

The Toilets at the bottom of St Michaels Square Ballinasioe. PIC GERRY STRONGE

ppeal to free up funds to spend a penny

Councillor urges local authority to sort out state of town's public toilets

BY STEPHEN CORRIGAN

SPENDING a penny on Ballicouncillors was told.

Clir Evelyn Parson (Ind) described the state of the toilet block at St Michael's carpark in the town as "totally unsatisfactory" and reiterated previous calls for investment in an upgrade - and to make the toilets accessible to people with disabilities.

"This has been a bugbear of mine since in came into the Council.

"I know there has been funding sought from the Community Recognition Fund. If it doesn't get funding from that, we might get something from the Town and Village Renewal Scheme," said Cllr Parsons.

Ballinasloe had one of the largest populations of older people in the county, she said, and a significant number of people living with varying levels of disability. For these rea-

sons alone, there should be an accessible public toilet in the said councillors had received

nasloe's public toilets is long has one of the highest numbers of the current facility. overdue, a meeting of area of old-age in the county - there is a significant number of older people living in Ballinasloe. We had used both sides of [the toihave a disability rate that is let block]. higher than the average in the

any other place to have a public toilet," said Cllr Parsons, adding that the condition of the existing toilets was ap-

An upgraded toilet block should be fully accessible for wheelchair users, she said.

"We are a hospital town," said Cllr Parsons referring to the number of patients visiting Ballinasloe to go to Portiun-

"We need to have fit-for-purpose public toilets.

"There is already a toilet block there. We have the site; it has planning; it has the services. This should be a straightforward project," she said.

Cllr Dermot Connolly (SF) correspondence from visitors "At 32.6 per cent, Ballinasloe to the town lamenting the state

"We got representations from a husband and wife who

"It is highly outdated - it needs to be at least retiled and "We have more reason than replumbed. We're not looking for the bicycle shed but we do want people to be able to use the toilets," said Cllr Connelly, referring to the €335,000 Dáil bicycle shed.

> Cllr Alan Harney (FG) said it was "clear for all to see" that the current toilets were not fit for purpose.

Senior Executive Engineer Derek Troy said every effort was being made to secure the money required to upgrade

"I have taken up every opportunity possible to apply for funding and I am hopeful that we may be successful in this," he said of the Community Recognition Fund application.





Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe **Galway County Council**

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS 2000 (AS AMENDED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED)

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 179 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001(as amended), notice is hereby given that Galway County Council proposes to carry out a development, particulars of which are set out hereunder.

| Location | The Development |
|---|---|
| St. Joseph's Road, Portumna, Co. Galway. | Construction of a 38no. unit housing development comprising of: 6no. single storey two-bed dwellings, 1no. single storey three-bed dwelling, 25no. two-storey three-bed dwellings, 4No. two-storey two-bed dwellings, 2No. two storey four-bed dwellings, car parking, connections to existing services and all ancillary site development works. |

Screening Report and has determined that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not required in respect of

Plans and particulars of the proposed development, will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, during normal office hours, for a period of four weeks from the 23rd of May 2025 to the 24th of June 2025 at the following offices of Galway County Council:

- Galway County Council, Planning Department, Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX;
- Galway County Council, Portumna Area Office, Castle Avenue, Portumna, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway,
- Galway County Council, Loughrea Municipal District Office, Civic Offices, Barrack Street, Loughrea, Co. Galway, H62 K065.

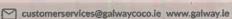
Plans and particulars of the above proposed development are also available for viewing on our online consultation portal at https://consult.galway.ie.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, may be made:

Online at https://consult.galway.ie/, planning@galwaycoco.ie or in writing to the Senior Planner, Planning Section, Planning Department, Aras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway, H91 H6KX to arrive not later than

Signed: Damien Mitchell, A/Director of Services - Housing.

Tá míle fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras agus ghnó i nGaeilge: gaeilge@cocogaillimh.ie www.gaillimh.ie



X @GalwayCoCo