

Environment & Infrastructure  
Director: Mark Kemp



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**Natural, Historic & Built Environment  
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Date 4 February 2019

**RE: 6/2018/3255/FULL | Plot 5610 Gypsy Moth Avenue Hatfield Business Park  
Hatfield AL10 9BS | Erection of a pre-delivery inspection facility (Use Class B8),  
together with car storage area, staff car parking, cycle parking, boundary  
treatment, landscaping, lighting and access**

Dear David

Thank you for consulting us.

The proposed development lies within the former Hatfield Aerodrome to the west of Hatfield. The Historic Environment Record (HER) notes that this is an area where a considerable amount of mainly prehistoric archaeology has been found. A large archaeological evaluation, carried out by Cotswold Archaeology in 1999 (HER report 1009), identified remains particularly of Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date throughout the former aerodrome. A number of trenches were within or in the general area of the proposed development and several of these contained pits and postholes of likely prehistoric date. In 2002 further archaeological investigation just to the south of the site revealed evidence for prehistoric activity. This included a sherd of Deverel-Rimbury pottery which dates to the middle Bronze Age (HER11542). This is a significant find since evidence from this period is rare in Hertfordshire.

With the above in mind, we believe that the position of the proposed development is such that it should be regarded as likely to have an impact on heritage assets with archaeological interest. We recommend that the following provisions be made, should you be minded to grant consent:

1. The archaeological monitoring, via strip, map & record, of the development (and also including a contingency for the further investigation and/or preservation of any remains then encountered);

2. The archaeological monitoring of all other groundworks associated with the development including service trenches, landscaping, etc., as appropriate (and also including a contingency for the further investigation and/or preservation of any remains then encountered);
3. The analysis of the results of the archaeological work, with provisions for the subsequent production of a report and an archive, and the publication of the results, as appropriate.
4. Such other provisions as may be necessary to protect the archaeological interests of the site.

We believe that these recommendations are both reasonable and necessary to provide properly for the likely archaeological implications of this development proposal. I further believe that these recommendations closely follow the policies included within Policy 16 (para.199, etc.) of the National Planning Policy Framework. and the guidance contained in Historic England's Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2 (2015).

In this case three appropriately worded conditions on any planning consent would be sufficient to provide for the level of investigation that this proposal warrants. We suggest the following wording:

**A** *No development shall take place/commence until an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of archaeological significance and research questions; and:*

1. *The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording;*
2. *The programme for post investigation assessment;*
3. *Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording;*
4. *Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation;*
5. *Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation;*
6. *Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation.*

**B** *The development shall take place/commence in accordance with the programme of archaeological works set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A)*

**C** *The development shall not be occupied/used until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis and publication where appropriate.*

If planning consent is granted, we will be able to provide detailed advice concerning the requirements for the investigations, and to provide information on professionally accredited archaeological contractors who may be able to carry out the necessary work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Instone', written over a horizontal line.

Andy Instone  
Senior Historic Environment Advisor  
Environmental Resource Planning