

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Caroline Pulley
From: Tom Bramley
Re: P/20/0082
Date: 19th May 2020

P/20/0096 | Interpretation panel | Land Adjacent To Lay-by On Road Between Bedlinog And Fochriw, Gelligaer And Merthyr Common

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

The decision to provide an interpretive sign to the Common is to be welcomed. Concerns relate to the use of materials and detailing. While it would be expected that the frame for the information panel would be steel, details of the colour of the steel and the detail of the base requires further specification.

Given that Gelligaer Common is a Landscape of Special Historic Interest, devoid of more recent 20th C man-made structures and open in character, the use of vertical steel legs to support this panel is questionable. The upland common has a character that relates entirely to the landscape with the feel of the space relating to earth materials. Roman and subsequent cultures have left remains using the local materials (blue pennant sandstone). The base of the proposed information panel would be better constructed of these materials in fitting respect to the surrounding landscape. Elsewhere on the common there are examples of drystone walling structures, therefore detailing akin to this would be more appropriate. It is possible to construct drystone structures utilising a mortared core, this is the kind of detailing that would be more appropriate in this location.

It is therefore necessary to consider an alternative mounting method for the panel in keeping with the character of the Common together with detailing of a structure that utilises the materials referred to above.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Tom Bramley
Landscape Architect