

**Barn Hey
Pentrebychan
Wrexham
LL14 4EP**

Planning Department
Wrexham County Borough Council
Lambpit Street
Wrexham
LL11 1AR

20 January 2010

For the attention of Charlotte Beattie

Dear Sirs,

**Application No. P/2009/0984
Proposed Celtic Roundhouse, Ysgol ID Hooson, Rhosllanerchrugog,
Wrexham**

Thank you for your recent letter in connection with the above Planning application.

The subject of the Planning application, namely the Celtic roundhouse, forms merely a part of a site wide strategy currently being developed between the school, pupils and landscaping consultants. This strategy, which also serves as an educational tool, is gradually being implemented in phases as funds allow.

A little over two years since the school opened in what was essentially a top soiled field, fruitful partnerships have been made with local environmental groups and great strides already taken to improve its environs. Friends of Hooson, the school's active parent/teacher association has money in place to fund the provision of rustic seating, sculptures, play equipment etc. and is currently formulating a 'shopping list' with pupil representatives of the school's Eco Council.

I trust the enclosed plans will serve to give a flavour of just some of the planned development work and demonstrate that whilst the proposed structure may, in the interim, appear to be in an open and prominent position the ultimate intention differs somewhat. The roundhouse will serve as but one of a number of events on a stimulating and varied circuit through the grounds.

Substantial soft landscaping, in particular a large number of trees will be planted as the site develops. Indeed, a hundred apple trees are to be

planted by pupils, parents and staff as soon as early February; if the roundhouse's location is truly felt to impact on adjoining properties, this imminent planting will address this concern.

However, as the context photographs submitted with the application indicate, the existing dense vegetation to the boundary currently provides a great deal of visual separation between the site and local dwellings.

Two other important factors determined the roundhouse's particular location within the site. Firstly it is placed to afford shelter in inclement weather to spectators of the adjoining sports pitches. Secondly, and crucially, it will benefit from natural surveillance from the playground and main school building.

The context of the roundhouse is significant; as a learning resource located within the confines of an educational establishment, entirely constructed of natural and sustainable materials using traditional methods and integrated into the landscape it is considered wholly appropriate for this site.

Furthermore it will sit within a fully fenced and secure environment extensively monitored by CCTV. Access by unauthorised intruders beyond school hours will not be an issue as the existing school (the design of which provides similar opportunity for external shelter) has clearly demonstrated since opening.

Trusting the foregoing is in order, I understand that you will need to make your recommendation by the end of this week and hope, in the light of the above, that you feel able to support this application.

If you require clarification or anything further, please let me know.

Yours faithfully,



David Hughes BSc BArch RSAW RIBA

Cc: Dafydd Rhys, Headteacher, Ysgol ID Hooson