

## AN0019/AN0044 HOWES LANE, BICESTER

### STATEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPLETION

Following prior archaeological evaluation (NA 2013), which identified areas within the site of archaeological interest for further investigation, an archaeological excavation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology from April to June 2019 at Howes Lane, Bicester, Oxfordshire. Three excavation areas were targeted on Iron Age and Roman activity identified by the evaluation. It was identified that throughout the areas, archaeological features were considerably truncated by ploughing.

Excavation identified four phases of activity, ranging between the Middle Iron Age and the later Roman period. Iron Age activity was represented by a series of ditched boundaries in Area B, a roundhouse and pits in Area C, and by a small number of vestigial features in Area A. Evidence of later Iron Age and Roman activity was confined to Area A, and mostly comprised a series of ditched land boundaries of rectilinear layout. A number of discrete features, including pits and a group of intercut, curvilinear ditches in the south-east of Area A were also assigned to this phase. Two poorly preserved, undated inhumation burials had been inserted into Roman ditch fills. Finds suggested the proximity of domestic settlement, although this could not be confidently identified within Area A. A further layout of ditched boundaries in Area A was of later, 2nd-3rd-century date, and cut, and evidently replaced, the earlier layout. A final Roman phase, of 3rd-4th-century date, was represented by a ditch recut and series of associated quarry pits. One deep pit contained a stone-built well shaft. The limited Roman finds assemblages were consistent with low-status rural settlement, and comparable with a number of contemporary neighbouring sites.

The evidence from the Howes Lane site is largely of local significance but provides further comparative evidence of later prehistoric and Roman-period activity within the well-investigated Bicester area. This document is to confirm that the archaeological requirements for the site at Howes Lane have now been completed to the satisfaction of Richard Oram of OCC, and that no further works are required within its footprint, regardless of any design changes or new applications that might be proposed or submitted to Cherwell District Council.

**Richard Greatorex**  
**Principal Fieldwork Manager**  
**Cotswold Archaeology, Andover Office**  
**02 September 2021**



**Legend**

- Site Boundary
- Limit of excavation top
- Limit of excavation bottom
- Section line
- Burial
- Cut feature
- Deposit/fill
- Excavated intervention
- excavated - base
- Field drain
- Modern
- Natural
- Rapid pre-ex
- Structure
- Treethrow



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PROJECT TITLE

**Howes Lane  
Bicester**

FIGURE TITLE

**Survey update**

DRAWN BY	MP	PROJECT NO	xxxx	FIGURE NO.
CHECKED BY	xx	DATE	25/06/2019	
APPROVED BY	RK	SCALE@A3	1:1,250	<b>1</b>

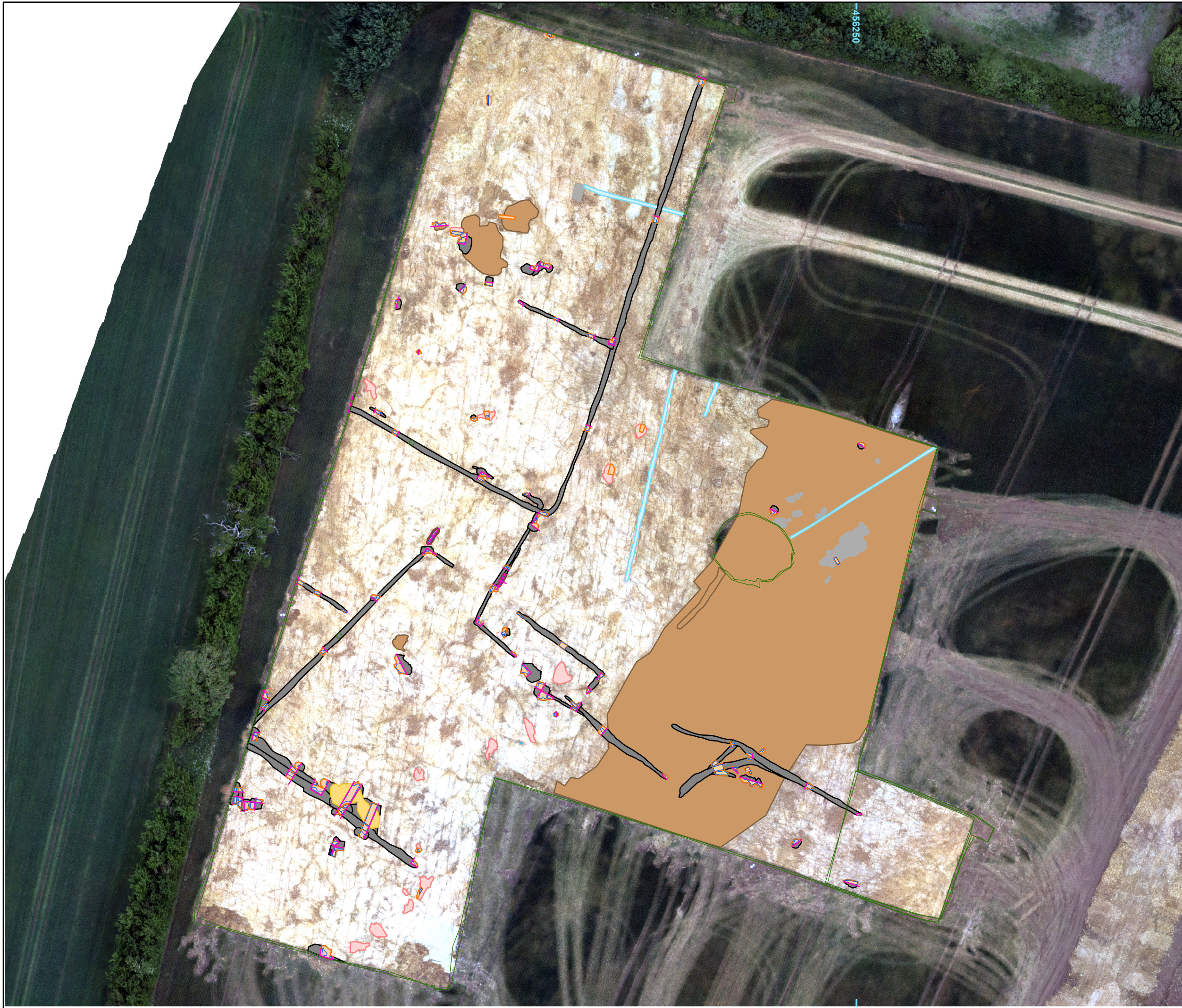
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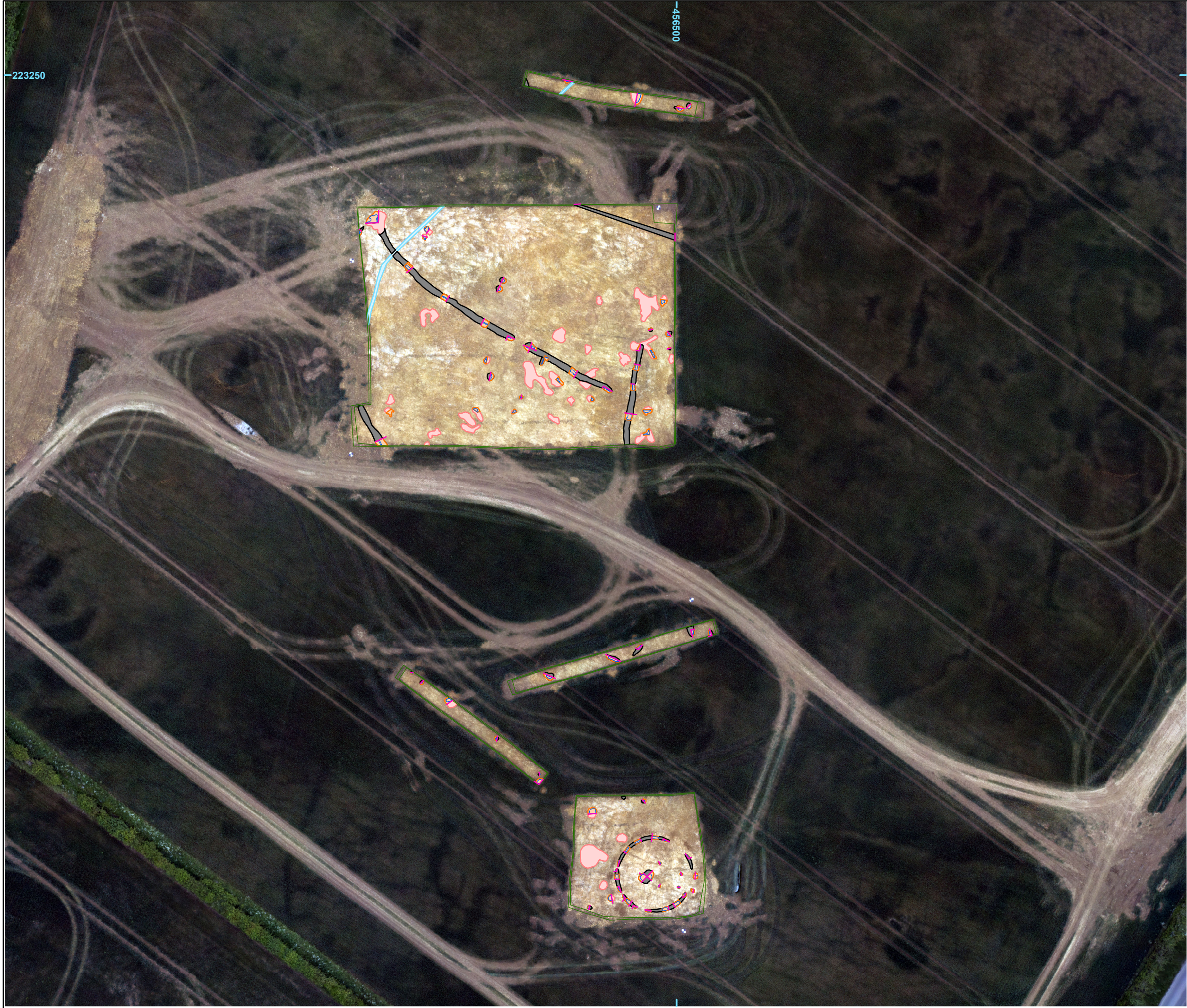
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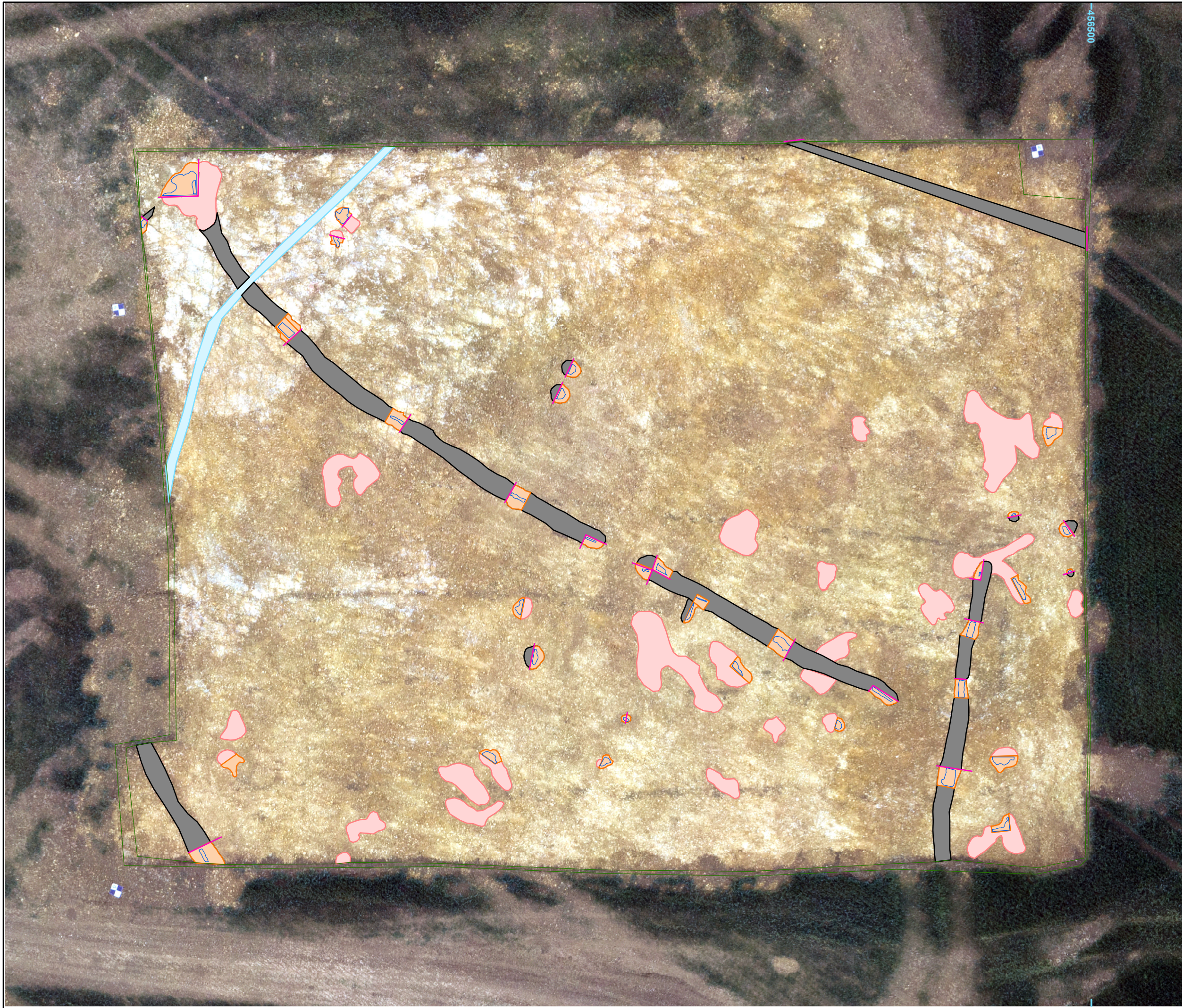
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**Howes Lane Bicester**

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<b>APPROVED BY</b> RK	<b>SCALE@A3</b> 1:600	



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NOTES

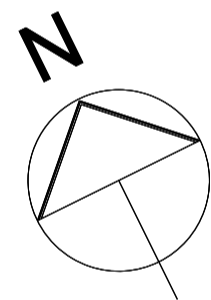
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Subject to Statutory Approvals.

Subject to Highways Development.

- Parameters Boundary
- Planning Site Boundary
- Ownership Boundary
- Notional Boundary
- Hedgerow Protection
- SLR License
- - - 2.5m high acoustic fence
- - - 4m high acoustic fence with acoustic gates



Rev	Description	Chk	Date
F	Site Boundary Updated	CS	02/09/2021
E	Site Boundary updated	CS	31/08/2021
D	Acoustic fences added	SK	20/08/2021
C	Sheet number amended. Road layout updated. Areas updated.	SK	16/08/2021
B	Paving around units 1-3 yards adjusted. Acoustic fence added and landscaping adjusted between units 10 and 11.	SK	29/07/2021
A	Units 6-11 moved further into the site to achieve 10m buffer to eastern site ownership boundary	SK	16/07/2021

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Project Title:  
**PHASE 3 AXIS J9 BICESTER**

Drawing Title:  
**PROPOSED SITE PLAN**

Drawing Status:  
**TOWN PLANNING**

Scale:  
0 10 metres 80

Drawn By: S K | Scale: 1:1000 @ A1 | Date: 08/07/2021 | Chk'd By: C S



Drawing No:  
**20019 - TP - 002** | Rev: **F**

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UNIT	Ground Floor GEA sm	Ground Floor GEA sf	First Floor GEA sm	First Floor GEA sf	Second Floor GEA sm	Second Floor GEA sf	Total Unit GEA sm	Total Unit GEA sf	Ground Floor GIA sm	Ground Floor GIA sf	First Floor GIA sm	First Floor GIA sf	Second Floor GIA sm	Second Floor GIA sf	Total Unit GIA sm	Total Unit GIA sf	Car Parking
1	1830	19698	224	2411	0	0	2054	22109	1759	18934	195	2104	0	0	1954	21038	23
2	1665	17922	202	2174	0	0	1867	20096	1613	17362	179	1929	0	0	1792	19291	21
3	1717	18482	211	2271	0	0	1928	20753	1650	17761	183	1973	0	0	1833	19734	21
4	4412	47491	272	2928	272	2928	4956	53346	4278	46048	238	2558	238	2558	4753	51165	53
5	3552	38234	478	5145	0	0	4030	43379	3433	36953	423	4553	0	0	3814	41059	42
6	527	5673	0	0	0	0	527	5673	491	5285	0	0	0	0	491	5285	8
7	518	5576	0	0	0	0	518	5576	492	5296	0	0	0	0	492	5296	8
8	437	4704	0	0	0	0	437	4704	412	4435	0	0	0	0	412	4435	8
9	351	3778	0	0	0	0	351	3778	328	3531	0	0	0	0	328	3531	7
10	466	5016	0	0	0	0	466	5016	430	4829	0	0	0	0	430	4829	8
11	651	7007	0	0	0	0	651	7007	600	6458	0	0	0	0	600	6458	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16126</b>	<b>173580</b>	<b>1387</b>	<b>14930</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>2928</b>	<b>17785</b>	<b>191438</b>	<b>15486</b>	<b>166691</b>	<b>1219</b>	<b>13118</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>2558</b>	<b>16901</b>	<b>181920</b>	<b>206</b>