

**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**

REFUSAL OF PLANNING PERMISSION

Name and address of the applicant

Mr Steven Hyett
3 Court Lane
Pontardawe
SA8 4JL

Name and address of the agent

Mr Liam Jones
Jones Planning
5 Smithfield Road
Pontardawe
Swansea
SA8 4LA

DATE REGISTERED: 11 April 2023

APPLICATION NO: P2023/0192

LOCATION: 3 Court Lane, Pontardawe, SA8 4JL

PROPOSAL: Proposed single storey extension to existing outbuilding for home office/storage use

THE NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL AS THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY IN PURSUANCE OF ITS POWER UNDER THE ABOVE MENTIONED ACT AND ORDER HEREBY REFUSES TO PERMIT THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:-

Reasons For Refusal:-

1 Reasons for refusal:

The trees which bound the proposed development are prominent, established, characteristic features, which not only hold strong visual value but are also important natural features in respect of their biodiversity value. In the absence of a BS5837 Tree Survey the submitted application fails to evidence that the development would not result in the loss or damage of valued green infrastructure to the detriment of the visual amenity of the area, and is subsequently contrary to Policy BE1 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan. The absence of a BS5837 Tree Survey also dictates that the application is unable to evidence that the development would not adversely affect the existing trees, nor does it provide information on what measures would be put in place to ensure that the trees are retained, protected and, in a circumstance where removal was unavoidable, what mitigation measures would be proposed. The application therefore fails

to evidence that it would comply with Policy EN7 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan. The uncertainty regarding the effect of the development upon the existing trees also dictates that the application is unable to evidence that it would provide a net benefit for biodiversity, contrary to Planning Policy Wales Edition 11, the Section 6 Duty of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The decision to recommend refusal 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.

While the proposal would have no unacceptable impact on the amenities of the neighbouring residents or highway and pedestrian safety, the absence of a BS5837 Tree Survey dictates that the application is unable to evidence that the development would not adversely affect the existing trees, to the detriment of the visual amenity of the area, nor that it has ensured any impacts on these natural features and associated biodiversity have been appropriately assessed and, where applicable, mitigated. The application therefore fails to evidence that it would comply with Policies BE1 and EN7 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan, Planning Policy Wales Edition 11, or the Section 6 Duty of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

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: 26 June 2023

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):-
 - Planning Permission (with the exception of Minor Commercial and Householder applications – see below) Within 6 Months
 - Householder Appeal ^{see endnote i} Within 12 weeks
 - Minor Commercial Appeal ^{see endnote i} Within 12 weeks
 - Listed Building or Conservation Area Consent appeals Within 6 months
 - Tree Preservation Order (TPO) Consent Within 28 days
 - Advertisement Consent Within 8 weeks
 - Certificate of Lawfulness of Existing (Section 191) or Proposed (Section 192) Use or Development Within 6 months
 - 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 .
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 5th 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.

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 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

ⁱ 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.