

Site Name: Grassland, west of Wagon Lane

Site Area: 6.30 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ545962

Date of Designation: April 1994 **District:** St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: December 2003 **Local Site Number:** 58

CITATION: An extensive area of unimproved grassland bounded by Wagon Lane on the west and a damp ditch running almost the length of the eastern side. The grassland contains a range of grass and herb species including Northern Marsh-orchid and Greater Burnet-saxifrage.

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 Habitats Directive habitat; 2 regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	9 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	19 sites within 1 Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	4 regionally important species; 3 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 124 plant species. One of 58 sites with 100 or more species.
SP3;	Naturalness	90.32% 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 July 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 habitat Unimproved neutral grassland

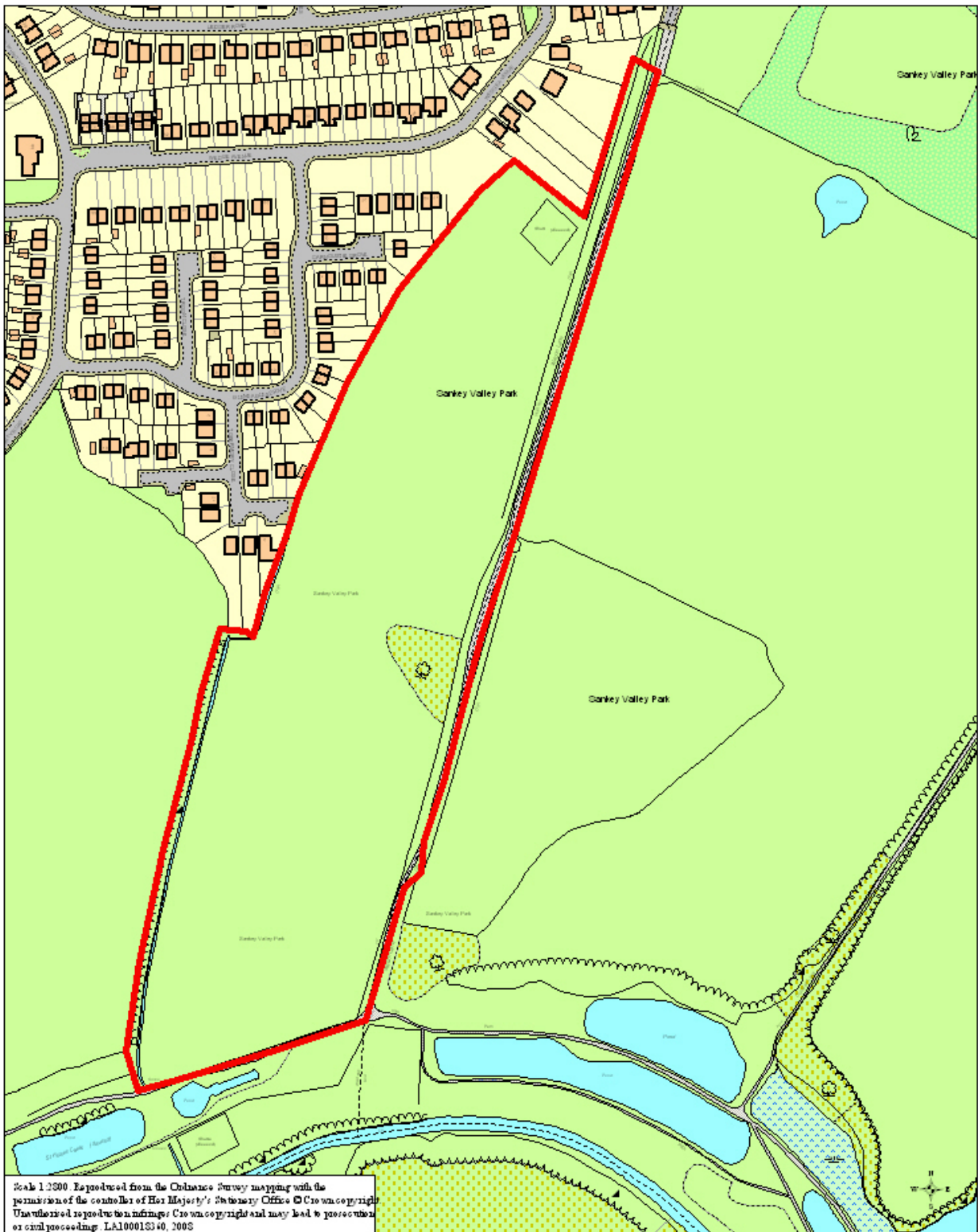
1 Priority Habitat Directive habitat Unimproved neutral grassland

**2 Regionally Important Habitats
(North West Biodiversity Audit)** Unimproved neutral grassland
Standing water

Plants

4 Regionally important species Northern Marsh-orchid (*Dactylorhiza purpurella*)
Greater Burnet-saxifrage (*Pimpinella major*)
Burnet rose (*Rosa pimpinellifolia*)
Common comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*)

3 Locally rare species Bearded Couch (*Elymus caninus*)
Greater Burnet-saxifrage (*Pimpinella major*)
Burnet rose (*Rosa pimpinellifolia*)



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URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Grassland, west of Wagon Lane

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 8 February 2008

Scale 1:2800

Grid Ref: 354546, 396076

Drawn: