



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Direction
27.RL3568

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on June 11th 2018.

The Board decided, as set out in the following Order, that the use of Wicklow Mountains National Park for a competitive adventure racing event is not development, at Wicklow Mountains National Park, Lugduff, Derrybawn and Brockagh townlands, Laragh, Co. Wicklow.

Board Order as follows:-

WHEREAS a question has arisen as to whether the use of Wicklow Mountains National Park for a competitive adventure racing event, at Wicklow Mountains National Park, Lugduff, Derrybawn and Brockagh townlands, Laragh, Co. Wicklow, is or is not development or is or is not exempted development.

AND WHEREAS Joe O'Neill, c/o Frank O'Gallachoir and Associates Ltd, planning consultants, requested a declaration on this question from Wicklow County Council, and the Council issued a declaration on the 10th day of March 2017 stating that the matter is not development.

AND WHEREAS Joe O'Neill referred this declaration for review to An Bord Pleanála, on the 5th day of April 2017.

AND WHEREAS An Bord Pleanála, in considering this referral, had regard particularly to:

- (a) Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) The nature of the tracks and pathways used for the competitive adventure racing event,
- (c) The existing pattern of recreational usage in the area,
- (d) The provisions of the Management Plan for the Wicklow Mountains National Park, and
- (e) The submissions on file, including details of the particular event, and the evidence of the regulation of the event by permit by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs,

AND WHEREAS An Bord Pleanála has concluded that:

- (a) The nature of the event, due to its short duration and occasional nature, would not give rise to material changes in the existing intensity or pattern of usage of the Wicklow Mountains National Park,
- (b) The event would not result in significant health and safety concerns,
- (c) The running of the event would not be likely to have a significant effect on any designated European Site, having regard to the conservation interests of such sites, and a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not therefore required, and
- (d) The proposed use of the lands as specified does not constitute a material change of use of the Wicklow Mountains National Park.

NOW THEREFORE An Bord Pleanála, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5 (3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, hereby decides that the use of Wicklow Mountains National Park for a competitive adventure racing event is not development, at Wicklow Mountains National Park, Lugduff, Derrybawn and Brockagh townlands, Laragh, Co. Wicklow.

Board Member

Date: 11th June 2018

Philip Jones