

Addendum to Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Land at Park Gardens, Begelly, Pembrokeshire

Client: Mr D Thompstone

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Version Number	Date Issued
1.0	22/05/25

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Introduction

Following submission of a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal in February 2025, of Land at Park Gardens, Begelly, Pembrokeshire (the Site), further assessment of the grassland was requested, as the PEA was undertaken outside of the acceptable surveying period for grassland. There is a grassland paddock in the north of the site (Area 1), and a central swathe of more marshy grassland adjacent to the pond (Area 2). These areas are the subject of this addendum report. See Plan 1 below for areas surveyed.

Plan 1 – Areas Surveyed (Area 1 Paddock, Area 2 Pondside)



Methodology

A walk over survey of the grassland areas was undertaken on 20/05/2025. All identifiable Species were recorded (see Results table 1 and 2 for representative species list). It was evident that the grassland had recently been cut, with arisings left on the ground. These piles were hand searched for evidence of additional species not recorded from the sward.

Results

Table 1 – Area 1 Paddock

Common name	Scientific name
Annual meadow grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Barren Strawberry	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>
Bedstraw sp.	<i>Galium sp.</i>
Blubell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>
Bog Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria alsine</i>
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>
Broad-leaved Dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>
Cock's Foot	<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>
Common Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
Common Knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Enchanters Nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i>
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Ground Ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Lesser Burdock	<i>Arctium minus</i>
Lesser Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria gramnea</i>
Marsh Thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>
Mouse-ear chickweed	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Pignut	<i>Conopodium majus</i>
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>
Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Soft Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
Sweet Vernal Grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>
Wood Avens	<i>Geum urbanum</i>
Wood Speedwell	<i>Veronica montana</i>
Yorkshire Fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>

Table 2 – Marshy Grassland Mosaic

Common name	Scientific name
Bog Stitchwort	<i>Stellaria alsine</i>
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>
Bugle	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>
Cinquefoil sp.	<i>Potentilla sp.</i>
Common Dog Violet	<i>Viola riviniana</i>
Common Fleabane	<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>
Common Knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Common Sedge	<i>Carex nigra</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Field Woodrush	<i>Luzula campestris</i>
Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	<i>Lotus uliginosus</i>
Marsh Ragwort	<i>Senecio aquaticus</i>
Marsh Thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>
Meadowsweet	<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>
Orchid Sp.	<i>Dactylorhiza sp</i>
Pendulous Sedge	<i>Carex Pendula</i>
Ragged Robin	<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>
Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Selfheal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>
Silverweed	<i>Potentilla anserina</i>
Soft Rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>
Sweet Vernal Grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>
Tufted Forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis laxa</i>
Water Mint	<i>Mentha aquatica</i>
Wild Angelica	<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>
Yorkshire Fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>

Conclusion

The meadow **Area 1** is no more species-rich than previously described, with the dominant grasses being Sweet Vernal grass and Yorkshire fog. There are woodland influences towards the field boundaries, with Bluebell, Pignut and Wood Avens being recorded, but generally there are a low number of forbs within the grassland sward, with only occasional Common Knapweed noted towards the north-eastern corner. A wetter flush in the west of the field is indicated by the presence of Bog Stitchwort. This grassland would be classified as Neutral Semi-improved poor.

The central area alongside the pond, **Area 2**, is a mosaic of neutral grassland with wetter influenced areas, forming a mosaic of patches. Overall, it is unlikely that there would be in excess of 25% Rush cover, and so this area would not be classed as Rush pasture. However, there are flowering species associated with wetter conditions which are of value to invertebrates for forage. These include Water Mint, Wild Angelica, Meadowsweet and Bird's-foot Trefoil. Therefore, we would recommend that the development avoids the most species rich areas within the mosaic, as mitigation for loss is more difficult, e.g. when replicating swards which rely on a higher permanent or ephemeral water table.