

An Bord Pleanála



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 TO 2015

Wicklow County

Planning Register Reference Number:16/154

An Bord Pleanála Reference Number: PL 27.247417

APPEAL by Transport Infrastructure Ireland of Parkgate Business centre, Parkgate Street, Dublin against the decision made on the 16th day of September, 2016 by Wicklow County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Horkans Garden Centre Limited care of Stephen Dowds Associates of 5 Mary Street, Galway.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Retention of a single directional sign at Kilmurray South (Rathdown Barony), Kilmacanogue, County Wicklow.

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

Guidance in relation to development along national routes is contained in the “Spatial Planning and the National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities” issued by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in January, 2012 and specifically Section 3.8 in relation to signage. It is noted that “on national roads, the erection of signage needs to be tightly regulated for road safety and environmental reasons. Planning authorities must avoid proliferation of roadside signage, especially outside the 50-60 km/h speed limit areas in a manner that would reduce the effectiveness of essential signage such as directional and other authorised road traffic signs, create visual clutter and distractions for road users and/or reduce visibility at junctions, interchanges and bends”. The proposed development would be contrary to the said Guidelines and to objective AS2 as set out in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022, would give rise to visual clutter and distraction for road users, would set an undesirable precedent for such development along national routes, and would endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard. 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 2017.