

WYCHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

HERITAGE CONSULTATION RESPONSE - ARCHAEOLOGY

TO: Emma Worley	DATE: 21 March 2022
REF: W/22/00201/OUT	
DESCRIPTION: Outline planning application for the erection of up to 102 dwellings, new vehicular and pedestrian access, and associated works. All matters reserved except for access.	
LOCATION: Land At (Os 8894 6544), Kidderminster Road, Hampton Lovett	
APPLICANT: Beechcroft Land Ltd & Henry Bouskell	

Consultation response:

I have reviewed the information provided with the application and compared it with the archaeological record for the area. The proposed development may affect heritage assets of known archaeological significance (WSM70416).

The 'historic environment' encompasses all those material remains that our ancestors have created in the landscapes of town and countryside. It includes all below and above-ground evidence including buildings of historic and architectural interest.

The proposed development area (PDA) has been subject to an inconclusive geophysical survey followed by a minimal targeted trench evaluation. An undated linear feature was identified within one trench. The sites previous use as a prisoner of war camp seems to have impacted on the site which led to geophysical anomalies which were targeted by evaluation. Circular features were considered likely to be sandbag machine gun emplacements.

Although minimal archaeology was identified within the evaluation a very small percentage of the site was subject to trenching. The undated linear was thought to be a boundary ditch, however it did not accord with any features shown in current or historic mapping.

Given the scale of the development, and the anticipated archaeological potential, the likely impact on the historic environment caused by this development may be offset by the implementation of a conditional programme of archaeological works.

This will comprise an initial programme of trial trenching to determine the presence or absence, extent, date, character, condition and significance of any remains and the likely impact of the development upon them. If archaeological remains are identified that would be damaged or destroyed by the development and they cannot be preserved in-situ then the evaluation would be followed by a defined programme of archaeological excavation and/ or a watching brief to record the remains prior to their loss.

Therefore I suggest that the following condition should be attached to an approval:

(A) A reserved matters application for the current proposed development area should not be submitted until a programme of archaeological work, including a Written Scheme of Investigation, has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- 1) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording.
- 2) The programme for post investigation assessment.
- 3) Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording.
- 4) Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- 5) Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation.
- 6) Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

(B) A reserved matters application shall not be determined until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).

Reason: In accordance with the requirements of paragraphs 194 and 205 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 (as amended) and SWDP 6 & 24 of the South Worcestershire Development Plan 2016.

Aidan Smyth
Archaeology and Planning Advisor
Wychavon and Malvern Hills District Councils