



7 November 2024

Planning Department
Mid Sussex District Council
Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1SS

Planning Ref: DM/24/2505

SPECIALIST ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVICE

Dear Anna,

**RE: DM/24/2505 - Proposed tennis court to rear garden
50 Hurst Road, Hassocks**

Thank you for consulting the Historic Environment Consultant to Mid Sussex District Council on the above planning application.

No historic environment objections	
No historic environment objections subject to attached conditions	X
Further information required	
Recommend discharge condition	

The West Sussex Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the proposed development lies in an area with the potential for significant archaeological remains to survive, primarily those of a Roman date.

The proposed development lies to the west of a confluence of multiple Roman Roads running through Mid Sussex, as evidenced by previous excavations along their route, and denoted by several Archaeological Notification Areas (HERs DWS8607, DWS8680 & DWS8725). Surrounding this convergence of roads is an area of multi-period archaeological activity (HER DWS8193), including extensive Roman building remains to the immediate south of the 50 Hurst Road (HER MWS7316 & MWS883) forming part of a Roman settlement site (HER MWS4415). A cemetery associated with this settlement was also uncovered (HER MWS3204), which included the discovery of earlier Bronze Age (HER MWS891) and later Anglo-Saxon burials (HER MWS892), suggesting occupation in this area for a substantial period of time.

The line of a possible Roman Road (HER MWS7478) also runs through 50 Hurst Road on a north-south alignment. Recent excavations at 36 Hurst Road, to the east, have uncovered Roman quarrying activity and evidence for industrial activity (HER MWS15825).

Given the proposed development's proximity to the archaeological sites detailed above, there is the possibility that significant archaeological remains will survive on





the site and be negatively impacted by the groundworks associated with the cut and fill excavations associated with the construction of the new tennis court and fencing.

Accordingly, I recommend that a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording is undertaken on the site during the groundworks for the proposed development, in order to record any archaeological remains impacted by the proposals. I therefore recommend that the following conditions are placed on any consent, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, paragraph 211 and Mid Sussex District Plan policy D34:

RECOMMENDATION: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

- (i) No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until a programme of archaeological monitoring has been secured in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation which has been submitted by the applicant, for approval by the Local Planning Authority.**
- (ii) The applicant will submit a final archaeological report or (if appropriate) a Post Excavation Assessment report for approval by the Local Planning Authority. This shall be submitted within 6 months of the date of completion of the archaeological fieldwork unless otherwise agreed in advance by the Local Planning Authority.**

The work will comprise archaeological monitoring and recording of the groundworks associated with the tennis court and should be undertaken by an accredited and professional archaeological contractor.

An archaeological brief will be produced from this office detailing the work required on request and should be acquired prior to the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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Place Services provide archaeological advice on behalf of Mid Sussex District Council

Please note: This letter is advisory and should only be considered as the opinion formed by specialist staff in relation to this particular matter.

