

COUNTY: Norfolk

SITE NAME: Bawsey

DISTRICT: Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Local Planning Authority: The Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

National Grid Reference: TF 680 194

Area: 1.27 (ha) 3.14 (ac)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 132

1:10,000: TF 61 NE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): N/A

Date of Last Revision: N/A

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1992

Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

A new site. GCR Block: Pleistocene/Quaternary of East Anglia.

Description and Reasons for Notification:

In west Norfolk a discontinuous zone of till occurs separated from the main East Anglian till sheet by 5–10 km of Chalk outcrop. The age and origin of the till, the number of units present and their mode(s) of deposition are currently the subject of much discussion and have a key bearing on interpreting Quaternary history in East Anglia. At Bawsey up to 5 m of till occurs above Cretaceous Sandringham Sands, comprising an upper unit, the Bawsey Calcareous Till, overlaying a lower unit, the Woodlands Farm Till. Bawsey is the type site for the former, and it provides one of the few reasonable exposures of the two tills. The site is also important for present and future work directed towards determining the origin of the west Norfolk tills and their relationships to the Marly Drift and Lowestoft Till which form the main till sheet of the region.