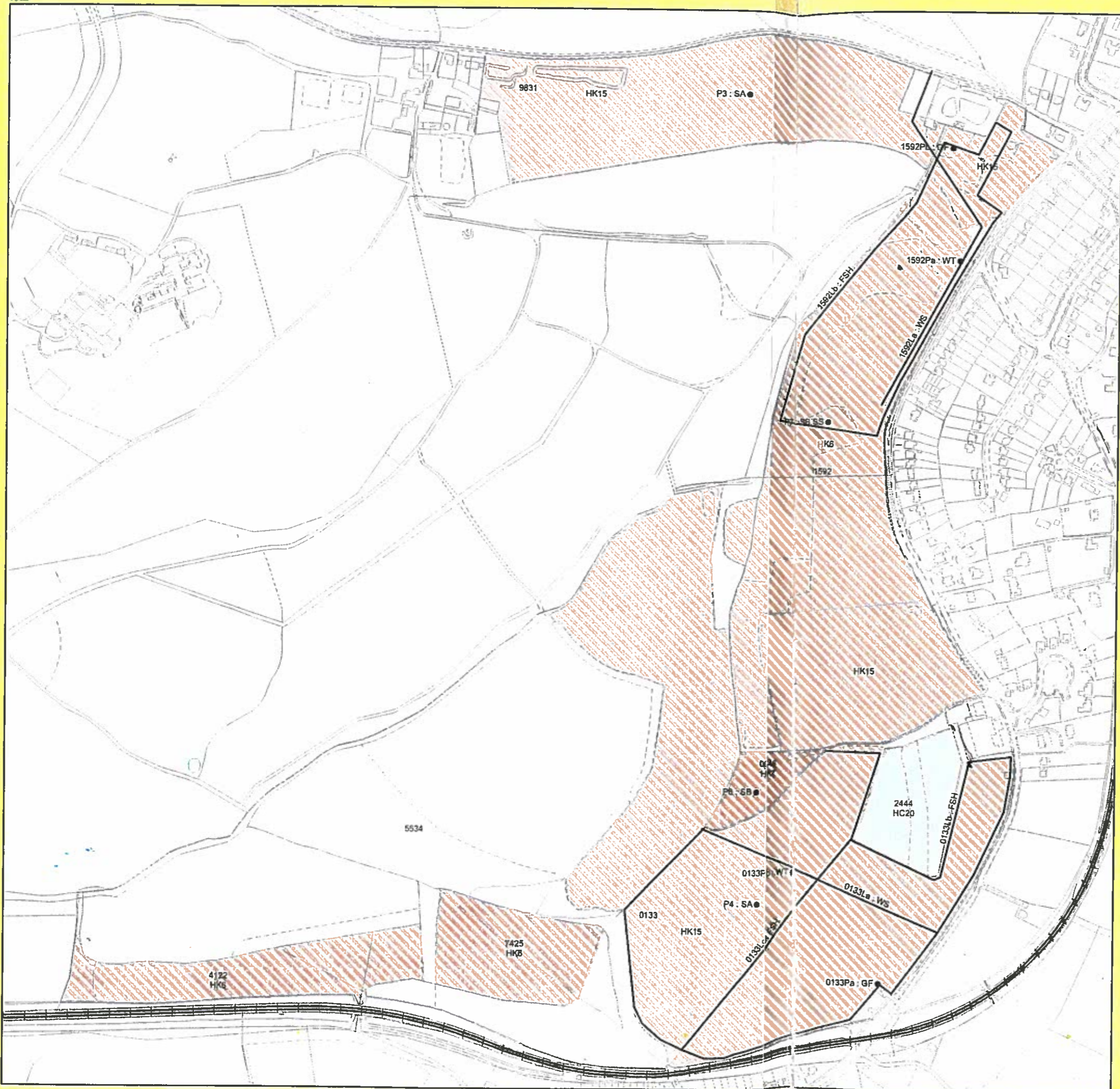


### HIGHER LEVEL STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT MAP



- Options**
- HB Maintenance of hedgerows of very high environmental value
  - HC/OHC Management of woodland edges
  - HC/OHC Protection of trees  
\*Number within circle represents number of trees in parcel
  - HC Woodland and orchards
  - HD/OHD Historic and landscape
  - HE/OHE Buffer strips and grass margins
  - HF/OHF Arable land
  - HG/OHG Encourage a range of crop type
  - HJ/OHJ Resource protection
  - HK/OHK Grassland
  - HL/OHL Upland and moorland
  - HN Linear access
  - HN Permissive open access
  - HO Lowland heathland
  - HP Inter-tidal and coastal
  - HQ Wetland

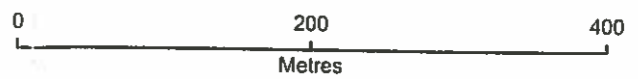
Option codes are annotated on the map. Please see scheme handbooks for detailed explanation of each option code.

Supplement options are annotated where present e.g. HL13, HR4

- GF Capital item
- WS Capital item

Positions of capital items are indicative and for identification purposes only

- 1234 RLR field number
- Remaining land comprising agreement area



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Application Ref: AG00262628



158000

157500

526500

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527500

Printed on recycled paper containing 100% post consumer waste

**PART 2A  
Parcel based options summary**

**OPTIONS**

| RLR field number | Field name | RLR field size (ha) | Code | Description   | Quantity (ha/100m/no.) | Start date | End date | Duration (years/months) |
|------------------|------------|---------------------|------|---|------------------------|------------|----------|-------------------------|
|                  |            |                     |      | 0   |                        |            |          |                         |
|                  |            |                     |      | grassland for Article 13                                |                        |            |          |                         |
| TQ26589131       |            | 7.51                | A13  | Non payment option - permanent grassland for Article 13 | 7.48                   | 01/01/15   | 31/10/17 | 2 Years 10 Months       |
|                  |            |                     | HK15 | Maintenance of grassland for target features            | 7.48                   | 01/01/15   | 31/10/17 | 2 Years 10 Months       |
| TQ27570133       |            | 18.06               | A13  | Non payment option - permanent grassland for Article 13 | 18.05                  | 01/11/11   | 31/10/17 | 6 Years                 |
|                  |            |                     | HK15 | Maintenance of grassland for target features            | 17.90                  | 01/11/07   | 31/10/17 | 10 Years                |
| TQ27570646       |            | 0.74                | A13  | Non payment option - permanent grassland for Article 13 | 0.74                   | 01/11/09   | 31/10/17 | 8 Years                 |

*only core field*

*Dene farm  
Upper + lower*

*Stagsby B*

**PART 2A**  
**Parcel based options summary**

**OPTIONS**

| RLR field number | Field name | RLR field size (ha) | Code | Description   | Quantity (ha/100m/no.) | Start date | End date | Duration (years/ months) |
|------------------|------------|---------------------|------|---|------------------------|------------|----------|--------------------------|
| TQ27571592       |            | 15.02               | HK7  | Restoration of species-rich, semi-natural grassland     | 0.74                   | 01/11/09   | 31/10/17 | 8 Years                  |
|                  |            |                     | A13  | Non payment option - permanent grassland for Article 13 | 14.16                  | 01/01/15   | 31/10/17 | 2 Years 10 Months        |
|                  |            |                     | HK6  | Maintenance of species-rich, semi-natural grassland     | 9.75                   | 01/11/07   | 31/10/17 | 10 Years                 |
|                  |            |                     | HK15 | Maintenance of grassland for target features            | 4.08                   | 01/11/07   | 31/10/17 | 10 Years                 |
| TQ27572444       |            | 1.63                | HK15 | Maintenance of grassland for target features            | 0.33                   | 01/01/15   | 31/10/17 | 2 Years 10 Months        |
|                  |            |                     | A13  | Non payment option - permanent grassland for Article 13 | 1.63                   | 01/11/07   | 31/10/17 | 10 Years                 |
|                  |            |                     | HC20 | Restoration of traditional orchards                     | 1.63                   | 01/11/10   | 31/10/17 | 7 Years                  |

*Sladey field  
+ 5008 429A*

*Nutting*

## **PART 3**

### **HLS - Management of environmental features**

#### **General conditions on all HLS agreement land**

On your HLS agreement land you must follow the general management conditions set out below, unless specifically stated otherwise in a subsequent section of this agreement. HLS agreement land is all land on which Higher Level Stewardship management prescriptions apply, including items within a Capital Works Plan

- Do not apply lime.
- On the conventional land that you manage: do not apply pesticides, except for the control of spear thistle, creeping thistle, curled dock, broad-leaved dock, common ragwort, nettles or other undesirable species named in your agreement. Herbicides may only be applied to these species by weedwiper or by spot treatment.
- Do not allow your agreement land to be levelled, infilled, used for the storage or dumping of materials or used by motor vehicles or machinery (except where necessary for the management of the land), if this is likely to cause long-term damage from rutting or compaction of the soil, or otherwise damage areas being managed under the scheme.
- Do not light fires (including burning brash or cuttings) where they could cause damage to features of archaeological or historic interest, or within ten metres of tree canopies or on any areas managed for their wildlife habitat interest. (This does not restrict your ability to manage heathland vegetation by controlled burning in compliance with the Heather and Grass Burning Regulations 1986 and accompanying Code.)
- Do not allow your agreement land to be used for organised games or sports, rallies, camping or caravanning, shows or sales where this is likely to damage areas being managed for their wildlife habitat interest or features of archaeological or historic interest; where this is likely to cause excessive or unreasonable disturbance to wildlife being encouraged under your agreement; or where this would cause unreasonable restriction to Public Rights of Way or "access land" as designated under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
- Do not carry out or permit metal detecting or archaeological fieldwork on any of the archaeological sites on your holding identified in your Farm Environment Plan, unless agreed with your Natural England adviser in writing. In some cases a derogation will also be required.

## HC20 - Restoration of traditional orchards

### Land Parcels Managed Under This Option: TQ27570133

#### General Description of the Management Required

This option applies to existing traditional orchards, managed extensively for wildlife and historic landscape benefits, that are under-stocked or in need of restoration. The option aims to restore degraded orchards by re-planting traditional varieties of orchard trees to restore tree numbers to an appropriate level. Ongoing management will require livestock grazing and the protection and maintenance of the trees. Capital payments may be made for tree planting, protective guards and restorative pruning of old trees.

This management is intended to benefit the following features from Agreement year 3 (Nov 2009) onwards:

- Traditional Orchard

#### Management Prescriptions; The Dos and Don'ts

The following rules apply across the whole area being managed under this option.

- Follow the agreed management plan / capital works programme produced by Natural England for 2010.
- Ensure establishment and maintenance of orchard trees and the grass sward by controlling pest species with methods agreed in writing with your Natural England contact.
- Prevent damage to trees from livestock, wild mammals / deer / grey squirrels / rabbits. This includes damage caused by browsing, bark stripping, rubbing against trees or guards and soil compaction below canopies. Check, maintain and remove guards and protection as appropriate to prevent tree damage.
- Keep a 1 metre diameter circle around the base of all newly planted trees clear of vegetation for at least the first 3 years after planting. You can achieve this by mulching, using weed-suppressing membranes or the use of approved herbicides.
- Unless otherwise agreed with your Natural England contact, all mature or over-mature standing trees and all standing and fallen deadwood must be retained, unless it is a genuine safety hazard. Tree surgery must be limited to that required for the safety of people and livestock.
- Manage the sward by grazing cattle / sheep to achieve an average sward height of between 5cm and 15cm throughout the growing season, with less than 5% poached or bare ground.
- Supplementary feeding is not permitted.
- There must be no ploughing or other cultivations such as reseeded, rolling or chain harrowing.
- There must be no new drainage or modification to existing drainage systems unless specifically stated in a management.
- Do not apply fertilisers, organic manures or waste materials (including sewage sludge).

#### Indicators of Success

- There should be traditional varieties on vigorous rootstock that are established and growing free from damage by livestock.
- At least 80% of the trees alive at the start of the agreement should remain so for the life time of the agreement.
- Cover of undesirable species blackthorn, elder, bramble and sycamore should be less than 10%.
- All SSSI land should be in favourable or recovering condition.

## **HK6 - Maintenance of species-rich, semi-natural grassland**

### **Land parcels and associated features managed under this option:**

RLR Field Number: TQ26574122

RLR Field Number: TQ26577425

RLR Field Number: TQ27571592

Features: G03 Species rich grassland

RLR Field Number: TQ31532997

RLR Field Number: TQ31534194

Features: G03 Species rich grassland

RLR Field Number: TQ31541801

RLR Field Number: TQ31544107

RLR Field Number: TQ31545908

### **General description of the management required:**

This option is targeted at the maintenance and protection of areas of species-rich grassland. The importance of species-rich grassland is recognised by the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP). The option can also contribute to protecting valued landscapes and archaeology, and the promotion of good soil conditions.

### **Indicators of Success**

- All SSSI land should be in [favourable or recovering] condition.
- The extent of the [habitats / features] of interest within the [grassland / scrub / successional area / mosaic / XXXX] as identified [in the Farm Environment Plan / Management Plan / during the Natural England visit] should be maintained or increased.
- The Soil Phosphate Index should be [0 or 1].
  - At least 2 high-value indicator species Devil's bit scabious, cowslip, chalk milkwort, wild marjoram, bird's-foot trefoil, rough hawkbit, salad burnet or wild thyme for BAP grassland habitat lowland calcareous grassland should be frequent and 2 occasional in the sward.
  - Cover of invasive trees and shrubs in the grassland areas - Sycamore, Blackthorn, Cotoneaster, Clematis, Bramble, Birch and Dogwood but excluding Juniper should be less than 5%.
  - By year 2, cover of bare ground should be between 5 and 10%.
  - By year 2, cover of species indicative of calcareous grassland (CG2) should be between 50% and 90%, with cover of *Brachypodium sylvaticum* (wood-false brome) reducing in cover over the duration of the agreement.

### **Management Prescriptions; the dos and don'ts of management**

The following rules apply across the whole area being managed under this option.

- Manage the grassland to achieve the indicators by [grazing with cattle for at least

6 weeks between May and September / cutting and removing field-dried hay after 15 July. /In years when hay is taken graze the aftermath /in autumn. /Where spring grazing takes place exclude livestock at least 7 weeks before cutting for hay].

- Do not install new drainage or modify existing drainage systems unless agreed [in writing] with your Natural England adviser. [This includes subsoiling and mole ploughing. Maintain existing drains in working order].
- Supplementary feeding is not permitted.
  
- Ploughing, sub-surface cultivation and reseeding are not permitted [except as part of a grassland management plan agreed with your Natural England adviser]. [Chain harrowing or rolling are [not] permitted except between 15 March and 15 July].
- Do not [top, roll or harrow more than 30%] of the total grassland area in any one year and always leave a minimum of [5% tussocks / longer grass].
- Rabbits must be controlled to achieve the indicators. Where this is impractical due to the nature of the land, the numbers of grazing livestock must be adjusted to take account of this change to grazing pressure.
- Field operations and stocking must not damage the soil structure or cause heavy poaching. [Small areas of bare ground on up to 5% of the field are acceptable.] Take particular care when the land is waterlogged.
- Retain all standing and fallen dead wood unless it presents a genuine safety hazard.
- [Well-rotted farmyard manure may be applied at a maximum rate of 12 tonnes/ha every other year to grassland managed as hay meadow, but not within 10 metres of a watercourse.] There must be no [other] application of nutrients such as fertilisers, [other] organic manures or waste materials including sewage sludge. [On neutral grassland you may apply lime, subject to a soil test, to raise pH to 6.0].
- Control undesirable species such as Creeping Thistle / Spear Thistle /Curled Dock /Broad-leaved Dock /Common Ragwort /Common Nettle / Tor grass so that, their cover is less than 2% of the area. Agree all methods of control with your Natural England contact.
- Throughout the agreement, manage the sward by grazing to achieve a sward height of between 2cm and 10cm.

## HK7 - Restoration of species-rich, semi-natural grassland

### Land parcels and associated features managed under this option:

RLR Field Number: TQ27570646

RLR Field Number: TQ32530162

RLR Field Number: TQ32531574

RLR Field Number: TQ32531767

Features: G03 Species rich grassland

RLR Field Number: TQ32532668

### General description of the management required:

This option is targeted at grasslands that are potentially rich in plant and associated animal life. They are often on difficult ground and may have suffered from management neglect or they may have been selected for agricultural improvement. The botanical diversity of such grassland may be enhanced by simply amending existing management practices. However, on many sites pro-active restoration management will be required involving introduction of seeds and creation of gaps for their establishment. Substantial changes of livestock type, timing of grazing or control of dominant species may also be required. The option can also contribute to protecting valued landscapes and archaeology, and the promotion of good soil conditions.

### Indicators of Success

- The extent of the habitats of interest within the grassland - scrub mosaic as identified during the Natural England visit and on the SSSI maps should be maintained or increased..
- The Soil Phosphate Index should be 0 or 1.
- [At least 4 high value indicator species salad burnet, rough hawkbit, wild thyme, bird's-foot trefoil, Devil's-bit scabious, small scabious, hoary plantain, fairy flax, milkwort sp. early gentian or cowslip for the BAP habitat feature lowland calcareous grassland should be occasional in the sward.
- [In all years, populations of nationally rare / nationally scarce / locally significant species including *Gentianella anglica* - early gentian, *Aceras anthropophorum* - man orchid and *Helleborus foetidus* - stinking hellebore should be maintained..
- All SSSI land should be in favourable or recovering condition.
- Cover of wildflowers in the sward (excluding undesirable species), should be between 20% and 90%. At least 40% of wild flowers should be flowering during May-July

[  
By year, cover of invasive trees and shrubs Sycamore, Blackthorn, Dogwood, Cotoneaster, Bramble, Birch and Clematis but excluding Juniper should be between 5% and 10%.

- [Localised patches of bare ground around rabbit warrens should be smaller than 5m x 5m

### Feature Specific Management Requirements and Indicators of Success

- All populations of man orchid, early gentian and stinking hellebore should be maintained
- [Field TQ27570646 – Scrub should be reduced and grassland the dominant



feature Field TQ32351767

- The Rufous grasshopper and the Roman snail should be present in good numbers.
- <Insert Text Here>

### **Management Prescriptions; the dos and don'ts of management**

The following rules apply across the whole area being managed under this option.  
<Insert Text Here>

- [Throughout the agreement, manage the sward by grazing to achieve a sward height of between 2cm and 15cm.
- Manage the grassland to achieve the indicators by grazing with cattle, sheep or goats for at least 6 weeks between September and April
- [[There must be no application of nutrients such as fertilisers, other organic manures or waste materials including sewage sludge.
- Supplementary feeding is not permitted
- Control undesirable species such as Creeping Thistle, Spear Thistle, Curled Dock, Broad-leaved Dock, Common Ragwort, Common Nettle so that, their cover is less than 5% of the area. Agree all methods of control with your Natural England contact.
- Do not install new drainage or modify existing drainage systems unless agreed with your Natural England contact.
- Rabbits must be controlled to achieve the indicators. Where this is impractical due to the nature of the land, the numbers of grazing livestock must be adjusted to take account of this change to grazing pressure.
  - Field operations and stocking must not damage the soil structure or cause heavy poaching. Small areas of bare ground on up to 5-10% of the field are acceptable. Take particular care when the land is waterlogged.
- Do not remove or disturb rock and scree..

## **HK15 - Maintenance of grassland for target features**

### **Land parcels and associated features managed under this option:**

RLR Field Number: TQ26589131

RLR Field Number: TQ27570133

RLR Field Number: TQ27571592

Features: G02 Semi-improved grassland

RLR Field Number: TQ31534569

Features: G02 Semi-improved grassland

### **General description of the management required:**

This option will maintain semi-improved or rough grassland which is known to provide good conditions for target species and to protect other features, such as historic sites. This option can also be used to maintain moderately species-rich semi-improved grassland, where it lacks the potential to be restored to species-rich, semi-natural grassland (option HK7), but which is identified as a priority in local targeting statements. This option may be applied to grassland Priority Habitat types, but which occur in land parcels that are extensively managed due to topography and location, for example species-rich upland calcareous grassland in large allotments. It may also be used to manage grassland which has limited biodiversity value, but which has been created under a classic scheme for other objectives, such as protection of the historic environment.

### **Indicators of Success**

- From [1 September to 28 February] at least [10%] of the whole field should have grasses that are allowed to go to seed and with the seed heads left undisturbed.
- By year 2, there should be areas of fresh dung between [1 November and 28 February].
  - Flowering heads of wildflowers, including Red Clover but excluding undesirable species (as listed) between April 1 and August 31 should be frequent.
  - At least 2 of the positive indicator species salad burnet, rough hawkbit, wild thyme, bird's-foot trefoil, Devil's-bit scabious, small scabious, hoary plantain, fairy flax, milkwort sp should be occasional.
  - By year 2, there should be some areas of exposed soil or mortar used by burrowing insects.

### **Management Prescriptions; the dos and don'ts of management**

The following rules apply across the whole area being managed under this option.

- [From year 2 onwards,] manage the sward by [grazing and/or cutting] to achieve a sward height of between [5cm and 15cm] during [April and May] (unless the land has been shut for hay) [and between 5cm and 15cm in November]. [Remove livestock/ do not exceed a stocking density of 0.2 LU per ha for a six week period between 1st May and 31st July].

- Field operations and stocking must not damage the soil structure or cause heavy poaching. [Small areas of bare ground on up to 5% of the field are acceptable.] Take particular care when the land is waterlogged.
- Do not graze or re-sow between 30 November and the 28 February.
- Do not cut hay or silage [before 30 June, always leaving at least 10% uncut in any one year (which need not be the same 10% each year)]. All cuttings that could damage the sward must be removed.
- Do not apply fertilisers, organic manures or waste materials (including sewage sludge) [unless specifically agreed in writing with your Natural England adviser and / or stated in a management plan / capital works programme].
- Well-rotted farmyard manure may be applied at a maximum rate of 12.5 tonnes/ha/yr. [In addition/alternatively, inorganic nitrogen fertiliser may be applied at max rate of 50/150 kg-N, 0/25 kg-phosphate and 0/25 kg-potash /ha/y.] There must be no other application of nutrients such as fertilisers, other organic manures or waste materials (including sewage sludge). Do not apply manures or fertilisers within 10 metres of a watercourse or between 1 April and 30 June.
- Supplementary feeding is confined to the feeding of [hay / straw / concentrates / mineral blocks. Feeders and troughs must not be used]. All feeding sites should be moved regularly to minimise damage to soils and vegetation and must never be placed on historic features. Care must be taken to avoid damage by vehicles. [Hay may be scattered by hand. Creep feeding of young stock is permitted.]
- [Do not top, roll or harrow between 1 October and 30 June]. Do not treat more than [30%] of the total grassland area in any one year, and always leave a minimum of [5% tussocks / longer grass].
- Ploughing, sub-surface cultivation and reseedling are not permitted.
- Do not install new drainage or modify existing drainage systems unless agreed with your Natural England adviser. [This includes subsoiling and mole ploughing.] [Routine maintenance of functioning drainage systems is allowed.]
- Do not exceed a stocking density of 0.75 LU/ha between 1 April and 31 May.
- Control undesirable species such as Creeping Thistle / Spear Thistle /Curled Dock /Broad-leaved Dock /Common Ragwort /Common Nettle so that, their cover is less than 5% of the area. Agree all methods of control with your Natural England contact.

## **PART 5**

### **Capital works specifications**

#### **Introduction**

The specifications set out below describe the minimum standard of work for the capital items set out in Part 4 of your Environmental Stewardship Agreement. If you do not follow these specifications we cannot pay you for the work.

All capital works must be completed and maintained to the standard required to perform their intended function for the duration of the agreement.

If this agreement replaces an existing or expired CSS, ESA or ES agreement, you must take all reasonable care to protect, for the duration of this new agreement, any capital works which you have completed and for which you have been paid under that agreement.

#### **Health and Safety**

The requirements of health and safety and other current legislation and codes of practice must be observed in all work undertaken, in particular in all cases where pesticides are used.

#### **Permissions**

The offer of a Stewardship agreement is a permission from Natural England to undertake the work on SSSI land under Section 28E of The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). However, additional permissions from other organisations may be required. The following are examples of permissions that may be necessary:

- On a Scheduled Ancient Monument - Scheduled Ancient Monument Consent, from English Heritage.
- Pond creation, restoration, scrape creation, restoration, and ditch work - may require an Impoundment Licence or Abstraction Licence from the Environment Agency, Planning Permission from the planning authority, and permission from the Internal Drainage Board where these are present.
- Obstructions to water courses or in the floodplain. This includes disposal of spoil from ditches, scrapes and ponds, tree planting, otter holts, car parking, erecting sluices and river gates and fencing - permission from the Environment Agency.
- Works in a Conservation Area - consent from the Planning Authority
- Tree Preservation Order - consent from the local authority
- Tree felling, pollarding, hedgerow works, coppicing bankside trees - may require a felling licence from the Forestry Commission.
- Chemical bracken control - near water course will require permission from the Environment Agency
- Areas for parking cars, hard standing, earthworks - may require planning permission from the Planning Authority

- Proposed changes to the existing type of stile or gate on a right of way - consent from the Highway Authority

## **SHEEP FENCING**

All types of fencing should be erected in accordance with British Standard 1722. Before erecting new fencing, all old fencing material must be removed. New fencing should be put up in straight lines, between strainer posts. Strainer posts should be used at each end of the fence and at each corner and turning point. They may also be necessary where there is a significant difference in gradient. All softwood timber must be fully peeled and tanalised or treated with an approved preservative. Durable hardwood, such as oak or sweet chestnut, may be used and does not require treatment with preservatives. Square section timber can be used as an alternative to round sections. Timber sizes quoted are minimum requirements. Barbed wire should not be used where fencing runs alongside access routes, unless this is unavoidable.

Fences must be maintained to this specification for the life of the agreement.

### **Sheep Fencing**

The fence must be at least 1.05 metres high. If extra height is required, this should be obtained by fixing additional strands of plain or barbed wire.

Wire should be galvanised and comply with BS 4102.

Straining posts should be at least: 125mm top diameter, or 100mm x 100mm cross-section sawn; 2.15 metres long if not set in concrete, or 1.85 metres if in concrete. The spacing between strainer posts should not exceed 150 metres where mild steel line wire is used, or 300 metres for high tensile wire.

Struts should be at least: 80mm top diameter, or 75mm x 75mm if sawn; 1.9 metres long if not set in concrete and at least 1.6 metres where set in concrete. Struts should be notched into the straining post at an angle of no more than 45 degrees.

Intermediate posts should be 65mm top diameter, or 75mm x 75mm if sawn, 1.7 metres long, and spaced no further than 3.5 metres apart.

## **WOODEN FIELD GATE**

The field gate must be erected in accordance with British Standard 3470 and should be made of timber, unless agreed otherwise with your Natural England contact. All timber must be fully peeled and tanalised or treated with an approved preservative.

The gate must be soundly framed and constructed in a traditional and appropriate local style. The height must correspond to the adjoining fence and the gate must be fitted with the appropriate fittings required for its operation.

Where there is no local style a standard style can be used as follows:

The gate must be hung and clapped independently of the adjoining fence line i.e. the hanging post must not be used as an end strainer.

Gate posts should either be set at least 900mm into the ground and surrounded with concrete at least 450x450x600mm deep; or, where ground conditions are suitable, may be erected without concrete surrounds and should be set at least 1.1 metre below the ground surface with the soil well compacted around the posts in 150mm layers. The top of the posts should be weather capped.

The gate should be maintained in good condition for the life of the agreement.

## **SPECIAL PROJECT**

Work carried out as a Special Project must follow the specifications or brief given below:

SPECIAL PROJECT Quarry Hangers SSSI unit

To clear scrub and old fence line at lower section of TQ32531767 and install new fencing to field boundary .

All fencing material in accordance with Natural England specifications.

Project to be completed by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012



## **SCRUB MANAGEMENT**

### **General**

For the purposes of this grant, scrub means any woody shrubs including European gorse, bramble and young trees. Dwarf and Western gorse are integral components of heathland and should not be included in this item.

A management plan is usually required before carrying out work on significant areas of scrub. The plan must be agreed in advance with your Natural England contact and the work carried out accordingly.

You must ensure any relevant consents are obtained before carrying out the work e.g. consent from English Heritage for work on a Scheduled Monument and the Natural England SSSI specialist for work in a SSSI.

### **Timing**

Work must be done between 1 October and 28 February, outside the bird-nesting season.

### **Scrub control**

Techniques for removing scrub include flailing, using a chain saw and clearing some species (e.g. birch or pine) by hand. Controlling scrub by burning is not acceptable unless it is specifically agreed with your Natural England contact.

Cut scrub down to ground level without disturbing the roots and leaving no protruding stems. Care must be taken to avoid uprooting adjacent grassland or heathland plants. Stumps must not be removed unless specifically agreed with your Natural England contact. In exceptional circumstances and where agreed with your Natural England contact, it may be necessary to remove large stumps using mechanical equipment. Under no circumstances is scrub burning or stump removal to be undertaken on sites of archaeological interest.

### **Controlling scrub regrowth**

Regrowth should be controlled for the duration of the agreement only where the aim of the work is scrub reduction or eradication. Management work to diversify the age range and structural diversity of scrub stands may be seeking to encourage growth from cut stumps. This detail should be included within the management plan.

Where regrowth is to be controlled it may be achieved by mechanical methods such as flailing or livestock grazing, or by chemical treatment. In cases where herbicides are applied to control regrowth you must observe the requirements of current legislation. You must also refer to the manufacturer's guidance on application rates and safety requirements. Herbicides must be applied with extreme care to ensure the grassland or heath vegetation is not affected.

### **Disposal of cut material**

Dispose of cut material by removing it from the site, tidying it into piles or burning. Bonfire sites must be far enough away from trees to avoid causing damage and at least 10m from the crown of any tree. Burning sites and piles of wood must not be on patches of ground where they could damage species rich grassland, anthills or other ecological or archaeological features. The area used for burning must be agreed in advance with your Natural England contact and cleaned up as soon as possible after burning. Burning on a metal sheet reduces damage to the soil and makes it easier to

remove ash from the site. As the site regenerates the growth of nettle, thistle, dock, ragwort and other weed species must be controlled.

## **SCRUB MANAGEMENT**

### **General**

For the purposes of this grant, scrub means any woody shrubs including European gorse, bramble and young trees. Dwarf and Western gorse are integral components of heathland and should not be included in this item.

A management plan is usually required before carrying out work on significant areas of scrub. The plan must be agreed in advance with your Natural England contact and the work carried out accordingly.

You must ensure any relevant consents are obtained before carrying out the work e.g. consent from English Heritage for work on a Scheduled Monument and the Natural England SSSI specialist for work in a SSSI.

Work must be done between 1 October and 28 February, outside the bird-nesting season.

### **Scrub control**

Techniques for removing scrub include flailing, using a chain saw and clearing some species (e.g. birch or pine) by hand. Controlling scrub by burning is not acceptable unless it is specifically agreed with your Natural England contact.

Cut scrub down to ground level without disturbing the roots and leaving no protruding stems. Care must be taken to avoid uprooting adjacent grassland or heathland plants. Stumps must not be removed unless specifically agreed with your Natural England contact. In exceptional circumstances and where agreed with your Natural England contact, it may be necessary to remove large stumps using mechanical equipment. Under no circumstances is scrub burning or stump removal to be undertaken on sites of archaeological interest.

### **Controlling scrub regrowth**

Regrowth should be controlled for the duration of the agreement only where the aim of the work is scrub reduction or eradication. Management work to diversify the age range and structural diversity of scrub stands may be seeking to encourage growth from cut stumps. This detail should be included within the management plan.

Where regrowth is to be controlled it may be achieved by mechanical methods such as flailing or livestock grazing, or by chemical treatment. In cases where herbicides are applied to control regrowth you must observe the requirements of current legislation. You must also refer to the manufacturer's guidance on application rates and safety requirements. Herbicides must be applied with extreme care to ensure the grassland or heath vegetation is not affected.

### **Disposal of cut material**

Dispose of cut material by removing it from the site, tidying it into piles or burning. Bonfire sites must be far enough away from trees to avoid causing damage and at least 10m from the crown of any tree. Burning sites and piles of wood must not be on patches of ground where they could damage species rich grassland, anthills or other ecological or archaeological features. The area used for burning must be agreed in advance with your Natural England contact and cleaned up as soon as possible after burning. Burning on a metal sheet reduces damage to the soil and makes it easier to remove ash from the site. As the site regenerates the growth of nettle, thistle, dock, ragwort and other weed species must be controlled.



## **SCRUB MANAGEMENT**

### **General**

For the purposes of this grant, scrub means any woody shrubs including European gorse, bramble and young trees. Dwarf and Western gorse are integral components of heathland and should not be included in this item.

A management plan is usually required before carrying out work on significant areas of scrub. The plan must be agreed in advance with your Natural England contact and the work carried out accordingly.

You must ensure any relevant consents are obtained before carrying out the work e.g. consent from English Heritage for work on a Scheduled Monument and the Natural England SSSI specialist for work in a SSSI.

## **WATER SUPPLY**

### **General**

The water supply must be capable of supplying sufficient cold drinkable water throughout the year and be able to continuously refill all the water troughs along its entire length. Work must be carried out by competent persons and must comply with the appropriate British Standards, provisions of water bylaws and the requirements of any relevant Statutory Authorities. The agreement holder is responsible for obtaining any statutory approvals, including inspections, related to the work. You should ensure any relevant consents are gained before carrying out the work.

### **Pipework**

All pipework, connections and delivery systems must conform to British Standard 6572. Pipes laid underground must be buried to a minimum depth of 750mm. Pipe laying may be done by trenching, mole plough or sub-soiler, depending on soil type and machinery available. The ground must be reinstated to original levels with the top soil returned to the surface. Where open ditches are crossed, the pipe must be covered by a tubular steel guard or sleeve pipe and laid 600 mm below the ditch bottom to allow for ditch cleaning. Where farm tracks are crossed, the water pipe must lay on a 75mm bed of sand and be covered by sand to a depth of 100mm before being overlain by backfill.

The water supply must be controlled by isolating valves/stop cocks at the point of supply and at each trough. The isolating valves/stop cocks must be protected against frost, they must be easily accessible and protected from damage by livestock. Where they are buried, this must be at a minimum of 600mm and must be easily accessible through a covered inspection chamber.

Underground pipework must not damage sites of archaeological or historic interest. Any spoil must not be used to fill and level adjacent wet areas or be put on any sites of archaeological or ecological importance.

The water supply must be maintained in good condition for the duration of the agreement.

## **WATER TROUGH**

The water trough should be placed in a free draining area to minimise damage by poaching. It should not be placed on or near sensitive habitats or species and the area should ideally be a sacrifice area. The trough should not be located near watercourses, on areas vulnerable to soil erosion or on or near a site of archaeological or historic interest.

Troughs made of galvanised steel must comply with British Standard 3445. Other materials such as concrete or moulded polyethylene may be acceptable if agreed with your Natural England contact and if it complies with the appropriate British Standard. The water trough must be installed on a level base so it does not spill water. The trough must either be connected to a water supply or it must be supplied from a bowser on a regular basis.

The water trough must be maintained in good condition for the duration of the agreement.

## PART 6

### Grassland management

Where this Agreement includes grassland management, you must maintain the areas of permanent grassland, and at least 80% of the area of temporary grassland, on your farm\* as set out below for the duration of your agreement.

In addition, you must not over-graze or under-utilise any of these areas and you must not exceed the maximum stocking density as also set out below.

| Permanent grassland<br>(RLR field number)          | Total area of field<br>(ha) |
|--|-----------------------------|
| TQ26574122   | 2.63                        |
| TQ26577425   | 2.15                        |
| TQ26587024   | 0.30                        |
| TQ26589131   | 7.48                        |
| TQ27570133   | 18.05                       |
| TQ27570646   | 0.74                        |
| TQ27571592   | 14.16                       |
| TQ27572444   | 1.63                        |
| TQ31532997   | 0.06                        |
| TQ31534194   | 10.91                       |
| TQ31534569   | 3.12                        |
| TQ31536277   | 0.45                        |
| TQ31541801   | 0.38                        |
| TQ31545908   | 1.14                        |
| TQ32530162   | 1.06                        |
| TQ32531767   | 0.48                        |
| Total permanent<br>grassland                       | 64.74                       |
| Total temporary<br>grassland                       | 0.00                        |
| Total area of grassland<br>(permanent + temporary) | 64.74                       |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Maximum stocking density for your farm<br>permitted under this Agreement Lu/Ha | 0.5 |
|--|-----|

\* "Farm" means the coherent area of land which is managed under the charge of the Agreement Holder for the period of this Agreement. Land occupied under short term tenancies and temporary grass keeps should not be included.