

CHIMNEY'S LINK PHASE 2 DEVELOPMENT, FISHGUARD, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF (SM 9569 3704)



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: ATKINS



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

Gan / By

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**CHIMNEY'S LINK PHASE 2 DEVELOPMENT, FISHGUARD,
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Atkins to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the Chimneys Link (Phase 2) development, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire (roughly centred on SM 9569 3704). The Chimney's Link development aims to improve accessibility in Fishguard's town centre.

The 1.84ha development comprises a link road, drainage, landscaping, public spaces and a bat house and included the demolition of multiple buildings including most notably the former junior school. The scheme also includes the construction of a new underground drainage pipeline to the east of the site.

A watching brief was requested on the works by the archaeological advisors to the planning authority, Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management, as it was considered possible that structures and deposits originating in medieval and post-medieval periods could extend into the development area.

As a result of this a watching brief was undertaken by DAT Archaeological Services during groundworks in areas of high archaeological potential as defined in a recent desk-based assessment (Day and Meek 2017).

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken on intermittent days over a four month period from January to April 2018. During the watching brief a number of archaeological features and deposits were recorded, though none considered of high archaeological significance, nor were any sealed deposits suitable for further archaeological sampling identified.

The archaeological watching brief demonstrated that the groundworks had not impacted adversely upon any significant archaeological features or deposits of either medieval or post-medieval date. Although no significant archaeological deposits were identified within the development area, it is still possible that significant archaeological remains could lie within the vicinity of the development.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services was commissioned to undertake a watching brief by Atkins during groundworks associated with the Chimneys Link development (Phase 2), in Fishguard, Pembrokeshire (roughly centred on SM 9569 3704; Figures 1 and 2). The aim of Phase 2 of the Chimney's Link development was to improve accessibility in Fishguard's town centre.
- 1.1.2 The 1.84ha development comprised a link road, drainage, landscaping, public spaces and a bat house. Buildings requiring demolition as part of the scheme included the former Fishguard Junior School and its outbuildings, the pitched roof section of the former library, and the 'Transition Bro Gwaun' building. It was also necessary, as part of the development, to modify the north end of the Co-operative supermarket delivery area and construct a new underground drainage pipeline along The Slade (the narrow strip at the east end of the development; Figure 2).
- 1.1.3 The requirement for the watching brief was placed on the development as a condition of planning permission (Pembrokeshire County Council Planning application No. 17/0422/PA) following advice from the archaeological advisors to the planning authority; Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management (DAT-DM). The condition stated that:
- No development shall take place until the applicant/developer has secured a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme of investigation shall be carried out as approved. Reason: To ensure the recording of any items of archaeological interest and to accord with policy GN.38 of the Local Development Plan for Pembrokeshire (adopted 28 February 2013).*
- 1.1.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services (Appendix I) and approved by the local planning authority prior to the commencement of groundworks. The WSI detailed the watching brief methodology and was prepared in accordance with the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) standards and guidance (CIfA 2014).
- 1.1.5 Archaeological works undertaken in advance of the Phase 1 development included a Heritage Statement prepared by Atkins (2016) and a trial trench evaluation by DAT Archaeological Services in 2017 (Enright 2017). In advance of the Phase 2 works a Historic Environment Appraisal was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services (Day and Meek 2017) and a second Heritage Statement was prepared by Atkins (2017a). A detailed Level 1 historic building record was also prepared for the former Fishguard County Primary School (Atkins 2017b), which was also part of the archaeological condition.

1.2 Scope of the Project

- 1.2.1 The written scheme of investigation (WSI) prepared by DAT Archaeological Services stated the watching brief objectives:
- To establish the state of preservation, character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits identified;
 - To use the information to implement any further mitigation scheme at the site which may be required should significant archaeological remains be identified;

- Production of a report and an archive of the results.
- 1.2.2 The overall aim of the work was archaeological attendance during proposed groundworks at the site that had the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains, and undertake appropriate investigation and recording of any such remains if revealed.
- 1.2.3 Due to the relatively low archaeological potential of the area it was suggested that as a minimum a watching brief be maintained during groundworks across the eastern side of the development site and a less intensive watching brief during any drainage works along The Slade. This approach was agreed with the DAT-DM in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the planning authority.

1.3 Report Outline

- 1.3.1 This report describes the location of the site along with its archaeological background, and provides a summary and discussion of the results of the watching brief. It has been prepared in accordance with the relevant CIfA standards and guidance (CIfA 2014).

1.4 Abbreviations

- 1.4.1 All sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded on the National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Scheduled Monument (SM). Altitude is expressed to Ordnance Datum (OD). References to cartographic and documentary evidence and published sources will be given in brackets throughout the text, with full details listed in the sources section towards the end of the report.

1.5 Illustrations

- 1.5.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale. North is towards the top of the page unless otherwise indicated.

1.6 Timeline

1.6.1 The following timeline is used within this report to give date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within the text (Table 1).

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1066	
Medieval Period –	1066 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ¹ –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

¹ The Post-Medieval and Industrial periods are combined as the Post-Medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

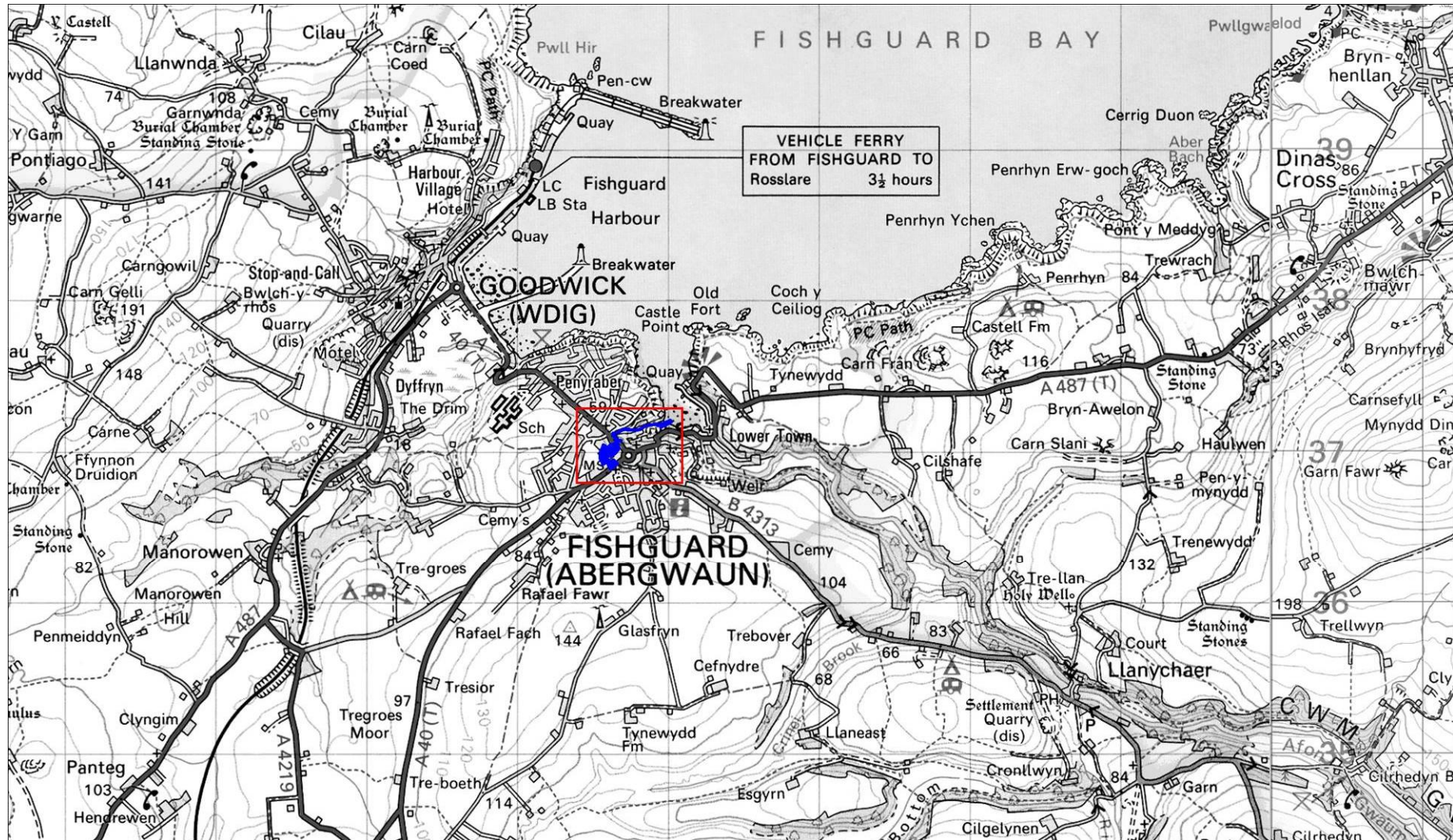


Figure 1: Map of Fishguard area, Pembrokeshire, with the Chimney's Link development area shown in blue within the red box

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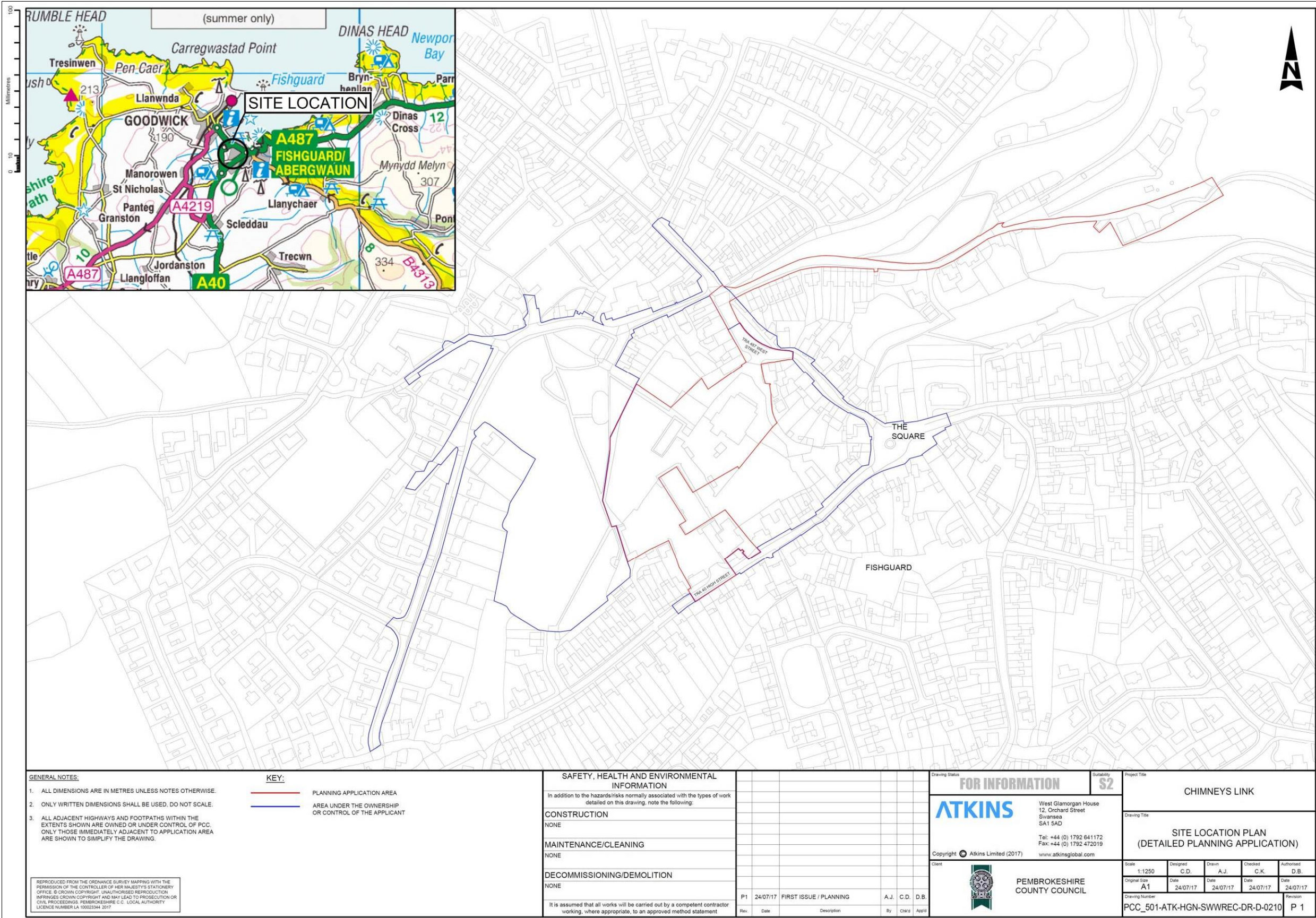


Figure 2: Map showing the location of Chimneys Link Phase 2, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire (supplied by client)

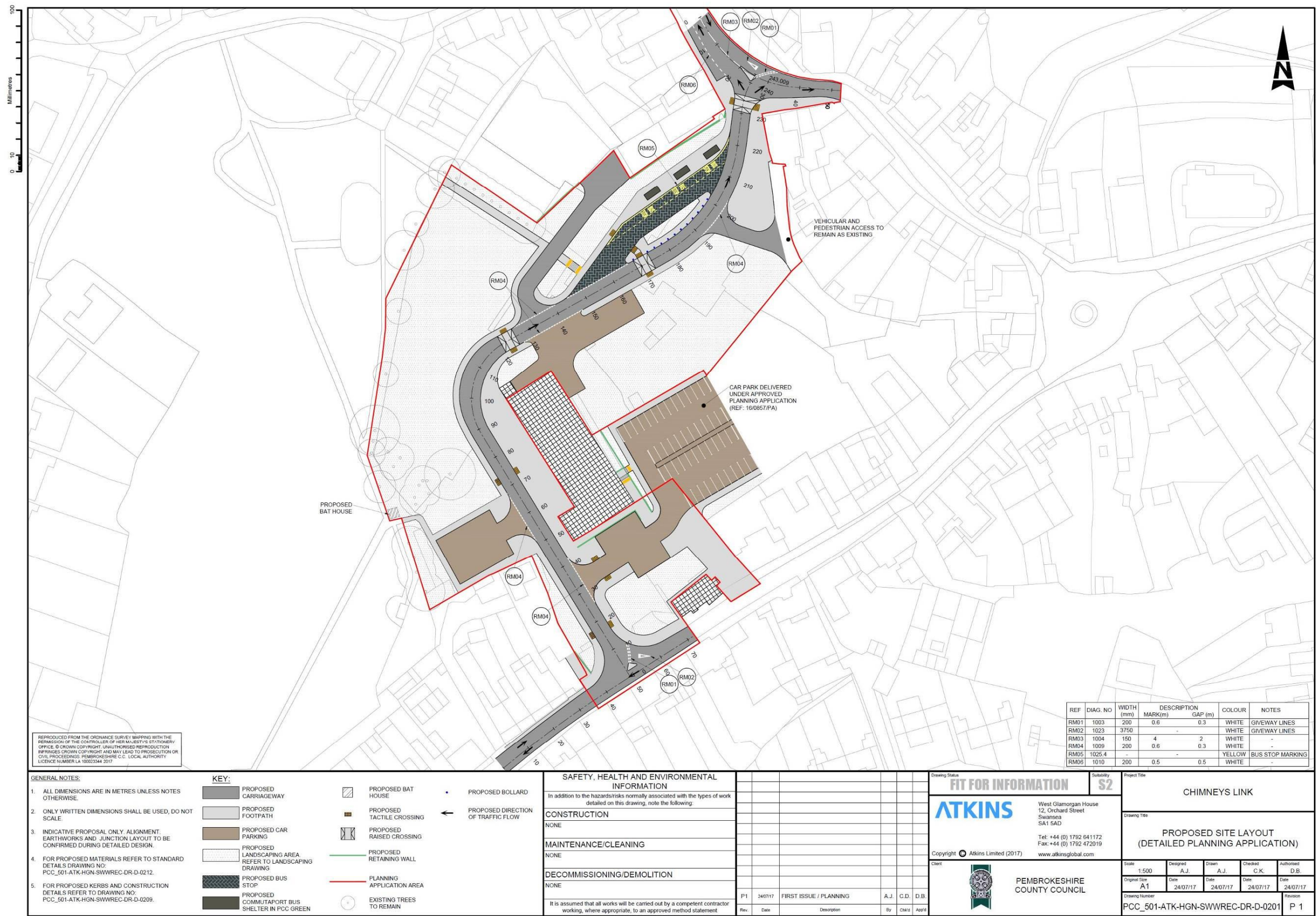


Figure 3: Proposed site layout of western part of Chimneys Link Phase 2 (supplied by client)

2. THE SITE

2.1 Location

- 2.1.1 The development area is located in the centre of Fishguard, Pembrokeshire (roughly centred on SM 9569 3704; Figures 1 and 2).
- 2.1.2 At the beginning of the scheme of works the west end of the development area was occupied by a number of buildings, namely the Co-operative store, the Ship and Anchor public house, a former library building, and Transition Bro Gwaun's building. The entrance to the Co-operative car park was from the High Street to the south. The pub, a small parking area and the former library were also located along the High Street. To the northeast of the pub/library was the new Co-op carpark built in 2017. To the north and northwest of the Co-op lies an area of scrub; in the northwest part of which are spoil tips from Phase 1 of the scheme.
- 2.1.3 The proposed drainage works will extend from Fishguard County Primary School northwards along West Street and then eastwards along the length of The Slade.
- 2.1.4 The highest point of the development area is towards the southwest at around 70m aOD. The land remains relatively level until it drops towards West Street (at around 57m aOD and then continues to fall steeply along The Slade to around 6m at its western end adjacent to the sewage works.
- 2.1.5 The underlying solid geology of the site is mainly mudstone of the Aber Mawr Shale Formation – sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 461 to 478 million years ago in the Ordovician Period. The part of West Street that is within the site boundary and the west end of The Slade sit on different bedrock: Ordovician Igneous Rhyolite of the Porth Maen Melyn Volcanic Formation. There are no overlying superficial geological deposits recorded in this area.

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.2.1 Palaeolithic archaeology is not found *in situ* in this part of Pembrokeshire because the last ice-sheets eroded away all man-made remains in their path. Mesolithic sites are scattered along the north coast of Pembrokeshire, the nearest to Fishguard being about 5km away on Strumble head. All the Mesolithic sites known in the region are the findspots of flint tools or flint-working sites, as is typical over most of Britain. There is a much higher density of Neolithic sites around Fishguard, mainly in the form of chambered tombs and stone axe findspots, which is the pattern seen throughout Wales and especially in its coastal areas.
- 2.2.2 Evidence for occupation in the Bronze Age is prolific, in line with the distribution shown in the county as a whole. Sites are mainly funerary mounds and standing stones, but there are no sites within Fishguard itself. Remains of known Iron Age date are fewer, again in line with the rest of Wales, and mainly consist of defended enclosures such as hillforts. Castle Point overlooking Fishguard Harbour is one such potential site.
- 2.2.3 The early history of the settlement of Fishguard is unclear and has not been extensively researched. The following is an extract from a desk-top assessment carried out in Fishguard by DAT in 1999 (Crane 1999):

Sambrook (1997) has noted the relatively large number of finds of Roman date, in particular coin hoards, from the Fishguard and Goodwick area which he suggests indicates a densely occupied area in the Roman

period..... It was considered that a carved stone found in Fishguard was an example of an Early Christian Monument (PRN 5010) and therefore demonstrated pre-Norman ecclesiastical use of the area and possible concomitant settlement. However, recent research has demonstrated that the stone is of probable 13th century date.

The main archaeological and historical interest of Fishguard is therefore the medieval and Post-Medieval town. Soulsby (1983) considers that the town was founded in the late 11th century when Martin of Tours granted 'Abergwaun' to Jordan of Cantington along with other lands in the lordship of Cemais. This foundation of a town at this date is unlikely as the Welsh soon re-conquered South Wales. However, by 1115 Cemais was in the hands of the Anglo-Norman lord Robert Fitzmartin (Murphy 1994). He initially founded his castle at Nevern, and later, in the late 12th century, he transferred it to Newport, where he also founded a town. It is unlikely that Fitzmartin would allow a second town within the lordship of Cemais to compete with his new foundation at Newport, and therefore the existence of a sizeable settlement at Fishguard prior to the 13th century must be questioned.

A church was recorded at Fishguard in 1291 (Ludlow 1998), but this need not imply the presence of an adjoining settlement. It is assumed that the 13th century church was situated on the present site. The extant church dates to 1855-57. Fishguard has no charter, and therefore assumed the status and functions of a town by tradition. It is not known when a settlement developed at Fishguard or when it achieved a size sufficiently large to be considered a town. However, its status was such that by at least 1586 a portreeve was elected, and later documents record burgesses (Jones 1977). The decline of Newport in the 16th century – hastened by plague according to tradition (Soulsby 1983) – probably added to Fishguard's size and status. The better harbour facilities offered by Fishguard over Newport also did not harm the former town's growth over its near neighbour.

- 2.2.4 The town has prospered since medieval times as a sea port, first for the trade of goods and now as a major ferry port, with an economic decline in between. The more detailed history of the town during this period is given in A Character Appraisal and Management Plan for part of Fishguard by Pembrokeshire County Council (2016).
- 2.2.5 The results of the Historic Environment Appraisal (Day and Meek 2017) can be summarised as follows:
- a) *The proposed Chimneys Link Phase 2 development will include the demolition of the Fishguard County Primary School, which is of historical significance. Two former air raid shelters within the area have been previously demolished. Other than the school and air raid shelters there are no other known archaeological remains within the planning application boundary. The archaeological potential for hitherto unknown archaeological sites to be present within the proposed development area is considered to be low/moderate.*
 - b) *Information held on the HER indicates that a Bronze Age cremation cemetery was uncovered by Fenton in the early 19th century to the west of the application area. The exact location is not known and so there is some potential that the cemetery could be located within or extend into the site boundary. Remains of this date would be of regional archaeological importance.*

- c) *There have been a number of finds of Romano British or Iron Age date within the town of Fishguard which may indicate a pre-cursor to the medieval settlement was present during these periods. The potential for further remains of this date to be present cannot be discounted. Remains of this date would be of at least regional archaeological importance.*
- d) *The highest archaeological potential would be for medieval and post-medieval remains associated with the development of Fishguard. Although earlier cartographic sources indicate that most of the western part of the application area was located within agricultural land (which is likely to have been so in the medieval period as well) the boundary does include part of the street frontage on High Street, West Street and The Chimneys. The grassed and pathed area on the northwestern side of West Street opposite the former school is known to have had at least one former building on it. Remains of medieval or post-medieval date would be considered to be of local archaeological importance.*
- e) *The archaeological potential of the site will have been compromised to some extent from previous development. The school and air raid shelters will have disturbed earlier archaeological remains. Drainage and services associated with these and the more recent supermarket will have caused disturbance of below ground deposits, as would the processes of constructing the car parks and road ways that presently exist.*
- f) *It is considered that the development proposals will have very minor or negligible negative impacts upon the current setting listed buildings within the vicinity of the site. The majority will not be affected. The creation of a link road creating a one-way clockwise gyratory system through the centre of Fishguard would be seen as a positive impact upon the setting of listed buildings adjacent to the roads, reducing traffic flow past many of the buildings. The narrow roads that presently exist for two way traffic do have the threat of accidental impacts with buildings by traffic, which could be vastly reduced by the new road system.*
- g) *The one scheduled monument of Castle Point Fort has minimal views of the development site and it is considered that distance, tree cover and the existing urban townscape will make any setting impacts negligible. The registered historic park and garden on the eastern side of Fishguard is not intervisible with the site and will thus there will be no setting impacts.*

3. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 This watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the relevant CifA Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2014). The Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix I), outlining the archaeological works proposed and providing a detailed methodology for the watching brief, was approved by the DAT-DM prior to the commencement of the scheme of works.
- 3.1.2 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual² used by DAT Archaeological Services.

3.2 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

- 3.2.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork has been collated into a site archive structured in accordance with the specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011). *The National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives* have also been adhered to (The Federation of Museums & Art Galleries of Wales 2017). A digital archive will be deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments Wales (RCAHMW), created to their requirements (ibid.).
- 3.2.2 The results of the fieldwork have been assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report includes a desk-based research element to ensure that the site is placed within its wider archaeological context.
- 3.2.3 This report is fully representative of the results of the fieldwork.

3.3 Timetabling of Fieldwork

- 3.3.1 The watching brief was undertaken over several days during the first half of 2018; comprising 15th January, 16th January, 19th January, 13th March, 14th March, and the 23rd-25th of April.

² DAT Archaeological Services has adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Watching Brief 15th, 16th and 19th January 2018

- 4.1 Groundworks took place north and west of the Co-operative store, west of the old school canteen. A description and photographic record of the works is given here, with Figure 4 showing the positions from which each photo was taken and the direction of the shot. Photos 1-5 show the south part of the site before the commencement of the Phase 2 groundworks.

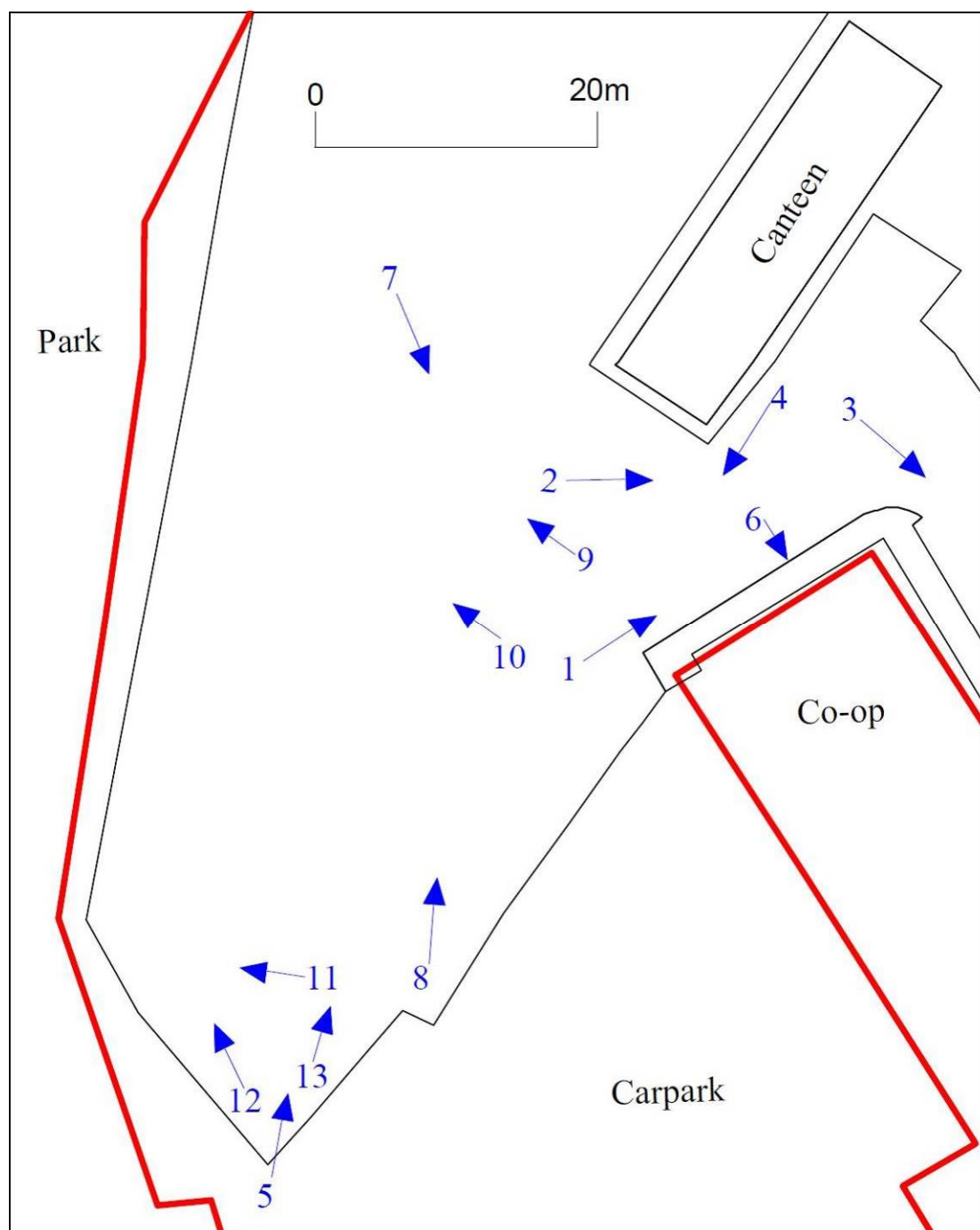


Figure 4: Map of area northwest of Co-op, showing the positions and directions of Photos 14 – 23



Photo 1: Looking east-northeast at the old school canteen (left) and old school (right beyond the vehicles), and the Co-operative store (at right at top of embankment)



Photo 2: Looking east-southeast at old school and contractor compound



Photo 3: Looking south-southeast from just northeast of Co-op towards new Co-op carpark beyond contractor compound



Photo 4: Looking southwest at the area north of the Co-op due to be topsoil-stripped, with stone bank running away at left edge



Photo 5: Looking east-northeast at greater part of area north of Co-op under redevelopment, with spoil tips on left and old school canteen on right

15th January 2018

- 4.2 Topsoil, and in places a small depth of subsoil, were machine excavated across a small area immediately to the north of the Co-operative store. The machining was carried out by a 14 tonne machine with a toothless bucket to a depth of c.0.3m. No archaeological features or deposits were observed during this machining. The subsoil was light brownish yellow friable silty clay. This area sits c. 2.0m lower in height than the Co-op store itself and an embankment exists between them, supporting the Co-op foundations. A stepped-slot excavated through this embankment showed that it comprised layers of re-deposited material probably laid down when the store was built (Photo 6).

16th January 2018

- 4.3 Topsoil stripping to the same depth continued on 16th January, extending the area already machined slightly to the north, and as far west as required for the Chimney's Link works (Photos 7 and 8). Two small features of probable archaeological origin were observed at the interface between the topsoil and the subsoil – the first, a large, faced stone (Photos 7 and 9) c.0.4m in length was partially revealed buried in subsoil. The width and depth were not recorded as the stone remained buried. The second feature was an area of heat-affected, blackened and shattered stone, possibly indicating the incidence of a man-made fire. This area was roughly circular with a diameter of c.1m (Photos 8 and 10).



Photo 6: Looking south-southwest at stepped-slot excavated through made-up ground embankment just north of Co-op store.



Photo 7: Looking south-southwest at area stripped on 16th Jan, showing location of large stone west of old school canteen, 0.5m scale. Area stripped on 15th Jan visible on left has been resurfaced.



Photo 8: Looking northeast at greater part of area stripped on 16th Jan, with 0.5m scale bar marking location of heat-affected stone. The area stripped on 15th Jan visible on right has been re-surfaced.



Photo 9: Looking north-northwest at large stone embedded in top of subsoil 15m west of old school canteen, possibly faced, 0.5m scale



Photo 10: Looking north-northwest at small area of heat-affected stone at topsoil-subsoil interface, 25m west of old school canteen, 0.5m scale

19th January 2018

- 4.4 The watching brief continued on 19th January while a rectangular sunken feature in the northwest corner of the site was cleared of vegetation to investigate its nature (Photos 11 and 12). It measured 4.0m long by 2.0m wide by 1.0m deep and had been excavated down to the natural bedrock with the spoil deposited in a low mound directly to its east. Its size and shape and free draining sides and base would suggest that it was originally created as a soakaway servicing a nearby dwelling. This pit was backfilled and landscaped into its surroundings using material from the nearby spoil heaps that were created during groundworks associated with the recently built new Co-op carpark. Some of this material was also used to firm and level the areas stripped on 15th and 16th January.
- 4.5 A very large stone boulder (Photo 13) was discovered lying in the vegetation midway between the soakaway and the stone bank along the field boundary to the south. This stone may have fallen from the stone bank, but its regular shape and size – 0.55m by 0.4m by 0.4m – suggests that it was part of, or intended for, a more substantial structure or building.



Photo 11: Looking north-northwest at probable soakaway in northwest corner of area north of Co-op



Photo 12: Looking north at rectangular pit after clearance of vegetation, 1m scale



Photo 13: Looking northeast at very large boulder midway between stone wall and rectangular pit, 0.5m scale

Watching Brief 13th-14th March 2018

- 4.6 A trench was excavated for new services north of the old school canteen, which by this date had been demolished. The ground northwest of the Co-op had been made-up since the last visit to the site in January and a bat house had been erected (Photos 14 – 16). Figure 5 shows the approximate location of the trench, the new bat-house, and the locations and directions of photos taken during this two-day period.
- 4.7 Photos 17 and 18 show the north end of the excavated trench. The trench sections show layers of made-up ground comprising thin alternating bands of dark and light material including clay, buried soil, ash and building rubble. The entire trench was c.15.0m long, c.1.0m wide and varied in depth from c.0.7m at its north end to 1.2m at its south end.

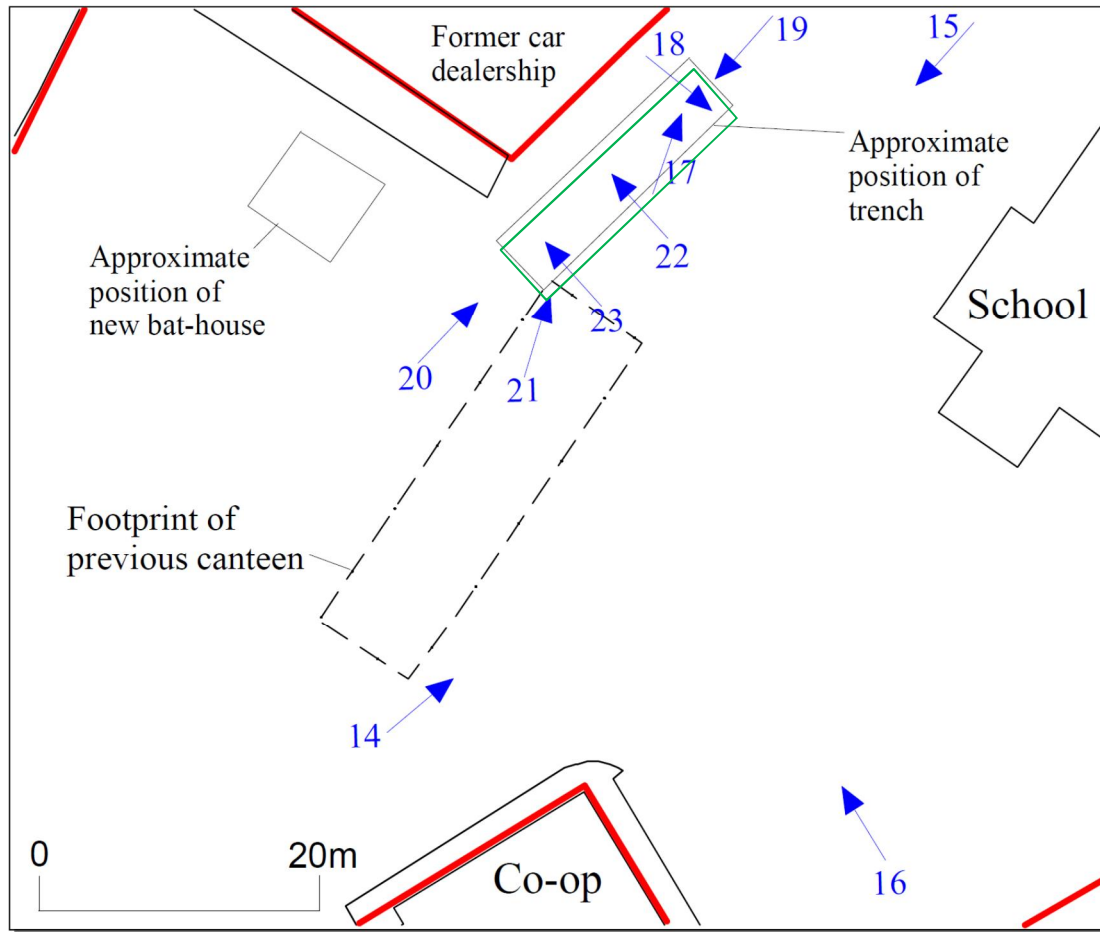


Figure 5: Map of area north of Co-op, showing the positions and directions of Photos 14 – 23



Photo 14: Looking northeast from the new area of built-up ground northwest of the Co-op towards school (PRN 20116)



Photo 15: Looking southwest from the trench location towards the new area of built-up ground northwest of the Co-op



Photo 16: Looking west across new area of built-up ground on previous site of old school canteen (PRN 20116), with trench location just this side of the skip on the right, and new bat-house on the left



Photo 17: Looking north at north end of trench after excavation showing in section the layers of made-up ground, with 1m scale



Photo 18: Looking southeast at the detail of the layers of made-up ground at the north end of the trench, with 0.5m scale

- 4.8 Pre-existing service pipes and cables were revealed during the excavation of the trench and were left intact during the works (Photos 19 – 21). Photo 20 shows the whole excavated trench.
- 4.9 Two archaeological structures of low significance were recorded in the trench during the excavation. The first of these was a stone-filled drain half way along the trench, which was recorded in the south-facing section (Photo 22). At the south end of the trench a rough stone wall foundation was present, which can be seen in the south-facing section in Photos 21 and 23.



Photo 19: Looking southwest along the excavated trench during insertion of new pipes, with previous services crossing the trench.



Photo 20: Looking northeast along the excavated trench



Photo 21: Looking northwest at trench after excavation, with wall foundation in section to left of 1m scale



Photo 22: Looking northwest at detail of a truncated stone-filled drain half way along the trench, with a 1m scale



Photo 23: Looking northwest at detail of wall foundation seen in section at south end of trench, with 1m scale

Watching Brief 23rd-25th April, 2018

- 4.10 A watching brief was undertaken along the road called The Slade which is located to the east of the main development site (Figures 2 and 3) where it slopes down towards the harbour edge. The watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of a trench for the installation of a new storm water pipe for a proposed one-way system.
- 4.11 The length of excavated trench that was watched was located between the harbour and the eastern end of this road; an area of rough grass verge (Photos 24 and 25). This stretch of trench lies in close vicinity of two well preserved lime kilns and the location of former fishermen's cottages (Day and Meek 2017).



Photo 24: Showing area of watching brief with harbour beyond. Looking north-east



Photo 25: Showing area of excavation with lime kilns to the north. Looking north-west

- 4.12 The monitored section of trench was excavated using a 0.60m wide toothless bucket using a 360° degree excavator. The trench was excavated and the pipe laid in 4.0m sections so it was not possible to see the whole excavation in one episode.
- 4.13 The monitored trench measured 25.0m x 0.60m with a maximum depth of 3.4m. There were also two manholes excavated along this length for which a wider hole measuring 1.6m x 1.6m was dug.
- 4.14 Photos 26 and 27 show a section typical of the ground through which the trench was excavated. The soils consisted largely of silts, rubble with occasional inclusions of humic topsoil, large angular stones and other detritus. There were three detectable layers of deposition, which were dark grey, blackish and muddy brown respectively from top to bottom (see Photos 26 & 27). All of these layers had modern rubbish throughout and are of low archaeological significance. They are possibly a result of the construction of the nearby sewerage station located to the south-west.
- 4.15 The natural-substrata in this area was briefly visible during the watching brief; when it appeared to be mid-grey/blue clay with large stone inclusions.
- 4.16 No archaeologically significant deposits or features were recorded during this phase of the watching brief.



Photo 26: Typical trench section. Looking south with 1m scale



Photo 27: Typical trench extent. Looking south-west with 1m scale

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 A watching brief was carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a new road and associated infrastructure during Phase 2 of the Chimney's Link project in Fishguard. It was considered that there was potential for significant archaeological remains to be present within the development area. Therefore, a condition was placed on planning permission for the development requiring an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during groundworks.
- 5.2 During ground works taking place on the 15th, 16th and 19th of January 2018 a probable soakaway was identified in the northwest corner of the development area as well as a very large stone which was thought to be re-deposited. The regular shape and size of the stone suggested that it was part of, or intended for, a substantial structure or building.
- 5.3 Features of low archaeological significance were recorded on the 13th and 14th of March 2018 during the excavation of the new sewage pipeline which ran across the main part of the site. The excavation of a trench for this pipeline revealed that the area through which it ran comprised large amounts of made-up ground of relatively modern origin. The remains of a stone drain and the foundation trench of a modern building were recorded within the trench; both considered of low archaeological significance.
- 5.4 The deposits recorded in the excavated trench situated along The Slade road between the 23rd and 25th April 2018 all contained modern detritus and of modern date. These modern deposits are possibly associated with the construction of the nearby sewerage works at the base of the hill.
- 5.5 Overall the development did not have an adverse effect upon the archaeological resource. No archaeologically significant deposits were recorded during the three phases of watching brief, no human remains were detected, nor were any sealed deposits suitable for further archaeological sampling recorded.
- 5.6 Although no archaeological deposits were identified within the development area, it is still possible that significant archaeological remains could lie within the vicinity of the development.

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APPENDIX I:

CHIMNEY'S LINK PHASE 2 DEVELOPMENT, FISHGUARD, PEMBROKESHIRE PLANNING APPLICATION REF. NO 17/0422/PA

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Planning application No. 17/0422/PA has been submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council for a new mixed-use development of the Chimneys Link (Phase 2) development, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire (roughly centred on SM 9569 3704; Figure 1). The proposed development site is the second phase of the Chimney's Link development, aiming to improve the accessibility of Fishguard town centre.
- 1.2 The proposed Phase 2 development site covers an area of around 1.84ha and would include the following new components: A link road, drainage, landscaping, public spaces and a bat house. The former Fishguard Junior School, its outbuildings, and the pitched roof section of the former library and the Transition Bro Gwaun building would all be demolished. Alterations would be made to the delivery area of the Co-operative supermarket. Figure 2 shows the current development plans in the main area of works at its west end. The scheme also comprises construction of a new underground drainage pipeline along The Slade (the narrow strip at the east end of the development; Figure 1).
- 1.3 The main development area at the west end of the site is currently occupied by a number of buildings, namely the Co-operative store, the Ship and Anchor public house, a former library building, and Transition Bro Gwaun's building. The entrance to the existing car park for the Co-operative is from the High Street just to the south. The pub, a small parking area and the former library are also located along the High Street. To the northeast of the pub/library lies a grassed area which was previously used as a playing field for the former Fishguard Junior School which lies further to the northeast. The entrance to the school is on West Street. Further open land is present to the west/northwest of the Cooperative supermarket car park.
- 1.4 The proposed drainage works will extend from the school, northwards along West Street and then eastwards along the length of The Slade leading down towards the Aber Gwaun inlet.
- 1.5 The highest point of the site lies towards the southwestern end at around 70m aOD. The land remains relatively level as far as the former Fishguard Junior School, at which point it drops towards West Street (at around 57m aOD and then continues to fall steeply along The Slade to around 6m at its western end adjacent to the sewage works.
- 1.6 Archaeological works undertaken in advance of the Phase 1 development have included a Heritage Statement prepared by Atkins (2016) and a trial trench evaluation by DAT Archaeological Services in 2017 (Enright 2017) undertaken to an approved Written Scheme of Investigation. In advance of the Phase 2 works a Historic Environment Appraisal was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services (Day and Meek 2017) and a second Heritage Statement was prepared by Atkins (2017a). A detailed Level 1 Historic Building record has also already been prepared for the former Fishguard County Primary School (Atkins 2017b)
- 1.7 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI or specification) has been prepared by DAT Archaeological Services (the contracting arm of Dyfed

Archaeological Trust) in response to a request from Ana Stuermer of Atkins, for a scheme of archaeological works in advance of a determination of the planning application for the proposed Phase 2 of the new mixed-use development. The content of the WSI has been discussed and agreed with the archaeological advisors to the planning authority, Development Management – Dyfed Archaeological Trust. The WSI proposes a methodology for an archaeological watching brief within the proposed Phase 2 development area. A scheme of building recording for the former school was also initially prepared, which has already been completed by Atkins (2017b).

1.8 The results of the Historic Environment Appraisal (Day and Meek 2017) can be summarised as follows:

- h) The proposed Chimneys Link Phase 2 development will include the demolition of the Fishguard County Primary School, which is of historical significance. Two former air raid shelters within the area have been previously demolished. Other than the school and air raid shelters there are no other known archaeological remains within the planning application boundary. The archaeological potential for hitherto unknown archaeological sites to be present within the proposed development area is considered to be low/moderate.
- i) Information held on the HER indicates that a Bronze Age cremation cemetery was uncovered by Fenton in the early 19th century to the west of the application area. The exact location is not known and so there is some potential that the cemetery could be located within or extend into the site boundary. Remains of this date would be of regional archaeological importance.
- j) There have been a number of finds of Romano British or Iron Age date within the town of Fishguard which may indicate a pre-cursor to the medieval settlement was present during these periods. The potential for further remains of this date to be present cannot be discounted. Remains of this date would be of at least regional archaeological importance.
- k) The highest archaeological potential would be for medieval and post-medieval remains associated with the development of Fishguard. Although earlier cartographic sources indicate that most of the western part of the application area was located within agricultural land (which is likely to have been so in the medieval period as well) the boundary does include part of the street frontage on High Street, West Street and The Chimneys. The grassed and pathed area on the northwestern side of West Street opposite the former school is known to have had at least one former building on it. Remains of medieval or post-medieval date would be considered to be of local archaeological importance.
- l) The archaeological potential of the site will have been compromised to some extent from previous development. The school and air raid shelters will have disturbed earlier archaeological remains. Drainage and services associated with these and the more recent supermarket will have caused disturbance of below ground deposits, as would the processes of constructing the car parks and road ways that presently exist.
- m) It is considered that the development proposals will have very minor or negligible negative impacts upon the current setting listed buildings within the vicinity of the site. The majority will not be affected. The creation of a link road creating a one-way clockwise gyratory system through the centre of Fishguard would be seen as a positive impact upon the setting of listed buildings adjacent to the roads, reducing traffic flow past many of the

buildings. The narrow roads that presently exist for two way traffic do have the threat of accidental impacts with buildings by traffic, which could be vastly reduced by the new road system.

- n) The one scheduled monument of Castle Point Fort has minimal views of the development site and it is considered that distance, tree cover and the existing urban townscape will make any setting impacts negligible. The registered historic park and garden on the eastern side of Fishguard is not intervisible with the site and will thus there will be no setting impacts.
- 1.9 The Heritage Statement prepared for the site by Atkins (September 2017a) concluded the findings as: *Overall, it is considered that a balance can be successfully struck between ensuring the heritage assets are protected along with sympathetic design of the Scheme that will enhance and improve the future viability and vitality of the town centre. The Scheme is carefully designed to minimise significant negative impact to the Fishguard Conservation Area, the listed buildings and their settings.*
- The Scheme proposals recognise the importance of the surrounding area and buildings as heritage assets and it seeks to protect and enhance the Conservation Area, creating new areas of open space and diverting traffic from the historic centre. The introduction of the link road and relocation of the bus focal point will enhance the Conservation Area's key spaces with the reduction of traffic along West Street, High Street and through the Square. The design of both entrance and exit points of the link road, along with soft landscaping, will provide aesthetically pleasing transitions in and out of the Conservation Area. This will mitigate the impact of the loss of the former school building, and enhance the new link road in views to and from the Conservation Area. The design of the Scheme will ensure that the historic significance of views from key vistas into, and out of, the Conservation Area, will not be substantially harmed.*
- 1.10 Recommendations for Further Archaeological Works were laid out in the Historic Environment Appraisal which included a programme of building recording of the Fishguard County Primary School prior to its demolition, which has already been completed by Atkins (2017b). Due to the relatively low archaeological potential of the area it was suggested that as a minimum a watching brief is maintained during groundworks within the eastern side of the development site and a less intensive watching brief during any drainage works along The Slade. This approach has been agreed with the Development management Section of Dyfed Archaeological trust in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the planning authority.
- 1.11 This WSI details the methodology of the evaluation which will be undertaken and has been prepared in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for An Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2014). The works should be undertaken by a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and managed by a Member of the CIfA (MCIfA level).

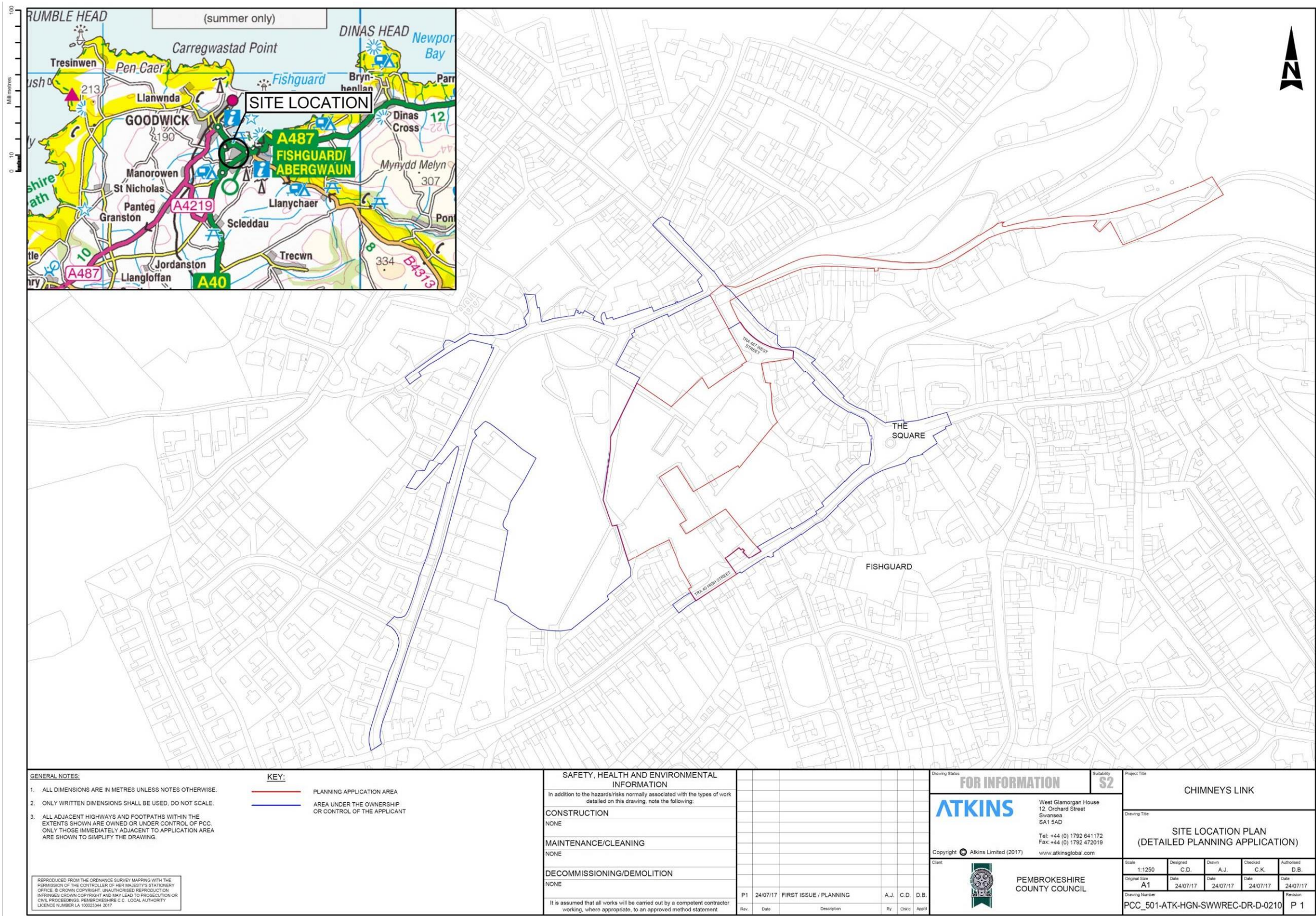


Figure 1: Map showing the location of Chimneys Link Phase 2, Fishguard, Pembrokeshire (supplied by client).

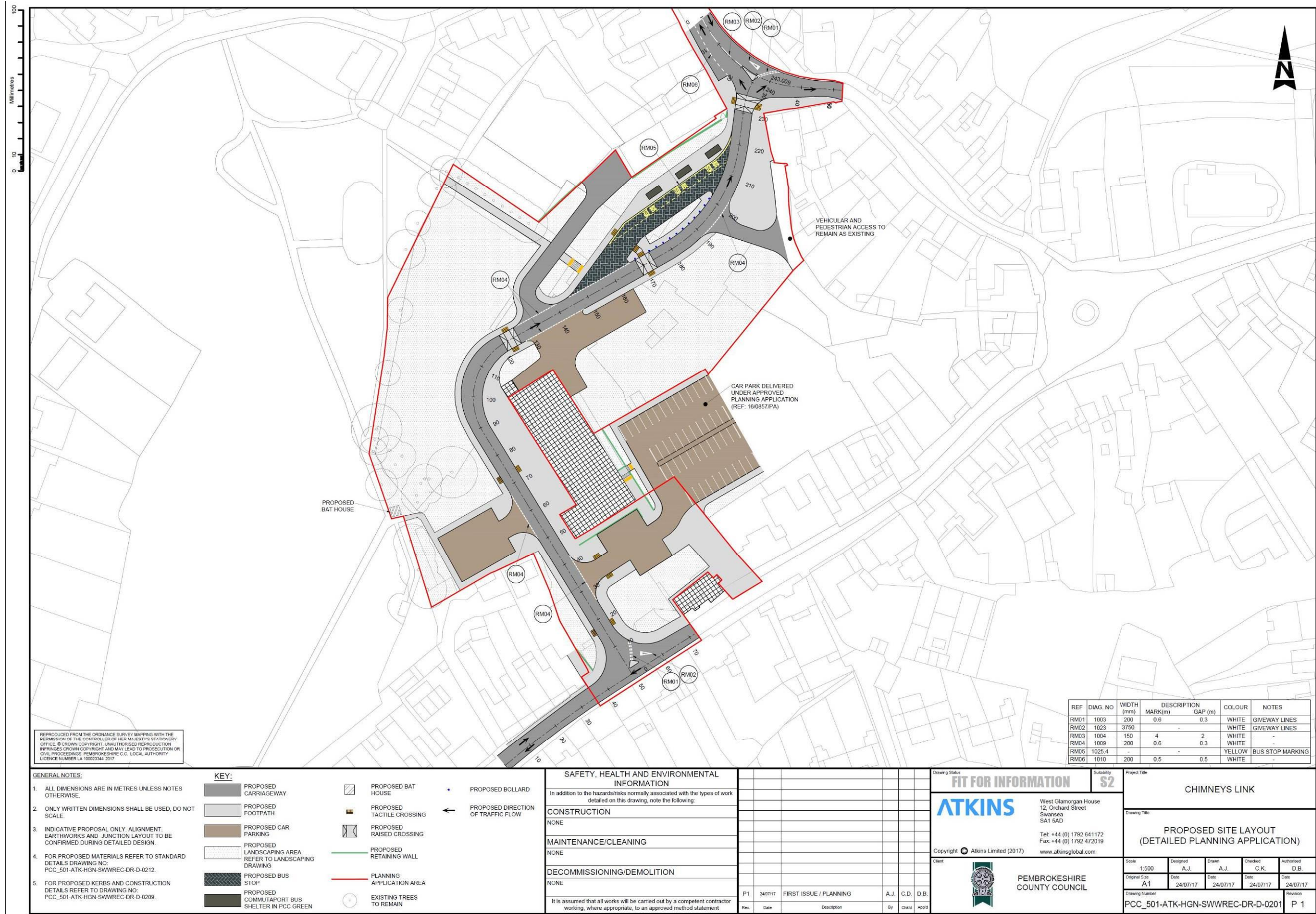


Figure 2: Proposed site layout of western part of Chimneys Link Phase 2, supplied by client

2. WATCHING BRIEF

- 2.1 The definition of archaeological watching brief, taken from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA S&G: AWB 2014) is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.
- 2.2 The purpose of a watching brief, as laid down in the CIfA S&G AWB is:
- to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works;*
- to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment.*
- 2.3 This document provides a scheme of works for: ***The implementation of an archaeological watching brief within the area of the proposed Phase 2 area of the Chimneys Link development at Fishguard, Pembrokeshire. A report shall be prepared on the results of the archaeological watching brief and an archive created of all finds, records, photographs and plans created. Further mitigation may possibly need to be implemented where significant archaeological remains are identified by the watching brief.***
- 2.4 The following tasks will be completed:
- Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology for the intrusive trial trench evaluation which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake (this document);
 - To establish the state of preservation, character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits identified;
 - To use the information to implement any further mitigation scheme at the site which may be required should significant archaeological remains be identified;
 - Production of a report and an archive of the results.

3 HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

- 3.1 The historic building recording of the former Fishguard County Primary School has already prepared by Atkins (2017b), undertaken to a Level 1 standard as defined in the Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice' (2016). This level of recording is described thus:

Level 1 is essentially a basic visual record, supplemented by the minimum of information needed to identify the building's location, age and type. This is the simplest record, and it will not normally be an end in itself, but will be contributory to a wider study.

Level 1 surveys will generally be of exteriors only, though the interior of a building may sometimes be seen in order to make a superficial inspection

and to note significant features. Only if circumstances and objectives allow will any drawings be produced, and these are likely to take the form of sketches.

- 3.2 The Level 1 survey prepared by Atkins provides not only a good record of the exterior of the former school building, but also collates the historic background included within the Chimney's Link Phase 2 Heritage Statement (Atkins 2017a). The report includes photographs of the interior of the building and significant features within. Plans show the locations and directions of photographs used within the report. Overall the survey would be described as a detailed Level 1 survey and provides a good record of the building.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

- 4.1 A watching brief during groundworks will be maintained on the western side of the development area (in and around the Cooperative store and the former Fishguard County Primary School. This would normally be done at the site strip phase, where archaeological remains could be exposed, damaged or destroyed by the works. The watching brief on the eastern side of the area, where the drainage run is proposed along The Slade, an intermittent watching brief will be undertaken. If areas are identified where previous disturbance has removed any archaeological remains, these will not be subject to an archaeological watching brief.
- 4.2 The archaeologist would monitor the groundworks and aim to identify any archaeological remains. They will have the authority to halt groundworks in areas where archaeological remains are identified until they have been further investigated and recorded. Areas of archaeological interest will be demarcated and made known to site contractors.
- 4.3 Adequate time must be made available to the visiting archaeologist to ensure that appropriate recording can be undertaken of any archaeological features or deposits exposed during ground works.
- 4.4 Features containing deposits of environmental significance will be sampled. The samples will be retained in stable conditions until analysis can be arranged.
- 4.5 All deposits will be recorded by archaeological context record sheet, scale drawing, photography and site notebooks. All individual deposits will be numbered using the open-ended numbering system in accordance with a recognised system, such as the DAT Archaeological Services' Recording Manual. Significant deposits will be recorded by scale drawing (no less than 1:20); drawn plans will be related to Ordnance Datum and, where possible, known boundaries. A digital photographic record will be maintained as a minimum using a high resolution camera, with photographic information recorded for all photographs taken..
- 4.6 All archaeologically significant artefacts, ecofacts and samples will be retained and, where possible, related to the contexts from which they derived. Sensitive materials will be stored in appropriately stable conditions. Finds will be temporarily stored by the Archaeological contractor in stable conditions. All finds, except those deemed to be Treasure, will remain the property of the landowner, but it is assumed that permission will have been given by the landowner for these to be stored as part of the archive in a suitable repository (ownership will still be with the landowner).
- 4.7 Under the 1996 Treasure Act, "treasure" can be summarised as:

- Any object other than a coin containing at least 10% gold or silver and at least 300 years old;
 - Any prehistoric assemblage of base metal;
 - Coins found together which contain 10% gold or silver (but no single coins) and groups of at least 10 coins of other metals, provided they are at least 300 years old;
 - Any object found associated with treasure except unworked natural objects; and
 - Any object which would have been Treasure Trove before the 1996 Act but not covered above.
- 4.8 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the development, or where unexpected archaeological remains of high significance are exposed, the appointed archaeological contractor will have the power to halt any ground works and shall inform the client and Development Management – Dyfed Archaeological Trust, and prepare a written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by all parties, if required, a contingency scheme for salvage excavation of affected archaeological features may need to be implemented. This event would need to be covered by contingency financial arrangements within the project budgets.
- 4.9 In the unlikely event of the discovery of human remains (including cist graves) they will, at this evaluation stage, be left *in situ*. If removal is necessary it will only take place following the granting of all permissions in writing by the relevant authorities and at a later stage of any necessary archaeological works (a burial licence granted from the Ministry of Justice).

5 POST-FIELDWORK REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

- 5.1 All data recovered during the watching brief will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with the specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. The *National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives* produced by the Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales will also be adhered to. Digital archives will be collated using the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales systems (2015) and deposited with the RCAHMW.
- 5.2 The results of the fieldwork will be assessed in local, regional and wider contexts.
- 5.3 The report will include a desk-based assessment element (summarised from the existing reports) to place the site into its wider context within the area.
- 5.4 The project archive, including all significant artefacts and ecofacts (excepting those which may be deemed to be Treasure) will be deposited with an appropriate body following agreement with the landowner.
- 5.5 The appointed archaeological consultant will arrange for the deposition of finds, and ascertain the costs of storage and deposition, with an approved body before the project commences and inform the curator of the arrangement which has been made (it is anticipated that the archive will be deposited with the Pembrokeshire Archives/Scolton Manor).

- 5.6 A summary of the project results, excluding any confidential information, may be prepared for wider dissemination (e.g. Archaeology in Wales and special interest and period-specific journals).
- 5.7 A digital copy and two bound copies of the reports will be produced for the client. Digital copies of the report will be supplied to Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management and the regional Historic Environment Record.

6 STAFF

- 6.1 The project should be managed by a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA).
- 6.2 The on-site works will be undertaken by experienced archaeologists, ideally with CSCS cards.

7 MONITORING

- 7.1 The archaeological watching brief may need to be monitored by the archaeological advisor to the planning authority, Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management. This should be arranged before the commencement of fieldwork in order to give at least one week's notice before the start of the works.

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 7.1 Service information should be obtained prior to the start of the works.
- 7.2 A health and safety risk assessment must be prepared prior to the works commencing to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.
- 7.3 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed.
- 7.4 All site inductions, H&S procedures, H&S constraints and site rules of the client or any on-site contractor will be made known to the archaeological contractor at the start of the works.
- 7.5 Safety helmets, high visibility vests and boots are to be used by all site personnel as necessary. The developer will make all site staff aware of any other PPE³ that may be required.

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CHIMNEY'S LINK PHASE 2 DEVELOPMENT, FISHGUARD, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2018/02
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 111224

Ebrill 2018
April 2018

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by

ALICE DAY

Swydd / Position: **Archaeologist**

Llofnod / Signature  Date 22/05/18

LUKE JENKINS

Swydd / Position: **Archaeologist**

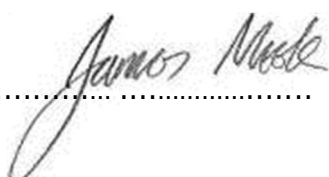
Llofnod / Signature LUKE JENKINS Date 22/05/18

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
This report has been checked and approved by

JAMES MEEK

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: **Head of DAT Archaeological Services**

Llofnod / Signature  Date 21/11/2017

*Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau
sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn*

*As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any
comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report*

ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol

