

Straddling the boundary between Alresford and Elmstead and close to Wivenhoe, Villa Farm Quarries is an attractive mosaic of woodland, hedgerows, ponds and an active gravel pit which will be landscaped in the near future.

Part has been managed by the Friends of Cockaynes Wood for many years and we are working with the current owners, Brett Aggregates, to develop a restoration scheme.

The scheme is a unique opportunity to gain real benefits for people, wildlife and the landscape.

Our draft scheme would

- Create an attractive, sustainable landscape
- Make a significant contribution towards local and county wildlife targets
- Provide exciting new opportunities for informal recreation
- Be simple to create and easy to maintain for years to come
- Safeguard and enhance all the existing valuable features of the site
- Be an integrated part of the wider landscape
- Be a model for future schemes both locally and further afield

Please help by contributing any ideas or comments which you have. The project depends on local input and support.

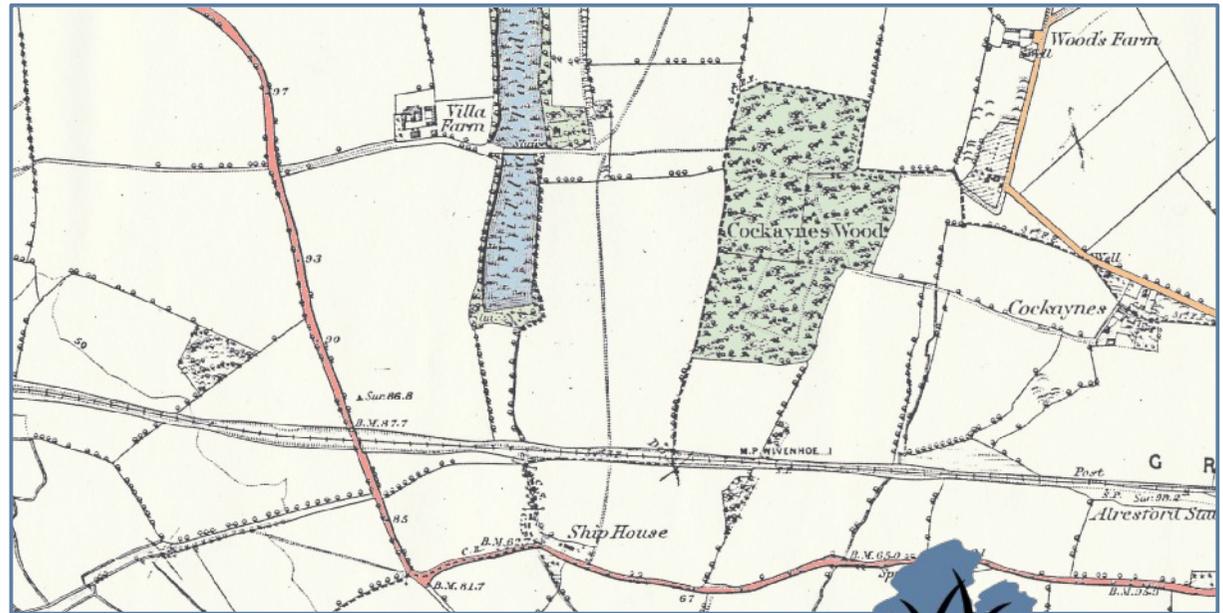
If you would like information or to discuss the project further please contact us:

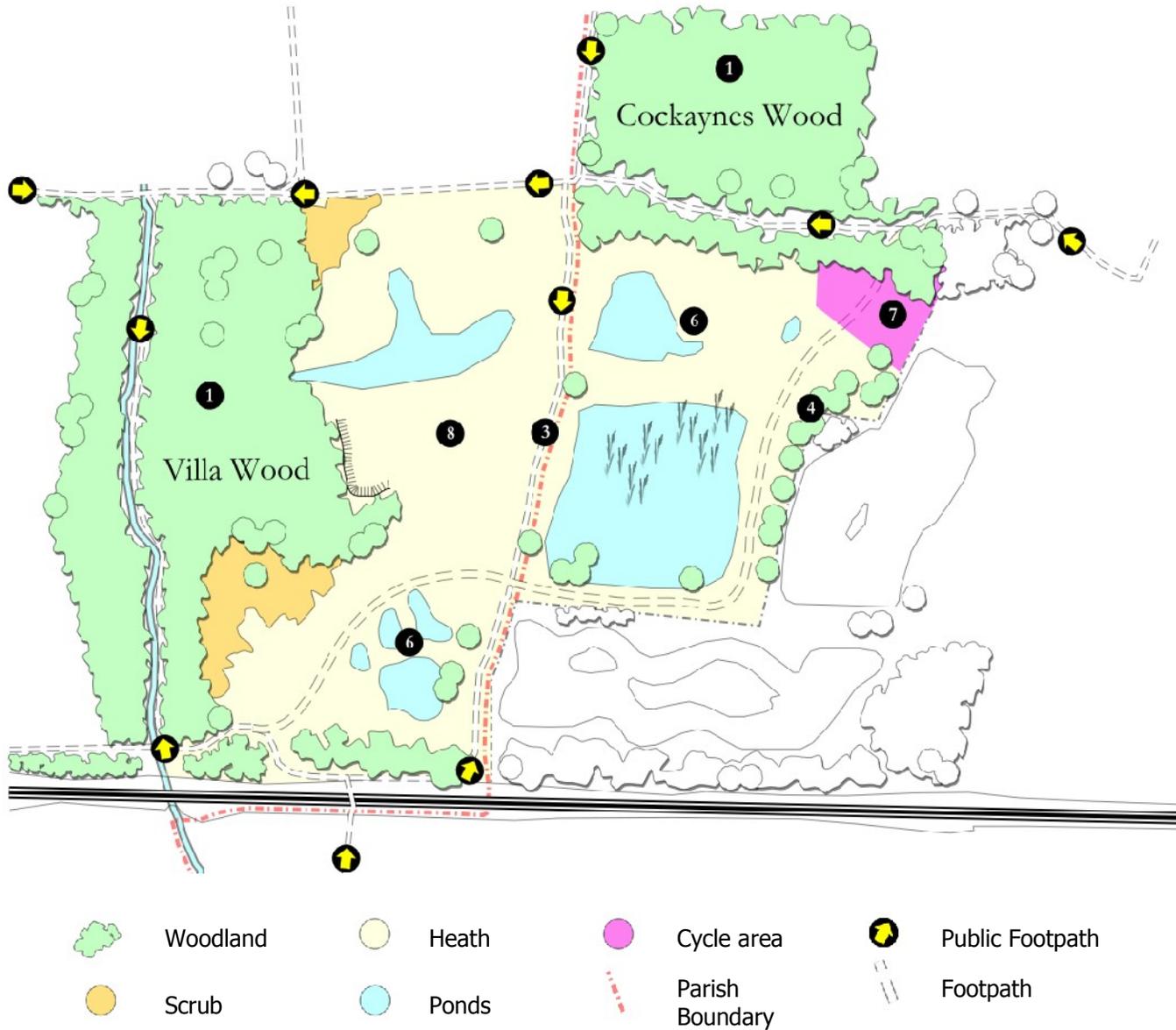
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Villa Farm Quarries

Draft Restoration Proposal





1. Existing woodland with new areas created by encouraging natural regeneration
2. Existing and new hedgerows with ancient pollards managed and new ones created
3. New routes and a brand new public footpath marking the Parish boundary with a variety of features that celebrate the local community
4. A Community Orchard
5. Areas carefully designed for educational visits by schools and other local groups
6. Small ponds and lagoons with a variety of vegetation and bare ground carefully managed to provide a home for a wide variety of wildlife, especially insects and amphibians
7. Mountain bike area designed and managed by local young people.
8. Heathland and scrub providing habitat for invertebrates and birds such as nightingales

There will be facilities for visitors such as benches and simple interpretation. All new features will be designed to encourage access by people with disabilities.

For wildlife there will be specific projects such as a nesting area for sand martins and refuges for more sensitive plants and animals. Changes will be monitored and there is the possibility of involving local schools and people introducing key plants and animals which are particularly threatened in Essex.