
From: Davies, Matthew (Planning)
Sent: 09 March 2022 15:15
To: Roberts, Huw
Subject: FW: Planning App Consultation for P/22/0055 [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]
Attachments: P220055.pdf

Classification: NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

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Good afternoon Huw

See attached for my comments regarding this application.

Regards

Matt

-----Original Message-----

From: Planning DC <Planning.DC@merthyr.gov.uk>

Sent: 09 March 2022 08:23

To: Davies, Matthew (Planning) <Matthew.Davies3@merthyr.gov.uk>

Subject: Planning App Consultation for P/22/0055

see attached

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Huw Roberts
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278
Memo number: 1
Date of previous memo: -
Date: 09/03/2022

SUBJECT: P/22/0055 | Opening up works to ascertain the condition of the structure | Cyfarthfa Castle Cyfarthfa Park Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8RE

Cyfarthfa Castle is a Grade I listed building and also a confirmed bat roost for at least 3 species (brown long-eared bat, common pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle). NB surveys in 2016 confirmed the likely presence of a breeding roost for brown long-eared bat,

Designated sites within 500m of the application site:

- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): x1 (Cwm Taf Fechan Woodlands, c.491m from site);
- Local Nature Reserve (LNR) x1 (Cwm Taf Fechan Woodlands, c.481m from site);
- Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC): x4 (closest, Cyfarthfa Park, c.116m from site);
- Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW): x1
- Restored Ancient Woodland Site (RAWS): x2
- Within a Buglife B-Lines Area.

Priority and protected species within 500m of the application site:

- Birds (including Schedule 1¹ species);
- Fungi (including Section 7² species);
- Invertebrates (including Section 7² species);
- WITHIN 2KM – there are bat records for at least 8 species (brown long-eared bat, common pipistrelle, Daubenton's bat, lesser horseshoe bat, Natterer's bat, noctule, serotine, soprano pipistrelle. Closest roost record for brown long-eared bat - onsite); NB In addition a 2016 survey work by BSG confirmed the Castle to be a breeding roost for brown-long-eared bat.
- Otter;
- Hedgehog;
- Reptiles;
- Amphibians (including great crested newt, closest record c.932m from site);
- Fish (including Section 7² species);
- Vascular plants (including Section 7² species).

¹ Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

² Environment (Wales) Act 2016

A **Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) for bats and nesting birds** of the site (undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist) is required.

This will inform the numbers and position of the surveyors required to fully assess the structure during the subsequent **Bat Activity / Roost Characterisation surveys**, which will also be required.

The castle has suitability for hibernation and maternity roost use and also suitability for transitional roosts, so the surveys must be spread out as much as possible to get a full understanding of how bats are currently using the structure throughout the year.

The results of the suite of bat surveys must provide sufficient information for the local planning authority to assess any potential adverse impacts of the proposed development and to establish the extent of any mitigation and compensation measures required as part of the proposed development.

NB as there is known maternity use of the castle by bats, NRW will be consulted during the planning stage following receipt of the bat survey report (see NRW Approach to Bats and Planning October 2015).

The following advisory note is likely to be required on the planning permission decision notice:

Warning: A European Protected Species (EPS) Licence is required for this development.

This planning permission does not provide consent to undertake works that require an EPS licence.

It is an offence to deliberately kill, injure, capture or disturb a bat or to recklessly damage or destroy their breeding sites or resting places. If found guilty of any offences, you could be sent to prison for up to 6 months and/or receive an unlimited fine. To undertake works within the law, you can obtain further information on the need for a licence from Natural Resources Wales on 0300 065 3000 or at <https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/species-licensing/apply-for-a-protected-species-licence/bat-licences/?lang=en>

A BARB+ data search is required from SEWBReC.

There will need to be enhancement of the site in line with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.