

# **Norsey Wood Nature Reserve Management Plan 2020 – 2025**

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# 1. Introduction to Norsey Wood

1.1 Site details	Norsey Wood
Name	Norsey Wood
Area	75 Hectares
Grid Reference	TQ686955
Local Planning Authority	Basildon Council
District	Basildon
	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
	Scheduled Monument
Conservation Status	Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
	Norsey Meadow (included in this plan) is Local
	Wildlife Site no. Ba21.
Nature of legal interest	Owners
Pylowe	Basildon Council bylaws for Norsey Wood
Bylaws	Nature Reserve, August 2003.
Access	The site has free open access throughout with
	pedestrian entrances from Outwood Common
	Road, Norsey Road, Deerbank Road, Norsey
	Close and Break Egg Hill.
	Vehicular access is available through locked
	field gates from the same points.
	There is a public car park accessed from
	Outwood Common Road.
	A public footpath runs from the end of Break
	Egg Hill to Norsey Close.

## 1.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

Norsey Wood is one of a number of woods on the east side of Billericay, but the only one in the vicinity with a nature conservation designation (SSSI and Local Nature Reserve). It is one of three nature reserves and country parks managed by Basildon Council in the Billericay area, the others being Mill Meadows (part of which is a neutral grassland SSSI), and Queens Park Country Park. Basildon District Council compulsorily purchased Norsey Wood in 1976 to save it from threatened development, since when it has been managed for nature conservation and quiet recreation. All three sites are well used, particularly by local dog walkers, with Norsey Wood attracting a larger number of visitors with an interest in wildlife and quiet recreation.

Norsey Wood is an ancient semi-natural secondary coppice woodland occupying an elevated position, giving views of the wider countryside, from which it can consequently be seen. The higher parts of the wood consist predominantly of Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa* coppice on acid soils, whilst a system of wet valleys drops away on the southern side, where Alder *Alnus glutinosa* dominates. Until recently most of the coppicing that has taken place has tended to be away from the valley areas (although some has bordered these). More recently, confidence in the environmental sensitivity of a new coppice contractor has enabled coppicing to take place on the wetter valley soils. The site includes a building housing public toilets and an office

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Norsey Wood is bounded mainly by housing (some of which has encroached on the historic boundaries of the wood) and arable agricultural land. However, it also borders a neighbouring wood (Forty Acre Plantation) that is of a similar character (Sweet Chestnut *Castanea sativa* coppice) to parts of Norsey Wood, from which it is separated only by a minor road. Consideration of Norsey Wood's position in the wider landscape and the contribution it can make to habitat continuity in the area should be recognised, especially with the need to improve healthy ecosystems in the wider countryside recognised in the Lawton Report<sup>1</sup> and "Living Landscapes" schemes.

Norsey Wood is also known locally for its history and is designated as a Scheduled Monument by Historic England due to its variety of historical associations. These include Neolithic, Bronze Age, Roman and Medieval remains.

The wood has a long history of human use dating back as far as the Bronze Age. The main form of management throughout this time has been as a source of timber and firewood, notably including a history of coppice management dating back many centuries. Like many other coppice woodlands Norsey has suffered from the decline in active management in the recent past, and although efforts have been successfully made over at least the last ten to fifteen years to restore this form of management (written records before this time cannot be found) some of the wood remains in a 'stored' condition.

Adjacent to Norsey Wood SSSI is an area of ancient meadow known now as Norsey Meadow. This is the subject of an ongoing project to restore the habitats and landscape associated with the area. Fencing has been erected, encroaching scrub and trees removed and grazing has taken place on an irregular basis. It is hoped that this will be the subject of further monitoring and restoration.

#### Billericay

Billericay is a semi-rural town in the north of the district comprising a combination of large residential areas, a small industrial area, shops and services. Norsey Wood lies to the north-east of Billericay, close to residential areas and adjoining agricultural land and other woodlands. Norsey Wood is therefore accessible to a large number of residents, many of whom would not need to use their car. This gives the site potential to be popular and well used by the local community. Future management must consider both the obvious benefits to the quality of life of the local community that increased use would bring, together with the possible negative impacts to the sites of a growth of visitor numbers (for example wildlife disturbance, trampling, litter, dog fouling, car parking).

## 1.3 EVALUATION

#### 1.3.1 NATURE CONSERVATION INTEREST

#### **Flora**

Trees include Sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa* coppice, which is dominant on the plateau, abundant Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* coppice on the east and south margins, and Birch *Betula pendula* and *B. pubescens* in the north. Alder *Alnus glutinosa* is abundant in the valleys, with Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and Willow *Salix* spp. frequent. Aspen *Populus tremula*, Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, Common and Sessile Oak *Quercus robur* and *Q. petraea* are frequent and mixed with the main species, as are Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, Wild Cherry *Prunus avium* and young Yew *Taxus baccata*. Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* is spreading unevenly but is present in many areas of the wood. Chestnut and both Oak species are the main standard trees. The coppice structure is well preserved with some stools of considerable size.

Bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta, Wood Anemone Anemone nemorosa, Bracken Pteridium aquilinum and Bramble Rubus fruticosus agg. are the dominant ground flora with Wood Sage Teucrium scorodonia, Heath Bedstraw Galium saxatile. Foxglove Digitalis purpurea, Slender and Trailing St. John's Wort Hypericum pulchrum and H. humifusum, Yellow pimpernel Lysimachia nemorum, Heath Woodrush Luzula multiflora and Greater Woodrush Luzula sylvatica, frequent to rare on the more acid sands and gravels. Other important woodland species include, Wood-Sorrel Oxalis acetosella, Yellow Archangel Lamiastrum galeobdolon, Wood Spurge Euphorbia amygdaloides, Butcher's Broom Ruscus aculeatus and Lily of the Valley Convallaria majalis. Early Purple Orchid Orchis mascula, Herb Paris Paris quadrifolia and Common Twayblade Listera ovata have been recorded historically, along with a single more recent record of Broad-leaved Helliborine Epipactus helliborine. Narrow and Broad Buckler Ferns Dryopteris carthusiana and D. dilatata and Lady Fern Athyrium felix-femina are found on the valley slopes and Hard Fern *Blechnum spicant* forms large colonies on the sands and gravels. Colonies of *Sphagnum* spp. have been recorded in the valleys, but it is uncertain if they are still present. The same applies to Herb-Paris *Paris* quadrifolia, although colonies of Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage Chrysosplenium oppositifolium have recently been confirmed to persist. Large stands of Pendulous sedge Carex pendula exist and Water Violet Hottonia

palustris has formed large colonies in two of the ponds, although this species is in danger of decline. A major grass ride supports a flora that includes Common Spotted Orchid *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*, Ragged Robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi* and (in the past) Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*. An area of Heather *Calluna vulgaris* exists on the plateau area along with associated heathland species.

#### **Invertebrates**

Twenty-five species of butterfly have been recorded including White Admiral Limenitis Camilla, Purple Emperor Apatura iris, and Silver-washed Fritillary Argynnis paphia.. An extensive list of moths, dragonflies and other invertebrates has also been recorded. Many large colonies of the Wood Ant Formica rufa are found on site.

#### Birds

84 species of bird have been recorded at Norsey Wood including most of the common woodland birds. Notable residents recorded are Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor*, Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*, Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* and Tawny Owl *Stryx aluco*. Nuthatch *Sitta europaea* has made a welcome return to the wood in the last 3-4 years. Buzzards *Buteo buteo* have been increasingly seen over and in the wood in recent years.

Regular summer visitors included Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*, Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*, Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* and Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*. Recent reductions in sightings of Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*, reflect national trends.

In the winter the wood is visited by Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*, Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*, Redwing *Turdus iliacus* Siskin *Carduelis spinus*, and Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola.* 

Hawfinch Coccothraustes coccothraustes, Long-eared Owl Asio otus, Nightingale Luscinia megarhynchos, Redstart Phoenicurus phoenicurus, Redpoll Carduelis flammea, Spotted Flycatcher Muscicapa striata and Turtle Dove Streptopelia turtur, and have been sporadically recorded. The presence of Marsh and Willow Tits

Parus palustris and P. montanus is possible. Further recording effort would be worthwhile.

#### **Mammals**

Dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius* are monitored as part of the National Dormouse Monitoring Project (NDMP), and historically there have been several active Badger *Meles meles* setts. These are monitored six-monthly by the Essex Badger Protection Group. Muntjac *Muntiacus reevesi* are regularly seen and heard, and occasional signs of other deer species have been noted. Stoats *Mustela erminea*, Weasels *Mustela nivalis*, and four species of bat; Common Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Soprano Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* and Noctule *Nyctalus noctula* and Brown Long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus* have been recorded. The Essex Bat Group have undertaken surveys and licensed trapping in recent years. Other common mammals recorded at Norsey Wood include Fox *Vulpes vulpes*, Brown rat *Rattus norvegicus*, Grey squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis*, Shrew *Sorex* spp., Bank Vole *Myodes glareolus*, Wood mouse *Apodemus sylvaticus*, Yellow-necked mouse *Apodemus flavicollis* and Mole *Talpa europaea*. Rabbits *Oryctolagus cuniculus* have declined markedly in the last few years.

#### Reptiles

Adders *Vipera berus*, Grass Snakes *Natrix natrix*, Slow worms *Anguis fragilis* and Lizards *Lacerta vivipara* have been recorded. Smooth and locally uncommon Palmate newts *Tritus vulgaris*, and *T. helveticus* are also present.

#### **Communities**

These include the following:

Chestnut Castanea Sativa coppice with a scattering of Oak Quercus robur, Q. petraea standards on plateau to north and east of site. Ground flora here includes species associated with open woodland/grassland, Tormentil Potentilla erecta and Sheep's sorrel Rumex acetosella in some places. Bluebells Hyacinthoides non-scripta form very dense populations in many areas. Ancient woodland indicator species including Yellow Archangel Lamiastrum galeobdolon, Wood Sorrel Oxalis acetosella, Primrose Primula vulgaris and Yellow pimpernel Lysimachia nemorum are common throughout.

- Mixed coppice of predominantly Hornbeam Carpinus betulus and Hazel
   Corylus avellana with scattered Oak standards along north, eastern and
   southern boundary, containing some hornbeam stools of considerable age.
   Dense populations of Bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scripta and Wood
   anemone Anemone nemorosa exist here with Butchers Broom Ruscus
   aculeatus scattered throughout.
- To the north is an area cleared in the past by a previous owner. This has been invaded by young birch, but contains a small but significant area of Heather Calluna vulgaris, with associated heathland species including a large patch of Hard Fern Blechnum spicant. This area has been consistently cleared on birch, bramble and bracken in recent years and the heather has consequently increased in extent.
- On the clay soils in the valleys Alder Alnus glutinosa and Ash Fraxinus
   excelsior with Oak Quercus robur, Q. petraea) and Willow Salix spp. form
   reasonably mature woodland with a healthy understory. Coppicing has been
   restarted in this area recently after a gap of many years. A range of ferns
   with Pendulous Sedge Carex pendula forms a fairly dense ground flora.
- Secondary growth of Oak Quercus sp. Ash Fraxinus excelsior, Hawthorn
   Crataegus monogyna and Blackthorn Prunus spinosa, with open glades
   covers an area of ancient meadow to the south of the site. A large colony on
   Adder's Tongue Fern Ophioglossum vulgatum has been recorded here in
   the past.
- An established wide ride supports an impoverished flora, but this does include Yellow Pimpernel Lysimachia nemorum, Rosebay Willowherb Chamerion augustifolium and Common Spotted-orchid Dactylorhiza fuchsii.
- Six or seven permanent and seasonal ponds exist in the east of the wood containing diverse flora and fauna. Two of these have contained healthy populations of Water Violet *Hottonia palustris* in the past, and recent coppicing saw a brief revival of these plants, but they have not been seen for several years. A further pond exists in Norsey Meadow, near the railway line.

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#### 1.3.2 HISTORY AND PAST MANAGEMENT

Tangible occupation evidence (aside from a few chance discoveries of Mesolithic and Neolithic flint tools) begins in the mid Bronze Age (c.1500BC) with the construction of the two barrows: the south barrow and the former barrow to the north, which was destroyed in the mid 1960's. This funereal use of the gravel plateau appears to foreshadow the much more extensive cremation cemeteries that developed through the mid to late Iron Age (c.100BC - AD43).

The Iron Age cemetery continued in use into the Roman period, spreading out from the western areas towards the east. Associated with this phase of the cemetery are numerous intersecting ditches (infilled but revealed by quarrying), a pottery kiln which must have collapsed in the process of firing, a small metal working furnace and various other evidence of small scale settlement, mostly in the vicinity of the eastern quarry.

In the medieval period the wood was used mainly for timber and underwood production. Only one section of bank (the short innermost section crossing the valley) shows signs of having an inner ditch, and can be considered as a deer park pale. Evidence in a very few other places, such as the Outwood Common Road boundary, suggest that later reuse of the boundary earthworks as woodbanks may have obscured traces of an early ditch facing into the park. According to Oliver Rackham 'Outwood' is an Essex term for a wood excluded from a deer park. The most likely purpose of the deerbanks' construction was to protect valuable woodland from grazing animals. This being the most likely explanation, the woodbanks represent a fascinating and important sequence of sustained woodland management spanning centuries, certainly since the late 13th century, and possibly a good deal before. There is a well-defined ride system, the major rides being shown on a map of 1593. It is possible that the main ride is considerably older, possible Iron Age.

The modern military earthworks are notable - particularly the WW1 trenches which are amongst the best-preserved examples in the region. A metal structure at the top of one of the hills overlooking the valley area is thought to be the base of a Second World War anti-aircraft gun.

Documented sources (i.e. 1280 timber licence and The Petre Records 1688 - 1716) indicate long-standing management of Norsey as coppice woodland. On the sale of the wood in 1961 much of the coppice was neglected. In 1976, after a public inquiry, the woodland was saved from partial development when Basildon District Council purchased it to run as a nature reserve. Coppice management was then resumed and from then until now the wood has been managed under a plan involving the re-coppicing of the wood to the benefits of the previously declining wildlife.

#### 1.3.3 ACCESS, RECREATION AND AMENITY

Norsey Wood is a well-used and much appreciated local resource. Most of the regular visitors appear use it to walk their dog, but people come without dogs to walk and enjoy the peace and quiet throughout the year. Local children play in the wood, although, anecdotally, less than their parents' generation. Little formal information is known about the visitor profile. Anecdotally, most visitors appear to be local. Automatic car counter figures suggests vehicle visits of 70,000 per year (number of visitors per car has not been counted). A number of pedestrian entrances also exist, making a complete assessment of visitor numbers difficult to calculate. Visitors are particularly attracted to the spring displays of Bluebells and other wild flowers and to collect chestnuts in the Autumn. Many people show an interest in the wildlife and historical features, and school and other youth groups (Brownies, Scouts etc.) and sixth formers and undergraduates regularly use the wood for educational purposes. Groups from local workplaces (e.g. Ford Motor Company) often volunteer 'community days' to assist of various aspects of the practical management of the wood.

#### 1.3.4 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A very enthusiastic group of local people, The Norsey Wood Society, takes an active interest in the management of the wood and is regularly consulted by Basildon Council Parks and Countryside Services, including the Ranger attending the monthly committee meetings of the society. The society originated at the time of the threatened development and subsequent compulsory purchase of the wood in 1976 and has been active ever since. Many of the same group are also

members of the Norsey Wood work party, where they are joined by others and assist the Ranger in the conservation management of the wood.

Members of the society have also assisted in educational events held by Basildon Council, and the society was also instrumental in the installation of the Easy Access Trail and a dipping pond that exists near the Information Centre. Basildon Council Parks and Countryside Services has held regular events in the wood including an annual Open Day. The Basildon Wildlife and Countryside Forum is also consulted about the management of the wood.

#### 1.3.5 EDUCATIONAL VALUE

The existence of a local ancient woodland resource potentially makes Norsey Wood an ideal setting for educational activities of many types. In recent years, financial climate of local government has led to the lease of the Education and Exhibition rooms to a child care business on a commercial basis. However, the recent installation of a green roofed shelter in the picnic area provide opportunities that do not need indoor facilities. The council could also support events initiated by the Norsey Wood Society and other groups.

#### 1.3.6 RESOURCES

Basildon Council holds a revenue budget to cover basic amenity and conservation management. A Ranger (who is also responsible for other council nature reserves and country parks) is based at the wood supported by other Parks and Countryside staff and various volunteer and other groups including the weekly Norsey Wood Work Party based around members of the Norsey Wood Society. Recent coppicing has been achieved via the use of contractors, sometimes paid, sometimes in exchange for the timber felled, or generating a small income. Other sources of income include the rent paid by the tenants of the Norsey Woodyard, who produce various items using materials harvested from the wood. These are supplemented by applications for external funding for specific projects.

A child care business leases the Education and former Exhibition Rooms via Basildon Council Corporate Property division, and has exclusive licensed use of the garden/dipping pond area Monday to Friday 07:00 – 19:00. This area is available to the general public outside these times. This is monitored by Parks & Countryside staff.

### 2 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES FOR NORSEY WOOD

#### 2.1 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

- Make Norsey Wood a welcoming and safe place to live near and visit, through practical management and by working in partnership with relevant community groups and organisations.
- 2. Maintain the building and associated facilities.
- 3. Maintain 'favourable' SSSI condition and increase the quality and diversity of habitats and species at Norsey Wood by working in partnership with relevant organisations in particular Natural England, the Forestry Commission, the Norsey Wood Society, and the Basildon Wildlife and Countryside Forum.
- 4. Ensure that the management of Norsey Wood adheres to the best practice available for environmental stewardship and that it has a local impact in support of sustainable development in the UK.
- 5. To make the wood, its habitats and species resilient to climate change.
- 6. Provide high quality information and interpretation for visitors and the local community so that they are fully informed of what is on offer at Norsey Wood.
- 7. Protect the historical and archaeological remains at Norsey Wood.
- 8. Develop the involvement of the local community in Norsey Wood so that they play a central role in its management and maintain a strong and representative community group.
- 9. Develop the educational opportunities for the local community, in particular young people, offered at Norsey Wood.
- To secure the financial and other resources needed for the implementation of this plan
- Monitor and review the effectiveness of all aspects of management at Norsey Wood and make changes where they are desirable or necessary to improve delivery against the agreed aims.

# 3. MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

# OBJECTIVE ONE

Make Norsey Wood a welcoming and safe place to live near and visit, through practical management and by working in partnership with relevant community groups and organisations.

ACTIONS	
1.1	Carry out a comprehensive assessment of the risk to visitors, make
	good any hazards identified and compile a suitable emergency plan.
1.2	Maintain the programme of regular site safety checks and regularly
	audit the wood for dangerous trees. Take any necessary corrective
	action.
1.3	Maintain and where necessary reinstate a system of access rides to
	enable emergency access.
1.4	Create and maintain open, accessible entrances with good quality
	information for visitors about the site (including a map) and details of
	who manages the site, with clear instructions of who to contact for
	concerns or further information.
1.5	Maintain access within Norsey Wood guided by the 'Countryside for All
	Good Practice Guide'
	(https://www.pathsforall.org.uk/mediaLibrary/other/english/countryside-
	for-all-guide.pdf)
1.6	Work with the police to reduce crime and the fear of crime for visitors
	to the wood.
1.7	Provide and maintain good facilities for visitors including car parking,
	toilets and picnic areas.

OBJECTIVE TWO			
Maintain th	Maintain the building and associated facilities.		
ACTIONS			
2.1	Liaise with Basildon Council Corporate Property to ensure the building		
	is maintained in a safe and good condition.		
2.2	Liaise with Basildon Council Corporate Property to investigate ways of		
	improving the environmental sustainability of the building.		
2.3	Maintain the workshop and tools in safe condition.		
2.4	Liaise with Basildon Council Corporate Property and the wood yard		
	tenants to ensure the wood yard is maintained in a safe and good		
	condition.		

# OBJECTIVE THREE

Maintain 'favourable' SSSI condition assessment and increase the quality and diversity of habitats and species at Norsey Wood by working in partnership with relevant organisations in particular Natural England, The Forestry Commission, the Norsey Wood Society and the Basildon Wildlife and Countryside Forum.

	- Society and the Basileen Whalie and Osantiyolas Foranti		
ACTIONS			
3.1	Continue a programme of sustainable woodland management using		
	an annual coppice with standards regime as outlined in the		
	Countryside Stewardship agreement concluded with Natural		
	England/The Forestry Commission. See appendix 1.		
3.2	Increase habitat diversity by a system of wide rides as outlined in the		
	Countryside Stewardship agreement concluded with Natural		
	England/The Forestry Commission. See appendix 1.		
3.3	Free important veteran trees from competing trees and other		
	vegetation as outlined in the Countryside Stewardship agreement		
	concluded with Natural England/The Forestry Commission. See		
	appendix 1.		
3.4	Conduct a programme of laurel control as outlined in the Countryside		
	Stewardship agreement concluded with Natural England/The Forestry		
	Commission. See appendix 1.		
3.5	Continue to manage the heather glade to promote Heather Calluna		
	vulgaris and associated community.		
3.6	Survey and manage ponds as appropriate to promote biodiversity		
L	l		

3.7	Retain standing dead wood where possible. Monitor quantity of fallen
	dead wood to ensure it does not become reduced.
3.8	Seek to restore and enhance the area of grassland known as Norsey
	Meadow.
3.9	Monitor populations of European Protected Species (Dormice, Bats),
	and Priority Species (Redwing, Grass Snake, Adder, Slow worm,
	Common Toad, White-letter Hairstreak, and White Admiral), and
	locally important flora (Bluebells, Water Violet, Greater Wood-rush,
	Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage), and manage habitat to maintain
	and if possible increase populations of these species.

#### **OBJECTIVE FOUR**

Ensure that the management of Norsey Wood adheres to the best practice available for environmental stewardship and that it has a local impact in support of sustainable development in the UK.

ACTIONS	
4.1	Manage the wood to the Forestry Commission's UK Forestry Standard
	see https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-forestry-
	standard

OBJECTIV	JECTIVE FIVE		
To make th	To make the wood, its habitats and species resilient to climate change		
ACTIONS			
5.1	Research current best practice and keep up to date with developing		
	policy in this area		
5.2	Develop an action plan and /or underlying methods of working to		
	manage the effects of climate change on the wood		

# **OBJECTIVE SIX**

Provide high quality information and interpretation for visitors and the local community so that they are fully informed of what is on offer at Norsey Wood.

ACTIONS	
6.1	Provide appropriate information signs at each entrance.
6.2	Maintain way marked trail(s) with accompanying leaflet(s).
6.3	Produce an interpretation plan for Norsey Wood.
6.6	Use opportunities for local publicity to increase the profile of the site.

OBJECTIV	OBJECTIVE SEVEN	
Protect the	Protect the historical and archaeological remains at Norsey Wood.	
ACTIONS		
7.1	Manage the vegetation on wood/deer banks and trenches regularly to	
	preserve archaeological features.	
7.2	Ensure that burial mound is kept predominantly free of tree cover.	
7.3	Investigate the best method of preserving and displaying other	
	archaeological features.	

OBJECTIV	OBJECTIVE EIGHT		
Develop the	Develop the involvement of the local community in Norsey Wood so that they play		
a central ro	ole in its management, and maintain a strong and representative		
community	group.		
ACTIONS			
8.1	Ensure that decisions on management at the site are made through		
	consultation and collaboration with the Norsey Wood Society as the		
	representatives of local residents.		
8.2	Encourage and provide the opportunity for local residents to become		
	involved with the Norsey Wood Society and in practical conservation		
	and other tasks at Norsey Wood. Provide appropriate training for		
	volunteers.		

OBJECTIVE NINE		
Develop the educational opportunities for the local community, in particular young		
people, offered at Norsey Wood.		
ACTIONS		
9.1	Liaise with Countryside Service Education team to promote use of the	
	site by local schools.	

9.2	Support other local organisations such as The Norsey Wood Society,
	and in particular young people's groups to hold events at Norsey
	Wood appropriate to the site.
9.3	Promote the use of the wood by external partners for educational
	activities suitable to the site.

OBJECTIVE TEN		
Secure the financial and other resources needed for the implementation of this		
plan		
ACTIONS		
10.1	Funding will come primarily from Basildon Council Parks & Countryside	
	budget and external funding. Other resources and possibly funding	
	could come from fundraising activities by the Norsey Wood Society	
	and other community groups.	

OBJECTIVE ELEVEN		
Monitor and review the effectiveness of all aspects of management at Norsey		
Wood and make changes where they are desirable or necessary to improve		
delivery against the agreed objectives		
ACTIONS		
11.1	Maintain a performance monitoring system based on this management	
	plan.	
11.2	Monitor habitat conditions and be prepared to make changes to	
	management regimes if required.	
11.3	Encourage monitoring of species and species groups and recording of	
	results.	
11.4	Monitor populations of Dormice Muscardinus avellanarius.	
11.5	Monitor populations of other UK and Essex Biodiversity Action Plan	
	Species.	
11.6	Conduct an annual review of the progress made in achievement of the	
	management plan	
11.7	Undertake a thorough review of the delivery of this management plan	
	in year four in order to produce a subsequent plan.	

# **Appendices**

Appendix 1	Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier Agreement Document
Appendix 2	Forestry Commission approved Woodland Management Plan for
	Norsey Wood Nature Reserve.
Appendix 3	Forestry Commission plan inventory and plan of operations
Appendix 4	Map showing coppicing, ride widening and veteran tree release
	agreed with the Forestry Commission
Appendix 5	Location Map
Appendix 6	Compartments map
Appendix 7	Paths map
Appendix 8	Features and constraints map
Appendix 9	Scheduled Monument map
Appendix 10	Felling licence
Appendix 11	UK Forestry Standard
Appendix 12	Countryside For All Good Practice Guide

# References

<sup>1</sup>Lawton, J.H., Brotherton, P.N.M., Brown, V.K., Elphick, C., Fitter, A.H., Forshaw, J., Haddow, R.W., Hilborne, S., Leafe, R.N., Mace, G.M., Southgate, M.P., Sutherland, W.J., Tew, T.E., Varley, J., & Wynne, G.R. (2010) *Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites and ecological network*. Report to Defra.