

Survey Summary

Cliddesden Churchyard 04/09/2015

Site Details

Grid Reference :	SU63304910	File Reference :	64-0033
Total Area :	0.5 ha		
Civil Parish :	Cliddesden		
District :	Basingstoke and Deane		
Vice-County :	12, North Hampshire		

Survey Details

Survey Type :	Phase II
Survey Date :	04/09/2015
Survey Time on Site :	2.5 (hrs)
Data Owned By :	Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre Partnership
Data Recorded By :	Ian Ralphs, HBIC

Site Summary

Cliddesden is a small rural village situated in the edges of the mid-Hampshire chalklands, just south of Basingstoke. The churchyard is situated on the southern edge of the village on one of the main access roads to the downs.

This is a perfect example of a southern English country churchyard, exuding the kind of effortless charm that only comes after generations of care and attention by the parishioners.

The churchyard here is also still full of life, as (unlike many churchyards) it has largely escaped being reseeded and herbicided and being too heavily mown, so it still retains an "agriculturally unimproved" character. This predominantly unimproved nature means that the site retains an excellent variety of wild flowers. The site supports 12 chalk and 3 acid/neutral grassland indicator species.

Site Designations

Designation

Churchyard
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

Site Features

<u>Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
Features	Gardenised (Flower beds present)
Features	Veteran/notable Trees
Geology	Upper Chalk
Management	Mowing
Management	Non-intervention
Usage	Managed For Wildlife

Priority Habitats

Priority Habitats

Lowland meadows

Area

Notable Species

<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Status</u>
-------------------	--------------------	---------------

<i>Briza media</i>	Quaking-grass	IUCN (EN2014) - Near Threatened
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	IUCN (EN2014) - Near Threatened
<i>Spinus spinus</i>	Siskin	County Important

HBIC

Survey Details

Cliddesden Churchyard 04/09/2015

Habitats Recorded

Priority Habitats

Lowland meadows

Area

National Vegetation Classifications

MG6, Lolium perenne-Cynosurus cristatus grassland

60 %

MG1, Arrhenatherum elatius grassland

20 %

MG5b, Cynosurus cristatus-Centaurea nigra grassland: Galium verum subcommunity

20 %

Species Recorded

<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Notable</u>
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	R	
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	R	
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow	F	
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	R/O	
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	OLA	
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	O	
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	R	
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	FLA	
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords-and-Ladies	R	
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False-brome	R	
#- <i>Briza media</i>	Quaking-grass	R	Y
<i>Carex divulsa</i>	Grey Sedge	R/O	
- <i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge	O	
<i>Carex spicata</i>	Spiked Sedge	R	
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	O	
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	R	
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	R	
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	OLA	
<i>Cotoneaster</i>	Cotoneaster	R	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	R	
<i>Crepis vesicaria</i>	Beaked Hawk's-beard	R	
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	R	
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair-Grass	R	
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	R	
- <i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	O	
<i>Galium mollugo</i>	Hedge Bedstraw	FLA	
- <i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	OLF	
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb-Robert	R	
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	O	
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground-ivy	R	
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	OLA	
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	OLF	
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	O	
<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious	R/O	Y
<i>Lamium album</i>	White Dead-nettle	R	
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	F	
- <i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	Rough Hawkbit	F	

<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Notable</u>
~ <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Oxeye Daisy	O	
<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	Common Toadflax	O	
~ <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	FLA	
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i>	Smaller Cat's-tail	R	
~ <i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear-hawkweed	OLA	
~ <i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>	Burnet-saxifrage	R/O	
<i>Pinopsida</i>	Pinopsida	R	
~ <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	F	
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	R	
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	O	
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren Strawberry	R/O	
~ <i>Poterium sanguisorba</i>	Salad Burnet	F/A	
#~ <i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	O	
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	R	
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	R	
<i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	Yellow-rattle	FLA	
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog-rose	R	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	O	
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	O	
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	R/O	
# <i>Senecio erucifolius</i>	Hoary Ragwort	R	
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common Ragwort	R/O	
<i>Tanacetum vulgare</i>	Tansy	R	
<i>Taraxacum</i>	Dandelion Agg.	O	
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	OLA	
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	O	
<i>Trisetum flavescens</i>	Yellow Oat-grass	R/O	
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	R	
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	O	
<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Notable</u>
<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Sparrowhawk	P	
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Goldfinch	P	
<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Woodpigeon	P	
<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Jackdaw	P	
<i>Turdus merula</i>	Blackbird	P	
<u>Taxon Name</u>	<u>Taxon Common Name</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Notable</u>
<i>Spinus spinus</i>	Siskin	15	Y

Species Summary

Total no. of species :	72
# No. of acid/neutral grassland indicators :	3
~ No. of chalk grassland indicators :	12

Notes

Habitat Classifications :

BAP Priority: Habitats identified as the highest priority for conservation action in the UK

NVC: A system of classifying natural habitat communities according to species associations

Phase 1: A standardised system for surveying, classifying and mapping broad wildlife habitats including urban areas

Peterken: A stand type classification that describes woodlands by tree species

Indicators Species :

- * Ancient Woodland Vascular Plants (AWVP) - species most strongly associated with ancient woodland and are typical components of botanically rich ancient woodland communities
- # Acid/neutral grassland indicators - species which seldom occur outside of unimproved acid/neutral grasslands or are indicative of a long period of uninterrupted grassland management
- ~ Chalk grassland indicators - species characteristic of unimproved chalk downland or have a strong affinity to calcareous soil

Species Abundance:

Frequency: D=dominant A=abundant F=frequent O=occasional R=rare L=locally

Frequencies within brackets () indicate non-native occurrences

Habitat and Species designations and statuses:

Habitat designations/categories and species legislation/statuses are correct at the time the report was generated and may not necessarily reflect those applicable either at the time of survey or later than the generated date.

Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

Cliddesden Churchyard, 4th September 2015



(1). Herb rich sward, Cliddesden Churchyard

sharing information about Hampshire's wildlife

The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre Partnership includes local authorities, government agencies, wildlife charities and biological recording groups.

General description and management

Cliddesden is a small rural village situated in the edges of the mid-Hampshire chalklands, just south of Basingstoke. The churchyard is situated on the southern edge of the village on one of the main access roads to the downs.

This is a perfect example of a southern English country churchyard, excluding the kind of effortless charm that only comes after generations of care and attention by the parishioners.

The churchyard here is also still full of life, as (unlike many churchyards) it has largely escaped being reseeded and herbicided and being too heavily mown, so it still retains an “agriculturally unimproved” character. This predominantly unimproved nature means that the site retains an excellent variety of wild flowers. The site supports 12 chalk and 3 acid/neutral grassland indicator species.

Parts of the churchyard are mown regularly, but this tends to be restricted to high traffic areas, with the majority of the rest of the site either subject to an annual hay cut regime, or are cut only occasionally.



(3). Taller and denser grass sward behind the church

Communities

(1). [MG5b]: *Cynosurus cristatus* - *Centaurea nigra* grassland.; *Galium verum* sub-community.

Somewhat counter intuitive that the main “hay cut” grass sward here should be classified as an unimproved Neutral Lowland Meadow type sward, rather than the expected Lowland Chalk Grassland. This could be an indication that there has been some scattering of wildflower seed locally. However here as this community is quite widespread and often quite similar in character, it may also be an indication that this gently sloping “lower down” was always slightly more neutral in character, than the more freely draining “normal” chalk grassland swards. It could also indicate the presence of a clay cap to the chalk in and around the churchyard. Cut annually as a hay crop. (IHS:-GN1Z, SC2,GM22).

Canopy :-	Scattered to moderate cover of church yard trees and shrubs.
Flora :-	Herb rich sward, with Yellow-rattle (A), Salad Burnet, Cowslip, Bird’s-foot Trefoil,

Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

	Common Vetchling, Ribwort Plantain, False Oat-grass, Yellow Oat-grass, Creeping Bent, Cock's-foot, Red Fescue, Yorkshire-fog, Field Bindweed and Quaking-grass.
--	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

(2). [MG6]: *Lolium perenne* - *Cynosurus cristatus* grassland.

Short regularly mown swards.(IHS:- GNZ, SC2, GM23).

Flora :-	Good variety of herbs still present, with Mouse-ear Hawkweed locally frequent.
----------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

(3). [MG1]: *Arrhenatherum elatius* grassland..

Less regularly cut swards, tending to be dominated by taller ranker grasses, but still a good variety of herbs present. Structurally diverse, with anthills present. (IHS:-GNZ, SC2, GM4).

Flora :-	False Oat-grass, Creeping Bent, Field Bindweed, Hedge Bedstraw and Creeping Cinquefoil.
----------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Ian Ralphs, Field Ecologist, HBIC

sharing information about Hampshire's wildlife

The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre Partnership includes local authorities, government agencies, wildlife charities and biological recording groups.



Hampshire Biodiversity
Information Centre

HBIC Survey Programme 2015
Cliddesden Churchyard
SU63304910

Scale at A4: 1:600

© Crown copyright and database rights 2016 Ordnance Survey [100019180]. You are permitted to use this data solely to enable you to respond to, or interact with, the organisation that provided you with the data. You are not permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.

