

**Site Name:** Newton Lake and Southern Woodland

**Site Area:** 4.95 hectares      **National Grid Reference:** SJ594957

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

**Date of Last Revision:** n/a      **Local Site Number:** 67

**CITATION:** A large lake within Willow Park with associated swamp habitats and a sandstone outcrop on the eastern shore. The woodland contains one of two known rookery sites within St Helens.

**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.

<b>Guideline</b>		<b>Comment</b>
<b>HABITATS</b>		
H1;	Rarity	2 priority BAP habitats; 2 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 1 regionally important habitat; 1 locally uncommon habitat.
H2;	Diversity	15 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	24 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
<b>PLANTS</b>		
SP1;	Rarity	1 WCA_SC8 species; 1 species of conservation concern; 1 regionally important species; 1 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 143 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	83.9% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	--
<b>ANIMALS</b>		
General		
SP5;	Rare/priority	--
Birds		
B1;	Non-breeding population	--
B2;	Breeding population	--
B3;	Regional rare/scare	Guideline met – Rook.
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

##### **2 Priority BAP habitats**

Eutrophic standing water - lake  
Swamp tall fen vegetation

##### **2 Priority Habitat Directive habitats**

Eutrophic standing water - lake  
Swamp tall fen vegetation

##### **1 Regionally Important habitats (North West Biodiversity Audit)**

Standing water - lake

##### **1 Locally uncommon habitat**

Natural acid / neutral inland cliff

#### 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*)

##### **1 Locally rare species**

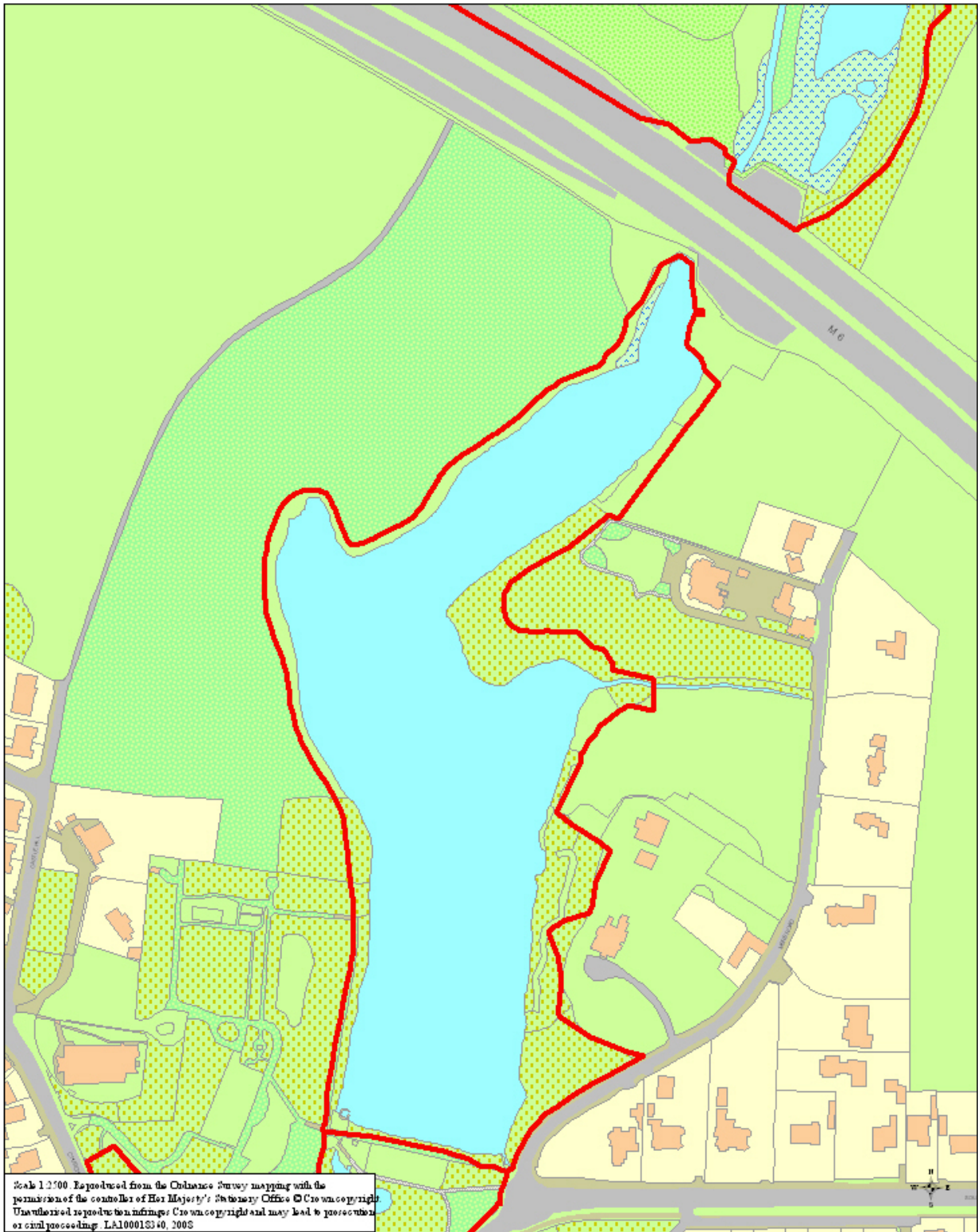
A moss (*Eurhynchium praelongum praelongum*)

#### Animals

##### **Birds**

##### **1 North Merseyside rare of scarce species**

Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)



Scale 1:2500. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright. Use authorized to produce this map. Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. LA10001340, 2005



URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

**Newton Lake and Southern Woodland**

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 22 January 2008

Scale 1:2500

Grid Ref: 359498, 395818

Drawn: