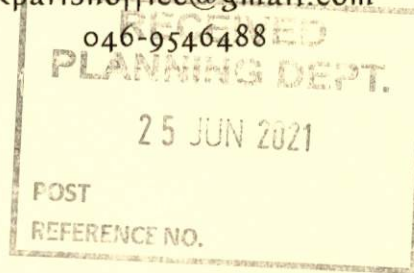


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The Parochial House
Ballivor and Kildalkey Parish
County Meath
bkparishoffice@gmail.com



Senior Executive Officer,
Planning Department,
Meath County Council,
Buvinda House,
Dublin Road, Navan,
Co. Meath,
C15 Y291



18th of June 2021

**Re: Parish land (St. Finian's Diocesan Trust) Kildalkey, County Meath.
Draft Development plan 2021 to 2027, Proposed Kildalkey Amendment no. 1 Material
Amendments to Draft Meath County Development Plan 2021-2026.**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to you in connection with the above. It has come to my attention that correspondence dated 1st March 2020 was submitted by Messrs. Tom Leavy and Joe Davis to the planning Department, Meath County Council as a submission for the draft Development plan. 2021/2027 in respect of Kildalkey. under submission no MH- C5-845. Submission no MH- C5-920 is also relevant as it refers to the lands shown under submission no MH-C-845.

In their correspondence Messrs. Leavy and Davis proffer to the council as follows:-

"the proposed zone land is owned by the Catholic Church and has zero chance of being development over the next five years. We strongly recommend the current three to seven acres zoned be switched across the road to our lands. See map attached"

As the representative for the Parish of Kildalkey, Diocese of Meath, I was surprised to note this submission and the recommendation by Messrs. Leavy and Davis. No consultation took place between Messrs. Leavy and Davis and representatives of the Parish or the Diocese of Meath. Furthermore, there is no evidence provided to suggest that Kildalkey Parish lands will not be developed over the next five years.

The Chief Executives response to submission no. MH- C5-845 was as follows:

"The land use strategy for Kildalkey seeks to maintain and enhance the built environment creating a unique sense of place for those who live and work within. The land use strategy aims to make more efficient use of land within the built up area and to the rear of the village core. The provision of a compact, vibrant and effective village centre is essential if Kildalkey is to cater for its current and future population in a sustainable manner. Between 1996 and 2011 there was an increase in population of 143 – 633 persons. The village experienced modest growth (45 persons) between 2011-2016. Only natural / incremental residential growth is to be facilitated over the plan period.

*Having regard to the household allocation in the Core Strategy (i.e 26 residential units) there is adequate land zoned for residential development to cater for the needs of the village. **Chief Executive's Recommendation:** No change recommended. "*

The Chief Executives response to submission no. MH- C5-920 was as follows:

"The land use strategy for Kildalkey seeks to maintain and enhance the built environment creating a unique sense of place for those who live and work within. The land use strategy aims to make more efficient use of land within the built up area and to the rear of the village core. The provision

of a compact, vibrant and effective village centre is essential if Kildalkey is to cater for its current and future population in a sustainable manner. Between 1996 and 2011 there was an increase in population of 143 – 633 persons. The village experienced modest growth (45 persons) between 2011-2016. Only natural / incremental residential growth is to be facilitated over the plan period. Having regard to the household allocation in the Core Strategy (i.e 26 residential units) there is adequate land zoned for residential development to cater for the needs of the village. **Chief Executive's Recommendation:** No change recommended. "

At the Special Planning Meeting between Oct 2020 and March 2021 motions put forward by elected councillors were discussed and voted upon. Motion no. 177 submitted by Councillor Joe Fox refers to previous submission MH- C5-845. The motion reads as follows: "I wish to support this submission as these lands are unlikely to be developed under the current ownership"

Motion no 102 (FTF) submitted by councillor Noel French refers to previous submission MH-C5-920. The motion reads as follows: "That the lands submitted be zoned residential and the existing lands currently zoned residential be zoned open space. Reason - The lands were previously zoned for Post 2019 residential development. The lands are located on the edge of the village and is located near school, church and other facilities. It is suggested that the lands between the church and school will not be developed for residential purposes. This zoning swap would not result in a change to core strategy of 26 residential units for Kildalkey during the new Community development Plan."

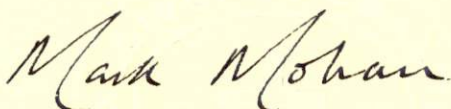
On the 5th March 2021 the motions came up for debate in the council chambers. Motion no. 177 was discussed. Motion 177 was passed by a show of hands. As motion 102 refers to the same land swap and was theatrically voted upon in motion 177, motion 102 fell as a result and was not voted upon.

Please note that **it is** the intention of the Diocese to sell part of the Parish lands in Kildalkey in the immediate future. It is the intention of the Diocese to sell these lands for the purpose for which they are zoned ie: **zoned A2 Residential** as proposed in the original Draft County Development Plan 2021-2027 and not the amended zoned G1 Community infrastructure as suggested in the Material Alteration 01 Kildalkey map. It is the intention of the Diocese to invest and direct the proceeds of sale to be used within the Parish of Kildalkey. The zoning now proposed (G1) will greatly reduce the value of the lands and subsequently reduce the proceeds that the Diocese will make available to the parish community.

We trust that the council will ignore the recommendation of Messrs Leavy and Davis and subsequent motion 177 in respect of Diocesan Lands and follow through with the Chief Executive recommendations of "no change recommended". Messrs Leavy and Davis "submission" is purely conjecture on their part and submitted solely to advance their own interests. I am calling on Meath County Council to Reinstate A2 residential zoning to Diocesan lands as previous proposed in Draft County Development Plan 2021-2027.

If the council require any further clarification in respect of the above, I am happy to meet or discuss the matter at any stage.

Yours Sincerely,



Fr Mark Mohan, PP
Ballivor and Kildalkey