



View of village centre on arrival in Pontneddfechan



Narrow view from Pontneathvaughan Road bridge, enclosed by dense foliage



View of village centre when emerging from the Waterfall Walk



Panoramic views of open countryside to the southwest from visitor destinations in the village such as Sgwd Gwladys and The Angel Inn

Existing Visitor Facilities

Visitor facilities are concentrated in the centre of the village near the river and bridges. In the centre of the village there is little invitation to stay and the public realm currently adds very little amenity nor character and placemaking value.

A public toilet block is situated in the village centre but provides only two units and the facilities are overwhelmed at peak times, leading to queues maintenance and hygiene issues.

Interpretation and way-finding signage is limited to some signage located in multiple locations: outside the toilet block; within the Sgwd Gwladys courtyard; and at the entrance to the waterfall trail.

Besides the existing bus stop there is only one public bench in the village centre. All other outdoor seating areas are associated with the pubs or the bistro. These commercial seating areas are nonetheless very popular and contribute to a lively sense of arrival in the village.



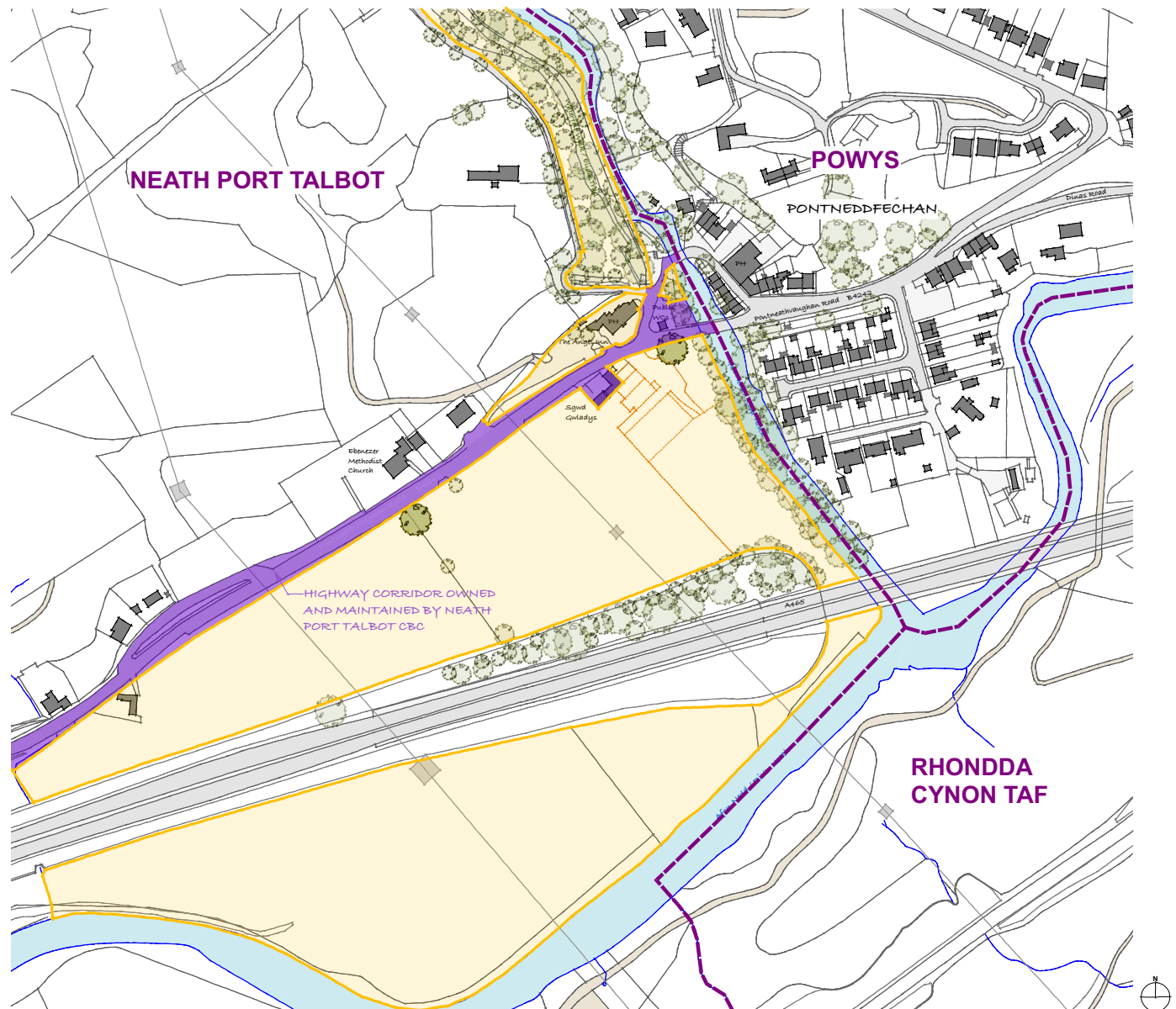
Visitor facilities are focused on the village centre and comprise a public toilet block, some interpretation boards, a public bench and some bike stands on a paved area adjacent to the river.

Land Ownership & Statutory Boundaries

Pontneddfechan is located on the boundary between Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Powys County Council, with the statutory authority boundary following the River Neath.

Local authority maintained land is mainly limited to the highway corridor. In addition to this NPTCBC own a small paved area of public realm in the centre of the village where public toilets are sited, and a collection of buildings that were previously the Tourist Information Centre, now incorporated into Sgwd Gwladys (a bistro, bar and lodge enterprise, leasing the buildings from NPTCBC).

Much of the surrounding land is within private ownership. The fields to the south of Pontneathvaughan Road are in the sole ownership of a landowner who also owns a collection of farm buildings and a yard area adjacent to the village centre. A proportion of this area and the NPTCBC highway/ public realm form the location for the proposed buildings and village infrastructure.





Sites at the centre of the village have great potential to contribute to the place making of the village and provide a positive impact on the local setting.



Views across the farm yard adjacent to the village centre towards low lying paddock land beyond



Private paddock land to the south of Pontneathvaughan Rd is opened up for overflow parking at peak times.

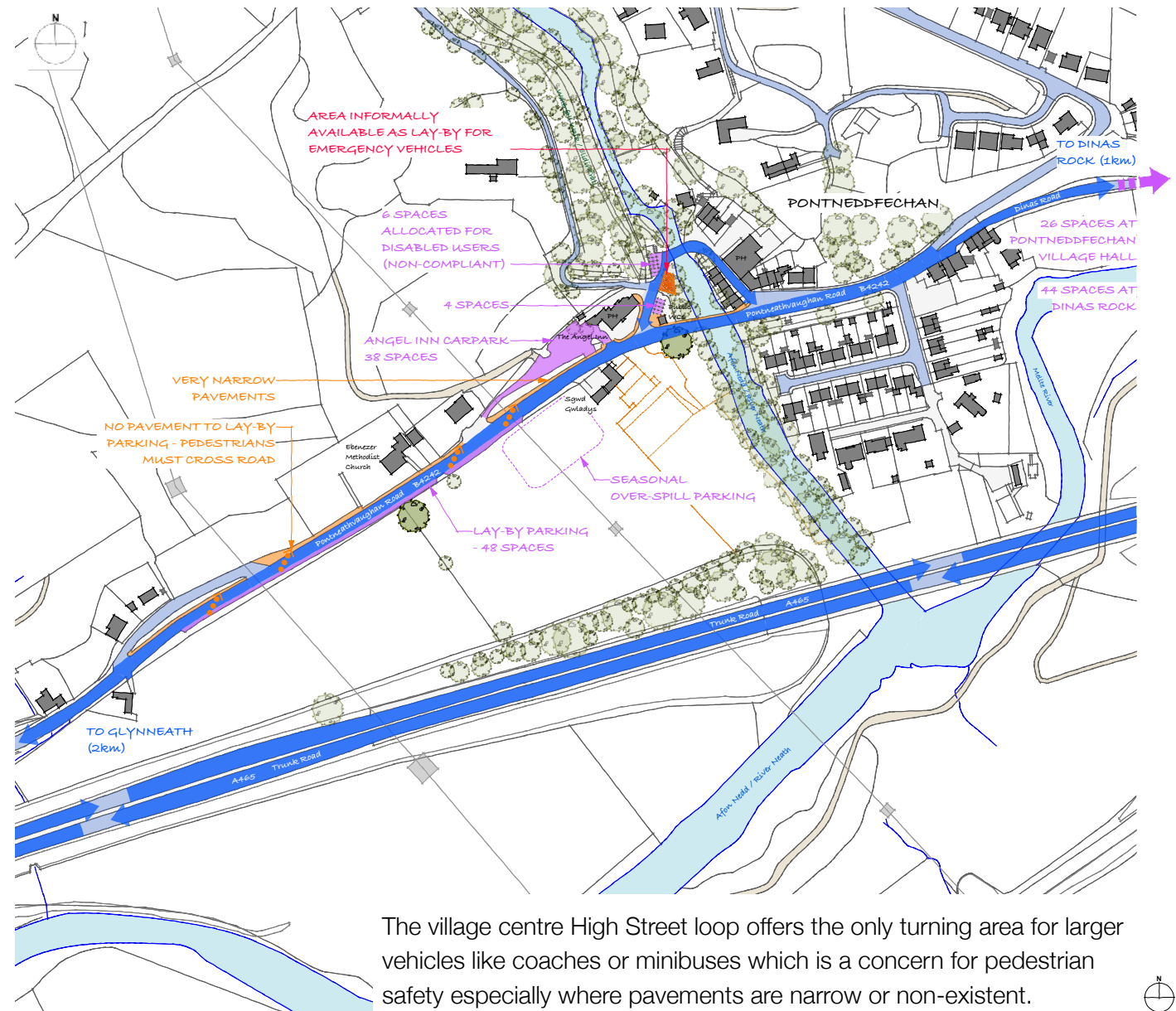
Movement and Access

Car Traffic and Parking

Vehicular traffic is one of the greatest challenges that Pontneddfechan faces during intense visitor peaks at summer weekends and during holiday periods. The majority of visitors arrive by car.

The diagram opposite identifies existing car parking provision in the area. There is not sufficient capacity for peak demand and visitors can cause a nuisance to the local community by parking inappropriately.

Where visitors park in the existing lay-by on Pontneathvaughan Road, they must cross the carriageway to access a narrow pavement on the opposite side. Individuals and families inevitably dart out between cars in an area that becomes chaotic due to the volume of traffic and insufficient parking provision.



The village centre High Street loop offers the only turning area for larger vehicles like coaches or minibuses which is a concern for pedestrian safety especially where pavements are narrow or non-existent.