

Board Order ABP-317319-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Meath County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 221640

Appeal by Mary Kelleher and John McNamara care of Francis Deane of 5 Blackwater Drive, Rathaldron Road, Navan, County Meath against the decision made on the 19th day of May, 2023 by Meath County Council to grant, subject to conditions, a permission to Minson Property Limited care of Ferreira Architects of Rosemount Hall, Rosemount Estate, Dundrum Road, Dundrum, Dublin in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council:

Proposed Development: The demolition of the existing single storey dwelling circa 247 square metres and a development to include the construction of 24 number apartments (comprising five number one-bed and 19 number two-bed) within a single centralised block of three storeys within the site with 30 number dedicated car parking spaces of which there are six number electric vehicle spaces and two number disabled spaces, 60 number bicycle spaces and bin storage with vehicular and pedestrian access from the existing laneway entrance off Johnstown Road (L5050), boundary landscaping and open space, pumping station, attenuation tank and associated site works over a total application site area of 0.51 hectares, at

Johnstown, Navan, County Meath. The proposed development was revised by further public notices received by the planning authority on the 24th day of April 2023.

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 Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027, to the nature of the proposed development within the settlement boundary of the Key Town of Navan, to the B1 zoning of the site, to the policies, objectives and standards set out in the development plan including NAV OBJ 1 which seeks to support and encourage residential development on under-utilised land and/or vacant lands including 'infill' and 'brownfield' sites, subject to a high standard of design and layout being achieved it is considered that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would not seriously injure the amenities of the area or of property in the vicinity and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Appropriate Assessment Screening

In completing the screening for Appropriate Assessment, the Board accepted and adopted the screening assessment and conclusion carried out in the Inspector's Report in respect of the identification of European Sites that could potentially be affected, and the identification and assessment of the potential likely significant effects of the proposed development, either individually or in

combination with other plans or projects, on these European Sites in view of the sites' conservation objectives.

The Board is satisfied that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European Sites, in view of the site's conservation objectives, other than the River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Protection Area (Site Code 004232) and River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 002299), for which Appropriate Assessment is required.

Appropriate Assessment Stage 2

The Board considered the Natura Impact Statement submitted with the planning application and all other relevant submissions, and carried out an Appropriate Assessment of the implications of the proposed development on European Sites. The Board considered the information before it was adequate to carry out the Appropriate Assessment.

In completing the Appropriate Assessment, the Board considered in particular, the following:

- the likely direct and indirect impacts arising from the proposed development both individually or in combination with other plans or projects,
- (b) the mitigation measures which were included as part of the current proposal, and
- (c) the conservation objectives for the European Sites.

In completing the Appropriate Assessment, the Board accepted and adopted the Appropriate Assessment carried out in the Planning Inspector's report in

respect of the potential effects of the proposed development on the River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Protection Area (Site Code 004232) and River Boyne and River Blackwater Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 002299) having regard to the Sites' conservation objectives.

In the overall conclusion, the Board was satisfied that the proposed development, subject to identifiable mitigation measures, by itself or in combination with other plans or projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of the sites listed above, or any other European Site, in view of the sites conservation objectives and there is no reasonable scientific doubt as to the absence of such effects.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application on the 15th day of December 2022 as revised by the further plans and particulars submitted to the planning authority on the 3rd day of April 2023, and by the response to appeals by the applicant received by An Bord Pleanála on the 10th day of July 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. The mitigation measures contained in the submitted Natura Impact Statement shall be implemented.

Reason: To protect the integrity of European Sites.

 Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed dwellings 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. Prior to commencement of development, the developer shall enter into a water and wastewater connection agreement with Uisce Éireann.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

5. Drainage arrangements, including the attenuation and disposal of surface water, shall comply with the requirements of the planning authority for such works and services and shall be agreed in writing with the planning authority prior to the commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

6. Public lighting shall be provided in accordance with a scheme, details of which shall be submitted to the planning authority for agreement prior to the commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of amenity and public safety.

 Proposals for an estate 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 signs, and apartment numbers, shall be provided in accordance with the agreed scheme. The proposed name 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 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.

8. All landscaping works shall be completed within the first planting season following commencement of development, in accordance with the Landscaping Plan submitted to the planning authority on the 15th day of December 2022 and as amended by further information submitted on the 3rd day of April 2023. Any trees and hedging which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, within a period of two 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 biodiversity and the visual and residential amenity of the area.

9. The areas shown as public open space on the submitted plans shall be reserved for such use. The public open space shall be completed and fully landscaped before any of the dwellings are made available for occupation and shall be maintained as public open space by the developer.

Reason: In the interest of the amenities of the occupants of the proposed dwellings.

10. The management and maintenance of the proposed development following its completion shall be the responsibility of a legally constituted management company. A management scheme providing adequate measures for the future maintenance of public open spaces, roads and communal areas shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: To provide for the satisfactory future maintenance of this development in the interest of residential amenity.

11. The site access arrangements and the internal road network serving the proposed development, including turning bays, junctions, sightlines, parking areas, footpaths and kerbs, shall be in accordance with the detailed requirements of the planning authority for such works. All residential parking spaces shall be constructed so as to be capable of accommodating future electric vehicle charging points with a minimum 10% of spaces to be fitted with functional electric vehicle charging points.

Reason: In the interest of amenity and of pedestrian and traffic safety.

12. 60 number bicycle parking spaces shall be provided within the site. Details of the layout and marking demarcation of these spaces shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: To ensure that adequate bicycle parking provision is available to serve the proposed development, in the interest of sustainable transportation.

13. Detailed measures in relation to the protection of bats shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority, prior to commencement of development. These measures shall be implemented as part of the development. Any envisaged destruction of structures that support bat populations shall be carried out only under licence from the National Parks and Wildlife Service and details of any such licence shall be submitted to the planning authority.

Reason: In the interest of wildlife protection.

14. 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. All existing over ground cables crossing or bounding the site shall be relocated underground as part of the site development works, at the developer's expense.

Reason: In the interest of visual and residential amenity.

15. 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.

16. Prior to commencement of development, the developer 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 file and retained as part of the public record. The RWMP shall be submitted to the planning authority for written agreement prior to 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. Prior to the commencement of any works associated with the development hereby permitted, the developer shall submit a detailed Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for the written agreement of the planning authority. The CEMP shall incorporate details for the following: collection and disposal of construction waste, surface water run-off from the site, on-site road construction, and environmental management measures during construction including working hours, noise control, dust and vibration control and monitoring of such measures. A record of daily checks that the construction works are being undertaken in accordance with the CEMP shall be kept at the construction site office for inspection by the planning authority. The agreed CEMP shall be implemented in full in the carrying out of the development.

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

17. 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, 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.

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.

18. 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 of roads, footpaths, watermains, drains, 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 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 of the development.

19. 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.

Eamonn James

Eamonn James Kelly

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

Dated this 1st day of August, 2024.