

Board Direction PL25M.249120

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on February 5th 2018.

The Board decided to grant permission generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations, and subject to the following conditions.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the mixed use zoning of the site as set out in the current Development Plan for the area, to the planning history of the wider retail warehouse park and to the nature, scale and location of the proposed development, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not adversely impact upon the vitality and viability of the town centre, would not seriously injure the visual amenities of the area and would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian and traffic safety. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

 The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars. **Reason:** In the interest of clarity.

 The ground floor of Unit 4(a) shall be limited to use for office purposes as defined in class 3 of Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.

Reason: In order to delimit the extent and nature of the office use permitted in this instance, in the interests of protecting the viability and vitality of the established office facilities within Athlone town centre.

 (a) Details of all signage relating to the proposed office use shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

(b) Apart from the signage agreed under condition 3 (a) of this permission, and notwithstanding the provisions of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, or any statutory provision amending or replacing them, no further advertisement signs (including any signs installed to be visible through the windows), advertisement structures, banners, canopies, flags, or other projecting elements shall be displayed or erected on the building or within the curtilage of the site, unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission.

Reason: To protect the visual amenities of the area, and to allow the planning authority to assess any such further signage or advertisements through the statutory planning process.

4. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0800 to 1900 Mondays to Fridays inclusive, between 0800 to 1400 hours on Saturdays and not at all on Sundays and public holidays. Deviation from these times will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances where prior written approval has been received from the planning authority. **Reason:** In order to safeguard the residential amenities of property in the vicinity.

5. Parking for the development shall be provided in accordance with a detailed parking layout which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory parking layout in the interest of pedestrian and traffic safety and of visual amenity.

6. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution in respect of public infrastructure and facilities benefiting development in the area of the planning authority that is provided or intended to be provided by or on behalf of the authority in accordance with the terms of the Development Contribution Scheme made under section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended. The contribution shall be paid prior to commencement of development or in such phased payments as the planning authority may facilitate and shall be subject to any applicable indexation provisions of the Scheme at the time of payment. Details of the application of the terms of the Scheme shall be agreed between the planning authority and the developer or, in default of such agreement, the matter shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála to determine the proper application of the terms of the

Reason: It is a requirement of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that a condition requiring a contribution in accordance with the Development Contribution Scheme made under section 48 of the Act be applied to the permission.

Board Member

Date: 5th February 2018

Philip Jones