Online Comment

Application	H16-0116-22
Location	Site to South West of Spalding with access from Broadway to the North & B1172 to the South
Proposal	Erection of 150 Dwellings - outline approval H16-0571-09

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Date Submitted	25-02-22
For/Against	Comments

This office has commented on previous applications for this site and during earlier phases of the Holland Park development. We would like to reiterate our previous advice and recommend that the same approach to archaeological evaluation be taken here as was the case during the previous phase.

The Fenland is a unique and important landscape, its history of marine flooding from the Neolithic period through to the late Iron Age has contributed to the fertile land that is here today. By the late Iron Age - early Roman period the land had sufficiently dried enough for the area be occupied and the land was exploited by both industry and agriculture, this part of the Fens in particular is characterised by its salterns. Preliminary geophysics across this site has identified potential salterns with other features which are possibly related to settlement buried under later marine flooding. Other evidence from the characterisation of the landscape and cropmarks also attest to this site, or parts of it being exploited during the late Iron Age- Roman periods. A possible Saxon enclosure camp was also identified within this proposed phase of development in the developer's aerial photographic assessment carried out in 1998.

However, there is not yet enough site specific information to be able to accurately assess the importance of the potential remains on this site. It is possible that this site may be comparable with a archaeological remains encountered at Wygate Park, Spalding which revealed archaeological remains of regional and national significance.

I would recommend that prior to the reserved matters application being determined and before any development on this site, that a scheme of works should be developed to identify, evaluate, mitigate, preserve, and if neccessary, excavate any archaeological features to be impacted by the proposed development in this phase.