

COUNTY: SUFFOLK      SITE NAME: CHILLESFORD CHURCH PIT

DISTRICT: SUFFOLK COASTAL

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

Local Planning Authority: SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: TM 383523      Area: 1.0 (ha.) 2.4 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 156      1:10,000: TM 35 SE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1955      Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986      Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

Chillesford Church Pit is a classic geological site showing Early Pleistocene crag deposits. Only here can the superimposition of the Norwich Crag (Chillesford Crag and Chillesford Clay) on the Red Crag be seen. The crags are rich in Mollusca throughout, and Foraminifera (micro-fossils) indicative of temperate conditions have been obtained from the Chillesford Crag. Pollen spectra ('Chillesford pollen assemblage') also indicate a period of temperate climate during the deposition of the Chillesford Crag, which is now correlated with the Bramertonian Stage, a sub-division of the Early Pleistocene.