

BRYAN R. FOWLER
84 WOODTHORNE ROAD SOUTH
WOLVERHAMPTON
SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE
WV6 8SL
TEL: (0902) 753175

14th June 1993

16 JUN 1993

Mr Richard Mellor,
Chief Executive,
Staffordshire Wildlife Trust,
Coutts House,
Sandon,
Stafford.
ST18 0DN

Dear Mr Mellor,

Barnfields Sand Beds, Brewood

I was interested to learn of the Trust's interest in the above site, re your letter. The site was first notified to me by Mrs June Garbett who lives in Brewood, and was at the time flower group leader of the South Staffs Naturalists Society.

I don't know the boundaries of the area you are interested in.

There is a well used Public Footpath along the southern boundary that connects Horsebrook and Oram's Lane's. The disused sandpit is gradually being filled by Fly-tipping of builders and garden rubbish. The pool(s) tend to dry-out in Summer. On the merit side, there is a diversity of habitat ie, Woodland, Wet areas and open sunny areas with fairly bare flat patches of sand (in 1991). Like all similar sites, it will be invaded by scrub unless this is kept in check. I remember seeing evidence of tyre tracks on the more hilly areas. Evidence of burning of rubbish was seen. The site is easily missed by traffic using Horsebrook Lane due to the tall roadside hedge. There would be a parking problem in the narrow lane for visitors to the site. I don't know who owns the site as I have not made any inquiries.

As the area is only six miles due North from home, I would be willing to look over it again with an eye to its conservation value and additions to my plant list.

Yours sincerely,

Bryan R. Fowler
Bryan R Fowler

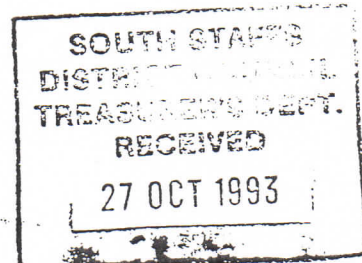
BSBI V.C.39 Recorder

Dryopteris felix-mas; *Equisetum arvense*; *Pteridium aquilinum*; *Acer pseudoplatanus*;
Achillea millefolium; *Aegopodium podagaria*; *Agrostis capillaris*; *Alisma plantago-aquatica*;
Alliaria petiolata; *Alchemilla mollis*(2); *Anthemis cotula*; *Anthoxanthum odoratum*;
Arenaria leptoclados; *Armoracia rusticana*; *Arrhenatherum elatius*; *Artemisia absinthium*;
A.vulgare.
Ballota nigra; *Bellis perennis*; *Betula pendula*; *Bromus hordeaceus* ssp.*hordeaceus*;
B.sterilis; *Calystegia sepium* ssp.*silvatica*; *Carduus nutans*; *Centaurea nigra*;
Centaureum erythraea; *Cerastium fontanum*; *C.glomeratum*; *C.tomentosum*; *Camerion angustifolium*
Cirsium arvense; *C.vulgare*; *Crataegus monogyna*; *Crepis capillaris*; *Cynosurus cristatus*;
Cytisus scoparius ssp.*scoparius*; *Dactylorhiza fuchsii*(50+); *Deutzia* spp.; *Digitalis purpurea*
Dipsacus fullonum ssp.*fullonum*; *Eleocharis palustris*; *Epilobium obscurum*;
Fraxinus excelsior; *Fumaria officinalis*; *Galium aparine*; *G.mollugo*; *G.saxatile*;
Geranium dissectum; *G.molle*; *G.pyrenaicum*; *G.sanguineum*(5); *Glechoma hederacea*;
Heracleum sphondylium; *Hemerocallis fulva*(1 clump); *Hieracium aurantiacum*(5); *H.pilosella*;
Holcus lanatus; *Hordeum murinum*; *Humulus lupulus*; *Hypericum humifusum*(4); *H.perforatum*;
Hypochoeris radicata;
Lamium purpureum; *Lapsana communis*; *Lathyrus pratensis*; *Lamiastrum argentatum*(Patch);
Leucanthemum vulgare; *Ligustrum vulgare*; *Linaria purpurea*; *Lolium perenne* ssp.*perenne*;
Lotus corniculatus; *Lysimachia punctata*; *Malus sylvestris*; *Malva sylvestris*;
Matricaria matricarioides; *M.recutita*; *Melilotus officinalis*; *Oenothera erythrosepala*;
Ononis repens; *Papaver dubium*; *P.rhoeas*; *P.somniferum*; *Pedicularis palustris*(reported); ?
Plantago lanceolata; *P.major*; *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*; *Populus tremula*;
Plantago major; *Potentilla anglica*; *P.anserina*; *P.reptans*; *Prunella vulgaris*; *Prunus spinosa*;
Quercus robur; *Ranunculus lingua*(Few); *R.repens*; *Reseda luteola*; *Reynoutria japonica*;
Ribes nigrum(2); *R.sanguineum*(1); *Rosa arvensis*; *Rosa canina* agg.; *R.rugosa*; *Rubus idaeus*;
R.fruticosus agg.; *Rumex acetosa*; *R.acetosella*; *R.conglomeratus*;
Salix alba(1); *S.caprea*; *S.cinerea* ssp.*oleifolia*; *Sambucus nigra*; *Sedum acre*; *Senecio jacobea*
S.sylvaticus; *Silene alba*; *S.alba x dioica*; *S.dioica*; *Sisymbrium officinale*; *Solanum dulcamara*
Solidago canadensis; *Sonchus asper*; *Spiraea salicifolia*; *Stachys sylvatica*; *Stellaria media*;
Symphoricarpos rivularis; *Symphytum officinale*; *S.x uplandicum*; *Tanacetum vulgare*;
Tragopogon pratensis; *Trifolium campestre*. *T.dubium*; *T.pratense*; *T.repens*; *Trisetum flavescens*;
Tussilago farfara; *Typha latifolia*; *Urtica dioica*; *Verbascum thapsus*; *V.virgatum*(1);
Veronica arvensis; *V.chamaedrys*; *Vicia cracca*; *V.hirsuta*; *V.sativa* ssp.*nigra*; *Vulpia myuros*(F)



Coutts House, Sandon, Stafford, ST18 0DN. ☎ Sandon (08897) 534

South Staffordshire District Council
Council Offices
Codsall
Wolverhampton
WV8 1PK



F.A.O. Mr P Collings

25th October 1993

Dear Paul

Barnfields Sand Beds - Brewood

As requested please find enclosed correspondence we have received from Bryan Fowler which includes a list of plants recorded in July 1991. Bryan is the county's Botanical Recorder the list is therefore totally reliable, although as it was collated on only one visit there are likely to be additions.

The list is of interest, there are, as expected, a number of 'garden escapes' but also some county rarities.

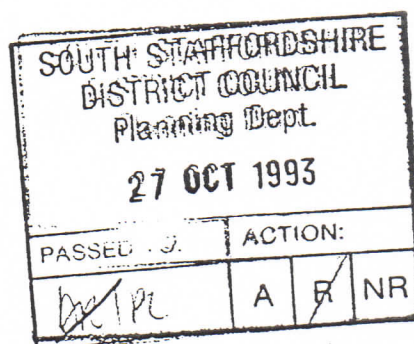
I shall ask Bryan to look over the site again but given the first frosts have now arrived there seems little point in Bryan doing so until the Springtime.

I understand you will liaise with Bevan with regard to the ornithological data.

Good luck in your endeavours.

Yours sincerely

Richard Mellor
Chief Executive



pl thank
10/LP/1291



Coutts House, Sandon, Stafford, ST18 0DN. ☎ Sandon (08897) 534

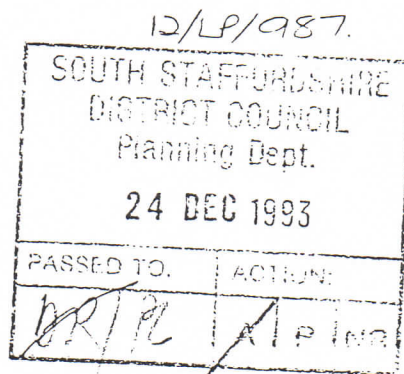
Please note our new
telephone numbers

Tel: 0889 508534

Fax: 0889 508422

Paul Collings
South Staffordshire Council
Council House
Codsall
Wolverhampton
WV8 1PX

21st December 1993



Dear Paul,

Barnfield Sand Beds

Please find enclosed a list of birds recorded at the Sand Beds by local ornithologist Colin Mcshane.

You will note a most interesting variety of common and less common species however the real ornithological value lies in the assemblage of 31 breeding species and 33 visiting species and the high numbers of breeding pairs (167) that use the site annually. It also shows that such scrubby areas are of some importance in their own right and will not require over zealous action "tidying up" etc.

There is potential to create the ideal nesting habitat for Sand martins at one end of the site and given the proximity of Belvide Reservoir there is no reason to doubt that such an area would not be colonised fairly quickly which would add significantly to the value of the site in general.

I am informed that the pond which dried up approximately four years ago held colonies of both smooth and great crested newts and we would suggest that there is still time to reinstate this and attract back the remaining adults which this year were still evident.

Further Colin advises that the area has been colonised quite recently by a family of badgers . We are arranging for our Badger recorder to survey the site and provide expert information.

Yours sincerely

Richard Mellor
Chief Executive

best with for Xmas
a K New Year.
R



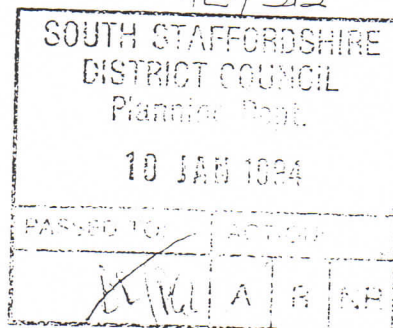
R · S · N · C
The Wildlife Trusts
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Registered Charity No. 259558 and
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 959609.



Coutts House, Sandon, Stafford, ST18 0DN. ☎ Sandon (08897) 534

Paul Collings
South Staffordshire Council
Council Offices
Codsall
South Staffordshire
WV8 1PX



Please note our new
telephone numbers
Tel: 0889 508534
Fax: 0889 508422

5th January 1994

Dear Paul

Barnfields Sandbeds, Brewood

Further to our letter of the 21st December 1993 we confirm the presence of a two hole badger sett on the above site and adjacent to the public footpath running from Oram's Lane. This was very active at the time of the visit by our recorder (19.12.93).

There is also evidence of foxes breeding on the site and the habitat is eminently suitable for short tailed voles, field voles and long tailed field mice. The visiting Kestrels, Barn and Tawny Owls etc point to a very good small mammal population. The likelihood of stoats and weasels being present is also very high.

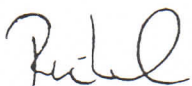
The presence of houses and the substantial fly tipping that continues also means that there would be the less popular house mice and rats present although the foxes should keep these sufficiently in check to prevent them from becoming a nuisance.

All in all when we take into account the botanical, ornithological and now the small mammal records it is apparent that despite the tattiness of the area and the air of general dereliction, Barnfields Sand Beds represents a significant wildlife resource and it is our opinion that efforts should be made to safeguard the area and make it available as a resource for the people of South Staffordshire.

We note from recent correspondence with your Council (copy attached for information) that our grant requests will in future be determined by the Planning Committee and that there is even a possibility of some form of service level agreement between our two organisations. This is something we welcome and we look forward to the opportunity of discussing this with you and your colleagues.

With our best wishes.

Yours sincerely



Richard Mellor
Chief Executive

NOTES ON THE FAUNA OF THE BARNFIELDS SITE

Observations over the last six years plus results of occasional bird ringing under licence from the BTO

Birds

a) Breeding Birds

The colonisation of the site by bramble and nettles, along with the very rough surface due to landfill, has made it an excellent area for ground or near ground nesting species. This is also enhanced by the impressive range of habitat types and mix of trees and shrubs on such a small area. The following figures are estimates of the average number of breeding pairs.

Little Owl	1	Woodpigeon	5	Blackcap	5
Collared Dove	2	Sedge Warbler	1	Bullfinch	2
Turtle Dove	4	Garden Warbler	5	Dunnock	15
Blackbird	20	Wren	10	Song Thrush	2
Robin	10	Mistle Thrush	1	Willow Warbler	20
Magpie	1	Chiff chaff	1	Moorhen	1
Whitethroat	8	Blue Tit	5	Lesser Whitethroat	2
Great Tit	5	Longtailed Tit	2	Willow Tit	1
Chaffinch	10	Greenfinch	15	Linnet	2
Goldfinch	3	Redpoll	2	Reed Bunting	2
Yellowhammer	2				

b) Birds seen but not proven to breed

Mallard	Green Woodpecker	Great Spotted Woodpecker
Sparrowhawk	Spotted Flycatcher	Goldcrest
Kestrel	Skylark	Coal Tit
Hobby	Swift	Jay
Grey Partridge	Sand Martin	Jackdaw
Red Legged Partridge	Swallow	Rook
Pheasant	House Martin	Carriion Crow
Stock Dove	Pied Wagtail	Starling
Cuckoo	Yellow Wagtail	House Sparrow
Tawny Owl	Field Fare	Brambling
Barn Owl	Redwing	Siskin
Redpoll		

C. McShane

Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford ST19 9EA
(Tel.0902 850758)

5 April 1994

English Nature
Northminster House
Peterborough
PE1 1AU

Dear Sirs,

Great Crested Newt colony; Brewood, Stafford.

Close to my home are numerous acres of old sand beds which have not been worked for the last quarter century. Meanwhile the area has reverted to nature.

Included is the bed of an old pond which was dry for many years but now shows intermittent signs of retaining shallow water again.

For at least the last two years I have observed it to be attracting great crested newts during the breeding period. If you have not already been informed the map reference of the pond is 127/884095.

My wife and I would be delighted if this is of sufficient importance to warrant consideration for S.S.S.I. status and if you wish to arrange for the spot to be inspected we shall be pleased to take your inspector there. A telephone call beforehand will ensure that one of us is available.

I believe the whole sand beds area may be under consideration by the South Staffordshire local authority as a nature reserve.

Yours sincerely,



Geoffrey W. Tanner.

Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford ST19 9EA
(Tel.0902 850758)

5 April 1994.

English Nature
Northminster House
Peterborough
PE1 1AU

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Included is the bed of an old pond which was dry for many years but now shows intermittent signs of retaining shallow water again.

For at least the last two years I have observed it to be attracting great crested newts during the breeding period. If you have not already been informed the map reference of the pond is 127/884095.

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Yours sincerely,



Geoffrey W. Tanner.

Geoffrey W Tanner
Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
STAFFORD
ST19 9EA

11 April 1994

Dear Mr Tanner

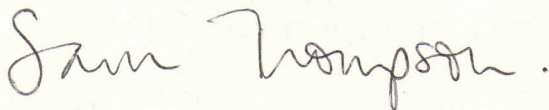
Thank you for your letter of 5 April. I have forwarded it to Graham Walker of our West Midlands Local Area Team based at:

Attingham Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY4 4TW

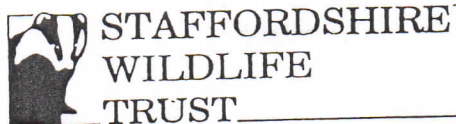
Tel: 0743 709611

This is the office which deals with Staffordshire. I'm sure they'll be able to help you.

Yours sincerely



Sam Thompson
Lands Designations Team
0733 318287 - direct line



Coutts House, Sandon, Stafford, ST18 0DN
Tel. (0889) 508534 Fax. (0889) 508422

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL Planning Dept.	
21/3 APR 1994	
ADVICE	ACTION
DM/PC	/

4/LP/511

Ack 21/4/94

Paul Collings
South Staffordshire Council
Council House
Codsall
Wolverhampton
WVS 1PX

19th April 1994

Dear Paul

Re: Barnfield Sand Beds, Brewood

The Staffordshire Wildlife Trust have previously written in support of Policy R9 in the South Staffordshire Local Plan. We are strongly of the opinion that the site should be retained as open space and managed for nature conservation.

During the last twelve months we have encouraged a number of experts to survey the area in order to improve our database. I have outlined their findings below, with notes on individual species importance.

Birds

See Appendix 1. Of particular note is the diversity of breeding bird species; most of which nest on the ground or in shrubs. Turtle Doves have recently been declining in the County, and a good breeding site such as this one should be protected enthusiastically.

The list of birds (Appendix 1(b)) which visit the site (but do not breed) is also worthy of recognition. These species probably breed in the near vicinity at Belvide Reservoir or on the Chillington Estate, Barnfield Sand Beds may well be a significant feeding area for these birds.

Mammals

There are a number of different mammal species on site including badger, fox, hedgehog, wood mice, field voles and rabbits. As far as we can ascertain no-one has carried out an extensive survey of small mammals - there are likely to be other species as well.

Amphibia

The pond had in the past been used by breeding common newts and great crested newts. Both species are still present, but unable to breed unless a pool is provided.

continued/.



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Without Share Capital No. 959609



ENGLISH
NATURE

Attingham Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY4 4TW
Telephone (0743) 709611 Fax (0743) 709303
Direct Line:

Mr G W Tanner
Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
BREWOOD
Staffs
ST19 9EA

Our ref ST/G/8/3

27 April 1994

Dear Mr Tanner

GREAT CRESTED NEWT COLONY, BREWOOD

Thank you for your letter of 5 April 1994 to which my headquarters have asked me to reply.

The site, which I believe is known as Barnfield Sand Beds, is already listed on the schedule of Grade 1 County Sites of Biological Importance. Although this is a non-statutory designation, such sites are protected by planning policies (see Policy NC1 of the Deposit South Staffordshire Local Plan). Furthermore, Policy R9 of the Deposit Local Plan identifies this site as informal open space with nature conservation as the principle use. As you have correctly stated, Local Nature Reserve status is also identified as an option. For a non-statutory site, Barnfield Sand Beds is fortunate to be afforded such a high degree of protection.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest are selected against published guidelines. For great crested newts, this is primarily dependent on the breeding numbers at an individual site when compared to their relative abundance regionally; there must also be at least 100 breeding individuals. Although threatened on a European basis, great crested newts are relatively common in Staffordshire. Unless an individual site had an exceptional population, then it is unlikely that we would consider it for SSSI status. I suspect that Barnfield Sand Beds does not support a sufficiently large population to warrant SSSI status, although I will keep the information on file for future reference.

Please let me know if I can provide any further information or advice.

Yours sincerely

G J WALKER
Conservation Officer
Staffordshire, Birmingham and The Black Country

Serving the counties of Cheshire,
Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire,
and the West Midlands.



Plants

(See Appendix 2)

Barnfield Sand Beds has an excellent diversity of flowering plants. It is this assemblage of different plants that makes the site both interesting, and attractive to birds.

The mature hedgerows have typical hedgerow species such as red campion and garlic mustard. The open areas have a wide range of species which are normally associated with grassland or with derelict land.

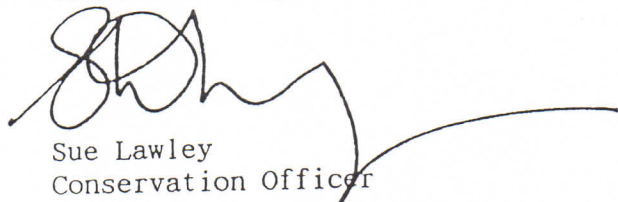
The species list includes a number of County rarities, particularly slender sandwort, hedge bedstraw, common restharrow and trailing St John's wort.

Conclusion

Barnfield Sand Beds is a notable site in a local context and should be protected as a nature conservation asset.

We would point out that the sites also has considerable educational potential, and with appropriate management could be further enhanced and developed as a valuable local resource. From the many representations received, we are aware that local interest is already well developed, and this fact should be borne in mind when decisions are taken over its future. The Trust would welcome the opportunity to work with South Staffordshire Council to this end.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sue Lawley', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sue Lawley
Conservation Officer

Appendix 1

Barnfield Sand Beds

Bird species list:

Observations over the last six years plus results of occasional bird ringing under licence from the BTO.

a) Breeding Birds

The colonisation of the site by bramble and nettles, along with the very rough surface due to landfill, has made it an excellent area for ground or near ground nesting species. This is also enhanced by the impressive range of habitat types and mix of trees and shrubs on such a small area. The following figures are estimates of the average number of breeding pairs.

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Sparrowhawk	Spotted Flycatcher	Goldcrest
Kestrel	Skylark	Coal Tit
Hobby	Swift	Jay
Grey Partridge	Sand Martin *	Jackdaw
Red Legged Partridge	Swallow	Rook
Pheasant	House Martin	Carrion Crow
Stock Dove	Pied Wagtail	Starling
Cuckoo	Yellow Wagtail	House Sparrow
Tawny Owl	Field Fair	Brambling
Barn Owl	Redwing	Siskin
Redpoll		

Species list provided by Mr C.McShane - Colin

Appendix 2

Barnfield Sand Beds

Botanical Species List

Acer pseudoplatanus †
Achillea millefolium
Aegopodium podagraria
Agrostis capillaris
Alchemilla mollis
Alisma plantago-aquatica
Alliaria petiolata
Anthemis cotula
Anthoxanthum odoratum
Arenaria leptoclados
Armoracia rusticana
Arrhenatherum elatius
Artemisia absinthum
Artemisia vulgaris
Ballota nigra
Bellis perennis
Betula pendula
Bromus hordeaceus ssp *hordeaceus*
Bromus sterilis
Calystegia sepium ssp *silvatica*
Carduus nutans
Centaurea nigra
Centaureum erythraea
Cerastium fontanum
Cerastium glomeratum
Cerastium tomentosum
Chamerion angustifolium
Cirsium arvense
Cirsium vulgare
Crataegus monogyna
Crepis capillaris
Cynosurus cristatus
Cytisus scoparius ssp *scoparius*
Dactylorhiza fuchsii
Digitalis purpurea
Dipsacus fullonum ssp *fullonum*
Dryopteris filix-mas
Eleocharis palustris
Epilobium obscurum
Equisetum arvense
Fraxinus excelsior

Sycamore	IVC
Yarrow	VC
Ground-elder	IC
Common bent	VC
Lady's mantle	I
Water plantain	C
Garlic mustard	C
Stinking chamomile	U
Sweet vernal grass	VC
Slender sandwort	R
Horse radish	IC
False oat grass	VC
Wormwood	F
Mugwort	C
Black horehound	F
Daisy	VC
Silver birch	C
Soft brome	C
Barren brome	C
Large bindweed	C
Musk thistle	U
Common knapweed	VC
Common centaury	U
Common mouse-ear	VC
Sticky mouse-ear	C
Snow-in-summer	IR
Rosebay willowherb	VC
Creeping thistle	VC
Spear thistle	VC
Hawthorn	VC
Smooth hawk's-beard	C
Crested dog's-tail	VC
Broom	C
Common spotted orchid	U
Foxglove	VC
Teasel	U
Male-fern	VC
Common spike-rush	F
Short-fruited willow-herb	C
Field horsetail	VC
Ash	VC

Fumaria officinalis
Galium aparine
Galium mollugo
Galium saxatile
Geranium dissectum
Geranium molle
Geranium pyrenaicum
Geranium sanguineum
Glechoma hederacea
Heracleum sphondylium
Hieraceum aurantiacum
Hieraceum pilosella
Holcus lanatus
Hordeum murinum
Humulus lupulus
Hypericum humifusum
Hypericum perforatum
Hypochaeris radicata
Lamium purpureum
Lapsana communis
Lathyrus pratensis
Leucanthemum vulgare
Ligustrum vulgare
Linaria purpurea
Lolium perenne ssp *perenne*
Lotus corniculatus
Malus sylvastris
Malva sylvestris
Matricaria matricarioides
Matricaria recutita
Melilotus officinalis
Oenothera erythrosepala
Ononis repens
Papaver dubium
Papaver rhoeas
Papaver somniferum
Pedicularis palustris
Plantago lanceolata
Plantago major
Populus tremula
Potentilla anglica
Potentilla anserina
Potentilla reptans
Prunella vulgaris
Prunus spinosa
Quercus robur

Common fumitory
Goosegrass
Hedge bedstraw
Heath bedstraw
Cut-leaved crane's-bill
Dove's foot crane's-bill
Hedgerow crane's-bill
Bloody crane's-bill
Ground ivy
Hogweed
Hawkweed
Mouse-ear hawkweed
Yorkshire fog
Wall barley
Hop
Trailing St John's wort
Perforate St John's wort
Cat's ear
Red dead-nettle
Nipplewort
Meadow vetchling
Ox eye daisy
Wild privet
Purple toadflax
Perennial ryegrass
Bird's foot trefoil
Apple
Common mallow
Pineappleweed
Scented mayweed
Ribbed melilot
Evening primrose
Common restharrow
Long-headed poppy
Common poppy
Opium poppy
Marsh lousewort
Ribwort plantain
Greater plantain
Aspen
Trailing tormentil
Silverweed
Creeping cinquefoil
Selfheal
Blackthorn
Pedunculate oak

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IVR
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IVC
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C
VC

Ranunculus repens
Reseda luteola
Reynoutria japonica
Rosa arvensis
Rosa canina
Rubus fruticosus
Rumex acetosa
Rumex acetosella
Rumex conglomeratus
Salix alba
Salix caprea
Salix caprea ssp oleifolia
Sambucus nigra
Sedum acre
Senecio jacobaea
Senecio sylvaticus
Silene alba
Silene x intermedia
Silene dioica
Sisymbrium officinale
Solanum dulcamara
Sonchus asper
Stachys sylvatica
Stellaria graminea
Stellaria media
Tanacetum vulgare
Tragopogon pratensis
Trifolium campestre
Trifolium dubium
Trifolium pratense
Trifolium repens
Trisetum flavescens
Tussilago farfara
Typha latifolia
Urtica dioica

Creeping buttercup
 Weld
 Japanese knotweed
 Field rose
 Dog rose
 Bramble
 Sorrel
 Sheep's sorrel
 Clustered dock
 White willow
 Goat willow
 Grey willow
 Elder
 Biting stonecrop
 Ragwort
 Heath groundsel
 White campion
 Hybrid campion
 Red campion
 Hedge mustard
 Woody nightshade
 Prickly sow-thistle
 Hedge woundwort
 Lesser stitchwort
 Chickweed
 Tansy
 Goatsbeard
 Hop trefoil
 Lesser trefoil
 Red clover
 White clover
 Yellow oat-grass
 Coltsfoot
 Reed-mace
 Nettle

VC
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<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great mullein	U
<i>Veronica arvensis</i>	Wall speedwell	F
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germader speedwell	VC
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch	VC
<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	Hairy tare	C
<i>Vicia sativa ssp nigra</i>	Narrow leaved vetch	F
<i>Vulpia myuros</i>	Rats tail fescue	R

Species list provided by Mr B Fowler, Staffordshire County Recorder for the Botanical Society for the British Isles.

Key	
VC	Very common
C	Common
F	Frequent
U	Uncommon
R	Rare
VR	Very rare
I	Species which is alien to Britain or introduced to Staffordshire

Data on status of plants in Staffordshire extracted from HOPKINS, I J., 1985 *Staffordshire Flowering Plants and Ferns - A Revised Checklist* Staffordshire Biological Recording Scheme Publication number 12 Stoke-on-Trent City Museum and Art Gallery

Silber Birches
19 Grams Lane
Brewood
Stafford
ST19 9EA

(Tel. 0902 850758)

29 April 1994

G J Walker
Conservation Officer
English Nature
Attingham Park
Shrewsbury SY4 4TW

Dear Mr. Walker

GREAT CRESTED NEWT COLONY, BREWOOD

Thank you for your letter of the 27th. April 1994, (your ref ST/G/8/3).

The site you correctly identify as falling within the Barnfield Sand Beds and I am delighted to learn that it already enjoys a relatively high degree of protection.

Whilst I had not realised that great crested newts are more common in Staffordshire than some other areas my observations over the past two years would suggest that the criterion of 100 breeding pairs might well be met. Certainly in some early future year I would think an investigative census worth while.

If, upon some future occasion, I could be of any assistance either practically or by providing overnight accommodation, please do not hesitate to let me know.

The pond currently holds more water than at any time in the last ten years.

Yours sincerely



Geoffrey W. Tanner

Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford ST19 9EA
[Tel. 01902 850758]

11th January 1995

Mrs. D. Corbett
Lanherne
Church Farm
Hatherton
Near Cannock WS11 1RR

Dear Councillor Corbett

Barnfield Sand Beds, Horsebrook Lane, Brewood.

This Grade I site [County Biological & Habit Survey] is mentioned on page 90 of the *South Staffordshire Local Plan* in the section devoted to 'Recreation, Open Space and Tourism'. The appropriate paragraph reads:-

"The land is classified as derelict and there would be the opportunity to reclaim the site for informal open space and nature conservation with the aid of a Derelict Land Grant. The District Council will work with the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and English Nature to ensure that the nature conservation value of the site is safeguarded. It is possible that the site could be declared a local nature reserve and that interpretation facilities could be provided for educational purpose and public enjoyment with grant aid from English Nature".

I shall be grateful if you will let me know:-

- [1]. Has application been made for a Derelict Land Grant?
- [2]. Has application been made for grant aid from English Nature?
- [3]. What work has been done by the District Council with the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust and English Nature to ensure safeguarding as mentioned, especially as this important site includes badger setts and a sizeable crested newt colony? — Pond dried out again subsequently!

If my enquiry should have been directed to Councillor Roberts please accept my apologies and redirect it on my behalf. Thank you for your work on behalf of the local community.

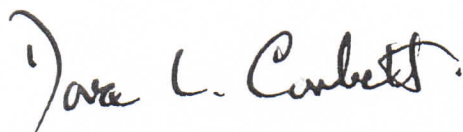
Yours sincerely

Geoffrey W. Tanner.

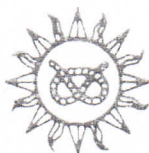
3. We hope that the Inspector's report to the Council will enable us to confirm the proposal and to take it forward. It may then be appropriate to set up a small working group, including the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, to draw up detailed proposals. If this takes place and you would like to be involved as a local resident, this can be arranged. The Council is not aware that the nature conservation interest of the site is at present under threat from active development proposals, but if the situation should change please let the Council know.

Thank you for your interest in this matter which I feel is important for the future of Brewood. I am sure that you will see an announcement in due course in the local press, but I have asked Mr. Perry to include you on the "mailing list" so that you can be informed of the next stage in the progress of the Local Plan.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Doreen L. Corbett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Councillor Mrs. D. Corbett



SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

"Lanherne",
Church Farm,
Hatherton,
WS11 1RR.

20 January, 1995.

Mr. G.W. Tanner,
Silver Birches,
19 Orams Lane,
Brewood,
South Staffordshire.
ST19 9EA.

Dear Mr. Tanner,

BARNFIELD SAND BEDS, HORSEBROOK LANE, BREWOOD

Thank you for your letter dated 11 January. I am happy to deal with your questions, as the points which you raise are very much matters concerning the District Council. The Council has prepared the draft District-wide Local Plan to which you refer and included within the Plan is the proposal which you mention. The Local Plan went to Inquiry in May of last year, at which the owners put forward an objection to the proposal saying that at least part of the site should be considered for housing. The Council is opposed to this idea.

We are waiting for the Inspector who held the Inquiry into the Local Plan to make his recommendations to the Council. Once those have been received (probably at the end of March) we shall be able to take forward the Local Plan to adoption. As there is still some uncertainty, therefore, over the proposals in the Plan - including those for Barnfield Sand Beds - we have been unable to progress anything so far in respect of the future of Barnfield Sand Beds.

I have talked to John Perry, the Chief Planning Officer, about your specific points and he tells me that:

1. Discussions have been held with the Department of the Environment over the possibility of obtaining Derelict Land Grant (DLG). In general terms they agree that the scheme may be suitable for DLG, but would wish to see detailed proposals. These can only be formulated when the planning issues referred to above have been resolved.
2. No grant aid has yet been sought from English Nature. They are on record as supporting the Local Plan proposal, but have said that they did not feel that the proposal should be solely dependent on grant aid from themselves.

Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford ST19 9EA
[Tel. 01902 850758]

23 January 1995

Councillor Mrs. D. Corbett
"Lanherne"
Church Farm
Hatherton
WS11 1RR

Dear Mrs. Corbett

BARNFIELD SAND BEDS, HORSEBROOK LANE, BREWOOD

Thank you for your prompt and very helpful response [20.1.95.] to all of the queries posed by my letter of the 11th January.

I am delighted to learn that the Council is opposed to the proposal that any part of this site should be considered for housing. Brewood is one of the few relatively unspoiled village gems remaining in South Staffordshire as a result of its isolation from major road networks and it does seem so important to protect the rural approaches.

If a small working group is set up, as mentioned in your paragraph numbered 3., I would be pleased to participate. I am not aware of any current threat from active development proposals (except the wish of the owners that you have outlined) and will let the Council know if any change in the situation comes to my knowledge.

Thank you also for asking Mr. Perry to add my name to the "mailing list".

Yours sincerely

Geoffrey W. Tanner.

Record Sheet: Staffordshire Site of Biological Importance

Site code: 80/89/44
Grid reference: SJ884094
Site name: Barnfield Sandbeds
Status: Grade 1 SBI

District/local planning authority: South Staffordshire

Habitat:

Woodland: broadleaved, Tall herb and fern: other, tall ruderal, Grassland: acid, semi-improved, Open water: standing water, Bare ground

Total area: 6.12

Management recommendations for conservation:
Prevent tipping of garden rubbish.

Surveyed by: Liz McKay - 20.6.96

Description:

This is an area of old sand pits on the northern edge of Brewood. It has been recolonised with semi-natural grassland, ruderal communities and scrub. This site is on two different levels; from a central embankment (running north to south across the site) the land slopes steeply to the east, below ground level and the whole of this area is gently undulating.

Towards the north eastern corner, there is a dried up pond (may be seasonal). Reedmace still survives, however, as well as soft rush, iris and bulrush. The whole of this low level area has been colonised with goat and grey willow scrub (now becoming trees) as well as hawthorn and birch. Interspersed with this are grassy areas containing false oat grass, sweet vernal grass, greater birds-foot trefoil and vetches, as well as sheeps sorrel. Bramble is also very common.

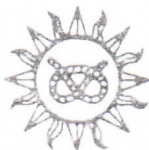
On the other side of the embankment (ground level), willow and hawthorn scrub/trees are also abundant though more scattered, with ruderal areas containing nettles and an area adjacent to the central track dominated by squirrel tail fescue and perforate St Johns wort.

There is one vehicular entrance to the site in the south west corner and this leads down to an excavated area with some tumbledown sheds. Species composition is much the same with areas of nettles and goat willow. The site is bounded on the west side by a road and to the north and north east by arable fields. Many tracks traverse the site and it appears unmanaged.

[illegible]

Staffordshire Sites of Biological Importance

SARAWAK FLORA AND FAUNA					
<i>P. pectinatus</i>	<i>P. perforatus</i>	<i>P. polygouifolius</i>	<i>P. pusillus</i>	<i>P. uncinoides</i>	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>
<i>P. anglica x erecta</i>	<i>P. x maxima</i>	<i>P. asserna</i>	<i>P. argentea</i>	<i>P. erecta</i>	<i>P. borvegica</i>
<i>P. palestus</i>	<i>P. recta</i>	<i>P. reptans</i>	<i>P. stentils</i>	<i>Potentilla tuberosomontana</i>	<i>Primula elatior</i>
<i>P. veris</i>	<i>P. veris x vulgaris</i>	<i>P. vulgaris</i>	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	<i>Prunus avium</i>	<i>P. cerasifera</i>
<i>P. domestica</i>	<i>P. laurocerasus</i>	<i>P. lusitanica</i>	<i>P. padus</i>	<i>P. spauosa</i>	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	<i>F. virginiana</i>	<i>F. ulmaria dysenterica</i>	<i>F. pulmonaria officinalis</i>	<i>F. pyrola minor</i>
<i>F. pyrasier</i>	<i>Quercus borealis</i>	<i>Q. cerris</i>	<i>Q. ilex</i>	<i>Q. petraea</i>	<i>Q. petraea x robor</i>
<i>Q. robor</i>	<i>Q. sp.</i>	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	<i>R. aquatilis</i> s.l.	<i>R. aquatilis</i> ssp. <i>aquatilis</i>	<i>R. arvensis</i>
<i>R. auricomus</i>	<i>R. bulbosus</i>	<i>R. circinalis</i>	<i>R. ficaria</i>	<i>R. ficaria</i> ssp. <i>pulchra</i>	<i>R. flammula</i>
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SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Please ask for: Mr D Richards

Direct Dial: (01902) 696424

Our Ref.: DR/KLC/CorpQ

10th February, 1997

Mr G W Tanner
Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
South Staffordshire
ST19 9EA

Dear Mr Tanner

CORPORATE PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE
BARNFIELD SAND BEDS

Thank you very much for taking the trouble to reply to the Corporate Plan Questionnaire in the recent South Staffordshire Review. It is very helpful for the Council to know the views of residents when it is considering priorities for expenditure in the coming years.

I note your comments on the Barnfield Sandbeds scheme and have passed them to Paul Collings who is dealing with this scheme. If you wish to discuss the scheme further please call him on 01902 696426.

The Council's intention is to carry out a low key scheme to deal with the effects of past tipping but which is sensitive to the existing wildlife and character of the sandbeds. There will be further consultation with Parish Councils and local residents before any scheme is implemented.

Thank you once again for sending us your comments.

Yours sincerely

David Richards
on behalf of the Chief Executive

Diary note made to
phone Collings mid May
re developments (if any)

Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford ST19 9EA
[Tel. 01902 85075]

9th January 1997

Mrs L. Robinson
Corporate Plan Questionnaire
South Staffs Council.

Dear Mrs Robinson

Brewood Barnfield Sand Beds.

The proposed feasibility study for reclamation as a simple nature reserve receives my whole-hearted support.

By "simple" I mean the creation of a rough reserve only. This would involve the cleansing of several areas where past dumping of toxic commercial waste has left the ground poisoned and sterile, together with the clearing of limited undergrowth, especially at the back of the site of the old pond, to improve access.

Any attempt to in-fill any part of the sandbeds would destroy its reserve potential and I could not support any attempt to change this unique and priceless wild area into a neat public park with surfaced footpaths, trimmed grass and cultivated flowers with the exclusion of dogs whether leashed or otherwise. Its wildness and existing wildlife would be ruined by any attempt to establish formal car-parking or organised recreational facilities. The last thing I would wish to see is any feasibility study of its use for more village housing.

Copies of my correspondence with Councillor Mrs D. Corbett some two years ago are attached for information. The offer made in the penultimate of my letter dated 23.1.95 stands.

Yours sincerely,

Geoffrey W. Tanner.



SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

with the compliments of

DAVID RICHARDS

BSocSci DipTP MRTPI

Head of Strategic Development Services

To: Mr Tanner
'Silver Birches'
19 Orams Lane
Brewood

As requested
For comment

✓ For your information
For necessary action

Message

Date 8.6.98

I enclose as promised some
survey information relating to
Burnfield Sand Beds.

The Council will be looking to involve
the Staffs Wildlife Trust and local
people in formulating proposals for
the enhancement and management of
the site for wildlife.

Regards.

Contact: Paul Collings

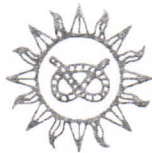
Direct Dial: (01902) 696426

Council Offices

Codsall • South Staffordshire WV8 1PX

Tel: (01902) 696000 • Fax: (01902) 696403

DX: 18036



SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Please ask for:

L.T. Barnfield

Direct Dial: (01902)

696702

Our Ref: LTB/MF

16th July, 1998

Mr. G.W. Tanner,
Silver Birches,
19 Orams Lane,
Brewood,
Nr. Stafford,
South Staffordshire,
ST19 9EA

Dear Mr Tanner,

South Staffordshire Review – 4 Year Plan Questionnaire

Thank you for taking the time to write in respect of the questionnaire. The points that you have made will be taken into account in the preparation of the future planning of the area.

You will know that South Staffordshire Council has opposed the County Council's proposals for more development in the Green Belt. If, nevertheless, the County Council pursues this initiative and it is included within the Structure Plan, South Staffordshire Council will have no alternative but to include Green Belt development within its local plan. I therefore urge you to write to the County Council c/o Adrian Murray, Director of Development Services, Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TJ, indicating your strong opposition to such development.

*Sincerely,
L.T. Barnfield*

LT BARNFIELD LLB SOLICITOR • Chief Executive
Council Offices • Codsall • South Staffordshire WV8 1PX
Tel: (01902) 696000 • Fax: (01902) 696800 • DX: 18036



**STAFFORDSHIRE
AND STOKE-ON-TRENT
STRUCTURE PLAN 1996-2011**

Staffordshire
County Council

Development Services

ADRIAN MURRAY, BA(Hons), DipTP, MRTPI
Director of Development Services

Development Services Department,
Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TJ

Telephone (01785) 223121
Facsimile (01785) 211279

Your Ref:

Date: January 1998

My Ref: HoSP/PR/JM

Direct Dial: (01785) 27 7367/7361

Mr. Geoffrey W. Tanner,
Silver Birches,
19 Orams Lane,
Brewood,
Stafford,
Staffs. ST19 9EA

Dear Mr. Tanner,

**STAFFORDSHIRE AND STOKE-ON-TRENT CONSULTATION DRAFT
STRUCTURE PLAN 1996-2011**

Thank you for your letter of response relating to the consultation Draft Structure Plan. Your comments are being actively considered and you will be informed on the future progress of the Plan.

Yours sincerely,

Howard Macey
Head of Structure Plans
for Director of Development Services

Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford ST19 9EA
[Tel. 01902 850758]

10th January 1998

Adrian Murray
Director of Development Services
Riverway
Stafford ST16 3TJ

Dear Sir

Thank you for sending a copy of *A New Strategy Summary* in c
Consultation Draft Plan October 1997.

I am appalled at the threat of massive new housebuilding in South Staffordsh
heartedly support the South Staffordshire Council pledge to fight the struct

The desecration of villages like Wheaton Aston, Codsall and Penkridge has a
experienced. If we are to preserve and bequeath what is left of our heritage f
further encroachment of our Green Belt areas must not be permitted. If new
are essential they should be confined to derelict or reclaimed land associated
conurbations and the few in-fill sites that remain.

Of great personal concern is the threat to the few relatively unspoiled village
any further growth is likely to stimulate demand for wider access roads and
local employment by establishing additional industrial estates in the neighbc

It is more than time to halt the rape of our countryside by County Council

Yours sincerely

Geoffrey W. Tanner.

A better use of land preferred

"Rural houses are needed"
or so we are led to believe by
the West Midlands regional
secretary of the Country
Landowners Association.

Would it be uncharitable to
suspect him of reflecting asso-
ciation self-interest?

The public might feel more
empathy with such comment
if country landowners were
keener to grant benevolent
free access to private land for
walking or roaming. Or are
they merely anxious to
prosper from the enhanced
value of rural plots blessed
with planning permission for
housing development?

He complains about the
lack of local employees "when
new employment is created in
the countryside". Is he
anxious to release more land
for industrial estates in our
remaining fields, and then
surround them with new
houses?

Unemployment already
exists for many rural dwellers
- a willingness to pay town-
rate wages for the rural vacan-
cies, his association is
apparently experiencing
might do much to solve the
shortage.

Few people wish to see
further rape of our sadly
diminishing green belt areas.

Priority house-building on
derelict industrial land close
to centres of employment
would seem infinitely prefer-
able to any further relaxation
of existing controls on the use
of rural land.

Geoffery Tanner,
Stafford.



SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Date: 22 October 1999

Please ask for: Paul Collings

Our Ref: PGC/SDS/BW/10

Direct Dial: (01902) 696426

Your Ref:

Direct Fax: (01902) 696403

Mr G Tanner
Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford ST19 9EA

Dear Mr Tanner

PROPOSED SITE INVESTIGATION BARNFIELD SAND BEDS BREWOOD

The District Council is proposing to carry out further site investigations at Barnfield Sand Beds, Brewood. The need for further investigations arises from discussions held with the Environment Agency (EA) following the work that was undertaken in April and May 1998. The EA has recommended that further sampling and testing be carried out on the site.

The investigation will involve the installation of three groundwater monitoring boreholes using a cable percussion boring rig and the excavation of eight small trial pits by a JCB excavator. Groundwater monitoring standpipes will be installed and visits will be undertaken to obtain groundwater samples. Each of the three standpipes will be monitored on a monthly basis for a period of three months. The trial pits will be backfilled in layers and will be compacted. The samples taken from the boreholes and trial pits will be tested and a factual report will be produced.

The Council has appointed W S Atkins Consultants Limited to carry out the site investigation and to produce a report and Advantage West Midlands will fund the work. The consultants have been made aware of the wildlife value of the site and that it will be important to ensure that the site investigation works are carried out with as little disturbance to wildlife and the existing vegetation as possible. A separate ecological survey of the site has recently been carried to map the wildlife habitats present and to make management recommendations.

W S Atkins intend to carry out the site investigation within the next two or three weeks and are expected to complete site works within one week. I will let you know the precise start date by telephone. In the meantime if you have any queries about the site investigation please telephone me on the above number.



SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

Date: 1 December 1999

Please ask for: Paul Collings

Our Ref: PGC/SDS/BW/10

Direct Dial: (01902) 696426

Your Ref:

Direct Fax: (01902) 696403

Mr G Tanner
Silver Birches
19 Orams Lane
Brewood
Stafford
ST19 9EA

Dear Mr Tanner

PROPOSED SITE INVESTIGATION BARNFIELD SAND BEDS BREWOOD

Further to my letter of 22nd October 1999, I wish to inform you that W S Atkins Consultants Limited propose to start the site investigation at Barnfield Sand Beds, Brewood on the morning of Monday 6th December 1999. The site works are expected to be completed within one week.

If you have any queries about the site investigation please telephone me on the above number.

Yours sincerely

Paul Collings

Paul Collings
Senior Local Plans Officer
Strategic Development Services

cc to: Rolf Levesley - Strategic Director (Legal)
Brian Holland - Strategic Director (Technical)
Barbara Juniper - Head of Architectural and Landscape Services
David Armitage - Head of Environmental Health (General) Services

*Spoke to Collings 5/4/00
No decision yet.
Locality found below ground level (as they expected) still taking water samples from the ground.
They know about pond & reverts.
Have not decided what to do yet - no steps yet taken to open purchase negotiations, funding still under consideration.*

No decision yet - local Authority feel they may be given the site by land owners - still inclined to open it as a natural wild-life conservation area NOT a formal park

(Per staff from S. Staffs at local plan exhibition @ Brewood Dec 1st 2002)