

To: Archaeology - Hampshire County Council Date: 26th January 2024
From: Southern Team Tel: 01264 368803

PLANNING APPLICATION CONSULTATION

Please complete and return to the case officer by **16 February 2024**

If no response is received by this date it will be taken that you have no comments to make.

Case Officer: Sarah Barter
Application No: 24/00174/OUTS
Proposal: Outline planning application for demolition of existing buildings and erection of up to 270 dwellings, including affordable housing, with land for the potential future expansion of Halterworth Primary School, public open space, structural planting and landscaping, sustainable drainage system (SuDS) and vehicular access points. All matters reserved except for means of access
Location: Land At Halterworth Lane, Halterworth Lane, Romsey, ROMSEY TOWN
TPO: Yes/No
Conservation Area: Yes/No **Listed Building** Yes/No
Development Type: Largescale Major Dwellings

Case Officer Comments:

Response on application as submitted

No Objection **No Comment** **Objection**
(subject to conditions) (specify planning reasons for refusal)

Conditions/Reasons for refusal:

The site lies outside of the historic core of Romsey, within an area that was not widely occupied until the mid 20th century. Whilst evidence of significant archaeological activity from most periods is limited within the immediate vicinity of the site, there is an identified potential for palaeolithic remains to be present.

I would draw your attention to the heritage desk-based assessment (DBA) which has been submitted in support of this application (CSA 2024). This document summarises the site’s archaeological potential as follows:
‘The Site is located in an area of known Palaeolithic potential. There is potential for redeposited Palaeolithic material within River Terrace Deposits within the Site...’ ‘The desk-based assessment has not identified any notable potential for remains of a later date.’

The heritage statement concludes with regards to the identified potential :
‘This could be further assessed through archaeological watching brief during any intrusive geotechnical works, or through test pitting/trial trench evaluation...It is anticipated that the archaeological potential could be addressed by way of a condition attached to outline

planning permission, but the scope and timing of further works should be agreed with the archaeological advisor to the LPA.'

I support the DBA and endorse it to the planning authority. The site has an identified archaeological potential and there is no evidence that any significant previous development has taken place on site, which might have compromised this potential. The proposed development is of a type and scale where groundworks will negatively impact any archaeological remains which might be present. However, this does not represent an overriding concern and can be addressed through suitably worded conditions.

As such, I would advise that the assessment, recording and reporting of archaeological deposits be secured by suitably worded conditions attached to any planning consent that may be granted. For example:

1) That no development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological evaluation, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority.

Reason: To assess the extent, nature and date of any archaeological deposits that might be present and the impact of the development upon these heritage assets.

2) That no development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological mitigation of impact, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority.

Reason: To mitigate the effect of the works associated with the development upon any heritage assets and to ensure that information regarding these heritage assets is preserved by record for future generations.

3) Following completion of archaeological fieldwork a report will be produced in accordance with an approved programme submitted by the developer and approved in writing by the local planning authority setting out and securing appropriate post-excavation assessment, specialist analysis and reports, publication and public engagement.

Reason: To contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past by ensuring that opportunities are taken to capture evidence from the historic environment and to make this publicly available.

As the site contains the potential for early prehistoric remains, any methodology for archaeological investigations should suitably reflect this potential.

Other comments:

Consultee Name: Thom Hayes (HCC Senior Archaeologist)

Date of reply: 26/01/2024