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**Application Ref: NP/13/0547**

<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 3 x seats with lettering at Castell Henllys Iron Age Village (Full)
<b>Site Location</b>	Castell Henllys Iron Age Fort, Felindre Farchog, Crymych, Pembrokeshire, SA41 3UT
<b>Case Officer</b>	Matt Dash

**Summary**

This application seeks approval for the installation of 3 x timber seats with forged stainless steel back rests located along the non-metalled track leading up to the Iron Age Roundhouses within the Castell Henllys Iron Age Fort. 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**

**Nevern Community Council:** Approve

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

**PCNPA Access Officer:** No objection

**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

LDP Policy 08 - Special Qualities

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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**

The application site is located along the non-metalled track that leads uphill towards the Iron Age Roundhouses within the Castell Henllys Iron Age Fort. The track winds clockwise uphill and is bordered by trees and shrubbery. The 3 seats are to be located separately on the western slope of the hill. Seat 1 is to be located approximately 200m from the site shop as the track turns northwards. Seat 2 is to be located 60m further along the track, and seat 3 another 40m beyond that. All 3 seats are proposed to be positioned to the left of the track which accesses the Roundhouses.

#### **Constraints**

- NPA Property – within 25m
- Biodiversity Issue
- Ancient Monument – within 50m
- 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 installation of 3 x seats with carved lettering at Castell Henllys Iron Age Village within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. The 3 x seats are to replace timber seating, some of which has been removed and others which are existing.

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 seats are all the same design, measuring 1800mm long, 400mm in height to the seat, a further 400mm to the top of the stainless steel backrest and 800mm deep. They are to be constructed from halved logs with forged stainless steel hooped back rests inserted into the timber. The seat is to have routed lettering measuring a maximum of 100mm that reads "Listen Gwrandu".

### **Key Issues**

The main issues to be considered in this case are:

- Special Qualities of the National Park
- Amenity

#### *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 seating is not a significant increase in scale from the existing and notwithstanding the stainless steel backrests will be largely constructed of timber as the existing seating is. The seating will contain routed text which will only be visible from above and there will be no bright colouring applied to any part of the timber. The siting will result in the proposed seats not being visible from the top of the hill where the Iron Age Roundhouses are situated, and largely screened from the south and west due to the considerable number of trees and shrubbery bordering the track. The topography of the site will result in the seats not being visible from the north or east as they will be screened by the Castell Henllys Hill itself. They will therefore only be visible by visitors traversing the track and 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 immediate neighbours to the site, with the closest being Glanduad-Fawr at 170m from the closest seat at location 1. The next closest neighbour bordering the site is Pontbren-pwll-y-brag 270m to the north east of seat location 3. Due to the significant distances between the neighbouring properties and the proposed seating locations there will not be an adverse impact upon the amenity of any neighbouring property and therefore complies with policy 30 of the LDP.

#### **Conclusion**

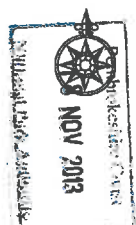
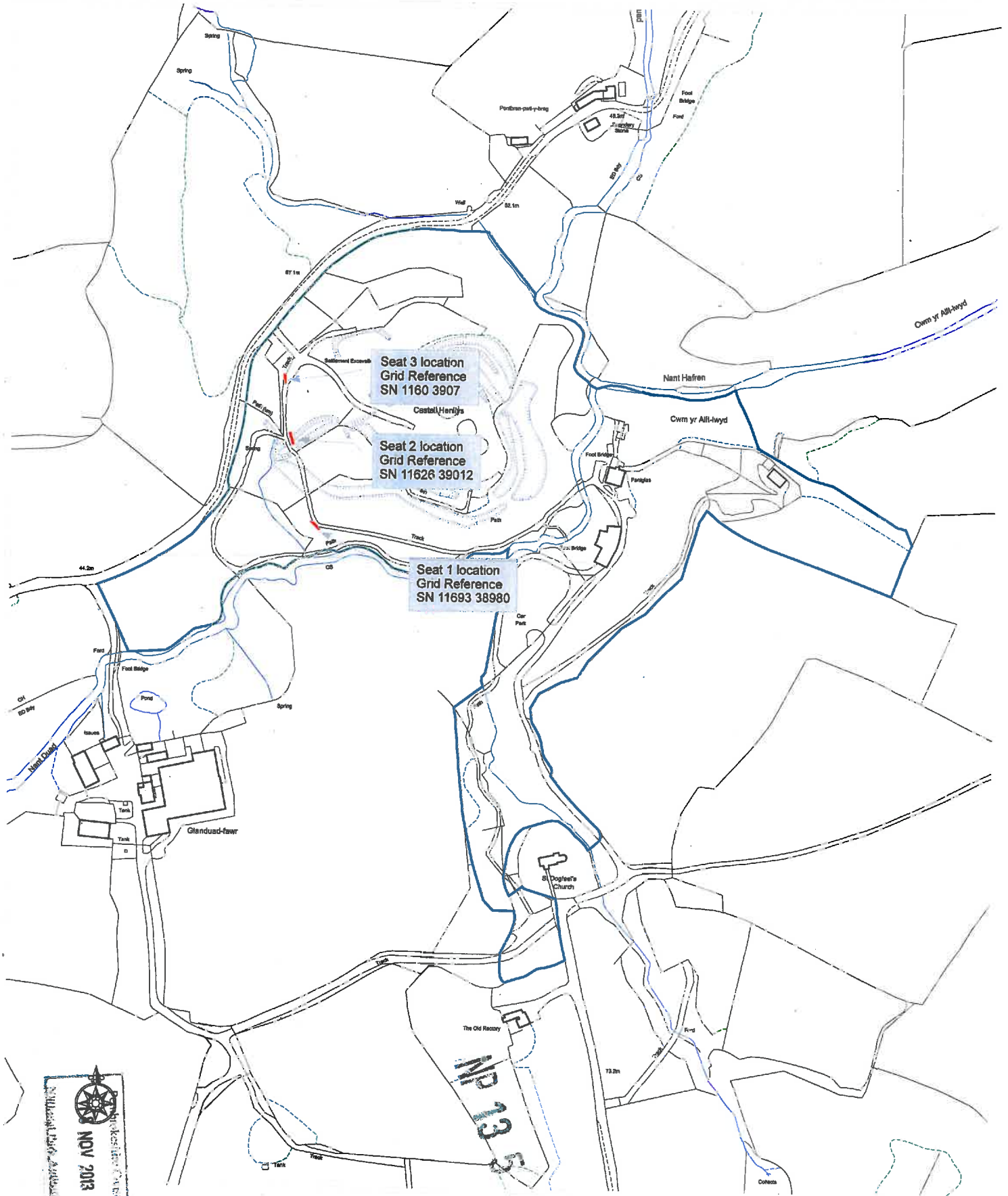
The proposed 3 x seating is considered to be acceptable in principle and does not have an adverse impact upon the special qualities of the National Park or neighbouring amenity. It therefore complies with the relevant policies of the LDP and as such is recommended for approval.

#### **Recommendation:**

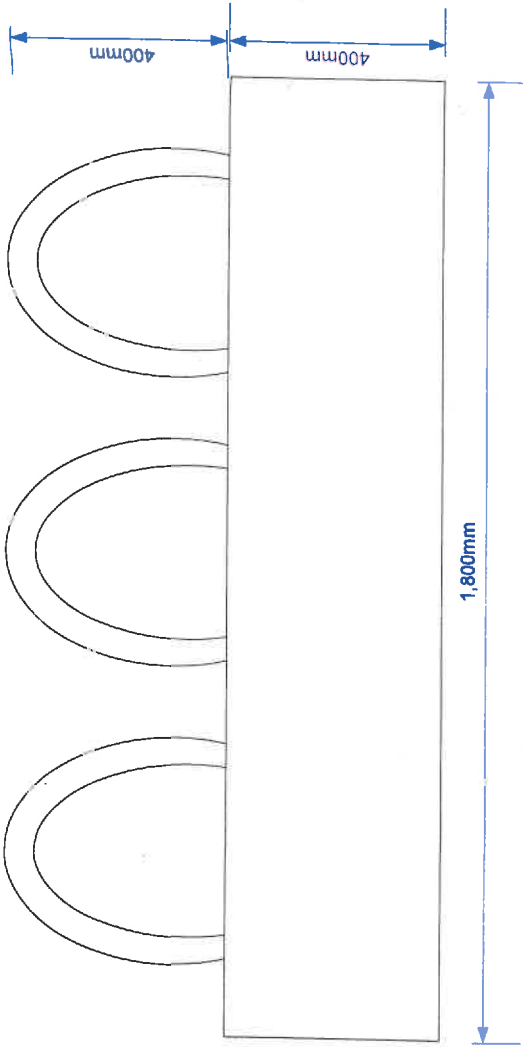
The application be approved subject to conditions relating to the five year expiration date and to be carried out in accordance with the approved plans.

# Castell Henllys - Origins

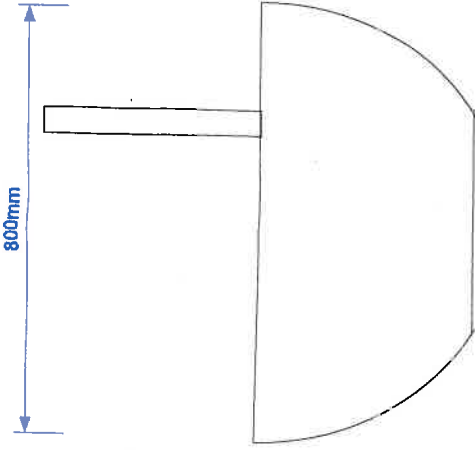
Scale 1:2500



Castell Henllys on-site seating

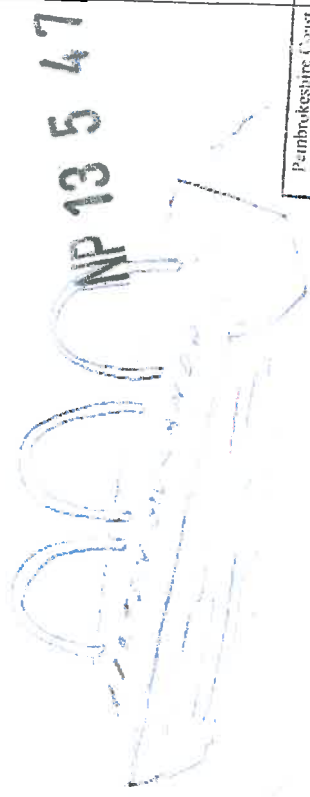


Scale: 1:10 @ A3



Routed lettering  
Max size: 100mm

Natural timber seat with  
forged stainless  
Steel back rests



NP 13 5 47

Pembrokeshire Coast  
18 NOV 2013  
Marriott Park, Pembrokeshire

Item 6w)

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

