

Application No: WA/80/21/OUT

The desk-based assessment and geophysical survey have identified that the site contains a series of apparently Roman features, including buildings, which are likely to be part of a wider landscape of Roman agricultural management associated with the nearby Blacksmith's Corner Roman villa. This ancient landscape is further illuminated by the results of the recent excavation of Land East of Tye Lane Walberton, which included the discovery of a potential late Iron Age predecessor to the villa (and perhaps even its owner), as well as evidence of late Iron Age and Roman agricultural infrastructure.

This is clearly very significant archaeology, and development of the site should only be permitted if the most important elements of it can be properly preserved. This should be achieved by a combination of preservation in-situ of the most significant elements through sympathetic design and appropriate archaeological investigation of the rest. That the former should be possible is demonstrated by the indicative site layout, which satisfactorily avoids the Roman enclosures at the north and south ends of the site and the trackway between them. The latter should be secured via the imposition of a suitable standard condition.

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