

COUNTY: PEAK DISTRICT, DERBYSHIRE      SITE NAME: GREEN LANE PITS

DISTRICT: WEST DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL      SITE REF: 15 WX2

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

Local Planning Authority: PEAK DISTRICT JOINT PLANNING BOARD, West Derbyshire District Council.

National Grid Reference: SK 166626      Area: 8.42 (ha.) 20.8 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 119      1:10,000: SK 16 SE

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

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986      Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:  
New site.

Reasons for Notification:

The site covers the disused sand pits which lie both north and south of Green Lane. Sand has been excavated from large, sand-filled, natural depressions which have developed on the surface of the Carboniferous Limestone in this part of Derbyshire. This site contains some of the largest of these features which are unique to Derbyshire and are believed to have resulted from solution and collapse of the limestone surface some 5 million years ago, followed by infill by sands which already existed in the vicinity. Quarrying has exposed the original sides of the limestone depressions, and so the morphology of their walls can be studied. This is a very important site for the study of these preglacial limestone landforms.

The flora and fauna that has colonised the pits is of interest for its contrast with the improved limestone plateau that surrounds them.