

RECORDING LOCAL WILDLIFE

There are two general wildlife databases relevant to New Buckenham, one each at national and county level. The **National Biodiversity Network** has a comprehensive website (details below) and will accept entries from the public and displays its gathered information. It does however refer planning related enquiries to county-held records.

The **Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service** run at County Hall is the resource for planning-related enquiries for which it charges a fee. Its records are not online and its website has been down for months. It does accept wildlife observations from the public, by email and preferably using a standard spreadsheet (details below). Casual enquiries by the public about wildlife are answered without a fee.

Which one should be used for wildlife observations? If it's to help New Buckenham and its wildlife, and also to inform the local planning process, use the NBIS. Your contribution is hopefully forwarded to the national database. If you want to see your list of observations on the national database, use the NBN website as well.

How to record wildlife observations for Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service (NBIS)

Enter data on this [spreadsheet](#) and send to nbis@norfolk.gov.uk with a covering note. A free text email will do, so long as it contains the essential information described below.

The most important fields to be completed are those in italics: WHAT, WHEN, WHERE and WHO. If you don't know the Latin name then just the common name will do. Ideally add the six digit OS grid reference using the TM preface. The location means the nearest street or road name to cross check with the OS reference.

If you are unsure about working out the OS grid reference from a paper map, go to an online OS map. A very useful one is provided by Norfolk Moths. Zoom down to New Buckenham, put the cursor at the site of your observation and at the top you will see the full OS grid reference. The six digit reference should be sufficient; copy it carefully because you can't cut and paste. <https://www.norfolkmoths.co.uk/OSmap.php>

The greyed out columns are for NBIS use. No need to use the Taxon group column.

The other fields enable you to add in more information, such as abundance, how the species was recorded (e.g. was it a sighting, or a moth trap, or a field sign such as footprints or scats) and any other comments if you would like.

How to record a wildlife sighting on National Biodiversity Network (NBN's iRecord)

Go to: <https://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord>

Create new account or log in if you have an account

In menu bar under iRecord logo click RECORD/enter a casual record

Enter date, species(should recognise common names)

You can add a photo

The map facility can get down to 10m squares and it automatically enters the 'spacial reference'

Do habitat from drop down menu and add comment if you wish.

If you've done it correctly, the website stores and displays your own observations. Click main menu EXPLORE/my records. You'll get a huge map, under which there's a list of your records. There'll be a corresponding blue dot on the map.