

APPENDIX 1 - LAND AT CHICHELE ROAD, OXTED: GRASSLAND AND WOODLAND SURVEY UPDATE

1 HABITAT SURVEY

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 The ES chapter provides details of the habitat surveys undertaken in 2022, an updated survey of the grassland and woodland was undertaken in 2024 as set out in the following update.

1.2 Grassland survey

Method

1.2.1 An updated 'walkover' was undertaken on the 7th July 2024 to provide a generic list of all species observed.

1.2.2 In addition to this, three quadrat samples were also undertaken (figure 1), these were surveyed using professional judgement using 1x1m² quadrats sample.

1.2.3 Information collected within each quadrat included aspect, slope, average ground cover, sward variation, species, and their percentage cover. The DAFOR scale was used as for recording the relative abundance of plant species. The name DAFOR is an acronym for the abundance levels recorded: Dominant (D), Abundant (A), Frequent (F), Occasional (O) and Rare (R).

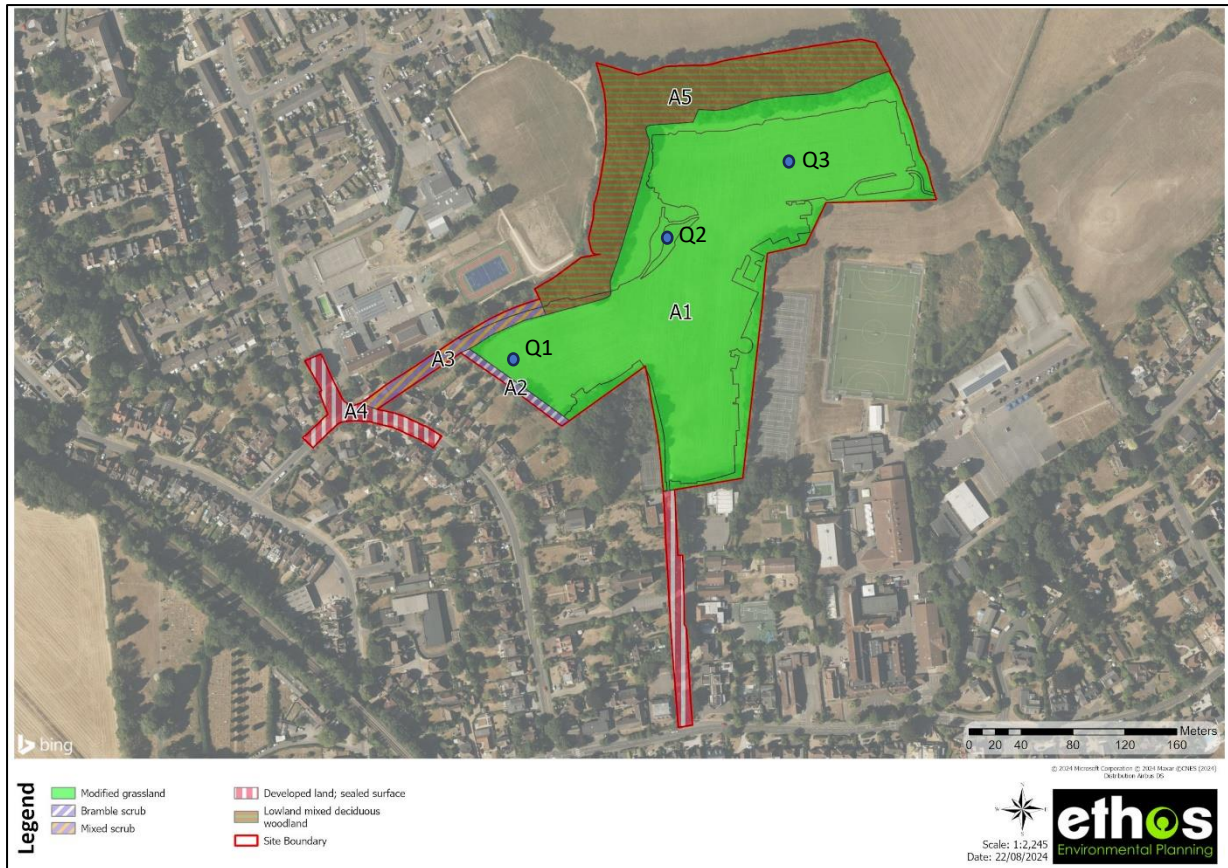


Figure 1 Grassland Quadrat Locations

Results

UKHab maps

- 1.2.4 Updated UKHab maps are provided at figures 2 and 3, which provide clarification over the extent and classification of the woodland as 'lowland deciduous woodland' (which had been mis-labelled as 'Other Broadleaved Woodland' in the 2022 technical appendices).

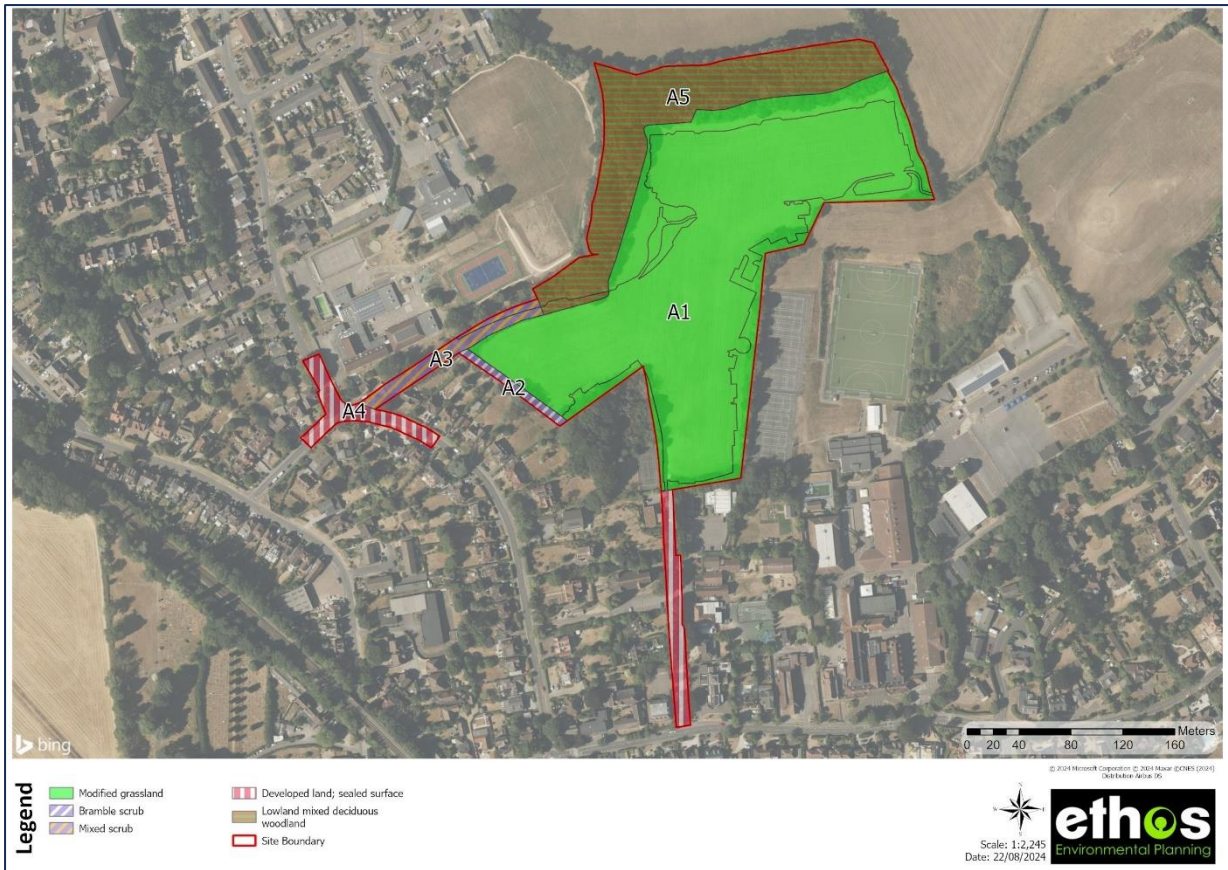


Figure 2 UKHab map (2024)



Figure 3 Hedgerow Map (2024)

Species recorded

1.2.5 The following table lists the species recorded in the grassland in the walkover and quadrat surveys undertaken on 7th July 2024. Photos from the field survey are provided below (photos 1 and 2).

Quadrat/Survey	Species and Abundance
Site Walkover	Dominated by Yorkshire fog (<i>Holcus lanatus</i>), cocks foot (<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>), perennial ryegrass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>), creeping bent (<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>). Occasional curly leaved dock (<i>Rumex crispus</i>), hawkbit (<i>Leontodon sp.</i>), ribwort plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>), oxeye daisy (<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>), meadow foxtail (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>), common hogweed, ragwort (<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>), white clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>), selfheal (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>), meadow buttercup (<i>Ranunculus acris</i>), creeping buttercup (<i>Ranunculus repens</i>), vetch (<i>Vicia spp.</i>), false oat grass (<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>), red clover (<i>Trifolium pratense</i>), common fleabane (<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>), field bindweed (<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>) Ragwort (<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>). The occasional species are mostly focused within the margins.
Q1	Yorkshire fog - D Perennial rye-grass - D Creeping bent - A Creeping buttercup - A
Q2	Yorkshire fog - D Perennial rye-grass - D Curly leaved dock - R Creeping buttercup - R Vetch spp. - O White clover - O Creeping bent - A Ragwort - R
Q3	Yorkshire fog - D Perennial rye-grass - A Creeping bent - A Field bindweed - O



Photo 1 Grassland



Photo 2 Grassland

1.3 Woodland Survey

1.3.1 A Woodland survey was undertaken in 2022 and set out within the ES chapter, an updated survey was undertaken on the 29th May 2024.

1.3.2 The woodland has old woodland indicators including abundant bluebells (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), enchanter's nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*), three-nerved sandwort (*Moehringia trinervia*), wood melick (*Melica uniflora*) and dog's mercury (*Mercurialis perennis*). However, the more open areas are dominated by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) patches and the thinner woodland along the north edge has abundant cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), with cleavers locally aggressive (*Gallium aparine*). The understorey is well developed with ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), crab apple (*Malus sylvestris*) and some hazel (*Corylus avellana*). Small wood is abundant, but the larger trees mainly ash and oaks (<150 years old). There is one larger oak (*Quercus sp.*) with extensive epicormic growth. Photos 3 – 6 show typical areas of the woodland.

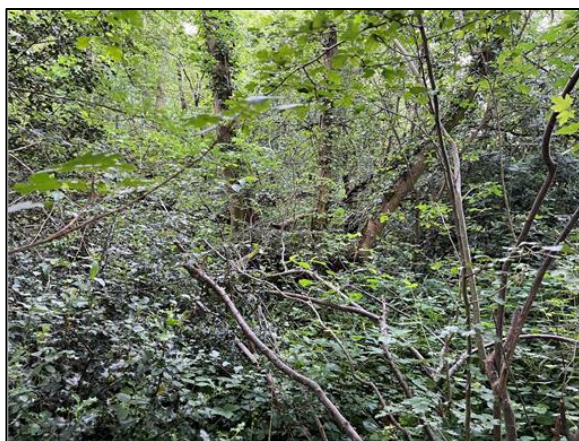


Photo 3 Woodland Photo



Photo 4 Woodland Photo



Photo 5 Woodland Photo



Photo 6 Woodland Photo