Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council	
LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.100	SINC name: Pant Glas Meadow, Trinant
Grid ref: ST204996, ST207996	Area (hectares): 4
Survey date: 17 th May 2007	Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)
(UDP policy reference: C11.94)	

Summary description

This SINC comprises two separate areas of damp semi-improved neutral and marshy grassland. The western area (ST204996) comprises a group of small fields with scattered scrub, abundant Devil's-bit scabious and associated species including Meadow thistle, Bugle, Lousewort and Heath spotted-orchid. Marsh fritillary butterfly was confirmed here during the 2007 survey. The western side of the area grades into semi-improved acid grassland with scattered scrub and Bracken. The eastern area (ST207996) includes a large area of flushed ground with a variety of marshy grassland indicator species including Ragged robin, Lousewort and Cuckooflower.

Qualifying features

Semi-improved neutral grassland with at least 8 indicator species.

Marshy grassland with at least 12 indicator species.

Presence of Marsh Fritillary Butterfly.

Secondary features

Semi-improved acid grassland.

Hedges.

Scrub.

Bracken.

Potential value/ unconfirmed features

The western area is likely to support reptiles.

The hedge/ tree lines in the western area may provide foraging and roosting habitats for bats.

Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)

The western area is lightly grazed by horses and appears to be maintained in a good condition for biodiversity. Limited removal of trees may help to reduce shading and improve habitat connectivity for Marsh fritillary butterflies. The eastern field is grazed by cattle and was heavily poached at the time of the survey. A slight reduction in livestock density would probably be beneficial for the marshy grassland flora.

Access/ community use

A public footpath runs along the edge of both areas.

Additional information

The adjacent land to the north of the western area also supports Devil's-bit scabious and could therefore constitute potential habitat for the Marsh fritillary butterfly. This should be considered for inclusion at future SINC review.

Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)

(LBAP species shown in **bold**, species confirmed by 2007 survey in *italics*)

<u>Western area: tree and shrub species</u>: Quercus petraea, Fagus sylvatica, Corylus avellana, Crataegus monogyna, Cytisus scoparius, Rubus fruticosus.

<u>Western area, damp semi-improved neutral grassland:</u> Succisa pratensis, Pedicularis sylvatica, Centaurea nigra, Cirsium dissectum, Ajuga reptans, Galium palustre, Ranunculus flammula, **Dactylorhiza maculata**, Molinia caerulea, Polytrichum commune, Sphagnum denticulatum, Sphagnum cf fallax, Drepanocladus sp.

<u>Western area, semi-improved acid grassland:</u> Potentilla erecta, Galium saxatile, Calluna vulgaris, Succisa pratensis, Pedicularis sylvatica, Polygala serpyllifolia, **Hyacinthoides non-scripta**, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Festuca rubra, Agrostis capillaris, Pteridium aquilinum.

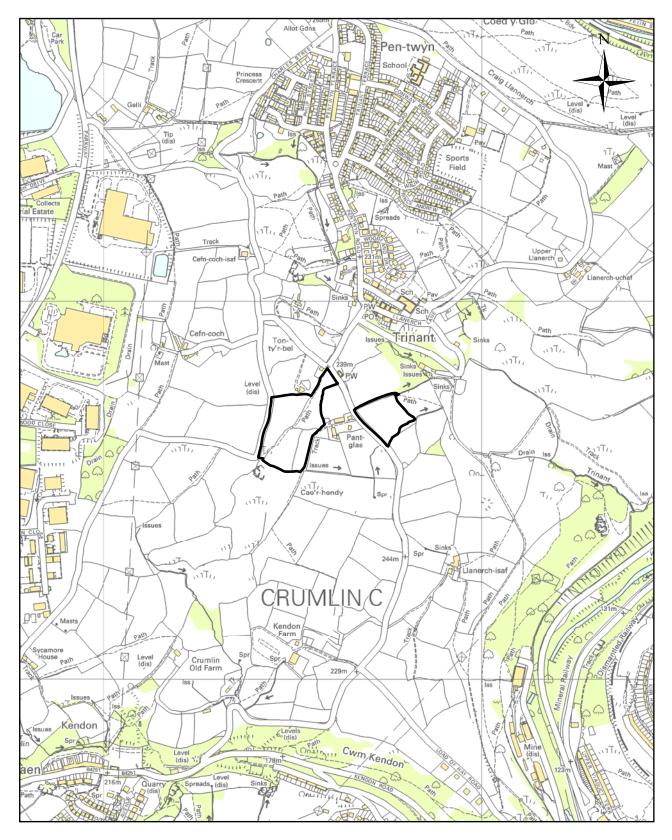
<u>Eastern area, marshy grassland species</u>: Galium palustre, Ranunculus flammula, Lotus pedunculatus, Stellaria alsine, Potentilla erecta, Pedicularis sylvatica, Lychnis flos-cuculi, Cardamine pratensis, Montia fontana, Succisa pratensis, Potentilla anserina, Veronica beccabunga, Cirsium palustre, Lysimachia nemorum, Cardamine pratensis, Ajuga reptans, Glyceria fluitans, Carex echinata, Carex viridula, Carex nigra, Juncus effusus, Juncus acutiflorus, Calliergonella cuspidata.

<u>Fauna observations:</u> Robin, Chaffinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, **Marsh Fritillary Butterfly** (ST205996), Green-veined White Butterfly.

Additional species noted from desk study: Lotus corniculatus, Hypochaeris radicata.

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Caerphilly County Borough Council Site of Importance for Nature Conservation LDP Policy Ref: NH 3.100 (SINC 094) Pant-Glas Meadow, Trinant 4 Ha



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