

# Board Order ABP-310688-21

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: South Dublin County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: SD21A/0087

**Appeal** by Cavan Developments care of The Planning Partnership of The Bank Building, 52 Oliver Plunkett Street, Mullingar, County Westmeath against the decision made on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2021 by South Dublin County Council to refuse permission for the proposed development.

# **Proposed Development:**

- Construction of a residential development with 98 number residential units consisting of 51 number houses, 37 number apartments and 10 number duplexes.
- Vehicular access from Kilteel Road via the existing development of Rathmill Manor, connected to the subject lands by a bridge across the existing watercourse;
- The houses will consist of 23 number three-bed two-storey plus attic level mid terrace houses; 28 number four-bed two-storey plus attic level semidetached/end of terrace houses;
- The apartments and duplexes will be provided across four number blocks ranging in height from three to four storeys; Block A will provide 24 number apartments consisting of five number one-bed units, 15 number

two-bed units and four number three-bed units with associated balconies and basement level car parking for 29 number cars, bicycle parking, bin stores and plant; Block B will provide six number apartments consisting of three number one-bed units and three number two-bed units with associated balconies; Block C will provide eight number apartments/duplex units consisting of four number one-bed apartments and four number two-bed duplexes with associated balconies; Block D will provide nine number apartment/duplex units consisting of three number two-bed apartments, three number two-bed duplexes and three number three-bed duplexes with associated balconies;

- 154 number surface level ancillary car parking spaces, bicycle parking, bin stores:
- Landscaping including pedestrian bridge, home zone sectors, boundary treatment and all associated site works and services on lands extending from Rathmill Manor residential development to the east to lands reserved for the Western Dublin Orbital Route to the west,

all at Rathmill Manor, Tootenhill, Rathcoole, County Dublin.

#### 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 following:

- (a) the provisions of the South Dublin County Council Development Plan 2016-2022, including the zoning objectives for the site,
- (b) the Housing for All A New Housing Plan for Ireland, issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in September 2021,
- (c) 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, 2013,
- (d) the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas, issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in May, 2009,
- (e) the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments, issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in May 2018, as amended,
- (f) the Planning System and Flood Risk Management (including the associated Technical Appendices), issued by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in November, 2009,
- (g) the Urban Development and Building Heights, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December, 2018,
- (h) the nature, scale and design of the proposed development,
- (i) the availability in the area of a wide range of social, community and transport infrastructure,
- (j) the pattern of existing and permitted development in the area,
- (k) the planning history within the area,
- (I) the report of the Chief Executive and associated appendices, and

(m) the report of the Inspector and the submissions and observations received,

it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would constitute an acceptable residential density, 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.

# **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, the Inspector's report and submissions on file. In completing the screening exercise, the Board adopted the report of the Inspector and concluded that, on the basis of the information on the file, the proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on Glenasmole Valley Special Area of Conservation (site code 001209), Wicklow Mountains Special Area of Conservation (site code 002122), Red Bog, Kildare Special Area of Conservation (site code 000397), Rye Water Valley/Carton Special Area of Conservation (site code 001398), Poulaphuca Resevoir Special Protection Area (site code 004063), and Wicklow Mountains Special Protection Area (site code 004040), or any other European site, 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.

### Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application and as amended by the revised plans received by An Bord Pleanála (concerning Option A) on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 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. Prior to the commencement of any house or duplex unit 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, as amended, that restricts all houses and duplex units permitted, to first occupation by individual purchasers, that is 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.

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. Proposals for an estate/street name, house/apartment/duplex 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/duplex numbers, shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. No advertisements/marketing signage relating to the name of the development shall be erected until the developer has obtained the planning authority's written agreement to the proposed name.

**Reason:** In the interest of urban legibility.

5. 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/installation of lighting. Such lighting shall be provided prior to the making available for occupation of any dwelling unit.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

- 6. (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 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.

7. 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 the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) issued by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government in March, 2013.

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

8. Prior to the first occupation of the development, a finalised Mobility Management Strategy 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. 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.

9. All roads and footpaths shown to adjoining lands shall be constructed up to the boundaries to provide access to adjoining lands. These areas shall be shown for taking in charge in a drawing to be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

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

10. A minimum of 10% of all car parking spaces shall be provided with electric vehicle charging stations/points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces facilitating the installation of electric vehicle charging points/stations at a later date. Where such proposals relating to the installation of electric vehicle ducting and charging stations/points have not been submitted with the application, in accordance with the above noted requirements, the developer shall submit such proposals to the planning authority in writing 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. All service cables associated with the proposed development (such as electrical, telecommunications and communal television) shall be located underground. Any relocation of utility infrastructure shall be agreed with the relevant utility provider. 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.

- 12. (a) Drainage arrangements including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the detailed requirements of the planning authority for such works and services.
  - (b) 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.
  - (c) 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 have been no misconnections or damage
    to storm water drainage infrastructure during construction, shall be
    submitted to the planning authority for written agreement.
  - (d) A maintenance policy to include regular operational inspection and maintenance of the SUDS infrastructure and the petrol/oil interceptors shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to occupation of the proposed dwelling units and shall be implemented in accordance with that agreement.

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

- 13. The developer shall enter into water and/or wastewater connection agreements with Irish Water, prior to commencement of development.
  Reason: In the interests of clarity and public health.
- 14. 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.

15. 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. The landscape scheme shall be implemented fully in the first planting season following completion of the development, and any trees or shrubs which die or are removed within three years of planting shall be replaced in the first planting season thereafter. This work shall be completed before any of the dwellings are made available for occupation.

Reason: In the interest of residential and visual amenity.

- 16. (a) Prior to commencement of development, all trees/hedgerow 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, 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 which are to be retained adjacent to the site unless otherwise agreed with the planning authority.

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

- 17. 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) A Construction Traffic Management Plan providing 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, cyclists and vehicles in the case of the closure of any footpath, cyclepath or public road during the course of site development works.

- (i) Details of appropriate mitigation measures for noise, dust and vibration, and the location and frequency of 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/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.

18. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Fridays, 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. (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.

20. 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.

21. Detailed measures in relation to the protection of bats shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority, prior to commencement of development. These measures shall be implemented as part of the development. Any envisaged destruction of structures that support bat populations shall be carried out only under licence from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and details of any such licence shall be submitted to the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of wildlife protection.

22. 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.

23. 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.

Dave Walsh

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

Dated this 4th day of Mach 2022