

Melissa Tyler
Development Management
North Hertfordshire District Council

Postal Point CHN 108
Hertfordshire County Council
County Hall, Pegs Lane
HERTFORD SG13 8DN

Contact Catie Teodorescu
Tel 01992 555241
My ref P01/26/1878-1
Your ref 26/01878/FP
historic.environment@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Date: 24/08/2026

Dear Melissa,

**Re: The Old School House 4 Market Hill Royston Hertfordshire SG8 9JL
Raise existing roof ridge height, installation of roof insulation and replace existing
slate roof coverings with fibre cement slates and flush mounted Photovoltaic
Panels. Replace existing large rear window with a double glazed, timber framed
window.**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

Thank you for consulting this office on the above application.

Please note that the following advice is based on the policies contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Old School House is included on the Register of Buildings of Local Interest:

The National School was built in 1886 for the children of Church of England families of Royston. It is a flint building with gault brick dressings and chimneys. Its location between Fish Hill and Market Hill results in it fronting and contributing to both streets. The school provides a strong building line to both streets and has an enclosed courtyard facing onto Market Hill. The angled chimneys in gault brickwork at regular positions along the eaves make a particular architectural contribution. The use of flint is a characteristic within the town and is emphasised on the building's Market Hill elevation.

Reason for inclusion: Building of local interest to the social and educational history of the town constructed in local materials strongly characteristic of the town.

I therefore believe that the proposed development is such that it should be regarded as likely to have an impact on heritage assets of archaeological interest and I recommend that the following provisions be made, should you be minded to grant consent:

1) The archaeological building recording of all interventions to the fabric of the building in areas where such works might reveal information relating to the development of the

building, and for the purpose of recording any original historic features (etc.) that may be exposed;

2) The analysis of the results of the archaeological work with provision for the subsequent production of a report and an archive, and the publication of the results;

3) Such other provisions as may be necessary to protect the archaeological and historic interests of the site.

I believe that these recommendations are both reasonable and necessary to provide properly for the likely archaeological implications of this development proposal. I further believe that these recommendations closely follow para. 218, etc. of the National Planning Policy Framework, relevant guidance contained in the National Planning Practice Guidance, and Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2: Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment (Historic England, 2015).

In this case three appropriately worded conditions on any planning consent would be sufficient to provide for the level of investigation that this proposal warrants. I suggest the following wording:

A. No development shall take place/commence until an Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of archaeological significance and research questions; and:

- 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording***
- 2. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording as suggested by the archaeological evaluation***
- 3. The programme for post investigation assessment***
- 4. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording***
- 5. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation***
- 6. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation***
- 7. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation.***

B. The development shall take place/commence in accordance with the programme of archaeological works set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A)

C. The development shall not be occupied/used until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis and publication where appropriate.

If planning consent is granted, I will be able to provide detailed advice concerning the requirements for the investigations, and to provide information on professionally accredited archaeological contractors who may be able to carry out the necessary work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely,

Catie Teodorescu
Historic Environment Officer, Hertfordshire LEADS
Environmental Sustainability

Hertfordshire LEADS provides Landscape, Ecology, Archaeology, Design and Sustainability support to planning departments in Hertfordshire.