

Group Work – Planning Committee – KS2 and KS3

We're going to change your classroom into a planning meeting. To do this, some of you will have to be developers and some of you will be committee members.

You will need to choose five members of your class to present 'planning applications' to the planning committee. They will be the 'DEVELOPERS'. Each developer will need to present one planning application.

Everyone else in the class will be COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Some of you will represent yourselves. Others will need to wear a different hat pretend to be someone else. You will have to pretend to be a villager, farmer, fisherman etc (you don't have to wear a hat, but it would be good fun to make one)

You're an important person because the area's future depends on your decision.

If the application is allowed, it could change the landscape and the communities. The changes could be positive (good) or negative (bad).

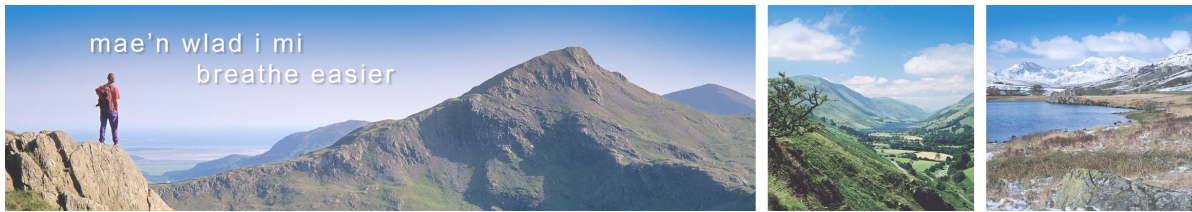
DEVELOPERS – you need to

- ✓ Present your application for change
- ✓ Explain why you need the change
- ✓ Listen to the committee's discussions
- ✓ Answer questions
- ✓ Conform to the decision of the panel.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS – Five different members will be selected for every planning application. You can choose these by placing names in a hat. The members need to

- ✓ Sit on the planning committee. You will decide if the application goes ahead or not.
- ✓ Consider the positive and negative impacts of the change.
- ✓ Listen to what the other members have to say.
- ✓ Vote for or against the development.

These are the committee members	
Villager with small children	County Councillor
Old farmer	Shop Owner
Fisherman	Forestry worker
Young Person	Unemployed person
Keen birdwatcher	Headmaster



Planning Applications

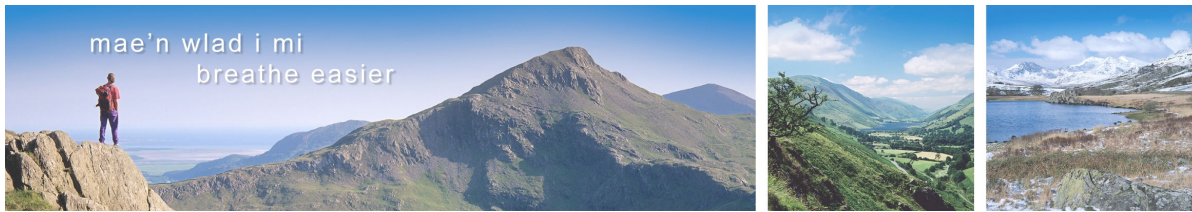
1. To build 10 self contained holiday units.

You are a farmer and want to use part of your land as self contained holiday units. The site will contain 10 units, a new entrance and landscaping work. The units will be similar to Alpine chalets made of wood. The site is half a mile from the nearest village.

Background; the site is on farmland half a mile from the nearest village. 200 people live in the village. Of these

45	are retired
102	work
37	are in education
16	are unemployed

Most of the workers work in education and health, ten miles away from the village in the nearest town. Of the houses in the village, 20% are second homes. There is no shop, church or school in the village but there is a hotel and a caravan site.



Planning Applications

2. To change an outbuilding into a house.

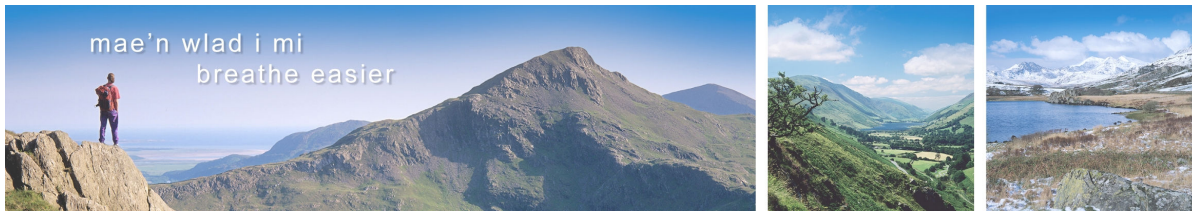
You are a farmer and want to change the use of an old building (a stone shed) into a house. There would be no change in the size of the building but how it looks would change with larger windows being added. All services (water, gas and electricity) would need to be brought to the building as well.

BACKGROUND; the site is on farmland two miles from the nearest village. The change is needed to provide a house for the farmers' daughter. She works in a local restaurant. 500 people live in the village. Of these

95	are retired
280	work
100	are in education
25	are unemployed

Most of the workers work in education, health, banking, insurance or construction. The nearest town is four miles away. Of the houses in the village, 10% are second homes.

The village has a shop, a post office, a school, chapel, three homes offer Bed and Breakfast and there is one restaurant.



Planning Applications

3. To build three turbine/wind mills 49 m tall with a rotor blade diameter of 52m on moorland.

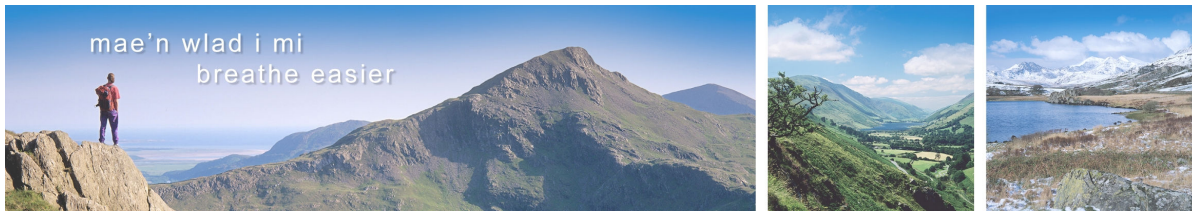
You are the owner of a wind farm and want to start another small scale venture.

BACKGROUND; The moorland receives a constant wind with a strength of 10m/s on average. Winds of 5m/s are needed to create electricity. A new road would have to be built to transport material to the site, and concrete bases would have to be built.

The site is 2.5 miles from the nearest village where 150 people live. Of the villagers

30	are retired
100	work
20	are in education
0	are unemployed

Most of the workers work in public administration, agriculture or forestry. The nearest town is 8 miles away. The village doesn't have a shop or school but the chapel is still open and there's a campsite nearby.



Planning Applications

3. Application to demolish an old chapel and build two affordable houses in its place.

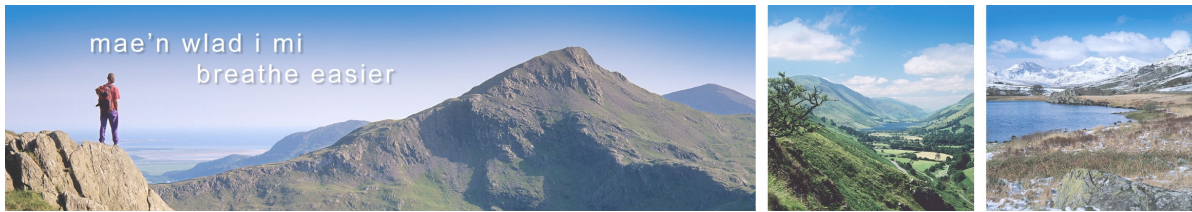
You are the spokesperson on behalf of the Chapel Society which is behind the application.

BACKGROUND: the chapel had to close as the congregation was small and the congregation joined another chapel that had a better building. The old chapel is in a dangerous condition and needs a lot of money spent on it to make it safe or it will have to be demolished. The houses will be in the form of terraced houses with two bedrooms, a parking area in front and a garden behind.

The site is in a village where 400 people live. Of these

68	are retired
256	work
52	are in education
24	are unemployed

Most of the workers work in public administration, health or education. There is a shop, church, pub and school in the village. The nearest town is 6 miles away.



Planning Applications

5. Application for a canoeing and windsurfing centre by the lake and the creation of a new path by the river.

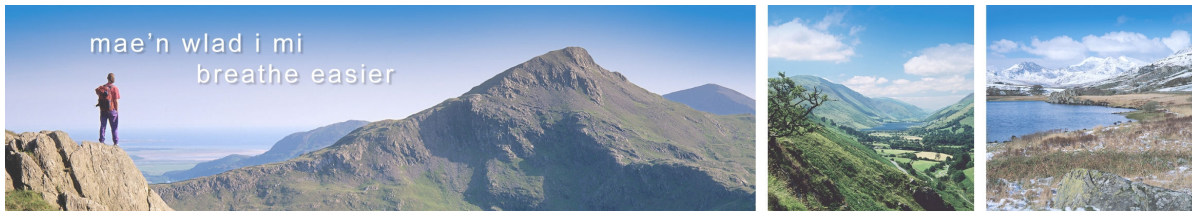
BACKGROUND; the centre and a storeroom would be built by the lake. The storeroom is needed to keep windsurfing equipment and canoes safe. In the centre, there will be changing rooms, a meeting room, office and cafe. The new path is required so that people can view competitions down the river and canoeists can have access to several places.

The aim is to use the lake for windsurfing and to teach canoeing and the river for canoeing competitions.

The site is 4 miles from the nearest village which has a population of 725. Of those

171	are retired
483	work
32	are in education
39	are unemployed

In the village there are several pubs, shops, restaurant, church and chapel, school and two campsites. Most of the workers work in distribution, hotels and restaurants.



These are the Committee members. You can cut them out and put them in a hat to choose your five members for every planning application.

Villager with small children	County Councillor
Old farmer	Shop Owner
Fisherman	Forestry worker
Young Person	Unemployed person
Keen birdwatcher	Headmaster