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**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021**

**Planning Authority: Cork City Council**

**Planning Register Reference Number: 20/39659**

**Appeal** by Dunluce Land Holdings Limited of Fehily Timoney of Core House, Pouladuff Road, Cork against the decision made on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021 by Cork City Council to refuse permission for the proposed development.

**Proposed Development:** Provision of 49 number dwellings, comprising of (i) nine number two-storey terraced houses (five number two-bedroom 85.6 square metres) and four number three-bedroom (95.4 square metres ) each with private amenity space to the rear, and (ii) 40 number apartment units comprised within five blocks ranging from three to four storeys in height comprising (a) two number four-storey blocks including basement level (Block Type A), each consisting of eight number two-bedroom apartments (83.4 square metres - 84 square metres) with associated private amenity space, (b) two number three-storey blocks (Block Type B) each consisting of four number two bedroom apartments (73 square metres and four number one bedroom apartments 49 square metres) with associated private amenity space, and (c) one number three-storey block (Block Type C) consisting of four number three-bedroom apartments (96 square metres ) and four number

one bedroom apartments (49 squaremetres ) with associated private amenity space. The proposed development also provides for (iii) internal roads, footpaths and shared surfaces including two number pedestrian access points accessing Fairfield Road, (iv) 68 number car parking spaces (58 number residential, 10 number visitor), (v) 88 number bicycle parking spaces (78 number residential, 10 number visitor), and (vi) landscaping, communal open space, bin storage, boundary treatments, drainage and all associated site works necessary to facilitate the development, all on a site of 0.93 hectares on lands off Fairfield Road, Fairfield, Blackpool, Cork. As revised by further public notices received by An Bord Pleanála on the 4th day of May, 2022, the proposed development now consists of the provision of 47 number dwellings comprising of (i) four number three bed end-terrace dwellings, (ii) five number two bed mid-terrace dwellings, (iii) 38 apartments units comprising (a) four number three bed two-storey apartments, (b) 23 number two bed two-storey apartments, (c) 11 number one bed one-storey apartments. The proposed development also provides for internal roads, footpaths and shared surfaces including 54 carparking spaces, shared cycling and pedestrian path along Fairfield Road.

## **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.**

## Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the provisions of the Cork City Development Plan 2022 – 2028, the location of the site in the north central suburbs, in an “Area of High landscape Value”, with an underlying land use zoning objective ZO 01 “Sustainable Residential” and adjacent to an area with the zoning objective of ZO 17 “Landscape Preservation”, Table 11.2 of the development plan setting out density and building height standards for the area, the topography of the site, the existing pattern of development in the area, the form, design and layout of the proposed development, the masterplan submitted for the overall landholding including the ZO 17 area, and provisions for pedestrian and cycle path, it is considered that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would be in accordance with the residential zoning, and the density and height standards for the area, would present a positive interface with the area zoned “Landscape Preservation”, and would provide improved pedestrian and cycle connectivity. The proposed development would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area, would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian and traffic safety and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to refuse permission, the Board had regard to the submissions received, and had regard to the context of the site including the existing housing to the south which is at a higher level than the proposed development and appears to break the ridge line of the hill when viewed from the north on the other side of the valley, where the proposed development would be below that level, and considered that the proposed development would provide a positive interface with the lands zoned for “Landscape Preservation” which have an objective of providing for potential woodlands, by reason of form and design.

Furthermore, having regard to the reduced number of car parking spaces proposed, and the provision of a path and cycle connection, it is considered the proposed development would not generate excessive vehicular traffic, and would be acceptable in terms of pedestrian and traffic safety.

## Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application, as amended by the further plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021 and the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021, 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.

**Reason:** In the interest of clarity.

2. The proposed development shall be amended as follows:

Parking spaces numbered 7, 8, 15, 26, 27, 33 and 34 as indicated on drawing number APFI-1.01 received by An Bord Pleanála on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021 shall be omitted and the area to be landscaped.

Revised drawings 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 interest of visual and residential amenity.



3. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. The site shall be landscaped in accordance with a comprehensive boundary treatment and landscaping scheme, details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This scheme shall include the following:

- (a) Details of all proposed hard surface finishes, including samples of proposed paving slabs/materials for footpaths, kerbing and road surfaces within the development.

- (b) A plan to scale of not less than 1:500 showing proposed locations of trees and other landscape planting in the development, including details of proposed species and settings.
- (c) The species, variety, number, size and locations of all proposed trees and shrubs which shall comprise predominantly native species such as mountain ash, birch, willow, sycamore, pine, oak, hawthorn, holly, hazel, beech or alder which shall not include prunus species.
- (d) Details of proposed street furniture, including bollards, lighting fixtures and seating.
- (e) Details of proposed boundary treatments at the perimeter of the site, including heights, materials and finishes.
- (f) Specifications for mounding, levelling, cultivation and other operations associated with plant and grass establishment.
- (g) A timescale for implementation including details of phasing

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 or until the development is taken in charge by the local authority, whichever is the sooner, 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.

7. 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. Such lighting shall be provided prior to the making available for occupation of any unit.

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

8. Proposals for an estate/street name, house/apartment 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/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.

9. 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 interest of visual and residential amenity.

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10. The internal road and vehicular circulation 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 DMURS. Drawings 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 interest of amenity and of traffic and pedestrian safety.

11. A minimum of 10% of all communal car parking spaces shall be provided with functioning EV charging stations/points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces, including in-curtilage spaces, facilitating the installation of EV charging points/stations at a later date. Where proposals relating to the installation of EV ducting and charging stations/points have 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 occupation of the development.

**Reason:** To provide for and/or future proof the development such as would facilitate the use of Electric Vehicles.

12. (a) A plan containing details for the management of waste (and, in particular, recyclable materials) within the development, including the provision of facilities for the storage, separation and collection of the waste and, in particular, recyclable materials and for the ongoing operation of these facilities for each apartment unit shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority not later than six months from the date of commencement of the



development. Thereafter, the waste shall be managed in accordance with the agreed plan.

- (b) This plan shall provide for screened communal bin stores, the locations and designs of which shall be included in the details to be submitted.
- (c) This plan shall provide for screened bin stores, which shall accommodate not less than three standard sized wheeled bins within the curtilage of each house plot.

**Reason:** In the interest of residential amenity, and to ensure the provision of adequate refuse storage.

- 13. (a) The communal open spaces, including hard and soft landscaping, car parking areas and access ways, communal refuse/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 drawings/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.



14. 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 hours of working, noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

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

15. Prior to commencement of development, the applicant 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.

16. Prior to the commencement of any house in the development as permitted, the applicant or any person with an interest in the land shall enter into an agreement with the planning authority (such agreement must specify the number and location of each house or duplex unit), pursuant to Section 47 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, that restricts all houses permitted, to first occupation by individual purchasers i.e. those not being a corporate entity, and/or by those eligible for the occupation of social and/or affordable housing, including cost rental housing.

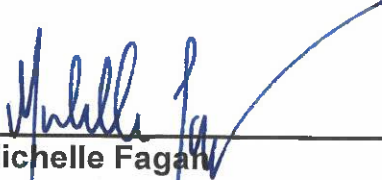
**Reason:** To restrict new housing development to use by persons of a particular class or description in order to ensure an adequate choice and supply of housing, including affordable housing, in the common good.

17. 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.

18. 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, which may allow for the payment of a reduced contribution or no contribution in certain circumstances, in accordance with the provisions of the scheme. 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 considered reasonable that the payment of a contribution, in accordance with the Development Contribution Scheme made under section 48 of the Act, should be made in respect of public infrastructure and facilities benefiting development in the area of the planning authority and that is provided, or that is intended will be provided, by or on behalf of the local authority.

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



Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022.