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Our Ref: 2015_2424
Date: 12th February, 2015

For the Attention of Chris Rand

Dear Ms Baker

Planning Application DC/15/2424/OUT: Land Adj Haverhill Business Park Bumpstead Road Haverhill Suffolk – Archaeology

This application site includes areas of archaeological potential as recorded by information held by the County Historic Environment Record (HER). Both the land in Essex and Suffolk were subject to archaeological evaluation around a decade ago. The results for the investigations for the land to the east of the Bumpstead Road identified sparse features, most of which were of post-medieval date. It is, therefore, unlikely that significant heritage assets with archaeological interest will be affected by development of this part of the site. By contrast, the archaeological evaluation of the land west of the Bumpstead Road identified significant archaeological remains of later-prehistoric and Roman date. This evaluation was followed by archaeological excavation of selected areas.

The majority of the land west of Bumpstead Road is in Essex and, as such, my counterpart from Essex County Council will provide advice for the Essex part of the site. However, the eastern land immediately south of Helions Bumpstead Road lies within Suffolk. This area is of interest as it appears not to have been excavated. Plans of the archaeological features identified during the excavation, identify an enclosure of Late Iron Age/early Roman date which it is likely continues into the Suffolk part of the site.

There are no grounds to consider refusal of permission in order to achieve preservation *in situ* of any important heritage assets. However, in accordance with the *National Planning Policy Framework* (Paragraph 141), any permission granted should be the subject of a planning condition to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage asset before it is damaged or destroyed.

In this case the following two conditions, used together, would be appropriate:

1. No development shall take place within the area indicated until the implementation of a programme of archaeological work has been secured, in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The scheme of investigation shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:

- a. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
- b. The programme for post investigation assessment
- c. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
- d. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- e. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
- f. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- g. The site investigation shall be completed prior to development, or in such other phased arrangement, as agreed and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

2. No building shall be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed, submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under Condition 1 and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition.

REASON:

To safeguard archaeological assets within the approved development boundary from impacts relating to any groundworks associated with the development scheme and to ensure the proper and timely investigation, recording, reporting and presentation of archaeological assets affected by this development, in accordance with Policy CS3 of Forest Heath District Council Core Strategy Development Plan Document (2010) and the National Planning Policy Framework (2012)

INFORMATIVE:

The submitted scheme of archaeological investigation shall be in accordance with a brief procured beforehand by the developer from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Conservation Team.

In this instance, archaeological mitigation will be required in order to record and advance understanding of the significance of heritage assets which will be impacted by the development. The level of archaeological mitigation, which may include further areas of excavation before any groundworks commence, will be determined based on the details proposed development submitted a full planning stage.

I would be pleased to offer guidance on the archaeological work required and will, on request of the applicant, provide a brief for each stage of the archaeological investigation. Please see our website for further information on procedures and costs:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/culture-heritage-and-leisure/suffolk-archaeological-service/>

Yours sincerely

Kate Batt BSc(hons)

**Archaeological Officer
Conservation Team**