

Dear Mrs Owen,

Planning Application 27000/005 FUL Land to the rear and including Fair Winds, 61 Lymington Bottom Road, Medstead, Alton, GU34 5EP

Thank you for your consultation regarding a residential development at 61 Lymington Bottom Road. I would refer you to the archaeological desk based assessment submitted with the application, which I would endorse to you.

The desk based assessment indicates that Neolithic evidence was found during pre development archaeological work on the land to the south, as well as prehistoric material found in the wider vicinity (para 4.7, 4.11). The assessment concludes that there is a moderate to good potential to encounter Neolithic remains (para 4.13 and 6.3). I would note that encountering Neolithic remains is not common and there is a research agenda to better understand the nature of Neolithic settlement. Para 6.5 recommends that such evidence is likely to be of local significance and that therefore (para 6.6) further archaeological work to mitigate the impact of development might be secured by a condition(s) attached to any planning permission issued. I would agree.

I recommend that the archaeological mitigation be in two stages, a preliminary archaeological evaluation to locate and define the areas where archaeological remains are encountered and follow up archaeological recording by excavation of the area where those remains have been identified. I recommend that two archaeological conditions are attached to any planning permission which might be issued, one to secure a preliminary archaeological evaluation, and one to secure archaeological mitigation and reporting/publishing of the results.

Yours sincerely

David Hopkins
County Archaeologist