

An Bord Pleanála



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2015

Offaly County

Planning Register Reference Number: PL2/15266

An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: PL 19.245814

APPEAL by Dermot Nally Stone Limited of Baylin, Athlone, County Westmeath against the decision made on the 3rd day of November, 2015 by Offaly County Council to refuse permission.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Development consisting of the relocation, regarding and lowering of the existing gravel access road, a 0.27 hectare extension of gravel extraction to the east and a 0.84 hectare extension of gravel extraction to the west of the existing gravel pit at Carrowkeel and Clonfinlough Townlands, Clonfinlough, County Offaly.

DECISION

REFUSE permission for the above proposed development based on the reasons and considerations set out below.

MATTERS CONSIDERED

In making its decision, the Board had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and Regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.

REASONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

The site is located within an area that forms part of the Esker Riada complex and is designated as an Area of High Amenity under the Offaly County Development Plan 2015-2020. It is considered that the proposed development would detract from the amenities of this landscape and would materially contravene Offaly County Development Plan policy RDP-14, which is to ensure that those extractions which would result in a reduction of the visual amenity or areas of high amenity or damage to designated sites, habitat types or species shall not be permitted. The proposed development would materially contravene Offaly County Development Plan objective AHAO-01, which is to protect and preserve the County's primary areas of high amenity, including Eiscir Riada and other eskers. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

**Member of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this day of 2016.