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Eich cyf/Your ref:

Ein cyf/Our ref: SMC3099

Dyddiad/Date:
16 May 2026

Dear Katherine,

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT (WALES) ACT 2023 – SECTION 13(2)
APPLICATION FOR RETENTION OF WORKS ON A SCHEDULED MONUMENT
OFFA'S DYKE: VRON FARM SECTION (REFERENCE DE113)

1. Introduction

1.1 Cadw is a Division within the Welsh Government that undertakes the statutory functions of the Welsh Ministers in determining applications for scheduled monument consent.

1.2 Works granted scheduled monument consent are considered on their own merits in accordance with *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales* (Conservation Principles) and Annex A of *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment* (TAN 24). In particular, TAN 24 explains that the main purpose of scheduling is to ensure the preservation of monuments of national importance (i.e. scheduled monuments) and, when considering an application for scheduled monument consent, there is a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or which would have a significant impact on the setting of remains.

1.3 Under section 13(2) of the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023, works that have been carried out without prior consent, may be granted scheduled monument consent. This function is used in exceptional circumstances when the works are beneficial to the monument.

2. Description of works

2.1 This application for retention of works to a scheduled monument involves limited and localised ground profiling to improve the gradient, drainage

improvement and erosion mitigation across the field entrance within the eastern extent of the scheduled area.

3. Assessment

3.1 I have carefully considered the application for scheduled monument consent and the supporting documentation taking into account the above polices in paragraph 1.2 and 1.3 and the attached advice of Cadw's Regional Inspector.

3.2 I am satisfied that the applicant has provided a clear and proportionate description of the works carried out, including the materials used, methods employed and the extent of the works. This has allowed an informed assessment of the effects of the works on the scheduled monument by Cadw's Regional Inspector.

3.3 I acknowledge that the works were undertaken without full awareness of the extent of the scheduled area. I also acknowledge that the applicant believed there was an immediate risk to the monument from adverse weather conditions and vehicle movements, which influenced the timing of the works. While this does not remove the requirement for scheduled monument consent, it provides relevant context for how and why the works were carried out.

3.4 The applicant has acknowledged that they are not a specialist in the conservation or management of scheduled monuments. They have sought further guidance in writing and have demonstrated a willingness to engage constructively with Cadw regarding the future care and management of the monument.

3.5 Having carefully considered the information provided, and Cadw's Regional Inspector's assessment, I am satisfied that the works have resulted in a beneficial impact on the monument.

3.6 I am also satisfied that the applicant has acknowledged the requirement for scheduled monument consent under the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023, and has demonstrated a commitment to future compliance with the statutory regime and ongoing engagement with Cadw.

4. Decision

4.1 Therefore, I hereby approve scheduled monument consent for the retention of the limited and localised ground profiling to improve the gradient, drainage and erosion across the field entrance within the eastern extent of the scheduled area.

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4.2 Please note the works are only authorised from the date of this consent. Any potential criminal liability arising from the unauthorised works prior to the consent remains but given that the works have hereby been approved scheduled monument consent, Cadw does not propose to take any further action in respect of the said works.

Yours sincerely

Jenna Arnold
Casework Team Leader
Historic Environment Inspectorate