

Board Order ABP-315107-22

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Westmeath County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 22/93

Appeal by Residents of Ballintue care of Valerie Burke of Ballintue, Ballynacargy, Mullingar, County Westmeath against the decision made on the 25th day of October, 2022 by Westmeath County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Eircom Limited care of Entrust Limited of Unit 1D Deerpark Business Centre, Oranmore, County Galway in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Installation of an 18-metre monopole carrying antennas, a dish, associated equipment, together with ground-based equipment cabinets, fence and all associated site development works for wireless and broadband services, all at Deerpark, Ballynacargy, County Westmeath.

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 nature and scale of the proposed development, 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 (updated by Circular Letter PL 07/12) and with the policies and objectives of the Westmeath County Development Plan 2021-2027, would not seriously injure the visual or residential amenities of the area or the amenities of property in the vicinity of the site, and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The Board considered that the proposed development is a project for the purposes of the Environmental Impact Assessment 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 environmental impact assessment, or environmental impact assessment is required.

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Conditions

1. The proposed 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 28th day of September, 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 proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

 Drainage arrangements, including the attenuation and 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.

3. The site 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. 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.



4. Details of the material 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.

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 interest of visual amenity and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

- (a) In the event of the proposed structure becoming obsolete and being decommissioned, the developer shall, at its own expense, remove the mast, antenna and ancillary structures and equipment.
 - (b) The site shall be reinstated upon the removal of the telecommunication structure and ancillary structures. Details of the reinstatement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of orderly development.

7. 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 or public holidays. Deviation from these times shall 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.

- 8. The developer shall facilitate the preservation, recording and protection of archaeological materials or features that 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 operations (including hydrological and geotechnical investigations) relating to the proposed development,
 - (b) employ a suitably qualified archaeologist who shall monitor all site investigations and other excavation works, and
 - (c) provide arrangements, acceptable to the planning authority, for the recording and for the removal of any archaeological material which the planning authority considers appropriate to remove.

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 site and to secure the preservation and protection of any remains that may exist within the site.

Stewart Logan

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

Dated this 13 day of December 2023.