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**St Mary and All Saints' Church,  
Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.  
(2020-053527).**

**May 2021 v1.0**



Archaeological Watching Brief

Project Code: A0287.1

Report no. 0292

Planning Ref: 2020-053527

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Archaeological Watching Brief

**Aeon Archaeology  
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Project Code: A0287.1

Date: 06/05/2021

Client: St Mary and All Saints  
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# **St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ. (2020-053527).**

## **May 2021 v1.0**

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## **1.0 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by St. Mary and All Saints Parochial Church Council to provide an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the replacement of an existing water pipe at the grade I Listed Building of St Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.

The archaeological watching brief monitored excavations to the exterior of the church associated with the launch and reception pits for directional drill of a new water supply. No articulated burials or disarticulated human remains were encountered during the works. Given the age of the Church the lack of human remains is unusual, however this can be attributed to the key-hole excavation pits required for directional drill.

No archaeological features or artefacts were recovered.



## 2.0 INTRODUCTION

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by St. Mary and All Saints Parochial Church Council, hereafter the Client, to provide an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the replacement of an existing water pipe at the grade I Listed Building of St Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ (NGR SK 02794 37892) (figure 01-03).

The Church lies to the immediate northeast of Church Lane, with the churchyard lying predominantly to the north and northeast sides of the church building.

An application for faculty permission was made by the Client to the Lichfield Diocese (2020-053527) with the following recommendation being made by the Diocesan Archaeologist as part of the application:

*In order to satisfy the archaeological requirement you would first need a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced which is a methodology for how the archaeological work is to be undertaken... The WSI would require submitting to, and approved in writing by the DAC prior to the works being undertaken.*

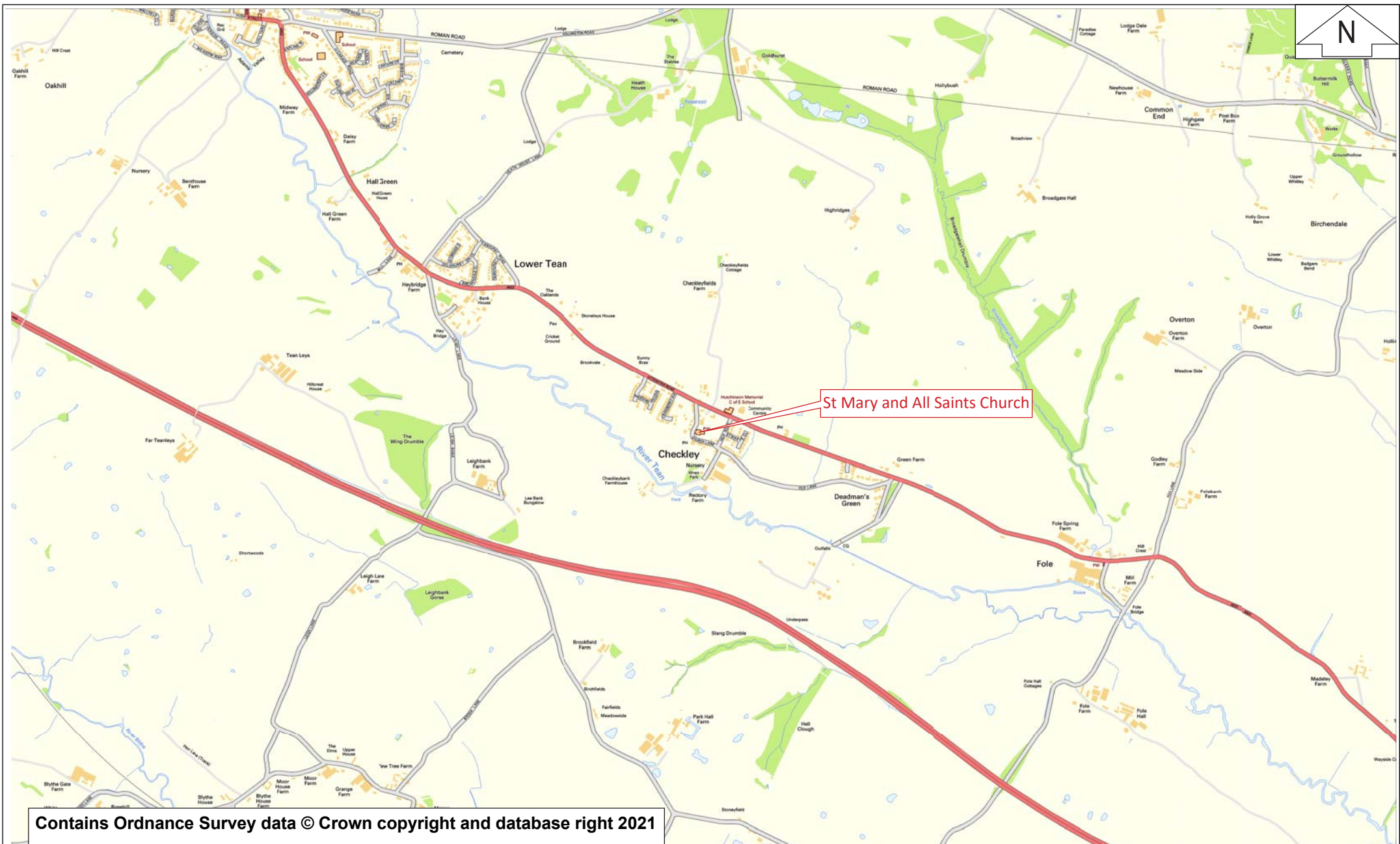
The WSI for the project was produced by Aeon Archaeology in January 2021 (appendix I) and the watching brief was undertaken in accordance with this document in order to meet the spirit and intent of the faculty condition.

The programme of archaeological work was undertaken in compliance with the following provisions:

If any human remains were to have become exposed or otherwise encountered during the course of the work:

- All works in the vicinity were to stop immediately.
- The remains were to be lightly covered with soil.
- The Diocesan Registrar (or in their absence the Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee) was to be notified.
- The directions of the Diocesan Registrar were to be followed.

The work was to adhere to the guidelines specified in Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).

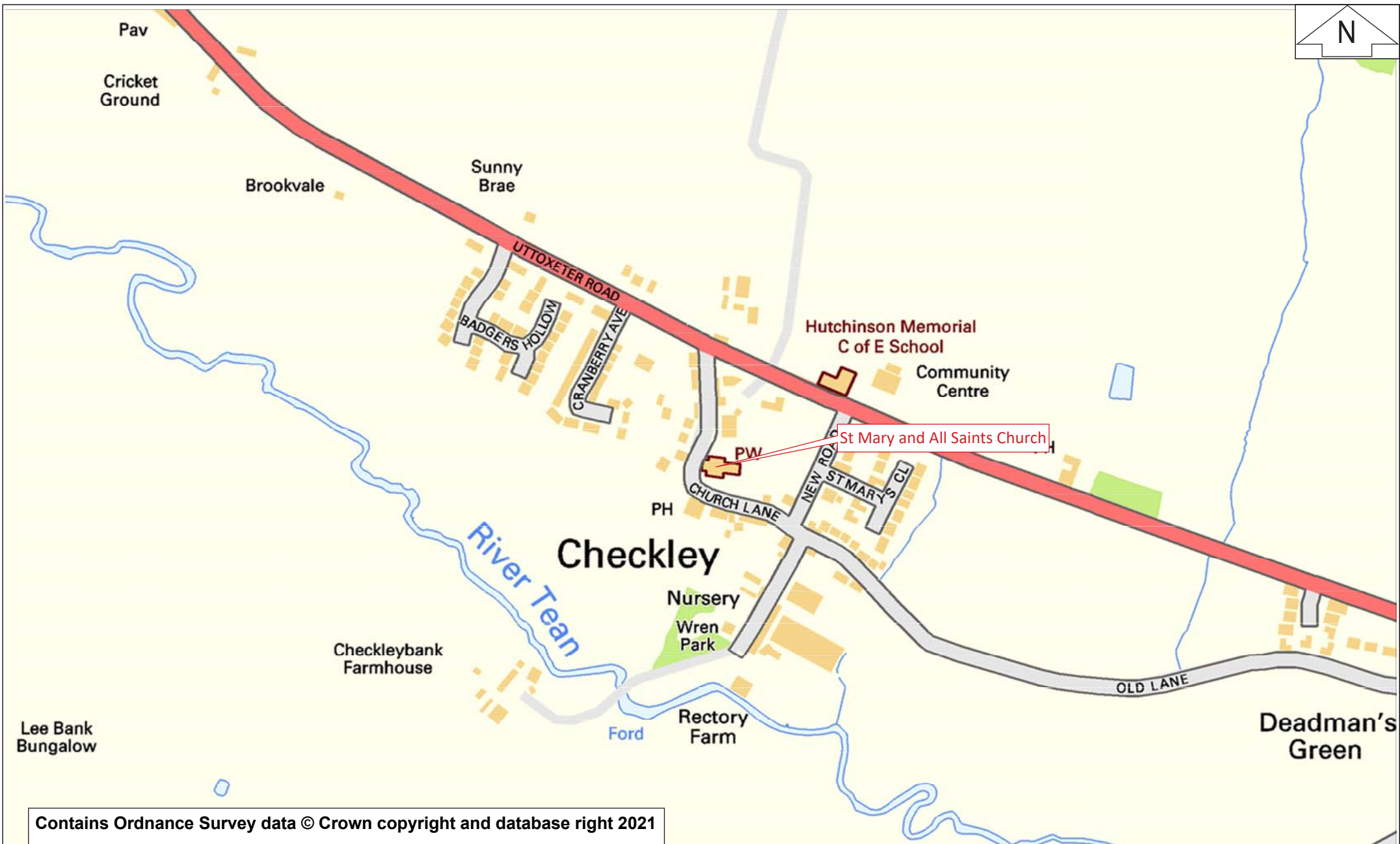


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**Figure 01:** Location of St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.  
Scale 1:20,000 at A4.



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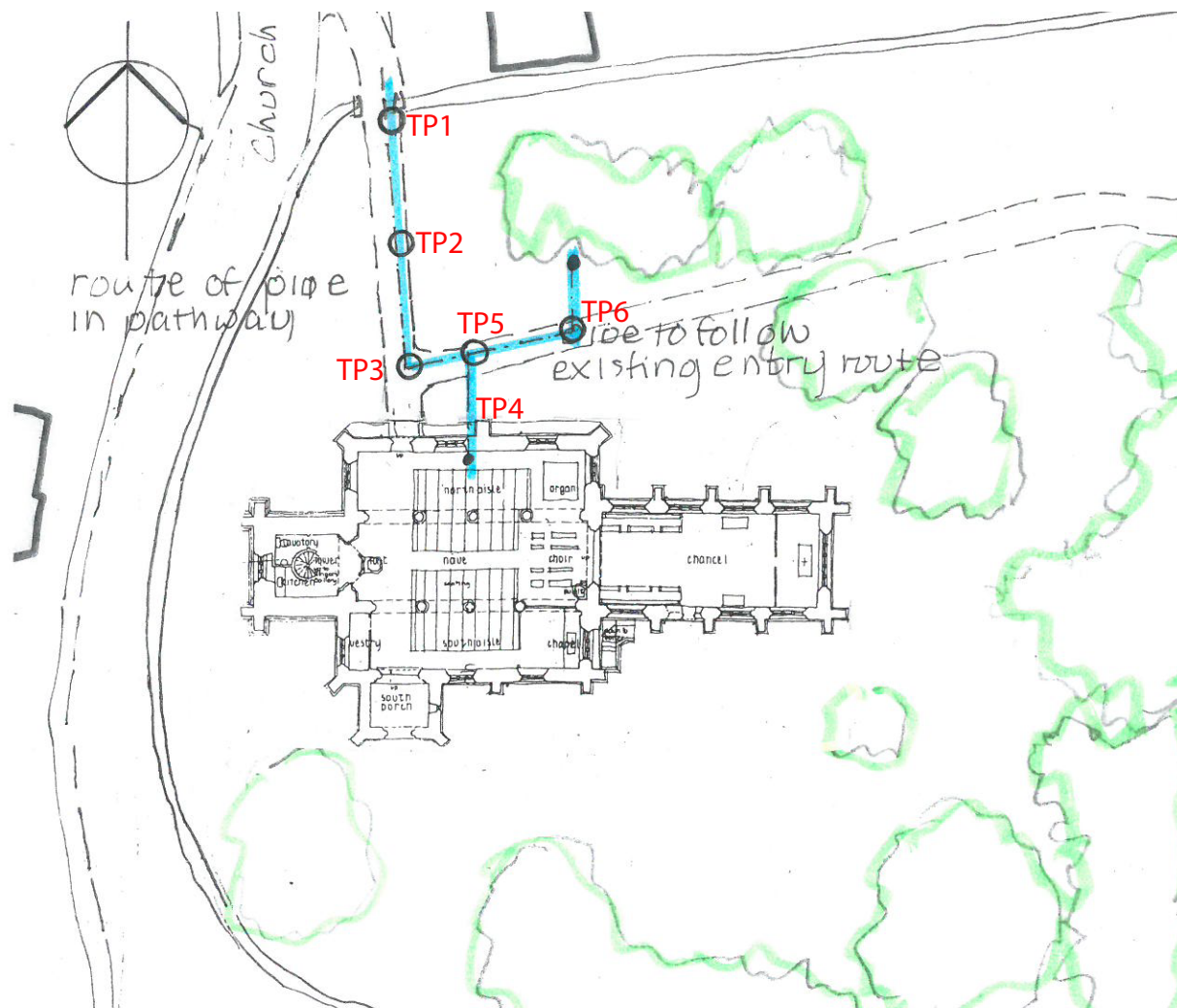


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**Figure 02:** Location of St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.  
Scale 1:5,000 at A4.



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**Figure 03:** Location of proposed works at St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ. Scale 1:500 at A4.

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### 3.0 WATCHING BRIEF - ARCHAEOLOGICAL AIMS

The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

*An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.*

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons (CIfA 2014). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief as allowing, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.

It is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The aims of the watching brief were:

- To allow, within the resources available, the opportunity to gain information about and record the presence/absence, nature and date of archaeological remains on the Site affected by excavations and groundworks, the presence and nature of which could not be established with sufficient confidence in advance of works which may disturb them.
- To provide the facility to signal to the relevant authorities, before irreversible impact to remains that an archaeological and/or historic find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are inadequate to support their treatment to an adequate and satisfactory standard.

The specific objectives of the watching brief were:

- To observe and recover any artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To record the location, dimensions and nature of any deposits, features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To recover samples of any deposits considered to have potential for analysis for palaeoenvironmental data should the opportunity arise.
- To recover and record any disarticulated human remains prior to reburial on site.
- To clean, record and remove any articulated human remains situated within the works area and to oversee their reburial on site.

- To ensure minimal disturbance to any buried features via the careful re-routing of the new water supply over or around in-situ buried remains where possible. If fallen grave markers are encountered these will be recorded and then carefully lifted to facilitate the works.

## **4.0 METHODOLOGY**

### **4.1 Archaeological Watching Brief**

The methodology for the watching brief was prepared with reference to the CIfA's document Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (2020) and was kept under constant review during the project, in order to see how far it was meeting the terms of the aims and objectives, and in order to adopt any new questions should they arise.

Curatorial monitoring of the archaeological work on behalf of the Diocesan Registrar was to be carried out by the Diocesan Archaeologist. To facilitate the curatorial monitoring, the officer was to be provided with a minimum of two weeks' notice of the start of the archaeological work.

A suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist(s) from Aeon Archaeology was commissioned for the maintenance of the watching brief. On arrival on site, the archaeologist(s) reported to the site manager and conformed to the arrangements for notification of entering and leaving site. The archaeologist(s) kept a record of the date, time and duration of all attendances at site, the names and numbers of archaeologists deployed and any actions taken. The archaeologist was provided with a Health & Safety Induction by the construction contractor and was to wear a safety helmet, safety footwear and high visibility jacket/vest at all times.

When deposits and or artefacts were exposed during excavations for the development which required recording and recovery, it may have been necessary to delay works whilst the proper investigation and recording took place. Watching brief recording can often be undertaken without delay to groundworks, depending upon the specific circumstances and flexibility of all the staff on site.

Within the constraints of the terms of the watching brief work, the archaeologist was not to cause unreasonable disruption to the maintenance of the work schedules of other contractors on site. In the event of archaeological discoveries the treatment of which (either arising from the volume/quantity of material and/or the complexity/importance of the material) is beyond the resources deployed the Client was to be notified and a site meeting/telephone consultation arranged with the Diocesan Archaeologist. The aim of the meeting would be to confirm that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself were not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard and identify measures which were sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard prior to destruction of the material in question.

Any archaeological deposits, features and structures identified were investigated and recorded under the terms of the watching brief and were excavated manually in a controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project – subject to the limitations on site access.

It may not have been necessary to excavate the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits but the inter-relationships between archaeological deposits, features and structures were to be investigated sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project and the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits were to be investigated where practicable.

The method of recording followed the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation and the stratigraphy was to be recorded in written descriptions even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. The archaeologist recorded archaeological deposits using proformae recording forms and locate them on a large-scale site plan related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum references.

The groundworks excavations were undertaken by hand.

The drawn record was to comprise of plans at scale 1:20 and sections at scale 1:10; propriety electronic hardware and software to prepare site drawings may be used as appropriate.

The photographic record was maintained throughout using a digital SLR camera (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution (72 dpi) and all archaeological features were recorded photographically with photographs taken in RAW format and later converted to TIFF format for long-term storage and JPEG format for presentation and inclusion in the archive. The standards for the digital archive will adhere to those set out in '*Guidelines for Digital Archaeological Archives*' (RCAHMW, 2015).

The archive produced will be held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0287.1**.

## **4.2 Watching brief report**

### **4.2.1 Post-excavation Assessment**

A report on the results of the watching brief, in accordance with the recommendations in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006; 2015), and in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (2020) was required to be produced upon conclusion of the archaeological fieldwork. The report will be completed within a maximum of two months of completion of work on site and may include examination and quantification leading to the identification of function, form, date, method of manufacture, material/fabric type, source, parallels, attributes and condition of artefacts; of the exploitation of wild or domesticated resources; the reconstruction of environments; and the nature of human populations.

Full analysis of the results of the project, including: dating and interpretation of excavated features; pottery and other finds analysis; analysis of industrial residues by an appropriate specialist or specialists; analysis of samples for environmental data (including pollen, plant macrofossils and beetles) by an appropriate specialist or specialists; radiocarbon dating; discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context, including relating the excavated features and palaeoenvironmental data to evidence from nearby sites, and discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context may be required.

The scope of post-excavation assessment will subject to a specification for approval by the Diocesan Archaeologist, upon the conclusion of the fieldwork project and preliminary report.



#### 4.2.2 Post-excavation Report

Following completion of the stages outlined above, this report includes:

- A non-technical summary.
- A table of contents.
- An introduction with acknowledgements, including a list of all those involved in the project and the location and description of the site.
- A statement of the project aims.
- An account of the project methodology undertaken, with an assessment of the same to include a statement on preservation bias and the means of data collection and sampling strategies.
- A factual summary of the history, development and use of the site.
- A statement setting out the nature, quantity and condition of the material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) including commentary on any bias observed due to collection and sampling strategies and commentary on long-term storage requirements.
- A statement setting out the nature and quantity of the documentary archive (notes, photographs, drawings, digital data).
- A general site plan indicating the position and size of the areas subject to watching brief and the locations of archaeological deposits identified and recorded during the works.
- Plans and sections at appropriate scales, augmented with appropriate photographs. All plans and sections will be related to the Ordnance Survey datum levels and to the National Grid.
- Other maps, plans, drawings, stratigraphic matrices and photographs as appropriate.
- Summary assessment reports on the artefact, bio-archaeological, dating and other assessments/analyses.
- A discussion of the location, extent, date, nature, condition, quality and significance of any archaeological deposits and finds identified during the project.
- A discussion of any research implications arising from the archaeological work.
- Notes on consultations with conservators and the nominated archive repository related to the immediate and long-term conservation and storage requirements for the data held in the site archive and recommendations of retention/discard of artefacts and ecofacts.
- A bibliography of sources consulted.
- Appendices to the report will include artefact catalogues, reports on assessments/analyses and an index to the project archive and a statement on its location/proposed repository.
- In addition the post-excavation report will summarise and draw together the findings of all of the phases of work.

Illustrations include plans of the location of the study area and archaeological sites. Historical maps, when appropriate and if copyright permissions allow, will be included. Photographs of relevant sites and of the study area where appropriate are included.

A draft copy of the report will be sent to the Diocesan Archaeologist and to the client for comment and approval prior to production of the final report.

## **5.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **5.1 Type of study**

Watching brief at St Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ, NGR SK 02794 37892.

### **5.2 Types of data**

- Photographs (RAW)
- Photographic register (paper)
- Finds registers (paper)
- Compiled report

### **5.3 Format and scale of the data**

Photographs taken in *RAW* format and later converted to *TIF* format for long term archiving and *JPEG* format for use in the digital report, converted using *Adobe Photoshop*. All photographs renamed using *AF5* freeware with the prefix (*project code\_frame number*) and a photographic metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*).

Compiled report (including figures and plates) as *.PDF* files.

### **5.4 Methodologies for data collection / generation**

Digital data will be collected / generated in line with recommendations made in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014. Rev 2020). Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.3 are relevant:

*3.3.1 Project specifications, research designs or similar documents should include a project specific Selection Strategy and a Data Management Plan.*

*3.3.3 Project designs or schedules of works etc should outline the methodology used in recording all information, in order to demonstrate that all aspects of archive creation will ensure consistency; for instance in terminologies and the application of codes in digital data sets, highlighting relevant data standards where appropriate*

### **5.5 Data quality and standards**

Consistency and quality of data collection / generation shall be controlled and documented through the use of standardised procedure as outlined in the WSI. This will include the use of standardised data capture file formats, digital proformas, data entry validation, peer review, and use of controlled vocabularies.

### **5.6 Managing, storing and curating data.**

All digital data will be organised into Aeon Archaeology proforma project file systems and backed up to the cloud using *Digital River's Crashplan* with additional copies made to external physical hard drive.

## **5.7 Metadata standards and data documentation**

Digital metadata created using Microsoft Excel (.xlsx) or Access (.accdb) of all photographic plates.

Paper metadata created from Aeon Archaeology proformas for contexts, artefacts, environmental SMples, watching brief day sheets, trench sheets, and basic record sheets and then scanned to create digital .PDF copies.

## **5.8 Data preservation strategy and standards**

Long term data storage will be through the submission of digital (.PDF) reports to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER); submission of digital (.PDF) reports and a project completion form to the Oasis database; submission of the scanned (.PDF) archive, photographic plates (.TIF), and metadata (.xlsx) (.accdb) to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS); and retention of copies of all digital files at Aeon Archaeology on physical external hard drive and uploaded to the cloud.

## **5.9 Suitability for sharing**

All digital data will be placed within the public realm (through the channels in 6.8) except for where project confidentiality restricts the sharing of data. All data sets will be selected / discriminated by the Senior Archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology and written permission will be sought from all project specific Clients prior to the sharing of data.

## **5.10 Discovery by potential users of the research data**

Potential users of the generated digital data (outside of the organisation) will be able to source the data and identify whether it could be suitable for their research purposes through access granted via the ADS and Oasis websites. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and directly to Aeon Archaeology ([info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk)).

## **5.11 Governance of access**

The decision to supply research data to potential new users will be via the associated website request (ADS, Oasis, HER) or via the Senior Archaeologist when made directly to Aeon Archaeology.

## **5.12 The study team's exclusive use of the data**

Aeon Archaeology's requirement is for timely data sharing, with the understanding that a limited, defined period of exclusive use of data for primary research is reasonable according to the nature and value of the data, and that this restriction on sharing should be based on simple, clear principles. This time period is expected to be six months from completion of the project however Aeon Archaeology reserves the right to extend this period without notice if primary data research dictates.

## **5.13 Restrictions or delays to sharing, with planned actions to limit such restrictions**

Restriction to data sharing may be due to participant confidentiality or consent agreements. Strategies to limit restrictions will include data being anonymised or aggregated; gaining participant consent for data sharing; and gaining copyright permissions. For prospective studies, consent procedures will

include provision for data sharing to maximise the value of the data for wider research use, while providing adequate safeguards for participants.

#### **5.14 Regulation of responsibilities of users**

External users of the data will be bound by data sharing agreements provided by the relevant organisation or directly through Aeon Archaeology.

#### **5.15 Responsibilities**

Responsibility for study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be through the Senior Archaeologist (Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA) at Aeon Archaeology when concerning data generation and early/mid-term storage. Upon deposition with digital depositories the study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be the responsibility of the specific organisations' themselves.

#### **5.16 Organisational policies on data sharing and data security**

The following Aeon Archaeology policies are relevant:

- Aeon Archaeology Archive Deposition Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2020

## **6.0 HISTORY OF THE SITE**

St Mary's and All Saints' Church is an Anglican church in the village of Checkley, Staffordshire, England. It is a Grade I listed building. The oldest parts of the building are 12th-century, with later medieval and 17th-century work.

In the churchyard, south of the church, are three early medieval stone crosses; they are close together and are thought to be standing in or near their original positions. There is a tradition that the crosses were erected in memory of three bishops killed in a battle near the village. They are regarded as among the finest Anglo-Scandinavian crosses in Staffordshire.

## **7.0 QUANTIFICATION OF RESULTS**

### **7.1 The Documentary Archive**

The following documentary records were created during the archaeological evaluation:

Digital photographs	40
Watching brief day records	1

### **7.2 Environmental Samples**

No bulk samples were taken as no suitable secure contexts were encountered.

### **7.3 Artefacts**

No archaeological artefacts were recovered during the watching brief.

### **7.4 Skeletal Remains**

No skeletal remains were recovered during the watching brief.

## **8.0 RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

The watching brief was maintained during the excavation of six launch / reception pits for directional drill, within the churchyard of St Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley. The location of the pits are shown on figure 3 with the location of photographic plates shown on figure 4.

The archaeological watching brief was maintained on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 by Richard Cooke BA MA MCIFA, archaeological contractor and consultant at Aeon Archaeology, Chester.

### **8.1 Launch / reception pits for directional drill**

#### *Launch / reception pit 1 (plates 1 and 2)*

Pit 1 was located immediately within the northern gateway of the churchyard (centred on NGR SK 02790 37920) and measured 0.63m in length by 0.37m in width by 0.75m in depth, orientated north-south. The pit was cut through 0.05m of tarmac which overlaid a single block of sandstone threshold measuring 0.2m in depth and continuing into the eastern and western limits of excavation. The pit was then cut through a >0.5m deep deposit of soft / moderately compact red-brown silt-clay mixed graveyard soil with occasional red brick fragment inclusions.

No archaeological features, artefacts or human remains were uncovered.

#### *Launch / reception pit 2 (plates 3-5)*

Pit 2 was located within the northern footpath of the churchyard (centred on NGR SK 02789 37911) and measured 0.84m in length by 0.48m in width by 0.75m in depth, orientated north-south. The pit was cut through 0.05m of tarmac which overlaid a >0.7m deep moderately firm red-brown silt-clay mixed graveyard soil with occasional red brick fragment inclusions. The pit was extended 0.5m to the east to allow for the path of the directional drill.

No archaeological features, artefacts or human remains were uncovered.

#### *Launch / reception pit 3 (plates 6 and 7)*

Pit 3 was located within the northern footpath of the churchyard, immediately north of the Church doorway (centred on NGR SK 02788 37901) and measured 0.66m in length by 0.46m in width by 0.75m in depth, orientated east-west. The pit was cut through 0.05m of tarmac which overlaid a 0.2m deep gravel substrate, and >0.5m deep moderately firm red-brown clay mixed graveyard soil with occasional red brick fragment inclusions.

No archaeological features, artefacts or human remains were uncovered.

#### *Launch / reception pit 4 (plates 8-10)*

Pit 4 was located immediately against the northern elevation of the Church wall (centred on NGR SK 02793 37901) and measured 0.5m in length and width by 0.75m in depth, orientated north-south. The pit was cut through an existing stone slab measuring 0.05m in depth which overlaid a >0.7m deep moderately firm brown-grey clay mixed graveyard soil with occasional red brick, gravel and cobble inclusions.

An existing black plastic water pipe was uncovered in the base of the pit and the uncovered Church wall elevation revealed that the foundations consist of a single course of unbonded stone rubble.

No archaeological features, artefacts or human remains were uncovered.

*Launch / reception pit 5 (plates 11 and 12)*

Pit 5 was located within the northern footpath of the churchyard (centred on NGR SK 02793 37902) and measured 0.6m in length by 0.47m in width by 0.6m in depth, orientated east-west. The pit was cut through 0.05m of tarmacadam which overlaid a >0.55m deep moderately firm mid-brown clay mixed graveyard soil.

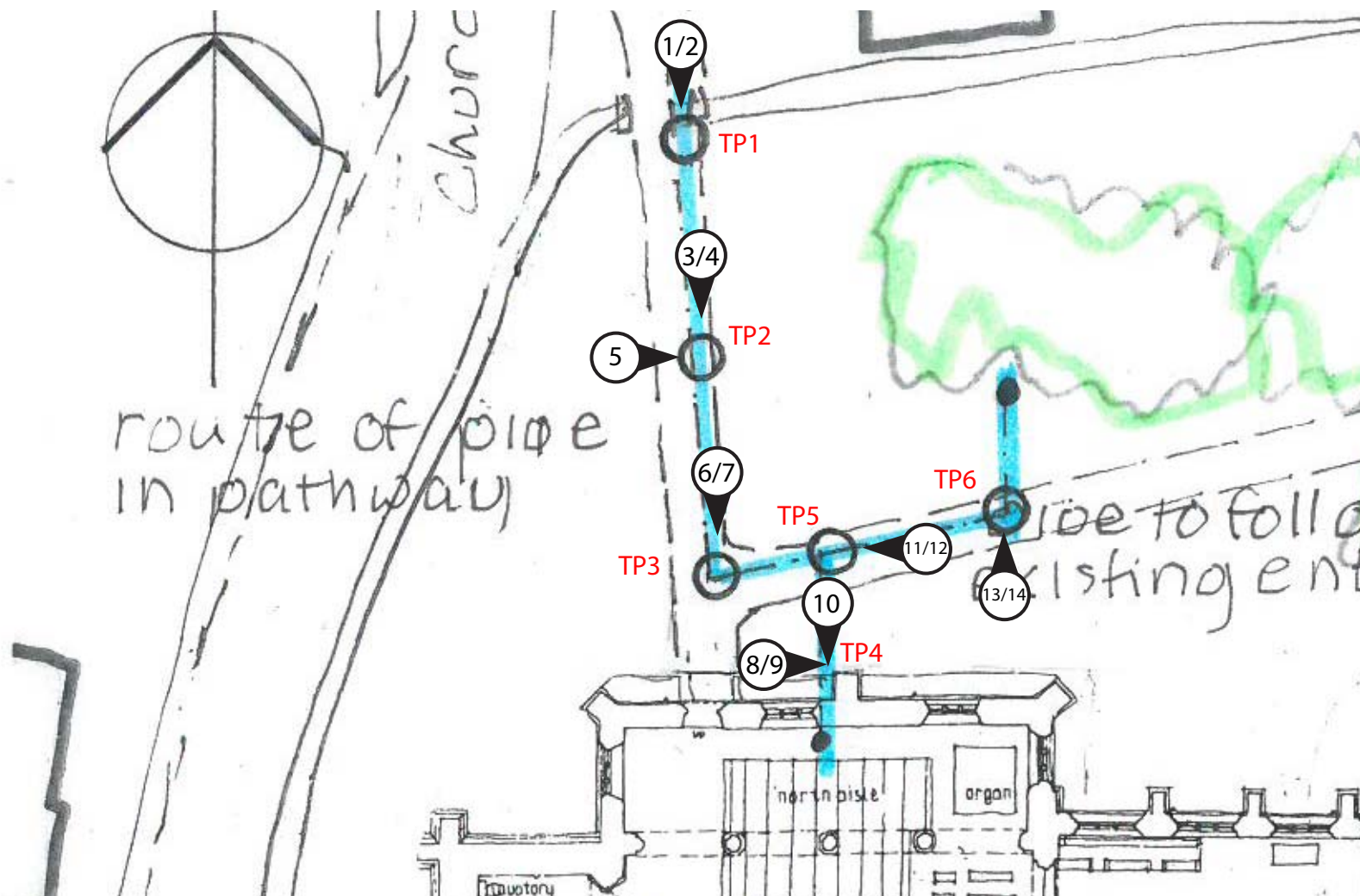
No archaeological features, artefacts or human remains were uncovered.

*Launch / reception pit 6 (plates 13 and 14)*

Pit 6 was located within the northern footpath of the churchyard (centred on NGR SK 02806 37904) and measured 0.57m in length by 0.5m in width by 0.5m in depth, orientated east-west. The pit was cut through 0.05m of tarmacadam which overlaid a >0.4m deep moderately firm grey-brown silt-clay mixed graveyard soil.

No archaeological features, artefacts or human remains were uncovered.





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Figure 04: Location and orientation of photographic plates.

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Plate 01: Test pit 1, from the north. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 02:** Test pit 1 north facing section, from the north. Scale 0.5m.



Plate 03: Test pit 2, from the north. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 04:** Test pit 2 north facing section, from the north. Scale 0.5m.



Plate 05: Extension of test pit 2, from the west. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 06:** Test pit 3, from the north. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 07:** Test pit 3 north facing section, from the north. Scale 0.5m.





Plate 08: Test pit 4, from the west. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 09:** Test pit 4 west facing section, from the west. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 10:** Test pit 4 showing church wall foundations, from the north. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 11:** Test pit 5, from the east. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 12:** Test pit 5 east facing section, from the east. Scale 0.5m.



Plate 13: Test pit 6, from the south. Scale 0.5m.



**Plate 14:** Test pit 6 south facing section, from the south. Scale 0.5m.

## **9.0 CONCLUSION**

The archaeological works at St. Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley consisted of a watching brief overseeing excavations to the exterior of the church associated with the launch and reception pits for directional drill of a new water supply. No articulated burials or disarticulated human remains were encountered during the works. Given the age of the Church the lack of human remains is unusual, however this can be attributed to the key-hole excavation pits required for directional drill. These pits measured no more than 0.84m by 0.48m and were successful in the installation of the water supply without the need to disturb existing burial via open trench excavation.

The archaeological watching brief has enabled an informed, sustainable and responsible approach to the installation of the new water supply at St. Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley. The information provided meets the expectations of the faculty condition in that the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work that has exposed and recorded all archaeological assets affected by the development at the site. Ultimately, therefore, and without prejudice to the findings of any future archaeological, or other investigations at the site, it is considered that the faculty condition has been met and that it now be discharged.



## 10.0 SOURCES

### *OS Maps*

OS 1:10 000 Series sheet SK 03NE, SK 03SE, SK 03SW, and SK 03NW.

### *Published sources*

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The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*

**11.0 APPENDIX I – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**



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**St Mary and All Saints' Church,  
Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.**

**Written Scheme of Investigation  
for Archaeological Watching Brief**

**January 2021 v1.0**

**aeon archaeology**



Project Code: A0287.1  
Planning Ref: 2020-053527

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# St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.

## January 2021 v1.0

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Project Code: A0287.1

Date: 07/01/2021

Client: St Mary and All Saints Church  
info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Aeon Archaeology has been commissioned by St. Mary and All Saints Parochial Church Council, hereafter the Client, to provide a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for carrying out an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the replacement of an existing water pipe at the grade I Listed Building of St Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ (NGR SK 02794 37892) (figure 01-03).

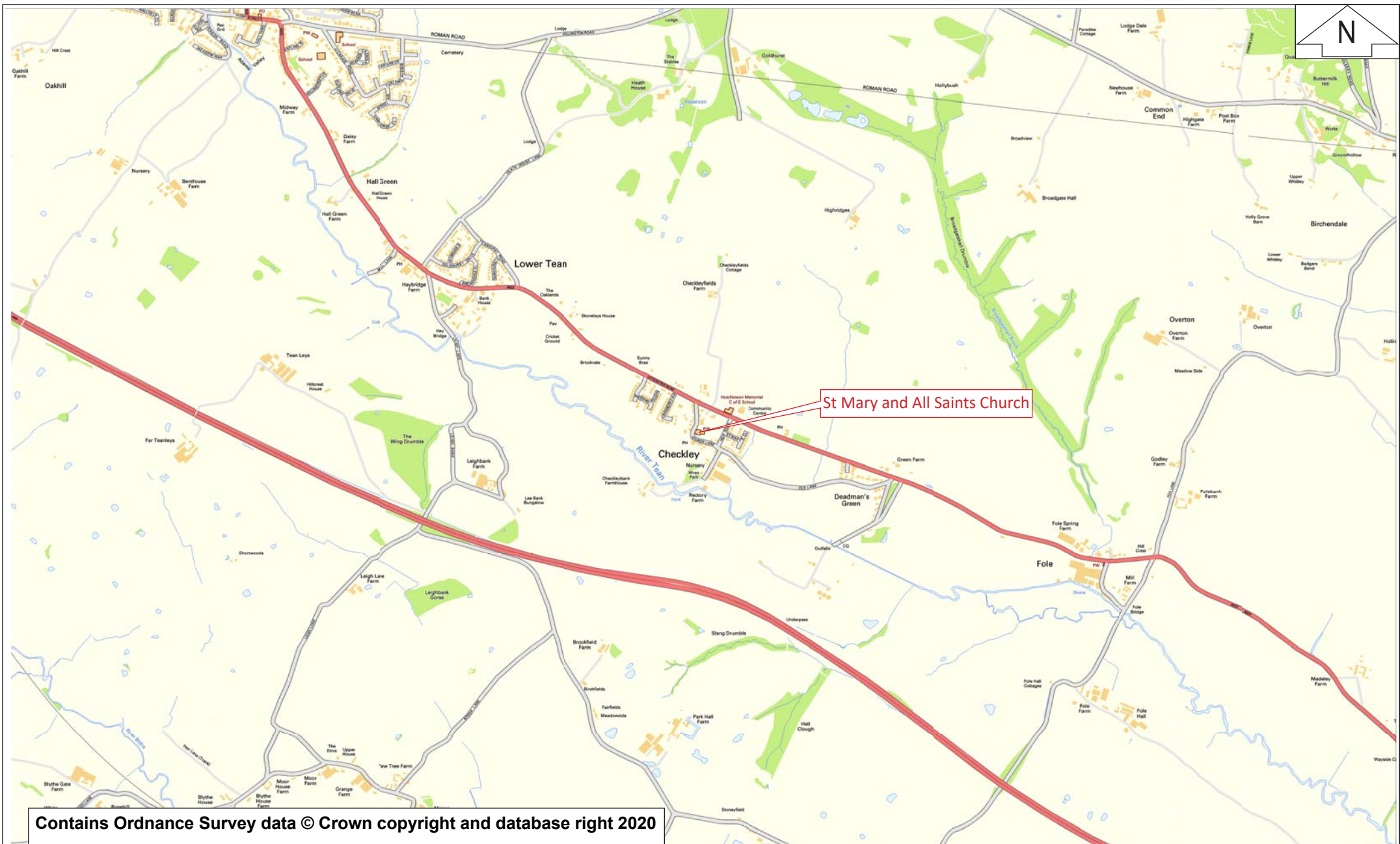
The Church lies to the immediate northeast of Church Lane, with the churchyard lying predominantly to the north and northeast sides of the church building.

An application for faculty permission has been made by the Client to the Lichfield Diocese (2020-053527) and is awaiting determination. However the following recommendation has been made by the Diocesan Archaeologist as part of the application:

*In order to satisfy the archaeological requirement you would first need a written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced which is a methodology for how the archaeological work is to be undertaken... The WSI would require submitting to, and approved in writing by the DAC prior to the works being undertaken.*

This written scheme of investigation (WSI) fulfils the requirement for an archaeological method statement as requested by the above condition. It is a requirement that this WSI is approved by the Diocesan Archaeologist prior to the implementation of the archaeological watching brief at the Site.

The work will adhere to the guidelines specified in Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).

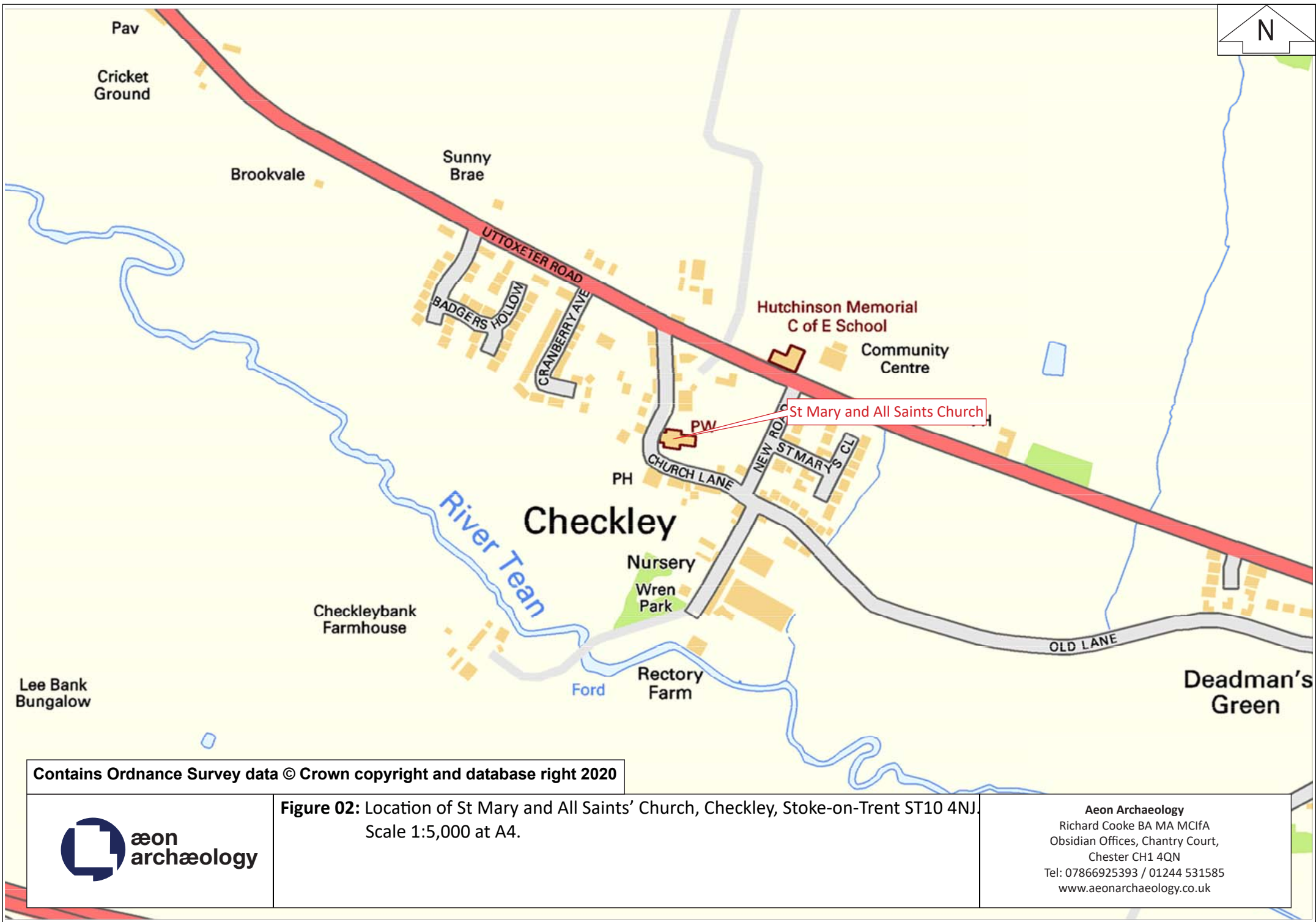


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**Figure 01:** Location of St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.  
Scale 1:20,000 at A4.



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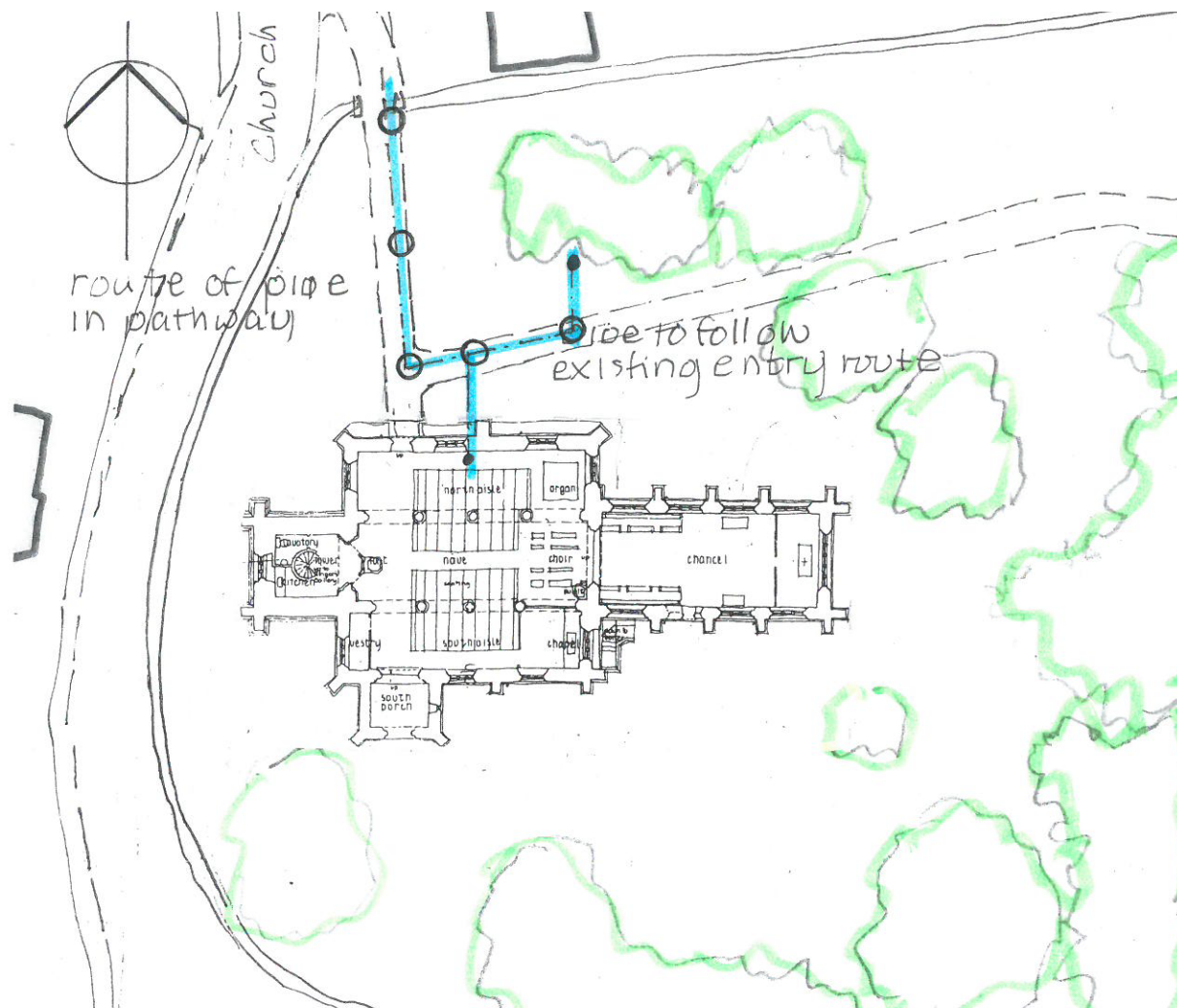
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**Figure 02:** Location of St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ.  
Scale 1:5,000 at A4.

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**Figure 03:** Location of proposed works at St Mary and All Saints' Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ. Scale 1:500 at A4.

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## **2.0 ARCHEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

St Mary's and All Saints' Church is an Anglican church in the village of Checkley, Staffordshire, England. It is a Grade I listed building. The oldest parts of the building are 12th-century, with later medieval and 17th-century work.

In the churchyard, south of the church, are three early medieval stone crosses; they are close together and are thought to be standing in or near their original positions. There is a tradition that the crosses were erected in memory of three bishops killed in a battle near the village. They are regarded as among the finest Anglo-Scandinavian crosses in Staffordshire.

### 3.0 WATCHING BRIEF - ARCHAEOLOGICAL AIMS

The archaeological watching brief shall be maintained:

1. During the excavation of trenches for the new water pipe and any associated apparatus.

The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

*An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.*

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons (CIfA 2014). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief as allowing, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.

It is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The aims of the watching brief are:

- To allow, within the resources available, the opportunity to gain information about and record the presence/absence, nature and date of archaeological remains on the Site affected by excavations and groundworks, the presence and nature of which could not be established with sufficient confidence in advance of works which may disturb them.
- To provide the facility to signal to the relevant authorities, before irreversible impact to remains that an archaeological and/or historic find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are inadequate to support their treatment to an adequate and satisfactory standard.

The specific objectives of the watching brief are:

- To observe and recover any artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To record the location, dimensions and nature of any deposits, features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance.
- To recover samples of any deposits considered to have potential for analysis for palaeoenvironmental data should the opportunity arise.
- To recover and record any disarticulated human remains prior to reburial on site.
- To clean, record and remove any articulated human remains situated within the foundation / drainage trench and to oversee the reburial on site.
- To ensure minimal disturbance to any buried features via the careful re-routing of the drainage trenches over or around in-situ buried remains where possible. If fallen grave markers are encountered these will be recorded and then carefully lifted to facilitate the excavation of the trench.

## 4.0 METHODOLOGY

### 4.1 Archaeological Watching Brief

The methodology for the watching brief has been prepared with reference to the CIFA's document Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (2014) and will be kept under constant review during the project, in order to see how far it is meeting the terms of the aims and objectives, and in order to adopt any new questions which may arise.

Curatorial monitoring of the archaeological work on behalf of the Diocesan Registrar will be carried out by the Diocesan Archaeologist. To facilitate the curatorial monitoring, the officer shall be provided with a minimum of two weeks' notice of the start of the archaeological work.

A suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist(s) from Aeon Archaeology will be commissioned for the maintenance of the watching brief. On arrival on site, the archaeologist(s) will report to the site manager and conform to the arrangements for notification of entering and leaving site. The archaeologist(s) will keep a record of the date, time and duration of all attendances at site, the names and numbers of archaeologists deployed and any actions taken. The archaeologist will be provided with a Health & Safety Induction by the construction contractor and wear a safety helmet, safety footwear and high visibility jacket/vest at all times.

If deposits and or artefacts are exposed during excavations for the development which require recording and recovery, it may be necessary to delay works whilst the proper investigation and recording takes place. Watching brief recording can often be undertaken without delay to groundworks, depending upon the specific circumstances and flexibility of all the staff on site.

Within the constraints of the terms of the watching brief work, the archaeologist will not cause unreasonable disruption to the maintenance of the work schedules of other contractors on site. In the event of archaeological discoveries the treatment of which (either arising from the volume/quantity of material and/or the complexity/importance of the material) is beyond the resources deployed the Client will be notified and a site meeting/telephone consultation arranged with the Diocesan Archaeologist. The aim of the meeting will be to confirm that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard and identify measures which would be sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard prior to destruction of the material in question.

Any archaeological deposits, features and structures identified which can be investigated and recorded under the terms of the watching brief will be excavated manually in a controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project – subject to the limitations on site access.

It may not be necessary to excavate the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits but the inter-relationships between archaeological deposits, features and structures will be investigated sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project and the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits will be investigated where practicable.

The method of recording will follow the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation and the stratigraphy will be recorded in written descriptions even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. The archaeologist will record archaeological deposits using proformae recording forms and locate them on a large-scale site plan related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum references.

The groundworks excavations shall be undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket or by hand.

The drawn record will comprise plans at scale 1:20 and sections at scale 1:10; propriety electronic hardware and software to prepare site drawings may be used as appropriate.

The photographic record will be maintained throughout using a digital SLR camera (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution (72 dpi) and all archaeological features will be recorded photographically with photographs taken in RAW format and later converted to TIFF format for long-term storage and JPEG format for presentation and inclusion in the archive. The standards for the digital archive will adhere to those set out in '*Guidelines for Digital Archaeological Archives*' (RCAHMW, 2015).

The archive produced will be held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0287.1**.

## **4.2 Watching brief report**

### **4.2.1 Post-excavation Assessment**

A report on the results of the watching brief, in accordance with the recommendations in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006; 2015), and in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (2014) will be required to be produced upon conclusion of the archaeological fieldwork. The report will be completed within a maximum of two months of completion of work on site and may include examination and quantification leading to the identification of function, form, date, method of manufacture, material/fabric type, source, parallels, attributes and condition of artefacts; of the exploitation of wild or domesticated resources; the reconstruction of environments; and the nature of human populations.

Full analysis of the results of the project, including: dating and interpretation of excavated features; pottery and other finds analysis; analysis of industrial residues by an appropriate specialist or specialists; analysis of samples for environmental data (including pollen, plant macrofossils and beetles) by an appropriate specialist or specialists; radiocarbon dating; discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context, including relating the excavated features and palaeoenvironmental data to evidence from nearby sites, and discussion of the results in their local, regional and national context may be required.

The scope of post-excavation assessment will subject to a specification for approval by the Diocesan Archaeologist, upon the conclusion of the fieldwork project and preliminary report.

#### 4.2.2 Post-excavation Report

Following completion of the stages outlined above, a report will be produced that will include:

- A non-technical summary.
- A table of contents.
- An introduction with acknowledgements, including a list of all those involved in the project and the location and description of the site.
- A statement of the project aims.
- An account of the project methodology undertaken, with an assessment of the same to include a statement on preservation bias and the means of data collection and sampling strategies.
- A factual summary of the history, development and use of the site.
- A statement setting out the nature, quantity and condition of the material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) including commentary on any bias observed due to collection and sampling strategies and commentary on long-term storage requirements.
- A statement setting out the nature and quantity of the documentary archive (notes, photographs, drawings, digital data).
- A general site plan indicating the position and size of the areas subject to watching brief and the locations of archaeological deposits identified and recorded during the works.
- Plans and sections at appropriate scales, augmented with appropriate photographs. All plans and sections will be related to the Ordnance Survey datum levels and to the National Grid.
- Other maps, plans, drawings, stratigraphic matrices and photographs as appropriate.
- Summary assessment reports on the artefact, bio-archaeological, dating and other assessments/analyses.
- A discussion of the location, extent, date, nature, condition, quality and significance of any archaeological deposits and finds identified during the project.
- A discussion of any research implications arising from the archaeological work.
- Notes on consultations with conservators and the nominated archive repository related to the immediate and long-term conservation and storage requirements for the data held in the site archive and recommendations of retention/discard of artefacts and ecofacts.
- A bibliography of sources consulted.
- Appendices to the report will include artefact catalogues, reports on assessments/analyses and an index to the project archive and a statement on its location/proposed repository.
- In addition the post-excavation report will summarise and draw together the findings of all of the phases of work.

Illustrations will include plans of the location of the study area and archaeological sites. Historical maps, when appropriate and if copyright permissions allow, will be included. Photographs of relevant sites and of the study area where appropriate will be included.

A draft copy of the report will be sent to the Diocesan Archaeologist and to the client for comment and approval prior to production of the final report.

## **5.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **5.1 Type of study**

Level 2 historic building record and archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with the replacement of an existing water pipe at the grade I Listed Building of St Mary and All Saints Church, Checkley, Stoke-on-Trent ST10 4NJ (NGR SK 02794 37892).

### **5.2 Types of data**

- Photographs (RAW)
- Context sheets (paper)
- Photographic register (paper)
- Drawings (drafting film)
- Misc registers (paper)
- Compiled report

### **5.3 Format and scale of the data**

Photographs taken in *RAW* format and later converted to *TIF* format for long term archiving and *JPEG* format for use in the digital report, converted using *Adobe Photoshop*. All photographs renamed using *AF5* freeware with the prefix (*project code\_frame number*) and a photographic metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*).

Compiled report (including figures and plates) as *.PDF* files.

### **5.4 Methodologies for data collection / generation**

Digital data will be collected / generated in line with recommendations made in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014. Rev 2020). Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.3 are relevant:

*3.3.1 Project specifications, research designs or similar documents should include a project specific Selection Strategy and a Data Management Plan.*

*3.3.3 Project designs or schedules of works etc should outline the methodology used in recording all information, in order to demonstrate that all aspects of archive creation will ensure consistency; for instance in terminologies and the application of codes in digital data sets, highlighting relevant data standards where appropriate*

### **5.5 Data quality and standards**

Consistency and quality of data collection / generation shall be controlled and documented through the use of standardised procedure as outlined in the WSI. This will include the use of standardised data capture file formats, digital proformas, data entry validation, peer review, and use of controlled vocabularies.

### **5.6 Managing, storing and curating data.**

All digital data will be organised into Aeon Archaeology proforma project file systems and backed up to the cloud using *Digital River's Crashplan* with additional copies made to external physical hard drive.

### **5.7 Metadata standards and data documentation**

Digital metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*) of all photographic plates.



Paper metadata created from Aeon Archaeology proformas for contexts, artefacts, environmental samples, watching brief day sheets, trench sheets, and basic record sheets and then scanned to create digital .PDF copies.

## **5.8 Data preservation strategy and standards**

Long term data storage will be through the submission of digital (.PDF) reports to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER); submission of digital (.PDF) reports and a project completion form to the Oasis database; submission of the scanned (.PDF) archive, photographic plates (.TIF), and metadata (.xlsx) (.accdb) to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS); and retention of copies of all digital files at Aeon Archaeology on physical external hard drive and uploaded to the cloud.

## **5.9 Suitability for sharing**

All digital data will be placed within the public realm (through the channels in 6.8) except for where project confidentiality restricts the sharing of data. All data sets will be selected / discriminated by the Senior Archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology and written permission will be sought from all project specific Clients prior to the sharing of data.

## **5.10 Discovery by potential users of the research data**

Potential users of the generated digital data (outside of the organisation) will be able to source the data and identify whether it could be suitable for their research purposes through access granted via the ADS and Oasis websites. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and directly to Aeon Archaeology ([info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk)).

## **5.11 Governance of access**

The decision to supply research data to potential new users will be via the associated website request (ADS, Oasis, HER) or via the Senior Archaeologist when made directly to Aeon Archaeology.

## **5.12 The study team's exclusive use of the data**

Aeon Archaeology's requirement is for timely data sharing, with the understanding that a limited, defined period of exclusive use of data for primary research is reasonable according to the nature and value of the data, and that this restriction on sharing should be based on simple, clear principles. This time period is expected to be six months from completion of the project however Aeon Archaeology reserves the right to extend this period without notice if primary data research dictates.

## **5.13 Restrictions or delays to sharing, with planned actions to limit such restrictions**

Restriction to data sharing may be due to participant confidentiality or consent agreements. Strategies to limit restrictions will include data being anonymised or aggregated; gaining participant consent for data sharing; and gaining copyright permissions. For prospective studies, consent procedures will include provision for data sharing to maximise the value of the data for wider research use, while providing adequate safeguards for participants.

## **5.14 Regulation of responsibilities of users**

External users of the data will be bound by data sharing agreements provided by the relevant organisation or directly through Aeon Archaeology.

## **5.15 Responsibilities**

Responsibility for study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be through the Senior Archaeologist (Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA) at Aeon Archaeology when concerning data generation and early/mid-term storage. Upon deposition with digital depositories the study-wide

data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be the responsibility of the specific organisations' themselves.

### **5.16 Organisational policies on data sharing and data security**

The following Aeon Archaeology policies are relevant:

- Aeon Archaeology Archive Deposition Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2020

## **6.0 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS DESIGNS (FAWDs)**

The discovery of substantial archaeological remains and/or features during the archaeological works may result in the requirement for an extended programme of archaeological mitigation. This may require the submission of revised quotes to the client as well as a new specification which will be required to be approved by the Diocesan Archaeologist prior to implementation.

## **7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES**

Relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples (a minimum of 10.0 litres and maximum of 30.0 litres) for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

Bulk environmental samples will also be taken from any fills, deposits or structures which yield archaeological artefacts, charcoal flecks/ fragments, bone, or any other historic remains.

Advice and guidance regarding environmental samples and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, as well as the analysis of macrofossils (charcoal and wood), pollen, animal bones and molluscs will be obtained from Oxford Archaeology.

For guidance purposes the following volume criteria represent the minimum feature sampling requirements:

- 50% of each discrete feature (e.g. pits and postholes)
- 25% of the exposed areas of each linear feature and all terminals/intersections
- 50% of structural features (e.g. beamslots, ring-ditches)
- 50%-100% of domestic/industrial working features (e.g. hearths and ovens)

## **8.0 HUMAN REMAINS**

During the watching brief thorough inspection of removed soils will take place and all disarticulated bone collected and catalogued. All disarticulated bone will remain securely stored on site and will be reburied within the utility trench prior to backfilling.

If articulated human remains are encountered all work in the vicinity must stop immediately and the following undertaken:

- The remains must be lightly covered with soil.
- The Diocesan Registrar (or in their absence the Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee) must be notified.
- The directions of the Diocesan Registrar must be followed.

If articulated remains are encountered an Osteoarchaeologist will be commissioned to attend site and provide osteological analysis of the remains. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. All articulated remains will be cleaned, recorded photographically, and drawn plans produced at 1:10 scale before being carefully removed and securely stored on site, prior to reburial. There will be a presumption against chasing articulated remains beyond the limits of excavation.

## 9.0 ARTEFACTS

All artefacts and ecofacts will be retrieved for identification and recording and will be treated in accordance with CIFA 2008 Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).

All artefacts are the property of the landowner but it is recommended that finds are deposited with the rest of the project archive within an appropriate museum. Furthermore, the client agrees to granting access to all artefacts recovered by Aeon Archaeology for analysis, study and publication as necessary. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Aeon Archaeology staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds will be kept under review throughout the archaeological works. Any changes in recovery priorities will be under guidance from an appropriate specialist and agreed with the Diocesan Archaeologist. There will be a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds regardless of their apparent age or condition.

All finds will be collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. Their location and height will be plotted; finds numbers attributed, bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. Where specialist advice is required provision will be made to do so at the earliest possible convenience.

After processing, artefacts which are suitable will be cleaned and conserved in-house. Artefacts requiring specialist cleaning and conservation will be sent to the relevant specialist. All artefacts will then be sent to a specialist for analysis, the results of which will then be assessed to ascertain the potential of the finds assemblage to meet the research aims of the project. The value of the finds will also be assessed in terms of the wider educational and academic contributions.

Depending upon the material of the remains the following experts will be consulted regarding the conservation of waterlogged material:

- Organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)
- Non-organic material: Mr Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (tel: +44(0)29 2087 5628)

Depending upon the material of the remains the following experts will be consulted regarding the conservation and analysis of artefacts:

- Articulated human remains: Dr Genevieve Tellier, North Wales Osteology
- Bone: Nora Bermingham
- Glass: Hilary Cool, Barbican Research Associates.
- Metal artefacts: Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services, Cardiff.
- Slag, burnt clay, hammerscale: Dr. Tim Young, Geoarch, Cardiff.
- Stone artefacts: George Smith, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Bangor.
- Wood artefacts: Jane Foley, Foley Conservation, Builth Wells.
- Leather: Quita Mould, Barbican Research Associates.
- Environmental Material: Dr Mike Allen, Allen Environmental Archaeology.
- Numismatics: Peter Guest, Barbican Research Associates.
- Ceramics: Leigh Dodd

**If well preserved materials are found it may be necessary to employ additional staff. Furthermore, it may be necessary to suspend work within a specific region of the site, or across the whole site, while conservation and excavation/recording takes place.**

## **10.0 UNEXPECTED DISCOVERIES: TREASURE TROVE**

Treasure Trove law has been amended by the Treasure Act 1996. The following are Treasure under the Act:

- *Objects other than coins* any object other than a coin provided that it contains at least 10% gold or silver and is at least 300 years old when found.
- *Coins* all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10. Any object or coin is part of the same find as another object or coin, if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been left together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground. Single coin finds of gold or silver are not classed as treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act.
- *Associated objects* any object whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or that had previously been together with, another object that is treasure.
- *Objects that would have been treasure trove* any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. These objects have to be made substantially of gold or silver, they have to be buried with the intention of recovery and their owner or his heirs cannot be traced.

The following types of finds are not treasure:

- Objects whose owners can be traced.
- Unworked natural objects, including human and animal remains, even if they are found in association with treasure.
- Objects from the foreshore which are not wreck.

All finds of treasure must be reported to the coroner for the district within fourteen days of discovery or identification of the items. Items declared Treasure Trove become the property of the Crown.

The British Museum will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

## **11.0 ARCHIVING**

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled, and cross-referenced, and lodged with the Oasis database within six months of the completion of the project.

A draft copy of the report will be produced within six months of the completion of the fieldwork and sent to the Client and the Diocesan Archaeologist for comment prior to finalisation of the report and dissemination. Bound copies of the report and an archive CD will be sent to the regional HER, the

Diocesan Archaeologist for long term archiving. Copies of all digital files (inc. photos, report as PDF and Word, spreadsheets, databases, survey data etc) to be presented to each of above on optical disc (ie DVD).

## **12.0 PERSONNEL**

The work will be managed by Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA, Archaeological Contractor and Consultant at Aeon Archaeology. The archaeological watching brief shall be maintained by Josh Dean BA ACIfA, Archaeological Contractor at Aeon Archaeology with six years' experience in field archaeology.

## **13.0 MONITORING AND LIAISON**

Regular liaison and site monitoring meetings will take place during all stages of work. The Diocesan Archaeologist will be informed of the start date and of discreet subsequent stages.

## **14.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Aeon Archaeology has a Health and Safety Policy Statement which can be supplied upon request. Furthermore, site-specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements are compiled and distributed to every member of staff involved with the project prior to the commencement of works.

## **15.0 INSURANCE**

### Liability Insurance

Employers' Liability: Limit of Indemnity £10m in any one occurrence

Public Liability: Limit of Indemnity £2m in any one occurrence

Legal Defence Costs (Health and Safety at Work Act): £100,000

The current period expires 07/09/21

### Professional Indemnity Insurance

Limit of Indemnity £500,000 any one claim

The current period expires 07/09/21

