



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2019

Planning Authority: Meath County Council

Application for permission under section 4 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016, in accordance with plans and particulars, lodged with An Bord Pleanála on the 5th day of July 2019 by Hunt Capital Limited care of OMS Architects, 63 Mount Street Lower, Dublin.

Proposed Development:

A planning permission for a strategic housing development at Metges Road, Johnstown, Navan, County Meath

The proposed development will consist of the construction of four buildings ranging in height from four to five storeys over basement on a site measuring 1.23 hectares. It will contain 104 number apartments:

- 20 number one-bed,
- 76 number two-bed,
- 8 number three-bed, and

1,536 square metres of commercial space including a crèche (256 square metres), sports facility (295 square metres), offices, own-door commercial units and ancillary spaces.

Provision is made for the installation of photovoltaic/solar panels on the roof of each building. Communal open space is provided at ground level and at two number raised landscaped areas at first floor level.

The application also includes 148 number car parking spaces and 249 number bicycle spaces at basement level, 70 number car parking spaces and 19 number bicycle spaces at surface level, two number new vehicular entrances off Metges Road, an Electricity Supply Board substation, associated ancillary site development works including foul and surface water drainage, public lighting, footpath, cycle path, boundary treatments and hard and soft landscaping.

Decision

Grant permission for the above proposed development in accordance with the said plans and particulars based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions 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

In coming to its decision, the Board had regard to the following:

- (a) the policies and objectives in the Meath County Development Plan 2013-2019 and the Navan Development Plan 2009-2015 (as varied);
- (b) the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (c) the Guidelines for Sustainable Residential Developments in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Design Manual – a Best Practice Guide, issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in May 2009;
- (d) the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of the Housing, Planning and Local Government in March 2018;

- (e) the Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities, prepared by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2018;
- (f) the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) issued by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in March 2013;
- (g) the nature, scale and design of the proposed development;
- (h) the availability in the area of a wide range of social, community and transport infrastructure;
- (i) the pattern of existing and permitted development in the area;
- (j) the submissions and observations received, and
- (k) the report of the Inspector.

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 of property in the vicinity and would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian and traffic safety and convenience. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Appropriate Assessment Screening

The Board completed an Appropriate Assessment screening exercise in relation to the potential effects of the proposed development on designated European sites, taking into account the nature, scale and location of the proposed development within a zoned and serviced urban area, the Natura Impact Screening Report submitted with the application, the Inspector's report, and submissions on file. In completing the screening exercise, the Board adopted the report of the Inspector and concluded that, by itself or in combination with other development in the vicinity, the proposed development would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site in view of the conservation objectives of such sites, and that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not, therefore, required.

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening

The Board completed an environmental impact assessment screening of the proposed development and considered that the Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report submitted by the applicant, identifies and describes adequately the direct, indirect, secondary, and cumulative effects of the proposed development on the environment.

Having regard to:

- (a) the nature and scale of the proposed development on an urban site served by public infrastructure,
- (b) the absence of any significant environmental sensitivities in the area, and
- (c) the location of the development outside of any sensitive location specified in article 109(3) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended),

the Board concluded that, by reason of the nature, scale and location of the subject site, the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment. The Board decided, therefore, that an environmental impact assessment report for the proposed development was not necessary in this case.

Conditions

1. The proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application 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. In default of agreement, such issues may be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. Prior to the commencement of development, the following details shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with the planning authority:
 - (a) The omission of all surface car parking spaces (70 number in total) and their replacement with open space or for a use to be determined by a future planning application.
 - (b) The omission of the vehicular entrance at the northern section of the site between Blocks C and D, and the extension of the pedestrian and cyclist facilities along the frontage of the site.

Reason: In the interest of the residential amenity of existing and future occupants and to encourage more sustainable modes of transport.

3.
 - (a) The internal street network serving the proposed development, including service bays, junctions, sight distances, footpaths and kerbs shall be in accordance with the detailed requirements of the planning authority for such works, and shall comply in all respects with the provisions of the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets.
 - (b) To facilitate connectivity and permeability, the finished surface of all footpaths that are shown as future possible access shall meet up to site boundaries without the provision of a grass verge or ransom strip.

Reason: In the interest of pedestrian and traffic safety, and in order to comply with national policy in this regard.

4. Proposals for an estate/street name, unit 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 apartment numbers, shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. The proposed name(s) shall be based on local historical or topographical features, or other alternatives acceptable to the planning authority. 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 and to ensure the use of locally appropriate place names for new residential areas.

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

Reason: In the interest of the visual amenities of the area.

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, or any statutory provision amending or replacing them, no advertisement signs (including any signs installed to be visible through the windows), advertisement structures, banners, canopies, flags, or other projecting elements shall be displayed or erected on the buildings or within the curtilage of the site, unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission.

Reason: To protect the visual amenity of the area.

7. No additional development shall take place above roof parapet level, including lift motor enclosures, air handling equipment, storage tanks, ducts or other external plant, telecommunication aerials, antennas or equipment, unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission.

Reason: To protect the residential amenity of property in the vicinity and the visual amenity of the area.

8. All service cables associated with the proposed development (such as electrical, communal television, telephone and public lighting cables) shall be run underground within the site. In this regard, ducting shall be provided to facilitate the provision of broadband infrastructure within the proposed development.

Reason: In the interest of orderly development and the visual amenities of the area.

9. All plant including extract ventilation systems and refrigerator condenser units shall be sited in a manner so as not to cause nuisance at sensitive locations due to odour or noise. All mechanical plant and ventilation inlets and outlets shall be sound insulated and/or fitted with sound attenuators to ensure that noise levels do not pose a nuisance at noise sensitive locations.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity.

10. (a) Water drainage arrangements, including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services.
- (b) Revised drawings shall show the inner ditch that lies alongside the Athlumney Stream to remain open and not be filled with a filter drain, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

11. (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.

12. The applicant or developer shall enter into water and/or waste water connection agreement(s) with Irish Water, prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

13. The landscaping scheme as submitted to An Bord Pleanála shall be carried out within the first planting season following substantial completion of external construction works. 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.

14. (a) 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 a radius of two metres from the trunk of the tree or the 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.
- (b) No construction equipment, machinery or materials shall be brought onto the site for the purpose of the development until all the trees which are to be retained have been protected by this fencing. No work is shall be carried out within the area enclosed by the fencing and, in particular, there shall be no parking of vehicles, placing of site huts, storage compounds or topsoil heaps, storage of oil, chemicals or other substances, and no lighting of fires, over the root spread of any tree to be retained.

Reason: To protect trees and planting during the construction period in the interest of visual amenity.

15. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit to and agree in writing with the planning authority a properly constituted Owners' Management Company. This shall include a layout map of the permitted development showing the areas to be taken in charge and those areas to be maintained by the Owners' Management Company. Membership of this company shall be compulsory for all purchasers of property in the development. Confirmation that this company has been set up shall be submitted to the planning authority prior to the occupation of the first residential unit.

Reason: To provide for the satisfactory future maintenance of this development in the interest of residential amenity.

16. Prior to commencement of development, the developer 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.

17. All of the communal parking areas serving the apartments shall be provided with 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.

18. A plan containing details for the management of waste 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.

19. Construction and demolition waste shall be managed in accordance with a construction waste and demolition management plan, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This plan shall be prepared in accordance with the “Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects”, published by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in July 2006.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable waste management.

20. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between 0700 to 1900 hours 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 residential amenities of property in the vicinity.

21. 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 noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

Reason: In the interests of public safety and residential amenity.

22. A detailed construction traffic management plan shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. The plan shall include details of arrangements for routes for construction traffic, parking during the construction phase, the location of the compound for storage of plant and machinery and the location for storage of deliveries to the site.

Reason: In the interests of public safety and residential amenity.

23. 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.

24. 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.

Michelle Fagan
ember of An Bord Pleanála
duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.

Dated this day of 2019