



MANHOOD WILDLIFE AND HERITAGE GROUP



# **Snowhill Triangle**

## **West Wittering Parish Council**

### **West Wittering**

## **Management Plan draft 4.0**



Jane Reeve © 08 April 2025

## **5 - Year Management Plan**

### **September 2025 - September 2030**

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## INFORMATION GATHERING

Source and Liaison	Information provided
West Wittering Parish Council	Land Registry documents and historical information
West Wittering Estates	An understanding of the previous management regime
West Wittering Sailing Club	An understanding of their user needs
Chichester Harbour Conservancy	The footpath management and maintenance regime. Conversation with the CHC Ecologist
Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre	Ecological data search for Snowhill

## ACRONYMS

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CHC	Chichester Harbour Conservancy
MWHG	Manhood Wildlife and Heritage Group
RAMSAR	Wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
SAC	Special Area for Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
WSCC	West Sussex County Council
WWPC	West Wittering Parish Council

## PURPOSE OF THIS MANAGEMENT PLAN

**West Wittering Parish Council are governed by S40 Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 to conserve and enhance biodiversity and this Management Plan has been prepared in recognition of that overarching legal duty.**

**This management plan is designed to give a current overview of the site, to summarise any historical facts that are pertinent to its management, consider all the interested parties, to identify the main habitat types of Snowhill, and the threats, and to put forward a simple management regime to maintain, and if possible, enhance, the habitat offer to a wide range of species.**

**The month-by-month plan of action in each area, and the breaking down of the site into sections, should make the management simple.**

**The overall aim is to improve biodiversity, build resilience and reduce threats to wildlife in an area stressed by climate change.**

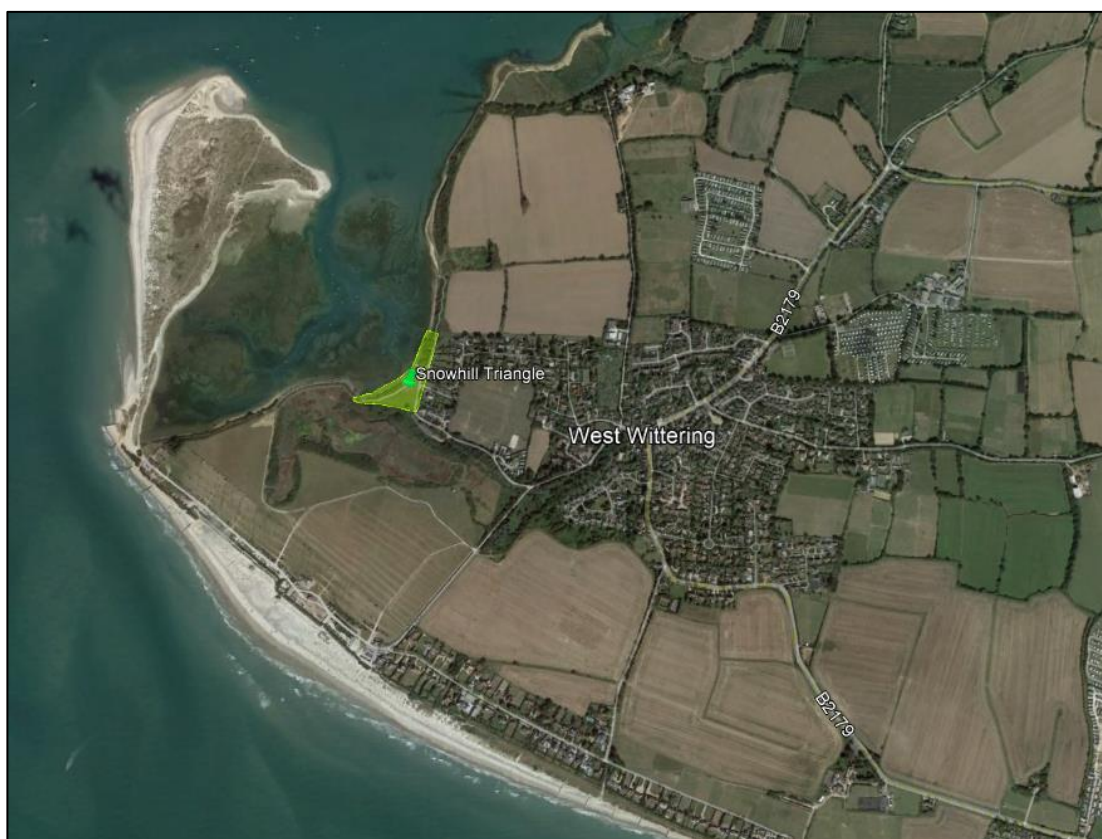
## PART 1 - INTRODUCTION – information about the site

### Snowhill Triangle - 5 Management Plan - September 2025 - September 2030

<b>Site Name</b>	Snowhill Triangle
<b>Location</b>	///nods.burglars.clock
<b>Grid reference</b>	SZ 77288 98585
<b>Area of site</b>	11,045m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Local authority</b>	Chichester District Council
<b>County</b>	West Sussex County Council
<b>Landowner/s</b>	Snowhill Charity with West Wittering Parish Council as the sole Trustees (owning all the land within the area shown on page 6)
<b>Contacts</b>	Parish Clerk - <a href="mailto:clerk@westwitteringparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@westwitteringparishcouncil.gov.uk</a> West Wittering Estates PLC – <a href="mailto:mwa@westwitteringbeach.co.uk">mwa@westwitteringbeach.co.uk</a> MWHG contact: Jane Reeve - <a href="mailto:jane@mwhg.org.uk">jane@mwhg.org.uk</a>
<b>Right of Access</b>	Public rights of access are limited by the byelaws displayed at both ends of the access road. These include no parking and no damaging or removal of plant material.

### Site Location

Snowhill Triangle is to the south-west of the Manhood Peninsula and is off the main road into the village, Rookwood Road (B2179), the main route to the beach. It falls within the Chichester Harbour AONB.





## Site Description

Snowhill is named after the white poplar trees that have been onsite for many decades and whose leaves, when they fall, look like snow.

This site is a complex one as it is situated adjacent to the extremely popular visitor attraction of West Wittering beach and has part of King Charles III Coastal Path running through it. This means that there is a great deal of footfall, dog walking and recreational activity onsite with all the inherent downsides of litter, dog poo, dumped full dog waste bags and antisocial behaviour.

The site is made up of a large grassy area bordered to the east by residential dwellings, mainly holiday homes that are not occupied year-round.

To the south is the West Wittering Estates wetland area that offers important habitat for waders with areas of freshwater, brackish water, saltmarsh, scrub, and mudflats.

To the north-west side of the triangle shaped pieces of land that makes up Snowhill is a very small section of Chichester Harbour coastal shoreland. This is made of small sized shingle and gravelly sized sand. There are chains either side of the access point, one managed by West Wittering Sailing Club and the other by West Wittering Parish Council. There is an earth bank that transitions the grassy area of the triangle, fringed by some gorse bushes, to the tidal area and sand/shingle substrate.

To the north of the site is a narrow sections that has the remains of a brick and flint dwelling that used to be a fisherman's hut. The roof has now collapsed and only low-level pieces of wall and stone can be seen amongst the vegetation. There is quite a dense area of blackthorn here and some informal paths can be seen cut into it to allow access and viewpoints out to the harbour.

Along the coast edge and near to the ruins of the fisherman's cottage are benches for people to sit and enjoy the view. Some of these benches are tucked onto the gorse and hidden away which gives some respite from the wind.

There are two bins for rubbish and dog poo on the site as well. At the entrance to Snowhill Triangle, from the Coastguards Lane, there is signage about the site, a dog poo bin and bag dispenser, and a general rubbish bin.

The grassy area itself has the England Coastal path running through it, plus a hard surface track for residential houses access, and an informal footpath running along the southern side. This leaves a clear triangle of grass in the middle with some desire line paths walked in by pedestrians and dogs. The England Coastal path runs along a slight ridge in the ground, a high point on the site, and is quite stony and well-trodden.

The southern boundary is fenced and a section of the unmanaged vegetation from the neighbouring land belongs to West Wittering Parish as part of the Snowhill Triangle plot. There are a couple of large white poplar trees on this boundary. This area offers important scrub habitat and there is also extensive bracken.

On the eastern boundary, where there are dwellings, 3 white poplar trees are present, key to the name of the site. The road cuts through the grassy area along this stretch, almost dividing the site and giving the illusion that the gardens from the houses extend to the road when this is still part of Snowhill triangle. The grass is mowed very short in this section.

Snowhill Triangle as a whole offers a range of micro habitats and opportunities for different species.

There is an area to the south-west called the Crabbing Pool and this is where the water drains out of the small wetland area and into the sea. This crabbing area has been used by locals for many decades but is not advertised or signed as there are no rails and there is a steep drop into the water. There are signs saying that it is

dangerous but it is still well used by holiday makers. *This management plan does not cover the Crabbing Pool.*



## Site Importance

There are three European designated sites which partly overlap with the West Wittering Neighbourhood Plan area: the Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar Site and Special Protection Area (SPA), and the Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC). The Bracklesham Bay Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Chichester Harbour SSSI and two Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) are also located within the Neighbourhood Plan area, containing habitats and species listed in the annexes of both the European Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and the European Birds Directive (79/409/EEC). There are also three Local Nature Reserves (LNR) located within proximity to West Wittering.

Regarding the three European designated sites which partly overlap with the Neighbourhood Plan area, the Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for 'The Solent' 12 outlines that public access / disturbance and coastal squeeze are two of the key pressures and threats facing the ecological features of these sites. (WW NP SEA)

The Parish Council have a duty, under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, s.40, to conserve [and enhance] biodiversity and to consider how to further this objective. The parish owned land is the appropriate place to do so.

## Historical information

In 1952 the Church Commissioners for England, transferred the land and beach at Snowhill to the West Wittering Parish Council as a gift, under the Open Spaces Act of 1906, to require and hold the land for the purpose of open space. The parcel of land covers 3.512 acres or thereabouts.

A separate parcel of land (SX6895), including an old fisherman's dwelling, which abuts the Snowhill triangle land to the north, is part of the site. An area of land between the fence line to the south of Snowhill and the water channel on the mudflats wetland area, is also part of the land that makes up the Snowhill site (WSX167941).

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1995 an agreement was drawn up between West Wittering Parish Council (WWPC) and West Wittering Sailing Club (WWSC) to cover the maintenance of Snowhill beach and the chains used for mooring dinghies. WWPC have ownership of the chains to the north of the slipway and WWSC manages those to the south subject to an agreement with WWPC.

## Recent management interests

Different sections of Snowhill Triangle has been managed in the past by different organisations. West Wittering Estates have previously managed the majority of the land and habitats on the site. This has involved frequent mowing of the grass area, leaving the risings onsite, and cutting back the gorse and hardier shrubs onsite.

The section of England Coastal footpath heading north is managed by WSCC and the Chichester Harbour Conservancy to ensure year-round access with regular cutting of any hedge and tree branches to prevent them threatening the path. The surface of the path has also been regraded with different hogging as recently as July 2025.

## Land surrounding the site

Snowhill Triangle sits within the Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and adjacent to the Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar Site and Special Protection Area (SPA), and the Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Therefore, it has importance for a variety of species and the potential to support a wide range of marine life.

The site also sits next to an area of residential development and West Wittering beach, a very busy tourist attraction. This close proximity to human activity does present some management challenges.

## Other interested parties

**West Wittering Sailing Club** – Commodore Jeremy Haynes

**Adjacent residents** - 9 adjacent properties – Snowhill Cottage, Wayfield, Yellow Hammers, Sussex Gorse, St Gabriels, Street End, Stone Cottage, South Nore, Creek House

**West Wittering Estates** - own and manage the adjacent West Wittering Beach and wetland area

**Chichester Harbour Conservancy** - manage the National England Coastal footpath across the site

**National Trust** – manage the adjacent East Head spit



## Management Team

West Wittering Parish Council own the site and will use a contractor to carry out much of the management and maintenance work.

## Habitat areas and recent management



**Semi-Improved Grassland** - the central area of the site is made up with semi-improved grassland which has been heavily mown in the past. This has left it with floristically low biodiversity and little to offer pollinating insects. Over the past 3 years the site has been mown less frequently and allowed to grow up and this has resulted in a different plant community forming and more wildflower species colonising the site. To continue with this biodiversity gain it is recommended that mowing only takes place at the end of February/start of March, and the start of September, and ALL risings are removed from the site. This should deplete the fertility of the soil and encourage a better range of native wildflowers which in turn offer food for a range of bees, bumble bees, hoverflies, beetles, wasps, butterflies and moths.

This area contains a small copse of white poplar suckers. These will mature into large trees if not mown off annually. They are the result of the nearby mature trees being managed and sending out suckers from the roots.



There is a small colony of rabbits that use the Snowhill grassland for forage evidenced by rabbit droppings, and this takes pressure off the neighbouring unfenced gardens that could otherwise suffer more damage.

**Gorse Scrub** - the gorse area at the front of the site facing the sea is extremely important for wildlife. It offers food for insects and dense foliage as habitat for birds and small mammals. This area should be allowed to develop while carefully cutting it back by hand to prevent its ingress onto the England Coastal Path. Cutting should be avoided during bird breeding season, end of February until the start of September, so as to minimise disturbance. This gorse acts as a windbreak for the site and birds such as sparrows can be heard in it sheltering from the winds and people.

**Blackthorn scrub** - the blackthorn scrub area is valuable for small birds who will nest in this area and use it to shelter during windy periods. The blossom offers food for early emerging bees and other insects, and fruit later in the summer for larger birds and small mammals. Along the coastal margin this blackthorn is able to withstand the strong salty winds and also acts to hold the earth cliff in place. This blackthorn will need to be gently managed to ensure it doesn't cover the path and interfere with access. It should only be managed during the winter months when it is dormant and not during bird breeding season. It has recently had an unexplained hard cut and removal way beyond the limits of the path, possibly to allow a better view of the sea but this should be avoided as it will contribute to bank erosion, more footfall and future loss of land.

**Bracken margin** – this area to the south of the site offers a buffer against the important wetland area preventing dogs and people easily accessing the fence line and breaking into the sensitive adjacent habitat. Bracken will spread via the underground rhizomes and should be annually managed to prevent this. It is best cut once a year during the growing season in May / June or July / August. **Beware** of cutting it in late summer or September when it starts to release spores as they are carcinogenic and have health implications if breathed in. The dead material should be removed from site. The bracken will have to be managed to impede its efforts to spread into the main grassland area.

**Wetland scrub area** - this area should be allowed to evolve and does not need any management. It is forming a valuable scrub area useful to a range of small bird species and offers protection to the saltmarsh and mudflats that are used by waders and wildfowl. Monitoring to ensure that no Hemlock Water Dropwort or other invasive species colonise the site is important but natural successional processes should be allowed to take place unless they are seen to be having a detrimental effect on any of the protected bird species.

**Mature Trees** - the trees onsite should be monitored annually for their health as there is a public liability issue with such dense recreational site use. The trees, if seen as a risk, damaged or diseased, should not be felled but their limbs managed. Any wood cut or a product of natural wind damage should be kept cut up and kept onsite. Dead wood areas can be created against the fence on the southside or placed inside the blackthorn scrub. This will offer a food source to beetles and other invertebrates and then birds and bats. If a tree is felled, it can be left as tall as possible as dead standing wood, one of the rarest habitats in the UK, but important for woodpeckers, owls, bats and insects such as stag beetles.

## Threats

**Recreational disturbance** - this is significant at this site with hundreds of people walking and using this site during the summer months. Dinghies get dragged across

the grass to access the ramp area to the water's edge. This all damages the grassland habitat. Increasing signage and education could help and but more regular bin emptying and litter picks during the busiest periods will be essential.

The grass area is also often parked on and driven over by cars, despite no access permitted, damaging the vegetation, compacting the soil structure, creating large ruts in the soil surface that encourages erosion.

**Dog poo and litter** - dogs are seen off lead most of the time and defecate across the site. Some owners do watch their dogs and pick up after them and some do not. There is litter dropped across the site and the wind blows it into the surrounding fenced area, the gorse and into the adjacent wetland area. There are bins but once they get quite full the litter blows out of them. The dog poo and the litter is a direct and indirect threat to wildlife.

**Land grab and over-mowing** - the area of grassland by the houses, whose gardens extend to the Snowhill triangle land, is mown very short, and appears to have become an extension of the gardens. This land belongs to the Snowhill Charity with the West Wittering Parish Council the sole Trustees and mowing by the residents is prohibited by the byelaws and must stop. The land is to be managed as party of the rest of Snowhill with a reduced mowing regime to improve its biodiversity.

**Climate change and sea level rise** - the coastal edge is made up of friable soils and is at risk of coastal erosion with climate change and sea level rise. Over time land has been lost to the sea, especially with tidal surges and intense storms and this is likely to increase. Ensuring there is good vegetation cover, binding the soil together, is important to try and mitigate the erosion and land loss.

## Biodiversity of the site

A report was commissioned from the Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre in April 2025 to gain species information about Snowhill and a 100-metre buffer around the site. The report showed that within this area were statutory sites present - 1 SAC / 1 SPA / 1 Ramsar / 1 SSSI / 1 AONB. It also showed that there were 4 Section 41 habitats. The report also showed protected and designated species reported within this area - 34 species of international designation, 84 species of national designation, and 181 with other designations. It also showed that 13 invasive non-native species had been recorded in this area too.

This shows that the position of Snowhill is extremely important and appears to be host to a large range of species. These need to be considered with the site management.

## Part 2 – FUTURE MANAGEMENT

### Future Overall Aims and Objectives for the site

### TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE BIODIVERSITY OF THE SITE

#### Objectives per habitat

- Semi improved grassland** - maintain a healthy abundance of mixed wildflower species through reduced mowing. This should offer a wide range of flowering plant species through the year offering a food source to pollinating insects. Allow hardy wildflowers such as thistles, teasels, and ragwort to develop as these are an excellent food source for goldfinches and other birds in autumn. Through reduced mowing, twice a year at most and the collection and removal of all vegetation debris from the

site, this should encourage wildflower diversity. Where possible avoid cutting teasels so that the seeds can be used during the winter months by birds.

Before mowing a walk over of the site should take place to remove any litter, preventing it from being shredded and spread through the vegetation, and to identify any amphibians or reptiles that may need relocating. A pick-up of dog poo and full dog poo bags will also be necessary for the safety of the mowing operator and, again. To prevent its spread.

2. **Gorse scrub areas** - ensure there is a healthy amount of gorse onsite. Allow the gorse to develop so that it offers a thick barrier against the coastal edge, fortifying the soil cliff, preventing erosion, and offering great habitat to insects, birds and small mammals. Careful management with hand tools in autumn to prevent it growing out towards the England Coastal footpath will be necessary.
3. **Blackthorn scrub areas** - ensure that this area is maintained and allowed to develop. The blackthorn scrub is a great habitat for nesting birds, cuts the wind effects from Chichester Harbour and helps to combat soil erosion of the cliff edge. Gentle management during the winter months to ensure that it doesn't impede the footpath will be necessary but bird breeding season should be avoided.
4. **Bracken margin** - keep this margin in check with a light cut during the growing season just near to the informal footpath. Do not remove completely as offers important habitat for amphibians and reptiles and is a good buffer against the fence and the wetland area.
5. **Wetland area** - maintain a healthy and diverse vegetation margin against the sensitive saltmarsh and wetland habitats. The trees are growing up as a barrier and should be allowed to do so. This site requires no action unless an invasive species is seen that requires removal.
6. **Mature Trees** - to maintain healthy trees that offer good habitat to other species. These should have an annual review to ensure their health but no action is required unless a limb looks damaged and as if it may need to come down. All dead wood can stay onsite, piled up as a habitat for invertebrates.
7. **Seating area by the old Fisherman's cottage** - this area is a viewpoint for visitors to look across the harbour and may require some strimming in spring and summer. However, a fingertip search of the area to be cut should be carried out first as the common toad *Bufo bufo*, which isn't common, has been found around the benches. These should be relocated to safe nearby areas of long shaded vegetation so that no individuals get injured. During the summer months, footfall and the lack of rain may well slow down grass growth and strimming too frequently could render this area bare of vegetation.

## TO MAINTAIN ACCESS TO THE SITE

1. **England Coastal Path** - keep managed and don't allow large vegetation ingress (bramble, teasel, thistles, gorse) in the grassland area, and blackthorn to the north section of the path.
2. **Southern informal footpath** - bracken management (May/June) (July / Aug) (not Sept when Bracken has spores) maybe required twice a year during the growing season to prevent the spread of this plant into the grassland area.



- 3. Bench sites** - ensure access to the benches, and the removal of nettles and spreading bramble, with targeted strimming, when necessary, of the backs and fronts of the benches, only after a check of the area for amphibians and reptiles. This will prevent unwanted damage of the vegetation around these seats as people try to access them or remove the unwanted plants themselves. These benches are memorial benches and need to be treated with respect and access ensured.

### Future Operational Actions

Action	Objective	Management
<b>Limited mowing of the grassland area</b>	To ensure a wider range of wildflowers can develop which then offer a more food over a longer period for a larger number of other species.	Cut grass area once in early March if the ground is not too soft, and then again in late August, and REMOVE all the risings from the site. This will reduce the fertility of the site over time and help the wildflowers to thrive.
<b>Cutting back the gorse</b>	To ensure it does not encroach onto the national England Coastal footpath.	Gentle cutting in winter months, not bird breeding season, and the risings placed under the bushes to offer extra habitat.
<b>Cutting back the blackthorn</b>	To ensure that it does not encroach onto the national England Coastal footpath.	Cut in winter months, not bird breeding season, leave the risings on site as dead wood habitat.
<b>Cutting the bracken</b>	To prevent it spreading into grassland area.	Cut twice during the growing season but before the end of August when the spores are released. Risings need to be removed from site to prevent regrowth and nutrification of the soil.
<b>Reviewing the trees</b>	To prevent unexpected limb loss.	Annual review of the white poplar and other large mature trees onsite to ensure any risks of disease identified. Trees not to be removed but managed where possible if this occurs.
<b>Cutting around benches</b>	To ensure easy access and prevent gorse and blackthorn bush damage.	Gently cut the gorse and blackthorn around the benches, only if necessary, through the spring and summer seasons (bearing in mind it is bird breeding season so great care required) to ensure that the public do not damage this vegetation in an effort to make more space. Only cut nettles and brambles to make access easier.
<b>Control of native invasive vegetation</b>	To reduce competition with less hardy native species	Action taken in accordance with site requirements. Plant and root extraction using hand tools. Disposed as green waste offsite

Action	Objective	Management
<b>Control of non-native plants identified by as injurious</b>	To eradicate or restrict the spread of aggressive non-native species	Action taken in accordance with national directives. Removal using hand tools with all cut material disposed of as advised.
<b>Litter</b>	The clearance of litter and fly-tipped rubbish	Carried out during routine work on the site and responsibly disposed of Call CDC if large scale tipping occurs
<b>Surveys</b>	Ecological surveys (baseline and species specific) taken in the interest of habitat improvement and to ascertain the success or otherwise of the management regime.	Carried out by volunteers on a quarterly basis. Results passed to MWHG and Sussex Biological Records Office via iRecord.
<b>Fixed point photography</b>	To maintain visual site record	Carried out by volunteers to record progress and changes onsite

### Tools needed for management work

Tools	Use
<b>Mower</b>	To do long and short cuts, and with ability to gather up the cut material for taking away.
<b>Strimmer</b>	To be used sparingly and carefully so that tree trunks and lower vegetation not intended to get cut is not damaged.
<b>Loppers</b>	To cut vegetation - thick brambles and thin branches (no larger than a finger)
<b>Shears</b>	To cut grasses, reeds, thin brambles, and nettles
<b>Pole saws</b>	To trim back higher branches in trees and bramble growing through tree canopy
<b>Silky saws</b>	To cut thicker tree branches in tight places, to cut through bramble, and to saw up logs for habitat piles
<b>Bow saws</b>	To cut thicker tree branches and trunks where there is more space around the area to work
<b>Litter pickers and bags</b>	For picking up glass, litter and any debris without having to touch it, and for reaching into difficult to get to areas

### Risk Assessment

Hazards	Risk	Action
Lyme disease Borreliosis	Tick borne bacterium	Clothing and body should be checked after working
Hemlock water dropwort <i>Oenanthe crocata</i>	All parts poisonous	Wear protective gloves and wash hands

Hazards	Risk	Action
Glass and other sharp litter	Puncturing skin	Wear gloves and long sleeves and gather any pieces of glass or metal found and dispose safely
Uneven ground	Slipping and falling	Wear strong boots with ankle support
Bracken	Inhaling spores	Wear a face mask when cutting this plant to avoid inhalation of spores Avoid carrying out cutting from late August to October
Brambles	Puncturing skin	Wear protective clothing and eye wear
Nettles	Cause skin irritation	Wear protective clothing
Bee and wasp stings	Bee hives situated adjacent to site and can cause an allergic anaphylactic reaction. Wasp nests can sometimes be found in old rabbit burrows or vole holes, as well as in bushes and trees.	Check no one has a known allergy and if yes EpiPen or oral / cream antihistamine available. Check area to be worked on prior to activity to identify any possible wasp nests.

### Priority species

Name	Habitat	National status	Status
Daubentons bat, <i>Myotis daubentoni</i>	Feeding sites - ponds and wetlands	Priority species	Abundant and protected

### Extra information

- Ivy is good on trees – please do not remove on the trunks of trees – it offers a great habitat for invertebrates, birds, bats and small mammals, and is one of the last food sources in late summer for pollinators such as butterflies, wasps and bees.
- Ragwort is an important food source for pollinating insects and by the end of the summer, when it has been very dry, this can be one of the last food sources, along with ivy flowers. It is the food plant of the cinnabar moth which has bright yellow and black stripy caterpillars, and in its adult form is an eye catching red and black day flying moth. Ragwort is poisonous to farm animals when bailed but provides no threat to humans or dogs at Snowhill, and the grass here is not going to be used as animal feed. Dog poo is a greater threat to human and livestock health than ragwort.

### Summary

To maintain the suitability of Snowhill Triangle for a wide range of species, carrying out sensitive and timely management is key. The site is heavily used by visitors and this both directly and indirectly impacts wildlife. Mowing the vegetation as little as



possible will encourage biodiversity and the establishment of microhabitats with specialist species. This small site, adjacent to the sea, can become a haven for insects and birds and a real biodiversity asset to the parish.

### **Attached to this document**

Appendix 1: Species lists

Appendix 2: List of Non-Native species to be aware of and to remove

### **Relevant sources of information**

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 -

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/schedule/5>

Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/contents>

Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006,s.40

<https://www.lexisnexis.co.uk/legal/legislation/uk-parliament-acts/natural-environment-and-rural-communities-act-2006-c16/part-3/section-40>

## PART 3 - MANAGEMENT PLAN 5 - YEAR PROGRAMME

### What to do when, where and how

Season	Work	Where	Why
<b>AUTUMN</b>			
<b>September</b>	Mow the grassland area and collect and remove all the cut material	Main grassland zone	To remove the wildflowers & grasses that have seeded. Removal of material will keep fertility low and encourage wildflowers
	Avoid cutting any teasels	Main grassland zone	Important food source for birds
	Carry out a weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
<b>October</b>	Trim back the gorse along the England Coastal path to ensure it is well back	On the England Coastal path by the grass land zone	To ensure easy access for pedestrians
	Trim back the blackthorn	On the England Coastal path heading north.	Take care as the trees will be bearing fruit and DO NOT want to remove much of this as an important food source for the birds.
	Check the mature trees	Across the site	Check these before going into winter to remove any suspect branches – bird breeding period now ended.
	Carry out a weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
<b>WINTER</b>			
<b>November</b>	Carry out a weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
<b>December</b>	Carry out a weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
<b>January</b>	Carry out a weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
<b>February</b>	Walk over site to remove litter and dog poo and then mow the grassland area, if ground dry enough and won't cause compaction or damage and collect and remove all the cut material. If too	Main grassland zone	To remove any early growth and to decrease soil fertility.

# Snowhill Triangle Management Plan

## September 2025 - September 2030

### Draft 4.0

Season	Work	Where	Why
	wet – leave until March		
	Check gorse area for a last trim	Across the site	To ensure access for the public through the spring and summer months
	Check Blackthorn scrub area for a last trim	Along the England Coastal footpath heading north off the site	To ensure access for the public through the spring and summer months
	Carry out a weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
<b>SPRING – no more cutting of bramble or trees – bird breeding season</b>			
<b>March</b>	Mow Grass IF NOT carried out in February	Main grassland zone	To remove any early growth and to decrease soil fertility.
<b>April</b>	Floral survey	Across the zone	To record the floral diversity of the site and update it on iRecord.
	Mow in a path along the southern border, collecting and removing the debris	Between the grass zone and the bracken	To make the site look managed and to guide people, preventing wildflower damage.
<b>SUMMER– no cutting of bramble or trees – bird breeding season</b>			
<b>May</b>	Cut the flower heads of the hemlock water dropwort to prevent them creating seed	Across the zone but especially on the banks of the water way	To prevent spreading and to ensure the biodiversity of the site.
	Carry out a weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
	Mow either side of the main footpath	Either side of the England Coastal footpath	To make the site look managed.
	Mow in a path along the southern border, collecting and removing the debris	Between the grass zone and the bracken	To make the site look managed and to guide people, preventing wildflower damage.
	Mow or strim around the benches to ensure easy access.	Benches across the site	Avoid damaging the gorse.
<b>June</b>	Survey for bats and birds	Across the site	To record which species are using the site and update the information to iRecord
	Mow or strim around the benches to ensure easy access.	Benches across the site	Avoid damaging the gorse.
	Carry out a daily / weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife



# Snowhill Triangle Management Plan

## September 2025 - September 2030

### Draft 4.0

Season	Work	Where	Why
<b>July</b>	Survey for bats and birds	Across the site	To record which species are using the site and update the information to iRecord
	Mow or strim around the benches to ensure easy access.	Benches across the site	Avoid damaging the gorse.
	Carry out a daily / weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife
<b>August</b>	Floral survey	Across the zone	To record the floral diversity of the site and update it on iRecord.
	Mow or strim around the benches to ensure easy access.	Benches across the site	Avoid damaging the gorse.
	Cut the bracken	To the west of the site	So that it doesn't spread into the main grassland zone
	Carry out a daily / weekly litter pick	Across the whole site.	Remove all litter a hazard for people and wildlife

**Monitoring Note** - A report of all work carried out on the site could be compiled monthly. At the end of each year this could be written up as an annual report and attached to the Management Plan.

## Photo library of site

April  
2022



Vegetation first season of less mowing



King Charles III coastal footpath

June  
2022



Wildflowers in the grass sward



Informal footpath through the vegetation

Sept  
2023



Main Snowhill Area



King Charles III coastal footpath

May  
2024



Wildflowers in the main Snowhill area





Jan 2025



Bracken area, south side of Snowhill



Crabbing Pool

March  
2025

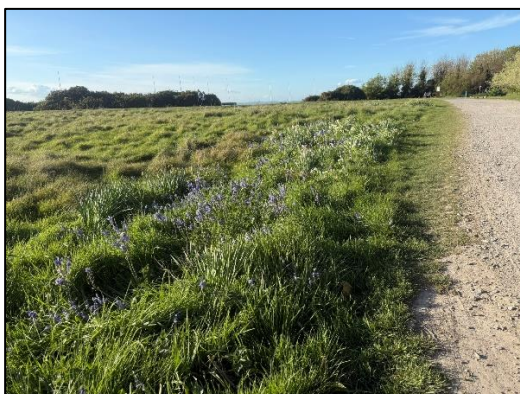


The remains of the fisherman's dwelling



Blackthorn at the north end of the King  
Charles III coastal footpath

April  
2025



Bluebells and wildflowers in main area



White Poplar suckers growing against  
the eastern access road

June  
2025



Bracken area to the west of the site  
which is good reptile habitat



Parish Council owned area of Snowhill  
being mown by residents



## Assets onsite

### Memorial Benches



In gorse looking over the harbour



At the north end of the site looking over Snowhill vegetated areas



Overlooking the harbour along the path near to the Crabbing Pool



Overlooking the harbour next to the gorse and bramble



Seating area near to the old Fisherman's dwelling



### Signage



At the entrance to Snowhill by the Coastguard Lane entrance



At the Roman Landing entrance to the site



## Bins



Rubbish bin and dog poo bin at the Roman Landing north end



Rubbish bin, dog poo bin and dog poo pick up bag dispenser at the Coastguard Lane entrance



Rubbish bin at the Crabbing Pool

## Paths



King Charles III coast path looking north



Informal path from Coastguard Lane looking north



Path along the south side between Coastguard Lane and the West Wittering beach



Coastguard Lane / Roman Landing access road on Snowhill

## References

West Wittering Neighbourhood Plan 2019 - 2029, post examination version, Oct 2023

Strategic Environmental Assessment for the West Wittering Neighbourhood Plan, West Wittering Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, February 2020

Environmental Report to accompany the Regulation 14 version of the Neighbourhood Plan. West Wittering Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. February 2020 (*WW NP SEA*)

Chichester Harbour Management Plan, 2019 - 2024, Third Review, An Integrated Coastal Zone Management Strategy for the Trust Port and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre ecological data search for land at Snowhill, West Wittering dated 23/04/2025 reference number SxBRC/25/009