

RE: Planning Application 20220795 - Mid Kent Golf Club Singlewell Road
Gravesend

Thu 15/09/2022 16:56

Dear Peter,

I am well thank you and hope that you are too? My apologies that I have missed this consultation.

As noted in my pre-application comments, the club house was the site of a Second World War air raid wardens post built around 1939, located in the entrance area of the Mid-Kent Golf Course, on the western side of Singlewell Road, Gravesend. Its design and form are not precisely known but it may have been a standard rectangular concrete structure. As one of a network of posts serving Gravesend, it was a local focus in the incident reporting chain for coordinating the emergency services in the event of injury or damage resulting from an air raid. It was also a place from which patrolling wardens enforced blackout restrictions in their community. It reported to a control centre, first at the Old Town Hall and later to a one in a new police station in Windmill Street, Gravesend. It would have been decommissioned in 1945 and was demolished around 1970. It is uncertain to what extent below-ground remains were removed and it is possible that the proposed development could exposed elements which it would be useful to record. In addition there is general background archaeological potential in the area.

I would be happy for the Archaeological Watching Brief Written Scheme of Investigation by Canterbury Archaeological Trust Ltd April 2022 (Ref WB MGCSRG 22) to be approved at the appropriate time.

The recommended archaeological condition wording would be:

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local Planning Authority so that groundworks are observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded.

I hope that this is helpful.

Kind regards.

Casper

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Gravesham Borough Council