

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU**  
**COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

**SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION**

**FLINTSHIRE**

**PARC LINDEN, LIXWM**

**Date of Notification:** 1996

**National Grid Reference:** SJ181718

**O.S. Maps:** 1:50,000 Sheet number: 116  
1:10,000 Sheet number: SJ17SE

**Site Area:** 10.2 ha

**Description:**

Parc Linden is an area of enclosed pasture located close to the village of Lixwm, approximately 4km south of Holywell, on shallow glacial drift over Carboniferous Limestone. The site supports unimproved calcareous grassland, acid grassland, limestone pavement, bracken and scrub.

Parc Linden is of special interest for its unimproved calcareous grassland which is the best known example of its type in Clwyd. A small partially wooded limestone pavement occurs in the northern part of the site.

The calcareous grassland has a rich and varied flora which is dominated by sheep's fescue *Festuca ovina*, crested hair-grass *Koeleria macrantha*, glaucous sedge *Carex flacca*, common rock-rose *Helianthemum nummularium* and salad burnet *Sanguisorba minor*. Other prominent species include wild thyme *Thymus polytrichus*, devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* and betony *Stachys officinalis*.

Areas of acid grassland are characterised by the presence of species such as tormentil *Potentilla erecta* and common bent *Agrostis capillaris*. Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* bushes are scattered across the site and there are small areas of dense blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* scrub and bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* on the edges of the site.

Grikes within the pavement harbour a characteristic flora of typically woodland plants, including sanicle *Sanicula europaea*, dog's mercury *Mercurialis perennis* and hart's-tongue *Phyllitis scolopendrium*.

Several uncommon species are present including fragrant orchid *Gymnadenia conopsea*, green-winged orchid *Orchis morio*, frog orchid *Coeloglossum viride*, bee orchid *Ophrys apifera*, moonwort *Botrychium lunaria*, adder's-tongue *Ophioglossum vulgatum* and mountain everlasting *Antennaria dioica*.

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