

Dear Ms Owusa Ansah,

Planning Application APP/25/00071 wading bird scrapes Land Forming part of, Northney Farm, St Peters Road, Hayling Island

Thank you for your consultation. Although the Planning Statement (para 2.7) notes that the OS map shows a site of a Roman building close by in the field to the south the archaeological implications of the scrapes are not considered. This is a significant omission.

The Roman building that is noted is a Roman temple, and although it has been subject to archaeological excavation the area around it has not been explored, although crop marks show some suggestion of landscape organisation around including in the field where the scrapes are planned. Moreover Roman burials and evidence of buildings have been reported to have been found in the field to the north of the temple site, ie the current field. In 2006 a water main was laid across the field in which the scrapes are proposed which was archaeologically monitored. A Bronze Age/Iron Age pit, a cremation burials with pyre material, Iron Age and Roman ditches. One cremation was cut into some sort of occupation layer dated to the Roman period.

Although the scrapes are described as shallow, review of the cross section shows that they will be deep enough to encounter archaeology.

It is likely that archaeological remains will be encountered during the excavation of these scrapes. It is possible that such archaeology will include Roman building remains or Roman burials. It is therefore possible that archaeological excavation will need to take place ahead of, or during (and delaying) the works in progress, and that the burden of these archaeological excavations will fall on to the scheme.

I recommend that the applicant be requested to submit a heritage statement with the current planning application assessing the archaeological implications of the scheme and setting out an appropriate mitigation strategy. It is important, in light of the potential archaeological burdens this might imply, that the applicant and the planning authority are satisfied that such burdens are reasonable in the planning context and, if secured by an archaeological condition, that condition would not be regarded as an unreasonable condition.

I would not recommend that the application be determined until such a heritage statement is available and has been reviewed. However if the application is determined I recommend that an archaeological condition is attached to any planning permission in order to secure full archaeological recording of archaeological remains encountered where this is merited.

Yours sincerely

David Hopkins

County Archaeologist