

Report of the Community Archaeologist

Subject: Annual Archaeology Report 2020 – 2021

1. The attached report presents work activity related to archaeology carried out on behalf of the Authority during financial year 2020 – 2021. It highlights relevant Authority plans, including the adopted [Archaeology Action Plan 2020 – 2024](#). The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is also highlighted, including the resulting adaptation and mitigation approach taken with respect to some aspects of the work programme.
2. The report includes the following sections:
 - Introduction
 - Management Plan 2020 – 2024: The Role of Archaeology
 - Corporate and Resources Plan 2020 – 2021 and the Authority's Wellbeing Objectives: Contribution of Archaeology
 - Archaeology Action Plan 2020 – 2024: Work Programme Activities 2020 – 2021
 - Conclusion

RECOMMENDATION:

Members are requested to RECEIVE and COMMENT on the Report.

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ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGY REPORT 2020 - 2021



**Pembrokeshire Coast
National Park Authority**



SUMMARY

The report highlights work activities relating to archaeology delivered on behalf of the Authority during 2020 – 2021. Relevant areas of the National Park Management Plan 2020 – 2024, the corporate and resources plan 2020 – 2021 and the Authority's Well-being Objectives are highlighted. In addition, the [Archaeology Action Plan 2020 – 2024](#) that was adopted in March 2021 is presented and activities and achievements related to this are highlighted. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is also presented, including examples of mitigation and adaptation to this challenge.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park contains archaeological heritage from the Upper Palaeolithic (or Old Stone Age) to more recent times. This vast period of time means that the type of monuments and features are diverse. From prehistoric cave sites, coastal forts, burial chambers and relic boundaries, to castles and ecclesiastical settings from the middle ages and to more recent industrial mills, limekilns, quarries and heritage from the First and Second World War. In total, there are over 11 thousand records relating to features of archaeological interest in the National Park, this includes 287 scheduled monuments.
2. While the statutory responsibility for scheduled monuments rests with Cadw, the Historic Environment Agency for Wales, the fact that these are recognised in law as being of national importance indicates that the Authority has a role and responsibility to play in safeguarding them. For every scheduled monument that exists in the National Park, there will be many more undesignated monuments that will be of local significance and the National Park has a role to help protect these. The National Park covers a vast area, as such it cannot do this in isolation. The involvement of people, communities and the wider public and ensuring good working relationships with stakeholders, internal colleagues and external organisations is key.
3. This remainder of this report highlights the work that has been carried out on behalf of the Authority in relation to archaeology, including presenting the [Archaeology Action Plan 2020 – 2024](#) that was adopted in March 2021. Moreover, the main activities and achievements are presented and placed in the context of the Action Plan. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is also highlighted, including showcasing the way that the Authority has adopted to deliver its key priorities in relation to archaeology.

MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020 – 2024: THE ROLE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

4. The Authority's work in relation to archaeology has a role to play in helping it achieve its Management Plan aims and objectives. In particular, many of the archaeology work programmes will help it meets its aims and objectives in relation to heritage, however it is also likely to help the Authority meet its

objectives with respect to wellbeing and biodiversity. The key policies that are likely to be directly impacted by archaeology related work are:

H1. Conserve and enhance landscapes of particular historic interest, Conservation Areas, scheduled monuments, listed buildings and their settings.

- a. Raise public awareness and enjoyment of historic landscapes, buildings and monuments, increase appropriate access to them and engage and support communities and volunteers in heritage monitoring and conservation.
- b. Monitor the condition of scheduled monuments and sites of local heritage significance.
- c. Target management (including agri-environment scheme assistance) to stabilise monuments in worsening condition, prioritising according to monument condition and the nature of risk, with recording and rescue excavation, as appropriate, for sites at risk of coastal erosion.
- d. Conserve and restore field boundaries with a particular emphasis on areas of registered historic landscapes and relevance to connectivity for biodiversity.
- e. Manage development in accordance with Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority's *Local Development Plan 2* heritage policies and associated guidance (e.g. updates to conservation area proposals documents, including review of tree preservation orders). **Note: Development management is outsourced to the Dyfed Archaeological Trust and is not dealt with in-house.**
- i. Monitor heritage crime and liaise with crime prevention agencies to ensure that where it arises appropriate action is taken.

H2. Promote the Welsh language and local dialects and celebrate culture and creativity related to the landscape.

- a. Interpret and animate landscape, cultural heritage, natural history and the arts.
- b. Contribute to the target12 for the number of people able to enjoy speaking and using Welsh to reach a million by 2050.
- c. Collaborate with local communities and others to celebrate and record dialect, customs, songs, crafts and other attributes of local identity in the Park and provide opportunities for people to share stories about their relationship with the landscape and their own heritage.
- d. Provide guidance on the sympathetic enjoyment of monuments considered sacred and their settings.
- e. Collaborate in delivery of projects arising from the Pembrokeshire Well-being Plan, e.g. Community Participation.

CORPORATE AND RESOURCES PLAN 2020 – 2021 AND THE AUTHORITY’S WELLBEING OBJECTIVES: CONTRIBUTION OF ARCHAEOLOGY

5. Work related to archaeology is linked to the Corporate and Resources Plan and the delivery of the Authority’s Well-being Objectives. In particular the Authority’s Well-being Objective on Culture and the Work stream under it in 2020/21 on Historic Environment – Historic Buildings and Community Archaeology. During 2020 – 2021, the following performance measures directly related to Community Archaeology in the Plan:
- # of archaeological sites where conditions have improved – 170 (Baseline data)
 - # of archaeological sites where conditions have improved with the help of volunteers and social action participants – 142 (Baseline data)
 - Number of volunteer days (heritage site monitoring) – 62 days. (This compares to 2.5 in 2019/20 and reflects the growth in heritage related volunteers in 2020/21 recruited to carry out surveys)

ARCHAEOLOGY ACTION PLAN 2020 – 2024: WORK PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES 2020 - 2021

6. During financial year 2020 – 2021 an archaeology action plan was produced to closely align the archaeology work programme with the key priorities and objectives of the national park. These include, the National Park Management Plan, Authority Well-being Objectives – Culture and Global and the Welsh Government’s Historic Environment and Climate Change Sector Adaptation Plan Actions. The process of producing the archaeology action plan included consultation with key stakeholders, including internal colleagues and external organisations such as Cadw and the Dyfed Archaeological Trust. The final version of the action plan was adopted by the Authority in March 2021 and is available at [Celebrating-Heritage.pdf \(pembrokeshirecoast.wales\)](#).

Action Plan Priority Area: Community and Public Engagement

7. The first priority area of the action plan focusses on actions and initiatives that enable communities and the public to engage and learn more about archaeology and heritage in the national park. The priority area contributes to the following:
- National Park Management Plan policy H1 a), b), c) and H2 a), b) and d) in particular.
 - National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Culture (Work Streams: Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Community Archaeology, Historic Inspiration and Experience, Heritage Partnership and Collaboration), Communities (Work Stream: Community Activities and Projects benefiting the

Park and People) and Global (Work Streams: Special Qualities: Inspiration and Education, Responding to Climate Change Emergency).

- The Historic Environment and Climate Change in Wales [Sector Adaptation Plan](#) actions 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.3 and 7.4.
8. While the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the delivery of actions and initiatives relating to this priority area, good progress was made in all of the following areas:

The Heritage Guardians Scheme

9. As part of Heritage Guardians, the Community Archaeologist worked with pupils from Ysgol Gelli Aur in early 2021. Initially, it was proposed that the Community Archaeologist would deliver the programme via a hybrid approach, including online sessions mixed with in-person activities. Unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions at the beginning of 2021 meant the hybrid approach was not possible. As an alternative, the Community Archaeologist produced two pre-recorded videos about Neolithic archaeology and another about the Bronze and Iron Age. These were placed in the context of the national park. The videos also included some tasks that the pupils could complete, including researching, recreating and making stories about the sites. If pupils lived close enough, they were encouraged to visit sites with their families or carers (COVID-permitting). The videos were well received by the school, particularly in light of the challenge to provide content during COVID restrictions. As a result of the initial work with the school, the school was very keen to visit some of the sites mentioned once restrictions allowed. It was agreed to carry out visits with the pupils during summer 2021. In total, 180 pupils engaged with the Heritage Guardians content, including years three, four and five from the Welsh medium stream and years four, five and six from the English medium.

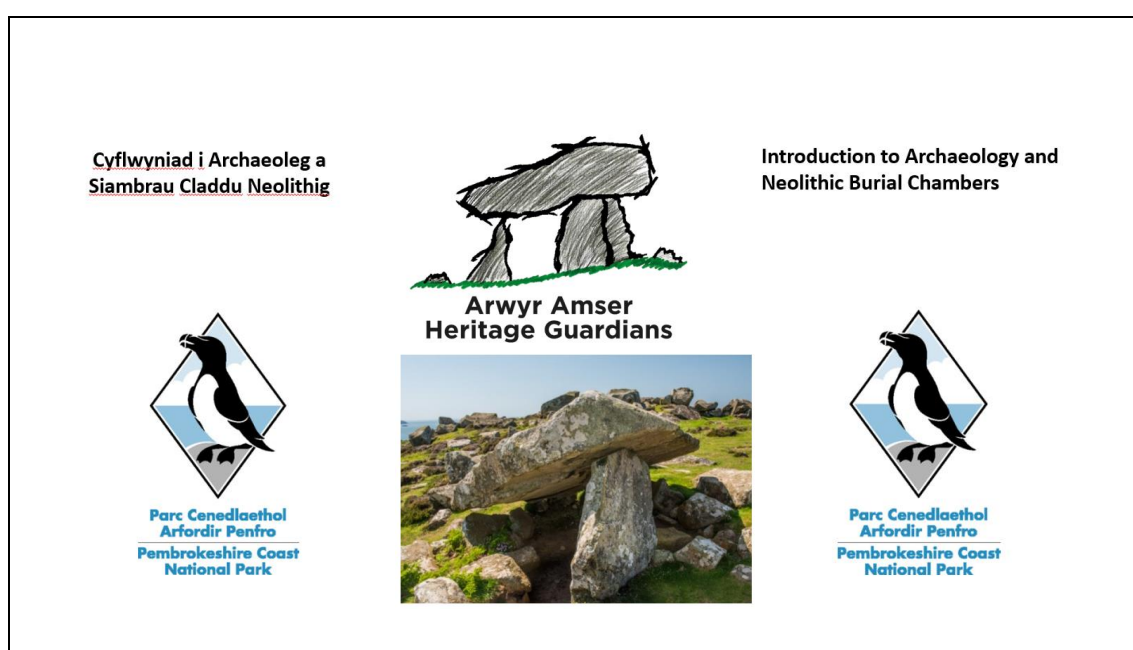


Figure 1: Cover of the short English and Welsh videos introducing the Neolithic archaeology of the National Park

10. In late 2011, the Community Archaeologist delivered an artefact handling session to a number of pupils from three different year groups at Neyland School. This was done as part of a project being delivered by the Pembrokeshire Outdoor Schools Coordinator and the Discovery Ranger for Education. The session was delivered outdoors due to COVID and introduced pupils to archaeological artefacts, including the progression from stone tools to more complex objects produced in metal. The pupils also learnt about archaeology in the national park as part of session and were given an opportunity to re-create some of the artefacts presented in clay. At the end of the session, the pupils were encouraged to take the recreations away with them to decorate.
11. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, sessions due to take place at the beginning of financial year 2020-2021 with Coleg Plas Dwbl and Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi did not take place. Unfortunately, it was not possible to re-arrange sessions during financial year 2020-21, however it is hoped that sessions can be arranged in the future.

Community Archaeology Projects

12. **Preseli Heartlands Project;** due to the COVID-19 pandemic most activities relating to this project were suspended during 2020 – 2021. This included a guided walk with the Community Archaeologist and a Storyteller around Foel Drygarn. As an alternative the Community Archaeologist worked with the project team and produced a [film](#) that was showcased at the virtual [2020 Archaeology Day](#). In addition, the Community Archaeologist attended two virtual steering meetings for the project during 2020 – 2021. As a result of the pandemic, the National Lottery Heritage Fund agreed to extend the project until December 2021.



Figure 2: Caption from the film about Foel Drygarn that was showcased at the 2020 Archaeology Day.

13. **Nevern Castle;** during 2020 – 2021 progress was made with work at the site. A number of site and online meetings took place and included members of the Nevern Community Council, Cadw officers, Dr Chris Caple of Durham University and the Community Archaeologist, Area Warden Manager (North) and the Interpretation Officer (North) from the Authority. Key priority areas were identified, including routine maintenance, access, conservation and interpretation. In respect of routine maintenance, the Community Archaeologist put an annual work programme in place. Discussion around conservation of the square tower took place and is ongoing.

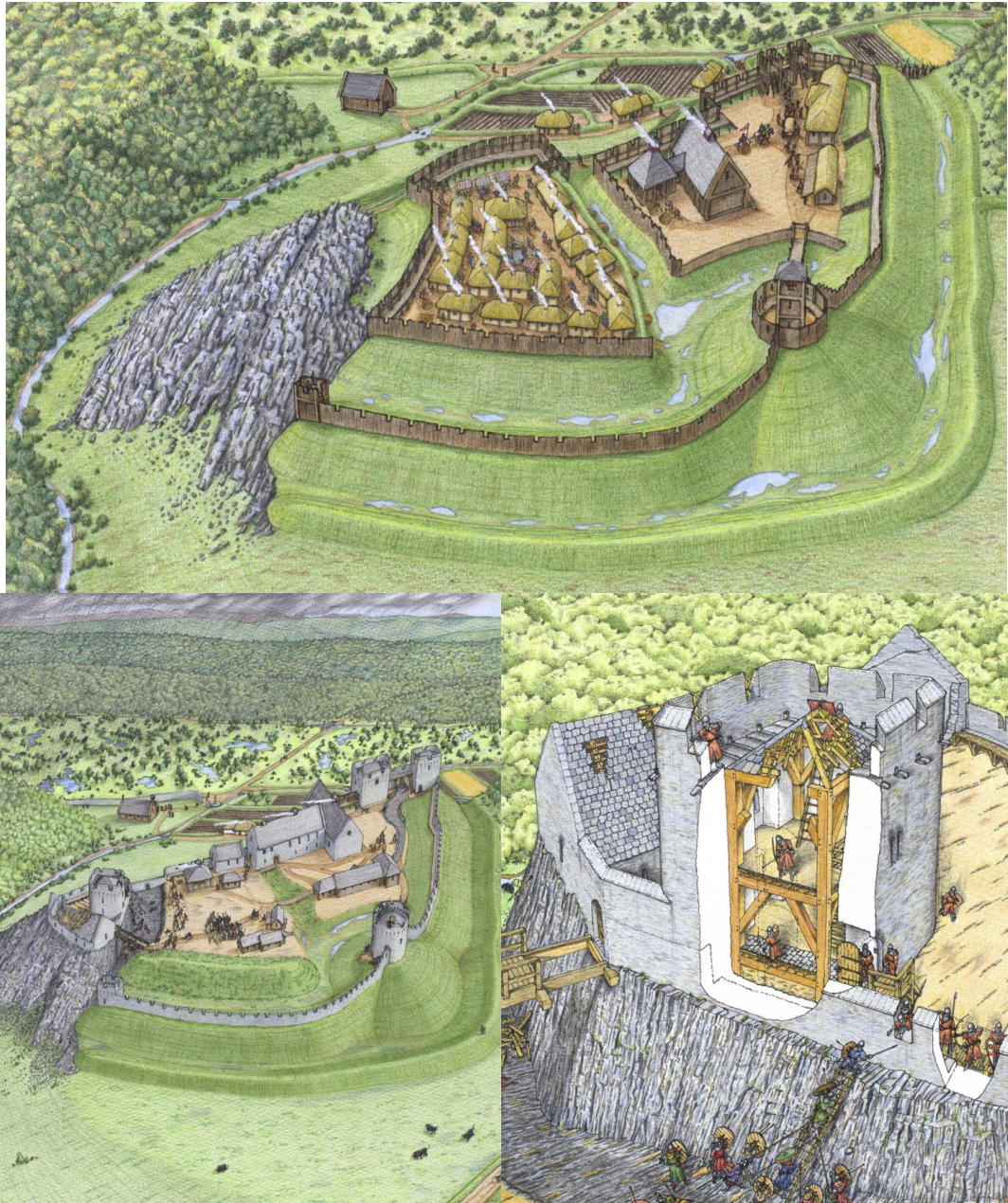


Figure 3: Reconstructive images of Nevern Castle, including the castle in circa AD 1136 (top image), in AD 1191 (bottom left image) and square tower in AD 1191 (bottom right image).
Courtesy of Dr Chris Caple.

14. In early 2021, Dr Chris Caple presented the final version of the English guidebook and work is ongoing to produce a bilingual version. Excavations between 2008 and 2018 revealed that the onsite interpretation was incorrect. As such, new artwork was produced to coincide with the guidebook that accurately reflects what the castle would have looked like in its different phases. This has highlighted the need to develop new interpretation for the site and the Authority Interpretation Officer (North) worked with the Nevern Community Council during early 2021 to develop an interpretation strategy for the site. This included site visits with members of the Community Council and also hosting online workshops.
15. During late 2020, the Community Archaeologist was contacted by the Chair of Nevern Community Council regarding establishing a Nevern Castle Committee. The Community Archaeologist was supportive of this proposal and agreed to provide support and recommendations to this Committee in respect of priorities for the site.
16. **Canolfan Llwynhirion, Brynberian;** during 2020 – 2021 the centre requested support from the Community Archaeologist to produce interpretation content on local archaeological sites for the centre. A brief summary of accessible local sites was provided, including information about the protected status of the sites in terms of scheduling, but also as sites of special scientific interest (where applicable). Selected sites ranged from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages and included both private and publicly owned sites. It is hoped that provision of archaeological information will lead the community and the wider public to explore heritage and increase their sense of place with sites in the national park.
17. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, archaeological activities associated with some projects were suspended for 2020 – 2021. As part of the Ancient Connections project, a community geophysics project exploring ecclesiastical and Middle Ages sites did not take place as planned. In addition, the St Patrick's Chapel excavation funded through the same project was also suspended. In addition, a community excavation at Caerfai promontory fort, St Davids funded through the CHERISH project did not go ahead.

Archaeological Activities and Events

18. **Archaeology Day;** due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions, a decision was taken in early 2020 – 2021 to deliver the event using a virtual format. Due to the reduced cost of running the event, a decision was made to deliver the event free of charge on YouTube. This platform was selected as it is well established and events can be delivered free of charge. The event required a lot of preparation from both Authority and PLANED staff to deliver the event. This included producing pre-recorded content, working out the technical requirements and also marketing the event.
19. The event was held in November 2020 and was presented by the Community Archaeologist and PLANED's Cultural Coordinator and supported by staff from

both organisations. A series of pre-recorded videos were presented on the day and the audience were given an opportunity to ask questions in a live Q&A with contributors. Topics covered on the day included, archaeological interpretation, historic migration in Pembrokeshire, research projects and a virtual tour of Foel Drygarn. As the event was hosted on a specially created channel for the event on YouTube, this meant the content would continue to be accessible after the event. This enabled those who could not view on the day, to access at their own leisure. It also allows those who viewed on the day to revisit at a later date. The content can also be used as a resource for educational purposes. Content from the 2020 Archaeology Day is available at [Diwrnod Archaeoleg - Archaeology Day - YouTube](#)

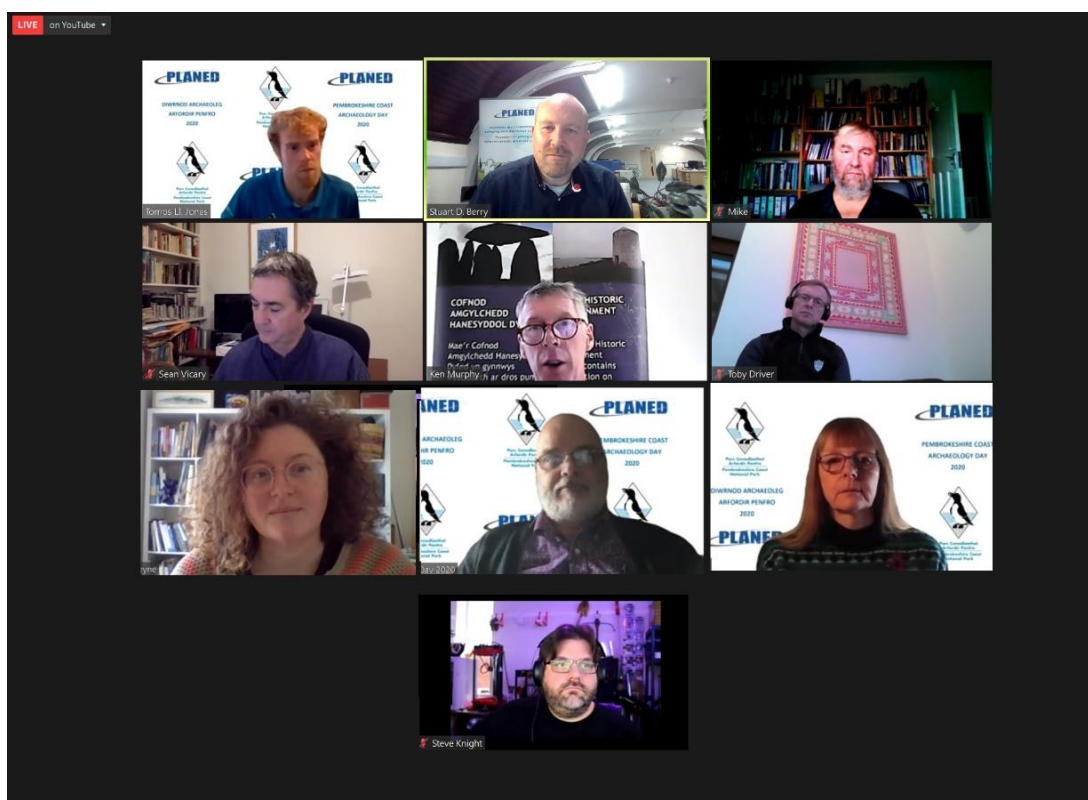


Figure 4: Caption showing the panel of contributors for Archaeology Day 2020.

20. While the event was free of charge, viewers were encouraged to donate to the National Park Trust if they could afford to do so. This resulted in £310.00 being raised from the event. These funds were eventually used towards the cost of uniforms for heritage volunteers who monitor the condition of scheduled monuments in the national park. This was publicised by the communications team in May 2021 and is available at [National Park Archaeology Day donations kit out heritage helpers - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park](#).
21. Between 160 and 180 viewers watched the event live and the channel had received a total of 5,263 views by the end of March 2021. According to YouTube analytics, viewers of the content are age 35 and over and include an equal proportion of males and females. While most people viewing the content are based in the United Kingdom, a proportion are based in France and the United States. This suggests that an international appetite exists for the event.

22. Feedback from the event revealed that viewers felt they had a better understanding of heritage in the national park and were more likely to engage with the area. The programme and content were mostly rated excellent or good, people liked that they could view the content at their own pace and convenience. One student explained that the event had been inspirational in terms of their studies and several viewers felt the virtual delivery had made the event more accessible. Some viewers commented that they had missed being able to attend the event in person and connect with people and hoped that it would return in due course.

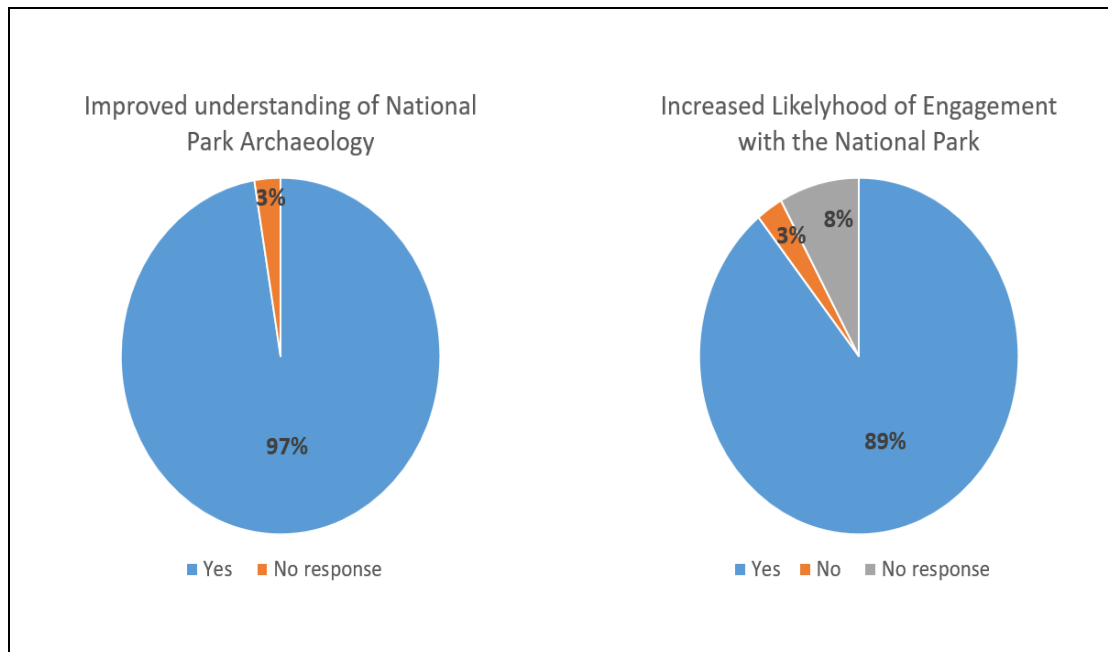


Figure 5: Charts showing the impact of the Archaeology Day 2020 event on viewers understanding of archaeology in the National Park and likeliness to engage with the area.

23. Archaeology Day 2020 proved very successful, something that is evident from viewer feedback and also based on the points highlighted above. The fact that the event was delivered virtually means that the Authority has an additional mechanism by which to engage with local communities and the wider public on national park archaeology. Despite this, it is evident that there is a need and desire for some people to connect at this event in person. As such, it is hoped that the 2021 Archaeology Day can be delivered using a hybrid approach, whereby people can either opt to attend in person or view virtually. This proposal is subject to COVID-19 restrictions at the time and may need to revert to a virtual only event as was the case in 2020.

24. **Archaeological Wonders of the Pembrokeshire Coast Talk;** due to the COVID-19 pandemic in-person guided walks could not be held during 2020. As such, the Community Archaeologist and the Activities and Events Coordinator organised a virtual talk online during August 2020. This provided viewers with an introduction into national park, Pembrokeshire Coast specifically and the role of archaeology. The talk highlighted the number of sites and records that exist

in the national park area and focussed on some key examples. This included, castles, chambered tombs, prehistoric forts, submerged ancient landscapes and landscape patterns. In total, 20 people were dialled in for the talk, however the actual number of people watching was higher as some were watching with others. While the majority of viewers were based in Pembrokeshire, others were from other parts of the United Kingdom, including Cardiff, Ceredigion, Worcestershire, Cheshire, Buckinghamshire, London and Shropshire. Feedback from viewers of the event was positive and revealed that an appetite exists for virtual events. It was noted by some that delivering the event virtually had allowed them access despite their health conditions. Also, many noted that they were likely to visit places mentioned as a result of the event and had a better understanding of archaeology in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. In addition, the event resulted in some of the viewers registering for the [Archaeology Mailing List](#).

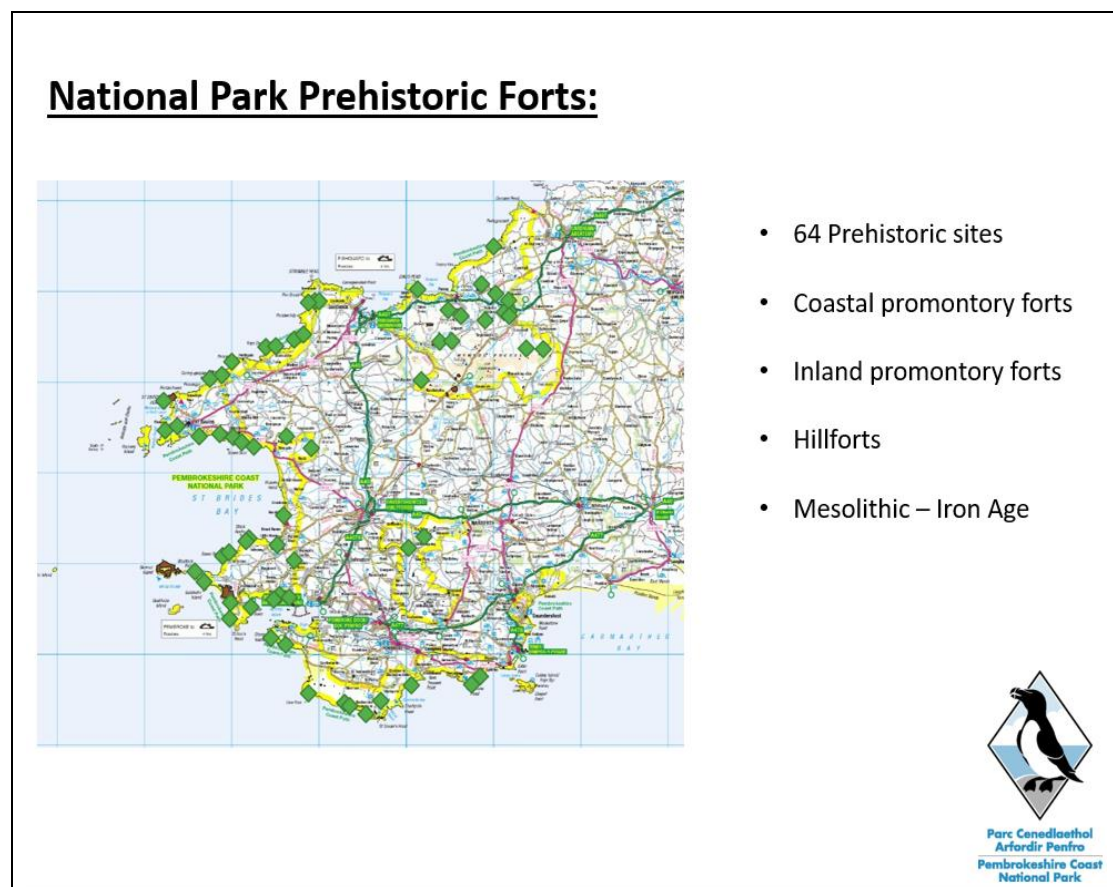


Figure 6: Presentation slide from talk providing information to viewers about prehistoric forts in the National Park.

25. **National Park Heritage – Archaeology An Introduction Talk;** in October 2020, the Community Archaeologist delivered a talk to the Reading and District Welsh Society via Zoom. During the talk, he discussed archaeology in the national park and explained how viewers could access more information by using the online resources. He also highlighted the activities delivered the national park in relation to archaeology.

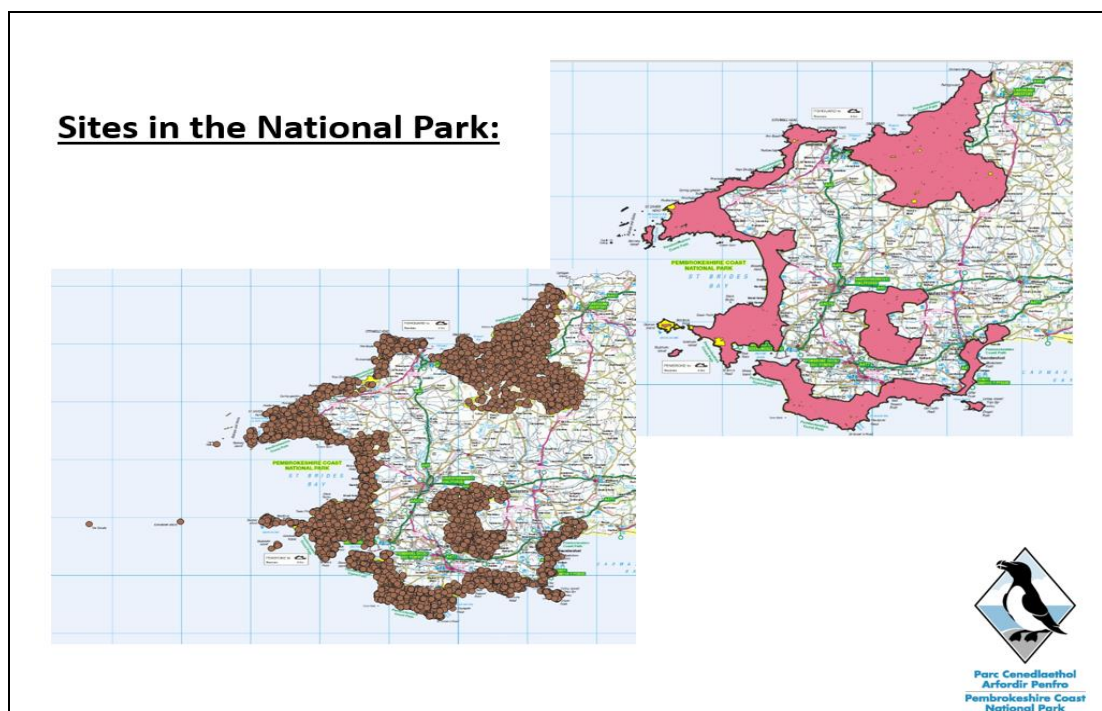


Figure 7: Presentation slide from talk showing viewers the location of historic environment records (brown dots) and scheduled monuments (in yellow) in the National Park.

26. **Pembrokeshire Coast: Accessing Industrial Archaeology Talk;** in March 2021, the Community Archaeologist delivered a talk as part of a Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum event focussed on industrial heritage. The content of the talk included highlighting the role of the national park in relation to archaeology, examples of sites including the number of industrial sites and how to discover more.

Pembrokeshire Marine Code
Industrial Heritage & Changing Coastline
2nd March 2021

PROTECTING WILDLIFE
 PCF
 Coastal Forum

Speaker spotlight
Tomos Jones

Absorb some of Tomos' passion.
 Join us at this event!

Tomos works as the Community Archaeologist for the National Park Authority. He has been passionate about the subject since childhood and as well as being responsible for safeguarding archaeological monuments within the Pembrokeshire Coast, provides opportunities for communities, the public and other stakeholders to engage and learn more about archaeological heritage in the national park.

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
 Natural Resources Wales

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

WILDLIFE
 GUARDIAN 2021
 THE GUARDIAN
 Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

Welsh Government
 Cymru
 Cymru
 Cymru

Figure 8: Material promoting the Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum event.

27. **Pembrokeshire Coast Archaeology Mailing List:** during 2020, an [online registration form](#) was created on the Pembrokeshire Coast website that allows those interested in archaeology of the national park to be emailed about areas of interest. This enables the public to be kept informed of activities and opportunities, including volunteering and events. It is evident that an appetite exists for this type of mailing list, as registration requests have been received following events and activities and also where the mailing list has been mentioned. It is likely that the mailing list also increases accessibility and introduces archaeological opportunities to a new audience. For example, some of the heritage volunteers that were recruited in 2020 to monitor scheduled monuments, only became aware of the opportunity because they were registered on the mailing list.
28. **Archaeological Artefacts Digital Scanning Project:** during 2020 Tinder Farm were commissioned to scan and produce digital reconstructions of archaeological artefacts from the collection at Oriel y Parc. The COVID-19 pandemic revealed the importance of producing digital content that broadens and increases people's access to the national park. Initial discussions took place between Tinder Farm, the Community Archaeologist and the Interpretation Officer (North) during June 2020. The project was split into two phases, with a smaller object being used during phase one. The use of a smaller object meant that Tinder Farm could identify and address technical issues, before moving on to the more complex larger objects. The object selected for the first phase was a prehistoric bear mandible that was discovered at Whitesands beach. Work to scan the object and recreate the digital model began in July 2020 and was completed in October 2020, the model that was produced can be found at <https://steveknight.github.io/mandible-viewer/>. Phase one of the project proved successful and Tinder Farm identified issues and ways to overcome these when scanning the more complex larger objects. Tinder Farm's work during phase one was documented and a film was produced that was showcased at the 2020 Archaeology Day (available at <https://youtu.be/6k4G7O6CxVo>).



Figure 9: Screenshot of the digitally scanned bear mandible.

29. Following the success of phase one of the project, Tinder Farm were given approval to continue with phase two of the project. This included scanning and digitally recreating an aurochs horn, prehistoric axehead, deer antler and a bear atlas. In addition, the Authority requested that Tinder Farm make the objects 3D printable and also produce guidance to accompany this. The ability to 3D print the objects could be particularly beneficial when working with schools and for events. Phase two of the project was due to complete in March 2021, however this was not possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic and has continued into financial year 2021 – 2022. Once phase two of the project is complete, the Community Archaeologist will work with the Interpretation Officer (North), members of the Communication Team and Tinder Farm to produce specific webpages for the resources that have been produced.
30. **Castle Point Old Fort Digital Reconstruction Project;** during early 2021, Pighill Archaeological Illustration was commissioned to produce a digital reconstruction of the Authority owned scheduled monument known as Castle Point Old Fort, near Fishguard. The monument represents a former Napoleonic era fort and also the site of anti-invasion defences during the Second World War. Interpretation of the site was present in the car park until recently, however this was dated and in need of updating. Also, the image did not provide visitors with a perspective of what the site would have looked like during the Napoleonic era. Coincidentally, the interpretation panel was hit by a reversing vehicle during the time of commission and as a result was removed from the site.



Figure 10: Aerial view of Castle Point Old Fort taken during a drone survey.

31. As part of the commission, Pighill Archaeological Reconstruction will create a realistic reconstructive 3D model of the fort as it may have looked during the Napoleonic era. In addition, this will include augmented reality technology which site visitors will be able to utilise during their visit. This will also be utilised for

those viewing the site virtually via the Authority website. The latter could be particularly useful when working with schools and getting them engaged with the national park's heritage without needing to leave the classroom or in advance of a visit. Due to the site's role during the Second World War, a reconstructive image of a feature from that period is also being produced. This work was due to complete at the end of March 2021; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic this was not possible and will be completed during financial year 2021 – 2022. Once this work has been completed, the Community Archaeologist will work with the Interpretation Officer (North) and members of the Communication Team to produce the on-site interpretation panel and also the digital content on the national park website.

32. During financial year 2020 – 2021, four guided archaeological walks were due to take place between May and August 2020. Unfortunately, these were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As mentioned above, a virtual talk was held in August 2020 due to these cancellations.

Action Plan Priority Area: Safeguarding Archaeological Monuments and Research

33. The second priority area of the action plan focusses on actions and initiatives that safeguard and improve the condition of archaeological monuments. In addition, they provide an opportunity for the community and the wider public to participate. It also covers research and national policy. The priority area contributes to the following:

- National Park Management Plan policy H1 a), b), c), g) and i) in particular.
- National Park Authority Well-being Objectives: Culture (Work Streams: Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Community Archaeology, Heritage Partnership and Collaboration) and Global (Work Streams: Special Qualities: Inspiration and Education, Responding to Climate Change Emergency).
- The Historic Environment and Climate Change in Wales Sector Adaptation Plan actions 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 7.3 and 7.4.

34. While the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on the delivery of actions and initiatives relating to this priority area, good progress was made in all of the following areas:

Safeguarding Archaeological Monuments

35. During the early part of financial year 2020 – 2021, the Community Archaeologist produced an excel database of scheduled monuments within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. This included identifying which sites are accessible to the public and the area of the national park they are located in (North, West or South). In advance of recruiting heritage volunteers to monitor publicly accessible monuments, an online submission form was created via ArcGIS Survey123, [Scheduled Monitoring Form](#). This form enables volunteers to

submit information about issues identified at sites, including photographs. A Microsoft Word version was also created for those who preferred to use a paper based version, which they could then send via email and wetransfer.

Pembrokeshire Coast Scheduled Monument Survey

A form to carry out a survey regarding threats affecting Pembrokeshire Coast scheduled monuments.

Scheduled monument details:*
Provide the name and Cadw reference for the monument.

Volunteer(s) name(s):*

Date of survey:*

Threat 1 - Type:*
If there are no identified threats, choose 'no threats' from the list below.

Figure 11: Screenshot of the Survey123 form created for heritage volunteers to input their information about the condition of scheduled monuments.

36. During June and July 2020, the Community Archaeologist worked with the Volunteering Development Officer to recruit heritage volunteers to monitor the condition of accessible scheduled monuments in the national park. This included holding two training sessions, with the first providing a general overview of archaeology in the national park and showcasing the opportunity to volunteer. This initial session was held in June and July. The initial session was followed by a more detailed session in July with those who were still interested the volunteering opportunity. This latter session covered scheduled monuments in more detail (i.e. what are they and how many are present in the national park), presented examples of scheduled monuments by period and highlighted the type of issues to look out for during visits. In addition, the session went through the process of assessing and submitting information on visits, this including when to carry out visits.



Figure 12: Screenshot of one of the virtual sessions held to recruit and train heritage volunteers during 2020, in view are the Community Archaeologist and the Volunteering Development Officer.

37. The sessions resulted in the recruitment of 17 volunteers; unfortunately, one volunteer withdrew in early 2021 due to other commitments. The national park contains 143 publicly accessible scheduled monuments (over 50% of the total scheduled monuments located in the national park) and these were allocated to volunteers based on where they lived. Some of the volunteers were familiar with archaeological sites and were happy to begin monitoring their allocated sites without onsite training. For others, this was their first time carrying out archaeology related activities and wanted training onsite in advance of carrying out visits independently. As such, between September and December 2020, the Community Archaeologist and in some cases the Volunteering Development Officer met with nine of the volunteers over eight sessions.



Figure 13: Photograph showing one of the heritage volunteers enjoying a cup of tea while surveying the condition of a promontory fort near Broad Haven, St Brides Bay during a joint visit with the Community Archaeologist.

38. Between September 2020 and March 2021, the heritage volunteers completed almost 100 visits to scheduled monuments. A number of issues were identified, including vegetation encroachment, erosion, burning, tree throw/growth, burrowing, graffiti, water ingress, collapse, climate change and heritage crime. The majority of site visits were submitted via the Survey123 form, however some preferred to submit via email for the form and wetransfer for the photographs. During early 2021, some of the submitted forms were assessed by the Community Archaeologist including providing recommendation for future visits to sites based on the identified issues and also recommendations for addressing issues.
39. During 2020 – 2021, a limited number of work programmes were put in place for several scheduled monuments. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated restrictions most were not actioned during 2020 – 2021. The scheduled monuments are as follows:
- PE117 Gors Fawr Stone Circle – A vegetation management plan was put in place to ensure that problematic species are adequately managed and risks to the archaeological features are mitigated. Natural Resources Wales granted SSSI consent over five years enabling the Authority to carry out routine maintenance as and when required without needing to re-apply for SSSI each time.
 - PE122 Bedd yr Afanc Burial Chamber – A vegetation management plan was put in place to ensure that problematic species are adequately managed and risks to the archaeological features are mitigated. Natural Resources Wales granted SSSI consent over five years enabling the Authority to carry out routine maintenance as and when required without needing to re-apply for SSSI each time.
 - PE160 Nevern Castle – A vegetation management plan was put in place to manage on-site scrub.
 - PE197 Crugiau Cemmaes Round Barrows – A vegetation management plan was put in place to ensure that problematic species are adequately managed and risks to the archaeological features are mitigated. Vegetation clearance by Authority staff did take place at the monument in 2020 and will continue to take place on a routine annual basis.
 - PE281 Tower Point Rath – A vegetation management plan was put in place to ensure that problematic species are adequately managed and risks to the archaeological features are mitigated. Natural Resources Wales granted SSSI consent over five years enabling the Authority to carry out routine maintenance as and when required without needing to re-apply for SSSI each time.
 - PE404 The Old Castle – A vegetation management plan was put in place to ensure that problematic species are adequately managed and risks to the archaeological features are mitigated. Vegetation clearance by Authority staff did take place at the monument in 2020 and will continue to take place on a routine annual basis.

Heritage Watch Scheme

40. During 2020, the Community Archaeologist worked with key partner organisations for Heritage Watch and also colleagues within the Authority to develop a [webpage](#), [reporting page](#) and also update the [Facebook page](#). The webpage includes information about the scheme, explains what heritage crime is and how communities and the public can help address the issue. While those who witness or notice heritage crime at a site are encouraged to report directly to Dyfed-Powys Police, a reporting form can be useful for those who wish to remain anonymous. As such, a [reporting form](#) was created on the Authority website that allows communities and the public to report heritage crime, including providing details and photographs. To coincide with the development of the [webpage](#) and [reporting page](#), the [Facebook page](#) content was updated for consistency, including the scheme logo, background image, information about the scheme, key information regarding reporting and links to the webpage.

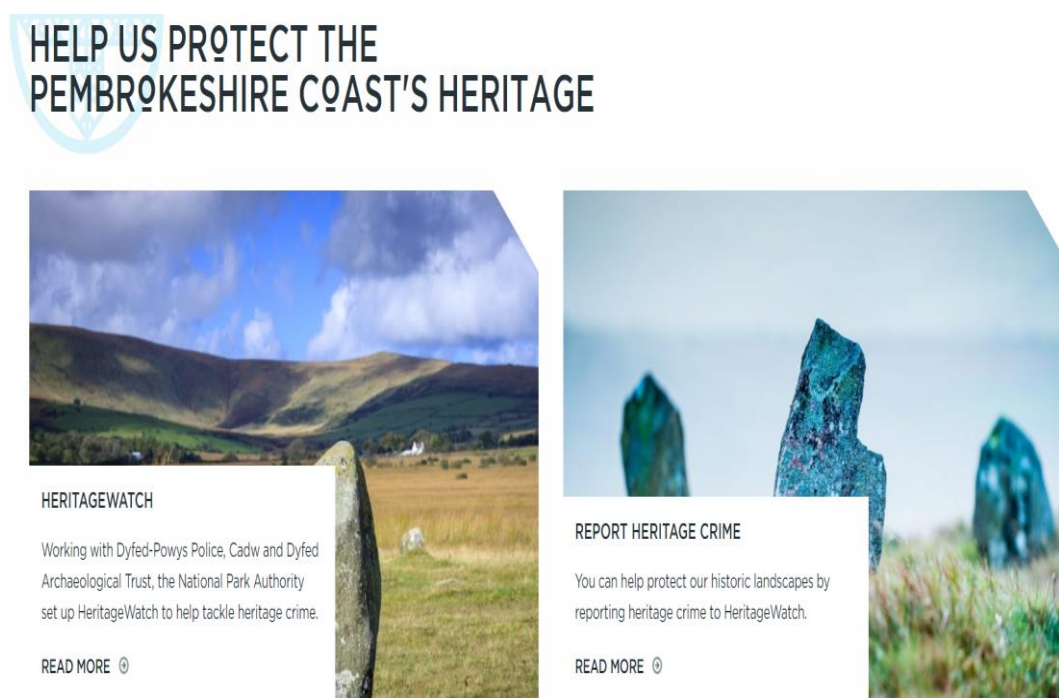


Figure 14: Screenshot of the Pembrokeshire Coast website links to the HeritageWatch information page and reporting form.

41. Evidently all three platforms are useful, during 2020 – 2021 a limited number of reports were received through the [Facebook page](#)'s messaging service and via the Authority's [reporting form](#). In addition, activities, news and developments were posted bilingually on the Facebook page (28 posts in total) and reached almost 67 thousand viewers. This included posts about heritage crime incidents at sites, how communities and the public could help and activities delivered by the Authority and partners, such as patrols and training.

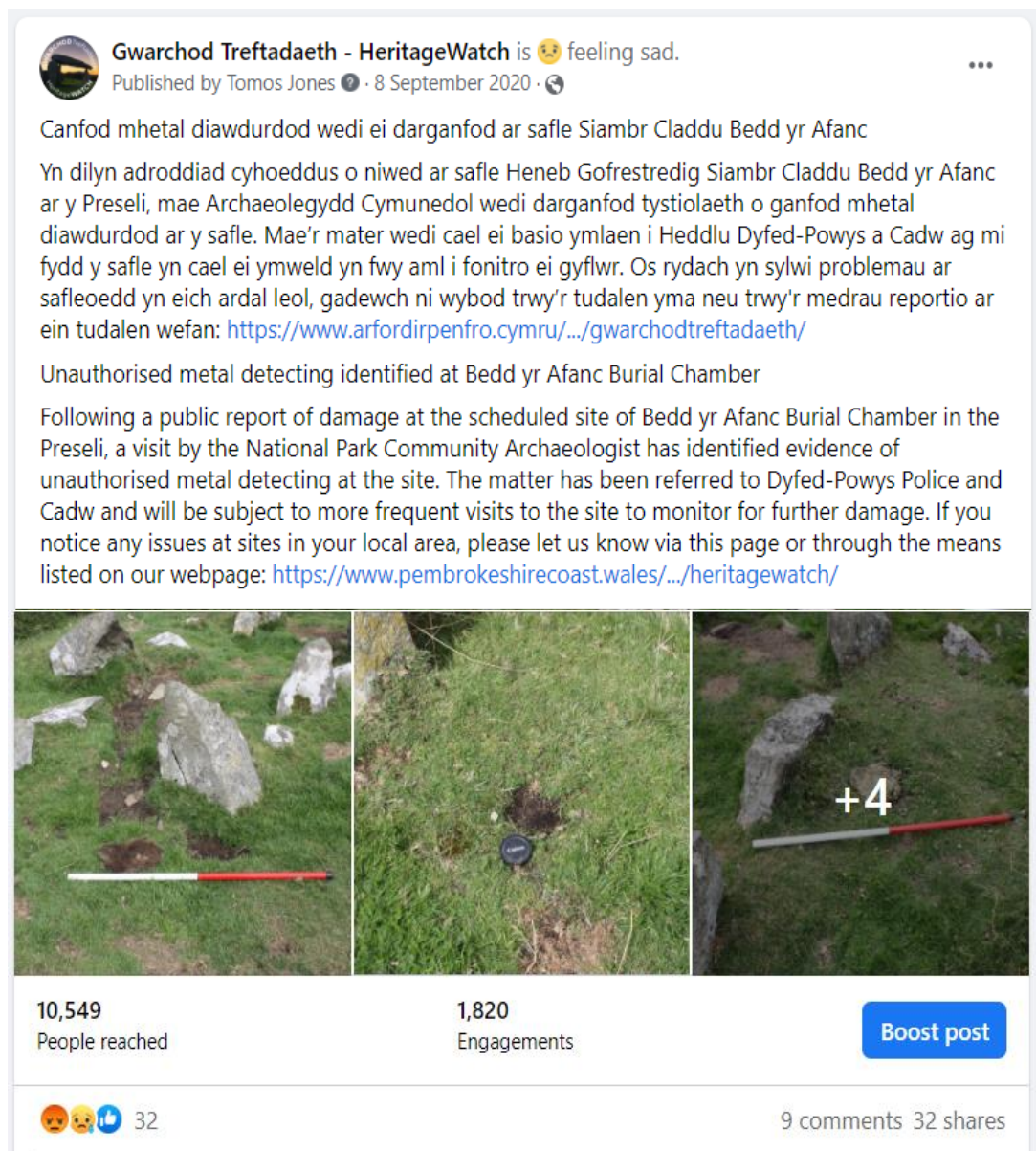


Figure 15: Screenshot of a bilingual Facebook post about the incident of unauthorised metal detecting at Bedd yr Afanc, reaching over 10,500 viewers.

42. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a pan-Wales in-person training event was unable to go ahead in early 2020 – 2021. However, this was re-scheduled and hosted virtually in July 2020 with the Community Archaeologist coordinating and leading on this event. The event was opened by the then Deputy Chief Constable for Gwent Police and the Police SPOC for heritage crime in Wales. Talks were given by Cadw, Historic England, the Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority. The event was attended by heritage professionals from across Wales and police officers from Welsh forces and also a number of neighbouring English forces. The event gave colleagues an opportunity to learn more about heritage crime and how to address the matter. It also provided an opportunity for the Heritage Watch Scheme to be showcased. Feedback from colleagues who attended was positive. News of the event was posted on the [Facebook page](#) and reactions were positive.

Joint Heritage Training Event



Figure 16: Screenshot of the event, including highlighting the number of contributing organisations.

43. During 2020 – 2021 regular Heritage Watch meetings were held (four in total). This included two general catch-up meetings with partners of the scheme to discuss issues and priorities. A meeting was also held with colleagues across Wales to discuss how heritage watch schemes could be established elsewhere in Wales. Another meeting took place with Dyfed-Powys Police to discuss the development of content on their website relating to heritage crime.



Figure 17: Photograph of PCSO Carwyn Phillips during a heritage watch patrol visit to Garn Fawr scheduled monument.

44. During 2020 – 2021, the Community Archaeologist in partnership with colleagues from the Authority's Ranger Team and Dyfed-Powys Police undertook patrols to a number of sites at risk during the 2020 Summer Solstice, 2020 September Equinox and 2021 Spring Equinox. No issues specific to these events were identified, however the patrols did reveal other issues at some of the scheduled monument visited.
45. During 2020 – 2021, there were several reports and incidents of heritage crime at scheduled monuments. These came to the attention of the Authority via public reports, during patrols or by internal and external colleagues. The following is a list of affected scheduled monuments, including actions taken:
- PE001 Carew Castle - Two break-in incidents occurred at the site during the financial year. Action was taken by site staff to safeguard the site and the matter was reported to Dyfed Powys Police and patrols to the area were increased.
 - PE010 Foel Drygarn Camp – The site is affected by a number of issues, including disturbance to the cairns, including the stones being used as part of camp style fires on the site. Also, an area of the site suffers from the removal of stones from a rock face. This is likely to be related to the association of the area with Stonehenge and people perceiving the stone to be valuable for resale or simply wanting to take pieces of stone away as a souvenir of their visit. The matter was publicised on the [Facebook page](#), reported to Dyfed-Powys Police, included in Heritage Watch patrols and visited by heritage volunteers visiting publicly accessible scheduled monuments.



Figure 18: Photograph showing camp style fire at the summit of Foel Drygarn with stones from the cairn being used.

- PE071 St David's Head Camp – A report of burning in the centre of one of the hut circles was submitted to the Community Archaeologist and Dyfed-Powys Police by a National Park volunteer. It was also identified by a heritage

volunteer during their visit to the scheduled monument. Dyfed Powys Police undertook a visit to the site to assess the damage. The site is also a SSSI and the designated officer for Natural Resources Wales was notified. The National Trust was also notified as landowner. As a recommendation, the heritage volunteer will continue to monitor the condition of the damage to see if it will repair naturally. If this does not occur, the Authority will explore with colleagues what repair should be carried out.



Figure 19: Photograph showing a National Park volunteer next to the remains of a fire in the centre of one of the monument's hut circles.

- PE096 Castle Point Old Fort – During a joint visit between the Community Archaeologist and a heritage volunteer to assess the condition of the scheduled monument, evidence of burning on site was identified, most likely the result of a camp style fire. The matter was reported to Dyfed-Powys Police, patrols by the police, Authority colleagues and a heritage volunteer were put in place. The site is also a SSSI and the designated officer for Natural Resources Wales was made aware. To raise awareness of the protected status of the site, the new interpretation panel, due to complete in financial year 2021 – 2022 will include information about its protected status.
- PE122 Bedd yr Afanc Burial Chamber – A report was received that disturbance had taken place at the monument. A visit by the Community Archaeologist confirmed that ground poaching had occurred, in all likelihood the result of unauthorised metal detecting activity. The matter was publicised on the [Facebook page](#) and received a lot of attention from the public who were concerned that this had taken place within a scheduled monument. The matter

was also reported to Dyfed-Powys Police and the site was included in patrols by Authority and Dyfed-Powys Police colleagues and also heritage volunteers who visit the site.



Figure 20: Photograph showing evidence of likely metal detecting at Bedd yr Afanc.

- PE161 Rock Hewn Cross 220m West of Church (also known as Pilgrims Cross, Nevern) – The monument continues to suffer from the issue of coins being deposited into the cross as visitors visit the site. During 2020 – 2021 patrols by heritage volunteers commenced to the site, Authority colleagues also monitor the site. The matter was also publicised on the [Facebook page](#). In addition, work began to create notice at the site that makes visitors aware of the protected status of the site. This will hopefully be installed at the site in financial year 2021 – 2022.
- PE298 Foel Eryr Round Cairn – Disturbance to the cairns at the monument were reported to the Community Archaeologist and also Dyfed-Powys Police. Patrols by Dyfed-Powys Police and a heritage volunteer took place to monitor the issue. The matter was also publicised on the [Facebook page](#). The issue will continue to be monitored and addressed if required.



Figure 21: Photograph showing disturbance of the cairn at Foel Eryr Round Cairn.

- PE301 Foel Feddau Round Cairn – During a visit to the scheduled monument by the Community Archaeologist, disturbance was identified. The cairn includes a turf cover, however visitors are adding stones to the monument, resulting in a distortion of the monument in terms of form and also setting. The matter was reported to Dyfed-Powys Police and the Community Archaeologist began to explore ways to address this issue. A heritage volunteer was recruited to visit the site and monitor the issue over time.



Figure 22: Photograph showing the accumulation of stones at Foel Feddau Round Cairn. The walkers' cairn creates a false impression of the monument.

Archaeological Research

46. **Archaeological excavations and surveys:** as has been mentioned elsewhere in this report, excavations that had been planned to take place in 2020 were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This included Caerfai Promontory Fort, Waun Mawn, Porth-y-Rhaw Promontory Fort and St Patrick's Chapel. In addition, geophysical surveys that were due to be completed via the Ancient Connections project were also suspended.
47. **Dawnsio ar y Dibyn SMS Project:** the Authority secured funding of £50k from the Welsh Government as part of a sustainable management scheme being led by Gwynedd Council. Specifically, this funding will be used to capture high resolution LiDAR data and aerial photography of the northern section of the national park and will hopefully reveal new information about established and previously unknown archaeological features in the landscape. This information will contribute towards land management objectives of the national park in relation to archaeological features. This data also has the potential to be useful

for other aspects of the national parks work, including biodiversity. The overarching project will commence between June 2021 and June 2023, however the LiDAR data will not be captured until winter 2021/2022. Capturing during winter, means that vegetation will be at its lowest coverage, therefore increasing the potential amount of information revealed by the LiDAR data. Once the data has been captured, volunteers, the community and wider public will be able to get involved with the analysis, interpretation and field element of the project.

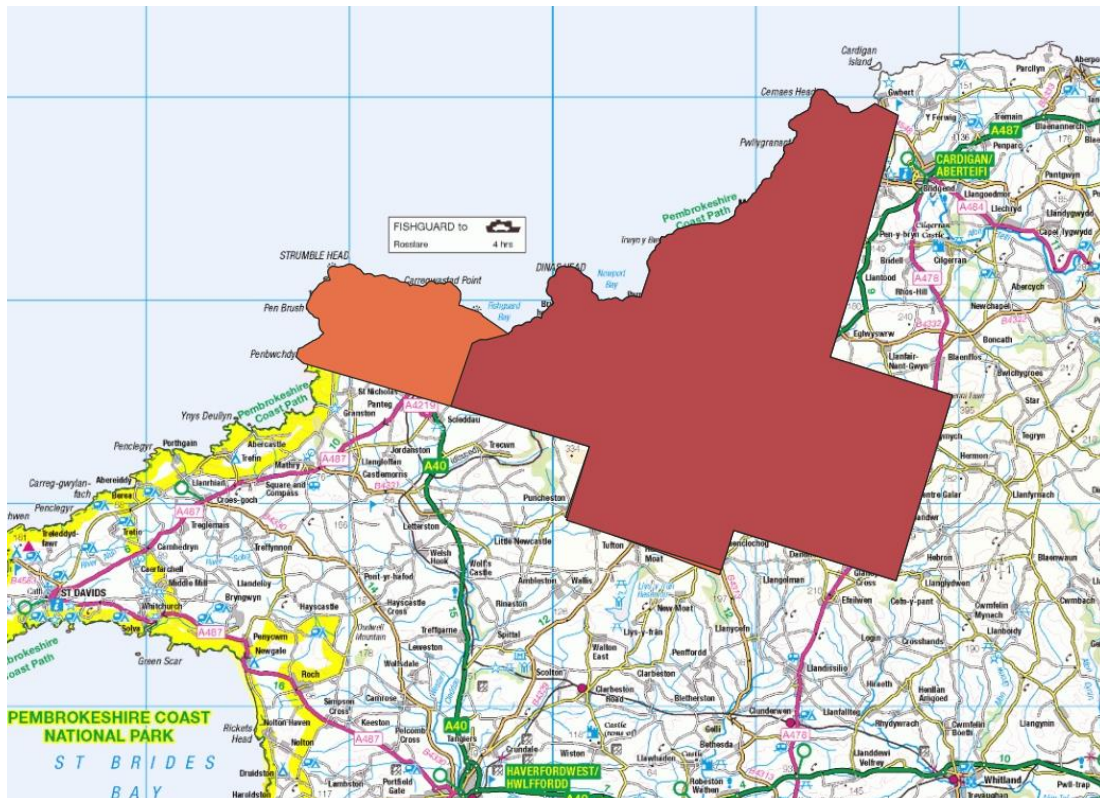


Figure 23: Map showing the minimum (red only) and desirable (red and orange) areas of LiDAR data capture. The red area includes the entire northern section of the National Park, while the orange section includes Strumble Head.

48. Due to the technical nature of LiDAR surveys, the Authority commissioned a technical specialist to support the tendering process and also quality assess the captured LiDAR data. During early 2021, the Community Archaeologist and the Research and Sustainability Appraisal Officer held meetings with three potential consultants. These consultants subsequently submitted their proposal to support the Authority and in March 2021, PTS Consultancy was commissioned to support the Authority. This specialist will help draft the tendering document, assist with evaluation of bids for the LiDAR data capture survey and quality assure their work. The contract to capture LiDAR data will be advertised on Sell2Wales during Autumn 2021 and an awarding decision made accordingly.

49. **Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales;** as part of the consultation with external colleagues regarding the production of the archaeology action plan, the Authority was recommended to consider the priorities of the Research Framework. As such, during 2020 – 2021, the Community Archaeologist signed up the Authority to be a member of the Research Framework Committee. Membership is free and enables the Authority to access meetings, minutes and identify research priorities that are mutually beneficial. More information about the Research Framework is available at [Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales - Fframwaith Ymchwil i Archaeoleg Cymru](#).

National Policy

50. **Use of Sacred Places Guidance;** during 2020 – 2021, the Community Archaeologist met with the Management Plan Officer and Ranger Service Manager to discuss the use of archaeologically sensitive places by communities and the public. Specifically, the deposition of memorials relating to relatives, friends and loved ones. Colleagues were advised that this is a sensitive matter, however deposition within archaeologically sensitive areas need to be discouraged wherever possible as this could have an impact on the setting. To find out more about the production of this guidance, please contact the Management Plan Officer or Ranger Service Manager.
51. **Welsh Government Legislative Consultations;** in March 2021, the Community Archaeologist provided comments to the Welsh National Parks response to the Agricultural (Wales) White Paper consultation. Specifically, points were highlighted in relation to archaeology and the historic environment. In addition, the Community Archaeologist participated in a Welsh Government working group focussed on consolidating Welsh historic environment laws between February and March 2021. This included attending a presentation on the tasks of the working group and then providing comments on specific aspects of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 relevant to local authority and national parks.
52. **Committees and Working Groups;** the Community Archaeologist continued to be a member of several committees and working groups on behalf of the Authority during 2020 – 2021, including:
- The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers: Cymru (ALGAO:Cymru); during 2020 – 2021 the Community Archaeologist represented the Authority on the Association and acted as Chair, including chairing meetings, coordinating committees and responding to Welsh Government consultations on behalf of the group, specifically [the Agricultural \(Wales\) White Paper response](#) in March 2021. Also, as Chair, the Community Archaeologist acted as representative of Welsh colleagues on the UK Executive Committee. In July 2020, the Community Archaeologist supported the

production of a UK-wide study looking at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the UK local authority archaeology service, [Impact of Covid-19 on Local Authority Archaeology Services | ALGAO](#). Building upon this study, the Community Archaeologist worked with the Council for British Archaeology Wales to produce a study looking at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sector more generally in Wales. The results were published in the [Archaeology in Wales volume 59 publication](#) and the findings were presented at [Archaeology Day 2020](#).

- The Pembrokeshire Heritage Forum; during 2020 – 2021, the Community Archaeologist worked with PLANED's Cultural Coordinator to develop the Forum for community heritage groups and societies. This included attending meetings to develop the Forum and also to support the Forum during meetings of members. Meetings of members included sharing updates and also presenting project work to other members.
- The Welsh Government's Historic Environment Group; the Community Archaeologist attended a meeting on behalf of the Authority in July 2020. Attendance is normally represented by the Head of Cultural Heritage for Snowdonia National Park Authority, as such the Authority was represented by them for the other meetings held. The Community Archaeologist did provide an update in advance of all meetings, to be presented by the Head of Cultural Heritage, Snowdonia National Park Authority.
- The Welsh Government's Historic Environment Subgroup on Climate Change; the Community Archaeologist represented the Authority on this working group during 2020 – 2021. The Community Archaeologist attended 10 meetings and supported the working group with a sector wide consultation to identify the work being carried out in relation to the historic environment to mitigate against climate change, as per the [Sector Adaptation Plan for Wales](#). The consultation took place between December 2020 and January 2021 and received 26 responses from a range of organisation working within the sector, including public, private and third sector organisations.
- The Council for British Archaeology Wales Committee; the Community Archaeologist represented the Authority on this Committee during 2020 – 2021. This included attending meetings, disseminating information and supporting the production of the Archaeology in Wales volume 59 publication. As mentioned above, the Community Archaeologist worked with the Council for British Archaeology Wales to undertake a survey of the impact of COVID-19 on the archaeological sector in Wales. The results were published in the [Archaeology in Wales volume 59 publication](#) and the findings were presented at [Archaeology Day 2020](#).
- The National Parks UK Historic Environment Group; the Community Archaeologist represented the Authority on this group during 2020 – 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the joint statement event that was due to take place in the Peak District National Park was cancelled and a meeting of National Parks' representatives took place as a virtual meeting in May 2020. While the Community Archaeologist provided information about the Authority in relation to the historic environment for the Joint Statement Annual Review virtual meeting in October 2020, he was unable to be present due to other work commitments.

CONCLUSION

53. The report has presented work of the Authority in relation to archaeology during 2020 - 2021. While COVID-19 had an impact on aspects of the work programme, the Authority continued to achieve in relation to archaeology. The report for 2020 – 2021 has presented activities of the work programme in the context of the newly adopted [Archaeology Action Plan 2020 – 2024](#). Initially, the COVID-19 pandemic proved challenging and problematic, however new ways of working were identified and the Authority learnt to effectively adapt to delivering the archaeology work programme. Financial year 2020 – 2021 was a successful year for archaeology and lessons learnt will contribute to the development of archaeology related work in the future, including improved engagement and more efficient ways of working.