



Head of Planning Services  
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council  
Unit 5 Triangle Business Park  
Pentrebach  
Merthyr Tydfil  
CF48 4TQ

7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

FAO: Thomas Boothroyd

Dear Sir

**Re: First Periodic Review of Old Minerals Permissions (ROMP) at Vaynor Quarry (Pursuant to Environment Act 1995):**  
**Vaynor Quarry, Upper Vaynor Road, Cefn Coed, Merthyr Tydfil.**  
**Pl.App.No.: P/22/0206.**

Thank you for consulting us regarding this Review of Mineral Permissions. **The proposal will require archaeological mitigation.**

The supporting documentation includes a historic environment desk-based assessment undertaken and reported on by Cotswold Archaeology (document reference CR0768\_2, dated December 2021); the work and report meet current professional standards.

The assessment has examined the likely impact of the proposal on the upstanding and buried archaeological resource, and the setting and visual impact. The area is within the Merthyr Tydfil Registered Landscape of Outstanding Importance, within Character Area HLCA015 Vaynor Quarry, summarised as an extractive Landscape, with the proposal not having an adverse impact. The assessment concludes that there is overall a low potential for archaeological remains to be encountered during the development, however, the potential remains, especially for the prehistoric periods.

This will need to be mitigated for the development, as any ground disturbing work, particularly soil stripping, in the northern area of the site, may encounter remains of earlier activity.

Therefore, it is our recommendation that a condition requiring the applicant to submit a detailed written scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological work to protect the archaeological resource should be attached to any consent granted by your Members.

We envisage that this programme of work would take the form of a watching brief during the groundworks required for the development, with detailed contingency arrangements including the provision of sufficient time and resources to ensure that any archaeological features or finds that are located are properly investigated and recorded; it should include provision for any sampling that may prove necessary, post-excavation recording and assessment and reporting and possible publication of the results. To ensure adherence to the recommendations we recommend that the condition should be worded in a manner similar to model condition 24 given in Welsh Government Circular 016/2014

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SA12 Business Centre  
Seaway Parade  
Baglan Energy Park  
Port Talbot  
SA12 7BR

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*No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured agreement for a written scheme of historic environment mitigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority. Thereafter, the programme of work will be fully carried out in accordance with the requirements and standards of the written scheme.*

*Reason: To identify and record any features of archaeological interest discovered during the works, in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource.*

We also recommend that a note should be attached to the planning consent explaining that:

*The archaeological work must be undertaken to the appropriate Standard and Guidance set by Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), [CIfA regulations, standards and guidance | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists](#) and it is recommended that it is carried out either by a CIfA Registered Organisation or a MCIfA level accredited Member [Looking for an archaeologist? | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists](#).*

If you have any questions or require further advice on this matter please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

***Judith Doyle***

Judith Doyle BA MBA FSA MCIfA  
Stewardship Officer