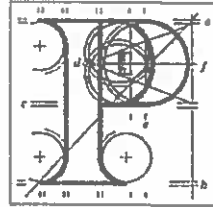


Our Case Number: ABP-307652-20



An
Bord
Pleanála

Date: 26th May 2022

Re: Construction of the Boyne Greenway, pedestrian and cycleway linking Drogheda Town in Co. Louth to Mornington Village in Co. Meath
Townlands at Ship Street in Drogheda, Co. Louth to Mornington Village in Co. Meath

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Bord 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 Board has approved it with or without modifications.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

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

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Somers
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737250

AA02

Teil
Glao Áitíúil
Facs
Láithreán Gréasáin
Ríomhphost

Tel
LoCall
Facs
Website
Email

(01) 858 8100
1890 275 175
(01) 872 2684
www.pleanala.ie
bord@pleanala.ie

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde
Baile Átha Cliath 1
D01 V902

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

LDG-053903-22

AN BORD PLEANÁLA
LDG- _____
ABP- _____
20 MAY 2022
Fee: € _____ Type: _____
Time: 12:45 By: MWD

19 May 2022

An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough St,
Dublin 1,
D01 V902

Construction of the Boyne Greenway Drogheda to Mornington, Co. Meath & Co. Louth

AN BORD PLEANÁLA REF ABP-307652-20

To whom it may concern,

In September 2020 I submitted my observations in relation to the above-mentioned proposed development i.e Construction of the Boyne Greenway.

I had fundamental concerns in relation to the proposed route, it's design, construction and alignment through the Boyne Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

I hope ABP have considered these concerns in full. MCC's Further Information Submission has not addressed the concerns raised in my original observations.

I wish to make the following observations and submissions with regard to the most recent documents submitted as part of MCC's Further Information Submission

I am a resident of Mornington/ East Meath and would make the following key observations:

1.The routing and construction of a Greenway through a European designated site -SPA and SAC should be avoided as it will have an adverse effect on the integrity of the designated site. Furthermore, proposed Mitigation Measures by MCC do not address the issue.

3.Poor connectivity and accessibility to proposed Greenway – it is envisaged users will access by train or bus. No assessment has been made of the capacity and suitability of existing public transport systems to cater for the predicted Greenway users to the local area.

5. No traffic assessment

6 No car parking facilities are provided along nor at either end of the proposed Greenway. This will result in uncontrolled parking on the roadway, in local housing estates and in the dunes area.

7. The proximity of the proposed Greenway to the SAC sand dune system at Tower Cross/Crook Rd bridge will lead to increased use by pedestrians, cyclists, families, dog walkers which in turn will result in habitat loss, disturbance to nesting birds and degradation of sand dunes.

8. There is a lack of public infrastructure along the proposed route (nor do MCC intend providing same) – no amenities/facilities/no rest areas/seating area or toilet facilities

9. Road Safety -the increase in pedestrian traffic (Greenway users) and associated vehicular traffic will increase the likelihood of accidents and incidents occurring – e.g. potential safety conflicts occurring between Greenway users and residents attempting to exit/enter their property

12. No safety margin between private accesses and proposed Greenway

13. Significant Loss of Biodiversity/Natural Habitat –

Acquisition / loss of private lands and mature gardens

removal of sections of existing green open space in Mornington Court

The concept of a greenway route between Mornington and Drogheda has some merit but the proposed route and design which ABP are considering is unsuitable and comes at too high a cost to our fragile environment, SPA & SAC (European Protected Sites) and to our local community. Fighting climate change is more than just providing new sustainable infrastructure, of paramount importance is the protection, preservation and conservation of our limited environmentally important sites. The proposed Greenway will negatively affect the SPA and SAC and proposed mitigation measures will not offset this impact and as such this proposal should be refused in its entirety by ABP.

Signed