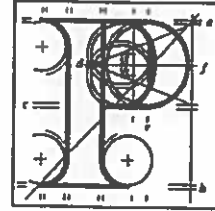


Our Case Number: ABP-307652-20



An
Bord
Pleanála

Date: 31st 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 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

Tel	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Ríomhphost	Email	bord@pleanala.ie

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

17/05/22

AN BORD PLEANÁLA

20 MAY 2022

LTR DATED _____ FROM _____

LDG- _____

ABP- _____

Ref: Drogheda to Mornington Greenway
ABP - 307652 & 20

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to you about some concerns I have in relation to the proposed Greenway. I live on " " " " " " in Mornington - Location " " " " on the 'Natural Impact Statement'. My living room windows look directly out onto the Mud Flats and I have a birds eye view of this beautiful Estuary 24/7. We watch the activity on the Mud flats / Estuary on a daily basis through a telescope and any visitors to our home love to watch + observe too as our view is so spectacular. It is fair to say at this point that we have gotten to know the movements and activity on this part of the estuary very well.

There is roughly 20-30 feet of seaweed that is housed along the estuary bank that stretches from the wall at the road out further into the estuary. As the tide pushes in, hundreds of birds including the endangered species Gullin Congregate within the seaweed feeding. The same thing happens when the tide is falling. The proposed walkway will be erected right over these important feeding grounds which is not mentioned in the Natural Impact Statement.

Since the pandemic, the number of Jet Skis on the River Boyne has increased

Dramatically. This causes a huge disturbance to the wildlife on the far side of the estuary (Queensboro, Balteag Road, Co. Louth). As the Jet Skis navigate the River Boyne at Alarming Speeds, it sends hundreds of birds fleeing and scattering into the air, resulting in them flying to safety on ~~one~~ side of the estuary. If a walkway is erected, it will leave the wildlife no other option to flee the area in search ~~for~~ a new home and breeding grounds. I failed to see the mention of Jet Skis in the Report also.

I want to also mention the Report states 'people walking dogs on the estuary causes low disturbance' - I deem this to be untrue - firstly in all my time living on the high road, I could count on one hand the people I have seen on the Estuary - who by the way are collecting seaweed for growing vegetables! The estuary is so muddy and soft that it is virtually impossible to walk along it! There is also the Seals to consider. As the tide is pushing in, the Seals lounge about on the mudflats waiting to feed on the Mullet that are pushed all the way in to the seaweed beds I mentioned above. So at high tide, Mullet and other fish life are feeding on the beds - again, the proposed walkway will be built over these feeding grounds. This whole area is an SPA (Special Protection Area) and building/erecting a walkway would no doubt have a devastating effect on all ~~the~~ ecosystems.

Lastly, I just want to state that the lower road (R151) regularly floods during high / Spring tides. I captured video footage of this from my window on numerous occasions. To avoid flooding, the current wall between the Estuary and the Road needs to be

elevated in order to reduce flooding risks. If a walkway is erected, this walkway would have to be built 5 to 6 feet above the road level to avoid people becoming stranded in high / Spring tides.

My own personal opinion is that the estuary and mudflats should be left to nature. It is an area of outstanding beauty and an important 'Specially protected' area.

I do hope my concerns are taken into consideration.

Regards,