

Item 6 - Report on Planning Applications

Application Ref: NP/13/0123

Application Type	Full
Grid Ref:	SM78942583
Applicant	Miss J Simpson
Agent	
Proposal	Erection of 2 interpretive/information panels
Site Location	St Davids Airfield, St Davids, Pembrokeshire
Case Officer	Jeff Davis

Summary

This application is brought before the Development Management Committee as the applicant is the National Park Authority and the proposal is on land which is within the ownership of the National Park Authority.

Planning permission is sought for the erection of two interpretation/information panels at St Davids Airfield. The proposal is considered to be an appropriate form of development at this site and is acceptable in terms of scale, siting and design as well as all other planning issues. It is also considered to comply with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Local Development Plan and National planning policy.

It is therefore recommended that the application is delegated for permission to Chief Executive/Director of Park Direction and Planning/the Head of Development Management on the receipt of no objections from the outstanding consultees or third party objections by the end of the statutory consultation period.

Consultee Response

Estates Officer: Supporting

Rights of Way: No objection

Countryside Council for Wales: No objection

Public Response

The application has been advertised through the erection of site notices on 26th March 2013 and no responses have been received at the time of writing this report. Any responses received past this date will be verbally reported to the Committee.

Policies considered

Please note that these policies can be viewed on the Policies page Pembrokeshire Coast National Park website - <http://www.pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk/default.asp?PID=549>

LDP Policy 01 - National Park Purposes and Duty

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LDP Policy 07 - Countryside

LDP Policy 08 - Special Qualities

LDP Policy 10 - Local Sites of Nature Conservation or Geological Interest

LDP Policy 11 - Protection of Biodiversity

LDP Policy 13 - Historic Landscapes Parks and Gardens

LDP Policy 15 - Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

LDP Policy 29 - Sustainable Design

LDP Policy 30 - Amenity

PPW5 Chapter 03 - Making and Enforcing Planning Decisions

PPW5 Chapter 04 - Planning for Sustainability

PPW5 Chapter 05 - Conserving and Improving Natural Heritage and the Coast

PPW5 Chapter 06 - Conserving the Historic Environment

PPW5 Chapter 13 - Minimising and Managing Environmental Risks and Pollution

SPG05 - Sustainable Design

TAN 05 - Nature Conservation and Planning

TAN 07 - Outdoor Advertisement Control

TAN 12 - Design

Officer's Appraisal

Background

St Davids Airfield was acquired by the National Park Authority in the mid-1990s and it is now an area open to the public with conservation management being undertaken to restore wildlife habitats, including an area of lowland wet heathland. Car parks are situated at the south west and north east corners of the site from which visitors can access the Airfield. Former runways and hard surfaces provide pedestrian and cycle routes from which the site can be enjoyed.

Constraints

- CROW Access Open Country
- NPA Property – within 25m
- Special Area of Conservation – within 500m
- Site of Special Scientific Interest – within 50m
- Common Land CROW Access
- Contaminated Land
- Biodiversity Issue
- Historic Landscape
- Safeguarding Zone
- Rights of Way Inland – within 50m

Relevant Planning History

- NP/98/410 – Planning permission granted for 4 information panels.
- NP/04/041 – Planning permission granted for a replacement information panel at the Vachelich entrance.
- NP/06/157 – Planning permission granted for a replacement information panel at the Vachelich entrance.

Current Proposal

Planning permission is sought for the erection of two interpretation/information panels at St Davids Airfield. The panels are to be constructed of oak stands with fibre glass panels which contain information regarding the history of the site and its current use. They are to be situated at existing car parks near entrance points to the site, one at the Vachelich entrance and the other at the eastern (Whitchurch/Caerfarchell) entrance. The Vachelich panel is to replace an existing interpretation panel, the consent for which has now expired (temporary consent given with NP/04/041 and NP/06/157). The four information panels granted consent by application NP/98/410 have now all been removed. As such, the two panels proposed would be the only ones within the St Davids Airfield site, should consent be granted.

Key Issues

The application raises the following planning matters:-

- Policy and Principle of Development
- Scale, Siting and Design
- Access
- Biodiversity
- Other Material Considerations

Policy and Principle of Development:

Policy 1 of the Local Development Plan (LDP) states that development within the National Park must be compatible with the public understanding and enjoyment of the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Park. Policy 8 of the LDP refers to the special qualities of the National Park and lists priorities to ensure that these qualities will be protected and enhanced.

The proposed interpretation panels are designed to encourage understanding and enjoyment of the National Park, providing information regarding the historical and current use of the Airfield. This is not considered to conflict with the primary National Park purpose of conserving and enhancing the Park's natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage. The special qualities of the National Park are not considered to be detrimentally affected by the proposal.

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As such, the erection of two panels in this location is considered to be acceptable in principle and in terms of planning policy.

Scale, Siting and Design:

Criterion 'a' of Policy 15 and criterion 'd' of Policy 30 of the LDP seek to resist development that would cause significant visual intrusion and Policy 29 seeks to ensure the sustainable design of all new development within the National Park. Criterion 'b' of Policy 30 aims to resist development that is of an incompatible scale with its surroundings whilst insensitively and unsympathetically sited development is resisted by Policy 15 (criterion 'b').

The panels are to be situated near to car parks at two entrance points to the Airfield to provide information for visitors as they arrive. In this respect, their siting is considered to be acceptable as they do not detract from the natural, uncluttered character of the Airfield itself. The panels are of an appropriate scale and design, being constructed of locally sourced timber and are similar in size and overall design to other interpretation panels within the National Park.

The proposal is therefore considered to be acceptable in terms of scale, siting and design.

Access:

The Authority's Rights of Way Officer was consulted to assess the proposal's impact on Public Rights of Way within the site, though these were not considered to be affected.

Part of the application site is designated as CROW Access Common Land and as such, Pembrokeshire County Council's Common Land Officer was consulted. Additionally, Pembrokeshire County Council's Access Officer was consulted to assess the panels' accessibility by disabled visitors. No response has been received from these consultees at the time of writing this report, so any responses received after this date will be reported verbally to the Committee.

The proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of access, subject to no adverse comments by outstanding consultees.

Biodiversity:

The Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) was consulted and no adverse comments were received. Pembrokeshire County Council's Ecologist was also consulted although no response has been received at the time of writing this report.

The proposal is considered to be acceptable in terms of biodiversity, subject to no adverse comments by outstanding consultees.

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Other Material Considerations:

The application site is within an area of known contaminated land and is also within a Historic Landscape so consultations were sent to the relevant authorities. No responses have been received at the time of writing this report so any responses received after this date will be reported verbally to the Committee.

Conclusion

The proposed interpretation panels at this particular site are considered to be acceptable and do not have an adverse impact on the special qualities of the National Park in terms of their scale, siting and design. The proposal is also considered to be acceptable with respect to all other planning matters and as such, it is recommended for delegated approval subject to conditions and no objections from the outstanding consultees or third party objections.

Recommendation

That the application is delegated for grant of conditional planning permission to the Chief Executive/Director of Park Direction and Planning/Head of Development Management on the receipt of no objections from the outstanding consultees or third party objections by the end of the statutory consultation period.

Conditions

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun not later than the expiration of FIVE YEARS beginning with the date of this permission.

Reason: Required to be imposed pursuant to Section 91 (1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out, and thereafter retained, strictly in accordance with all deposited plans received on 13th March 2013 and subject to any following conditions.

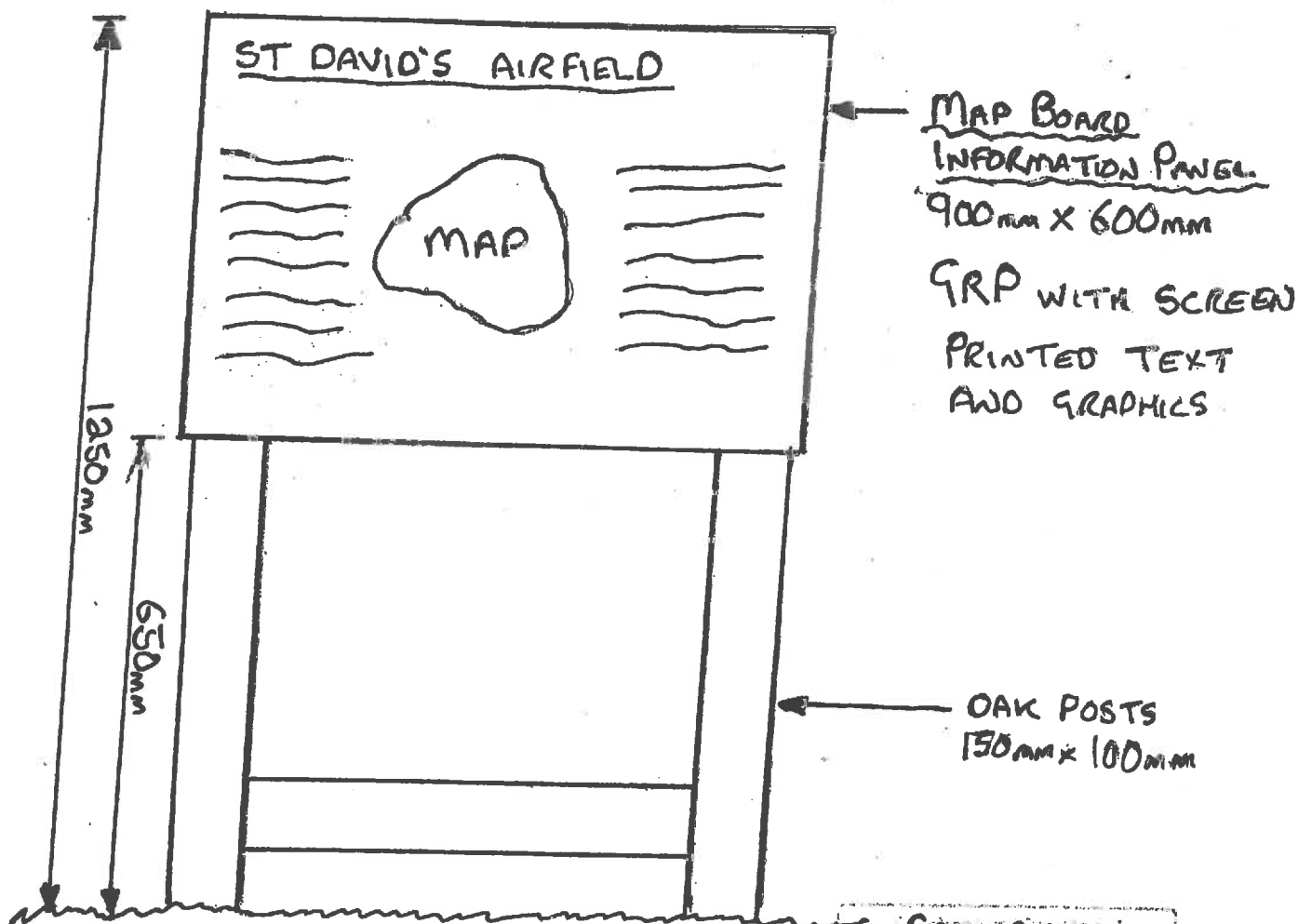
Reason: To ensure a proper standard of development and appearance in the interests of conserving the amenities and architectural character of the area. Policy: LDP 01 – National Park Purposes and Duty (Strategy Policy), LDP 08 – Special Qualities (Strategy Policy), LDP 15 – Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, LDP 29 – Sustainable Design (Strategy Policy), LDP 30 – Amenity.

PROPOSED INFORMATION PANEL.

ST. DAVID'S AIRFIELD

FRONT ELEVATION

— this panel is being replaced by the new (proposed) panel 13/3/2013

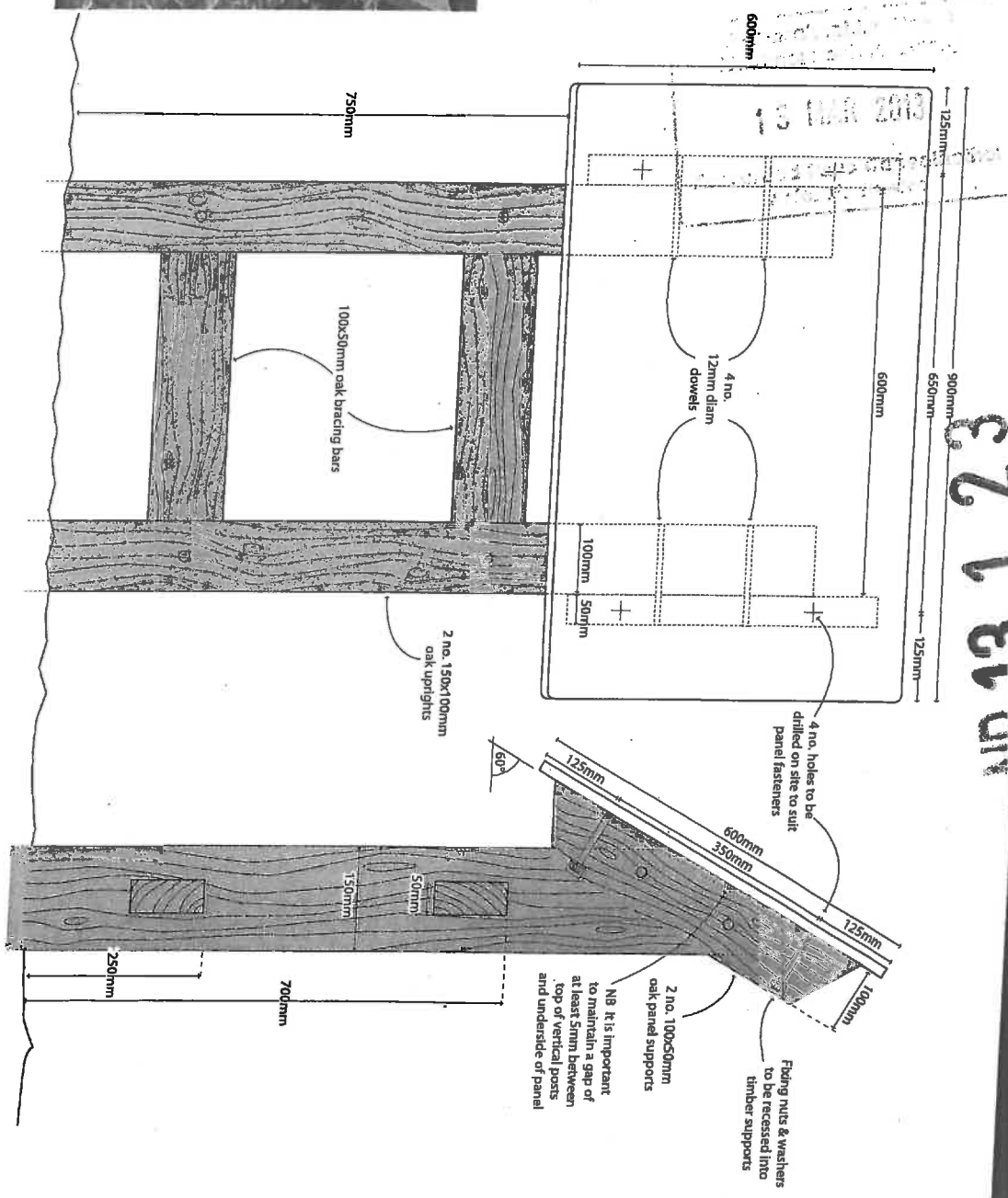


GROUND LEVEL.
 13 MAR 2013
 Richard J. Jones
 Richard J. Jones

NP 13 1 23

APPROVED PLAN
 (SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS WHERE APPLICABLE)
 AS PER
 PLANNING CONSEN
 NP/04/04

Lectern



37 L E L DW
13 MAR 2013

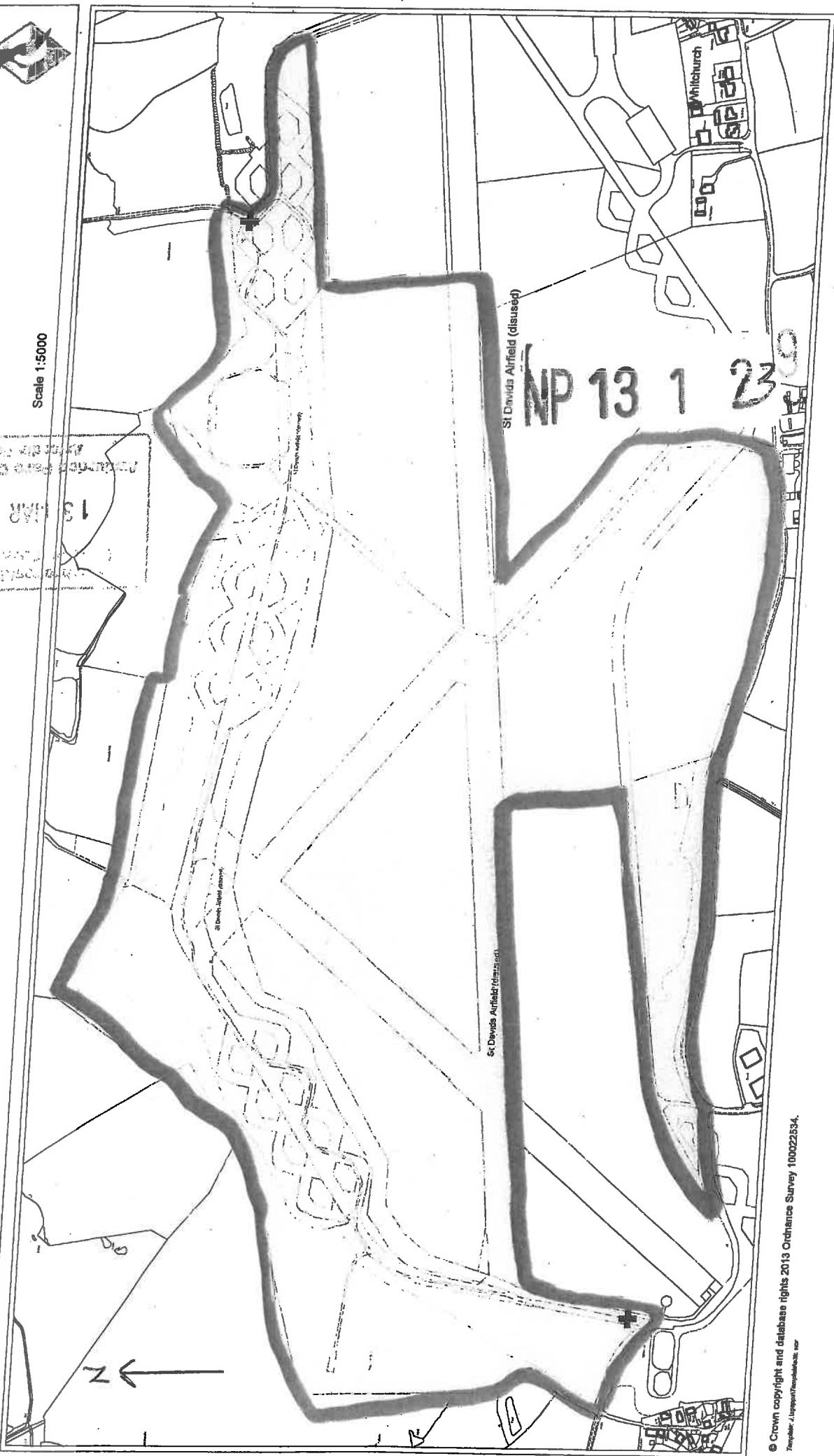
Interpretation Panels

St Davids Airfield

Compiled by TJ on 6 March 2013

Scale 1:5000

13 MAR 2013
 13 MAR 2013
 13 MAR 2013



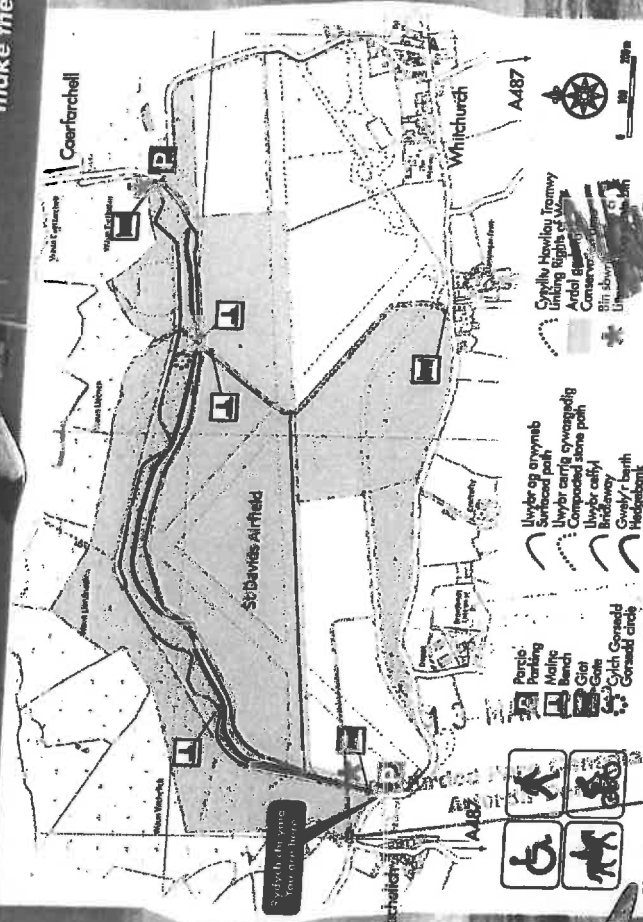
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Maes Awyr Tyddewi

A glywsoch chi gân yr ehedydd erioed? Lle'r arferai peiriannau Halifax rwo, erbyn hyn mae'r ehedydd yn nythu a phryfaid yn suo yn y dolydd.

St Davids Airfield

Have you heard a skylark sing? Where Halifax engines once roared, now skylarks make their nests and insects hum in the hay meadows.



- Person
- Parking
- Walking
- Beach
- Gate
- Site
- Open
- Grassland
- Grassland
- Circle

- Uwydr ag orymyb
- Surface path
- Uwydr cartio cywasgoddig
- Composet stone path
- Uwydr cefyl
- Bridleway
- Gwydyr lough
- Headgate

- Capellu Howellau Tynny
- Lighting lights of Wren
- Ardal gwyddonol
- Conservation
- Bin above
- Bin below

Mae hwn yn fân arbennig. Helpwch ni i ofatu amdano a'i mwyn i bawb gael ei ffrwythau.

Yn ystod yr Al Bydwyd roedd hwn yn un o safleoedd Comand Arfordir y Llu Awyr Brenhinol. Bellach Awrdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Arfordir Penfro sy'n rheoli'r safle. Mae method a gwartheg yn parhau rhydd a'r dolydd gan helpu i warchod bywyd gwylt. Peidiwch â diffeitho'r marfod drwy eu bwydo!

Ceir mynediad i bawb ar hyd y llwybrau troed a'r llwybrau cefyl. Mae'r ehedydd yn nythu ar y ddaear felly yn ystod y tymor bridio (Ebrill - Awst) rhaid cadw cŵn ar demyn yn y dolydd blaueug. Mae bawb ci yn berygl i feichyd; mae hefyd yn effeithio ar y pridd a'r blodau sy'n tyfu ynddo. Felly bogiwrch a biniwrch!

I gael rhagor o wybodaeth am reoli cadwraeth a hanes awyryddiaeth y safle hwn, sganiwch y codau QR i'w nod neu swich i www.ardardirpenfro.co.uk ac edrych ar dudalenau Maes Awyr Tyddewi



This is a special place. Please help us to look after it for everyone to enjoy.

During World War II this was a Royal Air Force Coastal Command base. Now the Penfro Heritage Coast National Park Authority manages the site. Ponies and cattle graze the wet heath and hay meadows to help conserve wildlife. Please do not spoil the ponies by feeding them!

Pathways and bridleways provide access. Skylarks nest on the ground, so in the breeding season (April - August) dogs must be kept on leads in flower rich meadows. Feeding by dogs is a health hazard; it also affects the soil and the flowers that grow in it. So please bag it and bin it!

For more information about conservation management and military history of this site, please scan the QR codes below or visit www.ardardirpenfro.co.uk and go to the St Davids Airfield web pages

