

The site near Old Buckenham is mostly arable farmland with large fields, deep ditches, and some hedgerows and individual hedgerow trees. Prominent landscape features include hedgerows, trees, and conifer shelterbelts (planted for shelter and screening) and can be seen from a distance across the landscape. The openness of the area today is due to historical tree and woodland removal for farming. A popular public footpath runs through the site from Old Buckenham, and the site of Buckenham Priory and Castle lies to the north of the site behind a hedgerow and a narrow strip of broadleaved woodland.

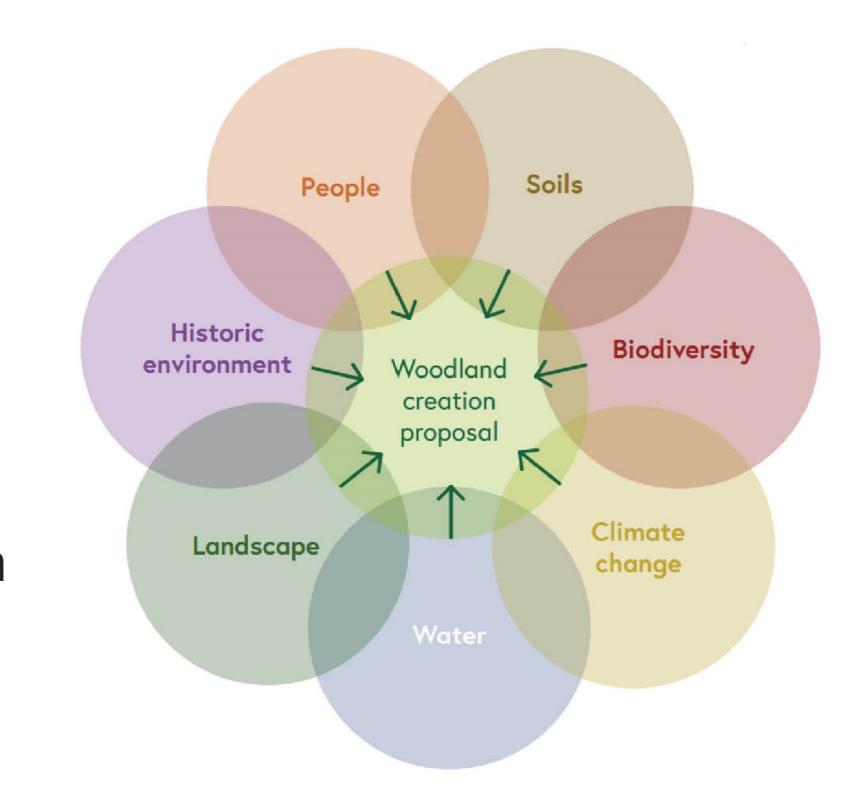
1: Wide view west to conifer shelterbelt on site boundary. 2: View northeast from Old Buckenham public footpath looking into site. 3: View northeast with Abbey Farm (site of Old Buckenham Abbey) boundary to the left. 4: Wide view south to west towards Old Buckenham, shelterbelt visible in the background and Abbey Farm (site of Buckenham Priory and Castle) boundary to the right. 5: View south towards Old Field Barn.



How the new woodland near Old Buckenham could look

We are designing the new woodland to benefit people, wildlife, and the surrounding landscape (natural capital approach).

Detailed desktop, site surveys and analysis, as well as feedback from our local communities will guide our design and how the new woodland could look.



Objectives for the new woodland



Public access for health and wellbeing: create low-key public recreation opportunities with new areas for people to walk in the woodland.



Thriving habitats for wildlife: create a mosaic of habitats, maintaining and enhancing the natural environment.



Benefits for the wider landscape: capture carbon, supporting net zero emissions targets.



Future forest resources and resilience: plant a mix of trees for a lasting supply of sustainable timber.



Include research trials: to better understand how trees produce timber and capture carbon in a changing climate; and to see how different mixes of trees improve biodiversity.

Types of woodland we could plant



cedar with douglas fir, rowan, wild service tree,



pine with scots pine, wild



Red oak and pedunculate oak with pine, hawthorn, crab hornbeam,

Additional species















Common alder Wild service tree



How the new woodlands could look

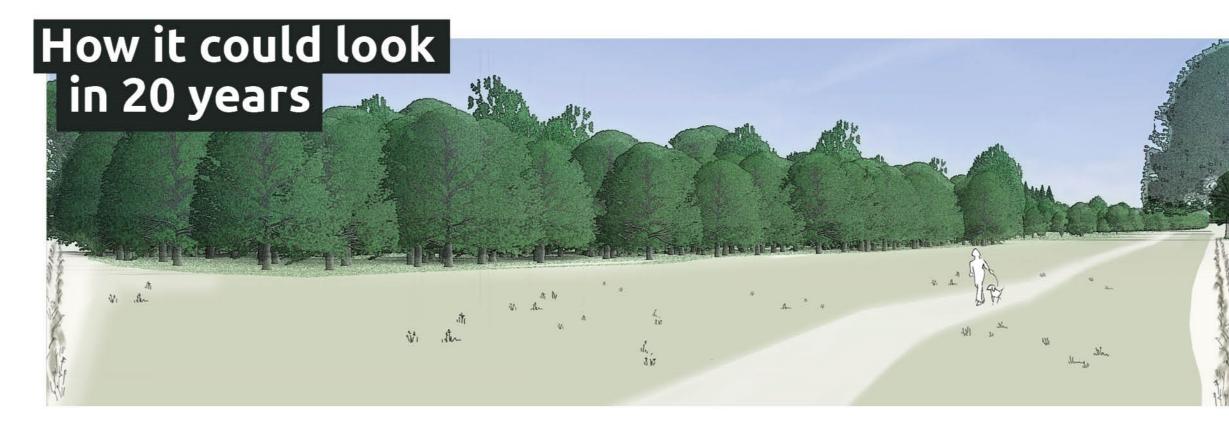
Our initial designs include proposals to:

- Keep some open views from properties next to the woodlands by sparsely planting a mix of native shrubs and trees that will also provide seasonal interest.
- Create a number of circular footpath routes through the woodlands following open grass paths, connecting to the existing public footpaths, which link to Old Buckenham and New Buckenham.
- Plant coniferous and broadleaved trees together in mixtures, with shrub species along edges to increase the variety of species and add colour and texture.

- Create wildlife corridors by leaving open space next to hedgerows and adding shrubby borders at the edges of woodland for wildlife to thrive.
- At Haugh Farm, retain 'Pingo' ponds and sites of former 'pingo' ponds, with open space and low density planting located nearby, creating a mosaic of different habitats.
- Respect the setting of Buckenham Priory and Castle, with oak trees and native shrubs planted at low density along the boundary, reflecting planting found locally.















Your views are important to us, let us know what you think about proposals for new woodland near Old Buckenham