

From: Historic Environment <historic.environment@hants.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 May 2019 11:49
To: Havant Planning and Development Mailbox New
Subject: RE: Planning Application APP/19/00427 Land at Lower Road, Havant

Dear Mrs Haywood,

Planning Application APP/19/00427 Land at Lower Road, Havant

Thank you for your recent consultation. I would draw your attention to the archaeological assessment submitted with the application which I cannot endorse to you.

The assessment is weak and some of its conclusions are unsupported. The assessment acknowledges that the archaeological evidence of the wider vicinity indicates 'rich and varied' archaeological heritage in the area, although there are few archaeological records immediately close to the development site. The assessment inexplicably concludes that (para 7.4) "The site is likely to have remained on the periphery of human activity from the prehistoric to the early medieval....". This seems a perverse interpretation of the evidence. Where archaeological survey in the wider landscape has taken place a varied range of archaeological sites have been encountered. But the absence of any archaeological sites in an area where no archaeological survey has taken place in the past is interpreted as the area being peripheral rather than unexplored but with potential commensurate with that in the vicinity. The wider archaeological potential of the area would apply equally to this site unless some other factor suggested otherwise. No argument or factor is put forward as to why this site is 'peripheral' to the wider landscape and I conclude that it is not peripheral merely not subject to past exploration. The report does note the important impact of the proximity of Langston Harbour in terms of archaeological sites within the study area but appears not to have reviewed the Langston harbour evidence, which strongly suggest that the harbour and harbour edge was subject to exploitation and occupation from the Mesolithic onwards. This archaeological potential includes Mesolithic sites and camps, Bronze Age and Iron Age occupation sites, salt working and burials, and a rich Roman landscape. The relationship of this site to the harbour edge would suggest that it is likely to be strongly associated with this sort of evidence and not 'peripheral' as described.

The section on Mesolithic evidence recognises the richness of the evidence of the vicinity (5.2.1) but assumes perversely that the potential of the site is low (para 5.2.5) somehow concluding that the site's potential is for isolated residual finds of negligible significance only. No reason is given why this might be assumed.

The nearby presence of a Neolithic long barrow is noted (para 5.3.1) but concludes that this does not imply further Neolithic activity in the area (para 5.3.3). However what other conclusion could be drawn from the Neolithic burial monument. The conclusion that the area therefore has a low potential seems perverse.

Likewise, 5.4.2 acknowledges the wider Bronze Age activity the area and it is hard to see how the paragraph then concludes that the site has a low potential.

Para 5.6.6 suggests that as the wealth of Roman activity known in the vicinity is set away from the current site this means there is little or no archaeological potential on the site itself.

The site lies in an area on the fringe of Langston Harbour that was exploited in the Mesolithic; the Neolithic burial mound suggests the landscape continued to be exploited subsequently. The

Langston Harbour edge is rich in Bronze Age archaeological evidence and Iron Age settlement and salt working has been found. It is a richly used landscape in the Roman period. It seems inescapable that the site has a high archaeological potential. That is the potential to encounter archaeological sites which are as yet unrecorded.

I recommend that an archaeological condition or conditions are attached to any planning permission which might be issued. These should secure a preliminary archaeological survey to establish the location, extent and character of any archaeological remains within the site. They should also secure the archaeological investigation of any archaeological remains identified and an appropriate reporting and recording of those results.

Yours sincerely

David Hopkins
(County Archaeologist)

Specialist Environmental Services
Economy, Transport and Environment Department
Elizabeth II Court West, The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UD

Email david.hopkins@hants.gov.uk
01962 832339 www3.hants.gov.uk/landscape-and-heritage/historic-environment.htm

Share your thoughts on our service here: <http://twitter.com/hantsconnect>

From: planning.development@havant.gov.uk <planning.development@havant.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 May 2019 09:20
To: Historic Environment <historic.environment@hants.gov.uk>
Subject: Planning Application APP/19/00427 Land at Lower Road, Havant

This email is a consultation request regarding a planning application, reference APP/19/00427. The attached letter contains contact details should you wish to discuss the application with the Case Officer.

To see the details of the application and associated documents on Havant Borough Council's Public Access pages, follow [this link](#).

If you require any further information please email planning.development@havant.gov.uk or telephone (023) 9244 6513.

Notes for Consultees using Consultee In Tray on Public Access

You will be able to access the full range of services on Public Access by using the Consultee In Tray which can be found under the My Profile tab.

Consultee Access allows you to see documentation that is not in the public domain (usually our pre-application enquiries) and saves your previous consultation responses.

If you have not yet registered your details on the website, please follow the instructions online and then email planning.development@havant.gov.uk to allow us to activate your consultee access and if you are experiencing problems with your access please let us know.

We can provide a User Guide on request.