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**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021**

**Planning Authority: Cork County Council**

**Planning Register Reference Number: 21/06240**

**Appeal** by Castleview Residents Association of 12 Castle Close, Carrigtwohill, County Cork and by others against the decision made on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2022 by Cork County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Compass Homes Limited care of Cunnane Stratton Reynolds of Copley Hall, Cotters Street, Cork in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

**Proposed Development:** A residential development and a café. The proposed development consists of the demolition of two number existing dwellings and the construction of 38 number apartments and a café (with outdoor seating) and includes for site access, car parking, landscaping, open spaces and boundary treatments, bin and bicycle storage, and all associated and ancillary site development works. The proposed development comprises 10 number one bedroom units, 25 number two bedroom units and three number three bedroom units and ranges in height from three to five number storeys including setbacks, all at Station Road, Carrigtwohill, Carrigtwohill (townland), 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.**

## **Reasons and Considerations**

Having regard to the location of the site within the development boundary of Carrigtwohill, the Cork County Development Plan 2022-2028, the Cobh Municipal District Local Area Plan 2017 and the policies and provisions contained in the National Planning Framework, the Quality Housing for Sustainable Communities Best Practice Guidelines for Delivering Homes Sustaining Communities issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government in 2007, the Urban Development and Building Heights - Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December, 2018 and the Sustainable Urban Housing Design Standards for New Apartments - Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in December, 2020, it is considered that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would not seriously injure the amenities of the area or property in the vicinity in terms of visual impact, overlooking or overbearing impacts, would not cause adverse daylight/sunlight or overshadowing impacts on neighbouring properties, and would generally be acceptable in terms of traffic safety and convenience. The proposed development 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 context for the development in proximity to the existing form of the school hall, the scale of the church building, and to the proposed levels on the site illustrated on section drawing number 21004/02/2701/00 and considered that the proposed development would be acceptable in terms of form, scale and design, and that the disposition of the proposed building on the site with the distances proposed to adjacent residential properties would provide adequate separation and avoid overbearing or unacceptable levels of overlooking, and would not, therefore, have an adverse impact on the character of the area.

Furthermore, the Board had regard to the location of the site within Carrigtwohill which is identified as a Main Town within the Local Area Plan, which aims to realise significant population growth, is designated as a Strategic Employment Area, where the site is located within 500 metres of the railway station and approximately 200 metres from the centre of the town, the policies and provisions of the National Planning Framework, the design and form of the proposed development, and considered that the density of the proposed development would be acceptable in this location.

## 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 submitted on the 16<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:
  - (a) The floor to ceiling height at the ground floor shall be increased to three metres.
  - (b) Ground floor apartments numbered Apt 01 and Apt 02 shall be rearranged so that Apt 02 becomes a two bedroomed apartment, and Apt 01 is omitted and the space used for Bicycle storage.
  - (b) All balconies provided shall at least meet the minimum area as provided for under the Sustainable Urban Housing: Design Standards for New Apartments issued by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in December, 2020

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 interests of residential amenity.

3. 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.

**Reason:** In the interest of visual amenity.

4. Design and details of proposed metal railings to be located on top of the existing southern boundary wall shall be submitted for the written agreement of the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

**Reason:** In the interest of visual amenity.

5. The developer shall control odour emissions from the café in accordance with measures, including extract duct details, which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

**Reason:** In the interest of public health and to protect the amenities of the area.

6. No music or other amplified sound shall be broadcast externally from the café. Noise emanating from the premises shall be such so as not to cause nuisance to occupiers of adjacent properties and users of the public road.

**Reason:** To protect the amenities of the area.

7. (a) The hours of operation of the café shall be between 0700 hours and 2200 hours Monday to Sunday inclusive, including public holidays.

- (b) Goods deliveries shall not be permitted between 2000 and 0700.

**Reason:** In the interest of the amenities of property in the vicinity.

8. 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.

9. Proposals for a building naming and apartment numbering scheme and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter signs and apartment numbers shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. The proposed name 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 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 and to ensure the use of locally appropriate place names for new residential areas.



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

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

11. 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.

12. Prior to commencement of development, land required by the planning authority for Station Road upgrade on the western boundary of the site (as indicated in the lodged documentation) shall be reserved free from development and shall be marked out on site in consultation with the planning authority.

**Reason:** In the interest of traffic safety and to prevent the development of this area prior to its use for future road improvements.

13. 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, to facilitate the installation of EV charging points/stations at a later date. Where proposals relating to the installation of EV ducting and charging stations/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 before making available by the developer for occupation of the residential units in the proposed development.

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

14. (a) Drainage arrangements including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the 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 has been no misconnections or damage to storm water drainage infrastructure during construction, shall be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement.

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



15. 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.

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

16. The management and maintenance of the proposed development following its completion shall be the responsibility of a legally constituted management company. A management scheme providing adequate measures for the future maintenance of public open spaces, roads and communal areas shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to occupation of the development.

**Reason:** To provide for the satisfactory future maintenance of this development in the interest of residential amenity.

17. 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.

18. 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 noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

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

19. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Fridays, 0800 to 1400 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.

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. 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.

22. The developer is required to engage the services of a suitably qualified archaeologist (licences under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2004) to carry out archaeological testing across the site and targeting the results of the geophysical survey well in advance of the commencement of the development. No sub-surface work shall be undertaken in the absence of the archaeologist without his/her express consent. Where archaeological material is shown to be present the local authority archaeologist shall be immediately notified and preservation in situ will be the preferred mitigation option, the planning authority the National Monuments Service (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) will advise the developer with regard to these matters. Having completed the work, the archaeologist shall submit a written report to the planning authority and the National Monuments Service (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage) for consideration. No site preparation or construction work shall be carried out until after the archaeologist's report has been submitted and permission to proceed has been received in writing from the planning authority in consultation with the National Monuments Service (Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage).

**Reason:** To preserve item of archaeological importance.

23. The developer shall facilitate the archaeological appraisal of the site and shall provide for the preservation, recording and protection of archaeological materials or features which 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, and

- (b) employ a suitably-qualified archaeologist prior to the commencement of development. The archaeologist shall assess the site and monitor all site development works.

The assessment shall address the following issues:

- (i) the nature and location of archaeological material on the site, and
- (ii) the impact of the proposed development on such archaeological material.

A report, containing the results of the assessment, shall be submitted to the planning authority and, arising from this assessment, the developer shall agree in writing with the planning authority details regarding any further archaeological requirements (including, if necessary, archaeological excavation) prior to commencement of construction works.

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 area and to secure the preservation (in-situ or by record) and protection of any archaeological remains that may exist within the site.

24. 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.

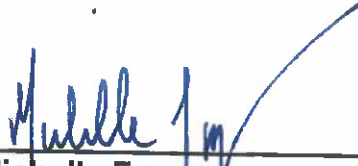
**Reason:** It is a requirement of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that a condition requiring a contribution in accordance with the Development Contribution Scheme made under section 48 of the Act be applied to the permission.

25. 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.

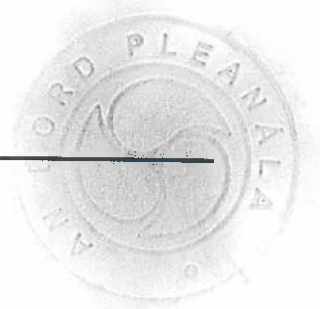
26. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution as a special contribution under section 48(2) (c) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 in respect of infrastructure to upgrade Station Road, increase capacity at Cobh Cross interchange and the provision of public parking. The amount of the contribution 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 for determination. The contribution shall be paid prior to commencement of development or in such phased payments as the planning authority may facilitate and shall be updated at the time of payment in accordance with changes in the Wholesale Price Index – Building and Construction (Capital Goods), published by the Central Statistics Office.

**Reason:** It is considered reasonable that the developer should contribute towards the specific exceptional costs which are incurred by the planning authority which are not covered in the Development Contribution Scheme and which will benefit the proposed development.



Michelle Fagan

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



Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022.