



Glandŵr Cymru
Canal & River Trust in Wales

Wrexham County Borough Council
The Guildhall
16 Lord Street
Wrexham
LL11 1AY

Your Ref P/2022/1080

Our Ref CRTR-PLAN-2023-40129
CRTR-PLAN-2023-39544
CRTR-PLAN-2023-37982

Tuesday 7 November 2023

Dear Matthew Phillips,

Proposal: Amended Plans - Construction of new access road, lorry park, weighbridge and building, car park, facilities block, roundwood storage areas, 132 KV Substation and ancillary works

Location: Kronospan Ltd, Holyhead Road, Chirk

Waterway: Llangollen Canal

Thank you for your consultation.

We are the charity who look after and bring to life 76 miles of canals in Wales. Our waterways contribute to the health and wellbeing of local communities and economies, creating attractive and connected places to live, work, volunteer and spend leisure time. These historic, natural and cultural assets form part of the strategic and local green-blue infrastructure network, linking urban and rural communities as well as habitats. By caring for our waterways and promoting their use we believe we can improve the wellbeing of Wales. The Trust is known as Glandŵr Cymru, the Canal & River Trust in Wales and we are a statutory consultee in the Development Management process.

Glandŵr Cymru previously provided comments on this application in our letter dated Friday 27th January 2023 (our ref: CRTR-PLAN-2023-37982), we asked that the Council carefully considers the proposals in terms of the potential wider impact on the setting of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site (WHS) and its Outstanding Universal Value. We then raised no new concerns in relation to the amended details as set out in our letter dated 21st August 2023. We would ask that the further comments below are read in conjunction with our previous comments.

Based on the information available our substantive response (as required by the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 (as amended)) is that the Trust has **no new concerns in relation to the development or its potential impact on the Llangollen Canal.**

We are aware that the applicant has been working with Cadw to try to address concerns in relation to the impact of the development on the setting of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal World Heritage Site (WHS) and its Outstanding Universal Value. We defer to the advice of Cadw in terms of the wider world heritage site impacts. We would ask that the Council carefully considers these matters within the decision-making process to ensure that such development is fully justified within the WHS buffer zone.

Canal & River Trust Planning Team

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We have been in discussion with the applicant in relation to a proposed woodland management plan for the tree stock which Glandŵr Cymru own along the canal corridor in the vicinity of the site. It is understood that the intention is for a final woodland management plan to be secured via a planning obligation. If Glandŵr Cymru are required to be a signatory to an agreement, we would expect all our legal costs to be met.

For us to monitor effectively our role as a statutory consultee, please send me a copy of the decision notice and the requirements of any planning obligation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Bettany-Simmons MRTPI
Area Planner

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<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/specialist-teams/planning-and-design>

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