

Review of Specification for Grounds Contract in Wickhambrook 2023/24

The Estates Committee reviewed the specification for the grounds contract for 2023-24 at its September '22 meeting, which was subsequently approved by the parish (**Min.EC.22.09.11 refers**).

In January of this year the Parish Council appointed R H Landscapes and Maintenance to undertake the grounds contract for a further year (**Min. 23.01.11 refers**).

The first cut took place in March, and the service has received positive comments throughout the season to date.

The contractor has been flexible and has consulted on:

- reducing cuts to protect spring flowers in the cemetery; and
- reducing cuts during the extended period of dry weather throughout July and August.

The clerk has identified two further adjustments to the contract for the Estates to consider including in the next specification, namely:

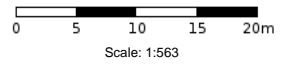
- inclusion of access to the Bury Road Pocket Park
- splitting out the cutting in the cemetery to take account of spring flowers

Accordingly, the clerk has updated the specification with respect to the 2024/25 season, for which quotes will be invited in early October. This revised specification is attached as **Appendix A** to this report, and updated plans at **Appendix B**.

Recommendation

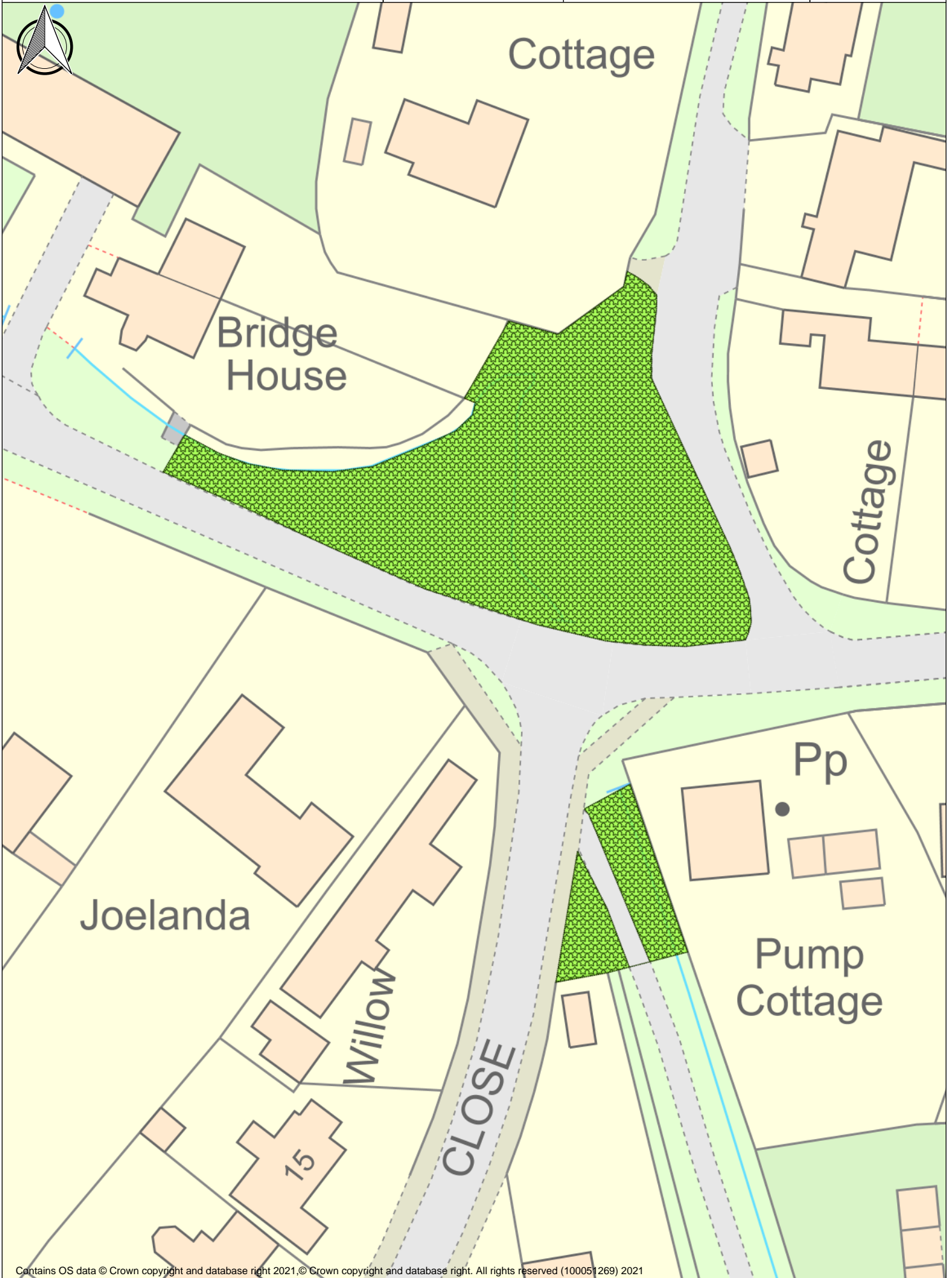
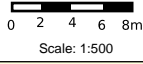
To approve the proposed revised specification for cuts and proposed areas set out at Appendices A & B, (subject to any changes agreed at the meeting) in advance of quotes being requested for the grounds contract for financial year 2024/25.

| Map Item | Description | No. Cuts | Collect Arisings | Leaf Clearing | Notes |
|--|---|----------|------------------|---------------|---|
| Greens | | | | | |
| 1 | Attleton Green | 18 | No | | leave small triangle at rear for wildflower colonisation |
| 2 | Coltsfoot Green | 18 | No | | strim down into all culverts |
| 3 | Meeting Green Verge & Triangle | 18 | No | | small triangle must be trimmed to ensure visibility |
| 4 | Nunnery Green Verges | 18 | | | verges uneven, take time in dips to obtain even cut |
| Cemetery & Churchyard | | | | | |
| 5 | All Saints Churchyard | 18 | No | | Only in Churchyard, not verges or car park |
| 6a | Old Cemetery and Memorial Garden | 18 | | yes | Delay cuts where bee orchids indicated, or to allow spring flowers to set seed, as agreed with contractor - when cuts delayed, cost per cut to be adjusted accordingly. |
| 6b | New Cemetery | 18 | | yes | Delay cuts where bee orchids indicated, or to allow spring flowers to set seed, as agreed with contractor - when cuts delayed, cost per cut to be adjusted accordingly. |
| Play Areas | | | | | |
| 7 | Bury Road Play Area | 18 | yes | yes | Cut grass immediately outside pocket park to facilitate access. |
| 8 | Cemetery Road Play Area - leaves & debris collected | 18 | yes | yes | |
| Six Acres & Recreation Ground | | | | | |
| 9 | Bowling Green (in and outer banks) | 16 | yes | yes | not the bowling green itself |
| 10 | Tennis Courts surrounding Grass | 18 | | | |
| 11 | Inner banks of Recreation Field and Six Acres | 18 | | | Delay cuts to allow spring/wild flowers to set seed as agreed with contractor - when cuts delayed, cost per cut to be adjusted accordingly |
| 12 | Recreation Ground & Six Acres | 18 | | | *please quote for both collection of arisings, and arisings left in place |
| Other | | | | | |
| 13 | Footpaths per plan, namely FP26 from Cemetery to FP25; and FP25 from | 6 | | | |
| 14 | Outer banks of Recreation Field and Six Acres | 3 | | | strim/brushcut - note steep banks |
| 15 | Memorial Social Centre Grounds | 16 | yes | | |
| 16 | Hedges - i) Bowling Green: Leylandii Hedge (both sides and top); other boundary hedges oneside only. ii) the beech hedge near the car park (cut one side); c) hedge bounding the cemetery - cut hedges both sides on road and alongside Footpath & one side elsewhere; d) hedge adjacent to school cut oneside only | 2 | yes | | |
| 18 | Scrub to rear of hard standing between Bowling Green and Tennis Courts | 2 | yes | | |

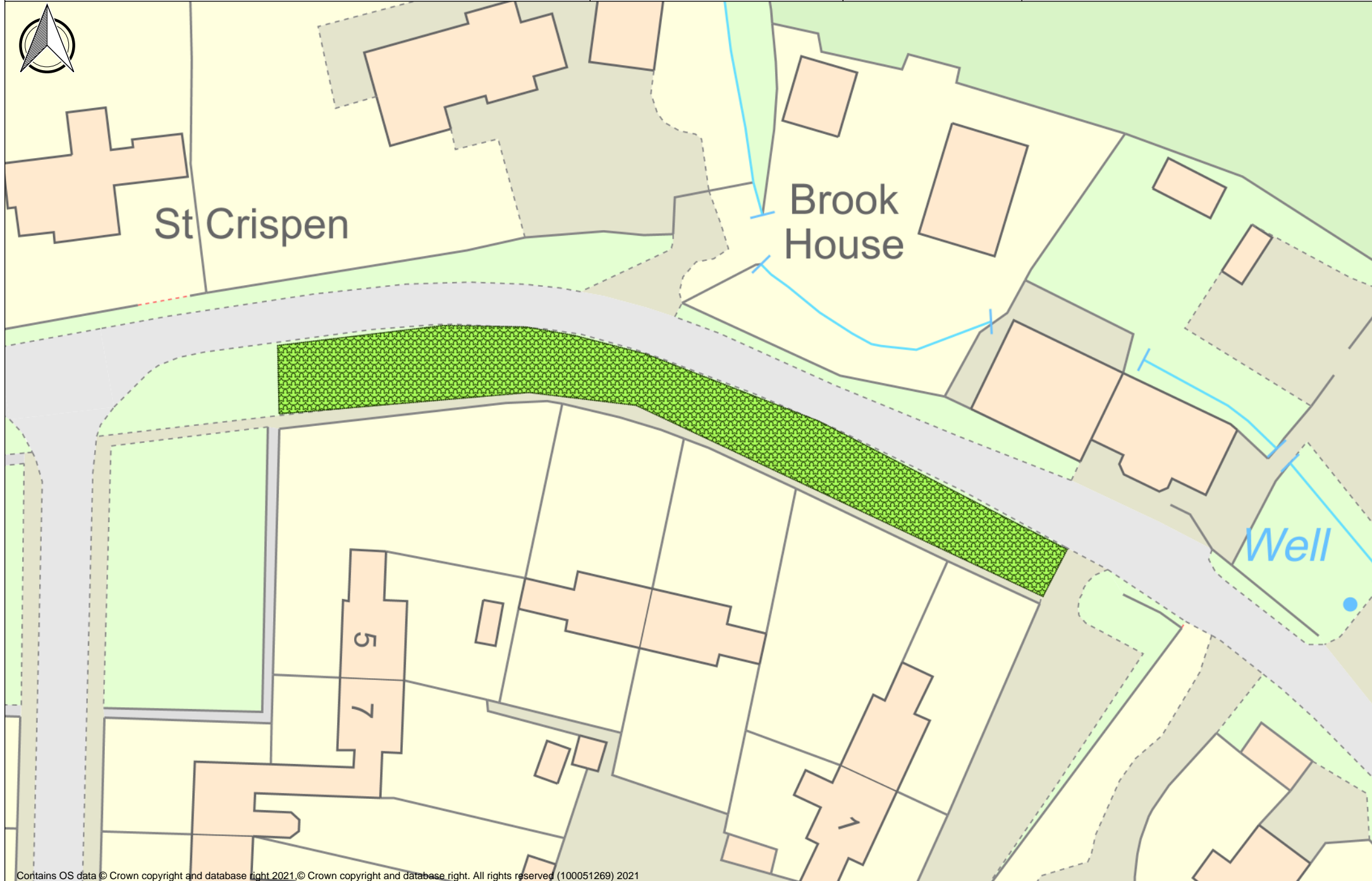


Grass Cutting

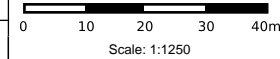










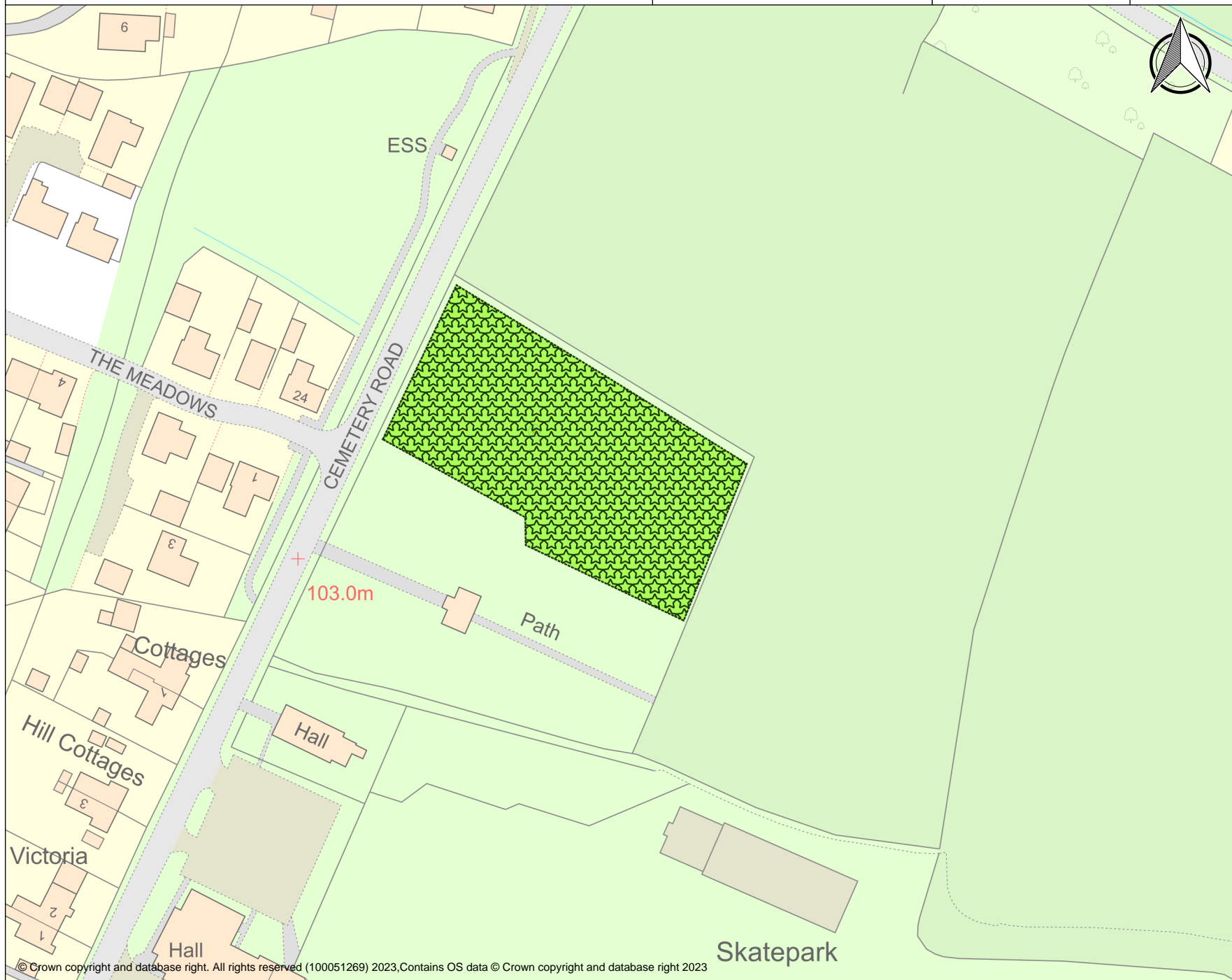


Parish



Grass Cutting



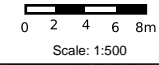


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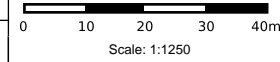
Grass Cutting

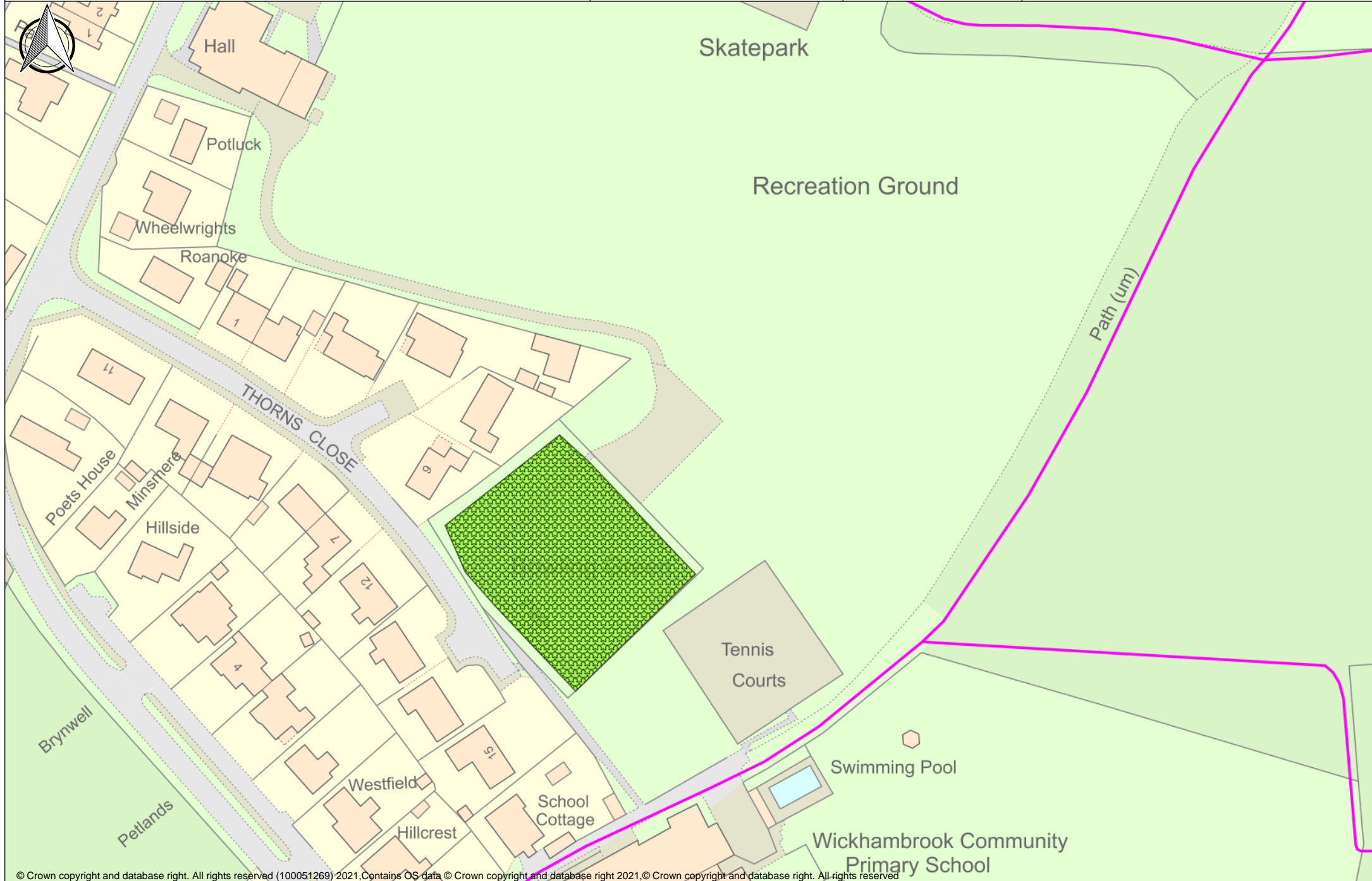




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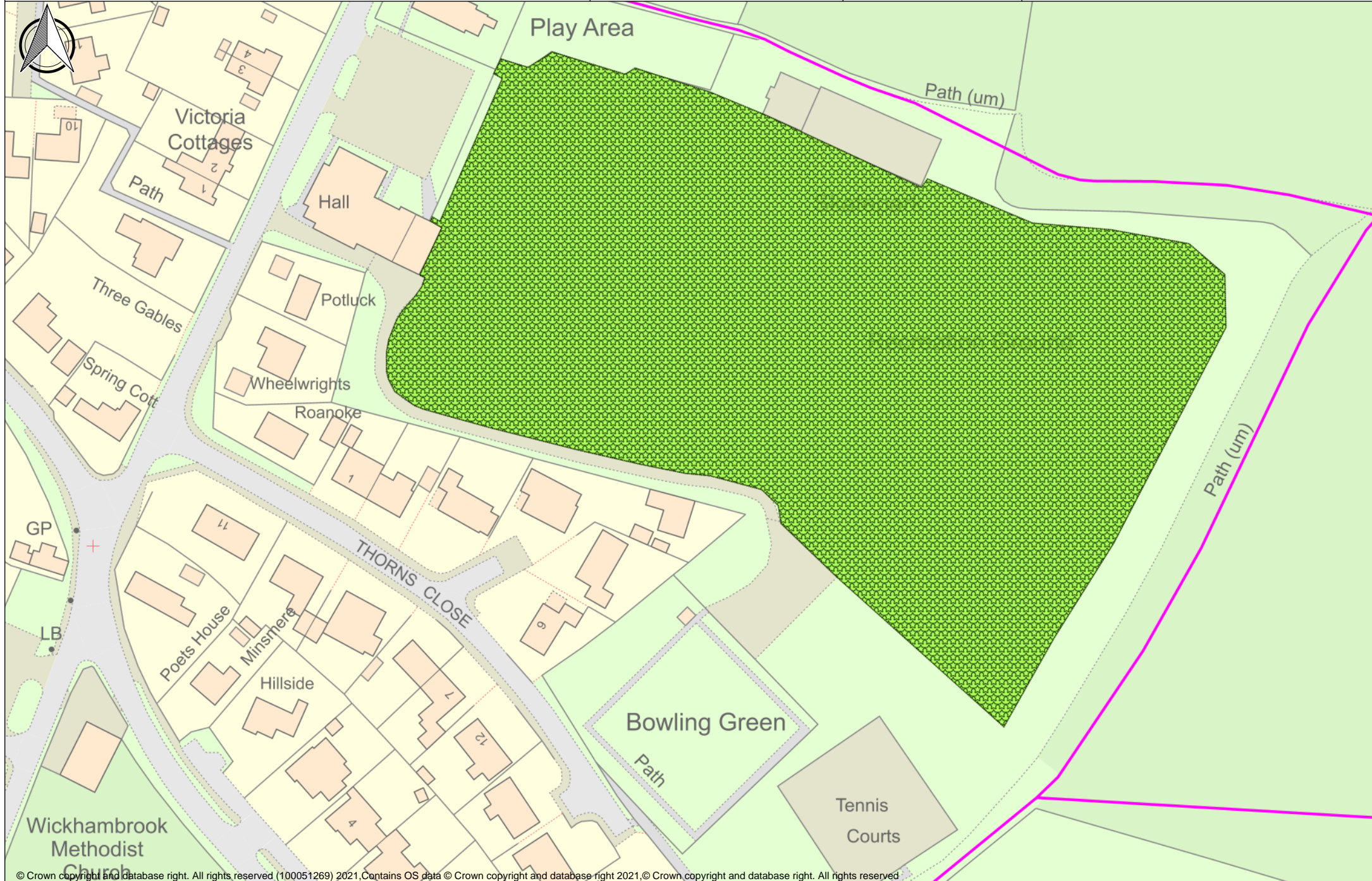












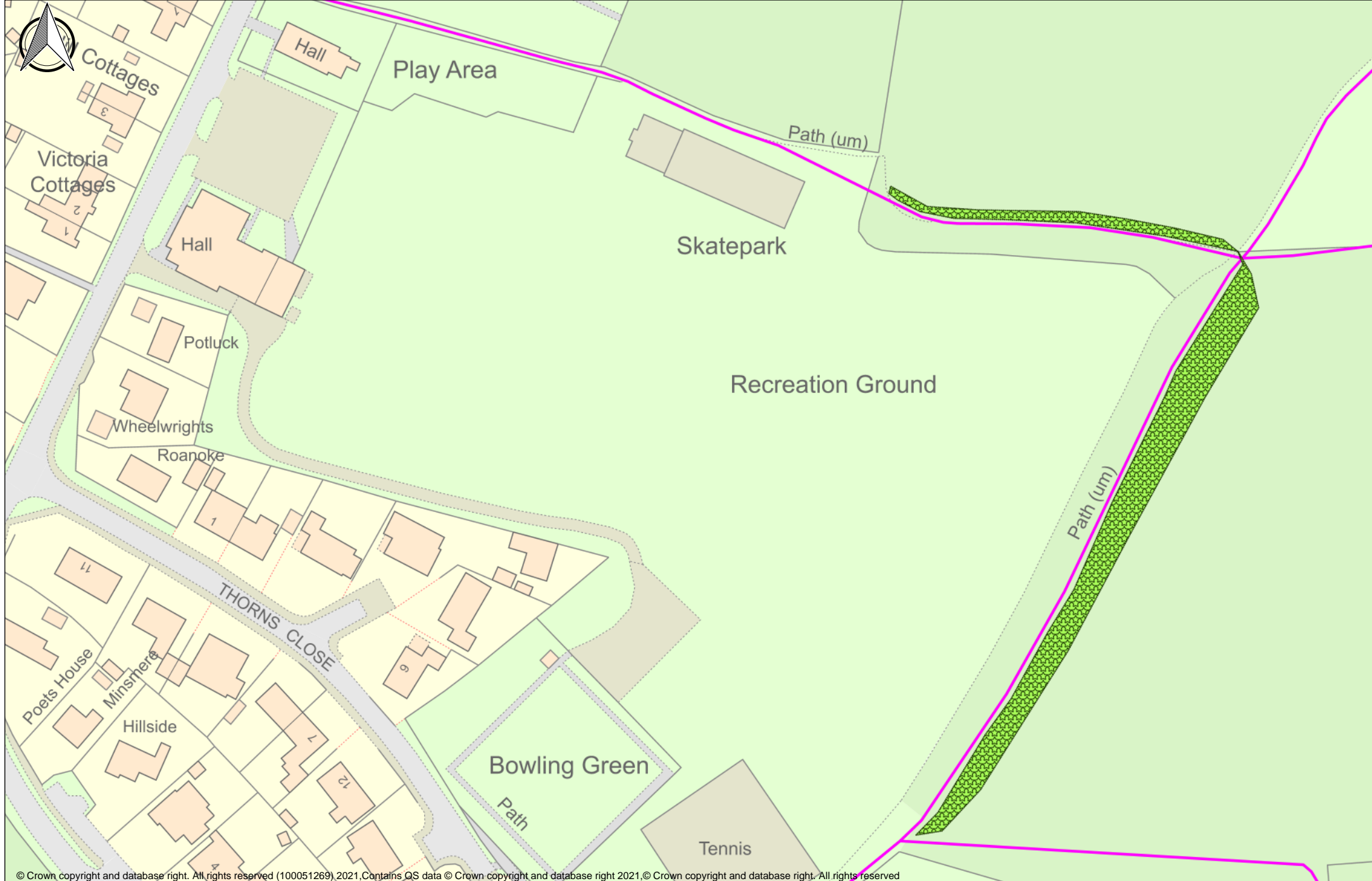


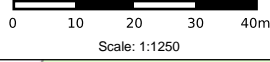
Parish



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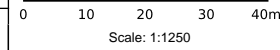




Hedges: Bounding Rec

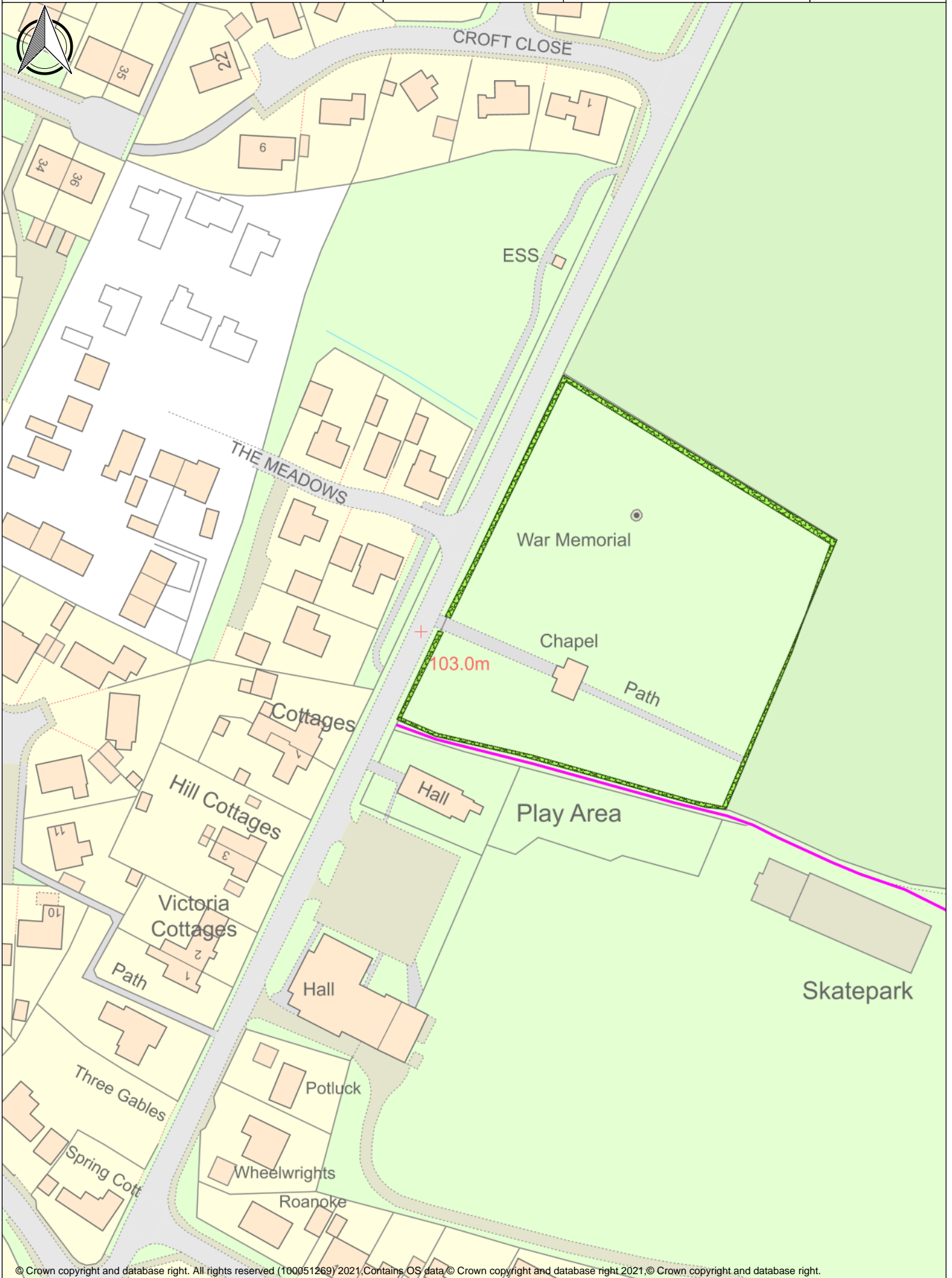
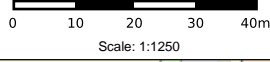
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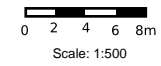
Date: 27/10/2021



106.7m

103.2m





Grass Cutting

