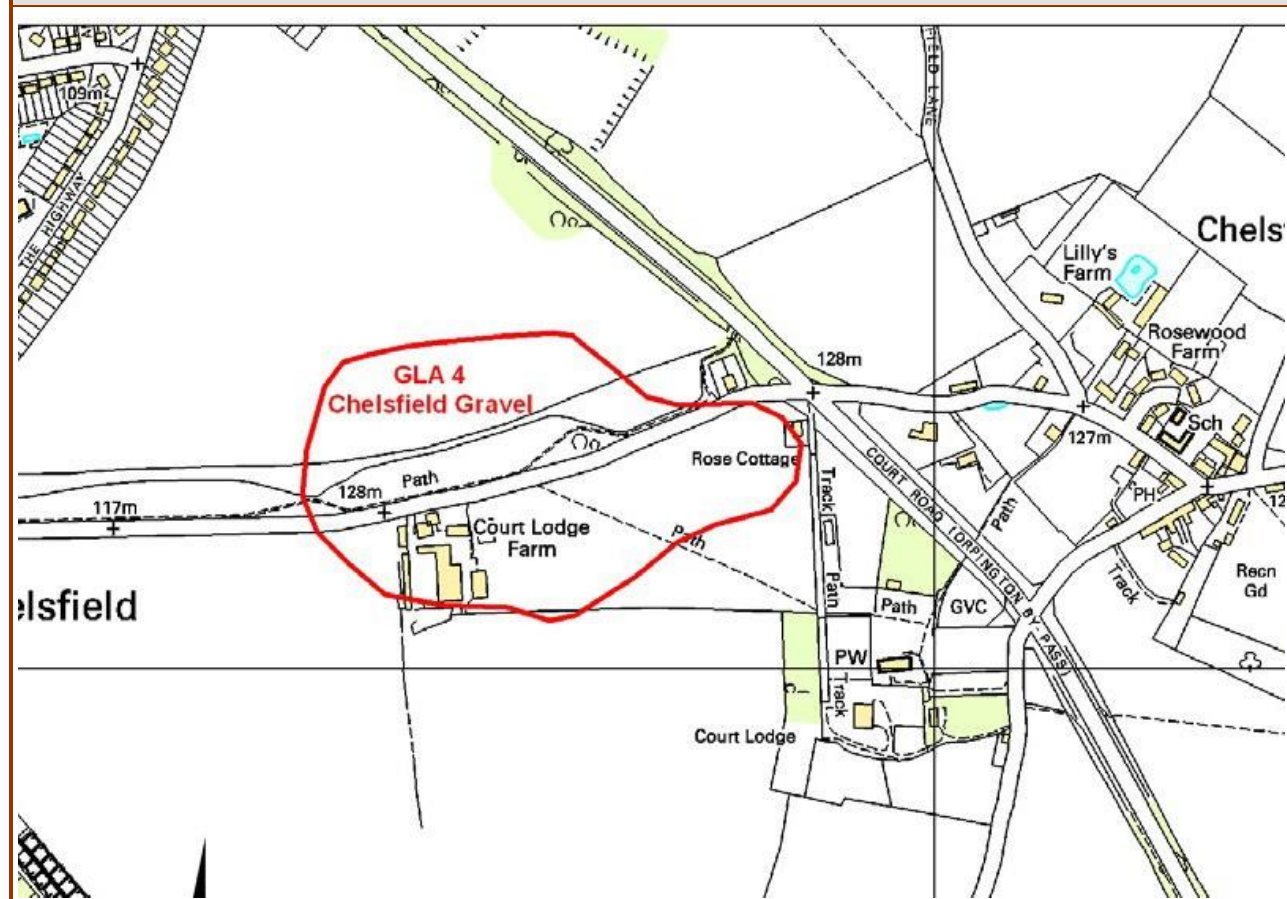


GLA 4 Chelsfield Gravel

Grid Reference: TQ 476 642	Site Type: Natural exposure
Site Area (hectares): 9.55	Current use: Recreational land/agricultural land
Site ownership: Court Lodge Farm	Borough: London Borough of Bromley
Field surveyor: Joanna Brayson Last visited: Paul Rainey	Date: February 2008 Date: 2019
Current geological designation: RIGS	Other designation: Local SINC (Chelsfield Green)

Site Map OS Topography © Crown Copyright



Stratigraphy and Rock Types

Time Unit: Pliocene-Pleistocene	Rock Unit: Chelsfield Gravel Formation, Residual Deposits Group
Rock Type: Sand and gravel	Details: Well-rounded flint pebble gravels, sandy gravels, pebbly sands and sands. Lithologies similar to those in the Blackheath Member of the Harwich Formation from which it is thought to have been mainly derived.

Site Description

This is the type locality for the Chelsfield Gravel which has been reworked from the Harwich Formation. The deposit is interpreted as a head, partly let down with the underlying Thanet Sand into dissolution hollows in the Chalk below.

This outcrop covers an area of grassy footpaths frequented by dog walkers who use the nearby station car park. It also extends into farmland on either side which is where the gravel can be seen in ploughed fields. A viewpoint of the local area is situated at the edge of the open area. The Chelsfield Gravel can be viewed from here and geological information could be added to the existing sign.

Assessment of Site Value

Geodiversity topic: Lithostratigraphy; sedimentology.

Access and Safety		
Aspect	Description	
Safety of access	Footpaths leading to site from car park. Part of exposure across main road, caution should be taken crossing road.	
Safety of exposure	Exposure in ploughed fields on/adjacent to public footpaths. Be aware of farm machinery.	
Permission to visit	Access to some of the site is open, contact farm for access to remainder of site.	
Current condition	Mostly grassed over or part of ploughed fields. Disturbed where ploughed.	
Current conflicting activities	Farming.	
Restricting conditions	Site partially on working farmland.	
Nature of exposure	Gravel seen in ploughed fields.	
Culture, Heritage & Economic		
Aspect	Description	Rating
Historic, archaeological & literary associations	This is a newly defined unit as described in The Geology of London (Ellison 2004)	2
Aesthetic landscape	Located within public footpath area – well used by public.	6
History of Earth Sciences	Evidence of the erosion and re-working of the Harwich Formation.	4
Economic geology	None.	0
GeoScientific Merit		
Geomorphology	Distribution of deposit along with the Thanet Sand in hollows of the underlying Chalk.	6
Sedimentology	Reworking of Harwich Formation – surface processes.	6
Palaeontology	None.	0
Igneous/mineral/ Metamorphic Geology	None.	0
Structural Geology	None.	0
Lithostratigraphy	Relationship between bedrock and superficial deposits.	6
Potential use	Research; Higher Education; School Education; On-site Interpretation	
Fragility	Natural overgrowing; weathering/erosion.	
Current Site Value		
Community	Valuable open space for the local community.	10
Education		3
Geodiversity value		
RIGS: Only exposure of this local deposit with good access.		5

GLA 4 Chelsfield Gravel



View of feature forming edge of Chelsfield Gravel outcrop