

COUNTY: HEREFORD & WORCESTER SITE NAME: BURRINGTON MEADOW

DISTRICT: LEOMINSTER

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

Local Planning Authority: HEREFORD & WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL,
Leominster District Council

National Grid Reference: SO 446716

Area: 2.5 (ha.) 6.4 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 137 or 148

1:10,000: SO 47 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1971

Date of Last Revision: 1975

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1983

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Site managed by the Herefordshire and Radnorshire Nature Trust.

Reasons for Notification:

Burrington Meadow consists of an area of damp marshy permanent pasture bounded by scrub and drier neutral grassland. It represents a good example of a species rich, sedge dominated grassland, a type which is becoming increasingly rare in Britain because of changes in agricultural practices.

The wetter area is dominated by sedges *Carex sp*, soft rush *Juncus effusus* and great reedmace *Typha latifolia* with abundant meadow-sweet *Filipendula ulmaria* and marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*. Less common marsh helleborine *Epipactis palustris* and dyers greenweed *Genista tinctoria*.

The drier grassland areas dominated by sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, crested dog's tail *Cynosurus cristatus* and red fescue *Festuca rubra* are also species rich.

The hedgerow bordering the site is thin and gappy except for patches of blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* scrub which occur on its southern edge.