

Heydon's HEADLINES

KILCULLEN AREA

FINE GAEL

AUTUMN 2015



MARTIN
HEYDON TD

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NEW BUS SERVICE UP & RUNNING

CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE BUS SERVICE SUCCESSFUL

Many local residents will be aware of the campaign to restore bus routes to the local towns and villages since JJ Kavanagh reduced the number of routes that ran from Castledermot on to Kilcullen at the start of the year. After a strong local campaign the National Transport Authority has agreed to provide this additional service.

The new local link bus service runs from Naas to Carlow several times a day serving Castledermot, Moone, Timolin, Ballitore, Crookstown, Kilgown, Kilcullen, Carnalway, Two Mile House and Naas Hospital. Social Welfare travel passes are accepted on the new route which has been designed to coincide with onward buses from Naas and Carlow.

The usage of the new bus route will be reviewed after six months and will only be continued based on usage so people need to use it or lose it.



ROUTE 880 CARLOW/NAAS AND NAAS/CARLOW

SERVING	PICK UP POINT	MON - FRI	MON - FRI	MON - FRI	SAT	SAT	SUN	SUN	SERVING	MON - FRI	MON - FRI	MON - FRI	SAT	SAT	SUN	SUN
Carlow	Coach Park	0725	1205	1535	07:25	14:35	08:35	14:35	Naas TC	09.35	14.05	17.05	09.35	16:05	10:35	16:05
Castledermot	Main Street JJ Kavanagh Route 736 Stop	0745	1225	1545	07:45	14:55	08:55	14:55	Naas Hospital	09.39	14.09	17.09	09.39	16:09	10:39	16:09
Moone	Post Office	08.00	1240	1600	08:00	15:10	09:10	15:10	Killashee House	09.42	14.12	17.12	09.42	16:12	10:42	16:12
Timolin	Timolin Terrace	8.02	1242	1602	08:02	15:12	09:12	15:12	Two Mile House	09.45	14.15	17.15	09.45	16:15	10:45	16:15
Ballitore	Post Office	08:10	1250	1610	08:10	15:20	09:20	15:20	Carnalway	09.49	14.19	17.19	09.49	16:19	10:49	16:19
Crookstown	JJ Kavanagh route 736 stop	08:12	1252	1612	08:12	15:22	09:22	15:22	Kilcullen Hide Out	09.54	14.24	17.24	09.54	16:24	10:54	16:24
Kilgown	Priory Restaurant	08.15	12.55	16.15	08:15	15:25	09:25	15:25	Kilgown The Priory	09.55	14.25	17.25	09.55	16:35	11:05	16:35
Kilcullen	BE 130 Stop The Hide Out	08:25	1305	1625	08:25	15:35	09:35	15:35	Crookstown Bus Eireann St	10.08	14.38	17.38	10.08	16:38	11:08	16:38
Carnalway	BE Route 130 Stop	08:31	1311	1631	08:31	15:41	09:41	15:41	Ballitore Post Office	10.10	14.40	17.40	10.10	16:40	11:10	16:40
Two Mile House	BE Route 130 Stop	0835	1315	1635	08:35	15:45	09:45	15:45	Timolin Terrace	10.18	14.48	17.44	10.18	16:48	11:18	16:48
Killashee House	BE Route 130 Stop	08:38	1318	1638	08:38	15:48	09:48	15:48	Moone Post Office	10.20	14.50	17.46	10.20	16:50	11:20	16:50
Naas Hospital	BE Stop near old entrance	08:41	1321	1641	08:41	15:51	09:51	15:51	Castledermot Main St	10.35	15.05	18.05	10.35	17:05	11:35	17:05
Naas Town Centre	Post Office	08:45	1325	1655	08:45	15:55	09:55	15:55	Carlow Coach Park	10.55	15.25	18.25	10.55	17:25	11:55	17:25

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RESULTS OF CURRAGH SURVEY PRESENTED TO MINISTER

MINISTER COMMITS TO CONSULTATIVE FORUM FOR CURRAGH

I recently carried out an online survey of recreational and local users of the Curragh Plains to find out if more could be done to protect and enhance this important local asset. I have set out some summary results below and **more detail can be found on my website www.martinheydon.com**

I compiled the results and presented my report to Minister for Defence & Agriculture Simon Coveney. The main recommendation from my review of the survey results was the need for more proactive management of the Curragh Plains.

Minister Coveney has now agreed to my proposal to establish a consultative forum of relevant stakeholders chaired by the Department of Defence which will examine the opportunities and challenges that arise and give a platform for those concerns to be addressed. This Forum will also undertake an examination of existing bye-laws under the Curragh of Kildare Act with a view to updating them.

I have met with Department of Defence officials in recent weeks to discuss the Forum and I am hopeful that it will be established by the Autumn.



OVERALL POINTS NOTED FROM SURVEY

- There was a huge sense of pride from Kildare Residents in the natural resource of the Curragh Plains that is synonymous with Kildare;
- Conflicting views exist that while more needs to be done on the Curragh, the natural beauty and qualities that make it what it is, need to be retained and protected;
- More work is required in monitoring the Curragh Plains to protect against the main negative elements of litter, dumping, driving on the plains and illegal encampments;
- There appears to be a lack of detailed knowledge of the rich heritage and history of the Curragh even among local residents. I found a desire for more information;
- Many respondents noted the potential of the Curragh as a tourist destination if walking trails information boards or historic information could be incorporated into the area without disturbing the natural surroundings;
- There appeared to be a lack of detailed knowledge of who has responsibility for management of the Curragh Plains.

FUTURE CURRAGH DEVELOPMENTS

- The development of an **audio tour and app of the Curragh by Kildare County Council** is a really exciting venture that will compliment the efforts to increase tourist visits while also helping to educate Kildare people about the rich history of the Plains.
- Expansion of the UN Training Centre into an **International Institute for Peace Support and Leadership training at the Curragh** is a proposal outlined in the New Defence White Paper, which will be examined by Minister Coveney and Government. The Institute would position Ireland as a **global leader in peacekeeping and conflict resolution**, building on our experience in this area and on the reputation of the Curragh and the Defence Forces generally.
- Along with the significant **redevelopment of the Curragh Racecourse and gallops**, I believe the time is now right for the establishment of a Forum to focus on the overall Curragh Plains.

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OLD HEALTH CENTRE TO BE USED FOR TEACH NA NDAOINE PROJECT

I am delighted to be part of the Committee working to develop a new concept for Kilcullen. Teach na nDaoine is a proposed social network centre for Kilcullen that aims to provide a new social outlet for older and isolated members of the community. Progress has been made to secure the premises for Teach na nDaoine. HSE Estates have now agreed to lease the old dispensary to the Committee at a nominal rent to allow the establishment of Teach na nDaoine for the use of the entire Community.

Now the hard work really starts as the Committee take possession of the building and will be looking for volunteers to help with renovations, decorating and fund raising. I have been delighted to assist the committee of Albert Keenan, Jacinta Sully, Noel Clare, Liz Moloney, John Brady, Steve Kinnevey and Joe Dooley



in getting the project to this stage. Their passion and enthusiasm for the idea of Teach na nDaoine is infectious and should help to make it a great success.

EDUCATION UPDATE

As the children return to school, I am delighted to see the completed extensions at Scoil Bhride and CPC completed and in use for this new school year. Their timely completions are a testament to the hard work of principals and staff at both schools and I wish both staff and pupils a successful year in their new buildings.

Some of you may be aware that CPC have published a revised admissions policy due to the increased pressure and demand on places at the school. This pressure is part of a wider demand for secondary school places in the South Kildare area which I am concerned about. Myself and my Kildare South Oireachtas colleagues are involved in ongoing consultations with Minister for Education Jan O'Sullivan and her officials to discuss the future provision of secondary school places in the area. The provision of places for the Kilcullen area will be a key part of those discussions.



APPROVAL FOR NEW TRAFFIC PROPOSAL AT MILE MILL JUNCTION

The four cross roads at Mile Mill is a junction that has caused huge concern to locals down through the years due to the poor sight lines, particularly for traffic approaching from Brannockstown. There hasn't been a simple solution to the lack of visibility as there are houses right at the junction.

In my ongoing discussions with the area engineer for roads I have highlighted the need for a change to the layout to make it safer. Garda approval has now been received for a proposal submitted by Kildare County Council that all four approaches would have a stop sign and line. Traffic would then creep through the junction in the knowledge that another vehicle will not be travelling at speed through it at the same time.

It's a mechanism that has worked well in other areas and I am delighted that the proposal has been approved by the Traffic Core which will now allow for the works to proceed in the coming weeks, as funding has already been secured for the works.



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RECENT TRIP TO LOURDES WITH CURRAGH MILITARY



I recently visited Lourdes with the Curragh Group as part of the Annual Military Pilgrimage. Great credit is due to the Curragh Lourdes Fund Committee for their tireless fundraising

that makes this trip possible for local sick children and adults. I also saw at first hand the high esteem that our defence force personnel are held in by their international counterparts.



ADVICE CENTRE OPEN DAILY

Need Advice, Assistance with Forms, or Help Dealing with any State Departments?

My Office and Advice Centre on Moorefield Rd, Newbridge is open Mon–Fri from 9–1 and 2–5. Mary is there everyday and would be delighted to meet you. Feel free to drop in or call the office on 045-487624 for assistance or for a clinic appointment.



I was delighted to introduce Minister for Agriculture and Defence Simon Coveney to Brian Fallon of Fallons and James and Emma Nolan of Nolans Butchers at the Foodscape area at the recent Curragh champions weekend. They are both great examples of the many local food businesses that help make Kilcullen what it is.

LOCAL AREA COUNCILLORS – NAAS AREA

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- CLINICS - KILCULLEN & BALLYMORE

KILCULLEN PARISH CENTRE

First Fri of each month

10am – 10.45am – next Fri 2nd Oct, 6th Nov

BALLYMORE RESOURCE CENTRE

Last Fri of each month

5pm to 5.45pm – next 25th Sept, 30th Oct

For appointments outside of these times, please contact my office



I am now on snapchat as well as facebook and twitter. Follow me at username martinheydon to keep up to date with my activites.

0612

MARTIN HEYDON TD

Chairperson, Fine Gael Committee on Agriculture

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