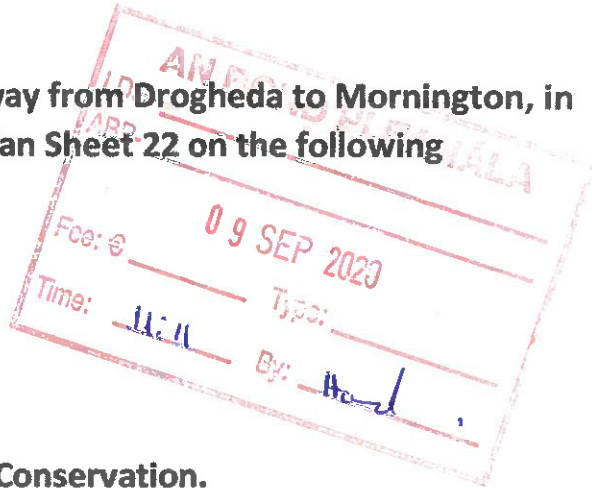


To An Bord Pleanála

Boyne Greenway Drogheda to Mornington.

Ref: D01 V902

I oppose the route of the Boyne Greenway from Drogheda to Mornington, in particular the proposed alignment on Plan Sheet 22 on the following grounds.



Privacy

Fire / Health and Safety

Special Protection area. Special area of Conservation.

PRIVACY:

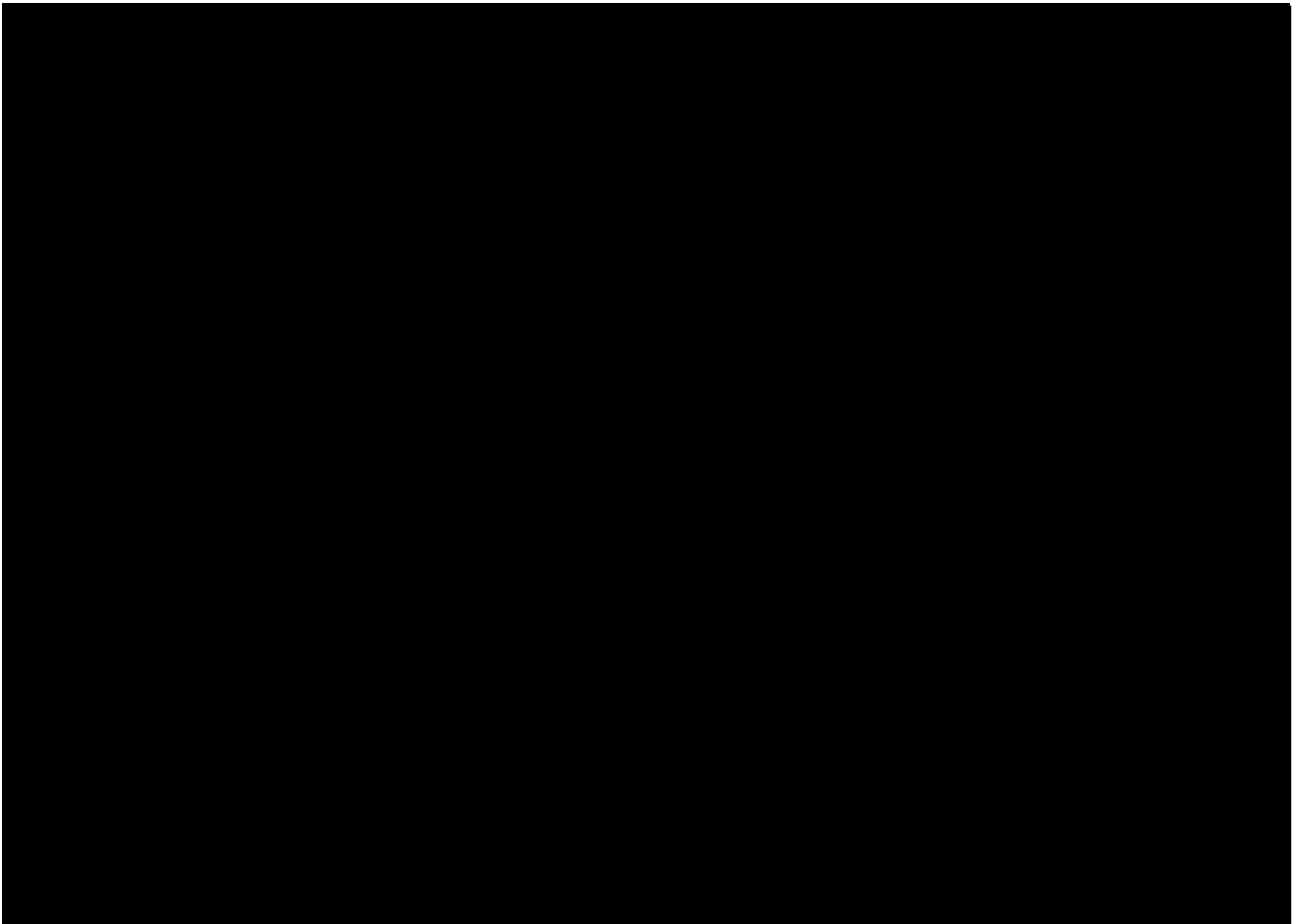
The proposed Board walk runs 4 meters at the back of my home [REDACTED] which stands on 2 acres 3 roods and 14 perches.

My family have lived here for over 65 years. In that time we have enjoyed privacy, nature, wildlife and splendid views of the River Boyne.

Nobody passes the back of our home, except the birds and ships that travel up and down the River Boyne.

My family have maintained the road frontage on the existing R.150/151 so that the public can see the views of the River Boyne as they travel along this road.

Running 4 meters at the back of my home at a height of 3 meters and width of 4 meters we lose all our privacy. The impact of the Board walk so close to our property will result in a devaluation of our home.



View of back of my home.

FIRE / HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Being so close to our property this is also a Fire Hazzard.

It only takes a butt of a cigarette to cause a fire, as part of the Board walk cannot be seen from the roadway. This opens up this area for antisocial behaviour and vandalism.

Look what happened on the Board Walk at Oldbridge, Drogheda.

On 28th July 2018 at midnight, firefighters were called to a fire on the Board walk at Oldbridge, Drogheda. Vandals set it on fire and caused a lot of damage.



Fire at Oldbridge

Who takes responsibility for my home if vandals set Board walk on fire. The proposed materials for this Board walk using propriety recycle plastic or timber are highly inflammable materials.

This area is also intertidal, it is secluded in many parts a prime area for antisocial behaviour and would be unsafe for young people to walk or cycle.

Who will maintain this Greenway, clean litter and ensure that it is clear from tidal debris (plastics , wood etc) that come in with the tide.

How will the Fire Brigade get to the scene of the fire.

If a walker or jogger has a Cardiac Arrest, or fall, how will the Emergency service get to the scene. If a cardiac arrest or accident happens in secluded area, who will notify the Emergency service.

Where are the toilet facilities on this Greenway ?

SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA AND SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION:

Boyne Estuary Special Protection Area: 004080

This area is a highly sensitive from an ecological and environmental perspective. It is one of the best feeding grounds for Birds

Intertidal flats occur along the sides of the channelled river. From my home I see many birds including Black tailed Godwit, Shelduck, Oystercatcher, Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Lapwing Knot, Sanderling, Curlew, Redshank and Turnstone, to name but a few. Of particular significance is that the

Golden Plover, Black tailed Godwit and Little Tern are listed on Annex 1 of the E.U. Directive. And yet over 50% of the proposed Greenway encroaches on this European protected site 0004080 leading to significant damaging impact on biodiversity, birdlife and wildlife.

These birds are particularly sensitive to human and dog presence which will interfere with their feeding habits. Who will monitor walkers with dogs and those who will take dogs off their leash.

Disturbance during the proposed development and increase users would have a major impact on the ecology and integrity of this European site which is also a Wildfowl Sanctuary.

The development of this Greenway will result in vegetation removal and loss of grassland habitat. Disturbance and impact to the fauna of the area will result in a significant loss of habitat impacting negatively on breeding birds.

The development will radically alter the unspoilt landscape which we enjoy every day and will have a long term and significant visual impact.

According to the National Greenway Strategy a Greenway should be “developed in an integrated manner which enhances both the environment and quality of life of the surrounding area. The proposed route fails to enhance the environment and quality of life of the community.

At the start of the proposed Greenway it will pass by [REDACTED] one of [REDACTED] LPG Terminals. Here we have storage of large tanks of LPG. Another source for a major fire and risk of major explosion.

On the opposite side of road we have Sewage Treatment Plant, with large bulk lorries entering and exiting this plant daily. Not withstanding the terrible odours which come from this plant.

At Drogheda Grammar School, trees are to be cut, these camouflage the port at Tom Roes point on opposite side of River and enhances the landscape.

At the Stone Bridge (near Old Church) It is proposed that a Steel Arch Bridge Will be in situ. This will have a major impact on existing stone bridge and will distract from the Stone Bridge visually.

At the end section of this Board walk, the lack of car park spaces, will result in overspill of parking to surrounding road net work resulting in major traffic problems.

The cost involved in the Proposed Greenway would be better spent on Developing and protecting the Dune Area.

Providing proper footpaths and Road Lights, leading to all our schools, churches and shops. If these were provided, people could walk and cycle and therefore exercise in safety.

These would be more beneficial to the area and would leave our Special Protection area and Special area of Conservation 004080 intact.

