

LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITES

COLCHESTER DISTRICT



CoG6 Lexden Springs Nature Reserve

Site location: In Spring Lane, off Lexden Road, Lexden, Colchester, Essex.

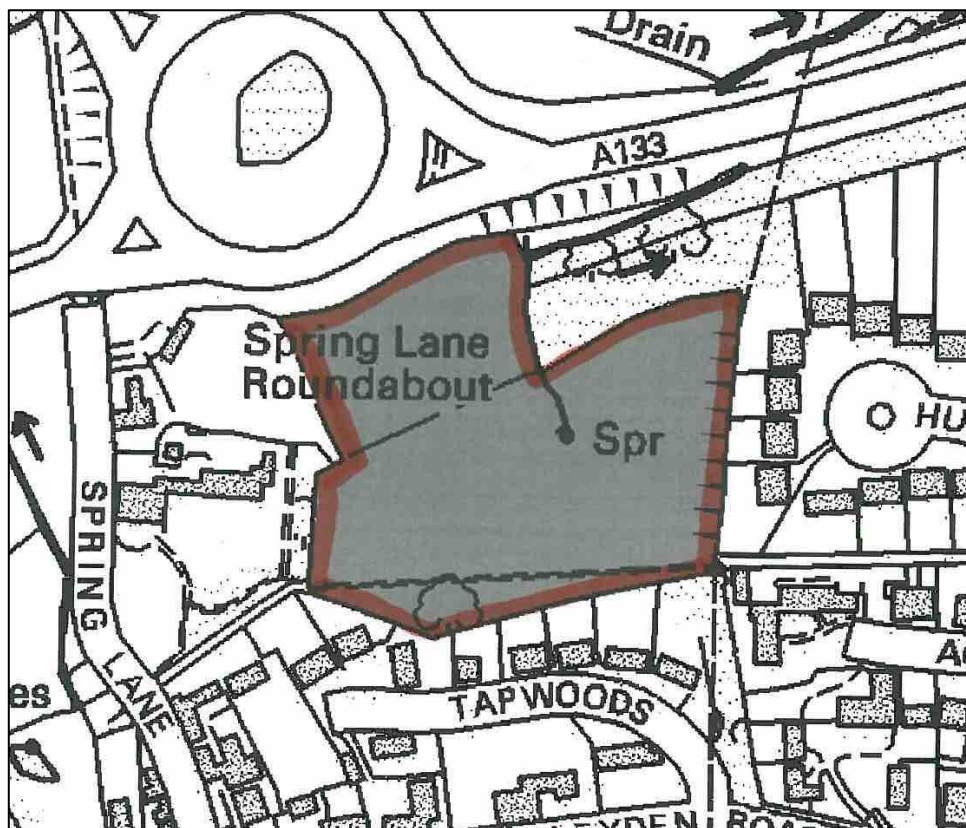
Grid Reference: TL 973 253

Status: Public open space.

Summary of the geological interest:

In Spring Lane, off Lexden Road, is a patch of ancient meadowland which is generally rich in wild flowers. Here a natural spring issues from the junction of the Kesgrave Sands and Gravels and the underlying London Clay.

The reserve is owned and managed by Colchester Borough Council and is accessible at all times.



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Site Assessment. Local Geological Sites (LoGS) in Essex are assessed using criteria based on DEFRA guidance. An assessment form is used which asks key questions under four value categories: scientific, educational, historical and aesthetic. This site has been assessed and qualifies under these criteria.

Scientific interest and site importance

Lexden Springs Nature Reserve is a good example of a natural spring and therefore of educational interest within walking distance of a large population.

At the base of the slope is a pond formed from the natural spring. The water flows out of the pond all year round creating an interesting marshy habitat below. The stream flows into the River Colne on the other side of the Avenue of Remembrance.

Other information

Lexden Springs Local Nature Reserve, known locally as 'The Loop', was declared a Nature Reserve in 1990. The site consists of 1.8ha (4.5 acres) of unimproved meadow, rich in locally scarce wild flowers.

There are three pedestrian entrances to the site, one from Spring Lane, one from Hurnard Drive, both linked by a public right of way, plus an entrance off of Lexden Road near the junction to Tapwoods. Some limited local parking is available on Spring Lane.

