

Peveril Point and The Downs Local Nature Reserve – To confirm declaration

Background

The Town Council first gave consideration to declaring Peveril Point and the Downs as a Local Nature Reserve at its meeting on 29th June 2020. At that meeting, the benefits of such a declaration were noted as follows:

- Protects and enhances natural heritage.
- The management plan required is an opportunity to look closely at how the site can be managed and enhanced to meet various needs. It would provide a clear guide to the operations department and be a written account of how the site is being balanced for access, recreation, and nature.
- Protecting and enhancing natural heritage is a key part of building sustainable communities.
- It can help connect green spaces.
- Declaring an LNR draws attention to the land's nature conservation and recreation interest and provides a place that can inspire people to value and conserve the natural environment.
- Improve local quality of life, health, and wellbeing.
- Creates new spaces/focus for education, enjoyment, and recreation, helps attract visitors and preserves links with the local community's past.
- The setting up of a 'friends of' group is a way of involving the community in the management of the site and assisting the council with its management providing expertise and time.
- These multiple benefits mean that LNRs can make a substantial contribution to meeting the aspirations of Local Strategic Partnerships.

At the Council Meeting held on 27th July 2020 the Town Council agreed to apply to Dorset Council for the delegation of the powers necessary to designate the area as an LNR under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

In March 2021 an online public meeting was held by Sustainable Swanage and the feedback gathered informed the development of a management plan which is attached for information at Appendix A. That has subsequently been submitted to Natural England in support of this process, and includes a plan of the area to be designated.

In June 2022 Dorset Council prepared an agency agreement delegating to the Town Council the powers required to declare the LNR and execution of this agreement is due to take place shortly.

Next Steps

In order to complete this process the Town Council is now required to formally approve the declaration of Peveril Point and The Downs as a Local Nature Reserve. Authorisation will also need to be provided to seal the declaration and map. This is a template declaration provided by Natural England:

Specimen declaration

National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949

No..... Declaration 20.....

In pursuance of Sections 19 and 21 of the above-mentioned Act, and all other powers enabling them in

that behalf, the Council hereby declares that the land containing ha or thereabouts

situated in the Parish of in the County of and shown edged on the attached plan (has been acquired by the Council) (is the subject of an Agreement entered into with the

Council under Section of the above-mentioned Act) AND in pursuance of Section 19 (2)

of the above-mentioned Act and all other powers aforesaid the Council hereby further declare that the

said land is being managed as a Nature Reserve.

This declaration may be referred to as the Nature Reserve No.....

Declaration 20..... Given under the Common Seal of the Council this day of SEAL

Two thousand and

(Signed)

(Signed)

Following the sealing of the declaration it must be advertised online and by signage at the site entrances to the Downs.

Decision required:

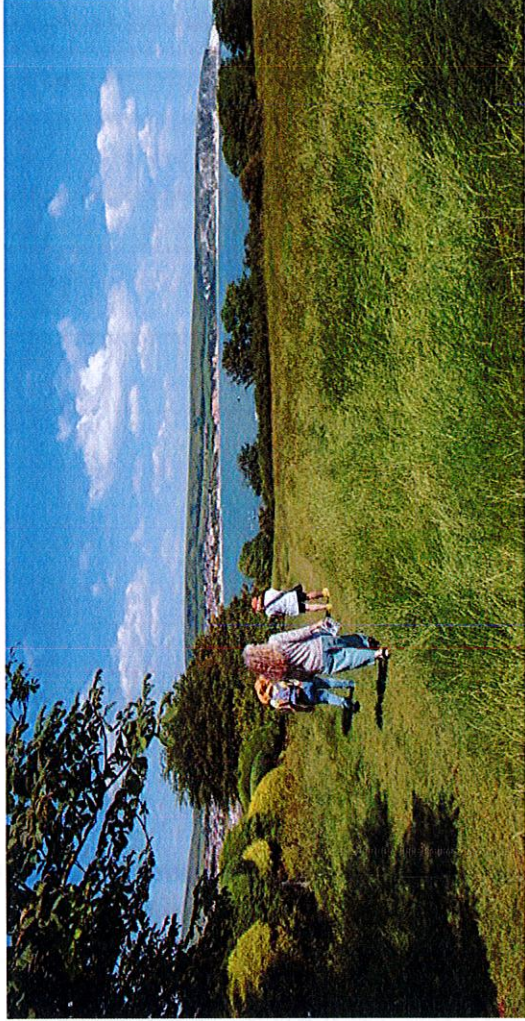
To formally declare Peveril Point and The Downs as a Local Nature Reserve and authorise the sealing of the declaration and plan.

Martin Ayres
Town Clerk

July 2022

A Management Plan for Peveril Point and the Downs Local Nature Reserve

Swanage



June 2022



Contents

1. Introduction
 - 1.1. Introduction to the plan
 - 1.2. Ownership and site map
 - 1.3. Rationale for choosing the site as a new LNR
 - 1.4. Aims and objectives of the plan
2. Site background information
 - 2.1 Designations
 - 2.2 Local relevance
 - 2.3 Brief site history
 - 2.4 Education
3. Site Description
 - 3.1 Geography
 - 3.2 Accessibility
4. Ecological Surveys and Data
 - 4.1 Relevant studies
 - 4.2 Habitat compartment map
 - 4.3 Survey summary 2021
5. Management Recommendations
6. Future review and development of the management plan
7. Appendices

1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction to the plan

This management plan report is being written in respect of the area known locally as the Downs to be submitted as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR). The idea was originally suggested by the Dorset Council Ranger Team in 2015 as an ideal site for this designation and in July 2020 when the opportunity arose to take this forward, Swanage Town Council agreed unanimously to proceed with the process to apply. From July 2020, the Sustainable Swanage group, working with the Town Council, members of the local community and local experts, gathered existing information on the site and subsequently carried out further mapping and initiated surveys. Organisations that have been involved include the Dorset Council Ranger Team at Durlston Country Park, Dorset Environmental Records Centre, the Environment Advice Team at Dorset Council and Natural England. This work continued over the following season in 2021. This draft management plan is being compiled from this information and experience gained over the last two years. In addition, a public survey into views on use and access was carried out by Sustainable Swanage on behalf of the Town Council in January and February of 2021, the results and summary of which are included in the relevant sections of this plan and appendices.

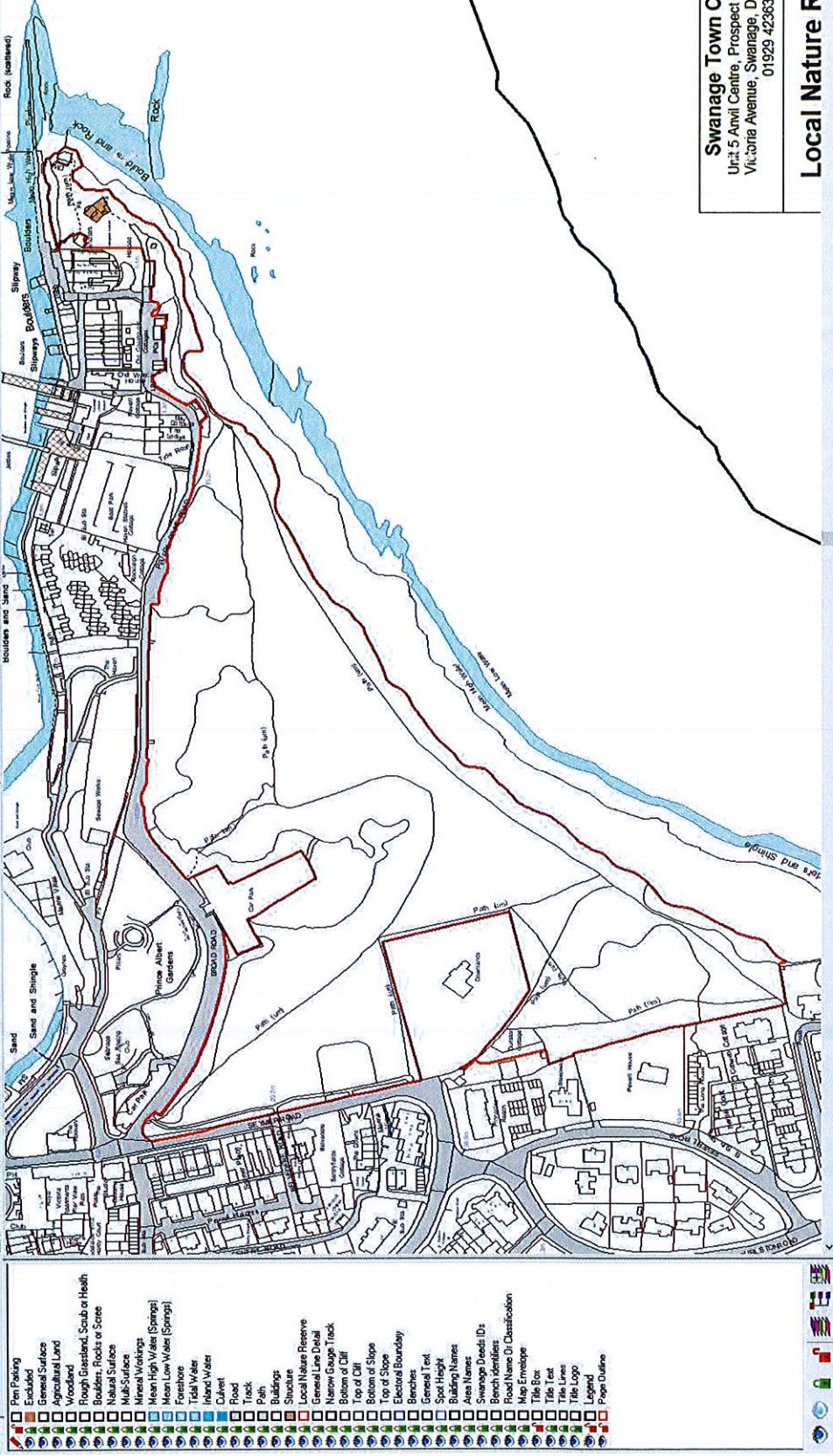
The area proposed for designation is outlined in the map that follows, encompassing Peveril Point and The Downs. For ease of reference, it will be referred to as the Downs throughout the remainder of the document.

1.2 Ownership and site map

The site in question covers an area 8.45 hectares and lies to the south east of Swanage Bay. Swanage Urban District Council acquired the land from the Scott estate in 1931, and it has been owned and managed by Swanage Town Council since 1974. The proposed area stretches from the top of the cliff up to the boundary of the car park, excluding some areas around Peveril Point as shown on the map:

Layers

- Pen Parking
- Excluded
- General Surface
- Agricultural Land
- Woodland
- Rough Grassland, Scrub or Heath
- Boulders, Rocks or Scree
- Natural Surface
- Mud-Surface
- Mineral Workings
- Mean High Water (Springs)
- Mean Low Water (Springs)
- Foreshore
- Tidal Water
- Marsh Water
- Culvert
- Road
- Track
- Path
- Buildings
- Structure
- Local Nature Reserve
- General Line Detail
- Narrow Gauge Track
- Bottom of Cliff
- Top of Cliff
- Bottom of Slope
- Top of Slope
- Electoral Boundary
- Benchmarks
- General Text
- Spot Height
- Building Names
- Area Names
- Swampy Ponds (D's)
- Bench Markers
- Road Name Or Classification
- Map Envelope
- Map Box
- Map Text
- Map Logo
- Legend
- Page Outline



Swanage Town Council
 Unit 5 Anvil Centre, Prospect Business Park,
 Victoria Avenue, Swanage, Dorset BH19 1E,
 01929 423636

Local Nature Reserve

OSGB 483765.67: 78301.48 | 0.0 m | 0.0000 ha | 1.3 m:241* | 52037783

A4 Landscape 13300

19°C Partly sunny | 4.5A | 07/06/2022

1.3 Rationale for choosing the site as a new Local Nature Reserve

This site is an ideal candidate for an LNR for the following reasons:

- it is in Town Council ownership and management.
- it is an accessible green space close to the town centre.
- it has local special interest and educational and community value.
- it is in the South Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
- parts of the site fall within a number of existing designations including a Site of Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
- it is included in the Swanage Green infrastructure Strategy which was adopted as part of the Swanage Local Plan in 2018.

Declaring an LNR on the Downs offers a range of opportunities which meet the criteria for designation as follows:

- The management plan is an opportunity to look closely at how the site can be managed and enhanced to meet a variety of needs.
- It will provide a clear guide to the Council's Operations Team and be a written account of how the site is being managed for access, recreation and nature.
- Protecting and enhancing natural heritage is a key part of building sustainable communities.
- It will help connect green spaces and nearby sites of interest such as the National Nature Reserve at Durlston and the adjoining SSSI.
- Areas within the site have been identified as potential areas of ecological interest, and this process can ensure that this potential is fully achieved.
- Declaring an LNR draws attention to the location's nature conservation and recreation interest and provides an area close to the town that can inspire more residents and visitors to value and conserve the natural environment.
- Creation of a new space, establishing a focus for education, enjoyment and recreation, helping to attract visitors and preserving links with the local community's past.
- Improving local quality of life, health and wellbeing through enhanced habitats, access and involvement.
- The setting up of a 'friends of' group is already involving the community in the management of the site and assisting the Council with its management by providing expertise and time.

Without surveys and further studies of the site, it is likely to be undervalued in respect of its nature and potential for improving biodiversity and public engagement. The LNR process will ensure that these issues are addressed and enable a balance between access and habitat improvement whilst allowing continued access and use of the site to be protected.

1.4 Aims and objectives of the plan

The aim of this management plan is to form a basis of understanding and intent by the Town Council and an agreed way forward for management of the site between them and relevant consulted organisations and local experts. It will remain in draft and be reviewed annually based on results of surveys, ongoing management and public involvement.

The report includes the following:

- A collation of background information on the site following a desk study.
- A report of the recent habitat surveys and mapping of the site undertaken by Sustainable Swanage volunteers and a summary of the public survey responses about use of the site and access.
- A set of draft management recommendations for the site including possible impacts and balancing of needs, involvement of volunteer groups and proposals for further surveying work and reviews.

2. Site Background Information

2.1 Designations

All or part of the site is included in several national, European and international designations largely for the habitat and geology of the cliffs.

The site sits within the South Dorset AONB and is part of the Purbeck Heritage Coast and the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site which is noted for its geomorphological value. The coastal strip also sits within unit 042 of the South Dorset Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Durliston Bay and noted for its supralittoral rock habitat. This unit is in favourable condition. The majority of the SSSI is from the top of the cliff to the shoreline and not included in the LNR area with the exception of an area of Peveril Point. See map in Appendix 1.

The cliffs form part of the Isle of Portland to Studland Cliffs Special Area of Conservation, selected for the vegetated sea cliffs and the wildlife that they support including some UK rarities such as wild cabbage. This covers the same footprint as the SSSI. See Appendix 2.

The coast area surrounding the site is within the Solent and Dorset Coast Special Protection Area. This is a designation under the EU directive on conservation of wild birds, this is to safeguard the habitats of migratory birds. See Appendix 2.

2.2 Local relevance

In respect of local and regional habitat value, most of the site is not currently noted for its habitat value amongst other sites in the area (reference Environment Report for the Wild Purbeck Nature Improvement Area by Dorset Environment Records Centre [untitled \(derc.org.uk\)](https://www.derc.org.uk)) but is noted as having areas of potential ecological interest for improvement (See Appendix 3). Using information gathered via surveys and an alteration in grassland management, the site has potential to become a local Site of Nature Conservation Interest.

Other points of note include the popular long-distance South West Coast Path, which runs along the west to east coastal edge of the site, around Peveril Point and into Swanage. There is a large public car park servicing the town adjacent to the site in the north that is very popular with people viewing Swanage Bay from this side of town. It is popular with walkers, picnickers, dog walkers, families, sightseers and wildlife enthusiasts. Its proximity to the car park and frequenting by people who may not normally visit nature sites that are further out of town such as Durlston provides an opportunity to develop education and information on the natural landscape and wildlife to reach a wider audience.

The site is a much appreciated and utilised site for quiet recreational activities. A public survey in early 2021, to gain views on how the area could be enhanced and improved, garnered much public interest revealing the importance the site plays in the community. The general feeling from the survey is that people like the site the way it is with varying popular themes including that it could be improved for wildlife and access in some areas. However, overall people were keen not to see drastic changes. LNR status would help protect this site as people enjoy it and also allow them the opportunity to be involved in its management and development. For a summary of survey results see appendices 4 and 5.

2.3 Brief site history

The site has been managed and utilised by man for centuries with old photographs showing limited scrub in the early 20th Century.

The site has been managed as a public green space since the local authority purchased it in 1931 to protect it from development. Prior to this there were plans to develop this area into housing which never took place (see map Appendix 6). Until the early 20th century the area was used as farmland, predominantly for grazing cattle, which can often be seen in old photographs. LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) mapping reveal possible ridge and furrow systems from post medieval times in sections 9 and field boundaries in section 6 on the compartment map in section 4.2 of this document. This indicates that it has been farmed for centuries but has not been ploughed to remove these marks in the field. They are not obvious on the ground, however, further investigation could be carried out by a friends group and possible interpretation to bring this to life. The area is believed to have been used for grazing with an area for haymaking. The area in section 9 appears more suitable for farming and an old Ordnance Survey map shows a field boundary here separating it from the rest of the site (see Appendix 7). Some areas were quarried and the sites can be found on historic maps held at the Record Centre. The Broad Road car park was created in the late 1940s and extended in 2014/15, at which time landscaping of this area was also undertaken.

Management to date by Swanage Town Council has concentrated on maintaining the site for public recreation. It has largely been managed as an urban greenspace by keeping grass mown, scrub areas contained and paths and access routes maintained as required. It has not had a management plan previously except for a landscaping project around the vicinity of Broad Road car park dating from 2014/15. There is no record of the area being fertilised or farmed in the last 90 years.

2.4 Education

With its outstanding views and footpath links, this site is often incorporated into visits from educational groups undertaking field studies. Otherwise to date, the site is not used for formal educational purposes and there are limited informal walks, for example the annual 'pier to park' walk led by the Durlston Rangers which crosses the site. The site does not currently have the facilities and team required to run formal education, which is currently provided well at the nearby National Nature Reserve, Durlston Country Park. The site however has potential for some formal education but also informal education through the involvement of the local community in activities and surveying. So far this year, Sustainable Swanage have run several popular guided walks which has proven that people are interested in finding out more about the site, the wildlife and how the area is looked after.

As the management of the meadow areas changes and the outcomes are monitored, there is potential for a useful study area into management practices and habitat recovery. There is scope for people to be well involved in the development of the site management and for more people to learn about surveying of wildlife. In 2021 a programme of surveying began. A butterfly transect was developed and 12 local residents who had no previous knowledge, have been on a training session and learned how to survey butterflies. They are now carrying out surveys and submitting the data regularly into the 2022 season. In 2022 a wildflower training programme was begun, with the intention of training volunteers to take part in surveying the meadow areas using species list and abundance scales, 18 people are signed up to be involved with this and have taken part in training so far. The surveys will be repeated annually to help monitor the effects of change in mowing and hopefully record an increase in plant diversity. There is potential to develop several survey options for people of all ages and mobility to take part in contributing to data on the site and providing a fantastic learning opportunity. One school is within walking distance and many more visit on longer trips. Further research into what might be useful to schools here could be considered.

3. Site Description

3.1 Geography

The proposed area stretches from the top of the cliff and covers the extent of Swanage Town Council owned land up to the boundary of the car park, excluding some areas around Peveril Point as detailed on the map. The area covers 8.45 hectares and reaches 28 metres above sea level at its highest point and 2 metres at its lowest (taken from elevation finder online tool). Much of the site is gently sloping downhill towards the north. The site overlies Cretaceous Purbeck Beds which consist of sloping limestone and mudstone layers.

The main habitat types include a small area of woodland, scrub areas and amenity and poor semi-improved grassland, with varying levels of biodiversity as outlined in the compartment table. The area in section 9 of the habitat map appears fenced off on old Ordnance Survey maps and may have been subject to different uses, it is known that part of it was once used as a tennis court. There is a large dip in the southern edge of the site that was perhaps an old quarry, this has now developed as an ash/sycamore woodland.

3.2 Accessibility

The site is crossed by several paths and has seven main access points (see map Appendix 8). The paths are mainly mown or trampled grass except at pressure points such as entrance ways and along the South West Coast Path which has steps leading to Peveril Point. Although not formally designated as open access land, the public have had free access to the site since the end of the Second World War.

The desire lines created during the spring of 2020 when mowing was reduced due to covid-19, clearly demonstrated the areas that people like to go and the areas that receive the least footfall. This has enabled a map to be created dividing the grassland into areas for recreation with short grass to be regularly mown and areas that could be left wilder to benefit wildlife. The resulting map shows a roughly 50/50 balance between the 2 main cutting regimes.

The nature of the site in many locations, with steep slopes and uneven paths, is such that access may be challenging for some people with limited mobility. The nature of the terrain also means some of the access points are less accessible for those with mobility issues. The top of the Downs (see Appendix 9 point 1) has parking nearby and a limestone path leading to a viewpoint bench. Access point 2 has a gate and level but uneven access to seating with views. Due to nature of the slopes the access from the main car park is via steps or a steep slope and there was some feedback from the public consultation requesting that this is improved where possible to enable access from the car park.

4. Ecological surveys and data

4.1 Relevant past studies

The site has previously been little studied with regard to wildlife. Data held on the site from Dorset Environmental Record Centre showed that prior to surveys commencing in 2020, 83 species of plant, 20 species of butterflies, 20 species of wasp, bee and hoverfly and 64 bird species were recorded. Most of these records date back at least 20 years with the exception of butterflies where there are more recent records. These records were provided by local interest groups and from a study by Ted Pratt as part of his study of the Flora of Purbeck in 2010.

Species lists for the site include some that are Dorset Notable Species, and some that are rare and/or threatened species. Records also include some nationally rare NS (B) and NS (A) invertebrates, some Section 41 and a national vulnerable species.

4.2 Habitat compartment map

4.3 For ease of surveying and management a habitat compartment map has been drawn up, see below image. For compartment descriptions see table

Compartment number	Habitat Type	Brief Description and current management 2021
1	Amenity grassland	Regularly mown section, fairly flat area of grass with low species diversity. One clump of non-native grasses. Benches around edges and several trees. One area of hardstanding from former building has thin covering of soil. South West Coast Path cuts through the middle and it is surfaced by limestone chippings.
2	Coastal scrub	An area of scrub between grass and cliff edge with trees, noted as a good, sheltered area for pollinators. One section was formally open for a view with a bench but too close to unstable cliff edge now to cut back.
3	Woodland	An area of unplanted woodland mainly consisting of ash and sycamore features in a large natural dip in the landscape. Winter heliotrope present in large patches at both ends of the wood. Path goes through the woodland.
4	Semi – improved grassland with isolated trees	This area has been left unmown in the last 2 years but was cut in spring 2022 – it has a number of trees and offers potential for diversity improvement.
5a, 5b, 5c	Coastal grassland/cliff	SSSI coastal grassland – mostly inaccessible as it is near the cliff edge, it is left uncut.
6a and 6b	Poor Semi-improved grassland	Hasn't been mown but is well worn in 6a with low species diversity dominated by rye grass. Section 6b natural untrampled with greater potential for biodiversity. A higher species diversity observed. Natural paths forming between scrub and the grassland.
7a and 7b	Poor Semi-improved grassland	As 6b – smaller area divided into sections by natural paths.
8a and b	Poor semi-improved grassland and scrub	8a is grassland north sloping with encroaching scrub and isolated scrub trees, varied plants and insect life observed. One area rarely walked on, it dips down into a hollow. Several paths made around the site with access to the car park below. 8b is a scrubby area with few trees and mainly thorns. It borders the car park.
9a and b, c	Amenity grassland	This area is regularly mown with low diversity. The western side has a tarmac path leading from the gate down to the car park and a recently rebuilt stone wall. An area adjacent to this has been reseeded with cornfield annual mix. The ground is uneven and bumpy near the top of the site. 9c is left unmown and is adjacent to car park, it has a line of large horse chestnut trees

10	Amenity grassland	A former tennis court – mown with a border of large trees.
11	Scrub	Scrub with approximately 15 trees, it borders road with large stones here and this area is mown. Garden waste observed. A good area for pollinators observed with scrub and climbing plants.
12	Poor semi-improved grassland	A grass area between the two scrub areas of 11 and 13. North facing sloping site with a path running through the middle and along sides. Good diversity of plants and insects, including orchids. Some trees.
13	Scrub	Scrub with scattered trees, bramble and gorse. Winter heliotrope present on edge of scrub.
14	Amenity grassland and maritime cliff and slope	Mown grass – heavy footfall for access to Peveril Point – better diversity on cliff edges. Bare ground offers important nesting sites for solitary bees and wasps.
15	Low scrub	Smallest patch of scrub area next to path with Atlantic ivy. An area of grassland west of this is mown and well used for access also good for nesting sites for bees and wasps due to bare ground.

4.3 Survey results 2021

Surveys in 2021 found a total of 320 plant species recorded by local volunteer David Leadbetter. A bees and wasp survey was carried out by Bryan Edwards from Dorset Environmental Record Centre in April 2021 where at least 15 species were found and further surveys were recommended. A bat survey was carried out and *common pipistrelle* was recorded in section 1 bordering 4 on the edge of the woodland. Butterfly surveys were carried out and a new transect route following the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme methodology, was created covering the site see transect map below. Twelve members of the public joined the new butterfly survey group and began learning how to survey from May 2021 which led to them carrying out their own transect walks in August and September of that year. A total of 16 species have been recorded to date with the most abundant being Large and Small Whites, Meadow Browns and Gatekeepers and Marbled Whites. Lulworth Skipper was also recorded several times.

In 2022 Wall Brown and Orange Tip was also added to the species list. A methodology has been created to undertake bird surveys and additional volunteers are being sought to facilitate this however to date, no recent bird surveys have been carried out below:



5. Management Recommendations

Each management recommendation works towards at least one of the LNR selection criteria, these being:

1. Fauna, flora and habitats
2. Geology and geomorphology
3. Education at all levels
4. Value of the site to local people
5. Accessibility

Recommendation	Who	Compartment	Rationale	LNR Criteria	Time-scale
Regular mowing of approximately 50% of the grassland areas for recreation and picnicking	Swanage Town Council staff	1 6a 9a and b 14 and the area between scrub compartments 11 and 15	Surveys and assessment of use of the site indicate these areas will benefit from being regularly mown balancing the requirement for public use of the site.	3,4,5	Short-term Annual review
Leave areas uncut to grow as grass meadow areas, cut and collect material in September. A plan for removal of material to be developed.	Contractor for cutting and removal. Possible volunteer involvement.	4, 7a and b, 6b and 12	Surveys and assessment of use of the site indicate these areas are least used by people for sitting and looking at views. They are developing a greater diversity of wildlife and leaving them to grow would allow more habitat for wildlife.	1,3,4	Short term annual review
Cut once in spring	contractor	8	This area was left uncut in 2021 for diversity of	1,3,4	Short-term annual review

Cut in spring	Swanage Town Council	12	habitat and will be cut next year 2022	Orchids and other grassland species have been found in this section and to prevent swamping by grass, a cut in spring will help these species to thrive.	1,3,4	Short-term annual review
Leave a buffer of long grass between SWCP and cliff edge		5 a, b and c	To protect the value of wildlife in this area a buffer zone is recommended which will also discourage people from walking to the cliff edge	1,5	Ongoing	
Sow wildflower seed where appropriate including yellow rattle. Introduce one area at a time and review.	Volunteers	7a and b, 12, 6b	Addition of yellow rattle seed from nearby Durlston would reduce the vigorous growth by grass and allow more wildflower species to thrive. Other areas to be left for a few years to see what develops by itself.	1,3,4	Medium term	
Cut back scrub areas, leaving scalloped edges	Contractor	8b, 11, 13	Maintain edges of scrub areas as they are important for a range of species for pollination, nesting and roosting and feeding. There remains a need to prevent further encroachment into the grassland and keep the area open.	4,5	Annual	
Removal of winter heliotrope	Swanage Town	3 and 4	Winter heliotrope is a non-native, and highly invasive,	1	Long-term	

				plant. It forms dense, low-lying carpets over bare ground and grassland. If allowed to develop, this plant will shade out other species resulting in a net loss of biodiversity.			
Tree planting – suggested planting on edges of site to replace those that were removed. Also add to single standing trees in area 8	Council/ Contractor/ And or volunteers.	9 a and 8a	1,3,4	Add features and screening to this area. Provide further roosting sites for birds across the site in area 8a, planting in this area would not obstruct from views but add to the existing habitat.	Planting in 2022-23 or year after		
Path maintenance ongoing	Swanage Town Council and volunteers		4, 5		Ongoing		
Undertake a review of access	Dorset Council, Swanage Town Council and volunteer involvement		5	The site may be currently inaccessible to visitors with mobility issues at some of the access points. The review will explore possible means of improving this.	Medium-term		
Develop and install Information boards, situated at key points within the LNR			3,4	To help inform both local people and visitors of the value of the site for both nature conservation and local history and geography.	Medium term		

Wildlife Surveys – butterflies, birds, insects, some of which will require expert surveys to be commissioned	Volunteers – expert surveys		A better understanding of what is there will enable appropriate management. Involving the public in surveys allows for better appreciation of the site and an opportunity for education.	1,3,4	Long Term
Litter picking	Swanage Town Council staff and volunteer groups				Ongoing

Other recommendations for further review include developing the grassland in section 1 to create more wildflower areas as access here is easier and the area is less utilised for picnicking and enjoying views.

Tree management

Trees on the LNR are surveyed every three years by Dorset Council on behalf of Swanage Town Council. The most recent survey was undertaken in Autumn 2021. Thirty-five individual trees were surveyed, mainly a mixture of Ash and Horsechestnut with some Sycamore, Rowan, Elm, Beech, Maple and Whitebeam. In addition to these individual trees, three larger zones of trees have been identified. In zone 4 of the habitat compartment map there are clusters of mixed broadleaf trees. In zone 3 of the habitat compartment map there are a mix of broadleaf and conifer multi and single stemmed trees, many self-set. Finally in zone 12 south of Peveril Point Road, there are a number of whips planted around 4 years ago. Ash dieback is currently present on the site and is being actively monitored.

It is proposed that as a minimum trees on the site are replaced to maintain current levels. Species will be selected with regard to environmental and biodiversity considerations.

6. Future review and development of the management plan

This is a living document, subject to review and update and will be informed by results of wildlife surveys, visitor surveys, professional advice and natural occurrences. This engagement will be particularly important should there be plans to make any substantial changes to the site.

From the 2021 survey, a mailing list of over 170 people interested in a Friends Group has been obtained. This group have already been invited to join guided walks and a series of wildlife survey activities. Once designated we will conduct bi-annual meetings of representatives of the group and the Swanage Town Council staff to discuss survey findings and planned works on the site and how volunteers can support this work. These will be held biannually in spring and autumn.

7. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Map showing SSSI and NNR areas

Appendix 2 - Map showing SAC and SPA areas

Appendix 3 - Map - showing potential ecological network areas

Appendix 4 -Summary of public survey results February 2021

Appendix 5 - Survey report with engagement figures

Appendix 6 - Development proposal map

Appendix 7 - Map - Old OS map of site

Appendix 8 - Map showing Rights of Way

Appendix 9 – Access Points

Council Meeting – Monday 11th July 2022

Item 17)

Punch and Judy, Swanage Beach – To consider award of licence agreement

At the Council Meeting held on 27th January 2020, approval was provided to officers to undertake a tender to seek a concessionaire to operate a Punch and Judy Licence on the beach for the period 2020 to 2024.

Submissions were received by April 2020, although the pandemic led to the formal award of the concession being postponed until now.

Ultimately Mr Burns, who has operated on Swanage Beach as Mr Punch since 2016, was seen as the preferred candidate for the licence. Mr Burns operated on the seafront for two days in 2020 and for the 2021 season on an annual basis. Officers would now like to formalise this arrangement and provide Mr Burns with a 3-year licence to take this up to the end of the 2024 season as originally stated in the tender document (see below).

Decision required:

That a licence, as detailed in Appendix 1, and subject to any legal advice, is provided to Mr Joe Burns to operate a Punch and Judy concession for 2022 to 2024 (3 years) and charged at £100 per year.

Culvin Milmer
Visitor Services and Business Development Manager

July 2022

Appendix 1 – Original Tender Document provided in February 2020.

Punch and Judy Concession 2020-2024 (5 seasons)

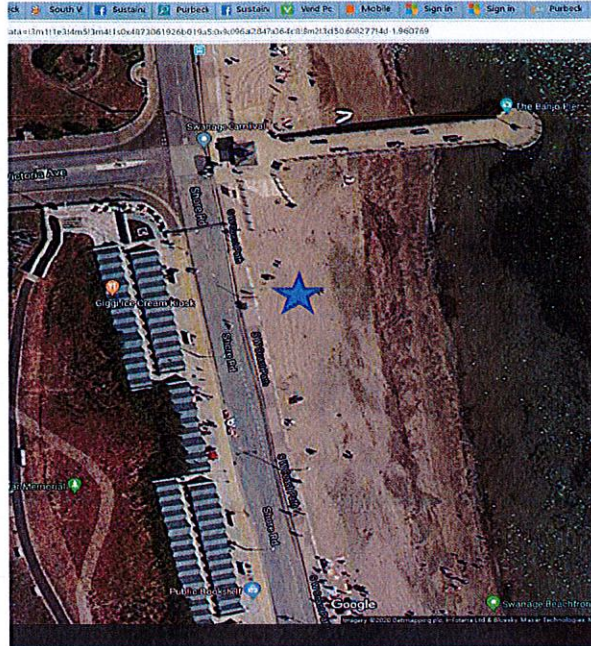
Introduction

Swanage is proud to host one of only three whole season seaside Punch and Judy shows in the country. The other two being Weymouth and Llandudno. Punch and Judy remains extremely popular with both visitors and residents in Swanage.

The **Blue Star** marks the approximate location of where the Punch and Judy Concession may operate on Swanage Central Beach, although please note that this does not include an exclusive right to the area.

The booth may be erected immediately before the season and taken down immediately after, unless otherwise agreed with Swanage Town Council.

The booth should be made safe in respect of weather and tides and may be left in situ for the duration of the season.



Process for selecting a concession

‘Expression of Interest’ returns will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Quality and appropriateness of proposal
- Relevant experience
- Licence fee offered

The concession will be for a 5 year period and will entitle the concessionaire to perform exclusively Punch and Judy shows on Swanage Central Beach for 7 days a week over the peak summer period (usually from mid-July to end August). Applicants should submit an ‘Expression of Interest’ by the closing date which is 5.00pm on Friday 13th March.

All enquiries and ‘Expressions of Interest’ should be directed as follows:

Culvin Milmer
Visitor Services Manager and Business Development Officer
Swanage Town Council
Shore Road
Swanage
BH19 1LB
01929 766018
welcome@swanage.gov.uk

Proposed Punch and Judy concession 2022 to 2024

I am pleased to be able to offer you a three-year concession to operate a Punch and Judy show on Swanage Beach. This concession includes the following:

- Sole right to perform Punch and Judy shows on the Swanage Town Council owned beach
- The right to collect monies from audiences watching the performance on land owned by Swanage Town Council, with the exception of the Shore Road Beach Huts where no right exists
- Complimentary use of a single Upper Level Beach Hut for the peak summer period;
- Promotion of your business in the Swanage Information Centre and on other media platforms such as Facebook.

In return, we expect the following:

- Performances to be held every day from Saturday x July to Sunday y September (or as agreed with the Town Council)
- A minimum of three shows a day
- In the case of unavoidable show cancellations due to weather or other exceptional circumstances, the Swanage Information Centre should be advised at the earliest opportunity so that visitors can be advised accordingly That each performance should include an element regarding environmental education and the climate crisis, thus motivating and inspiring audiences in a positive way, to play a greater role in environmental protection
- That no single use plastic is used by the concession, and the business works towards the 'Surfers Against Sewage' Plastic Free Business Accreditation.

The following terms and conditions apply to this agreement:

- As a representative of Swanage Town Council the concessionaire will at all times act in an appropriate manner. You or any associates of yours shall not do or permit to be done anything arising in connection with the concession which in the opinion of the Council is or may become a nuisance or annoyance to any other person
- Use of the beach hut requires consideration for other users and the concessionaire will at all times abide by the Council's standard beach hut terms and conditions
- Performances should not be of an overtly political nature
- Any complaints arising from this concession will be discussed with you in the first instance. If any content of the show causes significant offence then you will remove such material from your performance accordingly. The Council's determination of such matters is final
- The concessionaire to pay an annual charge of £x (as per winning tender) to the Town Council, due on 1st August each year
- You must keep the Council indemnified against any actions, costs, damages, or injury caused to any person or person's property in any way arising through the exercise of the concession hereby granted
- You must provide an annually updated risk assessment for the activities being undertaken and a copy of the public liability insurance for the concession

- No notice or advertising material shall be exhibited without the consent of the Council and then must relate solely to the concession hereby granted
- You are not to assign or sublet the concession
- Performances may be undertaken during other times of the year with the prior approval of the Visitor Services Team

AGENDA ITEM 21(a)



Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils

Colliton Annexe,

Colliton Park,

Dorchester,

Dorset DT1 1XJ

Email: daptc@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Date: 17th June 2022

Dear Member,

Ref: DAPTC Star Awards 2021/22—Double Star Recognition!

I write to congratulate council on continuing to support the development and training of both elected members and employees. Your commitment to training through DAPTC has propelled you into our 'Double Star Award' category and a select group of parish and town councils—well done!

Last year DAPTC recorded a significant increase in the number of member councils attending training and the number of delegates surged too. This was partly due to our online provision which saves money and time; as well as new topics and projects delivered in conjunction with the unitary authorities.

As we progress further into 2022 and early 2023 we will look to blend the modes of delivery to reintroduce face to face training as well as develop further our webinars and e-learning offer.

Thank you once again for your support and we look forward to see you in the coming months at either one of our events or an online training course.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Wedge

Chief Executive, DAPTC





2021/2022

Double Star Award for Councillor Development

Proudly Awarded To

Swanage Town Council

Achieved 84% participation of Councillors at events to strengthen and update Council knowledge

Neil Wedge

Chief Executive

Dorset Association of Parish & Town Councils