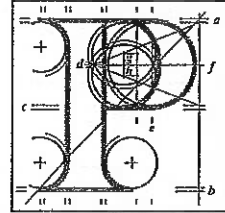


Our Case Number: ABP-311315-21



An
Bord
Pleanála

Baldoye United Football Club
Dermot Penrose - Chairman
Brookstone Road
Baldoye
Dublin 13

Date: 01 November 2021

Re: Park development project at the Racecourse Park
Located between Baldoye and Portmarnock, Co. Dublin

Dear Sir,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter.

Please note that the proposed development shall not be carried out unless the Board has approved it with or without modifications.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

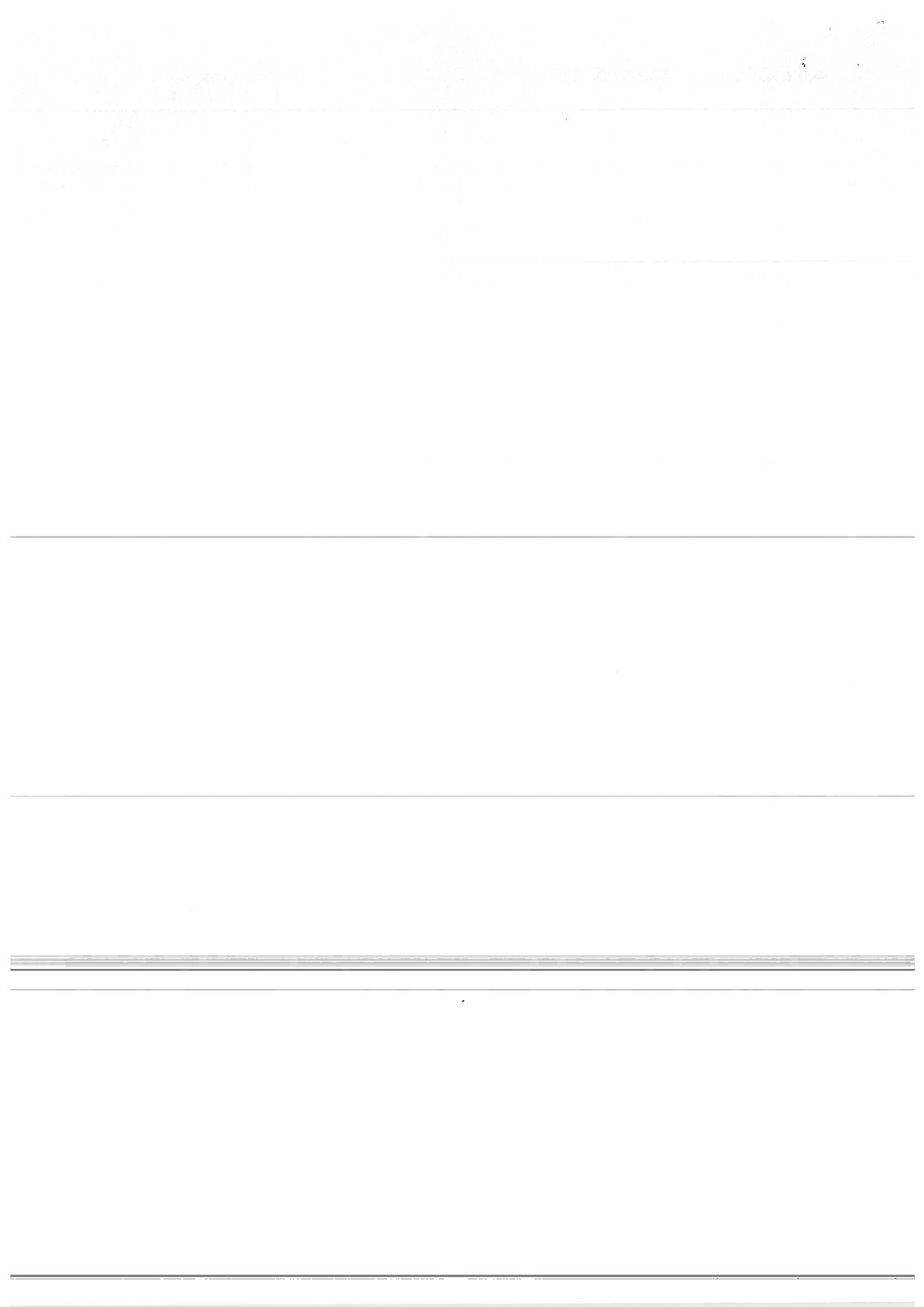

Jennifer Sherry

Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737266

AA02

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D01 V902	D01 V902





Baldoye United Football Club
Brookstone Road
Baldoye
Dublin 13

email baldoyeunited@yahoo.ie

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG-	04 5515-21
ABP-	311315-21
26 OCT 2021	
Fee: €	Type:
Time:	By: <u>LETTECROY</u>

20 October 2021

Submission from Baldoye United Football Club in relation to Racecourse Pk, Baldoye.

Club background

Baldoye United are the largest Sports Club in the Baldoye area with almost 600 playing members registered with the club. This year we have 37 teams from U8s to O35s, comprising 24 boys teams, 9 girls teams and 4 senior teams. We have a thriving junior Academy for 4-7yr old boys and girls with over a hundred players registered.

Baldoye United have received numerous awards over the last few years for our community work and for playing a leading role in promoting inclusivity, including
FAI Community Club of the year 2015
Fingal CC Community Group of the Year 2016
Fingal CC Sports Club of the Year 2016
Unite the Union Grassroots Club of the Year 2019

We have worked with Pearse House Direct Provision Centre and Baleskin Direct provision Centre to provide coaching and games for young residents at our Clubhouse and pitch on Brookstone Road. We have recently been awarded with the FAI Club Mark in recognition of our Best Practice in Governance, Management and Administration.

Concerns regarding the Proposal for Racecourse Park

Baldoye United have concerns that the new proposal for Racecourse Park does not fully address the needs of local Sports Clubs. The 4 new soccer pitches will be welcome and will alleviate the pressure we are currently under. We have had to cancel some games already this year as we have not got enough playing pitches in Baldoye. We currently use 4 different sites to play matches and this puts great strain on our equipment and volunteers. The 4 new pitches cannot come soon enough for Baldoye United

We are disappointed however that the provision of an All Weather pitch is not included on the Council lands. The proposed site in the plan is for land that Fingal CC do not own and is subject to future land acquisition. This is very much aspirational and there is no guarantee that this will ever be implemented.

The local sports clubs have no full size, floodlit all weather pitch in Baldoyle and have big struggles to provide winter training for our members. As things stand we are renting an All weather pitch provided by Dublin City Council for the Kilbarrack area 4 times per week. This puts the parents of the local Children under a lot of pressure to travel to and from Kilbarrack, as well as being an enormous drain on club finances and by extension the pockets of families of club members.

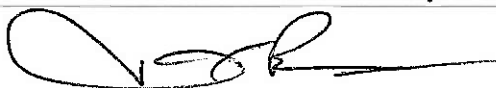
Planning permission was recently granted to Richmond Homes to build a further 2,200 housing units in the Coast development. With 3 or 4 residents per unit this means a potential increase of population of circa 6-8000 residents. The 2016 Census puts the population of Baldoyle at 7,549. The Richmond Homes development will double the population of Baldoyle. There are insufficient sports facilities for Baldoyle now.

Club Submission

Baldoyle Utd does not feel that the implications of the proposed development for Racecourse Park meet, or recognise, the requirements for proper planning and sustainable development. Racecourse Park is the biggest infrastructural investment the Council have made, or likely will make, in Baldoyle for generations. The All-Weather pitch is urgently needed for our Sports Clubs NOW. Not as some aspirational idea to be added to a wish list and certainly not when the population of Baldoyle has doubled as a result of the new Richmond Homes development. We need an Floodlit All-Weather pitch now. It must be included as part of the Racecourse Park plan not as an aspirational extra. The report by Sinead Begley & Assoc's into the Needs Assessment for Baldoyle recommended that an All-Weather pitch was needed in the area. This is not an aspiration, this is a necessity. The plan, as submitted, does not show proper planning for the needs of sports clubs in Baldoyle

Thank you for you time,

For and on behalf of Baldoyle Utd



Dermot Penrose
Chairman