

Appendix 3: Revised Boundaries and Citations for Sites of Biological Importance

DRAFT

New Sites of Biological Importance



Site name: Heswall Fields

Ward: Heswall

Area: 4.6 ha

Date of Notification: 2017

Date of Revision:

Status: Owned by National Trust, managed by local farmer

Site code: B78 (NEW)

Grid Reference: SJ245824

Description:

A clifftop field, managed for hay, which has had little agricultural improvement and supports a high diversity of plants, though few uncommon species. There are also good butterfly populations. The pond supports breeding toads. The low clay cliffs support plants typical of the Dee cliffs e.g. common agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*), centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*) and restharrow (*Ononis repens*). Both field and cliffs need survey for invertebrates as they could support important species.

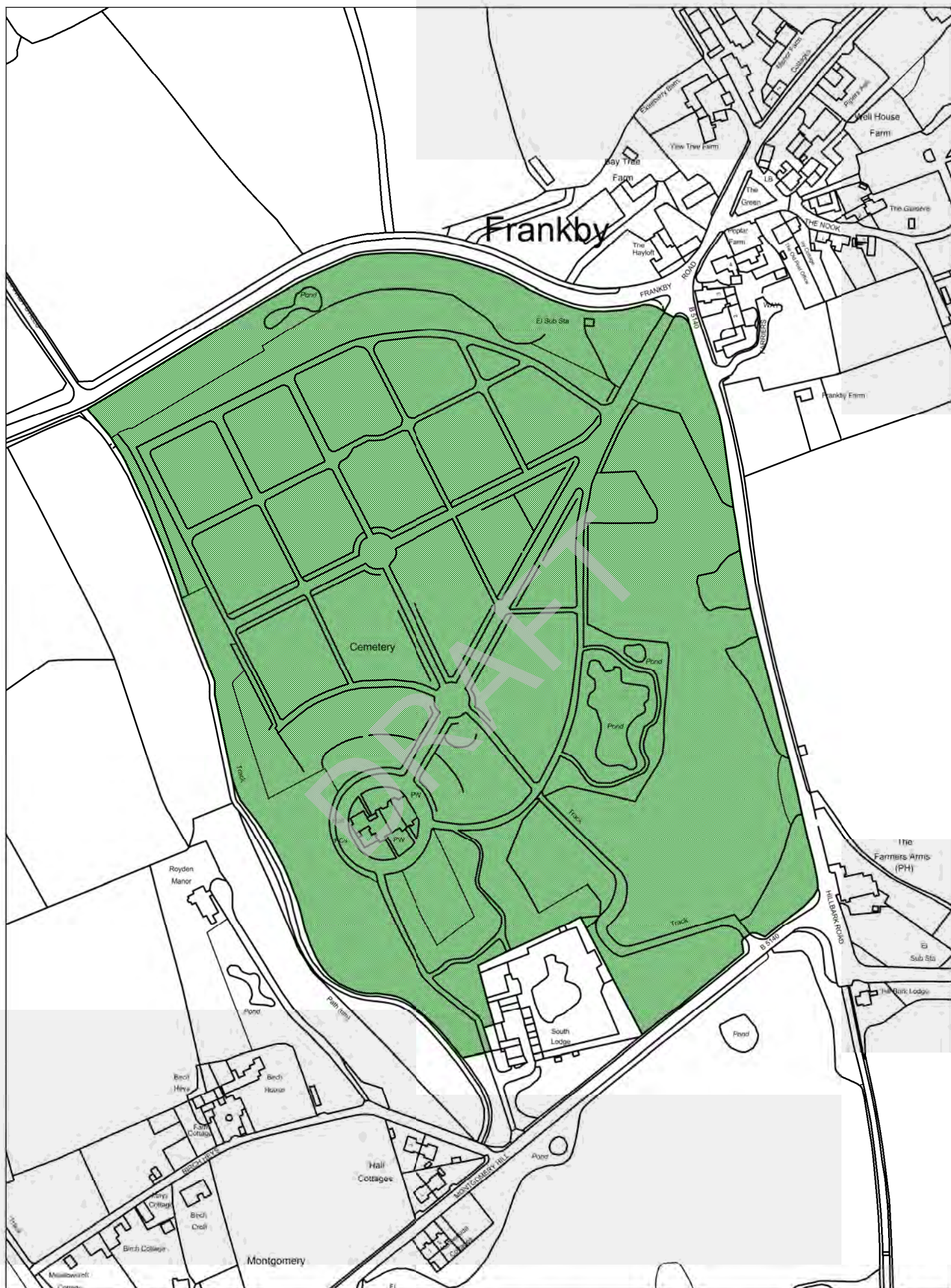
A second field is included (at the end of Broad Lane). It is less diverse but likely to improve now it is under suitable management.

Criteria for selection: (i), (ii), (iv)

Habitats:	Grassland	Percentage:	95%
	Pond		2%
	Hedges		3%

Most recent survey:	Plants	2011
	Amphibians	2011

CONFIDENTIAL:



Frankby

Cemetery

Frankby Cemetery Proposed Site of Biological Importance Boundary

Scale 1:3,000

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Site name: Frankby Cemetery
Ward: Greasby, Frankby & Irby
Area: 14.3 ha
Date of Notification: 2017
Date of Revision:
Status: Wirral Borough Council owned.

Site code: B79 (NEW)
Grid Reference: SJ243865

Description:

Cemetery, in use late 19th century to present. Supports mature trees, grassland and legally protected species.

Criteria for selection: (iv)

Habitats: Grassland
Mature trees

Percentage: data not
available

Most recent survey: Mammals 2015

CONFIDENTIAL:

Sites of Biological Importance - Modified Boundaries



Site name: Wirral Way (Caldy-Heswall)
Ward: Heswall; and West Kirby & Thurstaston
Area: 17.8 ha
Date of Notification: 1980
Date of Revision: 1999, 2017
Status: Owned by WMBC

Site code: B15
Grid Reference: SJ222850

Description:

The line of the disused railway line, now part of Wirral Country Park, has developed into a variety of secondary damp and neutral grassland habitats, as well as scrub and associated hedge features, all of value to wildlife.

Cubbin's Green has many locally uncommon plants, including pignut (*Conopodium majus*), yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), and harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*). Other rarities are fine-leaved sandwort (*Minuartia hybrida*), pepper saxifrage (*Silaum silaus*), and Dyer's greenweed (*Genista tinctoria*).

Butterflies are numerous in the warmer railway cuttings, and traditional hedge management techniques have proved of value to bird species.

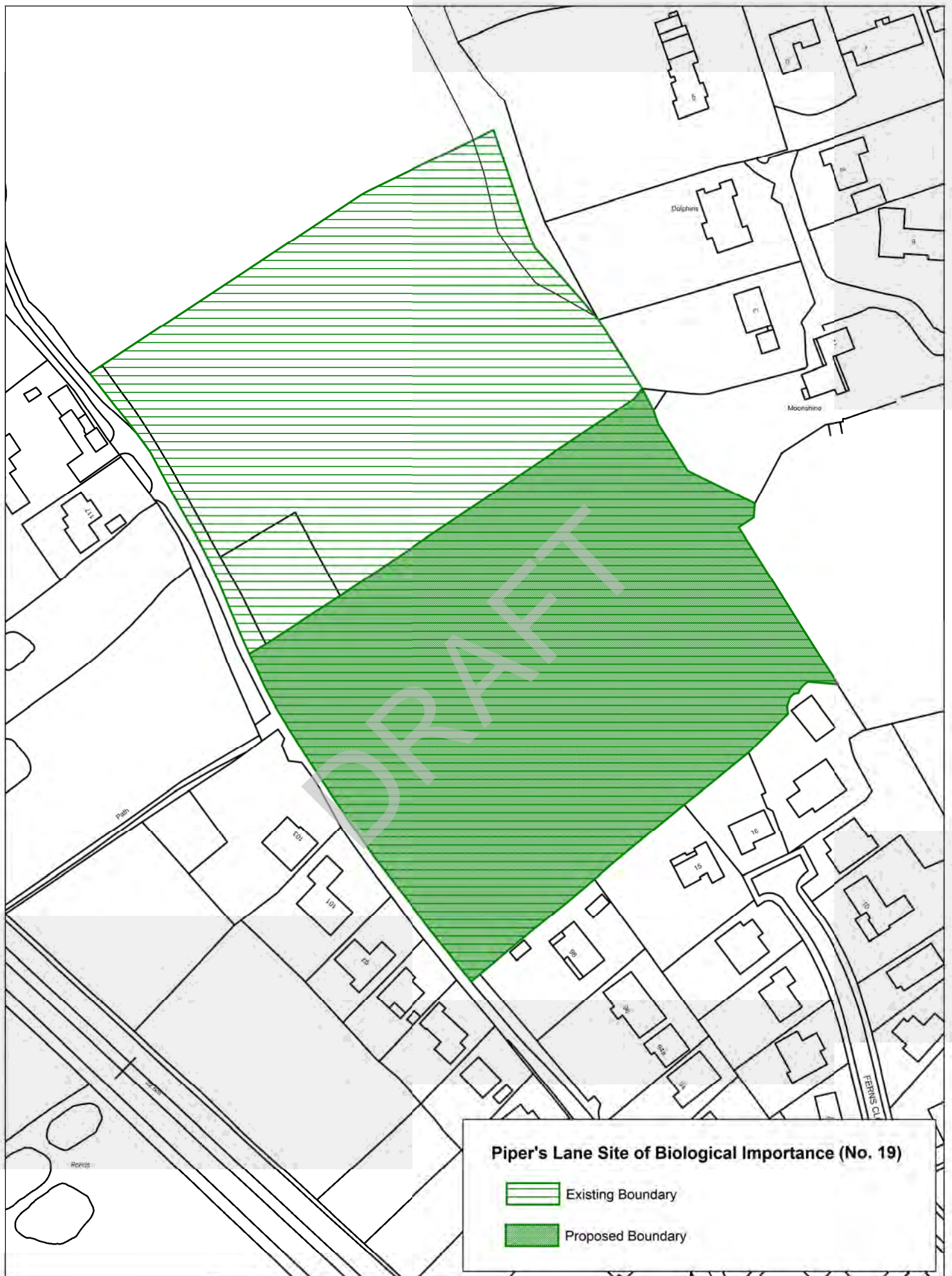
Criteria for selection: (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

Habitats: Scrub
Grassland - neutral (unimproved)

Percentage:

Most recent survey: Plants 2006
Butterflies 1999
Invertebrates 1998

CONFIDENTIAL:



Site name: Piper's Lane, Heswall
Ward: Heswall
Area: 1.7 ha
Date of Notification: 1992
Date of Revision: 2017
Status: Private owner

Site code: B19
Grid Reference: SJ253823

Description:

Sandy field with gorse scrub. Supports a legally protected species and a variety of birds.

Criteria for selection: (iv)

Habitats: Scrub
Grassland - improved

Percentage: data not
available

Most recent survey: Mammals 1999

CONFIDENTIAL:

Site name: Holm Hill
Ward: West Kirby & Thurstaston
Area: 1.5 ha
Date of Notification: 1992
Date of Revision: 1999, 2017
Status: Private owner

Site code: B49
Grid Reference: SJ222863

Description:

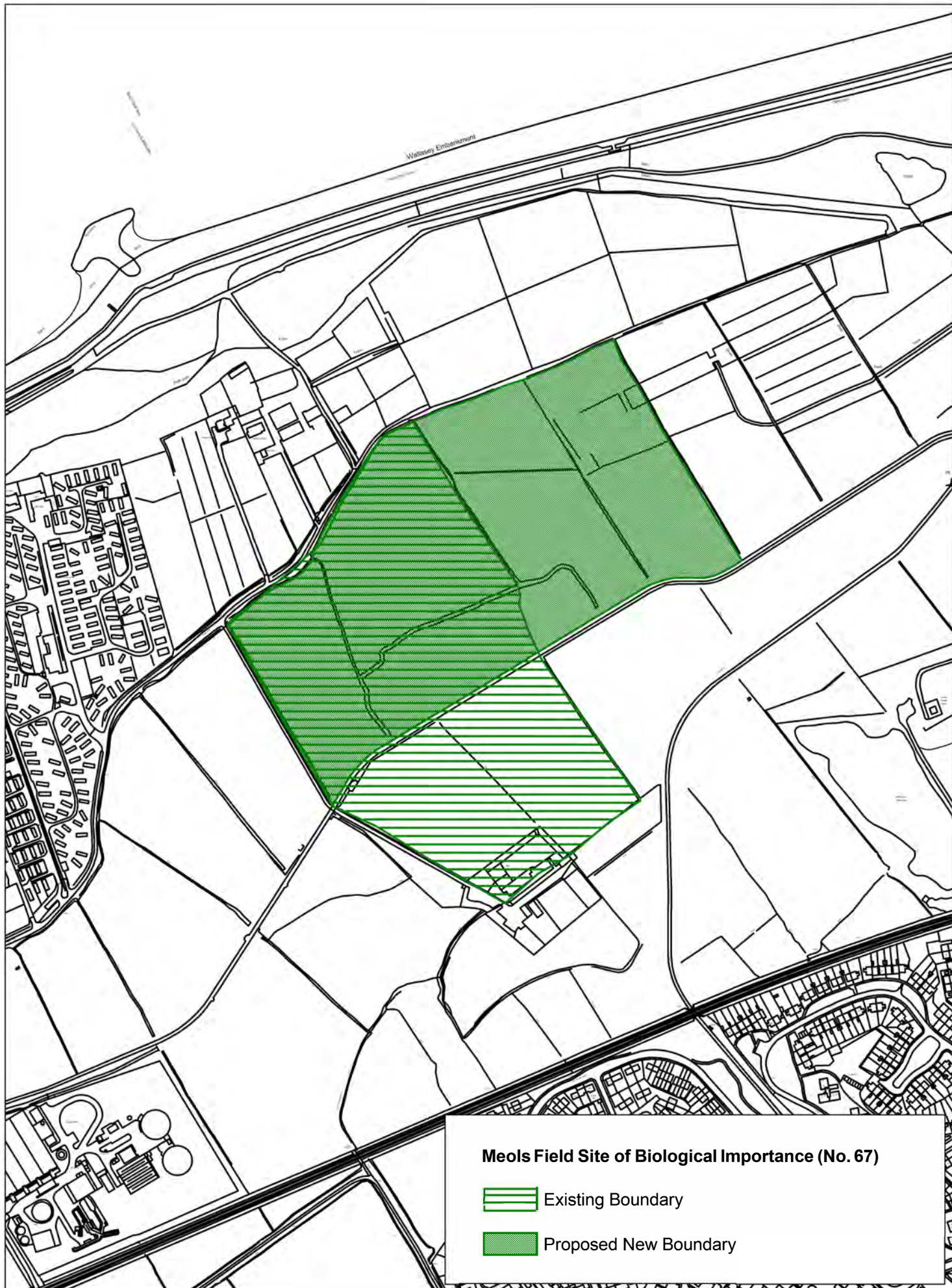
Remnant of grounds of country houses, including mixed woodland, scrub and grassland. Supports a legally protected species, also the locally uncommon Yellow Meadow Ant (*Lascius flavus*).

Criteria for inclusion: (iv)

Habitats:		Percentage:
Woodland - mixed (plantation)		
Scrub		
Grassland - acidic (semi-improved)		

Most recent survey:	Mammals	2016
	Plants	1996

CONFIDENTIAL:



Site name: Meols Field
Ward: Moreton West and Saughall Massie
Area: 10.2 ha
Date of Notification: 1990
Date of Revision: 2013, 2017
Status: Private owner

Site code: B67
Grid Reference: SJ244907

Description:

Sandy, coastal floodplain meadows with abundant sand sedge (*Carex arenaria*) and yellow rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), together with frequent brown sedge (*Carex disticha*).

The central field is the richest, supporting some uncommon species characteristic of unimproved grassland such as pepper saxifrage (*Silaum silaus*), ragged robin (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), meadow rue (*Thalictrum flavum*) and divided sedge (*Carex divisa*). The ditches are strips of common reed (*Phragmites australis*). Reed bunting and skylark are regularly recorded.

Criteria for selection: (i) (ii) (iv)

Habitats: Grassland - neutral (unimproved)

Percentage: 100%

Most recent survey: Plants 2013
Invertebrates 1988

CONFIDENTIAL:

Sites of Biological Importance - Modified Citations

Site name: Grange Hill
Ward: West Kirby & Thurstaston
Area: 9.8 ha
Date of Notification: 1983
Date of Revision: 2017
Status: Owned by WMBC

Site code: B2
Grid Reference: SJ219871

Description:

Former remnant lowland heath, now mainly gorse scrub (*Ulex europaeus*) and grassland. There is a significant population of common lizard and other protected species. Bracken, heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), western gorse (*U. galii*) and bell heather (*Erica cinerea*) occur in small amounts among the gorse.

Broad-leaved woodland occurs on lower slopes and hollows, particularly west, south and old quarry (north). Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) is dominant with silver birch (*Betula pendula*) and rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*). Fires occur, sometimes frequently, during the summer. Geological interest centres on the exposures showing the contact between the Bunter and Keuper sandstones, along with interesting sedimentary features.

Criteria for selection: (iv)

Habitats:	Percentage:
Scrub	
Woodland - broadleaved (plantation)	
Heathland - dry heath	<10%

Most recent survey:	Plants	2005
	Birds	2007
	Invertebrates	1988

CONFIDENTIAL:

Site name: Leasowe Reedmarsh
Ward: Leasowe & Moreton East
Area: 0.4 ha

Site code: B61
Grid Reference: SJ27989110

Date of Notification: 1983

Date of Revision: 2017

Status: Situated on Bidston Golf Course. Private owner

Description:

Former pond, now a reedmarsh dominated by Common reed (*Phragmites australis*). The banks support some unusual grassland species eg common agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*).

Criteria for selection: (i)

Habitats: Reedmarsh

Percentage: 100%

Most recent survey: Plants 2013
Invertebrates 2008
Amphibians 2005

CONFIDENTIAL: