

PLEASE DONATE GENEROUSLY TO SAVE OLD PARK

The sale of the site presents a huge opportunity to the people of Canterbury to save this land for future generations. We are working with partners on a bid to acquire and/or manage the site. Our initial fundraising goal is £100,000.

Please donate if you can! If the bid does not succeed, we pledge to return funds to donors who have given £25 and over, on a pro rata basis, after costs have been paid. Donations less than this amount will be used to help finance the campaign.

Points of interest

-  Bluebell woods & ancient woodland
-  Site of Special Scientific Interest
-  Acid grassland
-  National Cycle Route 1
-  Public Rights of Way
-  Informal footpaths
-  Canterbury Golf Club land (83.9ha)
-  Ministry of Defence land (92.3ha)



Choose how you would like to donate:

- > **On-line:** www.canterburyoldpark.org.uk/donate
- > **Cheque made payable to:** 'Friends of The Old Park & Chequers Wood' and sent to:
C/O 8 Longport, Canterbury, CT1 1PE
- > **Bank Transfer:** contact us for details at <https://canterburyoldpark.org.uk/contact>

Keep up to date with the campaign on our website:
www.canterburyoldpark.org.uk
and our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/groups/friendsofoldpark

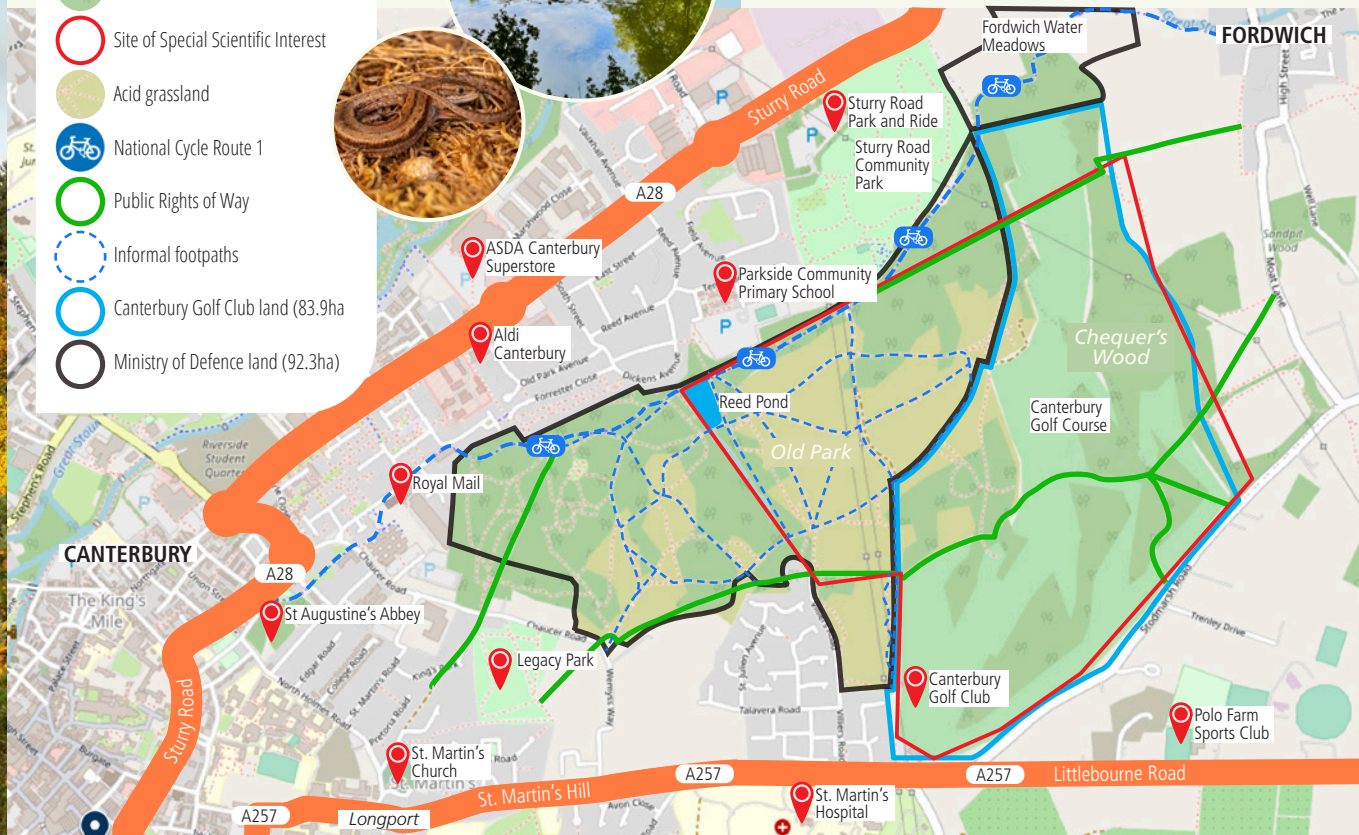


THE FRIENDS OF
**Old Park &
Chequers Wood**



Save Old Park

Join our community campaign
to protect the most diverse
open space in Canterbury



FURTHER INFORMATION:
www.canterburyoldpark.org.uk

Why is Old Park so special?

Old Park and Chequers Wood is a unique and diverse open space, featuring ancient woodland, acid grassland and floodplain meadows. Within easy walking distance from Canterbury city centre, and yet undiscovered by many residents, it is of international, national and local importance.

International: Old Park and Chequers Wood is the oldest excavatable archaeological site in the UK and one of the most important sites for palaeolithic archaeology in north-western Europe. Hand axes have been found which are over 700,000 years old - the oldest recorded human artefacts in the country!



National: A large part of Old Park and Chequers Wood is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) on account of the priority habitats and rare species which it supports. These include beautiful acid grassland flowers and endangered migratory birds such as nightingale and turtle dove.



Local: Old Park and Chequers Wood is used on a daily basis by walkers and cyclists, birdwatchers and naturalists, community groups and fitness clubs. It provides a wonderful natural environment in which local residents can improve their physical and mental wellbeing.



What is the threat?

The Ministry of Defence (MoD), which owns much of Old Park, has put its landholding up for sale. The MoD's sales brochure suggests that parts of Old Park are suitable for battery storage, solar panels and residential development. All of these would destroy the integrity and special qualities of the site.

The Campaign to Save Old Park

The Friends of Old Park & Chequers Wood has launched a campaign to save this very special open space. The campaign has three strands:

- > **Raising awareness** via social media, leaflets, talks, walks and other events. News of all these can be found on our website: www.canterburyoldpark.org.uk
- > **Working with partners** to protect this unique site, its habitats, wildlife and landscapes.
- > **Raising funds** to run the campaign and assist partners in the acquisition and future management of the site.



Who are we?

The Friends of Old Park & Chequers Wood was set up as a community organisation to safeguard this great open space. We work with the local community to protect the site from development and to ensure that it is managed for people and for wildlife.

Over the past few years we have:

- > Gained Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status, with charity number: 1209838;
- > Worked with a team of scientists to document the flora and fauna of the site;
- > Successfully applied to Kent Wildlife Trust to designate the area outside the SSSI as a Local Wildlife Site
- > Applied to Natural England to extend the SSSI;
- > Set up an Expert Advisory Group with local conservation organisations to guide our work;
- > Collected evidence from over 200 local people and groups about their use of Old Park;
- > Organised frequent walks and public events.

To join our mailing list, go to:
www.canterburyoldpark.org.uk/contact Or scan the QR code:

