

COPY OF E-MAIL SENT TO MR MARK GROVES, PROJECT MANAGER, NATURAL RESOURCES WALES

Tuesday, 25th June 2019

Dear Mr Groves,

RIVER CADOXTON PROPOSES SCHEME ON THE WOODLAND TRUST SITE NEAR DINAS POWYS

I write to thank you for attending the recent meeting of the Michaelston-le-Pit and Leckwith Community Council and for responding fully to the points raised by members of our council and from members of the public who were present.

We understand, from your comments, officers of the NRW are yet to complete the process of evaluating all the aspects that will inform the proposal's business case, which will be presented to the relevant fora within the NRW. Should that process be completed successfully, a proposal would be presented to the Welsh Government towards the end of 2019, or the earlier part of 2020. We also understand the NRW has found all the options considered to be "challenging" and that the option of "doing nothing" is still possible.

Our community council's view is that the option of building a dam, across the River Cadoxton on the Woodland Trust site, with its linked infrastructure, would be so detrimental to the local environment that it would far outweigh the benefits of such an expensive construction. That said, we think there is much to gain from the NRW working in partnership with the Woodland Trust and the local community to mitigate (or even remove) the potential for flooding. Such an approach could be held as an example of NRW good practice, consistent with the Welsh Government's policies on sustainability and protecting the environment for future generations.

There is a strong and growing feeling amongst the public in Dinas Powys and the surrounding area that the destruction of ancient woodland, the associated cost to the area's biodiversity and the loss of the site's amenity value, far outweigh the risk of flooding to a limited number of properties in Dinas Powys, particularly if the various nature friendly alternatives, as previously suggested, are embraced. At the very least the NRW could work with the Woodland Trust and the local community to progress some of the suggestions offered and to monitor their effectiveness?

In our council's view, such an approach would be welcomed by all parties with an interest in this issue. Our community council would certainly be pleased to work in partnership with the NRW and other relevant organisations to achieve a

positive outcome that would protect homes from potential flooding and protect such an unique environment for future generations, in what is the most visited Woodland Trust site in Wales.

Please note that I will be copying this email to my colleagues on our community council and to those who have been corresponding with us on this issue in order that they are aware of our position.

Yours sincerely

Dewi Jones

Chair, Michaelston-Le-Pit and Leckwith Community Council