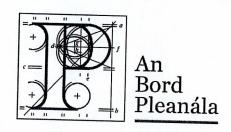
Our Case Number: ABP-310286-21



Nuala and Joe O'Connor Lower Effin Kilmallock Co. Limerick

Date: 21st July 2021

Re: Railway works and all works necessary to eliminate and, where necessary, upgrade seven numbered level crossings and carry out all associated and ancillary works along a 24-kilometre section of the Dublin to Cork Railway Line.

Fantstown, Thomastown, Ballyhay, Newtown, Ballycoskery (Ballyhea Village), Shinanagh and Buttevant, Co. Cork and Co. Limerick.

Dear Sir / Madam,

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

A receipt for the fee lodged is enclosed.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of Cork County Council and Limerick City and County Council and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in the meantime, 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,

Kieran Somers Executive Officer

Direct Line: 01-873 7250

**RA05** 

Dr Nuala O Connor

Mr Joe O Connor

Lower Effin

Kilmallock

Co Limerick

An Bord Pleanala

64 Marlborough St

Dublin 1

07th July 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

AN BORD PLEANÁLA
LDG- ②4(SS > >>)

ABP
0 8 JUL 2021

Fee: € 50 Type: pmo

Time: By: Reg post

Railway order – Dublin to Cork Railway Line, (Eliminate and upgrade of level crossings between Limerick Junction and Mallow) order 2021 xc201 – Thomastown Site.

We, Dr Nuala Cagney and Joe O Connor, reside less than 100 metres from the proposed upgrade and improvement works at Thomastown, Kilmallock Railway Crossing by larnrod Eireann. While we wholeheartedly welcome this upgrade as a means of uniting our divided parish of Effin, we have very serious concerns re the health and safety of the proposed Railway crossing in its current layout.

Having resided on this road all of Joe's life and 25 of Nuala's, we are very much aware of the high speed and traffic volume on the main Charleville, Kilmallock road, which runs outside our front gate.

The danger of this road has been highlighted by the number of road traffic accidents on this road. In the last 10 years alone, 28, 2 of which have been fatal. These figures are garda sourced and the names of the victims can be supplied on enquiry.

Indeed to one side of our gateway is a plaque to a fatality prior to this, to the other side is the site of a road traffic accident within the last 12 months. Please note BOTH of these RTA's occurred within 100 metres of the proposed railway crossing.

The proposed single lane road leading to a double road bridge of the railway crossing is creating a death trap. Those waiting on the main Charleville, Kilmallock road to cross over are "sitting ducks".

That anyone could consider this safe is beyond comprehension, it is another fatality waiting to happen.

We have 4 drivers in our family and would use a SAFE crossing with great enthusiasm. However, in all sincerity, we CANNOT support the proposed railway crossing in this current layout. In fact, we will do everything in our power to prevent this going ahead.

We vehemently object to the current proposed layout and propose instead that a double road be accommodated for all vehicular traffic and for access and exiting the said junction in a safe manner.

This should also incorporate staking lanes from both directions on the main Charleville, Kilmallock Road.

This, we feel, is the only way to protect the future safety of the crossing user.

Our aim is to prevent tragedy and not to facilitate it as the current proposed layout of the railway crossing does.

Yours faithfully

Joe O Connor

**Nuala O Connor** 

