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**Land at the Village Hall
Main Street
Foxholes
North Yorkshire
TA 0122 7293**

Archaeological Evaluation

Authorised by 

Date: 18/7/05

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June 2005

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Main Street,
Foxholes,
North Yorkshire
TA 0122 7293**

Archaeological Evaluation

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Archaeological Evaluation

Non Technical Summary

Six evaluation trenches were excavated in May 2005 on land to the north of the Village Hall, Main Street, Foxholes in order to evaluate the archaeological potential of a proposed development site.

Trenches 1 and 2, in the northern part of the site, did not contain any archaeological features, but showed a build-up of colluvial deposits. Trench 4, in the eastern part of the site also contained evidence for colluviation.

The excavation of Trenches 3 and 5, in the centre, revealed a sequence of chalk-built structures of the 12/13th century and later medieval period, and cut features of a similar date were recorded in Trench 6 at the extreme south.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report sets out the results of an archaeological evaluation by trial trenching carried out by MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd. at land to the north of the Village Hall, Main Street, Foxholes, North Yorkshire (Figs. 1 and 2, TA 0122 7293). The evaluation took place in the fortnight commencing May 9th 2005. The geophysical survey was carried out in April 2004, and the anomalies identified formed the basis for the location of the trial trenches.

- 1.2 The evaluation was carried out on behalf of, and was funded by, Foxholes with Butterwick Parish Council, following an outline planning application to Ryedale District Council for the erection of two detached dwellings and a new Community Centre at the site (ref. 04/00847/OUT). The Senior Archaeologist, Heritage Unit, North Yorkshire County Council advised Ryedale District Council that a scheme of pre-determination archaeological evaluation by geophysical survey, followed by trial trenching, should be undertaken in response to the planning application.

- 1.3 The evaluation was designed to establish the nature, location, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The information provided from the evaluation will enable an assessment of the impact of the development on archaeological deposits at the site, so that a reasonable and informed planning decision can be made as to whether the development should be permitted. If permission is granted, this information will assist in identifying options for minimising, avoiding damage to, and/or recording any archaeological remains. This strategy follows the archaeology policy issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment contained in *Planning Policy Guidance 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG 16)*.

- 1.4 Six areas, totalling c. 80 square metres were examined, at locations agreed by the Senior Archaeologist of the Heritage Unit, NYCC (Fig, 2).

- 1.5 The MAP site code for the project was 03-03-05.

- 1.6 All maps within this report have been produced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, Crown Copyright, licence No. AL 50453A.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 The site is situated in the south-eastern part of Foxholes village, on the east side of Main Street, from which it is separated by a steep downward slope approximately 3m in height. The Methodist church lies immediately to the north, the Village Hall (formerly the primary school) to the south, and an area of pasture to the east. Comprising approximately 0.15 hectares, the site is an area of grassland, bounded by cast-iron fencing to the east, hedges to the west and standing buildings to the south and north. The ground surface slopes downwards from north to south, from circa 66.20m AOD to circa 65.00m AOD; there is a less-marked drop from east to west. The surface of the field is not level, but contains two slight east-west ridges (these coincided with the main geophysical anomalies).

3. Geology and Soils

- 3.1 The geology at the site is recorded as chalk (Mackney *et al.* 1983), with overlying well-drained calcareous fine silty soils of the Andover 1 Association (*ibid.*).

4. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 4.1 The Great Wold Valley, through which flows the Gypsey Race, forms an extensive landscape of Prehistoric features, known largely from cropmarks on aerial photographs, but also represented by earthworks (Stoertz 1997). A complex of rectangular enclosures of prehistoric or Romano-British date runs along the valley floor immediately south of the village.
- 4.2 A polished greenstone axe was found during the 1990s at Eastfield, approximately 400m to the south-east of the proposed development site.
- 4.3 The Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Scandinavian periods are poorly represented at Foxholes, but there must have been a pre-conquest settlement there due to the fact that the village was mentioned in the Domesday Survey (1086). This

settlement was recorded variously as *Foxele*, *Foxohole*, *Foxhola* and *Foxholo*. The name means 'Fox-earths' (Smith 1937).

- 4.4 The Domesday Survey recorded two manors at Foxholes with 2 carucates of land being held as soke by the manor of Bridlington, and 8 carucates in the fief of Robert de Bruis, directly from the King. The larger of the two manors descended in the de Bruis, Twing and Lumley families.
- 4.5 It is likely that the medieval settlement was located around the pond that formerly existed on the west side of Main Street, to the north-west of the current site. The church is located on higher ground, in the north-western part of the village, off the Ganton road, and was first mentioned in circa 1100-05, when it was given by Geoffrey Bainhard to St. Mary's Abbey, York. The church was completely rebuilt in 1866, but formerly had a simple plan with a Norman arch that separated the nave from the chancel.
- 4.6 An Archaeological Watching Brief was carried out at land opposite Cottage Farm, Main Street, approximately 150m to the south of the proposed development area. During the excavation of foundation trenches, ditches, pits and chalk-built walls were recorded, dating to the 12th-14th centuries. This clearly shows that medieval settlement at Foxholes extended along Main Street for a considerable distance (MAP 2003). At the time of the 1377 Poll Tax there were 77 taxpayers at Foxholes (perhaps including Butterwick and Boythorpe).
- 4.7 The 1670 Hearth Tax recorded 21 households at Foxholes, although some of these were exempted due to poverty. Herring's visit to the village in 1763 recorded 13 families.
- 4.8 Early enclosure took place at Foxholes at least by 1376, when John Middleton had enclosed enough land to provide pasture for 6 horse, 12 cows, 12 pigs and 200 sheep. The bulk of the parish was enclosed in the 1840 under an act of parliament of 1836 (VCH 1976).

4.9 The present settlement at Foxholes consists of predominantly brick-built houses and cottages of the 18th-20th centuries, the most notable of which is Foxholes Manor, the former rectory.

4.10 The Methodist Church immediately to the north of the site was originally constructed in 1820, and was totally rebuilt in 1872. The present village hall was originally a school, built in 1852, and reconstructed in 1887. The open area, in which the evaluation trenches were dug, was the playground, the cast-iron fencing forming the eastern boundary dating back to that period of use. The school was closed in 1949, the building being adopted as the village hall.

5. Objectives

5.1 The objectives of the evaluation were to establish:

(a) the nature, depth, extent and state of preservation of any archaeological deposits to be affected by the development proposals.

(b) to prepare a report summarising the results of the work and assessing the archaeological implications of the proposed development.

(c) to prepare and submit a suitable archive to the appropriate museum.

5.2 Two particular topics were to be addressed:

(a) the character of medieval and post-medieval land-use at the site, and how it related to both the geophysical anomalies and the existing earthworks there.

(b) the presence of any prehistoric or Romano-British activity.

6. Methodology

6.1 Evaluation

6.1.1 Six areas were subjected to evaluation: Trench 1 a 3m x 2m area at the north, Trench 2 a linear area 10m x 2m in size in the centre, Trench 3 a 5m x 2m also in the centre, Trench 4 3m x 2m area again in the centre, and Trenches 5 and 6 in the southern part of the site, the former 5m x 2m, the later 5m x 5m in size. The trenches were positioned after consultation with the Senior Archaeologist, Archaeology Section, NYCC (Fig. 2).

6.1.2 The evaluation areas were stripped of topsoil by a 360° 1.5 tonne tracked excavator using a toothless blade, under close archaeological supervision. Machining ceased at the top of archaeological deposits, or the natural, whichever appeared soonest.

6.1.3 Postholes, and pits were half-sectioned to determine their function and form.

6.1.4 All work was carried out in line with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct (IFA 1998).

6.1.5 All artefacts were retained for specialist analysis.

6.1.6 Samples were taken from sealed deposits for environmental analysis.

6.2 On-site Recording

6.2.1 All archaeological deposits were recorded according to correct principles of stratigraphic excavation on MAP's *pro forma* context sheets which are compatible with the MoLAS recording system.

6.3 Plans and Sections

6.3.1 The full extent of archaeological deposits were recorded in plan at a scale of 1:20 on drawing film. Sections of features and individual layers were drawn at 1:10, also on drawing film, and included an OD height.

6.4 *Photographic Record*

6.4.1 The photographic record comprised monochrome and colour prints, and colour transparencies, in 35mm format, recording all archaeological features encountered.

6.5 *Finds*

6.5.1 Finds were processed in accordance with English Heritage Guidelines (EH 1995). All finds were cleaned, identified, assessed, dated (where possible), marked (where appropriate), and properly packed and stored according to national guidelines.

7. **Results**

7.1 *Trench 1 (Pls. 1 and 2; Fig. 4)*

7.1.1 Trench 1 was a 3m x 2m area designed to examine activity in the northern part of the site, which was 'blank' on the geophysical survey. No archaeological deposits or features were revealed.

7.1.2 The earliest deposit encountered (1003) consisted of angular chalk fragments in a dark greyish brown silt matrix, extending to a depth of at least 0.45m; this contained three Staxton Ware sherds (Appendix 6) and a fragment of recent brick (Appendix 7). The overlying context (1002) consisted of very dark greyish brown loam, forming a distinct band 0.15m deep. The ensuing deposit (1001) was made up of sub-angular chalk fragments in a matrix of dark brown sandy silt; this layer yielded 18-19th century sherds (Appendix 6), and brick of the same date. A modern topsoil (1000) completed the sequence.

7.2 *Trench 2 (Pl. 3; Fig. 5)*

7.2.1 Trench 2 was 10m x 2m in size and situated in the central/northern part of the site; it was intended to examine an east-west trend identified by the geophysical survey that coincided with by a raised area on the surface.

7.2.2 Natural chalk bedrock outcropped at the extreme south-eastern end of the trench, dipping downwards to the north-west. The lowest identified deposit consisted of a mass of chalk rubble (2006) at least 0.55m deep. This was overlain by a shallow band of light brown sandy clay (2005), above which came a further layer of chalk rubble (2004). None of these three layers contained any finds. Equating to Deposit 1002 in Trench 1, context 2003 consisted of a dark brown loam, and this dipped downwards to the north-west. Next in sequence was a layer of chalk gravel and sun-angular fragments (2002), which increased in depth as it fell away to the north. A well-developed turfsoil overlay the entire trench (2001).

7.3 Trench 3 (Pls. 4 and 5 ; Fig. 6)

7.3.1 This trench was excavated in the central part of the site and measured 5m x 2m in size. The purpose of Trench 3 was to intercept an amorphous geophysical anomaly. Evaluation revealed a number of chalk structures and cut features of medieval date.

7.3.2 Natural deposits consisted of solid, tabular chalk bedrock, which were relatively close to the surface at the northern end of the trench, but sloped down to a depth of circa 0.85m to the south.

7.3.3 Wall 3008 was laid directly on the bedrock, and ran for a distance of approximately 1m on a north-south alignment. A maximum of three courses survived, consisting of roughly-squared chalk blocks to both faces of the wall, with a central infilling of jumbled sub-angular chalk fragments.

7.3.4 Wall 3008 was covered over by an even layer, up to 0.35m deep, of brown silty loam with occasional chalk fragments (3006 and 3007; because the wall was left *in situ* the part of the deposit to the north was numbered separately to that part laying to the south). Associated pottery consisted of Staxton, Scarborough and Humber Ware sherds, giving a date range from the 12th to the 14th centuries (Appendix 6), as well as an iron nail (3007 – S.F. 6).

- 7.3.5 Another wall (3001) was constructed directly on top of layer 3006/7, this time on an east to west alignment, and with a definite curve. Wall 3001 was recorded for a length of 1.40m, being cut away at the western end and extending out of the excavated area to the east; there were two surviving courses of un-bonded roughly squared chalk blocks, with relatively regular faces infilled at the centre with uneven chalk fragments.
- 7.3.6 North of Wall 3001 a shallow pit (3009) cut into the chalk bedrock and extending both north and south out of the excavated area. This was a presumably sub-circular feature 0.20m deep and exceeding 1.60m in diameter. The single fill (3010) was a pale brown silty loam with infrequent chalk fragments, which contained two iron objects (Appendix 2).
- 7.3.7 Deposit 3003 overlay the fill of Pit 3009 and butted up to the southern face of Wall 3001; it consisted of a 0.20m deep layer of sub-angular chalk fragments in a brown silty loam matrix. Finds consisted of two iron objects (a nail – S.F. 4, and a wedge – S.F. 4) and Staxton, Beverley-type 1, Beverley-type 2, Scarborough and Humber ware sherds (Appendix 6); a single post-medieval Red Ware sherd may have been intrusive; if so the date was 15th century rather than 16/17th. A similar deposit (3002) butted up to the southern face of Wall 3001, and this contained Scarborough Ware sherds (Appendix 6).
- 7.3.8 After the accumulation of Deposits 3002 and 3003, a relatively shallow linear feature (3005) was dug in the western part of the trench. As this feature extended out of the excavated area its function is unclear; perhaps it was a shallow quarry pit. The fill (3004) contained two medieval sherds and a small bronze bell (S.F. 2).
- 7.3.9 A layer of brown turf-soil (3000) that increased in depth down-slope to the south completed the sequence.

7.4 *Trench 4 (Fig. 7)*

7.4.1 Trench 4 was positioned along the eastern margin of the site, in an area proposed for an access road, and was 3m x 2m in size with an east-west alignment. No archaeological features were present, but a sequence of deposits was recorded.

7.4.2 Natural deposits consisted of frost-shattered, angular chalk bedrock (4005), the surface of which dipped down towards the west; the subsequent deposits also reflected this westward dip.

7.4.3 Context 4006 was recorded immediately above the natural chalk, and consisted of a 0.10m deep layer of brown silty clay with occasional inclusions of sub-angular chalk.

7.4.4 The next deposit was a 0.25m deep layer of chalk rubble (4004) in a dark brown silty clay matrix. There were no finds.

7.4.5 Subsequently a 0.11m deep layer of stone-free dark greyish brown silty loam (4002) accumulated. Associated pottery consisted of Staxton, Beverley-type 1 and Humber Ware sherds (Appendix 6), suggesting a 15th century date.

7.4.6 The northern part of Deposit 4002 was overlain by a 0.30m deep layer of dark brown silty clay with frequent chalk gravel (4001), and this in turn was overlain on its southern side by a layer of brownish yellow silty clay (4003), with a depth of 0.38m. The only find was a fragment of 19th or 20th century brick from Deposit 4003 (Appendix 7).

7.4.7 The entire trench was overlain by a 0.11m deep layer of modern turf and topsoil (context 4000).

7.5 *Trench 5 (Pls. 6 and 7; Fig. 8)*

7.5.1 Trench 5 was situated in the south-west of the proposed development area; 5m x 2m in size, it was designed to evaluate a geophysical anomaly that coincided

with a slight east-west aligned earthwork bank. The earthwork proved to be the result of two approximately parallel, buried walls (5005 and 5006).

- 7.5.2 The earliest of the two walls (5006) rested directly on the chalk bedrock. It was constructed of un-bonded chalk, very roughly faced on both sides. The individual chalk stones were flat and slab-like, with eleven courses surviving to a height of 0.66m.
- 7.5.3 Wall 5005 lay on the northern side of Wall 5006, and slightly overlapped the latter at the eastern end (showing it to be the later of the two). Wall 5005 was very poorly coursed in un-bonded chalk rubble of varying sizes and shapes, and survived to 0.48m in height.
- 7.5.4 Subsequent to the construction of the walls separate, though very similar deposits of small angular chalk rubble with a matrix of dark greyish brown silty clay, c. 0.40m deep, built up against their faces – 5002 to the north of Wall 5005, and 5003 to the south of Wall 5006. Deposit 5002 contained Staxton Ware sherds, as did Deposit 5003, with the addition of Beverley-type 2, Scarborough and Humber Ware (Appendix 6), giving a suggested 14/15th century date for these deposits.
- 7.5.5 A layer of angular chalk rubble (5004) was deposited over the top of the two walls, lapping over the previous deposits (5002 and 5003). Associated pottery consisted of Staxton, Scarborough, Humber and post-medieval Red Ware sherds (Appendix 6), the latter suggesting a 17th or 18th century date for Deposit 5004. This chalk rubble apparently represents the demolition of the two walls, or perhaps their abandonment and collapse.
- 7.5.6 Subsequently, Deposit 5008 accumulated to the south and Deposit 5001 to the north of the walls. The former consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with 50% chalk gravel, the latter was lighter in colour and with only 25% gravel inclusions. Deposit 5001 contained Beverley-type 1, Staxton, Beverley-type 2 and Humber Ware sherds (Appendix 6).

7.5.7 A 0.15m deep layer of modern topsoil and turf (5000) completed the sequence.

7.6 *Trench 6 (Pls. 8, 9 and 10 ; Fig. 9)*

7.6.1 Trench 6 was a 5m x 5m area, and was situated at the south of the site to examine a north-south linear anomaly identified from the geophysical survey. Machine clearance of the modern topsoil revealed the surface of the angular, frost-shattered chalk bedrock, which was hand-cleaned to reveal a number of linear features and post/stakeholes.

7.6.2 Cut 6018 ran parallel to the western baulk of the trench, cutting into the chalk bedrock. This flat-based and vertically sided feature was 0.40m deep and at least 0.65m in width and 5m in length. However, because it extended beyond the excavated area, its full dimensions, and indeed whether 6018 was a ditch or terrace-like cut, remains unclear. The fill (6008) consisted of dark greyish brown clay silt with 25% sub-angular chalk inclusions along with several blocks of sandstone. Finds comprised Staxton and Scarborough Ware sherds (Appendix 6).

7.6.3 Two similar linear features (6022 and 6010) ran at right-angles to each other, 6022 running parallel to 6018, and 6010 on a parallel course to the southern baulk. These linear features terminated, leaving a gap of approximately 1.50m between the ends, and were between 0.80 and 1.00m wide, and 0.15m and 0.20m deep. The fills (6007 and 6009 respectively) were brownish clay silts with c.25% sub-angular chalk fragments. Considerable amounts of pottery were recovered from both fills, thirty-eight sherds from 6007 (Staxton, York Glazed, Scarborough and Humber Ware, giving a 14/15th century spot date), and one hundred sherds from 6009 (Staxton, Beverley-type 1, York Glazed and Gritty Ware, suggesting a 13th century date – Appendix 6).

7.6.4 The relative shallowness relative to the comparatively large width of Linear Features 6010 and 6022 suggest that they were drainage gullies, rather than representing boundaries or structural slots. The large size of the sherds found

within them, and the high number of sherds from the same vessels in these fills suggests the dumping of freshly broken rubbish, and hence the close proximity of occupation. A 14/15th century date is indicated.

7.6.5 Three postholes (6011, 6013 and 6021) and three stakeholes (6015, 6017 and 6020) were identified in the north-east part of the trench within the area defined by Gullies 6010 and 6022. Postholes 6011 and 6013 formed a north-south line with the three stakeholes.

7.6.6 The postholes (6011, 6013 and 6021) were around 0.60m in diameter, with depths varying from 0.11m (6017) to 0.40m (6011). The fills (6005, 6012 and 6006 respectively) consisted of dark greyish brown clay silts, with approximately 25% chalk gravel inclusions. Fill 6005 contained gritty Ware, Beverley-type 1 and Staxton sherds (Appendix 6), suggesting a 13th century date.

7.6.7 The stakeholes (6015, 6017 and 6020) were each around 0.12m in diameter, and ranged from 0.11m (6017) to 0.20m (6015) in depth. The fills (6014, 6016 and 6019 respectively) were dark greyish brown clay silts with moderate amounts of chalk gravel; none contained any finds.

7.6.8 A 0.15m deep deposit very dark greyish brown fine silty loam (6004) existed in the western area of the trench; the fine, homogenous nature of this layer indicates that it was a former turf line. The former turf line (6004) was overlain by a 0.24m deep dump of brown silty clay, which contained frequent chalk rubble inclusions (6003). Another dump, this time of darker, less stoney material (6002) occupied the south-eastern part of the trench (6002). Although these dumps contained no dateable material, the stratigraphic position of 6003 (i.e. above feature 6018) makes it reasonable to see them as the result of relatively recent landscaping. Finally, a layer of topsoil and turf (6001) overlay the entire trench, becoming deeper down-slope to the south-west.

8. Discussion

- 8.1 The evaluation was successful in identifying identifying archaeological activity in all six of the evaluation trenches, although the character of the deposits differed from the north and east of the site (Trenches 1, 2 and 4) where minimal archaeological activity was recorded, to the centre and south (Trenches 3, 5 and 6), where structural activity and other features related to occupation were uncovered.
- 8.2 Trenches 1 and 2 at the northern end of the site showed that the natural surface of the land sloped down to the north-west. Layers of chalk 'hill-wash' (1003; 2004-6) accumulated over the chalk bedrock, and were capped off with a buried turf-line (1002 and 2003). Subsequent dumps of chalk rubble (1001 and 2002) were dated by 19th material within them, a date shared with the construction of the Methodist church immediately to the north, which therefore probably accounts for the dumping. Chalky hill-wash deposits were also recorded in Trench 4 (4004 and 4006), again capped by a relict topsoil (4002), which was also covered over by post-medieval dumped layers (4001 and 4003).
- 8.3 The medieval deposits clearly showed that there was occupation of this date at the site. As suspected from both the geophysical survey and from consideration of the slight earthworks at the site, the anomaly/bank in the area of Trench 5 proved to be a boundary feature. The boundary consisted of an initial dry-stone chalk wall that was superseded by a more roughly built wall on a slightly different alignment, reflecting a re-modelling of the boundary. Such relatively minor changes to property boundaries are known from other medieval sites in East Yorkshire, such as Cowlam, where an early boundary wall was rebuilt on a similar line, less than 1m south of its original position (Hayfield, 1988, Fig. 22).
- 8.4 The Trench 5 walls seemingly relate to a boundary separating two crofts or properties in the medieval settlement, and the evaluation identified somewhat different deposits in each of these properties, with stone-built structures in the

northern property (Trench 3) and a timber structure with drainage gullies in the southern property (Trench 6).

- 8.5 The earliest wall in Trench 3 (3008) was situated at the base of a large hollow in the chalk bedrock, though whether this was a man-made terrace or a natural feature is unclear. Severely robbed, Wall 3008 presumably related to an otherwise demolished structure. It is possible that the large hollow was deliberately back-filled in the 15th century, and the later Wall 3001 built on top of the back-fill. Wall 3001 was a curving structure with a diameter of 4m; this seems too large for an oven (in any case there were no signs of burning), although there is not enough evidence to confirm that it was another circular structure such as a dovecot. In any event this structure had become disused by the time Pit 3005 cut through its western end.
- 8.6 Although the excavated part of the southern croft also contained structural remains, these were of a timber structure rather than one of stone, and similar to 12th/13th century examples recorded at Wharram Percy (Andrews and Milne eds. 1979). Only a small part of this structure lay within the excavated area, but to judge from the part that was recorded, it incorporated postholes as well as stakeholes in its construction. It is the presence of the relatively large postholes that point to the structure being a building rather than a simple fence line, although it is not possible as yet to say whether this was a dwelling or an outbuilding. The only dating evidence came from Posthole 6011, which contained 13th century pottery. The two gullies (6022 and 6010) may have formed a drainage system around the structure; pottery from these features ranged from the 12th to the 14th/15th century. The 13/14th century linear feature at the western margin of the trench (6018) may have been a boundary ditch, though further excavation would be needed to confirm its function.
- 8.7 The dating evidence suggests that occupation activity within the two crofts (or at least those parts excavated) ceased in the 14/15th century, leaving this area of Foxholes deserted until the construction of the school and the Methodist church in the mid-19th century. Both the building of the Methodist church and

the use of the area as the school playground could account for the landscaping and dumping that took place at the site during the 19th century.

9. Implications of the Proposed Development

9.1 To judge by the evidence from the evaluation trenches the most significant deposits lie in the western and southern part of the proposed development site, where clear traces of medieval occupation were identified. The features associated with this activity are chalk-built structural remains, and features cut into the natural chalk bedrock.

9.2 Figure 10 shows the evaluation trenches superimposed on the proposed development. The proposed development falls into four main elements:

(i) The Community Centre building

(ii) New car parking

(iii) New Access

(iv) New dwellings at the south of the site.

Suggested mitigation for the proposed development is outlined below.

9.3 (i) Community Centre

Trench 2 fell within the footprint of the proposed building, and evaluation suggested that there are no archaeological implications for the northern and central parts of this area at least. A Watching Brief, which should be upgraded to a Recording Brief should significant structural features be revealed, is suggested for this area, bearing in mind the proximity of Trench 3 (with its structural remains) to the southern part of the building footprint.

(ii) Car Parking

The most significant, and regionally important, archaeological remains were revealed in Trenches 3, 5 and 6, which coincide with the block of proposed car-parking in the central part of the site. At their most shallow (Wall 3001) the structural remains lie within 0.10m of the present ground surface at 65.02m AOD. These deposits are therefore vulnerable to all but the shallowest processes. The car-parking therefore should not penetrate the level of the present surface, but should employ a mesh system laid directly on the existing turf. The area of car-parking north of the proposed Community Centre was shown by Trench 1 to have minimal archaeological significance.

(iii) New Access

The proposed new access enters a cutting from Main Street, running eastwards before turning north to run up the eastern boundary of the site. The proposed access cuts through the southern half of Trench 6, an area where clear evidence of medieval occupation was identified. The zone occupied by the proposed cutting (an area c. 15m x 8m) should be archaeologically excavated in advance of the development. Trench 4 suggested that the access route running along the eastern boundary of the site has no archaeological implications, except for the area of the boundary feature that runs eastwards from Trench 5. The part of the boundary feature intercepted by the eastern access (an area c. 4m x 3m) should be archaeologically excavated in advance of the development.

(iv) New Dwellings

The footprints of the proposed dwellings lie within the area of the existing Village Hall, which in itself occupies an apparently artificial terrace. Therefore the probability is that this part of the site has already been subjected to extensive disturbance, meaning that this element of the proposed development is likely to have a reduced impact on any archaeological deposits there. A Watching Brief, upgradeable to a Recording Brief should significant archaeological deposits be revealed, is suggested for this area.

The further archaeological work outlined above should be integrated into a report with the results of the Evaluation, the results of the whole to be published in a suitable journal.

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