

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Caerphilly County Borough Council	
<u>LDP Policy Ref. NH 3.132</u>	SINC name: Cil-fynydd, Cwmcarn
Grid reference: ST210938	Area (hectares): 5
Survey date: 20 th April 2007	Surveyed by: Dr Peter Sturgess (Hyder Consulting Ltd.)
(UDP policy reference: C11.139)	
Summary description	
Several small fields of unimproved acid grassland on an east-facing slope. Low banks with occasional large Beech trees, particularly at the site boundary, divide the fields. Several younger Silver birch and Beech trees are present near the eastern boundary. The fields are grazed by sheep and support very high densities of anthills.	
Qualifying features	
Acid grassland with at least 7 indicator species.	
Grassland with a high density of anthills.	
Secondary features	
Mature standard trees.	
Potential value/ unconfirmed features	
The sheltered closely cropped grassland may be of value to certain species of invertebrates.	
The grassland may be suitable for waxcap fungi.	
Current management (including problems and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement)	
Sheep heavily graze the area and it may be beneficial to reduce the grazing intensity slightly to favour higher plant diversity, although this should only be implemented if further surveys have confirmed that there would be no detriment to invertebrate or waxcap fungi populations.	
Access/ community use	
There is no formal public access to the site, but public footpaths form its southern and eastern edges, and the western boundary is open access land.	
Additional information	
The site was surveyed from the boundaries, which allowed good views across the whole area. The survey was carried out relatively early in the year and many more species are likely to be present if the site was surveyed during the summer. A group of horse-grazed fields to the east (visible from the A467) at ST214935 have a short sward with very high density of anthills. They may also have a high potential for acid grassland flora and/ or waxcap fungi and should be considered 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 <i>italics</i>)	
<u>Tree and shrub species:</u> <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> , <i>Betula pendula</i> , <i>Larix sp.</i> , <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> .	

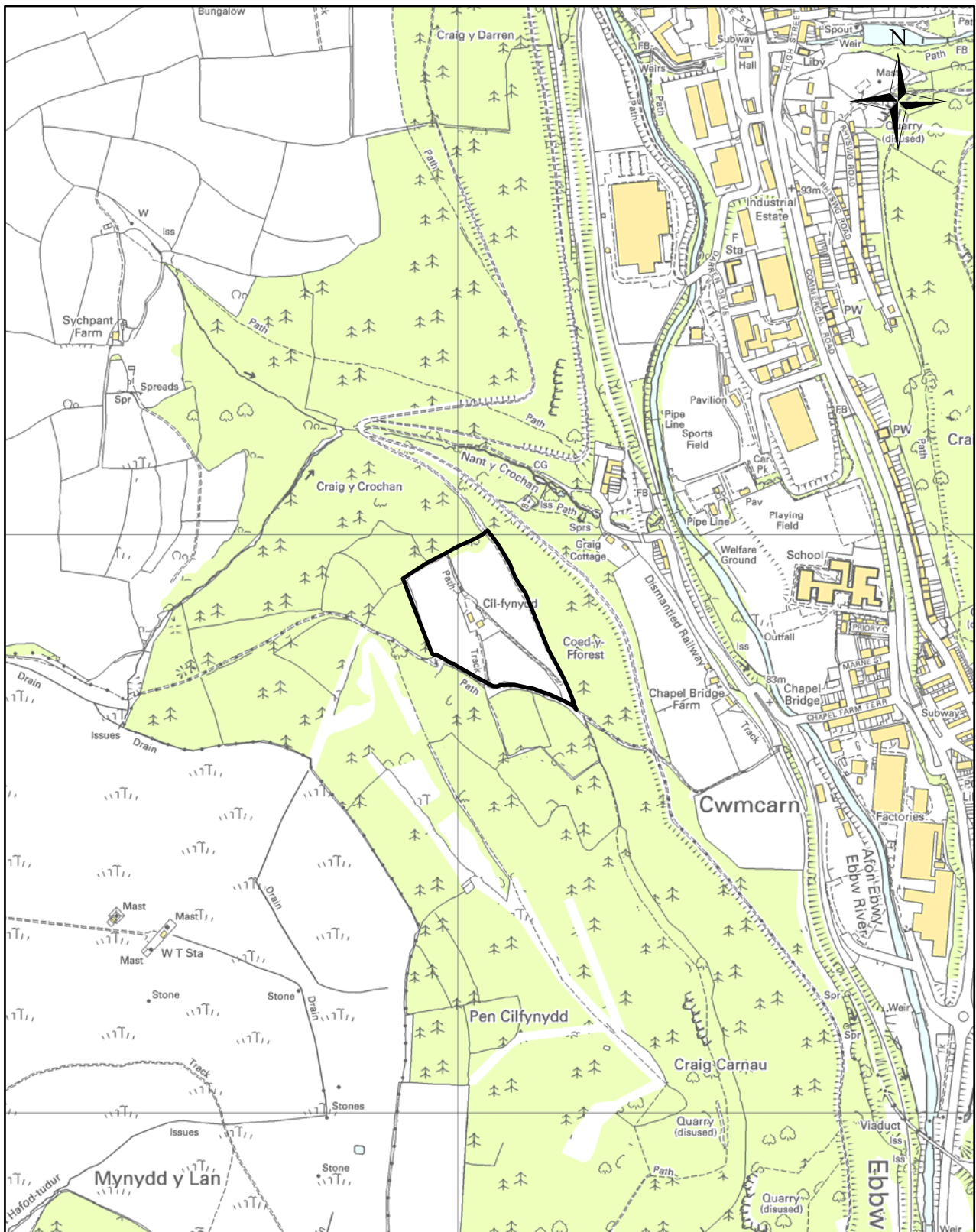
Acid grassland species: *Agrostis capillaris*, *Luzula campestris*, *Festuca ovina*, *Nardus stricta*, *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, *Danthonia decumbens*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Rumex acetosella*, *Potentilla erecta*, *Conopodium majus*, *Galium saxatile*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Viola riviniana*, *Cirsium palustre*, *Pimpinella saxifraga*, *Campanula rotundifolia*, *Pteridium aquilinum*, *Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Hypnum jutlandicum*, *Pleurozium schreberi*, *Polytrichum juniperinum*, *Campylopus introflexus*.

An area of damp ground at the eastern boundary supported a recently formed excavation with additional species including *Juncus effusus*, *Dryopteris dilatata*, *Asplenium adiantum-nigrum*, *Atrichum undulatum*, *Pellia* sp., *Brachythecium* sp.

Additional records from desk study: None.

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Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
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Cil-Fynydd, Cwmcarn 5 Ha

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Atgynhychwyd o fapiad yr Arolwng Ordnans gyda chaniatod rheolwr Llyfrfa ei Mawrhydi hawlfraint y Goron. Mae atgynhychu heb awdurdod yn torri hawlfraint y Goron.
Gall hyn arwain at erlyniad neu achos sifil. Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili, 100025372, 2008.