

# **Planning Report**

# Part 8 Planning Application: Development of an Extension to Existing Burial Ground at Duniry (Townland: Cartron), Loughrea, Co. Galway



01 Nov 2022

#### 1. Introduction

This planning report supports an application under Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations to develop an extension to the existing Burial Ground (BG) at Duniry (Townland: Cartron), Loughrea, County Galway. The report will provide a summary of the proposed development and comments regarding:

- a. Related policy considerations and,
- **b.** The projected impact of the proposed development.

#### 2. The Site

#### **Location**

The site is located adjacent to the Church of the Holy Family at Duniry, c.3 km WEST of Tynagh Village, in the townland of Cartron.







https://www.google.com/maps/@53.1473904,-8.4161736,3a,75y,145.6h,95.08t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sYCpxM09tRl1Pwx\_uHVzMDg!2e0!7 i16384!8i8192

The site proposed for the development covers approximately 0.1 Ha (0.25 acre) and forms the SOUTHERN part of a larger holding of approx. 0.2 Ha (0.5 acre) in the ownership of Galway County Council (PRA ID: GY40393F/C7EJ/1).

The NORTHERN part of the holding was developed as a BG circa 1992.

The SOUTHERN part of the holding is currently not in use.

The ground slopes gently from NORTH to SOUTH.





# **Adjoining Lands**

To the East:	Agricultural land
To the West:	Public Road (L-8234)
To the North:	Existing Burial Ground and Church of The Holy Family
To the South:	Agricultural land

# **Closest Private Dwellings**

There are a number of private dwellings in the vicinity of the proposed development.



# **Site History**

Screenshots below show the full extent of the site owned by GCC. However, only the NORTHERN half of site has been used for burials to date. A mesh / chain-link fence running EAST – WEST divides the site.







Mesh / Chain-link Fence

The first recorded burial in the existing BG was recorded in Oct 1992.

# 3. Policy and Objectives

The proposed development aligns with the undermentioned Policy Objectives in the **Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028:** 

#### **Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028**

- ➤ Chapter 11 Community Development and Social Infrastructure
  - 11.19 Places of Worship and Burial Grounds / Crematoriums
    - Policy Objectives Places of Worship and Burial Grounds / Crematoriums
      - PWB 2 Burial Grounds

**PWB 2 Burial Grounds:** Facilitate the development and maintenance of new burial grounds and the extension of existing cemeteries at all appropriate locations that meet the required standards.

- 4. Appraisal of Impact of Proposed Development.
  - a. Landscape Character Assessment (Galway County Development Plan 2022-2028)
    - Landscape Character Area: Central Galway Complex Landscape
    - Landscape Sensitivity: LOW

#### b. Archaeology / Heritage

#### **Recorded Monuments**

There are no Recorded Monuments in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development.

#### **Protected Structures**

There are two (2) Protected Structures recorded in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development.

• RPS Number: 394 (Church of the Holy Family)

RPS Number: 393 (St. Brendan's Catholic Church)

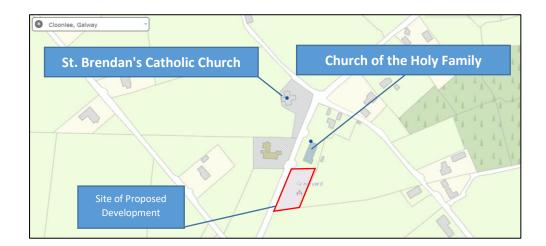
Both protected structures are also included on the **National Inventory of Architectural Heritage**;

• Church of the Holy Family - Reg. No. 30411612



St. Brendan's Catholic Church - Reg. No. 30411611

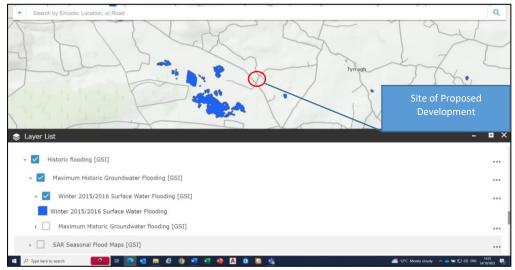




The proposed development is not projected to impact the Protected Structures.

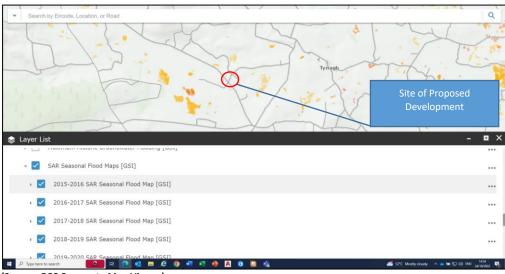
#### c. Flooding \_ Historic Flooding Events

Records indicate there was some Surface Water Flooding within 1km of the area in Winter 2015/2016, however, there are no records of Historic Flood Events within the immediate area of the proposed development.

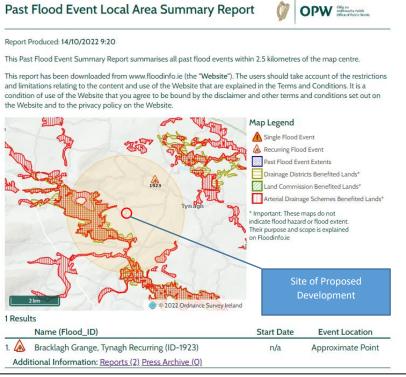


(Source: GCC Corporate Map Viewer)

Records (2015 - 2021) indicate there was some Seasonal Flooding within 1km of the area, however, there are no records of Historic Flood Events within the immediate area of the proposed development.



(Source: GCC Corporate Map Viewer)

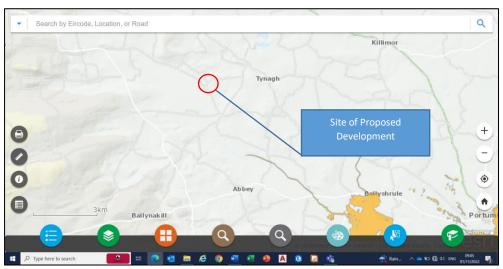


(Source: www.floodinfo.ie)

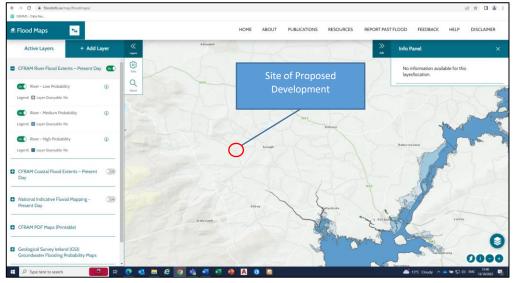
#### d. CFRAM Fluvial Flooding

(Source: GCC Corporate Map Viewer)

The site of the proposed development, and surrounding area, has not been categorised as an area at risk from Fluvial Flooding.



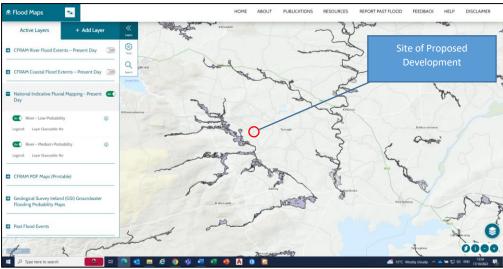
(Source: GCC Corporate Map Viewer)



(Source: www.floodinfo.ie)

# e. National Indicative Fluvial Mapping

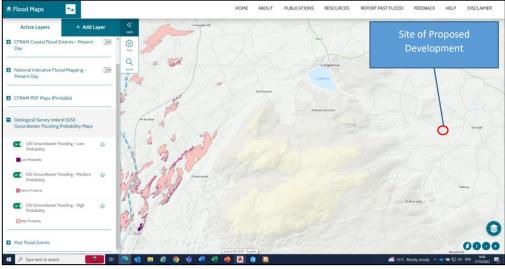
The site of the proposed development has not been identified as an area at risk (medium/low probability) from fluvial flooding.



(Source: www.floodinfo.ie)

#### f. GSI Groundwater Flood Probability

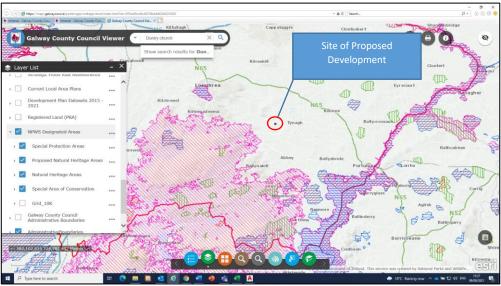
The site of the proposed development, and area immediately surrounding the site, has not been identified as an area at risk (high/medium/low probability) from groundwater flooding.



(Source: www.floodinfo.ie)

#### g. Habitats Directive:

The proposed development does not lie within a NPWS Designated Area.



(Source: GCC Corporate Map Viewer)

Nevertheless, Appropriate Assessment Screening and Environmental Impact Assessment Screening exercises were undertaken to establish the likely impacts of the proposed development.

The Appropriate Assessment Screening Report concludes:

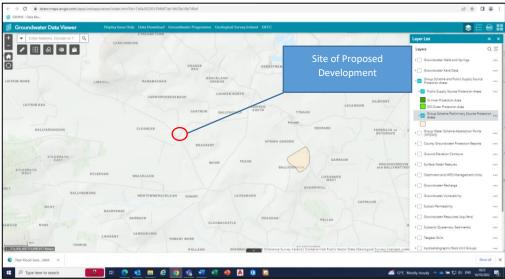
"It is concluded beyond reasonable scientific doubt, in view of best scientific knowledge, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites, that the proposed project, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, will not have a significant effect on any European Site."

The **Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report** concludes:

"The preliminary examination as required by Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) has determined that formal EIA Screening Determination is not required therefore it is not necessary to proceed to Step 3."

#### h. Groundwater: Group Scheme and Public Supply Protection Areas

The site of the proposed development is not within a Group Scheme and Public Supply Protection Area.



(Source: Geological Survey Ireland

https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef

#### Accessibility & Road Safety:

Noting the proposed development is an extension to the existing BG, should same be approved and delivered, it would serve to sustain the current level of service delivery already in place within the area, therefore, no adjustments to current access and road / traffic arrangements are proposed.



# j. Public Health

See attached report, dated 12 July 2021, from the Environmental Health Service, Health Service Executive (HSE). The HSE does not have any objection to the proposed development.

# 5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The proposed site is considered a suitable location for an extension to the existing BG at Duniry.

Environment Section

Galway County Council

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