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**Application Ref: NP/13/0542**

<b>Application Type</b>	Full
<b>Grid Ref:</b>	SN11773887
<b>Applicant</b>	PCNPA
<b>Agent</b>	Mr P Songhurst, Imagine Makers Design & Consulting
<b>Proposal</b>	To install 4 x wayfinding signs and 1 x arrival sign at Castell Henllys Iron Age Village
<b>Site Location</b>	Castell Henllys Iron Age Fort, Felindre Farchog, Crymych, Pembrokeshire, SA41 3UT
<b>Case Officer</b>	Matt Dash

**Summary**

This is an application made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of 4 x timber wayfinding signs and 1 x timber arrival sign along the main access road into Castell Henllys Iron Age Fort within Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. The proposal is not considered to cause any significant detrimental impact upon the amenity of neighbouring properties or on the Special Qualities of the National Park as it will not be visually intrusive or insensitively and unsympathetically sited within the landscape. The application is therefore considered to comply with the relevant policies of the LDP and as such is recommended for approval.

The application has been referred to the Development Management Committee due to the applicant being the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.

**Consultee Response**

**PCNPA Access Officer:** No objection

**PCC - Transportation & Environment:** No objection

**Eglwysrwr Community Council** – No response received at time of writing this report.

**Public Response**

The application was advertised by site notice displayed at the site on 10th December 2013. No letters have been received from third parties.

**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

LDP Policy 07 - Countryside

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LDP Policy 08 - Special Qualities  
LDP Policy 15 - Conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park  
LDP Policy 29 - Sustainable Design  
LDP Policy 30 - Amenity  
PPW5 Chapter 04 - Planning for Sustainability  
PPW5 Chapter 06 - Conserving the Historic Environment  
SPG03 - Loss of Hotels and Guesthouses  
SPG08 - Affordable Housing  
TAN 12 - Design

### **Officer's Appraisal**

#### **Background and Description**

Castell Henllys is one of many prehistoric promontory forts in the National Park, with replica Iron Age Roundhouses built right on top of the excavated remains of an existing hill fort. It is situated north of the A487 approximately 6.4km east of Newport.

#### **Constraints**

- NPA Property – within 25m
- Biodiversity Issue
- Rights of Way Inland – within 50m
- Potential for surface water flooding
- Recreation Character Areas

#### **Relevant Planning History**

- NP/178/92 – Education/Interpretation Centre – Withdrawn 11th June 1992
- NP/363/92 – Educational Centre – Approved 7th October 1992
- NP/113/93 – Car Park – Approved 28th April 1993
- NP/262/96 – Portaloo – Approved 26th September 1996
- NP/008/97 – Erection of Toilet block for Public use – Approved 8th January 1997
- NP/041/98 – Iron Age Roundhouse – Approved 1st April 1998
- NP/99/403 – Portaloo toilet building – Approved 22nd October 1999
- NP/00/299 – Temporary residential occupation of roundhouse for historical documentary – Approved 15th September 2000
- NP/01/031 – Additional car parking – Cancelled 16th January 2001
- NP/01/141 – Provision of cattle access – Approved 23rd April 2001
- NP/01/143 – Erection of Oak post at entrance to car park – Approved 23rd April 2001
- NP/03/144 – Portaloo – Approved 23rd April 2003

- NP/04/258 – Erection of 2.5kw wind turbine & greenhouse – Approved 9th August 2004
- NP/04/561 – Erection of 2.5kw wind turbine – Approved 17th January 2005
- NP/05/295 – Temporary siting of portaloos for archaeology students – Cancelled 14th June 2005
- NP/06/373 – Temporary Portaloos for 5 years – Approved 13th December 2006
- NP/06/072 – Temporary change of use to living history exhibition with re-enactor living on site – Approved 24th March 2006

### **Current Proposal**

This is an application made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of 4 x timber wayfinding signs and 1 x timber arrival sign along the main access road into Castell Henllys Iron Age Fort within Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

The Origins project is part of the 'Makers of Wales' prehistoric strand of the Cadw pan-Wales interpretation plan. The funding comes from the Welsh Government's Heritage Tourism Project, which is backed with European funding. The project aims to maximise the economic value of heritage through increasing the volume, length and value of visits to Wales, linking themes of Welsh heritage at national, regional and local levels. The project will also make sure that Wales's outstanding heritage is more accessible and enjoyable to visit – for those who live in Wales and for visitors.

The funding will support the following PCNPA project:

- To enhance the site at Castell Henllys including developing it as a regional hub for the origins and prehistory of Wales.
- The upgrading of the Castell Henllys site, together with directional signs and interpretation panels all form part of this project.

In addition, the project is proposing the installation of interpretation panels/signs at various prehistory satellite sites throughout the North of the County within the National Park.

The proposed wayfinding signs are all of the same design, measuring 1400mm x 500mm x 100mm, constructed of treated green logged timber with a routed face logo, that measures 450mm across at its maximum, and directional arrow both of which will be infill painted. The background will remain the natural timber colour. All 5 of the signs will be ground mounted.

Wayfinder 1 is to be located adjacent to the grade II Listed St. Dogfael's Church, on a bank to the west of the entrance to the pedestrian footpath that leads through the church yard.

The location for wayfinder 2 is proposed to be on the grass verge adjacent to the timber fence and the vehicular gate that leads onto an open field as the road bends to the left.

The arrival sign of the same design as the wayfinder signs is to be located at the main entrance gate on the grass verge adjacent to the timber pedestrian gate.

Wayfinder 3 is to be located to the left of the road, on the bend, where the Totem pole is currently situated on the grass verge.

The final wayfinder is located on the grass bank at the entrance to the main car park.

### **Key Issues**

The main issues to be considered in this case are:-

- Special Qualities of the National Park
- Amenity
- Setting of the adjacent Listed Building

#### *Special Qualities of the National 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. Policy 15 of the LDP seeks the conservation of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park with criteria 'a' and 'b' resisting development that would cause significant visual intrusion and/or that would be insensitively and unsympathetically sited within the landscape. Policy 30 of the LDP seeks to avoid development that is of an incompatible scale with its surroundings (criterion 'b') or is visually intrusive (criterion 'd').

The proposed wayfinder signs are not significantly large in scale and will be dwarfed by many of the adjacent trees, some of which measure 10m plus. Although there are to be some carvings with infill paint on the face of the signs, the majority of the signs will remain the natural timber allowing them to blend in with the surrounding trees, shrubs, timber fences and gates that border the road. The siting of the signs along the length of the access road which leads down into the wooded valley results in their being visible only by visitors traversing the access road.

The proposal therefore will not have a detrimental impact upon the Special Qualities of the National Park.

#### *Amenity*

Policy 30 of the LDP refers to 'amenity' in general with criteria 'a' and 'b' seeking to avoid incompatible development and significant adverse impact upon the amenity enjoyed by neighbouring properties.

There are no neighbouring residential properties, there is therefore no adverse impact upon amenity.

#### *Setting of the Adjacent Listed Building*

The application site is located within proximity of the grade II listed St Dogfael's church. Planning Policy Wales (edition 5) November 2012 - Chapter 6 – Conserving Historic Environment states *'where a development proposal affects 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, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses'*

It is considered that the proposals are appropriately sited, and of an acceptable scale, mass and design which is sympathetic to the historical context of its settings. As such the proposal will not detract from the integrity of the building's design, historical character or structure nor will it spoil or compromise its setting. Accordingly, the proposal is compliant with National guidance in respect of its setting adjacent to a listed building and can be supported.

#### **Conclusion**

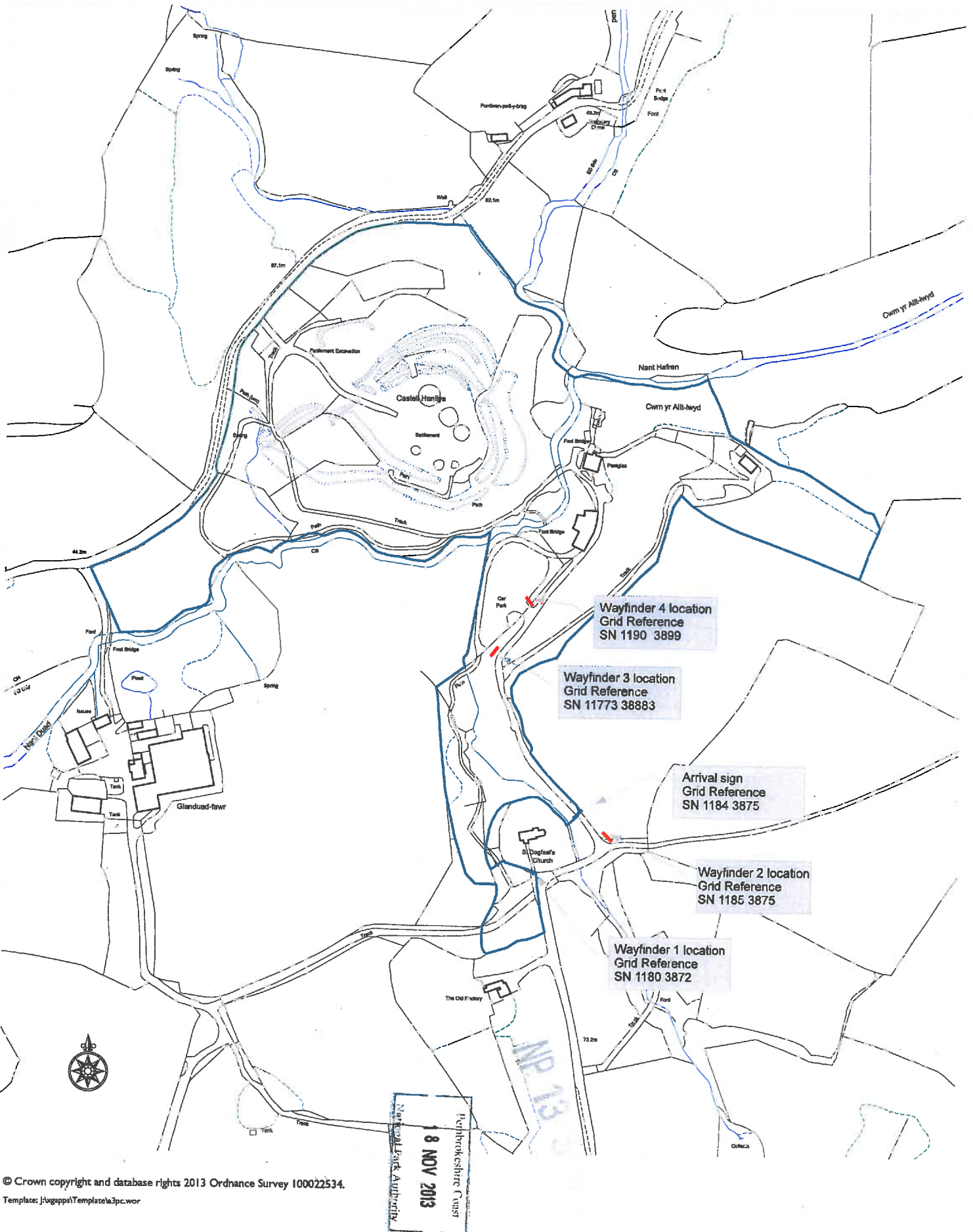
The proposed Wayfinding Signs are considered to be acceptable in principle and do not have an adverse impact upon the special qualities of the National Park, neighbouring amenity or the setting of the adjacent Listed Building. It therefore complies with the relevant policies of the LDP and as such is recommended for approval.

#### **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.

# Castell Henllys - Origins

Scale 1:2500

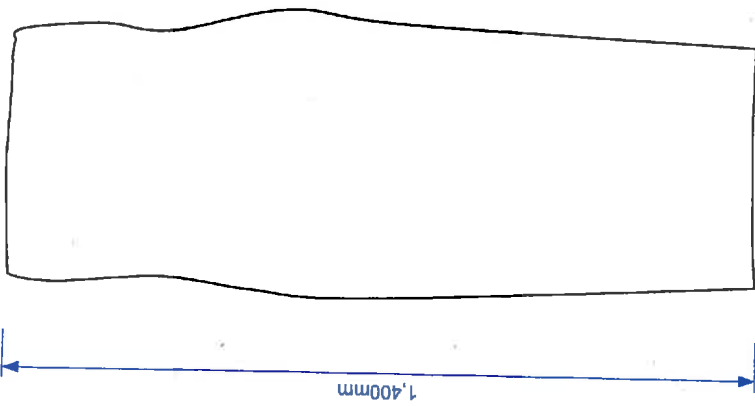


National Park Authority  
 Pembrokeshire Coast  
 8 NOV 2013

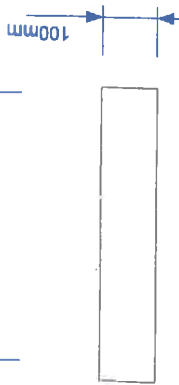
Castell Henllys Wayfinding Signs

Logos and iconography  
Max size 450mm

Treated green logged  
timber totem



Below-ground detail  
specified by fabricator



Detail routed with infill  
painted detail

Background colour:  
natural timber

NP 13 5 47

Pembrokeshire Coast  
13 NOV 2013  
National Park Authority

Scale: 1:10 @ A3

Item 6t)

Drawing issue: For planning	
Drawn by: PDS Checked by: PDS	
Client: PCNPA	Date: 18 <sup>th</sup> September 2013