

# Board Order ABP-310299-21

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2020

**Planning Authority: Dublin City 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2021 by Maxol Property Limited care of Tom Phillips and Associates of 80 Harcourt Street, Dublin.

## Proposed Development comprises of the following:

The demolition and removal of all existing buildings and associated structures above and below ground (total 1,311 square metres) and the construction of a six storey apartment building (with set-backs at Third, Fourth and Fifth Floor Levels) (accommodating 112 number apartments (56 number one-bed and 56 number two-bed units) and 297 square metres communal space primarily comprising a gym, lounge, work space, bookable room, office and parcel store) over single basement level (accommodating 79 number car parking spaces (including two number car club spaces), four number motorbike parking spaces, 224 number bicycle spaces, together with ancillary areas including circulation, plant, attenuation tank, waste management storage areas, and service areas).

Vehicular and pedestrian access to the site will be from Beach Road with additional pedestrian access via Church Avenue; (the total gross floor area of the proposed development is 12,273 square metres (including basement of 2,679 square metres and a detached single storey ground floor Electricity Supply Board substation and switch room of 25 square metres)).

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The development will also consist of the provision of: private open space in the form of balconies and terraces(on the Beach Road, Church Avenue frontages and to the rear of the building on the north western, south eastern and south western facades), and semi-private and public open space at ground level; all hard and soft landscaping including boundary treatments; changes in levels; plant; photovoltaic panels; Sustainable Drainage System measures including a green roof; 10 number bicycle spaces at ground level; waste collection area; and all other associated site excavation and site development works above and below ground all located at a site comprising the Maxol Filling Station and a vacant motor sales and service garage (formerly Michael Grant Motors), Beach Road, Dublin 4. The site is bounded by Church Avenue to the north; existing education (Saint Matthew's National School) and residential development to the south and west; the junction between Cranfield Place and Beach Road to the south; and Beach Road to the east.

#### 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.

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#### **Reasons and Considerations**

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

- (a) The location of the site on lands with a zoning objective for residential development and the policy and objective provisions as set out in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022 in respect of mixed-use development;
- (b) The nature, scale and design of the proposed development which is consistent with the provisions as set out in the Dublin County Development Plan 2016-2022 and appendices contained therein;
- (c) The provisions of Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness 2016;
- (d) 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;
- (e) 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 December 2020;
- (f) The availability in the area of a wide range of social and transport infrastructure:
- (g) To the pattern of existing and permitted development in the area;
- (h) The Chief Executive's Report of Dublin City Council;
- (i) The comments made at the Dublin City South East Area Committee meeting;
- (j) The submissions and observations received, and
- (k) The Planning Inspectors 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 suitably zoned and adequately serviced urban site, the appropriate assessment screening and Natura impact statement 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, other than South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004024), which is a European Site for which there is a likelihood of significant effects.

# **Appropriate Assessment**

The Board considered the Natura impact statement and all other relevant submissions including expert submissions received and carried out an appropriate assessment of the implications of the proposed development on South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004024) in view of the above Site's Conservation Objectives. The Board considered that the information before it was sufficient to undertake a complete assessment of all aspects of the proposed development in relation to the Site's Conservation Objectives using the best available scientific knowledge in the field.

In completing the assessment, the Board considered, in particular, the following:

- the likely direct and indirect impacts arising from the proposed development (a) both individually or in combination with other plans or projects,
- the mitigation measures which are included as part of the current proposal, (b) and
- the conservation objectives for the European Sites. (c)

In completing the Appropriate Assessment, the Board accepted and adopted the Appropriate Assessment carried out in the Inspector's report in respect of the potential effects of the proposed development on the aforementioned European Site, having regard to the Site's Conservation Objectives.

In overall conclusion, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other plans or projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of European Sites in view of the site's conservation objectives. This conclusion is based on a complete assessment of all aspects of the proposed project and there is no reasonable scientific doubt as to the absence of adverse effects.

# **Environmental Impact Assessment Screening**

The Board completed an environmental impact assessment screening of the proposed development and considered that the Environmental Impact Assessment Report Screening submitted by the developer, which contains the information set out in Schedule 7A to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, 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, which is below the threshold in respect of Class 10(b)(iv) and Class 13 of Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (b) Class 14 of Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (c) The location of the site on lands governed by zoning objective Z1, 'to protect, provide and improve residential amenities', in the Dublin City Development Plan 2016-2022, and the results of the strategic environmental assessment of the Dublin City Development Plan undertaken in accordance with the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC),
- (d) The existing use on the site and pattern of development in the surrounding area,

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- (e) The planning history relating of the site,
- (f) The availability of mains water and wastewater services to serve the proposed development,
- (g) The location of the development outside of any sensitive location specified in article 299(C)(1)(v) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (h) The guidance as set out in the "Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

  Guidance for Consent Authorities regarding Sub-threshold Development",
  issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local

  Government (2003),
- (i) The criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and
- (j) The features and measures proposed by the developer envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise be significant effects on the environment, including measures identified in the Construction and Demolition Management Plan.

It is considered that the proposed development would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that the preparation and submission of an environmental impact assessment report would not, therefore, be 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 at this location, would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity, would be acceptable in terms of urban design, height and quantum of development, as well as in terms of traffic and pedestrian safety and convenience. The proposal would, therefore, subject to conditions, provide an acceptable form of residential amenity for future occupants.

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## **Conditions**

The 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. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed building 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.

 The noise mitigation measures outlined in the Natura impact statement shall be fully implemented at demolition, construction and operational phases of the development.

**Reason:** To ensure that the development has no adverse impact on the qualifying interests of the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary Special Protection Area (Site Code: 004024).

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4. 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 amenities of property in the vicinity and the visual amenities of the area.

5. Proposals for a development name and numbering scheme and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, all such names and numbering shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme.

Reason: In the interest of urban legibility.

6. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall submit details of a proposed covenant or legal agreement which confirms that the development hereby permitted shall remain owned and operated by an institutional entity for a minimum period of not less than 15 years and where no individual residential units shall be sold separately for that period. The period of fifteen years shall be from the date of occupation of the first residential unit within the scheme.

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

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7. Prior to expiration of the 15 year period referred to in the covenant, the developer shall submit ownership details and management structures proposed for the continued operation of the entire development as a Build to Rent scheme. Any proposed amendment or deviation from the Build to Rent model as authorised in this permission shall be subject to a separate planning application.

Reason: In the interests of orderly development and clarity.

8. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, which shall include lighting along pedestrian routes through the communal open spaces, details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development or installation of lighting.

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

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

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.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

10. (a) The road network serving the proposed development, including turning bays, junction with the public road, parking areas, footpaths and kerbs, access road to the service area and the basement car park shall be in accordance with the detailed construction standards of the planning authority for such works. In default of agreement the matter(s) in dispute shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

- (b) The footpath width on Church Avenue shall be a minimum of 2 metres in width, revised details shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority and shall include revised hard and soft landscaping and boundary details.
- (c) The substation shall be setback a minimum of 1 metre from the back of the revised footpath on Church Avenue.

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

- 11. (a) The car parking facilities hereby permitted shall be reserved solely to serve the proposed development. All car parking spaces shall be assigned permanently for the residential development and shall be reserved solely for that purpose. These residential spaces shall not be utilised for any other purpose, including for use in association with any other uses of the development hereby permitted, unless the subject of a separate grant of planning permission.
  - (b) Two of the car parking spaces shall be reserved solely for the use by a car sharing club. The developer shall notify the planning authority of any change in the status of this car sharing club.
  - (c) Prior to the occupation of the development, a Parking Management Plan shall be prepared for the development and shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority.

**Reason:** To ensure that adequate parking facilities are permanently available to serve the proposed residential units and the remaining development.

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12. A minimum of 10% of all car parking spaces should be provided with functioning electric vehicle charging stations or points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces, including in-curtilage 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. The car parking spaces for sole use of the car sharing club shall also be provided with functioning electric vehicle charging stations or points.

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

13. A total of 234 number bicycle parking spaces and room for four cargo bicycles shall be provided within the site. Details of the layout, marking demarcation and security provisions for these spaces shall be as submitted to An Bord Pleanála with this application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

**Reason:** To ensure that adequate bicycle parking provision is available to serve the proposed development, in the interest of sustainable transportation.

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14. Prior to the opening or occupation of the development, a Mobility Management Strategy including an interim or temporary strategy reflecting any requirements or adjustments relating to Covid-19 movement and travel patterns 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 and staff employed in the development and to reduce and regulate the extent of parking. Details may include the provision of centralised facilities within the commercial element of the development for bicycle parking, shower and changing facilities associated with the policies set out in the strategy. The interim or temporary strategy, where applicable, should reflect the requirements of Design Manual for Urban Roads and Street Interim Advice Note — Covid Pandemic Response May 2020. The mobility strategy 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 and reflecting the needs of pedestrians and cyclists during Covid-19 pandemic.

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.

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

16. 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.

17. The site shall be landscaped and earthworks carried out 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.

Reason: In the interest of residential and visual amenity.

- 18. (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 plans 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 and in the interest of residential amenity.

- 19. (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.

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(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.

20. 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.

- 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:
  - (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;

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- (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;
- (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;
- (I) 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 interest of amenities, public health and safety.

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22. 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.

23. 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.

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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.

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25. 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.

Paul Hyde

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

Dated this 6th day of 88 PTEMBER 2021

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