APPLICATION NUMBER: 18/16939/FUL
APPLICANTS NAME(S): Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
SITE ADDRESS: Craig-y-nos Country Park
Penycae
Abertawe
Powys
SA9 1GL
GRID REF: E: 284221 N: 215491
COMMUNITY: Tawe Uchaf
DATE VALIDATED: 12 December 2018
DECISION DUE DATE: 13 February 2019
CASE OFFICER: Ffion Bevan

PROPOSAL Installation of bronze 3D landscape model mounted on stone plinth on the existing terrace.

ADDRESS Craig-y-nos Country Park, Penycae, Swansea/Abertawe
Thank you for your letter of 17 December 2018 inviting our comments on the information submitted for the above planning application.

Advice
Having carefully considered the information provided with this planning application, we have no objections to the impact of the proposed development on the registered historic park and garden at PGW (Po) 16(POW) Craig-y-nos Castle and Country Park. Our assessment of the application is given below.

Our role
Our statutory role in the planning process is to provide the local planning authority with an assessment concerned with the likely impact that the proposal will have on scheduled monuments, registered historic parks and gardens, registered historic landscapes where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required and development likely to have an impact on the outstanding universal value of a World Heritage Site. We do not provide an assessment of the likely impact of the development on listed buildings or conservation areas, as these are matters for the local authority.

It is for the local planning authority to weigh our assessment against all the other material considerations in determining whether to approve planning permission.

Assessment
This application is located within the grade II* registered historic park and garden at PGW (Po) 16(POW) Craig-y-Nos Castle and Country Park. The proposal is for the installation of a bronze 3D landscape model mounted on a stone plinth on the existing visitor centre terrace. The application seeks to provide a visual and tactile interpretation model for visitors to Craig-y-nos to improve understanding of the local landscape and geology. The proposed development is sited on the existing terrace and in our view is unlikely to impact on the registered park and garden.
NP Heritage Officer 3rd Jan 2019
Archaeology

Consultation of the regional Historic Environment Record and sources held by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority indicates that no known archaeological features will be affected by this development, and this application is considered unlikely to have any archaeological impact. No archaeological mitigations are required.

NP Heritage Officer 7th Jan 2019
Building Conservation

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 9: November 2016): Paragraph 6.5.11 recognises the importance of protecting the historic environment and states that: "There should be a general presumption in favour of the preservation of a listed building and its setting, which might extend beyond its curtilage. For any development proposal affecting a listed building or its setting, the primary material consideration is the statutory requirement to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building, its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses."

Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (May 2017)
Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (May 2017)
Brecon Beacons National Park Local Development Plan (December 2013)
Policy 1: Appropriate Development in the National Park
All proposals for development or change of use of land or buildings in the National Park must comply with the following criteria, where they are relevant to the proposal:
i) the scale, form, design, layout, density, intensity of use and use of materials will be appropriate to the surroundings and will maintain or enhance the quality and character of the Park’s Natural Beauty, wildlife, cultural heritage and built environment; …..

Policy 17: The Settings of Listed Buildings:
Development proposals which would adversely affect the setting of a listed building will not be permitted.

Policy 20: Historic Parks and Gardens
Development which directly or indirectly, either alone or in combination affects those areas listed within Part I of the 'Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of
Special Historic Interest in Wales’ will be permitted where the essential integrity and coherence of the park or garden and its setting, as defined in the Register, is preserved or enhanced.

Development should be of a high standard and minimise disturbance to heritage features. If disturbance is unavoidable, a full recording survey will be required in advance of development.

ASSESSMENT
These comments are written with regard to the heritage and conservation aspects of the proposal.

The site for the proposed landscape model is on the terrace patio of the Visitor Centre within the Craig y Nos Country Park which is included on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales (grade II*). A group of listed buildings forming part of the historic park and garden are located to the south: Craig y Nos Castle (II*); The Theatre wing (I); the Game Larder and Kitchen Garden Wall (II); and the Front Courtyard and Boundary Wall (II).

The model has a stone plinth on top of which will be a bronze model of the landscape. The diameter of the model is 1540 mm and the height 670 mm. The siting, scale and materials of the proposed model is such that it will not have a significant impact on the setting of the historic park and garden or on the setting of the listed buildings and structures.

CONCLUSION
It is considered that the proposed model will not have a harmful impact on the historic park and garden or on the setting of the listed buildings and structures. From a heritage perspective there is no objection to this proposal.

Powys County Council Highways  21st Dec 2018  Does not wish to comment on the application

Tawe Uchaf Community Council  4th Jan 2019  The Council has no comments to make.

Welsh Government  19th Dec 2018  I refer to your consultation of 17/12/2018 regarding the
above planning application and advise that the Welsh Government as highway authority for the A4067 trunk road does not issue a direction in respect of this application.
If you have any further queries, please forward to the following Welsh Government Mailbox
NorthandMidWalesDevelopmentControlMailbox@gov.wales

CONTRIBUTORS
None Received

PLANNING HISTORY

<table>
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<td>18/16940/ADV</td>
<td>Three monolith information points introducing Fforest Fawr Geopark, the UNESCO global Geopark family. These panels aim to engage visitors and encourage them to explore the surrounding landscape.</td>
<td>Pending Decision</td>
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OFFICER’S REPORT

Introduction
This application is being report to PAROW alongside other applications for proposed development at Craig y Nos Country Park, as the applications have been submitted by the National Park Authority.

This application relates to the proposed installation of a bronze 3D landscape model mounted on a stone plinth at Craig y Nos Country Park.

The site is located within a countryside location as defined within the Brecon Beacons Local Development Plan (2013) 'LDP'.

Site Description
Craig y Nos Country Park is owned by the National Park Authority and is located next to the grounds of Craig y Nos Castle within the community of Tawe Uchaf near Penycae.

The site has an existing car park with offices, educational and tourism facilities and a café, to support and maintain the grounds, in which a number of visitors visit each year. The site is also classed as a Grade II* registered historic park and garden.
The National Park Authority is intending to establish the site as a Geopark Hub, a central location from which visitors can explore the surrounding Geopark.

Craig y Nos Country Park is accessed via the A4067 Trunk Road and there are other properties and businesses within the surrounding area.

**Proposal Description**

It is proposed to install a bronze 3D landscape model mounted on a stone plinth at Craig y Nos Country Park.

It would be located on the terrace/patio to the front of the building and it would provide an engaging visual feature for visitors and educational groups, with a representation of the immediate landscape, whilst aiding their understanding of rocks and the forces that have shaped it.

This bronze model would have a diameter of 1.5 metres and would be positioned on a pennant stone slab, which has a diameter of 1.54 metres, with an overall height of 0.67 metres.

The bronze element of the model, has been chosen because of its versatility and durability in the creation of such a detailed piece of landscape to scale. It would have a total height of 0.195 metres.

The pennant stone slab would have a height of 50mm and sourced from Dulais Valley

Both the bronze structure and stone slab would be positioned on a red and green sandstone plinth supplied by Llangorse quarry, which would measure 0.425 metres from ground level.

The above structure forms part of wider project at Craig Y Nos Country Park, which will also include a Geopark welcome and information point, interpretative table tops and carved stones labelling Geobeds, a revamp of the existing signage surrounding the Pay & Display machine and self-guided circular prompted routes.

**OFFICER APPRAISAL**

The application is considered against the following policies LDP: Policies SP3, CYDLPI, 1, 17, 20 and 59 within the Local Development Plan (December 2013) 'LDP'.

There are 6 issues to be considered:
- Principle of Development
- Visual Amenity
- Impact on the setting of Listed Buildings and Registered Historic Park and Gardens
- Neighbouring Amenity
- Highway Safety
- Archaeology
**Principle of Development**

The proposal is located in an area of countryside as defined by the LDP proposals map. The LDP sets out that development in countryside locations is less sustainable and more environmentally challenging than is considered acceptable. Policy CYD LP1 allows for certain development in the countryside and criterion 2 enables proposals that strengthen and enhance the provision of community facilities in a countryside location.

The proposed 3D Landscape Model would enhance and strengthen the provision of the Craig y Nos Country Park as a community facility and as such, no objection is raised.

**Visual Amenity**

**Policy 1: Appropriate Development in the National Park**

All proposals for development or change of use of land or buildings in the National Park must comply with the following criteria, where they are relevant to the proposal:

i) the scale, form, design, layout, density, intensity of use and use of materials will be appropriate to the surroundings and will maintain or enhance the quality and character of the Park's Natural Beauty, wildlife, cultural heritage and built environment;

Given the size, scale and appropriate external materials of the proposed 3D Model, located on the terrace immediately to the front of the building, there would be no adverse impact on visual amenity of the surrounding area.

As such the proposal would comply with policy 1 of the LDP (2013)

**Impact on the setting of Listed Buildings and Registered Historic Park and Gardens**

Policy 17 of the LDP states that 'Development proposals which would adversely affect the setting of listed buildings will not be permitted'.

Policy 20: Historic Parks and Gardens

Development which directly or indirectly, either alone or in combination affects those areas listed within Part I of the 'Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales' will be permitted where the essential integrity and coherence of the park or garden and its setting, as defined in the Register, is preserved or enhanced. Development should be of a high standard and minimise disturbance to heritage features. If disturbance is unavoidable, a full recording survey will be required in advance of development.

Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (May 2017)

Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (May 2017) (CADW)

The National Park's Heritage (Building Conservation) Officer and CADW were
consulted on the application and raised no objection.

The site for the proposed landscape model is on the terrace patio of the Visitor Centre within the Craig y Nos Country Park which is included on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales (grade II*). A group of listed buildings forming part of the historic park and garden are located to the south: Craig y Nos Castle (II*); The Theatre wing (I); the Game Larder and Kitchen Garden Wall (II); and the Front Courtyard and Boundary Wall (II).

The siting, scale and materials of the proposed model is such that it will not have a significant impact on the setting of the historic park and garden or on the setting of the listed buildings and structures.

As such, the proposal would comply with policies 17 and 20 of the Local Development Plan.

**Neighbouring Amenity**

There are properties surrounding the site including Craig y Nos Castle, however given the position of the 3D Model and its purpose for interpretation, there are no concerns in relation to neighbouring privacy or amenity.

No representation has been received and as such the proposal is considered to be acceptable and to be in accordance with guidance regarding residential amenity provided within Planning Policy Wales (Edition 10, November 2018).

**Highways**

Policy 59 of the LDP refers to the impact of traffic and states that development will be permitted where appropriate access can be achieved. Criterion (c) states that access will be considered to be inappropriate where there is an unacceptable impact on road safety.

The proposal would not have an impact on the existing traffic or parking accommodation within the Country Park and as such it would comply with policy 59 of the LDP. Powys County Council Highways Authority raised no objection to the proposal.

**Archaeology**

Policy SP3 (f) states:

'All proposals for development or change of use of land or buildings in the National Park must demonstrate that the proposed development does not have an unacceptable impact on, nor detract from, or prevent the enjoyment of ...archaeological features'

Consultation of the regional Historic Environment Record and sources held by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority indicates that no known archaeological features will be affected by this development, and this application is considered unlikely to have any archaeological impact. No archaeological mitigations are required.
CONCLUSION

Full Planning permission is sought for the installation of a bronze 3D landscape model mounted on a stone plinth at Craig y Nos Country Park.

The model would comply with relevant national and local planning policies and would strengthen and enhance the existing community facility at Craig y Nos Country Park.

Craig y Nos Country Park is a registered grade II* historic park and garden and is adjacent to a number of Listed Buildings. Given its size, scale, location and appropriate external materials, there are no concerns in relation to its visual impact or the setting of the garden or neighbouring Listed Buildings.

There are no concerns in relation to highway safety, archaeology or the impact on neighbouring residential properties.

As such, the proposal would comply with policies SP3, CYDLP1, I, 17, 20 and 59 of the Local Development Plan (December 2013) 'LDP' and guidance within Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (May 2017) and Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (May 2017) (CADW).

The application is therefore recommended for approval subject to the following conditions:

RECOMMENDATION: Permit

Conditions and/or Reasons:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of five years from the date of this permission.
2. The development shall be carried out in all respects strictly in accordance with the approved plans (drawing nos. Site Location Plan, Detailed Plans, Existing and Proposed Plans, Layout Plan) unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reasons:

2. To ensure adherence to the approved plans in the interests of a satisfactory form of development.

Informative Notes: