

Dear Ms Miszewska,

Planning Application APP/22/01231 Land at, Palk Road, Havant

Thank you for your consultation. I would draw your attention to the submitted archaeological statement which I would broadly endorse to you, although I would draw out a higher archaeological potential than the report has concluded.

The site lies alongside the Hermitage stream and close to the head of Langstone harbour, prehistoric stream side and harbour side activity (4.15) for which this landscape is noted, is likely to have taken place in this area and the report also notes that the areas has the potential for Roman archaeological remains (para 4.18). Past land use may have compromised the archaeological survival but the report notes that the current levels may represent a raising of the land level (para 6.5).

In view of the archaeological potential the report concludes that some archaeological mitigation is merited which could be secured by an archaeological condition (para 6.6). I would concur. However para 6.6 suggest that an archaeological watching brief should suffice. I am not so convinced that this is a helpful suggestion given the scale of the development and I would suggest that some level of prior archaeological survey would determine if the current land use has compromised archaeological survival and if so to what degree and which parts of the site retain archaeological potential.

I recommend that archaeological conditions are attached to any planning permission which might be issued to secure an initial archaeological survey, often called an evaluation; and to secure any archaeological mitigation that might arise in the light of the results of that survey.

Yours sincerely

David Hopkins
County Archaeologist

Waste and Environmental Services
Universal Services
Hampshire County Council
Three Minsters House
The Castle, Winchester
Hampshire SO23 8UD
E-mail: david.hopkins@hants.gov.uk

Telephone 0370 779 8025



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