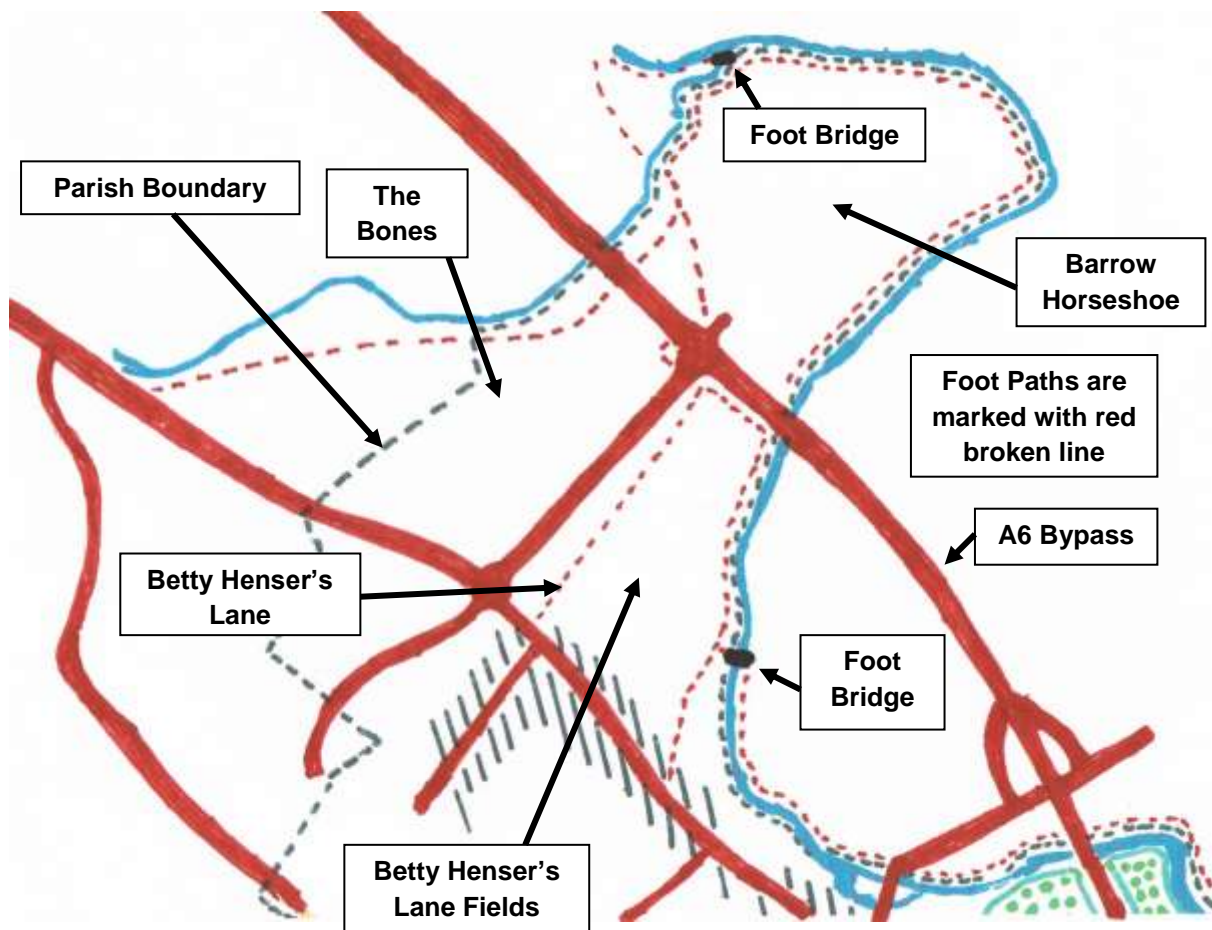


Mountsorrel Wildlife Sites 2016 - North End



The village North End flood plain fields which are cut by the A6 and Granite Way and are bounded to the north by the river, have three distinct parts:

- Barrow Horseshoe – the fields between the A6 Bypass and the river
- Betty Henser's Lane Fields (NB: In some Charnwood Borough Council (CBC) documentation a field in the Horseshoe is referred to by this name, probably as the lane originally led up to the field in question)
- The Bones – the fields between Granite Way and the river boundary with Quorn (Strictly speaking this name only applies to the two fields at Freeway Farm adjacent to the river)

Caution should be exercised in walking the area after heavy rain at any time of year as these are active flood plain meadows and subject to rapid flooding.



River Soar in flood – December 2012

Barrow Horseshoe

Privately owned but with good footpath around the whole river edge. Some interesting backwaters, trees and remains of extensive rigg and furrow in the fields. CBC have a triangular shaped field adjacent to the weir before Barrow Lock listed as a candidate SiNC under reference CBC W 5716 / 8. The field was surveyed in 2004 and 2005.



*Willow alongside
the Barrow
horseshoe
footpath June
2016*



***Barrow Horseshoe -
Betty Henser's Lane
north of the A6 Bypass***

August 2016

Betty Henser's Lane Fields

Used essentially for grazing, there is still evidence of rig and furrow but the area has been widely affected by the building of the A6 Bypass and Granite Way. There remains though, good footpath access and in summer Swallows, Sand and House Martins feed off airborne insects.



***Betty Henser's
Lane Fields
looking towards
the village***

August 2016

The Bones

These fields are used for grazing and for the Quorn Car Boot held at Freeway Farm. As with Betty Henser's Lane fields these have been widely affected by the building of the A6 Bypass and Granite Way. The riverside and hedgerows support a wide range of passing birdlife throughout the year.



Riverside footpath looking downstream at the Quorn boundary with The Bones

Species Lists¹

Plantlife

- Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)
- Black Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*)
- Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*)
- Cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*)
- Common Bent (*Agrostis capillaris*)
- Common Couch (*Elytrigia repens*)
- Common Mouse-ear (*Cerastium fontanum ssp vulgare*)
- Common Sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*)

¹ Species lists are drawn from Charnwood Borough Council Wildlife Surveys and MHG Member Records

- Cow Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*)
- Creeping Bent Grass (*Agrostis stolonifera*)
- Creeping Buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*)
- Creeping Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Crested Dog's-tail (*Cynosurus cristatus*)
- Cut-leaved Crane's-bill (*Geranium dissectum*)
- Dandelion (*Taraxacum sp*)
- Elder (*Sambucus nigra*)
- Field Rose (*Rosa arvensis*)
- Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*)
- Greater Burnet (*Sanguisorba officinalis*)
- Hard Rush (*Juncus inflexus*)
- Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)
- Hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium ssp sphondylium*)
- Lady's Bedstraw (*Galium verum*)
- Meadow Brome (*Bromus commutatus*)
- Meadow Buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*)
- Meadow Vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*)
- Meadowsweet (*Filipendula ulmaria*)
- Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)
- Pedunculate Oak (*Quercus robur*)
- Prickly Sow Thistle (*Sonchus asper*)
- Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*)
- Red Fescue (*Festuca rubra*)
- Reed Sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*)
- Smooth Meadow-grass (*Poa pratensis*)
- Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica ssp diocia*)
- Timothy (*Phleum pratense*)
- White Clover (*Trifolium repens*)
- Wych Elm (*Ulmus glabra*)

Butterflies

- Common Blue (*Polyommatus icarus*)
- Large Skipper (*Ochlodes venatus*)
- Meadow Brown *Maniola jurtina*)
- Ringlet (*Aphantopus hyperantus*)
- Small Copper (*Lycaena phlaeas*)

Dragonflies and Damselflies

- Brown Hawker (*Aeshna grandis*)
- Emerald Damselfly (*Lestes sponsa*)

Birds

- House Martin (*Delichon urbica*)
- Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*)
- Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*)
- Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
- Whitethroat (*Sylvia communis*)
- Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)