

Press Releases - Council threat to a Dundrum institution - 14/06/00

Under the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council bypass plan for Dundrum village a number of properties along the Dundrum Road have been notified by the council that their buildings will be acquired and demolished by the council to allow for road widening. This has serious implications for well-known traders like Joe Daly.

Mr. Daly and his family have been involved in the bicycle business in Dundrum for almost 50 years.

According to Councillor Costello the developments in relation to the Dundrum bypass and the proposed demolition of Mr. Daly's premises has caused Mr. Daly and his family much concern and worry.

According to Councillor Costello Mr. Daly was faced with a similar situation in 1973 when the Churchtown Road extension was built. His original premises was located at the Taney Road Junction and to allow for the completion of the road his shop was demolished and relocated to the present site (in the picture above).

Twenty-seven years on he is again facing disruption to his family business but on this occasion his future situation is far less clear. At this point he has not been allocated a replacement site where he can relocate to.

Many people in the Dundrum area know Mr. Daly and appreciate the amount of work he has done for the local community. He was instrumental in setting up the Road Safety Programme in local schools; indeed Joe has a photograph in his shop of Cabhruil O'Dalaigh and himself presenting the first awards distributed under this programme.

He helped organise the erection of the monument to Stephen Roche in the village (Stephen Roche bought his first bicycle from Joe Daly!). At the moment four members of his family work in the business so the Council's plans are a threat to their livelihood.

The Council has a large yard adjoining Mr. Daly's shop, which is used for storing Council road cleaning equipment. Councillor Costello suggested to the Council's head of Development that

perhaps Mr. Daly be allowed to build a new premises over the existing Council yard beside Mr. Daly's shop.

"When Mr. Daly contacted me I contacted all the Fine Gael Councillors in Joe's area. They were all very supportive of any move that would keep Joe in his current location. They feel that there is enormous goodwill towards Joe in the local community. "

"It would appear to me that a solution that would benefit everyone is for the council to co-operate with Mr. Daly in building a three story structure alongside the new road." According to Councillor Costello. " The first story would be below ground level (the land falls away quite steeply from the road level at this location) and the council could store their cleaning equipment on this underground level. Mr. Daly could then use the two stories above ground level for the continuation of his family business. I have made this suggestion to the Council and they are examining this possibility. I hope that the Council will look favorably on this proposal as under this plan everyone wins."