Appendix A – Glossary of Terms

Terms		Definition	Pros	Cons
Management Regimes	Conservation Cut	One cut per year in September / October, grass is collected and removed off site.	Maintains areas of long grass throughout the spring, summer and early autumn. Benefits a range wildflowers. Provides a source of nectar for insects. Cover for wildlife, such as small mammals.	Cutting regime may not control less desirable species such as nettles, thistles & docks. Cutting/ removal of grass removes over wintering habitat for insects and small mammals.
	Hay Meadow Cut	Two cuts per year, first one in early August. Grass is collected and removed off site. Second cut in September / October, depending on the amount of regrowth, the grass may be collected and removed off site.	Cutting regime of most benefit to a wide range of meadow flower species and a source of nectar for insects. Removes cover for other wildlife earlier in the season than other regimes.	Mid-summer cutting can be detrimental to insects which haven't completed their lifecycle. Can disturb ground nesting birds.
	Ride Management	Annual cutting of grass, bramble and small scrub in the late autumn / winter.	Maintains areas of long grass/bramble/ small scrub, such as woodland rides. Can be used rotationally to leave some areas uncut over winter for insect / small mammal hibernation.	Chops up arisings into small pieces, not suitable for collection.
	Enhanced Amenity cut	Cutting short grass less often or raising the height of the mower to leave the grass slightly taller.	Maintains a medium grass height, allowing some grassland plants to flower, without the need to collect and remove grass.	Doesn't allow taller plants to flower. Doesn't remove cuttings, which may lead to some nutrient enrichment over the longer term.
	Conservation Grazing	Summer / autumn grazing by small numbers of livestock, often Cattle	Maintains a diverse grassland habitat with scattered scrub, which benefits the widest variety of plants, animals, and birds	Difficulties sourcing of suitable livestock. Ongoing maintenance of fenced areas. Not suitable in small open spaces, with other recreational uses.

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Mower types	Rotary mower	Spinning cutting blade, cuts up grass into small pieces.	Designed for cutting shorter grass, can be used on longer grass, though needs several passes of the mower.	Not suitable for cutting tougher vegetation (bramble/scrub) such as conservation cut areas.
	Flail mower*	Spinning teeth which 'chop up' vegetation into small pieces.	Suitable for a range of vegetation types, including small scrub. Chopped up vegetation breaks down quickly.	Not suitable if vegetation is to be collected and removed.
	Cut & collect machine	Rotary or flail mower with a collection box.	Cuts and collects grass in one operation.	Not suitable for tougher vegetation or large areas. Grass cannot be compressed for efficient disposal or sale as hay.
	Drum Mower	Two rotating cutting discs, which leaves grass in long lengths.	Suitable for summer hay cutting where grass is to be baled up.	Cut grass not collected or baled can be unsightly and will take a long time to breakdown.
	Strimmer / Brushcutter	Hand held cutting tool.	Can be fitted with different blades to cut a range of vegetation, including small scrub. Suitable for small sites with many obstacles.	Unsuitable for large areas. Labour intensive as arisings have to be raked up and removed by hand.
	Baler*	Compresses cut grass into bales for removal.	Most efficient way of removing larger volumes of grass off-site.	High cost of machinery. Not suitable for collecting grass on smaller sites with many obstacles.
	Tedder rake*	Tractor mounted rake used to position cut hay into rows to enable it to be baled.	Enables cut grass to be baled for sale or disposal.	Additional machinery requiring maintenance and storage.
	Flatbed*	Flat trailer or lorry used to transport baled hay.	Enables the transportation of baled hay for sale or disposal.	Additional machinery requiring maintenance and storage.
Other	Arisings	Cut material from mowing, may be long	Good quality, summer cut hay which is baled, can	Larger amounts of cut material left on site is unsightly, and may

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		grass / hay, or chopped up vegetation.	be sold to off-set the cost of cutting.	cause some nutrient enrichment over the longer term. Poor quality baled grass, cut in the autumn is difficult to dispose of, which increases the costs of cutting.
	Hay	Dried long grass that can be stored for winter animal feed and bedding.	Good quality, summer cut hay which is baled, can be sold to off-set the cost of cutting.	Poor quality autumn cut hay is difficult to dispose of, particularly if baled, and increases the costs of cutting.
	Sacrifice Areas	Areas of open spaces where cut material is left to decompose	Reduces disposal costs	Long grass can take many years to decompose. Unsightly and possible fire risk in some locations.
	Anaerobic digestion plant	A facility where cut vegetation and food waste is composted to produce electricity and a bio-product of fertilizer.	Poor quality hay and cut vegetation can be disposed of sustainably	High transport and disposal costs. Grounds maintenance do not currently have a flatbed trailer to transport bales.
	Dustcart	Bin lorry normally used for the emptying of household wheelie bins	Can be used to transport vegetation produced by Grounds Maintenance's cut and collect machines, to an anaerobic digestion plant.	High labour / transport costs to load and dispose of cut material.

*Grounds Maintenance do not currently own this machinery