

Board Order ABP-309889-21

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020

**Planning Authority: Westmeath County Council** 

Planning Register Reference Number: 20/7162

**Appeal** by Daragh O'Brien of The Gables, Knockanea, Fardrum, Athlone, County Westmeath against the decision made on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021 by Westmeath County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Darina Dolan care of Malachi Cullen Consulting Engineers Limited of 8 Centre Court, Blyry Commercial and Business Park, Athlone, County Westmeath in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

**Proposed Development:** Construction of a new septic tank and polishing filter and the removal of the existing septic tank and percolation system together with all associated site works at Creaghduff, Coosan, Athlone, County Westmeath.

## 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**

Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development for the construction of a new septic tank and polishing filter and the removal of an existing septic tank and percolation system, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the nature and scale of the proposed development would be acceptable within the context of the site and would be in accordance with the policies and objectives of the Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027 and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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## **Conditions**

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 submitted on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 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. (a) The treatment plant and polishing filter shall be located, constructed and maintained in accordance with the details submitted to the planning authority on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020, and in accordance with the requirements of the document entitled "Code of Practice Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses (p.e. ≤ 10)" Environmental Protection Agency, 2009. No system other than the type proposed in the submissions shall be installed unless agreed in writing with the planning authority.
  - (b) Certification by the system manufacturer that the system has been properly installed shall be submitted to the planning authority within four weeks of the installation of the system.

- (c) A maintenance contract for the treatment system shall be entered into and paid in advance for a minimum period of five years from the date of installation shall be kept in place at all times. Signed and dated copies of the contract shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority within four weeks of the installation.
- (d) Surface water soakways shall be located such that the drainage from the dwelling and paved areas of the site shall be diverted away from the location of the polishing filter.
- (e) Within three months of the installation, the developer shall submit a report from a suitably qualified person with professional indemnity insurance certifying that the proprietary effluent treatment system has been installed and commissioned in accordance with the approved details and is working in a satisfactory manner and that the polishing filter is constructed in accordance with the standards set out in the Environmental Protection Agency document.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

 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.

Maria FitzGerald

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

DR. Maria FitzGerald

Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September 2021.