

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL  
CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL CASTELL-NEDD PORT TALBOT**

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT  
PROCEDURE)(WALES) ORDER 2012**

**APPROVAL OF FULL PLANNING PERMISSION**

**Name and address of the applicant**

Jonathan Morgan  
33 Windsor Road  
Neath  
SA11 1NB

**Name and address of the agent**

Mr Tom Phillips  
Darkin Architects  
3A Alfred Street  
Neath  
SA11 1EF

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**DATE REGISTERED:** 25 March 2022

**APPLICATION NO:** P2022/0063

**LOCATION:** 5 Ropewalk, Neath, SA11 1EW

**PROPOSAL:** Change of use from B1 to A2 plus a renewal of shopfront,  
improvements to access and addition of external wall insulation

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL** as the Local Planning Authority in pursuance of its power under the above mentioned Act and Order hereby **GRANTS PLANNING PERMISSION** for the development as described above to be carried out in accordance with the application and the plans submitted therewith, subject to compliance with the following conditions:

**Conditions:-**

**Time Limit Conditions**

- 1 The development shall begin no later than five years from the date of this decision.

Reason:

To comply with the requirements of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

**List of Approved Plans**

- 2 The development shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents:

-Floor Plans, drawing no. 101 Revision C, dated 18/03/2022.

-Existing and Proposed Elevations, drawing no. 303 Revision E, dated 19/10/2021.

Reason:  
In the interests of clarity.

### Regulatory Conditions

- 3 The materials to be used in the construction of the external surfaces of the development hereby permitted shall match those referenced within drawing no. '303' Revision E.

Reason:  
In the interest of the visual amenity of the area and to ensure the development complies with Policy BE1 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 4 The premises at 5 Ropewalk, Neath, shall be used as an A2 financial services use only and for no other purpose (including any other purpose in Class A2 of the schedule to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 (or in any provision equivalent to that class in any statutory instrument revoking and re-enacting that order with or without modification).

Reason:  
In order that other changes of use can be assessed in the interests of amenity and to accord with Policies SC1 and TR2 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

### Informatives:

1 The developer is made aware that the application site lies within Zone A of the Development Advice Maps (DAM) as contained in TAN15 and the Flood Map for Planning (FMfP) identifies the application site to be at risk of flooding and falls into Flood Zone 3 Rivers. In light of this, Natural Resources Wales have provided the following advice: "In areas at risk of flooding, we recommend that consideration be given to the incorporation of flood resistance/resilience measures into the design and construction of the development. These could include flood barriers on ground floor doors, windows and access points, implementation of suitable flood proofing measures to the internal fabric of the ground floor and locating electrical sockets/components at a higher level above possible flood levels. We refer the applicant to our website for further advice and guidance is available. Additional guidance including the leaflet "Prepare your property for flooding" can be found here. The developer can also access advice and information on protection from flooding from the ODPM publication 'Preparing for Floods: Interim Guidance for Improving the Flood Resistance of Domestic and Small Business Properties', can be found here

2 The proposed development lies within an area that has defined by the Coal Authority as containing potential hazards arising from former coal mining activity. These hazards can include: mine entries (shafts and adits); shallow coal workings; geological features (fissures and break lines); mine gas and previous surface mining sites. Although such hazards are seldom readily visible, they can often be present and problems can occur in the future, particularly as a result of development taking place. It is recommended that information outlining how the former mining activities affect the proposed development, along with any mitigation measures required (for example the need for gas protection measures within the foundations), be submitted alongside any

subsequent application for Building Regulations approval (if relevant). Any form of development over or within the influencing distance of a mine entry can be dangerous and raises significant safety and engineering risks and exposes all parties to potential financial liabilities. As a general precautionary principle, the Coal Authority considers that the building over or within the influencing distance of a mine entry should wherever possible be avoided. In exceptional circumstance where this is unavoidable, expert advice must be sought to ensure that a suitable engineering design is developed and agreed with regulatory bodies which takes into account of all the relevant safety and environmental risk factors, including gas and mine-water. Your attention is drawn to the Coal Authority Policy in relation to new development and mine entries available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-on-or-within-the-influencing-distance-of-mine-entries> Any intrusive activities which disturb or enter any coal seams, coal mine workings or coal mine entries (shafts and adits) requires a Coal Authority Permit. Such activities could include site investigation boreholes, digging of foundations, piling activities, other ground works and any subsequent treatment of coal mine workings and coal mine entries for ground stability purposes. Failure to obtain a Coal Authority Permit for such activities is trespass, with the potential for court action. Property specific summary information on past, current and future coal mining activity can be obtained from: [www.groundstability.com](http://www.groundstability.com) or a similar service provider. If any of the coal mining features are unexpectedly encountered during development, this should be reported immediately to the Coal Authority on 0345 762 6848. Further information is available on the Coal Authority website at: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-coal-authority](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-coal-authority)

#### Reason for granting planning permission:

The decision to recommend planning permission has been taken in accordance with Section 38 of The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, which requires that, in determining a planning application the determination must be in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Development Plan comprises Future Wales - the National Plan 2040 and the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan (2011-2026) adopted January 2016.

The proposal represents an appropriate form of development that would have no unacceptable impact on the amenities of neighbouring residents, visual amenity of the area or highway and pedestrian safety. Accordingly, the proposed development is in accordance with Policies SP3 (Sustainable Communities), SP11 (Employment Growth), SP20 (Transport Network), SP21 (Built Environment and Historic Heritage), SC1 (Settlement Limits), TR2 (Design and Access of New Development), BE1 (Design), and EC4 (Protection of Existing Employment Uses) of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

It is further considered that the decision complies with Future Wales - the National Plan 2040 and the Council's well-being objectives and the sustainable development principle in accordance with the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Signed:



**Ceri Morris – Head of Planning & Public Protection**

**Date: 24 June 2022**

### **IMPORTANT:**

(1) Please note that for all decisions issued after 16th March 2016 for outline or full planning permission, a revised decision notice will be issued whenever a subsequent consent is given, for example providing details of any Reserved Matters approvals (outline applications only) and/or approval of conditions (including on Reserved Matters). This will ensure that the current status of the conditions applied to a consent is clear. Accordingly you are advised to visit [www.npt.gov.uk/planning](http://www.npt.gov.uk/planning) to view the application documentation to see if this is the current version, or whether it has been superseded by a more up-to-date revision of this Decision Notice. For Reserved Matters approvals the revised Decision Notice will only be shown under the Outline approval.

(2) Please note that this consent is specific to the plans and particulars approved as part of the application. Any departure from the approved plans will constitute unauthorised development and may be liable to enforcement action. You (or any subsequent developer) should advise the Council of any actual or proposed variations from the approved plans immediately so that you can be advised how to best resolve the matter.

(3) In addition, any conditions that the Council has imposed on this consent will be listed above and should be read carefully. It is your (or any subsequent developers) responsibility to ensure that the terms of all conditions are met in full at the appropriate time (as outlined in the specific condition). Please note that any works carried out without compliance with the conditions attached to this approval will be entirely at the risk of the persons involved and may result in formal action being taken by the Local Planning Authority.

(4) The developer should have regard to Sections 4, 7, 8 and 8A of the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act 1970 and to the British Standards Institution's Code of Practice for "Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people" (BS 8300:2009+A1:2010).

(5) From 1st October 2012 it has been an offence to install a public sewer or lateral drain without having an adoption agreement in place. From the 1st October 2012 the vast majority of all existing private sewers and lateral drains which link with the public sewer network were transferred to Welsh Water. For further details on how this will affect your development please contact: Welsh Water Developer Services, PO Box 3146, Cardiff, CF30 0EH. Telephone No. 0800 9172652 or email: [developer.services@dwrcymru.com](mailto:developer.services@dwrcymru.com).

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION: TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The applicant's attention is drawn to the notes below.

- (1) If the applicant is aggrieved by the decision of the Local Planning Authority to refuse permission for the proposed development or to grant it subject to conditions, then you can appeal to the Welsh Government under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).
- (2) You can also appeal to the Welsh Government against a decision to refuse permission or grant subject to conditions in respect of applications made for :- Listed Building or Conservation Area Consent; Consent under a Tree Preservation Order; Advertisement Consent.
- (3) You can also appeal If your application for a Certificate of Lawful Existing Use or Lawful Proposed Use is partly or wholly refused or is granted differently from what you asked for (under Section 195/196) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).
- (4) If you are aggrieved of the LPAs decision, the following deadlines apply for appeals to be submitted to the Welsh Government (from the date of the Council's decision):-

|                                                                                                           |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1) Planning Permission (with the exception of Minor Commercial and Householder applications – see below) | Within 6 Months |
| (2) Householder Appeal <small>see endnote i</small>                                                       | Within 12 weeks |
| (3) Minor Commercial Appeal <small>see endnote i</small>                                                  | Within 12 weeks |
| (4) Listed Building or Conservation Area Consent appeals                                                  | Within 6 months |
| (5) Tree Preservation Order (TPO) Consent                                                                 | Within 28 days  |
| (6) Advertisement Consent                                                                                 | Within 8 weeks  |
| (7) Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing (Section 191) or Proposed (Section 192) Use or Development      | Within 6 months |
| (8) Hazardous Substances Consent                                                                          | Within 6 months |
- (5) Appeals must be made on a form which is obtainable from the Planning Inspectorate, Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ – Tel 0303 444 5940, or online at [www.planningportal.gov.uk/pcs](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/pcs) .
- (6) The Welsh Government has power to allow a longer period for the giving of notice of appeal but they will not normally be prepared to exercise this power unless there are special circumstances which excuse the delay in giving notice of appeal.
- (7) The Welsh Government is not required to entertain an appeal if it appears to them that permission for the proposed development could not have been granted having regard to the statutory requirements to the provisions of the development order, and to any directions given under the Order. They do not in practice refuse to entertain appeals solely because the decision of the Local Planning Authority was based on a direction given by them.
- (8) If permission to develop land is refused or granted subject to conditions, whether by the Local Planning Authority or by the Welsh Government, and the owner of the land claims that the land has become incapable of reasonable beneficial use in its existing state and cannot be rendered capable of reasonable beneficial use by the carrying out of any development which has been or would be permitted, he may serve on the County Borough Council, in which the land is situated, as the case may be, a **purchase notice** requiring that Council purchase his interest in the land in

accordance with the provisions of Part VI of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

#### Making an Appeal

- (9) Please note that for all applications received by the LPA after 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017, it is now a requirement that any appeal made to the Planning Inspectorate (other than Householder and Minor Commercial Appeals, and appeals against refusal to grant advertisement consent) must be accompanied by all the information and evidence you intend to rely upon (a **“full statement of case”**). You must also send a copy of the notice of appeal and full statement of case to the LPA.
- (10) In addition, for ‘planning appeals’ an amendment to an application following notice of appeal may only be made to correct an error.
- (11) Additional details and information on making an appeal to the Welsh Government is available from the Planning Inspectorate at the above address and website. The relevant documents are entitled “making your planning appeal” and “planning appeals Public Local Inquiries”.
- (12) Further correspondence regarding this application should bear the reference number quoted on the top of the decision notice.

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THIS NOTICE RELATES ONLY TO A PLANNING DECISION AND DOES NOT RELATE TO OTHER LEGISLATION INCLUDING ANY LEGISLATION UNDER:

- BUILDING REGULATIONS – Please contact [buildingcontrol@npt.gov.uk](mailto:buildingcontrol@npt.gov.uk) or 01639 686820 to discuss all aspects of the service that is offered by Building Control
- HIGHWAY LEGISLATION

IF PLANNING CONSENT HAS BEEN GRANTED IT IS ADVISABLE TO ESTABLISH WHETHER ANY OTHER FORM OF CONSENT IS REQUIRED AND TO OBTAIN SUCH CONSENT BEFORE COMMENCING DEVELOPMENT

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<sup>i</sup> Please see the [Town and Country Planning \(Referred Applications and Appeals Procedure\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2017](#) for appeal procedures and for full definitions of:

- *“householder application”* (essentially an application for the enlargement, improvement or other alteration of a dwellinghouse, or development within the curtilage of such a dwellinghouse, or change of use to enlarge the curtilage of a dwelling house)
- *“householder appeal”* means an appeal in relation to a householder application, but excludes an appeal against conditions on the grant of planning permission; or an appeal which is accompanied by an enforcement or listed building consent appeal.
- *“minor commercial application”* (essentially relates to existing buildings of no more than 250 square metres gross external floor space at ground floor level, currently in use for any of the purposes set out in Schedule 1A to The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2015 which is an application for change of use from Class A1 to A2 or A3; or Class A2 to A3); or the carrying out of building or other operations to a shop front.
- *“minor commercial appeal”* means an appeal in relation to a minor commercial application but excludes an appeal against conditions on the grant of planning permission; or an appeal which is accompanied by an enforcement or listed building consent appeal.