

To: Melton Parish Council

From: Stephen Abbott

Re: Bird Survey of Burkes Wood, May 2016

Introduction

Melton Parish Council requested a bird survey to be carried out in Burkes Wood.

The purpose was to establish a baseline of the birds found within the boundary of the wood, as per the map attached with this report.

The bird survey was carried out on the morning of May 15th, 2016 by Steve Abbott, a local ornithologist and Chairman of SORC (the bird records committee for Suffolk).

Each section of Burkes Wood was visited and species present were recorded, including where there was evidence of breeding.

A list of species observed is included in the following table, together with their location.

Further Observations

Tawny Owl pellets found beneath one of the mature trees in section 1b of the map indicate their presence.

Burkes Wood is a valuable piece of mixed woodland which is undergoing regeneration. An understorey of bramble is becoming established and this shrub layer is a valuable component of the wood's eco-system. It could also create suitable breeding habitat for Nightingales to return to the woodland in future.

Common Buzzard are returning to East Anglia in good numbers, and encountering one in Burkes Wood is in line with their consolidation locally.

Future Action

Regular surveys of the woodland at different times of year, or seasonal surveys, would provide a full picture of bird species using Burkes Wood and help inform woodland management and conservation policy.

Steve Abbott B.Sc (Hons.) MRSB
May 2016

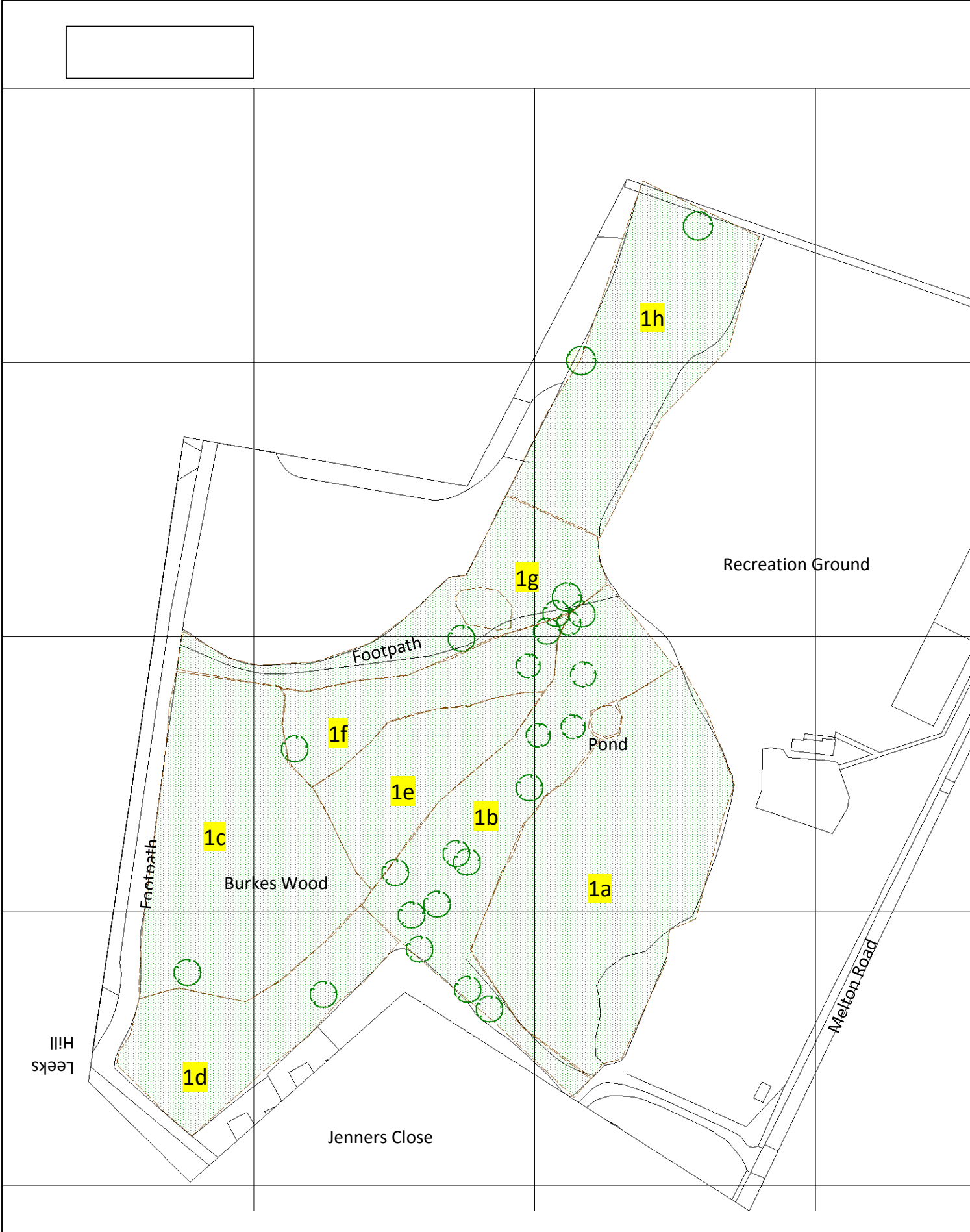
Bird Survey: Burkes Wood, Melton, Suffolk - 15/05/16

Species	Breeding	Map Ref
Moorhen	B	1a
Buzzard		1b
Stock Dove	B	1h
Woodpigeon	B	1a, 1b, 1g, 1h
Great Spotted Woodpecker	B	1b
Dunnock	B	1d
Robin	B	1a, 1b, 1g, 1h
Song Thrush	B	1a, 1b
Blackbird	B	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1g
Blackcap	B	1a, 1b, 1d, 1g, 1h
Garden Warbler		1d
Chiffchaff	B	1b, 1d, 1g, 1h
Goldcrest	B	1d
Wren	B	1a, 1b, 1c, 1h
Great Tit	B	1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1h
Coal Tit		1e
Blue Tit	B	1a, 1b, 1d, 1h
Long-tailed Tit		1d
Tree Creeper	B	1b, 1c
Jay		1c
Jackdaw		1b, 1g
Carrion Crow		1b
Chaffinch	B	1a, 1b, 1d, 1h

B=breeding species

Total species observed=23

**Map references= as per map
attached**



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Burkes Wood, Melton Recreation Ground, Melton.

Project: **Woodland Management Plan**
Client: **Melton Parish Council.** Plan produced by: **A K Martin**

Plan title: **Appendix C: Sub-compartment boundaries**

Scale: 1:1750 (approx.)

Date: January 2016

