



Our ref: NEW1018/MJ

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLANNING

Head of Planning and Economic Regeneration
Newport City Council
Civic Centre
NEWPORT
NP20 4UR

30th May 2023

Dear Sir

Re: New dwelling.
The Fields, Milton Hill, Llanwern, Newport.
Pl.App.No.: 23/0404.

Thank you for notifying us of this application; consequently we have reviewed the detailed information contained on your website. **The proposal will require archaeological mitigation.**

Information in the regional Historic Environment Record, curated by this Trust, shows that the application area is located close to the interface of the solid geology and the alluvial muds of the Gwent Levels, which has been identified as being a likely area to locate evidence for human activity in all periods. The positioning of settlements on the solid geology presented a dry dwelling area with easy access to the wetter lands of the Levels with their rich wildlife good grazing land and other exploitable assets, such areas have been shown to be favoured sites in all periods. Furthermore, there is a concentration of medieval sites in the vicinity; including Milton Mill, mentioned in documentation of 1319, and to the east of the application area a large moated site, located at the head of the Monks' Ditch in an area believed to be a boundary between land holdings and which is mentioned in the 10th century and where a ford is located. We also noted that the application area itself is on the road frontage on a historic route and there is therefore the potential for archaeological material to be located there.

The proposed development involves the construction of a new dwelling with car parking and associated works. You may recall our previous responses to earlier applications at the above site (Pl.App.No. 14/0443, and 18/1025) in which we recommended a condition to be attached to any planning consent granted for an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken in order to mitigate the impact of the development upon the archaeological resource and since the previous application, our understanding of the archaeological resource remains unchanged.

As a result, it is our recommendation that a condition requiring the applicant to submit a detailed written scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological work to protect the archaeological resource should be attached to any consent granted by your Members.

We envisage that this programme of work would take the form of a watching brief during the groundworks required for the development, with detailed contingency arrangements including the provision of sufficient time and resources to ensure that any archaeological features or finds that are located are properly investigated and recorded; it should include provision for any sampling that may prove necessary, post-excavation recording and assessment and reporting and possible publication of the results.

To ensure adherence to the recommendations we recommend that the condition

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should be worded in a manner similar to model condition 24 given in Welsh Government Circular 016/2014

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured agreement for a written scheme of historic environment mitigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority. Thereafter, the programme of work will be fully carried out in accordance with the requirements and standards of the written scheme.

Reason: *To identify and record any features of archaeological interest discovered during the works, in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource.*

We also recommend that a note should be attached to the planning consent explaining that:

The archaeological work must be undertaken to the appropriate Standard and Guidance set by Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), [CIfA regulations, standards and guidance | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists](#) and it is recommended that it is carried out either by a CIfA Registered Organisation or a MCIfA level accredited Member [Looking for an archaeologist? | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists](#).

If you have any questions or require further advice on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

Mike Jones

Mike Jones BA
Assistant Stewardship Officer