

Public owned land for sale at Gragane Caherconlish

Patrick Hourigan <[REDACTED]>

Attachments

Thu, Apr 11, 2019, 1:54 PM

to Jayne.Leahy

Hello Ms Leahy

This email to you is a follow-up to my telephone call to you this morning in connection with the above subject and as a follow-on to your invitation to contact you on same. Speaking into a recorded message is similar to speaking into outer space so my call contents do not fully convey my objection to what your Property Services are doing.

Am I correct in stating that the Property Services is a department of Limerick City and County Council? I am assuming that as a matter of fact.

You have outlined in your email to me the steps taken by LCCC in the disposal of public owned land.

I can tell you that the steps that you refer to were NOT APPARENTLY TO ME followed in the case of these lands at Gragane, Caherconlish, which location is such an important asset (and should still be) to the town of Caherconlish albeit put into dormant mode by successive local authorities.

Prior to action being taken on these lands were every elected councillor in the Cappamore/Kilmallock area informed of the intention to dispose of it? When and at what meeting did this take place?

And subsequently when were people of Caherconlish informed publicly that such decisions were made or about to be made by LCCC of disposal of this public owned land?

If the latter took place could the correspondence in connection with same be furnished to me?

What public form of notice did LCCC put into the public domain? What publicly circulated newspaper did LCCC advertise the impending sale of this land?

There are quite a number of additional questions to be asked on this move by the LCCC but I will withhold these for another occasion.

These lands are not just 'A PIECE OF LANDS' as your email suggests. These lands were intended for affordable/social housing and plans were at a concluding stage in 2003/04 and a Clerk of Works was at that time appointed for their building. The project was ready for construction but was 'pulled' by Limerick County Council. Your authority have those earlier plans and it would not be too difficult to resurrect them and USE THEM for the benefit of home seekers in future.

It was your authority LCCC in its adversarial rezoning of this land, returning it for agricultural use, that turned a blind eye to the objections raised at the public meeting in Caherconlish and on a follow-on submission by me in 2012 during the draft stages of Caherconlish LAP that is the forerunner of this present issue. This land if it was to be rezoned should have been zoned for Community use at the very least. It lies immediately to the west of Caherconlish AFC grounds that your authority leased on a 99 year lease. Further. it is the only link and on- public road land between the football ground and the old residential district of Newtown, Caherconlish. Surely, the location of this land is strategic and

important enough to be considered an outstanding asset to enable some future Council building of public housing. The land is adjacent to public sewers, water, electricity lines and broadband services.

By rezoning this prime public owned land for agricultural use, your authority automatically reduced the value of this asset. There is always a situation that may arise that the potential purchaser of this land may at some time in the future have this land rezoned back for building purposes thereby making a fortune on it. Has our country had enough of this slippery stuff?

You ask was I on about this matter before? Yes, please refer to the attachment.with this email.

I am also attaching an additional attachment re a meeting in Kilmallock Nov 17th 2017 which I believe is the forerunner to your LCCC sale of the Gragane Caherconlish land.

I would like to know who from the locale contacted your colleague on this issue?

In closing I request that this sale of prime public owned land be withdrawn.

I await your response.

Patrick A Hourigan PC -Caherconlish