CONSULTATION RESPONSE

CORNWALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT - 13.07.2018

P/18/051 Change of use of land for the stationing of six glamping tents on a seasonal basis on land at Karma Hotel, St Martin's. Karma St Martin's, St Martin's Road, Lower Town, St Martin's

Thank you for consulting us on this application. We have consulted the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record and the submitted planning documents and note that a number of known heritage assets are located nearby, including the Scheduled Tinkler's Hill cairn cemetery (DCO678), a reputed Bronze Age cairn (MCO31618), and findspots of Neolithic and Bronze Age (MCO31463) and Bronze Age and Iron Age (MCO30817) artefacts uncovered during trenching works.

The Planning Statement notes that the site is 'the known site of scattered archaeological remains including the prehistoric cairn cemetery and field system monument situated close by to the northeast at Tinkler's Hill'. It goes on to say that 'lying on the western side of the elevated heathland, the application site does not bear any hallmarks of the field system nor contain any funerary remains, suggesting that any such features extending to this point are well buried'. And 'the proposed tent platforms .. are simply placed upon the surface from which they are removed when required. As such, the development will not materially impact on any archaeological features of interest'. However, since no archaeological assessment has been undertaken it is difficult to see how this conclusion has been reached. If upstanding archaeological remains are present they will certainly be threatened by wear and tear during the lifetime of the proposal.

We note that this application does not include an adequate Heritage Statement. This should comprise the results of a site walkover, a statement of significance, and an historic impact assessment. It should also consider potential impacts upon the setting of the Scheduled cairn cemetery. We cannot advise further until the appropriate assessment has been provided. This application should not be determined before this assessment is received and we have had an opportunity to comment further. This assessment should be carried out by a suitably qualified organisation or individual in accordance with accepted national guidelines. This is in accordance with the provisions of NPPF Section 12, paragraph 128 and Isles of Scilly Local Plan policy 1. Should an adequate report not be forthcoming, then further consultation with us is advised before determination.