

Board Order ABP-317540-23

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Meath County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 22/1541.

Appeal by Vantage Towers Limited care of Charterhouse Infrastructure Consultants of HQ, 27 Market Street, Listowel, County Kerry against the decision made on the 12th day of June, 2023 by Meath County Council to refuse a permission.

Proposed Development: Erection of a 21 metre monopole telecommunications support structure together with antennae, dishes and associated telecommunications equipment, all enclosed in security fencing and to extend the access track at Tayto Park Visitor Centre, Kilbrew, Ashbourne, County Meath. The proposed development was revised by further public notices received by the planning authority on the 17th day of May 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 nature and scale of the proposed development for the erection of a 21 metre monopole telecommunications support structure together with antennae, dishes and associated telecommunications equipment, all enclosed in security fencing and to extend access track. It is considered that the proposed development, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would be in accordance with the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures – Guidelines for Planning Authorities 1996, with the policies and objectives of the Meath County Development Plan 2021-2027, and the Rural Areas zoning for the site, 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 not constitute a traffic hazard or present a flood risk. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The Board concurred with the Inspector that the proposed development is a use of development vulnerable to flooding given the information on file.

The Board concurred with the Inspector that the 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

The proposed development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application on the 28th day of November 2022, as amended by further plans and particulars submitted on the 27th day of April 2023 and by further plans and particulars lodged with the An Bord Pleanála on the 7th 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.

 All mitigation measures set out in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment shall be implemented in full, except as otherwise may be required in order to comply with the following conditions.

Reason: In the interest of clarification, protection of the environment and proper planning and sustainable development.

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

- 5. (a) In the event of the proposed structure becoming obsolete and being decommissioned, the developers shall, at their 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 the commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of orderly development.



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

Dated this of the day of December 2023.