

From: [Steve Baker \(Place\)](#)
To: [Steven Gunn-Russell](#)
Cc: [Planning \(HPBC\)](#)
Subject: RE: 2022.019 Dinting Vale HPK/2022/0456 - Archaeology
Date: 21 June 2023 16:05:44
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Dear Steven,

Thank you for re-consulting on the above planning application.

We previously (comments 17/11/2022) recommended *that there should be archaeological field evaluation to establish archaeological significance and impact across the site in line with NPPF para 194, with specific reference to one or possibly two Roman road alignments which may or may not be on the line of the existing lane. An appropriate non-intrusive geophysical technique (perhaps GPR or earth resistance) should be carried out across the whole site insofar as it is accessible, but this will also need supplementing with trial trenching to establish hard and fast data on preservation and levels.*

The applicant has submitted a geophysical survey report by Archaeological Research Services, incorporating elements of magnetometry and ground-penetrating radar (GPR). The geophysical survey however only covers about one third of the proposal site due to problems with vegetation, and the results are therefore patchy and difficult to interpret. Although no clear evidence for the Roman road was identified, the extremely patchy nature of the results makes it impossible to understand the significance or otherwise of the site with any degree of confidence. The survey has not therefore addressed previous recommendations, or been carried out in accordance with the WSI approved for the work which allowed for survey of the whole site.

This is not an insurmountable problem and some relatively light strimming or mowing arranged by the applicant could easily make much more of the proposal site accessible for survey, which could then be carried out across the bulk of the area. Time should be allowed for evaluation trenching to take place also, as this is part of the evaluation process to validate geophysics results and test anomalies thus identified. It should also be noted that a stone structure was identified during survey adjacent to the existing track through the site, and provision should be made for this to be tested and understood.

On present information however I recommend that the applicant has not addressed the deficiencies previously noted in relation to archaeological information to establish significance and impact in line with NPPF para 194, and I therefore maintain an objection as per previous comments, because there is still insufficient information to understand significance and impact in relation to potentially nationally important archaeological remains.

Regards

Steve Baker MA MCIFA | **Archaeologist** | Conservation, Heritage and Design | Place | Derbyshire County Council |

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