



**Bryniau Clwyd a
Dyffryn Dyfrdwy**
Clwydian Range
and Dee Valley

Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Bryniau Clwyd a Dyffryn Dyfrdwy AHNE
Park Gwledig Loggerheads, Yr Wyddgrug, Sir Ddinbych CH7 5LH

Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB
Loggerheads Country Park, Nr. Mold, Denbighshire CH7 5LH

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Cyf | Ref: P/2021/0744

Dyddiad | Date: 19 November 2021

Simon Greenland
Planning Services
Wrexham County Borough Council
WREXHAM
LL11 1AY

Dear Simon

PROPOSAL: Erection of HGV workshop and MOT centre.

LOCATION: Haulage Yard Adjacent to Smithy Service Station, B5605 From Newbridge Road To Whitehurst, Pentre, Chirk, LL14 5AN

Thank you for consulting the AONB on this application. The following observations are submitted on behalf of the Joint Committee.

“This is a particularly sensitive site in close proximity to the AONB, WHS, Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments. Although just outside the AONB, the site is considered to be within the setting of the protected landscape. The Joint Committee will defer to the expertise of the Conservation Officer and conservation bodies in assessing the impact on heritage assets and their setting. Although the committee’s comments are largely confined to landscape matters, the recommendations may also be considered to mitigate the impact on heritage assets.

This is a substantial new building in a largely open setting which will have considerable visual presence, particularly in views from the A5 which forms the AONB boundary. In this context, the Joint Committee considers the application to be unacceptable in its present form. To mitigate the impact of the development, the Committee would recommend that the building be relocated to the rear of the site to reduce its roadside presence and wider visibility in the landscape. In addition, the proposed white wall cladding and doors will result in a building which stands out and in this instance it is recommended that the colour of all materials should be subject to an environmental colour assessment (see http://www.malvernhillsaonb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/guidance_on_colour_use_screen.pdf). Furthermore, the currently proposed landscaping is inadequate and should be informed by a detailed landscape assessment and resultant plan designed to mitigate impacts on views from the AONB and all heritage assets. The landscaping scheme should seek to retain all significant existing landscape features and to supplement these with additional planting to fully enclose the site with traditional locally native hedgerows and selected native hedgerow trees to break up views of the building mass. This should include screening and possibly setting back of the existing security fence along the road frontage.

Finally, the committee would recommend a condition requiring submission of further details of existing and any proposed external lighting to ensure it is designed and specified to conserve the AONB’s dark sky and nocturnal wildlife.”

I would be grateful if you could take account of the committee’s views when deciding this application.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Hughes
For the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB Joint Committee