Andrew Lewis

From:

Rose Todd

Sent:

26 June 2015 17:51

To:

Andrew Lewis

Subject:

15/01012/OUT Land NE of Skimmingdish Lane, Launton

The historical importance of former RAF Bicester is recognised by its designation as a conservation area. The site is classically divided up into residential and technical areas and flying field with the bomb stores being located away at the far side of the flying field (for obvious practical reasons) to isolate the ammunition and limit any potential impact on the technical site.

This application covers an area adjacent to but outside both the conservation area and the scheduled bomb store area. I accept that due to the site's allocation with the local plan my preference to keep the existing status quo of bomb stores in physical isolation cannot be achieved but that development within the application site does not per se alter the relationship of the bomb stores to the remainder of the former air station.

There will be however more and less intrusive ways of developing this site and the siting of any buildings should take into account the presence of the bomb stores. I would wish to see a buffer introduced to limit the over-shadowing of the bomb store area by tall industrial buildings. But more especially I would hope that agreement could be reached so that the diverted pedestrian access could also serve as a heritage trail commemorating both the innovation of aviation (some of which happened at RAF Bicester) and the lives that were lost nationally and internationally. Such detail may be considered beyond the remit of the current application but should be flagged as an important consideration.

Dr Rose Todd

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