

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE

SITE NAME: RUEWOOD PASTURES

DISTRICT: NORTH SHROPSHIRE

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended

Local Planning Authority: SHROPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, North Shropshire District Council

National Grid Reference: SJ 496280

Area: 2.35 (ha.) 5.8 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 126

1:10,000: SJ 42 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act):

Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1984

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

New site.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

This site is one of a small number of damp pastures remaining in North Shropshire and consists of two low-lying pasture fields adjacent to the River Roden. Most of the site is damp, and supports a marshy grassland dominated by sharp-flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus*. Drier areas support grassland dominated by Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*. Meadow rue *Thalictrum flavum* occurs in one of its few Shropshire localities, and early marsh orchid *Dactylorhiza incarnata* is unusually abundant here. There are many characteristic marsh plants such as ragged robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi*, marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*, creeping Jenny *Lysimachia nummularia*, marsh valerian *Valeriana dioica* and several species of sedge *Carex* spp.