

Skerries currach rowing on Liffey

By TONY MCCULLAGH

A group of 15 currach enthusiasts from Skerries took part in a charity rowing event recently to raise funds for two deserving causes.

The 'All In A Row' event was established by the rowing and boating community along Ireland's east coast back in 2016. This year, proceeds from the initiative will go to the RNLI and the Irish Underwater Search and Recovery Unit (IUSRU).

Over 40 boats of all types took part in the challenge on December 11, with spectators expected to line the banks of the Liffey to show their support for the hardy volunteers.

The gruelling dawn to dusk venture saw participants set off on continuous runs from St Patrick's Rowing Club at Tom Clarke Bridge (formerly the East Link) to Millennium Bridge, just beyond the Ha'penny Bridge at Temple Bar. All types of boats participated in the event, including kayaks and currachs, taking to the water from 8.30am.

Curracháí na Sceirí first participated in the challenge back in 2019, when they only had one boat.

This year, the ever-expanding group of Fingal seafarers had five currachs registered for the event and were looking forward to playing their part in raising funds for the two charities.

Given the amount of time they spend at sea, the group's members are all too aware of



The Skerries Currach

the vital role played by rescue and recovery volunteers. In

2019, they required the assistance of the RNLI following an incident in Skerries Bay.

The Irish Underwater Search and Recovery Unit, which was founded in 2012, is an organisation that searches for missing persons in Ireland's waterways, helping to bring closure to grieving families.

It is entirely reliant on voluntary donations to carry out its essential work.

The event will top off another

successful year for Curracháí na Sceirí, who hosted the third Skerries Currach Three Island Challenge during the summer.

The race, which coincided with Heritage Week 2021, involved crews rowing their curracháí for seven kilometres around the three famous islands off the coast of Skerries - Colt, St Patrick's and Shennick - before returning to shore.

To make a donation to the 'All In A Row' event, you can visit the fundraising page on <https://gofund.me/503c4850>

Labour Party representatives angered by council position on Ballymastone car park upgrade

By JOHN MANNING

CORINA Johnston, Labour Party local representative for the Donabate and Portrane peninsula is calling on Fingal County Council to carry out resurfacing works at the car park in the Ballymastone sports grounds and to include the upgrading of this car park in the Ballymastone Recreational Hub project.

Johnston said: "Duncan Smith TD, Cllr Rob O' Donoghue and I have been in ongoing contact with Fingal County Council regarding the condition of the car park in the Ballymastone Sports Grounds, the home of St Pat's GAA and St. Ita's AFC Soccer club.

"Earlier this year, in response to representations from club members and parents of juveniles, we secured a commitment from Fingal County Council that they would carry out remedial work on the surface of the car park.

"This was carried out in May, however it has deteriorated further in recent months and could now be classified as a health and safety risk for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists alike."

The Labour party representatives requested a permanent solution to the issue but according to Ms Johnston, got the following disappointing response: "The car park is of a temporary nature and there are no plans to carry out any further works this year.

"It is the responsibility of the various clubs to liaise with parents attending the grounds, and request that they take due care and attention in accessing the sports pitches.

"Any further remedial works to the car park will be looked at in the context of other priorities in 2022. Fingal County Council have also stated that this car park does not form part of the Ballymastone Recreational Hub."

Ms Johnston said: "The response from Fingal County Council is totally unacceptable as rather than accepting their responsibility and restore the surface they now propose to put the onus on the clubs and the parents to prevent possible accidents.

"Hopefully there won't be any serious accidents arising from the condition of the surface." She added: "The Labour team are calling on the council to reassess their position and resurface the car park.

"I am appalled to have been informed that the proposals for the Ballymastone Recreational Hub have been approved by Fingal County Council and do not include the existing car park.

"These plans were on public display earlier this year and I had made a detailed submission to the council on the plan and proposed that the existing car park be included and upgraded."

The Labour Party representative urged the council to have a change of heart on the issue.

SPINNING THE CHRISMTAS DISCS



Derek McCarthy has all your vinyl gifts for Chistmas at Skerries Mills Market. (pic by Fintan Clarke)

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage ("the Minister") hereby gives notice that he has determined an application dated 09 January 2020 for a Foreshore Licence under Section 3 of the Foreshore Act, 1933 to Celtix Connect Ltd, The Exchange Building, Foster Place, Dublin 2 for the installation, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Havhingsten telecommunication subsea fibre-optic cable, from landing point at Loughshinny, Fingal, County Dublin to the 12nm limit. (Application Reference Number FS006915)

The full Notice of Determination which was published on the Iris Oifigiúil website on 10 December 2021 can be viewed at <http://www.irisoifigiuil.ie/>

All documentation in regard to the application including the Notice of Determination can be viewed on the website of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage at <https://www.gov.ie/en/foreshore-notice/81926-celtix-connect-havhingsten-telecommunication-cable-dublin/?referrer=http://www.gov.ie/en/publication/5b49e-celtix-connect-havhingsten-telecommunication-cable-dublin/>. This material may also be inspected free of charge by appointment at the following office of the Department:

Foreshore Section
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Newtown Road
Wexford
Y35 AP90

Tel: 1890 20 20 21
Email: foreshore@housing.gov.ie

REVIEW PROCEDURE

An application for leave to apply for judicial review shall be made within three months from the date when grounds for the application first arose under Section 21(1) of the Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011. The time limit for such a review commences from the Date of Publication of the full Notice of Determination. Further information on the review mechanism can be obtained on the Citizens Information Board website: www.citizensinformation.ie.

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Dated this 10th day of December 2021