

COUNTY: NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

SITE NAME: ASHTON'S MEADOW

DISTRICT: BASSETLAW

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Local Planning Authority: BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: SK 788 799 Area: 3.6 (ha.) 8.9 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 120 1:10,000: SK 77 NE, SK 78 SE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): – Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985 Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

The best example of a species-rich neutral grassland in East Nottinghamshire.

A traditional herb-rich hay meadow on ridge and furrow which has not been ploughed since the enclosure. The sward is of even quality throughout and is dominated by cowslip *Primula veris*, amongst other typical grassland herbs such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, yellow rattle *Rhinanthus minor* and knapweed *Centaurea nigra*.

The field is noted for its quantity of green winged orchids *Orchis morio*.

The habitat is scarce in Nottinghamshire and has been considerably reduced in extent across the country as a whole.

4 October 1985