



# All Saints Churchyard

## GREENSPACE ACTION PLAN

### 2022 – 2027

Produced by:



On behalf of:



HERTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

# 1. OVERVIEW

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## 1.1 Greenspace Action Plans

Greenspace Actions Plans (GAPs) are map-based management plans which specify activities that should take place on a site over a stated period of time; these activities will help to deliver the agreed aspirations which the site managers and stakeholders have identified for that site.

## 1.2 Public Engagement

Engagement with stakeholders will take place over 3 weeks from mid-August to September 2021, to establish core aims and objectives for the site; these are reflected in Section 3. A second stage of engagement is to be completed in October and November 2021 to enable stakeholders to comment on the proposed management actions for the site. An associated engagement response document, published online as an appendix to this plan, summarises comments received, and any amendments made to the plan as a result.

### Version Control

Version	Issue Date	Details	Author	Reviewed	Approved
V1	06/09/21	First draft	EA		
V2	18/10/21	Final draft	EA		
V3	12/11/21	Final document	EA		

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### **3. SUMMARY**

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#### **3.1 Site Summary**

Site Name: All Saints Churchyard

Site Address: All Saints Church, Queens Road, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG13 8AY

Grid Reference: TL32838 12392

Size: 2.32 hectares

Designations: Part of the site is a Local Wildlife Site (LWS)

Owner: All Saints Church (managed by Hertford Town Council)

#### **3.2 Vision Statement**

All Saints Churchyard is an historic and important greenspace close to the centre of Hertford. Our vision for this greenspace is to provide a peaceful place of rest that is a haven for wildlife and a pleasure to visit. Management of the site will allow a diversity of spaces for wildlife whilst also continuing a feeling of being cared for.

## **4. SITE DESCRIPTION**

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### **4.1 Introduction**

All Saints Churchyard is owned by All Saints Church and managed by Hertford Town Council and it covers approximately 2.32 hectares. It is located close to the centre of Hertford, just off Gascoyne Way, accessed via Queens Road. It has great historical interest and provides habitat for a range of wildlife. The busy Gascoyne Way is located to the north, Queens Road is located to the west and Hagsdell Road to the south.

The churchyard has three main management types. Most of the churchyard is close mown grass, there is a small area of grass which is cut and collected annually and some of the area to the south of the site is left unmown. Most of the site is designated as a LWS because of the presence of semi-improved neutral grassland with a mix of grasses and herbs. There is a public footpath which runs along the west boundary of the site.


The overall appearance of the churchyard is of headstones in amongst long grass, insects buzzing about and birds in the mature trees. There is line of lime and horse chestnut trees parallel to the boundary on the east side of the site. The current management is based on previous advice from the Countryside Management Service and is sympathetic to wildlife. There is a desire to formalise the management of areas defined as conservation cut and lift, close-cut grass or left to be more natural and to put in place a management plan that reflects this. There is desire to further improve the aesthetic and ecological value of the site and update interpretation. This Greenspace Action Plan will provide a structured and targeted approach to future management for the period 2022-2027.



# All Saints Churchyard

Location plan

## Legend

 Site boundary

All Saints Churchyard  
Grid Ref: TL 328 124  
Nearest Postcode: SG13 8AF



Scale @ A4

Date

1:10,000

Oct 2021

0 50 100 200

Meters

Rev

00

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# All Saints Churchyard Site Description

## Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Future interpretation
-  Wildflower sign
-  Notice board
-  Bench locations
-  Bin locations
-  Tree locations
-  Grass paths

## Habitats

-  Hedgerow/shrubs
-  Trees
-  Scrub
-  Amenity grass
-  Cut and lift grass
-  Annual cut grass
-  Building
-  Surfaced path

All Saints Church is a place of worship and community gathering.

The car park for the site is located here.

This hedgerow is of mixed native species and should be coppiced soon.

The area of the churchyard closest to the entrance is on a regular mowing regime to create an entrance that is well maintained.

This species rich grassland and it is cut and collected annually.

This pathway is lined with lime trees.

The paths around the site are surfaced.

Most of the grassland is on an annual cut regime with mown paths.

This grassland species rich grass and is cut and collected annually.

Much of the churchyard is dominated by large trees which are a mixture of species including oak, ash, horse chestnut, yew, sycamore, common lime and Norway maple.

This is the location of the Pearson memorial.

The southern end of the site is dominated by a mixture of trees and scrub.

The Public footpath which runs along the outside of this boundary and then through the churchyard is readily used as a pedestrian route into the town centre.


This hedgerow is outside the boundary of the churchyard and is dominated by laurel.


This line of horse chestnuts were originally planted in 1660 and have been replaced periodically since then.

All Saints Churchyard is within Hertford Conservation Area.


# All Saints Churchyard Constraints


**Legend**


 Site boundary

 Footpath

**Site Type**

 Wildlife Site

 Conservation Areas

 Greenbelt - 2016

Public footpath 79.

Public footpath 81.

Public footpath 75.

Public footpath 82.


Local Wildlife Site in All Saints Churchyard.

Public footpath 77.

All Saints Churchyard is close to the local Greenbelt.

Local Wildlife Site in Valley Close Area.

Public footpath 78.




Rev 00

Scale @ A4 1:3,000

Date Oct 2021

0 10 20 40 60 80 100 Meters



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## 4.2 Geography and Landscape

All Saints Churchyard is a small greenspace which is surrounded by residential housing and roads. The site helps to provide connections for wildlife from the surrounding countryside into the centre of the town.



The surrounding land use is varied and dominated by residential dwellings and gardens and beyond that the wider countryside. The busy Gascoyne Way runs along the north of the site and separates the churchyard from the rest of the town. A public footpath runs along the western edge of the site and provides a link to Church Street.

## 4.3 History and Archaeology

All Saints Church is thought to date back to at least the 1400s and it is believed that the church was mentioned in the Domesday book. The current church building was built after a fire in 1891 with the new church being built out of Runcorn stone. The churchyard to the south of the church dates back to at least the 1600s. Portland Stone, which was imported from Dorset, was used for the majority of the tombstones. The Pearson memorial can be found within the churchyard towards the south end forming a centre to four pathways. This is a memorial to the Pearson family who lived in Brickendonbury House which was the house of the Liberty of Brickendon in which All Saints Church used to stand. The horse chestnut trees were originally planted to celebrate the Restoration in 1660, and have been gradually replaced over the last three hundred and fifty years.



The churchyard was enlarged on the south side in 1809 and 1953. In 1879, when the county Gaol in Ware Road was demolished, bones of executed prisoners were discovered and re-interred at the south east side of the churchyard. In the 1960s it was separated from Hertford town centre by the building of Gascoyne Way.

## 4.4 Habitats and Wildlife



Traditional churchyards have historically been geographical islands where some wildlife dwell, but this is often limited because of the horticultural basis of maintenance. All Saints Churchyard is an important greenspace within Hertford, and it provides habitat for birds, bats, small mammals and reptiles, among other wildlife. It is being managed in a sympathetic way for wildlife and the diversity of habitats has been maintained. Most of the churchyard is

designated as a LWS because of the presence of greater than 7 grassland indicator species.

### 4.4.1 Grassland



Churchyards traditionally have a strict mowing regime, and all grass is usually mown on a regular basis which does limit the opportunities for wildlife. The grassland in All Saints Churchyard is not managed in a traditional way. The churchyard is part of the 'Living Churchyards Scheme' which aims to help churches manage their churchyards in a wildlife friendly way, whilst paying attention to the function of the churchyard as a place

of rest. This has prompted three main mowing regimes which are outlined below:

1. Close mown amenity grass - Cut every 1-2 weeks during the growing season and arisings left
2. Conservation cut and lift grass – Cut once a year in the Autumn, with arisings removed to reduce fertility.
3. Annual cut grass – Cut once a year to stop scrub and trees from establishing with arisings not removed.

The close mown amenity grass area at the front of the church and close to entrances helps to maintain a feeling of being well maintained. The conservation cut and lift area is located to the south of the church on the east side of the churchyard. This area has a variety of plant species including Red Fescue, Ox-eye Daisy, Common Sorrel, Red



Clover, Mouse-ear Hawkweed, Birds-foot Trefoil and Burnet Saxifrage. This area is cut in Autumn and the arisings are removed to reduce soil fertility and increase wildflower diversity. The presence of this wildflower rich grassland is the main reason for designation as a LWS so this diversity must be maintained. All other grass within the churchyard is cut annually and arisings are left. These areas are a great habitat for a variety of wildlife including reptiles and small mammals which in turn are food for birds of prey and other larger mammals. These areas also have mown paths through them to allow access. There is also an area to the south of the site which is not cut at all and has been allowed to develop into scrub and small trees.

#### **4.4.2 Trees and scrub**



The largest trees on site are located mostly towards the south of the site. There are a mixture of different species including horse chestnut, yew, lime, holly, pine, ash, elder, cedar and hawthorn. Trees are surveyed every 3 years and managed to assess their safety and removed or pruned and replaced if necessary. The trees are an important part of the character of this site and the line of horse chestnut trees along the eastern

boundary has historical significance. The presence of these large trees provides a habitat for a wide range of wildlife including bats, insects, and birds.

Some areas are now developing a scrub character with brambles and some weed tree growth (unwanted self-set trees). These areas of scrub need to be controlled to stop them from taking over the more open grassland areas. The majority of areas of grass within the churchyard are the reason for its designation as an LWS. Weed tree species should be removed from within the grassland to stop them from developing. Clusters of ivy and bramble are more frequent in the southern section of the churchyard.

The trees along the western boundary in between the churchyard and public footpath are not within the boundary of the churchyard. However, some of these may pose a problem in the coming years, so communication with the adjacent landowner would help to control this potential issue. Some of the footpaths around the site are becoming slightly enclosed by encroaching branches. It would be beneficial to remove some of these lower branches as suggested in the action plan.

## **4.5 Access, Facilities and Infrastructure**

The site can be accessed by motorised vehicle off Queen's Road and there is a car park close to the church. There is also pedestrian access from Churchfields, two entrances from Hagsdell Road and the underpass to Church Street towards the town centre. Toilets are located within the church hall but only available when the church is open for services and events. For information about events there are two notice boards one located close to the main entrance from Queen's Road and another located close to the entrance from Churchfields. There is a network of paths around the site which are tarmacked and suitable in all weather conditions. Public footpath number 77 runs through the site connecting Hagsdell Road with the underpass to Church Street.

## **4.6 Community and Events**

All Saints Church is a local community hub with regular services and other events. All Saints Churchyard is open to the general public and is a peaceful environment to walk or sit. The churchyard is open to pedestrians 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and it is a regular walking route for local people to get into the town centre. For information about events there are two notice boards located close to the entrance from Queen's Road and Churchfields. Also, information about events at the church can be found on the church website. [All Saints' Parish Church, Hertford -The Church \(allsaintshertford.org\)](http://allsaintshertford.org)

## **5. AIM & OBJECTIVES**

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The aim and objectives based on Green Flag assessment criteria are set out below.

### **5.1 Aim**

To provide a welcoming and tranquil setting, attractive and rich in wildlife, where people can come to be with their loved ones or simply relax in peaceful surroundings.

### **5.2 Objectives**

#### **A. A welcoming place**

To provide a tranquil and welcoming setting for visitors to All Saints Churchyard.

- A1 Appropriate management of the grass, trees, and shrubs on site so that the appearance of the site is one of a maintained and welcoming space.
- A2 Maintain a network of paths around the site.
- A3 Provide suitable informative signage at the entrances (including wildlife area interpretation).

#### **B. Healthy, safe and secure**

To ensure that visitors feel safe and secure in the Churchyard.

- B1 Footpaths must be well maintained and safe to use.
- B2 Headstones and monuments must be safe and monitored to ensure that they continue to be safe.
- B3 Ensure that grounds maintenance staff are trained in the use of all machinery and have suitable PPE.

#### **C. Clean and well maintained**

To ensure that the churchyard is clean, tidy and well maintained.

- C1 Ensure that an effective grounds maintenance regime is in place to uphold the maintenance standards of the site.
- C2 Ensure that churchyard infrastructure is kept in good condition.



#### **D. Sustainability**

To ensure that the management of the site is as sustainable as possible.

- D1 Funding obtained where required for capital works.
- D2 Management operations within the churchyard are to be carried out sustainably.
- D3 Management operations to have limited impact on the surrounding environment.

#### **E. Conservation and Heritage**

To ensure that the habitats present on site are maintained to enhance the biodiversity of the site whilst maintaining the overall character of the site.

- E1 Maintain current hedgerows and trees to provide space for wildlife ensuring public safety.
- E2 Manage grassland to increase the benefit to biodiversity whilst ensuring that the site remains a feeling of being well maintained.
- E3 Relaxed management of areas to the south whilst ensuring maintenance of tended graves.

#### **F. Community Involvement**

Enable bereaved families and volunteers to get involved in the development of the site.

- F1 Provide opportunities for CMS practical volunteers to be involved with the management of the site.
- F2 Provide opportunities for local community and bereaved families to get involved with the site.

#### **G. Marketing**

Raise awareness of the site and what it has to offer.

- G1 Install new interpretation to inform visitors about the management, history and wildlife present.
- G2 Promote the site via the Hertford Town Council and All Saints Church website.

## 6. MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS



### 6.1 A Welcoming Place

At the entrances to the site off Queen's Road and Churchfields there are notice boards and signs with information about events and services in the church. There is an opportunity to use these notice boards to inform people about wildlife within the churchyard. Installation of information panels at each of the entrances could inform churchyard visitors about the management of the site and wildlife that might be seen. Also, of importance which could be added to new information panels is the history of the site (an example is shown above). The entrances to the site are well maintained and welcoming to visitors and should be kept this way with shrubs maintained. Maintenance of the hedgerow (through hedge laying) along Gascoyne Way would create a more welcoming environment from Queens Road. The entrances of Hagsdell Road could be cut back in order to increase light levels and make them more welcoming.

### 6.2 Healthy, Safe and Secure

There is a feeling of being safe within the churchyard because of the walkways. They could be improved in places by cutting back the lower branches of surrounding trees. Also, continuation of tree safety and headstone safety assessments should be carried out. Trees identified in the tree safety survey as being dangerous should be scheduled for work. All walkways should be assessed for trip hazards



and where required sections should be replaced. The site is also an important greenspace within Hertford for people to exercise by walking around this peaceful environment. This has been of particular importance over the course of the COVID pandemic where we were advised to stay local.

### **6.3 Clean and Well Maintained**



The space is clean and well maintained with some areas of the churchyard left to grow long grass and trees. There is a need with future maintenance regimes (particularly in these areas of longer grass) to reassure people that maintenance is being carried out through mowing the edges of paths and controlling weed trees. Areas of the cemetery are specified as being conservation cut and lift, annual cut, and amenity grass. Trees,

shrubs, and hedgerows alongside walkways should be cut maintained to allow easy passage. Litter collection and bin emptying ensures that the site remains clean and is good for wildlife. Also providing information to the general public about the maintenance regime and reasons for this maintenance will be important.

### **6.4 Sustainability**

The churchyard is managed as sustainably as possible through only cutting grass where needed and only using weed killer on paths where needed. A change to all electric equipment when this becomes feasible would reduce emissions. Also ensuring that all headstone cleaning is done with eco-friendly methods will improve sustainability. In addition, providing space for a range of wildlife by leaving some grass to grow long, planting trees and leaving deadwood can improve the sustainability of the site. The addition of a compost bin on site could be used to compost weeds and some grass cuttings and then the compost can be used where needed on site. In addition, if appropriate, some of the timber from felled or fallen trees can be sold to bring in some revenue to the cemetery and help to enhance the sustainability of work to be carried out.



## 6.5 Conservation and Heritage

This space has lots of opportunities for wildlife because of the mixture of different habitats, so these should be maintained and improved where possible e.g., for nesting birds (as shown in the photo to the right). The site is an important site historically which should be protected in any future management. Information about the history of the site on an interpretation panel would also be beneficial for visitors. Also expanding the conservation cut and lift areas would be beneficial for pollinators.



### 6.5.1 Managing Oak Processionary Moth (OPM)

Oak Processionary Moth is a species of moth with caterpillars that nest in oak trees. The caterpillars eat the leaves of oak trees but also pose a threat to humans, the hairs or nest of the caterpillars can cause serious rashes and irritation. They haven't been found on the site but have been found at several sites within Hertfordshire. If found, their location must be reported to the landowner and information sent to the Forestry Commission (FC). Further details can be found in item two of the appendix.

## 6.6 Community Involvement and Marketing



The site is open to the general public and there is public footpath which runs through the site. There is a chance to identify other opportunities for members of the public to get involved possibly as volunteers carrying out some basic maintenance tasks. Promoting information about these volunteering opportunities could be done through the Hertford Town Council website and

through information in notice boards (an example of this community work is shown above). The site will continue to be a peaceful and an important place of rest for the local community so this atmosphere should be maintained.

## 7. ACTION PLANS AND MAPS

### 7.1 ANNUAL AND REGULAR ACTIONS

Ref. no.	Action	Obj. Ref.	When	Lead	Delivery	Funding	Est. Cost	Spec. Ref.	Status
0.1	Cut round signs, furniture and entrances	C1, E3	Apr-Oct	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.1, 8.1.3	
0.2	Cut along sides of main paths	A2, B1	Apr-Oct	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.1	
0.3	Remove rubbish and empty bins as required	C1	When required	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.3.1	
0.4	Monitor and maintain site infrastructure as required	B2, C2	When required	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.3.1	
0.5	Cut amenity grass at least every 2 weeks to a length of 5-6cm	A1, C1	March - Dec	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.1	
0.6	Cut and clear wildflower meadow area	E2	August	HTC	GMO/Con	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.1	
0.7	Regularly mow grass paths in annual cut areas every 2 weeks	A2, B1	Marc - Dec	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.1	
0.8	Hedgerow maintenance	E1, F1	Oct - Feb	HTC	GMO/Vols	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.3	
0.9	Cut annual cut areas	E2, E3	Oct - Nov	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.1	
1.0	Headstone topple testing areas shown in annual actions map (5-year cycle)	B2, C2	Annually	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.3.1	
1.1	Ensuring ongoing maintenance costs are financially sustainable	D1	Ongoing	HTC	HTC	AMB	N/A	N/A	
1.2	Promote the site and volunteering opportunities	F1, F2, G2	Ongoing	HTC	HTC	AMB	N/A	N/A	
1.3	Review Action Plans		Annually	HTC	HTC	AMB	N/A	N/A	

**Abbreviations:** CMS – Countryside Management Service, HTC – Hertford Town Council, Vols – Volunteer, Con – Contractor, GMO – Grounds Maintenance Operatives, AMB – Annual Maintenance Budget.



## 7.2 YEAR 1 ACTION PLAN 2022/2023

Ref. no.	Action	Obj. Ref.	When	Lead	Delivery	Funding	Est. Cost	Spec Ref.	Status
0.1	Investigate the feasibility of getting a contractor to carry out the cut and collect of large grassland areas	A3, E2	Ongoing	HTC	HTC	AMB	£100 (of carrying out cutting)	8.1.1	
0.2	Tree risk management inspections	A1	Every 3 years.	HTC	Con	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.2	
0.3	Monuments topple testing of larger monuments	B2	Every 5 years.	HTC	HTC/Con	AMB	No additional cost	8.3.1	
0.4	Design and install interpretation/information panel, with potential locations shown on the map	A3, G1, C2	April 22 – March 23	HTC/ CMS	CMS/GMO	AMB	£1000	8.2	
0.5	Weed tree removal and stump treatment	C1, E2, E3, D3	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.2	
0.6	Lift trees along all paths where required and cherry near Churchfields	A1, B1, E1	Oct-Feb	HTC	Con	AMB	£4,000	8.1.2	
0.7	Cut areas of scrub as shown on the plan	E1, A1	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.4	
0.8	Install compost bin in an appropriate place	D2	April - June	HTC	GMO	AMB	£50	8.3.2	

### 7.3 YEAR 2 ACTION PLAN 2023/2024

Ref. no.	Action	Obj. Ref.	When	Lead	Delivery	Funding	Est. Cost	Spec. Ref.	Status
0.1	Plant bulbs at the front of the church	E2	Nov-Dec	HTC	GMO	AMB	£100	8.1.1	
0.2	Plant weed supressing plant around the Pearson memorial ( <i>Campanula portenschlagiana</i> could be a good option)	E2	March-May	HTC	GMO	AMB	£100	8.3.2	
0.3	Reduce scrub area by cutting to ground level as shown on the plan	E1, A1	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO /Vols	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.4	
0.4	Investigate the possibility of cutting the hedgerow on Hagsdell Road down to 1.5m to improve sight lines	A1, A2, B2	Oct-Feb	HTC	HTC/Con	AMB	£500 (cost of work)	8.1.3	
0.5	Enlarge conservation cut and lift wildflower meadow area in the northeast side of the site	E2	Sept-Nov	HTC	HTC/Con	AMB	N/A	8.1.1	

### 7.4 YEAR 3 ACTION PLAN 2024/2025

Ref no.	Action	Obj. Ref	When	Lead	Delivery	Funding	Est. Cost	Spec . Ref.	Status
0.1	Lay hedge along north boundary of the site.	E1, F1, F2	Oct-Feb	HTC	Con	AMB	£500	8.1.3	
0.2	Review effectiveness of targeting cutting	A1, E2	Jun-Jul	HTC	HTC	AMB	N/A	8.1.1	
0.3	Reduce scrub area by cutting to ground level as shown on the plan.	E1, A1	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO/Vols	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.4	
0.4	Repaint railings and gates.	A3, C2	April-Oct	HTC	Con	AMB	£200	8.3.1	

## 7.5 YEAR 4 ACTION PLAN 2025/2026

Ref no.	Action	Obj. Ref	When	Lead	Delivery	Funding	Est. Cost	Spec. Ref.	Status
0.1	Tree risk management inspections	A1	Every 3 years.	HTC	Con	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.2	
0.2	Extend annual cut and lift as shown on the plan in the northeast corner of the site	E2	Sept-Nov	HTC	HTC/Con	AMB	N/A	8.1.1	
0.3	Bulb planting in south east corner of the site	E2	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO	AMB	£100	8.1.1	
0.4	Reduce scrub area by cutting to ground level as shown on the plan	A1, E1	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO/Vols	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.4	
0.5	Weed tree removal and stump treatment	C1, E2, E3, D3	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.2	



## 7.6 YEAR 5 ACTION PLAN 2026/2027

Ref. no.	Action	Obj. Ref.	When	Lead	Delivery	Funding	Est. Cost	Spec. Ref.	Status
0.1	Remove Holly growing in line of Lime trees	A1, D1, D3, A1	Oct-Feb	HTC	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.2	
0.2	Cut Laurel growing in southern most area and treat stumps	A1, D1, D3, A1	Oct-Feb	HTC/contractor	GMO	AMB	No additional cost	8.1.2	
0.3	Review Year 5 Action Plan and consult & write new GAP	All	Apr 27	CMS/HTC	CMS	N/A	TBC	N/A	




# All Saints Churchyard

## Annual and regular actions


### Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Wildflower sign
-  Notice board
-  Bench locations
-  Bin locations
-  Grass paths
-  Hedgerow/shrubs
-  Trees
-  Scrub
-  Amenity grass
-  Cut and lift grass
-  Annual cut grass
-  Building
-  Surfaced path


### Delivery responsibility




- Hertford Town Council (HTC) 
- Contractor 
- Volunteer 


-  Hedgerow maintenance. 
-  Cut amenity grass every 1-2 weeks to a height of around 5-6cm. 
-  Cut around signs, furniture and entrances. 
-  Cut and clear arisings from meadow area. 
-  Hedgerow maintenance. 
-  Topple testing area year 1 (including around the church). 
-  Cut grass paths every 1-2 weeks. 
-  Cut and clear arisings from meadow area. 
-  Topple testing area year 2. 
-  Cut annual cut areas. 
-  Monitor and maintain site infrastructure as required, 
-  Topple testing area year 3. 
-  Remove rubbish/empty bins when needed. 
-  Cut along path edges. 

Topple testing area year 5. 

Hedgerow maintenance.  

Topple testing area year 4. 

- ### Other actions
- Ensure that ongoing maintenance costs are financially sustainable. 
  - Promote that site and volunteering opportunities. 
  - Review action plans. 




Scale @ A4  
1:1,200

0 5 10 20 30 Meters

Rev 00

Date Oct 2021

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# All Saints Churchyard



Action Plan: Year 1  
(2022-2023)


## Legend



-  Site boundary
-  Future interpretation
-  Wildflower sign
-  Notice board
-  Bench locations
-  Bin locations
-  New compost bin
-  Grass paths
-  Hedgerow/shrubs
-  Trees
-  Scrub
-  Amenity grass
-  Cut and lift grass
-  Annual cut grass
-  Building
-  Surfaced path


## Delivery responsibility



- Hertford Town Council (HTC) 
- Contractor 
- Volunteer 



Remove bramble from this area.  



Investigation of contractor cut and collect of large grassland areas. 



Design and install interpretation panel.  


Install a compost bin, possibly in this area of the cemetery. 


Reduce area of scrub from the original area.  

Reduce area of scrub from the original area.  

Lift trees along all paths where required.  

Monument/headstone topple testing and follow-up work (every five years).  

Weed tree removal and stump treatment across the churchyard. 

Tree risk management inspections to be carried out on all trees every three years. 



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# All Saints Churchyard

Action Plan: Year 2  
(2023-2024)

## Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Future interpretation
-  Wildflower sign
-  Notice board
-  Bench locations
-  Bin locations
-  New compost bin
-  Grass paths
-  Hedgerow/shrubs
-  Trees
-  Scrub
-  Amenity grass
-  Cut and lift grass
-  Annual cut grass
-  Building
-  Surfaced path

- Delivery responsibility**
- Hertford Town Council (HTC) 
  - Contractor 
  - Volunteer 

Plant bulbs in this area.

Enlarge conservation cut and lift area.

Reduce area of scrub from the original area.

Plant weed suppressing plant around the hedges near the Pearson memorial.

Investigation of cutting back the hedgerow along Hagsdell Road.



Scale @ A4  
1:1,200

Date  
Oct 2021

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0 5 10 20 30 Meters



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# All Saints Churchyard

Action Plan: Year 3  
(2024-2025)

## Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Future interpretation
-  Wildflower sign
-  Notice board
-  Bench locations
-  Bin locations
-  New compost bin
-  Grass paths
-  Hedgerow/shrubs
-  Trees
-  Scrub
-  Amenity grass
-  Cut and lift grass
-  Annual cut grass
-  Building
-  Surfaced path

## Delivery responsibility

- Hertford Town Council (HTC) 
- Contractor 
- Volunteer 

Lay hedge along north boundary of the site.

Repaint railings and gates.

Review effectiveness of targeted cutting.

Reduce area of scrub from the original area.



Scale @ A4

1:1,200

Date

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# All Saints Churchyard


Action Plan: Year 4  
(2025-2026)


## Legend



-  Site boundary
-  Future interpretation
-  Wildflower sign
-  Notice board
-  Bench locations
-  Bin locations
-  New compost bin
-  Grass paths
-  Hedgerow/shrubs
-  Trees
-  Scrub
-  Amenity grass
-  Cut and lift grass
-  Annual cut grass
-  Building
-  Surfaced path


## Delivery responsibility


- Hertford Town Council (HTC) 
- Contractor 
- Volunteer 

Extend annual cut and lift area as shown. 

Weed tree removal and stump treatment across the churchyard. 

Reduce area of scrub from the original area.  

Tree risk management inspections to be carried out on all trees every three years. 

Plant bulbs in this area. 



Scale @ A4

1:1,200

Date

Oct 2021

Rev 00

0 5 10 20 30 Meters



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# All Saints Churchyard

Action Plan: Year 5  
(2026-2027)

## Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Future interpretation
-  Wildflower sign
-  Notice board
-  Bench locations
-  Bin locations
-  New compost bin
-  Grass paths
-  Hedgerow/shrubs
-  Trees
-  Scrub
-  Amenity grass
-  Cut and lift grass
-  Annual cut grass
-  Building
-  Surfaced path

## Delivery responsibility

- Hertford Town Council (HTC) 
- Contractor 
- Volunteer 

Remove Holly growing in line of Lime trees.

Cut Laurel, remove and treat stumps.

## Other actions

- Review Year 5 Action Plan and consult and write a new GAP.



Scale @ A4

1:1,200

Date

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0 5 10 20 30 Meters



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## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

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### 8.1 Vegetation Management

#### 8.1.1 Grassland

Grass along paved footpath edges should be cut back to a minimum of 50cm from the path edge. In addition to this vegetation around entrances should be regularly cut to prevent it from encroaching.

The cut and lift areas identified should be cut annually and arisings collected and removed after 2-3 days to allow wildflower seed to drop. If a suitable contractor can be found and if this is feasible the larger areas could be cut by a larger machine. This should be carried out after wildflower seeds have dropped in August. If deemed necessary, an additional cut with arisings removed could be carried out in late March.

The annual cut areas should be cut once a year in September or October.

The amenity grassland should be cut on a regular basis to a height of approximately 5-6cm throughout the growing season.

#### *Addition of wildflowers*

It is thought that it will be of benefit to the existing floral diversity, that yellow rattle should be added to the grassland through creating small areas of bare earth with the heel of a boot and scattering yellow rattle seeds on this bare earth. Yellow rattle is a flowering plant which parasitises vigorous grasses to open up the sward and allow greater floral diversity.

#### 8.1.2 Woodland

#### *Tree safety & timings*

The safety of users is of primary importance the HTC and formal tree surveys are carried out every three years, with works identified and carried out based on their urgency. Each inspection captures the location of trees, inspects their condition, and recommendations for work. Tree works should be undertaken outside of nesting season between November and February, unless a tree safety issue override this.

#### *Timber arisings*

Timber can be left where appropriate to provide habitat for beetles and other wildlife in the form of deadwood. Timber from larger trees which have been identified to be felled, could be sold where possible or chipped and removed from site.

### *Weed trees*

Weed trees are trees that are not wanted in a specific place, this may be down to species or location. In this incidence it is because there is a desire to keep the grassland areas of the site free of new trees. This is done by cutting these weed species down and treating the stumps with Eco-plugs.

### **8.1.3 Hedges and shrubs**

The hedgerow along Gascoyne Way is to be laid over the course of the next management plan. Hedge laying is a traditional process of hedge management used to keep livestock in a field. Today it is often carried out for its aesthetic value or improving the habitat value of a connecting feature. This is a process where tree stems are cut most of the way through, at the base and then folded over and the process repeated along the hedge. It is a traditional hedge management technique that has benefits for wildlife and management of the hedge. The hedgerow along the southern boundary with Hagsdell Road is outside of the churchyard boundary but the footpath along this boundary is quite dark and would benefit from cutting back this hedgerow. This should be further investigated over the course of the next Greenspace Action Plan.

### **8.1.4 Scrub**

Scrub is dense vegetation that is dominated by woody plants and typically forms as an intermediate vegetation between grassland and woodland. It is important for a range of wildlife, particularly birds. The scrub on site should be managed to ensure that it does not become dominant and spread from the boundaries of existing areas. This control can be carried out by cutting between October and February (not during bird-nesting season).

## **8.2 Signage and interpretation**

New interpretation will be developed over the course of the next management plan to inform visitors about history, wildlife and management. Ideally one A2 lectern could be placed near to a readily used entrance or a place where people congregate. In addition, smaller information panels could be placed at other entrances.

## **8.3 Maintenance**

### **8.3.1 Man-made structures**

Surfaced pedestrian routes, monuments, and entrances will be maintained to create a welcoming and safe environment for visitors.

1. Some monuments, where under a Diocesan maintenance arrangement will be maintained to the requested standard annually. All memorials or monuments are inspected every five years for defects, to ensure that they remain in a safe and stable condition. A rolling programme of visual and hand testing of memorials will be undertaken in addition to ad hoc checks while carrying out general maintenance. Where unsafe memorials are identified, remedial works are undertaken to make safe while the current owners are traced.
2. The churchyard has a surfaced path network which is subject to damage from the large number of tree roots and also from subsidence due to the nature of the subsoil. Repairs are carried out as and when necessary. The build-up of moss on pathways is an ongoing problem. The affected areas are regularly inspected and where necessary raked and swept clean.
3. Maintenance of benches within the churchyard is important to uphold the character and safety of the site.
4. Bins are located at entrances and emptied as required. Replacement of bins, as they come to the end of their lifespan, should be done with covered bins to reduce the potential of litter blowing out.

### **8.3.2 Horticulture**

Planting and replacement of shrubs will take place where needed and funding for new planting will be identified. Bulb planting will provide aesthetical value and value for pollinating insects in the early part of the spring. Snowdrops and some Crocus can be of real benefit to wildlife.

## 9. APPENDICES

### 1. Local Wildlife Site Survey Report

#### Wildlife Site Survey Report for: All Saints Hertford

Site Ref:	59/063	Site size (ha):	2.32ha		
District:	East Herts	Grid Ref:	TL328124		
Surveyors:	Andrew Harris, Paula Shipway (HMWT)				
Date of survey:	21/8/12	Weather:	Warm, cloudy, sunny spells	Duration on site:	2.5 hours

<b>Geology:</b>	<b>Bedrock:</b>	Upper chalk (Seaford Chalk Formation)
	<b>Superficial Deposits:</b>	Alluvium over river terrace gravels

<b>Original criteria:</b>	H.2.2b	<b>Habitat:</b>	Neutral grassland
<b>Criteria met:</b>	H.2.2b Neutral (11 indicators)  H.2.2e Mixed (13 indicators)		
<b>Changes to boundary?</b>	Remove church building from wildlife site area, and amenity grassland and paths north and west of the church building		

<b>New Site Description:</b>	A large churchyard situated within the urban centre of Hertford. The grassland community includes several indicators including Common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> , Sweet Vernal Grass <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> , Common Knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i> , Meadow Vetchling <i>Lathyrus pratensis</i> , Ox-eye Daisy <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> , Field Woodrush <i>Luzula campestris</i> , Creeping Jenny <i>Lysimachia nummularia</i> , Burnet Saxifrage <i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i> , Bulbous Buttercup <i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i> , Common Sorrel <i>Rumex acetosa</i> , native Red Clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i> var. <i>pratense</i> , and Germander Speedwell <i>Veronica chamaedrys</i> .
<b>Compartment 1:</b>	The part of it specifically managed as wildlife area is located just south of the church building and on the east side of the churchyard.

<p>'wildlife area' – compartment of grass left unmown during growing season</p>	<p>Within it are three planted Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i> but the wildlife area is mainly neutral grassland surrounding memorials.</p> <p>The grassland is mainly composed of Red Fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i>, Yorkshire Fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i> and Creeping Bent <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>. False Oat-grass <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i> was also present but not dominating. A variety of herbs were present, Creeping Buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> had a high frequency in some places, but generally the grassland was species rich and included Ox-eye Daisy, Self-heal <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>, Germander Speedwell <i>Veronica chamaedrys</i> Common Sorrel <i>Rumex acetosa</i>, Red Clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i> and Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>. Mouse-ear Hawkweed <i>Pilosella officinarum</i> was abundant in areas of low vegetation, particularly on the tops of graves and on a pathway cut through the grassland.</p> <p>Indicators recorded: Common Bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>, Sweet Vernal-grass <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>, Common Knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i>, Meadow Vetchling <i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>, Ox-eye Daisy <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>, Field Woodrush <i>Luzula campestris</i>, Creeping Jenny <i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>, Burnet Saxifrage <i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>, Bulbous Buttercup <i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>, Common Sorrel <i>Rumex acetosa</i>, Red Clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i> var. <i>pratense</i>, Germander Speedwell <i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>.</p> <p>The % SC of herbs (excluding negative indicators) was on average about 25%</p>
<p>Compartment 2: Surrounding churchyard</p>	<p>The remainder of the churchyard was not fully assessed as it had been surveyed in 2010. Some of the indicator species found in the wildlife area were also represented in the larger churchyard – those which could cope with regular mowing as low growing rosettes or creeping shoots such as common sorrel <i>Rumex acetosa</i>, creeping jenny <i>Lysimachia nummularia</i> and germander speedwell <i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>. Two species not found in the 2010 survey were noted - Wild Carrot <i>Daucus carota</i> (one plant) and the vegetative leaves of Cuckoo Flower <i>Cardamine pratensis</i>, the latter being an additional neutral/wet grassland indicator.</p>

<b>Fauna:</b>	<b>Birds:</b>	Long-tailed Tit, Wren, Robin, Nuthatch, Magpie
	<b>Mammals:</b>	
	<b>Invertebrates:</b>	Anthills, 16-spot ladybird.
	<b>Lichen</b>	(4 hour survey) Sixty species were found, though lower than many rural churches, this was a reasonable number for a churchyard in an urban



	<p>setting. Lichens on the church building were very limited. The memorial held the most species with a range of characteristic associations of limestone and sandstone. There were some interesting examples of <i>Psilolechia lucida</i> and <i>Lepraria incana</i> emphasising some of the dedications where they occupied the damp recesses of incised letters. Lichens on the trees were either present at a low frequency or inaccessible on high branches but representative associations of smooth bark and twigs were recorded.</p>
<b>Other:</b>	An unidentified case moth had spun protective cases coated with lichen granules on one of the headstones – a lichen case-bearer such as <i>Dahlica lichenella</i> or related species.
<b>Invasive species:</b>	Canadian Fleabane
<b>Current Management:</b>	The wildlife area has been left uncut for the summer months and was due to be cut following the survey. A pathway is cut through it allowing access and two descriptive notice boards placed at the access points. The rest of the churchyard is cut but the majority appeared to have been done with a fairly high cut which allowed some variety of species to survive.
<b>Recommended Management:</b>	It would be great if a larger area, or another area, could be allowed to grow long. Cuttings must be lifted off.
<b>Surrounding land use:</b>	urban

## Species List

**NOTE** – all the species below were recorded from the ‘Wildlife Area’ (and their abundance score is for that area) with the exception of Cuckoo Flower (*Cardamine pratensis*) and Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*) which were present in the churchyard but not in the ‘Wildlife Area’.

Scientific Name	Common Name	WS inds (*a/n/c/w/f) & neg inds ('-')	grassland spp.	all inds	no of comps total
			DAFOR		
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow		R		1
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Bent, Common	a/n	R	x	1
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Bent, Creeping		R		1
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Foxtail, Meadow		+		1
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Grass, Sweet Vernal	n	+	x	1
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	Oat-grass, False	- a/c/n/w	R		1
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckoo Flower	n/w	+		1
<i>Centaurea nigra s. lat.</i>	Knapweed, Black/Com'n	c/n	R	x	1
<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Mouse-ear, Common	- a	+		1
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Thistle, Spear	- a/c/n/w	+		1
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Bindweed, Field		R		1
<i>Conyza canadensis</i>	Fleabane, Canadian*		+		1
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	Hawk's-beard, Smooth		+		1
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot	- a/c/n/w	+		1
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Willowherb, Broad-leaved		+		1
<i>Epilobium tetragonum</i>	Willowherb, Sq-stemmed		+		1
<i>Festuca rubra agg.</i>	Fescue, Red (family)		F		1
<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cranesbill, Cut-leaved		+		1
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens		+		1
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground Ivy		+		1
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy		+		1
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	- a/c/n/w	O		1

Scientific Name	Common Name	WS inds (*a/n/c/w/f) & neg inds ('-')	grassland spp.	all inds	no of comps total
			DAFOR		
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's-ear, Common		+		1
<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	Vetchling, Meadow	n	+	x	1
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Daisy, Oxeye	c/n	R	x	1
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Rye-grass, Perennial	- a/c/n/w	+		1
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	Wood-rush, Field	a/n	R	x	1
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping Jenny	w	+	x	1
<i>Phleum bertolonii</i>	Catstail, Smaller		+		1
<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	Mouse-ear Hawkweed		R		1
<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>	Saxifrage, Burnet	c	+	x	1
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Plantain, Ribwort		R		1
<i>Poa annua</i>	Meadow-grass, Annual		+		1
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Meadow-grass, Rough	- w	+		1
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Cinquefoil, Creeping		R		1
<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>	Strawberry, Barren		+		1
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Selfheal		R		1
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Oak, Pedunculate		+		1
<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	Buttercup, Bulbous	c/n	+	x	1
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Buttercup, Creeping	- w	R		1
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Sorrel, Common	n	R	x	1
<i>Rumex sanguineus</i>	Dock, Wood		+		1
<i>Sagina apetala</i>	Pearlwort, Annual		+		1
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort, Common	- a/c/n	+		1
<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Sow-thistle, Prickly		+		1
<i>Taraxacum officinale agg.</i>	Dandelion family		+		1
<i>Trifolium pratense var. pratense</i>	Clover, Red (native)	c/n	R	x	1

Scientific Name	Common Name	WS inds (*a/n/c/w/f) & neg inds ('-')	grassland spp.	all inds	no of comps total
			DAFOR		
<i>Trisetum flavescens</i>	Oat-grass, Yellow	- c	+		1
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Speedwell, Germander	c/n	R	x	1
<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	Speedwell, Thyme-leaved		+		1
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Vetch, Common		+		1
<i>Vicia tetrasperma</i>	Tare, Smooth		+		1
*=planted/introduced/escape		per compartment totals:		50	

Total species (all comp.s) 50		total indicators 12					
All Compartments:	AWI	Neut	Acid	Calc	Wet	Fen	c/a/n/w
	0	11	2	6	2	0	13
Thresholds:	AWI	Neut	Acid	Calc	Wet	Fen	c/a/n/w
min size (ha)	1	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
min indicators	10	8	5	8	5	5	12
Criteria met		Met					Met

#### DAFOR Scale:

D	Dominant	>75% cover
A	Abundant	51-75% cover
F	Frequent	26-50% cover
O	Occasional	11-25% cover
R	Rare	<11% cover, >=5 individual plants
+	Very Rare	<5 individual plants





# Wildlife Site 59/063 All Saints Churchyard Hertford

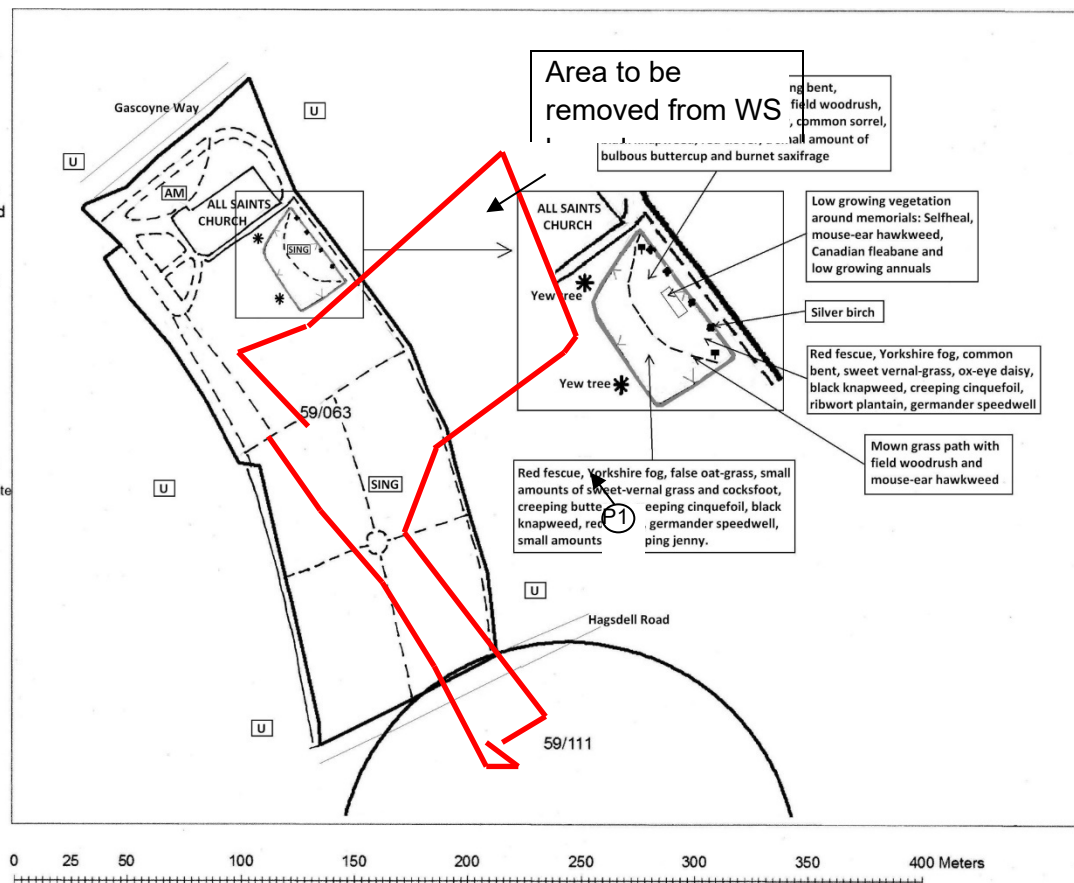
Surveyors:  
Andrew Harris, Paula Shipway

Date of survey:  
21/08/2012

## Legend

- Wildlife Sites 2010
- Selected Wildlife Site
- Wildlife area
- Notice board
- Trees (depicted around wildlife site only)

HMWT:  
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Trees (depicted  
around surveyed  
section only)

## Map key:

	<div></div>	<b>WS boundary</b> (NB use a red line to denote anywhere boundary changes should be made)	
WOODLAND	<div>BW</div>	Semi-natural broadleaved woodland	<div>CBW</div> Coppiced broadleaved woodland
	<div>PB</div>	Plantation broadleaved woodland	<div>RCBW</div> Relict coppiced broadleaved woodland
	<div>PC</div>	Plantation coniferous woodland	
	<div>MW</div>	Mixed woodland	
	<div>DS</div>	Dense-continuous scrub	
	<div>SS</div>	Scattered scrub (NB: notate grassland type beneath)	
	<div>SB</div>	Broadleaved Parkland/scattered trees (NB: notate grassland type beneath)	
	<div>SC</div>	Coniferous Parkland/scattered trees (NB: notate grassland type beneath)	
	<div>SM</div>	Mixed Parkland/scattered trees (NB: notate grassland type beneath)	
	<div>FB</div>	Broadleaved recently felled woodland	
& SCURB	<div>FC</div>	Coniferous recently felled woodland	
	<div>FM</div>	Mixed recently felled woodland	
GRASSLAND	<div>UAG</div>	Unimproved acid grassland	<div><div>-----</div> Path</div> <div><div>=====</div> Track/lane/road</div> <div><div>~~~~~</div> Hedgerow</div> <div><div>▬▬▬▬▬</div> Ditch</div> <div><div>▲▲▲</div> Bank</div> <div><div>⊕</div> Feature (annotate)</div> <div><div>→</div> Stream</div> <div><div>+++++</div> Fence</div>
	<div>SIAG</div>	Semi-improved acid grassland	
	<div>UCG</div>	Unimproved calcareous grassland	
	<div>SICG</div>	Semi-improved calcareous grassland	
	<div>UNG</div>	Unimproved neutral grassland	
	<div>SING</div>	Semi-improved neutral grassland	
	<div>I</div>	Improved grassland	
	<div>MG</div>	Marsh/marshy grassland	
	<div>PSIG</div>	Species-poor semi-improved grassland	
Tall herb and fen	<div>CB</div>	Continuous bracken	
	<div>SB</div>	Scattered bracken (NB: notate grassland type beneath)	
	<div>TR</div>	Tall ruderal vegetation	
	<div>NR</div>	Non-ruderal vegetation (fen, e.g. reed/sweetgrass dominant stands)	
WATER	<div>SW</div>	Standing water	
	<div>RW</div>	Running water	
CULTIVATED	<div>A</div>	Arable land	
	<div>AM</div>	Amenity grassland	<div>U</div> Urban
	<div>ESP</div>	Ephemeral/short (e.g. herbal pioneer communities/weedy species)	
	<div>IS</div>	Perennial introduced shrub (eg snowberry, rhododendron, laurel, cotoneaster, bamboo etc)	

## Images



Photo 1 – area of survey-focus where grass has been left long

# ALL SAINTS CHURCH, HERTFORD – A LICHEN SURVEY

**Grid reference:** TL 328 124

**Site Reference:** 59/063

**Survey Date** 21 August 2012

**Surveyors:** Paula Shipway and Andrew Harris

## Introductions

A record was made of the lichen species for the whole churchyard and the church building. A total of 60 species were found. Though a rather a low species total compared with some churchyards, this is a reasonably good number of lichens for a church in the centre of an urban location such as this.

## The lichens in the churchyard and their ecology

The headstones were moderately rich mostly of species typical of relatively soft limestone such as *Caloplaca flavocitrina*, *Lecanora albescens*, *Toninia aromatica* and *Verrucaria* spp; sandstone such as *Candelariella vitellina*, *Lecanora polytropa* and *Porpidia tuberculosa* and granite, though the only species found especially associated with this was *Xanthoparmelia mougeotii*. Damp areas on sandstone headstones were often such as recessed lettering were sometimes highlighted by *Psilolechia lucida* and *Lepraria incana* and mossy areas on limestone had *Bilimbia sabuletorum* and *Lepraria vouauxii*. Some headstones close to trees played host to foliose species more often found in Hertfordshire on bark such as *Parmotrema perlatum* (photo 1). Trees had a poor coverage of lichens no doubt because of the urban situation the species represented were those indicative of nutrient enriched conditions, or on areas of smooth bark crustose species adapted to such a habitat including *Lecanora confusa* which has only recently become widespread in Hertfordshire.

Unusually *Physcia caesia* was found fertile where it occurred on a memorial.

The church building had few lichens of note and most of these occurred in the churchyard, one exception was the attractive *Sarcogyne regularis* - found on a sloping ledge at the north-western end of the church. This crustose lichen has fruits with a characteristic bluish-white pruina.

There was an extensive patch of *Cladonia chlorophaea* and *Cladonia pyxidata* among moss at the top of a small section of boundary wall which had another species *Lecidella scabra* not recorded in other parts of the churchyard which was found on brick.

The importance of lichens for the ecosystem was underlined by the discovery, on the top of some headstones, of a number of larvae of a case moth (possibly *Dahlia*



*lichenella* or related species) (photo 3), which had woven cases camouflaged a coating of granules from some of the lichens which were found on the stones.

Andrew Harris

### Species list:

BLS no.	Taxon name	Substrate	Small scale habitats
0038	Agonimia tristicula	Sax+Bry	XY,XCht,SLm
0212	Amandinea punctata	Cort	XY,CPra,CTw
0069	Arthonia radiata	Cort	XY,CU,CTb
0165	Bilimbia sabuletorum	Sax+Bry	XY,PW
0200	Buellia aethalea	Sax	XX,SSd
0219	Buellia ocellata	Sax	XX,XY,XHd,SSd
0247	Caloplaca citrina s. lat. (C. limonea)	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
2443	Caloplaca dichroa	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
0259	Caloplaca flavescens	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
2315	Caloplaca flavocitrina	Sax	XY,XHd,SSd
0261	Caloplaca holocarpa s. lat.	Sax	XX,SSd
2461	Caloplaca oasis	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
0281	Caloplaca teicholyta	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
0291	Candelariella aurella f. aurella	Sax	XY,XCht,SLm,XBw,SCo
0296	Candelariella medians f. medians	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
0297	Candelariella reflexa	Cort	XY,CPra,CTr
0298	Candelariella vitellina f. vitellina	Sax	XX,XY,XHd,SSd
0371	Cladonia chlorophaea s. lat.	Sax+Bry	XBw,SBr
0410	Cladonia pyxidata	Sax	XBw,SBr
0511	Evernia prunastri	Cort	XY,CTr
0582	Hypogymnia physodes	Lig	XY,XBe,LWT
0627	Lecanora albescens	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
0635	Lecanora campestris subsp. campestris	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm

BLS no.	Taxon name	Substrate	Small scale habitats
0639	Lecanora chlarotera	Cort	XY,CPra,CTr
0641	Lecanora confusa	Cort	XY,CPra,CTr
0643	Lecanora conizaeoides f. conizaeoides	Sax	XY,XHd,SSd
0646	Lecanora dispersa	Sax	XY,XCht,SLm
0661	Lecanora muralis	Sax	XX,XY,XCr,SGr
0667	Lecanora polytropa	Sax	XX,XY,XHd,SSd
0688	Lecanora symmicta	Cort	XY,CPra,CTr
2474	Lecidea grisella	Sax	XBw,SBr
0797	Lecidella elaeochroma f. elaeochroma	Cort	XY,CPra,CTr
0802	Lecidella scabra	Sax	XBw,SBr
0803	Lecidella stigmathea	Sax	XX,SSd
1974	Lepraria incana s. str.	Cort+Sax	XX,XY,XHd,SSd,CTi,CTr
1604	Lepraria vouauxii	Sax+Bry	XY,XHd,SLm
0997	Melanelixia glabratula	Sax	XY,XHd,SSd
1020	Melanelixia subaurifera	Cort	XY,CPra,CTw,CU
1022	Parmelia sulcata	Cort	XY,CPra,CTw
1008	Parmotrema perlatum	Sax	XY,XHd,SSd
1107	Phaeophyscia orbicularis	Sax+Bry	XY,XCr,SGr
1112	Physcia adscendens	Cort+Sax	XY,CU,CTw,XHd,SSd
1114	Physcia caesia	Sax	XY,SLm,XPa,STa
1120	Physcia tenella	Cort	XY,CPra,CTw
1127	Physconia grisea	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
	Porpidia sp.	Sax	XY,XM
0572	Porpidia tuberculosa	Sax	XY,XCr,SGr
1189	Protoblastenia rupestris	Sax	XY,SLm,PW,^
1200	Psilolechia lucida	Sax	XY,XHd,SSd
2070	Punctelia subrudecta s. str.	Sax	XY,XHd,SSd

BLS no.	Taxon name	Substrate	Small scale habitats
1306	<i>Sarcogyne regularis</i>	Sax	XXW, SSd
1415	<i>Toninia aromatica</i>	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
1479	<i>Verrucaria baldensis</i>	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
1495	<i>Verrucaria hochstetteri</i>	Sax	XY,XCht,SLm
1507	<i>Verrucaria muralis</i>	Sax	XY,XCht,SLm
1510	<i>Verrucaria nigrescens</i> f. <i>nigrescens</i>	Sax	XY,XHd,SLm
1518	<i>Verrucaria viridula</i>	Sax	XY,XCht,SLm
1005	<i>Xanthoparmelia mougeotii</i>	Sax	XY,XCr,SGr
1530	<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	Cort	XY,CPra,CTw
1531	<i>Xanthoria polycarpa</i>	Cort	XY,CPra,CTw,CU
TOTAL NUMBER OF TAXA			60

KEY to BLS substrate and small-scale habitat codes used					
Churchyards		On moss = <u>Bryicolous</u>		On stone etc. = <u>Saxicolous</u>	
Church Building	XX			Granite	SGr
Church Building West end	XXW	On bark = <u>Corticolous</u>		Limestone	SLm
Churchyard	XY	Cherry ( <i>Prunus avium</i> )	CPra	Sandstone	SSd
Memorial	XM	Lime ( <i>Tilia</i> )	CTi	Man-made	
Chest tomb	XCht	Elm ( <i>Ulmus</i> )	CU	Brick	SBr
Cross	XCr	Trunk	CTr	Concrete	SCo
Headstone	XHd	Bough/branch	CTb	Tarmac /Asphalt	STa
Bench/seat	XBe	Twig	CTw		
Churchyard path	XPa			Position	
Boundary Wall	XBw	On wood = <u>Lignicolous</u>		Wall	PW

	Worked timber	LWT	Top surface	^
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Photo 1: Foliose and crustose lichens and sandstone headstones





Photo 2: *Arthonia radiata*, *Lecanora chlorotera* and *L. confusa* on smooth plate of bark



Photo 3: Case month Larva Photograph by Paula Shipway



## **2. Managing Oak Processionary Moth (OPM)**

If a potential OPM sighting is identified on site, either through the course of regular inspections, maintenance activities or reported by a third party or member of the public, the following actions will be taken within the first 48 hours:

1. The exact location will be recorded, and photographs of observable caterpillars, nests and webbing will be obtained and sent to the Forestry Commission (FC) for official identification.
2. Notices will be posted at prominent access points and close to the location of the sighting to alert people accessing the site to the possible presence of OPM.
3. Relevant partners will be informed to ensure that activities are conducted safely or cancelled where necessary.
4. The specific location of the sighting will be assessed with consideration to the typical use of the site. If OPM is identified within close proximity to areas assessed as posing a high risk of public contact, then additional precautions such as additional signage or temporary fencing will be taken to reduce the risk of public contact with OPM caterpillars and nests.

If OPM is confirmed on site by the FC – either a) following submission of photos from a suspected sighting to the FC or b) through the FC issuing a statutory plant health notice following OPM identification as part of the FC’s monitoring programme – then appropriate control measures will be determined within five working days of the FC’s confirmed identification.

While this document outlines the intended process for OPM control this may be adjusted in line with additional instructions included in the statutory plant health notice issued by the FC.

The OPM infestation will be assessed using the following criteria:

- If the infestation is found in areas where limited insecticide spraying is considered acceptable and is discovered in time to complete spraying before caterpillar development renders it resistant to the insecticide (late-May), then spraying represents the best control to limit further advancement of the population.
- If the infestation is found in areas where limited insecticide spraying is considered acceptable but is discovered after caterpillar development renders it resistant to the insecticide (late-May), then spraying in the current season does not represent a viable control to limit further advancement of the population. In this case nest removal should be conducted if a) the infestation is discovered prior to moth emergence (late-July to mid-August), or b) if nests are in close proximity to high-risk areas. Insecticide spraying should then be conducted within acceptable areas the following season.

Following assessment, if spraying in the current season or nest removal is appropriate then a suitably qualified and experienced arborist will be instructed to take appropriate action as soon as possible (typically within five working days). Arborists will be

required to conduct insecticide spraying, nest removals and waste disposal in line with FC guidance as set out in chapter 6 and chapter 7 of the OPM Manual.

Based on current FC policy and practice, sites of OPM infestations within the 'control zone' (encompassing the entire county of Hertfordshire) are typically included in the FC's inspection and insecticide spraying programme for two seasons following the initial discovery. The FC informs landowners that are to be included in this programme by February of each year. The FC will be contacted (if no communication has been received) by late-February in the two seasons following the initial discovery to confirm whether the site is to be included in the programme. If the site is not included in the FC's programme then a suitably qualified and experienced arborist will be engaged to conduct insecticide spraying following caterpillar emergence.

Whether insecticide spraying is conducted by the FC or by an appointed arborist the contractors will be required to operate in accordance with FC guidance (outlined above). Once insecticide spraying has occurred, a suitably qualified and experienced arborist can be instructed to carry out nest removal. This will be conducted only when nests are near high-risk areas. Following two seasons of spraying the FC will be consulted to confirm whether OPM has been successfully eradicated from the site. If OPM is still present the FC will be consulted on appropriate future action.