



**Site code:** SE68-01  
**Site name:** Manor Vale

### Site information

Site area: 11.1769  
Survey date: 03/06/2024  
Designation: Ratified SINC

### Location information

Grid Reference: SE691873  
District: Ryedale  
Natural area: North York Moors

### Description/evaluation

Phase 1 Habitats:	Semi Natural Broadleaved Woodland, Broadleaved Plantation Woodland, Unimproved Neutral Grassland, Tall Ruderal Vegetation.
NVC:	W8, W16, MG5
Site Description:	<p>A forked, steep sided valley which is mainly comprised of ancient woodland, with the exception of a plantation which occupies the left fork of the valley. A tarmac access road runs the length of the main valley floor and a golf course occupies the area between the forks of the woodland. On the east side of the woodland is arable land, and on the west side is housing, gardens and allotments. The woodland is very varied in composition as a result of the geology of limestone being overlain by sandstone, which gives more acidic influences higher up the slopes.</p> <p>The south part of the site has a canopy of frequent semi mature and mature Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>, semi mature Sycamore (<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>) and mature Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>). The shrub layer is composed of semi mature Elder (<i>Sambucus nigra</i>) and establishing Sycamore. The Ash has been badly affected by Ash dieback disease and in one place the semi mature Ash has been felled. In the open areas the ground flora is dominated by Nettle (<i>Urtica dioica</i>), Hogweed (<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>), Bramble (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>) and Cleavers (<i>Galium aparine</i>) and in shaded areas there is frequent Cow Parsley (<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>), Dog's Mercury (<i>Mercurialis perennis</i>) and Wood Avens (<i>Geum urbanum</i>). Ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>) is also frequent on the woodland floor and on the trees. There are also some small patches</p>



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	<p>of much richer ground flora, including Wood Anemone (<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>), Wood Speedwell (<i>Veronica montana</i>), Wood Melick (<i>Melica uniflora</i>) and Woodruff (<i>Galium odoratum</i>).</p> <p>Further north up the valley, and on the upper valley slopes, the wood grades into a canopy of frequent mature Pedunculate Oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>) with establishing and semi mature and mature Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>), Wych Elm (<i>Ulmus glabra</i>), Hazel (<i>Corylus avellane</i>) and Hawthorn shrub layer. Ash is still occasional. The ground flora is much less lush and more diverse with frequent Wild Garlic (<i>Allium ursinum</i>) and occasional Sanicle (<i>Sanicula europaea</i>), Pignut (<i>Conopodium majus</i>) and Enchanter's Nightshade (<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>), plus the species found to the south, but in this area they are at a more frequent occurrence. There are also stands of Dog's Mercury.</p> <p>There are two patches of acidic woodland on opposite sides of the valley (<b>TN1</b>), with Silver Birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>), Sessile Oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>), young planted Beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) and Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>) with a ground flora of Greater Stitchwort (<i>Stellaria holostea</i>), Dog Violet (<i>Viola riviniana</i>), Greater Wood-Rush (<i>Luzula sylvatica</i>) and Bilberry (<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i>).</p> <p>A small area of ruderal vegetation consisting of frequent Butterbur (<i>Petasites hybridus</i>), Silverweed (<i>Potentilla anserine</i>), Hogweed and Common Nettle and rare to occasional Creeping Buttercup (<i>Ranunculus repens</i>), Meadowsweet (<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>) had been recently planted with saplings of Cherry (<i>Prunus Avium</i>), Birch sp, and Hazel.</p> <p>Beyond this area, the woodland abruptly changes to a plantation of mature and semi mature Beech, Sycamore and Ash. Most of the Ash were affected by dieback disease. The ground flora in this area consists of patches of Ground Elder, Dog's Mercury, Wild Garlic, Male Fern, Enchanter's Nightshade and Wood Speedwell, mainly in the valley bottom. The slopes had little vegetation. There was no shrub layer apart from infrequent establishing Ash, Sycamore, Beech and Hawthorn. The western edge of the plantation, which receives more light, had ground flora with Wood Anemone, Wood Millet, Woodruff and Hedge Woundwort (<i>Stachys Sylvatica</i>).</p> <p>In a small area between the road and the plantation (<b>TN2</b>) is a former orchard area with a couple of mature Apple (<i>Malus x domestica</i>) and establishing Plum (<i>Prunus domestica</i>) and Oak. The area is overgrown with nettle and bramble.</p> <p>A small patch of unmanaged grassland is present at the top of the northern fork of the valley, and contains Meadow Cranesbill (<i>Geranium pretense</i>), Crosswort (<i>Cruciata laevipes</i>), Creeping Buttercup, False Oat Grass (<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>) and Barren Brome (<i>Bromus sterilis</i>).</p> <p>Nearby is a small meadow which is cut and raked by the community. Although rank grassland species such as Crosswort and Hogweed are frequent, Ribwort Plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolate</i>), Red Clover (<i>Trifolium pretense</i>) and Black Knapweed (<i>Centaurea nigra</i>) are also frequent, along with Meadowsweet and Cowslip (<i>Primula veris</i>) at a rare</p>
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	<p>frequency. Grasses include Cocksfoot (<i>Dactylis glomerate</i>), Yorkshire Fog (<i>Holcus lanatus</i>), Sheep's Fescue (<i>Festuca ovina</i>), Rough Meadowgrass (<i>Poa trivialis</i>) and Sweet Vernal-grass (<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>).</p> <p>The wood is particularly noteworthy for its well established ground, shrub and canopy layers, plus the regeneration (despite presence of deer) and dead wood.</p> <p><b>Management comments:</b></p> <p>The semi natural woodland is sympathetically managed with the woodland generally left as non intervention apart from some of the areas most severely affected by dieback disease. The cut and raking of the meadow area is beneficial for preventing take over of ruderal species.</p> <p><b>Management recommendations:</b></p> <p>The main future management need is to prevent Sycamore becoming dominant in the areas where Ash is being lost through dieback.</p> <p>The survey was done too late in the year to be able to identify the bluebells (Native (<i>Hyacinthus non-scriptus</i>) vs hybrid (<i>Hyacinthoides x massartiana</i>)), but it would be beneficial to establish the extent of the hybrid bluebell and remove if feasible. This could probably be done by a local environment group.</p>
Evaluation:	<p>Panel decision: Retain designation. Gr1 MG5 (0.12ha), Wd1 ASNW, Wd3c 13/12.</p> <p>Designating features: Ancient semi-natural neutral grassland. Ancient semi-natural woodland. Ancient or long-standing wet woodland.</p>

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### Species List – Manor Vale

<i><b>Latin Name</b></i>	<i><b>English Name</b></i>	<i><b>Taxonomic Group</b></i>	<i><b>Recorders</b></i>	<i><b>Dates</b></i>
Acer campestre	Field Maple	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Aegopodium podagraria	Ground Elder	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Alliaria petiolata	Garlic-mustard	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Allium ursinum	Wild Garlic	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow Parsley	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Arctium minus	Lesser Burdock	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Arrhenatherum elatius	False Oat-grass	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Arum maculatum	Lords-and Ladies	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Asplenium scolopendrium	Hart's Tongue Fern	fern	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Betula pendula	Silver Birch	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Brachypodium pinnatum	False Brome	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Bromus sterilis	Barren Brome	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Centaurea nigra	Black Knapweed	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Cerastium fontanum	Common Mouseear	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Chaerophyllum temulum	Rough Chervil	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's Nightshade	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Conium maculatum	Hemlock	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Conopodium majus	Pignut	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Corylus avellana	Hazel	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Cruciata laevipes	Crosswort	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Dryopteris dilatata	Broad Buckler-fern	fern	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Dryopteris filix-mas	Male Fern	fern	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Festuca ovina	Sheep's Fescue	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Filipendula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Fragaria vesca	Wild Strawberry	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Galium aparine	Cleavers	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Galium odoratum	Woodruff	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Geranium pratense	Meadow Cranesbill	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24



## Local Wildlife Site Report

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Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Geum rivale	Water Avens	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Geum urbanum	Wood Avens	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Geum x intermedium	Hybrid Avens	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Hedera helix	Ivy	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Hyacinthoides massartiana	Hybrid Bluebell	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Lonicera periclymenun	Honeysuckle	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Luzula sylvatica	Great Wood-rush	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Malus x domestica	Apple	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Melica uniflora	Wood Melick	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Mercurialis perennis	Dog's-mercury	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Oxalis acetosella	Wood Sorrel	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Petasites hybridus	Butterbur	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Poa trivialis	Rough Meadowgrass	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Polystichum aculeatum	Hard Shield-Fern	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Potentilla anserina	Silverweed	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Primula veris	Cowslip	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Primula vulgaris	Primrose	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Prunus Avium	Cherry	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Prunus domestica	Plum	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Quercus petraea	Sessile Oak	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Quercus robur	Pedunculate Oak	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Ribes uva-crispa	Gooseberry	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Rosa sp.	Rose sp.	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Rubus fruticosus	Bramble	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Sambucus nigra	Elder	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Stachys Sylvatica	Hedge Woundwort	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Stellaria holostea	Greater Stitchwort	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24



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Tamus communis	Black Bryony	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Taxus baccata	Yew	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Ulmus glabra	Wych Elm	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Urtica dioica	Common Nettle	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander Speedwell	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Veronica montana	Wood Speedwell	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Vicia sepium	Bush Vetch	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24
Viola riviniana	Dog Violet	flowering plant	Claire Bending	03/06/24

### Site photographs:

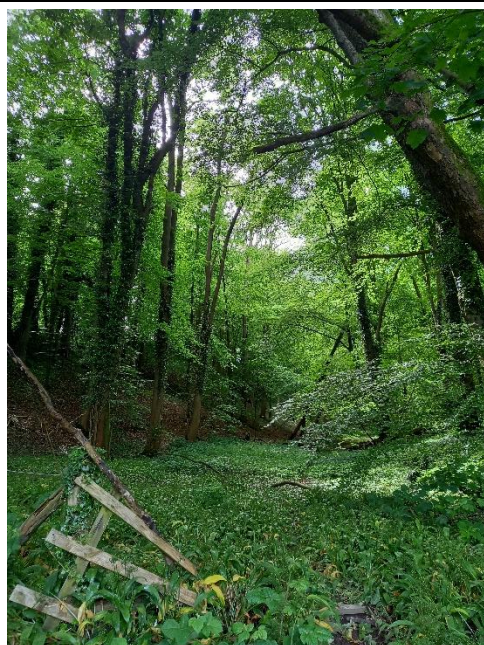


Photo 1 SE 69130 87271 looking NW



Photo 2 SE 69283 87564 looking S



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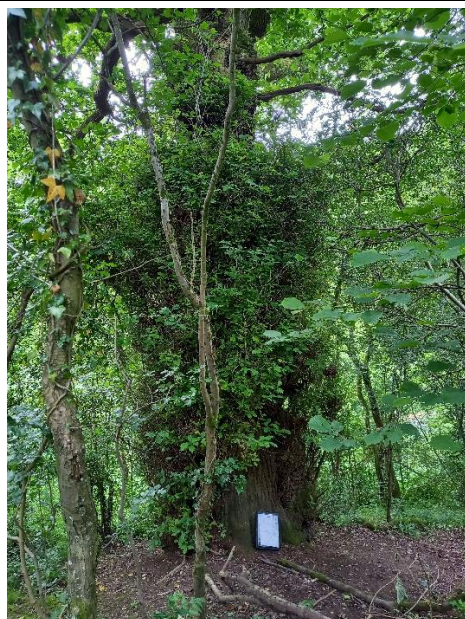
Photo 3 Ash, hogweed, bramble habitat



Ancient Ash SE6926387695



Veteran oak at SE 69296 87121



Veteran oak at SE 69359 87122