

Our ref: VOG1365/HB

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLANNING



The Vale of Glamorgan Council
Dock Office
Barry Docks
Barry
CF63 4RT

20th July 2017

FAO Mr. I. Robinson

Dear Sir,

Re: Proposed construction of a new highway (called the Northern Access Road) with footways and a cycleway, new junctions, lighting, signs, fencing, flood alleviation works, acoustic barriers and other environmental mitigation measures, landscaping, demolition of garage at Rose Cottage, and all associated engineering and building operations

Land East of B4265 between Boverton and Eglwys Brewis, St. Athan

Pl.App.No.: 2017/00564/FUL

Thank you for consulting us about this application; consequently we have reviewed the detailed information contained on your website and can confirm that **the proposal will require mitigation**.

Information in the Historic Environment Record curated by this Trust shows that the eastern area of the proposed development partially encompasses elements of the Ministry of Defence (MOD) base at RAF St. Athan. Prehistoric burials and activities have been identified within this area including a hoard of Roman coins and World War II pillboxes associated with the defence of RAF St. Athan.

An evaluation was carried out by Wessex Archaeology in 2010 (Report reference: 72290.02) within the area of the proposed application. The results of this evaluation identified Prehistoric cairns and human remains. Cremated human bone was identified in trench 129, located within the area of the western terminus of the proposed road. At the time it was decided after discussion with Neil Maylan (then Archaeological Planning Manager, Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust) and Ken Whittaker (Entec) not to excavate this feature further.

The submitted documents for the current application include a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment report, undertaken by AECOM Limited dated 9th May 2017. The desk-based assessment includes the results of an archaeological watching brief that was conducted by Archaeology Wales during geotechnical investigations in November 2016 (Appendix C). The report provides an understanding of the known archaeological resource within a specified study area. The results of the assessment indicate that the immediate surrounding landscape shows evidence of archaeological activity, particularly from the prehistoric to medieval period and it is likely that such remains may exist within the application area.

Therefore, 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

Archaeological
Planning

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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 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), (www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa) and it is recommended that it is carried out either by a CIfA Registered Organisation (www.archaeologists.net/ro) or an accredited Member.

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

Yours faithfully,



Hannah Bowden BA MSc
Archaeological Planning Officer