

**Site Name:** Mesnes Park and Stream

**Site Area:** 0.78 hectares      **National Grid Reference:** SJ588954

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

**Date of Last Revision:** N/A      **Local Sites Number:** 73

**CITATION:** This site includes the stream area within Mesnes Park. This site contains a range of habitats including, scrub, neutral grassland and small areas of developing wet woodland beside the stream providing habitat for 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.

<b>Guideline</b>		<b>Comment</b>
<b>HABITATS</b>		
H1;	Rarity	1 priority BAP habitat; 1 priority Habitats Directive habitat; 1 regionally important habitat.
H2;	Diversity	10 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	18 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
<b>PLANTS</b>		
SP1;	Rarity	2 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 61 plant species.
SP3;	Naturalness	91.80% 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	--
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 Priority BAP habitats** Unimproved neutral grassland

**1 Priority Habitat Directive habitats** Unimproved neutral grassland

**2 Regionally important habitats  
(North West Biodiversity Audit)** Unimproved neutral grassland  
Acidic rock exposure

#### Plants

**2 Locally rare species** Winter-cress (*Barbarea vulgaris*)  
Dame's Violet (*Hesperis matronalis*)

