



Forestry Commission

North West England

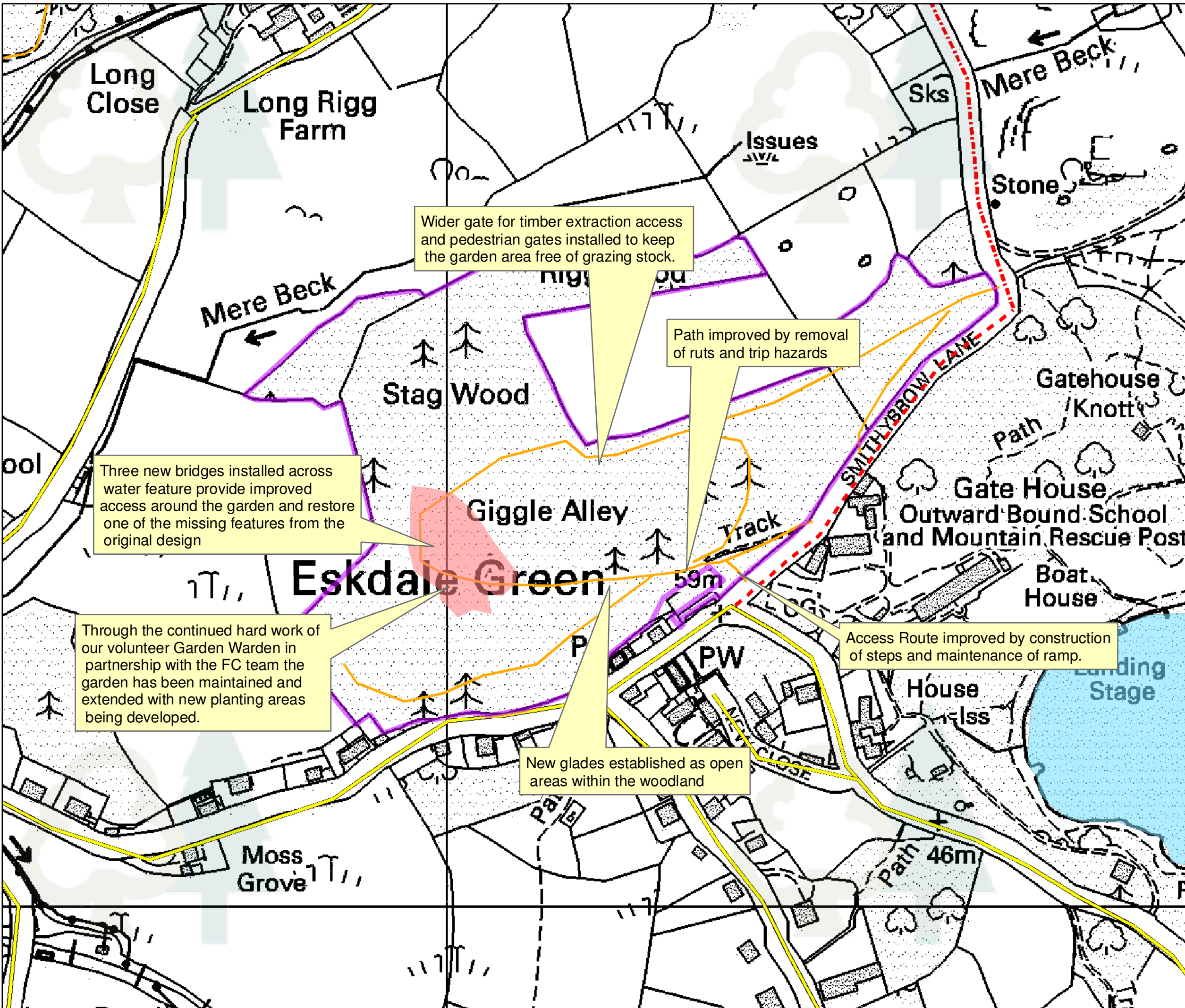
Giggle Alley
Forest Design Plan

Achievements

This map tries to illustrate the main achievements over the last 5 years compared to the previous plan objectives.

Key

-  Giggle Alley
-  Japanese Garden
-  Public Roads
-  Permissive paths
-  Public Bridleway
-  Public Footpath
-  Forest Roads



Date Spring 2010
 Scale 1:2,500
 Contact Gareth Browning
 017687 76816



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Giggle Alley
Forest Design Plan

Review Issues

This map tries to identify the main issues that have emerged since the plan was last reviewed. These will need to be resolved for this plan to successfully deliver on its objectives.

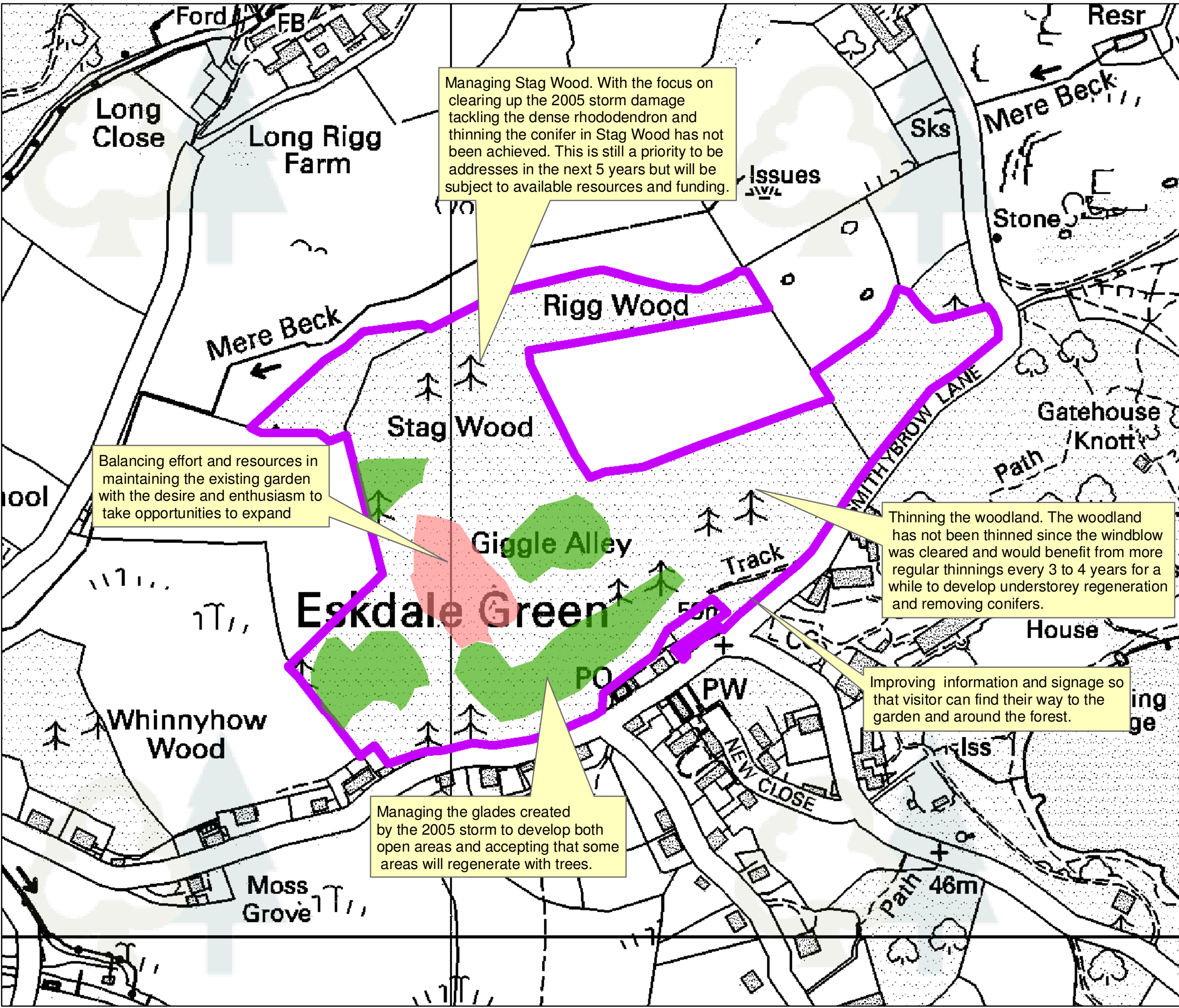
Key

-  Windblow Glades
-  Giggle Alley

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Managing Stag Wood. With the focus on clearing up the 2005 storm damage tackling the dense rhododendron and thinning the conifer in Stag Wood has not been achieved. This is still a priority to be addresses in the next 5 years but will be subject to available resources and funding.

Balancing effort and resources in maintaining the existing garden with the desire and enthusiasm to take opportunities to expand

Thinning the woodland. The woodland has not been thinned since the windblow was cleared and would benefit from more regular thinnings every 3 to 4 years for a while to develop understorey regeneration and removing conifers.

Improving information and signage so that visitor can find their way to the garden and around the forest.

Managing the glades created by the 2005 storm to develop both open areas and accepting that some areas will regenerate with trees.



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Forest Design Plan

Design Concept




This map draws together all the survey information illustrated in previous maps and tries to zone the plan area into similar character areas with similar attributes, aims and objectives.

The attributes and aims described here are then used to prescribe the actions over the next plan period which are described in the "Future Maps" which follow.

Key

 Giggle Alley

Design Concept Zones

-  Japanese Garden
-  Southern Slopes
-  Stag Wood

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Attributes: Never used for recreation, difficult access due to dense planting and rhododendron. Mature pine and larch woodland, difficult harvesting access.

Aims: Slowly transform woodland to native broadleaf, eradicate rhododendron as funding permits.

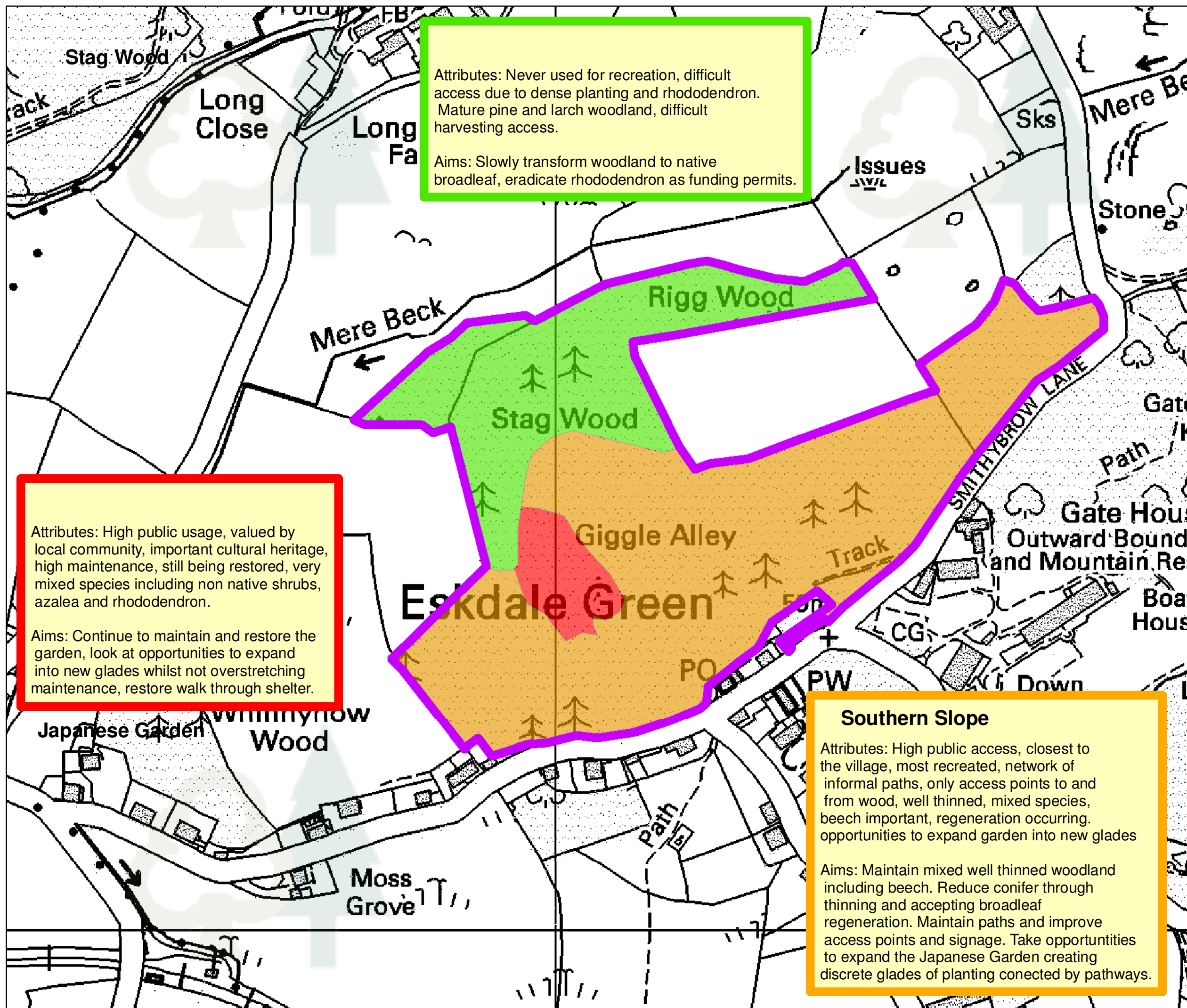
Attributes: High public usage, valued by local community, important cultural heritage, high maintenance, still being restored, very mixed species including non native shrubs, azalea and rhododendron.

Aims: Continue to maintain and restore the garden, look at opportunities to expand into new glades whilst not overstressing maintenance, restore walk through shelter.

Southern Slope

Attributes: High public access, closest to the village, most recreated, network of informal paths, only access points to and from wood, well thinned, mixed species, beech important, regeneration occurring. opportunities to expand garden into new glades

Aims: Maintain mixed well thinned woodland including beech. Reduce conifer through thinning and accepting broadleaf regeneration. Maintain paths and improve access points and signage. Take opportunities to expand the Japanese Garden creating discrete glades of planting connected by pathways.





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Forest Design Plan

Future Woodland Management

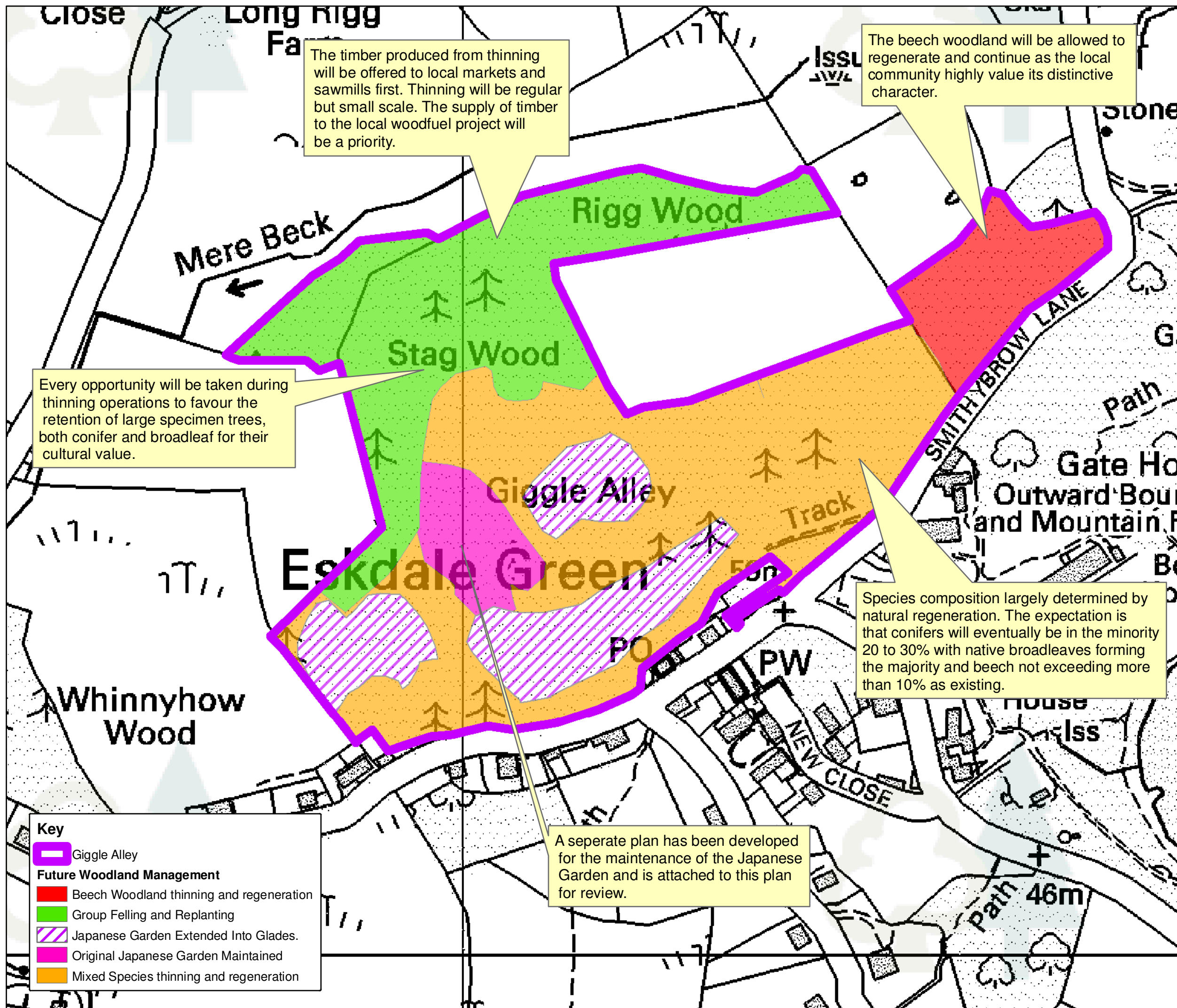
This map shows the proposals for managing the woodland over the next 30 years or so.

Stag Wood is to be transformed towards mixed species woodland through group felling with planting and natural regeneration. Group felling has been chosen as it is hoped it will allow control of Rhododendron to be achieved efficiently. A program of Rhododendron Control will target large flowering stems first.

The remainder of the woodland will be managed through thinning to promote a diverse structure accepting natural regeneration with some planting where regeneration fails or is poor.

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The timber produced from thinning will be offered to local markets and sawmills first. Thinning will be regular but small scale. The supply of timber to the local woodfuel project will be a priority.

The beech woodland will be allowed to regenerate and continue as the local community highly value its distinctive character.

Every opportunity will be taken during thinning operations to favour the retention of large specimen trees, both conifer and broadleaf for their cultural value.

Species composition largely determined by natural regeneration. The expectation is that conifers will eventually be in the minority 20 to 30% with native broadleaves forming the majority and beech not exceeding more than 10% as existing.

A separate plan has been developed for the maintenance of the Japanese Garden and is attached to this plan for review.

Key

- Giggle Alley
- Future Woodland Management**
- Beech Woodland thinning and regeneration
- Group Felling and Replanting
- Japanese Garden Extended Into Glades.
- Original Japanese Garden Maintained
- Mixed Species thinning and regeneration





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Giggle Alley
Forest Design Plan
**Future Access,
Community
Health &
Well Being**

This map illustrates how the plan will deliver actions towards Aim 4 of the England's Trees, Woods and Forests Strategy to improve the quality of life of visitors and local communities

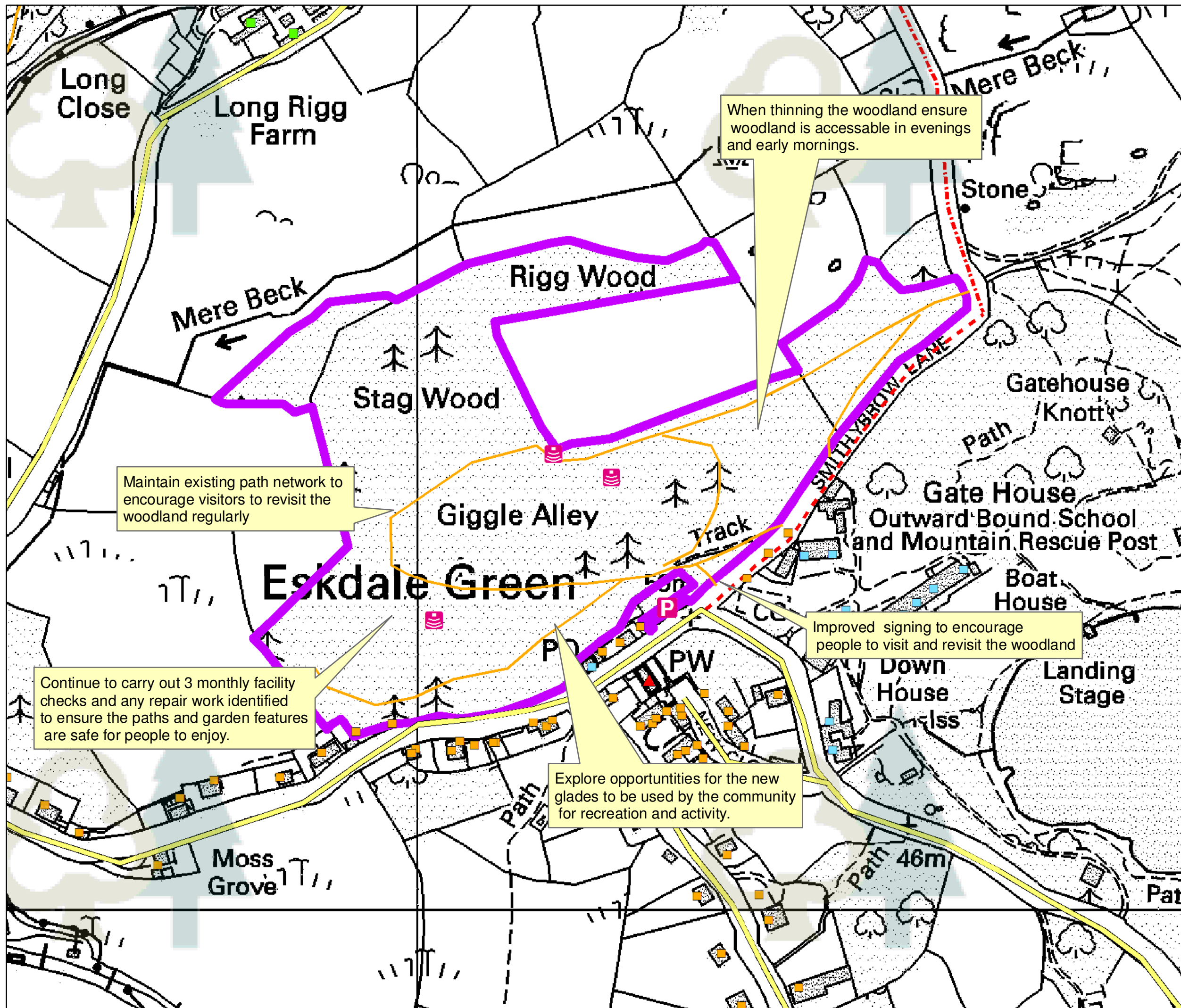
Key

- Car Park
- View Point
- Forest Roads
- Church Way
- Public Bridleway
- Public Footpath
- Giggle Alley

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When thinning the woodland ensure woodland is accessible in evenings and early mornings.

Maintain existing path network to encourage visitors to revisit the woodland regularly

Continue to carry out 3 monthly facility checks and any repair work identified to ensure the paths and garden features are safe for people to enjoy.

Explore opportunities for the new glades to be used by the community for recreation and activity.

Improved signing to encourage people to visit and revisit the woodland

