

Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet Parish Council

Neighbourhood Development Plan



Whole Parish Character Survey

Part 3 Landscape and Biodiversity

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Abstract

Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet Parish council has decided to undertake the process of producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan, as defined in the Localism Act 2011. This plan is to create a vision for the development and use of land within Wenhaston with Mells from 2015 to 2030 related to the views of the residents of the area and consistent with National and Local Planning Policies.

One of the aspects of the Plan is to provide future development issues with a ‘picture’ of the things that make Wenhaston with Mells special to the residents and that need to be considered in future planning. The Character Assessment of Landscape and Biodiversity of the whole Parish, is the subject of this document.

The results of the assessments are presented and an interpreted definition of the character of the areas will be derived in a future document.

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Draft		8 August 2016
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1. INTRODUCTION.

Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet is a sprawling parish situated in North Suffolk and at the northern end of the Suffolk Coastal District. It is 8km west of the coast at Southwold and sandwiched between the Blythburgh and Minsmere RAMSAR^{note a} site and the market town of Halesworth. It has large slices in the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Suffolks Special Landscape Area's (SLA) and forms the northern end of the Suffolk sandlings.

The AONB is a distinctive area of legally protected countryside, towns and villages. It's cherished for it's relatively undeveloped, tranquil landscape and stunning natural and cultural history and has been a source of inspiration to countless artists, writers and musicians. The AONB is a landscape rich in history but largely spared from modern development. The countryside, towns and villages in the AONB have an unspoilt and tranquil atmosphere, and a distinctive character.

There are also other areas within Suffolk with special landscape attributes, which are particularly vulnerable to change. They include the Blyth river valleys which still possess traditional grazing meadows and marshes, with their hedgerows, dykes and associated flora and fauna. These are designated as Special Landscape Areas. The District Council will ensure that no development will take place which would be to the material detriment of, or materially detract from, the special landscape quality.

The parish comprises about 430 houses in total, largely located in Wenhaston Village and Wenhaston Blackheath settlements with three small clusters at Mells and also isolated dwellings. The road from the south east to the north west is about 6.5 km and footpaths and roads from the north east to the south west 3.5km. In total the parish encloses a land area of about 8000 hectares.

note a. RAMSAR Convention, 1971, Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat.

2. LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT – WHOLE PARISH.

2.1 TOPOGRAPHY

The Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment identifies two classifications of landscape in the parish. On the northern and southern fringes of the parish and abutting the River Blyth and its tributaries is rolling estate sandlands, whilst the interior is ancient estate claylands.

2.1.1 ROLLING ESTATE SANDLANDS

This is the classification that applies to the river valley areas at the north and south of the parish. It is typified by the gently sloping valley, cutting through glacial till with deposits of sand and gravel in the valley bottoms. In spite of the long farming history, this landscape has substantial and ancient hedges surrounding its predominantly arable fields, along with

grazing water meadows in valley bottoms and patches of ancient woodland on the upper valley slopes. These significant hedgerows and trees in the linear valleys give a strong and varied visual impact with longer distance panoramic views such as at Blyford bridge and the southern edge of Blackheath and more intimate semi enclosed scenes like Low Road and the heaths. The pattern of field shapes has grown organically with these ancient hedges giving a complex, sub regular and sinuous boundary to the landscape. These areas form a very tranquil and rural setting, with only scattered minor roads to contribute to the otherwise peaceful natural environment.

Interspersed in the landscape is woodland in the form of belts, coverts and plantations and these occur at intervals along the river and on all of the heaths and commons, which were formed as a result of the earlier dryness of the area. However, close to the river there is a high and regular risk of flooding of the water meadows and this is often observed from the Blyford bridge to both the east and west. Another feature of this landscape is the Suffolk red brick 19th century buildings with roofs of curved pantiles, sometimes black glazed.

2.1.2 SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL LAND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR ROLLING ESTATE SANDLANDS.

- Reinforce the historic pattern of regular boundaries.
- Restore, maintain and enhance the pattern of locally distinctive “pine lines”.
- Restore, maintain and enhance the network of tree belts and pattern of small plantations found across much of this landscape type.
- Restore and maintain landscape parklands and their features.

2.1.3 ANCIENT ESTATE CLAYLANDS

The area of land between the two river valleys occupying the rest of the parish has this classification and is an ancient wooded landscape of arable farms with heavy clay soils on a gently rolling plateau. There are areas of poor drainage and waterlogged soil and occasional ponds, dew pits and run off on to the roads. Blyford Lane, Heath Road, Coles Hill and Bramfield Road are particularly at risk in this respect. Scattered small to medium ancient woodlands such as are on the heaths and at Vicarage Grove, and a network of irregular and sinuous ancient hedgerows provide a relatively high proportion of primary habitat.

The field pattern is ancient and organic and medium to large in size and occupies most of the landscape outside of the settlements. The rural nature of this landscape both inside and outside of the settlement areas, coupled with infrequent narrow lanes and low traffic flows, mean that large areas of the parish are tranquil and peaceful settings.

The rolling plateau landscape allows frequent longer views such as on Bramfield Road, Bartholomew Lane and the A144, whilst the network of

winding lanes, tree lines and tall hedgerows can provide a more intimate setting as is seen on many of the footpaths in the parish.

2.1.4 SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL LAND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR ANCIENT ESTATE CLAYLANDS

- Reinforce the historic pattern of sinuous field boundaries
- Recognise localised areas of late enclosure hedges when restoring and planting hedgerows
- Maintain and restore greens and commons
- Maintain and increase the stock of hedgerow trees
- Restore, maintain and enhance the historic parklands and the elements within them.
- Maintain the extent, and improve the condition, of woodland cover with effective management
- Maintain and restore the stock of moats and ponds in this landscape

2.2 BIODIVERSITY, HEDGEROWS, VERGES, CONNECTIVITY AND WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.

Human development is an ever increasing threat to biodiversity and to mitigate against this it is important to retain and maintain a degree of connectivity and habitat corridors. A wildlife corridor is a feature of the landscape (or townscape) which allows an exchange of individuals between populations to help prevent the negative effects of inbreeding and reduced genetic diversity. They may also help re-establish populations that have been reduced or eliminated by events such as disease by increased opportunities for colonisation and migration. Connectivity is the degree to which the landscape facilitates the movement of organisms to spread as they cope with such as climate change.

In Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet, it would be possible to walk the length and breadth of the Parish and barely set foot more than a few paces on tarmac or made surfaces. In the whole of the parish the total road network only amounts to about 17km of predominantly single track roads. More than this, outside of the main settlement areas, one could follow the line of footpaths and verges and never be more than a few metres from a hedgerow. Because of these features, the opportunity for spread and movement of wildlife species is significant.

A measure that can be applied to assess wildlife movement is to ignore the common species of flora and fauna and focus just on protected species. Reference to sightings will give an indication of relative abundance and ability to migrate around the parish. Using the Suffolk Biological Records Centre results for protected species, Appendix A, it is seen that there are multiple sightings of four species of amphibians, fifty-four of birds, twenty-three of plants, eight of insects, four of reptiles and four of mammals. Maybe of the same significance is the perhaps unwanted spread of schedule 9, Appendix B, non native species such as New Zealand pigmy weed (*crassula helmsii*) himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandiflora*), mink and muntjac.

2.3 WILDLIFE ASSETS

This parish provides a rich variety of habitats in close proximity to one another which provide a home to many species of wildlife which are scarce or absent elsewhere. This is largely because the geology, land cover, land use and human interaction have created a distinctive landscape that does not occur in many other places.

County Wildlife Site (CWS) citations draw attention to the importance of three commons within the parish as reptile and invertebrate habitats and four areas bordering the parish for rare vegetation and for otters. There are also rare species of ground plants on all of the commons. Focussing only on protected species, there are frequent sightings of otters, badgers, silver studded blue butterflies and great crested newts.

2.3.1 BATS AND BIRDS.

Notable amongst the protected species of bats and birds, sightings have been made in the parish of eight species of owls and raptors (little owl, barn owl, tawny owl, marsh harrier, peregrine, hobby, kestrel, red kite) and brown long-eared bats, Natterer's bats, common & soprano pipistrelles, barbastelle and serotine bats

2.3.2 HEDGEROWS AND TREES

Field studies have revealed that within the parish the hedgerow and tree layer includes amongst other species, ash, blackthorn, bramble, elder, elm (dead and suckering), field maple, hawthorn, hazel, horse chestnut, malus, oak, poplar, black poplar (BAP species), sycamore and numerous varieties of conifer. The hedgerows, many of them ancient and recorded on the 1840 land map, may comprise either multiple species or single species of shrub.

APPENDIX A
Protected Species in Wenhaston with Mells

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Common Toad	Wenhaston	Bartholomew's Lane	2014	Half-grown. Road survey	amphibian	1 Count
Common Toad	Wenhaston	Heath Road	2014	Sub-adult Road survey	amphibian	1 Count
Common Toad	Wenhaston	St Bartholomew's Road	2014	Large - probably female. Road survey.	amphibian	1 Count
Common Toad	Wenhaston	Junction Bartholomew's Road	2004	Juvenile (one- year-old) Road survey	amphibian	1 Count
Common Toad	Wenhaston	Broom Cottage, Low Road	2003	Breeding colony in artificial pond	amphibian	
Common Toad	Wenhaston	Holza Hill, Blyford Lane	2003	Large female found in garden	amphibian	
Common Toad	Wenhaston	Coles Lane	2001	2 found in grubbed out hedge	amphibian	
Smooth Newt	Wenhaston	East Nook, Hall Road	2014	Many	amphibian	
Smooth Newt	Wenhaston	St. James Cottage, Bramfield Rd.	2014		amphibian	
Smooth Newt	Wenhaston	Blythupland, Narrow Way	2014		amphibian	
Smooth Newt	Wenhaston	Tye Cottage, Bartholomews Lane	2014		amphibian	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Smooth Newt	Wenhaston	Sandlings, Blackheath	2012	Has smooth newts in her garden pond	amphibian	
Smooth Newt	Wenhaston	The Lilacs, St.Michael's Way	1996		amphibian	1 Count of juvenile; 4 Count of adult
Common Frog	Wenhaston	Fir Tree Cottage, Blyford Lane	2014	In small garden pond.	amphibian	1 Count
Common Frog	Wenhaston	Mark Jones' garden	2013	Spawn	amphibian	Single Count of clump
Common Frog	Wenhaston	Garden pond, The Lilacs, St. Michael's Way	2009	2 males	amphibian	
Great Crested Newt	Wenhaston	Tye Cottage, Bartholomews Lane	2014		amphibian	4 Count of Larvae; 8 Count of Adult
Great Crested Newt	Wenhaston	St. James Cottage, Bramfield Rd.	2014		amphibian	
Great Crested Newt	Wenhaston	East Nook, Hall Road	2014	Many	amphibian	
Great Crested Newt	Wenhaston	Sandlings, Blackheath	2012	Has GCNs in garden pond	amphibian	
Great Crested Newt	Black Heath	Golden Acres, Blackheath	2006	At least 15 adults seen during clean out	amphibian	
Great Crested Newt	Wenhaston	The Barn, Back Road	2006	Many large larvae	amphibian	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Great Crested Newt	Wenhaston	The Lilacs, St Michaels Way	1996	under wood	amphibian	1 Count of female
Skylark	Wenhaston	Blackheath	2011		bird	1 Count
Skylark	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Skylark	Wenhaston	Old Hall farm	2010		bird	1 Count
Skylark	Wenhaston		2008		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Kingfisher	Mells	Mells	2013	R.Blyth.	bird	1 Count
Kingfisher	Wenhaston	Mells (west)	2013	R.Blyth.	bird	1 Count
Kingfisher	Bulcamp Marshes	Bulcamp	2012		bird	1 Count
Kingfisher	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north-west)	2010	Watermill Farm.	bird	1 Count
Little Owl	Wenhaston		2008		bird	1 Count
Little Owl	Wenhaston		1997	1 pair	bird	
Little Owl	Wenhaston		1996		bird	
Goldfinch	Wenhaston		2011		bird	11 Count
Goldfinch	Black Heath	Blackheath	2011		bird	1 Count
Goldfinch	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Goldfinch	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Treecreeper	Mells		2012		bird	1 Count
Treecreeper	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north-west)	2010	Watermill Farm.	bird	1 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Treecreeper	Wenhaston		2010		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Cetti's Warbler	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north-west)	2012	Watermill.	bird	1 Count
Cetti's Warbler	Bulcamp Marshes	Bulcamp	2012		bird	1 Count
Cetti's Warbler	Wenhaston		2011	By A144 level crossing.	bird	1 Count
Hen Harrier	Wenhaston		2010	Church Marsh.	bird	1 Count
Cuckoo	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (east)	2013		bird	1 Count
Cuckoo	Wenhaston		2013		bird	1 Count
Cuckoo	Wenhaston		2008		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Cuckoo	Wenhaston		2008		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Blue Tit	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	3 Count
Blue Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	5 Count
Blue Tit	Wenhaston		2008		bird	10 Count
House Martin	Wenhaston		2010		bird	4 Confirmed Count of Breeding confirmed
House Martin	Wenhaston		2008		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Count
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	1 Count
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Wenhaston		2009		bird	
Little Egret	Wenhaston		2008		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Little Egret	Wenhaston		2007		bird	1 Count
Yellowhammer	Black Heath	Wenhaston Blackheath	2010		bird	1 Count
Yellowhammer	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Heath	2010		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Robin	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Confirmed Count of Breeding confirmed
Robin	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	1 Count
Robin	Black Heath	Wenhaston Blackheath	2010		bird	1 Count
Robin	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Heath	2010		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Hobby	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Hobby	Mells		2010		bird	2 Count
Kestrel	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2009		bird	
Kestrel	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Kestrel	Church Common	Church Common, Wenhaston	1996		bird	
Kestrel	Black Heath	Blackheath Common, Wenhaston	1995	Hunting	bird	
Brambling	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2012		bird	14 Count
Swallow	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2011		bird	1 Confirmed Count of Breeding confirmed
Swallow	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Swallow	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Herring Gull	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2011		bird	5 Count
Herring Gull	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	2 Count
Herring Gull	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	
Linnet	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	1 Count
Linnet	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Nightingale	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2013	Four territorial males.	bird	1 Count
Nightingale	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north-west)	2013	Two territorial males at Mill Heath.	bird	1 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Nightingale	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north)	2012	Mill Heath.	bird	1 Count
Nightingale	Wenhaston		2008		bird	
Nightingale	Wenhaston		2008		bird	
Red Kite	Wenhaston		2013	Drifted east at 12.35pm.	bird	1 Count
Red Kite	Wenhaston		2008		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Pied Wagtail	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Count
Pied Wagtail	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2009		bird	
Pied Wagtail	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Grey Wagtail	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north)	2013	R.Blyth.	bird	1 Count
Spotted Flycatcher	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2012	Pair successfully raised three young on Church Common.	bird	1 Count
Spotted Flycatcher	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2011		bird	1 Confirmed Count of Breeding confirmed
Curlew	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2009		bird	
Osprey	Mells	Mells (Wenhaston)	2013	Flew west along Blyth Valley at	bird	1 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
				9.23am.		
Bearded Tit	Bulcamp Marshes	Bulcamp	2012		bird	2 Count
Bearded Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2011		bird	1 Confirmed Count of Breeding confirmed
Bearded Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (east)	2010	R.Blyth.	bird	9 Count
Great Tit	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	1 Count
Great Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	4 Count
Great Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
House Sparrow	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells	2014	About 6 near railway crossing	bird	
House Sparrow	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	6 Count
House Sparrow	Wenhaston	Moonrakers, Wenhaston	2009		bird	1 Count
Grey Partridge	Mells	Mells (Wenhaston)	2013	On green at far eastern end of Halesworth Golf Course.	bird	2 Count
Grey Partridge	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2011		bird	2 Count
Grey Partridge	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north-west)	2010	Two pairs at Watermill	bird	4 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
				Farm.		
Coal Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2011		bird	1 Confirmed Count of Breeding confirmed
Green Woodpecker	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	1 Count
Green Woodpecker	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Confirmed Count of Breeding confirmed
Marsh Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (north-west)	2010	Two singing males at Watermill Farm.	bird	3 Count
Marsh Tit	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2009		bird	
Dunnock	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2011		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Dunnock	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2011		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Dunnock	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	3 Count
Bullfinch	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	1 Count
Bullfinch	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Bullfinch	Bickers Heath	Wenhaston Bicker's Heath	2007		bird	1 Count
Goldcrest	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2009		bird	
Siskin	Wenhaston	Moonrakers, Wenhaston	2009		bird	2 Count
Turtle Dove	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2009		bird	2 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Turtle Dove	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (west)	2009		bird	1 Count of male
Turtle Dove	Wenhaston	Wenhaston (west)	2009		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Tawny Owl	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2011		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Tawny Owl	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2009		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Starling	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2011		bird	7 Count
Starling	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	1 Count
Shelduck	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Shelduck	Wenhaston	Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet	2008		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Wren	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	2 Count
Wren	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2011		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Redwing	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2010		bird	5 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Song Thrush	Black Heath	Wenhaston/Blackheath	2011		bird	2 Count
Song Thrush	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	1 Count
Song Thrush	Wenhaston		2009		bird	1 Possible Count of Breeding confirmed
Fieldfare	Wenhaston	Wenhaston/Old Hall farm	2010		bird	26 Count
Fieldfare	Wenhaston		2008		bird	
Fieldfare	Wenhaston		2007		bird	4 Count
Barn Owl	Wenhaston		2011		bird	1 Count
Barn Owl	Wenhaston		2009		bird	1 Probable Count of Breeding confirmed
Barn Owl	Mells		2008		bird	1 Count
Lapwing	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Road	2009		bird	31 Count
European Eel	Wenhaston	Bridge over the Blyth at Mells, S of A1123	2000	BoxValley Aqua Surveys record - from paid surveys or as SNS recorder	bony fish (Actinopterygii)	
Clustered Bellflower	Wenhaston		2007	'superba' cultivated form on waste ground	flowering plant	
Mossy Stonecrop	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2014		flowering plant	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Mossy Stonecrop	Mill Heath (Wenhaston)	Mill Heath, Wenhaston	2012		flowering plant	1 Count of Occasional
Mossy Stonecrop	Wenhaston		2000		flowering plant	
Mossy Stonecrop	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Mossy Stonecrop	Black Heath		1998		flowering plant	
Heath-grass	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Dwarf Spurge	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	
Dwarf Spurge	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	1 Count
Dwarf Spurge	Wenhaston		2002		flowering plant	1 Count
Common Cudweed	Wenhaston	Chapel Lane	2000		flowering plant	
Common Cudweed	Wenhaston		2000		flowering plant	
Common Cudweed	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Stinking Hellebore	Wenhaston		2006		flowering plant	1 Count
Imperforate St. John's-Wort	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	1 Count
Smooth Cat's-ear	Wenhaston		2005		flowering plant	1 Count
Water-purslane	Wenhaston		2005		flowering plant	1 Count
Water-purslane	Black Heath		2005		flowering plant	1 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Weasel's-snout	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	1 Count
Mousetail	Wenhaston	Farm track	1999	large colony	flowering plant	1 Count of present
Prickly Poppy	Wenhaston	Low Farm	2000		flowering plant	
Heath Milkwort	Black Heath		2005		flowering plant	1 Count
Heath Milkwort	Wenhaston		2005		flowering plant	1 Count
Cornfield Knotgrass	Wenhaston		2014	Several plants edge of field	flowering plant	
Small Pondweed	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Small Pondweed	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Hoary Cinquefoil	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2014		flowering plant	
Hoary Cinquefoil	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath (west)	2014		flowering plant	
Hoary Cinquefoil	Mill Heath (Wenhaston)	Mill Heath, Wenhaston	2012		flowering plant	1 Count of Occasional
Shepherd's-needle	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	
Shepherd's-needle	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	
Annual Knawel	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Annual Knawel	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Annual Knawel	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Corn Spurrey	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	1 Count
Corn Spurrey	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Field Woundwort	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	
Shepherd's Cress	Wenhaston		2000		flowering plant	
Shepherd's Cress	Black Heath		1998		flowering plant	
Lesser Meadow-rue	Wenhaston		2007	Garden origin	flowering plant	
Spreading Hedge-parsley	Wenhaston		2001		flowering plant	1 Count of Default
Clustered Clover	Wenhaston		2006		flowering plant	1 Count
Clustered Clover	Wenhaston	Chapel Lane	2000		flowering plant	
Clustered Clover	Wenhaston	Blower's Common	2000		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2014		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Wenhaston		2000		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Bickers Heath		1998		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Blowers Common		1998		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Mill Heath		1998		flowering plant	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
	(Wenhaston)					
Western Gorse	Church Common		1998		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Black Heath		1998		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Black Heath		1997		flowering plant	
Western Gorse	Wenhaston		1997		flowering plant	
Navelwort	Wenhaston	track –marshes	1995	garden outcast ?, SWT field meeting	flowering plant	
Heath Dog- violet	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Stag Beetle	Black Heath		1996	Museum record	insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	1 Count of female
Small Heath	Black Heath	Blackheath	2014		insect - butterfly	1 Count of A
Small Heath	Wenhaston	Mells area	2014		insect - butterfly	1 Count
Small Heath	Black Heath		2014		insect - butterfly	1 Count of C
Small Heath	Black Heath	Blackheath Transect Summary	2013	B	insect - butterfly	
Small Heath	Black Heath	Wenhaston Blackheath	2012		insect - butterfly	1 Count of B
Small Heath	Black Heath	Wenhaston Blackheath	2012		insect - butterfly	1 Count of C
Small Heath	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2011		insect - butterfly	1 Count
Small Heath	Black Heath	Wenhaston Blackheath	2004		insect - butterfly	2 Count
Grayling	Black Heath	Blackheath Wenhaston	2007		insect - butterfly	1 Count of A
Grayling	Wenhaston		1995	recorder initials only given J.P.B.	insect - butterfly	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Wall	Black Heath	Black Heath, Wenhaston	2011		insect - butterfly	1 Count
Wall	Black Heath	Black Heath, Wenhaston	2011		insect - butterfly	1 Count of Abundant
White Admiral	Black Heath	Black Heath, Wenhaston	2013	A	insect - butterfly	
Swallowtail	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2010		insect - butterfly	1 Count of A
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath		2014		insect - butterfly	
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath	Black Heath, Wenhaston	2013	3	insect - butterfly	
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath	Blackheath Transect Summary	2013	B	insect - butterfly	
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath	Blackheath	2013	5	insect - butterfly	
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath	Black Heath, Wenhaston	2013	3	insect - butterfly	
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath		1998		insect - butterfly	12 Count of present
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath		1996	JMD	insect - butterfly	14 Count of present
Silver-studded Blue	Black Heath		1996		insect - butterfly	21 Count of present
White-letter Hairstreak	Black Heath	Wenhaston Blackheath	2004		insect - butterfly	1 Count of A

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
6-Banded Nomad Bee	Black Heath	Blackheath	2003		insect - hymenopteran	
Bee Wolf	Black Heath	Blackheath	2003		insect - hymenopteran	
Euroleon nostras	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2014	No sign of any activity at this established site seems to be to overgrown now	insect - lacewing (Neuroptera)	
Lunar Yellow Underwing	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2006		insect - moth	3 Count
Cinnabar	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2006		insect - moth	8 Count
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail	Bulcamp Marshes	Bulcamp	2008		mollusc	15 Count of Juvenile
Slow-worm	Wenhaston	Blythupland, Narrow Way	2014		reptile	1 Count of female
Slow-worm	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2014	Adult female. Road survey	reptile	1 Count
Slow-worm	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Heath Road	2013	Sub-adult female.	reptile	1 Count
Slow-worm	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2012	1 adult male at refuge.	reptile	
Slow-worm	Wenhaston	Sandlings, Blackheath Road	2011	2 adults & 2 young ones found under metal sheet in	reptile	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
				garden		
Slow-worm	Black Heath	south of road	2009	2 adults under tin at NW edge of site.	reptile	
Slow-worm	Mill Heath (Wenhaston)	Mill Heath, Wenhaston	2008	All stages under tins	reptile	
Slow-worm	Black Heath	Black Heath, Wenhaston	2006	Pair of slow worms seen	reptile	
Slow-worm	Black Heath	Blackheath Common, Wenhaston	2005	Slow worms seen on heath though exact location not given	reptile	
Slow-worm	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Coles Hill	2001	2 found in grubbed out hedge	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Bartholomew's Lane	2013	Juvenile.	reptile	1 Count
Grass Snake	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2012	1 seen	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	St Michael's, Narrow Way	2011	1 female on back lawn.	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Wottons Nursery IP19 9HD	2011	Large slow worm seen on the path	reptile	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	St Michael's Way	2011	1ft long snake found dead on road	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Sandlings, Blackheath Road	2011	Grass snake found last year in her garden	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Oakhurst, Blackheath Road	2011	Sub-adult in pond.	reptile	
Grass Snake	Black Heath	Wenhaston Black Heath	2009	Adult & juvenile under tin at NW edge of slope.	reptile	
Grass Snake	Mill Heath (Wenhaston)	Mill Heath, Wenhaston	2008	Various stages under tin	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Wenhaston, Back Road near Phone Box	2006	Dead juvenile on road	reptile	
Grass Snake	Bickers Heath	Bickers Heath	2006	2 adults seen	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Narrow Way, Wenhaston	2006	Sub adult dead on road	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Wenhaston, Heathlands, Hog Lane	2005	Grass snake found caught up in strawberry netting and rescued. Other snakes seen on compost heap, plus eggs.	reptile	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Wenhaston The Lilacs, St Michael's Way	2003	1 juvenile seen twice	reptile	
Grass Snake	Wenhaston	Goodlands, Blackheath	1999	swimming in pond	reptile	1 Count of immature
Grass Snake	Black Heath		1995		reptile	1 Count of juvenile
Common Lizard	Black Heath	Black heath	2014	two dead in sandbox	reptile	
Common Lizard	Wenhaston		2014	8 seen on west side of Blackheath common central grid ref given	reptile	
Common Lizard	Wenhaston	Sandlings, Blackheath Road	2011	Has lizards in her garden	reptile	
Common Lizard	Mill Heath (Wenhaston)	Mill Heath, Wenhaston	2008	All stages under tins	reptile	
Common Lizard	Bickers Heath	Bickers Heath	2006	About 15 seen, male & female and young ones	reptile	
Common Lizard	Black Heath	Black Heath Common, Wenhaston	2006	Juvenile seen	reptile	
Common Lizard	Mill Heath (Wenhaston)	Mill Heath, Wenhaston	2006	Juvenile seen	reptile	
Common Lizard	Mill Heath (Wenhaston)	Mill Heath Wenhaston	2005	Two adults seen	reptile	

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Common Lizard	Black Heath	Blackheath Common, Wenhaston	2005	Lizards seen two consecutive days early, 0930hrs, (adults) basking on metal lid of dog mess bin.	reptile	
Common Lizard	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Blackheath	1998	Mr C Jacobs, 22 Oxford...	reptile	1 Count of adult
European Water Vole	Walpole	Walnut Tree Farm, Walpole	1997		terrestrial mammal	
European Water Vole	Halesworth		1997		terrestrial mammal	
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Halesworth Almost, St Michaels Way	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Halesworth Dakings Drift	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Back Road, Halesworth Back Road Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Bartholomews Lane, Halesworth Hall Road, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	2 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Blackheath Road, Halesworth Hafren House	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count

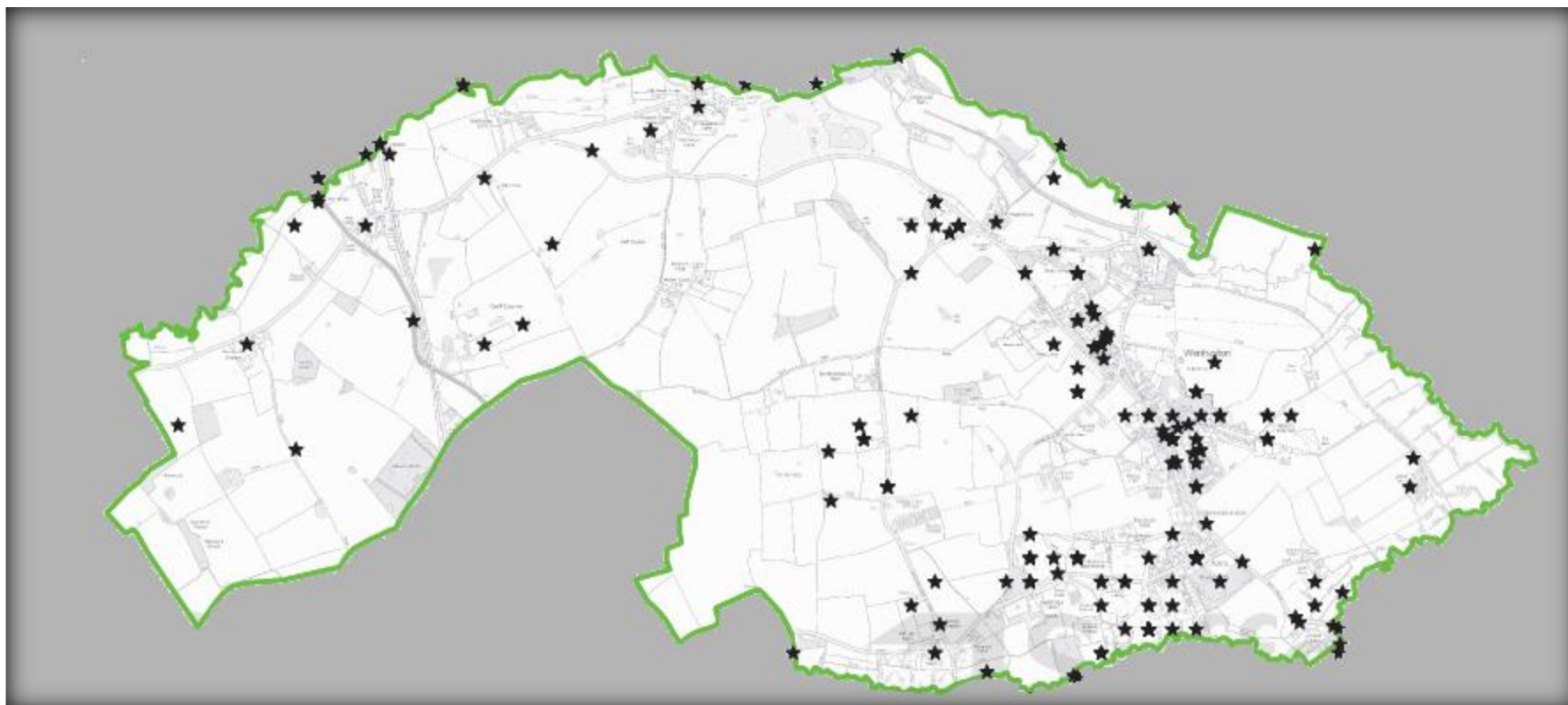
Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Blackheath Road, Halesworth The Street, Wenhaston.	2014		terrestrial mammal	3 Count of dead
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Narrow Way, Wenhaston Wayland cottage, narrow way Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	4 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Saint Michaels Way, Halesworth Highwinds	2014		terrestrial mammal	2 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Saint Michaels Way, Halesworth St Michaels Way, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	5 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	East View, Wenhaston The Street, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Hall Road, Halesworth	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Coles View, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	East View, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	2 Count of dead
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Coles View, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Bramfield Road, Halesworth Loam Pit lane allotment site Halesworth	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Coles Hill, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	2 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Coles Hill, Wenhaston Threeways, Coles Hill.	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Coles View, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Hall Road, Halesworth Brook Farm	2014		terrestrial mammal	2 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Narrow Way, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Hall Road, Halesworth Hall Road, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Hall Road, Wenhaston Going from a garden to the common area in village crossing Hall Road	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Narrow Way, Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Hall Road, Halesworth between the bottom of star hill and the bridge between 2 cow fields	2013		terrestrial mammal	2 Count of dead
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Wash Lane, Halesworth Old station Road Halesworth	2013		terrestrial mammal	1 Count

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston		2013		terrestrial mammal	
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston		2013		terrestrial mammal	
West European Hedgehog	Wenhaston	Narrow Way, Wenhaston Orchard Lea, Hall Road Wenhaston	2013		terrestrial mammal	2 Count of dead
Brown Hare	Wenhaston		2014	Crossing road.	terrestrial mammal	1 Count
Brown Hare	Wenhaston		2014	On road.	terrestrial mammal	1 Count
Brown Hare	Halesworth		2004		terrestrial mammal	
Brown Hare	Halesworth		2003		terrestrial mammal	
European Otter	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Grange	2008	Per. David Doherty	terrestrial mammal	1 Count of dead
European Otter	Wenhaston	Blyth, Mells Bridge	2000		terrestrial mammal	
European Otter	Wenhaston	Blyth, Wenhaston	2000		terrestrial mammal	
European Otter	Wenhaston	St Margarets Farm, River Blyth	1996		terrestrial mammal	
Eurasian Badger	Wenhaston	Pit	2007		terrestrial mammal	
Harvest Mouse	Wenhaston	Peggy's Stile	1996		terrestrial mammal	2 Count of dead

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Natterer's Bat	Wenhaston Churchyard	St Peter's	2000		terrestrial mammal	
Soprano Pipistrelle	Wenhaston	Back Road Wenhaston	2009	Bat detector record	terrestrial mammal	
Brown Long-eared Bat	Mells	Acorns Wash Lane Mells Halesworth IP19 9DE	2012	Breeding colony	terrestrial mammal	
Brown Long-eared Bat	Wenhaston	Back Road Wenhaston	2009	Corpse	terrestrial mammal	

Table 1. Protected Species Distribution Whole Parish



Map 1. Protected Species Distribution Whole Parish

APPENDIX B
Schedule 9 Native Species

Common Name	Location	Site detail	Year	Obs Comment	Taxon Group	Abundance
Red Kite	Wenhaston		2013	Drifted east at 12.35pm.	bird	1 Count
Red Kite	Wenhaston		2008		bird	
New Zealand Pigmyweed	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Black Heath	2014		flowering plant	
New Zealand Pigmyweed	Wenhaston		2005		flowering plant	1 Count
Canadian Waterweed	Wenhaston		1997		flowering plant	
Indian Balsam	Wenhaston		1999		flowering plant	
Yellow Archangel	Wenhaston	Wenhaston Black Heath	2014		flowering plant	
Yellow Archangel	Wenhaston	Mill Heath, Wenhaston	2012		flowering plant	1 Count of Rare
Yellow Archangel	Wenhaston	Edge of drive	1999		flowering plant	1 Count of present
Virginia-creeper	Wenhaston		2003		flowering plant	1 Count
Rhododendron	Wenhaston		2004		flowering plant	1 Count
Japanese Rose	Bramfield	and Mells	2006		flowering plant	1 Count
Japanese Rose	Wenhaston		2004		flowering plant	1 Count
Eastern Grey Squirrel	Wenhaston	Wenhaston	2014		terrestrial mammal	
Eastern Grey Squirrel	Halesworth	Mells, Halesworth	2013		terrestrial mammal	1 Count
Eastern Grey Squirrel	Wenhaston	Blowers Common	1996		terrestrial mammal	
Eastern Grey Squirrel	Mells		1996		terrestrial mammal	

Table 2. Schedule 9 Native Species Distribution – Whole Parish



Map 2. Schedule 9 Native Species Distribution – Whole Parish

APPENDIX C
County Wildlife Site (CWS) Citations

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 177

Site Name MILL HEATH

Parish WENHASTON WITH MELLS HAMLET

District Suffolk Coastal

NGR TM416763

Description

Mill Heath is a small triangular area of heathland enclosed by roads close to the village of Wenhaston. The site includes an old sand pit, now colonised by gorse scrub and heather which provides sheltered conditions for invertebrates particularly butterflies. The remainder of the site is covered with heather interspersed with gorse scrub. Mill Heath is an important site for reptiles; grass snake, common lizard and slow-worm have been recorded here.

RNR Number0

Area 3.43

C1. CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 177 – MILL HEATH

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 178
Site Name BICKERS HEATH
Parish WENHASTON WITH MELLS HAMLET
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM422761
Description

Bickers Heath is one of a number of remnant heathland sites situated close to the village of Wenhaston. An extensive area of the site is dominated by heather, including bell heather which is an uncommon species. Gorse scrub covers part of the site attracting a good number of heathland invertebrates. Smaller sections of Bickers Heath are colonised with a number of scrubby oak and denser pockets of blackthorn, bramble and elm. Many diseased elm trees remain standing providing a valuable habitat for hole-nesting birds. Furthermore, Bickers Heath is of great importance for reptile conservation; grass snake, common lizard and slow-worm have been recorded on this site.

RNR Number 0
Area 3.7

C2. CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 178 – BICKERS HEATH

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 179
Site Name BLACKHEATH
Parish WENHASTON WITH MELLS HAMLET
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM423747

Description

Despite considerable recreational pressure, this heathland remains an important site for wildlife conservation. In addition to a good range of acid grassland plants, for example, sand sedge, heather, harebell and heath bedstraw; western gorse an uncommon plant in east England grows on Blackheath. Other notable plant species include a few rare clover species and mossy stonecrop which is also a nationally scarce species. Furthermore, this site is important for both reptile and butterfly conservation. Rare heathland butterflies, white letter hairstreak, green hairstreak and silver studded blue (a Schedule 5 Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981) have been recorded here. In addition three species of reptile occur; grass snake, common lizard and slow-worm.

RNR Number0

Area 13.9

C3. CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 179 – BLACKHEATH

CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 204
Site Name WENHASTON CHURCH COMMON
Parish Wenhaston with Mells Hamlet
District Suffolk Coastal
NGR TM426755
Description

This area of remnant heathland, situated close to Snape is enclosed by roads and a public footpath. Despite receiving considerable visitor pressure, the Common still retains its wildlife interest. The Common contains three typical plant communities. Large areas are covered by gorse-dominated scrub, with occasional hawthorn, birch, sycamore and oak. These are areas which are particularly important for birds, providing cover and nesting habitat. There is also a large area of acid grassland kept very short by rabbit grazing. Here, a variety of prostrate plants typical of the habitat thrive for example bird's-foot, procumbent pearlwort, cat's-ear and sheep's-sorrel. Mosses cover a large proportion of the ground and heath grasses constitute the remainder of the flora. The third community type is more typical heath, dominated in areas by ling heath with sand sedge, rosebay willowherb and seedling birch. A number of nationally rare species have been recorded on this site including clustered clover, suffocated clover, mossy stonecrop and spring vetch. The Common is also noted for its unusual population of white harebells.

RNR Number 0
Area 2.41

C4. CWS Number Suffolk Coastal 204 – WENHASTON CHURCH COMMON