

Appendix iv: Photos of sites suggested for improvement

Potential improvements



Ferry Corner pond – this relic pond is slowly becoming shallowed out with reeds and while it currently does not have dominating willow is at risk of disappearing. Light management with rotational willow cutting and a small section dug out to create some open water would be of benefit to many species. A water vole survey should be carried out as historically this pond has records for them and the appropriate mitigation and licenses need to be sought before work is carried out.



This pond was damaged at the end of February 2021 with complete reed flailing, despite being protected habitat, and the removal of the protecting hedge to the back. This pond will now need to recover to offer habitat for water voles and tree planting will need to take place to reinstate the line of hedgerow.



Selsey Golf Course pond 1 – this pond has huge wildlife value as it stays wet year through and is connected to the wider wetland system via ditches. There is a steep natural earth wall to the north and this could have potential for kingfishers to nest. Currently the pond has little in channel and riparian vegetation and the banks are mowed to the edge leaving them very exposed. This can contribute to erosion as well as reducing the wildlife potential. Less mowing will be more cost effective and the pond could become an attractive feature for people and wildlife.

Selsey ditch condition assessment results and habitat improvement plan



Selsey Gold Course pond 2 – this pond is valuable as it borders the edge of the golf course and is joined by ditches and a thick hedge. It is currently mowed to the edge and there is no evidence of bankside vegetation which contributes to erosion. By managing the willow trees to reduce the shading, adding riparian plants, and leaving a 2-5 metre border of unmown vegetation on the periphery of the pond, it would offer more habitat opportunities for wildlife. Less mowing will be more cost effective and the pond could become an attractive feature for people and wildlife.



Selsey Golf course reedbeds – these reedbeds are of huge wildlife value and the fact that they are bordered by a dense hedge and scrub area will offer habitat to a large range of birds, mammals, and invertebrates. These reedbeds may benefit from a rotational cut and a small section opened up to create a small section of open water. The edge of the reedbeds is currently mowed to short grass and a buffer along this periphery off vegetation allowed to grow longer would be of huge benefit, while also being more cost effective.



Selsey Golf course ditches – these ditches dry out in the summer months but will still offer good habitat for many species. Allowing a buffer zone along the edge of the bank that is not so tightly mown or strimmed would prevent erosion and offer a greater variety of habitat opportunities for invertebrates, reptiles, and birds. It may also prevent the loss of golf balls into the water channel and litter blowing into the channel.



Less mowing will be more cost effective and the pond could become an attractive feature for people and wildlife.

Selsey ditch condition assessment results and habitat improvement plan



Selsey Golf Course periphery ditch

– this ditch is important as it is large and stays wet year-round. It is bordered to the west by a mature hedge and this add wildlife value to this waterway. Unfortunately, it is also quite shaded and is tented in places by bramble that could be managed back to expose the water. The ditch is also quite full of rubbish in places and this could be as a result of the wind action across the site. This needs to be removed and managed as it will affect water quality as well as biodiversity.



Park Lane ditches

– this private unmade lane is very prone to flooding and was probably once bordered on both sides by ditches that carried the surface water away and not the drainage system, now culverted, that links with East Beach pond. Over time with different developments, filling in, and neglect, the continuity of these ditches has been interrupted and therefore the water no longer travels away. This results in the remaining, often shallowed out, ditches, acting like ponds that fill and then overtop as there is now where for the water to go. To solve this issue a combined approach involving all the landowners, digging out, joining up and connecting the ditches to a route for water to travel away will be necessary.



Bunn leisure – the Willows Pond

– This pond is a dark and shady but could be much improved and biodiversity increased with careful tree management, digging out the base and the introduction of wetland plants via coir rolls.

Selsey ditch condition assessment results and habitat improvement plan



Bunn Leisure - Green Lawns pond

- This pond is a dark and shady but could be much improved and biodiversity increased with careful tree management, digging out the base and the introduction of wetland plants via coir rolls. The edge of the pond would benefit by allowing a buffer area to be established that is not mown and this would provide better habitat for invertebrates.

Less mowing will be more cost effective and the pond could become an attractive feature for people and wildlife.



Crablands meadow –

the relic pond in this meadow is currently disappearing as willow has taken over and the pond is shallowing out and all open water lost. This pond would benefit from having the willow managed allowing light to get in on the water and a range of wetland plants to be established. The pond would also be improved with digging out as the willow has shallowed it and it is less likely to hold water year-round.