Limerick City and County Council

Planning Department

Section 5 Application

DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

Applicant's Name: Michael Ó Callaghan

Applicant's Address: Ballynoe
Castlemahon
Co. Limerick

Telephone No. [redacted]

Name of Agent (if any): Joe Kelleher B. Agr. Sc.

Address: Killeedy
Ballagh
Co. Limerick

Telephone No. 086 - 8812977

Address for Correspondence:

As ABOVE - Applicant's Address

Location of Proposed development (Please include **EIRCODE**):

Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick
V42KH51

Description of Proposed development:

Establishment of an farm wood processing enterprise including erection of temporary processing space, storage units and wood processing equipment.

Section of Exempted Development Regulations and/or section of the Act under which exemption is claimed:

Section 5

Is this a Protected Structure or within the curtilage of a Protected Structure.
~~YES~~/NO

Applicant's interest in site: OWNER

List of plans, drawings, etc. submitted with this application:

Site location map	1:2500
Land holding map	1:10,560
Site layout plan	1:500
Drawings	1:200

Have any previous extensions/structures been erected at this location ~~YES~~/NO

If Yes please provide floor areas of all existing structures:

N/A

Signature of Applicant (or Agent) Joe Kelleher

Location of Proposed development (Please include **EIRCODE**):

Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick
V42KH51

Description of Proposed development:

Establishment of on-farm wood processing enterprise including erection of temporary processing space, storage units and wood processing equipment.

Section of Exempted Development Regulations and/or section of the Act under which exemption is claimed:

Section 5

Is this a Protected Structure or within the curtilage of a Protected Structure.
~~YES~~/NO

Applicant's interest in site: OWNER

List of plans, drawings, etc. submitted with this application:

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land holding map	1:10,560
Site layout plan	1:500
Drawings	1:200

Have any previous extensions/structures been erected at this location ~~YES~~/NO

If Yes please provide floor areas of all existing structures:

N/A

Signature of Applicant (or Agent) Joe Kelleher

NOTES: Application must be accompanied by:

(a) Fee of €80
(b) Site location map
(c) Site layout plan
(d) Dimensioned plans and elevations of the structure and any existing structures.
(e) Where the declaration is in respect of a farm building, a layout identifying the use of each existing building together with floor area of each building.

****

Application to be forwarded to:

Planning Department,
Limerick City & County Council,
Dooradoyle,
Limerick,
V94 XF67

Enquiries:
Telephone: 061-556556
E-Mail: planning@limerick.ie

****

[redacted]

15/09/2026

To whom it may concern:

Re: Michael O'Callaghan, Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick

Please find attached Section 5 exempted development application on behalf of the above named. Mr. O'Callaghan owns 9Ha of an Ash plantation which is located on his home farm 150m from his home dwelling house. The Ash plantation was planted by Mr. O'Callaghan as a way of funding his pension and an attempt to offset carbon emissions from his farming enterprise. However, as the plantation has succumbed to Ash dieback disease, the value of the timber has fallen dramatically. To try regain some of the value, Mr O'Callaghan has decided to harvest the wood himself and sell it as firewood into the local market. By Mr. O'Callaghan endeavouring to undertake this project, he maximising the use of a valuable local resource and is an excellent example of on farm diversification.

The plantation will be cleared over a number of years on a phased basis and Mr. O'Callaghan expects it will take 8 – 10 years to fully process all the firewood.

To enable Mr. O'Callaghan process the wood, he wishes to construct a temporary structure to store equipment and to provide shelter from the weather. This will be a temporary structure consisting of two shipping containers to which a hooped structure with a canvas cover will be attached (see drawings and specifications attached). He also requires processing and wood handling equipment including;

41339002	VM410 Standard Firewood processor
EHS 4000/2	EHS 4000/2 Log Deckpro
1001291	Uniforest Crane Grab 1100

Please find specifications of these pieces of equipment attached.

The site Mr. O'Callaghan has chosen for this temporary structure is to north of the plantation, hidden from the public road and more than 450m from the nearest dwelling house (apart from his own). There will be a gravel base placed beneath the structure. As Mr. O'Callaghan is also a dairy farmer, the machinery will only be operated after the morning milking and before the evening milking, which means it will only be operational from approximately 9am to 5pm. All machinery is tractor operated or tractor powered, so a running tractor will be only noise emanating from the site.

Yours faithfully

Joe Kelleher

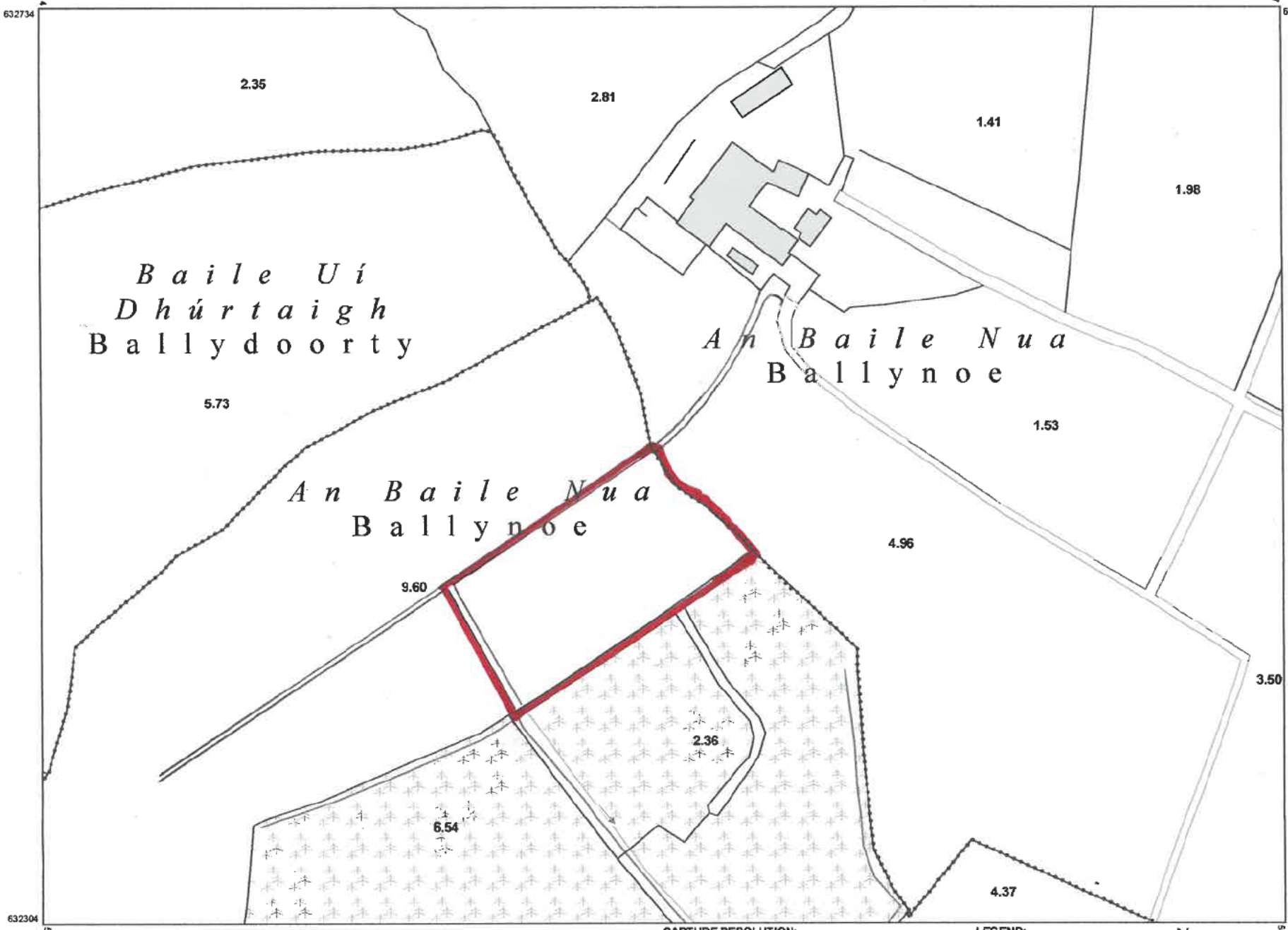
Joe Kelleher

Agent

Limerick City & County Council
17 SEP 2025

15 SEP 2025

Planning Pack Map



Tailte Éireann

CENTRE COORDINATES:
ITM 534806,632519

PUBLISHED: 15/09/2026

ORDER NO.: 50559414_1

MAP SERIES:
1:5,000
1:2,500

MAP SHEETS:
5225
5225-B

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY:
Tailte Éireann,
Phoenix Park,
Dublin 8,
Ireland.
D08F6E4

www.tailte.ie

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0 25 50 75 100 Metres

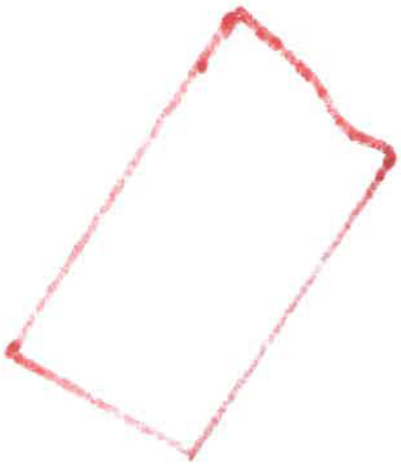
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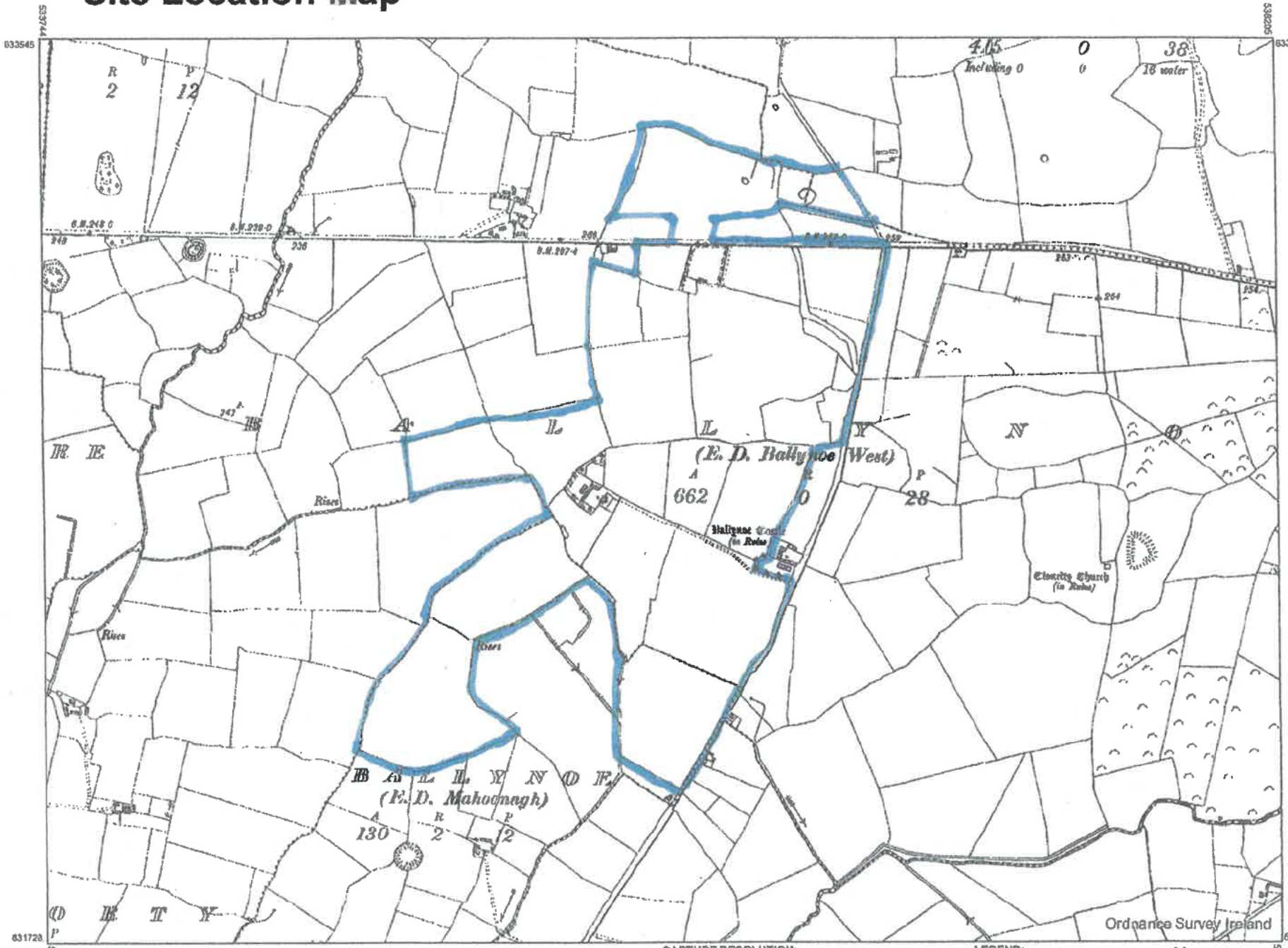
CAPTURE RESOLUTION:
The map objects are only accurate to the resolution at which they were captured.
Output scale is not indicative of data capture scale.
Further information is available at:
www.tailte.ie; search 'Capture Resolution'

LEGEND:
To view the legend visit www.tailte.ie and search for 'Large Scale Legend'

N



Site Location Map



Tailte Éireann

CENTRE COORDINATES:
ITM 534975,632637

PUBLISHED: 02/06/2025
ORDER NO.: 50470139_1

MAP SERIES: 6 Inch Raster
MAP SHEETS: LK037

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY:
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0 110 220 330 440 Metres
0 200 400 600 800 1,000 Feet

OUTPUT SCALE: 1:10,560

CAPTURE RESOLUTION:
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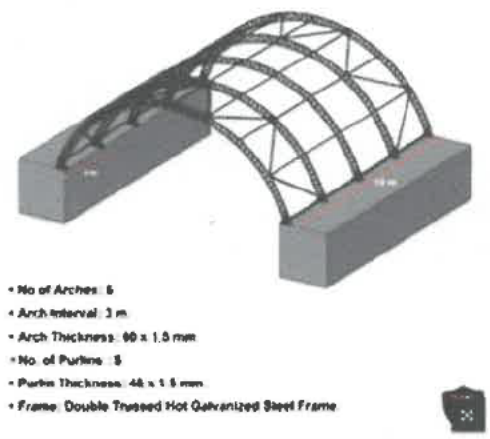
LEGEND:
To view the legend visit www.tailte.ie and search for 'Large Scale Legend'

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C4040S – 40 × 40 FT CONTAINER SHELTER

PLANNING APPLICATION
VISUAL / PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

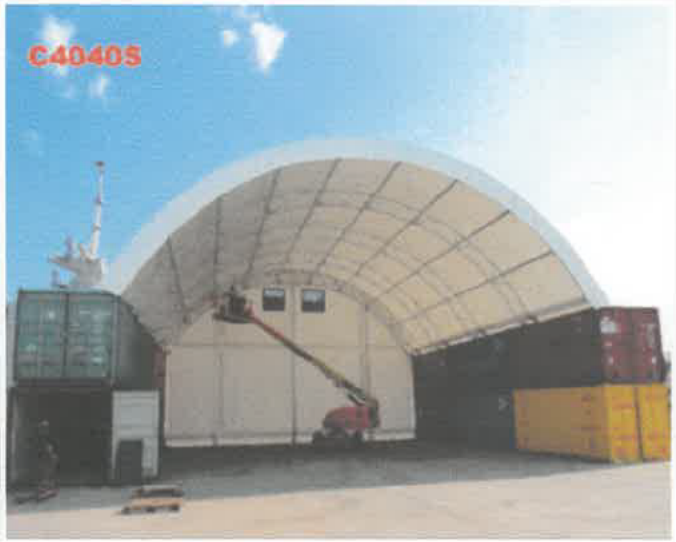
Manufacturer reference images and dimensional information for the proposed container-supported shelter.



Manufacturer structural arrangement
Double-trussed steel arch system spanning between containers.



Installed example – external view
Illustrates the overall scale, curved roof form and relationship to shipping containers.



Installed example – front elevation
Illustrates the appearance of the open-front shelter and internal clear space.

DIMENSIONS	MANUFACTURER SPECIFICATION
Overall width	12.20 m (40 ft)
Overall length	12.00 m (40 ft)
Overall height	4.50 m
Arch interval	3.00 m
No. of arches	5

CONSTRUCTION	DETAIL
Frame	Double-trussed hot-galvanised steel
Arch tube	60 × 1.5 mm
Purlin tube	48 × 1.5 mm
Roof covering	Heavy-duty PVC fabric
Support	Base plates welded to container edges

PLANNING / APPEARANCE NOTES

The structure forms a large curved canopy between two parallel shipping containers. The roof is a lightweight PVC membrane over a galvanised steel arch frame. The manufacturer's example images are included to show the proposed shelter form, scale and appearance. Final site position, container arrangement, finished ground levels and access should be read from the accompanying site/layout drawings.

Source: Brian Scott Engineering – C4040S 40 × 40 ft Double Trussed Container Shelter. Images supplied by the applicant from the manufacturer product information. This sheet is a visual product reference and should be read with the planning drawings/site plans.



DUUN VM410

HIGH END FIREWOOD PROCESSOR WITH EXCELLENT OPERATOR COMFORT AND

Duun firewood processors are constructed to provide better overall economy and the least possible environmental impact

- Easy operation of feeding-belt (forward and backward), cutting and splitting with one joystick.
- Hydraulically powered saw movement eases the work for the operator
- Wide feed table, side-shifted splitter cradle and deliberate splitter release provide good "flow" in the operation
- Capacity: 41cm diameter up to 50cm length.
- 11 tons splitting force
- Conveyor with 4m length and debris separation
- Frame knife provides less hull load and longer service life
- Prepared for connection of hydraulic log deck
- High-strength steel materials provide much higher durability.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

	VM410
Operation	Joystick
Cutting diameter max	41 cm
Cutting length	20–50 cm
Log holder	Hydraulic
Log stopper	Mechanical
Saw chain pitch	1,6 mm 0.325"
Saw chain drive	Hydraulic
Saw chain lubrication	Separate pump
Volume saw chain oil tank	2,5 litres
Splitting force max	11000 kg
Splitter (standard)	8-piece
Splitting axe adjustment	Hydraulic
Out conveyor	4 m chain drive
Out conveyor side adjustment	Mechanical
Debris segregation	Grate in conveyor
Number of hydraulic pumps	3
RPM PTO input	400 rpm
Volume Oil tank	75 litres
Net weight	900 kg
Height transport mode	2540 mm
Width transport mode	2400 mm
Depth transport mode (tractor)	1650 mm
Depth transport mode (electric)	N/A



OPERATION

Joystick ensure operation of feeding, cutting, and splitting. Easy access to operation of hydraulic log holder.
Adjustable force on saw bar movement.
Mechanical side adjustment of output conveyor.
Seamless speed adjustment on output conveyor.
Hydraulic height adjustment of splitting axe. Outlet for hydraulic log deck standard.



LOG STOPPER AND CHAIN LUBRICATION

Practical and robust log stopper easily adjustable seamlessly between 20 and 50 cm.

Saw chain oil from separate container, lubricates for every bar movement, amount adjustable.



OUTPUT CONVEYOR

An extra long debris removal grating in the output conveyor ensure a cleaner firewood directly from the machine.
An open construction and spring-loaded tensioner ensure minimal wear on drivetrain components.



SERVICE FRIENDLY

Easy access to the main hydraulics.
Easy access to electrics box including display for operations information including error codes.

EHS 9-60 LOG CLEANER

The working angle can be adjusted for optimal cleaning results.

Removes the waste material from logs to produce a premium product with no debris in the bags.

10 heavy-duty star rollers.

The EHS Log Cleaner can be used with all makes of firewood processor or can be used on its own.

Available in electric or hydraulic.



EHS 4000 LOG DECK

EHS log decks range from a simple manual table through to a 3-chain powered log deck.

All of our log decks are compatible with the many different brands of firewood machinery.



EHS Machinery

~Finance available on new & used products~

UNIFOREST CRANE GRAB 1100

PLANNING APPLICATION
PRODUCT / VISUAL REFERENCE

Model 1100 PRO • Item / model reference 1001291 • Manufacturer: Uniforest



UNIFOREST 1100 PRO – TECHNICAL DATA	VALUE
Maximum grab diameter	1,100 mm
Minimum diameter	50 mm
Gripping surface	0.14 m²
Gripping force	6.6 kN
Maximum working pressure	20 MPa / 200 bar
Load capacity	3,000 kg
Width × depth × height	650 × 320 × 430 mm
Weight	74 kg

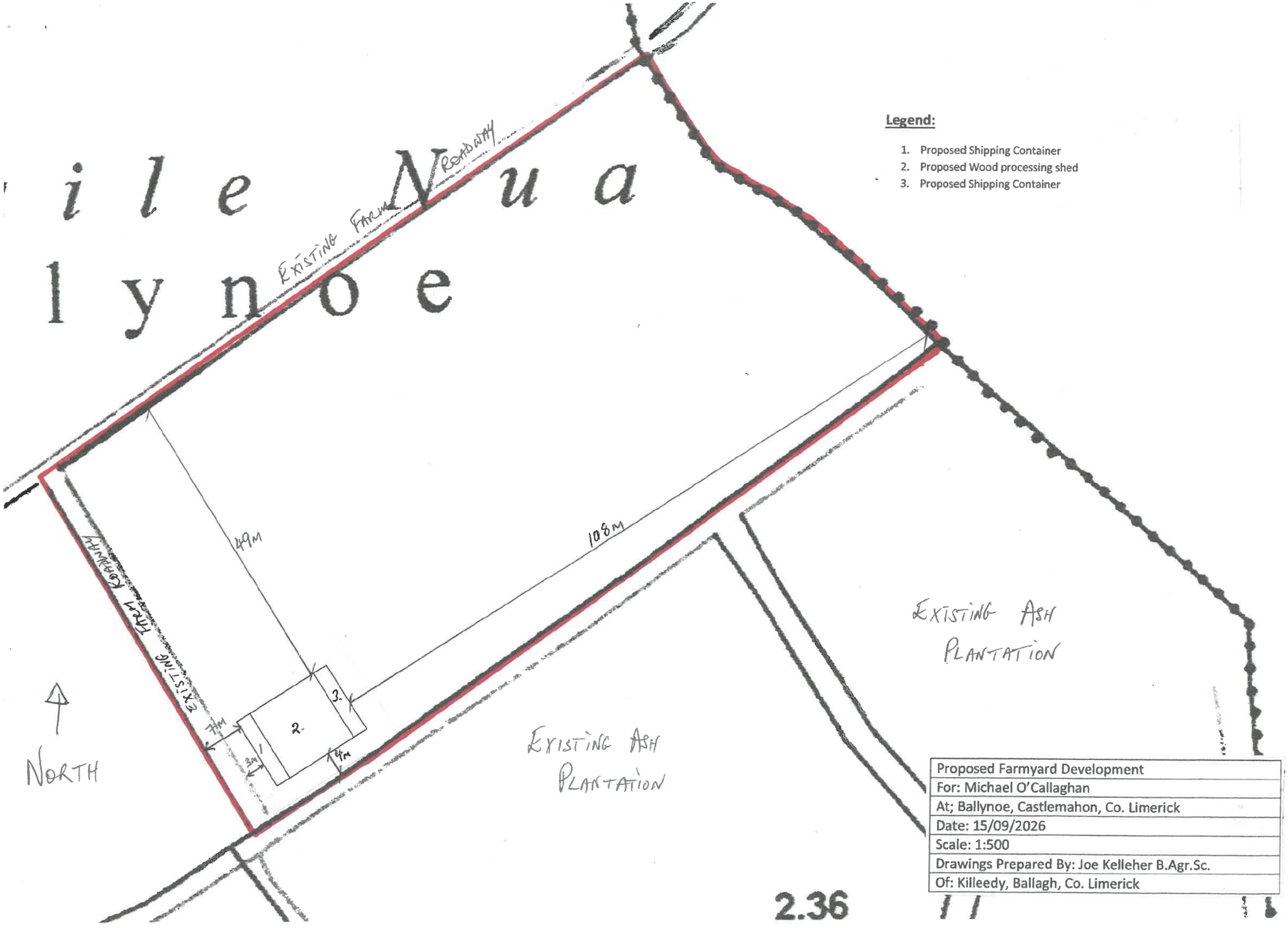
PRODUCT / CONSTRUCTION
Robust, structurally reinforced crane grab. Uniforest states that the grabs are made from high-quality materials with anti-corrosion protection and that movable parts can be lubricated. The 1100 PRO uses hardened NICRODUR ND400 tines. The model is intended for installation on cranes and forestry trailers.

OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT
Hydraulic rotator with hoses for crane is available as an option. Uniforest lists GR 30 (18 kg / 30 kN) and Gr 465 (28.5 kg / 45 kN) rotators.

PLANNING NOTE
The photograph above is supplied as a visual reference for the equipment and its typical operating context. It shows the grab mounted to a forestry/crane boom. Final mounting arrangement, boom geometry and operating envelope should be shown on the relevant equipment or site drawings where required.

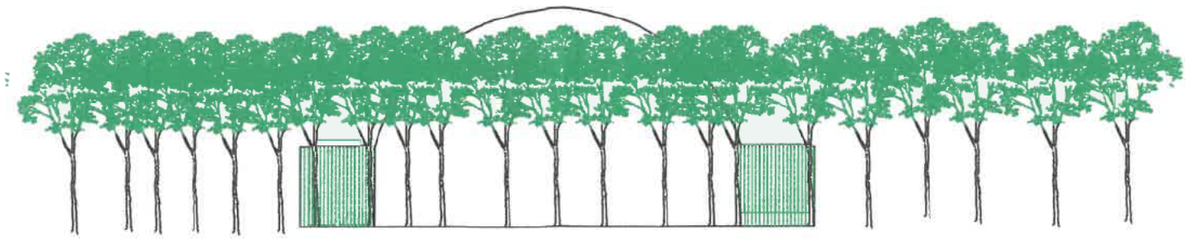
MODEL	ITEM	OPENIN
1100 PRO	1001291	1,100 m

Technical data source: Uniforest - Crane grabs product information. Manufacturer data confirms the 1100 PRO specifications shown above. Photograph supplied for this planning/product reference sheet.

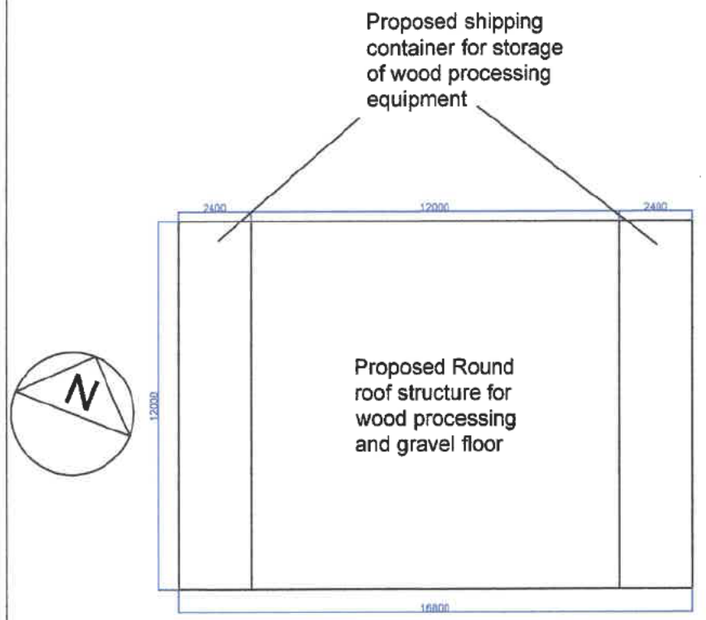


Proposed Farmyard Development
For: Michael O'Callaghan
At; Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick
Date: 15/09/2026
Scale: 1:500
Drawings Prepared By: Joe Kelleher B.Agr.Sc.
Of: Killeedy, Ballagh, Co. Limerick

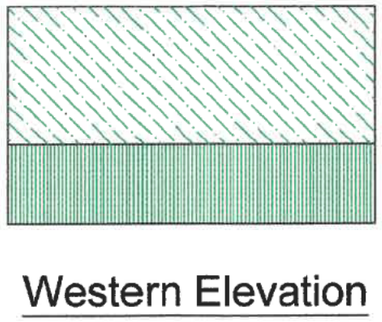
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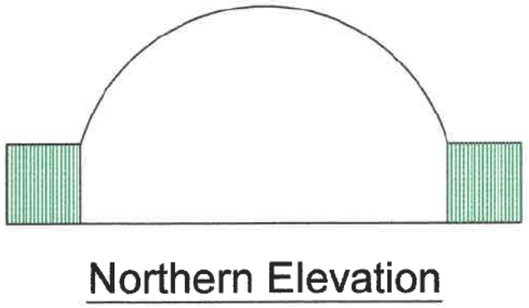
Contiguous Elevations



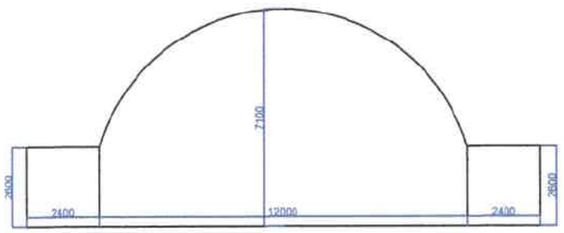
Floor Plan



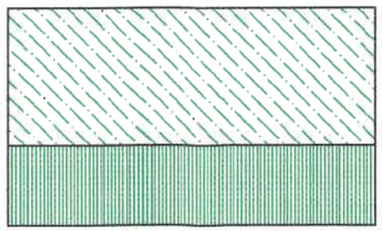
Western Elevation



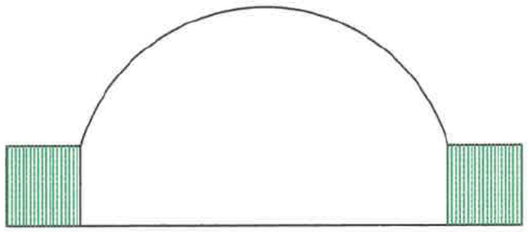
Northern Elevation



Cross Section



Eastern Elevation



Southern Elevation

Proposed Wood Processing Development
For: Michael O'Callaghan
At; Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick
Date: 15/09/2026
Scale: 1:200
Drawn By: Joe Kelleher B.Agr.Sc.
Of: Teagasc, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick

Report on application under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

File Reference number	EC-179-26
Applicant(s)	Michael O' Callaghan
Location	Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick

Description of Site and Surroundings:
The subject site is located in the townland of Ballynoe, approximately 6 km from Newcastle West. The site contains the applicant's farmyard and dwelling and can be accessed from the L-7007 which is off the R-520.

Proposal:

This is an application requesting a Section 5 Declaration on whether the following works are or are not development or are or are not exempted development:

Erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood.

This Section 5 declaration includes the following:

- Application form
- Cover letter
- Site location map
- Supporting documents
- Cross sections and elevations

Planning History:

Subject site:
08/692 Conditional Permission - construction of a silage base, two covered easyfeed sheds, a slurry reception tank, an outwintering pad and an earth lined slurry effluent store

25/191 Conditional Permission - construction of a slatted cubicle house, feed passages, slatted tanks, re-roof existing cubicle house, construct slatted tank in existing cubicle house and concrete aprons

95/9 Conditional Permission - Erection of milking parlour and dairy beef unit at

06/3803 Conditional Permission - demolition of a dairy. Construction of an easyfeed slatted cubicle house, dairy, store, milking parlour extension and a soiled water tank

Adjacent:
None

Enforcement History:
N/A

Relevant An Coimisiún Pleanála referrals:
N/A

Assessment:

Consideration as to whether a development constitutes exempted development or not is governed by Sections 4 and 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Is the proposal development?

Section 2(1) in this Act, except where otherwise requires –

'works' includes any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure.

'structure' as any building, structure, excavation, or other thing constructed or made on, in or under any land, or part of a structure so defined, and –
(b) in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes—
(i) the interior of the structure,
(ii) the land lying within the curtilage of the structure,
(iii) any other structures lying within that curtilage and their interiors, and
(iv) all fixtures and features which form part of the interior or exterior of any structure or structures referred to in subparagraph (i) or (iii);

Section 3(1) defines **'development'** as 'the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land'.

The proposal concerns, erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood**, constituting 'works' and 'development'.**

Is the proposal exempted development?
To assess whether the proposed development is exempted development, it will be assessed under Class 9 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Works consisting of the provision of any store, barn, shed, glass-house or other structure, not being of a type specified in class 6, 7 or 8 of this Part of this Schedule, and having a gross floor space not exceeding 300 square metres.

The proposed structure is a storage structure with associated facilities. It does not fall under the type specified in Class 6,7, 8 of Part of this Schedule. The total area of the shed floor is 201 m2 and therefore, does not exceed the limit of 300 square metres.

1. *No such structure shall be used for any purpose other than the purpose of agriculture or forestry but excluding the housing of animals or the storing of effluent.*

The proposed structure is a storage structure used to house firewood from an adjacent ash plantation that is proposed to be removed due to ash dieback. It will not be used for any other purpose of agriculture or forestry but excluding the housing of animals or the storing of effluent.

2. *The gross floor space of such structures together with any other such structures situated within the same farmyard complex or complex of such structures or within 100 metres of that complex shall not exceed 900 square metres gross floor space in aggregate.*

The floor area of the proposed store is 201.6 m2. There are no other structures adjacent to where the proposed structure would be located. There is a farm complex located to the north-east of the site, but this is located over 200m away at its closest point.

3. *No such structure shall be situated within 10 metres of any public road.*

The proposed store would be situated over 400 metres from the public road.

4. *No such structure within 100 metres of any public road shall exceed 8 metres in height.*

The proposed structures would range from 2.6 to 7.1 metres in height and is not within 100 m of a public road.

5. *No such structure shall be situated within 100 metres of any house (other than the house of the person providing the structure) or other residential building or school, hospital, church or building used for public assembly, save with the consent in writing of the owner and, as may be appropriate, the occupier or person in charge thereof.*

The proposed structure is not situated within 100 metres of any house or other residential building or school, hospital, church or building used for public assembly.

6. *No unpainted metal sheeting shall be used for roofing or on the external finish of the structure.*

The external finish will be shipping containers which is considered acceptable.

Article 9 Restrictions

Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2025 **Article 9(1)** **Development to which article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act—** **(a) if the carrying out of such development would—**	

(i) contravene a condition attached to a permission under the Act or be inconsistent with any use specified in a permission under the Act,	N/A
(ii) consist of or comprise the formation, laying out or material widening of a means of access to a public road the surfaced carriageway of which exceeds 4 metres in width,	N/A
(iii) endanger public safety by reason of traffic hazard or obstruction of road users,	N/A
(iiia) endanger public safety by reason of hazardous glint and/or glare for the operation of airports, aerodromes or aircraft,	N/A
(iv) except in the case of a porch to which class 7 specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies and which complies with the conditions and limitations specified in column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said column 1, comprise the construction, erection, extension or renewal of a building on any street so as to bring forward the building, or any part of the building, beyond the front wall of the building on either side thereof or beyond a line determined as the building line in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,	N/A
(v) consist of or comprise the carrying out under a public road of works other than a connection to a wired broadcast relay service, sewer, water main, gas main or electricity supply line or cable, or any works to which class 25, 26 or 31 (a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 applies,	N/A
(vi) interfere with the character of a landscape, or a view or prospect of special amenity value or special interest, the preservation of which is an objective of a development plan for the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,	N/A
(vii) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition (other than peat extraction) of places, caves, sites, features or other objects of archaeological, geological, historical, scientific or ecological interest, the preservation, conservation or protection of which is an objective of a development plan or local area plan for	N/A

the area in which the development is proposed or, pending the variation of a development plan or local area plan, or the making of a new development plan or local area plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the local area plan or the draft development plan or draft local area plan,	
(viiA) consist of or comprise the excavation, alteration or demolition of any archaeological monument included in the Record of Monuments and Places, pursuant to section 12 (1) of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 1994, save that this provision shall not apply to any excavation or any works, pursuant to and in accordance with a consent granted under section 14 or a licence granted under section 26 of the National Monuments Act 1930 (No. 2 of 1930) as amended,	N/A
(viiB) comprise development in relation to which a planning authority or An Bord Pleanála is the competent authority in relation to appropriate assessment and the development would require an appropriate assessment because it would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site,	N/A
(viiC) consist of or comprise development which would be likely to have an adverse impact on an area designated as a natural heritage area by order made under section 18 of the Wildlife (Amendment) Act 2000.	N/A
(viii) consist of or comprise the extension, alteration, repair or renewal of an unauthorised structure or a structure the use of which is an unauthorised use,	N/A
(ix) consist of the demolition or such alteration of a building or other structure as would preclude or restrict the continuance of an existing use of a building or other structure where it is an objective of the planning authority to ensure that the building or other structure would remain available for such use and such objective has been specified in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan,	N/A
(x) consist of the fencing or enclosure of any land habitually open to or used by the public during the 10 years preceding such fencing or enclosure for recreational purposes or as a means of access to any seashore, mountain, lakeshore, riverbank or other place of natural beauty or recreational utility,	N/A
(xi) obstruct any public right of way,	N/A
(xii) further to the provisions of section 82 of the Act, consist of or comprise the carrying out of works to the exterior of a structure, where the structure concerned is	N/A

located within an architectural conservation area or an area specified as an architectural conservation area in a development plan for the area or, pending the variation of a development plan or the making of a new development plan, in the draft variation of the development plan or the draft development plan and the development would materially affect the character of the area,	
(b) in an area to which a special amenity area order relates, if such development would be development:—	
(i) of class 1, 3, 11, 16, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 31, (other than paragraph (a) thereof), 33 (c) (including the laying out and use of land for golf or pitch and putt or sports involving the use of motor vehicles, aircraft or firearms), 39, 44 or 50(a) specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2, or	N/A
(ii) consisting of the use of a structure or other land for the exhibition of advertisements of class 1, 4, 6, 11, 16 or 17 specified in column 1 of Part 2 of the said Schedule or the erection of an advertisement structure for the exhibition of any advertisement of any of the said classes, or	N/A
(iii) of class 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 specified in column 1 of Part 3 of the said Schedule, or	N/A
(iv) of any class of Parts 1, 2 or 3 of Schedule 2 not referred to in subparagraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) where it is stated in the order made under section 202 of the Act that such development shall be prevented or limited,	N/A
(c) if it is development to which Part 10 applies, unless the development is required by or under any statutory provision (other than the Act or these Regulations) to comply with procedures for the purpose of giving effect to the Council Directive,	N/A
(d) if it consists of the provision of, or modifications to, an establishment, and could have significant repercussions on major accident hazards.	N/A
Article 9(2) Sub-article (1)(a)(vi) shall not apply where the development consists of the construction by any electricity undertaking of an overhead line or cable not exceeding 100 metres in length for the purpose of conducting electricity from a distribution or transmission line to any premises.	N/A
Article 9 (3) For the avoidance of doubt, sub-article (1)(a)(vii) shall not apply to any operation or activity in respect of which a Minister of the Government has granted consent or approval in accordance with the requirements of	N/A

regulation 31 of the Habitats Regulations 1997, and where regulation 31(5) does not apply.	

Appropriate Assessment

Having regard to the nature and scale of the proposed development and the absence of proximity or connectivity to a Natura 2000 European Site, no Appropriate Assessment issues arise, and it is not considered that the proposed development would be likely to have a significant effect individually or in combination with other plans or projects, on a European Site. An appropriate assessment screening report and determination is attached to this report.

Environmental Impact Assessment

Having regard to the nature, size and location of the proposed development and to the criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the Regulations it has been concluded at preliminary examination that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development. EIA, therefore, is not required.

Conclusion/Recommendation

The proposal, the erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood can be considered development. The proposal also comes within the scope of exempted development under Class 9 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2000 (as amended).

Regard has been had to –
(a) Sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended);
(b) Article 6, 9 & Class 9 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended);
(c) The plans and particulars submitted with the application received on the 17th of September 2026

It is therefore considered that the said works constitute development and exempted development under Class 9 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Student Planner	Conor Deering	**Date: 21/09/2026**
Signature:		
Senior Executive Planner	Barry Henn	**Date: 08/10/2026**
Signature		

Appendix 1: AA PN01 Screening Form

STEP 1: Description of the project/proposal and local site characteristics:	
(e) File Reference No:	EC-179-26
(e) Brief description of the project or plan:	Erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood.
(e) Brief description of site characteristics:	The subject site is located in the townland of Ballynoe, approximately 6 km from Newcastle West. The site contains the applicant's farmyard and dwelling and can be accessed from the L-7007 which is off the R-520.
(e) Relevant prescribed bodies consulted: e.g. DHLGH (NPWS), EPA, OPW	N/A
(e) Response to consultation:	N/A

STEP 2: Identification of relevant Natura 2000 sites using Source-Pathway-Receptor model and compilation of information on Qualifying Interests and conservation objectives.				
European Site (code)	**List of Qualifying Interest/Special Conservation Interest [1]**	**Distance from proposed development [2] (km)**	**Connections (Source-Pathway-Receptors)**	**Considered further in screening Y/N**

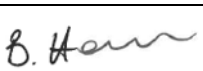
STEP 3: Assessment of Likely Significant Effects	
(a) Identify all potential direct and indirect impacts that may have an effect on the conservation objectives of a European site, taking into account the size and scale of the project under the following headings:	
Impacts:	**Possible Significance of Impacts: (duration/Magnitude etc)**
Construction phase e.g - Vegetation clearance - Demolition - Surface water runoff from soil excavation/infill/landscaping (including borrow pits) - Dust, noise, vibration - Lighting disturbance - Impact on groundwater/dewatering - Storage of excavated/construction materials - Access to site - Pests	None. No direct encroachment or hydrological connection.
Operation phase e.g. - Direct emission to air and water - Surface water runoff containing contaminant or sediment - Lighting disturbance	None. No direct encroachment or hydrological connection

- Noise/vibration - Changes to water/groundwater due to drainage or abstraction - Presence of people, vehicles and activities - Physical presence of structures (e.g collision risk) - Potential for accidents or incidents	
In-combination/Other	N/A.

(a) Describe any likely changes to the European site:	
Examples of the type of changes to give consideration to include: - Reduction or fragmentation of habitat area - Disturbance to QI species - Habitat or species fragmentation - Reduction or fragmentation in species density - Changes in key indicators of conservation status value (water or air quality etc) - Changes to areas of sensitivity or threats to QI - Interference with the key relationships that define the structure or ecological function of the site	None. No direct encroachment or hydrological connection.

(a) (Are '*mitigation*' measures necessary to reach a conclusion that likely significant effects can be ruled out at screening?
☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

STEP 4: Screening Determination Statement		
The assessment of significance of effects: Describe how the proposed development alone or in-combination is/is not likely to have significant effects on European site (s) in view of its conservation objectives.		
Given the sites size, no hydrological connection to any SAC/SPA, no encroachment on any SAC/SPA and the limited scale of the development proposed, an AA is not required.		
Conclusion: AA is not required.		
	Tick as appropriate:	Recommendation:

i. It is clear that there **is no likelihood** of significant effects on a European Site	☒	The proposal can be screened out: Appropriate Assessment not required.
ii. It is **uncertain** whether the proposal will have a significant effect on a European Site	☐	☐ Request further information to complete screening ☐ Request NIS ☐ Refuse planning permission
iii**. Significant effects** are likely	☐	☐ Request NIS ☐ Refuse planning permission
Signature and Date of Recommending Officer:	 _____ 21/09/2026	
Signature and Date of the Decision Maker:	 _____ 08/10/2026	

Appendix 2: EIA Screening

Establishing if the proposal is a *'sub-threshold development':*	
Planning Register Reference:	EC-179-26
Development Summary:	Erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood.
Was a Screening Determination carried out under Section 176A-C?	Yes. no further action required No. Proceed to **Part A**

A. Schedule 5 Part I - Does the development comprise a project listed in Schedule 5. **Part 1.** of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)? (Tick as appropriate)	
Yes. specify class: [insert here] _	**EIA is mandatory** No Screening required
X No	Proceed to **Part B**

B. Schedule 5 Part 2 - Does the development comprise a project listed in Schedule 5, **Part 2**, of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) **and** does it meet/exceed the thresholds? (Tick as appropriate)	
X No. the development is not a project listed in Schedule 5, Part 2	**No Screening required**
☐ Yes the project is listed in Schedule 5. Part 2 **and** meets/exceeds the threshold, specify class (including threshold): _[specify class & threshold here]_	**EIA is mandatory** No Screening required
Yes the project is of a type listed **but** is *sub-threshold:* [insert here] _	Proceed to **Part C**

c. If Yes, has Schedule 7A information/screening report been submitted?	
Yes, Schedule 7A information/screening report has been submitted by the applicant	**Screening Determination required**

No, Schedule 7A information/screening report has not been submitted by the applicant	**Preliminary Examination required**
Signature and Date of Recommending Officer: 21/09/2026	
Signature and Date of the Decision Maker: 08/10/2026	

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Limerick City
& County Council

An Roinn Pleanála
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh
Bóthar Thuar an Daill
Tuar an Daill
Luimneach
V94 WV78

Planning Department
Limerick City & County Council
Dooradoyle Road
Dooradoyle
Limerick
V94 WV78

t: 061 556 000

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT, PLANNING

REG POST:

Michael O' Callaghan,
Ballinoe,
Castlemahon,
Co. Limerick,
V42KH51

EC/179/26 13 October 2026

Re: Declaration under Section 5

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the above application for Section 5 Declaration on Development and Exempted Development.

Please find herewith a copy of Council's decision on same.

Yours faithfully,

(for) Senior Planner,
Development Management

LIMERICK CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL

APPROVED OFFICER'S ORDER

SECTION 5 – DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

No. AOO/DC/2026/1258

File Ref No. EC/179/26

SUBJECT: Declaration under Section 5.
Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended
Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended

RE: **Erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood at Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick**

ORDER: Whereas by Director General's Order No. DG/2026/056 dated 25th May 2026, Dr. Pat Daly, Director General, Limerick City & County Council did, pursuant to the powers conferred on him by Section 154 of the Local Government Act, 2001, (as amended by the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 and the Local Government (Mayor of Limerick) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 2024), delegate unto Barry Henn, Senior Executive Planner the functions as defined in the Local Government Acts, 1925 to 2024.

Now therefore pursuant to the delegation of the functions aforesaid, I, Barry Henn, Senior Executive Planner, having considered the report and recommendation of Conor Deering, Student Planner dated 21/09/2026, hereby order that a Declaration under Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) be issued to Michael O' Callaghan, Ballinoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick to state that the works as described above is

Development and is Exempt Development.

Signed B. Henn

SENIOR EXECUTIVE PLANNER, DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT, PLANNING

Date 15/10/2026

Comhairle Cathrach
& Contae **Luimnigh**

Limerick City
& County Council

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SECTION 5 – DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENT AND EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENT

DECLARATION NO. **EC/179/26**

Name and Address of Applicant: Michael O' Callaghan, Ballinoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick

Agent: Joe Kelleher, B.Agr.Sc, Killeedy, Ballagh, Co. Limerick.

Whether the erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood at Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick is or is not Development or is or is not Exempted Development. The works as described on the plans submitted with the application on the 17th day of September 2026.

AND WHEREAS the Planning Authority has concluded that the erection of a temporary structure to convert ash die back into firewood at Ballynoe, Castlemahon, Co. Limerick **DOES** come within the scope of exempted development under Class 9 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). See Report attached.

NOW THEREFORE the Planning Authority in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 5(2) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) hereby decides that the said development as described above is **Development and is Exempted Development.**

Signed on behalf of the said Council _____

Date: 13.10.2026

NOTE: A Declaration on Development or Exemption issued by Limerick City & County Council may be referred to An Coimisiún Pleanála on payment of €220 for review within 4 weeks after the issuing of the declaration.