

CPAT Report No. 1700




Y Ddol, Forden, Powys

Archaeological Watching Brief



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL CLWYD-POWYS
CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Client name: Powys County Council
 CPAT Project No: 2413
 Project Name: Y Ddol, Forden, Powys
 Grid Reference: SJ 2179 0169
 County/LPA: Powys
 Planning Application: 19/0687/FUL
 CPAT Report No: 1700
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Prepared by:	Checked by:	Approved by:
		
Will Logan Project Archaeologist	Nigel Jones Principal Archaeologist	Nigel Jones Principal Archaeologist
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YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL CLWYD-POWYS
 CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR, United Kingdom

+44 (0) 1938 553 670

trust@cpat.org.uk

www.cpat.org.uk

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 with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

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Summary

In September 2019 the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust carried out an archaeological watching brief during soil stripping for a new slurry lagoon at Y Ddol, Forden, in Powys.

The development area was located immediately to the east of a possible enclosure which had been identified as cropmarks from aerial photography taken in 2006.

Groundworks revealing nothing of archaeological significance within the development area and a review of the aerial photography concluded that the cropmarks represent former field boundaries which were part of a post medieval field system.

Crynodeb

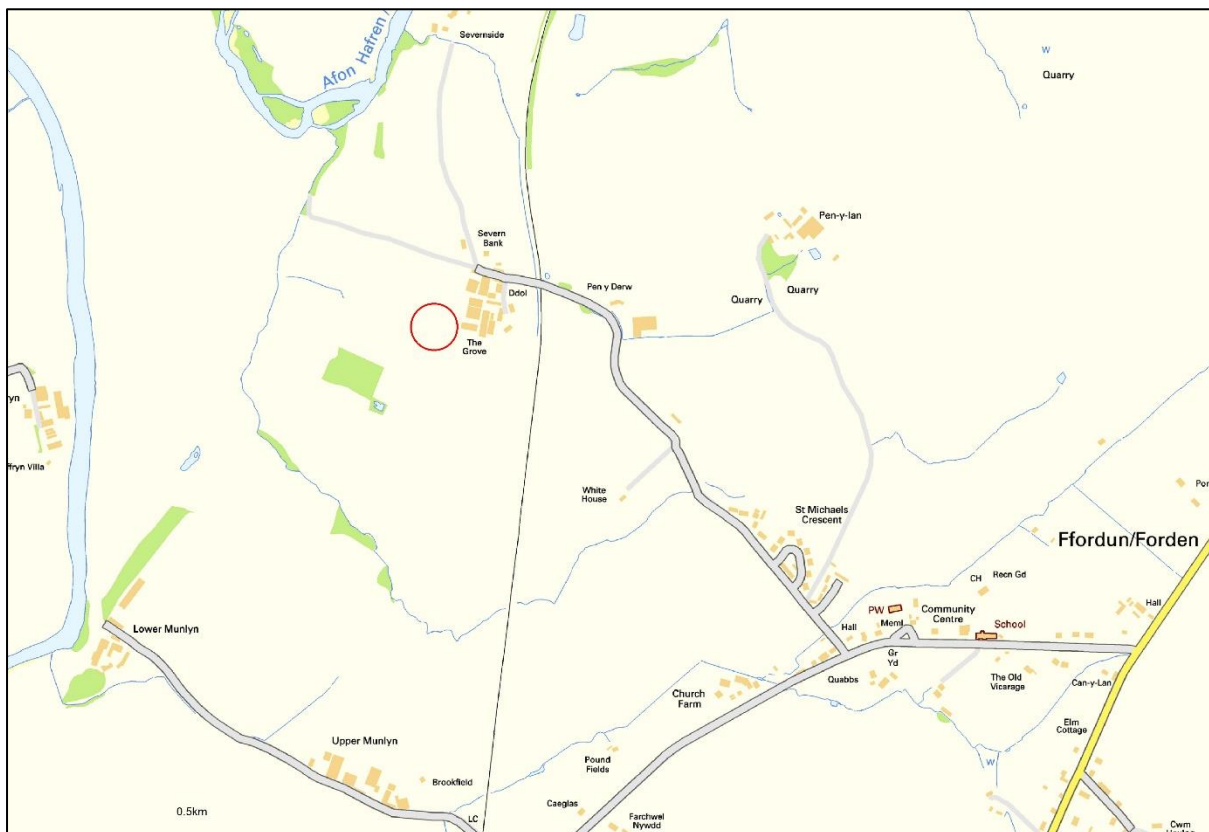
Ym mis Medi 2019, bu Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Clwyd Powys yn cynnal briff gwyllo archaeolegol yn ystod gwaith stripio pridd ar gyfer pwll biswail newydd yn Y Ddôl, Ffordun, ym Mhowys.

Roedd ardal y datblygiad yn union i'r dwyrain o loc posibl yr oedd awyrluniau a dynnwyd yn 2006 wedi'i nodi o olion cnydau.

Ni ddatgelodd gwaith paratoi tir, nac adolygiad o'r awyrluniau, unrhyw beth o arwyddocâd archaeolegol o fewn ardal y datblygiad, felly y casgliad oedd bod yr olion cnydau'n cynrychioli cyn ffiniau caeau a oedd yn rhan o gyfundrefn caeau ôl-ganoloesol.

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust was invited by Powys County Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief during soil stripping for a new slurry lagoon at Y Ddol, Forden, in Powys. The development area is located on farmland to the west of The Grove, a large dairy farm located on the eastern side of the River Severn (Fig. 1; SJ 2179 0169).
- 1.2. The lagoon was located on land immediately east of an enclosure recorded in the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) (PRN 152839, The Grove Enclosure), which had been identified as a cropmark from aerial photography taken in 2006.



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2018

Fig. 1 Location of the development, circled in red

- 1.3. Planning permission (19/0687/FUL) was granted in September 2019 with the inclusion of the following condition:

3. The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during the undertaking of any ground works in the development area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs. A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust . . . After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should also be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record.

Reason: To secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development in accordance with Planning Policy Wales (10th edition, 2018), Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24 (2017) and policy SP7 of the Powys Local Development Plan 2018.

2 Historical Background

- 2.1. There are known prehistoric remains within the area, most notably at Dyffryn Lane, 1.3km to the west, where earthworks and buried archaeology relating to Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age occupation and funerary practice have been recorded.
- 2.2. The Roman fort of Forden Gaer was located 2.5km to the south, close to the River Severn, at the junction of the roads coming from Wroxeter to the north-east, Lydham to the south-east and Dolgellau to the west.
- 2.3. The village of Forden is located 1.1km to the south-east. It is recorded in the 1086 Domesday Survey. The Church was formerly a chapel attached to a mother church at Chirbury. An estate map of the 1780s shows the church within a circular churchyard on a common, with two or three houses set in their fields as separate but detached enclosures, which would suggest that Forden was originally a dispersed settlement.
- 2.4. A possible enclosure had been identified via aerial photography on the western extent of the development area (Fig. 2).

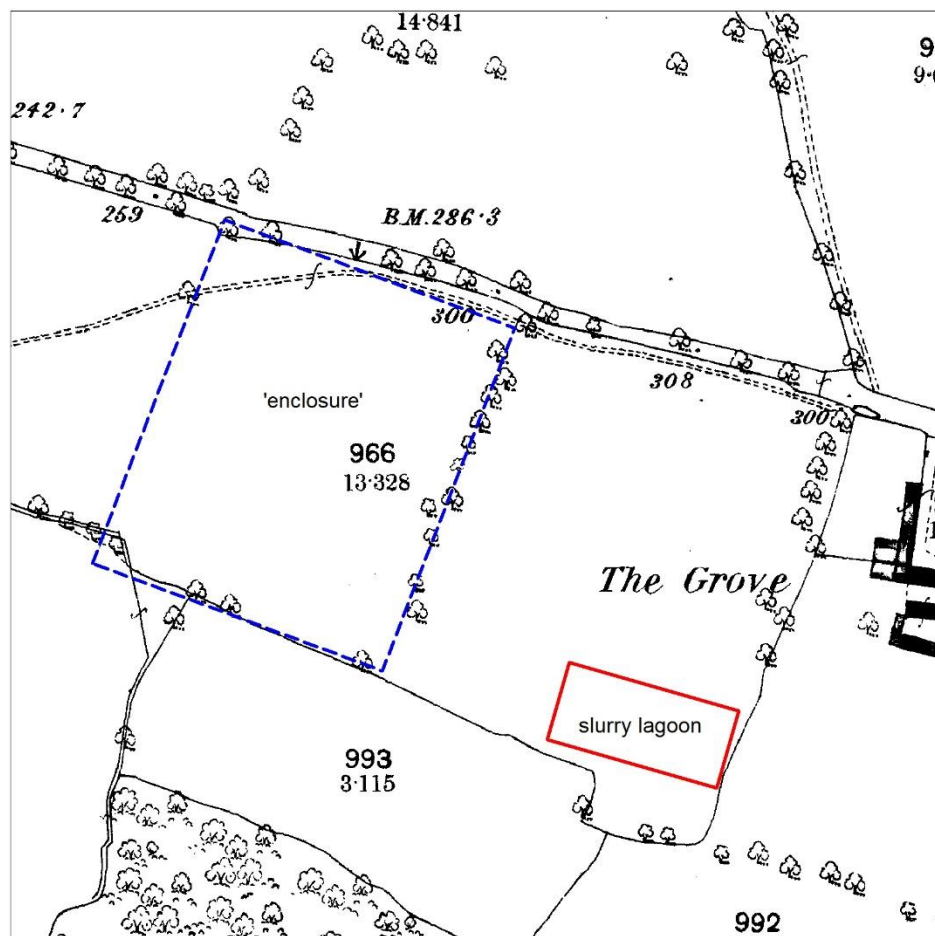


Fig. 2 1882 Ordnance Survey 25" map overlaid with the development area (red) and the 'enclosure' (blue)

3 Watching Brief

- 3.1. The watching brief was conducted on the 24th of September 2019 in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*. (2017).

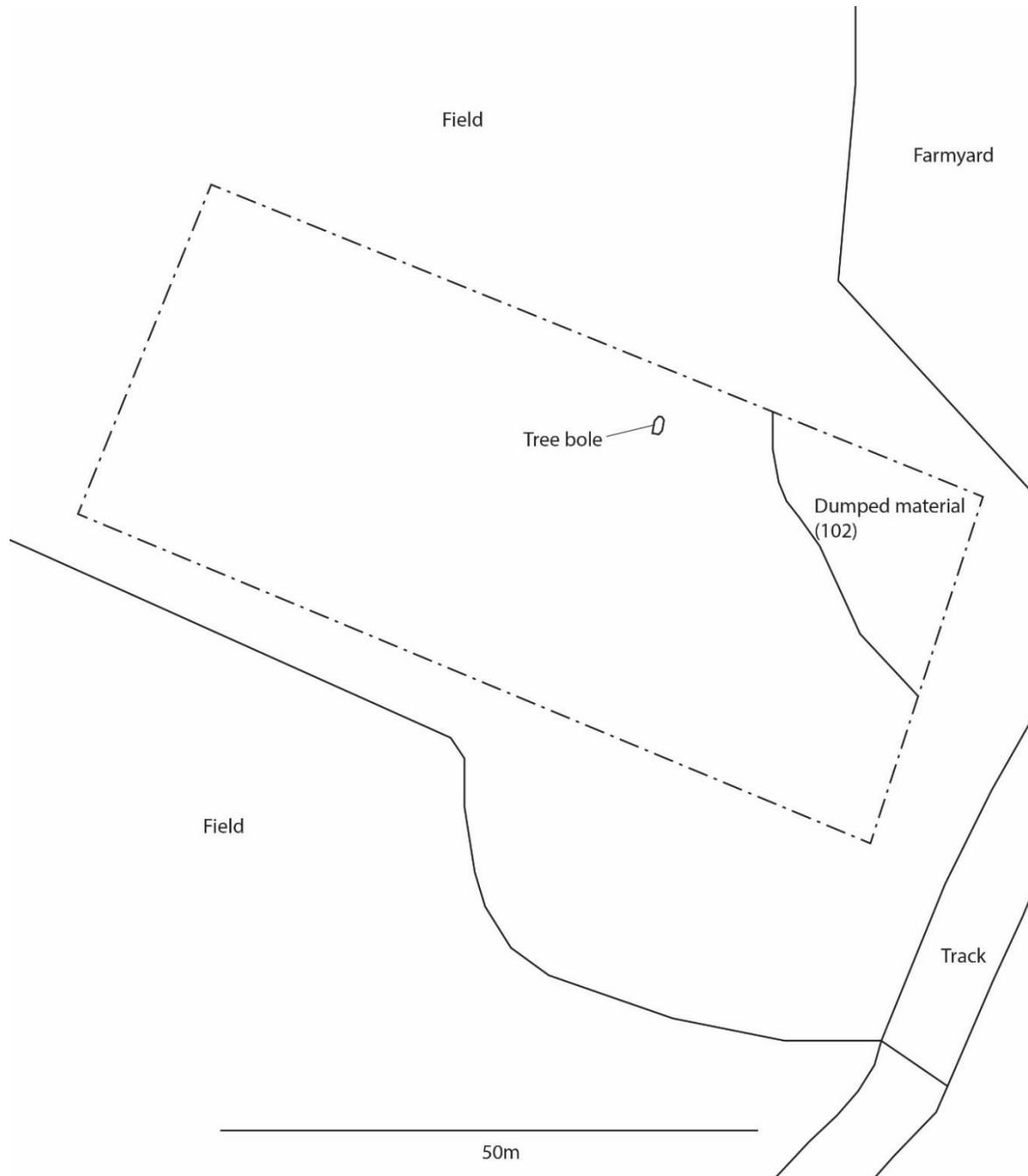


Fig. 3 Groundworks location plan

- 3.2. The area of the soil strip comprised an area measuring 80m by 30m. Three archaeological contexts were identified. The topsoil (101) was composed of a soft dark brown silt clay 0.15m thick. Underlying the topsoil at the north-east extent of the area was a hard compacted yellowish clay (102) containing stone and ceramic building material extending 20m by 18m to

a thickness of 0.2m. Underlying (102) was the natural subsoil (103), a compacted yellowish silt >50mm thick.



Fig. 4 Soil strip (southern extent) viewed from the west. Photo CPAT 4704-04



Fig. 5 Soil strip (northern extent) viewed from the west. Photo CPAT 4704-08



Fig. 6 Soil strip, viewed from the east Photo CPAT 4704-11



Fig. 7 Tree throw viewed from the west Photo CPAT 4704-10

4 Conclusions

- 4.1. The watching brief revealed no features or artefacts of archaeological significance within the development area. A number of irregular, poorly defined depressions within the subsoil were investigated, and thought to be the result of tree throws. Pottery and ceramic material was late post-medieval or modern in date, and largely associated with a dump of material (102) at the east extent of the site.
- 4.2. A review of the aerial photographic evidence for the possible enclosure adjacent to the development concluded that the cropmarks represent former field boundaries which were part of a post medieval field system. The eastern boundary is depicted in the 1st edition 25" Ordnance Survey mapping (Fig. 2) as a line of trees.

5 Sources

Cartographic sources

1844 Tithe survey for Forden Parish

1882 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st edition Montgomeryshire 30.07

6 Archive deposition Statement

- 6.1. The project archive has been prepared according to the CPAT Archive Policy and in line with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2014). The digital archive only will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust and the paper/drawn/digital archive with the National Monuments Record (RCAHMW).

Archive summary

CPAT Event PRN: 140317

12 digital photographs, CPAT film no 4704

Appendix 1: CPAT WSI 2106

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust has been invited by Powys County Council to undertake an archaeological watching brief during soil stripping for a new slurry lagoon at Y Ddol, Forden, in Powys (SJ 2179 0169).
- 1.2. The lagoon will be constructed on land immediately east of a recorded enclosure earthwork recognized from aerial photography in 2006 (PRN 152839 The Grove Enclosure). The date and function of this earthwork is unknown. It may be the location of an Iron Age or Roman period settlement, or the earthen banks may represent wide field boundaries of medieval to post medieval date.
- 1.3. Planning permission (19/0687/FUL) was granted in September 2019 with the inclusion of the following condition:

3. The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during the undertaking of any ground works in the development area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs. A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR Email: mark.walters@cpat.org.uk Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should also be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record.

Reason: To secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development in accordance with Planning Policy Wales (10th edition, 2018), Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24 (2017) and policy SP7 of the Powys Local Development Plan 2018.

2 Methodology

Fieldwork

- 2.1. The watching brief will be conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014). The watching brief will be undertaken to monitor groundworks associated with the construction of the new extension. The excavation of any archaeological features or deposits will be undertaken by hand using the conventional techniques for archaeological excavation:
 - The presence or absence of archaeological features encountered during the ground works will be noted.
 - Where features of archaeological interest are identified during the ground works they will be systematically investigated by hand with sufficient work being undertaken to determine their date, character and function, using the conventional techniques for archaeological excavation and in accordance with CIfA Standard and Guidance.
 - All features will be located as accurately as possible on an overall plan of the development at an appropriate scale, showing boundaries depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping.

- Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms, using a continuous numbering system, and be drawn and photographed as appropriate.
- Plans will be drawn on permatrace to a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate.
- All photography will be taken using a digital SLR camera with a minimum resolution of 12 mega pixels, including a metric scale in each view, with views logged in a photographic register.
- In the event of human burials being discovered the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) will be informed. The remains will initially be left in situ, and if removal is required, a MoJ licences will be applied for under the Burial Act 1857.
- In the event of finding any artefacts covered by the provisions of the Treasures Act 1996, the appropriate procedures under this legislation will be followed.

Artefacts

- 2.2. All artefacts and environmental samples will be treated in a manner appropriate to their composition and a sampling strategy will be developed as appropriate:
- All stratified finds will be collected by context, or where appropriate, individually recorded in three dimensions. Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest.
 - All finds and samples will be collected, processed, sorted, quantified, recorded, labelled, packed, stored, marked, assessed, analysed and conserved in a manner appropriate to their composition and in line with appropriate guidance.
 - Arrangements will be made to assess and study any artefacts, assemblages and environment samples.
 - Any artefacts recovered during the recording process will be deposited with the nearest regional or county Museum, subject to the permission of the owner. The artefacts will be deposited along with a copy of the site report including a detailed list of all artefacts recovered.

Site archive

- 2.3. The overall archive will conform to guidelines described in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE), Historic England 2015, the CIfA (2014) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* and *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* (NPAAW, 2017) and *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (HERs) V1 (July 2018).
- 2.4. The paper and digital archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record (NMR), RCAHMW, including a copy of the final report. This archive will include all written, drawn, survey and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. A copy of the digital archive only will also be lodged with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

Report

- 2.5. Following the on-site work an illustrated report will be prepared containing conventional sections to include:
- Non-technical summary
 - Introduction
 - Site location
 - Archaeological Background
 - Evaluation
 - Conclusions

- References
 - Appropriate appendices on archives and finds
- 2.6. The report summary will be provided in English and Welsh, in accordance with the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (HERs) V1 (July 2018).

3 Resources and programming

- 3.1. The watching brief will be undertaken by a skilled archaeologist under the overall supervision of Nigel Jones, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). CPAT is also a CIfA Registered Organisation and as such agrees to abide by their *Code of Conduct* (2014) and the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (2014).
- 3.2. All report preparation will be completed by or with the assistance of the same field archaeologist(s) who conducted the site work. Copies of the report will be deposited with the client and the regional Historic Environment Record within one month of the completion of on-site works. If appropriate, a short report will be published in *Archaeology in Wales*.
- 3.3. The client should be aware that in the event that significant archaeological remains are revealed there may be a requirement for more detailed excavation and specialist services. Any further work over and above the original watching brief and report would be the subject of a separate WSI and costing. The following figures provide an indication of the types of additional services and indicative costs which might be required, for which the client is advised to make some provision.

Curatorial monitoring	£150 per visit
Finds conservation etc	£285 per day
Radiocarbon dating	£330 each
Finds specialist	£285 per day

- 3.4. Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 3.5. CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance, as well as Professional Indemnity insurance.

N W Jones

23 September 2019