

Maes Y Ffynnon,
Penrhosgarnedd,
Bangor,
Gwynedd
LL572DW

Wrexham County Borough Council,
The Guildhall,
Wrexham,
LL11 1AY

ebost/email:
northplanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

08/04/2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSAL: ADDITIONAL 4 SHEPHERDS HUT HOLIDAY UNITS

**LOCATION: SHEEPFOLD FARM, ELLESMERE ROAD, BRONINGTON,
WREXHAM**

Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales about the above, which we received on 22/03/2021.

We have significant concerns with the proposed development as submitted. We recommend you should only grant planning permission if you include the following documents within the condition identifying approved plans and documents on the decision notice:

- S. Worsfold. Ecological Appraisal and Impact Assessment - Sheepfold Farm, Bronington. February 2021.

Protected Species

We note that the ecology report submitted in support of the above application (S. Worsfold. Ecological Appraisal and Impact Assessment: Sheepfold Farm, Bronington. February 2021.) has identified the potential for protected species to be present at the application site.

A second older 2015 ecology report was also submitted (S. Worsfold. Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey of Sheepfold Farm, Bronington. December 2015.) but in our view, this has been superseded by the 2021 report.

Protected species and their breeding and resting places are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

We consider that the development is not likely to be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in its natural range.

Furthermore, we advise that the proposed development is not likely to harm or disturb the protected species or their breeding sites and resting places at this site, provided the avoidance measures described in the ecology report are implemented.

The report must be included in the 'approved list of plans / documents' condition within the decision notice should consent for the project be granted.

Please consult us again if any further information shows that this is no longer a lower risk case.

Protected Site

We note the application site is within the catchment of the River Dee Special Area of Conservation (SAC). As you are aware, on the 21st January 2021, we published an evidence package outlining phosphate levels for all river SACs across Wales. As part of this package, we issued a [Planning Position Statement](#), in which we advised that any proposed development that might increase the amount of phosphate within a river SAC catchment could lead to damaging effects to the SAC. Therefore, such proposals should be screened through a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA), to determine whether they are likely to have a significant effect on the SAC. We also issued [Interim Planning Advice](#), which gives specific advice in respect of foul drainage arrangements for new developments.

We note from the information submitted that the development has the potential to increase the volume or concentration of wastewater and associated phosphate levels being discharged from the site. As such, we refer you to our [Interim Planning Advice](#) and confirm that provided this guidance is followed and you are able to conclude that the development is not likely to have a significant effect on the SAC, we have no objection to the proposal. However, should you conclude that the proposed development is likely to have a significant effect on the SAC, please consult us on your Appropriate Assessment under Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).

Other Matters

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters included on our checklist, *Development Planning Advisory Service: Consultation Topics* (September 2018), which is published on our [website](#). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests.

We advise the applicant that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure they secure all other permits/consents/licences relevant to their development. Please refer to our [website](#) for further details.

Advice for the Developer

Foul Drainage:

The Applicant should note, it is a legal requirement to apply for an environmental permit or register an exemption with us. Septic tanks and small sewage treatment works may be registered as exempt from the requirement to obtain an environmental permit if certain criteria are met. Please note, should a permit be required, further information may be required as part of that application and the Applicant is therefore advised to hold pre-application discussions with our Permitting Team on 0300 065 3000, at the earliest opportunity, to try to ensure that there is no conflict between any planning permission granted and the permit requirements.

If the Applicant already holds an exemption / permit, they should check whether the proposed increase in flows would require a further application to be made for a new / varied permit. It is important to note that a grant of planning permission does not guarantee that a permit will be granted, should a proposal be deemed to be unacceptable (either because of environmental risk or because upon further investigation, a connection to mains sewer was feasible). The Applicant should ensure that they have all the required permissions, consents, permits and any other approvals in place prior to commencement of works on the site.

More information, including a step by step guide to registering and the relevant application forms are available on our [website](#). Where private sewage treatment/disposal facilities are utilised, they must be installed and maintained in accordance with British Standard 6297 and Approved Document H of the Building Regulations. We also refer the Applicant to Guidance for Pollution Prevention 4 on the [NetRegs website](#), which provides further information.

If you have any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Joy Evans

Cynghorydd - Cynllunio Datblygu / Advisor - Development Planning
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales