

# Meeting of the Surrey Local Sites Partnership (LSP) 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## Minutes

### Attendees

(JE)	John Edwards	Countryside Management & Biodiversity Manager, Surrey County Council (SCC) – <i>Chair</i>
(AK)	Alistair Kirk	Manager, Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre (SBIC)
(CG)	Claire Gibbs	Senior Ecologist, Surrey Wildlife Trust (SWT) (Surveyor and Minutes)
(IG)	Isobel Girvan	Principal Ecologist, SWT (Surveyor)
(DW)	Danial Winchester	Ecology Services Manager, SWT & Surrey Amphibian and Reptile Group (SARG) member
(MW)	Mike Waite	Living Landscapes Manager, SWT
(SE)	Simon Elson	Surrey County Council
(FT)	Francesca Taylor	Environment Agency
(AS)	Ann Sankey	Botanical Society British Isles (BSBI), Surrey Botanical Society (SBS)
(SM)	Susan Medcalf	Surrey Botanical Society (SBS)
(RD)	Richard Denyer	Surrey Bird Club (SBC)
(GJ)	Gail Jeffcoate	Butterfly Conservation, Surrey and South West London Branch
(RB)	Ross Baker	Surrey Bat Group (SBG)
(LB)	Lynn Whitfield	Surrey Bat Group (SBG)

The following representatives from Guildford Borough Council attended Part 2 of the meeting when sites in Guildford were discussed;

(LH)	Laura Howard	Guildford Borough Council (GBC)
(SH)	Stuart Harrison	Guildford Borough Council (GBC)

The following representatives from Ecological Planning & Research Ltd also attended the initial stage of Part 2 (between 1.00 and 2.30pm) at which they give a short presentation prior to the formal discussion of Wisley Airfield SNCI;

(CM)	Chris Mungo	Ecological Planning & Research Ltd (EPR)
(AP)	Andy Cross	Ecological Planning & Research Ltd (EPR)
(JS)	Jodie Southgate	Ecological Planning & Research Ltd (EPR)

The following individuals representing the listed organisations were also invited but were unable to attend the meeting;

Georgina Terry	Natural England
Gareth Matthes	Surrey Amphibian and Reptile Group (SARG)
Marie Killip	Tandridge District Council

## Part 1

Alistair Kirk (AK) introduced the Local Sites Partnership to the first draft of the Surrey Local Sites Partnership – Terms of Reference. This includes the policies and procedures for the identification and selection of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs) in Surrey. AK explained that part of the driver for the production of the Terms of Reference was the need to ensure that there is a clear mechanism for dealing with sites adopted by the SLSP before they go through the formal planning process for adoption in Local Plans.

It was noted that the draft Terms of Reference states that the criteria for the selection of SNCIs will be reviewed at least once every 5 years. The Surrey criteria are in need of review having last been reviewed 9 years ago. AK explained that once the Terms of Reference are agreed they can be used as a driver for moving forward with this.

The draft Terms of Reference was generally very well received by the Local Sites Partnership. AK asked for any additional comments by end of April after which a revised draft would be produced and circulated.

## Part 2

The second part of the meeting discussed a number of sites in Guildford, Tandridge, Elmbridge and Epsom and Ewell. In 2016, SWT undertook surveys as part of SNCI review programmes funded by the local authorities in the Boroughs of Guildford and Tandridge. Additional sites have been put forward for discussion by other members of the Local Sites Partnership. The recommendations made by the Local Sites Partnership regarding these sites are shown in Table 1 below.

**Table 1 – Sites discussed by the Local Sites Partnership**

Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys									
Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Wisley Airfield	SNCI	GU127	TQ064575	Lovelace	<p>SWT survey site 2016 – part of ongoing review of existing SNCIs.</p> <p>Additional information provided by Ecological Planning &amp; Research Ltd. (EPR) on behalf of their clients Wisley Property Investments (WPI) the owners of Wisley Airfield.</p> <p>Site considered by LSP includes all of the existing SNCI (as reselected by SNCLG in 2007 i.e. Wisley Airfield plus an adjacent area known as Snakes Field currently managed by SWT on behalf of Surrey County Council), together with Stratford Bridge Wood which falls within the same ownership as Wisley Airfield.</p>	<p>Originally selected as an SNCI in 1996 this site has been reviewed and reselected with amended boundaries by the SNCLG in 2005 and 2007. The site currently covers 117.51ha.</p> <p>Reasons for Selection in 2007 were recorded as <i>'This site is selected for its importance for reptiles, plants and birds. 9 notable Surrey plant species have been recorded on the site. In addition 3 RSPB red list bird species and 7 RSPB amber list bird species have been recorded on the site. This site has an exceptional population of Grass Snakes as well as supporting good populations of Slow-worms, Common Lizards and Common Frogs.'</i></p> <p>Site surveyor (IG) summarised the results of her 2016 survey focusing in particular on Appendices 1 &amp; 2 of the SNCI Report and her evaluation of the site as surveyed against the SNCI selection guidelines (Gibbs, 2008). In her opinion the SNCI continued to meet multiple SNCI Criteria and that whilst some of the nature conservation interest was restricted in its distribution (e.g. amphibians and reptiles), the botanical interest was concentrated in the western end, as well as being scattered across the rest of the site and as such, retention of all of the existing SNCI was recommended. In addition, Stratford Bridge Wood had been identified as an area of wet Alder woodland likely to support qualifying NVC W6 &amp; W7 communities and was therefore recommended for selection by the LSP.</p>	<p><b>Remains SNCI. Boundary revised to include Stratford Bridge Wood and to exclude the gardens of Mount Pleasant Cottages &amp; Wilderness Cottage.</b></p> <p><b>Reason for selection to be updated.</b></p>	<p>Disused airfield and surrounding habitat. A long derelict tarmac runway strip runs through the centre of this site from east to west which supports a number of tall ruderal / ephemeral species. Although much of the surrounding land consists of arable fields the site supports a mosaic of different and distinct habitats scattered across the site namely; broadleaved semi-natural woodland (including Stratford Bridge Wood, an area of wet Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>) woodland), scrub, semi-improved neutral grassland (including Snakes Field) and standing water (in the form of wet depressions and seasonal flushes). The site is selected as an SNCI for the wide range of qualifying habitats it supports including, Wet Woodland; Neutral Grassland, Standing Open Water, Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land and Arable. The site also meets a number of different species criteria including Bats; the vegetated boundaries provide an important foraging area, Amphibians; ponds and terrestrial habitat supporting up to four species, Reptiles; populations of four species have been recorded on site and Vascular Plants; there are recent records for five species appearing on either the GB or England Vascular Plant Red Lists together with a further three species classed rare or notable in Surrey.</p>	<p>1e, 4b, 8c, 12a, 13a, 18c, 19c, 20b, d 24a, d</p>

**Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys**

Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
						<p>Following this, CM &amp; AC from EPR gave a presentation of data collated on behalf of WPI for Wisley Airfield (excluding Snakes Field) which had also been circulated to the LSP in advance of the meeting. This focused on the main features for which the site had previously been selected specifically the botanical, bat and amphibian &amp; reptile interest. This presentation included their evaluation of the distribution of these features across Wisley Airfield and based on this, a proposed SNCI boundary incorporating those areas which they best felt met the criteria (a contraction compared with both most recent boundary approved by SNCLG in 2007 and that proposed by IG above).</p> <p>EPR then left the meeting to enable the LSP to consider their decision.</p> <p>The discussion which followed looked at the wide range of information on habitats and species presented by both IG and EPR. In addition, the potential bird interest of the site was discussed as the LSP felt that although, based on the surveys supplied to SWT by GBC as part of the SNCI evaluation, the site could not be shown to meet the SNCI criteria, the potential for the site to support key “arable” species had not been fully evaluated. RD commented that the site had previously been shown to be important for a number of species including Skylark, Tree Sparrow and Yellowhammer and offered to provide further information to the LSP.</p> <p>LSP felt that after due consideration, the Wisley Airfield was worthy of retention as an SNCI. In addition, given the scattered nature of the</p>			

**Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys**

Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
						<p>nature conservation interest, the site was best considered as a single ecological unit and that retention of the whole site as defined in 2007 was valid. In addition, LSP felt that the area known as Stratford Bridge Wood had been shown to be of SNCI quality and as such should be incorporated into the SNCI and boundary amended accordingly. LSP also supported the proposal for a further survey of the contiguous woodland both upstream and downstream to fully define the area of interest. Two further small changes were also approved removing two gardens identified in the 2016 survey from the SNCI boundary.</p> <p>Post Meeting Addendum – As discussed above, additional bird information was provided to LSP by RD on behalf of Surrey Bird Club however although this did support the comments made at the meeting there was insufficient detail on the breeding status of key species to allow a full evaluation against the criteria. The LSP would therefore recommend further surveys to enable them to make an appropriate evaluation of the bird interest at a future meeting.</p>			

**Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys**

Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Little Flexford	SNCI	GU078	SU934503	Normandy	SWT survey site 2016 – part of ongoing review of existing SNCIs.	<p>Originally selected as an SNCI in 1996 when the Reasons for Selection were given as <i>“Two semi-improved mesotrophic grassland paddocks divided by a central stream. Locally scarce plant species and nationally declining mammal”</i>. Reviewed by LSP in 2016 however a decision on SNCI status was deferred pending a further survey.</p> <p>IG explained that based on her 2016 survey, this site meets the neutral grassland criteria within the SNCI selection guidelines (Gibbs, 2008) as it supports 18 grassland indicator species including 3 of those in bold. It supports Blue Water Speedwell which is VC17 Scarce.</p> <p>It was also noted that an ecological appraisal carried out by ACD Environmental in 2016 recorded a Water Vole latrine and runs however SWT Ecology Services did not find evidence of Water Vole during their SNCI survey in 2016. As such, although the presence of Water Vole cannot be confirmed the site may also meet the criteria for the presence of this species</p>	<p><b>Remains SNCI with no boundary changes.</b></p> <p><b>Reason for selection updated.</b></p>	Selected for species rich neutral grassland. 18 species typical of grassland of conservation interest in Surrey have been recorded since 2016; including Blue Water Speedwell, <i>Veronica anagallis-aquatica</i> (VC17 Scarce). There are past records of Water Voles ( <i>Arvicola amphibius</i> ) on the site and unconfirmed records from 2016.	<p>4b 24d</p> <p>Possibly 11e 17b</p>
Oldlands Copse	SNCI	GU109	TQ048548	Clandon and Horsley	SWT survey site 2017 – part of ongoing review of existing SNCIs.	Originally selected in 1996, CG explained that this is 7.2ha of Ancient Semi-natural Woodland. 16 ancient woodland indicator species were recorded in 2016. It still meets the SNCI selection guidelines.	<p><b>Remains SNCI with no boundary changes.</b></p> <p><b>Reason for selection updated.</b></p>	The site is selected for its Ancient Semi-natural Woodland habitat. 16 ancient woodland indicator species have been recorded since 2016.	1a

**Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys**

Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Monkshatch	SNCI	GU133	SU948483	Shalford	SWT survey site 2017 – part of ongoing review of existing SNCIs.	<p>Originally selected in 1996, CG explained that the western half of this SNCI was surveyed in 2016, the eastern half having been surveyed in 2013, (permission having not been granted for the western side at that time).</p> <p>The site continues to meet the SNCI criteria. 15 grassland indicator species were recorded during the current survey including 1 of those in bold. A number of notable plant species have been recorded across the site.</p> <p>It was explained that a small section in the south of the site is now under different ownership and appears to be incorporated into a garden. It could not be directly accessed but was viewed through the fence. It was suggested that consideration be given to removing this section from the boundary of the SNCI as it appears to have lost its value as part of the SNCI.</p> <p>The LSP agreed to remove this section from the SNCI boundary (as shown in Figure 2 of the SNCI report)</p>	<p><b>Remains SNCI with boundary changes as shown on Figure 2 of SWT Ecological Services report.</b></p> <p><b>Reason for selection updated.</b></p>	<p>The site is selected for its mosaic of habitats including woodland, scrub and remnant calcareous grassland. A total of 18 species typical of grassland of conservation interest in Surrey have been recorded on the site since 2013 with a further 22 having been recorded since 1995. In addition 17 ancient woodland indicator species have been recorded since 1995. White Helleborine, <i>Cephalanthera damasonium</i>, Fly Orchid, <i>Ophrys insectifera</i> and Rough Hawk's-beard, <i>Crepis biennis</i> (all GBRL - Vulnerable) have all been recorded on the site. Wild Strawberry, <i>Fragaria vesca</i> (VC17 Scarce, ERL – Near Threatened) and Stinking Hellebore, <i>Helleborus foetidus</i> (Nationally Scarce) were recorded in 2016. The site is particularly important for its connectivity within the landscape as it lies within a Biodiversity Opportunity Area (North Downs Scarp; The Hog's Back (ND01)).</p>	6b, 24a, 24b, 24c, 24d

**Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys**

Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Slyfield Meadow (part of Slyfield Meadow and Riverside Park SNCI)	SNCI	GU017	TQ008524	Stoke	SWT survey site 2017 – part of ongoing review of existing SNCIs.	Originally selected in 1996, CG explained that this site still meets the SNCI selection guidelines. The boundary of the SNCI remains appropriate.	<b>Remains SNCI with no boundary changes.</b>  <b>Reason for selection updated.</b>	<b>Slyfield Meadow and Riverside Park SNCI (*2)</b> The site comprises a mosaic of dry grassland, fen, swamp, wet meadows, open water, scrub and ancient semi-natural woodland. Of particular significance is one of the largest expanses of fen swamp in Surrey which supports a number of county scarce plants and has considerable bird and invertebrate interest. It was recommended by Surrey Bird Club in the past as good for breeding Lapwings ( <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> ) and wintering Water Pipits ( <i>Anthus spinoletta</i> ). 45 plant species typical of grassland of conservation interest in Surrey were recorded across the site in 2016. Notable plant species recently recorded on the site include; Marsh Stitchwort ( <i>Stellaria palustris</i> , GBRL & ERL - Vulnerable) - 2016, Marsh Sow-thistle ( <i>Sonchus palustris</i> , Nationally Scarce) - 2015, Corky-fruited Water-dropwort ( <i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i> , VC17 Scarce) – 2016, Fine-leaved Water-dropwort ( <i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i> , VC17 Scarce) – 2016, Lesser Spearwort ( <i>Ranunculus flammula</i> VC17 Scarce) – 2016, Ragged-robin ( <i>Silene flos-cuculi</i> , VC17 Scarce) - 2016 and Common Valerian ( <i>Valeriana officinalis</i> , VC17 Scarce) – 2016 The site lies within a network of wetland sites along the River Wey and Navigation and lies within the River Wey (plus tributaries) Biodiversity Opportunity Area (BOA RO4).	1a, 4b, 9c, 10, 15, 24a, 24c, 24d
Riverside Park (part of Slyfield Meadow and Riverside Park SNCI)	SNCI	GU018	TQ004514	Stoke, Burpham and Christchurch	SWT survey site 2017 – part of ongoing review of existing SNCIs.	Originally selected in 1996, CG explained that this site still meets the SNCI selection guidelines. It was recommended that 2 small areas were removed from the boundary of the SNCI. One area in the south is now covered by housing while an area in the north of the site is part of allotment gardens.  The LSP agreed to remove these two sections from the SNCI boundary (as shown in Figure 2 of the SNCI report)	<b>Remains SNCI with boundary changes as shown on Figure 2 of SWT Ecological Services report.</b>		

**Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys**

Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Effingham Golf Course	SNCI	GU094	TQ114525	Effingham	SWT survey site 2017 – part of ongoing review of existing SNCIs.	<p>Originally selected in 1996, IG explained that this site still meets the SNCI criteria. A boundary change was proposed in order to include an additional area of chalk grassland in the north within the same landownership.</p> <p>The removal of a small area in the south west of the site was also proposed as the survey had shown that this was a garden and not part of the golf course.</p> <p>The LSP agreed to the proposed changes to the SNCI boundary (as shown in Figure 2 of the SNCI report)</p>	<p><b>Remains SNCI with boundary changes as shown on Figure 2 of SWT Ecological Services report.</b></p> <p><b>Additional minor changes to reflect current Ordnance Survey base map.</b></p>	<p>The site is selected for its calcareous grassland, mainly associated with the roughs and fairway edges. 63 species typical of grassland of conservation interest in Surrey have been recorded on the site since 2000. The site meets the criteria for an Important Arable Plant Area (Byfield &amp; Wilson, 2005). A number of notable plant species have been recorded on the site including 13 plants found on the GB &amp; England Vascular Plant Red Lists, one UK BAP Priority species and four VC17 Rare or Scarce species recorded in 2016. The site supports almost 5ha of woodland from which 30 ancient woodland indicator species have been recorded since 2000. There is a known population of Dormice, <i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i> on the site.</p>	<p>1c, 6a, 6b, 6c, 13a, 17a, 24a, 24b, 24c, 24d</p>

**Guildford – Guildford Borough Council Funded Surveys**

Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Park Wood	SNCI	GU035	TQ063473	Tillingbourne	Additional information available for these sites – updated Lichen survey.	Originally selected in 1996, component sites were reviewed by LSP in 2009 (Chantry Bridge Wood, Park Wood, Silver Wood and Farm Hill Wood) and 2016 (Albury Park). At the time of this last review, although the site met the SNCI criteria in a number of areas, it was noted by the LSP that no up to date information was available for a key feature listed in the original reasons for selection, namely the site’s lichen communities.  AK explained that following recommendations from the LSP, GBC commissioned a new survey of the lichen communities within Albury Park SNCI which had been undertaken by Professor David Hawksworth, Vice-county Recorder for British Lichen Society in May 2016.  This survey recorded 96 species (122 in total since 1991) and in the opinion of Professor Hawksworth, “Albury Park remains the most important site for lichens known in Surrey, not only with more species than other lichen rich sites, but supporting at least six old-forest indicator species compared with none or only one at other well-studied sites” (Ashted Common NNR & Bookham Common).  The proposal that the SNCI status be retained and the Reasons for Selection be updated accordingly was therefore accepted by the LSP.	<p><b>Remains SNCI with no major boundary changes.</b></p> <p><b>Minor changes to reflect current Ordnance Survey base map (for all Albury Park sites)</b></p> <p><b>Reason for selection updated.</b></p>	<p><b>Albury Park SNCI (*2)</b> Selected as an important site for lichens. Described by Dr Francis Rose in 1991 as the most important site in Surrey for epiphytic lichens. Its importance was re-confirmed in 2016 by Professor David Hawksworth (VC Recorder for British Lichen Society) who, following a survey in 1996, stated that “Albury Park remains the most important site for lichens known in Surrey”. The site is also selected for its parkland habitat with ancient and veteran trees and for the presence of Common Cudweed, <i>Filago vulgaris</i> (GBRL – Lower Risk – Near Threatened). Woodland within the site supports areas of Ancient Semi-natural and ancient re-planted woodland retaining a good ancient woodland flora as well as notable Oak &amp; Sweet Chestnut pollards at Park Wood. The woodland is an important part of the ecological unit at Albury park. The site is also selected for its importance for bats with Barbastelle bats, <i>Barbastella barbastellus</i> (IUCN RL – Near Threatened), UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority and Species of Principal Importance (SPI) under Section 41 of the NERC Act) having been recorded using the tunnel in the north east of the site along with a range of other subterranean hibernating bat species.</p>	1b, 1c, 2a, 2b, 24a, 25a, 25b, 25c.
Silver Wood and Farm Hill Wood	SNCI	GU036	TQ065481	Tillingbourne					
Chantry Bridge Wood	SNCI	GU037	TQ069475	Tillingbourne					
Albury Park	SNCI	GU038	TQ064475	Tillingbourne					

Guildford - Other Sites Put Forward For Discussion									
Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Oldfield Wood and Wood House	None	N.A.	SU935540	Pirbright	Put forward by member of SBS (Isobel Girvan)	<p>IG explained that she had originally visited this site in a personal capacity on behalf of SBS which is comprised of a mix of woodland, acid grassland and ponds. Part of the woodland is Ancient Semi-natural. The remainder, although not ancient, has been developing as woodland for almost 200 years.</p> <p>It meets both woodland and grassland SNCI criteria, is in positive management and the current owners support the site's proposal as an SNCI.</p>	<p><b>Selected as new SNCI - Oldfield Wood and Wood House SNCI.</b></p> <p><b>LSP Ref No. GU168</b></p>	The site is selected for its mature woodland, part of which is Ancient Semi-natural supporting at least 15 ancient woodland indicator species. It is also selected for its patchily distributed acid grassland habitat supporting at least 31 species typical of grassland of conservation interest in Surrey.	1b, 1c, 1e, 5a, 5b.

Tandridge – Tandridge District Council Funded Work									
Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
The Rookery	pSNCI	TAp006	TQ313445	Burstow, Horne and Outwood	SWT survey site 2016	<p>CG explained that this is a small area of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland. It has unfortunately been damaged by the trampling and grazing of horses as well as by enrichment by their dung and supplementary feeding. As a result the ground flora is extremely impoverished. 9 ancient woodland indicator species were recorded but these were mostly restricted to the very edges of the site beyond the fences.</p> <p>As such the proposal to the LSP was that the site did not meet the criteria for selection as a SNCI and that following this evaluation, its pSNCI status should also be removed.</p>	<b>Not selected as SNCI – pSNCI status removed from site.</b>	N/A	N/A

Tandridge – Other Sites Put Forward For Discussion									
Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Winders Hill and Godstone Mines	Part pSNCI (Winders Hill)	TAp159	TQ354535	Godstone	Put forward by Surrey Bat Group	<p>The site is comprised of woodland surrounding the entrance to five former mines, three large and two small, examples of the extensive workings in the Upper Greensand in Surrey.</p> <p>RB explained that based on more than 10 years of surveys, the mines have been shown to be important sites for woodland bats both for hibernation and for autumn swarming, at which, amongst other activities, mating is known to take place.</p> <p>Much of the woodland surrounding the mine entrances appears on the Ancient Woodland Inventory as Ancient Semi-natural Woodland and is of particular importance during this swarming activity.</p> <p>The LSP agreed that the candidate site as proposed by the Surrey Bat Group should be selected as an SNCI including the woodland surrounding the mine entrances (which incorporates some 7ha of Ancient Semi-natural woodland and therefore meets the SNCI selection criteria in its own right). The north east arm of Winders Hill pSNCI is not considered to be ancient and was therefore excluded from the SNCI at this time however the LSP agreed that its pSNCI status should be retained until a full assessment of its nature conservation interest is undertaken.</p>	<p><b>Selected as new SNCI - Winders Hill and Godstone Mines SNCI.</b></p> <p><b>LSP Ref. No. TA097</b></p> <p><b>The north east arm of Winders Hill pSNCI to remain as a pSNCI.</b></p>	The site is selected for the extensive underground mine workings which are a significant hibernation site for multiple bat species. It is also important for the autumn swarming of woodland bats. Bechstein's bat ( <i>Myotis bechsteinii</i> ), a species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive was recorded during a swarming survey in 2010. The woodland above the mines supports over 7ha of Ancient Semi-natural Woodland.	1a, 18a, 18b, 18c

Elmbridge – Other Sites Put Forward For Discussion									
Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Field Common / Hersham Pits	SNCI	EL020	TQ130666	Walton North	<p>Review at request of EBC following survey data/report submitted by site owner.</p> <p>Survey report and assessment against SNCI Criteria produced by The Ecology Consultancy for The Sitwell Partnership covers the southern section of the SNCI ("Land South of Field Common". This report was circulated to LSP Members in advance of the meeting.</p>	<p>This site was originally selected as an SNCI in 1996. It was subsequently reviewed in 2004 when it was reselected with a number of boundary changes to reflect changes in the nature conservation interest. The Reasons for Selection in 2004 were recorded as <i>"Gravel pits, with some restoration work in progress, wet grassland, scrub and woodland. Important site for birds including breeding and migrant birds and wintering wildfowl. Also important for dragonflies which use ditches. Position in ecological unit is important being located near to 3 SNCIs and Knight and Besborough Reservoir SSSI."</i></p> <p>AK explained that The Ecology Consultancy have undertaken surveys over a number of years focusing on the features for which it was originally selected, specifically breeding and wintering birds and dragonflies (Odonata). Their report argues that the ecological interest of the site has declined since the last review in 2004 and as such the site no longer meets the current SNCI criteria for birds or Odonata.</p> <p>The LSP agreed that the site no longer meets the criteria for which it was selected and that the area covered by The Ecology Consultancy report ("Land South of Field Common") should be removed from the SNCI. The remainder of the SNCI was not discussed at the meeting and should be retained as an SNCI and renamed Molesey Heath LNR &amp; Hersham Pits SNCI.</p> <p>The area removed will be added to the list of Deselected SNCIs maintained</p>	<p><b>"Land South of Field Common" removed from SNCI. SNCI Renamed Molesey Heath LNR &amp; Hersham Pits SNCI</b></p>	N/A	N/A

Elmbridge – Other Sites Put Forward For Discussion									
Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
						by SBIC together with reasons for deselection.			

Epsom and Ewell – Other Sites Put Forward For Discussion									
Site Name	Current status of site	LSP Ref. No.	Grid Ref	Ward	Reason for discussion	Comments at meeting	Decision	Reason for selection	Relevant Criteria *1
Langley Bottom Farm	SNCI	EE017  (Also RB053 & MV073)	TQ209566 (proposed extension TQ208574)	Woodcote	Proposed extension to existing SNCI  Proposed by Surrey Botanical Society based on survey information from 2015	AS put forward a site covering just over 11ha to be added to the Langley Bottom Farm SNCI.  The area is has been proposed as it supports many of the same arable features as the existing Langley Bottom Farm SNCI including 2 species listed on both the GB and England Vascular Plant Red Lists; Dwarf Spurge, <i>Euphorbia exigua</i> and Field Gromwell, <i>Lithospermum arvense</i> as well as Rough Poppy, <i>Papaver hybridum</i> which is VC17 Rare and Venus's-looking-glass, <i>Legousia hybrida</i> which is VC17 Scarce.  AS explained that the species are well distributed across the field.  The LSP agreed that this area should be included within the Langley Bottom Farm SNCI.	<b>Selected as an extension to Langley Bottom Farm SNCI.</b>	The site is selected as a valuable arable complex. It supports considerable arable plant interest including at least 10 nationally Rare plant species and 7 species rare or scarce within Surrey. It is the best site in Surrey for the Night Flowering Catchfly, <i>Silene noctiflora</i> (GBRL – Vulnerable). Most of the site meets the Plantlife Important Arable Plant Area criteria. At least 33 species typical of grassland of conservation interest in Surrey have been recorded on the site. The site also supports areas of Ancient Semi-natural Woodland (ASNW) and potentially ancient shaws and hedgerows. Although much of the interest of the site is in the field margins, the entire site is important as part of the arable complex.	1b, 6b, 13a, 13b, 24a, 24d

#### Notes

\*1 – Criteria listed in: Gibbs (2008)

\*2 – Multi-site SNCI as defined in Guildford Borough Local Plan Review: Nature Conservation Sites, June 1997

#### References

Gibbs, C 2008, *Guidance for the Selection of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs) in Surrey*, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Pirbright, Surrey