Site Name:	Whittle Brook		
Site Area:	0.82 hectares	National Grid Reference:	SJ522901
Date of Designation:	December 2003	District:	St. Helens
Date of Last Revision:	n/a	Local Site Number:	117

CITATION: A stretch of Whittle Brook which provides habitat for Water voles.

APPRAISAL: This site has been evaluated against the guidelines approved by the Council for selection of Local Sites. The site's evaluation against the guidelines is set out below.

HABITATS H1: Rarity H2: Diversity 4 habitats recorded. H3: Nearness 36 sites within 1Km. H4. Isolation SP1: Rarity 1 WCA_SC8 plant species. SP1: Rarity Total of 25 plant species. SP3: Naturalness 92% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered. ANIMALS General SP5; Bracing population B1: Non-breeding population B2; Breeding population B3; Regional rare/scare B4; Breeding assemblage Dagonflies Od1. Breeding assemblage B1: Regional rare/scare B1: Regional rare/scare B2: Breeding assemblage Dragonflies Od1. Breeding assemblage <	Guideline		Comment
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Mammals			<u></u>
		, locombiage	
		Breeding	Guideline met – Water voles.

SUMMARY: The combination of these factors has led to this site being identified as a Local Site.

NOTE: Validated data from 1981 to December 2003 have been used in this assessment. Other data may become available to support this designation.

RP\My Docs\Local Biol Sites\St Helens SCWI\Citations\LSN 117 Whittle Brook.doc

Status of features of nature conservation importance

<u>Plants</u>

1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 8 species	English bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scripta)
1 Species of conservation concern (UK Biodiversity Action Plan species)	English bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scripta)
1 Regionally important species (North West Biodiersity Audit)	English bluebell (Hyacinthoides non-scripta)
Animals	
Mammals 1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 5 species	Water voles (Arvicola aquaticus)

