

Site Name: Haresfinch Bank

Site Area: 16.02 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ520964

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

Date of Last Revision: December 2003 **Local Site Number:** 55

CITATION: A waste tip from the glass industry which has now developed into a diverse site containing a range of acid, neutral and alkaline communities. Due to the diversity of the site a large number of plant species are present including nationally, regionally and locally important 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	4 priority BAP habitats; 4 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 5 regionally important habitats; 1 locally uncommon habitat.
H2;	Diversity	18 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	16 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	1 WCA_SC8 plant species; 1 species of conservation concern; 7 regionally important species; 21 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 220 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	85% 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 on nature conservation importance

Habitats

4 Priority BAP habitats

Unimproved acid grassland
Unimproved neutral grassland
Unimproved calcareous grassland
Saltmarsh

4 Priority Habitat Directive habitats

Unimproved acid grassland
Unimproved neutral grassland
Unimproved calcareous grassland
Saltmarsh

5 Regionally important habitats (North West Biodiversity Audit)

Unimproved acid grassland
Unimproved neutral grassland
Marshy grassland
Standing water
Saltmarsh

1 Locally uncommon habitat

Saltmarsh

Plants

1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 8 species

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

1 Species of conservation concern (UK Biodiversity Action Plan Species)

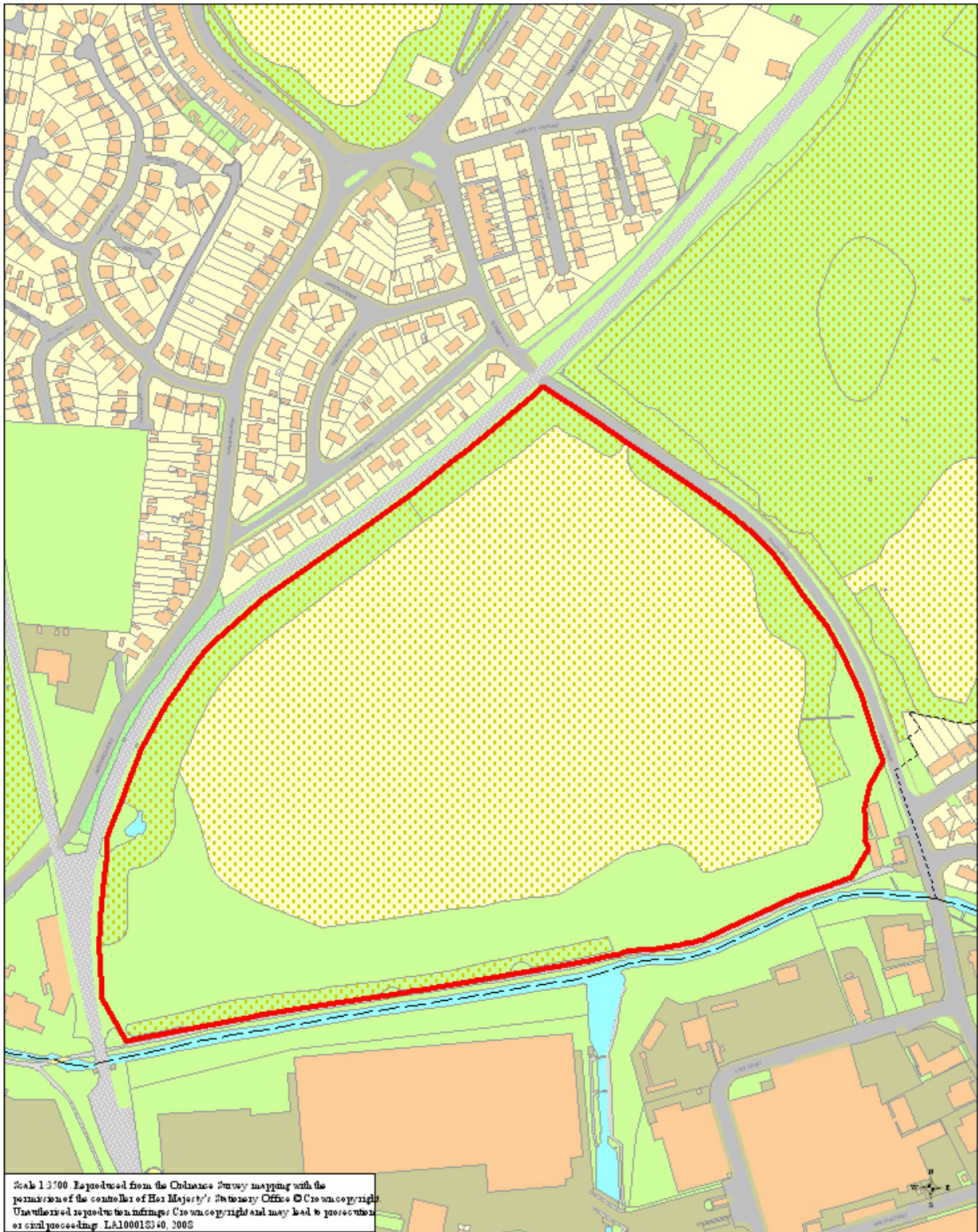
English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

7 Regionally important species (North West Biodiversity Audit)

Yellow-wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*)
Red goosefoot (*Chenopodium rubrum*)
English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)
Common Broomrape (*Orobanche minor*)
Reflexed Saltmarsh-grass (*Puccinellia distans*)
Marsh Arrowgrass (*Triglochin palustre*)
Spring Vetch (*Vicia lathyroides*)

21 Locally rare species

Early Hair-grass (*Aira praecox*)
A moss (*Amblystegium sepens* var. *sepens*)
A moss (*Barbula tophacea*)
A moss (*Barbula unguiculata*)
Black Mustard (*Brassica nigra*)
A moss (*Bryum capillare* var. *capillare*)
A moss (*Bryum rubens*)
A moss (*Calypogeia fissa*)
Red Goosefoot (*Chenopodium rubrum*)
Hybrid orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsia* x *praetermissa*)
A moss (*Dicranella varia*)
Bearded Couch (*Elymus caninus*)
Lyme-grass (*Leymus arenarius*)
Common Broomrape (*Orobanche minor*)
Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)
A liverwort (*Pellia endiviifolia*)
Reflexed Saltmarsh-grass (*Puccinellia distans*)
A moss (*Rhizomnium punctatum*)
A moss (*Thuidium tamariscinum*)
Marsh Arrowgrass (*Triglochin palustre*)
Spring vetch (*Vicia lathyroides*)



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URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Haresfinch Burgy Banks

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 23 January 2008

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Grid Ref: 351905,396469

Drawn: