



Historic England

SOUTH WEST OFFICE

Mrs Lucy Minting  
Development Management - Wiltshire Council  
PO Box 2281  
Salisbury  
Wiltshire  
SP2 2HX

Direct Dial: 0117 9750699

Our ref: P00557101

11 March 2017

Dear Mrs Minting

**T&CP (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015  
& Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990**

**STONEHENGE VISITOR CENTRE, A344 AIRMANS CORNER, WINTERBOURNE  
STOKE, WILTSHIRE, SP4 7DE  
Application No. 17/01217/VAR**

Thank you for your letter of regarding further information on the above application for planning permission. On the basis of this information, we offer the following advice to assist your authority in determining the application.

**Historic England Advice**

These proposed variations to planning consent 16/03988/FUL are largely acceptable with one exception. The proposal to vary the previously agreed post and wire fence on the south side of the Stonehenge-end visitor pick up/drop off would result in an adverse visual impact to views across this part of the WHS, including views towards Stonehenge.

**Recommendation**

Historic England has concerns regarding the application on heritage grounds. We consider that the proposed variation to fencing at this location will have an adverse visual impact on this part of the WHS and in certain views towards Stonehenge. This would be contrary to the previously agreed principles of the Stonehenge Environmental Improvements Project (SEIP) and the Stonehenge Visitor Enhancement Project (SVEP) to minimise or remove visible infrastructure from the landscape. These principles are enshrined within the 2015 Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Management Plan, and whilst at face value a very minor issue, the proposed fence variation is in such a sensitive location as to run counter to the guidance in NPPF paragraph 137 that new development within WHSs should be supported where it enhances or better reveals significance. A post and rail fence would not achieve this. The original proposal for a post and wire fence should be reinstated.

Your authority should take these representations into account and seek amendments,



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safeguards or further information as set out in our advice. If there are any material changes to the proposals, or you would like further advice, please contact us.

Yours sincerely

**Phil McMahon**

Inspector of Ancient Monuments

E-mail: [phil.mcmahon@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:phil.mcmahon@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

cc: Dr Heather Sebire, English Heritage; Dr Nick Snashall, National Trust; Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger & Clare King, Wiltshire Council



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