

Site Name: Mersey Valley Golf Course

Site Area: 48.2 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ542893

Date of Designation: December 2003 **District:** St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: n/a **Local Site Number:** 118

CITATION: A golf course containing a number of ponds and hedgerows. The ponds provide habitat for the regionally important species Rigid Hornwort, whilst the hedgerows contain a number of locally rare species.

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.

Guideline		Comment
HABITATS		
H1;	Rarity	1 regionally important habitat.
H2;	Diversity	8 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	20 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	1 regionally important species; 4 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 116 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	92.2% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	--
ANIMALS		
General		
SP5;	Rare/priority	--
Birds		
B1;	Non-breeding population	--
B2;	Breeding population	--
B3;	Regional rare/scare	--
B4;	Breeding assemblage	--
B5.	Assemblage, breeding, wintering, passage.	--
Dragonflies		
Od1.	Breeding	--
Od2.	Regional rare/scarce	--
Butterflies		
Bf1;	Region rare breeding	--
Bf2.	Breeding assemblage	--
Amphibians		
A1;	Rarity	--
A2.	Exceptional populations	--
Reptiles		
R1;	Population of native species.	--
R2;	Exceptional population	--
Bats		
Bat1;	Roost	--
Bat2.	Assemblage	--
Mammals		
Mam1.	Breeding	--

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.

Status of features of nature conservation importance

Habitats

1 Regionally Important habitats

Standing water - ponds

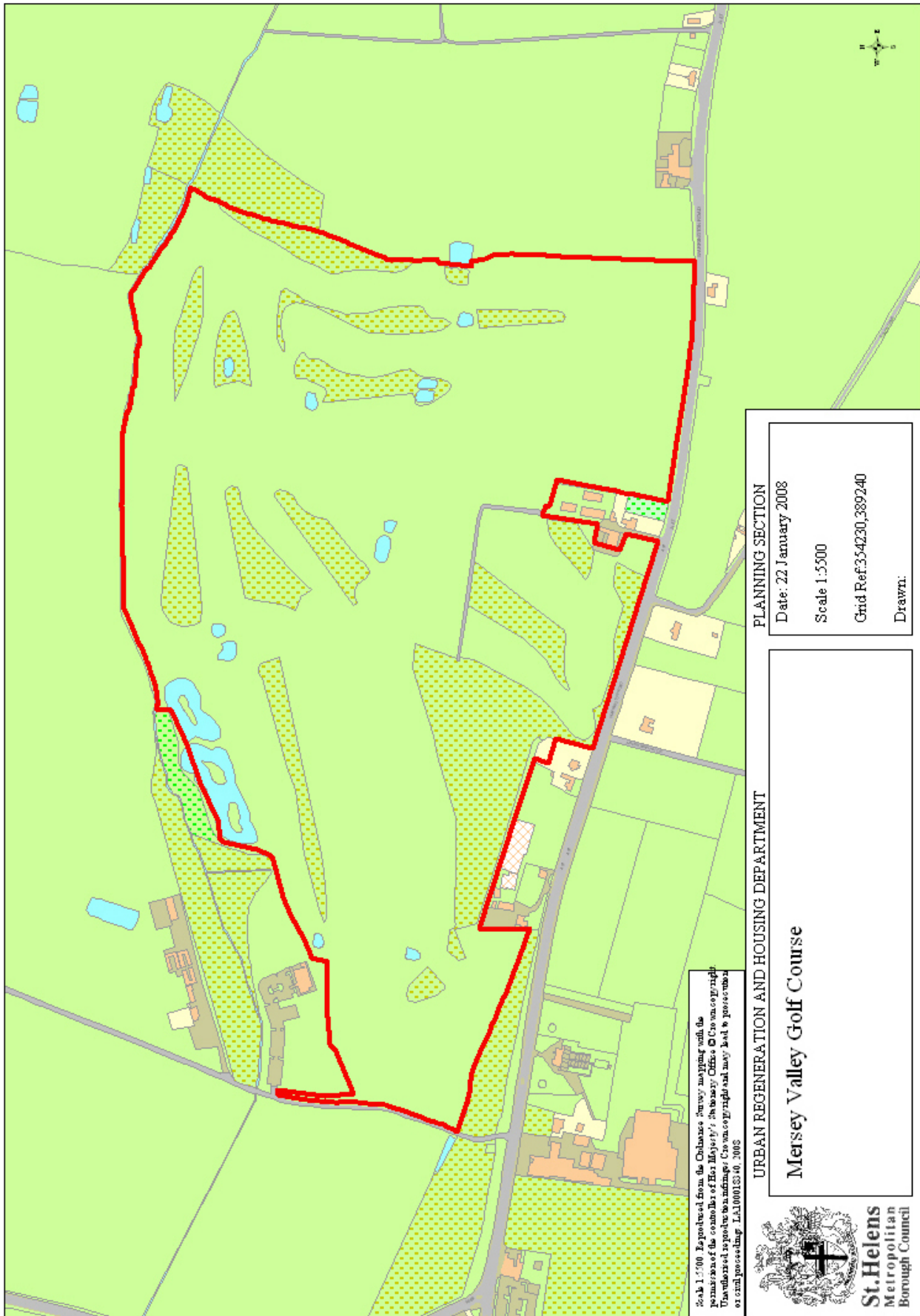
Plants

1 Regionally important species

Rigid Hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*)

4 Locally rare species

Sun Spurge (*Euphorbia helioscopia*)
Black-bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*)
Common fumitory (*Fumaria officinalis*)
Hybrid willow (*Salix x reichardtii*)



Scale 1:5000. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction is prohibited. Crown copyright and may not be reproduced or copied in any form or by any means without the prior written permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. LAL000183-0, 2008

PLANNING SECTION
 Date: 22 January 2008
 Scale 1:5000
 Grid Ref: 354230, 389240
 Drawn:

URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
 Mersey Valley Golf Course

