

Description of Activity – Crymlyn Burrows Dynamic Dunescape Sculpture.

“As part of a large Heritage Lottery funded project to restore, manage and promote sand dune habitats across England and Wales called ‘Dynamic Dunescape’ the project partners (Natural Resources Wales) are planning to install a metal sculpture at Baglan Burrows.

The primary aim of this sculptural installation will be to inform and inspire visitors to this sand dune site about the very special place for nature conservation that they are entering, and to enhance the natural environment while at the same time acknowledging the industrial heritage of the Swansea and Neath Port Talbot coastline through the use of metal as a medium.

This sculpture will be metal in construction in order to deter vandalism and also to reflect the industrial heritage of the Swansea and Neath Port Talbot area. After consultation with the local community, an archway design was chosen for the pedestrian entrance to Baglan Burrows. The dimensions for this archway will be 2.5m high by 2.0m wide and 1.5m deep. The community also indicated they would like to see the archway incorporating the landscape view and local species found on the sand dunes, specifically plants, flowers, bees, butterflies and birds represented in a fairly literal format, although an element stylisation will be expressed within the design.

The archway sculpture will be made from mild steel which will be hot-dipped galvanized. It will have a silver finish and will be robust. Galvanizing will protect the steel against corrosion and has been shown to last for at least 50 years. The nuts and bolts used will be A4 stainless steel (marine grade). The main structure for the archway references marram grass to emphasise its importance for the dunescape. The infill of the arches consists of the dune landscape, butterflies, bees, plants, flowers and birds to reflect the results from the consultation with the local community. The archway will incorporate the Welsh and English Names for the site on the entrance side of the archway.”