



# Let's talk about Carrington Moss

What is there today

What might be there in the future

# Carrington Moss

**Very important to many communities**

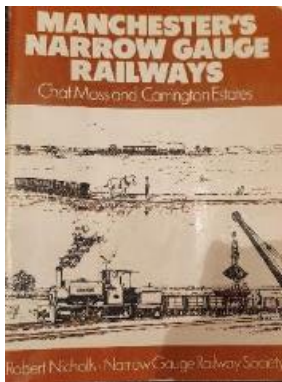


- An essential asset in our fight against climate change
- Home to a large number of red listed birds and endangered wildlife species
- Grows crops to feed people and animals
- Helps us breathe cleaner air
- Stops our homes from flooding
- Provides opportunities to make us fitter and healthier



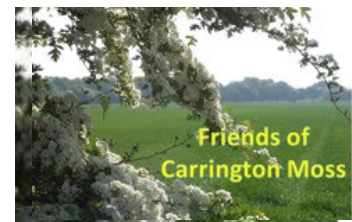
# Benefits of a wide range of ecosystem services

To support current and future generations



# Habitats on Carrington Moss

**Peat Moss, Agriculture, Extensive Woodland & Wetland Habitats**



Endangered Species



Peat Moss/ Reserves /  
Sites of Biological Importance /  
Sites of Special Scientific Interest



Grasshopper Warbler



Fieldfare



Skylark



Grey Partridge



Yellowhammer



Song Thrush



Mistle Thrush



Redwing



Lapwing



Yellow Wagtail

Over 20 Red Listed Birds



House Sparrow  
Tree Sparrow



Willow Tit



Starling



Ring Ouzel



Spotted Flycatcher



Cuckoo



Grey Wagtail



Linnet



Cornbunting



Whinchat



Birds of Prey



Agriculture



Woodland





# What about the birds and wildlife

## Hosting species that are threatened with extinction



### Willow Tit

England's most threatened bird

Population declined by more than 94% since 1974

In a class of 30 that leaves only 2 children standing!



### Lapwing

Endangered (Red Listed)

Population declined by more than 40% since 1970

In a class of 30 that leaves only 18 standing!



### Skylark

One of the UK's most threatened bird species

Population declined by more than 75% since 1972

In a class of 30 that leaves only 8 standing!



### Water Vole

UK's most rapidly declining mammal

Population lost from over 94% of places where they were once prevalent

# Peatlands on Carrington Moss

**Between 0.5m and 3m in thickness**



Photograph: International Peat Society



Peat is a type of soil that has been made from dead plants that are in wet ground.

The world's peatlands have been forming for 360 million years and contain 550 [Gigatonnes](#) of carbon.

Peatlands are internationally important habitats. They are very special, not just for humans, but for birds and wildlife too.

They are irreplaceable (this means that - if we spoil them, it will take thousands of years for them to recover).

They lock up billions of tonnes of carbon around the world (much more than all the carbon captured by trees).

They also help with water storage, flow and quality.



# Carrington Moss can be very, very wet

**But that is a good thing!**



Photograph: Manchester Evening News





# Ponds and ditches

**Very important for birds and wildlife, even the temporary ones**





# The fields are important too!

**Doing what they should be doing!**





# There are lots of plants and fungi

**Providing food and shelter to insects and small animals**



Angel's Bonnets



Blushing Bracket



Horse Mushroom



Deceiver



## King Alfred's Cakes Mushroom

Many kinds of insects and small animals make their home inside King Alfred's cakes, while caterpillars of the concealer moth (*Harpella forficella*) are known to feed on them.

**Remember – you MUST NOT eat any mushrooms you find outside**

Photographs: Janet Turnbull

Check out our website: <https://friendsofcarringtonmoss.com/> Email us: [friendsofcarringtonmoss@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofcarringtonmoss@gmail.com) Like us on facebook: [Friends of Carrington Moss](#) Follow our tweets: [@FriendsMoss](#)



# Woodlands, Hedgerows and Orchards

**Essential food and protection corridors for birds and wildlife**



## Forestry boss opens new 'wonder' woodland



A NEW woodland in Carrington is to be officially opened to the public tomorrow (Friday).

6<sup>th</sup> June 1997

Dainewell Woods have been developed on land owned by Shell Chemicals at Ash Farm, off Firtree Avenue, as part of the Red Rose Forest initiative.

Features include a network of paths to explore - some open to horses and cycles - and three woodland trails.

The woods will be opened by David Bills, director general of the Forestry Commission, in a special ceremony tomorrow.

Trafford's Cllr Jane Baugh says: "It is encouraging to see industry concerned with the environment and willing to contribute. The fact that local people will now be able to walk and ride in pleasant, safe surroundings where previously there was no access is wonderful."



## Dainewell Woods, created for the community in 1997

# The importance of Clean Air

**Carrington Moss is a natural tool which gives us cleaner air**



**You wouldn't drink  
dirty water.  
So why are you still  
breathing dirty air?**

150 years ago Greater Manchester got clean water.  
Isn't it time we got clean air?



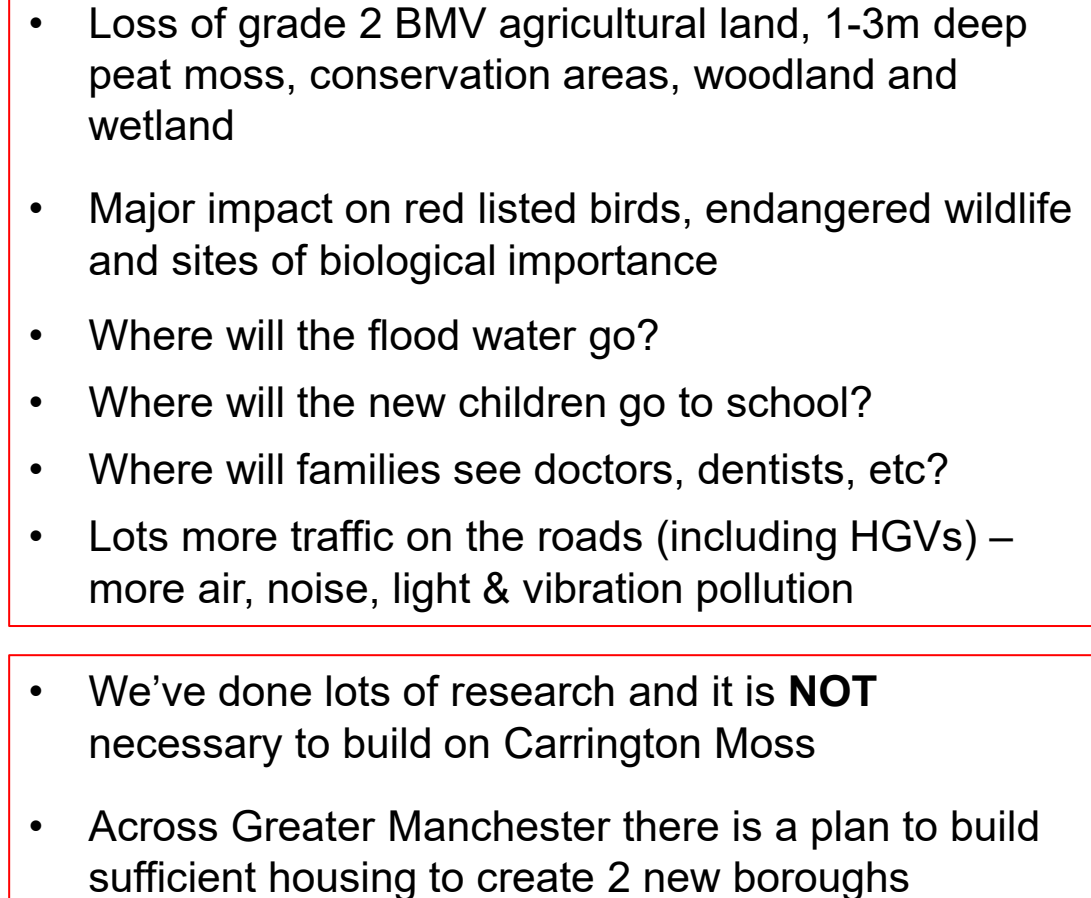
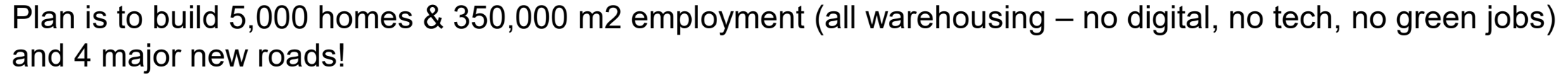
**Enjoying the journey to school  
whilst helping to reduce traffic  
and the resulting air pollution**



**Supporting Greater Manchester's Clean Air Campaign**



**Will destroy a lot of Carrington Moss**





# Beekeeping on Carrington Moss

## The benefits of collaborative working!

Friends of Carrington Moss introduced United Utilities to a local beekeeper (Gareth Trehearn of the Manchester Honey Company) and the UU wastewater treatment works at the Altrincham end of the moss now hosts thousands of bees in a dozen colonies. This little corner of land is a hive of activity ☺, with the bees collecting nectar and pollinating plants as they go. In Autumn 2023 the first batch of Carrington Moss honey will be harvested.

Gareth tells us that bees typically collect pollen within a mile of their hives, so the honey they produce has a distinct local flavour according to which plants are prevalent in the area.





# What can you do on Carrington Moss

**Lots and lots of things – let us know, send us your photos**



Tell us what you get up to on

## Carrington Moss

Email [friendsofcarringtonmoss@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofcarringtonmoss@gmail.com)





# Sustainable Development

What is it? What isn't it? Why is it important?



# Sustainable Development

## What does it really mean?



Just a reminder about the words from the NPPF:

***“At a very high level, the objective of sustainable development can be summarised as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.***

So perhaps what we should be asking ourselves is – are there other places in Trafford where we can:

- restore peat to more effectively capture carbon and alleviate surface water risks, so we can support zero carbon goals and residents are not fearful of flooding every time it rains?
- grow crops and experience no vehicle traffic, so our descendants have fresh food, with a low carbon footprint, and our children and grandchildren can breathe cleaner air?
- increase the populations of red listed birds and endangered wildlife, so we can help nature’s recovery, increase biodiversity and mitigate the impact of climate change?

If the answer is “No” to one or more of these questions, we should not be building on Carrington Moss!

# So, what should be considered?

**To determine whether a development is sustainable**



## Sustainable Land Use

### Yes to

- Building on Brownfield land
- Using sustainable sources of building materials and construction approaches

### No to

- Building on irreplaceable habitats
- Building on bmv agricultural land
- Destruction of natural capital assets (trees, hedges, flood plains)

Transport Options

**Commitment to a range of public transport and sustainable freight options**

Employment Opportunities

**Local job opportunities in a variety of sectors, for different levels of experience**

Local Amenities

**Access to local schools, shops, health services, green spaces, utilities, etc**

Locally Sourced Food

**Availability of locally sourced produce for human and animal consumption**



# Solar Farm on Carrington Moss

## Fast Facts about this sustainable energy source



### Solar farms

Large scale applications of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems

Support the UK's green energy transition

According to 2020 figures, just under 500 solar farms are now in operation in the UK

In just a five-year period, the solar capacity in the UK increased from 5,488.6 MW in 2014 to an astonishing **13,258 MW** in June 2019

There are concerns: *“A 140 acre solar park is said to be capable of supplying electricity to about 9,000 homes. One wind turbine in the North Sea has the capacity to power 16,000 homes”*. (Source CPRE)

Solar should not be constructed on bmv agricultural land

Roofs, car parks and other opportunities have not yet been exploited.

### The Carrington Moss Solar Farm

- Previously owned by UU now owned by
- Footprint 12 acres, so c6 football pitches or 192 tennis courts
- Number of panels c5000
- 1494.35kW so 1.5MW
- Operational Life >35<40 years
- Existing Panels are expected be >80% efficiency in 25 years, hence the extended operational lifecycle
- Will offset nearly 1.4M kWh of electricity per annum (average UK home uses 2900kWh, so circa 483 average 3 bed properties equivalent use)
- Installation involved the laying out of rows of modules from west to east, with the panels orientated due south to maximise radiation levels
- The modules are positioned on the existing landform with little or no re-profiling of the land. The height of the modules does not exceed 3m above natural ground level and they are angled at 27° from the horizontal plane.