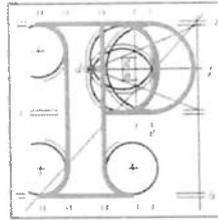


Our Case Number: ACP-323873-25



**An
Coimisiún
Pleanála**

Galway Bohemians A.F.C
Millars Lane
Rahoon
Galway

Date: 15 January 2026

Re: Kingston Park and Millers Lane - Public Park Urban Realm Project
Kingston Park & Millers Lane, County Galway

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please note that the proposed development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it with or without modifications.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at laps@pleanala.ie

Please quote the above mentioned An Coimisiún Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Lauren Griffin
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737244

AA02

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Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
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64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
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D01 V902	D01 V902



Galway Bohemians A.F.C.
Millars Lane,
Rahoon,
Galway.

Jan 12th 2026

RE: Kingston Park and Millars Lane – Public Park Urban Realm Project

An Coimisiun Pleanála Ref: JP61.323873

Dear Sir / Madam,

Galway Bohemians A.F.C strongly supports the current planning application by Galway City Council to provide new much-needed sports and community facilities at Millars Lane and Kingston Park. The proposal includes specific facilities for soccer, rugby, hockey, GAA rounders, cricket, basketball, tennis padel and handball as well as other much -needed indoor and outdoor community facilities.

Current Soccer Facilities at Millars Lane

Galway Bohemians is Galway City's oldest football club having been established in 1934. It currently has over 300 members, the vast majority of whom are boys and youth players from 6 to 18. The club has been leasing the pitch in Millars Lane since 2003 and has long campaigned for investment in this key greenspace area that serves the 12,000 people currently residing in Knocknacarra. The proposed development will tackle the significant sporting and recreational deficit that exists at the club and the wider area. Some of these challenges include;

- Persistent ground closure due to inclement weather. The soccer season runs from September to the following April. To date the pitches have already been closed for 30 days since October 2025.
- Insufficient available playing pitches. The club's back-up pitch in Shantalla is unavailable since January 2025 due to storm Eowyn and is due to become unavailable permanently when transferred to the HSE to make way for the helicopter landing pad for the neighbour University Hospital.
- Restricted nighttime access to training pitch with poor floodlights. We only have access to the upper training pitch for two nights away which is poorly served with night time lighting.
- The lack of clubhouse facilities to accommodate girl teams. Despite significant interest we receive from girls under 12, we sadly have to direct them to more distant clubs in the city with clubhouse facilities. Adult men and underage boy teams are required to change in a portacabin (Figure 1 below).



Figure 1: The storage container at Millars Lane used as changing facilities for adult and underage male teams at Galway Bohemians.

The Opportunity for Long Term Sustainable Football Club in the Heart of Knocknacarra

Galway Bohemians are happy to share the facilities at Millars Lane with Connacht Hockey with whom we have worked together on this plan with the city council over the past few years. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for this important recreational space which has been serving the community for many years. With the local population expected to grow from 12,000 to 18,000 over the next decade, it is vital the west of the city has the sports facilities that can accommodate a growing young population in the area.

We are also strongly supportive of the proposed plans for nearby Kingston Park which will be the new home to Galway Bay Rugby Club, and will accommodate GAA rounders, cricket and various indoor sports when the club house and community centre is built.

We respectfully urge An Coimisiun Pleanala to grant permission for this application. As a key anchor tenant, Galway Bohemians commits to turning this vision into reality and in the process leaving a long term legacy of sporting cooperation, community action and recreational facilities that will serve our communities well into the 21st century.

Yours Sincerely,

On behalf of the Millars Lane Development Committee