



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order
ABP-313237-22

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Cork City Council

Planning Register Reference Number: T.P. 21/40384

Appeal by Tom Coleman on behalf of The Blarney Street Community Association of The Rock Community Centre, Blarney Street, Cork and by Noreen Naughton care of Niall and Marian Naughton of 381 Blarney Street, Cork against the decision made on the 16th day of March, 2022 by Cork City Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Majestic Property Developers Limited care of CEA Architects of 15 Mill Road, Midleton, County Cork in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Construction of a residential apartment scheme consisting of construction of 27 number residential apartment units in two blocks ranging in height from to two four storeys, comprising 17 number one bed apartment units and 10 number two bed apartment units. The development includes the demolition of 489.5 square metres of the existing vacant and derelict structures while maintaining 50.5 square metres of existing buildings. Part of the existing structure is on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage. The development also includes, landscaping and boundary treatments, surface treatments, drainage, footpaths and all ancillary site development works, all at Old Market Place and Blarney Street, Gurrabraher, Cork City. The proposed development was revised by further

public notices received by the planning authority on the 18th day of February, 2022.

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 central and accessible location of the site, the provisions of the Cork City Development Plan 2022-2028, the Urban Development and Building Heights - Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in December, 2018, 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 (including the update of December 2022), and the National Planning Framework, which seeks to direct new residential development in cities into built-up serviced areas, the pattern and character of development in the area and the design and scale of the proposed development, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would constitute an acceptable quantum and quality of residential development, would not seriously injure the amenities of surrounding properties or detract from the character or visual amenity of the area, would be consistent with the 'ZO 1' Development Plan zoning objective, and would 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.

The Board noted the thrust of residential development policy is to create a compact city, with enforcement of minimum density targets to be applied, and that density targets and prevailing character will be key measures in determining site-specific density. In considering the density of this proposed development, the Board had regard to the factors outlined in section 11.73 of the Development Plan. Given the low-to-mid-rise nature of the proposed development, provision of balconies and communal garden/terrace space, lack of parking provision and avoidance of unacceptable levels of overlooking, the Board considered that a density of 100-200 could be achieved on this city fringe site and would not represent a material contravention of the plan. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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 10th day of February 2022, 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 bin storage area shall be enclosed and shall be provided with suitable access, lighting, and ventilation proposals.
 - (b) The residual open space area to the west of Unit 2 shall be repurposed to provide additional private amenity space for the adjoining units (i.e. Units 1, 2, and 3).
 - (c) The residual open space area to the south of Unit 1 shall be repurposed to provide additional private amenity space for Unit 1.
 - (d) Revised boundary treatment proposals shall enhance privacy and security for the ground floor patios serving units 4 and 7.
 - (e) The east-facing bedroom windows in units 1 and 8 shall be fitted with privacy screening measures.
 - (f) The northern side of the balcony serving unit 24 shall be fitted with a solid boundary to a height of 1.8 metres.
 - (g) The floor plan drawings shall reflect the varied building line of each plot along the eastern elevation onto Old Market Place, as illustrated in the details submitted to the planning authority on the 10th day of February, 2022.

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 visual and residential amenity.

3. The following shall apply in relation to Number 21 Old Market Place:
- (a) The second floor windows to the front elevation shall be provided with subdivisions/glazing bars.
 - (b) The extent of historic fabric on the first and second floor shall be surveyed and documented, along with clarification of the extent of such fabric to be retained.
 - (c) Specifications, method statements, and schedules of work for the refurbishment of the building shall be provided.
 - (d) Details regarding the brick chimney to be agreed with the planning authority.

Revised drawings and details showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In order to ensure an appropriate standard of restoration works within the Shandon Architectural Conservation Area.

4. The front elevation of the Blarney Street building shall include tight eaves detail, timber sliding sash windows, natural roof slates, and metal rainwater goods. Revised drawings and details showing compliance with this requirement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In order to ensure an appropriate standard of restoration works within the Shandon Architectural Conservation Area.

5. A footpath shall be provided for the full length of the site frontage along Old Market Place and shall include proposals to retain the existing limestone kerbing at this location. Revised drawings and details showing compliance with this requirement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In order to ensure an appropriate standard of restoration works within the Shandon Architectural Conservation Area.

6. A dedicated set-down/delivery space shall be provided within the existing parking area on Old Market Place. Revised drawings and details showing compliance with this requirement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interests of traffic safety and convenience.

7. Any alterations to the public road shall be in accordance with the requirements of the planning authority and where required, all repairs to the public road and services shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the planning authority at the applicant's expense.

Reason: In the interests of clarity, public safety and amenity.

8. A comprehensive boundary treatment and landscaping scheme shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This scheme shall include the following:

- (a) details of all proposed hard surface finishes, including samples of proposed paving slabs/materials for footpaths, kerbing and road surfaces within the development,
- (b) proposed locations of trees and other landscape planting in the development, including details of proposed species and settings,
- (c) details of proposed street furniture, including bollards, lighting fixtures and seating, and
- (d) details of proposed boundary treatments at the perimeter of the site, including heights, materials and finishes.

The boundary treatment and landscaping shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed scheme.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

9. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development, shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

10. 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.

11. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall enter into water and wastewater connection agreement(s) with Uisce Éireann.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

12. Proposals for a development name, numbering scheme and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, all signs and apartment numbers shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. The proposed name(s) 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(s) of the development shall be erected until the developer has obtained the planning authority's written agreement to the proposed name(s).

Reason: In the interest of urban legibility and to ensure the use of locally appropriate place names for new residential areas.

13. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Fridays inclusive, between 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 subject to the prior written agreement of the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of residential amenities of surrounding properties and in the interest of clarity.

14. 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 management measures for noise, dust and dirt and construction traffic management proposals.

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

15. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer or any agent acting on its behalf, shall prepare a Resource Waste Management Plan (RWMP) as set out in the EPA's Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Resource and Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects (2021) including demonstration of proposals to adhere to best practice and protocols. The RWMP shall include specific proposals as to how the RWMP will be measured and monitored for effectiveness, these details shall be placed on the file and retained as part of the public record. The RWMP must be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement prior to the commencement of development. All records (including for waste and all resources) pursuant to the agreed RWMP shall be made available for inspection at the site office at all times.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable waste management.

16. 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 shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, the waste shall be managed in accordance with the agreed plan.

Reason: To provide for the appropriate management of waste and, in particular recyclable materials, in the interest of protecting the environment.

17. Prior to the occupation of the development, a Mobility Management Plan/ Residential Travel Plan shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority. This shall provide support and 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 plan shall be prepared and implemented by the management company for all units within the existing and proposed development.

Reason: In the interest of encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport and reflecting the needs of pedestrians and cyclists.

18. 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 commencement of development.

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

19. 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 apartment.

Reason: In the interest of public safety.

20. 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. All existing over ground cables shall be relocated underground as part of the site development works.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

21. No additional development, including lift motor enclosures, air handling equipment, storage tanks, ducts or external plant, or telecommunication antennas, shall be erected at roof level other than those shown on the plans and particulars lodged with the application. All equipment such as extraction ventilation systems and refrigerator condenser units shall be insulated and positioned so as not to cause noise, odour or nuisance at sensitive locations.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenities.

22. 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.

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. 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.

25. 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 of roads, footpaths, watermains, drains, 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 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 of the development.

26. 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.



Martina Hennessy

Member of An Bord Pleanála

duly authorised to authenticate

the seal of the Board.

Dated this *9th* day of *August* 2023.

