

**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

J Melly
Jennifer Melly Law
45 Alfred Street
Neath Port Talbot
SA11 1EH

Name and address of the agent

Mr Robert Bowen
Robert Bowen Planning & Development Ltd
7 Llys Sant Teilo
Llangyfelach
Swansea
SA5 7HQ

DATE REGISTERED: 17 January 2024

APPLICATION NO: P2024/0041

LOCATION: 1B Alfred Street, Neath, SA11 1EF

PROPOSAL: Change of use of shop (class A1) to solicitors office (class A2)

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:

-1556-24-P01(A) - Site Location Block Plan

-1556-24-P02 - Existing Proposed Plans

Reason:
In the interests of clarity.

Action Conditions

- 3 The approved biodiversity enhancement / green infrastructure detail shall be implemented prior to first use of the approved development and retained as such thereafter. Any trees or plants which within a period of 5 years from the completion of the development die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of similar size and species.

Reason:
In the interests of Biodiversity and to provide a net benefit to Biodiversity in accordance with Policy 9 of Future Wales and so as to accord with Policy SP15 of the adopted Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

Regulatory Conditions

- 4 The use shall not be carried out outside the hours of 08.00 to 19.00 Monday to Friday, 08.00 to 19.00 on Saturdays and at no time on Sundays and bank holidays.

Reason:
In the interest of residential amenity and to ensure the development complies with Policy BE1 and EN8 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

Informatives:

1 Bats often roost in houses and other buildings, and work on these buildings may disturb a bat roost. All bats and their roosts are protected against disturbance under UK and European legislation. If works are planned on a building in which bats are roosting, Natural Resources Wales must be contacted. If work has already commenced and bats are found, or if any evidence that bats are using the site as a roost is found, work shall cease and NRW should be contacted immediately. Where bats or their roosts are present, no works of site clearance, demolition or construction shall take place unless a licence to disturb these species and/or their roosts has been granted in accordance with the relevant legislation. NRW can be contacted at:- Natural Resources Wales, Ty Cambria, 29 Newport Road, Cardiff CF24 0TP, 0300 065 3000 Bat Conservation Trust can be contacted at:- 5th Floor, Quadrant House, 250 Kennington Lane, London, SE11 5DR, 0345 1300228

2 The proposed development lies within a coal mining area which may contain unrecorded coal mining related hazards. If any coal mining feature is encountered during development, this should be reported immediately to the Coal Authority on 0345 762 6848. Further information is also available on the Coal Authority website at: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-coal-authority

3 Our Flood Risk Map confirms the application site lies entirely within Zone A of the Development Advice Maps (DAM) as contained in Technical Advice Note (TAN) 15: Development and Flood Risk (2004). The Flood Map for Planning identifies the application site to be at risk of flooding and falls into Flood Zone 3 Rivers. Given the scale and nature of the proposed development (and in the absence of a flood consequences assessment) we consider the proposals could be acceptable, subject to the developer being made aware of the potential flood risks and advised to install flood proofing measures as part of the development. In areas at risk of flooding, we recommend that consideration be given to the incorporation of flood resistance/resilience measures into the design 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 on the NRW website. The developer can also access advice and information on protection from flooding from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) publication 'Preparing for Floods: Interim Guidance for Improving the Flood Resistance of Domestic and Small Business Properties', can be found on the ODPM website.

4 Natural Resources Wales note to developer: We advise the applicant that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure they secure all other permits/consents/licences relevant to their development. Please refer to our website for further details.

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.

It is considered that the proposal represents an appropriate form of development that would have no unacceptable impact on the visual amenity of the area, the amenities of neighbouring residents, highway and pedestrian safety, drainage and biodiversity. Accordingly, the proposed development is in accordance with policies SP3, SP12, SP15, SP16, SP20, SP21, SC1, SC2 EN6, EN7, EN8, TR2 and BE1 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

It is further considered that the decision complies with Future Wales - the National Plan 2040, specifically Policies 2 (Shaping Urban Growth and Regeneration - Strategic Placemaking) and 9 (Resilient Ecological Networks and Green Infrastructure) 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: 16 February 2024

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 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.

(6) Welsh Water Dwr Cymru advise that the planning permission hereby granted does not extend any rights to carry out any works to the public sewerage or water supply systems without first having obtained the necessary permissions required by the Water Industry Act 1991.

Please note, in accordance with Construction and Design Management (CDM) Regulations, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that any proposed works within their curtilage do not conflict with any underground services and is recommended they review their land registry title deeds for any legal covenants. For Sewers or Watermains that may be present and affected by your proposals, you are advised to contact Dwr Cymru Welsh Water who will be able to explain whether your proposed works will be acceptable as well as any consent required. Prior to commencing works, it is also recommend the applicant review the information and guidance on Building Over Sewers

available on Welsh Water's website at

<https://developers.dwrcymru.com/en/applications/planning/build-over-or-near-to-sewers>

The applicant is also advised that some public sewers and lateral drains may not be recorded on Welsh Water maps of public sewers because they were originally privately owned and were transferred into public ownership by nature of the Water Industry (Schemes for Adoption of Private Sewers) Regulations 2011. The presence of such assets may affect the proposal. In order to assist us in dealing with the proposal the applicant may contact Dwr Cymru Welsh Water to establish the location and status of the apparatus. Under the Water Industry Act 1991 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water has rights of access to its apparatus at all times.

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 & Environment Decisions Wales, Crown Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ – Tel 0300 060 4400, or online at <https://planningcasework.service.gov.wales/>.
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.