

**From:** Emily Gillott  
**To:** Gareth Elliott  
**Cc:** Planning Archaeology  
**Subject:** RE: Wysall Solar (Old Wood) 24/00161/FUL  
**Date:** 17 December 2025 17:04:23

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Afternoon Gareth,

Thank you for informing us of the appeal for the proposed solar scheme at Wysall (24/00161/FUL).

I have reviewed the information that the applicant sent through regarding the amendments to the scheme that have been introduced at appeal. Most significant of these for archaeology is the inclusion of land to the east of the previous redline boundary, proposed as retained arable managed for Skylarks. This area has not been subject to archaeological trial trenching but the geophysical survey suggests that it contains enclosed Iron Age settlement and a separate area of enclosures that are likely to relate to the Roman activity in area 10.

I have provided a summary of the results of the first phase of trenching that was carried out in support of the application under 24/00161/FUL on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

The Heritage Specific Statement of Common Ground (2.1.2) states that we are in agreement that the archaeology can be dealt with by way of condition. This remains the case but I must again reiterate that there will need to be a second phase of trenching and the mitigation requirements will be considerable. The application site contains significant areas of multi-period activity including two separate areas of human remains and a probable robbed-out Roman villa.

The applicant needs to ensure that they take these requirements into account and that the information from the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of trenching will need to inform both the mitigation and the overall design of the scheme. Currently the scheme proposes panels over almost all of the areas of presently-known archaeological activity, which when piling, ground preparation and cable trenching etc are all taken into account represent significant impacts to below ground features. Mitigation will also include an archaeological remains management plan for the lifetime of the scheme taking into account the various impacts through construction, operation, decommissioning and remediation of the site.

The work carried out in the area of the probable villa (area 10) was very limited and has not removed all risk of encountering nationally significant archaeological remains in that area. The proposal is to bring the access track and grid connections through the area of these archaeological remains. If nationally significant remains are encountered during further evaluation or mitigation they will represent a considerable issue for the deliverability of the scheme.

We have seen the suggestion on other schemes that all archaeological implications are 'mitigatable', which is an attitude that minimises the complexities and knock-on impacts of mitigation. If nationally significant remains are encountered during evaluation or mitigation for the access track and grid connection then mitigation may not be able to provide a satisfactory route forwards.

I would again recommend that they consider an alternative solution for the site access and grid connections.

The second phase of trenching will need to complete the site evaluation, which will also include areas brought into the scheme. The geophysical survey was broadly reliable for the Roman features but the trenching demonstrated that it cannot be relied upon for features of all periods. Prehistoric activity is frequently under-represented in geophysical survey results and in the results of evaluation trenching at sample sizes of less than 5%. This needs to be taken into account with the second phase of trenching. It might be useful to have the WSI for the second phase of trenching in-place, but I accept it may be too late to ask for that.

We strongly suggest a revision to the recommended condition wording to bring it in-line with that which was applied at appeal at the recent Longhedge solar scheme in Thoroton:

*1 - No development shall take place, including any enabling works such as site clearance works, soil moving, temporary access or compound construction, or any operations involving the use of construction machinery, until a programme for archaeological evaluation has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The programme shall detail the scope of proposed evaluation work, its timings, and objectives and be drawn up by and thereafter undertaken by suitably experienced archaeologists from a professionally accredited archaeological organisation. The programme should make provision for the local planning authority's archaeological advisors to be informed of works and to be allowed access to the site. The findings of the evaluation shall thereafter be published and submitted in writing to the local planning authority.*

*2 - No development shall take place other than in accordance with an Archaeological Mitigation Strategy (AMS) which shall first be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority following the completion of the archaeological evaluation in accordance with Condition 1 (above). The AMS shall include provision for any mitigation or monitoring work as informed by the archaeological evaluation to be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist or archaeological organisation, and shall include provision for the excavation/preservation of archaeological features as appropriate to their level of significance, to be approved in writing by the local planning authority. An archaeological management plan will be required for any archaeological features preserved in-situ. A written report detailing the results and post investigation assessments of any archaeological works shall thereafter be submitted to the local planning authority for local publication within a timeframe to be approved in writing by the local planning authority. No development shall take place other than in accordance with the approved AMS.*

I hope this is helpful, I am happy to answer any questions or queries you may have.

All the best for the festive season,

Emily

Emily Gillott  
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(Pronouns: she/her)

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**From:** Gareth Elliott <GElliott@rushcliffe.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 02 December 2025 13:25  
**To:** Emily Gillott <emily.gillott@nottsc.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Wysall Solar (Old Wood) 24/00161/FUL

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Thanks for flagging this Emily, we've changed the letter and resent this out.

Appeal ref. should be APP/P3040/W/25/3375110.

Regards

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