

Site name: Chapel Point – Wolla Bank

County: Lincolnshire

District: East Lindsey

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

Local Planning Authority: East Lindsey District Council
Lincolnshire County Council

National Grid Reference: TF 560 471
(Ac)

Area: 39.57 (Ha) 97.77

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 122

1:10,000: TF 57 SE

Date Notified (under 1981 Act): 18 July 2002

Reasons for Notification:

Chapel Point-Wolla Bank is a nationally important geological site for its inter-tidal sediments, which record the evidence of early Holocene sea level change.

General description:

Chapel Point - Wolla Bank is a 1.5 km length of coastline situated approximately 8 km north of Skegness. The site comprises a foreshore section of inter-tidal deposits stretching from the Coastguard lookout at Chapel Point to the car park at Wolla Bank. Global sea level rise during the Holocene (Flandrian) Stage resulted in the deposition of material along coasts and estuaries. In the submerged low-lying areas of eastern England extensive blanket bog accumulations alternated with the deposition of marine sands and gravels, and estuarine silts and clays.

The buried sequence at Chapel Point - Wolla Bank includes inter-bedded peats, saltmarsh deposits and shelly clays all of which represent sedimentation in an inter-tidal zone. Incorporated within these organic deposits are the remains of the flora and fauna present at the time of deposition. Systematic pollen and macrofossil analysis of the organic deposits, coupled with the results of radiocarbon dating, has provided important palaeo-environmental information concerning the timing of and conditions for the deposition of these sediments.

The inter-tidal deposits buried beneath the foreshore between Chapel Point and Wolla Bank are of national importance for interpretation of Holocene stratigraphy and environmental reconstruction. The information derived from the analysis of these deposits is important in establishing and correlating sea-level change across eastern England.

Other Information:

This is a *Geological Conservation Review* site.