

Ryedale View, Kirkbymoorside

Management and maintenance plan

Area 1267m sq

**Habitat- secondary woodland or old hedge with ash pine, hawthorn, bramble and rough grassland
New planting mostly hawthorn, field maple and hazel. Adjacent play area is closely mown amenity grassland with scattered trees.**

This tiny area of secondary woodland was expanded by the planting of a variety of shrub species in the late 1990's and this planting was further bolstered in 2008.

Much of the planting concentrated on the southern boundary with number 12 Ryedale Crescent to form a screen some 5m in width between the play area and the house and garden.

Since the planting further works have been undertaken to include a small circular walk with a interpretative panel, bird feeding station, picnic area and bug hotel were incorporated into the woodland in 2009 with help from the NYMNP modern apprenticeship scheme.

The shrubs adjacent to the neighbouring house have grown considerably and now form a substantial belt of trees up to 30ft in height. In recent years the circular path does not seem to have been maintained on a regular basis and is impassable during the growing season.

Maintenance proposals

Path/boardwalk and picnic area

The path, bird feeding station, bug house and picnic area need regular cutting back of overhanging vegetation between May and September at least on a monthly basis.

The boardwalk section is slippery with algal growth and would be much safer with a covering of rabbit netting to give walkers grip.

Southern shrub belt

A short rotation coppice regime on the trees nearest the house (mostly field maple and hawthorn) to be commenced to retain the plants in situ and encourage better growth of the more recently planted species such as hazel and Guelder rose. This coppicing could be cyclic in nature (every 10-15 years) all along the boundary of the site where required, once the initial cutting has been carried out over the small section overhanging number 12. Some specimen trees should be retained within this coppice zone where appropriate. This work would restore a more effective barrier between public access land, it would also develop a valuable area of species diverse shrub woodland good for many birds and insect species, an added benefit would be to manage the potential hazard of the trees as they get older and larger in the immediate vicinity of a residences property

