

Derby Lane - Conservation Interest

Ecological/Geological Interest

The route runs through a part of Lathkill Dale SSSI (approximately 480 m in total) and lies adjacent to another part of the SSSI at Cales Dale. This latter section also forms Section 3 Limestone Dale/Natural Zone

The SSSI was designated for its limestone woodland, grassland, lichens and invertebrates and for the limestone geology and caves. The underground interest above which the route passes contains features of cave passage morphology, sediment sequences and cave formations.

The Natural Zone designation comprises habitats falling within the Section 3 map defined by the Wildlife and Countryside Amendment Act 1985 as areas whose natural beauty it is particularly important to conserve.

Archaeological Interest

The route passes through a range of Historic Landscape Character areas including medieval, land enclosed in mid 19 century and common land.

The lane comprises a section of the old road from Derby to Manchester and has a record of a post medieval guidestone.

Adjacent to the route is a long barrow and a high priority lead mining site.

Part of the significance of the nationally designated Arbor Low prehistoric monument is the landscape to the north which forms part of its territory and the setting for the monument.

Landscape Interest

The route lies within the White Peak Landscape Character Area (LCA) and abuts an area of Natural Zone.

The National Park is designated for its internationally and nationally important landscape.

The Natural Zone designation comprises areas whose natural beauty it is particularly important to conserve. Within the National Park it comprises the wilderness areas in which the influence of man and of development is less marked.

The overall strategy for the White Peak LCA is to protect and manage the distinctive and valued historic character of the settled, agricultural landscapes, whilst seeking opportunities to enhance the wild character and diversity of remoter areas. The route is within the Limestone and Limestone Plateau Pastures Landscape Character Types within the White Peak LCA.