DAC Archaeological advice, 22nd June 2023

Re: 2022-072926, Warminster, St Denys, Replacement of heating boiler. Our reference: CWI22745

Thank you for consulting on this application. It is noted that this proposal will need a new connection between the gas services in the public highway to the Church and its new boiler, and so will pass through the Church's graveyard. A route has been identified that avoids known graves, although as a place of interment for a millennium, it is highly likely that there will be other earlier, unrecorded, graves within this part of the graveyard. The Church is of Norman foundation with later rebuilding and additions, especially a Victorian restoration. The Church is also thought to lie on or close to an Anglo-Saxon minster. The immediate vicinity of the Church therefore has the potential to reveal remains of Saxon and later structures of archaeological significance.

There is no detail in the application on the width and depth of the proposed trench that will be needed for the gas connection. In the absence of this detail, it would therefore be precautionary to provide for archaeological monitoring and recording when the gas connection is excavated in the graveyard and through the fabric of the Church. This should be undertaken by an appropriately accredited professional archaeologist. The archaeological exercise should conclude with the preparation of a report on the results, which should be accessioned into Wiltshire's Historic Environment Record.