

WSLNF – Proposed green sites – Dog Kennel Wood – No 22

Site Details (complete this form for each site to be proposed for designation)

Local Green Space Assessment for: Dog Kennel Wood	
Date of assessment: Desk based assessment 30.12.24	
Assessors: Jim Boot, Community Planner and additional information Anna Sabin (Chair) 17 th February 2025	
Site Name and Address (location)	Grid Ref:
Dog Kennel Wood	TQ 78402 10558
Site owner (if known)	Hastings Borough Council
Have they been informed / discussed?	If yes date:
No	
Description and purpose / current use	
<p>An extensive area of ancient woodland, scrub and rough grassland with Wishing Tree Reservoir.</p> <p>Dogkennel Wood is mostly dense old woodland between Crowhurst Road, the railway line and the new estates on the brow of the hill to the south. The patiently fished reservoir down by the road is ringed with grass, though trees are naturally growing back down from the slope above. Church Wood is just the other side of the unpleasantly fast-driving Crowhurst Road and Marsh Wood is just the other side of the railway line. It was all one wood once.</p>	
Statutory designations (eg SSSI¹)	Other designations (eg LNR²)
Close to Coombe Haven SSSI which is in Combe Valley Countryside Park.	Close to Filsham Reedbed LNR
Site allocations in Local Plan	
No	
Planning permission	
No	
Access & proximity including how close to the community it serves (in meters)	
<p>It is potentially a wood to walk, and ideally cycle, from the newly built, amenity-less Closes - Darwell, Newts, Watermint and Porters Grove - north to Church Wood with its One Stop, Tesco, Robsack Wood Academy, South Saxon House Surgery and Industrial Estates or south over the level crossing to St. Leonards Academy, Medical Centre, Bexhill Road Parade and the Sea. These connections are particularly important given that the new housing estates themselves have no new services of their own. As it is,</p>	

¹ Site of Special Scientific Interest

² Local Nature Reserve

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Crowhurst Road is dangerously hard to cross - pedestrian on demand crossings are needed - and the paths through the wood are in places impassably muddy and overgrown. All-season walking and cycling routes, a wheel-friendly level crossing over the railway and 3 new walking and cycling-priority crossings over Crowhurst Road are needed. If achieved, these measures would make Dogkennel Wood the paradise it nearly is.

List any public rights of way to or across the site:

Two public rights of way bordering the site. One licensed path to the north

- HAS/19/1 Footpath
- HAS/LF049 Licensed footpath
- HAS/20/1

Which of the following criteria does it meet?

Fully / Partially / Not (if F or P provide details)

• **Beauty**

Fully – ancient woodland

• **Historic significance / heritage**

Not known

• **Recreational value**

Partially – dog walking and general amenity

• **Tranquillity**

Partially – set back from the road

• **Wildlife**

Fully – ancient woodland

Local in character – how would you describe for this statement?

Popular with local residents after work and at weekends.

Area (in hectares)

15.4 ha

Photograph

**Crowhurst Road Entrance
Porters Grove Boundary
on the left**



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**Dog Kennel Wood – Crowhurst Road
Entrance.**

Porters Grove Fence on the left



22 Dogkennel Wood - Crowhurst
Road entrance - Porters Grove
fenced of left

Aerial photo map or plan showing accurate boundary of site.



Adapted from Locality Local Green Spaces, 2019:

<https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/making-local-green-space-designations-neighbourhood-plan/>