

TO: KELLY GIBBONS, DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT  
FROM: JULIAN COTTON, ARCHAEOLOGY



pfm  
Rec Cond  
**Herefordshire  
Council**

### DEVELOPMENT DETAILS

APPLICATION NO: **S121013/F**  
DESCRIPTION: **Erection of 9 bungalows and access road**  
SITE: **Land off Church Road, Holmer, Hereford**  
PARISH: **Holmer and Shelwick**  
GRID REF: **OS 350655 242342**  
MEMO REF: **b121013s1**  
DATE OF MEMO: **31/05/12**

### APPRAISAL OF PROPOSAL AND SITE

It would seem that that the proposed development would involve a significant amount of ground disturbance.

Also, the proposal site is archaeologically sensitive, and would in my view include *some* below ground archaeological remains, which would probably be impacted on by the development.

Holmer was recorded in the Domesday survey of 1086AD (HSM 25750) and elements of its former medieval and post-medieval form are still apparent. In particular I note St Bartholomew's Church and Cross (HSM 6507) to the west, recorded archaeological earthworks (HSM 7016) mainly to the east, and the former layout of Holmer Park (HSM 3117) principally to the south.

However, I do not regard the likely nature of any on-site remains, or the likely *degree* of harm to them, as being of substantial concern. I therefore have no objections.

### ADVICE REGARDING PROPOSAL

Having regard to relevant policy and best practice (in particular but not limited to **Para. 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 [NPPF]**) and 'saved' **Policy ARCH6 of the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan 2007**, I would therefore advise the following:

The site is likely to include at risk heritage assets with archaeological interest, although it is considered in this case that harm to these *could be mitigated (and will need to be mitigated)*.

Accordingly, whilst I have no objections, the developers should be required to record and advance understanding of the significance of heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make their evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. This requirement would be by means of an appropriate archaeological recording project, secured by planning condition attached to any permission granted.

In this particular case I would advise Herefordshire Council's **standard archaeological condition E01/ C47**. This is likely in practice to lead to a 'watching brief' archaeological project.

*JC*

**JULIAN COTTON, ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISOR, HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**