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Ennistymon Community School Lahinch Road Ennistymon Co. Clare V95 YP46

30th July 2025

Section 5 referral Reference R25-44 – Ennistymon Community School

is the development of an all-weather pitch development and if so, is it exempted development?

A Chara,

I refer to your application received on 30th May 2025 under Section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) in relation to the above.

The Planning Authority has considered the matter and I attach herewith the Council's findings in this matter.

Where a declaration is issued by the Planning Authority, any person issued with a declaration, may on payment to An Coimisiún Pleanála of the required fee, refer a declaration for review by An Coimisiún Pleanála within 4 weeks of the date of the issuing of the declaration. Details on making such appeal are available on the Board's website at www.pleanala.ie.

Mise, le meas

Anne O'Gorman

Staff Officer

Planning Department

Economic Development Directorate

An Roinn Pleanála An Stiúrthóireacht Forbairt Gheilleagrach

Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Planning Department
Economic Development Directorate

Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2











CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

SECTION 5 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 AS AMENDED

DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND/OR EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

Chief Executive's Order No: 86034

Reference Number: R25-44

Date Referral Received: 30th May 2025

Date Further Information Received: 11th July 2025

Name of Applicant: Ennistymon Community School

Location of works in question: Ennistymon Community School,

Ennistymon, Co. Clare

Section 5 referral Reference R25-44 – Ennistymon Community School

Is the development of an all-weather pitch development and if so, is it exempted development?

AND WHEREAS Clare County Council, in considering this referral, had regard in particular to –

- (a) Sections 2, and 3 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (c) Class 33 'Development for Amenity and Recreational Purposes' of Part 1 of Schedule 2, Article 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (d) The limited nature and extent of works as indicated in submitted documents from the referrer.

AND WHEREAS Clare County Council has concluded:

- (a) The development of an all weather pitch constitutes "works" which come within the scope of section 2 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.
- (b) The said works constitute "development" which comes within the scope of section 3 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended
- (c) The said development of an all weather pitch is development which is exempted development having regard to the extent of works involved, its siting on an existing play area and the provisions of Classes 33 Schedule 2 of Part 1, Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended,

ORDER:

Whereas by Chief Executive's Order No. HR 343 dated 19th May 2025, Gordon Daly, Chief Executive for Clare County Council, did, pursuant to the powers conferred on him by Section 154 of the Local Government Act 2001, delegate to Garreth Ruane, Senior Executive Planner, the powers, functions and duties as set out herein.

NOW THEREFORE pursuant to the delegation of the said powers, functions and duties and under Section 5(2)(a) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and having considered the various submissions and reports in connection with the referral described above, I, Garreth Ruane, Senior Executive Planner, hereby declare that the development of an all weather pitch at Ennistymon Community School, Ennistymon, Co. Clare is considered development which is exempted development.

Signed:

GARRETH RUANE

SENIOR EXECUTIVE PLANNER

Date:

30th July 2025

DECLARATION ISSUED UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)

Reference No.: R25-44



Section 5 referral Reference R25-44

Is the development of an all-weather pitch development and if so, is it exempted development?

AND WHEREAS, Ennistymon Community School has requested a declaration from Clare County Council on the said question.

AND WHEREAS Clare County Council, in considering this referral, had regard in particular to -

- (a) Sections 2, and 3 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (c) Class 33 'Development for Amenity and Recreational Purposes' of Part 1 of Schedule 2, Article 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (d)The limited nature and extent of works as indicated in submitted documents from the referrer.

And whereas Clare County Council has concluded:

- (a) The development of an all weather pitch constitutes "works" which come within the scope of section 2 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.
- (b) The said works constitute "development" which comes within the scope of section 3 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended,
- (c) The said development of an all weather pitch is development which is exempted development having regard to the extent of works involved, its siting on an existing play area and the provisions of Classes 33 Schedule 2 of Part 1, Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended,

THEREFORE: The Planning Authority in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended), hereby decides that:

The proposed development consisting of the development of an all weather pitch at Ennistymon Community School, Ennistymon, Co. Clare <u>constitutes development</u> which is <u>exempted development</u> as defined within the Planning & Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) and associated regulations.

Anne O'Gorman Staff Officer

Planning Department

Economic Development Directorate

30th July 2025

COUNTY COUNCIL SECTION 5 DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION APPLICATION PLANNERS REPORT (no. 2)

FILE REF:

R25-44

APPLICANT(S):

Ennistymon Community School

RE:

Whether the development of an all-weather pitch is development

and if so is it exempted development.

LOCATION:

Ennistymon County Clare

DUE DATE:

30th July 25

Further information was requested as follows:

1 (a)Please arrange to submit scaled drawings of the proposed development (site layout plan scale 1: 500 and , other drawings scale 1: 100, cross sections etc.) and the description of the full nature and extent of the works proposed, extent of a drainage works, provision of a sub-base, provision of a levelling layer etc and clarify if any associated works such as fencing and lighting are proposed. If so, please provide details of such fencing and lighting.

(b)It is not clear from the details received how the all-weather pitch is to be drained. i.e. attenuated on site or drained to outfall to the Inagh River estuary SAC. Please indicate details of surface water drainage for the pitch.

Summary of Applicant's Reply.

The over all school property is outlined in blue and the Muga area in red.

The Muga will replace the existing grassed play area. No other development is proposed i.e. lighting or fencing.

The surface water from the Muga will drain into the ground. The existing stone sub base layer in place will allow for the natural drainage of surface water on the synthetic pitch and the combined with the drainage under the pitch area as connected to the stone filled soak aways, there will be adequate drainage of the proposed Muga. The proposed works as described to be under taken 'to replace the existing grass pitch with an artificial grass pitch would constitute exempted development under Class 33 (c) Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended.

Assessment

Basis of Referral

The applicant is seeking a Section 5 Declaration as to whether the provision of the development of an all weather pitch is development and is or is not exempted development.

Similar proposals were deemed not exempted development under R 22/26 (in the grounds of Miltown Malbay school). An Bord Pleanala decision under RL 3803 is also noted.

Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

Class 33 Development for Amenity and Recreational purposes:

Development for the laying out and use of land for

- (a) As a park, private open space, or ornamental garden
- (b) As a road side shrine (subject to limitations)

(c) Or athletic or sports (other than golf or pitch and putt, or sports involving the use of motor vehicles, aircraft, or fire arms) where no charge is made for admission of the public to the land.

There are no conditions or limitations attaching to item C.

Article 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended

Article 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended outlines restrictions on exempted development, and these are assessed below:

- (i) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act.
 N/A It is noted that ball courts were proposed under 17/603 but there is no condition preventing the provision of all weather pitches.
- (ii) consist of or compromise 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,

N/A

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

N/A

(iv) 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.

No adverse impacts envisaged.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(vi) 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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(vii)

a. 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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

b. comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord 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, Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development, and the potential connectivity to the Inagh River Estuary SAC European Site, Appropriate Assessment issues were not previously screened out. Having regard to the further information received, I am satisfied that surface water from the MUGA will not be directed to the SAC and as such will be drained on site. No impact on the SAC is envisaged.

c. 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."

No adverse impacts envisaged.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(xi) obstruct any public right of way,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(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.

This is not applicable in this instance.

Conclusion

The provision of an astro turf / all weather pitches are generally not considered to come within the term 'The laying out and use of land... for athletics or sports' because the works that would be associated with constructing an astro-pitch would generally include drainage works, provision of a sub-base, provision of a levelling layer and may also include fencing and lighting which would be outside of the scope of the description of merely 'laying out'. However in this instance the location of the pitch is on a grassed area of the site. Drainage of surface water is to ground by existing stone sub base layer and soakaways There is no hydrological connection to the lnagh River estuary SAC. In addition the applicant has clarified that no associated development, i.e. lighting or fencing is proposed.

Recommendation

I recommend that the following is issued to the applicant by the Planning Authority in this instance:

The Planning Authority in considering this referral had regard to:

- (a) Sections 2, and 3 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (c) Class 33 'Development for Amenity and Recreational Purposes' of Part 1 of Schedule 2, Article 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (d)The limited nature and extent of works as indicated in submitted documents from the referrer.

And whereas Clare County Council (Planning Authority) has concluded:

- (a) the development of an all weather pitch constitutes "works" which come within the scope of section 2 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.
- (b) the said works constitute "development" which comes within the scope of section 3 (1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

(c) the said development of an all weather pitch is development which is exempted development having regard to the extent of works involved, its siting on an existing play area and the provisions of Classes 33 Schedule 2 of Part 1, Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended,

Now therefore Clare County Council (Planning Authority), hereby decides that development of an all weather pitch at Ennistymon Community School is development and is exempted development.

Signed Elw Co

E.P.

Date 28-07-25

Signed GN

S.E.P.

Date 30 07(26.

REVISED Appropriate Assessment & Determination on foot of receipt of further information.

STEP 1. Description of the project/proposal and local site characteristics:		
(a) File Reference No:	R25- 44	
(b) Brief description of the project or plan:	Development of an all weather pitch in school grounds	
(c) Brief description of site characteristics:	Grass	
(d) Relevant prescribed bodies consulted: e.g. DHLGH (NPWS), EPA, OPW	None	
(e) Response to consultation:	None	

		objectives.		المداير ويوالي
European Site (code)	List of Qualifying Interest/Special Conservation Interest ¹	Distance from proposed development ² (km)	Connections (Source- Pathway- Receptor)	Considered further in screening Y/N
Inagh River estuary SAC	Annex I Habitats • Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] • Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330] • Mediterranean salt meadows Juncetalia	230m to the north as the crow flies	None	No

	maritime) [1410] • Shifting dunes along the		
	shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120] • *Fixed coastal dunes along the shoreline with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes) [2130		
hi Tam			

¹ Short paraphrasing and/or cross reference to NPWS is acceptable – it is not necessary to reproduce the full text on the QI/SCI.

STEP 3. Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

(a) Identify all potential direct and indirect impacts that may have an effect on the conservation objectives of a European site, taking into account the size and scale of the project under the following headings:

Impacts:	Possible Significance of Impacts: (duration/magnitude etc.)
Construction phase e.g. Vegetation clearance Demolition Surface water runoff from soil excavation/infill/landscaping (including borrow pits) Dust, noise, vibration	Surface water runoff from soil excavation

² If the site or part thereof is within the European site or adjacent to the European site, state here.

- · Lighting disturbance
- Impact on groundwater/dewatering
- Storage of excavated/construction materials
- Access to site
- Pests

Operational phase e.g.

- Direct emission to air and water
- Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment
- · Lighting disturbance
- Noise/vibration
- Changes to water/groundwater due to drainage or abstraction
- Presence of people, vehicles and activities
- Physical presence of structures (e.g. collision risks)
- · Potential for accidents or incidents

In-combination/Other

 Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment

Unknown

(b)Describe any likely changes to the European site:

Examples of the type of changes to give consideration to include:

- Reduction or fragmentation of habitat area
- Disturbance to QI species
- Habitat or species fragmentation
- Reduction or fragmentation in species density
- Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc.)
- Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI

- Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc.)
- Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI

that define the structure or ec		
		*
(c) Are 'mitigation' measures no effects can be ruled out at so		ch a conclusion that likely significant
Yes No	Ur	nknown
Step 4. Scr	reening Determ	ination Statement
The assessment of significance of	f effects:	
Describe how the proposed development effects on European significant		or in-combination) is/is not likely to have its conservation objectives.
to be drained to the ground on	site and none is dered that the	ved, surface water arising is proposed spermitted flow towards the Inagh proposed development will not be e(s) in view of its conservation
Conclusion: The proposed develor European site(s) in view of its con		kely to have significant effects on ectives.
	Tick as Appropriate:	Recommendation:
(i) It is clear that there is no likelihood of significant effects on a European site.		The proposal can be screened out: Appropriate assessment not required.
(ii) It is uncertain whether the proposal will have a significant effect on a European site.		Request further information to complete screening Request NIS

		Refuse planning permission
(iii) Significant effects are likely.		Request NIS Refuse planning permission
Signature and Date of Recommending Officer:	28 th July 25	
	Name: Elle	en Carey E.P.
Signature and Date of the Decision Maker:		

Clare County Council, Planning Dept, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare. CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

1 1 JUL 2025

Received

Planning Section

8th of July 2025

planoff@clarecoco.ie

Our Ref:

Via email:

25227 - 7.1

Re: Section 5 Reference R25-44 Ennistymon Community School

Proposed Muga at Ennistymon Community School;
Works to include, upgrade of existing playing area to provide new
MUGA Playing Pitch with associated ancillary drainage works

Attn of Planning Department,

Please see enclosed the following details in response to further information requested.

- 1. Site Location Map, showing School location and proposed Muga Area. Overall School property is outlined in blue with proposed Muga location outlined in red.
- The Site Layout Plan at scale 1:500 shows the location of the proposed Multi Use Games Area. The proposed Muga will replace the current / existing grass playing area.
- The proposed development is for a Multi Use Games Area to replace the existing grass playing surface. The Section 5 Application is for the MUGA playing surface only. There are no other development works proposed under the Section 5 Application.
- 4. The surface water from the proposed Muga will effectively drain into the ground. The natural build up of the stone sub-base to the play area will allow for natural drainage of surface water on the synthetic pitch and combined with the drainage under the pitch area as connected to stone filled soakaway's there will be adequate drainage of the proposed play area.
- 5. The proposed works as described to be undertaken, "to replace the existing grass pitch with an artificial grass pitch" would constitute exempted development under Class 33(c) of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.

tel: 086 8657569 | web; www.mckennaconsultingengineers.com
Company Directors: 7 McKenna 8,8,0 ip.Proj Mgmt,C.Eng M.J.E.J. C. McKenna 8 A LL 9
Consultant: J.B. McKenna MBA C.Eng. Eurong HO(pEE AMICE M.J.E.J.)



Please let us know if you require any further information in relation to this Section 5 Application.

Yours Sincerely,

On Behalf of

McKenna Consulting Engineers

John Stramon



COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR COUNTY COUNCIL

Ennistymon Community School Lahinch Road Ennistymon Co. Clare V95 YP46

23/06/2025

Section 5 referral Reference R25-44 – Ennistymon Community School

is the development of an all-weather pitch development and if so, is it exempted development?

A Chara,

I refer to your application received on 30th May 2025 under Section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) in relation to the above.

I wish to advise that in accordance with Section 5 (2) (b) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000, as amended, the following further information is required:

- 1 (a) Please arrange to submit scaled drawings of the proposed development (site layout plan scale 1: 500 and , other drawings scale 1: 100, cross sections etc) and the description of the full nature and extent of the works proposed, extent of a drainage works, provision of a sub-base, provision of a levelling layer etc and clarify if any associated works such as fencing and lighting are proposed. If so, please provide details of such fencing and lighting.
- (b) It is not clear from the details received how the all-weather pitch is to be drained. i.e. attenuated on site or drained to outfall to the Inagh River estuary SAC. Please indicate details of surface water drainage for the pitch.

Mise, le meas

Anne O'Gorman Staff Officer

Planning Department

Economic Development Directorate

An Roinn Pleanála An Stiúrthóireacht Forbairt Gheilleagrach

Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Planning Department Economic Development Directorate

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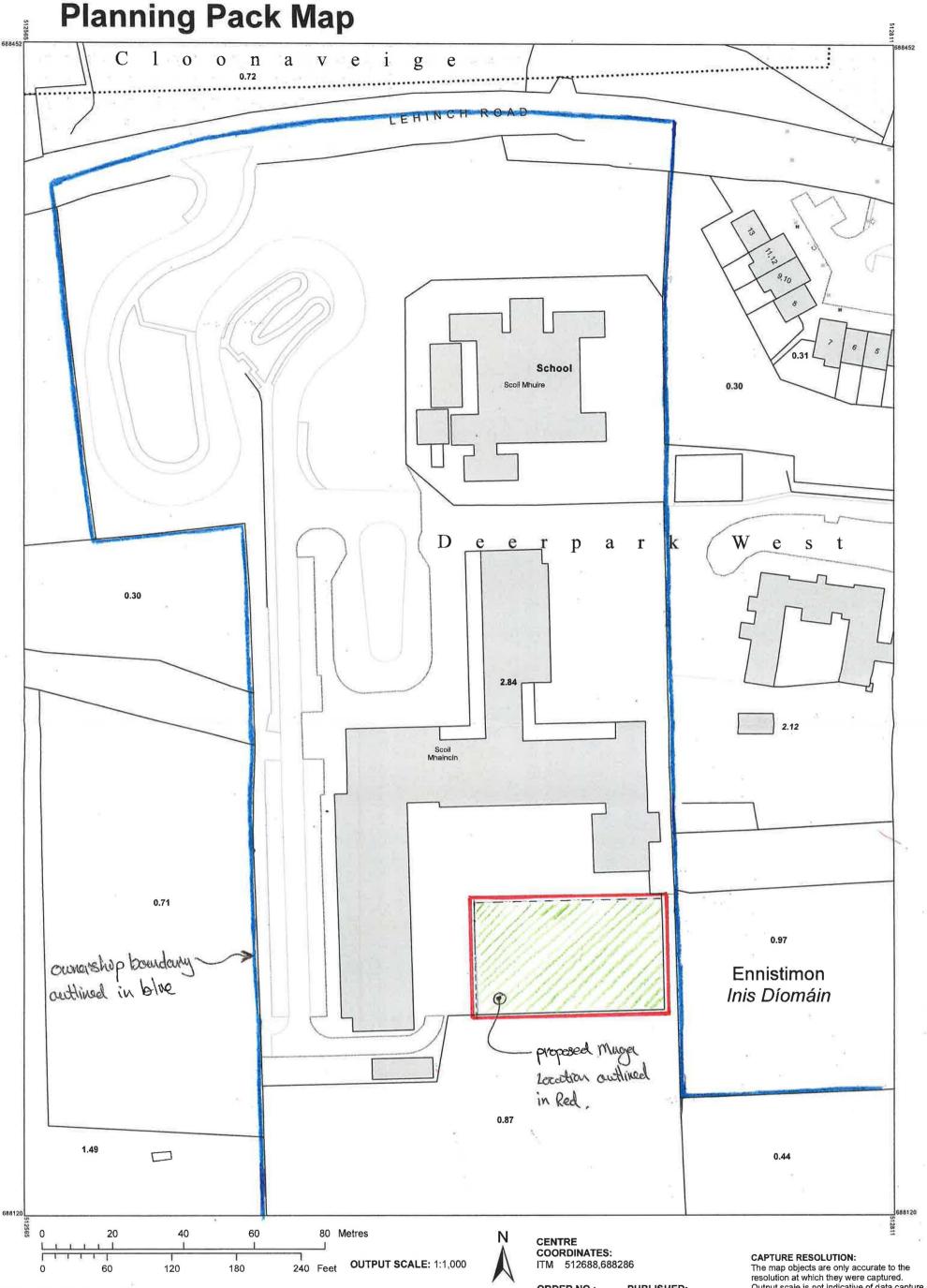












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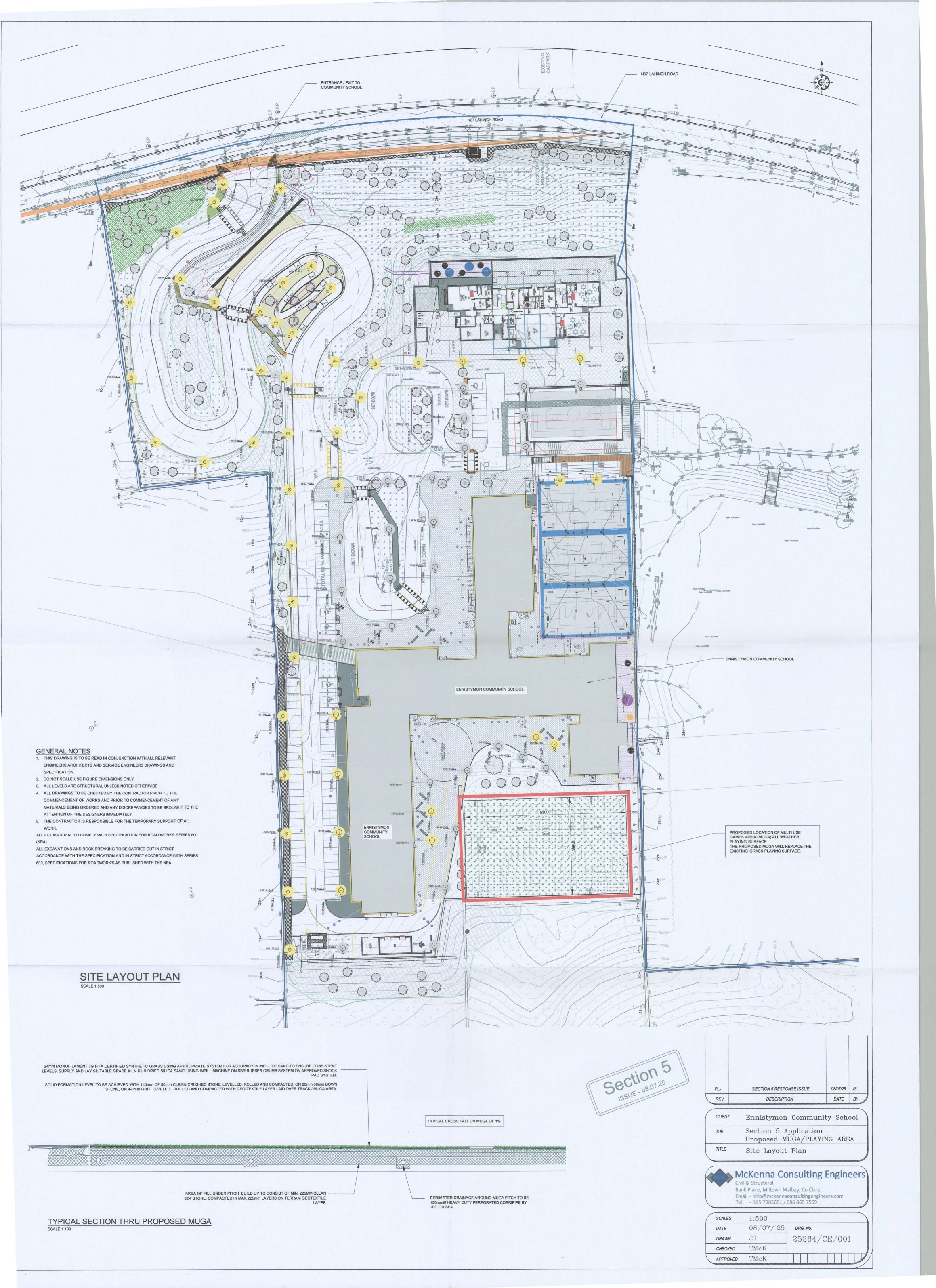
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LEGEND:To view the legend visit www.tailte,ie and search for 'Large Scale Legend'







Ennistymon Community School Lahinch Road Ennistymon Co. Clare V95 YP46

23/06/2025

Section 5 referral Reference R25-44 - Ennistymon Community School

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I wish to advise that in accordance with Section 5 (2) (b) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000, as amended, the following further information is required:

- 1 (a) Please arrange to submit scaled drawings of the proposed development (site layout plan scale 1: 500 and, other drawings scale 1: 100, cross sections etc.) and the description of the full nature and extent of the works proposed, extent of a drainage works, provision of a sub-base, provision of a levelling layer etc and clarify if any associated works such as fencing and lighting are proposed. If so, please provide details of such fencing and lighting.
- (b) It is not clear from the details received how the all-weather pitch is to be drained. i.e. attenuated on site or drained to outfall to the Inagh River estuary SAC. Please indicate details of surface water drainage for the pitch.

Mise, le meas

Anne O'Gorman

Staff Officer

Planning Department

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An Roinn Pleanála An Stiúrthóireacht Forbairt Gheilleagrach

Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Planning Department
Economic Development Directorate

Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2











COUNTY COUNCIL SECTION 5 DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION APPLICATION PLANNERS REPORT

FILE REF:

R25-44

APPLICANT(S):

Ennistymon Community School

RE:

Whether the development of an all-weather pitch is development

and if so is it exempted development.

LOCATION:

Ennistymon County Clare

DUE DATE:

25th June 25

Recent Planning History on Site

07/369

Ennistymon primary school

Permission granted for the installation of 4 no. prefabricated temporary structures to provide additional classroom, and ancillary accommodation, and the installation of tarmacadam to form an additional play area

17/603

The Dept of Education and Skills. Permission granted_or development at this subject site (site area 4.9 hectares). The development will consist of: (a) The Demolition of the existing single storey Scoil Mhuire Post Primary School Buildings (1694m2) and the existing two storey Scoil Mhainchín Primary School Buildings (878m2); (b) Construction of new 3-storey Post Primary School with connected Sports Hall (8678m2), 2-storey Primary School (1341m2), new internal road with set-down areas for buses and cars, ESB substation, switch room, ancillary store rooms, boiler house, car parking (96 Nr spaces), ball courts, landscaping and associated site works; (c) New site entrance from Lahinch Road (N67) and new boundary treatment; (d) New vehicular traffic lane and associated road works at the junction of proposed site entrance and Lahinch Road (N67), Ennistymon, Co. Clare. The total development area is circa 10,224 m2

History on the site of the primary school

95/1138

Scoil Mhuire. Permission granted for the Construct two classroom extension and ancillary amenities and services.

The Board of Management of Scoil Mhuire Convent of Mercy Permission granted for the installation of a temporary prefabricated classroom with associated site works

13/602

Scoil Mhuire Convent of Mercy

Retention granted for the RETENTION and continued use of the temporary prefabricated classroom with associated site works installed under planning permission P07-1239

Background to Referral

The applicant is seeking a Section 5 Declaration as to whether the development of an all weather pitch is development or is not development and is or is not exempted development.

The applicant has submitted:

- An application form
- A site location map scale 1: 100 with the location of the proposed astro pitch outlined in red and the site of the primary school outlined in red and a larger school complex outlined in blue.
- There are no details of the proposed works.
- No cross section drawings, no details of fencing and or lighting and no details of surface water management proposals.
- There is no description of the extent of the works proposed and no description of the ground where it is proposed to locate the facility i.e. is it grassed, concrete etc.

Statutory Provisions

Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)

In order to assess this proposal, regard has to be had to the *Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended*.

S.3.(1) In this Act, "development" means, except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land.

'Works' are defined in Section 2 of the *Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended* as follows:

"works" includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the

application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure.

Planning & Development Regulations, 2001, as amended

Article 6 refers to Exempted Development and states that subject to Article 9, development of a class specified in column 1 of Part 3 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 3 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1.

Class 33.

Development for amenity or recreational purposes.

Development for the laying out and use of land for :

- (a)As a park, private open space, or ornamental garden
- (b)As a road side shrine (subject to limitations)
- (c) Or athletic or sports (other than golf or pitch and putt, or sports involving the use of motor vehicles, aircraft, or fire arms) where no charge is made for admission of the public to the land.

There are no conditions or limitations attaching to item C.

Exempted development within the curtilage of a school

CLASS 40

Works incidental to the use or maintenance of any burial ground, churchyard, monument, fairgreen, market, schoolgrounds or showground except—

- (a) the erection or construction of any wall, fence or gate bounding or abutting on a public road,
- (b) the erection or construction of any building, other than a stall or store which is wholly enclosed within a market building, or
- (c) the reconstruction or alteration of any building, other than a stall or store which is wholly enclosed within a market building.

Other developments considered exempted development in the curtilage of school grounds relates to renewable energy etc.

Under Article 9 (1) of the same Regulations, 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 compromise 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,
- (vii) 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 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.

Assessment

Basis of Referral

The applicant is seeking a Section 5 Declaration as to whether the provision of the development of an all weather pitch is development and is or is not exempted development.

Similar proposals were deemed not exempted development under R 22/26 (in the grounds of Miltown Malbay school). An Bord Pleanala decision under RL 3803 is also noted.

Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

Class 33 Development for Amenity and Recreational purposes:

Development for the laying out and use of land for

- (a) As a park, private open space, or ornamental garden
- (b) As a road side shrine (subject to limitations)

(c) Or athletic or sports (other than golf or pitch and putt, or sports involving the use of motor vehicles, aircraft, or fire arms) where no charge is made for admission of the public to the land.

There are no conditions or limitations attaching to item C.

Article 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended

Article 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended outlines restrictions on exempted development, and these are assessed below:

- (i) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act.
 N/A It is noted that ball courts were proposed under 17/603 but there is no condition preventing the provision of all weather pitches.
- (ii) consist of or compromise 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,

N/A

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

N/A

(iv) 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.

No adverse impacts envisaged.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

 (vi) 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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(vii)

a. 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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

b. comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord 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,

Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development, and the potential connectivity to the Inagh River Estuary SAC European Site, Appropriate Assessment issues may arise. It is considered that the proposed development may be likely to have a significant effect individually or in combination with other plans or projects, on a European Site. An appropriate assessment screening report and determination is attached to this report. In this regard I note that there were no conditions regarding management of surface water specified under pl17/603. I note that proposals for surface water management were described as follows:

The surface water management plan 'includes a large surface water attenuation storage area to the east of the proposed access that discharges to an existing surface water outfall to the northern side of the Lahinch Road (and ultimately into the Cullenagh River)' which flows in the Inagh River estuary SAC.

It is not clear if it is intended that the surface water coming from the all weather pitch will be drained to a separate on site soak away or will be connected to the drain system which outfalls to the Inagh River estuary SAC.

c. 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."

No adverse impacts envisaged.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(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,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(xi) obstruct any public right of way,

This is not applicable in this instance.

(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.

This is not applicable in this instance.

The provision of an astro turf / all weather pitches are generally not considered to come within the term 'The laying out and use of land... for athletics or sports' because the works that would be associated with constructing an astro-pitch on a green field site would include drainage works, provision of a sub-base, provision of a levelling layer etc and would be outside of the scope of the description of merely 'laying out'. In this instance the location of the pitch is on a grassed area of the site. It is not clear if drainage works are already in place under the grass for the facility or whether new excavation works will be required. The laying of the all weather surface is not considered maintenance of the school grounds. In addition is not clear if fencing and or lighting are proposed which may be development in their own right. The development of an all weather pitch area is therefore considered to be development and not to be exempted development for the purposes of these Regulations.

Conclusion

Having regard to the provisions of class 33 and class 40, the location of the site in close proximity to the Inagh River estuary SAC, the lack of clarity regarding proposal for surface water management, the extent and nature of the works required to construct an all weather pitch fall outside the scope of ' laying out' of land for sports. Further information will be requested

Recommendation

I recommend requesting further information as follows:

1 (a)Please arrange to submit scaled drawings of the proposed development (site layout plan scale 1: 500 and , other drawings scale 1: 100, cross sections etc) and the description of the full nature and extent of the works proposed, extent of a drainage works, provision of a sub-base, provision of a levelling layer etc and clarify if any associated works such as fencing and lighting are proposed. If so, please provide details of such fencing and lighting.

(b) It is not clear from the details received how the all-weather pitch is to be drained. i.e. attenuated on site or drained to outfall to the Inagh River estuary SAC. Please indicate details of surface water drainage for the pitch.

Executive Planner
Date: 23 cd Tue 25.

Senior Executive Planner

Date:

Appropriate Assessment & Determination

STEP 1. Description of the project/proposal and local site characteristics:			
(a) File Reference No:	R25- 44		
(b) Brief description of the project or plan	: Development of an all weather pitch in school grounds		
(c) Brief description of site characteristics	: Grass		
(d) Relevant prescribed bodies consulted: e.g. DHLGH (NPWS), EPA, OPW	None		
(e) Response to consultation:	None		

STEP 2. Identification of relevant Natura 2000 sites using Source-Pathway-Receptor model and compilation of information on Qualifying Interests and conservation objectives.				
European Site (code)	List of Qualifying Interest/Special Conservation Interest ¹	Distance from proposed development ² (km)	Connections (Source- Pathway- Receptor)	Considered further in screening Y/N
Inagh River estuary SAC	Annex I Habitats • Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand [1310] • Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) [1330] • Mediterranean salt meadows Juncetalia	230m to the north as the crow flies	None	No

maritime) [1410] • Shifting dunes along the
shoreline with Ammophila arenaria (white dunes) [2120] • *Fixed coastal dunes along the shoreline with herbaceous vegetation (grey
dunes) [2130

¹ Short paraphrasing and/or cross reference to NPWS is acceptable – it is not necessary to reproduce the full text on the QI/SCI.

(a) Identify all potential direct and indirect impacts that may have an effect on the conservation objectives of a European site, taking into account the size and scale of the project under the following headings: Impacts: Possible Significance of Impacts: (duration/magnitude etc.) Construction phase e.g. Vegetation clearance Demolition Surface water runoff from soil excavation/infill/landscaping (including borrow pits) Dust, noise, vibration

² If the site or part thereof is within the European site or adjacent to the European site, state here.

- Lighting disturbance
- Impact on groundwater/dewatering
- Storage of excavated/construction materials
- Access to site
- Pests

Operational phase e.g.

- Direct emission to air and water
- Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment
- Lighting disturbance
- Noise/vibration
- Changes to water/groundwater due to drainage or abstraction
- Presence of people, vehicles and activities
- Physical presence of structures (e.g. collision risks)
- Potential for accidents or incidents

In-combination/Other

 Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment

Unknown

(b) Describe any likely changes to the European site:

Examples of the type of changes to give consideration to include:

- Reduction or fragmentation of habitat area
- Disturbance to QI species
- Habitat or species fragmentation
- Reduction or fragmentation in species density
- Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc.)
- Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI

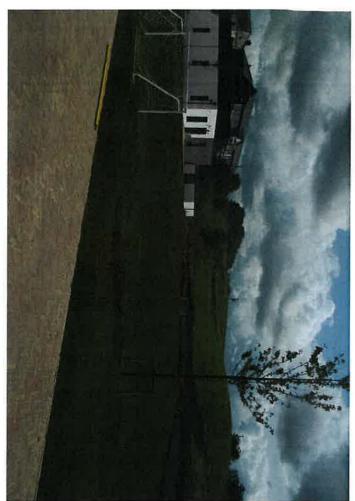
- Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc.)
- Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI

	ological			
(c) Are 'mitigation' measures necessary to reach a conclusion that likely significant effects can be ruled out at screening?				
Yes No	Uı	nknown		
Step 4. Scr	eening Determ	Ination Statement		
The assessment of significance of	f effects:			
Describe how the proposed devel significant effects on European significant		or in-combination) is/is not likely to have its conservation objectives.		
Nature of works are not clear and in the absence of detail including proposals for				
curface water management the	Dlanning Auth	arity cannot conclude that the		
	be likely to hav	ority cannot conclude that the ve significant effects on European site(s)		
	be likely to hav			
proposed development will not in view of its conservation object Conclusion: The proposed development	be likely to had lives. opment is not li	ve significant effects on European site(s) kely to have significant effects on		
proposed development will not in view of its conservation object	be likely to had lives. opment is not li	ve significant effects on European site(s) kely to have significant effects on		
proposed development will not in view of its conservation object Conclusion: The proposed development	be likely to had lives. opment is not li	ve significant effects on European site(s) kely to have significant effects on		
proposed development will not in view of its conservation object Conclusion: The proposed development	be likely to have ives. ppment is not lineservation object.	kely to have significant effects on ectives.		

• Interference with the key relationships

		Refuse planning permission
(iii) Significant effects are likely.		Request NIS
		Refuse planning permission
Signature and Date of Recommending Officer:	23 rd June 25	
	Name: Elle	en Carey E.P.
Signature and Date of the Decision Maker:		

















Ennistymon Community School Lahinch Road **Ennistymon** Co. Clare V95 YP46

30/05/2025

Section 5 referral Reference R25-44 - Ennistymon Community School

is the development of an all-weather pitch development and if so, is it exempted development?

A Chara,

I refer to your application received on 30th May 2025 under Section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) in relation to the above.

Please note that the Planning Authority is considering the matter and a reply will issue to you in due course.

Mise, le meas

Planning Department

Economic Development Directorate

An Roinn Pleanála An Stiúrthóireacht Forbairt Gheilleagrach

6 065 6828233

Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Planning Department Economic Development Directorate

Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2















Clare County Council ARLE
Aras Contae an Chlair
New Road
Ennis
Co Clare

30/05/2025 09:55:15

Receipt No.: L1CASH/0/379562
****** REPRINT *****

ENNISTYMON COMMUNITY SCHOOL LAHINCH'ROAD ENNISTYMON CO CLARE V95 YP46REF R25-44

SECTION 5 REFERENCES GOODS 80.00 VAT Exempt/Non-vatable

Total:

80.00 EUR

80.00

Tendered:
CHEQUES | M | A 80.00 |

Change:

CONTAE

Issued By: L1CASH - Rachael Barrett
From: MAIN CASH-OFFICE LODGEMENT AF

Vat reg No.0033043E

P07

CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR

Planning Department, Economic Development Directorate, Clare County Council, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare. V95DXP2 Telephone No. (065) 6821616 Fax No. (065) 6892071 Email: planoff@clarecoco.ie Website: www.clarecoco.ie



Comhairle Contae an Chlair Clare County Council

R25-44

REQUEST FOR A DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT (Section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended))

FEE: €80

This following form is a non-statutory form which has been prepared by Clare County Council for the purpose of obtaining the necessary information required for a declaration to be made under Section 5 by the Planning Authority

1.	CORRESPONDENCE DETA	ILS.
(a)	Name and Address of person seeking the declaration	ENDISTYMEN COMMUNITY SCHOOL Latinate Pol Lahinch Rd
(b)	Telephone No.:	
(c)	Email Address:	e v
(d)	Agent's Name and address:	N/A.

2. DETAILS REGARDING DECLARATION BEING SOUGHT
(a) PLEASE STATE THE SPECIFIC QUESTION FOR WHICH A DECLARATION IS SOUGHT Note: only works listed and described under this section will be assessed.
Sample Question: Is the construction of a shed at 1 Main St., Ennis development and if so is it exempted development?
Is the development of All weather pirch except from planning permission?
low planning possission?
(b) Provide a full description of the question/matter/subject which arises wherein a declaration of the question is sought. Weather MUGA Pitch.
(c) List of plans, drawings etc. submitted with this request for a declaration: (Note: Please provide a site location map to a scale of not less than 1:2500 based on Ordnance Survey map for the areas, to identify the lands in question)
Site location ordanage somey map x 2

3. DETAILS RE: PROPERTY/SITE/BUILDING FOR WHICH DECLARATION IS SOUGHT				
(a)	Postal Address of the Property/Site/Building for which the declaration sought:	Lahinch Road Fruistyman Clare V95 YP46		
(b)	Do the works in question affect a Protected Structure or are within the curtilage of a Protected Structure? If yes, has a Declaration under Section 57 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) been requested or issued for the property by the Planning Authority?	No		
(c)	Legal interest in the land or structure in question of the person requesting the declaration (Give Details):	No		
(d)	If the person in (c) above is not the owner and/or occupier, state the name and address of the owner of the property in question:	W A		
	Note: Observations in relation to a referral may be requested from the owner/occupier where appropriate.			
(e)	Is the owner aware of the current request for a Declaration under Section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended)?:	Tes		
(f)	Are you aware of any enforcement proceedings connected to this site? If so please supply details:	Wo		
(g)	Were there previous planning application/s on this site? If so please supply details:	No		
(h)	Date on which 'works' in question were completed/are likely to take place:	NIA		

SIGNED

DATE: 28/5/2025.

GUIDANCE NOTES

This following are non-statutory advice notes prepared by Clare County Council for the purpose of advising people what information is required for a decision to be made under Section 5 by the Planning Authority

- (i) The request for a declaration under Section 5 must be accompanied by 2 copies of site location map based on the Ordnance Survey map for the area of a scale not less than 1:1000 in urban areas and 1:2500 in rural areas and should clearly identify the site in question.
- (ii) The request for a declaration under Section 5 must be accompanied by the required fee of €80.00.
- (iii) If submitting any additional plans/reports etc. as part of the request for a declaration, please submit 2 copies.
- (iv) The request for a declaration should be sent to the following address:

Planning Department,
Economic Development Directorate,
Clare County Countil
Aras Contae an Chlair,
New Road,
Ennis,
Co. Clare
V95DXP2

- (v) Notwithstanding the completion of the above form, the Planning Authority may require the submission of further information with regard to the request in order to enable the Authority to issue a declaration on the question.
- (vi) The Planning Authority may also request other persons to submit information on the question which has arisen and on which the declaration is sought

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			Many 113 one of
Date Received:		Fee Paid:	
Date Acknowledged:		Reference No.:	
Date Declaration made:		CEO No.:	
Decision:	***************************************		

