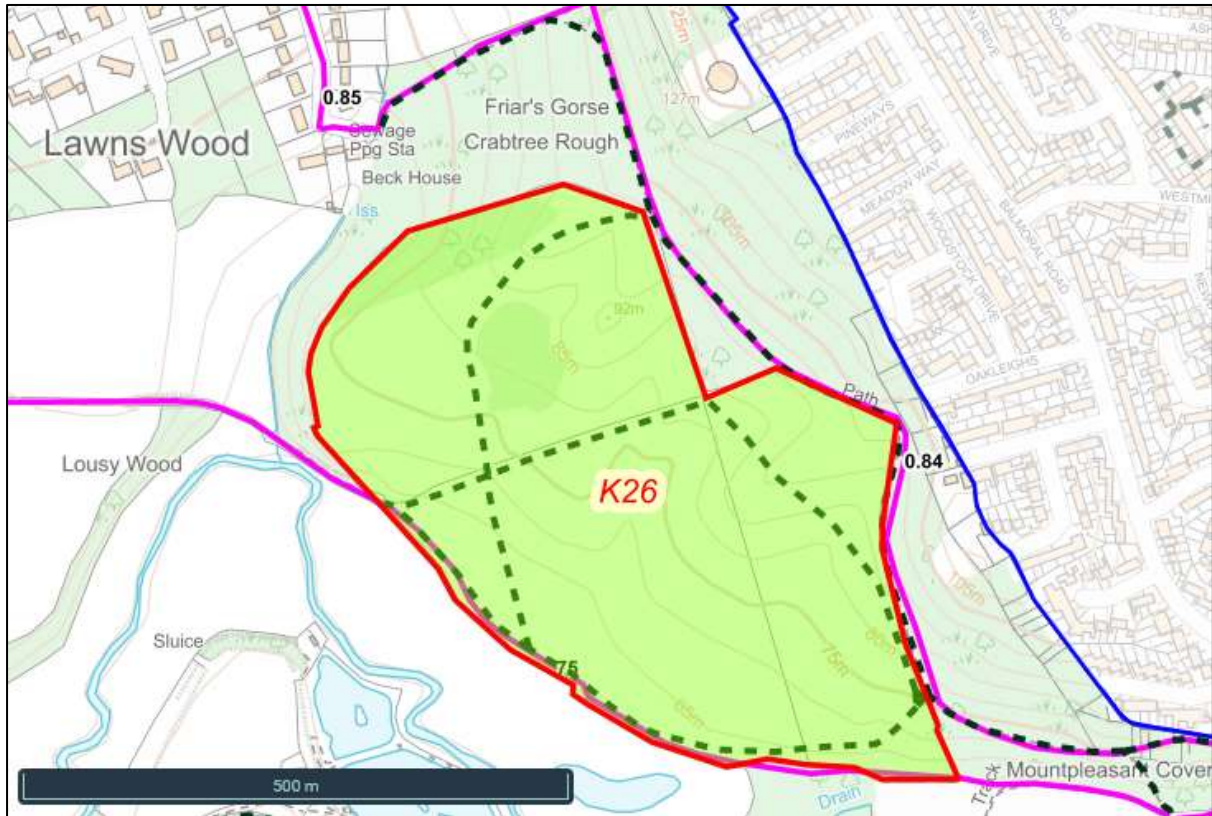


Name of Space	K26 Friar's Gorse Sandy Fields
Street/Location	North of Bell's Mill, Lawnswood. On footpath 75
Post Code	DY8 5HU & adjacent
Grid ref	SO8801186369
Brief Description	A rural vista and wildlife site near the edge of the black country conurbation.

Plan



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

Location: In reasonably close proximity to the community, it serves	✓	Yes	Next to Lawnswood and near the Black Country conurbation, much-used footpath access from there and canal towpath at Bell's Mill. Local people are very keen to preserve this area: https://friendsofridgehillwoods.com/
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	Ramblers, dog walkers, cyclists, bird watchers, families, Public footpath number .84 runs along the top and footpath number 75 runs along the lower edge.
		Wildlife, ecology	Site of Biological Interest (Friar's Gorse, Sandy fields adjacent to) and within the Heathland Mosaic and the Wooded Ridge Nature Recovery Areas identified by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, providing a connection between them. Priority habitat: good quality semi-improved grassland and mature deciduous trees. Richness of wildlife/flowers. Red Kite (new to this area) along with Kestrels, Woodpeckers & Owls are reported. Part of the wildlife corridor along the edge of the conurbation.
	✓	Heritage	Old woodland and pasture formerly within the Kinver Forest mediaeval hunting domain.

		Beauty, setting, tranquillity, green lung	Beautiful setting, magnificent views, towards Kinver and Wales, tranquil, leads to canal towpath and river Stour. The area helps with physical and mental well-being – a stretch of countryside, the local community appreciates and use on a daily basis, and have formed an action group to protect this area (friends of Ridgehill Woods).
		Other incl flood mitigation, local food	N/A
Size, Scale Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.	✓	Area (ha):	19.1 (This is an area important for wildlife, the LGS boundary follows the natural boundary protecting the area as a whole)
	✓	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 Defra Priority Habitat for deciduous woodland and good quality semi-improved grassland. BAS Friar's Gorse Sandy fields. Heathland Mosaic Nature Recovery Area Wooded Ridge Nature Recovery Area		
Recommendation	✓		Suitable for Local Green Space Designation

Photographs:



Friar's Gorse fields in middle distance with woods beyond



Looking across the fields towards Friar's Gorse wood