Richmond Old Cemetery

Management plan 2017-2027

February 2018

LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND UPON THAMES

Wild Future

Contents

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Author	Steve Marshall • steve.marshall@wildfuture.co.uk
Contact details	
Main point of contact	Yvonne Kelleher
Email	parks@richmond.gov.uk
Telephone	020 8891 1411

1. Terms of Reference

This management plan is designed to inform and outline the restoration and maintenance of Richmond Old Cemetery from conservation, heritage and visitor perspectives by Richmond Burial Ground Trust working in conjunction with Richmond Council and local partners.

The current site management plan (2006-10) requires updating and this is an opportunity to take a fresh look at the site's valuable features and the future management direction.

The report considers the whole of the Old Cemetery site and begins with an updated site description of the historical and environmental features – informed by existing data and new surveys of key features, habitats and species groups. After an assessment of the features against current policies, the plan sets out a site vision and refined objectives, followed by management prescriptions and a work programme designed to deliver and maintain the woodland over the next ten years.

The management plan should not be regarded as fixed; the prescriptions provide a framework and guidance that enable reaction to changing conditions. Reviewing progress and monitoring key features on a regular basis is important in ensuring the site is managed appropriately and in a sustainable way.

Looking north-east along path B (March 2017)

2. Site description

Site background

2.1

Location	Lower Grove Road, Richmond TW10 6JY
Grid Ref.	TQ 18956 74269
Ownership	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
Designation	Site of Importance Nature Conservation (SINC), Site of Local Importance (#RiL06)
Area	1.50 ha (3.71 acres)
Key habitats	Broad-leaved woodland
Key species	Common pipistrelle; badger

Location & landscape

2.2 Richmond Old Cemetery, or Richmond Old Burial Ground, lies at the south end of Richmond Cemetery and directly on the north east boundary of Richmond Park. The site is bordered to the west by Grove Road Gardens, a small open space with trees; to the south are the gardens and residences of King George Square.

2.3 The heavily wooded site is essentially rectangular, arranged in a grid fashion, with a former Church of England chapel on the north-west side. The cemetery is separated from Richmond Park by a listed wall and the five-metre strip of Freebord land or "deer leap" which runs around the Park's perimeter. This should be kept clear to protect the park's boundaries and allow access to the exterior of the wall for inspection or repair.

Land-use history

2.4 Richmond Cemetery opened in 1786 as a private burial ground. The Old Cemetery was opened in 1856 after acquisition for municipal use and the majority of burials took place before the First World War. More than 1000 graves record the deaths of over 2000 people. The north-east end of the cemetery is the oldest; it was later extended to the south-west.

2.5 The Church of England chapel was built in 1875 to a design by Sir Arthur Blomfield. After falling into disrepair in the late 20th century, the chapel was awarded a Grade II listing (ref. 1261361) and restored by the Environment Trust through support from English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund and local donations.

2.6 The cemetery too was neglected and the treed landscape has become dense woodland and scrub with understorey of bramble, closing in around the chapel. Since 2009, access has been discouraged due to hazardous trees.

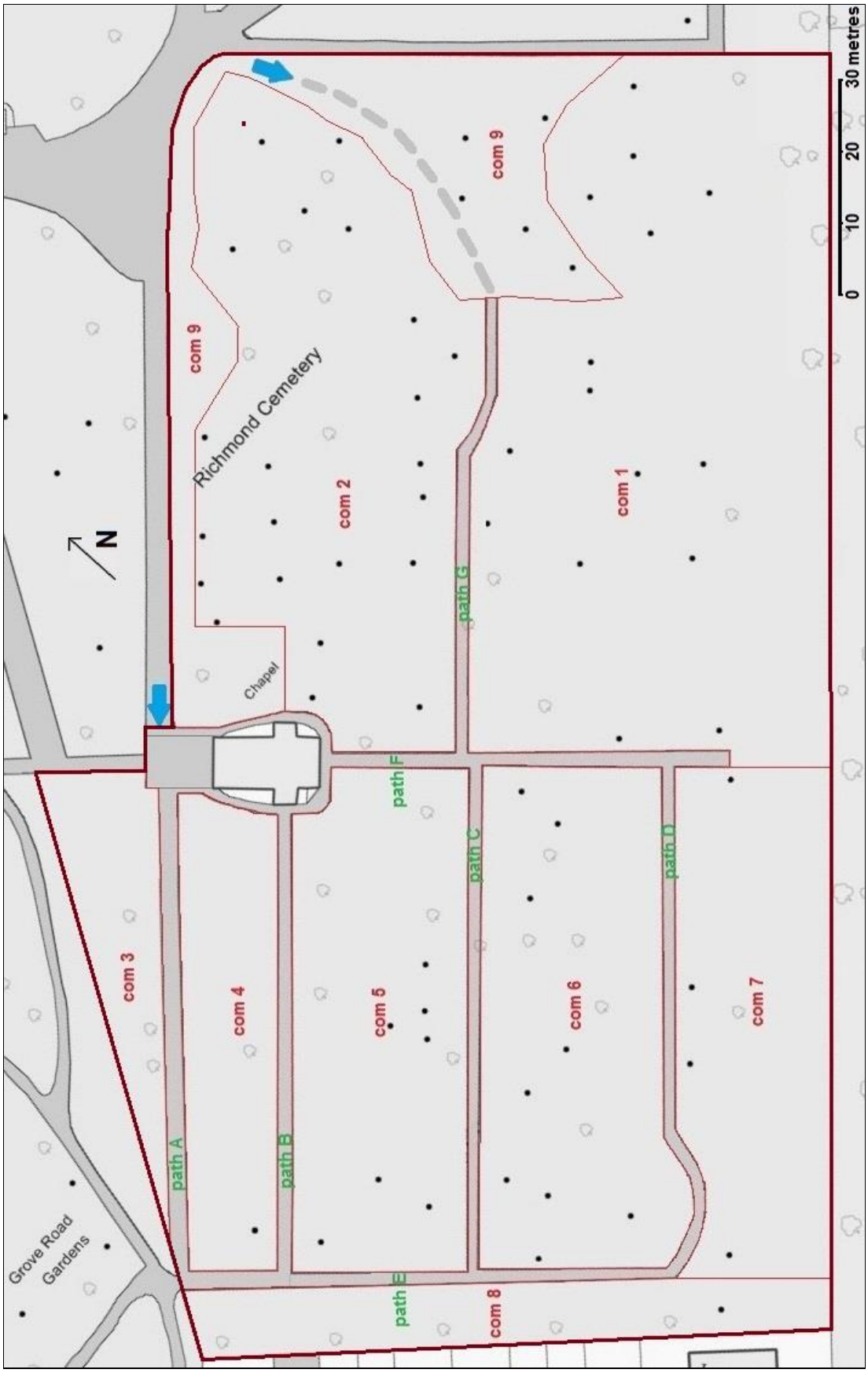
Site designations

2.7 The Old Cemetery is a component of East Sheen and Richmond Cemeteries and Pesthouse Common Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, a Site of Local Importance[1]. It is also Metropolitan Open Land.

Compartments

2.8 The plan has adopted the compartments suggested by the Tree Hazard Survey with the addition of compartment 9 for the grassland around the fringe of the site[4]:

Map 1: compartments, paths and entrances



Environmental factors

Geology & soils

2.9 Richmond Old Cemetery – together with much of Richmond Park – lies on London clay formations[2] with slowly permeable, seasonally wet, slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils with impeded drainage. Natural habitats supported include seasonally wet pastures and woodlands[3].

Ecological interest & features

2.10 The description below is illustrated in Map 2 opposite.

Trees & shrubs

2.11 The cemetery holds a number of mature trees that were the dominant landscape features before the site became more wooded[4]. These include Lawson cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*), several English oaks (*Quercus robur*), western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), Scot's pine (*Pinus sylvestris*), Chilean pine (*Araucaria araucana*), variegated holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) and Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*). Seven mature London Planes (*Platanus x hispanica*) line the south-west boundary of the site.

2.12 Since approximately 1990, management of the woodland has ceased and much of the cemetery has succeeded to scrub and woodland, with little ground left open or unshaded. Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), yew (*Taxus baccata*) and goat willow (*Salix caprea*) form this lower canopy.

2.13 The shrub layer is relatively dense and comprises elder (*Sambucus nigra*), regenerating ash, sycamore and holly with occasional wild cherry (*Prunus avium*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). The non-native invasive cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*) and butterfly-bush (*Buddleja davidii*) together with spotted laurel (*Aucuba japonica*) are occasional. English elm (*Ulmus minor*) shoots persist in com. (compartment) 5.

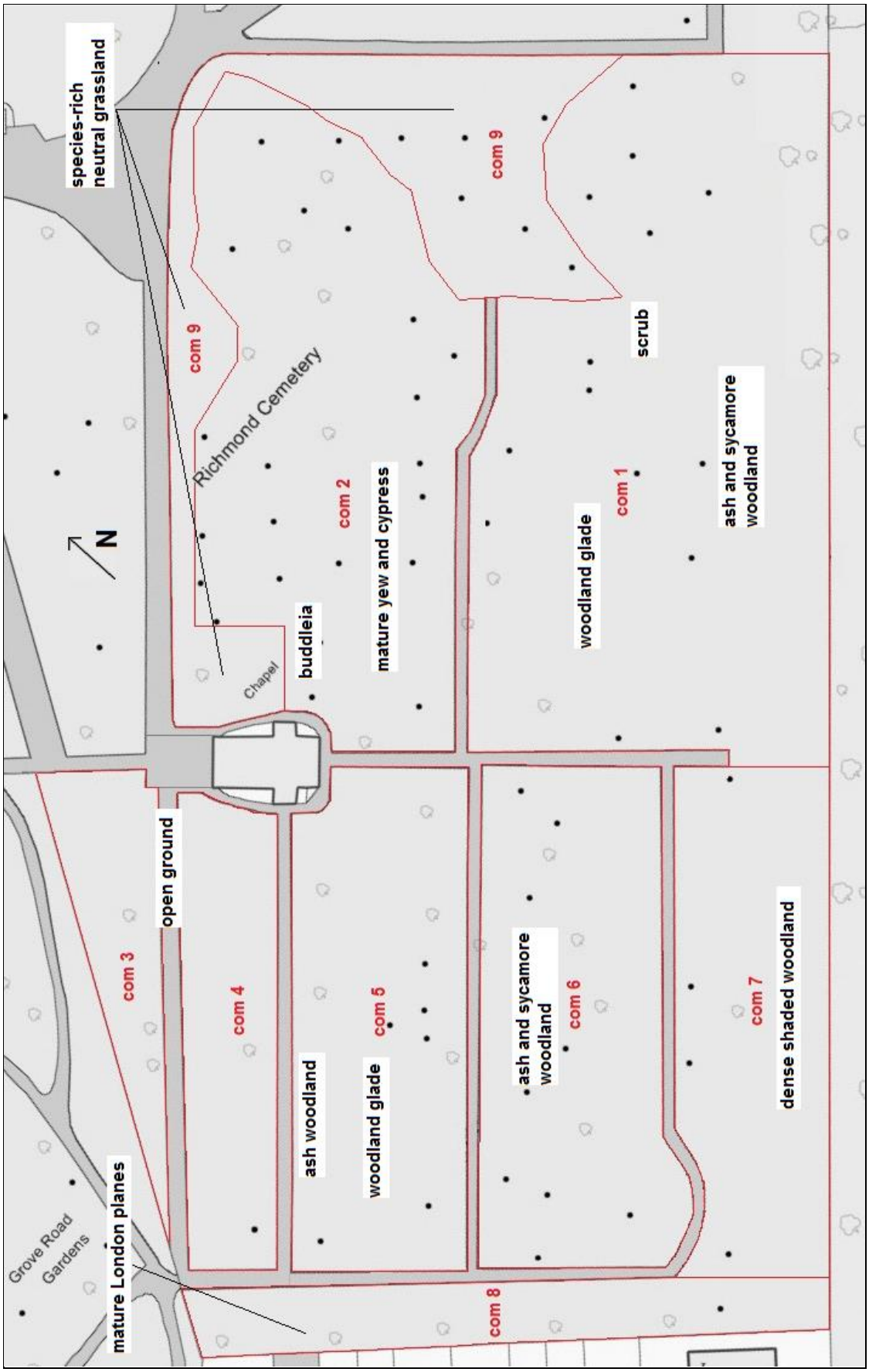
2.14 Detailed descriptions of the woodland compartments from the Tree Hazard Survey are included at Appendix 1.

Flora & fauna

2.15 The ground layer in the woodland is dominated by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) over much of the site although there is a carpet of ivy (*Hedera helix*) in the more shaded areas. The most species rich areas are the more open areas and path edges. Frequent herbs include wood avens (*Geum urbanum*), enchanters nightshade (*Circaea lutetiana*), bluebell, (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*), hybrid bluebell (*H. x massartiana*), ivy leaved speedwell (*Veronica hederifolia*), and herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*) were occasional. There is a small stand of bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and occasional male fern (*Dryopteris filix-mas*).

2.16 The semi-improved neutral grassland around the fringes of the site (com. 9) is relatively species rich and some species typical of unimproved grasslands of high

Map 2: ecological features



ecological value were recorded including sweet vernal grass (*Anthoxanthum odoratum*), field woodrush (*Luzula campestris*), cowslip (*Primula veris*), oxeye daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*) and a number of speedwells. The grassland is likely to be of value to invertebrates due to the range of nectar sources available.

2.17 The SINC citation[5] dated 2007 reports a glade in the centre with a rich flora, including bush vetch (*Vicia sepium*), smooth tare (*V. tetrasperma*), greater bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus pedunculatus*) and heath groundsel (*Senecio sylvatica*), the latter a scarce plant in London, indicative of acid soils. In May 2017, the area presumed to be this glade in com. 1 had recently been re-opened but was largely devoid of ground flora except ivy. Similarly all paths were heavily shaded although the path edges were more species rich than other areas of the woodland. Box (*Buxus sempervirens*) and tutsun (*Hypericum androsaemum*), both rare in London, were recorded, however these species were almost certainly planted when the site was managed as a cemetery[6].

2.18 The woodland's birdlife is good for the site's size, benefitting from the adjacent habitat in the Grove Road Gardens, Richmond Park and the rest of the cemetery. Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*), wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*), great tit (*Parus major*), blue tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*), long-tailed tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*) and blackbird (*Turdus merula*) are probable breeders. Song thrush (*Turdus philomelos*) (singing male), jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*) and ring-necked parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*) (observed in suitable nesting habitat) were all possible breeders.[7]

2.19 The reasonable deadwood content in the woodland means that the conditions are probably good for some invertebrate groups. Similarly, the site may also be of some significance for fungi.

2.20 Invertebrates are not well recorded for the site but some observer effort may be rewarded. The former nationally notable (B) black-headed cardinal beetle (*Pyrochroa coccinea*) was recorded in May 2017[7] with two individuals around a log pile in compartment 6. Speckled wood (*Pararge aegeria*), brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*), small white (*Pieris rapae*) and orange tip (*Anthocharis cardamines*) were recorded casually in spring 2017. Stag beetles (*Lucanus cervus*) are not formally recorded from the site but must be regarded as likely; there are records from just over 100m away[8].

2.21 The mealy oyster (*Ossiculis lignatilis*) fungus, a London Species of Conservation Concern, was recorded just over 100m from the site within Richmond Cemetery in 2008[7].

2.22 The veteran trees may have possible roosting potential for some bat species. The site's connectivity to surrounding habitats with good feeding potential mean that it is of importance for bats. An initial foraging survey in May 2017 revealed several common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) feeding along the canopy edge, over glades and around the chapel. The uncommon Nathusius's pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*) was also possibly recorded along the main drive to the chapel.

2.23 The site hosts at least one main badger (*Meles meles*) sett and at least four ancillary setts. There is very visible badger feeding and dunging activity along the boundary walls and woodland paths. One of the badger setts appears to be occupied by at least two foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) through spring 2017.

Heritage interest

2.24 The cemetery is extremely interesting from a local history perspective. Volunteers from the Richmond Society have recorded the memorials and inscriptions found here. Perhaps the most notable figure buried in the Old Cemetery is Harry Hampton, a Victoria Cross winner in 1900 during the Second Boer War.

Access and visitor useage

2.25 These features are shown in Map 1.

2.26 A main drive leads from the main cemetery entrance to the chapel along the north-east boundary of the site. This path once led to the south-west boundary but today the nursery railings block this route.

2.27 The main entrance to the Old Cemetery is a path along the north-east wall of the chapel. There is a second entrance on the north-east boundary where a woodchip path leads into the woodland from the grassland area.

2.28 Within the site, seven paths are laid out in a grid fashion. These have been lettered A-G. All paths are unmade; some have been surfaced with woodchip in spring 2017.

2.29 Currently, after several years of no maintenance, visitor use of the site is very low. Two dog walkers have regularly been seen using the site. The nursery has until recently used the site for children's walks.

Evaluation

2.30 The key habitat features are the mature trees, deadwood, and gradations from ride / glade to canopy in the broad-leaved woodland. The key species interests are the resident badgers, bats, the previously recorded glade flora, and the potential for invertebrates and fungi.

Constraints

2.31 The main constraint to managing the site is access. There is no vehicular access to the site, the main entrance is relatively narrow and unsurfaced, and the north-east entrance over soft ground.

3. Policies

Strategic principles for Parks & Open Spaces

3.1 The borough has the largest area of public open space per head of population of any London borough. The Council has a local and national reputation for quality and leadership in the delivery of excellent parks. To ensure the quality of Parks and Open Spaces remains at a high level, following public consultation the Council developed a series of strategic principles by which parks will be managed:

1. Parks and Open Spaces will be a sustainable legacy for future generations.
2. Parks and Open Spaces will continue to define our borough.
3. Parks and Opens Spaces will enrich the life, health and wellbeing of residents and visitors.
4. The Council will lead in the delivery of excellent Parks and Open Spaces services.
5. Parks and Open Spaces will offer positive experiences to all visitors.
6. Through innovation, the future development of Parks and Open Spaces services will be ensured.
7. Increased community participation in Parks and Open Spaces will be encouraged and supported.
8. Parks and Open Spaces will be celebrated as centres of excellence.

The London Plan

3.2 The Mayor for London is responsible for the strategic planning in London. His duties include producing a ‘Spatial Development Strategy’ for London - the London Plan. Local (Local Authority level) plans must be in ‘general conformity’ with the plan. The London Plan, last updated in 2016, recognises “open space in all its forms represents an important component of social infrastructure and its protection and enhancement is an integral part” of policy and that “delivery of local biodiversity action plans should be linked” to Local Plans at borough level.

Richmond planning strategies

3.3 Richmond upon Thames’ Local Plan for 2018 recognises the importance of open space in the Borough. The extensive areas of open land create a varied and distinct landscape prominently defined by Richmond Hill and the River Thames valley in addition to Kew Gardens, two Royal Parks and many smaller open spaces and water courses. The importance of open space as an urban structure, providing relief from the built environment, is acknowledged, as is the importance of providing for play and recreation. These collectively contribute to quality of life in the Borough.

3.4 The role of ecology and open space’s ability to provide a range of habitats is recognised, leading the Borough to protect areas of nature conservation value and to manage and enhance wildlife habitats. The strategy seeks to promote open space as a network of recreational, ecological and landscape assets which both serve the people of the Borough and help enhance and preserve the Borough’s physical entity.

3.5 Richmond Old Cemetery is affected by two number of the borough's specific spatial policies. Chapter 5 – Green Infrastructure – summarises the protection of open land. The cemetery is designated as Metropolitan Open Land (policy LP 13) for protection of its character and openness and as an Other Site of Nature Importance (policy LP 15, Biodiversity) to be safeguarded and enhanced. The cemetery is also surrounded on three sides by Conservation Areas (policy LP 3, Designated Heritage Assets), designed to protect and enhance the features of local importance.

Richmond Biodiversity Action Plan

3.6 To conserve Richmond's biodiversity, the decline of valuable species and habitats needs to be reversed. The origin of the Biodiversity Action Plans was to explain how to promote the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of biological resources.

3.7 Richmond's BAP, being updated for 2018, prioritises habitats and species that are rare, in decline or characteristic of Richmond, and aims to use them to help raise the profile of biodiversity in the borough. The BAPs strategy is based around protecting and celebrating local wildlife and improving the quality of wildlife habitats and the environment in our borough

3.8 There are currently thirteen Biodiversity Action Plans covering selected species and habitats for Richmond. The Council are committed to implementing the objectives enshrined in these plans into their management practices. The plans that have most relevance to the cemetery will be bats, broad-leaved woodland, song thrush, and stag beetle.

Memorials near the chapel in compartment 4, March 2011

4. Site vision and objectives

Site vision

4.1 The goals from outset of the project were:

1. Restore safe visitor access through tree and path management.
2. Obtain updated information on features of interest.
3. Bring the site back into management, balancing the landscape and biodiversity interest with restoring visibility of the memorials and heritage features.

Objectives

4.2 From these goals, informed by the updated site description and research into key areas, the following objectives have been developed to cover every aspect of the work to be done:

Objective 1: Nature conservation

Restore, maintain and improve existing habitat quality to ensure optimum conditions for key species and groups.

Objective 2: Heritage

Restore visibility of and access to historical features; preserve and make safe where required.

Objective 3: Visitor access

Maintain and improve the entrances and pathways to ensure a good visitor experience.

Objective 4: Education & information

Communicate the site's history and ecology through facilities / information on site and on-line.

Objective 5: Management planning

Monitor key factors, review management regularly and look ahead to the next plan period.

5. Management prescriptions

5.1 The following detailed prescriptions are designed to manage the site features to deliver the site vision and objectives; the detailed management aim and rationale are given where relevant. The management is not set in stone and must be reviewed and updated based on evidence observed on site, even year to year, so that management is in response to the observed condition or any environmental change.

Prescription 1: Mature trees

5.2 Aim: The existing mature trees should be retained for as long as possible. As far as possible they should be allowed to age naturally, with dead branches left on the tree. Management intervention should balance tree health, safety and access with landscape and biodiversity. Ivy should not be removed from trees unless there is a specific reason for doing so.

5.3 Rationale: The mature trees are a link to the site's historic past. Tree health and visitor risk issues will arise on an increasing basis but the most site sensitive, safe option should be employed wherever possible.

P1.1	Undertake surveys of the trees at no more than four year intervals (shorter where individual tree circumstances require) and take recommended actions. Any tree being monitored should be discretely tagged / numbered for record keeping.
P1.2	A bat roost assessment should be carried out to determine the potential of mature trees. Subsequently, where works are proposed to trees with bat roost potential an ecologist must survey the trees first.
P1.3	Where regeneration beneath the mature tree or where nearby trees are creating unhealthy competition for light or resources, these trees may need to be removed. If the trees are of a reasonable age (semi-mature or older) this should be done gradually over a number of years to prevent sudden exposure.

Prescription 2: Woodland management

5.4 Aim: Manage the woodland to achieve a more open and diverse structure, creating dappled light conditions via path widening, tree lifting, coppicing, glade enhancement and general thinning. There will be no non-native or invasive species. Scrubby areas will be managed on a mixed rotation to diversify the habitat and keep part always open. Keep some small dense and undisturbed pockets along the Richmond Park boundary and with a 10m radius around badger setts to ensure there is a wide range of niches available.

5.5 Rationale: Through lack of management the woodland structure has become less open, resulting in lower temperatures within the wood, a sparse understorey and a

homogenisation of the ground flora, i.e. bramble. This situation leads to an increase in soil nutrients which only perpetuates those species which prefer high nutrient levels, i.e. ash and sycamore. Changes should be made gradually throughout the woodland to create a more diverse ground flora. Creating sudden full light conditions can lead to coarse fast growing species out-competing other woodland flora.

P2.1	Ash, sycamore and holly regeneration up to semi-mature age should be thinned / removed in all woodland compartments on a rotational basis. Hazel and willow should be retained where of good form. Non-native species should be removed from the shrub layer. Regeneration should be pulled where possible but otherwise cut. Larger stumps may need to be treated only if they are in a key open area. The amount of elder in the understorey should be reduced by a small degree.
P2.2	Areas of younger, open scrub (hazel, goat willow) should be coppiced on a mixed 7-year and 15-year rotation to keep a range of ages and niches. No more than one quarter should be cut in one year.
P2.3	Leave small areas with minimal intervention to create refuge areas.

Path C between coms 5 and 6 after chipping, March 2017

Prescription 3: Glade management

5.6 Aim: Extend the glades and open areas, including along pathways to create a more diverse flora. A variety of vegetation heights should be maintained to create a graduated effect and offer a range of habitats. Where space permits, glades should have a shorter central zone of shorter grassland and then grade through a strip of tall-herbs, then coppice and scrub on the edge of the woodland. The management will also enhance the aesthetics of the paths and adjacent memorials from a historical perspective.

5.7 Rationale: Open spaces within woodland are significant structural features. They are one of the most important mechanisms for enhancing biodiversity. Nettles and brambles are important features in this context but diversification is desired.

P3.1	Reduce shading and increase width / height along paths in order to create dappled light. Cut bramble back to the first row of memorial stones on either side; coppice / treat any regeneration within this zone and consider removing larger trees if any.
P3.2	Either side of the paths a one metre strip should be mown or strimmed where memorials allow three times per year: March, July and September are suggested, with a gap between April and June to allow flowering; remove the arisings if growth has been significant.
P3.3	For the first three years – possibly longer if required – the central area of the com. 1 glade should be cut and have arisings removed three times annually to weaken the coarse species and diversify the sward. April, July and October are suggested.
P3.4	In the long-term the glade should be cut on an annual basis with arisings removed. This annual cut should be undertaken at different times, from late summer to autumn, from year to year.
P3.5	Any bramble, regeneration or invasive species in the open spaces (or more open woodland) should also be managed on an annual basis by cutting back or complete removal. Small patches of brambles are of interest but should be reduced rather than allowed to expand.
P3.6	Maintain a 1m strip of tall-herb vegetation around the edge of the glade in compartment 1. 30% of the strip should be cut annually on a rotating basis and the arisings removed , ensuring there is always some taller vegetation over winter.
P3.7	Where scrub abuts open areas, it should be coppiced on a 7-year rotation. Small amounts should be done occasionally, with no more than one fifth cut in any one year.

Prescription 4: Retain deadwood in appropriate locations

5.8 Aim: Maintain a variety of different types including standing, canopy, and lying deadwood, both scattered and low piles. Some should be left *in situ* or as close to source as possible. Plan ahead for the next generation of deadwood. Ensure that the quantity or location of deadwood does not conflict with other conservation or operational objectives and consider visitor amenity where close to paths.

5.9 Rationale: Deadwood is a fundamental base to the woodland ecosystem. It is sometimes regarded as a source of disease, sign of neglect or obstruction to efficient management, however deadwood is vital in providing soil with nutrients and it harbours around 1700 species of invertebrate, many of which are rare, and those of high abundance are a vital food source for other, more visible woodland wildlife including birds and hedgehogs.

5.10 Generally larger and longer pieces of deadwood are more valuable but a large volume of small deadwood can also be important. Dappled shade locations close to open space are most probably valuable; many deadwood invertebrates as adults feed on nectar from plants in these areas. It is also helpful to replenish or expand the deadwood in areas where it is already valuable, to provide continuity. Deadwood species are not very mobile so may not expand to new areas.

5.11 It is usually preferred to leave it lying rather than create piles; however in the cemetery it should be removed from grave spaces and placed into low piles with as few air gaps as possible; this can be achieved by stacking end to end and then cutting into the piles to compress them.

P4.1	When operations produce deadwood, consider distribution or removal. Most brash should be removed but some and the larger cordwood should be scattered throughout the wood in at least small amounts so it is found in all conditions from sun to shade, lying, piled and half-buried.
P4.2	Create a stag beetle loggery with half-buried timbers in a partly shaded location.

Prescription 5: Manage heritage features

5.12 Aim: Maintain the historic landscape around the chapel. Survey, monitor and maintain memorials for heritage and safety reasons. Ensure the site's historical aspects are reflected in its management.

5.13 Rationale: The chapel is a Grade II listed building which has been restored at significant cost; however the woodland has been closing in around it. The site's history is bound up in the memorials and tombs. These features are mainly aged between 100 and 160 years old and require monitoring and maintenance to ensure good condition.

P5.1	Undertake a full memorial safety survey at least every five years; specific memorials may need more regular inspection. Complete actions as required.

P5.2	Remove ivy and other vegetation from memorials adjacent to paths and others where thought required. Coppice and treat any young trees within or close to all memorials and grave spaces.
P5.3	Maintain the vegetation shorter and more regularly within a short radius of the chapel to provide a more appropriate setting for the building, particularly on the south-west side.
P5.4	Maintain an informal path to Harry Hampton's memorial in com 5.

Prescription 6: Create and maintain improved visitor environment

5.14 Aim: Provide a welcoming and clean visitor environment with clear entrances and paths.

5.15 Rationale: Until recently access has been discouraged through limited management. With the improvements in the site environment, interest will increase.

P6.1	Consider a scheme to restore access around the nursery play area outside the chapel door.
P6.2	Consider installing discreet signage from the main entrance.

The cemetery's neutral grassland is relatively species-rich (May 2017)

Prescription 7: Increase education and engagement on site and on-line

5.16 Aim: Increase awareness of site's importance for wildlife and local history.

5.17 Rationale: Communicating the cemetery's importance will hopefully lead to good care being taken by visitors.

P7.1	Interpretation panels should be created and installed to inform visitors about the history of the cemetery, and notable figures buried there, and the ecological aspects of the site.
P7.2	Temporary interpretation should be used to inform visitors of the reasons for any work on site.
P7.3	The Council's site page for the woodland should be updated with some more basic historical and conservation information and perhaps a copy of the final version of this management plan.
P7.4	Investigate the feasibility of an outdoor classroom in the cemetery.

Prescription 8: Monitor key species

5.18 Aim: Formally monitor key species or groups of species through repeatable surveys to build up site knowledge and give feedback on management direction.

5.19 Rationale: The population trends of key species or assemblages will provide information on whether management is achieving its objectives.

P8.1	Every year, identify a key community or group to monitor to inform management success. Examples are breeding song thrushes; foraging bats; key plants or the developing community in the glades; or groups such as deadwood invertebrates. Expert help should be sought where required, from volunteers if possible.

Prescription 9: Review management plan

5.20 Aim: Keep work records and review site condition / work programme / management plan on a regular basis.

5.21 Rationale: Ensure that management remains on track to deliver the site vision and objectives. No plan can anticipate every situation or environmental response and it is vital that management be reviewed every year and the subsequent work programme adjusted. The plan should be seen as a live document for editing and updating.

P9.1	Each year, a simple summary of the work completed should be produced with an annotated map and the work programme for the following year reviewed.
P9.2	A more major review should be undertaken in year 5 to check that the vision and objectives remain correct. In year 9, plans should be put in place for completion of the new plan in advance of the new period.

Work programme

5.22 The detailed ten-year work programme and management maps begin on page 18.

5.23 Work programme key:

AC	Arboricultural contractor
CC	Conservation contractor
ET	Environment Trust
GC	Grounds contractor
LBRuT	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
RBGT	Richmond Burial Ground Trust
Vol	Volunteers, supervised by LBRuT or CC

Priority levels

5.24 **1** – Very important for the maintenance of the key habitats, species, heritage interest or visitor amenity (i.e. annual meadow cut); programmed priority 1 tasks should reflect the bare minimum of what should be achieved each year.

2 – Of secondary importance to the key tasks, to be done if more time / resources are available (i.e. coppicing / thinning a secondary woodland boundary to a meadow, or additional survey work); priority 2 tasks could become priority 1s if not completed for a number of years.

3 – Luxury, wish list tasks: nice to do but not important if resources are not available; these items might become priority 2s over time if not completed but are unlikely ever to reach priority 1 unless significant change in other factors.

1 – Priorities in red mean the task was not completed as scheduled.

R – Reactive, unplanned work, may be coupled with a numerical priority, i.e. R1.

ROC Work Programme **Prescriptions**	**Com**	**Year & Priority**										**Usual month**	**Resources** (see p16 for abbreviations)	**Remarks**
		17-18	**18-19**	**19-20**	**20-21**	**21-22**	**22-23**	**23-24**	**24-25**	**25-26**	**26-27**			
P1.1: Survey mature trees and undertake actions.	All		**1**			**1**			**1**				LBRuT	
P1.2: Carry out a bat roost assessment.	All	**1**											LBRuT / CC	
P1.3: Manage canopy zone of mature trees.	All	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	Nov - Feb	LBRuT / Vols	Can carry out alongside 2.1.
P2.1: Remove / thin natural regeneration of ash, sycamore and elder; favour hazel; remove non-native species.	1-8	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	Nov - Feb	CC / Vols	Two coms per year for first four years, then review.
P2.2: Coppice hazel and willow scrub on mixed rotational basis.	1,5,6	**1**	2	**1**	2	2	**1**	2	2	**1**	2	Nov - Feb	Vols	
P3.1: Increase width and reduce shading along paths; cut bramble back to first row of memorials; coppice / treat regeneration.	Paths A-G	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	Nov - Feb	Vols	All paths in Y1; then re-work alongside 2.1 or as needed.
P3.2: Strim 1m path sides in March, July and October.	Paths A-G	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	Mar - Oct	GC / CC	Do not cut between April and June to allow flowering.
P3.3: Cut com. 1 glade three times each year in early stages, in April, July and October; remove arisings.	1	**1**	**1**	**1**								Apr, Jul, Oct	GC / CC	Review after Y3.
P3.4: Cut open areas annually and remove arisings.	1				**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	Oct	GC / CC / Vols	
P3.5: Manage bramble or regeneration in the open areas and open woodland.	All	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	As req.	Vols	
P3.6: Cut 30% of 1m tall-herb strip annually and remove arisings.	1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	Aug - Oct	GC / CC	Not concerning if the occasional year is missed.
P3.7: Coppice scrub or woodland edge on 15 year rotation.	1	**1**		**1**		**1**		**1**		**1**		Sept - Nov	CC / vols	

Prescriptions	Com	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	Usual month	Resources	Remarks
P4.1: Maintain deadwood distribution.	All	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	Nov - Feb	CC / vols	
P4.2: Create stag beetle loggery.	1	2										Jan - Feb	CC / vols	
P5.1: Undertake a full memorial survey; re-inspect those needed it as required.	All	**1**	R	R	R	R	**1**	R	R	R	R		LBRuT	
P5.2: Remove ivy and vegetation from memorials; coppice / treat trees within grave spaces or close to memorials.	All	**1**	**1**	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	Sep - Mar	LBRuT / CC	Prioritise those adjacent to paths in alternate years.
P5.3: Cut vegetation within radius of the chapel.	2,3,4,5	**1**	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	Sep - Mar	LBRuT / CC	
P5.4: Create and maintain an informal path to Harry Hampton's memorial.	5	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2	**1**	2		LBRuT / Vols	
P6.1: Consider installing a path around the nursery play area.	2,4		**1**										LBRuT	
P6.2: Consider installing entrance signage.	2	2	2											
P7.1: Agree and install interpretation panel about site history.	B		**1**										LBRuT / RBGT	
P7.2: Use temporary signage to communicate reason for work.	All	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**		LBRuT / CC	
P7.3: Improve information on-line.		2											LBRuT	
P7.4: Investigate the feasibility of an outdoor classroom on site.		2	2										ET	
P8.1: Monitor key species on an annual basis.		**1**	**1**	**1**	2	2	2	2	**1**	**1**	**1**	As req.	LBRuT / CC / vols	
P9.1: Produce annual work summary with map; update work programme and plan.		**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	Spring	LBRuT	
P9.2: Review management plan.		**1**				**1**				**1**	**1**	Summer	LBRuT	

6. References

1. Archer, J. & Curson, D., *Nature Conservation in Richmond upon Thames* (1993): London Ecology Unit.
2. Geology of Britain viewer, British Geological Survey
3. Soilscape viewer, National Soil Resources Institute, Cranfield University
4. *Tree Hazard Survey & Woodland Management, Richmond Old Cemetery (2016)*: Rootcause
5. SINC citation, East Sheen and Richmond Cemeteries and Pesthouse Common, RiL06: Greenspace Information for Greater London (GiGL), www.gigl.org.uk
6. *Richmond Old Cemetery Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (2017)*: Salix Ecology
7. Marshall, S., Wild Future Outdoors
8. *An Ecological Data Search for Richmond Old Cemetery (2017)*: GiGL

7. Glossary

BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan, focusing on the protection, conservation and enhancement of wildlife
GiGL	Greenspace Information for Greater London
LBRuT	London Borough of Richmond upon Thames; Richmond Council
RBGT	Richmond Burial Ground Trust, the charity responsible for maintaining the cemetery
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, a designation denoting London's most important wildlife sites in three tiers: Sites of Metropolitan Importance, Sites of Borough Importance and Sites of Local Importance.

A1. Woodland compartment descriptions

The below descriptions were written in 2015 and are taken from Rootcause's Tree Hazard Survey dated 2016[4].

Compartment 1

WC01 is dominated by Ash and Sycamore, many of them young trees. The numerous young Sycamore and Ash (below 150mm stem diameter approx.) should be coppiced to ground level. Any trees in this category near to the Richmond Park Wall should be removed completely to prevent regrowth. The use of herbicidal stump treatment is not recommended as root grafts with retained trees are possible.

Compartment 2

WC02 is dominated by Ash, mature Lawson Cypress and mature Yew. The younger Ash (below 150mm stem diameter approx.) and any Sycamore (<150mm) should be coppiced to maintain cover and prevent them forming a mature and dense canopy.

Compartment 3

WC03 is the most 'open' compartment with most light reaching the ground, although the Lime trees in Grove Road Gardens partially overhang the area. As a result of the high light levels there is a lot of bramble preventing access to parts of the site. Ash seedlings are also invading the compartment. I recommend that the Ash seedlings are removed and the bramble controlled where it affect paths, access to trees and access for maintenance. There are no mature ash trees in this compartment so it is probably acceptable to use herbicide on stumps.

Compartment 4

WC04 is a fairly 'open' compartment dominated by Ash, many of them young or regrown trees that were coppiced in the last ten years. Young Ash trees (150mm stem diameter or under) should be removed Including their stumps where practical. Near grave monuments stumps could be treated with herbicide (if safe to do so). Ivy covering trees should be managed as described in WC01. There

Compartment 5

Compartment WC05 is dominated by ash trees of varied age. The young Ash trees (150mm stem diameter or under) should be removed including stumps where possible and near grave monuments the stumps could be treated with herbicide (if safe to do so). Small dead trees should be removed and some broken branches because these can be reached from ground level. The Robinia that is removed should be treated with herbicide because it can regenerate vigorously from the roots.

Compartment 6

Compartment WC06 is dominated by ash and sycamore trees with some mature Lawson's Cypress. The small dead ash and sycamore can be removed. Ash and Sycamore (150mm stem diameter or under) can be coppiced.

Compartment 7

Compartment WC07 is dominated by ash and sycamore trees and there are some dense groups of holly. Sycamore and ash (150mm stem diameter or under) and those within 2m of Richmond Park wall should be removed. The dense groups of holly can be ‘thinned’ by removing up to half of the trees in these groups.

Compartment 8

Compartment WC07 is dominated by the linear group of London Plane along the southwestern boundary. There are some young selfset Sycamore that should be removed before they attain a larger size. The London Plane may need some maintenance in future to maintain a reasonable crown proximity between the trees and the houses.