

Board Order ABP-315658-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Wicklow County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 22/855

APPEAL by Kilcoole Primary School Board of Management of Kilcoole Primary School, Kilcoole, County Wicklow and by others against the decision made on the 5th day of January, 2023 by Wicklow County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Cignal Infrastructure Limited care of Indigo of 4Site House, Raheen Business Park, Limerick in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Erect a 35-metre replica pine tree multi-user telecommunications support structure carrying antenna and dishes enclosed within a 2.4-metre-high palisade fence compound together with associated ground equipment cabinets and associated site works, including an extension to an existing access track, all at lands associated with the Holy Faith Convent, Kilcoole, County Wicklow. The development is located within the curtilage of a protected structure.

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:

- (a) the National Planning Framework Project Ireland 2040,
- (b) the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022-2028,
- (c) 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 PL07/12, and
- (d) the design of the proposed development,

it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would be acceptable in terms of location, would not seriously impact on the landscape or the visual or residential amenities of the area, would not be obtrusive in views from the designated scenic route, would not seriously detract from the character or setting of the protected structure, 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.

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 6th day of December, 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.

 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.

 Details of the material finish 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.

4. Details of the boundary treatment of the proposed compound and perimeter planting, which shall consist of native species, shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

5. The developer shall allow, subject to reasonable terms, other licenced telecommunications operators to co-locate their antenna onto the subject structure.

Reason: In order to avoid the proliferation of telecommunications structures in the area in the interest of visual amenity.

6. A Traffic Management Plan for the construction phase of the proposed development shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of the development.

Reason: In the interest of traffic safety.

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

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

- 8. (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.
 - The site shall be reinstated upon the removal of the (b) 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.

9. 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.

Martina Hennessy

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

Dated this 24 day of Barrow 2024.