

Site Name: Colliers Moss Common Local Nature Reserve

Site Area: 59.3 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ538941

Date of Designation: May 1983 (part) **District:** St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: December 2003 **Local Site Number:** 96

CITATION: This local nature reserve was designated in 2005 and is the site of disused colliery spoil heap. Remnants of the mossland on which the spoil heap sits remain around the perimeter of the site. A diverse range of habitats have developed on the site including acid and neutral grassland and heath. Whilst lagoons provide wetland habitats and breeding sites for a number of dragonfly and damselfly 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	5 priority BAP habitats; 5 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 7 regionally important habitats; 1 locally uncommon habitat.
H2;	Diversity	22 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	36 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	5 regionally important species; 49 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 296 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	89.19% 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	Guideline met.
B3;	Regional rare/scare	--
B4;	Breeding assemblage	--
B5.	Assemblage, breeding, wintering, passage.	--
Dragonflies		
Od1.	Breeding	Guidelines met.
Od2.	Regional rare/scarce	Guidelines met – Black darter, Common hawkler.
Butterflies		
Bf1;	Region rare breeding	--
Bf2.	Breeding assemblage	Guidelines met.
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

5 Priority BAP habitats

Unimproved acid grassland
Unimproved neutral grassland
Single species dominant swamp
Swamp tall fen vegetation
Acid dry dwarf shrub heath

5 Priority Habitat Directive habitats

Unimproved acid grassland
Unimproved neutral grassland
Single species dominant swamp
Swamp tall fen vegetation
Acid dry dwarf shrub heath

7 Regionally Important habitats

Unimproved acid grassland
Unimproved neutral grassland
Marshy grassland
Standing water
Swamp tall fen vegetation
Acid dry dwarf shrub heath
Raised bog

1 Locally uncommon habitat

Acid dry dwarf shrub heath

Plants

5 Regionally important species

Yellow-wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*)
Greater Pond-sedge (*Carex riparia*)
Northern Marsh-orchid (*Dactylorhiza purpurella*)
Marsh helleborine (*Epipactis palustris*)
Common comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*)

49 Locally rare species

A lichen (*Caloplaca citrina*)
A lichen (*Caloplaca holocarpa*)
A lichen (*Candelariella aurella*)
A lichen (*Candelariella reflexa*)
Green-ribbed Sedge (*Carex binervis*)
A lichen (*Cladonia chlorophaea*)
A lichen (*Cladonia coccifera*)
A lichen (*Cladonia digitata*)
A lichen (*Cladonia fimbriata*)
A lichen (*Cladonia floerkeana*)
A lichen (*Cladonia furcata*)
A lichen (*Cladonia macilenta*)
Hybrid orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsia x purpurella*)
A moss (*Drepanocladus fluitans*)
A moss (*Drepanocladus revolvens*)
Round-leaved Sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*)
Broad-leaved Helleborine (*Epipactus helleborine*)
Marsh Helleborine (*Epipactus palustris*)
Cross-leaved heath (*Erica tetralix*)
Hare's-tail Cottongrass (*Eriophorum vaginatum*)
Oakmoss lichen (*Evernia prunastri*)
Common Fumitory (*Fumaria officinalis*)
Small Sweet-grass (*Glyceria declinata*)
A lichen (*Hypogymnia tubulosa*)
A lichen (*Lecanora albescens*)

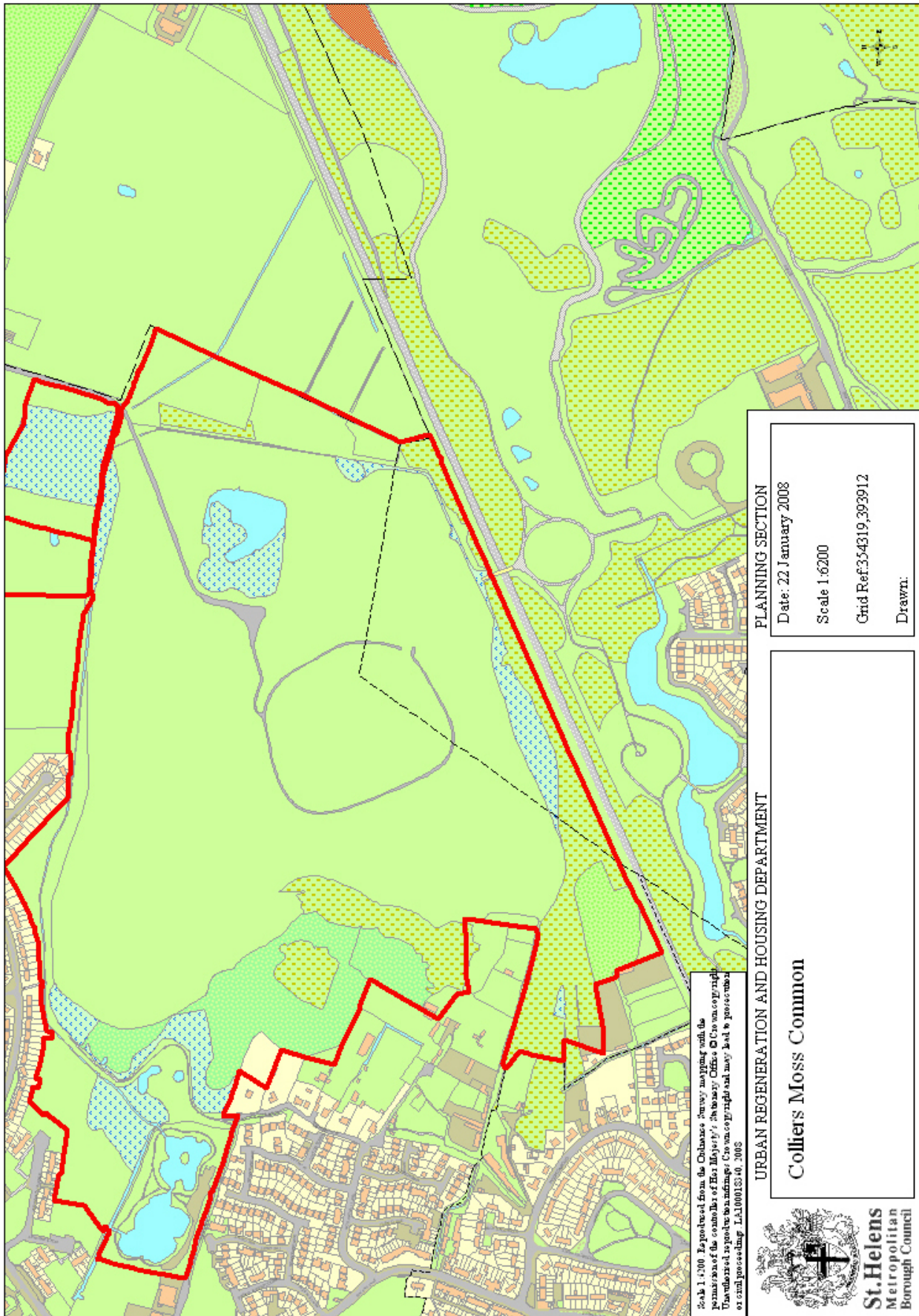
A lichen (*Lecanora conizaeoides*)
A lichen (*Lecanora dispersa*)
A lichen (*Lecanora expellens*)
A lichen (*Lecanora muralis*)
A lichen (*Lecidella stigmatea*)
A lichen (*Lepraria incana*)
A lichen (*Micaria denigrata*)
A lichen (*Parmellia revoluta*)
A lichen (*Parmellia subaurifera*)
A lichen (*Parmellia subrudecta*)
A lichen (*Parmellia sulcata*)
A lichen (*Phaeophyscia orbicularis*)
A lichen (*Physcia airolia*)
A lichen (*Physcia tenella*)
A lichen (*Placynthiella uliginosa*)
A lichen (*Platismatia glauca*)
A moss (*Polytrichum piliferum*)
A lichen (*Porpidia crustulata*)
A lichen (*Pseudevernia furfuracea*)
A lichen (*Ramalina farinacea*)
A lichen (*Rhizocarpon obscuratum*)
A lichen (*Sarcogyne regularis*)
A lichen (*Trapelia coarctata*)
A lichen (*Trapeliopsis granulosa*)

Animals

Odonata

2 North Merseyside rare or scarce species

Black darter (*Sympetrum danae*)
Common hawker (*Aeshna juncea*)



PLANNING SECTION

Date: 22 January 2008

Scale 1:6200

Grid Ref: 354319, 393912

Drawn:

URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Colliers Moss Common



St. Helens
Metropolitan
Borough Council