

County Wildlife Site Survey Form (Ref. No.2233)

Site Name: Abb's Common

Grid reference: TG194417

District: North Norfolk

Parish: East Runton

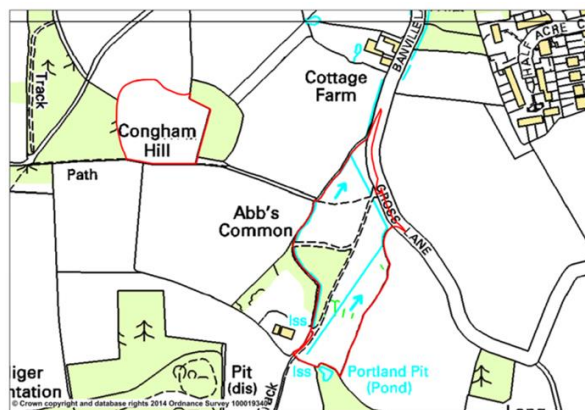
Area: 2.6ha

Survey date: Monthly from May 2018 to August 2019

Registered Common Number: CL 5

NB: this survey looked at Abb's Common, not the whole of the CWS boundary. (see map)

Map showing boundary of CWS



Habitat description:

Abbs Common is a registered common (CL 5) and part of a larger area taking in Congham Hill. For this survey we concentrated on Abbs Common.

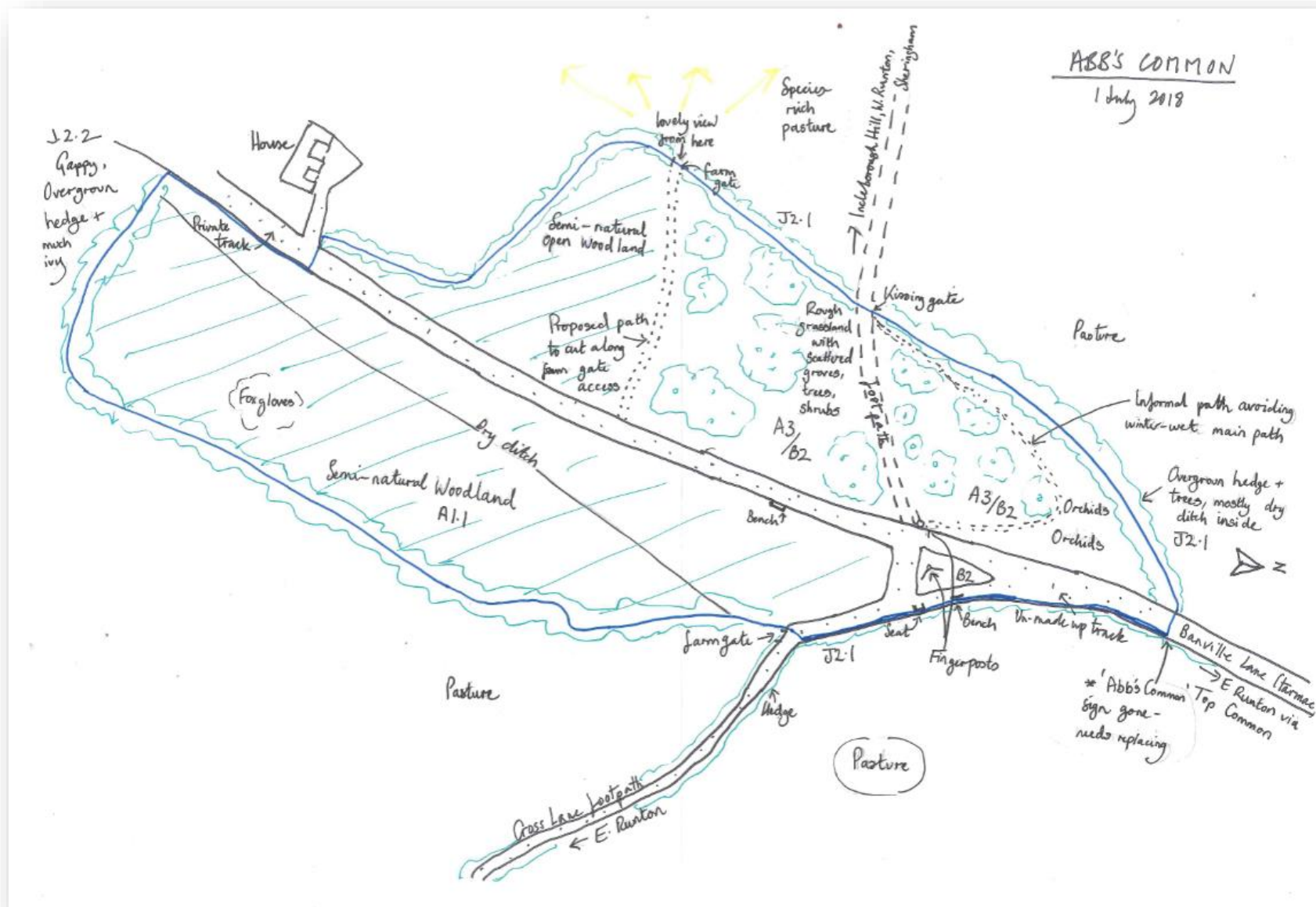
West side of central track: Mainly comprises tall, rough, damp, mesotrophic grassland studded with scattered trees and shrubs. Some are probably self-sown English oak (*Quercus robur*), silver birch (*Betula pendula*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), others are or may be planted - sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), osier (*Salix viminalis*), apple (*Malus pumila*), but together they give an attractive 'parkland' feel to this area, though some are rather barricaded off by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) scrub. The neutral grassland has about 35 common spotted-orchids (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*).

On the west boundary is an overgrown hedge with large hawthorn, field maple (*Acer campestre*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), dogwood (*Cornus sanguineus*) etc, plus much ivy (*Hedera helix*), bramble, hops (*Humulus lupulus*), non-native white-flowered rose (*Rosa* sp.).

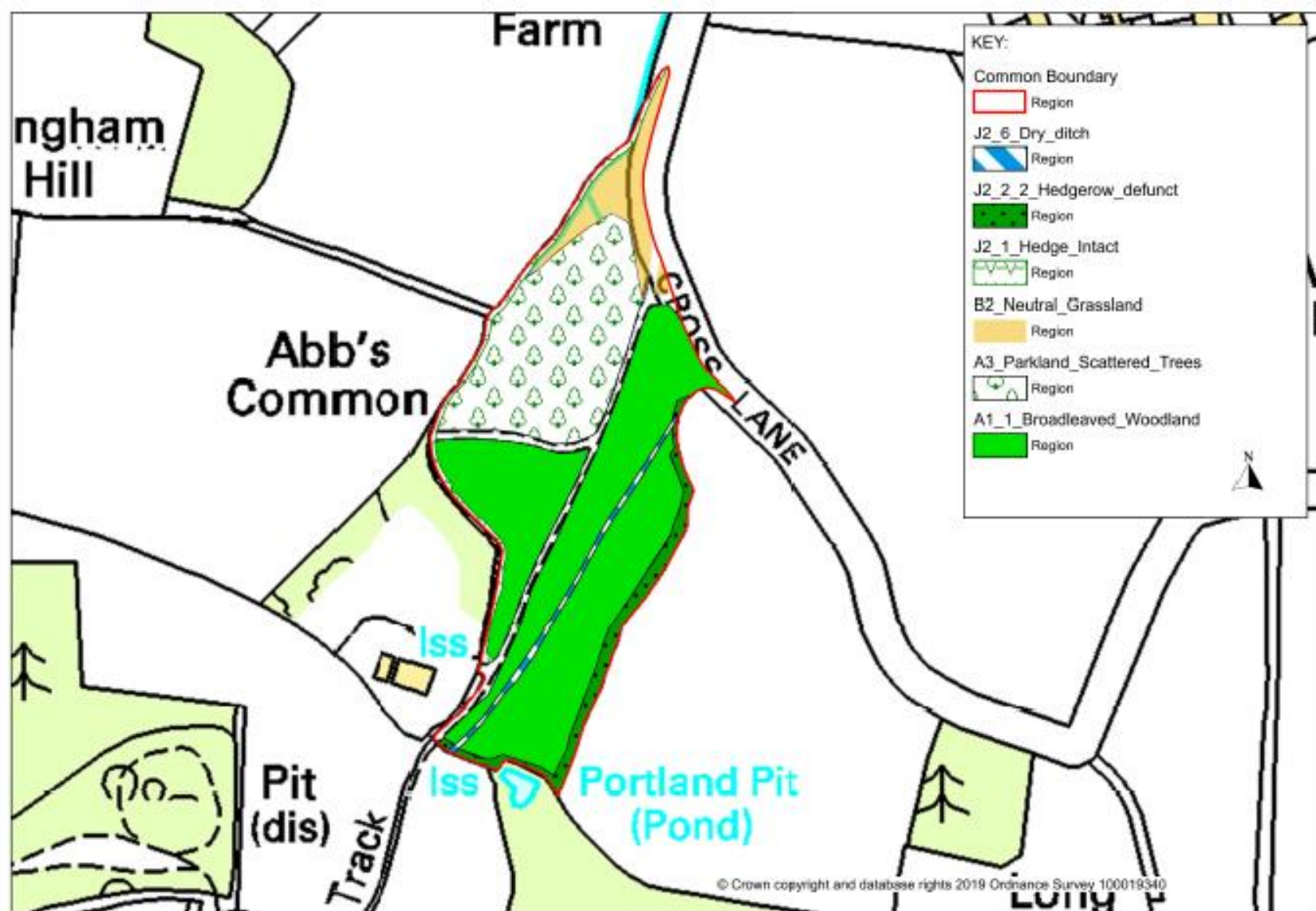
There is a mainly dry, shallow ditch on the hedge's inner side.

The southern part of this Compartment comprises open woodland, and includes some tall alder (*Alnus glutinosa*), a thicket of old blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), and a veteran sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) with wood sorrel below (*Oxalis acetosella*).

Annotated habitat map



Habitat map



Habitat description continued:

East side of central track: this area is of mixed broadleaf woodland with a dry ditch running through it. It has dense blackthorn scrub to the north, with trees including a pine, and a fine stand of variously-sized aspen (*Populus tremula*).

In the middle it is more open and accessible from the track, and includes an open glade with much foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), plus mature, possibly coppiced, multi-stem sycamore and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) along the dry ditch. At the south end it becomes denser again, with strong shade from sycamores, some oak, and grey willow, more dense blackthorn scrub, and patches of dense bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and nettle (*Urtica dioica*). Natural regeneration here and in the western woodland includes many sycamore seedlings (though few saplings), hawthorn, rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and beech (*Fagus sylvatica*). The eastern hedge is mainly of very overgrown and gappy hawthorn, much clad with ivy; it is fenced against stock on the pasture side.

Other notable species:

During the summer of 2018 a bat survey was carried out over three nights. The following species were recorded:

Species	Total number of passes (all nights)
Barbastelle	2
Brown long-eared bat	1
Common pipistrelle	38
Noctule	4
Soprano pipistrelle	6

The bat survey was carried out again in 2019, with the following results given:

Species	Total number of passes (all nights)
Barbastelle	133
Brown long-eared bat	60
Common pipistrelle	633
Daubenton's bat	14
Natterer's bat	38
Noctule	38
Serotine	32
Soprano pipistrelle	156

Adjacent habitats/potential buffer zones & linkage to other sites:

Abbs Common is just one of a number of commons that form a corridor within East and West Runton, including Green Common, Incleborough Hill, Congham Hill and Runton Common.

Is the site in positive conservation management? No. (Please give details if necessary).

Management statement to be written in 2019

Has a site condition assessment form been completed for this site? Yes

Photographs taken by Andrew Gorton and Lucy Seely



PLANT LIST

County Wildlife Site name & reference number: Abbs Common, 2233

Date of survey: Several dates from 30/06/18

Surveyor: Suki Pryce and Andrew Gorton

Scientific name	Common name	DAFOR
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	O
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	F
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	R
<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>	Ground Elder	LA
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	O
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	R
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	O
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	O
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	F
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort	O
<i>Ballota nigra</i>	Black Horehound	R
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	R
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	O
<i>Calystegia silvatica</i>	Large Bindweed	O
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy Bitter-cress	R
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	Sweet Chestnut (planted)	R
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	O
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear	O
<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Sticky Mouse-ear	O
<i>Ceratocarpus claviculata</i>	Climbing Corydalis	R
<i>Chaerophyllum temulum</i>	Rough Chervil	O
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb	O
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	O
<i>Cirsium palustre</i>	Marsh Thistle	O
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood (planted)	O
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	O
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Broom	O
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	F
<i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>	Common Spotted-orchid	O
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove	LA
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler-fern	O
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	O
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	O
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	O
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	O
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	R
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser Celandine	
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	R
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	O
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	O
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	O
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	F
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	O
<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	Dame's-violet	R

Scientific name	Common name	DAFOR
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	A
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	Soft Creeping-grass	O
<i>Humulus lupulus</i>	Hop	O
<i>Hyacinthoides agg</i>	Bluebell agg.	LF
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear	O
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	O
<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Stinking Iris	R
<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	Toad Rush	R
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	R
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	O
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	O
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Rye Grass	O
<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	O
<i>Malus pumila</i>	Apple	R
<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	Pineapple-weed	O
<i>Moehringia trinervia</i>	Three-nerved Sandwort	O
<i>Oxalis acetosa</i>	Wood Sorrel	LF
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i>	Redshank	LF
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	R
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	O
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow Grass	O
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow- grass	LD
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i>	Smaller Cat's-tail	O
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy	R
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Corsican Pine	R
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow- grass	O
<i>Populus tremula</i>	Aspen	LA
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	R
<i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	Cherry Plum	O
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	F, LD
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	LD
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pendunculate Oak	O
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	O
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	O
<i>Rosa cv</i>	Rose (planted?)	O
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	O
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble	O
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	O
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock	O
<i>Rumex sanguinea</i>	Wood Dock	O
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	O
<i>Salix viminalis</i>	Osier (planted?)	R
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	O
<i>Scrophularia nodosa</i>	Common Figwort	R
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red Campion	O
<i>Smyrnium olustrum</i>	Alexanders	O
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	O

Scientific name	Common name	DAFOR
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	O
<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	Lesser Stitchwort	O
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Chickweed	R
<i>Taraxacum agg.</i>	Dandelion	R
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	O
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	O
<i>Ulmus minor</i>	English Elm	LF
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	F, LD
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	O
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch	R

Butterfly Records (Andrew Gorton)

Information taken from butterfly transect survey

Scientific name	Common name	Date first seen
<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Small tortoiseshell	26/08/2019
<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i>	Ringlet	19/07/2018
<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	Holly blue	19/07/2018
<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Meadow brown	19/07/2018
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled wood	12/05/2019
<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large white	19/07/2018
<i>Pieris napi</i>	Green veined white	19/07/2018
<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Small white	19/07/2018
<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Common blue	12/08/2019
<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>	Gatekeeper	19/07/2018
<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Red admiral	26/08/2019

