



Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum agenda

Date: Thursday 9 March 2023

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: Paralympic Room, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF

Agenda Item	Page No
1 Apologies/Changes to membership	
2 Declarations of interest	
3 Minutes of the last meeting To agree the minutes of the meeting held 29 September 2022 as an accurate record.	3 - 20
4 Moment of reflection for Roger Evans and Robert Excel	
5 Chosen Focus: Historic landscapes in Buckinghamshire To be presented by Claire de Carle from the Bucks Gardens Trust.	
6 Progress report on the Aerial Investigation and Mapping (AIM) project in Buckinghamshire To be presented by Julia Wise.	
7 Update From Members and Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society• Conservation Board for the Chilterns AONB• Buckinghamshire Conservation Trust• Archaeological Officer – Buckinghamshire• Archaeological Officer – Milton Keynes• Heritage Officer- Buckinghamshire• Heritage Officer- Milton Keynes• Historic England• National Trust• Milton Keynes Heritage Association• Museums	21 - 38

- Oxford Diocesan Advisory Committee

8 Date of the next meeting

To be confirmed.

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

For further information please contact: Katherine Farooqi on 01296 382236, email democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.



Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum held on Thursday 29 September 2022 in Discover Bucks Museum, Church Street, Aylesbury, HP20 2QP, commencing at 2pm and concluding at 3:10pm.

Members present

Cllr P Brazier, Cllr B Chapple OBE, R Excel, Cllr C Harriss, S Mason, M Woods, D Stuckey, Cllr C Hall, Cllr R Matthews, J Horton, P Markham, K Farooqi and J Martin

Agenda Item

1 Election of Chairman

RESOLVED

Members of the forum voted to confirm Cllr B Chapple as Chairman for the ensuing year.

2 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

RESOLVED

Members of the forum voted to confirm Cllr P Brazier as Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

3 Apologies/Changes to membership

Apologies were received from Nick Crank (Archaeological Officer, Milton Keynes Council), Gary Marshall (Buckinghamshire Archological Society), Eliza Alqassar (Buckinghamshire Council), Ruth Page (Buckinghamshire Council), Cllr Robin Bradburn (Milton Keynes Councillor), Cllr McPake (Milton Keynes Council) and Cllr Hogg (Buckinghamshire Council).

4 Declarations of interest

There were none.

5 Minutes of the last meeting

RESOLVED

The Minutes of the meeting held 7 April 2022 were agreed as an accurate record.

6 Chosen Focus: Recent Outreach Projects in Buckinghamshire

Joanna Horton, Heritage and Archaeology Team Leader gave a presentation which was appended to these minutes. The presentation highlighted the Heritage Team's outreach work and activities.

- The Buckinghamshire Local Heritage List project was underway. The team were liaising with Bucks Archaeology Trust and other key stakeholder to compile the list.
- The team received government funding for a project officer, 22 other councils also received funding. The Buckinghamshire local list had received the highest number of nominations across all councils and highlighted the teams hard work and dedication.
- The public were able to nominate buildings, archaeological sites, works of art, parks and other assets to be considered for the list. Over 2600 nominations had been received during phase one of the project and 798 recommended sites would be taken forward to Cabinet on 6th December.
- It was clarified this was a nationally designated list of historic sites and buildings already listed did not need to be nominated. It was confirmed Quarrendon Leas was already on the list and people were encouraged to nominate buildings not listed.
- Being on the list would not necessarily change permitted development rights however, it would make it easier for planning officers to know if a building had heritage merits.
- Over 38 groups and societies had advertised the list to its members.
- The project had been promoted at various events including Heritage Open days and Bucks County Show.
- The project had been advertised to Councillors in newsletters and on social media. This was a 'people's project' and talks with local groups were ongoing.
- A member of the forum queried why Mentmore was not on the list however, it was advised the heritage assets for this area had already been included on the records.
- Work with volunteers had started with a toolkit available online to help with the nomination process and assessment information.
- The Local List Project Officer had engaged with children and students to encourage them to nominate buildings and assisting with site visits.
- There had been enquires from Transport for London regarding information about the Metropolitan line. The Canal and River Trust had been in touch about nominating locks and bridges. This information would prove useful when dealing with planning enquires.
- The next stage of the project would involve further engagement with volunteers as nominations were received. The internal panel would review sites to be put forward for recommendation. Phase one would conclude by December with recommendations taken to Cabinet.
- There was an Archaeology Day held at North Marston in July which was well attended. The Young Archology Club attended alongside residents and the local history society.
- A rare missing Buckinghamshire milepost was discovered in a garden in Oxfordshire. It was restored and would be reinstated soon.

It was confirmed the local heritage list was not a national list and sites added to the

list would not receive listed status. There was the potential for some sites to be recommended for the national heritage list. The project would be considered a celebration of Buckinghamshire and the list would potentially help buildings at risk of demolition as they would gain heritage status.

There would be a request for further funding for the Heritage List Project Officer role as funding was due to end by March 2023. Phase two would focus on religious and community buildings. Phase three would look at workshops and wicket restoration.

7 Update From Members and Partners

Members and partners provided verbal updates.

Doug Stuckey, Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society, a written update was appended to these minutes.

- The Open Day at North Marston was a useful and well attended event.
- The Autumn newsletter was available on the Bucks Archaeological Society website.
- The report from the archaeological dig at Great Linford, Milton Keynes was available with axe heads and bronze heads discovered.
- The Buckinghamshire Local History Network (BLHN) 2022 annual conference was held on Saturday 1st October in The Oculus at The Gateway, Aylesbury. There was also a local history fair to increase the knowledge of the County's heritage. There were two Bucks Archaeological Society prizes presented.
- The records of Buckinghamshire volume 62 had been published online with volume 63 available soon.
- The society had 390 members, with lectures held online via zoom these enabled members who had moved away from the area continued to support the society.

Mike Woods, Bucks Conservation Trust.

- Maps and information on Quarrendon Leas was circulated to members of the forum. The site was 200 acres located in the North of Aylesbury.
- The Bucks Conservation Trust and Buckinghamshire Council 1.8km cycleway project was underway.
- The archaeological evaluation was completed.
- The footpath and permissive cycleway was subject to a ten-year agreement between the Council and Trust. Buckinghamshire Council were assisting with the acquisition of the land to the east of the site to enable the cycle paths to link from east to west.
- Work started on the site after the bank holiday with projects agreed with Historic England. The central area of the remains of St Peters would be levelled out to make the area easier to manage and reduce flood risk.
- The new cycleway and greenways were under consultation with other groups. The first route would link up with the national cycle route to Winslow.

- It was highlighted Quarrendon Leas was previously a hidden asset however, due to the new routes the area was being used by school children, cyclists and people with pushchairs.
- In 2017 a masterplan was produced to restore Aylesbury as a garden town by producing greenway around the town over a 30-year period.

Phil Markham, Senior Archaeology Officer, Buckinghamshire Council presented a report appended to these minutes.

- The team were busy with HS2 reports with often a short turnaround time. There were Schedule 17 applications which required approval. These were not planning applications but part of the HS2 Act which required the local authority planning team to feedback on road layout, designs and any heritage implications of construction work.
- There was one Schedule 17 application which had been approved with the decision appealed by HS2.
- The fieldwork was nearly complete with final areas to be complete by contractors. The final field arch would be completed by 2024. Due to difficulties the Grim's Ditch fieldwork would likely be completed by 2026.
- The team were busy providing advice on multiple applications including solar farms, woodland surveys and residential queries. The team were assisting with enquires for the Historic Environment Record (HER), Countryside Stewardship Scheme and local heritage list.
- The team had undertaken a number of outreach and partnership activities including Buckinghamshire Council Archaeology Day and Bucks County Show.
- Buckinghamshire History Festival (organised by Buckinghamshire Archives) was taking place throughout November further information available at: <https://histfestbucks.co.uk/>

Robert Excel, Milton Keynes Heritage Association.

- The Heritage Open Day consisted of over 200 events across ten days. The events were very well attended with figures suggesting a better attendance than last year.
- The association had over 70 members however, it was noted the longer term effects of covid19 had resulted in a reluctance to participate in events particularly by the older generation.

Sam Mason, Discover Bucks Museum, Aylesbury.

- The Picasso exhibition in April was not as well attended as hoped however, visitor numbers to the museum were increasing steadily.
- The Summer Science exhibition held from July to September was very well attended and enjoyed particularly by school children.
- The Beautiful Bucks exhibition was currently on show and would run until 5th November. The exhibition showcased paintings of Buckinghamshire from local artist Brian Bennett who sadly passed away recently.
- The next exhibition running from November to next year would be Your Amazing Brain. This was currently on display at Banbury Museum with input

from Oxford university neurology department.

Cllr Clive Harriss, Buckinghamshire Council highlighted discussions were ongoing with HS2 to try and mitigate the effects of construction work.

Cllr Rachael Matthews, Buckinghamshire Council advised she was the Deputy Cabinet Member for Town Centre Regeneration. Aylesbury had been identified for regeneration and improvement with the aim of driving more business into the town.

8 Date of the next meeting/AOB

March 2023 Date TBC

Any Other Business:

Doug Stuckey highlighted HS2 archaeology wing Fusion would attend the rescheduled conference at the end of October. Over 100 people were due to attend the conference. It was noted Fusion would be disbanded soon.

Cllr Clive Harriss advised the Buckinghamshire archives would be relocated with a new premise being investigated. The archives were currently kept at RAF Halton and it was hoped a suitable location would be found which would enable income generation. A Member highlighted the Northamptonshire archives were kept purpose build Chester House which housed an archaeological site, shopping facilities and an education centre.

This page is intentionally left blank



Recent outreach work in Buckinghamshire

Engaging the Community

Eliza Alqassar, Historic and Built Environment Manager



Progress on the Buckinghamshire Local Heritage List project

- Very much a **team effort**
- **Audit** of known heritage assets in summer 2021
- Local Heritage List **Project Officer** appointed August 2021
- Local Heritage List **platform** launched September 2021: <https://local-heritage-list.org.uk/buckinghamshire>
- Established criteria and commenced **Review Panels** Autumn 2021
- Appointment of **Assistant Heritage Officer** March 2022

Page 8

Headlines

- **Over 2600** candidate sites nominated!
- We currently have **160 registered users** on our Local Heritage List web platform
- A core group of **18 volunteers** are busy nominating, researching and enriching sites online.
- Currently involved with **38 groups and organisations**.
- **15 parish councils** are working with us to add local buildings of note to LHL.

The screenshot shows the Buckinghamshire Council's Local Heritage List Portal. The header includes the council logo and navigation links: Home, Guidance, Get involved, Map, List, Contact us, Forum, Register, and Log in. The main content area features a 'Welcome' section with a large landscape image. Below the welcome message, there are sections for 'How to get involved' and three featured heritage assets with photos and captions: Pann Mill waterwheel, 'I am me' sculpture, and Formal gardens at Danesfield House.

Buckinghamshire Council Buckinghamshire's Local Heritage List

Home Guidance Get involved Map List Contact us Forum Register Log in

Welcome

Welcome to Buckinghamshire's Local Heritage List Portal. Here you will find lots of information about our Local Heritage List, including guidance on how you can get involved in our project and nominate candidate sites.


Buckinghamshire has a large number of locally important heritage assets, which contribute positively to the local character and identity of Buckinghamshire, and which are valued by local people. These heritage assets, which may be buildings, archaeological remains, parks, gardens or public works of art, sometimes have little or no protection, and over time our special places can be lost. By adding these heritage assets to a Local Heritage List we can ensure their local importance is recognised and taken into account in the planning process. Once on the list, these assets become known as Non-Designated Heritage Assets (NDHAs). They differ from those sites that have statutory protection and national designations, such as Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens.

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has made funds available to twenty-two Local Authorities, including Buckinghamshire, as part of a national initiative to improve the provision and standard of locally held Lists of Non-Designated Heritage Assets (NDHA).


How to get involved

We are keen to capture those heritage assets that are important to the people of Buckinghamshire and we are therefore asking for members of the public to nominate candidate sites for the Local Heritage List.


We are also encouraging anyone with a particular interest in heritage to volunteer to help us assess the candidates and improve our records for each site. Follow the tabs above for more information and details of how to make nominations or volunteer.



Pann Mill waterwheel, High Wycombe
Photo of waterwheel at Pann Mill in High Wycombe



'I am me' sculpture, Aylesbury
Photo of paralympic themed sculpture outside The Exchange building in Aylesbury



Formal gardens at Danesfield House
Photo of formal gardens at Danesfield House in Medmenham

Events

We have actively engaged in events to promote the project including:

- Chalks, Cherries & Chairs Fun Day on Wycombe Rye summer 2021
- Buckinghamshire Local History Conference autumn 2021
- Heritage Open Days autumn 2021
- Festival of Archaeology/Bucks Open Day summer 2022
- Buckinghamshire County Show summer 2022
- Buckinghamshire Local History Conference autumn 2022



Reaching out to communities – the people’s project

Over the past nine months we have reached out to the following groups and societies:

- [Amersham Museum](#)
- [Amersham Society](#)
- Archaeology in Marlow
- [Beaconsfield and District Historical Society](#)
- Buckinghamshire Archaeology Society
- [Buckinghamshire Garden Trust](#)
- [Buckinghamshire Historic Buildings Trust](#)
- [Buckingham U3A Architecture Group](#)
- [Burnham Heritage Society](#)
- Chalfont St Giles History
- [Chesham Society](#)
- Chess Valley Archaeological and Historical Society
- Chiltern Open Air Museum
- [Chiltern Society](#)
- [Coleshill History Group](#)
- [Hedgerley Historical Society](#)
- [High Wycombe Society](#)
- [Lacey Green History Society](#)
- Little Chalfont Society
- Marlow Archaeology Group
- Marlow Society
- [North Marston History Club](#)
- [Royal Agricultural University](#)
- Stewkley Local History Group
- [Stoke Poges Society](#)
- Western Turville Historical Society
- Wing Heritage Group
- [Wingrave and Rowsham Heritage Association](#)
- Winslow History
- [Visit Bucks](#)
- [YAC Chiltern](#)
- [YAC Aylesbury](#)

Most have advertised LHLP to members through inclusion in newsletters, member correspondence, or meetings.

We are actively working with the groups highlighted in blue, either by members creating and uploading list nominations onto the website, voluntary assistance at events and working parties, or through LHLPO providing talks and leading meetings.



Working with volunteers

- We have a core group of **18** volunteers helping to identify candidate sites, draw on desktop research, and enrich the nominations.
- Working parties have been very successful.
 - A visit to Marlow proved extremely conducive by identifying and nominating a dozen or so buildings not scheduled or on existing local list.
 - A visit to Amersham in March to assess and photograph a list collated by Amersham Society and TfL, supported by Cllr Williams (Deputy Leader of the Council).
- Volunteer toolkit within website:
 - Recorded tutorial to help with using the web platform - step by step guidance on nominating and recording candidates.
 - Timeline – guidance on dating a building.
- Printable forms and guides to assist with assessment.

Building Assessment

Introduction

Assessment is simply about looking and understanding.

Looking carefully at and understanding your building will inform what you choose to record. View your chosen site from as many angles as possible.

Before you visit your site or building, ensure that:

- you are properly equipped with suitable clothing and equipment.
- you have selected safe and accessible points to observe, record or photograph.

Your safety is paramount, but your own responsibility.

Name	Date
Building Name	Approx. Age/architectural style/period
Address	Grid Ref. Candidate status
Site type: Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Defensive/military <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Place of worship <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Leisure <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (describe)	
Building Condition: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> Ruin <input type="checkbox"/> Roofed <input type="checkbox"/> Partly roofed <input type="checkbox"/> Unroofed <input type="checkbox"/> Inhabited <input type="checkbox"/>	
Building materials (walls): Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Stone <input type="checkbox"/> Timber <input type="checkbox"/> Witchert <input type="checkbox"/> Glass <input type="checkbox"/> Flint <input type="checkbox"/> Render <input type="checkbox"/> Tiles <input type="checkbox"/> Ashlar <input type="checkbox"/> Rubble <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (describe)	
Building materials (roof): Stone Tiles <input type="checkbox"/> Clay Tiles <input type="checkbox"/> Slates <input type="checkbox"/> Thatch <input type="checkbox"/> Glass <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (describe)	
Describe building materials of interest (e.g. brick bonds/patterns, string courses, cruck frames, materials typical of locality?)	
Features of rarity or interest: Extended <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Roof <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Goods <input type="checkbox"/>	
Describe:	
Context (Group value? Community importance - nostalgic value?)	
Photographic evidence: Be selective and choose views where appropriate. Remember to photograph the front	

19th century
Bone House,
High Street, Haddenham

Dated 1807. Colour washed witchert walls on rubblestone plinth. Decorated front elevation.

Aylesbury
Victorian terrace housing

Waddesdon Manor
Waddesdon

Constructed 1874-1883 in style of 16th century French chateau

20th century
Wing Hall, Wing
Built 1905 in Rothschild style

New County Hall.
Twelve-storey concrete and granite building.
Built 1963-66.

Engaging with the younger audience

In October 21, the **Chiltern Young Archaeologists Club** learnt about the architectural history of the village of Jordans and assisted our visiting Local List Project Officer by investigating and assessing the village with her, and nominating four sites for Local Listing

Page 12



Engaging with students

Our Project Officer teamed up with the Cultural Heritage students from the **Royal Agricultural University** to nominate and assess buildings within Lee Common village for the Local List. The students will continue their research by enriching their nominations with historic and architectural details through desktop research, before submitting their findings for final assessment. Oxford Brookes and Portsmouth Universities are keen to work with our Project Officer next term.

Page 13



Unexpected engagement and knowledge sharing

- Transport for London – Metropolitan Line's stations and structures
- Marlow and District Railway Society
- The Canal and River Trust
- Wendover Canal Trust
- Woodlanders' Lives and Landscapes



Online talks and resources

Monthly talk uploaded to Bucks LHL Portal and advertised on social media

Talks already produced and on LHLP:

- The Local Heritage List Project by Eliza Alqassar
- Heritage assets and significance by Paul Rhymes
- Talk on using Buckinghamshire's Heritage Portal by Lucy Lawrence
- Demonstration on how to nominate a Local Heritage List asset by Jo Horton
- Introduction to Buckinghamshire Archives by Katherine Gwyn
- Understanding the historic parks & gardens of Buckinghamshire by Claire de Carle
- Knowing Your Place - Buckinghamshire's Historic Parishes by Lucy Lawrence

Forthcoming talks:

- Identifying and assessing NDHAs
- Rothschilds Buildings
- Traditional Shop Fronts
- Lumps and Bumps

Link to YouTube page:

- [YouTube: Bucks Council Heritage and Archaeology](#)

Resources

Dating buildings

Criteria assessment assistance

HE toolkit and training resources

Useful links i.e. Pevsner guides, Bucks Garden Trust, HEAN7, guide to photographing

Next steps for the LHL project

- Continue public engagement and enthusing volunteers
- Continue nominating, enriching and assessing candidate sites
- Continue Review Panels to agree on sites being put forward for adoption
- Continue delivering a number of online tutorials and blogs
- Continue supporting PCs and other groups
- Aiming for adoption of the a Phase 1 list December 2022 and Phase 2 in 2023

For further details please email
localheritagelist@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Buckinghamshire's LOCAL HERITAGE LIST

Buckinghamshire has a rich heritage. Many of our key sites and buildings benefit from statutory protection as listed buildings or scheduled monuments. However, locally-important heritage assets, which contribute positively to the character and identity of Buckinghamshire, often have little or no protection, and over time these special places can be lost.

The Local Heritage List Project aims to identify and celebrate some of these important heritage assets.

Can you help us?

You can help by:

- ♦ Nominating a building, site or feature to be considered for inclusion on the Local Heritage List
- ♦ Volunteering to assist us with survey and assessment work

Our Project Officer may also be able to help with additional information on how local groups, schools and Parish Councils can get more involved.

Contact localheritagelist@Buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Please use the QR code below or browse our website at local-heritage-list.org.uk/buckinghamshire for more details and to sign up.



Buckinghamshire
Council



Archaeology Day at North Marston

On Saturday 30th July, members of the Heritage and Archaeology Team ran an open day at North Marston, as part of the Festival of Archaeology and the Bucks Open Weekend. The event was well attended, and great fun was had by all involved. We have had lovely feedback, with particular praise for our “thoughtful” guided walk.

Page 19



Restoring our heritage – the missing milepost

In July 2021, Buckinghamshire Council Archaeology Service were contacted by Peter Gulland, the Bucks representative of the Milestone Society, to inform us that a Buckinghamshire milepost had been discovered in an Oxfordshire garden.

The milepost was originally located on the Brill road at Hillesden, marking 13 miles to Brill and 3 to Buckingham, and is thought to date from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. Whilst not as old as some of our other mileposts, this one is particularly significant as it is located on a non-turnpike road, which is rare in Buckinghamshire. It is last recorded as having been in place in the late 1980s, after which it appears to have been taken from its location and somehow ended up in a private back garden.

The current homeowner was keen to see it back in its rightful place and so Buckinghamshire Council Archaeology Service arranged to collect it. It was in a very bad state of preservation (see photo 1) and so it was taken to Moss' Blacksmiths in Thame to be stripped back, re-painted and re-signed (photo 2). It is currently stored at the Council's Gawcott depot and will be reinstated in its original position in October!



Appendix A: Buckinghamshire Archaeological Officers' Report

To: Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

Date: 9th March 2023

Authors:

Senior Archaeology Officer (Phil Markham);

Archaeology Officer (Lucy Lawrence),

Historic Environment Record Officer (Julia Wise),

Historic Environment Record Assistant (Paul Clements)

A. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To advise the Forum of the work of the County Archaeological Service (BCAS) since the last BHEF meeting (29th September 2022).

Report Summary

- We are now working to a 40/60 split in working from the office and home. Planning consultations have continued at a high level and the major infrastructure schemes are progressing.
- HS2/Fusion – Fieldwork has largely been completed but there are a number of sites to be monitored during the construction phase. The field work is now undertaken by RSK/Headland as Fusion has been wound up.
- East-West Rail – The fieldwork reports have now all been supplied and no further works is planned.
- Outreach & Publicity Update
- HER Report
- Buckinghamshire Heritage Portal

B. PROPOSED ACTION

The Forum is particularly invited to NOTE:

- resources
- strategic issues and projects
- recent planning-related archaeological work

- HER enhancement projects

C. RESOURCES

The Council's Archaeology Service forms part of the Planning, Growth and Sustainability Directorate. Philip Markham is the Senior Archaeology Officer, Lucy Lawrence is the Archaeology Officer, Julia Wise is the HER Officer (part time), and Paul Clements is the HER Assistant.

Service Review & Restructuring

The Heritage and Archaeology Team is now in place within the Environmental Specialists and combines the archaeology team with the Heritage/Conservation Officers. Joanna Horton is the Team Leader. The team is managed by Eliza Alqassar as Historic and Built Environment Manager. Eliza also manages the Ecology team whilst Rebecca Hart manages the other Environmental Specialists teams which includes Arboriculture, BMERC (Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Environmental Record Centre) and Urban Design and Landscape.

D. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Strategic Issues/Projects

High Speed 2:

It has been a busy period with HS2/EKFB Teams meetings on numerous topics including, updated method statements, landscape design issues and assessing no further works proposals as sites and areas come to a close. Interim reports, reports, and post excavation assessments (PXAs) are being supplied for comment but usually with very tight turnaround times. Schedule 17 pre-application meetings take place most weeks; these are similar to planning applications and involve road, design and planting issues which could impact on the historic environment. For these applications Phil Markham covers archaeology, Fiona Webb covers the Heritage Team issues for the Aylesbury Vale area and Catherine Murray covers the Chiltern and South Bucks area. FUSION, HS2's archaeological contractor was wound up in October 2022 as the field work will largely have been completed. RSK/Headland will be undertaking archaeological works during the construction phase. There are bi-weekly meetings with Headland, HS2 and stakeholders over current field work and reports.

Grim's Ditch Scheduled Monument/Hunts Green Farm, Great Missenden

Archaeological investigation has been undertaken including a geophysical survey, a topographic survey, trial trenching and excavation. A couple of trenches have been excavated across the Scheduled Monument and the results of this will inform the full excavation of the monument. It is hoped that some of the monument can be preserved in situ and this depends on the EKFB construction design which has yet to be supplied. The works to the monument will be undertaken by a Schedule 19 application which will need to

be approved by the Secretary of State under Historic England’s guidance. Discussion is ongoing as construction design is yet to be finalised. Further geotechnical investigations have been undertaken which indicate potential geological hollows within the development area and these will inform the design and construction methodology.

East–West Rail

Fieldwork reports for all 96 sites investigated along the route of EWR have now been received. There was surprisingly little archaeology encountered along the route, although works on a number of sites at the Oxfordshire border suggest the area to have been a focus for Roman viticulture (grape growing for wine production).

New National Designations:

There has been 1 new addition to the national list – the Clubhouse at Beaconsfield Golf Course, listed at Grade II in December. The clubhouse was built in 1913-1914 in a Vernacular Revival style to designs by Stanley Hinge Hamp and is the second pre-First World War clubhouse to be nationally listed.

Planning related archaeological work

Volume measures	3rd Quarter 2022	4th Quarter 2022
Total number of consultations handled	132	146
Number of planning applications handled	93 + 12 LBC	118 + 14 LBC
Consultations responded to within 21 days (target 90%)	127/132 96%	144/146 98%
Number of development-related archaeological fieldwork projects requested	36	47
Success rate at appeal (target 50% annual success rate)	N/A	N/A

A full list of development-related fieldwork is provided as Appendix B.

Significant archaeological investigations include:

There has continued to be local interest over a site near Buckingham (reported to BHEF in March 2019). This excavation took place in 2018/19 and since then post-excavation cleaning and conservation of the skeletons has been undertaken. We understand that Network Archaeology have been in discussion with the developer and have provided them with updated costings to cover the rest of the post-excavation works, to include DNA analysis and carbon 14 dating, together with the publication and archiving of this significant site. We contact Network Archaeology on a regular basis to see if we can help expedite these works.

General

The Team has been busy with a high number of planning applications; large scale solar farm proposals are a regular issue together with woodland planting schemes at varying scales.

The archaeological monitoring of the early phases of the South-East Aylesbury link Road (SEALR) are progressing with AECOM and CFA. Ditches relating to a Roman settlement have

been excavated together with human burials and a 'well pit' which contained well preserved water-logged planks and timbers. Excavation conditions have been very difficult over the winter.



Copyright CFA Archaeology

After considerable cleaning, the image above became this.



Copyright CFA Archaeology

By far the earliest artefact so far discovered is an 'Acheulian' hand axe dating to the Palaeolithic (Old Stone Age) period about 200,000 years BC.



Archaeology

Copyright

CFA

Further evaluation has begun at the Hampden Fields development between Aylesbury and Weston Turville. This major development is for up to 3,000 dwellings and a 60-bed care home/extra care facility; provision of land for a Park and Ride site; a total of 6.90ha of employment land; provision of two primary schools (one 2 form entry and one 3 form entry); a mixed-use local centre (3.75ha) with provision for a food store of up to 1,200 square metres, further retail (including a pharmacy), restaurant and café units, a doctor's surgery, gym, public house, multi-functional green infrastructure (totalling 108.43ha) including parkland, sports pitches, sports pavilions, children's play areas, informal open space, allotments, community orchards and landscaping. It was decided that to de-risk the development further evaluation in the form of trial trenching would be undertaken. Evaluation was undertaken approximately ten years ago and included geophysical surveys and trial trenching. This phase of evaluation includes a further 460+ trenches which are being undertaken by RSP and PCA. Areas of excavation are being drawn up from these results.

Publication update (Appendix C)

Outreach and Publicity

Members of the Team have undertaken a number of outreach and partnership activities in the period Sept 2022- March 2023.

Activities include:

- Bucks Archaeological Society Council Meetings, Including the Bucks Local History Network conference
- In person 'Meet the Archaeologist' event at Aylesbury library for October half term
- Hosted a stall at the Brill Parish Council 'Brill history Day'
- ALGAO (Association of Government Archaeological Organisations) meetings, including AGM, Planning and Legislation sub-Committee, HER Committee, South-East Area catchup
- Thames Valley Police Rural Crime Partnership meetings

Local Heritage List

We are delighted to announce that the first tranche of sites for inclusion on the Local Heritage List was formally adopted by Cabinet on Thursday 5th January! This is the first county-wide Local Heritage List that Buckinghamshire has ever had and is the result of a collective effort from the Heritage and Archaeology Team, alongside representatives from the Bucks Garden Trust and the Buckinghamshire Archaeology Society. 771 sites were adopted in the first phase, with work ongoing to assess the remaining sites in time for a second phase at the end of 2023.

Milestone Reinstatement

In October 2022, after almost a year of discussion, logistics and collaboration, Buckinghamshire Council successfully reinstated a wayward historic milepost back to its rightful position in Hillesden. The late 19th century milepost had vanished one night in the 1990s, only to be found in an Oxfordshire garden two decades later. The milepost was restored and reinstated by council officers and members.

Historic Environment Record (HER) report

The HER performance indicator statistics are shown in the tables below:

Performance Indicator	3rd Quarter 2022	4th Quarter 2022
Historic Environment Records data inputting backlog (targets: reports < 30 by March 2023)	Reports = 5 Collect = 511 Total = 516	Reports = 4 Collect = 511 Total = 515

	3rd Quarter 2022	4th Quarter 2022
Number of Countryside Stewardship applications handled	5	0
Number of reports received by the HER	21	13
Number of Historic Environment Records enquiries handled: commercial non-commercial	44 1	22 1

Paul has been dealing with the bulk of HER enquiries and all the Countryside Stewardship applications in 2022 to free Julia up to work on the Local Heritage List project.

Countryside Stewardship Scheme in 2022

HER consultations to support Countryside Stewardship funding applications are continuing in the same format as 2021 while the transition to the proposed new Environmental Land Management Scheme is still in the pipeline (expected to go live in 2024). The application window for 2023 opened in February and will remain open until August. This year Paul has received and dealt with 33 applications for nearly 7,000 hectares of land in Buckinghamshire with 13 applications at Mid-Tier and 20 applications at Higher Tier.

Buckinghamshire's Heritage Portal

Statistics on user numbers and page views have been collected monthly from September 2020, when analytical tools were added to the website.

2022	Users	Page views	% new users	% regular users
July	2,856	8,196	88%	12%
August	3,959	9,295	90%	10%
September	3,361	7,635	88%	12%
October	3,771	9,622	89%	11%
November	3,714	8,511	88%	12%

December	3,206	8,192	88%	12%
----------	-------	-------	-----	-----

Initially 85% of Heritage Portal users were based in the UK, but the geographic spread of users has been widening consistently and we now have users in every continent and sub-continent, with 67% of users based in the UK in December 2022 and a growing spread of users in Asia and African states. Most recently significant numbers of new users have been based in Andora (2-3% of users) and Benin (1-2% of users), with Morocco entering the top 10 of user countries for the first time in November.

HER enhancement and volunteer projects

The two consultants from Skylarkeology are busy working on the first of the Aerial Investigation and Mapping projects in north Buckinghamshire. This is an Historic England-funded project which records and map evidence from aerial photography and LiDAR directly in the HER database. The data will be a significant new source of information and will be particularly useful for development management, strategic planning and for the Buckinghamshire Local Plan. To date they have recorded 204 new sites and enhanced the records for 95 existing sites.

The HER volunteer working on the milestones project continues to work on enhancing the records for milestones.

The Buckinghamshire Gardens Trust Research and Recording Project is making slow but steady progress following the disruption caused by Covid and the departure of several of the more experienced volunteers due to other commitments. A revised summary report format has been trialled which should help speed up production. Over 100 reports have now been completed, with 7 reports in draft and work underway on a further 5 gardens. The volunteers are also researching public parks as a contribution to a national Gardens Trust project, and it's hoped can be published as a small booklet on Buckinghamshire's Public Parks.

Emergency Recording Fund

At the September 2020 BHEF committee meeting it was agreed that following the transition to a Unitary authority, that Buckinghamshire Council would contribute 80% (£800) of the annual contributions to cover the total previously contributed by the legacy district and county councils. As per previous agreements, Milton Keynes Council would contribute 15% (£150) and the Buckinghamshire Archaeology Society would contribute 5% (£50).

The current fund stands at £8750.

No funds have been spent since 2013, when the fund was used to excavate a Roman casket burial.

E. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Archaeological Reports submitted to the Buckinghamshire HER

CONTACT OFFICERS: PHILIP MARKHAM 01296 382705,

**LUCY LAWRENCE 01296 674592, JULIA WISE 01296 382072
AND PAUL CLEMENTS 01296 382624**

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix B – Archaeological fieldwork undertaken September 2022 - March 2023

Project	Parish	Type	Contractor	Results
Old Arngrove Farm	Boarstall	Watching Brief	AOC	
Land off Stratford Road	Beachampton	Evaluation	Cotswold Archaeology	Negative
Taplow Tithe Barn	Burnham	Evaluation	KDK	Medieval house foundations
Waddesdon Tree Planting	Waddesdon	Geophysics	Sumo	
Castlefields	Stoke Mandeville	Evaluation	Albion	Single substantial Bronze Age ditch
AGT1	Stoke Mandeville	Evaluation	Albion	Area of Roman occupation
Aston Reach	Weston Turville	Evaluation	Cotswold Archaeology	Prehistoric remains underlying medieval ridge and furrow
South East Aylesbury Link Road	Stoke Mandeville	Strip, Map, Sample	CFA	Multi period remains, including waterlogged deposits.
Hampden Fields	Weston Turville	Evaluation	RPS/PCA	Mainly Roman features & finds
Homefield House	Beachampton	Evaluation	KDK	Evidence of continuous activity from the Saxon to post-medieval periods
Bury Farm	Slapton	Evaluation	KDK	Limited evidence associated with construction the canal but no earlier evidence
Anglian Water Compound	Ivinghoe	Watching Brief and Metal Detecting Survey	Dalcour Maclaren	Negative
Aylesbury Eastern Link Road	Bierton	Watching Brief on geotech pits	Stantec	Negative
Whirlbush	Kingsey	Evaluation	EDP/Cotswold	Few boundary ditches
Moat Farm	Stone	Evaluation	Cotswold Archaeology	Bronze Age enclosure and scattered Iron Age activity
Osier Way	Buckingham	Evaluation	RPS/Cotswold	Negative
Denham Park Farm	Denham	Excavation	Wardell Armstrong	Neolithic features and finds

Hornage Farm	Chilton	Evaluation	Cotswold Archaeology	Prehistoric Settlement
Land at Kimblewick Road	Great and Little Kimble	Excavation	TVAS	Roman roadside activity
Fox Covert	Addington	Evaluation	MOLA	Prehistoric settlement
Denham Park Farm	Denham	Strip Map Sample	Wardle Armstrong	Neolithic pottery
Woodlands Roundabout	Aston Clinton	Evaluation	RPS/PCA	Roman roadside quarries
Westcott Venture Park	Westcott	Building Recording	Paul Francis	WW2 & Post War Airfield Buildings
Recreation Ground	Wing	Watching Brief	KDK	Negative
37 Well Street	Buckingham	Watching Brief	CFA	Negative
14 Rembrandts End	Aylesbury	Evaluation	Moles	Negative
Land Off Great Horwood Road	Winslow	Evaluation	MOLA	Negative
Former Defence School	Beaconsfield	Evaluation	RPS/Cotswold	Negative

Appendix C: List of major archaeological excavation projects at the post excavation stage (March 2023)

Site	Archaeological Contractor (Date fieldwork completed)	Local Planning Authority	Principal Archaeological Interest	Situation	Action required
Dorney Rowing Lake & Maidenhead Windsor and Eton Flood Relief Scheme	Oxford Archaeology	Bucks CC	Multi-period sites	Draft publication reports received and agreed November 2012. Second volume (of 3) formally published December 2013. Environment Agency pursued April 2014. Contractor pursued August 2015 – expected final volume publication March 2016. Contractor chased up June, July, September and November 2016 – expected draft finalised Christmas 2016 and copy editing in New Year 2017.	Asked for an update March 2020 – August 2020 Oxford apologised for the delay – hoping to return to it this Autumn – may be ready for copy editing by end of 2020. September 21 Author has been on long term sick but hopes to get to it in a month or two. Asked for an update March 22 – report should be supplied this financial year 22/23 Asked for an update March 23
Great Missenden, Bury Farm	Network Archaeology (2002)	Chiltern DC	Medieval moat and pottery	Report received by HER and	Report Approved & asked for a

			production. Post-medieval barns.	comments sent November 2009	copy to be supplied to the HER. Recs Bucks article has been supplied.
Taplow, Berry Hill Farm	Wessex Archaeology (2017)	Bucks CC	Early Iron Age and Roman ladder settlement	HER reports submitted. Further mineral extraction consented. Fieldwork completed summer 2017. PXA has been supplied and comments made	Wessex Update Sept. 22 – specialist reports: all tasks are programmed in & majority should be in draft form by Jan 23. Asked for update Feb 23 Moving more slowly than hoped but is progressing
Dormer Avenue, Wing	Foundations Archaeology (2016)	AVDC	Saxon and medieval settlement	Fieldwork concluded March 2016. No interim or assessment report received, despite being assured we would receive it in April 2017.	Draft final report received and commented on December 2018. Final report expected Autumn 2019 and publication in Recs of Bucks Spring 2020. Report to be supplied by April 2020 Asked for update May 2020 – told report imminent August 2020 asked Foundations for an update – delayed by Covid-19 but is the 1 st report to be worked on

					when staff fully back Asked for an update September 21. Asked for an update March 22 – Foundations hoping to finish research Easter 22 . Asked for an update Sept 22 – hopefully next month or so. Asked for an update Feb 23
Stablebridge Road, Aston Clinton	ULAS (2014)	AVDC	Roman road and Iron Age and Roman settlement	Fieldwork concluded Sept 2014. Draft excavation report received April 2017. Final report received April 2018. Publication work to commence summer 2018.	Report arrived by BHEF; Recs of Bucks article to be submitted this year Update 30/12 – not included in Recs of Bucks 2021 – email sent to chase. Asked for an update September 21 – to be submitted for the next journal. Asked for an update March 22 said to hopefully be in next Recs Bucks, asked for an update Sept 22 & Feb 23
Former BOCM site, Risborough Road, Stoke Mandeville	Network Archaeology (2013)	AVDC	Roman camp/settlement	Fieldwork completed 2013. AVDC discharged condition without	A developer not associated with this application has a letter saying that Network will be paid to

				consulting us.	<p>complete the outstanding works</p> <p>Update February 2020 – Network provided a fresh quote October 2019</p> <p>August 2020 asked for an update from Network Asked for an update September 21. Update March 22 still awaiting funding, the developer is reported to have ceased trading</p>
West End Farm, Buckingham	Network Archaeology (2019)	AVDC	Cemetery with mass burials	Fieldwork completed January 2019.	<p>Post excavation analysis and reporting outstanding.</p> <p>August 2020 Network says that skeletons have been processed – DNA testing and C14 have been included in the revised post ex costs Developer not progressing the site and not paying for the post ex. Planning permission has</p>

					lapsed, enforcement can't take place – have asked Network for costs to complete the work and produce a report. March 22 Network in contact with developer now and may progress works. Feb 23 the developer has paid for the works to date and discussion is taking place over the post excavation analysis, reporting and archiving
Cornwall Meadows, Buckingham	CFA	AVDC	Saxon and med settlement	Fieldwork completed October 2019	The report has been approved and supplied to the HER

This page is intentionally left blank