

Consultee Comments for Planning Application APP/17/01250

Application Summary

Application Number: APP/17/01250

Address: Land east of Southmoor Lane, Havant

Proposal: Engineering works to facilitate the construction of three clay-cored sea defence embankments including: 1 no. 350m (approx.) length embankment incorporating the diversion of footpaths No. 45 and No 49, 1 no. 270m (approx) length embankment running along the north to south boundary and 1 no. 130m (approx.) length embankment to the east of Mill Lane); ground raising and associated protection works around Southern Water assets; associated drainage; and the active breach of the existing coastal sea wall to allow the creation of a dynamic inter-tidal habitat.

Case Officer: Rachael McMurray

Consultee Details

Name: Mr Neil Adam

Address: Hampshire County Council, Strategic Environment Group, Winchester SO23 8UD

Email: historic.environment@hants.gov.uk

On Behalf Of: County Archaeologist

Comments

Dear Mrs McMurray,

Thank you for your consultation. I would draw your attention to the DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT that is included among the documentation attached to the above application on your website. This document includes a section entitled Heritage which summarises the findings of a desk-based assessment and the results of geotech pit monitoring that formed Appendix Z of an Environmental Statement carried out in support of the application (not included on your website). This section concludes that:

there is considered to be a low potential for archaeological remains to be discovered on site. However, any intrusive excavations as part of the construction of new embankments, or the excavation of borrow areas for construction materials will have the potential to unearth previously unrecorded archaeological remains. The ES recommends that an archaeological watching brief is carried out to allow any previously unrecorded archaeological remains to be recorded. This would be carried out as part of planned groundworks and would satisfy guidance set out within the NPPF.

Balancing the scale of the proposed borrow pit excavations and any ditching episodes against the low archaeological potential of the site, I would concur with this conclusion and I would therefore advise that that a condition is attached to any planning permission that may be issued. Such a

condition would require the preparation of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) that sets out the methodology for an archaeological watching brief of the ground works associated with the excavation of the borrow pit and the excavation of ditches below current ground level, so that any archaeological remains encountered are recognised, characterised and recorded. Provision should also be made for the public dissemination of any results and the WSI should satisfy the Local Planning Authority that the scheme is sustainable under the terms of NPPF.

If you have any further queries, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Neil J. Adam BA ACIfA
Senior Archaeologist
Hampshire County Council