

**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

Mr Richard Steadman
11 St Davids Road
Tairgwaith
Ammanford
Neath Port Talbot
SA18 1YE

Name and address of the agent

Mr Chris Morgan
Cwm Planning And Design
30 Llwyncelyn Road
Tairgwaith
Ammanford
SA18 1UU

DATE REGISTERED: 17 November 2023

APPLICATION NO: P2023/0873

LOCATION: Ebenezer Independent Chapel , Neath Road, Rhos,
Pontardawe, SA8 3HB

PROPOSAL: Conversion of chapel and vestry buildings into a single
residential dwelling

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:

Green Infrastructure Statement (March 2024)
Marketing Report (November 2023)
Planning Statement (September 2023)
Bat Survey Report (August 2023)
Archaeological Building Investigation & Recording Report (March 2023)
CPD-001 Site Location Plan
CPD-002 Rev A Existing & Proposed Site Plans (showing proposed ecological measures)
CPD-002-1 Proposed Site Plan (showing access and visibility splays)
CPD-003 Existing Elevations
CPD-004 Existing Floor Plans and Sections
CPD-005 Proposed Floor Plans and Sections
CPD-006 Existing Vestry Elevations and Floor Plan

Reason:
In the interests of clarity.

Action Conditions

- 3 The dwelling hereby approved shall not be occupied until a scheme to enable the provision of gigabit capable broadband infrastructure from the site boundary to the dwellings/buildings hereby permitted has been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

Reason:
To support the roll-out of digital communications infrastructure across Wales in accordance with Policy 13 of Future Wales.

- 4 The development shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the recommendations contained within Sections 4 and 5 of the Bat Survey Report hereby approved. For the avoidance of doubt this advises that no works are undertaken to the roof, wall tops, internal ceiling or soffits/fascia boards without first obtaining the necessary licence from Natural Resources Wales, as the north and south wall tops of the main chapel building are confirmed to support roosting bats and are using those features.

Prior to the beneficial occupation of the dwelling, new bird and bat mitigation and enhancement measures shall be provided in accordance with Recommendations 1-5 of the Bat Survey Report and as indicated in the Green Infrastructure Statement and on the plans hereby approved. These measures shall be retained as part of the development in perpetuity.

Reason:
In the interest of biodiversity, to maintain and mitigate against the loss of any foraging habitats, and to accord with Policy 9 of Future Wales: The National Development Plan 2040 and Policy SP15 of the Adopted Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 5 Prior to the beneficial occupation of the dwelling hereby approved, the existing stone pillars shall be reduced to a maximum height of 600mm in accordance with drawing no. 'CPD-002-1 Proposed Site Plan (showing access and visibility splays)' hereby

approved, retaining the existing stone pillars and coping stones, and thereafter maintained at the new height in perpetuity.

Reason:

In the in interest of highway and pedestrian safety and to ensure compliance with Policy TR2 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 6 Prior to the beneficial occupation of the dwelling hereby approved, the new 1.2m wide pedestrian footpath to the rear cemetery and new 1.2m high boundary fence and pedestrian access gates as detailed on drawing no. 'CPD-002-1 Proposed Site Plan (showing access and visibility splays)' hereby approved, shall be completed on site and retained as such thereafter.

Reason:

In the interest of visual amenity and pedestrian safety and to ensure compliance with Policy BE1 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 7 The car parking and manoeuvring spaces as shown on the approved plans shall be provided prior to the first beneficial use of the development hereby permitted commencing, and shall thereafter be used solely for the benefit of the occupants of the dwelling of which it forms part and their visitors and for no other purpose and permanently retained as such.

Reason:

In the interest of highway safety and to ensure the development complies with Policy TR2 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 8 The proposed surfacing materials for the new parking and manoeuvring areas and additional width of the driveway (new footpath) will need to be surfaced in a permeable or hard porous material, or alternatively provision must be made to direct run-off water from the hard surface, to a permeable porous area or surface elsewhere within the curtilage of the dwelling to a maximum gradient of 1 in 9. No surface water shall be allowed to flow out onto the public highway and these drainage arrangements shall be permanently maintained as such thereafter.

Reason:

In the interest of satisfactory drainage and to ensure the development complies with Policies SP16 and BE1 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 9 Pedestrian vision splays of 2.4 metres by 2.4 metres (measured back from back of footway) shall be maintained each side of the vehicular access within which nothing over 600mm in height shall be erected or allowed to grow and shall be retained as such thereafter.

Reason:

In the in interest of highway and pedestrian safety and to ensure compliance with Policy TR2 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 10 Notwithstanding any other details that may be given in the plans hereby approved, before the development is brought into beneficial use, the 2 most rearward first floor windows on both sides (south and north) elevations of the chapel building shall be fitted with obscured glazing, details of which shall first be submitted to and agreed in

writing by the Local Planning Authority prior to installation and any part of the window/s that is less than 1.8m above the finished floor level of the room in which it is installed shall be fixed shut and non-opening. The windows shall be permanently retained in that condition thereafter.

Reason :

In the interest of the amenities of the adjoining properties, and to ensure accordance with Policy BE1 of the adopted Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

Regulatory Conditions

- 11 Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 1, Class E of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended for Wales) (or any order revoking and re-enacting that order with or without modification), no buildings shall be erected other than those expressly authorised by this permission and identified on the approved drawings.

Reason:

In order to safeguard the amenities of the area by enabling the Local Planning Authority to consider whether planning permission should be granted for garages or outbuildings having regard to the particular layout and design of the development, residential amenity, and to accord with Policies BE1 and SC1 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 12 Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended for Wales) (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), there shall be no extension or external alteration to any building forming part of the development hereby permitted without the prior grant of planning permission in that behalf.

Reason:

In order to safeguard the amenities of the area by enabling the Local Planning Authority to consider whether planning permission should be granted for extensions, having regard to the particular layout and design of the development and need to protect the amenity of nearby properties, and to accord with Policies BE1 and SC1 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 13 Notwithstanding the provisions of Schedule 2, Part 1 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended for Wales) (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), no development, enlargement or other alteration to the roof of the buildings (including the insertion of any new windows or doors) shall be carried out without the prior grant of planning permission in that behalf.

Reason:

In order to safeguard the amenities of the area by enabling the Local Planning Authority to consider whether planning permission should be granted for alterations to the roof, having regard to the findings of the Bat Survey Report hereby approved and to accord with Policies BE1 and SP15 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 14 The vestry building to the rear of the site shall not be occupied at any time other than for purposes ancillary to and incidental to the enjoyment of the residential occupation of the chapel building/new dwelling hereby approved and shall not be sold, let or sublet as a separate unit of residential or holiday accommodation.

Reason:

Due to the restricted nature of the site and the historic association between buildings, the building is considered unsuitable for occupation as a separate unit, and to accord with Policies BE1, BE2 and TR2 of the Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 15 Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 (as amended for Wales) (or any order revoking and re-enacting that Order with or without modification), there shall be no rendering or painting of the stonework on the front and side (north) elevations of the chapel and vestry buildings without the prior grant of planning permission in that behalf.

Reason:

In order to safeguard the amenities of the area by enabling the Local Planning Authority to consider whether planning permission should be granted given the need to protect the character and appearance of a building of local importance, and to accord with Policies BE1, BE2 and SC1 of the Adopted Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan.

- 16 No surface water and/or land drainage shall be allowed to connect directly or indirectly with the public sewerage network.

Reason:

To prevent hydraulic overloading of the public sewerage system, to protect the health and safety of existing residents and ensure no pollution of or detriment to the environment.

Informatives:

1 The applicant may need to apply to Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water for any connection to the public sewer under S106 of the Water Industry Act 1991. If the connection to the public sewer network is either via a lateral drain (i.e. a drain which extends beyond the connecting property boundary) or via a new sewer (i.e. serves more than one property), it is now a mandatory requirement to first enter into a Section 104 Adoption Agreement (Water Industry Act 1991). The design of the sewers and lateral drains must also conform to the Welsh Ministers Standards for Gravity Foul Sewers and Lateral Drains, and conform with the publication "Sewers for Adoption"- 7th Edition. Further information can be obtained via the Developer Services pages of www.dwrcymru.com 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 Welsh Water 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.

2 Warning: A Protected Species Licence is required for this development. This planning permission does not provide consent to undertake works that requires a Protected Species Licence. It is an offence to deliberately capture, kill or disturb Protected Species or to recklessly damage or destroy their breeding sites or resting places. If found guilty of any offences, you could be sent to prison for up to 6 months and/or receive an unlimited fine. To undertake the works within the law, you can obtain further information on the need for a licence from Natural Resources Wales.

3 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

4 Please note that SAB approval will be required prior to any work commencing. It is a breach of approval required under Paragraph 7 (1) Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 whereby action will be taken by the Authority under The Sustainable Drainage (Enforcement) (Wales) Order 2018.

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 this building of local importance, the amenity of the area, highway and pedestrian safety or ecology considerations. Accordingly, the proposed development is in accordance with Policies BE1, BE2 and TR2 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: 17 April 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):-

(1) Planning Permission (with the exception of Minor Commercial and Householder applications – see below)	Within 6 Months
(2) Householder Appeal see endnote i	Within 12 weeks
(3) Minor Commercial Appeal see endnote i	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 & 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.