

NORTH EAST OFFICE

Mr Chris Stanworth Northumberland National Park Authority Eastburn South Park Hexham Northumberland NE46 1BS Direct Dial:

Our ref: P00567961

5 May 2017

Dear Mr Stanworth

T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 & Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990

HOUSESTEADS CAR PARK, MILITARY ROAD, HAYDON BRIDGE, HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND, NE47 6NN Application No. 17NP0041

Thank you for your letter of 4 May 2017 regarding further information on the above application for planning permission. On the basis of this information, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the application.

Historic England Advice

Historic England welcomes the submission by the applicant of the additional method statement/impact assessment for this proposed development, as well as the revised site plan.

Having reviewed these, and the queries we had with the original application, in this case we do not believe it would be justified to require the applicant to commission a pre-determination archaeological evaluation of the site (as can be required in some cases, drawing on the advice contained in paragraph 122 of the NPPF).

Equally, having taken on board the undertakings made in the application as to how the applicant would deal with the discovery of important remains during the development, our assessment of the potential impact of the proposal is that it would be sufficiently unlikely to impact on nationally important archaeological remains such that this could not be classified as harm to the Hadrian's Wall frontier. As such, we don't believe that paragraphs 132-134 of the NPPF are relevant here, as they deal with development that will cause harm (of various degrees) to nationally significant archaeological remains.

Instead, we would advise that the residual risk to the archaeology of the Housesteads area could be dealt with by means of a condition imposed on any permission issued to



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require an archaeological watching brief on the excavations necessary for the development. In such an exercise a professional archaeologist would be commissioned by the applicant, and would need to be given time to excavate and record any archaeological remains revealed and immediately threatened by the development. This need to record any heritage assets to be lost as part of development in a manner proportionate to their significance and the impact is in line with advice contained in paragraph 141 of the NPPF.

Recommendation

Historic England has no objection to the application on heritage grounds.

We would advise a need for the imposition of a condition on any permission issued to ensure that an archaeological watching brief takes place on all excavations associated with the development.

Your authority should take these representations into account in determining the application. If there are any material changes to the proposals, or you would like further advice, please contact us. Please advise us of the decision in due course.

Yours sincerely

Mike Collins Inspector of Ancient Monuments (Hadrian's Wall) E-mail:

cc. Chris Jones - NNPA



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