

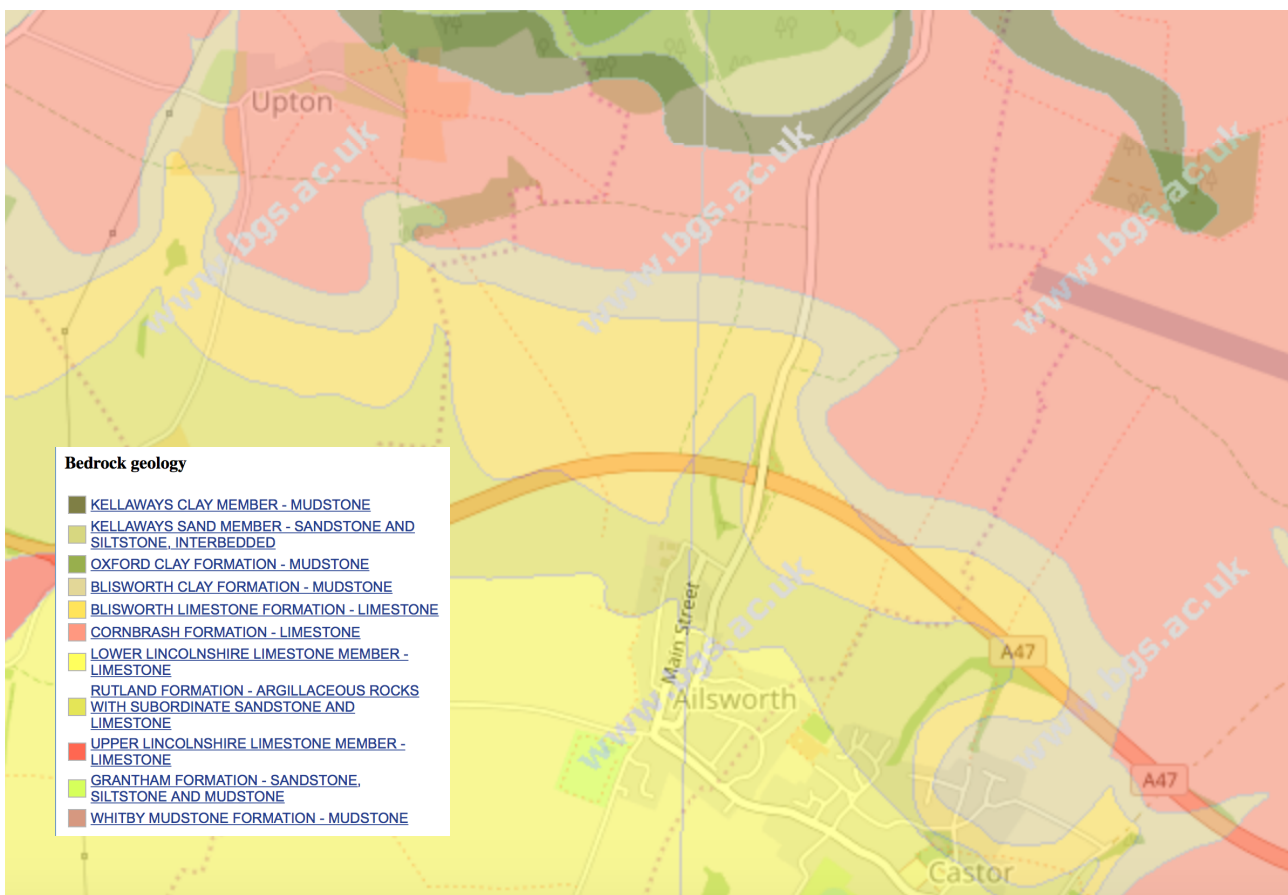
## Oldfield Pond



### 1) Background

The area of Castor and Ailsworth parishes to the north of the A47 previously supported a number of small ponds. In common with many areas of the country, many of these have been lost through infilling or drainage as they were no longer needed for agricultural purposes. The geology of the area is complex and there are a number of springs emerging where different geological strata meet (e.g. porous limestone meets impermeable geology). These springs are likely to result in areas of clean water unaffected by surface drainage and hence any waterbodies that do remain have the potential to support interesting wildlife.

This hypothesis is supported by the main pond at Castor Hanglands which is the richest known pond in the UK in terms of its plant and invertebrates. There are number of other ponds remaining along this 'springline' including Old Field pond which may date back to at least the Roman occupation (the older the pond the greater its potential to support rare or significant species).



## 2) Wildlife Value - Current Evidence

There are few species records for the area in question but the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Records Centre data have a few significant records

Species	Date	Location	Habitat Notes
<i>Oenanthe lachenalii</i> (Parsley water dropwort)	17/07/2004	Castor Hanglands (TF1101)	Typically a species of coastal dykes. In Huntingdonshire and Soke Flora - old records for bogs near Wansford (presumably Sutton) and Ailsworth and Wittering (1930s).
	08/07/2006	Oldfield Pond Wood (TF132001)	
	10/09/2006	Castor (TF1300)	
	2008	Castor Hanglands (TF1101)	
	2009	Castor Hanglands (TF1101)	
<i>Silene noctiflora</i> (Night flowering catchfly)	08/07/2006	Oldfield Pond Wood (TF132001)	From Huntingdonshire and Soke Flora - "Edges of arable fields, particularly frequent on the limestones in the NW of the the Soke... appears to have declined considerably since about 1974"
<i>Helophorus nanus</i> - a water beetle	19/04/1993	Oldfield Pond (TF132002)	Pond species...
<i>Triturus cristatus</i> (Great Crested Newt)	23/02/2017	Old Field Pond and the ditch that runs West from OFP for a distance of around 300 metres.	1 female seen on the Western edge of OFP, and 4 other females seen in the ditch running to the West of OFP.
<i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i> (Smooth newt)	23/02/2017	Old Field Pond	1 male observed on the Northern edge of OFP.
<i>Bufo bufo</i> (Common Toad)	19/03/2017	Old Field Pond	Several males heard calling in the Northern edge of OFP.

## ***Recent Observations***

### **Amphibians**

Great Crested Newts were observed in Oldfield Pond in April 1997 and 1998, though the numbers present were not recorded. Data obtained by Tom Chillcott from CPERC web site.

They were also observed at the Castor Hanglands in 1998, at Pond 7 in May and Pond 1 in August, though the numbers present were not recorded. Data obtained by Tom Chillcott from CPERC web site.

Five Great Crested Newts have been observed on February 23rd 2017, along with a solitary Smooth newt. Several male Common toads heard calling on 19/03/2017. Observations by Mike Horne.

## Birds

### Recent Bird Counts by Bob Wakerley and Mike Thomas

Bob Wakerley – 24th November 2016 – See spreadsheet below

Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen
Mute Swan		Black Headed Gull	3	Long-tailed Tit	9
Greylag Goose		Common Gull		Blue Tit	3
Canada Goose		Lesser Black-backed Gull		Great Tit	2
Egyptian Goose		Herring Gull		Coal Tit	
Shelduck		Great Black-backed Gull		Marsh Tit	
Wigeon		Common Tern		Nuthatch	
Gadwall		Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon		Treecreeper	
Teal		Stock Dove		Jay	1
Mallard		Woodpigeon	6	Magpie	3
Pintail		Collared Dove		Jackdaw	
Garganey		Turtle Dove		Rook	5
Shoveler		Cuckoo		Carrion Crow	2
Pochard		Barn Owl		Hooded Crow	
Tufted Duck		Little Owl		Starling	6
Goldeneye		Tawny Owl		House Sparrow	
Smew		Long-eared Owl		Tree Sparrow	
Goosander		Short-eared Owl		Chaffinch	3
Ruddy Duck		Swift		Greenfinch	
Red-legged Partridge	3	Kingfisher		Goldfinch	6
Grey Partridge		Green Woodpecker		Siskin	
Pheasant	2	Great Spotted Woodpecker		Linnet	
Little Grebe		Skylark	2	Yellowhammer	3
Great Crested Grebe		Sand Martin		Reed Bunting	
Cormorant		Swallow		Red Crested Pochard	
Little Egret		House Martin		Black Swan	
Grey Heron		Meadow Pipit		Aylesbury Duck	
Sparrowhawk		Yellow Wagtail		Cetti's Warbler	
Buzzard	2	Grey Wagtail		Spotted Flycatcher	
Kestrel	1	Pied Wagtail		Bull Finch	3
Water Rail		Wren	2		
Moorhen		Dunnock	2		
Coot		Robin	2	Roe Deer	1
Oystercatcher		Blackbird	4	Deer Tracks	3
Avocet		Fieldfare	12		
Little Ringed Plover		Song Thrush	3		
Ringed Plover		Redwing			
Golden Plover		Mistle Thrush			
Lapwing		Sedge Warbler			
Snipe		Reed Warbler			
Curlew		Blackcap			
Common Sandpiper		Garden Warbler			
Green Sandpiper		Lesser Whitethroat			
Redshank		Whitethroat			
		Chiffchaff			
		Willow Warbler			
		Goldcrest			

Mike Thomas - 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017 – See spreadsheet below

Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen
Mute Swan		Black Headed Gull		Long-tailed Tit	
Greylag Goose		Common Gull		Blue Tit	15
Canada Goose		Lesser Black-backed Gull		Great Tit	2
Egyptian Goose		Herring Gull		Coal Tit	
Shelduck		Great Black-backed Gull		Marsh Tit	
Wigeon		Common Tern		Nuthatch	
Gadwall		Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon		Treecreeper	
Teal		Stock Dove		Jay	
Mallard		Woodpigeon	200	Magpie	15
Pintail		Collared Dove		Jackdaw	
Garganey		Turtle Dove		Rook	
Shoveler		Cuckoo		Carrion Crow	10
Pochard		Barn Owl		Hooded Crow	
Tufted Duck		Little Owl		Starling	
Goldeneye		Tawny Owl		House Sparrow	
Smew		Long-eared Owl		Tree Sparrow	
Goosander		Short-eared Owl		Chaffinch	
Ruddy Duck		Swift		Greenfinch	
Red-legged Partridge		Kingfisher		Goldfinch	
Grey Partridge		Green Woodpecker	1	Siskin	
Pheasant	3	Great Spotted Woodpecker		Linnet	4
Little Grebe		Skylark	30	Yellowhammer	7
Great Crested Grebe		Sand Martin		Reed Bunting	8
Cormorant		Swallow		Red Crested Pochard	
Little Egret		House Martin		Black Swan	
Grey Heron		Meadow Pipit		Aylesbury Duck	
Sparrowhawk		Yellow Wagtail		Cetti's Warbler	
Buzzard	2	Grey Wagtail		Spotted Flycatcher	
Kestrel	1	Pied Wagtail		Red Kite	1
Water Rail		Wren	1		
Moorhen		Dunnock			
Coot		Robin	2		
Oystercatcher		Blackbird	30		
Avocet		Fieldfare	3		
Little Ringed Plover		Song Thrush			
Ringed Plover		Redwing			
Golden Plover		Mistle Thrush			
Lapwing		Sedge Warbler			
Snipe		Reed Warbler			
Curlew		Blackcap			
Common Sandpiper		Garden Warbler			
Green Sandpiper		Lesser Whitethroat			
Redshank		Whitethroat			
		Chiffchaff			
		Willow Warbler			
		Goldcrest			

Badger set in Cow Lane, Oldfield Pond now has water  
Sunny but cool February morning 9.00 - 11.00

Mike Thomas - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – See spreadsheet below

Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen
Mute Swan		Black Headed Gull		Long-tailed Tit	1
Greylag Goose		Common Gull		Blue Tit	6
Canada Goose		Lesser Black-backed Gull		Great Tit	1
Egyptian Goose		Herring Gull		Coal Tit	
Shelduck		Great Black-backed Gull		Marsh Tit	
Wigeon		Common Tern		Nuthatch	
Gadwall		Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon		Treecreeper	
Teal		Stock Dove		Jay	
Mallard		Woodpigeon	23	Magpie	2
Pintail		Collared Dove		Jackdaw	
Garganey		Turtle Dove		Rook	
Shoveler		Cuckoo		Carrion Crow	7
Pochard		Barn Owl		Hooded Crow	
Tufted Duck		Little Owl		Starling	
Goldeneye		Tawny Owl		House Sparrow	
Smew		Long-eared Owl		Tree Sparrow	
Goosander		Short-eared Owl		Chaffinch	3
Ruddy Duck		Swift		Greenfinch	1
Red-legged Partridge	2	Kingfisher		Goldfinch	5
Grey Partridge		Green Woodpecker	1	Siskin	
Pheasant	2	Great Spotted Woodpecker		Linnet	
Little Grebe		Skylark	14	Yellowhammer	12
Great Crested Grebe		Sand Martin		Reed Bunting	
Cormorant		Swallow		Bullfinch	
Little Egret		House Martin		Red Kite	1
Grey Heron		Meadow Pipit		Aylesbury Duck	
Sparrowhawk		Yellow Wagtail		Cetti's Warbler	
Buzzard	1	Grey Wagtail		Spotted Flycatcher	
Kestrel		Pied Wagtail			
Water Rail		Wren	24		
Moorhen	1	Dunnock	5		
Coot		Robin	13		
Oystercatcher		Blackbird	7		
Avocet		Fieldfare			
Little Ringed Plover		Song Thrush	1		
Ringed Plover		Redwing			
Golden Plover		Mistle Thrush			
Lapwing		Sedge Warbler			
Snipe		Reed Warbler			
Curlew		Blackcap			
Common Sandpiper		Garden Warbler			
Green Sandpiper		Lesser Whitethroat			
Redshank		Whitethroat			
		Chiffchaff			
		Willow Warbler			
		Goldcrest			

Cloudy cool Mid March Morning - 10/03/17 - Many deer tracks around Oldfield Pond.

Yellowhammers and Skylarks were very active around Pond woodland and Wrens heard almost everywhere on the walk

**Heard Moorhen in area near pond**

Mike Thomas - 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017 – See spreadsheet below

Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen	Bird	Number Seen
Mute Swan		Black Headed Gull		Long-tailed Tit	
Greylag Goose		Common Gull		Blue Tit	12
Canada Goose		Lesser Black-backed Gull		Great Tit	7
Egyptian Goose		Herring Gull		Coal Tit	
Shelduck		Great Black-backed Gull		Marsh Tit	
Wigeon		Common Tern		Nuthatch	
Gadwall		Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon		Treecreeper	
Teal		Stock Dove		Jay	
Mallard		Woodpigeon	15	Magpie	10
Pintail		Collared Dove		Jackdaw	
Garganey		Turtle Dove		Rook	12
Shoveler		Cuckoo		Carrion Crow	25
Pochard		Barn Owl		Hooded Crow	
Tufted Duck		Little Owl		Starling	
Goldeneye		Tawny Owl		House Sparrow	
Smew		Long-eared Owl		Tree Sparrow	
Goosander		Short-eared Owl		Chaffinch	8
Ruddy Duck		Swift		Greenfinch	
Red-legged Partridge	2	Kingfisher		Goldfinch	
Grey Partridge		Green Woodpecker	2	Siskin	
Pheasant	3	Great Spotted Woodpecker	1	Linnet	
Little Grebe		Skylark	16	Yellowhammer	15
Great Crested Grebe		Sand Martin		Reed Bunting	1
Cormorant		Swallow		Bullfinch	
Little Egret		House Martin		Red Kite	
Grey Heron	1	Meadow Pipit		Aylesbury Duck	
Sparrowhawk		Yellow Wagtail		Cetti's Warbler	
Buzzard	1	Grey Wagtail		Spotted Flycatcher	
Kestrel		Pied Wagtail	1		
Water Rail		Wren	21		
Moorhen		Dunnock	7		
Coot		Robin	2		
Oystercatcher		Blackbird	5		
Avocet		Fieldfare			
Little Ringed Plover		Song Thrush	1		
Ringed Plover		Redwing			
Golden Plover		Mistle Thrush			
Lapwing		Sedge Warbler			
Snipe	1	Reed Warbler			
Curlew		Blackcap			
Common Sandpiper		Garden Warbler			
Green Sandpiper		Lesser Whitethroat			
Redshank		Whitethroat			
		Chiffchaff			
		Willow Warbler			
		Goldcrest			

Sunny to start then clouded over. Cool and warming towards end of walk - 9.00 - 12 Noon  
 Yellowhammers and Skylarks were very active around Pond woodland and flushed a Snipe inadvertently, very brief view.  
 Then also came across a Reed Bunting.

### **Phase 1 Survey Results**

*See Appendix 1 – Oldfield Pond – Habitat Survey*

*See Appendix 2 – Habitat Survey Photos*

*See Appendix 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of OFP OS by Tom Chillcott*

### **3) Cultural and Archaeological Value**

*See Appendix 4 - Oldfield Pond as an ancient landscape*

### **4) Further Work Planned**

Work is scheduled for spring/summer 2017.....

- Clean water survey across 'pondscape' area to identify waters with low concentrations of nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) and therefore likely to support interesting flora (supported by Freshwater Habitats Trust)
- Spring amphibian surveys to determine presence/absence of Great Crested Newts and other amphibians in remaining ponds
- Specialist invertebrate survey of Oldfield Pond

**Oldfield Pond – Phase 1 Habitat Survey**

**Date:** 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Location:** Oldfield Pond Wood, Ailsworth

**Grid reference:** TF132002

**Surveyors:** Thomas Chillcott, Michael Horne, Michael Thomas

**Description:**

The site is an area of deciduous plantation woodland surrounded by arable fields, composed primarily of English Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Common Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*). Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and Dog Rose (*Rosa canina*) are also present at regular points. Along the edge of the plantation are rows of Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) and Dog Rose (*Rosa canina*).

The site is surrounded by species-poor hedgerow, composed primarily of Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) with Elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) also appearing. The north side of the surrounding hedge incomplete, composed of scattered Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*).

Between the plantation and hedgerow is a surrounding trackway of semi-improved grassland that is evidently used regularly by horses. (Photo 1)

Within the plantations, two ditches cross perpendicular through each other. They contain Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) and are surrounded by tracks of semi-improved grassland. (Photo 2)

Oldfield Pond is a prominent feature in the south-east section of the wood. (Photo 3)

The pond is full of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) and surrounded by established Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and Crack Willow (*Salix fragilis*). The pond is a known breeding site for Great Crested Newts (*Triturus cristatus*), Common Frogs (*Rana temporaria*) and Common Toads (*Bufo bufo*).

From the south-east corner of the site, a species-rich hedgerow spread East between arable fields. It is a mix primarily of Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and Bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), with Elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) appearing regularly. A line of established Common Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) trees are also in this hedgerow. It is a thick well-established hedgerow, creating suitable habitat for birds, small mammals and invertebrates.

**Other plant species**

Moss (*Sphagnum* spp.)

Hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*)

Cow Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*)

Cock's Foot (*Dactylus glomerata*)

Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*)

Broad-leaved Dock (*Rumex obtusifolius*)  
Ribwort Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*)  
Cleavers (*Galium aparine*)  
Creeping Buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*)  
Water Crowfoot (*Ranunculus aquatilis*)  
Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna*)  
Germander Speedwell (*Veronica chamaedrys*)  
Hairy Violet (*Viola hirta*)  
Unidentified white orchid

### **Other species**

Fallow Deer (*Dama dama*) – known to forage at the site (Mike Horne). Hoof print found (Photo 4)  
Muntjac (*Muntiacus reevesi*) – known to forage at the site (Mike Horne)  
Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) – spraint found (Photo 5)

Chiffchaff (*Phylloscopus collybita*)  
Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)  
Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*)  
Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*) (Photo 6)  
Yellowhammer (*Emberiza citrinella*) (Photo 7)  
Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*) – observed by Michael Thomas at later visit  
Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)  
Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*) – not confirmed  
Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)  
Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*)  
Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*)  
Great Tit (*Parus major*)  
Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*) (Photo 8)  
Woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*)  
Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*)  
Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*)  
Magpie (*Pica pica*)  
Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*)  
Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*)  
Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*)  
Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)  
Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)  
Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) – observed by Michael Thomas at later visit

Common Toad (*Bufo bufo*) – heard

Bumblebee (*Bombus* spp.)

Unidentified Bracket fungus spp. (Photo 9)  
2 unidentified fungus spp. (Photos 10 and 11)

**Target notes**

1. Drainage pipe on northern bank of Oldfield Pond (Photo 12)
2. Common Beech (*Fagus sylvaticus*). Only one individual tree, naturally planted.  
Probably result of seed dispersal by bird (Photo 13)
3. Small plantation of young Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)
4. Old pheasant coop, long abandoned (Photo 14)
5. Concrete post, remnant of fence that was present in the 1950s
6. Pile of large logs, potential hibernaculum
7. Common Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) with an old abandoned nest box for Tawny Owls (*Strix aluco*) (Photo 15)

**Habitat Survey Photos**



*IMAGE 1- Trackway*



*IMAGE 2- Ditch 2*



*IMAGE 3 - Oldfield Pond*



*IMAGE 4 - Fallow Deer Hoof Print*



*IMAGE 5 - Fox Spraint*



*IMAGE 6 - Robin*



*IMAGE 7 - Yellowhammer*



*IMAGE 8 - Long-tailed Tit*



*IMAGE 9 - Bracket Fungus*



*IMAGE 10 - Unidentified Fungus*



*IMAGE 11- Unidentified Fungus 2*



*IMAGE 12 - Target Note 1*



*IMAGE 13 - Target Note 2*



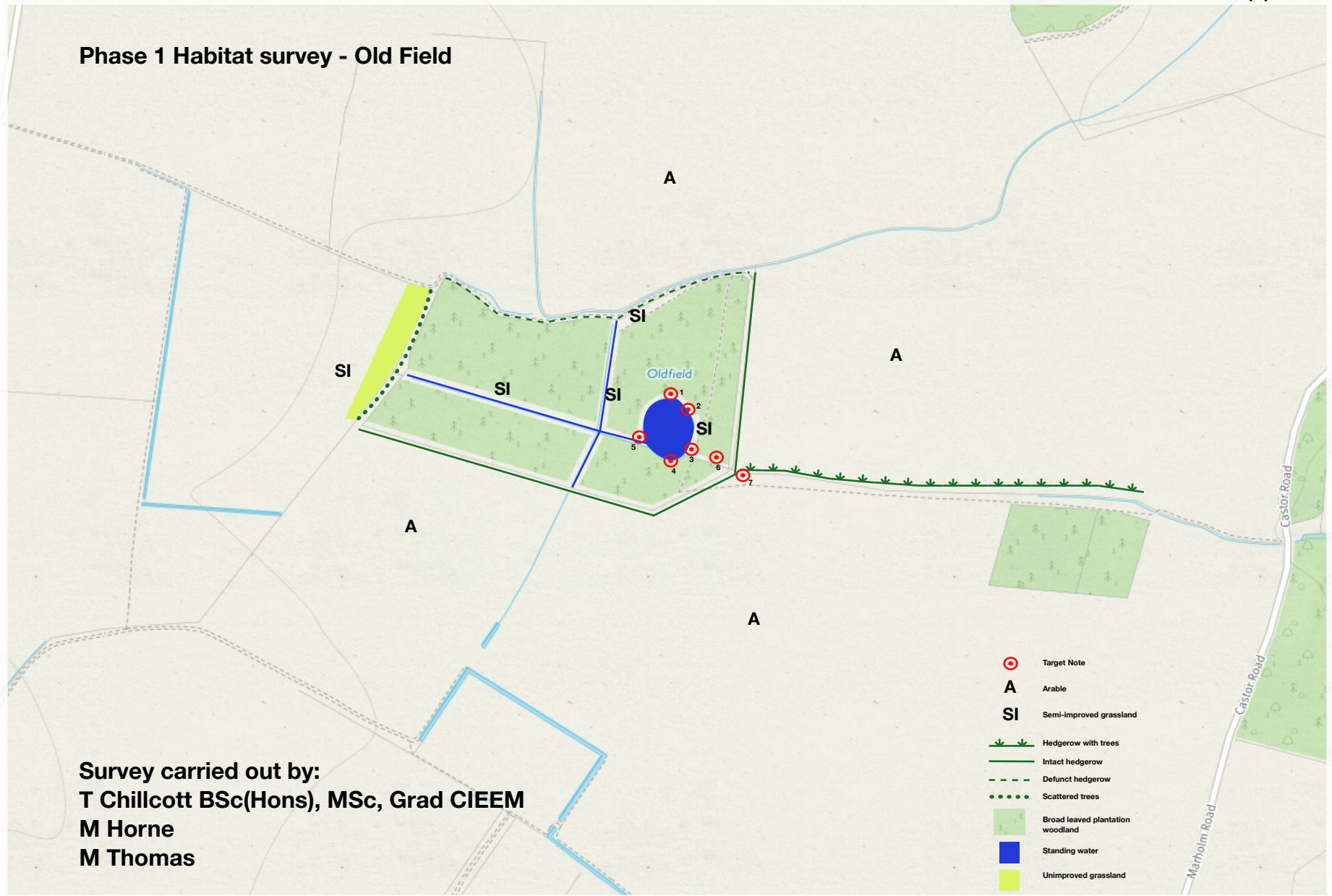
*IMAGE 14 - Target Note 4*



*IMAGE 15 - Target Note 7*

# Appendix 3

## Phase 1 Habitat survey - Old Field



**Survey carried out by:**  
**T Chillcott BSc(Hons), MSc, Grad CIEEM**  
**M Horne**  
**M Thomas**

- Target Note
- A** Arable
- SI** Semi-improved grassland
- Hedgerow with trees
- Intact hedgerow
- Defunct hedgerow
- Scattered trees
- Broad leaved plantation woodland
- Standing water
- Unimproved grassland

### **3) Cultural and Archaeological Value**

#### **Oldfield Pond as an ancient landscape feature**

Oldfield Pond lies to the north of Castor Recreation Ground at the top of The Drift and to the southwest of Belsize Farm. Located in a plantation and neglected over the last decade this site has probably been a feature of the landscape for the last two millennia. The theory is that the spring water in the area were captured into the pond which was deepened and lined with clay by the Romans to feed the Praetorium at Castor and the substantial baths to the south of this building. The baths have been assessed as of a military or public scale and would have required large quantities of water. A series of basic aqueducts may have directed the water down “The Drift” and into what we now know as Castor.

“How the baths functioned, the source of water and its supply are a matter of conjecture. Green describes a tiled aqueduct that he found in 1957–58, which led to the bath-house.<sup>67</sup> However, the comparative size of this structure (72.15 m<sup>2</sup>) and the bath-house recorded by Artis (337.1 m<sup>2</sup>) would indicate the need for a much greater quantity of water and a more substantial means of conveying it to the bath-house.<sup>68</sup> During 2002 residents of Castor surveyed the line of a ‘possible’ aqueduct running from Old Field Pond (TL 132 003) — which is also fed by springs — to the Praetorium site. It was calculated that an aqueduct with a section of 30 by 30 cm could carry a volume of water that was equivalent to a massive 219,229 gallons (997,491 litres) per day.”<sup>i</sup>

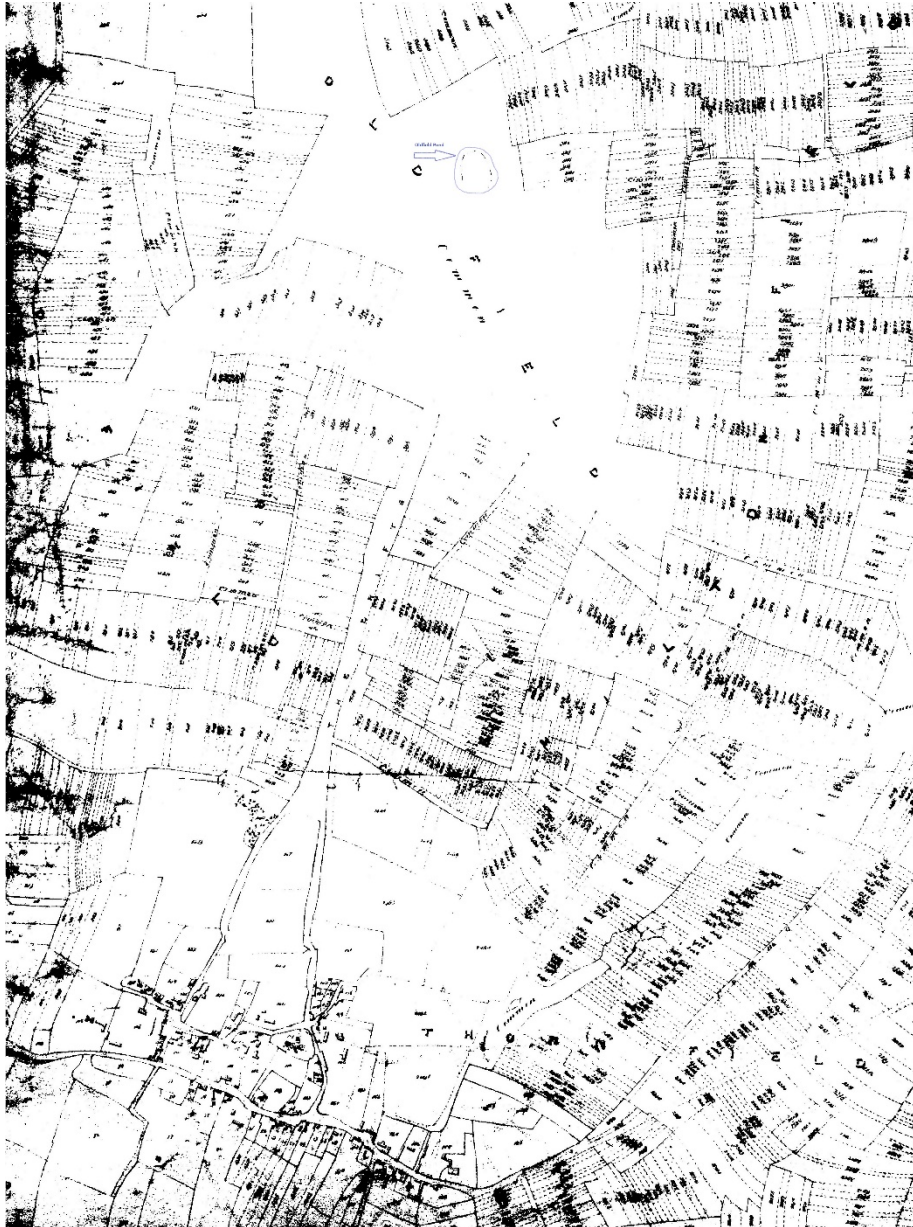
Oldfield Pond certainly features on a map of the ancient field system of 1848 – surrounded by grazing land for herdsmen using the commons rights. The pond would have been one of many (possibly 40 across the Parishes) serving the farming and grazing needs as well as providing a water supply for villagers. This land was enclosed very late in 1898 compared to the rest of England and so the ponds and other features of the medieval way of life still exist in our landscape.

“Ponds are a neglected historic feature of the landscape. They vary in their dates of construction, many being related to the open fields of the pre-enclosure period where they formed an integral part of the farming system. Accounts of early enclosures also record their construction. Ponds provided water for livestock and draft animals, they linked with drainage systems and they also had miscellaneous functions such as being used for retting cloth and providing manure from pond cleaning”<sup>ii</sup>

The landscape setting of Oldfield Pond with the ditches and lanes located close by, the remains of the ploughing headlands and surviving open field access ways in the form of “green lanes” is in the same arrangement as appears on the 1848 map. Apart from the fact that the field system has been replaced by large fields, the landscape is as it was prior to the late enclosures of 1898.

The archaeological evidence of pre-Roman, Roman and Saxon settlement on the land surrounding Oldfield pond confirms that this area has been occupied for 1000's of years. Oldfield Pond is situated within 500 metres of a major Saxon site of importance, perhaps a village or manorial centre lying to the east of the pond.

“This site is of local, regional and national importance. It may have had connections with the contemporary Saxon nunnery at Castor ...”<sup>iii</sup>



1848 Map of Castor and Ailsworth Parishes and the field system

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<sup>i</sup> Excerpt from: The Praetorium of Edmund Artis: A Summary of Excavations and Surveys of the Palatial Roman Structure at Castor, Cambridgeshire 1828–2010 By STEPHEN G. UPEX Published in *Britannia* 42 (2011), 23–112 doi:10.1017/S0068113X11000614

<sup>ii</sup> Excerpt from: The Agricultural History Review The uses and functions of ponds within early landscapes in the East Midlands\* by Stephen G. Upex

<sup>iii</sup> Excerpt from: A Report on Intensive Archaeological Field walking and air photographic recording in the area around Salter's Tree, Castor , Peterborough SG Upex (February 2017)

## Survey Oldfield Pond in Spring 2017

### Dr Peter Kirby Entomologist - Brief summary of findings

There are still some identifications to make, but the first run-through has produced a list of 68 aquatic taxa, of which 43 are water beetles, including 5 Nationally Scarce and 3 Near Threatened. Star of the show is *Agabus labiatus*, which a brief glance at the atlas suggests may conceivably be the first post-1980 record for modern Cambridgeshire and the first ever for vc32. There's also a very large population of *Graptodytes bilineatus*, which doesn't happen every day in our bit of the world. Other species with status are more predictable: *Berosus luridus*, *Dytiscus dimidiatus*, *Dryops similaris*, *Enochrus quadripunctatus*, *Helophorus nanus*, *Hygrotus decoratus*. It seems this may be an old relic site of some significance.

> Oldfield Pond...the bed is firm, there's no anoxic sediment, the emergent vegetation is open-structured, there are sizeable areas with cover of submerged moss, the fringing woody vegetation is mostly a narrow strip of willow carr with potential in its own right, and a semi-island in the middle and shallows beyond the carr provide substitute margins.

He advises extreme caution before any "restoration / conservation" work is done on this pond.

### Dr Stewart Clarke comment on commissioning Pete Kirby on the survey work

"Pete Kirby had found some interesting beetles at Oldfield and it confirms my suspicion that it was a good site (clearly several hundred years old, on fen edge and near Hanglands pond a known good pond) and hence getting FHT (Freshwater Habitat Trust) to fund a survey. It also shows why some form of assessment is a good idea before management; frequently 'overgrown' ponds and ditches are good for a range of specialist invertebrates, particularly beetles and snails."

Mike Horne asked **Tim Newton** for his records from the last 4 years – see attached

**CASTOR HANGLANDS, Cambridgeshire**

**Coleoptera taken from 2013 - 2017**

**Tim Newton - Consultant entomologist**

*Amara familiaris*

*Pterostichus niger*

*Pterostichus nigrita*

*Pterostichus madidus*

*Notiophilus biguttatus*

*Paranchus albipes*

*Gyrinus substriatus*

*Agathidium atrum*

*Tachyporus chrysomelinus*

*Tachyporus hypnorum*

*Dorcus parallelipedus*

Local

*Athous bicolor*

*Athous haemorrhoidalis*

*Melanotus villosus*

*Cantharis decipiens*

*Cantharis livida*

*Cantharis nigricans*

*Cantharis pallida*

*Cantharis rustica*

*Rhagonycha fulva*

*Rhagonycha limbata*

*Anobium punctatum*

Local

*Xestobium rufovillosum*

Very Local

*Malachius bipustulatus*

Local

*Byturus tormentosus*

Meligethes aeneus

Micrambe ulicis

Halyzia sedecimguttata

Harmonia axyridis

Propylea 14 – guttata

Rhyzobius litura

Conopalpus testaceus

Notable B (1.vi.17)

Osphya bipunctata

Red Data Bk 3 Notable A (5.v.17)

Mordellochroa abdominalis

Very Local

Mordestellina neuwaldeggiana

RDBK Notable A

Oedemera nobilis

Oedemera lurida

Pyrochroa coccinea

Notable B

Pyrochroa serraticornis

Common

Grammoptera ruficornis

Common

Grammptera abdominalis

RDBK 3 Notable A

Stenurella melanura

Stenocorus meridianus

Anaspis fasciata

Anspis garneysi

Anaspis regimbarti

Anaspis thoracica

Notable A

Ischnomera cyanea

Notable B

Platyrhinus resinosus

Notable B Very Local

Platystomos albinus

Notable B

Bruchus rufipes

Apion immune

Temnocerus caeruleus

Tatianaerhynchites aequatus

Curculio glandium

Orchestes pilosus

Orchestes quercus

Phyllobius pomorum

Phyllobious pyri

Phyllobious roboretanus

**Mecoptera (scorpion flies)**

Panorpa sp.

**Diptera**

Merodon equestris

Yellow dung fly

Leucozonia lucorum

**Lepidoptera**

Garden carpet

Adela reamurella

Nematopogon swammerdamella

Red admiral

**Arachnids**

Araneus quadratus

Cucumber spider

Red spider mite

**Hemiptera**

Anthocoris nemorum (Common flower bug)

Cercopis vulnerata (Red and black froghopper)

Philaenus spumarius

**Molluscs**

Brown-lipped snail

Glass snail

Leopard slug

**Hymenoptera**

Periclista lineolata (Oak sawfly larva) - the one with all the spikes!

Bombus vestalis

Nomada sp.