

Waterfall Country

Update August 2020

Wildlife Garden



Those who have been to Pontneddfechan recently might have noticed a new wildlife garden at the Village Hall. Proactive Pontneddfechan were successful in getting a wildlife kit from Keep Wales Tidy. This included a raised bed, pollinator friendly plants, a trellis, a bug hotel and bird feeders. They also received a bag of wildflower seeds and will be getting bulbs to go in in the Autumn.

Jeff Callahan of Mountain and River Activities has kindly provided some very snazzy high viz vests for the group that will also be used by the litter picking team around Pontneddfechan. Follow them at <https://www.facebook.com/ProactivePontneddfechan>



Waterfall Country Overrun with Visitors



Since the easing of lockdown, Waterfall Country has seen exceptionally high visitor numbers even on rainy weekdays. Car parks are filling to capacity before midday and Pontneddfechan has been particularly badly hit with many cars parking on the pavement and verges making it dangerous for pedestrians and difficult for residents. With so many people from all over the country visiting, this is posing significant challenges for locals as it is often difficult to social distance, park their cars and go about daily business.

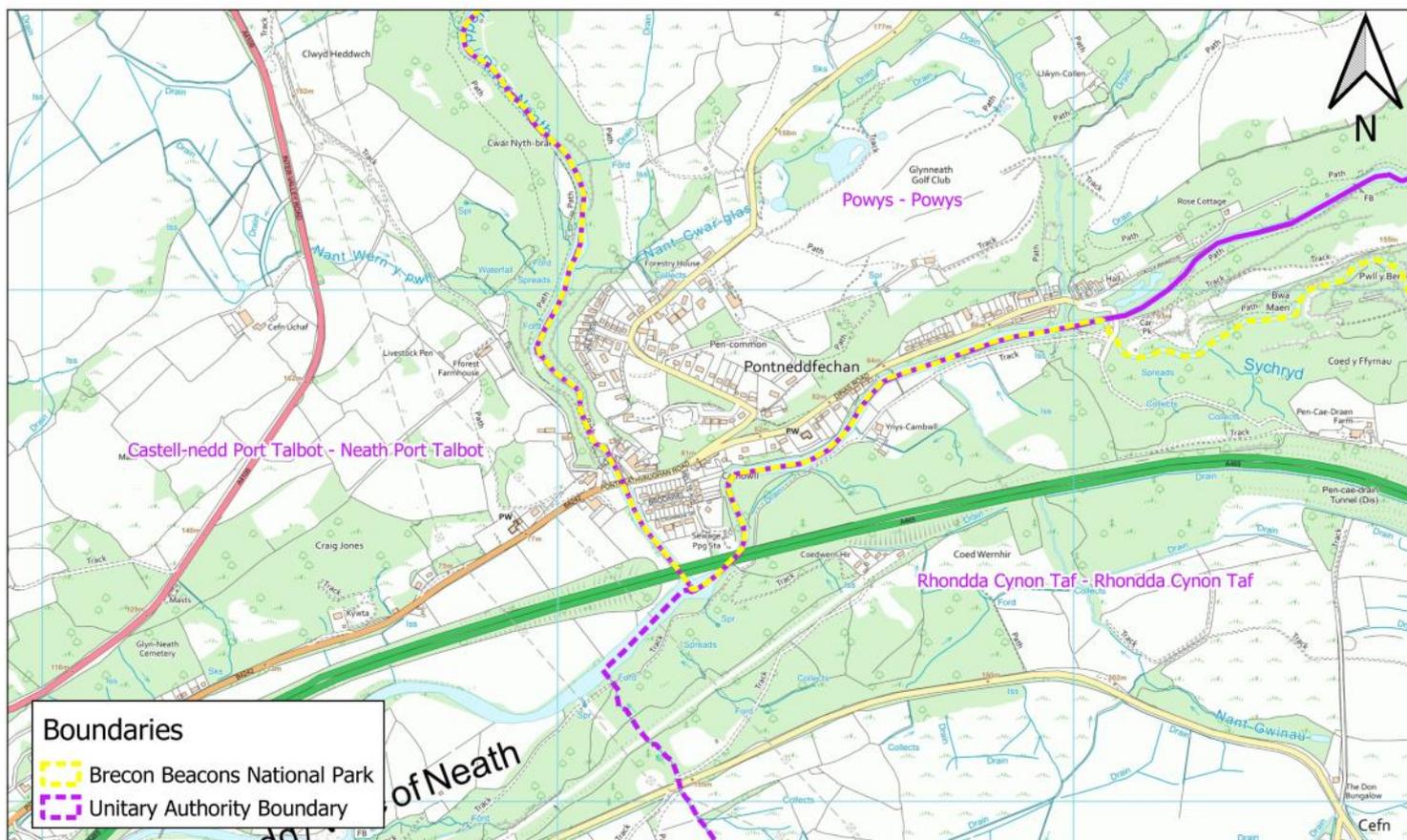
The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has acknowledged this crisis and secured some additional funding to help manage the situation in the short term. We are allocating this funding to increased staff on the ground and communications. The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority is extremely grateful to local landowners who have opened up overflow car parks at Ystradfellte, Cwm Porth and at Pontneddfechan when car parks are full to capacity. A group set up by the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority is monitoring this and is in constant communication. When car parks are full, landowners can quickly respond by opening up their fields.

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority is working closely with Dyfed Powys and South Wales Police as well as with Powys County Council and Neath Port Talbot CBC to deal with illegal parking. Enforcement Officers are patrolling the area as often as they are able and have issued significant numbers of tickets.

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority is also working with other agencies including Natural Resources Wales, the National Trust and Visit Wales to get strong messaging out to the public that now is not a good time to visit Waterfall Country, especially around the Bank Holiday weekend. It is hoped that numbers will drop when the schools go back in September which will allow us the time to look for the longer term solutions we all wish to see delivered.

Waterfall Country

Update August 2020



Dyddiad / Date: 06/08/2020

Graddfa / Scale:

1:10,000

© Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog, Plas y Ffynnon, Ffordd Cambrian, Aberhonddu, Powys, LD3 7HP

© Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2020 Arolwg Ordnans 100019322. Ni chaniateir i chwi gopïo, tan-drwyddedu, dosbarthu neu werthu y data yma i unrhyw drydydd barti mewn unrhyw flurf.

© Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Plas y Ffynnon, Cambrian Way, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7HP

© Crown copyright and database rights 2020 Ordnance Survey 100019322. You are not permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.



Where the Boundaries Are

There are many boundaries in Pontneddfechan and this can make it difficult to know which organisation to contact if you have an issue to discuss or question to ask. The map shows where those boundaries are, normally they run along the rivers in Waterfall Country. The yellow dotted line shows the boundary of the Brecon Beacons National Park. It is interesting to note that the path to Sgwd Gwladys from the Angel Inn is outside this boundary. It only enters the National Park when crossing the bridge at the confluence before the falls.

The largest area of Pontneddfechan falls within Powys and the purple dotted line shows where this county ends and where Neath Port Talbot starts, at the lower end of Pontneddfechan. Over the bridge to Dinas Rock and you are now in Rhondda Cynon Taff. To make things more complicated there are two Police Forces that operate in the area. Dyfed Powys Police cover Powys and South Wales Police cover Neath Port Talbot and Rhondda Cynon Taff.

If you have any concerns in your area, this map will help you decide which organisation to contact, which will save you time and get your concerns to the right people.

Waterfall Country

Update August 2020

A Cheery Cuppa

Visitors to Gwaun Hepste car park are now able to buy refreshments from the Cheery Cuppa caravan.

Why not drop by for a freshly ground coffee or a 'normal' or speciality tea and choose from their selection of cakes and sweet treats.

www.facebook.com/cheerycuppasouthwales



Please Call 101

Dyfed Powys Police are asking residents to please call **101** if they have any concerns over illegal parking or anti-social behaviour.

They appreciate that it may take some time to have the call answered, but when it is, that call is logged into their system. Without these calls logged there is no way they can prove that there are issues in the area and so cannot ask for additional resources to be sent.

Please call **101** and start getting those concerns of yours logged.

Crisis at Henrhyd



Cllr David Thomas met with Powys County Council Highways, National Trust and Dyfed Powys Police at Coelbren recently to see what can be done in the short term about the excessive visitor numbers at Henrhyd and the parking problems that come with them. With more people holidaying in the country and following advice to take advantage of the great outdoors after lockdown, this has led to a huge increase in numbers.

Unfortunately the car park at Henrhyd just doesn't have the capacity to take all these additional visitors. Cars are frequently parked down the narrow roads and back up into the village where often residents cannot park by their own property.

For the short term, Dyfed Powys Police have coned off the worse hit area over the bridge. Parking here often makes the road impassable for farm vehicles. Longer term solutions are currently being investigated to find a different location for an overflow car park to take this additional capacity.

Waterfall Country

Update August 2020

Car Parking Web Page

The Brecon Beacons National Park Authority recently launched a live car park status webpage at:

<https://carpark.beacons-npa.gov.uk/>
to enable visitors to see if the area is full before deciding whether they want to visit.

Initially this is done by manually updating from people on the ground but the Brecon Beacons National Park's IT department are working hard to get this automated in the very near future.

Thank to all the local residents who have been contributing to keeping it up to date.

New Ways of Ordering at the New Inn



The New Inn at Ystradfellte is serving a range of delicious home-made food using lots of local produce. They have a number of systems in place to keep their customers safe. You can enjoy a meal or snack by either booking a table in their covered terrace area (last seating 7.30 open late), or turning up to wait for a table in the Village Green (last seating 6.30 closes 8pm). You can order online through the website for delivery to the table or ring the customer bell at the Order Point to order and pay directly.

The New Inn plans to keep all tables in the outside space as part of the ongoing risk management, with no imminent plans to open inside. These tables are having more weatherproofing and heating added as time goes on to keep things cosy and safe even in the inclement weather.

For more information or to book your table www.waterfallways.co.uk/ 01639 721014



If you'd like to be added to the newsletter distribution list please contact: Eleanor Flaherty, Community Development Officer, Brecon Beacons National Park Authority eleanor.flaherty@beacons-npa.gov.uk 07854 997505

Craig y Ddinas

Full 4 hours ago

Location [SN 911079](#) · Operated by NRW · [More details](#)

Cwm Porth

Full 4 hours ago

£4 for a car and £7 for a mini-bus. Exact change is re

Location [SN 935122](#) · Operated by BBNPA · [More details](#) · £

Gwaun Hepste (Four Falls)

Full 3 hours ago

£4 for a car and £7 for a mini-bus. Exact change is re

Location [SN 935123](#) · Operated by NRW / BBNPA · [More detail](#)

Henrhyd

Full 3 hours ago