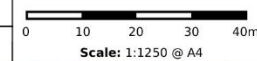


Site management summary: Barton Lawn (Barton Farm Country Park)		
This is a working management document under continuous review and development		
Drafted	October 2026	
Expected document lifespan	5 years	
Area	1.5 Ha	
General Description	Managed as a park, concentrated around picnicking areas, play area, riverside site with informal access to river, historic Barton Bridge to North Meadow, good connectivity for walking and cycling and access to local attractions including the rest of Barton Farm Country Park, the Tithe Barn, Kennet and Avon canal, river, refreshments and the town centre. Nearby public parking available.	
Current management	Play area Cleansing (litter, graffiti) General maintenance of infrastructure Grass cutting Establishment of trees Path maintenance Wessex Water access through site via track Scrub and vegetation management Tree management Events	
Ecology: overview	The site consists of the following habitat types: hedgerows, woodland edge, mature trees, river, river bank, scrub, ruderals, improved grassland, hard surfaces. The site is largely unlit. The site supports opportunities for the following fauna: badger, fox, small mammals, reptiles, nesting birds, waterfowl, insects including butterflies, dragonflies, aquatic fauna including fish. Significant site for bats, (ref Bradford on Avon and Bath Bat SAC) with likely roosts and known foraging. Flora includes rare Greater Dodder (<i>Cuscuta europaea</i>) and Loddon Pondweed (<i>Potamogeton nodosus</i>). Otter and beaver present.	
Ecological potential	Increased diversity, improved ecotones at edge of lawn area, including riverside, woodland edge, ruderals and scrub. Potential for some areas of wildflower rich meadow with interpretation, innovative tree management, tree planting, hedgerow enhancement, increased complexity of landscape, particularly connectivity through site along river and canal edge and treed boundaries. Potential habitat features including bat and bird boxes.	
Management	Address slump in riverside path (Public Right of Way, Wiltshire Council)* Manage habitat. Keep riverside vegetation, but manage scrub with approx. 3 year cuts, monitor Himalayan Balsam (<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>) Maintain close mowing as lawn Manage area around Pill Box as potential bat roost, maintain public view of structure with heritage interpretation Manage southern area principally as lawn/ picnic location. Layout dominated by circle (existing benches happened to be at	

	circumference) with benches, picnic benches and tree planting*. Trees to be small or fastigate to limit enclosure. Enhance setting with shrub/ bed/ wildflower / bulb planting outside circle. Replace litter bin Manage access to site via gate Renew signs on site Improve open area near river. Create more defined edge to any hardstanding. Tree management to consider root protection areas. Remove loads, reduce cutting, mulch around base. Manage beaver presence with tree protection. Maintain dark landscape for ecology, particularly bat habitat	
Opportunities	Repair stone setts at 'beach'* benches, picnic benches and tree planting Enhance setting with shrub/ bed/ wildflower / bulb planting outside circle. Consider sight lines to Tithe Barn, with revised planting at entrance to Barton Lawn from Barton Ride* <u>* Opportunities subject to funding and/or roles of other organisations</u> Replacement of Whitebeam (<i>Sorbus</i> sp.) tree with grid planting of eg Alder (<i>Alnus</i> sp.) trees* Potential growth of climbing plants or fruit on playground wall* Increase tree cover for shade – note success of Elm (<i>Ulmus</i> sp.) – including in play area* Install picnic benches in play area* Improve surfaces around litter bin, benches and on paths Reduce dominance of roadway with picnic benches and enhanced planting*	

Mapping is illustrative, not to scale and subject to change

Author:**Date:** 05/10/2026

- Address slump in riverside path (Public Right of Way, Wiltshire Council)*
- Manage habitat. Keep riverside vegetation, but manage scrub with approx. 3 year cuts, monitor Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*)
- Maintain close mowing as lawn
- Manage area around Pill Box as potential bat roost, maintain public view of structure
- Repair stone setts at 'beach'*
- Manage area principally as lawn/picnic location. Layout dominated by circle (existing benches happened to be at circumference) with benches, picnic benches and tree planting*. Trees to be small or fastigate to limit enclosure.
- Enhance setting with shrub/ bed/ wildflower / bulb planting outside circle.
- Consider sight lines to Tithe Barn, with revised planting at entrance to Barton Lawn from Barton Ride*

* Opportunities subject to funding and/or roles of other organisations



- Replacement of Whitebeam (*Sorbus* sp.) tree with grid planting of eg Alder (*Alnus* sp.) trees*
- Potential growth of climbing plants or fruit on playground wall*
- Increase tree cover for shade – note success of Elm (*Ulmus* sp.) – including in play area*
- Install picnic benches in play area*
- Improve surfaces around litter bin, benches and on paths
- Replace litter bin
- Manage access to site via gate
- Renew signs on site
- Improve open area near river. Create more defined edge to any hardstanding. Reduce dominance of roadway with picnic benches and enhanced planting*
- Tree management to consider root protection areas. Remove loads, reduce cutting, mulch around base. Manage beaver presence with tree protection.
- Maintain dark landscape for ecology, particularly bat habitat