



Cllr Frank O'Rourke



Celbridge News - Keeping You Updated

Dear Resident,

As we edge closer to the general election, I wanted to take this opportunity to highlight some of the work that I have been involved in and to outline some of my objectives for the future.

- Since getting elected to Kildare Co. Co., as you know, I have **worked hard** to improve the conditions for the people that I represent. My work ethic is recognised by most, and I believe that we have made significant achievements that have positively impacted on our community.
- During my recent canvass in my home town of Celbridge, I have captured the many and varied issues that are affecting us; namely the **Housing Crisis, Special Needs Assistants and Pupil Teacher Ratios, Health Services, Supports for our Older People, Childcare and measures to support our small businesses.**
- **As a first time Dáil Election candidate**, taken together with my experience as a councillor, my approach will offer you **a new approach** to dealing with these issues and **a new choice** on your ballot paper.
- **As your Celbridge based local Fianna Fáil candidate**, I will continue to work on the issues raised during my recent canvass.

As always, please feel free to contact me at any stage if you want to raise any issue with me.

Yours sincerely,

Frank O'Rourke

Councillor Frank O'Rourke
General Election Candidate

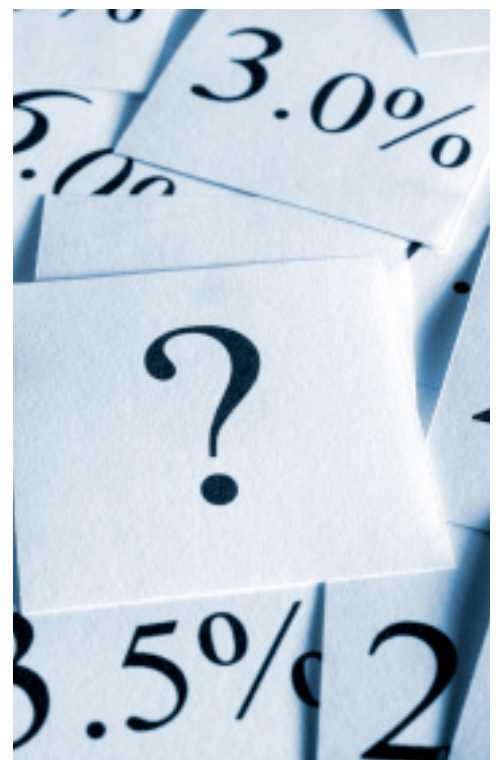
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MORTGAGE FAIRNESS

Fianna Fáil Bill sets out pathway to ending variable mortgage rate rip-off – New Ideas required

We need to end the scandal of banks massively overcharging customers on standard variable mortgage rates. Too many mortgage holders on variable rates are paying hundreds of euro more per month than they should be.



CELBRIDGE ABBEY PLAYGROUND

The Celbridge Abbey playground will be opening on Saturdays starting soon. A new large slide will be installed in the playground inside the coming months. I have also made representations that seating benches will be installed along with additional litter bins. Thanks to St. John Of God's, Kildare County Council and Gateway working with me to ensure this much needed facility is available for Celbridge and the surrounding area

SUPPORT OUR OLDER PEOPLE

400 medical cards taken from Kildare pensioners over the last year – New Approach needed

This Government removed many benefits from older people since it came to office. Examples include; removal of medical cards, the scrapping of the telephone allowance and the bereavement grant, increased prescription charges, and less home help hours. I will fight to reinstate these benefits.



SOLVING CRIME

Civilians should be posted to garda stations to carry out administrative work - New Solutions Required

I have called for an expansion of the civilian recruitment programme within An Garda Síochána to free up gardaí for community duties. The sustained cuts to garda resources have left many gardaí who should be on the beat stuck in garda stations on filling out paper work.



250 JOBS FOR CELBRIDGE

A new craft brewery and visitor centre, the Rye River Brewery, will bring 150 jobs to Celbridge, Co Kildare. This will be the biggest independent brewery in Ireland, bringing 150 permanent jobs and 100 construction positions. The new jobs will be created over the next three years. With an investment of €4million into the new plant and visitor centre, Rye River Brewing Company will bring €12.5 million to the local economy. I was delighted to have worked with the company to assist in bringing these jobs to Celbridge.



PAY PARKING

Bringing benefits to Celbridge Town Centre

Over the last number of years, I have campaigned to have the pay parking policy modified to make it more user friendly for the Celbridge shopper and to improve business activity for our Celbridge Retailers and Businesses. **Enforcement is now between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm Monday to Friday with no enforcement on Saturday. Free Parking during Christmas week.** The revised pay parking fee structure is assisting in maintaining a vibrant town centre. So many towns have allowed their town centre to be ghost centres. Celbridge continues to have vibrancy about it and I will continue to fight to maintain this vibrancy.



WORKING & DELIVERING FOR YOU

- **Eircom Cables Under-grounding.** These cables are now underground and this played a significant role in cleaning up the street scape in Celbridge.
- **Road re-surfacing;** English Row, Hazelhatch road, Lucan road. In recent years we have made significant progress in improving the road surfaces in and around the Celbridge area,
- **Pedestrian Crossings:** New Pedestrian Crossing on the Hazelhatch Road (beside Wolstan Abbey) and on the Clane Road (beside Abbey Farm)
- **Footpath upgrades** - Lucan road, Hazelhatch road, English row, St. Raphael's Manor, Dara Court etc.
- **Footbridge over the Liffey Bridge-** Painted.
- **Street Festival.** Another successful Celbridge Festival in 2015 that I was delighted to have supported.
- **New seating benches on Main Street and 22 redundant sign poles removed.**
- **Viewing area at the Slip in Celbridge being developed**
- **Taking in Charge** – Working with Residents Associations of Wolstan Haven, Oldtown Mill, Wolstan Abbey etc to have these estates taken-in-charge.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- There is an additional 67 Dublin Bus service from Celbridge to Maynooth at 8.15am Monday to Friday
- Bus Shelter upgraded on Clane Road
- Additional Bus Stop Shackleton Road
- New Bus Shelter at Ballyoulster on the Lucan Road.



SECTION 38 IN CELBRIDGE

Section 38 in Celbridge Is Not Progressing

Kildare County Council has confirmed to me that the proposed Section 38 for the junction at the Liffey Bridge in Celbridge is not progressing. I have worked on behalf of all to make sure this did not progress. This is good news for all the Residents and in particular the Residents of Hazelhatch Park, Calendars Mill and Simmonstown Manor. I was delighted to have worked with the residents.



LIFFEY BRIDGE

I am committed to keeping the focus on the traffic issues surrounding the Liffey Bridge and the associated junction and making sure a solution is delivered with the public. This is an issue that has been around for years. I will continue to pursue the proposal I put forward with Celbridge Tidy Towns three years ago. This is to remove the current footpath on the bridge and have separate cantilever footpaths installed. This is already in place in Newbridge and I believe this would assist in having some of the long standing issues resolved at this location.



Contact Frank

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- 📘 /Frank O'Rourke Councillor

As your local Fianna Fail candidate, I hold a clinic every Monday evening in the office on Celbridge Main Street.



ARDCLOUGH ROAD

Commuters on the Ardclough road have seen their footpath and public lighting upgraded in recent times. Many residents made representations to me to have this upgraded and I am delighted that this funding was provided for the section from Simmonstown to Temple Manor. I will continue to press for further investment for phase 2 to provide public lighting and footpath along the Ardclough Rd. to the speed limit signs. I have had meetings with Kildare County Council's senior management on this issue, and highlighted the importance of allocating funding so that the correct infrastructure can be put in place.



PRIMARY CARE CENTRE

The construction of the new Celbridge Primary Care Centre has commenced. I was invited to do the official "sod turning" on Friday, September 25th last. The jobs created during construction will be 150 approximately. This is assisting the local economy and will be great for this area of Kildare North. Celbridge and the surrounding area is in need of a Primary Health Care Service and once completed this will provide the public with access to necessary health services.