

S106B APPLICATION TO MODIFY/AMEND THE S106 AGREEMENT DATED 27 FEBRUARY 2017 (AS AMENDED) (PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER 12/00400/AS)

PINS Ref: APP/W2275/Q/23/3333923 and APP/E2205/Q/23/3334094

Kent County Council – Topic Paper – Schedule 25 Heritage Interpretation

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The section 106 agreement dated 27 February 2017 (as amended) (“S106”) [CD1/14 CD1/16] currently obligates the Owners (as defined in the S106) to pay £145,000 (plus indexation) as follows:
- 1.1.1 The Archaeological Archiving Contribution (£40,000), Heritage Interpretation Contribution (£60,000) and Archaeologist Contribution 1 (£15,000) prior to commencement of development.
 - 1.1.2 Archaeologist Contribution 2 (£15,000) prior to 301 Occupations or 1st anniversary of Commencement (whichever is earlier).
 - 1.1.3 Archaeologist Contribution 3 (£15,000) prior to 601 Occupations or 2nd anniversary of Commencement (whichever is earlier).
- 1.2 The Archaeological Archiving Contribution is defined as: “...for the adequate storage space at a suitable repository such as a museum for the storage of archaeological findings from the Site...”.
- 1.3 The Archaeologist Contribution (including Archaeologist Contribution 1, 2 and 3) is defined as: “...to fund the employment of a community archaeologist for the Site for three years...”.
- 1.4 The Heritage Interpretation Contribution is defined as: “to be spent on community activity Serving the Development relating to the heritage of the Site”.
- 1.5 As set out in the Appellants’ Annex A 106 Modifications Table [CD2/22], the Appellants seek the **discharge and repayment of monies already paid** of the obligations as follows:
- 1.5.1 Request 109 – Payment of Archaeological Archiving, Heritage Interpretation and Archaeologist Contributions (Schedule 25, paras 1 and 4.1)
 - 1.5.2 Request 110 – Remaining Payment of Archaeologist Contributions (Schedule 25, paras 2, 3, 4.2 and 4.3 and Schedules 30A-C).

- 1.6 The Appellants state that discharge of the obligations is sought for the following reasons:
- 1.6.1 Viability Grounds
- 1.6.2 Heritage Contribution – *“...overlaps with PP Condition 97, is duplicative and serves no useful purpose.”*
- 1.6.3 Archaeological Archiving Contribution – *“The discharge and refund of the Archaeological Archiving contribution is justified because there is no archiving, other than that carried out by Hodson’s consultant and this contribution serves no useful purpose.”*
- 1.6.4 Archaeologist Contribution – *“... serves no useful purpose given that the Appellants employ a consultant archaeologist directly”*. In addition, *“The Development now being well beyond the initial three year period envisaged for the funding of a community archaeologist, it is submitted that there is no utility in any further payments being made and that this obligation should be discharged accordingly.”*
- 1.7 Where the Appellants have cited viability as the reason for discharging an obligation, Kent County Council (“KCC”) deals with this in a separate Viability Proof of Evidence.
- 1.8 All contributions have been paid to KCC and are either spent, allocated or committed for spend, with contracts in place (see Appendix 1).

KCC’s view is that the obligations continue to serve a useful purpose and that their discharge and modification should be refused.

2. **POLICY CONTEXT**

- 2.1 The following section sets out the legislative and policy drivers for the provision of KCC’s Heritage and Archaeology service. The legislative context is relevant because it sets out the duties upon and powers available to KCC. The relevant policies are set out in national, local and KCC policy documents, plans and programmes. They are material because they represent the official position of the Government, Ashford Borough Council and KCC as service providers.

- 2.1.1 Under the requirements of the NPPF [CD5/1] local authorities must ensure that the heritage is provided for in their responses to planning applications. Where the local authority considers that the significance of the heritage assets affected by the development proposal is not sufficient for them to refuse planning permission, they may nonetheless require that recording of the impact of the development on the significance of the asset should take place. The relevant paragraphs are:

216. *The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a*

balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

217. *Local planning authorities should not permit the loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred.*

218. *Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible¹<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/16-conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment>. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.*

2.1.2 The Kent County Council Heritage Conservation Strategy (adopted 2022) [CD13/6] has the Strategic Aim “Strategic Aim 3 Increase awareness, knowledge and understanding of Kent’s rich heritage and increase involvement in heritage activities amongst its local communities.” The Strategy also contains Objective 9 “Objective 9: Assess options for the display and long-term storage of archaeological archives and ensure the KCC-held archives are placed in an appropriate repository” and Objective 10 “Objective 10. Promote understanding and enjoyment of Kent’s heritage using multiple media channels including digital media (the online HER, KCC website and social media), print media (publications and press releases) and through direct experience (community archaeology)”.

2.1.3 KCC’s current policy for seeking s106 contributions is set out in its Developer Contributions Guide 2023 [CD4/3], plus Technical Appendix 13 Heritage and Archaeology – Community Archaeology Provision [CD4/3/13].

3. PURPOSE

3.1 Purpose served by the s106 Obligations

3.1.1 The purpose of the Obligation is to prevent the development proceeding beyond the specified triggers before the payment of monies which can be used to enable provision of Archaeological Archiving, Heritage Interpretation and an Archaeologist for the benefit of this Development.

¹ Footnote 76 of the NPPF states “Copies of evidence should be deposited with the relevant historic environment record, and any archives with a local museum or other public depository.”

3.1.2 The purpose of the obligations is to require payments to be made to enable KCC to undertake its functions as stated in 2.1.2.

3.1.3 The obligations serve a useful purpose by enabling new residents and the wider community to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of their local heritage. This will be achieved by:

- (a) Educational actions: the project will form links with both existing schools and the new schools being built as part of the Chilmington project; carry out outreach visits and lessons; explore how the archaeology of Chilmington can be integrated into the National Curriculum in a practical way, and liaise with teachers and carers
- (b) Forming partnerships with local people and community groups: providing opportunities for new residents and existing community groups and local people to volunteer and participate in community archaeology activities
- (c) Arranging promotional events: the team will arrange events to promote the project and share its discoveries. We will ensure volunteers participate in these events to share their experiences.
- (d) Dissemination: the team will promote the project and share its discoveries and volunteer experiences by a range of media including social media, website, press releases and articles.
- (e) Securing a legacy: the team will secure the legacy of the project by various means including displays and exhibitions, publications and by helping the volunteers form their own group or partner with an existing archaeological group so that they can continue to research the archaeology of the area. We will also ensure all the information and products from the project are properly archived in an appropriate repository.

3.2 Why is that purpose useful at the current time?

3.2.1 Purposes

KCC is currently delivering the Community Heritage project at the Development which is funded by the obligations set out in this Schedule. The cost of this will not be met by any other source. KCC considers it useful because it will have the following outcomes for the local community:

- (a) To engage with new residents at Chilmington, and the residents of neighbouring areas, to enthuse them about the heritage of the Chilmington area.

- (b) To form a volunteer group to study the heritage of the Chilmington area. To fully involve the volunteers in all project activities.
- (c) To provide a range of activities by which the volunteers can learn more about the heritage of the area, and heritage research methods.
- (d) To engage with local educational audiences, especially schools, and arrange events and activities that will help them engage with their local heritage.
- (e) To arrange events that will promote and interpret the heritage of the area and the volunteer activities to new residents.
- (f) To promote the project and its activities and discoveries using a range of media including social media, exhibitions and others.
- (g) To liaise closely with local stakeholders in order to share ideas, volunteers and help secure legacy.
- (h) To secure the legacy of the project by publication and promotion of the project's work by reports and images, physical interpretation (e.g. panels, booklets) and by helping the volunteers either form a heritage group of their own or work with existing heritage groups.
- (i) The project also provides for the preparation of an archive for the project consisting of digital and paper files (e.g. project reports, maps, photographs etc.), survey maps and data, oral history recordings and any artefacts that have discovered. The archive will be deposited in an appropriate store so that it can be examined by future generations.
- (j) The requirement to store archaeological archives securely is supported by national standards. The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists requires that:

"All archaeological projects that include the recovery or generation of data and/archaeological materials (finds) will result in a stable, ordered, accessible archive. All archaeologists are responsible for ensuring that the archive is created and compiled to recognised standards, using consistent methods, and is not subject to unnecessary risk of damage or loss. It is the responsibility of all curators of archaeological archives to ensure that archives are stored to recognised standards for long-term preservation and made accessible for consultation." ("Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives", CiFA 2014, updated 2020)

The Archaeological Archives Forum, supported by Historic England and the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO), states that:

“All archaeological projects must result in a stable, ordered, accessible archive. All archaeological practitioners must acknowledge and accept their responsibilities in this regard.” (para 1.3.1) and “A project has not been completed until the archive has been transferred successfully and is fully accessible for consultation” (para 1.3.5) (‘Archaeological Archives A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation’, 2011)

3.2.2 Impact

The Community Heritage project will have several outcomes that will impact on the Development and the local community, including:

- (a) Residents will feel more informed about their diverse heritage and the wide range of sources of information about it. They will understand how their new development fits into an old landscape.
- (b) Information on Chilmington’s heritage will be made widely available and accessible to diverse audiences. Even after the project has completed residents will be able to benefit from it via the improved website and App.
- (c) Opportunities will be made available for residents to participate in community heritage activities and learn new skills. This will help them continue to pursue their interest after the completion of the project producing new understandings of Chilmington’s history
- (d) Social cohesion – the project will help the community to feel part of the wider south Ashford landscape, make connections with the existing community and support health and well-being – “reclaiming a sense of place is seen as a potential solution to social isolation, sustainability and environmental degradation” (Historic England ‘Wellbeing and the Historic Environment’ 2018)
- (e) The archive that will be prepared at the end of the project will be a resource that residents can access and use to carry out new research and deepen their understanding of Chilmington’s heritage.

Further details of the Community Heritage project and spend profile are available in Appendix 1.

4. **ASSESSMENT OF APPELLANT'S ASSERTION OF THE USEFUL PURPOSE**

4.1 **The Appellant's Assertion**

4.1.1 The Appellants have asserted within Request 109 [CD2/22] that the Archaeological Archiving, Heritage Interpretation and Archaeologist Contributions are duplicative due the requirements of Condition 97 and their employment of an archaeological consultant. The Appellants deem that they therefore, serve no useful purpose.

4.1.2 The contributions consist of three elements:

- (a) Heritage Interpretation Contribution: defined in the S106 as "£60,000.00 (sixty thousand pounds) Index Linked to be spent on community activity Serving the Development relating to the heritage of the Site." This is to be used for both physical interpretation (e.g. website, booklets, social media, displays etc) and for interpretation by engagement (e.g. working with school groups, volunteer activities, public talks and open days etc).
- (b) Archaeologist Contribution: defined in the S106 as "A total sum of £45,000.00 (forty five thousand pounds) Index Linked to fund the employment of a community archaeologist for the Site for three years payable by equal instalments of £15,000 Indexed Linked and Archaeologist Contribution (1), (2) and (3) shall be construed accordingly". This will be used for community archaeologist salary costs. It was originally intended for this to be a KCC staff member and a team member was in fact recruited for the purpose in 2017. However, the developer did not build at the stated rate and this meant that the archaeologist had to be redeployed as there were insufficient residents for the officer to work with. By December 2023 we considered that sufficient houses had now been built that the project could properly commence but chose to appoint an external community archaeologist (AOC Archaeology Group) rather than try to recruit a new team member. This was because recruitment was generally difficult at that time and it was felt that appointing an external archaeologist gave us flexibility in case house-building slowed again.
- (c) Archaeological Archiving Contribution: defined in the S106 [CD1/14 - CD1/16] as "The sum of £40,000.00 (forty thousand pounds) for adequate storage space at a suitable repository such as a museum for the storage of archaeological findings from the Site Index Linked." The purpose of this contribution is to ensure that the discoveries of the community heritage project are properly assembled and stored in a suitable archive for posterity and that the existence of the archive material is explained and displayed to people. This process involves selecting an appropriate sample of the artefacts found and the maps and data generated,

displaying, conserving and cataloguing them and then placing them in a suitable store for a term usually in excess of 30 years. Each box deposited in the store is the subject of a box charge. The number of boxes required for deposition depends on the nature and significance of the archaeology that has been discovered.

- 4.1.3 Although the three elements are listed separately in the S106, and three discrete amounts secured as contributions, they are in fact entirely integrated with each other. The archaeologist needs the interpretation budget to develop interpretation materials and carry out activities and cannot do so without the budget. The interpretation materials and activities cannot be developed without a qualified community archaeologist and the salary costs to do so. The result of all this work leads to the need for appropriate archiving. It is therefore not possible to carry out the project without all three components.

4.2 Response

- 4.2.1 Under the requirements of the NPPF [CD5/1] a developer has to take account of the historic environment (which includes the archaeological heritage, built heritage and historic landscape) when preparing their development proposals. The relevant paragraphs are:

216. *The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.*

217. *Local planning authorities should not permit the loss of the whole or part of a heritage asset without taking all reasonable steps to ensure the new development will proceed after the loss has occurred.*

218. *Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.*

- 4.2.2 The local planning authority determined that the impact of Planning Application 12/00400/AS on heritage significance could be mitigated by conditions attached to the planning permission. Specifically, conditions 93-97 [CD6/3] required archaeological fieldwork and desk-based work to be conducted both in advance of and during the Development.

Condition 97 concerns heritage interpretation.

97 No development shall take place within each Main AAP Phase (except for any Detailed Development within that main AAP Phase) until a scheme of heritage interpretation measures for the relevant Main AAP Phase has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall include a timescale for implementation of the heritage interpretation measures and written specification of such measures to be provided within the relevant Main AAP Phase. Heritage interpretation measures shall be provided in each Main AAP Phase in accordance with the details of the scheme of heritage interpretation measures (including timescales for its implementation) as approved by the Local Planning Authority for each Main AAP Phase.

Reason: To ensure that appropriate conservation and interpretation of the heritage assets within the application site is achieved and that information on the assets is publicly accessible.

- 4.2.3 The purpose of Condition 97 is to ensure that any archaeological contractor and developer (or developer consortium who signed the S106) working within Chilmington Green development implements measures to make the results of the archaeological work required by conditions 93-96 publicly accessible. Condition 97 is to be implemented on a phase by phase basis and each development/applicant should provide interpretation measures primarily for that particular phase of development. So far, the developer only has an approved Scheme of Heritage Interpretation for Chilmington Phase One (reference: 08/06/2017). The measures focus on a heritage trail, public art, development design measures such as heritage themed play areas and long term heritage display within the village centre. This is high-level though and no details have so far been agreed, nor timescales for delivery, and no interpretation has been implemented yet. The local community is therefore not currently being made aware of the heritage of the Development. This then is the 'professional'² work described in the appeal. It is focused on the heritage likely to be directly impacted by the Chilmington construction work and does not include wider heritage of the Chilmington area. It is limited in its scope and its public engagement.
- 4.2.4 The community archaeology programme required by the S106 is very different from this. It considers a much wider range of heritage aspects than the professional work does. It is specifically not limited only to the heritage that is impacted by the construction work and so can focus on wider themes that demonstrate to residents how Chilmington fits into Ashford's past. For example, the volunteers will study the history of Chilmington and south Ashford in the Second World War, the field_ and landscapes of the Chilmington area, and prehistoric settlement and ritual practices of the Stour valley. Crucially, they will do this as

² "The Archaeologist Contribution again serves no useful purpose, given that the Applicants employ a **consultant archaeologist** directly."
- Request 109, Column 5 of the Appellants' Application No2: Annex A Application for Modification/Discharge of the s106 Agreement (CD2/14).

volunteers. The professional work provided no volunteer opportunities at all (mostly due to the impossibility of including volunteers on archaeological sites during large-scale construction). By contrast, the community project aims to provide extensive opportunities for the residents to be actively involved in the project. The community project will also engage a far wider range of people than the professional programme could, such as community groups in the area e.g. scouts, churches, youth groups and WI, relevant schools, the parish councils and the Chilmington Management Organisation. Although we will of course also tell people about the discoveries made in the professional programme, there is in fact very little overlap between the professional and community work. Table 1 shows a comparison between the possibilities offered by the professional and community work. It demonstrates the much greater range of engagement objectives, heritage themes and volunteering opportunities that the community heritage project is designed to achieve, and the much more enduring legacy that the project will have compared to the professional work.

Table 1: Comparison of the professional work carried out under planning condition 97 and the work carried out by the community heritage project.

	Professional work under condition 97 of planning permission	Community project under S106 agreement
Physical Interpretation work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase and development specific so will be delivered piecemeal • Focused on the heritage directly impacted by the development (ie the heritage that will be damaged by construction) • Limited scope for development-wide interpretation • Public art • Heritage themed play areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project explores the heritage of the whole development area and its relation with neighbouring areas • Can include all aspects of Chilmington's heritage, including heritage not directly impacted by the construction work • Oral history database related to the Second World War • Documentary and map research and reports • Hedgerow and landscape survey, aerial photography study and reports

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display of artefacts found during professional archaeological work • Heritage trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative studies with the heritage of neighbouring areas • Displays about the community work for the community centre • Digital/paper booklets about the community work
Community Interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open days showing the professional archaeological discoveries • Celebratory event • Outreach to local schools to present the professional work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive working with local stakeholders and their membership, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chilmington Management Organisation • Chilmington Primary, John Wesley, Kingsnorth and Wyvern schools • Scouts / Girl Guides / Brownies groups • British Legion • Age Concern • Women's Institute • Local churches • Singleton Environment Centre • Ashford Museum
Volunteer opportunities	No volunteer opportunities provided under condition 97	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers will meet monthly for training and research opportunities focused on the themes 'Enduring Landscapes', 'Chilmington in the Second World War' and 'Belief and Ritual in the Stour Valley'

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers will carry out desk-based research including aerial photo, lidar data and map study • Volunteers will carry out field work such as survey, test-pitting and excavation • Volunteers will gather oral history accounts of life in the Second World War • Volunteers will design and staff museum displays and outreach events • Volunteers design physical interpretation media eg booklets, display panels • Volunteers will run the project's social media
Dissemination methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Via project website and KCC website • Archaeology of South Ashford app • Pop-up museum displays (numerous) • Development of schools packages with Chilmington Primary, John Wesley, Kingsnorth and Wyvern Schools (numerous) • South Ashford in Wartime Day • Community newsletter • Festival of Archaeology event

Archiving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of archaeological archive arising from professional archaeological work only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of archaeological archive arising from community heritage work only
Legacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formation and training of volunteer group Advice and support for 2 years following completion of project App / KCC website allows new residents to access all outputs permanently

4.2.5 The Appellants have asserted that the Archaeologist Contribution (Request 110) [CD2/22] serves “*no utility*” as the Development is now “*well beyond the initial three year period envisaged for the funding of a community archaeologist*”. While the Archaeologist Contribution is defined as “*...to fund the employment of a community archaeologist for the Site for three years...*” and Contributions 1, 2 and 3 are payable before Commencement, before 301 Occupations or the first anniversary of Commencement and before 600 Occupations or the second anniversary of Development respectively, paragraph 5.2 of Schedule 25 includes a repayment clause requiring repayment of any contribution received which has not been spent, allocated or committed for expenditure on the intended purpose. The community heritage project could not commence until there were sufficient new residents for the community heritage project to work with. The rate of building is well behind the developer’s intended building programme so the delay was imposed by the developer, not KCC. That new community now exists, and so the project has begun. The delay has no impact on the viability of the community heritage project. The heritage of Chilmington remains as varied and accessible as it would have been had the project started as soon as the funding was received, and the level of interest among the local community is just as high now as when the funding was received, as evidenced by the number of individuals and stakeholders that have engaged with the project (by the end of November 2024, 220 local people had participated in project events).

4.2.6 The S106 was an agreement that formed part of the balance between the public benefit and environmental and other costs of the development that planning authorities must strike. If the S106 is cancelled then that balance fundamentally changes. If the S106 had not been agreed, alternative planning conditions would have been sought that delivered similar goals by condition instead of by the S106.

4.2.7 The contributions for archaeological consultant, heritage interpretation, and archiving within the Development remain essential and serve a distinct and valuable purpose. While the Appellants argue these contributions are duplicative due to existing planning conditions, this argument overlooks the fundamental differences in scope and objectives. Condition 97 focuses on mitigating the direct impact of construction on specific heritage assets within each development phase, a requirement distinct from the broader, community-focused heritage project funded by the contributions. This project, encompassing a wider range of heritage themes and offering extensive volunteer opportunities, fosters community engagement, promotes social cohesion, and creates a lasting legacy through accessible resources and a comprehensive archive. The integrated nature of the three contributions ensures the project's success, as the archaeologist, interpretation activities, and archiving are interdependent. Finally, the delayed commencement of the project due to slower-than-anticipated development does not diminish the contributions' utility, as the community now exists to benefit from the project, which is underway. Therefore, discharging these obligations would significantly undermine the project's valuable community impact and long-term legacy, altering the balance of public benefit that originally justified the development's approval.

4.3 **Would the obligation serve that purpose equally well if it had effect subject to the proposed modification**

4.3.1 Approval of the proposed modification would necessitate the return of all community archaeology project funds received by KCC to the developer. As no alternative funding source exists for this project, its implementation would become infeasible, resulting in the cessation of all related activities. Discharging the financial obligations would impede the project's intended purpose of fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of local heritage among new residents and the wider community. This would likely cause disruption to the schedules of stakeholders, such as schools, who have planned events and activities. Furthermore, the decision could negatively impact the reputations of Kent County Council and Ashford Borough Council. Additionally, Kent County Council would incur a debt equivalent to all funds previously expended on the project, as detailed in Table 2.

4.3.2 As set out above, therefore, the purposes of the Obligations are still useful and cannot be equally well served by discharging the requirement.

5. **CONCLUSION**

5.1 The S106 obligations related to archaeology and heritage serve a distinct and valuable purpose beyond the requirements of planning conditions. By funding community-based archaeological and heritage projects (including the archiving of the results of the community work), these obligations enable new residents and the wider community to engage with and appreciate the rich history of the Chilmington area. This enhances social cohesion, fosters a sense of place, and promotes a deeper

understanding of local heritage. Discharging these obligations would undermine these crucial objectives and deprive the community of valuable opportunities to connect with their local history.

APPENDIX 1

THE CHILMINGTON GREEN ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT: ACTIVITIES AND AUDIENCES

This project aims to explore the history of the Stour Valley through three main themes:

1. **ENDURING LANDSCAPES:**

- **Focus:** Understanding the evolution of the landscape through time.
- **Activities:**
 - Creating a landscape map of Chilmington.
 - Conducting a hedgerow survey to determine their age.
 - Surveying Coleman's Kitchen (woodland).

2. **RITUAL AND RELIGION:**

- **Focus:** Investigating religious and ritual practices in the past.
- **Activities:**
 - Researching potential structured deposits.
 - Recording St. Mary's Great Chart church.
 - Conducting a gravestone survey.

3. **SOUTH ASHFORD IN WARTIME:**

- **Focus:** Documenting the impact of World War II on the local community.
- **Activities:**
 - Surveying WWII structures.
 - Conducting 3D recordings of significant sites.
 - Conducting oral history interviews with local residents.

4. **OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT:**

- **Community Involvement:** Collaborating with the Chilmington Community Organisation, Ashford Museum, local schools, and community groups to engage residents and recruit volunteers.
- **Public Outreach:** Hosting events, workshops, and lectures to raise awareness and share project findings.
- **Digital Platforms:** Developing an app and an online database to present project findings and engage a wider audience.

This project will utilise a multi-faceted approach, combining archaeological research, historical records, community engagement, and digital technologies to deepen understanding of the Stour Valley's rich history.

Project Spend

Table 2 Projected schedule of expenditure of the Chilmington Community Heritage project

<u>Duration</u>		<u>4 months</u>	<u>12 months</u>	<u>12 months</u>	
	<u>Spend to</u> <u>30/11/2024</u>	<u>Predicted</u> <u>spend 1/12/24-</u> <u>31/3/2025</u>	<u>Predicted</u> <u>spend</u> <u>1/4/2025-</u> <u>31/3/2026</u>	<u>Predicted</u> <u>spend</u> <u>1/4/2026-</u> <u>28/2/2027</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>KCC</u> <u>Community</u> <u>Archaeologist</u>	<u>£2,091.00</u>				<u>£2,091.00</u>
<u>AOC –</u> <u>Community</u> <u>Archaeologist</u>	<u>£10,926.00</u>	<u>£10,519.41</u>	<u>£31,558.22</u>	<u>£28,928.37</u>	<u>£81,932.00</u>
<u>KCC App/Web</u> <u>integration</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£8,000.00</u>	<u>£12,000.00</u>	<u>£20,000.00</u>
<u>KCC Archiving</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£40,000.00</u>	<u>£40,000.00</u>
<u>Sundries</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£977.00</u>	<u>£977.00</u>
<u>Sub-total</u>	<u>£13,017.00</u>	<u>£10,519.41</u>	<u>£31,558.22</u>	<u>£89,905.37</u>	<u>£145,000.00</u>

NB: The role of Community Archaeologist has been sub-contracted by KCC to AOC Archaeology Group

Spent, allocated and committed funds are as follows:

£81,932.00 - a formal contract (PO 1783642) has been placed with AOC Archaeology Group for the provision of community archaeologist and interpretation services.

£2,091 – spent by Kent County Council as salary costs for the community archaeologist originally recruited as part of the project.

£20,000 set aside for future website/App development to ensure longevity of the products and permit access to future residents

£40,000 set aside for the archiving of the community project (this not include the archiving of any professional work)

£977 set aside for sundry expenses.