



Formerly Knighton Tree Allotments Trust (KTAT)

# What do we do?

Knighton Community Woodlands Group manages woodlands for the benefit of wildlife and our members. In coming together to share and learn woodland skills, we aim to manage woodland in a sustainable way and to allow our members access to affordable woodland products - such as firewood and timber.



It is a common misconception that unmanaged woodland is best for wildlife. In fact, by managing the woodland through traditional practices such as coppicing, we increase the variety of habitats and increase the richness of wildlife. In ensuring that the trees that we fell for fuel or timber are replaced with new plants, we are creating a sustainable supply of woodland products.

In sustainably growing firewood and other woodland products we can meet some of our fuel and food needs as well as reducing our carbon footprints. At the same time we are joining co-operatively with other local people to enjoy, conserve and enrich our local environment.



# Getting involved...

Do you want to

- Learn about woodland wildlife and how you can benefit it?
- Gain woodland skills?
- Get fresh air and exercise?
- Meet new people?
- Be part of your wood supply solution?

Then join us!

# Getting involved...

## 1. Volunteer.

Volunteering is a great way to meet like-minded people. You can get plenty of fresh air and exercise and learn new skills. We need help with hands-on woodland management such as tree planting and firewood processing, regular flora and fauna surveys. We also have a wide range of behind-the-scenes volunteering opportunities for those who love woodlands but who, for whatever reason, cannot work in the woods. We are always keen to hear from people with experience of funding bids, marketing & promotion, sales and I.T.

# Getting involved...

## 2. Become a Member.

When you become a member you get a say in how the Group is run; you can help decide policies that guide how we operate. You'll also become part of an active community of like-minded people who are working towards sustainable development. And that's not all. You can attend members' meetings, such as our AGM, where you can raise issues that are important to you and find out more about how the Group is doing. Plus, you can vote for someone to represent your views as a Trustee. And if you fancy it, you can even stand for election yourself as a Trustee – it's a great chance to represent your fellow members.

Membership costs just £10 a year.

# Getting involved...

## 3. Become a Member Volunteer.

Why not combine volunteering with membership and become a Member Volunteer?

It's a great way to actively support the Group's woodland management activities whilst also having your say in how it is run.

Member Volunteers of the Group can also access the woodland products – such as firewood and timber - generated by our activities.



# History of the Woodlanders

- Enthusiastic amateurs
- Grew from the Teme Valley Environment Group
- Established in 2010 as a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee
- Intention was to buy a woodland and manage it as allotments
- Not quite what happened...



# Finding a woodland

- Advertised in local press
- Word of mouth
- Existing contacts
- One failed approach
- Three successful approaches – with others waiting

# Weir Cottage Wood

- Private garden in Shropshire Hills AONB
- 0.44 ha. (1.09 acres)
- Broadleaved woodland of mixed age classes
- Ancient semi-natural woodland
- Coppice – with scattered older ash, sycamore and wych elm.
- Power line and telephone line present
- 10 year agreement with owner to share produce

# Weir Cottage Wood



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2011 Ordnance Survey 100049049.

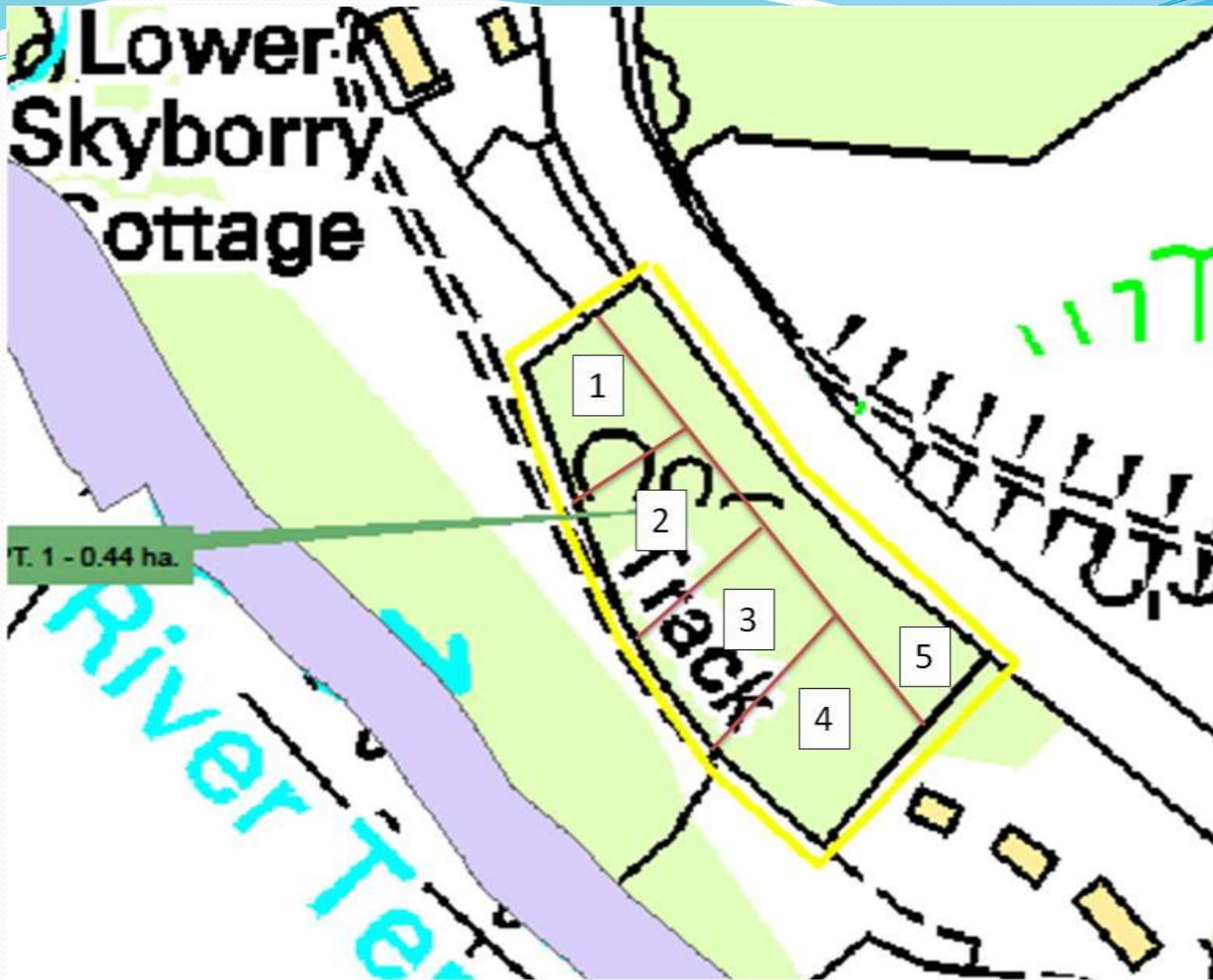


**WEIR COTTAGE WOODLAND**

0 0.015 0.03 0.06 0.09 0.12  
Kilometers

Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership  
The Old Post Office  
Shrewsbury road  
Craven Arms  
SYZ 9NZ





T. 1 - 0.44 ha.







# Larch Plantation

- Part of the Samatha Trust Centre Buddhist retreat
- 1.95ha (4.82 acres) of Japanese Larch planted in the 1950s, at risk of *Phytophthora ramorum*
- Under-storey of native species, small chestnut coupe
- Very steep site with no access tracks within it
- 10 Year Woodland Management Licence signed
- 10 year woodland management plan put in place, reviewed annually, to convert site to a native-species broadleaf woodland
- Steep learning curve





Vehicular access from  
B4356 (SO208716)

Quarry  
(dis)

Greenstreet  
Farm

Issues

River Lugg  
SSSI

Spring

Llangunllo

Reservoir  
(covered)

Quarry  
(dis)

Stupa

Meditation Hut

Farm track

Whimble

School

PW

Hall

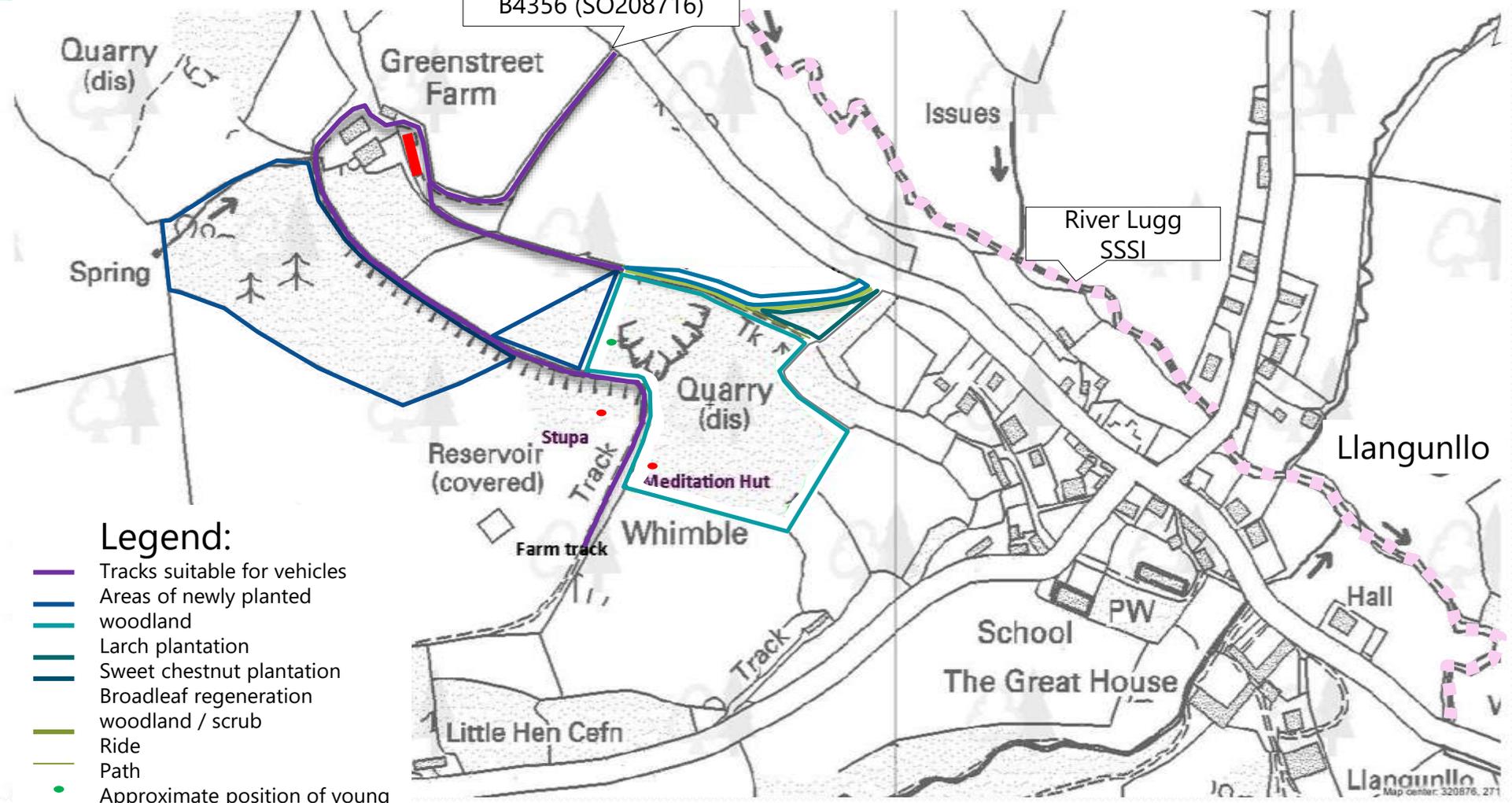
The Great House

Little Hen Cefn

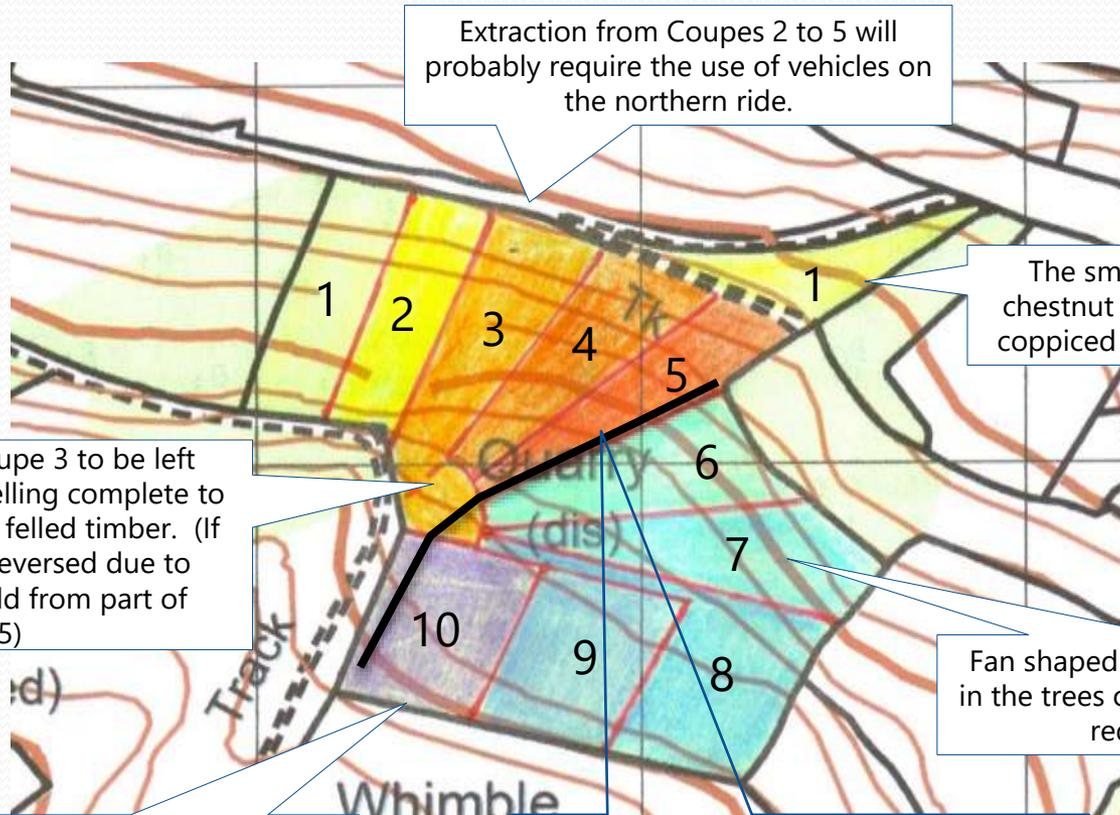
Llangunllo  
Map center: 320876, 271

### Legend:

- Tracks suitable for vehicles
- Areas of newly planted woodland
- Larch plantation
- Sweet chestnut plantation
- Broadleaf regeneration woodland / scrub
- Ride
- Path
- Approximate position of young yew tree
- Car parking area



# Map 2 - Suggested Felling Coupes for the Larch Plantation



Extraction from Coupes 2 to 5 will probably require the use of vehicles on the northern ride.

The small area of sweet chestnut plantation is to be coppiced in the first 2 years

This small area of coupe 3 to be left unplanted until larch felling complete to allow the extraction of felled timber. (If coupes need to be reversed due to windthrow this would be from part of Coupe 5)

Fan shaped coupes minimise the gap in the trees on the highest ground and reduce windthrow.

This area covered by Coupes 8 to 10 is very exposed to windthrow so the westernmost coupe is felled last.

This black line marks the approximate position of the ridge that runs through the woodland. It will form the boundary of Coupes 5 and 6. Extraction from Coupes 6 to 9 may have to go through Coupe 10 which would necessitate felling some of Coupe 10 first to set up a skyline route. This might result in windthrow.



















# Woodshed



*Building the woodstore and filling it with firewood*

# Composting Loo



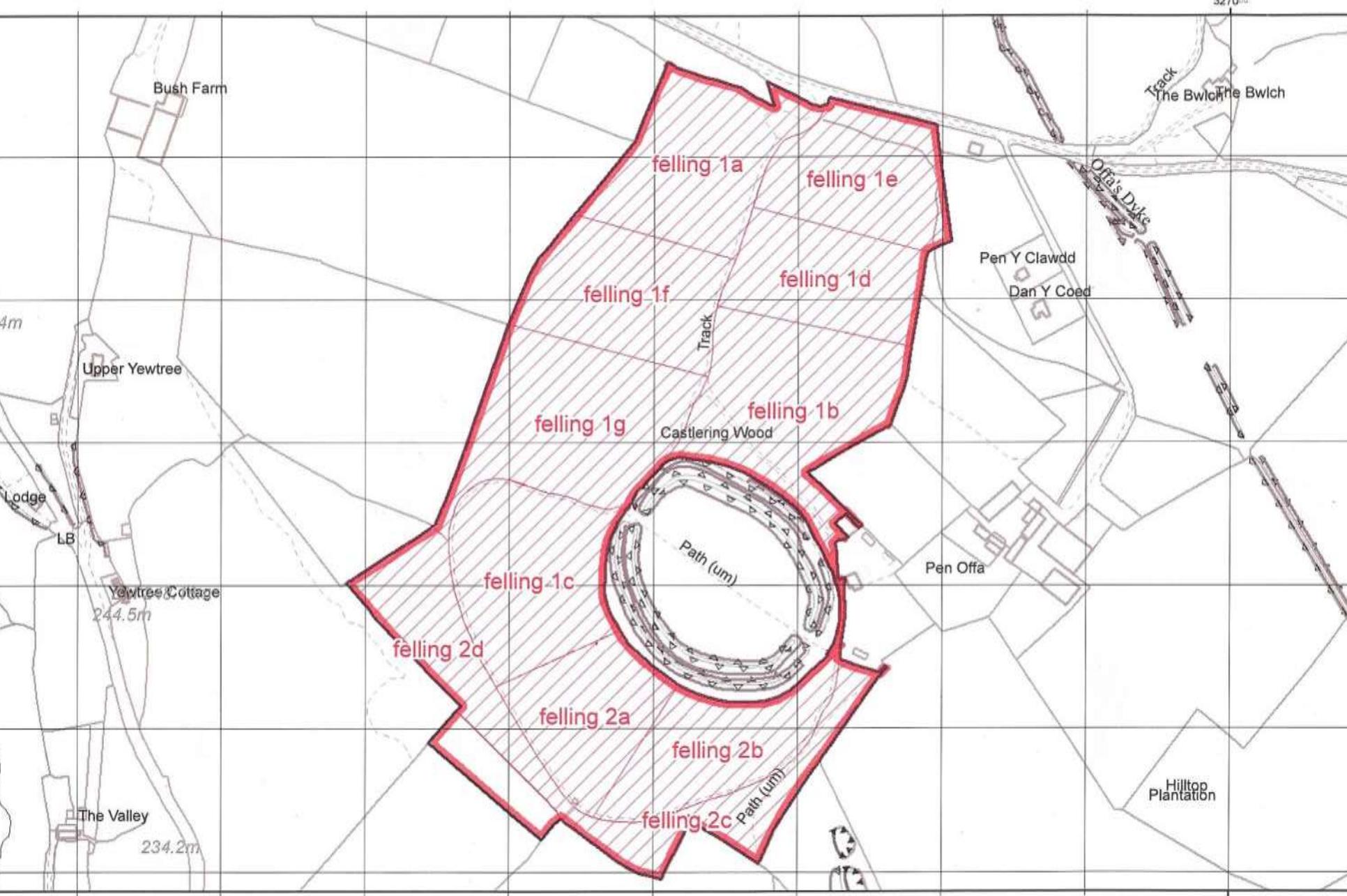






# Castle Ring Wood

- Private woodland at Beggar's Bush
- 11.98ha (29.6 acres)
- Conifers clear-felled in 1996 and restocked with native broadleaves particularly hazel
- Restored Ancient Woodland Site (RAWS) – former Plantation on an Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS)
- Almost flat site with access tracks within it
- 10 Year Woodland Management Agreement signed
- Woodland management plan is in place







# Woodland Products









*...joining co-operatively with other local people to enjoy, conserve and enrich our local environment...*

*...a great way to meet like-minded people...*



*...for the benefit of wildlife...*



*...coming together to share and learn woodland skills...*



*...coming together to share and learn  
woodland skills...*



# In conclusion

- KCWVG is entirely reliant on the work of our volunteers, members, Trustees and Friends
- We have received good support from funders to help us move towards self-reliance
- Good communication with sympathetic woodland owners is key
- It's hard work but good fun!



# Thank you

For more information:

[www.tveg.org.uk/wordpress/what-we-do/woodland-project](http://www.tveg.org.uk/wordpress/what-we-do/woodland-project)

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