



The Coal
Authority



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For the Attention of: Caroline Pulley – Case Officer
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

[By Email: planning@merthyr.gov.uk]

11 November 2020

Dear Caroline Pulley

PLANNING APPLICATION: P/20/0217

Retention of new clubhouse/community hub, repositioning of 6 floodlights, new vehicle access, retaining walls and car parking. Increase to curtilage.; The Wern Field, Penlan View, Ynysfach

Thank you for your consultation letter of 21 October 2020 seeking the views of The Coal Authority on the above planning application.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. As a statutory consultee, The Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

The Coal Authority Response: Material Consideration

I have reviewed the proposals and confirm that the application site falls within the defined Development High Risk Area. Specifically, the Coal Authority records indicate that the application is underlain by probable unrecorded coal mine workings at shallow depth.

The applicant has submitted a Coal Mining Risk Assessment (Blandford Consulting, 25 April 2019). The Coal Authority has previously reviewed this report while providing comment on planning application P/19/0123. The report recommends intrusive site investigations to determine the exact ground conditions of the application site and the presence or otherwise of shallow workings.

I note the Coal Authority has already reviewed the findings of intrusive site investigations from a Site Investigation Report (Blandford Consulting, 19 August 2019) submitted to discharge condition 6 of P/19/0123. This investigations encountered ironstone workings.

As I am sure you are aware The Coal Authority is a statutory consultee for land instability issues relating to coal mining legacy. The Coal Authority would have no specific comments to make in relation to ironstone, however, The LPA should seek to secure the recommendations made in the submitted report. The Coal Authority has no objection to this planning application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours Sincerely,

George Weightman

George Weightman | MSc. BSc.
Assistant Planning Liaison Manager

Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by The Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available data on the date of the response, and electronic consultation records held by The Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to The Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by The Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the Applicant for consultation purposes.

In formulating this response The Coal Authority has taken full account of the professional conclusions reached by the competent person who has prepared the Coal Mining Risk Assessment or other similar report. In the event that any future claim for liability arises in relation to this development The Coal Authority will take full account of the views, conclusions and mitigation previously expressed by the professional advisers for this development in relation to ground conditions and the acceptability of development.