

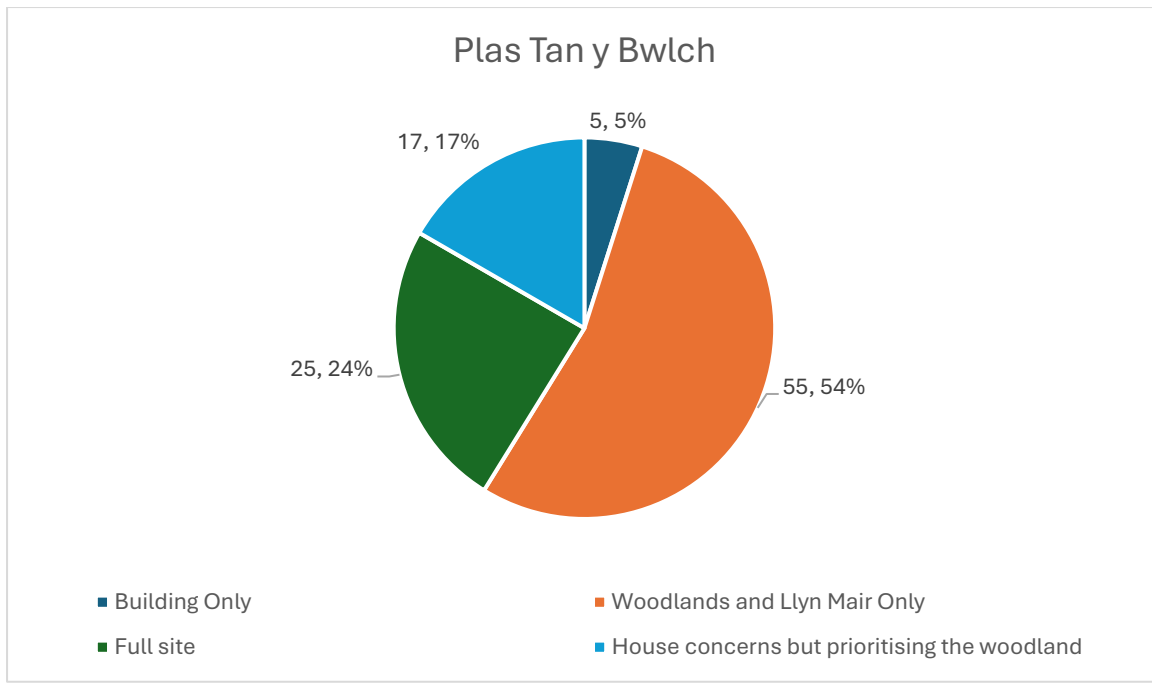
MEETING	Authority Meeting
DATE	13 th November
TITLE	Public Comments – Plas Tan y Bwlch
REPORT BY	Ioan Gwilym
PURPOSE	Report on public comments about the potential sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch

BACKGROUND

This report presents the feedback gathered during the recent drop-in session on the potential sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch. The session offered the public an opportunity to express their views on the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch and the surrounding woodlands, including Llyn Mair. Key areas of concern centred on maintaining public access with responses reflecting a strong sense of attachment to the site's cultural, environmental, and recreational value.

The majority (55.4%) of participants expressed a strong commitment to retaining public access to the woodlands and Llyn Mair, underscoring the importance of these areas as community assets. A smaller portion (5.5%) felt most strongly about preserving the main house itself, while 25.24% advocated for keeping both the house and surrounding lands accessible to the public. Another 17.17% indicated a desire to save the house if possible, but prioritised the protection of the woodlands and Llyn Mair.

Additionally, nearly 12% of respondents, in emails sent following the drop-in session, voiced concerns about the National Park's communication efforts surrounding the sale process, calling for greater transparency and engagement



CONCLUSION

The community's response to the potential sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch reveals a strong collective priority for preserving public access to the surrounding woodlands and Llyn Mair, with a secondary preference to maintain access to the house.

The findings indicate that while there is some flexibility among community members about the house's future, there is a clear consensus on the need to protect the natural spaces for public enjoyment and ecological preservation.

RECOMMENDATION

This support is submitted for information purposes only so as to enable the Authority to gain a full understanding of the issues arising from communications with the public prior to making any decisions on the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Public Comments
- FOI Requests Regarding Plas Tan y Bwlch
- Plas Tan y Bwlch Public Petition (Copies submitted to Members)

Public Comments

Plas Tan y Bwlch Drop in Session

The Stables

14/10/24

E-mails

I am a member of the Committee of The Friends of Tan Y Bwlch / Cyfeillion Tan Y Bwlch.

Attached you will find seven pdf files:-

- *The English and Cymraeg versions of the header page for our online petition asking for the closure of Plas Tan Y Bwlch to be prevented*
- *The signatories to the Cymraeg version*
- *Comments made by the signatories to the Cymraeg version*
- *The signatories to the English version*
- *Comments made by the signatories to the English version*
- *A scanned copy of the paper version of the petition*

There are a total of 974 signatories to all of the above versions.

Prior to their November meeting, please would you make members of the Park Authority aware of the contents of, signatories to, and comments made on these petitions.

Please would you acknowledge that Mr. Cawley personally has received this email (I have copied in the Park Authority's general email address and the email address given at the consultation meeting held at Plas Tan Y Bwlch on 14th October).

I will put a paper copy of the attached documents in the post to you tomorrow, first class.

Thanks.

Robert (Bob) Rodgers

Annwyl Syr,

Yr ydym yn anfon atoch i'ch annog i ystyried yn fanwl iawn cyn gosod Plas Tanybwllch a'r gerddi ar y farchnad agored. Ystyriwn y plas yn un o drysorau arbennig ein hardal. Mae wedi bod gennym am bron i hanner can mlynedd bellach ac yn gymaint o adnodd gwerthfawr i blant ac oedolion fel eu gilydd dros y cyfnod yma. Fe'i defnyddiwyd, nid yn unig i'r ardal ond hefyd i Gymru a thu hwnt o ran y ddarpariaeth a drefnwyd yno.

Yn bersonol gallwn ddatgan ein bod wedi bod yn mynychu cyrsiau, pwyllgorau, darlithoedd ac yn y blaen, dros gyfnod o 30 mlynedd o leiaf. Byddai cyrsiau preswyl megis Llafar Gwlad yn ein dennu yn flynyddol a cholled fawr oedd gweld rheini yn dod i ben ar ymddeoliad y trefnydd. Un cwrs yn unig oedd hwn a bu nifer fawr o gyrsiau eraill hefyd yn dennu cynulleidfa dda dros yr un cyfnod.

Byddai llawer iawn o ddefnydd yn cael ei wneud o'r plas i gynnal cyrsiau i blant cynradd, uwchradd a cholegau a bum yn rhan o'r ddarpariaeth yma am tua 20 mlynedd.

Yr oedd bob amser ganmoliaeth am y lluniaeth a baratowyd ar gyfer y mynychwyr a da oedd gennyf glywed yr wythnos diwethaf fod grŵp o ddisgyblion uwchradd wedi cael mynychu dau ddiwrnod o gwrs yno a'r ganmoliaeth am y bwyd eto yn sicr yn un o uchafbwyntiau y ddeuddydd.

'Gofynnwn felly am i chi ystyried ffordd amgenach o sicrhau dyfodol y plas drwy edrych am ffyrdd amgenach o sicrhau dyfodol trosglwyddo y plas a'r tir i gymdeithas neu sefydliad all gael cefnogaeth, drwy grantiau efallai, i'w ddatblygu yn y modd gorau i sicrhau ei ddyfodol i'r cenedlaethau i ddod. Nid yn aml daw cyfle fel hyn.

Yn gywir,

Aled a Helen Ellis

Diolch am gael y diwrnod agored yn Plas Tan y Bwlch dydd Llun i adael y cyhoedd gael cyfle i fynegi ei barn.

Mae Coed Llyn Mair yn adnodd pwysig iawn i'r ardal, yn cael ei ddefnyddio yn eang gan bobol lleol er llês corfforol a meddyliol.

Galwaf ar y pwyllgor i gymeryd y penderfyniad i gadw gafael ar y goedwig er mwyn cadw yr adnodd yn agored i'r cyhoedd.

I hollti y goedwig oddiwrth y Plas gan ddefnyddio y ffordd tarmac o'r A487 drosodd i Oakley Arms fel terfyn naturiol.

Hoffwn hefyd alw ar y pwyllgor i edrych yn ffafriol ar gynigion Cymunedol ynglyn a dyfodol y Plas a'r gerddi cyn rhoi yr eiddo ar y farchnad agored eto.

Yn gywir

Sian a Dafydd Roberts

Dwin ysgrifennu i ddweud fy mod yn teimlo'n gryf ei fod yn bwysig iawn i Blas Tan y Bwlch ac yn enwedig y llwybrau aros ar agor i'r cyhoedd.

Osian Carver

NA I werthu'n breifat.

Ceri Williams-Jone

Pnawn da

Dwi'n erfyn arnoch yn daer i beidio gwerthu y Plas ar tir i gwmni preifat - colled enfawr a cam yn ol byddai hyn.

Plas i bawb dio.

Diolch

Ffion Alun

As a resident of Llanelltyd, near Dolgellau, my husband and I have enjoyed visiting Plas Tan y Bwlch and especially the gardens and the walk around Llyn Mair on many occasions over the years. We were therefore quite horrified to read in the local press that the local council were planning to sell this wonderful historic building for not much more than our son paid for a family house in Reading. Surely it must be worth more than the proposed selling price.

I sincerely hope that the views of local people will be taken seriously regarding permissive access to the walk around Llyn Mair. We wonder who is making these rash decisions without any regard to public consultation. I felt I needed to add my voice as I feel passionately about keeping Llyn Mair as a walk for future generations growing up in this beautiful part of Gwynedd.

Yours sincerely

Joan McCarthy

It is a very peaceful walk and I enjoy swimming in the lake

Tomos Celt

I own a caravan site and I send everyone up Llyn Mair. It would be a disaster to close Llyn Mair its lovely for kids to play in the streams and chuck stones

Gareth Jones

We're just emailing regarding the potential sale of the woodland associated with Plas Tan y Bwlch.

We'd be very supportive of this remaining either with Eryri National Park or being in the care of another conservation-minded owner. The woodland supports some important species of lichen, and is part of a large contiguous block of woodland stretching the length of Dyffryn Ffestiniog which has one of the best assemblages of southern oceanic woodland lichens in Britain.

Yours sincerely

Lizzie Wilberforce

Keep public access at Llyn Mair, we want to keep walking in the woods!

Andrew Taheny & Alexia Cochrane

The woods is an amazing place to walk with the family, a perfect peaceful day out, I hope this will stay under new ownership

Cai Pritchard

To whom it may concern,

Please don't give away the community orchard in the sale of Llyn Mair and The Plas. Please also don't give away the kitchen gardens, many in the community are desperate to have the chance to restore them, including Gerddi Maes y Plas, probably Incredible Edible, or the Maentwrog kitchen gardens group.

I'm sure The Plas has had a lot of taxpayers money over the years, to provide a resource to the local community. How can this resource now be sold off without offering relevant parts to the local community?

The 'session' that was held was quite short notice, poorly publicised so hardly anyone knew about it, and only happened once. I'm not sure that really counts as a public consultation.

I'm personally ok with the Plas being sold to a hotel chain, but the orchard must stay as a community orchard, and the footpaths must stay open at Llyn Mair. However, someone has been spraying weedkiller all along the paths, which is entirely unnecessary, and degrading a beautiful site loved by many, by introducing these poisons, which will harm wildlife, and simply run down into the swimming lake, where we all swim, and which has the most enormous newt population. Please include clauses to prevent future owners contaminating the swimming lake with pesticides and weedkiller or glyphosphates.

Please publish all the ecology reports you must have commissioned, with all the protections you will be putting in place, to protect the newts and rare bats etc that you have in the woodlands and in the lake. Or should we request these via a freedom of information request?

Please allow people in the community to have and restore the kitchen gardens. Our Maentwrog group would be very interested buying and restoring them, and also in having the fields at the front of the house for growing a neat and organised array of nut trees, cherry trees, mulberry trees etc and some trees and bushes for wildlife, with wildflowers, as would the other community groups previously mentioned. I already have the funding to buy and plant all the trees and bushes, I just need land where we can create / maintain such a community resource. Please don't just give away what the community need, in the sale of the Plas, especially when the Plas has had so many grants for becoming a community resource. We really want to keep the fields at the

front of the Plas as a community resource. The hotel probably don't even want the kitchen garden.

Best wishes,

Dr Gail Holliman.

Dear Board Members and Authority Officers,

Following the recent drop in event, which we attended, we would like to reiterate/expand our comments as follows:-

- 1. It is disappointing that a public consultation over the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch was not initiated much earlier on in the proceedings. This failure to engage with the community appears to demonstrate a distinct lack of understanding on the part of the Authority as to how much the building and its surrounding areas means to, and are enjoyed by, the local community. This recent consultation has demonstrated, in considerable numbers, how the community want to engage and be involved in the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch and surrounding area and care very much about its future.*

- 2. It should be the priority of the Authority to try and ensure that the building and surrounding areas are passed on to some community/charitable interest organisation, which is better able to promote and market activities within the buildings, and which will preserve the building and the surrounding areas for continued use by the local community, rather than it passing into private hands. The promotion of the building and activities by the Authority, particularly in relation to the café, has been woeful. Any proposed sale to a private entity should be delayed as long as possible to enable any local community group to raise the necessary funds.*

- 3. If it proves impossible to agree terms with any community/charitable organisation, then any sale to a private entity should be limited to the house and front gardens. The woodland areas and lake should be excluded and left accessible to all.*

4. During the consultation, it was suggested that the Authority may be looking to hive off the woodland areas and lake from the sale to preserve such areas for use by the public, which should clearly be a top priority. We appreciate that this could generate a concern from the perspective of the purchaser and potentially prejudice the one bid that the Authority has so far received [i.e. the proposed purchaser might either withdraw their bid altogether or reduce the amount offered]. In those circumstances, we would suggest [my husband is a retired property solicitor] that this could be ameliorated by selling the freehold of the building and front gardens but in addition the Authority could grant a long lease of the woodland areas and lake. While this would give the purchaser the benefit of a lease over the larger area, the Authority could, as landlord, retain a degree of control over the woodland areas and lake so ensuring that public access is preserved.

Kind regards

Jane Blakeman and Barney Frith

To whom it may concern;

Concerned about the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch, I attended the drop-in day on the 14th October. During a discussion at the drop-in, I was encouraged to share my thoughts via email.

- Plas Tan y Bwlch is of historical significance to the local area. It should be both preserved for the future and made good use of.
- It should be treated as a National Trust property; that is with historical respect and with a commercial revenue stream to ensure it's future.
- I'd also wish it to remain in public ownership but with a dedicated management team (professional and salaried) solely focused on maximising it's commercial possibilities ie. being a five star hotel, top conference facilities, an amazing destination venue for weddings and other events.
- If the estate has to be sold, I'd prefer for the buildings and surrounding land to be split into two lots so that the park authority can retain the land aspect. This will ensure

the proper maintenance of the wider woodlands and paths and will ensure that the public retains walking rights.

- *My main concerns for its future would be if it's sold to a private buyer and then it transpires that they don't have the ongoing funds to maintain or run it. This might not be immediately apparent but could transpire several years down the line. The estate could then go into rapid decline. I would also be concerned if it becomes out of bounds to the local community. I recently discovered that it used to have a public tea room. I've been in the area for years and would have loved to have gone there if I'd had the chance (why wasn't this more greatly known about?).*
- *If the buildings are sold to a private company as a top hotel for example, it would presumably provide a lot of local employment opportunities.*
- *If the buildings were purchased by a community group, a concern would be that it is run in possibly an outdated, unprofessional fashion leading to the demise of the building. No doubt it's a much bigger deal than somewhere like the Pengwern Arms in terms of running costs and maintenance bills. In an ideal world, the community purchase would be fabulous but would the reality stack up? It would be great to think of a utopia whereby troops of volunteers were lined up to run the cafe, man a shop, run the B&B aspect etc but sadly, I fear that enthusiasm may dwindle with time even if enough volunteers are initially signed up. Having said this, it may be an idea for the community group to give it a go whilst still under park authority ownership especially as another concern would be that once in private hands, it's gone, never to return.*
- *Has the park authority approached the following for new ownership/financial support? 1) the National Trust 2) the YMCA 3) exclusive hotel chains such as Soho House (www.sohohouse.com). I believe Soho House and Plas Tan y Bwlch would be a great match. Please research this particular company to potentially make enquiries. 4) HRH King Charles (I think he should be made aware of the situation) 5) the entrepreneur (credit card tycoon born in Llan Ffestiniog and now based in the US) who has put money into regenerating the chapel in Llan.*
- *My ideal vision for the future of the estate would be: a joint tenureship between a community group, the park authority and the National Trust. I mention the National Trust as they have knowledge and clout. They have unrivalled advertising expertise to ensure that the public becomes aware of the existence of the estate which in turn will ensure a secure future. It's all in the advertising which then brings in the necessary revenue.*

I wish the best for the future of the estate and hope that it is viewed in a positive light. Under the guardianship of the right custodians or cooperative, it should have a bright future.

Please advise on how the public can receive updates; I only heard about the drop-in day through having seen a single leaflet on the floor in a shop! If I hadn't noticed this, I wouldn't have known and wouldn't have attended.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

Danielle Clarke.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I was shocked and saddened to learn that Plas Tan y Bwlch had been advertised for sale on the open market in early August.

There has been no prior public consultation to inform the Snowdonia National Park Authority's decision in choosing to dispose of this treasured public asset. As far as I am aware, due process regarding the sale of a public asset does not appear to have been followed.

The Authority's agreement to postpone a decision until November is due solely to the presence of members of the public at the last Authority meeting on 10th September. The public are upset at the way the Snowdonia National Park Authority has proceeded at pace without any formal consultation period, thus depriving the very people who care deeply about the future for Plas of an opportunity to put forward their concerns or vision.

Plas Tan y Bwlch is a renowned national centre of excellence, a beacon, whose influence extends far beyond the boundaries of Meirionnydd. I have been fortunate to attend many excellent training courses there. From the professional training courses and study weeks for schools and colleges, to the listed gardens and extensive woodlands (which are part of the Meirionnydd Oakwoods and Bat Sites Special Area of Conservation, with an international designation at a European level), Plas Tan y Bwlch is in the vanguard of environmental education in Wales and beyond. The power of a residential outdoor learning course stays with an individual for life. As a former teacher

of Outdoor Education in a residential setting, I witnessed at first hand, the transformative and inspiring effects on young people. Local Outdoor Education Centres, together with other educational groups, visit the Plas woodlands every week. All this stands to be lost for future generations, at a time when the need to educate about the environment has never been greater, given the challenges of climate change etc.

The woodlands are part of a unique and thriving partnership arrangement with 7 other neighbouring landowners, operating since the 1980s. A footpath network of 30 Kms offers permissive public access and is an integral part of the wider public rights of way network. It was established to promote understanding and quiet enjoyment of this special place: one of the National Park's Statutory Purposes. In my role as a Public Rights of Way Officer at Gwynedd Council, I worked to assert and protect the public rights of access in Meirionnydd for 16 years. The footpath network at Plas Tan y Bwlch is an exemplar of what is possible through partnership working. It is particularly poignant for me, that the very public body tasked with duties to protect and afford opportunities for enjoyment, is the one now placing the network in jeopardy.

The public know only too well what they stand to lose. Their needs should be paramount, rather than those of a new owner who may seek privacy and exclusive use. The whole path network here should continue to be enjoyed by all. It has fostered understanding and respect and should not be under threat. Protection for all the paths needs to be secured. We must use this principle as a baseline, not as a target. It is important that the SNPA communicates with other partners on the footpath network and the footpath group is re-convened. It will be for the benefit of all. It may be a good idea to involve the local community somehow in the footpath group, in a renewed partnership.

Welsh Government's Disability Rights Action Plan will address issues highlighted in the Disability Equality Forum's 2021 report: "Locked Out, Liberating Disabled People's Lives in Wales Beyond Covid-19". Many parts of the Tan Y Bwlch estate are accessible for those with impaired mobility. Planning authorities such as SNPA are required to promote inclusive access under the Equality Act. People with impaired mobility may lose vital access to an important and safe, tranquil green space.

The public can walk, cycle (Sustrans Route 82), and travel by train to the Plas Tan y Bwlch woodlands rather than travel by car. There are public transport links at Plas Halt and the bus stop at the Oakeley Arms just down the drive. For those who arrive by car, their journeys are relatively short. More than 12,000 people live within a 20-minute journey time from Plas Tan y Bwlch woodlands. The area is a popular venue for visitors.

Plas Tan y Bwlch plays a significant role in working towards a Net Zero Wales. It is thought to have been the first house in North Wales to have benefitted from its own

Hydroelectric station commissioned in 1884. In June 2013, a new hydro scheme was opened, paid for by the public purse.

The Snowdonia National Park Authority, as a public body, needs to demonstrate a reasonable approach and be transparent in all its dealings with the public. This has been sadly lacking. The Authority is proceeding with unseemly haste. The whole process does not appear to have received the thought and due diligence we expect of our statutory public bodies. How can it possibly meet the requirements of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 if it seeks to deprive future generations of so much?

It is imperative that Plas Tan y Bwlch is allowed to grow and sustain future generations. The Plas, its gardens and rich woodland should remain a public resource for the benefit of all, not the few. It is a cherished part of Welsh history and heritage and should remain so, for the people of Wales.

Please, postpone the current timetable. This will enable a reset and allow a period of meaningful engagement and consultation to take place. It will ensure that already proven partnerships can build on their vision to realise a stronger and more resilient Plas Tan Y Bwlch. They just need more time. The Authority also needs more time to safeguard this asset for the future generations of Wales. Once it is passed into private hands, it is lost forever. Perhaps this is the time for a collaborative approach.

I understand that our Senedd member is asking for this course of action and is requesting funds from Welsh Government to cover costs in the short term.

I implore you to do everything in your power to safeguard this unique asset for Wales. We have a National Library of Wales, a National Museum of Wales and a National Botanic Garden of Wales. No better venue exists for a National Centre for the Environment in Wales, here in North Wales. In every respect, Plas Tan y Bwlch fulfils the all the Statutory Purposes and Duties of the National Park Authority. The Snowdonia National Park Authority, or a community sector organisation could put Plas Tan y Bwlch forward as a project for the Levelling Up Fund in Wales. Surely, this would represent the finest investment for our future generations.

Thank you for consulting the public yesterday. Thanks also to all your officers and members, who gave their time to listen to us. It was appreciated.

The attendance at yesterday's drop-in session is evidence of the public's wholehearted support for Plas Tan y Bwlch. We are proud of it and wish to see it serve the needs of future generations.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Your sincerely,

Liz Haynes

1. Community venture/ Business get first refusal re the sale of the property.

2. Open access to the woodlands and Llyn Mair.

3. Public access to the woodland from the road at Oakley Arms as well as the current Top Lodge and Llyn Mair entrance's

4. Access to Plas Halt station.

5 Tree Preservation Orders on the trees as well as keeping its SSI status

Marged Pendrell

Dear Sir/Madam

I attended the meeting of the Friends of Plas Tan y Bwlch recently and was horrified to hear about the nonchalant attitude of the Park towards the future of Plas. This has long been a place for environmental and cultural courses. How does this attitude fit with the desire of government to further such studies in schools?

There are a number of issues that need addressing, including maladministration. All

should be aimed at developing Plas - potentially among the stars of a Welsh approach to this crucial topic. I wonder what HRH Prince William would make of this state of affairs.

I would hope that the Park's staff responsible for Plas would show originality and commitment to developing, not destroying, Plas by cancelling this ill-thought-out sale to the highest bidder. Not only would this be a great relief also to the locals but to all who would like to see Plas thrive and contribute towards saving our planet.

Kay Evans

Friend of Plas and participant in the 2020 course on Welsh language and culture led by harpist, Harriet Earls (copy of which I sent to HRH Princess Catherine recently)

Fe ddylie r plas bendigedig sef Plas Tan y Bwlch gael ei gadw yn nwylo nîr Cymru , lle fel sydd yn Nant Gwetheurn , cynal priodasa, lle i hybur iaith, gwersi cymraeg, gwersi coginio , arlynio, Oriel, pwyllgora , nosweithia adloniant, Cora lleol, ar holl dalent sydd om cwmpas ei ddefnyddio, Nosweithia dan y ser ayyb, dymuniadau gorau ir Plas 🙌

Roberta Thomas

Hello,

Like many people in the area, I am concerned that Llyn Mair and its surrounding footpaths could become the property of a private company. Regardless of whatever any prospective buyer is promising, it is not acceptable for such a widely enjoyed public amenity to be sold off.

As several informed local residents have confirmed, there would be nothing in the law to obstruct the future owner of Plas Tan y Bwlch from eventually closing these paths. It

seems perfectly reasonable that a buyer would still consider purchasing the Plas buildings and gardens without the inclusion of Llyn Mair.

Seeing as much of the surrounding woodland is owned by the Woodland Trust, why not either donate Llyn Mair and its footpaths to them or keep Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri as the owner?

I look forward to hearing from you,

Huw Feeseey

Diolch am drefnu'r sesiwn ar ddyfodol Plas Tan y Bwlch. Dyma fy sylwadau, fel ysgrifennais heddiw, wedi'i gywiro gan Cysill.

Awgrymaf i'r Awdurdod osod statws clir y tir a'r llwybrau a'r coed. Nid oes unrhyw lwybr cyhoeddus statudol ar fy map O.S.. 1:25,000 ac nid oes unrhyw fynediad cyhoeddus dan y Ddeddf Cefn Gwlad a Hawliau Tramwy ar fy map ychwaith.

Efallai, bydd yn haws cael pris teg efo sicrwydd ar fynediad yn hytrach na ddatgelu dadlau heb eu datrys.

Buasai statws statudol yn ymddangos ar y map O.S.. Buasai cyfamodau yn well na dim byd, ond ni fuasent yn ymddangos ar fapiau O.S..

Hefyd, efallai buasai rhai Tystysgrifau Defnydd/Datblygiad Cyfreithiol o gymorth wrth gynnig y Plas i'r farchnad.

John Bowers

Diolch yn fawr am drefnu'r sesiwn galw-heibio ym Mhlas Tan y Bwlch heddiw a'r cyfle i drafod gyda swyddogion y Parc ac aelodau'r Awdurdod.

Gwerthfawrogaf y pwysau ariannol tymor-byr sydd ar awdurdod a swyddogion y Parc a'r costau sydd ynghlwm wrth gynnal a chadw'r Plas. Fodd bynnag, credaf mai cam cibddall ac annoeth fyddai gwerthu'r Plas i brynwr preifat, ac yntau wedi chwarae rhan mor allweddol mewn addysgu pobl o Gymru a'r tu hwnt am amgylchedd a diwylliant yr ardal, ac yn wir wedi bod yn esiampl i barciau cenedlaethol ar draws Ynys Prydain, Ewrop a thu hwnt.

Er mai eiddo preifat oedd y Plas tan y 1960au, rhaid cofio mai llafur chwarelwyr Ffestiniog a thenantiaid yr ystâd a greodd yr elw i'w ailadeiladu a'i dirlunio, ac mai arian cyhoeddus a'i prynodd i'r Parc Cenedlaethol. Dylid felly ei ystyried nid fel eiddo'r Parc Cenedlaethol yn unig, ond fel eiddo'r gymuned. Rhaid nodi hefyd fod y tiroedd, y coedlannau a'r llynnoedd yn adnodd pwysig i'r gymuned leol o safbwynt hamdden, iechyd a lles.

Gofynnaf felly yn garedig i Awdurdod y Parc weithredu fel a ganlyn:

- 1. Oedi unrhyw werthiant er mwyn trafod opsiynau eraill ar gyfer defnydd yr adeilad efo'r mudiad 'Cymunedoli' (sydd, yn ôl a ddeallaf, eisoes wedi gwneud cais am grant gan y Loteri i'r diben hwn, ac efallai wedi ei dderbyn) ynghyd â grŵpiau a chyirff eraill sydd â diddordeb, gyda golwg ar gydweithio neu drosglwyddo'r adeilad neu'r roi ar lês.*
- 2. Os na fydd cam 1. uchod yn dwyn ffrwyth, yna werthu'r adeilad a'r gerddi yn unig, gan gadw'r tiroedd, y coedlannau a'r llynnoedd ym meddiant y Parc, neu'u trosglwyddo i elusen megis Coed Cadw neu'r Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol (sydd eisoes yn berchen ar rai o goetiroedd yr ardal) gydag amodau cadarn ynglyn â mynediad.*
- 3. A beth bynnag fydd canlyniad y broses, diogelu hawl mynediad cyfreithiol cadarn i'r cyhoedd i'r llwybrau, y coedlannau a'r llynnoedd fel ag y mae ar hyn o bryd.*

Y Parch. Tim Webb

I was fortunate to hear of the Drop-in Session on Monday regarding the future of the above. It seems that the SNPA are doing their best to keep the proposed sale of the premises a huge secret, now exposed by local supporters of the facility; more power to their elbow!

As a former local government employee in Gwynedd, I recall initially attending training courses in the building, and in time lectured at these and on other courses on a regular basis until Covid intervened. However, even before that, the excellent drive and imagination of the staff running the facility had become eroded and it appears, very little has been done to address the fresh problems afflicting this country (insofar as the running of Plas Tan y Bwlch) has occurred since then. I dare say (as in Gwynedd Council) senior managers have been rewarded to a greater extent than the staff they administer, yet meaningful actions to correct issues have been absent.

The Plas is an excellent facility for training particularly, Local Government staff. An equivalent facility (Losehill Hall) had already been lost to the public. Yes, training courses can take place on line, but the practical side of things (such as experiencing the difficulties encountered daily by say, persons with a disability) could all be experienced here. Such experiences create a far more lasting impression than (not) experiencing it on line. In addition, associations with contemporaries over a meal or drinks in the bar in an informal setting, lead to life-long friendships and untold future mutual benefits from networking.

Even if the Plas itself is beyond saving, then the woodlands behind MUST be retained for public access. At the instigation of once-imaginative Plas staff, an agreement was made - and publicised - with a number of abutting private landowners for public access to a network of over 30km over a large swathe of varied woodland for all to enjoy to complement the public rights of way in the area. That it is a well-used facility can be judged by the number of cars present every day at various access points. However, the SNPA appear to be actively discouraging use of this unique facility, as the leaflets are now exceedingly hard to find – not everybody has access to a smart ‘phone and besides, the on-line map is not a patch on the comprehensive mapping in the leaflet. Where does this fit with the Park’s professed aims? No wonder conspiracy theories abound!

I would implore the Park Committee to re-think their proposals and show a bit more imagination with a view to the greater public good; we are losing far too many of our hard-won facilities enjoyed by the public over the past decades.

Yours faithfully,

David Coleman

Rwyf yn gobeithio o waelod calon fydd myndediad cyhoeddus i coetiroedd a llynnoedd Mair yn cael ei cadw i'r cyhoedd a hefyd yr ardd fectoriaidd sydd yn bwysig i'r gymuned lleol. Mai'n sefyllfa digon trist fod y Plas yn cael ei werthu o gwbl.

Yn gywir

Audrey a Brian Jones

Bydd ddim cael caniatad i gerdded trwy'r coedwigoedd o gwmpas Llyn Mair/Llyn Hafod y Llyn yn golled enfawr ar yr gymuned leol.

Gofynnwn i'r Parc roi mesurau diogelu i warchod y lle arwyddocaol hwn o harddwch naturiol.

Diolch,

Beca George

To whom it may concern

I write to express my concern at the recent proposals to sell Plas Tan y Bwlch and in particular the surrounding land.

The lands surrounding Plas Tan y Bwlch and the access it provides to the wonderful network of trails and footpaths surrounding the Plas and Llyn Mair are an amazing resource loved and appreciated by the local community and visitors alike.

As a resident of Maentwrog I make use of this beautiful area on a daily basis. The paths have been open to the public for as long as I can remember and it would be a huge loss to myself individually and to the community if this access was sold off to the highest bidder.

As far as the house and gardens themselves are concerned, they are of significant historical and cultural importance to the area, as well as being beautiful. I do appreciate however that it might be possible for a private owner to make the necessary investment to see the Plas thrive in the future, which perhaps the National Park is not willing or able to do. I do feel that any sale should be based on the principle of preserving the Plas, and allowing some kind of public access going forward (whether that be through a cafe, restaurant or bar), so it is not just available to a wealthy minority to enjoy.

The way in which the National Park has approached this matter, with a complete lack of consideration for the local community has also been extremely disappointing. Not only that but the secretive and closed nature of proposals and decisions, until the community forced the Park's hand, has shown disdain for the importance of this site to us.

I hope that the Park will change the course that they are currently on, and the manner in which they are approaching things as a result of the weight of public opinion.

Regards

Siân Evans

To Whom it may concern,

I am aware that Plas Tan y Bwlch is currently for sale. Throughout this process public access to the woodlands and Lynn Mair must be protected as this is a much loved and well used area by the local community.

Best wishes,

Rob Lowther

Rwyf yn cysylltu er mwyn mynegi fy marn ar y bwriad o werthu plas Tan y Bwlch a'r coedwigoedd cyfagos.

Rwyf yn gwrthwynebu y bwriad yma oherwydd mae'r adeilad/ardal o fudd i lawer pobl y fro. Mae'r adeilad wedi bod yn safbwynt o ardal ecolegol ers blynyddoedd ac wedi bod derbyn budd o'r cadwraeth.

Mi fyddai colli mynediad i'r coedwig a'r llwybrau cyhoeddus yn lleihau yr nifer o fannau gwyrdd sydd ar gael i gymdogion allu mynd allan i fwynhau'r awyr agored. Mae'r risg o golli hyn yn peri gofid i nifer.

Mae angen gwarchod ein byd natur ac gwneud yn siwr bod ardaloedd or fath yn aros er budd y cymunedau.

Mae potensial yr adeilad dal i sefyll fel lleoliad gwych i wneud defnydd o'r ystafelloedd sydd ar gael.

Plis ail ystyriwch y gwerthiant - mae angen cadw safleoedd o dan berchnogaeth leol. Mi fydd gwerthu yr adeilad a'r tir yn cael effaith mawr ar hanes yr ardal ac yn codi ansicrwydd ynglyn a beth fydd dyfodol mannau gwyrdd eraill os ydi'r tuedd o werthu yn hytrach na datblygu yn cario ymlaen.

Diolch yn fawr

Dylan Roberts

Diolch am gynnal y diwrnod galw heibio ym Mhlas Tan y Bwlch ddydd Llun diwetha.

Roedd yn bwysig iawn rhoi cyfle i bobl gael cyfle i leisio'u barn. Yn lle eich llethu efo llith anferth, mi nodaf fy mhrif bwyntiau yn unig.

Mae teimladau cryf yn yr ardal bod angen cadw'r Plas yn ased cyhoeddus ac nad ydi'r lle wedi cael ei redeg i'w lawn botensial ers nifer o flynyddoedd.

Gobeithio y rhoddir cyfle i'r gymuned/ Cymunedoli gymryd y Plas drosodd. Mae cefnogaeth o sawl sefydliad yn barod a gwleidyddion. Mae asesiad Ian Baggot ar ran Cymunedoli yn mynegi posibiliadau positif.

Mae nifer fawr o bobl yn cerdded drwy'r gerddi, y coetir ar hyd y llwybrau o amgylch Llyn Mair ac yn gresynnu wrth feddwl bod posib dileu eu hawl. Mae'n rhan hanfodol o iechyd meddwl llawer iawn o'r gymdogaeth.

Mae'r coetir yn ardal SSSI ac i'w ddiogelu, mae angen arbenigedd. O fewn y coetir mae bywyd gwyllt o greaduriaid i fath o ffwng a mwsogl. Mae'r gerddi hefyd yn unigryw ac yn

adlewyrchiad o gyfnod arbennig gydag amrywiaeth o blanhigion o bob rhan o'r byd. Mae'r Plas mewn safle unigryw ym Mharc Cenedlaethol Eryri ac o fewn ffiniau Safle Treftadaeth y Byd. Does dim amgueddfa i gofio chwarelwyr a'u teuluoedd fu'n fodd i greu cyfoeth i adeiladu'r Plas yn y lle cyntaf. Byddai'r Plas yn safle arbennig i sefydlu hynny. Rhowch gyfle i bobl yr ardal cyn i ni golli ased arall i ddwylo busnes estron.

Heulwen Parry

I would like to make it clear that the residents of the village of Maentwrog and surrounding area are extremely concerned about the sale of the Plas and what will happen to access to the pathways through woodland and around Llyn Mair.

These walks are an important place for recreation and exercise for villagers and visitors alike.

It does not feel that a fair public consultation has been allowed and therefore the sale should be delayed until there is transparency around what will happen to public access of this much loved and used area.

Lucy Madden

You may recall meeting and talking to my wife Jean and myself at the recent Open Day at Plas Tan-y-bwlch. During our conversation, we raised a number of points of interest and concern regarding the future of the Plas.

In common with many other users of the woodland paths, our initial concern was that the sale of the Plas would lead to the closure of these paths to the general public. This would be a most unfortunate outcome, not least for our dog whose behaviour and obvious enjoyment of the woodlands suggest he is an enthusiastic, responsible and benevolent custodian!

However, our further concerns centred on the fickle toss of a unique educational asset that has played host to students of all ages, interests and origins over a number of years.

When we spoke you were at pains to point out that the National Park had made efforts over the years to promote and market the Plas as a centre of learning, but with diminishing success. This raises the question as to whether real professional expertise

in the promotion and marketing of this unique venue had been sought or at any time taken up.

Our understanding is that a full feasibility study regarding possible futures was undertaken in 2013, but has as yet remained unpublished. We, and many other interested local parties, would be most interested in reading the results of that study, not least to assuage the groundswell of suspicion and rumour surrounding this matter, as well as being reassured that fair and informed insight has been available to signpost any decisions regarding the Plas' future. It may also be the case that recommendations to possible routes to a sustainable future in public ownership may be contained within the study, and available to other parties to act on and take up to ensure a proud future for this superb Welsh Asset.

We would be most obliged if you would confirm your stated intention not to curtail open access to the woodland walks, and make the results of the 2013 feasibility study available to all.

Dick Preston & Jean Romero

Ysgrifennaf atoch i nodi pa mor werthfawr fu'r Plas Tanybwllch i fywyd diwylliannol gogledd Meirionnydd yn y gorffennol.

Yn fy marn i, mae'n drysor gwerthfawr iawn a byddai'n drychineb o'r mwyaf ei golli, nid yn unig i'r fro ond i Gymru gyfan.

Nid wyf am ei weld yn syrthio i ddwylo estroniaid.

Phil Mostert

To Whom it may concern.

I am a resident of Llanfrothen and I was genuinely shocked and surprised when I saw that magnificent Plas Tan y Bwlch had been advertised for sale. Surely this beautiful Welsh property belongs to the people of Wales, and should be cherished as such under the care of their very own National Park. However it now seems highly unlikely that this

will be an option. Obviously sad, maybe even unwise and blinkered, decisions about its future have already been made by Eryri National Park... behind closed doors.

The ridiculously low asking price for the property does not bode well for its future. It could easily meet the same fate as Glynllifon. Yet another glaring example of Welsh lack of judgement in respect of their beautiful historic houses. I would have thought Eryri National Park might have had more insight re Tan y Bwlch, and not allow itself to play into the grubby hands of dodgy property developers, waiting in the wings no doubt. Usually from outside Wales of course, hoping to bag a cheap deal via grand 'convincing' plans...then 'sit on and sell on' to line their own pockets.

Why has Eryri National Park not got the drive, tenacity and imagination to BE the developer and ensure Plas Tan y Bwlch thrives again? Its potential is enormous. It is a Welsh asset.

Enough said. We shall see!

In my view at least access to the pathways and woodland at Llyn Mair must be maintained for public enjoyment. They are wonderful resources for the health and well-being of local people, and visitors, who have enjoyed this area for decades. Surely the Community should have some say in how this magnificent heritage property and its land is apportioned/managed in the future. Surely they have some right at least to have their say in the matter. They might even have some thoughtful and viable suggestions. The kitchen garden in community hands for instance has possibilities.

I have no knowledge of the involvement of taxpayers money/grants/charitable trusts etc, but would not be at all surprised if such funding has not already had some input in the past. Others will have that knowledge no doubt.

I am amazed at the arrogance and short sightedness of Eryri National Park risking its very own heritage in this way. Why weren't the local, and wider, Welsh community consulted prior to advertising the Plas for sale?

I could truly 'Weep for Wales' in this instance.

Lessons have obviously not been learnt from past property misjudgements, and resultant messy outcomes, in North Wales particularly.

Plas Tan y Bwlch belongs to the people of Wales. Don't squander it.

Regards

Chris Butler

In response to your recent e-mail, I thank you for the invitation to proffer more comments on the possible closure of Plas.

I would have thought that Plas and what it has achieved over many years is considered to be the jewel in the crown of Eryri National Park. As we know, there is nowhere else like it with its educational and environmental past and we should all be proud of its history and do all that can be done to protect its future. Surely you are not protecting the Park if you let the house and its environs go.

Up until Covid hit, the courses that were run there were popular and well attended but then, Andrew Oughton, the Manager, was let go and since then despite various attempts no-one has been employed to do what he did.

Surely, to start again and have things organised as they always were would bring money back into the coffers. From the very many people I have been in contact with, they really miss the opportunities which Plas offered them in so many different capacities.

Whose fault is it that your business model is not sustainable, if you do not advertise and encourage people to visit? We know that schoolchildren came here to learn about the environment and global warming, so important for everyone.

We know that a hydro electric scheme was installed some years ago, why is this not sustainable thus making Plas

energy self sufficient which is what it was designed for.

It is said that a lot of money is needed to bring the house up to standard. May I ask why that has not been done over the years? I am sure there are many artisans of the 26,000 people living locally who could do the work required.

I am a committee member of The Friends of Tan y Bwlch who have over several decades supported Plas and the surrounding countryside both culturally and financially and we, as a group, are desperate to know that our efforts have not been in vain. Please reassure us.

Best wishes,

Maureen Blower

I am a home owner in Maentwrog and have been fascinated by the history of the area for a long time.

I have been aware of a rumour that the Plas might be sold. But nothing concrete. Today was the first indication that the property is up for sale. I then find out that any consultation with anybody about the sale of a public domain property has been very sparse and limited to any response the local public might have.

I think that a property in the ownership of committee run council like Snowdonia National park should be up for public debate and not sold off quickly and discreetly like it seems to be in this case.

I am writing this email in the hope that some sort of proper well thought out consolation with the local people on this issue.

Pete Hughes.

Helo,

Wedi methu dod dydd Llun ond dwi'n un arall sydd yn erbyn gwerthu'r Plas i gwmni preifat. Dwi wedi tyfu fyny yn crwydro y coedydd yna i gyd a man warthus o beth bo chi yn meddwl gwerthu fana i rywun sa gallu cau y lle i bobl lleol. A dim just y coed, dylia chi roi cyfle i grwp lleol redag y lle.

Diolch,

Efa James

Good evening,

I feel it is a huge loss to the community if the Plas and all its land were to be sold. There are 6 of us in my household who all feel this way. It should remain for the people and be run in a better way that enhances the qualities it had for all to enjoy.

Thank you

Mrs F

Dear Sir,

I would like to add my name to the list of those in the community who oppose the private sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch without full public discussion.

It would be a travesty for the grounds, woodlands and lakes to be inaccessible to the general public and I would ask that the sale be postponed until such a time as suitable consultation has taken place.

Yours faithfully

Suzanne Charles

After going to the open day on the 14 November, I feel that the park has run down the house and business not putting in the correct investment over the years .

The park has a responsibility to keep the buildings in its charge up to scratch ,this place could be financially a great asset to Wales and the park , I feel not enough has been done to look for partners to keep this place with in the public / park portfolio.

It has to be put out nationally and not as seems to have been done only put out to Wales

Mike Bartlam

We as a community oppose the private sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch. We want to ensure public access to the woodlands and Llyn Mair. We demand Eryri National Park delay the sale until a fair and thorough public consultation is carried out. It would be so very sad to lose this access.

Kind regards

Julie Thomsom

To whom it may concern,

It is vitally important to the local community and for local tourism to continue to keep the paths and Llyn Mair open to the public.

I have enjoyed walking these paths for over 30 years and go at least 3 times every week with my dog. I have also enjoyed yoga sessions on the bank alongside Llyn Mair.

Lesley Butler

Let the group Maes Y Plas restore and run the Victorian kitchen garden to grow even more food for the local community!

Wen & Tom Jones

Cadw y mynediad ir llyn a coedydd ir cyhoedd

Gwennan Jones

Keep public access to woodland and lakes at Llyn Mair

Iwan Jones

Keep Public access to the woodland and lakes at Llyn Mair/ Hafod y Llyn.

Hannah Williams

Noswaith dda,

Rwyf yn eich e-bostio i amlinellu'r pwysigrwydd o gadw'r Plas, bennaf llwybrau Llyn Mair. Rwyf yn credu yn gryf mewn llesiant plentyn ar pwysigrwydd iddynt 'allu cael y cyfle i ymgysylltu a'r Byd Natur. Rwyf i ar mab sy'n dair oed yn cael boddhad o fynd am dro wythnosol rownd Llyn Mair ac i fwydo y hwyaid. Byddai yn hynod o golled i'r Cenedl nesaf petai y Parc yn ein rhwystro i gael fynediad i fath adnodd.

Yn Gywir

Catrin Richards

Please keep Llyn Mair open for walkers - and the rest of the estate!

Eryl Powell

To whom this may concern, I feel whatever happens to the house be it a private dwelling or a hotel the right to roam should be upheld. The lakes and woodland should be accessible to the general public and maintained as they are now.

Regards

Chris Deverell

I am writing to strongly urge that Llyn Mair remains open for public access and that the kitchen gardens continue to be available for growing food to benefit local residents. These spaces are vital community resources that support wellbeing and provide essential fresh produce for the people in our area. Closing off these assets would be a significant loss to the community. I ask that you take immediate action to preserve them for everyone's benefit. Sincerely,

Trevor Geraghty

The woods and lakes of Dyffryn Maentwrog are outstandingly beautiful, and a major amenity both for local people and for visitors. We walk there frequently with our dog. It would be utterly scandalous and tragic if public access to them were to be lost following the sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch. Please do everything in your power to prevent this.

Cofion

Catherine Ebenezer (Dr)

We became aware of the proposed sale just a week or so ago and did not know about the 'drop in session' until today, the day after! I conclude that there is some anxiety in the council to achieve a sale asap.

We visited the Plas often when it was offering courses on various topics and were disappointed when these activities stopped. I think a more careful leadership might have developed more of these activities and made better use, not only of the building but also of the grounds.

There is, for example, a well endowed kitchen garden, which could at least be turned into allotments if no group could be found to establish a market garden.

There is a substantial kitchen and dining room, which could be turned into a revenue generating eatery of some kind as well as servicing the bnb options. I don't believe I ever saw an ad offering bnb at the Plas and I would have paid attention as we used to run our own bnb in the area.

The Plas is on major walking and cycling routes but do they do anything to attract users in? Is it not possible to offer decent refreshments for a reasonable cost

I noticed some wooden carvings in various places. Are there no artists able to populate walks around the woodland for a share of a small charge for visitors and offer their art for sale? I believe most visitors would be willing to pay something be able to walk around parts of the grounds to see artists work. It's very popular in other countries, including one not too far away..

Walks could also focus on what makes the area special, many of the species were introduced by the Oakeleys and at least scarce in other communities

The language centre at Nant Gwrtheyrn is beautifully sited but fairly remote from most of Gwynedd. Couldn't an offshoot of the centre be located in the Plas and focused on an introduction to Welsh and developing the Welsh language and history through conversation? There are a number of people in the area with expertise and some may be willing to volunteer some services

The nearest garden centre is in Bryncir and there's another in Caernarfon. These are some distance away and the Plas has the finest setting for such an undertaking.

I can appreciate that the Plas is an expensive undertaking but I also believe the current stewards have done little to enhance its value to the community. It ought to be attracting people in, they should want to go because there are things they could do/take part in/watch etc..

I think you are giving in too easily and without having made a decent effort to develop the site. It's lazy to give in and sell off without trying, it's what the parliament in London have been doing for years and the results can be seen in the degrading of public services and utilities. It's hard to see what another hotel will be doing for the community or what value it adds to the Welsh dimension

Your sincerely,

Ross Lloyd

.

Please ensure that the public can continue to access the paths around Lyn Mair.

Roger Grenyer

Dear Madam, Sir,

I understand that Plas Tan y Bwlch is being sold, which is sad but probably unavoidable.

What is more alarming is that it has been offered together with the grounds, the kitchen garden and the community orchard. This means that there is a risk that the grounds, which have always been accessible to the public may now be closed.

That would mean a heavy loss to the local community, as well as to the general public.

There seems to be no reason why the Plas cannot be sold without the grounds, or guaranteeing at least that the grounds will remain publicly accessible.

I would urge the National park to reconsider, and take into account the interest of the community, by guaranteeing that the grounds and the community orchard remain publicly accessible, preferably by separating them from the sale of the house itself.

with regards,

Eveline van der Steen

Plas Tan-y-Bwlch

“The park and gardens at Plas Tan-y-bwlch are part of the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales World Heritage Site.”

*It is a jewel in the crown of the area in a National Park and we must keep it for public use. **On no account should it go out of public hands**, including the gardens of 90 acres. (In any case the asking price of £1.2 million is outrageously little and does not begin to reach its value to the nation.).*

Mothball temporarily for a few years for upgrading

Plan needed for future:

advertising widely in Wales, in Britain and indeed worldwide that anyone interested in the future of this unique area should give their views over a specified period;

Suggestions:

upgrade accommodation and use for all kinds of courses, based on the geology, geography and history of the area, as well as general courses, and:

attracting public events of all kinds, including as a centre for one or more national events;

use as a recuperation hospital or similar;

(super-class) hotel run by the National Park but with gardens open to public, and then:

attract first-class staff for any purpose who will actively seek to attract customers and ensure their comfort while there.

There must be many other suggestions about the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch

Requests for funding for any of the above (and other ideas) to go the Gwynedd Council, The Welsh Assembly, CADW, The National Trust...?

(Fairly recently Coleg Harlech (and its theatre) have been taken from public ownership. Can we afford to lose another jewel?)

G. T Eddy

I believe that it is very important that there is public access to the woods and lakes at Llyn Mair. I also believe community groups should be able to use the kitchen gardens.

It is so important that everyone should have access to nature.

Best wishes

Rebecca

Hello,

I'd like to sign the petition to keep Llyn Mair open to the public.

It is saddening to hear that Llyn Mair may be closed to the public. Being able to explore the outdoors with my family is essential to my own wellbeing as well as being fundamental to my child's development. It is vital to the development of resilience and independence that children have outdoor spaces to run, climb, and explore. Please keep public access to the woodlands and lakes at Llyn Mair.

Allowing community groups to restore and run the Victorian kitchen gardens would only be a positive. It would provide opportunities for local children to learn how to grow food and run a business, it could be used as an educational destination bringing money and new people to the area, and it could bring local people together, building a sense of community and connection.

Kindest regards,

Rebecca Barrett

Good afternoon,

In regards to the sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch, we would like to ask that consideration be made to allow public access to remain to the woods and lakes.

Kind regards

Maria Whittington-Williams

Annwyl pawb,

I am a local person

Plas Tan y Bwlch is at present in public ownership and should not be put into private hands for what would amount to a couple of years revenue. This I believe goes against the spirit of the Future Generations Act and using the spirit of that act the SNP should re-petition the Senedd and the Westminster government for emergency funding.

Failing any intervention the retention of the woodland, orchard, lake, hydro scheme, tree nursery etc is the least the National Park should do.

Julie Gritten

*Feedback on public drop-in session on 14 October 2024 at Plas Tan Y Bwlch**

**Feedback by local resident Anja Borum to be added to the official record and sent to ymgysylltuplas@eryri.llyw.cymru on Thursday, 17 October 2024*

General Observation

Whilst this public drop-in session was much welcomed by those who are concerned that such an important local asset could potentially be sold to a private buyer resulting in the loss of valued facilities that are currently at the public's disposal, the format and the publicising of the event fell short and were misleading.

Publicity

A general lack of publicity and rather low key approach for this drop-in session was observed prior to the event. The flyer which promoted the event on the Eryri National Park Facebook page was exclusively focused on the access issues to the local woodland and Llyn Mair which also form part of the PTYB estate. There was no mention of the actual historic building. The purpose of the event was described on the flyer as follows: "The purpose of the session is to provide clarity on public access to Llyn Mair and the surrounding woodlands, and to ensure that the public opinion is heard." This was misleading and biased towards attracting only the part of the community who are interested in the woods and lake but not those who may have an interest in the bigger picture including the heritage property. Therefore the members of the public in attendance may have only represented part of the general public.

This drop-in session, despite the large number of Eryri National Park Authority members present, cannot be classed as a full public consultation which must include all aspects of the estate in their entirety.

Drop-in Session Format

At the last Eryri Park Authority Meeting on 11 September 2024, a large number of members of the public were present who were alarmed by the potentially "rushed through" sale of PTYB without any sort of public consultation or impact assessment how this sale would affect the local community. Representatives of the press were also in attendance. With the public insisting on their voices being heard, it was decided that the Eryri National Park Authority would hold a formal meeting for the wider public and local Councillor Elfed Roberts offered to chair such a meeting.

Members of the public were concerned by the chosen format of an informal, day-long, non-chaired, non-minuted drop in-session. Furthermore this poor choice of format was interpreted as a strategic move to dilute the existing strong public opinion on the matter by dealing with individuals spread out over the day rather than a collective in one large room at a set time with a chairperson and accountability and transparency recorded via the minutes. In conclusion, the format of an informal drop-in session is unsuitable to inform the public cohesively on the issue.

In order for the wider public to understand how PTYB ended up in its current situation, it is crucial that the Authority is transparent and that the public is able to gain access to

detailed financials of past and current profit and loss accounts for PTYB as an individual asset rather than enveloped in other assets or liabilities of the Authority.

The local community have shown a strong opposition to a potential sale of PTYB to a private buyer. An effort is currently underway by Cymunedoli, an umbrella organisation for local charities and community initiatives, to look into how to this important asset could potentially be saved for the community. It would therefore be a serious lack in foresight, if not irresponsible by the Eryri National Park Authority to make any irreversible decisions on a sale before the Cymunedoli Feasibility Study is completed and all options are explored.

This feedback includes an official request for any decisions/votes on the subject of the sale of PTYB to be a “recorded vote” in future Eryri Park Authority Meetings.

Police Presence

It has become apparent that the sale of PTYB is a very emotive subject among members of the public. Although it must also go on the record that visible Police presence at the event can be construed as intimidating and hostile by those attending to obtain information and express their opinion in a democratic way.

Questions

Below is a list of questions in relation to PTYB to be addressed prior to any final decisions or votes made by the Members.

1.

Bearing in mind that the Welsh Assembly Government accounts for a large percentage of funding of the National Park via grants and other income streams, is there a legal requirement or a common courtesy good practice, that a Minister is consulted prior to the disposal of an important heritage asset such PTYB? If so, has this been done and when? What was the response?

-

Who is/was the Minister?

-

In what ministerial role?

-

Still in that role now?

2.

What is the statutory process of the disposal of public historic property and lands? Has this been followed?

3.

Has an impact assessment been carried out in terms of the potential loss of the asset to the local community? If so, where can this be accessed?

4.

When will the full public consultation take place? The drop in session is much valued but focused and marketed towards the loss of the woods/gardens not the property?

5.

Where does the newly appointed CEO Jonathon Crawley stand on the sale of PTYB?

6.

Authority states the cost of mothballing PTYB £75k/annum. Breakdown of costings where available?

7.

Repair cost of £3m over the next 10 years has been quoted, what is the breakdown and quotes to support financial statements?

8.

Authority state a loss of £250k/annum. Full disclosure of all income/costings/expenditures is required to evaluate including all liabilities. Breakdown of staff cost and all contract liabilities, utilities income streams including hydro, telephone mast and lease rentals to chalets and contract lengths

9.

Business plans and/or Management Reports for current business model? Available? Where?

10.

Are there any liabilities on grants to be returned to WAG if sold? What are they?

11.

Chalet leaseholds and access rights?

12.

Who owns the freehold to the chalets?

13.

The chalet included with the sale is advertised as freehold, all other chalets are leasehold. Is it freehold?

14.

How can public access to the woodlands be secured for future use in the event of a private sale?

15.

Existing covenants on the land and Rights of Way?

Please confirm receipt of this e-mail. Thank you.

Anja Borum

I am concerned that the proposed sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch, if a private individual buys the property and grounds, might mean the end of access to the grounds and Llyn Mair. This is an important recreational and wildlife experience resource which the general public have been able to enjoy for decades. It would be very sad if this came to an end.

Rod Gritten

Annwyl Jonathan Cawley,

Ysgrifennaf atoch fel Cadeirydd y Cyfeillion,(elusen a ffurfiwyd yn 1985) i'ch llongyfarch ar eich apwyntiad i swydd Prif Swyddog Gweithredol Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri. Rydym yn sylweddoli fod heriau mawr o'ch blaen gan fod yr hinsawdd economaidd bresennol yn un anodd iawn.

Rydym yn gwybod fod Plas Tan y Bwlch yn fyrdwn ariannol ar y parc ond gwyddom hefyd nad oes canolfan Astudiaethau'r Amgylchfyd arall i'w chael yn y Deyrnas Unedig. Mae pob parc cenedlaethol arall wedi gwerthu eu canolfannau addysg fel canlyniad i doriadau mewn ariannu gan y llywodraeth Doriaidd yn y gorffennol, felly yn hynny o beth mae Plas Tan y Bwlch yn unigryw. Mae hefyd yn adeilad cofrestredig Gradd II ac mae hyn yn cyfyngu ar beth y gellir ei wneud gyda'r lle. Serch hynny mae'n adeilad hardd mewn safle godidog.

Yn y gorffennol mae'r plas wedi bod yn werthfawr iawn mewn llawer maes- yn cynnig cyflogaeth a chyfle i fyfyrwyr o bob oed i gychwyn ar gyrsiau ymarferol ac addysgol a hyn yn gallu arwain at newid cyfeiriad bywyd aml i berson. Gallwn ddysgu am dirwedd a byd natur wrth edrych ar sgrin ond does dim yn cymharu gyda'r profiad byw, uniongyrchol. Dyma mae'r plas yn ei gynnig. Mae pob plentyn drwy'r wlad yn gorfod astudio tirweddau amrywiol ac mae pob un o'r mathau yma o dirweddau i'w cael o fewn awr o daith o'r plas. Mae yma gyfle, felly, i addysgu plant y dyfodol am y blaned rhyfeddol yma rydym yn byw arni. Dylid hysbysebu'r plas i awdurdodau addysg drwy Gymru a Lloegr fel y man delfrydol i gynnal cysiau ar yr amgylchfyd gan gofio hefyd am heriau cynhesu byd eang fydd yn wynebu ein disgynyddion. Yn wir dylid datblygu'r plas fel Canolfan Genedlaethol Astudiaethau Amgylcheddol. Dyma yw pwrpas bodolaeth y Cyfeillion a'n dyhead am y dyfodol.

Gwyddom fod cynlluniau Cymunedoli wedi eu cyflwyno i'r parc a mawr hyderwn y bydd eu sylwadau yn cael pob ystyriaeth gennych. Mae angen i ni gadw'r plas i fynd nes i ni gael yr arian loteri mae nhw'n ei geisio. Gall eto fod yn cynnig Gwely a Brecwast a phriodasau. Gall gynnal cyrsiau lle mae cymdeithsau yn trefnu eu tiwtoriaid ei hunain fel yn y gorffennol. Gall y Parc gydweithio gyda mudiadau addysgol fel colegau addysg bellach

a gwahodd y myfyrwyr a'u tiwtoriaid i fabwysiadu gerddi a choedwigoedd y plas i wneud gwaith maes. Felly hefyd mewn profiad gwaith ym maes arlwyaeth.

A oes posiblwydd ffurfio cwmni- Plas Tan y Bwlch.Cyf. a gwerthu cyfranddaliadu yn y cwmni? Mae'r lle yn golygu llawer i gymaint o bobl a byddai wir yn drychineb ei fod yn mynd i ddwylo preifat, estron, nad ydynt yn gwybod am y waddol gyfoethog sydd ganddo na'r hyn sydd ganddo eto i'w gynnig i Gymru a Chymry'r dyfodol.

Mawr hyderwn y gallwn gydweithio i sicrhau dyfodol i'r plas, lle y gall eto wasanaethu'r gymuned leol a'r genedl.

Yr eiddoch yn obeithiol,

Eirlys Gruffydd-Evans

(Cadeirydd Cyfeillion y Plas)

Dear Sir/Madam

RE. POTENTIAL SALE OF PLAS TAN Y BWLCH AND SURROUNDING LAND

We appreciate the financial pressures facing your Authority and the need to identify cuts in current spending. We also appreciate the challenges that maintaining a property of this type presents and that its sale would save on annual expenditure; decrease the Park's carbon footprint and also realise a considerable sum which would offset the current deficit in the Authority's budget. We welcome the Authority's decision to pause any sale of the Plas and hope that full consideration is given to the comments and concerns that have been expressed about the sale as a result of recent public consultation.

We wish to make the following comments particularly in relation to the access that walkers currently enjoy in the SNPA owned land which surrounds the building and also its impact on the network of paths in the wider area.

The fundamental premise underpinning the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act is that future generations will have at least the same quality of life as we currently enjoy and with all the evidence that supports the importance which access to the

outdoors plays in people's physical and mental well-being, any reduction in access to open spaces must be resisted. The agreement that was reached more than 40 years ago between the landowners in the area is a model of co-operation that should continue to be promoted and indeed expanded elsewhere. Without the network of paths that exist within the 103 acres which is in the ownership of the Park, the network of permissive paths from the surrounding land holdings would be severely compromised, and of course access to Llyn Mair would be lost. This would not sit comfortably with section 65(1) of the Environment Act 1995 which specifically refers to the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area as being the main purposes of a National Park since should the land be sold to a private buyer there is every likelihood that it would be used for their own exclusive use and the local community and others who visit the area will be denied access to this beautiful and diverse land.

Now that the sale has been paused, our understanding is that various options are being considered. Ideally the network of paths should be designated as ROW to properly ensure their future and give assurance about their future maintenance. We appreciate that designation can be a lengthy process and the financial burden for maintenance would then fall to Gwynedd Council for which they would need to be compensated. We believe that one of the options under consideration is for the SNPA owned land to be designated as Open Access land and we would support this although we would like to be assured that if this approach was adopted the paths would be subject to a legally binding maintenance agreement to ensure they would not fall into terminal disrepair. Whilst this too can be a lengthy process and require approval by Welsh Government this could be reflected in the sales particulars and give a degree of certainty to any potential purchaser to ensure a fair price is obtained. Paramount to any option that is considered is the need to protect public access to the area in perpetuity.

We urge the Authority to balance any quick solution of a sale against its wider legal obligations and also the moral obligations to protect the environment and promote its enjoyment by one and all.

Yours faithfully

Gillian Caves, Footpath Secretary, on behalf of Meirionnydd Ramblers

Dear Sirs,

I really wish to express my concern over the sale of Plas Tan Y Bwlch.

Is it possible to keep the woodlands in community or Park hands?

Have you considered allowing the community to have part of the gardens to grow food for the community

via the community food bank?

Please keep this important facility in the hands of the local people.

your sincerely

Karen Coe

Dear Sirs,

Having attended the very informative drop-in session regarding plans for Plas Tan y Bwlch, we would like to make the following observations:

Whilst we feel that both the building and the woodlands provide valuable amenities for visitors and local residents, we do appreciate the need to address the financial pressures faced by the Authority. However, we believe that the current approach of seeking to dispose of the Plas itself and the woodlands is a serious error. The woodlands provide the opportunity for many local residents and visitors to enjoy beautiful walks and it is absolutely essential that this amenity should be retained. Whilst it may be theoretically possible to "protect" walks through designation, we have seen examples elsewhere in the UK of landowners using a variety of excuses to block paths and exclude members of the public from land when this serves their purposes. We believe the only way to ensure full public access in the future is for the Authority to

exclude the woodlands from any disposal of the Plas and surrounding gardens. This would clearly still leave the opportunity for any future occupant of the Plas to enjoy access to the woodlands in the same way as other members of the public. This would also provide the opportunity for another body, such as the Woodlands Trust, to become custodians of the woodlands; whereas they would understandably be reluctant to become custodians of the entire estate, including the Plas itself.

In summary, our suggestion as to the best way forward is to withdraw from the market the combined Plas and woodlands. Options can then be pursued for the Plas, in terms of either a partnership arrangement or sale, whilst the woodlands should be retained pending identifying another body, such as Woodlands Trust, which might be prepared to become custodians.

We trust that this feedback is of value to the Authority.

Kind regards

John & Olwyn Hawkins

To whom it may concern

I am writing to you regarding the sale of Plas Tan y Bwlch.

It has come to my attention that Eryri National Park are planning on disposing of this asset along with one hundred or so acres of surrounding land.

Whilst I understand that the land around the building is classed as 'permissive', I am baffled to understand why no consultation took place with the public before the property went up for sale.

It is extremely upsetting to think that a firm favourite walk in the area is now going to be closed from public access, favouring the few residents, or patrons of Plas Tan y Bwlch. It is not in the spirit of the National Park to privatize areas to please the few. In fact, I can go so far as to say that it is pretty mean spirited to take away the access to locals that have enjoyed this space for 30 years plus.

As well as this spot being a beautiful place, I have noticed over the 10 years that I have frequented it, that due to the lake being close to a road, and the flat nature of that section of the walk, it is used by many elderly people that find other walks in the area to be a bit more challenging.

Having had a hip replacement that dislocated recently, and further surgery to repair it, I am very limited with my options of where to safely walk, so I can empathise with anyone suffering from mobility issues, that this would be a huge loss to them if it is closed off.

I urge you to find a solution that works for all parties involved. This lake and its surrounding walks are part of the heritage of the area and should be enjoyed by tourists and locals alike for many years to come. This can't just end up being about money, it is absolutely not what this Park is about.

Please do the right thing and keep the paths public. I don't normally spend my time writing these types of email, but I feel very strongly about this and I am compelled to take the time to let you know my feelings.

Let's keep this beautiful spot public.

Thank you for your time

Kind regards

Melissa Hunt

Dwi'n ysgrifennu ar ran digwyddiad cymunedol Trailffest, ac ar ran Clwb Rhedwyr Hebog; mudiadau lleol i ardal Porthmadog sy'n cynnal sesiynnau a ras rhedeg llwybrau er budd y gymuned leol.

Mae ras Trailffest yn ddigwyddiad fydd yn cael ei gynnal am y 10fed flwyddyn yn 2025 – gan glwb Rhedwyr Hebog.

Wedi ei sefydlu a'i drefnu yn wreiddiol gan gwpwl lleol, roedd y clwb yn awyddus i gefnogi a cymeryd drosodd (ar gais y trefnwyr gwreiddiol) prif drefniadau y fenter hon, gan ein bod yn gweld y budd cymunedol o'r digwyddiad – i bobol leol, ac ymwelwyr sy'n dod yn unswydd i wneud y ras.

Fe'i cynhelir yn mis Medi pob blwyddyn, a gyda dros 200 o redwyr yn cymeryd rhan yn flynyddol, mae'r cyfanswm o bobol sy'n cymeryd rhan dros flynyddoedd yn niferus. Mae elw y ras i gyd yn cael ei ddyrannu i elusennau a sefydliadau lleol

Gyda chefnogaeth hael gan sawl busnes lleol megis Rheilffordd Ffestiniog, Mŵs Piws a Oren, mae wedi datblygu yn ddigwyddiad poblogaidd iawn. Eleni bu i'r ras werthu allan am y tro cyntaf, ac rydym wedi cyfrannu dros £3000 i elusennau a sefydliadau lleol amrwyiol.

Mae llwybrau y ras yn mynd drwy'r goedwig uwchlaw Tan y Blwch, a tra nad ydyw yn mynd drwy unrhyw dir dan berchnogaeth y Parc, mae'r llwybrau yn agos iawn i'r ardal, ac felly, yn naturiol, mae gennym fel trefnwyr, ddidordeb yn nyfodol y mynediad i lwybrau yn y goedwig. Rydym yn grediniol ei bod yn bwysig iawn fod mynediad cyhoeddus i'r llwybrau o amgylch y Plas yn cael ei sicrhau.

Yn ogystal a threfnu y ras, mae Clwb Rhedwyr Hebog yn cynnal sesiynnau rhedeg wythnosol, drwy gydol y flwyddyn, mewn amrwy o leoliadau. Mae'r rhain yn sesiynnau rheolaidd i aelodau y clwb-trigolion lleol. Mae'r llwybrau yn y goedwig yn safle poblogaidd i'w ddefnyddio ar gyfer sesiynnau clwb – yn leoliad cyfleus mewn tywydd gwlyb yn y gaeaf, ac yn rhoi cysgod yn ystod cyfnodau poeth yr haf. Mae adnoddau naturiol fel yma yn fantais i'r ardal, sy'n brin iawn o adnoddau a chyfleusterau mwy ffurfiol, megis unrhyw drac rhedeg/ adnoddau dan do addas ar gyfer gwithgaredd o'r fath. Mae'r clwb yn ymfalchio ein bod yn gallu defnyddio yr adnoddau naturiol yma, ac eto, yn credu yn gryf ei bod hi'n holl bwysig bod mynediad cyhoeddus i safleoedd fel yma yn cael ei ddiogelu, er llês iechyd cymunedau lleol.

Hoffem i'r Parc gysidro hyn a gweithredu mewn modd sy'n diogelu mynediad fel hyn i drigolion lleol yn hir dymor.

Gyda diolch,

Sian Williams

Ar ran Rhedwyr Hebog.

A response to the public drop-in session held at Plas Tan y Bwlch on Monday, 14 October 2024 and COMPLAINT

Name: -

Derek Boyd

Point of view: -

Whilst I am grateful to those employees and representatives who took the trouble to attend the public drop-in session on Monday to explain the current position and to collate the thoughts and views of those who were able to attend, the timing of this drop-in session was nevertheless questionable. Falling as it did at the very beginning of the week being the most difficult of times for those who work, many may have found their opportunities to make themselves available significantly restricted. Furthermore, only later in the week was it made known in a passing conversation that contributions invited by e-mail would need to be submitted by Friday, 18 October, just 4 days after the session.

This drop-in session invitation itself came very late. The public had up to this point placed their trust in those with the responsibility and full knowledge of the problems faced by Plas Tan y Bwlch to actively seek solutions that would offer an alternative to the sale of the house and grounds. Yet it has become tragically apparent from the

conversations only now invited that there has been a complete failure to properly inform and a total lack of transparency. No active steps, nor any coherent strategy appears to have existed beyond placing the entire property on the market to 'see what happens'. In the process, almost a year has passed and we are now told time is increasingly of the essence due to prior known fiscal pressures.

The notice of the drop-in session makes no mention of a consultation, referring to it only in those terms. A cynical person may be forgiven for interpreting all this as a complete failure to provide, or at worst perceive it to be a concerted effort to deny the public any proper or meaningful opportunity to have their say.

I am not currently aware of the extent to which the National Park Authority has or does not have a duty under its constitution to consult. But there does exist a common law principle that failing to do so would be a breach of 'legitimate expectation' or could be 'conspicuously unfair'. It is simply a matter of good practice to consult, even where there may be no obligation. Fair consultation principles, known as the 'Gunning principles' state:-

Consultation must take place when the proposal is still at a formative stage

Sufficient reason must be put forward for the proposal to allow for intelligent consideration and response

Adequate time must be given for consideration and response; and

The results of consultation must be consciously taken into account

It seems clear that the drop-in session has fallen woefully short of the first three of these principles and having done so renders the fourth unachievable.

The non-existent/late notice of the cut off point for e-mail contributions only reinforces a perception that those involved may simply be paying 'lip service' to a community and

public sadly let down by an apparent lack of will to save for them what has been described as 'one of the finest Grade II listed buildings in Gwynedd'.

It has been reported that a plan to sell the property has been postponed until a meeting in November and that details of a secret bidder have been kept 'under wraps' until a final decision is made. A much-respected Cllr Edgar Wyn Owen is reported to have said that the Authority had already 'listened' to the public and this is why an earlier decision had been deferred. Significantly, he went on to say '... it is important that we take time to consider the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch. We have agreed that every option should be evaluated and that we will engage with the community and work closely with potential buyers to make the right decision for this historic property.'

I believe I share in the view of a vast majority of the community that the National Park Authority is far from fulfilling this noble sentiment.

Were this statement to hold true, it would make no sense for final decisions to be made ahead of a proper open and transparent public consultation to determine how the community can contribute to the search for an optimum solution, involving themselves in any discussions with interested parties, including potential buyers and stakeholders, to ascertain and understand their intentions, and the intentions of the National Park, towards a secure and binding future for a property that holds such significance, not just locally, but as an important part of Welsh heritage.

It is doubtful that any member of the public will have failed to understand and appreciate the fiscal pressures that now come to bear. Yet it seems beyond comprehension that a building as prestigious and culturally significant to the heritage of Wales in the heart of a National Park should be offered for sale and be allowed to pass into private hands without a pro-active, complete and thorough exploration of the alternative options. There is simply no confidence that partnerships, sponsorships, alternative funding, grants etc. even charitable status, have so far been conscientiously, properly or adequately explored to any point that any claim by the National Park Authority that they have will possibly hold up.

During my own discussions on Monday I suggested the urgent formation of an independent committee of lay persons, to include representatives from the Plas and from the Park, to work together in a constructive manner applying their individual skills,

expertise and contacts. Such a committee would provide the public and the Authority with opportunities for in-depth analysis of the fiscal issues faced in the short and long term with possible mitigations or solutions, consideration and scrutiny from all angles for future use involving the consideration of appropriate business models to ensure financial stability and employment, taking into account the different considerations required to be given for the benefit of the many interests that need to be addressed, garden and woodlands being just two of them.

For example, a dissection of the maintenance and essential building costs would expand the opportunities to explore ways to buy more time to keep the property active while a wider exploration is conducted into the business options available that would succeed where the existing business model did not. This is, after all, what any perspective purchaser in the commercial sector would do and no doubt successfully, so there is no reason whatsoever why similar achievements should be beyond the reach of a publicly controlled asset.

It is beyond doubt that the Authority will not have the time it needs at the next meeting in November to fully digest all the matters discussed during the drop-in session and in these e-mails, and certainly there will be insufficient time to make any informed or balanced definitive decision. To do so would be to ignore the depth of feeling and incontrovertible need for time to find a solution that would properly respect this deserving property.

The work of such a committee may be time-tabled, but with the initial emphasis on steps that might be taken now to ease the immediate fiscal burdens and then to further explore various options for use, repair and onward financing and operation through numerous possible channels such as those suggested above to discuss, explore, crystalize, coordinate and channel the viable options to present and report to the National Park Authority and the public. Only when fully informed can an honest and safe appraisal be made and definitive decisions taken.

Such a committee should be totally transparent in its workings and would be in a position to keep the public fully informed and at the very least provide a platform that might satisfy the community that all reasonable avenues are being explored and steps taken to find a best possible solution.

Sale of the Plas surely has to be a last resort. Viable alternatives to sale giving better value to the Park and public will exist and should not be overlooked before the proverbial baby is thrown out with the bathwater. At the drop-in session a past lack of fiscal astuteness that has sadly contributed to the current situation was admitted. The failure of past business models does not mean there is not a better business model to be found. Put simply, placing the property on the market and waiting for something to happen was never going to present any outcome that, on any view, could legitimately be considered, to paraphrase Cllr Edgar Wyn Owen 'an evaluation of every option'.

Without exploration there can be no discovery.

Although I do not live in Gellilydan, I am a frequent visitor to the area and really love walking in the woods around Lynn Mair. In fact it is my favourite place to go.

I would like to think that it might be possible for the beautiful grounds which surround Plas Tan y Bwlch to be gifted to the local community. After all, it is part of Welsh national heritage.

Might it be possible for its maintenance to be run by the council with a volunteer workforce? If more people knew about its impending fate, then more could perhaps be done to avert it and prevent its loss as a community amenity.

Could Wales develop its own National Lottery to help preserve its own rich historic heritage?

All too late perhaps but I sincerely believe selling off the beautiful historical Plas Tan y Bwlch is a step in the wrong direction and worth pondering over a little longer.

The likely projectory may lead to it one day being owned internationally with local people being denied access to a national legacy for short term gains.

Yours sincerely,

Janette Allotey

To Whom it May Concern

I'm writing to express my support for the campaign to retain access to the paths, lakes and woodland of Plas Tan y Bwlch.

I have lived in Maentwrog for three years now and I walk my dog through the woods literally every day, come rain or shine. It would be a tragedy if a public body sold off this vital public asset without ensuring that the rights of local people to access it were protected and preserved.

I'm particularly concerned that access will eventually be denied through the back door... a sale will be made and we'll be told that access has been agreed. However, who would maintain the woods? It's not hard to imagine that the first time a tree falls across a path, it will then be closed on spurious 'health and safety' grounds.

I'm not originally from this area but I'm fascinated by the history of Eryri and the slate industry... the Plas was built on the blood and sweat of local families, many of whom will have given their lives in the harshest of working conditions. It is essential that their descendants and those of us lucky enough to have been able to move here are able to continue accessing the beautiful woodland for which their labour paid.

Many thanks for your attention.

Kind regards,

Steve Nevitt

This building with its gardens, woodland, paths and lakes is a national resource of immense value. Access should be maintained for the good of us all, now and into the future.

It would be a huge waste to sell it, we would never be able to afford anything like it ever again.

When it's gone, it's gone.

Stuart Emeny.

Good day.

As a resident of Maentwrog I would like to register my distaste of the proposal to sell off Plas Tan y Bwlch. I understand the fiscal perspective of this decision, but it seems that this consultation has been rushed given the circumstances, and the notion of selling off the Park's "crown jewels" as it are will result in a loss of a very important building in the area, steeped in the history of the village of Maentwrog.

Given the short time we have to prepare responses, please note the following bullet points:

- The consultation was announced at short notice to run on a working day until 7pm. This gave members of the public little time to make arrangements to attend the session, or to respond accordingly*
- The loss of access to the trails around the Plas and Llyn Mair will result in a major loss of amenity to residents and visitors to Maentwrog*
- Making the woodlands associated with The Plas public access spaces/designating public footpaths will mitigate against that loss of amenity - ideally those areas would not be included in the sale, but donated to the National Trust or The Woodland Trust*

- *The Plas should have been put under the stewardship of a commercial manager over a decade and a half ago to allow it to "wash its face" financially (noted during conversations with Plas staff when my wife and I were married there in 2008 - the building is a fantastic wedding venue!). Had steps been taken many years ago, the building would be an asset to The Park, not a financial drain. The property has suffered from poor management.*
- *The purpose of the National Park Authority is to protect and enhance the qualities that make Eryri special. The National Park Authority's work covers a wide range of issues in Eryri, including visitor management, **conservation** and forestry and planning and development. To protect the Plas is within the SNPA mission statement. Plas Tan y Bwlch and its gardens are part of what makes this corner of Eryri special.*
- *It was noted during the consultation that "the current business models at Plas Tan y Bwlch have not been sustainable - this has been the case for many years, so why has it not been adequately addressed?"*
- *Given the somewhat punitive planning restrictions imposed by the SNPA on development in the Park, in contrast the treatment of Plas Tan y Bwlch seems somewhat hypocritical - why repair terrace walls of a grade 2 listed building when a simple wicket fence will do the job?*
- *No details of business partners or sponsors have been published or commented on in order to secure external funding for Plas Tan Y Bwlch*
- *Given the importance of the building to the history of the local area I'm sure as with the Ffestiniog Railway there will be plenty of volunteers who would offer to help with the maintenance or running of a re-imagined Plas Tan y Bwlch*
- *It seems no great effort has been made in the last decade or so to market and generate income from Y Plas. Even when residential courses were running, they had a twee element to the subject matter. Perhaps partnering with local businesses or educational facilities would also drive income?*
- *An alliance at director/board level with for example green energy suppliers who operate in or close to the the area may forge mutually beneficial arrangements; wind farm operators or suppliers for instance may sponsor or subsidise The Plas in exchange for publicity about green agenda ventures - thinking about higher level investment opportunities rather than smaller local businesses may yield greater revenue contributions.*

I hope these thoughts/ideas can add value to this situation.

Kind regards,

Darren Ryder

I echo the response below ...with sadness that you have not engaged with the local community in any way prior to the sale and indeed the cafe has been closed for years now .

Please reconsider and engage with locals

Kind regards

Emma Ryder

Sticky Notes

Hopefully it won't be sold be a shame to lose the forest for walking the dogs

Concerns about continuing free access to the countryside

Alternative energy option with sun and water energy efo'r coed, etc l'r Parc

Pwysig cadw llwybrau uwchben y Plas yn agored

I'll add my voice, please do not sell off the woods without public access

iPads

What is your opinion on the future of Plas Tan y Bwlch, particularly regarding the woodlands and Llyn Mair? (Please share any thoughts you have. All comments will be reported to the Authority before any final decisions are made.)

“Defiantly should not be included in the sale , strongly feel it has been added to make the sale more attractive”

“I completely disagree with selling the woodland and llyn mair. It is essential that public access is maintained, the SNPA must keep ownership of all the woodland.”

“You need to separate the woodlands from the sale of the plas , totally disagree with the sale”

“Ddylie fod mynediad cyhoeddus a’r rhwydwaith o lwybrau caniataol cael ei parhau, drwy CROW act neu debyg. A’i rheolaeth parhau drwy’r parc neu YG. 2. Os ydi y tir a’r plasdy am gael ei gwahannu mi fydd angen cadw mynediad o’r lôn gwaelod. 3. Ddylie fod y cymuned a busnesau lleol cael blaenorieth wrth cysidro gwerthu 4. Rhaid cadw’r un trefn efo cyfrifoldebau terfynnau, coed ayyb wrth gwerthu 5. Ychwanegu TPO i’r coed yn ychwanegol i’r SSSI”

“I would absolutely like to see access to the surrounding land preserved and preferably still under the control of the national park. And thought taken to maintain access to the community orchard on the main road. It would be particularly pleasing to see some sort of partnership formed between the national park and either a private concern or community based organisation. I also believe that some thought and checking needs to be done on the plans of any new buyer if they buy this wonderful property outright. In the end I do believe that if this transaction is carefully managed it could be a very positive step in the right direction and needs to be handled with great care. Many thanks for the opportunity to voice my opinion.”

“As the neighbouring landowner at Hafod y Llyn and co-instigator of the Dyffryn Maentwrog footpath network, I am very that this public asset remains intact, meaning if necessary retention of the woodlands and lake in public control. I would add that many of our continental visitors to our holiday let (the old kennels)& arrive with the assumption of enjoyment”

“I believe its incredibly important to keep the woodlands around llyn mair, and if possible, the plas building as a community asset. In terms of the woodland - access to this area is of huge importance to local residents, for our wellbeing and health, as well as the general ethical principle of allowing common access to natural areas. I would entirely support the idea of the trust keeping ownership of this land in order to ensure that local people have access to this area of beauty, now and for generations to come. In terms if the house - I would absolutely support the purchase of the building by a community run organisation so that the house can keep serving the people that live here. Id like to request that the decision about the sale be postponed and not made during the next meeting in November, to give any community organisation more time to get a proposal together. This could be an amazing thing for the area, and any community organisation will need more time to raise the money and write a business plan.

I understand the need for significant funding input to “save” or repair the Plas future and this may require private funding such as a sale or partnership. This makes sense to me and I am hopeful that this can be achieved in a way that keeps the Plas available to the local community and contributes to the local economy. However I am very concerned about maintaining public access to Llyn Mair and the woodland paths! I run and walk these paths on a regular basis - several times each week - and I consider these pathways to be a local treasure, enjoyed by many local residents and visitors alike. I strongly encourage and recommend that any sale or partnership use for the Plas should not include these pathways and lands. It makes sense to me that the gardens and the Plas could be developed and that separately the public access paths could remain managed and open in the manner that they presently are. As a Maentwrog resident I would support such an approach. Diolch”

“I enjoy walking in the woods, I like that yoga sessions have been run here, I have been here for courses at the hall, I have been out with woodland trust for ancient tree inventory course. I feel like the field studies centre is a vital part of what a national park should do as a public service. Will this continue. I know the cheaper accommodation has been useful for other courses being run in the area. It would be preferable that the building was run as a not for profit operation to provide reasonable accommodation for young people to stay to learn about the area. Have other charities been approached cmc centre at pensarn. Have local businesses such as dioni holidays been approached to give their opinion on the business operation. If the community had a louder voice could demands be made of welsh government to give more funding to the park authority. Is there a link with coed y Bren in in terms of an operator helping with the

profitable operation of them. Access to the outdoor space is my personal concern but the loss of another field studies centre is a concern that future generations will miss out on learning opportunities”

“Rydym yn gwneud defnydd cyson o’r llwybrau - beicio mynydd a cherdded - ers boynyddoedd maith ac felly mae’r lle yn agos iawn at ein calon. Byddai colli mynediad i’r llwybrau a’r byd natur yn ergyd drom i ni. mae’n drist iawn meddwl am golli mynediad a methu cael treulio amser hamddennol yn ganol byd natur ac awyr iach. wedi gweithio i’r Parc, ac wedi treulio lot fawr o amser yn y Plas, mae drist meddwl am gwmni/unigolyn preifat yn cymryd y lle drosodd.”

Llyfrau Cofnodi

I am a local resident – the area is socio-economically deprived, but rich in natural resource. The natural resources are rich but accessibility is an issue re many i.e. due to mobility issues. There are also few areas where dogs can be left off lead in the area – this being one of few. There is a strong community of walkers (Particularly with dogs) that use the area around Llyn Mair on a regular basis (including myself on a daily basis).

I know of one lady in her late 80s that brings her dog to Llyn Mair – I think this is the onlcy social contact she has.

I feel strongly that we need to maintain right to public access to the paths, it would be a great loss to local people and to visitors and would probably have a negative impact on visitor numbers to the railway.

Rachel Davies

Our primary concern is that the public access to the footpath network in the woods behind Plas is retained by whatever mechanism most suitable and that the network maintains the cohesion of the entire footpath network of footpaths through the whole of

the Rhiw Goch/ Cae Fali/ Crysfa/ Garnedd / Coed Hafod y Llyn. We think the best and easiest way to do this would be to exclude this portion of land from the Park's sale of its land at PTYB. Failing that, we would like to see the woods being designated as open access land as per the CROW's Act provisions. Unfortunately, we reluctantly agree that making the current permissive paths into statutory rights of way is impractical.

The worst and unacceptable outcome would be for the park to sell the entire land holding associated with PTYB and for a new owner to revoke all the permissive paths. We acknowledge that trying to retain the part of the footpath networks in the gardens may be a lost cause.

S Walton and C Davies

Concerns and questions

The woodlands and the ground surrounding PTYB are rich in wildlife. In March/ April 2024 more than one pair of Pied Flycatchers were active on territories within the land owned by the NP. Wood Warbler a species like Pied Flycatcher which migrates here to breed from S Europe and Africa and which are particular about their breeding habit – showing at present they breed here and could do. It's important to consider these and other species such as Redstart as well as bat species.

The NP could perhaps consider separating the woodland from the sale, if it happens – of Plas itself. In private ownership the woods and Llyn Mair could be compromised. Birds, mammals, bryophytes sometimes respond badly to sudden change.

The sale of buildings themselves let alone the land sets a bit of a precedent. Worry that this could be seen as the first of several off loads of any assets not making money – its a big backward step. The public interest and financial input of bodies such as the PC and National Trust should be considered as a long-term guarantee of security of these places.

It's a very radical decision to sell outright, Money recouped £1.1 million is a drop in the ocean of what costs are apparently concurred by the Plas at present. Have all other avenues (moth balling, community involvement, renting to universities as field studies centre etc?). Once it's gone, it will never again be gifted to the Cyngor or NP.

Oak woodland – its concerning that there seems to be no very effective preservation measures. Individual specimen trees in the collection could be seen as threats to life and buildings by a private owner and be felled before any preservation order (Issued only where there is a threat)

The Oak woodland around Llyn Mair as well as the Willows in the wet areas are home to unique species of birds, bryophytes and lichens. Its also a quiet, calm area essential qualities to preserve – as an artist, naturalist and birdwatcher I recognise this. I'm sure walkers also derive pleasure and well-being along these woodland pathways and it is important that their access is maintained.

The National Park ethos, of preserving landscapes and habitats should be one of integrity not to be sold off especially if sale price is so small it would not enable them to purchase somewhere in lieu to preserve instead.

Lakes and their role in hydroelectric generation in the past is important archeologically. Surely this should be accessible to all. Although the Plas is listed it could be accessible to the public which is obviously the intention of the Oakley family.

What is the history of the Plas? Was it gifted to the Council then the NP? Was there any written agreement that this should be kept in public ownership.

Kim

Why no consultation before? What are other orgs – NT, Woodland Trust, Ffestiniog Railway etc saying as most access crosses all land.

Feel Plas has been run down over the years and since Covid – either by neglect, mismanagement, or design? Historic build – history Oakley family etc, gardens, wonderful views etc.

Think - £1.1 million price is a joke! Who decided?

Footpaths should be sacrosanct for all to enjoy – walkers, dog walkers, wild swimmers etc.

If all else fails, I would have to accept that only the house and gardens and direct access roads should be sold. All the surrounding forest, lakes, tracks, footpaths should be left as they are now.

Rosie Thorne

The decision to consider selling the house and large amount of land should not be considered. Let prospective buyers have the land below the railway line. The rest should be non-negotiable.

The Park Authority should be reminded of their chief aims/ manifesto and not ever sell out to a private speculator. I walk the woods daily. I know the woods – they are beautiful and provide balance in my life.

All paths/ lakes were created by local people. Men who were in the employ of owner of Plas and seldom lived more than 40 years. Upon their death their wives had only the workhouse.

It is right we should walk the woods now and enjoy their efforts. To betray and sell them out should not be a consideration. Respect and integrity before £££.

Mark Satterthwaite

Biggest concern is access to Llyn Mair. Sad that is a good resource that might be let go. Ask to delay any final decision from the November meeting.

Jane Blakeman and Barney Frith

The assets at Plas TYB have been sustained and created by public funds ever since its purchase. The woodland has many paths which have been created without cooperation of the landowners. This in itself is an amazing creation providing mental health and physical health benefits for many. In a time when these things are becoming more important for people it is unbelievable that a public body would ever be considering this.

Open discussion is required to air all opinions and needs for the future.

There is vast mileage of paths as far as shown have never been published which could be used from youth work – scout, forest schools etc.

Please don't let the pathways around the Plas disappear for the use of the public. So many locals walk the grounds and Lakes on a daily basis. Wild Water swimmers love the upper lake. We're from Shropshire but had a caravan at Felinryd Fach for 40 years and this is our local walk. We've passed this love of the area to our daughter and now our grand daughter who will carry on the tradition.

Could you re-introduce the cafe and advertise it more? Could you re-introduce all the courses you had before Covid – I thought that was a huge success? Can't you let out eh chalets as Air BnB or holiday lets? Turn it into outdoors centre?

Audrey Pugh

Concerns about woodland and Llyn Mair

Press reported that this is a secret meeting

The Railway leaflets and routes – they sell packages and one of the most popular ones is the 'Woodland Wanderer' - lots of people use the Dyffryn Maentwrog map for walks (1 hour stop at the PTYB station)

Phil Hawkins – Ffestiniog Railway (Director of Society)

Licio i weld y coedlannau yn cael eu rheoli er budd natur a bioamrywiath yn ogysal a mynediad i bobl fwynhau. A ellid gwahanu'r goedwig oddi wrth yr adeilad/ gardd a chynnig y Woddlan Trust neu'r NT gymryd rheolaedth?

Mae'n ddealladwy bod angen gwerthu'r Plas, mae pawb yn gwybod sut mae hen adeiladau anferth yn llyncu pres, ond mae'n biti braidd hefyd. Petai gen i fwy o amser ad adnoddau fe fyddwn yn ystyried gwirfoddoli i dreio sefydlu rhwybeth ond...

Awgrymaf l'r Awdurdod osod statws clir y tir a'r llwybrau a'r coed. Nid oes unrhyw Lwybr Cyhoeddus statudol ar fy map OS 1: 25,000 ac nid oes unrhyw fynediad cyhoeddus dan y Ddeddf Cefn Gwald ac Hawliadu Tramwy ar fy map ychwaith.

Efallai y bydd yn haws cael pris teg efo sicrwydd ar fyneduaed. Buasai statws statudol yn ymddangos ar y map OS. Buasai cyframodau yn well na dim byd, ond ni fusasent yn ymddangos ar fapiau OS.

Hefyd efallai buasai rhai tystysgrifau Defnydd/ Datblygiad cyfreithiol o gymorth wrth gynnwng y Plas i'r farchnad.

John Bowers,

Cyfeillion Tan Y Bwlch.

Elusen a ffurfiwyd yn yr Wythdegau i amddiffyn y Plas pan roedd o dan fygythiad.

Mae'r Plas wedi gwneud cyfraniad anhygoel i Gymru ac l'r ardal drwy addysgu cenedlaethau o blant a phobl ifanc ym myd natur a'r amgylchedd. Dylai gael ei ddatblygu fel canolfan genedlaethol nid ei gwerthu.

Beth am ei logi i wahanol gymdeithasau tan fydd posib i wneud cais Loteri am arian? Angen gohirio penderfyniad brys. Beth ddaeth o'r astudiaethau cynladwyedd a wnaed yn y gorffennol?

Dylid edrych ar bob opsiwn cyn gwerthu – cyrsiau profiad gwaith, coedwigaeth

Beth am werthu Pencadlys y Parc a staff symud i Plas?

House is too splendid to lose. Want to see it owned by a responsible public body and not private.

Most important is Llyn Mair and the woodlands as it's used by so many people.

Keep as much as we can.

Woodland Trust should take over the woodlands.

Sheila a Ron Cole

I am of the opinion that the NPA have not given the local community the 3 month consultation period that is required by law. I understand that you are in financial difficulty but that's been brought about by your lack of vision and non implementation of strategies to make PTYB pay i.e. become self sufficient financially as it was pre covid.

Whi is the place standing idle today?

I know that you are talking with Cymunedoli about the future of this place.

You need to try harder to communicate with the local community.

I am against selling publicly owned buildings to private individuals.

Ult needs to be made clear to the public the legal steps the NPA have to take to do this. And for you to follow them.

Again I am against selling PTYB – there has to be a abetter option.

Cofnodion

Deddf 1972 – adran 123 (2A), 127 (3)

Ydi rhain wedi cael eu cadw at?

Hysbysu i fod mewn papurau newydd.

*Cyfarfod cyhoeddus – dal i aros am un - *un o'r pethau pwysiaf i wneud* a'r ffordd democrataidd o wneud.*

PTYB hefo mwy o hanes lleol na'r Ysgwrn

Diffyg gwybodaeth yn boenus

Dyla cymuned Maentwrog wedi bod yn fwy ynghlwm.

Checkio os oedd na 106 ar y chalets/ 11 month occupance

Leasehold/ freehold ydi'r chalets?

Pwy/ sut/ be gafo nhw ei gwerhtu?

Adroddiad 2022 – ydi o ar gael l'r cyhoedd?

Record o waith diffygiol contractwyr ddim yn gwneud gwaith o safon

Ffigyrau hydro – ymchwil i ffigyrau Plas – i weithredu yn effeithiol

Barod i werthu – cynghori hefo'r gymuned cyn arwyddo?

Iechyd y bobl, future generations act – health and well-being.

Oes yna arian cyhoeddus yn mynd l'r Ysgwrn – faint sydd di mynd ers l'r Ysgwrn gael ei agor?

Grant i wneud Yr Ysgwrn – pam bod Plas heb gael? - Faint o subsudies sydd wedi bod i Plas – copis o business plan Plas.

Teulu Plas wedi byw oddi ar fywydau'r chwarelwyr. Bwysig peidio colli'r adnodd yna fel adnodd cyhoeddus.

Adroddiad carbon – cael rhannu?

Meredydd Williams Maentwrog

John Llywelyn Richards Talsarnau

Very concerned about the access to wthe woodlands – completely against this!!

All access should be kept as permissable paths as it is extremely important to locals and visitors also.

I think everything possible should be done to sell to a public body rather than a private body for commercial gain!

Why are the NP okay with such a low valuation?! This seems completely wrong and difficult to understand!

I require access past llyn Mair to where I live – what happens to that?!

Very poor consultation with locals – previously in good time. What happened to the 3 month consultation period?!

Simply can't understand why the NP have let it get to this stage.

The woodland access should never have been put as part of the sale!!

W Davies

Very disappointed with all concerned in this proposed sale. Shameful that public buildings and paths should be sold off – and not to the highest bidder as the valuation seems vastly underpriced. Who was responsible for this valuation? One estate agent? Shocked that the NP agreed to this. Has there been a legal consultation period?

So short sighted – such lack of vision regarding the welfare of the community and visitors who greatly benefit from the Plas and woods.

It doesn't feel as if all options have been explored. Such a bad look for the NP and all others involved in this. Also during this meeting, I was given different information from different representatives.

Get a grip on custodianship and grow some ethics.

J League

Mae'n rhaid achub yr adeilad yma ar gyfer y genedl. Adeilad eiconig ac adnodd amhrisiadwy. Mae'r diffyg trylowyder gan y Parc ynglyn a'r gwerthaint ac mae wedi achosi adwaith fawr yn y gymuyned leol. Oes diffyg gwelediagaeth wedi bod? Oes pob afeniw wedi'i throedio o ran cael arian i helpu'r Parc gadw'r adeilad? Rhaid ailfeddwl y penderfyniad i werthu heb os!!

Gwerthiant yn rhy isel o ran pris. Angen i'r llwybrau sydd ar dir adeilad y Plas fod yn agored hefyd. Cylchoedd cerdded hollol naturiol o gwmpas y coedlannau. Pethau wedi mynd lawr yn aruthrol ers cyfnod Twm Elias yno – cael y teimlad bod Yr Awdurdod wedi gadael i'r lle gael ei redeg lawr.

Gareth Jones

Cyfraniad mae Plas Tan y Bwlch wedi ei wneud i godi ymwybyuddiaeth am dreftadaeth a chadwraeth drwy gyrsiau a chynhadleddau amrywiol wedi bod yn amhrisiadwy i Gymru. Fyddai colli adnodd mor mwysid yn siomedig wrth ystyried cyflawni pwrpasau'r Parc.

Gymaint sa'n gallu cael ei wneud yma, y lle yn gweithio bron fel ffatri gymdeithasau yn yr 80au a 90au.

Mae'r llwybrau yn destament i gydweithio a gweledigaeth staff y Plas. Mae'r coedlannau hefyd yn enghraifft da iawn o'r Coed Celtaidd ac yn cynnwys mwsoglau a chen prin.

Y coed derw brodorol hynaf yn yr ardal yn y gerddi gan fod y teulu Griffiths/Oakeley wedi eu cadw. Mae'r gerddi yn un o'r esiamplau gorau o erddi Fictorianaidd. Mae'r gerddi a coedlannau hyn wedi bod yn asedau allweddol i'w defnyddio wrth gynnal cyrsiau. Gerddi wedi cael eu dylunio i annog bywyd gwyllt.

Pam nad y'w hydro yn gweithio'n ddigon da i ddarparu egni i'r Plas. Mi oedd yn gweithio'n iawn yng nghyfnod Andrew Oughton.

Plas yn bwysig fel pecyn cyfan nid dim ond y coedlannau a Llyn Mair, mae wedi cyfrannu'n sylweddol at yr economi leol, wedi rhoi cyfleoedd swyddi a mi roedd cymdeithasau a phwyllgorau lleol yn cael defnyddio'r lle am ddim.

Ysgolion o ar draws Cymru yn cael do dyna i dderbyn addysg trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg yn ogystal ag ysgolion a chlegau o Loegr yn cael dod i ddysgu am Eryri.

Plas yn rhan bwysig o ddynodiad llechi UNESCO. Hanfodol diogelu archif y Plas, mi roedd y cyrsiau yn hanfodol bwysig wrth adeiladu'r archif. Mi fydd y dynodiad yna yn bwysig a gall dynnu mwy o bobl yno.

Llawer o bobl wedi gwneud yn dda y neu gyrfaoedd trwy fynychu cyrsiau'r Plas.

Economi wedi dod allan o bob dirwasgiad a mae na le i Plas barhau i ffynnu a mi fdd na fwy o gyfleoedd ac adnoddau i'w gael yn y dyfodol.

Os di'r Parc yn cael gwared o ased cyhoeddus yna mi fydd wedi mynd am byth. Mae angen i'r Awdurdod ohirio unrhyw benderfyniad ym mis Tavchwedd er mwyn rhoi mwy o amser i Cymunedoli a Chyfeillion y Plas.

Twm Elias

We are local and we always love walking our dogs around Llyn Mair and the woodlands. Selling part of the local history is sad and an asset you will never get back. It's a sad situation all around, but we would prefer that the woodlands remain in public hands and no planning permission's for anything will be accepted there. The celtic rainforest is so important.

There are not a lot of open spaces for dog walkers in the area and this is a special place. We have met new people there, and have made a lot of new friends over the years.

Tainia & Liz

Cadwraeth y safleoedd yn bwysig iawn, mae o'n le da i fynd a plant o gwmpas y llyn.

Ryan Williams

Concerned about historic access over land into areas of Woodland Trust, ancient celtic rainforests and the place of very valued environmental heritage. The Plas is an historic asset that should stay in public control not private!

IF the house has to be sold, it should be just the house and gardens and NOT the land. This is used by many locals and visitors all year round.

Ewen and Samantha

