**CEIRIOG UCHAF COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Public Meeting 26 November 2024 to Consider Views on the Proposed Creation**

**of a National Park**

**Speakers: Ash Pearce & Keith Davies (NRW) Trevor Bates WCBC**

**Arguments From The Floor**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **ARGUMENTS FOR NATIONAL PARK** | **ARGUMENTS AGAINST NATIONAL PARK** |
| 1. Managed and gradual increase in tourism –see South Downs NP experience. Evidence of managed footfall in other NPs 2. No additional cost to having a NP- If approved Welsh Assembly will full-fund to Councils 3. Funding for a NP will be more sophisticated than current funding to County Councils allowing better focus on land management. 4. Unified approach to countryside and bio-diversity management. Other NPs are in the highest range of bio-diversity league tables 5. Increased funding for agriculture (but no details) 6. No additional regulations – Council’s existing powers transferred to a National Park Authority if approved. 7. Deployment of dedicated staff through the Ranger Service for the public and a dedicated teams to work with landowners 8. NP has the potential to showcase North Wales produce. 9. Use of Article 4 by Gwynedd to restrict 2nd homes in Eyri. 10. NPs do encourage the building of affordable homes | 1. NEWNP does not meet the criteria for ‘Natural’ beauty 2. Concerns about Access to the public, access for emergency services, open space management, 3. Fire-risk, damage. 4. How will a NP be funded? 5. Lack of existing infrastructure – roads, hospitals are already under too much pressure 6. No guarantees about sustainable funding – frequent changes to organic-hedging. 7. Additional funding required for staffing- who will pay? 8. Influence of NP Authority on current land management like game bird release. 9. Impact of Hospitality Levy 10. Welsh Government finances for NP will not come to local communities. 11. Impact on public services from increased fire-risk, accidents. 12. Evidence from existing NPs that outcomes from bio-diversity investment is not significant to non-NP land management. 13. Housing costs for the next generation will be 25% higher. |

Facebook Noted Issues

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| FOR A NATIONAL PARK | AGAINST A NATIONAL PARK |
| * Increased controls for preservation * Enhanced conservation * Increased educational awareness of the natural environment * Sustainable tourism * Job creation * Investment in infrastructure * Increased property values * Improved access to outdoor recreation * Potential grant and subsidy opportunities * Increased agri-tourism * Enhanced protection of Historical Sites * Local representation of NP Authorities | * Stricter planning controls * Higher costs for building and renovation * Congestion * Higher cost of living – property values * ‘Tourist pricing’ on goods and services * Pressures on public services * Potential restriction of on retail and commercial activities * Risk of environmental degradation * Limitation on agricultural activities * Job instability – seasonal tourism * COmples regulation * Community demographics * Impact on traditional lifestyles * Current road infrastructure |

A straw poll at the end of the meeting of @100 attendees showed only ten votes in favour of the creation of a National Park.