

Gwent Wildlife Site/SINC Notification Form (WS/ST49/41)

SITE SUMMARY

SITE NAME: **Parsons Grove, Earlswood**

GRID REF: **S T 4 5 2 9 4 4**

SURVEYOR(S): **Dr Stephanie Tyler (MMG)**

SIZE (approx.): **c. 6 hectares**

DATE OF SURVEY: **29 June 2011**

LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA: **Monmouthshire**

WARD: **Shirenewton**

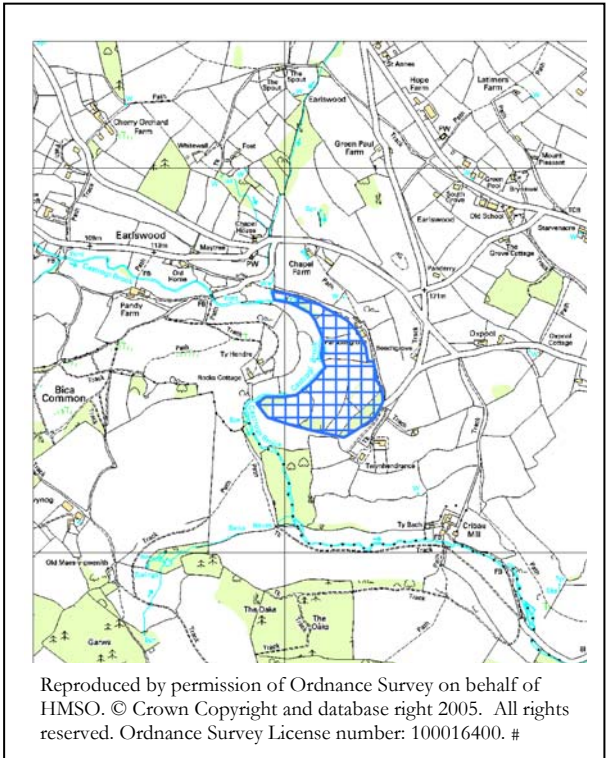
MAIN HABITAT TYPES PRESENT:

Habitat types	NVC type	Area (ha)
Species- rich neutral grassland	-	c.4ha
Woodland	-	c.2ha

LBAP PRIORITY HABITATS/SPECIES PRESENT?

Species – rich grassland

SKETCH MAP OF SITES LOCATION:



FULL DESCRIPTION OF SITE (including topography, adjacent land use, access and boundaries etc.):

The property comprises 6ha with c.2ha of woodland and 4ha of grassland. The area is divided into six fields with old mixed hedges (hazel dominant) and many old hedgerow trees; some have old walls beneath the hedges. Since the current owners bought the land in 2010 there has been no stock grazing nor any hay cutting. The fields have been topped several times and the cut material allowed to mulch the fields. This has resulted in some coarse grass growth although most fields, notably 3, 4, 5 and 6 (see map) are still species-rich. The field immediately below the house was the least floristically rich and was dominated by coarse grasses, notably false oat grass with cock's foot and Yorkshire fog. However, near the lake at the bottom of the field was a more species-rich area with common knapweed and other meadow species including a small patch of ladies mantle. Common spotted orchids were scattered throughout the site but there was a large concentration at the bottom edge of fields 3 and 4. Woodland species such as wood anemone and bluebell occurred commonly at the field edges and creeping jenny was frequent along the SE edge of Field 1 by the woodland. Ox-eye daisies occurred in several fields but were particularly common in the top field (6) on the eastern boundary. Cowslips were scattered throughout. The species list given at the end of the form focuses on the grassland species – the main LWS qualifying habitat for the site. The list excludes most hedgerow and woodland species, and species along the Castroggi Brook (on the site's western boundary) but the hedges, tree lines, streamside and areas of woodland have many features of interest, and occur in a continuous mosaic with the grasslands. Therefore it's proposed the whole land holding should be a Local Wildlife Site as it comprises a single management unit. In addition to a range of widespread indicator species, the fields were alive with meadow browns, ringlets, marbled whites, six spot burnets and skippers. The owners reported seeing adders, slow worms, common lizards, frogs and newts. Green woodpecker, little owl and grey wagtail are among the birds of interest. Rock's Cottage Meadow LWS is situated directly to the west (WS/ST49/10).

Official Use Only: Site selected as a Wildlife Site/SINC? YES NO Date: 13 Dec 2011

DETAILED SITE INFORMATION

SITE OWNERSHIP: Including names of any tenants/graziers Name(s)

HELD BY GWT

Is/are the owner(s) i) aware of the site's nature conservation value? Yes No
ii) managing the land sympathetically? Yes No
iii) willing to manage the land sympathetically? Yes No Unknown

Describe the access to the site:

Access was gained with permission of the owners, who are Monmouthshire Meadows Group (MMG) members.

Are there any public rights of way on the site?

Yes No

If so please describe their location:

A public footpath runs parallel to the southern and eastern boundary of the site.

What is the current management at the site?

Since the current owners bought the land in 2010 there has been no stock grazing, nor any hay cutting. The fields have been topped several times and the cut material allowed to mulch the fields. This has resulted in some coarse grass growth

Are there any threats to the site?

Are there any invasive species present?

None observed during this survey

Are there any protected species present?

Adders, slow worms, common lizards are reported by the owners

Please state the section(s) of the Wildlife Sites Guidance that this site qualifies under:

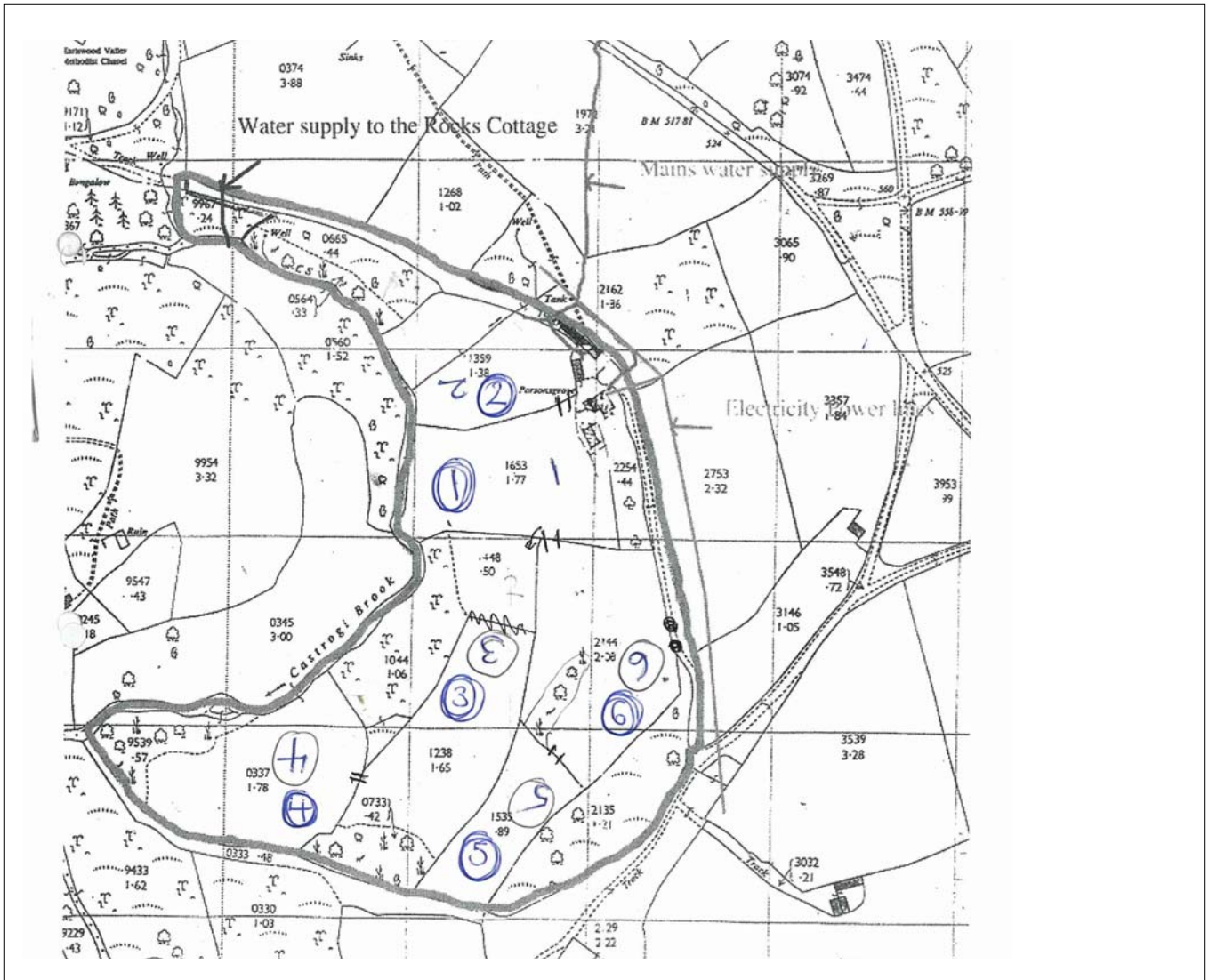
H4) Neutral Grasslands

Supporting reason for qualification: S3) Reptiles, H1) Woodlands

Is the site part of any grant schemes? Yes No Grant Scheme:.....End date.....

Does the site already have any designations? Yes No Designation:.....

Sketch map of site (including northpoint, scale and areas of the site of particular note):



Please list all additional survey information both past and present that relates to this site:

CCW Phase 1 Survey (1991)
Steph Tyler, June 2011 – Survey summary/species list

OFFICE USE ONLY

Site no.:

Please note: The data on this form may be held in accordance with the Gwent Wildlife Trust's registration under the Data Protection Act 1996

SPECIES LIST

Parsons Grove, Grassland Species List, Fields 1 to 6, 29th June 2011 (Steph Tyler)

The absence of a species in any column does not necessarily mean its absence from that field. LWS grassland indicators species are shown in **bold**.

Plant species	Field 1	Field 2	Field 3	Field 4	Field 5	Field 6
HERBS:						
Wood Anemone <i>Anemone nemorosa</i>			F			
Meadow Buttercup <i>Ranunculus acris</i>		F	F	F	A	
Creeping Buttercup <i>R. Repens</i>	LF	O	O			LA
Common Nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i>	F					
Lesser Stitchwort <i>S. graminea</i>	LF	F	F	F	F	
Common Mouse-ear <i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	F	F	F	O-F		O
Broad-leaved Dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	O					
Curled Dock <i>R. Crispus</i>	O					
Common Sorrel <i>R. Acetosa</i>		F	F		F	A
Cowslip <i>Primula veris</i>			F	F		
Primrose <i>Primula vulgaris</i>			P			
Creeping Jenny <i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>		LF				
Cuckooflower <i>Cardamine pratensis</i>		F				
Meadowsweet <i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>		O				
Hairy Ladies Mantle <i>Alchemilla filicaulis ssp. vestita</i>	O					
Tormentil <i>Potentilla erecta</i>				F	O	
Trailing Tormentil or a hybrid <i>Potentilla anglica</i> or x			O			
Barren Strawberry <i>Potentilla sterilis</i>				O		
Common Vetch <i>Vicia sativa</i>	O					
Bird's-foot Trefoil <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>						F
Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>		LF		F	F	F
Meadow Vetchling <i>Lathyrus pratensis</i>	LF					
Red Clover <i>T. pratense</i>				F	F	F
Zigzag Clover <i>T. medium</i>				O		
White Clover <i>T. repens</i>	F, paths					F
Cut-leaved Cranesbill <i>Geranium dissectum</i>	O	O				
Rosebay Willowherb <i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>				O		
Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	O	O	O			
Pignut <i>Conopodium majus</i>	O			O		
Hogweed <i>Heracleum spondylium</i>	O-F					F
Angelica <i>Angelica sylvestris</i>		O	O	O		
Field Bindweed <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>						O
Changing Forgetmenot <i>Myosotis discolor</i>						
Hedge Woundwort <i>Stachys sylvatica</i>		Edges				F
Bugle <i>Ajuga reptans</i>				O		
Self Heal <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	O					
Germander Speedwell <i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>			O	O		O
Foxglove <i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	O					F
Ribwort Plantain <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	LF			F	F	F
Broad-leaved Plantain <i>P. major</i>						
Goosegrass <i>Galium aparine</i> - edges						
Ox-eye Daisy <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>				LF		F
Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>			O			
Smooth Hawksbeard <i>Crepis capillaris</i>	LF			O		
Rough Hawkbit <i>Leontodon hispidus</i>				O		F
Catsear <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>			O	O		F
Ragwort <i>Senecio jacobaea</i>			O	O		O
Common knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i>	O-LF	O	F	F	O	F

Creeping Thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i>		F				
Marsh Thistle <i>Cirsium palustre</i>		O		O	O	O
Spear Thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	O					
Spotted Orchid <i>Dactylorhiza fuchsii</i>		R	LF (100+)	O	O	O
Bluebell <i>Scilla non-scripta</i>		O	F	F		
Field Woodrush <i>Luzula campestris</i>	O			O	O	O
GRASSES, SEDGES, RUSHES:						
Soft Rush <i>Juncus effuses</i>		O				
False Oat Grass <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	A	F	O	O	O	O
Common Bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	O				O	O
Sweet Vernal Grass <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	O	O	F	F	F	F
Red Fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i>	O					F
Yorkshire Fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i>	F-A	F	F	F	F	
Cocksfoot <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	F	F	O	O	O	O
Rough Meadow Grass <i>Poa trivialis</i>			F	F	F	
Annual Meadow Grass <i>Poa annua</i>						
Rye Grass <i>Lolium perenne</i>	O					
No of indicators	6	5	5	13	7	9