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Tomos Jones
Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
Authority
Llanion
Pembroke Dock
SA72 6DY

Eich cyfeirnod
Your reference

PE160

Ein cyfeirnod
Our reference

DH

Dyddiad
Date

27 October 2022

Llinell uniongyrchol
Direct line

0300 0256004

Ebost
Email:

scheduledmonuments@gov.wales

Dear Tomos Jones,

**ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS ACT 1979
APPLICATION FOR SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT
CASTELL NANHYFER (PE160)**

1. Introduction

1.1 Thank you for your application of 18 July 2022 to Cadw for scheduled monument consent for conservation works to the square tower at the above scheduled monument.

1.2 Cadw is a Department within the Welsh Government that undertakes the statutory functions of the Welsh Ministers in determining applications for scheduled monument consent.

1.3 Each application for scheduled monument consent is considered on its own merits in accordance with *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales* ([Conservation Principles](#)) and Annex A of *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment* ([TAN 24](#)). In particular, TAN 24 explains that the main purpose of scheduling is to ensure the preservation of ancient monuments and, when considering an application for scheduled monument consent, there is a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage or which would have a significant impact on the setting of remains.

2 Assessment

2.1. Your application and supporting documentation has been assessed by our Regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments who has recommended that conditional scheduled monument consent should be approved for conservation of clay bonded masonry of the square tower by (i) cleaning down walls to the top of bedded 12th century walling, (ii) building up additional walling, including face, and (iii) adding turf soft capping. The reasons for the Inspector's conclusions are set out in **Annex A** of this letter.

2.2. I have carefully considered the impact of the proposed development on the scheduled monument and its setting in light of the advice that I have received from our



Regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments. I have no reason to disagree with the advice of our Regional Inspector and am satisfied that his recommendation is consistent with the objectives of Conservation Principles and TAN 24.

3. Decision

3.1. Accordingly, I hereby approve conditional scheduled monument consent for the proposed works as outlined in section 1.1.

3.2. In reaching this decision, I have taken into account the requirement of sections 3 and 5 of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. I consider that this decision is in accordance with the Act's sustainable development principle through its contribution towards the Welsh Ministers' well-being objective of *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language*.

3.3. Any development control issues associated with wider development will be a matter for any application for planning permission. It is the responsibility of the applicant to establish whether any further approval or consents are required for the proposed development.

4. Proposed Conditions

4.1. The following proposed conditions are intended to protect the monument from damage or significant alteration as set out in TAN 24: *The Historic Environment* and to ensure that details of the project are archived.

- a) The applicant shall provide Cadw with reasonable advance notice of commencement of works on site and shall afford access at all reasonable times to any Cadw official or archaeologist nominated by Cadw to monitor progress of the works;
- b) The approved works shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the application form, plans and documents as listed below. No variations are permitted unless they have been authorised in advance, in writing by Cadw;

Number	Document / plan	Reference Number (if applicable)	Date
1	SMC application form signed by Tomos Jones, PCNP Archaeologist, and dated 13/06/2022		18/07/2022
2	PE160, Castell Nanhyfer Square Tower Conservation Work		18/07/2022

- c) Cadw shall be invited to attend a site meeting within the first 5 days of commencement of the project to review the programme, submitted method statement and arrangements that have been established for archaeological mitigation/building recording;
- d) That upon completion of the project the applicant shall produce a completion report including an annotated photographic record detailing the site before, during and after works took place and including final versions of plans and elevations as built. The draft should be sent to Cadw in digital format for approval within 25 working days of the works being completed; and
- e) Any historic or archaeological features not previously identified which are revealed when carrying out the works shall be retained in situ and reported to Cadw within two working days. Works shall be halted in the area/part of the site affected until provision has been made for retention and/or recording of the feature by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with details submitted to and approved in writing in advance by Cadw.

5. Compliance

5.1. Where a condition requires approval or any contact with Cadw you are advised to contact Louise Mees by email scheduledmonuments@gov.wales.

5.2. When all work has been completed and the conditions have been discharged, please complete and return the 'completion notice' at **Annex B** to Cadw. Section 2(6) of the 1979 Act provides that non-compliance with a condition attached to a grant of scheduled monument consent shall be an offence.

5.3. By virtue of Section 4 of the 1979 Act, if no works to which this consent relates are executed or started within 5 years from the date of this letter, the consent shall cease to have effect at the end of that period (unless it is revoked in the meantime).

5.4. This letter does not convey any approval or consent required under any enactment, bylaw, order or regulation other than Section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain any such approval or consent where necessary.

6. Mechanism for Challenge

6.1 Section 55 of the 1979 Act explains that if you are aggrieved by the decision given in this letter, you may challenge its validity by applying to the High Court within six weeks from the date of my decision. Furthermore, the legislation explains that the grounds on which an application may be made to the Court are;

- a) that my decision is not within the powers of the Act (i.e. that I have exceeded the powers available under the Act); and
- b) that any of the relevant requirements set out in the Act have not been complied with and that your interest has been substantially prejudiced by the failure to comply.

The 'relevant requirements' mentioned above are defined in Section 55 of the 1979 Act and it is advisable to seek legal advice before taking any action.

6.2. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

6.3 Finally, please note that your personal data is managed in compliance with the [General Data Protection Regulations](#).

Yours sincerely,

Denise Harris

Casework Manager

under authority of the Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip, one of the Welsh Ministers

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS ACT 1979
APPLICATION FOR SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT
CASTELL NANHYFER (PE160)
INSPECTOR'S ADVICE

1. Policy Context

- 1.1 An application for scheduled monument consent (SMC) is considered on its own merits in accordance with *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales* ([Conservation Principles](#)) and Annex A of *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (TAN 24)*. [In particular, TAN 24 explains that the main purpose of scheduling is to ensure the preservation of ancient monuments and,](#) when considering an application for SMC, there is a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or which would have a significant impact on the setting of remains. Therefore, applicants are expected to demonstrate that no practicable alternative route or location, avoiding the scheduled area, exists and that the need to undertake works outweighs the presumption in favour of the protection of the scheduled monument.
- 1.2 The Welsh Government's six principles for sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales are also used as a guide when considering applications for scheduled monument consent. These are:
- Historic assets will be managed to sustain their values.
 - Understanding the significance of historic assets is vital.
 - The historic environment is a shared resource.
 - Everyone will be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment.
 - Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent.
 - Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.

2. Castell Nanhyfer

- 2.1 [\[INSERT: the scheduling description, the current state of the monument and summary of key values, \(with particular consideration to all the values including, for example, evidential and aesthetic \(visual and setting\)\). From here please have specific regard to TAN 24 and Conservation Principles including an assessment of the impact of the proposed works on the monument alongside the headings\]](#)

The monument comprises the remains of a motte and bailey castle, a military stronghold built during the medieval period. A motte and bailey castle comprises a large conical or pyramidal mound of soil or stone (the motte) surrounded by, or adjacent to, one or more embanked enclosures (the bailey). Both may be surrounded by wet or dry ditches and could be further strengthened with

palisades, revetments, and/or a tower on top of the motte. It is located on a spur formed by the gorge of the River Gamman which is naturally defended on all sides by steep slopes except on the northwest where the spur was enclosed by a system of banks and ditches; two on the north and one on the west. The motte overlies the north-west angle of these defences, it is 8m high and surmounted by the remains of a stone built tower. The enclosed spur formed the bailey, the end of which is cut off by a substantial rock-cut ditch to form an inner castle where evidence of an earth and clay bonded stone wall and tower survive. The main approach and entrance to the castle was on its north side, with evidence for two phases, an earlier looped approach running around the eastern end of the outer rampart and along a sunken roadway in front of the inner rampart. A later direct approach crossed the outer ditch and a postern gate was situated in the southern corner of the bailey. Excavation has revealed evidence of an early 12th century earth and timber castle that was substantially rebuilt in stone during the mid to later 12th century whilst the main defences throughout the castle's history comprised an earth inner rampart topped with at least three phases of wooden palisade. Stone towers and an additional thin stone wall along the outer north rampart were developed later. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive organisation. The well-preserved monument forms an important element within the wider medieval context and the structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail.

Key values include:

- **Evidential:** well preserved earthworks, standing masonry and high potential for buried archaeological remains relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail.
- **Aesthetic:** visual remains of impressive and classic medieval motte and bailey castle.
- **Historical:** part of a wider context of Norman invasion and medieval defensive organisation.
- **Communal:** local authority guardianship site popular with local visitors and tourists.

Castell Nanhyfer is a well-maintained monument owned by Nevern Community Council and maintained by NCC and the PCNPA.

3. The Application

- 3.1 This application for scheduled monument consent involves conservation of clay bonded masonry of the square tower by (i) cleaning down walls to the top of bedded 12th century walling, (ii) building up additional walling, including face, and (iii) adding turf soft capping.

4. Assessment

- 4.1 The proposed works have been developed in close consultation with Cadw's IAM and properties in care team involved with earlier conservation works at this monument. The work is required to stabilise areas of the square tower, completing the 2010 conservation project, and utilising the same principles for working on clay bonded masonry.

The applicant has submitted a thorough document, prepared by Dr Chris Caple who undertook the excavations and initial conservation work, detailing the square tower conservation work.

The proposed works will stabilise historic masonry by taking down unstable sections, rebuilding with clay mortar and soft capping, thus ensuring the long-term preservation of this historic structure (evidential value). Red tiles will demarcate original walling from rebuilt sections, enabling visitors to understand where historic masonry survives, and new interventions have been made. Structural stability of the monument will ensure that it is safe for people to visit (communal value).

All areas to be worked upon were archaeologically recorded during the excavation project. A photographic record will be produced to report on the final conservation of this section of the square tower.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 I recommend that SMC should be granted and recommend that the following conditions are included within the SMC:

6. Proposed Conditions

- 6.1 The applicant shall provide Cadw with reasonable advance notice of commencement of works on site and will afford access at all reasonable times to any Cadw official or archaeologist nominated by Cadw to monitor progress of the works.
- 6.2 The approved works shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the application form, plans and documents as listed below. No variations are permitted unless they have been authorised in advance in writing by Cadw.

Number	Document / plan	Reference Number (if applicable)	Date
1	SMC application form signed by Tomos Jones, PCNP Archaeologist, and dated 13/06/2022		18/07/2022
2	PE160, Castell Nanhyfer Square Tower Conservation Work		18/07/2022

- 6.14 Cadw shall be invited to attend a site meeting within the first 5 days of commencement of the project to review the programme, submitted method statement and arrangements that have been established for archaeological mitigation/building recording.
- 6.15 That upon completion of the project the applicant will produce a completion report including an annotated photographic record detailing the site before, during and after works took place and including final versions of plans and elevations as built. The draft should be sent to Cadw in digital format for approval within 25 working days of the works being completed.
- 6.16 Any historic or archaeological features not previously identified which are revealed when carrying out the works shall be retained *in situ* and reported to Cadw within two working days. Works shall be halted in the area/part of the site affected until provision has been made for retention and/or recording of the feature by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with details submitted to and approved in writing in advance by Cadw.

Name of Inspector: Louise Mees

Date: 10/10/2022

COMPLETION NOTICE

Name of Monument: CASTELL NANHYFER

Monument Number: PE160

Conditions	Date	Signature
Completion of works on site		
That upon completion of the project the applicant will produce a completion report including an annotated photographic record detailing the site before, during and after works took place and including final versions of plans and elevations as built. The draft should be sent to Cadw in digital format for approval within 25 working days of the works being completed.		

Applicant Name:

Signature:

When all work has been completed and the conditions have been discharged, please complete and return this completion notice to Cadw at scheduledmonuments@gov.wales