Planning, Taxi Licensing and Rights of Way Committee Report

Application No: P/2017/1289 **Grid Ref:** 321657.35 298063.15

Community Montgomery **Valid Date: Officer:**

Council: 03/11/2017 Gemma Bufton

Applicant: Mr D M Jones, Wernllwyd, Berriew, Welshpool, Powys.

Location: Land at Pwll Farm, Hendomen, Montgomery, Powys, SY15 6EZ.

Proposal: Outline application for erection of 1 no. dwellings with detached

garages, alterations to vehicular access, installation of septic tanks and

all associated works

Application

Type:

Application for Outline Planning Permission

The reason for Committee determination

This application is a departure from the development plan and is recommended for approval.

Site Location and Description

The application site is located within the rural settlement of Hendomen within the community council area for Montgomery. The application site is located outside of a defined settlement development limit and therefore considered a departure from the Unitary Development Plan. The application site is located with the County Class III Highway, C2192 running to the north of the site with a neighbouring residential dwelling located to the east. To the south and west is agricultural land.

Consent is sought in outline with some matters reserved except for access for the erection of a single dwelling.

Consultee Response

Montgomery Town Council-

Comments from Montgomery Town Council - Plans provided do not show the visual impact of this site. Local needs are not being met Councillors are concerned that there does not appear to be any part of the construction that is eco- friendly.

Highways Department

The County Council as Highway Authority for the County Class III Highway, C2192

Wish the following recommendations/Observations be applied Recommendations/Observations

- HC1 Prior to the occupation of the dwelling any entrance gates shall be set back at least 15 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 15 for the first 15 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 15 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.
- HC4 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.

- 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 dwelling, provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of not less than one car per bedroom excluding any garage space provided together with a turning space such that all vehicles serving the site may both enter and leave the site in a forward gear. The parking and turning areas shall be retained for their designated use for as long as the development hereby permitted remains in existence.
- HC11 Prior to from the commencement of the development provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of all construction vehicles together with a vehicle turning area. This parking and turning area shall be constructed to a depth of 0.4 metres in crusher run or sub-base and maintained free from obstruction at all times such that all vehicles serving the site shall park within the site and both enter and leave the site in a forward gear for the duration of the construction of the development.
- HC12 The width of the access carriageway, constructed as Condition HC7 above, shall be not less than 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.

- HC13 Prior to the occupation of the development a radius of 10.5 metres shall be provided from the carriageway of the county highway on each side of the access to the development site and shall be maintained for as long as the development remains in existence.
- HC21 Prior to the occupation of the dwelling the area of the access to be used by vehicles is to be finished in a 40mm bituminous surface course for a distance of 15 metres from the edge of the adjoining carriageway. This area will be maintained to this standard for as long as the development remains in existence,
- HC22 Prior to the commencement of the development any existing means of access shall be stopped up, in materials to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority and this shall be retained for as long as the development is in existence.
- HC26 When installed there shall be a minimum clearance of 6 metres from the nearest part of the adjoining highway verge or footpath to any part of the septic tank or its soakaway installation.
- HC27 The septic tank effluent in connection with the development hereby permitted shall not interfere or connect in any way with the highway surface water drainage or give rise to a nuisance upon the highway.
- HC30 Upon formation of the visibility splays as detailed in HC4 above the centreline of any new or relocated hedge should be positioned not less than 1.0 metre to the rear of the visibility splay and retained in this position as long as the development remains in existence.
- HC32 No surface water drainage from the site shall be allowed to discharge onto the county highway.
- HC37 Prior to any works being commenced on the development site the applicant shall construct one passing bay, in a location to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The passing bay shall be constructed up to adoptable standard prior to any works being commenced on the development site.

Building Control-

Building regulation approval will be required.

Wales & West Utilities-

Please find enclosed a letter relating to your request. Based on the information given and the address provided, Wales & West Utilities have no apparatus in the area of your enquiry.

Our records show those pipes owned by Wales & West Utilities (WWU) in its role as a Licensed Gas Transporter (GT). Service pipes, valves, syphons, stub connections, etc. may not be shown but their presence should be anticipated. No warranties are therefore given in respect of it.

They also provide indications of gas pipes owned by other GTs, or otherwise privately owned, which may be present in this area. This information is not information of WWU and WWU is unable to verify this information or to confirm whether it is accurate or complete.

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.

Environmental Health-

15th November 2017-

Re: Outline application for erection of 2 no. dwellings with detached garages, alterations to vehicular access, installation of septic tanks and all associated works.

Foul drainage

The description of the application, the application form and the block plan state that the intention is to install septic tanks for the properties, however the Design and Access Statement (section 6.3) states that the site is serviced by mains drainage and that the sewage will be pumped to the public sewer network.

Please can the agent/applicant confirm which option is being proposed?

If the intention is to install septic tanks and drainage fields it will be necessary for percolation tests to be carried out and the results submitted in order to confirm that the ground conditions are suitable, and that there is sufficient area available for their installation, in accordance with approved document H2 of the Building Regulations.

Additional Correspondance received on 18th January 2018

Thanks for forwarding the percolation test results for comment.

I am satisfied that the ground conditions are suitable for a septic tank and drainage field, and that there is sufficient space for its implementation, therefore I have no objection to the application.

PCC Ecologist-

Thank you for consulting me with regards to planning application P/2017/1289 which concerns the outline application for erection of 2 no. dwellings with detached garages, alterations to vehicular access, installation of septic tanks and all associated works on Land at Pwll Farm, Hendomen, Montgomery.

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 20 records of protected and priority species within 500m of the proposed development - no records were for the site itself.

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

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

Tree and Hedgerow Replacement and Protection Plan

From the plans submitted it appear that sections of the hedgerow will be translocated 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.

As proposed translocation of the existing hedgerow should be carried out. However, if this is not considered possible at this location replacement hedgerow planting would need to be identified.

Where it is necessary to translocate or remove hedgerows a Hedgerow Translocation Plan will need to be secured through an appropriately worded condition. This plan will need to identify details of the location, length, transplanting methods as well as an appropriate aftercare scheme.

Wildlife Sensitive Lighting Plan

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

Landscape Planting Scheme

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

Biodiversity Enhancements

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

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

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

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

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

Prior to commencement of development a Hedgerow Translocation Plan 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.

CADW-

Thank you for your letter 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 monuments MG013 Hen Domen Mound & Bailey Castle and MG170 Hen Domen Pre-Conquest Fields. 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 located some 180m east of scheduled monument MG013 Hen Domen Mound & Bailey Castle and 86m east of scheduled monument MG170 Hen Domen Pre-Conquest Fields. These monuments consist of the well preserved remains of a medieval earthwork castle built over the remains of a Pre-Norman filed system.

The proposed development will be clearly visible from the scheduled monument but will be seen as part of the existing settlement at Hendomen. Whilst it will increase the amount of modern development constructed close to the scheduled monument we consider that the proposed development will cause slight but not significant damage to the settings of scheduled monuments MG013 and MG170

Representations

No letters of public representation received at the time of writing this report.

Planning History

N/A

Principal Planning Constraints

Historic Landscapes Register Outstanding

Principal Planning Policies

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9, November 2016)

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

Technical Advice Note 2 – Planning and Affordable Housing (2006)

Technical Advice Note 5- Nature Conservation and Planning (2009)

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

Technical Advice Note 11- Noise (1997)

Technical Advice Note 12 – Design (2016)

Technical Advice Note 15- Development and Flood Risk (2004)

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 Practice Guidance: Planning for Sustainable Buildings (2014)

Welsh Government Circular 016/2014: The Use of Conditions

Welsh Office Circular 10/99: Drainage

Local Policies

Unitary Development Plan (March 2010)

SP3 – Natural, Historic and Built Heritage

SP5 – Housing Developments

SP14- Development in Flood Risk Areas

GP1 – Development Control

GP3 – Design and Energy Conservation

GP4 – Highway and Parking Requirements

ENV2 – Safeguarding the Landscape

ENV3 – Safeguarding Biodiversity and Natural Habitats

ENV17- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites

ENV18- Development Proposals Affecting Archaeological Sites

HP3 – Housing Land Availability

HP4 – Settlement Development Boundaries and Capacities

HP6 – Dwellings in the Open Countryside

HP9 – Affordable Housing in Rural Settlements

HP10 – Affordability Criteria

TR2- Tourist Attractions and Development Areas

DC9- Protection of Water Resources

DC10- Mains Sewage Treatment

DC11 - Non-Mains Sewage Treatment

DC13 - Surface Water Drainage

DC14- Flood Prevention Measures

Affordable Housing for Local Needs Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) (2011)

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 is located entirely outside of a settlement development limits as defined by the Powys Unitary Development Plan (2010). 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 as a departure.

Housing Land Supply

The departure is being justified by the applicant on the basis that Powys County Council does not have a 5 year housing land 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

When providing additional housing it is important to consider whether the scheme can be considered to be sustainable development. This can relate to a wide range of matters including public transport provision and access to education, employment opportunities and other services.

The site itself is located within the rural settlement of Hendomen adjoining an existing neighbouring residential property located to the east and with further residential properties located to the north opposite the C2192 county highway which runs directly to the north of the application site. Whilst it is noted that Hendomen itself has limited services available it is noted that in approximately 0.9km there is both Caerhowel (Small village) and Montgomery (Key settlement) both of which host a number of various facilities and services.

Based on the proximity of these services which include facilities such as Church, Primary Schools, Health Centre, Shops and Public Houses/ Hotels it is considered that on balance that a single dwelling within this location would be considered as acceptable.

It has further been considered the number of applications recently determined within the rural settlement. It is noted that there has been one dwelling approved at the end of 2017 for an open market dwelling. Taking into consideration this application it is considered that on balance the development as proposed would be considered as acceptable within this location.

Scale, Design and Appearance

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.

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. The proposed scheme indicates a single detached dwelling.

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 the dwellings 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.

Based on the distances involved as indicated on the indicative layout it is considered that the proposed development would not been seen as having an impact on the amenity of the neighbouring residential property by either loss of light of privacy.

Therefore, whilst the layout is for indicative purposes only it is considered that the layout indicated is considered to be appropriate and would provide ample space for the proposed dwellings to be developed without compromising the amenity of neighbouring residential properties and therefore 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 the 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.

Whilst the site would be visible from public vantage points including the public highways, taking into account the location of the application site which is adjacent to existing residential development it is considered that the visual impact and 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.

Agricultural Land Classification

Following consideration of information supplied by Welsh Government through the Provision of Agricultural Land Classification due regard has been given to the classification afforded to the application site. The site in question has been indicated as category 3b agricultural land; this is defined as moderate quality agricultural land.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW) paragraph 4.10 outlines national policy towards conserving Wales' Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. PPW states that;

"In the case of agricultural land, land of grades 1, 2 and 3a of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Agricultural Land Classification system (ALC) is the best and most versatile, and should be conserved as a finite resource for the future. In development plan policies and development management decisions considerable weight should be given to protecting such land from development, because of its special importance. Land in grades 1, 2 and 3a should only be developed if there is an overriding need for the development, and either previously developed land or land in lower agricultural grades is unavailable, or available lower grade land has an environmental value recognised by a landscape, wildlife, historic or archaeological designation which outweighs the agricultural considerations. If land in grades 1, 2 or 3a does need to be developed, and there is a choice between sites of different grades, development should be directed to land of the lowest grade."

In light of the lands classification of category 3b it is considered that the proposed development on this agricultural land is justified in respect of the current housing land supply shortage within the county.

Ecology

The Council acknowledges the need to protect biodiversity from adverse development through careful monitoring, maintenance and the protection of habitats and species worthy of conservation. Therefore the nature conservation polices in the UDP seek to safeguard and enhance biodiversity, and these objectives are also echoed in national policy (TAN5 and Planning Policy Wales).

It is noted that the development site is located on improved grassland which is considered to be of low ecological value. The Powys Ecologist has been consulted and notes that a data search identified 20 records of protected and priority species within 500 metres of the proposed development but no records were for the site itself.

In light of the above the Ecologist has confirmed that they have no objection to the proposed development subject to the implementation of appropriately worded conditions. Whilst the Ecologist has recommended landscaping retention/implementation conditions, given that landscaping is a reserved matter it is not for consideration under this application and will be weighed up at the time of submission of the reserved matters application.

In light of the above it is therefore considered that the proposed development fundamentally complies with relevant planning policy.

Scheduled Ancient Monument

The application site is located 180 metres east of Scheduled Ancient Monument MG013 Hen Domen Mound & Bailey Castle and 86 metres east of scheduled monument MG170 Hen Domen Pre-Conquest Fields.

Cadw have been consulted and have noted that these monuments consist of the well preserved remains of a medieval earthwork castle built over the remains of a Pre-Normal filed system. Whilst they have noted that the development would be visible from the scheduled monument they consider that the proposal will be seen as part of the existing settlement of Hendomen and therefore consider that the proposal would cause slight but not significant damage to the settings of scheduled monuments MG013 and MG170.

It is therefore considered that the proposed development fundamentally complies with relevant planning policy.

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.

Policy GP5 indicates certain settlements where the Welsh Language has been identified as being important to the social, cultural and community fabric. Montgomery is not identified as being one of those settlements under GP5. However, it is considered that Welsh Language is a material consideration across the County.

From the 2011 census for the Montgomery community area the percentage of those aged 3 and above able to speak Welsh has decreased slightly by 1% since the 2001 census data (2011- 12.4% and 2001- 12.5%)

In light of the above and given the scale of the proposed development it is considered that the proposal will therefore not have an unacceptable adverse impact upon Welsh language and culture.

Other Legislative Planning 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 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 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. Prior to the occupation of the dwelling any entrance gates shall be set back at least 15 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.
- 5. The gradient of the access shall be constructed so as not to exceed 1 in 15 for the first 15 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.
- 6. The centre line of the first 15 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.

7. 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.

- 8. 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.
- 9. Prior to the occupation of the dwelling, provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of not less than one car per bedroom excluding any garage space provided together with a turning space such that all vehicles serving the site may both enter and leave the site in a forward gear. The parking and turning areas shall be retained for their designated use for as long as the development hereby permitted remains in existence.
- 10. Prior to from the commencement of the development provision shall be made within the curtilage of the site for the parking of all construction vehicles together with a vehicle turning area. This parking and turning area shall be constructed to a depth of 0.4 metres in crusher run or sub-base and maintained free from obstruction at all times such that all vehicles serving the site shall park within the site and both enter and leave the site in a forward gear for the duration of the construction of the development.
- 11. The width of the access carriageway, constructed as Condition 8 above, shall be not less than 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.
- 12. Prior to the occupation of the development a radius of 10.5 metres shall be provided from the carriageway of the county highway on each side of the access to the development site and shall be maintained for as long as the development remains in existence.
- 13. Prior to the occupation of the dwelling the area of the access to be used by vehicles is to be finished in a 40mm bituminous surface course for a distance of 15 metres from the edge of the adjoining carriageway. This area will be maintained to this standard for as long as the development remains in existence,
- 14. Prior to the commencement of the development any existing means of access shall be stopped up, in materials to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority and this shall be retained for as long as the development is in existence
- 15. When installed there shall be a minimum clearance of 6 metres from the nearest part of the adjoining highway verge or footpath to any part of the septic tank or its soakaway installation.
- 16. The septic tank effluent in connection with the development hereby permitted shall not interfere or connect in any way with the highway surface water drainage or give rise to a nuisance upon the highway.
- 17. Upon formation of the visibility splays as detailed in HC4 above the centreline of any new or relocated hedge should be positioned not less than 1.0 metre to the rear of the visibility splay and retained in this position as long as the development remains in existence.

- 18. No surface water drainage from the site shall be allowed to discharge onto the county highway.
- 19. Prior to any works being commenced on the development site the applicant shall construct one passing bay, in a location to be agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The passing bay shall be constructed up to adoptable standard prior to any works being commenced on the development site.
- 20. Prior to the first installation of any external lighting 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 shall be 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. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 5. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 6. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 7. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 8. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 9. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 10. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 11. In the interests of highway safety and in accordance with the provisions of Powys UDP Policy GP1 and GP4.
- 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. 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.

Informative Notes

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: Gemma Bufton- Principal Planning Officer Tel: 01597 827505 E-mail:gemma.bufton1@powys.gov.uk