James Croucher

From: Archaeology DC <ArchaeologyDC@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 April 2025 14:50
To: James Croucher
Subject: RE: 25/70019/SCOP - Consultation on EIA Scoping ("Hinchingbrooke Logistics Park")

25/70019/SCOP|EIA Scoping request for major scale employment development|Brookfield Farm Ermine Street Great Stukeley Huntingdon PE28 4AB

Dear James,

We are happy that the historic environment, including archaeology, has been scoped in to the applicant's proposed Environmental Impact Assessment.

The proposed development site is large in size, at circa 106ha, and the development is such that any in situ archaeological assets within the site would be heavily impacted or destroyed.

Archaeological potential is high. The proposed development is directly to the west of significant Iron Age and Roman remains found at Bob's Wood, Hinchingbrooke in advance of residential development circa 2003 (Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record no. MCB14554). A series of complex, multiphase likely domestic enclosures were revealed on the higher ground overlooking Ermine Street that continues into the proposed development site. Human remains were present (both inhumations and cremations), along with nine roundhouses, pit alignments and (later) rectangular buildings associated with opus signinum and mortar. Cropmarks of ditched archaeological remains are present within the proposed development site itself, albeit mainly at the northern end on the lower ground. These include several cropmarked enclosures (MCB23824) and two ring ditches (MCB23365). To the south of the proposed development site is a scheduled monument (1006858) covering an area of national significant prehistoric archaeology, notably a Neolithic cursus and mortuary enclosure (MCB2693), and a complex rectilinear enclosure complex with associated ring ditches (MCB2692).

I note that the applicant proposes a programme of archaeological survey, including geophysics and trial trenching, across the proposed development area, to inform the ES chapter (para 11.22). We agree that this is needed. The scope and nature of this has been discussed with the applicant's archaeological agents and we have issued briefs for geophysical survey and trial trenching.

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Regards,

Dr Simon Wood FSA Scot
Senior Archaeologist
07484 915998
Cambridgeshire County Council
Historic Environment Team
Environment, Planning and Economy
Place and Sustainability
Cambridgeshire County Council

For urgent planning related enquiries, please also contact archaeologydc@cambridgeshire.gov.uk