

## County Wildlife Site Survey Form (Ref. No.2191)

**Site Name:** Boon's Heath  
**Grid reference:** TM 470925  
**District:** South Norfolk

**Parish:** Aldeby/Burgh St Peter  
**Area:** 2.8ha  
**Survey date:** 28/07/18

Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*)-dominated heath on sand and gravel, with scattered trees and occasional patches of blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) scrub. Some old (possibly coppiced) oaks (*Quercus robur*) occur, mostly to the south-west. Other trees include ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), silver birch (*Betula pendula*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*).

A picnic area in the north of the site is regularly cut, keeping the bracken lower and allowing sheep's sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*) and mosses to increase across this area.

During the summer months the tall, dense bracken and areas of bramble make much of the site impassable to the casual visitor. Some paths are kept open, most notably Soft Road (the south and east boundary path), and a central north-south path, linking Gray's Road in the north to the southern stretch of Soft Lane.

There are areas of past sand extraction to the east of the site. The west of the site becomes increasingly steep-sided, with the central low area dense with tall bracken and patches of bramble.

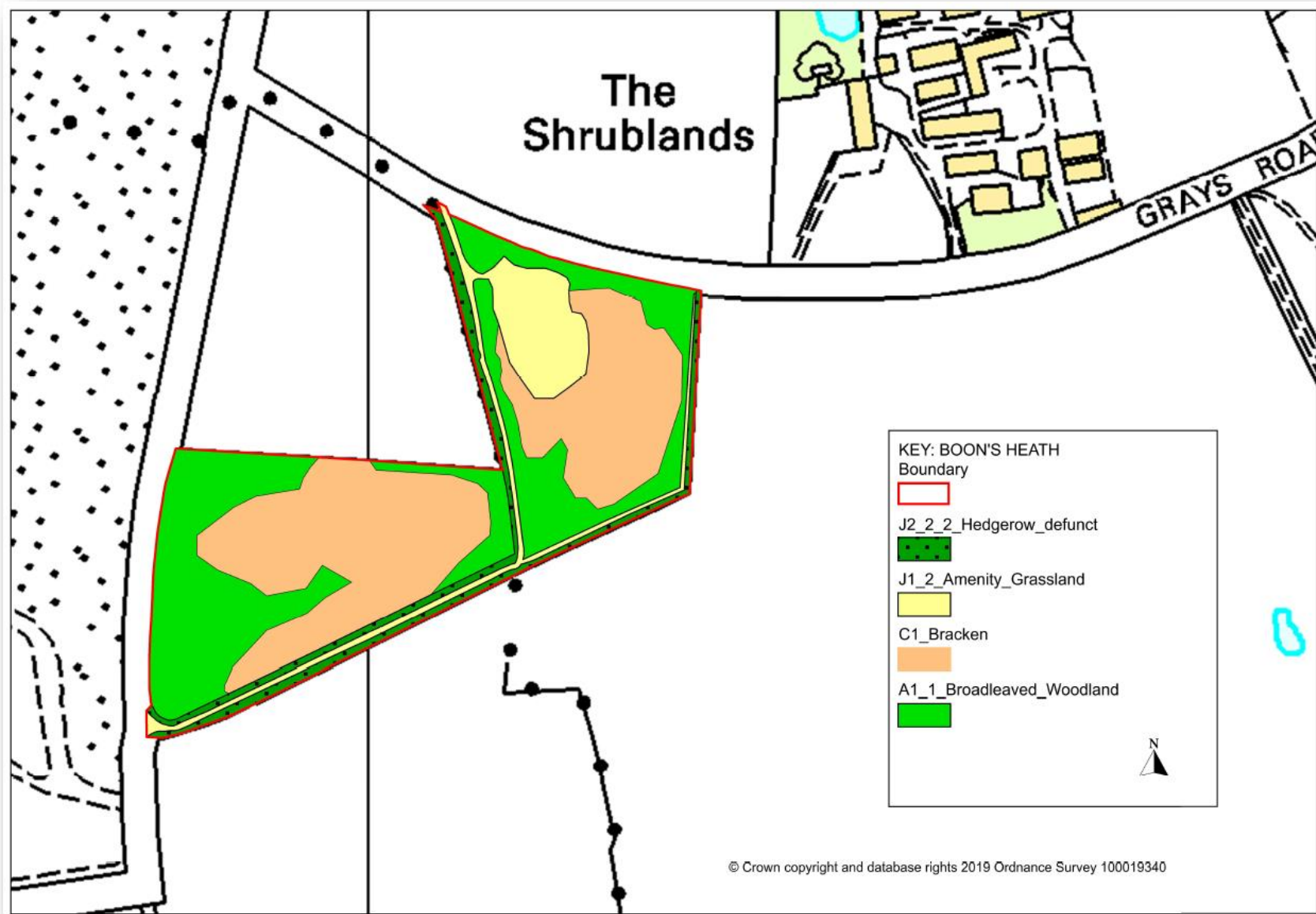
A newly planted but well-established field maple (*Acer campestre*) and spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) hedge occurs on the northern edge of this western part of the common.

Other areas of less-well established new hedging occur on the south, east and west site boundaries. There is a stretch of remnant hawthorn hedge by the north-west access point to the common.

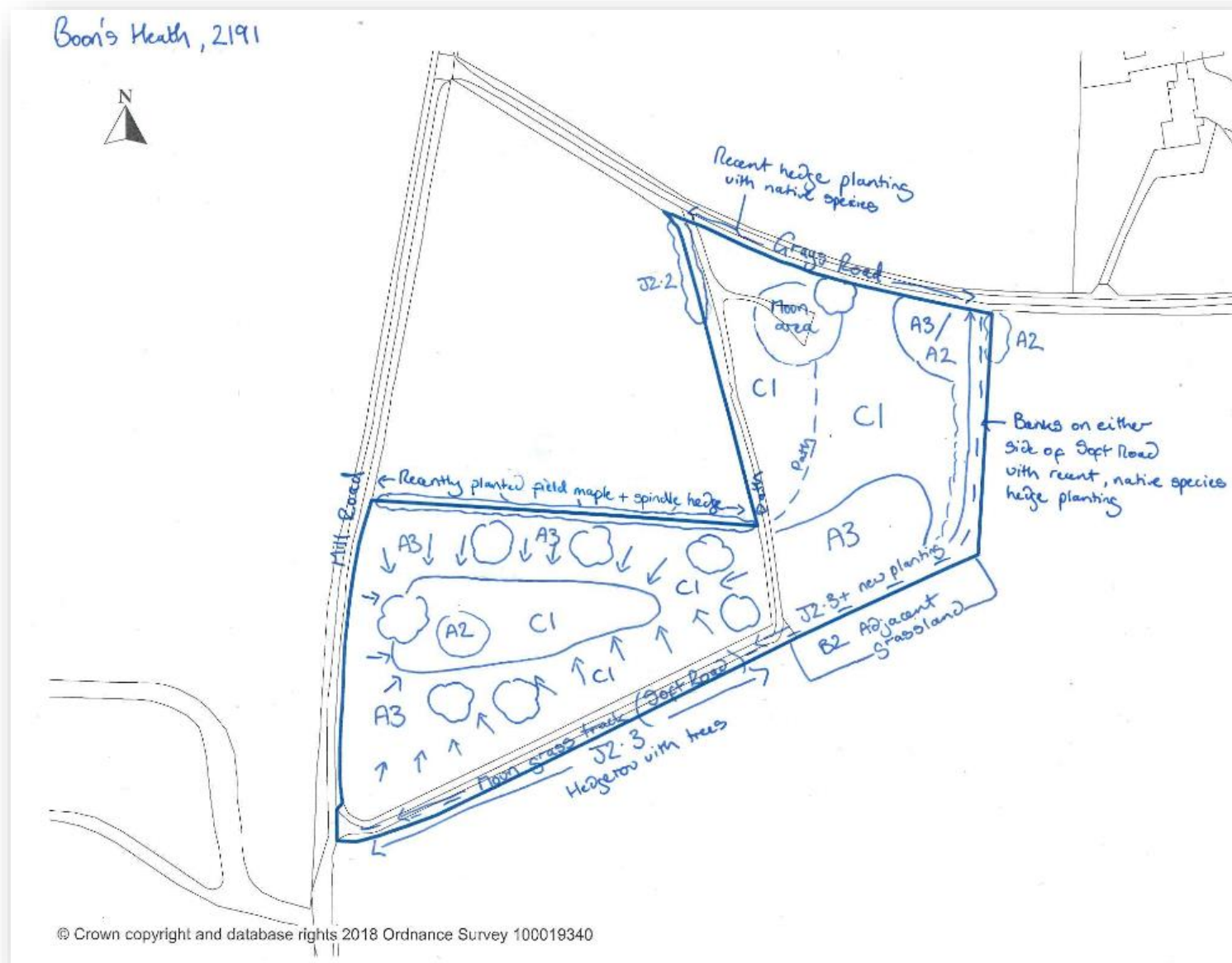
An area of neutral grassland has been established to the immediate south-east of the site, just beyond the boundary, this includes ox-eye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) and Lady's bedstraw (*Galium verum*).



## Habitat Map



Annotated habitat map if available:





### Other notable species:

*Include non-plant species eg turtle dove/barn owl/dingy skipper*

From speaking to visitors to the site they have seen slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*), grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*) and adder (*Vipera berus*) on site, but these were not recorded by the surveyor.

For list of fauna see end of document.

### Adjacent habitats/potential buffer zones & linkage to other sites:

The site has a landfill site (previously a quarry) to the west; agricultural land to the north, south and east. Areas to the south have been used for sand and gravel extraction, but are now restored to farmland, with access gates from the Boon Heath. A stretch of neutral grassland has been sown to the south of the south-east boundary.

The River Waveney is further to the south of the site, with Barnby Broad and Marshes SSSI.

### Is the site in positive conservation management?

Bracken is regularly cut in north of site, around the picnic area. Evidence of recent planting of native species to restock the hedge in northeast, and in other areas on boundaries and along Soft Road. Paths seem to have been kept open for access around the edges of the site.

### Brief management proposals:

*Eg should the site be grazed/cut & raked off/coppiced/thinned etc*

Continue to manage areas of bracken – consider extending areas to other parts of the site to encourage grassland/heathland species. Keep footpaths open.

### Images by Carl Harrington



Old oak



Bracken



Picnic bench area



Path around site





**PLANT LIST****County Wildlife Site name & reference number:** Boon's Heath, 2191**Surveyor:** Carl Harrington

**\*Comments** – please include DAFOR for plants of note and exact grid reference (6 figure)/ location for rare/scarce species

Common name	Scientific name	DAFOR
Field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	O on north boundary
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	R
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	O
Common Bent	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	LO
Silver Hair-grass	<i>Aira caryophyllea</i>	LO
Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	LO
Lesser Burdock	<i>Arctium minus</i>	LO
False Oat-grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	LO
Mugwort	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	LO
Silver Birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	R
Barren Brome	<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	LO
Heath star moss	<i>Campylopus introflexus</i>	F in picnic area
Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium holosteoides</i>	R
Creeping Thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	R
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	O
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	O
Cock's-foot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	O
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	O
Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	O on north boundary
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	R
Common Hemp-nettle	<i>Galeopsis tetrahit</i>	LF
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>	O
Dove's-foot Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium molle</i>	R
Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	LO
Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	O
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	R
Yorkshire Fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	O-LF
Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	R-LO south-west of site
Perforate St John's Wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	O
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	R
Nipplewort	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	LO
Common Toadflax	<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>	LO
Perennial Ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	O
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	O
Bird's-foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	R

**WIDLIFE IN COMMON SURVEY**

<b>Common name</b>	<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>DAFOR</b>
Daffodil	<i>Narcissus sp</i>	LO
Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	O
Flattened Meadow-grass	<i>Poa compressa</i>	LO
Rough Meadow-grass	<i>Poa trivialis</i>	O-LF
Juniper Haircap Moss	<i>Polytrichum juniperinum</i>	O-LF
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	O
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	A
Pendunculate Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	O
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	O
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>	O
Sheep's Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	O
Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	O
Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	O
White Campion	<i>Silene alba</i>	R
Alexanders	<i>Smyrniolum olustratum</i>	LO, on road verge
Common Chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	O
Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	O
Common Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	LO
Common Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	O-LF
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	LO
Squirreltail Fescue	<i>Vulpia bromoides</i>	LO
White dead nettle	<i>Lamium album</i>	O
Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>	LO
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum sp.</i>	LO
Creeping bent grass	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	LO
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	F -south side of common
Meadow buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	O
Wood sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>	LF on edges of Soft Road
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	R
Cats ears	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	R
Cherry tree	<i>Prinus sp.</i>	R
Juniper haircap moss	<i>Polytrichum juniperinum</i>	R
Lady's bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>	R
Heath star moss	<i>Campylopus introflexus</i>	R
Neat feather moss	<i>Pseudoscleropodium purum</i>	R
Knapweed	<i>Centaurea sp.</i>	R
Elm	<i>Ulmus minor</i>	R
Smooth sow thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	R
Sheep's sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosella</i>	LF - Covering picnic area
Creeping soft grass	<i>Holcus mollis</i>	O
Smooth hawks beard	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	R
Lords and ladies	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	R - On Mill Road verge

Common name	Scientific name	DAFOR
Great lettuce	<i>Lettuce opium</i>	R
Black horehound	<i>Ballota nigra</i>	R - on Mill Road verge
Polypody fern	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	R
Broad buckler fern	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	R - on Mill Road verge
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	LO
Sweet vernal grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	LO

## Fauna list

### Mammal List

Date	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
7.8.18	Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	Droppings
19.5.18	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	
4.11.18	Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	
30.6.18	Red fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Active fox den on south side of site on Soft Road. Fox faeces recorded 4.11.18

### Butterfly List

Date	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
28.7.18	Speckled Wood	<i>Pararge aegeri</i>	Two recorded together
19.5.18	Large White	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	2 recorded together
28.7.18	Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>	
19.5.18	Red admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	

### Other Invertebrates List

Date	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
7.8.18	Orange Underwing Moth	<i>Archiearis parthenias</i>	
19.5.18	Buff tailed Bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>	Two recorded together
30.6.18	Large Emerald moth	<i>Geometra papilionaria</i>	
7.8.18	Common Wasp	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>	

### Bird List

Date	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
19.5.18	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos Caudatus</i>	
30.6.18	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Heard
19.5.18	Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	



# WIDLIFE IN COMMON SURVEY

Date	Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments
19.5.18	Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	2 recorded together
30.6.18	Cetti's warbler	<i>Cettia cetti</i>	
19.5.18	Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	4 recorded together
19.5.18	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	
19.5.18	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	Heard cuckoo in distance in reed area next to river Waveney
19.5.18	Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	
19.5.18	Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Adult and juvenile recorded together
28.7.18	Red Kite	<i>Falco milvus</i>	Circling over site
19.5.18	Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	3 recorded together
19.5.18	Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	
19.5.18	Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus Viridis</i>	Heard on site
19.5.18	Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	
19.5.18	Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	