

Board Order ABP-321314-24

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Louth County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 24/60553

Appeal by Proper Innovation Limited care of Michael Brennan of 34 Castle Road, Dundalk, County Louth against the decision made on the 11th day of November, 2024 by Louth County Council to refuse permission.

Proposed Development: Change of use of the bar and restaurant premises to provide for use of the building as a hostel and associated internal reconfiguration works to the building, all on lands at 52 Saint Laurence Street, Drogheda, County Louth.

Decision

GRANT permission for the above proposed development based on the reasons and considerations under and subject to the conditions set out below.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the design, scale and configuration of the proposed development and the existing pattern of development in this town centre location, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would be in accordance with the policies set out in the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027, would not detract from the vitality and vibrancy of the town centre, would provide for an active use identified as a 'generally permitted use' within the town centre, and would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

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. 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 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 amenities of property in the vicinity.

3. No advertisement or advertisement structure, the exhibition or erection of which would otherwise constitute exempted development under the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, or any statutory provision amending or replacing them, shall be displayed or erected on the building or within the curtilage of the site unless authorised by a further grant of permission.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

- 4. 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:
 - (a) notify the planning authority in writing at least four weeks prior to the commencement of any site operations relating to the proposed development, and
 - (b) employ a suitably qualified archaeologist who shall monitor all site excavation works and provide arrangements, acceptable to the planning authority, for the recording and for the removal of any archaeological material which the planning authority considers appropriate to remove.

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

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.

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 intended construction practice for the proposed development, including traffic management, noise, vibration and dust management measures and off-site disposal of construction/demolition waste.

Reason: In the interest of public safety and the amenities of the area.

Eamonn James Kelly

Eamonn Jan

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

Dated this 18th day of Harch, 2025