



FUNDRAISING FOR AIDAN
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WIND DEMO
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Tuesday 1st November 2022 First Floor, The Boulevard, Quinsborough Road, Bray. A98 R6D7. Tel: 01 - 2869111 E-mail: wicklowed@localtimes.ie www.wicklowtimes.net

DEVELOPMENT PLAN UNDER ATTACK

Wicklow's new County Development Plan (CDP) 2022-2028 agreed in September by councillors has come under fire from builders, developers and the Minister.

The plan sought to prevent the purchasing of apartments by vulture funds. The proposal was put forward by Independent councillor Joe Behan and was voted into the Plan, against the recommendation from the Council's Chief Executive and the advice of the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR).

The amendment made it an objective of the plan to prohibit the sale of all residential devel-

opments (houses, duplexes and apartments) to institutional investors. Approved Housing Bodies are to be exempt.

Another proposal was that those working in the caring profession would get favourable treatment when applying for rural planning.

Councillor Behan told *Wicklow Times* "I am being advised that the Chief Executive is now to seek legal advice to see whether these amendments can be

included. But as far as I am concerned they were voted in by the elected members and the Minister did not mention them in his directive to the Council."

Cllr Behan said "This is a recognition by the elected members of the Council that young people in this county are being competed with for new housing units and new apartments in many cases by property investment funds. This is the only way we, as



PURE manager Ian Davis pictured hosting the PURE Mile Gala Awards Night in the Brooklodge Hotel. See page 10

the local representatives of those young people, can do something about helping them. These multi-million funds are able to come in and snap up entire developments and not allow young people the opportunity to buy them."

Twenty two builders and developers have objected to the Plan and Ireland's two largest homebuilders have sought a Judicial Review of Wicklow County Development Plan as a Result of what they describe as "a Flawed and Restrictive National Planning Framework".

Ireland's two largest homebuilders, Cairn Homes and Glenveagh Properties applied to the High Court last week (27th October) to seek a Judicial Review of the new Wicklow County Development Plan. They say their decision to seek a Judicial

Review is due to the significant reduction in the number of new homes which can be built during the six-year duration of the new Plan:

"This reduction arises from a reliance on out-of-date Census 2016 data instead of this year's Census and as a consequence, the Plan has materially underestimated Wicklow's population growth."

"All new County Development Plans are drafted in accordance with the National Planning Framework (NPF) and under the scrutiny of the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR), whose role it is to support and implement Government planning policy. Wicklow County Council recently adopted a new six-year plan which imposes a ceiling on the delivery of new homes in the county at 8,467.

This is more than 45% lower than the previous housing target.

Therefore, due to this newly imposed ceiling, there will be capac-

ity for approximately 7,000 fewer homes in

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The Chippendale family from Greystones. Pictured are dad John, twin daughters Aoife and Niamh, and mum Sharon. Aoife and Niamh celebrated their 21st birthday party in Greystones Rugby Club on Saturday 15th October with their family and wide circle of friends and neighbours. Photo by John Mc Gowan

Shave or dye fundraiser for two year old Aidan

A GoFundMe campaign has been set up by Wicklow woman Taragh Keogh, who along with members of the Pilgrims Food Masters, Shillelagh will be taking part in a Shave or Dye Fundraiser to help two year old Aidan and his family.

Aidan is a happy, bubbly two year old boy who has four older siblings. From birth Aidan has suffered chronic gut dysmotility that saw him spend his first year of life very sick in Crumlin Children's Hospital where he suffered daily from excruciating pain and vomiting.

At 8 months old, Aidan's parents were told that their son had intestinal failure and in order for Aidan to survive he would need to stay on intravenous nutrition that is delivered through a central vein line directly to his heart via his blood stream. Just before Aidan's parents took him home from Crumlin in August of 2021 Great Ormond Street



Baby Aidan

Children's Hospital (GOSH) in London agreed to look at Aidan's case and to carry out further diagnostic investigations. The family traveled to GOSH in September 2022 where Aidan spent two weeks and underwent intense testing.

On October 12th, Aidan received a diagnosis of Chronic Neuropathic Intestinal Pseudo Obstruction. This is where Aidan's intestinal nerves are malfunctioning causing major

disruption in his gastrointestinal system and for this condition there is no cure. Aidan will continue to attend appointments and undergo admissions in both GOSH & Crumlin throughout the remainder of his childhood before moving onto adult services at 17 years old.

With this comes huge financial pressure between travelling and general expenses.

Admissions to GOSH are extremely challenging due to the cost of travel and accommodation.

Aidan's needs means that he requires both parents present to attend his medical treatment and administrations. Aidan's parents use the GoFundMe page to write, "Thankfully we have been so blessed and lucky with Nigel being able to work full time from home. This has

being a major help and lifeline to our family. And giving us the security of being affectively able attend to Aidan's every need because with all the added cost of having a chronically ill child, life still goes on and all your normal every day/month house hold bills don't just disappear." To donate, see <https://www.gofundme.com/f/nvspzw-shave-or-dye-in-aid-of-baby-aidan>

Team Hope Shoebox Week

The 2022 Team Hope Christmas Shoebox Appeal aims to deliver as many gift-filled shoeboxes as possible to children for whom poverty is their everyday reality.

Team Hope is calling on parents, children, teachers, families and communities in Wicklow to build-a-box at home or online to help them reach their goal of 200,000 shoeboxes this year for children in 13 countries across Africa and Eastern Europe.

Local Wicklow Team Hope co-ordinator Brigitte Hart said, "For the children who receive these shoeboxes at Christmas, it's wonderful for them to know that people across Ireland are thinking of them and have taken time out to send joy and hope to them. We've always had such brilliant support from schools, families and communities from all over Wicklow and we're hoping to see the same fantastic response to the

Shoebox Appeal again in 2022".

It has never been easier to build a shoebox. All you have to do is find an empty shoebox, wrap it in Christmas paper and fill it with gifts for a boy or girl aged between 2 and 14, give online or attach a €4 donation and bring it to a local drop off point before the deadline of Tuesday November 8th or you can build-a-box online by donating at www.teamhope.ie. One of Team Hope's local partners will build a box on your behalf on-the-ground and make sure it goes where it's needed most.

Team Hope Shoebox Week runs this year from October 31st to November 6th and to get involved you'll find plenty of inspiration on gifts to include, or not, in your shoebox, how to donate and where to drop off your shoebox at www.teamhope.ie.

You can also drop your shoebox off at any Dealz store nationwide.

Wicklow ICA Drama Festival

The 67th Wicklow ICA Drama Festival will take place in Glenealy Village Hall 20th-22nd January 2023. This is an open festival with a section for One Act Plays and a section for Short Plays/Sketches. For further information contact Festival Director Hilda Roche at hderoiste@gmail.com or call 087 9833935.

Kilmacanogue History Society

Kilmacanogue History Society's next talk will take place on Monday 7th November at 8pm in

Kilmacanogue Parish Hall. The society stated "We are very pleased to have Brian Mac Aongus, author and scholar, as our speaker. He has a life-long interest in Irish railways and his talk will be on William Dargan (1799-1867), great railway builder and patriot. His life story is truly remarkable with many extraordinary achievements."

Aughrim and District Active Retirement

The November General Meeting of Aughrim and District Active Retirement will take place on Wednesday 2nd November at 11am to 1pm.

Laragh Walking group

On Monday mornings weekly at 10am join the Laragh walking group at the Brockagh Resource Centre for a walk around the Glendalough area for approximately one hour. No need to book, just show up on the day.

Greystones Music Circle

Greystones Music Circle takes place in Greystones Library on Wednesday 2nd November, from 7pm to 9pm. Come along to this wonderful evening. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Redford Cemetery Blessing of the Graves

Blessing of the graves at Redford Cemetery in Greystones takes place on 13th November. This annual, well-attended community ceremony will begin at 3pm. All are welcome.

Council preparing CPO for Cliff Walk

Wicklow County Council is now preparing a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) which may be needed to facilitate the reopening of the closed section of the Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk.

Cllr Stephen Stokes again raised the issue of the Cliff Walk at the monthly meeting of the Greystones Municipal District on Tuesday, October 25th. He welcomed the more direct approach that Wicklow County Council is preparing.

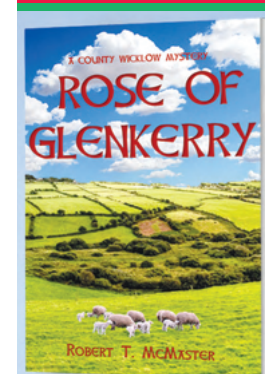
A small section on the Greystones side is currently closed. Wicklow County Council wishes to move this particular section further inland. Wicklow County Council's Legal Team have been negotiating access over a protracted period. Cllr Stokes stated: "Wicklow County Council has not been able to make a breakthrough in negotiations with the landowner so far. This is still the preferred option of course. However the big update is that Wicklow County Council is now preparing a compulsory purchase order, if needed."

During the discussions at the October District meeting, Town Manager Michael Nicholson advised that the funding to do work has a deadline, towards the end of 2023. Cllr Stephen Stokes added: "This is a time sensitive matter. Not only is there a funding deadline, but we do not want to miss another spring/summer season. In fairness I believe that the Wicklow County Council Officials are keen to see this matter resolved as a priority. So they are now about to draw up maps in case they

need to pursue a CPO."

Cllr Stokes remarked that getting the Cliff Walk fully reopened is of great importance. He concluded: "The Cliff Walk is vital as it provides a wonderful and healthy amenity for communities in North Wicklow. Additionally it brings in vital tourism to our local businesses in Greystones."

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Suffering of Greystones child raised in Dail

The shocking plight of a Greystones child awaiting vital surgery for scoliosis was raised in the Dail last week by Social Democrats TD for Wicklow Jennifer Whitmore.



12 year old Miley McKee who has been waiting on a scoliosis operation for over two years.

Deputy Whitmore called on Health Minister Stephen Donnelly to end the ongoing suffering of Miley McKee (12), who has been waiting on a scoliosis operation for over two years.

Miley, who was diagnosed with scoliosis eight years ago, had her procedure postponed because no tracheostomy nurse was available. This was despite a year of medical preparation, including x-rays and blood work, and a consultant team being in place for her surgery.

Deputy Whitmore called on Minister Donnelly to immediately intervene and prevent any further unnecessary suffering for Miley.

"Her spine has over 100-degree curvature, which according to

experts is rarely seen in the developed world," Deputy Whitmore said. "It is simply scandalous that the only thing standing in the way of her surgery is the lack of a post-op tracheostomy nurse. Otherwise, everything is ready to go."

"The Minister has received the same letters as I have from Miley's parents, who have revealed she is in constant pain and is profoundly disabled. They have described her treatment by the State as child abuse and it is hard to disagree with them."

"To have Miley linger on a waiting list for any longer would be unforgivable and a stain on our health service. Children like Miley deserve access to timely scoliosis treatment. The effort and resources invested in getting her to this point will go to waste if a tracheostomy nurse cannot be provided."

It would also be devastating for her parents to have gone through the past year and to still be no closer to Miley being treated and free from pain.

"Miley's case proves that major efforts are needed to deal with the crisis in scoliosis care. Minister Donnelly made a promise in February this year to reduce the number of children awaiting scoliosis operations longer than 4 months to zero by the end of 2022."

"This target seems cruelly and unacceptably out of reach for those children in need. The Minister needs to immediately find a solution to ensure that Miley gets the treatment she needs, and that all children in similar situations are equally taken care of. I will continue to work with Miley's parents to help her get this critical care."

Largest ever sponsorship deal for Wicklow GAA

Senator Pat Casey has welcomed the launch last week by Minister of State for Sport Jack Chambers TD of the largest sponsorship deal in Wicklow Sporting history between Echelon Data Centres, together with Beakonshaw, and Wicklow GAA.

"The total value of the sponsorship deal is €1.5m, or €300,000 per year over five years. As part of the sponsorship deal Echelon Data Centres and Beakonshaw will be Player Development Partners with Wicklow GAA from 2023 to 2028. The sponsorship covers the men's and juvenile football and hurling setups throughout all of Wicklow."

"From my work with Echelon in securing the largest commercial investment in Wicklow

in our economic history I was always anxious that there would be a significant investment in the wider society of our County. I was delighted that Echelon immediately embraced the concept of investment in sport and through these discussions a proposed partnership with Wicklow GAA was developed and now brought to a successful conclusion."

"As a former GAA player and Club Chairperson in Laragh, I am delighted that this

new five year deal will transform the growth of Gaelic games in Wicklow. There will be increased participation in GAA games at all levels, increased coaching hours in schools and a culture of high performance across all aspects of our organisation."

"The 5 year partnership will drive standards to widen the talent pipeline for Senior Inter-County squads, increase the structures around Senior, U20 & Minor Inter-County teams with the appointment of a

High-Performance Director for Wicklow GAA. There will be a further development of our high performance facilities at our Centre of Excellence, Ballinakill."

"I am delighted that this deal brings Echelon and Beakonshaw closer to the Wicklow communities of which they are a part and provides an opportunity to 'give back' to the people of all villages and towns. It allows Echelon and Beakonshaw to be a part of the wonderful GAA culture of inclusiveness and providing opportunities for men, women, and children to lead healthy and active lives."

"The significance of this deal is not only for fantastic news for all involved with the development of GAA in Wicklow but it cements the relationship of these companies in the economic and social life of Wicklow. This is why I am involved in politics - to deliver results for all the communities of our county in economic and social development. I will continue working with these companies and Wicklow GAA to ensure not only growth in local, sustainable jobs, but the

successful development of Gaelic in all areas of Wicklow."



Minister of State Jack Chambers with Niall Molloy, CEO Echelon Data Centres & CE Beakonshaw, Senator Pat Casey, and Graeme McWilliams COO Echelon Data Centres



Minister Simon Harris with a spooky skeleton at Kilcoole National School on Friday



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

Wicklow County Council Joint Policing committee will hold a public meeting on

Thursday 10th November 2022

At Little Bray Family Resource Centre, Ard Chulainn,
Upper Dargle Road, Bray, A98 VH99
Commencing 7.00 p.m.

The purpose of the JPC is to provide a forum where the local authority and the senior Garda officers, responsible for the policing of that area, can consult and make recommendations on matters affecting the policing of the area and in particular to keep under review the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour occurring and the factors underlying and contributing to it.

Membership of the committee consists of the Chief Superintendent, Senior Members of the Gardaí, Wicklow County Council Chief Executive, Elected Members and representatives from the voluntary and community sector.

The focus of the public meeting will be on policing, rather than individuals and obtaining the co-operation of the public in preventing crime. The local community will have the opportunity to make their views known and ask questions and all are welcome to attend.

To increase the productivity of the meeting and encourage greater participation written questions may be submitted prior to the meeting to hpurcell@wicklowcoco.ie or in writing to the undersigned.

Questioners should give their name and contact details, which will not be publicised. While every effort will be made to provide the information requested in certain circumstances it may not be possible for legal reasons or because it would not be in the public interest to do so.

Helen Purcell,
Senior Executive Officer,
Wicklow County Council,
County Buildings, Wicklow.

12th October 2022.



Mr Grant's 6th Class pupils from St. Coen's in Rathnew visited Dail Eireann last week as a guest of Minister Simon Harris. Speaking after meeting the class, Minister Harris said he was very happy that tours had resumed since Covid and he advised that his office will be contacting schools and communities across Wicklow and offering them the opportunity to visit Dail Eireann. Minister Harris said "I am extremely proud to invite groups to my workplace, a place where the people of Wicklow send me, to represent them. I am also aware that for many it will be their first visit and for others, it will be many years since they have been here, I hope to see you all in the coming months."

€5.3m available to support rural Wicklow communities

€5.3 million in funding is available support rural communities and enterprises across Wicklow under the LEADER programme.

Interested groups are now being invited to apply for funding under the LEADER programme which will support thousands of locally-led rural development and enterprise projects over the next five years.

Encouraging groups from across Wicklow to apply, Senator Pat Casey said, "I'm delighted to see this significant allocation of leader funding which will support local development and enterprise projects across the county over the next five years.

"Rural development and supporting rural enterprises is a core belief and value for myself and Fianna Fail. Funding streams like LEADER are imperative to supporting rural communities and enterprises across Wicklow and I would encourage all interested groups to apply.

"LEADER funding has been a very successful project for the county, and I look forward to working with local groups in their applications for this funding."

Interested parties will have until Friday 16th December 2022 to submit their Expression of Interest (Stage 1).

Minister Simon Harris has also welcomed the announcement, saying that the major investment will support thousands of locally-led rural development and enterprise projects over the next five years.

"The selection process will be conducted over two stages; the first stage is an 'Expression of Interest' by eligible groups followed by a more detailed stage which will see them develop their LEADER strategies," said Minister Harris.

"The LEADER Programme has been integral to delivering locally-led projects that have brought major benefits to communities across Rural Ireland. LEADER operates on a ground-up approach and is all about empowering local communities to deliver projects that will revitalise our towns and villages.

"I'm pleased to set out the process for selecting groups to deliver the new LEADER programme. The process will be open, transparent and competitive and I am encouraging groups in the private and public sector to work together to achieve the best possible results."

All groups that are successful in Stage 1 will be provided with funding to assist with the costs associated with developing a Local Development Strategy in Stage 2 of the process.

A fund of €2 million has been ring-fenced for this purpose which will commence in early 2023. Interested parties can now apply by visiting the Department's website.

The Department of Rural and Community Development will host an information webinar for all interested parties on 10th November. Registration for this event is open at eventbrite.ie

Greystones Independent councillor Stephen Stokes stated: "The programme focuses on a community approach to rural development. It plays an important role in supporting communities and enterprises in progressing job creation, inclusion and environmental projects at a local level."

He has urged people to get applications in advance of the December deadline. He concluded: "This funding can provide a welcome boost to local communities."

Wicklow delegates meet Minister O' Brien at PPN conference

Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien TD, addressed the fourth National Public Participation Network Conference held in the Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise on 21st October.

The two-day event was hosted by Laois Public Participation Network, in conjunction with Laois County Council, the Department of Rural and Community Development and the National PPN Advisory Group.

The Conference was attended by a wide range of individuals, representing PPNs throughout the country, local authority officials, elected representatives and others who support the work of the Network including a delegation from Co Wicklow PPN and Wicklow County Council.

The conference had a varied and interesting agenda of workshops and talks, and included site trips to a number of locations in the vicinity of

Portlaoise where delegates met with local community organisations that are members of the PPN.

In his address, Minister O'Brien commended the work carried out by PPNs over the past two years in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the arrival of displaced Ukrainians into Ireland over the past few months.

PPNs have collaborated with local authorities and other local agencies on the community response to both of these events, providing key information to and from local community groups on the ground who were carrying out front-line activities to support vulnerable people in their local communities.



Wicklow Delegates attending the National PPN Conference (from left to right): Patricia Reilly, Mai Quaid, Michael Conlon, Niamh Wogan, Minister Joe O'Brien, Helen Howes, Grainne Quinn, Michael Nicholson, and Carina Holmes

O'Connor calls on Donnelly to donate vacant Enniskerry building to Council

Independent Councillor Rory O'Connor has written to Minister Stephen Donnelly TD to donate a vacant HSE owned building in Enniskerry to Wicklow County Council for community purposes.

The building is called 'An Curam' and is situated in the centre of Enniskerry village. It has been vacant for several years. The building itself needs a repairs, with estimated costs being close to €250,000.

Councillor O'Connor said "We currently are facing a housing and refugee crisis. We need fast action by Minister Donnelly to help get this building into the council's hands, so we can begin applying for grants to get it repaired and turn it into something useful. The longer it takes for this building to get into council hands, the more damage will be done to the building and increase the general costs of its full repair.

"I'm asking minister Donnelly if he can sit down with the HSE and find a way to speed up this process with the council as a matter of urgency."



'An Curam', situated in the centre of Enniskerry village

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'Putting lipstick on a pig cannot hide the lack of political priority to refurbish Wicklow Courthouse'

Sinn Féin TD John Brady has criticised the failure of the government to act and provide the necessary funding for the refurbishment of the former District Court in Wicklow Town.

The courthouse has been in a state of dereliction and disrepair since it was closed on health and safety grounds in 2010. Following questioning again by Deputy Brady, Minister for Justice Helen McEntee again confirmed that there are plans for a four-courtroom courthouse for Wicklow Town. This will involve extending and refurbishing the existing courthouse, but has been superseded in priority by plans to open another courthouse in Dublin, the new Family Law complex at Hammond Lane and no commencement date has been given for Wicklow Town.

Deputy Brady said "While I welcome the confirmation by the Minister that there are plans to refurbish and extend the Wicklow Town Courthouse, the reality is that Wicklow Town has been waiting since 2010 to see the refurbishment work carried out on the courthouse. It is deeply disappointing that the necessary refurbishment works have again been pushed down the road. I

have been pushing the issue of the closed courthouse now since I was first elected as a TD. Unfortunately, no political priority has been given to reopen the courthouse which is in a landmark building in Market Square in Wicklow Town.

"In early 2018 the Minister for Justice said Wicklow Courthouse would be included in the ten-year capital plan. It was also stated that some demolition works to facilitate a planned extension would take place in early 2018. Four years later no works have commenced and the latest response from the Minister fails to commit to any timeframe as to when the work will start.

"The courthouse in Wicklow Town stopped holding District Court sittings in 2010 having previously ended Circuit Court sittings back in 2008. Due to huge pressures on the court service in Bray a decision was taken to reopen the closed courthouse in Wicklow Town. The plan is to extend and refurbish the courthouse in Wicklow town to provide a significantly larger 4 courtroom venue together with a range of facilities for staff, the judiciary, persons in custody, jurors, legal professionals, other state agencies and members of the public.

"Unfortunately, not only has a clear timeframe for the reopening of the courthouse not been outlined; the works required

to facilitate it have been kicked down the road again. This is bitterly disappointing and clearly shows the interest the government has in Wicklow Town. Political intervention is now needed from the Government TDs here in Wicklow to ensure that the work to reopen the courthouse is given priority.

"And while I am aware that there is a government TD in the county claiming credit for cleaning up the front of the courthouse, he can't really put lipstick on a pig, and try to convince us that it is anything other than a pig in a poke. A rub of a power washer, and a lick of paint on the railings outside cannot disguise the dereliction of the building which has been left lying empty as a result of government indifference now for twelve years.

"If the best that we can hope for from government representatives in the county is a half-baked cosmetic job, when what Wicklow Town needs to hear is a strong commitment to carry out the works that they have undertaken to complete, we are in trouble. Government TDs have the capacity to influence government decisions, or at least they should have.

"And that is what we need to see, intervention by the government TDs here in Wicklow to ensure that the government puts in place the funding to ensure that the necessary works are carried out. There is a ridiculous situation at present where we have a homeless crisis, as a result of the government failure to address the housing crisis, yet we also have a building lying

derelict for twelve years. A derelict building where there is heating kept on, ostensibly to prevent dampness. But in effect the government is doing nothing more than using taxpayer money to keep the rats warm in the empty courthouse, while families are being forced to freeze in their homes as they cannot afford the luxury of both food and heat as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.

"In the meantime, the people of Wicklow Town will be left with what is a derelict building in the middle of their town. We need to see action by the government TDs in Wicklow to push the government towards releasing the necessary funds, not a putty and paint job to attempt to fool people that there is not a problem here."



South Wicklow Cumann na mBunscol will be holding a Young Whistlers' (Gaelic Football) course on Wednesday 9th November from 3:30-4:30pm in The County Grounds, Aughrim. Schools have been asked to send a 5th/6th class boy and a girl on the day. These Young Whistlers will be asked to help referee at upcoming blitzes.



Wicklow Town's former Courthouse



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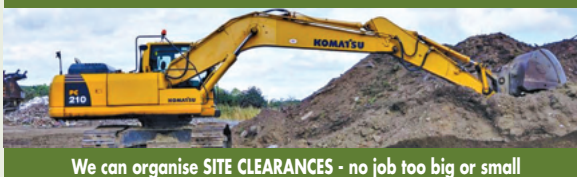
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- 4" Clean Crushed Concrete
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DEVELOPMENT PLAN UNDER ATTACK

Continued from page 1

Wicklow over the six years of this Plan than was available under the previous Plan. This significant reduction will impact the delivery of social, affordable and private homes.

"This will also indirectly impact the delivery of education, healthcare and infrastructure facilities that will be needed to meet Wicklow's growing population. No homebuilder should have any authority in deciding where new homes are built. All planning applications on lands already zoned for residential development must be approved by the appropriate authorities through due process. As a consequence of the Plan, Wicklow County Council could have no alternative but to refuse planning permission, or impose restrictive phasing, on serviced zoned lands which they previously decided was suitable and appropriate for the delivery of much needed new homes during a continuing housing crisis.

"The Government has committed to review the NPF in 2023 to ensure that there is a sound mechanism behind the framework, underpinning its integrity. Population growth, headship rates, household formation, obsolescence and the impact of migration will be clearer with the publication of the definitive results of Census 2022 in the second quarter of 2023.

"The ceiling imposed by the new Plan is therefore considered premature in this context and potentially damaging if based on flawed and restrictive data, underestimating housing needs. In advance of this review, Wicklow County Council is seeking to adopt a new County Development Plan which misunderstands the need for new homes in the county and misapplies the caps which will determine how many new homes will be built."

Michael Stanley, Chief Executive, Cairn said: "It makes no sense to significantly reduce

the capacity for building new homes throughout Wicklow, while our population is increasing and the societal need for new home delivery across all tenures has never been greater following a decade of undersupply.

"We are in favour of appropriate plan-led development through our planning process and the delivery of not just housing, but also the broader community infrastructure. We fully support the principles of the NPF and its longer-term implementation strategy. The strategy provides for practical transitional arrangements, where these long-term objectives are met over a number of county development cycles, and not shoe-horned into one single cycle.

"This is not good for Ireland and not good for Wicklow. We are a decade into a housing crisis and a generation of Irish citizens are being shut out of the housing market. We need to prioritize increasing the supply of new homes."



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



COUNTY WICKLOW RESIDENTIAL ZONED LAND TAX (RZLT)

A new tax to activate land for residential purposes was introduced by the Department of Finance and the Revenue Commissioners in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage as Section 80 of the Finance Act 2021. The tax measure is aimed at incentivising residential development rather than generating revenue for the State.

In order to implement this new tax measure, local authorities are required to undertake mapping to identify the lands in scope for the tax in their respective functional areas, with provisions allowing those landowners identified as being within the scope to challenge this decision by making submissions to the local authority or, where the challenge to the local authority is unsuccessful, An Bord Pleanála. Thereafter, the administration of the tax measure will be undertaken by the Revenue Commissioners.

A draft map for County Wicklow, prepared under Section 653C of the Taxes Consolidation Act 1997, will be published on **01 November 2022** on the Wicklow County Council website <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax> and will be available for inspection at the Planning Department in Wicklow County Council HQ, Wicklow Town from **01 November 2022**.

The draft map has been prepared for the purposes of identifying land that satisfies the relevant criteria and is to be subject to the residential zoned land tax.

Residential properties, notwithstanding that they may be included on the draft map, shall not be chargeable to the residential zoned land tax.

Land which satisfies the relevant criteria is a reference to land that -

- (a) is included in a development plan, in accordance with section 10(2) (a) of the Act of 2000, or local area plan, in accordance with section 19(2)(a) of the Act of 2000, zoned -
 - i. solely or primarily for residential use, or
 - ii. for a mixture of uses, including residential use,
- (b) it is reasonable to consider may have access, or be connected, to public infrastructure and facilities, including roads and footpaths, public lighting, foul sewer drainage, surface water drainage and water supply, necessary for dwellings to be developed and with sufficient service capacity available for such development, and
- (c) it is reasonable to consider is not affected, in terms of its physical condition, by matters to a sufficient extent to preclude the provision of dwellings, including contamination or the presence of known archaeological or historic remains, but which is not land -
 - i. that is referred to in paragraph (a)(i) and, having regard only to development (within the meaning of the Act of 2000) which is not unauthorised development (within the meaning of the Act of 2000), is in use as premises, in which a trade or profession is being carried on, that is liable to commercial rates, that it is reasonable to consider is being used to provides services to residents of adjacent residential areas,
 - ii. that is referred to in paragraph (a)(ii), unless it is reasonable to consider that the land is vacant or idle,
 - iii. that it is reasonable to consider is required for, or is integral to, occupation by -
 - (I) social, community or governmental infrastructure and facilities, including infrastructure and facilities used for the purposes of public administration or the provision of education or healthcare,
 - (II) transport facilities and infrastructure,
 - (III) energy infrastructure and facilities,
 - (IV) telecommunications infrastructure and facilities,
 - (V) water and wastewater infrastructure and facilities,
 - (VI) waste management and disposal infrastructure, or
 - (VII) recreational infrastructure, including sports facilities and playgrounds,
 - iv. that is subject to a statutory designation that may preclude development, or
 - v. on which the derelict sites levy is payable in accordance with the Derelict Sites Act 1990.

Submissions on the draft map may be made in writing to the local authority concerned **not later than 1 January 2023**, regarding -

- i. either the inclusion in or exclusion from the final map of specific sites, or
- ii. the date on which a site first satisfied the relevant criteria.

Publication of the draft maps provides a key opportunity for landowners and members of the public to participate in the process. Submissions should be restricted to setting out and providing information establishing to the satisfaction of the local authority, why the land does or does not meet the qualifying criteria set out in section 653B of the Act.

Relevant issues to be considered may relate to lands not being connected to or being unable to be connected to services, being occupied by a particular use which benefits from an exclusion or being subject to criteria such as contamination which could warrant exclusion.

Matters which are unrelated to the criteria identified in section 653B such as planning permission, commencement on land in-scope, finance, or personal circumstances are not matters that can be taken into account during consideration of submissions. Furthermore the size of the landholding, ownership of the land by private, public or semi-state bodies, lack of knowledge of ownership or transfer of ownership cannot be considered.

Submissions regarding removing an existing permanently-occupied house from the maps will not be considered, as residential premises will not be liable for the tax under the terms of the legislation.

Submissions may be made in one of the following ways:

1. Write to Administrative Officer, Planning Department, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96, **marked 'RZLT'**
2. Online through the Council's consultation hub at www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub
3. Email RZLT@wicklowcoco.ie

Submissions should include a name and address, reasons for inclusion or exclusion of lands, along with a map of scale 1:1,000 (urban area) or 1:2,500 (rural area) where the submission is made by a landowner, clearly identifying the area of land subject of the submission.

Any such written submissions received by 1 January 2023 other than such elements of a submission which may constitute personal data, shall be published on the website maintained by the local authority concerned not later than 11 January 2023.

Where land identified on the draft map is included in a development plan or local area plan in accordance with section 10(2)(a) or 19(2)(a) of the Act of 2000 zoned -

- i. solely or primarily for residential use, or
- ii. for a mixture of uses, including residential use,

Where land is identified on the draft map as being subject to the residential zoned land tax, a person may, in respect of land that such a person owns, make a submission to the local authority requesting a variation of the zoning of that land. Any such submission should include evidence of ownership, detailed reasons for any rezoning request, along with a map to a scale of 1:1,000 (urban) or 1:2,500 (rural) clearly identifying the relevant plot of land.

All rezoning requests made will be considered by the Local Authority having regard to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

More information can be found of the Council website at <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Planning/Residential-Zoned-Land-Tax>



Key milestones achieved by Irish Water as horizon looks bright for Arklow

Arklow is a town steeped in history. Ever since the Vikings made landfall in the 8th century, the town has embraced its sea-faring traditions and today is a bustling urban area with a population of 12,000. The Avoca River and Irish Sea dominate the landscape and are at the centre of life and commerce.



Paul Fallon, Programme Manager at Irish Water

A lot has been achieved since the sod was turned just over a year ago to mark the €139 million investment by Irish Water to construct a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant in Arklow.

Once operational the plant will eliminate the equivalent of 14,000 wheelie bins per day of untreated wastewater entering the Avoca River. Irish Water continues to make substantial progress in advancing this essential project for the people of Arklow. Looking back since the first overturned sod marked the beginning of a busy year of construction, the existing buildings on the treatment plant site were demolished and the inlet pump station and the treatment plant buildings have progressed significantly. Out in the town on the network sites, the underground tunnel along the North Quay containing a new interceptor sewer has been completed. The river crossing tunnel and the installation of a new

interceptor sewer on the South Quay has started and will continue into 2023.

The project will bring significant benefits to the local community including environmental protection and improved water quality in the River Avoca for angling, water sports, and marine life. It will also act as a catalyst for housing and support economic growth and development in the town.

Speaking about the benefits of this essential project for the local community, Paul Fallon, Programme Manager at Irish Water, said "This project once completed will end the unacceptable practice of discharging untreated sewage into the Avoca River. The Arklow Wastewater Treatment Plant project demonstrates how Irish Water is delivering infrastructure that is critical for the health and economy of our communities across Wicklow and Ireland. The provision of adequate wastewater treat-



The tunnel boring machine being launched into the underground shaft in Arklow

ment, in a manner that protects the natural environment and subsequently our health, is essential to the growth and development of this beautiful town."

Arklow's Viking trading heritage came with a modern twist during the Summer as a long sea outfall pipe measuring 310 meters in length was shipped 1,000kms across the open sea from Norway to Arklow Port alluding to times past. This pipe has been successfully installed along the seabed using specialised equipment and marine vessels, which will safely discharge treated wastewater to the Irish

Sea, when the new treatment plant is operational.

Mr Fallon added, "The sea outfall pipe alone, which forms an integral part of the overall project, will help protect the Avoca River and this scenic coastline, and will enhance the tourism value of the historic town of Arklow."

This project represents another major milestone in Irish Water's capital investment journey to end the unacceptable practice of discharging untreated sewage into our waterways and sea. 60% of all raw sewage discharges by volume have been eliminated since the establishment of

Irish Water and Arklow is the largest remaining town without treatment. The commencement of this project and the progress made throughout 2021 and 2022 means that we are on track to eliminate the vast majority of raw sewage discharges in Ireland by 2025. As we look to the future, the next phase of project will involve works in parts of the Avoca River. The works are scheduled to begin before the end of the year and will take approximately three months to complete. Irish Water will continue to keep the community of Arklow informed about

the next phase and progression of these essential works.

Irish Water would like to thank the people of Arklow for their continued support and cooperation while we progress this important project. Irish Water is responsible for the delivery of all public water and wastewater services in Ireland. We are committed to continuously upgrading and developing critical infrastructure to support the growth needed in housing and across our economy, while protecting the environment and safeguarding water supplies.

GETTING THE HOUSE CHRISTMAS READY

As soon as Halloween is over with, our attentions will turn to Christmas and all that entails. While gift shopping is the main priority, equally important for many is getting their house in ship-shape for visiting friends and family.

Now is the perfect time to take care of those odds jobs - both big and small - on the inside and outside of the house. There may be damage to your roof or gutters that needs to be

addressed, or your gutters may need to be cleaned. Perhaps your carpets need a professional deep clean, or your chimney needs to be swept.

2022 may have taken its toll on your roof, causing holes, leaks or broken tiles. Your guttering is just as important and can easily be effected by ice, snow and excess water, so check you have no blockages or leaks. If water in your gutter isn't running freely it can overflow and cause serious damp problems.

Likewise, your garden may need maintenance work or you may wish to give your garden a facelift in time for the New Year. Check that your fencing, shed or greenhouse hasn't been damaged and clear the garden of debris. You may find that outdoor furniture and fittings are covered in mould or mildew from all the rain lately. Garden paths or driveways may also have come under attack from moss or algae.

As we'll be spending more evenings at home, getting some new furniture is a great way to change things up at home,



adding to the cosy and comfy atmosphere, and who doesn't love the feeling of a new sofa in the living room or a fancy new dining set in the kitchen - especially for Christmas. Sometimes you might not want to part with that rug in the living room or that sofa you love so much. If that's the case, consider professional cleaning and upholstery.



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‘Sinn Fein motion places onus on Govt to act on public transport failures’

Sinn Fein TD John Brady made a passionate contribution to the debate on a Sinn Fein Motion on Transport which was designed to deliver a safe, affordable and reliable public transport, which came before the Dail last week.

Deputy Brady spoke about the difficulties encountered on public transport by members of the public in Wicklow, particularly in relation to the problems with three bus routes in the county operated by Go-Ahead Ireland, and the failure of the government to extend the short hop system as far as Arklow, and the need for a public transport policing unit to be introduced under An Garda Síochana.

"That the Motion was not opposed by the government now places an onus on the government to act to address some of the many problems impacting on our public transport system," said Deputy Deputy Brady.

"While I welcome the decision by the government to not oppose the Sinn Fein motion, we now need to see some real and meaningful action being taken by the government. For if public transport is to work, if it is to provide an attractive and viable alternative for commuters, it must be safe and accessible, it must



John Brady TD

affordable, and it must be reliable.

"To date, the public transport system has been plagued by government failures, and poor decision making. The decision by the government to privatise 10% of the services previously provided by Dublin Bus four years ago, has proven to be a disaster for the public. In Wicklow the three routes at the centre of the difficulties with Go-Ahead are the 45a, the 184, and the 185, service the towns of Kilmacanogue, Kilcoole, Greystones, Newtown-mounkenedy, Ennis-kerry and Bray.

"I am being contacted on a daily basis by bus users on a daily basis who are complaining of being let down by Go-Ahead Ireland. We are talking about workers trying to get to work in the morning, about students attempting to get to school or college, about ill patients attempting to make their way to hospital appointments, whose right to safe, affordable, reliable, and accessible public transport being denied to them as a consequence of the failure of the government to act decisively against Go-Ahead.

"We have regular instances of buses not turning up, of buses being cancelled, or the bizarre situation where the driver decides to change the route from the scheduled advertised route which Go-Ahead has tendered to deliver in order to make up time if they are running late. So, we have the crazy situation where the driver assumes the right to take an alternative route, while there are passengers on the bus waiting

to alight at their scheduled stop, with other members of the public waiting at their bus stops along the way and the bus driver has decided to take a short cut that cuts them all out. This is inexcusable.

"On Monday of this week, the 45A was cancelled a total of seven times, and that is just one bus route. The situation is now so intolerable that even the Minister can no longer justify his continuing failure to act. The National Transport Authority needs to cancel their contract with Go-Ahead and give it back to Dublin Bus. The failure to extend the short hop zone, which currently runs to Kilcoole, to as far as Arklow needs to be addressed. I have continuously raised this issue with the Minister. Incredibly, the Minister's rationale for his failure to extend the short hop zone to Arklow is that too many people will use it. This beggars belief.

"If the government is serious about lessening the numbers of cars on our roads, there needs to be a viable public transport system that meets the needs of commuters. The government has singularly

failed to provide this." Commenting on the need to make public transport safe for users Brady continued: "Following a meeting with National Bus and Rail Union (NBRU), we have called on the Minister for Justice Helen McEntee to establish a public transport policing system within An Garda Síochána without delay.

"There are major concerns amongst members of the public and transport unions in respect of anti-social and criminal behaviour on public transport. Almost 80% of

people support the introduction of a public transport policing system. Some 93% of people have witnessed anti-social behaviour while using public transport. "Transport workers and members of the public need to feel safe on public transport. A dedicated public transport

policing system would address the growing problem of anti-social and criminal behaviour, which includes open drug use and drug dealing, harassment and intimidation of passengers and staff, along with excessive alcohol use."



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Housing for All
A new Housing Plan for Ireland

AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME

AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT MURROUGH VIEW, GREENHILL ROAD, WICKLOW TOWN, COUNTY WICKLOW – APPLICATION DATE CHANGE

Due to a high level of interest Wicklow County Council has decided to push back the opening date for application for the Affordable Housing Scheme on Greenhill Road to December 14th at 09.00.

A total of 36 affordable homes, consisting of 12 two bedroom houses, and 24 three bedroom houses are being made available for sale by Wicklow County Council in the residential development of Greenhill Road, Wicklow under affordable dwelling purchase arrangements in accordance with the Affordable Housing Act 2021 and associated Affordable Housing Regulations.

The houses are available for purchase by first time buyers who do not own or have a legal interest in a dwelling, with some exceptions applicable. The dwellings will be sold at a price that is lower than market value, such price to be determined in accordance with the income of the purchaser. The minimum prices to be paid by eligible purchasers for dwellings are detailed in the table below.

All purchasers will sign up to an 'Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangement' with Wicklow County Council. Wicklow County Council will retain an 'Equity Share' in the property, equal to:

'The difference between the open market value of the dwelling and the Purchase Price paid by successful applicants' expressed as a percentage of the Open Market Value of the dwelling.'

Wicklow County Council may not seek realisation of this Equity Share for a 40-year period (with exception where a breach of the agreement occurs). However, successful affordable purchasers can choose to redeem or purchase the Equity Share in the dwelling at any time by means of one or a series of payments to Wicklow County Council.

To be eligible to apply for the scheme, applicants must satisfy the following criteria:

1. Be a First-Time Buyer or meet the exceptions under the Fresh Start Principle.
2. Each person included in the application must have the right to reside indefinitely in the State.
3. The affordable home must be the household's normal place of residence.
4. Applicant's purchasing power must not exceed 95% of the market value of the property.
5. Comply with the typical gross household income limits for eligibility for each dwelling type as set out in the following table.

No. of units	Beds	Type	Story	House Price	Minimum House Price
6	2 bed	Terrace	2 Storey	€280,000	€222,716
6	2 bed	End Terrace	2 Storey	€290,000	€236,702
16	3 bed	Terrace	2 Storey	€315,000	€252,295
8	3 bed	End Terrace	2 Storey	€330,000	€275,618

We advise that applicants have Mortgage Approval in Principle prior to applying for this scheme.

Where the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of affordable dwellings for which applications are made, applications will be prioritised in accordance with Wicklow County Council's Scheme of Priority. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of affordable dwellings for sale, the following will apply:

- In respect of 70% of the dwellings, date and time of application, will be a ranking mechanism on which eligible applications will be prioritised on a First Come First Served basis under Wicklow County Council's Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements.
- In respect of the balance of 30% of the dwellings, priority to be given to households whose current address as given in the application form is in the County of Wicklow. Date and time of application will also be a ranking mechanism on which eligible applications will be prioritised under Wicklow County Council's Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements.

Applications will be accepted via an online application portal only which will go live on Wednesday 14th December at 09.00AM. The portal will then be open for 3 weeks.

Further information on this scheme, including the Scheme of Priority, link to the application form and support documentation required, is available at www.wicklow.ie/affordablehousing or email affordablehousing@wicklowcoco.ie



Erin Byrne from St. Mary's College Arklow getting in some flying practice last week ahead of the Halloween Bank Holiday weekend

Volunteers celebrated at Pure Mile Awards

After a two-year absence, The Pure Mile Gala Evening Awards was back on this year in the Brooklodge Hotel on the 27th October, to celebrate the hard work and achievements of all the Pure Mile Volunteers in Cleaning Up The Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

The Pure Mile is an environmental, community, heritage initiative, established by the Pure Project, which encourages communities and groups living in rural areas of Wicklow, South Dublin and Dun-Laoghaire, to adopt a mile of road, or miles of road, in their local area, or in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands and organise litter picks, clean-ups, anti-dumping campaigns, research information about their local wildflowers, plants, trees, animals, and the built, cultural, and social heritage of an area. The Gala Evening is an opportunity for all of the Pure Mile Groups to meet for one night, in one room, and celebrate all of their hard work and achievements in Cleaning Up The Wicklow/Dublin Uplands,

and for Pure to thank them all.

Certificates of Participation were presented to all Pure Mile Groups on the night by the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Tommy Annesley, Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Emma Murphy, and Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, T.D., Simon Harris.

On the night, the Cathaoirleach for Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Tommy Annesley stated, "Wicklow is an amazing landscape, and The Pure Mile demonstrates that the people of Wicklow both value and care about this natural resource, and I would like to congratulate and commend all of the Pure Mile Volunteers."

2022 was the thirteenth year of the Pure Mile, with the largest number of groups and volunteers involved in the project since it was established in 2009. In the first year the Pure Mile had 6 miles of road (9.6 kilometres), and over the years the project has grown extensively to involve communities, groups, individuals, scouts, beavers, schools, walking groups, cycling groups, running groups, hiking groups, businesses and organisations, who have collectively improved and enhanced over 850 miles (1,368 kilometres), of road, mountains, woodlands, valleys, forestries, upland amenities, car parks, and even some coastal areas, with the removal of tonnes of illegal dumping and litter from the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

Over 1,600 litter picks and clean-ups were organised in 2022 and additional projects included, natural heritage, built heritage, community, biodiversity, and education.

Mayor of South Dublin, Cllr. Emma Murphy, also stated that, "The Pure Mile project plays a vital part in protecting our rural communities. As Mayor of South Dublin, I am especially proud of the opportunity which Pure Mile affords local communities and community groups in South Dublin, empowering them to make positive contributions in their communities, assisting them to enhance their local environments and taking pride of place in our beautiful rural landscapes. Recognising the work of these groups involved in the Pure Mile Project is important - it provides an opportunity to showcase good practice and the brilliant work being done in our communities. Congratulations to all nominated groups and communities."

The groups ranged from all over Wicklow, South Dublin and Dun-Laoghaire and each one received a Pure Mile Certificate of Participation, native Irish trees, and all will be included in the popular Pure Mile Calendar, which will also be launched this year. There were a number of Certificates of Recognition presented on the night with cash prizes reaching over €6,000 distributed to groups which will further assist them in their local projects to improve and enhance the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands.

Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, T.D., Simon Harris, spoke about the success of the Pure Mile and mentioned, "This has been the biggest year to date but the challenge has



Cllr Sylvester Bourke, PURE Manager Ian Davis, and Cllr Edward Timmins present the Irish Mountain Running Association and the Wayfarers Walking Group with their Clean Up the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands award

never been bigger either. Tonight, is an important chance to recognise and thank volunteers across Wicklow, keeping our county and our community cleaner and safer. It is a testament to each and every one of our volunteers that give up their spare time to make Wicklow a better place for the people who live, work and visit our county."

The Pure Mile is the perfect opportunity for communities and groups who want to make a positive contribution to their locality and environment, and assists people in improving and enhancing the place they live in, or recreate in. Special interest groups such as, walking groups, cycling groups, scout groups, businesses, and organisations, adopt a mile, or miles of road, in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands and help Pure to Clean Up The Uplands. Pure provide all groups with Pure Mile signage, Pure Mile high-vis vests, Pure

Mile bags, gloves, and litter pickers and Pure also removes all of the rubbish collected by the groups.

Ian Davis, Pure Project Manager commented on the success and growth of the 2022 Pure Mile: "The Pure Mile has grown every year and we now have thousands of volunteers who are rediscovering their local areas, or adopting areas in the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands, becoming more aware of their natural environment and landscape, the flora and fauna, and appreciating their built heritage. This year we saw some large-scale clean-ups and litter picks which resulted in the removal of approximately 4,000 bags of rubbish and illegal dumping from the Wicklow/Dublin Uplands. Over the years the Pure Mile Volunteers have removed tonnes of litter and illegal dumping from upland roads, verges, hedges, and drains, and they have made a huge difference to the areas they live in, or recreate in."



Minister Simon Harris and PURE Manager Ian Davis present Amira Morgan Darcy with the PURE Mile Youth Ambassador Award



Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District Cllr Pat Kennedy, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council Tommy Annesley, Minister Simon Harris, and PURE Manager Ian Davis present the Barraniskey, Ballincarrig, Donard/Glen, and Manor Kilbride Pure Miles with the Litter Free Pure Mile Awards.

2022 PURE MILE AWARDS

Litter Free Pure Miles

1. Manor Kilbride Pure Miles - Three Castles, Glen Heste, Golden Hill, The Banks, The Triangle, The Village
2. Donard Glen
3. Ballinacarrig
4. Barraniskey
5. Enniskerry - Ballybrew, Curtlestown, Kilmolin, Kilgarron, Barnamire
6. Ballyteigue, Wheeler's Lane, Ballinatombay, Ballinabarney
7. Beech Road, Millennium Road, Love Lane, Shelton.

Anti-dumping campaign

8. Grange Con Pure Miles
9. Glenmalur Pure Miles
10. Moylisha Pure Miles

Clean Up the South Dublin Uplands

11. Bog Trotters Walking Group Pure Miles
12. Trekkers Walking Group Pure Miles
13. Gunny Hill Pure Miles
14. Atha Cliath Cleanup The Uplands Team
15. Glencree Walking Group Pure Miles
16. Cruagh Pure Miles

Clean Up The Wicklow/Dublin Uplands

17. Wayfarers Waking Group
18. Irish Mountain Running Association

Community Group

19. Cool Killer Cow Whisperers Pure Miles

Community & Education

20. Laragh, Ballard, Kilafin, Brockagh Pure Miles

Education

21. Avoca Scouts

Individual Awards

22. Susan O'Neill (Tomriland Pure Miles)
23. Myles O'Neill (Rednagh Annacurra Pure Miles)
24. Gerard Hanway (Avondale Pure Miles)

Certificates of Recognition for Corporate Engagement

25. EcoTrail
26. Glendalough Whiskey/USBG
27. Lugalla Estate
28. Sales Force
29. Vagabond
30. Zoetis



The fireplace has been a focus-point of the home for many generations and everyone loves the comfort and warmth provided by a traditional fire. However, open fires and chimneys are major sources of heat loss.

An open fire is approximately 30% efficient, whereas a modern stove can reach efficiencies of 80% or more. SKC supplies an extensive range of stoves, which are on display in our Wicklow showrooms.



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Cian Murphy pictured with LauraLynn Ambassador Garry Ringrose

LauraLynn partner with Rugby Players Ireland

LauraLynn has announced a partnership with Rugby Players Ireland, the representative body for professional rugby players across the country. The partnership which has the tagline, 'Little Moments - Big Impact', focuses on creating special moments and experiences for children and families who avail of LauraLynn's specialist care and supports as well as raising awareness for LauraLynn.

The partnership aims to shine a light on children's palliative care and showcase how it can stretch so far beyond medical care. The collaboration kicked off in October with two fully accessible rugby games against some of Ireland's top stars.

LauraLynn CEO, Kerry McLaverty commented; "We are so delighted to be partnering with Rugby Players Ireland this year - this partnership embodies so much of what LauraLynn is all about, teamwork, collaborating and having fun. We are so grateful to all of the players and the Rugby Players Ireland team for helping us to raise awareness and also for creating special experiences and moments for the children and families we support. These little moments have a huge impact and create memories that will last a lifetime for families. We are excited to work with Rugby Players Ireland to create lots more special little moments going forward."

Bray for Love's Winter Solidarity Dinner

A Bray Refugee Solidarity initiative is currently being planned. For the first time in two years, Bray for Love and Bray Refugee Solidarity are bringing back the Potluck Solidarity Dinners which enable connections to be made between those in direct provision and others living in Ireland. The dinner is expected to take place this December.

An online fundraiser has been in order to make the dinner possible (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/bray-for-love-winter-solidarity-dinner>), with funds raised going towards the purchase of gift cards for children attending, minibuses for attendees, play area equipment for children living in the day and other essentials such as food and drink.

The fundraiser is hoping to raise €5,000



Kitchen of Hope at Coláiste Ráithín

Druid Chef Rory Morahan has organised a fundraiser called Kitchen of Hope, which will take place on Monday, 7th November at Coláiste Ráithín in Bray from 6:30pm-10pm. The event is to raise funds for Beaumont Hospital and the Royal Hospital Donnybrook to thank them for caring for Rory's son Cathal after he was involved in a car crash in January.

"Cathal was driving home from work when he crashed his car late at night and had to be cut out by paramedics," says Rory.

His survival was touch and go at one point, and he spent several days in a medically-induced coma, but he has since gone on to make a miraculous recovery, thanks to the wonderful staff at both hospitals, and he returned to work earlier this year.

Kitchen for Hope will be attended by Neven Maguire, the Merrion Hotel's Paul Kelly, Karl Clarke, and Sysco Ireland's Simon Hudson to take part in a celebrity cooking challenge on the night.

It will also be attended by rep-

resentatives from the ambulance service, the gardai, nurses, doctors, and the Beaumont Hospital and Royal Hospital Donnybrook charity teams.

There will also be a food market, music and a raffle with some great prizes as well as video messages from the likes of Ainsley Harriott and Jean-Christophe Novelli.

"This is a cause that is obviously close to my heart following a traumatic, and stressful year and I am trying to maximise the funds to be donated to the two hospitals that cared for my son," says Rory.

"In our hour of need, all we had was hope, and this is why I have

organised Kitchen of Hope: to help the system for others who experience what we went through. There is no such thing as a free lunch and my wife Carmel and I would like to give something back.

"We aim to put on a quality culinary show, and educate and entertain the audience, while sending the message that life is so precious, and we need to look after each other in these times."

Tickets for the event are available on Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.ie/e/kitchen-of-hope-tickets-441469445997) for €22.20 with all proceeds going to the hospitals.

Wicklow organisations invited to apply for Heart of the Community Fund

The Ireland Funds, the global philanthropic network, has opened applications for its Heart of the Community Fund 2022, which will provide funding in response to the needs of not-for-profit organisations across the island of Ireland.

The fund of at least €500,000 is open for applications until 2nd November. Two Wicklow-based charities were supported by the fund in 2021. The initial Heart of the Community Fund which was launched in 2021, has provided support to non-profit organisations in Wicklow including Dunlavin Community First Responders and

Greystones Family Resource Centre.

The Heart of the Community Fund 2022 will continue to respond to the sector by encouraging organisations to present their unique needs, be that operational or programmatic support. The Ireland Funds will also place a particular focus on supporting applications that focus on an organisation

investing in its own sustainability. Awards will be offered in three tiers - €5,000, €10,000 and €20,000.

The Ireland Funds is strategically positioned within the non-profit sector and is able to swiftly identify and prioritise vital areas for the fund including food distribution; disability support; domestic and child abuse; elderly services; access to education; mental health and community support.

Siobhan Gallagher, Executive Director of The Ireland Funds, said: "The Ireland Funds is

proud to have supported Ireland's non-profit sector, North and South, with funds of €414,000 through the Heart of the Community Fund to date. The generosity of The Ireland Funds donors highlights the network of people around the world that continue to support these extraordinary organisations across the island of Ireland, offering vital supports to those who need it most."

For more information on The Ireland Funds Heart of the Community Fund 2022, please visit - <https://www.ireland-funds.org/grants/>

Brain Tumour Ireland calls on Wicklow to support Wear A Hat Day

Ireland's only dedicated brain tumour charity, Brain Tumour Ireland (BTI) is calling on people in Wicklow to wear their favourite hat on Friday, 4th November 2022 and donate €4 to support the charity's vital work for brain tumour patients and their families.

Over 400 people are diagnosed with a brain tumour in Ireland each year with many contacting Brain Tumour Ireland for support following a diagnosis. As well as online support groups for patients and families in Wicklow and across Ireland and practical information for patients, Brain Tumour Ireland raises awareness of brain tumour symptoms among the public and medical professionals and contributes funding to brain tumour research.

This year, Brain Tumour Ireland has partnered with milliner Sinead Gormley, who will donate a bespoke hat as a prize for the 'Best Selfie' posted with the hashtag #WearAHatDay. The cause is close to Sinead's heart as her own father died from a brain tumour 18 years ago when she was 26.

Fiona Keegan, National Coordinator of Brain Tumour Ireland said: "On Friday the 4th of November, we're inviting people in Wicklow to don their favourite hat for our annual Wear A Hat Day fundraiser. Our brilliant milliner for the year, Sinead will be judging the best selfie, so don't forget to post yours online using #WearAHatDay and to donate €4 to Brain Tumour Ireland by texting BTI to 50300.

"We are so thankful to everyone who makes the effort to support the work of Brain Tumour Ireland by making a donation on Wear A Hat Day. At the heart of our work is the support we provide for patients and families in Wicklow and throughout Ireland with over 200 people availing of our services since January 2021. We receive no State funding, so our #WearAHatDay campaign is essential in keeping our services running year-round."

This month, the charity will mark 10 years since its foundation with the launch of new information resources for patients and their families on www.braintumourireland.com. Further new supports will be launched in early 2023 including an online support group for parents, an online bereavement support group and individual counselling support for adults.



Pictured at the launch of Wear A Hat Day 2022 were brain tumour survivor Pamela Tully; brain tumour survivor Logan Gray and his mother Ariane Gray; milliner Sinead Gormley and Brain Tumour Ireland representatives Emma Synnott and Fiona Keegan.



WICKLOW COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2022-2028

DIRECTION IN THE MATTER OF SECTION 31 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)

Notice is hereby given under Section 31 (7) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) that the Minister of State at the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage has issued a **Draft Ministerial Direction** regarding the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 - 2028 to Wicklow County Council as follows:

"Development Plan" means the Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028

"Planning Authority" means Wicklow County Council

WHEREAS the powers and duties of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) ("the Act"), other than the power to prosecute an offence, have been delegated to the Minister of State at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage pursuant to the Housing, Local Government and Heritage (Delegation of Ministerial Functions) Order 2020 (S.I. 559 of 2020).

WHEREAS the Minister of State at the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 31 of the Act, and consequent to a recommendation made to him by the Office of the Planning Regulator under section 31AM(8) of the Act hereby directs as follows:

- (1) This Direction may be cited as the Planning and Development (Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 - 2028) Direction 2022.
- (2) The Planning Authority is hereby directed to take the following steps with regard to the Development Plan:
 - (a) Reinstate the following settlement boundaries and zoning objectives to that of the draft Plan:
 - (i) Amendment V1 – 11(a) (Kilpedder – Willowgrove), i.e. the settlement boundary reverts to the draft Plan.
 - (ii) Amendment V1 – 13 (Johnstown) i.e. the settlement boundary reverts to the draft Plan.
 - (iii) Amendment V2 – 99 (Ashford) i.e. the settlement boundary reverts to the draft Plan and the subject land reverts to unzoned from RN- New Residential.
 - (iv) Amendment V2 – 103 (Carnew) i.e. the settlement boundary reverts to the draft Plan and the subject land reverts to unzoned from RN- New Residential and OS1 Open Space.
 - (b) Delete the following zoning objectives from the settlement zoning map for Aughrim:
 - (i) R2.5 – New Residential (Low Density)
 - (ii) AUG 4
 - (c) Delete both Objective CPO7.xx inserted under Amendment V1-31 and associated Map 7.01:
To provide for a new nursing home/ residential care facility for the elderly at location shown on Map 7.01
 - Kilmullen, Newcastle (c.2ha)

STATEMENT OF REASONS

I. Pursuant to section 31(1)(b), section 31(1)(ba)(i) and section 31(1)(c)

The Development Plan as made includes material amendments to the draft Plan, that individually and cumulatively are not consistent with the Core Strategy, national and regional planning policy, and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, including:

- (a) Land zoned for residential development in the Level 5 settlements of Ashford, Carnew and Aughrim inconsistent with Core Strategy housing supply targets and settlement hierarchy for Wicklow County in the adopted Plan
- (b) Settlement boundary extensions and land zoned for residential development (including for a nursing home / residential care facility) located in peripheral locations removed from the existing settlement, and in the absence of infrastructure required for such development, inconsistent with the requirements for compact growth in NPO 3c and RPO 3.2, the tiered approach to zoning in NPO 72, the proportionate growth of rural towns in NPO 18(a), and the sequential approach to development having regard to the policy and objective of the Development Plans Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2022) regarding the sequential approach (section 6.2.3).
- (c) Land zoned for a nursing home / residential care facility in a peripheral and non-sequential location outside of any settlement boundary, and remote from services and amenities, inconsistent with objective CPO 6.32 of the Development Plan in relation to housing for the elderly.
- (d) Settlement boundary extensions and land zoned for development in locations that would facilitate a pattern of car dependent development inconsistent with objectives to promote sustainable settlement and transportation strategies.

The development plan as made therefore fails to set out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

II. Pursuant to section 31(1)(a)(i)(II) and section 31(1)(a)(ii)(II)

The Development Plan has not been made in a manner consistent with and has failed to implement the recommendations of the Office of the Planning Regulator under Section 31 AM.

III. Pursuant to section 31(1)(b)

In light of the matters set out at I to II above, the Minister is of the opinion that the Development Plan fails to set out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

IV. Pursuant to section 31(1)(c)

In light of the matters set out at I to III, above, the Development Plan is not in compliance with the requirements of the Act.

A copy of the Draft Direction may be inspected at the following locations from Thursday 03 November 2022 to Wednesday 16 November 2022 inclusive:

- The Council's website www.wicklow.ie (documents are available to view and download)
- County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96 (usual opening hours)

SUBMISSIONS / OBSERVATIONS

Written submissions or observations in respect of the Draft Direction may be made **from Thursday 03 November 2022 to Wednesday 16 November 2022 inclusive** and shall be taken into consideration by the Minister before he directs the Planning Authority.

Submissions may be made in one of the following ways:

1. Write to Administrative Officer, Planning Department, Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Town, A67 FW96, marked 'County Development Plan'.
2. Online through the Council's consultation hub at www.wicklow.ie/Living/ConsultationHub
3. Email planreview@wicklowcoco.ie

All submissions should include your name and a contact address, a map (where appropriate) and, where relevant, details of any organisation, community group or company etc., which you represent. Please make your submission by one medium only, i.e. hard copy or e-mail.

All submissions will form a part of the statutory Chief Executive's report to be submitted to the Minister and the Office of the Planning Regulator.

Please be advised that all submissions received will be published online in accordance with the requirements of the Planning Act. You should ensure that no vexatious, libelous or confidential information, including confidential information relating to a third party (in respect of which the third party has not, expressly, or impliedly in the circumstances, consented to its disclosure) is included in your submission. The Planning Authority reserves the right to redact any submission or part thereof that does not comply with this requirement. Please be advised that the name of the person(s)/group(s) who made the submission will be published, but personal data will be redacted.

YOU ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO MAKE YOUR SUBMISSION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 5:00PM WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2022.

LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

SSE hits the beach for offshore wind workshops

Renewable energy owner, operator and developer SSE Renewables has been championing the green energy message to students across Wicklow and North Wexford through a number of educational interactive workshops on local beaches.

The company which is currently developing the second phase of Arklow Bank Wind Park partnered with pioneering Belgian not-for-profit company 'Offshore Wind 4 Kids' to deliver six sessions to almost 150 children from Gaelscoil an Inbhir Mhóir, Carysfort National School, Arklow; Brittas Bay National School, The Glebe National School, Wicklow Town, and Réalt na Mara, Riverchapel, Courtown, Co. Wexford.

The workshops centered around the story of offshore renewable energy and explored the different types of technology that can be deployed to deliver an offshore wind farm.

Students, through fun

experiential learned about the benefits of offshore wind and enjoyed constructing their own model foundations and turbines and catching the wind.

SSE Renewables is the first renewable energy developer to bring OffshoreWind4Kids to Ireland and the workshops were delivered free to the local schools over a week-long period.

Members of the SSE Renewables' team were on hand to lend their help and expertise during the workshops which were thoroughly enjoyed by students, school staff and the SSE team.

Community Engagement Manager at SSE Renewables Deirdre Keogh said: "We are very proud to have hosted this



Pupil and teachers from Gaelscoil an Inbhir Mhoir with Thomas Beuckelaers of OffshoreWind4Kids and Deirdre Keogh of SSE Renewables at Arklow South Beach for the Offshore Wind Demo Day

week-long series of workshops. Community Engagement is a crucial part of the development process and we at SSE Renewables are always

seeking to share information about the Arklow Bank project, the benefits it will bring to the region and the huge contribution it will make in relation to our national climate action targets. Thanks to all the schools who took part and made the workshops such an interesting and rewarding experience".

SSE Renewables is developing Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 approximately 6 - 15 km from the shore along the coast of Wicklow and North Wexford. Once operational, the project will generate enough clean energy to power approximately 850,000 homes each year and offset around 830 million kilos of harmful carbon emissions annually.



Students from Brittas Bay National School with Deirdre Keogh from SSE Renewables at the Offshore Wind Demo Day at Brittas Bay beach



Students and teachers from The Glebe National School in Wicklow Town with Thomas Beuckelaers of OffshoreWind4Kids and Deirdre Keogh of SSE Renewables at the Offshore Wind Demo Day at Brittas Bay

Fisheries Fund supports new pontoon at Arklow's South Dock

The Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 Fisheries Fund will support Wicklow County Council on the delivery of a new, state of the art commercial fisheries pontoon at South Dock in Arklow Harbour.

At a special meeting of Arklow Municipal District on 2nd September, the Members approved the Part 8 associated with the development of a pontoon at South Quay, which will facilitate the commencement of works. SSE Renewables will co-develop this infrastructure with Wicklow County Council which was part-funded under the Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 Fisheries Fund.

The annual €50,000 fund, which is available to the commercial fisheries community, was launched during the early development phase of the project.

The sum of €120,000 will be invested by SSE Renewables to support delivery of the pontoon. SSE Renewables Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) Brendan Dillon engaged with the fishing industry members very early in this campaign to better understand the preferred initiative.

A series of proposals were considered and after further consultation with Wicklow County Council and all relevant stakeholders, it was agreed that the pontoon initiative would progress to the planning consultation process.

Kaj Christiansen, Development Manager, SSE Renewables said: "The Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2 project team is delighted to see this project progressed, the benefits of which we hope the local commercial fisheries community will enjoy for many years to come. The support of the Arklow Municipal District members who approved of the delivery of the pontoon shows a commitment to the fishing industry and the ambitions of SSE Renewables to deliver the Arklow Bank project."

Brian Gleeson, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council said: "We welcome this

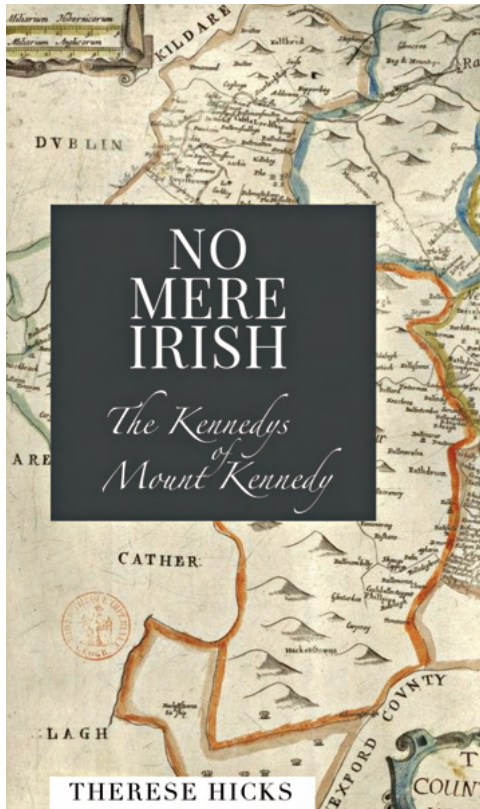
contribution from SSE Renewables, which together with Wicklow County Council's investment of €200,000 in the project from the Brexit Adjustment Local Authority Marine Infrastructure (BALAMI) Scheme will enhance and improve the facilities in berthing Arklow Harbour."

Cllr. Tommy Annesley, Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council said: "I wish to acknowledge this significant contribution by SSE Renewables to this project, which clearly demonstrates their commitment to Arklow Harbour. This pontoon will be of significant benefit to the fishermen and will ultimately improve safety and efficiency when accessing and egressing their vessels." Wicklow County Council will now progress design and procurement activities to ensure delivery next year.



Students and teachers from Carysfort National School in Arklow with Deirdre Keogh of SSE Renewables at Arklow South Beach for the Offshore Wind Demo Day

'No Mere Irish' - The Kennedys of Mount Kennedy



On Sunday 6th November, Therese Hicks will launch her new history book on the Kennedys of Newtownmountkennedy, in the Parkview Hotel at 6:30pm.

The seventeenth century in Ireland was a time of huge change. At its beginning, there were still significant areas under Catholic Gaelic ownership and cultural sway; by the end -almost none. The story of how the island made this journey is not well known.

This Kennedy family provides us with a window into a turbulent century. They were one of the few Gaelic lines who not only became thoroughly anglicized, but who went that one step further and embraced Protestantism. Their story shows how this accelerated their rise to power and improved their social standing as they became lords of a manor and baronets.

Yet despite their adroit manoeuvring, the instability of the times eventually led to their undoing.

Hicks' book 'No Mere Irish - The Kennedys of Mount Kennedy', will be of interest to those who live in Newtownmountkennedy and the surrounding communities in Co Wicklow, but also to anyone who is interested in Irish history. When told from a family's own experience, history comes alive.

Therese Hicks, originally from the United States, has lived in Newtownmountkennedy for the past 20 years. After retiring from the HSE as a psychotherapist in 2014, she returned to her earlier interest in history, and began to look into the local history of her current home. Her investigations led her to the estate papers of the Kennedys of Mount Kennedy. With much assistance from professional historians, she has discovered their story, not previously told.



Mary and John Finley with historian Stan O'Reilly at the launch of Stan's new book, 'Wicklow Folklore and Paranormal' in St. Brigid's Hall, Rathnew.

Wicklow author and bookshop shortlisted for Irish Book Awards

Wicklow author Audrey Magee and Bridge Street Books bookshop in Wicklow Town have been unveiled as shortlisted for the An Post Irish Book Awards 2022.

The An Post Irish Book Awards celebrate and promote Irish writing to the widest range of readers possible. Each year it brings together a vast community passionate about books - readers, authors, booksellers, publishers and librarians - to recognise the very best of Irish writing talent and 2022 is no different.

The shortlist for the An Post Irish Book Awards 2022 features a diverse mix of exceptional writing from new and established writers across 18 categories, including Novel of the Year, Children,

Cookbook, Crime Fiction, Popular Fiction, Non-fiction, Sports, Lifestyle, Short Story, Irish language, Poem, Newcomer, Teen and Young Adult, Irish Published and Biography.

Bridge Street Books has been shortlisted for Bookshop of the Year and Audrey Magee has been shortlisted for her second novel *The Colony*. Audrey is a Wicklow-based author and former journalist. Her first novel, *The Undertaking*, was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction, for France's PRIZ DU

Premier Roman and the Irish Book Awards, as well as the Dublin Literary Award and the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction.

The Colony was published by Faber & Faber in February. Also a work of historical fiction, it's set in 1979; as violence erupts all over Ireland, two outsiders, an English painter and a Frenchman, travel to a small island off the west coast in search of their own answers, despite what it may cost the islanders.

To tie in with the announcement of the An Post Irish Book Awards shortlist, the public are now being asked to cast their votes online for the best books of the year on the An Post Irish Book Awards website

www.anpostirishbookawards.ie. All voters will be entered into a prize draw to win one of five E100 National Book Token vouchers. Voters may cast their votes from 9am on October 21st until voting closes on November 10th. A live in-person ceremony to celebrate the winners will take place on Wednesday 23rd November in the Convention Centre in Dublin.

Meanwhile, a one-hour special, hosted by Oliver Callan, will be broadcast on RTE One television on Wednesday 7th December exploring the six books and authors competing for the accolade of 'An Post Irish Book Awards Book of the Year 2022', culminating in the reveal of this year's overall winner.

Wicklow referee assault recalled in new book

John Scally's new book *100 Great GAA Controversies* recalls one of the most controversial episodes in Wicklow football. Scally writes:

The greatest champion of referees I ever met was John B. Keane. He soared into a near operatic standard of storytelling to make the case for them to me:

'There is a daring breed of men whose exploits never make the front pages of newspapers, whose heroics forever remain unsung, whose visages will never be seen on our television screens and about whom no songs are made. Be that as it may, what matters is that this breed of men is common to every generation and no matter what abuses or tortures the breed suffered in a previous generation, it will always bob to the surface in this present one. It will show itself to be unsullied and untainted by previous wrongs and it will carry on with the job regardless.

'I refer, of course, as if you didn't know, to that dauntless band of gentlemen, none other than those heroes who referee junior football matches. Now don't get me wrong. There are few of us who loved the game who did not at one time or another find ourselves with a whistle in the hand when the appointed referee failed to turn up. This is all very well but, while we may have acted the part once, nothing on this earth could induce us to do so again. We did it and we wrote it down to experience. 'We were

grateful to escape without injury and those who suffered physically were even more resolved never to be caught again with a whistle in the hand.

'The hero to whom I refer is he who comes out Sunday after Sunday to do the needful in the matter of refereeing. Often his task is easy and pleasant but only when one team is so much better than another that a referee is not needed at all. His life is in danger however when there is nothing between the teams. Then, in the eyes of the partisans, his every decision is riddled with prejudice and no matter what way he points the finger he is greeted with a storm of catcalls and booing. To these he is impervious and he takes them for granted. It is when he makes the genuine mistake that he is in serious trouble. Nothing will convince the injured party but that it was deliberate. First the ball is flung at the referee. Then he is abused with a wide range of choice epithets.

'The best I heard of came at a junior semi-final. All went well and our friend staggered around without falling. What saved him was the fact that he did not blow the whistle. Then following a long bout of booing he blew and having blown he could not remember why. The pitch

was invaded but, completely in command, our friend raised his hand and announced that he had blown the whistle in order that two minutes silence might be observed. Nobody asked who was dead. It wouldn't do to exhibit such ignorance.'

While John B. created humour out of these situations he also recognised that there were times when it was anything but funny. Tipperary-based referee Willie Barrett was struck on the back with a hurley in 2010 by a supporter.

Down Wicklow Way

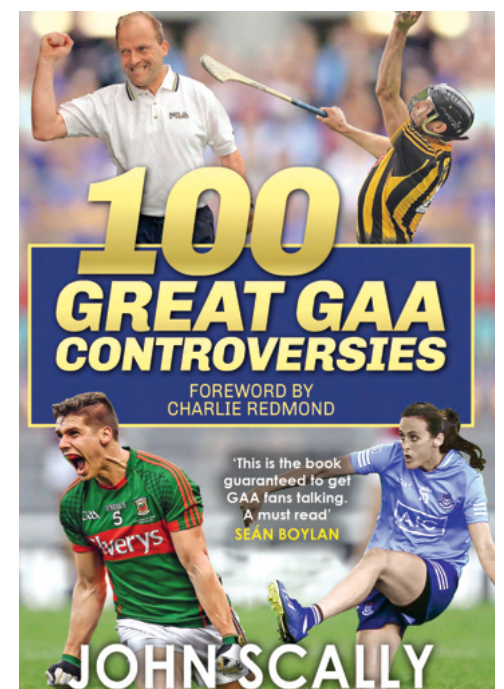
In 1985 Johnny Price made national headlines following Blessington's one-point win over Annacurra in the Wicklow under 21 B football final in Baltinglass. Price, walked to his car to change and get ready for his journey home to Roundwood from Baltinglass. His youngest son, David, was seated in the front seat when he heard a loud noise, the sound of the car's rear door slamming shut. During the game his father had sent off a player from Annacurra and while he was changing afterwards three men approached him and shouted abuse at him, before one forced him inside the car. Reports in the local media claim that it took the intervention of the county vice-chairman Liam O'Loughlin and Baltinglass secretary, Garda Seamus Kelly, to rescue Price from the boot of his car.

A week earlier in Arklow, Price had suffered a severe assault in the course of a league match between Aughrim and Bardarrig which left him out cold for a short time. He was punched twice and kicked in the ribs while on the ground. Showing remarkable physical and moral courage Price got to his feet finished refereeing the match.

However, the story of a referee locked in the boot of his car created a media sensation. The Annacurra fan who

attacked Price at his car was banned for life by the GAA. Mr Price died in 2005.

100 Great GAA Controversies by John Scally is available in all good bookshops now.



Arklow filmmaker named as a finalist at Waterford International Film Festival

Arklow based filmmaker Dave Thomas has been named a finalist in the Best Short Screenplay category at the 16th Waterford International Film Festival which takes place between 21st and 27th November, online and with physical screenings.



Dave Thomas

Dave's screenplay titled 'Seven Moments in Time' is one of only twenty finalists. On hearing that he

was a finalist, Dave expressed his delight and gratitude to the festival Judges.

"It is a great honour when festival judges read your work and connect with its story, then award you

as a Finalist among twenty others," says Dave.

"Sometimes you get an idea for a story, and you play around with it in your head, that's what I do, and if you feel it has merit, then you get working and write it all

down. In this case, with Seven Moments in Time, once the idea hit me, I knew I had a good solid story with a strong opening with a lot of humour, a dramatic middle, and an emotional end. My fingers could not keep up with my brain as I tried to write it all down as quickly as possible in case I forgot some part of it," Dave recalled.

"The story is about an older man crossing paths with a teenager as they clash over a public park Bench. The older man, who will be played by well-known Irish actor from stage and screen Pat Nolan, clearly does not like teenagers, or is weary of them, and the teenager has very much the same feelings towards the older man. So, from the very start, there are sparks between them, a sort of war of words and put-downs. The audience get to see the two meet and exchange comments, jibes and more over seven moments in time. There is a lot of humour and drama, plus the story



Dave directing on the set of his film Aretha with Denise McCormack, Conor Mullen and Dale O'Brian

will play with your emotions.

"While it's just a story in a film, I hope the film delivers the message I am trying to convey. Older people should never have to feel threatened or weary of younger people, but sadly that's the way of the world. However, if there was a mechanism whereby we could bridge the gap between the two generations, I

feel the world would be a better place. Each one could learn from each other, by sharing their stories, giving insights to their individual worlds they live in. It would be an enriching experience for everyone. I would love to have my film screened in schools, community centres, youth organisations and centres where older folks meet. But first I need to make the film,

and that's where the crowdfunding comes in.

"Short films are not commercial, they are not supported by major film studios, they are usually made on a shoestring and by dedicated talented film people who share one common goal, to tell an engaging story. Crowdfunding for Seven Moments in Time has started, and we have 34 individual donations. Two businesses also

kindly donated, Unique Café and Patisserie in Arklow and Woodenbridge Hotel and Resort. Individuals can donate any amount, and we have two options for businesses, with all the details on the GoFundMe Page."

Dave and his Team hope to commence production of the film during next Summer. The GoFundMe page can be reached at <https://gofund.me/93f42f8b>



BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA
CHILL DARA AGUS CHILL MHANTÁIN
KILDARE AND WICKLOW
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for full time and part time posts which may arise:

NON TEACHING POSTS:

Clerical Officer (Grade III) - Permanent Panel required for KWETB Head Office, Naas, Co. Kildare.

Clerical Officer (Grade III) - Permanent Panel required for KWETB Sub Office, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow

Clerical Officer (Grade III) - Temporary and part time panel required for KWETB Head Office, Naas, Co. Kildare

Clerical Officer (Grade III) - Temporary and part time panel required for KWETB Sub Office, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow.

Caretaker – full time – Bray Institute of Further Education, Bray Co. Wicklow

Youth Officer, Wicklow Town, Co. Wicklow

All details and on-line application forms are available on KWETB website's recruitment page:

<https://kildarewicklow.etb.ie/recruitment/current-vacancies/>

TEACHING POSTS:

Teacher of Construction Studies and DCG - Coláiste Bhríde, Carnew, Co. Wicklow

SEN Coordinator – Coláiste Ráithín, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Chemistry and Science – Coláiste Ráithín, Bray, Co. Wicklow

Teacher of Biology – Confey College, Leixlip, Co. Kildare

French and English – Scoil Chonglais, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow

All details and online application form are available on KWETB website's recruitment page

<https://kildarewicklow.etb.ie/post-primary-teaching-vacancies/>

Dr. Deirdre Keyes, Chief Executive

An Irish Story - Une Histoire Irlandaise

Written and Performed by Kelly Riviere

Mermaid Arts Centre, Friday 4th November, 8pm. Tickets: €18/€16, Duration: 125 mins.

Presented by the Centre Culturel Irlandais (Paris) with the support of the Embassy of France in Ireland.

From 1930s Ireland to 21st century France, Kelly Riviere brings us on a breath-taking investigation of her origins.

Riviere's grandfather was Irish through and through but emigrated to England in 1949, in a bid to escape poverty. He then disappeared mysteriously. This could have been the end of the story but, when her son was born, the actress decided to delve into the family secrets in search of her roots.

What better way than the realm of theatre to give life and breath to someone who left very few traces in the real world? Kelly Riviere narrates her story with humour, brilliantly embodying over twenty-five characters. A true one-woman show, An Irish Story evokes our own ghosts as well..



Kelly Riviere



**Wicklow
Volunteer Centre**

Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Cill Mhantáin

The County Wicklow Volunteer Centre (CWVC) is an independent organisation committed to the promotion, development and support of volunteer participation in Wicklow county and its natural environs. The Centre is currently recruiting for

VOLUNTEERING DEVELOPMENT OFFICER - DISPLACED PERSONS

Position:

Reporting Directly to: County Wicklow Volunteer Centre Manager

Location:

County Wicklow. There will also be the opportunity to work from home where necessary and beneficial for the role.

Salary:

€2,400 per month

Tasks will include:

- Working with displaced persons to explain the meaning of volunteering in Ireland, how one can volunteer locally, and the opportunities available. If necessary, accompanying them to their first volunteering session.
- Working with local volunteer-involving organisations to explain the particular needs of displaced people in volunteering
- Supporting local organisations to create or adapt volunteer roles to be suitable for displaced persons
- Developing a relationship and working with other service providers including the HSE, Bray Area Partnership, County Wicklow Partnership and others.
- Working with the staff of the County Wicklow Volunteer Centre to arrange placements for displaced people in suitable volunteer roles.

Deadline for applications: 9th November 2022 @ 5pm.

Please send a CV and covering letter to leah@volunteerwicklow.ie

For further information please see www.volunteerwicklow.ie

People aged 55 and over invited to get back to playing music

Music Network and Wicklow County Council Arts Office are inviting Wicklow residents aged 55 and over to get back to playing music.

They are being invited comprising renowned (flute/recorder) and Robin Panter (violin/viola). project with Trio Tain, (harp), Vourneen Ryan The focus of this project



is on returning to playing an instrument and sharing the joy of group music-making. Participants will receive tuition from the trio on harp, flute, recorder, violin or viola from November 2022 to March 2023. Tuition is free, and instruments can be provided if necessary for the project's duration.

Applicants must be aged 55 or over, residents of County Wicklow, and have previous experience playing music. Some experience of reading music is welcomed. The project will be based at Wicklow County Campus, Clermont House, Newrath, Rathnew Co., Wicklow. To apply, either visit www.musicnetwork.ie or phone 01 4750224. The closing date for applications is 8th November 2022, at 2pm.

Wicklow County Arts Officer, Jenny Sherwin, stated: "Drawing on the musical backgrounds of

ensemble-in-residence Trio Tain, the tuition programme will offer participants the opportunity to explore music from baroque, classical, folk, pop and world genres."

Participants must be available on all project dates (please visit www.musicnetwork.ie or phone 01 4750224 for details). While the preference is for in-person events wherever possible, lessons can take place via video call if necessary, in which case technical support to enable online learning will be offered to participants.

Places are limited to 15. Priority will be given on a first come first served basis, however additional selection criteria include the availability of teaching slots, geographical spread throughout the county, availability of instruments, playing experience and ability to partake in the full programme. The Wicklow Teaching Residency is presented by Wicklow County Council Arts Office and Music Network. This initiative is funded by Creative Ireland.

RECRUITMENT



COMHAIRLE CONTAE CHILL MHANTÁIN
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to form a panel from which future permanent and temporary vacancies may be filled:

- **BIODIVERSITY OFFICER**
(3 YEAR FIXED TERM CONTRACT)
Salary €53,626.00 – €74,544.00 per annum gross (Includes 2nd LSI)
REF: 41/2022
- **COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION OFFICER**
(3 YEAR FIXED TERM CONTRACT)
Salary €51,526.00 – €62,950.00 per annum gross (Includes 2nd LSI)
REF: 45/2022
- **TEMPORARY PROJECT LIAISON OFFICER**
(5 YEAR FIXED TERM CONTRACT)
Salary €71,093.00 – €88,727.00 per annum gross (Includes 2nd LSI)
REF: 35/2022

Application Forms and further details may be obtained from Enterprise & Corporate Services at 0404 20159 or by emailing recruitment@wicklowcoco.ie and on the Wicklow County Council website www.wicklow.ie.

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS IS 12 NOON ON THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER, 2022 SHARP.

Wicklow County Council reserves the right to shortlist candidates in the manner it deems most appropriate.

Wicklow County Council Is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Lorraine Gallagher, Director Of Services
Enterprise & Corporate Services
Wicklow County Council
County Buildings
Wicklow

Phone: 0404 20159
Fax: 0404 20112
e-mail: recruitment@wicklowcoco.ie

Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG Unique Opportunity: Enterprise Hub Manager

Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG was established in 2017 as a not-for-profit company. Led by Wicklow County Council and key stakeholders, its mission is to oversee the construction, development and management of key, demand led, enterprise hub infrastructure. Over a series of strategic sectoral developments, it will maximise the potential of Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew, a 55-acre site dedicated to Enterprise, Education and Innovation.

Its first project, the Content Creation Enterprise Hub, was backed by Regional Enterprise Development Funding in 2020 and is currently under construction but scheduled to open in Q1 2023. The company now wishes to recruit a Full Time Manager to manage the day to day running of the Clermont Content Creation Enterprise Hub at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to the role of Hub Manager to manage the day to day running of the Enterprise Hub and its users and to roll out screen-sector specific business supports. This full-time contract position will run over a 3 year period, remunerated at €60,000 per annum. This position will report to the board of Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG and is based in Rathnew, occasional travel may be required. Past experience working in the screen sector and / or managing an enterprise hub are a pre-requisite.

Interested applicants can request an information booklet with further information by emailing enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie and on <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Wicklow/News/Press-Releases/> or <https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Your-Council/Job-Vacancies>

Application Process

Interested applicants are invited to post 3 copies of the application form to Head of Enterprise, LEO Wicklow, Clermont House, Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew and email a soft copy to enterprise@leo.wicklowcoco.ie by closing date Friday 11th November at 12noon. Please use 'Content Creation Enterprise Hub Manager Role' in the subject line of your email. As part of your application, you should set out your skills and experience to meet the requirements of the position.

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: 12noon on Friday 11th November 2022.

Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG reserves the right to shortlist candidates in the manner it deems most appropriate. Clermont Enterprise Hub CLG is an equal opportunities employer



Jobs Open Day

Saturday 12th November
11:00am - 3:00pm

Ravenswell, Bray
Co. Wicklow, A98 NN25
(North Wicklow Educate
Together Campus)

Come join the team!

- Walk in interviews
- Communication workshops

St John of God DSE has lots of new opportunities in Residential Services for Social Care Workers and Registered Nurses, Intellectual Disability

Come along to our recruitment day and chat with some of the team

Registration is easy just go to www.sjogdse.ie

Bring your CV along on the day and interview on the spot!

Check out our vacancies on
www.sjogdse.ie/jobs



We are currently searching for an ambitious, experienced and focused
DIRECTOR OF NURSING
for our established nursing home here in Bray.
The DON will be supported by and be a key part of a management team.



We have 43 beds and employee over 50 people. You will be responsible for the day to day smooth running and management of the nursing home, with assistance from the Provider Representative and General Manager.

JOB SPECIFICATION:

- The DON will undertake the role and responsibilities of the Person-in-Charge in line with the Health Act 2007, related regulations and the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) standards.
- To ensure the development of a person-centred model of care which is driven by a respect for the rights of older people and are focused on quality of life measures meaningful to individual residents.
- You will be expected to lead and manage a committed team to work to their potential, by supervising the Staff Nurses, Healthcare Assistants all other staff in a direct capacity
- Liaise with external organisations in order to promote and maintain good working relationships and high standards of care and service for residents
- You will ensure the development and implementation of policies, programmes and evidence-based practice consistent with standards (HIQA) and standard policies within the nursing home.
- Responsible for all aspects of risk management and resident involvement
- Participate in the recruitment, development, training and supervision of staff in consultation with the General Manager.
- Ensure that the provision of a high standard of care to the resident and families in the nursing home is consistent with the mission, vision and values of the Nursing Home

REQUIREMENTS:

- Current registration with Nursing Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI)
- Post-registration qualification in Gerontology or Dementia Care and/or post-registration qualification in healthcare management or equivalent
- A minimum of 6 years Nursing experience with three of the past six in a care of the older person/geriatric nursing area
- At least 3 years management experience, ideally in a relevant setting
- A management qualification or a willingness to undertake one is essential
- An understanding of dementia including: current best practice in dementia care, the issues facing people living with Dementia and their carers/families and the services available
- Experience liaising with Health Information Quality Authority is essential
- Excellent leadership, management, people and communication skills
- Sound decision making ability and results driven
- Good appreciation of finance
- Ability to motivate self and others and work on own initiative
- Ability to work well and promote a team environment
- Promote a sense of belonging in a warm caring family environment
- Willingness to be flexible and adapt to the needs of the company
- Must be able to provide 3 written professional references

Please send C.V. to: melissa@shannaghbay.ie



Fionn Dalton playing guitar at the Arklow C.B.S. Open Night

Ford Mustang Mach E worthy of its great name

The new all electric big Ford has been tagged with the legendary Mustang name and certainly initial impressions are that it is a worthy successor to many great earlier Mustangs.

by Martin McCarthy

The first cars from the Irish American car maker to wear the name of the plains wild horse, was launched in 1964. Its racy good looks and dramatic styling was a huge hit with the American public - it sold seven times its predicted volume of 100,000 in the first year.

Steve McQueen did all his own stunt driving in the hit film 'Bullitt' in 1967 - propelling Mustang sales into the stratosphere across America. It became THE cool car of the era.

As the years went on, following generations of Ford Mustangs evolved Stateside ñ but we never saw them here until 2015 when Ford started building right hand drive versions for Japan, UK/ Ireland and elsewhere. It was the last petrol engined Mustang and it went out on a high.

Tesla got a huge jump on other car manufacturers by making big, luxury electric cars as early as 2012 but as they showed the way, it was inevitable that once the other big cars makers got the hang of electric car making, they were sure to offer some serious competition. The big problem with battery electric at the moment is the stratospherical pricing. Typically, electric cars are costing 50 - 100% more than an equivalent



petrol engine car. It's like a new iPhone or Galaxy - you pay dearly to be an early adopter.

However, a growing number of people think the benefits are worth it. Tranquil, no noise driving, tremendous acceleration, and a clearer conscience, outway the pricing and charging issues, and loss of luggage space.

And then there is the BIY benefit of an electric car ñ in that the

total cost of the car can be deducted as a company expense in the first year.

I had the Mustang Mach E all around Newcastle, Kilquade, Bray, Greystones and inland, last week. It looks great - sleek and shapely with a prominent galloping horse on the grill substitute. In the best Ford tradition, it is immensely practical. Very spacious, large boot, hatchback flexibility, cubby holes for extra storage everywhere.

Huge detail design perfection with lots of innovation - so for example you can enter the car by inputting a four digit code on the door panel.

The dashboard is dominated by a massive iPad style screen ñ very similar to the Tesla but with upgrades.

On the road the performance can be sensational. 0 - 100kph in 3.8 seconds and the range claim of 350KM on the standard

range (450km in extended range version) seems achievable. The base model recommended retail price is €61,493 with €5,400 for the extended range version.

There is also a four wheel drive version by which time the weight is edging past 2.4 tons - which has its own downside. All in all, this Mustang is a wholly worthy wearer of an iconic badge.

PLANNING

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Mary Gillespie seeks planning permission for: Conversion of Existing Garage with single storey extension to rear along new window in North East facade in rear bedroom at Semmering, Mount Alto, Ashford, Co. Wicklow. A67WC78
The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Rhoda Kirwan and Emmet O'Neill seek Planning Permission for:
1. New domestic wastewater treatment system consisting of new sewerage treatment plan with effluent pumped to a new percolation area consisting of sand and stone polishing system replacing the existing septic tank system and percolation;
2. Modifications to existing dwelling to include revised fenestration of windows and doors, internal alterations, external wall insulation system with rendered and painted finish, installation of solar PV panels to roof pitched roofs, and associated ancillary site works;
3. New single-storey hobby studio 39.3 sq.m (gross internal area) located in front garden consisting of a timber-framed and timber-clad structure with flat roof, an artist's wash station, serviced by power, water and drainage connections, and associated ancillary site works.
at 'Springfields', Ballywaltrim Lane, Bray, County Wicklow. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Declan Duffy intends to apply for permission for development at this 0.209 ha site (2,090 sq m) at Kilcroney, Kilmacanogue, Co. Wicklow. The development will consist of the provision of a garage/plant room comprising a pump house and boiler room (7 sq m), garage area (19 sq m) and attic storage (16 sq m) over, in a pitched roof structure with a maximum height of 5.22 metres. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority during its public opening hours. The planning application may be viewed online at www.wicklow.ie, under planning online enquiries. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

We, Ger Devlin Haulage & Plant Hire Ltd intends to apply for permission for development comprising the importation and deposition of inert subsoil and topsoil for land profiling and recontouring purposes at an existing agricultural holding and all ancillary site works. The purpose of this work is to improve the site for agriculture. A Certificate of Registration under the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration Regulations) SI 821 of 2007 as amended is required for this development. Permission is also sought for temporary site entrance to facilitate the development, all at this site at Annagolan, Ashford, Co. Wicklow. This application will be accompanied by a Natura Impact Statement (NIS), a submission or observation in relation to the NIS may be made in writing to the Planning Authority within 5 weeks of the date of receipt by the Authority of the NIS. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning permission is sought by Packaging Laundry Ltd for removal of existing single-storey joinery workshop building and adjacent yard, and for construction in its place of new nine meter high single-storey storage/processing building, on site at former home of Wicklow Timber and Joinery Ltd, Wurtzburg Avenue, Boghall Road, Bray, Co Wicklow (Eircode A98WD37). This site is immediately adjacent and adjoining the existing home of the applicant company, Packaging Laundry Ltd, at Unit C, Oldcourt Business Park, Wurtzburg Avenue, Boghall Road, Bray, Co Wicklow, (Eircode A98P6N3), and the application includes retention of an external cylindrical water storage tank, and minor items of external plant. Other minor associated works will include the provision of markings for car parking, markings for a turning circle, and markings for loading areas, and gates to the external storage areas. Signage, too, is included as illustrated. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Wicklow, during its public opening hours, and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

ATTENTION

Architects, Planners & Builders

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District Court

IN THE MATTER OF:
THE LICENSING ACTS, 1833 TO 2010

AND IN THE MATTER OF:
THE LICENSING ACT (IRELAND) 1874, SECTION 10, AS AMENDED BY
SUBSTITUTION IN THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE COURTS (NO.2) ACT 1986

AND IN THE MATTER OF:
THE LICENSING (IRELAND) ACT 1833, SECTION 6

AND IN THE MATTER OF:
THE DISTRICT COURT RULES 1997, ORDER 79

AND IN THE MATTER OF:
AN APPLICATION OF:

CHRISTOPHER KEATLEY NOMINEE OF RYSTENVIEW INNS LIMITED
APPLICANT

TAKE NOTICE that Christopher Keatley nominee of Rystenview Inns Limited having its registered office at 57 Clannmahon Road, Donnycarney, Dublin 5 will apply to the Annual Licensing District Court at Wicklow District Court, Civic Buildings, Main Street, Bray, County Wicklow on the 22nd day of November 2022 at 10.30 am in the forenoon or so soon thereafter as this application may be taken in its order in the Court list for a Certificate by way of transfer entitling the applicant to receive a Seven Day Publican's On-Licence in respect of premises known as The Castle Inn and situate at Bridge House, Newcastle, County Wicklow in the Court Area and District aforesaid. Such Certificate being the Certificate referred to at Rule 79 of the District Court Rules as amended.

The previous Licensee being Denis Doyle of the Castle Inn, Bridge House, Newcastle, County Wicklow.

Dated this 19th day of October 2022.

Signed _____
M D O'Loughlin & Company.
Solicitors for Applicant.
Suite 11 Parklands Office Park, Southern Cross Road, Bray, County Wicklow.

TO: The District Court Clerk
Wicklow District Court Office
Civic Buildings
Main Street
Bray, County Wicklow

TO: The Superintendent
Wicklow Garda Station
Bachelor's Walk
Wicklow

TO: Wicklow Fire Brigade
1 Church Hill
Westmount Court
Bollanney South
Wicklow

Arklow Halloween shop window display winners announced

Arklow Municipal District and Arklow Library invited local businesses to compete for the best Halloween Window Display award for 2022 - and the winners have been announced.

Businesses were encouraged to decorate their premises, as the fantastic displays in the shopfront windows around town really contribute to the holiday atmosphere. The competition for the most original and exciting displays recognises individual efforts, community spirit and creativity.

Arklow Municipal District and Arklow Library are delighted to announce that the winning displays are:

- 1st Prize - €450.00 - Plain & Pearl, Lower Main St.
- 2nd Prize - €250.00 - Life Pharmacy, Wexford Road
- 3rd Prize - €150.00 - Joanne's Café, Main St.

Cathaoirleach of Arklow Municipal District, Cllr Pat Kennedy, said: "It is great to see so many shops in the town participating in the competition. Well done to the winners and all who took part in the competition to create a festive spirit in the town."

Congratulations to the winners and to all the businesses and residents who make the effort to dress up the town for the spooky holidays!



Pictured above are the winning shop windows: Joanne's Café (left), Life Pharmacy (centre) and Plain and Pearl (right). Businesses were encouraged to decorate their premises, as the fantastic displays in the shopfront windows around town really contribute to the holiday atmosphere.

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