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19 June 2024

2024 0488 3 Church Cottages , Church Street, Higham, Rochester Kent

Demolition of rear projection and erection of a single storey rear extension.

Thank you for consulting us on this application.

The site lies within an area of multi-period archaeological potential c.50m south of St Mary's church, which has early medieval origins and c.45m north-west of the site of a Roman burial.

The proposed development is relatively limited in extent but groundworks associated with the proposed development may impact on below-ground archaeological remains at the site and I recommend that if planning permission is granted the following condition is applied to any forthcoming consent:

To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded during development works:

- A) Prior to any development works the applicant (or their agents or successors in title) shall secure an archaeological watching brief so that excavations and other development works are observed and items of interest and finds are recorded. The watching brief shall be undertaken by an archaeologist approved by the Local Planning Authority and in accordance with a written programme and specification, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.***
- B) The archaeological watching brief, recording, post excavation assessment, analysis and reporting shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed specification and timetable.***

C) Within 6 months of the completion of the watching brief a Report shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

REASON: To ensure that features of archaeological interest are properly examined and recorded in accordance with national and local planning policy.

I would be pleased to discuss the above further.

Yours sincerely

Casper Johnson FRSA MCIfA FSA
Senior Archaeological Officer
Heritage Conservation