



# Community update

Autumn 2020



## Hello and welcome

to the Autumn/Winter Edition of *Community Update* from the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

**We find ourselves in very uncertain times and the past six months have been unlike any the Brecon Beacons National Park has seen in its 70 plus years of existence.**

The summer saw substantial visitor numbers at locations across the National Park, many of whom were discovering what the Park has to offer for the first time. While this caused some considerable challenges in particular parts of the National Park, we, working in close collaboration with our local authority and policing colleagues, Natural Resources Wales and other partners, worked as hard as we could to manage those challenges and traffic volumes in particular.

We would welcome any views you may have on how the measures we put in place this summer could be further improved. Please contact [enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk)

At the time of writing we are facing an uncertain future, but I hope this newsletter shows that, while Covid has been in the forefront of everyone's minds, much good work has been going on across the Park in spite of the restrictions we are all living with.

*Julian Atkins, CEO, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority.*

## New poetry stones grace the A470

**In 2020 four poetry stones were erected at locations along the Cambrian Way (A470) through the National Park. Poems, composed by Owen Sheers and Ifor ap Glyn and celebrating the place where each stone resides, have been carved into chunks of Blue Pennant Sandstone. These stones are part of the Wales Way initiative and have been part funded by Visit Wales.**

Why don't you check them out the next time you're journeying through the National Park? They can be found at Blaen Taf/Storey Arms; Craig y Fro layby; Cantref and Llwyn-onn reservoirs.

A stunning stone bench has also just been completed at Craig y Fro, within a 'stone's throw' from the poetry stone. Artist David Mackie designed the bench and made the inlays of the wildlife, and stone waller Alan Jones, built the bench with his son.



Poetry stone  
Blaen Taf/  
Storey Arms  
New stone  
bench at  
Craig y Fro  
layby.

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National Park staff with Rhodri Thomas (centre) of Cynnal Cymru.

## Brecon Beacons - the first Welsh National Park to receive carbon literacy training!

Carbon Literacy is, 'an awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions on an individual, community and organisational basis.' In early October, the Brecon Beacons became the first Welsh National Park to receive carbon literacy training from the Carbon Literacy Project. This project aims to ensure that every citizen receives at least one day's worth of learning so that they understand the links between human activity and climate change, while empowering individuals, communities and organisations to take action to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Organised by Ceri Bevan, Sustainable Communities Officer; nine staff undertook the online training with Rhodri Thomas of Cynnal Cymru, currently the only certified carbon literacy trainer in Wales. Staff considered how they could help reduce their own carbon footprint, along with their community and the Park Authority.

**For more information about the training please contact:**  
[www.cynnalcymru.com/carbon-literacy/](http://www.cynnalcymru.com/carbon-literacy/)

## Small Steps mental health project brings health and well-being benefits

The two-year Small Steps project finished at the end of September with a socially distanced walk and outdoor celebration with participants joined by both National Park and Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) staff.

Welsh Government funding enabled this joint project and joint pilot research project to go ahead. A series of walks and activities in the National Park followed, involving participants referred by the Mental Health Service and led by staff from the National Park's Communities team.

Psychologists from PTHB conducted quantitative and qualitative research throughout the project and found that getting outdoors in the National Park had a significant effect on depression and anxiety, increased general wellbeing and led to reduced service use from NHS, third sector and emergency services.

At the (rather wet!) celebration, participants were presented with a framed copy of one of their photos taken on the photography activity days, along with maps and guides to help them continue exploring the National Park. One participant said, "I wanted to say that it has been incredibly beneficial to my mental health to see so much of the National Park that I wouldn't otherwise have seen. It has been good as a motivation to get out and meet new people and given me something to look forward to. I hope more people get this opportunity." Another reported: "At times when I'd normally cancel appointments due to anxiety, I found the appeal of going on the walks enough to motivate me to put the anxiety aside and turn up."

**It is hoped the success of this project will lead to further service developments and green prescribing opportunities. For further information please contact Francesca Bell, Community Development Officer. francesca.bell@beacons-npa.gov.uk Tel: 07854997530**



Small Steps participants braving the weather and receiving their framed photos.

## New Geopark Discovery Point at Craig-y-nos Country Park

**Craig-y-nos Country Park is a good place to start your exploration of Fforest Fawr Geopark and, if you are not sure what a Geopark is, or why the western half of the National Park has been designated one, then make sure you visit the new discovery point to find out more.**

The three eye catching monoliths were designed by local artist Rubin Eynon to raise awareness and celebrate this prestigious UNESCO designation. The interpretation introduces the Geopark and its geology and helps you plan your discovery of the big stories that shaped this area: the ice, the industry and the people.

**New Geopark monoliths.**



## The National Park's Education Team- busy in lockdown!



Eleri Thomas, Education Officer,  
with the electric van.

### Craig-y-nos Country Park transport goes green

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has taken delivery of its first fully electric van. The Renault Kangoo ZE33 crew van is based at Craig-y-nos Country Park, 40 acres of landscaped gardens once owned by the renowned operatic soprano Adelina Patti.

The vehicle will be used as a pool vehicle for duties associated with managing the site and by the Education team for outreach work with local schools and communities, showcasing the work of the National Park.

When designing the graphics to cover the van, the Education team were very keen for it to tell the story of how the van is 'powered by the sun' so that it can be used as a moveable teaching resource.

This van joins the ever-growing number of fully electric vehicles in the Authority's fleet which are helping to reduce its dependency on fossil fuels.

Kevin Booker, IT Systems and Fleet Officer said, "This vehicle will help further lower the Authority's carbon footprint and take advantage of the site's renewable energy generation and on-site charging infrastructure. The driving range of the Kangoo makes it the ideal vehicle for educational outreach with the flexibility of being a large van or a full 5-seater."

## Young Ambassadors Award

The last six months have been a challenging period for everyone. Normally, the National Park Education Team would have been out teaching, inspiring and engaging with young people at their education and residential centres, in schools and at different locations in the National Park. However, the new restrictions did not stop the Education Officers! They quickly adapted their usual methods of delivery and produced new and exciting downloadable material.

During the first few months of lockdown the Education Team designed and launched a new education pack to engage with young people who would normally have been coming out on school trips to the National Park. This online, downloadable resource, the Brecon Beacons National Park Young Ambassador Award Scheme includes a range of activities for learning more about the National Park. During the school summer holidays the Education Team posted weekly Young Ambassador Challenges on social media encouraging young people to get out and about in their local area and to learn more about nature, their heritage and conservation. These challenges were designed to inspire young people and to help with their health and wellbeing. They can be found here: [www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/learning/brecon-beacons-national-park-young-ambassador-award/](http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/learning/brecon-beacons-national-park-young-ambassador-award/)



Learning to identify garden birds.



Education Officer Hayley Sharp, presenting the virtual tour on sustainability.

## New virtual tour engages trainee teachers

Dr Carol Wood, senior lecturer of Science and Mathematics Secondary Initial Teacher Training at the University of South Wales requested a 'virtual tour' for her trainee maths and science teachers in place of the annual study trip to the Brecon Beacons National Park.

So Education Officer, Hayley Sharp created a 'virtual tour' of the usual case studies about sustainable energy and sustainable communities in the National Park, as well as showcasing the exciting latest developments towards carbon neutrality. The film takes the trainee teachers on a tour of Talybont-on-Usk where the community has led the way in utilising hydro and solar powers for many innovative uses. It also shares the new arrays of solar panels at the National Park Visitor Centre, the Authority's warden depot and Craig-y-nos Country Park and the award-winning electric vehicle pool car fleet. The students will be able to map out the opportunities for how this real-life learning can be used in their teaching and align them with the new curriculum.

Hayley said, "In these challenging times I am really pleased to be able to support the visit in this new way. Although nothing beats a first-hand outdoor learning experience, I have tried my best to capture some of the case studies the National Park has to offer and hope this can inspire the teachers and their future pupils to continue to find opportunities for a carbon neutral future."

For further information on this virtual tour and other education resources, please contact Lora Davies [lora.davies@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:lora.davies@beacons-npa.gov.uk) 07854997528

## Upland volunteers to undertake important peatland survey

**Our Upland Volunteers will help save Wales' peatlands by carrying out a peatland survey across the whole of the Brecon Beacons National Park starting next summer.**

This project will be open to all volunteers who are suitably experienced in an upland environment and have a good level of fitness and navigational skills. Recruitment will start next spring subject to Covid-19 restrictions lifting. The peatland survey will add to the extensive work programme of the Uplands Volunteers.

**Eroded peat hag. ▶**



## e-Cribarth and more!

**With all the puffing on the steep ascent aside, it used to be easy to introduce groups of people to the National Park's most interesting hill (discuss!) but not so in 2020!**

That's how the idea of e-Cribarth emerged; why not take people on the very same journey yet in the comfort of their own homes? Geopark officer, Alan Bowring, has now escorted dozens of people on Zoom tours of the limestone ridge which overlooks Craig-y-nos Country Park. Other tours have proved popular too; a trip down the Usk from source to sea without getting wet feet is one, and an exploration of Penwyllt, a rather special place at the top of Cwm Tawe is another. Put together with help from the Atlantic Geoparks Interreg project, the tours are being recorded in both English and Welsh and will soon be available on the Geopark website to view at your leisure.

**Keep an eye out at [www.ffeorestfawrgeopark.org.uk/geotrails/](http://www.ffeorestfawrgeopark.org.uk/geotrails/)**

## Local Development Plan news

**You may be wondering what has happened to the preparation of LDP2 – the National Park Authority's replacement Local Development Plan for the plan period 2018 – 2033?**

Having gathered views on a preferred strategy in 2019, the National Park Authority was due to agree a full draft of the Local Development Plan earlier this summer.

We now intend to revisit the preferred strategy, although precisely when remains unclear. Hopefully in the New Year. Our first step will be to draft and seek opinions on a revised delivery agreement.

There are many reasons for this:

- Future Wales – The National Plan 2040 has now been laid at the Senedd and is set to be published in February 2021. This is a plan with which LDP2 must be in general conformity and it sets new challenges for LDP2 to address, not least the introduction of a new regional tier of 'Strategic Development Plans', which are to be prepared by Corporate Joint Committees. The National Park Authority continues to advocate strongly for a National Park Policy to be included within Future Wales – The National Plan 2040; if successful this would mean the planning context for development within National Parks would be set at the national level, leaving the focus for LDP2 on bringing forward appropriate community development.
- New well-being objectives have been agreed for the National Park Authority and the State of the Park Report is set to be agreed. We await the outcome of discussions with stakeholders over the new National Park Management Plan, which sets critical context for LDP2.
- Key evidence has been delayed – we still await the publication by Stats Wales of the 2018-based National Park population projections to 2039, understandably not their number one priority during the pandemic.
- Key Candidate Sites in Brecon have been withdrawn, meaning they will not be available for development.

Despite the delay, of some comfort is that the Welsh Government has recently clarified that the existing LDP will continue to be recognised as a 'Development Plan' until it is replaced, meaning that it can continue to be used as the basis for determining planning applications past 2022 if necessary.

The requirement to publish an Annual Monitoring Report has also been suspended this year.

**For further information please contact Chris O'Brien, Senior Planning Officer  
[christopher.obrien@beacons-mpa.gov.uk](mailto:christopher.obrien@beacons-mpa.gov.uk) Tel: 07966522929**



Saith Maen.

## Working together to care for our heritage

**The Brecon Beacons National Park contains some of Wales' finest and most treasured landscapes, archaeological sites and historic buildings. Our historic environment is the result of thousands of years of human interaction with the landscape and nature.**

The National Park Authority is aiming to develop an Historic Environment Partnership for the National Park. This initiative seeks to bring together members of the community, conservation groups, heritage organisations and the Park Authority to work together to promote the conservation, understanding and enjoyment of our heritage.

It is intended that the partnership will work towards production of an Historic Environment Action Plan to guide and focus work over the coming years. Further details will appear on the Authority website as they become available and look out for an article in the next Community Update.

## Lockdown inspires Brecon Beacons Welsh language writers

**The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has been celebrating the Park's culture by organising its first Welsh language writing competition.**

This was an opportunity for people to express what was special about their local patch under the title 'The Beacons and me'. The setting was the lockdown and the importance of our local areas which this experience has highlighted to many. Bethan Price's essay, which won the first prize in the over 25 years category, focusses on the ancient and famous yew tree at Defynnog churchyard. As a coincidence it was her brother Rhys Jones who came second with his 'Ode to the Summits'. Katie Jones from Llangynidr came third.

The winner of the learner category was Rachel Bedwin of Orpington, Kent who in her essay yearned to be in the outdoors again climbing, 'breathing the mountains' and enjoying the views. Jane Ricketts Hein of Glasbury came second with Simon Jones in third place.

The judges particularly enjoyed reading the entries from young people. A free verse full of beautiful imagery about the Canal composed by Elena Puw was judged to be the winner in the 11 – 18 years age group. The second prize went to Beca Hiscocks. Two 'englyns', also composed by Elena Puw won the third prize. Her brother Iolo fully deserved the first prize in the under 11 category for his poem about a duck hitching a lift on the roof of a barge on the Brecon Canal.

Councillor Edwin Roderick, Welsh Language champion for the National Park Authority said, "I would like to thank everyone who competed and to congratulate the winners who each receive a gift voucher to be spent at the National Park Visitor Centre. We have so much to celebrate here in the Brecon Beacons National Park in relation to the landscape, wildlife, history and culture and it's excellent to do this in Welsh".

### Llyn y Fan gan Elena Puw

Yn falch daeth o Lyn y Fan - ato ef,  
Bod teg, yn dwyn cusan  
A her o'r dyfroedd arian,  
I lanc o dylwyth y lan.

Ond o'r tir cyn hir aeth hon - i gilio'n  
Llawn galar dan lasdon  
Heb 'r un wylodd ger ei bron,  
Yn gfael mewn atgofion.



Parking pressure in Waterfall Country.

## A Challenging Summer in Waterfall Country

**This year has been challenging for many reasons with the communities in Waterfall Country going from the peace and quiet of lockdown to unprecedented visitor numbers once travel restrictions eased.**

For many, it has only been in the last few weeks that visitor numbers have once more returned to 'normal' levels.

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority would like to thank all the partners that have worked with them during the difficult times this year. Much support has been given on the ground and remotely by Natural Resources Wales and the National Trust in managing their sites, producing signage and having people on site. Dyfed Powys and South Wales Police put additional resources into the area to patrol and counteract obstructive parking. Powys County Council Highways also had Traffic Enforcement Officers in the area as frequently as possible to issue tickets to illegally parked cars.

The National Park Authority's Warden team have been working flat out during and post lockdown and it was quickly realised that more staff were needed to manage the volume of people. Funds were allocated to employ additional temporary staff to, 'Meet and Greet' and to assist the Warden team in managing the trails around the waterfalls.

Though numbers have fallen recently, the National Park Authority and their partners are already planning for the 2021 season as they envisage that numbers could still be high next year if there are continued restrictions on travelling abroad.

## Invaders of the National Park – Update

**A shortened fieldwork season due to the Covid-19 pandemic UK lockdown has meant that the INNS Team have been extremely busy continuing to focus their survey and control efforts on the invasive non-native Himalayan balsam – *Impatiens glandulifera*, and Japanese knotweed – *Fallopia japonica* on the River Usk and the River Tawe catchments within the Brecon Beacons National Park.**

These plant species are found along water courses and byways, on brown field sites and amenity areas, in gardens, on farmland etc.

The project highlights have been:

### Upper Usk Valley

- Securing two Welsh Government grants from the Local Places for Nature Fund to:
  - a) Engage a contractor to herbicide treat knotweed on both banks along a 10km stretch of the river Usk between Llanhamlach and Llanspyddid, near Brecon. The INNS Team would like to take this opportunity to thank all 25 of the landowners who were contacted in the project area who kindly gave access to their land. And
  - b) Engage a specialist contractor to 'steam' treat the New Zealand Pygmyweed - *Crassula helmsii*, another invasive non-native plant species, growing on a pond at Mynydd Illtud near the National Park Visitor Centre.
- Volunteers from Brecon clearing balsam from Island Fields and the Promenade and Llangattock Community Woodland Group clearing balsam at Ty'r Ash near Crickhowell,
- Having to clear far less balsam than in 2019 from Newton Green Park in Brecon and at a site near Crai Reservoir.
- Clearing balsam from Crug Lane (new site) in Brecon.
- Advising multiple landowners on how best to control INNS on their properties.

### Upper Tawe Valley

We believe we have located the source of the balsam in the Upper Tawe and will be working with the landowner to control this source, so that efforts further down the river are not at risk of reinfection from plant material being carried downstream.

Other highlights in the Tawe valley include:

- Finding and having to clear far less balsam and knotweed at Craig-y-nos Country Park and far less balsam at a site on the outskirts of Pen-y-cae village, showing that last year's initial control work was worth all the effort.
- Clearing balsam from a new site at Glyn Tawe.
- Landowners taking control and following up last year's Japanese knotweed control grants.

The INNS team would like to thank all landowners, community groups, volunteers and members of the public who have reported or helped control invasive plants in this difficult year. A special thank you is due to the National Park Warden Team who have committed to support the INNS Team and their work despite their own busy schedules.

### How can you help the project?

By reporting sightings of invasive non-native species. Please use the contact details below or send them directly to BIS: [www.bis.org.uk](http://www.bis.org.uk) or Tel: 01874 610881. You can also submit your INNS sightings to BIS using WiReD or use the Local Environmental Records Centre (LERC) App on your mobile phone.

**If you are interested in helping or you would like any further information on the project please contact [Beverley.Lewis@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:Beverley.Lewis@beacons-npa.gov.uk) Tel: 07854 997 508**



Treating Japanese knotweed along the River Usk.



Maria at the launch of the Penpont Project in Brecon with Rob MacFarlane, celebrated author and nature lover.

## New officer appointed to support Local Nature Partners

In August we were pleased to welcome our new Local Nature Partnership Implementation Officer to the Ecology Team.

Maria Golightly has many years of experience working with partnerships to enhance nature which focus on communities across Wales. So we feel she is in a great position to help support Local Nature Partners to deliver the Nature Recovery Action Plan for the Brecon Beacons National Park

The National Park is a place where big things can, and do, happen. Yet the challenges faced by nature are too big for any organisation, community or landowner to handle alone. Nature recovery on a meaningful scale can only take place by working together across geographic boundaries, across different land uses and involving all peoples. It is on this basis that Local Nature Partners have come together to maximise nature recovery efforts and work towards a future with nature at its heart – for everyone.

**To find out more, the Nature Recovery Action Plan is available to view at: [www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/environment/nature-recovery-action-plan/](http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/environment/nature-recovery-action-plan/)**

Maria is currently getting to grips with the actions outlined in the plan, working up ideas of how these can be best delivered and getting ready for the first Steering Group Meeting. So now would be an ideal time to contact Maria to ask questions or chat about how you can get involved with the Nature Recovery Action Plan. She can be contacted on [maria.golightly@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:maria.golightly@beacons-npa.gov.uk)



Training Ambassadors in the Black Mountains.

## Black Mountains Land Use Partnership



The Black Mountains Land Use Partnership (BMLUP) is a pioneering, cross-border landscape-scale partnership among local landowners, graziers and relevant regulatory bodies, including the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority, Natural Resources Wales, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water and Natural England.

Established through the Welsh Government's Nature Fund in 2015, the Partnership promotes the restoration and sustainable management of the Black Mountains' natural resources and seeks to improve the wellbeing and economic resilience of those who live and work in this iconic area. The Partnership has recently delivered a successful three-year £1.1m Sustainable Management Scheme Project funded by the Welsh Government and European Union which included:

- Restoring, rewetting and re-vegetating 60ha of peatland
- Over 320ha of sustainable bracken management works improving access for visitors, graziers and livestock
- Restoring over 3,000 metres of footpath, improving visitor access whilst further protecting natural resources
- Delivering heather management works to improve habitats and ecosystems
- Extensive monitoring and surveys of the Black Mountains and its natural resources
- BMLUP also
  - Commissioned a ground-breaking bracken management model for the entire area
  - Developed a pioneering Payment for Ecosystems Service which will help shape future policy
  - Supported the establishment of a Black Mountains Young Farmers Network
- Enabled over 500 local schoolchildren to participate in BMLUP's education programme with over 2,500 learner hours recorded
- Trained 56 local businesses and tourism providers to become Mountain & Moorland Ambassadors
- Supported the development of a Black Mountains Ambassador Network
- Established a Black Mountains Young Ambassadors programme
- Awarded £45,000 in stipend funding for up-skilling, learning and rural skills strengthening to individuals and groups
- Supported over 30 people, including Young Farmers, in gaining training and qualifications relating to traditional and new rural skills
- Delivered community events, activities and a range of communications initiatives centred of sustainable visitation
- Created 3 jobs in the rural economy

BMLUP is now one of the largest and most successful landscape-scale partnerships to date and has been able to achieve an integrated delivery approach to meet both environmental and socio-economic needs. It is an exemplar model for collaborative partnership working that puts local people at the heart of the decision-making process. The Partnership is now undertaking a range of initiatives to develop and secure a sustainable future for itself to continue the restoration and sustainable management of the Black Mountains for generations to come.

## Reporting Rights of Way Issues

You can report any issues regarding our rights of way, such as damage to footpaths, stiles or fingerposts to our Rights of Way Officer, Eifion Jones

eifion.jones@beacons-npa.gov.uk  
or call 07854 997563

## Planning Services

Please see  
[www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/planning/](http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/planning/)  
for the most recent update  
regarding planning services or call  
Reception on 07973 781479 or  
07973 781510.

## Sustainable Development Fund Enquiries

For further information and advice about the Fund please see  
<https://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/communities/sustainability-2/subsustainable-development-fund/> or contact either:

Helen Roderick on 07790 944 443  
Ceri Bevan on 07854 997 578

Email  
[helen.roderick@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:helen.roderick@beacons-npa.gov.uk)  
[ceri.bevan@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:ceri.bevan@beacons-npa.gov.uk)

Grant application deadlines for the next six months:

6th January 21  
31st March 21  
2nd June 21

## National Park Information Centres

The National Park Visitor Centre and Tea Rooms are open for the usual winter hours; 10am- 4pm every day except Christmas Eve (closes 3pm) and Christmas Day (closed). Email: [visitorcentre@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:visitorcentre@beacons-npa.gov.uk) Tel: 01874 623366

For your safety:

The Visitor Centre has limited numbers in the shop at any one time, controlled by a one way, traffic light system. Facemasks and hand sanitising gel must be used and visitors must keep 2m apart.

The Tea Rooms have reduced capacity inside to achieve the social distancing rules. A face mask must be worn unless eating and drinking at a table. There is plenty of outdoor seating available.

The whole site is also part of the NHS Track and Trace programme and QR codes are available to scan on entry.

With its partners, the National Park Authority has opened the Abergavenny Tourist Information Centre. It is open 10am – 4pm Monday to Saturday at its new home in the Market Hall, Cross Street. Email: [abergavennytic@yahoo.com](mailto:abergavennytic@yahoo.com) Tel: 01873 853254. Covid-19 measures are in place as above.



Abergavenny Tourist Information Centre.

## Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) Grants Available

The Sustainable Development Fund is currently supporting projects and has recently supported the Conservation Farming Trust to develop their Land and Entrepreneurs project. This has among its aims new opportunities for farming, new rural jobs and the growing of healthy, nutrient dense food for communities. If you have a project idea you would like to discuss please contact [ceri.bevan@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:ceri.bevan@beacons-npa.gov.uk) or [helen.roderick@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:helen.roderick@beacons-npa.gov.uk). We are especially looking for projects which reduce carbon usage or increase nature and biodiversity in our communities.

For more information on SDF visit our website  
[www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/communities/sustainability-2/subsustainable-development-fund/](http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/communities/sustainability-2/subsustainable-development-fund/)

See panel for application deadlines

## New Grant now open – Heritage in Places Grant

Grants of up to £5,000 are available to individuals and community groups to undertake projects to conserve and enhance the heritage assets of our towns and villages.

This grant fund seeks to promote the appropriate and timely repair of buildings or structures of architectural or historic importance, or improvements in interpretation of historic assets located within the towns and villages of the National Park.

If you would like to know more about the grant and have a project that needs funding please email [placeplans@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:placeplans@beacons-npa.gov.uk)

Deadlines for grant applications are the same as the Sustainable Development Fund (see panel)

## Community Marquee Available

The Community Marquee loan scheme offers groups, schools, charities and other nonprofit organisations within the National Park the opportunity to use the 20' x 30' Community Marquee at their local events. A donation is requested.

For booking forms please contact Ceri Bevan on 07854997578 or [ceri.bevan@beacons-npa.gov.uk](mailto:ceri.bevan@beacons-npa.gov.uk)

## Webcasts

All the Authority's meetings are available to view via our webcasts microsite. To find out more visit:

[www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/the-authority/webcasting/](http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk/the-authority/webcasting/)

## Events

Please check with the Welsh Government website for up to date details of restrictions in and around the National Park. <https://gov.wales/local-lockdown>  
Most events are currently online. For further details of activities and events in the National Park please visit [www.breconbeacons.org/events](http://www.breconbeacons.org/events)

**Thursday 19th November 1830-1930 online. Free.**

## Star party!

Join the Usk Astronomical Society together with Talybont-on-Usk Tourism for a star party on Zoom. State of the art planetarium software will be used so that you can be part of our Dark Skies event. See the stars on your own tablet, PC or phone, making you feel as though you are actually in Talybont-on-Usk gazing at the night sky!

Register here:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/star-party-tickets-124069915457](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/star-party-tickets-124069915457)



Dark skies.



Day2Stay



Ymddiriedolaeth  
Cwm Elan  
Elan Valley  
Trust

Dŵr Cymru  
Welsh Water



Powys



## Stay Up to Date

There are now even more ways to keep up to speed with all the latest news and information from the National Park Authority you can



Keep up to date with our tweets at [@BreconBeaconsNP](https://twitter.com/BreconBeaconsNP)



Follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/breconbeaconsnationalpark](https://www.facebook.com/breconbeaconsnationalpark)



See our Youtube Channel Videos [www.youtube.com/user/BreconBeaconsNPA](https://www.youtube.com/user/BreconBeaconsNPA)



Our Instagram feed is [www.instagram.com/breconbeacons](https://www.instagram.com/breconbeacons)

## Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Plas y Ffynnon, Cambrian Way  
Brecon, Powys LD3 7HP  
[www.beacons-npa.gov.uk](http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk)

[www.breconbeacons.org](http://www.breconbeacons.org)

## Your Authority A-Z

Your helpful guide to contacting the Authority for information or services

*Please note that until further notice all National Park staff are working from home and the main office in Brecon (Plas y Ffynnon) is closed to the public.*

Service or Team	Lead Contact/Officer	Contact Details	Telephone N°
General Enquiries National Park Authority Headquarters, Brecon	Reception	<a href="mailto:enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk">enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07973 781479 07973 781 510
Craig-y-nos Country Park Pen-y-cae	Reception	<a href="mailto:enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk">enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07973 781479 07973 781 510
Chief Executive Officer	Julian Atkins	<a href="mailto:angharad.hawkes@beacons-npa.gov.uk">angharad.hawkes@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07854 997 533
Communications	Bronwyn Lally	<a href="mailto:communications@beacons-npa.gov.uk">communications@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07854 997 555
Democratic & Office Services	Julia Gruffydd	<a href="mailto:julia.gruffydd@beacons-npa.gov.uk">julia.gruffydd@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07976 812 832
Ecology	Rebecca Price Nicola Davies	<a href="mailto:rebecca.price@beacons-npa.gov.uk">rebecca.price@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a> / <a href="mailto:nicola.davies@beacons-npa.gov.uk">nicola.davies@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07854 997 537 07854 997 514
Education, Interpretation and Information	Reception	<a href="mailto:enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk">enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07973 781479 07973 781 510
Fforest Fawr Geopark	Alan Bowring	<a href="mailto:alan.bowring@beacons-npa.gov.uk">alan.bowring@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07854 997 557
Finance	Elaine Standen	<a href="mailto:elaine.standen@beacons-npa.gov.uk">elaine.standen@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07854 997 516
Heritage	Alice Thorne (Archaeology)  Janet Poole (Building Conservation)	<a href="mailto:alice.thorne@beacons-npa.gov.uk">alice.thorne@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>  <a href="mailto:janet.poole@beacons-npa.gov.uk">janet.poole@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07854 997 575  please email
Human Resources	Liz Lewis	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.lewis@beacons-npa.gov.uk">elizabeth.lewis@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07854 997 520
Information Technology	IT team	<a href="mailto:it@beacons-npa.gov.uk">it@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07973781479 07973781510
National Park Visitor Centre 'The Mountain Centre' Libanus	Information Officers	<a href="mailto:npvc@beacons-npa.gov.uk">npvc@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	01874 623366
Planning Services Administration	Jane Pashley	<a href="mailto:planning.enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk">planning.enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk</a>	07966 523 763

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Service or Team	Lead Contact/Officer	Contact Details	Telephone N°
Management Plan	Matt Scanlon	matthew.scanlon@beacons-npa.gov.uk	07854 997 576
Planning Enforcement Team	Kathy Jenkins	enforcement@beacons-npa.gov.uk	07854 997 546
Planning Strategy & Policy Team	Helen Lucocq	helen.lucocq@beacons-npa.gov.uk	01874 620429
Rights of Way	Eifion Jones	eifion.jones@beacons-npa.gov.uk	07854 997 563
Sustainable Communities	Ceri Bevan/Helen Roderick Francesca Bell	communities@beacons-npa.gov.uk	07854 997 578 / 07790 944 443 / 07854997530
Sustainable Tourism	Richard Tyler	richard.tyler@beacons-npa.gov.uk	07854 997 549
Volunteering	Reception	enquiries@beacons-npa.gov.uk	07973 781479 07973 781 510
Warden Service	Judith Harvey	judith.harvey@beacons-npa.gov.uk	07854 997510



### Brecon Beacons National Park Authority

Plas y Ffynnon, Cambrian Way  
Brecon, Powys LD3 7HP  
[www.beacons-npa.gov.uk](http://www.beacons-npa.gov.uk)

[www.breconbeacons.org](http://www.breconbeacons.org)

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**VISIT  
BRECON  
BEACONS.  
SAFELY**

**BE SURE**  
you comply with the latest  
Welsh Government guidance

**BE SMART**  
plan ahead, as not all  
facilities will be open

**BE SOCIALLY  
DISTANCED**  
always stay at the right distance away  
from others, and don't overcrowd. If  
it feels too crowded, it is too crowded

**BE STRICT**  
about good hand hygiene

**BE SUPPORTIVE**  
we need to work together to ensure  
that tourism in Brecon Beacons is safe  
for staff, community and visitors alike

**BE SENSITIVE**  
of our unique, natural environment  
– please comply with the  
Countryside Code and take your  
rubbish home with you

**BE SAFE**  
the safety of yourself and others  
should be your top priority

**BE SENSIBLE**  
if you or anyone in your household  
has any COVID-19 symptoms at  
all, please do not visit - stay home  
for at least 14 days

**#VisitBreconBeaconsSafely**

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BRECON BEACONS**  
EN PARC CENEDLAETHOL | OUR NATIONAL PARK