

COUNTY: SUFFOLK      SITE NAME: CRAG FARM PIT, SUDBOURNE

DISTRICT: SUFFOLK COASTAL

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

Local Planning Authority: SUFFOLK COASTAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

National Grid Reference: TM 428523      Area: 4.6 (ha.) 11.4 (ac.)

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 156      1:10,000: TM 45 SW

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): 1966      Date of Last Revision: –

Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1985      Date of Last Revision: –

Other Information:

Reasons for Notification:

The quarry at Crag Farm is an important geological site for the study of Coralline Crag and palaeoecology. It is probably the largest and most readily accessible Coralline Crag locality. Faces of the pit afford the best available exposure in the Coralline Crag sandwave facies. About 5m of crag is exposed showing well-defined, large-scale cross-stratification a set thickness of up to 2½ m. Conspicuous calcite 'veins' are present which may be related to diagenetic removal of aragonitic material during a sub-aerial solutional phase. The fauna at this site is notable for the occurrence of large, well-preserved, colonies of the bryozoan '*Eschara*' *Pertusa*, probably one of the few organisms able to colonise the mobile sandwaves. Other, demonstrable *in situ* fauna, is rather rare at this locality although many species of bryozoan are represented by transported skeletal fragments.