

An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
BD-014849-23
ABP-314362-22

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 13/12/2023.

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 relevant provisions of the Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027, the zoning of the site for Mixed Use where residential development is permitted in principle, the urban location of the site, the design, scale and layout of the proposed development, and the pattern of development in the vicinity, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area or the property in the vicinity, would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian and traffic safety, would be consistent with relevant national, regional and local policy and would constitute an appropriate form of development at this location. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, as amended by the significant further

information plans and particulars submitted on the 7th day of June 2022, 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.

2. Details of the materials, colours, and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development shall be as submitted with the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development.
Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

3. Proposals for an estate/ street name, house numbering scheme and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, all estate and street signs, and house numbers, shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. No advertisements/ marketing signage relating to the name(s) of the development shall be erected until the developer has obtained the planning authority's written agreement to the proposed name(s).
Reason: In the interest of urban legibility.

4. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, which shall include lighting along pedestrian routes through open spaces, details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development/installation of lighting. Such lighting shall be provided prior to the making available for occupation of any dwelling.
Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety

5. Water supply and drainage arrangements, including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services.
Reason: In the interest of public health and surface water management.

6. The developer shall enter into water and/ or wastewater connection agreement(s) with Irish Water, prior to commencement of development.
Reason: In the interest of public health.
7. The construction of the development shall be managed in accordance with a Construction Management Plan, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This plan shall provide details of intended construction practice for the development, including hours of working, noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.
Reason: In the interest of amenities, public health and safety.
8. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 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 amenities of properties in the vicinity.
9. The internal road network serving the proposed development, including turning bays, junctions, parking areas, footpaths, and kerbs, shall be in accordance with the detailed construction standards of the planning authority for such works and design standards outlined in DMURS.
Reason: In the interest of amenity and of traffic and pedestrian safety.
10. The development shall be provided with functioning electric vehicle charging stations /points and associated ducting facilities. Details shall be submitted and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to the occupation of the development.
Reason: To provide for and/ or future proof the development such as would facilitate the use of electric vehicles.
11. All service cables associated with the proposed development (such as electrical, telecommunications and communal television) shall be located underground. All

existing over ground cables shall be relocated underground as part of the site development works.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity.

12. The areas of public open space shown on the lodged plans shall be reserved for such use and shall be levelled and/ or contoured, as applicable, soiled, seeded, and landscaped in accordance with the landscape plans and report submitted to the planning authority with the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority. This work shall be completed before any of the dwellings are made available for occupation and shall be maintained as public open space by the developer until taken in charge by the local authority.

Reason: In order to ensure the satisfactory development of the public open space areas, and their continued use for this purpose.

13. A comprehensive boundary treatment and landscaping scheme shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority, prior to commencement of development. This scheme shall include the following:
- (a) details of all proposed hard surface finishes including materials for footpaths, kerbing and road surfaces within the development;
 - (b) proposed locations of trees and other landscape planting in the development, including details of proposed species and settings;
 - (c) details of proposed street furniture, including bollards, lighting fixtures and seating;
 - (d) details of proposed boundary treatments at the perimeter of the site, including wall/ fence heights, materials, and finishes.

The boundary treatment and landscaping shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed scheme. If any tree or plant dies or is otherwise lost within a period of five years, it shall be replaced with a tree or plant of the same species, variety and size within the planting season following such loss.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity and to safeguard the amenities of properties in the vicinity.

14. All trees and hedgerows within and on the boundaries of the site shall be retained and maintained, with the exception of the following:

- (a) specific trees, the removal of which is authorised in writing by the planning authority to facilitate the development,
- (b) trees which are agreed in writing by the planning authority to be dead, dying or dangerous through disease or storm damage, following submission of a qualified tree surgeon's report, and which shall be replaced with agreed specimens.

Reason: In the interests of amenity, ecology and sustainable development.

15. Retained trees and hedgerows shall be protected from damage during construction works. Within a period of six months following the substantial completion of the proposed development, any planting which is damaged or dies shall be replaced with others of similar size and species.

Reason: In the interests of amenity, ecology and sustainable development.

16. The developer shall facilitate the archaeological appraisal of the site and shall provide for the preservation, recording and protection of archaeological materials or features which may exist within the site. In this regard, the developer shall:
- (a) notify the planning authority in writing at least four weeks prior to the commencement of any site operation (including hydrological and geotechnical investigations) relating to the proposed development, and
 - (b) employ a suitably-qualified archaeologist prior to the commencement of development.

The archaeologist shall assess the site and monitor all site development works. The assessment shall address the following issues:

- (i) the nature and location of archaeological material on the site, and
- (ii) the impact of the proposed development on such archaeological material.

A report, containing the results of the assessment, shall be submitted to the planning authority and, arising from this assessment, the developer shall agree in writing with the planning authority details regarding any further archaeological requirements (including, if necessary, archaeological excavation) prior to commencement of construction works.

Reason: In order to conserve the archaeological heritage of the area and to secure the preservation (in-situ or by record) and protection of any archaeological remains that may exist within the site.

17. A plan containing details for the management of waste (and, in particular, recyclable materials) within the development, including the provision of facilities for the storage, separation and collection of the waste and, in particular, recyclable materials shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, the waste shall be managed in accordance with the agreed plan.

Reason: To provide for the appropriate management of waste, and in particular recyclable materials, in the interest of protecting the environment

18. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit a Method Statement by a suitably qualified conservation architect which clearly details all works to be undertaken to the protected structure (RPS 033-055) including all external material finishes and boundary treatment works for the written agreement of the planning authority. All works shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the agreed details and completed prior to the occupation of houses 8-14 of the overall development.

Reason: In the interest of orderly development and the preservation of the protected structure on this site.

19. Prior to commencement of development, the applicant or other person with an interest in the land to which the application relates shall enter into an agreement in writing with the planning authority in relation to the provision of housing in accordance with the requirements of section 94(4) and section 96(2) and (3) (Part V) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, unless an exemption certificate shall have been applied for and been granted under section 97 of the Act, as amended. Where such an agreement is not reached within eight weeks from the date of this order, the matter in dispute (other than a matter to which section 96(7) applies) may be referred by the planning authority or any other prospective party to the agreement to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: To comply with the requirements of Part V of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and of the housing strategy in the development plan of the area.

20. Prior to the commencement of any house in the development, as permitted, the applicant or any person with an interest in the land shall enter into an agreement with the planning authority (such agreement must specify the number and location of each house) pursuant to Section 47 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that restricts all houses to first occupation by individual purchasers i.e. those not being a corporate entity, and/ or those eligible for the occupation of social and/or affordable housing, including cost rental housing.

Reason: To restrict new housing development to use by persons of a particular class or description in order to ensure an adequate choice and supply of housing, including affordable housing, in the common good.

21. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall lodge with the planning authority a cash deposit, a bond of an insurance company, or other security to secure the provision and satisfactory completion and maintenance until taken in charge by the local authority of roads, footpaths, watermains, drains, public open space and other services required in connection with the development, coupled with an agreement empowering the local authority to apply such security or part thereof to the satisfactory completion or maintenance of any part of the development. The form and amount of the security shall be as agreed between the planning authority and the developer or, in default of agreement, shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

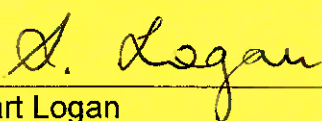
Reason: To ensure the satisfactory completion and maintenance of the development until taken in charge.

22. 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 Scheme.

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



Stewart Logan

Date: 14/12/2023