

Site Name: Land, West of Gerrards Lane

Site Area: 0.58 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ528930

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

Date of Last Revision: n/a **Local Site Number:** 104

CITATION: The site is a surviving section of the valley of Sutton Mill Brook. The site is predominantly unimproved neutral grassland which contains a number of regionally and 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 priority BAP habitat; 1 priority Habitats Directive habitat; 1 regionally important habitat.
H2;	Diversity	10 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	--
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	1 regionally important species; 3 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 113 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	78.8% 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 Priority BAP habitats	Unimproved neutral grassland
1 Priority Habitat Directive habitats	Unimproved neutral grassland
1 Regionally Important habitats	Unimproved neutral grassland

Plants

1 Regionally important species	Alder Buckthorn (<i>Frangula alnus</i>)
3 Locally rare species	Winter-cress (<i>Barbarea vulgaris</i>) Alder Buckthorn (<i>Frangula alnus</i>) Glaucous Dog-rose (<i>Rosa caesia</i> Ssp. <i>glauca</i>)



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URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Land, west of Gerrards Lane

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 22 January 2008

Scale 1:1250

Grid Ref: 352817, 392938

Drawn: