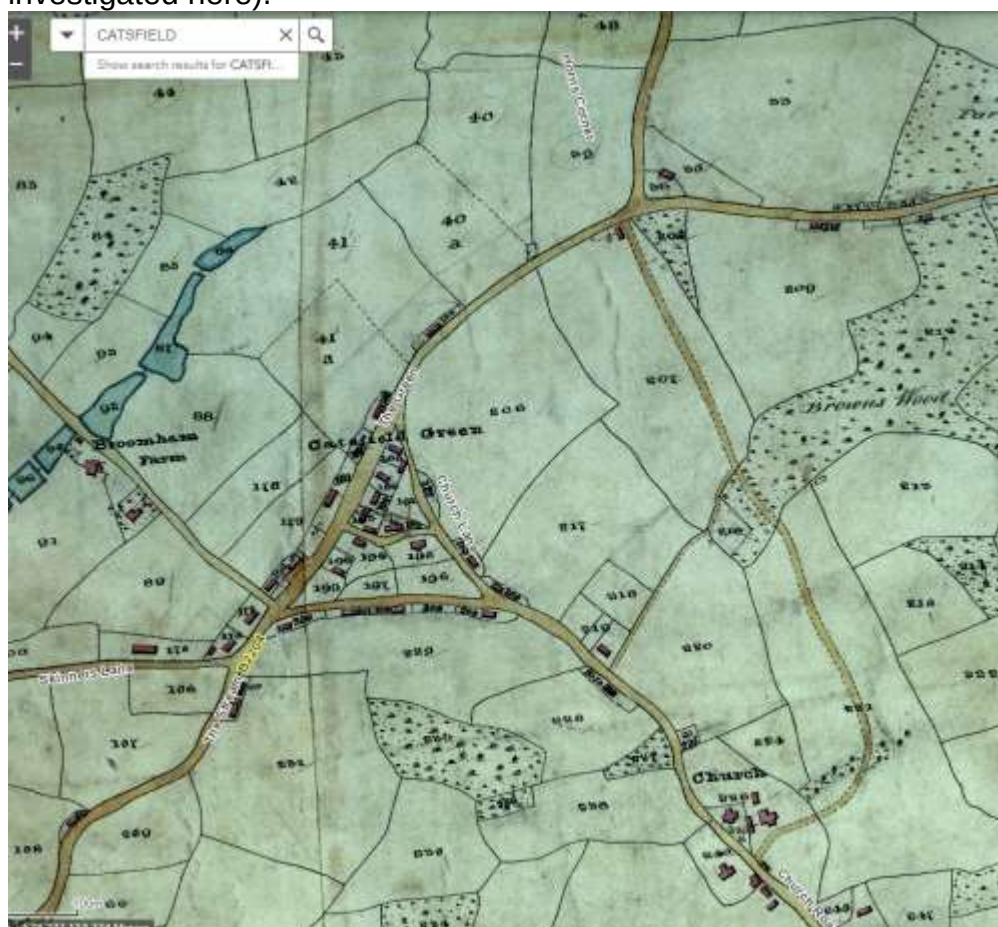
<sup>8</sup> Jackie Scarff, 11 October 2021, pers. comm.

### The verges at Freckley Hollow were notified in 1988

- Historic Routeway
- Ghyll lane
- Sandstone outcrops
- Protected Verges

The reason why Freckley Hollow was notified for its verges as it supports a generous biodiversity.

The more open southern end has verges full of native bluebells, swathes of Milkmaids, Lesser celandines and Stitchworts. Further up there are ferns, mosses and liverworts which are typical of damp habitats in ghylls. Towards the north of the hollow there is some invasion of rhododendron, laurel and Gaultheria. Beech and Sweet Chestnut line the hollow and their roots are eroded from the sides of the hollow. On the west of hollow there is a lot of silver birch, but at the top where it joins the Kitchenham Road, there is a good patch of ancient coppice with oak standards, and a field layer of bluebell. On the east side of the hollow there are invasive plants that have downgraded the original ancient woodland. The exposed sandstone are good for the breeding of solitary bees (these have not yet been investigated here).



## Catsfield Countryside



The hamlet of Henley's Down, looking eastwards. A milk herd was still active at Henley's Down Farm in the 1970s, and pigs were bred there before that.<sup>9</sup> There are two oast houses in the area, but no hop fields present any more – in fact none at all in the parish. © John Feltwell. 26 May 1999.



This English Oak, *Quercus robur* is close to the Recreation Ground and had a circumference of in 2020. © John Feltwell, taken 14 Sept 2017

<sup>9</sup> Sid Creasey pers. comm. who served on the pumps at the Catsfield garage (opp. the Post Office) in the 1970s.



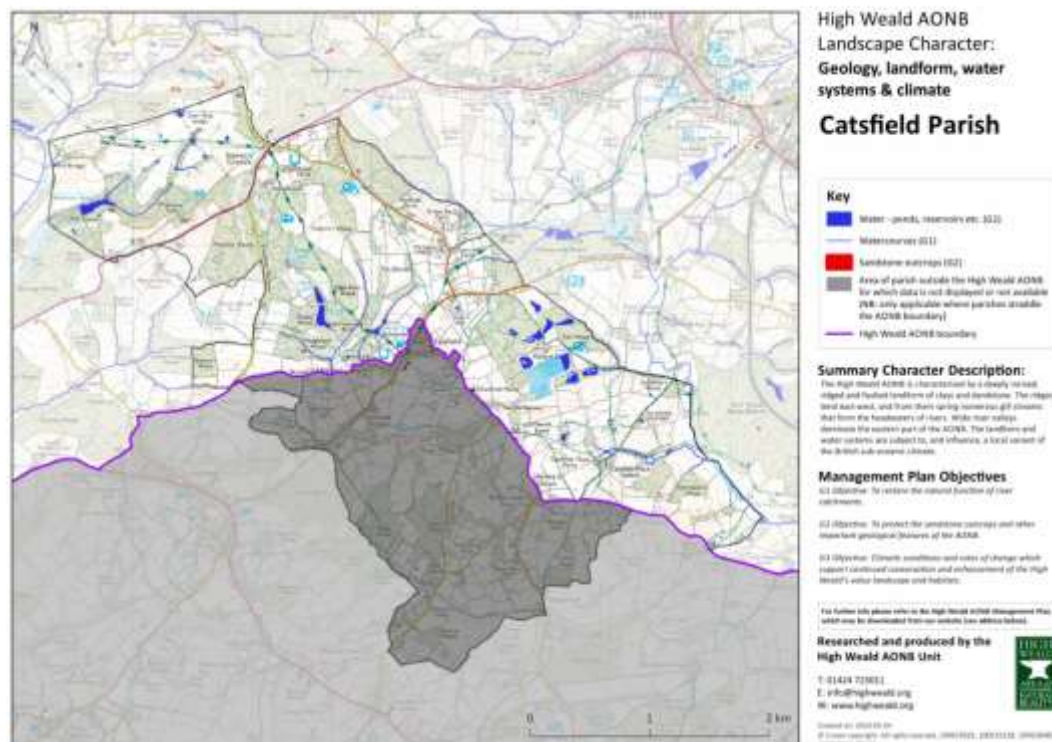
27 May 2021 © John Feltwell



View from above the Recreation Ground looking south over fields behind the houses and gardens along the B2204, and The White Hart pub. Eastbourne and the Downs are on the horizon. The location of the pub is shown with an arrow. © John Feltwell

## Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

The northern part of the parish is within the AONB and has been calculated to be 825ha. This is more than 50% of the parish is within the AONB. IT extends to southeast where it merges with Crowhurst. The rest of the parish which is not within the AONB is shown as dark grey.



## Environmental Impacts

Catsfield parish has had just two major environmental impacts over the last few decades, and none before. These are the Wylands Angling Centre and the Ninfield Sub-station.

Catsfield is unlike neighbour Crowhurst which had the London-Hastings railway line in the early 1900s and the Link Road in 2015, dividing it into three parish parcels.

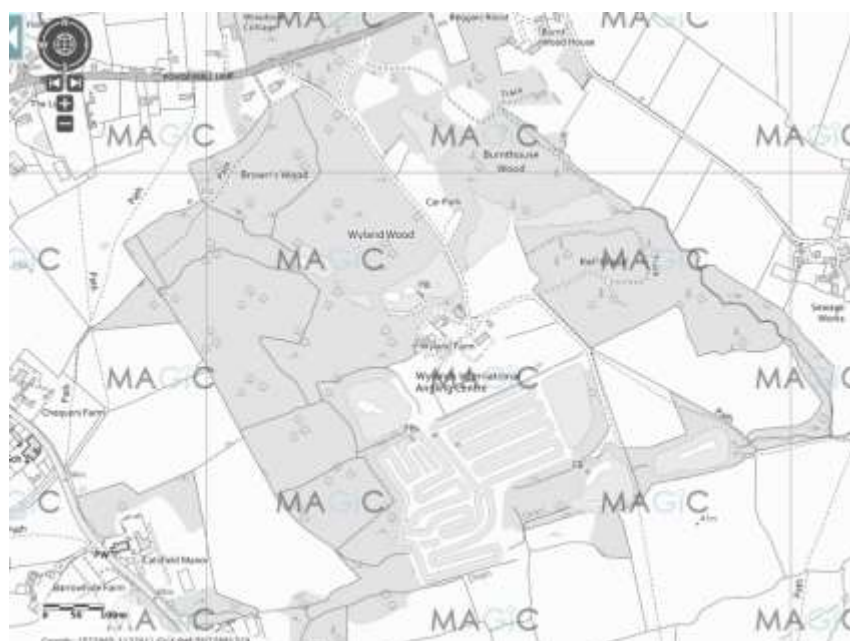
### Wylands Angling Centre



© John Feltwell 16 July 1997    **Wylands Angling Centre**, looking south-east. The main entrance (and the public footpath) is at 9 o'clock by the farm buildings. The FP passes to the east of the two lakes at the top of the photograph, and then towards Catsfield Place. The ancient woodland in the foreground is **Wyland Wood**, the one in the top right is **Kell Wood**.



**1839** The overall comparison shows that there are more woodlands now in this part of the parish than in 1838. Burnthouse Wood has appeared. The Wylands Woods are comprised of (clockwise) Brown's Wood, Whyland Wood, Whyland Kell (or Hell) wood and Coal wood. With regard to the Wyland Wood enterprise, there appeared to be no access off the Powdermill Road, with only service tracks up from Catsfield Place – one of which remains a FP. There appears to have only been a single small pond (in centre of the Tithe map) and one on the edge of Coal Wood in the SE.



**The same area of the parish in 2021 (magic.gov.uk)**

**‘Ninfield Transforming Station’, referred to as the ‘Ninfield Sub-station’.**

The ‘Ninfield Transforming Station’ is actually within the parish of Catsfield, but its south-east boundary marks the parish boundary, shown as ‘Cp Bdy’ on maps.

When the station was originally created artificial bunds were thrown up so that it is not now visible from the intersection with **Spratts Lane** and **Potmans Lane**. These have been planted up with trees and matured.

However, the noise from the station carries well up to **Henley’s Down**, and the occasional noise from the use of the helicopter pad is more widely heard.

The Watermill Stream is part of the southern boundary of the sub-station and also denotes the parish boundary with Ninfield.



© John Feltwell (before 1989). Ninfield Sub-station, photographed from the Ninfield site, looking north-east. The parish boundary goes along the long straight edge across the page, and the woodland in the foreground is Sprays Wood (Ninfield). The woodland to the north is South Wood (Catsfield). The junction of Potmans Lane and Spratts Lane is at 3’oclock.

The Sub-station was enlarged to west during 2018-21. There used to be a nature laboratory and nature trail around the grounds but this was discontinued a decade or so ago. Although the site is well landscaped with very little visual intrusion, it has good quality surrounding woodland.

The only minor environmental impact has been the erection of electricity transmission wires across the parish, the only positive of these is that the authorities keep the vegetation clear along its path as a 'wayleaf' – and wayleaves are important habitats for insects, especially butterflies, which then can move through the countryside.



**A wayleaf cut through Wayfield Shaw, looking east**

There is however a real possibility of the sub-station infrastructure spilling out of its 'enclosure' across Potmans Lane into surrounding farmland along Spratts Lane. There was a proposal for a lithium battery storage area in adjacent farms



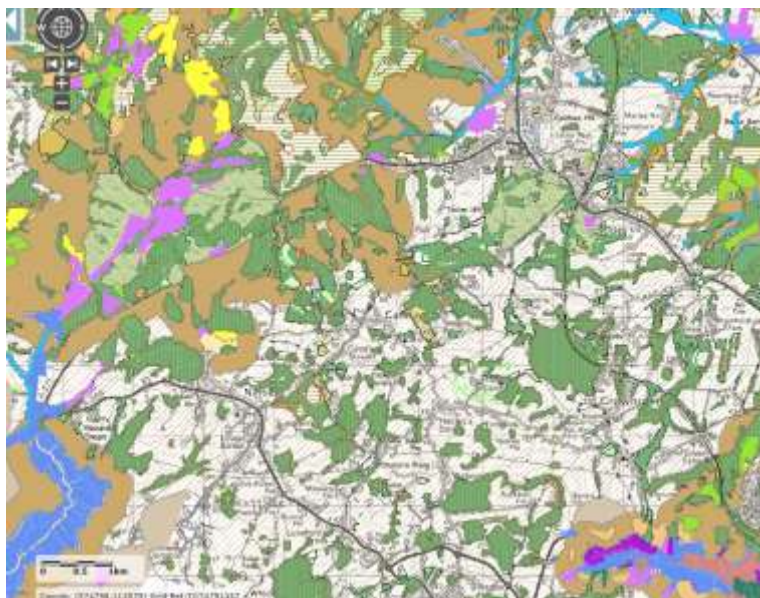
**© John Feltwell 19 March 2021 with the reptile and amphibian fencework still up following Great Crested Newt work during 2018-20.**

# HABITAT ASSETS

- **Ancient Woodlands**
- **Trees**
- **Hedgerows**
- **Medieval Field Systems**
- **Ancient Meadows**
- **Ponds and Springs**
- **Streams**

# Ancient woodlands

Much of the biodiversity of Catsfield parish is locked up in its woodlands. The area as a whole, combined with adjacent parishes does contain a lot of woodlands as the following map shows:



**Ancient Woodlands blocks in the parish according to MAGIC.**  
© magic.gov.uk © Ordnance Survey, Wildlife Matters Licence  
Number 100002077 (accessed 17 March 2021)

There are 46 blocks of Ancient woodland in the parish, 28 in the AONB part, 18 outside. That amounts to approximately 2/3rds of the Ancient woodlands are in the AONB.

Being in the AONB gives them a little more legal protection.

## What are Ancient woodlands?

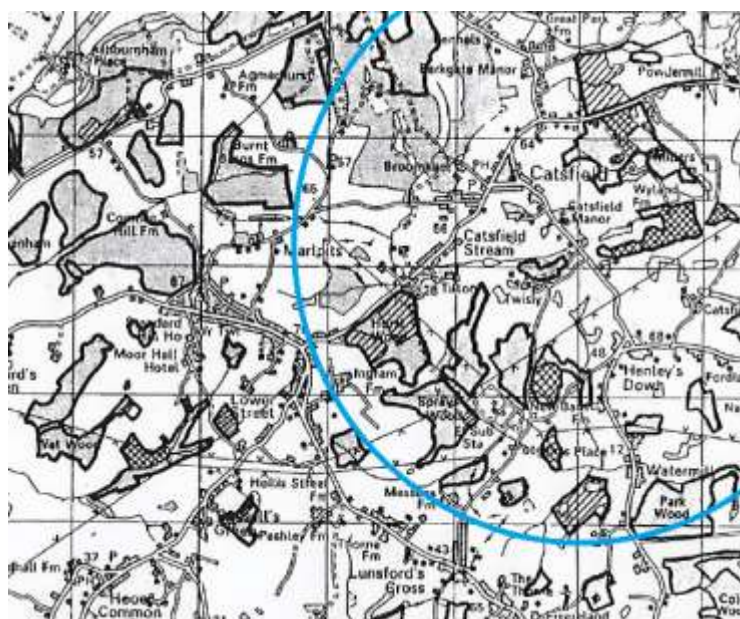
Definition: To be 'ancient' the woods have to have been in existence since 1600 in England and Wales, and 1750 in Scotland. According to The Woodland Trust just 2.5% of UK land is Ancient woodland. That's 609,990 hectares. They are divided into **two groups**.

1. **Ancient semi-natural woods** typically over 400 years old, perhaps thousands, perpetually and managed by man for timber.

*'Ancient woods are our richest and most complex terrestrial habitat in the UK and they are home to more threatened species than any other. Centuries of undisturbed soils and accumulated decaying wood have created the perfect place for communities of fungi and invertebrates. Other specialist species of*

*insects, birds and mammals rely on ancient woodlands.'*  
(Woodland Trust).

2. **Plantations on ancient woodland sites** which are ancient woods that have been felled and replanted with non-native species. Typically, these are conifers, but it can also include broadleaved planting such as non-native beech, red oak, and sweet chestnut. Although damaged, they all still have the complex soil of ancient woodland, and all are considered to contain remnants of the woodland specialist species which occurred before (Woodland Trust).



Part of Catsfield parish taken from OS 1:50,000 map sheet 199. Map 15.  
© Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright (2005)<sup>10</sup>

Open Black lines: Ancient semi-natural woodland

Horizontal line within: Ancient replanted woodland

Hatched: land cleared since the production of the First Series OS

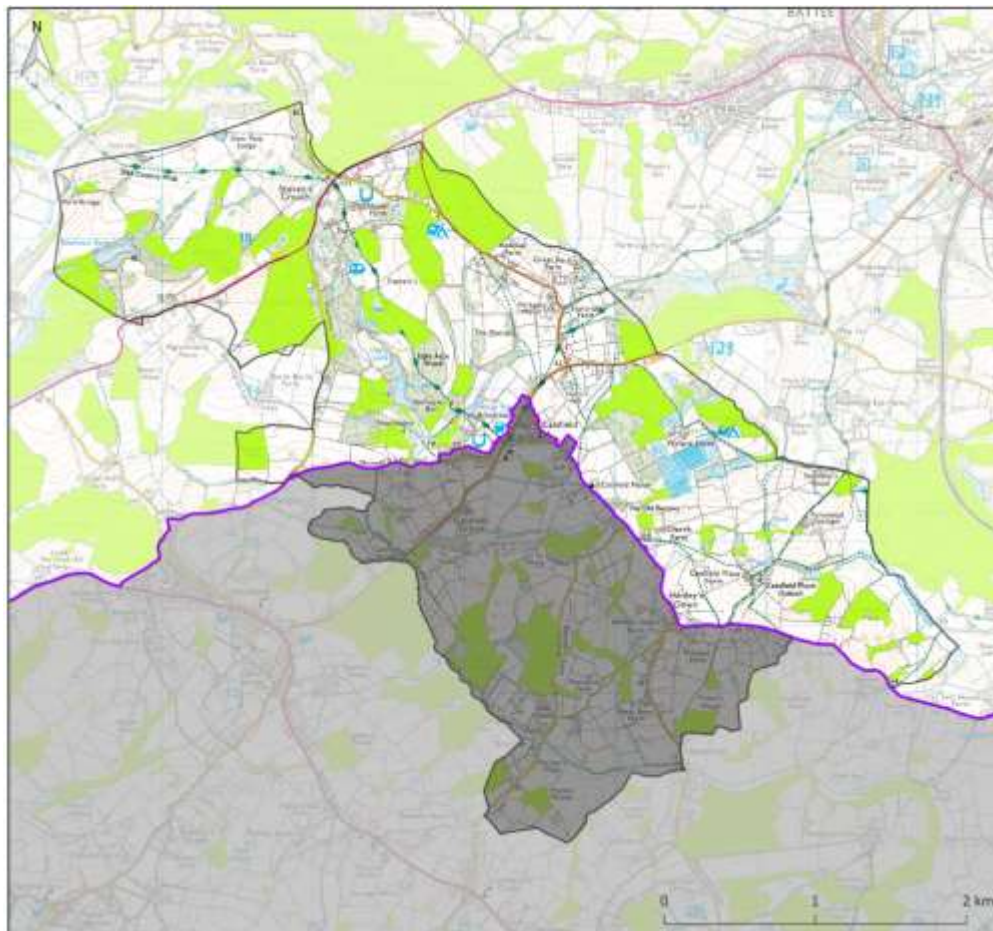
The following plan shows more detail on the Ancient woodlands (showing in a lime green) within the AONB part of the parish. Fore Wood is the major block of woodland (in Crowhurst parish – the Catsfield boundary is the stream on the western edge of the wood), with other fragments to the east and south east.

The following map was provided by the AONB unit in Flimwell in 2020. It shows the Ancient Woodlands in the parish: 28 in the AONB and 18 outside the AONB, but inside the parish.

<sup>10</sup> East Sussex Inventory of Ancient Woodland (Provisional), by Nature Conservancy Council. Compiled by A. Whitbread, J. Barton and D. Hutton, based on the provisional inventory of January 1984.

**Ecological and conservation warning!** All of the 46 Ancient woodlands are isolated and not joined up. This is bad for ecology since this lack of connectivity does not provide continuous wildlife corridors. Isolation of habitats confines species to those areas and the health of their populations decline and suffer.

Where conservation effort can be deployed in the parish it would be a good idea to link up these Ancient woodlands, with, perhaps newly planted hedgerows of native species (oak, hazel, hornbeam).



© High Weald AONB, © Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright (2005). All rights reserved. Wildlife Matters Licence Number 100002077. (retrieved 08 Feb 2020)

There is some variance with these figures, as there are groups of woodland, some inter-connected, particularly in the Ashburnham and central areas of the parish.

Overall, the parcels of woodland are not connected as much as would be desirable for connectability and linkage reasons, and efforts should be made therefore to connect them by planting hedgerows in the future.

There are several ways of looking at the woodlands of the parish in terms of available maps. These are assessed according to:

- 1839. The 1839 Tithe Map
- 2005. Ancient Woodland ESCC plan of 2005
- 2021. Sussex Wildlife Ancient Woodland Map.
- 2020. AONB map of Ancient Woodlands
- 2021. Ancient Woodlands as shown on magic.gov.uk
- 2021. An up to date Table of Woodlands



The SE end of the parish along Crowhurst Road from Tithe Map of 1839, showing seven blocks of woodland still present today.



Here the area that is now Wylands Angling Centre, where in 1839 there were only two small ponds and no road connecting to Powdermill Road.

## Priority habitats and Section 41 Habitats

As can be seen from this RDC plan the parish is dotted with 'priority habitats'.

### What are Priority Habitats and S41 habitats?

These are habitats that had to be found and identified in Britain by law, for instance the NERC 2006 and Environment Act 2016.<sup>11</sup> This brought about the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats and list of BAP species. In terms of any planning development within the parish, the presence of BAP habitats and BAP species have to be considered and taken into account.

The kinds of BAP species that are present in the parish include Hedgehog, Song Thrust and Starling.

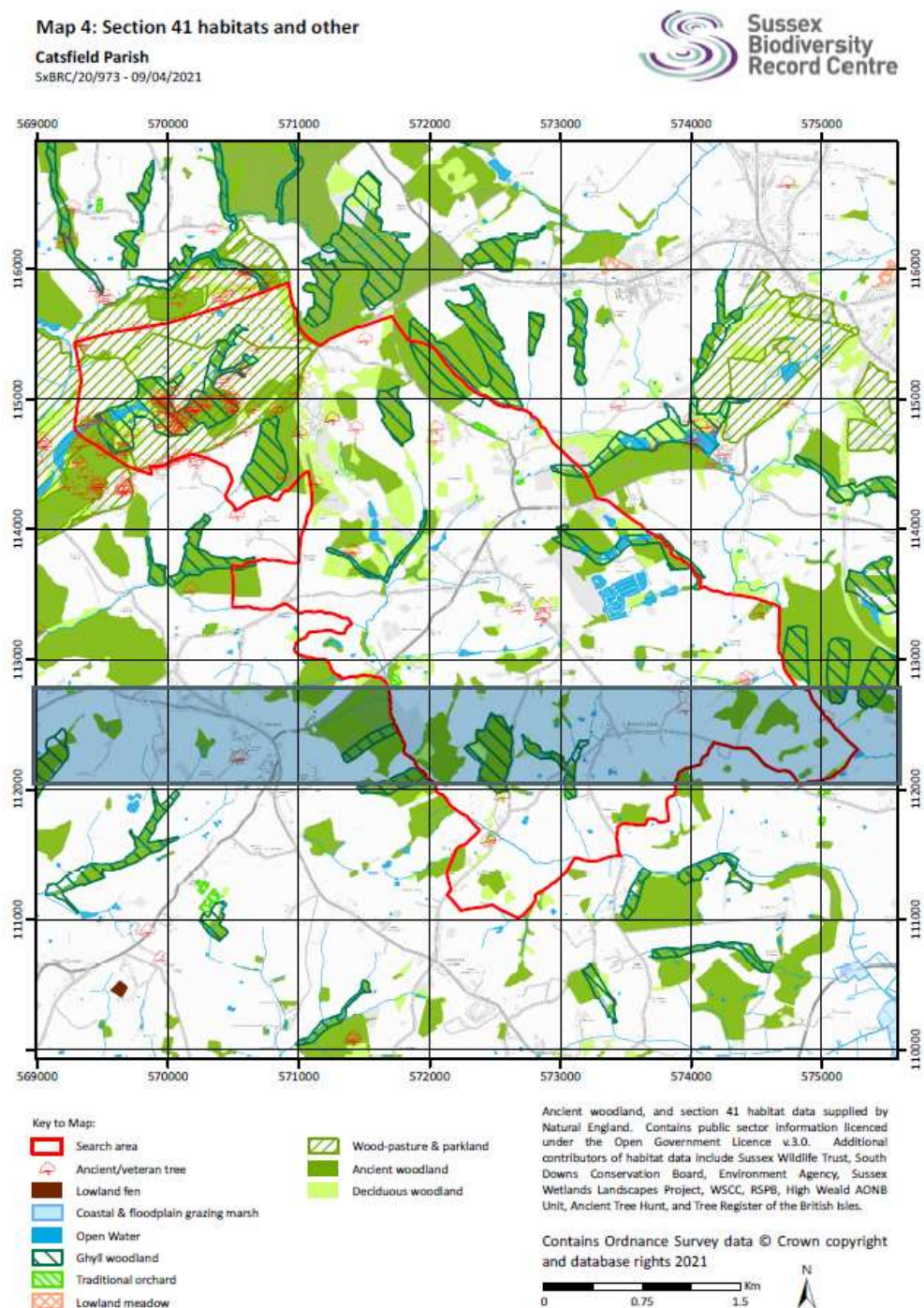
The plan below shows that there are about 60 Section 41 habitats in the parish. What is alarming is that they are not joined up. This is not conducive to nature conservation where continuity of habitats is important for wildlife.



Priority Habitats in the parish (with archaeology in brown)  
<https://maps.rother.gov.uk/tpo.html> (retrieved 04 October 2021)  
© Ordnance Survey, © Rother District Council

<sup>11</sup> The UK list of priority habitats, however, remains an important reference source and has been used to help draw up statutory lists of priority habitats in [England](#), [Scotland](#), [Wales](#) and [Northern Ireland](#), as required under [Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities \(NERC\) Act 2006](#) (England), [Section 7 of the Environment \(Wales\) Act 2016](#), [Section 2\(4\) of the Nature Conservation \(Scotland\) Act 2004](#), and [Section 3\(1\) of the Wildlife and Natural Environment Act \(Northern Ireland\) 2011](#) (retrieved from JNCC, 25 October 2021)

**Section 41 habitats** are those habitats that were identified under the Section 41 of the NERC act. Many of these are shown in the following plan supplied by the Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre.



### Wood-pasture and Parkland

This is a type of ancient habitat, which is usually very biodiverse as it has old trees which particularly support rare beetles. In Catsfield there most of the Ashburnham estate supports this rich habitat (see hatched area).

Table WM02 Ancient Woodlands, S41 habitats and shaws in the parish **DRAFT**  
**Woods marked in red are those shown on the Tithe Map of 1839**  
**Black (bold)** = un-named woodlands, or appropriate made-up names  
**YELLOW** highlighted – in the Normanhurst Estate  
**BLUE** – bluebell woods

| Name                            | Where                    | Map Ref    | Bluebell Woods Carpets (blue) | ANCIENT WOODLAND | S41 Priority Woodlands | In AONB | Private, i.e. no access |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Aldergill Shaw                  | W of Broomham Hs         | TQ71891383 |                               | yes              | yes                    | AONB    | FP on edge              |
| Bogey Wood                      | Off Skinners Lane        | TQ71861366 |                               | yes              | yes                    | AONB    | FP past                 |
| Breton's Wood                   | N of Marlpits            | TQ721114   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Brown's Wood                    | S of Powdermill Lane     | TQ730139   |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Burnthouse Wood                 | S of Powdermill Lane     | TQ73501403 |                               | no               |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Captain's Wood (E)              | S of Battle Gate Lodge   | TQ71751480 | present                       |                  | yes                    | AONB    | private                 |
| Captain's Wood (central)        | W beside 1066 C.Walk     |            | present                       |                  |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Chantlers Shaw                  | At T-junction of B2204   | TQ71691563 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Chantlers Wood                  | W of B2204               | TQ71691535 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Coal Wood 'East'                | Part of Wylands SE       | TQ741134   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    |                         |
| Crowhurst Wood                  | E of Old Rectory         | TQ73221343 |                               |                  |                        |         | private                 |
| Crowland Wood                   | N of Glebe Cottages      | TQ73181314 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Downland Wood                   | S Normanhurst Cotts      | TQ71251421 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Eight Acre Wood                 | E of 1066 walk           | TQ71771417 |                               | yes              | part                   | AONB    | FP on edge              |
| Eleven Acre Wood                | NNW of Sub-station       | TQ72061241 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Flats Wood                      | S of The Brooks          | TQ72441347 |                               | yes              |                        | no      | private                 |
| Footway Wood                    | Now a ploughed field     | TQ4071344  | no                            | yes              |                        |         |                         |
| Francis Wood                    | E of Potmans Lane        | TQ724112   |                               | yes              |                        |         |                         |
| Freckley Wood                   | E of Freckley Hollow     | TQ70781454 |                               |                  |                        | AONB    |                         |
| Upper Freckley Wd               | W of Freckley Hollow     |            |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    |                         |
| Hammonds Wood                   | Nr Potmans Lane          | TQ727120   |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Henley's Down Shaw              | N side Crowhurst Rd      | TQ73641245 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Hoathybank Wood                 | In Powdermills Wood      | TQ73181456 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Hopgarden Wood                  | N of Skinners Lane       | TQ71551374 | present                       | yes              | yes                    | AONB    | FP through              |
| Hophouse Farm 1 (Bluebell Wood) | S of Courtlands          | TQ714131   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Hophouse Farm 2 (Top Pond Wood) | On Footpath              | TQ712131   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Hophouse Farm 3 (Stream Wood)   | Near road                | TQ712131   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Kell Wood                       | Wylands Farm, E of       | TQ736138   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Kiln Shaw                       | N of Catsfield Place     | TQ74011302 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    |                         |
| Lake Wood                       |                          |            |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Little Marland Pltn             | N of Skinners Lane       | TQ71381365 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    |                         |
| Long Shaw                       | NE of Catsfield Place    | TQ74201281 |                               | yes              |                        |         | FP through              |
| Milestone Toll Wood'            | Pt of Ashburnham Pk      | TQ70421492 |                               |                  |                        | SSSI    |                         |
| Moore's Wood                    | N of Broomham            | TQ71991407 | present                       | yes              | yes                    | APNB    | FP past                 |
| (un-named wood)                 | E of Moores'N of Rec     | TQ72321417 |                               | no, too wet      |                        |         |                         |
| Nashes Farm N of Road           | W of FP with pond        | TQ74861212 |                               |                  |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Nashes Farm N of Road           | W of FP lower down       | TQ74991234 |                               |                  |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Nashes Farm N of Road           | E of FP lower of Hill Hs | TQ75091215 |                               |                  |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Nashes Farm N of Road           | N side opp Nashes        | TQ75111215 |                               |                  |                        |         | private                 |
| No Name Wood                    | N of Normanhurst         | TQ         |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Pitfield Wood                   | E of Catsfield Place     | TQ74361261 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Potman's Dell / pond            | Opp The Old Rectory      | TQ73011310 | no                            | no               |                        |         |                         |
| Potmans Wood                    | E of Potmans Lane        | TQ727116   |                               | yes              |                        |         | private                 |
| Powdermill Wood (pt)            | N of Powdermill Wood     | TQ73481451 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Reed Wood                       | NW of Sub-station        | TQ72071216 |                               | yes              |                        |         | private                 |
| Senlac Wood                     | S of Tellis Coppice      | TQ72161510 |                               | yes              |                        |         |                         |
| Sharpe's Farm Wood'             | Henley's Down            | TQ73631207 |                               |                  |                        |         | private                 |
| South Wood                      | N of Sub-station         | TQ72471234 |                               | yes              |                        |         |                         |
| Spratts Wood                    | At Shawland Farm         | TQ73061197 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Spring Shaw                     | N Catsfield Place Fm     | TQ73831294 |                               | yes              |                        |         |                         |
| Staveswood Bank                 | Off 1066 walk            | 716146     |                               | yes              | yes                    | AONB    |                         |
| Steven's Crouch Wd              | NW side of A271          | TQ73631207 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    |                         |
| Stonequarry Wood                | E of Catsfield Place     | TQ74671256 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Stumble's Wood                  | N Powdermill Cotts       | TQ745134   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| Tellis Coppice (pt)             | S of A271                | TQ722152   |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    | private                 |
| The Gardens                     | Off 1066 walk            | TQ71081506 |                               | yes              |                        | AONB    |                         |
| The Great Wood                  | E of Freckley Hollow     |            |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| The Grove                       | Ashburnham Pk            | TQ69541474 |                               | yes              |                        |         |                         |
| The Warren                      | W of Parkgate Manor      | TQ72301443 |                               |                  | yes                    | AONB    |                         |
| Tilden's Wood                   | E off Watermill Lane     | TQ74671256 |                               | yes              |                        |         |                         |
| Tilton Wood                     | E of Catsfield Stream    | TQ71911298 |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Turnip Field Wood               | E of 1066 walk           | TQ71711457 | no                            |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Twisly Wood                     | NW off Potmans Lane      | TQ72711297 | likely                        | yes              |                        |         | private                 |
| Wayfield Shaw                   | E of Glebe Farm          | TQ73601300 |                               |                  |                        |         | private                 |
| Weeks Wood                      | N of Skinners Lane       | TQ71691535 |                               | yes              | yes                    | AONB    | FP through              |
| Whitesfield Shaw                | On Twisly estate         | TQ72391277 |                               |                  |                        |         | private                 |
| Wrights Wood                    | W of Freckley Hollow     |            |                               |                  |                        |         |                         |
| Wyland Wood                     | Wylands Farm             | TQ732139   |                               | yes              |                        |         | FP through              |

The above table is a working document. Many of these woods need to be confirmed.

- Brown indicates Ancient woodland.
- Blue indicates bluebell woods. Thus far we can say there are at least 28 bluebell woods. The rest need to be confirmed on the ground.
- Red indicates woods shown on the Tithe Map of 1839; some do not exist now, or are part of newer woods in the area.

There are also different spellings, for instance

- Wyland Wood is spelt *Whyland Wood*.
- Kell Wood is shown on the map as *Whyland Hell Wood*
- Crowhurst Wood is east of the Old Rectory, and was continuous with Coal Wood
- *Turnip Field Wood* is east of Downland Wood, and seems to be part of Eight Acre Wood, or is lost.
- Stonequarry Wood is called *Stone Quarry Wood* in the Tithe 1839 map.
- Hophouse Farm was called Hop House Farm in the Tithe 1839 map

**The following Bluebell Woods are present in the Normanhurst Estate (A-Z), most visible to the general public via the 1066 County Walk.**



**Aldergill Shaw, May 2023** © John Feltwell



**Bogey Wood, May 2023** © John Feltwell



**Downland Wood, May** © Tim Macpherson



**Eight Acre Wood, May 2023** © John Feltwell



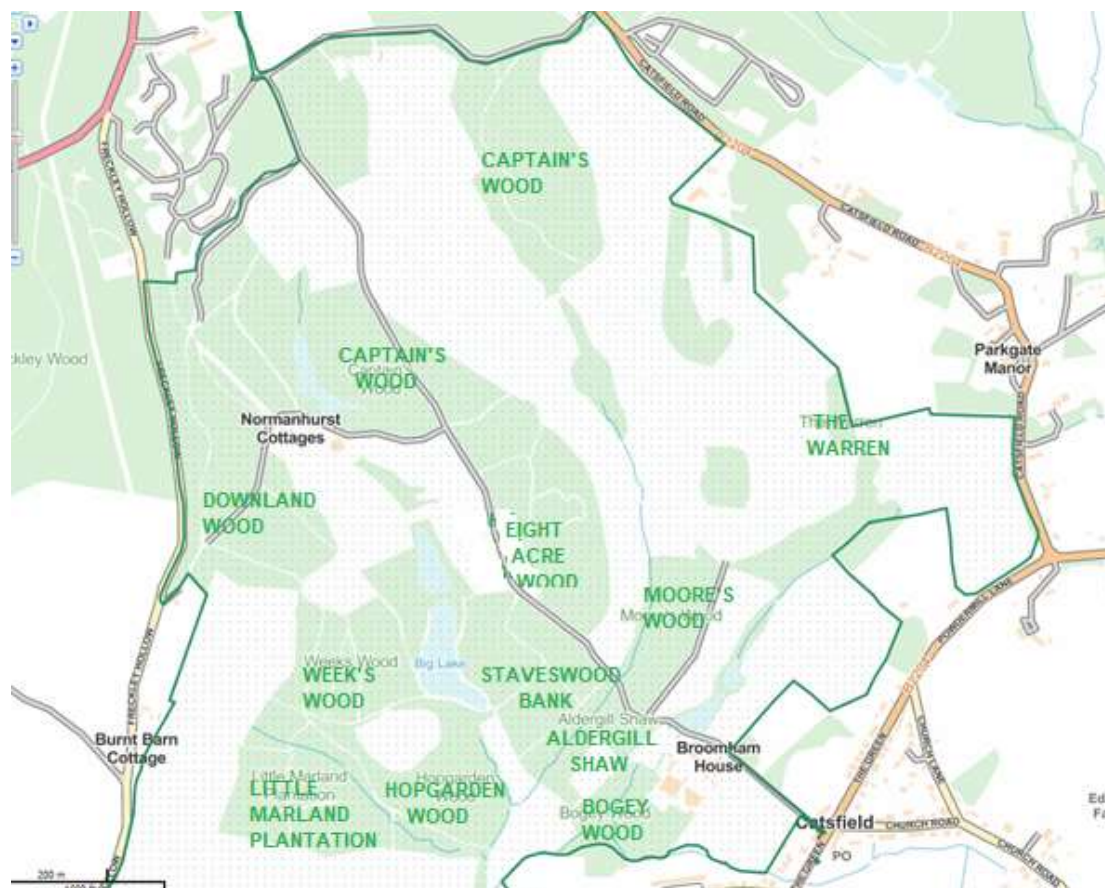
**No Name Wood, May 2023** © John Feltwell



**Staveswood, May 2023** © John Feltwell



**Weeks Wood, May 2023** © John Feltwell



The named woodland within Normanhurst, annotated by the author, using the Rother plan for Ancient Woodland and s41 Priority Woodlands (2023). 'No name woodland' is at the top of the 1066 Country Walk.



**Kell Wood. 17.2.2013** Hornbeam coppice © John Feltwell

## **Ancient Woodlands**

The natural history of Ancient woodlands is that they are rich in species, i.e. biodiverse. This is because they have been in existence for hundred of years. The typical scenario in Catsfield is for woods to be worked for timber, so that woods are ecologically called either 'coppices' or 'coppice with standards'. The latter is when there are oak trees grown as a standing crop for perhaps a 100 years before felling for house and barn building, whilst the coppice is generally cut on a 15 cycle. The timber grown is typically Sweet Chestnut (such as in Tellis Coppice) or Hornbeam as in Reed Wood. The only Ancient Woodland that gives a hint at its natural history is Aldergill Shaw which is likely to be wet and that is where Alder usually grows.

The parish is generally well stocked with woodland. There are aggregations of named woodlands in various areas of the parish, for instance all these woods are connected just west of the A2204: Downland Wood, Weeks Wood, Eight Acre Wood, Hopgarden Wood, Aldergill Shaw, Bogey Wood and Little Marland Plantation, and these woods are around the Wyland Lakes: Similarly Wyland Wood, Brown Wood, Burnthouse Wood, Kell Wood and Crownland wood are connected.

## **Ghylls (gills)**

A feature of the HWAONB is ghylls. Ghylls<sup>12</sup>. These are steep gulleys in the topography that are generally very humid. The ecological significance is that they support bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) of which Catsfield has a number of species. Freckley Hollow is a fine example of a sunken road which has become a ghyll.

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<sup>12</sup> Alternatively spelt as gill or gil. 'A deep rocky cleft or ravine, usually wooded and forming the course of a stream. A brook or rivulet 1625' ex. Shorter Oxford English Dictionary. – which neatly sums up ecology and topography of Fore Wood.



There is a long avenue of mature Sweet Chestnut, *Castanea sativa*, along the Kitchenham Road, planted on the Ashburnham Estate.

## Trees



Coppicing in Hopgarden Wood, February 2021



Redwoods on the 1066 trail



Yews in St Laurence cemetery



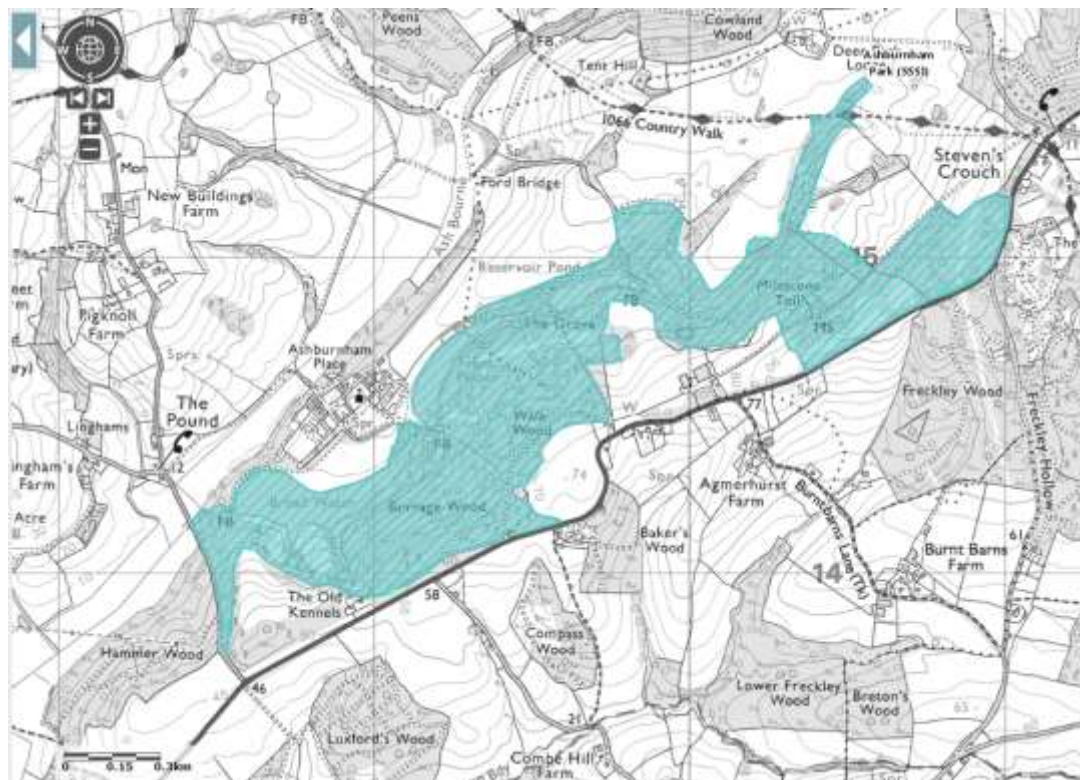
‘Arduis saepe metu nunquam’ "Often in difficulty, never in fear."



The surviving oak tree opposite the post office, in 2021 (above & below)



## The Ashburnham SSSI



There is a single SSSI in Catsfield, and it is the 'Ashburnham Park' SSSI. Extensive at 110.7 (ha) 273.5 (ac) just more than 50% is within the parish boundary. The Catsfield boundary actually goes through one of the lakes, a feature that landscape architect Capability Brown, who designed the park, may have known about, but perhaps was not minded to do anything about. Most of the park is private but the 1066 Country Walk goes through a small piece of the park in the north-east.

The park is mostly retained as an old deer park. Deer parks are usually centres of biodiversity because of the density of old timbers. The ancient woodland within the park is said to be one of the largest in the south east. The Grove and the Milestone Toll are both within the parish, but on private land. The SSSI can be appreciated for several 100m along the A271 at the Milestone Toll and Burrage Wood (private) about the A271.

Ecologically, the list of 160 lichen species is remarkable.

## The Ashburnham SSSI Citation

COUNTY: EAST SUSSEX SITE NAME: ASHBURNHAM PARK

DISTRICT: ROTHER

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Local Planning Authority: ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: TQ 695148 Area: 110.7 (ha.) 273.5 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheets 1:50,000: 199 1:10,000: TQ 61 SE, TQ 71 SW, TQ 71 NW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1972 Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986 Date of Last Revision: –

### Other Information:

This site is listed in 'A Nature Conservation Review'.

### Reasons for Notification:

Ashburnham is a former medieval deer park lying on Tunbridge Wells Sandstone and Wadhurst Clay. The ancient woodland is one of the largest remaining areas of its kind in the country and contains many overmature trees with outstanding lichen floras. The site also supports a diverse breeding bird community.

The woodland forms three blocks separated by parkland, and a number of small deciduous and mixed plantations are also present. A stream which flows through the site has been dammed to form three ornamental lakes adding to the habitat-diversity of the site.

Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* – beech *Fagus sylvatica* woodland covers the majority of the site including all of the northern outlier. It varies from a closed high forest to a very open woodland with holly *Ilex aquifolium* and birch *Betula* species and a shrub layer of bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* and bramble *Rubus fruticosus*. Mature Scots pines *Pinus sylvestris* occur throughout. The ground flora is limited but includes Cornish Moneywort *Sibthorpia europaea* in one of its few south-east locations, and the rare hay-scented buckler-fern *Dryopteris aemula* an 'Atlantic' species usually found in the west of Britain.

## The Ashburnham SSSI Citation, continued....

Overmature oaks and beeches occur throughout and support a great variety of epiphytic lichens with over 160 species recorded from the site as a whole. Holly is also an important host supporting a number of particularly interesting species which are not common this far east of the New Forest.

Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* is more frequent on calcareous soils in the west of the site while damp alder *Alnus glutinosa* woodland occupies the stream valleys and lake margins. Areas of coppiced hazel *Corylus avellana*, hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* and

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sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa* occur throughout the site, and there are also small mixed plantations and many scattered exotic species. Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* is an invasive problem in some places.

The woodland breeding bird community has been rated as of county importance and includes species such as little owl, woodcock, marsh and willow tits, and all three species of British woodpecker.

The lakes have a rather restricted aquatic flora. White water-lily *Nymphaea alba* and yellow water-lily *Nuphar lutea* are present, and also the rare red pondweed *Potamogeton alpinus*. Fringing vegetation is dominated by reed sweet grass *Glyceria maxima*, common reed *Phragmites australis* and great reedmace *Typha latifolia*.



The 1066 Country Walk passes through this finger of the Ashburnham SSSI that is much more extensive to the south and west. It is full of different aged trees, and different species of tree, all of which assist in increasing biodiversity.

## The 1066 Country Walk goes through Ashburnham (and past the White Hart Public House).



Old trees, including lime, on Tent Hill, Ashburnham

## The 1066 Country Walk goes through Ashburnham



These photographs are taken on the 1066 Country Park



**Tent Hill.** Re-planting of trees to replace aging ancient and veteran trees of Ashburnham Park, here with The Chequer Tree, *Sorbus terminalis*, a native species which will add to invertebrate biodiversity.

## Before and After No. 1



**BEFORE in 1981.** View of Wylands Farm, from Powdermill Lane, showing the remaining standard oak trees in October 1981, after grants were offered nationwide for the removal of ancient woodlands to grow crops.<sup>13</sup> The area was later re-planted as shown below.



**AFTER in 2021.** Same location 31 years later with a hawthorn and hazel hedgerow on the roadside with trees behind.

<sup>13</sup> Shoard, M. 1980. *The Theft of the Countryside*. Temple Smith. 271pp.

## Before and After No. 2

### Hedgerow Loss in Skinners Lane



**BEFORE in 2015 Skinners Lane**



**AFTER in 2021 Skinners Lane**

## Before and After No. 3



**BEFORE in 2016** Skimmers Lane 05 August 2016



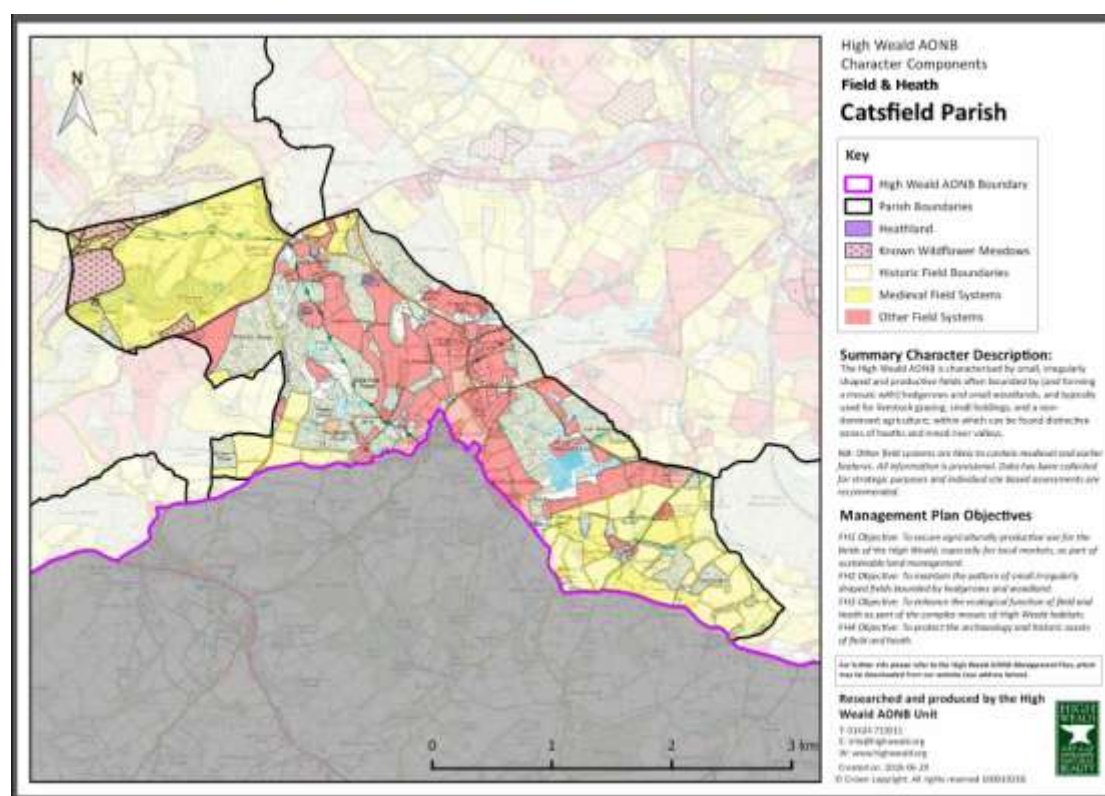
**AFTER in 2021** Hedgerow removal, and replanted in 2021. Skimmers Lane, 27 May 2021

## Medieval Field Systems

According to the AONB unit there are several 'Medieval Field Systems' (coloured in yellow below) within the AONB part of the parish in two major areas: north of the Kitchenham Road, and in the southeast part of the parish. Other, smaller areas, are around Steven's Crouch, and Hophouse Farm. There will be other such fields in the non-AONB area to the south, but these have not been investigated here.

No surveys of the ancient fields and meadows of the parish has ever been carried out. The veracity of the medieval field systems needs to be checked out on the ground; for the AONB's classification is likely to have been determined from aerial surveys.

The following plan from the AONB unit shows the 'Field & Heath' areas in the parish (only the AONB area). The plan is labelled 'Field & Heath' but for the avoidance of doubt there are no known heathland habitats in the parish (which is a pity as heathlands have excellent biodiversity).



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## Farms role in creating the landscape

Although Catsfield is mentioned in the Domesday Book (1086) as having ‘a *little church serving the hall*’<sup>14</sup> there is no mention of how many farms there may have been serving the community. Where was the hall? Early communities were likely to be centred around water supplies, so the Broomham area of lakes may have been an early settlement. So too Twisly Farm where the only Roman remains in the parish have been found.

Fast-forward to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Tithe map of 1839 shows the presence of nine farms. The following farms are within the village and they have been responsible for fashioning the habitat mix of meadows, woods, hedgerows and tracks.

Black: Older farms.

Blue: Modern Farms from OS maps & [magic.gov.uk](https://magic.gov.uk)

1. Broomham Farm
2. Burrowhide Farm - chickens
3. Brakendale Farm
4. Catsfield Place Farm
5. Church Farm
6. Chequers Farm
7. Christmas Tree Farm
8. Courtlodge Farm<sup>15</sup>
9. Diamond Farm
10. Eastons Farm (now called Courtlands)
11. Glebe Farm
12. Great Park Farm
13. Henleys Down Farm --- used to be hops, dairy, pigs
14. Hop House Farm (now called Hophouse Farm) hops
15. Mantel Farm - chickens
16. Model Farm
17. New Barn Farm
18. Park Farm
19. Potmans Farm
20. Redcoat Farm – fruit?
21. Sharpes Farm - sheep, cattle
22. Shawland Farm
23. Starcross Farm
24. Tilton Farm
25. Twisly Oak Farm
26. Woodlands Farm
27. Wyland Farm - fish

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<sup>14</sup> [Catsfield - Wikipedia](#)

<sup>15</sup> Courtlodge Farm is at the bottom of Station Road in Crowhurst, but the Tithe map of Catsfield shows the last part of Catsfield along the Crowhurst Road being part of Courtlodge Farm. It was not uncommon for farmers to work fields in different parishes as they do today.

## Ancient Meadows

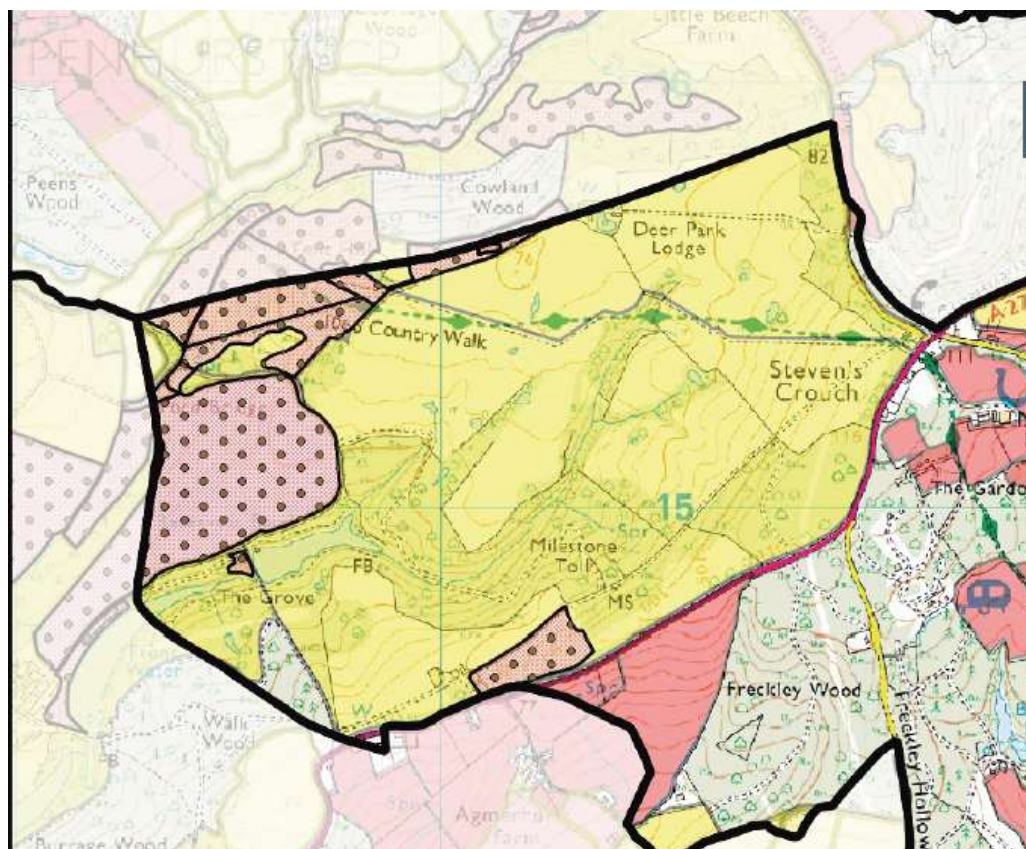
The AONB Unit recognises 'Known Wildflower Meadows' in that part of the parish within the AONB, as shown in the enlarged portion of the map shown in a spotted pattern.

The particular meadows as shown in the following plan are

**Table WM03 Meadows**

| Wildflower Meadow | Location            | Map Ref    |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Ashburnham        | Beside A271         | TQ70221464 |
| Ashburnham        | 1066 walk Tent Hill | TQ69541511 |
| Ashburnham        | Private land        | TQ69541511 |

The wildflower meadows in the NW is an area through which the 1066 Walk passes through, so it is accessible to the general public. The other areas are on private land associated with Ashburnham Place. A small area can be observed from the busy Kitchenham Road, but there are no pavements there.

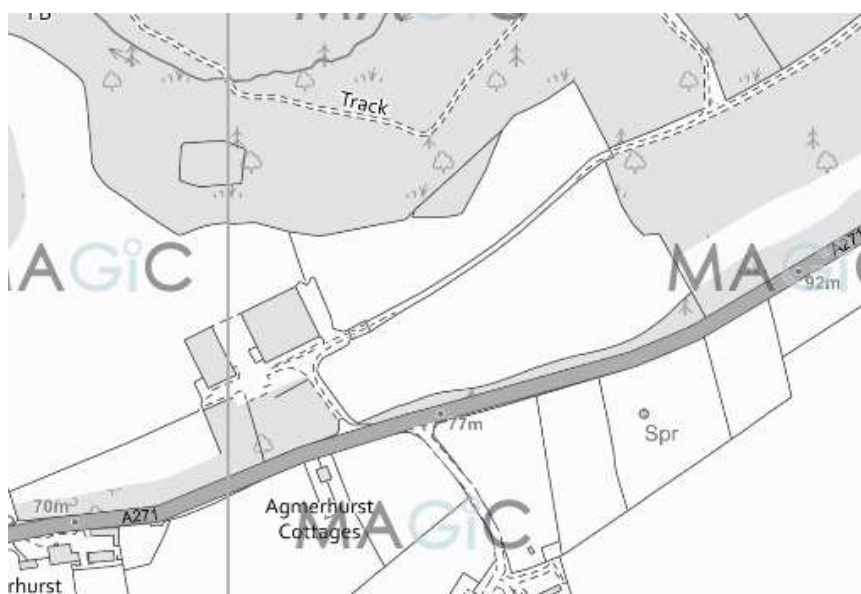


### Re. Ashburnham meadows – info from the AONB unit.

The data source for the original wildflower meadows data layer came via data collation from the **Weald Meadows Initiative** which ran for 14 years 1996-2010. This was then updated in 2017, to merge the **Natural England Priority Habitat Inventory** data. The three fields named above were in the **Environmental Stewardship** schemes at the time, HLS. The AONB unit would not have had a species list if the data came only from the NE dataset.

The fields would have originally been surveyed in the **Weald Meadows Initiative**. It would appear that these fields were added to the AONB fields data layer in 2017 directly from Natural England's data set.

Meadows are associated with small medieval fields when there was less intensive agriculture, where there would not have been so much ploughing and leaving fields for hay. Some background on the natural history of meadows can be gleaned from John Feltwell's book on *Meadows*<sup>16</sup>.



Ancient meadows support high rates of biodiversity. Many ancient meadows are likely to be present in parish, and only two have so far been identified.



Winter scene of a biodiverse meadow, shared with moles  
More views of the same meadow follow:

<sup>16</sup> The author of this audit has written John Feltwell (1992). '*Meadows, A History and Natural History*'. Alan Sutton. 206pp



5 August 2015



10 February 2021



© John Feltwell Drone footage of church and school 25 June 2018  
(and meadow on the opposite side of the road to St Laurence Church)



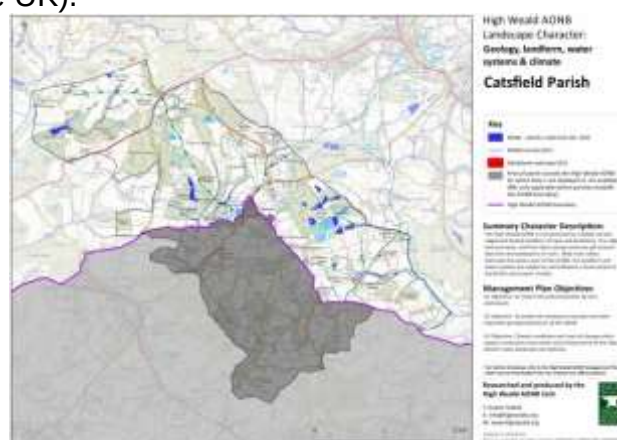
Wildflower Designated Verge at the bottom of Freckley Hollow, 2021

Freckley Hollow is within the AONB, and planning application **RR/2023/217/P** of 2022 threatened to destroy much of the fabric (trees along the ghyll) to make way for two entrances into the Normanhurst Estate.

There are quite a few un-documented sandstone outcrops down the heavily eroded Freckley Hollow within the parish. There is also an outcrop down the parish boundary lane to Penhurst off the A271. The AONB landscape character map (below) does not show any sandstone outcrops. The AONB unit has this to say in 2021:

*'With regards to the sandstone outcrops in Freckley Hollow, the original metadata acknowledges that this is again not a comprehensive inventory. This means that it cannot be used as a record of the most valuable sandstone outcrops in the High Weald. Therefore, should be treated as indicative and as above, providing an initial representation of the distribution, density and pattern of sandstone outcrops across the landscape of the High Weald. I'm not aware of any updates to these maps since original production nor, any likely updates in the near future at least.'*

Sandstone Outcrops are important habitats in their own right as breeding habitats for solitary bees (ca. 250 species in the UK) and solitary wasps (ca. 250 species in the UK).



## The AONB plan of landscape character



Sandstone outcrop in Freckley Hollow

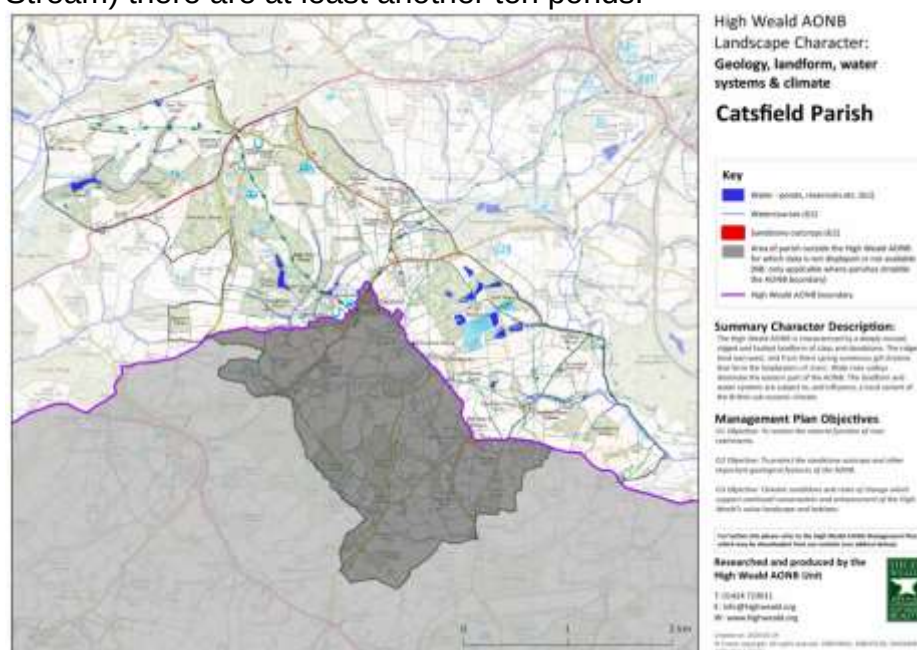
## Ponds, lakes and springs

There are about c33 ponds in the parish according to the AONB plans.<sup>17</sup>

The AONB Unit kindly provided the 'Water – ponds- reservoirs etc.' map as shown below. It shows in bright blue the water bodies (however not all as some in light blue have been missed). Taking the ponds in the two watersheds, first those in Ashburnham area amount to about 10 ponds including two at Ashburnham Place (the parish boundary goes through the middle of one of the lakes indicating that the man-made Capability Brown lake was constructed after Mr Brown's work.

In the rest of the parish that is within the AONB there is a series of large lakes in a row east of Frickley Hollow, namely Bridge Lake, Upper Lake and Big Lake. South of Powdermills Road there are the ten man-made lakes of Wylands Farm, and another (at least) seven others that are to the north of Crowhurst Road before the south east end of the parish.

In the rest of Catsfield that is not within the AONB (including Catsfield Stream) there are at least another ten ponds.



**High Weald AONB, © Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright (2005). All rights reserved. Wildlife Matters Licence Number 100002077. (retrieved 08 Feb 2020)**

In interpreting the above map (i.e. some ponds are blue, some are not), the AONB unit point out that these maps were not meant to be completely definitive. There is a difference between ponds and waterways.

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.highweald.org/downloads/publications/parish-information.html>

*'The maps were put together in 2016 from data that was collated seven years earlier. At the time if a pond did not fit the **Pond Conservation Trust** description of a pond it was removed. The two waterbodies by Catsfield Place, have been categorised as watercourses rather than ponds. The same would apply to Bridge Lake. With regards to the Wyland Farm, only a small percentage of these looping manmade waterways which are seen on the OS and our map are on Wylands own literature, which may indicate that these are not permanent waterways'*

Historically there were only one or two small ponds at Wylands according to the tithe maps, and no access to the Powdermill Lane. Nearly all of the Wyland lakes were excavated in the 1970s.

As for reservoirs the map shows the largest pond of all in the parish at Ashburnham marked as the Reservoir Pond.

There is another reservoir north of Catsfield Place, set within a small piece of woodland.

There are a number of ponds within woodlands which often reflects human activities (e.g. Digging out clay – marl – reflected in some parish house names. There is no known 'Decoy Ponds' within woodland for luring wildfowl, as in Crowhurst.

The number of garden ponds in the parish has yet to be researched.

## Broomham's Seven Ponds – a flourishing fish farm?

A series of seven ponds at Broomham Farm used to deliver water to the stream that flowed southwest to Catsfield Stream. The origin of the water is the wet woodland to the northwest of the Recreation Ground. All of the ponds are on private land, but the Bridlepath through Broomham passes the end of Plot 92 (on the Tithe Map of 1839) which is now called the Horse Pond.



The Horse pond is the most obvious of the surviving ponds as it is on the 1066 Country Walk, and it is currently fished by members of The Hastings Bexhill and District Freshwater Angling Association.



Horse Pond at Broomham

**A list of the ponds in the parish is shown below:****Ponds, N of the A271**

1. Lake at Ashburnham
2. Deer Park Lodge
3. N of 1066 County Walk
4. N of 1066 County Walk
5. The Grove: Large lake
6. The Grove: small pond 1
7. The Grove: small pond 2
8. Steven's Crouch
9. Spring close to road, SE Freckley Wood
10. Horse Pond

**Ponds, S of the A271**

1. Bridge Lake
2. Upper Lake
3. Big Lake
4. Horse Eye 1
5. Horse Eye 2
6. The Warren (S of)

**Ponds, E of B2044**

1. Great Park Farm, Spring
2. Horn's Hill
3. Wylands Farm (x10)
4. Forewood Cottages
5. Catsfield Place (x 3) eastwards along FP
6. Stonequarry wood (W of)
7. Church Farm wood (E of)
8. Pond in wood near boundary

**Ponds: not in the AONB**

1. Sharpe's Farm Wood
2. Tilden Wood
3. New Barn Farm (S of)
4. Diamond Farm
5. Potman's Place
6. Place (s of)
7. Twisly (x2) to N
8. Tildon (x2)
9. Catsfield Bridge (NW of) x 2

**Woods with ponds**

There are a number of woods in the parish which have ponds within them, often due to earlier marl workings. These include Catsfield Place Wood, Hop House Wood, Weeks Wood, Starveswood and Wyland Woods. This list is not definitive, and could be updated.



## A selection of parish ponds:

If Horse Pond was used at Broomham, another pond in the parish was also used for horses is in Henley's Down. It is said that horse-drawn carriages from Bexhill were watered by the time that they arrived in Henley's Down as the pond is adjacent to the road.



Henley's Down Pond. It was not here on the 1839 Tithe Map.



Normanhurst Lake in 2021



Farm pond nr junction of Spratt's Lane and Potman's Lane.  
Also, field was site of new electricity development in 2022



N of Catsfield Place on Footpath ....



By village school. Pond enclosed by vegetation



Pond at Holts 26 April 2015 on a Footpath



© John Feltwell. The Ashburnham Estate dominates much of the NW of Catsfield parish, though the buildings are in Ninfield. This Capability landscape was created from 1767 for The Earl of Ashburnham<sup>18</sup> and its landscape influence is present in the open countryside, and as part of the 1066 footpath (in the extreme left of the photograph) passes through the 'Front Water' just off the left hand side. It is photographed from the north-west; 'The Pound' would be slightly off screen to the right. Burrage Wood at the top is in Ninfield.

<sup>18</sup> Shields, S. 2016. *Moving Heaven & Earth, Capability Brown's Gift of Landscape*. Unicorn. 288pp/

## Lanes, hollows, tracks

### **Burntbarn, Chowders, Freckley, Potmans, Sprats, Skinners**

The ecological importance of these lanes is that they are often sunken, with high humidity, thus encouraging the growth of ferns, mosses and lichens.



**Burntbarn Track**



**Crowders Lane – Wickepia says this is the only Crowders Lane in England!**



### Freckley Hollow



Freckley Hollow 29 Feb 2015



### Potmans Lane



Spratts Lane – liable to flooding across the road (as here)  
27 December 2020



**Skinner's Lane 07 March 2014**



**Henley's Down –corner of triangle looking east**

## Streams

The Kitchenham Road (A271) is a watershed and ridge road, so that the streams on the Ashburnham Estate tend to flow southwest, through Ashburnham Place, under the Boreham Bridge (A269) and down into the Hoo RAMSAR and SSSI as the 'Waterlot Stream.'

The streams in the rest of Catsfield parish flow south and south west and join with the Powdermill Stream within Crowhurst Parish.

There are four places in the parish where a stream defines the parish boundary.

- i) A stream arising within Tellis Coppice and flowing southwest past Great Park Farm and feeding the lakes

within Powdermill Wood (mostly out of the parish), and thus to Crowhurst village (more than 1km with two lakes/ponds). This joins the next stream:

- ii) The Powdermill Stream separating Fore Wood SSSI from Catsfield (about 1km long).
- iii) An-unnamed stream which arises close to Court Wood (Ninfield) and drains next to the B2204 and joins the stream at Catsfield Stream, then flows SSE past Christmas Tree farm to the Ninfield Sub-station (in Catsfield) a distance of another 1km. This becomes the Watermill Stream.
- iv) Where the above stream later flows past the Ninfield sub-station is forms the boundary between Catsfield and Ninfield.

There are two named streams in the parish

1. Powdermill Stream – tributaries part arises SE of the Squirrel Pub (in Battle parish) and part in Catsfield parish beside the 1066 Country Walk near Starcroft Farm.

2. Watermill Stream – arises near Marl pits, northwest of Catsfield Stream, flows under the road at Catsfield Stream and then under Watermill Lane before flowing into Crowhurst parish.

3. Catsfield Stream – is the name of the community off-set from the centre of the village on road to Ninfield. It straddles both sides of the B road and there is a bridge over the stream commonly called the Catsfield Stream here before it becomes the Watermill Stream further east.

4. Trout Stream (tributary of Watermill Stream) - This arises in The Brooks, flows under the B2204 road SW of the Post Office, runs through the gardens of the original buildings in Skinners Lane, joins with water from the Broomham Horse Pond and a little stream that flows down from Captain's Wood, goes under the bridge at the bottom of Skinners Lane, beside Trout Stream Cottages, and then flows SW joining the Watermill Stream. There are members of the parish who recall trout and eels being present in Trout Stream.<sup>19</sup> A trout was seen by this consultant in the Catsfield Stream in 2020.

5. Un-named stream Spratt's Lane – this arises in Henley's Down and joins the Watermill Stream

6. Un-named stream in Tilden's Wood.

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<sup>19</sup> Philcox, P. 2021. pers.comm. 3.9.21

## Ecology of Catsfield streams

It appears that there has been no specific ecology survey carried out on the streams of the parish.

### Trout and Lampreys

Clearly the Trout stream is named after trout historically, and the species has been recorded by this consultant in recent years.

The Watermill Stream is not that distant from the sea and one would expect migratory fish to enter the parish.

As all these watercourses in the parish ultimately discharge into the sea, it is important to note that any water pollution in the streams will become water pollution in the sea.

Penny Philcox recalls that her friend Dawn Gray (née Humphrey) who grew up in Skinners Lane spent a lot of her time around Trout Stream and Broomham Lane, '*where she and her sisters often caught trout in the stream, usually near to the sewage works*'. 'There were lampreys everywhere along the stream.'<sup>20</sup>

Brook Lampreys, *Lampetra fluviatilis*, are UK BAP Priority fish species.

Brown/Sea Trout, *Salmo trutta* are also BAP species.

Recent proposal for development of The Brooks increased interest in Brook Lampreys and the possibility of them being in The Brooks, perhaps breeding in this headwater of the Trout Stream (see Rother Planning Application, **RR/2020/1562/P**)

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<sup>20</sup> Philcox, P. 2021. pers.comm. 3.9.21

## Development to the rear of The White Hart pub

Not far away from The Brooks is a proposal (allocation) for 35 houses behind the public house. It is also a watery site.

RDC have this to say about its likely effect on European sites to the south, such as Pevensey Levels:<sup>21</sup>

### Likely significant effect

This development lies within the Pevensey Levels Hydrological Catchment Area it is therefore considered probable that surface water discharge may reach the SAC/Ramsar given the well-connected ditch network. Therefore it is not possible to say *priori* that the development at The White Hart would not have likely significant effects on the European sites within regards to water quality. Note that this judgment is made **prior** to the consideration of any mitigation measures devised for the site or set out in Core Strategy policy.

- 5.12 For the Pevensey Levels, monitoring of water quality and associated pollution is principally undertaken by Natural England and the Environment Agency. In terms of proposed developments in the Council's local plan, it is not possible at this stage to be certain of the effectiveness of SuDS proposals for individual developments to maintain water quality. Hence, site-specific Appropriate Assessments may be necessary. This would be advised by Natural England.

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<sup>21</sup> [https://rdcpublish.blob.core.windows.net/website-uploads/2020/01/HRA\\_of\\_Pre-Submission\\_Rother\\_DaSA\\_270918.pdf](https://rdcpublish.blob.core.windows.net/website-uploads/2020/01/HRA_of_Pre-Submission_Rother_DaSA_270918.pdf)

## Flooding

Flooding is an issue that needs to be considered with regard to the climate emergency, but in Catsfield flooding appears not to be an issue (as it is in neighbouring Crowhurst).

It remains a big problem in Crowhurst (often annual flooded properties) with some waters that originate in Catsfield.

The incidents in Catsfield are the following:

- **2016** A flooding incident was noted (with photographs) in Skinners Lane at the CPC meeting of 3 Feb 2016.
- **2020** The stream that passes under Spratt's Lane frequently flows over the road but there are no roadside dwellings to flood.
- **2023** Some houses in Church Lane were flooded in early 2023.



Flooding across Spratt's Lane, Henley's Down, in spate 27 December 2020. The water arises from a spring in Henley's Down.

## Footpaths and ‘Important hedgerows’

The parish is well furnished with Public Footpaths (PF) as shown on this map produced by ESCC in their Definitive Map of Rights of Way of East Sussex.

The only two areas not served with PF are in the NW and SE.

Hedgerows, some of them are ‘ancient’ and ‘Important’ according to The Hedgerow Regulations 1997 support much of the biodiversity of the parish, especially if they are on the parish boundary.

Hedgerows are an important aspect and landscape feature of the English countryside, albeit a man-made one that has integrated into the environment and has a rich biodiversity. Regulations introduced in 1997 made it an offence to remove a hedge which is over 30 years old and longer than 20 metres without local authority consent.<sup>22</sup>

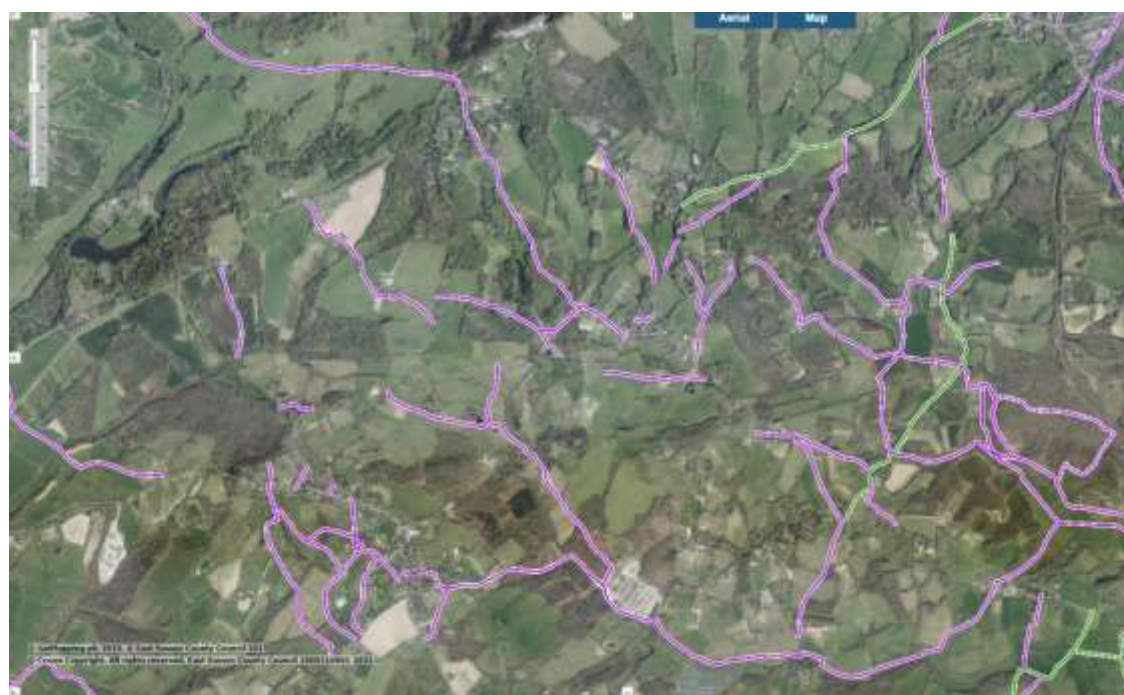
The age of hedgerows is conventionally assessed by using the hedgerow dating field criteria proposed by Pollard et al (1974).<sup>23</sup> This relies on the relative abundance of woody species in 30 yard sections of hedgerow. Interpretation is that for every woody species this would be 100 years that it would take to be established.

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<sup>22</sup> Department of the Environment, 1997a. The Hedgerows Regulations 1997, 1997 No., 1160. 16pp. Department of the Environment, 1997b. The Hedgerows Regulations Your Questions Answered. Leaflet.

<sup>23</sup> Pollard, E., Hooper, M.D., & Moore, N.W. 1974. *Hedges*. New Naturalist Series, Number 58. Collins. 256pp.

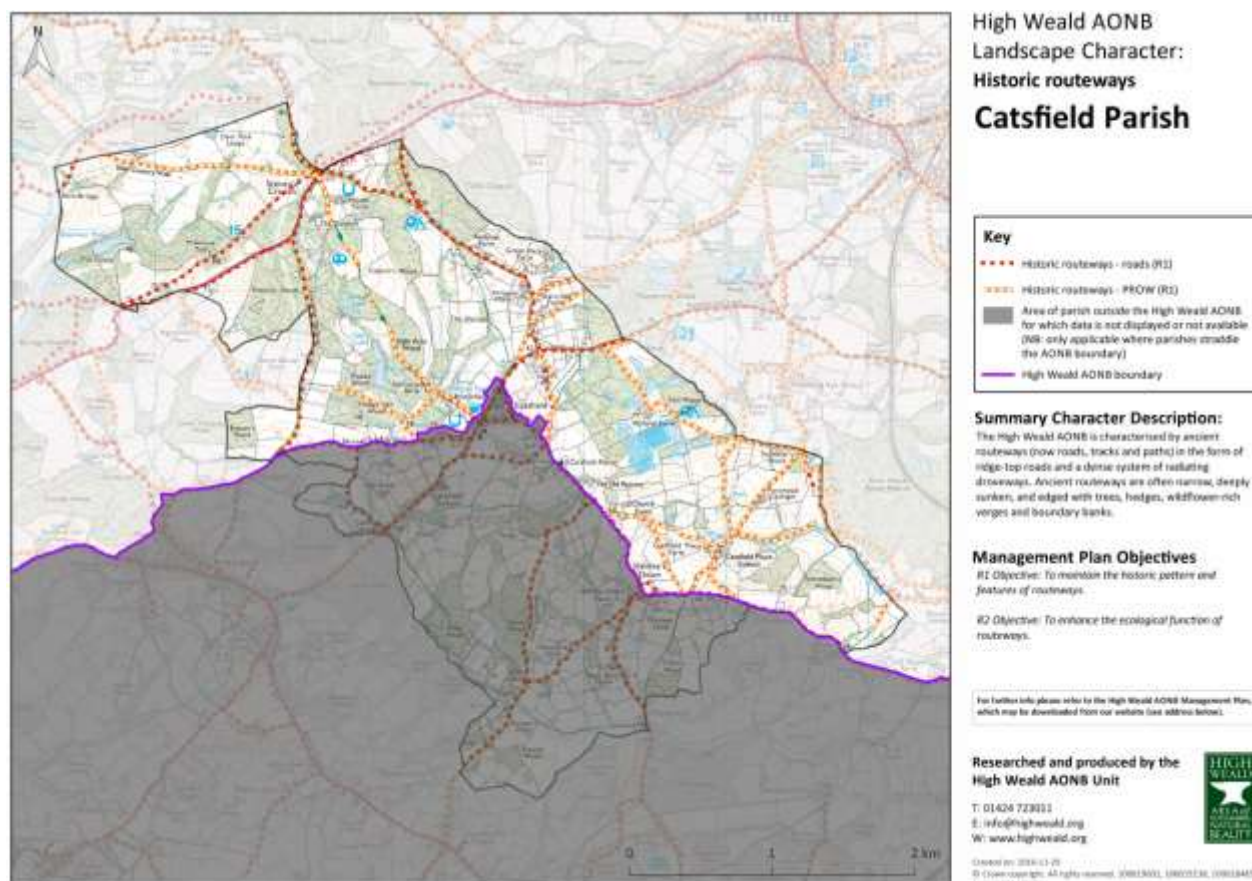
The following plan is taken from the ESCC Definitive Rights of Way:



© Getmapping plc © East Sussex County Council, © Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright (2005). All rights reserved. Wildlife Matters Licence Number 100002077. (retrieved 19 May 2021).

The historic routeways, at least only in the AONB part of the parish are shown on this following AONB plan. The routeways do not all correlate with today's footpaths. This needs to be looked into, as any paths not registered by 2026 will be lost forever as public paths.

There are a number of ‘historic routeways’ through the parish, as shown by the plan provided by the AONB Unit.



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## **SPECIES ASSETS**

- **Angiosperms**
- **Fungi**
- **Ferns**
- **Avifauna**
- **Reptiles**
- **Amphibia**
- **Invertebrates**

## Data Collection

The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SBRC) provided this author with an up to date (09 April 2021) data search for habitats, flora and fauna of Catsfield Parish.



### Ecological Data Search SxBRC/20/973 - Summary Report

An ecological data search was carried out for land at Catsfield Parish on behalf of John Feltwell (Wildlife Matters) on 09/04/2021.

The following datasets were consulted for this report:

|                                             | Requested | Radius/buffer size |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Designated sites, habitats & ownership maps | Yes       | Site only          |
| Protected, designated and invasive species  | Yes       | Site only          |

### Summary of results

#### Sites and habitats

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Statutory sites               | 1 SSSI / 1 AONB |
| Non-statutory sites           | 2 LWS / 1 LGS   |
| Section 41 habitats           | 2 habitats      |
| Ancient and/or ghyll woodland | Present         |

#### Protected and designated species

|                            |                    |                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| International designations | 20 species         | 134 records          |
| National designations      | 102 species        | 1,052 records        |
| Other designations         | 215 species        | 1,631 records        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>228 species</b> | <b>1,730 records</b> |
| Invasive non-native        | 24 species         | 141 records          |

The report is compiled using data held by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC) at the time of the request. SxBRC does not hold comprehensive species data for all areas. Even where data are held, a lack of records for a species in a defined geographical area does not necessarily mean that the species does not occur there – the area may simply not have been surveyed.

**This summary page may be published.**  
**The full report and maps may not be published or otherwise shared.**

The data search report is valid until 09/04/2022 for the site named above.

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© Courtesy of The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SBRC)

**Table 4 Angiosperms (Flowering Plants) in St Laurence churchyard and cemetery in 2016**

| Latin name                                        | Common name                   |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Acer campestre</i>                             | Field Maple                   |
| <i>Achillea millefolium</i>                       | Yarrow                        |
| <i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>                      | Ground Elder                  |
| <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>                       | Creeping Bent Grass           |
| <i>Ajuga reptans</i>                              | Bugle                         |
| <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>                       | Meadow Foxtail                |
| <i>Anemone nemorosa</i>                           | Wood Anemone                  |
| <i>Anisantha sterilis</i>                         | Barren Brome                  |
| <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>                      | Sweet Vernal Grass            |
| <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>                      | Cow Parsley                   |
| <i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>                       | Thale Cress                   |
| <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>                      | False Oat-grass               |
| <i>Arum maculatum</i>                             | Cuckoo Pint                   |
| <i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>                    | Hart's-tongue Fern            |
| <i>Avenula pubescens</i>                          | Downy Oat-grass               |
| <i>Bellis perennis</i>                            | Daisy                         |
| <i>Betonica officinalis</i>                       | Betony                        |
| <i>Bromus hordeaceus</i> subsp. <i>hordeaceus</i> | Soft Brome                    |
| <i>Cardamine pratensis</i>                        | Cuckoo Flower or Lady's Smock |
| <i>Centaurea nigra</i>                            | Common Knapweed               |
| <i>Cerastium fontanum</i>                         | Mouse-ear Chickweed           |
| <i>Conopodium majus</i>                           | Pignut                        |
| <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>                         | Hawthorn                      |
| <i>Crepis capillaris</i>                          | Smooth Hawksbeard             |
| <i>Crocus</i> sp.                                 | Crocus                        |
| <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>                         | Cock's-foot Grass             |
| <i>Epilobium montanum</i>                         | Broad-leaved Willow-herb      |
| <i>Festuca rubra</i> agg.                         | Red Fescue                    |
| <i>Ficaria verna</i>                              | Lesser Celandine              |
| <i>Fragaria vesca</i>                             | Wild Strawberry               |
| <i>Galanthus nivalis</i>                          | Snowdrop                      |
| <i>Galium aparine</i>                             | Goosegrass                    |
| <i>Glechoma hederacea</i>                         | Ground Ivy                    |
| <i>Hedera helix</i>                               | Ivy                           |
| <i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>                      | Hogweed                       |
| <i>Holcus lanatus</i>                             | Yorkshire Fog                 |
| <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>                  | Bluebell                      |
| <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>                       | Cat's-ear                     |
| <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>                            | Holly                         |

|                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Lamium purpureum</i>      | Red Dead-nettle           |
| <i>Lapsana communis</i>      | Nipplewort                |
| <i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>    | Meadow Vetchling          |
| <i>Leontodon hispidus</i>    | Greater Hawkbit           |
| <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>  | Ox-eye Daisy              |
| <i>Lolium perenne</i>        | Perennial Rye Grass       |
| <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>    | Bird's-foot Trefoil       |
| <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>    | Marsh Bird's-foot Trefoil |
| <i>Lunaria annua</i>         | Honesty                   |
| <i>Luzula campestris</i>     | Field Woodrush            |
| <i>Mycelis muralis</i>       | Wall Lettuce              |
| <i>Narcissus agg.</i>        | Daffodil                  |
| <i>Parietaria judaica</i>    | Pellitory-of-the-Wall     |
| <i>Petasites fragrans</i>    | Winter Heliotrope         |
| <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>   | Ribwort Plantain          |
| <i>Plantago major</i>        | Greater Plantain          |
| <i>Poa annua</i>             | Annual Meadow Grass       |
| <i>Poa trivialis</i>         | Rough Meadow Grass        |
| <i>Potentilla erecta</i>     | Tormentil                 |
| <i>Potentilla reptans</i>    | Creeping Cinquefoil       |
| <i>Potentilla sterilis</i>   | Baren Strawberry          |
| <i>Primula vulgaris</i>      | Primrose                  |
| <i>Prunus avium</i>          | Wild Cherry               |
| <i>Ranunculus acris</i>      | Meadow Buttercup          |
| <i>Ranunculus auricomus</i>  | Goldilocks                |
| <i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>   | Bulbous Buttercup         |
| <i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i> | Bramble                   |
| <i>Rumex acetosa</i>         | Common Sorrel             |
| <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>    | Broad-leaved Dock         |
| <i>Rumex sanguineus</i>      | Wood Dock                 |
| <i>Sagina procumbens</i>     | Procumbent Pearlwort      |
| <i>Sambucus nigra</i>        | Elder                     |
| <i>Senecio jacobaea</i>      | Common Ragwort            |
| <i>Silene dioica</i>         | Red Campion               |
| <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>  | Cat's-ear                 |
| <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>       | Holly                     |
| <i>Lamium purpureum</i>      | Red Dead-nettle           |
| <i>Lapsana communis</i>      | Nipplewort                |
| <i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>    | Meadow Vetchling          |
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| <i>Mycelis muralis</i>       | Wall Lettuce              |
| <i>Narcissus agg.</i>        | Daffodil                  |

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Parietaria judaica</i>        | Pellitory-of-the-Wall |
| <i>Petasites fragrans</i>        | Winter Heliotrope     |
| <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>       | Ribwort Plantain      |
| <i>Plantago major</i>            | Greater Plantain      |
| <i>Poa annua</i>                 | Annual Meadow Grass   |
| <i>Poa trivialis</i>             | Rough Meadow Grass    |
| <i>Potentilla erecta</i>         | Tormentil             |
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| <i>Potentilla sterilis</i>       | Baren Strawberry      |
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| <i>Prunus avium</i>              | Wild Cherry           |
| <i>Ranunculus acris</i>          | Meadow Buttercup      |
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| <i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>       | Bulbous Buttercup     |
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| <i>Rumex acetosa</i>             | Common Sorrel         |
| <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>        | Broad-leaved Dock     |
| <i>Rumex sanguineus</i>          | Wood Dock             |
| <i>Sagina procumbens</i>         | Procumbent Pearlwort  |
| <i>Sambucus nigra</i>            | Elder                 |
| <i>Senecio jacobaea</i>          | Common Ragwort        |
| <i>Silene dioica</i>             | Red Campion           |
| <i>Sonchus asper</i>             | Prickly Sow-thistle   |
| <i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>         | Smooth Sow-thistle    |
| <i>Stellaria holostea</i>        | Greater Stitchwort    |
| <i>Tamus communis</i>            | Black Bryony          |
| <i>Taraxacum agg.</i>            | Dandelion             |
| <i>Taxus baccata</i>             | Yew                   |
| <i>Trifolium dubium</i>          | Lesser Yellow Trefoil |
| <i>Trifolium pratense</i>        | Red Clover            |
| <i>Trifolium repens</i>          | White Clover          |
| <i>Ulmus agg.</i>                | Elm                   |
| <i>Urtica dioica</i>             | Common Nettle         |
| <i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>       | Germander Speedwell   |
| <i>Vicia sativa subsp. nigra</i> | Common Vetch          |
| <i>Vicia sepium</i>              | Bush vetch            |
| <i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>     | Wood Dog Violet       |
| <i>Viola riviniana</i>           | Common Dog Violet     |

## Waxcap fungi in St Laurence Cemetery

The cemetery supports many colourful waxcap fungi, mostly to be found in the autumn. Waxcaps are indicators of ancient pastures. Here are some found there.



**Table WM05 FUNGI & COLONIAL AMOEBA recorded from the parish**

| SPECIFIC NAME                | COMMON NAME             | Rec... | LOCALITY          | DATE     | NOTES         |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------|----------|---------------|
| <i>Agrocybe praecox</i>      | (no common name)        | JF     | TQ 7340212429     | 27.05.21 |               |
| <i>Armillaria sp.</i>        | Honey fungus            | JF     | TQ 7340212429     | 17.10.14 | on Morus alba |
| <i>Coprinus comatus</i>      | Shaggy ink cap          | JF     | TQ 7340212429     |          |               |
| <i>Cudoniella acicularis</i> | Oak Pin Fungus          | JF     | TQ 7340212429     | 19.07.21 |               |
| <i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i> | Chicken of the woods    | JF     |                   | 27.04.15 |               |
| <i>Mycaena sp.</i>           | Orange Bonnet           | JF     | TQ 7340212429     |          |               |
| <i>Nectria sp.</i>           |                         | JF     | TQ 7340212429     | 27.03.21 |               |
| <i>Panaeolus foeniseci</i>   | (no common name)        | JF     | TQ 7340212429     | 09.10.14 |               |
| <i>Volvariella sp</i>        | (no common name)        | JF     | TQ 7340212429     | 07.07.21 |               |
| <i>Xylaria carpophila</i>    | Beechnut<br>Candlesnuff | JF     | TQ<br>7340212429* | 28.05.21 |               |
| <i>Xylaria polymorpha</i>    | Dead Man's Fingers      | JF     | TQ 7340212429     | 03.10.21 |               |

|                                                            |                            |       |               |          |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------|---------------|----------|--|
| <b>WAX CAP FUNGI</b>                                       |                            |       |               |          |  |
| <i>Hygrocybe calyptriformis</i> var. <i>calyptriformis</i> | Pink Ballerina waxcap      | SxBio |               | 13.10.14 |  |
| <i>Hydrocybe</i> sp.                                       | Parrot Waxcap              | JF    | Churchyard    | 2020     |  |
|                                                            |                            |       |               |          |  |
| <b>MYCOMYCETE</b>                                          | <b>(a colonial amoeba)</b> |       |               |          |  |
| <i>Arcyria obvelato</i>                                    | Slime Mould                |       |               |          |  |
| <i>Reticularia lycoerdon</i>                               | Slime Mould                | JF    | TQ 7340212429 | 27.06.21 |  |

\*TQ 7340212429 is the author's garden in Henley's Down  
 SxBio as stated in Sussex Biodiversity data search  
 JF John Feltwell



*Taxus baccata* Yew in the cemetery looking east



Naturalised crocuses in the St Laurence churchyard



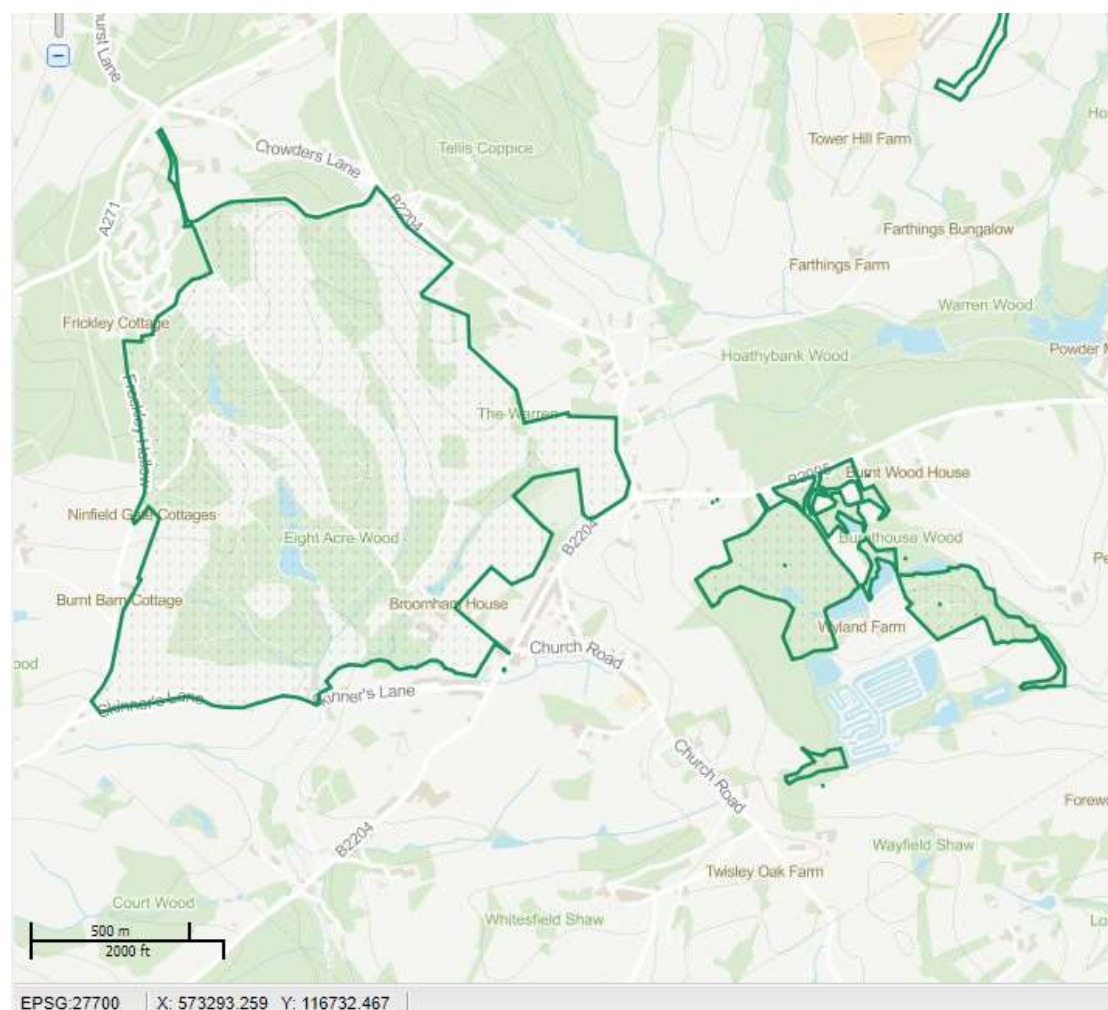
## Trees

### Tree Protection Orders (TPOs)

The only permanent TPOs are around Wylands Farm, off Powdermills Road, to the east of the parish.

TPO433 was put on The Normanhurst Estate on 11 July 2022 for six months.

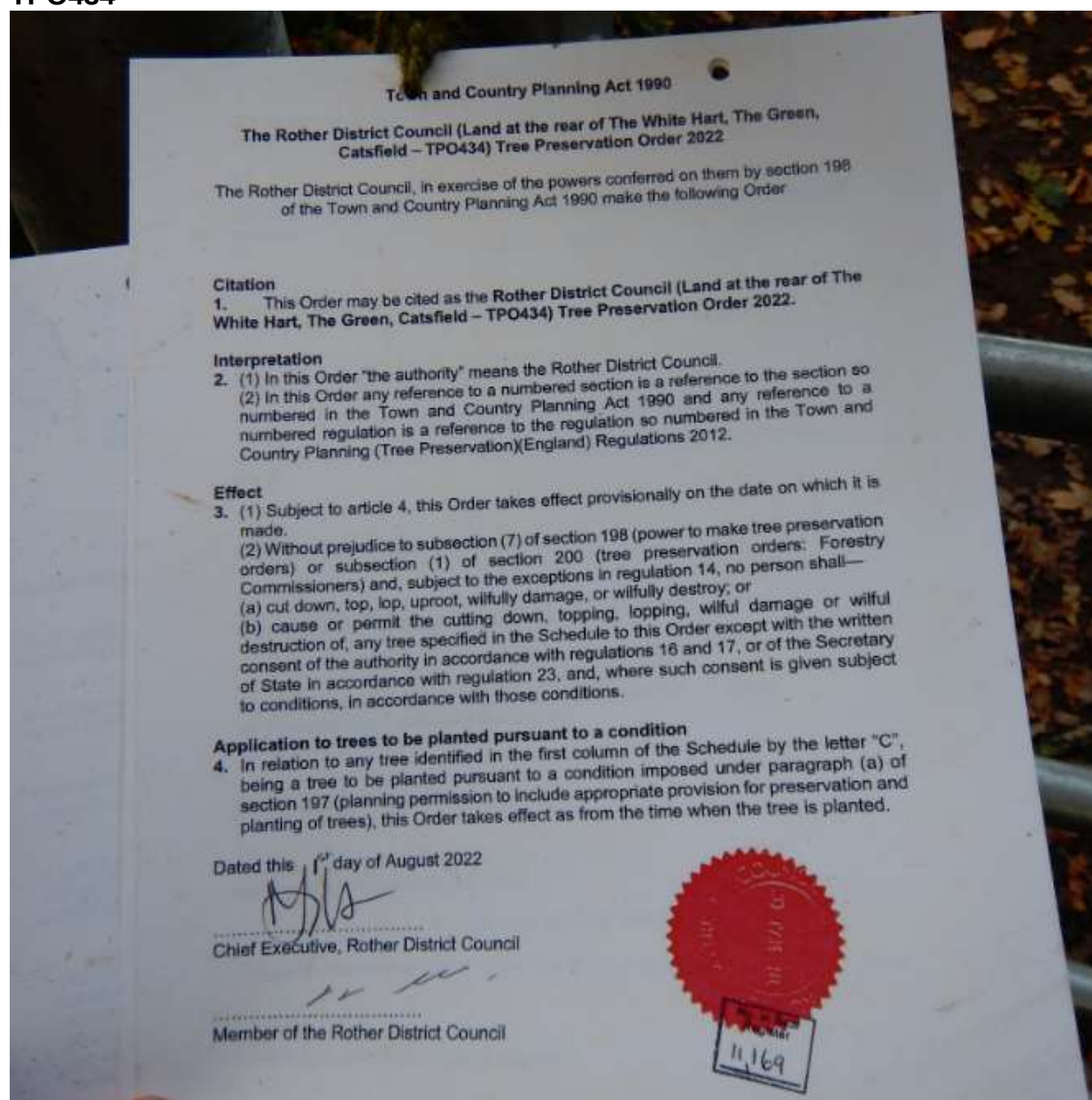
TPO434 was put on part of the land nr the village on 1 August 2022 for six months only.



<https://maps.rother.gov.uk/tpo.html> (retrieved 7 Nov 2022)

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## TPO434



**TPO434 (temporary) was made on 1 August 2022**

This is more detail of the Wyland Farm TPO comprising seven large units, six of which are contiguous. These appear to be a blanket TPO imposed when some of the area was originally cleared in the 1970s-1980s.



<https://maps.rother.gov.uk/tpo.html> (retrieved 04 October 2021)

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# The CAVAT assets of Catsfield

## CAPITAL ASSET VALUATION of AMENITY TREES (CAVAT) IN CATSFIELD

### 1.0 Executive Summary

- Twenty-three trees – mostly old oaks – in the village of Catsfield were surveyed.
- A CAVAT valuation of £2,128,747 was the result.
- The figure comprised 18 oak trees along the main B2204 road through the village.
- The pair of yew trees at the entrance to St Laurence Church, Catsfield are valued at almost half a million pounds together.
- A CAVAT valuation of a range of trees in Catsfield carried out by East Sussex Highways (ESH) in 2018-9 compared favourably with the results obtained here.
- This CAVAT study demonstrates that it is tool that can be successfully used to assess the biodiversity asset of trees in the parish – for inclusion into a Biodiversity Audit.
- The following plan shows the trees checked to date:

**Table WM01 The numbered trees surveyed on 10 February 2021**



See the rest of this report at the end of this report

# ASH SURVEY OF CATSFIELD PARISH, East Sussex, TN33

3 Nov 2020



By

**Dr John Feltwell, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 9BN  
(Tree Warden of the parish<sup>24</sup>)**

## Executive Summary

- About 50% of the ash trees in Catsfield are dead or dying
- Of these, ca 42% are in the AONB.
- ca 280 ash trees are along the roads in the parish, which includes
- ca 137 dead and dying trees (49%)
- several dead trees are close to roads and footpaths

## Reason for survey

Many of the ash trees in the parish are dying, and the reason for the survey was to see what extent this was. Catsfield clearly has a visual problem with dead and dying ash trees

## Ash dieback disease

The disease is caused by a fungus called *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus* (previously *Chalara fraxinea*). It attacks the trees and quickly kills the tree. The effects of the dieback in the parish area now quite evident. Symptoms are brown scarring on the bark, dead twigs at the top of the tree, brown leaves and eventually the whole trees die, sometimes then overwhelmed by ivy.

See this report in full on the CPC website

<sup>24</sup> Contact: [john@wildlifematters.com](mailto:john@wildlifematters.com)

## Pteridophytes (Ferns)

A feature of the parish part of the AONB is the Sussex ghylls. These are often deep, steep and shaded and provide ideal habitat for pteridophytes and bryophytes. The following species have been recorded in the parish.

**Table WM06 Pteridophytes (Ferns) & Bryophytes (Mosses and Liverworts) Records from Sussex Biodiversity**

| SPECIFIC NAME                  | COMMON NAME              | NOTES                   |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| PTERIDOPHYTES (FERNS)          |                          |                         |
| <i>Dryopteris aemula</i>       | Hay-scented Buckler-fern | Rare 1977 - 2001        |
| <i>Osmunda regalis</i>         | Royal Fern               | Rare 2006 2006 2 1      |
| <i>Polypodium cambricum</i>    | Southern Polypody        | Sussex Rare 2005 2005 1 |
| <i>Dryopteris affinis</i>      | Scaly Male Fern          | Widespread in parish    |
| <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>     | Bracken                  | Widespread in parish    |
| <i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i> | Hart's Tongue            | Widespread in parish    |



Hard fern & Polypodium fern – typical of Catsfield AONBs ghylls

**Table WM07 Angiosperms (Wildflowers)**

Listed here are the more important wildflower species that have been recorded in the parish. They include those protected by the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, and Red Listed species, and those endangered species. Data courtesy of The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.

| SPECIFIC NAME                                                                                     | COMMON NAME                  | NOTES, first & last dates                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Callitriche brutia</i>                                                                         | Pedunculate Water-starwort   | 28/06/2008 28/06/2008                                                                       |
| <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>                                                                           | Heather                      | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>19/05/1999 21/07/2015                                            |
| <i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>                                                                     | Harebell                     | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>21/07/2015 21/07/2015                                            |
| <i>Cichorium intybus</i>                                                                          | Chicory                      | RedList ENG post2001 VU<br>29/06/2009 29/06/2009                                            |
| <i>Cruciata laevipes</i>                                                                          | Crosswort                    | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>23/05/2008                                                       |
| <i>Cyperus longus</i>                                                                             | Galingale                    | RedList GB post2001 NT,<br>RedList ENG post2001 NT, Nat<br>Scarce, Sussex Rare 1996 1996    |
| <i>Erica cinerea</i>                                                                              | Bell Heather                 | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>08/06/1999 21/07/2015                                            |
| <i>Fragaria vesca</i>                                                                             | Wild Strawberry              | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>08/06/1999 17/08/2016                                            |
| <i>Glebionis segetum</i>                                                                          | Corn Marigold                | RedList GB post2001 VU,<br>RedList ENG post2001 VU<br>29/06/2009 29/06/2009                 |
| <i>Hieracium aggregatum</i>                                                                       | Aggregate-headed Hawkweed    | Nat Rare 07/05/2005 17/06/2009                                                              |
| <i>Hieracium exotericum</i>                                                                       | Hawkweed                     | Sussex Rare 29/08/2012<br>29/08/2012                                                        |
| <i>Hieracium sabaudum</i>                                                                         | Hawkweed                     | RedList ENG post2001 EN,<br>RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>30/08/2007 30/08/2007                |
| <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>                                                                  | Bluebell                     | 19/05/1999 20/04/2016                                                                       |
| <i>Hydrocharis morsus-ranae</i>                                                                   | Frogbit                      | RedList GB post2001 VU,<br>RedList ENG post2001 VU,<br>Sussex Rare 28/06/2008<br>27/06/2011 |
| <i>Hypericum perforatum</i><br><i>x maculatum</i> = <i>H. x desetangsii</i> Des<br><i>Etangs'</i> | St John's-wort               | Sussex Rare 14/06/2011<br>26/07/2011                                                        |
| <i>Lathyrus linifolius</i>                                                                        | Bitter-vetch                 | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>17/06/2009 21/07/2015                                            |
| <i>Lathyrus sylvestris</i>                                                                        | Narrow-leaved Everlastingpea | Rare 23/05/2008 23/05/2008                                                                  |
| <i>Lepidium heterophyllum</i>                                                                     | Smith's Pepperwort           | Sussex Rare 08/09/2010<br>08/09/2010                                                        |
| <i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>                                                                        | Welsh Poppy                  | Nat Scarce, Sussex Rare<br>23/05/2008 23/05/2008                                            |
| <i>Melampyrum pratense</i>                                                                        | Common Cow-                  | ENG post2001 NT 08/06/1999                                                                  |

|                               |                         |                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                               | wheat                   | 08/09/2010                                                                      |
| <i>Mentha arvensis</i>        | Corn Mint               | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>28/06/2008 21/08/2009                                |
| <i>Nymphoides peltata</i>     | Fringed Water-lily      | Nat Scarce 28/06/2008<br>28/06/2008                                             |
| <i>Oxalis acetosella</i>      | Wood-sorrel             | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>15/06/1990 21/07/2015                                |
| <i>Plantago media</i>         | Hoary Plantain          | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>23/05/2008 23/05/2008                                |
| <i>Polygala serpyllifolia</i> | Heath Milkwort          | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>08/09/2010 08/09/2010                                |
| <i>Potentilla erecta</i>      | Tormentil               | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>19/05/1999 17/08/2016 10                             |
| <i>Ranunculus flammula</i>    | Lesser Spearwort        | RedList ENG post2001 VU<br>07/05/2005 21/07/2015                                |
| <i>Ranunculus tripartitus</i> | Three-lobed<br>Crowfoot | NERC S41 UK BAP Priority,<br>RedList GB post2001 EN,                            |
| <i>Sanicula europaea</i>      | Sanicle                 | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>15/06/1990 22/10/2010                                |
| <i>Silene flos-cuculi</i>     | Ragged-Robin            | RedList ENG post2001 NT 2006<br>01/10/2009 - 31/10/2009                         |
| <i>Solidago virgaurea</i>     | Goldenrod               | RedList ENG post2001 NT 2006<br>21/07/2015                                      |
| <i>Stachys arvensis</i>       | Field Woundwort         | RedList GB post2001 NT,<br>RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>18/08/2008 30/06/2010 3 1 |
| <i>Succisa pratensis</i>      | Devil's-bit<br>Scabious | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>08/06/1999 21/07/2015                                |
| <i>Veronica officinalis</i>   | Heath Speedwell         | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>08/06/1999 21/07/2015                                |
| <i>Veronica scutellata</i>    | Marsh Speedwell         | RedList ENG post2001 NT<br>08/06/1999 21/07/2015 9 1                            |
| <i>Viola canina</i>           | Heath Dog-violet        | RedList GB post2001                                                             |



Cow-wheat



Common Sorrel



Ragged Robin

## Invasive Flora and Fauna

The following is a list of invasive species present in the parish.

Some of the invasive plants are also found in gardens in Catsfield, such as Yellow archangel, Cotoneaster and Spanish bluebell. Indian balsam is along the Watermill Stream. Gaultheria is along Freckley Hollow. Snowberry is along the hedgerow bordering the main road from Catsfield to Catsfield Stream, Winter heliotrope is all around the St Laurence church.

**Table WM08 Invasive Non-Native species in the parish from 1980**

| Latin name                                                                    | Common name           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Birds</b>                                                                  |                       |
| <i>Aix galericulata</i>                                                       | Mandarin Duck         |
| <i>Branta canadensis</i>                                                      | Canada Goose          |
| <i>Syrnaticus reevesii</i>                                                    | Reeves's Pheasant     |
| <b>Higher Plants – Flowering Plants</b>                                       |                       |
| <i>Allium triquetrum</i>                                                      | Three-cornered Garlic |
| <i>Centranthus ruber</i>                                                      | Red Valerian          |
| <i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>                                               | Wall Cotoneaster      |
| <i>Crassula helmsii</i>                                                       | New Zealand Pigmyweed |
| <i>Crocsmia pottsii</i> x <i>aurea</i> = <i>C. x crocosmiiflora</i>           | Montbretia            |
| <i>Elodea nuttallii</i>                                                       | Nuttall's Waterweed   |
| <i>Fallopia japonica</i>                                                      | Japanese Knotweed     |
| <i>Gaultheria shallon</i>                                                     | Shallon               |
| <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>                                               | Giant Hogweed         |
| <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> x <i>hispanica</i> = <i>H. x massartiana</i> | Spanish bluebell      |
| <i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>                                                 | Indian Balsam         |
| <i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i> subsp. <i>argenteum</i>                         | Yellow Archangel      |
| <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>                                                 | Parrot's-feather      |
| <i>Nymphoides peltata</i>                                                     | Fringed Water-lily    |
| <i>Petasites fragrans</i>                                                     | Winter Heliotrope     |
| <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>                                                    | Cherry Laurel         |
| <i>Quercus ilex</i>                                                           | Evergreen Oak         |
| <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>                                                  | Rhododendron          |
| <b>Invertebrates</b>                                                          |                       |
| <i>Harmonia axyridis</i>                                                      | Harlequin Ladybird    |
| <b>Mammals</b>                                                                |                       |
| <i>Neovison vison</i>                                                         | American mink         |
| <i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>                                                   | Eastern Grey Squirrel |



Winter heliotrope & rhododendron in St Laurence churchyard



## Table WM09 Birds recorded from Catsfield

## KEY

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)'s Lists:

|                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Red List</b>   | Species that are Globally Threatened, for which there is high conservation concern. The designation is according to the criteria of the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature). Represents a population decline in the UK during 1800-1995 with 50% decline over last 25 years.                                                                              |
| <b>Amber List</b> | Species showing a moderate decline in the UK over the last 25 years. (from: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, 1996. <i>Birds of Conservation Concern in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man</i> . Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, leaflet.). Often a rare breeder with 1-300 pairs in the UK, or rare non-breeder with less than 900 pairs. |
| <b>Green List</b> | Species that occur regularly in the UK but do not qualify under any of the above criteria.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

WCA 1981 Wildlife &amp; Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

## Recorders:

JF: John Feltwell

SxBRC Sussex Biodiversity

| Scientific Name                   | Common Name              | Importance                          | RSPB              | Notes                         |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Aegithelos caudatus</i>        | Tit, Long-tailed         |                                     | Green             | JF 2021 Nested in garden      |
| <i>Alauda arvensis</i>            | Skylark                  | BAP Species of Principal Importance | RED               | 01/08/2001 15/04/2017 (SxBRC) |
| <i>Apus apus</i>                  | Swift                    |                                     | Amber             | Swift boxes on school         |
| <i>Ardea cinerea</i>              | Heron                    |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Buteo buteo</i>                | Buzzard                  |                                     | Green             | JF 2021 occasional            |
| <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>    | Wood Warbler             | BAP                                 |                   | 1981 (SxBRC)                  |
| <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> | Black-headed gull        |                                     | Amber             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Columba livia</i>              | Dove, rock, feral pigeon |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Columba oenas</i>              | Dove, Stock              |                                     | Amber             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Columba palumbus</i>           | Woodpigeon               |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Corvus corax</i>               | Raven                    |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Corvus corone</i>              | Crow, Carrion            |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Corvus frugilegus</i>          | Rook                     |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Corvus monedula</i>            | Jackdaw                  |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Cuculus canorus</i>            | Cuckoo                   | BAP                                 | Red               | Henley's Down, 2019           |
| <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>        | Tit, Blue                |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Cygnus olor</i>                | Swan, Mute               |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Delichon urbica</i>            | Martin, House            |                                     | Amber             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Dendrocopos major</i>          | Great Spotted Woodpecker |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Dryobates minor</i>            | Less Spotted Woodpecker  | BAP                                 | RED               | 2015 (SxBRC)                  |
| <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>         | Robin                    |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>          | Chaffinch                |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Fulicia atra</i>               | Coot                     |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>        | Moorhen                  |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>        | Jay                      |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Hirundo rustica</i>            | Swallow                  |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Larus argentatus</i>           | Gull, Herring            | BAP                                 | Red               | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Larus canus</i>                | Gull, Common             |                                     | Amber             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>      | Nightingale              |                                     | RED               | 15/05/1981 24/04/1992 (SxBRC) |
| <i>Parus major</i>                | Tit, Great               |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Passer domesticus</i>          | Sparrow, House           |                                     | Red & Defra's Red | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Passer montanus</i>            | Sparrow, Tree            |                                     | RED               | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Periparus ater</i>             | Tit, Coal                |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Phasianus colchicus</i>        | Pheasant                 |                                     | No status         | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>     | Chiffchaff               |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Pica pica</i>                  | Magpie                   |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Picus viridis</i>              | Woodpecker, Green        |                                     | Amber             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Prunella modularis</i>         | Dunnock                  | BAP                                 | Amber             | 2019 (SxBRC)                  |
| <i>Sitta europaea</i>             | Nuthatch                 |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>      | Dove, Collared           |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Strix aluco</i>                | Owl, Tawny               |                                     | Green             | Henley's Down, 2021           |
| <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>           | Starling                 | BAP                                 | Red & Defra's Red | 2019 (SxBRC)                  |

|                                |                     |                                     |       |              |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>      | Blackcap            |                                     | Green |              |
| <i>Sylvia borin</i>            | Warbler, Garden     |                                     | Green |              |
| <i>Sylvia communis</i>         | Whitethroat, Common |                                     | Green | 2018 (SxBRC) |
| <i>Sylvia curruca</i>          | Whitethroat, Lesser |                                     | Green | 2011 (SxBRC) |
| <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> | Wren                |                                     | Green |              |
| <i>Turdus merula</i>           | Blackbird           |                                     | Green |              |
| <i>Turdus philomelos</i>       | Song thrush         | BAP Species of Principal Importance | Red   | 2019(SxBRC)  |
| <i>Turdus torquatus</i>        | Ring ouzel          | BAP                                 | Red   | 2005 (SxBRC) |

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### Table WM10 Reptiles – Amphibians – Fish recorded from Catsfield



### Reptiles recorded from Catsfield

#### CLASS REPTILIA (Reptiles)

| Latin / Specific Name   | Common English Name | Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species | Observations                                               |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Anguis fragilis</i>  | Slow worm           | BAP                                    | Common in Henley's Down                                    |
| <i>Natrix helvetica</i> | Sand lizard         | BAP                                    | 1992 1992 (SxBRC)                                          |
| <i>Natrix natrix</i>    | Snake, Grass        | BAP                                    | Occasional in Henley's Down, 01/01/1987 30/05/2019 (SxBRC) |
| <i>Viper berus</i>      | Adder               | BAP                                    | 01/01/1986 23/09/2013 (SxBRC)                              |
| <i>Zootoca vivipara</i> | Lizard, Viviparous  | BAP                                    | JF seen one in Hop Garden Woodland ride, in July 2021      |

### Amphibian recorded from Catsfield

#### CLASS AMPHIBIA (Amphibians)

| Latin / Specific Name         | Common English Name    | Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species | Observations                                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Bufo bufo</i>              | Toad, Common           | BAP                                    | Common Henley's Down, 2021, 01/01/1994 25/09/2018 (SxBRC) |
| <i>Rana temporaria</i>        | Frog, Common           |                                        | Henley's Down, 2021, 01/01/1987 21/02/2019 (SxBRC)        |
| <i>Triturus cristatus</i>     | Newt, Great Crested    | BAP                                    | Last recorded 2017, 2002 20/10/2017, (SxBRC)              |
| <i>Lissotriton helveticus</i> | Newt, Palmate          | BAP                                    | Last recorded 2016, 2002 11/05/2016 (SxBRC)               |
| <i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>   | Newt, Smooth or Common | BAP                                    | Last recorded 2016, 01/01/1987 11/05/2016                 |

## MAMMALS IN CATSFIELD



Photographed in Henley's Down; also seen in St Laurence churchyard in 2019

Twenty species of mammal are known to be present in the parish, of Mammals in danger include all bat species which are protected by UK and EU law. There are three Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species present:

- Hedgehog and
- Hazel Dormouse (declining according to the Sussex Wildlife Trust.)<sup>25</sup>
- Pipistrelle bat

Two other BAP mammals have become not known from the parish:

- Brown Hare and
- Water Vole - 'Britain's fastest declining mammal'<sup>26</sup>

**Table WM11 Mammals recorded from the parish**

CLASS MAMMALIA (Mammals)

| Latin / Specific Name            | Common Name              | Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species ('registrations' = sound recordings) |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                  | Shrew, Water             | 2021, Catsfield Place                                                       |
| <i>Apodemus sylvaticus</i>       | Mouse, Field             | Henley's Down                                                               |
| <i>Arvicola terrestris</i>       | Vole, Water BAP          | Not recorded in the parish (SxBRC)                                          |
| <i>Clethrionomys glareolus</i>   | Vole, Bank               | Henley's Down                                                               |
| <i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>       | Serotine bat             | Henley's Down, 40 years of records                                          |
| <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>       | Hedgehog BAP             | Last recorded 2013 (SxBRC)                                                  |
| <i>Meles meles</i>               | Badger                   | Common in Catsfield, several setts                                          |
| <i>Microtus arvalis</i>          | Vole, Common             | Henley's Down                                                               |
| <i>Mus musculus</i>              | Mouse, House             | Henley's Down                                                               |
| <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>  | Hazel Dormouse BAP       | None recorded in Catsfield (SxBRC)                                          |
| <i>Neosciurus carolinensis</i>   | Squirrel, Grey           | Henley's Down, 2021                                                         |
| <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>     | Rabbit                   | Many locations in the village (SxBRC)                                       |
| <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i> | Pipistrelle bat (45 kHz) | 12/07/1986 06/07/2016                                                       |
| <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>     | Pipistrelle bat BAP      | Henley's Down                                                               |
| <i>Plecotus auritus</i>          | Long-eared bat           | 06/12/2002 29/10/2007                                                       |
| <i>Plecotus auritus</i>          | Brown Long-eared Bat     | 27/04/1989 07/12/2015 7                                                     |
| <i>Rattus norvegicus</i>         | Rat, Brown               | Henley's Down                                                               |
| <i>Sorex araneus</i>             | Shrew, Common            | Henley's Down                                                               |
| <i>Talpa europaea</i>            | Mole                     | By church (see photo in this doc)                                           |
| <i>Vulpes vulpes</i>             | Fox                      | Henley's Down                                                               |

<sup>25</sup> Sussex Wildlife Trust, The last dormouse in Sussex?  
<https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/news/the-last-dormouse-in-sussex> (retrieved 28 Feb 2020)

<sup>26</sup> Water Vole <https://watervole.org.uk/> (retrieved 28 Feb 2020)

**Table WM12 Fish recorded from Catsfield**

The Sussex Biodiversity Record listed two species of fish for the parish, the European Eel, *Anguilla anguilla*, and Brown/Sea Trout, *Salmo trutta*.

| Latin / Specific Name    | Common English Name | Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species | Observations          |
|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> | Eel                 | BAP species, RED list                  | 18/03/1998 18/03/1998 |
| <i>Salmo trutta</i>      | Trout, Brown        | BAP species                            | 18/03/1998 29/08/2014 |

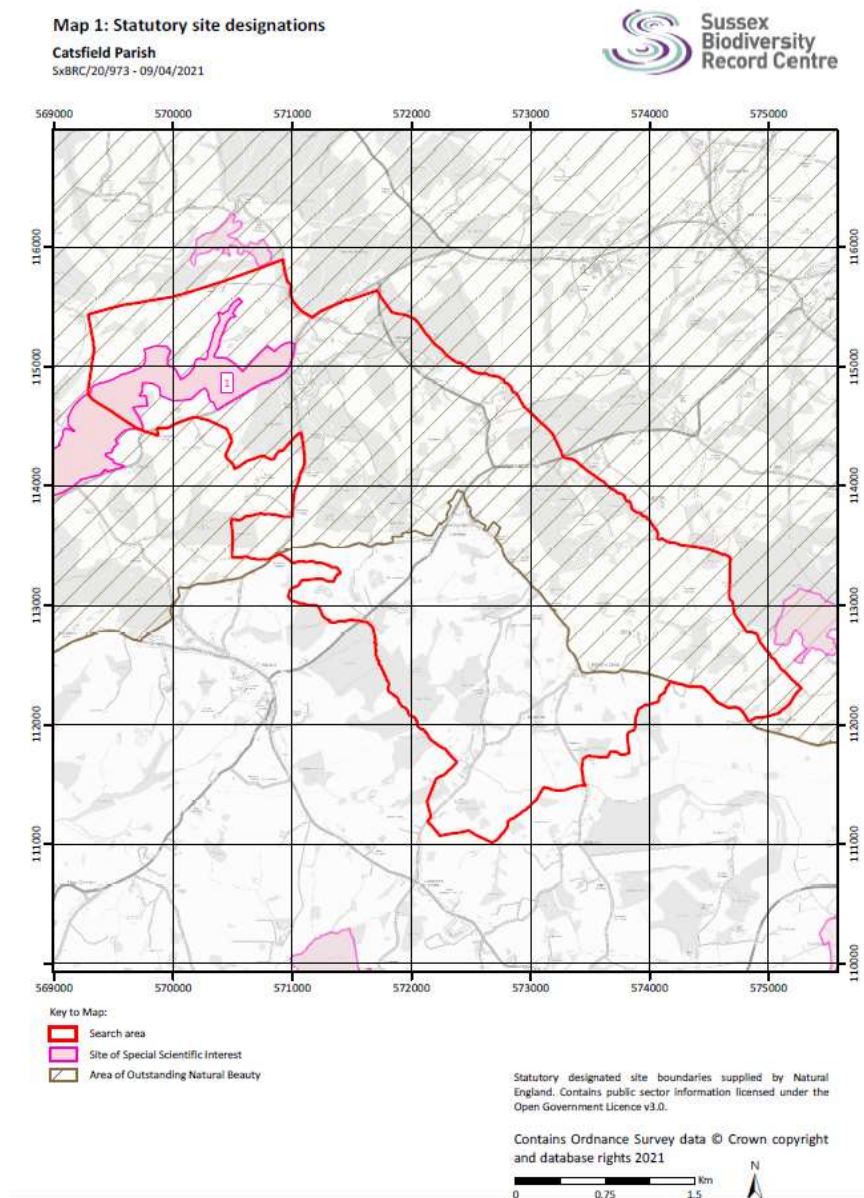
**Table WM13 Butterflies recorded from site****CLASS INSECTA****ORDER LEPIDOPTERA (BUTTERFLIES and MOTHS)**

| Latin / Specific Name         | Common English Name           | Observations                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Aglais urticae</i>         | Small Tortoiseshell butterfly | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Anthocharis cardamines</i> | Orange tip butterfly          | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>  | Ringlet                       | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Argynnis paphia</i>        | Fritillary, Silver-washed     | Ninfield sub-station woods, 2020                                                             |
| <i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>     | Pearl-bordered Fritillary BAP | UK BAP Priority, RedList GB post2001 EN, Sussex Rare 14/05/1995 14/05/1995                   |
| <i>Celastina argiolus</i>     | Holly Blue butterfly          | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>  | Small Heath BAP               | 2012 UK BAP Priority, RedList GB post2001 NT 22/05/1997 20/08/2012                           |
| <i>Erynnis tages</i>          | Dingy Skipper                 | UK BAP Priority, RedList GB post2001 NT 22/05/1997 20/08/2012                                |
| <i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>      | Brimstone                     | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Inachis io</i>             | Peacock butterfly             | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Lagoda camilla</i>         | Admiral, White BAP            | 2018, UK BAP Priority, RedList GB post2001 VU 07/08/1983 01/07/2018                          |
| <i>Lasiommata megera</i>      | Wall                          | UK BAP Priority, RedList GB post2001 NT 19/10/1995 02/08/1999                                |
| <i>Lycaena phaeus</i>         | Small Copper                  | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Maniola jurtina</i>        | Brown, Meadow                 | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Ochlodes venatus</i>       | Skipper, Large                | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Pararge aegeria</i>        | Speckled Wood butterfly       | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Pieris brassicae</i>       | Large white butterfly         | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Pieris napi</i>            | Green-veined white butterfly  | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Pieris rapae</i>           | Small White Butterfly         | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Piers napi</i>             | Green-veined white butterfly  | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Polyommatus icarus</i>     | Blue, Common                  | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Pyrgus malvae</i>          | Grizzled skipper BAP          | 2010                                                                                         |
| <i>Pyronia tithonus</i>       | Gatekeeper                    | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Satyrrium w-album</i>      | White-letter hairstreak BAP   | 2010, WCA Sch5 s9.5a, NERC S41 UK BAP Priority, RedList GB post2001 EN 18/07/2010 18/07/2010 |
| <i>Thymelicus flavus</i>      | Skipper, Small                | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>  | Skipper, Essex                | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Vanessa atalanta</i>       | Red Admiral                   | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |
| <i>Vanessa cardui</i>         | Painted lady                  | Henley's Down, 2021                                                                          |

# CONSERVATION

## AONB

Catsfield is within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (HWAONB). This is shown in the following plan, designated as brown lines. Just more than half the parish is within the AONB. Within the AONB is part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) called Ashburnham Park (SSSI) occupying the northwest corner of the parish in the grounds of the Ashburnham estate. The SSSI is the only statutory site within the parish and, typically of SSSIs it has been designated for its biodiversity.



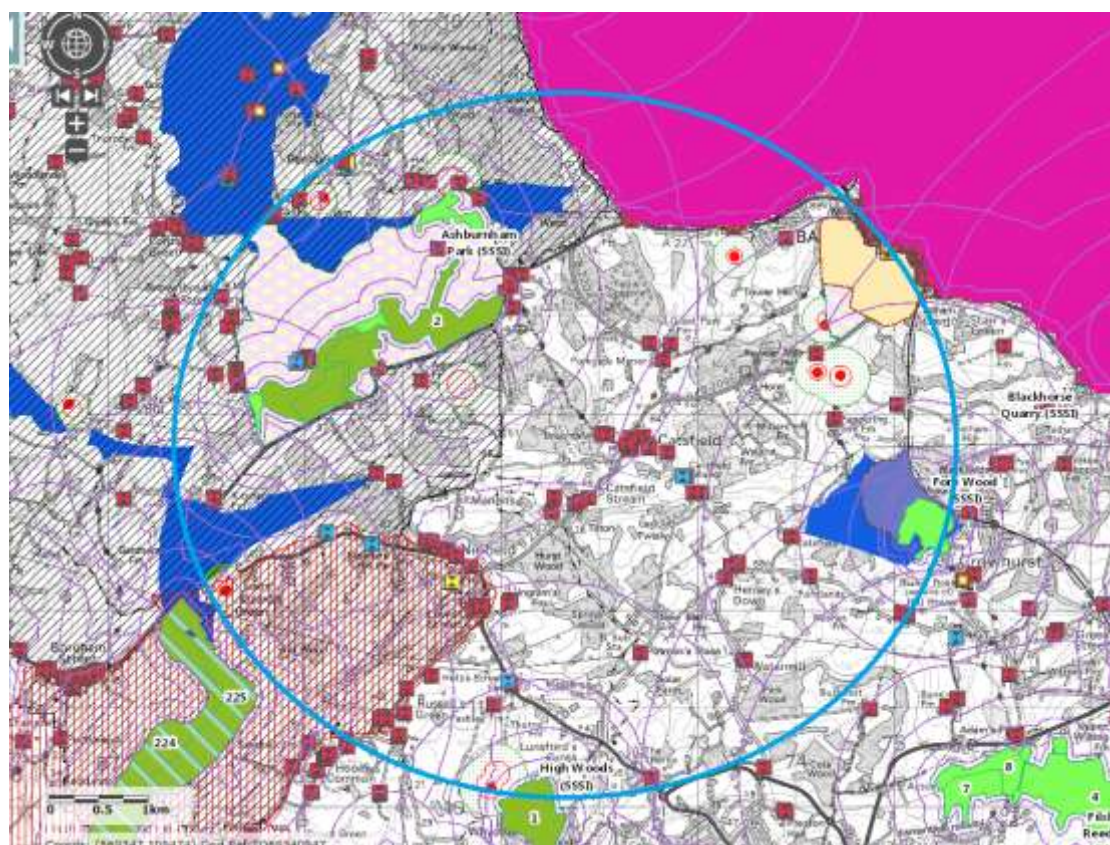
## Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

The parish has only one SSSI within its curtilage: Ashburnham Park (SSSI).

However it is influenced by four others (clockwise) Fore Wood (SSSI), Filsham Reed Bed (SSSI), High Woods (SSSI) and Pevensey Levels (SSSI). All these are outside the parish, but all proposed developments must take due regard to SSSI within several kilometres in a sort of protective buffer zone.

SSSIs are protected outside their actual curtilage for planning purposes so that local planning authorities are made aware of any impacts that may affect them. On maps such as [magic.gov.uk](http://magic.gov.uk) these are shown as faint purple lines at specific distances from each SSSI to reflect any potential damage. These 'IRZ – Impact Risk Zones' can be seen in the following screenshot from [magic.gov.uk](http://magic.gov.uk).

The following plan shows all the five SSSIs.



© Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright (2005). All rights reserved. Wildlife Matters Licence Number 100002077. (Retrieved 08 Feb 2020) (retrieved 27 March 2020). The red squares are Listed Buildings.

Natural England have provided the following information regarding the interpretation of these purple rings, for the benefit of parishioners who wish to see control exercised, and developers and consultants who wish to understand the constraints on development:

*'Paragraph (v) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 states that Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) are responsible for consulting with Statutory Consultees if a planning application has the potential to impact on a feature within their particular remit <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/2015/595/contents/made>. Natural England are statutory consultees for planning applications which may potentially affect a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Important Wetland Area covered by the Ramsar Convention and Natura 2000 sites, such as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA).*

*The onus is upon the Local Planning Authorities (as the competent authority in the planning process) to decide whether a development proposal is 'in or likely to affect a SSSI'. To help them assess whether Natural England should be consulted, the Local Planning Authority use Natural England's recently published set of mapped Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) for SSSI/SAC/SPA/Ramsar sites. These can be accessed at [www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk) and can be used by Local Planning Authorities and developers to consider whether a proposed development is likely to affect a designated site and determine whether they will need to consult Natural England to seek advice on the nature of any potential impacts and how they might be avoided or mitigated. For guidance on how to access and use the Impact Risk Zones see our [summary information sheet](#) and [questions and answers](#). Further information is available on the archived Natural England website: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140605090108/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/planningdevelopment/default.aspx>. You can find the reasons why the SSSIs have been designated by clicking on the following website: <http://www.sssi.naturalengland.org.uk/Special/sssi/search.cfm>.'*

## Management Plan for Catsfield Verges

Highways have their own management plan for all villages in East Sussex. Apart from that, there is no specific management plan for Catsfield village (unlike Crowhurst).

## WHAT EVIDENCE IS THERE FOR THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON HABITATS AND SPECIES IN THE PARISH?

The following habitats and species are now listed with evidence, where available (however, there is precious little evidence).

### WM12 Climate Change evidence:

| HABITAT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | EVIDENCE OF CHANGE FROM CLIMATE CHANGE                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Wetlands</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Temperatures will continue to rise<sup>27</sup></li> <li>ii) Frost-free season (and growing season) will lengthen</li> <li>iii) Changes in precipitation patterns</li> <li>iv) More droughts and heat waves</li> <li>v) Hurricanes will be come stronger and more intense</li> <li>vi) Sea levels will rise 1-4 feet by 2100</li> </ul> | <p>None of this has been logged for Catsfield ??</p>                                               |
| <p>Ancient Woodland • Current projections suggest that areas of south, central and eastern England will have drier and warmer summers, resulting in increasingly severe soil moisture deficits which will reduce tree growth – particularly on shallow,</p>                                                                                                                                       | <p>Evidence is lacking in deficits in tree growth</p> <p>Evidence is lacking in tree stability</p> |

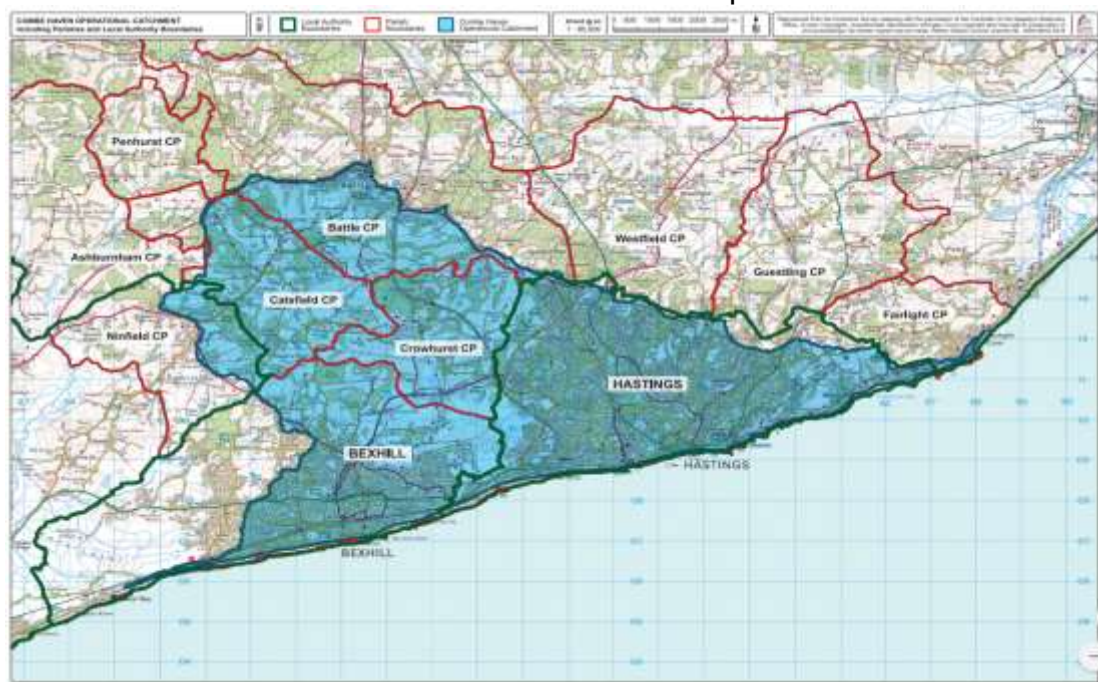
<sup>27</sup> The effects of Climate Change. <https://climate.nasa.gov/effects/> (retrieved 4.3.2020)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>south facing slopes, and sandy-textured, freely-draining soils. 28</p> <p>Changes in the seasonality of rainfall have occurred gradually over the past century, and this trend is projected to continue and to strengthen in the future. The resulting wetter autumn and winter periods will cause greater water table fluctuations, limit rooting depth, and reduce tree stability on exposed sites.</p> <p>Changes in the wind climate are highly uncertain but, with reduced anchorage on wet sites, the risk of windthrow will increase.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The incidence and severity of tree disease and pest outbreaks will increase. A warmer climate and, particularly, warmer winters will allow tree pests and pathogens to extend their range.</li> <li>• Drier and warmer summers will heighten the risk of fire</li> </ul> | <p>Evidence is lacking in windthrow</p> <p>Some evidence that Ash Dieback disease is more prevalent today. See report at the end of this report.</p> <p>Warmer</p> |
| Medieval Field Systems                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Meadows (managed)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Hedgerows                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Sandstone Outcrops                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Medieval Field Systems & meadows                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Hedgerows                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Streams                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Ponds                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Springs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Bogs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>SPECIES</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Flowering Plants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Flowering early                                                                                                                                                    |
| Trees                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Mammals                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | No data                                                                                                                                                            |
| Reptiles                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Amphibians                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Birds                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Fish                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | No evidence of change                                                                                                                                              |
| Invertebrates :                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | No data                                                                                                                                                            |

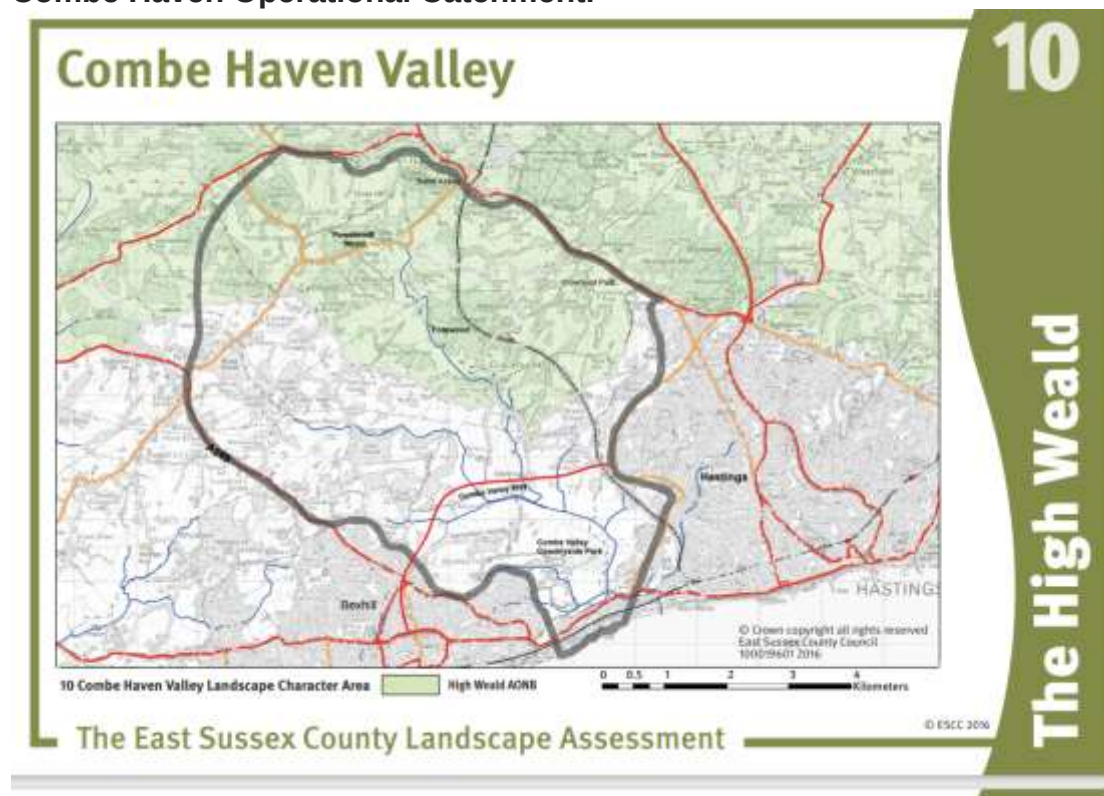
## FLOODING – an issue of climate change

<sup>28</sup> Ray, D., Morison, J., & Broadmeadow, M. 2010. Climate change impacts and adaptation in England's woodlands.  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/695127/Climate-change-impacts-adaptation-English-woodlands.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/695127/Climate-change-impacts-adaptation-English-woodlands.pdf) (retrieved 4.3.2020)

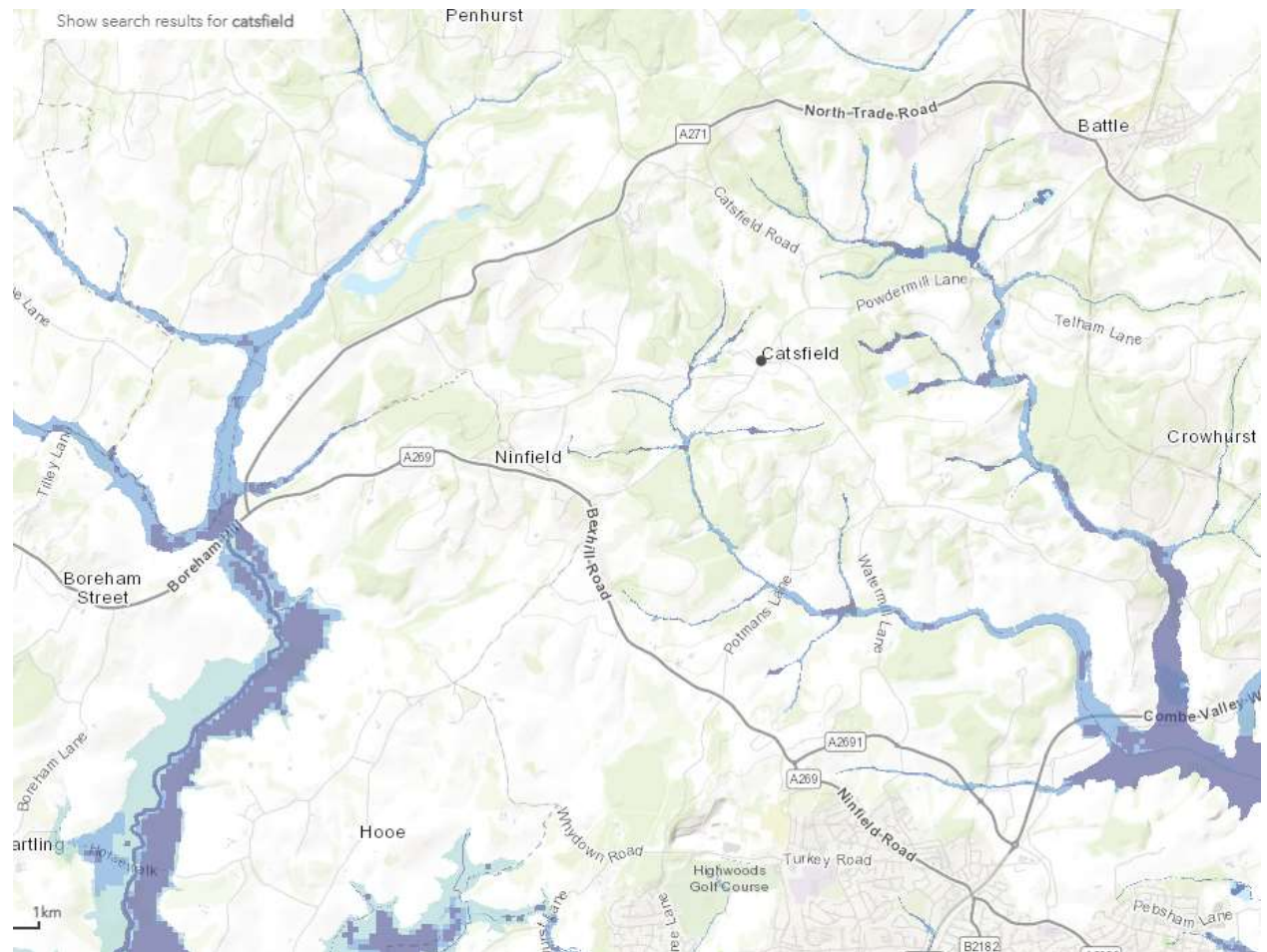
Catsfield Parish is part of the catchment of five parishes as the following plan shows. Catsfield is also within the Combe Haven Operational Catchment.



© Ordnance Survey and © Rother District Council.  
Combe Haven Operational Catchment.



## FLOOD MAPS



[Flood Risk Maps for Rivers and Sea in England - December 2019 \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)  
(accessed 11 May 2021)



## Technical Appendix WM03

### Projects to Consider / Food for thought

This Biodiversity Audit is a baseline for what is present in the parish up to the end of 2021.

Some topics are deficient in data. It is clear that this audit has not produced much scientific evidence on the effects of climate change.

There are other views on climate change.<sup>29</sup>

Here is a list of projects to do, if anyone is interested.

| PROJECT / TOPIC | Notes                                                                           |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Climate change  | Evidence is mostly lacking on many fronts.                                      |
| Garden ponds    | We need a list and plan of garden ponds                                         |
| Ponds in woods  | There must be more than the 5 listed                                            |
| Meadows         | We need a definitive list of meadows                                            |
| Hedgerows       | We need calculations on the total length of hedgerows in the parish, plus a map |

### Document Audit trail

| Revision | Date        | Report Description | Prepared by      |
|----------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|
| WM1,343  | 09 Nov 2021 | Biodiversity Audit | Dr John Feltwell |

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<sup>29</sup> **Lomborg, B. 1998.** *The Skeptical Environmentalist, Measuring the Real State of the World.* Cambridge University Press. 515pp. See also the much hailed: **Stern, N., 2007.** *The Economics of Climate Change. The Stern Review.* Cambridge University Press. 692pp. Also see. **Al Gore, 2013.** *The Future.* W.H. Allen. 558pp. **Prof John Houghton, 1994.** *Global Warming.* A Lion Book. (many current updates).

# **CAPITAL ASSET VALUATION of AMENITY TREES (CAVAT) IN CATSFIELD, EAST SUSSEX**



The Green – the main road (B2204) through Catsfield village

**By**  
**Dr John Feltwell FRSB of Wildlife Matters**  
Chartered Biologist  
Chartered Environmentalist



**on behalf of:**

**Catsfield Parish Council,  
Catsfield,  
East Sussex**

**Dated 19 March 2021**

- Twenty-three trees – mostly old oaks – in the village of Catsfield were surveyed.
- A CAVAT valuation of £2,128,747 was the result.
- The figure comprised 18 oak trees along the main B2204 road through the village.
- The pair of yew trees at the entrance to St Laurence Church, Catsfield are valued at almost half a million pounds together.
- A CAVAT valuation of a range of trees in Catsfield carried out by East Sussex Highways (ESH) in 2018-9 compared favourably with the results obtained here.
- This CAVAT study demonstrates that it is tool that can be successfully used to assess the biodiversity asset of trees in the parish – for inclusion into a Biodiversity Audit.
- The following plan shows the trees checked to date:

|                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wildlife Matters Consultancy Unit,<br> |                                                                                                                                                              |
| Reference                                                                                                                 | Numbered Trees in Catsfield Village                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Scale                                                                                                                     | As shown                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Copyright                                                                                                                 | Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright (2005). All rights reserved. Wildlife Matters Licence Number 100002077. Screen shot taken from <a href="http://www.magic.gov.uk">www.magic.gov.uk</a> by permission from MAGIC support 6.4.13 Alexandra Hajok |
| Key                                                                                                                       | Trees numbered as T1 etc                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

## 2.0 What is CAVAT?

CAVAT is a scientific method for calculating the monetary value of an amenity tree. It uses evidence from the tree itself (measurements, health, amenity value, longevity) its value in the community, via a suitable algorithm, to calculate a pecuniary value for any amenity tree.

## 3.0 Scientific basis for CAVAT

It is a technique developed by Christopher Neilan (Epping Forest District Council) over several years. Background information can be found in this 2018 publication.<sup>30</sup>

## 4.0 Purpose of CAVAT

It is a useful measure used by local planning authorities to establish the capital value of their trees.

CAVAT has also traditionally been used in courts to establish value of loss, usually where a developer has removed a tree. CAVAT was successfully used in a Swansea court case to fine a housing developer and contractor.<sup>31</sup>

By measuring the value of a tree beforehand, puts local authorities in a good position to manage their stock and re-coup monies for any loss, whether deliberate or accidental.

Since the Climate Emergency was announced in 2019, many local authorities have encouraged parishes to audit their biodiversity assets. The use of CAVAT is an obvious tool to assess tree assets in any community, which has been done here.

## 5.0 Aims of this survey

- To provide biometric data, and pecuniary value to some of the important trees along the main road through the village, so that it can be incorporated into a future Biodiversity Audit.
- To alert villagers to the landscape and amenity importance of the trees in the parish, and to indicate that these are mostly old trees, and that not many young trees are being planted for the future.

---

<sup>30</sup> Doick, K.J., Neilan, C., Jones, G., Allison, A., McDermott, I., Tipping, A., 2018. CAVAT (Capital Asset Value for Amenity Trees): valuing amenity trees as public assets. *Arboricultural Journal. The International Journal of Urban Forestry*, Vol. 40, 2018, Issue 2. 67-91.

<sup>31</sup> BBC, 15 October 2019. Illegal tree felling: Fiorenzo Sauto and Enzo Homes fined £300K. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-50061303>

- To provide East Sussex Highways with a valuation of the trees in Catsfield.
- To provide scientific evidence in case any tree is accidentally or deliberately damaged or removed.

## 6.0 The parameters

Data is collected by a suitably qualified ecologist (SQE) on each tree, for instance the diameter of its trunk at 1.3m from the ground, the human population density of the area where the tree is growing, its accessibility to the public, how it is growing, its canopy growth, its amenity value and how long it is likely to live.

The methodology followed is that published by LTOA (London Tree Officers Association), as published by Christopher Neilan in 2018, with the pecuniary value of trees updated each year.<sup>32</sup> The seven parameters used to calculate the CAVAT are listed in Technical Appendix WM01.

## 7.0 Catsfield parameter

The Population Density of Catsfield is 0.68/ha

## 8.0 The surveyor

The CAVAT survey was carried out by Dr. John Feltwell who is a PhD in Botany, and Life Member of the International Dendrological Society (IDS). The author has been Tree Warden of Catsfield for a number of years.

## 9.0 Survey Area

The main road (B2204) through the middle of Catsfield, starting from south of the Post Office on 'The Green' to the junction with Powdermill Road. The numbered trees surveyed are shown in Technical Appendix WM02.

## 10.0 Ownership of the trees.

The ownership of trees on Catsfield verges is not clear cut. Here is the answer from James Newmarch from East Sussex Highways about ownership and management.<sup>33</sup>

*'The verges are mapped and managed as highway, ownership can be a completely different story though. Some highway land is owned by the county council, much is unregistered, and some is privately owned..... But we would normally manage trees on verges. Those on boundaries are normally the*

<sup>32</sup> Neilan, C., 2018. CAVAT Full Method – A Guide to recent updates. Summary of changes applied to the CAVAT Full Method, April 2018. Available on people <https://www.ltoa.org.uk/resources/cavat> (accessed 12 Feb 2021).

<sup>33</sup> James Newmarch MSc CMLI Senior Asset Engineer (Soft Estate) Asset Management, East Sussex Highways, Contracts Management Communities, Economy & Transport Department (pers.comm. 16 Feb 2021).

*responsibility of the adjacent landowner, as the line of trees or hedgerow is classed as a boundary feature.'*

## 11.0 Results

The various data on Catsfield trees is shown in Table WM01 below.

There are two sections of trees checked: those along the main road and elsewhere (Churchyard and Recreation Ground).

The two yew trees in the churchyard and the oak tree planted at the Jubilee are included by way of a test control to see how these areas are valued.

The trees along the main road through the village are mostly oak and figure strongly in the landscape of the village, particularly on the wide 'green' corner where Powdermill Road meets the B2204. They are nearly all oaks (a few exceptions), and they are nearly all large trees.

The health of the oak tree stock varies. There are a few that exhibit severe damage to the trunk from vehicles, because the trees are relatively too close to the carriageway. This may prejudice their chances for long-term health as they may become infected with fungi.

One tree (T17) has a basal growth of a *Ganoderma* fungus, which to the knowledge of this tree warden, has been present for at least ten years. It is likely to weaken the root section of this tree in due course. It therefore has a greater risk of falling than other oaks in along the B2204.

The largest tree, and most magnificent is T12 which reaches right across the road. It is at the entrance to a Public Footpath, and so is a recognised boundary tree. It has a significant lean (at least 5 degrees) and its west side is adjacent to a large pond (not visible from the road). It has leaned like this for a number of years. Trees with leans do compensate with roots on the side against the lean. It therefore has a greater risk of falling than other oaks in along the B2204.

### The value of the trees

The value of the trees may come as a surprise to many. The chart below shows that the older trees carry the higher value. For instance, the two yew trees in the churchyard, and the largest oak tree by the pond (T12) are valued at about a quarter of a million pounds each.

In comparison both the oaks planted on The Green (T1) the Jubilee oak tree on the Recreation Ground are valued at £746.

Despite the collective high value of these trees, it should be stated that this is only a tiny fraction of the oak trees in the parish. The true value of all the large oaks in the parish is likely to be in the millions.

### Comparison with CAVAT calculations made by East Sussex Highways (ESH)

East Sussex Highways carried out a CAVAT survey in 2018-2019. The results are shown here in a very large spreadsheet: this is expanded somewhat in Technical Appendix WM03.

The salient differences and comparative information are as follows.

- ESH looked at 64 roadside trees with a value of £1,408,803.
- ESH included trees from different parts of the parish, for instance along Skinners Lane, Combe Lane and The Stream.
- This 2021 study looked at 23 trees (including the cemetery) with value of £2,128,747. Considering the cemetery yews were included (ca. half a million pounds), and the CAVAT did not include lots of other smaller roadside trees, the calculations are comparable.
- However, the large tree (T2) near the Post Office was valued as £163,873 in this 2021 study but £166,831 by ESH.



- ESH did not include T12 (the largest on the road through the village, as it is beside a pond, and a relatively long way from the verge even though it overhangs the road: this is valued as £248,162: see the tree below



### How old are the trees?

The age of trees can be worked out by dividing the circumference by 1.88 for oaks, 2.50 for hazel, ash and beech, 2.75 for sycamore and 3.13 for pine and spruce.<sup>34</sup>

It was a surprise to find that the oldest of the largest oaks (sample of 17) was 264 years old and that the average was 146 (with a range of 50-264 years).

An oak planted 264 years ago gets us to 1757.

An oak planted 146 years ago gets us to 1875.

Were those significant dates in the parish?

---

<sup>34</sup> [How tall is that tree? / RHS Campaign for School Gardening](#) (accessed 12 February 2021)

| Tree Nos<br>along<br>B2204 | Species |                         | Circum.<br>(cm) | Age<br>ca (yrs) | Diameter<br>(cm) | Tree issues & notes          | VALUE<br>(£) |
|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| T1                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 26              |                 | 8.28             | Planted c.2000               | 746          |
| T2                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 376             | 200             | 119.74           |                              | 163,872      |
| T3                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 214             | 114             | 68.15            | On junction; vehicle damage  | 25,776       |
| T4                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 248             | 132             | 78.99            | crown cropped                | 21,288       |
| T5                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 238             | 126             | 75.79            |                              | 77,411       |
| T6                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 192             | 102             | 61.14            |                              | 55,266       |
| T7                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 94              | 50              | 29.93            |                              | 9,734        |
| T8                         | Beech   | <i>Fagus sylvestris</i> | 107             | 43              | 34.07            |                              | 15,950       |
| T9                         | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 261             | 139             | 83.12            | Vehicle damage severe        | 77,411       |
| T10                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 251             | 136             | 79.93            |                              | 77,411       |
| T11                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 174             | 131             | 55.41            |                              | 38,943       |
| T12                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 498             | 264             | 158.59           | The largest oak tree         | 248,162      |
| T13                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 203             | 108             | 64.64            |                              | 54,266       |
| T14                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 279             | 148             | 88.85            |                              | 109,974      |
| T15                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 241             | 128             | 76.75            |                              | 73,540       |
| T16                        | Beech   | <i>Fagus sylvestris</i> | 245             | 98              | 78.02            |                              | 77,411       |
| T17                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 313             | 166             | 99.68            | Infected with bracket fungus | 109,974      |
| T18                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 355             | 214             | 113.05           |                              | 148,284      |
| T19                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 307             | 163             | 97.77            |                              | 109,974      |
| T20                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 327             | 174             | 104.14           |                              | 148,284      |
| CHURCHYARD                 |         |                         |                 |                 |                  |                              |              |
| T21                        | Yew     | <i>Taxus baccata</i>    | 505             |                 | 160.83           | The largest yew tree         | 242,162      |
| T22                        | Yew     | <i>Taxus baccata</i>    | 433             |                 | 137.89           |                              | 242,162      |
| T23                        | Oak     | <i>Quercus robur</i>    | 20              |                 | 6.41             | Planted 2012 at Jubilee      | 746          |
|                            |         |                         |                 |                 |                  |                              |              |
|                            |         |                         |                 |                 | TOTAL            |                              | £2.128,747   |

There are three threats to the oak trees in the parish, traffic and village developments.

The oaks on the B2204 are nearly all very close to the carriageway on verges. They thus remain vulnerable to traffic damage.

ii) Disease threats.

iii) Development threats

The threat from developments is very real where it may impact on marginal trees, trees outside curtilages etc.

## Catsfield Verges - the implications

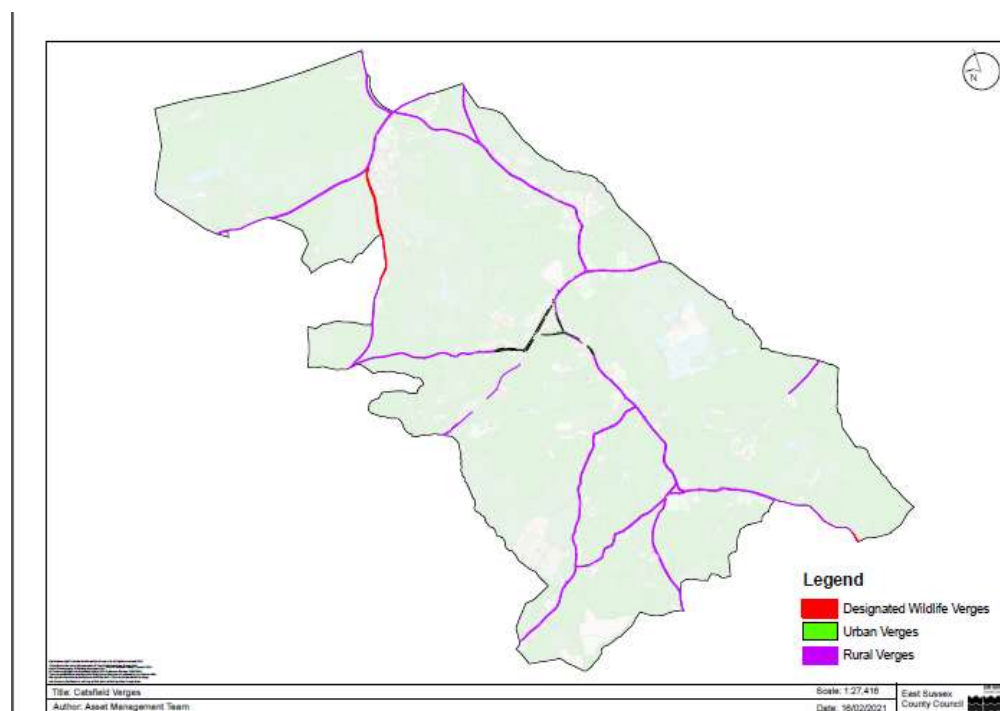
Catsfield is fairly unique in having a good compliment of old trees along its village verges. However, most are relatively old, and there is no replacement stock coming along.

The chances of planting new trees is less likely for various reasons but mostly on safety grounds.

Catsfield is a parish within Rother District Council (RDC) where verges are taken seriously for nature conservation: under the '*Managing Road Verges for Biodiversity in Rother district / Wild About Rother*' initiative run managed by Dr Kristina Sodomkova.

The verges in Catsfield are classified as 'Urban Verges' as there is a 30mph speed limit through the village. Although the verges support a collection of fine trees, there are several opportunities in the drive-through of the main part of the village for a wildflower meadow verges.

There are already two areas in the village, but not in the main area, where verges are designated (one of which is remarkably sunken Frickley Hollow).



**Designated Wildlife Verges in Catsfield courtesy and © East Sussex Highways**

## Technical Appendix WM01

### CAVAT parameters

| #                       | Parameters                     | Further details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------|------------------|----------|-----|--------|----|--------|-----|--------|-------|-------|----|-------|-----|---|-------|-----|---|---------|-----|---|------|-----|---|
| 1                       | <b>BASE VALUE. UVF</b>         | The <b>DIAMETER</b> of trunk at 1.3m from the ground in cm. This is used to produce a Unit Value Factor (UVF)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 2                       | <b>CTI</b>                     | <b>COMMUNITY TREE INDEX (CTI)</b> value. This is a parameter that calculates the potential impact of the public on the amenity tree, using the Population Density of the community.<br>Most areas fall into 100, inner cities into 250 factors. <table><tr><th>Population Density (ha)</th><th>CTI Factor (%)</th><th>CTI Band</th></tr><tr><td>&gt;20</td><td>100</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>20-39</td><td>125</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>40-59</td><td>150</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>60-79</td><td>175</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>80-99</td><td>200</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>100-119</td><td>225</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>&lt;119</td><td>250</td><td>7</td></tr></table> |  |  | Population Density (ha) | CTI Factor (%)   | CTI Band | >20 | 100    | 1  | 20-39  | 125 | 2      | 40-59 | 150   | 3  | 60-79 | 175 | 4 | 80-99 | 200 | 5 | 100-119 | 225 | 6 | <119 | 250 | 7 |
| Population Density (ha) | CTI Factor (%)                 | CTI Band                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| >20                     | 100                            | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 20-39                   | 125                            | 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 40-59                   | 150                            | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 60-79                   | 175                            | 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 80-99                   | 200                            | 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 100-119                 | 225                            | 6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| <119                    | 250                            | 7                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 3                       | <b>LF</b>                      | <b>LOCATION FACTOR</b> The CTI factor is adjusted to reflect whether the tree is fully accessible for public enjoyment in its location.. The amount of depreciation is increased.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 4,5                     | <b>FCV1</b><br><br><b>FCV2</b> | <b>FUNCTIONAL CROWN VALUE.</b> It is in two parts.<br>Part 1 Structural Framework (FCV1) is about how it measures up as fully expressing ‘the characteristic growth patterns of its species.’ If perfect it scores 100%.<br>Part 2 is Canopy Completeness and Condition (FCV2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 6                       | <b>AV</b>                      | <b>AMENITY VALUE</b> the tree is assessed for its contribution as a species, its setting, its habitat and heritage characteristics.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 7                       | <b>LIFE EXPECTANCY</b>         | As per the table below, following BS5837-2012 <table><tr><th>Life Expectancy</th><th>% Value retained</th></tr><tr><td>&gt;80</td><td>100</td></tr><tr><td>40-&lt;80</td><td>95</td></tr><tr><td>20-&lt;40</td><td>80</td></tr><tr><td>10-&lt;20</td><td>55</td></tr><tr><td>5-&lt;10</td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>&lt;5</td><td>10</td></tr></table>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  | Life Expectancy         | % Value retained | >80      | 100 | 40-<80 | 95 | 20-<40 | 80  | 10-<20 | 55    | 5-<10 | 30 | <5    | 10  |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| Life Expectancy         | % Value retained               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| >80                     | 100                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 40-<80                  | 95                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 20-<40                  | 80                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 10-<20                  | 55                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| 5-<10                   | 30                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |
| <5                      | 10                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |                         |                  |          |     |        |    |        |     |        |       |       |    |       |     |   |       |     |   |         |     |   |      |     |   |

## Technical Appendix WM02 Numbered trees



**T1**



**T2**

**Technical Appendix WM02, continued.....**  
**Numbered trees**



**T3 At the junction of B2204 and Church Lane**



**T3 At the junction of B2204 and Church Lane  
(two other oak trees are on private land)**

**Technical Appendix WM02, continued.....**  
**Numbered trees**

**T4 (topped) with T5, T6 at entrance to Recreation Ground**

**This tree was managed by East Sussex Highways in 2019. The tree survey stated – ‘Trunk pollarded in past. Small cavities forming at sites of previous pruning wounds. Sparsely foliated. Above average dead wood in crown’. It was considered prudent to reduce to previous pollard points. (information courtesy of James Newmarch, ESH)**

**Technical Appendix WM02, continued.....**  
**Numbered trees**



**T9 Showing vehicular damage**



**T12 The largest oak through the village**  
**(only outdone by one of the yews in the church)**

Technical Appendix WM02, continued.....  
Numbered trees



T15-17



T17 with *Ganoderma* fungus bracket at base

## Technical Appendix WM02, continued..... Numbered trees



T18-T20 (left to right) These three oaks are on the large 'green' at the junction of the Powdermill Lane with the B2004.



**Technical Appendix WM02, continued.....**  
**Numbered trees**



**T10-13**

## Technical Appendix WM02, continued..... Numbered trees



**T21 & T22**

**Possibly planted at the same time, but the south one is larger.**



**T21 & T22 as seen from the church porch in 2013**

**Technical Appendix WM02, continued.....**  
**Numbered trees**



**T23 The English Oak planted in 2012 to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

## Technical Appendix WM02, continued..... Numbered trees

**T2 was one of a pair, the other one fell possibly due to disease in January 2013**



**30 January 2013 (above and below)**



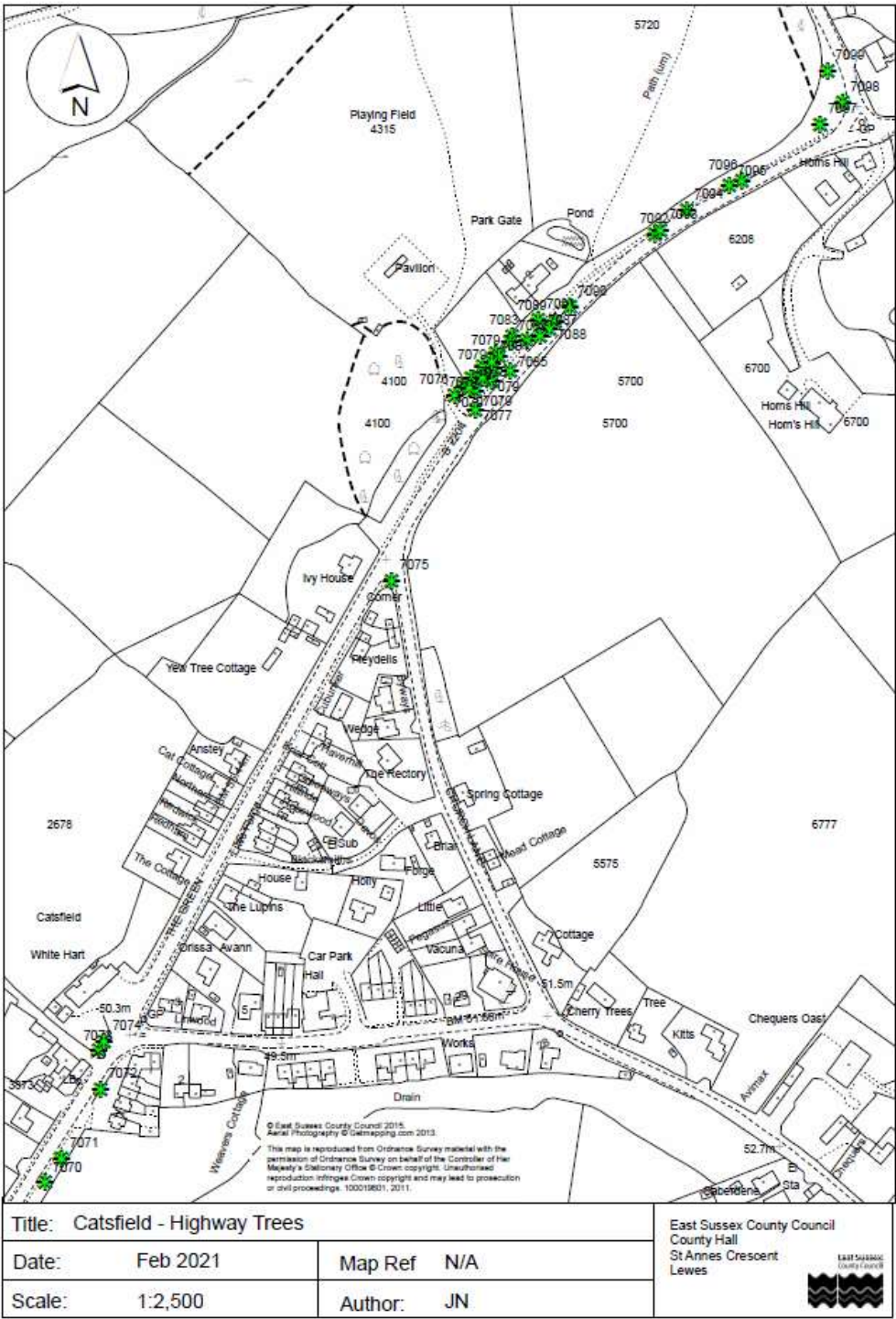
**Technical Appendix WM02, continued.....**  
**Numbered trees**

**The two sycamore trees beside the Post Office and at the entrance to the 1066 Country Walk. (18 April 2023)**

These trees became under threat with the Highways response (dated 31 March 2023) to Planning Application **RR/2023/217/P** whereby Highways proposed that some alleviation of the lack of bus services might require the upgrading of the existing bus stop (seen in the photo above) and the Pub car park to make 'clearways' (i.e. putting the trees in peril of being removed to allow visibility.) They posited the possible need to bring the e-buggies down the 1066 Country Walk from the middle of the site, to this bus stop so that walkers would have better access to buses. The potential impact on walkers on the PRow was acknowledged.

The two trees above are both sycamores and one has a CAVAT value of £14,923 and the other £7,198.

Highways, 2018-2019



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## Technical Appendix WM03

### CAVAT results from East Sussex Highways, 2018-2019

| Road            | Town      | SiteName         | Tree No. | CountTrees | SpeciesCom         | SpeciesLat                         | Height |
|-----------------|-----------|------------------|----------|------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| SKINNERS LANE E | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7062     | 1          | Whitebeam          | Sorbus aria                        | 5.50m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7063     | 1          | Swedish whitebeam  | Sorbus intermedia                  | 7.50m  |
| SKINNERS LANE E | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7064     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 14.00m |
| SKINNERS LANE E | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7065     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 13.00m |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7066     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 8.50m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7067     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 18.00m |
| SKINNERS LANE E | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7068     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 13.00m |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE STREAM      | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7069     | 5          | Ash, Hawthorn      | Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus mono | 6.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7070     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 7.50m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7071     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 16.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7072     | 1          | Sycamore           | Acer pseudoplatanus                | 9.50m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7073     | 1          | Sycamore           | Acer pseudoplatanus                | 13.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7074     | 1          | Sycamore           | Acer pseudoplatanus                | 17.00m |
| CHURCH LANE     | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7075     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 15.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7076     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 18.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7077     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 12.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7079     | 5          | Field maple, Hazel | Acer campestre, Corylus avellana   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7079     | 5          | Field maple, Hazel | Acer campestre, Corylus avellana   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7079     | 5          | Field maple, Hazel | Acer campestre, Corylus avellana   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7079     | 5          | Field maple, Hazel | Acer campestre, Corylus avellana   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7079     | 5          | Field maple, Hazel | Acer campestre, Corylus avellana   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7079     | 5          | Field maple, Hazel | Acer campestre, Corylus avellana   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7079     | 5          | Field maple, Hazel | Acer campestre, Corylus avellana   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7080     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 18.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7082     | 1          | Hornbeam           | Carpinus betulus                   | 8.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7083     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 17.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7084     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 18.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7085     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 16.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7086     | 1          | Hornbeam           | Carpinus betulus                   | 11.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7087     | 1          | Hornbeam           | Carpinus betulus                   | 12.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7088     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 18.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7089     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 13.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7090     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 10.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7091     | 1          | Flowering cherry   | Prunus sp.                         | 5.00m  |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7092     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 16.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7093     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 16.50m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7094     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 13.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7095     | 1          | Beech              | Fagus sylvatica                    | 20.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7096     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 21.00m |
| THE GREEN       | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7097     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 19.00m |
| HORNS CORNER    | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7098     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 16.50m |
| HORNS CORNER    | Catsfield | Catsfield 140918 | 7099     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 19.50m |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7304     | 5          | Rowan, Blackthorn  | Sorbus aucuparia, Prunus spinosa   | 5.00m  |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7305     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 18.00m |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7306     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 18.00m |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7307     | 1          | English Oak        | Quercus robur                      | 16.50m |
| COMBE LANE      | Catsfield | Ninfield 190918  | 7308     | 1          | Silver birch       | Betula pendula                     | 18.50m |

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**Technical Appendix WM03**  
**CAVAT results from East Sussex**  
**Technical Appendix WM03**  
**CAVAT results from East Sussex Highways, 2018-2019**

| CAVATValue  |
|-------------|
| 0           |
| 2721.4562   |
| 16661.9766  |
| 8386.2554   |
| 4040.9678   |
| 18957.6267  |
| 6720.3306   |
| 249.4424556 |
| 249.4424556 |
| 249.4424556 |
| 249.4424556 |
| 249.4424556 |
| 249.4424556 |
| 249.4424556 |
| 249.4424556 |
| 3819.5876   |
| 166381.2366 |
| 2443.7566   |
| 20923.2333  |
| 38096.0992  |
| 41990.5196  |
| 42802.7666  |
| 9518.2175   |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 210.467075  |
| 59242.5835  |
| 5846.3076   |
| 67583.3156  |
| 62278.7659  |
| 22407.0261  |
| 7473.4519   |
| 5767.1096   |
| 66790.5563  |
| 35124.9277  |
| 25256.0487  |
| 1371.9335   |
| 21327.33    |
| 68816.185   |
| 25029.9915  |
| 54064.7817  |
| 117350.2038 |
| 153669.0254 |
| 91679.4569  |
| 132316.7512 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 333.2395375 |
| 17562.4639  |
| 14938.0174  |
| 92243.8205  |
| 12579.3831  |

## Acknowledgements

Mark Cooper (Kidlington), Ann Davey (Catsfield), James Newmarch (ESH), Michael Riddings (Catsfield), Dr Kristina Sodomkova (RDC).

**This report has been produced by Dr. John Feltwell on a pro bono basis, and can be circulated freely.**

## Document Audit trail

| Revision  | Date          | Report Description      | Prepared by      |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| WM1,378   | 01 March 2021 | Phase 1 Habitats Survey | Dr John Feltwell |
| WM1,378.1 | 19 March 2021 | Phase 1 Habitats Survey | Dr John Feltwell |
| WM1,378.2 | 16 May 2021   | Phase 1 Habitats Survey | Dr John Feltwell |
| WM1,378.3 | 29 May 2021   | Phase 1 Habitats Survey | Dr John Feltwell |

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