

Board Order ABP-311320-21

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Cork County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 20/06084

Appeal by John and Elizabeth Russell of Carrigmore Lodge, Lake Road, Cobh, County Cork against the decision made on the 11th day of August, 2021 by Cork County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Ray Mills care of Niall Skehan and Associates of 4 Charlotte Place, Glenbrook, Passage West, County Cork in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: The demolition of the existing portal framed structure and the construction of four three-storey semi-detached houses (change of house type as granted under PD 10/52013) and associated site works at Cobh Auto Centre, Lake Road, Ringmeen, Cobh, County Cork.

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 relevant provisions of the statutory development plan, to the pattern of development in the area, and the nature, scale and form of the residential development proposed, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not seriously injure the amenities of the area including property in the vicinity, 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 considered the totality of the documentation submitted with the application and appeal and determined that, subject to appropriate construction management conditions, the proposed development could be implemented without any risk to public safety arising from encroachment of dwelling number 1 upon the bottom of the slope to the western rock face of the site and that a refusal for the overall scheme, by reference to this reason alone would not be warranted. Notwithstanding this single issue, the Board considered that dwelling number 1 should be omitted from the proposed development, by reason of the poor functionality/workability of the rear private open space, given the proximity and height of the rock face particularly at this dwelling, as raised in the appeal documentation and that a grant of permission

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for house numbers 2, 3 and 4 would be warranted and would not be inconsistent with the overall assessment of those dwellings by the Inspector.

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 15th day of July 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.

- The proposed development shall be amended as follows:-
 - (a) House number 1 shall be omitted and house number 2 shall comprise a detached house.
 - (b) The rear garden area of house number 1, the footprint of the house and the area between the footprint and the western site boundary shall be subsumed into the private garden area for house number 2, with associated boundary treatment provided to the front.



(c) The area identified as garden area to the front of house number 1 shall be reconstituted as communal open space with no boundary wall between this open space area and the adjoining surface car parking.

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

Reason: In the interest of residential amenity and to remove a substandard form of residential amenity at the originally proposed house number 1, due to poor private open space provision.

 External finishes including all materials, colours and textures shall be in accordance with the details submitted to the planning authority, unless otherwise agreed prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

4. Water supply and drainage arrangements, including the 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.

5. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall enter into water and/or wastewater connection agreements with Irish Water.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

6. 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.

Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, 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 house.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

8. All of the communal parking areas serving the residential units shall be provided with functional electric vehicle charging points. Details of how it is proposed to comply with this requirement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable transportation.



- 9. The site shall be landscaped in accordance with a comprehensive scheme of landscaping, 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) A plan to scale of not less than 1:500 showing -
 - existing trees, shrubs, rock outcroppings, specifying which are proposed for retention as features of the site landscaping,
 - (ii) the measures to be put in place for the protection of these landscape features during the construction period,
 - (iii) 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,
 - (iv) details of screen planting which shall not include cupressocyparis x leylandii, and
 - (v) hard landscaping works, specifying surfacing materials and finished levels.
 - (b) Specifications for mounding, levelling, cultivation and other operations associated with plant and grass establishment.
 - (c) A timescale for implementation.

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 interests of residential and visual amenity.

10. 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.

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11. 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.

- 12. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall lodge with the planning authority a bond of an insurance company, a cash deposit, or other security to secure the provision and satisfactory completion, and maintenance until taken in charge by the local authority, of roads, sewers, watermains, drains, car parks, open spaces 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 security to be lodged shall be as follows -
 - (a) an approved insurance company bond, or

- (b) a cash sum to be applied by the planning authority at its absolute discretion if such services are not provided to its satisfaction, or
- (c) such other security as may be accepted in writing by the planning authority.

Reason: To ensure the satisfactory completion and maintenance of the development until taken in charge.

13. 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.

14. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution in respect of the Cobh/Midleton-Blarney Suburban Rail Project in accordance with the terms of the Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme made by the planning authority under section 49 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 Supplementary Development Contribution Scheme made under section 49 of the Act be applied to the permission.

Chris McGarry

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

Dated this

2022.