

OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL

DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000, AS AMENDED

REFERENCE: DEC 23/38

NAME OF APPLICANT: JOHN TREACY

ADDRESS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE: CLONLISK, SHINRONE, BIRR, CO. OFFALY.

NATURE OF APPLICATION: REQUEST FOR DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000, AS AMENDED AS TO WHETHER THE PROPOSED WORKS OF RENOVATIONS TO DOORS, WINDOWS, PLUMBING, ELECTRICS, NEW YARD, WELL, NEW KITCHEN, STOVE, FLOORS, TILING AND OUTSIDE WORKS CONSISTING OF NEW PATHS AROUND EXISTING DWELLING IS OR IS NOT DEVELOPMENT AND IS OR IS NOT EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT.

LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT: CLONLISK, SHINRONE, BIRR, CO. OFFALY

**WHEREAS** a question has arisen as to whether the proposed works of renovations to doors, windows, plumbing, electrics, new yard, well, new kitchen, stove, floors, tiling and outside works consisting of new paths around existing dwelling is or is not development and is or is not exempted development at Clonlisk, Shinrone, Birr, Co. Offaly.

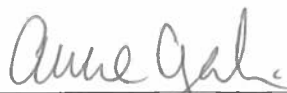
**AND WHEREAS** the Planning Authority, in considering this declaration request, had regard particularly to-

- a) Section 2, 3(1) and 4(1)(h), 4(2)(a)(i) of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended.
- b) Article 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.
- c) Schedule 2, Part 1, Class 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.

**AND WHEREAS** Offaly County Council has concluded that the proposed works is **development** and is **exempted development**.

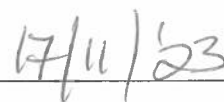
**NOW THEREFORE** Offaly County Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), hereby decides that the renovations to doors, windows, plumbing, electrics, new yard, well, new kitchen, stove, floors, tiling and outside works consisting of new paths around dwelling as to renovate an existing dwelling house **is development and is exempted development** at Clonlisk, Shinrone, Co. Offaly, R42 CF74.

**MATTERS CONSIDERED** In making its decision, the Planning Authority had regard to those matters to which, by virtue of the Planning and Development Acts and regulations made thereunder, it was required to have regard. Such matters included any submissions and observations received by it in accordance with statutory provisions.



Administrative Officer

Date



**Note:** Any person issued with a Declaration may on payment to An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 2 of such fees as may be described refer a declaration for review by the board within four weeks of the issuing of the Declaration.



## Planning Report

### Section 5 Declaration

<b>File Reference:</b>	<i>Dec. 23/38</i>
<b>Question:</b>	<i>Whether the proposed works of renovations to doors, windows, plumbing, electrics, new yard, well, new kitchen, stove, floors, tiling and outside works consisting of new paths around dwelling to existing dwelling house is or is or is not development and if so, are they exempted development?</i>
<b>Applicant:</b>	<i>John Treacy</i>
<b>Correspondence Address:</b>	<i>Clonlisk, Shinrone, Birr, Co. Offaly.</i>
<b>Location:</b>	<i>Clonlisk, Shinrone, Co. Offaly, R42 CF74.</i>

#### 1. Introduction

The question has arisen as to whether the proposed works of renovations to doors, windows, plumbing, electrics, new yard, well, new kitchen, stove, floors, tiling and outside works consisting of new paths around dwelling is or is or is not development and if so, are they exempted development.

#### 2. Background

The existing detached, one storey dwelling house is located in the countryside, approximately 1.2km from Clonlisk National School.



*Photo 1: Subject Site.*

### 3. Site History



No relevant planning or enforcement history.

### 4. Legislative Context

In order to assess whether or not the proposed works constitute exempted development, regard must be had to the following items of legislation:

#### Statutory Provisions

**Section 2 (1) Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, states as follows:**

*“house” means a building or part of a building which is being or has been occupied as a dwelling or was provided for use as a dwelling but has not been occupied, and where appropriate, includes a building which was designed for use as 2 or more dwellings or a flat, an apartment or other dwelling within such a building;*

*“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.*

**Section 3 (1) Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, defines development.**

*“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.*

## Section 4 - Exempted Development

Section 4 (1) (a) – (l) sets out what is exempted development for the purposes of this Act including:

- (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 and 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 neighbouring structures.*

Section 4 (2) (a) - The Minister may by regulations provide for any class of development to be exempted development for the purposes of this Act where he or she is of the opinion that -

- (i) *by reason of the size, nature or limited effect on its surroundings, of development belonging to that class, the carrying out of such development would not offend against principles of proper planning and sustainable development.*

### Regulatory Provisions

Article 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) states, *inter alia*, that:

*“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”.*

Schedule 2 – Exempted Development, Part I - Development Within the Curtilage of a House, Class 6 specifies:

CLASS 6 (a) The construction of any path, drain or pond or the carrying out of any landscaping works within the curtilage of a house.

*Subject to*

The level of the ground shall not be altered by more than 1 metre above or below the level of the adjoining ground.

### 5. Proposal by Applicants

The Applicant has advised proposed works of renovations to doors, windows, plumbing, electrics, new yard, well, new kitchen, stove, floors, tiling and outside works consisting of new paths around dwelling to existing dwelling house.

Brief details as follows:

**Completions;**

- Apply external wall insulation to dwelling and finish with plasterwork.
- Replace external windows and doors and fit new triple glazed windows and pvc doors.
- Remove internal doors, skirting and architrave and replace with new doors, skirting and architrave.
- Painting & decoration.
- Roof pump house.

**Finishes;**

- Check existing roof tiles and replace where broken or missing tiles.
- Remove timber soffit, fascia and downpipes and fit new pvc soffit, fascia and downpipe.
- Fit down lighting in soffit.
- Wall and floor tiling in bathroom.

**Services**

Plumbing.

- Remove all existing radiators and pipework and replace with new ones.
- Fit thermostates on all radiators.
- Fit new grant stove.

Electrical.

Check all electrical wiring, sockets and replace new fuse board.  
Instal smoke alarms.

**Fittings;**

- Fit new kitchen units
- Tile and grout floor.

**External Works;**

- Lay new concrete paths around dwelling.
- Clean up all unwanted rubble and leave in clean manner.

## 6. Evaluation

**Question: *Whether the proposed works (as listed) to the existing dwelling are development and if so, are they exempted development?***

In considering the proposed works against the definitions of 'development' and 'works' as provided in the Act, it is the view of the Planning Authority that the proposed works are deemed as development as it includes refurbishments and alterations to the existing dwelling.

**Question: *Is this proposal considered as Exempted Development?***

With regard to the proposed works which are described in the submitted documents, the Planning Authority are satisfied that the proposed works would not result in a material alteration to the appearance of the dwelling and would not be inconsistent with the character of area. It is the opinion of the planning authority that these works meet the criteria of exempt development under regulatory provisions.

An appropriate assessment screening has been carried out see attached.

## 7. Conclusion

It is recommended that the Applicant be advised that the proposed development is **development** and is **exempted development**.

**Declaration on Development and Exempted Development**

**Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)**

**WHEREAS** a question has arisen as to whether the proposed works of renovations to doors, windows, plumbing, electrics, new yard, well, new kitchen, stove, floors, tiling and outside works consisting of new paths around dwelling is or is or is not development and if so, are they exempted development at Clonlisk, Shinrone, Co. Offaly, R42 CF74.

**AS INDICATED** on the particulars received by the Planning Authority on the 23<sup>th</sup> October 2023,

**AND WHEREAS** John Treacy requested a declaration on the said question from Offaly County Council;

**AND WHEREAS** Offaly County Council, in considering this declaration request, had regard particularly to:

- (a) Section 2, 3(1) and 4(1)(h), 4(2)(a)(i) of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended.
- (b) Article 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.
- (c) Schedule 2, Part 1, Class 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended

**AND WHEREAS** Offaly County Council has concluded that the proposed works is development and is exempted development.

**NOW THEREFORE** Offaly 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:

- Renovations to doors, windows, plumbing, electrics, new yard, well, new kitchen, stove, floors, tiling and outside works consisting of new paths around dwelling as to renovate an existing dwelling house is **development** and is **exempted development** at Clonlisk, Shinrone, Co. Offaly, R42 CF74.

*Please note that any person issued with a declaration under subsection 2(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) may on payment to the Board of the prescribed fee, refer a declaration to An Bord Pleanála within 4 weeks of the issuing of the decision.*



Enda Dolan  
Graduate Planner

15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

*Ed Kelly*

Ed Kelly

(A/Senior Executive Planner)

Date 16/11/2023

### APPENDIX A

#### APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT FOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS



Screening is used to determine if an AA is necessary by examining:

- If the plan / project is directly connected with / necessary to the management of the European site.
- If the effects will be significant on a European site in view of its conservation objectives, either alone / in combination with other plans / projects.

Planning Authority: OCC

Planning Application Ref. No: DEC 23/38

(A) DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND LOCAL SITE:			
Proposed development:	Whether the proposed works of restoring an existing dwelling house is or is or is not development and if so, are they exempted development.		
Site location:	Clonlisk, Shinrone, Co. Offaly, R42 CF74.		
Site size:	0.03 hectares	Floor Area of Proposed Development:	N/A
Identification of nearby European Site(s):	Sharavogue Bog SAC – 4.51km		
Distance to European Site(s):	As above – all as crow flies		
The characteristics of existing, proposed or other approved plans / projects which may cause interactive / cumulative impacts with the project being assessed and which may affect the European site:	None		
Is the application accompanied by an EIAR?			No: X
(B) IDENTIFICATION OF THE RELEVANT EUROPEAN SITE(S):			
The reasons for the designation of the European site(s):	Sharavogue Bog SAC – Features of interest include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• [7110] Raised Bog (Active)*</li><li>• [7120] Degraded Raised Bog</li></ul>		



- [7150] Rhynchosporion Vegetation

The conservation objectives / qualifying interests of the site and the factors that contributes to the conservation value of the site: (which are taken from the European site synopses and, if applicable, a Conservation Management Plan; all available on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)) (ATTACH INFO.)

Site Name: Sharavogue Bog SAC Site Code: 000585  
<https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/protected-sites/synopsis/SY000585.pdf>

**(C) NPWS ADVICE:**

Advice received from NPWS over phone:	None Received
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Summary of advice received from NPWS in written form (ATTACH SAME):	None Received
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**(D) ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS:**

*(The purpose of this is to identify if the effect(s) identified could be significant – if uncertain assume the effect(s) are significant).*

If the answer is 'yes' to any of the questions below, then the effect is significant. (Please justify your answer. 'Yes' / 'No' alone is insufficient)


<b>Would there be...</b> ... any impact on an Annex 1 habitat? (Annex 1 habitats are listed in Appendix 1 of AA Guidance).	Not likely due to the location and type of development. The site is sufficient distance from the European site.
... a reduction in habitat area on a European site?	There will be no reduction in the habitat area. The site is sufficient distance from the European site.
... direct / indirect damage to the physical quality of the environment (e.g. water quality and supply, soil compaction) in the European site?	Not likely due to the location and type of development. The site is sufficient distance from the European site.
... serious / ongoing disturbance to species / habitats for which the European site is selected (e.g. because of increased noise, illumination and human activity)?	Not likely due to the location and type of development. The site is sufficient distance from the European site.
... direct / indirect damage to the size, characteristics or reproductive ability of populations on the European site?	None likely due to the location and type of development. The site is sufficient distance from the European site.
Would the project interfere with mitigation measures put in place for other plans / projects. [Look at <i>in-combination effects</i> with completed, approved but not completed, and proposed plans / projects. Look at projects / plans within and adjacent to European sites and identify them]. Simply stating that there are no cumulative impacts' is insufficient.	No other plans known of in the vicinity of the site. The site is sufficient distance from the European site.

**(E) SCREENING CONCLUSION:**

**Screening can result in:**

1.	AA is not required because the project is directly connected with / necessary to the nature conservation management of the site.
2.	No potential for significant effects / AA is not required.
3.	Significant effects are certain, likely or uncertain. (In this situation seek a Natura Impact Statement from the applicant, or reject the project. Reject if too potentially damaging / inappropriate.

Therefore, does the project fall into category 1, 2 or 3 above?	Category 2
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Justify why it falls into relevant category above:	There would be no likely significant impact on the European site from the proposed development due to the scale of the proposed development and the separation distance between the subject site and European Site.		
Name:	Enda Dolan 		
Position:	Graduate Planner	Date:	15 <sup>th</sup> November 2023