

AnnS Jones

From: Mark Walters <mark.walters@cpat.org.uk>
Sent: 09 January 2020 15:13
To: planning
Subject: [DKIM:INVALID] P/2019/0923 land either side of Chain Road, Stansty, Wrexham - Pre-determination Archaeological Evaluation

Dear Sir or Madam

Thank you for the consultation on this development proposal.

We were previously consulted at the pre-application stage by the developer and advised that a geophysical survey of the application area would be required. The submission of the desk based assessment submitted with the application does not fulfill that requirement and a geophysical survey is still required.

Our pre-determination comments were:

Having checked the Historic Environment Record there is currently only one recorded archaeological site within the development area which is PRN 17073 Stansty Clayworks. We think this site may be mis-located as the Old OS mapping does not show any brickworks or clay extraction here unless the various remnant ponds represent this activity.

To the south, on the other side of the A483, a Roman period settlement has been located in the Plas-coch shopping centre area in the early 1990's. The full extent of this settlement has never been defined and there is a possibility that Roman period activity spread to the north on the Stansty land. As this evidence will be entirely buried and invisible the only reliable way of testing for this archaeology is to carry out some pre-determination geophysical survey across the whole development area using caesium-vapor magnetometer technology. The results of this would be used to assess whether there is any archaeological potential and further evaluation by investigative trenching may be necessary if significant features are identified.

For caesium-vapor magnetometer technology we normally recommend TigerGeo <http://www.tigergeo.com/> The survey readings would be taken on a 1m x 0.25 m grid using a towed array. The results would need to be filtered and interpreted. The resulting report should be sent to me for further comment on any additional mitigation required.

We would therefore recommend that a geophysical survey is completed as soon as possible so that the results inform the current planning application submission. The recommendation follows guidance in WG TAN 24 (May 2017) and PPW Edn.10 (Nov 2018) with regard to prior archaeological assessment.

Kind regards

Mark Walters

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