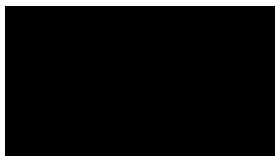


To: The Secretary,  
An Bord Pleanála,  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1

2/9/2019

From:



<b>AN BORD PLEANÁLA</b>	
LDG-	018 947-19
ABP-	
05 SEP 2019 2019	
Fee: €	50 Type: cash
Time:	13:35 By: hand

Broadmeadow Way - Case Reference: PL06F.304624

Dear Sirs,

I am from a West Cork farming background but have settled with my wife and young children in Donabate. We welcome improvements to facilities in and around Donabate and look forward greatly to the completion of a Donabate/Malahide walking/cycling route.

In studying the plans for the Broadmeadow Way I was very surprised by the decision to have the Donabate end of the route at the car park at Newbridge House.

The Council makes claims that the project will help reduce car traffic and increase pedestrian use of Donabate village. However, by ending the route at Newbridge house, this will automatically mean that most of the walkers/cyclists using the route from this end will arrive by car. As a result car traffic in and around Donabate will be increased. At the moment, there are only two single carriageway roads to access Donabate/Portrane (i.e. Hearse Road and Turvey Avenue). Traffic on both of these routes is extremely heavy at peak times and traffic volumes continue to increase with the scale of the current housing developments in the area.

One of the great benefits for Donabate residents of the new route to Malahide would be to enable a quick connection with DART services which are far better than the train service available in Donabate. By having the Donabate end of the cycle route at Newbridge House, and not in the main population centre of Donabate, the journey for Donabate based cyclists to Malahide DART station will be longer than is necessary. For regular commuters each extra km on the journey is likely to be 10 extra km each week. This will discourage cyclists' use of the route.

In addition, the car parking facilities in Newbridge House are already at maximum capacity at peak times. This increased demand will naturally lead to increased pressure on car parking facilities in the park.

Based on these concerns I would urge that the route end in the main population centre of Donabate and not in Newbridge House.

In addition, I have a significant concern around the decision to put the proposed route through a working farm. I also see that it is proposed to have crossing points installed to enable passage of farm animals and farm machinery across the route.

Given my background I understand how negatively this will impact the farm in question but my main concern, as a resident of Donabate, arises for the safety of walkers/cyclists using the route. Given that there will be a number of

on-farm points at which cattle/machinery will cross the route it is clear that there will be manure on the route. Will there be some requirement on the farmer (or council?) to clear this on a regular basis? If so how often will it be done and how long could manure remain on the route before being cleared away?

I note that the farm in question is not currently a dairy farm, but I assume there would be nothing that could stop dairying activity which would probably result in manure on the route twice a day.

**Having a cycle/walking route that is regularly used by farm animals and/or machinery will significantly detract from the attractiveness of the route for families and tourists (i.e. safety and cleanliness concerns).**

As it happens the route cuts through the farm to get to Newbridge House car park.

By opting to end the route in the centre of Donabate (by following the train line) the health and safety risk to walkers/cyclists arising from passage through an active farm will be eliminated. For these reasons I would urge that An Bord Pleanála approve Broadmeadow Way only on condition that the Donabate end of the route be in the centre of Donabate and that no part of the route should cut through any working farm.

I will, if possible, make myself available for any oral hearing on this matter.

Yours Sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Aylwyn Bryan