

**Sink Farm, St David's Lane,
Hollesey, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/16/2407/FUL

HER Ref: HLY 172

Archaeological Monitoring Report

(© John Newman BA MCIFA, 2 Pearsons Place, Henley, Ipswich, IP6 0RA)

(November 2016)

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Site details for HER

Name: Sink Farm, St David's Lane, Hollesley, Suffolk, IP12 3JR

Client: Suffolk Punch Trust

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: DC/16/2407/FUL

Development: Siting of twin mobile home on a raft foundation

Date of fieldwork: 1 & 2 November, 2016

Event ref: ESF 24970

HER ref: HLY 172

OASIS: johnnewm1-267078

Grid ref: TM 3628 4540

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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Summary: Hollesley, Sink Farm, St David's Lane (HLY 172, TM 3628 4540) monitoring of soil stripping of the raft type foundation area for a twin mobile home close to an area that has produced evidence for late prehistoric activity proved to be too shallow to expose the horizon where archaeological deposits would have been revealed if present at the site (John Newman Archaeological Services for The Suffolk Punch Trust).

1. Introduction & background

1.1 Hollins Architects and Surveyors on behalf of their client The Suffolk Punch Trust commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring of ground works required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for application DC/16/2407/FUL. The monitoring requirements were set out in a Brief set by Mr J Rolfe of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service to satisfy this condition and in response JNAS produced the relevant Written Scheme of Investigation (see Appendix II) in order that conditional discharge could be gained from the LPA and ground works commence on site. This development concerns the siting of a twin mobile home on a raft foundation at Sink Farm, St David's Lane, Hollesley.

1.2 Hollesley parish is located some 5 miles south east of Woodbridge and on the coast in that part of Suffolk known as The Sandlings; a name derived from the light soils of the area that historically gave rise to extensive areas of heath land. As indicated the local drift geology is made up largely of well drained sands and gravels (deep sands of the Newport Series 20 with extensive areas distant from easily accessible water sources) giving rise to a dispersed settlement pattern scattered across various relatively large parishes. Within this settlement pattern separated by large areas of former heath land small village centres grew from the mid-late Saxon period focused on the parish church which is c1300m south-west of the site for the planned twin mobile home raft (see Fig. 1). The light, well drained soils of the Sandlings also attracted settlement from the earliest prehistoric periods and this is well evidenced by the extensive record captured on aerial photographs showing in particular past field systems and ring ditches. The latter usually indicating the sites of Bronze Age burial mounds. At the time of the monitoring the site, which is at c10m OD on a gentle east facing slope some 1400m west of the present coastline, was soft ground with Sink Farm, as the name implies, being close to a spring that feeds a small eastward flowing stream.

1.3 Archaeological interest in this development was generated by its proximity to an area where Iron Age features were recorded (HER HLY 110- see Fig. 2) during archaeological evaluation and monitoring works carried out at the time of the construction of the nearby visitor and related car park 50m to the east of the site for the planned twin mobile home.

2. Monitoring methodology

2.1 The monitoring of the ground works for the raft foundation, which was excavated using a mid-sized 360 machine, was carried out over two site visits. At all times conditions for site visibility were good and as the spoil was temporarily stockpiled on site it could be thoroughly examined both visually and with a metal detector. The raft foundation area was recorded in relation to nearby mapped features and a number of digital images were taken in order to record the monitoring (see Appendix I).

3. Results

3.1 The initial site visit monitored the overall soil strip of the 7m x 14m raft foundation area but as this only went to a depth of 200mm only topsoil was removed to the top of the underlying subsoil. A second site visit covered the excavation of a 400mm wide toe trench around the perimeter of the foundation area. This work removed a further 200mm of mid brown sandy subsoil below the topsoil but did not reach the base of this subsoil layer so the local natural glaciofluvial deposit, where archaeological deposits would have been exposed if present at the site, was not exposed.

3.2 The only finds in the upcast topsoil were small fragments of Post medieval brick or tile and a few iron nails of indeterminate date.

4. Conclusion

4.1 While this site is close to where evidence of activity of Iron Age date has been recorded the ground works were too superficial to reach the level where further archaeological deposits might have been revealed. Therefore it can be confirmed that the works for the creation of a raft foundation for a twin mobile home at Sink Farm, St David's Lane, Hollesley has not disturbed any archaeological deposits.

(Acknowledgements: JNAS is grateful to everyone on site for their close cooperation during the monitoring)

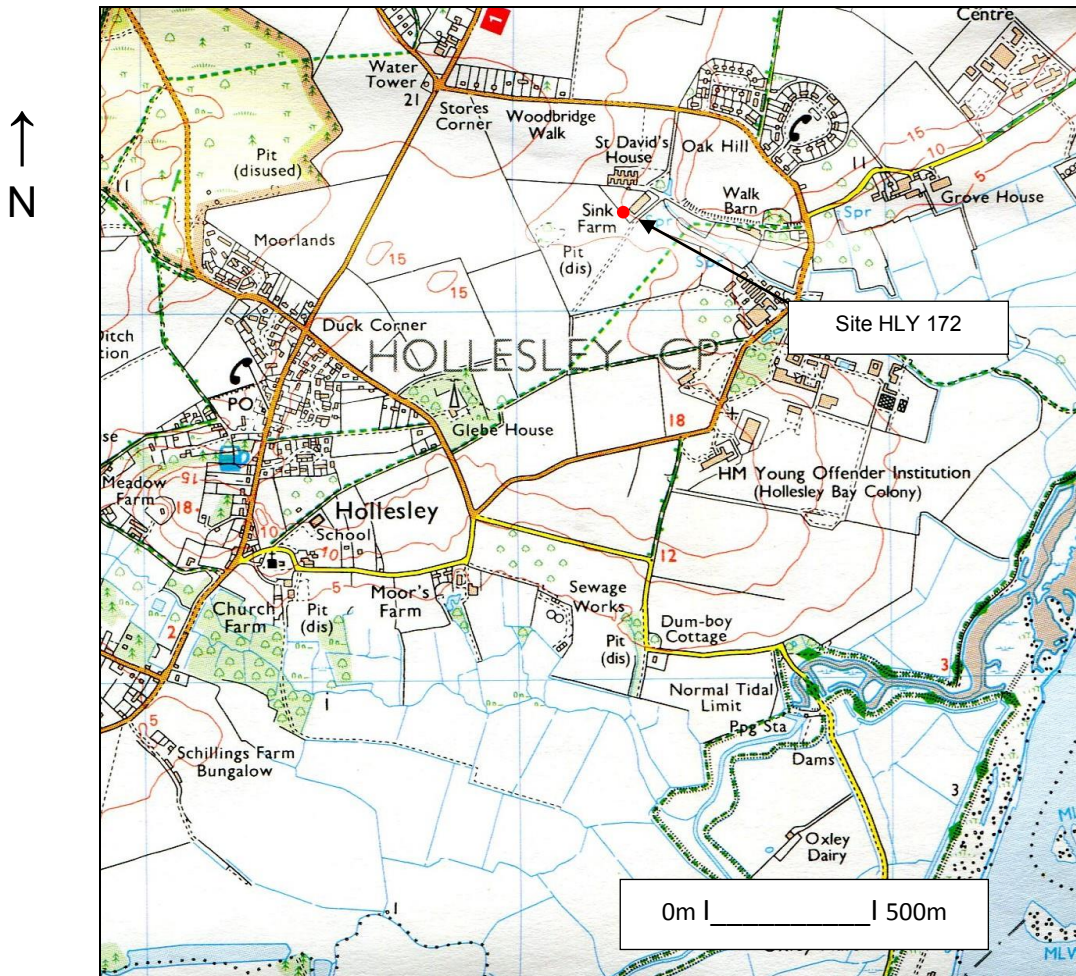


Fig. 1: Site location (Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2008
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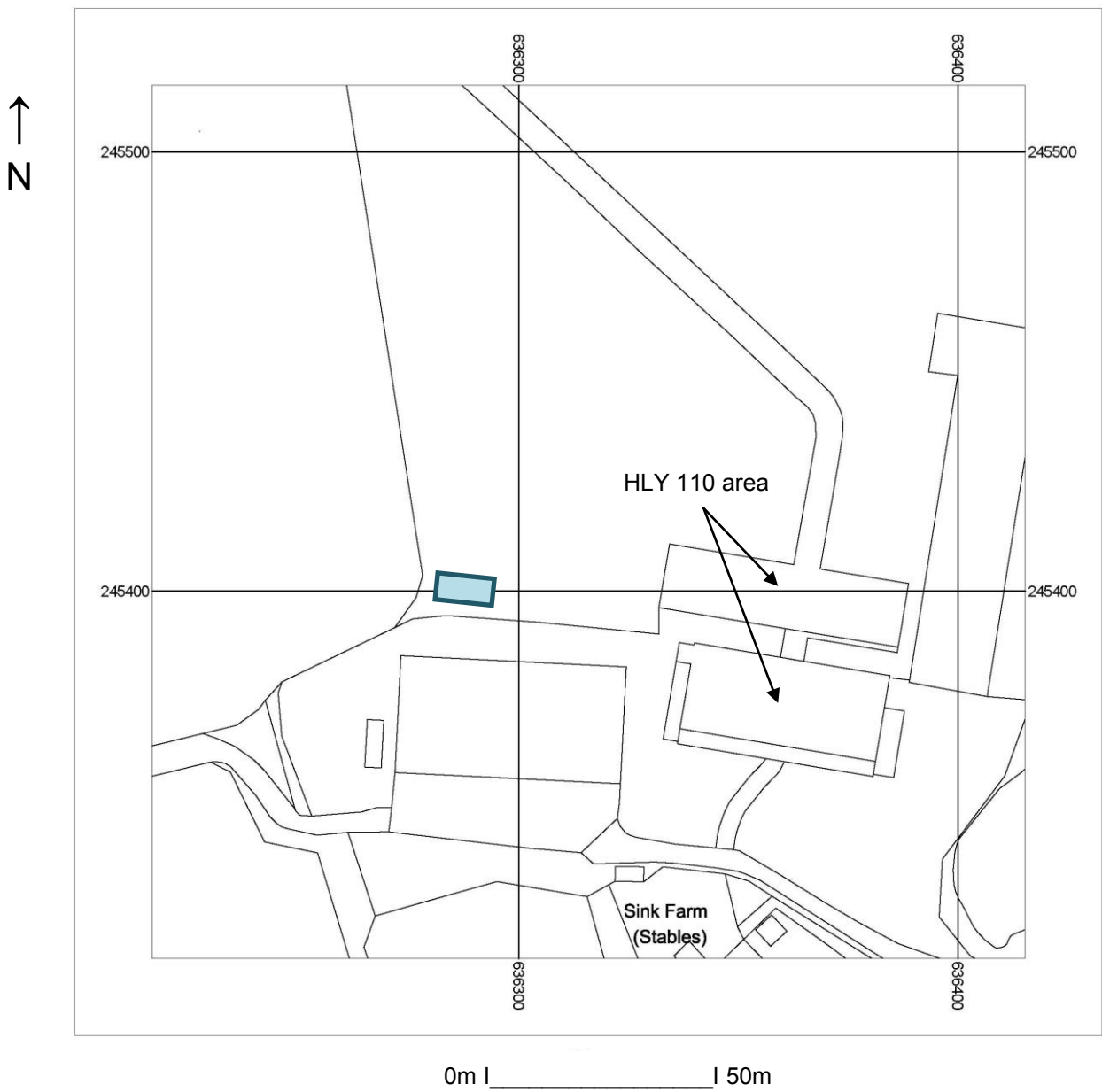


Fig. 2: Location of monitored footprint area (Light blue, raft toe- dark blue)
(Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2016 All rights reserved Licence No 100049722)

Appendix I- Images



General view of stripped area from east



Stripped raft area from southwest



Stripped area and northern raft toe

**Sink Farm, St David's Lane,
Hollesey, Suffolk**

Planning application: DC/16/2407/FUL

**Written Scheme of Investigation for Continuous
Archaeological Monitoring**

Site details

Name: Land at Sink Farm, St David's Lane, Hollesley, Suffolk

Clients: Suffolk Punch Trust

Local planning authority: Suffolk Coastal DC

Planning application ref: DC/16/2407/FUL

Proposed development: Siting of twin mobile home on raft foundation

Brief ref: SCCAS brief for continuous archaeological monitoring DC_16_2407_FUL
Sink Farm St Davids Lane Hollesley

Proposed date for ground works: tbc

Grid ref: TM 3630 4520

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

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John Newman Archaeological Services

1. Introduction

1.1 Hollins Architects and Surveyors on behalf of their client The Suffolk Punch Trust have commissioned John Newman Archaeological Services (JNAS) to undertake the archaeological monitoring of ground works required under a condition for a programme of archaeological works of the planning decision notice for application DC/16/2407/FUL. This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the background to the archaeological condition and how JNAS will implement the requirements of the Brief set by Mr J Rolfe of the Suffolk CC Archaeological Service (SCCAS) to satisfy the condition. The WSI will also set out how potential risks will be mitigated. This proposed development concerns the siting of a twin home on a raft foundations at Sink Farm, St David's Lane, Hollesley.

1.2 The monitoring will be carried out to the standards set regionally in the *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England (EAA Occ. Papers 14, 2003)* and nationally in *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 1994, revised 2001 & reissued 2014)*.

2. Location, Topography & Geology

2.1 Hollesley parish is located some 5 miles south east of Woodbridge and on the coast in that part of Suffolk known as The Sandlings; a name derived from the light soils of the area that historically gave rise to extensive areas of heath land. As indicated the local drift geology is made up largely of well drained sands and gravels (deep sands of the Newport Series 20 with extensive areas distant from easily accessible water sources) giving rise to a dispersed settlement pattern scattered across various relatively large parishes. Within this settlement pattern separated by large areas of former heath land small village centres grew from the mid-late Saxon period focused on the parish church which is c1300m south-west of the proposed development site (PDS). The light, well drained soils of the Sandlings also attracted settlement from the earliest prehistoric periods and this is well evidenced by the extensive record captured on aerial photographs showing in particular past field systems and ring ditches. The latter usually indicating the sites of Bronze Age burial mounds. At present the PDS, which is at c10m OD some 1400m west of the present coastline with Sink Farm, as the name implies, being close to a spring that feeds a small eastward flowing stream.

3. Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 To quote from the relevant brief 'This site lies in an area of archaeological potential recorded on the County Historic Environment Record, in close proximity to Iron Age features found during evaluation and monitoring of the visitor centre and car park (HLY 110). As a result, there is high potential for the discovery of below-ground heritage assets of archaeological importance within this area, and groundworks associated with the development have the potential to damage or destroy any archaeological remains which exist.'

3.2 The Brief confirms that while this development may reveal deposits of archaeological significance this potential disturbance to local heritage assets can be mitigated by their investigation and recording as the ground works progress through a programme of continuous monitoring by an archaeologist with subsequent full reporting.

4. Aims of the Site Monitoring

4.1 As outlined in section 3 above the PDS is located close to previous archaeological investigations which recorded evidence for activity of Iron Age date; therefore further heritage assets of later prehistoric date can be anticipated to exist in the area around Sink Farm. Site monitoring arrangements with the relevant ground works contractor will allow for unimpeded access to the ground works as they progress to allow for detailed investigation and recording work. This monitoring will aim to record all possible details to the exposed overburden and depth of exposed deposit as revealed within the ground works and evidence for the character and date of any past activity that is revealed.

5. Methodology

5.1 The construction method to be used on the site will be a raft foundation and previous investigations at the site indicate that the archaeological horizon will probably be exposed at a depth of 600mm. Whether the raft foundation will reach this depth is unknown but this information will be passed on to the relevant architect as a shallow raft would allow the possibility of leaving any archaeological deposits undisturbed in situ. The ground works at the site will be monitored as they are undertaken using a flat bucket and the footprint area will be scanned with a metal detector before works start and then during the excavation of the foundation. Any unexpected findings will be reported back to the relevant Suffolk CC Archaeological Office as will notice of when the site works are scheduled to start. The necessity for an HER search for the area within 500m of the PDS to inform the reporting will be discussed with the relevant SCCAS Archaeological Officer once the results of the monitoring are known and commissioned if required.

5.2 Site records will be made under a continuous and unique numbering system of contexts under an overall site HER and event numbers requested from SCCAS beforehand. All contexts will be numbered and finds recorded by context. Conventions compatible with the county HER will be used throughout the monitoring. Site plans will be drawn at 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate and related to the proposed development, and sections at 1:10 or 1:20 (all on plastic drawing film) and related to OS map cover. Sections will be levelled to a datum OD. A photographic record of high resolution digital images will be made of the site and any exposed features.

5.3 As necessary and to define archaeological deposits exposed surfaces will be trowelled clean before recording. Archaeological deposits will be fully hand investigated and recorded within the constraints of the raft foundation with sections at appropriate points. Even if no archaeological deposits are revealed every effort will be made to gain a record of the natural occurring deposits and overburden that could help in the understanding of the general history of land use. Where appropriate 40 litre palaeoenvironmental samples will be taken for processing and assessment by a specialist conversant with regional archaeological standards and research agendas if relevant archaeological deposits are revealed. If human burial evidence is revealed the SCC Archaeological Officer will be informed and a Ministry of Justice licence obtained before excavation, recording and removal of the remains. Any such work will incur an additional cost. The possibility of modifying the ground work design to leave any such remains in situ will also be examined (in this case the possibility of finding burials is assessed as being low).

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5.4 All finds will be collected and processed unless any variation is agreed with the relevant SCC Archaeological Officer. Finds will be assessed by recognised period specialists and their interpretation will form an integral part of the overall report. Finds will be stored according to ICON guidelines with specialist advice/treatment sought for fragile ones. Every effort will be made to gain the deposit of the site finds to the SCC Archaeological Store under their relevant HER code and site numbering for future reference. If this is not possible then the SCC Archaeological Officer will be consulted over any requirements for additional recording. Any discard policy will be discussed and agreed with the relevant Archaeological Officer at Suffolk CC.

5.5 An archive of all records and finds will be prepared consistent with the guidelines in *MoRPHE* and this will be deposited with the Suffolk CC HER within 6 months of working finishing on site under the relevant HER number. As necessary the site digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) within the agreed allowance for the monitoring and reporting works.

5.6 The monitoring report will be consistent with the principles in *MoRPHE* and this report will summarise the methodology employed and relate the archaeological record directly to the level of visibility allowed by the operation of plant given the nature of the underlying natural deposits. The report will also give an objective account of the deposits and stratigraphy recorded and finds recovered with an inventory of the latter. Any interpretation of the monitoring results will be clearly separated from the objective account of the monitoring and its results. The report will give a clear statement regarding the results of the site monitoring in relation to both the more detailed aims in section 2 above and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (EAA Occ. Papers 3, 8 & 24, 1997, 2000 & 2011) and local HER search results if required. An unbound draft copy of the report will be presented to the Archaeological Service at Suffolk CC within 3 months of the completion of the site works. Once accepted a bound hard copy and pdf version will be sent to the County HER in addition to a pdf version for the client for submission to the relevant LPA. The site monitoring will be registered on the OASIS online archaeological record before field work starts followed by submission of the final draft in .pdf format. An HER summary sheet will be completed and a summary prepared of any positive results for inclusion in the annual PSIAH round-up. The reporting will be commensurate with the findings from the monitoring and at its most basic level will detail the location, circumstances and characteristics of the deposits exposed and any finds that are revealed.

6. Risk Assessment

6.1 Protective clothing will be worn on site (hard hat, high visibility vest/coat, steel-toe cap boots, and ear muffs if required). A safe working method will be agreed with the contractors on site in order to maximise access to disturbed ground and up cast spoil. Suitable clothing will be available to mitigate against extremes of weather.

6.2 Vehicles will be safely parked away from work areas and lines of access.

6.3 Before work on site starts any special requirements regarding potential site contamination will be discussed with the client's agent and ground test reports examined. Gloves and hand wash/wipes be available and any information on possible ground

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contamination will be passed to finds and environmental specialists. The potential for services in the area will be discussed with the client and their contractor.

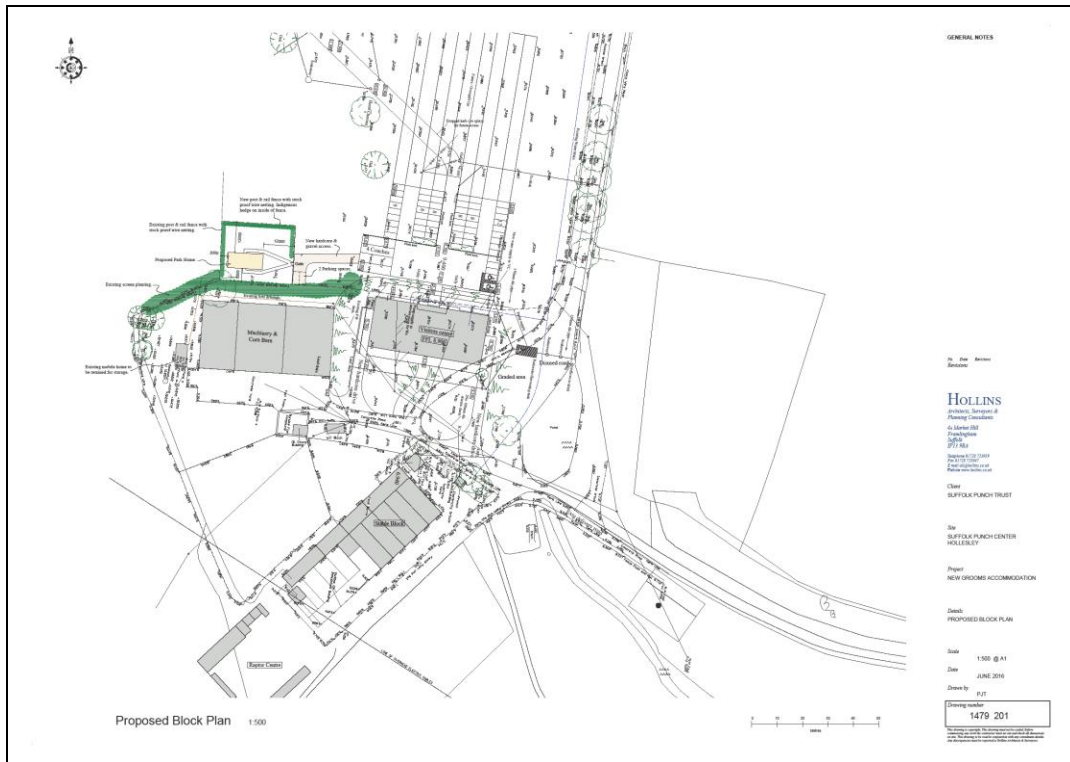
6.4 A fully charged mobile phone will be carried and a first aid kit will be taken to site.

6.5 Close liaison will be maintained with the contractor on site with regard to the depth and stability of the footing trenches and any potential health and safety considerations.

6.6 JNAS holds full insurance cover for archaeological site works from the specialist provider Towergate Risk Solutions covering Public & Products Liability, details can be supplied on request.

7. Specialists

Conservation:	Conservation Services
Faunal remains:	J Curl (Sylvanus Archaeology)
Human remains:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Palaeoenvironmental samples:	V Fryer (Freelance)
Pre-historic flint:	S Bates (Freelance)
Pre-historic pottery:	S Percival (Freelance)
Post Roman ceramics & CBM:	S Anderson (Freelance)
Roman small finds:	N Crummy (Freelance)
Roman pottery & CBM	S Benfield (CAT)
Post Roman small finds:	JNAS



Planned development

OASIS ID: johnnewm1-267078

Project details

Project name	Sink Farm, St Davids Lane, Hollesley, Suffolk- Archaeological Monitoring Report
Short description of the project	Hollesley, Sink Farm, St David's Lane (HLY 172, TM 3628 4540) monitoring of soil stripping of the raft type foundation area for a twin mobile home close to an area that has produced evidence for late prehistoric activity proved to be too shallow to expose the horizon where archaeological deposits would have been revealed if present at the site.
Project dates	Start: 01-11-2016 End: 02-11-2016
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Any associated project reference codes	ESF 24970 - HER event no.
Any associated project reference codes	HLY 172 - Related HER No.
Any associated project reference codes	DC/16/2407/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
Current Land use	Grassland Heathland 5 - Character undetermined
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	SUFFOLK SUFFOLK COASTAL HOLLESLEY SINK FARM St DAVIDS LANE
Study area	200 Square metres
Site coordinates	TM 3630 4520 52.054119118353 1.447081351348 52 03 14 N 001 26 49 E Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	John Newman Archaeological Services
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body

Project design originator	John Newman
Project director/manager	John Newman
Project supervisor	John Newman
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner
Project archives	
Physical Archive Exists?	No
Digital Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Suffolk CC Archaeological Service
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Report"
Project bibliography	
1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Sink Farm, St David's Lane, Hollesley, Suffolk-Archaeological Monitoring Report
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Newman, J
Date	2016
Issuer or publisher	John Newman Archaeological Services
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