

COUNTY: SHROPSHIRE

SITE NAME: THE LUMP, PRIESTWESTON

DISTRICT: SOUTH SHROPSHIRE

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

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

National Grid Reference: SO 291982

Area: 1.61 (ha.) 4 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 137

1:10,000: SO 29 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:

An outcrop of dolerite which bears short grassland, scrub and rock-face habitats with an exceptionally rich flora.

Much of the site is occupied by short grassland which has developed on thin, dry soil. Sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina* is dominant over large areas, but locally other grasses, for example crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* are dominant, while some areas are covered by carpets of wild thyme *Thymus praecox*. These open grassland communities contain several uncommon species notably maiden pink *Dianthus deltoides* which is unusually abundant here, soft trefoil *Trifolium striatum* and rock stonecrop *Sedum forsteranum*. The last named species is also abundant on rock outcrops.

In places, scrub consisting of hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, dog rose *Rosa canina* and broom *Cytisus scoparius* has developed.