



HEYDON'S HEADLINES

Newbridge News Update

Dec 2014

WORK ON RETURN OF CREDIT UNION SERVICES TO NEWBRIDGE CONTINUES

- The lack of Credit Union Services in Newbridge is a huge loss for local people and the town;
- I have been working with the Department of Finance and the Central Bank to come up with solutions to see the return of Credit Union services in light of the difficulty in establishing a new credit union;
- **At their recent AGM members of Naas Credit Union agreed to extend their common bond area to include Newbridge. Other neighbouring Credit Unions are also considering the option of extending their bond areas;**
- **This proposal has now to be approved by the Central Bank;**
- I met Minister Michael Noonan on the issue recently and he is fully supportive of all efforts that are ongoing. I am due to meet Central Bank Officials in the coming weeks where I will be pushing them to ensure a return of services to the town;
- **Ultimately, I want to see a Credit Union office operate in Newbridge again, which would contribute to the local Community as all others do and I am continuing to work to achieve that.**

**FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME ON THESE OR ANY OTHER ISSUES at 045-487624,
Email martin.heydon@oir.ie or see my website www.martinheydon.com**

Michael Garry House to Re-open

Kildare County Council have advised me that they have agreed the terms and conditions of a licence agreement with St Vincent de Paul for the use of Michael Garry House as a homeless service.

They are now in the process of agreeing a Service Level Agreement for the operation of the service by the Peter McVerry Trust and it is anticipated that Michael Garry House will be operational from Monday the 22nd of December 2014.

It was unacceptable that this facility has been closed and I am happy that it will now be open before Christmas.

Small Business Supports

Supporting small and local business to help to create and maintain jobs is one of my main priorities. I am continuing to work with Newbridge Chamber of Commerce to increase supports for small businesses and starts up in the area.

Advice Centre Open Daily

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

My Office and Advice Centre on Moorefield Rd is open daily Mon-Fri from 9-1 and 2-5 to assist you with any queries you may have. Mary is there everyday and would be delighted to meet you.



I am happy to organise tours to Dail Eireann for individuals, groups or schools. Feel free to contact my office on 045-487624 for further details.

I would like to wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas with your families and wish you all the best for 2015



A SUMMARY OF SOME OF THE ISSUES I AM WORKING ON FOR NEWBRIDGE

Childcare Issues

Recent Reports have confirmed that childcare costs in Kildare are some of the highest in the Country, which will not be a surprise for many of you. I have discussed this issue with Minister for Children James Reilly and highlighted the need for additional measures to assist parents. As a new father myself, I am acutely aware of the difficulties and pressures that come with the joy of parenthood.

The Minister acknowledges the need for extra supports for working parents who have significant childcare costs and we will be working together in the New Year to look at the best structures for those supports.

Newbridge Education Issues

Secondary school places are at a premium in Newbridge. Many families experienced difficulties last year in securing their preferred school places and already this year I am hearing similar stories for school year 2015/2016.

I am working with Department of Education officials to determine the best way to increase secondary school places to meet growing demand.

The Department of Education is currently undertaking a nationwide survey on future demand which will assist in their final decision for either a new school in the Newbridge area or to support extensions at some existing local schools. Results are expected in the New Year

Traffic Issues

The completion of the fly over at Newlands Cross will help to improve travel times to and from Dublin. However it now moves traffic congestion to “the Big Ball” intersection at Naas where 3 lanes merge to 2.



Planning permission was recently confirmed for N7 road widening at this point along with Sallins bypass and new intersection. I have met with Minister for Transport

Pascal Donohoe to emphasise the need for the €110m funding to complete these projects and will continue to fight for this funding.

In Newbridge I am working with KCC Road officials and the National Transport Authority to bring improvements to the pedestrian crossing from the Parish Church to the Schools which can be a very busy and dangerous crossing for children and adults alike.



PROGRESS MADE ON NEWBRIDGE CEMETARY EXTENSION

I had been concerned at delays in the process to extend Newbridge Cemetery. Kildare County Council have now confirmed to me that those issues which had been causing delays have now been resolved. This will now allow a Part VII planning application to be brought before the Municipal Committee January meeting. KCC have purchased the land for the extension which is a significant investment in Newbridge and should cater for the needs of the area for 20 years.

Housing Estate Issues

I am working with a number of residents associations to help to resolve difficulties that they are experiencing. KCC have confirmed that they are commencing the taking in charge process for over 40 Kildare estates in the New Year. These include the following Newbridge estates: Ballymany Manor, The Elms, and The Meadows (part of). If there are issues in your estate that you would like to raise with me, please let me know.

Your local Fine Gael Team

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