An Bord Achomhairc Um Cheadúnais Dobharshaothraithe Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board



# Submission re T6/466 Gerard O'Reilly

## Received 26 November 2018

## **Dooks Golf Club**

Cúirt Choill Mhinsí, Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath, Port Laoise, Contae Laoise, R32 DTW5 Kilminchy Court, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, County Laois, R32 DTW5

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#### Leonard, Brona

From: Sent: To: Subject: Attachments: John [John@dooks.com] 26 November 2018 12:55 Alab, Info Dooks Golf Club - Re Appeal Gerard O' Reilly Dooks Golf Club Re Appeal Gerard O' Reilly.docx

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find our letter attached in relation to the appeal made by Gerard O' Reilly. We submit that the original Ministerial decision to reject the application regarding Site Reference T06/466A was correctly decided, and that the appeal should be denied.

Please find our reason in the attached document

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Kind Regards John Foley General Manager Dooks Golf Club | Glenbeigh | Co. Kerry T: +353 66 976 8205 | w: <u>www.dooks.com</u>

#### DOOKS GOLF CLUB



Welcoming golfers for over 125 years.

The Secretary Aquaculture Licencing Appeal Board Kilminchy House, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, County Laoise. R32 DTWS

27<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Appeal by Gerard O'Reilly [the Applicant] Re Site reference T06/466A Castlemaine Harbour Co.Kerry

Dear Sir or Madam,

On behalf of Dooks Golf Club, we are making a submission in relation to the above appeal. We submit that the original Ministerial decision to reject the application regarding Site Reference T06/466A was correctly decided, and that the appeal should be denied. We have a specific and compelling interest in this matter, since any changes to the use of the Dooks Rossbeigh bay area is of major concern to our club.

Dooks is an area of great beauty and environmental importance as has been recognized by its designation as a Special Area of Conservation. The unspoilt Dooks ecosystem contributes substantially to the local economy, by attracting tourists. Dooks Golf Club both benefits from this economy and contributes to it, by attracting golfers who are often also attracted by the other amenities and extraordinary beauty of the area.

If the Ministerial decision regarding Site T06/466A is overturned, allowing oyster farming in the area, it would substantially damage the local ecosystem and environment, with specific negative effects for the club. The consequences would include, but not be limited to:

- Deteriorating water quality in Dooks, thanks to decaying oysters and effluent, which would give rise to noxious odours.
- Deterioration in the habitat of the Brent Geese which nest locally, and which contribute to golfers' view of the beach.
- Damage to salmon and trout fishing in Caragh Lake and Lough Yganavan which would lead to a decrease in visitors to the area.
- Deteriorating water quality of the bay, with negative consequences for tourism.

We note that Dooks beach is a long established recreational area which includes swimming, sailing, kayaking, windsurfing, water skiing, walking, horse-riding, and recreational cockling. These activities are fully compatible with, and take considerable benefit from its SAC/SPA designation. In contrast, oyster farming is incompatible with the current usage of the beach as well as conflicting with its SAC/SPA designation. Furthermore, expert scientific assessment has found that the area is not suitable for oyster farming.

Dooks Golf Club fully supports the submissions made by Save this Beach and by the Dooks Residents . We respectfully ask you to confirm the Ministerial decision not to grant a license to the applicant, Gerard O'Reilly for site T06/466A and to reject the appeal thereof which has been made to ALAB.

Kind regards,

John Foley Manager Dooks Golf Club Kay Woods Chairperson Management Committee Dooks Golf Club