

APP/15/00425: 1 Grove Road, Havant: Construction of 1No. 2 bed detached house following removal of existing building and rear wall facility Twittens Lane; with associated hard and soft landscaping.

Thank you for your consultation. The site lies in an area of considerable archaeological potential. It is within the historic core of Havant, a settlement which is known to have Roman origins. The line of the Roman road that ran between Chichester and Southampton is traditionally believed to follow the line of East and West streets. However from the results of recent investigations in South Street, located around 15 metres to the south west of the proposed new dwelling, have identified archaeological remains consistent with Roman occupation and finds recovered from gardens in Grove Road itself suggest that the line of the Roman Road may run between East Street and Grove Road. It is likely that the archaeological remains of Roman Havant are present within the area affected by the proposed development and any archaeological features and/or deposits present would be compromised by any associated ground works. Any such remains could be of local or regional significance.

While this archaeological potential does not present an overriding concern I would advise that the recording of any archaeological remains be secured through the attachment of suitable conditions to any planning consent that might be granted. For instance:

1) That no development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological assessment in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority.

Reason: To assess the extent, nature and date of any archaeological deposits that might be present and the impact of the development upon these heritage assets.

2) That no development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological mitigation of impact in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation that has been submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority.

Reason: To mitigate the effect of the works associated with the development upon any heritage assets and to ensure that information regarding these heritage assets is preserved by record for future generations.

3) Following completion of archaeological fieldwork a report will be produced in accordance with an approved programme including where appropriate post-excavation assessment, specialist analysis and reports, publication and public engagement.

Reason: To contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past by ensuring that opportunities are taken to capture evidence from the historic environment and to make this publicly available.

It is entirely possible that remains of Roman structures may be present within the site, which, while not of sufficient significance to present an overriding concern, may be costly to mitigate through excavation. I would therefore urge the applicant to undertake archaeological evaluation at as early a stage as possible.

Yours sincerely,

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