APSE Parks and Greenspaces Advisory Group Thursday 23 February 2023

Post Industrial Wasteland to Popular Public Greenspaces

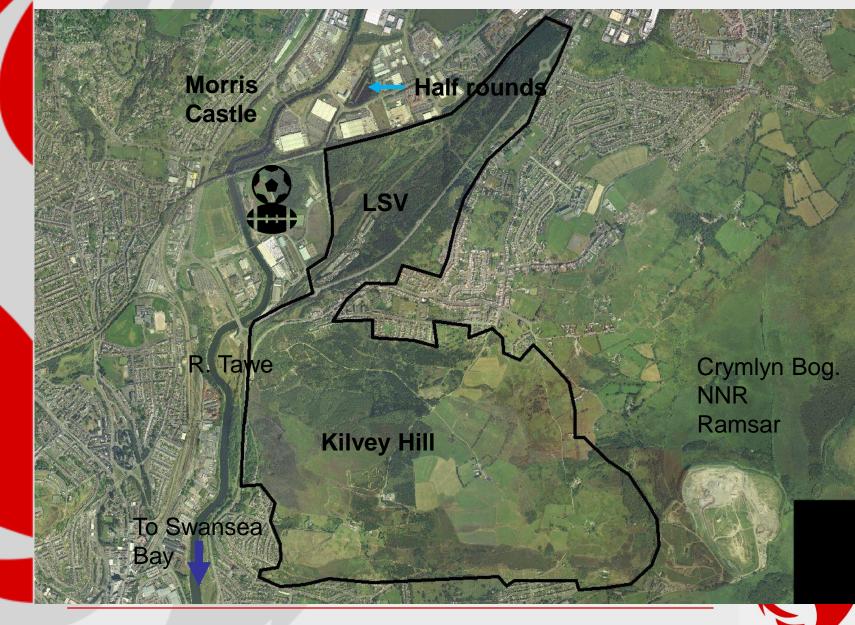
AKA - Kilvey Hill and the Lower Swansea Valley (LSV)

> Sean Hathaway Environment Officer Swansea Council





Kilvey Hill and the Lower Swansea Valley





Early 1700's

First copper smelting works 1720

100

Coal Water River Docks Raw materials

Forest Copper Works 1791.

LSV

Kilvey Hill

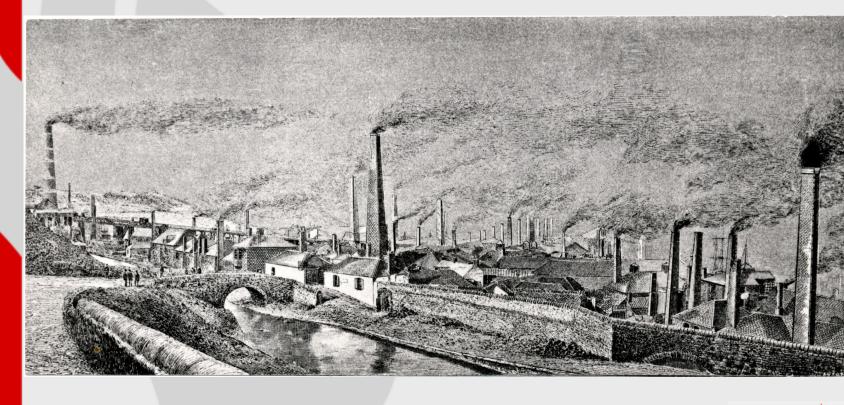


<u>Copper</u>

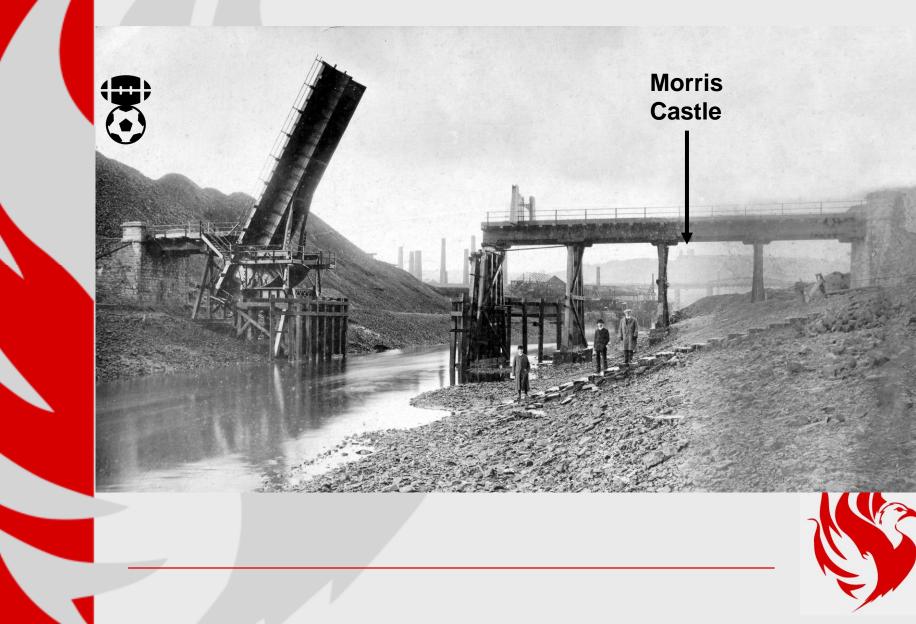
4 tons of coal to smelt 1 ton of copper ore Cheaper to bring ore to the coal from Cornwall 19th century smelted 90% of worlds copper <u>Tin (+ lead, silver, cobalt, gold, spelter)</u> 19th century 'a world centre for production' Gerstenhofer's Process, capture sulphuric acid 1849 10k ships p/a 716,000 tons of cargo

Hundreds of chimneys, only a few remain











Post Industrial Revolution

1928 – 1931 exported 0.5 mil tons of tinplate

Pre WW2 = 1.24 mil tons of steel ingots

WW2 – docks still important

By 1961 over 60% of the area was derelict 7 mil tons of waste and slag heaps 1000 acres/405 ha



Post Industrial Revolution

Definition mid 1960's from D of Env'

"land so damaged by industrial or other development that it is impossible for beneficial use without treatment"

Pollution-ground, water, wind blown Erosion Health Plants/ecology Lack of development/investment Engineering problems Costs



Post Industrial Revolution Moonscape



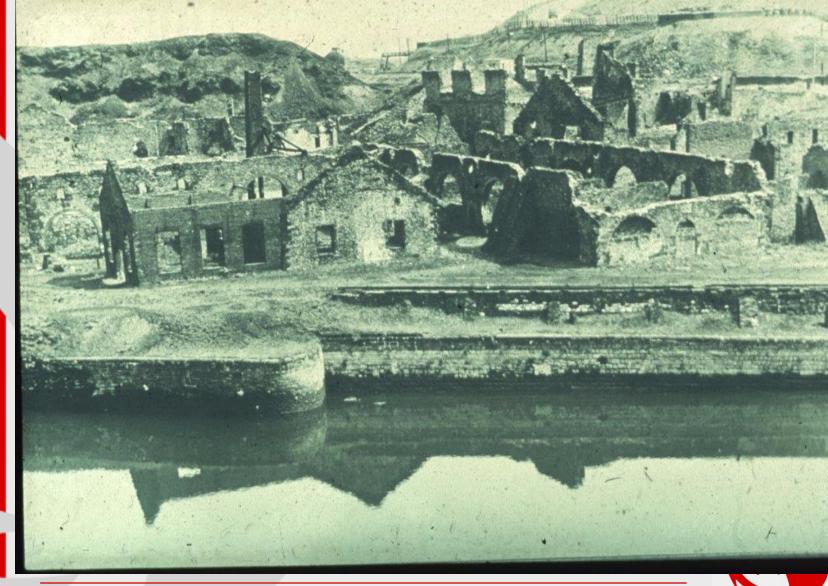
Copper Waste



Pentrechwyth/White Rock



R Tawe





Contamination



Contamination



1966 Sec State for Wales 'Derelict Land Unit'

Swansea University Nuffield Foundation Swansea Town Council Welsh Office Dept of Scientific and Industrial Research

12 acre Hafod copper tip (largest in Wales) cleared in 1973 @ £163K







Kilvey Hill

450,000 trees; Larch Lodgepole and Corsican pine

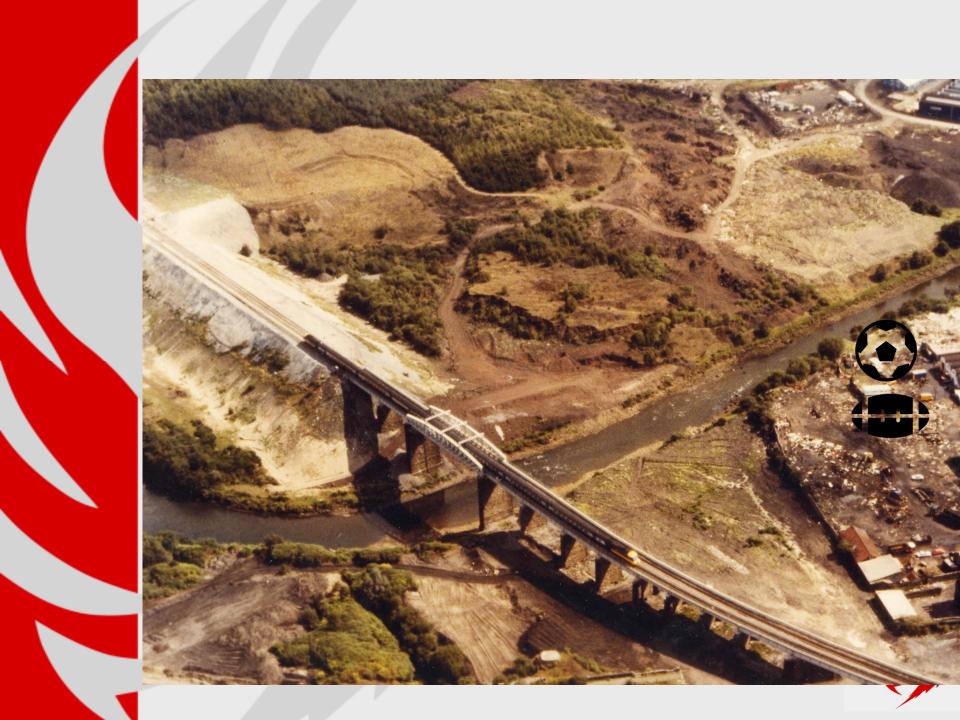
Hydro seeding











1974 – 5 park urban renaissance project

Enterprise Park Leisure Park Riverside Park

City Park-shopping Maritime Park-marina

2022 Swansea Arena



Development Works

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BANNIN .

Development Works



Habitats

Wetlands/ponds/bogs/mire Heath/meadows Broadleaved natural regeneration Calaminarian grassland



Recreation-MTB, sculpture



Recreation-fishing, walking, picnic

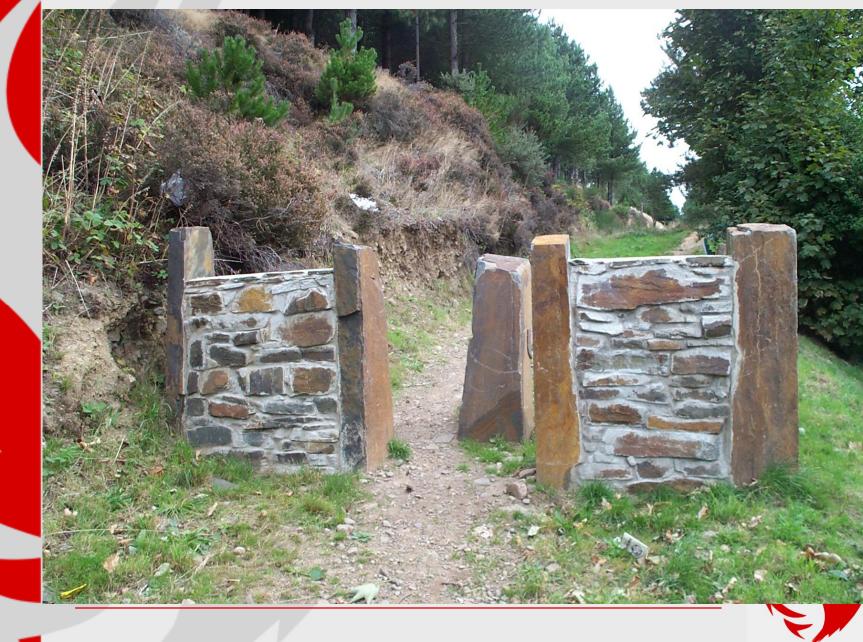
Half Rounds



Information



Gateway improvements



<u>Issues</u>

- Scrub encroachment
- Access control/management
- Litter
- Wild fire
- Habitat management/INNS

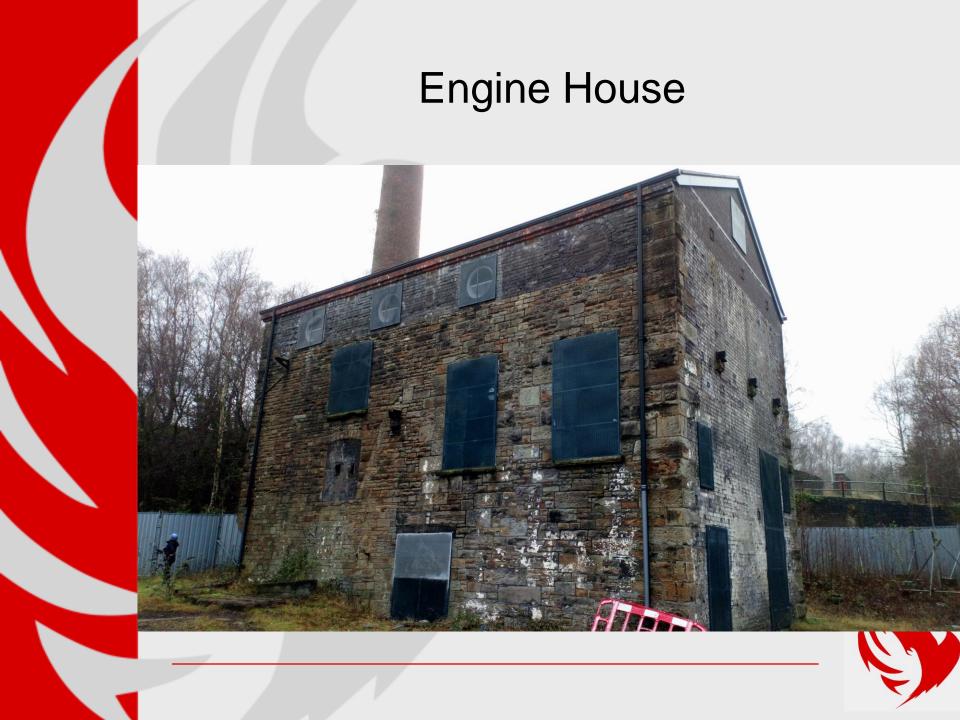




Long term

- Manage habitats
- Wildlife corridor-R Tawe, RAMSAR
- Recreation-walking, archaeology, lunch break, Time Team
- Education
- Penderyn
- SSSI-Six Pit, Swansea Vale, White Rock rare mosses, spring sandwort







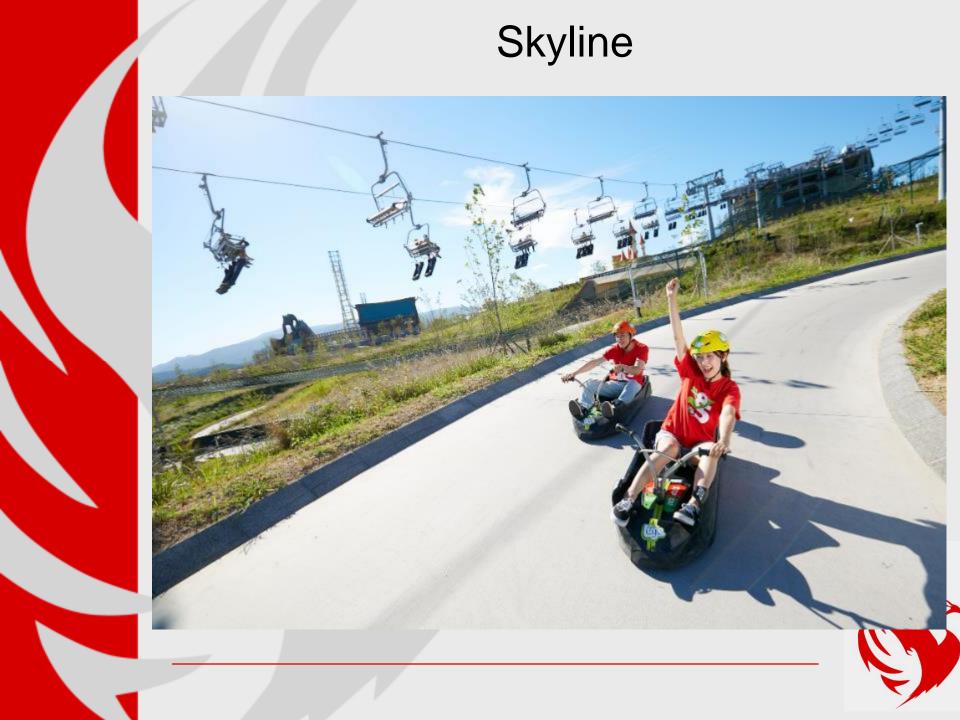


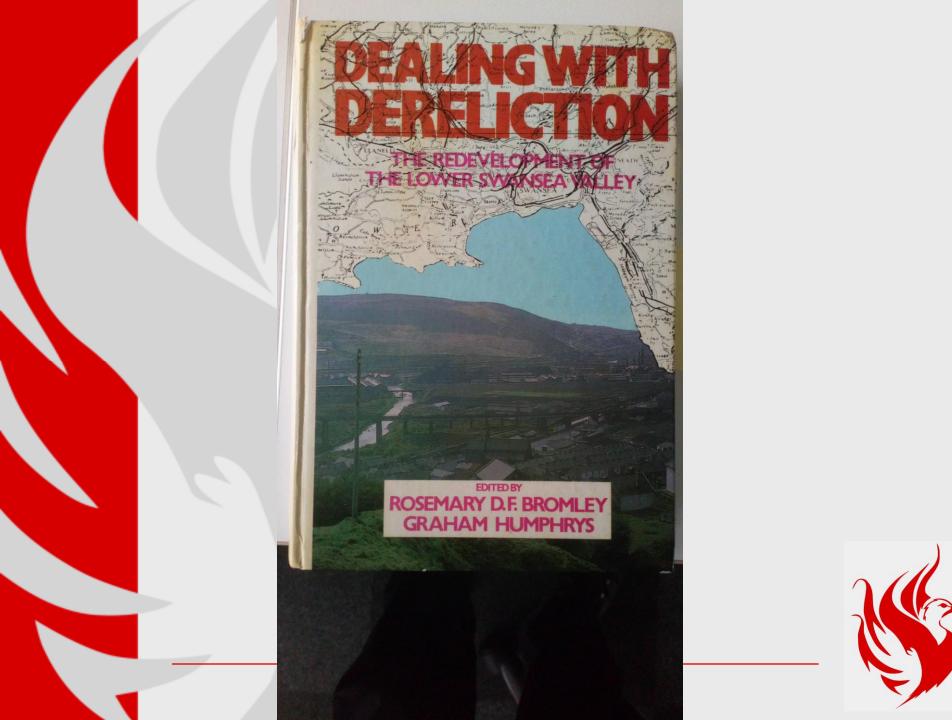


Partners

- Local users-Friends, Kilvey Volunteers
- Welsh Gov (WDA)
- Forestry Commission/Enterprise
- Valleys Forest Initiative (me 1993)
- NRW (CCW)
- Fire service
- Local councillors
- Schools, university
- Fishing club
- NGO's Buglife







Lower Swansea Valleylegacy and future



