

Council of the Isles of Scilly Planning Application

Ref: P/22/076/FUL

RECEIVED

By Liv Rickman at 3:15 pm, Dec 16, 2022

The following planning application has been made by the Council of the Isles of Scilly and is accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

Consultation Request

Date: 17th November 2022

PLANNING REFERENCE

P/22/076/FUL

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED:

Application for the installation of a 75m long geobag core added to existing cobble embankment and tied with geotextile at Green Bay Boathouse, construction of a 40m long rock revetment at Kitchen Porth a 55m long revetment at Stinking Porth, a 90m long rock revetment to the north and south of the beach access ramp at Great Porth (north), a 100m long rock revetment at Popplestone and the recovery of rock armour from north Popplestone (EIA Development) (Major Development)

LOCATION:

Across Multiple Sites, Bryher, Isles Of Scilly

WEBPAGE:

<https://scilly.gov.uk/planning-application/planning-application-p22076ful>

You are being consulted on this application as you may wish to make comments before a decision is made. Should you wish to make any comments on this application, please complete the response form below or write to us returning it to planning@scilly.gov.uk by 17th December 2022 or by post to the Planning Department, Town Hall, The Parade, Hugh Town, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly TR21 0LW.

I look forward to receiving your comments in due course. If I have not heard back from you by the 17th December 2022 then I will assume you have no comments to make.

Consultee Name: Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Thank you for consulting us on this application. We have consulted the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record, the submitted documents and the further information the agent has provided to the Local Planning Authority.

While there will be a negligible impact from an archaeological perspective for the proposed sea defences at Great Popplestones and Kitchen Bay, we advise that the ground disturbance at Great

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Porth, Stinking Porth and Green Bay has a higher potential to reveal archaeological features than assessed in Section 7 of the submitted Environmental Statement (JBA Consulting November 2022).

The proposed sea defences at Stinking Porth are within 70m of the prehistoric field system on Gweal Hill (NHLE 1015004; MCO30616), and the proposed groundworks will cut into the land surface of soil and sand which could mask/incorporate earlier land surfaces and traces of prehistoric activity.

At Great Porth (North of Great Cairn), the proposed sea defences will impact upon the remains of the Scheduled gig shed (NHLE 1016173; MCO30596) and the ground disturbance cut back into the existing land surfaces, which could incorporate or mask evidence for prehistoric activity and buried land surfaces – four possible flints have been found on the beach although it is unclear if they were tools or nodules (MCO30596).

On the eastern side of the island at Green Bay, near Samson Cottage, the proposed defences will include a new bank to prevent overtopping (Drawings DKR6499-210-D370 and DKR6499-210-D116). This will require the stripping of the ground up to 0.95m deep for an area approximately 70m long and 10m wide. Ground disturbance here has the potential to reveal archaeological features, as the surrounding area has the remains of small round house or cairn approximately 20m southeast of the proposed sea defences (MCO43294), the remains of a prehistoric field system 54m to the east (NHLE 1015649; MCO31554) and approximately 82m to the south of the proposal, a Bronze Age round house has been noted as eroding from the cliff (MCO30195). In addition, as Section 7.5.1 of the ES points out, a watching brief at Sampson Cottage revealed 43 sherds of probable Bronze Age pottery, possibly briquetage associated with salt working (MCO67935). Taken as a whole, this evidence shows a high potential for evidence relating to Bronze Age settlement and activity in the area of the proposed sea defences; the remains of which could survive at a shallow depth.

For the reasons outlined above, we consider it prudent that an archaeological watching brief should be carried out during the early stages of groundworks, undertaken by a suitably qualified organisation or individual. We advise that any consent issued should carry the condition as worded below of sections A-C inclusive (please do not split into separate Conditions or treat separately), which includes words recommended by the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO), as follows:

A) No groundworks for the sea defences at Green Bay, Stinking Porth and Great Porth shall take place until a programme of archaeological recording work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions, and:

1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
2. The programme for post investigation assessment
3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation

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B) No groundworks for the sea defences at Green Bay, Stinking Porth and Great Porth shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).

C) The archaeological recording condition will normally only be discharged when all elements of the WSI including on site works, analysis, report, publication (where applicable) and archive work has been completed.

A pre-commencement condition is necessary in this instance due to the need to ensure that a programme and methodology of site investigation and recording of archaeological features is undertaken before physical works commence on site. This is in accordance with the provisions of NPPF (2021) Chapter 16, paragraph 205 and the Isles of Scilly Local Plan policy OE7.

Name: Peter Dudley

Date: 16/12/2022