

# Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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<b>Part 8</b>	<b>Planning Report</b>
<b>Address</b>	Garranes, Templemartin, Bandon, Co. Cork
<b>Proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of a burial ground consisting of 319 no. burial plots, 1.8m wide gravelled access footpaths and 3.5m wide access road within the burial ground.</li> <li>• The construction of a concrete perimeter wall to the burial ground measuring 300m in length.</li> <li>• Drainage, kerbing, road boundary and ancillary works.</li> <li>• Development of a carpark accommodating 33 no. cars.</li> </ul>

The site is located west of the L-6244-0 at Garranes, Templemartin and adjoins the southwestern boundary of Saint Martin's Church of Ireland Church and Graveyard. The existing church with enclosed graveyard dates from 1797 and both the church and graveyard are Recorded Monuments (CO096-008001 & CO096-008002). The church is also included on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage where the building is given a regional rating. The subject site is located in a rural area with a landscape character area classified as broad fertile lowland valley and is not situated within an area susceptible to flood risk.

Cork County Council is proposing to develop a burial ground consisting of 319 no. burial plots, with a new carpark to accommodate 33 no. cars and concrete perimeter wall adjacent to the southwestern boundary of Saint Martin's Church and Graveyard. The site area is 0.9 acres.

An Archaeological Impact Assessment by Mizen Archaeology in addition to a Geophysical Survey report by J.M.Leigh Surveys accompany the application. A Habitats Directive Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination has screened out the requirement for Appropriate Assessment.

In regard to policy objectives, relevant provisions include:

**Paragraph 16.2.4** In the case of extensions to historic graveyards or cemeteries over 0.5ha, it is recommended that an archaeological assessment be carried out prior to any cemetery extension to demonstrate there are no burial/ subsurface archaeology in the extended area.

## Policy Objective HE 16-8: Burial Places

### County Development Plan Objective HE 16-8: Burial Places

Protect all historical burial places and their settings in County Cork and encourage their maintenance and care in accordance with appropriate conservation principles.

An archaeological impact assessment was carried out on the proposed site which included a programme of archaeological testing and a geophysical survey. The assessment produced two areas of archaeological potential which were investigated (Areas 1 & 2). The features in Area 1 were of natural origin while in Area 2 a ditch was visible for a length of 15m which appears to correspond with a cropmark shown on aerial footage forming part

of a large linear field system. The geophysical survey did not detect any evidence of an enclosure surrounding the existing church and graveyard. Having assessed the Archaeological Impact Assessment, the Archaeological Officer has advised that no further intervention is required and that the excavated ditch should remain in situ with a 3m buffer to be fenced off prior to the commencement of site works. The Archaeological Officer has also advised that the 3m buffer is also intended to protect the southern graveyard wall during construction and should remain in place until completion of the groundworks.

It is noted that the proposed development incorporates the recommended 3m buffer zone which would be located between the existing graveyard boundary and the proposed car parking area.

Having reviewed the supporting documentation, the policies and objectives of the Cork County Development Plan, 2022 and accompanying interdepartmental reports, there is no objection in principle to the proposed development. The proposal would not detract from the historic setting of Saint Martin's Church and Graveyard and would provide much needed graveyard facilities in addition to enhancing accessibility to the existing church and graveyard.

As such, the proposed development would be compatible with the Cork County Development Plan, 2022 and would be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.



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