

Ella Casey

From: John Robinson <johnrobinson@warwickshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 01 March 2018 16:41
To: Erica Buchanan
Subject: R18/0186 - Coventry Stadium, Rugby Road, Coventry, Warwickshire, CV8 3GJ

your ref R18/0186
my ref JR/R/R18_0186.1
date 1st March, 2018

F.A.O. Erica Buchanan

Dear Mr. Freer,

Proposed: Demolition of existing buildings and outline planning application for residential development of up to 137 dwellings (Use Class C3) including means of access from the Rugby Road, new open space and associated infrastructure. All other matters reserved.

Location: Coventry Stadium, Rugby Road, Coventry, Warwickshire, CV8 3GJ

ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMMENT

Thank you for your consultation. Following pre-application discussions a programme of evaluative archaeological trial trenching was undertaken across this site by Headland Archaeology the results of which have been submitted with the supporting information to this application^[1]. The evaluation was undertaken across the area to the west and north of the existing stadium in accordance with an agreed Written Scheme of Investigation^[2] (WSI), also submitted with this application. The archaeological fieldwork established that relatively modern land drainage existed across much of the site. Within the northern part of the site was an area of deep modern "made ground". A single linear feature interpreted as post-medieval in date was also identified.

In light of the results of the archaeological evaluation I am of the opinion that no further below ground archaeological work will be required either to inform any planning decision, as it relates to archaeology or to mitigate the impact that the proposal will have upon potential archaeological deposits.

Brandon Stadium can, however, should be considered a significant structure in its own right having first hosted speedway meetings during the 1920's. The stadium has also been used for stock car and greyhound racing. This is a relatively unusual structure that will have played an important role in the history of the surrounding area, particularly with regard to the leisure pursuits of surrounding population for a significant part of the 20th century.

Although I do not wish to object to the principle of development, I do consider that some archaeological work in the form of a building recording for the stadium should be required if consent is forthcoming. **I therefore recommend that a condition such as the following should be attached to any consent:**

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

This recommendation conforms to the approach detailed in the new National Planning Policy Framework. I would be happy to advise further on the arrangements for such work and will forward a brief on request.

^[1] Bryant-Buck. H, 2017, *Brandon Stadium, Rugby Road, Coventry, Warwickshire: Archaeological Evaluation*, Headland Archaeology.

^[2] Bain. K, 2017, *Coventry Stadium, Brandon, Written Scheme of Investigation for a programme of archaeological work*, Headland Archaeology.

Yours sincerely,

John Robinson

Planning Archaeologist

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