

FAO Sharon Holman

21/03/2019

Dear Sharon,

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
DEDDF CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF 1990

**BWRIAD / PROPOSAL: CONVERSION OF CHAPEL INTO 3 BED DWELLING TO
INCLUDE DEMOLITION AND RE-BUILDING OF FRONT FACADE TO REDUCE SIZE
OF STRUCTURE**

LLEOLIAD / LOCATION: Salem Chapel, Pysgah Hill, Pentre, Broughton Wrexham

Thank you for consulting Natural Resources Wales (NRW) about the above, which was received on 12/03/2019.

We have significant concerns with the proposed development as submitted. We recommend that you should only grant planning permission if the scheme can meet the following requirement and you attach the conditions listed below. Otherwise, we would object to this planning application.

Requirement 1 – Foul drainage – further information is required to demonstrate that either the foul drainage will be discharged to the main sewerage system or that it is not reasonable to connect to the mains.

Condition 1: Submission and implementation of detailed bat avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures including plans, to the satisfaction of the LPA;

Condition 2: The submission and implementation of an external lighting scheme that it compliant with the provisions of Institution of Lighting Professionals and Bat Conservation Trust: Guidance Note 08/18: Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK;

Condition 3: The submission and implementation of a post construction monitoring scheme of not less than 5 years.

Condition 4: Submission and implementation of an approved ecological compliance audit (ECA) scheme to the satisfaction of the LPA.

Foul Drainage

No information has been submitted regarding the disposal of foul waters from the proposed development. We refer you to Welsh Government Circular 008/2018 on private drainage, specifically paragraphs 2.3-2.5 which stress the first presumption must be to provide a system of foul drainage discharging into a public sewer. Only where having taken into account the cost and/or practicability it can be shown to the satisfaction of the local planning authority that connection to a public sewer is not feasible, should non-mains foul sewage disposal solutions be considered. We note the proposed development is in a publicly sewered area and as such, we would expect the site to connect to the mains sewerage system.

We therefore advise that if they haven't already done so, the Applicant should thoroughly investigate the possibility of connecting to the foul sewer by taking the following steps:

- Formally approach the sewerage undertaker regarding a connection under Section 106 or a requisition under Section 98 of the Water Industry Act (WIA) 1991.
- Serve notice for connection under Section 106 of the WIA 1991 if the sewerage undertaker has refused connection.
- Provide details of the reasons given by the sewerage undertaker if it has refused connection under section 98 or section 106 of the WIA 1991 and confirmation that they have appealed against this decision.
- Demonstrate that it is not reasonable to connect to the public foul sewer.
- Where it is not reasonable to connect to the public foul sewer, demonstrate that they have considered requesting that the sewerage undertaker adopt their proposed system.

The Applicant should be aware that should a connection to the mains sewer not be feasible, they will need to apply for an environmental permit or register an exemption with us. The Applicant must obtain any necessary permit or exemption prior to commencement of work on site. Septic tanks and small sewage treatment works may be registered as exempt from the requirement to obtain an environmental permit if certain criteria is 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. 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 Standards 6297 and Approved Document H of the Building Regulations. We also refer the Applicant to [Pollution Prevention Guideline 4](#) which provides further information.

Please note, lack of capacity or plans to improve capacity in the sewer is not a valid reason for a sewerage undertaker to refuse connection under Section 106 of the Water Industry Act 1991 and we may refuse to issue an environmental permit for private treatment facilities in such circumstances.

Protected Species

We note that the bat report submitted in support of the above application (Salem Chapel Bat Inspection and Emergence Survey November 2018) has identified that bats are present at the application site. From the information submitted, we consider that the proposed development represents a higher risk for bats, as defined in our guidance document '*Natural Resources Wales Approach to Bats and Planning* (2015)'. Bats and their breeding and resting places are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

We advise that the proposed development is likely to harm or disturb the bats or their breeding sites and resting places at this site. Therefore, we advise that the below conditions should be attached to any planning permission for this scheme to ensure appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures. Provided those measures are implemented, we do not consider that the proposed development is likely to be detrimental to the maintenance of the population of the species concerned at a favourable conservation status in its natural range.

Condition 1: Submission and implementation of detailed bat avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures including plans, to the satisfaction of the LPA;

Condition 2: The submission and implementation of an external lighting scheme that it compliant with the provisions of Institution of Lighting Professionals and Bat Conservation Trust: Guidance Note 08/18: Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK;

Condition 3: The submission and implementation of a post construction monitoring scheme of not less than 5 years.

NRW would refer the Local Authority to the Chief Planning Officer's letter dated 01 March 2018 which advises Local Planning Authorities to attach an informative regarding licence requirements to all consents and notices where European Protected Species are likely to be present on site.

Ecological Compliance Audit

We advise that any future consent includes the imposition of the following condition:

Condition 4: Submission and implementation of an approved ecological compliance audit (ECA) scheme to the satisfaction of the LPA.

The purpose of the Ecological Compliance Audit is to evidence compliant implementation of all ecological avoidance, mitigation and compensation works, either proposed or subject to the provisions of reserved matters conditions. The Audit shall identify Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) that are to be used for the purposes of assessing and evidence compliance. ECA's are to be carried out at 4-6 month intervals by an externally appointed body.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further information or clarification on any of the above.

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters that are listed in our 'Consultation Topics' document (September 2018) which is published on our website: (<https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/media/686847/dpas-consultation-topics-august-2018-eng.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=131819256840000000>). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests, including environmental interests of local importance

Advice to Applicant

Pollution Prevention

All works at the site must be carried out in accordance with PPG6: 'Working at construction and demolition sites' which are available on the following website:

<http://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/pollution-prevention-guidelines-ppgs-and-replacement-series/guidance-for-pollution-prevention-gpps-full-list/>

Waste produced during construction

Waste produced during the construction phase of your development must be dealt with appropriately and be in line with all relevant waste legislation including Duty of Care Regulations and Hazardous Waste Regulations. As part of your waste duty of care you must classify the waste produced:

- before it is collected, disposed of or recovered
- to identify the controls that apply to the movement of the waste
- to complete waste documents and records
- to identify suitably authorised waste management options
- to prevent harm to people and the environment.

Any waste removed from site will be subject to waste management controls. The links below provide information on how to classify waste and register as a waste carrier or hazardous waste producer:

<https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/waste/?lang=en>

<https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/waste/waste-permits/?lang=en>

Further guidance can be found on the GOV website here:

<https://www.gov.uk/managing-your-waste-an-overview/duty-of-care>

The applicant should be advised that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure that they secure all other permits/consents relevant to their development.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely,

Daniel Davies

Daniel Davies

Cynghorydd Cynllunio Datblygu / Development Planning Advisor

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales