

**Nomination for the Designation of the Corbett Meadow, Amblecote  
as a Local Green Space.**



**Nomination submitted on behalf of Amblecote History Society**

**Document prepared by Helen Cook**

**June 2019**

## Foreword

Amblecote is a source of great local pride and belonging. Amblecote's residents wish to protect the local distinctiveness and legacy of the area, which in turn gives Amblecote its individual history and character. Over the years the rural nature of the area has been significantly eroded by residential development on a large scale which has changed the landscape albeit for small pockets of green belt. The parcel of land that we wish to nominate is precious to this community for so many reasons. It is of demonstrable significance for both its beauty, tranquillity and for its wildlife. This significance is in part recognised by Dudley Metropolitan Council as the land is recorded as a site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation, The Local Nature Conservation Area comprises of trees that have a blanket tree preservation order placed and possibly trees of an age as veteran/ancient trees. This modest meadow commands a prominent position on what is known as "The Hill" adjacent to the site of former Corbett hospital and provides a significant visual amenity to many. The meadow sweeping down from the top of the hill should be saved. It has never been developed and its condition is largely unchanged since the original forest was cleared over a thousand years ago.

The public support for conservation areas as places that give identity to people and spaces is well established as evidenced by the recent high-profile campaign to oppose development in nearby Saltwells Wood. Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, who aims 'to protect the Black Country's distinctive environment', are placing increased emphasis upon community engagement in the development of the Local Area Plan, subscribing to the view of English Heritage (Guidance on the Management of Conservation Areas, August 2005) that 'involving the local community is essential if the proposals of management plans are to succeed'. In addition, the government have introduced opportunities for local communities to unite to protect green spaces that have significant importance to them. The Natural Environment White Paper (2011) highlights the "*importance of green spaces to the health and happiness of local communities*", with the assertion that planning policies and decisions should ensure that they identify and protect tranquil areas that are prized for their amenity value for this reason (National Planning Policy Framework, paragraph 180b).

We are looking to achieve the Local Green Space Designation and have The Corbett Meadow registered as an Asset of Community Value so that in the future we as a community may have the opportunity to value it for the enjoyment of all for generations to come. Green spaces, particularly natural green spaces, located close to local people provide a range of social and environmental benefits including improved mental health, improved community cohesion, enhanced opportunities for wildlife and a sense of belonging (See Cotswold District Council, Local Green Space Designation Toolkit). Amblecote does no longer benefit from any large areas of public open space within the conservation area and has no village green or other central place to act as a focal point. This parcel of land is a natural focal point within the built-up area. Our vision would be for a space unspoilt by development where local people could come together to undertake projects to enhance the natural environment, for example planting further trees and native plants, maintaining the wildlife ponds and making provision for the animals and birds such as hedgehog houses and bug hotels. Conservation assets are irreplaceable and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that their contribution to quality of life can endure and be felt by both existing and future generations. All of these things can be achieved without the inappropriate development of this irreplaceable habitat.

We understand that Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council is looking to seek stronger ties with interested groups to promote the continued involvement of the local community in managing and enhancing the character of its conservation areas. Our ultimate hope would be that you would stand alongside us in championing Amblecote's cause in protecting the sole remaining natural open space in the ward. If we succeed, Amblecote will be amongst the first community within Dudley Borough to demonstrate the importance of their rural environment in designating it for this long-standing protection against development.

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**Site Information**

**Name and address of site:** CORBETT AMBULATORY OUTPATIENTS CENTRE VICARAGE ROAD, STOURBRIDGE DY8 4JB.

Known to Dudley MB Council Planning Department as:  
*'The Corbett Meadow, Amblecote'*.

Registered with the Land Registry as: CORBETT AMBULATORY OUTPATIENTS CENTRE VICARAGE ROAD, STOURBRIDGE DY8 4JB.

**Title number:** WM633058

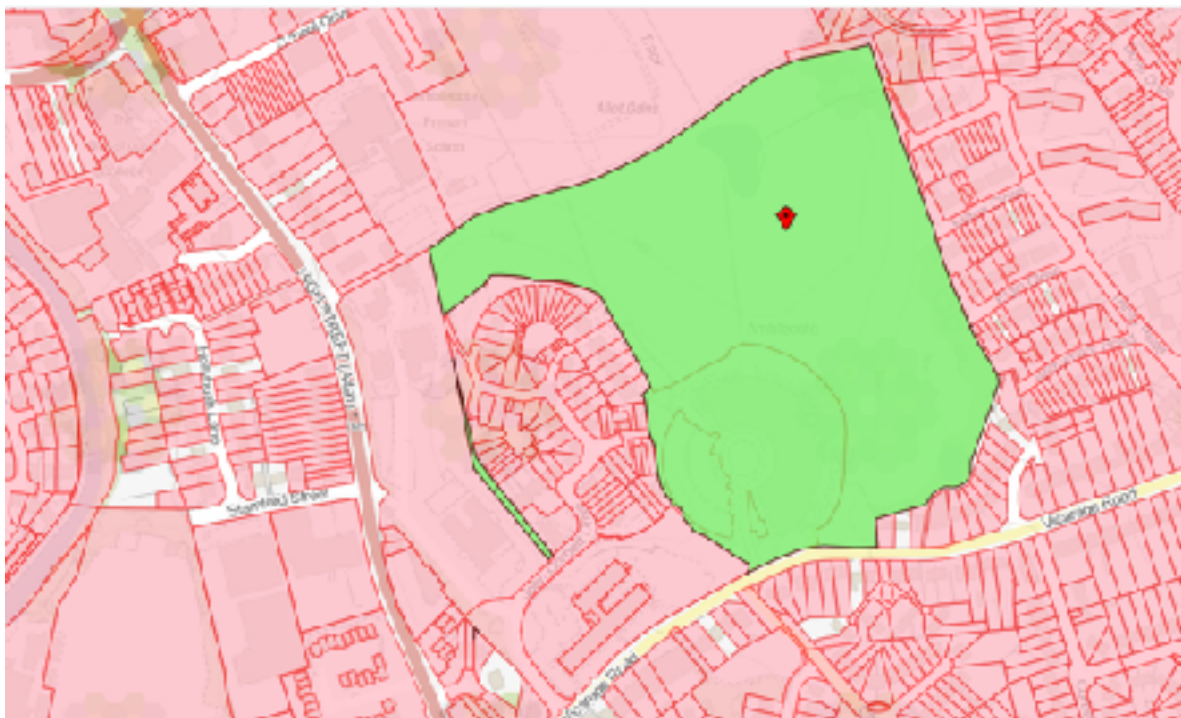
**Site location plans:**

- *Title plan for WM633058*

**Ownership of the site** DUDLEY PRIMARY CARE TRUST VICARAGE ROAD, STOURBRIDGE DY8 4AP  
-CORBETT AMBULATORY OUTPATIENTS CENTRE VICARAGE ROAD, STOURBRIDGE DY8 4JB.

Dudley Group of Hospitals Trust NHS Foundation Trust

The Corbett Meadow is already recognised by Dudley MBC as being a site of Local Importance for Nature conservation (ref: Policy S19 / S21). Designating the meadow as Local Green Space would give it protection consistent with that in respect of green belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners. Furthermore, the designation of this land on the basis of its beauty, tranquillity and wildlife would not place an obligation on the land owner to open the land to the public, as designation does not in itself confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Moreover, areas of land such as the meadow that are particularly valued for their wildlife and tranquillity may need restricted access in order to protect the very essence of that which makes it valuable.



Site Plan as provided by the Land Registry

**Organisation or individual proposing the site for designation:**

Helen Cook on behalf of Amblecote History Society.

**Community served by the potential Local Green Space:**

The site currently acts as a significant visual amenity for those who live in the immediate area, staff and patients who visit The Corbett Ambulatory Outpatients Hospital the Stourbridge Health & Social Care Centre and the Three Villages Medical Centre and those walking in the gravelled path ways which in part form a perimeter around the meadow. The land is used for grazing by two brothers who have maintained a small herd of cattle here for over 40 years. There is potential for the Corbett Meadow to further serve the community as a whole.

**Planning History:**

An application for the land to be developed was submitted in 1991/2. A vigorous campaign objecting to this was held, Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council also supported the objection with a strong recommendation that the meadow should be used for leisure activities. The application went to a Public Enquiry. The Inspector agreed that the land was valuable open space. (See Report)

In 1992. Dudley MB Council did put a designation on the site as being valuable open space with the pond as a nature consultation area. **See Appendix 7.**

There is not currently a planning application submitted for this site though the site of the Meadow has very recently been assessed for potential development ('Site 48') as part of the Black Country Core Strategy or Black Country Plan (signed up to by Dudley Council). The potential threat to the meadow by developers was very well publicised in the Local Press - **see Appendix 8.**

**Area of proposed site:**

Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (2010) can be used to define the likely size of a suitable Local Green Space and its distance from the local community. A local green space of 5 acres or less should normally be located within 300m (325 yards) or 5 minutes' walk of the community it serves. A site of over 50 acres would be considered as an extensive tract of land. The Corbett Meadow is approximately fourteen (14) acres 5.72 Hectares and is located immediately adjacent to dwellings along Vicarage Road, pathways into Withymoor and at the rear backing directly onto a small recreational ground, Amblecote Primary School and Amblecote Allotment Guild. The Corbett Outpatients Hospital, The Stourbridge Health & Social Centre and the Three Villages Medical Practice on Vicarage Road provides a wonderful vista over the site. It is therefore evident that The Corbett Meadow is both in proximity to the community that it serves and not considered as an extensive tract of land.

**The site is local in character:**

The Corbett Meadow sits within the heart of "old Amblecote", contributing significantly to the original character of the area. Each of Amblecote's character areas are considered as having unique qualities which in turn provide 'local distinctiveness' to the different parts of the conservation area. Indeed Amblecote's rich history in world renowned glass production, brick-making on a large scale and of course the well documented history about local philanthropist John Corbett ("The Salt King") who granted the land to Amblecote provides a clear statement of what is regarded as special, intending to aid in the identification and retention of features that are important to the area. The document notes that the dramatic topography of The Corbett Meadow is notable as a key characteristic, including the mature trees, natural ponds and the meadow itself, which rises up a steeply rising embankment. These features are considered as making a positive contribution to the special interest for which the area was designated. The area including the meadow is typical of that found in the Amblecote of yesteryear. The meadow paddock blends seamlessly with the local landscape, the allotments and recreational ground serving to effectively extend the large area of open green space.

**Need for local green space:**

Amblecote has no or very little natural open Green Space left. This particular Green space is an ancient meadow, once part of The Hill Estate. Meadows such as the Corbett Meadow and its habitats are in decline and are now becoming rare countrywide. Adjacent to the meadow, there is a small open space amenity known as Dennis Park, this in itself has a wildlife habitat, but in real terms it is only a wildlife corridor with the small Coalbourne brook running through, with a further wetland area further along the brook, which has had some minor management work carried out recently. This in itself would complement the meadow to create a wonderful nature reserve be it still on a small scale at some point in time in the future.

The small park again is the size of a green corridor has been altered to provide two surfaced play areas for small and older children. It also includes a sports pitch area to accommodate the size of a football pitch and used as such. Green Space is vital in this area as it is now considerably lacking in Amblecote. The rare Ancient Meadow is surrounded with extremely busy roads.

To the South of the Meadow, Vicarage Road, once a rural lane, is now considered an A class Road. It still shows its rural features by its narrowness, starting from the junction off the A491 up to the recently renovated narrow Railway Bridge at the island into Hillfields Road bordering the Withymoor Estate.

Vicarage Road is very narrow, especially adjacent to the meadow boundary with bends with poor visibility and at times dangerous, considering the amount and type of traffic it has to accommodate including heavy goods vehicles, which are often seen having to mount the pavement whilst passing oncoming traffic.

Travelling Southwest onto the often gridlocked A491, there are plans for more houses on large areas, along that stretch of road adding to more traffic congestion and further congestion on the now busy Ring Road surrounding Stourbridge town centre. Vehicles travelling North on the narrow Vicarage Road, including heavy goods vehicles, which have increased tremendously since The Merry Hill Centre became fully operational and Sainsbury's supermarket on Withymore Estate having recently added an Argus outlet has added to this.

Vicarage Road is location to many medical services, The Stourbridge Health and Social Care Centre this includes the large Three Villages Doctors surgery - and The Corbett Day Care Hospital, all extremely busy, again adding to traffic problems onto this narrow area of Vicarage Road and its surrounding roads. Often Emergency services have to use this stretch of road, which is another main thoroughway to Russell's Hall Hospital in Dudley. At peak times, traffic is often queued on both sides making it virtually impossible for emergency vehicles to get through. Vicarage Road is also a main Bus route serving Merry Hill, Russell's Hall Hospital, Dudley, Wrens Nest, Hawbush, Brierley Hill, Wollaston, and Kinver. These vehicles are both single and double-decker buses. These create congestion at stopping points and road junctions (e.g. into Church Avenue). Other service vehicles are School buses, Coaches and Taxis. Voluntary services such as Ring and Ride and delivery vehicles find Vicarage Road extremely difficult as a drop off point.

Amblecote and its neighbouring village of Withymoor has an important industrial history, once an area of agriculture, but importantly mining was its main industry, this included fireclay to serve our glassmaking and brickmaking industry. Coal mining was also a major industry, when deep coal mining was exhausted in the area of Amblecote and Withymoor, it turned to opencast mining where the remaining coal was taken in the late 1960s, that ceased in the late 1970s. The whole landscape again was changed and during the 1980/90s it became Lakeside and Withymoor housing estate, built on top of the old mine workings. This large housing estate increased the local population rapidly, this required another school to be built, St. Peters Hill.

There are pockets of open space on Lakeside and Withymoor, but created on old reclaimed mining land. This makes the Corbett Meadow in Amblecote extremely unique; as it has remained relatively untouched, it is the last part of old Amblecote left today. Just prior to the time of the vast development of Withymoor, fields known as the Clockfields near to The Corbett Meadow where developed, and the first phase of the development became Trinity Road Estate. The Clockfields held a



vast amount of wildlife that had become victim to high-density development. By the 1990s the whole of the Clockfields development was completed another huge rise in the vicinities population.

Parts of the subsidiary roads West of the Trinity Road Estate are adjacent to the Corbett meadow only separated by fencing and a public right of way. The public Right of Way off Vicarage Road follows the boundary fence line of the Corbett Meadow, joining the sports pitch and continues onto the Green Corridor of Dennis Park. If you stay left along the Corbett Meadow Fence boundary, you then continue along the public right of way with the Allotment site on the right, to finally join the busy A491 onto the High Street Amblecote. As a pedestrian, this right of way is a welcome relief from the very busy traffic and highly built up areas of Vicarage Road and The High Street Amblecote.

Although The Meadow has no public access it plays a vital role in the health and well being and the quality of life of residents and anyone who wishes to get away from the nightmare of traffic fumes, concrete and find a bit peace and quiet.

The National Health Service advocates the crucial need for Green Open Spaces, for the health and well being of the nation, especially in today's climate where mental health issues are presently at an all time high, places such as the rare Corbett Meadow, within such a built up area is vital to be retained.

Quote from **The Independent**: *"Green spaces reduce the health gap between rich and poor"*.

**Inside Ecology Magazine** reported on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018: *Natural England surveys estimate that in the 50 years from 1930 – 1980 over 97% of the ancient meadowland in the UK was lost, and as little as 75000ha remained intact in 2010. Meadows form crucial habitats – a single healthy meadow can be home to over 100 species of wild flowers and grasses, not to mention the array of wildlife that live and feed from it. Everything from insects to small mammals and birds will benefit from the formation of new habitats, wild flower meadows not only house but also feed a huge variety of creatures.*

*Meadows are amazing things; plain grassy meadows are great for voles, small mammals and invertebrates, which has a knock-on effect by providing food for larger animals and birds. If you can inject floral diversity, you will be providing a multi-level food supply and by adding as many native wildflowers as you can within your meadow, you're providing nectar and pollen for butterflies, hover flies, bumblebees, solitary bees (UK native solitary bees are under a greater threat than their more well-known cousins the honey and bumblebee) and more. Flowers will encourage pollinators and more insects, which means more food for birds and bats. Meadows are incredible – the more native plant species the more specialist invertebrates and vertebrates you attract. The decline in wildflower meadows over the last 50 years has meant that this diverse and valuable ecosystem, which is home to so many, is disappearing.*

In summary, the protection of amenity space within and on the edges of conservation areas is considered as a principle issue furthermore the National Planning Policy Framework identifies the need to assess opportunities for new provision of open spaces (paragraph 96). The Local Green Space Designation, in conjunction with the registering of the site as an Asset of Community Value, would offer the opportunity for the community to organise to purchase the land should it be offered for sale in the future.

There is a real opportunity for this site to become a true asset to the community and to facilitate schemes where locals can come together to enhance the natural environment. These designations would ultimately ensure that the beauty and tranquillity of this place could benefit the community to a greater degree than it does now, promoting a sense of ownership within the community whilst fostering improved understanding of the importance of preserving special character.





### **Barriers to the local community accessing the site from their homes:**

The land is owned by Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and as such is “Private Land” so other than the two brothers who have been allowed grazing rights the community cannot legally access the site and it serves as no ‘right of way’. The designation of the land as a Local Green Space would not require access to be gained to the site beyond what is currently established as the main amenities can be enjoyed without any such access.

### **Additional local benefit gained by designation as a Local Green Space and registration as an Asset of Community Value:**

Different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. One of the main purposes of green belt land is to prevent urban sprawl, there is no requirement under the policy for the land to be of any value. In fact, it is possible for green belt land to possess no inherent natural beauty, ecological value or agricultural purpose as the environmental value of individual parcels of green belt land is not the policies prime concern (Campaign to Protect Rural England.org.uk). Green belts do not recognise the landscape quality or community value of land and do not preclude all development. Therefore, the inclusion of the land within the green belt does not in itself recognise the value of that parcel of land, aesthetically, ecologically or to the community.

We therefore believe that the Local Green Space Designation will act to demonstrate the significance of this parcel of land to local people, something that inclusion within the green belt simply doesn’t recognise. This view is acknowledged within the Planning Practice Guidance published for “Open space, sports and recreation facilities, public rights of way and local green space” which suggests that the benefit of this designation in areas where protection from development is the norm, but where there could be exceptions, is that the Local Green Space Designation could help to identify areas that are of particular importance to the local community. Local Green Space Designation could recognise and protect the community value of the Corbett Meadow within an urban area and adjacent to housing development.

Furthermore, the inclusion of The Corbett Meadow within the conservation or the presence of tree protection orders on site again, do not preclude new development. In this instance, once again Local Green Space Designation is useful in identifying the land as of value to the community and offering additional protections to make this value clear. We understand that the registration of a space as an Asset of Community Value and designation as a Local Green Space are material planning considerations, with these designations capable of providing stronger and more specific protection. Local Green Space Designation, for example, may have a use in protecting this important green space from infill development, where the community consider it to be inappropriate.

Other areas benefit from policies such as ‘Important Open or Wooded Areas’ (such as North Dorset), whereby open or wooded areas of land considered as contributing significantly to the amenity and character of settlements are designated to afford protection from the pressure of infill development. This policy is considered as according with the general principles of Local Green Space Designation. We feel that such policies provide an important opportunity for communities to have a say and to guide development away from areas of demonstrable importance to them. Designating this land could also further compliment green belt purposes in assisting in urban regeneration through the encouragement of the repurposing of land considered as having a negative impact upon the conservation area.

**Evidence to show the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its BEAUTY”**

The Corbett Meadow is a parcel of land of unquestionable visual attractiveness as evidenced by the recent photographs, making a significant contribution to the rural character of the area and acting as an integral focal point. The Meadow could be considered as both an irreplaceable natural and heritage asset within the Dudley borough is now surrounded on 3 sides by residential development and has the advantage of being on a hilltop location with views over Amblecote towards Brierley Hill and Audnam. It has undoubted rural qualities, rolling meadowland with wildflowers in abundance all surrounded by mature trees. The landscape setting of The Corbett Meadow is very important. This land represents a part of the only significant expanse of green space in Amblecote and contributes significantly to retaining the character of what was once a small village under the jurisdiction of the Enville Estate. The Meadow sits at the heart of this locality, demonstrating many, if not all the above key positives, supporting the areas sense of place, local identity and distinctiveness. The beauty of this land contributes to the quality of life and amenities of locals as the population of Amblecote has more than trebled over the last fifty years. The area now lacks any substantial NATURAL green open space. Small pockets of OPEN SPACE are available, the majority barren and formed on top of mining areas, these are used for leisure.



. Photograph taken by an Amblecote History Society member (Graham Beckley, local photographer and author of “Our Stour”) to show The Meadow in the centre. The important view can be found extending from the gate shown, up towards the canopy of the trees.

The trees in the meadow have a blanket Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on them, many are possibly veteran/ancient trees which gives them similar status as ancient woodland in the national planning policy framework which deems them as not to be removed and requiring a 15m root buffer zone as a minimum (see attached survey). The same trees also have bat roost features awaiting a full bat survey with a detector when the warmer weather sets in. If there are roosts in any of the trees then they get absolute legal protection and cannot be damaged or disturbed in any way, ignorance is no excuse/ defence in European law. The site has approximately 100 trees with Tree Preservation Orders to include native species such as Common Hawthorn 19 are of Veteran/Ancient age, these notable trees

also include one Black Poplar species Common Lime, (non native) Horse Chestnut (**See Appendix 2**) Native trees include Beech, Sycamore, Holly, Silver Birch, Hazel Whitebeam, Willow and Elder. The veteran / ancient trees are considered as making a major contribution to the character of the conservation area, providing structure and interest to the landscape. Along the Eastern boundary of the meadow, the tree cover within the meadow conceals the roads and buildings. Wooded areas such as this act to enhance its rural qualities by providing a sense of enclosure in a built up urban area.

Photograph taken by Amblecote History Society member Helen Cook



showing a Vintage / Ancient Common Hawthorne Tree one of nineteen trees.

It is widely recognised that *“England’s woodlands and veteran/ancient trees represent a living cultural heritage, a natural equivalent to our great churches and castles”* (Keepers of Time, 2005) and are highly valued by locals and visitors alike as places of tranquillity and inspiration. *“Veteran trees can be hundreds of years old, provide irreplaceable habitats for many different species and are a part of our landscape heritage”*.(Forestry Commission, 2014).



The trees can evoke a 'sense of fascination and awe', while natural green spaces located close to local people provide a range of social, environmental and economic benefits including improved mental health, improved community cohesion and sense of belonging, more attractive places to live and visit as well as enhanced opportunities for wildlife habitats. In fact, studies have demonstrated that beauty affects our daily happiness (Leyden et al., 2011) with aesthetic environments improving our wellbeing, behaviour, cognitive function and mood (Rautio et al., 2017), demonstrating a relationship between nature and the environment with pleasant emotions in humans (Bastami et al., 2016).

Furthermore, **The State of Nature Report (2016) concluded that the health benefits of living with a view of green space are worth up to £300 per person per year because simply looking at nature lifts people's spirits, according to scientific research.** Unfortunately, these benefits are rarely considered when decisions are made about granting permission for building and other development.



Photograph taken by Amblecote History Society member Helen Cook showing a Vintage / Ancient Poplar species.

Wooded areas act to enhance its rural qualities by providing a sense of enclosure in a built up urban area.

This would apply to the Common Lime trees along the short boundary post and rail fence South of the Meadow. The line of six maturing Lime trees enhance a small part of the roadside footpath by the extremely busy Vicarage Road - they would now be classed as 'street trees'

The term 'street trees' is often used in the literature to mean all trees within urban areas and not just those lining streets. This study focuses on trees in urban areas because this is where the majority of population lives, and is probably where most health benefits are experienced.

A literature review was commissioned to assess economic evidence on the health benefits provided by street trees<sup>1</sup>. This will feed into research on climate change adaptation planned by Forest Research and help inform the countries on existing evidence relevant to health objectives in their respective forest strategies and other research. Focusing upon the role of street trees in moderating the climate and environment of urban areas, the following benefits were considered:

- reducing air pollution,
- providing an environment conducive to physical activities,
- reducing stress and improving mental health,
- reducing noise levels,
- cooling air in summer by giving shade (including associated savings to the National Health Service (NHS) from avoided heat stroke),
- reducing ultraviolet radiation through shading (including associated savings to the NHS from avoided skin cancer),
- reducing wind speeds in winter thereby reducing heat loss from buildings.

(Urban forest Social and Economic research group (SERG) (2011) Health Benefits of Street Trees.

**Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example because of its WILDLIFE”.**

Britain remains one of the least wooded countries in Europe and unfortunately these areas remain under threat, with woodland birds and butterflies continuing their long-term declines (The Wildlife Trusts). Development continues to be a main contributor to these declines, and this is often unnecessarily so. As stated above, the Corbett Meadow is home to a significant number of native veteran and possibly ancient trees, considered as forming Britain’s richest and most diverse habitat. Few truly native woods survive today, and the area covered by this habitat is decreasing. Such areas of woodland define the landscape and are of significant ecological importance, providing potential homes for thousands of species, including rare fungi, plants, invertebrates, lichen, birds and mammals. Many of the fauna and fungal bodies found in these habitats are only associated with long periods of continuity (ForestResearch.gov.uk), while the structural complexity of the trees provides many habitat niches that simply do not co-exist on younger specimens.

The meadow includes natural two ponds, a habitat that is very much in decline, these sustain a healthy amphibian population, providing a breeding area for an enormous common toad population, especially the pond South East of the meadow, which is significant as they are in rapid decline and are a priority species on the national and local biodiversity action plans.



Photograph taken by Amblecote History Society member Helen Cook  
Toad and Frog Spawn taken May 2019 Pond SE of The Corbett Meadow

In 1992, Ray Buckland of the Birmingham and Black Country Amphibian Society surveyed both ponds. The result of that survey was that he had never recorded so many Frogs, possibly up to 4,000 during that time.

There is a possibility that the Great Crested Newt recorded in the 1950’s have returned to the larger lower pond one was observed by a local resident during 2000. Another concise survey on both Ponds would be helpful, at the correct time to confirm this, being that the Great Crested Newt is a protected species.

The Ponds are also priority habitat, any works would likely have to retain both ponds, the South Eastern Pond seems to be favoured as a Toad breeding pond. Both ponds would need enhancement works carried out to protect the natural habitat. The ponds support two species of Newts - the Smooth newt and Palmate newt also Frogs, Toads and a possibility of a return of the Great Created Newt. The pond habitat is a further source of food for a frequent visitor to the pond, the larger pond in the meadow attracts the Grey Heron in March 2019 a Little Egret was a first sighting for Amblecote.

Little Egrets are now a common sight around the coasts of Southern England and Wales and they are expanding their range further North, possibly due to average warmer temperatures and climate change: See picture below.





Photograph's taken by Amblecote History Society member Helen Cook  
(Right) Picture Lower Pond North of the Meadow (Left) Picture Pond S.E. of the Corbett Meadow

Both Natural Ponds support marginal water flora and and water plants (see Botanical Survey) all of these sustain many pondlife insects including Damselfly and Dragonfly. The ponds and flora are important for these insects to lay their eggs. The ponds also attract other animals and birds as part of the food chain such as the Swallow, House Martin and especially the declining Swift that returns to the Amblecote area to breed and fly over the Meadow area and Ponds to feed. The muddy edges of both

ponds also provide the structure for nests for breeding birds in the area. The ponds also act as a drinking area for small mammals that live within the meadow such as Mice, Voles and Common Shrew and mammals such as the Badger and Fox both animals are present within the meadow, or can regularly be seen passing through.

Britain's ponds were once a major feature in our rural landscape are vanishing, many date back to a thousand years or more. These two ponds are a rarity within a built up urban landscape. A million over the last century have been filled in as pollution and development has taken over. Even to try and develop around the two Corbett Meadow ponds, a building site will eventually potentially, pollute and most possibly destroy a valuable ecological asset.

#### **The Telegraph News & Science 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

*"Householders are being urged to dig ponds in their gardens or fill washing up bowls with water, to help stem the decline in frogs, newts and hedgehogs".*

The Wildlife Trusts and Royal Horticultural Society are concerned that the disappearance of ponds is damaging wildlife. Recent figures from the RSPB showed frog sightings have fallen by 15 per cent while toads have declined 28 per cent since 2014.

Ponds are a vital habitats and water sources for amphibians and small mammals but housebuilders now rarely include them in garden designs, and the number of municipal ponds has halved from one million to 500,000 in the past 150 years.

#### **GRASSLAND**

The grassland is significant, as it has never been used for anything other than grazing, so it is unimproved grassland, (see botany survey) which would put it amongst the rarest in the country. Sites have been given SSSI status for unimproved grassland (illey fields).

The sweeping Grassland and topography of the site is spectacular and adds massively to the Bio diversity of the area and would complement the adjacent park amenity, the wildlife corridor of the Coalbourne Brook and the pond and wetland habitat within the meadow. The Grassland area provides a breeding area to many insects, Butterflies and Moths (see Butterfly & Moth survey **Appendix 4 & 5**) and in turn is a vast food provider in the ecological food chain.



Photograph taken by Amblecote History Society member Helen Cook  
The Corbett Meadow Grassland

BUTTERFLY AND MOTH SURVEY provided by local residents Allan and Jo Nolan:- volunteers for Butterfly Conservation, Members of the Butterfly Conservation Trust, members of the Amateur Entomologists Society, The British Entomological and Natural History Society and the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. **Appendix 4 & 5.**



COMMA - PHOTOGRAPH LOCAL RESIDENT



COMMON BLUE

The meadow contains traditional grassland species and meadow flora (see flora survey **Appendix 1**). It provides cover for small mammals, which bring in raptors such as Buzzard, Kestrel and Sparrow Hawk. At night Tawny owls are regularly vocal. On the Eastern bank Blue bells grow on the edges amongst the wooded area, a sign of ancient woodland.





taken by  
History  
member  
The  
Meadow



Photographs  
Amblecote  
Society  
Helen Cook  
Corbett  
Grassland

## Conservation

Flower-rich lowland meadows and pastures were once a feature of every farm, but only a tiny fraction remains today. Much of the loss has been recent (97% since 1935) and is attributed to changes in farming, including the use of artificial fertilisers, changes in cutting regimes (with a move from summer hay to earlier silage cutting) and drainage, as well as gravel extraction and abandonment.

Conservationists were perhaps slow off the mark to recognise the value of the habitat and its plight, and even now only about half receives legal protection. Much is privately owned, and conservation efforts currently centre around restoration and recreation projects and the provision of advice and information to landowners.



Photograph taken by Amblecote History Society member Helen Cook  
The Corbett Meadow Grassland

Reference the findings of the botanical survey done for the British Botanical Society in 2014. **Appendix 1**

## MAMMALS

### SMALL MAMMALS

The meadow grassland sustains a variety of small common mammals such as the Field Vole, Common Shrew and Field Mouse, an important food source for birds such as the Buzzard, Kestrel and Tawny Owl that are commonly seen and heard within the meadow.



FIELD MOUSE



TAWNY OWL



## **HEDGEHOG**

Hedgehogs over the last ten years are now less frequently seen in the Amblecote area due to more roads with increased traffic with more high-density housing with less garden space area. But once seen more regularly within the meadow and the surrounding older build houses with larger gardens which are more suitable for them. The most likely way to see a hedgehog today, they are usually victims of road kill. But encouragingly we have had some local sightings recently; these sightings have been in adjacent places to the Corbett Meadow and are most welcome in the neighbouring allotments. The meadow and its wooded areas is a vital area to be retained, because it is well documented that hedgehogs are becoming endangered and loss of habitats such as this is vital to their existence.



Hedgehogs are struggling. Their numbers have fallen below one million in the UK - down by 30% in just over ten years.

Conservation status: **Protected in the UK under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981.**

Priority Species, under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework.

It has been suggested that as much as 30% of the UK hedgehog population has been lost since 2002 alone (WoodlandTrust.org.uk). Within developed areas there are concerns that a growing preference for low maintenance gardens with little plant cover is depriving hedgehogs of both food and shelter. Further to this the loss of hedgerows and suitable woodland habitat poses a significant threat as the animals rely upon many environmental features (such as fallen leaves to make their nests) if they are to survive. In many places gardens and incidental green spaces have been converted into buildings and hard standing which has led to creeping, but large-scale, reductions in the naturalness of the landscape. This in turn is having an impact on our beloved wildlife species. Continued development in this way is not sustainable for wildlife, wild places, the character of our neighbourhood and the people that live there.

## **BATS**

The Pipistrelle Bat is Britain's smallest bat, it is a familiar sight in and around the Corbett Meadow, flitting around the trees on warm summer evenings, at dusk feeding on the insects that the whole of the meadow biodiversity offers. Having observed the bats there is another species, a much larger bat than the Pipistrelle, which I am sure that the recent Bat survey's that were undertaken will have recorded. The first one was in August 2016, I was also in the vicinity of the meadow watching at least **two** species feeding, whilst at least three ecologists with bat detectors on various parts of the meadow were surveying. Another survey was carried out in May 2019 by further professional ecological company by leaving detection software on the meadow for a few days. Conditions did not seem so good during this time of the year, with recent cooler night temperatures. With the very old gnarled trees on the Meadow, there are potentially twenty plus trees classified as veteran to ancient (these need to be verified) and there is a very strong possibility that the bats are roosting within these old trees.



Pipistrelle Bat - Picture National Trust

Bat Conservation Trust: Sadly, many bat species around the world are vulnerable or endangered due to factors ranging from loss and fragmentation of habitat, diminished food supply, destruction of roosts, disease and hunting or killing of bats.

In the UK, bat populations have declined considerably over the last century. Bats are still under threat from building and development work that affects roosts, loss of habitat, the severing of commuting routes by roads and threats in the home including cat attacks, flypaper and some chemical treatments of building materials. Other potential threats can include wind turbines and lighting if they are sited on key bat habitat or near roosts.

## **LARGE MAMMALS**

### **FOX**

The larger mammals, the Fox and Badger are resident on the Meadow. Fox earths are to be found on the Meadow. The pictures below show the Vixen, recently photographed by a resident by the Meadow and shortly after with her cubs. We know the urban Fox is now very common, but this sight has given great delight and enormous pleasure to those residents who live by the Meadow, providing 'real life' educational value to youngsters about the natural world, which today is sadly lacking on a local level.



PHOTOGRAPH'S BY A LOCAL RESIDENT VIXEN & CUBS - TAKEN IN THEIR GARDEN

### **BADGER**



On the Meadow there are at least two large Badger setts one on the NW boundary of the Meadow and also on the East Bank of the Meadow, there is much evidence of other setts, possibly outlying setts, on the East side, with signs of immense Badger activity, specifically within the post and wire fenced copses of dense undergrowth, an ideal habitat.

Badgers are protected and so are the setts (burrows) they live in. Under the **Protection of Badgers Act 1992**, in England and Wales (the law is different in Scotland) it is an offence to: wilfully kill, injure or take a badger (or attempt to do so).



**BADGER SETT ON THE EAST OF THE MEADOW**

### **BIRDS Appendix 3.**

Amblecote has seen a rapid decline in certain species of birds, which were often seen and heard in the 1960s in Amblecote. Many have been nationally in decline for the same reasons as Amblecote, through loss of natural habitats such as hedgerows and fields, given up to industrial and high-density housing development.

The meadow biodiversity offers a tremendous source of sustenance for many birds whether they are resident or passing through. Many of the Birds on the list are not resident, but it is the food within the meadow biodiversity that sustains these birds observed on our list. This attracts birds passing through just to feed and rest. One being the Swift, a migrant, which arrives in May, breeds and leaves in August. Swifts feed on the wing and can be seen regularly over the meadow area, skimming the ponds. We believe the meadow is a vital source of food, which attracts them here on a regular basis.

Wildlife Trusts Conservation status – SWIFTS: Classified in the UK as Amber under the Birds of Conservation Concern 4: the Red List for Birds (2015).

SWIFT

GOLDCREST



REDWING

- photograph by local resident

BULLFINCH- photograph by local resident

During the winter months on the meadow migratory flocks of Redwings mixed with a few Fieldfares arrive and feed on berries and insects within the meadow. A lovely resident bird is the little Goldcrest, frequently seen flitting amongst the Austrian Black Pines *Pinus nigra*. The mature Pine Trees are a landscape tree, on the Southern Boundary of the meadow and contain insects between the needles for many small birds.

The Bullfinch is quite a rare site to the area, but from time to time visits bird feeders of local residents also photographed by a local resident near to the meadow.

There are plenty of berried species of trees within the Meadow, especially Hawthorn and Whitebeam. Wax Wings have also been seen around the meadow area, attracted to these trees in winter to feed.

The two ponds appeal to birds such as Moorhen, Coot, Mallard and Tufted Duck. The ponds regularly attract the Grey Heron, an attraction being a source for food. In March of this year spotted with the Heron's was a Little Egret - a first for Amblecote. Little Egrets are now a common sight around the coasts of southern England and Wales, they are expanding their range further North, possibly due to average warmer temperatures and the effects of climate change.

For more information about the Birds that are seen in and around the Corbett Meadow

See bird observation list, compiled by local residents who have interested knowledge.

Contact Helen Cook – R.S.P.B. Member of Wild Fowl and Wetland Trust Member.

Contact Allan and Jo Nolan - Volunteers for the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust on Highgate Common, currently working on Breeding Bird surveys.

SUMMARY

The importance of this unique, in the local area, wildlife habitat, broadly described below cannot be underestimated.

a) Two natural ponds supporting pond life, amphibians – Frogs, Toads now on the decline two species of Newts and possibly the Great Crested Newt, and pond flora. Ponds such as these are now becoming rare.

(b) Wetland area attracts certain species of birds and wetland plants.

(c) The Meadow flora supports a vast amount of insects including Bees, Butterflies, all are in decline.

(d) The meadow holds a strong Badger and Fox population. As far as legal protection goes there are badgers literally everywhere on the site. We have access to a map of sett locations numbering 7 known in total.

(e) The whole topography of the site is stunning, with undulating Grassland. Includes a mix of meadow grass species. This supports small Mammals, a food source for Buzzard, Kestrel, Sparrow Hawk and Tawny Owl, are frequently seen and heard. Some visiting birds are now on the RSPB decline list one being the Swift a summer visitor to Amblecote along with Swallows.

During the winter, flocks of Starlings, another bird on the decline list. Redwings and Fieldfare also feed on the Grassland.

(f) At least two species of bat feed and potentially roost in the older trees.

(d) The trees are of an age to be Veteran to Ancient, especially the line of Hawthorn on the East bank, another habitat in itself.

Furthermore, this ancient meadow shares many features with precious wood pasture, a diverse habitat supporting rich communities of species and with lowland mixed deciduous woodland (both priority habitats in the UK Post 2010 Biodiversity Framework). Many notable, and even some rare species, rely upon lightly grazed ground flora within such mosaic habitats, as well as the shelter and structure that open woodland provides. The continuity and greater longevity of individual trees and habitat structure allows for more diverse tree growth forms that in turn create a wider variety of niches and microhabitats such as large diameter hollows in trees, rot holes and ageing bark that provide for a range of specialised invertebrates, lichen and fungi (WoodlandTrust.org.uk). These habitats allow for increased light levels when compared to other woodlands, providing unique opportunities for wildlife, (e.g. increased numbers of sun-loving insects due to improved larval development within sunlit trees) which are lost in closed canopy and shady woods. The Meadow can provide suitable habitat for species such as grass snakes, timid animals most frequently seen at the edge of woods (particularly those with an open structure), who particularly enjoy basking in openings in woodland that allow direct sunlight to reach the ground and where cover can be found nearby. The whole of the Meadow is a food source to sustain wildlife, whether it is living on the site or passing through, especially in an environment where we are drastically losing these perfect habitats that are so important. The Meadow provides an opportunity to connect with nature and a sense of well-being for those who have the privilege to enjoy it, in a time when more and more people live their lives with little or no contact with nature (The Wildlife Trusts – Homes for People and Wildlife). Currently, residents report enjoying the presence of several species (See resident's letters) who rely on this irreplaceable habitat and are subject to varying levels of protection. For example, local residents frequently describe enjoying the sound of owls at night. Research has shown that woodland birds have suffered some of the biggest declines in recent years and our owls are no exception. The resident owls are Tawny Owls who currently possess an amber UK conservation status. The RSPB reports that these owls exist within established pairs and are highly territorial, rarely if ever leaving their territories,

therefore the loss of their woodland habitat is considered as a key conservation issue. These beautiful birds rely on tree hollows within the veteran trees on site for nesting and depend heavily upon field voles and other small mammals for prey. The combination of the copse and open grass provide for both the owl's nesting and hunting requirements, especially considering that a field (if left unmanaged for six months or more) can soon be populated by thousands of small mammals, offering a rich source of food for birds of prey.

Furthermore, there are many locals who report the presence of a badger sett in the meadow. The sett is active as locals have seen the badgers at night and there is plenty of evidence at the allotments where they explore for food. The Meadow is in fact the ideal badger habitat, mixing both woodland and open spaces. Badgers tend to locate their setts within the shelter of the woodland and emerge at night to forage in their favoured areas, fields such as this one. Although the setts may now have moved to deeper within the meadow, these extremely wary animals may well still rely upon this crucial space when foraging for their staple diet of earthworms.

We believe that this parcel of land provides a much-needed wildlife corridor, linking up the similar adjoining habitats of the allotments, recreational field and nearby Coalbourne Brook as well as the River Stour and Stourbridge Canal arm, allowing for the movement of these woodland species (who are often not very mobile), where habitat fragmentation and development remain as constant pressures on their populations. Gov.uk cites activities that can be harmful to wild birds as the trimming or cutting of trees, bushes, hedges and rough vegetation as well as renovating, converting or demolishing a building or otherwise creating a disturbance for example through noise, lighting and vibration. Furthermore, the Royal Horticultural Society acknowledge that the negative impact that lighting can have upon wildlife is often overlooked, however evidence suggests that all forms of artificial lighting can impact upon wildlife, disrupting natural behaviour. For example, many bat species will avoid lit areas altogether, while garden birds can be disturbed from sleep by sudden lighting. Often, light pollution from inappropriately positioned security lighting is the worst culprit. It is therefore of crucial importance to retain dark spaces such as the Corbett Meadow within developed areas, and policies should aim to limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation (National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 180 section c).

The importance of this environment is clear and as per the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) the effects of any planning proposals upon species and habitats listed as priorities in national, regional and local biodiversity action plans should be taken into account (even when these may not all be afforded legal protection), while species of conservation priority and their habitat are protected from the adverse effects of development. Furthermore Regulation 39 of the Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) seeks to encourage the management of features of the landscape that are of major importance for wild flora and fauna, including hedgerows and small woods, where they may assist in migration and dispersal of plants and animals. Dudley MBC's Local Plan states that existing wildlife sites need to be protected and that the wildlife habitats and ecological networks in this high density housing area in Amblecote will receive this continued protection. Our natural environment is finite and sites such as this serve as remnants of a rich past and are essential to our future.

**Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example, because of its TRANQUILITY”.**

In the broadest terms, Dudley Borough is still generally considered as a predominantly urban environment with a range of small industries and commercial business operating in a once focus of heavier industry (e.g. Round Oak Steelworks), so this particularly tranquil and quite unique area, is essential to Amblecote as it is the last untouched open space yet surrounded by buildings and busy roads.

At certain times of the day the area surrounding The Meadow can become quite hectic, with cars jostling for space so that parents can drop off or collect their children, or even sometimes at weekends or bank holidays with people visiting local events. The roads on both sides are well used for access to the Merry Hill shopping centre, medical centres and schools as well as for general commuting. Amongst all of this The Meadow remains as a constant feature within the landscape, with its scenery unchanged except for the influence of the seasons. Despite any of the hustle and bustle that can surround the area, the meadow provides solace from this, with local residents and passers by noting the calming influence that this tranquil space has on their emotions and wellbeing. Both residents and visitors alike have been noted in the past as enjoying the horses on the site, taking a moment to savour their soothing company and perhaps share a tasty morsel with them. The sound of cattle is a rare yet enjoyable, pleasing experience to be heard in this environment. Although the land is only used for the keeping of a few horses and cattle, many have benefited from the additional tranquillity this has afforded, as the site has required less maintenance and has been much less attended as a result. Paragraph 180b of the National Planning Policy Framework indeed recognises the importance of the identification and protection of tranquil areas that have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their amenity value for this reason.

**Evidence to show that the green area “holds a particular local significance, for example, because of its HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE”.**

John Corbett, a rich, respected philanthropist generously gave money to local causes in Amblecote and surrounding villages. John Corbett, son of a canal boat carrier, Joseph Corbett, was born in a modest two bedroomed cottage at The Delph, Brierley Hill on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1817. He was sent to school at the age of five but left at the age of eleven to join his father Joseph in the canal carrying business. In 1840 he went as an apprentice to William Lester, Chief Engineer for Messrs Hunt and Brown of The Leys Ironworks, Brierley Hill. After seven years he left to become a partner with his father in the canal carrying business now known as Joseph Corbett and Son.

He will forever be linked with salt but did not make his fortune through salt alone. He had already illustrated his business acumen by investing in many properties and agricultural land before he made the risky decision to go into salt production at Stoke Prior, near Droitwich.

John Corbett amassed a huge fortune and became known as one of the most generous philanthropists of his time. He never forgot where he came from and was a substantial benefactor to the Brierley Hill area, supporting many charities and St. Michael’s Church Brierley Hill. In 1892 In Amblecote he purchased a mansion known as ‘The Hill’ estate to be converted into a hospital. ‘The Hill’ had stood empty and dilapidated for some years, along with its 32 acres of grounds for £6500 and after adding a further £5000 to restore and convert the buildings it became the Corbett hospital. He presented both to a board of trustees for the funding of the Corbett Hospital to cater for the local poor people of Stourbridge, Brierley Hill, Kingswinford, Wordsley, Brockmoor, Quarry Bank, Amblecote, Delph, Wollaston, Upperswinford, Pedmore, Hagley, Lye and Wollescote.



**Corbett Hospital opening on 31st July 1893**

John Corbett purchased the ‘The Hill’ estate solely with the intention of the land to be used for medical purposes, for the people of Stourbridge and the surrounding areas. It states in the Constitution and Bye- Laws (page 5)



*The gardens and grounds belonging to the hospital may in the discretion of the Trustees be used for the purposes of a **PUBLIC PARK**, subject nevertheless to such Rules and regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by the By-laws.*

This therefore raises “The **Moral** Question” of the future use of the land - certainly any residential development does not satisfy John Corbett’s legacy.



Corbett Hospital 1903



Rear of the Corbett Hospital showing the Bandstand paid for by John Corbett

Following the demolition of the original building after it closed in 2005 after 112 years in use, the new building remains situated within the grounds of the original one, which was demolished in late 2007, John Corbett’s legacy is still fondly remembered and illustrated through artwork on the side of the Stourbridge Health and Social Centre and the Three Villages Medical Centre.



Stourbridge Health and Social Centre - John Corbett Artwork by Borough artist Steve Field

There are residents within the community who can remember when the land had significant recreational value to local people due to the holding of “The Corbett hospital Fete” which attracted thousands of visitors including national celebrities (e.g. Show jumper Harvey Smith) bringing an economic boost to the area. The fetes had a rural theme to them, attracting Horticultural and Flower Shows, Bird show. Many show people of the day took part in the Fete such as Acrobats, boxing, plate spinning, small fair ground rides, included were many side stalls. The grand finale of the day was the

wonderful Firework display held on the Meadow, and as we see it today, from the elevated vista to the East, crowds of people gathered to watch this spectacle.  
It was the major event of the year on August Bank Holidays, when droves of people, walked for miles ascended upon the Meadow for the annual Fete.

It is noted that during one annual Fete it was attended by 26,000 people, of course there was more open land on the estate available at that time. This must demonstrate historically how much community value the Meadow has and still does hold memories from people today, who have commented on Social media about these events.

The land can be considered to be of historical significance currently due to the presence of the veteran/ancient trees on site, which represent an important historic landscape feature.



**The Gymkhana in the Corbett Hospital Meadow, at one of the annual Fetes during the 1950s**



# AN AIRSHIP OVER AMBLECOTE

Compiled by J. Robert Williams

CORBETT HOSPITAL, STOURBRIDGE  
Bank Holiday Monday and Tuesday  
August 7th and 8th, 1905

## THIRTEENTH GRAND ANNUAL FETES AND FLOWER SHOW

Special Engagement of His Majesty's Band of  
**THE SCOTS GUARDS**

Conductor: Mr. Fred W. Wood  
**THE STOURBRIDGE PRIZE BAND**  
Formerly the Tins Works Prize Band  
Conductor: Mr. W. Pitchford

## SPENCER'S GREAT AIRSHIP

First time in the Midlands. The Latest Development of Aerial Navigation. The great Airship is 80 ft. long, 25 ft. in diameter, holds 40,000 feet of gas, and will Ascend each Afternoon. The Motor Mechanism, Screw Propeller, Rudder and all Appliances will be the same as used by Messrs. Spencer in their historical flight over London.

The Committee have arranged with Messrs. J. FAIN and SONS to Supply all FIRST-CLASS LONDON ARTISTES.

## GRAND FLOWER AND COTTAGERS' SHOW

(MONEY PRIZES £150)  
Will be OPENED on MONDAY by LADY COBHAM  
at Two o'clock.

## GRAND DISPLAY OF FIREWORKS

Each evening, concluding with a grand Naval Salute, and other specially arranged Motions.



Corbett Hospital Fete Circa 1940s

The Meadow was used for other historic occasions, at one of the earlier fetes in 1905. The Advertisement illustrates what events were held in those early years at the Fete's, including an historic Airship Flight.



**Corbett Hospital Fete 1957**



**Winter in the Meadow**

It is well known that in harsh winter months, in years past, skating took place on the pond.



The life of local philanthropist John Corbett is well documented in a book “Pillar of Salt 1817-1901” (ISBN 978-0-9510463) written by local author Barbara Middlemass.

The famous portrait of John Corbett is now hanging in the restaurant of the Corbett Day Centre Hospital, overlooks the beautiful tranquil setting of his Meadow; a place he would have loved, as he gave close attention to the natural landscape at Impney his home near Droitwich, where he opened his grounds annually for a picnic for the health and well-being of the people of that area in Worcestershire. It is fair to say he appreciated the natural world and enjoyed it immensely also in sharing it with local people, that were not so fortunate as himself.



**John Corbett - Portrait by Henry Tanworth Wells 1894  
Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.**

**I hope it has been clearly demonstrated and evidenced in this document that the Corbett Meadow in Amblecote is worthy of a designation as Local Green Space.**

## CORBETT HOSPITAL MEADOW BIRD SIGHTINGS AND SURROUNDING AREA

RESIDENTS ALLAN AND JO NOLAN - Volunteers for the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust on Highgate Common, currently working on Breeding Bird surveys.

RESIDENT HELEN COOK - R.S.P.B. member and W.W.T member

11, Vicarage Road

Amblecote

Stourbridge DY8 4JE

1. Little egret	rare/passing through	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
2. Grey heron	•	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
3. Mute swan	passing through	<i>Cygnus Olor</i>
4. Greylag goose	passing through	<i>Anser anser</i>
5. Canada goose	•	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
6. Mallard ♂/♀	•	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
7. Tufted duck ♂/♀	•	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
8. Peregrine	passing through	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
9. Kestrel ♂/♀	passing through	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
10. Buzzard ♂/♀	•	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
11. Sparrow hawk	•	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
12. Pheasant	passing through	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
13. Moorhen	•	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
14. Coot	•	<i>Fulica atra</i>
15. Black-headed gull	•	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
16. Lesser black-backed gull	•	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
17. Stock dove	rare	<i>Columba oenas</i>
18. Woodpigeon	•	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
19. Collared dove	•	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
20. Tawny owl	• passing through	<i>Strix aluco</i>
21. Swift	• migrant	<i>Apus apus</i>
22. Green woodpecker	•	<i>Picus viridis</i>
23. Great spotted woodpecker ♂/♀	•	<i>Dendrocopus major</i>
24. Skylark	rare	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
25. Swallow	• migrant	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
26. House martin	• migrant	<i>Delichon urbica</i>
27. Pied wagtail	•	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
28. Wren	•	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
29. Dunnock	•	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
30. Robin	•	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
31. Blackbird	•	<i>Turdus merula</i>
32. Fieldfare	Winter	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>
33. Song thrush	•	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
34. Redwing	Winter	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
35. Mistle thrush	•	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>
36. Blackcap ♂/♀	•	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>
37. Chiffchaff	Spring/Summer	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>
38. Goldcrest	•	<i>Regulus regulus</i>
39. Long-tailed tit	•	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
40. Coal tit	•	<i>Parus ater</i>

41. Blue tit •	<i>Parus caeruleus</i>
42. Great tit •	<i>Parus major</i>
43. Nuthatch •	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
44. Jay •	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
45. Magpie •	<i>Pica pica</i>
46. Rook passing through	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
47. Carrion Crow •	<i>Corvus corone corone</i>
48. Starling •	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
49. House sparrow •	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
50. Chaffinch ♂/♀ •	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>
51. Greenfinch •	<i>Carduelis chloris</i>
52. Goldfinch •	<i>Carduelis cardulis</i>
53. Siskin ♂/♀ Winter	<i>Carduelis spinus</i>
54. Bullfinch ♂/♀ Rare	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>
55. Willow Warbler •	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>
56. Garden Warbler •	<i>Sylvia borin</i>
57. Wheatear passing through	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>
58. Jackdaw •	<i>Corvus monedula</i>
59. Raven passing through	<i>Corvus corax</i>
60. Grey Wagtail •	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
61. Treecreeper •	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
62. Linnet •	<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>
63. Brambling Rare Winter	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>
64. Waxwing Rare Winter	<i>Bombycilla garrulous</i>
65. Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>

KEY TO ABOVE:

RESIDENT BIRDS AND FREQUENT VISITORS •

MIGRANT •

Breeding Birds Numbers 6,13,14,18,19,30,31,33,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,45,47,48,49,50,52.  
Possible Breeding Birds 10,20,21,22,23,27,43,44,51,54.

**APPENDIX 4**

**CORBETT MEADOW - Butterfly Records**

BUTTERFLY AND MOTH SURVEY PROVIDED BY - local residents Allan and Jo Nolan:- volunteers for Butterfly conservation. Members of the Butterfly Conservation Trust, members of the Amateur

Entomologists Society, The British Entomological and Natural History Society and the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

### **Hesperiidae**

Small Skipper *Thymelicus sylvestris*

Large Skipper *Ochlodes venata*

### **Pieridae**

Brimstone *Gonopteryx rhamni*

Large White *Pieris brassicae*

Small White *Pieris rapae*

Green-veined White *Pieris napi*

Orange-tip *Anthocharis cardamines*

### **Lycaenidae**

Purple Hairstreak *Neozephyrus quercus*

Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas*

Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus*

Holly Blue *Celastrina argiolus*

### **Nymphalidae**

Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta* Migrant

Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui* Migrant

Peacock *Inachis io*

Comma *Polyommatus c-album*

### **Satyrinae**

Speckled Wood *Pararge aegeria*

Gatekeeper/Hedge Brown *Pyronia tithonus*

Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*

Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus*

Ringlet *Aphantopus hyperantus*

## **APPENDIX 5**

### **CORBETT MEADOW and the SURROUNDING AREA - MOTH Records**

MOTH SURVEY PROVIDED BY - local residents Allan and Jo Nolan:- volunteers for Butterfly conservation. Members of the Butterfly Conservation Trust, members of the Amateur Entomologists Society, The British Entomological and Natural History Society and the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.

OS/Post code	SO90308543. No9 DY8 4JN	Apr-19
B&F Number	Min-temp	
15	Orange Swift	<i>Hepialus sylvina</i>
17	Common Swift	<i>Hepialus lupulinus</i>
161	Leapard Moth	<i>Zeuzera pyrina</i>
229		<i>Monopis obviella</i>
247		<i>Triea trinotella</i>
366a	Horse Chestnut Leaf-miner	<i>Cameraria ohridella</i>
385	Nettle-tap	<i>Anthophila fabriciana</i>
424	Bird-cherry Ermine agg	<i>Yponomeuta evonymella</i>
441		<i>Paraswammerdamia lutarea</i>
450		<i>Scythropia crataegella</i>
453	Honeysuckle Moth	<i>Ypsolopha dentella</i>
455		<i>Ypsolopha scabrella</i>
464	Diamond-back Moth	<i>Plutella xylostella</i>
465		<i>Plutella porrectella</i>
640		<i>Batia lunaris</i>
647	Brown House Moth	<i>Hofmannophila pseudospretella</i>
648	White-shouldered House Moth	<i>Endrosis sarcitrella</i>
656		<i>Tachystola acroxantha</i>
658		<i>Carcina quercana</i>
663		<i>Diurnea fagella</i>
666		<i>Semioscopis avellanella</i>
688/9		<i>Agonopteryx heracliiana/ciliella</i> agg
702		<i>Agonopteryx assimilella</i>
854		<i>Anacampis blattariella</i>
862	Juniper Webber	<i>Dichomeris marginella</i>
870		<i>Oegoconia agg</i>
873		<i>Blastobasis adustella</i>
874		<i>Blastobasis lacticolella</i>
905		<i>Blastodacna hellerella</i>



936		<i>Cochylimorpha straminea</i>
937		<i>Agapeta hamana</i>
938		<i>Agapeta zoeegana</i>
947		<i>Aethes smeathmanniana</i>
969	Chequered Fruit-tree Tortrix	<i>Pandemis corylana</i>
970	Barred Fruit-tree Tortrix	<i>Pandemis cerasana</i>
972	Dark Fruit-tree Tortrix	<i>Pandemis heparana</i>
989	Timothy Tortrix	<i>Aphelia paleana</i>
994		<i>Clepsis consimilana</i>
998	Light Brown Apple Moth	<i>Epiphyas postvitana</i>
1001		<i>Lozotaeniodes formosanus</i>
1002		<i>Lozotania forsterana</i>
1006		<i>Epagoge grotiana</i>
1010	Red-barred Tortrix	<i>Ditula angustiorana</i>
1020	Grey Tortrix agg	<i>Cnephasia stephensiana</i>
1025		<i>Tortricodes alternella</i>
1032		<i>Aleimma loeflingiana</i>
1033	Green Oak Tortrix	<i>Tortrix viridana</i>
1036		<i>Acleris forskaleana</i>
1037		<i>Acleris forsskaleana</i>
1039	Strawberry Tortrix	<i>Acleris comariana</i>
1042	Rhomboid Tortrix	<i>Acleris rhombana</i>
1045		<i>Acleris notana</i>
1048	Garden Rose Tortrix	<i>Acleris variegana</i>
1063		<i>Celypha striana</i>
1076		<i>Celypha lacunana</i>
1082	Plum Tortrix	<i>Hedya pruniana</i>
1084		<i>Hedya ochroleucana</i>
1097		<i>Endothenia gentianaeana</i>
1115		<i>Ancylis achatana</i>
1133		<i>Epinotia bilunana</i>
1136		<i>Epinotia immundana</i>
1174		<i>Epiblema cynosbatella</i>
1175	Bramble Shoot Moth	<i>Epiblema uddmanniana</i>

1176		<i>Epiblema trimaculana</i>
1201		<i>Eucosma cana</i>
1205	Bud Moth	<i>Spilonota ocellana</i>
1241	Codling Moth	<i>Cydia pomonella</i>
1260		<i>Cydia splendana</i>
1261	Codling Moth	<i>Cydia pomonella</i>
1288	Twenty-plume	<i>Alucita hexadactyla</i>
1292		<i>Calamotropha paludella</i>
1293	Garden Grass-veneer	<i>Chrysoteuchia culmella</i>
1294		<i>Crambus pascuella</i>
1296		<i>Crambus silvella</i>
1302		<i>Crambus perlella</i>
1304		<i>Agriphila straminella</i>
1305		<i>Agriphila tristella</i>
1309		<i>Agriphila geniculae</i>
1331	Water Veneer	<i>Acentria ephemerella</i>
1334		<i>Scoparia ambigualis</i>
1338		<i>Eudonia lacustrata</i>
1340		<i>Eudonia truncicolella</i>
1342		<i>Eudonia angustea</i>
1344		<i>Eudonia mercurella</i>
1354	Small China-mark	<i>Catacllysta lemnata</i>
1356	Garden Pebble	<i>Evergestis forficalis</i>
1361		<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>
1376	Small Magpie	<i>Eurrhyncha hortulata</i>
1378		<i>Anania coronata</i>
1386		<i>Anania fuscalis</i>
1388		<i>Udea lutealis</i>
1390		<i>Udea prunalis</i>
1392		<i>Udea olivalis</i>
1405	Mother of Pearl	<i>Pleuroptya ruralis</i>
1409a	Boxworm Moth	<i>Cydalima perspectalis</i>
1413	Gold Triangle	<i>Hypsopygia costalis</i>

1415		<i>Orthopygia glaucinalis</i>
1425	Wax Moth	<i>Galleria mellonella</i>
1428	Bee Moth	<i>Aphomia sociella</i>
1435		<i>Acrobasis advenella</i>
1442		<i>Pempelia palumbella</i>
1452		<i>Phycita roborell</i>
1454		<i>Dioryctria abietella</i>
1458	Thistle Ermine	<i>Myelois circumvoluta</i>
1470		<i>Euzophera pinguis</i>
1474		<i>Ephestia woodiella</i>
1484		<i>Phycitodes saxicola agg</i>
1497	Beautiful Plume	<i>Ambliptilia acanthadactyla</i>
1524	Common Plume	<i>Emmelina monodactyla</i>
1631	December Moth	<i>Poecilocampa populi</i>
1648	Pebble Hook-tip	<i>Drepana falcataria</i>
1651	Chineses Character	<i>Cilix gluacata</i>
1653	Buff Arches	<i>Habrosyne pyritoides</i>
1654	Figure of Eighty	<i>Tethea ocularis octogesimea</i>
1660	Frosted Green	<i>Polyploca ridens</i>
1663	March Moth	<i>Alsophila aescularia</i>
1669	Common Emerald	<i>Hemithea aestivaria</i>
1673	Small Emerald	<i>Hemistola chrysoprasaria</i>
1680	Maiden's Blush	<i>Cyclophora punctaria</i>
1682	Blood-vein	<i>Timandra comae</i>
1693	Cream Wave	<i>Scapula floslactata</i>
1702	Small Fan-footed Wave	<i>Idaea bisalata</i>
1705	Dwarf Cream Wave	<i>Idaea fuscovernosa</i>
1707	Small Dust Wave	<i>Idaea seriata</i>
1708	Single-dotted Wave	<i>Idaea dimidiata</i>
1709	Satin Wave	<i>Idaea subsericeata</i>
1711	Treble Brown Spot	<i>Idaea trigeminata</i>
1713	Riband Wave	<i>Idaea aversata</i>
1722	Flame Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe designata</i>
1723	Red Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe decoloraria</i>

1724	Red Twin-spot Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe spadicearia</i>
1727	Silver-ground Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe montanata</i>
1728	Garden Carpet	<i>Xanthorhoe fluctuata</i>
1732	Shaded Broad-bar	<i>Scotopteryx chenopodiata</i>
1738	Common Carpet	<i>Epirrhoe alternata</i>
1742	Yellow shell	<i>Camptogramma bilineata</i>
1747	Streamer	<i>Anticlea derivata</i>
1754	Phoenix	<i>Eulithis prunata</i>
1755	Chevron	<i>Eulithis testata</i>
1769	Small Phoenix	<i>Ecliptopera silaceata</i>
1760	Red-green Carpet	<i>Chloroclysta siterata</i>
1762	Dark Marbled Carpet	<i>Chloroclysta citrata</i>
1764	Common Marbled Carpet	<i>Dysstroma truncata</i>
1768	Grey Pine Carpet	<i>Thera obeliscata</i>
1769	Spruce Carpet	<i>Thera britannica</i>
1771	Juniper Carpet	<i>Thera juniperta</i>
1776	Green Carpet	<i>Colostygia pectinataria</i>
1777	July Highflyer	<i>Hydriomena fureata</i>
1778	May Highflyer	<i>Hydriomena impluviata</i>
1795	November Moth agg	<i>Epirrita dilutata</i>
1797	Autumnal Moth agg	<i>Epirrita autumnata</i>
1799	Winter Moth	<i>Operophtera brumata</i>
1816	Toadflax Pug	<i>Eupithecia imariata</i>
1817	Foxglove Pug	<i>Eupithecia pulchellata</i>
1819	Mottled Pug	<i>Eupithecia exiguata</i>
1825	Lime-speck Pug	<i>Eupithecia centaureata</i>
1826	Triple-spotted Pug	<i>Eupithecia trisignaria</i>
1827	Freyer's Pug	<i>Eupithecia intricata</i>
1832	Currant Pug	<i>Eupithecia assimilata</i>
1834	Common Pug	<i>Eupithecia vulgata</i>
1835	White-spotted Pug	<i>Eupithecia tripunctaria</i>
1851	Goldren-rod Pug	<i>Eupithecia virgaureata</i>
1852	Brindled Pug	<i>Eupithecia abbreviata</i>
1853	Oak-tree Pug	<i>Eupithecia dodeneata</i>

1860	Green Pug	<i>Pasiphila rectangalata</i>
1862	Double-striped Pug	<i>Gymnoscelis rufifasciata</i>
1879	Seraphim	<i>Lobophora halterata</i>
1883	Yellow-barred Brindle	<i>Acasis viretata</i>
1887	Clouded Border	<i>Lomaspilis marginata</i>
1902	Brown Silver-line	<i>Petrophora chlorosata</i>
1904	Scorched Wing	<i>Plagodis dolabraria</i>
1906	Brimstone Moth	<i>Opisthograptis luteolata</i>
1913	Canary-shouldered Thorn	<i>Ennomos alniaria</i>
1914	Dusky Thorn	<i>Ennomos fuscantaria</i>
1917	Early Thorn	<i>Selenia dentaria</i>
1920	Scalloped Hazel	<i>Odontopera bidentata</i>
1921	Scalloped Oak	<i>Crocallis elinguarina</i>
1922	Swallow-tailed Moth	<i>Ourapteryx sambucaria</i>
1923	Feathered Thorn	<i>Colotois pennaria</i>
1926	Pale Brindled Beauty	<i>Phigalia pilosaria</i>
1927	Brindled Beauty	<i>Lycia hirtaria</i>
1930	Oak Beauty	<i>Biston strataria</i>
1931	Peppered Moth	<i>Biston betularia</i>
1932	Spring Usher	<i>Agriopsis leucophaearia</i>
1934	Dotted Border	<i>Agriopsis marginaria</i>
1935	Mottled Umber	<i>Erannis defoliaria</i>
1937	Willow Beauty	<i>Peribatodes rhomboidaria</i>
1940	Satin Beauty	<i>Deileptenia ribeata</i>
1941	Mottled Beauty	<i>Alcis repandata</i>
1950	Brindled White-spot	<i>Parectropis similaria</i>
1951	Grey Birch	<i>Aethalura punctulata</i>
1955	Common White Wave	<i>Cabera pusaria</i>
1958	Clouded Silver	<i>Lomographa temerata</i>
1961	Light Emerald	<i>Campaea margaritata</i>
1979	Lime Hawk-moth	<i>Mimas tiliae</i>
1981	Poplar Hawk-moth	<i>Loathoe populi</i>
1991	Elephant Hawk	<i>Deilephila elpenor</i>
1994	Buff-tip	<i>Phalera bucephala</i>



1997	Sallow Kitten	<i>Furcula furcula</i>
2000	Iron Prominent	<i>Notodonta dromedarius</i>
2003	Pebble Prominent	<i>Notodonta Ziczac</i>
2011	Pale Prominent	<i>pterostoma palpina</i>
2015	Lunar Marbled Brown	<i>Drymonia ruficornis</i>
2028	Pale Tussock	<i>Calliteara pudibunda</i>
2030	Yellow-tail	<i>Euproctis similis</i>
2043	Orange Footman	<i>Eilema sororcula</i>
2044	Dingy Footman	<i>Eilema griseola</i>
2050	Common Footman	<i>Eilema lurideola</i>
2060	White Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lubricipeda</i>
2061	Buff Ermine	<i>Spilosoma luteum</i>
2063	Muslin Moth	<i>Diaphora mendica</i>
2064	Ruby Tiger	<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>
2069	Cinnabar Moth	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>
2086	Scarlet Tiger	<i>Callimorpha dominula</i>
2087	Turnip Moth	<i>Agrotis segetum</i>
2088	Heart and Club	<i>Agrotis clavis</i>
2089	Heart and Dart	<i>Agrotis exclamationis</i>
2091	Dark Sword-grass	<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i>
2092	Shuttle-shaped Dart	<i>Agrotis puta</i>
2098	Flame	<i>Axylia putris</i>
2102	Flame Shoulder	<i>Ochropleura plecta</i>
2107	Large Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua pronuba</i>
2109	Lesser Yellow Underwing	<i>Noctua comes</i>
2110	Broad-bordered Yellow UW	<i>Noctua fimbriata</i>
2111	Lesser-Broad-bordered Yel UW	<i>Noctua janthe</i>
2123	Small Square-spot	<i>Diarsia rubi</i>
2126	Setaceous Hebrew Character	<i>Xestia c-nigrum</i>
2128	Double Square-spot	<i>Xestia triangulum</i>
2133	Six-striped Rustic	<i>Xestia sexstrigata</i>
2134	Square-spot Rustic	<i>Xestia xanthographa</i>
2138	Green Arches	<i>Anaplectoides prasina</i>
2154	Cabbage Moth	<i>Mamestra brassicae</i>

2155	Dot Moth	<i>Melanchra persicariae</i>
2156	Beautiful Brocade	<i>Lacanobia contigua</i>
2158	Pale-shouldered Brocade	<i>Lacanobia thalassina</i>
2159	Dog's Tooth	<i>Lacanobia suasa</i>
2160	Bright-line Brown-eye	<i>Lacanobia oleracea</i>
2165	Small Ranunculus	<i>Hecatera dysodea</i>
2166	The Champion	<i>Hadena rivularis</i>
2170	Varied Coronet	<i>Hadena compta</i>
2173	Lychnis	<i>Hadena bicruris</i>
2182	Small Quaker	<i>Orthosia cruda</i>
2183	Blossom Underwing	<i>Orthosia miniosa</i>
2186	Powdered Quaker	<i>Orthosia gracilis</i>
2187	Common Quaker	<i>Orthosia cerasi</i>
2188	Clouded Drab	<i>Orthosia incerta</i>
2189	Twin-spotted Quaker	<i>Anorthoa munda</i>
2190	Hebrew Character	<i>Orthosia gothica</i>
2193	Clay	<i>Mythimna ferrago</i>
2198	Smoky Wainscot	<i>Mythimna impura</i>
2199	Common Wainscot	<i>Mythimna pallens</i>
2205	Shoulder-striped Wainscot	<i>Mythimna comma</i>
2221	Mullein	<i>Shargacucullia verbasci</i>
2232	Black Rustic	<i>Aporophyla nigra</i>
2237	Grey Shoulder-knot	<i>Lithophane ornitopas</i>
2240	Blair's Shoulder-knot	<i>Lithophane leautieri hesperica</i>
2243	Early Grey	<i>Xylocampa areola</i>
2245	Green-brindled Crescent	<i>Allophyes oxyacanthae</i>
2247	Merveille du Jour	<i>Griposia aprilina</i>
2248	Brindled Green	<i>Dryobotodes eremita</i>
2256	Satellite	<i>Eupsilia transversa</i>
2258	Chestnut	<i>Conistra vaccinii</i>
2259	Dark Chestnut	<i>Conistra ligula</i>
2262	Brick	<i>Agrochola circellaris</i>
2263	Red-line Quaker	<i>Agrochola lota</i>
2267	Beaded Chestnut	<i>Agrochola lychnidis</i>

2269	Centre-barred Sallow	<i>Atethmia centrago</i>
2270	Lunar Underwing	<i>Omphaloscelis lunosa</i>
2272	Barred Sallow	<i>Tiliacea aurago</i>
2274	Sallow	<i>Cirrhia icteritia</i>
2278	Poplar Grey	<i>Acronicta megacephala</i>
2279	Sycamore	<i>Acronicta aceris</i>
2280	Miller	<i>Aconicta leporina</i>
2281	Aldar Moth	<i>Acronicta alni</i>
2284	Grey Dagger agg	<i>Acronicta psi</i>
2289	Knot Grass	<i>Acronicta rumicis</i>
2291	Coronet	<i>Craniophora ligustri</i>
2293	Marbled Beauty	<i>Cryphia domestica</i>
2297	Copper Underwing	<i>Amphipyra pyramidae</i>
2298	Svensson's Copper Underwing	<i>Amphipyra berbera svenssoni</i>
2303	Straw Underwing	<i>Thalpophila matura</i>
2305	Small Angle shades	<i>Euplexia lucipara</i>
2306	Angle Shades	<i>Phlogophora meticulosa</i>
2314	Dingy Shears	<i>Parastichtis ypsilon</i>
2318	Dun-bar	<i>Cosmia trapezina</i>
2321	Dark Arches	<i>Apamea monoglypha</i>
2322	Light Arches	<i>Apamea lithoxylaea</i>
2326	Clouded-bordered Brindle	<i>Apamea crenata</i>
2330	Dusky Brocade	<i>Apamea remissa</i>
2334	Rustic Shoulder-knot	<i>Apamea sordens</i>
2337	Marbled Minors agg	<i>Ogilia spp</i>
2340	Middle-barred Minor	<i>Oligia fasciuncula</i>
2341	Cloaked Minor	<i>Mesoligia furuncula</i>
2342	Rosy Minor	<i>Mesoligia literosa</i>
2343	Common Rustic agg	<i>Mesapamea spp</i>
2353	Flounced Rustic	<i>Luperina testacea</i>
2360	Ear Moth	<i>Amphipoea oculea</i>
2361	Rosy Rustic	<i>Hydraecia micacea</i>
2375	Large Wainscot	<i>Rhizedra lutosa</i>
2380	Treble Lines	<i>Charanyca trigrammica</i>

2381	Uncertain	<i>Hoplodrina alsines</i>
2382	Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina blanda</i>
2384	Vine's Rustic	<i>Hoplodrina ambigua</i>
2387	Mottled Rustic	<i>Caradrina morpheus</i>
2389	Pale Mottled Willow	<i>Caradrina flavirena</i>
2421	Scarce Silver-lines	<i>Bena bicolorana</i>
2432	Oak Nycteoline	<i>Nycteola revayana</i>
2439	Gold Spot	<i>Plusia festucae</i>
2441	Silver Y	<i>Autographa gamma</i>
2442	Beautiful Golden Y	<i>Autographa pulchrina</i>
2450	Spectacle	<i>Abrostola tripartita</i>
2452	Red Underwing	<i>Catocala nupta</i>
2469	Herald	<i>Scoliopteryx libatrix</i>
2473	Beautiful Hook-tip	<i>Laspeyria flexula</i>
2474	Straw Dot	<i>Rivula sericealis</i>
2476	Beautiful Snout	<i>Hypena crassalis</i>
2477	Snout	<i>Hypena proboscidalis</i>
2492	Small Fan-foot	<i>Herminia grisealis</i>

## **APPENDIX 6**

**Species noted by residents as utilising The Meadow and the relevant protections afforded to them.**

<b>Wildlife</b>	<b>Wildlife &amp; Countryside Act 1981</b>	<b>Uk Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework Priority Species</b>	<b>Birds of Conservation Concern 4: The Red List for Birds 2015 - Green</b>	<b>Birds of Conservation Concern 4: The Red list for Birds 2015 - Amber</b>	<b>European Protected Species – Annex 4 of the European Habitats Directive</b>	<b>Protection of Badgers Act 1992</b>	<b>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 – Species of Principle Importance</b>	<b>Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan Species</b>
<b>Adder</b>								
<b>Badger</b>	✓					✓		
<b>Bats</b>	✓	✓			✓		✓	
<b>Buzzard</b>								
<b>Common shrew</b>	✓							
<b>European Hedgehog</b>	✓	✓					✓	
<b>Field vole</b>								
<b>Grass snake</b>	✓	✓					✓	✓





**APPENDIX 1.**

**FOR THE BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF THE BRITISH ISLES.**

**5 June 2014**

Survey of meadow by Corbett Hospital Anne Daley with Helen Cook SO901 854

**ROADSIDE EDGE AND ENTRANCE TO GROUND (PLANTS NOT SEEN IN MEADOW)**

Achillea millefolium	yarrow
Agrostis gigantea	black bent
Calystegia silvatica	large bindweed
Conyza canadensis	Canadian fleabane
Crepis capillaris	smooth hawk's-beard
Cytisus scoparius	broom
Erodium cicutarium	stork's-bill
Foeniculum vulgare	fennel
Geranium pyrenaicum	hedgerow crane's-bill
Linaria vulgaris	common toadflax
Melilotus sp.	melilot
Papaver dubium	long-headed poppy
Veronica arvensis	wall speedwell

## **MEADOW AND POOLS (INCLUDING TREES & SHRUBS IN AND AROUND)**

### **Woody plants**

<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	sycamore
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	horse-chestnut
<i>Alnus glutinosus</i>	alder
<i>Betula pendula</i>	silver birch
<i>Cornus sanguineum</i>	dogwood
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	hawthorn
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	beech
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	ash
<i>Rosa spp</i>	rose
<i>Salix fragilis</i>	crack willow
<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	snowberry

### **Grasses, sedges, rushes**

<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	creeping bent
<i>Alopecurus geniculatus</i>	marsh foxtail
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	meadow foxtail
<i>Anisantha sterilis</i>	barren brome
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	false oat-grass
<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	soft brome
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	crested dog's-tail
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	cock's-foot
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	red fescue
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog
<i>Hordeum muralis</i>	wall barley
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	perennial rye-grass
<i>Luzula campestris</i>	field wood-rush
<i>Glyceria fluitans</i>	flote-grass
? <i>Glyceria notata</i>	

Juncus effusus	soft rush
Juncus bufonius	toad rush
Carex hirta var laevis	hairy sedge

**Other herbaceous plants**

Anagallis arvensis	scarlet pimpernel
Anthriscus sylvestris	cow-parsley
Bellis perennis	daisy

**Bidens sp. (frondosa?)**

Callitriche platycarpus	various-leaved water starwort
Callitriche stagnalis	common water starwort

Centaurea nigra	knapweed
Cerastium fontanum	common mouse-ear
Cerastium glomeratum	sticky mouse-ear

<b>Chamerion angustifolium</b>	<b>rosebay willowherb</b>
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Cirsium arvense	creeping thistle
Cirsium vulgare	spear thistle
Conopodium majus	pignut

<b>Daucus carota</b>	<b>wild carrot</b>
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Epilobium ciliatum	willowherb
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<b>Euphorbia peplus</b>	<b>petty spurge</b>
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Galium aparine	cleavers, goosegrass
Geranium dissectum	cut-leaved crane's-bill
Geranium molle	dove's-foot crane's-bill
Geranium pusillum	small-flowered crane's-bill
Geranium robertianum	herb Robert
Geum urbanum	wood avens
Gnaphalium uliginosum	marsh cudweed
Heracleum sphondylium	hogweed
Hyacinthoides non-scriptus	bluebell (native)
Hyacinthoides x massartiana	hybrid bluebell
Hypochaeris radicata	common cat's-ear
Iris pseudacorus	yellow iris

Lathyrus pratensis	meadow vetchling
Lemna minor	common duckweed
Lemna minuta	least duckweed
Leucanthemum vulgare	ox-eye daisy
Lotus corniculatus	bird's-foot trefoil
Lycopus europaeus	gipsywort
Plantago lanceolata	ribwort plantain
Plantago major	greater plantain
Poa trivialis	rough meadow-grass
Polygonum arenastrum	equal-leaved knot-grass
Primula veris	cowslip
Prunella vulgaris	selfheal
Ranunculus acris	meadow buttercup
Ranunculus aquatilis	pond water-crowfoot
Ranunculus repens	creeping buttercup
Ranunculus sceleratus	celery-leaved buttercup
Rubus fruticosus agg.	bramble
Rumex acetosa	common sorrel
Rumex acetosella	sheep's sorrel
Rumex conglomeratus	clustered dock
Rumex crispus	curled dock
Rumex obtusifolius	broad-leaved dock
Scrophularia auriculata	water figwort
Senecio jacobaea	common ragwort
Solanum dulcamara	woody nightshade
Stachys sylvatica	hedge woundwort
Stellaria media	chickweed
Taraxacum officinalis agg.	dandelion
Trifolium dubium	lesser trefoil
Trifolium pratensis	red clover
Trifolium repens	white clover
Veronica serpyllifolia	thyme-leaved speedwell



Vicia cracca

tufted vetch

Vicia hirsuta

hairy tare

Vicia sativa ssp nigra

common vetch

92 taxa

Additions 29-07-14



**SUMMARY**

**DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**DUDLEY UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

**SUMMARY OF INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON OBJECTIONS TO THE  
DEPOSIT FINAL PROPOSALS AND PUBLISHED CHANGES**

**Local Inquiry : 10 to 31 March, 1 to 3 April and 8 June 1992**

**Inspector : Mary A McClune DipTP MRTPI**

**(This summary includes subsequent amendments made by the Inspector)**

## Site Specific Objections

### i) Worcester Road Site

3.1.66 I have already concluded that I do not consider the provision of housing land should be increased. There is therefore no justification in terms of housing land supply to warrant allocation of this site for housing development.

However, the presence of an adequate supply of housing land does not preclude the allocation of further sites.

3.1.67. However, the site lies within the Green Belt, confirmed very recently as part of the adopted Recreation and Open Space Subject Plan. In terms of PPG2, I find no exceptional circumstances which justify the removal of this site from the Green Belt or for its allocation for housing purposes within the Green Belt.

### ii) Corbett Hospital

3.1.68 Here again, whilst I find that the housing land supply in the UDP meets the requirements of PPG10, this does not preclude the allocation of additional sites above that target figure.

3.1.69 However, I find this area of open land to be of considerable visual amenity and potential recreational benefit to the community. Whilst views of the site are limited by the wall along its boundary, it is visible from the public open space, and the elevated land to the north, north-east and north-west. In my opinion, its openness and parkland appearance make a very significant contribution to the quality of the existing public open space and to the residential environment of people living around the site. The dramatic topography of the site, with the grassland sweeping up to the west and south, the large mature trees and the ponds all come together to create an area of distinctive character and considerable visual and landscape quality.

3.1.70 PPG3 emphasises the need to preserve those green spaces which all towns and cities need for amenity, and that valuable open space should not be lost. PPG17, paragraph 25 makes clear that such space does not have to be accessible to the public to make a contribution to the amenity of an area. It also emphasises the contribution that open space can make to the quality of urban life. I find that the Objection Site is such a valuable open space which makes a material contribution to the visual amenity of the area and the quality of life of the people living in the vicinity.

3.1.71 I am also of the opinion that the objectors underestimate the nature conservation value of the site. The ponds are clearly identifiable foci of such interests, but the grassland and mature trees must also make a contribution to creating a wildlife habitat in the heart of the urban area. This nucleus of open space within the built-up area has, in my view, enhanced value in terms of nature conservation because of its urban location, offering opportunities for city dwellers to learn about and enjoy the wildlife attracted to it.

3.1.72 The site also has potential for formal and informal recreation. Whilst such usage can only at present be possible by the agreement of the objectors, this does not in my view,

remove their potential. I note that the surrounding neighbourhood is well endowed with open space, but I also note that the neighbourhoods to the north and south suffer from a severe deficiency.

3.1.73 I also consider that the Objection Site, along with the open land to the north, provides a welcome "breathing space" within the built-up area, as well as giving identity to the different housing areas and settlements. Whilst I accept that it would be possible to incorporate an element of open space into any development of the site, the present sense of spaciousness and tranquillity would inevitably be lost. The already extensive area of new housing to the east would extend westwards, removing the present clear-cut break between the eastern and western built-up areas. This, in my view, would diminish the character and interest of the area.

3.1.74 I therefore conclude that the Objection Site is a valuable open space which makes a major contribution to the quality of the environment for people living in the area. I intend to recommend that the site should be given an appropriate designation in the UDP, commensurate with the advice given at paragraph 15 of PPG17, which recognises its amenity, wildlife and potential recreational value.

iii) Residential Allocation No 12, Policy 46

3.1.75 Planning permission for residential development of this site has recently been granted subject to the signing of a Section 106 obligation. Whilst I do have considerable sympathy with the points raised by the objector the granting of the planning permission has removed any ability I would have had to recommend changes to the allocation. However, whilst I accept that the designation of a Linear Open Space does not preclude development, the allocation of all of the open area occupied by Site 12 for housing does appear somewhat at odds with the designation of almost all of the site as a Linear Open Space in the Recreation and Open Space Subject Plan and the proposed Wildlife Consultation Area in the Proposed Modifications to the ROSS Plan. The Council may wish to consider amendments to these designations.

3.1.76 If, as the Council aver, the residential development will incorporate a significant area of public open space, providing a "rural corridor" and recreation area I would suggest that the Council consider indicating this area on the Recreation and Open Space Subject Plan and on the Proposals Map to the UDP thus illustrating in graphic form the "linkage" inherent in the Linear Open Space concept.

3.1.77 I must also draw attention to the inappropriate usage of the words "presumption against" in Policy 46. For the reasons already set out in this report, these words should be removed and replaced by more acceptable wording.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Plan be modified in accordance with Modifications 15 and 16.
2. That no changes be made to the housing land supply and distribution within the Plan.
3. That no change be made to the Plan in response to the objection by the Padmore Land Company relating to land at Worcester Road.



# Stourbridge News



April 15, 2017

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65p



### Police station set to return in CAB offices

• see page 3



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• see page 14

# HOMES BID FEARS

By **Ben Holder**  
01296 358225



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Twitter @StourbridgeNews

**AMBLEDOWN** residents fear an unscruppled piece of land which sits on the edge of the village could be sold to a developer. The site is owned by the National Trust and is under threat from developer...

The site of Village Hall, a building in the back of the town, is the subject of a planning application which aims to identify the site as building land and residential. The site has been used as a car park for many years.

The village council supports the two-acre site, which is currently used for grazing, could accommodate up to 150 new houses and businesses. The Trust, which owns the site, has stated the Trust is currently exploring options for the land.

Ellie Yule, chief executive of the Trust, said: "We have a duty to make the best use of our resources."

"We are reviewing all of our non-operational assets to see what opportunities may exist for the Trust."

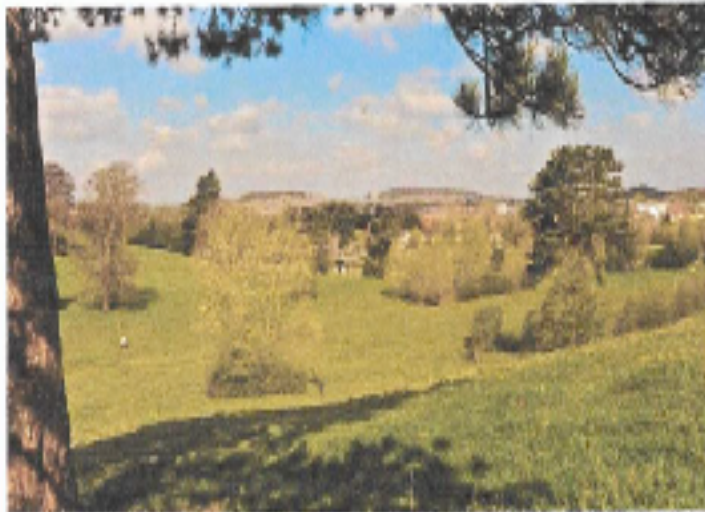
"We have a duty of care to the local community and we are committed to working with them."

"The Trust is currently exploring options for the site and we are committed to working with the community to ensure the best outcome for all."

"When we make a decision about the land, we will of course consult with our neighbours."

Resident Nick Richard said: "It's very worrying."

He believes the land should be given over as a nature reserve and he added: "I have done a lot of work in the area and I know how important it is to the village. It would be a shame to lose it."



The field to the rear of Village Hall, Ambleside, where up to 150 new homes could be built

there could be a better alternative."

Another resident, Paul Bradley, said: "There is no application as yet but it's only a matter of time before the Trust put it on the open market."

"It's a lovely green site that's full of wildlife and I would fight tooth and nail to keep it that way. We should not be building on our precious green spaces."

Bradley added: "I believe we need to have the Ambleside community on this land."

The land was part of...

...

The Hill estate which was bought by the Trust in 1999...

...

**Continued from page 1**

acquired by the newly-formed NHS.

A previous campaign for housing in 1992 was rejected and worried residents hope any fresh bid to develop it would again be kicked into the long grass.

Historian Helen Cook, a member of Amblecote History Society, said: "This is a green field site with an important wildlife habitat and it is just about the last piece of original Amblecote left. It's a hidden gem."

She said the site is a home and travel corridor for all manner of creatures including birds, owls, bats, amphibians, small mammals, foxes and badgers as well as insects and she added: "The whole of the meadow is food source to sustain wildlife, whether it is living on the site or passing through, especially in an environment where we are drastically losing these habitats which are so important."

Amblecote councillor Julie Baines said she would oppose any development on the site and added: "It was John Corbett's intention that the meadow should be used to benefit the health of the community. That purpose is as relevant today as it was when the land was put into trust in 1892."

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**Margot James MP**  
Member of Parliament for Stourbridge

18<sup>th</sup> June 2019

To whom it may concern,

I wish to express my support for the application by Amblecote History Society for Corbett Meadow in Amblecote to be designated as a local green space.

Corbett Meadow is historically significant to the local area. It was purchased in 1892 as part of a larger piece of land by respected businessman and philanthropist, John Corbett, for the purposes of building a hospital.

The meadow was given by John Corbett to be used as a public park. For many years after, the land was used as the venue of the Corbett Hospital Fete. In its heyday, this fete attracted thousands of people to the grounds of the hospital. The site, protected as a local green space, would be a suitable venue for future community events and projects, some of which have been detailed within the application, subject to the approval of the owners.

The land is also significant for local wildlife. Indeed, it has been designated as a Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINC). Amblecote History Society have compiled a wealth of information within the application detailing the species that can be found within the meadow. As the site is currently designated as a SLINC it would be a natural assumption that it should also be designated as a local green space, considering its importance to wildlife.

Finally, Corbett Meadow is undoubtedly one of a few 'unspoilt' sites in Amblecote. It remains an oasis of green space within a larger developed area. The beauty of the site provides an unquestionable amenity to local residents.

I sincerely hope that the application for Corbett Meadow to be designated as a local green space will be accepted, thus providing further protection for this historical site of great conservation and social importance.

Yours faithfully,

Margot James MP  
Member of Parliament for Stourbridge



## *Amblecote History Society*

[www.amblecote.org](http://www.amblecote.org)

Jon Syed

Chairman Amblecote History Society

5<sup>th</sup> June 2019

To whom it may concern,

It has come to our attention that the Dudley Group of Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust wish to sell the historic 14 acres meadowland in Amblecote and have included it within the Black Country Plan call for sites. They say it is a non-operational asset and hopefully wish to sell for development for a potential 130 houses.

Yes it is an asset; it is a beautiful Greenfield site, a natural open space of traditional meadow flora and grassland, with a wonderful topography with historic views of the area. It has been untouched by the plough and only used as grazing land. This is a rare site in the middle of a close-knit community, located in an area of high density housing with narrow roads that now are extremely congested.

The meadow is close to all main routes to Wolverhampton, Dudley and Stourbridge. To add to an already congested infrastructure does not make sense.

The meadow is a green island, geographically located within this high density built up area. It is a very welcome breathing space, although there is no public access, the meadow enhances the surrounding public right of way, attributing to the health and well being of anyone using it.

It also highlights to what old Amblecote used to be like, not just an area of industry, but also a semi rural area. Historically it is part of the last surviving piece of land that is old Amblecote and once part of one of Amblecote's great historic Mansions known as 'The Hill'

We wholeheartedly support the designation of the meadow being excepted as a Local Green Space. It ticks all the boxes as being a quality of life for the local community, as it has in the past been used as such, with the traditional fetes being held annually.

It's wildlife and beauty value is too exceptional to go under the bulldozer, its biodiversity sustains many habitats. With climate change becoming more and more an issue, such green spaces are urgently needed to counter act the rise in the levels of Carbon Dioxide, which are high in this area.

We ask you to consider this Local Green space document to designate the meadow as such.

Yours faithfully

Jon Syed

**Chairman Amblecote History Society**

# G. Fisher Enterprises

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To whom it may concern,

2.7.19

Ref: CORBETT MEADOW SITE ID#48

I offer my contribution to the debate in opposing the loss of this site to proposed development.

Doubtless there are others who have highlighted the site as a valuable, and irreplaceable, wildlife habitat and its significance as a visual amenity. I would therefore like to proffer my personal evaluation as a proud Black Country man who, having spent all of my life living and working within five miles of where I was born, is currently resident on the Welsh borderlands.

I am fortunate in now being encircled by rolling hills and green fields and so understandably may have become somewhat blasé about my current surroundings. It is when I return to the Black Country - as I regularly do - that I fully appreciate the enormous value of an area such as Corbett Meadow; it is indeed a green lung that helps invigorate the locale and its people. To lose it would be a tragedy, and an unnecessary one at that.

The provision and retention of green spaces is an implicit element of the Government's 'well-being' initiatives in taking pressure from our health services and encouraging people to lead healthier lifestyles. The loss of such an amenity is not only counter-productive, but is clearly at odds with other policies, both nascent and existing and including those for housing, that are already altering our perceptions as to land usage for the greater good. Such trends will only increase and we cannot stand King Knut-like in defying the tide towards conservation, ecology, environment preservation - even global warming, in which this meadow will exercise a small but significant role.

There are so many aspects at play here that confirm the permanent loss of this meadow will ultimately engender serious negative repercussions that will far outweigh any perceived benefit of a modest number of housing units that could, with careful thought, be accommodated on a brownfield site nearby. There may be perceived inconvenience involved, but this is unquestionably the direction of travel in which future strategies will direct us.

I urge the planners to eschew short-term gain in favour of a longer-term vision where such spaces will be valued and nurtured for their true value and what they represent. Already I detect in the distance the sound of much wailing and gnashing of teeth. If we get this one right our grandchildren will remember us; if we get it wrong they will never forgive us. It falls to us in our lifetime to do the right thing. Developing this land is demonstrably and most assuredly not the right thing, and herewith I formally register my opposition to it.

Graham Fisher

**Graham Fisher MBE**

MR, FRIC, MARRIOTT and GIBSON, Mariner & Coysguard Agency Newcastle  
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