

Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy

APPENDIX 1 - GI audit and analysis

③

GI Audit for Swanage – Site Survey Form

Site name/location: LAND BETWEEN PARKING ROAD & PROSPECT ST

Site size: 3,094 sq m E N

Survey date: 20-5-15 Surveyor: R SMITH

Site photograph

PLEASE PROVIDE ON SEPARATE SHEET.
photo
1, 2, 3
JPG 789, 790, 791 ✓

Site plan

SEE ATTACHED.

Site category (tick box) Existing Potential

Local park Wetland / standing water *Large* Grass verge

Pocket park Derelict building plot Hedge

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

Existing GI audit – data from workshop sessions

Key for proposals column:

Swanage GI Strategy proposals

| Site | Ownership | Existing function |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Natural and semi-natural green spaces | | |
| Durlston Country Park | DCC | Public open space/country park |
| Purbeck Ridge | NT | Recreation |
| Townsend | DWT (managed by) | Nature reserve, green corridor |
| Townsend residential centre and approaches | Private – Wide Horizons Townsend Centre | Grassed with small woodland |

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Context

Legislation and planning

1. There is a range of established European and national legislation relating to GI and biodiversity. The Government's Natural Environment White Paper 'The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature'¹ refers to the role of planning in protecting and improving the natural environment, and is the most relevant to this strategy. The aims of the White Paper include halting biodiversity loss by 2020, supporting 'healthy functioning ecosystems', and establishing 'coherent ecological networks'. The White Paper refers to the role of urban GI as completing 'the links in our national ecological network' and 'one of the most effective tools available to us in managing environmental risks such as flooding and heat waves'. It advocates that green spaces should be factored into the development of all communities.

EU Green Infrastructure Strategy

2. In May 2011, the European Union adopted a biodiversity strategy to halt biodiversity loss in Europe by 2020. The strategy is built around six mutually supportive targets which address the main drivers of biodiversity loss. Target 2 aims to ensure that 'by 2020, ecosystems and their services are maintained and enhanced by establishing green infrastructure and restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems'.

3. Responding to this political ambition, as well as the resource efficiency roadmap, the European Commission published a new strategy in May 2013 to promote the use of GI across Europe. The strategy aims to create a robust enabling framework in order to promote and facilitate GI projects within existing legal, policy and financial instruments.

4. It recognises that GI can make a significant contribution to the effective implementation of a wide range of EU policies where some or all of the desired objectives can be achieved through nature based solutions. It also places the use of GI firmly in the context of the Europe 2020 Growth Strategy which calls for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth agenda across the EU.

5. In their attempts to revive industry, job markets and competitiveness, European governments are seeking more innovative and sustainable ways of promoting economic activities, whilst tackling environmental challenges. Coherent and effective GI can play an important role in this new approach.

6. The new GI strategy is made up of four main elements:

¹ Natural environment White Paper - The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature, Cm 8082 (June 2011) Defra

- promoting Green Infrastructure in the main EU policy areas;
- supporting EU-level GI projects;
- improving access to finance for GI projects;
- improving information and promoting innovation.

National planning context

7. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) supports the objectives set out in the Natural Environment White Paper by stressing a proactive and strategic approach to planning for the natural environment. One of the 12 core planning principles of the NPPF is that planning should ‘promote mixed use developments, and encourage multiple benefits from the use of land in urban and rural areas, recognising that some open land can perform many functions (such as for wildlife, recreation, flood risk mitigation, carbon storage, or food production)’ It states that local planning authorities should ‘set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure’. Local Plans are also required to take account of climate change over the longer term ‘including through the planning of green infrastructure’.

8. Section 11 of the NPPF (Conserving and enhancing the natural environment) indicates that the ‘planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by (amongst other things):

- recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;
- minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government’s commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures’.

9. Section 10 (Managing the effects of climate change) identifies that ‘Local Plans should take account of climate change over the longer term, including such factors as flood risk, coastal change, water supply, and changes to biodiversity and landscape. New development should be planned to avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures , including through the planning of green infrastructure’.

Local planning context

10. Dorset AONB landscape character assessment - the overall objective for the Corfe Valley is to conserve and restore the intimate patterns of grasslands, woodlands, field boundaries (and nucleated settlements). The planning guidelines that will encourage this are wide ranging, but those that have particular relevance to GI are:

- encourage small scale broadleaved planting around existing settlements;
- encourage native planting in any landscape scheme associated with new development.

11. The relevant management guidelines are:

- restore and enhance the condition of existing small broadleaved woodlands;
- consider extending wet woodland on the valley floor, particularly around existing settlements and farmsteads;
- enhance management of arable farmland to create a wildlife-rich habitat supporting farmland birds and arable flora. This will include retaining areas of fallow land, maintaining an unploughed margin around fields and the introduction of conservation headlands. Reduce the intensity of farming practices around important sensitive habitats;
- encourage maintenance and restoration of boundaries, particularly dense hedgerows and banks along the valley floors (and stone walls towards the higher ground);
- protect and enhance watercourses and associated wildlife from soil erosion and the effects of diffuse pollution.

12. The current local plan is the Purbeck Local Plan, which was adopted in November 2012. Part of the vision for south east Purbeck (page 63) is that in Swanage:

- new development will be accompanied by areas of new green space that will improve access to the countryside and improve the setting of the town within the AONB;
- the town's role as a visitor destination will be developed through the provision of improved facilities and creation of enhanced public spaces along the seafront.

13. These aspects of the vision are to be realised through:

- Policy SE (page 66), where ‘the settlement extensions (approx 200 dwellings) should look for opportunities to enhance the visual appearance of the transition between the urban area and open countryside to the benefit of the AONB. The choice of settlement extension(s) will be judged upon the ability of any potential sites to provide mitigation of European protected sites and have least harm on the AONB’;
- Policy DH (page 83), where residential and tourist accommodation development located between 400m and 5km of a heathland will be expected to include mitigation measures which will include (amongst others) the provision of GI.

14. This is reinforced by the proposal (page 69) that GI be provided when development ‘comes forward’, and that it could include the additional provision of footpaths, allotments, planting of street trees, hedges and woodland, new play areas, management of areas at flood risk and enhancement of areas of biodiversity. Attention is drawn to examples of GI that are of particular relevance to Purbeck:

- allotment provision;
- restoration of minerals sites;
- provision of additional areas of woodland and heathland;
- sustainable drainage opportunities in new development;
- tree planting;

15. The spatial objectives and the Policies that relate to them that are of most relevance to this strategy are:

- support local communities – Policy GI: Green Infrastructure, recreation and sports facilities – specifically ‘settlement extensions and major employment sites will be expected to contribute towards the delivery of significant areas of new green infrastructure and the management of a connected, coherent and functional network of new and enhanced green spaces, corridors and public rights of way’ (in accordance with the Green Infrastructure Strategy standards);
- conserve and enhance the landscape, (historic environment and cultural heritage) of the district – Policy LHH: Landscape, historic environment and heritage.

16. The importance of safeguarding and improving open space and sport and recreation facilities, and the provision of informal recreation and an improved working environment by including new elements of GI in employment areas are also identified.

17. Purbeck District Council (PDC) is preparing the Swanage Local Plan² (SLP) in partnership with Swanage Town Council (STC) and the Swanage Town and Community Partnership. The SLP pre-submission document will be published for consultation (along with the draft GI Strategy) in the autumn of 2015. The SLP pre-submission document includes the following policies relevant to GI:

- Policy SGI: Swanage green infrastructure;
- Policy OSR: Open space and recreation.

Natural environment

Landscape setting

18. Swanage is the largest settlement in the district of Purbeck. It is set on the edge of the bay between cliffs and downs to the north, and the lower slopes of the limestone plateau to the south, and is of exceptional quality. This quality is reflected in the designation of the surrounding coastline as Heritage Coast, and to the south, the Jurassic Coast World Heritage site. The whole of the town and the surrounding countryside is situated in the South Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

19. The character of the landscape that Swanage sits in is described in the Dorset AONB Landscape Character Assessment as being clay valley. This landscape is a sweeping landscape with a patchwork of rough pastures and dense hedgerows, enclosed by the imposing Purbeck Ridge to the North, and a limestone escarpment to the south. Small broadleaved woodlands provide visual unity to the valley which has a settled rural character with coastal influences. The influences of Swanage are particularly apparent with pylons and visually intrusive land-uses. The valley is poorly drained with loamy base rich soils, supporting damp grassland habitats and occasional wet woodlands. Fragments of wetland vegetation such as reeds and willow remain in some areas.

20. The stream that drains the clay vale is the principle feature, generally followed by the railway. This creates an area of low and more level ground where the town centre and railway station are situated extending westwards. West of the town a tributary of The Brook runs northwards towards the Purbeck Hills forming a secondary valley. This feature creates, in effect, a local ridge of higher ground in the town and a locally

² Pre-submission draft Swanage Local Plan

prominent hill on which the Harrow House International College and white sports dome are situated.

Biodiversity

21. One of the aspects that make Purbeck such a special place, is that the diverse landscapes and the habitats that they represent support a wide range of biodiversity. Purbeck covers a small part of the UK land surface (0.3% of England and Wales), yet some of the habitats in the district represent a considerable proportion of that particular habitat type nationally. For example, Purbeck contains about 5% of both the national heathland and reed bed resource. There is a 10km² area near Wareham that is identified in the New Atlas of British and Irish Flora as having the highest number of plant species present in one place in the whole of the UK.

22. Purbeck also supports over 200 species of national or local conservation concern. These species are not just confined to protected sites. They are found across the district in areas such as the heathlands and on the limestone ridges. Some of these species are of particular concern, for instance Purbeck has three species (a plant, a moth and a weevil) that are found in the UK and nowhere else in the world. A further 13 species found in Purbeck are of global conservation concern, emphasising Purbeck's worldwide importance for biodiversity

Geodiversity and hydrology

23. Swanage Bay is a sandy east facing bay, which is protected from the major south-westerly storms. In the southern part there are low cliffs and banks of Upper Purbeck limestone and shale, which are largely built over. To the north, there are cliff sections of Wealden strata, which consists of soft yellowish and brownish sands and clay with a coarse quartz grit. Lignite (plant debris) is common and dinosaur remains are found occasionally in these river sediments from the Cretaceous era.

24. At Punfield Cove towards the northern end of this section, there are exposures of Lower Greensand which contain some unusual fossils, followed by Gault and Upper Greensand. Beyond this where the Purbeck Hills reach the sea is the major chalk exposure of Ballard Cliff, beneath Ballard Down. Here the Lower Chalk also contains many fossils.

25. Swanage Bay itself has formed because of the alternating bands of hard and soft rock. The softer Wealden and Gault deposits have eroded more quickly than the harder Upper Purbeck Limestone and Shale to the south, and the chalk of the Purbeck Ridge.

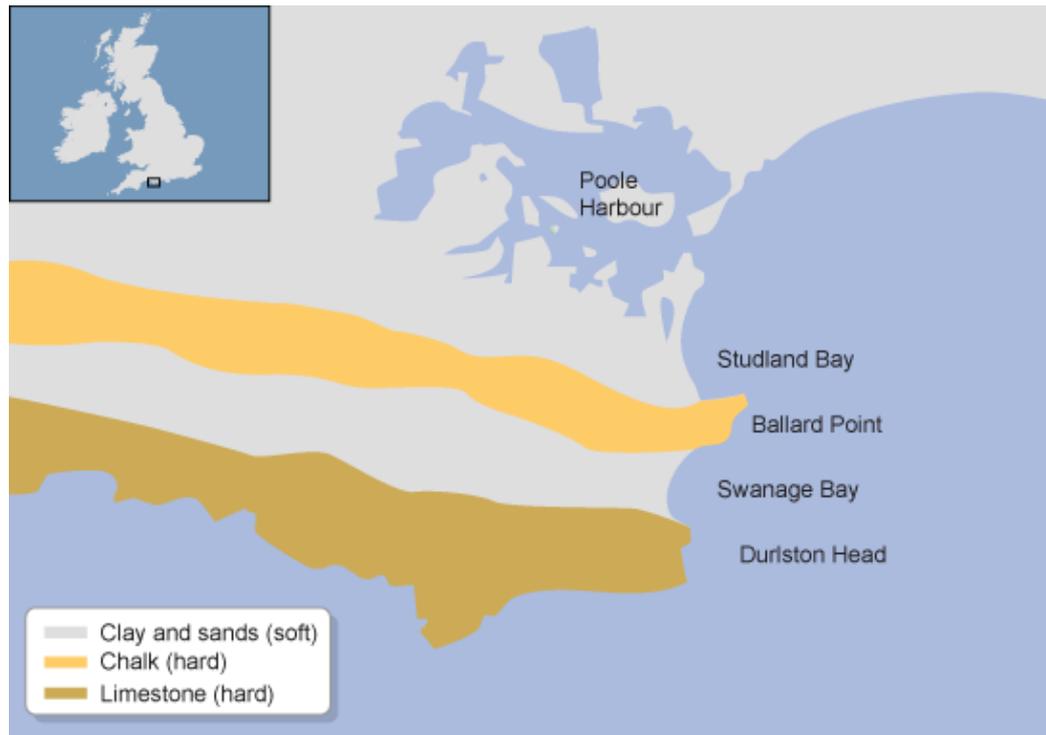


Illustration of how the softer clay deposits are eroded faster than the other harder rocks.

26. The geology and landform of Swanage and the Corfe valley influence how surface water runoff behaves in storm situations. After heavy rainfall the land is saturated and the water is forced down the Swan Brook and through the town. Historically this has meant that anything obstructing the flow would contain the water upstream and flood the surrounding area. A high tide would have also meant the water would not dissipate quickly leaving land and properties awash.

Flooding

27. As can be deduced from the above, Swanage has historically suffered from flooding, with severe flooding occurring as recently as 1990. A flood alleviation scheme to the west of the town was completed in the mid 1990's and has reduced the threat of flooding significantly, though there are still local areas that flood after a severe deluge, or after tidal flooding during high tides in extreme weather conditions. This is due mainly to existing piped surface water drainage system reaching capacity in these locations.

28. More information about flooding is outlined in the Swanage Local Plan Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 (SFRA) that was undertaken for the PDC in 2015³.

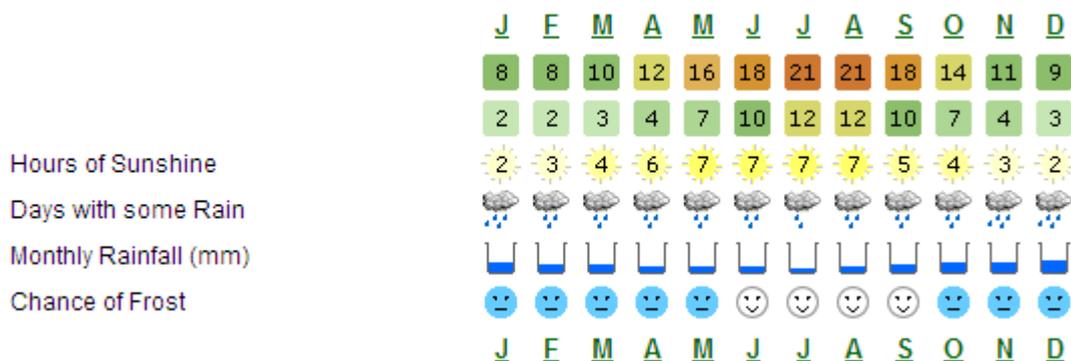
29. Although PPS 25 'Development and Flood Risk' has been superseded by the NPPF, it is still used as a reference for good practice. It promotes the use of natural

³ Planning Purbeck's Future: Swanage Local Plan Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 (September 2015) Purbeck District Council

flood management measures based on a holistic approach to the landscape, rather than continued building of physical flood defences. Small-scale naturalistic flood management features such as Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and rain gardens/swales could feasibly be implemented. Green roofs could also provide a flood alleviation function by slowing the run-off of water from buildings into the storm drains. Rainwater harvesting systems could be installed on roofs to collect rainfall rather than letting it run into drains. These features can be designed to be attractive to people, provide habitats for wildlife and also help to cool the air during hotter months, providing a truly multi-functional addition to the landscape. If appropriately sited, some of these features could also provide a buffer to separate pedestrian areas from the noise and visual intrusion of traffic.

Climate

30. Swanage has a maritime climate characterised by warm summers and cool winters. The average high temperature in summer is 20°C with night time lows around 13°C. In winter, the average high temperatures are about 8°C with lows near 3.5°C. Average annual precipitation is 807mm with October through January having the highest levels of rainfall.



Built environment

Townscape designations

31. There are two Conservation Areas in Swanage (see maps below). A Conservation Area is defined as: 'an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. Conservation Areas are designated to cover the most historically and architecturally important and interesting parts of towns and villages.



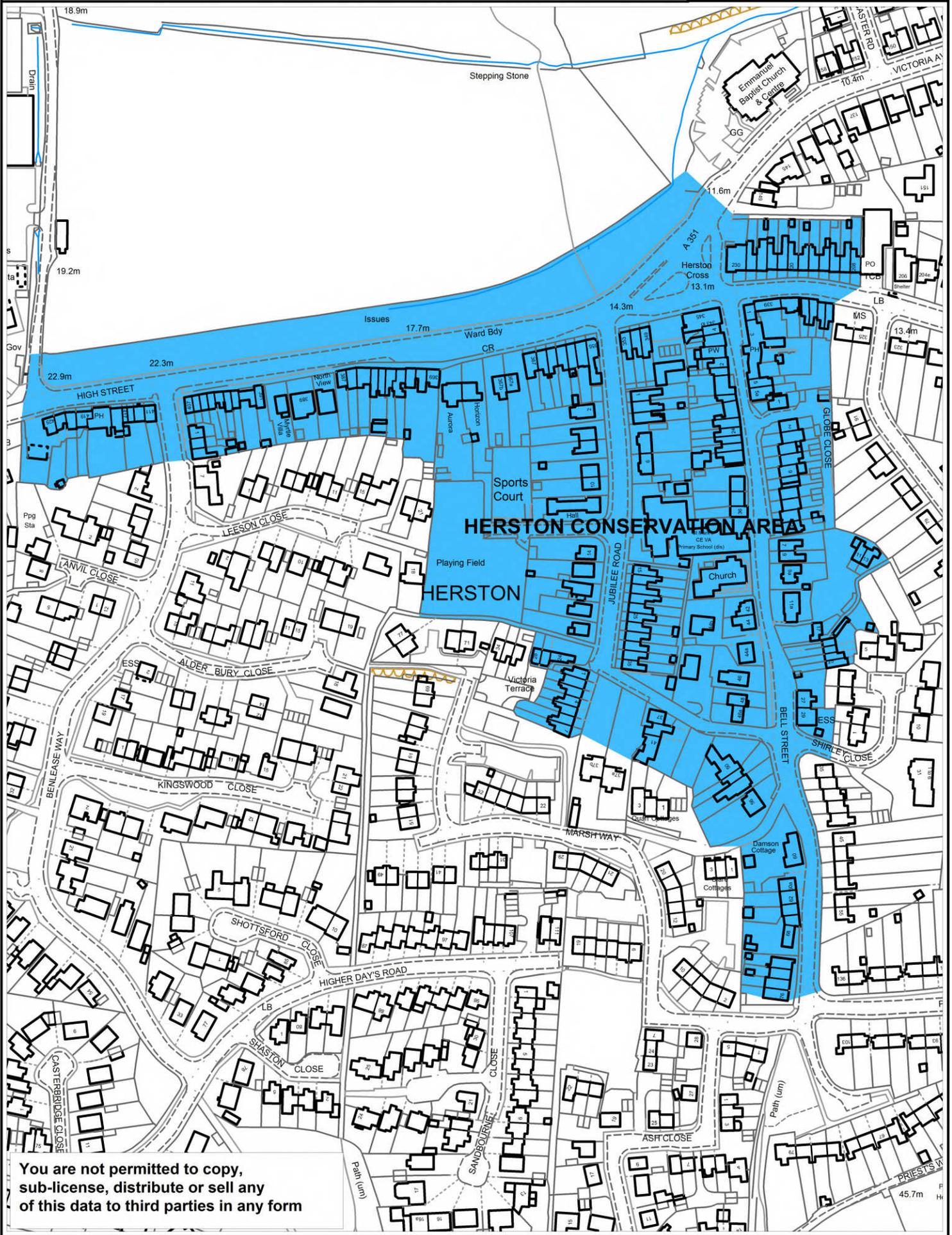
Purbeck District Council

Thriving communities in balance with the natural environment

Herston Conservation Area

For Identification Purposes Only

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32. Various factors contribute to the special character of a Conservation Area. These include: the quality of buildings, the historic layout of roads, paths and boundaries, boundary treatments and patterns of enclosure, characteristic building and paving materials, uses and associations, the quality of the public realm and contribution made by trees and green spaces. A strong 'sense of place' is often associated with Conservation Areas.

33. A Conservation Area Appraisal has been produced for each of the Conservation Areas. An assessment of the contribution that these elements make to the Conservation Areas is included in each of the appraisals and are as follows:

- the churchyard of St Mary's Church forms an important, if bland patch of green space on which are planted an attractive group of trees. It is poorly keyed in to the surrounding townscape;
- where houses (in the west of the Swanage Conservation Area) have narrow front gardens these provide an important splash of green colour;
- trees within the grounds of Clarence Cottage provide a prominent spur of vegetation closing the view on approaching the upper stretch of Queen's Road;
- the gardens of *Magnolia House* (High Street) contain some attractive specimens;
- TPOs cover trees along Gilbert Road (though there is much evidence of felling) and rear of 12 Institute Road. The former plays an important role in defining the boundary between the railway and town. It has topographical prominence and contributes to the setting of the station;
- the recreation ground above Shore Road provides a green space which links with others along the promenade. It retains a rugged aspect at its northern end which serves as a reminder of its historic condition;
- the (Northbrook) cemetery contains a particularly good group of trees planted around the boundary walls;
- the few green spaces along the High Street which help to give the pattern of development a more broken feel than elsewhere. A garden with trees does still exist behind Purbeck House however it has been severely reduced in size;
- with the loss of the gardens laid out in front, The Royal Victoria Hotel (apartments) now lacks significant green space and trees. Splashes of green enliven the closes running south;

- trees, shrubs and open areas of grassland are particularly important (in the Peveril point portion of the Swanage Conservation Area). During the past both these and the rugged nature of the ground helped integrate Swanage with its landscape setting though these qualities have been eroded through over enthusiastic wall, road and car park building;
- The Downs are now publicly accessible for recreation purposes, and have undergone considerable landscaping work. The formerly rugged quality of open green space has however been impaired by the construction of the car park, access routes, roundabouts and many stone walls;
- the landscaping scheme adopted around *The Haven* (which includes a winding path of orange chippings) adds to the incongruity of the development;
- a TPO covers Cluny House and neighbours, and another 25-27 Park Road;
- trees and plants within garden spaces play an important role in giving a suburban and domestic character, particularly around Manor Road, Cluny Crescent and the top of Park Road. Fewer trees and shrubs occur in streets such as Park Road – which has sporadic pavement planting – than was historically the case, this often due to loss of gardens to hard standing;
- the beech tree located in the garden of 58 Bell Street is particularly prominent, its branches overhanging the road. This tree plays an important role in closing the long view up the street;
- a healthy young oak stands at the side of the east-west section of Jubilee Road. This should play an increasingly important role in the scene as it develops and has a potentially long future ahead of it;
- open spaces (including gardens) around the junction of Jubilee Road and Bell Street moving west are particularly important in maintaining the spacious and informal nature of layout so fundamental to the character of the place. This has been harmed in the past by careless infill and encroachment upon the setting of the Area by more formal residential developments;
- a small, slightly neglected orchard is located to the rear of Victoria terrace. This space forms an important buffer between new development and the Conservation Area though is another location under threat;
- in Herston limited open green space is provided by gardens and a thin grass verge, though much of the High Street faces directly into farmland containing trees and enclosed by hedgerows.

34. The appraisals also contain a brief assessment of ecology and biodiversity:

- open land (The Downs) provides an important summer feeding ground for swallows and house martins whose low swooping flight adds to the amenity of this space. The same space has value as an area of limestone grassland much of which has been 'unimproved'. During the 1990s the *Swanage Biodiversity Project* sought to vary cutting regimes to establish the extent of wild flower growth. While results were positive there was some reaction against the 'untidy' appearance that resulted. This has much reduced its ecological value limiting many wild plants and the insects and butterflies which feed on them to the coastal fringe;
- open spaces such as the churchyard provide an important refuge for wildflowers while The Brook, though canalised through much of the Conservation Area, apparently provides an important habitat for the nationally endangered water vole.

35. Management guidelines are also provided:

- the management of The Downs could be revaluated in regard to enhancing its biodiversity value. While this currently represents a relatively sterile and uninteresting environment the Swanage Biodiversity Project did establish the potential of improvement through varied cutting regimes. Wildlife-friendly management would be beneficial to the both the Conservation Area and Swanage in general. Consider changing the cutting regimes on the Downs to encourage the growth of wild flowers and the activity of associated wildlife;
- improve the management of verges and trees ensuring replacement of street trees where removed. Improve the degraded landscaping along Gilbert Road.

36. A general duty under Section 72 of the Planning(Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of conservation areas.

37. Paragraph 126 of the NPPF requires local plans to contain a positive strategy for management of the historic environment. That within the Purbeck Local Plan is contained within the preamble of Policy LHH – Landscape, Historic Environment and Heritage – and provides a basis for proactive work to achieve conservation and enhancement of the District's historic environment:

Townscape character

38. To the north, 19th century cliff-top development and 20th century suburban development slightly inland extend the northern edge of the settlement towards

Ballard Down, but it stops short of the hill south of Whitecliff Farm. This space between the downs and development is an important feature of the town's setting. The sweep of the agricultural landscape of the clay vale up to the cliff edge in this small part of the bay does much to strengthen the landscape context of the town, relieve any sense of overcrowded coastal development and provide a buffer of small fields and well planted hedgerows between development and the open downs.

39. The western edge of the settlement, north of the town centre, is somewhat irregular in form and extends up the side of a minor ridge between the sea and a small valley, running north. Development in this area extends onto, and in places slightly across, the ridge. This makes this edge of the settlement widely visible, not only from higher ground to north and south, but also in local views from within the clay vale west of the town.

40. South of the town centre, 19th century, development spreads outwards along the coast and across the lower eastern end of the limestone ridge that ends in Peveril Point. This consists mostly of large detached villas in generous well-planted grounds, and the general feel of this part of the settlement is that of a green leafy suburb. Unmade roads provide an interesting mix of urban and rural locally which is strongly characteristic of this area. The effect of development in such a potentially exposed location is substantially reduced and mitigated by the amount and height of existing tree cover. It is interesting to note however that many of the trees are contemporary with the development, and as such may be entering into decline.

41. This contrasts markedly with the later estate development inland in the Herston area that spreads up the exposed lower slopes of the limestone downs. The effect is hard and rather bleak although some tree planting has been carried out in these areas, which will no doubt soften their impact once mature. The edge of the settlement in this area is often raw and uncompromising with suburban estate development backing directly onto open downland.

Open spaces

42. The main open spaces in the settlement are:

- King George's playing fields near the centre of town in memorial to King George V, which includes large playing fields, as well as skate park facilities and a play area. There is also a pitch and putt course in this location;
- Towards the eastern end of Swanage is Days Park, which includes Swanage and Herston Football Club, and a play area and gardens, which together make a large, well used public open space;

- Prince Albert Gardens is located to the south eastern end of the town, next to the pier. This landscaped public garden has an open-air amphitheatre. The Downs are just behind Prince Albert Gardens;
- the weather station open space, spa beach huts open space, recreation ground and Sandpit Fields run north-south adjacent to the promenade. The Santa Fe children's play park and crazy golf are located at the southern end;
- Beach Gardens, which have tennis courts, bowling green and an 18 hole putting green;
- allotments off Prospect Crescent, of which there are over 140;
- cemeteries at Godlingston and Northbrook (closed);
- churchyards;
- the beach;
- school playing fields.

43. There is relatively little open space in the Herston area, and certainly nothing on a scale represented elsewhere.

44. Durlston Country Park, the Downs and Townsend Nature Reserve are situated outside the settlement boundary of the town, and provide opportunities for informal recreation. The Country Park and Nature Reserve are particularly biodiverse, and also represent an educational resource.

45. In November 2000, the Purbeck Countryside Recreation Study⁴ action DRP5 indicated that 'greenways' (multi use corridors) should be promoted and adopted which include opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding. Other recommendations include:

- social and economic benefits SEB1: Develop recreation gateways/routes at locations that will benefit from increased economic activity and exchange;
- developing recreational provision DRP3: Where appropriate improve/create links to the countryside and investigate opportunities for additional public open space to relieve the pressure on the Country Park (within Swanage, and within easy walking distance and accessible by car).

⁴ Purbeck Countryside Recreation Study Final Report (November 2000) Scott Wilson Resource Consultants

46. The 2006 Open Space Sport and recreation audit and assessment⁵ identified the following issues that are relevant to this strategy:

- there is a lack of public parks and gardens in the district of Purbeck;
- there is a need to achieve greater quality of and accessibility to natural and semi natural open space in the district;
- all categories of open space including play areas and recreation grounds are to be protected and enhanced where required;
- more play areas need to be provided across all age ranges;
- the expansion of allotments should be investigated.

47. The Strategy includes a section on potential funding for projects, which is somewhat out of date, but may still be useful for projects emanating from this strategy.

Air quality

48. The air quality in Swanage can reduce significantly during the tourist season due to the increase in traffic.

49. An assessment of air quality at Swanage Railway Station was undertaken in 2009⁶. The assessment identified that the steam trains increase the amount of pollution, especially in the mornings when they are 'steaming up'. Whilst the level of pollution never exceeded the UK Air Quality Standards, the steam trains did contribute to elevated sulphur dioxide levels during the assessment period. The assessment also identified that other potential sources of sulphur dioxide in Swanage include the Ibstock brick works 1500m NW of the station, passenger ferry movements to and from Poole Harbour, and nearby domestic coal use.

50. The 2013 Air Quality Progress Report for Purbeck⁷ identified that there was no risk that the air quality objectives for the district would be breached. It is however interesting to note that out of the locations assessed (including Wareham and Upton) Swanage had the lowest air quality.

⁵ Sport and recreation audit and assessment (for) Purbeck District Council (April 2006) PMP Consultants

⁶ Detailed Air Quality Assessment Swanage Heritage Railway (April 2009) Purbeck District Council

⁷ 2013 Air Quality Progress Report (July 2013) Purbeck District Council

GI Audit

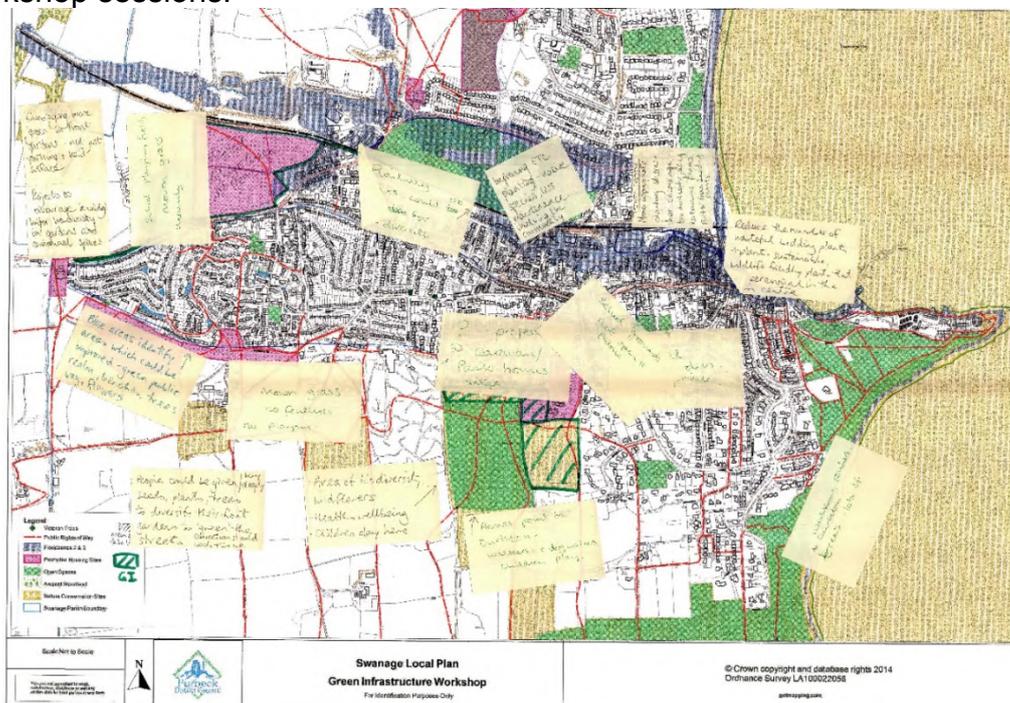
Data collection

Workshop sessions

51. The first part of the audit was undertaken at the GI workshop sessions held in June 2014. At these workshops participants were asked to mark existing GI on a series of maps and aerial photographs of north and south Swanage, and then to list the benefits and functions of each element of the GI. Suggestions for enhancement of these existing assets and for the provision of new GI were also invited. This exercise was designed to raise awareness of GI issues, to engage community involvement, and to make the most of local knowledge.

52. The list of GI sites that was generated at the workshop sessions was not exhaustive as the participants focussed on the more obvious and larger sites due to the complexity of the topic area, and the time constraints of the day.

53. A desk based audit was then undertaken by PDC in order to verify the results of the workshop sessions, and to identify further GI assets that had not been audited at the workshop sessions.



54. An illustration of the information pack that was supplied to each delegate at the workshop is included on the next 6 pages.

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| Swanage Local Plan - Green Infrastructure Options Workshop |
| Date: Friday 6 June 2014 Time: 9.30 am – 4.00 pm (lunch provided) Venue: The Mowlem, Community Room 2 nd Floor (lift access), Institute Road, BH19 1DD. |
| Purpose: To develop options in relation to Green Infrastructure in Swanage |
| <p>Programme:</p> <p>9.30am – 10.30am Introduction to Swanage Local Plan (Richard Smith - Swanage Local Plan Steering Group) Introduction to Green Infrastructure and Introduction to Workshops & Aims (Helen Lilley – PDC Senior Landscape Architect)</p> <p>10.30am – 10.45am Break</p> <p>10.45am – 11.30am Workshop 1 – Identification of Green Spaces and Connections in North Swanage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Where are they? ➤ What do they provide – function and benefits? ➤ How do they connect into the wider ecosystem and green corridors? </p> <p>11.30am – 12.15pm Workshop 2 – Improvements to Green Spaces and Connections in North Swanage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identification of areas with poor levels of Green Infrastructure ➤ Identification of improvements to existing areas of Green Infrastructure ➤ Identification of opportunities for Green Infrastructure linkages and alternative / new provision </p> <p>12.15pm – 12.30pm North Swanage Feedback</p> <p>12.30pm – 1.15pm Lunch</p> <p>1.15pm – 2.00pm Workshop 3 – Identification of Green Spaces and Connections in South Swanage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Where are they? ➤ What do they provide – function and benefits? ➤ How do they connect into the wider ecosystem and green corridors? </p> <p>2.00pm – 2.45pm Workshop 4 – Improvements to Green Spaces and Connections in South Swanage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identification of areas with poor levels of Green Infrastructure ➤ Identification of improvements to existing areas of Green Infrastructure ➤ Identification of opportunities for Green Infrastructure linkages and alternative / new provision </p> <p>2.45pm – 3.00pm South Swanage Feedback</p> <p>3.00pm – 3.15pm Break</p> <p>3.15pm – 4pm Next Steps / Products / Actions Questions & Close</p> |
| 1 |

Links to related plans, strategies and evidence:

Purbeck Local Plan Part 1

<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/local-plan/part-1/purbeck>

South East Dorset Green Infrastructure Strategy

<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/greeninfrastructure>

Microeconomic evidence for the benefits of investment in the environment: Natural England review 2012

Green infrastructure strategies: An introduction for local authorities and their partners Natural England 2011

Green infrastructure and the urban fringe: Learning lessons from the countryside in and around towns programme Natural England 2011

Natural England's green infrastructure guidance 2011

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/32031?category=40002>

Green asset guidance: Sustainable landscape planning, design and management position statement and guidance Dorset County Council

2013 <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/media.jsp?mediaid=193403&filetype=pdf>

Victoria business improvement district: Green infrastructure audit best practice guide 2013

http://www.victoriabid.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/BestPracticeGuide_A4-10.pdf

Delivering biodiversity benefits through green infrastructure CIRIA 2011

<http://www.ciria.org/ItemDetail?iProductcode=C711&Category=BOOK>

Planning for a healthy environment: good practice for green infrastructure and biodiversity Town and Country Planning Association and Wildlife Trusts 2012

<http://www.tcpa.org.uk/pages/planning-for-a-healthy-environment-good-practice-for-green-infrastructure-and-biodiversity.html>

Purbeck District Townscape Character Appraisals 2010

<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/397020>

Purbeck Heritage Strategy

<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/purbeckheritagestrategy>

Dorset AONB Management Plan (2009)

<http://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk/the-dorset-aonb/dorset-aonb-partnership/33-management-plan>

Dorset AONB Landscape Character Assessment

<http://www.dorsetaonb.org.uk/our-work/landscapework/landscape-character>

Dorset Landscape Change Strategy (January 2010)

<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/media.jsp?mediaid=150496&filetype=pdf>

Sport and Recreation Audit and Assessment (2006)

<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/media.jsp?mediaid=169433&filetype=pdf>

Definition of Green Infrastructure: (National Planning Policy Framework)

'A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities' (National Planning Policy Framework 2012).

About the Swanage Local Plan

The Swanage Local Plan will allocate the strategic requirements set out in Purbeck Local Plan (Part 1): 2012. The Swanage Local Plan is being produced in partnership with Swanage Town Council, the Swanage Town and Community Partnership and Purbeck District Council. A steering group has been formed to help guide the plan process.

The Swanage Local Plan will provide the detail for PLP1 for Swanage. For example it can:

- Determine the location of development such as housing, shops and employment land;
- Set policies that restrict development to specific areas, such as specifying where new flats development can/cannot be located; and
- Set policies to protect buildings and sites valued by the community, such as green space and houses in large gardens

The plan will also explore issues such as how to:

- Attract new businesses to Swanage and create new employment opportunities;
- Ensure that Swanage offers the right kind of tourist accommodation and facilities;
- Provide appropriate sports, leisure and cultural facilities and activities; and
- Meet the current and future health and social care needs of the town

What we have done so far

In May 2013 we held two awareness raising sessions to invite community, voluntary and business groups to be involved in the first stage of the consultation process, the issues and options workshops. In July and September 2013 we held the issues and options workshops which were attended by representatives of community, voluntary and local business groups. The steering group used the feedback from these workshops to prepare the Issues and Options consultation that was held earlier this year.

Some of the earlier workshops identified issues that needed more exploration so we are now holding three further workshops looking at;

- the potential for producing a green infrastructure plan for Swanage;
- Swanage's historic environment and townscape character, and
- flood risk and coastal change management.

The Swanage Local Plan process began in late 2012 and we expect it will take in total 2-3 years to complete, be independently examined and adopted by Purbeck District Council.

Examples of green infrastructure assets

- 🌿 Natural and semi-natural rural and urban green spaces – including woodland and scrub, grassland, heath, wetland, open and running water, brownfield sites, bare rock habitat (for example cliffs and quarries), coast and beach.
- 🌿 Parks and gardens – urban parks, country and regional parks, formal and private gardens, and institutional grounds (for example at schools and hospitals)
- 🌿 Amenity green space – informal recreation spaces, play areas, outdoor sports facilities, housing green spaces, domestic gardens, community gardens, roof gardens, village greens, commons, living roofs and walls, hedges, civic spaces, and highway trees and verges
- 🌿 Allotments, orchards, and suburban and rural farmland
- 🌿 Cemeteries and churchyards
- 🌿 Green corridors – rivers and canals (including their banks), road verges and rail embankments, cycling routes, and rights of way
- 🌿 Sites of nature conservation value – Sites of Special Scientific Interest and Local Sites (Local Wildlife Sites and Local Geological Sites)

1

- 🌿 Nature Reserves
- 🌿 Designations (selected for historic significance, beauty, recreation, wildlife, or tranquillity)
- 🌿 Archaeological and historic sites
- 🌿 Functional green space such as sustainable drainage schemes (SuDS) and flood storage areas
- 🌿 Built structures – living roofs and walls, bird and bat boxes, and roost sites within existing and new-build developments.

2

Benefits provided by green infrastructure



Environmental benefits

- Provision of clean water
- Removal of pollutants from air and water
- Pollination enhancement
- Protection against soil erosion
- Rainwater retention
- Increased pest control
- Improvement of land quality
- Mitigation of land take and soil sealing



Social benefits

- Better health and human well being
- Creation of jobs
- Diversification of local economy
- More attractive greener cities
- Higher property values and local distinctiveness
- More integrated transport and energy solutions
- Enhanced tourism and recreation facilities



Climate change adaptation and mitigation benefits

- Flood alleviation
- Strengthening ecosystem resilience

3



Biodiversity benefits

- Carbon storage and sequestration
- Mitigation of urban heat island effects
- Disaster prevention – eg landslides

- Improved habitats for wildlife
- Ecological corridors
- Landscape permeability

4

What is the vision for Swanage?

Here is an example of a statement which describes the aim (vision) for a green infrastructure strategy:

"The purpose of the strategy is to create a well designed green infrastructure network of interlinked, multi-purpose open and green spaces with good connections to the places where people live and work, public transport, the countryside, and blue infrastructure. This will provide a richly varied landscape that will benefit both people and wildlife, providing diverse uses to appeal to, and be accessible by all."

Could the same vision work for Swanage? Write your comments and suggestions on a post-it and stick it here:

5

How could we improve the green infrastructure of Swanage?

-  Identify and protect existing core areas of high biodiversity value which act as hubs for green infrastructure
-  Create new, or enhance existing core areas to provide large healthy functioning ecosystems
-  Restore habitats or enhance existing natural areas, such as reed beds, or wild flower meadows
-  Enhance existing, or create new natural features acting as wildlife corridors or stepping stones, like small watercourses, ponds, hedgerows, woodland strips, street trees
-  Create artificial features that enhance ecosystem services or assist wildlife movement, such as eco-ducts or eco-bridges, fish ladders, or green roofs

Create buffer zones that are managed sustainably and help improve ecological quality and permeability of the landscape to biodiversity e.g. encourage wildlife-friendly farming in agricultural areas surrounding the town

6

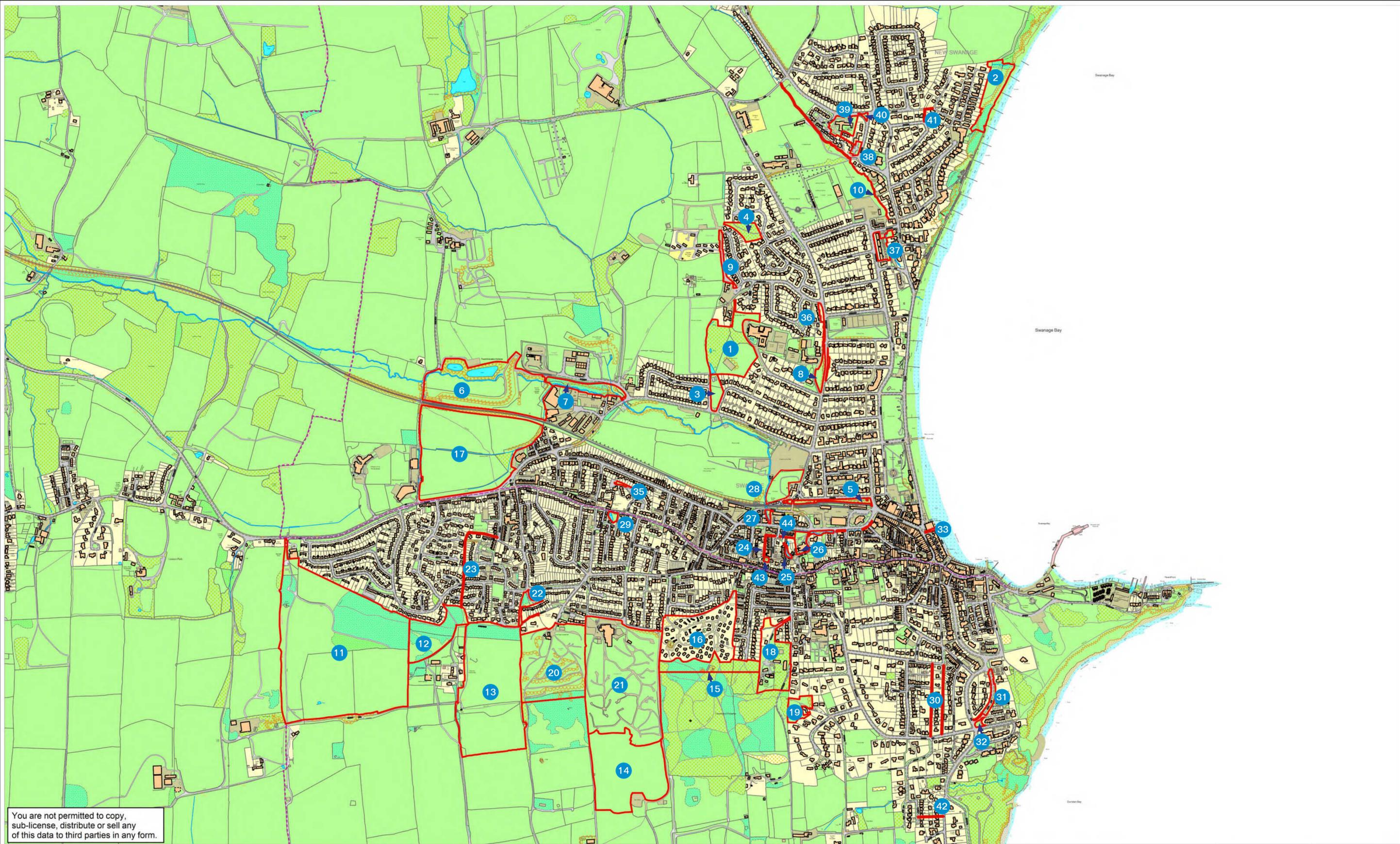
Field survey

55. The desk based audit revealed that some of the results for sites audited at the workshop sessions needed to be verified through further investigation on the ground. A list of the sites that required this 'ground truthing', along with additional GI sites and assets that were identified as part of the desk based audit was produced. The 44 sites listed were then provided with a site reference name, a survey map and a field survey form.

56. Each of the sites was then surveyed by volunteers from the local community. Photographs of each of the sites were also taken as a record. The volunteers were also asked to identify potential sites that had not been brought to light at the workshop or through the desktop study.

57. In addition to the collection of valuable data, this exercise provided the opportunity for further community involvement in the project, and made good use of local knowledge and expertise.

58. The map on the next page shows the location of the 44 sites that were surveyed by the volunteers, and the instructions provided to the volunteers, and an example of a completed site survey form are included on the next 6 pages.



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Not to scale
Ref. SGIS/FSS

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Purbeck District Council

Thriving communities in balance
with the natural environment

SWANAGE GI STRATEGY Location of field survey sites

For identification purposes only

SWANAGE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY**2015****NOTES ON COMPLETING SITE SURVEY FORM**Introduction

The site survey will provide information about existing green infrastructure (GI) in addition to that which was produced at a GI workshop last year. Some of the sites that are to be surveyed were identified at the workshop, and others have been identified as part of a desktop study.

GI is the network of green spaces and other environmental features such as streams and waterbodies that act as a multifunctional resource capable of delivering a range of benefits for the local community:

- Amenity value and access to nature
- Improved air quality
- Flood attenuation and water resource management
- Habitat provision
- Cooling effects in the face of global warming
- Shelter belts which can in turn reduce energy consumption
- Economic benefits through the provision of a more attractive environment to live and work in

The survey form

The survey form is divided into 7 sections, the first of which has been partially completed already. Please start by entering the date and your name in the boxes provided in this section. Representative photos are also required for this section. These can either be printed out on a separate sheet(s) of A4 paper and attached to the completed form, or e-mailed directly to helenlilley@purbeck-dc.gov.uk. The second section of the form has also been completed for you.

Condition

In this section you are required to make a judgement about the current condition of each site. There are three options:

- Good
- Moderate
- Poor

Good management can mean different things for different types of GI. For example there will be more signs of active management in an urban park than in a nature conservation area. This is because intensive maintenance operations are required to keep a park in good condition, whereas those required to keep a nature conservation area in good condition are much less frequent and less invasive.

If the way that the site is managed is appropriate for the use, and maintenance appears to be undertaken at intervals that benefit the function of the resource, then the intensive operations for the park, and lower key operations for the nature conservation area will have a similar score.

SWANAGE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY**2015**

A lower score will result if the physical state of the site is poor, individual features or elements are in a poor state of repair or missing, or if the primary function of the site is negatively affected by lack of management or maintenance.

Current management

This section is intended to give an indication of the method(s) of management that are currently employed on the site. The options provided are not exhaustive, and you may need to add others, especially for sites on the edge of town. Tick all boxes that apply, and provide more detail if you think that it would be useful.

Land cover/habitat types

This section should be self explanatory, but you may again feel that you need to add more types, especially if the site is on the edge of town. There is a box where you can indicate the wildlife value of any scrub or shrubs that are present. Native plants will generally have the most wildlife value, though ornamental shrubs may have flowers that attract butterflies and bees, or fruits and seeds that attract birds.

Function

Most sites will have many functions. You are asked here to indicate the primary and secondary functions. If these functions are not described by any of the categories listed, please add further function(s).

Scope for enhancement

Many of the sites will be capable of supporting additional functions, which were not envisaged at the time that they were created. Adding functions to the existing GI will reinforce the network, and/or create new links in the network. New functions can attend to deficiencies in the locality, and help to make the town more resilient to pressures such as flooding or climate change.

For example, Swanage is known to flood in some locations during periods of heavy rain. At these times, the existing piped surface water drainage system may not cope with the volume of water. If the site is close to a location that is known to flood in these circumstances (see attached map), it may be that the site can provide a surface water storage area, or an infiltration system where the water percolates slowly into the soil. This will reduce pressure on the existing piped system, and has the added benefit of replenishing underground water resources.

Completed forms to:

Helen Lilley
Senior Landscape Architect
Purbeck District Council
Westport House
Worgret Road
Wareham BH20 4PP

Any questions:

Please call or e mail Helen Lilley
01929 557257
helenlilley@purbeck-dc.gov.uk

3

GI Audit for Swanage – Site Survey Form

Site name/location: LAND BETWEEN PARBLING ROAD & PROSPECT CREES.

Site size: 3,0994 sq m E [] N []

Survey date: 20-5-15 Surveyor: R SMITH

Site photograph
 PLEASE PROVIDE ON SEPARATE SHEET.
 photo 1, 2, 3
 JPG 789, 790, 791 ✓

Site plan
 SEE ATTACHED.

- Site category (tick box)
- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Existing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Potential <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Local park <input type="checkbox"/> | Wetland / standing water <input type="checkbox"/> | large Grass/ergo <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Pocket park <input type="checkbox"/> | Derelict building plot <input type="checkbox"/> | Hedge <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Garden or square <input type="checkbox"/> | Highway infrastructure eg traffic island <input type="checkbox"/> | Planter / raised bed <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Community garden / allotment <input type="checkbox"/> | Street tree in pit <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Shrub plantings <input type="checkbox"/> | Pavement or other hard surface <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

- Condition of GI (tick box)
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Good (signs of active management) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Moderate (signs of limited management) <input type="checkbox"/> | Poor (low signs of management) <input type="checkbox"/> |
|---|---|---|

- Current management
- | | |
|---|--|
| Mowing/grass cutting (please specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> grass | Pruning or other tree maintenance <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Specify here: [] | No obvious signs of management <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Appears unmanaged/overgrown <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Productive use for food <input type="checkbox"/> |

Site divided into 2 areas.
 larger area is open grass (managed) with flower bed at Victoria Avenue together with large conifer.
 smaller area is derelict greenhouse and cold frames and appears unmanaged - separate access by entrance into allotment.

© PAF 2015. All rights reserved. Swanage Green Infrastructure Group. Form for use by all for Swanage - Site Survey Form (PAI) doc

Landcover/habitat types present (tick box) *17/11/2019*

| | |
|--|---|
| Amenity grassland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Building <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Semi/natural grassland <input type="checkbox"/> | Pavement/paved area <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Woodland <input type="checkbox"/> | Highway <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Scrub/shrubs (please indicate wildlife value) <input type="checkbox"/> | Traffic island <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Value <u>LOW</u> | Roof <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please specify): | Green space <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Function Primary function (insert *1* in box) / Secondary function (insert *2* as appropriate)

| | |
|---|---|
| Public use: informal recreation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Food growing/productive use <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public use: formal recreation <input type="checkbox"/> | Flood management/water storage <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Visual/amenity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Not in active use but managed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wildlife <input type="checkbox"/> | Not in use/derelict <input type="checkbox"/> |

Scope for enhancement

Enhance existing function (please specify opportunities eg biodiversity, flood storage, visual appearance etc)

Create new function / feature (tick box)

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Wildflower meadow / semi-natural grassland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Green wall/climbing plants <input type="checkbox"/> | Street tree <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Tree planting: woodland <input type="checkbox"/> | Substantial window box <input type="checkbox"/> | Shrubs <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wetland features/rain gardens <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>Hedge</u> planting <input type="checkbox"/> | Planters <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Water storage feature <input type="checkbox"/> | Food growing: fruit trees/vegetables <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Additional comments:

Link King George playfields over Victoria Avenue into allotments and beyond into open countryside

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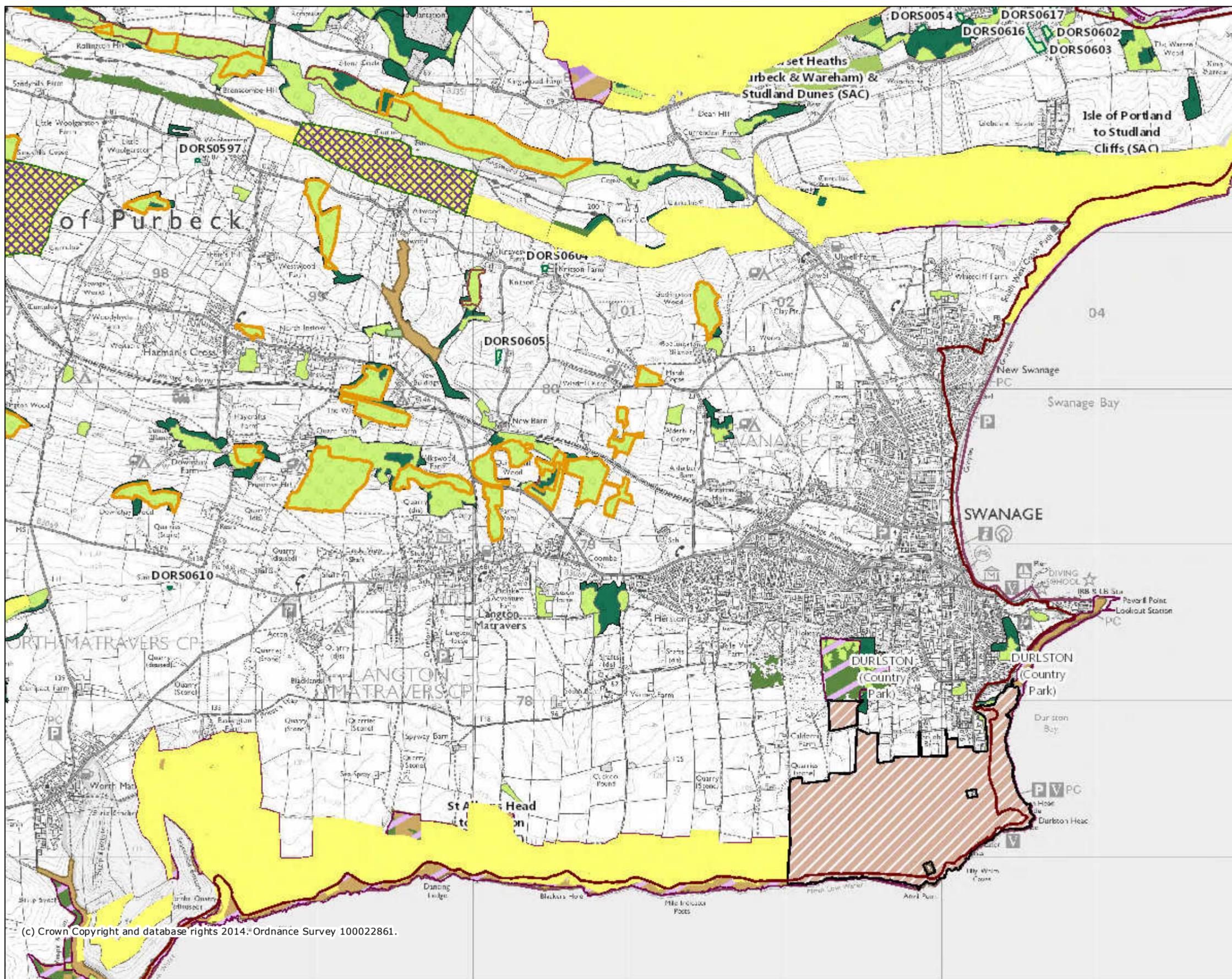


Desktop study of baseline information

59. The final set of data was produced by PDC using the following baseline information, and the first hand knowledge of officers who have a working understanding of issues relevant to GI.

- Landscape and townscape designations
- Terrain and flood map
- Detail of surface water flooding
- Biodiversity
- Trees and woodland
- Rights of way (RoW) and open access land
- National Trust land
- Dorset County Council (DCC) land
- DCC trees
- PDC and Swanage Town Council land
- Historic map – Ulwell 1888
- Historic map – Swanage 1888
- Landscape character

MAGIC Swanage Local Plan Green Infrastructure Strategy - Baseline information from www.magic.gov.uk



Legend

- National Trails (England)
- England Coast Path Route
- ★ Doorstep Greens (England) - points
- ★ Millennium Greens (England) - points
- Country Parks (England)
- Registered Common Land (England)
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act, Section 15 Land (England)
- Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 - Access Layer (England)
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas (England)
- Local Nature Reserves (England)
- Special Areas of Conservation (England)
- Special Areas of Conservation (Scotland)
- Special Protection Areas (Scotland)
- Biosphere Reserves (England)

Projection = OSGB36
 xmin = 396800
 ymin = 76590
 xmax = 405100
 ymax = 82060

Map produced by MAGIC on 9 October, 2014.
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Swanage GI Strategy

Terrain and flood map

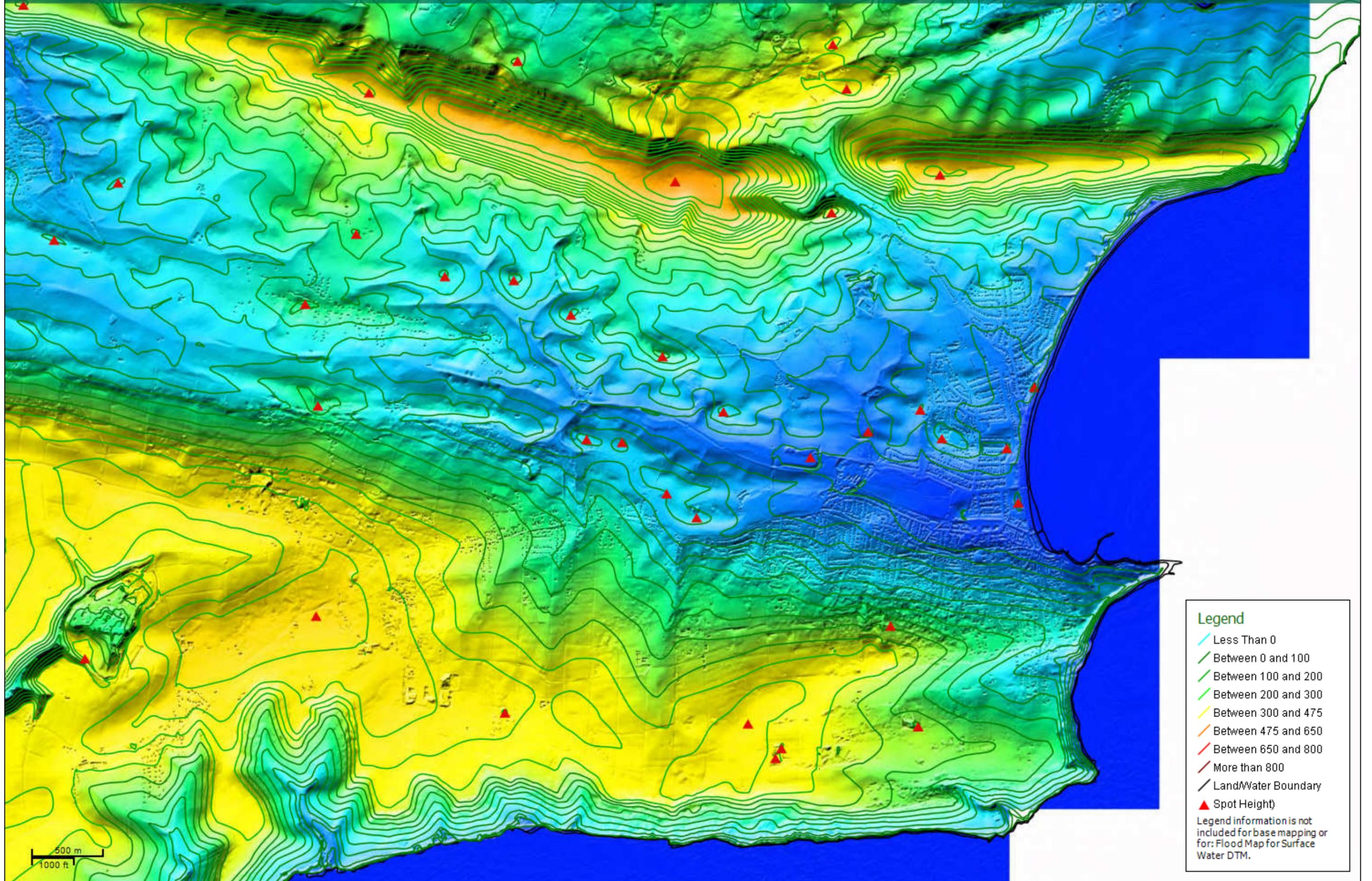
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Centre Easting: 400805.11

Centre Northing: 79624.93

Zoom: 9032.827m (14)

Date: 27/05/2015



Legend

-  Less Than 0
-  Between 0 and 100
-  Between 100 and 200
-  Between 200 and 300
-  Between 300 and 475
-  Between 475 and 650
-  Between 650 and 800
-  More than 800
-  Land/Water Boundary
-  Spot Height

Legend information is not included for base mapping or for: Flood Map for Surface Water DTM.



Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy

Land in Public Ownership

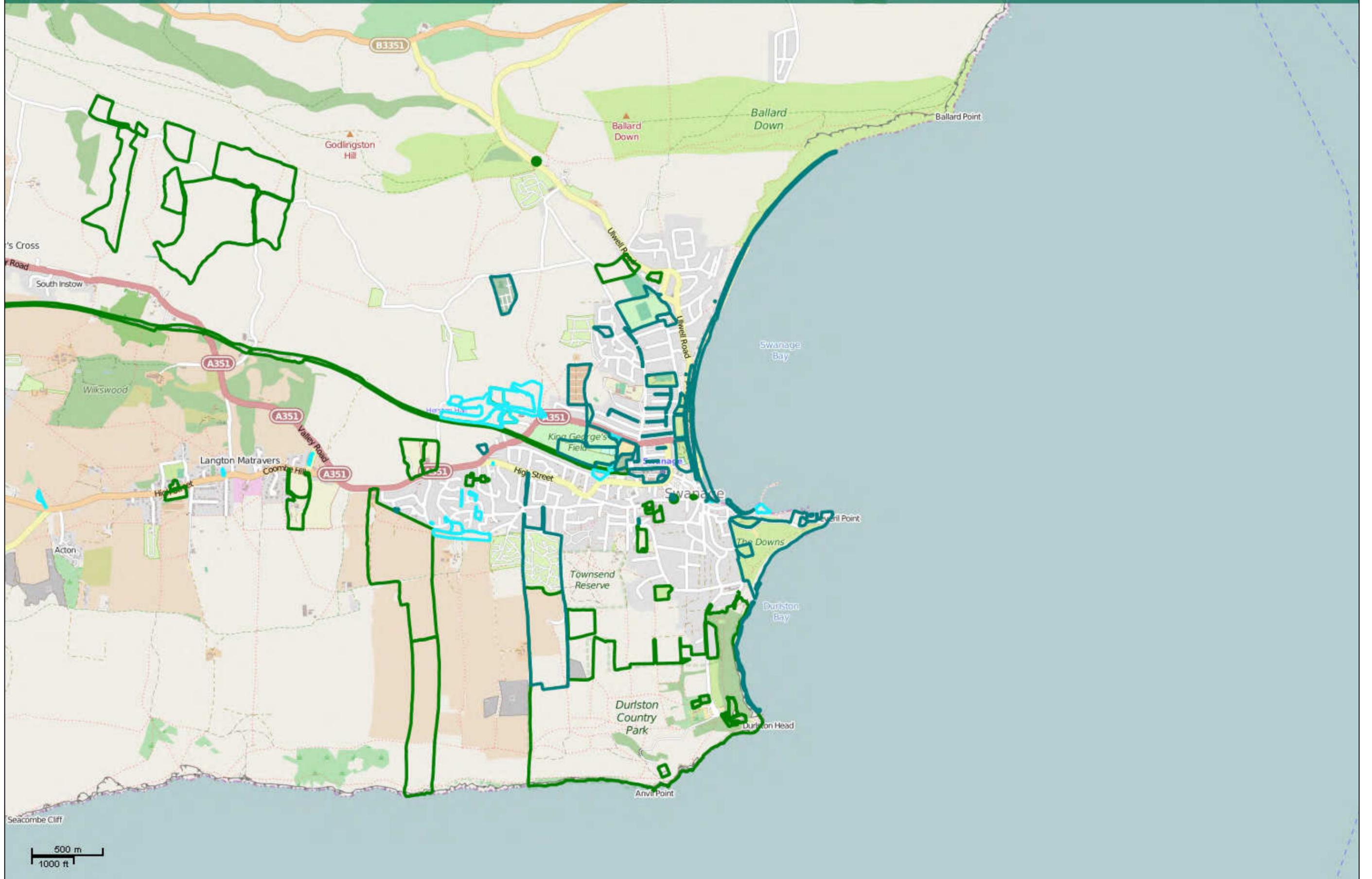
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Date: 26/11/2014





Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy

Verge Cutting

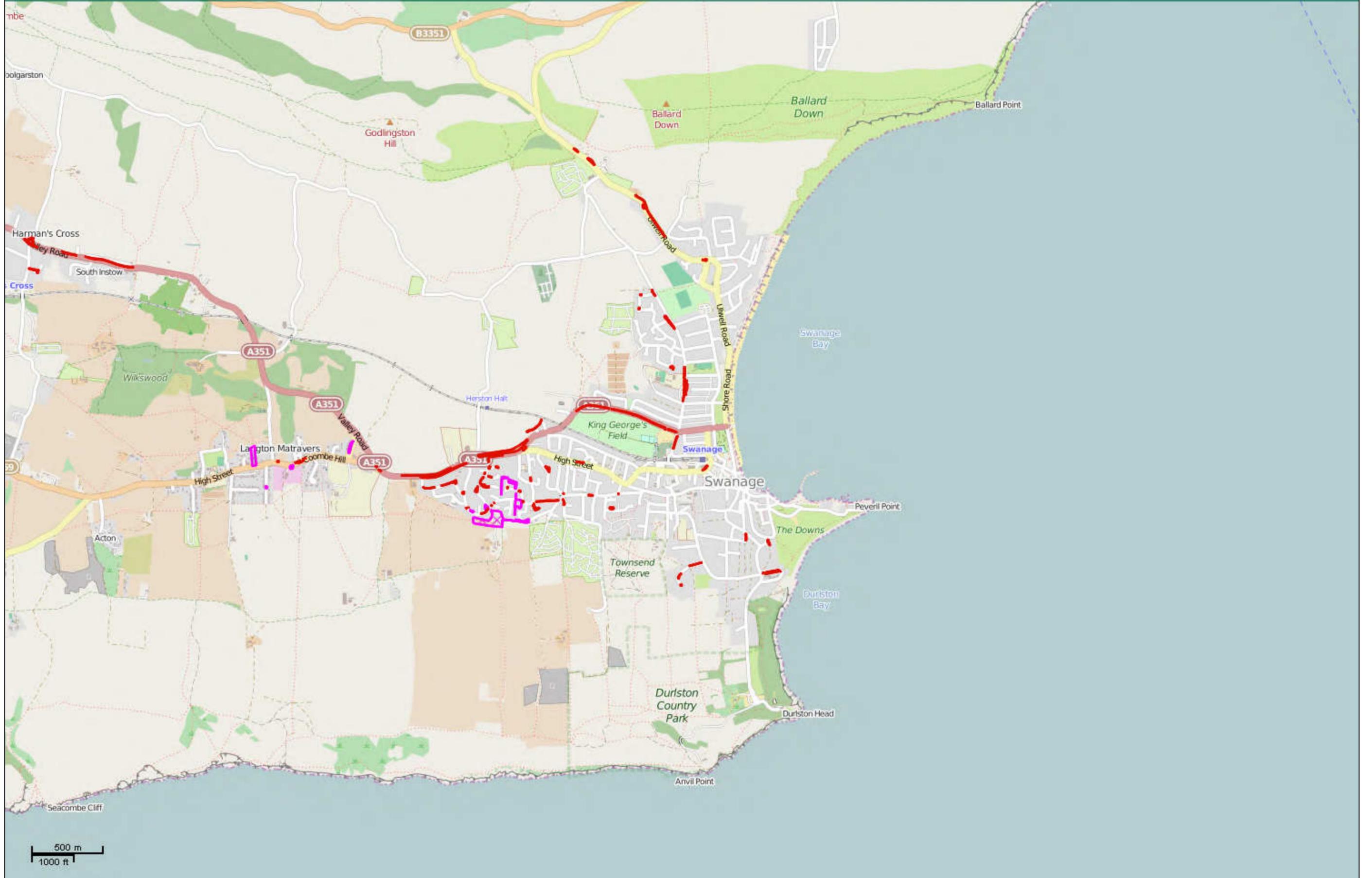
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Zoom: 9033.512m (14)

Date: 26/11/2014





Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy

Dorset County Council land

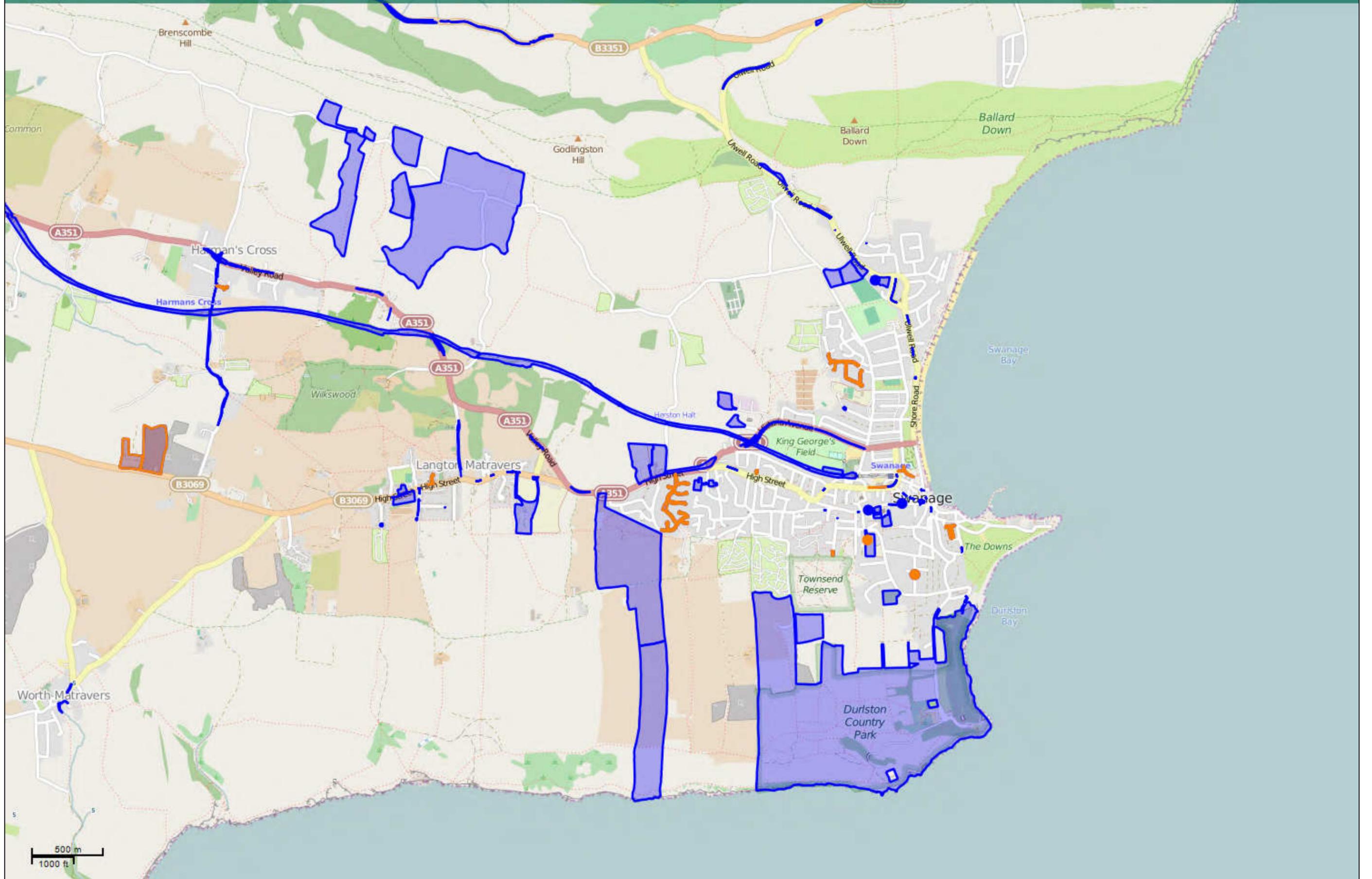
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Zoom: 9033.351m (14)

Date: 27/05/2015





Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy

Dorset County Council trees

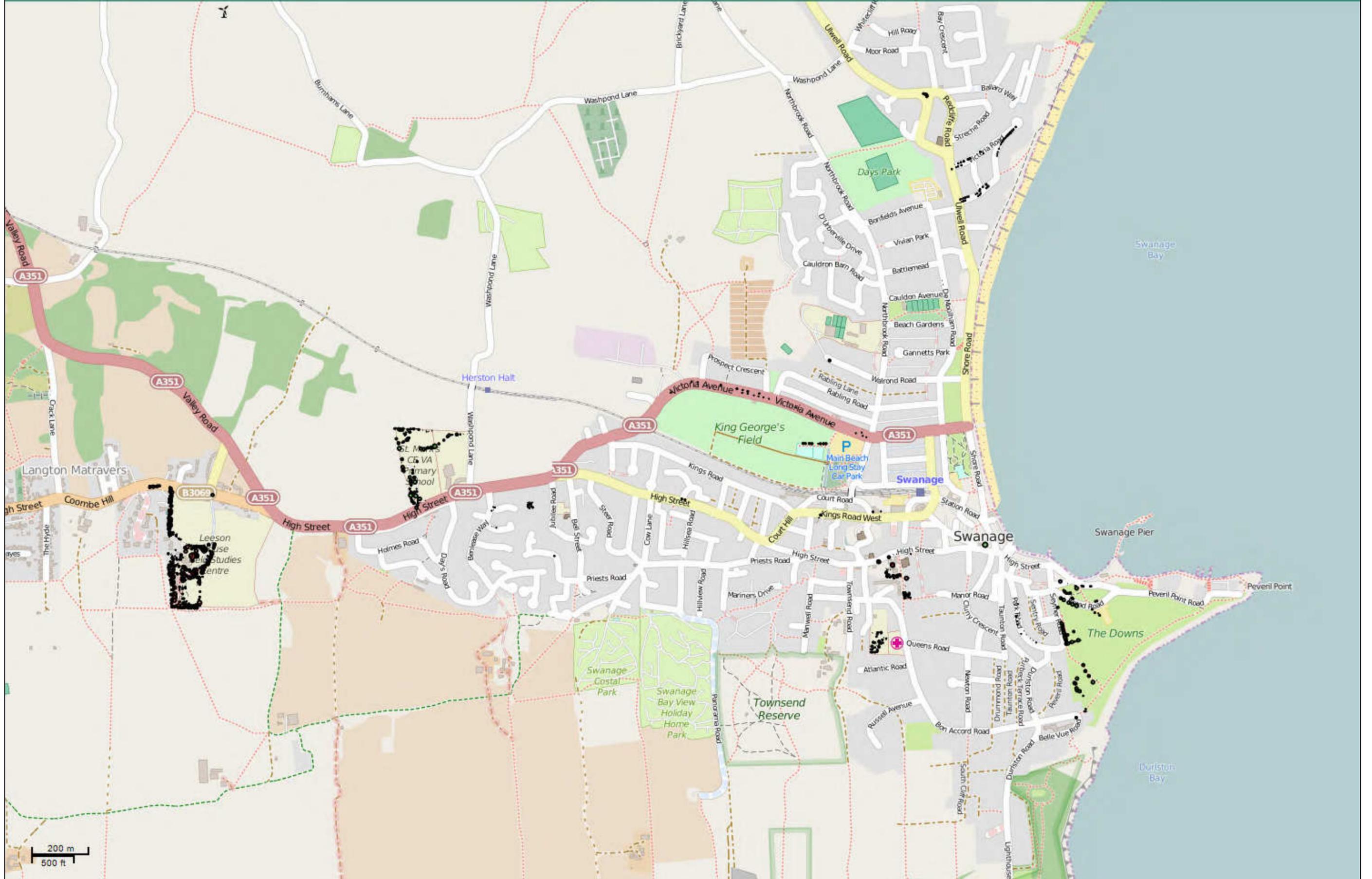
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Centre Northing: 79180.14

Zoom: 4516.793m (15)

Date: 27/05/2015





Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy

National Trust Land

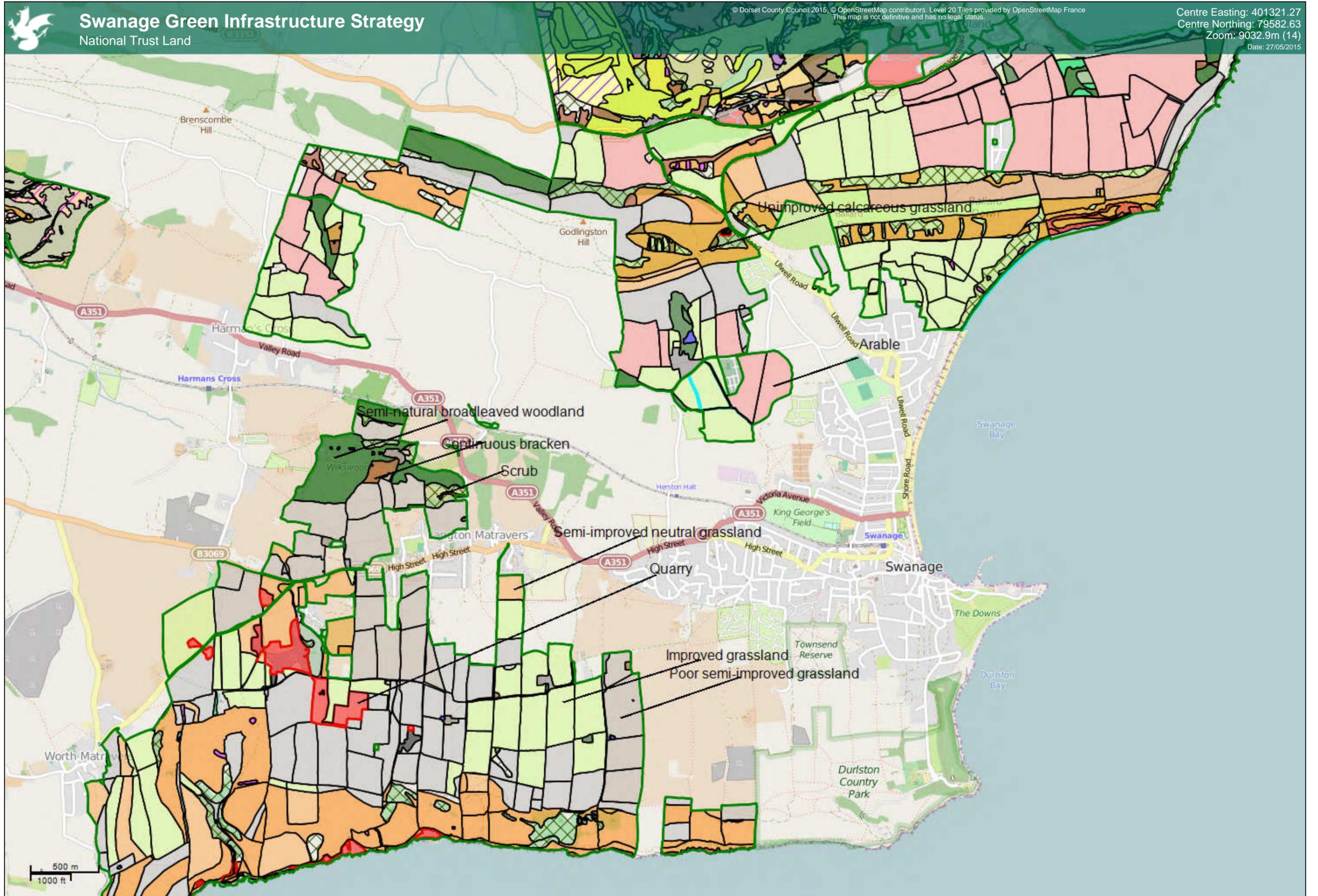
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Centre Northing: 79582.63

Zoom: 9032.9m (14)

Date: 27/05/2015



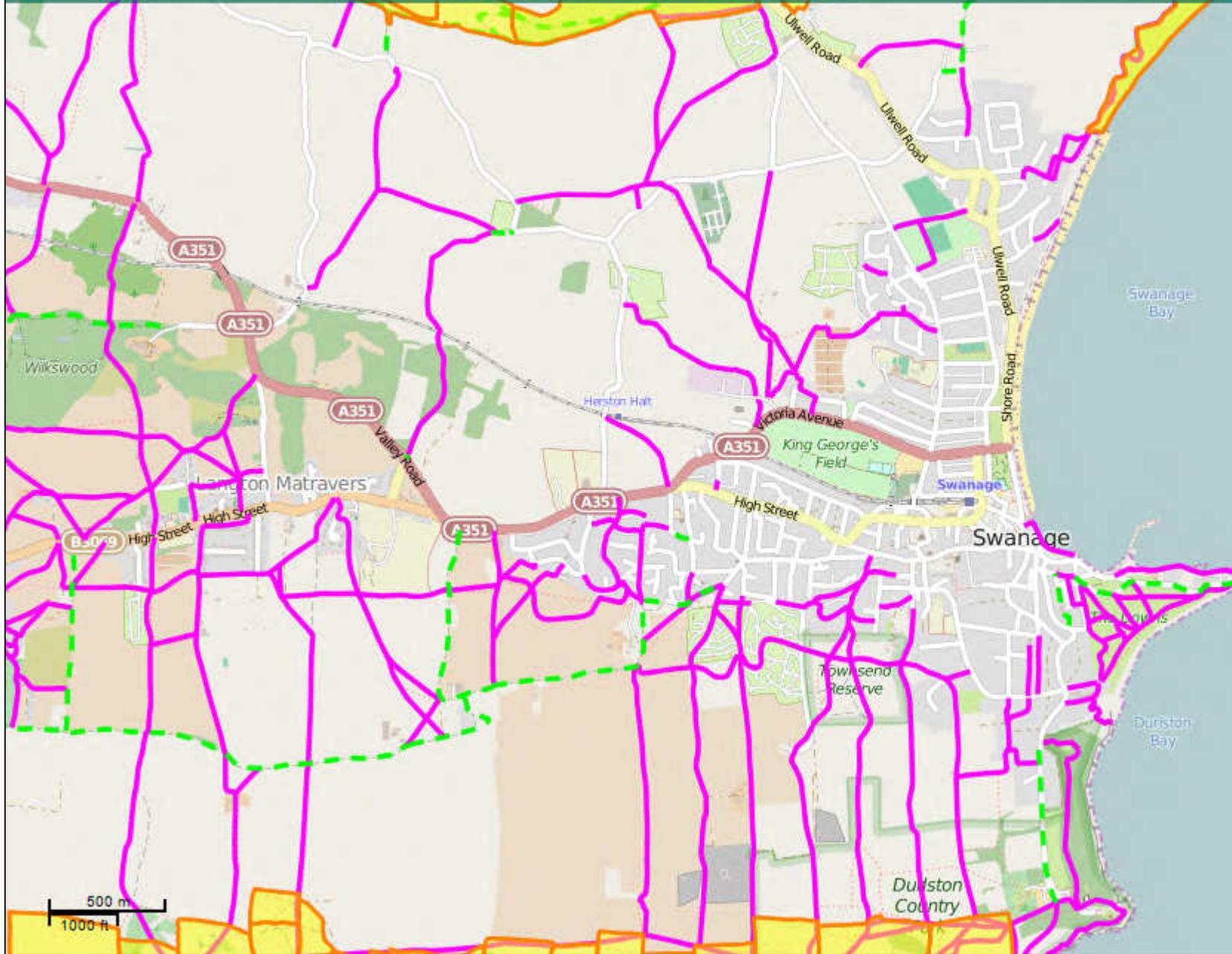


Swanage GI Strategy

RoW and Open Access land

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Centre Easting: 402074.41
Centre Northing: 79189.20
Zoom: 6222.317m (14)
Date: 27/05/2015

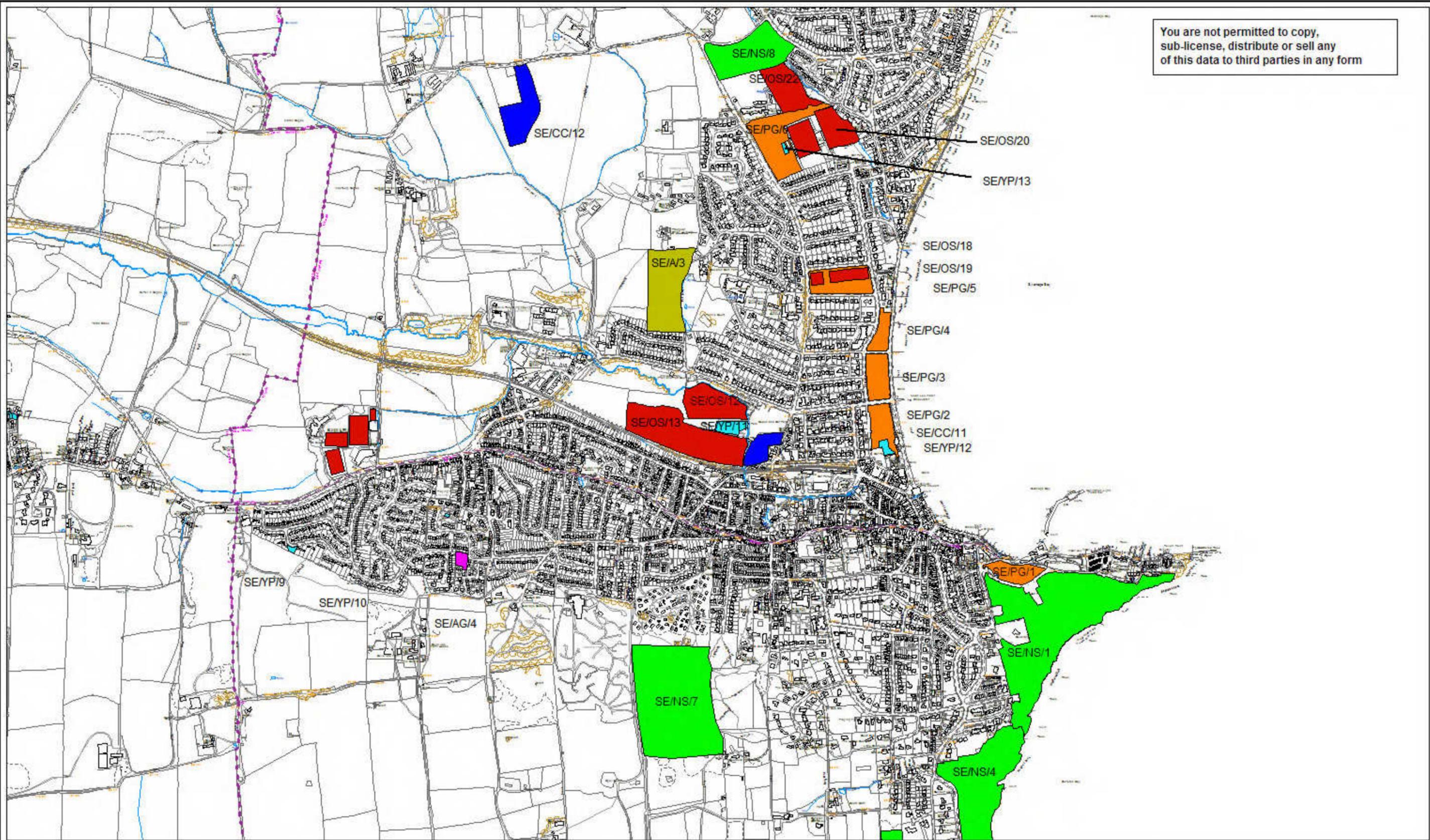


Legend

-  Footpath
-  Bridleway
-  Byway open to all traffic
-  Restricted Byway

Legend information is not included for base mapping or for: Open Access Land.

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Purbeck District Council



Thriving communities in balance
with the natural environment

SWANAGE GI STRATEGY Open space assessment 2006



Scale Not to scale
Ref: SGI/OSA

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Ordnance Survey LA100022058



Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy

Surface Water Flooding

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 Centre Northing: 79555.63
 Zoom: 4516.472m (15)
 Date: 27/05/2015

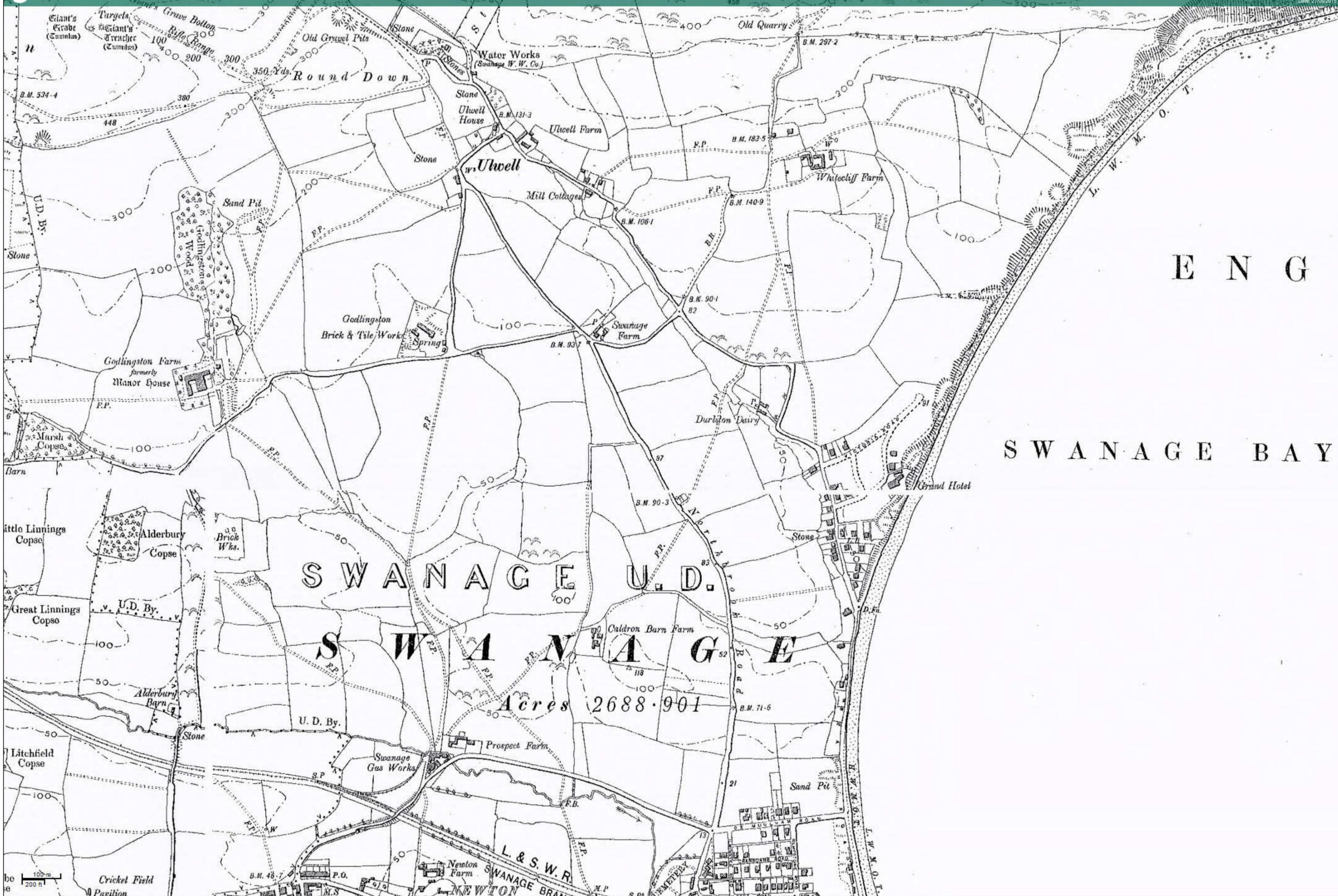


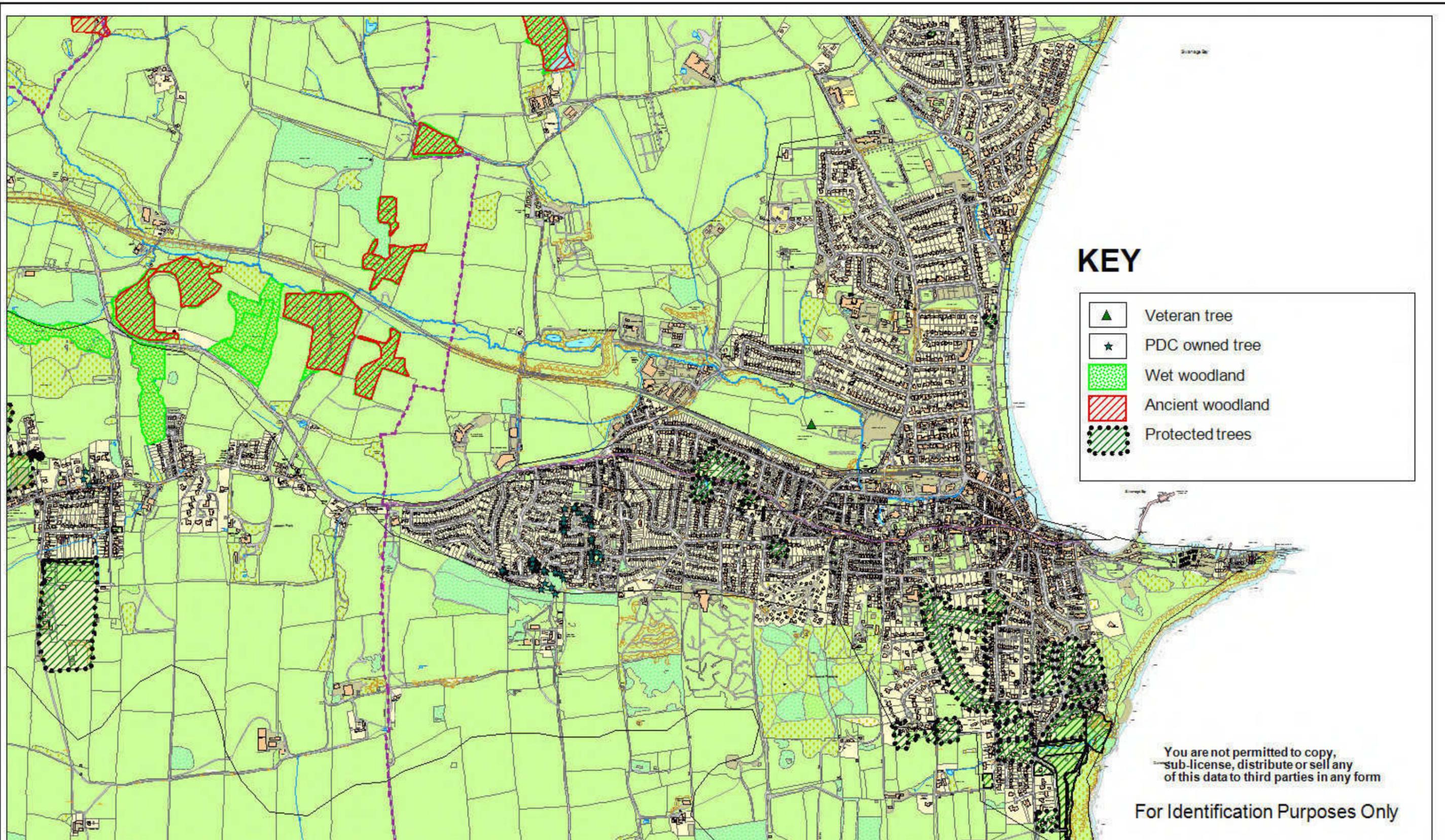
Legend

- 1 in 100 years
- 1 in 1000 years
- 1 in 30 years

Legend information is not included for base mapping.







KEY

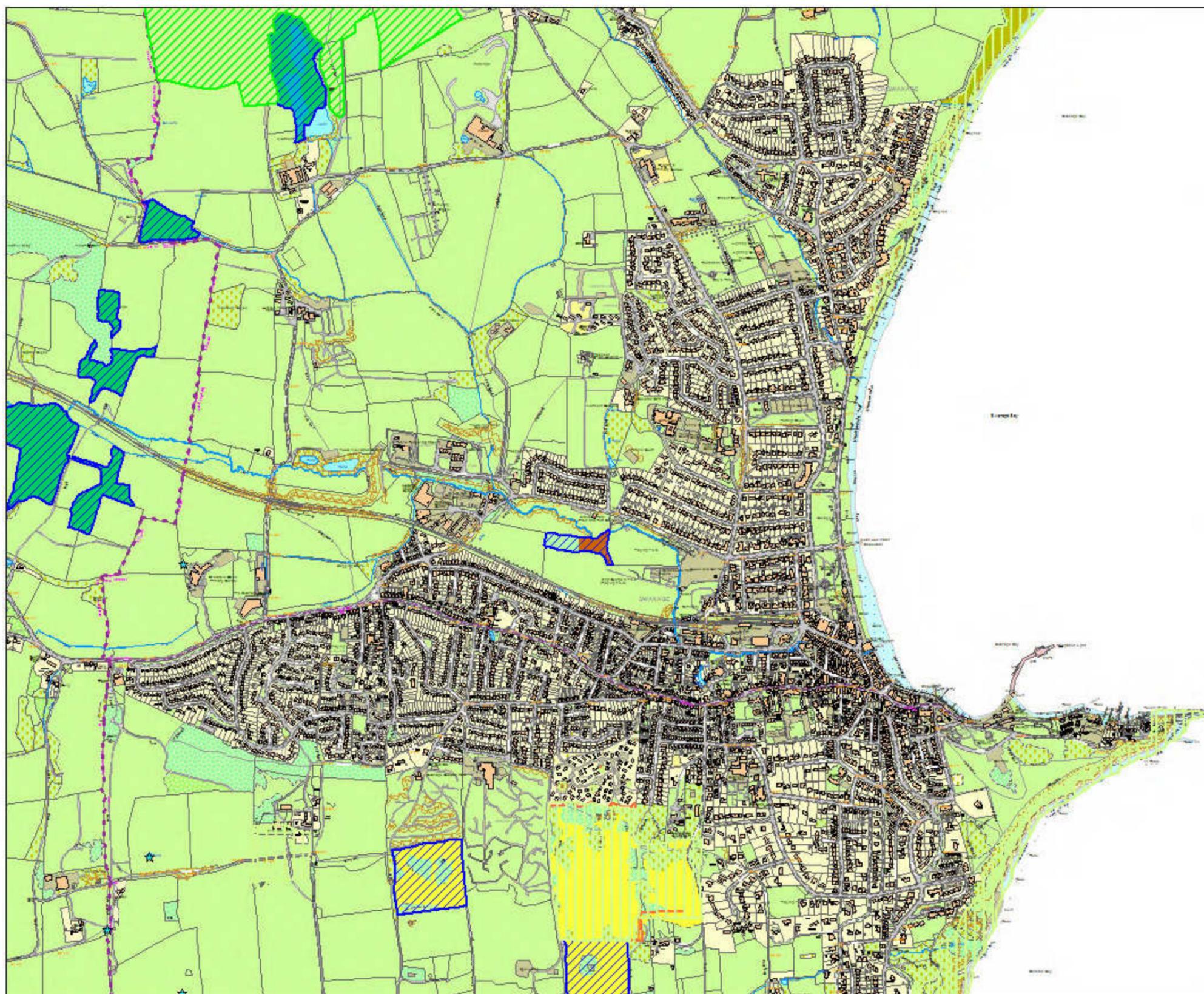
-  Veteran tree
-  PDC owned tree
-  Wet woodland
-  Ancient woodland
-  Protected trees

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Purbeck District Council
 Thriving communities in balance with the natural environment
SWANAGE GIS STRATEGY
Trees and woodland


 Scale Not to scale
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KEY

Habitat Restoration Sites

- ★ Pond
- Heathland/Acid Grasland

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

- STUDLAND & GODLINGSTON HEATHS

Special Areas of Conservation

- Isle of Portland to Studland Cliffs

SNCI

- Litchfield Copse

Dorset Priority Habitats

- West woodland
- Lowland heathland
- Coastal sand dunes
- Coastal saltmarsh
- Lowland calcareous grassland
- Maritime cliff and slope
- Lowland meadows
- Lowland fens
- Purple moor grass and rush pastures
- Lowland dry acid grassland
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Coastal vegetated shingle
- Reedbeds

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For Identification Purposes Only



Purbeck District Council

Thriving communities in balance
with the natural environment

SWANAGE GI STRATEGY Biodiversity



Scale Not to scale
Ref: SGIS/Bio

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Ordnance Survey LA100022058

Landscape type: Clay valley

- Character areas:
- Corfe Valley
 - Kimmeridge Coast
 - Bride Valley

The sweeping landscapes of the Kimmeridge Coast, Corfe, and Bride valleys each have a unique identity. Enclosed by surrounding escarpments and ridges, they generally have a settled rural character with coastal influences. A patchwork of rolling pastures and scattered woodlands have been shaped by centuries of woodland clearance and agricultural improvement. Small farmsteads and nucleated villages with landmark churches are dotted throughout the landscape.

Landscape change

- Some historical loss of damp pastures and medieval field patterns as a result of intensive arable agricultural practices has been one of the most significant changes to the area. The large arable fields with geometric boundaries detract from the textured pastoral character.
- Policy driven farming changes over the last sixty years have resulted in concentration of stock levels. This limits the availability of livestock to graze land of low agricultural, but high environmental value such as wet meadows.
- The condition of some hedges has declined resulting in gaps and replacement with post and wire.
- Woodland management and replanting has been neglected in the past.
- Some recent residential, tourist and industrial developments have weakened the rural character and condition of the landscape with associated visual impact.
- Agriculture is becoming more market driven with intensification of production and farm diversification. This may result in short term changes in agricultural patterns in the landscape with diversification into other crops such as biomass crops, shooting and provision of tourism accommodation, altering the sense of enclosure in the valley bottoms.
- There will be continued urban and tourism based development pressures in relation to fringes of existing settlements and the coast with increasing traffic levels. This may increase the proliferation of signage and associated traffic calming schemes.
- Continued pressure for wind farms and communication structures on surrounding ridges could further threaten important open skylines.
- Future small scale development pressures on the edges of existing settlements may threaten the rural character of villages, with intrusion into the open countryside.
- Climate change may alter crops types and patterns in the landscape with changes to characteristic habitats and coastal erosion.

Landscape Guidelines

The overall objective should be to conserve and restore the intimate patterns of grasslands, woodlands, field boundaries and nucleated settlements.

Planning guidelines

- Encourage small scale broadleaved planting around existing settlements and farmsteads to reduce the visual impact of intrusive developments.

- Conserve the pattern of tight knit nucleated villages, use of local limestones and views of key landmarks such as church spires.
- Ensure farm diversification projects do not have a negative impact of local character.
- Ensure pylons, masts and other vertical elements are carefully sited and the number restricted to avoid visual clutter and interruption of important skylines.
- Promote the under-grounding of small powerlines in open, sensitive locations.
- Ensure new agricultural dwellings and barns enhance the local character and are sited away from open views and skylines. Encourage the restoration of traditional barns and farm buildings.
- Encourage the use of native planting in any landscape scheme associated with new development and consider removal of unsympathetic species, such as the leylandii screening hedges that stand out in the landscape.
- Conserve the intimate character of rural lanes and open character towards the coast. Remove excessive signage and seek alternatives to infrastructure associated with urban development and out of scale traffic management schemes.
- Reduce the impact of car parks and other visitor based development through sensitive signage and improved management.

Management guidelines

- Restore and enhance the condition of existing small broadleaved woodlands.
- Consider extending wet woodland on the valley floor, particularly around existing settlements and farmsteads.
- Encourage low impact grazing and conservation of permanent pastures including calcareous grassland and wet grasslands to protect wildlife and historic features.
- Enhance management of arable farmland to create a wildlife-rich habitat supporting farmland birds and arable flora. This will include retaining areas of fallow land, maintaining an unploughed margin around fields and the introduction of conservation headlands. Reduce the intensity of farming practices around important sensitive habitats.
- Encourage maintenance and restoration of boundaries, particularly dense hedgerows and banks along the valley floors and stonewalls towards the higher ground.
- Protect and enhance watercourses and associated wildlife from soil erosion and the effects of diffuse pollution.
- Encourage grazing on the chalk and limestone ridges to reduce scrub encroachment on important grasslands.
- Maintain and enhance the sweeping views of the coast.

The overall objective should be to conserve and restore the intimate patterns of grasslands, woodlands, field boundaries and nucleated settlements.

Reduce the impact of car parks and other visitor based development through sensitive signage and improved management.

Conserve the pattern of tight knit nucleated villages, use of local limestones and views of key landmarks such as church spires.

Maintain and enhance the sweeping views of the coast.

Conserve the intimate character of rural lanes and open character towards the coast.

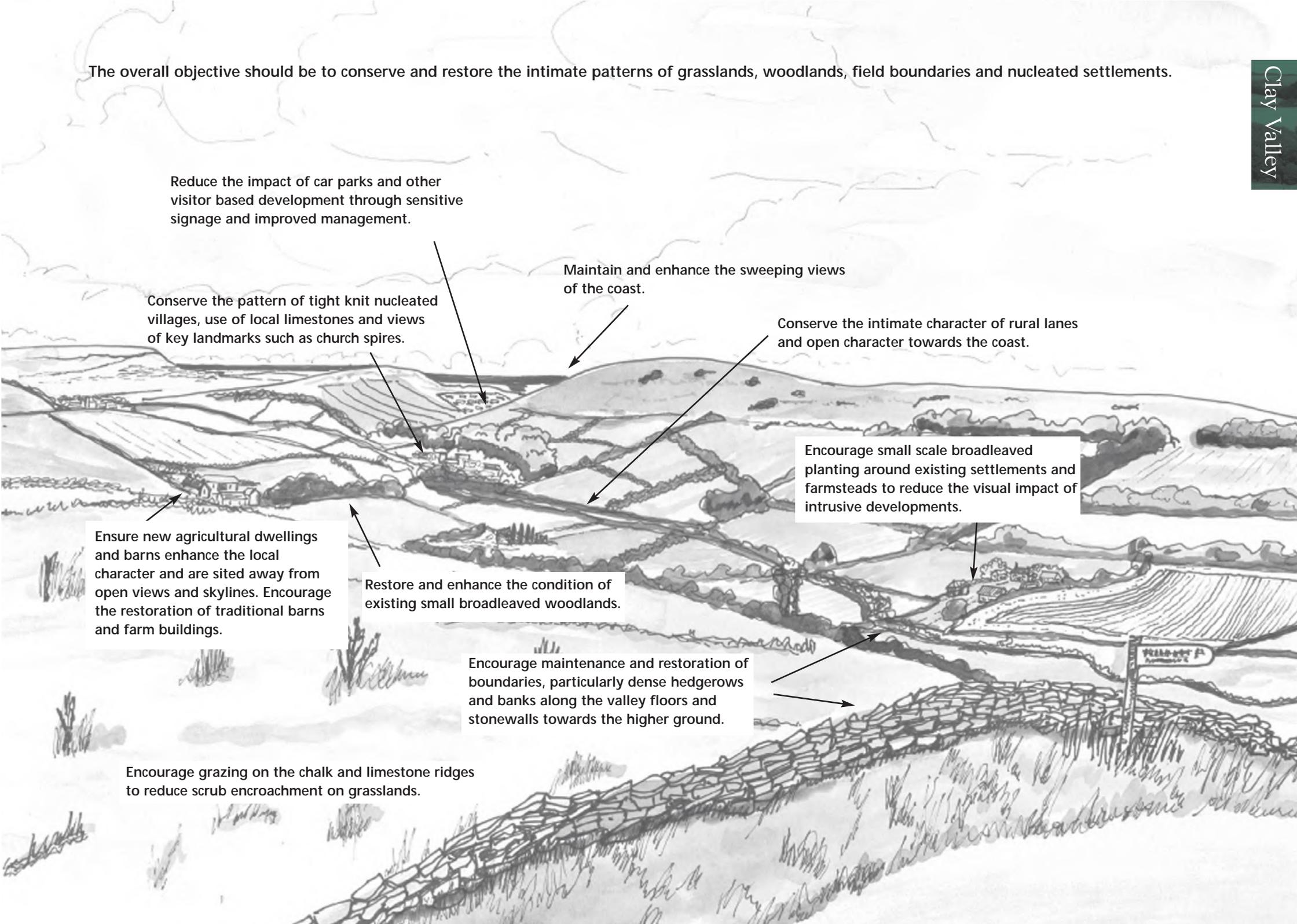
Encourage small scale broadleaved planting around existing settlements and farmsteads to reduce the visual impact of intrusive developments.

Ensure new agricultural dwellings and barns enhance the local character and are sited away from open views and skylines. Encourage the restoration of traditional barns and farm buildings.

Restore and enhance the condition of existing small broadleaved woodlands.

Encourage maintenance and restoration of boundaries, particularly dense hedgerows and banks along the valley floors and stonewalls towards the higher ground.

Encourage grazing on the chalk and limestone ridges to reduce scrub encroachment on grasslands.



Character Area:

Corfe Valley

The Corfe Valley is a broad sweeping clay valley with a patchwork of rough pastures and dense hedgerows, set along the Corfe River. Enclosed by the imposing Purbeck Ridge to the north and a limestone ridge to the south, small broadleaved woodlands provide visual unity to the structure of the valley. Discrete picturesque villages are set within small woodlands on the valley bottom particularly towards the west, with a peaceful and unspoilt character. The fields particularly around Tyneham are small narrow strips that,

along with other historic landuse patterns, convey a strong sense of historical significance. Where the chalk and limestone ridges form the upper slopes of the valley, the fields become larger with gappy hedgerows and scrub encroachment on rough grasslands. Towards the east, the landscape becomes broader in scale and more complex in nature. The influences of Swanage are particularly apparent with pylons and visually intrusive landuse. The focal point of Corfe Castle and Corfe Common adds to the historic character.

Key characteristics

- Sweeping and secluded clay valley enclosed by the dramatic chalk escarpment to the north and undulating limestone ridge to the south
- Continuous patchwork of small regular intimate pastures with dense hedgerows and small broadleaved woodlands of oak and hazel
- Small scattered nucleated villages and farmsteads of limestone on the valley floor with adjacent paddocks and piecemeal enclosures and dense small broadleaved woodlands
- Occasional springs, flushes and wet woodlands on the valley floor with damp rush pasture and meadows
- Dramatic views of the coast towards the west and east
- Network of stone walls towards the Purbeck Plateau
- Winding rural lanes with dense hedgerows and hedge banks



Description

Land shape & structure

The Corfe Valley is a broad, sweeping and gently undulating valley on soft heavy clays, rising from the east to the west with a small ridge at Harman's Cross. The Corfe River flows into the valley at Corfe, flowing towards Swanage. The upper valley sides are formed by the Purbeck Ridge to the north with an undulating limestone ridge to the south.

Soils and vegetation

The valley is poorly drained with loamy base rich soils, supporting damp grassland habitats and occasional wet woodlands. Fragments of wetland vegetation such as reeds and willow remain in some areas. There is also a large area of acid grassland and ancient woodland at Corfe. Fragments of downland occur on the upper slopes of the valley sides.

Settlement and land cover

It is a largely settled landscape characterised by scattered farmsteads and small nucleated settlements of local limestone with church spires dotted along the valley floor and sides. Frequent loose clusters of dwellings occur along roads and lanes to the east where settlement patterns become more intensive towards Swanage. Land cover includes ancient and secondary trees and woods in a settled pastoral landscape where dairy farming predominates. Towards the west, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) operate with associated infrastructure and pastoral landcover.

Historic character

The valley has a prevailing historic character of planned enclosure of open fields with fragments of piecemeal enclosure and paddocks adjacent to settlements. There are large areas of common land next to Corfe Castle with associated barrows. There is a string of substantial farmsteads, hamlets and villages. Some survive as villages and hamlets today, others in the form of earthworks or deserted settlements. There is evidence of prehistoric settlement and industrial activity from the earliest periods, but particularly in the later Iron Age and Romano-British periods. There is evidence of shale working from a number of sites. Evidence of later industrial activity relates mostly to stone extraction, with particular significance given to the remains of Medieval quarries at Downshay.

Visual character & perceptions

The Corfe Valley is a diverse colourful patchwork of structured fields and winding lanes. In the west it is more intimate and peaceful opening out to stunning coastal views. Corfe Common has a wild feel dominated by views of the imposing Corfe Castle. Towards Swanage, urban influences dominate the landscape.

Evaluation

Strength of character

The landscape is judged to have a **strong** rural character enforced by the distinctive valley landform and sense of visual unity. The distinct pattern of nucleated villages, patchwork of dense hedges, regular pastures and small woodlands is apparent throughout most of the area, despite some change to arable. There are relatively few detracting features that weaken the overall character, except for occasional unsympathetic leylandii planting and signage that occur along the lanes. However, a host of urban fringe land uses around the edges of Swanage detract from the combination of landscape features. This includes equine development and a host of industrial, recreational and tourism based land uses. Here the landscape is judged to have a **weak** character.

Condition

Due to historical intensive farming practices and urban fringe land uses, the management of some landscape features has been neglected. Some boundaries have been lost or have become gappy with the straightening of most field patterns. Woodlands are generally in need of enhanced management. Towards the chalk ridge, rough grasslands are subject to some scrub encroachment and a lack of management with dry stone walls in a state of disrepair towards the limestone ridge. The large area of acid grassland enhances the condition of the landscape around Corfe. Further west where development pressures are less apparent (as much of the land is owned by the MoD), the landscape is in good condition, with species rich dense hedgerows and well managed pastures. The landscape around Swanage is judged to be in poor condition. Overall landscape condition is judged as **moderate** and **stable**.



Data organisation

60. The tables on the following pages is populated with the data collected from the workshops (in black), field survey (in blue) and baseline study (in green).

61. The raw data on the tables is not in any particular order, and can therefore be difficult to digest. It is useful to sort the data into categories that broadly relate to the typologies used in the 2006 PMP audit of open spaces. This is a useful way of grouping assets of a similar type and function and represents the first stage in the analysis of the data. The number of assets under each heading shows which type of asset is the most common in the town:

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| ▪ Amenity green space | 26 |
| ▪ Farmland | 18 |
| ▪ Private gardens and roads | 17* |
| ▪ Public RoW | 11 existing 11 proposed |
| ▪ Civic spaces/public realm | 7 |
| ▪ Sports and recreation | 7 |
| ▪ Water bodies and watercourses | 7 |
| ▪ Natural and semi-natural green spaces | 6 |
| ▪ Formal parks and gardens | 4 |
| ▪ Caravan parks | 4 |
| ▪ Cemeteries and churchyards | 5 |
| ▪ School grounds | 5 |
| ▪ Allotments | 1 |
| ▪ Derelict land | 1 |

* It should be noted that a limited number of private gardens were actually assessed as part of the audit, so this number is artificially low.

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

Existing GI audit – data from workshop sessions and field survey and baseline information

Key for proposals column:

| | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| | Swanage GI Strategy proposals | | Proposals to be written into a development brief | | Proposal to form part of a separate RoW project |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|---|

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ |
|--|---|---|---|-------------------|---|---|------------------------|--|
| Natural and semi-natural green spaces | | | | | | | | |
| Durlston Country Park | DCC | Public open space/country park | Amenity, biodiversity, tourism | Good | High | - | - | - |
| Purbeck Ridge | NT | Recreation | Visual/amenity, biodiversity, tourism | Good | High | - | - | - |
| Townsend | DWT (managed by) | Nature reserve, green corridor | Recreation (good for dog walking and children's play), biodiversity, health and wellbeing, amenity, education | Good | High | - | - | - |
| Townsend residential centre and approaches | Private – Wide Horizons Townsend Centre | Grassed with small woodland | Health and wellbeing, informal recreation, education, biodiversity | Good | Good Grass and wildflowers on verges | Was a potential housing site however now omitted as too environmentally sensitive | - | - |
| Peveril Point and The Downs | STC (Downs) | Public open/green space | Health and wellbeing, biodiversity | Moderate | Medium | Care for and protect natural features by declaring as a Local Nature Reserve | - | Relax mowing regime to encourage wildflower meadows to establish – no additional cost. Application for Local Nature Reserve status to Natural England from STC/PDC/DCC |
| Field to the south of caravan park off Panorama Road | Private But management recently transferred to Durlston Country Park (DCC) | Private open space Was previously a landfill site, now grassland | Food production (?) biodiversity | Moderate | Good | Wildflower meadow | Increased biodiversity | Changes to management regime? |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ |
|---|--------------------|---|---|--|-------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Formal parks and gardens | | | | | | | | |
| Prince Albert Gardens | STC | Public green space + stage | Informal recreation, visual/amenity, health and wellbeing, local distinctiveness, biodiversity cultural, social | Good | Low - medium | No overall change, but reintroduce some of original designed planting, including wildflower meadow | Increased amenity, biodiversity and adaptability to climate change | Changes to management and planting of shrubs as original planting plans ££1,500.00 |
| Day's Park | STC | Public green space | Health and wellbeing | Good | Low - medium | No overall change, but plant replacements for over-mature trees | Continued amenity, biodiversity, reduce air pollution and increase adaptability to climate change | Tree planting £1,000.00 |
| Beach Gardens | STC | Public green/recreational space | Health and wellbeing, amenity and landscape value | Good | Low | No overall change, but replace bedding plants with tree and shrub planting designed to adapt to climate change, and introduce wildflower meadow where appropriate | Increased amenity, biodiversity, reduced air pollution and increase adaptability to climate change | Changes to management of grassed areas + tree and shrub planting £5,000.00 |
| Shore Gardens/Sandpit Field | STC | Public green/recreational space | Health and wellbeing, amenity and landscape value | Good | Low | No overall change, but replace bedding plants with tree and shrub planting designed to adapt to climate change, and introduce wildflower meadow where appropriate | Increased amenity, biodiversity, reduced air pollution and increase adaptability to climate change | Changes to management of grassed areas + tree and shrub planting £8,000.00 |
| Open space off Newton Grange Close | Management company | Pocket park, with pond, newly planted trees, wild flower meadow | Biodiversity, visual amenity, passive recreation (health and wellbeing) | Good – managed for wildlife | High | - | - | - |
| Sport and recreation | | | | | | | | |
| King Georges Recreation ground/Forres Field | STC | Public open space, green-lung, flood zone | Recreation, health and wellbeing, social, biodiversity | Good, though deteriorates during periods of flooding | Medium | Possible SuDs to enhance flooding control/capacity, green cycle link to town, tree planting and wildflower meadow creation. | Increased amenity, biodiversity and adaptability to climate change, reduced air pollution | Changes to management of grassed areas + tree planting £2,000.00 Discuss project to direct flood water to SuDs scheme |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ |
|--|--|--|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | | | | with District Engineer at PDC – as may not be workable. Investigate possibility of creating cycle link with DCC. |
| Rec/Sandpit Field/weather station open space/beach huts open space | STC | Public green space | Health and wellbeing,, social | Good | Low | Resilience in face of climate change | Increased amenity, biodiversity and adaptability to climate change, reduced air pollution | Changes to management of grassed areas + tree planting £2,000.00 |
| Victoria Avenue putting green/camping (Kirkwood Park) | Private | Private green space | Health and wellbeing, visual/amenity, social | Good | Good | - | Improve biodiversity and encourage wildlife | Negotiate with owner |
| Cricket Club | Private | Private green space | Health and wellbeing | Good | Low | - | - | - |
| Football Club | STC | Private green space | Health and wellbeing | Good | Low | - | - | - |
| Tennis courts at Harrow House | Grassland and tennis court owned by Harrow House | Private formal and informal recreation | Health and wellbeing | Moderate | Good | Low | - | - |
| Herston recreation ground | STC | Football pitch, play area, grassed area, small trees | Visual/amenity and recreation (health and wellbeing) | Good | Low | No scope – too small | - | - |
| Civic spaces/public realm | | | | | | | | |
| Swanage pier (above and below water) | Pier Trust | Recreation | Health and wellbeing, marine biodiversity, links to wider 'countryside/sea, visual/amenity, social | Moderate | High (below water) | - | - | - |
| The Stone Quay | STC | Recreation | Health and wellbeing, links to wider 'countryside/sea, visual/amenity, social | Moderate | - | - | - | - |
| Seafront/beach | DCC/STC | Recreation, blue/green corridor | Health and wellbeing, biodiversity, links to wider | Moderate | Seafront low, beach high | - | - | - |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| | | | 'countryside/sea, visual/amenity, social | | | | | |
| Town centre and other public realm areas | Managed by Swanage Town Council Mixed ownership | Public open space | Connecting places, social, visual/amenity | Moderate | Low | Consider changing to use of sustainable planting instead of bedding plants. Include wildlife friendly plants, perennials. Plant new street trees | Biodiversity, cooling effect in face of climate change, absorb pollution, less watering required | Replace bedding plants with trees and shrubs where appropriate. Plant street trees £20,000.00 |
| Coach and car park (Victoria Avenue) | STC | Coach and car park | Parking, market | Poor surfacing, eyesore, floods | None | Drainage value or potential for enhancement Permeable surfaces SuDs and tree planting | New green infrastructure Improved surface water drainage | Major project to enhance the car park by providing new surfacing, and tree planting in tree pits designed to be individual 'rain gardens' £100,000.00 |
| Car park to Coastguard station | STC | Car park | Parking | Poor surfacing, surface water drainage issues | None | Drainage value or potential for enhancement SuDs and tree planting | New green infrastructure Improved surface water drainage and flood alleviation upstream of Purbeck Court and environs | Major project to enhance the car park by providing new surfacing, and tree planting in tree pits designed to be individual 'rain gardens' £30,000.00 |
| Street trees | DCC | Existing trees | Visual/amenity | Varies | Low (depends on species, state of health and location) | Replant avenue of trees on Victoria Avenue and Park Road | Increased amenity, biodiversity and adaptability to climate change, reduced air pollution | Plant new trees in original tree pits where possible Victoria Ave £10,000.00 Park Road £2,500.00 |
| Amenity green space | | | | | | | | |
| King Georges Field to the petrol station at Herston and beyond past Prospect Business Park and recycling centre to Wessex Water/Environment Agency Land) | Mixed | Green corridor, public and private open space | Biodiversity, health and wellbeing | | Low - average | Local nature reserve | Biodiversity, health and wellbeing | Undertake a full survey to identify potential. If suitable make an application for Local Nature Reserve status to Natural England from |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ STC/PDC/DCC |
|---|---|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Parking to Corvegat and footpath link to James Day Mead Memorial Home | Private | Garden area, amenity grassland – embankment rises from Ulwell Road by approx. 1m, and contains fruit trees, spring bulbs and other wildflowers | Visual/amenity | Moderate | Low | Little scope for improvement | - | - |
| Open space round old barn and track to Russell Avenue | Private land with public footpath running through | Private garden with grassland, scrub/small trees and a public right of way | Health and wellbeing, informal recreation, biodiversity | Moderate | Good Birds, flora insects etc. | - | - | - |
| Planted verge at bend in Ulwell Road | DCC | Highway infrastructure. Woodland. Green space. The site is a heavily wooded traffic island with many mature trees. | Visual/amenity, biodiversity | Poor – no obvious signs of management | Medium to high | Tree planting | Reduce pollution and heat island effect, increase biodiversity. Increase adaptation to climate change | Tree planting to supplement existing mature. Engage with DCC to negotiate £500.00 |
| Land between St Mary's School and Ulwell Road | DCC | Paddock, with gappy hedge on one side, and tree/scrub line stream on other | Visual/amenity, biodiversity | Grazed, but otherwise in poor condition due to lack of maintenance of boundaries | Low - medium | This was a potential housing site but is no longer being considered | - | - |
| Open area between Ballard Estate and cliff | Under management of Ballard Estate | Private green space with public access, pocket park, informal open space, wildflower meadow/semi-natural grassland, wooded ravine with stream | Green corridor, recreation, access to the beach and Ballard down, biodiversity, ravine provides land drainage | Moderate | High | Create footpath links and steps down to Shep's Hollow Wildflower meadow | Access, health and wellbeing Increase biodiversity | Negotiate with DCC RoW team and landowners. Cost of steps depends on design Ballard Estate residents group already has this in hand |
| Embankment adjacent to Northbrook Road | Private – Cambian Education. Part possibly highway verge East side is in private ownership, and has been repaired and terraced | Planted bank/space alongside road Recently re-graded and planted with trees shrubs and wildflowers East side is slope down from houses at higher level than road | Amenity, biodiversity | Good | Medium | - | - | - |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ |
|--|---|--|---|--|-------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Northbrook Copse | Swanage Town Council | Pocket park, woodland, buffer between housing developments (visual/amenity) | Biodiversity, cooling,, absorbs pollution | Good | Medium - high | Not required | - | - |
| Open space between Chestnut and Swanbrook Mews | EA/private | Stream with garden area and mown amenity grassland. Open space for adjacent flats. Swan brook is in a deep culvert with reeds and other aquatic plants | Visual/amenity, biodiversity | Good | Medium - high | - | - | - |
| Open space, Newton Manor Close | Private | Tree and shrub planting bed and amenity grass areas in car parking/residential access area | Green space, biodiversity, visual/amenity, | Grass area well maintained. Gravel and pavings less well maintained | Low - medium | - | - | - |
| Open space and footpath at end of Priests Road | ? | Open space with communal verges, leading to section of Priests way with hedges | Green corridor from densely populated housing area to open countryside Hedges have some biodiversity value | Grassed areas in good condition Path in moderate condition | Average | Little potential for change Although improved management and tree planting could enhance the space. | Amenity, connections to countryside, connections to new GI? | Tree planting scheme £1,500.00 |
| Open space south of Holburne Road park home site | PDC? | Woodland – good buffer between nature reserve and park home site | Biodiversity, visual and amenity | Contains mature trees and scrub – no obvious signs of management. | Good | - | - | - |
| Verges and trees either side of Peveril Road | Unadopted road | Access, verges with some trees | Biodiversity, green corridors visual/amenity, cooling, reduction in pollution levels, | Good – verges are managed by each individual resident whose home fronts onto the unmade road | Good | - | - | - |
| Open space at junction of Durlston Road and Belle Vue | ? | Grass verge with a clump of trees connects to green corridor on Peveril Road | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, cooling, reduction in pollution levels, | Good | Medium – some bird activity | Structure of planting could be enhanced to increase habitat | Biodiversity | Enhance planting £500.00 |
| Open space to west of Victoria Avenue Industrial Estate and Prospect Business Park | Flood alleviation scheme – currently in PDC ownership, but to be transferred to Environment | Open space, grazing, (fishing, but not since ponds fenced off), amenity grassland, open water | Flood management, informal recreation, food production, biodiversity | Moderate | High | Tree planting | Enhancement of approaches to Swanage through screening industrial estate – visual/amenity | Plant a copse of native trees (subject to consent of landowner) £3,000.00 (less if planting done by |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate (£ volunteers) |
|--|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | Agency | | | | | | Biodiversity | |
| Land between Rabling Road and Prospect Crescent | STC | Green space – (amenity grassland, bedding plants) links King George Field into allotments and beyond into countryside | Informal recreation, visual/amenity | Good, though small area with derelict greenhouse and cold frames unmanaged | Low | Pocket park (Wildflower meadow, tree and shrub planting) | Decrease air pollution and heat island effect, increase biodiversity, amenity and landscape permeability | Remove derelict greenhouses and enhance area as a pocket park £10,000.00 |
| Railway embankments | Dorset County Council – leased to Swanage Railway | Green space Embankment south of Gilbert Road is maintained as garden open to public, other areas are grassed (section west of Northbrook Road is coal depot and staff car park) | Green corridor Public areas – informal recreation, visual/amenity | Moderate | Medium | Wildlife corridor. Green bridge over railway near St Georges cemetery so that wildlife can pass between north and south Swanage | Biodiversity/link | Sow wildflower meadow grass seed along embankments £1,500.00 Create green bridge over railway in consultation with Swanage Railway Company, DCC as landowner, and DCC engineers Likely cost depends on design – unknown at this stage |
| Raised verges between Greyseeds Estate and A 351 High Street | PDC mow, DCC own? | Strip of grassed open space with small pockets of planting | Visual/amenity | Fair | Low | Avenue of trees Enhance main entrance to Swanage/create gateway feature | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Plant trees in avenue £10,000.00 |
| Triangular verge half way along Days Road | DCC? | Grassed highway verge | Visual/amenity | Fair | Low | Green stepping stone | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Plant 3 trees £300.00 |
| Triangular grassed area on bend of Holmes Road | DCC | Grassed area | Visual/amenity | Fair | Low | Green stepping stone | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Plant 6 trees £600.00 |
| Site of old Sydenham Road play area | Housing trust? | Grassed area with some small trees | Visual/amenity | Fair | Low | Green node at access to countryside | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Waymark, define path, tree planting £1,500.00 |
| Wide grassed verge on Sydenham Road | Housing trust? | Grassed area with some small trees and shrubs | Visual/amenity | Fair | Low | Wildflower area with trees – green stepping stone | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Plant 4 trees and create wildflower meadow £2,000.00 |
| Triangular grassed area Steer Road | DCC | Grassed area | Visual/amenity | Fair | Low | Wildflower area with trees – green | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, | Plant 4 trees and create wildflower |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ |
|---|---|---|--|---|-------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | stepping stone | climate change adaptation | meadow £2,000.00 |
| Green space near Victoria Terrace | PDC | Amenity open space which used to be a play area | Visual/amenity | Poor | Low | Wildlife area | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Plant 3 trees, change management, and create wildflower meadow £900.00 |
| Green space at Marsh Way | PDC | Amenity open space with trees and shrubs | Visual/amenity and recreation (health and wellbeing) | Poor - much of original planting died off | Low | Wildlife area | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Plant 3 trees, change management, and create wildflower meadow £900.00 |
| Traffic islands opposite Baptist Church | DCC | Grassed verge with shrubs and bedding plants | Visual/amenity | Good | Low | Tree planting | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, climate change adaptation | Plant 2 large trees £400.00 |
| School grounds | | | | | | | | |
| Swanage School grounds | Swanage School (leased from DCC?) | Private green space | Health and wellbeing, visual/amenity, | Good | Low | Nature areas round perimeter and elsewhere if possible | Increased amenity, biodiversity and adaptability to climate change, reduced air pollution | Changes to management of grassed areas + plant wildflowers. Tree planting. School project using students to design and plant areas. £700.00 for plants. |
| St Mark's School grounds | Diocese of Salisbury (leased from DCC?) | Private green space | Health and wellbeing, visual/amenity, | Good | Low | Nature areas round perimeter and elsewhere if possible | Increased amenity, biodiversity and adaptability to climate change, reduced air pollution | Changes to management of grassed areas + plant wildflowers. Tree planting. School project using students to design and plant areas. £700.00 for |
| St Mary's School grounds | Diocese of Plymouth (leased from DCC?) | Private green space | Health and wellbeing, visual/amenity, | Good | Low | Nature areas round perimeter and elsewhere if possible | Increased amenity, biodiversity and adaptability to climate change, reduced air pollution | Changes to management of grassed areas + plant wildflowers. Tree planting. School project using students to |

Swanage green infrastructure strategy

| Site | Ownership | Existing function | Existing benefits | Current condition | Current wildlife and GI value | Proposed function | Proposed benefits | Proposals plus cost estimate £ |
|---|-----------|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | design and plant areas. £700.00 for |
| Cemeteries and churchyards | | | | | | | | |
| St Mary's churchyard and graveyard | Private | Churchyard and graveyard with several large trees | Green space, informal recreation, biodiversity, visual/amenity | Good – grass on both sites appears to be managed | High in treed graveyard, medium in church grounds (6 very mature trees) | Nature area with new trees | Reduce pollution, provide shade, reduce heat island effect, and increase visual/amenity value and biodiversity. Tree planting will reinforce local distinctiveness, especially when existing trees come to end of life. | Living churchyards project. Create areas for wildflowers, and plant 6 new trees £1,000.00 |
| Northbrook Cemetery | STC | Public open space/burials | Visual/amenity, informal recreation (health and wellbeing) biodiversity, green space, forms a link with other nearby green spaces | Moderate – occasional mowing of amenity grassland. Areas around gravestones largely unkempt. Pathways show signs of occasional maintenance | As site adjoins open land and swan brook there is probably much wildlife activity | Nature area | Wildlife link to Swanage Brook Reduce pollution, provide shade, reduce heat island effect, and increase visual/amenity value and biodiversity | Living churchyards project. Native planting plus ornamental planting to attract birds, butterflies and bees £1,000.00 |
| Godlingston cemetery and area | | Cemetery (public open space) farmland, | Biodiversity | Moderate | Medium | Nature area | Biodiversity | Living churchyards project. Manage margins for wildflowers. Wildflower seed/plants £400.00 |
| Private gardens and roads | | | | | | | | |
| All private gardens (see below) | | Private green space | Amenity | | | | - | - |
| Frontage of Dolphin Court and 29-33 Northbrook Rd | Private | Green space – Shrub planting on embankment to 3 houses above it | Visual/amenity, some biodiversity | Poor – no obvious signs of management | Medium | Hedges and shrubs exist, but very little opportunity to enhance | - | - |
| Front and rear of Purbeck Court, De | Private | Communal garden Area between Swan | Visual/amenity | Mixed | Low. Possibly some wildlife uses | No scope for improvement | - | - |

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| Moulham Road | | Brook and garages has some open (amenity)grass but also a tree/shrub belt. North east part is pub garden Area in front of flats is well maintained lawns, shrubs and flower beds | | | the route to get into Days Park | | | |
| Grounds of James Day Mead Memorial Home | Private | Garden with amenity grassland | Informal recreation (health and wellbeing) | Good – grounds maintained by care home | Low – medium | The site is well maintained and there is little scope for improvement other than parts of the grassed areas could become wildflower meadow | - | - |
| Junction of gardens to 12, 24, 26 and 34 Cauldron Barn Road; 23 and 25 Durberville Drive and 11-13 Anglebury Avenue | Private | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to climate change | Good | Low-medium | - | - | - |
| Rear gardens/boundaries of 57 – 87 Durberville Drive (odds only) and north and west boundaries of Northbrook Cottage | Private | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to climate change | Good | Low-medium | - | - | - |
| Gardens between properties and cliff edge between Ocean Bay Restaurant and 18a Ballard Lee | Private | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to climate change | Good | Low-medium | - | - | - |
| Rear gardens of 1-4 and 7 Ballard Lee, and 95-101 Bay Crescent | Private | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to climate change | Good | Low-medium | - | - | - |
| Rear gardens of 1-6 Cauldron Meadows and 39-53 Cauldron Crescent | Private | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to | Good | Low-medium | - | - | - |

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| | | | climate change | | | | | |
| Back gardens running parallel to Rabling road (north and south), Beach Gardens (south), Battlemead (north and south) and Bonfields Avenue. | Private | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to climate change | Good | Low-medium | - | - | - |
| Side gardens to east of 1, Walrond Road and 2 Rabling Road | Private | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to climate change | Good | Low-medium | - | - | - |
| Rabling Lane adjacent to 42 Rabling Road | STC | Green corridor | Biodiversity, visual/amenity, ecological corridor, adaptation to climate change | ? | Low | - | - | - |
| Garden and woodland Cauldron Barn Farm | Privately owned | Grassland and woodland | Informal recreation (health, wellbeing) and biodiversity, adaptation to climate change | Woodland and edges of stream unmanaged. Remainder in moderate condition | High | - | - | - |
| Alley west of Locarno Road | Private? | Access Green corridor - There is valuable vegetation on either side in parts, and the surface is grassed to varying degrees along the length of the alley | Connects other nearby elements of GI leading to landscape permeability | In use as access, but not managed | Some of the weeds will have wildlife value Low | Enhanced green corridor | Biodiversity, Strengthen connections to other GI | Negotiate with residents |
| Access to rear of 43-57 Kings Road West | Private | Access Green corridor - There is valuable vegetation on either side in parts, and the surface is grassed to varying degrees along the length of the alley | Connects other nearby elements of GI leading to landscape permeability, visual and amenity | Moderate – One owner responsible for maintaining pathway | Some in weeds and grass at side of path Low | Enhanced green corridor | Biodiversity, Strengthen connections to other GI | Negotiate with residents |
| Footpath corridor from Jubilee Road to open space by Belle View | Private, though DCC rights of way will have some responsibility for maintenance | Public right of way | Narrow verges are flower rich biodiversity Green corridor linking open space (Herston playing | Moderate Sign at south end, not at north. Maintenance varies with north end being better | Medium | - | - | - |

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| | | | fields) to open countryside beyond | maintained than south. Some boundary walls in need of repair | | | | |
| Durlston, High Street, Steer Road, Priests Road, Mid High St/Townsend, Herston Days Rd area | Mainly private | private gardens + wooded + habitat | Biodiversity, nearby elements of GI leading to landscape permeability, visual and amenity, adaptation to climate change | Good | Medium | - | | -- |
| Durlston housing area (see also below) | Mainly private | general good tree cover | Biodiversity, nearby elements of GI leading to landscape permeability, visual and amenity, adaptation to climate change | Good | Medium | - | - | - |
| Allotments | | | | | | | | |
| Prospect Allotments | STC | Public green space | Food production | Moderate | Medium | Provide a community orchard on part of site and or create a nursery area for trees to be planted in public realm. This is a potential housing site which is being considered by STC for affordable housing. If housing does go ahead here, the loss of current GI will need to be offset and allotments provided elsewhere | Food production, health and wellbeing, cost savings on implementation of GI Strategy projects | Fruit and native tree propagation and growing on. Cost could be negligible if grown from seed, and cared for by allotment tenants If land is to be developed for housing, PDC to write a brief which is to include: The requirement for high functioning GI, including an innovative SuDs scheme; green corridors across the site; substantial tree and shrub planting throughout to help integrate the development |

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| | | | | | | | | into the edge of town location. |
| Derelict land | | | | | | | | |
| Crabtree Cottage site, off Locarno Road | ? | Derelict building plot. Green space, with scrub and shrubs | | Poor – unmanaged and overgrown | Not of great value, though wildflowers and weeds do have some wildlife value Medium | Could be landscaped and terraced Check planning history of site for details of ownership and past proposals | Amenity/visual, biodiversity, | Pocket park £10,000.00 |
| Caravan parks | | | | | | | | |
| Caravan parks See below also | Mixed | Private green spaces Short mown grass, minimal planting | Social, visual and amenity | Good | Low | Wildflower meadows and tree planting where suitable | Biodiversity Adaptation to climate change, visual and amenity | Encourage owners to create wildflower meadow areas and plant native trees and shrubs. Also encourage to paint vans/chalets/park homes in colours that blend with the landscape |
| Swanage Coastal Park | Swanage Town Council | Mown grass, shrub and small grass planting | Social, visual and amenity | Good | Low | Wildflower meadows and tree planting where suitable | Increase biodiversity, and strengthen links between town and open countryside. Adaptation to climate change | Alter management of grassed areas, sow wildflower grass seed, tree planting scheme. £2,000.00 |
| Swanage Bay View Caravan Park | Private | Mown grass and managed gardens | Social, visual and amenity | Good | Low | Wildflower meadows and tree planting where suitable | Increase biodiversity, and strengthen links between town and open countryside. Adaptation to climate change | Negotiate with owners |
| Holburne Road park home site | Private | Private gardens and open space | Social, visual and amenity, health and wellbeing | Good grass mown and trees pruned – gardens managed and landscaped by owners | Low | Increase potential for use by wildlife by informing residents, and getting them to plant native species/bird and butterfly attracting species, wildflower meadow. Rain | Increase biodiversity, and strengthen links between town and open countryside. Adaptation to climate change | Negotiate with owners |

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| | | | | | | gardens? Plant trees | | |
| Lane leading north from access to Cauldron Barn Farm to caravan park | Owned by caravan park | Green corridor Grassed edges and hedges | Visual/amenity, biodiversity | Good | Low | No scope for enhancement | - | - |
| Public rights of way | | | | | | | | |
| Durlston footpaths | Public right of way, so DCC responsible for maintenance of surface | Footpaths/rights of way | Health and wellbeing | Varies | Low | | | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Footpaths between south Swanage and the coast | Public right of way, so DCC responsible for maintenance of surface | Footpaths/rights of way | Health and wellbeing | Varies | Low | Most of paths run north south – so create some running east to west as well to make a better network | Health and wellbeing, robust network interconnected paths | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Footpath corridors between Queens Road and Bon Accord Road and Drummond Road | Public right of way, so DCC responsible for maintenance of surface | Public access, verge, woodland edge | Informal recreation (health and wellbeing), biodiversity, green corridors, visual/amenity | Moderate – some grass cutting in Drummond Road and tree pruning in Taunton Road | Moderate | - | - | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Footpath corridor from Osmay Road to Durlston Road | Public right of way, so DCC responsible for maintenance of surface | Public footpath. This is a public footpath which is on private land at the east end which is the drive for number 16 Lighthouse Road. The square marked in green on the map also belongs to number 16 and is hardstanding and garage. The west end is narrower, with grass verge/wildflowers. The boundaries are managed by adjoining property owners. | Footpath is regularly used by residents of Osmay road and Southcliffe Road to access Lighthouse Road. However it does not really access directly onto any open space | Good | Low | - | - | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Footpath corridor between Ballard Road and Ballard Way | Public right of way, so DCC responsible for maintenance of surface | Hard paved public right of way. Approx 1m wide and bounded by 2m | Pedestrian access | Poor | Low | No scope to improve | - | Include in stand alone footpaths project |

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| | | close boarded fence an a 2m stretch of hedge at Ballard Way end | | | | | | |
| -Ulwell Road | ? | Access | - | - | Low | footpaths/ROW/cycle paths | Health and wellbeing | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Washpond Lane | ? | Access | - | - | Low | footpaths/ROW/cycle paths | Health and wellbeing | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Victoria Ave to Washpond Lane | ? | Various | - | - | Low | footpaths/ROW/cycle paths | Health and wellbeing | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Start grid ref SZ020792, along northern edge of pitch and putt and Forres Field, turn south past public toilets, cross over railway, turn east down Court Road and turn east onto Kings Road West | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | Make paths wider with more of a greenway feel | Health and wellbeing, access to the countryside | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Public right of way start grid ref. SZ 022792 end Washpond Lane. Continue north on Brickyard Lane, turn right at Ulwell Caravan Park, end Ulwell Cottage | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: Cycleway to Ulwell 4 off road | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Stream running south from grid ref. SZ 021802 to grid ref. 019797 | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: Streamside walk | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Grid reference SZ 017795 north to SZ 016798 and then east to SZ 018798 | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: New footpath > circular link(s) > the missing link(s) | Public access link, green transport, biodiversity link | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Grid ref. SZ 024799 west to 022799 then west north west to SZ 020800 | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: New footpath > circular link(s) > the missing link(s) | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Grid ref. SZ 020800 then north east to field with centre | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access route | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |

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| point of SZ 023802 | | | | | | | | |
| Grid ref. SZ 028806 and then following a logical route south east through fields to SZ 033804 | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: New footpath > circular link(s) > the missing link(s) | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Grid ref. SZ 027806 south west along Whitecliff Road to SZ 027804 then turning east and connecting into Hill Road | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: New footpath > circular link(s) > the missing link(s) | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| North Beach car park to Washpond Lane | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: Cycle/footpath from North Beach car park to Ulwell | Public access link, green transport, biodiversity link | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Footpath corridor along cliff edge from New Swanage to Ballard Down | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New green infrastructure: Wider set back for path to Ballard Down | Biodiversity | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| East of allotments, between Cauldron Barn Farm and Prospect Crescent | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New access routes: Footpath/cyclepath link | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Footpath between Victoria Road and Ballard Estate | ? | Existing permissive route | | | | New access routes: Protect this route | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Between brickworks and promoted housing to north and west of D'Urberville drive | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New footpath | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |
| Create footpath link: Between 44 and 46 Days Road to western boundary of Belle Vue Farm, continuing south along field boundaries to SZ 026779, then eastwards to SZ 028779 a). Along southern boundary of refuse tip to connect public rights of way. | ? | Farmland | Access | N/A | Low | New footpaths | Public access link, green transport | Include in stand alone footpaths project |

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| b). Along northern boundary of refuse tip. c). Between easternmost Public Right of Way running through Townsend Reserve and RoW to east of Southern Farmhouse – running immediately south of the farmhouse, and along track leading to it. | | | | | | | | |
| Waterbodies and watercourses | | | | | | | | |
| The sea | Crown Estates? | Marine resource | Recreation, health and wellbeing, tourism, travel, biodiversity | Average | Good | Improve water quality | Retain blue flag status of beach | Water quality badly affected by influx of contaminants from dog faeces during 'first flush' after heavy rainfall. Run awareness campaign locally to reinforce importance of picking up and disposing of dog waste |
| Swanage flood alleviation scheme | EA | Flood management | Biodiversity, flood management, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor | Average | High | Possible SANG | Recreation, health and wellbeing | This area could be promoted as 'suitable alternative green space (SANG) for promoted housing sites. Contributions from developers could be used to provide footpath infrastructure, and implement improvements to support biodiversity |
| Upper Swan Brook | EA? | Green link, wildlife corridor | Biodiversity, blue/green corridor | Average | High | - | - | - |

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| Swan Brook south side Kings Road West | EA? | Stream – Comprises the open stretches of the Swan Brook 90% stream, 2% garden (private), 8% overgrown woods/shrubs | Biodiversity, flood management, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor | Poor – no obvious signs of management. OK where forms garden of Old Rectory - very overgrown beyond Tithe Barn garden | Medium – high. Resident ducks alongside St Mary's Church | Little or no opportunity to enhance - stream lies in deep sided culvert | - | - |
| Swan Brook adjacent to the Mowlem | EA? | Stream - Flood management/water storage. Tidal stretch of Swan Brook – below street level and discharging onto beach/into sea. Concrete culvert with pedestrian bridge over | Biodiversity, flood management, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor, | Poor | Low | Little or no scope for enhancement. Could be improved through proper maintenance | Visual/amenity | Volunteer labour |
| Stream to south of Prospect Business Park | EA? | Green/blue corridor, floodplain, amenity grassland, woodland edge | Flood management, biodiversity | Poor | Medium | - | - | - |
| Old Mill Pond | ? | Openspace/garden area with standing water | Blue/green GI Visitor attraction (passive recreation – health and well being, visual/amenity, biodiversity Close to other elements of GI | Moderate – signs of limited management | High. Home to a family of ducks | Enhance native planting? | Enhanced biodiversity | Negotiate with owner |
| Stream to east of Days Park and cricket ground | ? Flow controlled from a storage tank at the rear of the vet's clinic on Ulwell Road | Stream corridor/woodland | Biodiversity, flood management, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor, land drainage | Poor – no signs of management | High | Could be improved through proper maintenance | Visual/amenity | Complete a proper assessment and tailor management to requirements. Cost implications not known at this stage. |
| Farmland | | | | | | | | |
| Flood zone 2 and 3 and Swanage flood alleviation scheme located between water works and Prospect Business Park | EA/private | Farmland/flood alleviation scheme | Food production, biodiversity, flood management, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor, land drainage | Moderate | High | New green infrastructure: P. SANG - existing EA use, so lower capacity | Visual/amenity, recreation (Health and wellbeing), biodiversity | If suitable for a SANG, include requirements in development brief |

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| Three fields with centre points of grid refs. SZ 021795, 022796 and 021796 | Private | Farmland | Food production, biodiversity,, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor, land drainage | Moderate | High | New green infrastructure: Potential SANGs (suitable alternative natural green spaces) for Ulwell development if takes place | Visual/amenity, recreation (Health and wellbeing), biodiversity | If suitable for a SANG, include requirements in development brief |
| Top section of field, with centre point of grid ref. SZ 026805 and field with centre point of SZ 028805 | Private | Farmland | Food production, biodiversity,, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor, land drainage | Moderate | High | New green infrastructure: P. SANG for additional dwellings at west Northbrook Road | Visual/amenity, recreation (Health and wellbeing), biodiversity | If suitable for a SANG, include requirements in development brief |
| Top section of field, with centre point of grid ref. SZ 024801 and field with centre point of SZ 023802 | Private | Farmland | Food production, biodiversity,, visual/amenity, blue/green corridor, land drainage | Moderate | High | New green infrastructure: P. SANG for additional dwellings at west Northbrook Road | Visual/amenity, recreation (Health and wellbeing), biodiversity | If suitable for a SANG, include requirements in development brief |
| South of Swanage to the coast | Mixed | Farmland - woodland - grazing | Biodiversity Food production | Moderate - good | Medium to high | Improve habitat | Biodiversity | Could be improved where there are gaps in the hedgerows, and managing grazing to benefit wildflowers |
| Herston fields | Private | Farmland, woodland, grazing, open space, public rights of way Semi-natural grassland | Food production, amenity, health and wellbeing Visual/amenity, biodiversity | North field down to grass and wildflowers. South field fenced and planted with barley or wheat, which is not growing well. East corner with footpath is either very dry or boggy, very weedy. Verge mowed. | High value in parts At one time there used to be a pond somewhere at the east end or in the church site. This could be recreated. | Potential housing site and/or potential SANG If housing does go ahead here, the loss of current GI will need to be offset. If village green, is an opportunity to use new GI to enhance this entrance to the town. | Visual/amenity, SuDs, recreation, health and wellbeing | Private land If land is to be developed for housing, PDC to write a brief which is to include: The requirement for high functioning GI, including a replacement pond as part of an innovative SuDs scheme; green corridors across the site; substantial tree and shrub planting throughout to help integrate the development into the edge of town location. |

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| Green space to east and west of Northbrook Road Farmland | Private | Private green space, farmland | Food production, some biodiversity | Good | Low - medium | Potential housing sites If housing does go ahead here, the loss of current GI will need to be offset. | | If land is to be developed for housing, PDC to write a brief which is to include: The requirement for high functioning GI, including an innovative SuDs scheme; green corridors across the site; substantial tree and shrub planting throughout to help integrate the development into the edge of town location. |
| Fields abutting development to north and north west of Swanage | Mixed | Private green space, farmland | Food production, biodiversity | Good | Low - medium | - | - | - |
| Prospect smallholding behind allotments | Private | Private green space Farmland, | Food production, biodiversity | Moderate - good | Low - medium | Was a potential housing site however since the workshop has been dropped | - | |
| Greyseeds Farm and Fields bound by Priests Way, Belle View Farm, and Track to Verney Farm from Grayseeds Farm | DCC | Farmland, open space Semi-natural grassland and scrub – used as grazing, green space | Food production, amenity, informal recreation (2 DCC footpaths) Health and wellbeing | Good A number of footpaths cross this land but are very hard to find as the signage is poor. | Good – birds, butterflies, insects | Wildflower meadow/semi-natural grassland Promote as good link to Priest's Way from Herston has potential for enhancement for wildlife. This was a potential housing site however it is no longer being considered for environmental reasons | Biodiversity, recreation (health and wellbeing) | The site could be improved where there are gaps in the existing hedgerow, and by managing grazing to benefit wildflowers. Signage of the RoW could be improved. |
| Wedge of land to north west of Belle View Farm/ Priests | Private | Private open space Open field with some footpaths, woodland | Food and wool production, informal recreation | Moderate/good (grazing to field) | Good – birds, butterflies, insects | Enhance value for wildlife This was a potential | Biodiversity | The site could be improved where there are gaps in |

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| Barn and The Cottage, and proposed housing site to the north. | | and scrub. Field, used as grazing, green space Farmland | (footpath along northern edge), Biodiversity (scrub) Health and wellbeing | | | housing site however it is no longer being considered for environmental reasons | | the existing hedgerow, and by managing grazing to benefit wildflowers |
| South of Priest Barn and Coastal Caravan Park | ? | Nature reserve | Recreation (good for children's play) biodiversity, health and wellbeing. | Moderate | High | - | - | - |
| Field bound by Priests Lane to the south, Swanage Coastal Caravan Park, potential housing site, and The Cottage and Belle View Farm House, and the field immediately to the south of Priests Way | Mixed | Private open space potential housing site Open field with some footpaths, small trees and scrub. Field, used as grazing, green space Farmland | Food and wool production, informal recreation (footpath along northern edge), Biodiversity (scrub) Health and wellbeing | Mainly grazed farmland, small area of scrub to north. Bridleways along north and west edge well signposted. Main access to Priests Way from Swanage. Needs some maintenance to keep wide enough and use as a bridleway, not just a footpath | Good – birds, butterflies, insects | This was a potential housing/SANG site however it is no longer being considered for environmental reasons. Now propose to improve habitat and improve footpaths by maintaining regularly | Biodiversity, recreation (health and wellbeing) | The site could be improved where there are gaps in the existing hedgerow, by managing grazing to benefit wildflowers, and by regularly maintaining the footpaths |
| Fields between allotments, Cauldron Barn Farm, Harrow House and houses on Rabling Road (see Garden and woodland Cauldron Barn Farm Tennis courts at Harrow House) | Mixed | Green gap Farmland | Biodiversity, food production | Good | - | - | - | - |
| Ullwell Farm Caravan Park and the fields across the road to the south | Mixed | Important gap Farmland | Biodiversity, food production | Good | Low - medium | - | - | - |
| Fields surrounded by cliffs, foot of Purbeck Ridge, Ullwell Farm Caravan Park. Ullwell Road and New Swanage | Mixed | Private open fields, hedgerows etc. Farmland | Biodiversity, food production | Good | Low - medium | - | - | - |
| North of Washpond | Mixed | Farmland - | Biodiversity, food | Good | Low - medium | - | - | - |

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| Lane | | woodland - pasture land | production | | | | | |
| Wedge of farmland between Ulwell Road and Whitecliff Road | Private | Farmland | Food production, some biodiversity | Good | Low - medium | This was a potential housing site however it is no longer being considered for environmental reasons. Now propose to improve habitat | - | The site could be improved where there are gaps in the existing hedgerow, by managing grazing to benefit wildflowers |