

**Subject: Great News! Planning Application is refused by 10 votes to 2.** 17<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Dear Supporter,

## **A Victory!**

We are delighted to be able to tell you that the retrospective application for Bettws Newydd (08/361) has been **completely refused** at today's meeting of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA) Development Management Committee (DMC).

The committee members decided to ignore their Officers' recommendation and have turned it down, by a huge majority, on the grounds that it did not comply with Development Policies.

We attach below the press release that has been sent to the BBC and other media, rather than repeat all the details. The BBC have already posted an item on their web site at [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south\\_west/8105937.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south_west/8105937.stm) In addition there was mention this evening of the decision on both Newyddion (S4C) and the BBC News.

We want to thank all the people who have done so much to help secure this major victory. Many of you have written, and written again, to committee members, to planners, to the local MP and AM and to the Welsh Assembly Government. Our thanks indeed for all that effort, ultimately successful.

We should also thank the committee members who spoke out today against this development; they are named in the press brief. They stood up to great pressure from the Officers, and have demonstrated that our democratic processes still have some life left in them. Our thanks go to these good people for being responsive to their public.

## **What next?**

It should be stressed that while this is a battle won, the war is not yet over. The developer is likely to appeal and we must be ready to oppose this. When this is refused, we must press for an enforcement notice to be issued by the PCNPA to bring this development back into line with the unitary development plan. We will continue to keep you posted.

So for now, that's the excellent news. Once again, many thanks to you all for supporting us in this campaign, and please read the press release below for more detail.

***From the Bettws Newydd Opposition Group.***

More information about us is at the web site at <http://parrog.org.uk>

PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS  
RELEASE ----- PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS RELEASE -----  
PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS RELEASE ----- PRESS  
RELEASE -----

Wednesday 17th. June 14:00

## B.N.O.G.

### 'Bettws Newydd Opposition Group'

is delighted by the righteous (all be it very belated) decision this morning of the Development Management Committee of the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority, to **completely refuse retrospective planning permission** for the development of the replacement dwelling, Bettws Newydd, Newport, Pembrokeshire, better known locally as the '**Eyesore on the Parrog**'

This was a resounding victory with a vote of 12 to 2. All Committee Members who spoke were in opposition to the application. Even at this eleventh hour, they had found the many, many letters of objection from ordinary members of the public, as well as close supporters of BNOG, both informative, and indeed revelatory. Cllr John Allen-Mirehouse for example commented that they all knew this had been a planning mistake thus far, and that the time had come to put an end to it.

Special gratitude from the Opposition goes to our own local County Councillor, Mr Robin EVANS, who once again spoke out passionately, but also most informatively, on the vital and material points regarding the history of this development, which had somehow managed to evade inclusion in the official reports of the Authority's own Officers. Cllr. Evans's stated immediately that he would refuse to give approval and observed that, if the Officer's were right on the planning merits of the Developers' case, then he for one was content to have that view point vindicated by a planning inspector following an appeal against refusal. Well done Robin!

Three Welsh Assembly Government appointees to the Committee, Mdms. Lanc & Gwyther and Mr Ellis, had in April, been prepared to give the developer one final chance to ameliorate the manifest visual intrusiveness of his vast glass wall fronted building, by means of an acceptable planting and landscaping scheme and alteration to the glazing. However they have now found that, in direct contradiction to the Authority's own Development Management Officer's appraisal, the Developer has failed utterly to take this opportunity and that this development, even after the proposed planting, would continue be in flagrant breach of the Authority's own planning policies as set out in the Joint Unitary Development Plan. Ms Gwyther, for example, stated that she found the Officer's appraisal that the house was "not more visually intrusive" than the wooden chalet it has replaced to be "ridiculous".

There is now eager anticipation to see if this Developer will exercise his right of appeal to the Welsh Planning Inspectorate. BNOG looks forward to the opportunity that that appeal would afford to demonstrate publicly the sad tale of planning errors which this development has so far generated. In the event, however, that he decides not to appeal, suggestions will be forwarded to the Authority for a reasonably worded **planning enforcement notice**, necessary to at last bring this development back into line with the Unitary Development Plan, which the rest us are rightly expected to respect.

Robbie MANSON  
For and on behalf of BNOG  
01239 821066 01239 615921 0781 268 1083  
[r\\_manson@sky.com](mailto:r_manson@sky.com)

---

**Notes:** You are receiving this note as a result of providing your email when signing the petition regarding Bettws Newydd, or contacting us as a supporter. If you don't want to receive these periodic updates, please send an email to [info@parrog.org.uk](mailto:info@parrog.org.uk). Anyone wanting to join the distribution list can also write to this address, or preferably submit the form at <http://parrog.org.uk/joinus.htm> We apologise for not replying individually to every email received.