

Commission Order ABP-322360-25

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended

Planning Authority: Louth County Council

Planning Register Reference Number: 2513

Appeal by Mark Owens of 68 Castlemanor, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda, County Louth against the decision made on the 2nd day of April, 2025 by Louth County Council to grant subject to conditions a permission to Shared Access Limited care of Ian Daniels of Old Windmill Court, Lower Gerald Griffin Street, Limerick in accordance with plans and particulars lodged with the said Council.

Proposed Development: The erection of 24.1 metres telecommunications tower on concrete base to support 18 number telecommunications antenna and one number GPS antenna together with the installation of dishes, new access track and associated fencing with pedestrian gate, cabling, compound area, ground based equipment cabinets, mini pillar and all associated site works at Boyne RFC, Ballymakenny Road, Yellowbatter, Drogheda, County Louth.

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:

- (a) the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures Guidelines for Planning Authorities, issued by the Department of Environment and Local Government in 1996,
- (b) the Telecommunications Antennae and Support Structures and Department and Environment, Community and Local Government Circular Letter PL07/12,
- (c) the Policy Objectives of the Louth County Development Plan, and
- (d) the nature, scale and location of the proposed telecommunications structure,

it is considered that the proposed development would be in accordance with National Policy and guidance on telecommunications infrastructure and with the objectives of the Louth County Development Plan 2021-2027 and in particular Policy Objectives IU41, IU42, IU43, IU44, IU45 and IU46. It is also considered that, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, the proposed development would not adversely impact the character of the area or seriously injure the visual or residential amenities of the area. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Conditions

The 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 development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

2. Details of a colour scheme for the mast and any ancillary structures hereby permitted shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to the commencement of development, and the agreed colour scheme shall be applied to the mast and any ancillary structures upon erection.

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

 No advertisement or advertisement structure shall be erected or displayed on the proposed structure or its appendages, on the boundary fence or within the curtilage of the site without a prior grant of planning permission.

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

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

Reason: In the interest of public health.

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5. A low intensity fixed red obstacle light shall be fitted as close to the top of the mast as practicable and shall be visible from all angles in azimuth. Details of this light, its location and period of operation shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing with, the planning authority prior to commencement of development.

Reason: In the interest of public safety.

6. The developer shall provide and make available at reasonable terms the telecommunications tower for the relocation and provision of mobile telecommunications antenna of third-party licenced telecommunications operators as outlined in the application. The existing telecommunications installations on the lands at Boyne RFC as indicated on drawing number 100 – Site Location Maps (13/11/24) shall be decommissioned and removed from the site within three months of the commissioning of the telecommunications tower.

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

7. Landscaping of the site shall be carried out in accordance with a landscaping scheme which 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.

8. In the event of the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures including any access road provided to serve the telecommunications structure and ancillary structures hereby permitted ceasing to operate for a period of 12 months, the structures and any access road shall be removed and the site shall be reinstated within 12 months of their removal. Details regarding the removal of the structures and any access road and the reinstatement of the site shall be submitted to, and agreed in writing, with the planning authority within three months of the structures ceasing to operate, and the site shall be reinstated in accordance with the agreed details at the operator's expense.

Reason: In the interests of the visual amenities and orderly development of the area.

Marie O'Connor

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

Dated this 27 day of August 2025