

WLC REF: MIRQ0120

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16 October 2014 12:11
To: Planning
Cc: [REDACTED]; Cavanagh, Sybil
Subject: WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL LDP CONSULTATION.

In requirement for responses by 17th October 2014, i attach my observations.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT part of STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.WLC LOCAL PLAN
PUBLIC CONSULTATION

PAGES 147 to 153 inclusive ,Page 709 and pages 723-727 inclusive.

1. I note with interest that there are no references in this report to the Scottish Government's intention to merge Historic Scotland with the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Scotland. This matter should be corrected or extended to refer to any such similar successor mergers of governmental agencies or partnerships.

2.I notice that no particular provision has been made with making a policy to charge a developer for the costs of researching, investigating by field walking or trial excavation or full scale archaeology, the preservation and conservation of any finds, their display and interpretation,I believe that this policy could be included in point 7 of this email.

3.In the above point 2, it is important that West Lothian Council can recover any costs that are necessary in dealing with this matter as they do not have their own Archaeologist and have to subscribe to West Of Scotland Archaeological Services under a service level agreement for any relevant recommendations and guidance. This relationship then produces a difficulty to preserve the local history and heritage as a developer will only carry the services that are legally required and will generally not go beyond the brief from WLC even if finds are subsequently made.

4.I see no specific specific confirmation or mention that WLC will protect all known and unknown sites which may produce evidence of previously constructed features such as those known and found at Auldathie Kirk near Winchburgh, Glen Devon model farm near Winchburgh, Beegcraigs Iron Age structures or the various lost medieval villages across the county.

5. I can see no policy with regard to Metal Detecting in the County, this matter could be included in point 7 below.

6.If the proposed approval of Abercorn Village as a conservation area is granted, then the conservation area must include the area of Midhope hamlet, the two burns, the seashore are and the whole section of the Hopetoun Estate which includes the castle and its environs.

7.The new WLC/SPG on the Historic Environment was promised by WLC at least two years , when i was Chair of West Lothian Association of Community Councils, and to my knowledge is not included in this consultation.

8.Section 9.2 Page 147 Scheduled Ancient Monuments,

The reference MAP 9 is not included in the report.

9.Section 9.2 Page 150.Archaeology.

A copy of the full WOSAS report is recommended to be filed with West Lothian Local History Archives for public access together with a copy of ANY archaeological report made as part of any planning permission condition ,within the county.

10. No mention is made of council financial support to WLC archives or museum collections or private museums in the county to preserve, and display archaeological or historic finds as part of a ongoing council policy to preserve the history of the county.

Yours cordially,

[REDACTED]

Member of Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society.

Member of Archaeology Scotland.

Life Member of Annet House Museum, Linlithgow.

sent via e mail- [REDACTED] on 16.10.2014 at 12noon.

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