



O'Connell's G.F.C.  
The Grove,  
Dublin Road,  
Castlebellingham,  
Co. Louth.  
A91 V02X

Louth Planning Department,  
Louth County Council,  
Town Hall,  
Crowe Street,  
Dundalk,  
Co. Louth.

20/04/2026

**Section 5 Declaration – Walking Track Construction at O'Connell's G.F.C. A91V02X**

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please find enclosed the following documentation for the above application:

- Section 5 Completed Form
- Site Location Plan (1:2500)
- Proposed Site Layout Plan (1:500)

Conor Byrne [REDACTED] may be contacted to arrange payment of €80.00 application fee.

Application summary is outlined overleaf

If any further information is required, please do not hesitate to contact.

Yours sincerely,

Conor Byrne  
Vice Chairperson

[REDACTED]



### **Application Summary:**

O'Connell's G.F.C. plan to construct a walking track around the perimeter of our playing field. The walking track will be constructed of compacted stone and have a width of 2.0 meters. The alignment of the track will follow the existing topography around the playing field with minor gradients to accommodate natural incline and declines.

Lighting will be installed as necessary to support walkway use. Lighting poles will be 4 meters in height. Any newly installed lighting will not exceed lighting impacts of current floodlights used to support pitch activities.

2.4meter mesh fencing and overhead netting will be installed behind north most goal posts protecting track users from stray footballs. 1.2meter mesh fencing will be installed along section of walking track were currently no boundary wall exists.

The attached Proposed Site Layout Plan also outlines these specifications.

Currently in Castlebellingham, existing walkways in the locality are limited, of poor surface quality and not adequately lit. By providing this walking track O'Connell's G.F.C hope to promote health, mental wellbeing and social interaction by encouraging increased levels of physical exercise in a safe and welcoming setting which is available to all in the community all year round.



## Section 5 Declaration - Application Form

### Declaration as to whether development constitutes Exempted Development

**Please read "Guidance Notes" before completing this form**

#### Guidance Notes

1. The purpose of Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, is to establish if a particular development is or is not development and if it is or is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning Act.
  - (a) A person seeking a determination must ensure under Question 7 (of the application form below) that a question is posed and that the question is clear, for example, is the construction of a shed development and is it or is it not exempted development. Details are then required of the shed so the planning authority can determine if the shed is exempt.
  - (b) The question to be determined should be clear as to whether it relates to an existing development or a proposed development. Details of the nature, size and location of the proposed development should be submitted and appropriate plans and elevations.
  - (c) If the question is not clear to the Planning Authority, the Section 5 application will be returned as invalid.
2. Any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, currently €80.00 request in writing from the Planning Authority a declaration on a question as whether a particular type of development is exempt.
3. The Planning Authority is required to make a decision within 4 weeks of receipt of a valid Declaration Request however the Planning Authority can also request Additional Information if it is considered that insufficient information has been submitted.
4. Any person issued with a declaration may, on payment to the Board of such fee as may be prescribed, currently €220.00 refer a declaration for review by the Board within 4 weeks of the date of the issuing of the declaration.
5. A planning authority is required to consider whether the development or proposed development identified in the request would be likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, at the least, of the nature, size or location of such development.

Section 5 Declaration - Application Form

1. Name and address of person seeking the declaration:

O'Connell's G.F.C. Committee, The Grove Field, Dublin  
Road, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth, A91 V02X

Phone Number: [REDACTED] E-Mail: [REDACTED]

2. Name and address of agent (if any):

Conor Byrne (Vice Chairperson), The Manse, Dromera  
Road, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth, A91 TVX3

Phone Number: [REDACTED] E-Mail: [REDACTED]

3. Name and address for all correspondence (if not completed, correspondence will be sent to person seeking declaration)

Conor Byrne, The Manse, Dromera Road, Castlebellingham  
Co. Louth, A91 TVX3

4. Interest in site of the person seeking declaration:

Owner

(If applicant is not freehold owner of the property in question, please provide name and address of owner if known)

5. Location and full address of development referred to in Question 7

O'Connell's G.F.C., The Grove Field, Dublin Road,  
Castlebellingham, Co. Louth, A91 TVX3

6. Eircode OR Grid Co-ordinates must be submitted. Grid references may be found on Google Maps or at

<https://irish.gridreferencefinder.com>

A91 V02X

7. Question for determination under Section 5 (See Note 1 above).

The question must be framed in the following format, i.e. Is the construction of a shed development and is it or is it not exempted development:

Is the construction of walkway and associated lighting around the perimeter of playing pitch an exempted development.

8. Does the development consist of works to be carried out to an existing or proposed protected structure? Yes  No

If Yes, has a Declaration under Section 57 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 been requested or issued for the property by the Planning Authority?

NA.

I certify that the aforementioned is correct.

Signature of Applicant: Lena Byrne Date 20/04/2026

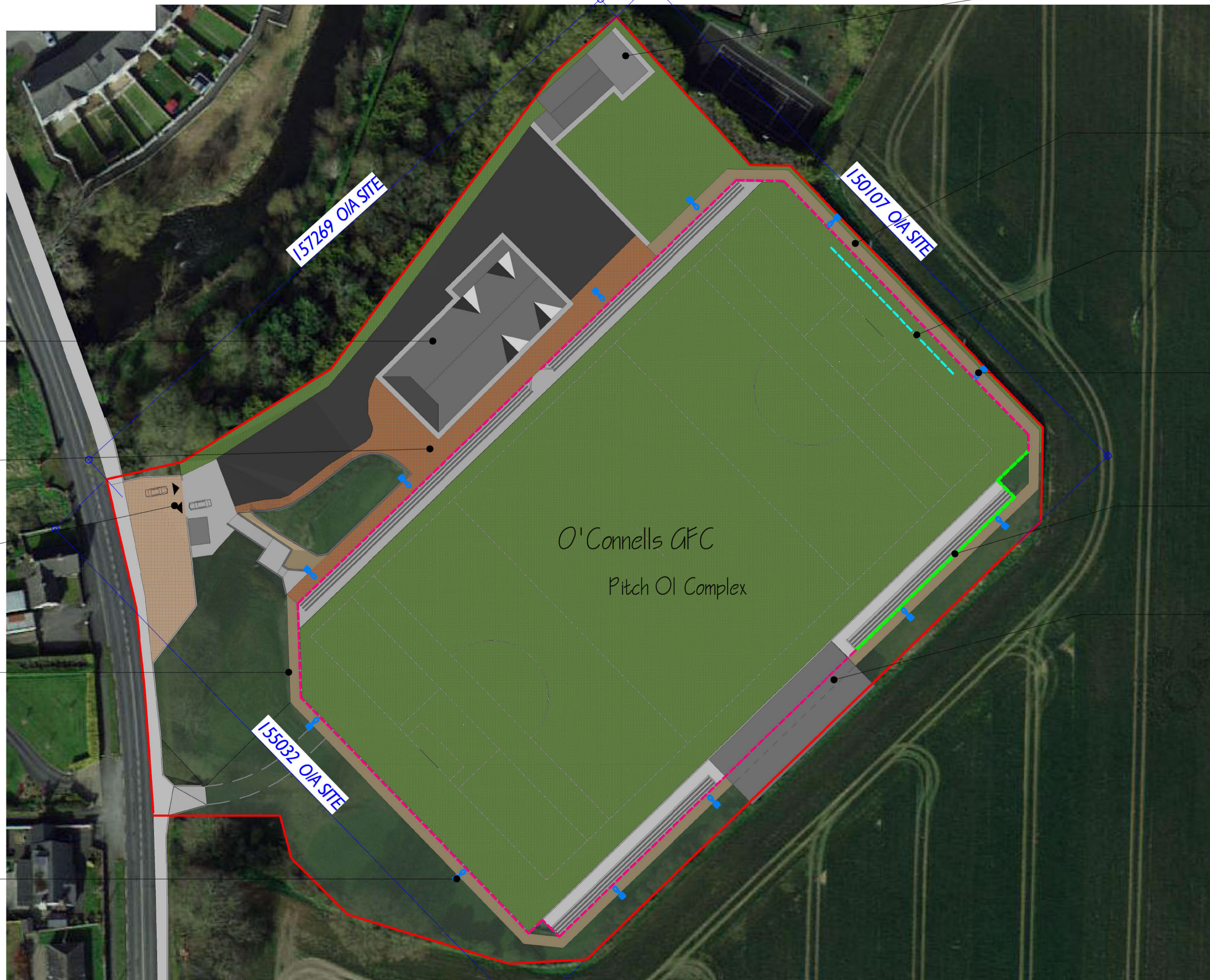
Please include one copy of the following documents with this application form:

- Site Location Map: (Scale 1:1000)
- Site Layout Map: (Scale 1:200 or 1:500)
- Floor Plans & Elevations: (Scale 1:50, 1:100 or 1:200)  
Existing & Proposed, where applicable
- Application fee: (€80)

Completed Application Form & Fee of €80.00 may be sent to:

Planning Office, Louth County Council, Town Hall, Crowe Street,  
Dundalk, County Louth, A91W20C  
OR

by email to [planninggroup@louthcoco.ie](mailto:planninggroup@louthcoco.ie) with contact details to arrange payment of fee.



O'Connell's GFC Secondary changing room and store.

Proposed 2m wide Walking Track to perimeter of field - Total track length 500m

2.4m high fencing with overhead catch nets behind goal zone.

Proposed Lighting to walking track - 4m high vibrate pro street light (50w/ 4000k) or similar approved.

1.2m high fencing above wall to rear of seating along bank to rear of seating

Walkway extends along front of Existing Spectator Stand.

O'Connell's GFC Main changing room and admin building

Existing Brick paved walkway along building to form part of walking track route

Existing entrance onto public road, new agricultural entrance to be provided.

Proposed 2m wide Walking Track to perimeter of field - Total track length 500m

Proposed Lighting to walking track - 4m high vibrate pro street light (50w/ 4000k) or similar approved.

No.	Description	Date	By

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Office No: 9 Drumbill Road, Silverbridge, Co. Kildare, K15 9EA  
Office No: 100, Main Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth, A91 R9H7

client **O'Connell's GFC**

project **The Grove Football Field, Kilsaran, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth**

project number **245-05**

drawing **Proposed Site Layout Plan**

sheet number **A002**

scale	rev	project status
As indicated		Section 5
date	drawn by	checked by
17.04.26	DM	CPH
		sheet size
		A1

All dimensions nominal & to be checked on site. Do not scale of drawings.

**Proposed Site Layout Plan**  
A002 1 : 500

**SITE KEY**

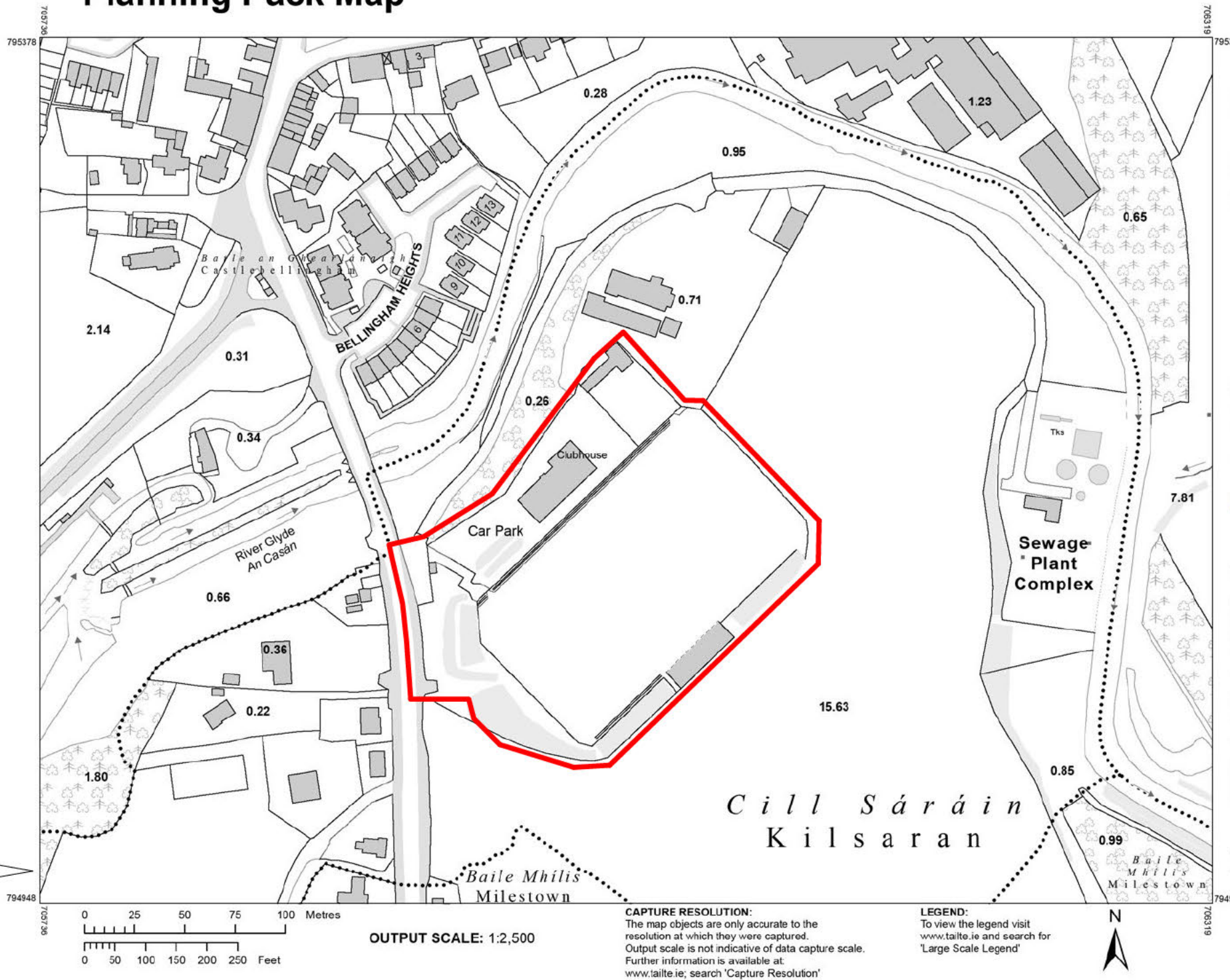
- EXTENT OF SITE BOUNDARY
- EXISTING PERIMETER WALL AROUND PITCH
- 2.4M FENCING WITH OVERHEAD CATCH NET
- 1.2m FENCE FIXED ALONG TOP OF EXISTING PERIMETER WALL
- COMPACTED GRAVEL PATH WALKING TRACK- 2m WIDE
- EXISTING BRICK PAVING
- 4m HIGH VIBRATE PRO STREET LIGHT (50W/ 4000K) OR SIMILAR APPROVED



# Planning Pack Map



**Tailte Éireann**



**CENTRE COORDINATES:**  
ITM 706028,795163

**PUBLISHED:** 26/03/2025  
**ORDER NO.:** 50456744\_1

**MAP SERIES:** 1:2,500  
**MAP SHEETS:** 1893-C, 1893-D, 1953-A, 1953-B

**COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY:**  
Tailte Éireann,  
Phoenix Park,  
Dublin 8,  
Ireland.  
D08F6E4

[www.tailte.ie](http://www.tailte.ie)

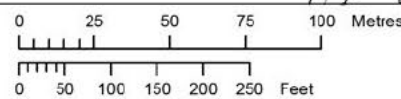
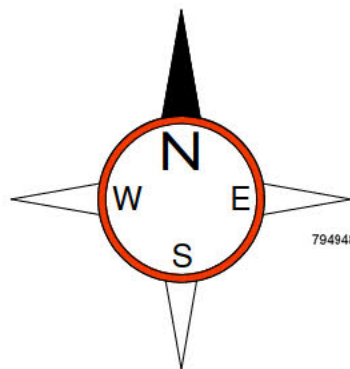
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The representation on this map of a road, track or footpath is not evidence of the existence of a right of way.

This topographic map does not show legal property boundaries, nor does it show ownership of physical features.

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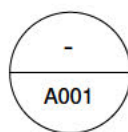
**OUTPUT SCALE:** 1:2,500

**CAPTURE RESOLUTION:**  
The map objects are only accurate to the resolution at which they were captured. Output scale is not indicative of data capture scale. Further information is available at: [www.tailte.ie](http://www.tailte.ie); search 'Capture Resolution'

**LEGEND:**  
To view the legend visit [www.tailte.ie](http://www.tailte.ie) and search for 'Large Scale Legend'



## Site - Location Plan



1 : 2500

### KEY

Extent of Proposed Site Boundary  
Total Site Area - 2.665 Ha  
- 6.585 Acres

## Section 5

**HQ BUILDING DESIGN LTD**  
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Office ROI: Courtbane, Co. Louth A91 RHH7

No.	Description	Date

Client  
**O'Connells GFC**  
Project  
The Grove Football Field, Kilsaran,  
Castlebellingham, Co. Louth

Drawing		Site Location Map	
Project number	245-05	<b>A001</b>	Scale As indicated(A3 Sheet)
Date	17.04.26		
Drawn by	DM		
Checked by	CPH		

## Louth County Council

### Section 5 Declaration

<b>Planning Ref:</b>	2026/26
<b>Applicant's Name:</b>	Conor Byrne on behalf of O'Connell's GFC.
<b>Type of Application:</b>	Section 5 Declaration
<b>Question for Determination:</b>	<i>(a) Whether the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch is development and is it or is it not exempted development; and (b) Whether the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibrate streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) is development and is it or is it not exempted development.</i>
<b>Site Location:</b>	The Grove Field, Dublin Road, Castlebellingham, Co.Louth, A91 TVX3
<b>Due Date:</b>	19/05/2026
<b>Report Date:</b>	08/05/2026

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#### 1.0 SITE LOCATION & DESCRIPTION:

The subject site is located within Castlebellingham-Kilsaran development limits along the Dublin Road and south of the River Glyde. The site comprises of a grass pitch with covered stand and low-level seating around the perimeters of the pitch. The pitch is also bound by a low block wall. 2-storey clubrooms are located to the immediate northwest of the pitch, and the grounds are accessed via a vehicular access at the northwest corner of the site off the Dublin Road. Pedestrian turn-style entry points are also located beside the vehicular access. The site is well maintained with car parking on the hill up to the club rooms and around the clubrooms. A small grass training area with older storage buildings are located in the northeastern section of the site.

## 2.0 Planning History

Year	Number	Decision	Name	Development Address	Description
17	129	Conditional	O'Connells GFC	The Grove Football Field Kilsaran Castlebellingham Co Louth	Retention permission and permission for the following: A. Retention of existing building that was to be demolished under planning ref. 06/1613. B. Full planning permission for refurbishment of this building. C. Internal alterations to provide 1 no. multi-purpose area that can alternatively be used as 2 no. or 4 no. dressing rooms by provision of folding separation walls and associated toilet/shower facilities. D. All associated site

Year	Number	Decision	Name	Development Address	Description
					development works.

Year	Number	Decision	Name	Development Address	Description
06	1613	Conditional	Declan Byrne	The Grove Football Field Kilsaran Castlebellingham Co Louth	(P) demolition of existing building, construction of new 2 storey clubhouse incorporating changing facilities, function room, gym area, indoor tennis/basketball court, storage areas, administration offices etc., all associated site development works including vehicular parking
65	26		OCONNELLS GFC	CASTLEBELLINGHAM	ERECTION OF WALL AND ENTRANCES
74	267	Conditional	JOHN COONEY	O'CONNELLS G.F.C. CASTLEBELLINGHAM CO.LOUTH	EXTENSION TO DINING ROOM
76	732	Conditional	OCONNELLS GFC	CASTLEBELLINGHAM DUNDALK CO LOUTH	EXTENSION TO CLUB
80	649	Refused	DES MEEHAN	CASTLEBELLINGHAM CO. LOUTH.	ADVERTISING SIGN.

Year	Number	Decision	Name	Development Address	Description
88	197	Conditional	OCONNELLS G.F.C.	GROVE FIELD C.BELLINGHAM CO. LOUTH	COVERED STAND
89	371	Conditional	OCONNELLS G.F.C	CASTLEBELLINGHAM CO. LOUTH	RETENTION OF PRESS BOX AND ERECTION OF ACCESS STEPS

### 3.0 QUESTION FOR DETERMINATION:

The applicant has confirmed within Question 7 of the application form that the question for determination relates to the following;

*Is the construction of walkway and associated lighting around the parameter of playing pitch an exempted development.*

Having regard to the question for determination and details submitted, the Planning Authority is therefore considering this question as 2 parts:

- (c) Whether the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch is development and is it or is it not exempted development; and*
- (d) Whether the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) is development and is it or is it not exempted development.*

The applicant has submitted a completed section application form, a site location map and a proposed site layout map.

### 4.0 EIA Screening and Determination

Council Directive 85/337/EEC (as amended) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment ('the EIA Directive') is designed to ensure that projects likely to have significant effects on the environment are subject to a comprehensive assessment of their environmental effects prior to development consent being given. The latest amendments to the EIA Directive are provided under Directive 2014/52/EU and Circular letter PL 1/2017. Based on information provided and having considered the minor

nature, size and location of the development, there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment and as such as EIAR is not required.

## **5.0 Appropriate Assessment**

Having regard to nature and scale of the proposal, it is not considered that the development would not be likely to have a significant effect individually or in combination with other plans or projects on a European site (Special Area of Conservation or Special Protected Area) and as such an Appropriate Assessment (Stage 2 AA) is not required.

## **6.0 LEGASLATIVE CONTEXT:**

### **S.I. No. 662/2024 - The Planning and Development Act 2024 (Commencement) Order 2024**

**The Planning and Development Act 2024 (Commencement) Order 2024 states:**

*“The 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2024 is appointed as the day on which the following provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (No. 34 of 2024) shall come into operation:*

- (a) Sections 1 to 5;*
- (b) Part 26*

### **The Planning and Development Act 2024**

**Section 2 states:**

*“development” means—*

- (a) the carrying out of works—*
  - (i) on, in, over or under land, or*
  - (ii) on, in, over or under the maritime area,*

Or

- (b) the making of a material change in the use of—*
  - (i) land or any structure on land, or*
  - (ii) the sea, seabed or any structure, in the maritime area,**and includes the reclamation of land in the nearshore area;*

*“exempted development” means—*

- (a) development of a class prescribed under section 9, or
- (b) development that is exempted development by virtue of section 152 ;

“structure” means—

- (a) a building, edifice, construction, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under any land, or a maritime site, or any part thereof, or
- (b) the land or maritime site on, in or under which such building, edifice, construction, excavation, other thing or part is situated;

“Works” includes an act or operation—

- (a) of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal (including in relation to a protected structure, a proposed protected structure or a

structure situated in an architectural conservation area), on, in, over or under land or a maritime site,

- (b) consisting of the application of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to the surface of a protected structure or proposed protected structure or the removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material from such surface, and

- (c) consisting of the application of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to the exterior of a structure situated in an architectural conservation area or the removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material from such exterior.

## **The Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)**

### **Section 4:**

Section 4(1) provides a list of statutory exempted development.

Section 4(2) further provides for the making of regulations by the Minister relating to exempted development. The Planning & Development Regulations (PDR) 2001 (as amended) give effect to Section 4(2).

### Exempted Development

*4(1) The following shall be exempted developments for the purposes of this Act-*

- (h) - development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any structure, being works which affect only the interior of the structure or which do not materially affect the external*

*appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures;*

**Section 5 states:**

- (1) If any question arises as to what, in any particular case, is or is not development or is or is not exempted development within the meaning of this Act, any person may, on payment of the prescribed fee, request in writing from the relevant planning authority a declaration on that question, and that person shall provide to the planning authority any information necessary to enable the authority to make its decision on the matter.
- (2) (a) Subject to *paragraph (b)*, a planning authority shall issue the declaration on the question that has arisen and the main reasons and considerations on which its decision is based to the person who made the request under *subsection (1)*, and, where appropriate, the owner and occupier of the land in question, within 4 weeks of the receipt of the request.
- (b) A planning authority may require any person who made a request under *subsection (1)* to submit further information with regard to the request in order to enable the authority to issue the declaration on the question and, where further information is received under this paragraph, the planning authority shall issue the declaration within 3 weeks of the date of the receipt of the further information.
- (c) A planning authority may also request persons in addition to those referred to in *paragraph (b)* to submit information in order to enable the authority to issue the declaration on the question.

**Section 9**

Section 9 (4) states that Development (other than development that is exempted development by virtue of *subsection (1)* or *(2)* of *section 152*) shall not be exempted development for the purposes of this Act if—

- (a) in the case of a protected structure or a proposed protected structure, it materially affects or would materially affect the character of—
- (i) the structure, or
  - (ii) any element of the structure that contributes to its special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest

(b) it is situated, or proposed to be situated, in an area of special planning control and

it contravenes or would, if carried out, contravene a special planning control scheme applying to that area, or

(c) in the case of development carried out or proposed to be carried out to the exterior of a structure situated in an architectural conservation area, it materially affects or would, if carried out, materially affect the character of that area.

### **Section 32:**

Section 32 sets out a general obligation to obtain planning permission in respect of any development of land, not being exempted development, and in the case of development, which is unauthorised, for the retention of that unauthorised development.

### **Planning and Development Regulations 2001, (as amended)**

Article 6 (1) Subject to Article 9, development of a class specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the purposes of the Act, provided that such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1.

### **Restrictions on Exemption: Article 9**

Article 9(1) Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act-

(a) if the carrying out of such development would-

(i) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act,

(ii) consist of or comprise the formation, laying out or material widening of a means of access to a public road the surfaced carriageway of which exceeds 4 metres in width,

(iii) endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard or obstruction of road users

(iiia) endanger public safety by reason of hazardous glint and/or glare for the operation of airports, aerodromes or aircraft,

(iv) except in the case of a porch to which class 7 specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies and which complies with the conditions and limitations

specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1, comprise the construction, erection, extension or renewal of a building on any street so as to bring forward the building, or any part of the building, beyond the front wall of the building on either side thereof or beyond a line determined as the building line in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,

(v) consist of or comprise the carrying out under a public road of works other than a connection to a wired broadcast relay service, sewer, water main, gas main or electricity supply line or cable, or any works to which class 25, 26 or 31 (a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies,

(vi) interfere with the character of a landscape, or a view or prospect of special amenity value or special interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,

(vii) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition (other than peat extraction) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological, geological, historical, scientific or ecological interest, the preservation, conservation or protection of which is an objective of a development plan or local area plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or local area plan, or the making of a new development plan or local area plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the local area plan or the draft development plan or draft local area plan,

(viiA) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition of any archaeological monument included in the Record of Monuments and Places, pursuant to section 12 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994, save that this provision shall not apply to any excavation or any works, pursuant to and in accordance with a consent granted under section 14 or a licence granted under section 26 of the National Monuments Act 1930 (No. 2 of 1930) as amended,

(viiB) comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord (now Coimisiún) Pleanála is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment, and the development would require an appropriate assessment because it would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site,

(viiC) consist of or comprise development which would be likely to have an adverse impact on an area designated as a natural heritage area by order made under section 18 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000. (viii) consist of or comprise the extension, alteration, repair or renewal of an unauthorised structure or a structure the use of which is an unauthorised use,

(ix) consist of the demolition or such alteration of a building or other structure as would preclude or restrict the continuance of an existing use of a building or other structure where it is an objective of the planning authority to ensure that the building or other structure would remain available for such use and such objective has been specified in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,

(x) consist of the fencing or enclosure of any land habitually open to or used by the public during the 10 years preceding such fencing or enclosure for recreational purposes or as a means of access to any seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility,

(xi) obstruct any public right of way,

(xii) further to the provisions of section 82 of the Act, consist of or comprise the carrying out of works to the exterior of a structure, where the structure concerned is located within an architectural conservation area or an area specified as an architectural conservation area in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan and the development would materially affect the character of the area.

### **Class 13 of Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**

**Class 13:** - The repair or improvement of any private street, road or way, being works carried out on land within the boundary of the street, road or way, and the construction of any private footpath or paving

Condition/Limitation: - The width of any such private footpath or paving shall not exceed 3 metres.

Development for amenity or recreational purposes

**Class 33:** - Development consisting of the layout out and use of land –

(a) As a park, private open space or ornamental garden,

- (b) As a roadside shrine, or
- (c) For athletics or sports (other than golf or pitch and putt or sports involving the use of motor vehicles, aircraft or firearms), where no charge is made for admission of the public to the land.

## 7.0 ASSESSMENT

### **Do the works constitute “development”?**

Having regard to the definitions set out in section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024, it is considered that the construction of a walkway and associated lighting would constitute “works” as per section 2 and therefore constitutes “development” as defined in the Act.

### **Do the works constitute exempted development?**

#### Walking Track

Class 13 of the planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) provides an exemption under which the proposed 2m gravel walking track within the confines of the site and around the perimeter of the pitch could fall under. The width falls within the parameters of the condition/limitation and having regard to Article 9, does not offend any of the restrictions set out.

#### Associated Lighting

The details submitted indicate on the site layout plan that the proposed new lighting for the walking track are 4m high vibre pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar approved. These are indicated as being behind/either side of the goals on the walking track and total 4. 8 existing floodlights exist to the sides of the pitch. The Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) does not contain any class of exempted development that the proposed lighting structures would fall under. Class 33 relates to the use of land for recreational purposes, including for athletics or sports, but does not exempt structures including lights. No other class of exemption under the Regulations apply. Accordingly, the installation of 4m high vibre pro streetlights (50w/4000k) constitutes development, that is not exempted development within the meaning of the Planning and Development Act 2024.

## 8.0 Recommendation

Having regard to the foregoing it is considered that the construction of the 2m wide gravel walking track as indicated on the submitted site layout drawing constitutes development within the meaning of section 2 of the Planning and Development Act (as amended) that comes within the scope of the conditions and limitations of Class 13 of Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and is therefore **exempted development**.

Regarding the proposed 4m high vibe pro streetlights (50w/4000k) streetlights, these also fall within the meaning of development but do not fall within any class of exempted development and therefore constitute development that is **not exempted development**.

Accordingly, it is recommended that an order along the following lines is issued:

-

**WHEREAS** a question has arisen pursuant to Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) as to whether the following is or is not development and is or is not exempted development: -

- (a) Whether the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch is development and is it or is it not exempted development; and*
- (b) Whether the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) is development and is it or is it not exempted development.*

**AND WHEREAS** the said question was referred to Louth County Council by Conor Byrne on behalf of O'Connell's GFC.

**AND WHEREAS** Louth County Council in considering this application, had regard reference particularly to:

- (a) The definition of "development", in **Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024** (as amended),
- (b) Specifically, the provisions under **Class 13 of Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**,
- (c) **Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**
- (d) Planning history of the site
- (e) Plans and particulars forwarded to the Planning Authority

**AND WHEREAS** Louth County Council has concluded that on the basis of the information submitted that:

- (a) The construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch is considered to constitute "works" which **constitutes "development"** under Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) and the said development having regard to Class 13 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) is **exempted development**; and*

(b) *The installation of associated lighting (4m high vibre pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar)* is considered to constitute “works” that **constitutes “development”** under Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) but which does not come within the scope of any classes of development and therefore is considered to be development that is **not exempted** development

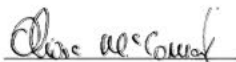
**NOW THEREFORE** Louth County Council in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), hereby decides that the proposed *‘construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch’* is **development** that is **exempted development** and *‘the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibre pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar)’* is **development** that is **not exempted development**



**Lisa Grant**  
**Assistant Planner**  
**Date: 08/05/2026**



**Turlough King**  
**A/Senior Planner**  
**Date: 12/05/2026**



**Olivia McCormack**  
**A/Director of Services**  
**Date: 13/05/2026**

**LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDER**

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 ( as amended)**

**Section 5 Exempted Development**

<b>Chief Executive's Order No:</b>	349/2026
<b>Reference No:</b>	S5 2026/26
<b>Date Application Received:</b>	22/04/2026
<b>Description of Development:</b>	(a) Whether the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch is development and is it or is it not exempted development.  (b) Whether the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) is development and is it or is it not exempted development.
<b>Name of Applicant:</b>	O'Connells GFC Committee
<b>Location of Development</b>	O'Connells G.F.C., The Grove Field, Dublin Road, Castlebellingham, Co. Louth

**WHEREAS** a question has arisen pursuant to Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) as to whether the following is or is not development and is or is not exempt development:

- (a) Whether the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch is development and is it or is it not exempted development; and
- (b) Whether the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) is development and is it or is it not exempted development.

**AND WHEREAS** Louth County Council in consideration of this question has had regard particularly to:

- (a) The definition of "development", in **Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024** (as amended),

- (b) Specifically, the provisions under **Class 13 of Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**,
- (c) **Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**
- (d) Planning history of the site
- (e) Plans and particulars forwarded to the Planning Authority

**AND WHEREAS** *Louth County Council has concluded: -*

- (a) *The construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch* is considered to constitute “works” which **constitutes “development”** under Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) and the said development having regard to Class 13 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) is **exempted development**;

**And**

- (b) *The installation of associated lighting (4m high vibre pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar)* is considered to constitute “works” that **constitutes “development”** under Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) but which does not come within the scope of any classes of development and therefore is considered to be development that is **not exempted** development

**NOW THEREFORE** Louth County Council in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), hereby decides that (a) the proposed ‘*construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch*’ is **development** that is **exempted development** and (b) ‘*the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibre pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar)*’ is **development** that is **not exempted development**

**SIGNED:**   
Lisa Grant  
Assistant Planner

**Date:** 13/05/2026

**ORDER:** In pursuance of the powers conferred upon the Council by the above Act, I concur with the above recommendation and I hereby direct that a Declaration of Exemption be:

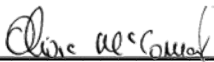
**LCP Order No. 349/2026**

**Reference No: S5 2026/26**

GRANTED for (a) the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch

and

REFUSED for (b) the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) **as detailed on the plans and particulars submitted on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026..**

Signed:   
**Olivia McCormack**  
**Acting Director of Services**

**Date: 13/05/2026**

To whom this function has been delegated in accordance with the provisions of Section 154 of the Local Government Act, 2001 by Order No. CE.S. 222/26 dated 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 2026.



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

O'Connells GFC Committee  
c/o Conor Byrne

By email only to: [REDACTED]

13<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Re: Ref. S5 2026/26

**Application for Declaration of "Exempted Development" Part 1, Section 5 Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) as to whether the construction of a walkway and associated lighting around the perimeter of playing pitch is or is not development and is or is not exempted development**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your application received on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026 in relation to the above. Having assessed all information and enclosures received with the application, the Planning Authority wishes to advise as follows: -

**WHEREAS** a question has arisen pursuant to Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) as to whether the following is or is not development and is or is not exempt development:

- (a) *Whether the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch is development and is it or is it not exempted development; and*
- (b) *Whether the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibre pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) is development and is it or is it not exempted development.*

**AND WHEREAS** Louth County Council in consideration of this question has had regard particularly to:

- (a) The definition of "development", in **Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024** (as amended),
- (b) Specifically, the provisions under **Class 13 of Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**,
- (c) **Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)**
- (d) **Planning history of the site**
- (e) **Plans and particulars forwarded to the Planning Authority**

Louth County Council  
Halla an Bhaile  
Strad Crowe  
Dún Dealgan  
Contae Lú  
A91 W20C

Louth County Council  
Town Hall  
Crowe Street  
Dundalk  
County Louth  
A91 W20C

E info@louthcoco.ie  
W www.louthcoco.ie

Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras Gaeilge - Correspondence in Irish is welcome  
Féach foláirimh faoi Lú ón gComhairle ag [www.mapalserter.ie/Louth](http://www.mapalserter.ie/Louth)  
View Council alerts for Louth at [www.mapalserter.ie/Louth](http://www.mapalserter.ie/Louth)

**AND WHEREAS** Louth County Council has concluded: -

- (a) *The construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch* is considered to constitute "works" which **constitutes "development"** under Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) and the said development having regard to Class 13 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) is **exempted development**; and
- (b) *The installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar)* is considered to constitute "works" that **constitutes "development"** under Section 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) but which does not come within the scope of any classes of development and therefore is considered to be development that is **not exempted development**

**NOW THEREFORE** Louth County Council in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), hereby decides that (a) the proposed '*construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch*' is **development** that is **exempted development** and (b) '*the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar)*' is **development** that is **not exempted development**

**In Summary**

**A Declaration of Exemption is hereby:**

**GRANTED** for (a) the construction of a 2m wide gravel walkway around the parameter of the playing pitch and that

**A Declaration of Exemption is hereby:**

**REFUSED** for (b) the installation of associated lighting (4m high vibe pro streetlight (50w/4000k) or similar) **as detailed on the plans and particulars submitted on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026.**

**This decision may be referred by you to An Coimisiún Pleanála for review within 4 weeks of the date of this letter subject to the payment of the appropriate fee.**

Yours faithfully,



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Brian Duffy  
Planning Section