

Site number: SY67/016
 Survey date: 04/06/2023

Site Name: Melcombe Regis Cemetery
 Grid ref: SY671795

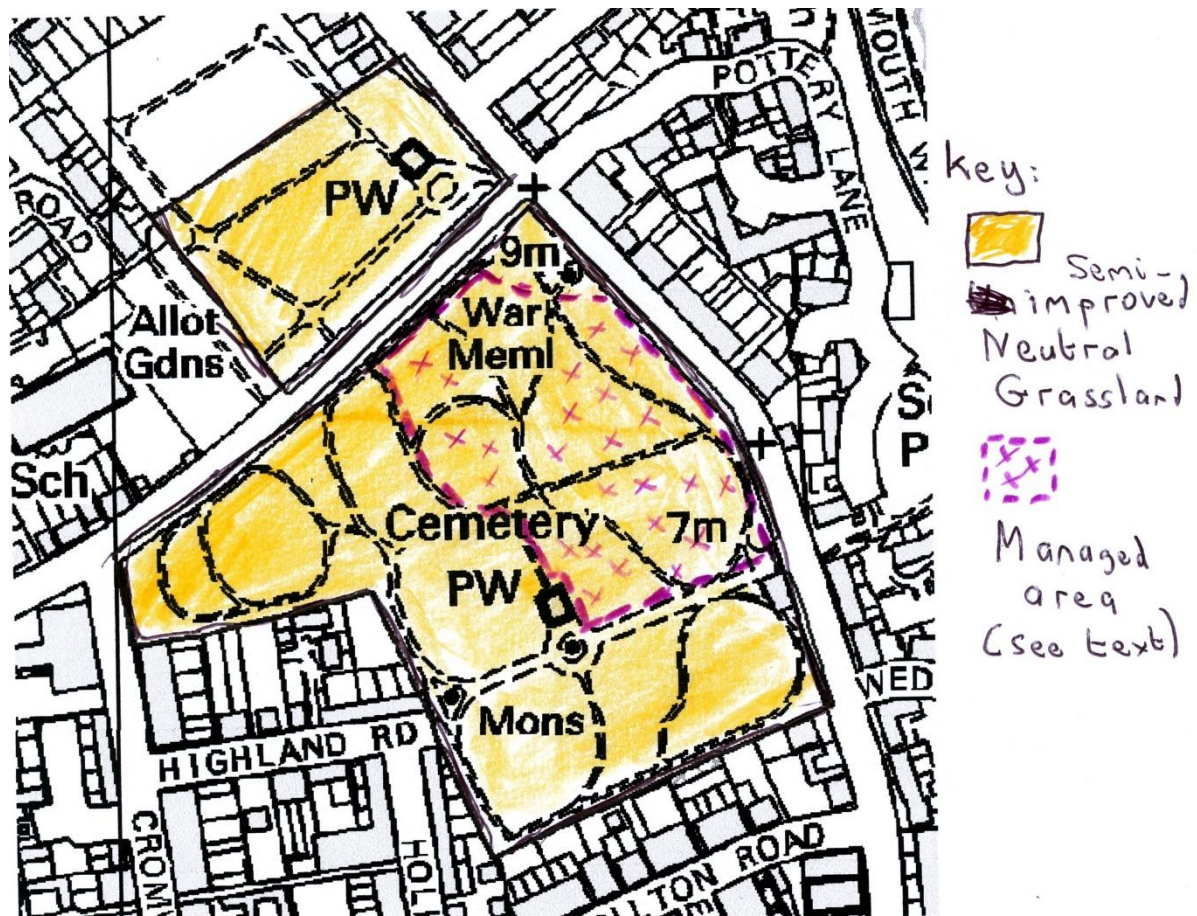
SNCI SITE ASSESSMENT

Owner/contact:	Emily Brown Weymouth Town Council	Tel: 01305 239292 07966 800813	
Address:	The New Town Hall, Commercial Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8NG	LPA: Dorset Council Nearest town/village: Weymouth	
FIRST ASSESSMENT			
Date selected	09/10/1992 Monitored 14/10/2010		
Reason for selection	2.06 GN		
DRDB species			
MONITORING VISIT			
Surveyor	Ian & Georgie Laing	Contact with landowner or tenant? Yes	
Time on site	2.5 hrs		
Overall condition	Fair	Improving	
Condition note (e.g. main reason for improvement or decline)	Recent implementation of cut and collect mowing for part of the site has been rewarded with an apparent increase in indicator species compared with previous surveys		
MONITORING ASSESSMENT			
Panel date	08/08/2023	Decision	
Monitoring whole site	X	Confirm	X
Monitoring part site		Amend	
Proposed addition		Delete	
		Re-survey	
		More information	
Amendment notes	Delete compartment		
	Reason for deletion		
	Amend boundary		
	Amend reason for selection		
	Other		

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HABITAT SURVEY



Habitat	Code	Notes
Neutral grassland - semi-improved	GN1.GS0	Approx 5.3 ha managed by amenity cutting
Neutral grassland - semi-improved - species rich	GN1.GS1	Approx 1.7 ha managed by cut and collect

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SITE INTEGRITY MONITORING

Summary Description

Melcombe Regis Cemetery in Weymouth covers an area of just over 5 ha in two sections, separated by a road. It consists of semi-improved neutral grassland with scattered trees of a variety of mainly ornamental species (not recorded) and some minor scrub, intersected by tarmac pathways. A few of the trees are large conifers that throw a lot of shade. Burials no longer take place within the SNCI section of the cemetery, as these are confined to the northern area of the cemetery.

Site Description

Parts of the sward were close cut at the time of the survey. There has been a regular regime of cutting the grass over the whole of the site with no removal of the cuttings, but for the previous two years an area of about one third of the SNCI (see habitat map) has been managed by being left until July/August, then mown with the cuttings then removed. The extent of this proportion is resource limited.

The grassland was composed of abundant **Red Fescue** (*Festuca rubra*), **Common Bent** (*Agrostis capillaris*) with frequent **Cock's-foot** (*Dactylis glomerata*), **Yorkshire Fog** (*Holcus lanatus*) and **Perennial Rye-grass** (*Lolium perenne*), with locally occasional **Rough Meadow-grass** (*Poa trivialis*).

There were several interesting plants in the sward. These occurred much more frequently in the managed area (as above) but were found throughout the SNCI. They included **Rough Hawkbit** (*Leontodon hispidus*), **Oxeye Daisy** (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), **Cat's-ear** (*Hypochaeris radicata*) and occasional **Common Bird's-foot-trefoil** (*Lotus corniculatus*) and **Common Knapweed** (*Centaurea nigra*).

The number of Dorset Notable Species has increased for the first time since the original survey. This is possibly as a result of improved management. Of these species, **Pignut** (*Conopodium majus*) was found only outside the managed area.

Dorset Notable Species	09/1992	04/2000	08/2010	06/2023
Neutral Grassland notables:				
Spring Sedge (<i>Carex caryophylla</i>)	R			
Common Knapweed (<i>Centaurea nigra</i>)	O	*	LO	O
Ladies' Bedstraw (<i>Galium verum</i>)	R			
Rough Hawkbit (<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>)	LF	*	A	F
Oxeye Daisy (<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>)	OLF	*	LO	A
Common Birds-foot-trefoil (<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>)	LF	*	FLA	O
Creeping-jenny (<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>)	R			
Corky-fruited Water-dropwort (<i>Oenanthe pimpinelloides</i>)	R	*		O
Trailing Tormentil (<i>Potentilla anglica</i>)	R			
Common Dog-violet (<i>Viola riviniana</i>)	R	*		
Mouse-ear-hawkweed (<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>)	R	*		
Burnet-saxifrage (<i>Pimpinella saxifraga</i>)		*		
Cowslip (<i>Primula veris</i>)		*	O	R
Dropwort (<i>Filipendula vulgaris</i>)				R
Pignut (<i>Conopodium majus</i>)				RLO
Quaking Grass (<i>Briza media</i>)				OLF
Meadow Vetchling (<i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>)	O	*	O	OLF
Total:	12	10	6	10
Calcareous Grassland notables:				
Hairy Rock-cress (<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>)		*		
Total:		1		
Fen notables:				

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Common Fleabane (<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>)	R		R	O
Total:	1		1	1
Total:	13	11	7	11

* Negative Indicator Species				
Spear Thistle (<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>)	R			
Ragwort (<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>)	R	*	O	O
Broadleaved Dock (<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>)			O	
Total:	2	1	2	1
Cover of trees and/or scrub				
Cover of Bracken (<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

*Grassland – Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Creeping and Spear Thistle (*Cirsium arvense and vulgare*), Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), Broad-leaved and Curled Dock (*Rumex obtusifolius and crispus*).



Image 1: View of area managed as meadow with annual cut and removal

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Compartment number:	N/A	Survey Date:	04/06/2023

SNCI: CONDITION MONITORING: GRASSLAND

Main reason for selection This provides the criteria for monitoring.	2.06 neutral grassland
Grassland sites	
Currently in ESA / CS/ HLS / ELS?	No
Type of grazing	none
Level of grazing	N/A
Bracken encroachment	none
Scrub encroachment	none
Agricultural improvement	No
Weed control	Yes – paths only

Has it changed significantly since the last visit?	Yes
Overall management condition:	Good
Meeting management objectives?	Yes

For all grasslands Negative Indicators		DAFOR	What to look for:	Problem?
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass		>25% cover or any significant increase	Yes / No
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Creeping Thistle		> occasional	Yes / No
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle		> occasional	Yes / No
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock		> occasional	Yes / No
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock		> occasional	Yes / No
<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Ragwort	O	> occasional	Yes / No
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Stinging Nettle		present	

Negative Indicators in Neutral grassland (GN)				
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	O	>25% cover or any significant increase	Yes / No
<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair-grass		>25% cover or any significant increase (except MG9)	Yes / No
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush		>10% cover or any significant increase	Yes / No
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	O	>25% cover or any significant increase	Yes / No
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	R	>25% cover or any significant increase	Yes / No
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	R	>25% cover or any significant increase	Yes / No

Further comments on historical management, cutting or grazing regime, scrub control or weed control	Historically management has been with regular (usually about 3 times per year) mowing with cuttings not removed. Weed control on tarmac paths only, when and if necessary.
Further comments on practical management, threats or opportunities for enhancement	Currently most of area managed as historically, but for the previous two years an area selected as potentially floristically richer has not been mown until July/August, when all cuttings are removed. This is planned to continue, depending on resources being available. The regular mowing regime will limit scrub encroachment.

Acaen nov	Belli ere	Catap rig	Echiu vul	Genis tin	Juncu ten	Malva mos	Penta sem	Querc pet	Sedum acr	Trifo arv
Acer pla	Beru ere	Centa sca	Eleoc vul	Genti pne	Kickx ela	Matri cha	Persi amp	Ranun rob	ang ang	dub dub
Achil pse	Beta vul	Centa off	Eleg flu	Gentan col	Knaut spu	Medic dis	hyd hyd	aur aur	senec squ	fra fra
* Achil mil	Betul pen	* Centa pul	Elode can	* Luc luc	Lactu ser	Medic ara	mac mac	fla fla	svl svl	glo glo
* Adoxa pta	* Blden tri	* Centr rub	Elymu ath	* pra pra	Lamtu gal	sat saz	pyr pyr	hed hed	vic vic	med med
* Aegop mos	* Bleck per	* Ceras dif	Elymu ath	* pus pus	Lamtu gal	* Melam uni	per per	pen pen	orn orn	mic mic
* Aescu hip	* Bolbo mar	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* pyr pyr	Lamtu gal	* Mellic uni	bra bra	sat sat	sil sil	orn orn
* Aethu cvh	* Brach rup	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* rot rot	Lapsa com	* Mellic uni	phrag aus	see see	stia stia	sta sta
* Agrim eup	* Brass svl	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* ruy ruy	Lapsa com	* Menth adu	Rapha mar	lat lat	uni uni	sub sub
* Agros can	* Brass svl	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* urb urb	Larix dec	* Menth adu	Resed lut	vul vul	Trigl mar	Trigl mar
* cur cur	* Briza rap	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Glauc fla	Larix dec	* Menth adu	Rey no jap	ham ham	Tripl pal	Tripl pal
* sto sto	* Bromo ere	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Glech seg	Lathr squ	* Menya tri	lureoia	x x	Tripl ino	Tripl ino
* vin vin	* Bromo ere	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Glyce dec	Lathr squ	* Mercu ann	Rhnam cat	alb alb	Tripl pan	Tripl pan
* Aira car	* Bromu hor	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Gnaph uli	Lathr squ	* Miliu erf	Rhna min	arv arv	Trise fla	Trise fla
* Ajuga rep	* Bryon dav	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Gynna con	Lathr squ	* Miliu erf	Rhodo pon	seg seg	Tsuga het	Tsuga het
* Alism pla	* Buxus sem	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Heder hel	Lathr squ	* Molin cae	Rhync alb	rad rad	Tussi far	Tussi far
* Alliam pet	* Cakil mar	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Hel/hib	Lathr squ	* Monti fon	Ribes nig	rib rib	Typha lat	Typha lat
* Alliu tri	* Calli sta	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Helia num	Lathr squ	* Musca arm	san san	gal gal	Ulex eur	Ulex eur
* Alnus vit	* Callu vul	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Helic pra	Lathr squ	* Mycel mur	uva uva	min min	Ulmus gla	Ulmus gla
* Alope gen	* Calys sep	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Helmi nod	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	dis dis	med med	Solei sol	Solei sol
* mvo mvo	* Campa glo	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Herac sca	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	lax lax	ann ann	Solid vir	Solid vir
* Annop are	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Hippo umb	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	ram ram	nem nem	Sonch asp	Sonch asp
* Anaca mor	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Hotcu sca	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Anemo nen	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Horde sca	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Anisa ste	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Honck pep	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Anthe cot	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Humul lup	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Antho cot	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Hyper and	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Anthr vul	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Ilex aqu	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Anthy vul	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Inula con	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Aphar arv	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Iris foe	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Aquil vul	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Isole cer	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Arabi tha	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Jacob aqu	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Arabi hir	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Jasio mon	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Arabi lap	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Juncu acuti	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Arna ser	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Lythr dom	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Armer mar	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Malus syl	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Arnie era	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil	* Malva arb	Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Artem abs	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Arum ita	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Asper cyn	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Asple cet	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* sco sco	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Athrip fil	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Atrip lit	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* por por	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* pro pro	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* fat fat	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Avena fat	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Avenu pub	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Ballo nig	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc
* Barba vul	* Coniu mac	* Epilo cil	Epilo cil		Lathr squ	* Myoso arx	sec sec	pra pra	Sorbu auc	Sorbu auc

Location: **Melcombe Regis**
 Grid Reference: **SY672795**
 Recorder(s): **I & G A LING**
 Date: **4/6/2023**

Please cross through specific name only
 * Notable Species
 Subspecies
 x Hybrid