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**Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022**

**Planning Authority: Offaly County Council**

**Planning Register Reference Number: PL2/21/808**

**Appeal** by Patrick and Laura-Anne Molloy of 9 Abbeycourt, Kilcoursey, Clara, County Offaly against the decision made on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022 by Offaly County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Monroe Street Developments Limited care of Kenny Lyons and Associates of Block 6, Central Business Park, Clonminch, Tullamore, County Offaly in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

**Proposed Development:** The construction of 10 number dwellings consisting of six number semi-detached three bedroom two storey dwelling units facing onto the R436 Kilbeggan Road, four number terraced two storey dwelling units facing onto Abbey Court estate road with new entrance and shared car parking off the existing Abbey Court estate road (previous planning reference number 051035), connections to existing site services and all associated site development works at Abbey Court, Kilcoursey, Clara, County Offaly. Further public notices were received by the planning authority on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 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 zoning of the site in the Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027, the planning history on the site, the design and layout of the proposed development and the prevailing pattern and character of development in the area, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not seriously impact on the amenities of the area and that residential development would be appropriate at this location. 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 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.

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2. 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. 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.

3. Prior to the commencement of any house or duplex unit in the development as permitted, the applicant or any person with an interest in the land shall enter into an agreement with the planning authority (such agreement must specify the number and location of each house or duplex unit), pursuant to Section 47 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, that restricts all houses and duplex units permitted, to first occupation by individual purchasers i.e. those not being a corporate entity, and/or by those eligible for the occupation of social and/or affordable housing, including cost rental housing.

**Reason:** To restrict new housing development to use by persons of a particular class or description in order to ensure an adequate choice and supply of housing, including affordable housing, in the common good.

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4. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out and completed at least to the construction standards set out in the Planning Authority's Taking in Charge Policy or "the Recommendations for Site Development Works for Housing Areas" as appropriate. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall agree with the planning authority, in writing, the procedures for inspection and monitoring of the development by the planning authority to ensure compliance with these standards and shall thereafter comply with the agreed procedures during the construction of the overall development. Following completion, the development shall be maintained by the developer, in compliance with these standards, until taken in charge by the planning authority.

**Reason:** To ensure that the development is carried out and completed to an acceptable standard of construction.

5. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit, for the written agreement of the planning authority, a revised site layout map, scale 1:500, detailing a pedestrian crossing at the entrance to the development (junction between Abbeycourt estate and the Kilbeggan Road R436).

**Reason:** In the interest of pedestrian safety.

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6. The site including the open space area 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 –
    - (i) the species, variety, number, size and locations of all proposed trees and shrubs which will comprise predominantly native species such as mountain ash, birch, willow, sycamore, pine, oak, hawthorn, holly, hazel, beech or alder.
    - (ii) Details of how the existing ESB infrastructure will be integrated into the open space layout.
    - (iii) Details of roadside/street planting.
  - (b) 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 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.

7. 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.

8. All of the communal parking areas serving the residential units shall be provided with functional electric vehicle charging points, and all of the in-curtilage car parking spaces serving residential units shall be provided with electric connections to the exterior of the houses to allow for the provision of future electric vehicle charging points. Details of how it is proposed to comply with these requirements 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 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.

10. 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 where prior written approval has been received from the planning authority.

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

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

**Reason:** In the interest of public health.

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12. 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.

13. Proposals for naming and number and associated signage shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, all estate and street signs, and house numbers, shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. 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 placenames for new residential areas.

14. 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 and maintenance until taken in charge by the local authority of roads, footpaths, watermains, drains, public 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 or maintenance 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 and maintenance of the development until taken in charge.

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15. 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.



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**Mary Henchy**

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

Dated this *20<sup>th</sup>* day of *November* 2023.