



Llanfrynach Community Council

Note on traffic safety related to A470 in Nant Ddu

Paper supporting Community Council Action Plan - 2013/14

1. Purpose of note

This note summarises the safety issues related to traffic on the A470 that concern people living or working in or visiting Nant Ddu. The Community Council considers that the national 60mph speed limit, which is currently in place on the A470 in Nant Ddu, does not adequately take the needs of this community into account. An appropriate local speed limit is proposed in keeping with the guidance on 'Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales' introduced in October 2009. This note follows up the Welsh Assembly Government's earlier ruling in January 2009 on the case for reducing the speed limit in Nant Ddu (see letter on p.2).

2. Who are the 'Nant Ddu road users'?

For the purposes of this note, 'Nant Ddu road users' are regarded as users of the A470 who live or work in or visit the Nant Ddu area shown on the attached 1:5,000 scale plan (see p.3). This comprises residences, farms (including a holiday bunkhouse), the Nant Ddu Hotel complex, Cantref Dam and adjacent visitor car park, the Dwr Cymru treatment works, and the Powys CC cemetery.

A significant number of Nant Ddu road users are recreational visitors to the Brecon Beacons National Park.

3. What are the traffic safety issues?

The national speed limit of 60mph is continuous on the A470 through Nant Ddu. The traffic safety issues of concern to Nant Ddu road users are caused by the speed and/or lack of care of through traffic. This is a hazard to Nant Ddu road users slowing down and turning off the A470, particularly turning right - they are at risk of being struck from behind by a faster or overtaking vehicle. Other risks are (a) to vehicles turning onto the A470 in some places due to restricted line of sight, and (b) to people crossing the road on foot.

4. Turnings off and onto the A470 in Nant Ddu

Over a length of just less than one kilometre (0.6 mile or 1050 yards), vehicles turn off or onto the A470 at five road junctions, at four driveways serving single residences, and at the lay-by adjacent to the Powys CC cemetery. The five road junctions are marked A to E on the p.3 plan, which also gives information on what each junction serves.

5. Actions to be considered by highway authorities

The Community Council requests that the wellbeing and needs of all Nant Ddu road users are fully considered by the highway authorities in reviewing the current speed limit on the A470 in Nant Ddu. The speed limit should now be reviewed in accordance with the Welsh Government Guidance on *Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales* (October 2009) as indicated in the Welsh Assembly Government earlier letter (p.2). Section 6 of the Guidance - *Speed Limit in Rural Areas* - refers. The Community Council recommends that a local speed limit of 40mph or 50mph is set over the one kilometre stretch of the A470 identified above.



Eich cyf/
Ein cyf/AT/05750/08

Sue Chamberlain
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02 January 2009

Dear Ms Chamberlain,

Reduction of Speed Limit at Nanat Ddu, Powys

Thank you for your letter of the 2nd December addressed to Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, Minister for the Economy and Transport. I have been asked to reply on his behalf.

The criteria for speed limits in Wales are currently set out in a document entitled Circular Roads 1/93 "Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984:- Sections 81-85 Local Speed Limits". The section of trunk road through Nant Ddu does not meet the criteria set down in Circular Roads 1/93 for either a 40mph or 50 mph speed limit.

However, the Welsh Assembly Government has recently published revised guidelines for speed limits in Wales, for consultation. If the Assembly Government does adopt new criteria for speed limits, following this exercise, the situation in Nant Ddu will be reviewed.

In the meantime, in conjunction with the Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency, we will investigate road conditions in Nant Ddu, with a view to determining whether improvement measures are required.

Yours sincerely

PP *S. Price*

Andrew Cochran
Network Manager for Mid Wales

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