

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

Date: 06/10/2020

FURZEMILL RESERVOIR WALKOVER SURVEY

A walkover survey was carried out on the 24th October 2019 by Megan Price, Consultant Ecologist NPTC. The scope of this survey was to undertake an ecological survey and identify any ecological constraints to the development. The site is Furzemill Reservoir in Margam Country Park.

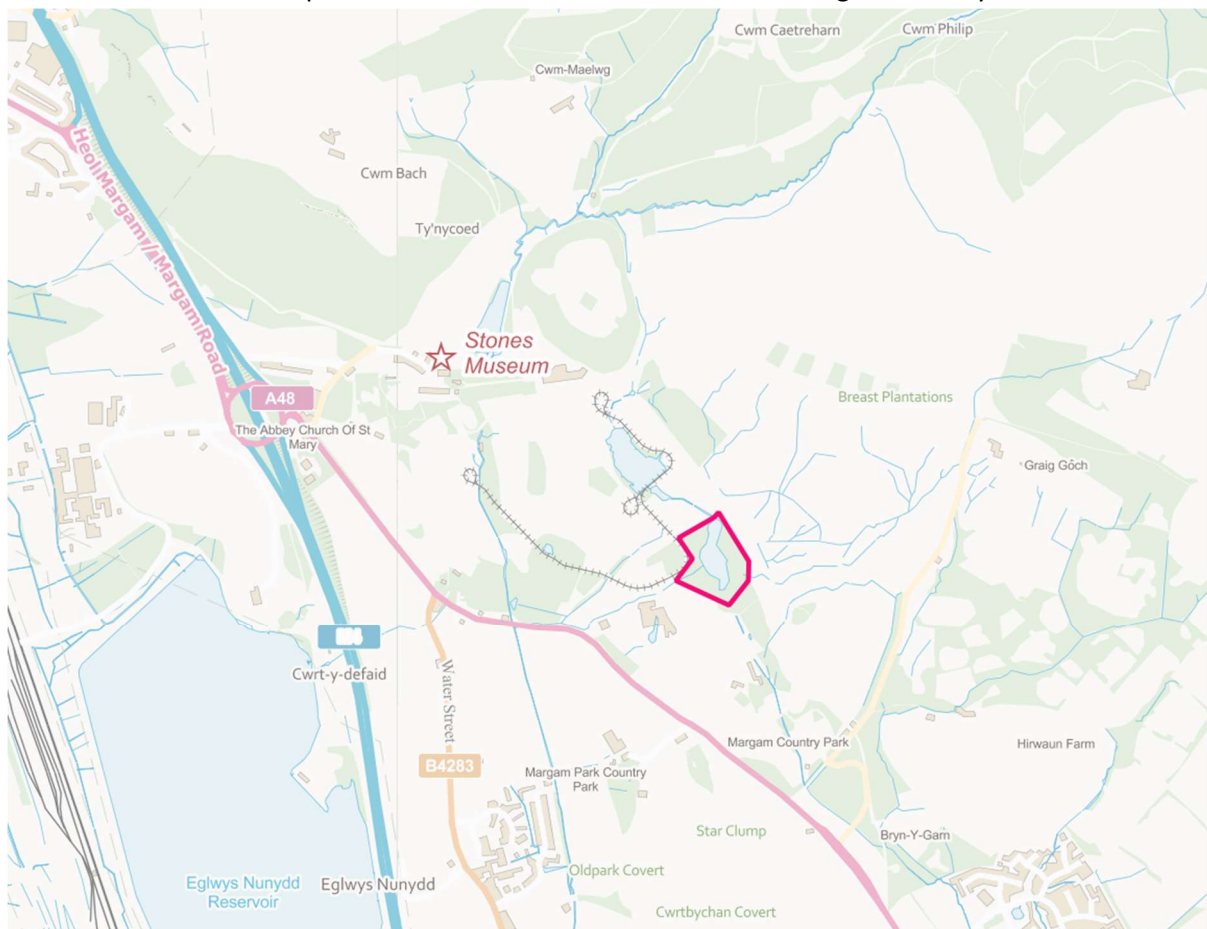


Figure 1- Location of Furzemill Reservoir (shown in the red polygon)

The development for this site is to create a spill way and culvert works where these features have degraded and are causing a hazard. See Figure 2 below for the technical detail on the proposed works.

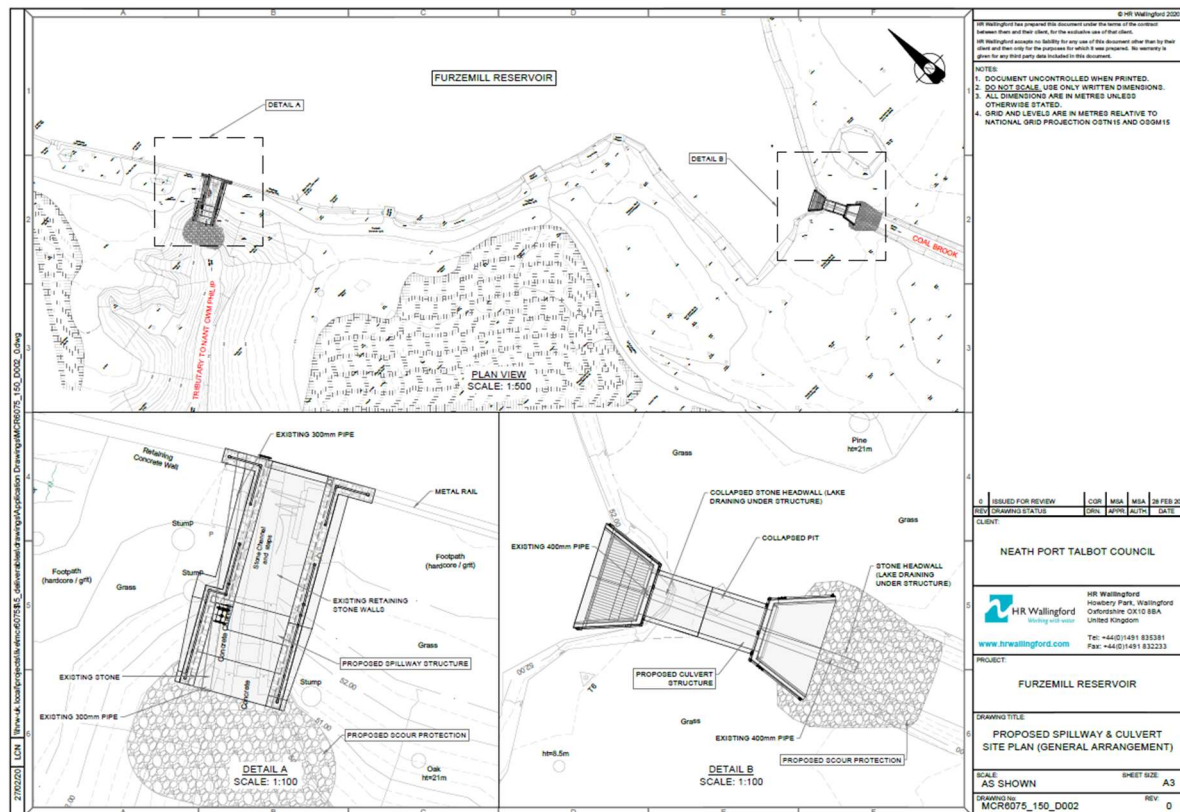


Figure 2 - Proposed works to Furzemill Reservoir

No major ecological constraints were recorded during the walk over survey, Margam Country Park is designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) due to a variety of habitats and species so it is in an ecologically sensitive area. However the proposed works are very limited in scope and if they are done in accordance with the below ecological recommendations there will be no negative impact from the works.

Otter (*Lutra lutra*) have been observed on Furzemill reservoir and there are many suitable locations they could utilise as holts, however the proposed work areas are exposed and not likely to be used as holts. Contractors working on the scheme should be aware of the potential to encounter otters and if an otter is encountered/ a holt found/ suspected in the immediate works area then works should stop and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) contacted. Any excavations should be covered during the night or an access ramp provided to ensure that mammals including otter do not become trapped in the excavations.

Major vegetation clearance is not anticipated to be needed for this scheme however any clearance needed should take place outside of nesting bird season (1st March-31st July Inclusive). If any trees are required to be felled the advice of a licensed bat worker should be sought to ensure that the tree does not have roosting bat potential.

Biodiversity Consultation Response

Furzemill Reservoir is used by a number of foraging bat species so there is to be no night working to avoid disturbance to foraging bats and otter. If night working is required in the case of an emergency the advice of a qualified ecologist should be sought to ensure that disturbance to these species is kept to a minimum.

If you require further clarification of any of the above points please contact Megan Price.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Price'.

Megan Price
Consultant Ecologist