

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To : Caroline Pulley
From : Landscape Architect
Ask for : Tom Bramley
Ext. : 6276

Date : 25^h November 2019

**SUBJECT: Construction of 22 parking bays at Land Opposite 22-26
Cypress Close Gurnos Merthyr Tydfil**

With reference to the above application please find the following observations:

This site was formerly a demolished building. In the past year there were trees planted on the boundary of the site to introduce some much needed cover , under a community regeneration scheme. The main thrust of the development is to serve vehicles and little else, there are no associate footpaths. The development must be an opportunity to improve the local environment and the current proposals as they stand fail to achieve this. The introduction of hard surfacing is required as a free draining surface and we would advocate the use of a grass block or grasscrete surface to both improve visual appearance and to provide for free draining surface as currently exists to persist. Such an approach would be commensurate with an appropriate Suds scheme.

As this is a car orientated scheme there needs to be a balance with improvements to the environment and, if necessary measures taken to prevent this becoming a car dominated environment to the exclusion of play and other forms of recreation. In particular there is concern of the domination of vehicles excluding pedestrian by the freeing up of the highway. An alternative solution might be to introduce as part of the scheme some traffic calming measures and opportunity to introduce street trees. The boundary of the proposals (as they currently stand), are insufficient and should be extended to include the soft areas that surround the parking. These areas would benefit from a soft treatment of their own to act as visual screening, habitat benefits and much needed green infrastructure.

The current proposals are inappropriate without an associated landscape scheme which; we would expect to be prepared by a competent professional (i.e. a landscape architect).

Tom Bramley – Landscape Architect