

## **Cefn Meiriadog and Glascoed Road Residents and Users Group**

Registration identification number 10031184

### **NWWFC EN020014**

*Re: Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) requested by the Examining Authority (ExA) from SP Manweb (SPM) and the Cefn Meiriadog and Glascoed Road Residents and Users Group ('the Group') in respect of the North Wales Pilgrim's Way (and other matters if appropriate).*

### **Summary**

The Group reports that it has not proved possible to arrive at a SoCG as requested.

### **Chronology**

- Contact between SPM and the Group was established with an email from SPM's Claire Duffy to the Group's Chair, Martin Barlow (MB), on 24.07.15, and MB's acknowledgement of 30.07.15.
- On 13.08.15 SPM's Charlotte Clinton emailed MB with a draft of the SoCG for consideration.
- On 17.08.15 MB confirmed receipt of the email and draft SoCG, and on 26.08.15 emailed Charlotte Clinton again with a revised draft for consideration.
- On 26.08.15, MB received an Automatic reply from Charlotte Clinton stating: "I will be out of the office until Tuesday 1st September 2015 and i (sic) will deal with your request on my return".

### **Content**

Apart from minor matters such as the Group requesting that it be referred to as 'the Cefn Group' rather than 'cefnogroup', the content of the draft SoCG was discussed as below.

- Under 'Content of the Environmental Statement, Landscape and Visual, 4.1.1 Matters agreed', the draft SoCG sent by SPM to the Group on 13.08.15 stated:
  - SP Manweb and the (Cefn Group) AGREE the following in respect of the Pilgrim's Way:  
"The North Wales Pilgrim's Way long distance footpath is regionally valued and promoted".
- The revised draft sent by the Group to SPM suggested this be changed to read:
  - "The Proposed Development would oversail the North Wales Pilgrim's Way long distance footpath.
  - Wood pole structures [will be] located close to the North Wales Pilgrim's Way.
  - The Proposed Development is likely to be visible in foreground views from the North Wales Pilgrim's Way
  - Receptors [including] users of the North Wales Pilgrim's Way are likely to have a high overall sensitivity".
- In his covering email, MB added the following justification for his suggested revisions: "(M)y suggested amendments to the content of the Landscape and

Visual section are all taken verbatim from your ES 6.7, albeit contracted in some cases in the interests of conciseness (7.7.37, 7.7.79, 7.7.118, 7.10.11)”.

- Under ‘Socio Economics and Tourism, 4.1.3 Matters agreed’ the draft SoCG sent by SPM to the Group on 13.08.15 stated:
  - SP Manweb and the (Cefn Group) AGREE the following in respect of the Pilgrim’s Way:  
“The North Wales Pilgrim’s Way long distance footpath is regionally valued and promoted”.
  
- The revised draft sent by the Group to SPM suggested that this be changed to read:
  - “The North Wales Pilgrim’s Way long distance footpath was established in 2011 and officially launched in 2014.
  - It is nationally promoted and is supported by all the local authorities in North Wales, by Cadw and by Tourism Partnership North Wales (TPNW).
  - TPNW identify the the Pilgrim’s Way as “an important element of our strategy to see North Wales as one of the top five destinations in the UK”.
  
- In his covering email, MB added the following justification for his suggested revisions: “Regarding my proposed amendments under Socioeconomic and Tourism, I would contend that the Pilgrim’s Way is promoted nationally. I base this (1) on the evidence that an internet search under ‘North Wales Pilgrim’s Way’ produces search results which include numerous national organisations including Ramblers, Ramblers Worldwide Holidays, the Long Distance Walkers’ Association, ViewRanger, and BBC Radio 4, (2) on the TPNW statement quoted since logic dictates that the strategy outlined could only be achieved through promotion nationally”.

There were no further matters of substance in the drafts, either agreed or not agreed.

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Martin Barlow  
Chair  
On behalf of 182 members of the  
Cefn Meiriadog and Glascoed Road Residents and Users Group  
1.9.15