

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Kate Glover
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278

Memo number: 2
Date of previous memo: 11/02/2026
Date: 23/03/2026

SUBJECT: P/26/0013 | Discharge of condition 7 (Lighting) of planning permission P/19/0073 for the provision of 36 camping pods and 5 chalets, erection of shower/toilet block and creation of play and picnic area. Construction of new parking area (150 spaces) with overflow carpark (46 spaces), together with a trail maintenance yard, new highway access routes, ground profile works, drainage, infrastructure and landscape works | Gethin Woodland Centre Abercanaid Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1YZ

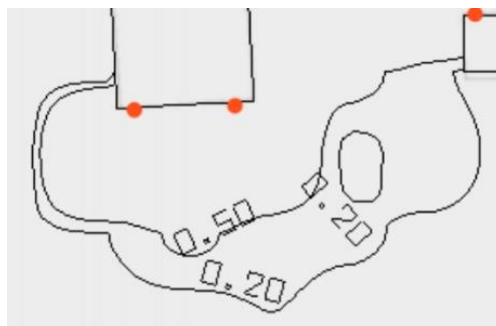
DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION

1. Addendum to Planning Application: Exterior Lighting Design Strategy for Additional New Lodges at Bike Park Wales. *Prepared by Paul Hindle, Director, Lumenata (Complete Lighting Expertise), Issue 1. Dated 12th December 2025.*
2. Addendum to Planning Application: Lighting Design Strategy for Additional New Lodges at Bike Park Wales. *Prepared by Paul Hindle, Director, Lumenata (Complete Lighting Expertise), Issue 2. Dated 16th February 2026.*
3. Bike Park Wales - lodge lighting comments Drawing No. WWE25107. Includes comments contributed by Wildwood Ecology Ltd. Date received 20/01/2026.
4. Drawing title: 065 Bike Park Wales. Issue 1 *prepared by Lumenata (Complete Lighting Expertise). Dated 23/02/26.*
5. Lighting Data sheets:
 - a. 16576587M15
 - b. FRDL-A-MW-R
 - c. FRDL-L-MW-R
 - d. BL03

COMMENTS (from previous memo in *italic black* – new comments in *green*)

Before commenting further there are some initial issues to resolve:

- o *The heat map style horizontal illuminance plans included within Document 1 are difficult to read particularly at the lower end of the lux range. Would it be possible to redraw the illuminance plans using simpler lux contour lines, see below for example:*



This could then be overlaid on the plan showing the positions of the trees with bat roost suitability and the bat flight lines to allow clarity and a better understanding/assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed lighting on the nocturnal wildlife at the site.

Document 4 is clearer in terms of the contours. An overlaid image has not been provided, however I have approximately overlaid the two images below, which shows that the positions of the trees with bat roost suitability and the bat flight lines are in darkness. This is acceptable.



- Document 2 states the following on page 19:

“The only measurable light spill beyond the site boundary originates from lodges 4 and 5, where minor residual illuminance extends onto the adjacent open field to the south/south-east. This field comprises species-poor, semi-improved grassland and lacks the dense woodland, scrub, or linear features that provide high-value commuting or foraging habitat for light-sensitive species such as bats.”

Contrary to this, some bat species forage over grassland, e.g., brown long-eared bat, which have been recorded in the area. Amendments are therefore required to address the measurable light spill from Lodges 4 and 5.

- *The x2 luminaire data sheets in Appendix A (Document 1) and the site layout plan in Appendix B (Document 1) have poor resolution and are difficult to read. Please could alternative documents with better resolution be supplied?*

The data sheets have been supplied (Documents 5 a-c). There are some discrepancies between the information shown on the data sheets and Document 4.

The wall light, the bollard light and the first two downlights specify a colour temp of 3000K on Document 4. The data sheets all show a colour temp of 2700K. All luminaires must have a colour temp of 2700K and the information supplied across all documents must be consistent – please amend as necessary.

- As per the principles set out in Good Practice Guidance: Planning for the Conservation and Enhancement of Dark Skies in Wales (<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2025-02/dark-skies-guidance.pdf>) light must only be used where and when necessary. Therefore, lighting should be

controlled by switch off, dimming or PIR sensors. There is no reason lights should remain on continuously from dusk until dawn.