

Protecting and celebrating heritage

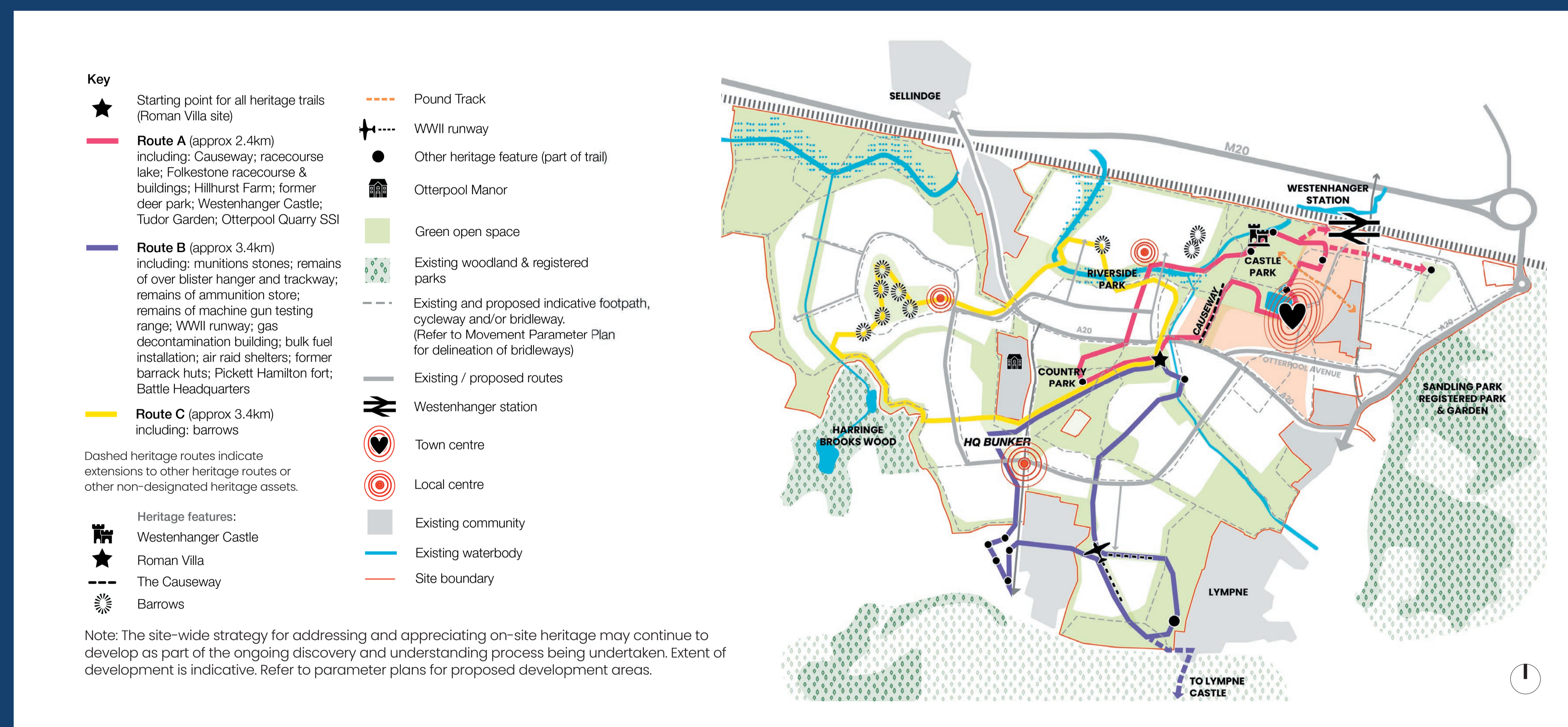


OTTERPOOL PARK
COUNTRYSIDE · CONNECTED · CREATIVE

The Otterpool Park site has a rich and diverse history, with many important features including Westenhanger Castle, Bronze Age barrows, the former airfield, a Roman Villa and the former racecourse.

It's important to us to protect and celebrate our heritage. One key way we have done this is by locating and designing our green spaces to incorporate and protect heritage features like barrows – these are shown in our parameter plans.

Westenhanger Castle has been brought into the Otterpool Park site boundary. It's the jewel in Otterpool Park's crown, and will be an attractive part of living, working and visiting the new garden town. The castle is now owned by Folkestone & Hythe District Council and this has enabled us to design a new public park around the castle, plan ways to bring areas back into use for the public to enjoy. A conservation management plan has been developed for the castle.



Our Heritage Strategy shows how heritage trails will connect up heritage sites, making for interesting outings around the new garden town. It also considers and identifies ways that the impact of the development can be mitigated.

Specialist archaeological investigations along the medieval causeway to Westenhanger Castle have helped us to fully understand this important feature and will help with designs for new public open space that will be created to the south of Westenhanger Castle in phase 1.

Work has also been carried out recently to find out more about water features such as ornamental ponds and their historic links to Westenhanger Castle.



Conserving heritage