

Land corridor for Trees, Nature and People



INTRODUCTION

I bought Kaliwoods in June 2014, from Donald Bareham, the farmer at auction. It is a 5.5 acre woodland planted around 1900, an oak nuttery, hazel with standards. SK355484.

Purchased in the name of my company, Karmafield Ltd (Company Number 05657457)

Over the last 10 years, I have

- re-introduced the coppice cycle, coppicing an acre of hazel a year, harvesting firewood
- worked on the boundary hedgerows, laying the northern and southern boundary.
- built a wood cabin out of 12 dead oaks in the wood
- introduced and become involved with Kinda Forest School, now established for 5 years and thriving, operating 5/6 days a week for home educated, SEN, Alternative Provision, Forest Family Saturday, WoodSisters, and Elders.
- <https://kindaforestschool.com/>

For further info visit www.kaliwood.wordpress.com

In January 2022 I bought the field to the south of my woodland, 17 acres, from Alan Bareham. SK315298.

The vision is to plant mixed with natural regeneration with trees mixed with rides and pasture to join up two existing woodlands one to the north (Kaliwood, and Holton Hall Park) and one to the south (HoltonPits). The object would not only be to enhance the local landscape but to manage the site in a way that would encourage and promote nature conservation and at the same time demonstrating a number of woodland management techniques. The site could provide an educational and recreational facility for public use.

Now aged 67 this would be my last project. I have no children, this also feels like a legacy. I will never see the trees mature.

Woods and Climate Change

The importance of trees in mitigating climate change is enormous. Trees are the ultimate carbon capture and storage machines. Like great carbon sinks, woods and forests absorb atmospheric carbon and lock it up for centuries.

- Trees filter the air we breath, through photosynthesis, respiring oxygen essential for us to live.
- Trees are an effective air cooler. With temperatures set to raise to an average of 40 degrees in 2050, trees are an essential microclimate.

- Trees, particularly deciduous trees, create alkaline humus that can effectively store water.
- Trees shade the soil.
- Trees have an essential relationship with people
- Trees are the fruiting body of all the communication that goes on underground, the mycelial network Dead and decaying wood provides a nutrient-rich habitat for fungi, a nursery for beetle larvae and a larder for insectivorous birds and other animals.

Wildlife Corridor

This relatively small parcel of previously arable land, previously used for crop cultivation becomes a linking wildlife corridor, joining in the north Kaliwood (5 acres) and Holton Hall Park (70 acres, and a 'County Wildlife Site') , and Holton Pits (20 acres and a SSSI) and the Blyth Valley to the south (see map).

The Waveney Green Infrastructure Strategy (2015) identifies the importance of linkages between habitats and other types of green space. Habitats are healthiest where they are well connected to each other. To protect and enhance these networks, national planning policy advises that biodiversity should be conserved and enhanced at a landscape-scale. The intention is to identify, enhance and protect networks of interconnected habitats to benefit biodiversity in the long-

term. This approach is endorsed by organisations including Natural England and the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. The Waveney Green Infrastructure Strategy (2015)

<https://eastsuffolk.inconsult.uk/optionsforanewlocalplan2016/viewCompoundDoc?docid=7620436&sessionid=&voteid=&partId=7621492>



THE CHALLENGES

Climate change predictions - low water and increasingly hot summers.

Water - predicted to be less each year with climate change. Essential for young tree growth. Access to water will be a major challenge.

Deer Damage - evidence of deer and muntjac and rabbits.

Soil quality - poor sand soil, with richer clay in a smaller area to the north.

Ragwort and thistle - dominant on the land

Future of the land - uncertain. (Holton Pits CIC?)

Holding on to the vision

Capital

Potential solutions

Add more ponds.

Build a shed/barn on hard standing to collect water

Install fencing over a section. Tree protection.

Plant pioneer species such as Silver Birch (already colonised in the Pits)

Introduce a cover crop to challenge the ragwort. Pull and top each year.

Secure an agreement with Holton Pits with legacy financial security.

Act now before vision fades.

VISION and INSPIRATION

Trees and meadowland with access rides

Community Garden, south west

Forest Garden - leading to

Agroforestry alleys 3-4 alleys

Woodland burial to north east.

Inspired by:

Martin and Ann Wolf - Wakelyns, who supported and inspired me with the Metfield Stores project, introduced me to apple days, agro-forestry, community.

Olive Rackham - my bible. I never met him, sadly, but feel his personality in friends I know and through his books that I dip into regularly. Wood pasture.

Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben

The Mother Tree by Suzanne Simmond

Overstory by Richard Powers

Rewilding by Isabella Tree

MISSION

To plant trees and hedgerows with wide rides, working with local community.

Education and Advocacy - working with Kinda Forest School children and elders, in particular exploring the creation of a Forest Garden. Planting food to eat.

To create an ecologically conscious land use movement

To create a Community and Forest Garden and orchard

To create an area of alleys, agroforestry inspired by Wakelyns

To apply for a Woodland burial area, one acre, north east.

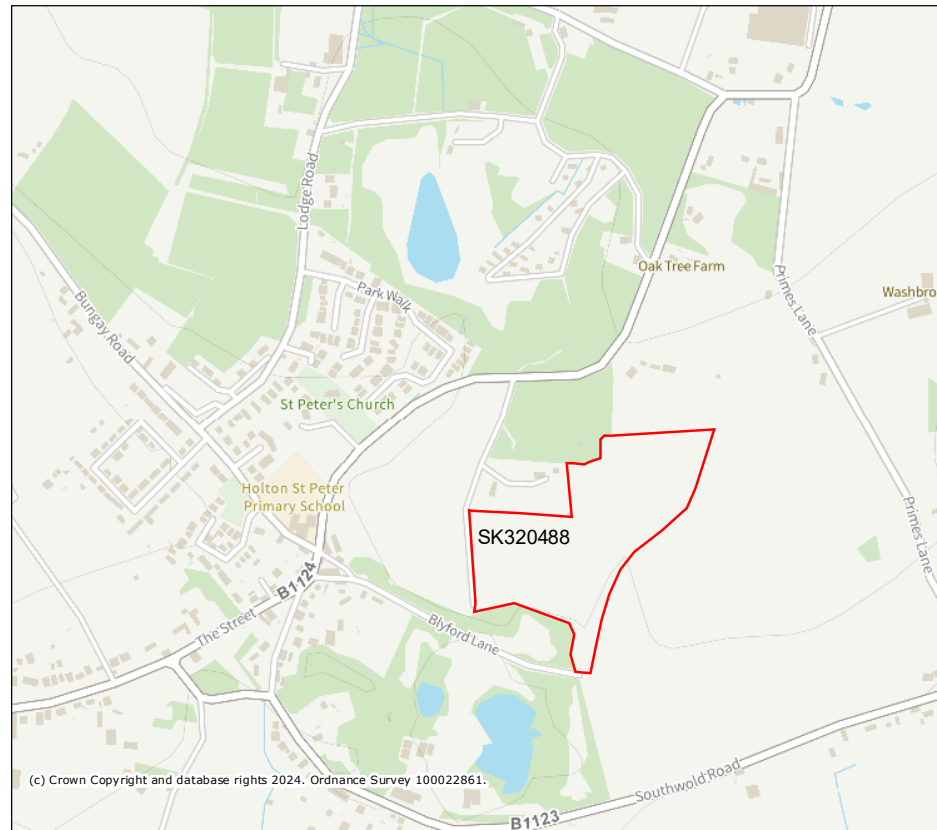
Partnerships

Collaborate with likeminded programme partners to implement site-based projects alongside communities and schools such as:

- Wakelyns Agroforestry - David Wolfe
- Bramfield and Blythburgh Farm Cluster - Maddy Lord/Richard Symes
- Market gardener - Marion Gaze
- Suffolk County Council's creating the greenest county
- Greenprint Forum - Daniel Waring

MAGiC

Rachel's Land SK320488



Projection = OSGB36
xmin = 638900
ymin = 276900
xmax = 642100
ymax = 278800
Map produced by MAGIC on 20 March, 2024.
Copyright resides with the data suppliers and the map must not be reproduced without their permission. Some information in MAGIC is a snapshot of the information that is being maintained or continually updated by the originating organisation. Please refer to the metadata for details as information may be illustrative or representative rather than definitive at this stage.

SITE OVERVIEW

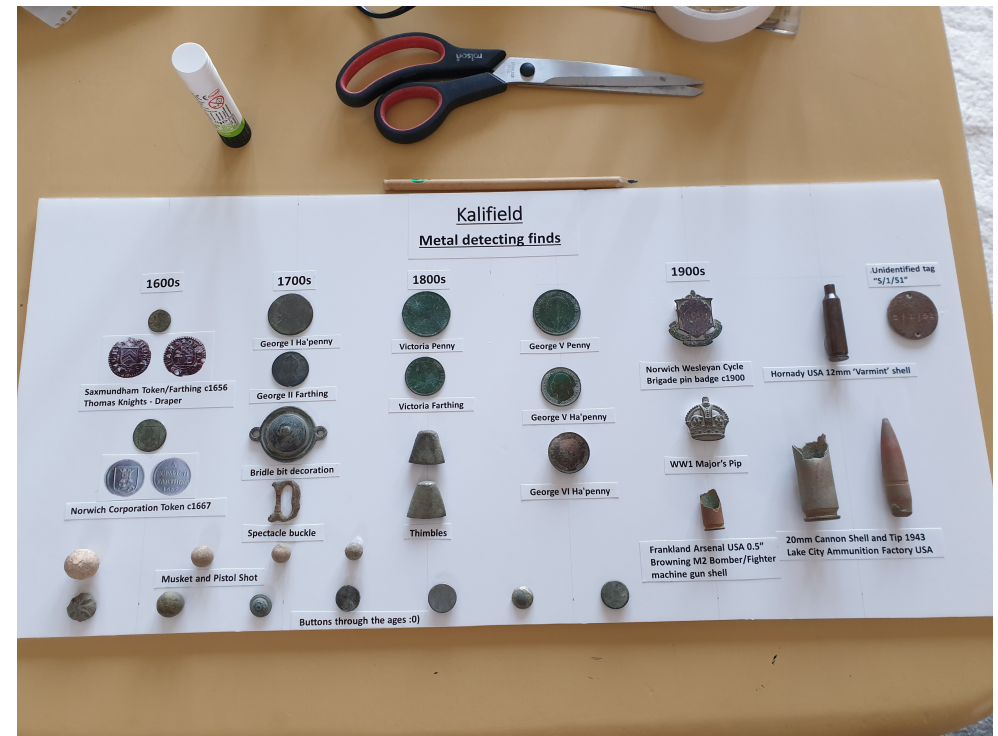
Title Number SK320488

The total area of land is 17 acres (or 4.88 hectares). This is comprised of 4.2 acres in plot A (1.7 hectares) and 7.8 acres (3.18 hectares) in plot B.

Soil

The soil is relatively poor. The southern major part of a sand aggregate seam, with boulder clay over chalk only at the north.

February 2023 a group of detectorists came onto the field and found much evidence of people who had passed through the land over the ages, from Roman, through to WW2.



Overall Strategy

Trees /meadow

Introduce by both natural regeneration and planting (particularly in the south), intricate mixes of tree and shrub species. Both techniques enhance growth rates, survivability, biodiversity and carbon capture.

Plan planting with a mosaic of appropriate trees and shrubs with associated open spaces/ glades, rides and possibly open water.

The Woodland Trust Pound Farm a good example of a naturally and man generated re-wilding project started in 1990.

Meadow and open ground with diverse grasses and scrubby edges. Annually cut and removed.

To increase growth rates plant at 1m to 1.6 m spacing.

Species must be suitable for the site. Small-leaved lime / wild cherry / birch / sweet chestnut / Crab apple / Hornbeam / Oak / Maple

Hedges

Work on hedges began January 2023 working with Elders and children from Kinda. X meters planted. It will be very interesting to see how the different rows grow and interconnect and how to maintain them. Also the carbon sequestration will be fantastic.

August 2023. Defra called for a 40% increase in hedgerows to combat climate change. Climate change committee called for 45,000 miles of hedgerow by 2050. Sharp contrast to grubbing out of hedgerows post war. Why? Carbon sequestration. 1 kilometre of hedgerow 5,6 megatons of co2. 4.5% of these. Countryside Stewardship data. 1,800 miles planted 2022. £20 per meter paid by Defra. Paid for creation and management. Corridors for wildlife. Biodiversity. Shelter. wide hedgerow, especially ground hibernating doormice & hedgehogs if they're around, and species that are quite fussy about their micro habitat (temperature/humidity range and so on).

Ponds

Advised and funded by SWT. One large separate pond and one an enlargement of the flood pond in the wood to enlarge into the land.

Ponds to have good edge vegetation and scrub, not over shaded edges. Ideally to hold water throughout the summer Good biodiversity in aquatic invertebrates.

Edge ground flora with pyramid orchid, bee orchid, common spotted orchid, cowslip, primrose and birds foot trefoil.

Rides and circle

To create a ride system centered around a circle, with cut to a minimum of 4 times per year to a width of up to 2-3m and a

final double width 4m. The rides divide up the area into blocks to differentiate planting segments.

Maintain all paths obstacle free to allow unhindered access to the the planted segments - tractor access.

Parking /pole barn on hard standing

The existing WW2 hard standing, is useful for parking and a potential area for a Pole Barn.

The purpose of a pole barn on the hard standing adjacent to the Community Garden is four fold:

- a. to catch and store water from the roof to enable watering of community garden.
- b. to provide shelter and workspace in which to propagate seedlings for the garden
- c. to store small tractor and garden utensils securely
- d. offer shelter for workers

The pole barn would be made from the 8 dead oaks in Kaliwood (suffering from AOD).

The wood would therefore be sequestered and used locally. A bansaw would be transported and set up on the hardstanding in Kaliwood February/March 2024, to cut to a cutting list the needed wood. (This has already successfully been done to build the cabin in Kaliwoods)

The size and structure of the Pole Barn would be as follows
10 meters long / 5 meters wide / 8 meters high

Roof: single-skin Box Profile Sheets

Inside would be a secure closed area for keeping machinery and utensils, along with shelves for a plant nursery. develop an area of community garden with going north 3 to 4 alleys of coppice woodland/vines. This area to be fenced.

1. Community Garden

The community garden, involving a Forest Garden to the north, and alley planting further north is based on growing food for Kinda to eat and involving Kinda tribes in exploring a forest garden way of growing. It is explained well by Martin Crawford here:

<https://www.agroforestry.co.uk/about-agroforestry/forest-gardening/>

In the community garden we would grow standard annual vegetables such as Sweet Corn / French Beans/ Runner beans / Carrots / Leeks / Onions

2. Forest Garden

A Forest Garden is a designed agronomic system based on trees, shrubs and perennial plants. These are mixed in such a way as to mimic the structure of a natural forest – the most stable and sustainable type of ecosystem in this climate.

Diversity = Resilient against pests.

Layers south to north

Soil covered most of the year.

Includes system plants, like comfrey, good pollinators

Growing north from the community garden would typically be Herbs - rosemary, sage, Sweet Cecily (Garden Myrrh), lovage, sorrel.

Garden Flax for biodegradable twine

Medicinal plants

Climbers - nasturtium

Black and Red and Gooseberry bushes

Artichokes

It is a diversified orchard. Fruit Trees. Walnut trees.

3. Alley Planting

Alley planting, inspired by Wakelyns Agroforestry, on a north south axis, would be a mix of one row of vines, 3 rows of hazel mixed with fruit trees. In the alleys between the vines and hazel we would grow 'crops' such as root crops which had surface cover such as pumpkins. potatoes, sweet corn.



Feature/measures	Detail	Reason	Useful links
Pond		Harvest water from ditches Essential water source for maintaining young tree growth. Small Ponds also prove good habitat for many key wildlife e.g., dragonflies, turtle doves.	SuffolkWildlife Trust
Hedgerow		Adding a new hedge increases the habitat corridors within the site allowing protected movement between ponds and woodland/hedges. It would also increase foraging sources for various bird species e.g., yellowhammer and linnet, insects and mammals. Native species will benefit the site the most for example a mix of Hawthorn, Oak, Dog Rose, Alder, Wild Cherry, Wild Privet, Holly, Crab apple, Hazel, field Maple. Often the best species for the site will mirror species in historic hedgerows in the	Suffolk Tree Warden Network (suffolktreewardens.org.uk) Woodland Trust
Grassland		Implementing a Grassland Management plan would be beneficial. Grasses at various stages of growth can increase the biodiversity on a site. Implement three distinct levels of grassland on the site. This would encourage many species for example Barn owls like to hunt along grassland edges.	

Feature/measures	Detail	Reason	Useful links
Natural scrub encroachment (Natural regeneration of woodland/wilding)		Leave the area adjacent to the hedge to grow without mowing or managing. Allowing a natural succession from grassland into scrub and in time woodland. Scrub areas are very beneficial, providing cover, nesting sites, food. Brambles are an important part of scrub and are excellent cover and food for various species of native wildlife. Also good for turtle doves.	
Owl Boxes		Owl boxes can be added to provide nest sites for Barn owls. The best nest sites are in a mature tree, or an open sided farm building. However, where this is not a possibility you can also have success from a box on a pole, however this is more costly to erect.	



5 year plan

What	Year 1 2023	Year 2 2024	Year 3 2025	Year 4 2026	Year 5 2027
Hedgerow	Plant western side	Plant eastern side	plant southern edge	maintain	maintain
Garden	plan - potatoes grown	Fence and implemnt			
Forest Garden	plan	Plan and plant	plant	plant and maintain	plant and maintain
Alleys	plan	Fence and grow vine/ hazel	grow in alleys	maintain	maintain Vine 5 years/ Hazel coppice 7-8 year rotation.
Ponds	plan - Crispin experimental digs to find clay	Ponds dug Jan/Feb	maintained	maintained	maintained
Trees	Plough. Plant herbal lay to challenge ragwort, borrag, mustard, and phyellia.	Plant southern and central belt	Nourish southern and central. Plant northern	Nourish	Nourish
Woodland burrial			Apply planning Build track, develop process	Develop	Market and develop

[illegible]