

**Subject:** Re: Newgale Borehole Survey  
**Date:** Friday 6 September 2024 at 11:59:12 British Summer Time  
**From:** Dr Julian Whitewright  
**To:** Chris Munro  
**Attachments:** image100801.png, image239242.jpg, image698772.png, image517024.png, image610860.png, image268162.png, image974388.png, image328995.png, image314344.png, image533965.jpg, image553500.png, image416430.png

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Thanks Chris,

Looking forward to it, and let me know when in the WC 16<sup>th</sup> you settle on. I am pretty flexible that week as its a period of low spring tides, so I will be out of the office doing fieldwork in any case. So will fit a visit to Newgale in as appropriate.

Julian



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Royal Commission on the Ancient  
and Historical Monuments of Wales

**Dr Julian Whitewright**

Dysgwr

**Uwch Ymchwilydd (Arforol) | Senior Investigator (Maritime)**

Ffordd Penglais, Aberystwyth, SY23 3BU

+44 (0) 1970 621 217

[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)

[www.cbhc.gov.uk](http://www.cbhc.gov.uk) | [www.rcahmw.gov.uk](http://www.rcahmw.gov.uk)

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**From:** Chris Munro <[chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 5, 2024 08:58  
**To:** Dr Julian Whitewright <[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: Newgale Borehole Survey

Morning Julian,

No worries I will get an invite out to you, yes when we are completing the land intrusive surveying I can meet you there. We were planned in for WC 16<sup>th</sup> Sept but this is currently on hold so I will let you know when I am down there.

Thanks again for your help.

**Chris Munro**  
Project Manager



**M:** 07787423983  
**E:** [chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)  
**A:** BRM Group, Linnyshaw Ind Est, Moss Lane, Walkden, Worsley,  
Manchester, M28 3LY, United Kingdom  
**W:** [www.brmusl.co.uk](http://www.brmusl.co.uk)



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**From:** Dr Julian Whitewright <[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, 4 September 2024 at 14:23  
**To:** Chris Munro <[chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)>  
**Subject:** Re: Newgale Borehole Survey

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Hi Chris,

Of course, no problem with using the email.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am is fine with me.

Not sure if its helpful at all. But I live about 15 minutes away from Newgale, so can meet at the site as well when the land survey is being done, if that works for you, or anyone else on the project - might be easier to visualise everything.

Julian



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### Dr Julian Whitewright

Dysgwr 

**Uwch Ymchwilydd (Arforol) | Senior Investigator (Maritime)**

Ffordd Penglais, Aberystwyth, SY23 3BU

+44 (0) 1970 621 217

[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)

[www.cbhc.gov.uk](http://www.cbhc.gov.uk) | [www.rcahmw.gov.uk](http://www.rcahmw.gov.uk)

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**From:** Chris Munro <[chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 4, 2024 14:13

**To:** Dr Julian Whitewright <[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Re: Newgale Borehole Survey

Hi Julian,

Ok no worries, can I take your previous email as confirmation that you are happy for us

to proceed with the marine licence with NRW based on receiving the geologists report for the single bore hole?

We could have a call Friday 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am, this should be post land survey stage so we should have an idea of a plan of works. We wouldn't have done the beach borehole due to the time it takes to gain a licence unfortunately, but we can discuss the project in more detail as to the installation of the subsea fibre optic cable.

Thank you.

## Chris Munro

Project Manager



**M:** [07787423983](tel:07787423983)

**E:** [chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)

**A:** BRM Group, Linnyshaw Ind Est, Moss Lane, Walkden, Worsley, Manchester, M28 3LY, United Kingdom

**W:** [www.brmusl.co.uk](http://www.brmusl.co.uk)



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**From:** Dr Julian Whitewright <[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)>

**Date:** Wednesday, 4 September 2024 at 13:48

**To:** Chris Munro <[chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)>

**Subject:** Re: Newgale Borehole Survey

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Hi Chris,

Thanks, that is really helpful. I think at this stage then we'd be happy just to receive a copy of the geologist's report. This will help understand the potential impact of any subsequent work, while also adding to what we know about the extent of the submerged forest remains at Newgale. It seems unreasonable at this stage to ask for anything further, on the basis of a single borehole.

In terms of a call. What sort of deadline are you on at present. I have pretty limited availability for the next two weeks, but then get much freer from the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup> September onwards. Exceptions that week are Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> first thing, and last thing.

Its probably just me on the call from our end. If there are any archaeological contractors already involved from the wider project then it might be good to involve them at this stage as well.

Julian



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**Dr Julian Whitewright**

Dysgwr 🍷

**Uwch Ymchwilydd (Arforol) | Senior Investigator (Maritime)**

Ffordd Penglais, Aberystwyth, SY23 3BU

+44 (0) 1970 621 217

[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)

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**From:** Chris Munro <[chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 4, 2024 11:04

**To:** Dr Julian Whitewright <[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Re: Newgale Borehole Survey

Julian,

Thank you for your response, we will be taking a sample of the geological ground make and will have a geologist on site to record this with depths and ground type like rock, peat etc up due to future proposed works.

You are correct this is for the subsea cable landing and the proposed works are for us to instal a concrete foot 2m below the beach level with x4 150mm internal diameter ducts from there up to a beach manhole location proposed to be in the layby outside of the hard ware store/coffee shop.

Please see below the answers to your queries.

On this basis, I have a couple of questions that will dictate the overall response.

1. How many boreholes are being proposed? Is it just the one marked on the map, or are more planned as part of the work. **Yes correct currently just one at the marked location.**
2. Is this part of a wider scheme? e.g. I know there are plans for a fibre optic cable to be brought ashore at Newgale? **Yes this is part of a wider scheme for the subsea fibre optic cable, this is for surveying works for feasibility of the future proposed works which we would like to discuss with you.**

We think it would be a good idea to have a call with you to discuss the future works post surveying stage so you have a clear understanding of what we are proposing to complete based off the boreholes and trial holes we are planning. You can then see dependant on the borehole investigation what samples you would like to collect etc and how we can proceed.

I am looking to set up a teams call with ourselves the tier 1 contractor BRM and our client Vodafone with yourself and anyone else you would like on the call so we can present the proposed works and get your input so we can all be clear on where we stand.

What dates/times would you be able to attend a teams call?

Thanks,

**Chris Munro**

Project Manager



**M:** [07787423983](tel:07787423983)

**E:** [chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)

**A:** BRM Group, Linnyshaw Ind Est, Moss Lane, Walkden, Worsley, Manchester, M28 3LY, United Kingdom

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**From:** Dr Julian Whitewright <[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)>

**Date:** Sunday, 1 September 2024 at 21:02

**To:** Chris Munro <[chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk](mailto:chris.munro@brmusl.co.uk)>

**Subject:** Newgale Borehole Survey

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Dear Chris,

I was forwarded your email by our library and enquiries team in relation to a Band 1 Marine licence application for borehole investigation of Newgale Beach in Pembrokeshire. Apologies for my delay in replying, I was on leave last week.

In general terms, there is normally no objection to this type of work on the basis of any archaeological impact because the area of the borehole is very small.

However, in this case, Newgale Beach is an area of known submerged prehistoric forest, the commentary on which dates back some 800 years. At the same, although its one of the most historically documented submerged prehistoric forests in Wales, very little scientific analysis has been done, with just a single C14 date from the beach from a sample collected by the RCAHMW in 2021. This dated the section of exposed forest at the southern end of the beach to c. 4,000BC.



Submerged forest exposures have been observed all along the beach at various intervals in the last 150 years. Including at the north end where the borehole is.

A general entry within the National Monuments Record is here:

<https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/524759/>

And a more specific one for the south end, which the RCAHMW worked on in 2021 is here

<https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/544148/>

which will give you a better idea of things.

As such, the proposed work has considerable potential to greatly enhance our knowledge and understanding of this particular piece of prehistoric landscape, which itself is of National Significance, albeit poorly understood. Enhancement of knowledge of a historic asset is a key part of Policy Soc5 which covers Historic Assets under the Welsh National Marine Plan.

On this basis, I have a couple of questions that will dictate the overall response.

- 1) How many boreholes are being proposed? Is it just the one marked on the map, or are more planned as part of the work.
- 2) Is this part of a wider scheme? e.g. I know there are plans for a fibre optic cable to be brought ashore at Newgale?

As a minimum we would probably require that any reports arising from the work are shared with us as a means to inform on aspects such as presence/depth of peat desposits in the area of the proposed borehole? But if the work is more substantial than a single borehole, part of a much larger project, etc. then its likely that some form of formal geoaarchaeological analysis would need to be undertaken as part of the analysis of the boreholes themselves, which would in turn come under the overall project, budget, etc.

I'd be more than happy to talk this all through directly if its helpful. And also to emphasise the potential usefulness of the proposed work from an archaeological potential, so from the position of wanting to know more about the submerged forest, I'm at a starting point of being very keen to see the work go ahead, its mainly a case of arriving at an appropriate response from our perspective as a statutory consultee.

Yours

Julian



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Dysgwr 

**Uwch Ymchwilydd (Arforol) | Senior Investigator (Maritime)**

Ffordd Penglais, Aberystwyth, SY23 3BU

+44 (0) 1970 621 217

[julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk](mailto:julian.whitewright@rcahmw.gov.uk)

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