

### Report of the Community Archaeologist

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#### **SUBJECT: Annual Archaeology Report 2022 – 2023**

1. The report presents work of the Authority in relation to archaeology during financial year 2022 - 2023. Work relating to the Archaeology Action Plan 2020 - 2024 are presented. In addition, relevant areas of the National Park Management Plan 2020 – 2024, the corporate and resources plan 2021 – 2022 and the Authority's Wellbeing Objectives are highlighted. Financial year 2022 – 2023 was the first year where the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work programme was minimal. Forward planning for work in the current financial year 2023 - 2024 was also highlighted.
2. The report includes the following sections:
  - Introduction
  - Management Plan 2020 – 2024: The Role of Archaeology
  - Corporate and Resources Plan 2022 – 2023 and the Authority's Wellbeing Objectives: Contribution of Archaeology
  - Archaeology Action Plan 2020 – 2024: Work Programme Activities 2022 – 2023
  - Forward Planning: Financial Year 2023 - 2024
  - Conclusion

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**Members are requested to RECEIVE and COMMENT on the Report.**

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# ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGY REPORT 2022 - 2023

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**Pembrokeshire Coast  
National Park Authority**



## **SUMMARY**

The report presents work of the Authority in relation to archaeology during financial year 2022 - 2023. Work relating to the Archaeology Action Plan 2020 - 2024 are presented. In addition, relevant areas of the National Park Management Plan 2020 – 2024, the corporate and resources plan 2021 – 2022 and the Authority's Wellbeing Objectives are highlighted. Financial year 2022 – 2023 was the first year where the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work programme was minimal. Forward planning for work in the current financial year 2023 - 2024 was also highlighted.

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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 sites 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 means 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 in relation to archaeology during financial year 2022 - 2023, with the Archaeology Action Plan 2020 – 2024 used as the framework for activities. Financial year 2022 – 2023 was the first year where the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work programme was minimal. The report also highlights work ongoing during the current financial year 2023 – 2024.

## **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, 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 as follows:

## **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 2022 – 2023 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 Connection. Archaeology measures were reviewed and updated for 2022/23:

- Safeguarding archaeological monuments – Number of visits to monuments carried out by heritage volunteers during the financial year – 153.
- Safeguarding archaeological monuments – Number of monuments where improvement/maintenance work has taken place during the financial year – 17.
- Heritage Watch – Number of known heritage crime occurrences reported during the financial year – 22.
- Number of volunteer days (heritage site monitoring) – 30 days. This compares to 47.5 in 2021/22.
- The Heritage Guardian project ended in 2021/22, with Heritage Guardian and Community Archaeology education activities being embedded into the wider education programme. In 2022/23 this included the Community Archaeologist working with other teams to deliver: → Sessions with Ysgol Bro Ingi with 74 participants across 2 sessions. One session focused on scheduled monument PE404 The Old Castle, Newport the other on Visits to Nevern Castle and Cardigan Castle. → Education sessions linked to their On Your Doorstep Exhibition at Oriell Parc for Cleddau Reach VC Primary School, Mary Immaculate School, Monkton Priory Community Primary School and Manorbier Church In Wales VC School. With 104 participants across four sessions. → Delivery of three LIDAR Training Sessions for Pembrokeshire College Students. → supporting a guided walk of Whitesands and St Davids Head as part of the Ancient Connections project for Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi and pupils from Wexford, Ireland. 30 participants.
- In terms of public events there were 169 in person attendees at the Annual Archaeology Day. A number of attendees were also watching the event remotely via Zoom.

## **ARCHAEOLOGY ACTION PLAN 2020 – 2024: WORK PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES 2022 - 2023**

6. During financial year 2022 – 2023, the Authority continued to deliver activities and work programme in line with the Archaeology Action Plan 2020 - 2024. Delivery of activities relating to specific priority areas of the Action Plan are highlighted below.

### **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.

### The Heritage Guardians Scheme

8. The National Park Authority delivered a number of activity sessions with schools focussed on archaeology including:
9. **On Your Doorstep Exhibition, Oriel y Parc**; the community archaeologist supported Cleddau Reach VC Primary School, Mary Immaculate School, Monkton Priory Community Primary School and Manorbier Church in Wales VC School to visit the exhibition. This included archaeological artefacts from the National Park area. Archaeological activities were delivered by the community archaeologist and other staff during their visits.



Figure 1. Material produced by one of the schools during their visit to the exhibition, including archaeological artefacts in clay.

10. **Archaeology Interpretation Project**; as part of the project to update archaeological interpretation of the Old Castle site in Newport, the community archaeologist and the area ranger worked with pupils from Ysgol Bro Inqli. This included a session looking at the site and also producing archaeological

artefacts in clay. In addition, pupils from the schools visited contemporary medieval sites including Nevern Castle and Cardigan Castle.

11. **Ancient Connections Project**: as part of the project the community archaeologist guided pupils from Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi and those visiting from a school in Wexford, Ireland around archaeological sites on St Davids Head and Whitesands.

## Community Archaeology Projects

12. The Authority delivered or supported a number of community projects with an archaeology element in financial year 2022 – 2023, including:
13. **Dawnsio ar y Dibyn Archaeology Lidar Project**: the capture of high resolution lidar data was deferred into financial year 2022 – 2023. The data was finally captured by the end of March 2023, although the company was unable to capture concurrent high resolution aerial photos for the entire area due to weather conditions. Due to the delay, the community archaeologist in partnership with PTS Consultancy delivered three lidar training sessions as a pilot to inform the longer-term citizen science portal. One of the sessions was allocated to Pembrokeshire College students, while the other was open to members of the community and wider public. The session included an indoor class-based morning to teach about lidar and its potential in archaeology. This was followed by an afternoon out on Carn Ingli Common using the data to survey archaeological features. The sessions were well received and have helped in the development of the citizen science portal and format.



Figure 2. The community archaeologist teaching a participant to survey using lidar during one of the training sessions.

14. **Archaeology Interpretation;** the National Park Authority in partnership with the National Park Trust were successful in obtaining funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Sackler Trust to deliver interpretation content for three archaeological sites. Digital reconstructive artwork was commissioned for two of the sites, Foel Drygarn and the Old Castle at Newport. Work was still underway with these at the end of financial year 2022 – 2023. In addition, the project involved engagement with local communities; as such, workshops were held in Newport and Maenclochog to present the project and provide an opportunity for communities to provide feedback. Activities were also delivered with Ysgol Bro Inqli in relation to work on the Old Castle, Newport (see paragraph 10).



Figure 3. The community archaeologist leading a community workshop in Maenclochog on the interpretation content for nearby archaeology sites, Foel Drygarn and Gors Fawr.

15. The National Park Authority completed artwork for the fort at Fishguard. This includes an aerial reconstruction of the site as it would have looked during the late eighteenth century, a reconstruction of the site during WWII and a 360 viewpoint of the eighteenth-century fort. A new interpretation panel of the site has been installed in the car park, a QR code on site that provides a link to the 360 viewpoint and the content is available on the National Park website - [Fishguard Fort - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park](#)



Figure 4. Completed aerial digital reconstruction of the fort at Fishguard.

16. The revamp of the archaeology display cabinet at Oriel y Parc was completed, this included the addition of smaller display cabinets to exhibit archaeological artefacts including the bear jaw. The webpage content was also completed - [The Ancient Beasts of Whitesands - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park](#)
17. **CHERISH Project**: the community archaeologist attended the launch of the project exhibition in the Senedd on behalf of the Authority. Also, the community archaeologist led joint archaeology walks in partnership with the project team from the RCAHMW around St Brides and St Davids Head/Whitesands. The issue of climate change and its impact on archaeological sites was highlighted. The walks were well received by those who attended.



Figure 5. Dr Toby Driver, RCAHMW highlighting the ancient field systems during the guided walk of St Davids Head.

18. **PLANT Tree Planting Project**; for the second year in a row, the community archaeologist, with the support of other staff and volunteers carried out more scrub clearance at the Pembrokeshire County Council owned archaeology site known as West Ford Camp, near Wolfscastle. The total scrub was cleared during the session in August 2022.



Figure 6. Aerial view showing monument prior to clearance in 2021 (left) and afterwards in 2022.

19. **The CUPHAT Project**; the National Park Authority collaborated with the Dyfed Archaeological Trust as part of their involvement in the CUPHAT project. In particular, the Dyfed Archaeological Trust provided some expertise in relation to archaeology for the purpose of the Authority lidar project and also in relation to interpretation work.
20. **The Ancient Connections Project**; the community archaeologist supported a guided archaeology walk of Whitesands and St Davids Head for Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi and pupils from Wexford, Ireland as part of the project (see paragraph 11). In addition, the community archaeologist supported the project team with the tendering process to commission an archaeological contractor to carry out an excavation in the St Davids area as part of the project.

### Archaeological Activities and Events

21. **Archaeology Day**; the annual event was delivered in November 2022 in a hybrid format and was well attended with 169 attendees. This was the first year the event was hosted in person after the COVID-19 pandemic. Attendees were given the option to attend the Pembrokeshire College or dial-in over Zoom. The majority of speakers delivered their talk in person, however there was one speaker delivering virtually via Zoom. The talks covered excavations and projects in the National Park and more broadly in Pembrokeshire. As the event celebrated twenty years since the first event, a panel discussion took place to discuss what archaeology means in 2022.
22. The event held ticket prices at the same rate as they had been pre-COVID, however inflation meant the price of catering had increased significantly. Due to increased costs a decision was made not to provide catering on this occasion and reduce the ticket price. Refreshments, biscuits and cake were provided. It

was agreed that the team would look for other caterers for the 2023 event to reduce this cost.

23. While the hybrid format enabled those unable to attend in person to access and participate in the event, the technical requirements meant this was problematic. Attendees viewing over Zoom complained that the quality was poor on occasion internet issues also forced the delivery team to delay the event schedule to address issues. During an evaluation meeting after the event, it was agreed that this format made the delivery too complicated. As such, future events would be in-person only, however talks would be recorded and posted on the event YouTube channel.

24. Overall, the event was successful and well received and some of the talks from Archaeology Day 2022 can be viewed on the YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/c/DiwrnodArchaeolegArchaeologyDay>

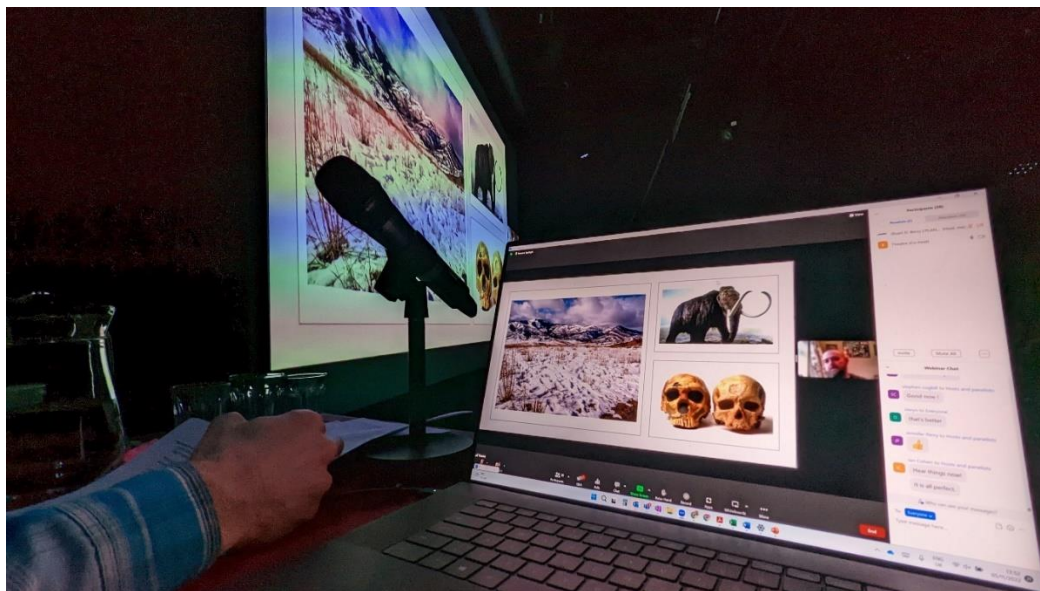


Figure 7. Dr Rob Dinnis delivering his talk at Archaeology Day 2022 via Zoom.

25. **Guided Walks:** three guided archaeology walks were delivered by the community archaeologist. Two of the guided walks were delivered in partnership with the CHERISH project team (see paragraph 17). The other was a guided walk around archaeology sites in the St Davids area, including St Non's Chapel, the Bishop's Palace and the Cathedral. This walks was delivered in partnership with Cadw and Cathedral staff. All walks were well received by those who attended.

26. **Talks:** five successful talks were delivered by the community archaeologist, including:

- Archaeology and Dark Sky Discovery Sites (virtually).
- Archaeology of the National Park (Tenby Museum).
- Archaeology of the National Park (Theatre Gwaun).

- ClfA Cymru AGM talk on Heritage Watch (virtually).
- Archaeology of the National Park (Tenby and District Arts Club, Tenby).

### Archaeology in the Media

27. The community archaeologist did a number of interviews to publicise and raise awareness of issues relating to archaeology in the National Park, including:

- Radio Cymru interview with Aled Hughes to discuss archaeology in the Preseli.
- S4C News interview about Heritage Watch and heritage crime.
- ITV Coast to Coast interview about Heritage Watch and heritage crime.

### **Action Plan Priority Area: Safeguarding Archaeological Monuments and Research**

28. 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.

### Safeguarding Archaeological Monuments

29. During financial year 2022 - 2023 heritage volunteers in partnership with the community archaeologist carried out 153 visits to scheduled monuments monitored as part of the scheme. This data was assessed by the community archaeologist to identify issues at the monuments. Data collected as part of monitoring enabled heritage crime issues to be identified and referred to Dyfed-Powys Police, including arson, disturbance and criminal damage. Some remedial work was also carried out at some of the affected sites. The data also continued to provide information about sites at risk from climate change and it continued to show that vegetation encroachment or scrub was the biggest threat to monuments in the National Park. This issue is likely to increase as climate change intensifies, due to the change in the growing season.

30. As a result of the data collected by volunteers, the National Park Authority was able to pass information about issues to relevant landowners to make them aware of issues, such as the National Trust. The National Park Authority also

carried out work at a number of monuments largely as result of this data, including:

- PE010 Foel Drygarn Camp; removal of graffiti and reconsolidation of cairns by the community archaeologist and area ranger.
- PE011 Carn Ingli Camp; reconsolidation of a disturbed rampart by the community archaeologist and volunteers.
- PE050 Cerig-y-Gof Burial Chamber; scrub clearance by the community archaeologist and area ranger.
- PE096 Castle Point Old Fort; installation of new interpretation panel and QR Code by the warden team and drone carried out by the community archaeologist in advance of conservation work on one of the surviving walls.
- PE117 Gors Fawr Stone Circle; scrub clearance by the area ranger.
- PE122 Bedd yr Afanc Burial Chamber; scrub clearance by the area ranger and volunteers.
- PE160 Nevern Castle; general maintenance carried out by the warden team and scheduled monument consent in process for the square tower conservation work by the community archaeologist. Also, guidebook in production by the community archaeologist, graphics team, Nevern Community Castle and Dr Chris Caple, Durham University.
- PE161 Rock Hewn Cross 200m West of Church; new signage installed by the warden team, including Heritage Watch notice not to deposit coins in the cross. Coins removed from the cross on an ongoing basis by volunteers and warden team.
- PE197 Crugiau Cemmaes Round Barrows; scrub clearance by the warden team.
- PE229 Holy Well; scrub clearance around well by the community archaeologist.
- PE281 Tower Point Rath; scrub clearance by the community archaeologist and volunteers.
- PE283 Mill Haven Rath; scrub clearance by the community archaeologist and volunteers.
- PE298 Foel Eryr Round Cairn; reconsolidation of disturbed cairn by the community archaeologist and area ranger. Drone survey carried out by the community archaeologist as a baseline of the shape of the monument.
- PE398 Remains of East Blockhouse N of Rat Island; drone survey carried out by community archaeologist to produce baseline to monitor changes as a result of coastal erosion and climate change.
- PE459 Manorbier Dovecot; scrub clearance by the community archaeologist and volunteers. Also, installation of new interpretation panel by the community archaeologist and ranger team.
- PE479 Tramroad Incline at Saundersfoot; scrub clearance and removal of rubbish by the community archaeologist and volunteer.
- PE544 Carn Briw Round Cairn; reconsolidation of disturbed cairn by the community archaeologist and area ranger. Drone survey carried out by



the community archaeologist as a baseline of the shape of the monument.



Figure 8. Manorbier Dovecot before scrub clearance (left) and afterwards (right).

### Heritage Watch Scheme

31. During financial year 2021 - 2022, there were 22 incidents of heritage crime reported, including criminal damage, arson and disturbance. Some sites were affected by multiple incidents, while others were affected by one incident. The time of year also appears to have been a factor, for example the number of fire incidents were higher during the summer. Where possible, the community archaeologist carried out remedial work at sites affected with the support of colleagues and volunteers. In some cases, the remedial work related to issues identified during the previous financial year. A list of sites where work was carried out, including those affected by heritage crime is noted under paragraph 30 of this report.



Figure 9. Rampart disturbance identified at Carn Ignli Camp. This was repaired in April 2022.

32. A number of Heritage Watch patrols took place throughout the year, including to sites at risk and at relevant times of the year. Visits were carried out by the

Neighbourhood Policing Team, National Park Authority staff and volunteers. A number of Heritage Watch meetings took place to discuss cases and priorities with the key organisations, including Dyfed-Powys Police, Cadw and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts. Also, the community archaeologist in partnership with the Police's Rural Crime Sargeant facilitated and presented an online training session on heritage crime to colleagues. This included input from Cadw and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts. The community archaeologist also delivered a talk on the scheme at the ClfA Cymru AGM (see paragraph 26). As mentioned in paragraph 27 of this report, the community archaeologist publicised the issue of heritage crime in the National Parc on S4C News and in an episode of ITV's Coast to Coast series. Publicity via Heritage Watch's social media accounts was utilised throughout the year to highlight key issues and events.

## Archaeological Research

33. **Archaeological Excavations:** during financial year 2022 - 2023 the Authority provided support for the following excavations:

- PE273 Porth-y-Rhaw Camp; the National Park Authority provided some matching funding for the Dyfed Archaeological Trust to carry out a community excavation at the site, in particular, the complete excavation of one of the roundhouses. The community archaeologist also provided their time to help with excavation work on the site. Preliminary findings from the excavation was presented at the 2022 Archaeology Day and is available on the event YouTube channel - [Archaeological investigations 2022 at Porth-y Rhaw promontory fort, Pembrokeshire \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Figure 10. Aerial view of the Porth-y-Rhaw 2022 excavation. Photo courtesy of the CHERISH.

- The Ancient Connections project; as mentioned in paragraph 20, the community archaeologist supported the project team with the tendering process to commission an archaeological contractor to carry out an excavation in the St Davids area as part of the project. The contract was awarded to Dig Ventures.

34. **Dawnsio ar y Dibyn Archaeology Lidar Project**; see paragraph 13.

## National Policy

35. **Consultations**; during financial year 2022 – 2023 the community archaeologist provided consultation responses on behalf of the Authority to a number of consultation types, including major infrastructure projects, woodland creation, external organisation and those from the Welsh Government. Key consultations included:

- The 2022 Sustainable Farming Scheme, Welsh Government consultation.
- Wales Wildlife and Rural Crime Strategy 2023 – 2025, Welsh Government consultation.
- Public Commemoration in Wales, Welsh Government Consultation.
- Welsh Archaeological Trusts merger consultation.

36. **Strategic Working Groups**; during financial year 2022 – 2023 the community archaeological continued to represent the Authority on the following historic environment working groups:

- The Welsh Government’s Historic Environment Group, including the subgroup on Climate Change.
- National Parks UK Historic Environment Group.
- The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers.
- Council for British Archaeology Wales.

## **FORWARD PLANNING: FINANCIAL YEAR 2023 – 2024**

37. The current activities are underway or scheduled for financial year 2023 – 2024:

- **Heritage Guardians**; as part of an Archaeology Interpretation project, the community archaeologist with support from the area ranger and Castell Henllys staff delivered in-school sessions, visits to archaeology sites and Castell Henllys, for Ysgol Bro Preseli and Ysgol Maenclochog in 2023. In addition, the community archaeologist supported the education ranger and outdoor schools’ coordinator to deliver visits to

archaeology sites in the Preseli and Castell Henllys in 2023 for Neyland Community Primary School and Johnston Community Primary School.

- **Community Archaeology Projects;** the community archaeologist supported and took part in an Ancient Connections Project video on St Patrick's Chapel, Whitesands in 2023 - [Discovering Donoec: Findings from a decade of digging at Whitesands \(full version - open captions\) \(youtube.com\)](#). The community archaeologist continued collaboration with the CUPHAT project team on archaeological interpretation and research, including hosting a lidar taster session in the Preseli in 2023. The community archaeologist delivered a joint archaeology walk of St Davids Head/Whitesands with the CHERISH project team. New interpretation content for the Old Castle, Newport and Foel Drygarn was produced in 2023 as part of the archaeology interpretation project. A panel has been installed near the site in Newport and work is ongoing to complete the digital content.
- **Archaeological Activities and Events;** Archaeology Day was delivered in November 2023, some of the talks are available at <https://www.youtube.com/c/DiwrnodArchaeolegArchaeologyDay>. Two guided walks were delivered by the community archaeologist in 2023, the archaeology of St Brides and St Davids Head/Whitesands. The latter delivered in partnership with the CHERISH project team. Two community talks about the archaeology of the National Park have been delivered by the community archaeologist in 2023, another in January 2024 and another is scheduled for February 2024. In August 2023, the community archaeologist attended the County Show to showcase archaeology in the National Park, along with the activities of the Authority.
- **Archaeology in the Media;** the community archaeologist was interviewed in 2023 for a S4C climate change series called, Hinsawdd. The impact of climate change on archaeological sites was discussed. Also, the community archaeologist guided a presenter of the BBC's Weatherman Walking series around archaeology sites in the Preseli in 2023 and highlighted the issues of heritage crime. Both are due to be aired in 2024.
- **Safeguarding Archaeological Monuments;** monitoring by heritage volunteers is ongoing, a catch-up event was also held with the volunteers in April 2023. The community archaeologist provided an update. In addition, work on various scheduled monuments across the National Park continues.
- **Heritage Watch;** the community archaeologist continues to coordinate the scheme. During financial year 2023 – 2024, reports of heritage crime, meetings, patrols, publicity and attending events have continued.

- **Archaeological Research;** lidar collected as part of the Dawnsio ar y Dibyn project has been processed and visualised and the Dyfed Archaeological Trust have been commissioned to create resources in advance of developing the citizen science portal. They are due to complete their work by the end of the financial year. Also, the National Park Authority continues to support Professor Mike Parker Pearson and his research team focussing on neolithic archaeology. During financial year 2023 – 2024 the Authority borrowed excavation equipment to the team and helped recruit local volunteers to help with the September 2023 excavation. The community archaeologist delivered a number of guided tours around the site. Professor Mike Parker Pearson presented about his findings at the 2023 Archaeology Day.
- **National Policy;** the community archaeologist continues to provide a consultation response to various consultations received, including woodland creation, internal schemes (e.g. Connecting the Coast) and Welsh Government. The community archaeologist also continues to represent the National Park Authority on historic environment working groups.

## **CONCLUSION**

38. The report has presented work of the Authority in relation to archaeology during financial year 2022- 2023. This was the first time since the commencement of the pandemic, that its impact on archaeological activities had been minimal. The report demonstrates that many activities had taken place during the year and met the delivery needs of the Archaeology Action Plan 2020 - 2024. In turn, the Authority has delivered in line with its management plan policies, and the corporate and resource plan and wellbeing objectives. Key activities for the current financial year 2023 – 2024 were also highlighted, again these are working towards plans, policies and objectives.