

9th July 2009

Mr. Roger Thomas,
Chief Executive,
Countryside Council for Wales,
Parc Menai,
BANGOR,
Gwynedd.

Dear

As the Councillor for the Rhosyr Ward which, as you know, includes the Newborough Forest, I have been approached by very concerned members of the Newborough Forest Liaison Partnership. As you know, the group has been established for some five years and have worked tirelessly with CCW and the Forestry Commission. The group is now vehemently claiming that, under the Freedom of Information Act, they have received information which reveals that the partnership between them and the CCW and Forestry appears to be in name only.

I understand that they have documents revealing that key members of your staff have no commitment to open and clear dialogue but instead have an undisclosed agenda. They are also claiming that CCW has deliberately withheld documents, opinions and statements that are crucial to this consultation. There is also a feeling that they have been deliberately misled. I am sure you will agree that these are very serious allegations which merit urgent attention. For the group to have arrived at this view towards a public body, some five years down the road, after all the money and costs involved in these consultations, is a very serious matter.

I would like to offer a meeting with open dialogue, perhaps with two or three key members of the Liaison Partnership, so that we can salvage some credibility and for you to be aware of the information and facts that they are basing their assertions upon.

Through your secretary, I have been offered a meeting at the end of the month with your Regional Director – which is far too late- when only yourself and your Chairman has the appropriate seniority to deal with these potentially damaging allegations.

I should not have to remind you of the head of steam that was raised nearly five years ago when the new design plan was first mooted. If we are not careful, the protests will escalate beyond control.

We will make ourselves available to meet both yourself and your Chairman, Mr. John Lloyd Jones at the earliest juncture.

I look forward to hearing from you as a matter of urgency.

Yours sincerely,

CLLR. PETER S. ROGERS.