

## **Save Dinas Powys Woods and Protect Homes from Flooding**

### **Mission Statement updated**

When we asked for public support, we said that our mission was to save the trees, and persuade Natural Resources Wales (NRW) to find an environmentally friendly plan to prevent flooding in Dinas Powys. Now that they agree that it was not a good idea to build a dam in Cwm George, it is time to reconsider our mission.

In addition to stopping the dam and preserving a beautiful place as an amenity to be enjoyed by all, there remains the risk of flooding downstream. When the current project is wound up, we will need to be sure that measures are put in place to reduce the risk of homes there being flooded. We feel obliged to provide a voice for those affected.

We have been told that our suggestion for a natural flood management (NFM) project involving the Cadoxton catchment, combined with local flood defences to the areas most affected (NFM+) could be developed in consultation with the Vale of Glamorgan Council, Welsh Government, interested parties such as the Woodland Trust, and the Community, and that it will probably be a completely new project. As it will take some time to adequately plan and implement such a project, and as its benefits will take some time to work through, the needs of those subject to a flood risk will continue to be of concern.

Moreover, the scope of such a project must be wide enough to fulfil the expectations of the community, namely to provide a proportionate degree of local protection, and develop a project which would incorporate all the components of NFM on the Cadoxton and its tributaries, including the Eastbrook. This could be generally perceived as a “model” or “flagship” for Wales. The project could be projected as a research programme with careful and regular evaluation of outcomes.

We will be working closely with the Woodland Trust with which we will issue Joint Statements at crucial points, the next one being when NRW publish their conclusions from the current consultation.

Readers will understand that there remains much work to be done. We are grateful for the donations received from our supporters. They will continue to be used to support its objectives as outlined above. Physical support in the form of volunteers may also be needed once the NFM project gets under way, and we may need to recruit those with expertise in land use, engineering, and hydrology. If you are interested, we would be glad to hear from you.

We will keep you informed of our progress.