

The unclassified highway does not abut the application site and there is an approximate 23 metre distance between the end of the highway and the application site boundary. As such the new estate road will need to incorporate this length of private highway in order to ensure that adoptable standards are constructed for the entire estate road.

Prior to the commencement of any works on site full engineering drawings shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The drawings shall include the length of private highway between the application site and the unclassified highway.

HC7 Prior to the commencement of the development the area of the access 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 15 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 the dwellings, 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.

HC10 The gradient from the back of the footway/verge to the vehicle parking areas shall be constructed so as not to exceed 1 in 15 and shall be retained at this gradient for as long as the dwellings remain in existence.

HC12 The width of the access carriageway, constructed as Condition HC7 above, shall be not less than 5.5 metres for a minimum distance of 15 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.

HC19 No building shall be occupied before the estate road carriageway and one footway shall be constructed to and including binder course level to an adoptable standard including the provision of any salt bins, surface water drainage and street lighting in front of that building and to the junction with the county highway.

HC20 The estate road carriageway and all footways shall be fully completed, in accordance with the details to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, upon the issuing of the Building Regulations Completion Certificate for the last house or within two years from the commencement of the development, whichever is the sooner. The agreed standard of completion shall be maintained for as long as the development remains in existence.

HC31 The area of each private drive and any turning area is to be metalled and surfaced in bituminous macadam, concrete or block pavements, prior to the occupation of that dwelling and retained for 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.

In the interests of highway safety.

PCC Building Control

Building regulations will be required

Severn Trent Water

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this planning application. Please find our response noted below:

With Reference to the above planning application the company's observations regarding sewerage are as follows. I can confirm that we have no objections to the proposals subject to the inclusion of the following condition:

- The development hereby permitted should not commence until drainage plans for the disposal of foul and surface water flows have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority, and
- The scheme shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details before the development is first brought into use. This is 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

PCC Environmental Health

As there is a connection to the mains foul drainage I have no objection to the application.

PCC Ecologist

Thank you for consulting me with regards to planning application P/2017/0370 which concerns an outline application for a Residential development of up to 9 dwellings, formation of vehicular access and associated works (some matters reserved) at Land adj Maes Gwyn, Llanfair Caereinion, Welshpool. Apologies for the delay in getting my consultation response to you.

I have reviewed the proposed plans submitted with the application as well as photographs of the site and surrounding habitats, local records of protected and priority species and designated sites within 500m of the proposed development.

The data search identified 73 records of protected and priority species within 500m of the proposed development. No records were for the site itself. Species identified as present within 500m of the proposed development included reptiles, bats and amphibians. No statutory or non-statutory designated sites are present within 500m of the proposed development. No ecological information has been submitted with the application. Having reviewed the available information it is considered that the site of the proposed development comprises an area of improved grassland currently used for grazing purposes - a habitat of low ecological value – adjacent to an existing housing estate. The boundaries of the site comprises areas of hedgerows and trees - habitats of high ecological value.

The submitted plans and associated information identifies that the site will be accessed by the extension of the existing Maes Gwyn Estate road, it is therefore understood from the submitted plans that there would be no need to remove any hedgerow to accommodate the required access to the site.

Existing lengths of hedgerows appear to be present along the south-east and north-west boundary of the site of the proposed development. Hedgerows are 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. Hedgerows and linear tree features are also included in the Powys LBAP 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'. Powys UDP Policy ENV2 states that *'Proposals which are acceptable in principal should:*

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

It is noted that the submitted plans indicate that these hedgerows will be retained as boundary features for the proposed development. **It is recommended that in order to ensure the safeguarding of hedgerows and trees that are to be retained as part of the development a tree and hedgerow protection plan is secured through an appropriately worded condition.**

Whilst it is acknowledged that the submitted plans are indicative at this stage and that further detailed design will be provided as reserved matters it is noted that the proposed plans indicate the provision of landscaping including what appears to be areas of new hedgerow and tree planting as part of the proposed development. The provision of landscaping is welcomed, it is recommended that species used in landscaping are native (in accordance with UDP policy GP1) this would also serve to provide biodiversity enhancements in accordance with the requirements of Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. **It is recommended that a detailed landscaping scheme is secured through an appropriately worded condition.**

Given the relatively rural location of the proposed development careful consideration will need to be given to any proposed external lighting design within the detailed design of the development to minimise impacts to nocturnal wildlife commuting and foraging in the local area. **It is recommended that a planning condition securing a wildlife sensitive lighting scheme is secured through an appropriately worded condition.**

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 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 the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

Prior to the commencement of the development a Landscaping and Management Plan shall be submitted to and agreed with the Local Planning Authority and shall be implemented in the first planting season of the following occupation of the development. The Plan shall include the use of native species, details of the planting specification – the species, sizes and planting densities – and a timetable for implementation and future management to ensure good establishment and long-term retention

Reason: To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies SP3 and ENV2 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.

No external lighting shall be installed unless a detailed external lighting design scheme has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The external lighting scheme shall identify measures to avoid impacts on nocturnal wildlife. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies SP3, ENV3, ENV5 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 2016.

In addition I recommend inclusion of the following Informative:

Birds - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

The site of the proposed tree works is considered to have potential to support nesting birds during the breeding season. All nesting birds, their nests, eggs and young are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

It is therefore 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.

PCC Land Drainage

In response to your enquiry regarding the above mentioned application, the LLFA would make the following comments/recommendation.

Land Drainage / Flood Risk

Comment: The Authority holds no historical flooding information relating to the site itself.

Surface Water Drainage

Observation: Reference to the management of surface water run-off is indicated under Item 13 – ‘Assessment of Flood Risk’ on the planning application form, where it states surface water is to be disposed to a sustainable drainage system. Further reference is made within the Planning Statement (Item 4.6) where it indicates surface water drainage will be dealt with by a SuDS or soakaway system. The Planning Statement makes further reference to surface water drainage (Item 9.2), where it states there are a number of options which could be implemented on site to ensure that surface water is dealt with adequately, and does not raise any flood risk on site or third party land.

No surface water drainage details/drawings have been submitted.

Comments: The site is classed as Greenfield. Therefore, proposed surface water flows should be equivalent to existing Greenfield run-off in accordance with the principles of TAN15 – Development and Flood Risk and good practice drainage design such as that recently published by Welsh Government “Recommended non-statutory standards for sustainable drainage (SuDS) in Wales – designing, constructing, operating and maintaining surface water drainage systems” dated January 2016 (<http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/epq/flooding/drainage/?lang=en>).

The general soil type for the site location is described as being ‘slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils’. Soakage in this type of soil structure may be difficult to achieve and therefore winter waterlogging will more than likely result in very wet ground conditions across the site.

The use of sustainable drainage techniques and or soakaway is commended, however, it may be challenging to find a suitable SuDS solution, particularly due to the existing subsoil conditions in the locality. Off-site disposal of surface water run-off may be feasible either to the public surface water sewer or watercourse located in Watergate Street.

It is essential the proposed surface water drainage arrangement will not cause or create a flooding nuisance to any third party or any publicly maintained Highway.

Recommendation: Prior to commencement on site, an assessment shall be 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:

1. 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;
2. Specify the responsibilities of each party for the implementation of the SuDS scheme, together with a timetable for that implementation; and
3. 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.

Reason: To ensure that the proposed surface water drainage system for the site is fully compliant with regulations and is of robust design.

Informative: Foul drainage from the proposed development should be conveyed to the main foul sewer, subject to the agreement by Severn Trent Water Ltd. There must be adequate capacity at the receiving sewage treatment works to treat the additional flows. Consent is required from the service provider to connect into the foul main sewer.

Cllr V Evans (former councillor)

Supports this application

Representations

The application was advertised through the erection of a site notice and press advertisement. Three public representations (objections) have been received in respect of the proposed development.

The objections received are summarised below;

- Detrimental impact on the visual amenity of the area,
- The development will change the character of the area,
- Loss of view and outlook,
- Devalue the properties in the area,
- The site is outside designated settlement boundary,
- Local services are at capacity,
- Sewage system is at capacity,
- Residents will be inconvenienced/disturbed during the construction,
- Concern over traffic impacts,
- No proven need for such a scale of development.
- Residential amenity impact.

Planning History

No relevant planning history

Principal Planning Constraints

Outside settlement boundary

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 (2013)
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 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.

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.

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 adjoins the 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. The site will be linked to the existing residential estate as demonstrated by the proposed plan allowing pedestrians to walk to the settlement safely if they wish. Llanfair Caereinion also benefits from 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.

Affordable Housing

Whilst UDP policy states that affordable housing provision should be 30-35%, latest evidence produced to support the Local Development Plan indicated that a 10% affordable housing in

this area would be viable. In support of the application the developer has proposed (2 units) 20% affordable housing which would be conditioned as part of any consent.

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 site gently slopes downwards in the north west direction. The block plan demonstrates that 4 plots of the development would be located on that side of the field, while on the flatter area of the site additional 5 plots will be located. As part of the development would be on a slope, Officers consider that through sensitive design and landscaping that the development would not have a detrimental impact on the surrounding landscape.

The indicative site layout details a cul-de-sac with development on either side of the access, consistent with the surrounding built form and development within the wider settlement and adjacent residential estate.

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 9 dwellings without unacceptably adversely affecting the character and appearance of the area compliant with UDP policies SP5, GP1, GP3, ENV2 and HP5.

Highway Safety and Movement

UDP policy GP4 confirms that in the interests of highway safety, all development proposals that generate or involve traffic must be provided with an adequate means of access including visibility, parking and turning facilities.

The site is accessed from the Maes Gwyn residential estate road. Powys Highway Authority have confirmed that there are no objections to the scheme and have not raised any highway safety issues in this respect. Public representations are acknowledged in respect of the anticipate increase in vehicular movements to/from the proposed development however it is important to note that Powys Highway Department have not raised any concerns in this respect, however they have requested inclusion of number of highway safeguarding conditions.

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. The proposed development is therefore considered to be in accordance with planning policy, particularly UDP policy GP4 and TAN 18: Transport.

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 is bounded to the south west by existing properties located on Maes Gwyn residential estate. Concerns have been expressed by the occupiers of neighbouring dwellings that the proposal would negatively impact on their properties, however it is important to note that indicative plans show that there is sufficient distance (ranging from 10 meters to 15 metres from the wall-to-wall between the existing and proposed units, with intervening gardens between), to ensure adequate privacy between the neighbours. It is also important to note that no properties that are adjacent to the existing dwellings are directly overlooking each other.

Whilst details relating to design and appearance are reserved for future consideration, Officers consider that the amenities of neighbouring properties can be safeguarded through sensitive design and siting which will be reviewed appropriately by Development Management in considering any future application for the approval of reserved matters.

Following consultation with Environmental Health no objection has been received in relation to its impact on neighbour amenity.

In terms of overshadowing, the Residential Design Guide advises that where new development is less than 40 metres from the nearest habitable room and where the main front or rear (not flank) elevations of existing development is affected, 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 2 metres. Whilst this distance is less than 40 metres in relation to plots 1, 5 and 9 of the proposed site, the detailed design could take account of the overshadowing guidelines and as such would be considered at reserved matters stage.

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.

Impact on biodiversity and suitability of landscaping

The proposed development would result in the loss of an area of approximately 0.49ha of agricultural land. The land is grazed and considered of low ecological value. No negative comments were made by County Ecologist with respect to the ecology of the site.

The County Ecologist notes that having reviewed the available information it is considered that the site of the proposed development comprises an area of improved grassland currently used for grazing purposes - a habitat of low ecological value – adjacent to an existing housing estate. The boundaries of the site comprises areas of hedgerows and trees - habitats of high ecological value. The submitted plans and associated information identifies that the site will be accessed by the extension of the existing Maes Gwyn Estate road, it is therefore understood from the submitted plans that there would be no need to remove any hedgerow to accommodate the required access to the site.

It is considered that through the introduction of appropriate planting, landscape impacts would be minimised and biodiversity enhanced. The County Ecologist has recommended a

number of safeguarding conditions to be attached if the application is approved. Therefore, on the basis of this advice, it is recommended that any consent should include conditions requiring the submission of details with the reserved matters application which will increase site biodiversity in accordance with UDP Policy ENV3.

Having taken the above into account it considered that, subject to conditions, the ecological impacts of the proposed development are considered acceptable and are therefore in accordance with relevant planning policy.

Foul water disposal

Policy DC10 (Mains Sewerage Treatment) requires that development are adequately served by the public foul sewerage system.

The application states that the proposed development would utilise the existing mains sewerage system. Concerns have been raised from a third party over the capacity of the sewerage system, however following consultation with Severn Trent no objections have been raised to the proposed development. Consultation was also undertaken with Environmental Health who offered no objection to the use of mains sewerage.

In light of the above observations, Development Management considers the proposed development to be in accordance with policy DC10 of the Powys UDP.

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 reserve this trend.

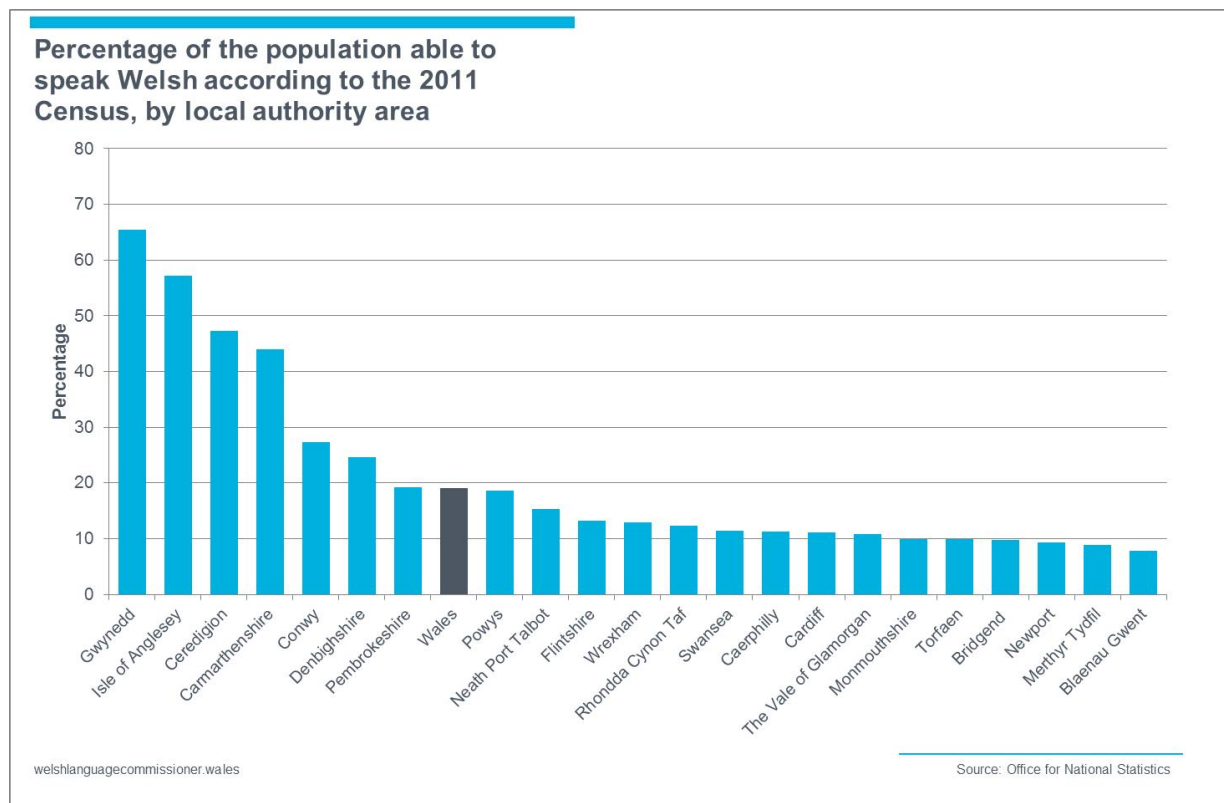
With regards to the Development Management function, TAN 20 states as follows:

“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”.

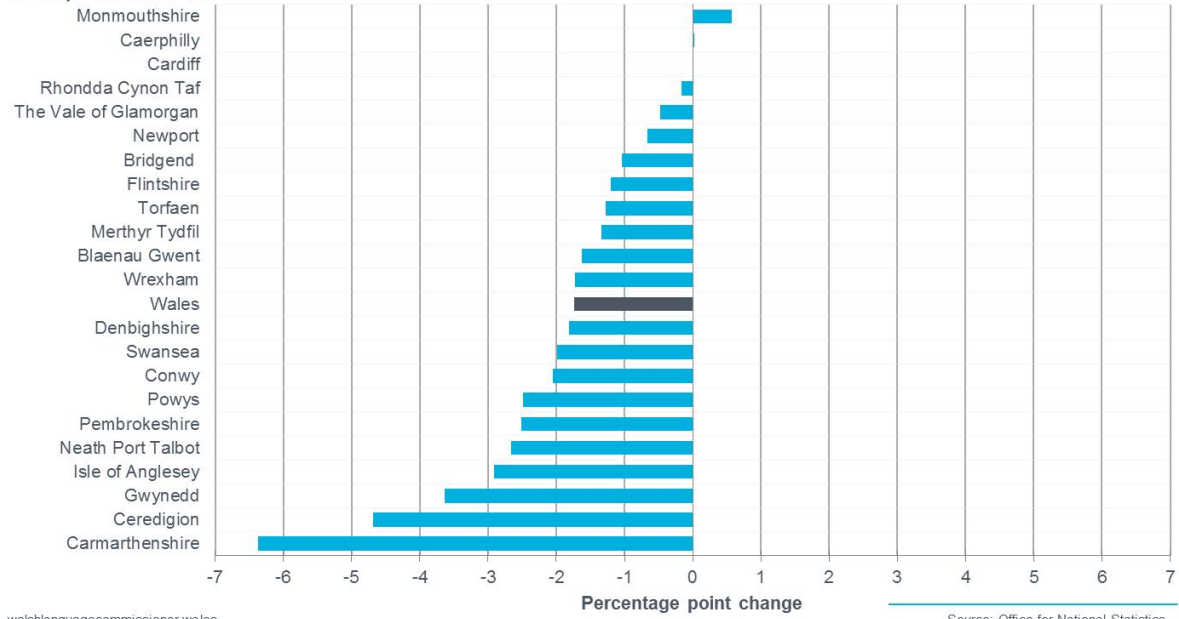
Policy GP5 of the Powys UDP states that within identified settlements proposals will only be acceptable where developers can demonstrate that they have taken full account of the importance of the Welsh Language and culture, including through the provision of an appropriate level of affordable homes.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



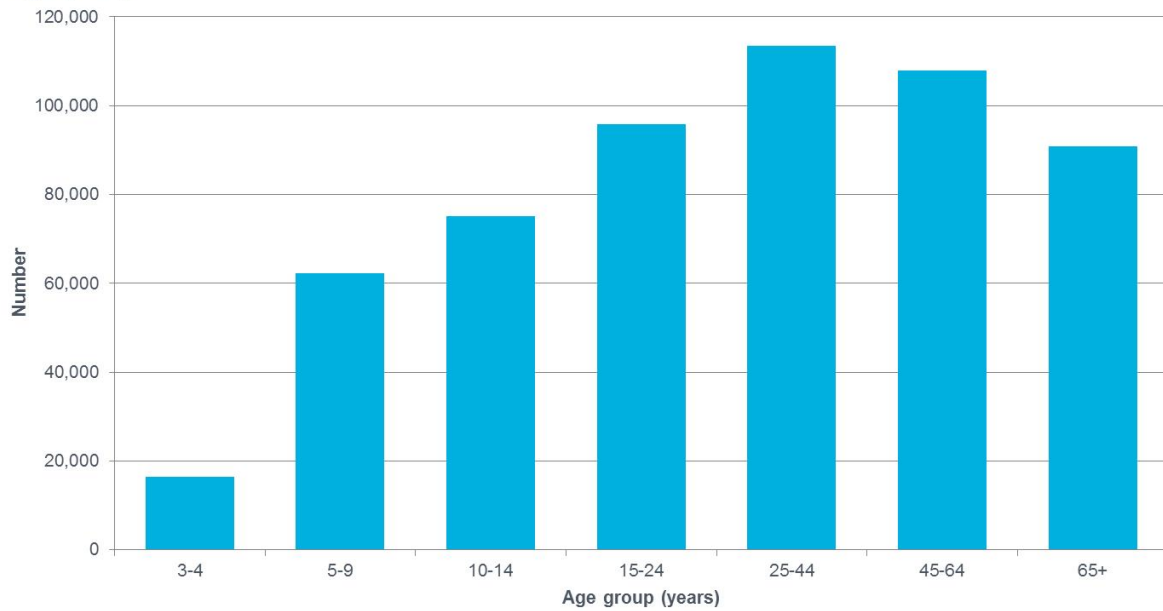
Change in the percentage of the population able to speak Welsh (percentage point), by local authority area, 2001-2011



welshlanguagecommissioner.wales

Source: Office for National Statistics

Number of people able to speak Welsh in Wales according to the 2011 Census, by age group



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”.

The scheme brings forward an appropriate number of affordable units as suggested under Policy GP 5. The proposed scheme will provide a proportion of affordable housing. It is stipulated as a guideline within the adopted UDP to be between 30-35%. However, it is noted that the scale of affordable housing to be provided will be a matter of negotiation for each individual site.

In negotiating the proportion, material consideration must be given to the data provided within the Joint Housing Land Availability Study, and referenced in the draft Local Development Plan. It is envisaged that the number of affordable dwellings within the scheme to be approximately 2 units, with a maximum footprint of 130m² therefore ensuring affordability. The affordable dwelling will be integrated throughout the site.

It is considered that the introduction of nine dwellings will 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 affordable housing and the cultural and linguistic vitality of an area. Affordable 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.

Other Legislative Considerations

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Section 17(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 imposes a duty on the Local Authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. This duty has been considered in the evaluation of this application. It is considered that there would be no significant or unacceptable increase in crime and disorder as a result of the proposed decision.

Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 identifies a number of 'protected characteristics', namely age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation; marriage and civil partnership.

Having due regard to advancing equality involves:

- removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristics;
- taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these differ from the need of other people; and
- encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low.

The above duty has been given due consideration in the determination of this application. It is considered that there would be no unacceptable impact upon persons who share a protected characteristic, over and above any other person, as a result of the proposed decision.

Planning (Wales) Act 2015 (Welsh language)

Section 31 of the Act clarifies that impacts on the Welsh language may be a consideration when taking decisions on applications for planning permission so far as it is material to the application. This duty has been given due consideration in the determination of this application. It is considered that there would be no material unacceptable effect upon the use of the Welsh language in Powys as a result of the proposed decision.

Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Section 3 of the Act imposes a duty on public bodies to carry out sustainable development in accordance with the sustainable development principle to act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Section 5). This duty has been considered in the evaluation of this application. It is considered that the proposed development is in accordance with the sustainable development principle through its contribution towards the well-being objectives.

Recommendation

Having carefully considered the proposed development, 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.

Conditions

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 point onto the unclassified highway (drawing no: RPP/TW-JOB16-03).
5. Prior to commencement of development the development shall not begin until a scheme for the provision of affordable housing as part of the development has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The affordable housing shall be provided in accordance with the approved scheme and shall meet the definition of affordable housing in Annex B of TAN 2 or any future guidance that replaces it. The scheme shall include:

- i) the numbers, type, tenure and location on the site of the affordable housing provision to be made which shall consist of not less than 20% affordable dwellings;
- ii) the timing of the construction of the affordable housing and its phasing in relation to the occupancy of the market housing;
- iii) the arrangements for the transfer of the affordable housing to an affordable housing provider [or the management of the affordable housing (if no RSL involved)];
- iv) the arrangements to ensure that such provision is affordable for both first and subsequent occupiers of the affordable housing; and
- v) the occupancy criteria to be used for determining the identity of occupiers of the affordable housing and the means by which such occupancy criteria shall be enforced

6. The affordable dwellings shall have a maximum gross floor area of 130 square metres (measured internally and including garages where designed as an integral part of the dwelling) and notwithstanding the provisions of schedule 2, part 1, classes A, B, C and E of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended for Wales) (or any order revoking and re-enacting that order with or without modification), the affordable dwelling shall not be subject to extensions, roof alterations and buildings other than those expressly authorised by the reserved matters approval.

7. 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 submitted to and approved in writing by 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.

8. The development hereby permitted shall not commence until drainage plans for the disposal of foul water flows have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details before the first occupation of any of the dwellings hereby approved.

9. 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.

10. 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.

11. 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.

12. Prior to the commencement of any works on site full engineering drawings shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The drawings shall include the length of private highway between the application site and the unclassified highway.

13. No other development shall commence until the area of the access to be used by vehicles has been 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 15 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.

14. Prior to the occupation of the dwellings, 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.

15. The gradient from the back of the footway/verge to the vehicle parking areas shall be constructed so as not to exceed 1 in 15 and shall be retained at this gradient for as long as the dwellings remain in existence.

16. The width of the access carriageway, constructed as per above conditions, shall be not less than 5.5 metres for a minimum distance of 15 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.

17. No building shall be occupied before the estate road carriageway and one footway shall be constructed to and including binder course level to an adoptable standard including the provision of any salt bins, surface water drainage and street lighting in front of that building and to the junction with the county highway.

18. The estate road carriageway and all footways shall be fully completed, in accordance with the details to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority, upon the issuing of the Building Regulations Completion Certificate for the last house or within two years from

the commencement of the development, whichever is the sooner. The agreed standard of completion shall be maintained for as long as the development remains in existence.

19. The area of each private drive and any turning area is to be metalled and surfaced in bituminous macadam, concrete or block pavements, prior to the occupation of that dwelling and retained for as long as the development remains in existence.

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

21. Prior to commencement of development a Tree and Hedgerow Protection 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 Local Planning Authority.

22. Prior to the commencement of the development a Landscaping and Management Plan shall be submitted to and agreed with the Local Planning Authority and shall be implemented in the first planting season of the following occupation of the development. The Plan shall include the use of native species, details of the planting specification - the species, sizes and planting densities - and a timetable for implementation and future management to ensure good establishment and long-term retention

23. No external lighting shall be installed unless a detailed external lighting design scheme has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The external lighting scheme shall identify measures to avoid impacts on nocturnal wildlife. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

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. In order to ensure the provision of affordable housing in accordance with Policy HP7 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010) and the Affordable Housing for Local Needs Supplementary Planning Guidance (2011).

6. In order to ensure that the dwellings serve an affordable need in perpetuity in accordance with the Affordable Housing for Local Needs Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (July 2011), Policies HP7 and HP10 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010) and Planning Policy Wales (2016).

7. 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).

8. 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).

9. 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).

10. To ensure a satisfactory and well planned development 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).

11. 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.

12. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

13. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

14. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

15. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

16. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

17. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

18. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

19. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

20. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.

21. 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 the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

22. To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies SP3 and ENV2 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.

23. To comply with Powys County Council's UDP Policies SP3, ENV3, ENV5 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 2016.

Informative Notes

Birds - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

The site of the proposed tree works is considered to have potential to support nesting birds during the breeding season. All nesting birds, their nests, eggs and young are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

It is therefore 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.

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