

Historic Environment Scotland

Àrainneachd Eachdraidheil Alba

Planning Decisions Team
Scottish Government

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Our ref: AMH/5997/1/1
Our Case ID: 201507976

13 April 2016

Dear Sirs

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
The Scheduled Monument Consent (Notification of Applications) Direction 2015
Excavation of possible Anglian timber buildings in the Glebe Field, Aberlady
Statutory Designation: Kilspindie Castle, Castle and Settlement
Designation Reference: M5997

A scheduled monument consent application was received by us on 21 March for Excavation of possible Anglian timber buildings in the Glebe Field, Aberlady which affects the scheduled monument Kilspindie Castle, castle and Settlement.

We are minded to grant scheduled monument consent for the works contained in the application. In accordance with paragraph 2 of the above Direction, we are notifying Scottish Ministers of our intention. Our reasons, which are set out in our Report on Handling, are:

- The application, being a research excavation, should be viewed as works as set out in both Part 1 Section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (AMAA Act 1979) and section 3.4 of the Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP), and also use of metal detecting equipment as set out in Part 3 Section 42 of the AMAA Act 1979.
- The application, requiring intrusive excavation works, which forms part of a wider community engagement and schools learning project, is more than the minimum necessary to conserve what is culturally significant in this scheduled monument.
- The application is compliant with SHEP 3.19, 3.20 and 3.22 to demonstrate that there is a public benefit of national importance and that it is carefully considered, is based on good authority, sensitively designed and properly planned.
- From the information provided with this application, and based on pre-application discussions with the applicant, further conditions as outlined in SHEP 3.22 to ensure the works are undertaken in an appropriate manner are not required.

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All the information and details relevant to the application can be found on the decisions portal on our website using reference number 201507976. The link to the portal is: <http://portal.historic-scotland.gov.uk>.

If you require any further assistance meantime, please contact George Findlater.

Yours faithfully

Victoria Murray
Head of Business Support & Improvement