

Area 18: Hamble Common



Description

- 4.249 This common comprises lightly-grazed wet heath land with patches of scrub and stunted trees. It is a promontory of land bounded by industrial units to the west, the edge of Hamble village to the north, the shingle beach to the south and a marina to the east.
- 4.250 The flat, exposed landscape affords wide views within the common itself and across the common to the coast. Although the industrial buildings, especially the tanks of the refinery, are conspicuous they are often screened by vegetation.
- 4.251 The common has a remote and natural character from many viewpoints. The contrasting colours and textures of vegetation in the rest of the area, such as purple moor-grass, give the area a unique and distinctive quality.

Historic Features

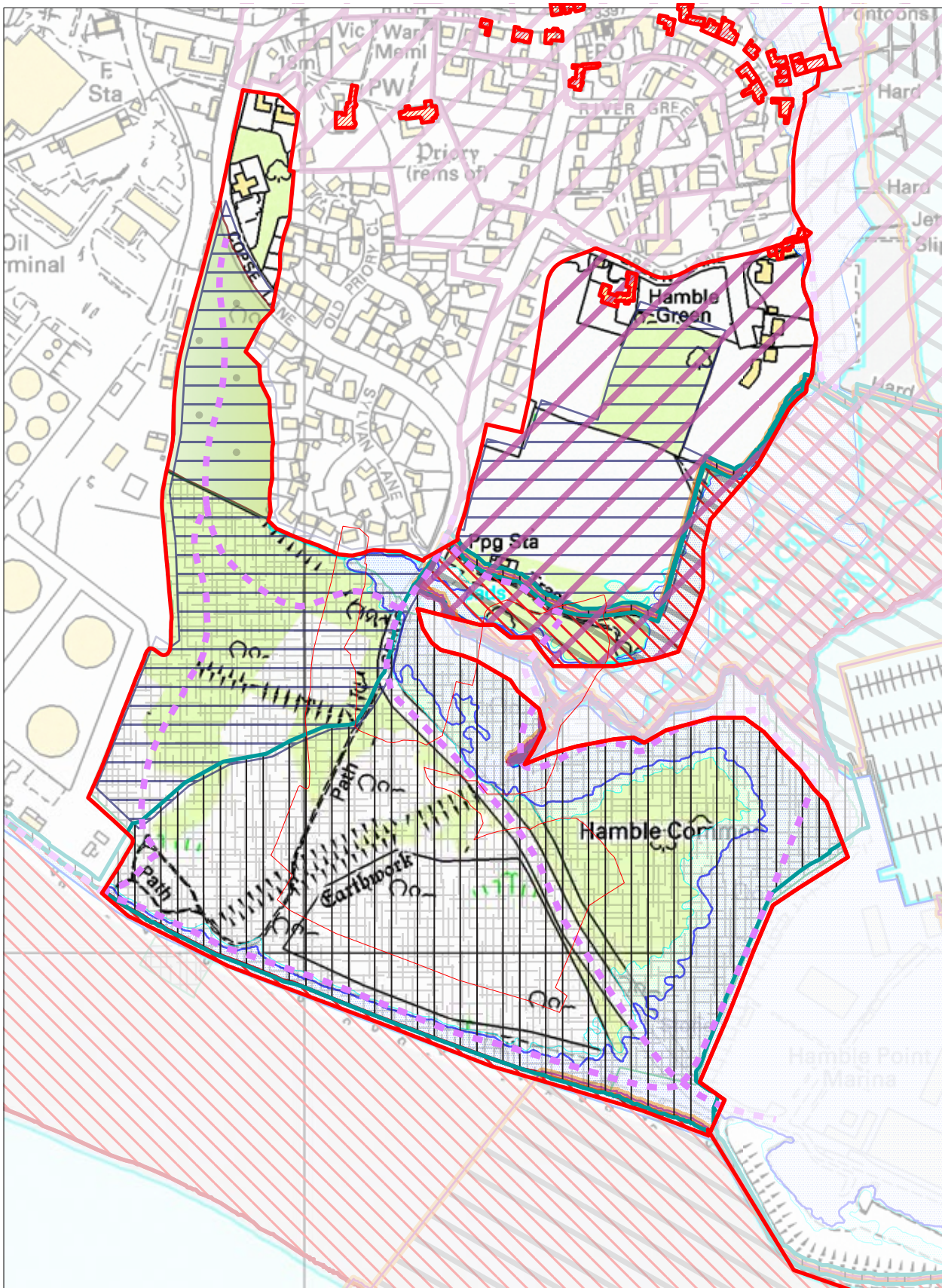
- 4.252 There is 1 historic park listed on the local Hampshire historic park and garden's register, which can be found in the north-west projection of the character area:

The Copse – “Early C20 small park, pleasure grounds and walled garden recently developed; major shrub groups and trees retained in housing development.”

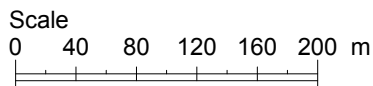


Figure 50. Hamble Green

Designations and Constraints



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Key for Designation & Constraints:			
	Character Area Boundary		Main River
	Area designated Ramsar, SPA* & SSSI Area		Floodzone 2
	SAC - Special Area of Conservation		Floodzone 3
	SSSI - Site of Special Scientific Interest		Right of Way
	SINC - Site of Important Nature Conservation		
	LNR - Local Nature Reserve		
	Historic Parks and Gardens		
	Conservation Area		
	Scheduled Ancient Monument		
	Listed Building		

*SPA - Special Protection Area

4.253 Much of the south of this common is designated a Scheduled Monument:

Promontory defined by an Iron Age Linear Earthwork, St Andrew's Castle and additional remains on Hamble Common (monument no. 24323)

4.254 Hamble Conservation Area includes the north-east projection of this character area. The listed buildings that can be found in the character area are clustered along Green Lane in the conservation area. They do not have a significant impact on the landscape character.

HCC Historic landscape types

4.255 Historic landscapes types in this area are:

2.3 Other Commons and Greens

8.7 Mud Flats

Ecological Features

4.256 The mud/shale foreshore along Southampton water is designated a SAC, SPA, Ramsar and SSSI for its importance to overwintering birds and related habitats.

Hamble Common is designated as a SSSI and SINCR for its grassland and heathland habitat significance

Key Characteristics

4.257 The key characteristics for this area are:

- Wild heath land
- Coastal windswept character
- Mosaic of wet grassland, scrub and wind-shaped trees
- Wide views across common and coast
- Views of industrial plant at edges and across the water

Landscape Type

4.258 Landscape types as set out in the Hampshire County Council Integrated Character Assessment 2011 for this area are:

- Coastal Plain Enclosed



Figure 51. Panorama views north approaching Hamble Green and Hamble River Sailing Club

Landscape Character Sensitivity

4.259 The area is largely rural/maritime in character. It is generally flat and very distinctive with significant tree and shrub cover

Visual Sensitivity

4.260 Although views of industrial complexes to the west are evident, the dominant views are over Southampton Water.

Key Issues

4.261 The key issues for this area are:

- The conflict between priorities of facilitating public access, nature conservation
- Foreshore pressure from rising sea level
- No formal access to the foreshore
- Poor continuity of footway along the foreshore
- Maintaining important views to and from the water



Figure 51. Panorama views north approaching Hamble Green and Hamble River Sailing Club