

Date: 29th January 2026

Our ref: GHC/1398/01

By Email only

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Dear Jasmin,

Re: Land South of Pampisford Road, Great Abington HELLA Assessment

Hill has promoted land south of Pampisford Road, Great Abington for residential development. The assessment of the site in the updated (2025) HELAA identified 'amber' score for Archaeology:

Archaeology

Previous investigations in the vicinity indicate the presence of prehistoric activity in the area.

Archaeological investigations would be necessary in advance of development.

RAG 'Amber'

A full Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment is in preparation that will address the archaeological potential of the site in detail and the below provides a summary of information obtained to date. Consultation with the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER) (consultation No. CHER6115) has shown that there are no recorded archaeological sites or finds within the site itself. Archaeological remains dating from the Mesolithic through to the post-medieval periods are recorded across the surrounding 1km.

The bulk of recorded archaeology in the 1km search area is located further to the north of the site, closer to the course of the River Granta. However, to the immediate east of the site archaeological works undertaken in 2021 identified archaeological remains, which comprised a small number of pits and a single ditch, were largely concentrated in the eastern part of the site. The evidence recovered indicated past activity on the site dating to the Roman period, with a focus of deposition in the early Roman period, in approximately the late 1st to early 2nd centuries AD. It is likely that the recorded data is related to agricultural and extractive activity on the periphery of a hypothesised settlement.

An archaeological evaluation undertaken to the north-east of the site (on the opposite side of Pampisford Road) in 2017, identified a small number of archaeological features, of which none could be firmly dated.

The site is considered to have a moderate potential to contain archaeological remains of prehistoric and/or Roman date, however, available evidence would suggest relatively low intensity activity and there is no evidence to suggest that the site contains archaeological remains of sufficient importance to preclude or constrain development.

The criteria for the RAG assessment is presented in Annex 1 of the Greater Cambridge Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) 2025. In relation to archaeology the criteria is defined as:

Archaeology

Score: **Red**

Assessment criteria:

Known archaeology of significance which could not be mitigated through design or conditions.

Score: **Amber**

Assessment criteria: *Development of the site could have a detrimental impact to archaeology.*

Further information regarding the extent and significance of archaeology would be required.

Archaeological works could be secured by condition of planning permission.

Score: **Green**

Assessment criteria:

Development of the site would have either a neutral or positive impact to archaeology.

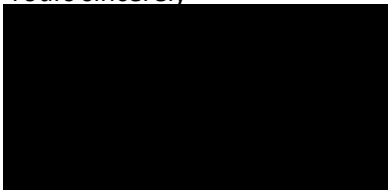
The County Archaeology Team were consulted on each of the sites and assessments have been informed by the Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record (HER) (see paragraph 196 of the NPPF). Each site was assessed against known areas of archaeology using GIS data. Where a site contained known archaeology of significance which could not be mitigated by the development, these sites were scored Red. Examples of this include sites containing Scheduled Ancient Monuments.

According to the above criteria it would appear that an 'Amber' rating is appropriate, i.e. should planning permission be granted further archaeological investigation would be required, but this could be adequately secured by condition. A recent application for development to the immediate north of the current site (Land North of Pampisford Road, 25/03315/OUT) also had received an Amber score for archaeology in the HELAA received the following comments from CHET:

Whilst we do not object to development from proceeding in this location, we consider that the site should be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation secured through the inclusion of a negative condition

Land south of Pampisford Road is of no greater or lesser archaeological potential than that to the north and there appears to be no reason why the archaeological interest in the site could not also be mitigated through post consent investigation.

Yours sincerely





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