Application Ref: NP/14/0143

Application Type  Full
Grid Ref:  SM77930820
Applicant  National Trust
Agent  Mr Andrew Vaughan-Harries, Hayston Development & Planning
Proposal  Installation of Pay & Display Machine & Associated Signage
Site Location  National Trust Car Park, Marloes, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, SA62 3BH
Case Officer  Matt Dash

Summary

This application seeks approval for a pay and display machine and an associated tariff signage board to be located in the Countryside, within the National Trust Car Park, to the west of the village of Marloes. The proposal does not have an adverse impact upon the special qualities of the National Park, or neighbouring amenity. The application therefore complies with the relevant policies of the LDP and as such is recommended for approval.

This application is on the agenda as the recommendation is contrary to the view of Marloes and St. Brides Community Council.

Consultee Response

Marloes & St Brides Community Council: Objecting - Members noted that the number of car parking places in the car park was significantly more than stated within the Design and Access Statement. It was recommended that the application be refused because it was considered important for an attendant to be on site during the normal day period to control parking in order to allow clear passage through the car park which the Byway open to all traffic called Castle Rag passes through.

PCNPA Rights of Way: No objection - Byway 62/23 runs along the eastern side of the car park. It was described as running along a 10 foot wide fenced lane when it was registered as a public right of way in 1956. This public right of way is maintained by Pembrokeshire County Council. PCC has a duty to signpost the byway where it leaves the terminus of the public road and a request will be made to signpost it accordingly as this will help to define the route. No complaints have been received with regard to parked vehicles blocking the right of way.

Concerns relating to the byway would not be relevant to the planning application as these are matters for the National Trust and Pembrokeshire County Council to address in their management of the car park and byway respectively.
Public Response

The application was advertised by site notice displayed at the site on 1st April 2014. No letters have been received from third parties.

Policies considered

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

LDP Policy 01 - National Park Purposes and Duty
LDP Policy 07 - Countryside
LDP Policy 08 - Special Qualities
LDP Policy 15 - Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
LDP Policy 29 - Sustainable Design
LDP Policy 30 - Amenity
PPW6 Chapter 04 - Planning for Sustainability
SPG03 - Loss of Hotels and Guesthouses
SPG08 - Affordable Housing
TAN 12 - Design

Officer's Appraisal

Background and Description

The application site consists of an elongated car park, orientated from north west to south east, to the north of Marloes Beach, and west of Marloes village within west Pembrokeshire. The car park is on a level site, with a metallled and compacted gravel surface and accessed via two narrow unclassified lanes at each end, with a Byway called Castle Rag bisecting the car park. It is bounded by hedges and surrounded by open farmland. There is a large timber sign located on the grass verge at the southern entrance to the car park, with a further National Trust Information sign recently approved also on the grass verge.

Constraints

- Special Area of Conservation – within 500m
- NPA Property – within 25m
- Biodiversity Issue
- Rights of Way Inland – within 50m
- Recreation Character Areas

Relevant Planning History

NP/14/0120 – National Trust Information Signs – Part Approved Part Refused
Current Proposal

This application seeks approval for a pay and display machine, together with associated tariff signage to be located on what is currently a grass verge on the western side of the car park, adjacent to the boundary hedge approximately half way up the car park in the most accessible location. The compacted gravel surface of the car park will be extended into the grass verge to allow access to the proposed ticket machine. The ticket machine is a free standing metal cabinet measuring approximately 165cm in height, by 30cm in width, by 30cm in depth. The associated signage is to be located immediately adjacent to the ticket machine, and will measure 137cm in width, by 92cm in height, and will be mounted on two metal posts, resulting in the highest part of the signage being 1.9m from the surface of the ground.

Key Issues

- Siting and Design
- Amenity and Privacy
- Other Issues

Siting and Design

The proposal will not be highly visible from outside the car park due to its positioning well within the car park, away from the entrance. The relatively flat topography of the site and the screening provided by the hedges surrounding the car park combine to reduce the visual appearance of the ticket machine within the landscape. There will not be an increase in visual clutter due to the positioning of the machine and sign on their own away from any other signage within the car park, which is mainly at the entrance.

The design of the ticket machine and signage board whilst not being constructed of natural appearing materials, they do consist of relatively muted colours and are of a consistent design with other approved pay and display machines in other car parks within the National Park. The proposal does not adversely affect the special qualities of the National Park and therefore complies with Policy 7 and 8 of the LDP.

Amenity and Privacy

The proposal will have no detrimental impact upon amenity or privacy, due to the ticket machine and signage not being located in proximity to any neighbouring properties. The proposals therefore comply with Policy 30 of the LDP.

Other Issues

The PCNPA Access & Rights of Way Manager has provided comment, stating that the Byway (No 62/23) is a public right of way which runs along the eastern side of the car park. It is maintained by Pembrokeshire County

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Council, and they have a duty to signpost the byway where it leaves the terminus of the public road. The comments raised by Marloes and St Brides Community Council are noted but are not considered to be material planning reasons in determining this application. They are matters for the National Trust and Pembrokeshire County Council to address in their management of the car park and byway respectively. It was also noted that there are no records of complaints being received with regards to parked vehicles blocking the right of way.

Conclusion

The proposed pay and display machine together with associated tariff signage board will not have an adverse impact upon the special qualities of the National Park or neighbouring Amenity. The proposal therefore complies with the relevant policies of the LDP and is recommended for approval subject to conditions.

Recommendation:

The application be approved subject to conditions relating to the five year expiration date and to be carried out in accordance with the approved plans.