

and Highway Authority have agreed that based on the number of movements from the nursery that a maximum of three, three bedroomed dwellings is acceptable. However, this is conditional on the applicant entering a suitably worded S.106 Agreement to extinguish the current commercial use of Tanyfron within three months of any consent being given to this application.

HC1 Prior to the occupation of any dwelling any entrance gates shall be set back at least 5.5 metres distant from the edge of the adjoining carriageway and shall be constructed so as to be incapable of opening towards the highway and shall be retained in this position and form of construction for as long as the dwelling/development hereby permitted remains in existence.

HC2 The gradient of the accesses shall be constructed so as not to exceed 1 in 15 for the first 5.5 metres measured from edge of the adjoining carriageway along the centre line of the access and shall be retained at this gradient for as long as the development remains in existence.

HC3 The centre line of the first 5.5 metres of the access roads measured from the edge of the adjoining carriageway shall be constructed at right angles to that edge of the said carriageway and be retained at that angle for as long as the development remains in existence.

HC4 Prior to the commencement of the development the accesses shall be constructed so that there is clear visibility from a point 1.05 metres above ground level at the centre of the accesses and 2.4 metres distant from the edge of the adjoining carriageway, to points 0.6 metres above ground level at the edge of the adjoining carriageway and 34 metres distant in each direction measured from the centre of the accesses along the edge of the adjoining carriageway. Nothing shall be planted, erected or allowed to grow on the areas of land so formed that would obstruct the visibility and the visibility shall be maintained free from obstruction for as long as the development hereby permitted remains in existence.

HC7 Prior to the commencement of the development the area of the accesses to be used by vehicles is to be constructed to a minimum of 410mm depth, comprising a minimum of 250mm of sub-base material, 100mm of bituminous macadam base course material and 60mm of bituminous macadam binder course material for a distance of 5.5 metres from the edge of the adjoining carriageway. Any use of alternative materials is to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the access being constructed.

HC8 Prior to the occupation of any dwelling, provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of not less than one car per bedroom excluding any garage space provided together with a turning space such that all vehicles serving the site may both enter and leave the site in a forward gear. The parking and turning areas shall be retained for their designated use for as long as the development hereby permitted remains in existence.

HC11 Prior to the commencement of the development provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of all construction vehicles together with a vehicle turning area. This parking and turning area shall be constructed to a depth of 0.4 metres in crusher run or sub-base and maintained free from obstruction at all times such that all vehicles serving the site shall park within the site and both enter and leave the site in a forward gear for the duration of the construction of the development.

HC12 The width of the accesses carriageway, constructed as per above conditions, shall be not less than 4.1 metres for a minimum distance of 5.5 metres along the access measured from the adjoining edge of carriageway of the county highway and shall be maintained at this width for as long as the development remains in existence.

HC21 Prior to the occupation of any dwelling the area of the access to be used by vehicles is to be finished in a 40mm bituminous surface course for a distance of 5.5 metres from the edge of the adjoining carriageway. This area will be maintained to this standard for as long as the development remains in existence.

HC22 Prior to the commencement of the development any existing means of access shall be stopped up, in materials to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority and this shall be retained for as long as the development is in existence.

HC26 When installed there shall be a minimum clearance of 6 metres from the nearest part of the adjoining highway verge or footpath to any part of the package treatment plant or its soakaway installation.

HC27 The package treatment plant effluent in connection with the development hereby permitted shall not interfere or connect in any way with the highway surface water drainage or give rise to a nuisance upon the highway.

HC29 All surface water run-off is to be collected and discharged via a piped system to a soakaway located within the site no less than 6 metres from the highway. This system shall be retained and maintained for as long as the development remains in existence.

HC30 Upon formation of the visibility splays as detailed in above conditions the centreline of any new or relocated hedge/fence/wall should be positioned not less than 1.0 metre to the rear of the visibility splay and retained in this position as long as the development remains in existence.

HC32 No storm water drainage from the site shall be allowed to discharge onto the county highway.

To ensure that adequate provision is made for highway access onto the County Unclassified road to serve the approved development in accordance with policies GP1 and GP4 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan.

Wales and West Utilities

Based on the information given and the address provided, Wales & West Utilities have no apparatus in the area of your enquiry.

Severn Trent

As the proposal has minimal impact on the public sewerage system I can advise we have no objections to the proposals and do not require a drainage condition to be applied.

Cllr Gareth Jones

Has called this application to the Planning Cttee as the site is outside settlement boundary.

PCC - Environmental Health

As the foul drainage from proposed development is discharging into a watercourse I have no objection provided that the NRW consent to the discharge. Given its location an alternative foul drainage scheme would be difficult to implement, therefore, if possible, confirmation of the NRW consent would be recommended before commencement of work.

PCC - Ecologist

Thank you for consulting me with regards to planning application P/2017/1311 which concerns the outline application for erection of 3 no. dwellings and associated infrastructure including installation of sewage treatment plant (some matters reserved) on Land South of Broncafntent, Lane, Llanfair Caereinion Powys.

I have reviewed the proposed plans as well as local records of protected and priority species and designated sites within 500m of the proposed development. The data search identified 70 records of protected and priority species within 500m of the proposed development - no records were for the site itself.

There are no statutory or non-statutory designated sites within 500m of the proposed development.

The site of the proposed development appears to be an area of improved grassland which is considered a habitat of low ecological value. However, the hedgerows and trees on the boundary of the development are considered to be of moderate ecological value.

Tree and Hedgerow Replacement and Protection Plan

From the plans submitted it appears that sections of the hedgerow on the northern boundary will be removed to provide the required new access. It is not clear if the tree on the western boundary will be affected by the proposed development. The UDP policies ENV2 and ENV6 identify the need to protect or provide compensation for impacts to hedgerows and trees. UDP Policy ENV2 states that:

Proposals which are acceptable in principle should:

3. Seek to conserve native woodlands, trees and hedgerows'

UDP Policy ENV6: Sites of Regional and Local Importance, makes reference to Powys LBAP habitats and species which include hedgerows under the Linear Habitats Action Plan – 'Linear habitats are important to a wide variety of species as refuges, breeding and feeding sites and as links between habitats of high biodiversity value'. Hedgerows are also listed as a "habitat of principal importance for the purposes of conserving biodiversity" as identified in on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, and are beneficial to a wide range of biodiversity including bats, nesting birds, small mammals, lichens and fungi.

Where impacts to hedgerows are identified an appropriate compensation strategy will be required, where possible translocation of the existing hedgerow should be considered, if this is not considered possible at this location replacement hedgerow planting would need to be identified.

Where it is necessary to remove any trees or hedgerows a Tree and Hedgerow Replacement and Protection Plan will need to be secured through an appropriately worded condition. This

plan will need to identify appropriate compensation planting for the loss of any trees or hedgerow – details of the location, length and species as well as an appropriate aftercare scheme will need to be identified – species used will need to be native and reflect the hedgerows present in the local area.

Given the proximity of development and development works to the hedgerow on the northern boundary and the trees on the western boundary it is considered prudent to require information from the applicant as to how these features biodiversity importance for wildlife will be protected during the construction period of works.

Pollution Prevention Plan

I note from reviewing aerial images that there is watercourse north of the proposed development approximately 30m away. Given the proximity of proposed development to the watercourse present and particularly the topography of the proposed development site, the nature of the proposed works it is considered that a **Pollution Prevention Plan** will need to be identified to ensure no negative impact is caused during construction activities and during operation of the site. I therefore recommend that a Pollution Prevention Plan is secured through a planning condition.

It is recommended that reference is made to Pollution Prevention Guidelines Series in particular PPG 6 - Working at construction and demolition sites and GPP 5 – Works and maintenance in or near water; these documents can be found at:

<http://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/pollution-prevention-guidelines-ppgs-and-replacement-series/guidance-for-pollution-prevention-gpps-full-list/>

Wildlife Sensitive Lighting Plan

Careful consideration will need to be given to any external lighting design provided through the proposed development, measures will need to be identified to minimise impacts to nocturnal wildlife commuting and foraging in the local area. It is therefore recommended that a Wildlife Sensitive Lighting Plan is secured through an appropriately worded condition.

Landscape Planting Scheme

If it is proposed to provide landscaping as part of the potential development consideration should be given to the development of a native landscape planting scheme. It is recommended that details of any landscaping proposed are submitted in a detailed Landscape Planting Scheme including proposed species mixes, planting and aftercare schedules. It is therefore recommended that a landscape planting scheme is secured through an appropriately worded condition.

Biodiversity Enhancements

As the application is an outline application further details will be submitted at a later date as reserved matter consideration should be given to incorporate biodiversity enhancements.

In accordance with Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Local Authorities are required to Maintain and Enhance biodiversity through all of its functions – this includes the planning process. It is therefore recommend that consideration is given to opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements to ensure net biodiversity benefits through the proposed development. These measure could include:

- Provision of bird and bat boxes including the details of the number, type and location of these boxes;

- A wildlife buffer strip and a scheme of appropriate management of these areas, hedgerows should be retained within buffer strips and should be unlit or lighting to be directed away from the hedgerows to create dark movement corridors for nocturnal wildlife through the site;
- Provision of wildlife friendly landscape planting.

Should biodiversity enhancement measures be proposed as part of the development details of these features identified will need to be specific and detailed on submitted plans (i.e. details regarding locations, dimensions and numbers will need to be provided) and achievable.

Therefore should you be minded to approve the application I recommend inclusion of the following conditions:

Prior to commencement of development a Tree and Hedgerow Protection and Replacement Plan in accordance with BS:5837:2012 shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and implemented as approved and maintained thereafter unless otherwise agreed in writing with the LPA.

Reason: To comply with Powys County Council's UDP policies SP3, ENV2, ENV3 and ENV6 in relation to The Natural Environment and to meet the requirements of TAN 5: Nature Conservation and Planning, Welsh government strategies, and Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act.

Prior to commencement of development a Pollution Prevention Plan shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and implemented as approved and maintained thereafter unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies ENV3 and ENV6 in relation to The Natural Environment and to meet the requirements of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, November 2016), TAN 5: Nature Conservation and Planning and Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act.

Prior to the commencement of development a detailed lighting design scheme to take into account any impacts on nocturnal wildlife into consideration shall be submitted for written Local Planning Authority approval and implemented as approved and maintained thereafter unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies SP3, ENV3 and ENV7 in relation to The Natural Environment and to meet the requirements of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, November 2016), TAN 5: Nature Conservation and Planning and Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act.

Prior to the commencement of development a detailed landscaping scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The submitted landscaping scheme shall include a scaled drawing and a written specification clearly describing the species, sizes, densities and planting numbers proposed as well as aftercare measures. Drawings must include accurate details of any existing trees and hedgerows to be retained with their location, species, size and condition.

Reason: To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies SP3 and ENV3 in relation to The Natural Environment and to meet the requirements of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9,

November 2016), TAN 5: Nature Conservation and Planning and Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

In addition I recommend inclusion of the following informative:

Birds - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

All nesting birds, their nests, eggs and young are protected by law and it is an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird
- intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built
- intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird
- intentionally (or recklessly in England and Wales) disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

The maximum penalty that can be imposed - in respect of a single bird, nest or egg - is a fine of up to 5,000 pounds, six months imprisonment or both.

The applicant is therefore reminded that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to remove or work on any hedge, tree or building where that work involves the taking, damaging or destruction of any nest of any wild bird while the nest is in use or being built, (usually between late February and late August or late September in the case of swifts, swallows or house martins). If a nest is discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural Resources Wales and the Council's Ecologist.

Bats - Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)

It is an offence for any person to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any bats.
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a bat uses for shelter or protection. This is taken to mean all bat roosts whether bats are present or not.

Under the Habitats Regulations it is an offence to:

- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of any bat. This is an absolute offence - in other words, intent or recklessness does not have to be proved.

The applicant is therefore reminded that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) that works to trees or buildings where that work involves the disturbance of a bat is an offence if a licence has not been obtained from Natural Resources Wales. If a bat is discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural Resources Wales and the Council's Ecologist. You can also call the National Bat helpline on 0345 1300 228 or email enquiries@bats.org.uk

Reptiles – Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

All species of reptiles known to occur within Powys, namely the common lizard, slow-worm, grass snake and adder, are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

It is therefore an offence to:

- Intentionally kill or injure these species of reptiles,
- Trade (live or dead animals) i.e. sale, barter, exchange, transporting for sale and advertising to sell or to buy.

The maximum penalty that can be imposed - in respect of each offence - is a fine of up to 5,000 pounds, six months imprisonment or both.

In addition these species of reptiles are also listed in Part 1 Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – which is a list of the living organisms of principal importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales. Species of reptiles known to occur in Powys are also listed as Species of Conservation Concern on the Powys LBAP. If reptiles are discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural Resources Wales and/or the Council's Ecologist.

Representations

Following display of a site notice and advertisement in the local press five written representations of objection have been received.

The letters of objection can be summarised as follows:

- Concerns over loss of privacy and daylight to neighbouring properties
- Highway safety issues regarding the unsuitability of the access and junction with the County Highway
- Ecological issues surrounding the removal of hedgerows and impact of the development from light pollution and loss of land.
- Concerns over the sewerage provision
- Concerns over surface water drainage and instability of the ground
- The proposal falls outside of the settlement development boundary for the area.

Planning History

P/2017/0600 - Outline: Erection of up to 4 dwellings, installation of sewage treatment plant and associated works (some matters reserved). Refused.

Principal Planning Constraints

None

Principal Planning Policies

National Planning Policy

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, 2016)
TAN 1 - Joint Housing Land Availability Studies (2015)
TAN 2 - Planning and Affordable Housing (2006)
TAN 5 - Nature Conservation and Planning (2009)
TAN 6 - Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities (2010)
TAN 12 - Design (2016)
TAN 18 - Transport (2007)
TAN 20 - Planning and the Welsh Language (2017)
TAN 23 – Economic Development (2014)
TAN 24 – The Historic Environment (2017)

Local Planning Policies

Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010)

UDP SP2 – Strategic Settlement Hierarchy
UDP SP5 - Housing Developments
UDP GP1 - Development Control
UDP GP3 - Design and Energy Conservation
UDP GP4 - Highway and Parking Requirements
UDP GP5 – Welsh Language and Culture
UDP HP3 - Housing Land Availability
UDP HP4 - Settlement Development Boundaries and Capacities
UDP HP5 - Residential Developments
UDP HP6 - Dwellings in the Open Countryside
UDP DC10 - Mains Sewage Treatment
UDP DC11 - Non-mains Sewage Treatment
UDP DC13 - Surface Water Drainage
UDP DC8 - Public Water Supply
UDP DC9 - Protection of Water Resources
UDP ENV1 - Agricultural Land
UDP ENV2 - Safeguarding the Landscape
UDP ENV3 - Safeguarding Biodiversity & Natural Habitats
UDP ENV7 - Protected Species
UDP ENV17 – Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites
UDP TR2 – Tourist Attractions

Powys Residential Design Guide

RDG=Powys Residential Design Guide NAW=National Assembly for Wales TAN= Technical Advice Note
UDP=Powys Unitary Development Plan, MIPPS=Ministerial Interim Planning Policy Statement

Officer Appraisal

Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

Members are advised to consider this application in accordance with Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, which requires that, if regard is to be had to the development plan for the purpose of any determination to be made under the Planning Acts, the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise

Principle of Development

For the purposes of the Powys Unitary Development Plan, the site subject to this application lies within the open countryside. On this basis, the proposal constitutes a departure from the adopted Powys Unitary Development Plan.

Housing Land Supply

Members are advised that a decision to approve a departure can only be made where other material considerations outweigh the provisions of the development plan. Such material considerations include Planning Policy Wales (2016) and UDP policy HP3, which require the Local Planning Authority to ensure that sufficient land is genuinely available or will become available to provide a 5-year supply of land for housing.

The Powys JHLAS (2016) provides information on land availability and indicates a land supply of 2.2 years (as of 01/04/2016). Whilst it is anticipated that the new local development plan will allocate land for residential development to address the shortfall in supply, the current figure is below the supply required by Planning Policy Wales and the adopted Unitary Development Plan. Officers acknowledge that a number of departures have recently been justified and permitted on the grounds of housing land supply. Whilst it is accepted that these permissions will contribute to the supply of housing, based upon current evidence, the housing land supply within Powys remains below the 5 year supply as required by planning policy. As such, Members are advised that considerable weight needs to be given to this undersupply in considering proposals for new residential development as exceptions to normal housing policies.

Sustainability

In considering a departure from the Powys Unitary Development plan policies consideration must be given to the location of the proposed development in terms of the sustainability of the development. Account should be given to the range of services and facilities available within close proximity to the site.

PPW requires that development be sustainable and that adverse impacts do not outweigh the benefits. Furthermore, PPW states that in rural areas, housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities and new isolated homes in the countryside should be avoided. In line with PPW, residential development outside of settlement boundaries are considered in terms of the site's proximity to services and facilities likely to be required for residential use, and whether the site is suitably connected to these services and facilities.

In considering the proposed development, Members are asked to consider whether this location is regarded as a sustainable location for new residential development. Although located in the open countryside, the site is approximately 20 metres away from designated settlement development boundary of Llanfair Caereinion (defined as an Area Centre within the UDP). Llanfair Caereinion benefits from a number of services such as convenience stores, Doctor's surgery, butchers, public houses, leisure centre and primary and secondary school. Llanfair Caereinion also benefits from regular public transport which provides access to other larger settlements such as Welshpool which is located approximately 8.5 miles to the east. Given the noted proximity, future occupiers would have good access to existing facilities and amenities and also connections to further services and the wider area through public transport services.

However it is also important to note that in recent months Llanfair Caereinion has seen a substantial growth by approval of several planning applications on the basis of Housing Land Supply shortage. Most notably the following applications made under Housing Land Supply have received consents;

P/2017/0370 - Outline: Residential development of up to 9 dwellings (Phase 1 at Mas Gwyn).

P/2017/0200 - Outline: Proposed residential development comprising of upto 42 no. dwellings.

While application P/2017/1268 for Phase 2 at Maes Gwyn for further 9 dwellings is currently under consideration.

In light of the range of services located within a short travelling distance of the development site, officers consider that there could be an argument to support the principle of residential development on that basis; however there are other material issues which should be taken into account before the decision is reached.

Affordable Housing

As the scheme is only for 3 dwellings, in this instance no affordable dwellings have been proposed as a part of this development.

Appearance, Layout and Style

UDP policy HP5 (Residential Development) indicates that development proposals will only be permitted where the scale, form and appearance of the development generally reflects the character and appearance of the existing settlement.

The indicative site layout details a private access for a plot 3 with turning head within the site and shared access and turning heads for plots 1 & 2, therefore two separate access points would be created by the proposal along the lane. The Officers acknowledge that matters relating to the final appearance, layout and scale have been reserved for future consideration, on the basis of the plans provided, it is considered that the application site is capable of accommodating 3 dwellings.

The site slopes upwards in the south easterly direction. The block plan demonstrates that the proposed plots will be in linear form along the Broncafent Lane. Although, as the development would be on a slope, on balance Officers consider that the development could be acceptable if sensitive landscaping is incorporated into to the reserved matters scheme to minimise the potential impact on the surrounding landscape.

Although Officers acknowledge that matters relating to appearance, layout and scale have been reserved for future consideration, on the basis of the plans provided, detailing a mix of dwelling types and sizes, it is considered that the application site is capable of accommodating 3 dwellings without unacceptably adversely affecting the character and appearance of the area compliant with UDP policies SP5, GP1, GP3, ENV2 and HP5.

Landscape and Visual Impact

Policy ENV2 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan seeks to ensure that proposed development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact upon the Powys Landscape. Development proposals should be design in a way to be sensitive to the character and appearance of the surrounding area and landscape.

Landscaping is a reserved matter and therefore detailed proposals could be considered at a later date. It is acknowledged that the site would be visible from public vantage points

including the public highway and the proposal would result in a visual change in comparison to the current agricultural use.

The proposed site currently forms agricultural land used for the purposes of grazing and is located directly adjacent to Broncafnt Lane and approximately 20 metres away from designated settlement boundary. On balance it is considered that the proposed site could be associated with the existing settlement and existing dwellings. It is considered that the proposed development would not result in a significant adverse impact upon the landscape or the character and appearance of the surrounding area.

In light of the above, it is considered that the proposed development complies with policies ENV2 and TR2 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan 2010.

Residential Amenity

UDP Policy GP1 states that development proposals will only be permitted where the amenities enjoyed by the occupants of nearby or proposed properties will not be unacceptably affected. The Powys Residential Design Guide provides guidance on overshadowing and privacy.

The site layout is a reserved matter and not to be determined at this stage; however, the indicative site layout plan indicates that the proposed dwellings will be located approximately 50 metres from the nearest neighbouring residential dwelling to the northwest with the access road and field between. Due to the suggested distance and positioning of the properties it is not considered that the proposed development would affect the amenities of the neighbouring dwellings.

Concerns have been raised by several objectors over the loss of privacy and daylight from the proposal to their dwellings to the north of the application site due to the sloping topography of the area. At its closest point the site boundary is approximately 40 metres from the nearest residential dwelling to the north. Reference is made to the Powys Residential Design Guide which states:

“In order to avoid unnecessary overshadowing, the height of new development should generally be set below a line of 25 degrees taken from the nearest habitable room of adjoining existing property at a height of 2m. This need only apply where the new development is less than 40m from the nearest habitable room and where the main front or rear (not flank) elevations of existing development is affected.”

As the application site is located more than 40 metres from the nearest dwelling to this elevation, in line with the Powys Residential Design Guide it is not considered that the development will affect the amenities of the neighbouring dwellings. It is also noted that the layout provided is for indicative purposes only and the layout of the site could be altered to increase the distances between the properties if deemed necessary at any reserved matters application stage. The indicative layout is considered to be appropriate and would comply with policy GP1 and GP3 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan 2010.

Taking into account the character of existing development in the locality and the highway, it is considered that the indicative layout demonstrates that residential development can be provided at this location without unacceptably adversely affecting the amenities enjoyed by

occupants of existing residential properties and that of the proposed dwellings in accordance with UDP Policy GP1 and the Council's Residential Design Guide.

Highways and Access

UDP policy GP4 indicates that planning permission will be dependent upon adequate provision for access including visibility, turning and parking. Access to the site would be gained off the unclassified highway (U6027) through the creation of two new access points. The U6027 is a single lane access road currently serving 3 dwellings and Children's Day Nursery at Tanyfron (which is operated from applicants dwelling) at the end of the lane. This access lane connects onto the B4389 approximately 55 metres to the west of the site.

As this application is resubmission of recently refused application which included provision of 4 dwellings, the Officers understand that detailed negotiations have taken place between the applicant and Highways Officers in order to overcome previous reason for refusal. It is understood that Highways Authority originally objected to the proposals on the grounds that the increased use of the access lane and junction with the B4389 will be prejudicial to highway safety. It was considered that the visibility at the junction is extremely substandard to the south being less than 4 metres with less than 1 metre radius and no possibility of junction improvements. Officers also consider that the U6027 is extremely narrow with insufficient passing bays and no turning provision. There was little provision for pedestrian safety with no additional provision being offered by the applicant. It was considered that the proposed development of 4 dwellings would more than double the number of dwellings being serviced by this access road.

As already noted, this resubmitted scheme has now reduced the number of dwellings from 4 down to 3, and in respect of the highways issues the Highway Authority now confirms that they are in agreement with the applicants proposed 'trade off' of movements associated with the permanent closure of the Children's Nursery located at Tanyfron, Broncafnt Lane, (which is in the applicants ownership). The applicant and Highway Authority have agreed that based on the number of movements from the nursery that a maximum of three, three bedroomed dwellings is acceptable. However, this is conditional on the applicant entering a suitably worded S.106 Agreement to extinguish the current commercial use of Tanyfron within three months of any consent being given to this application.

In light of the comments received and given the scale of the proposed development, Officers are satisfied that the proposed development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on highway safety and movements subject to suggested conditions and signing a section 106 Agreement to extinguish the current commercial use of Tanyfron within three months of any consent being given to this application. The proposed development is therefore considered to be in accordance with planning policy, particularly UDP policy GP4 and TAN 18: Transport.

Surface Water Drainage

Policy DC13 of the Powys Unitary Development plan seeks to ensure that development proposals should provide adequate provisions for land drainage and surface water disposal. Development should not give rise to unacceptable on or off site flooding.

In respect of surface water disposal, the submission indicates that this would be disposed of through the use of soakaways. The Council's Land Drainage Officer has been consulted on this application and on previous application. Although no reply has been received for this

particular scheme it has been noted that during the last application process that whilst no drainage details have been submitted there would be no objection subject to the inclusion of a condition to secure a drainage assessment.

Concerns have been raised by objectors regarding the surface water drainage at the site and the instability of the ground at the site area. These issues have been considered by the Land Drainage Officer who made a visit to the site during the previous application to investigate the claims of ground instability. No evidence of any land slipping or instability was found then.

It is considered that, in light of the Land Drainage Officer's original comments, and subject to the proposed conditions during the original application, the proposed development could comply with policy DC13 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan 2010 in respect of surface water drainage.

Foul drainage

The proposed properties will be served by a private treatment plant and Environmental Health Officer confirms that there no objection to the application provided that the consent to discharge is granted and confirmed by the Planning Authority prior to the commencement of work. Members should note that Discharge Consents are granted by Natural Resources Wales under different Legislation separate from Planning.

On the basis that no environmental impacts have been raised throughout the consultation process and that Environmental Health did not object, it is considered that the proposed means of foul disposal is acceptable and compliant with the relevant planning policies, namely DC9 and DC11 of Powys UDP.

Agricultural Land Classification

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) paragraph 4.10 outlines national policy towards conserving Wales' Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. Further guidance is provided in Technical Advice Note (TAN) 6, including the consultation arrangements with the Welsh Government included at Annex B. UDP policy ENV1 states that when considering proposals for development, the best and most versatile agricultural land will be safeguarded wherever possible.

Predictive Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Map indicates that the land at this location is designated as 4 (Poor quality agricultural land) and therefore is not considered to be of the best and most versatile agricultural land or of particular value to agriculture within the locality in accordance with the advice provided within UDP Policy ENV1 and Technical Advice Note 6.

Welsh Language and Culture

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) notes the Welsh Governments commitment to ensuring the Welsh Language is supported and encouraged to flourish as a language of many communities all over Wales. It highlights that it should be the aim of local planning authorities to provide for the broad distribution and phasing of housing development taking into account the ability of different areas and communities to accommodate the development without eroding the position of the Welsh language. It does however also note that policies must not

introduce any element of discrimination between individuals on the basis of their linguistic ability, and should not seek to control housing occupancy on linguistic grounds.

With regards to the Development Management function, PPW states as follows:

“Consideration relating to the use of the Welsh Language may be taken into account by decision makers so far as they are material to applications for planning permission. If required, language impact assessments may be carried out in respect of large developments not allocated in, or anticipated by, a development plan proposed in areas of particular sensitivity or importance for the language. Any such areas should be defined clearly in the development plan. Decisions on applications for planning permission must not introduce any element of discrimination and should not be made on the basis of any person(s) ‘linguistic ability’.”

Technical Advice Note 20: Planning and the Welsh Language provided further guidance. Within TAN 20 it is noted that it is estimated that between 1,200 and 2,200 fluent Welsh speakers are moving out of Wales each year. The Welsh Government aims to reverse this trend.

With regards to the Development Management function, TAN 20 states as follows:

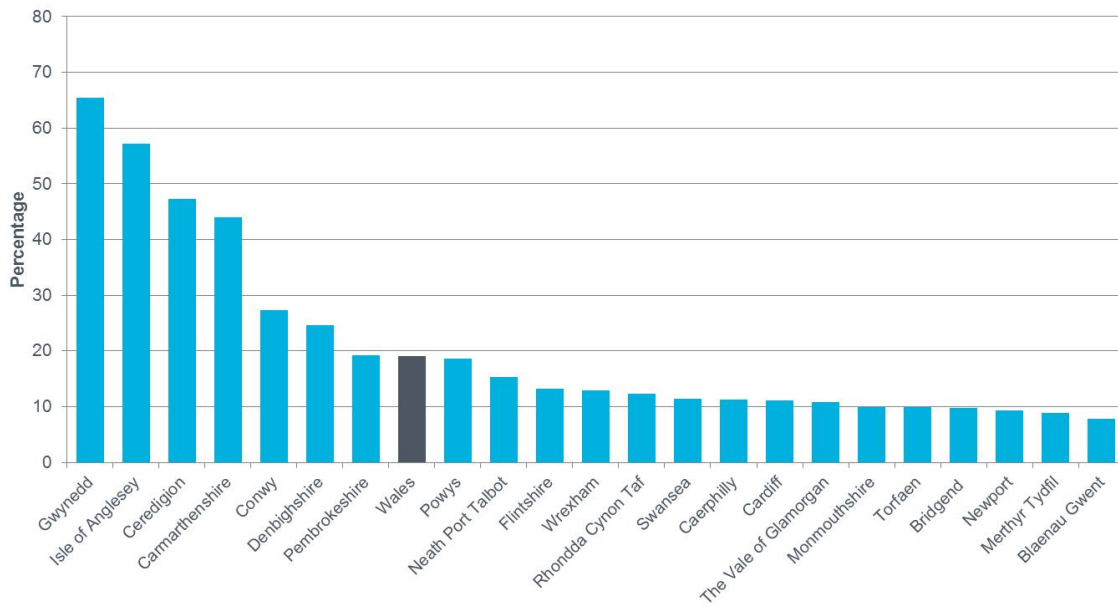
“4.1.2 In determining individual planning applications and appeals where the needs and interests of the Welsh language may be a material consideration, decisions must, as with all other planning applications, be based on planning grounds only and be reasonable. Adopted development plan policies are planning grounds, including those which have taken the needs and interests of the Welsh Language into account”.

Policy GP5 of the Powys UDP states that within identified settlements proposals will only be acceptable where developers can demonstrate that they have taken full account of the importance of the Welsh Language and culture, including through the provision of an appropriate level of affordable homes. Llanfair Caereinion has been identified as one of the settlements under policy GP5.

Census Information

Looking at a Local Authority level the graph below provides a picture of the Welsh Language in Powys compared to that in the rest of Wales;

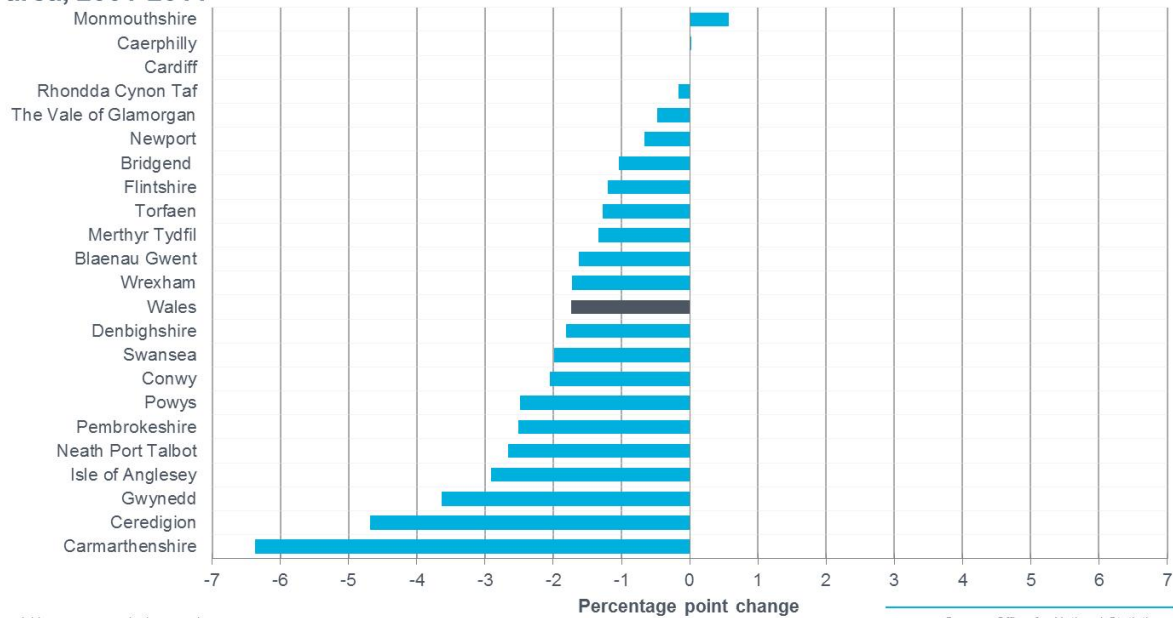
Percentage of the population able to speak Welsh according to the 2011 Census, by local authority area



welshlanguagecommissioner.wales

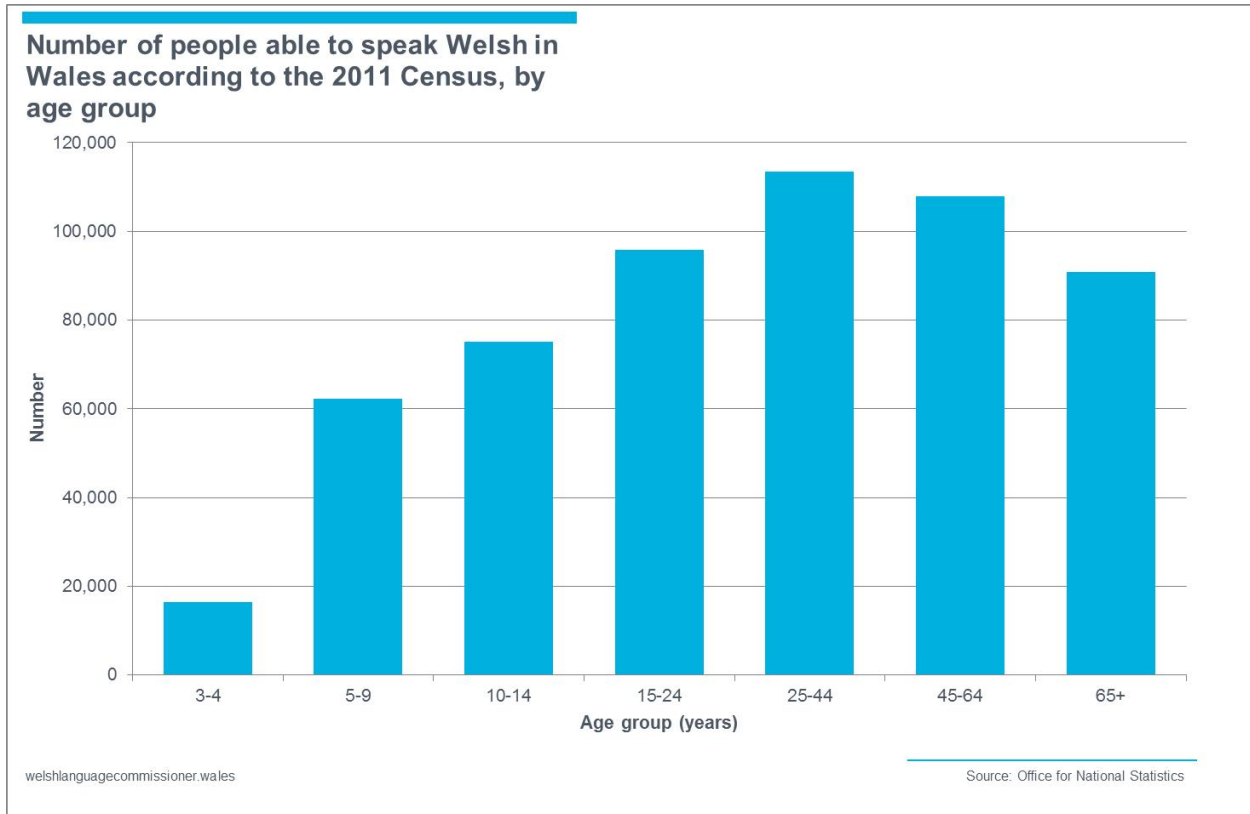
Source: Office for National Statistics

Change in the percentage of the population able to speak Welsh (percentage point), by local authority area, 2001-2011



welshlanguagecommissioner.wales

Source: Office for National Statistics



2001 Census

All people aged 3 and over	Understands spoken Welsh only	Speaks but does not read or write Welsh	Speaks and reads but does not write Welsh	Speaks, reads and writes Welsh	Other combination of skills	No knowledge of Welsh
1,563	122	79	24	499	55	784

2011 Census

All usual residents aged 3 and over	No skills in Welsh	Can understand spoken Welsh only	Can speak Welsh	Can speak but cannot read or write Welsh	Can speak and read but cannot write Welsh	Can speak, read and write Welsh	Other combination of skills in Welsh
1,757	910	148	632	74	40	512	73

The census information has been looked at by the Welsh Language Commissioner who has provided the following breakdown regarding the ability to speak Welsh in the area.

	2011	2001	2011	2001
Age	%	%	Number	Number
3+	36	39	632	613
3-15	62.3	56.5	198	183
16-64	29.5	31.9	326	313
65+	32.2	43.8	108	117

It is apparent from the figures above that the numbers of people speaking Welsh in the Llanfair Caereinion ward has decreased by 3% overall with 2.4% being dropped in the 16-64

age category. However consideration should be given to the fact that the percentage of Welsh speakers in the 3 – 15 age group has increased by 5.8%.

In assessing the impact of the proposed development on the Welsh Language and culture of the area the following statement has been submitted;

“We accept that Llanfair is an identified settlement under Policy GP 5 and as such we have taken the importance of the Welsh Language and Culture into account through the provision of a housing mix, through the sustainable location and obviously through the provision of affordable homes”.

Although no affordable dwellings are proposed as a part of this scheme, it is considered that the introduction of 3 dwellings could help sustain the viability of the facilities that are vital in supporting Welsh language and culture. It is not considered that a development of the scale proposed would threaten these facilities or force sections of the population away from these facilities. It is considered that there is an intrinsic link between the provision of housing and the cultural and linguistic vitality of an area. Additional dwellings allow existing residents to remain in the area and where the area has a strong Welsh Language presence, this aids in retaining those residents and helps to mitigate against the impact of a development on the Welsh language.

In relation to economic development, it is considered that the potential construction of the dwellings would contribute to the economy of the local area. This is based on the assumption that most construction projects of this scale are normally undertaken by local trade’s people. It is therefore considered that the construction of this development would have a neutral or positive impact on the local economy and jobs which is considered positive from a Welsh language and culture perspective.

In light of the above it is considered that the proposed development could sustain and enhance the services currently within Llanfair Caereinion and the provision of housing and affordable dwellings will help sustain and enhance the cultural and linguistic vitality of the area.

Recommendation

Having carefully considered the proposed development, on balance Officers consider that the proposal broadly complies with planning policy. Whilst a departure from the development plan, in this instance, the provision of housing is considered to outweigh the plan and therefore justifies the grant of consent as an exception to normal housing policies. The recommendation is therefore one of conditional approval subject to conditions as specified below and a separate section 106 Agreement to extinguish the current commercial use of Tanyfron within three months of any consent being given to this application.;

1. Details of the access, appearance, landscaping, layout, and scale, (hereinafter called "the reserved matters") shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority before any development begins and the development shall be carried out as approved.

2. Any application for approval of the reserved matters shall be made to the local planning authority not later than three years from the date of this permission.

3. The development shall begin either before the expiration of five years from the date of this permission or before the expiration of two years from the date of approval of the last of the reserved matters to be approved, whichever is the later.
4. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the plans stamped as approved on xxxx in so far as the extent of the application site is drawn and the access points onto Broncafntent Lane (drawing number: SA 25380 02).
5. Upon the submission of the reserved matters referred to within Conditions 1 and 2, the landscaping details shall include indications of all existing trees (including spread and species) and hedgerows on the land, identify those to be retained and set out measures for their protection throughout the course of development.
6. All planting, seeding or turfing comprised in the approved details of landscaping shall be carried out in the first planting and seeding seasons following the occupation of the buildings or the completion of the development, whichever is the sooner, and any trees or plants which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the development die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless the Local Planning Authority gives written consent to any variation. If any plants fail more than once they shall continue to be replaced on an annual basis until the end of the 5 year defects period.
7. Prior to the construction of the dwellings hereby approved details and/or samples of the materials to be used in the construction of the external surfaces of the dwellings shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.
8. Prior to the occupation of any dwelling any entrance gates shall be set back at least 5.5 metres distant from the edge of the adjoining carriageway and shall be constructed so as to be incapable of opening towards the highway and shall be retained in this position and form of construction for as long as the dwelling/development hereby permitted remains in existence.
9. The gradient of the accesses shall be constructed so as not to exceed 1 in 15 for the first 5.5 metres measured from edge of the adjoining carriageway along the centre line of the access and shall be retained at this gradient for as long as the development remains in existence.
10. The centre line of the first 5.5 metres of the access roads measured from the edge of the adjoining carriageway shall be constructed at right angles to that edge of the said carriageway and be retained at that angle for as long as the development remains in existence.
11. Before any other development commences the accesses shall be constructed so that there is clear visibility from a point 1.05 metres above ground level at the centre of the accesses and 2.4 metres distant from the edge of the adjoining carriageway, to points 0.6 metres above ground level at the edge of the adjoining carriageway and 34 metres distant in each direction measured from the centre of the accesses along the edge of the adjoining carriageway. Nothing shall be planted, erected or allowed to grow on the areas of land so formed that would obstruct the visibility and the visibility shall be maintained free from obstruction for as long as the development hereby permitted remains in existence.

12. Before any other development commences the accesses to be used by vehicles is to be constructed to a minimum of 410mm depth, comprising a minimum of 250mm of sub-base material, 100mm of bituminous macadam base course material and 60mm of bituminous macadam binder course material for a distance of 5.5 metres from the edge of the adjoining carriageway. Any use of alternative materials is to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to the access being constructed.

13. Prior to the occupation of any dwelling, provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of not less than one car per bedroom excluding any garage space provided together with a turning space such that all vehicles serving the site may both enter and leave the site in a forward gear. The parking and turning areas shall be retained for their designated use for as long as the development hereby permitted remains in existence.

14. Before any other development commences provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of all construction vehicles together with a vehicle turning area. This parking and turning area shall be constructed to a depth of 0.4 metres in crusher run or sub-base and maintained free from obstruction at all times such that all vehicles serving the site shall park within the site and both enter and leave the site in a forward gear for the duration of the construction of the development.

15. The width of the accesses carriageway, constructed as per above conditions, shall be not less than 4.1 metres for a minimum distance of 5.5 metres along the access measured from the adjoining edge of carriageway of the county highway and shall be maintained at this width for as long as the development remains in existence.

16. Prior to the occupation of any dwelling the area of the access to be used by vehicles is to be finished in a 40mm bituminous surface course for a distance of 5.5 metres from the edge of the adjoining carriageway. This area will be maintained to this standard for as long as the development remains in existence.

17. Prior to the commencement of the development any existing means of access shall be stopped up, in materials to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority and this shall be retained for as long as the development is in existence.

18. When installed there shall be a minimum clearance of 6 metres from the nearest part of the adjoining highway verge or footpath to any part of the package treatment plant or its soakaway installation.

19. The package treatment plant effluent in connection with the development hereby permitted shall not interfere or connect in any way with the highway surface water drainage or give rise to a nuisance upon the highway.

20. All surface water run-off is to be collected and discharged via a piped system to a soakaway located within the site no less than 6 metres from the highway. This system shall be retained and maintained for as long as the development remains in existence.

21. Upon formation of the visibility splays as detailed in above conditions the centreline of any new or relocated hedge/fence/wall should be positioned not less than 1.0 metre to the rear of the visibility splay and retained in this position as long as the development remains in existence.

22. No storm water drainage from the site shall be allowed to discharge onto the county highway.

23. Prior to commencement of development a Tree and Hedgerow Protection and Replacement Plan in accordance with BS:5837:2012 shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and implemented as approved and maintained thereafter.

24. Prior to commencement of development a Pollution Prevention Plan shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and implemented as approved and maintained thereafter.

25. Prior to the commencement of development a detailed lighting design scheme to take into account any impacts on nocturnal wildlife into consideration shall be submitted for written Local Planning Authority approval and implemented as approved and maintained thereafter.

26. The development hereby permitted shall not commence until an assessment is carried out into the potential for disposing of surface water by means of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) in accordance with the principles set out in Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk, and the results of the assessment provided to the local planning authority. Where a SuDS scheme is to be provided, the submitted details shall:

a. Provide information about the design storm period and intensity, the method employed to delay and control the surface water discharged from the site and the measures to be taken to prevent pollution of the receiving groundwater and/or surface waters;

b. Specify the responsibilities of each party for the implementation of the SuDS scheme, together with a timetable for that implementation; and

c. Provide a management and maintenance plan for the lifetime of the development which shall include the arrangements for the adoption by any public authority or statutory undertaker or other arrangements to secure the operation of the scheme throughout its lifetime.

Reasons

1. To enable the Local Planning Authority to exercise proper control over the development in accordance with Section 92 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. Required to be imposed by Section 92 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

3. Required to be imposed by Section 92 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

4. To ensure adherence to the plans stamped as approved in the interests of clarity and a satisfactory development.

5. To ensure a satisfactory and well planned development, to ensure protection is afforded to mature trees on the southern boundary of the site and to preserve and enhance the quality of the environment, visual amenity and privacy in accordance with Policies GP1 and ENV2 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010).

6. To ensure a satisfactory and well planned development, to ensure protection is afforded to mature trees on the southern boundary of the site and to preserve and enhance the quality of the environment, visual amenity and privacy in accordance with Policies GP1 and ENV2 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010).

7. In the interests of the visual amenity of the area and to ensure the satisfactory appearance of the buildings in accordance with policies GP1 and GP3 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan and the Councils Residential Design Guide.
8. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
9. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
10. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
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21. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
22. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
23. To comply with Powys County Council's UDP policies SP3, ENV2, ENV3 and ENV6 in relation to The Natural Environment and to meet the requirements of TAN 5: Nature Conservation and Planning, Welsh government strategies, and Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act.
24. To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies ENV3 and ENV6 in relation to The Natural Environment and to meet the requirements of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, November 2016), TAN 5: Nature Conservation and Planning and Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act.
25. To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies SP3, ENV3 and ENV7 in relation to The Natural Environment and to meet the requirements of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, November 2016), TAN 5: Nature Conservation and Planning and Part 1 Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act.
26. To ensure that the development is provided with a satisfactory means of drainage as well as to reduce or exacerbate a flooding problem and to minimise the risk of pollution in accordance with Policies GP1, DC10 and DC13 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010).

Informative

Birds - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

All nesting birds, their nests, eggs and young are protected by law and it is an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird
- intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built
- intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird
- intentionally (or recklessly in England and Wales) disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.

The maximum penalty that can be imposed - in respect of a single bird, nest or egg - is a fine of up to 5,000 pounds, six months imprisonment or both.

The applicant is therefore reminded that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to remove or work on any hedge, tree or building where that work involves the taking, damaging or destruction of any nest of any wild bird while the nest is in use or being built, (usually between late February and late August or late September in the case of swifts, swallows or house martins). If a nest is discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural Resources Wales and the Council's Ecologist.

Bats - Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)

It is an offence for any person to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any bats.
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a bat uses for shelter or protection. This is taken to mean all bat roosts whether bats are present or not.

Under the Habitats Regulations it is an offence to:

- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of any bat. This is an absolute offence - in other words, intent or recklessness does not have to be proved.

The applicant is therefore reminded that it is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) that works to trees or buildings where that work involves the disturbance of a bat is an offence if a licence has not been obtained from Natural Resources Wales. If a bat is discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural Resources Wales and the Council's Ecologist. You can also call the National Bat helpline on 0345 1300 228 or email enquiries@bats.org.uk

Reptiles – Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

All species of reptiles known to occur within Powys, namely the common lizard, slow-worm, grass snake and adder, are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

It is therefore an offence to:

- Intentionally kill or injure these species of reptiles,
- Trade (live or dead animals) i.e. sale, barter, exchange, transporting for sale and advertising to sell or to buy.

The maximum penalty that can be imposed - in respect of each offence - is a fine of up to 5,000 pounds, six months imprisonment or both.

In addition these species of reptiles are also listed in Part 1 Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – which is a list of the living organisms of principal importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales. Species of reptiles known to occur in Powys are also listed as Species of Conservation Concern on the Powys LBAP.

If reptiles are discovered while work is being undertaken, all work must stop and advice sought from Natural Resources Wales and/or the Council's Ecologist.

Case Officer: Eddie Hrustanovic- Swyddog Cynllunio / Planning Officer
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