



New Forest National Park Authority

Draft Research Strategy: Neolithic and Bronze Age

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The New Forest National Park is a modern administrative area mainly comprising heathlands and coastland between the River Avon to the west and the Solent to the east. Topographically and geographically this area forms part of the Hampshire Basin, a low lying area of central southern Britain south of the Wessex Downs.
- 1.2 The Neolithic and Bronze Age are conventional sub-divisions of prehistory spanning the periods 4000 BC – 2000 BC (Neolithic) and 2000 BC – 700 BC (Bronze Age), the fourth, third, second and early first millennia BC.
- 1.3 During Neolithic and Bronze Age times the Hampshire Basin was extensively occupied. Settlements, ceremonial sites, burial grounds, and spreads of stray finds dominate the recorded archaeology. Land to the east of the Avon that has been heavily developed in recent centuries is especially rich in archaeological material of Neolithic and Bronze Age date; less material has been recorded in areas with lower levels of recent development but there is currently no reason to believe these areas were any less intensively used in prehistoric times.
- 1.4 On a regional scale it may be noted that the Hampshire Basin provides the hinterland for areas on the Wessex Downs characterised by ceremonial centres such as those around Stonehenge. Rivers including the Avon and the Test link the Channel coastlands with the Wessex Downs and may have provided route-ways for communities living in the area. Accordingly, research strategies appropriate to the New Forest need to take account of their wider context.
- 1.5 The strategy points summarised in this document derive from presentations and discussions at a round-table seminar held on 23 March 2017 at the New Forest Community Centre, Lyndhurst. A list of participants is attached as Appendix 1. These notes were compiled and edited by Kerry Barrass, Frank Green, and Timothy Darvill.

2. Principles

The Research Strategy aims to:

- Identify gaps in archaeological knowledge regarding the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods of the New Forest, and suggest ways in which these can be addressed over the next five to ten years.
- Facilitate interactions with the planning process, to maximise opportunities for archaeological investigation offered by development.
- Facilitate interactions with other organisations working in and around the New Forest, to maximise opportunities for archaeological investigation offered by work such as maintenance and reconstruction.
- Provide an over-arching statement of research aims, to help ensure that all organizations carrying out archaeological investigations in the New Forest (for example: contractors, community groups, academic institutions, archaeological societies etc.) work towards common goals and meaningful research.
- Recognize that negative evidence (both historical and archaeological) does not imply that there is no evidence to find. Work specifications should seek to either confirm or overturn earlier assessments, with a presumption in favour of archaeological investigation even in areas where potential has previously been considered low.
- Enable that work specifications need to be reflexive to the aims of the Research Strategy and emerging discoveries even when work is underway.
- Ensure that any archaeological investigation gives value for money, by avoiding research questions that are inappropriate or of low priority for the New Forest, and through the avoidance of investigation techniques that are unlikely to yield useful information.
- Address both problem-oriented and curiosity-driven research.
- Be pragmatic by identifying the most pressing research questions which need to be addressed and which are likely to be achievable either through single projects or by collating the results of multiple smaller projects.
- Deliver a flexible set of research requirements as a living document, which can be dynamic and updated. The Research Strategy should not be viewed as a static set of specifications.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Archive review

- 3.1.1 Much archaeological work in the New Forest was completed without the benefit of modern techniques and assistance from other disciplines. A comprehensive review (Resource assessment) of available excavation records and archives should be undertaken in order to compile an overview of past work. This can be used to identify opportunities to re-open previous excavation trenches in order to gather new evidence with minimal additional disturbance to the archaeology.

3.2 Specification of works

- 3.2.1 Specifications of work (Written Schemes for Investigation) should be flexible and reflexive rather than advocating a rigid standard approach to archaeological investigation that cannot be changed once agreed. Plans should allow for investigation to respond to the changing nature of archaeological discoveries which may be made.
- 3.2.2 It is recognised that some standard remote sensing techniques are of limited value in the New Forest, for example when attempting to locate settlements or occupation evidence involving wooden structures that leave few traces. These should be considered on a project by project basis, and techniques only applied which are appropriate for each site. This may save time and resources during planning work, and allow funding to be diverted to techniques which are more likely to produce useful results, such as opening larger excavation areas. Archaeological work should always seek to deliver value for money.

3.3 Dating strategies

- 3.3.1 Few scientific dates have been obtained on archaeological material from the New Forest and this is recognized as a significant limitation on current understandings. This affects the interpretation of archaeological sites, fundamentally limiting the ability to compile an overall view of human activity in the New Forest. In many cases, gaining even a range of dates would be an improvement over current knowledge. Precise dates are desirable but have been elusive. Techniques which give a wider date range should be considered preferable to repeated attempts to provide tighter dates which are unlikely to produce secure results.
- 3.3.2 Radiocarbon dating has been of limited use in some areas of the New Forest because charcoal is infrequently recovered during archaeological work. This may be because peat or turf was widely used as a fuel rather than wood. In addition, acidic soil conditions in much of the New Forest result in very limited survival of bone which in other circumstances provides secure material for radiocarbon dating.

Where scientific dating is required methods should be selected in relation to specific conditions at each individual site. Funding normally reserved for radiocarbon dating may be instead used for thermoluminescence (TL) or Optically Stimulated Thermoluminescence (OSL), when it is known that radiocarbon dating is likely to fail or there is no material to radiocarbon date. Wherever possible key samples should be subject to flotation in order to recover carbonised plant material for dating.

3.4 Remote sensing

- 3.4.1 Ground-truthing of features revealed through recent LiDAR survey should continue, for example a possible long barrow at Bransgore. Given that newly-discovered and confirmed monuments will not be Scheduled they provide a series of targets for focussed archaeological investigation.
- 3.4.2 Some areas of the New Forest lack oblique aerial photography coverage suitable for archaeological prospection. Acquisition of such imagery should be encouraged where opportunities arise and can be used to target future LiDAR survey work.

3.5 Land-use

3.5.1 Density of use

- 3.5.1.1 There is an apparent lack of monuments within the New Forest overall, compared to surrounding areas. Recent LiDAR, aerial photography, and infra-red survey has started to redress the balance through the identification of previously unknown monuments. Work should continue to establish whether the apparent lack of monuments is a true reflection of the situation, or whether gaps in current knowledge could be filled using suitable investigation techniques.
- 3.5.1.2 Current levels of knowledge appear to indicate that some areas of the New Forest are “busy” compared to other areas which are less densely used. Work should seek to assess whether such differences are real or consequent upon the intensity of fieldwork and survey.

3.5.2 Occupation / settlement

- 3.5.2.1 Whilst extant archaeological remains point to burial (barrows), land-use (field systems), and ceremonial activity (burnt mounds), there is little evidence for prehistoric human habitation in the New Forest; only two sites are marked in HER records as “Settlement” for the study period. Evidence will be ephemeral for the Neolithic and Bronze Age and may consist of temporary bases for transhumance as well as permanent occupation, comprising stake-holes, postholes, pits etc. Areas of southern Britain outside the New Forest show evidence of roundhouse settlements from c.1600BC onwards, and should be expected within the New Forest. This evidence is most likely to be found during large-scale open-area excavations of the type usually associated with development-related mitigation strategies. Smaller areas may show these features in isolation or smaller numbers, which makes their

accurate interpretation impossible. Pits are known to yield artefacts, as for example with the Neolithic example at Lepe, and may be part of a wider Neolithic pit-digging tradition seen across southern Britain. Pit “clusters” from the Neolithic may actually occur in widely spaced groups. Planning conditions for the New Forest area should therefore include a preference for extensive excavation in order to fill this gap in our current understanding of New Forest land-use. Funding may be diverted for this kind of work from investigation techniques known to be less effective.

3.5.3 Field systems

3.5.3.1 Different types of field systems are extant in the New Forest, and some have been newly discovered. Together with more robust boundaries, some field systems exist as very low-profile lynchets. Whilst they are currently taken to be field boundaries, with the larger considered to be Iron Age, they may have had multiple functions in different periods. Field systems to the west around Poole Harbour are Bronze Age and currently amongst the oldest identified in Britain. This suggests that the New Forest has the potential to include field systems of a similar antiquity and significance. A range of field system types should be investigated in order to provide information about dating, phasing, duration of use, and function, which will contribute to a view of Neolithic and Bronze Age land partition and use.

3.5.3.2 Received wisdom regarding the formation of the New Forest heathland by over-exploitation in the Bronze Age, is being challenged by recent discoveries. The apparently minimal number of field systems do not support a view of widespread land enclosure and intensive agriculture. A better understanding of field systems would indicate whether these are a reliable indicator of land-use, or whether there may be other evidence which has been missed.

3.6 Monuments and related features

3.6.1 Range of monument / feature types

3.6.1.1 Few types of monument have so far been identified in the New Forest compared with the number known in surrounding areas. It should be established whether this is the product of limited investigations, an accurate view, or a reflection of poor monument survival in the New Forest landscape.

3.6.1.2 Monuments and features are currently identified as discrete entities, frequently in isolation from each other. A synthesis should be produced which gives an overview of the relationships between the monuments and features in the New Forest in order to allow a better understanding of changing land-use through time.

3.6.2 Barrows

3.6.2.1 Few long barrows are known in the New Forest. Newly recognized possible examples have been identified by both LiDAR survey and geophysical surveys by local archaeological groups. These need to be ground-checked. If confirmed as long barrows it is important to establish which cultural tradition they belong to.

Techniques such as auguring should be considered, to minimise the cost and disturbance of more extensive investigations.

- 3.6.2.2 Basic information about New Forest round barrows is minimal. Relatively few have been excavated and few meaningful dates and associations it is far from certain that all recorded date to Bronze Age. Neolithic round barrows have been found in other areas of southern Britain and most likely exist in the New Forest too. This lack of basic understanding should drive further investigation and more accurate dating of barrows whenever the opportunity arises.
- 3.6.2.3 A review of existing barrow records such as those compiled by Leslie Grinsell should be undertaken. Recent reinterpretations of these monuments has revealed that many are more complex than previously thought, and that the previous classification system is limited compared to the range of barrows now recognized. Re-analysis of existing records for each monument, coupled with ground investigation, is necessary in order to provide a dataset to which new discoveries can be added.
- 3.6.2.4 New Forest barrows are not stable monuments in the landscape. Many have been altered by activity such as antiquarian digging, early excavation, visitor erosion, or animal damage. Some may also have been re-used, as for example with the deposition of Deverel-Rimbury cremations at the Bransgore barrow. Such evidence is easy to miss in the event of partial excavation. The extent of this alteration and re-use is not understood. Each barrow has the potential to generate a biography of the changes it has undergone, a story that will contribute to a wider understanding of changing land-use in the New Forest.
- 3.6.2.5 Barrow distribution should be reviewed and updated with the results of the LiDAR survey to provide an improved record of barrow groups, distributions, forms, finds, locations, and geologies. Questions that could be explored include: the clustering of particular barrow forms which may indicate territories, groups, or polities; whether larger groups have more variety of form; and the form or cemeteries. This would provide a dataset into which newly-discovered groups can be added in order to compile a coherent record.
- 3.6.2.6 Barrows should be viewed as monuments which potentially hold reservoirs of palaeoenvironmental information both in their construction and on any protected old land surfaces beneath. Work should seek to systematically gather this information to give a view on monument dating and sequencing, as well as the nature of the environment at the time of barrow construction. It is not currently known whether land was being cleared of wildwood in order to construct barrows, whether already-open land is opportunistically used for barrow construction, or whether the pattern changes over time. Palaeosoils from barrows can assist in building a view of this.
- 3.6.2.7 Revised information about New Forest barrows should be integrated and used to consider the wider issues which may be addressed. Considerations may include:

the function of barrows as boundary markers at the edge or centre of territories to establish land access / use rights; their potential as proxies for human land-use or movement; barrows as evidence of competition between different groups of people; and indicators of cultural affiliations with areas outside the New Forest, including whether such links vary across different areas of the New Forest.

3.6.2.8 Opportunities should be sought to re-open previous excavation trenches in barrows. This provides the opportunity to address some of the issues identified here with minimal intervention and negligible additional damage to the monument. Conservation and management work should be considered as an opportunity for this.

3.6.2.9 Outside the New Forest, round barrows are generally related to other features, including monuments and settlements, whereas barrows in the New Forest have historically been investigated as discrete features. Settlement evidence for the Neolithic and Bronze Age is difficult to detect in the archaeological record but could be traced by working out from the barrows and barrow cemeteries. An holistic approach is needed when investigating barrows.

3.6.3 Burnt mounds

3.6.3.1 Mounds and deep scatters of burnt stone are known from all parts of the British Isles and known as “burnt mounds”. There is a particularly dense concentration of these in the New Forest, with c.600 recorded and a number excavated. Their various forms and locations (usually close to water sources) have been explored through this work. However, other evidence from investigated sites is scant, with no firm function established. Only two radiocarbon dates are available from New Forest mounds: both show these examples date to the Bronze Age. In the New Forest, mounds have been investigated as discrete features, showing no other archaeological evidence from their immediate vicinities. However, elsewhere in southern Britain large-scale work, for example at Reading Business Park, shows that burnt mounds were often located on the margins of settlements. This evidence would not be recovered by the necessarily small-scale New Forest burnt mound excavations to date. Consideration should be given to excavating wider areas around burnt mounds should the opportunity arise, as this is likely to provide useful information on their relationship to settlement activity. Based on what is known from other areas, burnt mounds may be considered “signposts” to the presence of settlements which would not otherwise be detected.

3.6.3.2 In addition to considering wider-scale excavation around burnt mounds, small-scale work should still be pursued when the opportunity arises. Burnt mounds can be exposed or damaged by changing watercourses and unrelated maintenance/conservation work. This should be seen as a way of investigating and sampling them further without undertaking full-scale excavation. It is also necessary to record this archaeology if it is at risk of damage or permanent alteration.

3.6.3.3 Dating the tradition of building and using burnt mounds in the New Forest is a major priority. The two available radiocarbon dates suggest clear overlap with similar features elsewhere in Britain, but examples elsewhere range in date from around 4000 BC through to 200 BC. An unusual feature of burnt mounds in the New Forest is the apparent lack of charcoal which would normally provide material for dating. It is thought that this arises from both the widespread use of peat as a fuel (which would not produce charcoal) and poor preservation conditions. Alternative dating techniques should be considered, for example thermoluminescence (TL) and Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL).

3.6.4 Hillforts

3.6.4.1 Some landscape features are recorded as “hillforts” without any reason beyond appearing to match some characteristics of Iron Age hillforts elsewhere. These should be investigated, dated, characterised, and classified in a systematic way.

3.6.5 Ring-ditches

3.6.5.1 A few features are recorded in the Historic Environment Record as “possible ring-ditches”; none have been investigated. They merit further fieldwork as many have shallow banks, typically only 80-100m in height, which are not detected in LiDAR surveys. The date and function(s) of these features in the New Forest are poorly understood; examples need to be investigated and verified.

3.6.6 Mound & pit features

3.6.6.1 A class of feature that in the New Forest which is poorly understood is the mounds of earth associated with irregular pits which generally have one steep side. These show no direct evidence for their function and it has not yet been established whether they are man-made or natural (e.g. tree-throw pits or farrowing pits created by wild boar). Their date is unknown, although one appears to be overlying a field system that is itself undated. Finds associated with them have been limited to pottery which could be residual or surface material that helps little with dating. Work should be undertaken to investigate these features in more detail, especially their function and date; establish whether they can contribute to the understanding of human activity in the Neolithic and Bronze Age, or whether they should be discounted for this period as not being archaeological features.

3.6.6.2 The significance of surface scatters of finds has been noted as potentially indicating settlement activity. Sampling and recording topsoil before being stripped for excavation or development would enhance understanding of this potentially important resource.

3.6.6.3 The dating/phasing of any occupation/settlement activity should be prioritised where it is identified, as this is currently the biggest gap in knowledge of the New Forest during prehistoric times. Relationships to other monuments and features needs to

be investigated. For example, it is not currently understood whether settlements predate round barrows, or whether there was any direct relationship between them.

3.7 Material culture

3.7.1 Topsoil finds

3.7.1.2 The material culture of the New Forest is currently considered to be poor. A re-evaluation of existing evidence may confirm or deny this view, and a more methodical examination of topsoil for finds may add to this understanding (see below). In addition, fieldwalking and shovel-pitting exercises may demonstrate correlations with particular landscape / geological types within the New Forest.

3.7.2 Pottery

- 3.7.2.1 Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age Beaker pottery has been recovered in small quantities from the New Forest area. Because of its potential for dating and identifying cultural affiliations beyond the New Forest, opportunities for studying it in detail should be taken whenever it is recovered. Wherever possible, provenancing studies should be undertaken in order to determine the place of manufacture and subsequent movements.
- 3.7.2.2 The distribution and cultural affiliations of Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery should be examined. Pottery from middle Bronze Age sites at the northern edge of the New Forest currently appears to be an extension of the Central Wessex zone of pottery from this period. However, material from other sites such as the recent Heatherstone Grange excavation, are more aligned to the Avon-Stour pottery group to the west. A review of pottery across the New Forest may point to areas of connection with other areas, or isolation from these. It may also suggest internal organisation, polities, territories etc.

3.7.3 Hoards and bronze objects

- 3.7.3.1 Bronze objects have been recorded as individual pieces and as hoards, but always in isolation from each other. Like other aspects of material culture, metal finds appear unusually sparse across the New Forest. A study is needed to collate and verify information from the available sources in order to provide a cohesive view of deposition practices around the New Forest. Attributes need to be established such as context of deposition, components/content, evidence of use wear or deliberate breakage, relationships to known archaeological features, position in the landscape and so on. An organised body of work would enable comparison with areas outside the New Forest and determine whether the New Forest fits a pattern of deposition seen in other areas, or whether it has its own unique pattern of deposition and hoard content. This will give indicators as to the New Forest's level of connectivity with other areas, or insularity.

3.7.4 Stone and flint axes and other artefacts

- 3.7.4.1 Flint and stone artefacts, including axes, have been recovered from the New Forest area in significant numbers and recorded to various levels of detail. These range from recent finds reported to modern standards to reports extracted from antiquarian or ad hoc sources which may contain very little detail. Sadly, the whereabouts of many reported artefacts is not known. It is believed that private collections of worked flints exist around the Forest and these need to be identified and catalogued. Stone axes need to have their raw materials sourced. Flint artefacts should be reviewed to ensure the technology has been correctly identified / dated. A comprehensive review and updated catalogue would enable a coherent understanding of this type of find and the identification of gaps in our current understanding. The nature and distribution of these artefacts will contribute to the identification of human activity, how that might vary across the New Forest, and how that in turn contrast with areas outside the New Forest.

3.8 The environment

3.8.1 Geomorphology

- 3.8.1.1 The New Forest encompasses a range of soil types, with better quality soils at the margins. Early settlement might be expected to focus on these areas. However, the relationship between evidence for human activity and the nature of the landscape, soil types and environment needs to be better understood. There are currently conflicting views on whether human activity shaped the landscape or vice versa (see “Field Systems” below).

- 3.8.1.2 Opportunities provided by planning requirements linked to development proposals will allow environmental sequences to be recorded, sampled, and studied.

3.8.2 Colluvium, alluvium and peatlands

- 3.8.2.1 It is apparent that archaeological features as recent as the Medieval period have been covered with layers of fast-forming, deep colluvium/peat deposits. As a result significant prehistoric archaeology may be entirely undetectable by either remote sensing or ground survey. It is vital to understand how colluvium, alluvium, and peat deposits formed, and to ascertain their depth and their age. This will give an indication of how much archaeological evidence may be missing from the record simply because it cannot be seen or detected using current methods.
- 3.8.2.2 Peatland provides an environment record where waterlogged archaeological deposits may be found, with the potential to preserve Neolithic and Bronze Age organic evidence (e.g. wood), which is usually lost. This renders it vital that the nature of peat deposits are understood throughout the New Forest.
- 3.8.2.3 Alluvium and colluvium in the valleys needs to be better understood, with adequate dating of sediment accumulations. There needs to be an improved understanding of how the formation of these deposits fits into the sequence of land formation in and

around the New Forest. Increased gravel extraction work gives an opportunity for this, but it is a destructive process. If such work is not undertaken, the evidence will be lost.

3.8.3 Palaeoenvironmental data

- 3.8.3.1 Information about the palaeoenvironment based on pollen profiles, is generally missing from the archaeological excavation record of the New Forest. Detailed palaeoenvironment data exists for extended periods from a few peatbog sites. However, it is important for pollen analytical work to be undertaken when sites are excavated in order to understand how the land coverage evolved and changed, with different forms of vegetation and tree cover potentially indicating human activity (or a lack thereof). Land-use across the New Forest for these periods is poorly understood. It should be established whether this data is missing because of the prevailing preservation conditions in the New Forest, or whether it exists and is not being collected. If it is established that this data is available, for example from old land surfaces beneath barrows, methods of gathering and analysing it can be built into archaeological investigations.

3.8.4 Coastal characterisation

- 3.8.4.1 The paleogeography of the New Forest coast needs to be better understood. This is an area which can be expected to show concentrated evidence of human activity, as it has access to a range of land, riverine, and marine resources, trade points, and shipbuilding locations. At present, very little is understood about this area, which is subject to severe erosion in places and disturbance by land reclamation for saltworking in others. Existing surveys are limited, sometimes inaccessible and generally not performed for archaeological purposes, making them of limited use. Locating the coastline for these periods would allow more targeted work on establishing likely areas of human activity for investigation. Emphasis should be placed on locating the position of river mouths, which are likely to be a particular focus of activity.
- 3.8.4.2 Land reclamation should be viewed as a positive phenomenon, with the potential for Neolithic and Bronze Age land surfaces to be protected beneath deliberately deposited surfaces. Development works in these areas should be viewed as an opportunity to access protected archaeology.
- 3.8.4.3 The geomorphology of the coastal strip should be established with techniques such as bore-holing and the collation of existing borehole data. Modelling the environment in this way can contribute to a view of likely human activity in the area.
- 3.8.4.4 Opportunities for increasing and improving the data on the coastal zone should be identified at the project-planning stage, and appropriate investigation work specified to produce good quality, usable data.

- 3.8.4.5 Work to understand the coastline of the New Forest should be brought together as an umbrella project, to unite data from the various organisations already working on this.

3.9 Cultural links

- 3.9.1 The New Forest sits in an area of southern Britain which is known to have cross-Channel links to the continent during the Neolithic and Bronze Age. However, little evidence of this connection has been recovered from the New Forest to date. It is not known whether evidence exists and is being missed, or whether evidence does not exist to be found. It is suggested that the Avon Valley would be a useful focus for such investigation, although other areas of the New Forest should not be discounted. Focus should be brought to bear on understanding the presence or absence of evidence for continental links with the New Forest.
- 3.9.2 The Isle of Wight was accessible by boat from the New Forest during Neolithic and Bronze Age times and has a similar lack of known monuments and poor material culture. However, the geology of the Isle of Wight is markedly different to the New Forest. This may indicate land-use which is driven by factors other than geology. In addition, it is not known whether continental material found in the Avon Valley was being brought through the Isle of Wight or whether it was bypassed. Work should include the potential for commonality or links with the Isle of Wight, as these are not currently established for the Neolithic and Bronze Age but certainly exist for much later periods.

4. Quality of outputs

- 4.1.1 Archaeological work in the New Forest should not be viewed in isolation, as discrete projects, but rather must be seen as part of a broad continuum of ongoing research aligned to this Research Strategy. Each investigation should contribute to an updating of the combined knowledge of New Forest archaeology. Projects which do not achieve this should be recognised and refocused at the planning stage.
- 4.1.2 Standardised archaeological reports should be discouraged; flexibility of reporting that incorporates the results of work with appropriate wider perspectives is to be encouraged. This allows reaction to unforeseen discoveries during work and allows reports to be hand-tailored and discoveries reported in an appropriate level of detail, as has recently occurred for other periods (for example the re-dating of the supposed Iron age site at Ampress Park Lymington to the early Saxon period).
- 4.1.3 Reports should include a reflective component that reviews aspects which were particularly successful, and how these can be replicated by other projects, and also those that were unsuccessful so that pitfalls can be avoided in future. This will facilitate an iterative improvement in the quality of archaeological work undertaken in the New Forest.

Appendix 1 - Seminar participants

Frank Green	New Forest National Park Authority (Convener)
Timothy Darvill	Bournemouth University (Chair)
Kerry Barrass	Bournemouth University (Seminar administration)

Present

Martyn Barber	Historic England
Mark Brisbane	Bournemouth University
James Brown	New Forest National Park Authority
David Field	Independent archaeologist
Michael Grant	University of Southampton
Josie Hagan	New Forest National Park Authority
David Hopkins	Hampshire County Council
William Illsley	Hampshire County Council
Jonathan Last	Historic England
Richard Massey	Cotswold Archaeology
Peter Murphy	Independent archaeologist
Anthony Pasmore	Independent archaeologist
Lawrence Shaw	New Forest National Park Authority
Nick Thorpe	University of Winchester
Kath Walker	New Forest Centre
Ann Woodward	Independent archaeologist

Apologies

Tim Yarnall	Forestry Commission
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Representatives of the following organisations were also invited: AC Archaeology; Environment Agency; Maritime Archaeology Trust; Natural England; The Hampshire Cultural Trust; Salisbury Museum; Southampton City Council; Archaeology Unit Wessex Archaeology.