

Conservation Team

Date: 26th February 2025
Application Ref: SMD/2024/0556
Site Address: Land at Newfields Farm, Rownall Road, Wetley Rocks
Proposal: Development of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with ancillary infrastructure, security fence, access, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements, to provide balancing services to the local electricity grid.

Consultation Response

We have undertaken a desk-based assessment of the proposal, including a review of the submitted information and decided that no technical advice is required from Conservation.

The development site is adjacent to a potential non-designated heritage asset – Newfields Farm. The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining applications and a balanced judgment will be required in regards to the scale of harm or loss of the significance of that asset (par.216 of the NPPF). The application should be determined in accordance with Section 16 of the NPPF and policy DC2 of the local development framework.

Whilst we have determined not to provide technical conservation advice in this case, this should not be construed as a comment in support of the application. This is a strictly neutral comment and does not prejudice any decision made by the Council. If you believe specialist conservation advice is required, please contact conservation@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk

Conservation Officer: Megan Atkinson