

Board Order ABP-314305-22

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2021

Planning Authority: Meath County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 21/1541

Appeal by Raymond Andrews of Arthurena, Navan Road, Dunboyne, County Meath against the decision made on the 13th day of July, 2022 by Meath County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Eir (Eircom Limited) care of Towercom Limited of Usher House, Main Street, Dundrum, Dublin in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: The replacement of an existing telecommunications support structure (overall height of 16.5 metres), with a proposed new lattice tower (overall height of 19.5 metres) carrying the telecommunications equipment transferred from the existing structure and the addition of new telecommunications antennas, dishes and associated equipment, together with new ground level equipment cabinets, bollards and landscaping at Eir Exchange, Navan Road, Dunboyne, County Meath, as amended by the further public notice received by the planning authority on the 27th day of June, 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.

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Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development, to the established use of the site for telecommunications and related uses, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would be in accordance with the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures – Guidelines for Planning Authorities issued by the Department of the Environment and Local Government in July, 1996 as updated by Circular Letter PL 07/12 and with the relevant provisions of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027, including the zoning objective for the site and would not seriously injure the visual or residential amenities of the area or the amenities of property in the vicinity of the site. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The Board concurred with the Inspector that the development is a project for the purposes of the EIA Directive. However, the Board concluded that the proposed development does not fall within a class of development set out in Part 1 or Part 2 of Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, and therefore no preliminary examination, screening for EIA or EIA is required.

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 16th day of June, 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 telecommunications structure shall not be higher than 19.5 metres.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

3. Surface water drainage arrangements shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

4. The site shall be landscaped, including boundary treatment and landscaping to the adjacent properties, 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. All landscaping shall be carried out no later than the first planting season following commencement of development on site. Existing hedgerows, trees and shrubs on site shall be preserved. All planting shall be adequately protected from damage until established. Any plants which die or become seriously damaged or diseased, 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 interest of visual amenity.

 Details of the materials, finishes and colour of the telecommunications support structure and associated equipment shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

6. The developer shall provide and make available at reasonable terms, the proposed communications structure for the provision of mobile telecommunications antenna of third party licensed mobile telecommunications operators.

Reason: In the interests of visual amenity and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

 In the event of the proposed structure becoming obsolete and being decommissioned, the developer shall, at their own expense, remove the mast, antennas and ancillary structures and equipment.

Reason: In the interest of orderly development.

8. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0800 to 1800 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 where prior written approval has been received from the planning authority.

Reason: In order to safeguard the residential amenities of property in the

vicinity.

Chris McGarry

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