

Consultee Comment for planning application MW.0115/21

Application
number

MW.0115/21

Name

County Archaeologist

Address

Archaeological Services

Type of
Comment

Comment

Comments

Thank you for your consultation with regard to this application.

The site is located in an area of considerable archaeological interest located 260m south east of a possible Neolithic hengiform monument and a pit alignment or segmented ditch. A pit, recorded during a watching brief 140m north east of the proposed site, is dated to the Neolithic or Bronze Age. Neolithic pottery has also been recorded from the north side of Wallingford. Bronze Age barrows have been recorded immediately west of the proposed development from aerial photographs and a geophysical survey. This geophysical survey also recorded a probable Prehistoric or Roman settlement site consisting of clusters of possible pits or tree throws, field boundaries or trackways, possible ditches, hearth or similar burning, possible enclosure and structures. A considerable number of Roman coins have been recorded for this field on the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

The site has been the subject of a geophysical survey and a trenched evaluation. Trenched evaluation to date has only focused on the western areas of the site and this has recorded a number of archaeological features to be present across its northern extent. Nine undated pits or postholes were recorded as well as a small amount of prehistoric pottery and a Mesolithic/Bronze Age flake were found. The pits/postholes were undated but thought to date to the later prehistoric or Roman period. This development will therefore impact on these identified archaeological features, potential further associated evidence with which may also be present across the sites eastern extents.

We would, therefore, recommend that, should planning permission be granted, the applicant should be responsible for ensuring the implementation of a staged programme of archaeological investigation to be maintained during the period of construction. This can be ensured through the attachment of suitable negative conditions (Minerals conditions A and B).

A. No development shall commence until a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Minerals Planning Authority. This scheme shall provide details of the professional archaeological organisation that will carry out the investigation. The approved scheme shall be implemented in full.

Reason - To safeguard the recording of archaeological matters within the site in accordance with the NPPF (2021)

B. Prior to the commencement of the development and following the approval of the Written Scheme of Investigation referred to in condition A, a staged programme of archaeological investigation shall be carried out by the commissioned archaeological organisation in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation. The programme of work shall include all processing, research and analysis necessary to produce an accessible and useable archive and a full report for publication which shall be submitted to the Minerals Planning Authority within 2 years of the completion of the on-site archaeological investigations.

Reason - To safeguard the recording of archaeological matters within the site in accordance with the NPPF (2021)

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss this further.

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Attachments