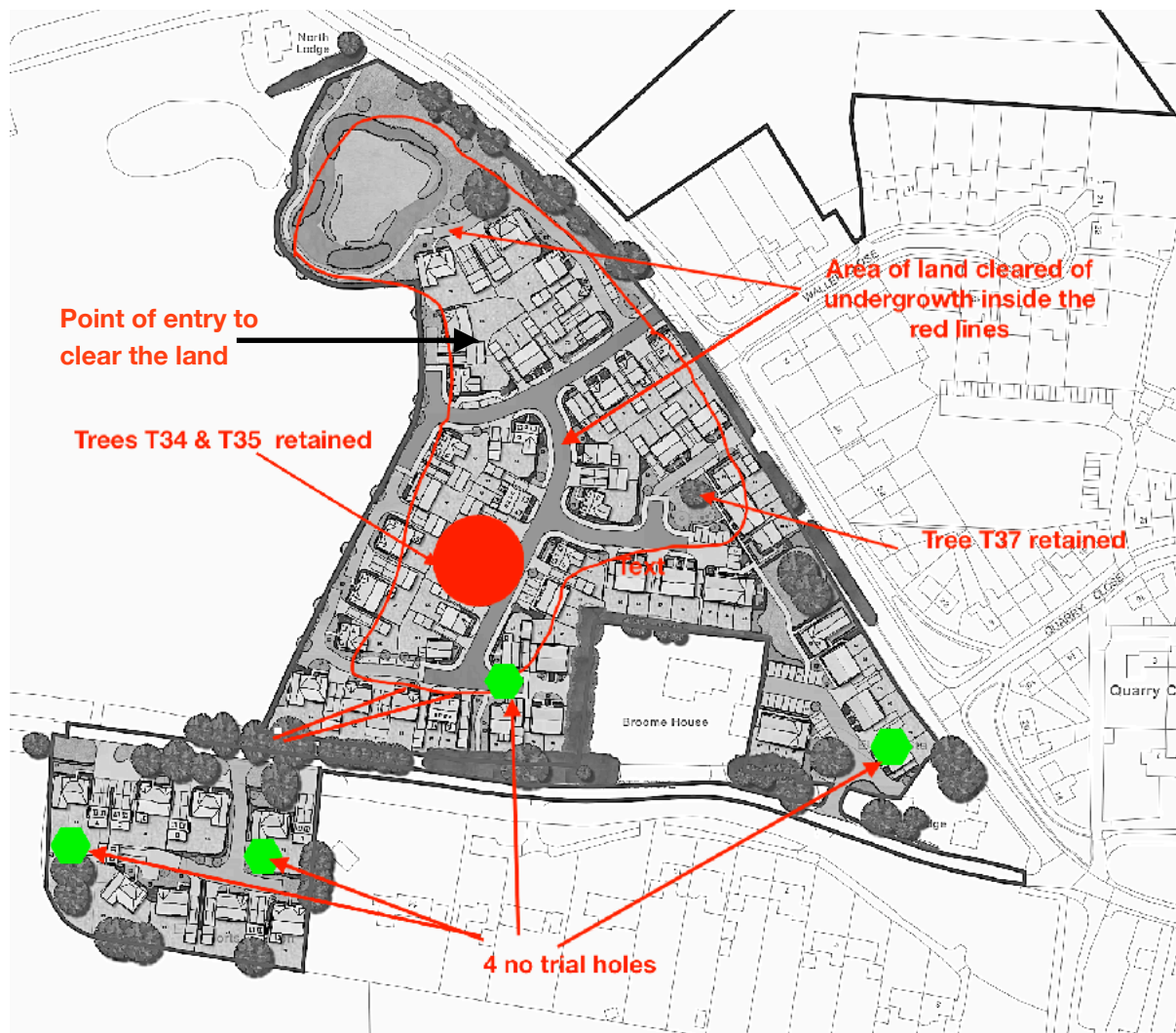


Leek Wootton Focus Group - When do you carryout a wildlife survey? 17 August 2022 v1



3 March 2022 it was stated by Cala that the proposed site is “currently low in biodiversity”

- 1 LWFG webcam seized by Cala 28 July
- 2 Plot 1 vegetation & hedgerows cleared access via the paddocks owned by the PCC w/c 7th August
- 3 Trial holes dug by Cala 10 - 12 August
- 4 Cala wildlife survey 15 August

16 August 2022



Plots 1 the undergrowth 4 - 6 foot high stripped

22 July 2022

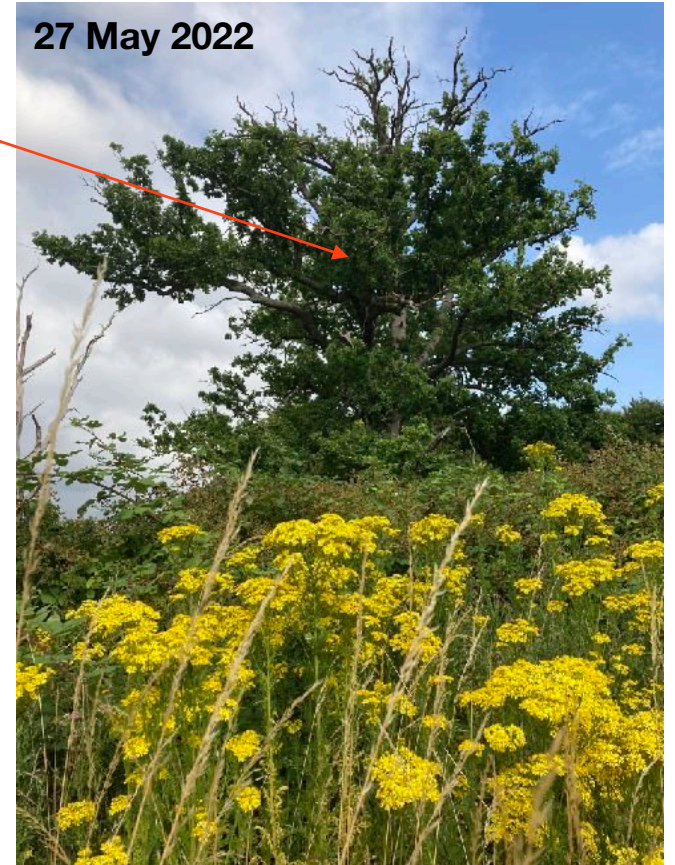


16 August 2022



27 May 2022

T34



Plots 1 the undergrowth 4 - 6 foot high



The RSPB - Hedge trimming and cutting - the law

Some mature hedgerows are protected by law but this wouldn't normally apply to garden hedges.

We recommend avoiding hedge cutting during the main breeding season for nesting birds, which usually runs throughout March to August each year. **This can be weather dependent and some birds may nest outside this period, so it is important to always check carefully for active nests prior to cutting.**

It is an offence under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981 to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built, or to intentionally kill, injure or take chicks or adults, or intentionally take or destroy any eggs.

It is an intentional act, for example, if you or your neighbour know there is an active nest in the hedge and still cut the hedge, damaging or destroying the nest or contents in the process.

If someone is cutting a hedge during this period, speak to them and politely mention the risk to birds' nests, and the laws protecting nests.

If they proceed, and you know there is an active nest at risk, **contact the police on 101, and ask for a reference number.**

If you are unsure what to do, contact RSPB Wildlife Enquiries on: 01767 693690.

Note: The Police have the responsibility for enforcing this legislation and the RSPB do not enforce the law on these cases. We can provide advice to the Police where appropriate.

Note on the internet - As a general rule, try and cut most of your hedgerows in January or February. If ground conditions and cropping patterns make this difficult, then cut as late as possible in the autumn.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act, a wild bird is defined as any bird of a species which is resident in or is a visitor to the European Territory of any member state in a wild state.

Basic protection

All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law and it is thus an offence, with certain exceptions (see Exceptions), to:

Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird.

Intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built.

Intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.

Use traps or similar items to kill, injure or take wild birds.

Have in one's possession or control any bird of a species occurring on Schedule 4 of the Act unless registered, and in most cases ringed, in accordance with the Secretary of State's regulations (see Schedules).

Intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

Fines

Penalties that can be imposed for criminal offences in respect of a single bird, nest or egg contrary to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 is an unlimited fine, up to six months imprisonment or both.

Note - see LWFG Barn owl report 22 July 2022