



Uttlesford District Council,  
Council Offices,  
London Road,  
Saffron Walden,  
Essex.  
CB11 4ER

Date: 22nd August 2023

### **Specialist Archaeological Advice**

Dear Planning,

#### **UTT/22/1261/FUL: Land to the West of Mill Lane, Hatfield Heath**

The Historic Environment Advisor for Uttlesford District Council has identified the above application from the weekly list as having archaeological implications.

The following recommendation is in line with the National Planning Policy Framework paragraph 205.

#### **RECOMMENDATION: A programme of Building Recording, An Archaeological Programme of Trial Trenching followed by Open Area Excavation**

##### **1 Building record**

- **No demolition, conversion or alterations shall commence until a programme of historic building recording has been secured in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.**
- **No demolition, conversion or alterations shall take place until the satisfactory completion of the recording in accordance with the WSI submitted.**
- **The applicant will submit to the local planning authority a report detailing the results of the recording programme and confirm the deposition of the archive to an appropriate depository as identified and agreed in the WSI.**



## **2 Archaeological programme of trial trenching and excavation**

- **No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until a programme of archaeological investigation has been secured in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, and approved in writing by the local planning authority.**
- **No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until the completion of the programme of archaeological investigation identified in the WSI defined in 1 above.**
- **The applicant will submit to the local planning authority a post excavation assessment (to be submitted within six months of the completion of the fieldwork, unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Planning Authority). This will result in the completion of post excavation analysis, preparation of a full site archive and report ready for deposition at the local museum, and submission of a publication report.**

### **Reason for Archaeological recommendation**

The Historic Environment Record and the desk top study submitted with the application indicate that the proposed development lies within a potentially highly sensitive area of heritage assets. The HER shows that the development area contains the site of a World War II prisoner of war camp (EHER 21265). As defined in the desk based assessment many of these buildings survive on the site in various stages of decay and will be demolished if the development proceeds. Some are still in use as commercial properties. The surrounding area contains considerable evidence of occupation potential from the medieval period. Aerial photographic evidence shows an historic route-way lying to the north of the site associated to the moated site identified in the desk based assessment.

The Historic Environment characterisation document shows the extent of archaeological deposits on other sites to the north of Hatfield Heath showing occupation from the Bronze Age through to the modern day.

It should be expected that the initial trial trenching will lead onto large scale open area excavation before any development commences.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Katie Lee-Smith**

Historic Environment Consultant



***NOTE:*** This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialists in relation to this particular matter.