



**MAKING  
LOCAL WOODS  
WORK**



## **Making Local Woods Work - Construction Volunteering Scheme**

### **Vert Woods Community Woodland – General Works**

#### **Introduction**

[Vert Woods Community Woodland](#) are currently restoring the current 69ha Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) located in an area of Upper and Lower Vert Wood in Laughton, East Sussex. A Community Benefit Society has been formed to allow local ownership and fund raising and a Woodland Management Plan for the area was approved by the Forestry Commission in February 2017.

The Making Local Woods Work Construction Volunteering Scheme, in conjunction with Grown in Britain, are arranging team building volunteering days to assist Vert Woods in a number of infrastructure, discovery trail and woodland management work activities that will allow the woodland to be more accessible to local community.

#### **Work Activities**

There are a number of work activities where construction companies and other individuals can assist the Vert Woods Community Woodland project. These include:

##### **Infrastructure**

As well as assistance with woodland track construction (see Vert Woods Forest Road Work Packages dated November 2017) there are a number of structures that need to be put in place including:

- **Composting Toilet** – Built to Vert Woods own innovative design, this will suit anyone with a skilled carpentry or advanced DIY background.
- **Woodland Shelter** – A small shelter where volunteers and visitors can rest and enjoy refreshments, including the construction of benches.
- **Woodland Store** – Ideally a small shipping container that can be secured, which will require foundations, positioning and painting to blend in with the woodland.

To assist in the construction of the above, Vert Woods would also welcome the donation of any construction material including:

- Steel storage container (e.g. 10ft/20ft shipping container)
- Carcassing timber and timber cladding
- Roofing materials
- Concrete paving slabs
- Geotextile membrane, e.g. Terram
- Recycled aggregates, e.g. 6f5, road planings
- 300mm twin wall drainage pipe (approx. 4m long)
- 100mm plastic ducting
- MDPE Water pipe

## Woodland Management

In addition to the infrastructure activities, there are also a number of day to day woodland management work requirements which include:

- **Scaloping** – The removal of smaller trees and shrubs around key specimens to allow in light.
- **Coppicing** – Management of small trees to the by-way to open up the woodland.
- **Bracken and Scrub Clearance** – To encourage more wildlife into the glade areas, including rare butterflies.
- **Footpath/Track Maintenance** – Clearance of small shrubs and brush to improve access for the community.
- **Bridge Construction** – Construction of small log bridges over streams and ditches.
- **Habitat Creation** – Construction of habitats using felled material to increase the woodland biodiversity.
- **Deer Fencing** – Construction of deer fencing to specific areas to allow regrowth of cleared coppice.
- **Rabbit Fence Removal** – Currently in disrepair so remove to reduce trip hazards.
- **Woodland Tour/Litter Pick** – During the day you will also get a guided tour of the woodland where you will hear the plans for the woodland. During this you will be encouraged to pick up litter and other unwanted material for disposal.



By-way Coppicing



Habitat Creation

## Discovery Trail

To encourage the local community to visit Vert Woods, a discovery trail is to be constructed that will include various activities for children, with work activities including:

- **Play Equipment** – Construction of play equipment which will form part of the trail, manufactured from felled timber.
- **Way Markers** – Manufacture and erection of way markers.

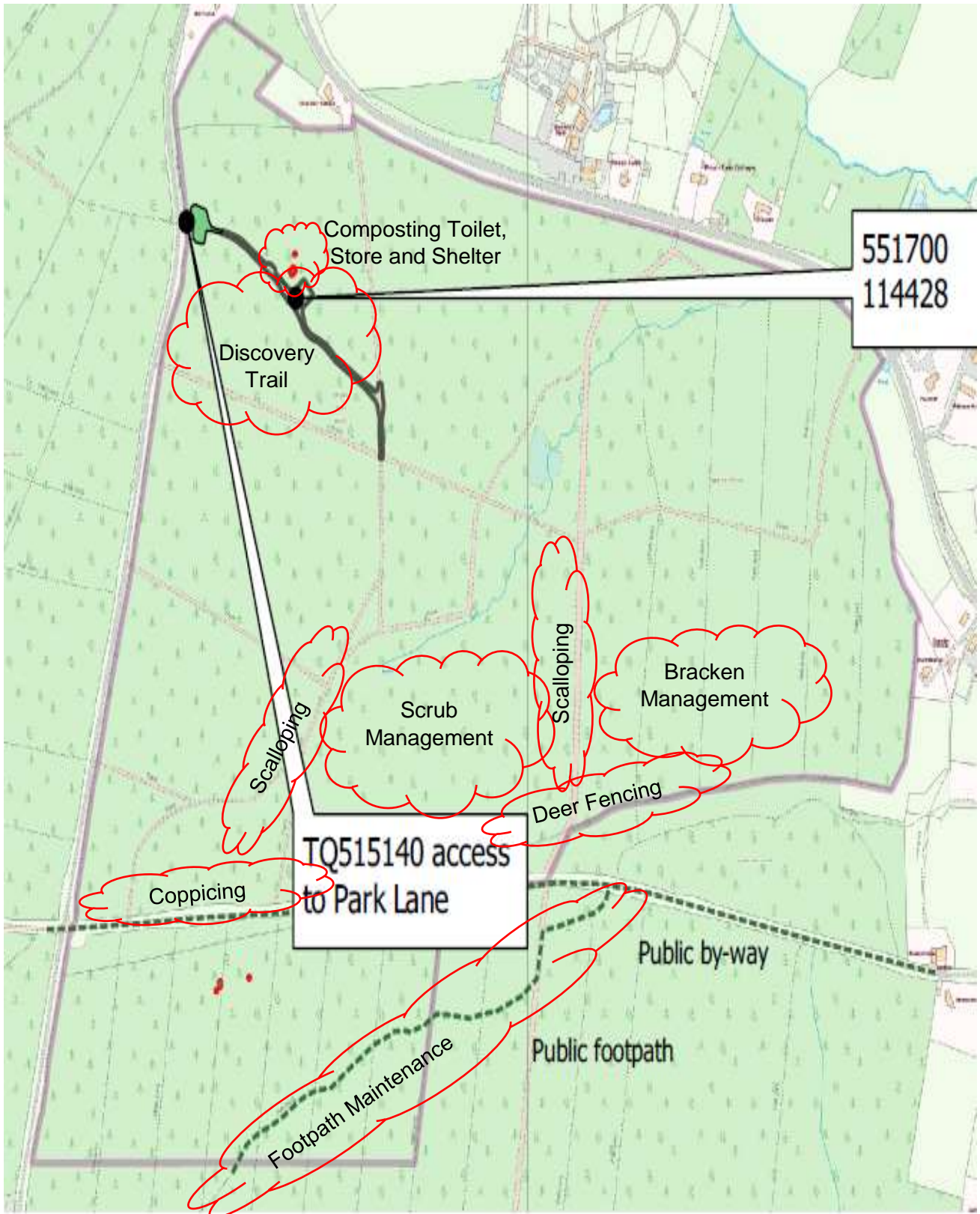
## Contacts

If you would be interested in arranging a team building volunteering day for your organisation at Vert Woods, or any of our other Making Local Woods Work partner woodland around the UK, please contact Laura Seal at Grown in Britain:

**Tel:** 0117 958 2189

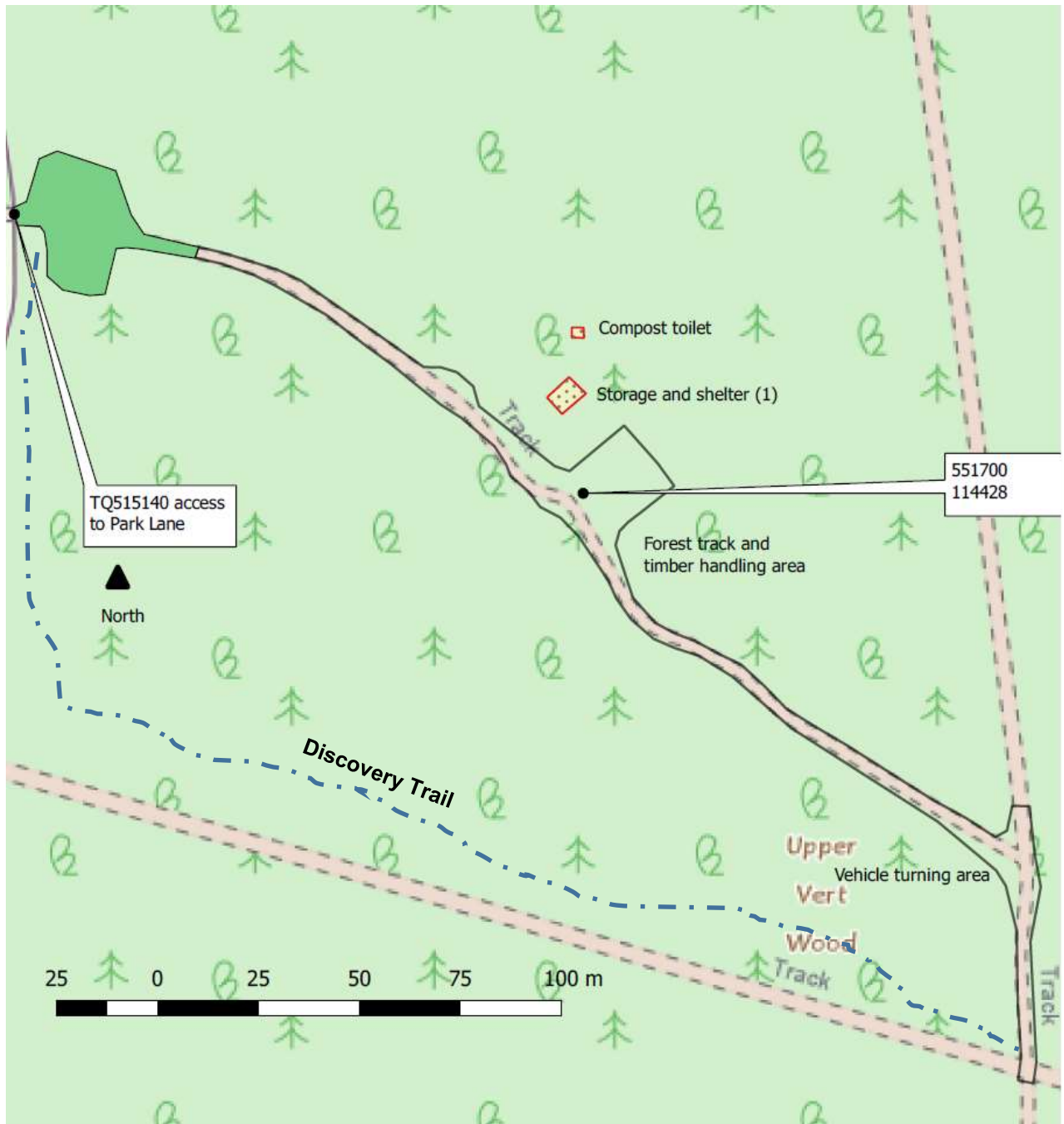
**Email:** [Enquiries@growninbritain.org](mailto:Enquiries@growninbritain.org)

### Map 1 – Location Plan









## Map 2 – Access Road and Storage/Community Area



Map 2. Vert Woods Community Woodland Forestry Operations Infrastructure: Forest road and timber handling area

### Key

-  Existing hard surface (previous forestry operations)
-  Forest road and timber handling area
-  VWCW boundary
-  Structures

1:1250 printed on A4  
 Prepared by C Meadows 14/4  
 /2017  
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