

Ronan Megannety

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From: Housing Manager DAU <Manager.DAU@npws.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday 9 July 2026 09:12
To: Appeals2
Cc: LAPS
Subject: ACP-324015-25
Attachments: 20260709 ACP-324015-25.pdf

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Good morning,

Attached are heritage-related observations/recommendations for the above-mentioned application. Please acknowledge receipt.

Regards,

—
Brian Bone
Executive Officer

—
An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt
Development Applications Unit

Oifigí an Rialtais, Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman, Y35 AP90
Government Offices, Newtown Road, Wexford, Co Wexford, Y35 AP90

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Planning Ref: ACP-324015-25

(Please quote in all related correspondence)

9 July 2026

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

Via email to: appeals@pleanala.ie

Re: Notification under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended

Substitute Consent Application by Milford Quarries Limited for further development consisting of further quarry extraction over an area of c. 16.17 ha to include the pre-existing quarry extraction area and additional agricultural lands in the western and southwestern portion of the site. The projected lifespan of the quarry is c. 20 years. The proposed development will involve blasting, extraction and processing of rock using mobile primary crushing / screening and associated plant on the proposed quarry floor. The proposed quarry void will be extracted over 4 no. phases (phase 1 will involve levelling of existing quarry floor; phase 2 will expand existing extraction area to the west with a single bench depth of c. 20 m; phases 3 and 4 will expand the extraction area to the south west to a depth of 2 no. benches of c. 10m each) The resulting quarry floor depth will be c. 300m AOD with a proposed rate of extraction of c. 200K tonnes per annum over the projected lifetime of the quarry. The proposed development will include for construction of earthen screening berms, expanded soil storage areas and will utilise existing quarry entrances from the northern boundary. Primary entrance to be upgraded with electric gates and security cameras. The main quarry access linking to the L7130 local road to the east will be upgraded. The proposed surface water management plan will utilise the existing surface water management onsite while introducing expanded settlement ponds with baffle features. The proposed development will also include a proposed weighbridge office, staff welfare unit and wheel wash. The proposed development will be accompanied by a restoration plan which will utilise existing excavated materials from the site at Clogrennane, Bilboa, Co Carlow



A chara,

I refer to correspondence dated 18 May 2026 received in connection with the above. Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations co-ordinated by the Development Applications Unit under the stated headings.

Archaeology

It is noted that the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) submitted as part of the planning application includes a desk-based Archaeological Impact Assessment, which was carried out in relation to the proposed development by Charles Mount Consultant Archaeologist (EIAR Chapter 14, dated December 2025).

The Department notes, however, the scale of the proposed development site, which extends to 41.86 hectares. This includes an area of c. 8.66 hectares where quarrying activity has already occurred and for which substitute consent has been applied for (ACP-324014-25). The majority of the lands, however, are undeveloped greenfield. While there are no known archaeological sites within the proposed development site (PDS), the EIAR acknowledges that there is a potential that previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits may be present within the greenfield section of the PDS, which may be negatively impacted by the proposed development. The Department notes that no advance archaeological investigations have been carried out within the PDS to inform the EIAR, other than a walkover survey. The Department also notes that there is no record of any advance archaeological investigations or archaeological monitoring of groundworks for the existing quarry lands (for which substitute consent has been applied). The Department strongly advises that advance archaeological geophysical survey and advance archaeological test excavation should be carried out prior to any development of the greenfield section of the site to determine if previously unknown sub-surface archaeological features or deposits are present. If such material is present, then additional mitigation measures to ensure the preservation in situ or preservation by record (i.e. full archaeological excavation) of such discoveries will be necessary. The Department advises that this can be addressed by the inclusion of an appropriate condition, if the development is permitted.

Therefore, the Department advises that the following should be included as a condition of any grant of permission. Note, these recommended conditions align with Sample Conditions C3, C5 and C6 as set out in OPR Practice Note PN03: Planning Conditions (October 2022), with appropriate site-specific additions/adaptations based on the particular characteristics of this development and informed by the findings of the EIAR.



Archaeological Requirements

1. All mitigation measures in relation to archaeology and cultural heritage as set out in Chapter 14 of the EIAR (dated December 2025) shall be implemented in full, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the conditions of this Order.
2. The developer shall engage a suitably qualified archaeologist (licensed under the National Monuments Acts) to carry out a pre-development Archaeological Geophysical Survey and a pre-development Archaeological Test Excavation of the development site and to submit an archaeological impact assessment report for the written agreement of the planning authority, following consultation with the National Monuments Service of the Department, in advance of any site preparation works or groundworks, including site investigation works/topsoil stripping/site clearance and/or construction works. This shall be in addition to any mitigation measures outlined in Chapter 14 of the EIAR.
 - a. The Archaeological Geophysical Survey must be carried out under licence from the National Monuments Service of the Department and in accordance with an approved method statement. The geophysical survey shall include all areas of potential ground disturbance within the greenfield lands; the archaeologist shall liaise with the National Monuments Service of the Department in this regard. Having completed the work, the archaeologist shall submit a written report to the National Monuments Service of the Department and the Planning Authority describing the results of the geophysical survey.
 - b. The archaeologist shall liaise with the National Monuments Service of the Department to establish—based on the results the Archaeological Geophysical Survey—the appropriate scope of the Archaeological Test Excavation to adequately characterise the character and extent of any potential sub-surface archaeological material within the development site.
 - c. The report on the Archaeological Test Excavation shall include an archaeological impact statement and mitigation strategy. Where archaeological material is shown to be present, avoidance, preservation in situ, preservation by record (archaeological excavation) and/or monitoring may be required.
 - d. Any further archaeological mitigation requirements specified by the planning authority, following consultation with the National Monuments Service of the Department, shall be complied with by the developer.



- e. No site preparation and/or construction works shall be carried out on site until the archaeologist's report has been submitted to and approval to proceed is agreed in writing with the planning authority.
3. The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) shall include the location of any and all archaeological or cultural heritage constraints relevant to the proposed development as set out in Chapter 14 of the EIAR (dated December 2025) and by any subsequent archaeological investigations associated with the project. The CEMP shall clearly describe all identified likely archaeological impacts, both direct and indirect, and all mitigation measures to be employed to protect the archaeological or cultural heritage environment during all phases of site preparation and construction activity.
4. The planning authority and the National Monuments Service of the Department shall be furnished with a final archaeological report describing the results of all archaeological monitoring and any archaeological investigative work/excavation required, following the completion of all archaeological work on site and any necessary post-excavation specialist analysis. All resulting and associated archaeological costs shall be borne by the developer.

Reason: To ensure the continued preservation (either in situ or by record) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological interest.

You are requested to send any further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at manager.dau@npws.gov.ie where used, or to the following address: The Manager, Development Applications Unit (DAU), Government Offices, Newtown Road, Wexford, Y35 AP90.

Yours faithfully,

Julie Sullivan
Assistant Principal
Development Applications Unit
Administration