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Alton Towers Pods Scheme

Dear Michael,

I am writing concerning the archaeological assessment for the Alton Towers Lodges Phase 2 scheme for which ARS Ltd produced a Heritage Statement in 2015 (ARS Report no. 2015/75). We understand that a new planning application is being prepared for this scheme (now known as the *Alton Towers Pods Scheme*). We also understand that the footprint of the proposed development is to be reduced in size, and whilst 102 pods are proposed, these are much smaller in size than the individual lodges, and the associated support buildings are also smaller. We also understand that the revised scheme omits a proposed quarry area that was to contain skips, but otherwise the site area of the development remains unchanged. Consequently, we consider that the report produced in 2015 is still 'fit for purpose' and the conclusions that it reached, as set out below, remain valid.

It is recommended that close consultation should be undertaken with the Staffordshire County Council Principal Archaeologist in order that suitable evaluation and/or mitigation can be agreed as appropriate. Such works might include geophysical survey and targeted trenching of any anomalies of potential archaeological thus identified, and/or and a 'strip map and sample' exercise during ground works to record any potential buried remains.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Robin Holgate MCIfA
General Manager
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