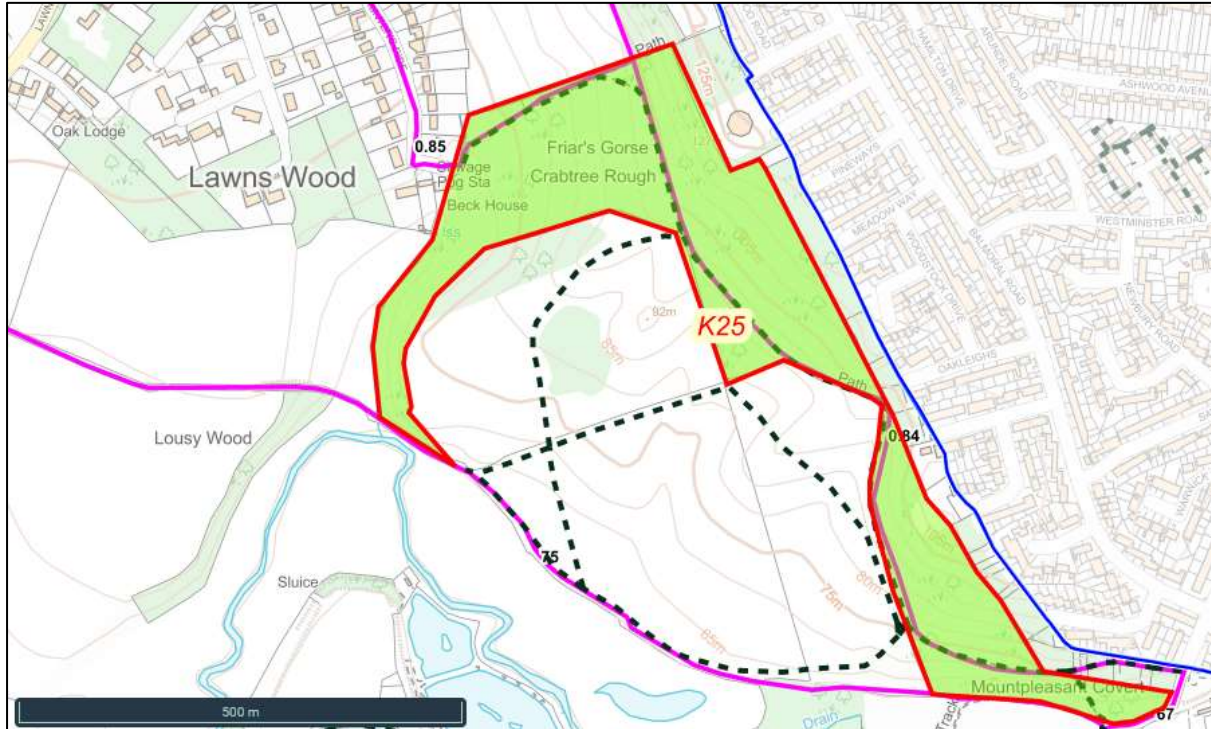


Name of Space	<b>K25 Friar's Gorse Wood and Mount Pleasant Covert</b>
Street/Location	Off Hunter's Ride, Lawnswood
Post Code	DY7 5QN & adjacent
Grid ref	SO8801186369
Brief Description	A rural vista between green belt land and black country conurbation. Nature area of high importance to local residents.

Plan



Suitability for LGS Designation (Add detail as appropriate. Tick indicates satisfies criterion) ✓

Location: In reasonably close proximity to the community, it serves	✓	Yes	Borders Lawnswood and the Black Country conurbation. Footpath access from many directions. Of great importance to nearby residents who have formed a group to protect the area, <a href="https://friendsofridgehillwoods.com/">https://friendsofridgehillwoods.com/</a>
Significance/ Special Community Value: 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), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife.	✓	Recreation, sport, events, paths	Public footpaths number .84, .85, 75 and 67 access this woodland area. Ramblers, dog walkers, cyclists, bird watchers, and families use the space. Public access is well established for as long as local people remember. Used as part of a circular walk from The Roe Buck restaurant: <a href="https://www.alltrails.com/trail/england/staffordshire/the-roe-deer-ridge-hill-wood-and-friars-gorse">https://www.alltrails.com/trail/england/staffordshire/the-roe-deer-ridge-hill-wood-and-friars-gorse</a> and identified by the Woodland Trust as a publicly accessible wood. <a href="https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/woods/friars-gorse-and-mount-pleasant-covert/">https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/woods/friars-gorse-and-mount-pleasant-covert/</a>
		Wildlife, ecology	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Friars Gorse Biodiversity Alert Site, and within their Wooded Ridge Nature Recovery Area. Old Woodland of High Distinctiveness, Strategic Habitat area. The site has mature trees, hedgerows and a stream plus a small natural pool. Deer. Flora/fauna and bluebells (which are protected and an indicator of mature woodland) in abundance. Red Kite, new to this area, have been reported along with Kestrels, Buzzards, Nuthatches, Woodpeckers & Tawny Owls. Part of the wildlife corridor running North-south along the ridge. Defra Priority Habitat for deciduous woodland and good quality semi-improved grassland.

		Heritage	Old woodland and pasture along the ridge, which was part of the mediaeval Kinver Forest
		Beauty, setting, tranquillity, green lung	Beautiful setting, magnificent views, tranquil, leads to canal towpath and river Stour. The area helps with physical and mental well-being – a green lung for the nearby housing, which the local community appreciates and use on a daily basis. Despite its proximity to the conurbation, the site feels rural with open views to the west across Staffordshire and beyond
		Other incl flood mitigation, local food	N/A
Size, Scale Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	✓	Area (ha):	12.4
	✓	Local character	Yes see above
Planning permissions or site allocations	None.		
Other Designations Formal designations or recognised in Local Plan, etc e.g. nature reserve	Green Belt BAS Friar's Gorse and adjacent fields Defra Priority Habitat for deciduous woodland and good quality semi-improved grassland. Part of the Wooded Ridge Nature Recovery Area identified by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust.		
Recommendation	✓		Suitable for Local Green Space Designation

Photographs:





