

From: Green, Victoria - Oxfordshire County Council <Victoria.Green@Oxfordshire.gov.uk>  
Sent: 08 February 2024 12:12  
To: Planning  
Subject: Ref: 24/00245/OUT South Lodge, Fringford Road, Caversfield, Bicester, OX27 8TH

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Application ref: 24/00245/OUT South Lodge, Fringford Road, Caversfield, Bicester, OX27 8TH**

Thank you for consulting us on this application. The site lies in an area of archaeological interest, as outlined in the submitted Heritage Statement. The site is located adjacent to Caversfield deserted medieval village (PRN 1016). The 10<sup>th</sup> century Church of St Lawrence is located 190m north west of the site (PRN 5106). A faint cropmark of a possible ring ditch has been recorded 160m to the north of the site (PRN 17461). This feature is likely to be either the remains of a Bronze Age Barrow or the remains of a parkland planting features as other, circular, clumps of trees are recorded in the area.

Iron Age and Roman settlement has been recorded at Slade End Farm 500m southeast of the site (PRN 16025) and a series of linear features and possible pits have been recorded through geophysical survey 380m northeast of the site (PRN 17498) and a complex of Later Prehistoric rectilinear enclosures have also been recorded by geophysical survey approximately 1km to the southwest (PRN 15958).

The site has been the subject of a geophysical survey as part of a previous application, which recorded a number of features which may be of archaeological origin. The report however also concludes that several areas of the site were disrupted by geological or magnetic interference which may have masked further features and therefore it is possible that further features may survive on the site. Not all archaeological features will be identified through geophysical survey and it is also possible that archaeological features may survive on the site which were not recorded by the survey.

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).

If the applicant contacts us at the above address, we shall be pleased to outline the procedures involved, provide a brief upon which a costed specification can be based.

Kind regards,

Victoria Green  
Planning Archaeologist

Kind regards,

*Victoria*

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Planning Archaeologist  
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