

[REDACTED]

From: Steve Baker (Place) [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 December 2025 12:49
To: James Stannard
Cc: Planning (HPBC)
Subject: HPK/2025/0447 - Land at Crossings Road, Chapel-en-le-Frith - archaeology

Categories: [REDACTED]

Dear James,

Thank you for consulting on the above planning application. This is a large housing site of c9ha located on previously undeveloped land to the west of Chapel-en-le-Frith. The applicant has provided a historic environment desk-based assessment and geophysical survey for the site.

The most visible potential archaeological interest in the site is an irregular sub-oval earthwork enclosure located towards the southern boundary, which is visible on aerial photographs, LiDAR and geophysics. In addition, the geophysical survey has identified some possible archaeological features across the site, with a principal focus in the area of the earthwork enclosure (and therefore a possible archaeological association).

The applicant's desk-based assessment notes that the earthwork enclosure is on a small mapped area of glaciofluvial sands and gravels, and posits a plausible interpretation that the enclosure may therefore represent historic sand and gravel and extraction – i.e. representing an extraction pit and spoil mounds. While entirely plausible, this is not supported by any mapping or aerial photo evidence, and other interpretations are possible: similar enclosures in the Peak District have been shown to be of medieval date (stock and drovers' enclosures for example), or even earlier (prehistoric and/or Romano-British).

Should the enclosure prove to be of archaeological significance it might have a strong bearing on the acceptability in principle of the development, or parts thereof. I therefore advise that under NPPF para 207 some site-based field evaluation is needed to establish the nature, date and function of the enclosure and the associated geophysical features. In the absence of this information at present I object to the proposals on grounds of insufficient information in relation to the significance of archaeological remains against the requirements of NPPF para 207.

Regards

Steve Baker MA MCIfA | **Archaeologist** | Conservation, Heritage and Design | Place | Derbyshire County Council | direct dial: [REDACTED]

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