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**Subject:** Archaeology update re. major residential development Grafton Lane 193042  
**Importance:** High

Heather,

Following our discussions earlier today, I am providing a summary of correspondence to date and likely issues / outcomes as regards archaeology. I hope it's useful.

I have copied in colleagues above because I will be away on extended leave 11<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> October inclusive, and discussions & decisions may be required in my absence.

- In relation to pre app 173494/CE, I advised the need for a field evaluation (05/10/2017).
- In relation to the Hereford Area Plan consultation I advised the same (27/03/2018).
- For this current application I have further advised the same, making it clear that the evaluation methodology should encompass both geophysics and trial trenching (Memo of 10/09/2019).
- I have today fully discussed with Wessex Archaeology (authors of the submitted assessment and otherwise acting on behalf of the applicants) the details and likely rollout of this evaluation. It is my understanding that the applicants are fully signed up to it, and wish to progress it ASAP.
- The first part of the evaluation will be a comprehensive to standards geophysical survey of the site. It is currently anticipated that this will take about a week, to commence in early to mid-October.
- When the initial results are back from this -normally a very quick process- the nature and scope of the essential follow on trial trenching will need to be finalised. In broad terms, with the geophysics having been done, it would be expected that approx. 3% of the total area of the application site would be trenched, in a relatively systematic way. However, the exact configuration of trenches will partly depend on what the geophysics appears to indicate.
- It is difficult to be sure how long the trenching will take, but my ball park estimate would be about a month.
- Although normally I would on conclusion of trenching wait for the full evaluation report to be submitted before making final comment, it may be the case that the implications are sufficiently clear from site records and monitoring etc. for a quicker response to be given. This would be entirely justified.

- The above technical approach broadly accords with that already taken in relation to the other large sites around the margins of Hereford, for instance the strategic Lower Bullingham and Three Elms sites currently going through process...

Many thanks,

*Julian*

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