

Memorandum

From Doug Moir To Jonathan Haine
Extension [REDACTED]
Our Ref LCC_2023_0030-LCC.DM
Date 12th October 2023 Your Ref LCC/2023/0030/JMH

APPLICATION: LCC/2023/0030

**The extraction and processing of sand and gravel including the construction of new site access roads, landscaping and screening bunds, minerals washing plant and other associated infrastructure with restoration to leisure end-uses, agricultural land and biodiversity enhancement, using imported inert fill.
Land off Bourbles Lane, Preesall**

The HET is in agreement with the conclusion reached in Wardell Armstrong's Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment March 2021, Appendix 11, that the proposed development site has a low potential to contain significant archaeological remains. The proposed development site is a low-lying one in the landscape, and therefore would not appear to be an attractive location for occupation in the past, as evidenced by the nearby settlement of Preesall which sits on a raised area some 15-20m higher than the development.

Consequently, we do not consider that any further archaeological investigation of the site is necessary.

The former line of the Garstang and Knott End Railway 1870-1963, although only of local significance, does however run through the site. It is recorded on the Lancashire Historic Environment Record, PRN10616, and is considered to be a non-designate heritage asset. A history of the railway can be found in Dave Richardson's "The Pilling Pig, A History of the Garstang & Knott End Railway", 2019.

We would therefore advise that consideration be given to retaining the former line of the railway in the final restoration proposals as a public right of way, linked to those that already cross the site, with a public information board showing the entire former route along with a brief history of the railway, sited in a suitable location along the route as it crosses the site. Such public benefit, should it be possible, should be secured by means of a suitably worded planning condition. A suggested wording is included below:

No development shall take place until details of a scheme for the retention and interpretation of the former line of the Garstang & Knott End Railway line that lies within the site, have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Mineral Planning Authority.

Doug Moir

For the Head of Service for Planning and Environment