



Woodland Management Plan

Fairlane Community Woodland

2023-2033

Stevenage Borough Council
Cavendish Road
Stevenage
Herts
SG1 2ET

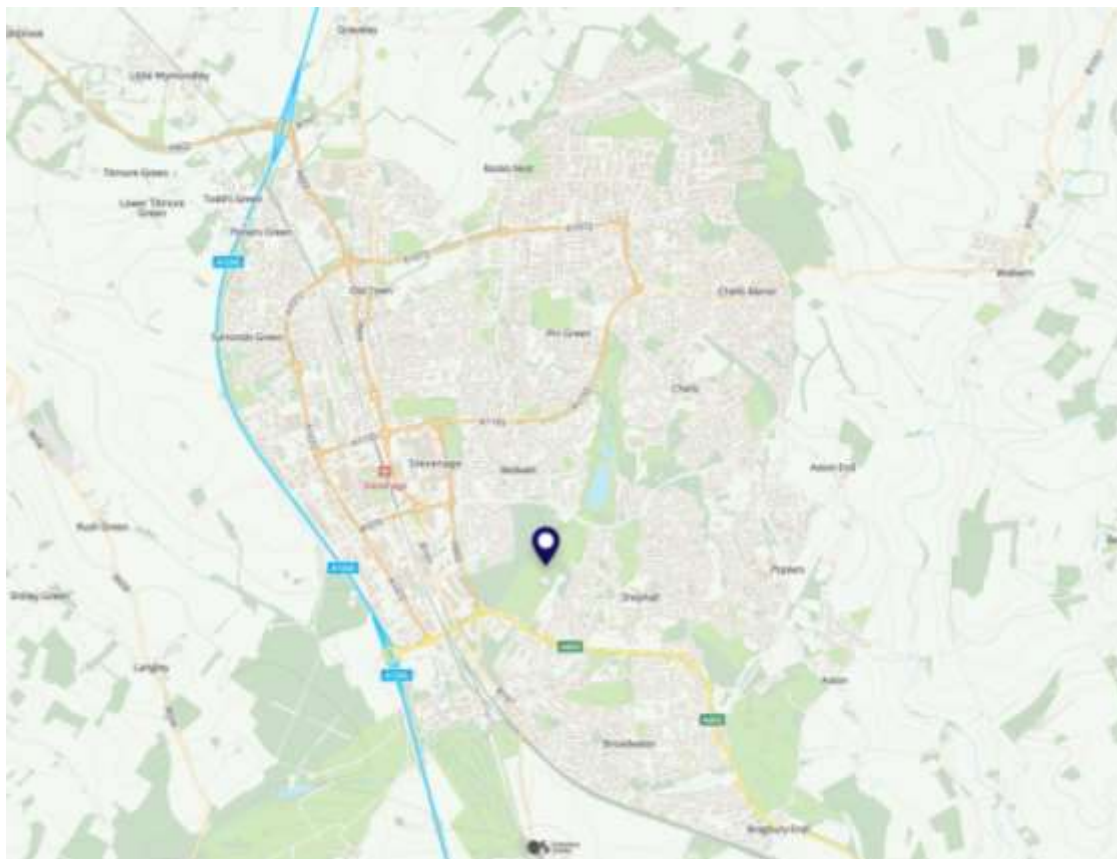
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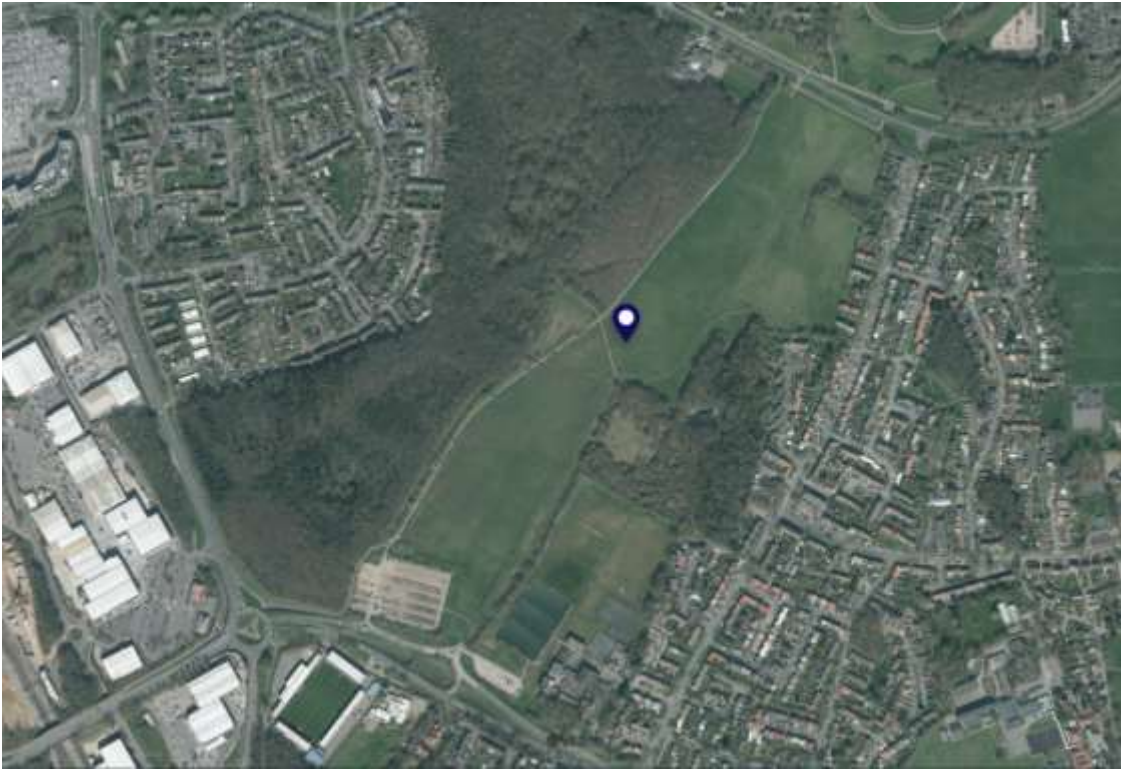
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1. Site Details

Site Name:	Fairlane Community Woodland	
Owner:	Stevenage Borough Council	
Address:	Cavendish Road Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 2ET	
Local Authority:	Stevenage Borough Council	
Contact Name:	Stevenage Direct Services	
Email:	streets.grounds@stevenage.gov.uk	
Telephone:	01438 242 242	
Location Details:	Grid Reference:	TL 24848 23343
	What3Words:	bags.shell.zebra
Woodland Size:	1 ha	

1.1 Location





Aerial of the location of woodland

1.2 Sketch Plan of the Woodland Design



1.3 Site Description & Access

This new woodland is situated in the Southfield of Fairlands Valley Park, Stevenage. Six Hills Way and the Lakes are towards the northeast, and the Southfield car park and the football club are to the southwest. The woodland sits centrally between the Millennium Wood to the northwest and Shackleton Spring to the southeast. The site is also directly adjacent to Shackledell Grassland, a place of county-wide importance for wildlife.

The site is easily accessible to the public and for maintenance. Public access is possible by either bicycle or on foot.

By foot: The main shared cycleway (Millennium Avenue path) from Broadhall Way to Six Hills provides easy and level access to the top of the woodland.

The paths from the Millennium Wood, Whomerley & Monks Wood are also possible by foot. There is also access via the tracks from the Canyon and Shackleton Spring to the south.

By bicycle: The main shared cycleway (Millennium Avenue path) from Broadhall Way to Six Hills provides easy and level access to the top of the woodland.

By car: The site is not directly accessible by car. However, nearby parking is available at the Southfield car park opposite the football club or the main park's car park on Six Hills Way.

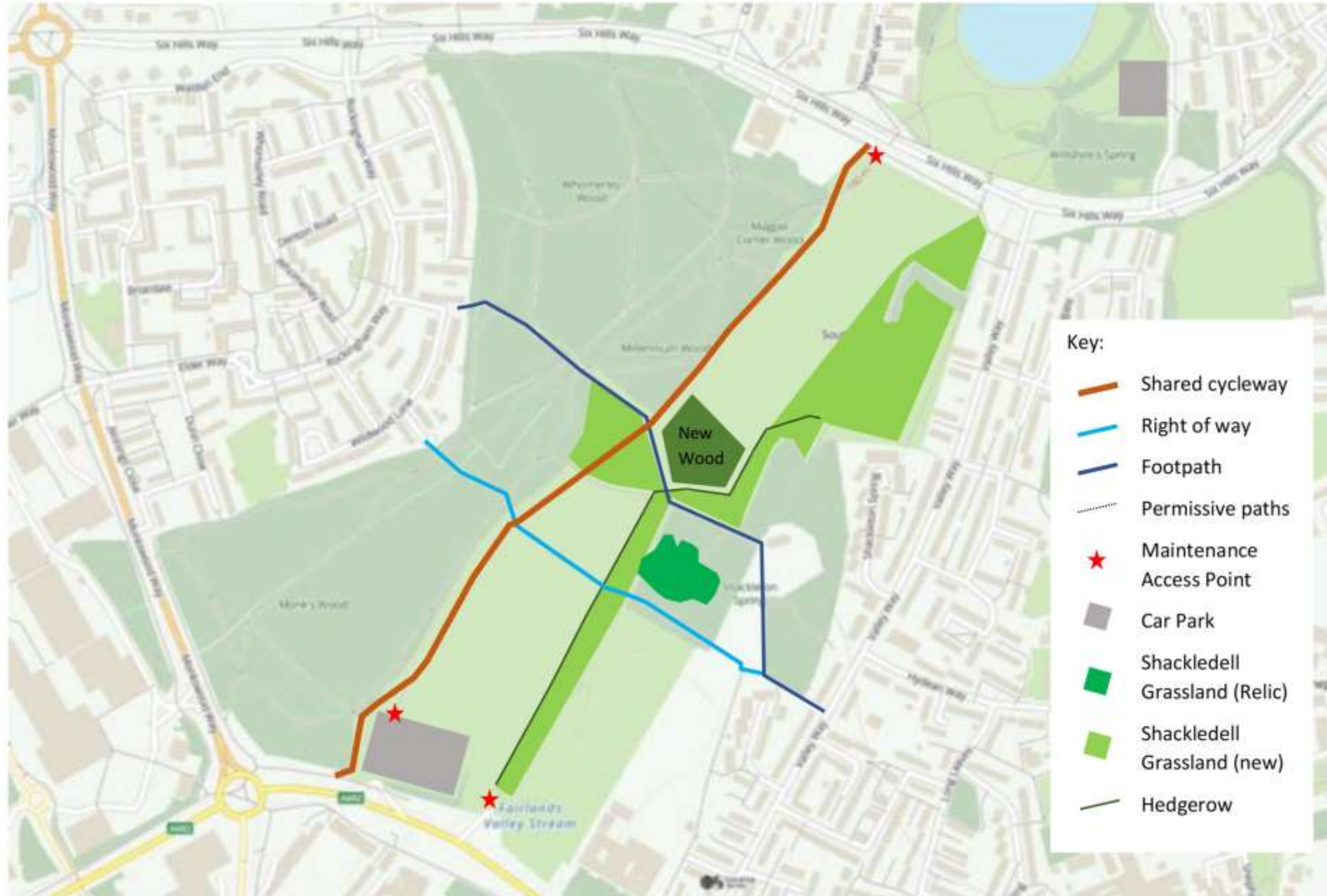
Maintenance access:

For maintenance purposes, the site is easily accessible from the gates in the Southfield car park (requires keyed barrier entry). There is also an access gate off Six Hills Way (keyed barrier entry).

The nearest car park to the woodland is close to the Canyon (keyed barrier entry). It can be used for inspection and monitoring purposes only.

Figure 1.3 on page 6 shows the main access points and path network.

Figure 1.3 - Map showing site access and nearby habitats



2. A Brief History of the Site

Before the development of Stevenage New Town, the site mainly formed part of Fairland's Farm.

The image below, taken from the National Library of Scotland, shows the site from 1888-1913 and is overlaid onto a recent aerial image for comparison.



Please use this link to the interactive map below:

<https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=15.4&lat=51.89466&lon=-0.18516&layers=6&b=1>

Since the creation of the New Town of Stevenage, the site now forms part of Fairlands Valley Park, a large country park running through the centre of town.

For the past 50 years, the site has been managed as a much wider area of amenity grassland. Primarily visitors use this site area for dog walking and informal leisure activities.

Further to the northeast, the grassland forms an important flood basin for the lake system north of Six Hills Way. The southwest area is occasionally used for events and showground activities.

Figure 1.3 on page 6 shows the location of the new woodland in relation to the surrounding woodland and grassland habitats.

The Millennium Wood to the northwest was planted by the community in 2000. The Millennium Wood has a mainly uniform structure of semi-mature native tree species.

The Millennium Wood adjoins Whomerley Wood, an ancient Oak/Hornbeam woodland containing a sizeable, moated site and other earthworks. The ponds in the area are known to be inhabited by three amphibian species, including Great Crested Newts. The varied animal life included Yellownecked Mouse, Pygmy Shrew and records of Common Dormouse. Work supported by the [Green Space Volunteers](#) and the Herts Middlesex Wildlife Trust continues to improve the woodland's structure and diversity.

Close to the site is Shackledell grassland, one of the most important wildlife sites in Stevenage. It is home to many species of grasshoppers and crickets, including the Great Green Bush Cricket (the UK's largest insect), the only site in Hertfordshire where it can be found. The relic grassland lies sheltered directly

south of the woodland. However, the grassland has been extended over recent years to improve resilience and biodiversity, including a maturing perimeter hedge row providing shelter.

3. Aim, Objectives and Delivery – New Woodland Creation

3.1 Aim

This management plan aims to:

- Provide Officers, managers, volunteers, and maintenance teams with a guide to the future upkeep and maintenance of this newly developing woodland.
- Provide the tools to encourage and record the town's biodiversity, flora, and fauna.
- Help to protect the newly developing woodland.
- Compliment the Climate Change Agenda objectives.
- Support future decision making

3.2 The Vision of a New Community Woodland

3.2.1 Context

On 12 June 2019, Stevenage Borough Council declared a climate emergency, reconfirming Stevenage's commitment to battling climate change by setting a target to ensure Stevenage has net-zero emissions by 2030.

Later that year, the Herts Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT) was tasked to develop preliminary ideas for afforestation within Stevenage. Early concept designs were drawn up for the south of Fairlands Valley Park, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the project did not progress further.

Due to the increasing awareness and importance of combatting climate change, in 2020, the Council drew up a plan to help address climate change locally through the Climate Change Strategy.

In 2022, following the earlier work by HMWT, the Council decisively brought the concept of planting a new woodland to fruition. Funding to support the project came from climate change funds, councillor's Local Community Budget, and capital for statutory dam infrastructure works.

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of green spaces for the benefit of everyone. This, and the Council's standing as a cooperative council, meant that the woodland was to be created and maintained for and by the local community. Local schools, Green Space Volunteers and the wider community were invited to help plant the woodland.

The creation of new woodland will help to provide future protection to the site whilst also bringing many added benefits, such as:

- Carbon storage
- Cooling of the urban environment
- Provision of habitats and food for wildlife
- Improved visual aesthetics
- Cleaner air
- Mental health improvements
- Soil stabilisation and erosion reduction

3.3 Objectives & Design Concept

3.3.1 Objectives

The key objectives of the project were:

- 1. Biodiversity and wildlife**
Design a woodland that seeks to attract a range of wildlife and provides various associated habitats.
- 2. Climate Change**
Plant more trees and increase biodiversity to help combat climate change and capture carbon. More information about how trees can combat climate change can be found by visiting the [Woodland Trust Website](#).
- 3. Resilience**
Ensure the woodland is designed to be as resilient as possible. This should include various species to avoid a monoculture and decrease the risk of future diseases and pests from desecrating the woodland. In addition, consider using locally sourced and native tree species to reduce the risk of imported pests and diseases and improve resilience to climate change.
- 4. Connectivity**
Avoid planting an isolated woodland and look for opportunities to link up existing habitats and provide corridors for wildlife.
- 5. Education**
Provide children and the local community with an opportunity to learn about tree planting, woodlands and climate change. Initially, this could be through the delivery of planting trees, but establishing woodland can also provide a valuable outdoor classroom experience.
- 6. Community-led**
Ensure that residents and children can get involved in creating the new woodland. This will help to develop a sense of ownership, community pride, and social interaction. Community engagement has also been shown to reduce levels of vandalism
- 7. Maintainability**
Design a woodland that can be maintained easily for many years. Create a management plan to ensure a clear guide to maintaining the woodland for the future.
- 8. Dedication**
Consider the opportunity to provide tree planting in celebration of her late majesty Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee
- 9. Accessibility**
Deliver a woodland in an area with open public access and a good network of linking paths.
- 10. Legacy**
Design a woodland project that seeks to leave a legacy for future generations to enjoy and that residents can appreciate for many years.
- 11. Cost efficient**
Ensure the woodland project is realistically affordable in the current challenging financial climate and seek to access grants and funding where possible.
- 12. Communications**
Provide residents, visitors and stakeholders with regular and relevant communications about the woodland project through social media, website, press releases and signage. Interpretation is also to be included to inform future visitors.

3.3.2 Design Concept

In 2022, the initial afforestation concepts were reviewed and adapted in response to site constraints and local knowledge. An initial idea formed to link up the existing Millennium Wood with the woodland at Shackleton Spring, which is somewhat isolated. From there, this would also help to provide complimentary habitats for the extended area of Shackledell Grassland. This location also does not have the potential to interfere with the flood or underground services.

The final concept design includes the following:

- Community involvement from schools, volunteers, and the public
- Large sweeping rides and paths through the woodland
- Woodland glades (open areas)
- Wavy edge to the north to maximise woodland edge habitat
- Areas to be left for natural regeneration
- Planting larger standard trees along the perimeter – fruiting varieties to help encourage self-setting trees to form a robust woodland edge while providing a food source for wildlife.
- A predominantly native woodland species selection
- Trees sourced of UK origin to minimise risks of importing pests and diseases.
- Have an area where schools and the community can bring their own locally sourced seeds and tree seedlings to plant in the woodland
- Interpretation and signage for the project
- Trees are to be planted in lines to help with future maintenance access at a density of 2-metre centres.

3.4 Delivery

3.4.1 Preparation

In line with best practice, planting was scheduled for winter, from November 2022 to February 2023.

To ensure that the trees have a better chance of success and establishment, the existing amenity grass was treated with herbicide to reduce competition between the grass and the trees for the first 1-2 years. The area was marked out and later sprayed off in the autumn of 2022. Once grasses died, the area was rotovated in strips two metres apart to aid with planting.

3.4.2 Procurement

Capital funding for statutory reservoir works provided most of the funding for the larger standard trees.

These twelve trees were handpicked and ordered from a reputable nursery comprising Oak, Sweet Chestnut, and Walnut. In addition, seven Silver Maple were also ordered as a dedication to the late Queen.

Climate change funding enabled the purchase of tree whips. The 3900 trees comprised:

- Field maple 500
- Silver birch 500
- Hornbeam 600
- Hazel 500
- Hawthorn 500
- Crab apple 400

- Wild cherry 400
- Rowan 500

Under the Amenity Tree Management Policy, all trees were UK sourced and grown.

3.4.3 Standards planting

Dignitaries planted the seven dedicated Silver Maples in November 2022. These trees were chosen to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.

In addition, a further 12 standards were planted around the perimeter, spaced approx. 15 metres apart. They comprise Oak, Black Walnut and Sweet Chestnut.

All standard trees were planted with double tree stakes and ties, a watering tube into the roots (to enable easy irrigation) and wire mesh wire guards to provide protection and discourage vandalism. A layer of woodchip was also placed around the base of the trees.

3.4.4 Schools' tree planting

Through the help of the Stevenage Education Trust, all schools in Stevenage were contacted and invited to participate. Ten schools were able to support tree planting:

- Almond Hill School
- Shephalbury Park Primary School
- The Thomas Alleyne Academy
- Greenside School
- Ashtree Primary School and Nursery
- Round Diamond Primary School
- St Nicholas School
- Peartree Spring Primary
- Woolenwick Infant and Nursery School
- Roebuck Academy.

The ages of those involved ranged from Key Stage 1 to Six Form students.

Despite worms and soil being of immediate interest, the children got the opportunity to plant trees, and learn about the importance of trees, the species they will be planting and how to plant them.

Some of the feedback from the pupils at Round Diamond Primary:

'We learnt a skill which is planting.'

'It's so cool that we might come back with our kids and show them what we planted when we are older.'

'It's a good skill, and we learn about nature.'



3.4.5 Community & volunteer planting

Members of the public, Green Space Volunteers, council officers and Councillors undertook tree planting in two events during January and February 2023. The public event was well attended, with tree planting undertaken by individuals and families. In addition, some participants had helped to plant the nearby Millennium Wood when they were at school in 2019.



3.4.6 Naming & Formal Unveiling

As the project developed, Members and Officers identified an opportunity to consult the public on a name for the new woodland. In February 2023, the public was asked for some naming suggestions. Over 80 people submitted suggestions, shortlisted to 10 for the public vote.

The winning name of the woodland was voted as 'Fairlane Wood'.

4. Site Threats & Protection

Due to the location of the woodland, which is situated in an urban environment, there are several increased threats. Along with reasoning, an assessment of some of these risks/threats has been outlined below. In addition, the initial mitigation methods to overcome the threats have been identified. Further mitigations will be included in the action plan.

THE RISK EXPOSURE IS BASED UPON TWO FACTORS – SEVERITY AND LIKELIHOOD

SEVERITY	=	WORST CREDIBLE OUTCOME FROM THE HAZARD		
Major	=	Total destruction	=	5
High	=	Permanent damage	=	4
Medium	=	Major damage	=	3
Moderate	=	Temporary damage	=	2
Low	=	Superficial damage	=	1

LIKELIHOOD	=	OF AN INCIDENT OCCURRING		
High	=	Almost Certain	=	5
High /medium	=	Very likely	=	4
Medium	=	Likely	=	3
Low	=	Possible	=	2
Very low	=	Unlikely	=	1

SCORE

The Risk Score = SEVERITY x LIKELIHOOD.

A high-risk score will fall between 12 and 25 inclusive. Enter as H

A medium risk score will fall between 6 and 10 inclusive. Enter as M

A low-risk score will fall between 1 and 5 inclusive. Enter as L

SEVERITY	5	L	M	H	H	H
	4	L	M	H	H	H
	3	L	M	M	H	H
	2	L	L	M	M	M
	1	L	L	L	L	L
		1	2	3	4	5
		LIKELIHOOD				

4.1 Flooding

Flooding could result in the site becoming waterlogged for extended periods, where trees and soil are washed away or become contaminated by flood water.

Severity	3
Likelihood	3
Score	9 - Medium
Details:	<p>From general observations, the site is subject to minor surface flooding and waterlogging during extended periods of rainfall/precipitation. However, due to the gentle gradient, water will quickly drain from west to east. Therefore, some areas (far west and east) may sit wetter than others for extended periods, resulting in the poorer establishment of trees. In addition, the channelling of the excess water has been observed over the site, falling from west to east.</p> <p>To some extent, the site forms part of a flood alleviation area should the reservoir at the Main Lake fail/over-top. However, the risk of this occurring is minimal, and the reservoir is regularly inspected for safety.</p>
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over time, the trees will help reduce future flooding issues by minimising run-off. The trees' roots will also help stabilise and bind the soil. • Regular reservoir inspections and level warning alarm system • Topography helps to drain the water away promptly in most areas.
Further measures required?	NO – but monitor the establishment of trees in the site's known wet and boggy areas.

4.2 Fire

Fire can be started in several ways, intentionally or unintentionally, such as a natural wildfire. Fire could result in trees and neighbouring habitats, and wildlife becoming destroyed.

Severity	4
Likelihood	3
Score	12 - High
Details:	<p>Numerous meadow/wildflower grasslands and nearby trees/woodlands border the new woodland. These longer grass areas are particularly vulnerable to fire during hot and dry weather. In addition, the site is publicly accessible in a popular park in an urban setting, with nearby benches and litter bins. Therefore, the chances of unintentionally starting a fire (discarded glass bottles, cigarette butts etc.) are relatively high. Furthermore, the site is close to other woodland areas where a fire could spread to/or from.</p>
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large breaks /rides (15m wide) between grasslands and neighbouring woodlands can help to act as a fire break. • No proposed park furniture (seats and bins) within the woodland itself • The site is visible from Six Hills Road. It is regularly walked by park visitors, adding the possibility of some protection and early warning. • Daily emptying of bins within the park by maintenance operatives. • The site is reasonably accessible by fire tender vehicles.
Further measures required?	YES – volunteer wardens, consider fire warning signage during extended hot and dry periods.

4.3 Antisocial behaviour

Antisocial behaviour could result in trees becoming damaged or removed. In addition, there is an increased risk of intentionally/unintentionally starting a fire.

Severity	3
Likelihood	5
Score	15 - High
Details:	The woodland is within a popular urban park, easily accessible from the neighbouring path networks. As such, there are relatively high levels of foot traffic, which could increase the chances of intentional damage. This could include the removal of canes and protective guards and the general vandalism of the trees. Furthermore, there are increased chances of littering, dog fouling, graffiti, and fires/barbecues. Damage from joyriding is also possible if the site is left unsecured.
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park's popularity and community involvement in the delivery of the woodland afford some level of protection and ownership. • The site is visible from Six Hills Road. In addition, it is regularly walked by park visitors - adding the possibility of some protection and early warning. • Large paths and rides provide good visibility and accessibility around the site. • Standards have wire mesh protection. • Daily emptying of litter bins within the park • Neighbourhoods Wardens and Police undertake patrols of the park. • Anti-graffiti coating to signage. Reports via the online platform and responded to via SDS teams as appropriate.
Further measures required?	YES - repair/replacement of guards and canes by volunteer wardens, consider dog fouling/BBQs signage if an issue, request more regular patrols of the site if regular reports of damage.

4.4 Animals – Dogs, Squirrels, and Deer

Animals can cause various levels of damage within woodlands. For example, uncontrolled dogs can maul and dig out trees. In addition, grey Squirrels will chew off the tops of semi-maturing trees, and deer will damage them by rubbing their antlers against them.

Severity	3
Likelihood	2
Score	6 - Medium
Details:	The woodland is situated within a public park, a popular spot for dog walking, posing the greatest threat in this category. Dogs may dig, maul, or bite the trees and guards. In addition, numerous neighbouring woodlands can attract other animals, including deer and squirrels. Whilst the population of deer and squirrels is relatively unmonitored, the disturbance to foraging deer is quite high due to the high levels of foot traffic. Squirrels could be a potential issue if left unchecked; however, this issue has yet to be previously recorded in respect of the neighbouring woods, particularly Millennium Wood, which is around 23 years old.
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large paths and rides provide good accessibility around and within the site. • Whips are supported with canes and guards. In addition, standards have wire mesh protection. • Neighbourhoods Wardens and Police undertake patrols of the park.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The park's popularity and community involvement in the delivery of the woodland afford some level of protection and ownership. The site is visible from Six Hills Road and regularly walked by park's visitors - adding the possibility of some protection and early warning
Further measures required?	Yes – volunteer wardens to help repair small damages, monitor, and report to Community Safety if it becomes an issue.

4.5 Pests and diseases

There is an increased risk within the UK of importing pests and diseases from other countries where sourced stock is not regulated. The spread of pests and diseases is also possible depending on the location of the woodland in respect of nearby woods and infected trees/vegetation.

Severity	4
Likelihood	1
Score	4 - Low
Details:	The woodland is close to neighbouring mature and semi-mature woodlands, which could increase the spread risk. It is also set within an urban environment where people/animals can inadvertently introduce invasive species, diseases, or pests. However, no known diseases or pest outbreaks are recorded within proximity, except Ash dieback.
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of twelve different species planted within the woodland provides good levels of resilience. Mainly native species are selected, and sourced from the UK, minimising the risk of importing diseases. Plant Healthy certified nursery stock Dense planting to help cover establishment failures
Further measures required?	NO

4.6 Soil erosion and pollution

Soil erosion could occur for several reasons, such as high levels of footfall/vehicle movements or exposure to the elements. This will impact the ability of trees to grow and establish effectively. In addition, pollution could be because of an accidental release of substances/compounds, which could be detrimental to the flora and fauna of the area.

Severity	3
Likelihood	2
Score	6 - Medium
Details:	Most of the site is not very sheltered and is vulnerable to the prevailing winds and rain. Footfall is relatively high, but this is mainly contained to the paths around the perimeter of the woodland. The pollution risk is minimal as it is not close to a road, waterway, foul services, or residential areas.
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large rides and paths are provided throughout the site to help minimise soil compaction and erosion. The site is not accessible by unauthorised vehicles. Soil erosion and stability will improve over time as trees develop
Further measures required?	NO

4.7 Climate change resilience

Climate change is an ever-increasing threat with very hard-to-anticipate effects. However, risks could include flooding, wind damage, drought, fire and extreme temperatures. All of which could be detrimental to the woodland.

Severity	5
Likelihood	2
Score	6 - Medium
Details:	Site exposure means the site has the potential to be vulnerable to strong prevailing winds. There is some protection to the west and east perimeters of the site due to neighbouring woodlands, hedges, and topography. Extreme temperatures and drought have been experienced for the past few years, making establishing new plants and trees challenging. The risks of flooding and fire are tackled in the sections above.
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of twelve species was planted within the woodland to improve resilience. • Mainly native species were selected. • Dense planting to help cover establishment failures. • Tree shelters and canes for whips were provided. • Standards are provided with irrigation tubes which feed into the roots for easy watering during establishment.
Further measures required?	YES - Monitor levels of establishment failures (replacement planting)

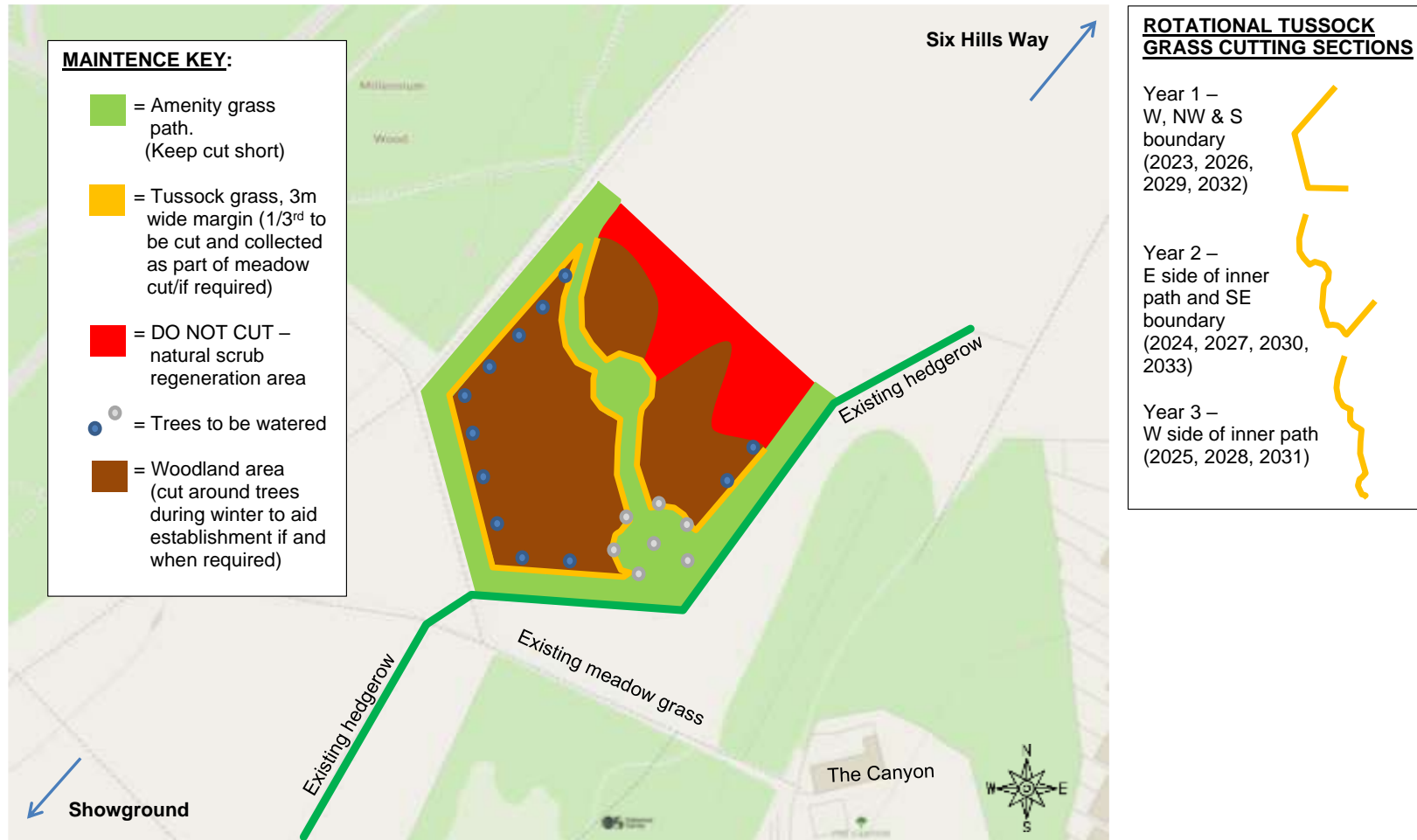
4.8 Human Error

Consideration should also be given to the maintenance of the site, which may be made in error.

Severity	4
Likelihood	3
Score	12 - High
Details:	The site has been managed for many years as amenity grassland, and there is potential for operational maintenance errors or misunderstandings of the maintenance regime. Examples could be accidentally cutting areas, forgetting to water the standards, or traversing sensitive areas.
Mitigation measures:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A management plan which is accessible to the maintenance operations • Visibility of maintained/unmaintained areas improves over time. • Supervision of maintenance operatives • Operations conducted in-house
Further measures required?	YES – share management & maintenance plan with the operations department and monitor site maintenance.

5. Operational Maintenance Plan

Below is a plan to aid the operations department with ongoing and future woodland maintenance. This should also be used in conjunction with the action plan, as shown in section 6 (page 21)



Plan of the grounds maintenance regime for the new woodland at Fairlands Valley Park, Stevenage.

N.B: Plan does not represent the exact layout

* Compass icons created by Amethyst prime - Flaticon <https://www.flaticon.com/free-icons/compass>

** Map image, Ordnance Survey Maps (2022), <https://explore.osmaps.com/?lat=51.894737&lon=-0.186652&zoom=16.7786&overlays=&style=Standard&type=2d&placesCategory=>

6. Maintenance and Management Action Plan

Task	Details / Description	To be actioned by	YR1 2023	YR2 2024	YR3 2025	YR4 2026	YR5 2027	YR6 2028	YR7 2029	YR8 2030	YR9 2031	YR10 2032	Notes / Update
<i>Routine Maintenance</i>													
Mow paths/rides	Mow main grass pathways and central areas within woodland during the growing season to maintain consistent height for access on foot.	SDS Operations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Cut and collect tussock grass margins.	Cut and collect the 3-metre complimentary tussock grass margin as per the maintenance plan/as required (1/3 rd per year)	SDS Operations		X		X		X		X		X	
Litter pick	Carry out litter picking of woodland.	Green Space Volunteers/ Wardens	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Establishment care	Cut back grass and vegetation from establishing trees in winter to reduce competition.	SDS Operations		X	X	X	X		X		X		
Tree Irrigation	Thoroughly and regularly water larger standard trees to ensure successful establishment.	SDS Operations	X	X	X								

Task	Details / Description	To be actioned by	YR1 2023	YR2 2024	YR3 2025	YR4 2026	YR5 2027	YR6 2028	YR7 2029	YR8 2030	YR9 2031	YR10 2032	Notes / Update
Occasional Maintenance													
Removal of tree guards & canes	Carry out the removal of redundant plastic guards and remaining canes.	Green Space Volunteers										X	
Removal of stakes from standard trees	Carry out the removal of tree stakes from the larger standards if it is determined that the trees no longer require support for the establishment.	SDS Operations										X	
Clean interpretation signs, boards, and panels	Carry out cleaning of interpretation signs, boards and panels to retain readability and improve welcome.	Green Space Volunteers / SDS		X		X		X		X		X	
Invasive species removal/control	Inspect the site and determine the level of invasive species threat. Then, carry out removal or control of invasive species if required.	SDS Operations, SDS EPD Team & Green Space Volunteers	X		X		X		X		X		
Fire risk management	To reduce fire spread risk, consider cutting tussock grass during extended, hot/dry weather.	SDS EPD Team & SDS Operations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	

Task	Details / Description	To be actioned by	YR1 2023	YR2 2024	YR3 2025	YR4 2026	YR5 2027	YR6 2028	YR7 2029	YR8 2030	YR9 2031	YR10 2032	Notes / Update
Ecological Monitoring													
Carryout ecological survey of the site	Carry out the initial ecological baseline survey of the site and review again in year 10.	SDS EPD Team & HERC	X									X	
Monitoring and survey of the site	Carry out interim monitoring of wildlife. Birds, butterflies, and flowers.	SDS EPD Team & Green Space Volunteers					X					X	
Enhancement													
Replacement planting (if necessary)	Monitor woodland establishment and consider suitable replacement planting if required.	SDS EPD Team, Green Space Volunteers & SDS Operations	X		X								
Volunteer Wardens	Encourage 'Volunteer Wardens' within the existing GSVs to help safeguard the establishing woodland, e.g., replace canes & guards.	SDS EPD Team	X										
Thinning of trees/coppicing	Consider thinning of trees which are significantly overshadowing woodland floor or where woodland is becoming 'sterile'.	SDS EPD Team/SDS Operations / Green Space Volunteers										X	
Meadow sowing and	Carry out preparation and sowing of complimentary habitats (such as tussock	SDS EPD Team &		X									

Task	Details / Description	To be actioned by	YR1 2023	YR2 2024	YR3 2025	YR4 2026	YR5 2027	YR6 2028	YR7 2029	YR8 2030	YR9 2031	YR10 2032	Notes / Update
complimentary habitats	grasses and natural areas) with appropriate meadow seed mix.	Green Space Volunteers											
Scrub development	Monitor the progress of natural scrub development and consider interventions such as additional planting.	SDS EPD Team			X	X	X						
Interpretation	Apply care product to existing signage, consider new signage (fire/BBQs, dog fowling or interpretation)	SDS EPD Team					X					X	
Management publishing	Share the management plan with the SDS operations team and make it available online.	SDS EPD Team / Corporate Comms	X										
Review	Review this management plan	SDS EPD Team										X	