


1	 2000	WOODLAND SURVEY SHEET. GENERAL SITE DESCRIPTION	County / Local Authority West Midlands
WGS REF. No. NWP/015/207	Site Name Hobs Moat		District/Parish Solihull
Owner/tenant/agent Solihull MBC  Contact David Lowe Solihull MBC, Ecologist Landscapes Section PO BOX 19, Council House, Solihull, West Midlands, B91, 3QT	Nature Conservation Status / Designation Scheduled Monument		Total area (of included woodland) 2.55 ha
	Other Designations / Protections Midlands Plateau Natural Area (43)		Grid ref (access) SP 146 826
	Ancient / Recent Semi-Natural / Plantation Recent semi-natural		Surveyor Helen S Miller Middlemarch Environmental Ltd
	Biodiversity Action Plan Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull BAP See Appendix A		Date of survey 7 July 2004

Woodland vegetation types (**mark on map**).  
SEMI-NATURAL WOODLAND TYPE (HAPS):  
*Lowland mixed broadleaved (Forest Practice Guide 3)*

NVC COMMUNITIES:  
*W10*

PLANTATIONS:  
Planted oak

Adjacent land (**mark on map**)  
Urbanisation: residential, amenity grassland and allotment gardens.

Threats  
Over use from recreation, particularly bikes.  
Invasion of exotics from neighbouring gardens.  
Vandalism and household/garden waste dumping.

Aspect N/A	Slope <i>Flat but comprises of an old moat, therefore includes slopes of about 60°</i>	Altitude 110 m
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Soil – from Soilscape on [www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk)

Ref/class	Name	Main surface texture class	Natural drainage type	Natural fertility
17	Slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils	Loamy	Impeded drainage	Low

South: crumbly soil with some clay structure. pH5.  
North: Loam with high silica content with good organic/humus content. pH 6.

Geology  
South: Pleistocene sands and gravels over sandstone  
North: mudstone with dolomitic siltstone and sandstone beds, and nodules of gypsum below a depth of more than 30 m.

Climatic Factors From Met Office web-site for Stratford-Upon-Avon weather station, approximately 15 miles south of the Solihull Woodlands:

- Average annual rainfall 622.3 mm with 115.7 days experiencing less than 1 mm.
- Average annual days experiencing air frost and ground frost: 62.2 and 95-110 respectively
- Minimal risk from wind exposure.

WOODLAND SURVEY SHEET.  
COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE

County  
Unitary  
West Midlands

Ref. No. NWP/015/207

	Tx	Tp	Ts	Tc	Tn	Cx	Ct	Px	Pc	Sx	Sc	St	Js	Jp	Jv
Acer cam															
Acer pse	O											O			
Aescu hip															
Alnus glu															
Betul pen															
Betul pub															
Carp bet															
Casta ast	R											R			
Conifer sp															
Coryl ave										O					
Crata mon										O					
Crata oxy															
Euony eur															
Fagus syl															
Frang aln															
Fraxi exc	O											O	O	O	
Ilex aqu										R					
Junip com															
Larix sp															
Malus syl	R														
Picea sp															
Pinus syl															
Popul tre															
Prunu avi												R		R	
Prunu lau															
Prunu pad															
Prunu spi															
Querc cer															
Querc pet/hybrid															
Querc rob		D				R		R				O			
Rham cat															
Rhodopon															
Salix alb															
Salix aur															
Salix cap															
Salix cin															
Salix fra															
Salix pen															
Salix vim															
Samb nig										O					
Sorbu ari															
Sorbu auc														R	
Sorbu tor															
Taxus bac															
Thely san															
Tilia cor															
Tilia eur															
Tilia pla															
Ulmus car															
Ulmus gla															
Ulmus pro	R											O			
Vibur lan															

Surveyor: Helen S Miller  
Middlemarch Environmental

Date of survey  
7 July 2004

Site name  
Hobs Moat

Grid ref (centre of site)  
SP 146 826

Hobs Moat is oak dominated woodland with poor age and vertical structure. Tree regeneration is sparse, although does occur where there is less impact from public use, notably bikes.

The ground flora is minimal with bramble being dominant. The centre of the site has particularly sparse ground flora.

The NVC community is estimated at W10, although ground flora is sparse and has a suggestion of being a transitional community of W10/W16.

The wood is primarily high forest with minimal understorey. The wood was cleared in 1780 and the current oaks may have been planted. 22 'dangerous' oaks were removed in 1998, opening up some of the canopy. There are no clear management compartments within the wood.

The woodland is primarily used for local recreation. There are some formal pathways and many informal paths through the wood and is heavily used by bikes.

The wood occurs on the site of a Scheduled Monument (medieval moated manor). The boundaries consist of fences.

There does not appear to be any grazing, squirrel or deer problems.

D = dominant  
A = abundant  
F = frequent  
O = occasional  
R = rare  
L = localised

stand description  
management & use  
history  
nature of boundaries  
grazing

Area of (ha)

Ancient Semi-nat ASNW	Recent Semi-nat OSNW	2.55	Ancient Replanted AWS	Recent Plantn.
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Area occupied by each NVC type

0-0.5 ha	0.5-2 ha	2-10 ha	10-20ha	20+ha
		W10		

<b>Tree layer</b>	Height 14 m	Cover (%) 83	<b>Shrub layer</b>	Height 3 m	Cover (%) 20
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Age class abundance (all species, using DAFOR system)

D/mature	Mature	Young trees	Saplings	Seedlin	Coppice
	D	O	R	R	R

	Sx	Sc	Js	Jp	Jv	S	Sc	Js	Jp	Jv
Clem vit						Ribes syl				
Daph lau						Ribes uva				
Heder hel		A				Rosa arv				
Ligus vul						Rosa can	R			
Lonic per		R				Sarot sco				
Maho aqu						Ulex eur				
Myrica ga						Ulex gal				
Ribes nig						Vibur opu				

- Tp* Planted tree
- Tn* Self-sown tree
- Ts* Standard in c-w-s
- Tc* Grown from coppice
- Tx* Any other tree
- Cx* Coppice
- Ct* Regrowth from stump
- Px* Pollard (2.5m+)
- Pc* Pollard (1-2.5m)
- Sx* Shrub
- Sc* Climber
- St* Young tree
- Js* Seedling
- Jp* Sapling
- Jv* Sucker





Site name  
Hobs Moat

Surveyor  
Helen S Miller  
Middlemarch Environmental Ltd

Date of survey  
7 July 2004

### HABITATS, FEATURES & COMMUNITIES (MARK ON MAP)

#### Habitats

The NVC community is estimated to be W10. However, the ground flora is minimal and gave some suggestion towards a W10/16 transitional community. Age, vertical structure and habitat diversity were poor. These are detailed below (Target notes) and marked on the map.

The field layer is species-poor, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* generally being dominant with a limited range of common woodland vascular species occurring throughout. Nettle *Urtica dioica* and ivy *Hedera helix* were abundant. Other species occurring occasionally included bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*, bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*, ground ivy *Glechoma hederacea*, various grasses, rosebay willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolium* and wood avens *Geum urbanum*. Herb-robert *Geranium robertianum* and ground elder *Aegopodium podagraria* were locally abundant.

Other habitats within the wood are scarce; there is grassy/nettle clearing (Target note 1) in the east of the wood.

#### Wetland features

There are no wetland features in the wood.

#### Veteran trees and deadwood

Deadwood habitats are rare in the wood, Target note 3. There is a mature sweet chestnut in the north of the wood, some old oak pollards in the north-east and an old oak coppice in the south-east.

#### Notable species

Bluebell occurs within the wood – a UK BAP species.

There is a moderate woodland bird population, including mistle thrush and song thrush (UK BAP species).

#### Other features

The wood is on a Scheduled Monument.

#### Adjacent landuse

The adjacent land is urbanisation: residential housing, lowland grassland in the form of amenity grassland and allotment gardens.

#### **Target notes for map**

1. Clearing – dominated by nettle and grasses.
2. Deadwood (future): torn off limb of apple. Currently still alive.
3. Deadwood: standing oak.

<b>4</b>	<b>FC 2000</b>	<b>WOODLAND SURVEY SHEET OTHER VALUES OF THE WOOD</b>	REF No. NWP/015/207
SITE NAME: HOBBS MOAT		COMPILED BY: HELEN S MILLER MIDDLEMARCH ENVIRONMENTAL LTD DATE: AUGUST 2004	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARCHAEOLOGY &amp; CULTURAL HERITAGE</b></p> <p>Hobs Moat is on the site of a Scheduled Monument.</p> <p>The Scheduled monument comprises of a moat (dated c. 1901 AD to 2050 AD) and castle (medieval, dated c. 1066 AD to 1539 AD).</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LANDSCAPE</b></p> <p>Hobs Moat lies in the Countryside Commission/English Nature's Character Area "Arden (97)". This Character Area has a "wide variation of landscape character" and includes the "undulating wooded landscape and small hedges of the main plateau". This Character Area has a long history of wood-pasture with "deer parks and estate woodlands once widespread". Some remnant features, such as veteran trees, provide reminders of the past. "Broad-leaved woodland and hedgerow trees lend a well wooded character to the area". The "woodlands themselves vary in type from twentieth century plantations to species rich ancient woodland (with) oak and ash woods with bracken, bramble or dog's mercury are particularly distinctive". The mosaic of urban areas and woodland are characteristics of the Character Area.</p> <p>Although the Character Area suggests the landscape has reasonable woodland, the Natural Area (Midlands Plateau, 43) is characterised by lowland heathland with woodland, grassland, freshwater and farmland with woodlands being under represented at just 4%. 40% of the land area of Natural Area 43 is urban. Woodlands are therefore an important feature of the landscape. Many of the woodlands within the Natural Area are less than 5 ha and are typically uncoppiced, even-aged stands regenerated from clear fells. However, about half are semi-natural in character. The woods cover a range of NVC communities, although they tend to be more acidic.</p> <p>The land surrounding Hobs Moat is relatively flat and the wood is one of several forming prominent features in a landscape dominated by urbanisation. The small size, locality and situation of Hobs Moat is fairly typical of the Character Area and Natural Area in which it occurs.</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RECREATION / PUBLIC ACCESS</b></p> <p>Hobs Moat is primarily used for informal recreation and walking. It is also extensively used by bikes, as a result there is much damage to the site. There are no footpaths in the immediate surroundings of the wood.</p> <p>Access to the site is good with several access points around the wood: Castle Lane in the south, Hobs Moat Road in the east, in the south-west and north of the wood.</p> <p>There are no clear rides, although there are several formal and less formal paths throughout the wood.</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WOOD PRODUCTION, GAME / LIVESTOCK &amp; OTHER CONSIDERATIONS</b></p> <p>There does not appear to be any formal wood production taking place within the wood at present. As a result of being entirely surrounded by urbanisation and one sides (south/east) backing onto housing there is an issue of garden and household waste dumping.</p>			

PHOTO No. 1 (mark location and direction on map) Typical view of site. 106°	DATE: 7 July 2004	NVC TYPE: W10
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PHOTO No. 2 (mark location and direction on map)	DATE:	NVC TYPE:
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N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>FC 2000</b>	<b>WOODLAND SURVEY SHEET ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION &amp; MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS</b>		<b>REF No. NWP/015/207</b>
<b>SITE NAME: HOBBS MOAT</b>		<b>SURVEYOR: HELEN S MILLER MIDDLEMARCH ENVIRONMENTAL LTD</b>		<b>DATE OF SURVEY: 7 JULY 2004</b>
<p><b>ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION of the main features of interest (include an assessment of naturalness, representativeness, size, rarity, fragility, position in an ecological unit, diversity, recorded history, potential value, intrinsic appeal)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The conservation significance of Hobs Moat lies in the archaeological interest of the site and the potential to improve its condition through future management. The wood has a high degree of native species but poor structure and ground flora diversity.</li> <li>Hobs Moat is on the site of a Scheduled Monument.</li> <li>The woodland forms a valuable woodland island within an area dominated by urbanisation; providing aesthetic as well as ecological value through breaking up a potentially monotonous, low diversity landscape.</li> <li>The floral diversity is relatively uniform with only one NVC community being represented (W10) and therefore one HAP type; the greatest species richness occurring at the periphery of the woodlands. There is limited diversity in habitat with the presence of at least some deadwood habitats and clearings. The wood has a moderate woodland bird population and suggestion of being suitable for invertebrates, notably butterflies in the more open areas. Species (song thrush) occurring on the national BAP were recorded within the wood. Badgers have been recorded in the local area of the wood.</li> <li>There is the potential for woodland improvement through introducing management that would enhance and encourage an understorey to develop and allowing some oaks to provide future veteran trees. There is potential to increase the quality and quantity of the deadwood habitats within the wood. There is potential to increase the habitat diversity through management of the woodlands. Appropriately management of the glades would provide particular value for woodland butterflies. Selective and sensitive thinning would encourage more age diversity within the canopy species. Deer, rabbits and squirrels do not appear to be a major problem at the present.</li> <li>Bluebells occur throughout the wood and are likely to be a major aesthetic asset to many of the woodlands in the spring.</li> </ul>				
<p align="center"><b>ECOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES &amp; RECOMMENDATIONS (based on conservation objectives and above evaluation)</b></p> <p>The management of this wood should be viewed in conjunction with the other woodlands managed by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC). For example some woodlands may lend themselves better to coppice; while in others may be more suited to minimal intervention. A range of habitats should be created across the district. Wildlife and public access are the key focus points for the management of woodlands within the SMBC District.</p> <p>The following management considerations should be considered to improve the future nature conservation values of the woodland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any current and future native shrubs, including hazel, dogwood, holly, elder, hawthorn and elms, should be protected and/or encouraged and avoided during any forestry operations.</li> <li>Opening up and allowing the oaks to mature with some being retained as future veteran trees. Planting and bramble control may be necessary to aid age restructuring and species diversification.</li> <li>Re-creation/creation of rides with an irregular scalloped edge would allow greater light penetration and vary the habitat diversity and structure. This variation in habitat diversity and structure may encourage greater flora diversity and therefore be beneficial for birds and invertebrates.</li> <li>Discourage garden and house hold waste dumping.</li> <li>Create new standing/fallen deadwood where safe to do so.</li> </ul> <p>The following guidelines should be followed to ensure continued/improved conservation and aesthetic appeal of the woodlands and landscape and that impacts are minimised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish/re-establish management coups/compartments. This will aid in the maintenance of a species and structurally diverse woodland.</li> <li>Protect any native shrubs during forestry operations.</li> <li>Forestry operations, particularly felling, should not be carried out during the bird breeding season (1 March until 31 August).</li> <li>Prior to major forestry operations, the site should be checked for badger activity and the presence of setts. A licence from English Nature would be required for any works being undertaken within 30 m of a badger sett.</li> <li>English Heritage need to be informed prior to any forestry operations or other works on site.</li> <li>Bramble may become overwhelmingly dominant where significant light is allowed to reach the woodland floor, therefore it may be appropriate to develop an understorey prior to opening up the canopy.</li> <li>Management should favour native species in the canopy and understorey.</li> <li>Existing deadwood, both fallen and standing should be retained and protected. Some native trees should be retained to provide for future veteran trees and deadwood habitats. Some felled material should be left on site to create deadwood piles of value to invertebrates.</li> <li>Natural regeneration is the preferred option if restocking is required although planting may be necessary. If the latter is the case it should be after attempts to encourage natural regeneration and local provenance is preferred.</li> <li>Standard forestry practices for nature conservation/enhancement should be followed.</li> </ul>				

SITE NAME: HOBS MOAT	COMPILED BY: HELEN MILLER
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### OWNERS OBJECTIVES

For full details of the owners objectives please refer to ‘Woodland Strategy for Solihull’. The key objectives are summarised below.

1. ‘Protect, manage and enhance Solihull MBC woodlands with, and for the benefit of Solihull residents, recreation, nature conservation and visual amenity.’
  - a) Public safety – ensure it is not neglected
  - b) Recreation and public access – maintain or improve where appropriate
  - c) Wildlife conservation – maintain and wherever suitable restore natural ecological diversity
  - d) Landscape enhancement – maintain and where appropriate improve aesthetic value
  - e) Sustainable management of woodlands – taking opportunities to produce utilisable products such as woodchips for fuel, charcoal, fence materials and interpretation signs.

### MISSION STATEMENT / LONG TERM VISION

The aim is to develop woodlands, which balances visual amenity, recreation and nature conservation while maintaining the landscape character of the Borough.

The ecological assessment clearly identified that the Solihull woodlands have high current and future ecological value. Several of the woodlands also have archaeological features. The assessments and desk study also indicated the value that these woodlands have for the local residents of Solihull.

### LONG TERM MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS / OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Further details and generic long term management proposals and operational objectives can be found in the ‘Woodland Strategy for Solihull’. A summary of the key points is provided below.

**Aim**  
**Long term objective**  
**Operation objective**

**Public safety**

Maintain public safety at all times in relation to trees  
 Monitor tree health. Undertake tree surgery only where necessary.

Maintain access for a range of users

Monitor access for all uses. Maintain multi-access paths in good conditions. Create new multi-access paths where appropriate.

Maintain safety in relation to dangerous plants

Control/remove plants known to be dangerous i.e. giant hogweed.

Maintain safety in relation to non-woodland product e.g. fly tipping

Monitor the woodlands for fly-tipping incidences. Clear up reported fly-tipping as soon as possible.

**Recreation**

Provide access

Create new multi access paths where appropriate. Create and maintain path networks through the wood.

**Wildlife**

Maintain a structurally diverse woodland.

Implement appropriate management e.g. selective felling, coppicing, group felling etc

Enhance structural diversity within the woodland

Selectively thinning areas of dense growth or introduce coppice management

Maintain ecological and historical character of ancient woodland

Implement sensitive and appropriate management

Protect trees and woodlands from development

Use additional statutory protection where appropriate e.g. TPOs, SINCS, LNRs, SSSIs etc

Protect from vandalism by vehicles

Erect physical barriers to prevent access by motorised vehicles especially trail bikes and bikes. Erect and maintain fences around woodlands where appropriate.

Protect from vandalism by fire, litter, garden and house hold waste dumping etc

Education to local residents e.g. leaflet dropping, interpretation boards, school visits. Open up areas where these problems are particular high e.g. create open vista habitats within the wood or at woodland entrances (i.e. at fly-tipping hot spots)

Enhance habitat for roosting bats

Erect a variety of bat boxes. Retain standing deadwood. Identify future veteran trees

Increase habitat diversity - veteran trees

Identify future veteran trees

Increase habitat diversity - deadwood

Create deadwood habitat through ring barking selected trees and leaving some cut trees on site.

Protect the woodlands and wildlife from unnecessary disturbance

Educate the public through interpretation boards etc. Create and maintain footpath networks within the wood and encourage people to stay on them.

Enhance for bird life

Erect bird boxes

### **Landscape**

Protect trees and woodlands from development

Use additional statutory protection where appropriate e.g. TPOs, Conservations Areas

Maintain current landscape value

Avoid large areas of clearfell.

### **Products**

Identify products and local outlets

Introduce a range of management systems to provide a range of woodland products suitable for local use. E.g. a range of coppice rotation lengths across the Borough

SITE NAME: HOBBS MOAT

COMPILED BY: ALAN GUY. MIDDLEMARCH  
ENVIRONMENTAL LTD**LONG TERM PROPOSALS (Silvicultural systems, broad management strategies)**

- A) There is a clash between the heavy amenity use of this site and the need to regenerate/conservate woodland on the site. Zoning of the site will be required to separate and protect certain areas for regeneration of canopy and understorey species.**
- B) In heavily used areas (eg by bikers and pedestrians), planting rather than natural regeneration will have to be used. Trees will have to be physically protected while young.**
- C) It is also recommended that the many desire lines and uncontrolled pedestrian and cycle use be mitigated by installation of all-weather paths lined by landscaping, to encourage the public to use these paths.**
- D) It is recommended that the woodland should be extended to the west into a new strip along the edge of the adjoining recreation ground. This can be done by fencing off and preparing this strip for natural regeneration, as described below.**
- E) More specific strategies are listed below.**

**1. Establish regeneration/conservation zones**

- a. Certain zones within the site need to be marked or fenced off, to reduce pedestrian and cycle wear on the woodland floor. This will be necessary in particular in the centre and north east of the site where clearing of dangerous trees in 1996 has left large open areas of grass. Regeneration may be possible in these areas if the ground is prepared with weed/grass control and scarification. Some enrichment planting will also be required in these central areas owing to the shortage of existing understorey parent plants. The planted shrubs/trees will also increase shade which will encourage many woodland herb species to colonise these areas.  
Location: There must be mature parent trees adjacent and preferably surrounding the area
- b. In very heavily used areas such as the moat edges, planting and individual protection of young trees will be required.
- c. As saplings develop, weed control must be continued, possibly enclosing selected saplings in shelters and then spraying again
- d. If regeneration is not proving successful, then planting must be considered
- e. Select and protect regenerated young trees as described below.

**2. Protect and select existing regeneration**

- a. Protect area from public by fencing or signage (in busy areas only).
- b. Select best saplings at 3-4 years old, apply shelters and cut back or spray/weed-wipe competitors.
- c. If weed or grass competition is a problem, spray each year for 3 years in spring and, if required, late summer.
- d. If regenerated trees are going to suffer from shading, gradually open the canopy by felling some of the immediately surrounding parent trees as the young trees develop. This needs careful monitoring each year and a measured approach.

**3. Weed Control****a. General Rules re Weeding**

- i. Application by knapsack sprayer or weed wiper in compliance with all legislation for chemicals management, health and safety and code of practice – obtain detailed guidance on this matter.

**b. Weed control of regeneration areas**

- i. Apply herbicide to site in July-August prior to commencement of planned regeneration.

**c. Control sycamore: Survey extent and age of sycamore presence. Consider ecological status of wood and owner's policy towards sycamore.**

- i. If level of regeneration is limited and there are no mature sycamore of good form and size: sycamore can be eliminated by felling parent tree(s) and treating sycamore saplings and seedlings as for Rhododendron above.
- ii. If regeneration is well-established and/or there are mature, well-formed parent trees, consider a strategy of controlling regeneration within a defined area. The best formed saplings within the area will be selected at 3-4 years and protected (in shelters), and others will be manually cut back or sprayed.

Before taking any action, consult owner's senior ecological officer.

**4. Enrichment planting**

This measure is to be used as intensive use of some areas of the site by the public makes regeneration unlikely or inefficient.

- If selectively felling to make space for new planting: select i) non-native trees, preferably of bad form ii) poorly formed, diseased or sub-dominant native trees.
- Fence and/or sign the planting area, to deter public from disturbing the planting area.
- Where planting into grass or ex-arable land, advance herbicide spraying (and possibly mulch mats) are essential

before planting.

- Planting stock must be of local (midlands) provenance.
- As a minimum, newly planted whips (up to 75cm) will need rabbit guards and caning. Tree shelters are better as they protect against muntjac and other deer and can be sprayed round for weed control, but are vulnerable to vandalism.
- Larger standards will also need staking for first 2 years or so.
- Weed control after planting: Spot or band spraying every year (in spring and optional late summer) for 3 years after planting, if trees are in shelters. If not in shelters, manual or mechanical weeding is the only option.

**4. Expand area of woodland**

i. Better if new area is former woodland, unploughed or treated since.

Best if created by natural regeneration (local genetic stock maintained; natural successional stages)

If soil has been compacted by vehicle or heavy pedestrian use, prepare compacted ground by scarifying or rotavating.

**5. Maintain a dead-wood resource**

a. Check availability of dead wood in woodland, both standing and lying

b. If shortage of dead wood:

i. Select suitable areas away from main paths

ii. Use trees felled for thinning or group fellings for lying dead-wood.

iii. If no standing dead wood, select diseased or poorly formed trees for ring-barking. Treat birch in preference to oak or ash. Min. dia. 20cm.

iv. Do not ring-bark well-formed or healthy mature trees.

v. Ring-bark approx. 3-5 trees per hectare

## FIVE YEAR PLAN OF OPERATIONS (S.M.A.R.T.)

### Years 1-5

**E. Initiate natural regeneration**

i. Fence off and sign certain areas of site, particularly in centre and north east of site. Initiate regeneration i.a.w. protocol above.

ii. Control grass and weeds in regeneration areas, i.a.w. above protocol, if required.

iii. If soil has been compacted by vehicle or heavy pedestrian use, prepare compacted ground by scarifying or rotavating.

**F. Selection and protection of natural regeneration**

i. Carry out in all areas where regeneration of desired species occurs, in accordance with protocol above. This will probably not be required before Year 3 or 4 at the earliest.

**G. Enrichment planting**

i. Carry out where shown on Plan. Planting at spacing of 1.8-2.0m.

**H. Expand area of woodland**

i. Mark and/or fence off new area to be allowed to regenerate. If necessary, prepare compacted ground by scarifying or rotavating. As regeneration appears, select & protect as per F. above

**I. Control invasive species**

i. Control sycamore, particularly in s.e. of site i.a.w. 'Weed Control' protocol above.

**K. Dead wood resource**

i. Leave felled trees, if any, as dead wood resource i.a.w. protocol above. Standing dead trees must not be left close to paths if they are not structurally safe.

**L. Introduce formal paths in centre of site**

i. Create all-weather paths, as identified on Plan, along existing desire lines.

**M. Ecological/archaeological procedures**

i. All operations to be carried out i.a.w. protocols concerning Protected Species (if any), Nesting birds, Water habitats, Archaeological features.

### Years 6-10

**S. Natural regeneration – protection and selection**

i. Carry out i.a.w. protocol above.

**U. Control invasive species**

i. Control invasive species i.a.w. 'Weed Control' protocol above.

**9****FC  
2000**

WOODLAND LONG TERM MANAGEMENT PLAN

REF No. NWP015/207

**MONITORING & REFERENCES**

SITE NAME: HOBBS MOAT

COMPILED BY: ALAN GUY. MIDDLEMARCH  
ENVIRONMENTAL LTD**MONITORING**

Survey Wood once per year for the following:

- successful regeneration anywhere on site, particularly in trial areas.
- general health of canopy and understorey
- dangerous trees near well-used paths
- damage to trees or ground layer: deliberate or accidental
- damage to paths or forest floor from pedestrians, cyclists etc
- disease
- squirrel or deer damage in trees
- rabbit or deer damage to regeneration areas, coppice areas or newly planted trees/shrubs
- invasive species
- dumping of inert matter or other waste NB do not try to inspect suspicious substances, bags or containers: contact Environmental Health

**REFERENCES**

Woodland Strategy for Solihull. Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council Environment Services July 2000