

Application Ref NP/23/0600/ADV
Case Officer Bethan Gledhill
Applicant Agent Natural Resources Wales – Mr M Bond
Proposal Installation of interpretation panel with landscape/habitat plan/works
Site Location St Davids Airfield, Pembrokeshire, SA42 0PZ
Grid Ref **SM793084**
Date Valid 20-Dec-2023 **Target Date** 13-Feb-2024

This application is being presented to the Development Management Committee as the site is located on land owned by PCNPA.

Summary

This application seeks consent for the installation of an interpretation panel, on a timber lectern type structure at St Davids Airfield. It would be situated on the grass verge located just off the public footpath which runs through the airfield. The application site is approximately 400m north-east of the informal parking area. No adverse comments have been received from consultees, and no third party representations have been received. Overall, it is considered that the proposed signage would not have an adverse impact upon public safety or amenity. As such, a recommendation to grant advertisement consent subject to conditions is made.

The plans and accompanying documents can be found on-line at: [Citizen Portal Planning - application details \(agileapplications.co.uk\)](https://citizenportal.planning.gov.uk/agileapplications)

Consultee Response

Solva Community Council: No comments received.
Buildings Conservation Officer: No adverse comment
CADW: No comments received
Heneb the Trust for Welsh Archaeology – Dyfed Region: No comments received.
Planning Ecologist: No adverse comment
PCNPA Access Manager: No objections

Public Response

The application was publicised in accordance with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 1992 (SI 1992 No 666). A site notice was displayed on the gate leading from the informal car parking area to the south of the airfield, near Fachelich.

No third-party comments were received.

Introduction

Advertisement consent is sought for the installation of an interpretation panel on a timber structure at St Davids Airfield, which will be located on the grass verge just off the concrete footpath.

The interpretation panel is to inform the public of the works that are currently being and will be undertaken to improve the area's biodiversity and habitats.

An example template has been submitted which shows the panel information presented bi-lingually.

Local Context

The application site is located at St Davids Airfield, alongside a public footpath. It is situated approximately 400m north-east of the informal car parking area. The surrounding area is open and flat.

Application Details

Advertisement consent is sought to install 1 x interpretation panel on a timber lectern type structure. This interpretation board is typical in style to other interpretation boards that can be found in different areas of the National Park and measures 1.16m tall and at its widest point 896mm (inclusive of the timber structure).

The interpretation board will be located on the grass verge just off the concrete public footpath which leads through the airfield. This panel would be installed as part of the LIFEquake project, which seeks to restore peatland, quaking bogs and their wider supporting wetland landscapes.

Policies considered

Please note that these policies can be viewed on the Policies page of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park website - <http://www.pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk/default.asp?PID=549>

LDP2 Policy 01 - National Park Purposes and Duty

LDP2 Policy 08 - Special Qualities

LDP2 Policy 11 - Nationally Protected Sites and Species

LDP2 Policy 14 - Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

LDP2 Policy 29 - Sustainable Design

LDP2 Policy 30 - Amenity

PPW12

SPG 02- Landscape Character

SPG 07- Biodiversity

SPG17 -Sustainable Design and Development

TAN 5 – Nature, Conservation and Planning

TAN 12 – Design

Future Wales - The National Plan 2040 (FW which was adopted on 24th February 2021).

Constraints

CROW Access Open Country
NPA Property within 25m
Special Area of Conservation – within 500m
Site of Special Scientific Interest – within 50m
Contaminated Land
Historic Landscape
Safeguarding Zone
Rights of Way Inland – within 50m
Ancient Monument - within 500m
Hazardous Zones
Recreation Character Areas
Affordable Housing Submarkets
Within Site of Special Scientific Interest consult NRW/ Planning Ecologist
Special Area of Conservation – within 50m
Landscape Character Area

Planning Considerations

In accordance with National Policy and the relevant regulations, advertisement applications fall to be determined on the grounds of public safety and public amenity.

In making a recommendation on this application, relevant policies, and supplementary planning guidance of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority Local Development Plan 2 (2020) as referred to above were considered.

Public Safety:

An advertisement is considered to have an impact on public safety if the advert itself is likely to be distracting or so confusing that it creates a hazard to, or endangers, people within the vicinity who are taking reasonable care for their own safety and the safety of others. As a non-illuminated interpretation panel to be erected within a pedestrianised area, on a verge just off a public footpath, it is not considered that this signage would cause any harm to public safety.

Amenity:

The statutory provisions enable Local Planning Authorities to control the display of advertisements when it is justified, in the interests of amenity.

The control regime does not enable the authority to regulate the subject-matter of any advertisement. The test in considering an advertisement's impact on amenity is whether it will adversely affect the appearance of the building, or of the immediate neighbourhood, where it is to be displayed.

Local Planning Authorities should therefore consider the local characteristics of the neighbourhood, including its scenic, historic, architectural, or cultural features. Because assessment of these factors may appear to involve some subjective

judgement, authorities should be consistent in their assessment of visual impact in similar or comparable neighbourhoods or surroundings.

In terms of amenity, the information board proposed by Natural Resources Wales will enhance the visitor experience and any slight visual change will be outweighed by the information provided on the board which will assist the viewer to experience, understand and appreciate the works being undertaken by Natural Resources Wales.

Overall, the proposed signage is considered to be acceptable in terms of its siting, scale and use of materials.

Subject to securing no illumination of the sign it is considered that they will not adversely affect the immediate locality where it is to be displayed.

Landscaping & Biodiversity:

Policy 11 of the Local Development Plan requires that any development which may disturb, or harm protected species will only be allowed where the effects will be acceptable minimised or mitigated through careful design, work scheduling or other measures.

The planning ecologist has been consulted on this application and has no adverse comment to make.

This application was deemed valid prior to Planning Policy Wales being adopted. Whilst PPW12 advised that Green Infrastructure Statements should be submitted with all applications, it is considered that the works being carried out to the nearby SSSI and SAC will result in a net benefit for biodiversity.

The application is therefore considered to comply with the Local Development Plan 2, Planning Policy Wales 12 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

Conclusion

The proposed advertisement is considered acceptable in terms of public safety and amenity and is recommended for approval.

Recommendation

Approval subject to conditions:

1. The advertisements and any associated fittings shall be removed from the site in their entirety no later than 5 years from the date of this decision or 5 years after the date of completion of building operations, whichever first occurs.
Reason: In the interest of conserving the amenities and character of the area.
Policy: Local Development Plan – Policies 1 (National Park Purpose and Duty) and 14 (Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park).

2. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents:

Drawing ref – Proposed Location plan scale 1:5000 received on 20/12/2023

Drawing ref – Proposed site plan scale 1:2500 received on 20/12/2023

Drawing ref – Panel Lectern received 29/11/2023

Reason: In order to be clear on the approved scheme of development in the interests of protecting visual amenity and the special qualities of the National Park. Policy: Local Development Plan – Policies 1 (National Park Purposes and Duty), 8 (Special Qualities), 14 (Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park) and 29 (Sustainable Design).

3. The sign hereby permitted shall be non-illuminated and retained as such thereafter.

Reason: In the interests of protecting the visual amenity and the special qualities of the National Park. Policy: Local Development Plan – Policies 1 (National Park Purposes and Duty), 8 (Special Qualities), 9 (Light Pollution), 14 (Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park) and 29 (Sustainable Design), 30 (Amenity).

St Davids Airfield, Ffos y Mynach, St Davids, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6UE
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Parc Cenedlaethol
Arfordir Penfro
Pembrokeshire Coast
National Park

Graddfa/Scale: 1:1,250

