
Emmaus Woodland

Consett, County Durham



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Revision	Description	By	Chk.	Date
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Section 1

Introduction

The purpose of this project is to explore opportunities for developing new woodland planting within the parcels of land around Emmaus Youth Village, using the North East Community Forest Funds. Additionally, better access towards future building proposals are also suggested to help improve the connectivity around the site. A grass survey was also carried out by Veronica Howard to inform the masterplan.

There are four study areas:

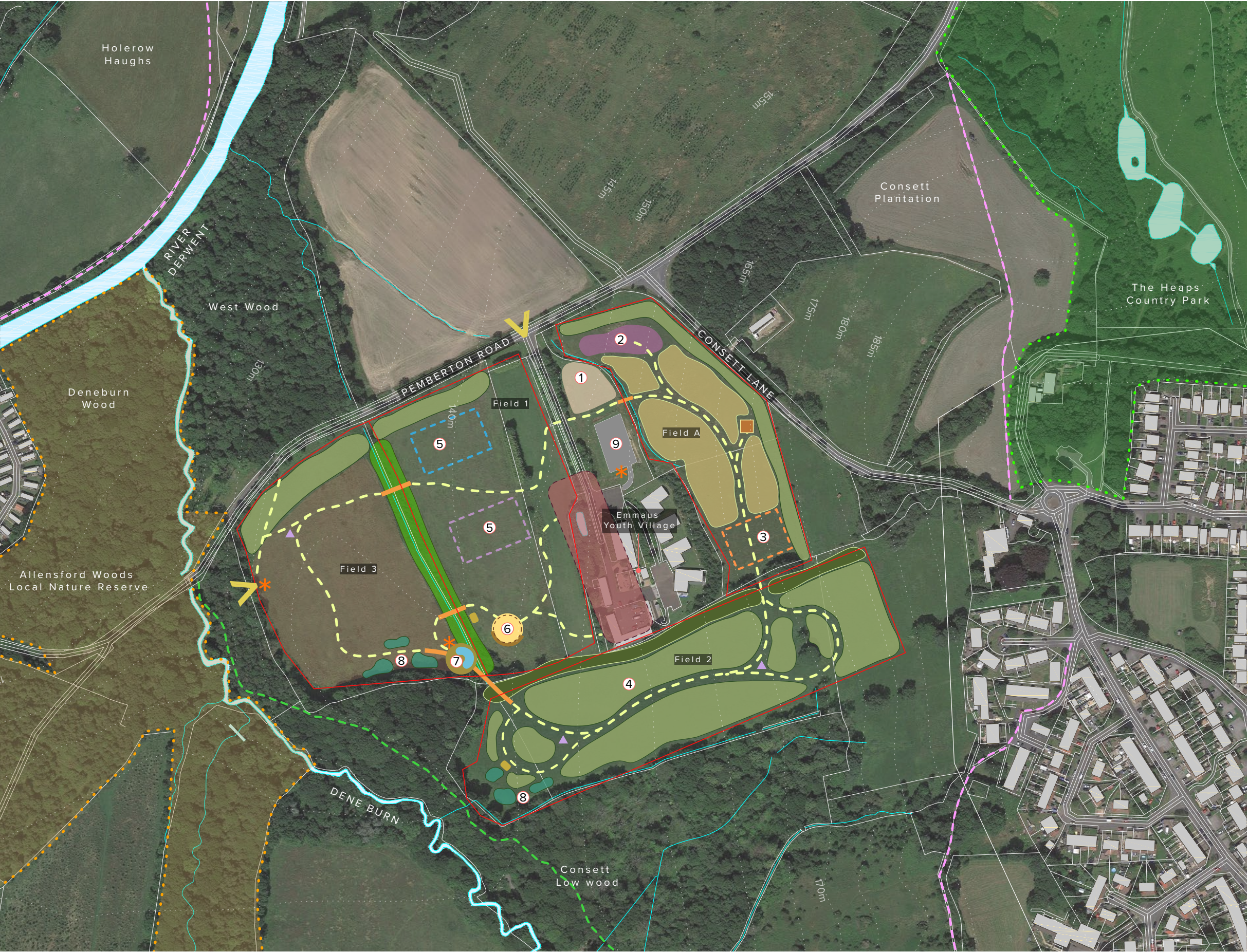
- Field 1 - approximately 28022m²
- Field 2 - approximately 34146m²
- Field 3 - approximately 26464m²
- Field A - approximately 20855m²

Only Field A is currently owned by the Diocese although the intention for the Diocese is to purchase Fields 1, 2 and 3 in the near future. The development of the masterplan was guided by the ecological findings from the site, and a guided tour took place on July 24th which further developed the concept masterplan, identifying important areas of grassland as well as less important areas. The report outlines proposals to improve the biodiversity within these parcels along with future management proposals.

The report will be discussed with the client team before meeting with the North East Community Forest and Durham CC Woodland Creation Officer to discuss potential funding of the tree planting and its management. The proposals to create a pond and other biodiversity enhancement works to the water course could potentially be discussed with Northumbrian Water, as they may part fund the work due to the work's flood mitigation benefits.

Ownership Boundary





LEGEND

EXISTING FEATURES

- Site Boundary
- PRoW
- Path
- Local Nature Reserve
- Country Park

PROPOSED FEATURES

- 1 Orchard
- 2 Permaculture Area
- 3 Sustainable Energy Hub
- 4 Field 2 - to be enhanced with woodland and glades
- 5 His and Hers Recreation Field
- 6 Education Space/ Outdoor Classroom
- 7 Pond Dipping
- 8 Wet Woodland
- 9 Car Park
- Mown Grass Path (Mow grass in late Summer)
- Boardwalk
- Woodland and Glades
- Woodland and Scrub
- Clumps of Carr Woodland
- Hedge Planting
- Neutral Grassland/ Corridor
- Interpretation Features
- Access
- Bird Hide
- Chainsaw Timber Sculptures
- Shelter
- Future Building Proposals

Section 2

Field 1

Field 1 - approximately 28022m², currently leased

Field 1 is currently existing mown grassland, it is used for activities carried out by the Youth Village. The existing vegetation consists of large clump of trees, wildflowers towards the east site boundary, and a large hedgerow that borders Field 1 and Field 3.

The grass on this Field is also seasonally mowed to create a mown path to access across the fields. It is suggested that these fields are mown during early Spring.

The grassland survey recommends:

An opportunity to increase the number of trees and shrubs along this strip and on the northern and western field boundaries, but some rough grassland should be conserved.



Proposals for this area include:

- Broadleaved woodland towards the north boundary, to create a stronger buffer between Pemberton Road
- Education area
- Hedge planting to strengthen western boundary
- Boardwalks that connect on to Field 3, and over the water course that cuts between Field 1 and Field 3.

Total area of proposed woodland: Approximately 1549m²



Existing Photograph Location Plan

- Legend**
-  Field 1 boundary
 -  Viewpoint location



① Existing clump of trees towards the east boundary



② Panoramic view of the western boundary with Field 3 in the distance. Signs of wildlife using the existing hedgerow



③ View to existing buildings of the Youth Village, and patches of wildflower in the foreground



④ View to the northern boundary



⑤ Mown grass path leading to Field 3



⑥ View to a clump of tree adjacent to Pemberton Road



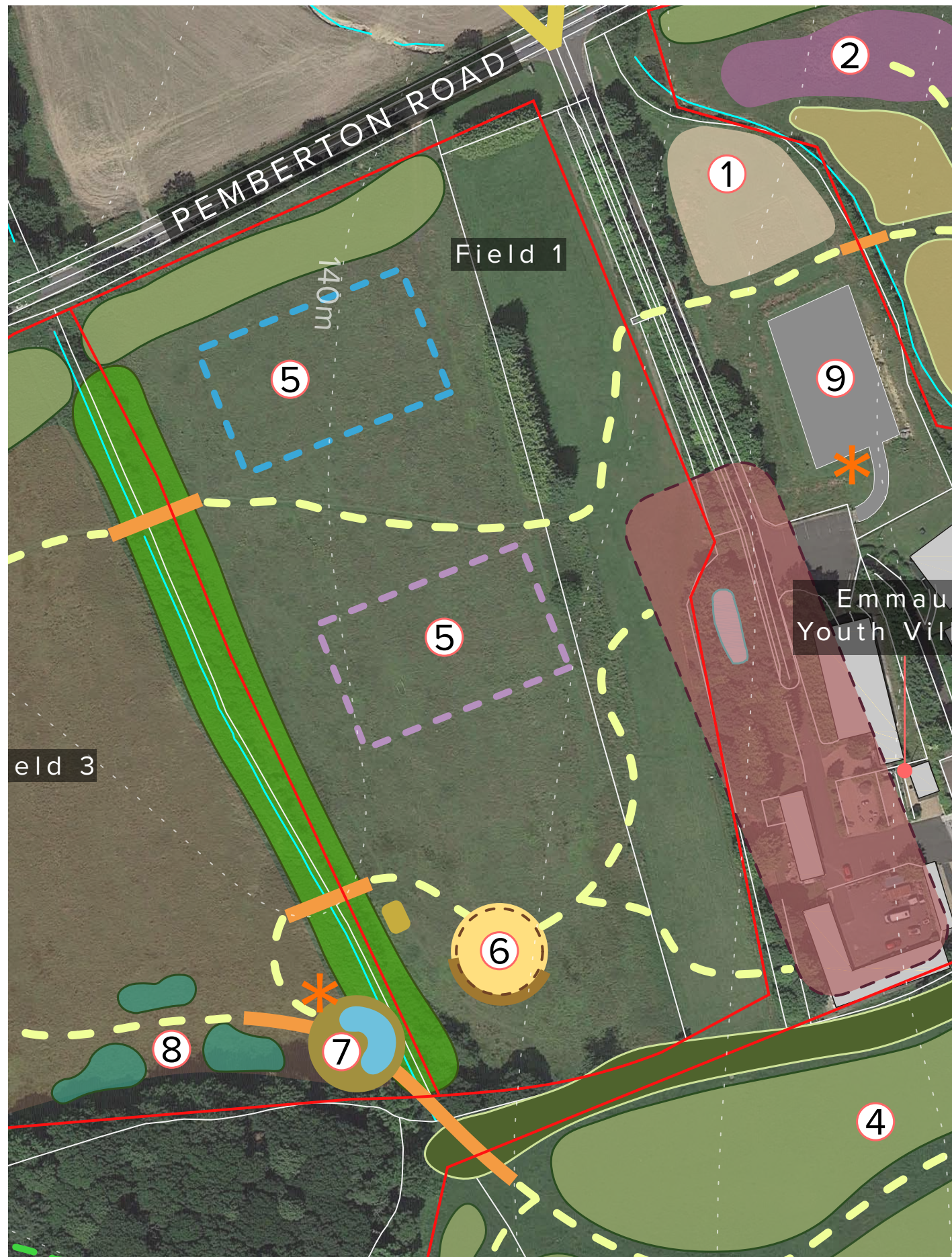
⑦ View south of Field 1



⑧ View north west towards Field 3

Field 1 - Moodboard





Concept Landscape Masterplan - Close-up of Field 1

LEGEND

EXISTING FEATURES

- Site Boundary
- PRoW
- Path
- Local Nature Reserve
- Country Park
- ▲ Chainsaw Timber Sculptures
- Shelter
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PROPOSED FEATURES

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- Access
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Section 3

Field 2

Field 2 - approximately 34146m², currently leased

Field 2 is currently semi-improved neutral (mesotrophic) grassland. It is located south of the Youth Village and Field 1, surrounded by broadleaved woodland. Horses currently graze on this land, but this will cease shortly.

The grassland survey recommends:

This field provides the best site for woodland development being adjacent to existing woodland. When planted, glades should be left within the woodland and a belt of grassland along the northern boundary to act as a corridor for grassland species to move through the area.

Proposals for this area include:

- Woodland planting and glades
- Mown grass path that connects to Field 3 and Field A, which creates a looped walk around the parcels within the site
- A 15m wide grass corridor that connects Field 1, 2, 3 and A, to allow wildlife to move across the fields to avoid wildlife isolation.

Total area of proposed woodland: Approximately 199955m²



Existing Photograph Location Plan

Legend

Field 2 boundary

1

→

Viewpoint location

1 Panoramic view to Field 2

2 View south east to existing fence boundary and tree between Field 1 and 2

3 Existing tree to the west in poor condition

4 View in to grassland and adjacent broadleaved woodland

5 View east along the fence line

Section 3 - Field 2

10

Field 2 - Moodboard





LEGEND

EXISTING FEATURES

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- PRoW
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PROPOSED FEATURES

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Concept Landscape Masterplan - Close-up of Field 2

Section 4

Field 3

Field 3 - approximately 26464m², currently leased

Field 3 is situated on the west side of Field 1, bordered by the existing hedgerow, with a mown path that connects these two parcels of field.

There will be little proposals for Field 3, as the grassland is considered as a species rich semi-improved neutral grassland. Despite the small size of field there are many diverse types of wildflower identified during the grassland survey. None of which are of national rarity, but due to the diversity of the species, this field serves a range of wildlife.

The grassland survey recommends:

Future management plan should aim to control the spread of coarse grasses and scrub. This would be best achieved by taking a late Summer (September) cut once the plants have flowered and set seed. The area should be cut and the risings removed. It would be possible to develop an area of wet woodland at the southern end of this field. The boundary habitats on the east side should be conserved, with the possible addition of a new pond and wetland area in the south east corner.



Most of the proposals are situated towards the south and south east of the boundary. These proposals include:

- Improve mown grass connection from Field 1
- Boardwalks between Field 1 and Field 3, due to the existing water channel
- Pond dipping and decking, and other works along stream to reduce flooding further down
- Clumps of carr woodland
- Small education space to connection the pond dipping space
- Interpretation for educational purposes
- Bird hides.

Total area of proposed woodland: Approximately 3486m²



Existing Photograph Location Plan

- Legend**
-  Field 3 boundary
 -  Viewpoint location



① Gap looking towards Field 3



② View looking east to Field 1 from mown grass path



③ View north west with glimpsed view towards Pemberton Road



④ Dead tree



⑤ View towards Emmaus Youth Village



⑥ Fallen tree, impacting on the existing healthy trees



⑦ Lowest topographic point on Field 3

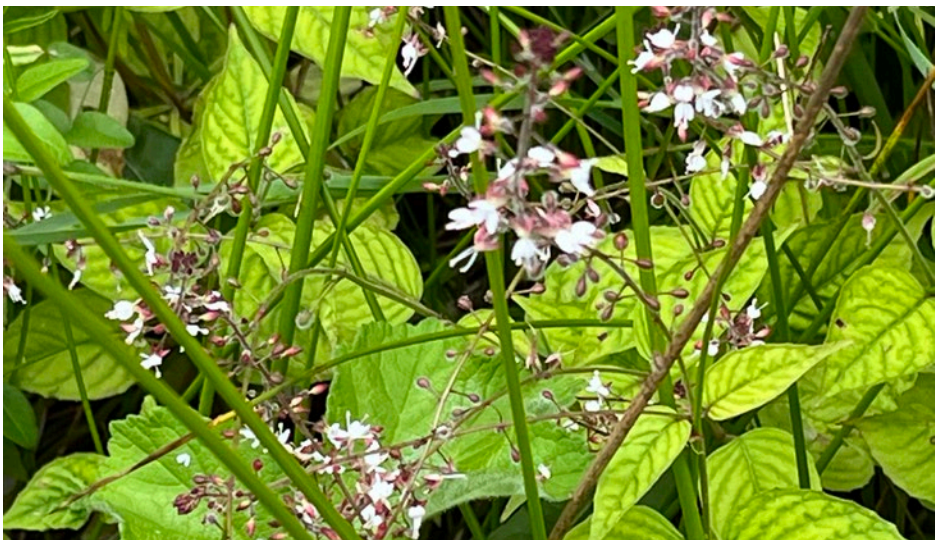


⑧ Signs of water retention at the south east corner



⑨ Existing gate surrounded by overgrown shrub at the south east corner

Field 3 - Close-up Photographs of Existing Wildflowers



Field 3 - Moodboard





Concept Landscape Masterplan - Close-up of Field 3

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Section 5

Field A

Field A - approximately 20855m², owned land

Field A is currently situated on the north and east side of Emmaus Youth Village. It is an unmanaged grassland. There are great views west over the wooded Derwent Valley.

There is also a pond at the northern boundary of Field A, with existing plants such as bullrush.

The grassland survey recommends:

It has been proposed that part of this area be planted with fruit and nut trees. By planting these in groups it would be possible to maintain some grassland areas with other sections planted and being more shaded.

The proposals for this area currently consists of:

- Woodland but retaining existing scrub
- Permaculture space
- Bee keeping space
- Orchard or nuttery area
- Mown grass path connecting from Field 2
- Car park expansion (external works not part of Southern Green)
- Sustainable energy hub (external works not part of Southern Green).

Total area of proposed woodland: Approximately 10638m²

Total area of existing scrub: Approximately 1182m²



Existing Photograph Location Plan



1 Fire assembly point and outdoor gathering space



2 Species rich grass



3 Existing grassland used for car park expansion. Waste left on site



4 View north of site boundary, with patches of species rich grass



5 Areas of low topography and susceptible to water retention



6 View north towards existing pond, difficult to access due to shrubs



7 Fencing and views towards the entrance





8 Field further east divided by shrubs/hedgerow



9 View south towards the Youth Village and long grasses within the foreground



10 Winter panoramic view north west from Consett Lane

- Legend**
-  Field 1 boundary
 -  Viewpoint location

Field A - Moodboard





Concept Landscape Masterplan - Close-up of Field A

LEGEND

EXISTING FEATURES

- Site Boundary
- - - PRoW
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