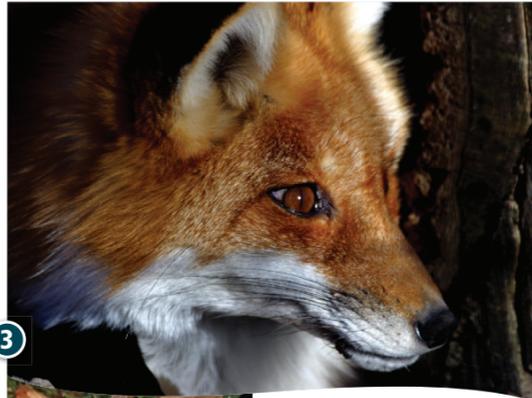


Fishponds Wood



2 Some of the original beech trees from the Acomb Hall gardens can be still seen along one side of Beech Grove and there are impressive Beech trees in Fishponds Wood. This proves the existing beech trees in the area are over 100 years old. Although the ponds were filled in during the 1950s, the area is still fed by natural springs and is therefore boggy in places throughout the year.

The animals of the wood



3 Regular sightings can be made of common birds such as Robin, Long Tailed Tit, Blackbird, and House Sparrow. Other sightings include Tree Creeper, Pied Wagtail, Goldfinch, Bullfinch and Kestrels. Mammals you may spot



4 include Wood Mouse, Common Shrew, Pipistrelle Bats, Grey Squirrel and Fox.



5 Butterflies and moths are attracted to the woodland edge habitats around the perimeter including Brimstone, Tortoiseshell, Cinnabar Moth and Red Admiral. Amphibians such as frogs and toads are abundant in this habitat.



6 Management Plan

Fishponds Wood has been extended in many areas with trees and shrubs to encourage wildlife and add to the diversity of the site.

The grass is only cut along paths and boundaries to improve access and to provide cover for small mammals and invertebrates.

Standing and lying dead wood is left to provide habitats for invertebrates and fungi as they slowly rot. Some of the boundary hedges have been replanted to increase the nesting and feeding opportunities for garden birds.

The plants of Fishponds Wood



7 Fishponds Wood is a mixture of broadleaved woodland and boggy habitat. The woodland was historically dominated by Beech but a number of other species have been added in the last 15-20 years. Willows and Alder thrive in the wetter areas of the wood.



8 The boggy ground supports a large variety of mosses and lichens and a variety of wildflowers and grasses suited to wet woodland can be found. The hedgerow borders have hawthorn and hazel shrubs and the grassy paths that snake through the wood have Birdsfoot Trefoil and Buttercups giving a show of yellow flowers as you walk along them.

