Dear Mike,

S/0791/18/FL - Land between Cody Road and railway, north of Waterbeach

Thank you for your consultation on the archaeological implications of the above planning application.

Our records indicate that the site lies in an area of high archaeological potential on the northern edge of the historic village of Waterbeach. To the south and west is the nationally important Roman waterway Car Dyke (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record reference 05405) and to the south is the Scheduled Monument of Waterbeach Abbey (CHER DCB352). Other known archaeology in the vicinity includes evidence of Prehistoric occupation (00343, MCB17348), further evidence of Roman occupation including boundary and drainage ditches (MCB17241, MCB23454) and pottery and metal finds (05309a, 06506, 02296). Early Saxon settlement features were identified to the south-west (MCB14602). Within the perimeter of the proposed development area are several unexplained linear features, visible as cropmarks on aerial imagery from 2007. Other areas of open land within the vicinity show similar linear features or possible enclosures (for example HER ref 09253), interpreted as probable settlement activity of unknown date, possibly associated with the historic course of the River Cam. It is likely that important archaeological remains survive in the area and that these would be severely damaged or destroyed by the proposed development.

We have been consulted on this site recently, and have already provided comments in response to EIA screening application refs S/3156/17/E1 and S/4177/17/E1 within the same bounds, that is:

We do not object to development from proceeding in this location but consider that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation secured through the inclusion of a negative condition, such as the example condition approved by DCLG.

Archaeology
No demolition/development shall take place until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a programme of archaeological works has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. For land that is included within the WSI, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI which shall include:

a) the statement of significance and research objectives;

b) The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works

c) The programme for post-excavation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination, and deposition of resulting material. **This part of the condition shall not be discharged until these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI.**

Developers will wish to ensure that in drawing up their development programme, the timetable for the investigation is included within the details of the agreed scheme.
A brief for the archaeological works can be obtained from this office upon request.

Regards,

Jess

Jessica Cooper-Dunn
Historic Environment Team
Environment & Commercial Services
SH1011, Shire Hall Cambridge, CB3 0AP