

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To : Caroline Pulley
From : Landscape Architect
Ask for : Tom Bramley
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Date : 23rd October 2020

Land at Bryn-Rhedyn Farm Bedlinog P/20/0242

The following comments relate to the above application:

The above application falls within the Gelligaer and TafBargoed Special Landscape Area SLA4.

The valley contains a mixed landscape use; of field systems and woodlands and is a good example of a multi-period, multi-layered landscape whose cultural essence is mostly intact.

Key Policy Issues

- Control development to maintain open character Integrate existing and new development

The development should be nucleated and avoid sprawl into the surrounding open land. The proposed development extends the nucleated area.

- Retain the strong character of the well-preserved irregular upland field scape and settlement pattern in this area.

The proposed development does not appear to directly result in the loss of field boundaries although information here is scant, measures should be taken to ensure this is not the case.

- Improve limited landscape connectivity between different valuable mosaic habitat e.g. through SINC designation

The development would result in a percentage loss of Cwm Bargoed SINC.

- Protect and enhance key elements of agricultural landscape

The development would result in the loss of agricultural landscape / landscape character.

- Arrest the declining pastoral agriculture defined by field pattern which require on-going management to support diversification.

A landscape scheme would be required should the development be given consent to control the setting and mitigate for any lost or damaged features such as hedgerows or habitat loss. The development represents erosion of the field pattern system through the loss of land use.

The scale of the development warrants the use of visual appraisals / montages to illustrate impact upon landscape character.

Kind regards

Tom Bramley – Landscape Architect