

Hester scott

Mt Venus hse

Mt Venus Rd

Dublin 16

Hesterscott8@yahoo.ie

20 September 2017

Re: DUBLIN MOUNTAINS PROJECT. AN BORD PLEANALA APPLICATION (Ref: JAO040)

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am a resident of this area for over forty years and the plans for the development of this scheme concern me greatly. I wish to object to the current plans for the reasons outlined below.

Of major concern is the inadequacy of the biodiversity study. It is inaccurate in parts and impoverished in detail with extraordinary omissions. A multidisciplinary walk through study by apparently two people is totally unsatisfactory. There are more than two badger setts in Massy's, only one red squirrel drey was identified, while there are eight visible. Absolutely no birds referred to, no grasses, fungi mosses or lichens. No deer referred to.

Glendoo Brook. – Key Ecological Receptor.

I object that this waterway is to be used to receive and remove surface water from the carpark, hard surfaces of the very large development. The Glendoo Brook flows into the Owendoher and then into the Dodder, the catchment system described in the Environmental Impact report "exceptional in supporting" Atlantic salmon, sea trout, resident brown trout, other aquatic life as well as three species of lampreys in the brook itself. The Inland Fisheries Ireland on 20th Feb 2017 noted that it is vital that the salmonid water constraints apply to any developments in this area.

This waterway will be permanently damaged by use as a drain for the culverted run-off from the development at all stages, construction and operation. The passing of water through ponds and filtration will not remove residues from herbicides, car exhausts, dog excrement etc.

Biodiversity ch 6 6.2.4 page74.

Threat to Designated Sites

This development would, if built, endanger nearby ecologically important sites:

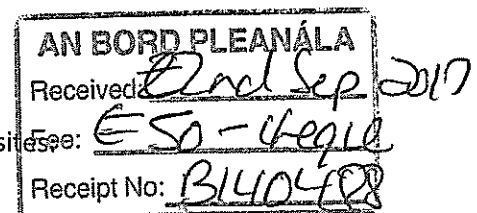
Glenasmole Valley (SAC) - 1.5 kms

Wicklow Mountains (SAC) - .8 kms

Wicklow mountains (SPA - 1.3 kms

Proposed Natural Heritage Area Glenasmole Valley - 1.5 kms

These sites are within the Zone Of Influence (2kms)



The report itself states on p 12 of the EIAR ch 2, " development at the site has the potential to affect these environs and environmental receptors"

a Destruction and deterioration of Habitats.

It is acknowledged in the EIAR that there will be loss of breeding habitat, degradation of natural necessary conditions, direct mortality and pollutions during the construction phase as well as later, particularly to smooth newts and common frogs, as well as red squirrels, bats etc. Therefore Long term Significant impact. However, it is stated, on a National or County Level Unimportant.

Hardstanding of 2000 sq metres will be in place when the scheme is completed, and unacceptable area in a fragile rural site. During construction there will be an increase in this area. A large surface runoff is expected, with huge amounts of silt, during this phase with extremely negative consequences, before ponds, swales and filtration is in place.

I also object to the scale of the Visitor Centre building, it's inappropriate domination of the site, and the Wow Factor stated to be desirable. Other similar buildings in Ireland and abroad seek to minimise the visual impact and seek to blend with the receiving environment sympathetically. It is stated it will be surfaced with granite. This granite will be sourced in China as there is no quarry in Ireland supplying granite to this requirement. The size of the café and the commercial imperatives with the associated retail areas, make this a worrying proposal. The enormous increase in car parking, visitor numbers, coaches, shuttle busses are completely out of scale. The approach road the plans for footpath, cycle lane with cyclists travelling up and down in the same path, provides for an extremely dangerous and unworkable system. Car traffic is projected to increase by over three hundred per cent, even before coaches, delivery, service vehicles, shuttle busses are factored in. Proposed lighting up to the development and lighting in the car park, bridge, security lighting around the building are to be deployed in a rural and environmentally sensitive region, adding even further to the light pollution of the city. The architects refer to this project more than once as a park and parkland. That is what this plan describes and plans to implement. This is unacceptable.

Add to this the totally inadequate consultation. Emails unreplyed to, myself & others. The fact that the Marketing Manager of Cottle was not away there was a second entrance to Massys Wood.

The ignoring by SDC of thousands of signatures confirming opposition to the development.

Hester Scott

Hester Scott.

