

a) To provide a welcoming, safe and well maintained Park for the enjoyment of all.							
	Management prescription	Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
			i) Welcoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create library of all signage with description and condition. 	All signage		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor condition and clean as required. 	All signage					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cut grass on car park, overflow car park, and access road to a tight sward at least once a month or as required 	Formal areas					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repaint white lines in spring 	Access road and car park					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install 15 benches at agreed locations around park. To be installed in hard wood with back rest. 	Various locations					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install suite of new Wetland Trail signage 	Wetland Trail					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and repair car park surface as required 	Car park					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with developer to ensure safe pedestrian access at main gate 	Main gate					

ii) Healthy, safe and secure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and or Volunteer Rangers to be present within park on all days the Forest Centre is open • Monitor and maintain condition of life saving equipment at least every fortnight • Check for and remove dog fouling at least every fortnight • Review existing risk assessments annually. All new equipment and activities require a new one to be written. • Instigate regular meetings, e.g. bi annual with local PSCO to maintain close working relationship • Woody vegetation alongside paths to be cut back when required to prevent obstruction of the path 	Whole Park					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalise number of different padlocks to make emergency access easier but maintain security 	Whole Park					
iii) Well maintained and clean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site structures and facilities to be inspected and maintained as per monitoring form shown in appendix 10 • Minimise levels of litter by weekly collections • Remove graffiti within 2 days 	Whole Park					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All verges maintained by mowing to a short sward and width of 1m each side of the surfaced path between April and September • Surface to be treated with herbicide in spring or autumn to prevent weed encroachment and surface damage 	Surfaced paths					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse trail maintained to a short sward and width of at least 3m between April and September 	Horse trail					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass surface rights of way maintained to a short sward and width of at least 2m between April and September 	Grass surface rights of way					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain gardens by regular weeding and re mulching in autumn. Additional planting when required 	Sensory and Smudge gardens					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain Premium tree area by keeping mown to a short sward. Add green waste and mulch twice a year in autumn and spring. Water trees in dry summers 	Premium tree area					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the woven willow structures in February of each year. Structures to be kept to a manageable height. 	Sensory garden and willow hut plantation					

b) To maximise the biodiversity of the woodland, wetland, scrub, grassland and pond habitats throughout the Park, in particular to encourage both locally important and target species.							
	Management prescription	Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
i) Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter all woodland into woodland grant scheme to guide management 	All woodland					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain existing and increase deadwood habitat, standing (where safe) and fallen by stacking cut material Erect 20 bird and bat boxes in appropriate positions as per Stewardship agreement 	All woodland					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor young woodland of <10 years for health and removal of tree guards 	Woodland <10 years					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create soft woodland edge by coppicing and scalloping edges Introduce glades into more mature woodland >15year 	Woodland >10 years					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and manage poplar plantations according to 2010/11 tree survey 	All poplars on site					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Covanta to under plant poplar plantations with native species. 	Poplar plantations					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor hazel planting. Clear competing vegetation 	11 oaks					

ii) Wetlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain levels so from 50% to 95% of the reed bed is covered by surface water of between 10cm and 50cm in depth. Allow natural draw down to facilitate decomposition Check condition of bearded tit nest boxes in winter Monitor harvest mouse 'balls' fortnightly throughout year Place grit on grit tables throughout winter 	All reed beds	■	■	■	■	■
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5% to 10% of total wetland area should remain dry. 	50 % W1/2	■	■	■	■	■
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut on rotation using reciprocating mower between November and January. All material to be burnt or removed off site Clear reed invading open areas to maintain 30% open water Clear scrub to retain 5% of total area Channels within the reed bed should remain clear and at least 1m deep 	W8a,b	■	□	□	□	□
		50% W9/10	□	■	□	□	□
		50% W3/4	□	□	■	□	□
		50% W1/2	□	□	□	■	□
50% W3/4	□	□	□	□	■		
iii) Successional areas and scrub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bare ground to be maintained at 10% over whole area No fertilisers to be added Remove ragwort, creeping/spear thistle and broadleaved/curled dock by hand pulling Retain any standing or fallen deadwood. Retain potential great crested newt hibernacula When clearing scrub, be aware of lichen communities Increase species monitoring 	Whole callow mound area	■	■	■	■	■
		A	■	□	□	□	□
		B	□	■	□	□	□
		C	□	□	■	□	□

	<p>disturbance to great crested newts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All brash to be burnt on designated fire sites Trees should be under 4m tall and occur at irregular intervals with overall canopy of 5-10% 	D					
		E					
iv) Grassland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut with flail mower to a height of approximately 10cm and remove all arisings by raking. Early cut in May and occasional late cut in September. Leave 10% each meadow uncut from september to february Remove ragwort, creeping/spear thistle and broadleaved/curled dock by hand pulling Scrub and trees should remain absent (with the exception of Bramble Meadow) 	Bramble Meadow					
		Little Meadow					
		Long Meadow					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut and bale meadow in late august. Bales to be removed from site No fertilisers to be added Increase species monitoring 	Marston Meadow					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sward height to be maintained at between 5cm and 15cm by grazing. Short areas must be available in spring for wader nesting habitat. Maintain water levels so 10-20% of field has standing water between March and the end of May. Graze with cattle between April and October. During April and May stocking should be 0.75LU/ha between May and October stocking should be 2LU/ha Minimise disturbance in these areas between March and June. Essential access only Winter graze with native ponies and/or sheep if the sward requires it No supplementary feeding or use of Ivermectin wormers 	Middle Meadow					
		Bottom Meadow					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove ragwort, creeping/spear thistle and broadleaved/curled dock by hand pulling No fertilisers to be added 						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-profile wetland 7 and create approximately 2000m2 of new scrape habitat 	Middle Meadow					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to funding create 1600m2 in of new scrape habitat in 8 locations 	Bottom meadow					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain by cutting and removing arisings between September and March to achieve a sward height of an average of 7cm with 20% above this and 20% below Remove ragwort, creeping/spear thistle and broadleaved/curled dock by hand pulling No fertilisers to be added Do not allow further scrub encroachment Increase species monitoring 	All other grassland within EK3 prescription (see appendix 18)					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut and remove on rotation every 3 years to retain suitable habitat for small mammals and invertebrates. Increase species monitoring HK15 (see appendix 13) 	Rough grassland					
v) Hedgerows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lay hedge between September and April and secure using stakes and binders (hazel or willow) and laying pleachers at 35-45 degrees. At 	Station Lane hedgerow					

	<p>least 75m per winter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trim lightly for first two years after laying to encourage bushy growth Remove weed competition while the hedge is newly laid (EB3 appendix 13) 						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain at height of no less than 2m unless in coppicing cycle Only trim if necessary and not more than once every 3 years (EB3 appendix 13) 	All other hedgerows on site					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal hedges cut annually in autumn. Hedges to be cut into A shape to ensure growth at the base. Not to be cut back to same point each year. 	Car park, play area and driveway hedges					
vi) Ponds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetation must be maintained at 25-75% cover of the pond Water levels should be maintained above 10cm in august at least one year in two 	Boardwalk pond					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover of marginal vegetation should not exceed 40% Water levels should be maintained above 50cm in august at least one year in two 	Forest Centre Lake (wetland 11 upper)					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow natural draw down to encourage feeding waders 	Seasonal pond Bot. Meadow					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Top up water levels when required, some draw down is acceptable Maintain open water at edge to facilitate pond dipping Cut back vegetation on islands during autumn/winter 	Bog pond					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase species monitoring 	All ponds on site					

vii) Lakes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove all vegetation from small islands and 50% vegetation to large island 	Pillinge					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to funding build artificial sand martin bank in corner closest to the Forest Centre Conduct fishing survey to ascertain fish species present in lake 	Pillinge					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install log style otter holt on large island 	Pillinge					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove vegetation in front of hides and viewpoints to allow free views Increase species monitoring 	Pillinge					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain southern end free from willow and other woody vegetation. Sporadic coppice bushes are acceptable Maintain 'screen' of willow at northern end with mixed structure by recoppicing/repollarding as required 	Wetland 11 lower					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor erosion and experiment with reed planting to combat effects of wave action 	Stewartby Lake					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor otter activity and holt 	Lagoon corner					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install concrete structure otter holt 	Lagoon corner					

c) To ensure that the Park and its management are responsive to both community and visitor needs without compromising the Park's inherent wildlife value and interest.							
	Management prescription	Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend Stewartby Watersports Club council meetings to facilitate a closer working relationship Explore possibilities of joint events between the two organisations Work with Active Adventure to develop further co working 	Stakeholder organisations					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the site as a venue for other organisations could to use for educational activities 	Conservation/ education providers					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop education pack to enable local schools and families to use site on self led basis 	Local schools					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dedicated, technically trained volunteer to monitor people and car counters. Minimum every fortnight Facilitate spot checks on counters using volunteers carrying out manual counts Explore potential for future wide reaching visitor survey Continue to develop and enhance the Woodworks! festival each September Increase quantity and quality of species recording throughout the Park Continue to organise, and expand if appropriate the suite of children's activities on offer 	Whole park					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to, and expand if appropriate the suite of guided walks including Sunday strolls, health walks. • Facilitate the involvement of outside organisations in using the site for external events • Maintain and develop the opportunities for volunteers to become involved in managing and developing the Park • Maintain and develop the opportunities for Community payback to contribute to managing the Park. • Organise annual Forum and explore feasibility of making this a twice yearly event • Control rabbit numbers throughout year 						
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d) To continue to administer the Environmental Management System for the Park to guide its sustainable management.							
	Management prescription	Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer the Environmental Management system to maintain ISO 14001 certification. Complete audit each April • Ensure the organisation is aware of best practise and current knowledge through monthly team meetings • Minimise waste and maximise recycling • Minimise the use of pesticides in Park management and maintain up to date COSHH folder to be audited every February • Wherever possible, favour local contractors and suppliers and those who demonstrate sustainability in their activities. • Use bicycles for travelling round park when possible • Reuse materials where possible 	Whole Park					

e) To serve as a 'gateway' to the wider Forest of Marston Vale. Increase understanding and interest in the countryside, wildlife and the wider creation of the Forest of Marston Vale.							
	Management prescription	Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information about countryside recreation opportunities in the Forest of Marston Vale area and beyond. • Investigate opportunities for producing walk leaflets to provide focus for both adult and children • Explore opportunities to provide interpretation boards in areas of the Park currently without. • Ensure all new and replacement signage follows the DDA regulations • Work with local communities, particularly in Marston Moretaine and Stewartby, to develop a greater sense of community ownership of the Park in local people, and increase use of the Park by groups and individuals. • Provide up to date information to be placed on the website, news blog, Facebook page and in Commentree 	Whole Park					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a 5 year Park development plan • Develop a suite of Wetland Nature Reserve Signage 	Whole Park					

f) To monitor and review management activities, species and visitors to constantly aim to improve the existing standards							
	Management prescription	Location	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply for Green Flag Award Status each year as part of monitoring and improvement of the Park • Monitor and review management plan annually in December • Facilitate regular internal audits of the EMS system and annual external audit • Survey and monitor key wildlife species to influence future management • Monitor visitor numbers • Monitor site condition • Respond to all customer complaints within 2 days. • Organise an annual Millennium Country Park Forum event as a means of sharing information, ideas, feedback and proposals between all interested parties 	Whole Park					