

From: [DORAN, Richard](#)
To: [DORAN, Richard](#); [REDACTED]; [ARNOLD, Mark](#);
[Arden, Rob \(NE\)](#); [BAILEY, Rachel \(Councillor\)](#); [BAGGALEY, James](#);
[REDACTED] [HUGHES, Paul](#); [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Sound Common Liaison Group meeting 11 September 2012
Date: 19 October 2012 15:36:36
Attachments: [Sound Common Liaison Group Terms of Reference191012.docx](#)
[Sound Heath SSSI.jpg](#)
[Sound Heath statutory classes.jpg](#)
[Sound Heath LNR.JPG](#)
[Sound Heath Common.jpg](#)
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Sound Heath SSSI – Liaison Group meeting 11 September 2012

Agenda

- 1 Welcome and introductions
- 2 The aim of the Liaison group/composition of the group.
- 3 Scope and area of responsibility of the group (SSSI/LNR/designated Common/CEC land?)
- 4 Roles and opportunities from via cec/spc/sadra/ne/volunteers ; the links and working arrangements
- 5 Update from surveys to date flora/reptiles/amphibians/birds/bats
- 6 Update re licences/hls application
- 7 Work programme – areas/contractors/volunteers/officers/monitoring
- 8 Frequency of meetings/next meeting

Thank you

Hello

I said I'd put together some notes from the meeting we had on the 11 September 2012. They're not minutes.

If I've missed anyone off the list, please let me know.

I've attached an amended document in the light of the discussions we had.

I've attached a number of plans showing the boundaries and a composite plan as discussed. If you're not sure of the boundary or they're not right, let me

know and we can amend them.

We agreed that the initial 5 year works, centered on the SSSI heathland is to be referred to as "The Rescue Plan" .

We agreed there is a need to revisit the management plan and look to produce a revised management plan for the reference area.

We agreed to contact Cheshire Wildlife Trust to enquire if they would become a member of the Liaison Group

Noted the difficulty with encouraging volunteers to help with works on the site. Discussed the opportunity of other groups coming to help with some physical works; Mark identified a number of groups of volunteers that have asked to help at Sound Common and had identified a date in November that a group may be on site. We discussed how best to utilize existing volunteer skills and knowledge to further the aims of the group. Surveys, maintaining the paths, keeping them clear, helping to improve/maintain the infrastructure, and work with/without rangers outside the winter months may be a better option. Any volunteer work has to be approved by CEC, following consent by NE.

Update on flora surveys was provided by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Heathland is being compromised by molinia and tree invasion. Western gorse sp invading the heathland was also noted. Trees were typical of this soil, silver birch and downy birch. Significant amount of Rose bay willow herb on site. Paddock area was stripped and sown with heather but little evidence of heather at the moment. The paddock is not part of the rescue plan. Noticed elm and lots of crassula, the latter of which is an increasing problem.

There appears to be a good population of grass snakes on site, especially in the remnant heathland areas. The Great Crested Newt report had been previously circulated and the population determined as small. It is essential that monitoring of populations of gs/gcn is an ongoing matter.

[REDACTED] reported on the bird survey that that was relatively few breeding bird territories. Further details to follow.

The conservation licence required before works can begin has now been granted by Natural England. Mitigation works, timing of works and the requirement of staff to be on hand for much of the works is required.

The application for Higher Level Stewardship finances has been approved.

The Felling Licence has been received from the Forestry Commission.

Work is expected to start mid-October. Tree works estimated to take a week, with scraping taking 2 days.

It would be helpful to have a de-brief following the completion of the initial period of works. To be agreed for late November/early December.

Agreed to hold Liaison Group meetings in April and October 2013. If there are issues or concerns in the meantime, people have the email contacts of Liaison Group members. It was emphasized that the Group needs to be communicative within the group and to interested individuals and the community.

**** Post Meeting [REDACTED] had provided information of the bryophyte survey which had been forwarded to NE for comment. Reply forwarded to [REDACTED] Rangers. Ranger/[REDACTED] to make contact to discuss options on site. ****

**** Works now planned to start 22 October 2012 ****

Thank you

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Sound Common Liaison Group

Terms of Reference

Reference Area

The Liaison Group will work to the areas comprising of the Designated Common, the Site of Special Scientific Interest and the Local Nature Reserve.

Aims

The Group aims to restore, protect and where the opportunity arises, develop the quality habitats and recreational opportunities within the reference area. To do this it will:

- Implement a programme of works to recover the heathland and associated communities within the reference area
- Revise and update the management plan
- Act as a sounding board for plans and proposals
- Bring ideas to the Liaison Group for ways to advance towards the aims of the Liaison Group
- Raise awareness of, and advocate the work the Liaison Group within the reference area
- Develop a relationship between the community and organisations
- Provide specialist assistance on scoping, planning and delivering projects

Membership

Members of the Liaison Group will be either

- Representatives of organisations with a professional or specialist relevance to the site such as Cheshire East Council, Sound Parish Council, Sound And District Residence Association, (SADRA), Cheshire Wildlife Trust, Natural England.

Or

- Individuals who are able to represent the views and values of groups within the local community with an interest in the SSSI, Common, and Local Nature Reserve.

The liaison group will consist of people representing the above groups.

Membership is by invitation from Cheshire East Council, who is the recognised responsible organisation.

Expectations

Members of the Group will:

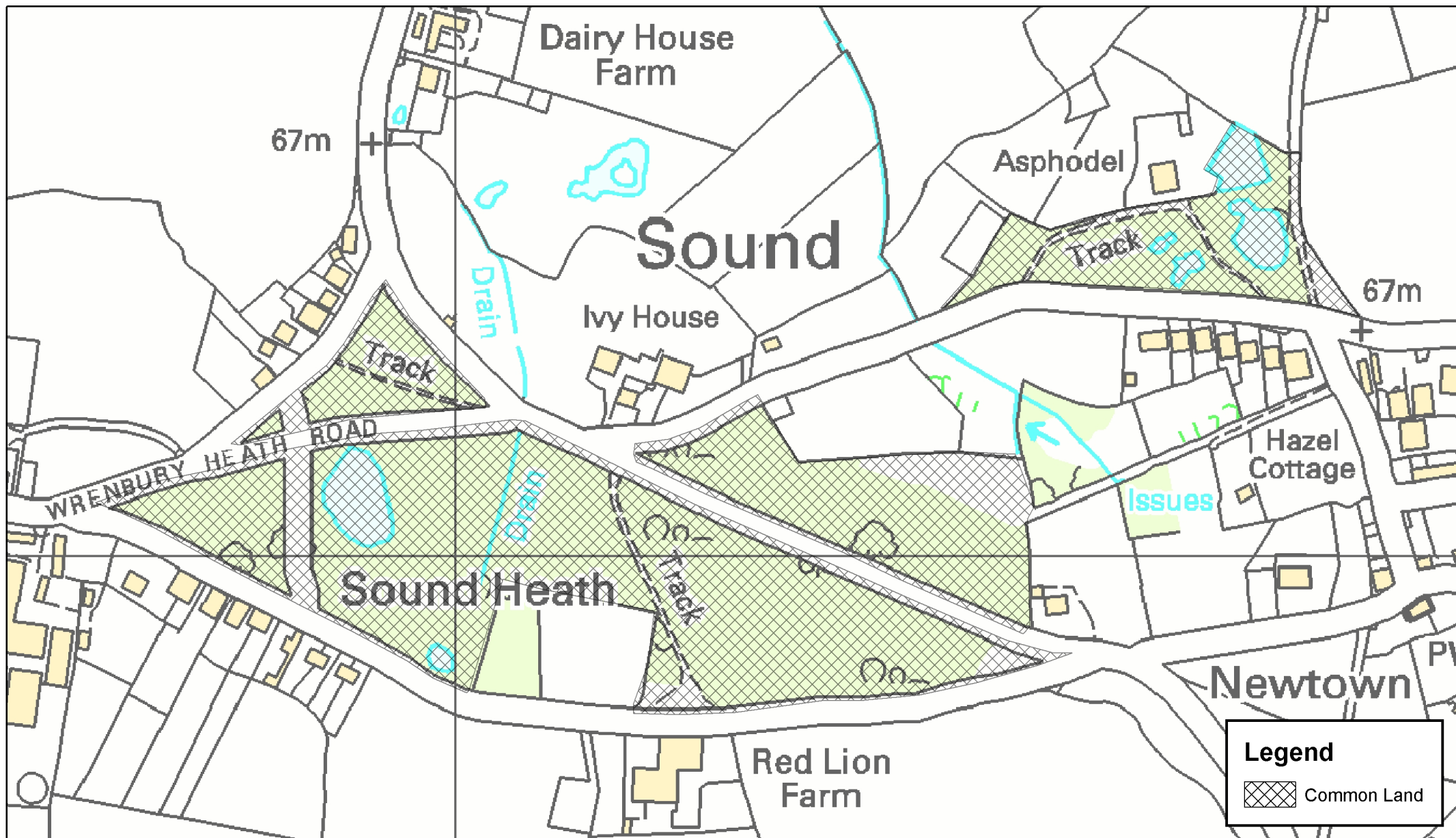
- Develop a knowledge of the SSSI/LNR/Common.
- Gain an understanding of local site management approaches
- Co-operate with other groups within the community to exchange information and advice for mutual benefit

In addition, group members will:

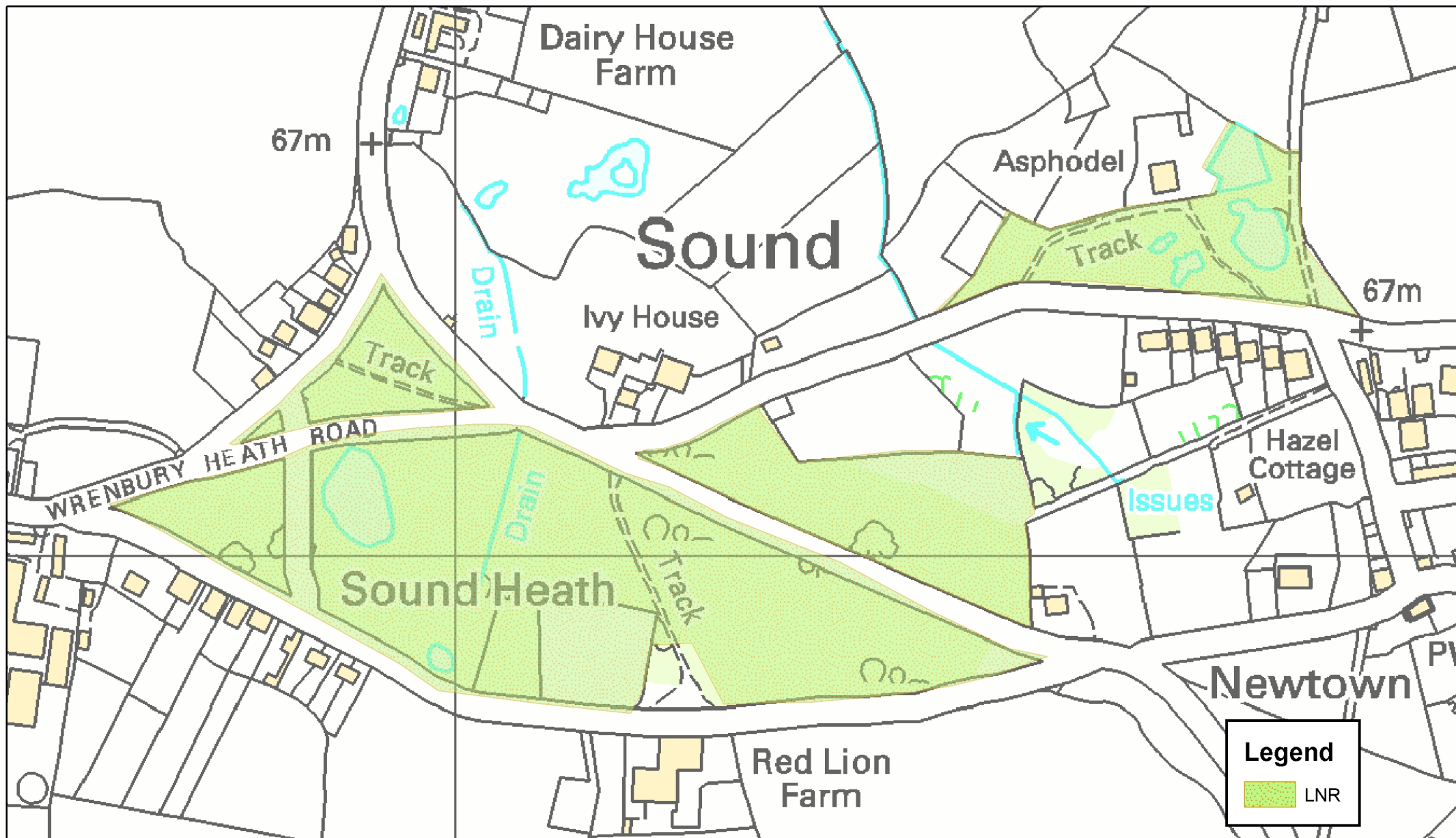
- Convey representative views at Group meetings
- Build understanding of the Groups site management approaches in the community
- Share technical and relevant expertise, and information.

Meetings

The Liaison Group meetings will be chaired by the Ward Councillor or an appointed representative if the chair is not available for that meeting. The Group will meet a minimum of twice yearly. Meetings may be cancelled if the elected chair is unavailable (subject to an appointed representative also not being available) or there are less than four group members available to attend. Meetings will be attended by group members, who may invite additional persons where there are relevant items on the agenda.



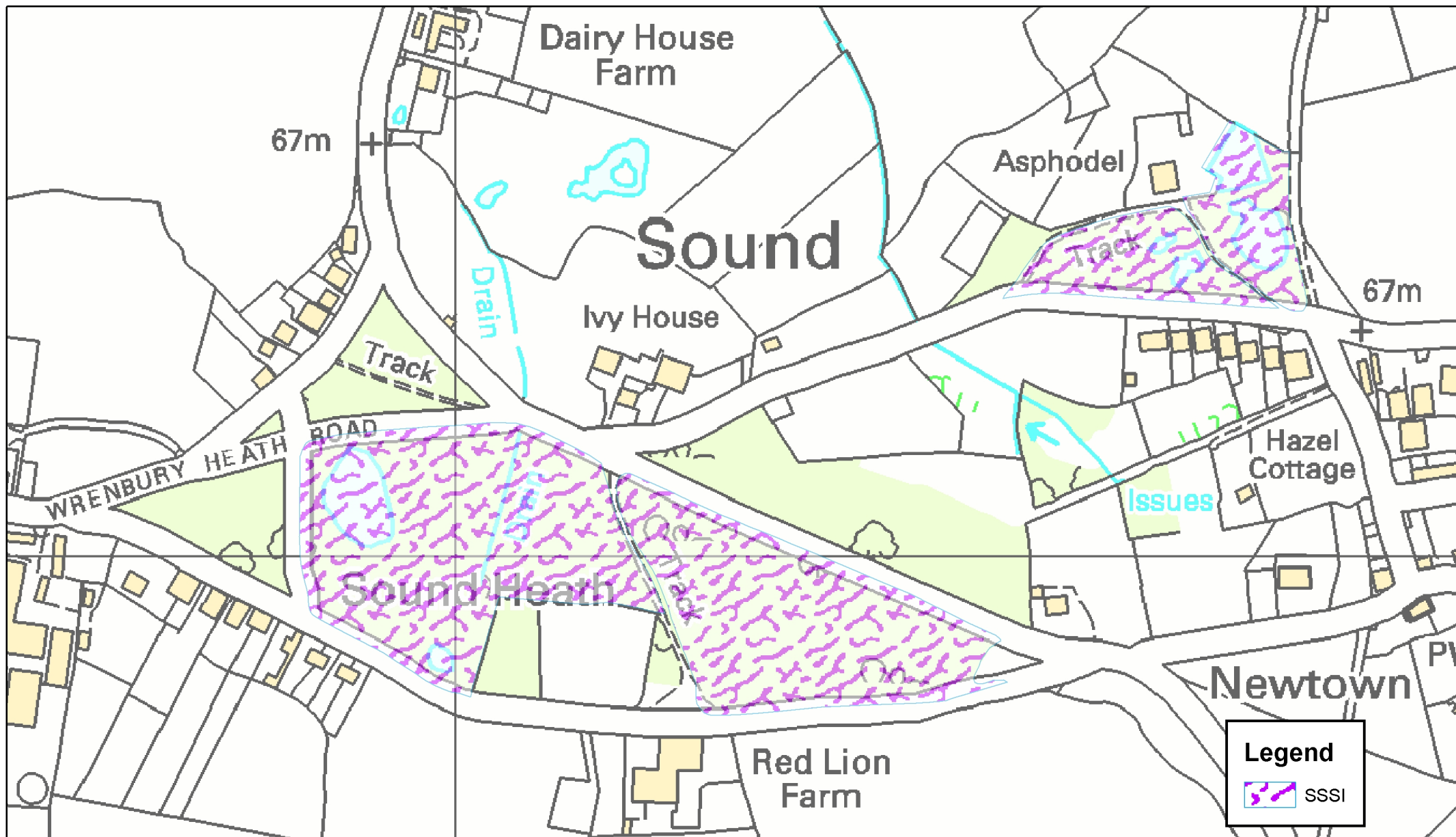
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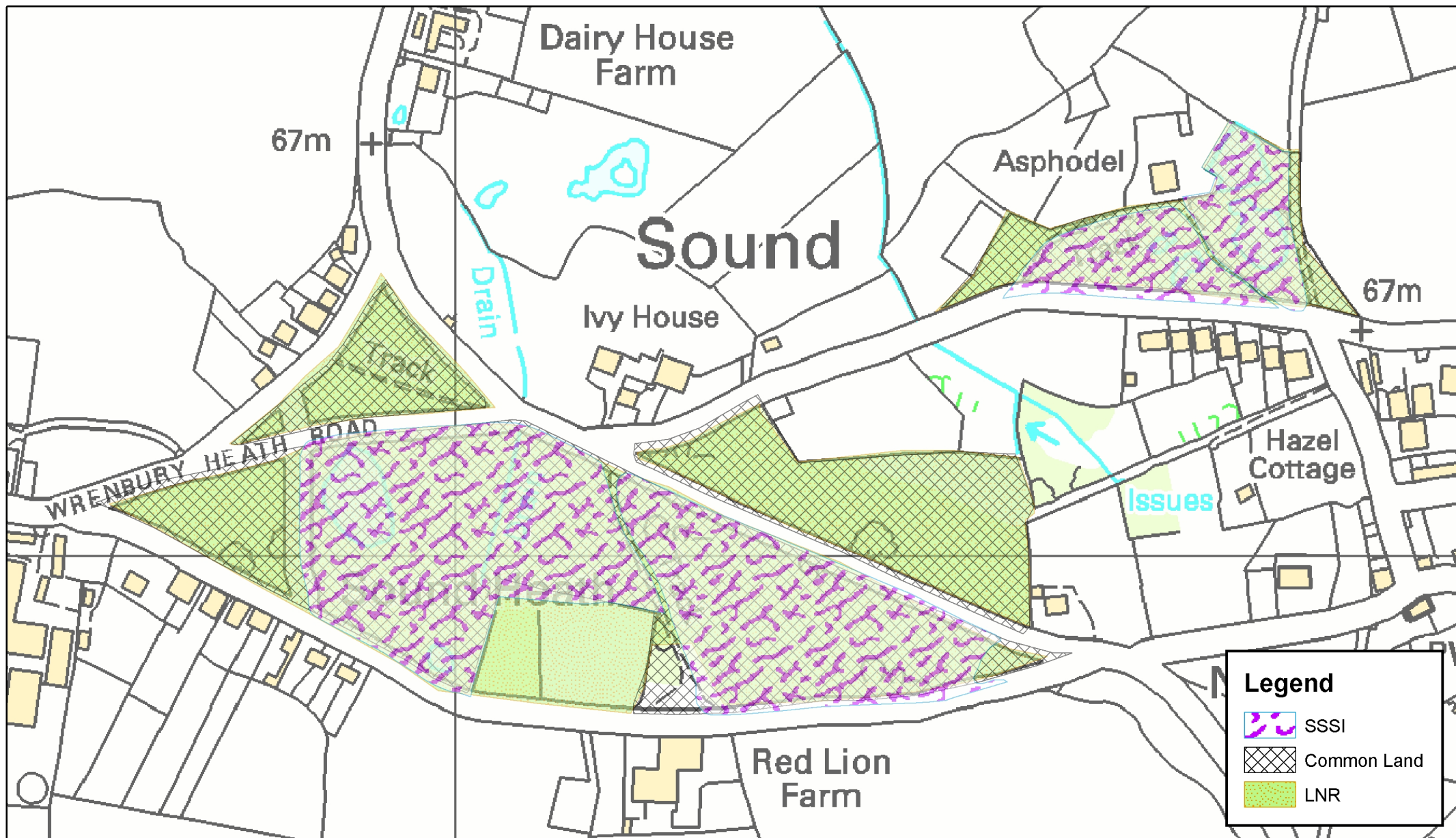
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