



## Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum agenda supplement

Date: Thursday 7 April 2022

Time: 10.00 am

Venue: Mezz 1, Walton Street Council Offices, Walton Street, Aylesbury

| Agenda Item   | Time | Page No       |
|---|------|---------------|
| <b>5 Update From Members and Partners</b>   |      | <b>3 - 12</b> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society</li><li>• Conservation Board for the Chilterns AONB</li><li>• Buckinghamshire Conservation Trust</li><li>• Archaeological Officer – Buckinghamshire</li><li>• Archaeological Officer – Milton Keynes</li><li>• Heritage Officer</li><li>• Planning Officer</li><li>• Historic England</li><li>• National Trust</li><li>• Milton Keynes Heritage Association</li><li>• Museums</li><li>• Oxford Diocesan Advisory Committee</li></ul> |      |               |

If you would like to attend a meeting, but need extra help to do so, for example because of a disability, please contact us as early as possible, so that we can try to put the right support in place.

For further information please contact: Ann-Marie Kenward on 01296 382236, email [democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:democracy@buckinghamshire.gov.uk).

This page is intentionally left blank

## CONSERVATION & ARCHAEOLOGY IN MILTON KEYNES

Update, March 2022

### DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

The Conservation & Archaeology Team received 414 planning consultations during the second half of 2021, 170 of which were archaeology related, 244 building conservation related.

### FIELDWORK

10 fieldwork projects took place between July and December, full list appended. Projects comprised:

5 excavations; 2 trial trench evaluations, 1 geophysical survey; and 2 watching briefs.

Highlights included excavations in relation to a large mixed-use development to the east of the M1 between Milton Keynes and Newport Pagnell, known as MK East Strategic Urban Extension (MKESUE). This first phase of mitigation excavations carried out by Pre-Construct Archaeology, focused on land to the west of the River Ouzel close to the M1 motorway. A multi-period landscape was revealed spanning early Bronze Age funerary monuments (ploughed out barrows / ring ditches) to Iron Age and Romano-British rural settlement sites. Artefacts recovered included an Iron Age log ladder from the base of a presumed waterhole / well (**image below**):



Iron Age log ladder (centre) in base of waterhole / well

## HERITAGE AT RISK

The March 2022 version of the register lists 27 heritage assets that are at risk, down from 31 in 2021. Work continues to decrease the level of identified risk at each of these heritage assets with the aim of removing them from the Heritage at Risk Register.

A recent success is the conservation and repair of the Chapel and Farmhouse at Bradwell Abbey. Respectively a scheduled monument and a grade II listed building, both form part of the medieval monastic complex, one of the key heritage assets in the New Town and home to the Milton Keynes City Discovery Centre. The two-year project to restore the buildings was jointly funded by the Council and Historic England with support from the Conservation & Archaeology and Heritage teams. Both structures have now been removed from the local Heritage at Risk register with the scheduled Chapel also being removed from the national register.

Archaeological work carried out as part of the project revealed reused masonry within the fabric of the 17th century farmhouse, including a carved stone head (**below**) that may have originally formed part of the priory church.



Carved stone head from the farmhouse, Bradwell Abbey

## **CONSERVATION AREAS**

The council is continuing to review its 27 Conservation Areas. During 2021, five more reviews were completed for Castlethorpe (**below**), Hanslope, North Crawley Stoke Goldington and Woughton on the Green. During 2022, five more reviews will be completed for Emberton, Ravenstone, Sherington and Weston Underwood. A report to Cabinet seeking approval of the revised boundaries and supporting documents will be made before the end of the year. This will bring the total number of conservation areas reviewed to 16.



Castlethorpe, medieval motte with church of St Simon and St Jude behind

## **MK NEW TOWN HERITAGE REGISTER**

Invitations have been sent out to potential members of the selection panel that will assess nominated assets against the adopted selection criteria. It is hoped that an introductory session will be held for the panel in April with nominations being considered in the summer of 2022. Outreach projects for spring and summer have been programmed and an architectural drawing strand of the project is nearly complete. Meanwhile, a project officer will be recruited to collate information regarding those nominations to be taken to the panel.

## **HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER)**

The Historic England sponsored audit of the HER was completed in late 2021 and a new action plan drawn up.

Report compiled by Nick Crank, Senior Archaeological Officer,  
with contributions from:

Martin Ellison, Senior Conservation Officer;

Chris Hooper, Conservation Officer;

& Simon Peart, Conservation & Archaeology Manager

Conservation & Archaeology Team, Placemaking, Milton Keynes Council



## Fieldwork Events July to December 2021

| Event No. | Site Name / Event type   | Organisation         | Dates                   | Results  |
|-----------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| EMK1454   | South Caldecotte, Bow Brickhill - Mitigation Excavations                   | Albion Archaeology   | 05/2021<br>–<br>12/2021 | Ongoing excavations on periphery of Magiovinium Roman town,              |
| EMK1457   | Walkers Bridge Farm, Lavendon Road, Olney - Trial trenching                | Souterrain           | 07/2021                 | 1 <sup>st</sup> to 3 <sup>rd</sup> century Romano-British ditch and pits |
| EMK1458   | 35-37 Vicarage Road, Stony Stratford - Trial trenching                     | KDK Archaeology      | 08/2021                 | Single undated but likely post-medieval pit                              |
| EMK1459   | Towergate A, Wavendon - Excavation   | Headland Archaeology | 08/2021                 | Late Iron Age to Romano-British settlement with small early RB cemetery  |
| EMK1460   | Milton Keynes East SUE, west of site - Strip, Map and Sample Excavations   | Pre-construct        | 08/2021                 | 2 Bronze Age ring ditches, Iron Age and RB rural settlement              |
| EMK1461   | 158 High Street, Stony Stratford - Watching Brief                          | Bancroft Heritage    | 09/2021                 | Negative   |
| EMK1462   | Milton Keynes Western Expansion Area, Area 10, Land Parcel D - Excavations | Border Archaeology   | 10/2021<br>–<br>12/2021 | LIA settlement   |
| EMK1463   | SEMK SUE, Wavendon / Woburn Sands - Geophysical Survey                     | MOLA Northampton     | 09/2021                 | Report awaited, pre-planning.  |
| EMK1464   | land west of Warrington Road, Olney - Watching Brief                       | Oxford Archaeology   | 10/2021                 | Negative   |
| EMK1465   | Land at Eagle Farm, Lower End Road, Wavendon - Excavation                  | TVAS                 | 11/2021                 | LIA to RB settlement   |

**Notes:** EBA – early Bronze Age; EIA – early Iron Age; MIA – middle Iron Age; LIA – late Iron Age; RB – Romano-British; Med – Medieval; PM – Post Medieval

This page is intentionally left blank



## Appendix A: Buckinghamshire Heritage Team Briefing Note

To: Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Author: Paul Rhymes (Heritage & Archaeology Team Leader)

### 1. Recruitment

Since our last meeting, the Heritage Team has been through a busy period of recruitment and reallocation of resources. The following positions have now been successfully filled:

- Tineke Rennie – Heritage Officer (Permanent FTE)
- Nicola Bishop - Heritage Officer (Permanent FTE)
- Stephanie Parsons – Assistant Heritage Officer (Fixed Contract FTE)
- Louise Sjogren Taylor – Assistant Heritage Officer (Fixed Contract FTE)

The [Heritage and Archaeology Team Leader](#) position is also currently out to advert with a closing date of 10<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

### 2. Local Heritage List Project

The Local Heritage List project has now received over **2000 nominations**. This is a significant landmark and testament to the hard work of the project team, volunteers and community groups who have all engaged with the project and helped to identify local assets across the county. We want to keep this momentum going by encouraging more volunteers to register on the [local list platform](#) and to view our outreach talks on our [YouTube channel](#).

Project highlights to-date:

- **Currently 2160** candidate sites nominated for Local Listing.
- We currently have **140 registered users** on our Local Heritage List web platform.
- A core group of **18 volunteers** are busy nominating, researching and enriching sites online.
- Currently involved with **38 groups and organisations**.
- **15 parish councils** are working with us to nominate and enrich sites.

The Council remains on target to submit nominations to Members for adoption by Autumn this year.

### 3. Updates to Statutory List

- Ice House, Stoke Park (refused)
- Stoke Poges Golf Club (refused)
- Lych gate and attached stone and flint wall, Church of St Giles, Church Lane, Stoke Poges (accepted)

- Lillies Farmhouse, Weedon (early C19<sup>th</sup> timber frame, George Deevey makeover) (accepted)

#### 4. Buildings at Risk

- **Manor Farm, Gawcott** – Urgent works have been completed on site, costs have been recovered through sale and the case successfully closed. Applications from new owners to carry out full repairs now received.
- **Mentmore Towers** – warrant for access and survey completed, working to find solutions and currently considering options.
- **Whiteleaf Cottages** - fire-damaged cottages, Whiteleaf  
The owner has submitted a pre-application request for advice on the reinstatement of the cottages and enabling development. Negotiations ongoing.
- **Brunel Shed, High Wycombe** - Building work is on site nearing completion and progressing for the conversion and extension of this Grade II LB.
- **2-3 High Street, High Wycombe** - Building work now completed on this Grade II LB, cocktail bar due to open soon.

#### 5. Appeal Decisions

- 21/00028/REF & 21/00029/REF Petford Lea – dismissed due to harm to the CA and setting of LB's, design and backland development.
- 21/03163/APP Winslow Road, Great Horwood - alterations to C19<sup>th</sup> cottage and extension. Dismissed due to harm to the NDHA and would fail to enhance and preserve the character and appearance of the CA.
- 21/02273/APP Land At School End, Great Horwood - Erection of three dwellings, dismissed due to effect of the proposed development on the character and appearance of the conservation area and rural setting.

#### 6. Development Management

##### *Majors*

- HMP Grendon & Springhill Prison – Refused at Committee
- Hollands Farm – allocated site, heritage advice offered
- Princess Risborough - Outline PA received for the 1st half of the urban expansion area for 1,100 houses.

### *PPAs & HPA's*

- **Clivedon Estate** -
- **Stoke Park** -
- **Chilterns Shopping Centre** - work is continuing on proposals for the redevelopment of the in the centre of High Wycombe.
- **Wycombe Abbey School** – plans are moving forward on the preparation of a masterplan for the school site.
- **Marlow Film Studios** - plans progressing, three design panel meetings taken place , aim to submit plans in May.

### *Planning Advice*

- We are continuing to receive a high number of requests for specialist advice from owners of listed buildings and for development in conservation areas.
- Input on the Kingsbury and Market Square regeneration and Walton Street improvement works.

### *SPD's & Design*

- Shopfronts – Heritage Team currently exploring options for a SPD focussing on design of shopfronts.

## **7. Conclusion**

It has been an exceptionally busy time for the Heritage Team and resources have been stretched. Now recruitment has largely been completed the team is in a much stronger position to move forward with our key priorities including the adoption of the Local Heritage List.

This page is intentionally left blank