

Board Direction BD-019880-25 ABP-321820-25

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 06/06/2025.

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 pattern of development in the area and the existing residential zoning pertaining to the site under the Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would provide a high-quality residential development at an acceptable density on an infill site, would not seriously injure the character of the area or the amenities of property in the vicinity, and would provide an adequate standard of residential amenity for future occupiers. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

1. The proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, as amended by the further plans and particulars received by the planning authority, on the 25th day of October, 2024 and on the 13th day of December, 2024, except as may

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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 proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. A scheme indicating boundary treatments shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This boundary treatment scheme shall provide revised boundary treatments along the public road in the form of a natural stone wall or an alternative boundary treatment. The boundary treatment shall be set back sufficiently and of a height as not to impede sightlines for vehicular traffic exiting the proposed development. A boundary wall between 1.8 metres and two metres in height above ground level shall be constructed between the site and adjoining dwelling to the north. The wall shall be constructed in brick to match the brick used in the buildings or concrete block or similar durable materials and, if in concrete block, shall be suitably capped and rendered on both sides in a finish that matches the external finish of the buildings. Where there is a difference in ground levels between the sites, the level shall be taken as their average level. Revised drawings showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity and traffic safety.

3. The landscaping scheme shown on drawings received by the planning authority on the 25th day of October, 2025 shall be carried out within the first planting season following substantial completion of external construction works. Prior to commencement of development, all trees, groups of trees, hedging and shrubs which are to be retained shall be enclosed within stout fences not less than 1.5 metres in height. This protective fencing shall enclose an area covered by the crown spread of the branches, or at minimum radius of two metres from the

trunk of the tree or centre of the shrub, and to a distance of two metres on each side of the hedge for its full length, and shall be maintained until the development has been completed. All planting shall be adequately protected from damage until established. Any plants which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, within a period of five years from the completion of the development, shall be replaced within the next planting season with others of similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of residential and visual amenity.

4. Prior to commencement of development, including the removal of any building or landscape feature or vegetation, a survey to ascertain the presence of any bat activity on the site for roosting or foraging purposes and an assessment of any potential impact on species arising from the proposed development shall be undertaken by a suitable qualified ecologist and the findings shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority. Should the significant presence of bats be established on site, no development shall occur until the necessary permission/derogation licence has been obtained from the appropriate statutory body.

Reason: In the interest of bat protection and to provide for the preservation and conservation of this species.

5. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity and to ensure an appropriate high standard of development.

6. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall enter into a connection agreement(s) with Uisce Éireann to provide for a service connection(s) to the public water supply and/or wastewater collection network.

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Reason: In the interest of public health and to ensure adequate water/wastewater facilities.

- 7. 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.
- 8. (a) All foul sewage and soiled water shall be discharged to the public foul sewer.
 - (b) Only clean uncontaminated storm water shall be discharged to the surface water drainage system.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

9. 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 or public holidays. Deviation from these times shall 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.

10. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit to, and agree in writing with, the planning authority a Construction Management Plan which shall be adhered to during construction. This plan shall provide details of intended construction practice for the proposed development, including noise and dust management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

Reason: In the interest of public safety and amenity.

11. Prior to commencement of development, a Resource Waste Management Plan (RWMP) as set out in the EPA's Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Resource and Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects (2021) shall be prepared and submitted to the planning authority for written agreement. The RWMP shall include specific proposals as to how the RWMP will be measured and monitored for effectiveness. All records (including for waste and all resources) pursuant to the agreed RWMP shall be made available for inspection at the site office at all times.

Reason: In the interest of reducing waste and encouraging recycling.

12. All the communal parking areas serving the residential units shall be provided with functional electric vehicle charging points, and all of the in-curtilage car parking spaces serving residential units shall be provided with electric connections to the exterior of the houses to allow for the provision of future electric vehicle charging points. Details of how it is proposed to comply with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable transportation.

- 13. All service cables associated with the proposed development (such as electrical, telecommunications and communal television) shall be located underground. Ducting shall be provided by the developer to facilitate the provision of broadband infrastructure within the proposed development.

 Reason: In the interest of visual and residential amenity.
- 14. The proposed development shall be carried out and completed at least to the construction standards as set out in the planning authority's Taking in Charge Standards. In the absence of specific local standards, the standards as set out in the 'Recommendations for Site Development Works for Housing Areas' issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in November 1998 shall be adhered to. Following completion, the development

shall be maintained by the developer, in compliance with these standards, until taken in charge by the planning authority.

Reason: To ensure that the development is carried out and completed to an acceptable standard of construction.

15. 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 planning authority of roads, footpaths, watermains, drains, public open space and other services required in connection with the development, coupled with an agreement empowering the planning 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.

16. 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 Eamonn James Kelly Date: 06/06/2025

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