

From: Green, Victoria - Oxfordshire County Council <Victoria.Green@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>  
Sent: 07 March 2024 12:20  
To: Planning  
Subject: Planning ref: 24/00539/F

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Application no: 24/00539/F Land To The East Of Stratfield Brake And West Of Oxford Parkway Railway Station, Oxford Road, Kidlington**

The applicant has submitted an Environmental Statement that includes a Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Chapter. This chapter is based upon an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment prepared by Cotswold Archaeology (2023) which explores in depth the archaeological potential on the proposal site, and is submitted in Appendix 9.1.

The proposal site lies immediately southeast of an area which recorded finds from the Mesolithic and Neolithic, and features from the Roman and Medieval periods. The Roman features likely represent a small agricultural settlement.

South east of the proposal site, at the land either side of Oxford Road, three barrows have been recorded. Two located at St Frideswide Farm have been archaeologically investigated and carbon dating has revealed that they are Early Medieval, which is unusual for this feature type.

The submitted Archaeological Desk Based Assessment concludes that if further Mesolithic remains are recorded on the site they could be of regional significance. If granted permission, the development of a stadium is likely to have extensive impact on any surviving below ground remains, and so a staged programme of archaeological investigation should be implemented.

We would, therefore, recommend that, should planning permission be granted, the applicant should be responsible for ensuring the implementation of a staged programme of archaeological investigation to be maintained during the period of construction. This can be ensured through the attachment of a suitable negative condition along the lines of:

1. Prior to any demolition and the commencement of the development a professional archaeological organisation acceptable to the Local Planning Authority shall prepare an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation, relating to the application site area, which shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - To safeguard the recording of archaeological matters within the site in accordance with the NPPF (2023).

2. Following the approval of the Written Scheme of Investigation referred to in condition 1, and prior to any demolition on the site and the commencement of the development (other than in accordance with the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation), a staged programme of archaeological evaluation and mitigation shall be carried out by the commissioned archaeological organisation in accordance with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation. The programme of work shall include all processing, research and analysis necessary to produce an accessible and useable archive and a full report for publication which shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority within two years of the completion of the archaeological fieldwork.

Reason – To safeguard the identification, recording, analysis and archiving of heritage assets before they are lost and to advance understanding of the heritage assets in their wider context through publication and dissemination of the evidence in accordance with the NPPF (2023).

Kind regards,

Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services

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