

Board Order ABP-315844-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Galway City Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 22/166

Appeal by Mike and Kathleen Derrane of 10 Colmcille Road, Shantalla, Galway, and by Others, against the decision made on the 20th day of January, 2023 by Galway City Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Sean Talamh Development Limited care of MKO Planning and Development Consultants of Tuam Road, Galway in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Development which will consist of demolition of the existing store and covered storage yard (2,030 square metres); the construction of a mixed-use scheme with a gross floor area (GFA) of 8,417 square metres. This will comprise of 86 number apartments (21 number one bedroom apartments, 59 number two bedroom apartments and six number three bedroom apartments) ranging in height from three to five storeys over basement; provision of a creche facility (GFA 228 square metres) with outdoor play area (230.67 square metres); a commercial development (GFA 91 square metres) with associated planting and outdoor seating; basement carparking comprising of 97 number car parking spaces, accounting for 11 number spaces for electrical vehicle charging points, five number accessible spaces and 194 number bike storage spaces; relocation of vehicular access point; upgrading of the existing pedestrian laneway (known as Red Lane); and provision of shared communal and private open space, landscaping and treatment to boundaries, bin storage, and all associated site development and servicing works at former T O Higgins and Company Limited site, Rahoon Road, Galway, as revised by public notices outlining significant further information received by the planning authority on the 16th day of December 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 designation of the lands as a Strategic Regeneration and Opportunity Site and identified as the Shantalla Road Opportunity Site, the provisions of the Galway City Development Plan 2023-2029, and the scale and nature of the proposed development, it is considered that the proposed development would not seriously injure the amenities of property in the vicinity, would not be prejudicial to public health and would, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, be acceptable in terms of traffic and pedestrian safety, and visual amenity. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

In deciding not to accept the Inspector's recommendation to omit the proposed north-western third floor apartment units (four units in total), the Board considered that the proposed fourth floor would not be unduly overbearing, would not give rise to excessive overlooking and would not otherwise seriously injure the residential amenities of the area.

Conditions

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 21st day of November 2022 and by the further plans and particulars received by An Bord Pleanála on the 29th day of March 2023, 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. This permission is for 74 units only.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

- 3. The proposed development shall be amended as follows:
 - (a) Revised boundary treatments to the northern, north-western and southern boundaries shall be submitted and agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to the commencement of development. These shall consist of:
 - (i) a 1.2 metre high boundary wall to the private open space of ground floor units along the southern elevation, and
 - (ii) a 1.8 metre high wall and fence combination along the boundary to the existing public open space to the north and north-west of the site.
 - (b) Railings for all balconies shall be replaced with obscure glazing panels to the required dimensions.
 - (c) A phasing and management plan shall be prepared to ensure public pedestrian and cycle access at all times along Red Lane and that all improvement works to the laneway are complete prior to the occupation of any unit.

Revised drawings showing compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interests of visual and residential amenity.

4. All mitigation and monitoring measures outlined in the plans and particulars, including the Ecological Impact Assessment, shall be carried out in full, except where otherwise required by conditions attached to this permission.

Reason: In the interest of protecting the environment and in the interest of public health.

 The developer shall enter into water and wastewater connection agreements with Uisce Éireann, prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interests of clarity and public health.

6. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed dwellings/buildings shall be as submitted with the application, unless otherwise agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

7. 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 and surface water management.

- 8. The following requirements in terms of traffic, transportation and mobility shall be incorporated into the development and where required, revised plans and particulars demonstrating compliance with these requirements shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development:
 - (a) The details and the extent of all road markings and signage requirements on surrounding roads, shall be submitted to the planning authority for agreement prior to the commencement of development.
 - (b) The roads and traffic arrangements serving the site (including signage) shall be in accordance with the detailed requirements of the planning authority for such works and shall be carried out at the developer's expense.
 - (c) The internal road network serving the proposed development including turning bays, junctions, parking areas, footpaths, cycle paths and kerbs, pedestrian crossings and car parking bays shall comply with the requirements of the Design Manual for Roads and Streets, the Cycle Design Manual (CDM) prepared by the National Transport Authority (NTA) 2023 and with any requirements of the planning authority for such road works.
 - (d) The materials used on roads and footpaths shall comply with the detailed standards of the planning authority for such road works.
 - (e) The developer shall carry out a Stage 3 Road Safety Audit of the constructed development on completion of the works and submit to the planning authority for approval and shall carry out and cover all costs of all agreed recommendations contained in the audit.

(f) All car parking spaces are reserved for the sole use of residents of the approved apartment building.

In default of agreement on any of these requirements, the matter shall be referred to An Bord Pleanála for determination.

Reason: In the interests of traffic, cyclist and pedestrian safety and sustainable travel.

9. A minimum of 10% of all car parking spaces should be provided with EV charging stations/points, and ducting shall be provided for all remaining car parking spaces facilitating the installation of EV charging points/stations at a later date. Where proposals relating to the installation of EV ducting and charging stations/points has not been submitted with the application, in accordance with the above noted requirements, the development shall submit such proposals shall be submitted and agreed in writing with the Planning Authority prior to the occupation of the development.

Reason: To provide for and/or future proof the development such as would facilitate the use of Electric Vehicles.

10. Proposals for an estate/street name, apartment numbering scheme 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 apartment numbers shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. The proposed name(s) shall be based on local historical or topographical features, or other alternatives acceptable to the planning authority. No advertisements/marketing signage relating to the name(s) of the development shall be erected until the developer has obtained the planning authority's written agreement to the proposed name(s).

Reason: In the interest of urban legibility and to ensure the use of locally appropriate place names for new residential areas.

11. 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 employ a suitably qualified archaeologist who shall monitor all site investigations and other excavation works.

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.

12. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, which shall include lighting along pedestrian routes through open spaces details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to installation of lighting. Such lighting shall be provided prior to the making available for occupation of any residential unit.

Reason: In the interests of amenity and public safety.

13. All service cables associated with the proposed development (such as electrical, telecommunications and communal television) shall be located underground. The cables shall avoid roots of trees and hedgerows to be retained in the site. 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.

14. A plan containing details for the management of waste within the development, including the provision of facilities for the storage, separation and collection of the waste and, in particular, recyclable materials shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. Thereafter, the waste shall be managed in accordance with the agreed plan.

Reason: To provide for the appropriate management of waste and, in particular recyclable materials, in the interest of protecting the environment.

15. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall submit to, and agree in writing with, the planning authority a properly constituted Owners' Management Company. This shall include a layout map of the permitted development showing the areas to be taken in charge and those areas to be maintained by the Owner's Management Company. Membership of this company shall be compulsory for all purchasers of property in the apartment blocks. Confirmation that this company has been set up shall be submitted to the planning authority prior to the occupation of the first residential unit.

The Management Company shall include and manage the laneway known as the Red Lane for the benefit of the general public (pedestrians, wheelchair users and cyclists) or as determined by the planning authority.

Reason: To provide for the satisfactory completion and maintenance of the development in the interest of residential amenity.

16. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer or any agent acting on its behalf, shall prepare a Resource Waste Management Plan (RWMP) as set out in the Environmental Protection Agency's Best Practice Guidelines for the Preparation of Resource and Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Projects (2021) including demonstration of proposals to adhere to best practice and protocols. The RWMP shall include specific proposals as to how the RWMP will be measured and monitored for effectiveness; these details shall be placed on the file and retained as part of the public record. The RWMP must be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement prior to the commencement of development. All records (including for waste and all resources) pursuant to the agreed RWMP shall be made available for inspection at the site office at all times.

Reason: In the interest of sustainable waste management.

- 17. The construction of the development shall be managed in accordance with a Construction and Traffic 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:
 - (a) Location of the site and materials compounds including areas identified for the storage of construction refuse; areas for construction site offices and staff facilities; site security fencing and hoardings; and car parking facilities for site workers during the course of construction;
 - (b) The timing and routing of construction traffic to and from the construction site and associated directional signage, to include proposals to facilitate the delivery of abnormal loads to the site; measures to obviate queuing of construction traffic on the adjoining road network; and measures to prevent the spillage or deposit of clay, rubble or other debris on the public road network;

- (c) Details of the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures for noise, dust and vibration, and monitoring of such levels;
- (d) Means to ensure that surface water run-off is controlled such that no silt or other pollutants enter local surface water sewers or drains. The measures detailed in the construction management plan shall have regard to guidance on the protection of fisheries during construction works prepared by Inland Fisheries Ireland.

A record of daily checks that the works are being undertaken in accordance with the Construction Management Plan shall be kept for inspection by the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of amenities, public health and safety.

18. Site development and building works shall be carried out only between the hours of 0700 to 1900 Mondays to Saturdays inclusive, 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.

- 19. A comprehensive boundary treatment and landscaping scheme, incorporating the amendments specified in condition (2) above shall be submitted to and agreed in writing with the planning authority, prior to commencement of development. This scheme shall include the following:-
 - (a) details of all proposed hard surface finishes, including samples of proposed paving slabs/materials for footpaths, kerbing and road surfaces within the development;

- (b) proposed locations of trees and other landscape planting in the development, including details of proposed species and settings;
- (c) details of proposed street furniture, including bollards, lighting fixtures and seating and play equipment;
- (d) details of proposed boundary treatments at the perimeter of the site, including heights, materials and finishes.

The boundary treatment and landscaping shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed scheme.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

20. 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.

21. Prior to commencement of development, the developer 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, unless an exemption certificate shall have been applied for and been granted under section 97 of the Act, 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.

22. 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.

Stephen Brophy

Member of An Bord Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate

the seal of the Board.

Dated this 4^{th} day of e^{center} 2023.