# Planning, Taxi Licensing and Rights of Way Committee Report

**Application No:** P/2017/1128 **Grid Ref:** 310980.71 306565.31

Community Llanfair Caereinion Valid Date: Officer:

Council: 02/10/2017 Sara Robinson

**Applicant:** Mr D Williams, 23 Maes Derwen, Llanfair Caereinion, Welshpool,

Powys, SY21 0BH

**Location:** Land adj to Highlea, Peartree Lane, Llanfair Caereinion, Welshpool,

Powys, SY21 0BH.

**Proposal:** Land adj to Highlea, Peartree Lane, Llanfair Caereinion, Welshpool,

Powys, SY21 0BH.

Application

Type:

Application for Outline Planning Permission

### The reason for Committee determination

The application site is located outside of the development boundary and in the open countryside as defined by the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010)

### **Site Location and Description**

The application site lies within the Community Council of Llanfair Caereinion. The site is located adjacent to the settlement boundary of Llanfair Caereinion and in the open countryside as defined by the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010). The site is accessed by the unclassified road U6026 which connects to the county highway B4385. The nearest neighbouring residential property is adjoining the site to the west. The site has neighbouring dwellings to the west and south west and to the north; east and south are agricultural fields.

The application is for the erection of a dwelling and garage together with associated works some matters reserved, except for access.

### **Consultee Response**

### Llanfair Caereinion Community Council-

At the meeting of Llanfair Town Council on Monday 23rd October 2017 the following decision were made.

Planning application P/2017/1128 dwelling at High Lea, Pear Tree Lane - application was not supported. The members raised concerns over a lack of adequate foul and surface water drainage. The lack of a footpath on the lane raised safety concerns for pedestrians.

## **PCC Highways**

The County Council as Highway Authority for the County Unclassified Highway, U6026

Wish the following recommendations/Observations be applied Recommendations/Observations

- Prior to the occupation of the 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 access shall be constructed so as not to exceed 1 in 20 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 road 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.
- Prior to the commencement of the development the access shall be constructed so that there is clear visibility from a point 1.05 metres above ground level at the centre of the access 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 access along the edge of the adjoining carriageway. Nothing shall be planted, erected or allowed to grow on the area(s) 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.
- 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 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.
- Prior to the occupation of the dwelling, provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of not less than 1 car per bedroom to a maximum of 3 excluding any garage space provided. The parking and turning areas shall be retained for their designated use in perpetuity.
- 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 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.

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

In the interest of highway safety.

## **PCC Building Control**

Building Regulations application required.

#### Wales and West Utilities

Wales & West Utilities acknowledge receipt of your notice received on 09.10.2017, advising us of the proposals for:

Highlea, Peartree Lane, Llanfair Caereinion, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 0BH

According to our mains records Wales & West Utilities has no apparatus in the area of your enquiry. However Gas pipes owned by other GT's and also privately owned may be present in this area. Information with regard to such pipes should be obtained from the owners.

Safe digging practices, in accordance with HS(G)47, must be used to verify and establish the actual position of mains, pipes, services and other apparatus on site before any mechanical plant is used. It is your responsibility to ensure that this information is provided to all persons (either direct labour or contractors) working for you on or near gas apparatus.

Please note that the plans are only valid for 28 days from the date of issue and updated plans must be requested before any work commences on site if this period has expired.

### 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:

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.

To help us provide an efficient response please could you send all responses to welshplanning@severntrent.co.uk rather than to named individuals, including the STW ref within the email/subject.

#### PCC Environmental Health

Comments received 06/10/2017

There is no foul drainage detail therefore I am unable to consider the proposal at the current time.

#### Comments received 06/10/2017

Provided the proposed dwelling is connected 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/2017/1128 which concerns the outline application for erection of a dwelling and garage together with associated works (some matters reserved) on Land adjacent to Highlea, Peartree Lane, Llanfair Caereinon, Welshpool.

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 51 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 poor semi-improved grassland which is considered a habitat of low ecological value. However, the hedgerows and trees on the boundary of the development is considered to be of ecological value. Tree and Hedgerow Replacement and Protection Plan

From the plans submitted it appear that sections of the hedgerow will be removed to provide proposed new access. 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 principal 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 mature trees (north of the development), 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.

## 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 measures 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 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 LPA approval 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, 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 Schedule1 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 Rights of Way

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application.

The nearby right of way does not seem to be adversely affected by this proposal. Nevertheless can the applicant please be advised of the importance of making sure that it is not obstructed during the course of any works and that it is kept open throughout.

### **CADW**

Thank you for your letter of 4 October 2017 inviting our comments on the above planning application.

#### Advice

Having carefully considered the information provided with this planning application, we have no objections to the impact of the proposed development on the scheduled monument MG203 Site 300m SW of Tan-llan (revealed by aerial photography). Our assessment of the application is given below.

#### Our role

Our statutory role in the planning process is to provide the local planning authority with an assessment concerned with the likely impact that the proposal will have on scheduled monuments, registered historic parks and gardens, registered historic landscapes where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required and development likely to have an impact on the outstanding universal value of a World Heritage Site. We do not provide an assessment of the likely impact of the development on listed buildings or conservation areas, as these are matters for the local authority.

It is for the local planning authority to weigh our assessment against all the other material considerations in determining whether to approve planning permission.

## **National Policy**

Applications for planning permission are considered in light of the Welsh Government's land use planning policy and guidance contained in Planning Policy Wales (PPW), Technical Advice Notes and circular guidance.

PPW (Chapter 6 – The Historic Environment) explains that the conservation of archaeological remains is a material consideration in determining a planning application, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not. Where nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in an adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance) or has a significantly damaging effect upon its setting. Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment elaborates by explaining that there is a

presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or which would have a significant impact on the setting of remains.

PPW also explains that local authorities should protect parks and gardens and their settings included in the first part of the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales, and that the effect of a proposed development on a registered park or garden or its setting should be a material consideration in the determination of a planning application.

#### Assessment

The application area is some 600m south-south-east of scheduled monument MG203 Site 300m SW of Tan-llan (revealed by aerial photography). The monument consists of the remains of a defended enclosure, which probably dates to the Iron Age period, (c.800BC – AD74, the Roman Conquest of Wales). The site consists of a sub-circular, trivallate enclosure c.200m in diameter with narrow spaced outer ramparts. The innermost enclosure survives as an earthwork, although in a degraded state. The enclosure is set upon a gently sloping plateau above the Afon Banwy

The proposed development will be on land which is currently in agricultural use. The application (which is outline) suggests that the proposed development will consist of a single dwelling between 8m and 15m in length, 6m to 12m wide and up to 7m high.

The proposed dwelling will be visible from scheduled monument MG203 across the Afon Banwy Valley but at this distance it will be seen as a very small extension to the existing settlement along Pear Tree Road and therefore will not cause any damage to the setting of the scheduled monument.

#### **CPAT**

Thank you for the consultation on this application.

I write to confirm that there are no archaeological implications for the development at this location.

## Representations

Following display of a site notice on 06/10/2017 for a period of 21 days no public representations have been received by Development Management at the time of writing this report.

### **Principal Planning Constraints**

Public Right of Way

### **Principal Planning Policies**

National Planning Policy

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, November 2016)

Technical Advice Note 1 - Joint Housing Land Availability Studies (2015)

Technical Advice Note 6 – Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities (2010)

Technical Advice Note 12 – Design (2016)

Technical Advice Note 18 – Transport (2007)

Technical Advice Note 20- Planning and the Welsh Language (2017)

Technical Advice Note 23 – Economic Development (2014)

Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (2017)

Welsh Government Circular 016/2014: The Use of Conditions

Welsh Officer Circular 10/99: Drainage

## Local planning policies

Unitary Development Plan (March 2010)

SP3 – Natural, Historic and Built Heritage

SP5 - Housing Developments

GP1 – Development Control

GP3 – Design and Energy Conservation

GP4 – Highway and Parking Requirements

ENV 2 - Safeguarding the Landscape

ENV 3 - Safeguarding Biodiversity and Natural Habitats

HP3 - Housing Land Availability

HP4 - Settlement Development Boundaries and Capacities

HP5 - Residential Developments

HP6 - Dwellings in the Open Countryside

HP9 - Affordable Housing in Rural Settlements

HP10 - Affordability Criteria

DC1 - Access by Disabled Persons

DC11 - Non-mains Sewage Treatment

DC13 - Surface Water Drainage

RL4 - Outdoor Activity and Pony Trekking Centres

RL6 - Rights of Way and Access to the Countryside

TR2 - Tourism Attractions

Powys Residential Design Guide (2004)

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

The application site lies outside of any development boundaries identified in the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010) and adjoins the settlement of Llanfair. Outside of settlement boundaries, UDP Policy HP4 applies and states that 'outside settlement boundaries, proposals for new residential development will only be approved where they comply with UDP Policies HP6, HP8 or HP9'. Policy HP6 relates to rural enterprise dwellings, policy HP8 relates to affordable dwellings adjoining a settlement boundary and Policy HP9 relates to affordable dwellings within rural settlements. It is considered that the proposed development does not comply with UDP Policy HP6, HP8 or HP9. The proposed development is therefore not in accordance with the UDP and should be considered a departure.

### Housing Land Supply

Planning policy (TAN1 and UDP HP3) states that the Council needs to have a five year supply of land available for housing. The Powys Joint Housing Land Availability Study (2016) concludes that there is 2.2 years of housing supply.

Paragraph 9.2.3 of Planning Policy Wales states that 'Local planning authorities must ensure that sufficient land is genuinely available or will become available to provide a 5 year supply of land for housing judged against the general objectives and the scale and location of development provided for in the development plan.'

The Powys Joint Housing Land Availability Study (JHLAS) 2016 states that there was 2.2 years supply of housing land in the Powys Local Planning Authority (LPA) area. Failure to have a 5-year housing land supply is an important material consideration that should be taken into account when determining this scheme. Technical Advice Note 1: Joint Housing Land Availability Studies (2015) states as follows:

"The housing land supply should also be treated as a material consideration in determining planning applications for housing. Where the current study shows a land supply below the 5 year requirement or where the local planning authority has been unable to undertake a study, the need to increase supply should be given considerable weight when dealing with planning applications provided that the development would otherwise comply with development plan and national planning policies".

Whilst TAN 1 confirms that the need to increase housing land supply should be given considerable weight, it is emphasised that this is only where the development would otherwise comply with development plan and national planning policies. Therefore, all material planning considerations are required to be taken into account as are all relevant national and local planning policies and balanced with the undersupply of housing land currently available in Powys.

### 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.

Llanfair Caereinion is defined in the UDP as an Area Centre. Llanfair Caereinion offers a large variety of services facilities including a Primary School, High School, Community Centre, Public Houses, Dentist and Place of Worship.

Llanfair Caereinion is also easily accessible by public transport with regular bus services to Oswestry, Welshpool and Newtown as well as a steam railway service to Welshpool.

In light of the range of services located within a short travelling distance of the development site, officers consider that there is an argument to support the principle of residential development at this location given its siting adjoining an Area Centre. Therefore, the proposed site is considered to be in a sustainable location for residential development.

### Scale, Design and Appearance

Policy GP3 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan seeks to ensure that development proposals are of an appropriate design, scale, layout and of materials that shall complement or where possible enhance the character of the surrounding area.

This application is submitted in outline with all matters reserved to be considered during the submission of the reserved matters other than access.

Whilst scale, appearance, layout and landscaping are reserved matters not to be considered as part of this application process, the applicant has provided an indicative layout for the site and stated that the single dwelling proposed is to be a detached dwelling with three to four bedrooms.

Although Officers acknowledge that matters relating to 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 a single dwelling without unacceptably adversely affecting the character and appearance of the area or amenities enjoyed by occupants of neighbouring properties compliant with UDP policies SP5, GP1, GP3, ENV2 and HP5.

### Amenity

Policy GP1 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan states that the amenities enjoyed by the occupants of nearby neighbouring properties should not be unacceptably affected by development proposals and the proposal should complement and where possible enhance the character of the surrounding area.

The site layout is a reserved matter and not to be determined at this stage; however, the indicative site layout plan indicates that the dwelling will be located adjacent to the dwelling known as Cwmbuchan located adjacent to the proposed site. The indicative layout shows that the dwelling is at an offset angle and due to the existing mature hedgerow it is considered that there is sufficient distance between the existing property and the proposed dwellings as to not have a significant adverse impact upon the amenities enjoyed by the occupants of this neighbouring property.

This layout is for indicative purposes only and the layout of the site could be altered 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.

## 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.

In terms of landscaping the submission proposes the retention of a mature hedgerow Landscaping is a reserved matter and therefore detailed proposals would be considered at a later date.

Whilst the site would be visible from public vantage points including the public highway and right of way the proposal would result in a visual change in comparison to the current agricultural use. The site is located adjacent to the dwelling known as Cwmbuchan on Hope Road which is a small housing estate. It is considered that the current proposal site is integrated well adjacent to the development boundary.

The development will be seen immediately adjoining the properties of Cwmbuchan, Murmur Y Coed and Newlyn and it is due to this clustering of dwellings that this exception site is considered acceptable in visual impact terms. Additionally, the landscaping measures proposed would reduce the visual impact and that the proposed scale of the dwelling, it is considered that a satisfactory detailed design could come forward to reflect the overall character and appearance of the settlement and surrounding area.

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

### Highways Safety and Movement

UDP policy GP4 indicates that planning permission will be dependent upon adequate provision for access including visibility, turning and parking.

The Highway Authority have been consulted on this application and have raised no objections to the development subject to the suggested conditions listed above regarding entrance gates, parking provision and access construction methods and materials.

In light of the highways officers comments it is considered that the proposed dwellings fundamentally comply with Policy GP4 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan 2010.

## **Ecology and Biodiversity**

As part of this application process our County Ecologist had been consulted and has provided comments on the application. The Ecologist stated that having 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 51 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 poor semi-improved grassland which is considered a habitat of low ecological value. However, the hedgerows and trees on the boundary of the development is considered to be of ecological value.

The ecologist stated that from the plans submitted it appears that sections of the hedgerow will be removed to provide proposed new access. The UDP policies ENV2 and ENV6 identify the need to protect or provide compensation for impacts to hedgerows and trees.

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 to the mature trees (north of the development), 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.

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.

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.

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.

The Ecologist has therefore requested that a number of conditions are attached to any grant of planning permission.

It is noted that landscaping is a reserved matter and, as such, these details will be considered at a later stage. It is, therefore, not necessary to condition the submission of a detailed landscaping scheme on this application.

It is considered that, in light of the Ecologist's comments and subject to the inclusion of the suggested conditions on lighting the proposed development fundamentally complies with policies ENV7 of the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010) and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 5 Nature Conservation and Planning (2009).

## 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. Technical Advice Note 20: Planning and the Welsh Language provides further advice on how the planning system considers the implications of the Welsh Language. Within the Powys UDP policy GP5 identifies settlements where the Welsh Language is important to the social, cultural and community fabric of the area. Llanfair Caereinion is located within an area which is considered that the Welsh Language has been identified as being important to the social, cultural and community fabric.

In the 2011 census the Llanfair Caereinion Ward reported that 36% of the population spoke Welsh. This is a 3% decrease from the 2001 census which stated that 39% of the population of Llanfair Caereinion spoke Welsh. The development of a single dwelling in this settlement is not considered to have a detrimental impact on the cultural or linguistic vitality of the area.

## Foul and 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.

Policy DC10 of the Powys Unitary Development plan seeks to ensure that development proposals are only permitted where they can be adequately served by the public foul sewerage system.

Severn Trent Water were consulted on the application and stated that as the proposal has minimal impact on the public sewerage system they have no objections to the proposals and do not require a drainage condition to be applied. Environmental Health were also consulted and stated that provided the proposed dwelling is connected to the mains foul drainage I have no objection to the application.

In light of this, subject to appropriately worded conditions it is considered that surface water drainage can be appropriately managed.

### 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.

## 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**

Whilst the proposal is a departure from the development plan, the Council's current lack of housing land supply carries considerable weight in favour of this development and given that the proposal would otherwise comply with development plan and national planning policies, the recommendation is one of conditional consent.

## **Conditions:**

- Details of the 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 strictly in accordance with the plans stamped as approved on XXXX in so far as the extent of the application site is drawn.
- 5. Prior to the occupation of the 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.
- 6. The gradient of the access shall be constructed so as not to exceed 1 in 20 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.
- 7. The centre line of the first 5.5 metres of the access road 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.
- 8. Prior to the commencement of the development the access shall be constructed so that there is clear visibility from a point 1.05 metres above ground level at the centre of the access 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 access along the edge of the adjoining carriageway. Nothing shall be planted, erected or allowed to grow on the area(s) 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.
- 9. 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 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.
- 10. Prior to the occupation of the dwelling, provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of not less than 1 car per bedroom to a maximum of 3 excluding any garage space provided. The parking and turning areas shall be retained for their designated use in perpetuity.
- 11. The width of the access carriageway, constructed as condition 9 above, shall be not less than 5.5 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.
- 12. No storm water drainage from the site shall be allowed to discharge onto the county highway.

- 13. 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.
- 14. 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.

#### 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 the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 6. In the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 7. In the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 8. In the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 9. In the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 10. In the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 11. In the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 12. In the interests of highway safety and to accord with Unitary Development Plan policies GP1 and GP4.
- 13. 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.

14. 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.

#### **Informative Notes**

### **Building Control**

A Building regulations application will be required for this development, please contact Building Regulations on 01874 612290.

#### Wales and West Utilities

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.

### Biodiversity

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 Schedule1 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.

Case Officer: Sara Robinson- Planning Officer

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