

Spendluffe Meadows



Location & Access

OS: 122 • **GR:** TF 505 751 • 4.60ha

(11.70 acres) • Freehold &

Leasehold 2007

Habitat type: Meadow

The reserve is situated to the north of Long Lane (B1449) between Mumby and Thurlby.

Access is via a pedestrian gate. There are no way-marked visitor routes on site. Please take great care not to trample the hay crop (May- August) and be aware that young cattle are used to graze this site from May to October. No dogs at any time.

Car parking is extremely difficult adjacent to the site. Long Lane is a very busy road and parking on the verge should be carried out with great care. Please ensure you do not block any other access.

Description & Management

The site is surrounded by large hedges on a gently sloping site with boulder clay soils, typical of the Middle Marsh. The first (southern) field is used primarily as pasture, the main field is managed as a hay meadow. Cattle graze the pasture from late spring to maintain a relatively short grass sward throughout the growing season. The hay meadow is cut between 15th July and 15th August, depending on weather. The cattle are then used to graze the aftermath until late autumn.

The meadows are in the Higher Level Scheme of Environmental Stewardship. They are rich in wild flowers including meadowsweet, green-winged orchid, cowslip, yellow rattle, great burnet, devil's-bit scabious and betony. It is an example of a rare and fragile habitat of great conservation value.

Spendluffe Meadows GR at E TF 505751

