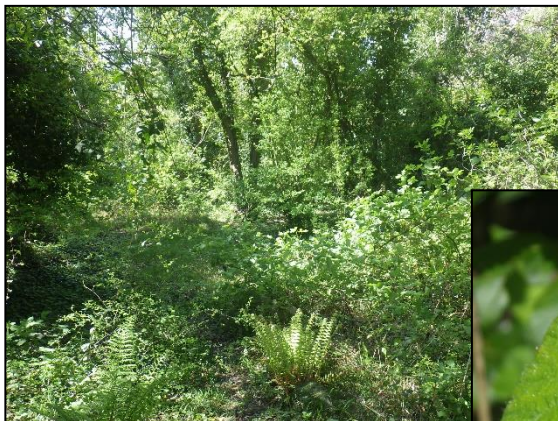


Dinas Powys Community Council

Cross Common, Dinas Powys

Ecology report



June 2026

 **Sturgess
Ecology**

Contents

1.	Introduction	1
2.	Data search	3
3.	Walkover survey	4
4.	Evaluation of nature conservation value.....	16
5.	Recommendations	26
6.	Legislation	29
Appendix 1. Species list.....		31
Appendix 2. Summary of data search records		37
Appendix 3. SINC data sheet		43

Document reference: C312/D1/V1

Cover photographs: Left: Dense scrubby woodland; right: Speckled Wood butterfly.

This document has been produced for Dinas Powys Community Council by:

Sturgess Ecology
12 Lon Ysgubor, Rhiwbina, Cardiff, CF14 6SG
e-mail: peter@sturgess-ecology.co.uk

1. Introduction

Cross Common lies on the outskirts of Dinas Powys. Its approximate central grid reference is ST158705 and it occupies approximately 3.3 hectares (33,000m²). The location is shown in red on Figure 1. Figure 2 shows the site on the register of common land. Cross Common is owned and managed by Dinas Powys Community Council, who have commissioned this survey to help inform their management of the site.

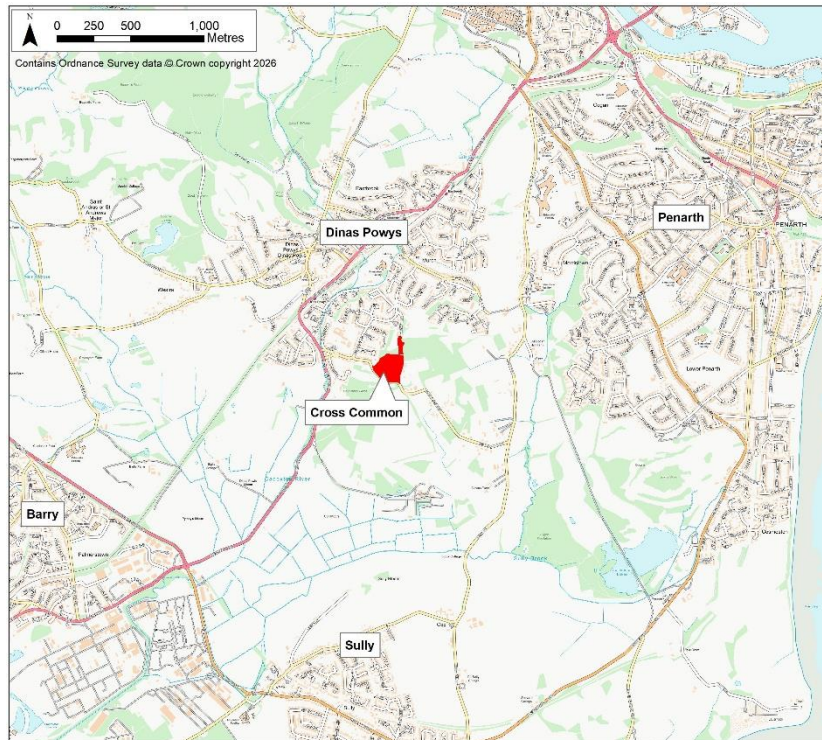


Figure 1. Site location.

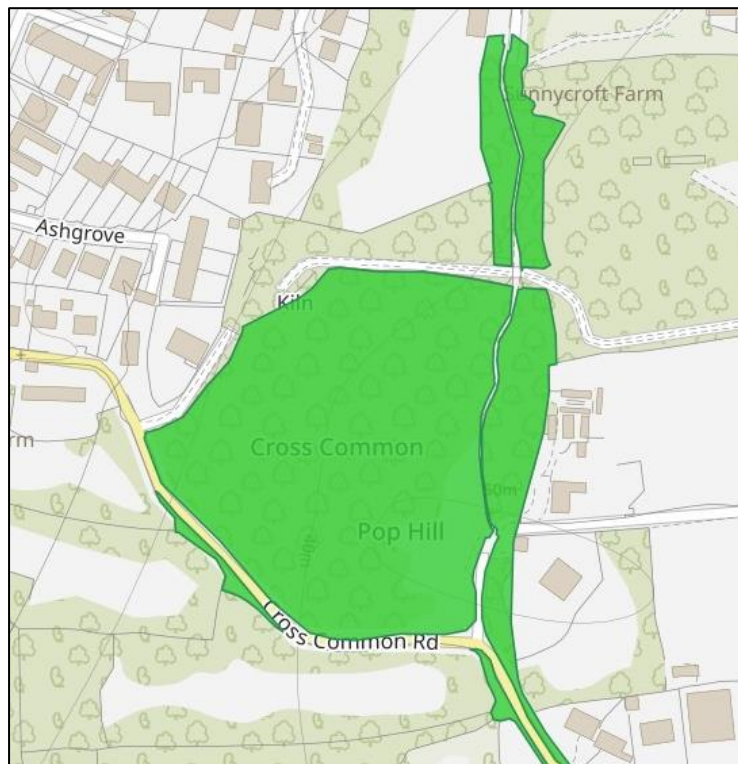


Figure 2. Registered common land (from Natural Resources Wales, Datamap Wales).

Figure 3 shows a recent aerial photograph of the Common, with the current study area boundary shown as a red line, and public bridleway as a pink dotted line. The wooded part of the site has been designated part of a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) by the Vale of Glamorgan Council. It mainly supports broad-leaved woodland, dominated by Ash and Oak. The majority of the woodland is of relatively recent origin, and apart from one central patch, old maps show the Common as mostly open habitat with patchy trees in the early 20th Century, with a quarry tramway dividing the northern and southern parts. The old tramway still divides the site into two. The open ground, not included in the SINC, is now limited to a relatively small patch of grassland and scrub in the south-east corner, which includes the access tracks to Pen-y-Bryn and The Old Willow, and there is also a very narrow strip of grassland beside Cross Common Road. The extreme northern end of the Common close to Sunnycroft Farm appears to have been subject to recent construction-related disturbance and currently supports a driveway, seeded grassland and disturbed ground.



Figure 3. Aerial overview 2025

Figure 4 shows a map extract from when the Common supported much more open habitats.

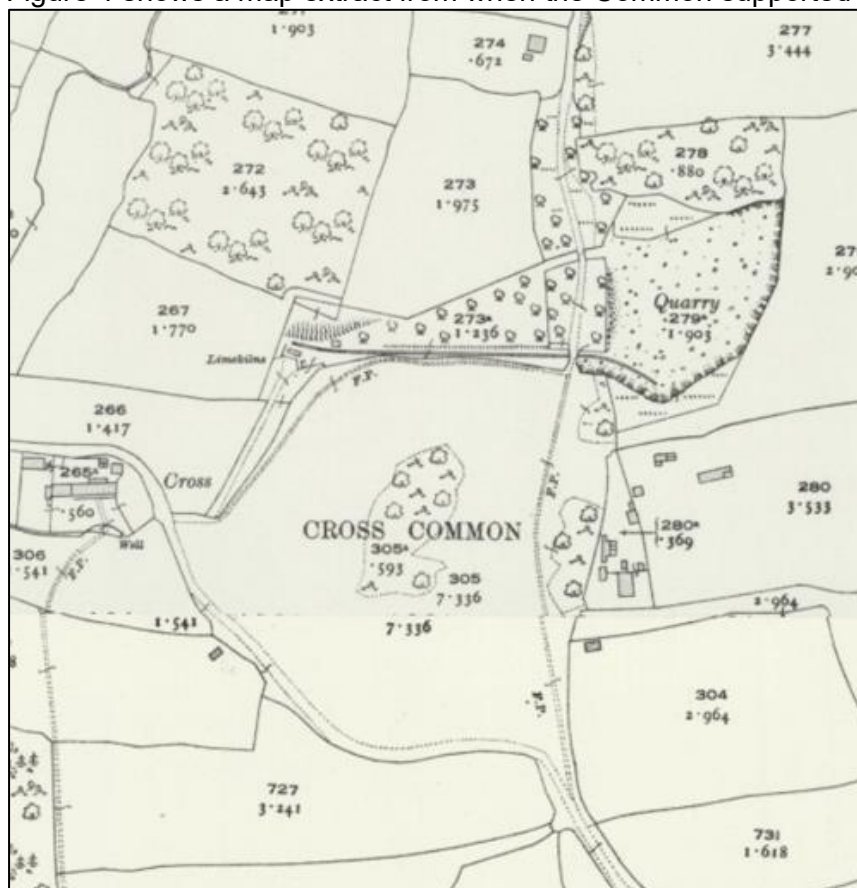


Figure 4. Extract from OS 25 inch map 1892 to 1914

2. Data search

The following sources of existing ecological data were reviewed:

- A data search from the South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBRc) was carried out. The search was for all records within a 200m radius of the site boundary (search reference 7133295).
- The Vale of Glamorgan County Ecologist checked the council records and provided a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation data sheet for the Cross Common SINC (SINC 297, which includes much of Cross Common and the larger area of woodland to the east, from a survey in 2009).
- The Dinas Powys Community Council Clerk provided a previous ecology survey (from 1998) and several plans of the Common.

The SEWBRc data search showed that there are several very active wildlife recorders close to Cross Common. The data comprised a total of 1,514 records, which included 344 species. A summary of the search data is included as Appendix 2. Over half of the records were of birds, and many of these were included in the search because they had been recorded on a 1km grid square basis. A breakdown of the data is as follows:

- Vascular plants: 93 species (199 records)
- Mosses: 16 species (16 records)
- Fungi: 4 species (4 records)
- Invertebrates: 164 species (241 records)

- Amphibians: 3 species (13 records)
- Reptiles: 1 species (3 records)
- Birds: 57 species (1,029 records)
- Mammals: 6 species (9 records).

The data for the Common include several locally uncommon species, including a mix of woodland and grassland plant species. A few uncommon grassland plants including Dyer's Greenweed, Dwarf Thistle and Slender Hare's-ear were recorded, but not in the last 50 years, and this probably reflects the way the site has become overgrown by scrub woodland. A good number of invertebrate records were obtained, but most of these relate to common and widespread species. Notable species include Silver-washed Fritillary butterfly, Dingy Skipper butterfly, Glow Worm and Wasp Spider. Unfortunately Great Yellow Bumblebee, which was recorded in 1913 is now extinct in Wales. Common Toad, Palmate Newt and Common Frog have all been found nearby in the last 5 years, and there are also several recent records of Slow Worm. The data confirmed a good range of common woodland birds, with the most notable including Pied Flycatcher, Spotted Flycatcher, Redstart, Green Woodpecker and Bullfinch. Wild mammal records include Hedgehog, Bank Vole, Grey Squirrel and Fox, and there are several nearby records of bats.

The SINC data sheet is included as Appendix 3. The 2009 SINC survey and 1998 survey are discussed later.

3. Walkover survey

The site was initially visited on 25 August 2025 (briefly), and the main survey took place on 21 and 25 April and 22 June 2026. Visiting on several occasions was intended to gain an understanding of the main habitats at key times of the year and a better overview of the issues affecting the site than would be possible with a single visit.

The site was described using 'extended phase 1 habitat survey'¹ approach, to provide an account of the main habitat features and mix of plant species, supported by photographs of key features. The habitat categories have been simplified and kept as non-technical as possible. A list of the plant and animal species seen during the survey is presented in Appendix 1.

The habitat survey map is presented in Figure 5. Specific parts of the site are described by Target Notes in Table 1. Each target note includes a photograph, a brief description of the habitat, the main plant species present and any other features of possible significance to wildlife or habitat management. The habitat plan is based on an aerial photograph. It should only be considered approximate because the habitat features have been plotted by eye. In addition, most of the plant communities tend to merge gradually into one another so do not have clearly defined edges.

¹ Institute of Environmental Assessment (1995). Guidelines for baseline ecological assessment.

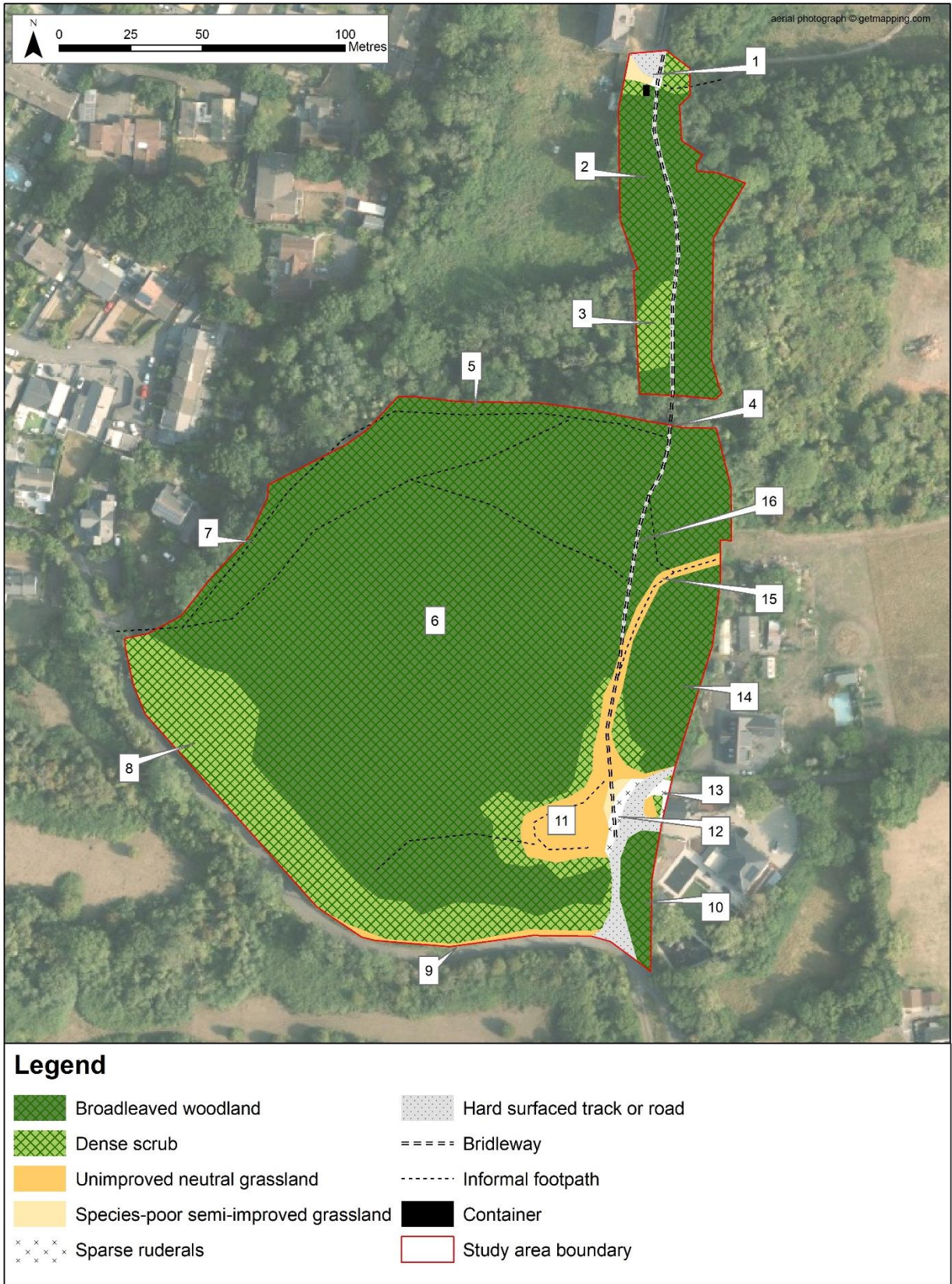


Figure 5. Habitat survey plan

Table 1. Target note descriptions.

TN	Description/ photographs
1	Driveway and derelict ground near Sunnycroft Farm. (Not investigated in detail due to uncertainty of the boundary position). The driveway to Sunnycroft Farm is an unvegetated stone-surfaced track. It is bordered by a mown strip of species-poor grassland and a belt of Bramble and Butterfly-bush scrub. There is a derelict metal container beside the bridleway. This is partly covered by Ivy and Bramble and the door is open. It appears to contain abandoned building materials. 
2	Northern woodland block. A strip of broadleaved woodland with a canopy of mature Oak, Ash, Hazel, Sycamore and Field Maple, and understorey shrubs including Dogwood, Wild Privet, Hawthorn, Hazel, Spindle, Holly, Field Rose, Blackthorn and Elder, with locally abundant Bramble. The ground flora is dominated by Ivy, with patchy associates including Enchanter's Nightshade, Wood Aven, Dog's Mercury, Hart's-tongue Fern, False Brome, Red Currant and Lords and Ladies. Ivy extends into many of the trees and Traveller's Joy is also locally prominent as a climber. The eastern fence-line did not appear to correspond with the boundary shown on the land registry plan, and the surveyor did not access the land beyond the fence and 'private woodland' signs. 

TN	Description/ photographs
3	Northern scrub area. An area of very dense scrub, with relatively few taller trees, mainly Sycamore. and Ash. Bramble, Butterfly Bush and Blackthorn form a thick shrub layer, and abundant Traveller's-joy and Ivy extend into the tree canopy. 
4	Old tramway (Not accessed). An old sunken trackway bordered by steep earth banks. It is shaded by the woodland either side and appears to support a similar woodland ground flora. The earth banks beside the bridleway near to the tramway support a number of species that were scarce or not seen in the more shaded parts of the wood, including Glaucous Sedge, Common Dog-violet, Early Dog-violet, Chalk Comb-moss, Curly Crisp-moss and Fox-tail Feather-moss. 

TN	Description/ photographs
5	Northern margin. The broadleaved woodland parallel with the old tramway has a canopy of mature Oak and Ash, with frequent Hazel and Sycamore. Understorey shrubs include Bramble, Dogwood, Wild Privet, Hawthorn, Hazel, Spindle, Holly, Yew and Field Rose. The ground flora includes Ivy, Dog's Mercury, Soft Shield-fern, Hart's-tongue Fern, Lords and Ladies, Enchanter's Nightshade, Wood Avens, Wood Sedge and False Brome. There is no fence demarcating the north or west boundary to this area, although an informal path runs beside part of it. A mature Western Red Cedar near to the old lime-kilns appeared to be just outside the boundary of the Common. 
6	Central woodland area. Broadleaved woodland dominated by a mix of mature Oak and Ash and some younger Sycamores. There is a dense understorey of Bramble. Other trees include Hazel, Wych Elm, Holly, Spindle, Wild Privet, and Hawthorn, with smaller amounts of Field Rose, Field Maple, Dogwood, Crab Apple, Yew, Snowberry and Blackthorn. Ivy dominates much of the ground flora and also extends into many of the trees. Traveller's Joy is also a frequent climber. Other ground flora species tend to be patchy. They include Dog's Mercury, Hart's-tongue Fern, Soft Shield-fern, Male Fern, Enchanter's Nightshade, Wood Avens, Wood Speedwell, Lords and Ladies, Wood Sedge, Pendulous Sedge, False Brome, Black Bryony, Red Currant, Honeysuckle and Gooseberry. 

TN	Description/ photographs
7	West woodland boundary. The western margin is broadly similar to TN6, but has a number of non-native garden plants including Wilson's Honeysuckle, Evergreen Spindle, Spanish Bluebell and Horse Chestnut. The woodland strip closest to the adjacent property 'Rest Harrow' lies outside of the Common, but there is no easily visible demarcation of the boundary. 
8	Scrub beside Cross Common Road. The strip of trees and bushes by the road appear to be much younger than most of the other woodland. The dominant species include Hawthorn, Dogwood, Sycamore and Bramble, with occasional Field Maple, Spindle, Butterfly Bush, Silver Birch, Ash, Crab Apple, Himalayan Honeysuckle and Dog Rose, with frequent Traveller's Joy. A low-growing fringe along the southern edge also includes abundant Field Rose and Wild Privet, and herbs including Nettle, Cow Parsley, Garlic Mustard, Greater Willowherb, Wood Dock, Hogweed, Herb Robert, Lords and Ladies, Lesser Celandine, Cleavers, Ground Ivy, Wood Avens, Wild Strawberry and Alexanders. 

TN	Description/ photographs
9	Grass and low scrub beside Cross Common Road. The eastern part of the road-side strip has a slightly wider, more grassy verge (possibly maintained by periodic cutting as shorter vegetation due to the presence of overhead lines). The flora is more diverse than the western part, dominated by Bramble, Wild Privet, tall herbs and grasses. Species present include most of those seen in the western part, plus Cock's-foot, False Oat-grass, Tall Fescue, Sweet Violet, Glaucous Sedge, Wood Sedge, Common Dog-violet, Early Dog-violet, Stinking Iris, Nipplewort, Hemp Agrimony, Honeysuckle, Perforate St.John's-wort, Wild Onion, Hedge Bedstraw, Hairy St.John's-wort, Hard Rush, Meadow Buttercup, Barren Strawberry, Bush Vetch, Grey Sedge, Spiked Sedge, Stone Parsley and Soft Sow-thistle. 

TN	Description/ photographs
10	Scrub woodland by The Old Willow. A narrow strip of scrubby woodland with several mature Oak and Ash and young Sycamore. The main scrub species include Dogwood, Willow, Field Maple, Blackthorn, Hazel, Hawthorn, Wild Privet, Field Rose and Holly. The ground flora is dominated by Ivy, with a low diversity of associates including Dog's Mercury, Lords and Ladies, Lesser Celandine, Wood Dock, Stinking Iris, Barren Strawberry, Primrose, and Hedge Bindweed. There are also a number of non-native garden plants, including Greater Periwinkle, Spanish Bluebell, Arrow Bamboo(?) and a garden Sedum. There are remnants of fly-tipped garden rubbish beside both sides of the road onto the Common. 

TN	Description/ photographs
11	South-east grassland area. An area of semi-improved neutral grassland that appears to be managed by occasional cutting rather than grazing. The grasses include Cock's-foot, Red Fescue, Yorkshire Fog, Upright Brome, Tall Fescue, Meadow Fescue, Meadow Barley, Smaller Timothy, False Brome, Crested Dog's-tail and Heath Grass. Spiny Restharrow is locally prominent, and there are a small number of Dyer's Greenweed plants. Other flora includes Agrimony, Chalk Knapweed, Red Clover, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Creeping Cinquefoil, White Clover, Zigzag Clover, Cut-leaved Crane's-bill, Lady's Bedstraw, Salad Burnet, Betony, Hogweed, Common Vetch, Hard Rush, Soft Rush, Hairy Sedge, Hoary Ragwort, Daisy, Devil's-bit Scabious, Wild Carrot, Wild Onion, and a small number of Primrose, Cowslip and False Oxlip. Some of the scrubby margins had been cut back last year and were dominated by regenerating Bramble and Willow. They also supported grassland plants and ruderals including Perforate St.John's-wort, Dyer's Greenweed, Spiny Restharrow, Red Bartsia, Germander Speedwell, Ivy-leaved Speedwell, Herb Robert, Greater Willowherb, Hoary Willowherb, Common Knapweed, Annual Meadow-grass, Cock's-foot and Timothy. Perennial Rye-grass is locally prominent near to the disturbed track. 

TN	Description/ photographs
12	Sparsely vegetated ground. A strip between the grassland and the bare stone vehicle tracks supports sparse vegetation, comprising grassland and ruderal plants. The main species are Creeping Bent, Greater Plantain, Perennial Rye-grass, Annual Meadow-grass, Creeping Cinquefoil, Ribwort Plantain, Hairy Sedge, Selfheal, Toad Rush, Silverweed, Creeping Buttercup, Daisy, Creeping Thistle, Autumn Hawkbit and Pineappleweed. 
13	Vegetation near eastern gates. A mix of low scrub, rough grassland and ruderal vegetation, including several non-native garden species. Plants noted here include Bramble, Cock's-foot, False Oat-grass, Butterfly Bush, Arrow Bamboo(?), Garlic Mustard, Hoary Ragwort, Ragwort, Ground Ivy, Montbretia, Common Vetch, Dogwood, Tutsan, Stinking Iris, Wood Dock Goat's-beard, Cut-leaved Crane's-bill, Dandelion, Lesser Celandine, Spotted Medick and Columbine. 

TN	Description/ photographs
14	Woodland beside Pen-y-Bryn. An area of scrubby woodland with several old Oaks and some Ash forming a canopy. There is a shrubby understorey of Bramble, Hazel, Ash saplings, Field Rose, Blackthorn, Spindle, Holly, Goat Willow and Field Maple. The ground flora is dominated by Ivy, and other species include Dog's Mercury, Wood Sedge, Enchanter's Nightshade, Primrose, Pendulous Sedge, Stinking Iris, Hart's-tongue Fern, Lesser Celandine and Lords and Ladies. There also are a number of non-native garden plants especially near to the boundary, including Fuchsia, Garden Daffodil, Variegated Common Ivy, Japanese Honeysuckle, Cherry Laurel, Spanish Bluebell, Wilson's Honeysuckle and Bullate Cotoneaster. 
15	Grassy track to Pen y Bryn gate. A damp, shaded, grassy strip with trampled bare mud in places, mainly fringed by Bramble. It appears to be kept clear to provide access to a Heras panel gate at the eastern boundary. The flora along the track includes Creeping Bent, Creeping Buttercup, Hard Rush, Hairy Sedge, Ribwort Plantain, Lesser Celandine, Wood Dock and Meadow Buttercup. 

TN	Description/ photographs
16	Bridleway. A recently stone-surfaced path through the woodland, fringed on both sides by a mix of regenerating scrub and woodland and ruderal herbs. The regenerating flora is also present further from the track where spoil from the surfacing work has been scattered into the adjacent woodland. The track-side vegetation includes Early Dog-violet, Common Dog-violet, Wood Avens, Nettle, Goldilocks Buttercup, Hedge Woundwort, Dog's Mercury, Creeping Buttercup, Tutsan, Hoary Willowherb, American Willowherb, Black Bryony, Cleavers, Glaucous Sedge, Lesser Celandine, Lords and Ladies and Field Rose. 

4. Evaluation of nature conservation value

The following section considers the nature conservation value of the habitats and species within the site, based on the CIEEM Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal². The primary assessment criteria in this case are the Wales Biodiversity Partnership criteria for selecting Wildlife Sites in Wales³, and the presence of protected species. The habitats and various broad groups of plants and animals are discussed separately, in approximate taxonomic order. Where a feature is considered significant, its estimated value for nature conservation is expressed in terms of the geographical context within which it is considered important.

Habitats

Most of the site is covered by broadleaved woodland, and a high proportion of this appears to be of relatively recent origin. However, the central part (within TN6) is classified in the NRW Ancient Woodland Inventory as semi-natural ancient woodland. This is shown in Figure 6, and correlates with the wooded part of the Common shown on the old map in Figure 4.



Figure 6. Semi-natural ancient woodland (from NRW ancient woodland inventory)

² CIEEM (2017) Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2nd edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

³ Wales Biodiversity Partnership (2008). Guidelines for the Selection of Wildlife Sites in Wales.

Ancient woodland is also shown at the north-east side of TN2, but this edge appears to have been fenced off from the Common and is signposted 'Private Woodland' so was not accessed. From the fence, it did not appear to differ markedly from the woodland within the Common.

The woodland supports a number of ancient woodland indicator plant species, although some were only present in very small quantity. These include the following (taken from the Wildlife Sites Guidelines):

- | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| • Barren Strawberry | • Pendulous Sedge | • Tutsan |
| • Bluebell | • Primrose | • Wood Sedge |
| • Crab Apple | • Redcurrant | • Wood Speedwell |
| • Dog's Mercury | • Remote Sedge | • Wych Elm |
| • Early Dog-violet | • Soft Shield-fern | • Yew |
| • Field Maple | • Spindle | |
| • Goldilocks Buttercup | • Stinking Iris | |



Goldilocks Buttercup, an ancient woodland indicator species seen beside the bridleway

An examination of old aerial photographs confirms that much of the woodland is less than 100 years old. For example, Figure 7 shows an extract from between 1944 and 1950, when the distribution of trees was still similar to that shown in Figure 4.

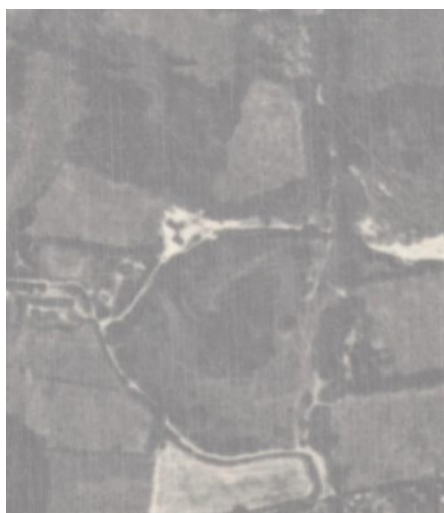
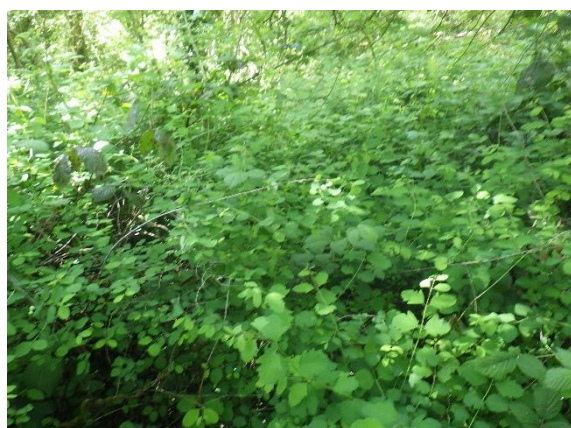


Figure 7. Extract from aerial photo 1944 to 1950. (From OS Air Photos 1:10,560, National Library of Scotland).

The low, wide branching of many of the older Oaks, even in the central part, indicates that they established in a much more open habitat than is currently present. This is likely to have been because the Common was grazed in the past, and the cessation of grazing has allowed the canopy to become more closed in recent years.

The value of most of the woodland habitat for nature conservation is good, because it supports a high proportion of old Oaks, and has plenty of standing and fallen dead-wood habitat. It also has good structural diversity and most of it is not subject to high levels of disturbance. There are a number of threats to its value, and the most obvious of these is Ash Die-back. This already appears to be causing the decline of many of the mature canopy trees and is likely to increase. In the short term this is likely to lead to an increase in Bramble, Ivy and other opportunistic species as the leaf canopy becomes less dense, and there may be an increase in dead wood habitat, but the long-term prospects are uncertain. It is possible that Sycamore might become more dominant. The lack of active woodland management is also likely to lead to a slow decline in the woodland value, as the canopy becomes denser and darker there is little disturbance of the Ivy ground layer to allow seeds to germinate. The benefit of occasional disturbance is evident near to the resurfaced bridleway, and beside several of the footpaths, where there is a relatively high diversity of woodland ground flora species (e.g. it was the only location where Goldilocks Buttercup was seen).

Another problem in the woodland is the increase of non-native plant species, especially near the adjoining properties. Most of these have either been planted or introduced by tipping of garden waste, and a few (e.g. Cotoneaster, Cherry Laurel and Himalayan Honeysuckle) may have been sown by bird or mammal droppings. Unfortunately they all have the effect of displacing native species. The non-native species are still relatively localised, but if left unmanaged some of them could potentially spread through much of the woodland habitat.



A dense patch of non-native Snowberry, effectively excluding native woodland ground flora from the area it covers.

Overall, the woodland habitat is assessed as having value for nature conservation in a county context, due to the presence of semi-natural ancient woodland, a reasonable assemblage of indicator species, and good structural diversity. This supports its current designation as part of a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation.

The grassland habitat is of variable quality, with part of it near the track in a compacted and disturbed state due to being driven over or used for parking/ material storage. Some parts have also been subject to poaching by horses in damp weather, mainly near the bridleway. However, most of it can be regarded as unimproved or semi-improved neutral grassland with a moderately diverse flora, with a strong affinity to calcareous grassland. A number of grassland indicator species are present, including the following from the Wildlife Selection Guidelines indicator lists for Lowland Meadow and Calcareous Grassland:

- Agrimony
- Betony
- Bird's-foot Trefoil
- Chalk Knapweed
- Common Cat's-ear
- Common Dog-violet
- Cowslip
- Devil's-bit Scabious
- Dyer's Greenweed
- Glaucous Sedge
- Grey Sedge
- Hairy St.John's-wort
- Heath Grass
- Hoary Ragwort
- Lady's Bedstraw
- Meadow Barley
- Meadow Fescue
- Meadow Vetchling
- Ox-eye Daisy
- Perforate St.John's-wort
- Red Clover
- Rough Hawkbit
- Salad Burnet
- Smaller Cat's-tail
- Spiked Sedge
- Spiny Restharrow
- Stone Parsley
- Tall Fescue
- Tufted Vetch
- Upright Brome
- Wild Carrot
- Wild Onion
- Zigzag Clover



Cowslip, a meadow indicator species seen in the grassland at TN11.



Spiked Sedge, a meadow indicator species seen in the grassland at TN9.



Spiny Restharrow, a meadow indicator species seen in the grassland at TN11.

As discussed above, it is likely that much more of the Common used to be grassland, and most of it has gradually undergone a natural succession to scrub and woodland in the absence of grazing. The grassland area in the south-east of the Common is managed by occasional cutting, and there appears to have been a recent attempt to cut back some of the scrubby margins around part of it. Some parts of the roadside scrub retain elements of grassland flora, indicating that the scrub has formed relatively recently. A high proportion of the Hairy St.John's-wort, Dyer's Greenweed and Spiny Restharrow plants, and all of the Stone Parsley, were in the grass/ scrub margins and where the scrub has been cut back.



A large plant of Dyer's Greenweed at the scrub margin at TN11.

The grassland habitat in the south-east of the Common is not currently included in the designated Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The disturbed edge near to the driveways is compacted and not very diverse, but the rest of the grass area is considered to be of nature conservation value in a County context because the species composition easily exceeds the SINC selection criteria. It would be appropriate for the local authority to include this as part of the SINC site when it is next reviewed and ensure that the grassland remains managed and is not left to develop into scrub and woodland.

The habitats nearest to the access points of the adjoining residential properties are of little value for nature conservation. In particular, land at TN1 near the entrance to Sunnycroft Farm that lies within the registered common land (as indicated in Figure 2) appears to have been significantly altered by recent construction and access work, an old container has been left on it, and part of it is being managed as low-diversity grass. The boundary in this area should be confirmed by a surveyor (rather than an ecologist) to clarify its current status, and this might potentially begin the process of restoring some of the disturbed area to a more favourable condition for nature conservation.

Plants

A total of 176 species of vascular plants were identified during the survey. It is likely that more species could be found by further visits, especially because species occurring at low density in a structurally complex site can be difficult to find. Most of the plants are relatively common and widespread species, but the indicator species listed previously highlight the value of the habitats, and there are a few species that are considered important for nature conservation because they are uncommon. These include the following: (taken from the Wildlife Sites Guidelines list of rare and scarce plants):

- Goldilocks Buttercup
- Hairy St.John's-wort
- Meadow Barley
- Spiny Restharrow
- Spotted Medick
- Stinking Iris
- Stone Parsley
- Upright Brome

A site containing 5 or more species from the Wildlife Sites Guidelines list is considered important in a county context, so the Common would meet this criterion.



Stone Parsley, a locally scarce plant species found in the roadside grassland at TN9.



Hairy St. John's-wort, a locally scarce plant species found in the roadside grassland at TN9.



Meadow Barley, a locally scarce plant species found in the grassland at TN11.

It is feasible that other notable plants might also be present but only at a low density. For example, woodland plants such as Thin-spiked Wood-sedge and Wayfaring Tree may be present, because they are found in several nearby ancient woodlands in the Vale of Glamorgan, and Wayfaring Tree was recorded from the Common in 1989. It is also possible that there may be notable grassland plants still present in the seedbank of the scrub areas. The SEWBReC search showed that there were records of several rare species from this locality in the past, including Yellowwort, Slender Hare's-ear and Dwarf Thistle. It is also possible that grassland indicator species such as Carline Thistle, Fairy Flax, Burnet Saxifrage and Slender St. John's-wort, which have been recorded in the area previously, might still be present in the seedbank, and could reappear if scrub were locally cut back and restored to grassland.

Unfortunately the presence of several non-native plant species detracts from the nature conservation value of the Common. Several of these are known to have invasive tendencies and some are listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, which makes it an offence to cause them to spread in the wild. Schedule 9 species found during the survey include Montbretia, Himalayan Cotoneaster and Bullate Cotoneaster. Other species considered to have a high risk of becoming invasive on the Common include Japanese Honeysuckle, Greater Periwinkle, Wilson's Honeysuckle, Snowberry and Cherry Laurel. The Bamboo was tentatively identified as Arrow Bamboo and this also appears likely to spread and displace the native flora. Tipping of garden waste appears to be an ongoing problem on the Common, so further colonisation by non-native species can be expected.



Montbretia, an invasive non-native plant listed in Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act and found in several parts of the Common.

Bryophytes (mosses and liverworts) and lichens

The bryophytes and lichens identified during the habitat survey were limited to small numbers of common species. The dense vegetation over much of the woodland floor restricts opportunities for bryophytes, and the greatest numbers were found on steeper banks (especially beside the bridleway) and on branches. A specialist survey for bryophytes and lichens would undoubtedly confirm additional species.



Chalk Comb-moss on the earth bank beside the bridleway near to the old tramway.

Fungi

The survey found only a small number of common fungi, but this is probably because of the timing of the survey, which is outside of the main fruiting season. The abundant dead wood habitat is likely to support a wide range of fungi, and further surveys would undoubtedly confirm additional species. Ash die-back has the potential to increase the amount of dead wood habitat available for fungi in the short term.

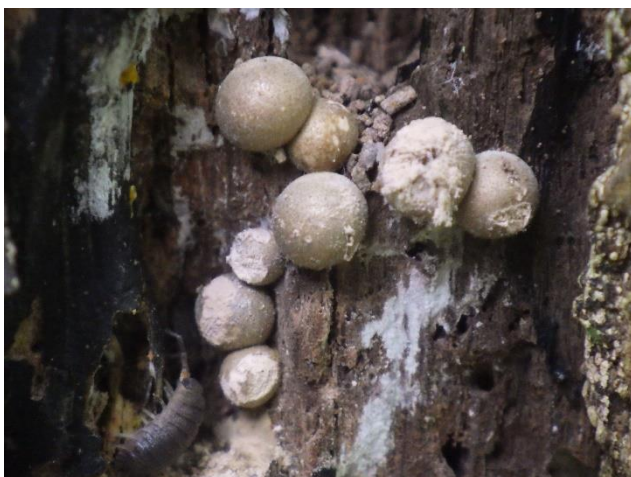
The scrub and grassland flora also has potential to support fungi, such as rusts on various plants. It is feasible that grassland fungi such as waxcaps might be present in the grassy habitat in the south-east of the Common, but this would require a check later in the year.



King Alfred's Cakes is present on several on dead Ash trees.



Barren Strawberry Rust on Barren Strawberry beside Cross Common Road.



Wolf's-milk was the only slime mould recorded during the survey, but there are undoubtedly others present.

Invertebrates

The invertebrates recorded during this survey were generally limited to the larger and more obvious species that are readily identifiable during a walk-over survey. Many of the species seen were butterflies, which were spotted in moderate numbers. This is likely to be indicative that the habitats support a good range of less obvious invertebrates. The sunny woodland edges and the grassland beside Cross Common Road appeared to be of particularly high value to mining bees. The woodland is likely to support a good diversity of invertebrates associated with dead wood habitat, such as saproxylic beetles. The invertebrate community on the site is likely to be of at least Local nature conservation value and a specialist invertebrate survey would clearly provide many more identifications. The SEWBRc data

contained many invertebrate records, with the most notable being the recent sightings of Silver-washed Fritillary butterfly from Cross Common in 2023, and Dingy Skipper butterfly from 2021. Small Heath butterfly was also observed in 1989.



Common Roller moth seen on a Bramble leaf at the edge of TN11.



Robin's Pincushion gall on Dog Rose at TN9, caused by a gall-wasp.



Common Red Soldier Beetles in grassland at TN11.

Amphibians and reptiles

No amphibians were observed during the survey, but the SEWBReC search confirmed local records of Common Toad, Common Frog and Palmate Newt. The woodland and grassland habitats on the Common would make ideal foraging habitat for amphibians. There are no breeding ponds within the search area or visible on Ordnance Survey maps within 200m, but there appears to be at least one garden pond adjacent to the Common at Rest Harrow.

No reptiles were found during the surveys, but the habitat appears likely to support Slow Worm and possibly also Grass Snake or Common Lizard. The only reptile species in the SEWBReC search is Slow Worm, and the closest record appears to be from the garden at Rest Harrow, immediately adjacent to the Common, where 5 baby Slow Worms were reported in 2023. The sunny margin beside Cross Common Road and the woodland margins beside the grass area have particularly high potential to support reptiles.

Birds

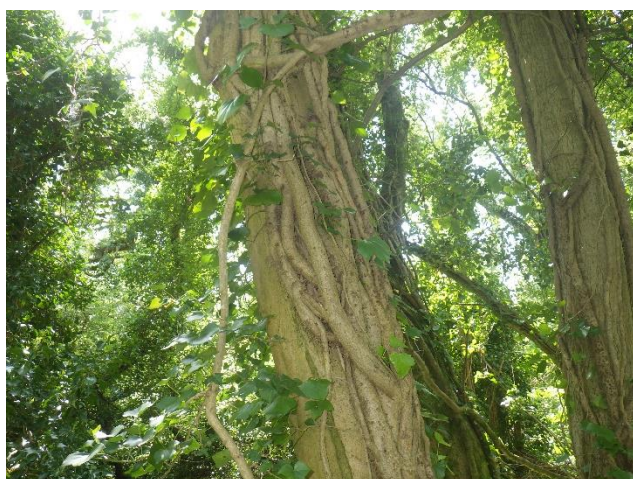
The SEWBReC data search contained many bird records from the wider area, as well as for Cross Common itself. This is largely explained by a high proportion of records being recorded as 1km grid references. The most notable bird species seen during the current survey is Bullfinch, which is included in the Environment (Wales) Act Section 7 list of species of principal importance for nature conservation in Wales (S7). Other S7 birds in the SEWBReC data search include House Sparrow, Dunnock, Kestrel and Starling. Locally notable birds recorded nearby include Green Woodpecker, Goldcrest and Willow Warbler. The woodland is likely to support a good diversity of woodland birds throughout the year.



Tawny Owl nest box near Rest Harrow at the western edge of the woodland.

Mammals

The only mammal species seen during the habitat survey was Grey Squirrel, but field signs of Fox were seen in several places, and a likely Fox den was found in a bank near the north-west boundary. In addition, there are recent SEWBReC records of Bank Vole, Hedgehog, and Common and Soprano Pipistrelle bats. The Common contains a good mix of habitats for a range of wild mammals, and the old trees and thick Ivy stems are likely to provide good roosting opportunities for bats. A specialist survey would probably confirm several additional mammal species. Hedgehog is a S7 species, and all bats and their roosts are strictly protected under UK wildlife legislation.



The thick Ivy stems on many of the older trees are likely to provide potential roosting opportunities for bats (as well as nesting birds).

Summary of nature conservation value

The nature conservation significance of the features within the Common are summarised in Table 2 below. The table breaks the features down group by group.

Table 2. Summary of nature conservation value

Feature	Summary of nature conservation importance
Habitats	County value. The woodland includes semi-natural ancient woodland and has a moderate assemblage of ancient woodland indicator species. The woodland is already designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation. The woodland currently has a good number of mature trees, structural diversity and dead wood habitat, but the ground flora diversity is relatively limited due to dominance by Bramble and Ivy. The majority of the grassland habitat at TN11 and TN9 supports a good range of meadow and calcareous grassland indicator species and also meets the Wildlife Site Selection criteria, but the disturbed grassland near the houses is currently in poor condition.
Plants	County value. The majority of the flora comprises common and widespread species, but several plants are present that are considered uncommon. (Most of these are associated with the grassland and woodland edge). NB Several non-native invasive plants are present and these are a threat to the native flora.
Bryophytes and lichens	Local value. Apparently limited to small quantities of relatively common species, but with potential to increase if the habitat quality improves.
Fungi	Probably of Local value , particularly for its abundant deadwood habitat and ancient woodland soil. A targeted fungi survey, ideally in autumn, would be needed to clarify more of the species present.
Invertebrates	Probably at least Local value but would need further survey to be more certain.
Amphibians	Probably of Local value as foraging habitat for common species, with no breeding ponds on site.
Reptiles	Likely Local value for Slow Worms, particularly in the tussocky grassland and scrubby margins.
Birds	Local value. Likely to support a good number of woodland birds, especially during the nesting season, but also overwintering and on passage.
Mammals	Likely Local value , especially for bats and small mammals.

5. Recommendations

Discussion of main issues

The main recommendation for enhancing the nature conservation value of the woodland habitat is to undertake occasional woodland management, ideally following a management plan. The woodland is currently mostly undisturbed, except for the bridleway and a small number of informal footpaths. This is good for wildlife that needs quiet conditions, such as nesting birds. However, a complete absence of management over several years has left some parts with a relatively limited ground flora because Bramble and Ivy have become heavily dominant. The effects of Ash Die-back have likely worsened this phenomenon by allowing more light through the canopy, favouring the Bramble and Ivy. The areas where

greatest woodland ground flora diversity was seen were typically close to the informal footpaths, where light trampling and occasional cutting has reduced the dominance of the understorey species. A few ground flora hot-spots were found below some of the older Oak trees where the tree canopy shading has limited the Bramble growth. However, dense Ivy was also present below some of the more shaded canopy and this also appears to limit the more interesting ground flora.

One way to increase the ground flora diversity of the woodland could be to establish a few more footpaths. These would locally help to limit Bramble and Ivy dominance and maintain small patches of bare ground by light trampling, enabling more plant species to germinate. Having more paths would also improve access to undertake small-scale woodland management tasks. Occasionally cutting back a 1-2m wide strip beside the paths could be a good way to locally reduce Bramble dominance. An informal path running parallel with the road could potentially create a circular walking route, and occasional small glades could add structural diversity.

Ash Die-back is a key factor in several parts of the woodland. Safety should be a primary consideration, which could mean removing any dangerous trees or branches near to paths. Re-planting the canopy could be considered in some areas, ideally using locally appropriate tree species. However, in some cases the loss of Ash might enable local opening up of paths or glades within the wood, or even restoring some areas to grassland, to increase the habitat diversity.

The presence of non-native invasive species is a significant threat to biodiversity, so a key recommendation would be to try to remove or at least limit the spread of these. Communication with the adjacent residents should be part of this, so that they understand the harm that might result from non-native introductions. Regular checks near to the road would also be helpful, to remove fly-tipped waste before garden plants can establish from it. In some cases herbicide treatment is likely to be needed to control well-established invasives.

The grassland habitat in the south-east of the Common and the fringe beside the road support a diverse flora, including the majority of the locally uncommon plant species. Maintaining and enhancing the grassland flora should therefore be a priority. This would also benefit reptiles and invertebrates. The grass should be cut at least annually, preferably in late summer, and ideally the grass cuttings should be removed. Cutting back the Bramble and scrub margin in the younger scrub areas would be the easiest option to try to restore grassland habitat that has turned to scrub, and there already appears to have been an attempt at this. It will probably require sustained effort over several years to control established Bramble, but repeated cutting in the spring and summer to weaken the Bramble, and targeted up-rooting of the larger plants might be tried (which could also help to re-expose buried seedbank). Alternatively, herbicide treatment may be appropriate, but this should be very carefully targeted to minimise risk to the uncommon grassland flora (for example, by weed-wiping the target species rather than spraying). Ideally any work in the spring and summer should be done by hand, to avoid harming nesting birds. Cutting back scrub beside the road might be something that could be carried out using a tractor-mounted flail.

Although major management tasks such as tree work, grass cutting or use of herbicides will need to be undertaken by contractors, it is possible that local community may also be able to help. There appears to be an active group of wildlife enthusiasts in Dinas Powys, and it would be beneficial to involve them in the ongoing management of the Common (if they are not involved already). Engaging members of the local community in simple habitat management tasks can be very helpful, not just to get the work done, but because it helps to give people a better connection with the site and its wildlife, and participants can feel happier and healthier. Increased engagement of local people with the Common could help with ongoing monitoring of the wildlife, or recognising and reporting potential problems early, or they may be able to carry out minor tasks such as litter-picking or trimming back Bramble from paths, installing

and monitoring nest boxes etc. or undertake occasional group tasks such as localised Ivy/Bramble clearance or removal of non-native plants.

The apparent discrepancy between the boundary of the Common as shown on the map of registered common land and the actual habitats and fences that are present, especially in the north of the Common, should be investigated by a surveyor to clarify the situation. If necessary, attempts should be made to restore the full extent of the Common. Installing some permanent boundary markers would also be helpful where there are no fences (e.g. beside the old tramway).

Summary of key recommendations

- Develop a management plan for the Common, to ensure that its key features are maintained and enhanced, to help plan ongoing safety and maintenance tasks, and prepare for the potential impact of Ash Die-back disease.
- Establish at least one more informal footpath to increase habitat diversity and improve access within the woodland area.
- Continue to maintain the grass areas by annual cutting (ideally raking and removing the cuttings), and try to reinstate some of the grassland that has been overgrown by scrub or damaged by construction/ vehicle access.
- Implement localised management of Bramble and Ivy within the woodland e.g. by cutting and raking small patches, to encourage ground flora diversity.
- Remove non-native and invasive garden plants.
- Seek opportunities to engage the local community in the management of the Common and monitoring its wildlife.
- Clarify the apparent discrepancies in the Common boundary and install boundary markers or fencing along unmarked boundaries where appropriate.

Recommendations for further survey

There is no immediate need for further ecological survey, and the following are mainly suggested as options for increasing the knowledge of the flora and fauna occurring on the Common. It is possible that local members of the public might be able to carry out some of these surveys.

In some situations further surveys would be necessary when planning management tasks, for example, a bat survey or check for nesting birds may be appropriate if there is a need for felling or pruning a tree.

- *Botanical survey.* Occasional surveys would be beneficial, particularly to check for the continued presence of notable species, locate non-native invasive plants to be removed, or to monitor any specific measures such as local removal of Bramble and Ivy to enhance the flora diversity.
- *Bryophyte and lichen survey.* To determine whether any species or features of high value for these groups are present.
- *Fungi survey.* To investigate which species are present (year-round, but autumn visits would probably be most productive).
- *Invertebrate surveys.* Especially to clarify whether any significant species of saproxylic beetles and other dead-wood invertebrates are present in the woodland, and to investigate whether any locally important species are present in the grassland or scrub margins.

- *Reptile survey.* Focussing on the sunny margins, particularly to check on the size of the local Slow Worm population and to identify whether any other species are present.
- *Bird survey.* To confirm which breeding birds are present and locate any habitats with special significance as nest sites.
- *Small mammal survey.* To investigate which species of small mammals are present.
- *Bat survey.* A bat activity survey to clarify which species use the site. Locating roost sites could also be useful.

6. Legislation

Several different pieces of legislation apply to the habitats and wildlife that is present at Cross Common, or which might potentially occur there. This is a simple summary of key issues to help possible management work and does not constitute formal legal advice. The law applicable to any particular situation may vary according to the type and method of work being proposed, and possibly the time of year.

Bats

All species of British bat and their roosts are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act and are classified as European Protected Species under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). This makes it an offence to capture, possess, disturb, kill, injure or trade in the animals. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act the strict protection from intentional or reckless disturbance applies to bat roosts, as well as the animals themselves. In Wales, work that is likely to affect a European Protected Species and the habitats it depends on are only usually permitted under a licence from Natural Resources Wales, even if the work is being carried out for nature conservation. Licences are usually only issued if there is no satisfactory alternative to the work and if the action 'will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species at a favourable conservation status in its natural range'. In some situations, works can be undertaken without a licence if measures are in place to ensure that no offences would be committed.

Several of the woodland trees have cavities or coverings of thick Ivy with potential to support roosting bats. Before any felling or tree surgery is undertaken the affected trees should be checked first to clarify whether there are any potential roosting cavities. If there are, the trees should be retained, or checked further to clarify that no bat roosts would be affected. Checks that would potentially involve disturbing a bat roost should only be carried out by a licensed bat worker. If a bat roost is confirmed, the tree should be retained. If this is not possible an NRW licence is likely to be required in order to proceed (the bat-worker would be able to advise on this).

Birds

All wild bird nests, while they are being built or used, are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Damage and disturbance to nests should therefore be avoided. At Cross Common nests might potentially be built in almost any the areas of woodland or scrub.

The simplest way of minimising potential impacts on nesting birds is to avoid potentially disturbing activity in their habitat during the nesting season, which is typically between March and August inclusive. If work affecting possible nesting habitat is planned during the nesting season a check should be carried out immediately before the work commences to find any nests that might be present so that they can be properly protected (even if this means delays or diversions to work around them).

Reptiles

All native British reptiles are protected under parts of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, making it unlawful to kill, injure or trade in the animals. Slow Worms are known to be present in the

locality, so reasonable measures would need to be taken to minimise the risk of killing them by any works that would affect their habitat. However, the legislation does not specify what these measures should be. Small-scale management work using hand-tools is unlikely to require any special reptile protection measures.

Wild Mammals

All native wild mammals receive protection under the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act. This makes all cruel ill-treatment of wild mammals an offence. A Fox den is present at the edge of the old tramway and small mammals could potentially occur throughout the woodland. If any work is carried out in a habitat occupied by mammals, care should be taken to carry it out in such a way that allows them to escape unharmed and does not cause unnecessary suffering (for example, as would be caused by crushing them with heavy machinery, or causing them to abandon dependent young in a nest).

Non-native invasive plants

The Wildlife and Countryside Act makes it unlawful to cause the spread of certain species of non-native invasive plants, i.e. those listed on Schedule 9 of the Act. Schedule 9 species at Cross Common include Himalayan Cotoneaster, Bullate Cotoneaster and Montbretia. Care should be taken to avoid any spread of these or other non-native species during any woodland / path management work, or when disposing of fly-tipped garden rubbish. It is possible that other Schedule 9 plants might also be present at low density, or be introduced in the future.

Appendix 1. Species list

The list was mostly compiled on 21 and 25 April 2026, with supplementary observations from 25 August 2025 (marked *) and 22 June 2026 (marked *).

It is important to note that this is the result of a general survey so should not be regarded as a full list of every species. Many more species would be recorded by specialist investigations, and/ or surveys at different times of year.

Species are arranged in taxonomic groups, in alphabetical order of scientific name. The right-hand column give a very rough estimate of abundance for the vascular plant species within the site. This uses the DAFOR scale, where D = Dominant, A = Abundant, F = Frequent, O = Occasional and R = Rare. The prefix L = Local is used where a species has a very restricted distribution within the site. Other species are simply marked as present (+). Some species were only recorded outside the site boundary, and these have been indicated in brackets, just to show they were present nearby. Non-native introduced garden plants that are undesirable for nature conservation are shown in **red text**.

Species	Common Name	DAFOR
VASCULAR PLANTS		
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	F
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	F
<i>Achillea millefolium</i> *	Yarrow	LR
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	Horse Chestnut	(R)
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Agrimony	LO
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	LF
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	LO
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic Mustard	LO
<i>Allium vineale</i>	Wild Onion	LR
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i> +	Scarlet Pimpernel	LR
<i>Anisantha sterilis</i> +	Barren Brome	LR
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	LO
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley	LO
<i>Aquilegia vulgaris</i>	Columbine (garden escape)	R
<i>Arctium cf minus</i>	Lesser Burdock	R
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	LF
<i>Arum maculatum</i>	Lords and Ladies	F
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue Fern	O
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	R
<i>Betonica officinalis</i> +	Betony	LO
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	R
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False Brome	F
<i>Bromopsis erecta</i>	Upright Brome	LF
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i> +	Soft Brome	LO
<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush	R
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge Bindweed	R
<i>Cardamine sp.</i>	Bittercress	R
<i>Carex divulsa</i>	Grey Sedge	O
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge	O
<i>Carex hirta</i>	Hairy Sedge	O
<i>Carex remota</i>	Remote Sedge	R
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	F
<i>Carex spicata</i> +	Spiked Sedge	R
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Wood Sedge	F
<i>Centaurea nigra ssp debeauxii</i> +	Chalk Knapweed	LO

<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>	Enchanter's Nightshade	F
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle	LR
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	LR
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's Joy	A
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Field Bindweed	R
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	A
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	F
<i>Cotoneaster bullatus</i>	Hollyberry Cotoneaster	R
<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	Himalayan Cotoneaster	R
<i>Cotoneaster</i> sp.	Cotoneaster (indeterminate)	R
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	F
<i>Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora</i>	Montbretia	O
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	LO
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot Grass	LA
<i>Danthonia decumbens</i> ⁺	Heath Grass	LR
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	LR
<i>Dioscorea communis</i>	Black Bryony	O
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler-fern	R
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male Fern	O
<i>Epilobium</i> sp.	Willowherb	LR
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	American Willowherb	LR
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Greater Willowherb	LF
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willowherb	LO
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	F
<i>Euonymus japonicus</i>	Evergreen Spindle	R
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp Agrimony	R
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	Tall Fescue	LF
<i>Festuca pratensis</i> ⁺	Meadow Fescue	LO
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	LF
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser Celandine	A
<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	Wild Strawberry	R
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	D
<i>Fuchsia magellanica</i>	Fuchsia	LR
<i>Galium album</i>	Hedge Bedstraw	LO
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	R
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	LR
<i>Genista tinctoria</i> ⁺	Dyer's Greenweed	LR
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill	LO
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb Robert	O
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	O
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy	O
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Common Ivy (variegated form)	LR
<i>Hedera hibernica</i>	Atlantic Ivy	D
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	O
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	LO
<i>Hordeum secalinum</i> ⁺	Meadow Barley	LO
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	Spanish Bluebell	O
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	R
<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	Tutsan	O
<i>Hypericum hirsutum</i>	Hairy St. John's-wort	LO
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St. John's-wort	LO
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	F
<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Stinking Iris	O

<i>Juncus bufonius</i>	Toad Rush	LR
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	LR
<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard Rush	LO
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	LO
<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	Rough Hawk-bit	LO
<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>	Himalayan Honeysuckle	R
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy	LR
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	A
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	LO
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	LO
<i>Lonicera nitida</i>	Wilson's Honeysuckle	LO
<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>	Honeysuckle	F
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot Trefoil	LO
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping Jenny	R
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab Apple	R
<i>Matricaria discoidea</i>	Pineappleweed	LR
<i>Medicago arabica</i>	Spotted Medick	LR
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury	F
<i>Narcissus</i> sp. (cultivar)	Daffodil	LO
<i>Odontites vernus</i> *	Red Bartsia	LO
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	Spiny Restharrow	LO
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i> †	Smaller Cat's-tail	LR
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	LO
<i>Plantago major</i>	Greater Plantain	LO
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass	LO
<i>Polypodium interjectum</i>	Intermediate Polypody	R
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield-fern	F
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	LO
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	LF
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Barren Strawberry	O
<i>Primula x polyantha</i>	False Oxlip	LR
<i>Primula veris</i>	Cowslip	LR
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	LO
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-Heal	O
<i>Prunus avium</i> *	Wild Cherry	R
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry Laurel	R
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	F
<i>cf Pseudoasa japonica</i>	cf Arrow Bamboo	LO
<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Fleabane	R
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak	D
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	LO
<i>Ranunculus auricomus</i>	Goldilocks Buttercup	LR
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	O
<i>Ribes rubrum</i>	Red Currant	R
<i>Ribes uva-crispa</i>	Gooseberry	R
<i>Rosa arvensis</i>	Field Rose	A
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog Rose	R
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> (agg)	Bramble	D
<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	Raspberry	O
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-Leaved Dock	LR
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Wood Dock	O
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	O
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	O

<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	O
<i>Sanguisorba minor</i> ⁺	Salad Burnet	LO
<i>Scorzonoides autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawk-bit	LO
<i>Sedum</i> sp.	Stonecrop (ornamental)	LR
<i>Senecio erucifolius</i>	Hoary Ragwort	LO
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort	LR
<i>Sison amomum</i>	Stone Parsley	LR
<i>Smyrnium olusatrum</i>	Alexanders	LR
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Smooth Sow-thistle	LR
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	R
<i>Stachys sylvatica</i>	Hedge Woundwort	R
<i>Succisa pratensis</i>	Devil's-bit Scabious	LR
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Snowberry	LR
<i>Taraxacum</i> sp.	Dandelion	O
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	O
<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Western Red-cedar	(R)
<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Upright Hedge Parsley	R
<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>	Goat's-beard	LR
<i>Trifolium dubium</i> ⁺	Lesser Trefoil	LR
<i>Trifolium medium</i> ⁺	Zigzag Clover	LR
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	LO
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	LO
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm	O
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle	O
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander Speedwell	LR
<i>Veronica hederifolia</i>	Ivy-leaved Speedwell	LO
<i>Veronica montana</i>	Wood Speedwell	R
<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common Field-speedwell	LR
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	LO
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common Vetch	LO
<i>Vicia sepium</i>	Bush Vetch	LO
<i>Vinca major</i>	Greater Periwinkle	LR
<i>Viola odorata</i>	Sweet Violet	R
<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>	Early Dog-Violet	O
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog-Violet	O
BRYOPHYTES		
<i>Brachythecium rutabulum</i>	Rough-stalked Feather-moss	+
<i>Calliergonella cuspidata</i>	Pointed Spear-moss	+
<i>Cryphaea heteromalla</i>	Lateral Cryphaea	+
<i>Ctenidium molluscum</i>	Chalk Comb-moss	+
<i>Didymodon fallax</i>	False Beard-moss	+
<i>Eurhynchium striatum</i>	Common Striated Feather-moss	+
<i>Fissidens taxifolius</i>	Common Pocket-moss	+
<i>Frullania dilatata</i>	Dilated Scalewort	+
<i>Hypnum cupressiforme</i> sl.	Cypress-leaved Plait-moss	+
<i>Kindbergia praelonga</i>	Common Feather-moss	+
<i>Metzgeria furcata</i>	Forked Veilwort	+
<i>Plagiomnium undulatum</i>	Hart's-tongue Thyme-moss	+
<i>Thamnobryum alopecurum</i>	Fox-tail Feather-moss	+
<i>Trichostomum crispulum</i>	Curly Crisp-moss	+
LICHENS		
<i>Evernia prunastri</i>	Lichen	+
<i>Flavoparmelia caperata</i>	Lichen	+

<i>Parmotrema perlatum</i>	Lichen	+
<i>Usnea sp</i>	Lichen	+
FUNGI		
<i>Daldinia concentrica</i>	King Alfred's Cakes	+
<i>Hypoxylon fuscum</i>	Hazel Woodwart	+
<i>Inocybe sp.</i> ⁺	Fibrecap	+
<i>Milesina scolopendrii</i>	Hart's Tongue Rust	+
<i>Phragmidium fragariae</i>	Barren Strawberry Rust	+
<i>Puccinia sessilis</i>	A rust fungus	+
<i>Rhytisma acerinum</i> [*]	Sycamore Tar-spot	+
<i>Spermosporina aricola</i>	A pathogen on Arum leaves	+
<i>Stereum rugosum</i>	Bleeding Broadleaf Crust	+
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Turkeytail	+
SLIME MOULDS		
<i>Lycogala terrestre</i> ⁺	Wolf's Milk	+
INVERTEBRATES		
<i>Ancylis badiana</i>	Common Roller moth	+
<i>Andricus kollari</i>	Marble Gall (on Oak)	+
<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>	Orange-tip butterfly	+
<i>Aphantopus hyperantus</i> ⁺	Ringlet Butterfly	+
<i>Celastrina argiolus</i>	Holly Blue Butterfly	+
<i>Chorthippus parallelus</i> ⁺	Meadow Grasshopper	+
<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i> ⁺	Garden Grass-veneer	+
<i>Diplolepis rosae</i> ⁺	Robin's Pincushion (on Rose)	+
<i>Euclidia glyphica</i> ⁺	Burnet Companion	+
<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Brimstone Butterfly	+
<i>Libellula depressa</i> ⁺	Broad-bodied Chaser Dragonfly	+
<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i> ⁺	Hummingbird Hawk-moth	+
<i>Maniola jurtina</i> ⁺	Meadow Brown Butterfly	+
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood Butterfly	+
<i>Pieris brassicae</i> ⁺	Large White Butterfly	+
<i>Pieris napi</i>	Green-veined White Butterfly	+
<i>Polygonia c-album</i>	Comma Butterfly	+
<i>Polyommatus icarus</i> [*]	Common Blue Butterfly	+
<i>Rhagonycha fulva</i> ⁺	Common Red Soldier Beetle	+
<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i> [*]	Common Darter Dragonfly	+
<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i> ⁺	Small Skipper Butterfly	+
<i>Vanessa cardui</i> ⁺	Painted Lady Butterfly	+
<i>Zygaena sp.</i> ⁺	Burnet Moth (cocoon)	+
BIRDS		
<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i> ⁺	Long-tailed Tit	+
<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	Blue Tit	+
<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Great Spotted Woodpecker	+
<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Robin	+
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Swallow	+
<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit	+
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Pheasant	+
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Chiffchaff	+
<i>Picus viridis</i> ⁺	Green Woodpecker	+
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Bullfinch	+
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Blackcap	+
<i>Sitta europaea</i> [*]	Nuthatch	+
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Wren	+

<i>Turdus merula</i>	Blackbird	+
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song Thrush	+
MAMMALS		
<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Fox (field signs)	+
<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	Grey Squirrel (field signs)	+

Appendix 2. Summary of data search records

The following data are summarised from a SEWBReC data search. It includes all records from within a 200m search buffer around Cross Common (central grid reference ST1589370548) (data search reference 7133295, 24 October 2025). The species have been split into broad groups in approximate taxonomic order. The data includes many species that were recorded beyond the 200m search buffer, because they were submitted as 1km grid square records. Species recorded with six-figure grid references or site names directly placing them within the 200m search buffer and more recently than 2000 have been shown in orange hatching, as these are most likely to occur within the study area.

It is unlikely that this is a complete record of every species present in the locality, as it only represents the records entered into the SEWBReC database.

Scientific Name	English Name	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Total Records
VASCULAR PLANTS				
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	1989	2009	4
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	1989	2009	3
<i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i>	Agrimony	1989	2009	4
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	1989	2009	4
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	1989	1989	2
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail	2009	2009	1
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	2009	2009	1
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	1989	1989	2
<i>Asplenium scolopendrium</i>	Hartstongue Fern	2009	2025	3
<i>Blackstonia perfoliata</i>	Yellow-wort	1973	2023	3
<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	False-brome	1989	2009	4
<i>Bromopsis ramosa</i>	Hairy-brome	1989	1989	2
<i>Bupleurum tenuissimum</i>	Slender Hare's-ear	1956	1956	1
<i>Carex flacca</i>	Glaucous Sedge	1973	2009	4
<i>Carex remota</i>	Remote Sedge	2009	2009	1
<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Wood-sedge	2009	2009	2
<i>Carlina vulgaris</i>	Carlina Thistle	1973	1973	2
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed	1989	2009	3
<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	1973	2021	3
<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	Chicory	1973	1973	1
<i>Cirsium acaule</i>	Dwarf Thistle	1973	1973	1
<i>Clematis vitalba</i>	Traveller's-joy	1989	1989	2
<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Pignut	2009	2009	1
<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	Dogwood	1989	1989	2
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	1989	2009	5
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	1989	2009	3
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	1989	2009	3
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	1989	1989	2
<i>Daucus carota</i>	Wild Carrot	1989	1989	2
<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Spindle	2009	2009	1
<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i>	a flowering plant	1989	2009	3
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	1989	2009	4
<i>Galium verum</i>	Lady's Bedstraw	1989	2021	3
<i>Genista tinctoria</i>	Dyer's Greenweed	1973	1973	2
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	1989	2025	5
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	2009	2009	2
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	Perforate St John's-wort	1989	1989	2
<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>	Slender St John's-wort	1973	1973	1
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear	1989	2009	3
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	2009	2025	2
<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Stinking Iris	2009	2021	2
<i>Jacobaea erucifolia</i>	Hoary Ragwort	1972	2009	3
<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Common Ragwort	1989	1989	2
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft-rush	2009	2009	1
<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard Rush	1989	1989	2
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	1973	1973	1
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Meadow Vetchling	2009	2009	1
<i>Leycesteria formosa</i>	Himalayan Honeysuckle	2021	2021	1
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	Wild Privet	1989	2009	3
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	Fairy Flax	1989	1989	2

Scientific Name	English Name	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Total Records
<i>Lolium</i>	Ryegrass	1989	1989	1
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	1989	2009	2
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common Bird's-foot-trefoil	1989	2009	3
<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	Crab Apple	2009	2009	2
<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	Dog's Mercury	2009	2009	2
<i>Odontites vernus</i>	Red Bartsia	1989	2021	4
<i>Ononis</i>	a flowering plant	1989	1989	1
<i>Ononis repens</i>	Common Restharrow	1972	1973	3
<i>Ononis spinosa</i>	Spiny Restharrow	1973	1989	2
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy	1989	2009	3
<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>	Burnet-saxifrage	1989	1989	2
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	1989	2009	4
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield-fern	2009	2009	2
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed	1989	1989	2
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil	1989	2009	3
<i>Poterium sanguisorba</i>	Salad Burnet	1973	2009	4
<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Primrose	2009	2021	3
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal	1989	1989	2
<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Blackthorn	1989	2009	3
<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	Common Fleabane	1989	1989	2
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak	2009	2009	1
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Bulbous Buttercup	2009	2009	1
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	2009	2009	1
<i>Rosa</i>	Rose	1989	1989	2
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Bramble	1989	2009	4
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	2017	2017	1
<i>Sanguisorba</i>	a flowering plant	1973	1973	1
<i>Sanicula europaea</i>	Sanicle	2009	2009	1
<i>Schedonorus giganteus</i>	Giant Fescue	2009	2009	1
<i>Serratula tinctoria</i>	Saw-wort	1973	1973	2
<i>Silene dioica</i>	Red Campion	2021	2021	1
<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Upright Hedge-parsley	1989	1989	2
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	2009	2009	1
<i>Tripleurospermum maritimum</i>	Scentless Mayweed agg.	1989	1989	2
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	1989	1989	2
<i>Veronica montana</i>	Wood Speedwell	2009	2009	1
<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	Wayfaring-tree	1989	1989	2
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted Vetch	1989	1989	2
<i>Viola</i>	Violet	2009	2009	2
<i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>	Early Dog-violet	2021	2021	1
<i>Viola riviniana</i>	Common Dog-violet	2021	2021	1
BRYOPHYTES				
<i>Bryum argenteum</i>	Silver-moss	2018	2018	1
<i>Dialytrichia mucronata</i>	Pointed Lattice-moss	2018	2018	1
<i>Dicranella schreberiana</i>	Schreber's Forklet-moss	2023	2023	1
<i>Dicranella varia</i>	Variable Forklet-moss	2023	2023	1
<i>Grimmia pulvinata</i>	Grey-cushioned Grimmia	2018	2018	1
<i>Microbryum davallianum</i>	Smallest Pottia	2018	2018	1
<i>Microbryum davallianum</i> var. <i>davallianum</i>	a moss	2023	2023	1
<i>Microbryum floerkeanum</i>	Floerke's Phascum	2023	2023	1
<i>Orthotrichum anomalum</i>	Anomalous Bristle-moss	2018	2018	1
<i>Pohlia melanodon</i>	Pink-fruited Thread-moss	2023	2023	1
<i>Schistidium crassipilum</i>	Thickpoint Grimmia	2018	2018	1
<i>Syntrichia montana</i>	Intermediate Screw-moss	2018	2018	1
<i>Syntrichia ruralis</i>	Great Hairy Screw-moss	2018	2018	1
<i>Thamnobryum alopecurum</i>	Fox-tail Feather-moss	2009	2009	1
<i>Tortula muralis</i>	Wall Screw-moss	2018	2018	1
<i>Tortula truncata</i>	Common Pottia	2023	2023	1
FUNGI				
<i>Auricularia auricula-judae</i>	Jelly Ear	2025	2025	1
<i>Daldinia concentrica</i>	King Alfred's Cakes	2025	2025	1
<i>Taphrinaalni</i>	Alder Tongue	2003	2003	1
<i>Tremella mesenterica</i>	Yellow Brain	2024	2024	1
INVERTEBRATES				
<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>	Knot Grass	2025	2025	1
<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>	Southern Hawker	2020	2020	2
<i>Aglaia io</i>	Peacock	2021	2021	1
<i>Agriopsis marginaria</i>	Dotted Border	2023	2024	3
<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>	Heart & Dart	2023	2023	1

Scientific Name	English Name	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Total Records
<i>Agrotis segetum</i>	Turnip Moth	2023	2023	1
<i>Alsophila aescularia</i>	March Moth	2023	2023	1
<i>Alucita hexadactyla</i>	Twenty-plume Moth	2025	2025	1
<i>Anax ephippiger</i>	Vagrant Emperor	2023	2023	1
<i>Anthophora plumipes</i>	Hairy-footed Flower Bee	2021	2021	1
<i>Anticlea derivata</i>	Streamer	2024	2024	1
<i>Aphrodes bicincta</i>	a true bug	1913	1915	2
<i>Apis mellifera</i>	Western Honey Bee	2020	2020	1
<i>Aplocera efformata</i>	Lesser Treble-bar	2021	2021	1
<i>Apolygus lucorum</i>	a true bug	1913	1913	1
<i>Argiope bruennichi</i>	Wasp Spider	2023	2023	1
<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	Silver-washed Fritillary	2022	2022	1
<i>Arhopalus rusticus</i>	a beetle	2023	2023	1
<i>Aricia agestis</i>	Brown Argus	2023	2023	1
<i>Aspidapion radiolus</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Atethmia centrargo</i>	Centre-barred Sallow	2021	2021	1
<i>Atypophthalmus inustus</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	2
<i>Austrolimnophila ochracea</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	2
<i>Autographa gamma</i>	Silver Y	2021	2021	1
<i>Berytinus (Berytinus) signoreti</i>	a true bug	1913	1913	1
<i>Bombus distinguendus</i>	Great Yellow Bumblebee	1913	1913	2
<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>	Red-tailed Bumblebee	2020	2022	3
<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>	Common Carder Bee	2020	2025	2
<i>Bombus subterraneus</i>	Short-haired Bumblebee	1928	1928	2
<i>Bombus terrestris</i>	Buff-tailed Bumblebee	2025	2025	1
<i>Bombylius major</i>	Dark-edged Bee-fly	2025	2025	1
<i>Callimorpha dominula</i>	Scarlet Tiger	2022	2025	2
<i>Calophasia lunula</i>	Toadflax Brocade	2023	2023	1
<i>Campaea margaritaria</i>	Light Emerald	2021	2023	3
<i>Catapion seniculus</i>	a beetle	1916	1916	1
<i>Ceratapion onopordi</i>	a beetle	1916	1916	1
<i>Cercopis vulnerata</i>	a true bug	2022	2022	1
<i>Cerodontha iridis</i>	a true fly	2021	2021	1
<i>Charanyca trigrammica</i>	Treble Lines	2023	2023	1
<i>Chromatomyia lonicerae</i>	a true fly	2021	2021	1
<i>Chromatomyia scolopendri</i>	a true fly	2021	2021	1
<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>	Garden Grass-veneer	2023	2023	1
<i>Clytus arietis</i>	Wasp Beetle	2020	2022	2
<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	7-spot Ladybird	2023	2023	1
<i>Coenagrion puella</i>	Azure Damselfly	2020	2020	1
<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Small Heath	1989	1989	1
<i>Conistra vaccinii</i>	Chestnut	2023	2024	2
<i>Cordulegaster boltonii</i>	Golden-ringed Dragonfly	2025	2025	1
<i>Cornu aspersum</i>	Common Garden Snail	2007	2007	1
<i>Crocallis elinguaris</i>	Scalloped Oak	2021	2022	2
<i>Cucullia verbasci</i>	Mullein	2023	2024	2
<i>Curculio venosus</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Cyanapion spencii</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Cyclophora annularia</i>	Mocha	2022	2022	3
<i>Cyclophora punctaria</i>	Maiden's Blush	2024	2024	1
<i>Cydalima perspectalis</i>	Box Tree Moth	2021	2021	1
<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>	Elephant Hawk-moth	2021	2022	3
<i>Diarsia mendica</i>	Ingrailed Clay	2023	2023	1
<i>Dicranomyia fusca</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	2
<i>Dorcus parallelipipedus</i>	Lesser Stag Beetle	2020	2024	3
<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>	Common Marbled Carpet	2023	2023	1
<i>Eilema griseola</i>	Dingy Footman	2021	2021	1
<i>Electrophaes corylata</i>	Broken-barred Carpet	2023	2023	1
<i>Emmelina monodactyla</i>	Common Plume	2024	2024	1
<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	Common Blue Damselfly	2020	2020	2
<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>	Canary-shouldered Thorn	2021	2021	1
<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>	Dusky Thorn	2021	2021	1
<i>Eristalis intricaria</i>	a true fly	2024	2024	1
<i>Erynnis tages</i>	Dingy Skipper	2021	2021	1
<i>Eupithecia abbreviata</i>	Brindled Pug	2024	2024	1
<i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i>	Jersey Tiger	2021	2025	4
<i>Eupsilia transversa</i>	Satellite	2024	2024	1
<i>Eutrichapion viciae</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Gasteruption</i>	a hymenopteran	2021	2021	1

Scientific Name	English Name	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Total Records
<i>Gripesia apriliina</i>	Merveille du Jour	2021	2022	2
<i>Himacerus (Aptus) mirmicoides</i>	Ant Damsel Bug	1917	1917	1
<i>Hygromia (Hygromia) cinctella</i>	Girdled Snail	2007	2007	1
<i>Ichneumon stramentor</i>	a hymenopteran	2023	2023	1
<i>Korscheltellus lupulina</i>	Common Swift	2023	2023	1
<i>Lampyrus noctiluca</i>	Glow-worm	1999	1999	2
<i>Leptopterna dolabrata</i>	Meadow Plant Bug	1917	1917	1
<i>Libellula depressa</i>	Broad-bodied Chaser	2020	2020	3
<i>Ligdia adustata</i>	Scorched Carpet	2021	2021	1
<i>Limonia nubeculosa</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	2
<i>Limonia phragmitidis</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	2
<i>Lithosia quadra</i>	Four-spotted Footman	2021	2021	1
<i>Loricula pselaphiformis</i>	a true bug	1921	1921	1
<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>	Small Copper	2024	2024	1
<i>Macroglossum stellatarum</i>	Humming-bird Hawk-moth	2006	2006	5
<i>Megachile circumcincta</i>	Black-headed Leafcutter Bee	1928	1928	1
<i>Melanthia procellata</i>	Pretty Chalk Carpet	2021	2021	1
<i>Melolontha melolontha</i>	Common Cockchafer	2021	2022	2
<i>Menophra abruptaria</i>	Waved Umber	2024	2024	1
<i>Miltochrista miniata</i>	Rosy Footman	2021	2021	1
<i>Mythimna l-album</i>	L-album Wainscot	2022	2022	1
<i>Nabis (Nabis) rugosus</i>	Common Damselbug	1917	1917	1
<i>Nicrophorus humator</i>	Black Sexton Beetle	2023	2023	2
<i>Nineta flava</i>	a lacewing	1927	1928	2
<i>Nycteola revayana</i>	Oak Nycteoline	2024	2024	1
<i>Ochlodes sylvanus</i>	Large Skipper	2023	2023	1
<i>Oedemera nobilis</i>	Swollen-thighed Beetle	2021	2023	2
<i>Operophtera brumata</i>	Winter Moth	2024	2024	1
<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>	Brimstone Moth	2021	2023	2
<i>Orthosia cerasi</i>	Common Quaker	2022	2024	5
<i>Orthosia cruda</i>	Small Quaker	2024	2024	1
<i>Orthosia gothica</i>	Hebrew Character	2022	2024	4
<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>	Swallow-tailed Moth	2022	2022	1
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Speckled Wood	2020	2022	2
<i>Pasiphila rectangulata</i>	Green Pug	2023	2023	1
<i>Patania ruralis</i>	Mother of Pearl	2021	2021	1
<i>Perapion hydrolapathi</i>	a beetle	1916	1916	1
<i>Peridroma saucia</i>	Pearly Underwing	2022	2022	1
<i>Phigalia pilosaria</i>	Pale Brindled Beauty	2023	2024	2
<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>	Angle Shades	2024	2024	1
<i>Pholidoptera griseoptera</i>	Dark Bush-cricket	1989	2021	2
<i>Phyllobius oblongus</i>	Brown Leaf Weevil	1913	1913	1
<i>Phyllonorycter emberizaepenella</i>	Honeysuckle Leaf-miner	2021	2021	1
<i>Phytomyza ilicis</i>	Holly Leaf Gall Fly	2021	2021	1
<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Large White	2020	2020	1
<i>Plagodis dolabraria</i>	Scorched Wing	2023	2023	1
<i>Poecilocampa populi</i>	December Moth	2024	2024	1
<i>Polydrusus cervinus</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Common Blue	1996	2021	2
<i>Protapion trifolii</i>	Clover Seed Weevil	1913	1913	1
<i>Protapion varipes</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Psallus (Psallus) varians</i>	a true bug	1913	1914	2
<i>Pseudochorthippus parallelus</i>	Meadow Grasshopper	1989	1989	1
<i>Pteleobius vittatus</i>	a beetle	1935	1935	1
<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>	Mint Moth	2022	2022	1
<i>Pyrochroa serraticornis</i>	Red-headed Cardinal Beetle	2022	2022	1
<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>	Gatekeeper	1989	1996	4
<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>	Large Red Damselfly	2020	2020	11
<i>Rutpela maculata</i>	a beetle	2020	2020	1
<i>Salticus scenicus</i>	a spider	2020	2020	1
<i>Scolopostethus thomsoni</i>	a true bug	1913	1913	1
<i>Scolytus intricatus</i>	Oak Bark Beetle	1924	1935	2
<i>Scolytus rugulosus</i>	Shothole Borer (Small Fruit Bark Beetle)	1921	1921	1
<i>Selenia dentaria</i>	Early Thorn	2024	2024	1
<i>Sitophilus granarius</i>	Granary Weevil	1916	1916	1
<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>	White Ermine	2023	2023	1
<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	Buff Ermine	2022	2022	1
<i>Stauropus fagi</i>	Lobster Moth	2022	2023	2
<i>Stelis punctulatisima</i>	Banded Dark Bee	1911	1912	2

Scientific Name	English Name	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Total Records
<i>Stenocorus meridianus</i>	a beetle	2021	2021	1
<i>Strophosoma nebulosum</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Sylvicola cinctus</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	1
<i>Sylvicola punctatus</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	1
<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	Common Darter	2020	2020	1
<i>Tabanus bromius</i>	Band-eyed Brown Horsefly	2021	2021	1
<i>Tachyporus nitidulus</i>	a beetle	1913	1913	1
<i>Taphropeltus contractus</i>	a true bug	1917	1917	1
<i>Tasiocera robusta</i>	a true fly	1986	1986	2
<i>Theria primaria</i>	Early Moth	2024	2024	1
<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	Small Skipper	1996	2021	2
<i>Tortricodes alternella</i>	Spring Harbinger	2023	2024	2
<i>Trochulus (Trochulus) striolatus</i>	Strawberry Snail	2007	2007	1
<i>Vespa crabro</i>	Hornet	2020	2022	2
<i>Volucella inflata</i>	a true fly	2022	2022	1
<i>Volucella zonaria</i>	Hornet Hoverfly	2021	2021	1
<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>	Garden Carpet	2025	2025	1
<i>Xylocampa areola</i>	Early Grey	2024	2024	1
<i>Xylocoris (Proxylocoris) galactinus</i>	Hot Bed Bug	1916	1916	1
<i>Ypsolopha mucronella</i>	Spindle Moth	2024	2024	1
<i>Zoropsis spinimana</i>	a spider	2023	2023	2
AMPHIBIANS				
<i>Bufo bufo</i>	Common Toad	1996	2023	5
<i>Lissotriton helveticus</i>	Palmate Newt	2021	2021	1
<i>Rana temporaria</i>	Common Frog	2006	2025	7
REPTILES				
<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	Slow-worm	2021	2025	3
BIRDS				
<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Sparrowhawk	2016	2018	2
<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Long-tailed Tit	2015	2025	17
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Kingfisher	2004	2019	2
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	2016	2018	3
<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Tree Pipit	2016	2016	2
<i>Apus apus</i>	Swift	2017	2021	4
<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Buzzard	2016	2025	13
<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Goldfinch	2016	2025	42
<i>Certhia familiaris</i>	Treecreeper	1989	1989	2
<i>Chloris chloris</i>	Greenfinch	2015	2021	25
<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	Black-headed Gull	2016	2021	6
<i>Coloeus monedula</i>	Jackdaw	1989	2023	52
<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Woodpigeon	1989	2025	72
<i>Corvus corax</i>	Raven	2015	2020	3
<i>Corvus corone</i>	Carrion Crow	2015	2024	59
<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Rook	2020	2024	4
<i>Curruca communis</i>	Whitethroat	2016	2017	3
<i>Curruca curruca</i>	Lesser Whitethroat	2016	2016	2
<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	Blue Tit	2016	2025	55
<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	House Martin	2016	2018	20
<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	Great Spotted Woodpecker	2016	2019	7
<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Robin	1989	2025	68
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Kestrel	1989	1989	1
<i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	Pied Flycatcher	2016	2016	1
<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Chaffinch	2015	2021	9
<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	Jay	2016	2021	9
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Swallow	2016	2018	13
<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Herring Gull	2016	2021	8
<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Lesser Black-backed Gull	2016	2023	41
<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	Linnet	2016	2016	7
<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Pied/White Wagtail	2016	2021	12
<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Grey Wagtail	2021	2021	1
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	Spotted Flycatcher	2016	2017	4
<i>Parus major</i>	Great Tit	2015	2024	25
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow	2017	2021	31
<i>Periparus ater</i>	Coal Tit	2016	2021	6
<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Pheasant	2017	2023	2
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Redstart	2016	2016	4
<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Chiffchaff	2016	2024	36
<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Willow Warbler	1989	2017	14
<i>Pica pica</i>	Magpie	1989	2024	68

Scientific Name	English Name	Earliest Year	Latest Year	Total Records
<i>Picus viridis</i>	Green Woodpecker	2015	2025	23
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Dunnock	2016	2024	18
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Bullfinch	1989	2021	19
<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Goldcrest	1989	2025	9
<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Sand Martin	2018	2018	1
<i>Sitta europaea</i>	Nuthatch	2016	2025	6
<i>Strix aluco</i>	Tawny Owl	2023	2025	2
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Starling	2017	2021	12
<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Blackcap	1989	2024	32
<i>Sylvia borin</i>	Garden Warbler	2016	2016	1
<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Wren	1989	2025	52
<i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Redwing	2015	2021	7
<i>Turdus merula</i>	Blackbird	1989	2024	66
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song Thrush	2016	2021	15
<i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Fieldfare	2018	2018	1
<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Mistle Thrush	2016	2021	10
MAMMALS				
<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	Hedgehog	2021	2022	3
<i>Myodes glareolus</i>	Bank Vole	2023	2023	1
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Common Pipistrelle	2016	2016	1
<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Soprano Pipistrelle	2006	2006	1
<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	Grey Squirrel	2010	2020	2
<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Fox	2009	2009	1

Appendix 3. SINC data sheet

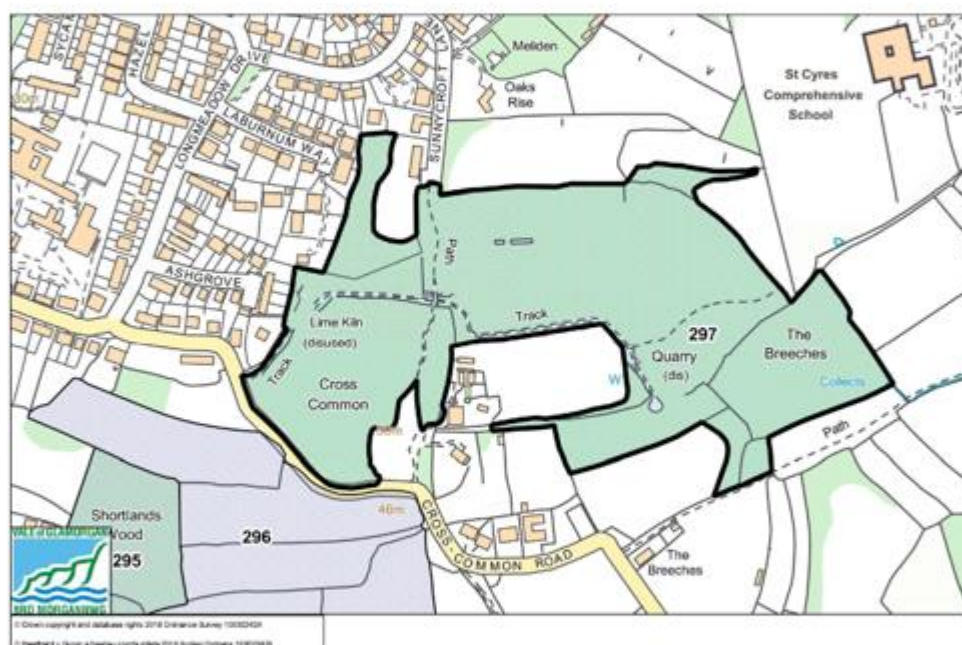
(Provided by Vale of Glamorgan Council)



SITES OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION (SINC)

SITE DETAILS

SINC name	Cross Common	SINC number	297
Location	Dinas Powys	Size (ha)	12.04
Grid reference	ST 158 705	Number of parcels	1



QUALIFYING CRITERIA

Wildlife Sites Qualifying Criteria	H1.3 Native woodlands
Environment Act Priority Habitats	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland
Environment Act Priority Species	Bullfinch, Kestrel
Wildlife Sites secondary features	Semi-natural broadleaved woodland not listed in the AWI Wales 2011 Scrub

PREVIOUS REFERENCE

44-1-W1

DESCRIPTION

This large block of calcareous woodland appears to have resulted from the gradual amalgamation of several different copses over time. Mature woodland is W8 and is dominated by a tall canopy of ash; most trunks are clothed by ivy. Some large and apparently old pedunculate oak trees are growing close to the road. There is a calcicolous shrub understorey with much field maple, dogwood and wild privet. Outgrown hazel stools are locally abundant and traveller's-joy festoons parts of the canopy.

The canopy is dense and closed and the woodland floor is dark. Ivy forms an extensive carpet in such areas and woodland indicator species are typically scarce in the woodland interior. Dog's mercury and stinking iris are among the few herbs able to withstand the dark conditions. Other species are more frequent along the road-bank.

SITE MANAGEMENT

There seems to be no active management and the closed canopy has severely restricted the light getting to the woodland floor; in consequence the ground flora has been diminished. Canopy and understorey thinning would help to restore the wood.

SITE SURVEY HISTORY

7/9/09

AWI Wales 2011

1994 CCW Phase 1

CONDITION ASSESSMENT

Unassessed

PLANT SPECIES LIST

Plant species recorded on site. Additional information if available:-

DAFOR abundance scale

Ind= SINC Indicator species

Pr = Priority species

Common name	Scientific name	DAFOR	Ind	<u>Pr</u>
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	F-A	✓	
False Brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	F-A		
Wood Sedge	<i>Carex sylvatica</i>	Present	✓	

Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>	Present	✓	
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	F-A		
Common Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	Present	✓	
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	D		
Common Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>	D		
Stinking Iris	<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	F-A	✓	
Wild Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	F-A		
Dog's Mercury	<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>	F-A	✓	
Soft Shield Fern	<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Present	✓	
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	Present	✓	
English Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>	F-A		
Fox-Tail Feather-Moss	<i>Thamnobryum alopecurum</i>	F-A		
Early/Common Dog-violet	<i>Viola reichenbachiana/riviniana</i>	Present		
Number of indicator species			8	

FAUNA OBSERVATIONS / RECORDS

Common name	Scientific name	Pr
Common Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula subsp. pileata</i>	✓
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	✓
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	

OTHER INFORMATION

Survey was undertaken close to Cross Common Road.

SURVEY RECORD

Date	Condition assessment

i

ⁱⁱ This citation sheet summarises information from the last known site survey. This is the information available to the council at the present time and we cannot make any guarantees of its accuracy or completeness.