



Awards

“I ended up looking for work. I did up lots of CVs but just didn’t get the interviews. In the end, from age 18, I got a job as a takeaway delivery driver.

“I loved it. I loved the family atmosphere of the restaurant. The owner was a great friend of my father’s and he looked out for me.”

The restaurant was in Salthill, surrounded by amusement arcades and casinos where Mr O’Loughlin developed a gambling addiction. “I had to leave the job to get away from the gambling,” he says.

It was with the “fantastic support of my family and my friends” that he overcame the addiction.

A number of years ago a family friend asked him to help with their events’ decoration business.

‘Hard work’

“I was only helping but I loved it. I loved the hard work and seeing the results of that.”

When the business closed, friends encouraged him to start his own.

With family support he bought a van, revived contacts with flower stockists and now employs four people.

“I love hard work. It doesn’t give you down time to think

Other winners today will include Annmarie Sweeney, from Galway, who has overcome prison and addiction and is now a founding member of the Traveller Drug Advisory Board.

Nadine Cawley (15) from Co Galway is an “outstanding young footballer” and the only Traveller on her team, Ballinasloe FC, while Cindy Collins (13) from Co Mayo is a young artist and “outstanding advocate for Traveller culture” say their citations.

An Tearmann, a women’s Traveller group in Co Tyrone, which supports women with their health, education, rights and recognition, will receive the “community” award.

Asked what the award meant to him, Mr O’Loughlin said he thrived on setting targets and meeting his goals.

“But this award, this is not a goal, this is a dream. I’d like it to help support every young person who has a dream in their head to know that with hard work, dedication they can get there.

“Don’t stop, never ever stop. With support and keeping going you can get there,” he said.

and Canal site

Yesterday, despite a number of asylum seekers being relocated to State accommodation sites on Tuesday. PHOTOGRAPH: LEAH FARRELL/ROLLINGNEWSIE

Ukraine could cost \$1 trillion

economy was about n. “In fact, I think already approaching,” she said.

Tymoshenko told the damage from the estimated at \$155 billion in February 2024.

“I think that the postwar will require not only other states and international financial institutions to direct private investment. I would also need you of the more billion in frozen assets.” She said that as €80 billion of that pledged international

son is obvious – all a war going on today, in order to and win the peace



Yulia Tymoshenko: damage from the war estimated at \$155 billion

after the war we all need to act quickly, on time, and even better, proactively,” she said. “My message to you is that we need

years later, she said, the picture had changed dramatically. “Ukraine’s economy grew by 5 per cent last year. Inflation is under control. International businesses have demonstrated their resolve by continuing to operate in Ukraine despite the war. European Union member states began negotiations on Ukraine’s accession to the EU. The Ukrainian people have united to rebuild and reform. Ukraine has not fallen.”

‘Grain corridor’

Ms Tymoshenko said the country’s maritime “grain corridor” had found new logistics routes, and overcome the energy deficit caused by Russian bombing of power stations and power lines. “Ukrainian energy companies and active citizens have

implemented energy decentralisation by installing generating plants, mostly from renewable sources. Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, 114MW of wind power plants have been installed and commissioned, which is enough energy for at least 200,000 households.

“In 2022 and 2023, in the midst of the bombing of critical infrastructure, more than 660 megawatts of clean energy were commissioned. This demonstrates our ability to adapt and modernise under difficult conditions”

She said that during her own difficult times, including her imprisonment, several Irish politicians, namely taoiseach Enda Kenny and former European Parliament president Pat Cox, had been great friends to her.

it Dart extension to Drogheda take?

city. A spokesman from the Department of Transport estimated the cost of the project was €1.8 billion. The extension might commute for such a previous announcement not instil too much confidence.

“I think that the extension of Drogheda” rings of speculative announcements in the years, stretching back as far as 2014.

“In 2015 the announced plans for a Dart line in Drogheda by 2022, plans to extend to Drogheda. When 2022 came, it was announced a public consultation on the project. Just 14 months after announcing Government plans for a Dart line from Dublin city to Drogheda and Kildare, Minister Eamon Ryan visited Drogheda city and said it would be in 2025 through the construction of new carriages. The extension’s official declaration as part of the “Project Ireland” the upgrade and



“Could”, “later this decade”, and “approximately” may not inspire much faith in the project’s timeliness

expansion of the existing Dart system, including the extension to Drogheda, as well as Dublin’s Metro, were set to be completed by 2027 under the plans. However, announcing on Tuesday that the Dart+ Coastal North rail project was to enter the planning system by July, the Department of Transport said: “Subject to planning permission and funding arrangements, construction works on the route could commence later this decade, taking approximately three years to complete.”

“Could”, “later this decade” and “approximately” may not inspire much faith in the project’s timeliness. However,

“in the meantime”, and by 2026, the department said there would be a significant boost to rail services between Dublin and Drogheda through the roll-out of 65 new battery-electric Dart carriages.

When asked about the previous announcements concerning the project over the years, Mr Ryan said: “Well, it does take time to build public transport infrastructure in this country, it does take time.”

Mr Ryan stressed that as soon as the project was through the planning process, it would be built. “There are a variety of different projects, what you want is a steady stream and a consistent policy,” he told RTÉ’s News at One.

Different projects

There are indeed a variety of different projects which spring to mind when rail projects are announced or re-announced, including Dublin’s Metro.

An early form of Dublin’s MetroLink was first agreed in 2000, and in 2002 shortly after a new government was formed, then minister for public enterprise Mary O’Rourke announced the beginning of the tendering process for the first line. At the time, she said she hoped the initial route would be built by 2007. Other

examples include a Luas line to Lucan which has been in government’s plans since 2000, and despite a preferred alignment being chosen in 2008, the project was suspended in 2021 until at least 2031.

Other planned Luas lines to Finglas, Poolbeg and Bray were also suspended at the time.

Light rail systems in Cork and Galway have also been besieged since they were originally signalled by the Green Party in advance of the 2007 general election.

This month, Mr Ryan said a feasibility study concerning a Luas in Galway, or “GLuas” as it has become fondly known, was now “substantially complete” and once a draft Galway Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy was finalised, a public consultation would be held.

Cork’s proposed Luas is miles ahead, but still seemingly static. In 2019 the €1 billion light rail system between Ballincollig and Mahon Point was the most significant aspect of the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy through to 2040. The route of the Luas was due to be announced in the summer of 2022, before being delayed until July 2023. The announcement was then put off until late 2023 and again to early 2024, yet remains nowhere to be seen.

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

NOTICE PURSUANT TO PART XAB, SECTION 177AE OF THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED) AND THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED)

NOTICE OF PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN BORD PLEANÁLA FOR APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT:

RATHMORE PARK RECREATIONAL SPORTS HUB, LUSK, CO. DUBLIN

Notice is hereby given that Fingal County Council intends to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála under Part XAB, Section 177AE of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) to carry out a proposed development at Rathmore Park, Lusk, Co. Dublin.

The proposed Rathmore Park Recreational Sports Hub development will consist of the following:

- A new all-weather GAA training area measuring 74m x 28m with a ball-wall measuring 20m x 5m at the northern end, enclosed with a 4m high weld mesh fencing and 2no. ball stop nets 20m x 6m at the south and north of the training area.
- A new All-Weather soccer pitch measuring 100m x 64m with flood lighting and All Weather 8 lane athletics running track with flood lighting, enclosed with a 1.2m high weld mesh fence finished black in colour at 1.2m from the edge of the running track and located on a permeable tarmac footpath surrounding the track 2.7m width from the edge of the track and finished with a pin-kerb at both edges of the tarmac.
- Proposed extension to the existing car park of 21no. additional spaces including disabled & EV ready parking bays. Car park to consist of asphalt road and permeable surface (grass & concrete paving or similar) to parking bays.
- A new storage container for sports equipment measuring approximately 12m x 2.4m x 2.5m.
- Landscaping works including soil grading, mounding, tree planting and boundary treatments.
- Covered Bicycle parking – 30no. bicycle parking spaces to include adapted bicycles.
- A teenage space to include a half size basketball court, and hang-out zone with teen appropriate play features.
- All other ancillary Site Works including re-location of existing play equipment and new signage, footpaths, drinking fountain and electrical & drainage connections.

A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in respect of the proposed development. An Bord Pleanála may give approval to the application for development with or without conditions or may refuse the application for development.

A copy of the Natura Impact Statement, plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection free of charge or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy for a period of 6 weeks between Friday 24th May 2024 and Friday 5th July 2024 (inclusive of both dates) at the following locations during office hours (excluding Bank and Public Holidays):

- Fingal County Council, County Hall, Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 X8Y2. Monday – Thursday 9am to 5pm. Friday 9am to 4:30pm.
- Fingal County Council Civic Offices, Grove Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15, D15 W638. Monday – Thursday 9am to 5pm. Friday 9am to 4:30pm.
- The offices of An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 V902. Monday – Friday 9:15am to 5:30pm.

The Natura Impact Statement, plans and particulars of the proposed development will also be available for inspection on the Council’s Consultation Portal <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse> from Friday 24th May 2024 to Friday 5th July 2024.

Any submissions and observations on the proposed development in relation to:

- the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development in the area concerned,
- the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, and
- the likely significant effects of the proposed development on a European Site, if carried out,

may be made in writing to **An Bord Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin, D01 V902 no later than 5:30pm on Friday 5th July 2024.**

A person may question the validity of any such decision by An Bord Pleanála by way of an application for judicial review under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986) in accordance with section 50 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended).

Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading Publications – Judicial Review Notice on the Board’s website www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information website www.citizensinformation.ie

Signed:
Matthew McAleese,
Director of Services, Fingal County Council

Date 23rd May 2024.