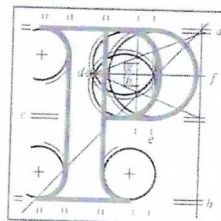


**Our Case Number:** ACP-324069-26



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

Mark O'Brien  
St Martins  
Portrane  
Co. Dublin

**Date:** 24 March 2026

**Re:** Proposed development under sections 175 and 177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2005 (as amended) for proposed coastal and flood risk management works. A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) have been prepared in respect of the proposed development.  
Burrow, Portrane, County Dublin

Dear Sir / Madam,

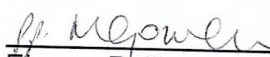
An Coimisiún Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above-mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

Please note that the proposed development shall not be carried out unless the Commission has approved it or approved it with conditions.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned officer of the Commission at [laps@pleanala.ie](mailto:laps@pleanala.ie)

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

Yours faithfully,

  
Éimear Reilly  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737184

JA02

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1800 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
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Ríomhphost	Email	<a href="mailto:communications@pleanala.ie">communications@pleanala.ie</a>

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

JA06F.324069 Mark O'Brien  
Observation in Support of Proposed Coastal Protection Works at Burrow Beach Portrane

Dear Sir / Madam,

As daily users of Burrow Beach, myself, my family and our neighbours have developed a deep connection to this stretch of coastline.

Over recent years we have observed worsening storm impacts, continued sand loss, and increasing pressure on local wildlife and coastal vegetation. These real changes are fully acknowledged in the official planning documentation submitted for the proposed works, which includes both an environmental impact assessment and a detailed assessment of potential effects on protected habitats. This confirms what we see daily: the coastline is under genuine stress and needs stabilising support.

Looking towards 2029, The residential population of Portrane is projected to grow by around 20% and Donabate by over 35%. Visitor numbers from wider areas are also rising. An already vulnerable coastline cannot absorb these pressures without planned, well-designed coastal reinforcement.

The proposed works provide this long-term resilience that we strongly support.

#### 1. Protecting wildlife and ecological health

The dunes, vegetation and shore habitats are under clear strain from recurring storms and climate-driven change. The proposed scheme supports natural recovery processes, stabilises sand conditions and helps protect sensitive habitats.

This mirrors the environmental protection aims set out in the County Development Plan.

#### 2. A necessary response to climate change

Scientific assessments provided with the application demonstrate increased erosion risk, storm activity and long-term vulnerability. The works use a balanced approach — strengthening natural coastal processes while avoiding unnecessary heavy construction. This is consistent with national climate-adaptation policy.

#### 3. Preserving the character and landscape of the beach

The design avoids intrusive structures. Instead, it focuses on stabilising the coastline while preserving the natural look and feel of Burrow Beach. This ensures long-term protection of landscape quality and prevents further visually damaging erosion.

#### 4. Sustainable management for a growing community

With significant population growth ahead, as well as increasing visitor use, the beach will require predictable maintenance and environmental monitoring. The proposed scheme provides the framework for responsible, long-term stewardship of this valued public amenity.

#### 5. Supporting the Commission's evidence-based decision making

The proposal is accompanied by full environmental assessments and aligns with policy requirements for coastal resilience, environmental protection and sustainable planning. It provides the Commission with a robust, well-supported basis for a clear and positive decision.

#### Conclusion

As local residents who use Burrow Beach every day, we believe these works represent responsible, climate-aware and environmentally sensitive coastal protection. They respond to real risks, support ecological health, and ensure this unique coastline can be enjoyed safely by future generations.

I respectfully ask that An Coimisiún Pleanála grant approval for the proposed development.

Yours faithfully,

Mark O'Brien  
St Martins  
Portrane  
Co. Dublin

Local Resident and Daily User of Burrow Beach

## APPENDIX (Short Reinforcing Notes)

### A. Verified Need for Intervention

Multiple independent reports confirm that the Burrow coastline is suffering ongoing erosion, storm damage and sand instability. These conditions justify planned intervention and have been documented in the application materials.

### B. Robust Environmental Documentation

The application includes both a full environmental impact assessment and a detailed assessment of effects on protected habitats — demonstrating that environmental obligations have been addressed in accordance with relevant legislation.

### C. Climate-Adaptation Alignment

The stabilisation measures are consistent with approaches recommended for vulnerable coastal areas facing increased storm and erosion risk.

### D. Protection of Local Amenity

The works aim to ensure that Burrow Beach remains safe, usable and environmentally resilient for the present and future communities of Donabate, Portrane and surrounding areas.

### E. Landscape Sensitivity

Careful design choices reduce visual impact and maintain the natural character of the coastline.