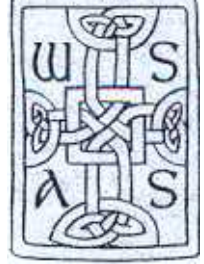


Our ref: 7/3/9/Cons14250
Your ref: 06/01065/PP
WoSASdoc: 06_01065.doc
Date: 5 February 2007
Contact: Dave Hodgson
Direct dial: 0141 287 8330

WEST of SCOTLAND ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE



Director of Planning & Transport
Renfrewshire Council
South Building
Cotton Street
Paisley
PA1 1LL

RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL									
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & TRANSPORT									
06 FEB 2007									
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COPIED TO									

20 India Street, Glasgow G2 4PF
Tel: 0141 287 8330
Fax: 0141 287 9529
enquiries@wosas.glasgow.gov.uk

FTAO: David Bryce

Dear Sir

Planning Application 06/01065/PP. Construction of a Motorway Junction on land at intersection of M8 Motorway/A8 Greenock Road, south of Craigmuir Farm and East of Bishopton.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above planning proposals. The proposed works will raise an archaeological issue

There is in the surrounding area a number of archaeological monuments of national importance; particularly of note are the Roman Forts of Barochan and White Moss. Whilst no known prehistoric sites exist within the boundary of the proposed development there have been a number of stray artefact finds and there are two crop mark sites that suggest there is the potential for unrecorded archaeological remains to survive as buried features. It is accepted that previous land use will have caused some ground disturbance and may well have caused damage to any archaeological site. There is however a potential for unrecorded buried remains to survive in the area. Before further development, the presence and state of survival of any archaeological remains needs to be evaluated across the site.

In order to achieve the relevant archaeological investigations I advise that a negative suspensive condition relating to the archaeological issue should be placed on any consent granted by your Council for these or future proposals. I recommend the attachment of the following condition which is based on PAN 42 but is worded to reflect current circumstances and in the light of our experience elsewhere:

No development shall take place within the development site as outlined in red on the approved plan until the developer has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, agreed by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, and approved by the Planning Authority. Thereafter the developer shall ensure that the programme of archaeological works is fully implemented and that all recording and recovery of archaeological resources within the development site is undertaken to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority in agreement with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.

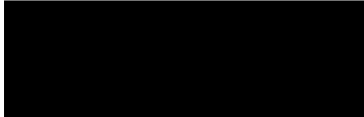
This condition would be implemented to ensure that any sensitive archaeological remains or artefacts, affected by the proposed works, could be adequately recorded before their destruction, by the archaeologist retained by the developer.

There is also a question of the impact that this development will have on the setting of nationally important archaeological sites in the surrounding area such as the scheduled Roman Fort on Barochan Hill and the List Building of Dargaval House. These monuments will not be directly impacted by the proposals but there will be an alteration to their visual setting and to the overall visitor experience. Mitigation of this impact might be considered through the landscape design plans or through the provision of interpretative material. Historic Scotland are responsible for the management of scheduled ancient monuments and should be consulted when there is a potential impact.

If the Council is minded to grant consent to this application with a condition such as that suggested, it would be beneficial if the archaeological issue is raised with the prospective developer as soon as possible, so that the appropriate measures to satisfy the condition are put in place at as early a stage as possible, as suggested in NPPG 5 and PAN 42.

Please contact me to discuss the above comments if you wish.

Yours faithfully



West of Scotland Archaeology Service