## Design Statement

For KPH Construction at Cronin's Wood, Killarney
31/08/2023
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## 1.0 - Introduction

This document has been prepared by Meitheal Architects on behalf of KPH Construction for the development of lands at Cronin's Wood, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

The application site is located on the Upper Park Road approximately 1.8 km from Killarney Town Centre.

The development lands consist of an undeveloped site with some mature hedgerows/ planting. The site is bound to the south by the Upper Park Road, to the west by an existing industrial estate and to the north by extensive farm lands.

The west of the site contains an extensive woodlands which extends beyond the application site boundary and is zoned as an open space/ recreation area

This report has been prepared to support a Large Scale Residential Development (LRD) application to Kerry County Council for a residential development in accordance with the land zoning outlined in the Killarney Municipal District LAP 2018-2024


## 2.0 - Site Context

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The application site area measures 7.93 ha and is located 1.8 km north east of Killarney Town Centre.

The application site enjoys extensive connections to Killarney town centre and to the rest of Kerry/Cork due to its proximity to the N22 Roadway

The site is unused at present and the development of the site to a high standard would have a significant benefit to the surrounding area..

The application site is surrounded primarily by mixed-use residential and commercial developments. The site is bordered to the south by an existing industrial estate, to the west and north by existing forestry and farm lands and to the east by the Upper Park Road providing access to Killarney Town Centre.

The Site is sloping in nature and care has been taken to design a layout to work with existing contours where possible and incorporates the provision of open spaces and formal play areas. The development will be accessed via a new entrance from the Upper Park Road

The layout is designed to provide high quality private open space to each unit as well as providing ample public open space, play areas and amenity walkways linking to the wider area.


The application Site is within the settlemen boundary of Killarney Town and provides easy access to the Town Centre which is within a 20 min. walk or a 10 min . cycle

The development also provides easy access to the N22 allowing connections to the wider Kerry region and Cork City.

The main train and bus station is within a $15-20$ minute walk of the site and offers regular, quick access to Cork City Centre, Dublin and the wider Cork \& Kerry region.

A wide range of services are available in close proximity to the site in addition to those available in Killarney Town Centre. Supervalu, Tesco \& Aldi are all located within a 15 min . walk of the site as well as recreational amenities such as the Killarney Sport and Leisure Centre and the Omniplex Cinema.

A number of hotels are located near the site as well as significant employers located within the industrial estates that abut the site to the south and east.

The east and west of the site are typified by existing forestry and it is envisaged that the proposed scheme would provide an amenity walk to link these together.


## 3.0 - Planning Context

## 3.1 - Planning Context

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Killarney is designated as a "Key Town" in the Kerry County Development Plan (KCDP) 2022-2028. This designation identifies "Large population scale urban centre functioning as self-sustaining regional drivers"

The Plan also notes that Killarney is expected to expand by 1,630 persons during the life of the Plan resulting in a need to provide 1,277 housing units.

The application site consists of 2 distinct land zonings. Firstly, the majority of the site is zoned as "New/proposed Residential Phase 1". The Killarney Municipal District Local Area Plan 2018-2024 states that this zoning is intended primarily for housing developments but may also include a range of other ancillary uses for residential, particularly those that have the potential to foster the development of new residential communities.

The remainder of the site is zoned as "Landscape Protection" This designation is described in the Plan as providing for "the conservation, amenity or buffer space, corridor/ belt. Landscape protection"

The KCDP 2022-2028 states that it is "a target of at least $30 \%$ of new housing should be delivered within the existing built-up areas of settlements on infill and/or brownfield sites."

The "Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas 2009" states that a density in the range of 35-50 dwellings per hectare is appropriate in large towns such as Killarney

4.0 - Design Development

## 4.1 - Design Development

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The subject site is accessed from the Upper Park Road to the east of the site by way of a new entrance providing vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle access

This entrance is indicated by way of a red arrow on the adjacent drawings.

The site is divided into pockets of residential development through the use of primary and secondary circulation routes. The use of shared surface roads is used to create more intimate 'homezones' and add character to the development.

The site's primary green spaces are dispersed throughout the site to ensure that all dwellings are within close proximity of an amenity. A number of smaller "pocket parks" act as a link between various residential areas.

These open spaces will be a combination of formal spaces, play areas and informal areas. There is a strong emphasis on pedestrian movement through the site with various footpaths provided.

Care has also been taken to ensure that all the green spaces are passively overlooked by the adjacent residential development. This will assist with preventing anti-social behaviour and ensure the spaces remain well maintained.

The urban development has been considered to respect the adjacent developments by providing an extension to the urban form while integrating with the existing contours/levels throughout the site.


## 4.2 - Design Development - Site Layout

The proposed development includes a total of 249 no. residential units. The unit breakdown consists of 18 no. 2 bed, 117 no. 3 bed, 06 no. 4 bed \& 2 no. 5 bed houses arranged as semi$d$ and terraces. The scheme also includes 106 no. maisonette units consisting of 38 no. 1 bed and 68 no. 2 bed units.

The application site measures 7.93 ha of which 6.98ha is considered to be developable area. This area is reached by excluding the land west of the development which is zoned as open space and therefore cannot be developed.

The resulting density is 35.67 units per hectare which is in keeping with the density set out in the "Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas 2009"

Pedestrian and bicycle connections are provided to the Upper Park Road to the East. An aspirational pedestrian/bicycle connection is also provided to link the existing woodlands to the east and west of the site

The public open spaces have been grouped where possible to avoid the provision of a piecemeal amenity and these green spaces (representing 15\% of the residential zoned land) are supplemented by the extensive open space zoning to the west which will be landscaped and permeated with pedestrian pathways as part of this development.

Legend
Application Site
—— Extent of Residential Zoning


| Schedule of Accommodation |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| House Type | No. Beds | Quantity |
| HT-A | 3 | 46 |
| HT-B | 3 | 24 |
| HT-C | 2 | 10 |
| HT-D | 1 | 19 |
| HT-D I | 1 | 19 |
| HT-E | 2 | 34 |
| HT-E | 2 | 34 |
| HT-F | 4 | 6 |
| HT-G | 5 | 2 |
| HT-H | 3 | 28 |
| HT-J | 3 | 19 |
| HT-K | 2 | 8 |
|  |  | 249 |


| Housing Breakdown |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| No. Beds | Quantity | Percentage |
| 1 | 38 | $14 \%$ |
| 2 | 86 | $35 \%$ |
| 3 | 117 | $47 \%$ |
| 4 | 6 | $3 \%$ |
| 5 | 2 | $1 \%$ |
|  | 249 |  |


| Total Housing Units | 249 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Total Units | 249 |
| Site Area | 7.93 Ha |
| Area of Resi. Zoning | 7.23 Ha |
| Developable Area lexcludes retaining walls \& associated inaccesible slopes) | 6.98 Ha |
| Density | 35.67 units / ha |
| Open Green Space | 15\% |



## 5.0 - Urban Design Criteria

## 5.1- Urban Design Criteria

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## O1. Context

How does the development respond to its surroundings?
The proposed development of 249no. residential units is a natural extension to the surrounding urban forms and serves to extend the urban form of Killarney Town

The pattern of development proposed on the application site respects the neighbouring dwellings. The units which adioin the existing boundaries are of 2 storeys in height to reflect the existing typologies.

The development seeks to strengthen the existing site boundaries through the inclusion of extensive planting and protect the existing biodiversity on the site by providing new native planting to reinforce and strengthen same where necessary.

The existing site topography has informed the proposed floor levels to ensure that minimal interventions are necessary in the landscape.


## 02. Connections

How well connected is the new neighbourhood?
The subject development will be accessed from the Upper Park Road via a new site entrance.

Pedestrian permeability was a key aspect of the design and a number of new pedestrian connections are proposed to the existing road to the east as well as proposed connections to the south and west

The application site is located in within the settlement boundary of Killarney and the town centre is within easy walking and cycling distance. The subject development is also within walking distance of bus links and train links serving the wider Kerry region and onwards to Cork and Dublin
A number of employment, educational and recreational amenities are located within a short distance of the subject site

## 03. Inclusivity

How easily can people use and access the development?
The proposed development includes a wide variety of unit typologies ranging from $1 \& 2$ bedroom apartments to 2, 3, $4 \& 5$ bedroom houses. All houses and maisonette units have their own front door and all have level access except for the first floor maisonette units which are accessed by way of an mbulant staircase

All units within the development are in accordance with Technical Guidance Document $M$, which ensures all are accessible to people of a range of abilities

All amenity areas, parks and walkways within the development are open to the public, overlooked by multiple units and fully accessible where possible.
04. Variety

How does the development promote a good mix of activities?
The proposed development of 249 no. residential units, comprising a large range of housing types and tenures will facilitate a range of choice to suit various living arrangements and demographics. A Creche is also provided as part of the development to encourage a range of ages and amily types.

A series of character areas have been naturally created by the oad network and these areas will create a number of distinct neighbourhoods with a variety of housing types and green spaces throughout.

The development of the public open space along the Upper Park Road, with the inclusion of a new cycle/footpath will provide the residents with a large amount of recreational space for a variety of activities


Legend
Application Site
Main circulation \& Access
Secondary Circulation
Homezone'/ shared surface
Public open space
2 storey Demi-D / Terrace Housing

## 05. Efficiency

How does the development make appropriate use of resources, including land?
he proposed development provides a density of c.35.67 units/ha which represents a very efficient use of the lands.
edestrian linkages within the development have been maximised and further pedestrian and cycle links have been provided.

The public open space along the Upper Park Road makes good use of the area.

The maiority of the dweling units have been provided with rear or side access for refuse access while the units without rear access are provided with secure bin stores to the front of the houses.

## 5．2－Urban Design Criteria（Cont．）

O6．Distinctiveness
How do the proposals create a sense of space？
As discussed previously in this report a number of distinct areas are naturally created as a result of the proposed road network and site conditions．

Character Area＇Blue＇：This area encompasses the main entrance from the Upper Park Road and the main circulation route．This area has been designed to provide a built frontage to all circulation routes and consists of 2 storey houses with a mix of tenures from 2－5 no．beds

Character Area＇Cyan＇：This area contains a mix of $1,2 \& 3$ bedroom houses and maisonettes，and front onto the shared surface areas within the scheme．The use of materials and architectural language ensure that each of these units sits harmoniously in the location．
Character Area＇Orange＇：This area contains a mix of $1,2,3 \& 4$ bedroom houses and maisonettes overlooking the large amenity spaces and the open space zoning．These units provide passive surveillance to the green areas．

Character Area＇Red＇：This area contains a mix of $1,2 \& 3$ bedroom houses and maisonettes which front onto the existing Upper Park Road and provide a built urban edge to same


Legend

07．Layou
How does the proposal create people friendly streets and spaces？
The proposed layout of the site creates a series of natural routes running across the site from the entrance．These desire lines have been used to divide the estate into a series of character areas which create a formal built edge to these connections．

Pedestrian connectivity throughout the site and the open spaces create a vibrant and active development while ensuring pedestrian satety．

A hierarchy of roads has been created which follow the principles of DMURS which seeks to ensure that traffic speeds are minimised and that pedestrian safety is prioritised．

The estate has been designed to ensure that all public open spaces are bordered by active developments which create vibrant spaces while also ensuring passive surveillance of the various areas．

08．Public Realm
How safe，secure and enjoyable are the public areas？
The proposed development contains a mix of both informal and formal green areas to ensure every resident has easy access to an open space．

Each green area is landscaped in a different way to ensure variety but all are fully accessible and open to all．
Each public open space is covered by active supervision from adiacen dwellings and apartments．

This new open space to the south and west will contain both pedestrian and cycle routes funning the entire length of the open space and connecting back to the wider area

09．Adaptability
How will the buildings cope with change？
The development includes 4no．distinct House types and
2no．distinct maisonette blocks which range in size from 1 to 5 bedroom units．This allows for a range of tenancies，

This range of house and maisonette types ensures that the
development is suitable to people at all stages of their lives．
The semi－detached and terraced houses are provided with generous rear gardens which allows ample room for the construction of extensions without a major impact on he private amenity space．

An example of how a typical house type can be extended at both ground and first floor is included over．A range of the proposed dwelling types also allow for future expansion into the attic space to create additional storage or other uses．


Examples of Adaptability
10．Privacy \＆Amenity
How does the scheme provide a decent standard of amenity？

## Refuse storage within each of the dwelling＇s gardens．

All houses and the maiority of the maisonettes are sited to ensure that the maximum number enioy a dual aspect．

All dwellings and maisonettes are constructed with a solid party wall to prevent against fire spread and ensure no noise transfer between units．

All dweling houses are provided with rear gardens of a minimum of 75 sam for $4+$ bedroom units， 60 sqm for 3 －bedroom units，and 50 sqm for 2 －bedroom units which are by in large in excess of the areas required by the
Development Plan．
The houses are a minimum of 22 m back to back to ensure the
maximum level of privacy for each dwelling．The houses are also provided with a 1.8 mm high rear garden boundary to profect the amenity of the gardens between properties．
he semi－detached dwellings，and the terraced units，are provided with a side or rear access to allow for the storage of refuse bins and bicycles etc．
he maisonettes are also provided with centrally located secure efuse bin and bicycle storage．
All dwellings and maisonettes are designed to comply with，and in many cases exceed，the storage requirements set out in the development plan．

## 5.3 - Urban Design Criteria (Cont.)

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## 11. Parking

How will the parking be secure and attractive?
2 no. spaces are provided for each housing unit.
Communal parking is provided throughout the site to serve the maisonettes and the créche unit.

All parking spaces will be overlooked by a range of residentia typologies.

Parking spaces will be constructed of high quality materials to match the other materials used throughout the scheme

Bicycle parking is provided at the rear of the dwelling houses laccessed by way of side/ rear laneways for semi-d/ end terrace units of through the dwelling for mid-terrace units). Bicycle parking for the Maisonette Units are provided in secure bike parking racks to the rear of units.

Secure bicycle parking will be provided for the creche units at the rate of $\rceil$ bicycle space per 4 no. children

All parking bays will measure $2500 \times 5500$ to ensure a range of vehicles can be accommodated.
12. Detailed Design

How well thought through is the building and landscape design?
The materials used in the proposed estate are of a retined palette and aim to complement the materials used in the locality of the site and the Killarney Region.

In line with this a palette of painted render tinishes and a mix of slate and roof tile tinishes are employed throughout the estate.

Great care has been taken with the design of the road, footpath and cycle network to ensure a safe place for people to walk and cycle around and through.

Care has also been taken with the provision of car parking and the bays are broken up with areas of planting to ensure a visually pleasing streetscape.


Detailed Landscape Plan
6.0 - Detailed Design


Typical Residential Street
The typical streets within the scheme are 24 metres wide as a minimum.
This dimension allows for the avoidance of overlooking between opposing units while maintaining a tight urban grain and quite residential atmosphere

A minimum of 2 m planted buffer zones are provided to the front of each dwelling to ensure an element of privacy from the adjacent footpaths. For the ground floor maisonette units this 2 meter buffer is supplemented by hedge planting to screen the private open space.

The 2 metre wide concrete footpath ensures that the estate is accessible and allows for the passing of wheelchairs, buggies and bicycles etc.

The parking bays are arranged in groups of 4-6 and each one is separated from the next by an area of planting/ trees. This breaks down the parking and adds an interesting and vibrant element to the street.

The parking bays are $2.5 \times 5 \mathrm{~m}$ to allow for the parking of a range of vehicle types and a 250 mm 'rumble strip' is provided to the end of each space to create a safer pedestrian environment.

Typical Street Section - View A



## Typical 'Homezone' Street

The typical streets within the scheme are 24 metres wide as a minimum.
This dimension allows for the avoidance of overlooking between opposing units while maintaining a tight urban grain and quite residential atmosphere

A minimum of 2 m planted buffer zones are provided to the front of each dwelling to ensure an element of privacy from the adjacent footpaths. For the ground floor maisonette units this 2 meter buffer is supplemented by hedge planting to screen the private open space.

The 2 metre wide concrete footpath ensures that the estate is accessible and allows for the passing of wheelchairs, buggies and bicycles etc.

The parking bays are arranged in groups of 4-6 and each one is separated from the next by an area of planting/ trees. This breaks down the parking and adds an interesting and vibrant element to the street.

For the 'Homezone' areas these planted buffers are increased in size to further reinforce the residential amenity of the streets.

The parking bays are $2.5 \times 5 \mathrm{~m}$ to allow for the parking of a range of vehicle types and a 250 mm 'rumble strip' is provided to the end of each space to create a safer pedestrian environment.

A distinct chip is used in the asphalt to make it clear and obvious to motorists that the 'Homezones' are low speed, pedestrian priority areas.
6.3 - Refuse Collection Strategy - Houses


Refuse Collection Strategy
The proposed scheme consists of 3 no. separate methods of refuse storage.
1.) The end of terrace housing units are all provided with a gate for access to the rear of the dwellings where the 3 no. bins will be stored.
2.) Mid-terrace housing units are all provided with a bin store to the front of the units. These enclosures will be preformed or constructed from rendered block and will serve to screen the bins from the adjacent footpath.
3.) The maisonette units are all provided with secure bin storage to the rear of the blocks and access via side access gates (details at section 6.4)

Bin Storage Stragegy - Dwellings 1:100


View D - Typical Bin Store (Street Context)
View C - Typical Bin Store


| Schedule of Parking Spaces |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Parking Type | Development Plan | Required | Quantity |
| Accessible | 3 per 100 | 15 | 19 |
| Creche | 1Per 4 children <br> 1 Per staff | 18 | 19 |
| Dwellings | 2 Per Dwelling | 286 | 286 |
| Maisonette | 1 Per Bedroom | 174 | 174 |
| Visitor | 0.5 Per Dwelling | 72 | $12 \star$ |
|  |  |  | 510 |

## Parking Strategy

Parking spaces for residents are provided at a rate of 2 no. spaces per dwelling and 1 no. space per bedroom of the maisonette units in line with the provisions of Table 4 in the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028

A total of 19 no spaces are provided for the Creche. To allow for 1 space per 4 children (50/4) and 6 no. staff spaces.

* 12 no. designated visitor spaces are provided throughout the estate However as the parking scheme for the estate is based on off-curtilage parking it is envisaged that a larger quantity of visitor parking will be available at any given time

19 no. accessible spaces are provided throughout to scheme


The public open spaces for the enjoyment of the residents are broken up into 8 no. separate areas to ensure all residents have easy access to amenity spaces.

The spaces are a mix of formally arranged areas, larger kick-about spaces, amenity walkways and areas of extensive planting to provide a range of interesting and varied spaces.

The area of land zoned as 'Landscape Protection' located within the site application boundary will be landscaped with native trees, public walkways and seating to add an additional amenity to the area.

These lands amount to c9\% of the site application boundary and serve as a supplement to the $15 \%$ public open space provided for within the residential zoned area.
Public Open Spaces
1:1500


Private Open Spaces
1:1500

| Private Open Space Provision |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Location | Required | Provided |
| 2 Bed Dwelling | 50.00 sq.m | $50.50-90.72$ sq.m |
| 3 Bed Dwelling | 60.00 sq.m | $60.07-190.68$ sq.m |
| 4 Bed Dwelling | 75.00 sq.m | $79.57-190.35$ sq.m |
| 5 Bed Dwelling | 75.00 sq.m | $157.89-188.19$ sq.m |
| 1 Bed Maisonette | 5.00 sq.m | 5.27 sq.m |
| 2 Bed Maisonette | 7.00 sq.m | 7.11 sq.m |

## 7.0 - House Typologies

7.1- House Type A
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$\stackrel{*}{*}+1.210 \times 1.400 \times \underset{1.800}{6.420} \times{ }^{800} \times 1.210 \xrightarrow{*}$



Front Ele
$1: 50$


First Floor Plan
1:50


1:50

7.1 - House Type A

3 bed Semi-D / End Terrace c. 97 sq.m
1.50

## 7.2 - House Type B


O. Ground Floor Plan
1.50

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1. First Floor Plan
1.50


1:50
$1: 50$
Project: Residential Development

## 7.3 - House Type C


0. Ground Floor Plan

1:50

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50


1:50

7.3 - House Type C

2 bed Mid-Terrace

1:50

## 7.4 - House Type D


0. Ground Floor Plan - House Type D
first Floor Plan - House Type D
1:50


O
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$1: 50$


Side El

Rear Elev


1:50


2 bed Maisonette
bed Maisonette
c. 52 sq.m


7.7- House Type G


1:50


1. First Floor Plan
1:50

meitheal



- 




1. First Floor Plan
1.50
2. Ground Floor Plan
1:50

7.8 - House Type H
7.9 - House Type Jmeitheal

Floor Plan
$+\quad 3217 \quad 5860 \times 1.400 \times 1.243$
heal architects

3. Ground Floor
1:50

7.9 - House Type J
3 bed Dwelling


## 8.0 - Response to LRD Meeting

Comments from LRD Meeting
01 Concerns expressed in relation to possible anti-social beharn

02 Design of hammerheads at ends of service roads should be checked to ensure fire tenders. adaquate for furning of

Concerns raised regarding distance of Concerns raised regarding distance of
some residential units from nearest road Provision of dry risers may be considered


01 Concerns expressed in relation to possible anti-social behaviour in large open space area at Western corner of the site

Response:

1. Landscaped area is covered by passive surveillance from 8 no. adiacent housing units. This surveillance will aid in reducing any potential anti-social behaviour.
2. An additional footpath has been provided through the area to ensure greater pedestrian traffic and enhance the activity of the space
3. An open green area is now proposed directly adiacent to the development. This will allow for an increase of the active uses in the area and increases passive surveillance while maintaining the biodiversity of the space.
Please see the landsacpe plan accompalying this application for detailed design and planting details
$\square$ Direction of overlooking


Site Layout Plan

Comments from LRD Meeting
02 Design of hammerheads at ends of service roads should be checked to service roads should be checked to
ensure they are addaquate for turning of ensure they
fire tenders.

Response:

1. Hammerheads have been redesigned to ensure compliance for both a refuse truck and a fire tender
2. Both the fire tender and the refuse truck have been analysised through the use of 'autotrack' software and both are now acceptable

Please see detailed autotrack analysis carried out by DOSA Engineeer's which accompanies this application


Fire Appliance


Comments from LRD Meeting
03 Concerns raised regarding distance of some residential units from nearest road.
Provision of dry risers may be considered Response:

1. The adjacent drawing has been produced to detail the distance from a potential fire tender location to the front door of the units with no direct road access.

In all instances, the distance from the fire tender location to the primary access of
the unit is less than or equal to 45 meters. All units, including all maisonette units, will be own door private access

A separate fire saftey certificate application will be prepared for each of the mainonette units which will set-out the fire safety strategy in greater detail.

Legend - Fire Tender AccessLocation of Fire Tender

-     - $\rightarrow$ Direction of Travel

XX M Distance from Fire Tender


Fire Tender Access

