

## **Buckinghamshire Archaeological Officer's Report**

To: Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

Date: 2nd May 2012

Author: County Archaeologist

### A. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To advise the Forum of the work of the County Archaeological Service since the last BHEF meeting.

### B. PROPOSED ACTION

- 2 **The Forum is particularly invited to NOTE:**
  - a **resources and performance indicators, including the new charging policy and changing managerial structure**
  - b **progress with strategic projects**
  - c **recent planning-related archaeological work**
  - d **progress in securing publication of archaeological reports.**

### C. RESOURCES

- 3 The County Council's Planning, Environment & Development Service and Transport for Buckinghamshire have been merged to create a Place Service. The County Archaeological Service no longer exists as a separate entity as it has been combined with natural environment, landscape and rights of way definitive map in the Planning, Advisory and Compliance Service's environmental advice and information team. Sandy Kidd is now a PACS Lead Officer. Julia Wise and Eliza Alqassar retain their previous roles in the HER and archaeological planning advice respectively. David Green is now the landscape advisor; although still working on the Historic Towns Project.

### D. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

#### 5 **Strategic Projects**

The **Buckinghamshire Historic Towns Project** is funded principally by English Heritage supported by Buckinghamshire County Council and Milton Keynes Council. Individual town studies are now available on the project web site and presentations of the results have been

made to district councils and Milton Keynes. A synthesis report is in preparation.

The **Solent-Thames Research Frameworks Project** is now progressing to publication of the regional resource assessments and research agenda.

## 6 Planning related archaeological work

Volume measures	3rd Quarter 2011	4th Quarter 2011
Total number of consultations handled		
Number of planning applications handled		
Planning applications responded to within 14 days (target 90%)		
Number of development-related archaeological fieldwork projects		
Success rate at appeal (target 50% annual success rate)	0 of 0	0 of 0

The most significant planning-related outcome was the rejection of an appeal at **Quarrendon Fields, Aylesbury** for a major green field development affecting the setting of Quarrendon scheduled monument and undesignated buried archaeological remains.

Significant archaeological investigations include Roman remains at **Berryfields MDA** and on the **Arla Dairy** site near Aston Clinton in Aylesbury. A watching brief at **Princes Risborough church** has greatly increased our understanding of this building's complex development including the presence of a large late Saxon church.

A full list of development-related fieldwork from July to December 2011 is provided as appendix A.

## 7 Publication update (Appendix B)

Final draft reports have been received from Oxford Archaeology for the joint publication of the **Dorney Rowing Lake and Maidenhead, Windsor and Eton Flood Alleviation Scheme** and from Wessex Archaeology for **Weedon Mill MDA, Aylesbury**. The situation with other projects is summarised in appendix B.

## E. BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Archaeological Reports submitted to the Bucks HER

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