



# COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL CHAINNIGH

## NUAIGHT & FÓGRAÍ

### Seiceáil Clár na dTogthoirí

An bhfuil tú ar Chlár na dTogthoirí do Chontae Chill Chainnigh? Guardaigh bunachair sonraí Chlár na dTogthoirí ar líne anois? Féach <https://www.checktheregistert.ie>

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Seiceáil an bhfuil tú ar Chlár Reatha na dTogthoirí.



Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended  
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended

## NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT BY A LOCAL AUTHORITY

### Development of 20 housing units and associated site works at Canal Road/ Rathdowney Road, Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny

In accordance with Part 8, Article 81, of the above regulations, Kilkenny County Council hereby gives notice of proposals pertaining to the following development on the above site:

- Construction of 20 no. houses: 12 two storey units (11x2/3 bed + 1x4 bed) & 8 single storey 1/2 bed units and all associated site development works.
- Development includes demolition of 2 derelict houses & a vacant cottage.
- The site consists of 5 parcels of land, 3 currently owned by Kilkenny County Council with agreement to purchase for the remaining 2 portions.

Plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection or purchase for a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy during office hours from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 until Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021 inclusive, at:-

- The Planning Section of Kilkenny County Council, County Hall, John St, Kilkenny between the hours of 9.00am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.00pm **BY APPOINTMENT** To make an appointment please contact: 056 7794010 or email: [planning@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:planning@kilkennycoco.ie)
- The Castlecomer Area Office Kilkenny St., Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny between the hours of 9.00am to 1pm and 2pm to 4.00pm **BY APPOINTMENT** To make an appointment please contact: 056 4440553 or email [CastlecomerAreaOffice@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:CastlecomerAreaOffice@kilkennycoco.ie)

Details of the proposed development can also be viewed at <https://consult.kilkenny.ie/>

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be carried out, may be made:

- Online at <https://consult.kilkenny.ie/>,
- in writing to the Planning Section, Kilkenny County Council, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny or by email: [planning@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:planning@kilkennycoco.ie)
- Or sent to the following e-mail address [housingpart8@kilkennycoco.ie](mailto:housingpart8@kilkennycoco.ie).

**The latest time and date for receipt of submissions on the development is 5.00pm on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021.** Submissions should be clearly marked "Canal Road, Johnstown Housing - Part 8 Planning Submission"

In accordance with the requirements of Article 120(1)(a) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) the Planning authority has made a preliminary examination of the nature, size and location of the proposed development. The authority has concluded that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and a determination has been made that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required.

As per Article 120(3) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), where any person considers that the development proposed to be carried out would be likely to have significant effects on the environment, he or she may, at any time before the expiration of 4 weeks beginning on the date of the publication of this notice apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

**Signed: Mary Mulholland, Director of Services**

## In search of Barn Owls in Kilkenny

BirdWatch Ireland, in partnership with Kilkenny County Council Heritage Office, are undertaking the first county wide survey of Barn Owls in Kilkenny this summer and are requesting the assistance of the public and landowners

**T**he Barn Owl was once a common sight throughout Ireland. Over recent decades, Barn Owl populations have suffered extensive declines and are now a Red-listed *Bird of Conservation Concern in Ireland*. In response to this BirdWatch Ireland, in partnership with Kilkenny County Council Heritage Office, are undertaking a survey of Barn Owls in Kilkenny this summer. This is the first county wide barn owl survey conducted in Kilkenny. The findings of the survey will provide a clear picture of the numbers of barn owls in the county and will help in the protection of nest sites and the provision of new nest boxes. The public is encouraged to send in information about barn owls in their area.



ed in the loss of suitable habitats, including a reduction of prey-rich foraging habitat and nesting sites. The increased use and toxicity of anti-coagulant rodenticides, and the expansion of major road networks are also likely to be key factors in the declines in the Barn Owl populations.

However, there is some good news. There seems to be early indications that

Barn Owl populations may be recovering in Kilkenny. In recent years, Barn Owl pairs have moved into nest boxes provided for them and re-established in old ruins which have not held Barn Owls for many years. One of the reasons for this recovery may be due to the arrival of non-native small mammal species, the Greater White-toothed Shrew and the Bank Vole, both of which are taken as prey by Barn Owls and other predators. The Barn Owl survey in Kilkenny, which is co-funded by Kilkenny County Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service through the National Biodiversity Action Plan Fund, will help to confirm this.

To assist the survey efforts, BirdWatch Ireland are requesting the public to join in. John Lusby of BirdWatch Ireland explained the citizen science element of the survey, "It is a very special experience to glimpse the ghostly form of the Barn Owl floating silently over their hunting grounds in the dead of night, or to hear their eerie screeches and



strange snoring calls. Everybody remembers such an encounter, and we are asking people to report this information to us, which will greatly help our survey efforts to locate nest sites and to determine the health of the population".

He added, "we are also looking for information on Barn Owl nest boxes in the county, many different groups and indi-

viduals have gone to great effort to help Barn Owls in Kilkenny and have installed purpose-built nest boxes, we hope to get a better idea of how many nest boxes are in place and the portion that are being used by Barn Owl, and we would ask that anyone that has put up a nest box to let us know".

Over the coming months BirdWatch Ireland will be working closely with the Heritage Office of Kilkenny County Council and the local Kilkenny Branch of BirdWatch Ireland on the survey and will also be monitoring breeding at known nest sites. You can help the survey and conservation efforts by reporting any information that you have on Barn Owls in the county by visiting <https://birdwatchireland.ie/our-work/surveys-research/research-monitoring/raptors/barn-owl-survey/>

BirdWatch Ireland also stress that Barn Owls are a protected species and can be very sensitive to disturbance, and that potential nest sites should never be approached or interfered with in any way.