

20220659 - St Peter And St Paul's Church, East Milton Road, Gravesend

KCC Heritage 16 September 2022

The key recommendation with regards archaeology is to ensure that there is an archaeological watching brief by a recognised archaeological contractor during groundworks (e.g. tree stump removal, foundation exposure etc.).

The recommended 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.*

In similar cases I have dealt with it is common for human remains (both disarticulated and previously un-recorded inhumations, as well as grave slabs and tombs) to be encountered and the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) must have a clear strategy for dealing with such remains. This will include having the requisite MoJ burial licence, appropriate screening etc.. In addition the WSI must include a section on post-fieldwork assessment and recording of all remains as well as reporting of information and an appropriate policy for re-burial of any human remains.

I would be happy to discuss a draft WSI from the applicant's archaeological contractor before formal submission to the LPA if that would be helpful.