



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2019

Planning Authority: Fingal 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 22nd day of November 2019 by Ballymore Property Developments Limited care of Stephen Little and Associates. 26/27 Pembroke Street Upper, Saint Peter's, Dublin 2.

Proposed Development:

A planning permission for strategic housing development at a site (circa 3.98 hectares), at Seamount Road and Seamount Abbey, Malahide, County Dublin. The site is generally bounded by Seamount Road to the south, 'Seamount Heights' to the east/southeast, 'Seamount Drive', 'Seamount Park' and 'Seamount Abbey' to the west/south, 'Oak Hall' and 'The Hill' to the west, 'Grove Lawn' and 'Abbots Hill' to the north, and by the former Malahide golf links lands to the east/northeast.

The development will consist of:

- 142 number residential units, including:
 - (a) 58 number detached, semi-detached and terraced houses (35 number four-bed (house types A, B and C) and 23 number three-bed (house types D, F, G and H) and eight number one-bed maisonette apartments (house type E), all with private rear gardens,
 - (b) 76 number apartments (26 number one-bed, 46 number two-bed and four number three-bed),

- (c) all with private patios, terraces or balconies on east and west facing apartment building elevations.

Building height ranges between one and two storeys for houses and maisonettes, and split level five to six storeys over basement, with setback at penthouse levels five and six, in each of the two number apartment buildings.

One number two-storey creche building (circa 186.63 square metres gross floor area) with external play area.

And, all associated and ancillary site development and infrastructural works (associated plant), hard and soft landscaping and boundary treatment works, including:

- (a) Two number vehicular site entrances and associated road works, at Seamount Road and Seamount Abbey,
- (b) Vehicular, pedestrian and cycle access through the site, connecting with Seamount Road, Seamount Abbey and the former Malahide golf links lands,
- (c) Provision of public open space and children's playground facilities,
- (d) 246 number ancillary car parking spaces (154 number surface space in a mix of on-curtilage, off and on street locations and 92 number at basement level),
- (e) 184 number ancillary bicycle parking spaces (130 number at the lower ground floor level and 54 number at surface level),
- (f) Bin store and collection areas, and one number Electricity Supply Board Unit sub-station and use of existing sub-station on site.

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 location of the site in the established urban area of Dublin;
- (b) The policies and objectives in the Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023;
- (c) The Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (d) 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;
- (e) 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;
- (f) 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 and the availability in the area of a wide range of social, transport and water services infrastructure;
- (h) The pattern of existing and permitted development in the area;
- (i) The planning history within the area;
- (j) The submissions and observations received, and
- (k) The Inspector's report.

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 Information for Appropriate Assessment Screening Report document 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,
- (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.

Conclusions on Proper Planning and Sustainable Development

The Board considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below that the proposed development would constitute an acceptable quantum and density of development in this accessible urban location, would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area, would be acceptable in terms of urban design, height and quantum of development and would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian and traffic safety. 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 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, the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. An Inward Noise Assessment shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to the commencement of development. The assessment shall comply with the following requirements:
 - (a) It shall set out details the baseline noise environment in the area and the predicted noise environment with consideration for future airport growth using best practice noise measuring and forecasting techniques;
 - (b) Set out noise mitigation measures that are designed to ensure that the internal noise levels for habitable rooms within the development will be within day and night-time noise limits;

(c) The mitigation measures identified in the agreed Inward Noise Assessment, shall be implemented in full by the applicant, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the conditions of this order.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and in response to the site's location in Dublin Airport Noise Zone C.

3. The development shall be carried out on a phased basis, in accordance with a phasing scheme which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of any development.

Reason: To ensure the timely provision of services and facilities, for the benefit of the occupants of the proposed dwellings.

4. Not more than 75 number residential units shall be made available for occupation before completion of the childcare facility unless the developer can demonstrate to the written satisfaction of the planning authority that a childcare facility is not needed.

Reason: To ensure that childcare facilities are provided in association with residential units, in the interest of residential amenity.

5. The internal road network serving the proposed development, including turning bays, junctions, parking areas, footpaths and kerbs, and the underground car park shall be in accordance with the detailed construction standards of the planning authority for such works and design standards outlined in Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS). In default of agreement the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and of traffic and pedestrian safety.

6. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed dwellings/buildings shall be as submitted with the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. In default of agreement the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

7. The site shall be landscaped (and earthworks carried out) in accordance with the detailed comprehensive scheme of landscaping, which accompanied the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to the commencement of development. The scheme shall include specific details for the retention, protection and improvement of boundary hedgerows.

Reason: In the interest of residential and visual amenity.

8. The areas of public open space shown on the lodged plans shall be reserved for such use and shall be levelled, contoured, soiled, seeded, and landscaped in accordance with the landscape scheme submitted to An Bord Pleanála with this application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority. This work shall be completed before any of the dwellings are made available for occupation and shall be maintained as public open space by the developer until taken in charge by the local authority or management company.

Reason: In order to ensure the satisfactory development of the public open space areas, and their continued use for this purpose.

9. 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. 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 completion and maintenance of the development in the interest of residential amenity.

10. A minimum of 10% of all communal car parking spaces should be provided with functioning electric vehicle charging stations/points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces, including in-curtilage spaces, facilitating the installation of electric vehicle charging points/stations at a later date. Where proposals relating to the installation of electric vehicle ducting and charging stations/points has not been submitted with the application, in

accordance with the above noted requirements, such proposals shall be submitted and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to the occupation of the development.

Reason: To provide for and/or future proof the development such as would facilitate the use of electric vehicles.

11. 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.

12. 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. All existing over ground cables shall be relocated underground as part of the site development works.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

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

Reason: In the interest of public health.

14. Water supply and drainage arrangements, including 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.

15. Communal waste storage areas in the development shall be designed and managed in accordance with an operational waste management plan that shall be submitted and agreed with the planning authority prior to the commencement of development. Prior to the occupation of any of the commercial units a food and bio-waste management plan shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority. Grease traps shall be installed and managed in any commercial food preparation area or kitchen.

Reason: In the interests of public health.

16. No additional development, including lift motor enclosures, air handling equipment, storage tanks, ducts or external plant, or telecommunication antennas, shall take place above roof level other than within the roof enclosures shown on the submitted drawings, whether or not it would otherwise constitute exempted development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

17. The construction of the development shall be managed in accordance with a Construction and Waste 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:

- (a) Location of the site and materials compounds including areas identified for the storage of construction refuse; areas for construction site offices and staff facilities; site security fencing and hoardings; and on-site car parking facilities for site workers during the course of construction;
- (b) The timing and routing of construction traffic to and from the construction site and associated directional signage; measures to obviate queuing of construction traffic on the adjoining road network; and measures to prevent the spillage or deposit of clay, rubble or other debris on the public road network;
- (c) Construction vehicles shall access the site from Seamount Road and all not access the site via the Seamount Abbey estate.

- (d) Details of the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures for noise, dust and vibration, and monitoring of such levels;
- (e) Containment of all construction-related fuel and oil within specially constructed bunds to ensure that fuel spillages are fully contained. Such bunds shall be roofed to exclude rainwater;
- (f) Means to ensure that surface water run-off is controlled such that no silt or other pollutants enter local surface water sewers or drains.

A record of daily checks that the works are being undertaken in accordance with the Construction Management Plan shall be kept for inspection by the planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of amenities, public health and safety.

18. 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 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.

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. The developer shall facilitate the preservation, recording and protection of archaeological materials or features that may exist within the site. In this regard, the developer shall:

- (a) notify the planning authority in writing at least four weeks prior to the commencement of any site operation (including hydrological and geotechnical investigations) relating to the proposed development,
- (b) employ a suitably-qualified archaeologist who shall monitor all site investigations and other excavation works, and
- (c) provide arrangements, acceptable to the planning authority, for the recording and for the removal of any archaeological material which the authority considers appropriate to remove.

In default of agreement on any of these requirements, the matter shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In order to conserve the archaeological heritage of the site and to secure the preservation and protection of any remains that may exist within the site.

21. 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.

22. 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.

23. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall lodge with the planning authority a cash deposit, a bond of an insurance company or such other security as may be accepted in writing by the planning authority, to secure the protection of the trees on site and to make good any damage caused during the construction period, coupled with an agreement empowering the planning authority to apply such security, or part thereof, to the satisfactory protection of any tree or trees on the site or the replacement of any such trees which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased within a period of three years from the substantial completion of the development with others of similar size and species. 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 secure the protection of the trees on the site.

24. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution as a special contribution under section 48(2) (c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 in lieu of the provision of public open space within the site. The amount of the contribution 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 for determination. The contribution shall be paid prior to commencement of development or in such phased payments as the planning authority may facilitate and shall be updated at the time of payment in accordance with changes in the Wholesale Price Index – Building and Construction (Capital Goods), published by the Central Statistics Office.

Reason: It is considered reasonable that the developer should contribute towards the specific exceptional costs which are incurred by the planning authority which are not covered in the Development Contribution Scheme and which will benefit the proposed development.

