



Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020

Planning Authority: Wicklow County Council

Application for permission under section 4 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016, as amended in accordance with plans and particulars, lodged with An Bord Pleanála on the 21st day of October 2020 by Drumakilla Limited care of MacCabe Durney Barnes of 20 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2.

Proposed Development comprises of the following:

Construction of 232 number residential units comprising:

(a) 96 number houses consisting of:

- 32 number two-bed,
- 44 number three-bed,
- 20 number four-bed

The houses are provided in the following composition:

- four number detached,
- 36 number semi-detached,
- 56 number terraced

88 number houses are two-storey and eight number houses are bungalows.

(b) 136 number apartments provided within two number four-storey apartments blocks (one over basement parking and storage) and within five number three-storey duplex blocks as follows:

- 28 number one- bed,
- 82 number two-bed
- 26 number three-bed.

- (c) Provision of a new vehicular entrance from Bellevue Hill Road to the west of the site and new vehicular access from Convent Road to the east.
- (d) Provision of pedestrian and cycle connections from the site to the north, south east and south west.
- (e) Change of use of Gate Lodge to management office.
- (f) Change of use of Protected Structure (consisting of a Church and villa) to community and cultural facility and crèche (551 square metres).
- (g) Provision of extension to rear of the Protected Structure for creche use (73 square metres).
- (h) Demolition of modern extension to Protected Structure, demolition of bungalow and demolition of out-buildings (total 1,896 square metres).
- (i) The development also includes site clearance, landscaped private, communal and public open space, removal of walls, new boundary treatments, 420 number carparking spaces, Electricity Supply Board substation and switchroom, lighting, play areas, circa 364 number cycle spaces, site drainage works and all ancillary site development works above and below ground all located at this site on lands circa 6.2 heactres located between Convent Road and Bellevue Hill, Delgany, County Wicklow (consisting of former Carmelite Monastery lands). Delgany Carmelite Monastery is a Protected Structure.

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 as set out in the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016-2022;
- (b) The policies and objectives as set out in the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013-2019;
- (c) The provisions of Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (d) The provisions of Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework;
- (e) The provisions of 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;
- (f) The provisions of the Urban Development and Building Heights Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December 2018;
- (g) The provisions of the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in March 2020;
- (h) The provisions of 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 2019, as amended;
- (i) The nature, scale and design of the proposed development;

- (j) The availability in the area of a wide range of educational, social, community and transport infrastructure;
- (k) The report of the Chief Executive of Wicklow County Council;
- (l) The submissions and observations received and
- (m) The report and recommendation of the planning Inspector including the examination, analysis and evaluation undertaken in relation to appropriate assessment screening and environmental impact assessment screening.

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 Report for Screening for Appropriate Assessment submitted with the application, and the Inspector's report and submissions on file. In completing the screening exercise, the Board adopted the report of the Inspector and concluded that the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European Sites, in view of the conservation objectives of such sites, and that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment and submission of a Natura impact statement 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 Screening Report submitted by the developer, 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 a 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 is not required.

Conclusions on Proper Planning and Sustainable Development

The Board considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would constitute an acceptable residential density in this edge of town centre location, would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area, would be acceptable in terms of urban design, density, 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.

The Board considered that a grant of permission for the proposed Strategic Housing Development would materially contravene the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013-2019 in respect of residential density. The Board considers that, having regard to the provisions of section 37(2)(b)(i) and (iii) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the grant of permission in

material contravention of the Greystones-Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plan 2013-2019 would be justified for the following reasons and considerations:

- (a) In relation to section 37(2)(b)(i) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the proposed development is considered to be of strategic and national importance having regard to the definition of 'strategic housing development' pursuant to section 3 of the Planning and Development (Housing) and Residential Tenancies Act 2016, as amended; to its support for the National Policy Objectives in the Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework, in particular National Policy Objective 33 that seeks to "prioritise the provision of new homes at locations that can support sustainable development and at an appropriate scale of provision relative to its location", and its potential to contribute both to the achievement of the Government's policy to increase delivery of housing from its current under-supply as set out in Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016.

- (b) In relation to section 37(2)(b)(iii) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, the Board considers that permission for the proposed development should be granted having regard to Government policies as set out in the Guidelines for Sustainable Residential Developments in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Manual, A Best Practice Guide, issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in May 2009 concerning residential density and in particular Chapter 5 of the aforementioned guidelines.

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 or as otherwise stipulated by conditions hereunder, and the proposed 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. The proposed development shall be amended as follows:
 - (a) House type A2 on plot number 95 shall be omitted and its site integrated into the overall linear open space planned along the northern section of the site.
 - (b) House type A3 on plot number 70 shall be relocated 5 metres northwards and aligned with the front building line of plots 71-74.
 - (c) Plot number 9 shall be omitted and its garden integrated into the public open space to the north. House type B2 on plot number 10 shall be redesigned to be a detached single storey dwelling with a dual aspect that opens onto the public open space and street.
 - (d) Detailed specifications of works to existing boundary walls, new boundary treatments and or retaining walls, including drainage proposals along the boundary of the site with existing residential property shall be submitted.

Revised plans and particulars showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interests of residential amenity.

3. All recommended measures outlined in the submitted Ecological Impact Assessment Report, Bat Survey, Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report and the Tree Root Protection Plan shall be implemented in full and all works shall be overseen by a Project Ecologist.

Reason: In the interests of biodiversity and protection of trees.

4. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed dwellings and 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.

5. All details in relation to boundary and rear garden walls shall be as submitted with the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

6. 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.

7. No advertisement or advertisement structure other than those shown on the plans and particulars submitted with the application shall be erected or displayed on the building or within the curtilage of the site in such a manner as to be visible from outside the building, unless authorised by a further grant of planning permission.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

8. Proposals for an estate and street name, house 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 house 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 or 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 legibility and to ensure the use of locally appropriate place names for new residential areas.

9. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, which shall include lighting along pedestrian routes through open spaces details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development and installation of lighting. Such lighting shall be provided prior to the making available for occupation of any house.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

10. 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.

11. The internal road network serving the proposed development, including turning bays, junctions, parking areas, footpaths and kerbs 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. Specifically:
 - (a) The central four arm roundabout along Convent Road shall be designed in accordance with Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets principles.
 - (b) Cycle lanes shall conform to the standards set out at section 4.3.2.1 of the National Cycle Manual and shall be segregated from the pedestrian footpaths and maintain priority over minor roads at junctions.
 - (c) Ramped access shall be designed in addition to the stepped access shown in the vicinity of plots 74-75.
 - (d) No dwelling shall be made available for occupation within the site until the proposed road or pedestrian works to the Bellevue Hill Road and the junction upgrade of Bellevue Hill Road and the R762 Road are completed.

Revised plans and particulars showing compliance with these requirements and showing the works in relation to the Bellevue Hill Road and Convent Road shall be submitted and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to the commencement of development.

Reason: To ensure that the streets in the authorised development facilitate movement by sustainable transport modes in accordance with the applicable standards set out in Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets and the National Cycle Manual.

12. All roads and footpaths shown connecting to adjoining lands shall be constructed up to the boundaries with no ransom strips remaining to provide access to adjoining lands, specifically lands located to the immediate north of the site. These areas shall be shown for taking in charge in a drawing to be submitted and agreed with the planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of permeability and proper planning and sustainable development.

13. A minimum of 10% of all car parking spaces shall be provided with electric vehicle charging stations or points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces facilitating the installation of electric vehicle charging points or stations at a later date. Where proposals relating to the installation of electric vehicle ducting and charging stations or 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.

14. Prior to the opening or occupation of the development, a Mobility Management Strategy Plan shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority. This shall provide for incentives to encourage the use of public transport, cycling, walking and carpooling by residents, occupants, staff employed in the development and to reduce and regulate the extent of parking. Details may include the provision of centralised facilities within the development for bicycle parking, shower and changing facilities associated with the policies set out in the strategy. The mobility strategy and a parking management plan shall be prepared and implemented by the management company for all units within the development.

Reason: In the interest of encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport.

15. Drainage arrangements including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services. Prior to commencement of development the developer shall submit to the planning authority for written agreement a Stage 2 - Detailed Design Stage Storm Water Audit. Upon Completion of the development, a Stage 3 Completion Stormwater Audit to demonstrate Sustainable Urban Drainage System measures have been installed and are working as designed and that there has been no misconnections or damage to storm water drainage infrastructure during construction, shall be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement.

Reason: In the interest of public health and surface water management.

16. The site shall be landscaped in accordance with the detailed comprehensive scheme of landscaping, which accompanied the application submitted, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.
- (a) New hedging and hedge reinforcement must comprise native species of Irish origin only in order to ensure there is no net loss of biodiversity due to the removal of hedgerows due to the development.
 - (b) The Convent Stream shall be retained as an open watercourse, in so far as is practicable, with associated riparian corridor, the details of which shall be informed by the documentation submitted with this application and shall be agreed in writing with the planning authority.

Reason: In the interests of residential and visual amenity

17. The areas of public open space shown on the lodged plans shall be reserved for such use and shall be levelled, 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.

18. (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 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.
- (c) Excavations in preparation for foundations and drainage, and all works above ground level in the immediate vicinity of tree(s) and hedges and identified as 'to be retained' on landscape drawings, as submitted with the application, shall be carried out under the supervision of a specialist arborist, in a manner that will ensure that all major roots are protected, and all branches are retained.
- (d) No trench, embankment or pipe run shall be located within three metres of any trees and hedging which are to be retained on the site.

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

19. 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.

20. (a) The communal open spaces, including hard and soft landscaping, car parking areas and access ways, communal refuse and bin storage and all areas not intended to be taken in charge by the local authority, shall be maintained by a legally constituted management company.
- (b) Details of the management company contract, and plans and particulars describing the parts of the development for which the company would have responsibility, shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority before any of the residential units are made available for occupation.

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

23. 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. The plan shall include details of waste to be generated during site clearance and construction phases, and details of the methods and locations to be employed for the prevention, minimisation, recovery and disposal of this material in accordance with the provision of the Waste Management Plan for the Region in which the site is situated.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable waste management.

24. 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:

- (a) Location of the site and materials compound(s) including area(s) identified for the storage of construction refuse;
- (b) Location of areas for construction site offices and staff facilities;
- (c) Details of site security fencing and hoardings;
- (d) Details of on-site car parking facilities for site workers during the course of construction;
- (e) Details of the timing and routing of construction traffic to and from the construction site and associated directional signage, to include proposals to facilitate the delivery of abnormal loads to the site, the centre of Delgany Village shall not be used to accommodate works traffic;
- (f) Measures to obviate queuing of construction traffic on the adjoining road network;

- (g) Measures to prevent the spillage or deposit of clay, rubble or other debris on the public road network;
- (h) Alternative arrangements to be put in place for pedestrians and vehicles in the case of the closure of any public road or footpath during the course of site development works;
- (i) Details of appropriate mitigation measures for noise, dust and vibration, and monitoring of such levels;
- (j) 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;
- (k) Off-site disposal of construction and demolition waste and details of how it is proposed to manage excavated soil;
- (l) Means to ensure that surface water run-off is controlled such that no silt or other pollutants enter local surface water sewers or drains.
- (m) 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.

25. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Saturdays inclusive, 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.

26. 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.

27. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall enter into water and or wastewater connection agreement(s) with Irish Water.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

28. 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.

29. All works to the protected structure shall be carried out under the supervision of a qualified professional with specialised conservation expertise.

Reason: To secure the authentic preservation of this protected structure and to ensure that the proposed works are carried out in accordance with best conservation practice.

30. 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 waste, for each apartment unit 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: In the interest of residential amenity, and to ensure the provision of adequate refuse storage.

31. 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.

32. 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.

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

Dated this day of 2021