



Horsham
District
Council

HORSHAM DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSULTATION

TO: Matthew Porter	Horsham District Council – Planning Dept
LOCATION:	Land at Danhill, North of West Chiltington Road West Chiltington West Sussex
DESCRIPTION:	Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 3 (Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation) to approved application DC/25/0595 (excavation to create two wildlife ponds).
REFERENCE:	DISC/25/0389
RECOMMENDATION:	Advice / No Objection / Objection / More Information / Modification / Refusal
SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION: The applicants previously commissioned an archaeological desk based assessment that identified that the site lay within a previously unidentified medieval or post medieval Deer Park. The results of a geophysical survey of the area of the two ponds has now been submitted which demonstrates that the proposed excavations are unlikely to impact upon archaeological remains and so no further archaeological work is required.	

MAIN COMMENTS:**SUMMARY OF COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATION:**

The applicants have previously commissioned an archaeological desk-based assessment produced by Oxford Archaeology that suggested that the development area had a low archaeological potential, but an examination of LIDAR data and historic mapping identified that the site lay within what appears to be a large, previously unrecorded medieval park landscape. This included a large fishpond to the south-west of the site and a large unrecorded deer park to the north. The original proposed location of the northernmost pond impacted on the possible southern boundary of the park and following discussions, the applicant recognised the potential sensitivity and significance of the site and modified the pond design to avoid disturbing the boundary feature which is to be welcomed.

My original advice was that a watching brief would be an appropriate method to ensure any archaeology within the areas to be excavated was identified and recorded, but due to the generally low potential of the area away from the park earthworks suggested by the desk based assessment, a geophysical survey of the area was carried out to clarify the potential for significant archaeology to be present. The report, prepared by Magnitude Surveys is included with this submission and no significant anomalies of an archaeological nature have been recorded which confirms the desk based assessments conclusion of a low archaeological potential for this area of the site.

As it has been demonstrated that significant archaeological remains are unlikely to be present within the area of the two wildlife ponds, it would not be reasonable or proportionate to require any further archaeological investigations, and I can confirm that I have no objection to the archaeological condition (3) now being discharged.

ANY RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS:

N/A

NAME:	Nick Truckle BA MCIfA
DEPARTMENT:	Surrey County Council Historic Environment Planning
DATE:	5/1/2026