



An
Bord
Pleanála

Board Order ABP-316100-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Galway County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 22/61271

Appeal by Angela Williams and others care of Letterfrack, County Galway against the decision made on the 21st day of February, 2023 by Galway County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Towercom Limited of Usher House, Main Street, Dundrum, Dublin in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: Replacement of an existing 15-metre telecommunications stayed support structure with attached equipment with a proposed new 18-metre monopole support structure (overall height of 19 metres) carrying equipment transferred from the existing structure and the addition of new telecommunications antennas, dishes and associated equipment, together with new ground equipment cabinets and all associated site works, all at Letterfrack, County Galway.

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 Section 7.8.2 (Telecommunications) and its associated policy objectives, as set out in the Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028, which support the provision of telecommunications infrastructure, and to the associated standards as outlined in DM Standard 42 (Telecommunications Masts), the established telecommunications use of the site, and the general topography and landscape features in the vicinity of the site, as well as the existing pattern of development in the area, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not adversely impact upon the amenities of the area 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, 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.

2. Details of the colour scheme for the telecommunications structure, ancillary telecommunications infrastructure and fencing shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

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

3. Any additional panels or structures proposed to be attached to the monopole structure exceeding 1.3 metres in dimension shall be the subject of a separate planning application.

Reason: To regulate and control the layout of the development and in the interest of orderly development.

4. Surface water drainage arrangements for the proposed development shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

5. The construction of the proposed 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 traffic management during the construction phase, details of intended construction practice for the proposed development, including hours of working, noise management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste, as well as protective measures to be employed with respect to the boundary hedgerows.

Reason: In the interest of public safety and visual and residential amenities.

6. Within six months of the cessation of use, the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures shall be removed and the site shall be reinstated. Details relating to the removal and reinstatement shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

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

7. All trees within and on the boundaries of the site shall be retained and maintained, with the exception of the following:
- (a) Specific trees, the removal of which is authorised in writing by the planning authority to facilitate the proposed development.
 - (b) Trees which are agreed in writing by the planning authority to be dead, dying, or dangerous through disease or storm damage, following submission of a qualified tree surgeon's report, and which shall be replaced with agreed specimens.

Retained trees shall be protected from damage during construction and demolition works. Within a period of six months following the substantial completion of the proposed development, any planting which is damaged, or dies shall be replaced with others of similar size and species, together with replacement planting required under paragraph (b) of this condition.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

8. The developer shall provide and make available at reasonable terms the proposed support structure for the provision of mobile telecommunications antenna of third-party licenced telecommunications operators.

Reason: To avoid a multiplicity of telecommunications structures in the area, in the interest of visual amenity, and proper planning and sustainable development.

A handwritten signature in blue ink is written over a circular official seal. The seal features a central triskelion symbol and the text 'AN BORD PLEANÁLA' around its perimeter. A horizontal line is drawn across the seal and signature.

Joe Boland

Member of An Bord Pleanála

**duly authorised to authenticate
the seal of the Board.**

Dated this 20TH day of March 2024.