



BRUFF GAA

Cathaoirleach	Runaí	Cisteoir
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14th Nov 2025

The Secretary,
An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1,
D01-V902

Case reference: PAX91.323780

Re: 10-year planning permission for Ballinlee Wind Farm consisting of 17 no. wind turbines, a permanent 110kV substation, underground electric cabling systems between the wind farm site and connection point at existing Killonan 220/110kV substation, and ancillary development. Located in Ballincurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

To Whom It May Concern,

We the Executive Committee of Bruff GAA Club, write in connection with the above listed planning application at Ballincurra, Ballingayrou, Ballinlee North & South, Ballinrea, Ballyreesode, Camas North & South, Carrigeen, Knockuregare, Ballybane and other townlands in County Limerick.

We recognise the importance of wind energy in meeting Ireland's National renewable energy targets and addressing climate change. However, this development is unsuitable for this location and fails to take proper account of the environmental, social, and cultural impacts on the local area.

This wind farm would permanently alter the rural character of the area and expose nearby residents to health and amenity risks, devalue local properties, and threaten the long-term sustainability of our community. For these reasons, we ask that the Board refuse planning permission.

Some of our summarised individual observations and concerns are as follows:

Bruff GAA Club has been in existence since 1887 and is the main focal point of our community. We have over 300 members along with 135 juvenile members. We field teams in both hurling and football from underage to adult level.

We have very serious reservations with respect to the impact on our membership, should this development proceed. Bruff is currently a very desirable location to live. However, in our opinion, this development will negatively impact this, with people far less likely to want to move to and live in the locality, or for our existing young people, wanting to continue to reside in the locality.

Coupled with that, we have major concerns with respect to planning permission restrictions for housing developments and one-off housing, in the area, should this development proceed. New residents moving into the area and our existing young residents continuing to live here, is the lifeblood of our club. We have concerns that many of the families that have lived in this area, for many generations, will find that they cannot obtain planning for housing, thus breaking a link with our club that has been there, in some cases, for over 100 years.

GAA clubs in towns and villages, outside of the eastern seaboard are already facing a demographic shift, with a recent GAA demographic report showing the challenges facing clubs outside of this area. This challenge alone is significant for our GAA club. Should this wind farm development proceed, we have concerns that the long-term viability of the club maybe at a serious risk, and our ability in the future to field teams maybe in serious jeopardy.

The club has recently purchased land to expand our facilities with new pitches, floodlighting, dressing-rooms and a community walkway, being part of our draft development plan. We have concerns that we may encounter difficulty in obtaining planning permission should this wind farm development go ahead. Indeed, we have concerns that our current anticipated growth, will in fact decline, meaning our own proposed development becomes unviable and unsustainable in the future.

Our view is that should this wind farm development proceed, it has the potential to have catastrophic consequences for the viability of our GAA Club, a club that has been the heart and soul of our community for generations. The GAA club is the glue that holds everything together in a local community, so the local impact of losing a GAA club would be monumental, it would be unimaginable. This in our opinion is against the governments rural development policy.

Bruff and its environs is a vibrant, fantastic area to live in. Windfarms have a part to play in meeting our climate reduction targets, but siting one of this size and scale on our doorstep, in our view, is not suitable to the area and will have a long-term detrimental impact on our club.

Based on the above, we therefore respectfully request that the development is refused.

Yours sincerely,

Bruff GAA Executive Committee.

Signed on Behalf of the Executive Committee & approved at meeting 10th November 2025

Maura Finn

Maura Finn
Treasurer
087 - 9786237