

Rural County (Environmental Advice)

Staffordshire County Council
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Stafford
ST16 2DH

FAO Ailsa Berry

Development Services
Highpeak Borough Council
and Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

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Please ask for: Mr. Shane Kelleher

Our Ref: HoEC/EC3210/SM/SK/CST8247 **Your Ref:** SMD/2021/0418

16 September 2021

Dear Ms Berry,

LAND SOUTH EAST OF A521 UTTOXETER ROAD, DRAYCOTT IN THE MOORS

Thank you for your consultation request regarding the Full planning application for proposed residential development of 200 dwellings (Use Class C3), access and internal roads for vehicles, footpaths and cycle linkages, parking, public open space and landscaping, ecological habitats, community orchard, sustainable drainage measures, and associated infrastructure and earthworks at the above site. This letter outlines the response of Staffordshire County Council's Historic Environment Team regarding the historic environment implications of the proposals.

Archaeological/Historic Environment Interest

The submitted Written Scheme of Investigation (Centre of Archaeology 2021) provides a very useful summary of the archaeological potential of this site, and as such this will not be repeated here. This WSI has been produced in line with the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' standard and guidance, and outlines a proposed archaeological evaluation strategy which will be undertaken before development, should it be consented, commences. The proposed

evaluation strategy, which includes trial trenching, with the possibility of geophysical survey in advance of this, is supported, and, should the development be consented, I welcome discussions with the applicant's appointed archaeological contractor regarding the need for a geophysical survey and the location of trenching in due course.

Suggested Condition

The above works* could be most satisfactorily secured via a condition attached to any planning permission for the scheme. This condition should read:

"A) The archaeological site work shall be implemented in full in accordance with the approved written scheme of archaeological investigation submitted in support of the application

B) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post-fieldwork assessment has been completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of archaeological investigation and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of the results and archive deposition has been secured."

This work should be carried out by an appropriately experienced archaeologist(s) working to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Code of Conduct and relevant Standard and Guidance.

This approach, i.e. archaeological evaluation, is supported by National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2021) paragraph 194, and any archaeological mitigation works arising out the evaluation exercise would be subject to a new WSI and would be in line with NPPF paragraph 205.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Shane Kelleher

Shane Kelleher

County Archaeologist

*Applicant please note that in May 2018 Staffordshire County Council's Historic Environment Team, archaeological advisors to Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, introduced a charged-for curatorial service for planning applications with archaeological conditions. Our curatorial service will be charged at a single fee per application and may include: production of a brief/specification (where deemed necessary), review and validation of any submitted written schemes of investigation, monitoring visits (if deemed necessary), review and validation of any submitted reports, liaison with local planning authority and approval of discharge of conditions. Fees are based on the size of the development. The production of a brief/specification to inform the tendering process and additional monitoring visits can also be purchased separately. These fees should be paid in advance by your appointed archaeological/historic environment organisation/contractor (who should include them in their tender quote) or by the applicant/agent using our online payment system. More details can be found here:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/environment/Environment-and-countryside/HistoricEnvironment/Advice-and-guidance.aspx>