

Site Name: Mill Brook

Site Area: 1.0 hectare

National Grid Reference: SJ484956

Date of Designation: December 2003

District: St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: n/a

Local Site Number: 68

CITATION: Fast flowing water course in Eccleston which also provides habitat for Water voles.

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

Guideline		Comment
HABITATS		
H1;	Rarity	1 locally uncommon.
H2;	Diversity	11 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	25 sites within 1 Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	1 WCA_SC8 plant species; 1 species of conservation concern; 1 regionally important; 2 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 101 plant species. One of 58 sites with 100 or more species.
SP3;	Naturalness	90.1% 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	Guideline met – water vole.

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 Locally uncommon habitat Coniferous scattered trees

Plants

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 Biodiversity Audit)** English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

2 Locally rare species Moss (*Conocephalum conicum*)
Common valerian (*Valeriana officinalis*)

Animals

Mammal

1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 5 species Water vole (*Arvicola aquaticus*)



PLANNING SECTION
 Date: 23 January 2008
 Scale 1:2000
 Grid Ref: 348600, 395603
 Drawn:

URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
 Mill Brook

