SITE SYNOPSIS

SITE NAME: DINGLE GLEN

SITE CODE: 001207

Dingle Glen is situated approximately 5km west of Killiney. It is a dry valley formed by a glacial lake overflow channel.

Formerly cleared of vegetation, a woodland cover is now regenerating, with pioneer species of Holly (*Ilex aquilifolium*), Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), and willows (*Salix* spp.). Individual trees of Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Hazel (*Corylus avellana*), Sessile Oak (*Quercus petraea*) and Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) occur. The woodland ground flora is represented by Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), Wood Avens (*Geum urbanum*), Wood Melic (*Melica uniflora*) and Bugle (*Ajuga reptans*).

Trees and shrubs are mostly restricted to the valley bottom. On the slopes above, a heathy vegetation is dominated by Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) and Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*). Other species include Wood Sage (*Teucrium scorodonia*), Bell Heather (*Erica cinerea*), Navelwort (*Umbillicus rupestris*), English Stonecrop (*Sedum anglicum*), Heath Bedstraw (*Galium saxatile*), Heath-grass (*Danthonia decumbens*), Great Wood-rush (*Luzula sylvatica*) and Climbing Corydalis (*Corydalis claviculata*).

The importance in this site lies in the variety of habitats within a relatively small area. The site is secluded and not subject to much disturbance.

18.11.2009