



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order
ABP- 313891-22

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Galway County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 21/1733

Appeal by Susannah Gwyn-Jones of Lough Cultra Castle, Lough Cultra Estate, Gort, County Galway against the decision made on the 27th day of May, 2022 by Galway County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Vantage Towers Limited care of FocusPlus Limited of 3 Arbourfield House, Dundrum Business Park, Windy Arbour, Dublin in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: The replacement of an existing nine-metre-high support pole carrying associated antennae for a 24-metre-high free-standing communications structure with its associated antennae, communication dish, ground equipment, fencing and all associated site development works. The development will continue to form part of existing 3G and 4G Broadband network, all at Lough Cutra Demense, Gort, Galway.

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.

pm

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to:

- (a) the “Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures Guidelines for Planning Authorities” issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in July, 1996, and as updated by circular letter PL 07/2012 in 2012;
- (b) the Galway County Development Plan 2022 – 2028;
- (c) the low landscape sensitivity of the area;
- (d) the distance between the proposed telecommunications structure and sensitive receptors, including Protected Structures in the vicinity of the appeal site and residential development;
- (e) the nature and scale of the proposed telecommunication structure;
- (f) the demonstrated need for the telecommunications infrastructure at this location;
- (g) Circular Letter PL 03/2018; and
- (h) the adopted Galway County Council Development Contribution Scheme (as revised on the 1st day of August, 2019),

P.M

it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not be visually intrusive to, or seriously injure the, amenities of the area, the built heritage of the area, or the residential amenities of property in the vicinity, would not be prejudicial to public health, would not have a significant impact on ecology or on European sites in the vicinity, and 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 received by the planning authority on the 4th day March, 2022, and on the 3rd day of May, 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 developer shall provide and make available at reasonable terms, the proposed support structure for the provision of mobile telecommunications antenna of third-party licenced telecommunications operators.

Reason: In the interests of avoidance of multiplicity of telecommunications structures in the area and of the visual amenity and proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

f m

3. Within six months of the cessation of the use of the telecommunications structure, all structures shall be removed from the site, and the site shall be reinstated at the operator's expense in accordance with a scheme to be agreed in writing with the planning authority as soon as practicable.

Reason: In the interest of protecting the landscape.

4. Details of the proposed colour scheme for the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of the visual amenities of the area.

5. A low intensity fixed red obstacle light shall be fitted as close to the top of the mast as practicable and shall be visible from all angles in azimuth.

Reason: In the interest of public safety.

6. No advertisement or advertisement structure shall be erected or displayed on the proposed structure or its appendages or within the curtilage of the site.

Reason: In the interest of the visual amenities of the area.



Peter Mullan

Member of An Bord Pleanála

**duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this 30th day of August, 2023.