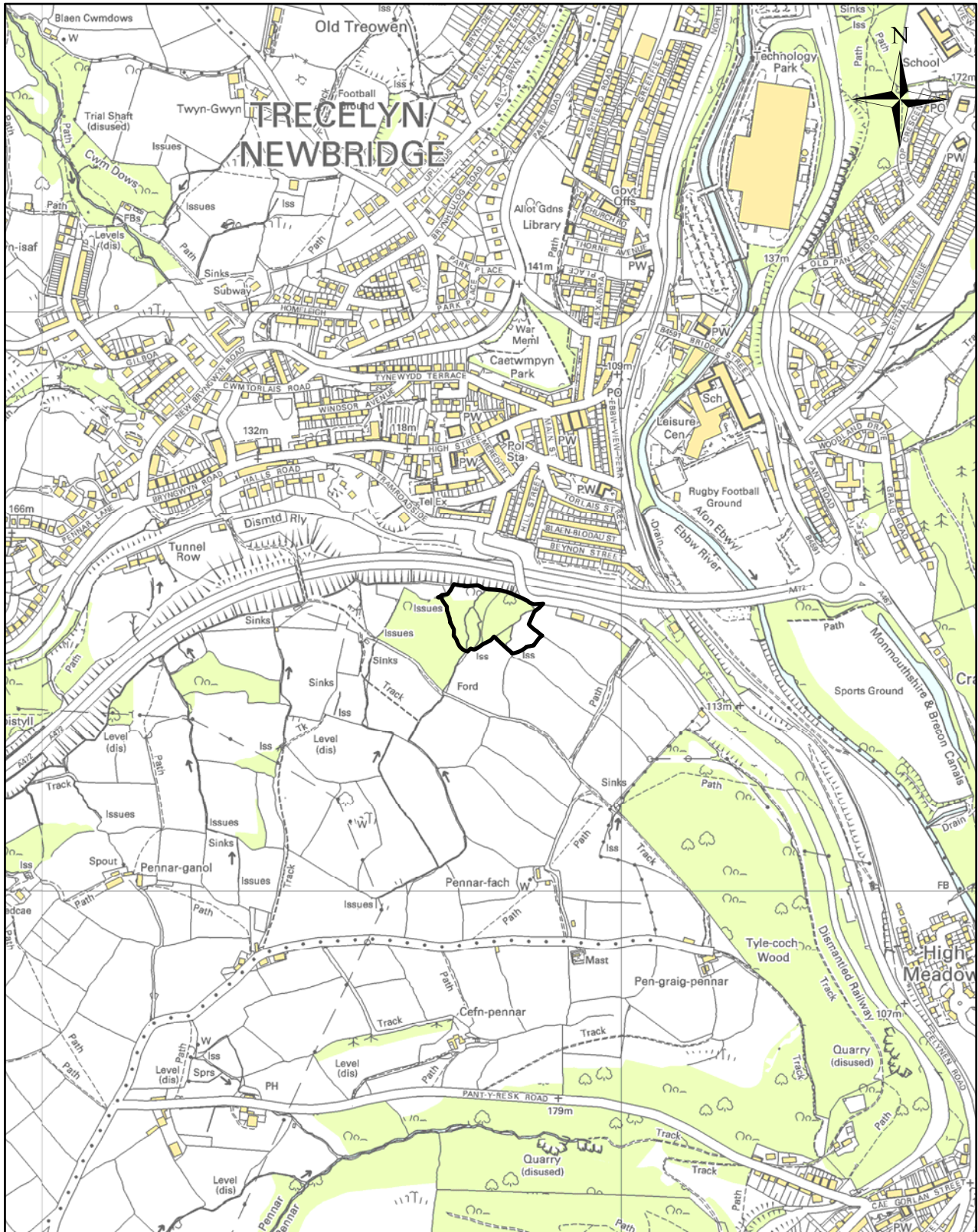


Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council	
<u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.110</u>	SINC name: Pen-Rhiw-Bica, south of Newbridge
Grid reference: ST207964	Area (hectares): 1
Survey date: 4 th May 2007	Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)
(UDP policy reference: C11.103)	
Summary description	
Small woodland with a canopy of mature Alder, Sessile Oak and Hazel. There is a mainly grassy ground flora with little under storey and no regeneration of young trees. However, semi-natural ground flora indicator species occur at a low density throughout the area. There are several areas of damp ground and a small stream channel that was almost dry during the survey.	
Qualifying features	
Semi-natural woodland with an assemblage of indicator species.	
Secondary features	
Hedges.	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
The woodland habitat has potential to provide feeding and roosting habitats for bats.	
Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)	
The site is grazed by sheep, which has resulted in a limited diversity of ground flora species, with grasses being favoured. A reduction or cessation of this grazing would enhance the biodiversity of the site. There are a few signs of vandalism (fires) and litter, but not to an extent that would affect the nature conservation status of the site.	
Access/ community use	
There is no formal public access to the site, but there is evidence of informal use for activities such as dog walking.	
Additional information None	
Species list (Dominant species, SINC Criteria, RDB or other notable indicator species)	
(LBAP species shown in bold , species confirmed by 2007 survey in <i>italics</i>)	
<u>Woodland / scrub canopy and shrub species:</u> <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> , <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> , <i>Quercus petraea</i> , <i>Corylus avellana</i> , <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> , <i>Salix caprea</i> , <i>Malus sp.</i> , <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> , <i>Quercus robur</i> , <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> , <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> , <i>Prunus spinosa</i> , <i>Sambucus nigra</i> , <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> .	
<u>Woodland ground flora species:</u> <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> , <i>Ranunculus ficaria</i> , <i>Circaea lutetiana</i> , <i>Holcus mollis</i> , <i>Lysimachia nemorum</i> , <i>Digitalis purpurea</i> , <i>Conopodium majus</i> , <i>Potentilla erecta</i> , <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> , <i>Oxalis acetosella</i> , <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> , <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> , <i>Glyceria fluitans</i> , <i>Juncus effusus</i> , <i>Carex remota</i> , <i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> , <i>Mnium hornum</i> , <i>Kindbergia praelonga</i> , <i>Polytrichum cf formosum</i> , <i>Atrichum undulatum</i> .	
<u>Fauna observations:</u> <i>Great Tit</i> , <i>Blackbird</i> , <i>Chaffinch</i> , <i>Wren</i> , <i>Blue Tit</i> , <i>Blackcap</i> , <i>Robin</i> .	
<u>Additional species noted from desk study:</u> Several bat records from nearby houses.	

Caerphilly County Borough Council
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
LDP Policy Ref: NH 3.110 (SINC 103)
Pen-Rhiw-Bica, South of Newbridge 1 Ha

1:10,000



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Gall hyn arwain at erlyniad neu achos sifil. Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili, 100025372, 2008.