Welcome to Boldon Flats Local Wildlife Site

Special Habitats

Boldon Flats contain unique grassland habitats subject to seasonal flooding. The grasslands, which range from well-drained to marshy, networks of drainage ditches, channels and a pond provide habitats for a range of plants, wading birds amphibians and aquatic mammals.

Wildflower plants recorded here include pepper saxifrage, glaucous sedge, cowslip, meadowsweet, common knapweed, bird's-foot trefoil, meadow vetchling, water mint, yellow rattle and sneezewort.

The ditches and ponds are a valuable resource for dragonflies, water beetles and water bugs. Amphibians and breeding water voles have been recorded here in the past.

Water Levels on Site

In the past a sluice gate at the eastern end of the site was controlled by South Tyneside Council to create an annual winter flood. Nowadays, water levels are dictated by site drainage often resulting in a sizable temporary lake on the north side of Moor Lane creating a haven for waterfowl and wading birds.

Watching the Wildlife

Some wildfowl use the site as their summer breeding and over-wintering grounds. During the summer reed bunting, snipe and occasionally water rail breed on site. The winter floods attract large numbers of waders including lapwing, curlew and redshank while wigeon and teal along with several other species of ducks, geese and gulls frequent the site. The site is also valuable during the late summer, autumn and spring periods for waders such as little ringed plover, black-tailed godwit and ruff.

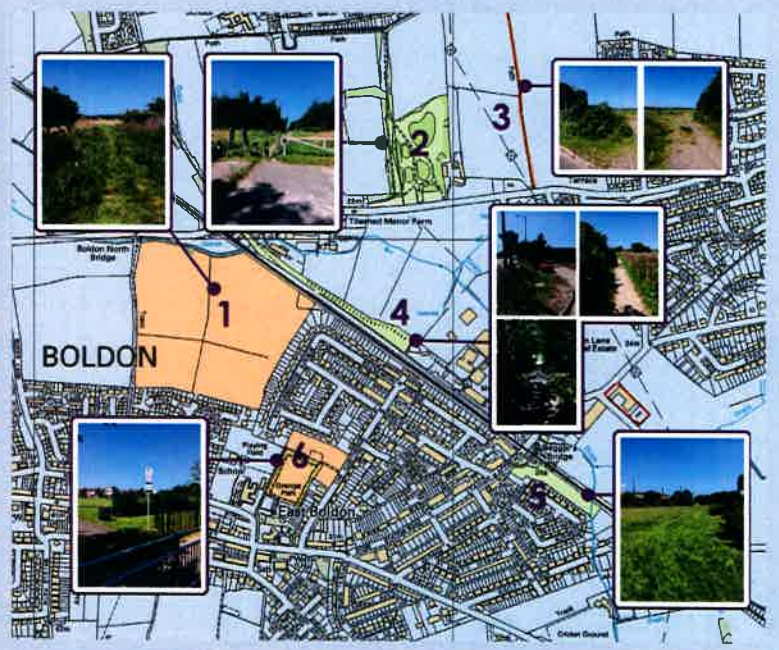
Getting around

To preserve the site and to avoid disturbing the sensitive ground-nesting birds there is no public access. There are nearby open spaces in the local area to explore. These areas are shown on the map opposite.









1. North Boldon Fields
2. Tile Sheds Nature Reserve
3. Footpath/bridleway leading north from Boldon Lane
4. Bridleway adjacent to metro line running between Whitburn Road and Tile Shed Lane
5. Amenity space adjacent to metro station
6. Boldon Park

SOUTH TYNESIDE COUNCIL
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AREA PLANNING
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