

Preferred Area 6 - North West of Latton

Mineral: Sharp sand and gravel

Area: 29 hectares

Name: Land northwest of Latton

Yield: 0.6 million tonnes of sharp sand and gravel

Proposal: Extraction of sharp sand and gravel and restoration to agriculture

Site Description

1. The Preferred Area comprises flat agricultural land to the immediate east of the "old" A419. It is bounded to the north by the C69 Down Ampney Road, to the south by a road linking Latton to the "old" A419 and to the east by a farm track and hedgerow. Latton village itself lies 200m or so to the south, beyond a Settlement Protection Zone.
2. North Meadow (SSSI, National Nature Reserve and cSAC) lies approximately 1.2km to the south of the Preferred Area on the opposite side of the A419. Much of the area is high quality Grade 2 agricultural land. The Preferred Area falls within an Area of Special Archaeological Significance, defined in the North Wiltshire Local Plan.
3. There are a number of dwellings on or close to the boundary of the Preferred Area which have open views across it including the cottages on the Down Ampney road to the north and to the properties on the northern side of Latton village.
4. There are relatively few mature trees on the perimeter of the site, which itself is not covered by any hedgerows or public rights of way. The existing Latton Lands Quarry is sited on the opposite side of the "old" A419. The Environment Agency advises that the site is not within the floodplain of the Thames.