

Site	Hurst Quarry, Hurst Road (quarrying abandoned in 2014).
Grid Reference / Post Code	SJ900, 593
Brief Description	This site sits opposite the Hurst Road entrance to Biddulph Grange Country Park and provides a natural extension of habitat for wildlife (including badgers, bats, invertebrates and birds).

Criteria.		
<p>Location</p> <p><i>In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves</i></p>	√	<p>The Hurst Quarry site has become a natural nature reserve over time. It has already significantly enhanced bio-diversity in the area. The site can be viewed from Troughstones Hill (a designated Open Access site) and from Footpaths IR2261 & 150. Originally Footpath 150 went right through the site and there is a Restoration Condition that requires the footpath route to be reinstated, making it fully accessible to the public.</p>
<p>Local Significance</p> <p><i>Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquility or richness of its wildlife.</i></p>		<p>A large nineteenth and twentieth century sand quarry, probably supplying the pottery industry with fine sand. PRN Number 51750.</p> <p>Various surveys have revealed evidence of significant wildlife presence. These include Common Toad (Priority species), Palmate Newt, 7 species of Bat (Protected), Badgers (Protected), Barn Owl, Tawny Owl, and Kestrel. An Invertebrate Study revealed that the site has been proven to hold a resource of ground-nesting bees and wasps that fulfils adequately the Site of Biological Interest (SBI) guidelines, having 23 breeding species and two species of genuine scarcity. This partial study concluded that, in relation to the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust guidelines (2014), the site should be considered to be of SBI quality</p> <p>Ref studies carried out by Cheshire Ecological Services Ltd and Conops Entymology Ltd.</p>
<p>Size, Scale</p> <p><i>Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.</i></p>	√	<p>The site provides an example of the area's industrial heritage and is not an extensive tract of land.</p>
Recommendation	√	Suitable for Local Green Space Designation

Pictures:



Map:

