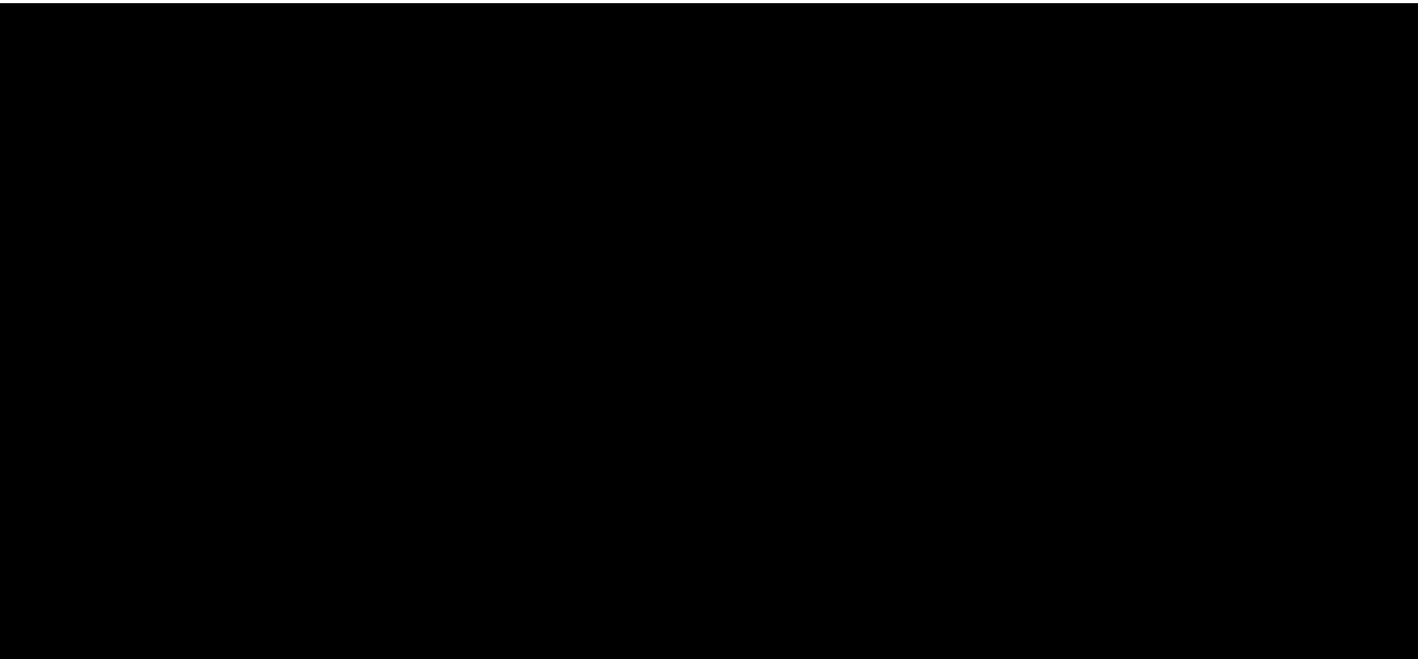




From: Mark Taylor [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 July 2014 09:23
To: Simon Davis
Cc: tony sutcliffe west sussex c c
Subject: P/52/14/PL Bowley Farm Solar Array

Dear Simon, I attach my comments on the Bowley Farm solar array proposals copied to Cllr Tony Sutcliffe. Essentially I don't feel that an archaeological response is necessary but as Bowley Farmhouse is listed grade II* Ian Wightman may wish to consider any setting issues, Regards, Mark

Mark Taylor | Principal Archaeologist, Strategic Planning, West Sussex County Council |
Location: Northleigh House, Tower Street, Chichester, PO19 1RH



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P/52/14/PL

**Installation of a 100.00kWp Solar PV Ground array,
Bowley Farm Bowley Lane Chichester PO20 1NB
(Pagham parish)**

West Sussex County Council Archaeology response

Summary:

No objection to the proposals on archaeological grounds.

The application site is situated on the West Sussex coastal plain, a landscape which is rich in prehistoric and Roman settlement and farming evidence. However, the application site is relatively modest at 0.27 ha and there is evidence (from the 2012 colour air photo coverage held by WSCC) that the site area has been disturbed with much wheel rutting. In addition, the physical impact of the solar array will be very minor in terms of ground penetration.

No archaeological response required.

Recommendation:

To the east of the application site Bowley farmhouse has medieval origins and dates back to the 13th century although it was largely rebuilt in the 17th century. (The farmhouse is a designated heritage asset listed grade II*). A recessed piscina survives in one wall and L. Fleming in the 'History of Pagham', 1949, suggested that foundations of further buildings could be seen in the garden. Mawer and Stenton's 'the Place-names of Sussex' refer to documentary evidence for the name Bowley in the late 13th and early 14th century in the lay Subsidy Rolls and Inquisitions post mortem.

The coastal plain landscape is rich in archaeological evidence of the prehistoric and Roman period. There is the possibility that such early settlement remains could lie close to the medieval farmstead at Bowley however nothing is known about the site on the West Sussex Historic Environment Record database and recent air photos show that there has been increasing ground disturbance in the vicinity of the application site, potentially agricultural activity not covered by the planning process.

The installation of the solar array will require posts to be driven into the ground to support each 'table' but while acknowledging there will always be a minor risk of penetration damage to underlying archaeology I consider that the overall impact will be relatively modest.

Taking these issues into account I do not consider that an archaeological response (ie recording and monitoring of construction) is necessary. However,

the Conservation Officer advising Arun District Council may wish to comment on the potential impact of the proposals upon the setting of the grade II* building - NPPF 132 - (setting is not referred to in the Design and Access Statement supporting the application). English Heritage have stated that Grade II* buildings represent only 5.5% of listed buildings and next to Grade I, the most important, can be rated "of more than special interest".

M Taylor 02/07/14