Ellie Jones

From: Neil Bayliss <Neil.Bayliss@heneb.org.uk>
Sent: 18 July 2025 11:49
To: Sarah Hill; planning
Subject: FAO: Sarah Hill RE: P/2025/0543 on P/2024/1257 at 5 Castle Mill, Chirk
Attachments: Heneb Clwyd-Powys June 2025 - AMaR.pdf; Heneb Clwyd-Powys March 2025 Registered Contractors.pdf

Good afternoon, Sarah,

Regarding the planning application referenced above, and the alterations to the plans. There is no change to our recommendation made in September 2024.

Information held within the Regional Historic Environment Record indicates that the proposed access and parking area are on the site of a building shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping of the Late-19th century. The area itself is of historical and archaeological potential with over 20 potential battlefields, including the 'Battle of Crogen' (NPRN 410131), noted in the Battlefield Inventory and as the possible 'Gap in the Devil's Dyke' mentioned in related historical texts (The line of Offa's Dyke runs approximately 50m east of the proposed access). Battlefield sites are often spurious and contested, although in this case information from local historians and the historical texts could be supported by any artefacts, or features related to the battles, or other historical events at the location, by archaeology discovered during the proposed access creation, ground levelling and turf stripping.

In this case we recommend that any groundworks, including reduction and levelling for the proposed access and parking is completed with a qualified archaeologist present due to the high potential for sub-surface archaeology. This is in accordance with the Planning Policy Wales (Feb 2024) and TAN 24 (May 2017) guidance, and an appropriate condition is supplied below.

The works should be completed by an archaeologist who is part of a recognised professional archaeological organisation working to the Standard and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIFA) relating to Archaeological Monitoring and Recording. The archaeologist should be working in accordance with an approved project design/written scheme of investigation (WSI) and should preferably be part of a Registered Archaeological Organisation with CIFA accreditation.

A suitable condition to facilitate the archaeological monitoring and recording is provided below along with guidance notes for the applicant on how to commission archaeological works.

The condition in this case would be:

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording (Formerly Watching Brief)

Suggested planning condition to facilitate an archaeological watching brief

The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during the undertaking of any groundworks in the development area so that a scheme of archaeological monitoring and recording can be conducted. The archaeological monitoring and recording must meet the standards laid down by the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance and will be completed in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been approved in advance by the Planning Authority.

A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Planning Authority and the Planning Archaeologist, Heneb: Clwyd Powys Archaeology (The Offices, Coed y Dinas, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8RP). After approval by the Planning Authority project data must be submitted and approved for inclusion in the Heneb: Clwyd Powys Archaeology Historic Environment Record. The full digital archive must also be submitted and approved for inclusion within the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW or the Archaeology Data Service, ADS.

Reason: To secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development.

I have attached documents for an Archaeological Monitoring and Recording, and guidance on sources of archaeological contractors who may wish to tender for this work.

The chosen archaeological contractor will need to submit a project design/written scheme of investigation (WSI) document to me for approval before they can commence works on site. Please contact me again if you wish to discuss this advice or require more information.

Kind regards,

Neil Bayliss

Heneb

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