

Proposed Stoke Lane Solar Farm: Archaeological Technical Note

This technical note details the changes to the Proposed Development and how they impact the conclusions of Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES in regard to direct physical impacts. It also reviews the additional mitigation from Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES. This technical note is accompanied by Figure 1 which shows the current Proposed Development and is a variation on EIA Figure 3-1: Heritage Assets and the Proposed Development Site and EIA Figure 3-9: Heritage Assets and the Proposed Development.

Based on 110-016L-260410 - Planning Layout, there has been a change in the extent of solar panels and associated cabling, in the north-eastern area and in the centre-western area, with some minor alteration to the solar panel configuration around the excluded area in the south-eastern area of the Proposed Development Site. There has also been some change to the location of access tracks.

Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES identified eight heritage assets (Assets 48, 105, 107, 113, 116, 162, 173 & 174) within the Proposed Development Site which may be subject to direct physical effects (Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES, Table 3-6). This assessment has identified nine heritage assets (Assets 48, 105, 106, 107, 108, 113, 116, 173 & 174) within the Proposed Development Site which may be subject to direct physical effects

There is no change to the EIA assessment in terms of Assets 48, 105, 107, 116, 173 & 174.

The solar panels and associated cabling are proposed to encroach further on the remains of Asset 113, Probable Iron Age Settlement. The evaluation identified remains associated with Roman period activities (CuraTerra, 2025). Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES identified Asset 113 as of High importance. EIA Chapter 3 concluded that the magnitude of impact would be Negligible with the resulting level of effect Minor and not significant. Comparatively the Proposed Development appears to extend further into the extent of Asset 113, although it is considered that the Proposed Development would encroach on the area previously investigated and not the core area

of the remains which was advised as the required exclusion zone. The magnitude of change is thus still considered to be Negligible as in the Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES and thus the resulting level of effect would remain Minor and not significant. Whilst there is no change to the conclusions the change to the Proposed Development must be noted.

Based on the change to the Proposed Development, Asset 162 Medieval or post medieval Ridge and Furrow, would be located beyond the extent of the Proposed Development and would be located within land proposed to be retained as agricultural land (04571 Stokes Lane Solar Farm - Landscape Strategy Plan 1-2500 A1_RevC). Asset 162 is an asset considered to be of Negligible importance. The evaluation trenching identified *“excavated and unexcavated features... typical of late prehistoric and Romano-British land enclosure systems, primarily conforming to elements of square enclosures with internal pits and ditches/gullies perhaps representing circular structures”* in the vicinity of Asset 162 (CuraTerra, 2025). Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES concluded that there was the potential for a High magnitude of impact, resulting in a Minor level of effect (EIA Chapter 3, Table 3-6). This level of effect is not considered to be significant in EIA terms. Conversely to Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES, the current form of the Proposed Development would result in no impact. The resulting Level of Effect would be None.

An additional two assets: Asset 106, *Enclosure S Of Monk Sherborne* and Asset 108, Bronze Age Ring Ditches would extend across the perimeter fence into the extent of solar panels and associated cabling in the centre west of the Proposed Development Site. The assets were identified during geophysical survey (ARS, 2023) but were not investigated during evaluation trenching as they were excluded from the Proposed Development extent at that time. In line with Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES: Table 3-2, as non-designated heritage assets of potential Bronze Age date relating to domestic and agricultural activity there are considered likely to be of Medium importance. The Proposed Development has the potential to lead to a minor loss of information content from a portion of the extent of the assets, resulting in a Low

magnitude of change (Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES, Table 3-4). The resulting level of effect is judged to be Minor and not significant.

The Additional Mitigation Measures detailed in the Chapter 3: Cultural Heritage of the 2025 ES, section 3.8 are considered to be robust. References to mitigation in regard to Asset 162 are no longer relevant. It is also recommended that the locations of Assets 106, 108 and 113 are taken into consideration during the creation of a piling plan, and that ground breaking works in the vicinity of Assets 106, 108 & 113 be subject to a watching brief.

In the case that significant archaeological remains are identified further intrusive archaeological mitigation may be required. Details of mitigation would be agreed with County Archaeological Services in consultation with Basingstoke and Deane District Council through a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI).

Bibliography

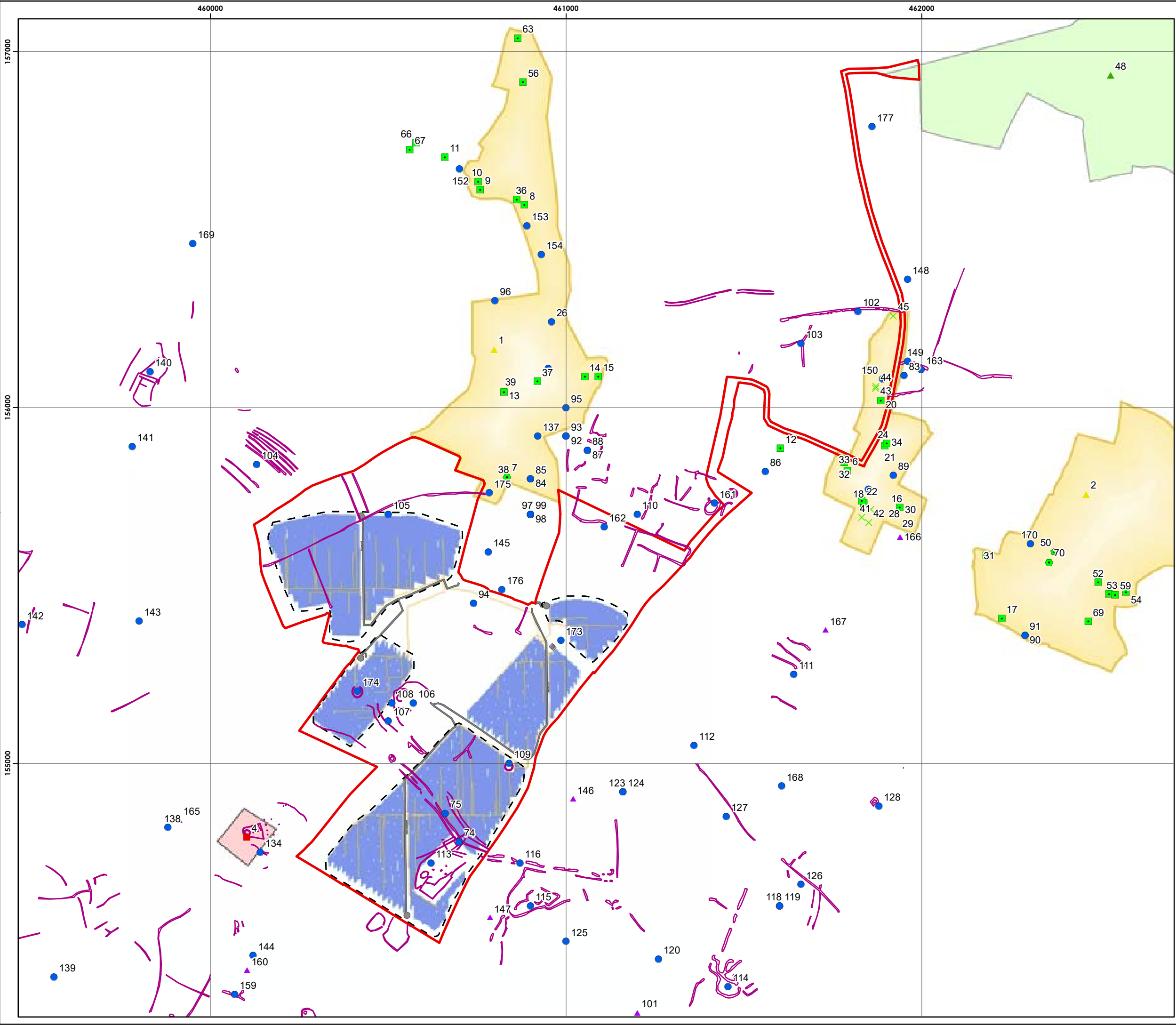
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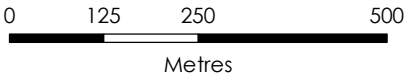


Monk Sherborne Solar Farm

solar2

Figure 1
Heritage Assets and the
Proposed Development

- Key
- Site Boundary
 - Site Installation
 - Fence
 - Access Track
 - Solar Panel
 - Cable Trench
 - Scheduled_Monument Extent
 - Registered Park and Garden Extent
 - Conservation Area Extent
 - Scheduled Monument
 - Registered Park and Garden- Grade I
 - Listed Building Grade I
 - Listed Building Grade II*
 - Listed Building Grade II
 - Conservation Area
 - Local Listing
 - Non-Designated Heritage Asset
 - Event
 - Cropmark



Scale @ A3:
1:10,000



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