

# Estate Office & Environment Education Centre

Impact on Downs Barn Estate Office & Environment Education Centre **Purpose 2, Duty, SQ 1,2,4,5,7**

The Sompting Downs Barn (formerly Coombe Barn) is the centre for Sompting Estate’s agricultural and conservation management. It is regularly used for meetings and equipment storage and as a base for the Estate’s Forestry contractors and volunteers, and for the Estate family’s engagement with the land. Access to the Downs Barn using Lambleys Lane is now vital for the functioning of the Estate.



The Downs Barn is also the home for the Downs Barn Environment Education Centre.

## Sompting Estate

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### Sompting Downs Barn Environment Education Centre Courses & Events

[Click here for directions to the Downs Barn](#)

Come and learn about farming, wildlife and history in our beautiful downland at the Courses and Events listed below. If you have suggestions to add to the program, please [Contact Us](#).

For Forest Schools in the woods on Sompting Downs, contact [Sussex Wildlife Trust](#)

For School Visits to our Farms, contact in the first instance the [Managing Trustee](#)

2015 Date	Time	Course	Provider	Tutor/Leader	Open to	More information
23.10.15	9.00-13.00	Birds of the Open Countryside	Sussex Wildlife Trust	Mike Russell	SWT members/All	01273 497527
2014 Date	Time	Course	Provider	Tutor/Leader	Open to	More information

Up to 25 people at a time come to learn about the downland environment, its geology wildlife history and cultural heritage. Some of the courses and events are run by the Estate directly, for others the Barn is hired by conservation organisations to host their own training events as can be seen on the website [www.somptingestate.com](http://www.somptingestate.com) ; in-barn talks are combined with field study walks including to quieter parts of the Estate not normally accessible by the public.

- Access using Lambleys Lane is essential to this estate management, conservation and educational activity.
- Even if this severance were overcome, the quality of visitor experience at the Downs Barn and environs would also be adversely affected by Option D. Leaving the built up areas, the sense of rural character and remoteness grows throughout the drive up Lambleys Lane from the present A27, to a climax at the top with views over to Steepdown and the top of the north scarp. By dividing Lambleys Lane in two, Option D would severely curtail this build-up of remoteness, thereby diminishing the visitor experience.