Comment for planning application 19/01746/OUT

Application Number 19/01746/OUT

Location

Land Adj To Promised Land Farm Wendlebury Road Chesterton

Proposal

Outline planning application (with all matters reserved excluding access) for B1 development (B1a and/or B1b and/or B1c); access and associated landscaping and infrastructure works

Case Officer

Bernadette Owens

Organisation

Name

Eberhard Sauer

Address

Eberhard W. Sauer, 2/12 Albion Gardens, Edinburgh, EH7 5QF, U.K.

Type of Comment

Objection

Type

neighbour

Comments

Dear Sir or Madam, I have just been alerted to the proposed development (application numbers 19/01740/HYBRID and 19/01746/OUT) near the Roman site of Alchester. From 1996 to 2004, I directed fieldwork at Alchester, yielding Britain earliest dated Roman timbers (felled late in AD 44 or, possibly, early in AD 45) as well as wooden artefacts and unique archaeobotanic evidence for the environment and diet in mid-first-century Britain. I expressed my concerns about the devastating impact any lowering of the water table in summer would have on the preservation of one of Roman Britain's most important waterlogged archives - and arguably the most important for the era of the Roman invasion of Britain - in print in the attached article in Oxoniensia 2006 (see especially pages 17-29). An expert assessment what impact the proposed development will have on the water table in the area, notably in summer, would seem essential to me. I read with some concern about underground drainage in paragraph 5.12 of the Flood Risk Assessment. I am also concerned that Alchester's unique character as an abandoned Roman town, succeeding an earlier fortress, may be adversely affected by extensive development encroaching on the site, at a distance of just a few hundred metres beyond the town walls. Thank you very much for your efforts on this. Yours sincerely, Eberhard Sauer Eberhard W. Sauer, MSt., D.Phil., FSA, FSA Scot. Professor of Roman Archaeology School of History, Classics and Archaeology University of Edinburgh William Robertson Wing Old Medical School Teviot Place Edinburgh, EH8 9AG U.K. E-mail: eberhard.sauer@ed.ac.uk http://www.shca.ed.ac.uk/academic/esauer Tel.: 0131 650 3587

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Attachments

The following files have been uploaded:

Sauer 2007 Alchester Oxoniensia low res.pdf