
From: Price, Peter
Sent: 23 June 2022 14:16
To: Price, Peter
Subject: FW: Planning Application 20220432: Former Police Station, 133 Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1DB

From: Casper.Johnson@kent.gov.uk <Casper.Johnson@kent.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 June 2022 13:59

To: Price, Peter <peter.price@gravesham.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Planning Application 20220432: Former Police Station, 133 Windmill Street, Gravesend DA12 1DB

Hi Peter,

My apologies for the late response and thank you for the reminder.

That is an interesting story and connection!

I have read the ADBA and am not in full agreement with its conclusions that the site has negligible archaeological potential and that the 20th century use of the site has no heritage value.

We have seen on other sites in Gravesend (e.g. The Charter) that significant evidence for post-medieval and modern development can survive below and between areas of 20th century impacts and the surviving archaeological evidence can sometimes challenge the historic map and documentary records and provide useful insights into how the site was developed and used.

There is the potential for this site to contain such post-medieval and early modern remains which should be recorded before removal. It is also possible that pockets of earlier deposits, with pre-modern archaeological potential, above bedrock may also survive on the site.

Remains associated with the Civil Defence Control Centre would also be important to record as would surviving remains of the combined police and fire station.

I assume that the site will be subject to remedial works (removal of concrete slab and other below-ground obstructions) to enable a development platform to be constructed and for subsequent piling. Assuming that this is the case, I think that the most pragmatic way to make a record would be by means of a controlled archaeological watching brief on the remedial works. This would commence by monitoring the removal of the main slab followed by removal, cleaning and recording of below-ground structures.

The following condition could be applied to any forthcoming consent:

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.

The foundation stone will definitely need to be carefully removed and relocated on site so that it help inform future residents and visitors about the history of the site.

I hope that this is helpful and would be happy to discuss further and comment on a draft WSI for the archaeological work.

Best wishes.

Casper

Casper Johnson BA (Hons) FRSA MCIfA FSA | Senior Archaeological Officer | Environment, Planning and Enforcement | Kent County Council | Invicta House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ | Internal: 419388 | External: 03000 419388 | Mobile: 07816996577 | www.kent.gov.uk | My Pronouns are He/Him | Find our Heritage team on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ArchaeologyinKent: II Please consider the environment before printing this email