

Commission Order ABP-322173-25

Planning and Development Acts 2000 to 2022

Planning Authority: Tipperary County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 2360907.

Appeal by George Russell care of James Hartnett Architects Limited of Gortroe, Ballingarry, County Limerick against the decision made on the 4th day of March, 2025 by Tipperary County Council to refuse permission for the proposed development.

Proposed Development: Demolition of existing storage building and construction of two-storey dwelling house incorporating boathouse storage, ancillary car port structure, landscaping, planting and siteworks including inlet, boardwalks and private moorings, connection to existing foul sewer infrastructure and all ancillary works at "The Boathouse", Marine Village, Ballina, County Tipperary as revised by the further public notices received by the planning authority on the 9th day of January 2025.

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 objectives of the Tipperary County Development Plan 2022-2028, to the nature, scale and design of the proposed development and the pattern of development in the vicinity, it is considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area and would not be prejudicial to public health. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Appropriate Assessment: Stage 1:

The Commission considered the documents submitted with the application, and all the other relevant submissions on file, and carried out an Appropriate Assessment in relation to the potential effects of the proposed development on designated European sites. The Commission agreed with the screening assessment and conclusion carried out in the Inspector's Report that Lough Derg (Shannon) Special Protection Area (Site Code 004058) and the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 002165) are the only European Sites in respect of which the proposed development has the potential to have a significant effect in view of the Conservation Objectives for the sites and that Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is, therefore, required.

Appropriate Assessment: Stage 2:

The Commission considered the Natura Impact Statement, and all the other relevant submissions on file, and carried out an Appropriate Assessment of the implications of the proposed development on Lough Derg (Shannon) Special Protection Area (Site Code 004058) and the Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation (Site Code 002165) in view of these sites' Conservation Objectives. The Commission considered that the information before it was sufficient to undertake a complete assessment of all aspects of the proposed development in relation to the sites' Conservation Objectives using the best scientific knowledge in the field. In completing the assessment, the Commission considered, in particular, the following:

- (i) the site-specific Conservation Objectives for the European Sites,
- (ii) the likely direct and indirect impacts arising from the proposed development, both individually or in combination with other plans or projects, and
- (iii) mitigation measures which are included as part of the current proposal.

In completing the Appropriate Assessment, the Commission accepted and adopted the Appropriate Assessment carried out in the Inspector's Report in respect of the potential effects of the proposed development on the aforementioned European Sites. In overall conclusion, the Commission were satisfied that the proposed development would not adversely affect the integrity of the European Sites in view of the sites' Conservation Objectives and that 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, as amended by the further plans and particulars received by the planning authority on the 17th day of October 2024, and the 9th day of January 2025, 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 Natura Impact Statement (NIS) shall be implemented.

Reason: To protect the integrity of European Sites.

3. Details of the materials, colours and textures of all the external finishes to the proposed development 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 the commencement of development, the developer shall enter into a Connection Agreement (s) with Uisce Éireann (Irish Water) to provide for a service connection(s) to the public water supply and/or wastewater collection network.

Reason: In the interest of public health and to ensure adequate water/wastewater facilities.

5. All surface water generated within the site boundaries shall be collected and disposed of within the curtilage of the site. No surface water from roofs, paved areas or otherwise shall discharge onto the public road or adjoining properties.

Reason: In the interest of public health.

 All public service cables for the proposed development, including electrical and telecommunications cables, shall be located underground throughout the site.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

- 7. The site shall be landscaped in accordance with a comprehensive scheme of landscaping, details of which shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development. This scheme shall include the following:
 - (a) A plan to scale of not less than [1:500] showing -
 - (i) Existing trees, hedgerows, stone walls specifying which are proposed for retention as features of the site landscaping.
 - (ii) The measures to be put in place for the protection of these landscape features during the construction period.

- (iii) The species, variety, number, size and locations of all proposed trees and shrubs which shall comprise predominantly native species.
- (iv) Details of screen planting if required.
- (v) Hard landscaping works, specifying surfacing materials, furniture [play equipment] and finished levels.
- (b) Specifications for mounding, levelling, cultivation and other operations associated with plant and grass establishment.
- (c) A timescale for implementation.

All planting shall be adequately protected from damage until established. Any plants which die, are removed or become seriously damaged or diseased, within a period of five 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 interest of residential and visual amenity.

8. The developer shall pay to the planning authority a financial contribution of 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. The application of any indexation required by this condition shall be agreed between the planning authority and the developer or, in default of such agreement, the matter shall be referred to An Coimisiún Pleanála to determine.

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.

Declan Moore

Planning Commissioner of An Coimisiún Pleanála duly authorised to authenticate the seal of the Commission.

Dated this 17th day of July 2025.